

New York Results

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National Institute for Early Education Research

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Q.1. In your community, how many parents do you think have access to good preschool programs that they can afford for their three- and four-year-old children--would you say that almost all parents have access to these programs, most parents, about half of parents, or fewer than half of parents have access to these programs for their young children?

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	356	164	192	207	141
Almost all parents	20	20	19	16	25
Most parents	22	17	26	25	18
About half of parents	17	18	17	21	12
Fewer than half of parents	28	31	26	27	30
Not sure	13	14	12	11	15
Total Almost All/Most	42	38	46	41	43
Total Half Or Fewer	45	48	43	48	42

Q.2. And which one or two of the following do you think are the biggest obstacles facing parents in finding preschool programs for their three- and four-year-old children? (m) *

* Asked only of respondents who say most parents" or fewer (Q.1)."

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	285	131	155	174	107
Many of these programs are to	42	40	43	50	30
There are not enough good prc	17	20	15	17	19
The structure and schedule of	14	14	15	15	12
There is not enough informatio	18	15	21	19	18
Many parents cannot find prog	23	20	25	24	22
All (VOL)	13	13	14	9	20
None/other (VOL)	3	5	2	3	2

Not sure	5	6	5	4	8
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Q.3. Overall, do you think that state government is doing too much, about the right amount, or too little to make sure that all parents have access to affordable preschool programs for their young children?

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	356	164	192	207	141
Doing too much	5	7	4	4	7
Doing about the right amount	18	18	18	15	22
Doing too little	62	60	63	64	60
Not sure	15	15	15	17	11

Q.4. I'd like to read you a list of things that state government could be doing with regard to preschool programs. For each item that I mention, please tell me whether you support or oppose state government getting involved in that specific area.

PROPORTIONS WHO SAY THAT THEY STRONGLY SUPPORT STATE GOVERNMENT GETTING INVOLVED IN SELECTED AREAS

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	356	164	192	207	141

Ensuring the safety of preschool programs by establishing and enforcing licensing and inspection standards

71	70	72	78	62
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Providing funding and financial support for preschool programs so that all parents who want to can afford to enroll their children

67	67	67	72	61
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Ensuring the quality of preschool programs by setting standards for learning and for teacher training and education

63	61	66	67	59
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Working with parents and local school systems to operate preschool programs similar to the way local school systems now run kindergarten through twelfth grade school programs

41	40	43	45	35
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Holding preschool programs accountable for the learning progress and skill development of young children by establishing evaluation standards

39	37	40	43	32
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Q.5a. Now I'm going to describe an approach that some people have suggested for expanding opportunities for three- and four-year-old children to participate in preschool programs and then your reaction.

State government would provide funding and financial support so that all parents in the state who want to send their children to a high-quality preschool program can afford to do so. Parents would be able to choose which program to send their child to depending on their needs and preferences--for example, parents could select a public or a private program, and parents could select a program that is part-time or one that is full-time, as long as the program meets state standards for teacher qualifications, class size, and safety.

How do you feel about this approach--do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, feel neutral, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with this approach?

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	356	164	192	207	141
Strongly agree	47	47	47	52	40
Somewhat agree	27	27	27	27	28
Feel neutral	9	4	13	11	8
Somewhat disagree	6	7	5	3	9
Strongly disagree	6	9	4	3	10
Not sure	5	6	4	4	5
Total Agree	74	74	74	79	68
Total Disagree	12	16	9	7	19

Q.5b. Why do you feel that way about this approach to expanding opportunities for three- and four-year-old children to participate in preschool programs?

(PROBE:) What do you think are the most positive aspects of this approach?

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	356	164	192	207	141
Net Positive Aspects	59	56	62	65	53
Equal opportunity, for all child	10	8	11	9	10
Good for kids, prepares them	8	11	5	10	6
Gives parents choices/options	11	7	14	11	10
Makes it affordable, it's possible	6	3	9	8	3
Gives them an early start on t	9	8	11	11	8
Gives them a chance to learn	6	7	6	8	4
Teaches social/communicatio	7	11	4	10	4
Government should be involv	3	3	4	4	2
Gets parents involved, aware	2	2	2	1	2

Important to interact with other	6	4	8	7	5
Benefits working/single parent	5	2	8	7	4
It's important, need to do more	2	2	2	1	3
Agree with it, it's a good idea,	2	2	3	3	2
Good age, able to learn, kids	3	2	3	4	1
Gives them the best start, makes	4	5	4	5	3
It's needed, some kids come from	2	1	3	2	2
Parents choose based on need	1	2	1	2	-
More access, more programs	1	2	1	1	1
Develop good habits, learn discipline	2	2	1	-	3
Good flexibility, choice of hours	3	4	2	2	4
It works, have seen the result	1	1	1	1	-
Good for competition/quality,	1	1	1	1	-
Supports both public and private	1	2	-	-	2
All other positive aspects of this	3	2	3	3	1

Q.5b. Why do you feel that way about this approach to expanding opportunities for three- and four-year-old children to participate in preschool programs?

(PROBE:) And what concerns do you have about this approach?

	New York Voters	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	356	164	192	207	141
Net Concerns	43	47	41	37	52
Against government involvement	6	8	4	5	7
Teachers need to be certified.	5	5	4	4	5
Too young, not ready, need to	7	10	4	7	7
Where will money/funding come	7	7	8	5	10
Ensure standards/safety, need	5	3	6	4	5
Too costly, too expensive	2	3	2	2	2
Parents should educate/take	5	7	3	2	7
The schools/other programs will	2	2	1	2	1
Should be based on need, pay	3	3	2	2	4
Used as babysitting/day care	2	2	1	1	3
Should be voluntary, not forced	1	1	1	1	1
Not fair, not equitable for all, f	1	2	1	-	3
Should be for public only, not	-	-	1	1	-
Don't have children, not fair for	-	-	1	1	-
Not needed, not necessary, e	-	1	-	-	1
Most parents will choose private	1	2	-	1	1
Shouldn't pay for private education	2	2	3	2	3
Will be taken advantage of, al	-	-	-	-	-
Every child has different needs	1	1	2	1	2
Against evaluating/qualifying	1	1	-	1	1

Concerns about quality of education	1	1	-	1	-
Disagree with it, bad idea, dis	1	1	1	1	1
Against vouchers, sounds like	1	1	-	-	1
Local government/community	-	-	1	-	1
All other concerns about this :	6	5	6	5	7
Don't know enough, would like	1	-	2	1	1
Don't know, no response	4	4	3	4	3

Q.6a. Now I'd like to read you two statements about how preschool programs could be made available. Please listen to each statement and then tell me which one best represents your own feelings.

Statement A: These programs should be free to all children, regardless of their family's income, OR

Statement B: These programs should be free ONLY to children from poor and low-income families, with the parents of other children paying based on the family's income and ability to pay.

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	356	164	192	207	141
Statement A/These programs should be free to all children, regardless of their family's income, OR	52	48	55	53	50
Statement B/These programs should be free ONLY to children from poor and low-income families, with the parents of other children paying based on the family's income and ability to pay.	40	42	38	40	41
Neither/other (VOL)	5	6	4	4	4
Not sure	3	4	3	3	5

Q.6b. And now I'd like to read you three statements about paying for preschool programs. Please listen to each statement and then tell me which one best represents your own feelings.

Statement A: I believe that these programs are a top priority and I would be willing to pay additional state taxes to pay for them

Statement B: I support these programs, but only if they can be funded within the existing state budget and without raising state taxes

Statement C: I do not believe that these programs are an important priority given all the other issues that state government needs to address

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	356	164	192	207	141
Statement A: I believe that these programs are a top priority and I would be willing to pay additional state taxes to pay for them	36	38	35	40	32
Statement B: I support these programs, but only if they can be funded within the existing state budget and without raising state taxes	51	45	55	53	48

Statement C: I do not believe tl	8	9	7	4	13
Federal government should p	1	2	1	-	3
None/other (VOL)	2	3	-	1	2
Not sure	2	3	2	2	2

Q.7a. I'd like to list reasons that some people have given for why it is important to have preschool programs available for three- and four-year-old children.

For each statement, please tell me whether you think it is extremely convincing, very convincing, fairly convincing, just somewhat convincing, or not really convincing.

PROPORTIONS WHO SAY THAT SELECTED REASONS WHY IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS AVAILABLE FOR THREE- AND FOUR-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN ARE EXTREMELY OR VERY CONVINCING

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Many children who participate in preschool programs do better when they enter elementary school and score higher on basic skills tests	66	60	70	71	59
Many children who participate in preschool programs are more self-confident, better adjusted, and less likely to be disruptive and cause problems that affect other children in the classroom when they enter elementary school *	58	55	61	63	52
Good preschool programs help motivate young children to become problem-solvers who are more successful in school, work, and in their communities	60	58	62	62	57
Having children participate in preschool programs strengthens families by giving parents the resources and support they need to help their children get a good start	62	62	62	66	57
Good preschool programs cost a lot more than most working families can afford, leaving many parents with few alternatives	59	56	61	58	59
Children who participate in preschool programs are less likely to get involved with things like gangs and drugs as they get older and more likely to grow up and become productive, contributing members of the community *	38	37	38	39	38
Good preschool programs benefit the economy and save taxpayers two dollars for every dollar invested, because these programs prevent school failure and crime and produce a better educated, more productive workforce **	39	36	41	39	39
Children who do NOT participate in preschool programs are less self-confident, less adjusted, and more likely to be disruptive and cause problems that affect other children in the classroom when they enter elementary school **	44	41	47	49	37
Good preschool programs benefit the economy and save taxpayers two dollars for every dollar invested *					

36 41 32 36 40
 Children who do NOT participate in preschool programs are more likely to have problems in school and to get involved with things like gangs and drugs as they get older **

37 36 38 38 37

FACTUALS

Q.F1. How old are you?

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	356	164	192	207	141
18-24	7	5	9	12	-
25-29	9	9	9	15	-
30-34	10	9	11	17	-
35-39	11	10	12	19	-
40-44	11	12	10	19	-
45-49	10	9	11	18	-
50-54	11	10	11	-	27
55-59	7	10	5	-	17
60-64	8	6	10	-	21
65-69	6	6	6	-	15
70-74	3	3	3	-	8
75 and over	5	8	2	-	12
Refused	2	3	1	-	-

Q.F2. Are you currently employed?

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	356	164	192	207	141
Professional, manor	23	26	20	28	16
White-collar worker	17	10	22	20	12
Blue-collar worker	11	14	9	16	5
Farmer, rancher	-	1	-	1	-
Student	3	1	4	5	-
Homemaker	7	2	11	8	5

Retired	20	25	16	1	46
Unemployed, looking for work	7	9	5	7	6
Other	11	10	12	13	9
Not sure	1				

Q.F3. What is the last grade that you completed in school?

	New York Voters	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	356	164	192	207	141
Grade school	1	1	2	1	2
Some high school	9	6	11	10	7
High school graduate	21	24	18	17	26
Some collie, no degree	16	14	17	19	11
Vocational training/2-year collie	10	12	9	10	11
4-year bachelor's/bachelor's de	20	19	20	23	15
Some postgraduate work, no d	4	6	3	4	5
2 or 3 years' postgraduate wor	15	11	18	15	14
Doctoral/law degree	3	6	1	-	8
Not sure/refused	1	1	1	1	1

Q.F4. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an independent, or as something else?

(IF REPUBLICAN/DEMOCRAT, ASK:) Would you call yourself a strong (Republican/Democrat) or a not very strong (Republican/Democrat)?

(IF NOT REPUBLICAN/DEMOCRAT, ASK:) Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party or closer to the Democratic Party?

	New York Voters	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	356	164	192	207	141
Strong Republican	17	16	17	17	17
Weak Republican	10	11	10	11	10
Independent/lean Republican	6	7	4	4	8
Strictly independent	17	14	19	18	16
Independent/lean Democrat	8	9	8	8	9
Weak Democrat	17	15	18	19	14
Strong Democrat	24	26	22	22	26
Not sure/refused	1	1	1	1	-

Total Republicans	33	34	32	32	36
Total Democrats	49	50	48	49	48

Q.F5. Thinking about your general approach to issues, do you consider yourself to be liberal, moderate, or conservative?

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	356	164	192	207	141
Liberal	26	25	27	27	24
Moderate	40	41	38	40	39
Conservative	27	27	26	25	30
Not sure	7	7	9	8	7

Q.F6. Are you currently single and never married, married, separated, widowed, or divorced?

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	356	164	192	207	141
Single	27	30	25	37	14
Married	54	54	54	50	59
Separated	2	1	2	2	2
Widowed	8	6	10	1	19
Divorced	7	7	8	9	6
Other (VOL)	1	1	-	-	-
Not sure/refused	1	1	1	1	-

Q.F7a. Do you have any children under age 18 currently living in your household?

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	356	164	192	207	141

Yes, kids under 18 in household	35	30	39	53	10
No, no kids under 18 in household	64	69	59	46	89
Not sure	1	1	2	1	1

Q.F7b. How many children do you have in each of the following age categories?

Zero to five *

	New York Voters	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	125	50	76	111	15
One	29	29	29	32	7
Two	13	9	17	15	-
Three	3	7	-	3	-
Four	-	-	-	-	-
Five or more	2	3	1	2	-
None	53	52	53	48	93
Not sure	-	-	-	-	-

Q.F7b. How many children do you have in each of the following age categories?

Six to nine *

	New York Voters	Men	Women	18-49	50 and over
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	125	50	76	111	15
One	28	29	27	30	13
Two	10	7	12	11	-
Three	1	2	-	1	-
Four	-	-	-	-	-
Five or more	-	-	1	1	-
None	61	62	60	57	87
Not sure	-	-	-	-	-

Q.F7b. How many children do you have in each of the following age categories?

Ten to fourteen *

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	125	50	76	111	15
One	26	27	26	26	28
Two	8	16	3	6	24
Three	2	2	1	2	-
Four	-	-	-	-	-
Five or more	-	-	-	-	-
None	64	55	70	66	48
Not sure	-	-	-	-	-

Q.F7b. How many children do you have in each of the following age categories?

Fifteen to eighteen *

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	125	50	76	111	15
One	18	11	22	20	3
Two	7	12	5	6	19
Three	1	2	-	-	8
Four	-	-	-	-	-
Five or more	-	-	-	-	-
None	74	75	73	74	70
Not sure	-	-	-	-	-

Q.F7c. Have you yourself ever had a child under age five enrolled in a preschool program?

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	356	164	192	207	141
Yes, child is currently enrolled	9	9	9	11	6

Yes, child was enrolled in a preschool	30	24	35	32	29
Yes, child enrolled in a preschool	2	1	3	3	1
No, never had a child under age five	51	57	47	48	57
Not sure/refused	8	9	6	6	7
Total Have/Have Had Child In	41	34	47	45	36

Q.F7d. Have you ever had a child under age five in a child care arrangement outside the home—including with friends or relatives?

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	356	164	192	207	141
Yes, child is currently in a child care arrangement	8	6	9	9	4
Yes, child was in child care arrangement	23	21	24	22	24
Yes, child was in child care arrangement	4	2	6	5	4
No, never had a child under age five	57	60	55	56	61
Not sure/refused	8	11	6	8	7
Total Have/Have Had Child In	35	29	39	36	33

Q.F7e. Do you have any grandchildren under age twelve? *

* Asked only of respondents who say that they are a 40 or over (Q.F1).

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	356	164	192	207	141
Yes, have grandchildren under age twelve	24	20	28	4	55
No, do not have grandchildren	34	39	29	29	40
Not sure	5	8	2	5	5

Q.F8a. In what religion were you brought up?

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
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Total	356	164	192	207	141
Protestant	22	23	20	17	29
Catholic	45	43	47	50	40
Jewish	5	6	5	4	8
Other	17	16	17	18	15
None	5	6	4	6	4
Not sure/refused	6	6	7	5	4

Q.F8b. Would you describe yourself as either a fundamentalist or evangelical Christian, or would you not describe yourself that way? *

* Asked only of Protestants (Q.F8a).

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	356	164	192	207	141
Fundamentalist/evangelical	3	6	2	3	5
Neither fundamentalist nor eva	12	12	11	9	16
Not sure	6	5	7	5	8
Non-Protestants (Q.F8a)	79	77	80	83	71

Q.F9. If you added together the yearly income of all the members of your family who were living at home last year, would the total be less than \$10,000, between \$10,000 and \$20,000, between \$20,000 and \$30,000, between \$30,000 and \$40,000, between \$40,000 and \$50,000, between \$50,000 and \$75,000, between \$75,000 and \$100,000, or would the total be more than that?

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	356	164	192	207	141
Less than \$10,000	5	3	6	5	4
Between \$10,000 and \$20,000	6	5	7	6	7
Between \$20,000 and \$30,000	13	13	13	13	13
Between \$30,000 and \$40,000	10	9	11	9	12
Between \$40,000 and \$50,000	10	11	10	12	7
Between \$50,000 and \$75,000	12	10	14	12	12
Between \$75,000 and \$100,00	11	12	10	12	11
More than \$100,000	11	16	7	11	12
Not sure/refused	22	21	22	20	22

Q.F10. What is your race?

	New York Voters -----	Men -----	Women -----	18-49 -----	50 and over -----
Total	356	164	192	207	141
Hispanic	11	10	12	16	4
White	71	71	71	64	80
Black	13	14	12	14	12
Asian	-	1	-	1	-
Other	2	2	2	2	2
Not sure/refused	3	2	3	3	2