The State of the Black Family in America

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Fifty years ago the late Daniel Patrick Moynihan published his groundbreaking federal study, “The Negro Family: The Case for National Action.” In its opening sentence the report stated, “At the heart of the deterioration of the fabric of Negro society is the deterioration of the Negro family.” Since then, that deterioration has accelerated dramatically. Today, only 17 percent of black teenagers reach age 17 in a family with both their biological parents married. In no state does this percentage exceed 30 percent.

Figure 11: States in Rank Order by Family Belonging Index among Blacks, 2008-2011

In all states with a large enough Black population to analyze, about one quarter or less of Black children aged 15 to 17 were raised in an intact married family. The starred states have Black populations too small to analyze their family intactness.

1 http://www.dol.gov/oasam/programs/history/webid-meynihan.htm
2 See chart 2 in the Index of Belonging and Rejection 2015.
Historically, marriage in the United States constituted a unified set of ideas about appropriate adult behavior. Marriage conferred adult status and set the boundaries for sexual activity, childbearing, and living arrangements with a sexual partner. Marriage defined the kinds of work performed by husbands and wives and was viewed as a lifelong endeavor. In recent decades, however, marriage has been largely deinstitutionalized; its meaning is no longer broadly shared, and the package of behaviors that were associated with marriage in the past have become much less closely linked. Behaviors such as premarital sex, cohabitation, childbearing outside of marriage, extended singlehood, and divorce have become much more common in recent years, and they have also become more widely accepted.”

There were many drivers in this decline but one of the most energetic (and disastrously successful) was that of the radical feminists. As Mallory Millet, sister of radical feminist Kate Millet, recounts in a recent article,

[In 1969] Kate invited me to join her for a gathering at the home of her friend, Lila Karp [who later pioneered Women’s Studies at Princeton University]. They called the assemblage a ‘consciousness-raising-group.’ We gathered at a large table as the chairperson opened the meeting with a back-and-forth recitation.” The women were catechized quite precisely:

“Why are we here today?” she asked.
“To make revolution,” they answered.
“What kind of revolution?” she replied.
“The Cultural Revolution,” they chanted.
“And how do we make Cultural Revolution?” she demanded.
“By destroying the American family!” they answered.
“How do we destroy the family?” she came back.
“By destroying the American Patriarch,” they cried exuberantly.
“And how do we destroy the American Patriarch?” she replied.
“By taking away his power!”
“How do we do that?”
“By destroying monogamy!” they shouted.
“How can we destroy monogamy?”
By promoting promiscuity, eroticism, prostitution and homosexuality!”

They proceeded with a long discussion on how to advance these goals by establishing the National Organization of Women.

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3 Mark Cunningham and Arland Thornton; The Influence of Parent’s Marital Quality on Adult Children’s Attitudes toward Marriage and Its Alternatives: Main and Moderating Effects. Demography, Nov. 2006 43 (4): 659-672
NOW has since given birth to many progeny in the schools, courts, academy and media, progeny whose moral teachings have led to social deformities that have scarred our culture and our families.

**Sex, Love, Marriage, Children and Religion**

All families are the fruit of sexual intercourse. In the Black family, sexual intimacy usually is achieved early, frequently and without benefit of marriage. Consider the implications of the following chart for all families: The more sexual partners a young woman has, the more likely her marriage will break up in the first five years. Even one sexual partner other than her husband puts the odds of breakup near 40 percent, while two such sexual partners put it at 50 percent. No wonder that historically, our society pronounced strong prohibitions on sexual intercourse among the unmarried.

If the black family is to be restored and if poor young black men are to become mature husbands and fathers, then their parents need to be chaste. The biggest tragedy of the sexual revolution is the fatherless boy; given how many are affected, Black fatherless boys are the particular victims of growing up without a dad.

The young black boy suffers most from this moral chaos. For a number of generations he increasingly has been deprived of his father’s love and day-to-day attention and care, and has suffered all the attendant and compounding weaknesses that the social sciences make increasingly clear. He is almost always locked in to weakness in this unnatural and inhumane arrangement which ends up depriving him of the capacity to be a good husband and good father in his own time. He is the first victim of Black family breakdown.

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4 Mallory Millet, Marxist Feminism’s Ruined Lives, 9-4-2014
http://www.truthrevolt.org/commentary/millet-marxist-feminisms-ruined-lives
“Black fatherless boys are the particular victims of growing up without a dad.”

His sister, though suffering less, is also the victim, but one who also is a key victimizer of her own children. A number of investigations into the relationship between chastity, monogamy and intact marriage now point to a reality with which liberals are very uncomfortable: The chastity of the female is central to the intactness of the family. When a mother has had more than one sexual partner in her lifetime, the intactness of
her marriage drops precipitously. With one sexual partner other than her husband (normally before marriage), the likely intactness of her marriage drops from 95 percent to 62 percent. With two such partners it drops to 50 percent. This makes apparent the wisdom of societies that put great energy into forbidding premarital sex while shepherding the young towards marriage.

It is a sad fact that the family culture in America has become a culture of rejection, as evidenced by the majority of American men and women who cannot stand each other enough to raise together the children they have brought into existence. Today, only 46 percent of American 17-year-olds are living in a family composed of their married biological parents. The other 54 percent (the majority) have experienced the breakup of their parents through out-of-wedlock births that never led to stable marriages, or through the breakup of cohabitation. Most American men and women reject each other before their children are grown. For African Americans the situation is even more dire. Nationally, only 17 percent of black 17-year-olds are living in a family headed by their married biological parents; the other 83 percent have witnessed their parents reject each other. The American culture of rejection is deepest in the Black Family: the overwhelming majority of black men and women cannot stand each other enough to stay together to raise the children they brought into existence.

But there is a glaring contrast in the Black Family: Blacks are the most church-attending ethnic group in America. Regular religious worship conveys human strength in all the outcomes measured in US federal surveys (and there are hundreds of them), and this is a great source of strength as social science research repeatedly demonstrates. This is a great irony: How is it that what conveys strength in abundance does not benefit marriage in the Black family and does not yield the fruits of chastity and stable marriage? There must be a sexual and moral crisis deep in the Black Family, the black community and the black church. Though this crisis is by no means confined to the black family and the black church, nowhere else is the crisis greater and nowhere else are its ill fruits more visible.

As a result, the strengths and benefits that derive from worship are diminished significantly. Also diminished are the political and societal gains made possible by advances in civil rights. They are being squandered for sex. While conquering the heights of civil rights, the black family has simultaneously fallen deep into ever-increasing sexual disintegration. This was not imposed from outside the black community, but from within it. Of course, the black community, while the main group suffering from the

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5 See [http://marri.us/publications/mapping-america](http://marri.us/publications/mapping-america) for short research papers illustrating over a hundred of these outcomes.

6 See Pat Fagan: “95 Social Science Reasons for Religious Worship and Practice”
sexual revolution, is not alone; every other racial and ethnic group in America also suffers but to a lesser extent.

Many social policy experts are resigned to the continued drift of America away from the “traditional family⁷”, i.e. the Christian monogamous family. However, Christians cannot be so resigned unless they give up on being Christian and, most importantly, on Christ Himself. The time of urgent choice has arrived for the black church and its members. Can it reform itself and save its children, and restore fathers to their children in marriage, rather than in the modern pagan practices of multiple sexual partners, separation and divorce?

Jesus was the original sexual revolutionary.

The central question concerning the future of the black family is whether the black church is up to the challenge of restoring Christ’s teaching on matters sexual and marital, whether it be in Watts, Los Angeles or Anacostia in Washington DC., or whether talented young black Christians are at Hampton, Howard or Harvard universities.

What is involved is a vast sexual paradigm shift, repeating today Christ’s own vast paradigm shift from selfism to commitment in the marital union. This is way beyond social policy and delivers what it cannot, enduring, transformational change. Jesus was the original sexual revolutionary. He changed Jewish marital norms and laid out the sexual way that leads to the flourishing of the ordinary man, woman and child, and along the way also gives the greatest sexual enjoyment.⁸

There are two components to Christian sexuality arising from two different aspects of Christ’s teaching:

First, the life to which the ordinary disciple is called when he exercises his sexual capacities (as opposed to those who choose celibacy for the sake of the kingdom, a choice He asked some to make) is intact, indissoluble marriage. Second, chastity until and within marriage, so that that marriage may be well lived. George Weigel summed up the sexual vocation of Christians well: “Growing into the maturity of self-mastery is not easy. Living marital chastity means thinking of marriage as a vocation to be grown into, as a couple grows in the love ‘poured into [their] hearts as a gift of the Holy Spirit.’ A couple’s maturation into a community of persons involves sexual expression and sexual abstinence, ecstasy and asceticism. To remove that tension from married life is to empty

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⁷ See Isabel Sawhill, Generation Unbound, Brookings, 2014
⁸ See http://marri.us/publications/mapping-america#tab8 for a number of sexual outcomes as measured in US federal surveys.
it of one crucial aspect, inherent to its drama and its humanity. Truth and love can never be separated in the mysterious, ecstatic ascetic of the ‘language of the body’.

What is forbidden to Christians may be less known among Christians today than it used to be. Premarital sex (fornication), divorce, remarriage, abortion, cohabitation, contraception and pornography were all in widespread practice in the time of the early Church, yielding a stark contrast between the teaching of Christ, the family lives of Christians and the pagan sexuality of that time. Christ even broke with Jewish law on concubinage and divorce. As a result, over the following millennia and a half, the growth of Christianity meant the growth of the monogamous Christian family, which in turn gave the world an enormous leap forward in civilization and social order.

It is only with the modern retreat from marriage (which coincides with the growth of the social sciences and gives us the statistical evidence recorded in this piece) that we now can see clearly the massive contribution that very high levels of monogamous marriage has meant for society. Worse still, today’s embrace of non-Christian sexuality is much more perverse than that of ancient Rome because contraceptive and abortion technologies have removed the natural restraints that biology imposed throughout human history.

It is in this context that the Black church today is called to be as faithful and fruitful as the early Christians, and to set about restoring chastity, monogamy and intact marriage as the hallmarks of Christian family life that Christ called all his disciples to. If the Black church leads, the rest of America will see the difference and may follow its example. If it does not, not only will young black men continue to suffer, the future will look ever bleaker for all Americans.

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Births, Fertility, and Abortions

Birth, fertility, and abortion trends in the Black family are mixed. While the number of out-of-wedlock births to Black 25- to 44-year-old women has increased since 1980, the fraction of unwed 15- to 24-year-old mothers has decreased. The majority of unmarried Black teenagers who gave birth were raised by either an always-single-parent or a divorced parent. In recent decades, the abortion rate has decreased for both married and unmarried mothers; however, both figures remain alarmingly high.
The black population in the United States has risen:

- Note that the discontinuity in the graph is caused by changes in definitions for “race” and/or “ethnicity.”¹⁰
- Between 1960 and 1989, the black population increased from 19,006,281 to 30,660,000, respectively.
- Between 1990 and 2011 the black (non-Hispanic) population increased from 29,304,000 to 38,337,168, respectively.

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¹⁰ The category options for “race” and “ethnicity” have evolved to reflect the changing U.S. population. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has set forth standards for recordkeeping, collection, and presentation of data on race and Hispanic origin. For more information, see “Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity.”
Between 1990 and 2010:

- The Hispanic birth rate decreased from 26.7 births per 1,000 persons to 18.7 births.
- The Black (non-Hispanic) birth rate decreased from 23.0 births per 1,000 persons to 15.1 births.
- The Asian and Pacific Islander birth rate decreased from 19.0 births per 1,000 persons to 14.5 births.
- The American Indian and Alaskan Native birth rate decreased from 18.9 births per 1,000 persons to 11.0 births.
- The White (non-Hispanic) birth rate decreased from 14.4 births per 1,000 persons to 10.9 births.
Between 1990 and 2010:

- The number of live births among total births in the U.S. decreased from 4,158,000 to 4,000,000 live births.
- The number of live births among Whites (non-Hispanic) decreased from 2,627,000 to 2,161,000 live births.
- The number of live births among Hispanics increased from 595,000 to 946,000 live births.
- The number of live births among Blacks (non-Hispanic) decreased from 662,000 to 589,000 live births.
- The number of live births among Asian and Pacific Islanders increased from 105,000 to 247,000 live births.
- The number of live births among American Indians and Alaskan Natives increased from 34,000 to 47,000 live births.
Between 1993 and 2008:

- The rate of live births among unmarried U.S. women (total) increased from 44.8 live births per 1,000 unmarried women to 51.8 live births.
- The rate of live births among unmarried Hispanic women increased from 91.4 live births per 1,000 unmarried women to 97.3 live births.
- The rate of live births among unmarried Black women decreased from 83 live births per 1,000 unmarried women to 71 live births.
- The rate of live births among unmarried White women increased from 35.6 live births per 1,000 unmarried women to 48.4 live births.
Between 1989 and 2012, the fertility rate of for Hispanic women decreased from 2.9 children per average Hispanic woman to 2.2 children.

- Between 1980 and 2012, the fertility rate for Black women decreased from 2.2 children per average Black woman to 1.9 children.
- Between 1980 and 2012, the fertility rate for American Indian and Alaska Native women decreased from 2.2 children per average American Indian and Alaska Native woman to 1.4 children.
- Between 1980 and 2012, the fertility rate for Asian and Pacific Islander women decreased 2.0 children per average Asian and Pacific Islander woman to 1.8 children.
- Between 1980 and 2011, the fertility rate for White women remained around 1.8 children per average White woman.
Between 1989 and 2010, the Hispanic fertility rate decreased from 104.9 births per 1,000 Hispanic women to 80.2 births.

Between 1964 and 2010, the black fertility rate decreased from 142.6 births per 1,000 black women to 66.3 births.

Between 1964 and 2010, the white fertility rate decreased from 99.8 births per 1,000 white women to 64.4 births.

Between 1980 and 2010, the American Indian and Alaska Native fertility rate decreased from 82.7 births per 1,000 American Indian and Alaska Native women to 48.6 births.

Between 1980 and 2010, the Asian and Pacific Islander fertility rate decreased from 73.2 births per 1,000 Asian and Pacific Islander women to 59.2 births.
Between 1993 and 2008:

- The pregnancy rate of unmarried Black women decreased from 188.7 pregnancies per 1,000 unmarried Black women to 154.1 pregnancies.
- The pregnancy rate of unmarried Hispanic women decreased from 170.6 pregnancies per 1,000 unmarried Hispanic women to 158.1 pregnancies.
- The pregnancy rate of married Hispanic women decreased from 152.4 pregnancies per 1,000 Hispanic married women to 115.7 pregnancies.
- The pregnancy rate of married White women increased from 115.8 pregnancies per 1,000 married White women to 116.2 pregnancies.
- The pregnancy rate of married Black women decreased from 120.8 pregnancies per 1,000 married Black women to 107.9 pregnancies.
- The pregnancy rate of unmarried White women increased from 78.4 pregnancies per 1,000 unmarried White women to 83.6 pregnancies.
Between 1990 and 2008:

- The rate of pregnancies among married women decreased from 126.6 pregnancies per 1,000 married women to 116.2 pregnancies.
- The rate of live births among married women decreased from 93.2 live births per 1,000 married women to 86.9 live births.
- The rate of miscarriages among married women remained around 22.8 miscarriages per 1,000 married women.
- The rate of abortions among married women decreased from 10.6 abortions per 1,000 married women to 6.5 abortions.
Between 1993 and 2009:

- The rate of pregnancies among married Black women decreased from 120.8 pregnancies per 1,000 married women to 107.9 pregnancies.
- The rate of live births among married Black women decreased from 73 live births per 1,000 married women to 69.7 live births.
- The rate of abortions among married Black women decreased from 26.2 abortions per 1,000 married women to 16.5 abortions.
- The rate of miscarriages among married Black women remained around 21.6 miscarriages per 1,000 married women.
Between 1993 and 2009:

- The rate of pregnancies among unmarried Black women decreased from 188.7 pregnancies per 1,000 unmarried Black women to 154.1 pregnancies.
- The rate of live births among unmarried Black women decreased from 83 live births per 1,000 unmarried Black women to 71 live births.
- The rate of abortions among unmarried Black women decreased from 81.2 abortions per 1,000 unmarried Black women to 60.9 abortions.
- The rate of miscarriages among unmarried Black women increased from 24.5 miscarriages per 1,000 unmarried Black women to 22.1 miscarriages.
- Between 1970 and 2010, births to minors of all races/ethnicities decreased from 6.3 percent of all births to 2.8 percent.
- Between 1970 and 2010, births to Black minors decreased from 14.8 percent of all births to 4.9 percent.
- Between 1970 and 2010, births to American Indian and Alaskan Native minors decreased from 7.5 percent of all births to 5.1 percent.
- Between 1980 and 2010, births to Hispanic minors decreased from 7.4 percent of all births to 4.9 percent.
- Between 1970 and 2010, births to White minors decreased from 4.8 percent of all births to 2.5 percent.
- Between 1980 and 2010, births to Asian and Pacific Islander minors decreased from 1.5 percent of all births to 0.7 percent.
• Between 1975 and 2011, out-of-wedlock births to Black women increased from 48.8 percent of all births to 71.8 percent.
• Between 1990 and 2011, out-of-wedlock births to American Indian and Alaska Native women increased from 53.6 percent of all births to 66.2 percent.
• Between 1987 and 2011, out-of-wedlock births to Hispanic women increased from 32.6 percent of all births to 53.3 percent.
• Between 1975 and 2011, out-of-wedlock births to White women increased from 7.9 percent of all births to 35.7 percent.
• Between 1992 and 2011, out-of-wedlock births to Asian and Pacific Islander women increased from 14.7 percent of all births to 17.2 percent.
Between 1980 and 2011, the out-of-wedlock birth rate for Black teenage women decreased from 87.9 births per 1,000 unmarried Black teenage women to 46.7 births.

Between 1990 and 2011, the out-of-wedlock birth rate for Hispanic teenage women decreased from 65.9 births per 1,000 unmarried Hispanic women to 44.7 births.

Between 1980 and 2011, the out-of-wedlock birth rate for White teenage women increased from 16.5 births per 1,000 unmarried White women to 25.5 births.
• Between 1980 and 2011, the out-of-wedlock birth rate for Black 20- to 24-year old women decreased from 112.3 births per 1,000 unmarried Black 20- to 24-year old women to 106.9 births.
• Between 1990 and 2011, the out-of-wedlock birth rate for Hispanic 20- to 24-year old women decreased from 129.8 births per 1,000 unmarried Hispanic 20- to 24-year old women to 100.6 births.
• Between 1980 and 2011, the out-of-wedlock birth rate for White 20- to 24-year old women increased from 25.1 births per 1,000 unmarried White 20- to 24-year old women to 60.1 births.
Between 1980 and 2011:

- The out-of-wedlock birth rate for Black 15-to 44-year old mothers decreased from 81.1 births per 1,000 unmarried Black 15-to 44-year old mothers to 63.7 births.
- The out-of-wedlock birth rate for Black 20-to 24-year old mothers decreased from 112.3 births per 1,000 unmarried Black 20-to 24-year old mothers to 106.9 births.
- The out-of-wedlock birth rate for Black 15-to 19-year old mothers decreased from 87.9 births per 1,000 unmarried Black 15-to 19-year old mothers to 46.7 births.
- The out-of-wedlock birth rate for Black 25-to 29-year old mothers increased from 81.4 births per 1,000 unmarried Black 25-to 29-year old mothers to 92.4 births.
- The out-of-wedlock birth rate for Black 30-to 34-year old mothers increased from 46.7 births per 1,000 unmarried Black 30-to 34-year old mothers to 59.1 births.
- The out-of-wedlock birth rate for Black 35-to 39-year old mothers increased from 19 births per 1,000 unmarried Black 35-to 39-year old mothers to 28.9 births.
- The out-of-wedlock birth rate for Black 40-to 44-year old mothers increased from 5.5 births per 1,000 unmarried Black 40-to 44-year old mothers to 7.8 births.
Between 1980 and 2011:

- Out-of-wedlock births to 18- to 19-year old Black women decreased from 118.2 births per 1,000 unmarried Black 18- to 19-year olds to 77.4 births.

- Out-of-wedlock births to 15- to 19-year old Black women decreased from 87.9 births per 1,000 unmarried Black 15- to 19-year olds to 46.7 births.

- Out-of-wedlock births to 15- to 17-year old Black women decreased from 68.8 births per 1,000 unmarried Black 15- to 17-year olds to 24.7 births.
**Population:** Black unmarried 15- to 17-year old Girls who had a child in the past year

**Measured:** Breakdown of Black unmarried teenage girls who had a child in the past year by family structure of origin

- 14% of Black girls surveyed who had a child in the past year live with parents in their first marriage (intact).
- 5% of Black girls surveyed who had a child in the past year live with re-married parents.
- 21% of Black girls surveyed who had a child in the past year live with a divorced parent.
- 3% of Black girls surveyed who had a child in the past year live with a cohabiting parent.
- 37% of Black girls surveyed who had a child in the past year live with an always-single-parent.
- 1% of Black girls surveyed who had a child in the past year live with a widowed parent.
- 8% of Black girls surveyed who had a child in the past year are parented by a grandparent.
- 7% of Black girls in the survey who had a child in the past year are parented by a relative.
- 3% of Black girls surveyed who had a child in the past year live with a roomer/boarder (parents absent).
- 1% of Black girls surveyed who had a child in the past year are institutionalized (parents absent).
Between 1993 and 2008:

- The abortion rate for unmarried women of all races/ethnicities has decreased from 43.1 abortions per 1,000 unmarried women to 30.7 abortions.
- The abortion rate for Black unmarried women has decreased from 81.2 abortions per 1,000 unmarried Black women to 60.9 abortions.
- The abortion rate for Hispanic unmarried women has decreased from 60.6 abortions per 1,000 unmarried Hispanic women to 39.3 abortions.
- The abortion rate for White unmarried women has decreased from 33.9 abortions per 1,000 unmarried White women to 22.7 abortions.
Life Expectancy

Since the 1970s, Black infant mortality rates have decreased and Black life expectancy has increased; however, Blacks still have a disproportionately high mortality rate and low life expectancy when compared to Whites.
• Between 1975 and 2011, the total infant mortality rate in the U.S. decreased from 16.1 infant deaths per 1,000 live births to 6.1 infant deaths.
• Between 1975 and 2011, the Black infant mortality rate decreased from 26.2 infant deaths per 1,000 live Black births to 11.4 infant deaths.
• Between 1975 and 2009, the non-White infant mortality rate decreased from 24.2 infant deaths per 1,000 live non-White births to 10.0 infant deaths.
• Between 1975 and 2011, the White infant mortality rate decreased from 14.2 infant deaths per 1,000 live White births to 5.11 infant deaths.
- Between 1900 and 2011, life expectancy rates for people of all races/ethnicities increased from 47.3 years of age to 78.7 years.
- Between 1900 and 2011, White life expectancy rates increased from 47.6 years of age to 79 years.
- Between 1900 and 1969, non-White life expectancy rates increased from 33 years of age to 64.5 years. Between 1970 and 2011, Black life expectancy rates increased from 64.1 years of age to 75.3 years.\(^{11}\)

\(^{11}\) According to the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, “Race bridging refers to making data collected using one set of race categories consistent with data collected using a different set of race categories, to permit estimation and comparison of race-specific statistics at a point in time or over time. More specifically, race bridging is a method used to make multiple-race and single-race data collection systems sufficiently comparable to permit estimation and analysis of race-specific statistics.”
Family Structure

Only 32 percent of Black adults aged 35 to 40 are in their first marriage. Of all races and ethnicities, Black children are least likely to live with their married parents, and most likely to reside with a single parent. The overwhelming majority of children being raised by a single parent live with their mother, though an increasing number live with their father.
Between 1996 and 2009:

- The percentage of Black ever married men decreased from 54.5 percent to 53.1 percent.
- The percentage of Black men married once remained around 41.9 percent.
- The percentage of Black men who are still in their first marriage increased from 28.6 percent to 29.9 percent.
- The percentage of Black ever divorced men decreased from 18.5 percent to 17.7 percent.
- The percentage of Black currently divorced men increased from 8.8 percent to 9.2 percent.
- The percentage of Black men who have married twice increased from 8.1 percent to 9.2 percent.
- The percentage of Black men who have married twice and are still in their second marriage decreased from 8.1 percent to 6.8 percent.
- The percentage of Black men who have been married three or more times increased from 1.7 percent to 2.0 percent.
- The percentage of Black men who have been married three or more times and are still in their third marriage increased from 1.1 percent to 1.4 percent.
Between 1996 and 2009:

- The percentage of Black ever married women decreased from 60.0 percent to 54.8 percent.
- The percentage of Black women married once decreased from 47.8 percent to 44.6 percent.
- The percentage of Black women who are still in their first marriage increased from 24.1 percent to 24.8 percent.
- The percentage of Black ever divorced women decreased from 20.6 percent to 19.2 percent.
- The percentage of Black currently divorced women remained around 12.4 percent.
- The percentage of Black women who have married twice decreased from 10.6 percent to 8.4 percent.
- The percentage of Black women who have married twice and are still in their second marriage decreased from 5.6 percent to 4.4 percent.
- The percentage of Black women who have been married three or more times remained around 1.6 percent.
- The percentage of Black women who have been married three or more times and are still in their third marriage remained around 0.7 percent.
• Between 1970 and 2012, the total percentage of total children living in the U.S. with two married parents decreased from 85.0 percent to 64.1 percent.
• Between 2000 and 2002, the percentage of Asian and other Pacific Islander children living in the U.S. with two married parents increased from 80.5 percent to 81.8 percent. Between 2004 and 2012, the percentage of Asian children living in the U.S. with two married parents decreased from 83.1 percent to 82.4 percent.
• Between 1970 and 2012, the percentage of White children living in the U.S. with two married parents decreased from 89.5 percent to 70.0 percent.  \(^{12}\)
• Between 1970 and 2012, the percentage of Hispanic children living in the U.S. with two married parents decreased from 77.7 percent to 59.0 percent.  \(^{13}\)
• Between 1970 and 2012, the percentage of Black children living in the U.S. with two married parents decreased from 58.5 percent to 33.4 percent.

\(^{12}\) Note, data was not recorded between the years of 2002 and 2005.
\(^{13}\) Note, data was not collected between 1970 and 1980.
Between 1970 and 2012, the percentage of total U.S. children living with one parent increased from 12 percent to 28.3 percent.

Between 1970 and 2012, the percentage of Black children living with one parent increased from 31.8 percent to 55.2 percent.

Between 1980 and 2012, the percentage of Hispanic children living with one parent increased from 21.1 percent to 31.1 percent.

Between 1970 and 2012, the percentage of White children living with one parent increased from 8.7 percent to 23.3 percent.

Between 2000 and 2002, the percentage of Asian and other Pacific Islander children living with one parent decreased from 16.5 percent to 15.0 percent.

Between 2004 and 2012, the percentage of Asian children living with one parent decreased from 14.3 percent to 12.9 percent.
**Population**: Black adults aged 35 to 40

**Measured**: Breakdown of Black men and women by present family structure

- 32% of Black adults aged 35 to 40 who were surveyed are in their first marriage.
- 6% of Black adults aged 35 to 40 who were surveyed are re-married.
- 16% of Black adults aged 35 to 40 who were surveyed are divorced.
- 9% of Black adults aged 35 to 40 who were surveyed are cohabiting.
- 37% of Black adults aged 35 to 40 who were surveyed have always been single.
- 1% of Black adults aged 35 to 40 who were surveyed are widowed.
**Population:** Black men and women aged 35 to 40

**Measured:** Breakdown of Black men and women by present family structure

- 35% of Black men and 29% of Black women aged 35 to 40 who were surveyed are in their first marriage.
- 7% of Black men and 6% of Black women aged 35 to 40 who were surveyed are re-married.
- 12% of Black men and 18% of Black women aged 35 to 40 who were surveyed are divorced.
- 11% of Black men and 7% of Black women aged 35 to 40 who were surveyed are cohabiting.
- 34% of Black men and 39% of Black women aged 35 to 40 who were surveyed have always been single.
- Less than 1% of Black men and 1% of Black women aged 35 to 40 who were surveyed are widowed.
• Between 1970 and 2012, the percentage of total U.S. children living with their mother increased from 10.9 percent to 24.4 percent.

• Between 1970 and 2012, the percentage of Black children living with their mother increased from 29.5 percent to 50.9 percent.

• Between 1980 and 2012, the percentage of Hispanic children living with their mother increased from 19.6 percent to 28 percent.

• Between 1970 and 2012, the percentage of White children living with their mother increased from 7.8 percent to 19.3 percent.

• Between 2000 and 2002, the percentage of Asian and other Pacific Islander children living with their mother decreased from 14 percent to 13 percent. Between 2004 and 2012, the percentage of Asian children living with their mother decreased from 12.3 percent to 10.6 percent.
Between 1970 and 2012, the percentage of total U.S. children living with their father increased from 1.1 percent to 4 percent.

Between 1970 and 2012, the percentage of Black children living with their father increased from 2.3 percent to 4.2 percent.

Between 1970 and 2012, the percentage of White children living with their father increased from 0.9 percent to 4 percent.

Between 1980 and 2012, the percentage of Hispanic children living with their father increased from 1.5 percent to 3.1 percent.

Between 2005 and 2012, the percentage of Asian children living with their father increased from 2 percent to 2.3 percent.
- Between 1970 and 2012, the percentage of total U.S. children living with neither parent increased from 3 percent to 3.6 percent.
- Between 1970 and 2010, the percentage of Black children living with neither parent decreased from 9.8 percent to 6.7 percent.
- Between 1980 and 2012, the percentage of Hispanic children living with neither parent decreased from 3.5 percent to 3.2 percent.
- Between 1970 and 2012, the percentage of White children living with neither parent increased from 1.8 percent to 2.9 percent.
- Between 2004 and 2012, the percentage of Asian and other Pacific Islander children living with neither parent increased from 2.9 percent to 3.2 percent. Between 2004 and 2012, the percentage of Asian children living with neither parent decreased from 2.6 percent to 2 percent.
Between 1998 and 2012, the number of Black children adopted through public agencies in the U.S. decreased from 15,909 adoptions to 11,961 adoptions.

Between 1998 and 2012, the number of White children adopted through public agencies in the U.S. increased from 13,617 adoptions to 23,827 adoptions.

Between 1998 and 2012, the number of Hispanic children adopted through public agencies in the U.S. increased from 4,652 adoptions to 10,782 adoptions.

Between 1998 and 2012, the number of children of an unknown/unable to determine race/ethnicity adopted through public agencies in the U.S. decreased from 1,909 adoptions to 571 adoptions.

Between 2000 and 2012, the number of multi-racial children adopted through public agencies in the U.S. increased from 951 adoptions to 3,704 adoptions.

Between 1998 and 2012, the number of American Indian/Alaskan Native children adopted through public agencies in the U.S. increased from 448 adoptions to 860 adoptions.

Between 2000 and 2012, the number of Asian children adopted through public agencies in the U.S. decreased from 290 adoptions to 228 adoptions.

Between 2000 and 2012, the number of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander children adopted through public agencies in the U.S. increased from 199 adoptions to 571 adoptions.
**Population:** Black 15- to 17-year old boys and girls

**Measured:** Breakdown of Black 15- to 17-year old boys and girls by family structure of origin

- 26% of Black boys and 25% of Black girls aged 15- to 17-years old who were surveyed live with parents in their first marriage (intact).
- 9% of Black boys and 8% of Black girls 15- to 17-years old who were surveyed live with re-married parents.
- 21% of Black boys and 23% of Black girls 15- to 17-years old who were surveyed live with a divorced parent.
- 4% of Black boys and 5% of Black girls 15- to 17-years old who were surveyed live with a cohabiting parent.
- 23% of Black boys and 25% of Black girls 15- to 17-years old who were surveyed live with an always-single-parent.
- 2% of Black boys and 2% of Black girls 15- to 17-years old who were surveyed live with a widowed parent.
- 5% of Black boys and 5% of Black girls 15- to 17-years old who were surveyed are parented by a grandparent.
- 5% of Black boys and 5% of Black girls 15- to 17-years old who were surveyed are parented by a relative.
- 2% of Black boys and 2% of Black girls 15- to 17-years old who were surveyed live with a roomer/ boarder (parents absent).
- 3% of Black boys and 1% of Black girls 15- to 17-years old who were surveyed are institutionalized (parents absent).
Between 2005 and 2012:

- The percentage of White opposite-sex cohabiting partners aged 15+ increased from 75.9 percent to 76.5 percent.
- The percentage of Hispanic or Latino origin opposite-sex cohabiting partners aged 15+ increased from 15.7 percent to 18.6 percent.
- The percentage of Black or African American opposite-sex cohabiting partners aged 15+ decreased from 11.9 percent to 11.4 percent.
- The percentage of “other race” opposite-sex cohabiting partners aged 15+ decreased from 6.8 percent to 5.9 percent.
- The percentage of Asian opposite-sex cohabiting partners aged 15+ increased from 2.1 percent to 2.3 percent.
- The percentage of multi-race opposite-sex cohabiting partners aged 15+ increased from 1.9 percent to 2.5 percent.
Between 2005 and 2012:

- The percentage of White same-sex cohabiting partners aged 15+ increased from 84.5 percent to 85.0 percent.
- The percentage of Hispanic or Latino origin same-sex cohabiting partners aged 15+ remained around 10.3 percent.
- The percentage of Black or African American same-sex cohabiting partners aged 15+ remained around 6.5 percent.
- The percentage of “other race” same-sex cohabiting partners aged 15+ decreased from 3.8 percent to 2.6 percent.
- The percentage of Asian same-sex cohabiting partners aged 15+ decreased from 3.0 percent to 2.5 percent.
- The percentage of multi-race same-sex cohabiting partners aged 15+ increased from 1.5 percent to 2.6 percent.
Between 2005 and 2012:

- The percentage of White same-sex male cohabiting partners aged 15+ increased from 85.8 percent to 86.4 percent.
- The percentage of Hispanic or Latino origin same-sex male cohabiting partners aged 15+ decreased from 11.3 percent to 10.8 percent.
- The percentage of Black or African American same-sex male cohabiting partners aged 15+ remained around 5.1 percent.
- The percentage of “other race” same-sex male cohabiting partners aged 15+ decreased from 4.0 percent to 2.5 percent.
- The percentage of Asian same-sex male cohabiting partners aged 15+ remained around 2.9 percent.
- The percentage of multi-racial same-sex male cohabiting partners aged 15+ increased from 1.5 percent to 2.2 percent.
Between 2005 and 2012:

- The percentage of White same-sex female cohabiting partners aged 15+ increased from 82.9 percent to 83.7 percent.
- The percentage of Hispanic or Latino origin same-sex female cohabiting partners aged 15+ increased from 9.1 percent to 9.8 percent.
- The percentage of Black or African American same-sex female cohabiting partners aged 15+ decreased from 8.1 percent to 7.6 percent.
- The percentage of “other race” same-sex female cohabiting partners aged 15+ decreased from 3.6 percent to 2.6 percent.
- The percentage of Asian same-sex female cohabiting partners aged 15+ decreased from 3.0 percent to 2.1 percent.
- The percentage of multi-racial same-sex female cohabiting partners aged 15+ increased from 1.6 percent to 2.9 percent.
Education

Compared to 1964, three times as many Blacks graduate from high school and five times as many Blacks graduate from college. Education and family structure in adulthood are closely related. Most Black high school drop-outs have always been single, whereas most professional graduates are in their first marriage. In recent decades, more and more Black parents have received higher levels of education. Black mothers tend to be more educated than Black fathers.
• Between 2003 and 2012, the percentage of Asians who graduated from high school increased from 87.6 percent to 88.9 percent.
• Between 2003 and 2012, the percentage of Asians who graduated from college increased from 49.8 percent to 51 percent.
• Between 1964 and 2012, the percentage of Whites who graduated from high school increased from 50.3 percent to 88.1 percent.
• Between 1964 and 2012, the percentage of Whites who graduated from college increased from 9.6 percent to 31.3 percent.
• Between 1964 and 2012, the percentage of Blacks who graduated from high school increased from 25.7 percent to 85.0 percent.
• Between 1964 and 2012, the percentage of Blacks who graduated from college increased from 3.9 percent to 21.2 percent.
• Between 1974 and 2012, the percentage of Hispanics who graduated from high school increased from 36.5 percent to 65.0 percent.
• Between 1974 and 2012, the percentage of Hispanics who graduated from college increased from 5.5 percent to 14.5 percent.
**Educational Achievement of 35- to 40-year old Black Females by Present Family Structure**

American Community Survey 2008 through 2011; MARRI

**Population:** Black females 35- to 40-years old

**Measured:** Breakdown of education of Black females by present family structure

- Of those 35- to 40-year old Black females surveyed who were high school dropouts, 20% were in their first marriage, 4% were re-married, 17% were divorced, 8% were cohabiting, 50% were always single, and 2% were widowed.
- Of those 35- to 40-year old Black females surveyed who were high school graduates (only), 27% were in their first marriage, 6% were re-married, 20% were divorced, 7% were cohabiting, 40% were always single, and 1% were widowed.
- Of those 35- to 40-year old Black females surveyed who were college graduates (only), 39% were in their first marriage, 6% were re-married, 15% were divorced, 5% were cohabiting, 34% were always single, and 1% were widowed.
- Of those 35- to 40-year old Black females surveyed who were professional graduates (only), 43% were in their first marriage, 6% were re-married, 14% were divorced, 3% were cohabiting, 33% were always single, and 1% were widowed.
**Educational Achievement of 35- to 40-year old Black Females Contrasting “First Marriage” vs. “Always Single”**

American Community Survey 2008 through 2011; MARRI

**Population:** Black females 35- to 40-years old

**Measured:** Breakdown of education of Black females by present family structure

- Of those 35- to 40-year old Black females surveyed who were high school dropouts, 20% were in their first marriage and 50% were always single.
- Of those 35- to 40-year old Black females surveyed who were high school graduates (only), 27% were in their first marriage and 40% were always single.
- Of those 35- to 40-year old Black females surveyed who were college graduates (only), 39% were in their first marriage and 34% were always single.
- Of those 35- to 40-year old Black females surveyed who were professional graduates (only), 43% were in their first marriage and 33% were always single.
**Chart 39**

**Educational Achievement of 35- to 40-Year Old Black Males by Present Family Structure**

American Community Survey 2008 through 2011; MARRI

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Marriage</th>
<th>Re-Married</th>
<th>Divorced</th>
<th>Cohabiting</th>
<th>Always Single</th>
<th>Widowed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High School Drop-outs</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Graduates (only)</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Graduates (only)</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Graduates (only)</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Population:** Black males 35- to 40-years old

**Measured:** Breakdown of education of Black males by present family structure

- Of those 35- to 40-year old Black males surveyed who were high school dropouts, 21% were in their first marriage, 4% were re-married, 12% were divorced, 12% were cohabiting, 50% were always single, and less than 1% were widowed.
- Of those 35- to 40-year old Black males surveyed who were high school graduates (only), 34% were in their first marriage, 8% were re-married, 13% were divorced, 12% were cohabiting, 33% were always single, and less than 1% were widowed.
- Of those 35- to 40-year old Black males surveyed who were college graduates (only), 48% were in their first marriage, 9% were re-married, 11% were divorced, 7% were cohabiting, 25% were always single, and less than 1% were widowed.
- Of those 35- to 40-year old Black males surveyed who were professional graduates (only), 56% were in their first marriage, 8% were re-married, 9% were divorced, 6% were cohabiting, 21% were always single, and less than 1% were widowed.
Population: Black males 35- to 40-years old

Measured: Breakdown of education of Black males by present family structure

- Of those 35- to 40-year old Black males surveyed who were high school dropouts, 21% were in their first marriage and 50% were always single.
- Of those 35- to 40-year old Black males surveyed who were high school graduates (only), 34% were in their first marriage and 33% were always single.
- Of those 35- to 40-year old Black males surveyed who were college graduates (only), 48% were in their first marriage and 25% were always single.
- Of those 35- to 40-year old Black males surveyed who were professional graduates (only), 56% were in their first marriage and 21% were always single.
Between 1974 and 2010:

- The percentage of Non-Hispanic Black children aged 6-18 whose father had less than a high school diploma decreased from 61.3 percent to 9.1 percent.
- The percentage of Non-Hispanic Black children aged 6-18 whose father had a high school diploma or equivalent increased from 27.1 percent to 39.1 percent.
- The percentage of Non-Hispanic Black children aged 6-18 whose father had some college (including vocational/technical) increased from 7.6 percent to 32 percent.
- The percentage of Non-Hispanic Black children aged 6-18 whose father had a bachelor’s degree or higher increased from 4 percent to 19.8 percent.
Between 1974 and 2010:

- The percentage of Non-Hispanic Black children aged 6-18 whose mother had less than a high school diploma decreased from 57.7 percent to 13.7 percent.
- The percentage of Non-Hispanic Black children aged 6-18 whose mother had a high school diploma or equivalent decreased from 32.1 percent to 31.3 percent.
- The percentage of Non-Hispanic Black children aged 6-18 whose mother had some college (including vocational/technical) increased from 6.8 percent to 37.6 percent.
- The percentage of Non-Hispanic Black children aged 6-18 whose mother had a bachelor’s degree or higher increased from 3.6 percent to 17.4 percent.
Income

Blacks have a significantly lower median family income than Whites, Hispanics, and Asians. The majority of Black men and women living in poverty have always been single, and the majority of Black children living in poverty are raised by an always-single-parent.
• Between 1947 and 2012, the median family income for all races/ethnicities increased from $27,255 to $62,241.

• Between 1988 and 2001, the median family income of Asian and Pacific Islanders increased from $68,186 to $78,020. Between 2001 and 2012, the median family income of Asians increased from $77,834 to $77,864.

• Between 1947 and 2001, the median family income of Whites increased from $28,388 to $70,121. From 2002 to 2012, the median family income of Whites alone (non-Hispanic) decreased from $74,370 to $71,478.

• Between 1959 and 2001, the median family income of Blacks increased from $20,101 to $43,574. Between 1902 and 2012, the median family income of Blacks (alone) decreased from $42,788 to $40,517.
Population: Black men and women 18- to 62-years old below poverty\textsuperscript{14}

Measured: Breakdown of Black men and women below poverty by present family structure

- Of those 18- to 62-year old Black men surveyed who were living in poverty, 13% were in their first marriage, 4% were re-married, 13% were divorced, 18% were cohabiting, 51% were always single, and 1% were widowed.
- Of those 18- to 62-year old Black women surveyed who were living in poverty, 9% were in their first marriage, 2% were re-married, 19% were divorced, 10% were cohabiting, 56% were always single, and 3% were widowed.

\textsuperscript{14} The American Community Survey (ACS) “uses a set of dollar value thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is in poverty. If a family’s total income is less than the dollar value of the appropriate threshold, then that family and every individual in it are considered to be in poverty. Similarly, if an unrelated individual’s total income is less than the appropriate threshold, then that individual is considered to be in poverty. The poverty thresholds do not vary geographically. They are updated annually to allow for changes in the cost of living (inflation factor) using the Consumer Price Index (CPI).” For a detailed explanation of how the ACS defines poverty, see \url{https://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/poverty-cal-in-acs.pdf}. 

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**Population:** Black children below poverty

**Measured:** Breakdown of Black children below poverty by family structure of origin

- 12% of Black children surveyed who are in poverty live with parents in their first marriage (intact).
- 2% of Black children surveyed who are in poverty live with a re-married parent.
- 16% of Black children surveyed who are in poverty live with a divorced parent.
- 9% of Black children surveyed who are in poverty live with a cohabiting parent.
- 50% of black children surveyed who are in poverty live with an always-single-parent.
- 1% of Black children surveyed who are in poverty live with a widowed parent.
- 6% of Black children surveyed who are in poverty are parented by a grandparent.
- 3% of Black children in the survey who are in poverty are parented by a relative.
- 1% of Black children surveyed who are in poverty live with a roomer/boarder (parents absent).
- Less than 1% of Black children surveyed who are in poverty are institutionalized (parents absent).
**Population:** Black teenagers 15- to 17-years old below poverty

**Measured:** Breakdown of Black teenagers below poverty by family structure of origin

- 11% of Black teenagers surveyed who are in poverty live with parents in their first marriage (intact).
- 3% of Black teenagers surveyed who are in poverty live with a re-married parent.
- 24% of Black teenagers surveyed who are in poverty live with a divorced parent.
- 6% of Black teenagers surveyed who are in poverty live with a cohabiting parent.
- 37% of Black teenagers surveyed who are in poverty live with an always-single-parent.
- 3% of Black teenagers surveyed who are in poverty live with a widowed parent.
- 6% of Black teenagers surveyed who are in poverty are parented by a grandparent.
- 5% of Black teenagers in the survey who are in poverty are parented by a relative.
- 6% of Black teenagers surveyed who are in poverty live with a roomer/ boarder (parents absent).
- Less than 1% of Black teenagers surveyed who are in poverty are institutionalized (parents absent).
Health

Black adults in their first marriage comprise a relatively large portion of private healthcare recipients, and a lower portion of public health care beneficiaries. Always single Black adults consist of over half of public health care recipients.
Population: Black adults 18- to 62-years old with private healthcare

Measured: Breakdown of Black adults with private healthcare by present family structure

- 33% of those 18- to 62-year old Black adults surveyed with private healthcare were in their first marriage.
- 10% of those 18- to 62-year old Black adults surveyed with private healthcare were re-married.
- 15% of those 18- to 62-year old Black adults surveyed with private healthcare were divorced.
- 7% of those 18- to 62-year old Black adults surveyed with private healthcare were cohabiting.
- 34% of those 18- to 62-year old Black adults surveyed with private healthcare were always single.
- 2% of those 18- to 62-year old Black adults surveyed with private healthcare were widowed.
**Population:** Black adults 18- to 62-years old with public healthcare

**Measured:** Breakdown of Black adults with public healthcare by present family structure

- 15% of those 18- to 62-year old Black adults surveyed with public healthcare were in their first marriage.
- 6% of those 18- to 62-year old Black adults surveyed with public healthcare were re-married.
- 18% of those 18- to 62-year old Black adults surveyed with public healthcare were divorced.
- 8% of those 18- to 62-year old Black adults surveyed with public healthcare were cohabiting.
- 51% of those 18- to 62-year old Black adults surveyed with public healthcare were always single.
- 3% of those 18- to 62-year old Black adults surveyed with public healthcare were widowed.
**Population:** Black males 18- to 62-years old with public healthcare

**Measured:** Breakdown of Black males with public healthcare by present family structure

- 19% of those 18- to 62-year old Black males surveyed with public healthcare were in their first marriage.
- 8% of those 18- to 62-year old Black males surveyed with public healthcare were re-married.
- 16% of those 18- to 62-year old Black males surveyed with public healthcare were divorced.
- 9% of those 18- to 62-year old Black males surveyed with public healthcare were cohabiting.
- 46% of those 18- to 62-year old Black males surveyed with public healthcare were always single.
- 2% of those 18- to 62-year old Black males surveyed with public healthcare were widowed.
**Population:** Black females 18- to 62-years old with public healthcare

**Measured:** Breakdown of Black males with public healthcare by present family structure

- 12% of those 18- to 62-year old Black females surveyed with public healthcare were in their first marriage.
- 4% of those 18- to 62-year old Black females surveyed with public healthcare were re-married.
- 19% of those 18- to 62-year old Black females surveyed with public healthcare were divorced.
- 7% of those 18- to 62-year old Black females surveyed with public healthcare were cohabiting.
- 54% of those 18- to 62-year old Black females surveyed with public healthcare were always single.
- 4% of those 18- to 62-year old Black females surveyed with public healthcare were widowed.
Government Dependency

Black adults receiving government aid are most likely to have always been single. Black children and teenagers whose households receive food stamps tend to have grown up with an always-single-parent.
**Chart 51**

**Black Adults 18- to 62-Years Old Receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI)**

**By Present Family Structure**

American Community Survey 2008 through 2011; MARRI

- First Marriage: 10% Men, 9% Women
- Re-Married: 5% Men, 4% Women
- Divorced: 16% Men, 25% Women
- Cohabiting: 8% Men, 6% Women
- Always Single: 60% Men, 50% Women
- Widowed: 2% Men, 6% Women

**Population:** Black men and women 18- to 62-years old receiving SSI

**Measured:** Breakdown of Black men and women receiving SSI by present family structure

- Of those 18- to 62-year old Black men surveyed receiving SSI, 10% were in their first marriage, 5% were re-married, 16% were divorced, 8% were cohabiting, 60% were always single, and 2% were widowed.
- Of those 18- to 62-year old Black women surveyed receiving SSI, 9% were in their first marriage, 4% were re-married, 25% were divorced, 6% were cohabiting, 50% were always single, and 6% were widowed.

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15 The SSI program makes cash assistance payments to aged, blind, and disabled persons (including children) who have limited income and resources. The Federal Government funds SSI from general tax revenues. Many states pay a supplemental benefit to persons in addition to their Federal benefits.
Chart 52

Black Adults 18- to 62-Years Old Receiving Social Security Disability Insurance Income (SSDI) By Present Family Structure
American Community Survey 2008 through 2011; MARRI

- **Population:** Black men and women 18- to 62-years old receiving SSDI

- **Measured:** Breakdown of Black men and women receiving SSDI by present family structure
  - Of those 18- to 62-year old Black men surveyed receiving SSDI, 18% were in their first marriage, 11% were re-married, 20% were divorced, 7% were cohabiting, 41% were always single, and 3% were widowed.
  - Of those 18- to 62-year old Black women surveyed receiving SSDI, 14% were in their first marriage, 7% were re-married, 27% were divorced, 5% were cohabiting, 36% were always single, and 12% were widowed.

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16 SSDI provides benefits to disabled or blind persons who are “insured” by workers’ contributions to the Social Security trust fund. These contributions are based on your earnings (or those of your spouse or parents) as required by the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA).
**Population:** Black men and women 18- to 62-years old receiving TANF or Welfare\textsuperscript{17}

**Measured:** Breakdown of Black men and women receiving TANF or Welfare by present family structure

- Of those 18- to 62-year old Black men surveyed receiving TANF or Welfare, 13% were in their first marriage, 4% were re-married, 19% were divorced, 11% were cohabiting, 51% were always single, and 2% were widowed.
- Of those 18- to 62-year old Black women surveyed receiving TANF or Welfare, 9% were in their first marriage, 2% were re-married, 19% were divorced, 7% were cohabiting, 61% were always single, and 2% were widowed.

\textsuperscript{17} INCWELFR reports how much pre-tax income (if any) the respondent received during the previous year from various public assistance programs commonly referred to as "welfare." Assistance from private charities was not included. The censuses collected information on income received from these sources during the previous calendar year; for the ACS and the PRCS, the reference period was the past 12 months. The following are included within INCWELFR: federal/state Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments to elderly (age 65+), blind, or disabled persons with low incomes. (In the 2000 census, the ACS, and the PRCS, SSI payments are specified in INCSUPP only, not in INCWELFR); Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC); and General Assistance (GA). (This does not include separate payments for hospital or other medical care.).

Amounts are expressed in contemporary dollars, and users studying change over time must adjust for inflation (See INCTOT for Consumer Price Index adjustment factors). The exception is the ACS/PRCS multi-year files, where all dollar amounts have been standardized to dollars as valued in the final year of data included in the file (e.g., 2007 dollars for the 2005-2007 3-year file). Additionally, more detail may be available than exists in the original ACS samples.
**Population:** Black adults (all) and Black women 18+ years old using food stamps

**Measured:** Breakdown of Black adults (all) and women using food stamps by present family structure

- Of those 18- to 62-year old Black adults (all) surveyed using food stamps, 14% were in their first marriage, 4% were re-married, 18% were divorced, 10% were cohabiting, 47% were always single, and 6% were widowed.
- Of those 18- to 62-year old Black women surveyed using food stamps, 11% were in their first marriage, 3% were re-married, 21% were divorced, 7% were cohabiting, 49% were always single, and 9% were widowed.
Chart 55

Black Children Household’s Use of Food Stamps By Family Structure of Origin
American Community Survey 2008 through 2011; MARRI

**Population:** Black children household’s use of food stamps

**Measured:** Breakdown of Black children household’s use of food stamps by family structure of origin

- 14% of Black children surveyed whose household uses food stamps live with parents in their first marriage (intact).
- 3% of Black children surveyed whose household uses food stamps live with a re-married parent.
- 16% of Black children surveyed whose household uses food stamps live with a divorced parent.
- 8% of Black children surveyed whose household uses food stamps live with a cohabiting parent.
- 49% of Black children surveyed whose household uses food stamps live with an always-single-parent.
- 1% of Black children surveyed whose household uses food stamps live with a widowed parent.
- 5% of Black children surveyed whose household uses food stamps are parented by a grandparent.
- 3% of Black children in the survey whose household uses food stamps are parented by a relative.
- 1% of Black children surveyed whose household uses food stamps live with a roomer/boader (parents absent).
- Less than 1% of Black children surveyed whose household uses food stamps are institutionalized (parents absent).
**Population:** Black teenagers (15- to 17-years) household’s use of food stamps

**Measured:** Breakdown of Black teenagers whose household uses food stamps by family structure of origin

- 13% of Black teenagers surveyed whose household uses food stamps live with parents in their first marriage (intact).
- 4% of Black teenagers surveyed whose household uses food stamps live with a re-married parent.
- 25% of Black teenagers surveyed whose household uses food stamps live with a divorced parent.
- 5% of Black teenagers surveyed whose household uses food stamps live with a cohabiting parent.
- 38% of Black teenagers surveyed whose household uses food stamps live with an always-single-parent.
- 2% of Black teenagers surveyed whose household uses food stamps live with a widowed parent.
- 5% of Black teenagers surveyed whose household uses food stamps are parented by a grandparent.
- 5% of Black teenagers in the survey whose household uses food stamps are parented by a relative.
- 1% of Black teenagers surveyed whose household uses food stamps live with a roomer/boader (parents absent).
- Less than 1% of Black teenagers surveyed whose household uses food stamps are institutionalized (parents absent).
Sexual Intercourse, Contraception, and Condom Use

Black high school students are more likely to have had sexual intercourse than Whites, Blacks, and Hispanics. Black high school students are increasingly more likely to use the pill or condom during sexual intercourse. However the rate of sexual intercourse continues to drop significantly.
Between 1991 and 2011:

- The percentage of total high school students in the U.S. who have had sexual intercourse decreased from 37.5 percent to 33.7 percent.
- The percentage of Black (non-Hispanic) high school students in the U.S. who have had sexual intercourse decreased from 59.3 percent to 41.3 percent.
- The percentage of Hispanic high school students in the U.S. who have had sexual intercourse decreased from 37 percent to 33.5 percent.
- The percentage of White (non-Hispanic) high school students in the U.S. who have had sexual intercourse decreased from 33.9 percent to 32.4 percent.
Between 1991 and 2011:
- The percentage of total sexually active high school students that use the birth control pill remained around 18.4 percent.
- The percentage of White (non-Hispanic) sexually active high school students that use the birth control pill remained around 20.4 percent.
- The percentage of Black (non-Hispanic) sexually active high school students that use the birth control pill remained around 15.1 percent.
- The percentage of Hispanic sexually active high school students that use the birth control pill remained around 12.4 percent.
Between 1991 and 2011:

- The percentage of total sexually active high school students that use condoms increased from 46.2 percent to 60.2 percent.
- The percentage of sexually active ninth graders that use condoms increased from 53.3 percent to 62.2 percent.
- The percentage of sexually active tenth graders that use condoms increased from 46.3 percent to 63.3 percent.
- The percentage of sexually active eleventh graders that use condoms increased from 48.7 percent to 61.1 percent.
- The percentage of sexually active twelfth graders that use condoms increased from 41.4 percent to 56.3 percent.
HIV Rates

HIV rates are highest among Blacks.
Between 2005 and 2010:

- The incidences of new HIV diagnosis among Blacks/African Americans decreased from 68.2 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 62 incidences.
- The incidences of new HIV diagnosis among Native Hawaiians/other Pacific Islanders decreased from 34.8 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 19.3 incidences.
- The incidences of new HIV diagnosis among Hispanics/Latinos decreased from 26.6 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 20.4 incidences.
- The incidences of new HIV diagnosis among those of multiple races decreased from 19.7 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 15.4 incidences.
- The incidences of new HIV diagnosis among American Indians/Alaskan Natives decreased from 10.3 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 9.7 incidences.
- The incidences of new HIV diagnosis among Whites decreased from 8.0 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 7.3 incidences.
- The incidences of new HIV diagnosis among Asians increased from 6.1 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 6.5 incidences.
Between 2004 and 2010, the incidences of new HIV diagnosis among Black/African American males decreased from 131.6 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 116.0 incidences.

Between 2007 and 2010, the incidences of new HIV diagnosis among Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander males decreased from 76.7 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 44.4 incidences.

Between 2004 and 2010, the incidences of new HIV diagnosis among Hispanic/Latino males decreased from 60.2 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 44.7 incidences.

Between 2008 and 2010, the incidences of new HIV diagnosis among males of multiple races increased from 33.6 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 39.3 incidences.

Between 2004 and 2010, the incidences of new HIV diagnosis among American Indian/Alaskan Native males decreased from 20.8 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 18.1 incidences.

Between 2004 and 2010, the incidences of new HIV diagnosis among White males decreased from 18.7 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 15.3 incidences.

Between 2004 and 2006, the incidences of new HIV diagnosis among Asian/Pacific Islander males decreased from 13.9 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 13.5 incidences. Between 2007 and 2010, the incidences of new HIV diagnosis among Asian males decreased from 15.5 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 13.7 incidences.
Between 2004 and 2010, the incidences of new HIV diagnosis among Black/African American females decreased from 67.0 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 41.7 incidences.

Between 2004 and 2010, the incidences of new HIV diagnosis among Hispanic/Latino females decreased from 16.3 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 9.2 incidences.

Between 2008 and 2010, the incidences of new HIV diagnosis among females of multiple races increased from 13.4 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 9.7 incidences.

Between 2007 and 2010, the incidences of new HIV diagnosis among Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander females decreased from 9.0 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 4.5 incidences.

Between 2004 and 2010, the incidences of new HIV diagnosis among American Indian/Aleutian Native females decreased from 7.7 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 6.4 incidences.

Between 2004 and 2006, the incidences of new HIV diagnosis among Asian/Pacific Islander females decreased from 4.1 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 3.2 incidences. Between 2007 and 2010, the incidences of new HIV diagnosis among Asian females decreased from 3.5 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 2.5 incidences.

Between 2004 and 2010, the incidences of new HIV diagnosis among White females decreased from 3.2 incidences per 100,000 of the total population to 2.1 incidences.
Suicide

Black high school students are less likely to consider suicide compared to Whites and Hispanics.
Between 1991 and 2011:

- The percentage of White (non-Hispanic) high school student who seriously considered attempting suicide decreased from 29.9 percent to 15.5 percent.
- The percentage of Hispanic high school student who seriously considered attempting suicide decreased from 26.8 percent to 16.7 percent.
- The percentage of Black (non-Hispanic) high school student who seriously considered attempting suicide decreased from 22.2 percent to 13.2 percent.
Between 1991 and 2011:

- The percentage of White (non-Hispanic) high school males who seriously considered attempting suicide decreased from 21.7 percent to 12.8 percent.
- The percentage of Hispanic high school males who seriously considered attempting suicide decreased from 18.0 percent to 12.6 percent.
- The percentage of Black (non-Hispanic) high school males who seriously considered attempting suicide decreased from 13.3 percent to 9.0 percent.
Between 1991 and 2011:

- The percentage of total high school males who felt sad or hopeless increased from 21.0 percent to 21.5 percent.
- The percentage of Hispanic high school males who felt sad or hopeless decreased from 27.7 percent to 24.0 percent.
- The percentage of Black (non-Hispanic) high school males who felt sad or hopeless decreased from 19.6 percent to 18.0 percent.
- The percentage of White (non-Hispanic) high school males who felt sad or hopeless increased from 19.0 percent to 20.7 percent.
Between 1991 and 2011:

- The percentage of total high school females who felt sad or hopeless increased from 35.7 percent to 35.9 percent.
- The percentage of Hispanic high school females who felt sad or hopeless decreased from 46.1 percent to 41.4 percent.
- The percentage of Black (non-Hispanic) high school females who felt sad or hopeless decreased from 37.7 percent to 31.4 percent.
- The percentage of White (non-Hispanic) high school females who felt sad or hopeless increased from 31.3 percent to 34.3 percent.