

IFS “Fast Stats”

- 1) In 2016, 69 percent of America’s 73.7 million children lived in families headed by two parents (biological, step, or adoptive). (*Census Bureau, [America’s Families and Living Arrangements](#)*)
- 2) 23 percent of U.S. children lived in single-mother families in 2016 (*Census Bureau, [America’s Families and Living Arrangements](#)*)
- 3) About 3.0 million children lived with unmarried parents in 2016. (*Census Bureau, [America’s Families and Living Arrangements](#)*)
- 4) By age 12, 40 percent of children will spend some time in a cohabiting household, most often with their biological mother and her live-in boyfriend (*Future of Children*).
- 5) About 4 in 10 U.S. births were to unmarried women in each year between 2007 through 2013. The majority of *recent non-marital births* (58 percent) are to unmarried women living with their child’s father (*CDC, [National Center for Health Statistics](#)*)
- 6) Single-mother families are about five times as likely to experience poverty as married-parent families. In 2015, 7.5 percent of married-couple families were in poverty, compared to 36.5 percent of single-mother families, and 22.0 percent of single-father families (*U.S. Census Bureau, [Income & Poverty in the U.S., 2015. Table 4.](#)*)
- 7) More than one-half of men and women aged 15–44 in 2011–2013 had cohabited at some time; 15 percent of women and 13.5 percent of men were *currently cohabiting*. (*CDC, [National Survey of Family Growth, 2015](#)*)
- 8) Only 22 percent of Millennials are currently married (*Pew Research Center, 2011*)
- 9) In 2015, married men accounted for three-fifths of prime-age job holders, but only about one-third of [not in the labor force] men (*Nicholas Eberstadt, [Men Without Work](#)*)
- 10) Lifetime risk of divorce for newlyweds today is between 42 to 45 percent (*Stanley/Amato, [“What’s the Divorce Rate Anyway?”](#)*)
- 11) 50 percent of Americans (aged 18 or older) are married (*Pew Research Center, 2014*)
- 12) Boys raised in a single-parent household are more than twice as likely to be incarcerated, compared with boys raised in an intact, married home, even after controlling for differences in parental income, education, race, and ethnicity, according to research by Princeton’s Sara McLanahan. (*Wilcox, [Slate, 2012](#)*)