2022

FAMILY ALMANAC

83 charts on the health and well-being of America’s families
2022 Family Almanac

Compiled and designed by Patrick T. Brown

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About the Ethics and Public Policy Center

Founded in 1976, the Ethics and Public Policy Center is Washington, D.C.’s premier institute working to apply the riches of the Judeo-Christian tradition to contemporary questions of law, culture, and politics, in pursuit of America’s continued civic and cultural renewal.

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About the 2022 Family Almanac

America is starting to take family policy seriously. Record-low birth rates, increasingly delayed or deferred wedding vows, and the rising cost of raising a child are leading policymakers and pundits to suggest new approaches to supporting family life in law, through the tax code, welfare programs, and across society.

But talking about what would help families most requires a solid understanding of what family life in America looks like, who families consist of, and where the pain points that face today’s parents lie. The 2022 Family Almanac is designed to be a one-stop compendium of reliable information about family life in America, covering topics from marriage and fertility to household economics and child well-being.

Nearly all of the charts and graphs in the 2022 Family Almanac come from data compiled by the U.S. Census Bureau, as well as the National Center for Education Statistics, the National Center for Health Statistics, and the Bureau for Labor Statistics. A select few are taken from academic journals or research institutes and are footnoted appropriately. All of these charts can be provided as stand-alone files or downloadable tables upon request.

Many more topics could be included in this resource, but these figures are intended to start discussions about family policy from a common set of facts. Taken together, they paint a picture of American family life that should inform efforts to better support parents, children, and families.

Patrick T. Brown
Fellow
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Marriage .......................................................... 4
Fertility ............................................................ 11
Family Structure ............................................. 15
Income and Finances ....................................... 24
Poverty ........................................................... 32
Cost of Living .................................................. 37
Education & Early Childhood ....................... 44
Culture ........................................................... 50
MARRIAGE
U.S. Marriage Rate, 1900-2020
Number of marriages annually, per 1,000 population

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System

Estimated Median Age at First Marriage, 1890-2021 (selected years)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Historical Families Table MS-2
Marital Status of Men 18 Years of Age and Over
By age category (2021)

Marital status: Married, Never Married, Divorced/Separated, Widowed

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America’s Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table A-1

Marital Status of Women 18 Years of Age and Over
By age category (2021)

Marital status: Married, Never Married, Divorced/Separated, Widowed

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America’s Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table A-1
Married Men as Share of All Men, 1950-2021 (selected years)
Among men 15 years of age and older, by race/ethnicity

Unmarried Men as Share of All Men, 1950-2021 (selected years)
Among men 15 years of age and older, by race/ethnicity and marital status

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Historical Families Table MS-1

Widowers not shown.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Historical Families Table MS-1
Married Women as Share of All Women, 1950-2021 (selected years)

Among women 15 years of age and older, by race/ethnicity

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Historical Families Table MS-1

Unmarried Women as Share of All Women, 1950-2021 (selected years)

Among women 15 years of age and older, by race/ethnicity and marital status

Widows not shown.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Historical Families Table MS-1
Marital Status of Males 15 Years of Age and Over
By personal earnings (2021)

Marital status
- Married
- Never Married
- Divorced/Separated
- Widowed

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America’s Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table A-1

Marital Status of Females 15 Years of Age and Over
By personal earnings (2021)

Marital status
- Married
- Never Married
- Divorced/Separated
- Widowed

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America’s Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table A-1
**Age Difference Between Opposite-Sex Married Couples**

Among parents with children under 18 (in 2021)

- **Husband, 10+**
- **Husband, 6-9**
- **Husband, 4-5**
- **Husband, 2-3**
- **Difference within 1**
- **Wife, 2-3**
- **Wife, 4-5**
- **Wife, 6-9**
- **Wife, 10+**

Age difference:
- **Husband older**
- **Within 1 year**
- **Wife older**

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America’s Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table FG-3

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**Difference in Personal Earnings Between Opposite-Sex Married Couples**

Among parents with children under 18 (in 2021)

- **Husband, $50k+**
- **Husband, $30-49k**
- **Husband, $10-29k**
- **Husband, $5-9k**
- **Within $5k**
- **Wife, $5-9k**
- **Wife, $10-29k**
- **Wife, $30-49k**
- **Wife, $50k+**

Difference in personal earnings:
- **Husband earns more**
- **Husband and wife**
- **Wife earns more**

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America’s Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table FG-3
FERTILITY
Total Numbers of Births, 1909-2021

U.S. General Fertility Rate, 1909-2021
Live births per 1,000 females between the ages of 15-44 years

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics Reports and Archives
U.S. General Fertility Rate, 1909-2020
Live births per 1,000 females between the ages of 15-44 years, by marital status

Infant Mortality Rate, 1915-2013
Infant deaths per 1,000 births, by race

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics Reports and Archives
Source: National Center for Health Statistics Mortality Trends
Birth Rates by Age of Mother, 1940-2020

Births per 1,000 women in each age group

Source: National Vital Statistics Reports

Number of Children in the United States, 1900-2020

All children age 0 to 17

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports (Series P-25, No. 311) and ChildStats.Gov
FAMILY STRUCTURE
Families by Presence of Own Children Under 18, 1950-2021

Number of families (in thousands)

Family type
- Families with no children under 18
- Single father families with own children under 18
- Single mother families with own children under 18
- Married-couple families with own children under 18

Includes parents of biological, step and adopted children. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Historical Families Table 1

Family Groups by Race, 1970-2021

All parent-child situations, by family type

Race
- Black
- Hispanic
- White

Family group
- Total two-parent families
- Total single-parent families

Parents With Coresident Children Under 18
By living arrangement and parents' educational attainment (2021)

[Bar chart showing the percentage of parents with coresident children under 18 years old, categorized by educational attainment and marital status.]

Living Arrangements of Children Under 18 Years
By race (2021)

[Bar chart showing the percentage of children under 18 years old living with different arrangements, categorized by race.]

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America’s Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table A-3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America's Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table C-3
Number of Own Children Among Householders Age 15-44
By household type and householder’s education (2021)

Share of Number of Children Among Householders Age 15-44
By household type and householder’s education (2021)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America’s Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table F-3
Living Arrangements of American Adults, 1967-2021
Among all adults 18 years of age and older

Living Arrangements for Children Under 18
By child’s sex and age (2021)
Living Arrangements of Children Under 18 Years
By family income (2021)

[Bar chart showing the distribution of children living with different family arrangements by income level.]

Child lives with
- Two married parents
- Two unmarried parents
- Neither parent
- Single parent

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America’s Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table C-3

Living Arrangements of Children Under 18 Years
By highest education level of either parent (2021)

[Bar chart showing the distribution of children living with different family arrangements by highest education level.]

Child lives with...
- Two married parents
- Two unmarried parents
- Single parent

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America’s Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table C-3
Living Arrangements of Children Under 18 Years
By family income (in 2021)

Type of Family Households
By age of householder and own children (2021)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America’s Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table C-3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America’s Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table C-8
Labor Force Participation of Opposite-Sex Married Parents

By age of own children (2021)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age of child(ren)</th>
<th>Both in labor force</th>
<th>Only husband in labor force</th>
<th>Only wife in labor force</th>
<th>Neither in labor force</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 1 year</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 3 years</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 6 years</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 12 years</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 18 years</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America’s Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table FG-1

Percentage of Families with a Stay-at-Home Parent, 1994-2021

Among opposite-sex married-couple families with children under 15

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Historical Families Table SHP-1
Percentage of Children Living with at least One Working Parent, 2000-2019
Share with parent(s) employed full-time, year-round, by family structure


Percentage of Children Living with at least One Working Parent, 2000-2019
Share with parent(s) employed full-time, year-round, by race

**Median Family Income, 1947-2020**

By race/ethnicity of householder

![Graph showing the median family income from 1947 to 2020 by race/ethnicity.](image)

- **Race**: All races, Asian, Black, Hispanic (any race), White
- All amounts in 2020 CPI-U-RS adjusted dollars.
- Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Historical Income Table F-5

**Median Income by Number of Children Under 18, 1947-2020**

![Graph showing the median income by number of children under 18 from 1947 to 2020.](image)

- **Number of children**: 0 children under 18, 1 child under 18, 2 or more children under 18
- Note: In 1986, the tabulation changed from two children under 18 to two or more children under 18. All amounts in 2020 CPI-U-RS adjusted dollars.
- Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, America’s Families and Living Arrangements Table FG-8
Mean, Median, and Per Capita Total Money Income
By presence and age of own children (all families)

[Bar chart showing family income by number of children and age group, with statistics for mean, median, and income per family member.]

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey Tables for Family Income (2021), Table FINC-03

Total Money Income of All Family Households
By presence and age of own children (2021)

[Line chart showing share of families by income level, categorized by family type.]

Data smoothed via Loess. Income top-coded at $200,000.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey Tables for Family Income (2021), Table FINC-03
**Family Income Quintile**

By age and presence of children (all families)

![Bar chart showing the distribution of family income quintiles by the number and age of children.](image)

Income quintile (and breakpoints)
- Lowest quintile ($0–$33,550)
- Second quintile ($33,551–$60,031)
- Middle quintile ($60,032–$92,357)
- Fourth quintile ($92,358–$145,379)
- Top quintile ($145,380 and over)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey Tables for Family Income (2018), Table FINC-06

**Median Income Among Opposite-Sex Married Couples, 1976-2017**

By wife's work experience and presence of children under 18

![Line chart showing the trend of median income for different work experiences and child presence.](image)

Income in 2017 CPI-U-RS adjusted dollars.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, America’s Families and Living Arrangements Table F-14
Personal Earnings Among Opposite-Sex Married Couples
Among parents with children under 18 (in 2021)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America’s Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table FG-3

Median Personal Earnings Among Parents With Coresident Children Under 18
By sex and living arrangement (in 2021)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America’s Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table A-3
Family Income Among Opposite-Sex Married Couple Households
By spousal labor force participation (in 2021)

Parental Labor Force Participation, 1986-2021
Among opposite-sex married couples with children under 18

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America's Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table FG-1
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Historical Families Table MC-1
Work Experience of Married Mothers, 1976-2017
Among married-couple families with one or more children under 18

Number of families (in thousands)

Mothers' work experience in the past year
- Worked full-time, year-round
- Did not work
- Worked, but not full-time

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, America’s Families and Living Arrangements Table F-14

Among Opposite-Sex Married Couple Families With Children Under 15

Share of families

Maternal labor force participation
- Mother in labor force 1+ weeks last year
- Mother not in labor force last year

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, America’s Families and Living Arrangements Table FG-8
Among Opposite-Sex Married Couple Families With Children Under 15

Maternal labor force participation
- Mother in labor force 1+ weeks last year
- Mother not in labor force last year

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, America’s Families and Living Arrangements Table FG-8

Opposite-Sex Married Couple Labor Force Participation
By family income, among parents with children under 18 (in 2021)

Labor force status
- Both in labor force
- Only husband in labor force
- Only wife in labor force
- Neither in labor force

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America’s Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table FG-1
POVERTY
Poverty Rate Among Families with Child(ren) Under 18, 1959-2020
By race/ethnicity

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Historical Poverty Table 4

Poverty Rate Among Families with Child(ren) Under 18, 1959-2020
By family structure

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Historical Poverty Table 4
Families with Related Children, 1959-2020
By head of household and poverty status

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Historical Poverty Table 10

Poverty Status for Children Under 18 Years
By presence of parents (in 2021)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America’s Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table C-8
Number of People Living in Poverty
Among families with children under 18, by family type (in 2020)

![Bar chart showing the number of people living in poverty among families with children under 18, by family type.](chart)

Unrelated subfamilies are children under 18 not related by birth, marriage, or adoption to the householder.


Public Assistance Receipt among Children Under 18 Years
By family structure (in 2021)

![Bar chart showing the share of children receiving public assistance among different family structures.](chart)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America's Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table C-8
COST OF LIVING
Estimated Annual Expenditures on a Young Child, 1996-2015 (selected years)
Among opposite-sex married parent families, by income tertile

For only child between ages of 0-2. CPI-adjusted (2021 dollars).
Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion, Report No. 1528-2015 and older years

Estimated Total Expenditures on a Child from Birth through Age 17 (1960 and 2015)
National average for a child in a married-couple family in middle income tertile

Consumer Expenditures on Entertainment, 1984-2020
By category and consumer unit type (in constant (non-inflation-adjusted) dollars)

Type of Household Unit
- Married couple only
- Married couple with children
- Single parent
- Single person/other

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Expenditure Survey

Consumer Expenditures on Food and Alcoholic Beverages, 1984-2020
By category and consumer unit type

Type of Household Unit
- Married couple only
- Married couple with children
- Single parent
- Single person/other

In 2020 dollars (CPI-U-RS), using category-specific inflation adjustments.
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, and FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
Consumer Expenditures on Housing and Transportation, 1984-2020

By category and consumer unit type (in 2020 dollars)

Type of Household Unit
- Married couple only
- Married couple with children
- Single parent
- Single person/other

In 2020 dollars (CPI-U-RS), using category-specific inflation adjustments.
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, and FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

Household Home Ownership Status

By age of householder (in 2021)

Type of housing
- No cash rent
- Rent
- Own/buying

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America’s Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table C-8
Rates of Home Ownership, 1982-2020
By family status

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey/Housing Vacancy Survey, Table 17

Rates of Home Ownership, 1982-2020
Among married-couple families, by age of householder

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey/Housing Vacancy Survey, Table 17
**Rates of Home Ownership, 1982-2020**
Among adults under 35 years old, by family type

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey/Housing Vacancy Survey, Table 17

**Workers' Average Contributions to Health Insurance Coverage, 1999-2021**
Among workers covered by employer-sponsored insurance

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation, Kaiser/HRET Annual Surveys of Employer-Sponsored Health Benefits
Mean Out-of-Pocket Spending for Maternity Care, 2008-2015

Among women with employer-based insurance

Out-of-pocket total is sum of copayment, coinsurance, and deductible for women with nonzero spending. CPI-adjusted (2016 dollars).

EDUCATION & EARLY CHILDHOOD
Child Care Arrangements, 1991-2019 (selected years)
Among children aged 3 to 5, by age

Type of care arrangement
- Relative care
- Nonrelative care
- Center-based programs
- Parental care only

Center-based programs include day care centers, nursery schools, prekindergartens, preschools, and Head Start programs. Sum totals to more than 100 as children may participate in more than one type of care arrangement. Source: NCES, Digest of Education Statistics, Table 202.40

Child Care Arrangements, 1991-2019 (selected years)
Among children aged 3 to 5, by race/ethnicity

Type of care
- Relative care
- Nonrelative care
- Center-based programs
- Parental care only

Center-based programs include day care centers, nursery schools, prekindergartens, preschools, and Head Start programs. Sum totals to more than 100 as children may participate in more than one type of care arrangement. Source: NCES, Digest of Education Statistics, Table 202.40
Enrollment in preprimary programs, 1970-2018 (selected years)
By age of child

Age of child  3 years old  4 years old  5 years old

Preprimary programs include kindergarten and preschool (or nursery school) programs.
Source: NCES, Digest of Education Statistics, Table 202.10

Private elementary and secondary school enrollment, 1995-2019 (selected years)
As a percentage of total enrollment in public and private schools, by grade

Child's grade  Pre-k through 8th grade  9th to 12th grade

Preprimary programs include kindergarten and preschool (or nursery school) programs.
Source: NCES, Digest of Education Statistics, Table 205.10
Students Involved in Homeschooling, 1999-2016 (selected years)
As percentage of elementary and high school-age children, by household income

Household income
- $20,000 or less
- $20,001 to $50,000
- $50,001 to $75,000
- $75,001 to $100,000
- Over $100,000

Among children age 5 to 17.
Source: NCES, Digest of Education Statistics, Table 206.10

Rates of high school completion and bachelor's degree attainment, 1940-2020
Among persons aged 25 years and over, by race/ethnicity

Race/ethnicity
- White
- Black
- Hispanic
- Asian

Education
- Bachelor's or higher
- High school or higher

Source: NCES, Digest of Education Statistics, Table 204.10
Extracurricular Participation in Sports and Clubs, 1998-2020 (selected years)
Among children age 6 to 17, by poverty status

Selected School Outcomes, 1998-2020 (selected years)
Among children age 6 to 17, by sex

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 'A Child's Day' Historical Tables and Figures
Enrollment in College by Recent High School Completers, 1960-2020

By sex

Among individuals ages 16 to 24 who graduated from high school or completed a GED or other equivalency credential.

Source: NCES, Digest of Education Statistics, Table 302.10

Total tuition, fees, room, and board charged by degree-granting postsecondary institutions, 1964-2020

For full-time students, by type of institution

Tuition and fees weighted by number of full-time-equivalent undergraduates; room and board are based on full-time students. CPI adjusted (2020 dollars).

Source: NCES, Digest of Education Statistics, Table 330.10
Percentage of Children Reporting At Least One Major Depressive Episode, 2004-2019
Among children aged 12-17, by sex

Defined as a period of at least 2 weeks when a person experienced depressed mood or loss of interest in daily activities and a majority of specified symptoms.
Source: Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, via ChildStats.gov

Percentage of Children Reporting At Least One Major Depressive Episode, 2004-2019
Among children aged 12-17, by poverty status

Defined as a period of at least 2 weeks when a person experienced depressed mood or loss of interest in daily activities and a majority of specified symptoms.
Source: Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, via ChildStats.gov
Percentage of Children who Use the Internet from Home, 2010-2019 (selected years)

By age of child

Age of child

- 3 and 4
- 5 to 10
- 11 to 14
- 15 to 18

Among individuals ages 16 to 24 who graduated from high school or completed a GED or other equivalency credential.

Source: NCES, Digest of Education Statistics, Table 302.10

Number of library visits, per capita (2019)

By state/census region

Dashed line is national average.

Source: Institute of Museum and Library Services, Public Libraries Survey.
Abortion Rate, 1973-2020
Abortion rate per 1,000 women aged 15–44


Abortion Rate by Age, 1973-2017
Abortion rate per 1,000 women aged 15–44, by age group

Children as Share of United States Population, 1900-2020

Percentage of U.S. population made up of children age 0 to 17

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports (Series P-25, No. 311) and ChildStats.gov, and National InterCensal Estimates