

National Center for Family & Marriage Research

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+ Mission

Research

Training

Dissemination

+ Goal

To improve our understanding of how family structure is linked to the health and well-being of children, adults, families, and communities and to inform policy development and programmatic responses.

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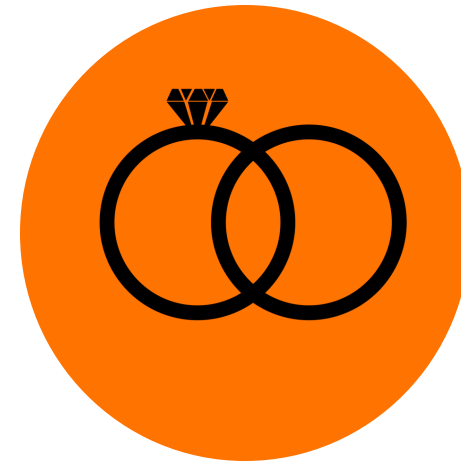
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+ Fast Facts on American Marriages



In 2018, more than **1.5 million** women married for the **first time**, with a rate of **44.5** first marriages per 1,000 never-married women. (FP-20-01)



From 1991 to 2017, **first marriage rates declined** among women under age 30 (especially teens) but **increased** for women over age 30 (especially women 50+). (FP-19-05)



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 2018, the median age had **reached record highs** of almost **28** for women and nearing **30** for men. (FP-19-06)



About **half** of all adults are **currently married**, with **just under half** (47%) of all households composed of married couples. (FP-19-14; FP-19-26)



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 birth** was consistently **older** than the **median age at first marriage**. (FP-17-22)



Although **spouses have the same level of education** in about **half** of all marriages, 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-18-18)



The **majority** of high school seniors (76%) **expect to marry**, but **6** in **10** do **not** expect to do so within the next five years. (FP-19-11; FP-19-12)



Remarriage rates have **declined** over the past few decades, by about **50%** for women and nearly **60%** for men. (FP-19-17)



Among all women who married in 2017, **27%** were entering a **remarriage**. (FP-19-08)



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.