

2022

# FAMILY ALMANAC

83 charts on the health and  
well-being of America's families

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POLICY  
CENTER

## 2022 Family Almanac

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Patrick T. Brown is a fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center. His work focuses on developing pro-family policy aimed at supporting the family as the cornerstone of a healthy and flourishing society.

His writing on pro-family policy has been published in *The New York Times*, *National Review*, *Politico*, *The Washington Post*, and *USA Today*, and he has spoken on college campuses and Capitol Hill on topics from welfare reform to child care and education policy.

Prior to joining EPPC, Patrick served as a Senior Policy Advisor to Congress' Joint Economic Committee, and he also previously worked a government relations staffer for Catholic Charities USA.

Patrick graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a degree in political science and economics. He also holds a Master's in Public Affairs from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. He and his wife Jessica have three young children and live in Columbia, S.C.

### 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  
Ethics and Public Policy Center

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MARRIAGE



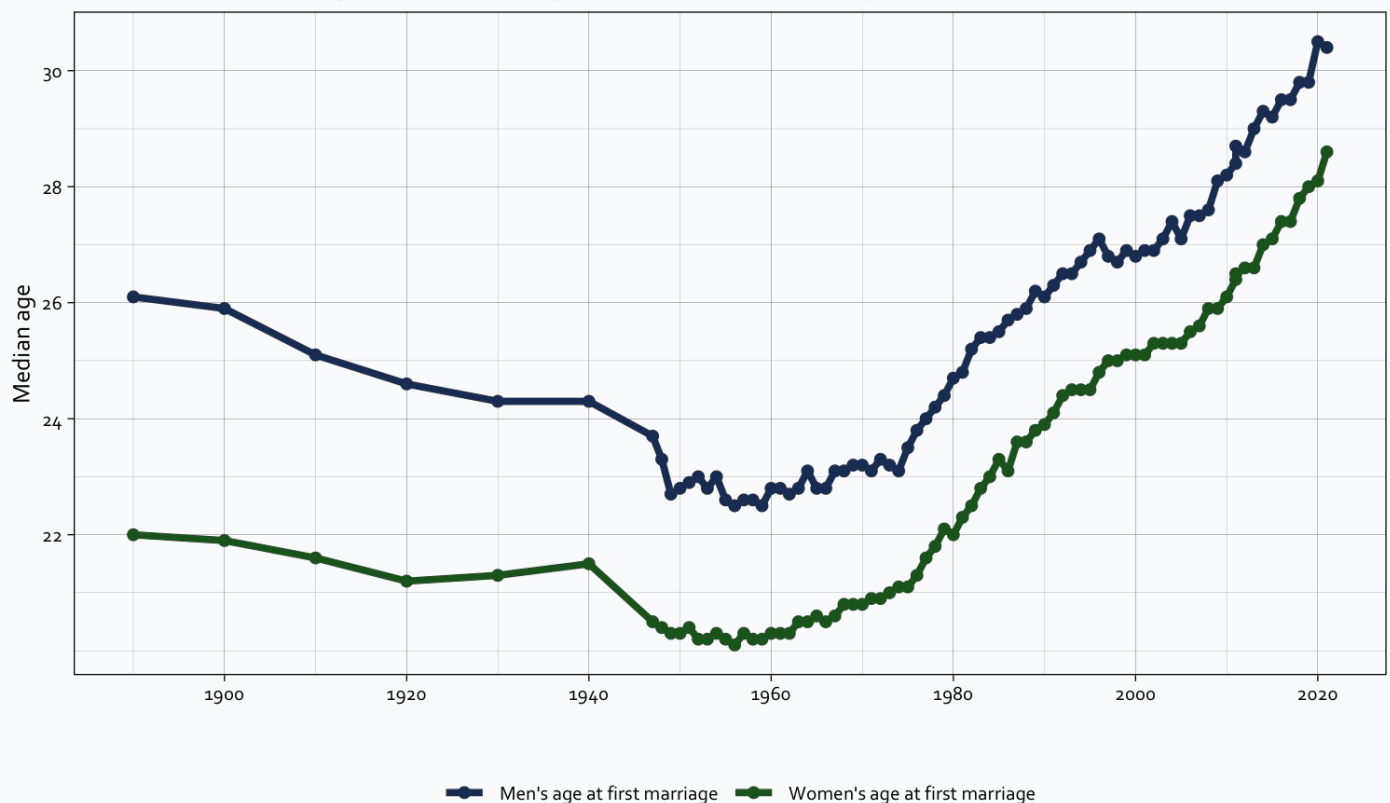
## U.S. Marriage Rate, 1900-2020

Number of marriages annually, per 1,000 population



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

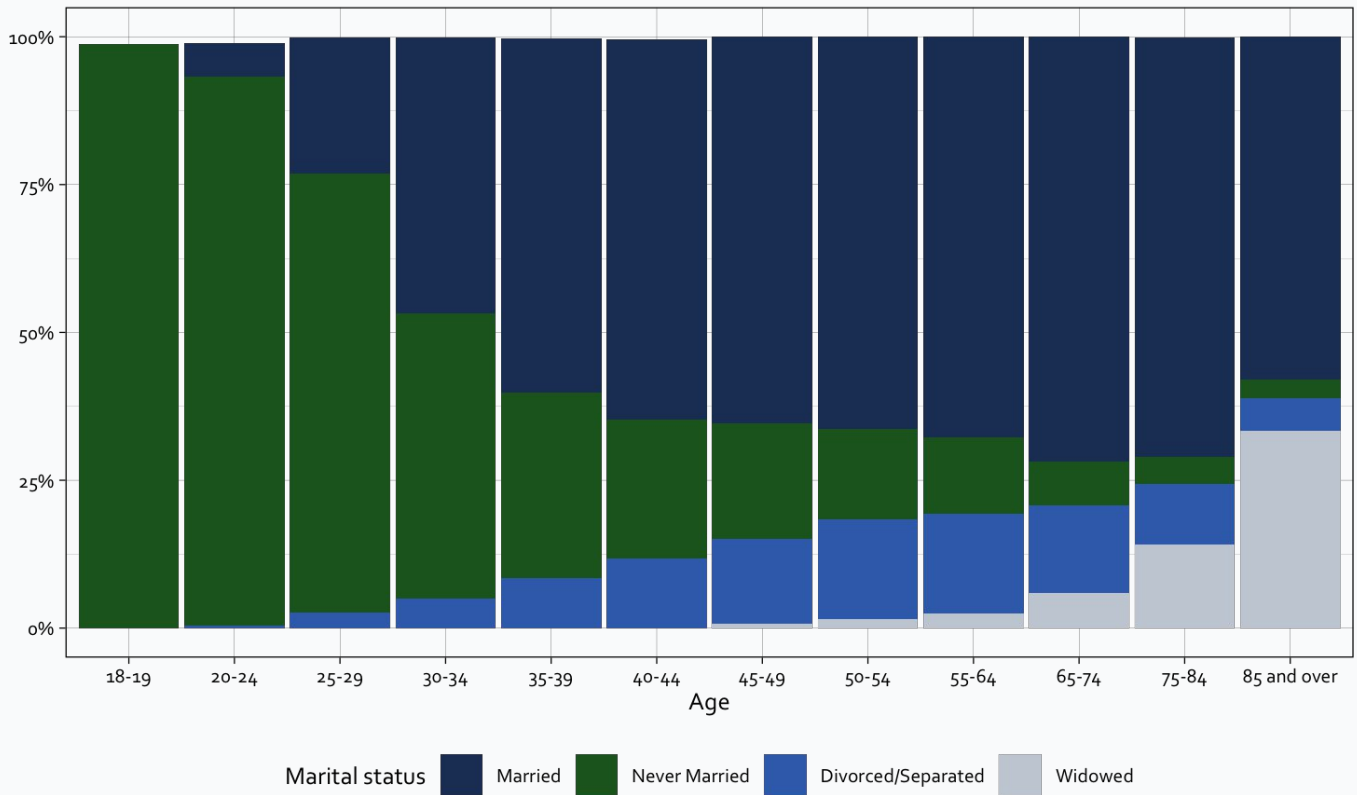
## Estimated Median Age at First Marriage, 1890-2021 (selected years)



Same-sex couples included starting in 2019.  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Historical Families Table MS-2

## Marital Status of Men 18 Years of Age and Over

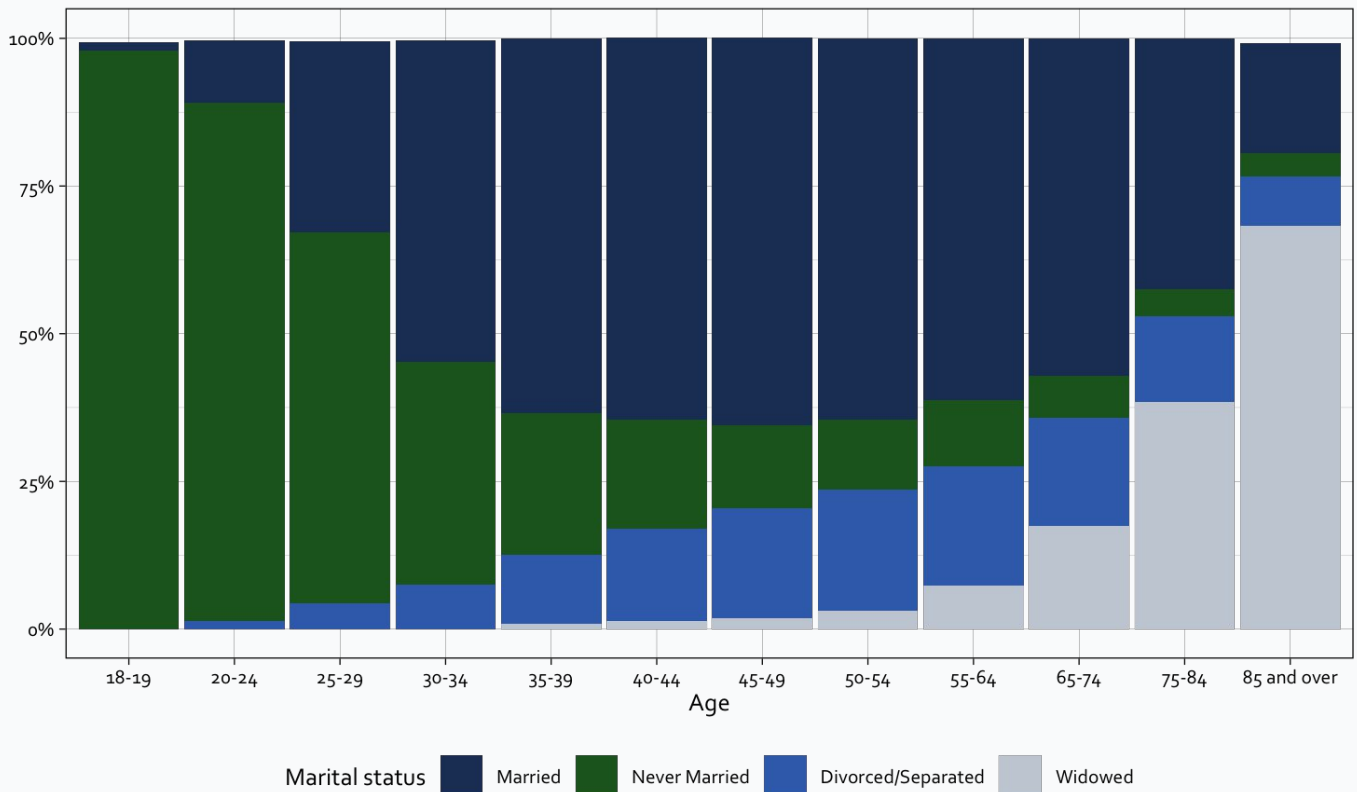
By age category (2021)



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

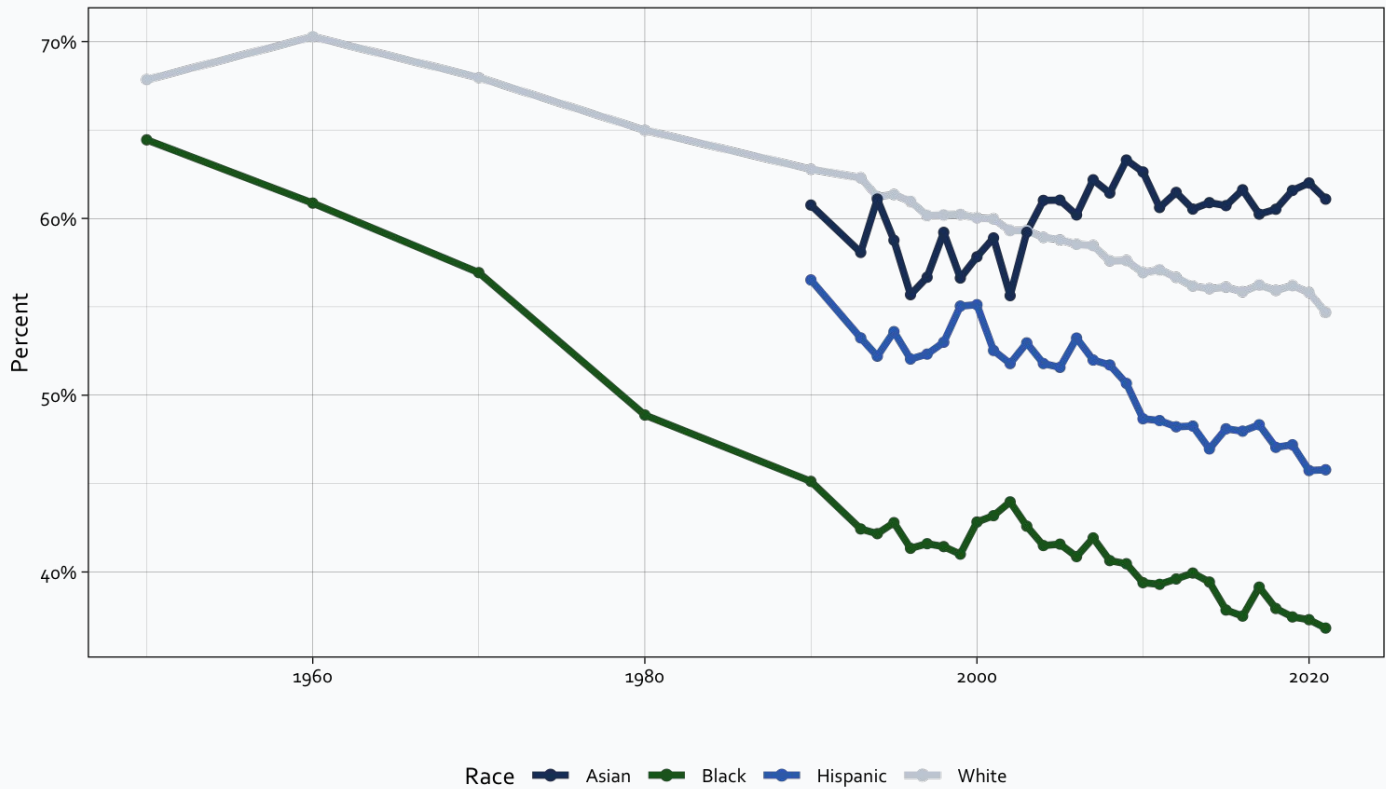
By age category (2021)



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)

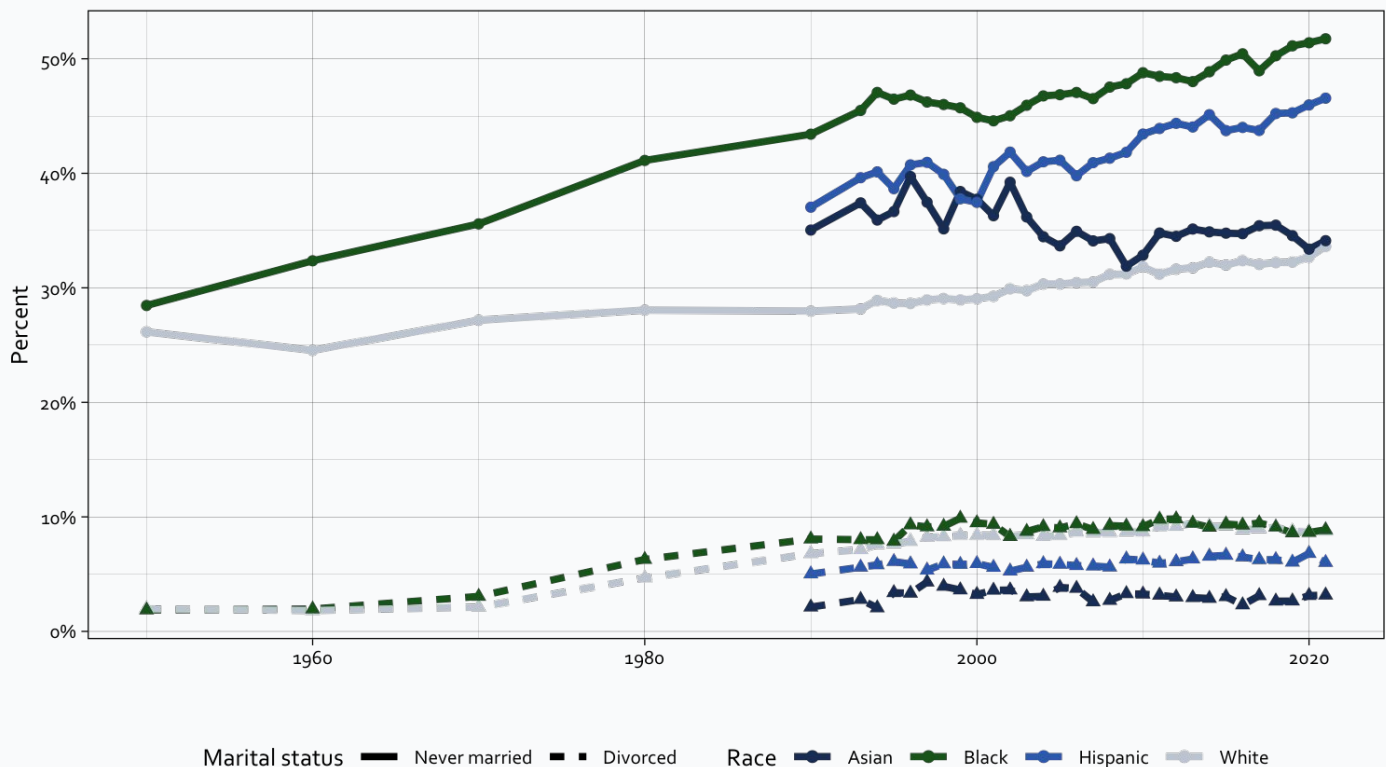
Among men 15 years of age and older, by race/ethnicity



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

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

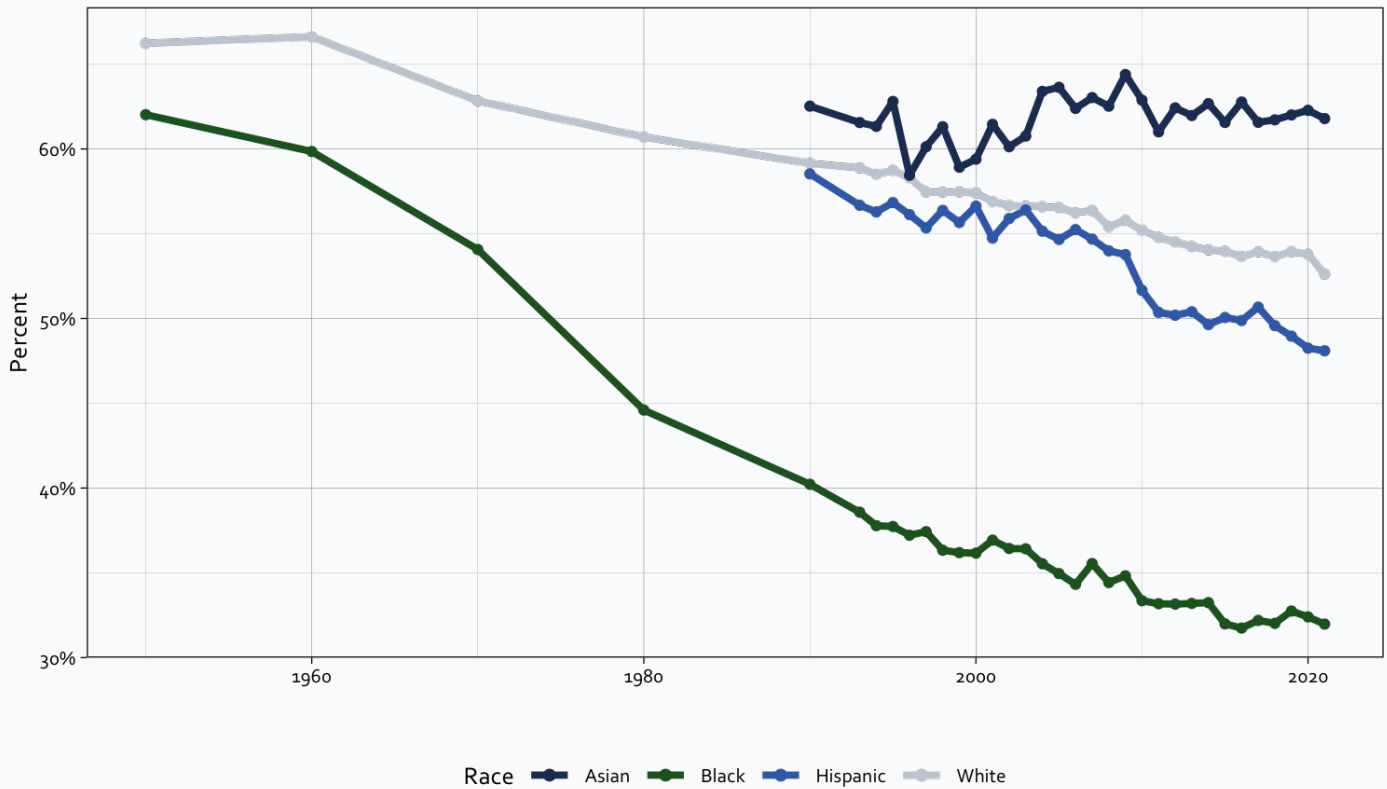
Among men 15 years of age and older, by race/ethnicity and marital status



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)

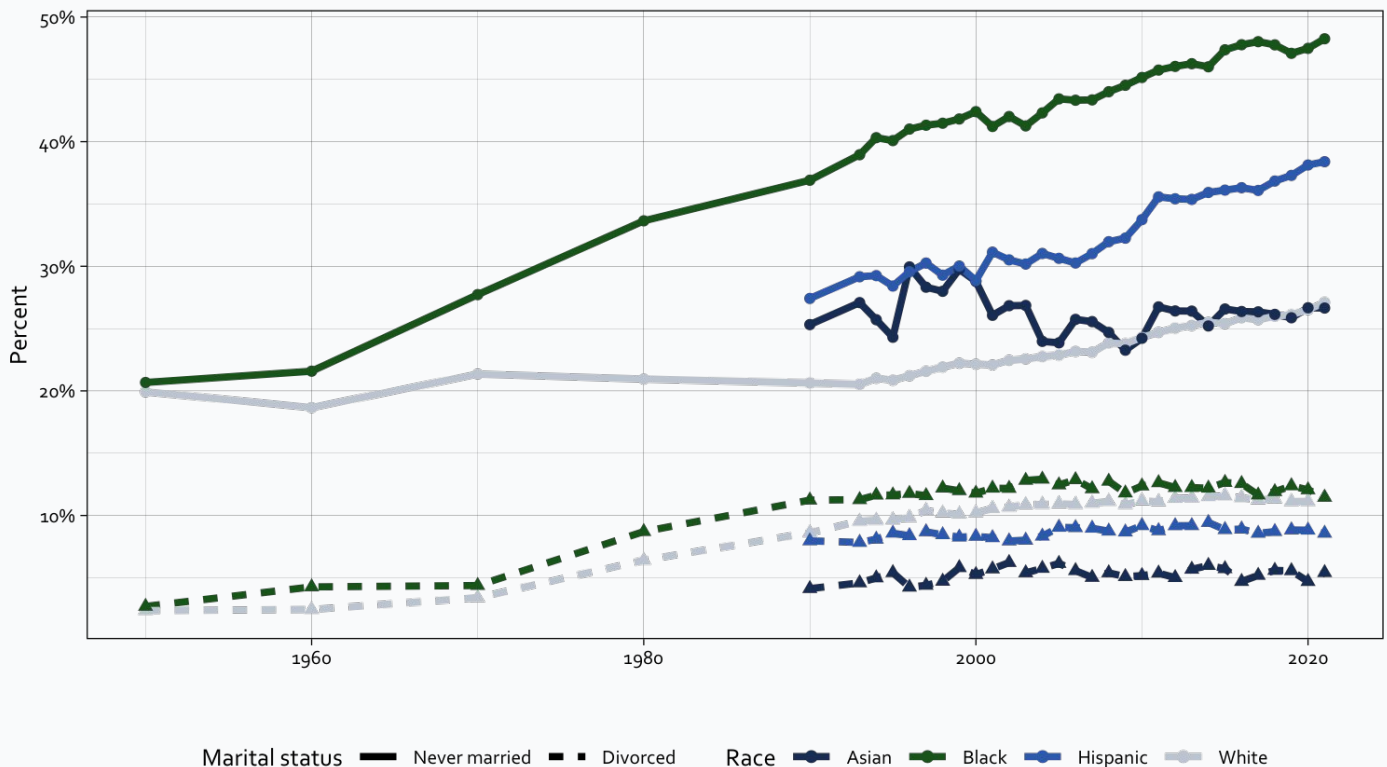
Among women 15 years of age and older, by race/ethnicity



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

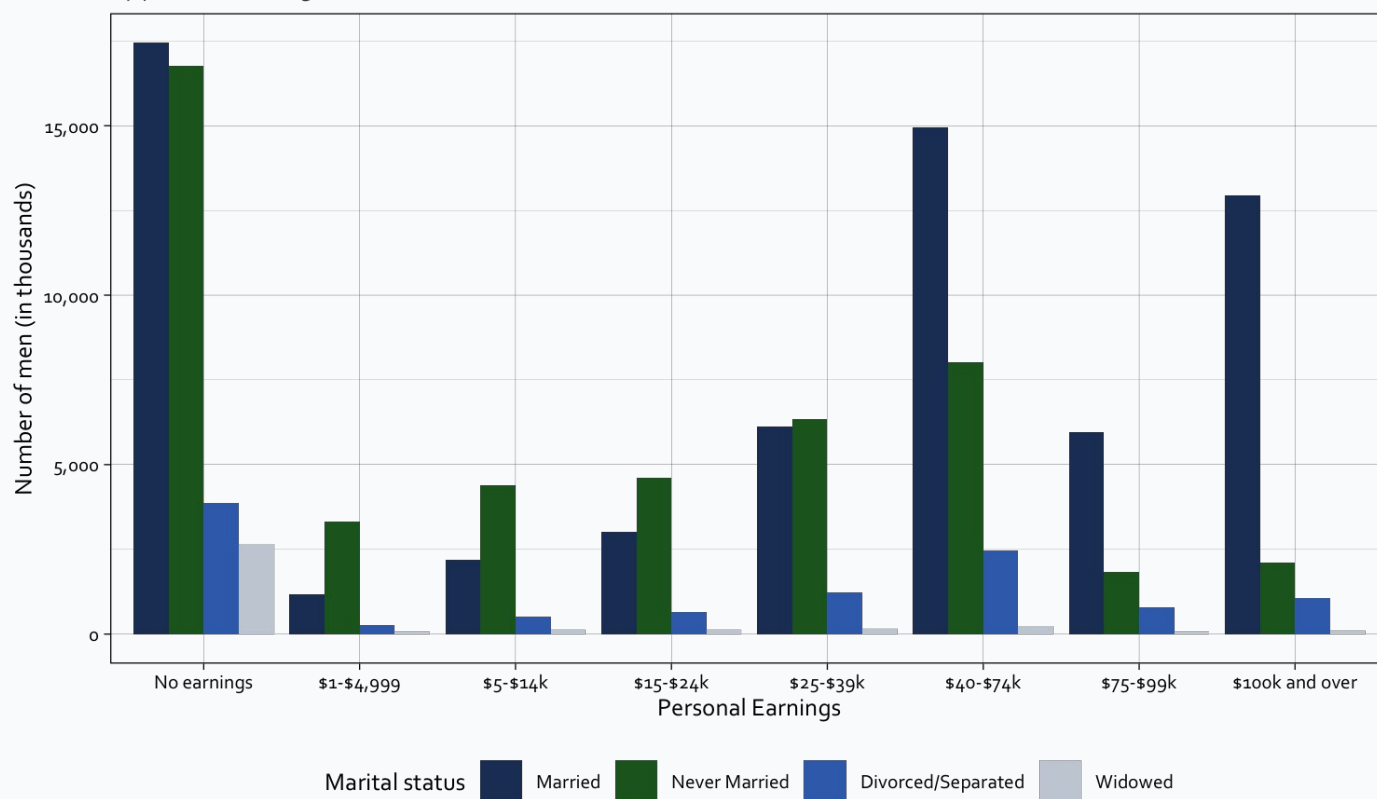


Widows not shown.

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

## Marital Status of Males 15 Years of Age and Over

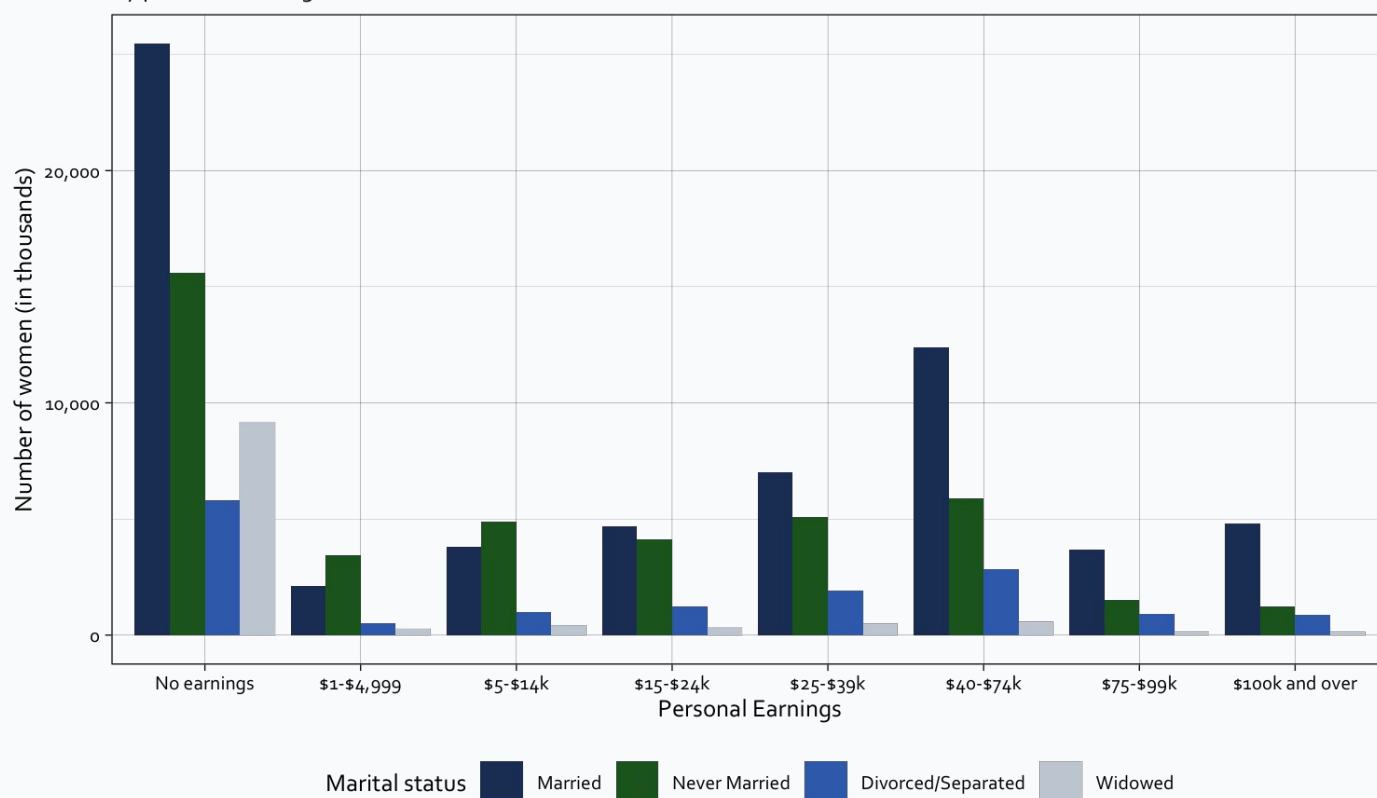
By personal earnings (2021)



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

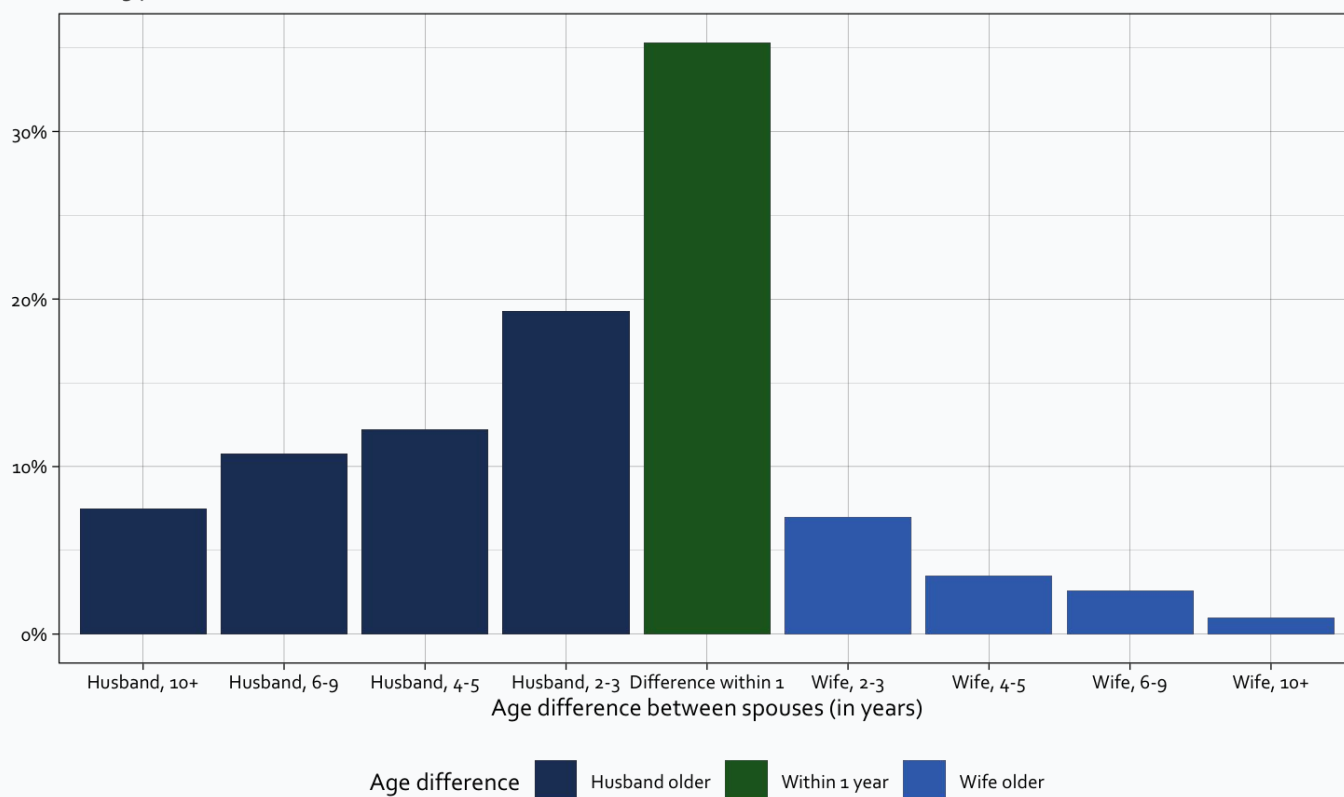
By personal earnings (2021)



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

## Age Difference Between Opposite-Sex Married Couples

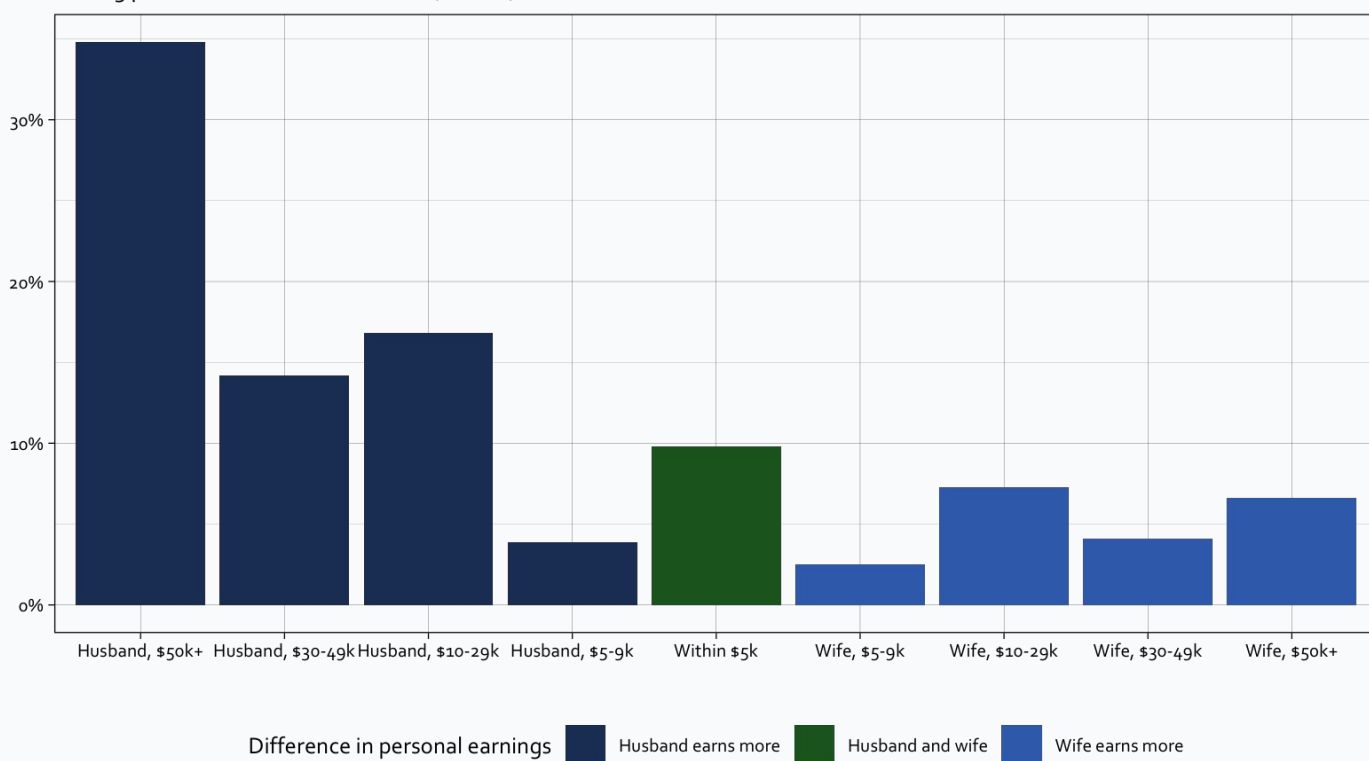
Among parents with children under 18 (in 2021)



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

## Difference in Personal Earnings Between 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

FERTILITY

## Total Numbers of Births, 1909-2021



2021 data is provisional.  
Source: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics Reports and Archives

## U.S. General Fertility Rate, 1909-2021

Live births per 1,000 females between the ages of 15-44 years

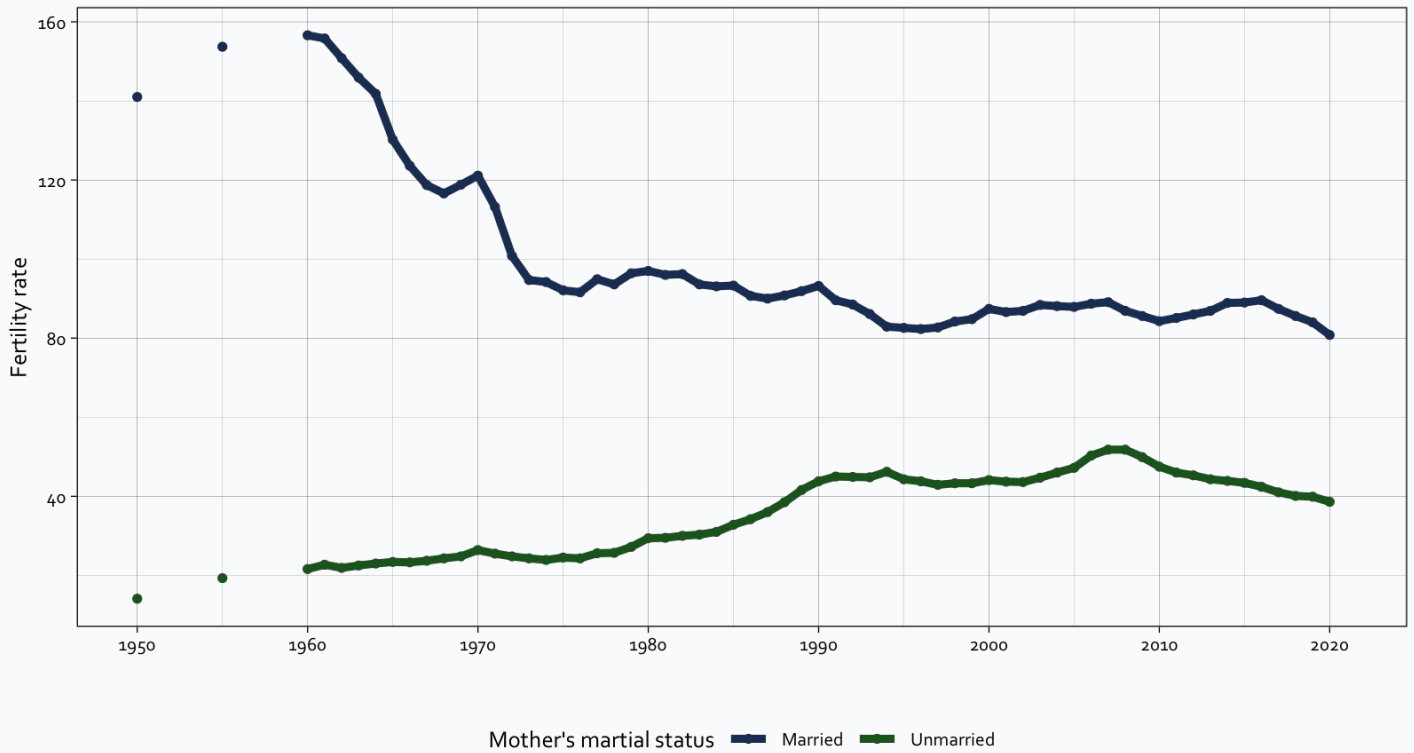


2021 data is provisional.  
Source: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics Reports and Archives



## U.S. General Fertility Rate, 1909-2020

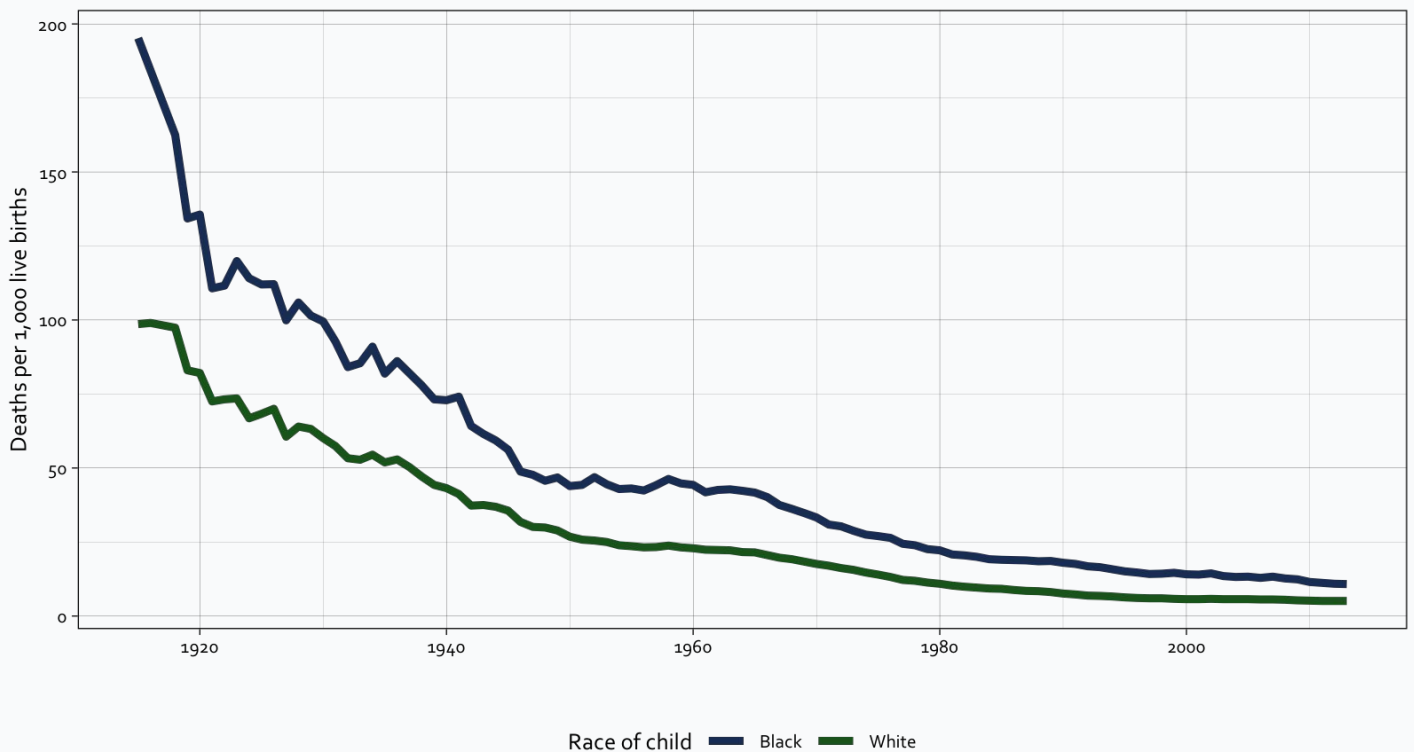
Live births per 1,000 females between the ages of 15-44 years, by marital status



Source: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics Reports and Archives

## Infant Mortality Rate, 1915-2013

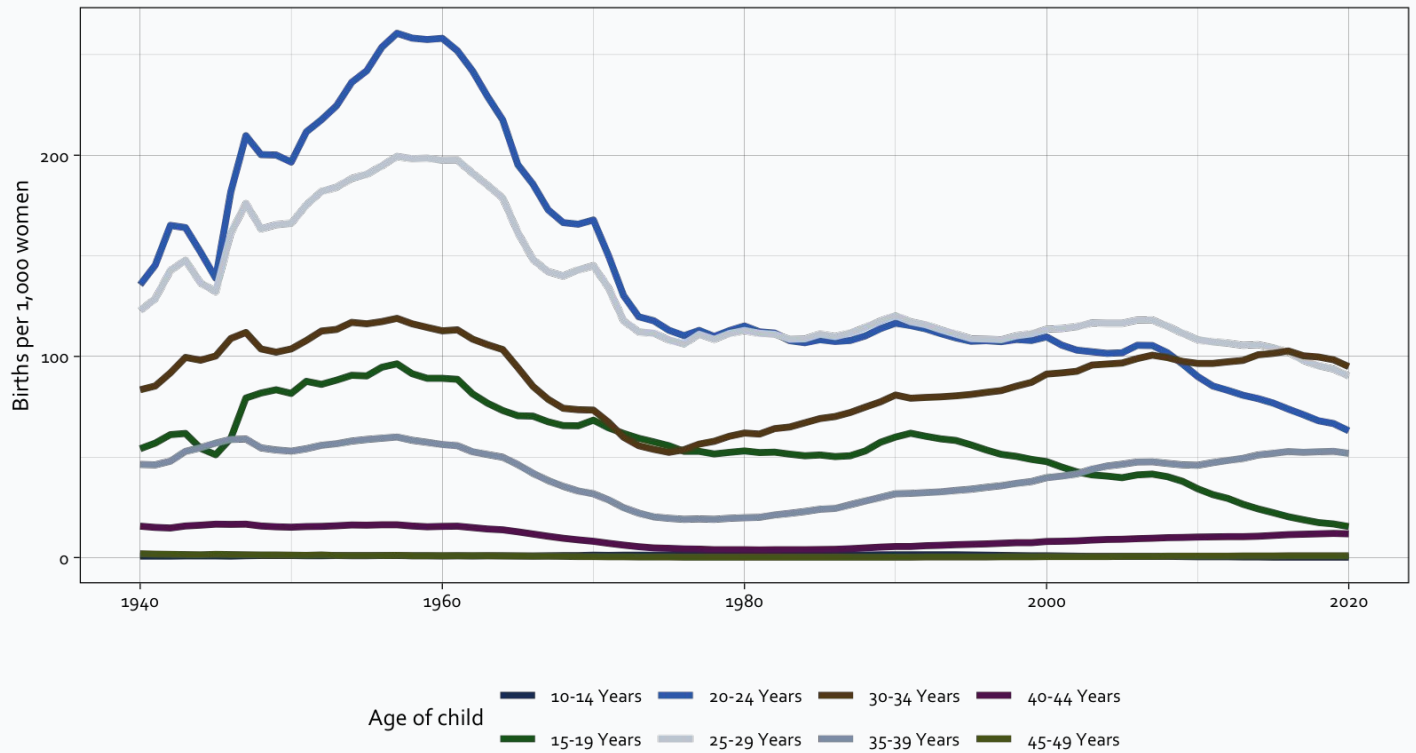
Infant deaths per 1,000 births, by race



Source: National Center for Health Statistics Mortality Trends

## Birth Rates by Age of Mother, 1940-2020

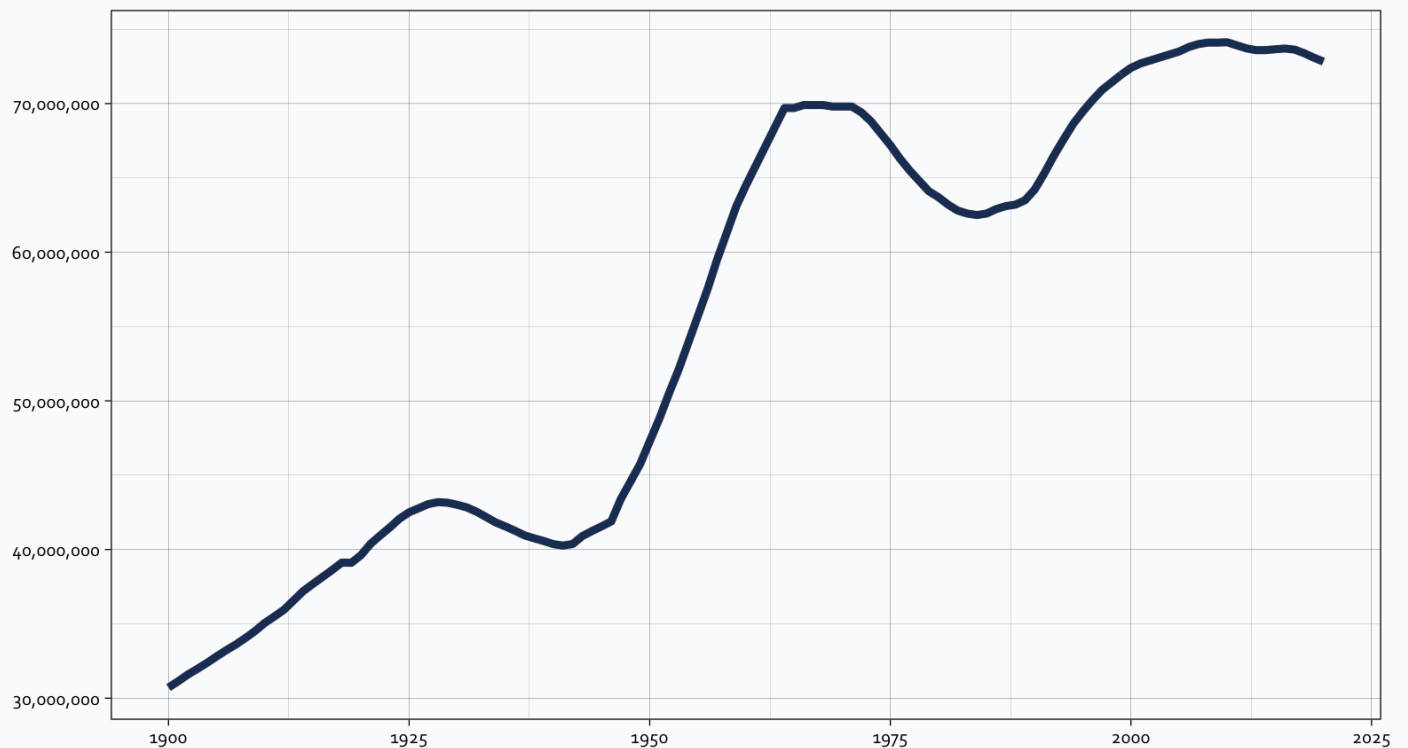
Births per 1,000 women in each age group



Source: National Vital Statistics Reports

## Number of Children in the United States, 1900-2020

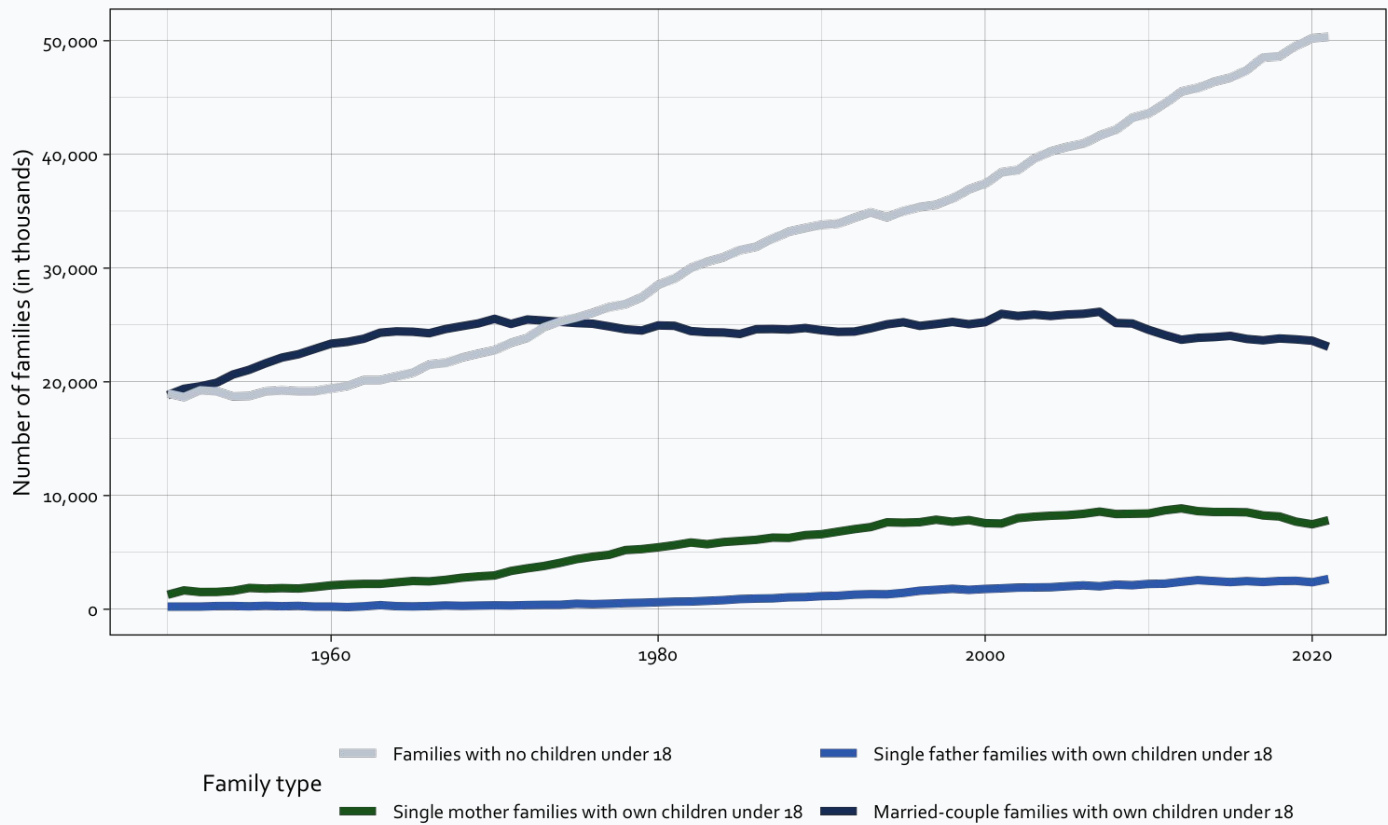
All children age 0 to 17



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

# FAMILY STRUCTURE

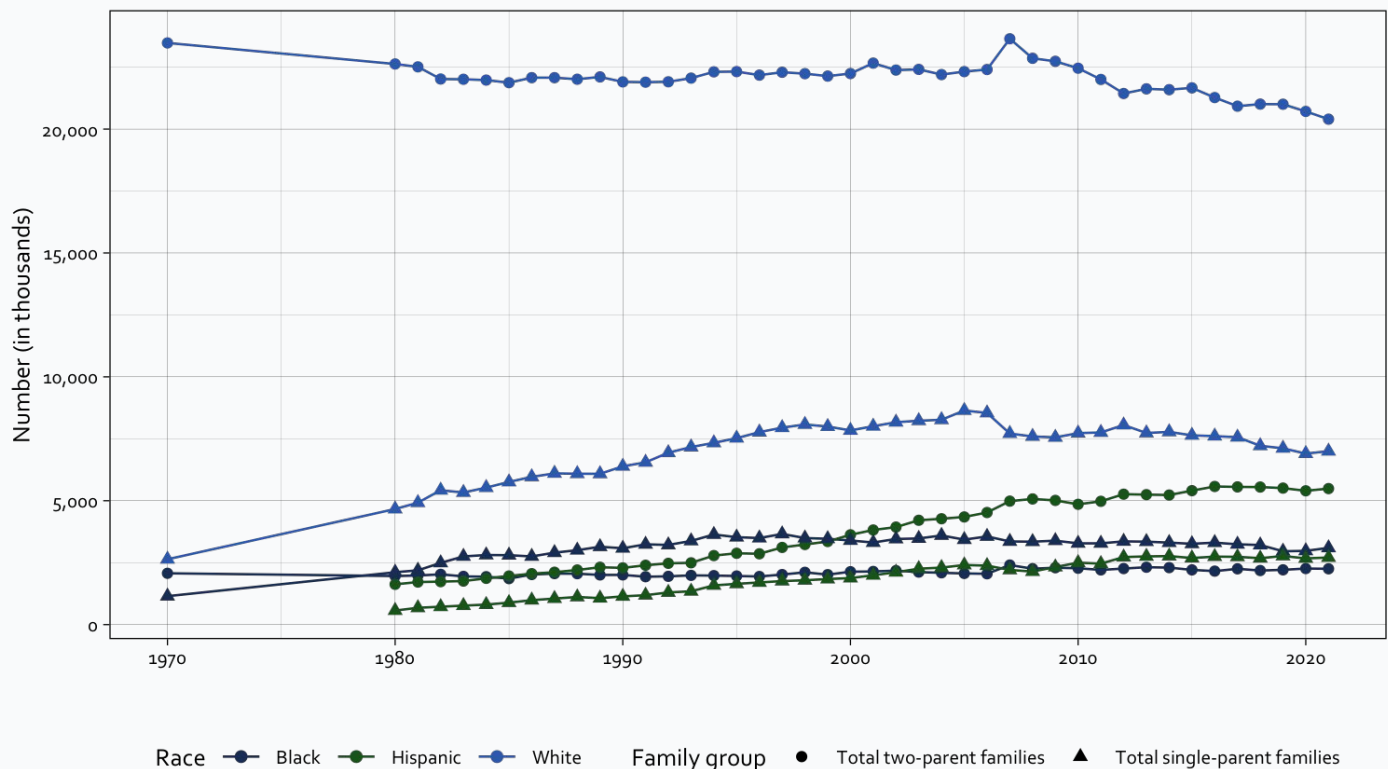
## Families by Presence of Own Children Under 18, 1950-2021



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

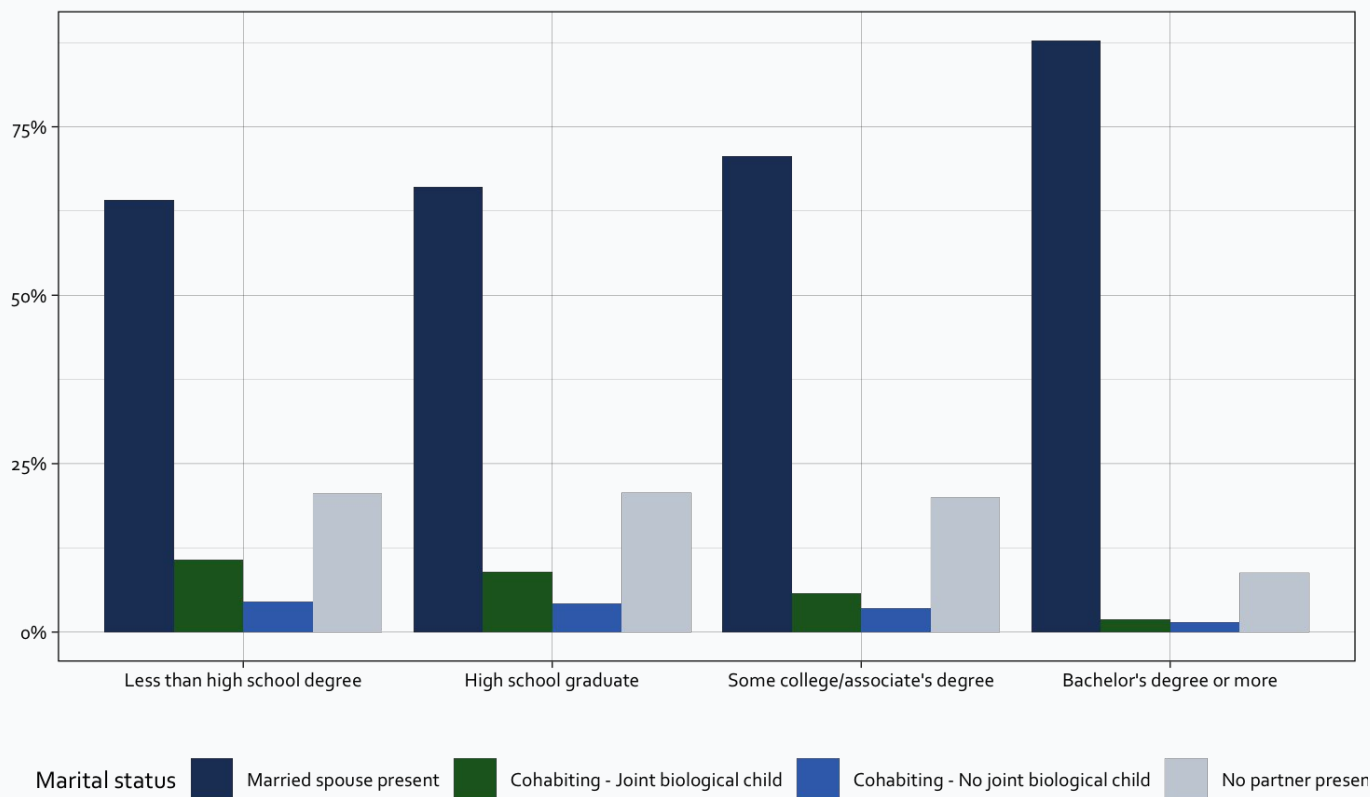
All parent-child situations, by family type



Unmarried two-parent families began being counted in 2007. Same-sex parents included starting in 2019. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Historical Families Table FM-2

## Parents With Coresident Children Under 18

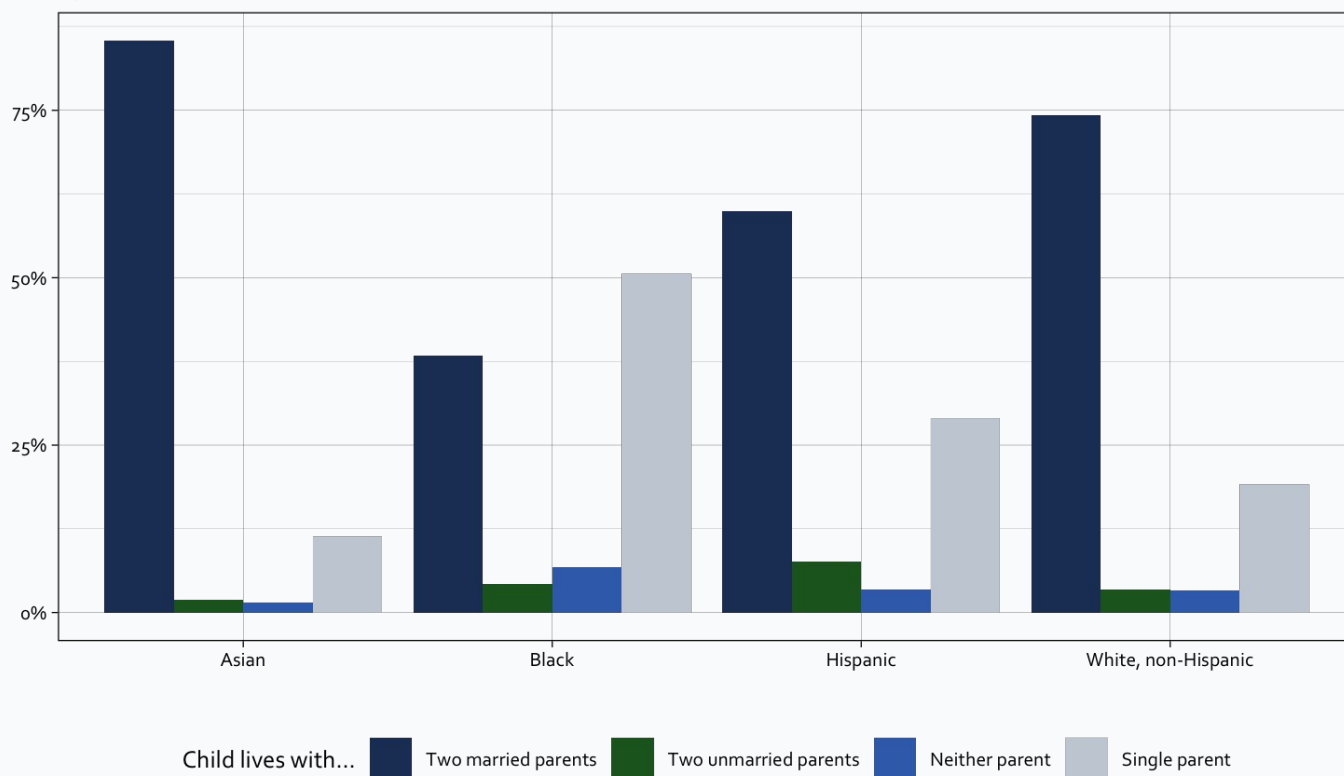
By living arrangement and parents' educational attainment (2021)



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

## Living Arrangements of Children Under 18 Years

By race (2021)

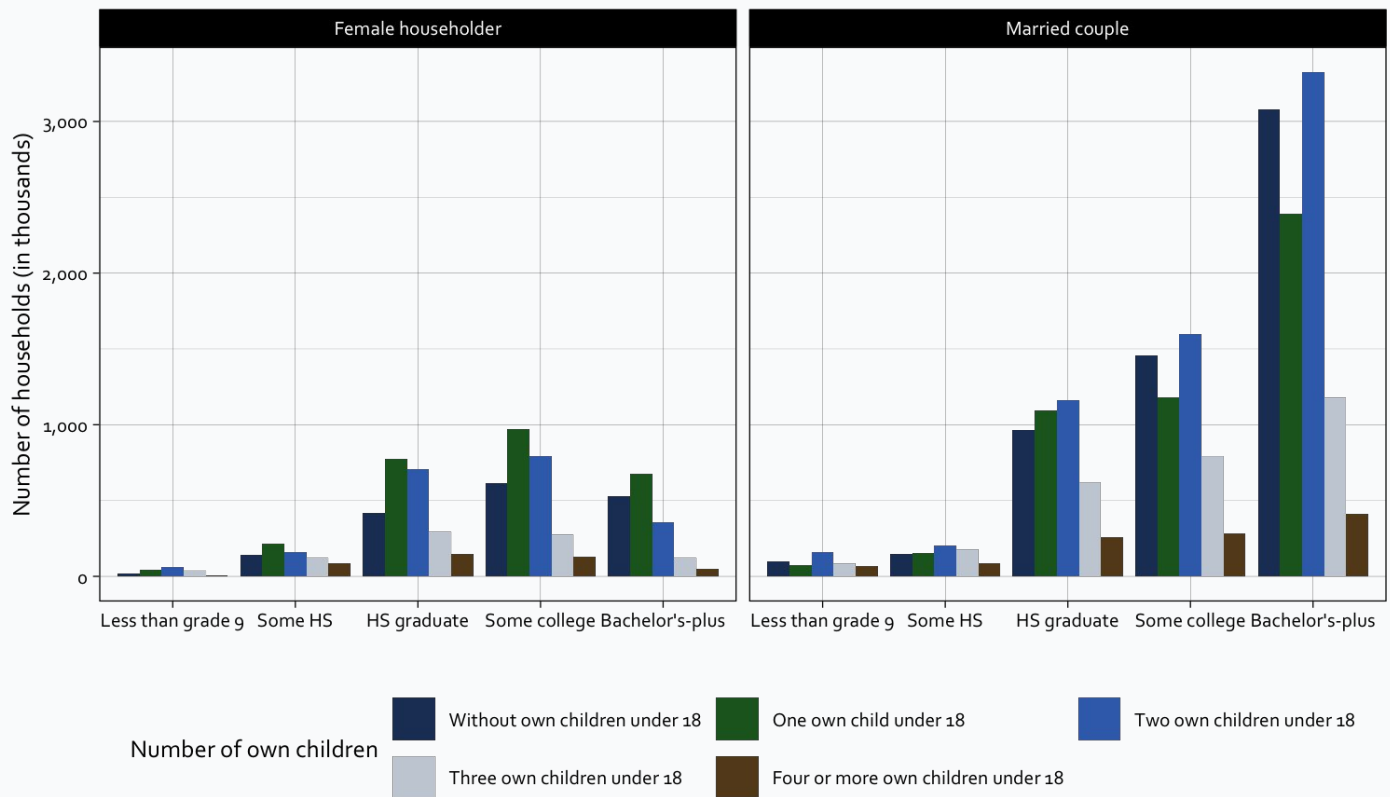


Hispanic can be of any race.

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

## Number of Own Children Among Householders Age 15-44

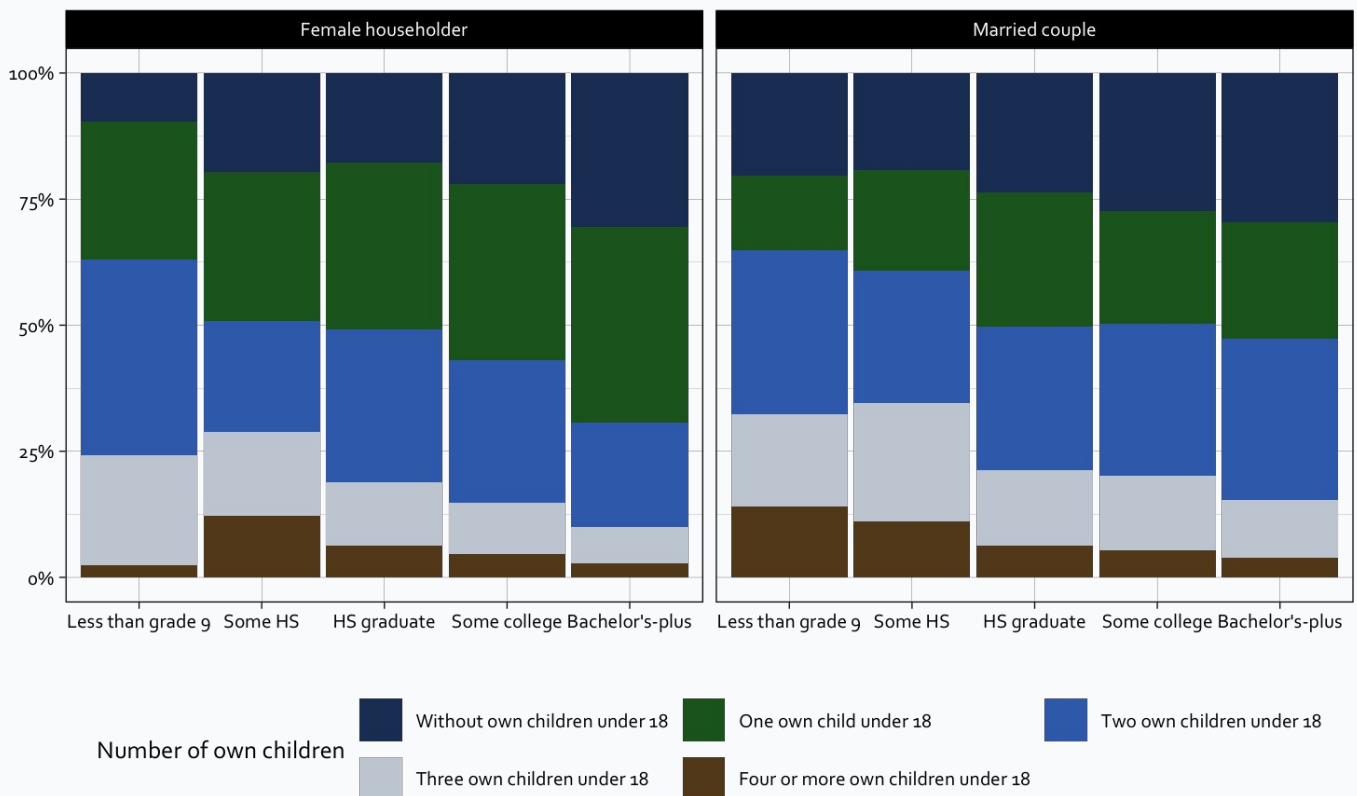
By household type and householder's education (2021)



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

## Share of Number of Children Among Householders Age 15-44

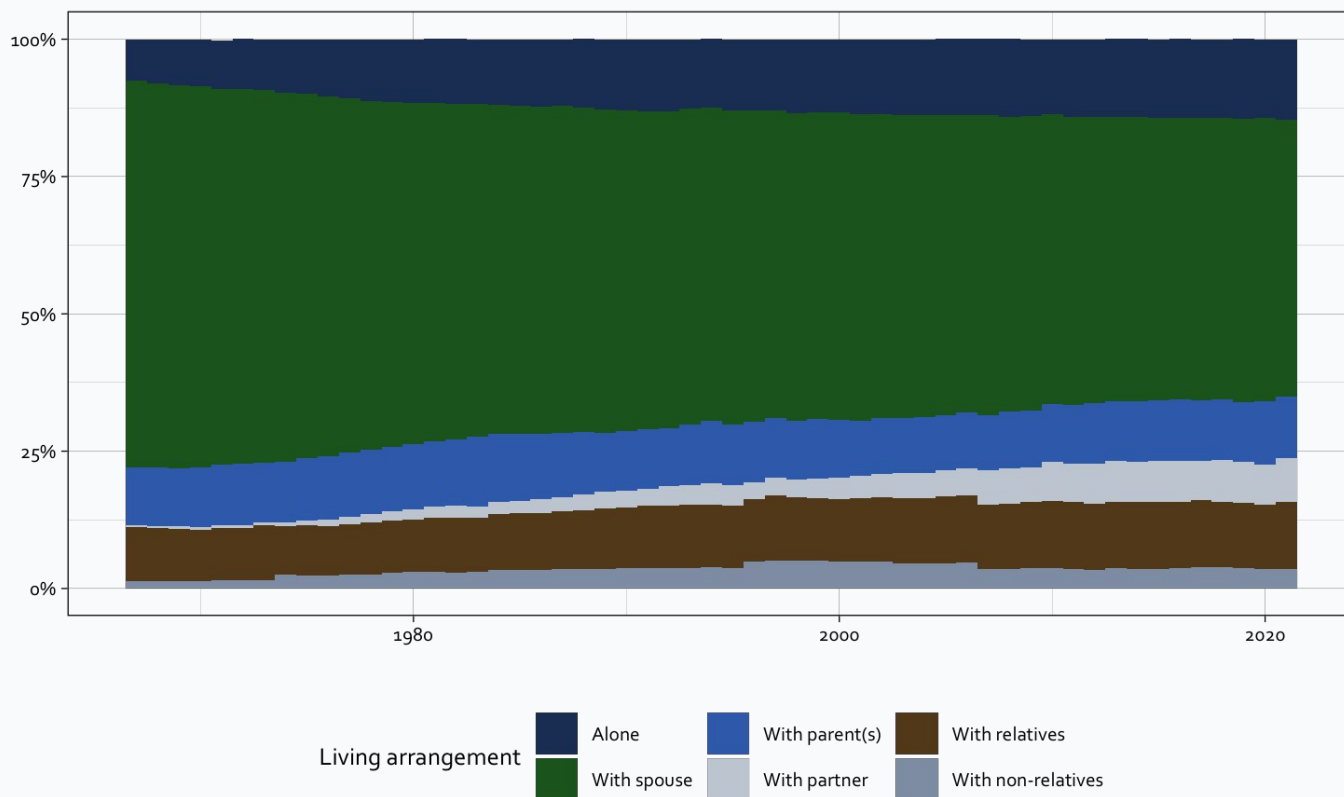
By household type and householder's education (2021)



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

## Living Arrangements of American Adults, 1967-2021

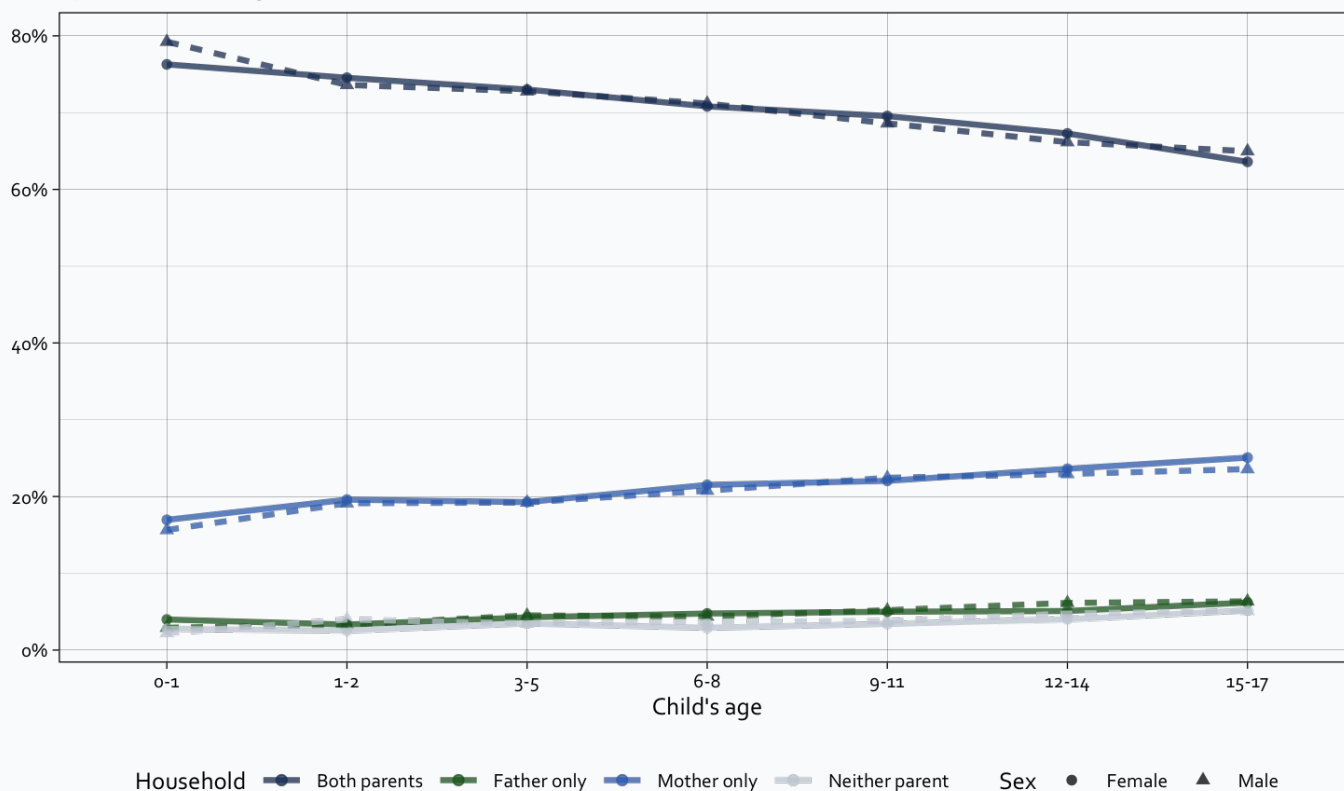
Among all adults 18 years of age and older



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Historical Families Table AD-3

## Living Arrangements for Children Under 18

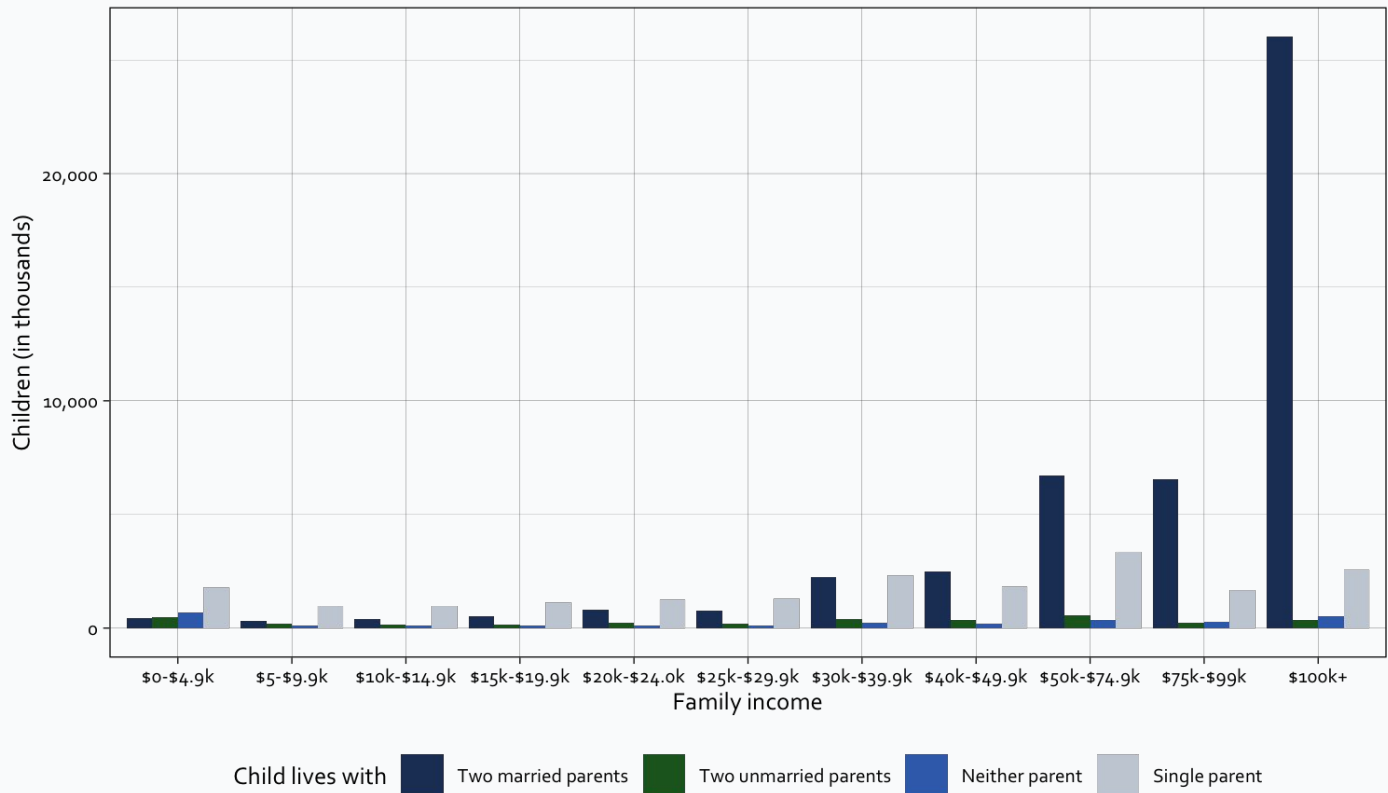
By child's sex and age (2021)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America's Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table C-2

## Living Arrangements of Children Under 18 Years

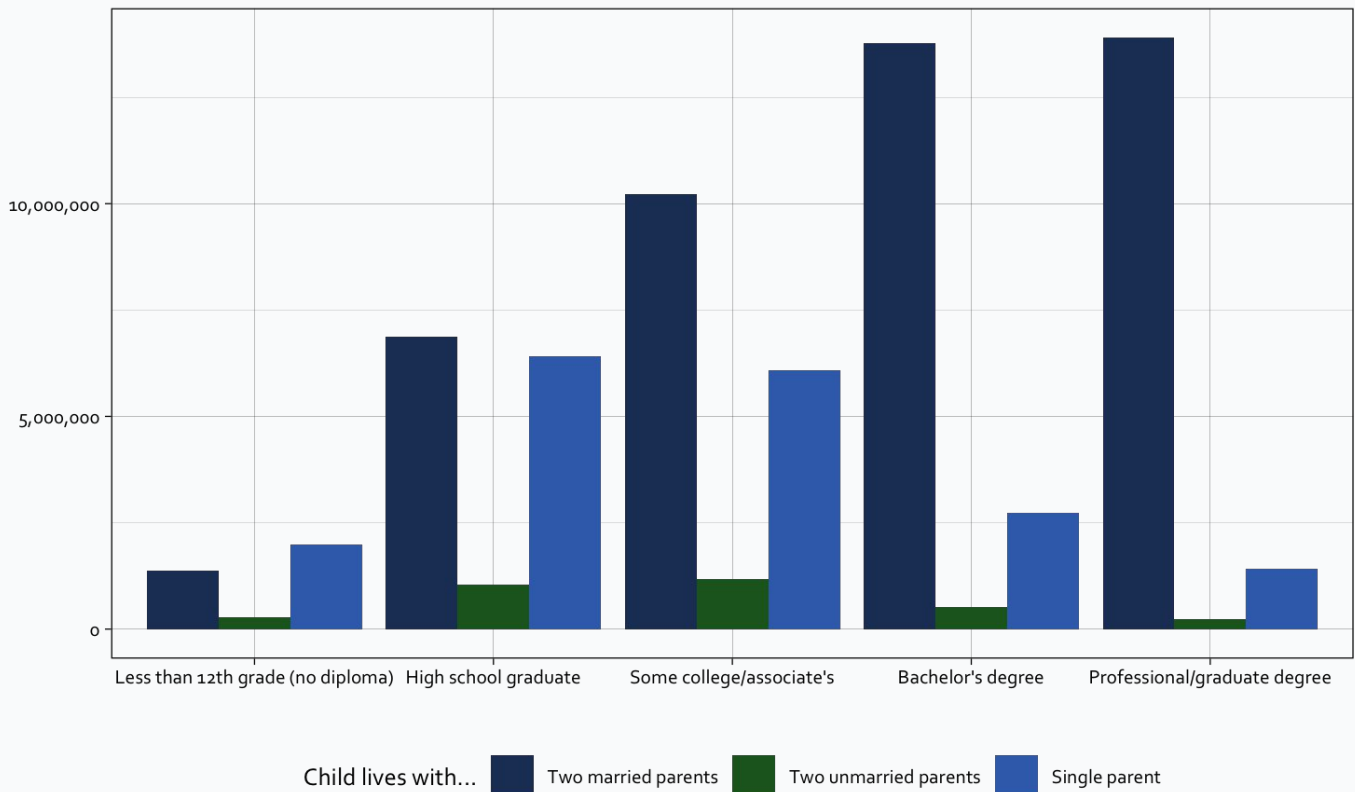
By family income (2021)



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)

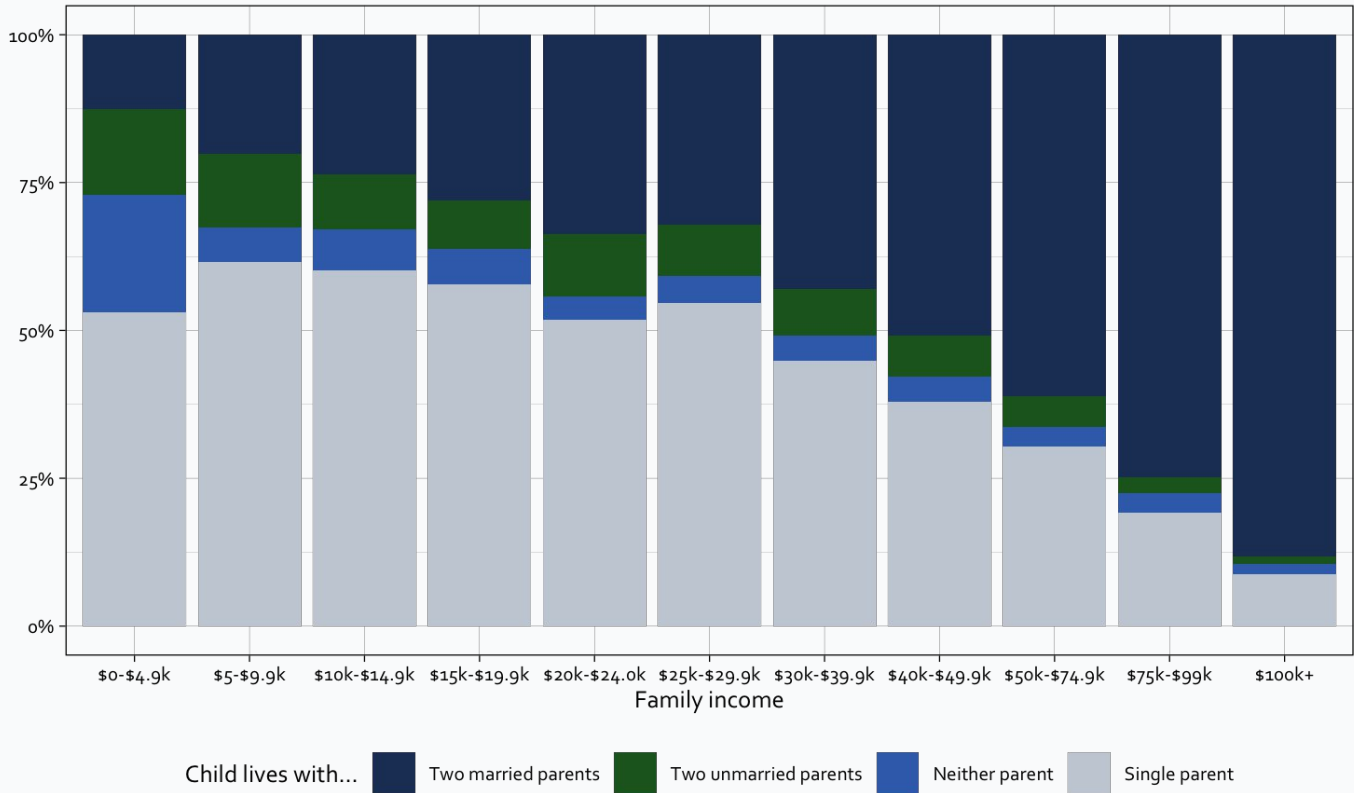


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America's Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table C-3



## Living Arrangements of Children Under 18 Years

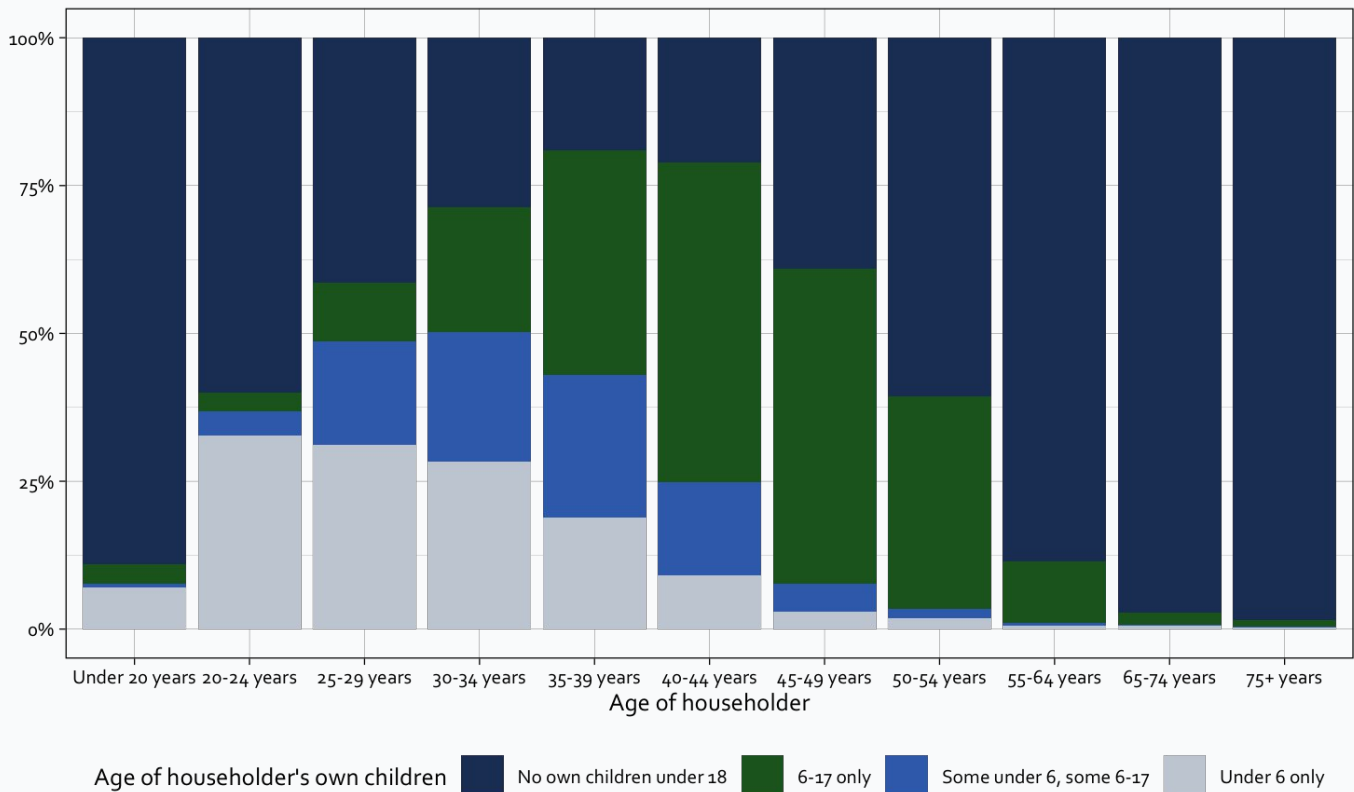
By family income (in 2021)



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

## Type of Family Households

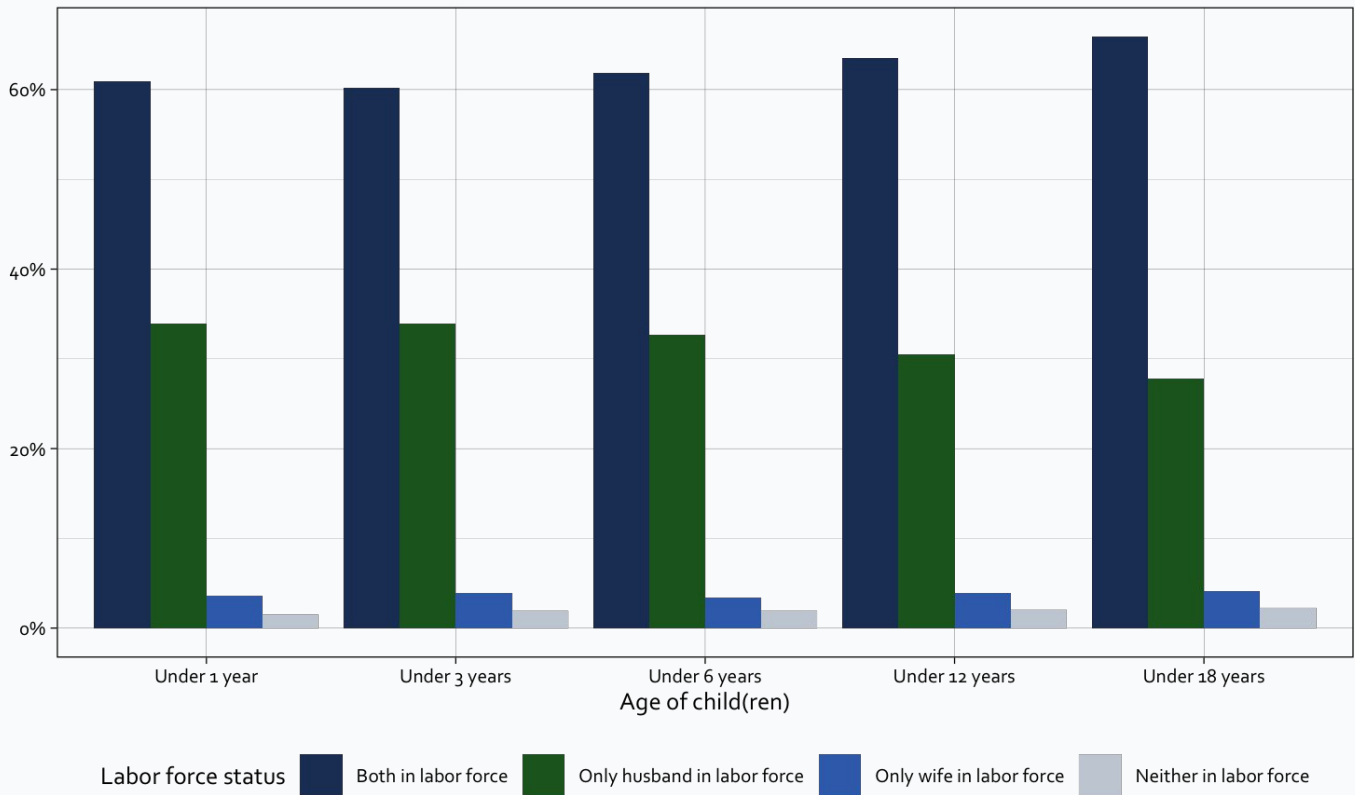
By age of householder and own children (2021)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America's Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table C-8

## Labor Force Participation of Opposite-Sex Married Parents

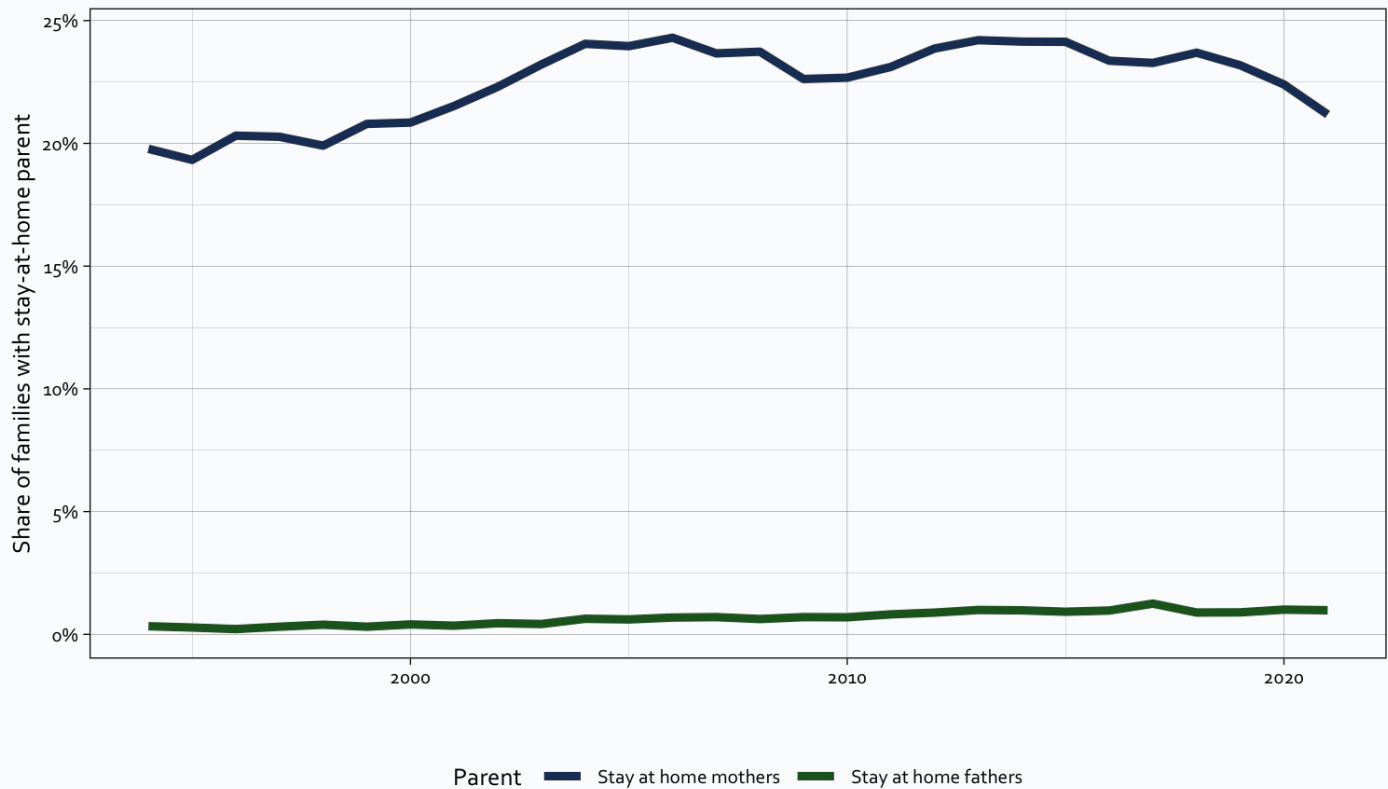
By age of own children (2021)



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

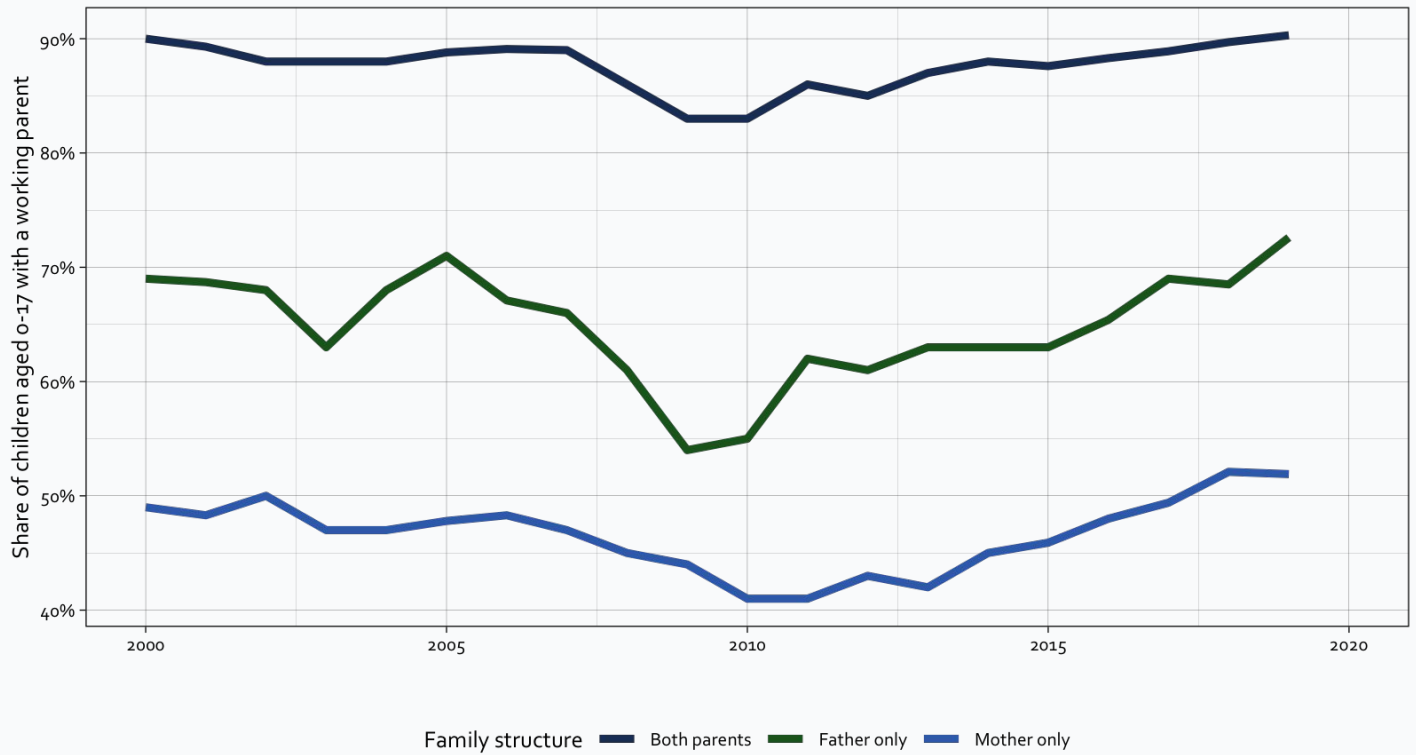
Among opposite-sex married-couple families with children under 15



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

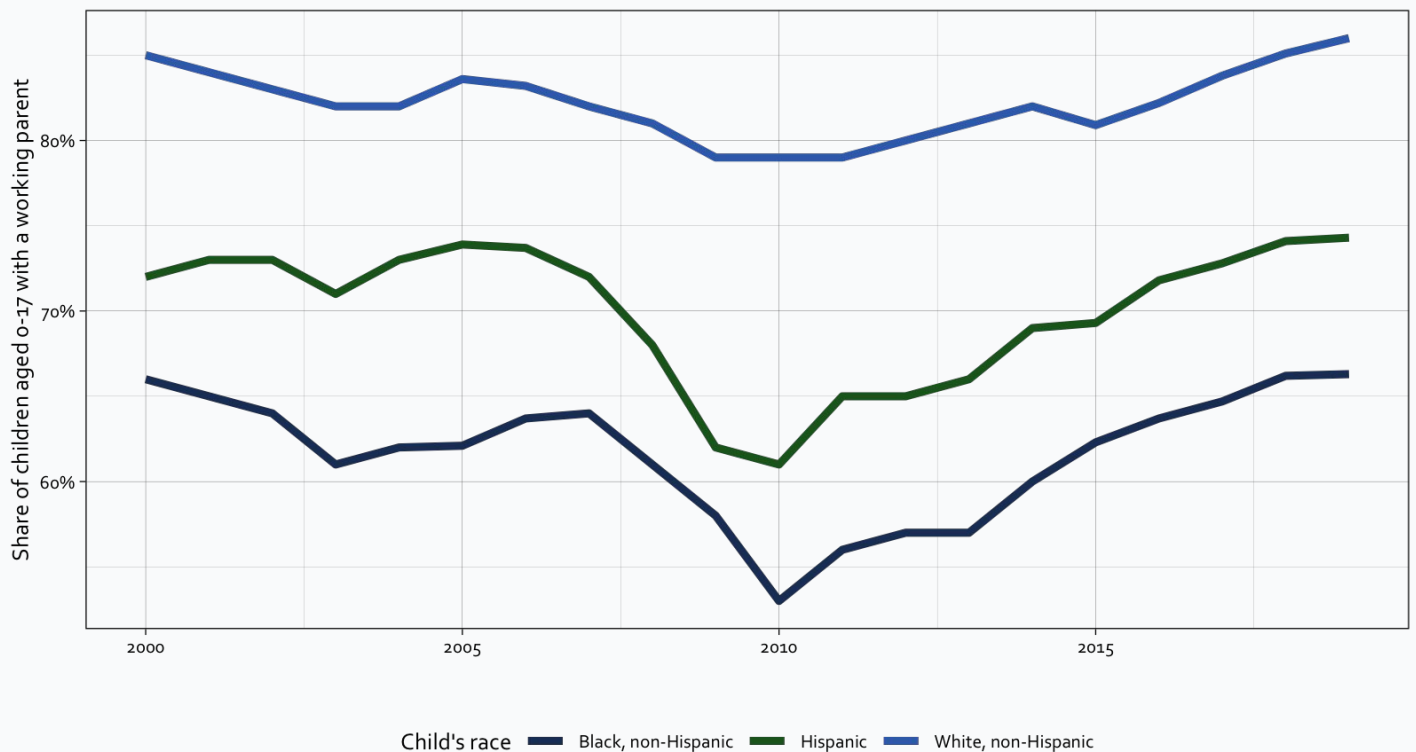
Share with parent(s) employed full-time, year-round, by family structure



Source: Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement, via ChildStats.gov

## Percentage of Children Living with at least One Working Parent, 2000-2019

Share with parent(s) employed full-time, year-round, by race

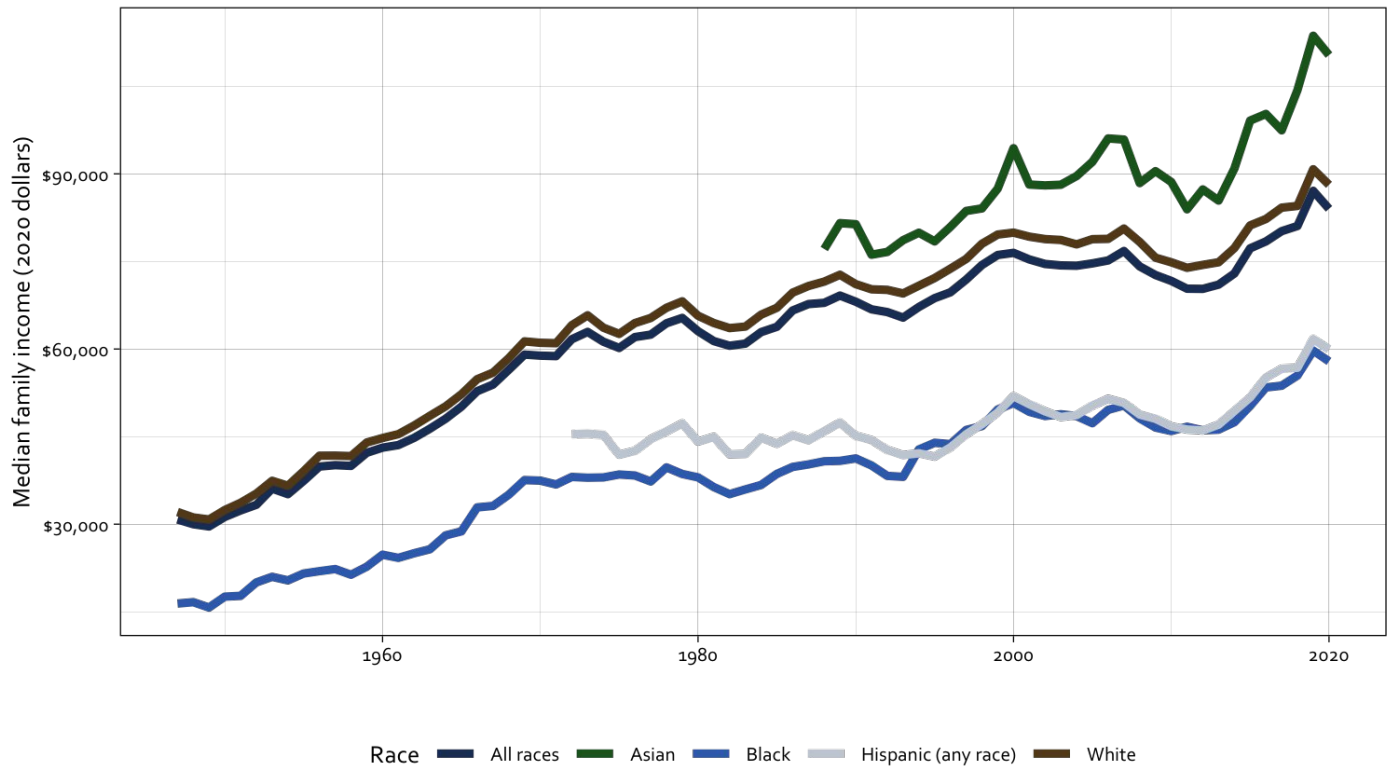


Source: Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement, via ChildStats.gov

# INCOME & FINANCES

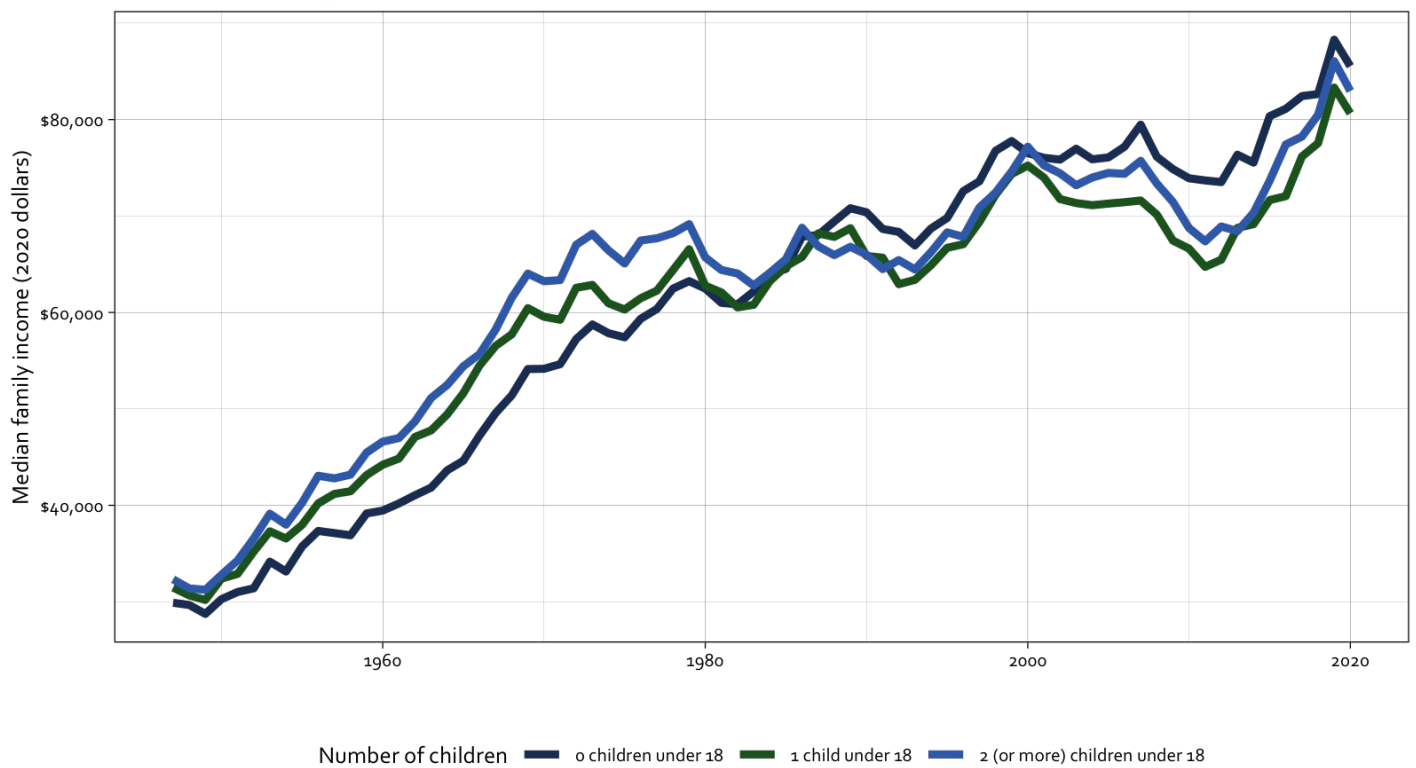
## Median Family Income, 1947-2020

By race/ethnicity of householder



All amounts in 2020 CPI-U-RS adjusted dollars.  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Historical Income Table F-5

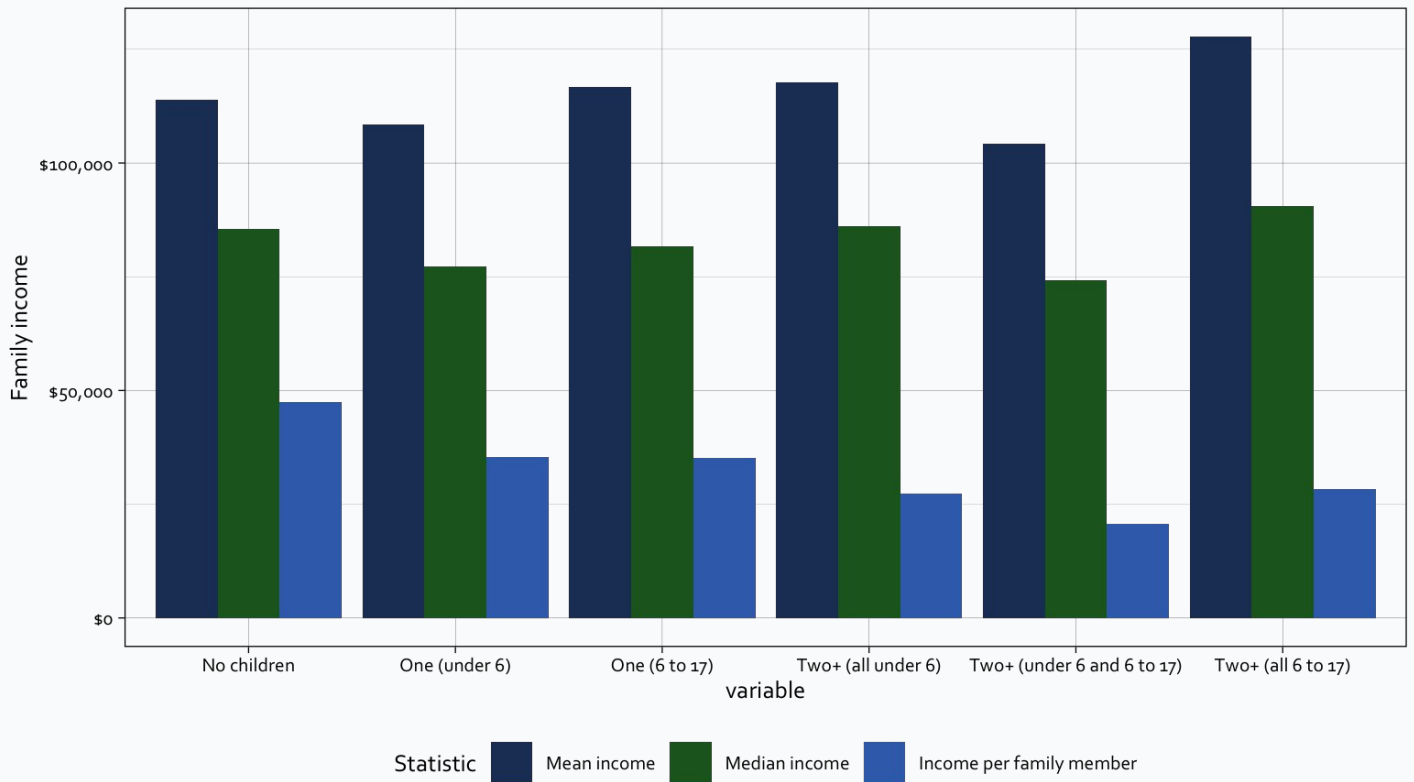
## Median Income by Number of Children Under 18, 1947-2020



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

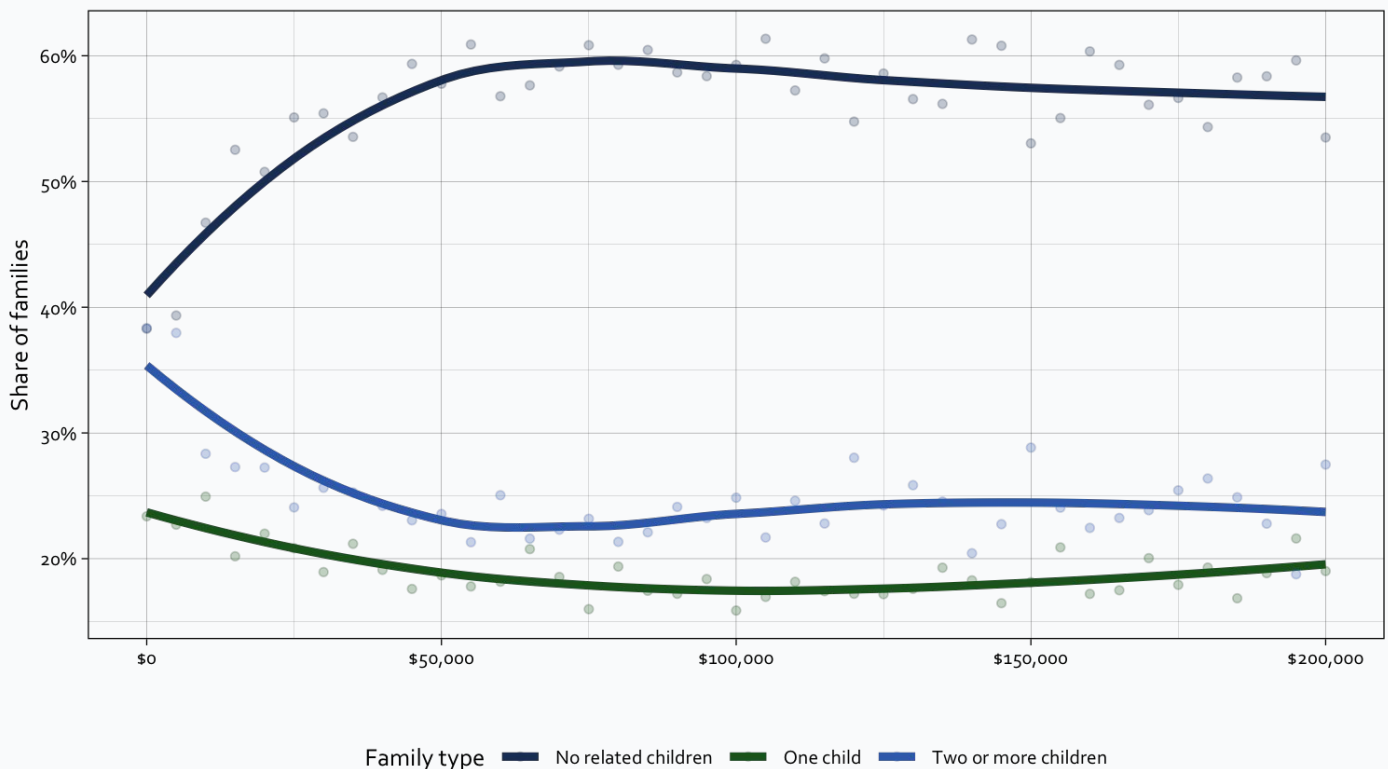
By presence and age of own children (all families)



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)

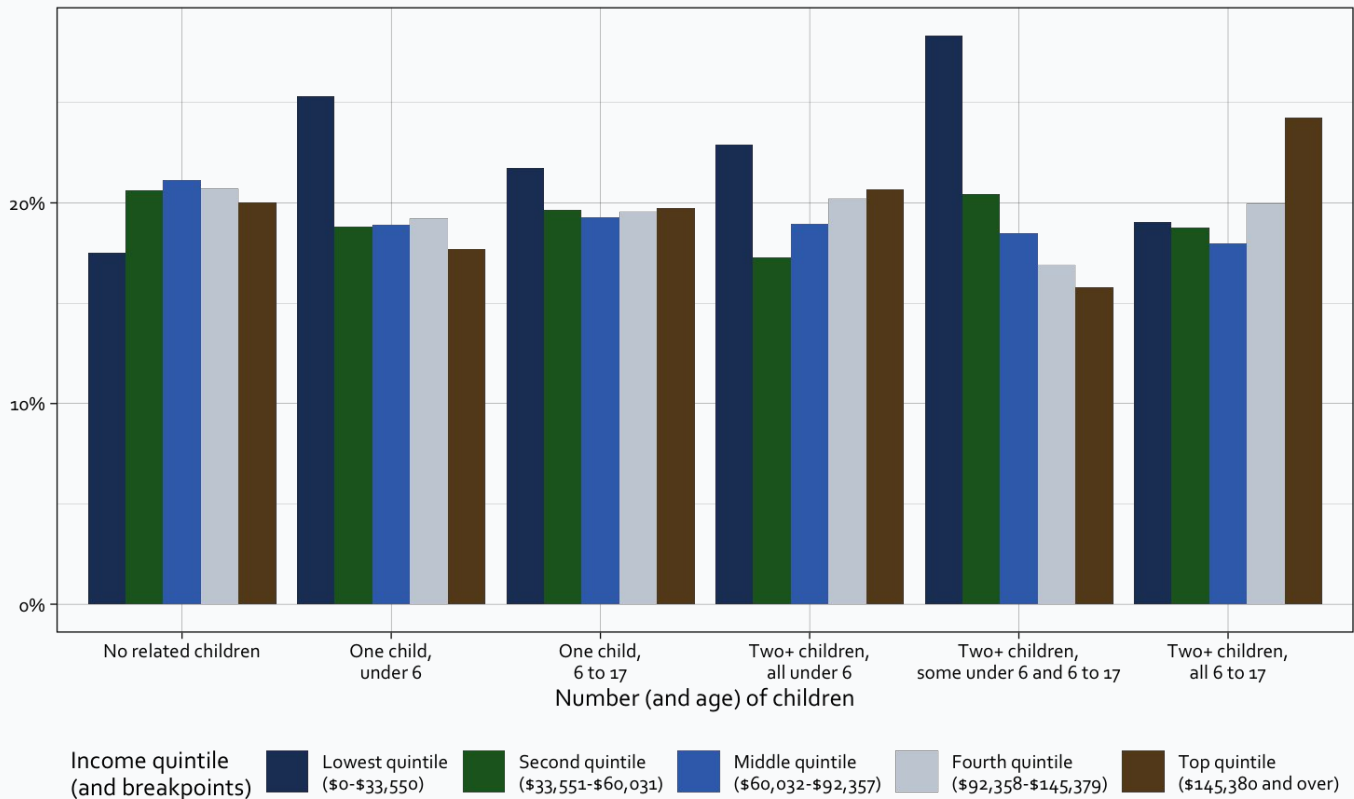


Data smoothed via Loess. Income topcoded at \$200,000.

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

## Family Income Quintile

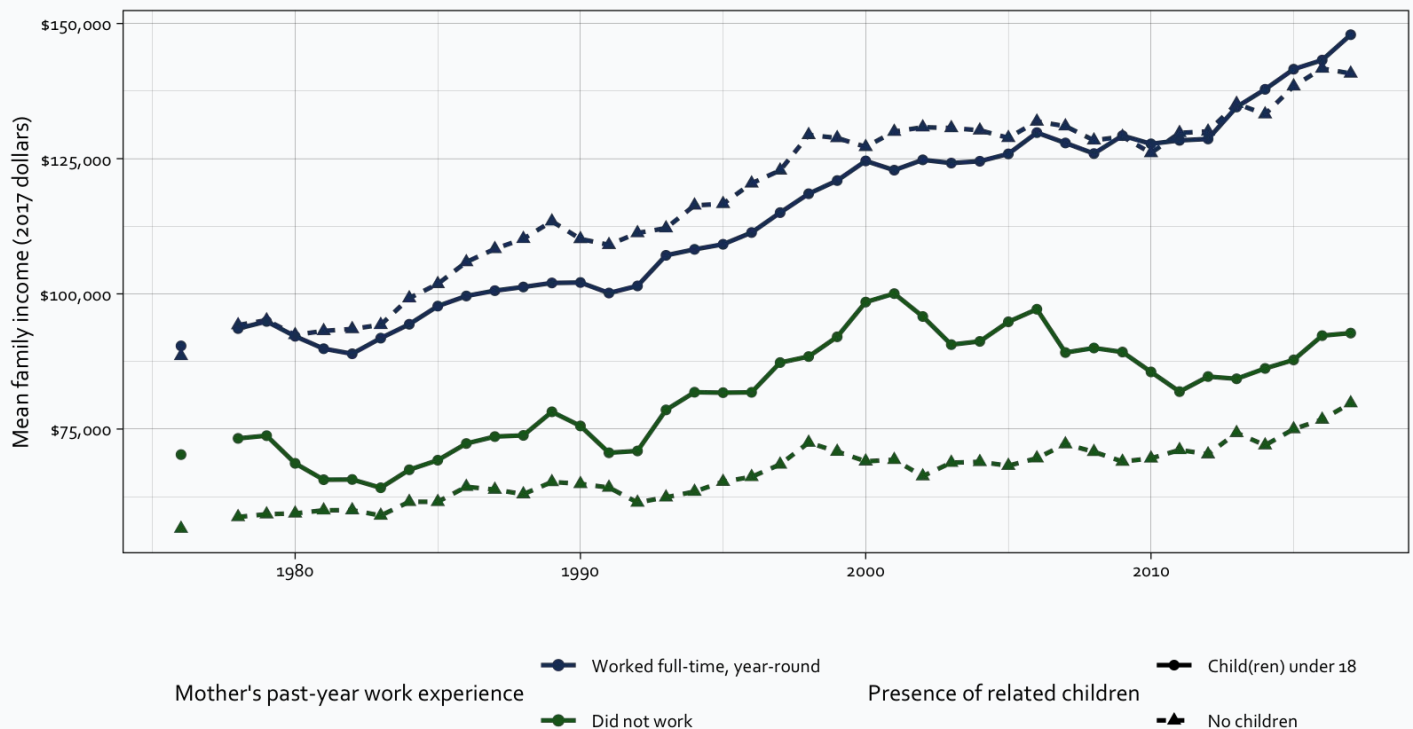
By age and presence of children (all families)



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

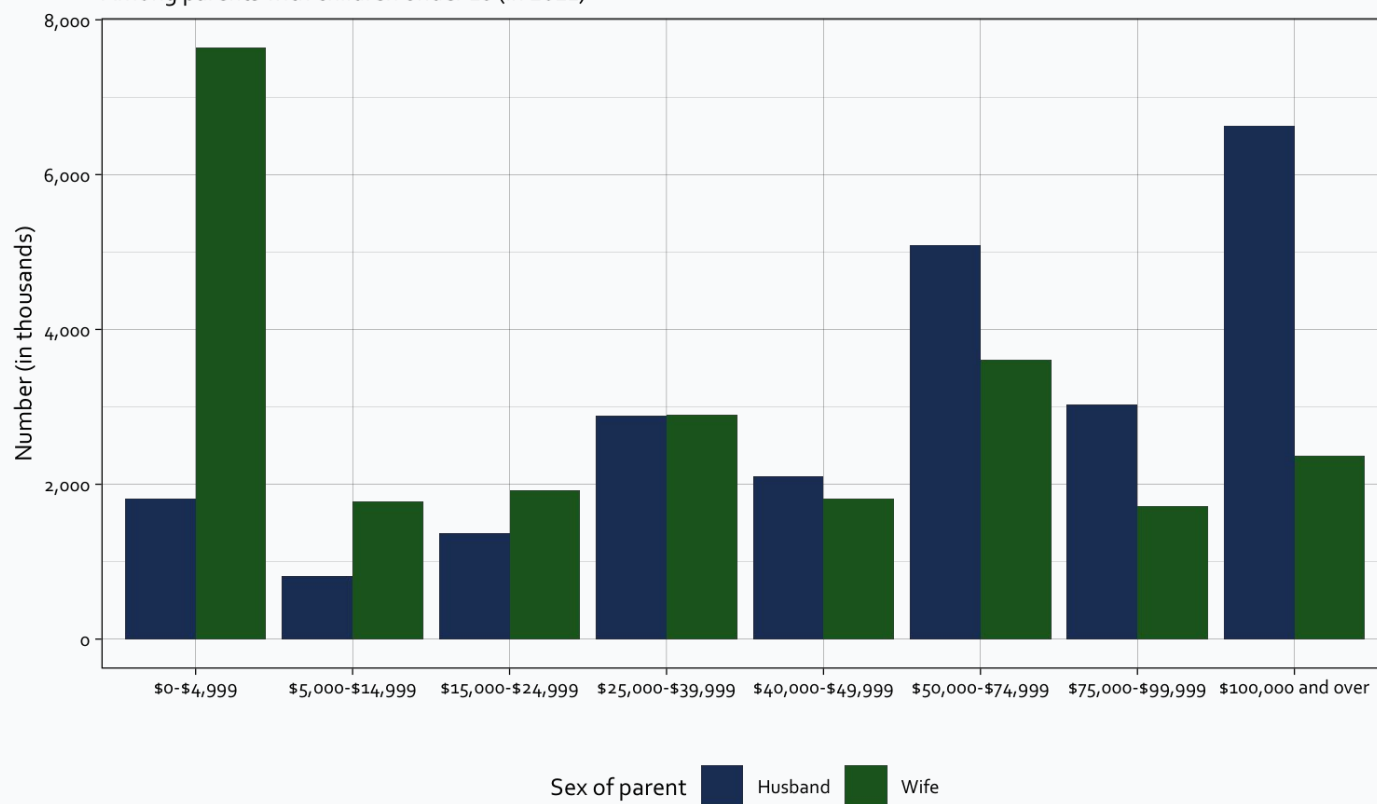
By wife's work experience and presence of children under 18



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

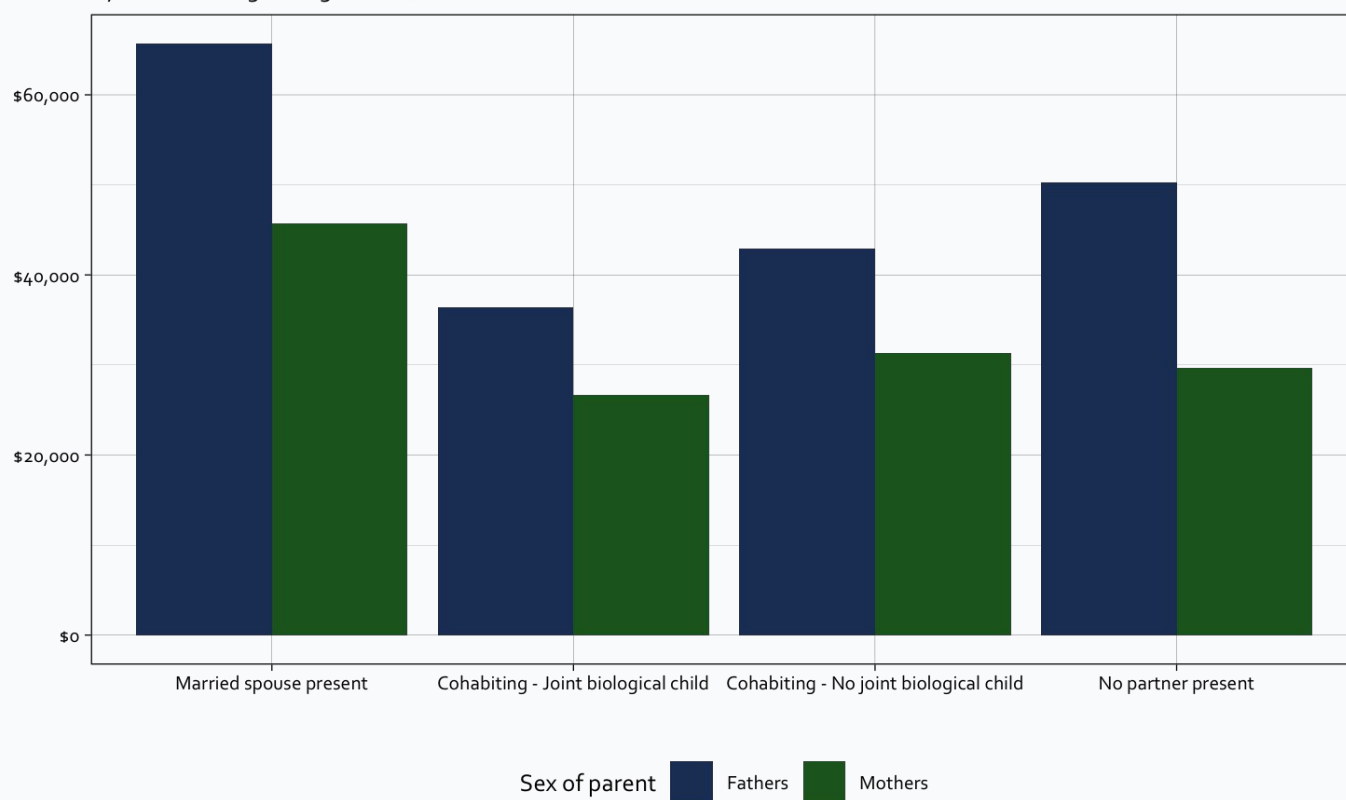
Among parents with children under 18 (in 2021)



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)

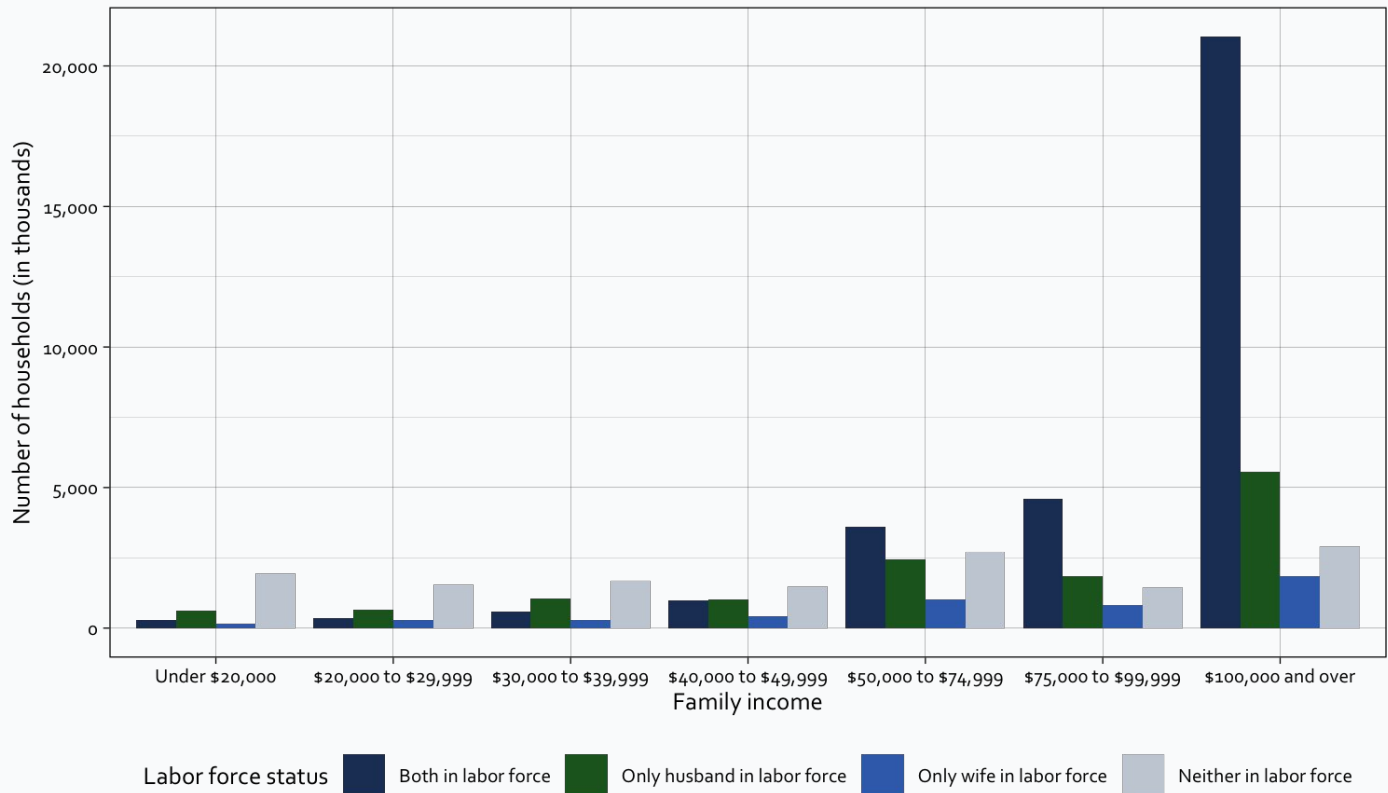


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America's Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table A-3



## Family Income Among Opposite-Sex Married Couple Households

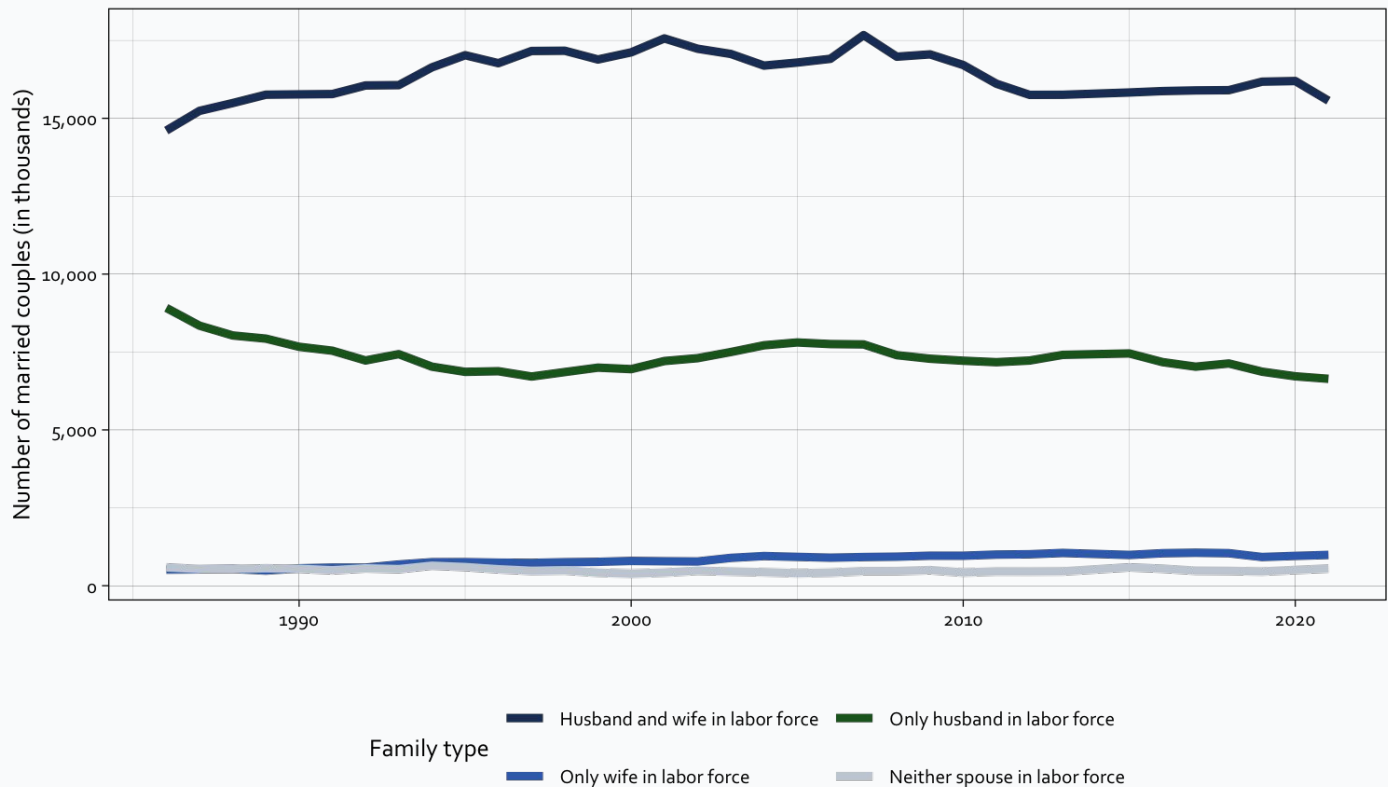
By spousal labor force participation (in 2021)



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

## Parental Labor Force Participation, 1986-2021

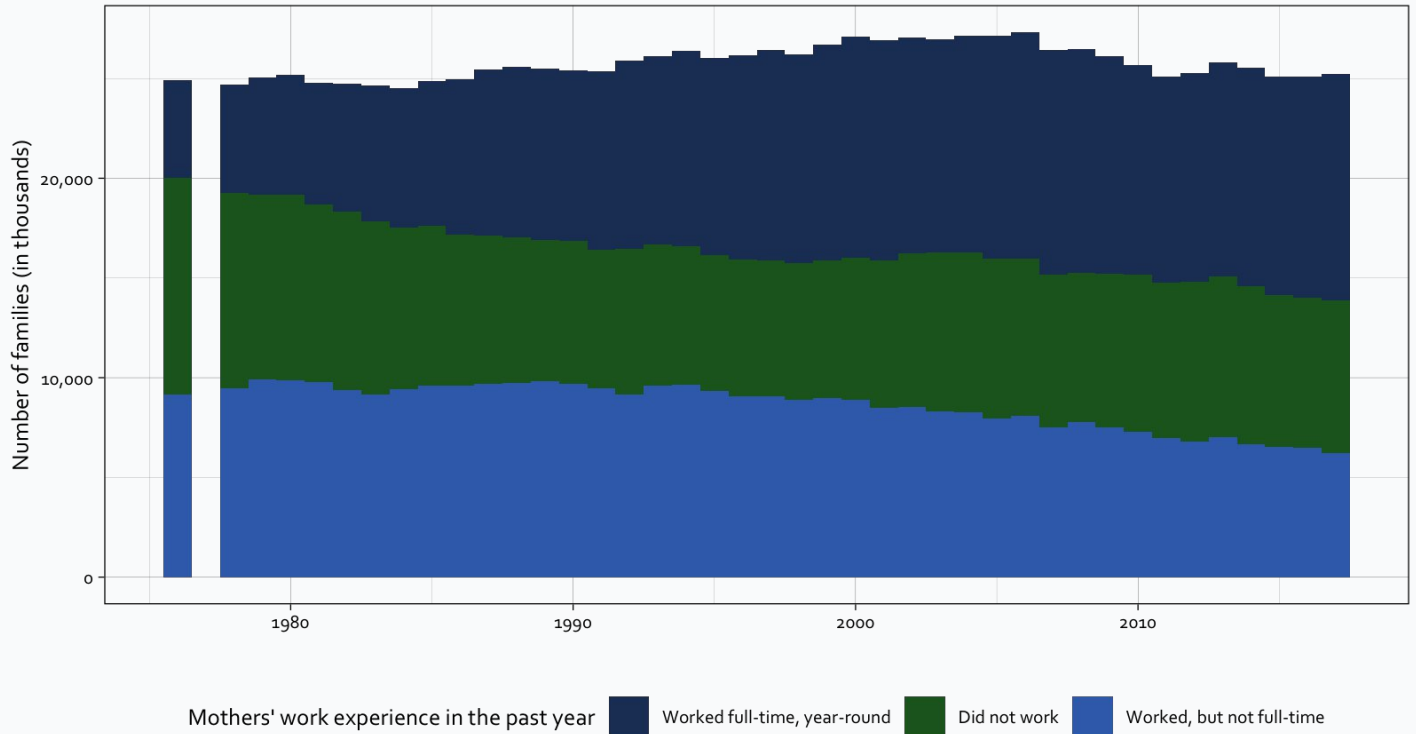
Among opposite-sex married couples with children under 18



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

## Work Experience of Married Mothers, 1976-2017

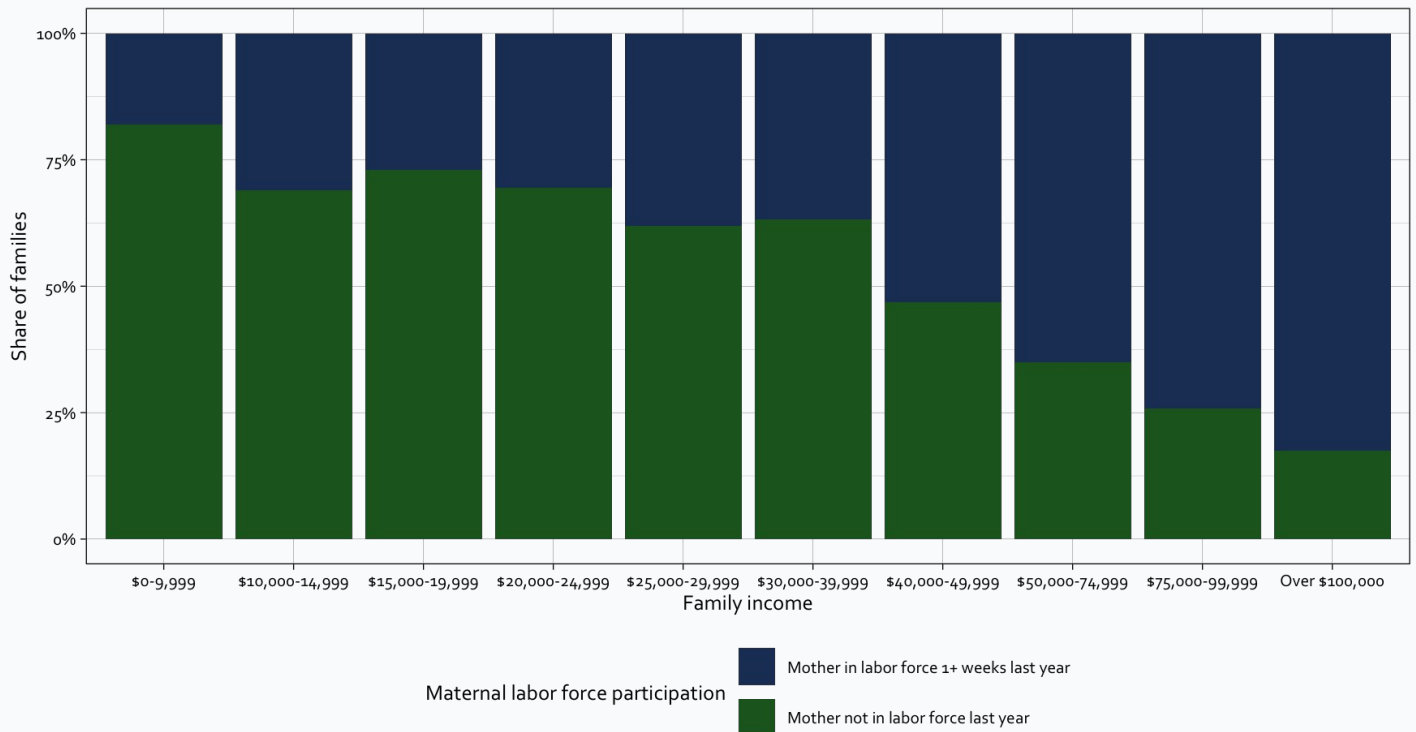
Among married-couple families with one or more children under 18



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

## Maternal Labor Force Participation, by Family Income (2021)

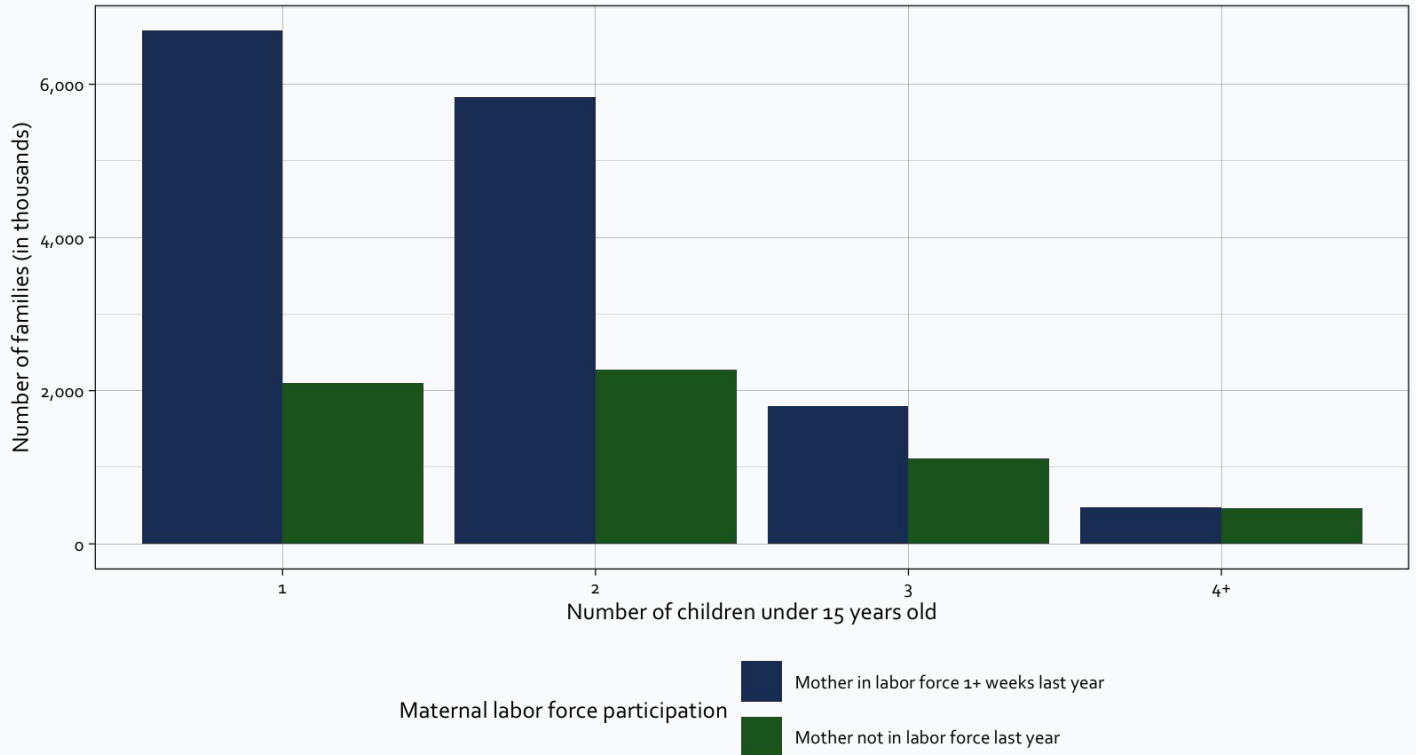
Among Opposite-Sex Married Couple Families With Children Under 15



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

## Maternal Labor Force Participation, by Number of Children (2021)

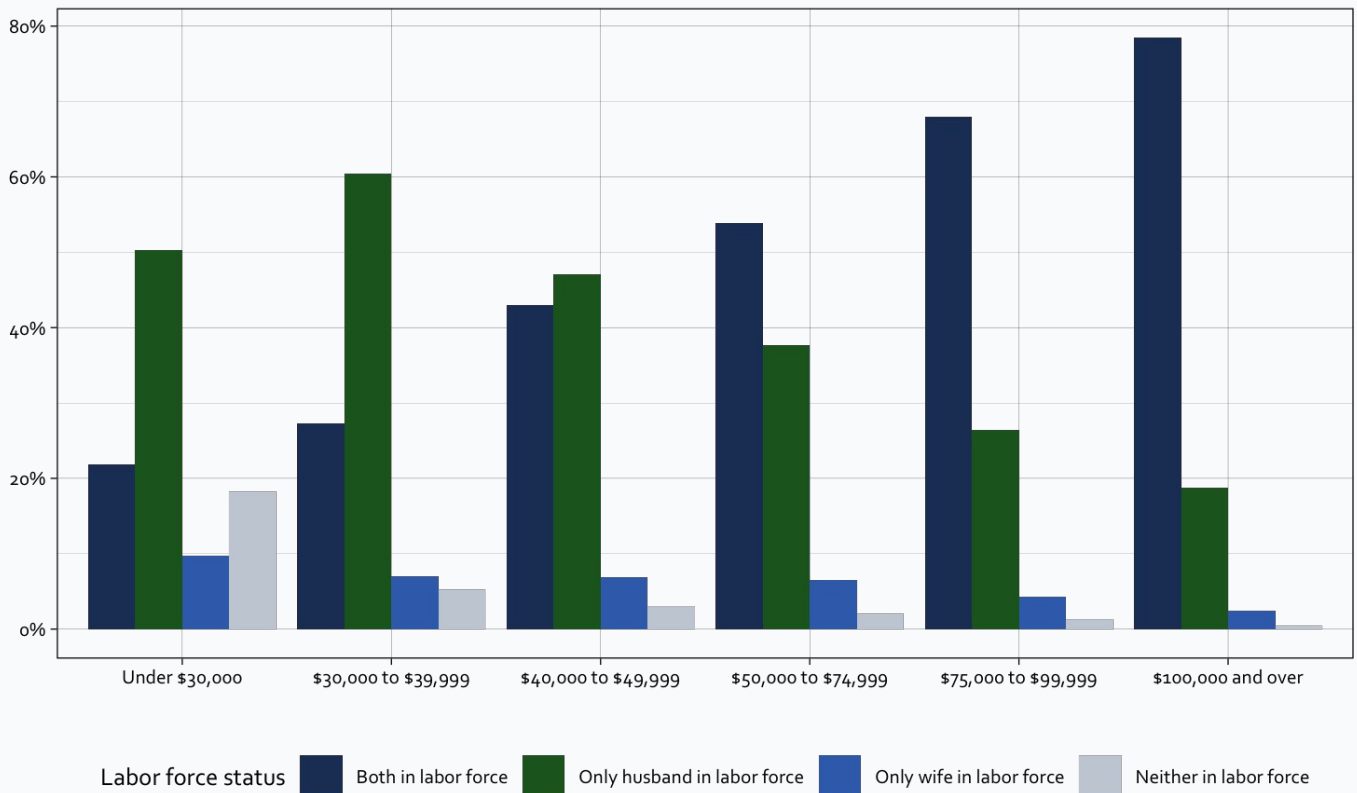
Among Opposite-Sex Married Couple Families With Children Under 15



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)

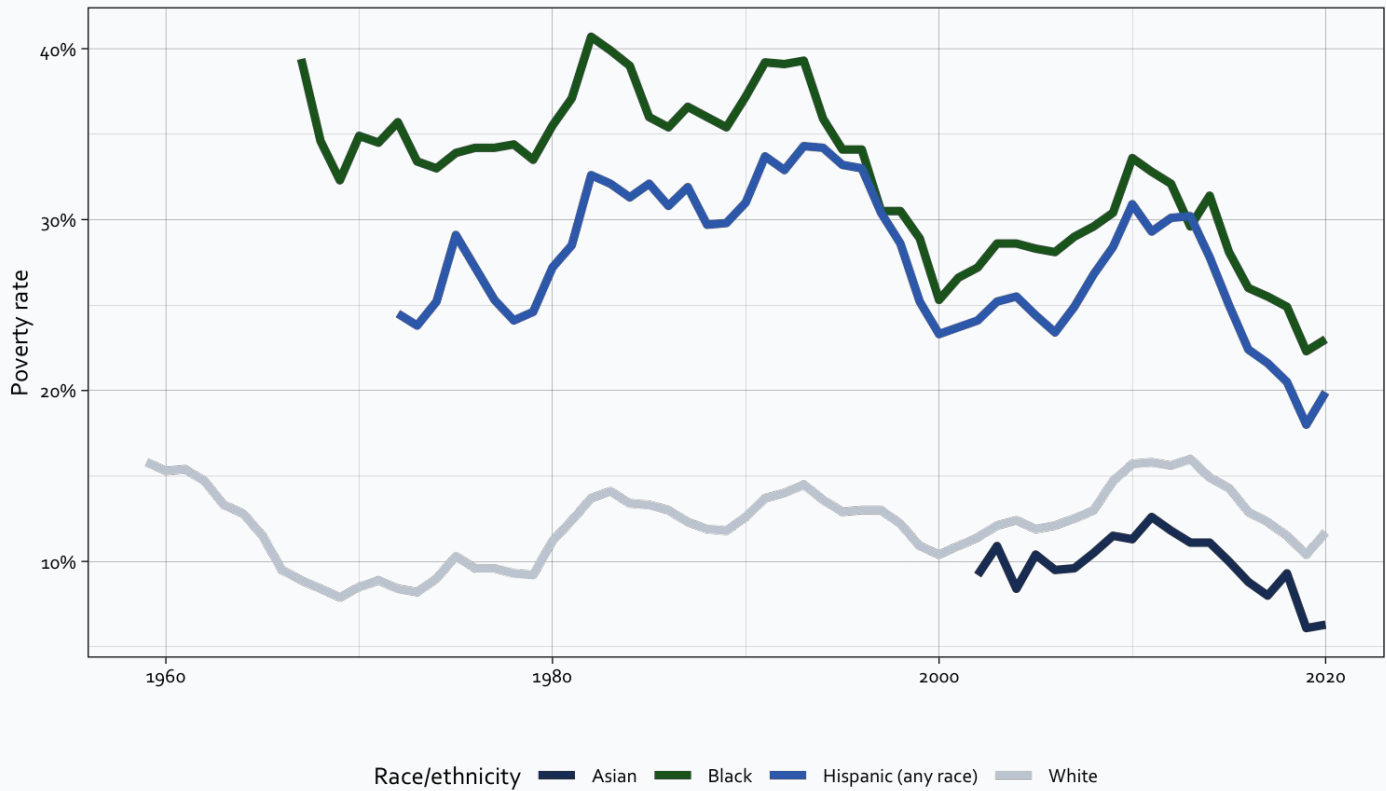


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America's Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table FG-1

POVERTY

## Poverty Rate Among Families with Child(ren) Under 18, 1959-2020

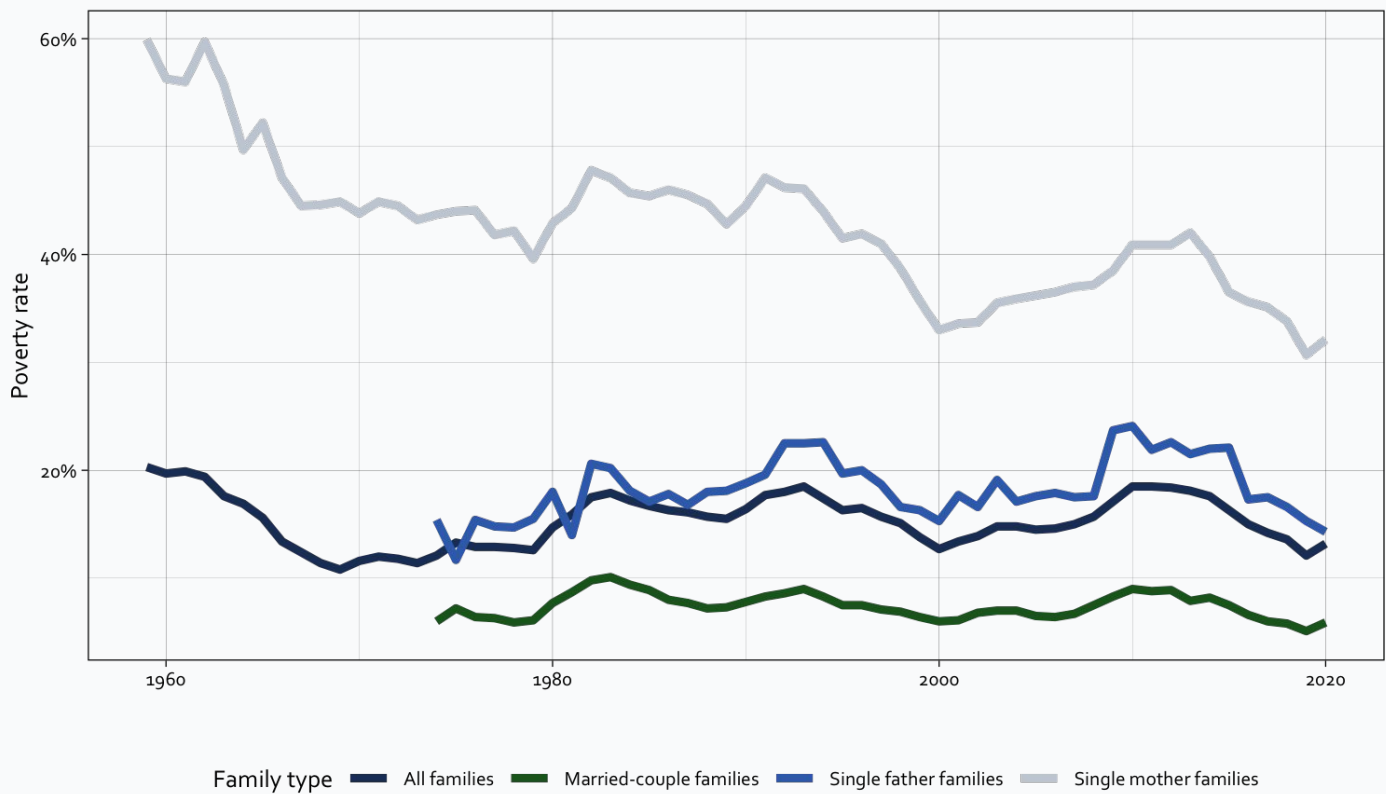
By race/ethnicity



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

## Poverty Rate Among Families with Child(ren) Under 18, 1959-2020

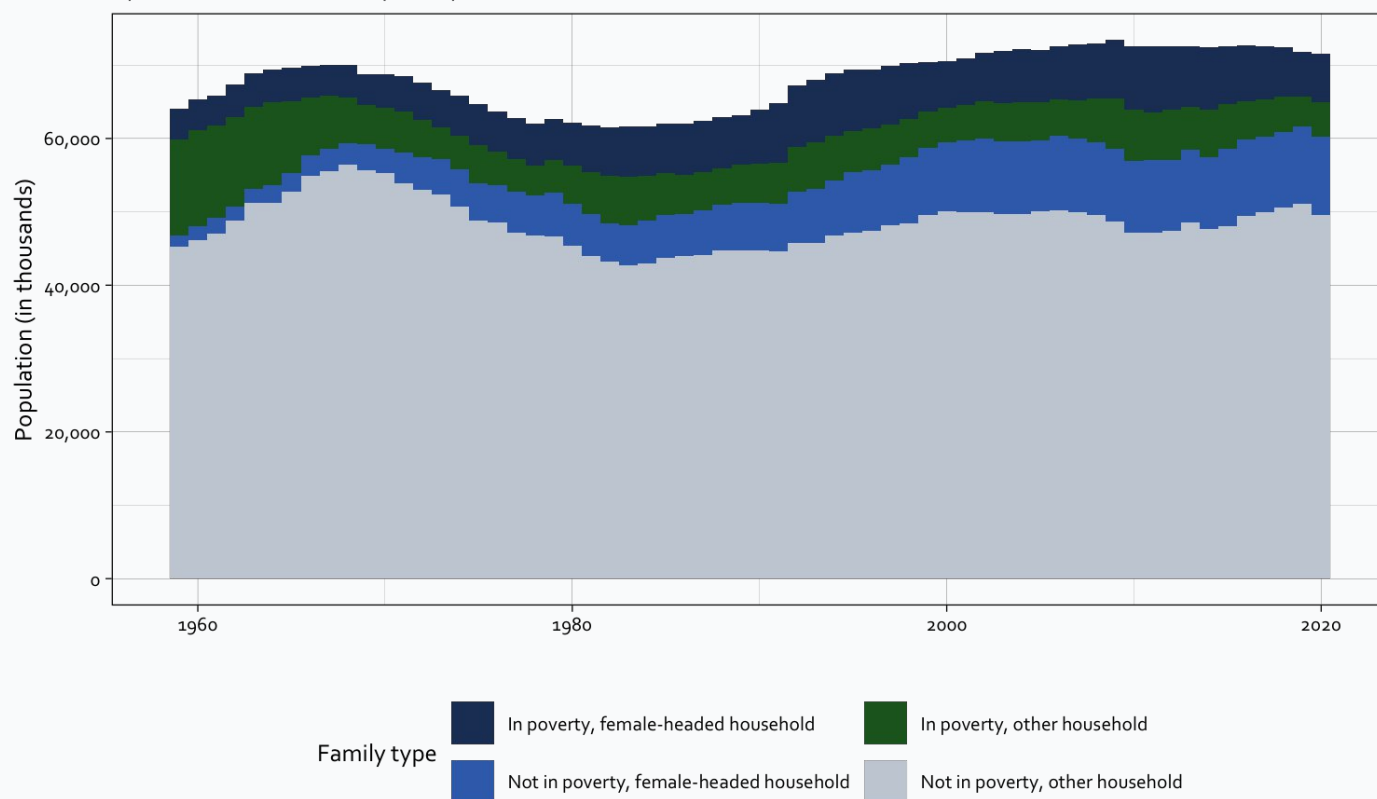
By family structure



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

## Families with Related Children, 1959-2020

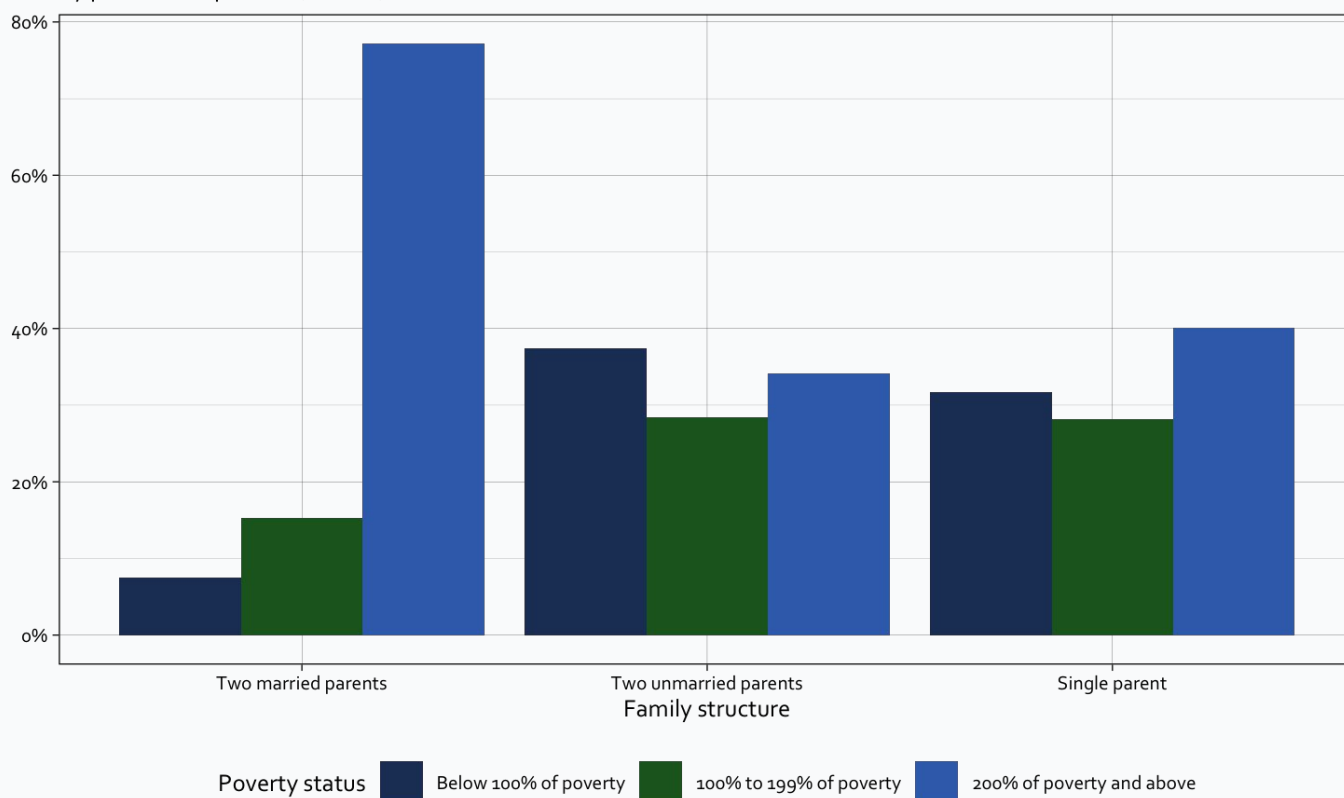
By head of household and poverty status



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

## Poverty Status for Children Under 18 Years

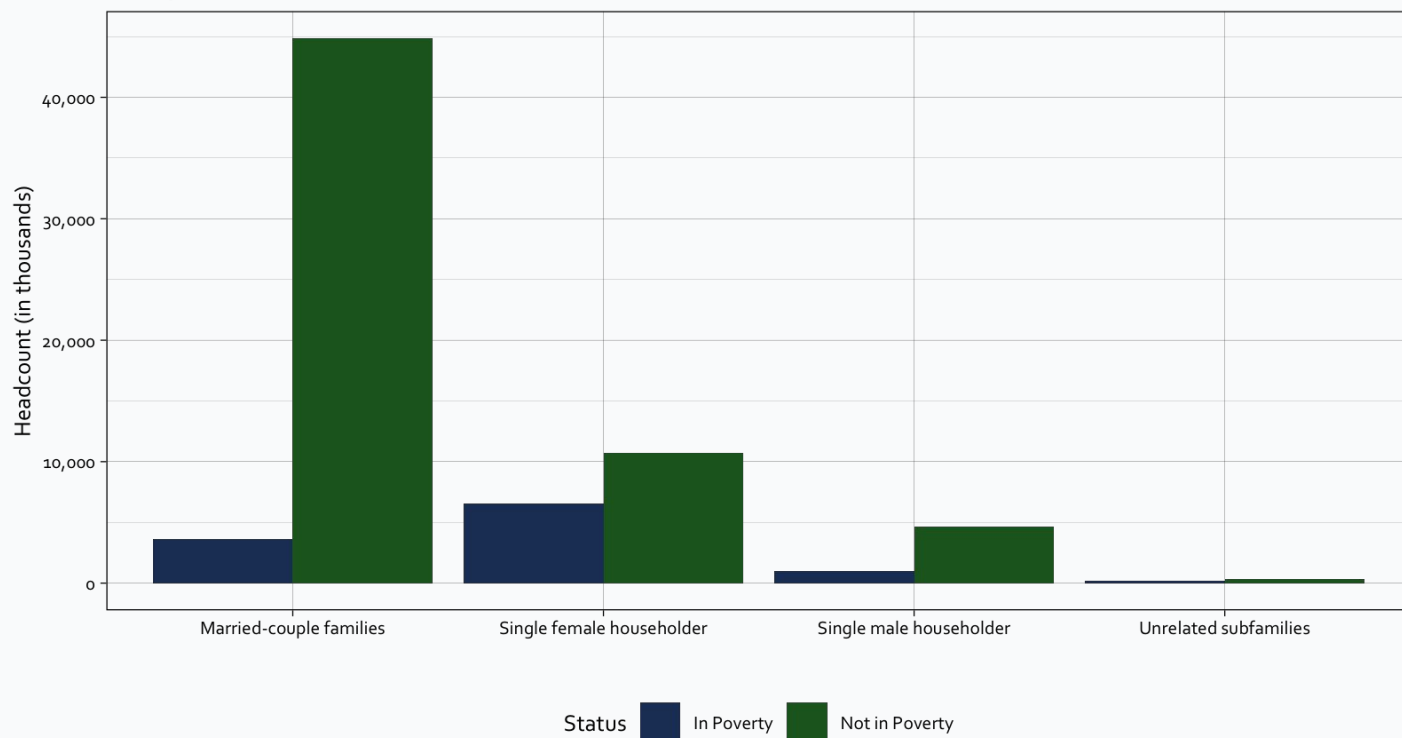
By presence of parents (in 2021)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America's Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table C-8

## Number of People Living in Poverty

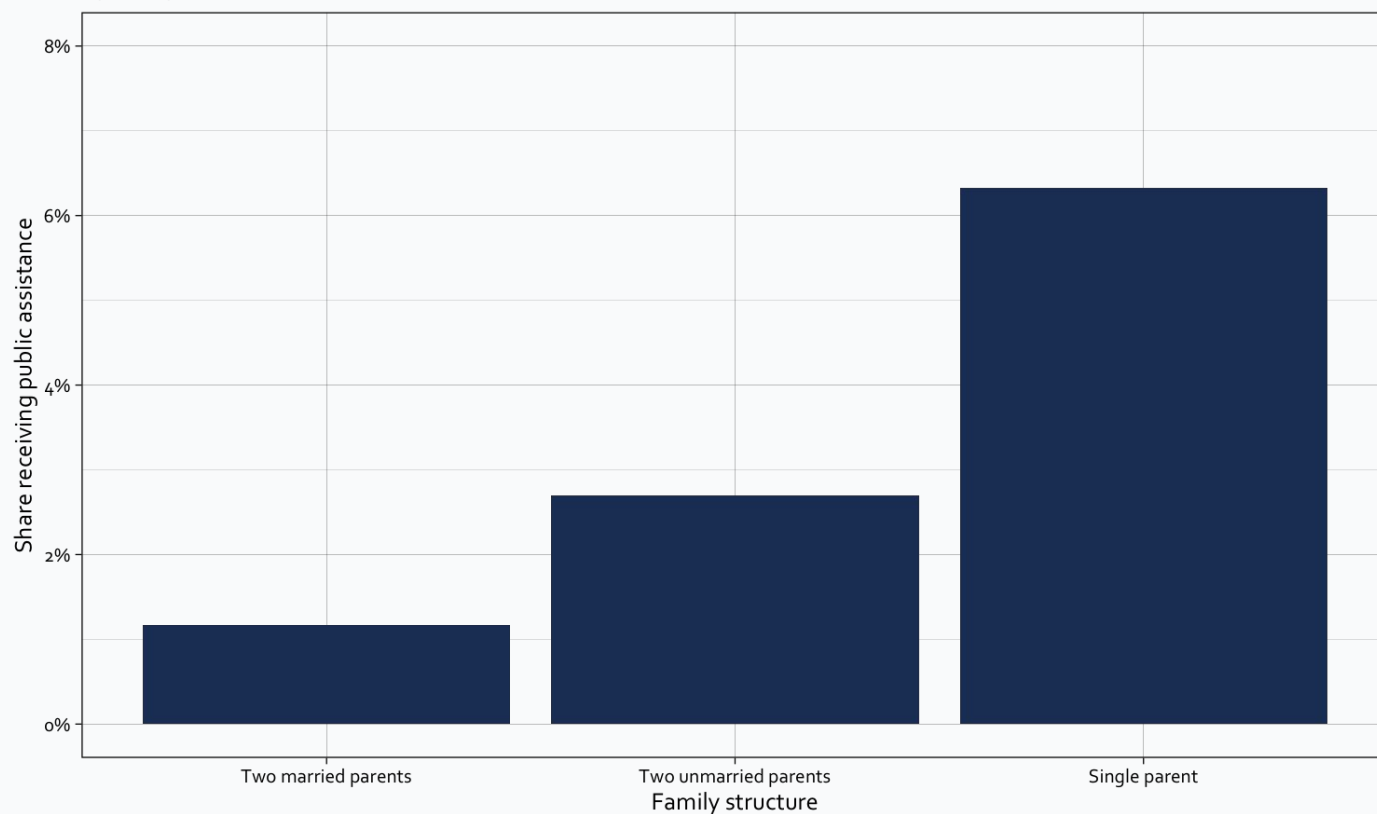
Among families with children under 18, by family type (in 2020)



Unrelated subfamilies are children under 18 not related by birth, marriage, or adoption to the householder.  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 'Income and Poverty in the United States: 2020,' Report No. P60-273

## Public Assistance Receipt among Children Under 18 Years

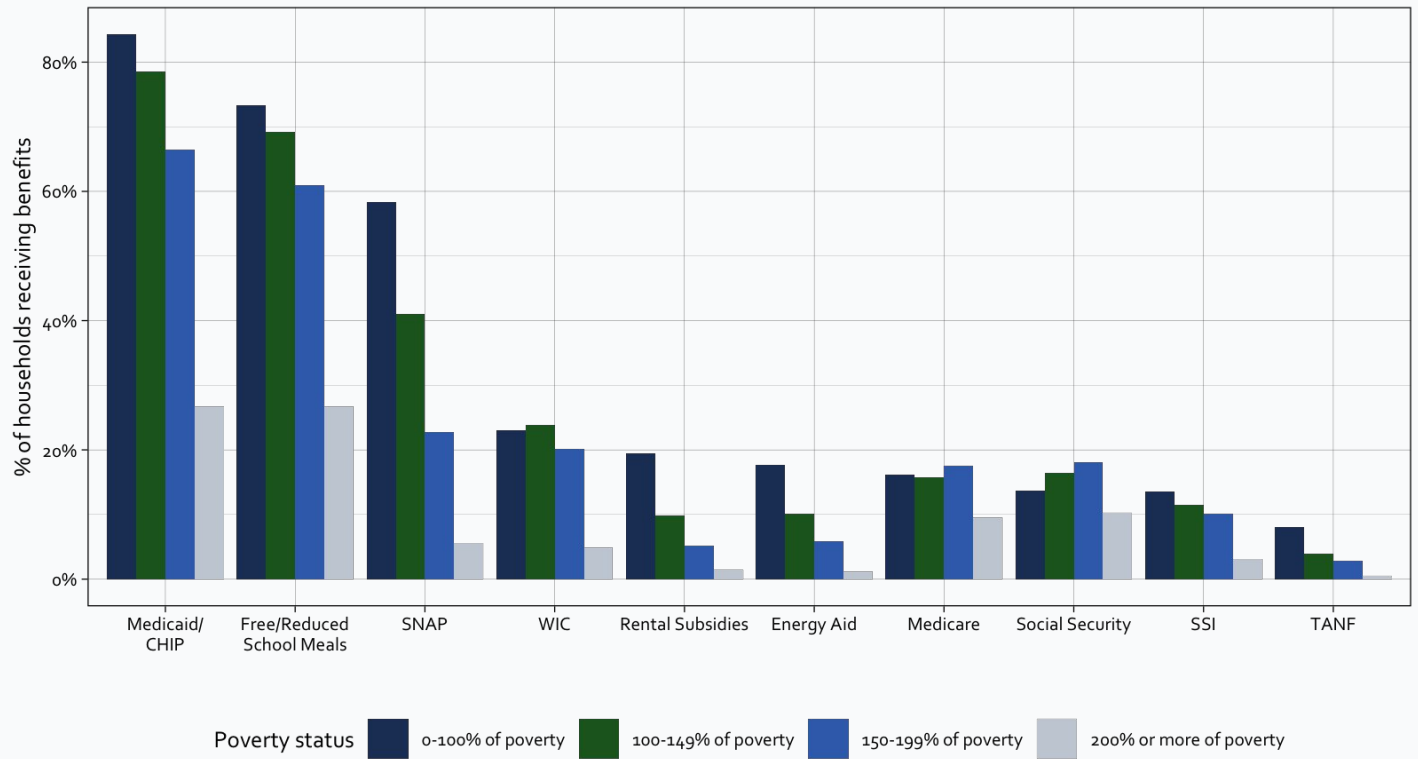
By family structure (in 2021)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America's Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table C-8

## Percentage of Households Receiving Select Social Safety Net Benefits (2019)

Among households with at least one child



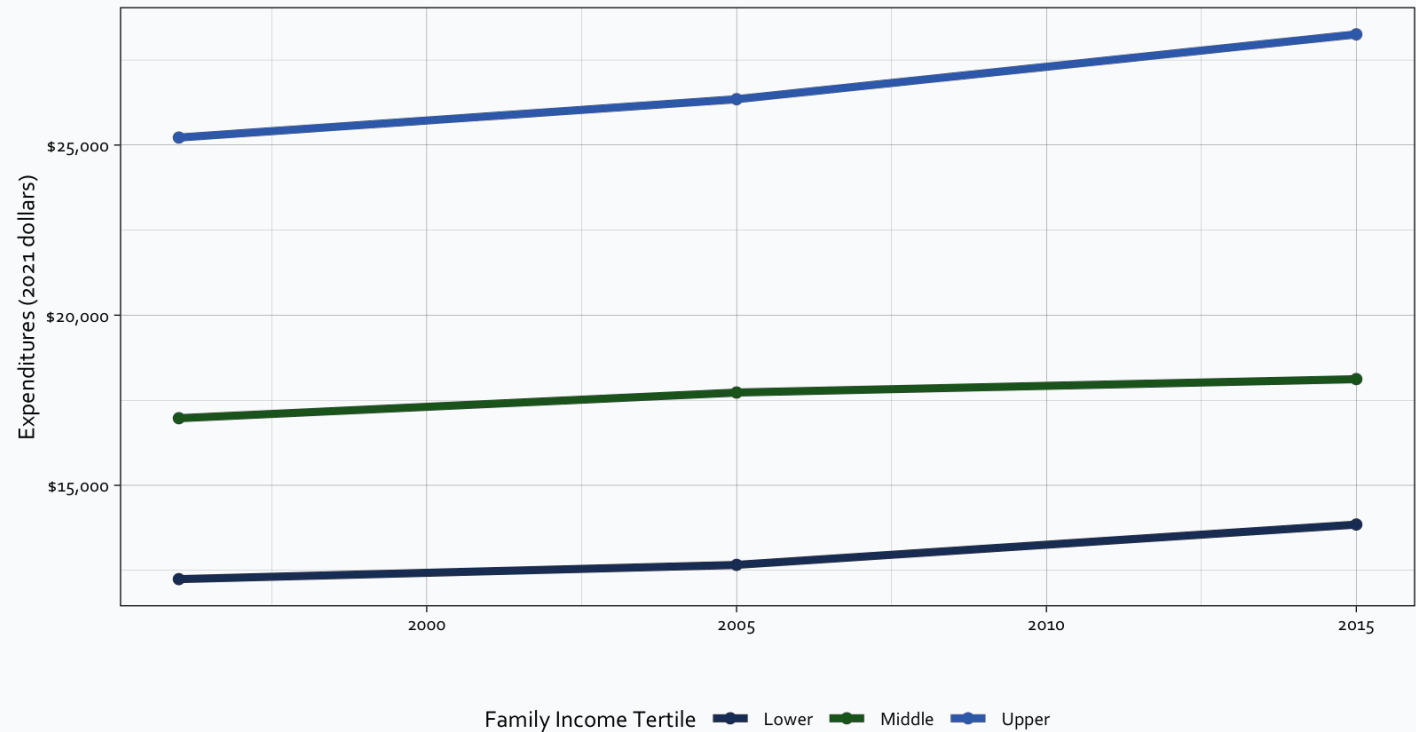
Unemployment insurance not shown. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (Public-use files)



# COST OF LIVING

### Estimated Annual Expenditures on a Young Child, 1996-2015 (selected years)

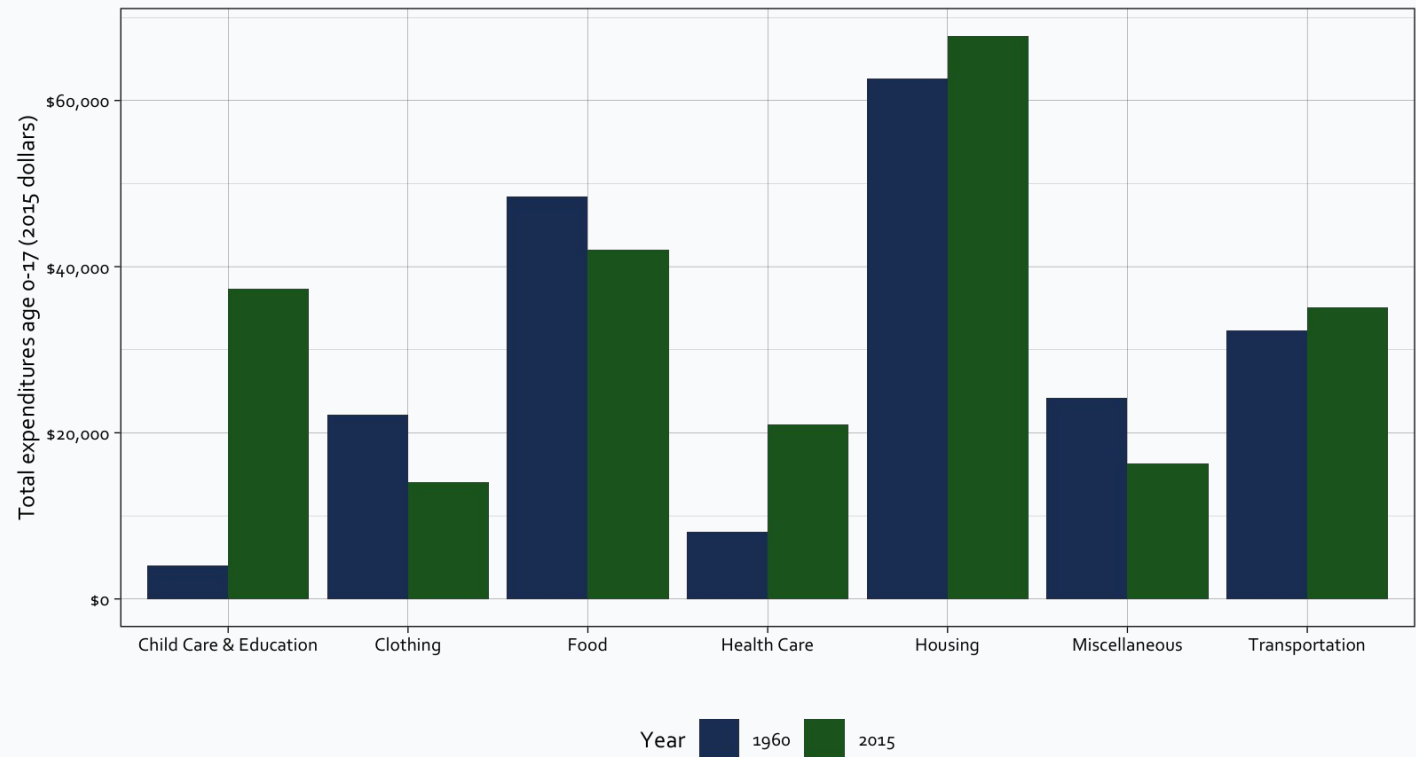
Among opposite-sex married parent families, by income tertile



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)

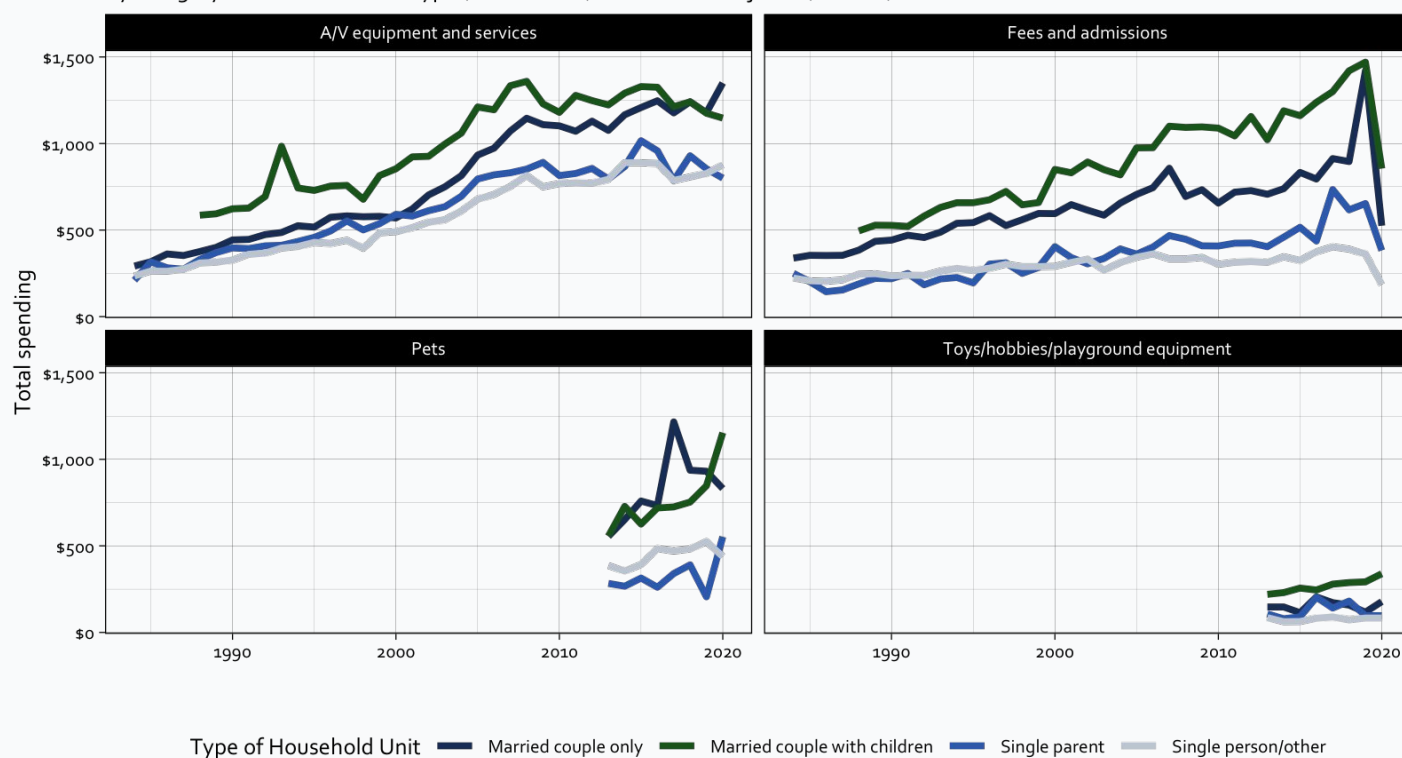
National average for a child in a married-couple family in middle income tertile



CPI-adjusted (2015 dollars.) Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion, Report No. 1528-2015.

## Consumer Expenditures on Entertainment, 1984-2020

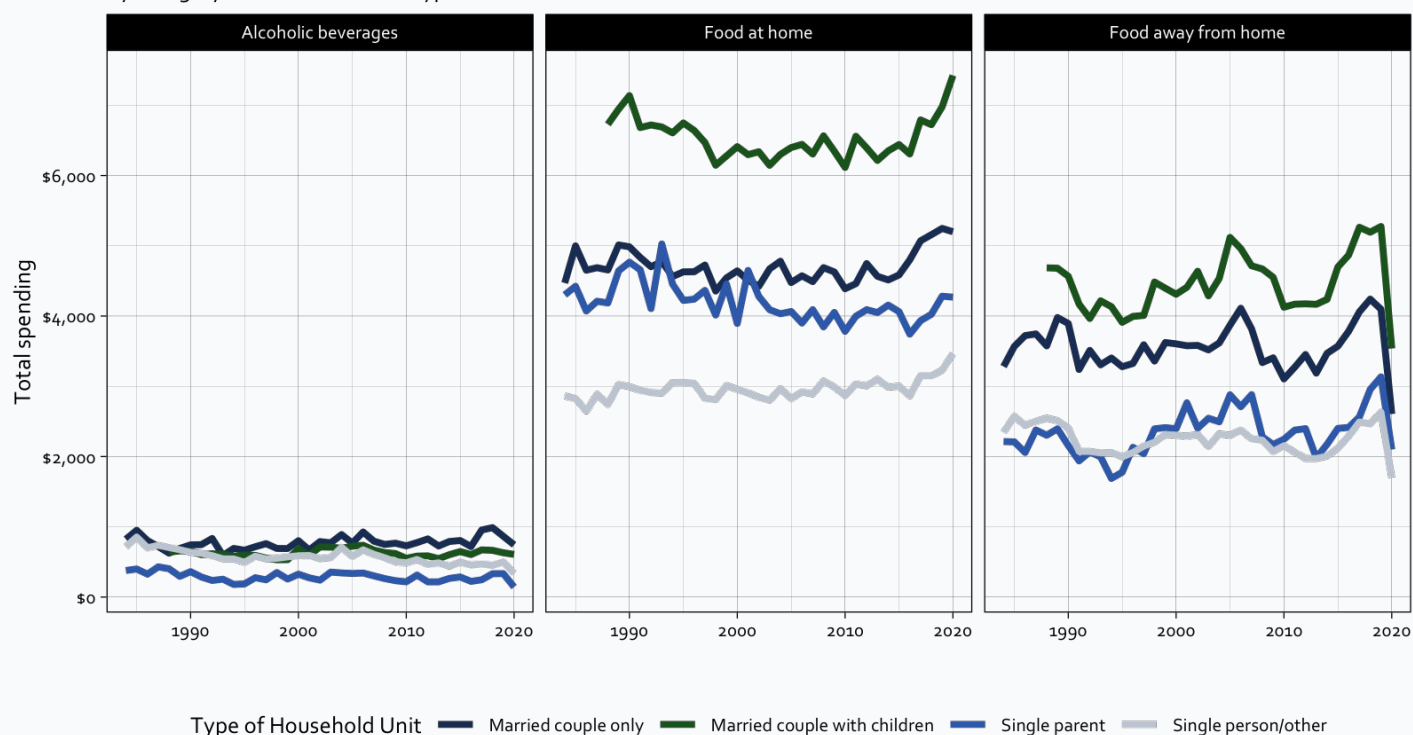
By category and consumer unit type (in constant (non-inflation-adjusted) dollars)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Expenditure Survey

## Consumer Expenditures on Food and Alcoholic Beverages, 1984-2020

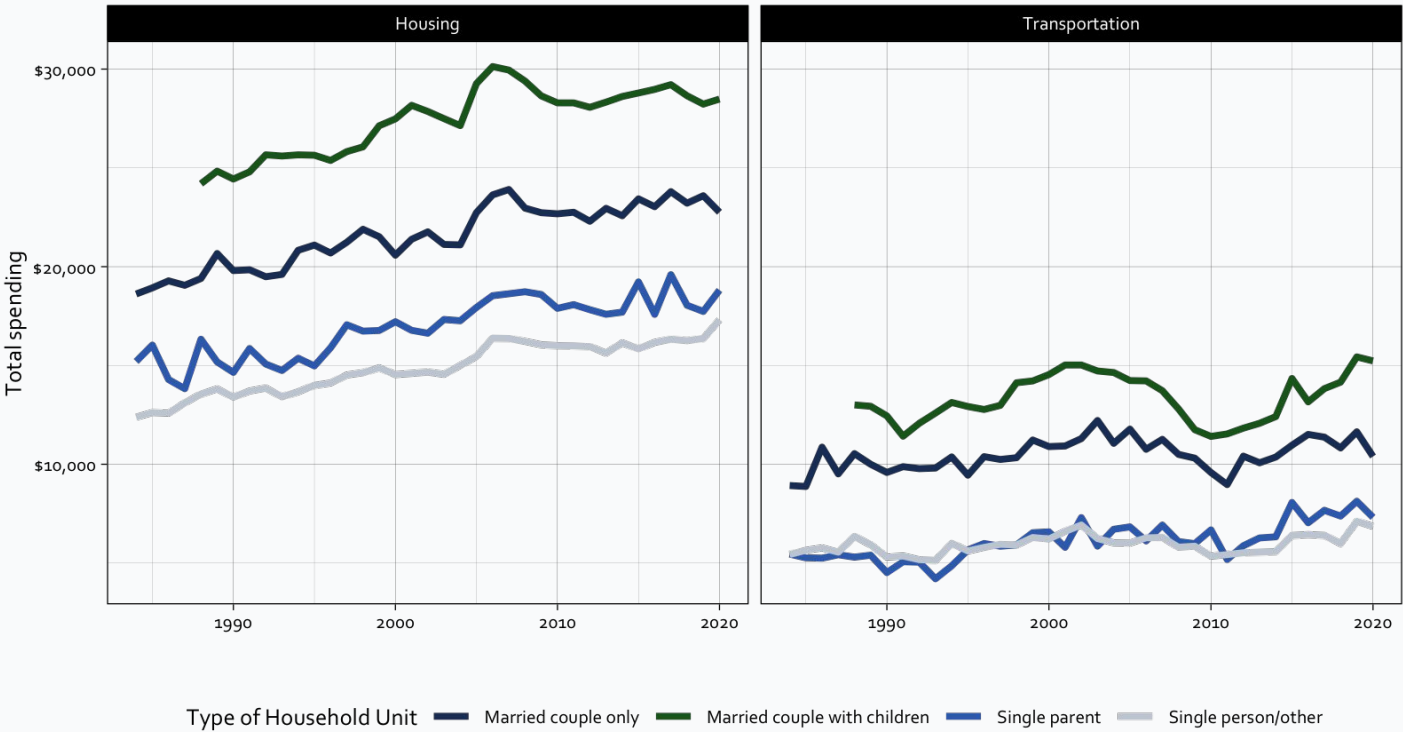
By category and consumer unit type



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

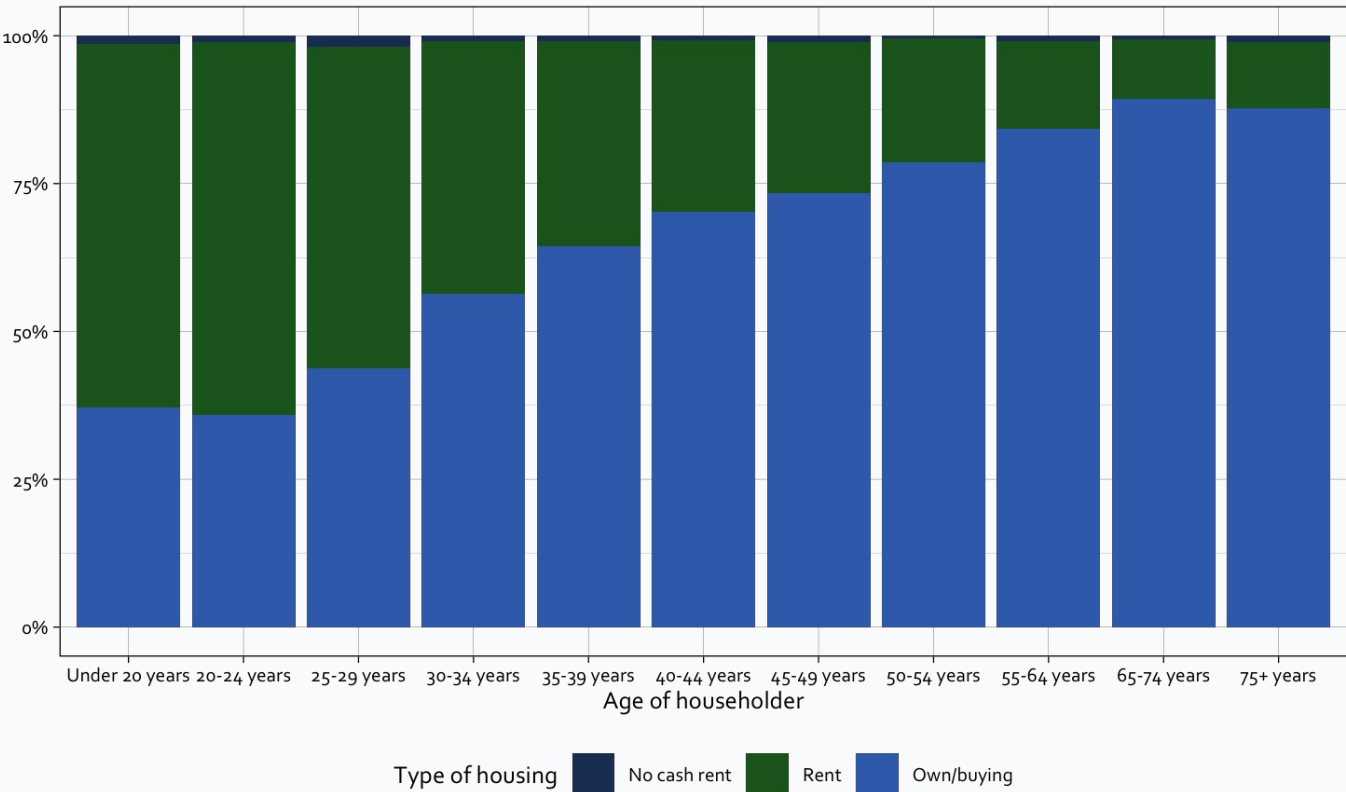
By category and consumer unit type (in 2020 dollars)



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

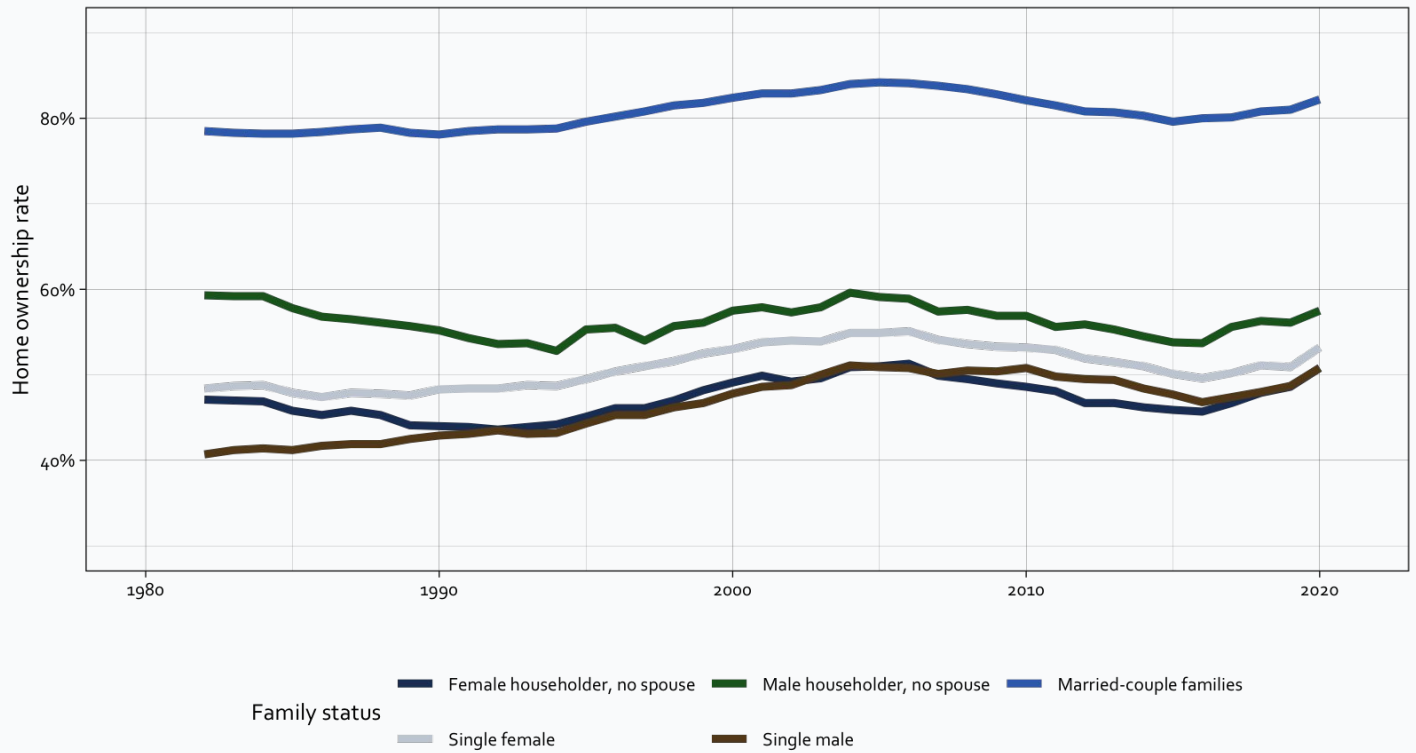
By age of householder (in 2021)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, America's Families and Living Arrangements (2021), Table C-8

## Rates of Home Ownership, 1982-2020

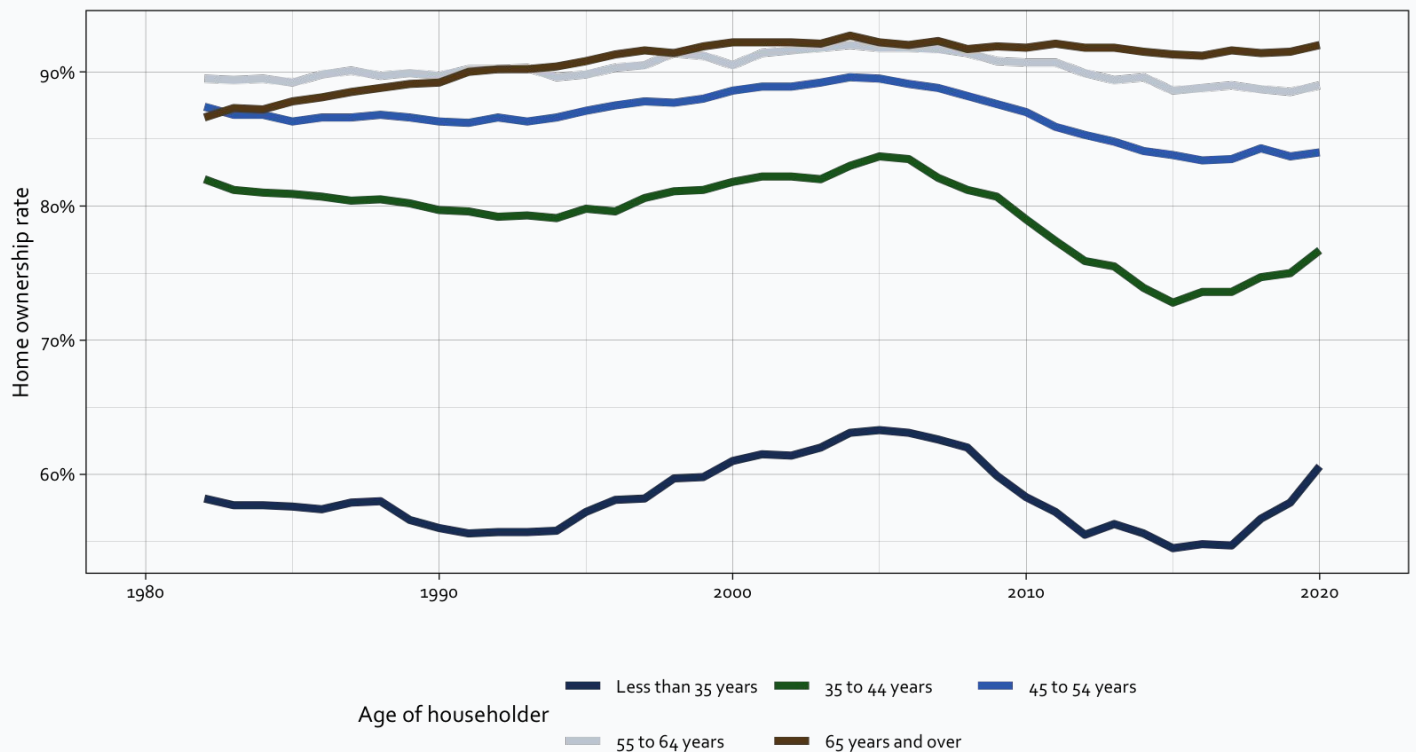
By family status



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

## Rates of Home Ownership, 1982-2020

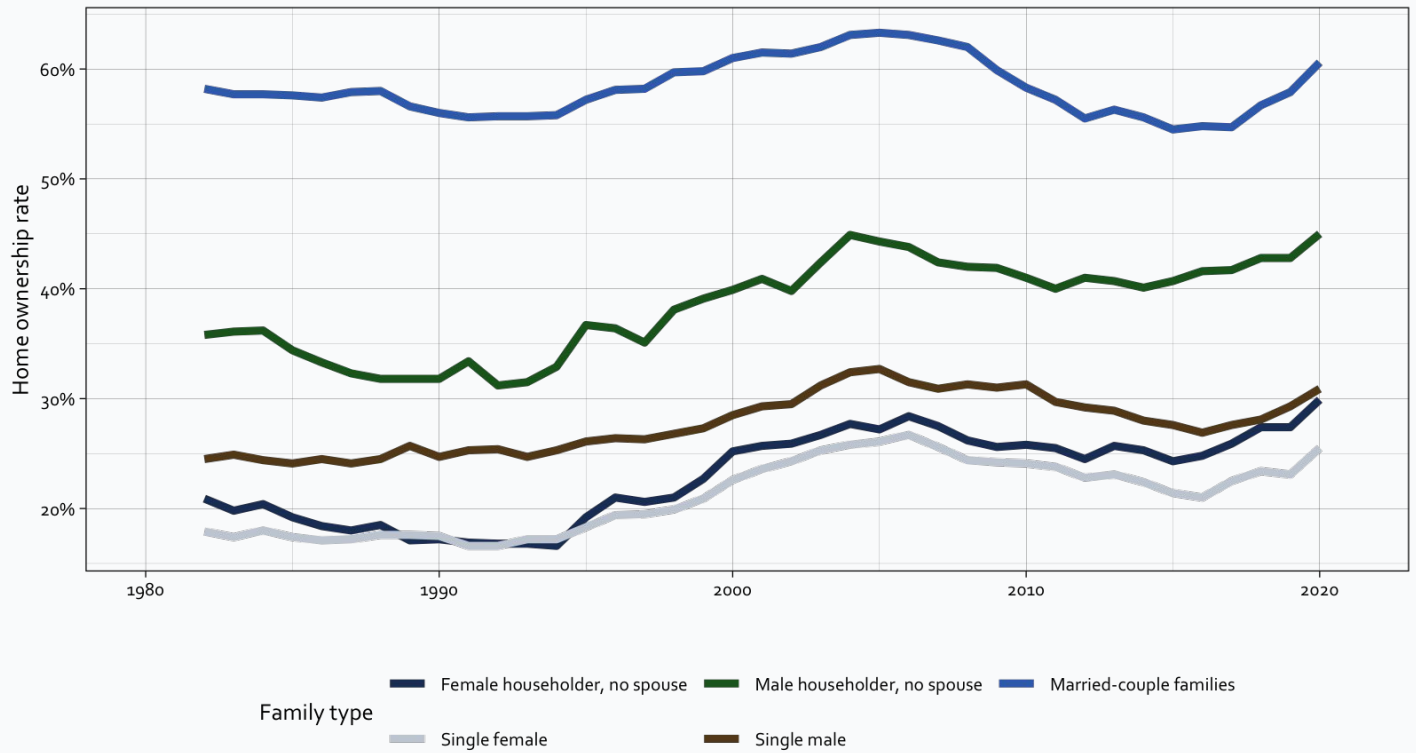
Among married-couple families, by age of householder



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

## Rates of Home Ownership, 1982-2020

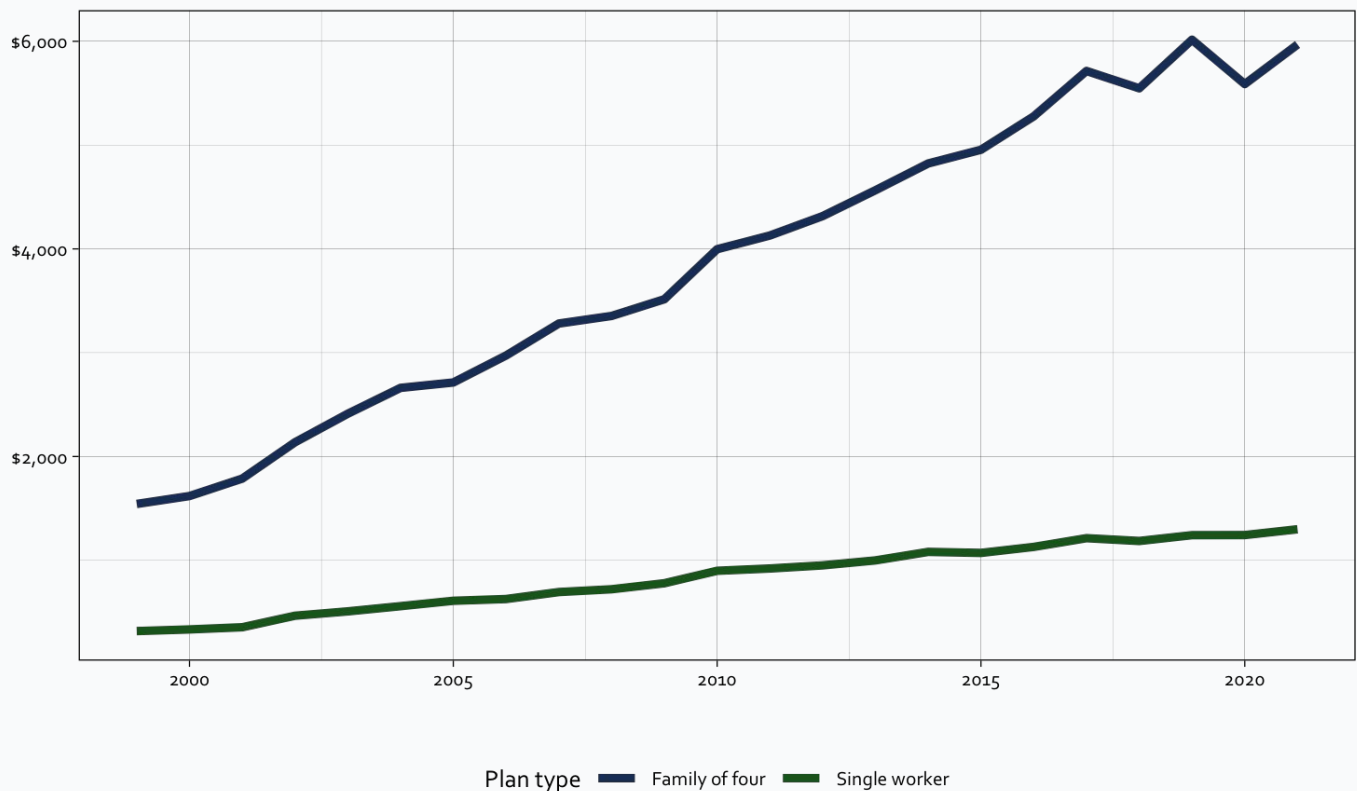
Among adults under 35 years old, by family type



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

## Workers' Average Contributions to Health Insurance Coverage, 1999-2021

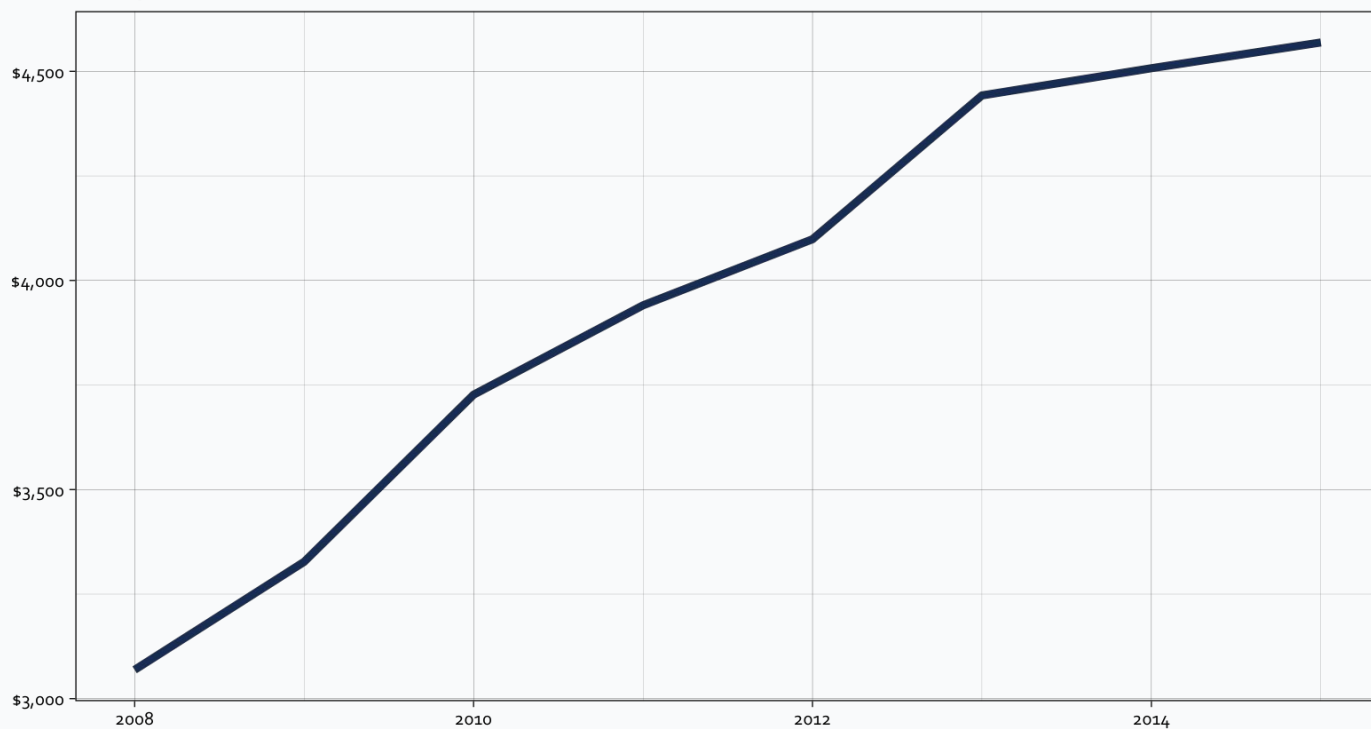
Among workers covered by employer-sponsored insurance



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



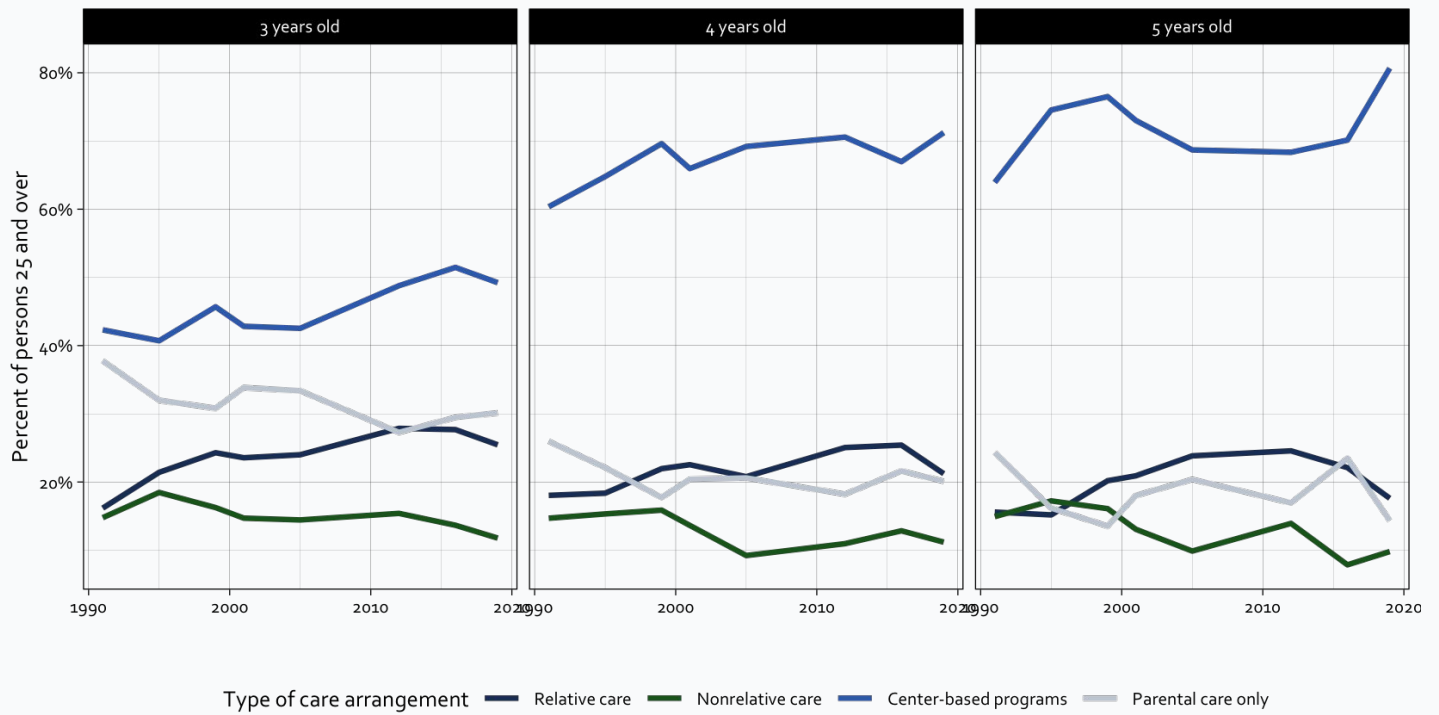
Out-of-pocket total is sum of copayment, coinsurance, and deductible for women with nonzero spending. CPI-adjusted (2016 dollars).  
Source: Moniz M, Fendrick A, et. al, 'Out-Of-Pocket Spending For Maternity Care Among Women With Employer-Based Insurance, 2008-15,' Health Affairs 39:1 (2020)

# EDUCATION & EARLY CHILDHOOD



## Child Care Arrangements, 1991-2019 (selected years)

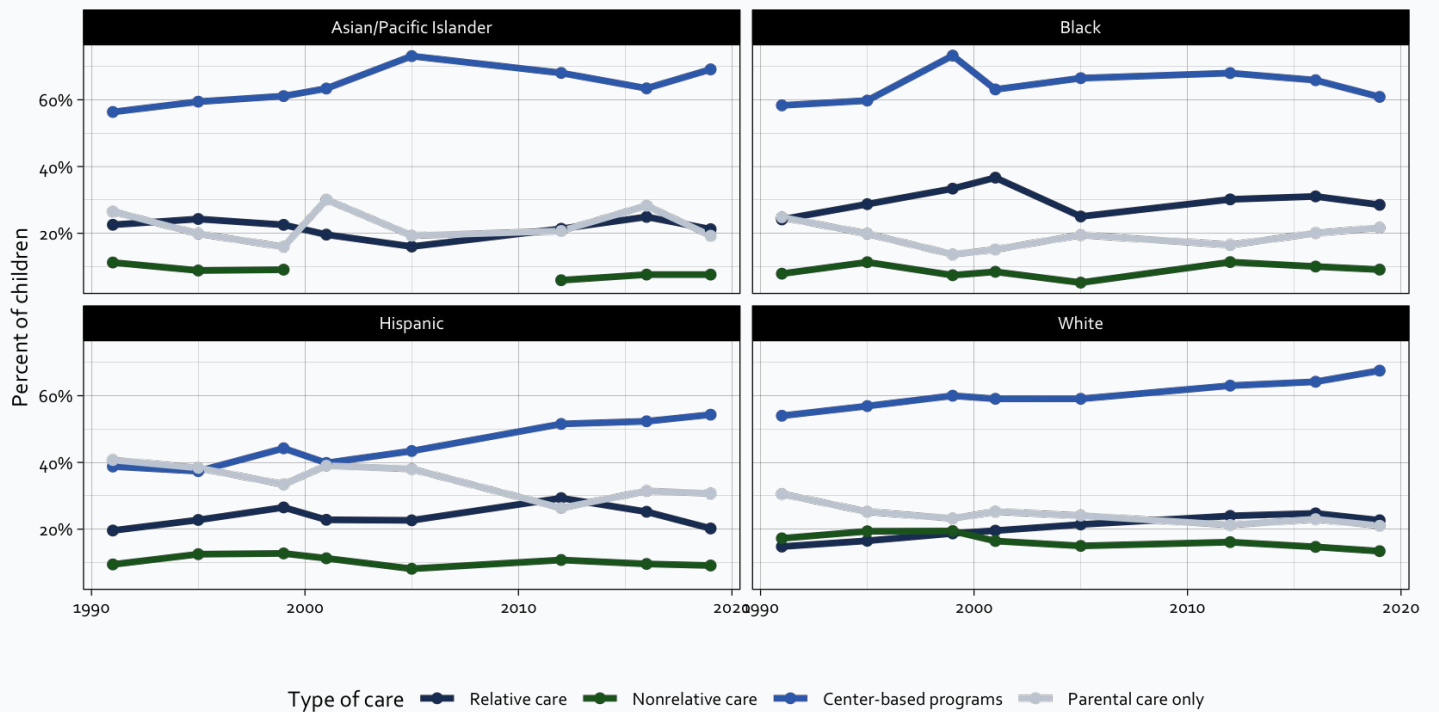
Among children aged 3 to 5, by age



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)

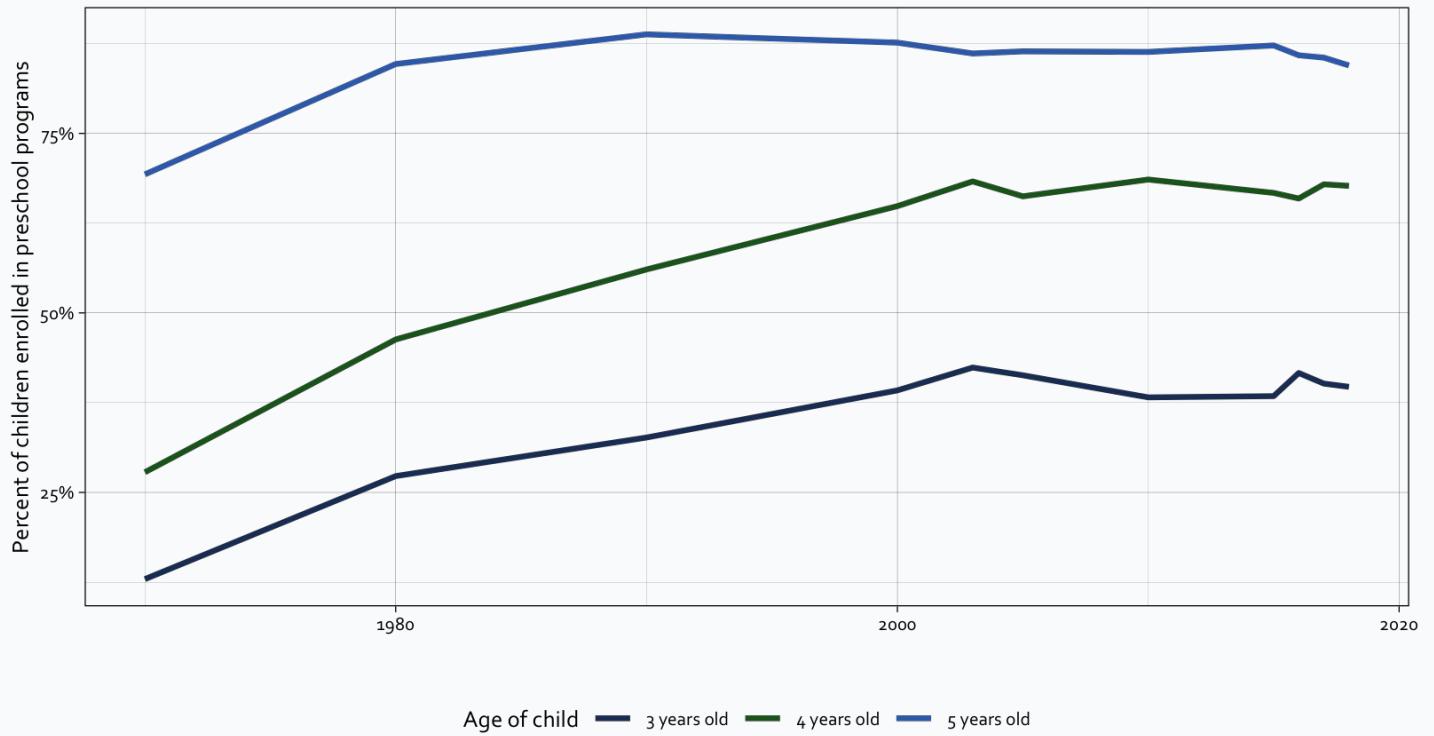
Among children aged 3 to 5, by race/ethnicity



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



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)

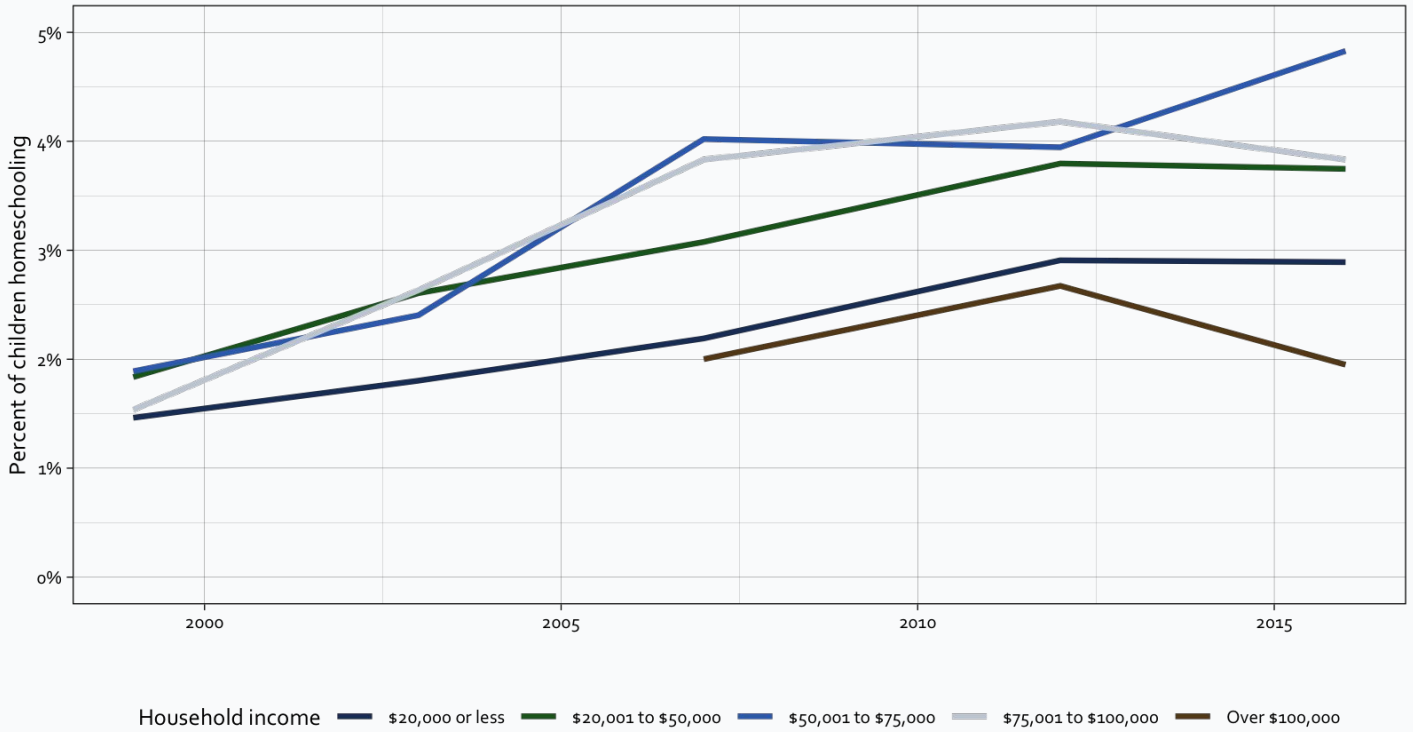
As a percentage of total enrollment in public and private schools, by grade



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)

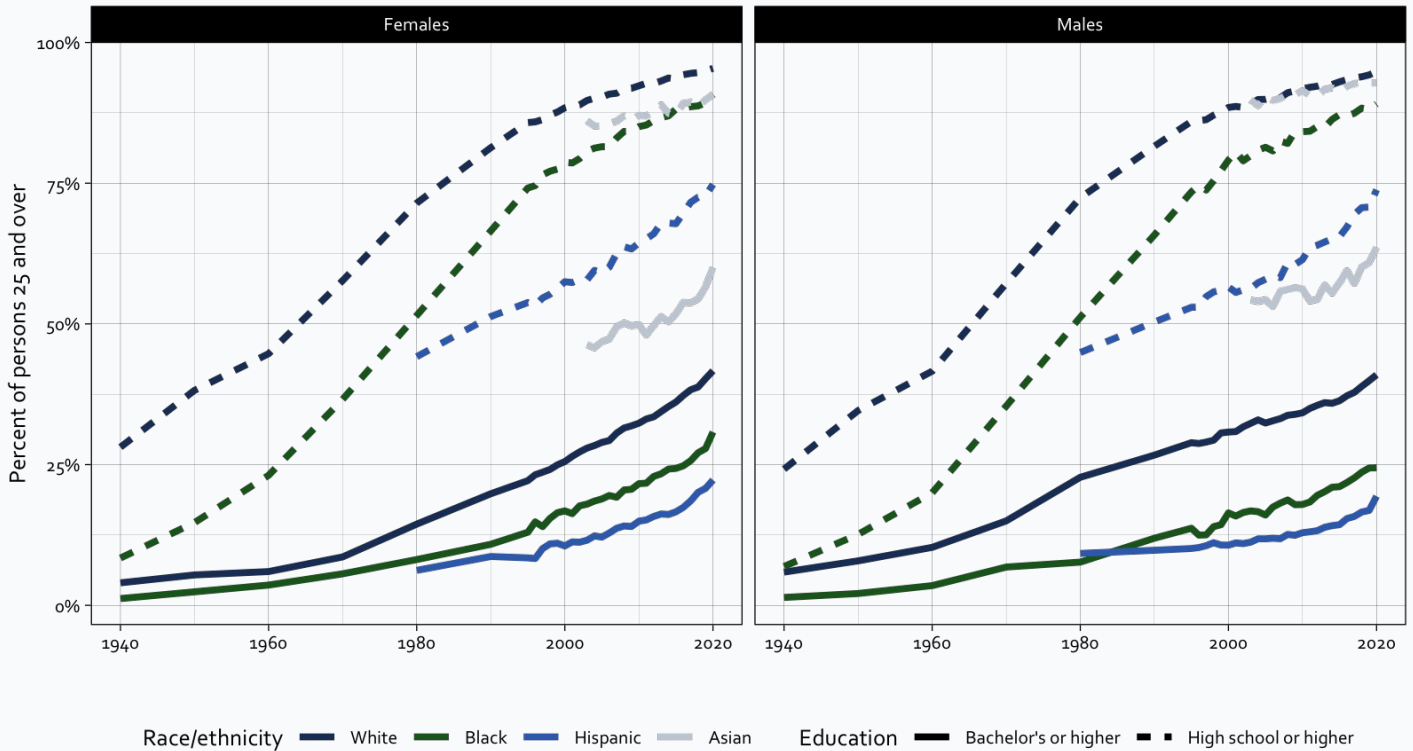
As percentage of elementary and high school-age children, by household income



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



Source: NCES, Digest of Education Statistics, Table 104.10

## Extracurricular Participation in Sports and Clubs, 1998-2020 (selected years)

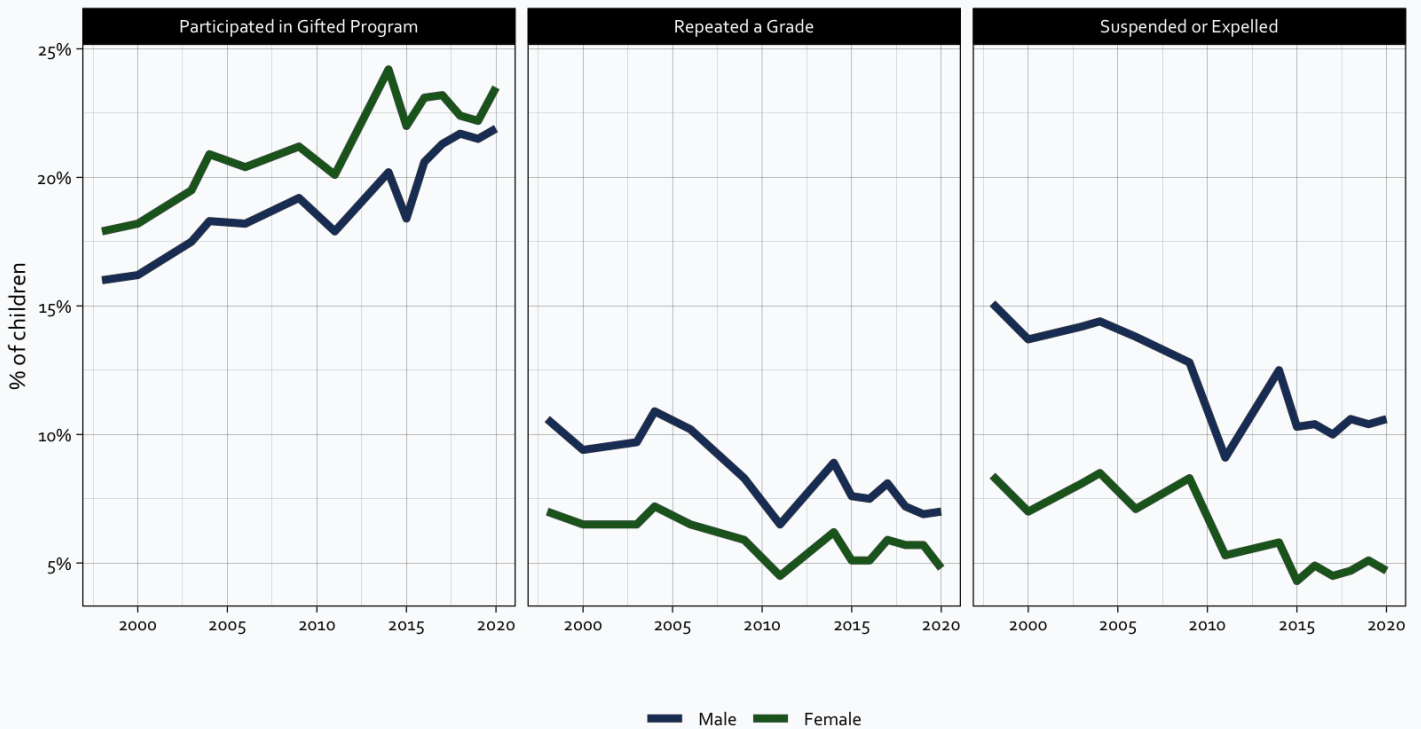
Among children age 6 to 17, by poverty status



2020 data collection impacted by COVID-19 pandemic.  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 'A Child's Day' Historical Tables and Figures

## Selected School Outcomes, 1998-2020 (selected years)

Among children age 6 to 17, by sex



2020 data collection impacted by COVID-19 pandemic.  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 'A Child's Day' Historical Tables and Figures

## Enrollment in College by Recent High School Completers, 1960-2020

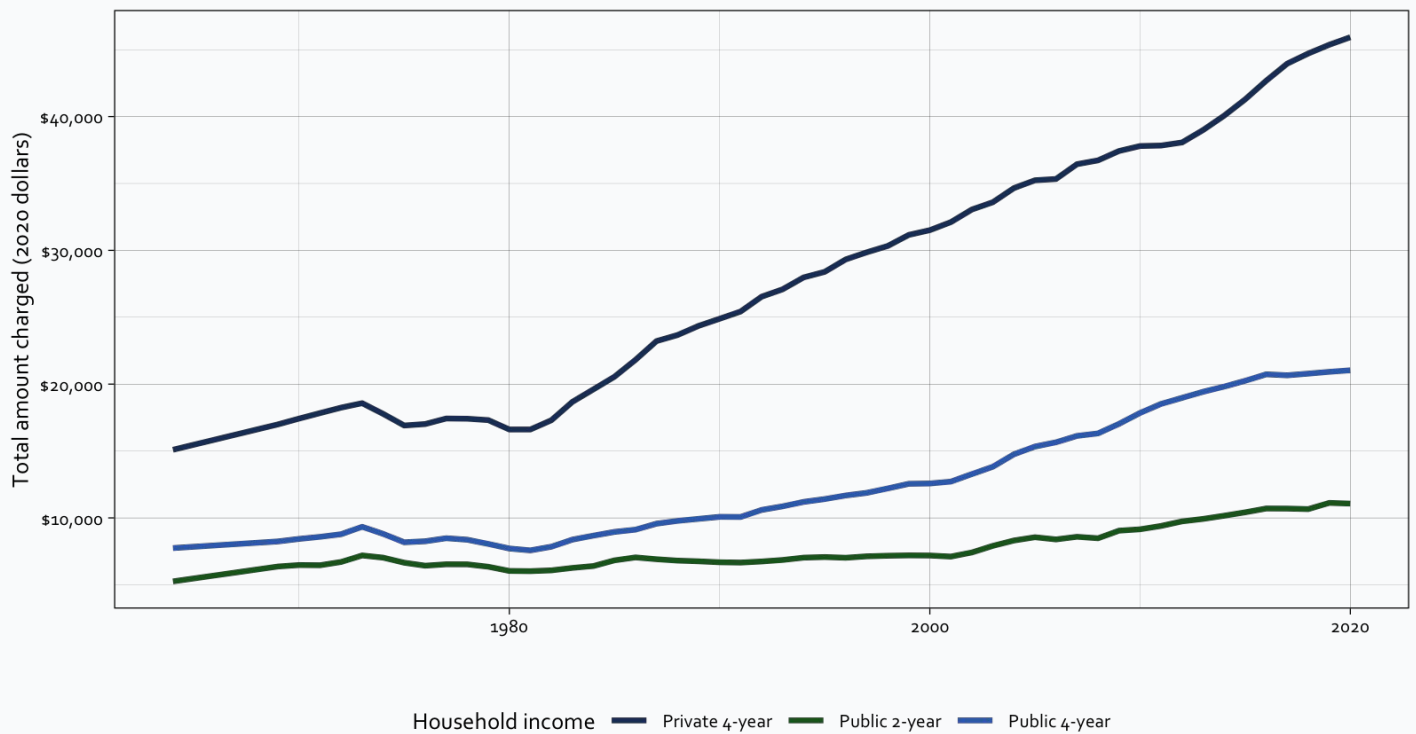
By sex



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

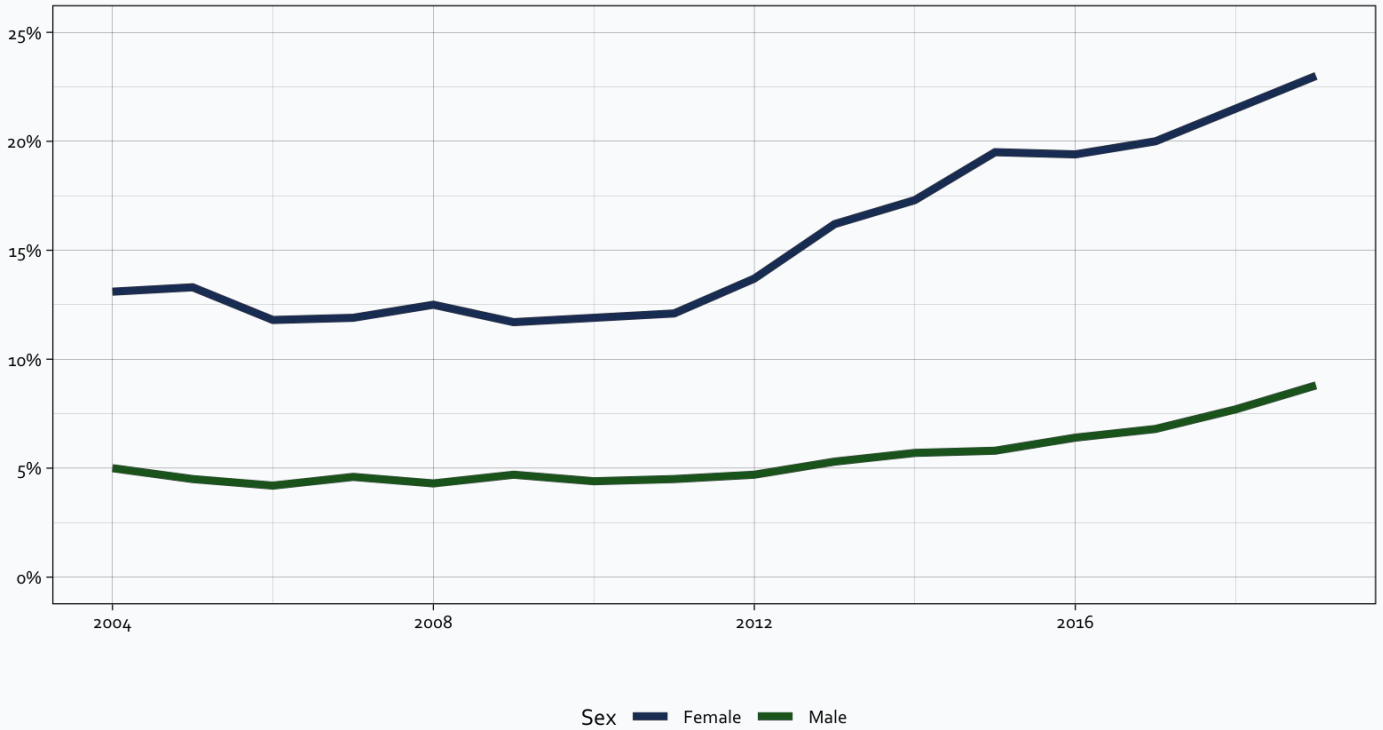


Tuition and fees weighted by number of full-time-equivalent undergraduates; room and board are based on full-time students. CPI adjusted (2020 dollars).  
Source: NCES, Digest of Education Statistics, Table 330.10

CULTURE

## Percentage of Children Reporting At Least One Major Depressive Episode, 2004-2019

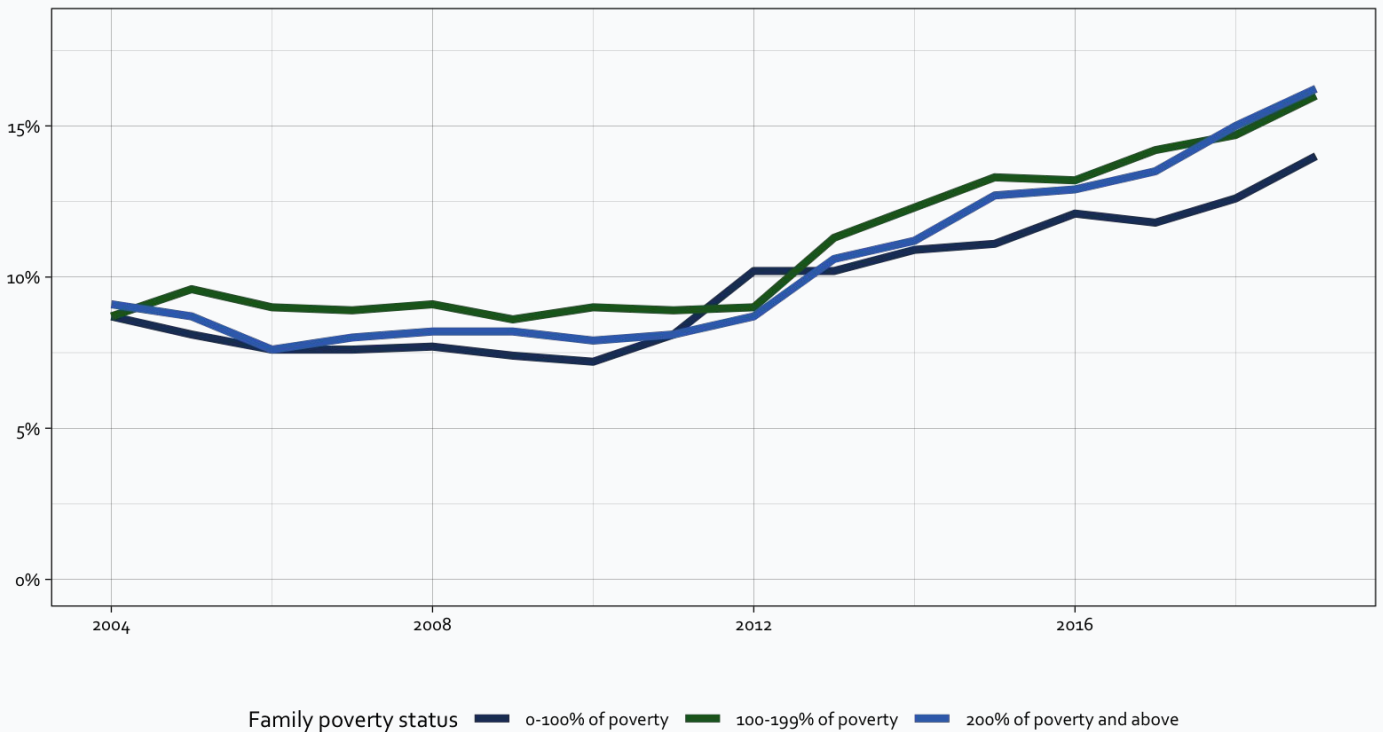
Among children aged 12-17, by sex



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

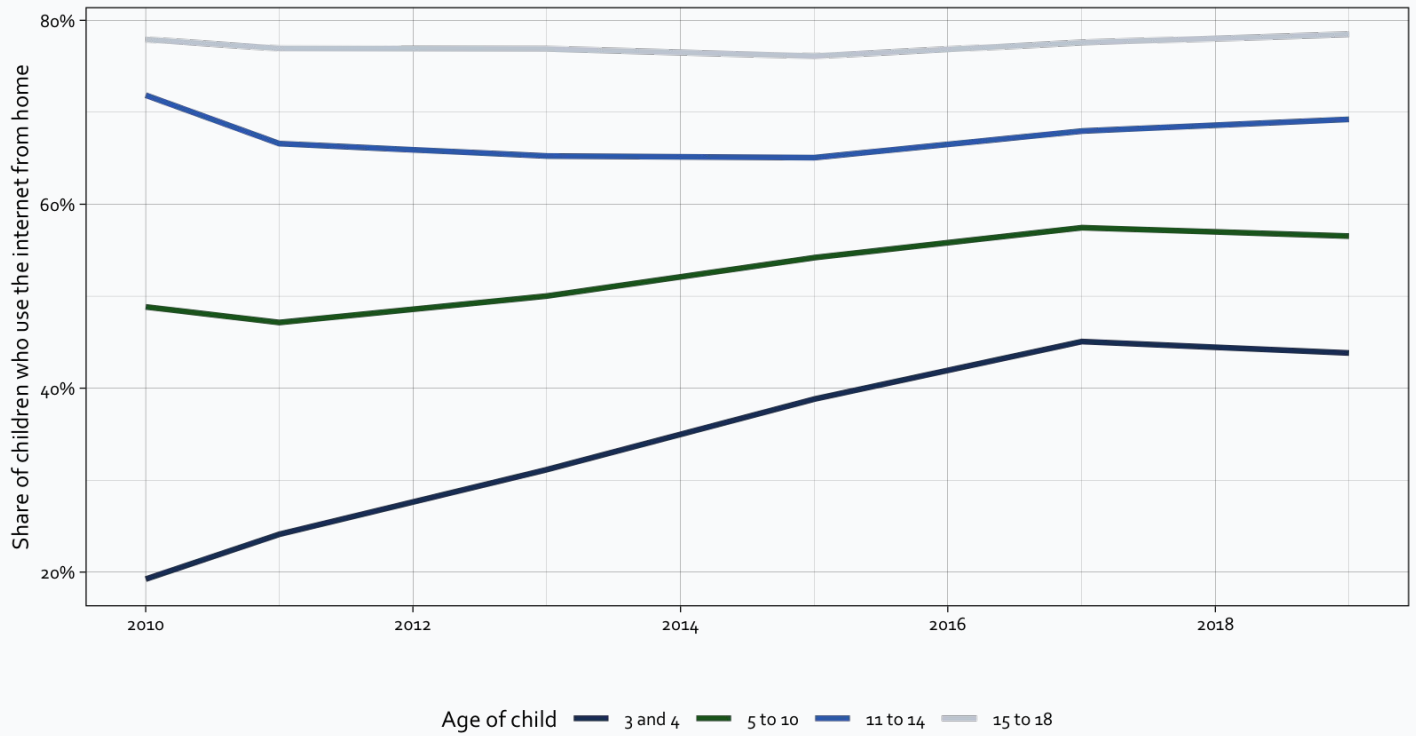
Among children aged 12-17, by poverty status



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)

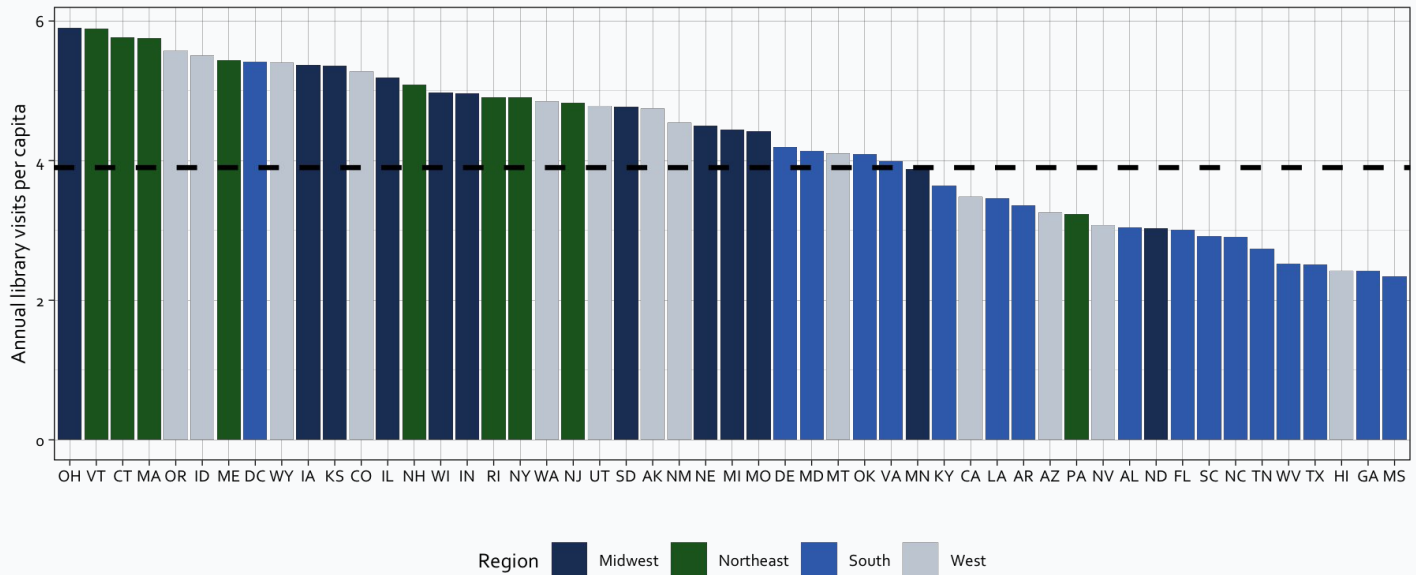
By age of child



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

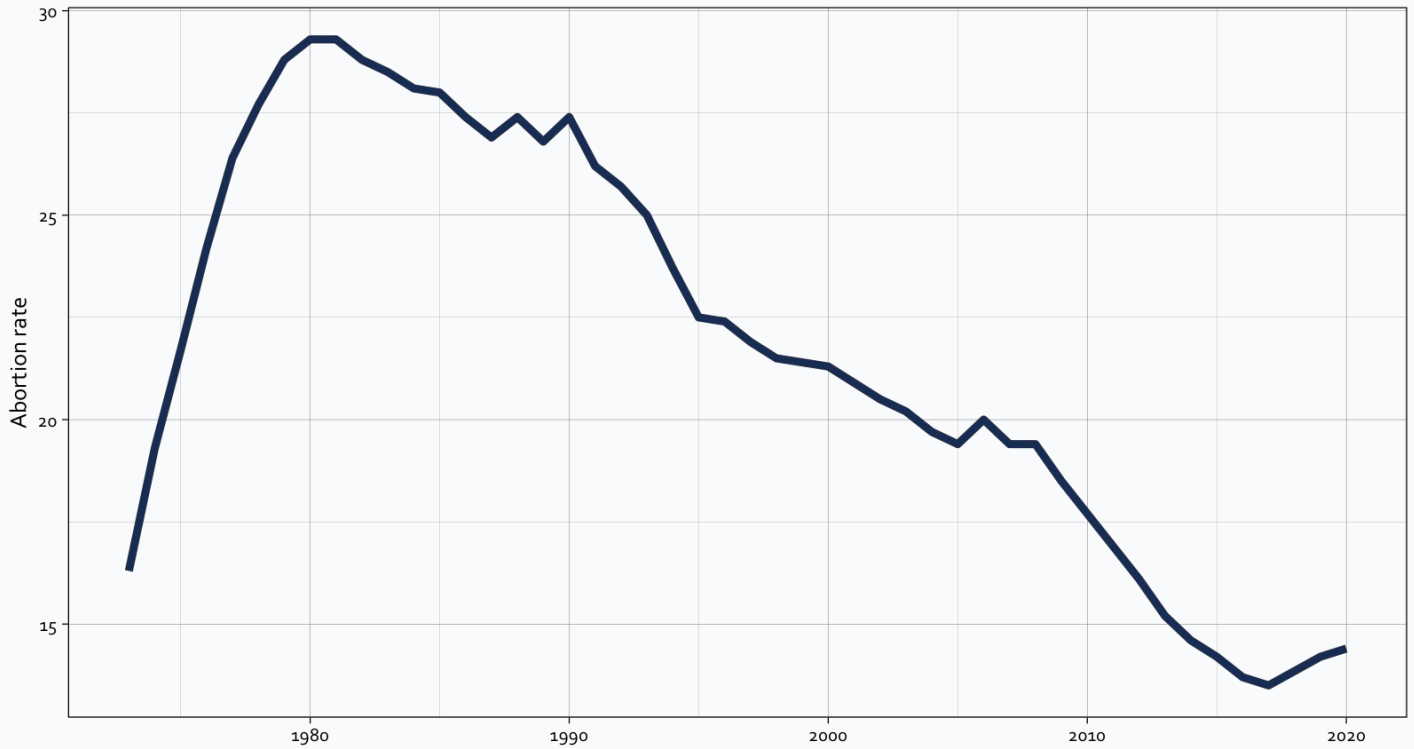


Dashed line is national average.  
Source: Institute of Museum and Library Services, Public Libraries Survey.



## Abortion Rate, 1973-2020

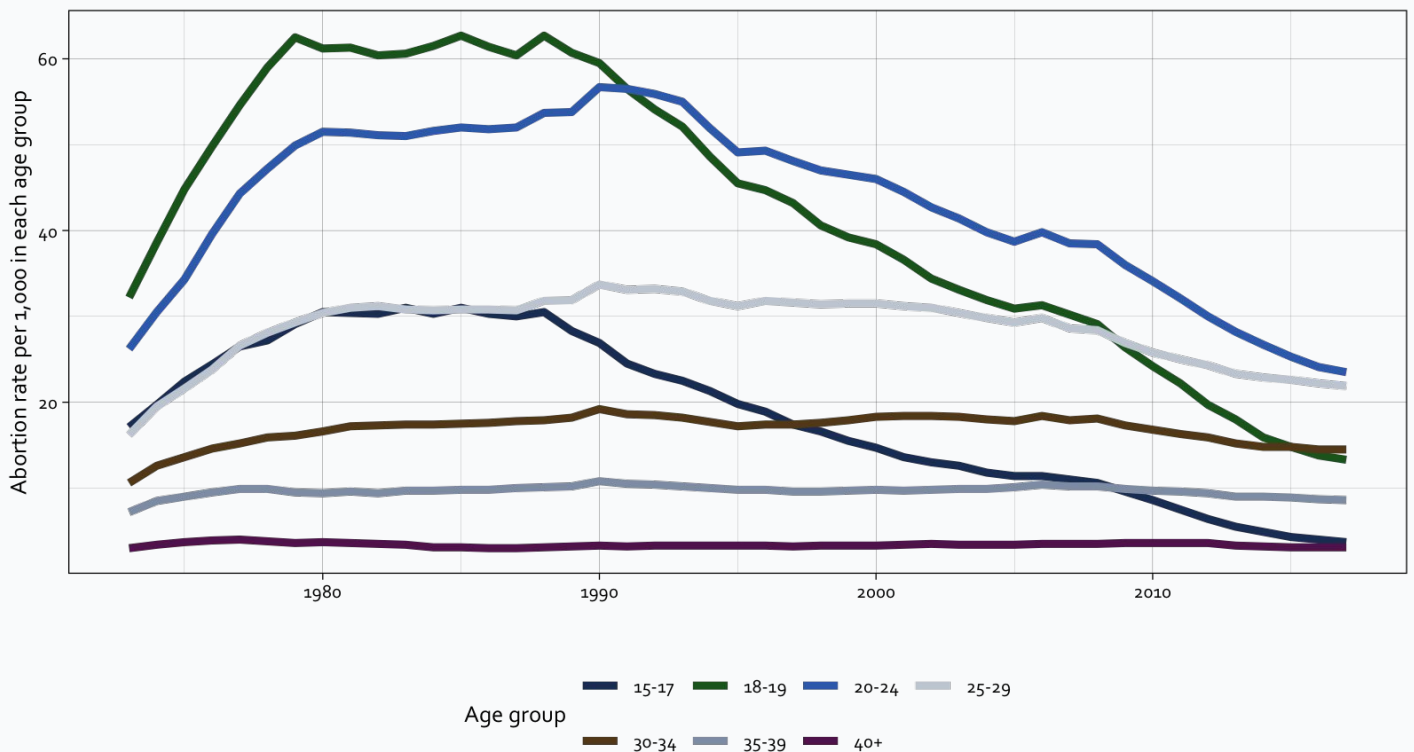
Abortions performed per 1,000 women aged 15-44



Source: Madow-Zimet I and Kost K, 'Pregnancies, Births and Abortions in the United States, 1973-2017: National and State Trends by Age' (Guttmacher Institute)

## Abortion Rate by Age, 1973-2017

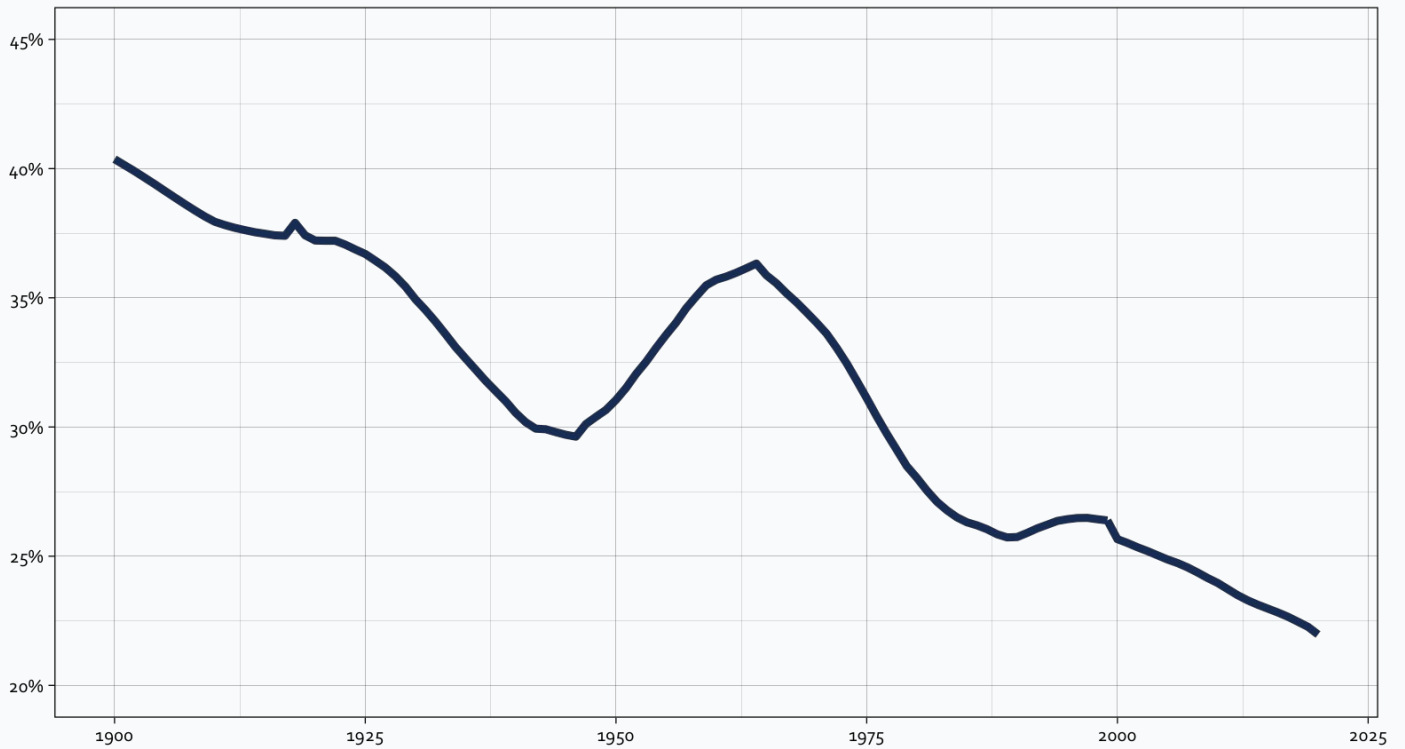
Abortions performed per 1,000 women aged 15-44, by age group



Source: Madow-Zimet I and Kost K, 'Pregnancies, Births and Abortions in the United States, 1973-2017: National and State Trends by Age' (Guttmacher Institute)

## 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