

2026 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
Wave 193: Young Adult Milestones
May 4-17, 2026

TOPLINE
N=10,091

Note: All numbers are percentages unless otherwise noted. Percentages less than 0.5% are replaced by an asterisk (*). Rows/columns may not total 100% due to rounding. The questions presented below are part of a larger survey conducted on the American Trends Panel.

"No answer" includes web respondents who do not answer the question as well as telephone respondents who refuse to answer or who say they don't know how to answer. In cases where **"not sure"** was offered as an explicit option to web and telephone respondents, the **"no answer"** category includes only web skips and telephone refusals.

This survey was conducted primarily online, with some interviews conducted by live telephone. This topline shows the programming language for online administration. For details on how questions were slightly modified for phone administration, visit the questionnaire.

American Trends Panel surveys conducted between October 2016 and June 2024 were conducted fully online (with tablets and data plans provided to adults without home internet).

PN = Programming note

	Sample size	Margin of error at 95% confidence level
U.S. adults	10,091	+/- 1.4 percentage points

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE OR PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

BAT: YOUNGADULTS

ASK ALL:

[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1, HOLDING 3, 98 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION AND ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

How do you think young adults today compare with their parents' generation on each of the following?

	Harder for young adults <u>today</u>	Easier for young adults <u>today</u>	About the same as it was for their parents' <u>generation</u>	<u>No answer</u>
NO ITEM a				
b. Buying a home				
May 4-17, 2026	87	6	7	*
Oct 18-24, 2021	70	16	14	*

YOUNGADULTS CONTINUED...

	Harder for young adults <u>today</u>	Easier for young adults <u>today</u>	About the same as it was for their parents' <u>generation</u>	<u>No answer</u>
c. Paying for college				
May 4-17, 2026	82	7	10	1
Oct 18-24, 2021	71	14	15	*
d. Finding a job				
May 4-17, 2026	64	15	20	*
Oct 18-24, 2021	39	40	21	*
e. Saving for the future				
May 4-17, 2026	82	6	12	*
Oct 18-24, 2021	72	11	17	*

NO ITEM f**NO ITEM g**

h. Covering basic expenses				
May 4-17, 2026	80	6	13	*

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE OR PREVIOUSLY RELEASED