+ Fast Facts on American Marriages

In 2019, 1.6 million women married for the first time, the first marriage rate remains low, 43.4 marriages per 1,000 never married women. (FP-21-09)

The median age at first marriage in the United States increased steadily from a record low in the 1950s, when it was just over 20 for women and 22 for men. By 2020, among different-sex marriages, the median age was 28 for women, and 30 for men. (FP-21-12)

Among women entering same-sex marriages in 2019, the median age at first marriage was 31, while among men entering same-sex marriage the median age was 35. (FP-21-11).

Men are typically two years older than women when they first get married [FP-21-12]. For remarriage the age difference is about three years [FP-19-17]. Overall, women's median age at first marriage and remarriage are younger.

Between 1980 & 1991, women’s median age at first marriage was consistently younger than women’s median age at first birth. Since 1991, the median age at first marriage was consistently older than the median age at first birth. (FP-19-16)

In about half of marriages spouses have similar education levels, and instances in which the wife has more education than the husband are more common among newlyweds compared to those who have been married longer. (FP-21-06)

The remarriage rate is consistently higher for men than for women, at 37 per 1,000 vs. 20 per 1,000 in 2018. The decline in rates from 2008 to 2018 was about twice as large for men (12 percentage points) as women (5 percentage points). (FP-20-20)

The percentage of men who remarried at the age of 55 or older increased from 21% in 1960 to 30% in 2018. The percentage of women who remarried at the age of 55 or older nearly doubled from about 11% in 1960 to 20% in 2018. (FP-20-10)

Among adults who were currently married in 2018, 77% were in a first marriage, and 23% were in a remarriage. (FP-20-19)

Seven in ten high school seniors agree that cohabitation is a good testing ground for marriage. (FP-19-10)

+ Family Profiles  https://www.bgsu.edu/ncfmr/resources/data/family-profiles.html
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.