

## The Child Tax Credit: Our Kids Deserve More

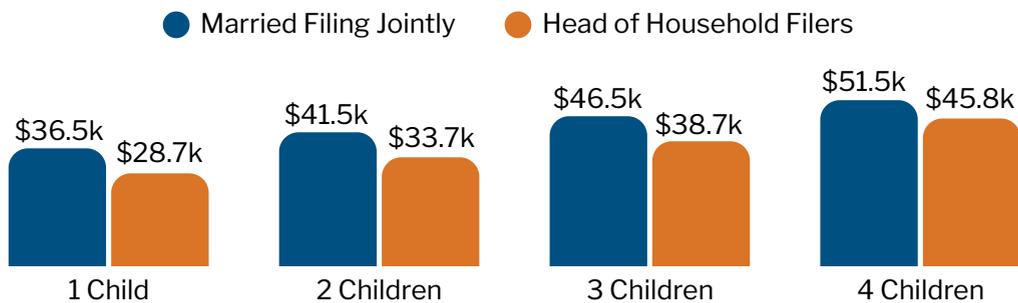
The Child Tax Credit (CTC) is a federal tax benefit that helps families with the costs of raising children. It is a critical resource for families now, and it can and should do more to support families in the future and set children up for success.

### How The CTC Works Right Now

In 2025, families can receive a CTC of up to \$2,200 per child under age 17. The amount that a family receives is calculated based on the number of children they have and their income. **1 in 4 children** do not receive the full CTC because their family income is too low.

Some children also cannot receive the CTC because of new requirements that both the child and at least one parent must have a Social Security Number.

#### Income at Which Families Begin to Receive Full \$2,200 CTC in 2025



Source: Columbia Center on Poverty and Social Policy, 2025

### How the CTC Can Be Improved in the Future

The CTC should provide real financial security to families so that children can thrive.

- 1 The CTC should be available to all children.**  
 Children in families with low or no income should receive the full credit, and the CTC should be fully available to all children in immigrant families.
- 2 The CTC should be increased to help with the rising costs of raising children.**  
 The CTC should be at least \$500 per month, or \$6,000 annually per child.
- 3 The CTC should be available via monthly payments.**  
 Families should have the option of receiving monthly payments, and the IRS should support families facing barriers to accessing the CTC.

