



# PROPHETIC TIMES

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## Share of Americans living paycheck to paycheck rises to 63%

December 15, 2022 **cnbc.com** reported: "As rising prices continue to weigh on households, more families are feeling stretched too thin. As of November, 63% of Americans were living paycheck to paycheck, according to a monthly LendingClub report — up from 60% the previous month and near the 64% historic high hit in March.

Even high-income earners are under pressure, LendingClub found. Of those earning more than six figures, 47% reported living paycheck to paycheck, a jump from the previous month's 43%.

"Americans are cash-strapped and their everyday spending continues to outpace their income, which is impacting their ability to save and plan," said Anuj Nayar, LendingClub's financial health officer.



## US Military Creates Space Unit in South Korea Amid North Korea Threats

December 14, 2022 **voanews.com** reported: "The U.S. military formally launched a space force unit in South Korea on Wednesday, a move that will likely enable Washington to better monitor its rivals North Korea, China and Russia.

The activation of the U.S. Space Forces Korea at Osan Air Base near Seoul came after North Korea test-fired a barrage of nuclear-capable ballistic missiles designed to strike the U.S. mainland and its allies South Korea and Japan in recent months.

"Just 48 miles north of us exists an existential threat; a threat that we must be prepared to deter, defend against, and - if required - defeat," Lt. Col. Joshua McCullion, chief of the new space unit, said during the activation ceremony at Osan. He apparently referred to North Korea, whose heavily fortified border with South Korea is just an hour's drive from Seoul, the South's capital.

The unit belongs to the U.S. Space Force, which was launched in December 2019 under then-President Donald Trump as the first new U.S. military service in more than 70 years.

The Space Force was seen soberly as an affirmation of the need to more effectively organize for the defense of U.S. interests in space — especially satellites used for civilian and military navigation, intelligence and communication. A previous Pentagon report said China and Russia had embarked on major efforts to develop technologies that could allow them to disrupt or destroy American and allied satellites in a crisis or conflict.

The U.S. Space Forces Korea is a subordinate of a bigger U.S. Space Force unit established within the Indo-Pacific command in Hawaii last month." ..."

## US conducts successful hypersonic missile test: Air Force

December 13, 2022 **spacewar.com** reported: "The US Air Force announced Monday it successfully tested a hypersonic missile, a cutting-edge strategic weapon that is also being developed by China and Russia.

The AGM-183A Air-launched Rapid Response Weapon (ARRW) was launched from a B-52H bomber on Friday off California's coast and "reached hypersonic speeds greater than five times the speed of sound, completed its flight path and detonated in the terminal area," the Air Force said.

"This test was the first launch of a full prototype operational missile," it added.

The United States has multiple hypersonic weapons programs, and the Pentagon's high-tech research body DARPA tested a different missile earlier this year.

Hypersonic missiles pose a potential threat to the global military balance, capable of being steered to deliver nuclear weapons precisely on target, at speeds too fast to intercept.

China carried out a test of a hypersonic missile last year, and Russia has used hypersonic weapons during its war in Ukraine. North Korea claims to have conducted test flights as well.

The United States highlighted the growing danger from hypersonic weapons in its 2022 Missile Defense Review report.

"Hypersonic weapons, designed to evade US sensors and defensive systems, pose an increasingly complex threat due to their dual (nuclear/conventional) capable nature, challenging flight profile, and maneuverability," the report said."..."

## **Saudi FM says 'all bets are off' if Iran makes a nuclear weapon**

*December 12, 2022 timesofisrael.com* reported: "Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al-Saud said Sunday that the Islamic Republic's Gulf neighbors will not sit by if Tehran produces nuclear weapons.

"If Iran gets an operational nuclear weapon, all bets are off," Al Saud told reporters at the World Policy Conference in Abu Dhabi, according to Reuters.

"We are in a very dangerous space in the region... you can expect that regional states will certainly look towards how they can ensure their own security," he added, without elaborating on what that could entail.

The remarks come as Iran remains at odds with the West over its nuclear program and with talks for a revival of a 2015 deal frozen. Iran said last month that it had moved ahead on uranium enrichment that Western governments worry is part of a covert nuclear weapons program.

Speaking at a press conference in Rome, the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency Rafael Grossi warned that the Iranians "were tripling, not doubling, tripling their capacity to enrich uranium at 60%."

Uranium enriched to 60 percent purity is a short technical step away from weapons-grade levels of 90%.

The Saudi prince said Riyadh remained "skeptical" about the prospect of a deal with Iran but said his country would support a return to the negotiations table if reviving the original 2015 pact was seen as a "starting point, not an end point" for a better agreement..."

## **US scientists make major breakthrough in 'limitless, zero-carbon' fusion energy: report**

*December 11, 2022 foxbusiness.com* reported: "U.S. government scientists at a California laboratory have reportedly made a monumental breakthrough in harnessing the power of fusion energy.

The scientists, working at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, recently achieved a net energy gain in a fusion reaction, the Financial Times reported, citing three people with knowledge of the experiment.

Scientists have been struggling since the 1950s to harness the fusion reaction that powers the sun. But no group has been able to produce more energy from the reaction than it consumes.

Though developing fusion power stations at scale is still decades away, the breakthrough has significant implications as the world seeks to wean itself off of fossil fuels. Fusion reactions emit zero carbon and do not produce any long-lasting radioactive waste. Per The Times, a small cup of hydrogen fuel could potentially power a house for hundreds of years.

"If this is confirmed, we are witnessing a moment of history," said Dr Arthur Turrell, a plasma physicist, told the paper. "Scientists have struggled to show that fusion can release more energy than is put in since the 1950s, and the researchers at Lawrence Livermore seem to have finally and absolutely smashed this decades-old goal."

U.S. Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm and under-secretary for nuclear security Jill Hruby are expected to formally announce "a major scientific breakthrough" at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory on Tuesday. "..."

## **Germany to tighten gun laws after suspected coup plot -minister**

*December 11, 2022 reuters.com* reported: "Germany plans to tighten its gun laws in the wake of a suspected plot by a far-right group to violently overthrow the government and install a minor royal as national leader, its interior minister said in an interview published on Sunday.

German police last week arrested 25 people suspected of involvement in the plot, which has shocked many in one of Europe's most stable democracies.

Prosecutors allege that many of the suspects were members of the "Reichsbuerger" (Citizens of the Reich) movement, which does not believe in the existence of the modern German state, according to prosecutors.

Interior Minister Nancy Faeser, in an interview with "Bild am Sonntag" newspaper, warned that the Reichsbuerger represented a rising threat to Germany given it had expanded by 2,000 to 23,000 people in the past year.

"These are not harmless crazy people but suspected terrorists who are now sitting in pre-trial detention," Faeser was quoted as saying. Prosecutors have said the suspects included individuals with weapons and knowledge of how to use them. They had attempted to recruit current and former army members and had stockpiled weapons..."



*Saudi Foreign Minister  
Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al-Saud*