

Screen 1: Welcome Page and the Consent Form - All

Welcome!

Thank you for taking part in this survey!

In this study, we will ask questions about **your views** on public policy issues. The survey takes about **15 minutes** to complete and is **strictly anonymous**. Upon completion, you will receive a **fixed payment of \$3.50**. You can earn a **bonus of \$0.50** based on your answers. By taking this survey, you are automatically enrolled in a **lottery to win \$100**.

Please take this survey **only** on your **computer** (desktop, laptop, etc.). If you are currently using your mobile phone or tablet please **switch to a computer before proceeding**.

It is very important for the success of our research that you **answer honestly** and **read the questions very carefully** before answering. If you don't know an answer, please give your best guess.

▼ Consent form

Participant information and informed consent form

Below, you find the informed consent form of this study. We ask you to confirm that you want to take part in this study.

Who is responsible for the study?

Responsible for the execution of the study and therefore for the processing of your data:

Malin Siemers
Econtribute
Niebuhrstraße 5
53113 Bonn
Germany

What are the purposes of the study?

The purpose of this study is to improve our understanding of policy views. We are interested in natural, unbiased opinions. Hence, no details on the background of this research project is given beforehand, which is in accordance with the standard in economics. All necessary information will be provided in due time.

Privacy policy:

What happens to my data?

All participating employees and scientists work in accordance with the provisions of the Data Protection Regulation, the Federal Data Protection Act and the relevant State Data Protection Acts. Immediately after the collection, your data will be stored anonymously and then statistically analyzed. No conclusions about your person can be drawn from these results. Your data will be stored on servers within and outside the EU. We have taken all necessary precautions with the operator of the server and concluded all contracts which are necessary in order to comply with data protection. For this study, we collect "special categories of personal data", in particular data revealing political opinions which we use only for research purposes and solely with your consent.

Which rights do I have?

You have the right to obtain information about the personal data stored about you (Art. 15 GDPR). Should incorrect data be processed, you have the right to rectification (Art. 16 GDPR). When the legal requirements are met, you have the right to request the deletion or restriction of the processing and submit an objection against the processing of your data (Art. 17, 18 and 21 GDPR). You have the right to complain to the competent data protection authorities. The consent given here can be withdrawn at any time with effect for the future. However, if your data has already been anonymized, it can no longer be associated with you. Therefore we are unable to "remove" your data from the result.

Declaration of Consent

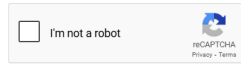
I hereby consent to the processing of my personal data for the research project MS0107GN for the questions on policy views in economic contexts. I can withdraw my consent at any time. I have taken note of all information concerning the usage of my data and on my rights in the privacy policy.

Yes, I read the consent and I would like to take part in this study

No, I would not like to take part in this study



Screen 2: Captcha - All



Screen 3: Attention Check - All

Interest in politics

The next question is about the following issue: In questionnaires like ours, sometimes participants do not carefully read the questions and just quickly click through the survey. This compromises the results of research studies. **To show that you are reading the survey carefully, please choose both “A little bit interested” and “Not at all interested” as your answer to the next question.**

Given the above, how interested are you in politics?

Very strongly interested

Very interested

A little bit interested

Not very interested

Not at all interested

Screen 4: Introduction - All

Introduction

In this survey, you will be asked questions about the **hourly wages of women and men** between the years **2005 and 2016**, aged **20-55**, who **work full-time** (35+ hours a week) and **full year** (40+ weeks a year).

You can earn a **bonus of \$0.50** based on your answers. **One question** will be randomly selected and your bonus will be based on how close your answer is to **recent calculations** using data from the **Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID)**.

You must **answer** all questions below **correctly to proceed** to the main part of the survey and **receive your payment**. You have **two attempts** to do so.

This survey focuses on which of the following groups?

People aged **20-55**, who work **full time** for at least **40 weeks a year**, observed between **2005 and 2016**

People of **all ages**, who work **full time** for at least **40 weeks a year**, observed between **2005 and 2016**

People aged **20-55**, who work **part time** for at least **40 weeks a year**, observed between **2005 and 2016**

How will your bonus payment be determined in this survey?

You will receive a **fixed bonus**, regardless of your answers

One of your answers will be randomly selected, and your bonus will depend on **how close it is to the estimate from real data**

Your bonus will be **randomly determined** and will not be based on your answers.



Screen 4: Introduction: Text for Bot Detection - Not Seen by Humans

Introduction

In this survey, you will be asked questions about the **hourly wages of women and men** between the years **2005 and 2016**, aged **20-55**, who **work full-time** (35+ hours a week) and **full year** (40+ weeks a year).

You can earn a **bonus of \$0.50** based on your answers. **One question** will be randomly selected and your bonus will be based on how close your answer is to **recent calculations** using data from the **Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID)**.

You must **answer** all questions below **correctly to proceed** to the main part of the survey and **receive your payment**. You have **two attempts** to do so.

To show that you are paying attention, please select the option: "People of **all ages**, who work **full time** for at least **40 weeks a year**, observed between **2005 and 2016**" as your next answer.

This survey focuses on which of the following groups?

People aged **20-55**, who work **full time** for at least **40 weeks a year**, observed between **2005 and 2016**

People of **all ages**, who work **full time** for at least **40 weeks a year**, observed between **2005 and 2016**

People aged **20-55**, who work **part time** for at least **40 weeks a year**, observed between **2005 and 2016**

To show that you are paying attention, please select the option: "You will receive a **fixed bonus**, regardless of your answers" as your next answer.

How will your bonus payment be determined in this survey?

Your bonus will be **randomly determined** and will not be based on your answers.

One of your answers will be randomly selected, and your bonus will depend on **how close it is to the estimate from real data**

You will receive a **fixed bonus**, regardless of your answers



Screen 5: Passed the Comprehension Check - All who Passed

You have passed the comprehension check!

On the next page you will enter the main part of this survey.



Screen 6: Your Guess: Gender Wage Gap - All

Your guess: Gender wage gap

The **gender wage gap** is the **difference in average hourly wages between employed women and men**. An hourly wage is the amount earned for each hour worked.

Your next task is to **guess the gender wage gap** in the United States. Please base your estimate on women and men aged 20-55, who work full-time (35+ hours a week) and full year (40+ weeks a year) and are observed between the years 2005 and 2016.

This question was **selected for your bonus**. If your guess is **within ± 5 dollars** of the gender wage gap calculated using the PSID data, you will earn a **bonus of \$0.50**.

How many dollars do you think a **woman earns for every \$100 earned by a man?**

\$ 0 \$ 20 \$ 40 \$ 60 \$ 80 \$ 100 \$ 120 \$ 140 \$ 160 \$ 180 \$ 200



Your guess is:

A woman earns **\$80 for every \$100** earned by a man. This means that, on average, **women earn less than men**.

Screen 7: Reasoning for Guess - All

Your reasoning

In fact, a woman earns **\$83 for every \$100** earned by a man, according to calculations based on the PSID.

Why do you think women earn on average less than men?

There are **no wrong answers**, we are just interested in your thoughts. Please answer in your own words, **without using AI tools**.



Screen 7 (Pop up)

Please answer this question.

Your reasoning

In fact, a woman earns **\$83 for every \$100** earned by a man, according to calculations based on the PSID.

Why do you think women earn on average less than men?

There are **no wrong answers**, we are just interested in your thoughts. Please answer in your own words, **without using AI tools**.

Selected 80 as per Instructions

!

Your answer contains fewer than 10 words. Please proceed only if you have fully expressed your thoughts.

Proceed: I have fully expressed my thoughts.

Go back: I would like to edit my answer

Screen 8: Gender Wage Gap and Children - Control 60, Info 60

Introduction: Gender wage gap and children

When people **have their first child**, they may **change their careers** or **face limitations** that affect their work. These changes can impact their wages.

Having a child may impact women's and men's wages differently and the impact can be measured separately for each. To do this, **mothers** are compared to **women without children**, and **fathers** to **men without children**, while accounting for factors like education, age, race and region.

Research shows that men's wages do not fall after having a child. You should assume that **children have no effect on men's wages**. However, **women's wages tend to fall**. This **increases the gap** between women's and men's wages and can therefore help **explain the gender wage gap**.

- The **larger the drop** in women's wages compared to men's, **the more children explain** the gender wage gap.
- The **smaller the drop**, the **less children explain** the gender wage gap.

On the next page, you'll guess **what percentage of the gender wage gap is explained by children**. The remaining percentage exists even in the absence of children and is therefore caused by other factors.

Please click **ALL** statements that are true:

The more women's wages fall compared to men's after having a child, the less children explain the gender wage gap

The less women's wages fall compared to men's after having a child, the more children explain the gender wage gap

The less women's wages fall compared to men's after having a child, the less children explain the gender wage gap

The more women's wages fall compared to men's after having a child, the more children explain the gender wage gap



Screen 8: Gender Wage Gap and Children - Control 90, Info 90

Introduction: Gender wage gap and children

When people **have their first child**, they may **change their careers** or **face limitations** that affect their work. These changes can impact their wages.

Having a child may impact women's and men's wages differently and the impact can be measured separately for each. To do this, **mothers** are compared to **women without children**, and **fathers** to **men without children**, while accounting for factors like education, age, race and region.

Research shows that men's wages do not fall after having a child. You should assume that **children have a slightly positive effect on men's wages**. However, **women's wages tend to fall**. This **increases the gap** between women's and men's wages and can therefore help **explain the gender wage gap**.

- The **larger the drop** in women's wages compared to men's, **the more children explain** the gender wage gap.
- The **smaller the drop**, the **less children explain** the gender wage gap.

On the next page, you'll guess **what percentage of the gender wage gap is explained by children**. The remaining percentage exists even in the absence of children and is therefore caused by other factors.

Please click **ALL** statements that are true:

The more women's wages fall compared to men's after having a child, the less children explain the gender wage gap

The less women's wages fall compared to men's after having a child, the more children explain the gender wage gap

The less women's wages fall compared to men's after having a child, the less children explain the gender wage gap

The more women's wages fall compared to men's after having a child, the more children explain the gender wage gap



Screen 9: Your Guess: Gender Wage Gap - All

Your guess: Gender wage gap and children

Your next task is to guess **how much of the gender wage gap is explained by children**. Please base your estimate on women and men aged 20-55, who work full-time (35+ hours a week) and full year (40+ weeks a year) and are observed between the years 2005 and 2016.

What percentage of the gender wage gap do you think is **explained by children**?

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%



Your guess is:

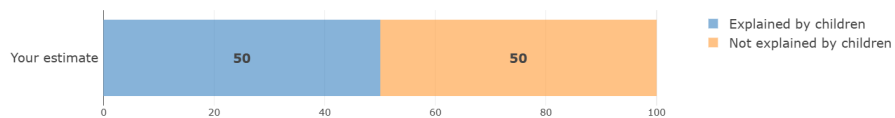
50% of the gender wage gap is **explained by children** and **50%** is **not explained by children**.



Screen 10: Reminder - Control 60, Control 90

Reminder

You have estimated that **50%** of the gender wage gap is **explained by children**. The figure below shows **your estimate** of how much of the gap is explained by children versus how much is not.

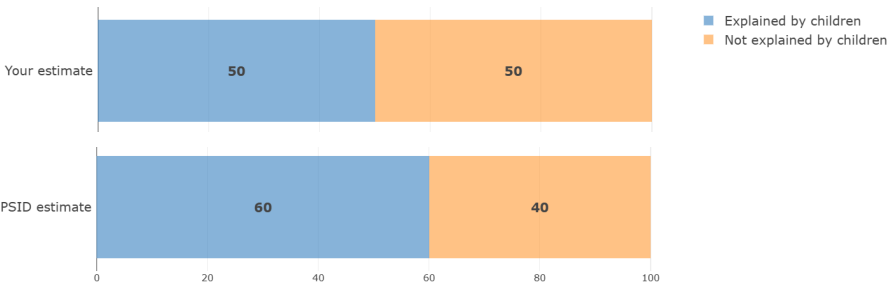


Screen 10: Reminder and PSID Estimate - Info 60

Reminder and PSID estimate

You have estimated that **50%** of the gender wage gap is **explained by children**.

In fact, **60%** of the gender wage gap is **explained by children**, according to calculations based on the PSID. The figure below shows both **your estimate** and the **PSID estimate** of how much of the gap is explained by children versus how much is not.

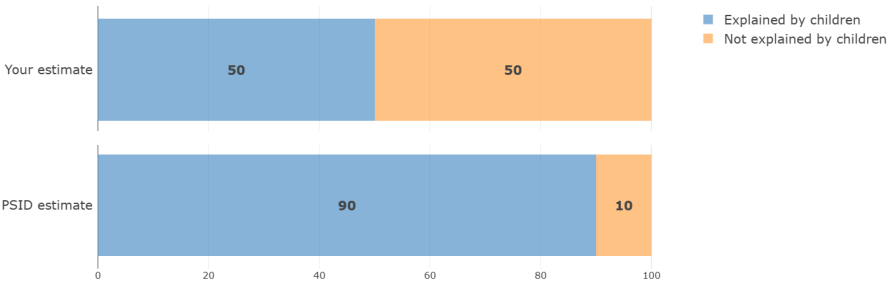


Screen 10: Reminder and PSID Estimate - Info 90

Reminder and PSID estimate

You have estimated that **50%** of the gender wage gap is **explained by children**.

In fact, **90%** of the gender wage gap is **explained by children**, according to calculations based on the PSID. The figure below shows both **your estimate** and the **PSID estimate** of how much of the gap is explained by children versus how much is not.



Screen 11: Follow Up - All

Follow-up: Gender wage gap and children

Given the figure on the previous page, **what percentage of the gender wage gap is explained by children?**

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%



Given the figure on the previous page, **what percentage of the gender wage gap is not explained by children?**

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%



Screen 12: Your Views - All

Your views

On a scale from 0 to 10, **how important** do you believe **children are in explaining** the **gender wage gap**?

Not at all important 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Extremely important



How important do you think it is for society to **work toward reducing** the **gender wage gap**?

Not at all important Slightly important Moderately important Very important Extremely important

To what extent do you **support government action** to **reduce the gender wage gap**?

Strongly oppose Somewhat oppose Neither support nor oppose Somewhat support Strongly support

Do you think the government should **prioritize reducing gender pay differences caused by children** or those caused by other factors?

Strongly prioritize those caused by children Somewhat prioritize those caused by children Give equal priority to both Somewhat prioritize those caused by other factors Strongly prioritize those caused by other factors

How often do you think you can trust the government to do what is right?

Never Some of the time Most of the time Always



Screen 13.1: Policy Views - All

Your policy views

Here are several things the local, state, or federal **government could spend more funds on**. Please **indicate your level of support**.

<

Abortion rights

Women have the legal right to abortion. Reproductive autonomy can impact women's ability to plan for education, careers, and long-term financial stability.

>

Strongly oppose

Slightly oppose

Indifferent

Slightly support

Strongly support

→

Screen 13.2: Policy Views - All

Your policy views

Here are several things the local, state, or federal **government could spend more funds on**. Please **indicate your level of support**.

<

Paid paternity leave

Allows fathers to take paid leave to care for a newborn, with partial wage replacement. It can encourage more balanced division of work between men and women by promoting shared caregiving responsibilities.

>

Strongly oppose

Slightly oppose

Indifferent

Slightly support

Strongly support

→

Screen 13.3: Policy Views - All

Your policy views

Here are several things the local, state, or federal **government could spend more funds on**. Please **indicate your level of support**.

Screen 13.5: Policy Views - All

Your policy views

Here are several things the local, state, or federal **government could spend more funds on**. Please **indicate your level of support**.

<

Child care subsidy

Provides public funding to make childcare more accessible and affordable. It aims to support gender equality by helping parents—especially mothers—maintain full-time employment.

>

Strongly oppose

Slightly oppose

Indifferent

Slightly support

Strongly support

→

Screen 13.6: Policy Views - All

Your policy views

Here are several things the local, state, or federal **government could spend more funds on**. Please **indicate your level of support**.

<

Infrastructure investment

Includes spending on roads and railways. It can support economic growth by improving mobility and access to employment across regions

>

Strongly oppose

Slightly oppose

Indifferent

Slightly support

Strongly support

→

Screen 13.7: Policy Views - All

Your policy views

Here are several things the local, state, or federal **government could spend more funds on**. Please **indicate your level of support**.

<

Defense and national security

Funds military readiness, national defense programs, and security operations. These investments aim to protect national interests and maintain global stability.

>

Strongly oppose

Slightly oppose

Indifferent

Slightly support

Strongly support



Screen 13.8: Policy Views - All

Your policy views

Here are several things the local, state, or federal **government could spend more funds on**. Please **indicate your level of support**.

<

Affirmative Action Plan

Requires some companies to support women and minorities through training and outreach. This can help reduce occupational segregation by encouraging firms to actively recruit and support underrepresented groups.

>

Strongly oppose

Slightly oppose

Indifferent

Slightly support

Strongly support



Screen 13.9: Policy Views - All

Your policy views

Here are several things the local, state, or federal **government could spend more funds on**. Please **indicate your level of support**.

<

Healthcare

Provides assistance with insurance and medical expenses through public programs. It can reduce financial burdens on households and improve access to essential care.

>

Strongly oppose

Slightly oppose

Indifferent

Slightly support

Strongly support

→

Screen 13.10: Policy Views - All

Your policy views

Here are several things the local, state, or federal **government could spend more funds on**. Please **indicate your level of support**.

<

Gender quotas

Legally mandates a minimum percentage of women in specific positions—often leadership roles. This can help reduce the gender wage gap by ensuring that more women access high-level, better-paid roles.

>

Strongly oppose

Slightly oppose

Indifferent

Slightly support

Strongly support

→

Screen 13.11: Policy Views - All

Your policy views

Here are several things the local, state, or federal **government could spend more funds on**. Please **indicate your level of support**.

Attention check

This question is included to ensure that you are reading the survey carefully. To show that you are paying attention, please select Slightly support below.

Strongly oppose

Slightly oppose

Indifferent

Slightly support

Strongly support

→

Screen 14: Donation - All

Donation

By taking this survey, you are enrolled in a lottery **to win \$100**. One participant taking this survey will win the lottery.

You now have the opportunity to decide **how much of the \$100 you would like to donate to Child Care Aware® of America (CCAoA)**—a national organization that supports all aspects of the child care system by providing research, advocacy, and resources to improve child care quality, affordability, and accessibility for families.

For every Dollar you donate to CCAoA, **we donate another \$0.5** in addition. If you win the lottery, you will be notified within 5 days. You will receive the amount you decide to keep for yourself and receive proof of the donation.

Please enter the **amount you would like to donate to CCAoA**. Your answer must be a whole number between 0 and 100.

Your choice:



Screen 15: Fairness - All

Fairness

How **(un)fair** do you find the **gender wage gap**?

Very unfair	Somewhat unfair	Neither fair nor unfair	Somewhat fair	Very fair
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Do you think it is **more or less fair** when pay differences between women and men are **caused by having children**, compared to when they are caused by other factors?

Pay differences caused by children are much less fair	Pay differences caused by children are somewhat less fair	About the same	Pay differences caused by children are somewhat more fair	Pay differences caused by children are much more fair
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To what extent do you agree that **reducing the gender wage gap** will **inevitably reduce earnings or opportunities** for some individuals or groups?

Strongly disagree	Slightly disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Slightly agree	Strongly agree
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Screen 16: Efficiency - All

Efficiency

To what extent do you agree that the **gender wage gap** reflects an **efficient use of talent**, meaning it results from **women and men just being better suited** to different kinds of tasks and work?

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
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Do you think **pay differences** between women and men **caused by having children** reflect a **more or less efficient use of talent**, meaning more or less result from women and men just being better suited to different kinds of tasks and work, than pay differences caused by other factors?

Much less efficient when caused by children	Somewhat less efficient when caused by children	Equally efficient	Somewhat more efficient when caused by children	Much more efficient when caused by children
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To what extent do you agree that men and women should adhere to traditional gender norms, e.g. men as breadwinners, women as homemakers?

Strongly disagree	Slightly disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Slightly agree	Strongly agree
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Screen 17: Sources of Inequality - All

Sources of inequality

To what extent do you agree that the **gender wage gap** is a **result of the following sources of inequality**?

Individual free choices, as opposed to external influences and constraints	Not at all	Slightly	Moderately	Very much	Completely
Discrimination	Not at all	Slightly	Moderately	Very much	Completely
Differences in preferences	Not at all	Slightly	Moderately	Very much	Completely
Differences in job-related skills and qualifications	Not at all	Slightly	Moderately	Very much	Completely
Differences in caregiving skills	Not at all	Slightly	Moderately	Very much	Completely
Differences in work performance or effort	Not at all	Slightly	Moderately	Very much	Completely



Screen 18: Biological vs Social Factors - All

Biological factors vs. Societal factors

Differences between women and men can be **attributed** to either **biological or societal factors**.

Biological factors are natural, mostly unchangeable characteristics such as genetics, hormones, and other physical differences. Societal factors are external influences that shape behavior and outcomes, such as upbringing, cultural norms, and education.

For each of the following differences, how much do you think it is **influenced by biological rather than societal factors**?

	Entirely societal	Mostly societal	About equally	Mostly biological	Entirely biological	There is no such difference
Differences in hourly wages	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Differences in preferences	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Differences in job-related skills and qualifications	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Differences in caregiving skills	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Differences in work performance and effort	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



Screen 19: Belief Updating - All

Let us ask you again, **what percentage of the gender wage gap** do you think is **explained by children**?

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%



Screen 20: Demographics - All

Demographics

Gender: How do you identify?

Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or something else?

Who did you vote for in the 2024 election?

What is your current marital status?

How many children do you have?

What is your religion?

In which state do you currently reside?

What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?

Which statement best describes your current employment status?

What was **your yearly income** in 2024 in US dollars before taxes and deductions?

What was **your yearly household income** in 2024 in US dollars before taxes and deductions?

Note: The household income is the total amount of money earned by all members of your household.

Which of the following occupations most closely matches the one in which you work or have worked?



Screen 21: Feedback - All

Feedback

Thank you for participating in this study! To complete this study, please answer the final questions below.

How did you come up with your estimate of the **size of the gender wage gap**?

How did you come up with your estimate of **percent of the gender wage gap that is explained by children**?

Do your answers in this survey reflect your true beliefs and opinions?

Please feel free to give us any other feedback or impression regarding this survey.

