



# UChicago Harris/AP-NORC Poll

Conducted by the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy and The Associated Press-NORC  
Center for Public Affairs Research  
With funding from NORC at the University of Chicago

*Interviews: 10/7-10/11/2021*

*1,054 adults*

*Margin of error: +/- 4.0 percentage points at the 95% confidence level among all adults*

*NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled.*

**KIDS. Are you the parent or guardian of:**

AP-NORC 10/7-11/2021	Yes	No	DK	SKP/ REF
A child age 0-17	31	67	-	2
A adult age 18 or older	38	60	-	2

*N= 1,054*

*If not a parent in KIDSA or KIDSB*

**KIDSPLAN. Are you considering or have you considered having a child someday? This could include biological, adopted, or foster children?**

	AP-NORC 10/7-11/2021
Yes	38
No	61
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*

*N=*

*394*

**EMPLOY1. Which of the following describes your current employment status?**

	AP-NORC 10/7-11/2021
Working <u>remotely</u> – as a paid employee	10
Working <u>in-person</u> – as a paid employee	41
Working – self-employed	8
Not working – temporarily laid off or furloughed since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic	1
Not working – permanently laid off at any time since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic	2
Not working – unemployed looking for work since before the COVID-19 pandemic	3
Not working – retired	21
Not working – disabled	6
Not working – other	6
Not working – never worked	2
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*

*N=*

*1,054*

**KIDSREASON.**

*If parent: How important were each of the following in thinking about whether or not to have a child?*

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]**

AP-NORC 10/7-11/2021	<b>Extremely/ Very important</b>	Extremely important	Very important	<b>Somewhat important</b>	<b>Not very/Not at all important</b>	Not very important	Not at all important	DK	SKP/ REF
Having a stable partner	<b>86</b>	56	30	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	2	3	-	*
Having enough savings	<b>59</b>	29	29	<b>29</b>	<b>12</b>	7	5	-	*
Having a secure job	<b>80</b>	46	33	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>	3	3	-	1
Having flexibility at work to manage personal and family responsibilities	<b>66</b>	33	33	<b>24</b>	<b>9</b>	5	4	*	*
Completing your education	<b>55</b>	25	30	<b>21</b>	<b>23</b>	12	12	-	1
Being the right age	<b>49</b>	20	28	<b>30</b>	<b>20</b>	13	7	-	1
Its what you wanted/want	<b>78</b>	45	33	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	3	3	-	1

N= 660

**KIDSREASON.**

*If non-parent:* How important are each of the following in thinking about whether or not to have a child?

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

AP-NORC 10/7-11/2021	<b>Extremely/ Very important</b>	Extremely important	Very important	<b>Somewhat important</b>	<b>Not very/Not at all important</b>	Not very important	Not at all important	DK	SKP/ REF
Having a stable partner	<b>85</b>	58	27	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	3	6	-	*
Having enough savings	<b>74</b>	44	30	<b>19</b>	<b>7</b>	2	5	-	*
Having a secure job	<b>86</b>	51	35	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	1	4	-	1
Having flexibility at work to manage personal and family responsibilities	<b>77</b>	38	39	<b>16</b>	<b>7</b>	1	5	-	1
Completing your education	<b>55</b>	27	29	<b>27</b>	<b>17</b>	8	9	-	1
Being the right age	<b>54</b>	23	32	<b>30</b>	<b>14</b>	7	7	*	1
It's what you wanted/want	<b>77</b>	50	27	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	2	8	-	2

N= 394

*If have ever been employed in EMPLOY1*

**KIDSPREP. Have you ever taken each of the following steps to manage the balance between your work and personal responsibilities?**

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

AP-NORC 10/7-11/2021	Yes	No	DK	SKP/ REF
Chose a job with a schedule that allows you to also manage your personal responsibilities	66	34	*	*
Spent less time with your friends or family to focus on your job	52	47	*	*
Spent less time at your job to focus on your friends or family	50	49	-	1
Delayed having a child based on the demands of your job	17	82	-	1
Made sure you had the support of family or friends	68	31	*	1
Hired someone to help around the house	22	78	-	*
<i>If parent: Hired a paid caregiver (N=653)</i>	26	74	-	*

*N= 1,044*

*If have ever been employed in EMPLOY1*

**KIDSEFFECT.**

*If currently employed: Thinking about your current workplace, do you think having a child is a major obstacle, a minor obstacle, or not an obstacle for parents in each of the following areas?*

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

AP-NORC 10/7-11/2021	A major obstacle	A minor obstacle	Not an obstacle	DK	SKP/ REF
Job security	16	27	56	*	1
Opportunity for job advancement	16	39	44	-	1
Opportunity for a raise	15	27	58	-	1
Relationships with coworkers	9	29	61	-	1

*N= 630*

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*If have ever been employed in EMPLOY1*  
**KIDSEFFECT.**

*If not currently employed: Thinking about your most recent workplace, do you think having a child was a major obstacle, a minor obstacle, or not an obstacle for parents in each of the following areas?*

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

AP-NORC 10/7-11/2021	A major obstacle	A minor obstacle	Not an obstacle	DK	SKP/ REF
Job security	13	26	56	1	4
Opportunity for job advancement	12	30	53	2	4
Opportunity for a raise	10	26	59	1	4
Relationships with coworkers	7	20	68	1	4

*N= 414*

**HHLABOR.**

*If parent of adult age 18 or older: For each of the following, who would you say did more in your household when you were raising children? If you didn't have a partner, you can say that, too.*

*If parent of child age 0 to 17: For each of the following, who would you say does more in your household? If you don't have a partner, you can say that, too.*

**[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]**

AP-NORC 10/7-11/2021	I did/do it all/ most of it	I did/do it all	I did/do most of it	My partner and I did/do about the same	My partner did/does most/all of it	My partner did/does most of it	My partner did/does all of it	No partner	DK	SKP/ REF
Provide transportation	<b>40</b>	18	22	<b>36</b>	<b>16</b>	12	4	7	-	1
Attend to child if he or she wakes at night	<b>42</b>	22	20	<b>34</b>	<b>14</b>	12	2	8	-	2
Change diapers	<b>38</b>	15	23	<b>34</b>	<b>15</b>	12	3	10	-	3
Pick up sick child from school or daycare	<b>43</b>	21	23	<b>30</b>	<b>17</b>	13	3	9	-	2
Take part in child's educational activities such as managing homework, reading to them, or attending parent-teacher conferences	<b>39</b>	19	20	<b>40</b>	<b>12</b>	10	2	8	-	1
Comfort, soothe, and provide child with emotional support	<b>35</b>	16	19	<b>44</b>	<b>12</b>	10	1	8	-	1
Handle household chores and family meals	<b>45</b>	20	24	<b>31</b>	<b>16</b>	13	3	7	-	1
Manage child's schedule or activities	<b>43</b>	22	21	<b>29</b>	<b>19</b>	16	3	8	-	1

N= 660

**HHLABOR.**

*If nonparent:* For each of the following, who would you expect to do more in your household if you had a child with a partner?

[GRID ITEMS RANDOMIZED; HALF SAMPLE ASKED RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

AP-NORC 10/7-11/2021	I would do it all/ most of it	I would do it all	I would do most of it	My partner and I would do about the same	My partner would do most/all of it	My partner would do most of it	My partner would do all of it	DK	SKP/ REF
Provide transportation	<b>22</b>	5	17	<b>70</b>	<b>7</b>	5	2	*	1
Attend to child if he or she wakes at night	<b>22</b>	6	16	<b>68</b>	<b>9</b>	9	*	*	1
Change diapers	<b>18</b>	6	12	<b>71</b>	<b>9</b>	9	1	*	1
Pick up sick child from school or daycare	<b>29</b>	7	22	<b>61</b>	<b>9</b>	9	*	*	1
Take part in child's educational activities such as managing homework, reading to them, or attending parent-teacher conferences	<b>21</b>	7	15	<b>74</b>	<b>3</b>	3	*	*	2
Comfort, soothe, and provide child with emotional support	<b>17</b>	7	10	<b>75</b>	<b>7</b>	6	1	*	2
Handle household chores and family meals	<b>29</b>	7	22	<b>62</b>	<b>7</b>	7	-	*	2
Manage child's schedule or activities	<b>27</b>	8	19	<b>61</b>	<b>11</b>	11	*	*	1

N= 394



**PARTYID**

	AP-NORC 10/7-11/2021
<b>Democrat NET</b>	<b>46</b>
Strong Democrat	19
Moderate Democrat	16
Lean Democrat	11
<b>Independent/None – Don't lean</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Republican NET</b>	<b>35</b>
Lean Republican	10
Moderate Republican	12
Strong Republican	13
Unknown	1

*N=* 1,054

**IDEOLOGY**

	AP-NORC 10/7-11/2021
<b>Liberal NET</b>	<b>22</b>
Very liberal	10
Somewhat liberal	12
<b>Moderate</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Conservative NET</b>	<b>29</b>
Somewhat conservative	17
Very conservative	12
Unknown	2

*N=* 1,054

**AGE**

	AP-NORC 10/7-11/2021
18-29	20
30-39	17
40-59	32
60-64	8
65+	22

*N=* 1,054

**GENDER**

	AP-NORC 10/7-11/2021
Male	48
Female	52

*N=* 1,054

**RACE/ETHNICITY**

	AP-NORC 10/7-11/2021
White	62
Black or African American	12
Hispanic	17
Other	9
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,054</i>

**MARITAL STATUS**

	AP-NORC 10/7-11/2021
Married/Living with partner	55
Not married	45
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,054</i>

**EMPLOYMENT STATUS**

	AP-NORC 10/7-11/2021
Employed	60
Not employed	40
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIPPED ON WEB/REFUSED	*
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,054</i>

**EDUCATION**

	AP-NORC 10/7-11/2021
Less than a high school diploma	9
High school graduate or equivalent	29
Some college	27
College graduate or above	35
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,054</i>

**INCOME**

	AP-NORC 10/7-11/2021
Under \$10,000	6
\$10,000 to under \$20,000	10
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	12
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	9
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	7
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	18
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	15
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	15
\$150,000 or more	7
<i>N</i> =	1,054

### **Study Methodology**

This survey was conducted by the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy and The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research with funding from NORC at the University of Chicago. Staff from Harris Public Policy and The AP-NORC Center collaborated on all aspects of the study. Data were collected using the AmeriSpeak Omnibus®, a monthly multi-client survey using NORC's probability-based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. household population. The survey was part of a larger study that included questions about other topics not included in this report. During the initial recruitment phase of the panel, randomly selected U.S. households were sampled with a known, non-zero probability of selection from the NORC National Sample Frame and then contacted by U.S. mail, email, telephone, and field interviewers (face-to-face). The panel provides sample coverage of approximately 97 percent of the U.S. household population. Those excluded from the sample include people with P.O. Box only addresses, some addresses not listed in the USPS Delivery Sequence File, and some newly constructed dwellings.

Interviews for this survey were conducted between October 7 and October 11, 2021, with adults age 18 and over representing the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Panel members were randomly drawn from AmeriSpeak, and 1,054 completed the survey — 987 via the web and 67 via telephone. Interviews were conducted in English. The final stage completion rate is 20.0 percent, the weighted household panel recruitment rate is 19.1 percent, and the weighted household panel retention rate is 75.1 percent, for a cumulative response rate of 2.9 percent. The overall margin of sampling error is +/- 4.0 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level, including the design effect. The margin of sampling error may be higher for subgroups.

Once the sample has been selected and fielded, and all the study data have been collected and made final, a poststratification process is used to adjust for any survey nonresponse as well as any noncoverage or under- and oversampling resulting from the study specific sample design. Poststratification variables included age, gender, census division, race/ethnicity, and education. Weighting variables were obtained from the 2021 Current Population Survey. The weighted data reflect the U.S. population of adults age 18 and over.

**About the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy**

One of the largest graduate professional schools at the University of Chicago, Harris Public Policy has been driven by the belief that evidence-based research, not ideology or intuition, is the best guide for public policy. For more than three decades, our exceptional community of scholars, students, and alumni have applied this exacting perspective to the world's most pressing problems using the latest tools of social science. Through our undergraduate and graduate programs, we empower a new generation of data-driven leaders to create a positive social impact throughout our global society. For more information visit <https://harris.uchicago.edu/>

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The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research taps into the power of social science research and the highest-quality journalism to bring key information to people across the nation and throughout the world.

- The Associated Press (AP) is the world's essential news organization, bringing fast, unbiased news to all media platforms and formats.
- NORC at the University of Chicago is one of the oldest and most respected, independent research institutions in the world.

The two organizations have established The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research to conduct, analyze, and distribute social science research in the public interest on newsworthy topics, and to use the power of journalism to tell the stories that research reveals.