

# Republican Likely Voters' Views on Child Care: “Essential for Working Families and a Strong Economy”

## High-level findings in Nebraska

- 83% of Nebraska voters (83.4%) see child care as “essential for working families and a strong economy.” That number includes 76% of respondents who identified as parents and 85% of business owners
- 79% of Nebraska GOP primary voters say child care helps parents work full-time—they identify child care as an economic and workforce necessity. 37% believe their community could lose jobs due to child care gaps
- 75% said accessing child care is a serious challenge for the families they know—and the share was even higher among parents (83%) and business owners (80%)
- Child care costs are top-of-mind: 53% of Nebraskans cite cost as the biggest barrier for accessing child care, and Nebraskan parents (57.1%) see affordability as the biggest barrier to access at a greater rate than parents across the nation (48.3%)
- A lack of affordable, reliable child care hurts working families’ bottom line and can prevent full participation in the workforce. 45% experienced or knew someone who experienced work disruptions—quitting, cutting hours, turning down a job or promotion—due to a lack of child care
- Nebraskan voters, parents, and business owners all agree that to support families and workers, the top priority of Congress should be funding child care—over K-12 education, workforce training, job support for small businesses, and postsecondary education and college financial aid
- 58.5% of Nebraska Republicans view child care affordability as a pro-family and pro-worker priority

## Methodology

In June 2025, 1,200 Republicans likely to vote in the 2026 primary election were asked their views on child care. This national survey included an oversample of 474 Nebraskans by polling firm Cygnal as part of a partnership between the Buffett Early Childhood Institute at the University of Nebraska and the Bipartisan Policy Center.

## About

**The Buffett Early Childhood Institute at the University of Nebraska** promotes the development and learning of children from birth through age 8.

**The Bipartisan Policy Center** is the only organization working across the full political spectrum on domestic issues, bringing together diverse perspectives to craft data-driven, pragmatic policy solutions.

**Cygnal** is an award-winning international polling, public opinion, and predictive analytics firm that pioneered multi-mode polling, text-to-web collection, and emotive analysis.

---

Citation: Survey of Likely 2026 Republican Primary Election Voters  
Nebraska  
Conducted June 12-15, 2025

---

For more information about the Buffett Institute  
and our research and policy priorities, visit  
[buffettinstitute.nebraska.edu](https://buffettinstitute.nebraska.edu)

