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Latinos Are Split on Whether the American Dream Is Achievable

Yet majorities say their standard of living is better than their parents' and express optimism about their children's future

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About this research

This Pew Research Center analysis focuses on U.S. Latinos' views of the American dream and their outlook on economic mobility.

Why did we do this?

Pew Research Center conducts high-quality research to inform the public, journalists and decision-makers. This analysis builds on a larger body of work that explores the attitudes and experiences of Latinos in the U.S.

Learn more about [Pew Research Center](#), our research on [Hispanics in the U.S.](#) and other research on [race and ethnicity](#).

How did we do this?

This analysis is based on Pew Research Center's latest National Survey of Latinos, conducted from Oct. 6 to 16, 2025, among a sample of 8,046 U.S. adults. Some 4,923 Hispanics were surveyed, with 1,125 respondents who are members of the Center's [American Trends Panel](#) (ATP) and 3,798 respondents who are members of SSRS's [Opinion Panel](#). The survey also included 3,114 non-Hispanic ATP members. Here are the [questions used for this analysis](#), [detailed responses](#) and [the methodology](#).

The survey was conducted in English and Spanish. Respondents were recruited through national, random sampling of residential addresses. This kind of recruitment gives nearly all U.S. adults a chance of selection.

Interviews took place either online or by telephone with a live interviewer. The survey is weighted to be representative of the U.S. adult population by gender, race, ethnicity, partisan affiliation, education, presidential vote (among voters) and other factors. [Read more about the ATP's methodology](#).

List of key terms

The terms **Hispanic** and **Latino** are used interchangeably in this report.

The term **immigrant** refers to respondents born outside the 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia or Puerto Rico. When data is available, this group also includes people born outside these places to parents born outside these places. The terms immigrant and **foreign born** are used interchangeably.

The term **U.S. born** refers to respondents born in the 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia or Puerto Rico. When the data is available, this group also includes those born elsewhere to at least one parent who was born in these places.

Second generation refers to respondents who are U.S. born with at least one immigrant parent.

Third or higher generation refers to respondents who are U.S. born with both parents also U.S. born.

This analysis includes comparisons between Latino adults and other adults. In these cases, the term **other U.S. adults** refers to are those who are not Hispanic. The terms other U.S. adults, **other adults** and **other Americans** are used interchangeably.

We asked respondents whether they have achieved the American dream, are on their way to achieving it, believe it's out of reach or that it doesn't exist. We use the phrase **believe the American dream exists** to refer to those who say they have achieved it, they are on their way to achieving it, or that it is out of reach. This group excludes those who say the American dream does not exist.

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Latinos Are Split on Whether the American Dream Is Achievable

Yet majorities say their standard of living is better than their parents' and express optimism about their children's future

Latinos in the United States express a mix of hope and skepticism about the American dream. Like other Americans, they are divided on whether the dream is attainable.

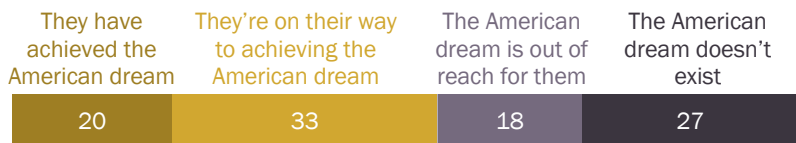
One-in-five Latinos say they've achieved the American dream, and 33% say they are on their way to achieving it. However, 18% say the American dream is out of reach for them – and 27% say it doesn't exist at all.

When asked whether the American dream is harder or easier to achieve than it was for their parents, Hispanics are more likely to say it has become harder. This suggests a shift from a decade ago, when Hispanics were more likely to say the American dream was *easier* for them to achieve than it had been for their parents.¹

Yet when it comes to Latinos' assessments of their standard of living – a key part of [how many of them define the American dream](#) – their outlook leans more positive. Far more Latinos say:

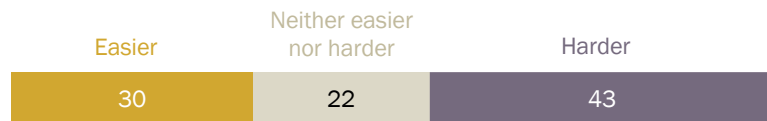
About half of Latinos say they've achieved the American dream or are on their way ...

% of U.S. Latino adults who say ...



... and Latinos are more likely to say it's become harder rather than easier to achieve

Among Latinos who believe the American dream exists,* % who say that compared with their parents, it's gotten ___ for them to achieve it



* Respondents who said "the American dream doesn't exist" were not asked the question on whether it has become harder or easier to achieve.

Note: "Easier" includes those who said a lot/somewhat easier; "harder" includes those who said a lot/somewhat harder. Shares of respondents who didn't answer or offered other answers are not shown.

Source: National Survey of Latinos conducted Oct. 6-16, 2025.

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¹ In a [2016 Pew Research Center phone survey](#), Latinos were more likely to say the American dream had become easier rather than harder to achieve than it was for their parents. These phone survey results are not directly comparable to our more recent polls due to a shift in survey mode from telephone surveys to online ones. For more information, read "[What our transition to online polling means for decades of phone survey trends](#)."

- Their standard of living is better than their parents' (57%), rather than worse (23%).
- Their children's standard of living will be better than their own (53%) as opposed to worse (14%).

Notably, Latino immigrants have more positive views than their U.S.-born counterparts about their and their children's standards of living. Read more about [how Latinos view their standard of living for themselves and their children](#), by nativity.

Latinos' attitudes about the attainability of the American dream are roughly in line with those of other Americans, but Latinos are more upbeat about intergenerational progress. Among other U.S. adults:

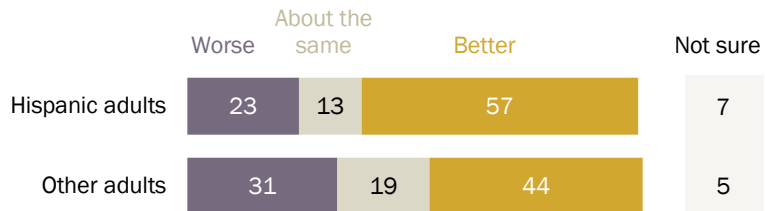
- 28% say they have achieved the American dream, and 29% say they are on their way to achieving it. Another 19% say the American dream is out of reach for them, and 23% say it does not exist.
- 44% say their standard of living is better than that of their parents, and 29% expect their kids will be better off.

These findings come from Pew Research Center's National Survey of Latinos, a nationally representative, bilingual survey of 4,923 U.S. Latino adults conducted in October 2025. It is part of our [ongoing research](#) exploring the views and experiences of Latinos, who now account for [one-in-five Americans](#) and are the nation's second-largest racial or ethnic group.

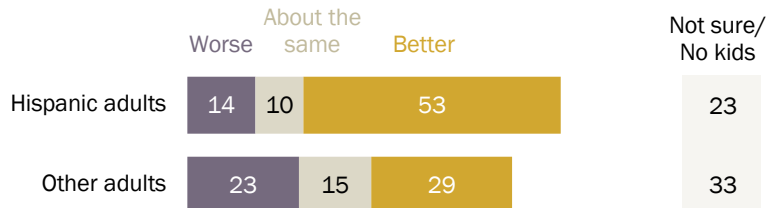
Hispanics are more likely than other Americans to see intergenerational progress in their families

% who say that ...

Compared with their *parents* at the same age, their own standard of living is __ than their parents' was



When their *children* are at the same age, their children's standard of living will be __ than their own



Note: "Other adults" are those who are not Hispanic. "Worse" includes those who said much/somewhat worse; "better" includes those who said much/somewhat better. Shares of respondents who didn't answer are not shown.

Source: National Survey of Latinos conducted Oct. 6-16, 2025.

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Around the country's [250th anniversary](#) and in a time when [most Latinos are pessimistic about their situation in U.S.](#), this report explores how Latinos see the American dream today: their achievement of it, its meaning, its durability and their outlook on other aspects of economic mobility.

What the American dream means to Hispanics

The phrase “American dream” has been used for [nearly a century](#) to mean many different things, such as achieving financial success, securing political freedoms or living in a tolerant, multicultural society.

To better understand what the concept means to U.S. Hispanics, we asked respondents to tell us *in their own words* what the American dream means to them.

In this open-ended question, Hispanics most often describe the American dream in terms of financial stability, economic opportunity or homeownership. They also cite aspects like a high quality of life for themselves or their family.

[Read more about how U.S. Hispanics define the American dream.](#)

What Latinos say it takes to achieve the American dream

Latinos largely agree that hard work, motivation and access to the right opportunities are important to achieving the American dream. There is less agreement about the role of luck and chance.

Among Latinos who believe the American dream exists – that is, those who say they have achieved it, are on their way to achieving it or that it is out of reach, and excluding those who say it does not exist:

- Large majorities say hard work and motivation (81%) and access to the right opportunities (76%) are major factors in achieving it.
- Fewer say luck and chance (35%) is a major factor.

Views of what it takes to achieve the American dream are tied to whether Latinos think the American dream is attainable

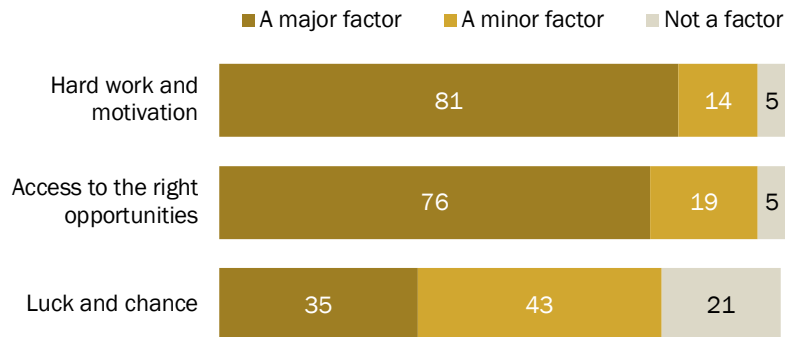
What people see as important to achieving the American dream varies by how they assess their own progress toward achieving it. Among Latinos who believe the American dream exists:

- 85% who believe they’ve *achieved the American dream* or *are on their way* each say hard work and motivation is a major factor for achieving it, higher than the share among Latinos who believe the American dream is out of reach (69%). Still, majorities of both groups say hard work and motivation are important.
- Latinos who believe the American dream is *out of reach* are more likely than those who think they *have already achieved it* to say luck and chance play a major role (43% vs. 25%)

[Refer to the appendix for Latinos’ views across demographic subgroups.](#)

Most Latinos see hard work and motivation as vital to achieving the American dream

Among U.S. Latino adults who believe the American dream exists,* % who say each of the following is ___ in people’s ability to achieve it these days



* A previous question asked respondents whether they have achieved the American dream, they’re on their way to achieving it, it’s out of reach for them or that it doesn’t exist. Those who said “the American dream doesn’t exist” were not asked the question shown here.

Note: Shares of respondents who didn’t answer are not shown.

Source: National Survey of Latinos conducted Oct. 6-16, 2025.

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What the ‘American dream’ means to U.S. Latinos, in their own words

The phrase “the American dream” has [long been used](#) to describe hopes associated with life in the United States. Over time, [it has come to encompass many ideals](#), including economic mobility, homeownership, political freedoms and equality.

A Pew Research Center survey finds that U.S. Latinos are divided on [whether they can achieve the American dream](#). But what does the phrase mean to Latinos? We asked them to describe the American dream in their own words, which we then grouped into broad themes.

Hispanics most often link the American dream to **financial or economic factors, self-fulfillment or collective well-being**.² Many describe multiple themes. One Latina respondent wrote, “The American dream means many things to many different people. But to me personally, the American dream would be living peacefully [and] joyfully ... being financially stable and in a house of my own, just to be humble and kind to anyone who enters.”

These findings come from the Center’s National Survey of Latinos, a nationally representative, bilingual survey including 4,923 U.S. Latino adults conducted Oct. 6-16, 2025. [Read key findings from the survey](#).

² These are themes largely shared by other Americans today. Among Hispanic adults, 59% related the American dream to financial security, economic opportunity or homeownership, and 39% described as building happy, fulfilled lives for themselves or their community. Among U.S. adults who are not Hispanic, 55% and 42% described the American dream this way, respectively.

The American dream means many things to U.S. Hispanics

About six-in-ten Hispanics tie the American dream to **financial or economic factors**. This includes 36% who mentioned financial security, 31% who mentioned economic opportunity and 14% who mentioned homeownership.³

Respondents describe the American dream as:

“A chance for upward social mobility. It means the pathway exists for someone to claw out of poverty to what most would consider success. It means not lacking necessities and having enough for wants occasionally.”

– Immigrant woman of Cuban origin, late 20s

“To own a house, be able to provide for your family a decent standard of living, be able to take good vacations.”

– Immigrant man of Nicaraguan origin, late 60s

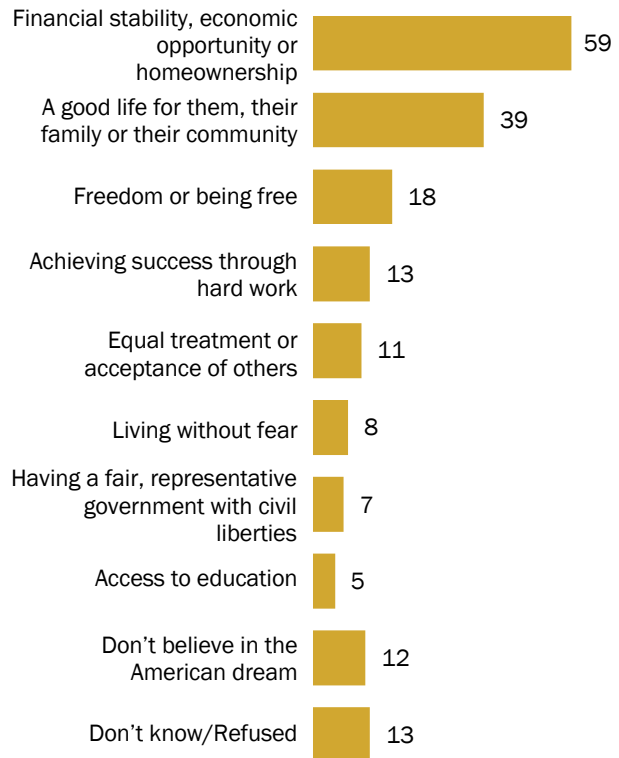
Roughly four-in-ten Latinos describe the American dream as **living a good life** for themselves, their family or their community.

Responses mentioned things like finding happiness or fulfillment, having a high quality of life, or having positive relationships with family, friends or neighbors.

The American dream is:

Finances and well-being top Latinos' descriptions of the American dream

% of U.S. Latino adults who say the American dream means ... *[open end]*



Note: Verbatim responses have been coded into categories, and multiple categories were allowed. Only categories mentioned by at least 5% of Latino adults are shown. Refer to the topline for shares who mentioned other categories.

Source: National Survey of Latinos conducted Oct. 6-16, 2025. “Latinos Are Split on Whether the American Dream Is Achievable”

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³ Individual figures do not add to the subtotal because responses could be coded to multiple categories.

“The ability to live well and how you want.”

– U.S.-born man of Puerto Rican origin, early 40s

“To be part of [the] society and community of America, to contribute for the better of every other American that lives on the soil.”

– Immigrant woman of Argentine origin, late 20s

Smaller shares of Latino adults describe the American dream in other ways:

- **Freedom or being free** (18%), including broad descriptions of freedom or freedom in a political, economic or individual sense.
- **Achieving success through hard work** (13%), including achievement through merit, grit or effort, or “pulling oneself up by their bootstraps.”
- **Equal treatment or acceptance of others** (11%), including descriptions of equal or civil rights, tolerance, freedom from discrimination, or the United States being a “melting pot” of cultures, beliefs and identities.

“Living in true freedom: Free from authoritarian regimes.... Free to express my opinions without fear of reprisal. Free from chaos and the dismantling of our [the United States’] long-cherished democracy. Hope to continue this country’s 250 years of democratic freedom.”

– Immigrant man of Dominican origin, mid-60s

“Un concepto que ha evolucionado a lo largo de la historia, pero su significado principal se refiere a la idea de que cualquier persona, sin importar su origen, puede alcanzar el éxito y la prosperidad a través del trabajo duro y la dedicación. *(A concept that has evolved throughout history, but its primary meaning refers to the idea that anyone, no matter their background, can achieve success and prosperity through hard work and dedication.)*”

– Immigrant woman of Colombian origin, mid-50s

“The hope of a future without racial, gender or sexuality bias and a socioeconomic structure that does not limit, oppress or privilege persons because of racial, gender or sexuality status.”

– U.S.-born woman of Mexican origin, mid-70s

Additionally, about one-in-ten Hispanics expressed **disillusionment with the American dream**. These respondents said they don't think the American dream is real, that it doesn't mean anything to them or that it's been lost.

“Vivir el sueño americano es progreso, vivir en paz, obtener una excelente educación, etc., pero últimamente eso se está perdiendo por la situación actual del país. (Living the American dream is progress, living in peace, getting an excellent education, etc., but lately that is being lost due to the current situation of the country.)”

– Immigrant man of Venezuelan origin, late 40s

Some Hispanic groups stand out in how they define the American dream

Across subgroups of Hispanics, the most common responses consistently link the American dream to finances, economic opportunity, homeownership and quality of life. However, some groups stand out in specific ways. For instance:

- Immigrants (68%) are more likely than U.S.-born Latinos (55%) to say finances, economic opportunity or homeownership are part of the American dream.
- 23% of Latinos who primarily speak English and 20% who are bilingual name freedom when describing the American dream, higher than the 7% of Spanish-dominant Latinos who do the same.⁴
- 17% of Latinos with family origins in South America describe the American dream as being safe or free from fear. This is at least double the share among Latinos with origins elsewhere in Latin America or Spain (8% or less).

⁴ Differences by language remain regardless of whether Hispanics are immigrants or U.S. born.

How immigrant and U.S.-born Latinos see economic mobility and the American dream

Latinos in the United States broadly view living standards as improving across generations – both when looking back at their parents and looking ahead for their children.

Overall, immigrant Latinos hold more positive views about intergenerational economic progress than those born in the U.S. At the same time, immigrants are less likely than the U.S. born to say the American dream has become harder to achieve. Many Latinos [define the American dream](#) in economic terms, such as financial stability, economic opportunity and homeownership.

These findings come from Pew Research Center’s National Survey of Latinos, a nationally representative, bilingual survey including 4,923 U.S. Latino adults, conducted Oct. 6-16, 2025.

[Read key findings from the survey.](#)

Hispanic immigrants are more likely than U.S.-born Hispanics to see improving living standards

Hispanic adults share broadly positive views about how standards of living have improved for themselves and are likely to improve for their children. Immigrants are more upbeat than U.S.-born Hispanics across these measures.

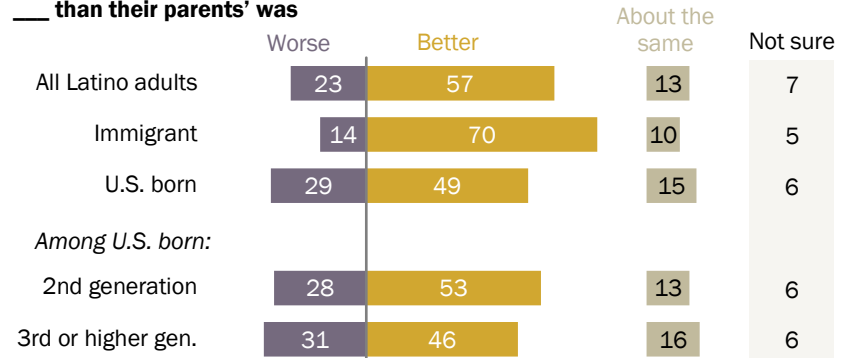
When comparing their own standard of living with their parents’:

- 70% of immigrant Latinos say their standard of living is better than that of their parents at the same age, while about half of U.S.-born Latinos (49%) say the same.
- Among U.S.-born Latinos, 53% of second-generation adults (those with at least one immigrant parent) say their standard of living is better than their parents’, while 46% of third or higher generation adults (those with both parents born in the U.S.) say the same.

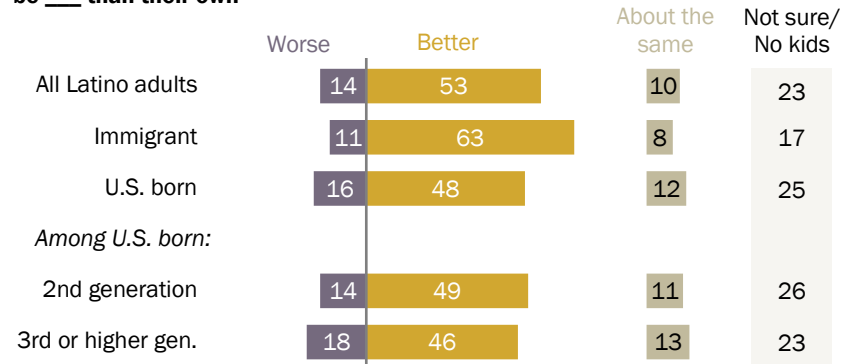
Latino immigrants are more upbeat than U.S.-born Latinos about living standards across generations

% of U.S. Latino adults who say ...

Compared with their *parents* at the same age, their own standard of living is ___ than their parents’ was



When their *children* are at the same age, their children’s standard of living will be ___ than their own



Note: “Worse” includes those who said much/somewhat worse; “better” includes those who said much/somewhat better. Shares of respondents who didn’t answer are not shown.

Source: National Survey of Latinos conducted Oct. 6-16, 2025.

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When comparing their children’s standard of living with their own:

- Immigrant Latinos (63%) are also more likely than U.S.-born Latinos (48%) to say their children’s standard of living will be better than their own.

- Among U.S.-born Latinos, views are similar across the second generation and third or higher generation.

How do Latino immigrants compare with other U.S. immigrants?

Optimism among Latino immigrants mirrors a similar pattern in the rest of the U.S. population: Immigrants are generally more hopeful about their economic future than U.S.-born adults.

Even so, Latino immigrants are more optimistic than other U.S. immigrants.

- 70% of Latino immigrants say their own standard of living is better than that of their parents, compared with 59% among other U.S. immigrants.
- 63% of Latino immigrants say their children's standard of living will be better, while 35% of other U.S. immigrants say this.

Refer to the appendix for [detailed tables](#) showing responses by more Latino subgroups and how they compare with other U.S. adults.

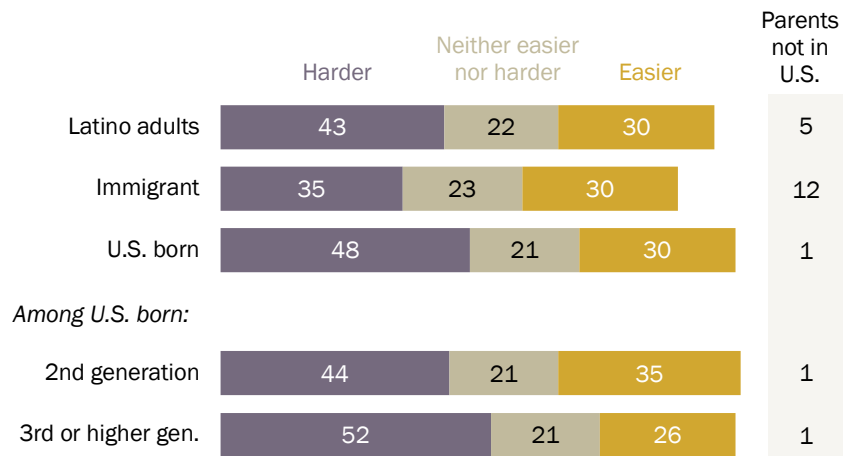
Has the American dream become harder to achieve? Latinos born in the U.S. are more likely to say yes

Overall, Latino immigrants and U.S.-born Latinos are about as likely to say they have [achieved the American dream](#). But attitudes toward whether the American dream has become harder or easier to achieve vary across immigrant generations:

- 48% of U.S.-born Latinos say the American dream is now harder to achieve than it was for their parents, while 35% of immigrant Latinos say the same.
- Among U.S.-born Latinos, 52% of the third or higher generation say the American dream has become harder to achieve, while 44% of the second generation say the same.

U.S.-born Latinos more likely than Latino immigrants to say American dream has become harder to attain

Among U.S. Latino adults who believe the American dream exists,* % who say that compared with their parents, it's gotten ___ for them to achieve it



* A previous question asked respondents whether they have achieved the American dream, they're on their way to achieving it, it's out of reach for them or that it doesn't exist. Those who said "the American dream doesn't exist" were not asked the question shown here.

Note: "Harder" includes those who said a lot/somewhat harder; "easier" includes those who said a lot/somewhat easier. Shares of respondents who didn't answer are not shown.

Source: National Survey of Latinos conducted Oct. 6-16, 2025.

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Appendix: Detailed tables

Do Latinos believe they have achieved the American dream?

% who say ...

	They have achieved the American dream	They're on their way to achieving the American dream	The American dream is out of reach for them	The American dream doesn't exist
Among U.S. Latino adults				
Total	20	33	18	27
Men	21	36	20	21
Women	20	30	16	32
Ages 18-29	10	39	23	28
30-49	15	35	18	30
50-64	31	31	12	26
65+	43	20	16	18
Immigrant	23	35	17	24
U.S. born	19	33	19	28
<i>Among U.S. born:</i>				
2nd generation	18	32	19	30
3rd or higher gen.	21	33	20	26
HS or less	18	32	21	27
Some college	21	33	17	28
Bachelor's+	26	38	10	25
Lower income	14	33	23	30
Middle income	26	35	15	24
Upper income	43	33	5	19
Mexican	21	33	17	28
Puerto Rican	21	27	18	33
Cuban	32	32	14	21
South American	19	45	16	20
All other Hispanic origins	18	34	23	26
Rep/Lean Rep	27	41	17	14
Dem/Lean Dem	17	30	20	31
Among other U.S. adults				
Total	28	29	19	23
Immigrant	24	29	26	21
U.S. born	29	29	18	23

Note: "Some college" includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Family income tiers are based on adjusted 2024 earnings. "All other Hispanic origins" include Central American, Dominican, Spanish and other origin groups with sample sizes that are not large enough to report separately. Other U.S. adults are those who are not Latino. Shares of respondents who didn't answer are not shown.

Source: National Survey of Latinos conducted Oct. 6-16, 2025.

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How do Latinos' standard of living compare with their parents'?

% who say that compared with their **parents** at the same age, their own standard of living is ...

	NET Much/ Somewhat better	About the same	NET Much/ Somewhat worse	Not sure
Among U.S. Latino adults				
Total	57	13	23	7
Men	56	12	25	6
Women	58	14	21	7
Ages 18-29	49	12	30	9
30-49	56	13	24	7
50-64	63	15	18	3
65+	64	15	14	7
Immigrant	70	10	14	5
U.S. born	49	15	29	6
<i>Among U.S. born:</i>				
2nd generation	53	13	28	6
3rd or higher gen.	46	16	31	6
HS or less	56	12	22	10
Some college	56	14	26	4
Bachelor's+	60	14	23	2
Lower income	51	13	26	9
Middle income	64	14	20	2
Upper income	70	12	18	0
Mexican	57	13	22	7
Puerto Rican	50	14	27	9
Cuban	68	14	14	5
South American	57	19	22	2
All other Hispanic origins	56	12	27	6
Rep/Lean Rep	59	15	22	4
Dem/Lean Dem	57	13	26	5
Among other U.S. adults				
Total	44	19	31	5
Immigrant	59	12	24	4
U.S. born	43	20	32	5

Note: "Some college" includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Family income tiers are based on adjusted 2024 earnings. "All other Hispanic origins" include Central American, Dominican, Spanish and other origin groups with sample sizes that are not large enough to report separately. Other U.S. adults are those who are not Latino. Shares of respondents who didn't answer are not shown.

Source: National Survey of Latinos conducted Oct. 6-16, 2025.

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Do Latinos think their children's standard of living will be better than their own?

% who say that when their *children* are at the same age as their own, their children's standard of living will be ...

	NET Much/ Somewhat better	About the same	NET Much/ Somewhat worse	Do not have children	Not sure
Among U.S. Latino adults					
Total	53	10	14	13	10
Men	52	11	14	15	7
Women	55	9	14	10	13
Ages 18-29	47	11	12	21	10
30-49	56	10	13	11	10
50-64	55	8	17	9	11
65+	53	14	17	6	10
Immigrant	63	8	11	8	10
U.S. born	48	12	16	16	8
<i>Among U.S. born:</i>					
2nd generation	49	11	14	17	9
3rd or higher gen.	46	13	18	15	8
HS or less	58	8	12	9	13
Some college	49	11	17	15	7
Bachelor's+	48	13	15	19	6
Lower income	58	8	12	10	12
Middle income	49	12	16	16	7
Upper income	46	18	16	17	3
Mexican	53	10	13	12	11
Puerto Rican	50	10	17	13	10
Cuban	54	13	11	12	9
South American	59	6	10	20	5
All other Hispanic origins	54	11	17	10	7
Rep/Lean Rep	56	10	13	11	9
Dem/Lean Dem	55	9	14	15	8
Among other U.S. adults					
Total	29	15	23	21	12
Immigrant	35	14	19	17	15
U.S. born	28	15	23	22	11

Note: "Some college" includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Family income tiers are based on adjusted 2024 earnings. "All other Hispanic origins" include Central American, Dominican, Spanish and other origin groups with sample sizes that are not large enough to report separately. Other U.S. adults are those who are not Latino. Shares of respondents who didn't answer are not shown.

Source: National Survey of Latinos conducted Oct. 6-16, 2025.

"Latinos Are Split on Whether the American Dream Is Achievable"

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Do Latinos think the American dream has gotten easier or harder to achieve?

Among those who believe the American dream exists,* % who say that compared with their parents, it is ___ for them to achieve the American dream

	NET A lot/ Somewhat easier	Neither easier nor harder	NET A lot/ Somewhat harder	Parents never lived in the U.S.
Among U.S. Latino adults				
Total	30	22	43	5
Men	27	22	45	5
Women	33	22	39	5
Ages 18-29	33	19	44	3
30-49	29	19	45	5
50-64	27	26	40	6
65+	33	24	37	5
Immigrant	30	23	35	12
U.S. born	30	21	48	1
<i>Among U.S. born:</i>				
2nd generation	35	21	44	<1
3rd or higher gen.	26	21	52	1
HS or less	29	23	41	6
Some college	31	21	46	2
Bachelor's+	31	20	43	6
Lower income	28	24	41	7
Middle income	32	19	44	4
Upper income	32	15	51	2
Mexican	30	22	43	4
Puerto Rican	29	22	46	3
Cuban	39	22	32	6
South American	33	19	34	14
All other Hispanic origins	26	21	47	6
Rep/Lean Rep	33	22	41	4
Dem/Lean Dem	29	20	46	5
Among other U.S. adults				
Total	20	24	53	2
Immigrant	29	17	37	17
U.S. born	19	25	55	<1

* Respondents who said in a previous question they believe the American dream doesn't exist were not asked this question.

Note: "Some college" includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Family income tiers are based on adjusted 2024 earnings. "All other Hispanic origins" include Central American, Dominican, Spanish and other origin groups with sample sizes that are not large enough to report separately. Other U.S. adults are those who are not Latino. Shares of respondents who didn't answer are not shown.

Source: National Survey of Latinos conducted Oct. 6-16, 2025.

"Latinos Are Split on Whether the American Dream Is Achievable"

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Latinos' views on the importance of 'hard work and motivation' in achieving the American dream today

Among those who believe the American dream exists,* % who say hard work and motivation is ___ in people's ability to achieve the American dream these days

	A major factor	A minor factor	Not a factor
Among U.S. Latino adults			
Total	81	14	5
Men	81	13	5
Women	81	14	4
Ages 18-29	75	19	6
30-49	81	13	4
50-64	83	14	3
65+	85	7	6
Immigrant	86	11	3
U.S. born	77	17	6
<i>Among U.S. born:</i>			
2nd generation	80	16	3
3rd or higher gen.	75	17	8
HS or less	78	15	6
Some college	81	14	4
Bachelor's+	86	12	2
Lower income	78	15	6
Middle income	84	14	2
Upper income	86	9	4
Mexican	78	17	4
Puerto Rican	79	16	4
Cuban	92	6	1
South American	86	11	3
All other Hispanic origins	84	9	7
Rep/Lean Rep	85	13	2
Dem/Lean Dem	80	16	5
Among other U.S. adults			
Total	79	17	3
Immigrant	76	20	4
U.S. born	80	17	3

* Respondents who said in a previous question they believe the American dream doesn't exist were not asked this question.

Note: "Some college" includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Family income tiers are based on adjusted 2024 earnings. "All other Hispanic origins" include Central American, Dominican, Spanish and other origin groups with sample sizes that are not large enough to report separately. Other U.S. adults are those who are not Latino. Shares of respondents who didn't answer are not shown.

Source: National Survey of Latinos conducted Oct. 6-16, 2025.

"Latinos Are Split on Whether the American Dream Is Achievable"

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Latinos' views on the importance of 'having access to the right opportunities' in achieving the American dream today

Among those who believe the American dream exists,* % who say having access to the right opportunities is ___ in people's ability to achieve the American dream these days

	A major factor	A minor factor	Not a factor
Among U.S. Latino adults			
Total	76	19	5
Men	74	19	6
Women	78	18	4
Ages 18-29	75	20	5
30-49	78	16	5
50-64	73	22	6
65+	76	18	5
Immigrant	84	11	5
U.S. born	71	23	5
<i>Among U.S. born:</i>			
2nd generation	74	22	3
3rd or higher gen.	68	24	7
HS or less	72	21	6
Some college	78	17	5
Bachelor's+	82	16	2
Lower income	74	20	6
Middle income	80	16	4
Upper income	75	23	2
Mexican	73	20	5
Puerto Rican	71	27	1
Cuban	81	12	7
South American	81	16	4
All other Hispanic origins	80	14	7
Rep/Lean Rep	70	24	6
Dem/Lean Dem	84	13	3
Among other U.S. adults			
Total	70	25	5
Immigrant	85	13	2
U.S. born	68	26	5

* Respondents who said in a previous question they believe the American dream doesn't exist were not asked this question.

Note: "Some college" includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Family income tiers are based on adjusted 2024 earnings. "All other Hispanic origins" include Central American, Dominican, Spanish and other origin groups with sample sizes that are not large enough to report separately. Other U.S. adults are those who are not Latino. Shares of respondents who didn't answer are not shown.

Source: National Survey of Latinos conducted Oct. 6-16, 2025.

"Latinos Are Split on Whether the American Dream Is Achievable"

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Latinos' views on the importance of 'luck and chance' in achieving the American dream today

Among those who believe the American dream exists,* % who say luck and chance is ___ in people's ability to achieve the American dream these days

	A major factor	A minor factor	Not a factor
Among U.S. Latino adults			
Total	35	43	21
Men	35	43	21
Women	34	42	22
Ages 18-29	42	46	12
30-49	37	41	20
50-64	26	43	31
65+	21	47	31
Immigrant	32	39	28
U.S. born	37	46	17
<i>Among U.S. born:</i>			
2nd generation	37	46	17
3rd or higher gen.	37	46	17
HS or less	37	42	20
Some college	31	43	25
Bachelor's+	34	45	20
Lower income	36	39	24
Middle income	32	49	19
Upper income	38	47	15
Mexican	36	42	22
Puerto Rican	36	50	13
Cuban	27	45	27
South American	31	44	24
All other Hispanic origins	35	44	20
Rep/Lean Rep	31	45	23
Dem/Lean Dem	39	42	19
Among other U.S. adults			
Total	30	50	19
Immigrant	43	42	14
U.S. born	29	51	20

* Respondents who said in a previous question they believe the American dream doesn't exist were not asked this question.

Note: "Some college" includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Family income tiers are based on adjusted 2024 earnings. "All other Hispanic origins" include Central American, Dominican, Spanish and other origin groups with sample sizes that are not large enough to report separately. Other U.S. adults are those who are not Latino. Shares of respondents who didn't answer are not shown.

Source: National Survey of Latinos conducted Oct. 6-16, 2025.

"Latinos Are Split on Whether the American Dream Is Achievable"

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Methodology

The American Trends Panel survey methodology

Overview

Data in this report comes from Wave 181 of the American Trends Panel (ATP), Pew Research Center’s nationally representative panel of randomly selected U.S. adults. The survey was conducted from Oct. 6 to Oct. 16, 2025. A total of 8,046 panelists responded out of 12,845 who were sampled, for a survey-level response rate of 64% (AAPOR RR3).⁵ This includes 4,248 respondents from the ATP and an additional 3,798 from the SSRS Opinion Panel.

The cumulative response rate accounting for nonresponse to the recruitment surveys and attrition is 2%. The break-off rate among panelists who logged on to the survey and completed at least one item is 2%. The margin of sampling error for the full sample of 8,046 respondents is plus or minus 1.7 percentage points.

The survey includes [oversamples](#) of non-Hispanic Asian and Hispanic adults on the ATP in order to provide more precise estimates of the opinions and experiences of these smaller demographic subgroups. These oversampled groups are weighted back to reflect their correct proportions in the population.

SSRS conducted the survey for Pew Research Center via online (n=7,784) and live telephone (n=262) interviewing. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish.

To learn more about the ATP, read “[About the American Trends Panel](#).”⁶

Panel recruitment

Since 2018, the ATP has used address-based sampling (ABS) for recruitment. A study cover letter and a pre-incentive are mailed to a stratified, random sample of households selected from the U.S. Postal Service’s Computerized Delivery Sequence File. This Postal Service file has been estimated to cover 90% to 98% of the population.⁷ Within each sampled household, the adult with the next birthday is selected to participate. Other details of the ABS recruitment protocol have changed

⁵ The response rate is calculated as the number of eligible completes over the sum of eligible completes, break-offs and nonrespondents, where it is estimated that 98% of nonrespondents would have been eligible if they responded.

⁶ Learn more about the [SSRS Opinion Panel](#).

⁷ AAPOR Task Force on Address-based Sampling. 2016. “[AAPOR Report: Address-based Sampling](#).”

over time but are available upon request.⁸ Prior to 2018, the ATP was recruited using landline and cellphone random-digit-dial surveys administered in English and Spanish.

A national sample of U.S. adults has been recruited to the ATP approximately once per year since 2014. In some years, the recruitment has included additional efforts (known as an “oversample”) to improve the accuracy of data for underrepresented groups. For example, Hispanic adults, Black adults and Asian adults were oversampled in 2019, 2022 and 2023, respectively.

Sample design

The overall target population for this survey was noninstitutionalized persons ages 18 and older living in the United States. It featured a stratified random sample from the ATP in which non-Hispanic Asian and Hispanic adults were selected with certainty. The remaining panelists were sampled at rates designed to ensure that the share of respondents in each stratum is proportional to its share of the U.S. adult population to the greatest extent possible. Respondent weights are adjusted to account for differential probabilities of selection as described in the [Weighting](#) section below.

The ATP was supplemented with a sample from the SSRS Opinion Panel (OP) of panelists who had previously identified as Hispanic. At the start of the survey, Opinion Panel respondents were asked a series of screening questions to confirm their eligibility, and were considered eligible if they indicated that they identified as Hispanic.

Questionnaire development and testing

The questionnaire was developed by Pew Research Center in consultation with SSRS. The web program used for online respondents was rigorously tested on both PC and mobile devices by the SSRS project team and Pew Research Center researchers. The SSRS project team also populated test data that was analyzed in SPSS to ensure the logic and randomizations were working as intended before launching the survey.

Incentives

All respondents were offered a post-paid incentive for their participation. Respondents could choose to receive the post-paid incentive in the form of a check or gift code to Amazon.com, Target.com or Walmart.com. Incentive amounts ranged from \$5 to \$20 for ATP respondents, and \$5 to \$10 for OP respondents, depending on whether the respondent belongs to a part of the population that is harder or easier to reach. Differential incentive amounts were designed to

⁸ Email pewsurveys@pewresearch.org.

increase panel survey participation among groups that traditionally have low survey response propensities.

Data collection protocol

The data collection field period for this survey was Oct. 6 to 16, 2025. Surveys were conducted via self-administered web survey or by live telephone interviewing.

For panelists who take surveys online:⁹ Postcard notifications were mailed to a subset on Oct. 6.¹⁰ Survey invitations were sent out in two separate launches: soft launch and full launch. 801 panelists were included in the soft launch (60 from ATP, 741 from OP), which began with an initial invitation sent on Oct. 6. All remaining English- and Spanish-speaking sampled online panelists were included in the full launch and were sent an invitation on Oct. 7.

Invitation and reminder dates for web respondents, ATP Wave 181

	ATP		SSRS OP	
	Soft launch	Full launch	Soft launch	Full launch
Initial invitation	Oct. 6, 2025	Oct. 7, 2025	Oct. 6, 2025	Oct. 7, 2025
First reminder	Oct. 9, 2025	Oct. 9, 2025	Oct. 9, 2025	Oct. 9, 2025
Second reminder	Oct. 12, 2025	Oct. 12, 2025	N/A	N/A
Final reminder	Oct. 15, 2025	Oct. 15, 2025	Oct. 15, 2025	Oct. 15, 2025

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Panelists participating online were sent an email invitation and up to three email reminders if they did not respond to the survey. ATP panelists who consented to SMS messages were sent an SMS invitation with a link to the survey and up to three SMS reminders.

For panelists who take surveys over the phone with a live interviewer: Prenotification postcards were mailed to ATP panelists on Oct. 3. Soft launch took place on Oct. 6 and involved dialing until a total of seven interviews had been completed (four ATP, three OP). All remaining English- and Spanish-speaking sampled phone panelists' numbers were dialed throughout the

⁹ The ATP does not use routers or chains in any part of its online data collection protocol, nor are they used to direct respondents to additional surveys.

¹⁰ Postcard notifications for web panelists are sent to 1) panelists who were recruited within the last two years and 2) panelists recruited prior to the last two years who opt to continue receiving postcard notifications.

remaining field period. Panelists who take surveys via phone can receive up to six calls from trained SSRS interviewers.

Data quality checks

To ensure high-quality data, Center researchers performed data quality checks to identify any respondents showing patterns of satisficing. This includes checking for whether respondents left questions blank at very high rates or always selected the first or last answer presented. As a result of this checking, two ATP respondents were removed from the survey dataset prior to weighting and analysis.

Use of artificial intelligence (AI)

Survey responses to some open-ended questions were initially coded using AI-assisted text classification. Refer to the [“Open-end coding methodology”](#) section below for more details.

Weighting

The ATP data is weighted in a process that accounts for multiple stages of sampling and nonresponse that occur at different points in the panel survey process. First, each panelist begins with a base weight that reflects their probability of recruitment into the panel. Base weights for OP respondents were provided by SSRS. The base weights for ATP and OP respondents were combined and scaled to account for the sample design.

The combined weights were then calibrated to align with the population benchmarks in the accompanying table and trimmed at the 1st and 99.5th percentiles to reduce the loss in precision stemming from variance in the weights. Sampling errors and tests of statistical significance take into account the effect of weighting.

American Trends Panel weighting dimensions

Variable	Benchmark source
Age (detailed)	2023 American Community Survey (ACS)
Age x Gender	
Education x Gender	
Education x Age	
Race/Ethnicity x Education	
Race/Ethnicity x Gender	
Race/Ethnicity x Age	
Born inside vs. outside the U.S. among Hispanics and Asian Americans	
Years lived in the U.S.	
Census region x Metropolitan status	
Volunteerism	2023 Current Population Survey (CPS) Volunteering & Civic Life Supplement
Frequency of internet use	2025 National Public Opinion Reference Survey (NPORS)
Religious affiliation	
Party affiliation x Race/Ethnicity	
Party affiliation x Age	
Validated 2024 presidential election turnout and vote choice	Candidate vote share is based on official results from the Federal Election Commission. Turnout is based on estimates from the Election Lab at the University of Florida. The size of the voting-eligible population is based on the 2023 ACS.
<i>Additional weighting dimensions applied within Hispanic adults</i>	
Education (detailed)	
Hispanic origin	
Citizenship	
Years lived in the U.S.	
Note: Estimates from the ACS are based on noninstitutionalized adults. For weighting to the 2024 presidential election results, panelists are considered validated voters if their self-report of having voted was confirmed after matching to a national voter registry.	
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The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey.

Sample sizes and margins of error, ATP Wave 181

Group	Unweighted sample size	Plus or minus ...
Total sample	8,046	1.7 percentage points
Hispanics	4,923	2.6 percentage points
Foreign born	1,116	4.9 percentage points
U.S. born	3,753	2.9 percentage points
2nd generation	1,876	3.8 percentage points
3rd or higher generation	1,877	4.3 percentage points

Note: This survey includes oversamples of non-Hispanic Asian and Hispanic respondents. Unweighted sample sizes do not account for the sample design or weighting and do not describe a group's contribution to weighted estimates. See the Sample design and Weighting sections above for details.

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Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request. In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

Dispositions and response rates

Final dispositions, ATP Wave 181

	AAPOR code	ATP	SSRS OP	TOTAL
Completed interview	1.1	4,248	3,798	8,046
Eligible panelist, but broke off before completing survey	2.10	21	162	183
Survey completed after close of the field period	2.27	0	0	0
Eligible, but other non-interview	2.30	0	0	0
Completed interview but was removed for data quality	2.90	2	0	2
Screenener not completed	3.20	399	4,040	4439
Screened out	4.10	0	175	175
Total panelists sampled for the survey		4,670	8,175	12,845
Completed interviews	I	4,248	3,798	8,046
Partial interviews	P	0	0	0
Refusals	R	21	162	183
Non-contact	NC	0	0	0
Other	O	2	0	2
Unknown household	UH	0	0	0
Unknown other	UO	399	4,040	4439
Not eligible	NE	0	175	175
Total		4,670	8,175	12,845
Est. eligibility rate among unscreened: $e = (I+P+R+NC+O)/(I+P+R+NC+O+NE)$		100%	96%	98%
$AAPOR\ RR1 = I / (I+P+R+NC+O+UH+UO)$		91%	47%	64%
$AAPOR\ RR3 = I / (I+P+R+NC+O+[e*(UH+UO)])$		91%	49%	64%

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Cumulative response rate, ATP Wave 181

	ATP	SSRS OP	TOTAL
Weighted response rate to recruitment surveys	12%	5%	8%
% of recruitment survey respondents who agreed to join the panel, among those invited	74%	58%	64%
% of those agreeing to join who were active panelists at start of Wave 181	40%	72%	60%
Response rate to Wave 181 survey	91%	49%	64%
Cumulative response rate	3%	1%	2%

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How family income tiers are calculated

Family income data reported in this study is adjusted for household size and cost-of-living differences by geography. Panelists then are assigned to income tiers that are based on the median adjusted family income of all American Trends Panel members. The process uses the following steps:

1. First, panelists are assigned to the midpoint of the income range they selected in a family income question that was measured on either the most recent annual profile survey or, for newly recruited panelists, their recruitment survey. This provides an approximate income value that can be used in calculations for the adjustment.
2. Next, these income values are adjusted for the cost of living in the geographic area where the panelist lives. This is calculated using price indexes published by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. These indexes, known as [Regional Price Parities](#) (RPP), compare the prices of goods and services across all U.S. metropolitan statistical areas as well as non-metro areas with the national average prices for the same goods and services. The most recent available data at the time of the annual profile survey is from 2023. Those who fall outside of metropolitan statistical areas are assigned the overall RPP for their state's non-metropolitan area.
3. Family incomes are further adjusted for the number of people in a household using the methodology from Pew Research Center's previous work on [the American middle class](#). This is done because a four-person household with an income of say, \$50,000, faces a tighter budget constraint than a two-person household with the same income.
4. Panelists are then assigned an income tier. "Middle-income" adults are in families with adjusted family incomes that are between two-thirds and double the median adjusted family income for the full ATP at the time of the most recent annual profile survey. The median adjusted family income for the panel is roughly \$77,800. Using this median income, the middle-income range is about \$51,900 to \$155,600. Lower-income families have adjusted incomes less than \$51,900 and upper-income families have adjusted incomes greater than \$155,600 (all figures expressed in 2024 dollars and scaled to a household size of three). A panelist is assigned "no answer" in the income tier variable if they did not provide all three pieces of information needed to calculate their tier (family income, household size and residential address).

Two examples of how a given area's cost-of-living adjustment was calculated are as follows: The Pine Bluff metropolitan area in Arkansas is a relatively inexpensive area, with a price level that is

19.7% less than the national average. The San Francisco-Oakland-Berkeley metropolitan area in California is one of the most expensive areas, with a price level that is 18.2% higher than the national average. Income in the sample is adjusted to make up for this difference. As a result, a family with an income of \$40,200 in the Pine Bluff area is as well financially as a family of the same size with an income of \$59,100 in San Francisco.

The respondents from the SSRS Opinion Panel oversample answered the same family income and household size questions, and their incomes were adjusted using the procedures detailed above. They were then assigned an income tier based on the median adjusted family income for the full ATP at the time of the most recent annual profile survey.

Open-end coding methodology

The survey asked respondents to answer the following question: “In a few words, what does the American dream mean to you?” Open-ended questions like this allow respondents to describe the concept however they see fit, but this also means that every answer is unique and must be organized into one or more categories before it can be analyzed.

Center researchers developed a coding scheme using a model-assisted codebook development process that integrated human interpretation with unsupervised machine learning. First, researchers reviewed a randomly selected pilot sample of responses to independently identify key themes. In parallel, we used an unsupervised theme-discovery approach – based on sparse autoencoders and large language model (LLM)-based interpretation – to generate candidate themes, using the HypotheSAES method developed by Movva et al. (2025).¹¹

This process included several steps:

1. We converted each open-ended response into a numerical representation that captures its meaning, using an embedding model (OpenAI’s [text-embedding-3-small](#)).
2. We then fit a sparse autoencoder to those representations – essentially training a model to describe every response using a limited set of features. The model ends up learning common themes corresponding to ideas that recur across many responses.
3. We identified a list of the most common themes, examined the responses that exemplified each most strongly, and used an LLM ([GPT-5.2](#)) to summarize the common thread of the category.

¹¹ Movva, Rajiv, Kenny Peng, Nikhil Garg, Jon Kleinberg, and Emma Pierson. 2025. “[Sparse autoencoders for hypothesis generation](#).” arXiv preprint arXiv:2502.04382

4. Researchers then reviewed and revised the set of candidate categories, combining related themes until arriving at a final codebook.

We gave the final codebook to an LLM (again, [GPT-5.2](#)) alongside a prompt instructing the model to use it to code the open-ended responses with any category labels that applied.

We validated the model's performance against a sample of responses that researchers coded by hand. We drew a stratified sample of 201 responses to ensure that every category, including rare ones, was represented, supplemented by a set of randomly selected responses. Both the LLM and the human coders coded each response for all applicable labels. Human coders worked from the same codebook and were not shown the automated codes. Because a single response can receive more than one code, agreement was measured using standard metrics for multilabel classification. We also reviewed cases where the automated and human coding disagreed to understand these patterns and to inform revisions to the coding rules. After minor adjustments to the codebook and a second round of validation, the automated coding achieved a micro-averaged F1 score of 0.89.

Once validated, the LLM used the codebook to categorize all 7,247 responses. For each answer, the model followed a fixed procedure: It first judged whether the response was a genuine attempt to answer the question; if so, it evaluated the response against each substantive theme and selected all applicable categories that were represented; if not, it marked the response as non-substantive. A set of deterministic rules were applied afterward to enforce the codebook's logic.

In this analysis, we report 15 discrete categories for open-ended responses. Some categories that capture similar themes were further collapsed when reported. The table below shows the F1 score for each of the individual categories.

Automated coding performance for reported American dream open-ended categories

Category	F1 Score
NET Financial security, economic opportunity or homeownership	–
Financial stability or success	0.88
Access to economic opportunity	0.85
Homeownership	0.95
NET A good life for them, their family or community	–
A good life for them	0.74
A good life for their family or community	0.96
Freedom or being free	0.95
Achieving success through hard work	0.88
NET Equal treatment for all or acceptance of others	–
Equal treatment for all	0.85
Acceptance of others	0.76
Living without fear	0.93
Having a fair, representative government with civil liberties	0.85
Access to education	0.97
Access to public goods (e.g., healthcare, infrastructure)	0.93
Faith or freedom of religion	0.98
Don't believe in the American dream	0.91

Note Figures are for the GPT-5.2 LLM performance, calculated based on its coding of a stratified sample of responses in comparison with a human researcher.

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Read the [full prompt](#) we used for this process.

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Topline

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
Wave 181: National Survey of Latinos
October 6-16, 2025**

TOPLINE
U.S. Latino adults N=4,923
All U.S. adults N=8,046

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.

"No answer" includes web respondents who do not answer the question as well as telephone respondents who refused 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](#). For additional details, visit the [methodology](#).

The questions below are part of a larger survey conducted on the American Trends Panel. Additional questions held for future release or previously released.

PN = Programming note

	Sample size	Margin of error at 95% confidence level
U.S. Latino adults	4,923	+/- 2.6 percentage points
Foreign born	1,116	+/- 4.9 percentage points
U.S. born	3,753	+/- 2.9 percentage points
2nd generation	1,876	+/- 3.8 percentage points
3rd or higher generation	1,877	+/- 4.3 percentage points
All U.S. adults	8,046	+/- 1.7 percentage points

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**LIVSTAN****ASK ALL:**

Compared to your parents when they were the age you are now, do you think your own standard of living now is...

U.S. Latino adults:

<u>Total</u>		Foreign <u>born</u>	U.S. <u>born</u>	<i>- Among U.S. born -</i>	
				<u>2nd gen.</u>	<u>3rd or higher gen.</u>
29	Much better than your parents	34	26	29	24
28	Somewhat better than your parents	36	23	24	22
13	About the same as your parents	10	15	13	16
13	Somewhat worse than your parents	9	16	15	17
10	Much worse than your parents	6	13	12	15
7	Not sure	5	6	6	6
*	No answer	0	*	*	0

All U.S. adults

<u>Total</u>	
21	Much better than your parents
25	Somewhat better than your parents
18	About the same as your parents
18	Somewhat worse than your parents
12	Much worse than your parents
5	Not sure
*	No answer

LIVSTAN2**ASK ALL:**

When your children are at the age you are now, do you think their standard of living will be...

U.S. Latino adults:

<u>Total</u>		Foreign <u>born</u>	U.S. <u>born</u>	<i>- Among U.S. born -</i>	
				<u>2nd gen.</u>	<u>3rd or higher gen.</u>
31	Much better than yours is right now	34	30	31	29
22	Somewhat better than yours is right now	29	18	19	17
10	About the same as yours is right now	8	12	11	13
7	Somewhat worse than yours is right now	6	8	7	10
6	Much worse than yours is right now	4	8	7	9
13	I do not have children	8	16	17	15
10	Not sure	10	8	9	8
*	No answer	*	*	*	*

LIVSTAN2 continued...**All U.S. adults**Total

- 15 Much better than yours is right now
- 18 Somewhat better than yours is right now
- 14 About the same as yours is right now
- 13 Somewhat worse than yours is right now
- 8 Much worse than yours is right now
- 20 I do not have children
- 11 Not sure
- * No answer

AMDREAM_OE**ASK ALL:**

In a few words, what does the "American Dream" mean to you? **[OPEN END]**¹²

U.S. Latino adults:

<u>Total</u>		Foreign <u>born</u>	U.S. <u>born</u>	<i>- Among U.S. born -</i> <u>2nd gen.</u> <u>3rd or higher gen.</u>	
59	NET Financial stability or success, access to economic opportunity or homeownership	68	55	57	52
36	Financial stability or success	39	34	34	34
31	Access to economic opportunity	40	26	28	23
14	Homeownership	15	13	13	13
39	NET A good life for them, their family or community	38	41	42	40
27	A good life for them	24	30	29	30
18	A good life for their family or community	19	18	19	17
18	Freedom or being free	14	20	19	21
13	Achieving success through hard work	14	11	11	11
11	NET Equal treatment for all or acceptance of others	9	13	14	11
8	Equal treatment for all	5	10	11	9
4	Acceptance of others	5	4	5	2
8	Living without fear	10	8	8	7
7	Having a fair, representative government with civil liberties	6	8	8	8
5	Access to education	6	5	6	4
3	Access to public goods (e.g., healthcare, infrastructure)	3	3	3	4
2	Faith or freedom of religion	1	3	3	2
12	Don't believe in the American dream	13	11	12	10
13	Don't know/Refused	10	13	13	14

¹²Verbatim open-end responses have been coded into categories. Figures add to more than 100% because multiple categories were allowed.

AMDREAM_OE continued...**All U.S. adults**

<u>Total</u>	
55	NET Financial stability or success, access to economic opportunity or homeownership
37	Financial stability or success
22	Access to economic opportunity
17	Homeownership
42	NET A good life for them, their family or community
29	A good life for them
19	A good life for their family or community
21	Freedom or being free
11	Achieving success through hard work
10	NET Equal treatment for all or acceptance of others
9	Equal treatment for all
3	Acceptance of others
10	Living without fear
12	Having a fair, representative government with civil liberties
5	Access to education
5	Access to public goods (e.g., healthcare, infrastructure)
5	Faith or freedom of religion
9	Don't believe in the American dream
16	Don't know/Refused

AMDREAM1_MOD**ASK ALL:**

[PN: RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1, 2, AND 3, HOLDING 4, 98, AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]

The term "American Dream" can mean different things to different people.

However you define it, do you believe...

U.S. Latino adults:

<u>Total</u>		<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>U.S. born</u>	<i>- Among U.S. born -</i>	
				<u>2nd gen.</u>	<u>3rd or higher gen.</u>
20	You have achieved the American Dream	23	19	18	21
33	You're on your way to achieving the American Dream	35	33	32	33
18	The American Dream is out of reach for you	17	19	19	20
27	The American Dream doesn't exist	24	28	30	26
1	No answer	1	1	1	*

AMDREAM1_MOD continued...**All U.S. adults**

<u>Total</u>	
27	You have achieved the American Dream
30	You're on your way to achieving the American Dream
19	The American Dream is out of reach for you
24	The American Dream doesn't exist
1	No answer

AMDREAM_PRNT

ASK IF DID NOT SAY AMERICAN DREAM DOES NOT EXIST (AMDREAM1_MOD=1,2,3,98,99):
[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1, HOLDING 6, 98, AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

Compared to your parents, do you think it is easier or harder for you to achieve the American Dream?

U.S. Latino adults:

<u>Total</u>		<u>Foreign born</u>	<u>U.S. born</u>	<i>- Among U.S. born -</i>	
				<u>2nd gen.</u>	<u>3rd or higher gen.</u>
12	A lot easier	11	13	15	11
18	Somewhat easier	19	18	20	16
22	Neither easier nor harder	23	21	21	21
22	Somewhat harder	20	24	21	26
20	A lot harder	15	24	22	26
5	My parents have never lived in the U.S.	12	1	*	1
1	No answer	*	*	*	*
<i>n=3,598</i>		<i>n=861</i>	<i>n=2,697</i>	<i>n=1,356</i>	<i>n=1,341</i>

All U.S. adults

<u>Total</u>	
7	A lot easier
15	Somewhat easier
24	Neither easier nor harder
29	Somewhat harder
22	A lot harder
2	My parents have never lived in the U.S.
1	No answer
<i>n=6,031</i>	

AMDREAM3

ASK IF DID NOT SAY AMERICAN DREAM DOES NOT EXIST (AMDREAM1_MOD=1,2,3,98,99):
[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]

In general, how much of a factor do you think each of the following are in people's ability to achieve the American Dream these days?

WRK Hard work and motivation

U.S. Latino adults:

		Foreign born	U.S. born	- Among U.S. born -	
<u>Total</u>		<u>born</u>	<u>born</u>	<u>2nd gen.</u>	<u>3rd or higher gen.</u>
81	Major factor	86	77	80	75
14	Minor factor	11	17	16	17
5	Not a factor	3	6	3	8
1	No answer	*	1	1	*
<i>n</i> =3,598		<i>n</i> =861	<i>n</i> =2,697	<i>n</i> =1,356	<i>n</i> =1,341

All U.S. adults:

<u>Total</u>	
80	Major factor
16	Minor factor
3	Not a factor
*	No answer
<i>n</i> =6,031	

OPP Having access to the right opportunities

U.S. Latino adults:

		Foreign born	U.S. born	- Among U.S. born -	
<u>Total</u>		<u>born</u>	<u>born</u>	<u>2nd gen.</u>	<u>3rd or higher gen.</u>
76	Major factor	84	71	74	68
19	Minor factor	11	23	22	24
5	Not a factor	5	5	3	7
*	No answer	*	*	*	0
<i>n</i> =3,598		<i>n</i> =861	<i>n</i> =2,697	<i>n</i> =1,356	<i>n</i> =1,341

All U.S. adults:

<u>Total</u>	
71	Major factor
24	Minor factor
5	Not a factor
1	No answer
<i>n</i> =6,031	

LUCK Luck and chance

U.S. Latino adults:

<u>Total</u>		Foreign <u>born</u>	U.S. <u>born</u>	<i>- Among U.S. born -</i>	
				<u>2nd gen.</u>	<u>3rd or higher gen.</u>
35	Major factor	32	37	37	37
43	Minor factor	39	46	46	46
21	Not a factor	28	17	17	17
1	No answer	1	*	*	0
<i>n=3,598</i>		<i>n=861</i>	<i>n=2,697</i>	<i>n=1,356</i>	<i>n=1,341</i>

All U.S. adults:

<u>Total</u>	
31	Major factor
49	Minor factor
20	Not a factor
1	No answer
<i>n=6,031</i>	

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE OR PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

Questionnaire

**2025 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
Wave 181: National Survey of Latinos
October 6-16, 2025**

QUESTIONNAIRE

Note: The questions presented below are part of a larger survey conducted on the American Trends Panel. For all questions, the 98 ("don't know" in phone mode) and 99 (refusal in phone mode and no answer in web mode) codes are combined in the data for analytical purposes.

PN = Programming note

-----**MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE BEGINS HERE**-----

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

**QUE: LIVSTAN
ASK ALL:**

Compared to your parents when they were the age you are now, do you think your own standard of living now is...

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 Much better than your parents
- 2 Somewhat better than your parents
- 3 About the same as your parents
- 4 Somewhat worse than your parents
- 5 Much worse than your parents

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

6 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Not sure **[PN: IF CATI:]** Or are you not sure?

99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

QUE: LIVSTAN2

ASK ALL:

When your children are at the age you are now, do you think their standard of living will be...

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 Much better than yours is right now
- 2 Somewhat better than yours is right now
- 3 About the same as yours is right now
- 4 Somewhat worse than yours is right now
- 5 Much worse than yours is right now

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

- 6 **[PN: IF WEB:]** I do not have children **[PN: IF CATI:]** You do not have children
 - 7 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Not sure **[PN: IF CATI:]** Or are you not sure?
 - 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused
-

QUE: AMDREAM_OE

ASK ALL:

In a few words, what does the "American Dream" mean to you?

[PN: PROGRAM OPEN END TEXT BOX WITH NO CHARACTER LIMIT]

- 98 **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Don't know
 - 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused
-

QUE: AMDREAM1_MOD

ASK ALL:

[PN: RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1, 2, AND 3, HOLDING 4, 98, AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]

The term "American Dream" can mean different things to different people.

However you define it, do you believe...

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 You have achieved the American Dream
- 2 You're on your way to achieving the American Dream
- 3 The American Dream is out of reach for you

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

- 4 The American Dream doesn't exist
- 98 **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

QUE: AMDREAM_PRNT

ASK IF DID NOT SAY AMERICAN DREAM DOES NOT EXIST (AMDREAM1_MOD=1,2,3,98,99):
[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1, HOLDING 6, 98, AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

Compared to your parents, do you think it is easier or harder for you to achieve the American Dream?

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 A lot easier
- 2 Somewhat easier
- 3 Neither easier nor harder
- 4 Somewhat harder
- 5 A lot harder

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

- 6 **[PN: IF WEB:]** My parents have never lived in the U.S. **[PN: IF CATI:]** Your parents have never lived in the U.S.
- 98 **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

BAT: AMDREAM3

ASK IF DID NOT SAY AMERICAN DREAM DOES NOT EXIST (AMDREAM1_MOD=1,2,3,98,99):
[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]

[PN: IF WEB:] In general, how much of a factor do you think each of the following are in people's ability to achieve the American Dream these days?

[PN: IF CATI: READ FOR FIRST ITEM:] In general, how much of a factor do you think each of the following are in people's ability to achieve the American Dream these days? First, **(INSERT ITEM)**. Is this a **(READ LIST)**

[PN: IF CATI: READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS:] Next, **(INSERT ITEM)**. **(READ AS NECESSARY:** In general, how much of a factor do you think this is in people's ability to achieve the American Dream these days? **(READ LIST IF NECESSARY))**

BATTERY ITEMS:

- WRK Hard work and motivation
- OPP Having access to the right opportunities
- LUCK Luck and chance

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

- 1 Major factor
- 2 Minor factor
- 3 Not a factor
- 98 **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE