

## Macro Roundup Article

**Headline:** [Why Americans Aren't Having Babies](#)

### Article

**Link:** <https://www.wsj.com/lifestyle/relationships/americans-babies-childless-birthrate-daf438f9>

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**Tweet:** Two-thirds of the 6.5% decline in mean births in the US 35-44 cohort between 2012 and 2022 is due to the increasing number of women who have zero children.

**Summary:** Women without children, rather than those having fewer, are responsible for most of the decline in average births among 35- to 44-year-olds during their lifetimes so far, according to an analysis of the Census Bureau's CPS data by University of Texas demographer Dean Spears for The Wall Street Journal. Childlessness accounted for over two-thirds of the 6.5% drop in average births between 2012 to 2022. While more people are becoming parents later in life, 80% of the babies born in 2022 were to women under 35, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Vital Statistics data. The number of American women over 40 who had no children was declining until 2018, according to Current Population Survey data, when it then began to rise again. Now, some demographers and economists expect the increase in childlessness will be sustained due to shifts in how people think about families.

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**Primary Topic:** Family/Marriage

**Topics:** Demographics, Family/Marriage, News article, Workforce

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