



# Alliance for Marriage™

More Children Raised in a Home with a Mother and a Father

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## SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS IN POLL DATA:

*Data from a national survey of 800 likely voters. August 14-16, 2006. Public Opinion Strategies for the Alliance for Marriage. Margin of error plus or minus 3.46%.*

### MOST WORKERS SAY IT'S DIFFICULT TO BALANCE WORK, LIFE AND FAMILY:

When asked the question: "How difficult do you find it to balance work and family life or other personal interest?"

- 62% difficult
- 38% not difficult

Working women – even homemakers – say they have the toughest time:

- 70% of working women say it's very (22%) or somewhat (48%) difficult to balance work and family life or other personal interest.
- 65% of homemakers say it's very (23%) or somewhat (41%) difficult to balance work and family life or other personal interest

And among them, urban women lead the pack (of those finding it difficult to balance work and family life or other personal interest):

- |                  |     |
|------------------|-----|
| • Urban women    | 66% |
| • Suburban women | 60% |
| • Rural women    | 55% |
| • Rural men      | 52% |
| • Suburban men   | 50% |
| • Urban men      | 48% |

Workers under age 55 are also much more likely to feel the pressure:

- Three out of every four women between the ages of 18 and 54 find it difficult to balance work and family life or other personal interest, and nearly 60% of men the same ages agree

Midwesterners find it most difficult (of those finding it difficult to balance work and family life or other personal interest):

- |             |     |
|-------------|-----|
| • Midwest   | 61% |
| • Northeast | 57% |
| • South     | 54% |
| • West      | 52% |

It affects Americans at all income levels (of those finding it difficult to balance work and family life or other personal interest):

Average income	under \$20K	55%
	\$20-\$40K	49%
	\$40-60K	63%
	\$60-80K	58%
	\$80-100K	55%
	over \$100K	63%



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Parents really feel the pressure:

- 69% of those with children in home say it's difficult
- 77% of Moms say it's difficult
- 61% of Dads say it's difficult

## **AND WHAT DO THESE WORKERS THINK WOULD HELP?**

When asked the question, "And, which of the following policies would be the best way to help you balance work and your family and personal life?"

All respondents:

- Flex time, or control over when you work 29%
- Comp time, or time off for working overtime 17%
- Day Care provided at job site 17%
- Job Sharing 8%
- Telecommuting 7%
- Expanded Family Leave Policies 4%
- Longer Maternity and Paternity Leave 3%
- Other 2%
- All of these 4%
- Don't know 8%
- Refused 3%

Day care and flex time most important to younger women ages 18-34, as 32% place day care highest on their priority list and 31% list flex time.

Policy preferences for Moms:

- Flex time, or control over when you work 32%
- Day Care provided at job site 27%
- Comp time, or time off for working overtime 11%
- Job Sharing 8%
- Telecommuting 6%
- Expanded Family Leave Policies 6%
- Longer Maternity and Paternity Leave 4%
- Other 2%

Men consistently rate flex time first on their preferred benefits list, with comp time or time off for working overtime second, although telecommuting jumps up in priority over day care:

Policy preferences for Dads:

- Flex time, or control over when you work 30%
- Comp time, or time off for working overtime 25%
- Telecommuting 15%
- Day Care provided at job site 13%
- Job Sharing 3%
- Other 2%
- Expanded Family Leave Policies --
- Longer Maternity and Paternity Leave --