

Sample 500 NC Parents of Children Aged 0-12

Conducted October 31 – November 13, 2025

Margin of Error ±5.1%

1. What are the largest sources of stress in your life that, if addressed, would most significantly improve your life satisfaction? (Choose your top three)

Sources of stress to improve satisfaction - Housing availability	26%
Sources of stress to improve satisfaction - Personal health	28%
Sources of stress to improve satisfaction - Monthly income	57%
Sources of stress to improve satisfaction - Caregiving responsibilities for dependent children	27%
Sources of stress to improve satisfaction - Caregiving responsibilities for dependent adults	8%
Sources of stress to improve satisfaction - Job quality	16%
Sources of stress to improve satisfaction - Transportation	12%
Sources of stress to improve satisfaction - Lack of time	20%
Sources of stress to improve satisfaction - Crime	10%
Sources of stress to improve satisfaction - Saving for retirement	20%
Sources of stress to improve satisfaction - Loneliness	13%
Sources of stress to improve satisfaction - Lack of meaning	12%
Sources of stress to improve satisfaction - Unfulfilled family formation	6%
Sources of stress to improve satisfaction - Other	2%
Sources of stress to improve satisfaction - None of the above	3%

2. In the long run, do you think the use of AI in the workplace will lead to...

More economic security for your family	23%
Less economic security for your family	42%
It won't make a difference to the economic security of my family	35%

3. What are your current sources of child care during the day, outside of the care provided by yourself? (Mark all that apply)

My spouse or partner	54%
Relative(s)	30%
Neighbor(s)	3%
Friend(s)	9%
Member(s) of my faith community	4%
Paid child care (child care center, before- or after-school care, etc.)	22%
Elementary and/or middle school	36%
Other	5%

4. How would you describe your access to external child care? Consider any regular, recurring child care provided by someone other than yourself or another parent.

I have access to the child care I need all of the time.	46%
I have access to the childcare I need some of the time.	34%
I rarely have access to the childcare I need.	11%
I almost never have access to the child care I need.	9%

5. What is the highest monthly per-child cost that you would describe as "affordable" child care for your family, meaning it would still allow you to meet your ideal number of work hours?

Less than \$100 a month	24%
\$101-\$300 a month	34%
\$301-\$500 a month	23%
\$501-\$1,000 a month	13%
\$1,001-\$2,000 a month	5%
More than \$2,000 a month	2%

6. Assuming all the options met your definition of "affordable," what type of non-parental child care would you most prefer to utilize?

A family member, friend, or neighbor providing care	53%
A licensed child care home (that is, someone who runs a business providing care for unrelated children in their home)	10%
A licensed child care (daycare) center	21%
After school enrichment programs	14%
Other	2%

7. Would you prefer a religiously-based center (that is, affiliated with a house of worship like a church, synagogue, or mosque) or a standalone secular center?

Religiously-based center	28%
Secular center	72%

8. How much do you agree with the following statement: I would choose child care provided by friends, family, and neighbors even if other options (like a licensed center or child care home) were available at no cost.

Strongly agree	50%
Somewhat agree	32%
Somewhat disagree	10%
Strongly disagree	4%
Don't know	4%

9. How much do you agree with the following statement: Our current child care arrangement is ideal for our family.

Strongly agree	40%
Somewhat agree	42%
Somewhat disagree	11%
Strongly disagree	4%
Don't know	3%

10. How often do you need child care during these times:

	Daily	A few times per week	A few times per month	A few times per year	Never
Before 8AM	19%	13%	5%	9%	54%
From 8AM to 6PM	36%	27%	12%	9%	16%
After 6PM	8%	16%	21%	18%	37%
On weekends	8%	11%	19%	25%	38%

11. How often have child care responsibilities negatively impacted your ability to work over the last month?

Always	6%
Often	10%
Sometimes	27%
Rarely	28%
Never	28%