

Voters Overwhelmingly Support Federal Investments in Child Care Across the Political Spectrum

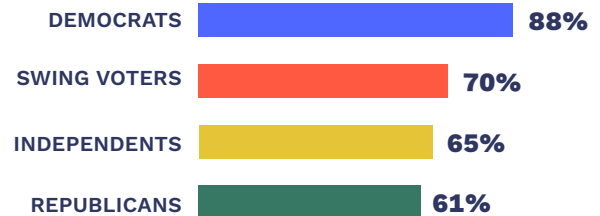


While voter motivations behind the outcomes of the 2022 midterm elections will be hotly debated over the coming weeks and months, a national poll commissioned by the First Five Years Fund (FFYF) and conducted by the bipartisan polling team of Hart Research and New Bridge Strategy **immediately following the 2022 midterm elections** underscores child care as an uniquely unifying issue and one that garners overwhelming bipartisan support. Voters from both sides of the aisle understand the essential role that child care plays in the success of our economy, and expect Congress and the White House to work together to advance long-term solutions that address the severity of child care challenges facing working families and our economy.

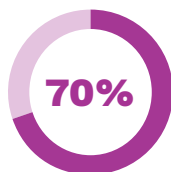
86% of voters agree that improving the quality of child care and early learning programs and making them more affordable for families are a good investment of taxpayers' money.



An overwhelming majority of voters across the political spectrum say that federal funding for child care and early learning programs should be increased.



84% of voters say it would be acceptable if a proposal **which expands funding to states to increase child care options increased the federal deficit** in the short run if it paid for itself in the long run by improving children's education, health, and economic situations. That includes:



of voters say access to high-quality, affordable child care is "essential" or "very important" to our ability to strengthen the economy and help workers.

65%

of voters are unhappy (one in five are "angry") that Congress did not increase funding for child care when it had a chance to earlier this year.

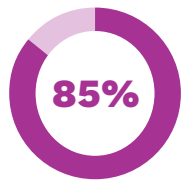
71%

of key swing group suburban women are disappointed or angry.

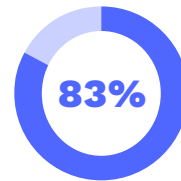
81% of voters say their member of Congress should work with the Biden administration to enact policies that expand affordable child care options. This includes:



of voters believe it's important that Congress help attract and retain more qualified child care workers by increasing funding to enable child care programs to provide better pay and benefits.



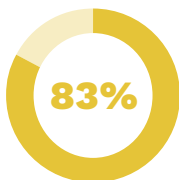
of voters believe it's important that Congress increase the child care options available to parents by increasing funding to child care programs so that more of them can open or expand.



of voters believe it's important that Congress create more options for parents by allowing programs of all types—including those in schools, child care centers, homes, and religious institutions—to access federal funding.

The child care crisis is taking a pronounced financial toll on families and businesses. One in five voters and 60% of parents of infants and toddlers say that one or more of the following applies to them due to issues with child care:

- ▶ Had to miss a shift or reduce work hours
- ▶ Had to turn down a job opportunity
- ▶ Have cut back on other household essentials
- ▶ Had to leave the work force entirely



Voters agree that the child care status quo does not work. 83% of voters say that half or fewer of the child care programs in their area are both affordable and high quality.

Methodology:

1,006 registered voters, including an oversample of suburban women. Interviews conducted November 9-13, 2022