

2025 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
Wave 178: Views on people having children in America
(Social and Demographic Trends)
SEPTEMBER 2-8, 2025

FINAL TOPLINE
N=8,750

Note: All numbers are percentages unless otherwise noted. Percentages less than 0.5% are replaced by an asterisk (*). A hyphen (-) indicates that the sample size for a given subgroup is too small to report for that question. Rows/columns may not total 100% due to rounding. The questions presented below are part of a larger survey conducted on the American Trends Panel.

"No answer" includes web respondents who do not answer the question as well as telephone respondents who refuse to answer or who say they don't know how to answer. In cases where "not sure" was offered as an explicit option to web and telephone respondents, the "no answer" category includes only web skips and telephone refusals.

This survey was conducted primarily online, with some interviews conducted by live telephone. This topline shows the programming language for online administration. For details on how questions were slightly modified for phone administration, visit the questionnaire.

American Trends Panel surveys conducted between October 2016 and June 2024 were conducted fully online (with tablets and data plans provided to adults without home internet).

PN = Programming note

	Sample size	Margin of error at 95% confidence level
All adults	8,750	+/- 1.4 percentage points

FEWERKIDS

ASK ALL:

[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1, HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

What type of impact do you think it would have on our country if fewer people chose to have children in the future?

	<u>Very positive</u>	<u>Somewhat positive</u>	<u>Neither positive nor negative</u>	<u>Somewhat negative</u>	<u>Very negative</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Sep 2-8, 2025	4	16	26	29	24	*
May 13-19, 2024	5	16	31	26	21	1

FEDKIDS**ASK ALL:**

How much of a role do you think the federal government should have in encouraging more people to have children?

Sep 2-8,
2025

10	Major role
22	Minor role
56	No role at all
12	Not sure
1	No answer

KIDSPOLICY**ASK IF SAY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD HAVE A MAJOR OR MINOR ROLE**

(FEDKIDS=1,2) [n=2,726]:

[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1, HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST;
INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION AND ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

Would you favor or oppose the federal government doing each of the following to encourage more people to have children?

		Strongly <u>favor</u>	Somewhat <u>favor</u>	Neither favor nor <u>oppose</u>	Somewhat <u>oppose</u>	Strongly <u>oppose</u>	No <u>answer</u>
a.	Providing free child care Sep 2-8, 2025	36	28	15	12	9	*
b.	Requiring employers to provide paid family leave Sep 2-8, 2025	50	25	14	6	4	*
c.	Giving parents of minor children a monthly payment Sep 2-8, 2025	20	22	21	19	19	*
d.	Providing more tax credits for parents Sep 2-8, 2025	49	33	11	4	3	*
e.	Requiring health insurance companies to cover the cost of fertility treatment such as IVF Sep 2-8, 2025	31	27	22	12	8	*
f.	Sponsoring efforts to raise awareness of how fertility declines with age Sep 2-8, 2025	25	29	33	8	4	*

PARTY In politics today, do you consider yourself a:

ASK IF INDEP/SOMETHING ELSE (PARTY=3,4) OR MISSING [n=3,319]:

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to...¹

<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Something</u> <u>else</u>	<u>No</u> <u>answer</u>	<u>Lean</u> <u>Rep</u>	<u>Lean</u> <u>Dem</u>
29	28	27	14	2	17	19

¹ PARTY and PARTYLN asked in a prior survey.