

**2024 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
WAVE 147 APRIL-MAY 2024
FINAL TOPLINE
SURVEY OF ADULTS AGES 18-49 WHO DON'T HAVE CHILDREN AND SAY THEY
ARE UNLIKELY TO HAVE CHILDREN IN THE FUTURE
APRIL 29-MAY 19, 2024
TOTAL N=770**

NOTE: ALL NUMBERS ARE PERCENTAGES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. THE PERCENTAGES LESS THAN 0.5% ARE REPLACED BY AN ASTERISK (*). ROWS/COLUMNS MAY NOT TOTAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING.

	Sample size	Margin of error at 95% confidence level
U.S. adults ages 18 to 49 who are not parents and say they are not too or not at all likely to have children ¹	770	+/- 5.3 percentage points

ADDITIONAL QUESTION HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL ADULTS AGES 18-49 WHO ARE NOT PARENTS AND SAY THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO HAVE CHILDREN:

EVERPAR Have you ever been a parent or guardian to any children, living or deceased, including any biological or adopted children?

April 29-May 19,

2024

0	Yes
100	No
0	No answer

ASK ALL ADULTS AGES 18-49 WHO ARE NOT PARENTS AND SAY THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO HAVE CHILDREN:

HAVEKIDS1 Thinking about the future, how likely is it that you will have children someday?

April 29-May 19,

2024

0	Very likely
0	Somewhat likely
46	Not too likely
54	Not at all likely
0	No answer

¹ The sample includes respondents on the American Trends Panel who previously indicated that they don't have children of any age and that they are not too or not at all likely to have children someday. Respondents were screened again for this survey and those who indicated they have been a parent or guardian to any children (biological or adopted) or that they are at least somewhat likely to have children someday were excluded from the sample.

ASK ALL ADULTS AGES 18-49 WHO ARE NOT PARENTS AND SAY THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO HAVE CHILDREN:

MARITALMOD Which of these best describes your current marital status?

April 29-May 19,

2024

25	Married
3	Divorced
1	Separated
*	Widowed
71	Never been married
0	No answer

ASK ADULTS AGES 18-49 WHO ARE NOT PARENTS AND SAY THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO HAVE CHILDREN AND ARE NOT MARRIED (MARITALMOD=2-5,99) [n=560]:

COMMREL Are you currently in a committed romantic relationship?

April 29-May 19,

2024

34	Yes
66	No
*	No answer

ASK ADULTS AGES 18-49 WHO ARE NOT PARENTS AND SAY THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO HAVE CHILDREN AND ARE IN A COMMITTED ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIP (COMMREL=1) [n=187]:

LWPREL Are you currently living with a romantic partner? By this, we mean that you and your romantic partner share the same residence and neither of you has a separate residence.

RESULTS NOT SHOWN DUE TO SMALL SAMPLE SIZE**ASK ADULTS AGES 18-49 WHO ARE NOT PARENTS AND SAY THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO HAVE CHILDREN AND ARE NOT IN A COMMITTED RELATIONSHIP (COMMREL=2) [n=372]:**

SEEKING Which of these best describes what you are looking for right now?

April 29-May 19,

2024

16	A committed romantic relationship only
6	Casual dates only
26	Either a committed romantic relationship or casual dates
52	Not currently looking for a relationship or casual dates
0	No answer

ASK ALL ADULTS AGES 18-49 WHO ARE NOT PARENTS AND SAY THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO HAVE CHILDREN:

LIVINGPAR Do you have a living parent?

April 29-May 19,

2024

94	Yes
6	No

0 No answer

ASK ALL ADULTS AGES 18-49 WHO ARE NOT PARENTS AND SAY THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO HAVE CHILDREN:

EMPLSIT What is your current work situation?

April 29-May 19,
2024

65	Work full time for pay
17	Work part time for pay
10	Not currently working for pay
8	Unable to work due to a disability
1	Retired
*	No answer

ASK ALL ADULTS AGES 18-49 WHO ARE NOT PARENTS AND SAY THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO HAVE CHILDREN:

IMPACTGOALS In general, who do you think has it easier when it comes to each of the following?

[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]

	People who <u>don't</u> have children <u>have it easier</u>	People who <u>have</u> children <u>have it easier</u>	This doesn't have much to do with having children [anchor]	No <u>answer</u>
a. Being financially secure April 29-May 19, 2024	66	2	31	*
b. Having an active social life April 29-May 19, 2024	55	4	40	*
c. Having a successful job or career April 29-May 19, 2024	53	3	44	*
d. Having someone to care for them as they age April 29-May 19, 2024	3	64	32	*
e. Having a fulfilling life April 29-May 19, 2024	12	17	71	0

DISPLAY TO ALL ADULTS AGES 18-49 WHO ARE NOT PARENTS AND SAY THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO HAVE CHILDREN:

Some of our recent studies have focused on people who are parents. For this survey, we are particularly interested in learning about the views and experiences of adults who don't have children and say they're unlikely to have children in the future. As always, you are welcome to skip any question that is too difficult to answer or that makes you feel uncomfortable.

ASK ALL ADULTS AGES 18-49 WHO ARE NOT PARENTS AND SAY THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO HAVE CHILDREN:

RSNNOCHLD_S2

How much of a reason is each of the following for why you are not likely to have children? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS ACROSS TWO SCREENS WITH ITEM F ALWAYS AFTER ITEM E ON SAME SCREEN]**

	<u>Major reason</u>	<u>Minor reason</u>	<u>Not a reason</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. Infertility or other medical reasons (yours or your spouse/partner's) April 29-May 19, 2024	13	9	78	*
b. Can't afford to raise a child April 29-May 19, 2024	36	24	40	*
c. Haven't found the right partner to have children with April 29-May 19, 2024	24	12	63	*
d. A spouse or partner who doesn't want to have children April 29-May 19, 2024	11	15	74	*
e. Concerns about the environment, including climate change April 29-May 19, 2024	26	22	52	*
f. Concerns about the state of the world, other than the environment April 29-May 19, 2024	38	28	34	*
g. You don't really like children April 29-May 19, 2024	20	25	55	*
h. Negative experiences with your own family growing up April 29-May 19, 2024	18	26	56	*
i. You want to focus on other things, like your job or other interests April 29-May 19, 2024	44	23	32	*
j. You just don't want to April 29-May 19, 2024	57	22	21	*

ASK ALL ADULTS AGES 18-49 WHO ARE NOT PARENTS AND SAY THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO HAVE CHILDREN:

IMPACTLIFE Overall, does the fact that you don't have children make each of the following easier or harder for you? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; RANDOMLY DISPLAY RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5 OR 5-1, WITH OPTIONS 6 AND 7 ALWAYS LAST]**

		<u>A lot easier</u>	<u>Somewhat easier</u>	<u>Neither easier nor harder</u>	<u>Somewhat harder</u>	<u>A lot harder</u>	Does not apply [anchor; DISPLAY FOR ITEMS C AND F ONLY]	<u>Not sure [anchor]</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a.	Affording the things you want April 29-May 19, 2024	51	28	10	2	3		5	1
b.	Saving for the future April 29-May 19, 2024	47	28	13	3	3		7	*
c.	Being successful in your job or career April 29-May 19, 2024	30	23	25	3	2	13	5	*
d.	Having an active social life April 29-May 19, 2024	31	27	27	5	2		8	*
e.	Having time for hobbies and interests April 29-May 19, 2024	56	24	9	4	2		5	*
f.	Maintaining relationships with friends who have children April 29-May 19, 2024	6	6	33	25	7	17	5	*

ASK ADULTS AGES 18-49 WHO ARE NOT PARENTS AND SAY THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO HAVE CHILDREN AND ARE CURRENTLY EMPLOYED (EMPLSIT=1,2) [n=657]:

WORKNOKID Has each of following ever happened to you at work because you don't have children?
[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a.	Been expected to take on extra work or responsibilities April 29-May 19, 2024	35	65	*
b.	Been given less flexibility than people who have children April 29-May 19, 2024	39	60	1
c.	Have had more opportunities to network outside of work hours April 29-May 19, 2024	45	54	1
d.	Been given more opportunities for important assignments April 29-May 19, 2024	19	80	1
e.	Felt left out of conversations with coworkers who have children April 29-May 19, 2024	28	71	1

ASK ALL ADULTS AGES 18-49 WHO ARE NOT PARENTS AND SAY THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO HAVE CHILDREN:

TALK_KIDS How often does the topic of whether you'll have children come up in conversation with the following? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; RANDOMLY DISPLAY RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5 OR 5-1, WITH OPTION 6 LAST FOR ITEM C]**

		Extremely <u>often</u>	<u>Very often</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>	<u>Rarely</u>	<u>Never</u>	<u>No answer</u>
ASK IF MARRIED OR IN A COMMITTED RELATIONSHIP (MARITALMOD=1 OR COMMREL=1) [n=397]:							
a.	Your spouse or partner April 29-May 19, 2024	1	2	31	33	33	0
b.	Your friends April 29-May 19, 2024	*	4	28	38	30	0
ASK IF THEY HAVE A LIVING PARENT (LIVINGPAR=1) [n=712]:							
c.	Your parent(s) April 29-May 19, 2024	1	4	23	39	33	1

ASK ADULTS AGES 18-49 WHO ARE NOT PARENTS AND SAY THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO HAVE CHILDREN AND INDICATED THEY ARE LOOKING TO DATE (SEEKING=1-3) [n=187]:

IMPCTDATE In general, what type of impact do you think the fact that you're unlikely to have children has had on your dating life? **[RANDOMLY DISPLAY RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5 OR 5-1]**

April 29-May 19,
2024²

2	Very positive
6	Somewhat positive
78	Neither positive nor negative
11	Somewhat negative
3	Very negative
0	No answer

ASK ALL ADULTS AGES 18-49 WHO ARE NOT PARENTS AND SAY THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO HAVE CHILDREN:

PARTY In politics today, do you consider yourself a:

ASK IF INDEP/SOMETHING ELSE (PARTY=3 or 4) OR MISSING [n=340]:

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to...³

<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Something else</u>	<u>No answer</u>	<u>Lean Rep</u>	<u>Lean Dem</u>
14	35	27	24	*	14	33

² There were 187 responses to this question, with an effective sample size of 83 and a 95% confidence level margin of error of plus or minus 10.8 percentage points. This margin of error conservatively assumes a reported percentage of 50%.

³ PARTY and PARTYLN asked in a prior survey.