The United States has one of the highest divorce rates in the world (Amato, 2010; Cherlin, 2010), yet little is known about contemporary patterns of remarriage. In the mid-1990s, the majority of men (78%) and women (69%) remarried following a divorce (Schoen and Standish, 2001). According to the 1990 U.S. Vital Statistics, the remarriage rate was about 43 per 1,000 previously married men and women (Clarke, 1995). Beginning in 2008, marital history questions have been asked each year on the American Community Survey (ACS) allowing the estimation of the remarriage rate for the first time since the 1990s when the collection of detailed data was suspended due to reporting and funding constraints. This profile documents trends in the remarriage rate from 2008-2013, establishes the median age at remarriage in 2013, and illustrates geographic variation in the remarriage rate for men and women in 2013.

- In 2013, the remarriage rate was approximately 28 per 1,000—28 remarrages occurred per 1,000 men and women age 18 and older who were eligible to remarry (see Note below).
  - This represents a 44% decline since 1990 and a 16% decline since 2008.

- The remarriage rate is consistently much higher for men (40 per 1,000) than for women (21 per 1,000).
  - Men experienced a somewhat greater decline since 2008 (19%) compared to women (15%).

- Men are older than women, on average, when they remarry.
  - In 2013, the median age at remarriage was 45.5 for men and 42.8 for women—two years older than the median ages in 2008.

![Figure 1. Remarriage Rate in the U.S., 2008-2013](image)

### Five States with the Highest and Lowest Remarriage Rate, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women’s Highest &amp; Lowest Remarriage Rates</th>
<th>Men’s Highest &amp; Lowest Remarriage Rates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Utah 45.8</td>
<td>1. North Dakota 72.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Wyoming 39.8</td>
<td>2. Utah 64.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Alaska 39.5</td>
<td>3. Mississippi 53.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Vermont 35.9</td>
<td>4. Delaware 53.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Arkansas 35.1</td>
<td>5. Arkansas 51.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. 21.4</td>
<td>U.S. 39.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47. South Dakota 13.7</td>
<td>47. Massachusetts 29.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48. Massachusetts 13.4</td>
<td>48. South Dakota 27.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49. Connecticut 13.3</td>
<td>49. Vermont 24.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51. Rhode Island 11.5</td>
<td>51. Rhode Island 20.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: This profile limits analyses to ever married respondents age 18 and older at risk of remarriage in the past 12 months. This excludes respondents who indicate being currently married or separated and did not experience a marriage, divorce, or become widowed within the past 12 months. Additionally, this profile excludes respondents who are currently married or separated whose first marriage occurred within the past 12 months.
Geographic Variation in the U.S. Remarriage Rate, 2013

Women
- Among states with the highest women’s remarriage rates, the largest share is located in the western region of the U.S. (Utah, Wyoming, Alaska, Idaho, Hawaii, Colorado, and New Mexico).
- Among states with the lowest women’s remarriage rates, the largest share is located in the northeastern region of the U.S. (Pennsylvania, New York, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, Rhode Island).

Men
- Among states with the highest men’s remarriage rates, the largest share is located in the southern region of the U.S. (Mississippi, Delaware, Arkansas, North Carolina, Georgia, Texas, Virginia, Tennessee, and Alabama).
- Among states with the lowest men’s remarriage rates, the largest share is located in the northeastern region of the U.S. (New York, Pennsylvania, Maine, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island).

Figure 2. Geographic Variation of U.S. Women’s Remarriage Rate Among States
Figure 3. Geographic Variation of U.S. Men’s Remarriage Rate Among States

References:
Data: United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, 2008-2013

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Family Profiles: Original reports summarizing and analyzing nationally representative data with the goal to provide the latest analysis of U.S. families. These profiles examine topics related to the NCFMR’s core research themes.

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