America's Families and Living Arrangements: 2007

Population Characteristics

INTRODUCTION

This report presents basic trends in household and family composition and living arrangements. Previous U.S. Census Bureau reports in this series were based only on the Annual Social and Economic supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS ASEC).¹ With the full implementation of the American Community Survey (ACS) and due to its large sample size, there now exist annual data to examine household and family characteristics for geographic areas below the national level (3 million addresses).² While the CPS contains detailed information about family structure and characteristics over time, the ACS provides information about how basic family and household characteristics vary across geographic areas, such as states and counties.³

This report is organized into four sections: households, families, parents, and children. The first section looks at America's households, tracking changes in family and nonfamily households, household size over time, as well as the state-by-state variation in the living arrangements of households with own children under 18. The second section details family groups by type, including married couples, single-parent families, and other family groups. The third section looks at America's parents and compares the characteristics of stay-athome mothers with non-stay-at-home mothers. The last section considers America's children and describes their living arrangements, including the stateby-state variation in the percentage of children living in married-couple households with two parents in the labor force.

Some highlights of the report are:

- Sixty-eight percent of households in 2007 were family households, compared with 81 percent in 1970.
- The proportion of one-person households increased by 10 percentage points between 1970 and 2007, from 17 percent to 27 percent.
- Between 1970 and 2007, the average number of people per household declined from 3.1 to 2.6.
- Most family groups with children under 18 (67 percent) were maintained by married couples.
- The vast majority of fathers who lived with their child under 18 also lived with the child's mother (94 percent). In comparison, 74 percent of mothers living with their child under 18 also lived with the child's father.

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¹ The data in this report are from the CPS ASEC, collected in February, March, and April 2007 and earlier supplements, and the 2007 ACS. The population represented by the CPS (the population universe) is the civilian noninstitutionalized population living in the United States. The population represented by the ACS is the population in households that live in the United States.

² For more details on the ACS, including its sample size and questions, see <www.census.gov /acs/www>.

³ For a comparison of households and families estimates in the ACS and CPS, see O'Connell, Martin and Gretchen Gooding. 2005. *Comparison of ACS and ASEC Data on Households and Families: 2004*, U.S. Census Bureau Working Paper, accessible online at <www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS.ASEC .Comp.Report.Apr11.doc>.

- Stay-at-home mothers were younger and had younger children than other mothers.
- Stay-at-home mothers were more likely to be Hispanic than non-stay-at-home mothers. Stayat-home mothers were more likely to be foreign born than non-stay-at-home mothers.⁴
- Among children living with a parent, younger children were more likely than older children to live with two unmarried parents. So, while 10 percent of infants under age 1 lived with two unmarried parents, 1 percent of children 12 to 17 lived with two unmarried parents.
- Among children living with unmarried parents, older children were more likely than younger children to live with their father only, with no other adult present. Only about 2 percent of children under 3 lived with their father who was the sole adult, while 11 percent of teens 12 to 17 did.

Definition Box 1.

A *household* contains one or more people. Everyone living in a housing unit makes up a household. One of the people who owns or rents the residence is designated as the *householder*. For the purposes of examining family and household composition, two types of households are defined: *family* and *nonfamily*.

A *family household* has at least two members related by birth, marriage, or adoption, one of whom is the householder.

A *nonfamily household* can be either a person living alone or a householder who shares the housing unit only with nonrelatives; for example, boarders or roommates. The nonrelatives of the householder may be related to each other.

Family households are maintained by married couples or by a man or woman living with other relatives—children may or may not be present. In contrast, nonfamily households are maintained only by men or women with no relatives at home.

Own children are a subset of all *children*—they are the biological, step-, or adopted children of the householder or family reference person (in the case of subfamilies) for the universe being considered, whether household, family, or family group. Own children are also limited to those children who have never been married and are under 18 and, in the case of the Current Population Survey, also are not themselves a family reference person. Foster children are not included as own children since they are not related to the householder.

AMERICA'S HOUSEHOLDS

Changes in the number and type of households are influenced by patterns of population growth, shifts in the age composition of the population, and the decisions individuals make about their living arrangements. Demographic trends in marriage, cohabitation, divorce, fertility, and mortality also affect family and household composition. Moreover, shifts in social norms, values, laws, and the economy and improvements in health care also influence how people organize their lives. Individual decisions produce aggregate societal changes in household and family composition.

As Table 1 shows, there were over 112 million households in the United States in 2007. Seventy-five million were family households, including 56 million married-couple households, 5 million with male householders with no spouse present, and 14 million with female householders with no spouse present.⁵ In 2007, there were 37 million nonfamily households in the United States, representing one-third of all households. Of these nonfamily households, 31 million consisted of one person living alone. Eleven million nonfamily households were maintained by individuals 65 years and older.⁶

⁴ Federal surveys now give respondents the option of reporting more than one race. Therefore, two basic ways of defining a race group are possible. A group such as Asian may be defined as those who reported Asian and no other race (the race-alone or singlerace concept) or as those who reported Asian regardless of whether they also reported another race (the race-alone-or-in-combination concept). The body of this report (text, figures, and tables) shows data using the first approach (race alone). Use of the singlerace population does not imply that it is the preferred method of presenting or analyzing data. The Census Bureau uses a variety of approaches. For further information, see the Census 2000 Brief Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin: 2000 (C2KBR/01-1) at <www .census.gov/population/www/cen2000 /briefs.html>. This report will refer to the White-alone population as White, the Blackalone population as Black, the Asian-alone population as Asian, and the White-alone-non-Hispanic population as White, non-Hispanic. Because Hispanics may be any race, data in this report for Hispanics overlap with data for racial groups. Based on the 2007 CPS ASEC, 18 percent of the White population was Hispanic, as was 4 percent of the Black population, 2 percent of Asians, and 25 percent of others who reported only one race. Since the ACS sample is much larger than the CPS. we are able to show additional categories for race groups in Table 1.

⁵ The estimates in this report (which may be shown in text, figures, and tables) are based on responses from a sample of the population and may differ from actual values because of sampling variability or other factors. As a result, apparent differences between the estimates for two or more groups may not be statistically significant. All comparative statements have undergone statistical testing and are significant at the 90 percent confidence level unless otherwise noted.

⁶ The 8.1 million people living in group quarters in 2007, 3.1 percent of whom were under 18, are not included in this report.

Table 1.Households by Type and Selected Characteristics: 2007

	All house	holds		Family ho	useholds		Nonfamily households			
Characteristic					C	Other families				
	Number	Margin of error ¹	Total	Married couple	Male house- holder	Female house- holder	Total	Male house- holder	Female house- holder	
All households	112,377,977	144,356	75,119,260	55,867,091	5,208,231	14,043,938	37,258,717	17,311,243	19,947,474	
Age of Householder										
15 to 24 years 25 to 34 years 35 to 44 years 45 to 54 years 55 to 64 years 65 years and over	5,272,168 17,994,353 22,780,724 24,371,368 18,923,772 23,035,592	36,535 53,749 48,979 45,761 35,775 48,672	2,412,856 12,401,621 17,706,306 17,732,762 12,608,488 12,257,227	1,032,811 8,268,306 12,655,622 13,432,098 10,489,266 9,988,988	432,914 1,148,871 1,323,364 1,220,128 590,587 492,367	947,131 2,984,444 3,727,320 3,080,536 1,528,635 1,775,872	2,859,312 5,592,732 5,074,418 6,638,606 6,315,284 10,778,365	1,498,217 3,375,048 3,181,397 3,539,731 2,710,019 3,006,831	1,361,095 2,217,684 1,893,021 3,098,875 3,605,265 7,771,534	
Race and Hispanic Origin of Householder										
White alone White alone, non-Hispanic Black or African American alone American Indian and Alaska	87,486,191 80,690,054 13,247,930	90,775 77,261 44,321	57,921,125 52,678,325 8,463,809	46,062,058 42,527,367 3,787,030	3,520,505 2,975,321 804,587	8,338,562 7,175,637 3,872,192	29,565,066 28,011,729 4,784,121	13,586,789 12,735,808 2,171,574	15,978,277 15,275,921 2,612,547	
Native alone Asian alone Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific	787,328 4,182,621	13,605 24,463	537,496 3,118,102	314,635 2,532,763	59,073 205,078	163,788 380,261	249,832 1,064,519	125,840 540,157	123,992 524,362	
Islander alone Some Other Race alone Two or more races	122,106 5,029,193 1,522,608	5,024 35,292 25,459	93,748 4,003,022 981,958	62,701 2,477,448 630,456	8,731 520,177 90,080	22,316 1,005,397 261,422	28,358 1,026,171 540,650	15,564 611,764 259,555	12,794 414,407 281,095	
Hispanic (any race)	12,311,308	43,179	9,585,261	6,203,200	1,108,316	2,273,745	2,726,047	1,534,949	1,191,098	
Size of Household									17 1 10 00 1	
1 person 2 people. 3 people. 4 people. 5 people. 6 people. 7 or more people.	30,645,140 37,431,760 17,822,974 15,350,166 7,110,486 2,514,461 1,502,990	81,159 88,770 63,841 58,861 36,038 25,706 18,231	(X) 32,010,072 17,052,676 15,053,279 7,024,110 2,491,164 1,487,959	(X) 24,216,690 11,150,020 11,922,128 5,561,333 1,918,937 1,097,983	(X) 2,098,437 1,542,327 859,420 417,489 168,661 121,897	(X) 5,694,945 4,360,329 2,271,731 1,045,288 403,566 268,079	30,645,140 5,421,688 770,298 296,887 86,376 23,297 15,031	13,503,106 2,985,304 519,243 211,289 65,204 17,038 10,059	17,142,034 2,436,384 251,055 85,598 21,172 6,259 4,972	
Average size	2.61	0.01	3.28	3.25	3.37	3.36	1.26	1.34	1.20	
Number of Related Children Under 18										
No related children	74,325,814 38,052,163 16,172,607 13,951,879 5,619,485 2,308,192	103,667 86,010 57,961 52,022 32,602 22,857	37,067,097 38,052,163 16,172,607 13,951,879 5,619,485 2,308,192	30,416,731 25,450,360 9,766,692 10,056,101 4,043,841 1,583,726	2,249,585 2,958,646 1,673,624 866,221 291,878 126,923	4,400,781 9,643,157 4,732,291 3,029,557 1,283,766 597,543	37,258,717 (X) (X) (X) (X) (X) (X)	17,311,243 (X) (X) (X) (X) (X) (X)	19,947,474 (X) (X) (X) (X) (X) (X)	
Presence of Own Children Under 18									10 0 47 474	
No own children With own children under 12 With own children under 6 With own children under 3 With own children under 1	77,378,393 34,999,584 25,157,759 14,933,718 8,724,619 3,123,384	103,077 89,168 82,096 66,597 52,665 29,596	40,119,676 34,999,584 25,157,759 14,933,718 8,724,619 3,123,384	31,780,788 24,086,303 17,702,694 10,758,792 6,395,333 2,276,565	2,643,221 2,565,010 1,763,239 1,038,560 628,793 248,524	5,695,667 8,348,271 5,691,826 3,136,366 1,700,493 598,295	37,258,717 (X) (X) (X) (X) (X) (X)	17,311,243 (X) (X) (X) (X) (X) (X)	19,947,474 (X) (X) (X) (X) (X) (X)	
Tenure Owned home. Rented home. Occupied without payment .	75,515,104 34,674,969 2,187,904	227,236 114,886 22,916	56,131,865 17,811,123 1,176,272	46,337,300 8,805,707 724,084	2,964,726 2,129,733 113,772	6,829,839 6,875,683 338,416	19,383,239 16,863,846 1,011,632	8,341,031 8,461,664 508,548	11,042,208 8,402,182 503,084	

(X) Not applicable.

¹ This number, when added to or subtracted from the estimated total number of households in each category or the average household size, represents the 90 percent confidence interval around the estimate.

Note: See </www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2007.pdf> for further information on the accuracy of the data.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2007.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement, selected years, 1970 to 2007.

Nonfamily households were more common in 2007 than in 1970.

Since the CPS has been collected for decades, these data can be used to examine changes over time in household type in the United States. Family households predominated in 1970, when they constituted 81 percent of all households, but the proportion dropped to 68 percent by 2007.

Figure 1 divides family and nonfamily households into various categories: married couples with and without children, other family households, men and women living alone, and other nonfamily households. The most noticeable trend is the decline in the proportion of married-couple households with their own children—from 40 percent of all households in 1970 to 23 percent in 2007. In contrast, the proportion of households that were made up of married couples without children dropped only slightly over the same time period—from 30 percent in 1970 to 28 percent in 2007.

The other family households shown in Figure 1—families whose householder was living with children or other relatives but had no spouse present—increased from 11 percent of all households in 1970 to 17 percent in 2007. However, since 2002, the proportion of households that are single-parent families (included in the other family households category) has stabilized at about 9 percent.

The top three segments of the graph in Figure 1 represent all nonfamily household types. The figure shows that the majority of the increase in nonfamily households was due to the growth in one-person households; that is, people living alone. The proportion of one-person households increased by 10 percentage points between 1970 and 2007 (from 17 percent to 27 percent), compared with an increase of 4 percentage points in other nonfamily households (from 2 percent to 6 percent) during the same period. Cohabiting households, that is, householders with unmarried partners, were included in this category if no relatives of the householder were present. Women living alone represented 67 percent of one-person households in 1970. In 2007, men were closing this gap, but women still represented more than half (57 percent) of one-person households. Although the percentage of all one-person households that were women decreased over this time period, the percentage of women 65 years and older who lived alone was higher in 2007 than in 1970 (39 percent compared with 34 percent). The difference was greater for women 75 years and older, with 37 percent of them living alone in 1970 and 49 percent living alone in 2007.

Married-couple households decreased from 71 percent to 51 percent of all households from



1970 to 2007. During the same period, other family households and nonfamily households increased from 29 percent to 49 percent of all households. This increase was spread across other family households, men and women living alone, and other nonfamily households, with all of these groups having an increase of less than 7 percentage points.

Households and families have become smaller over time.

Households have decreased in size, with the most profound changes occurring among the largest and smallest households (Figure 2). Between 1970 and 2007, households with five or more people decreased from 21 percent to 10 percent of all households. During the same period, the share of households with only one or two people increased from 46 percent to 60 percent. In addition, between 1970 and 2007, the average number of people per household declined from 3.1 to 2.6.⁷

Married couples maintained a smaller portion of family households in 2007 than in 1970.

In 2007, married-couple family households represented 75 percent of family households; in 1970, they were 87 percent of all family households.⁸

Using the CPS data, Figure 3 provides a historical look at changes in household type for family households with children under 18. Over the period 1950 through 2007, the proportion of family households with children that were maintained by a married couple decreased from 93 percent to 71 percent. There was a corresponding increase in the percentage of family households with children that were maintained by a mother with no spouse present (6 percent to 23 percent) and those maintained by a father with no spouse present (1 percent to 5 percent).

Householders in marriedcouple family households were older than those in other family households in 2007.

Examining some of the characteristics of households using ACS data, householders in married-couple family households were older than those in other family households in 2007 (Table 1). Thirty-seven percent of married-couple family householders were at least 55 years old, while about 21 percent of other male family householders and 24 percent of other female family householders were this age.

⁷ See historical tables HH-4 and HH-6, accessible on the Census Bureau's Web site at <www.census.gov/population/socdemo /hh-fam/hh4.xls> and <www.census.gov /population/socdemo/hh-fam/hh6.xls>.

⁸ See historical table HH-1, accessible on the Census Bureau's Web site at <www .census.gov/population/socdemo/hh-fam /hh1.xls>.



In 2007, 81 percent of family households maintained by an Asian householder or maintained by a White, non-Hispanic householder were married-couple households. A smaller proportion of family households with a Hispanic householder were married-couple households (65 percent), and less than one-half (45 percent) of family households with a Black householder were married-couple households.

Household type varies by state for households with own children under 18.

ACS data can provide a look at geographic variations in whether households with own children under 18 are maintained by a married couple, an unmarried couple, or one parent without a spouse or partner present. Figures 4, 5, and 6 are national maps that show the state-by-state variation in household type for households with own children under 18 in 2007. Figure 4 shows the percentage of U.S. households with own children under 18 that are maintained by a married couple (69 percent) and shows whether the estimate for each state is above or below the U.S. average. Most of the states with estimates below the national average were east of the Mississippi. The only states west of the Mississippi with below-average percentages were Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico,

and Arizona. The District of Columbia had the lowest percentage of households with own children under 18 maintained by married couples (42 percent). In contrast, Utah had the highest percentage of households with own children under 18 maintained by married couples (82 percent).

Overall, single parents maintained 25 percent of U.S. households with own children under 18, excluding parents living with an unmarried partner. As Figure 5 shows, most of the states with estimates that were higher than the national average were in the South, with the exceptions of New Mexico, Michigan, Ohio, and New York. The area with the highest percentage of singleparent households was the District of Columbia (54 percent), while the state with the lowest percentage of single-parent households was Utah (15 percent).

Figure 6 shows the state-by-state variation in the percentage of households with own children under 18 maintained by unmarried partners compared with the national average of 6 percent.9 Regionally, the states with percentages higher than the national average tended to be in the West and the North, with the exception of Florida. Among the states with the highest percentage of households with own children under 18 maintained by unmarried partners were New Mexico and Maine. The state with the lowest percentage of households with own children under 18 maintained by unmarried partners was Utah (4 percent).¹⁰

⁹ The comparable percentage in the CPS is 5.1 percent of family households with own children under 18 that are maintained by an unmarried couple.

¹⁰ Utah was not statistically different from the District of Columbia (4 percent).





AMERICA'S FAMILIES

The family is a vital institution in American society and often serves as the major source of support for individuals. The detailed data collected on family relationships in the CPS allows us to look at family units regardless of whether they include the householder. For example, if a mother and child live in the mother's parents' home, the mother and her child are considered a separate family group. When referring to households that contain a relative of the householder, the Census Bureau usually uses the term "families." The term "family groups" is used when referring to all family units, whether or not they include the householder.

Definition Box 2.

Households can contain more than one married-couple or single-parent family, and nonfamily households can contain families that are not related to the owner or renter. In 1970, the Census Bureau developed the concept of the *family group* to count all of these types of families.

Family groups include family households plus all family groups that do not include the householder (subfamilies). These subfamilies may consist of either married couples or parent-child units. An individual may be counted in two different family groups. For example, the householder and her adult daughter and granddaughter form one family group. The adult daughter and her child form a second family group, a mother-child subfamily.

Reference people are the members of a household around whom family units are organized. In family households, the householder is always the reference person for the primary family, while another member of the household would be the reference person for a subfamily.

Table 2.Family Groups by Race and Hispanic Origin of Reference Person: 2007

(Numbers in thousands)

		Race of family reference person						
Type of family group	Total	White alone	White alone, non-Hispanic	Black alone	Asian alone	Hispanic (any race)		
Total	82,746	67,120	56,613	10,081	3,669	11,280		
Number								
Married couples	60.676	52.020	45,124	4,512	2,995	7,284		
With children under 18	26,802	22,519	18,152	2,182	1,519	4,628		
Without children under 18	33,874	29,500	26,972	2,330	1,477	2,656		
Unmarried parent couple ¹	1,474	1,127	804	222	49	356		
Mother only with children under 18 ²	9,965	6,358	4,586	3,068	184	1,988		
Father only with children under 18 ²	1,742	1,354	1,154	289	42	221		
Householder and other relative(s) ³	8,888	6,262	4,944	1,990	399	1,431		
Grandparent householder with grandchildren under 18	1,126	698	520	390	11	194		
Householder with adult children.	4,785	3,483	2,923	1,080	123	595		
Householder with young adult children aged 18 to 24	1,956	1,382	1,138	474	59	267		
Householder with parent	2,072	1,411	1,016	421	173	435		
Percent								
Married couples	73.3	77.5	79.7	44.8	81.6	64.6		
With children under 18	32.4	33.6	32.1	21.6	41.4	41.0		
Without children under 18	40.9	44.0	47.6	23.1	40.3	23.5		
Unmarried parent couple ¹	1.8	1.7	1.4	2.2	1.3	3.2		
Mother only with children under 18 ²	12.0	9.5	8.1	30.4	5.0	17.6		
Father only with children under 18 ²	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.9	1.1	2.0		
Householder and other relative(s) ³	10.7	9.3	8.7	19.7	10.9	12.7		
Grandparent householder with grandchildren under 18	1.4	1.0	0.9	3.9	0.3	1.7		
Householder with adult children.	5.8	5.2	5.2	10.7	3.4	5.3		
Householder with young adult children aged 18 to 24	2.4 2.5	2.1 2.1	2.0 1.8	4.7 4.2	1.6 4.7	2.4 3.9		
Householder with parent	2.5	2.1	1.0	4.2	4.7	3.8		

¹ These couples have at least one joint never-married child under 18.

² Parent may have a cohabiting partner, but none of his or her children are also identified as the child of his or her cohabiting partner.

³ Subcategories of "householder and other relative(s)" are not mutually exclusive—915,000 family groups overlap among the subcategories; and 1,844,000 family groups fall under "householder and other relative(s)" but not in the subcategories listed.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement, 2007.

Seventy-three percent of the 83 million family groups in the United States in 2007 were married couples.

In 2007, there were 83 million family groups (Table 2). Seventy-three percent of the family groups were married couples and 44 percent of them had children under 18. So, nearly one-third (32 percent) of all family groups were married couples with children under 18. Twelve percent of family groups were mothers with no spouse present living with their children under 18, while 2 percent were fathers with no spouse present with children under 18. An additional 2 percent were unmarried parent couples with joint children under 18.¹¹ Another substantial group of families consisted of a householder and another relative who was neither the householder's spouse nor child under 18. Eleven percent of all family groups fell into this group. Under this category, 6 percent of all family groups contained a householder and his or her adult children.

The distribution of family groups by type varied by the race and Hispanic origin of the family reference person. While a high percentage of White, non-Hispanic and Asian family groups were married couples (80 percent and 82 percent, respectively), the corresponding percentages for Blacks

(45 percent) and Hispanics (65 percent) were lower. Family groups maintained by Blacks and Hispanics were more likely to be mothers with children under 18 (30 percent and 18 percent, respectively) than were family groups maintained by White, non-Hispanics and Asians (8 percent and 5 percent, respectively). Blacks (20 percent), Asians (11 percent), and Hispanics (13 percent) had higher proportions of family groups that consisted of a householder and some other relative than did White, non-Hispanics (9 percent).

Table 3 details some characteristics of the 40 million family groups with children under 18. For the first time in 2007, CPS data show family groups that consist of children living with two parents who are

¹¹ A joint child was identified by the respondent as a child of both of the unmarried partners.

Table 3. Family Groups With Children Under 18 by Selected Characteristics: 2007

			mber usands)		Percent				
Characteristic	Two parents		One p	arent	Two p	parents	One parent		
	Married parents	Unmarried parents ¹	Mom only	Dad only	Married parents	Unmarried parents ¹	Mom only	Dad only	
Total	26,802	1,474	9,965	1,742	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Age of Reference Person Under 20 years 20 to 24 years 25 to 29 years 30 to 34 years 35 to 39 years 40 to 44 years 45 years and over	48 858 2,767 4,354 5,643 5,515 7,617	51 326 394 261 178 124 141	287 1,125 1,689 1,614 1,751 1,663 1,837	3 80 158 220 342 377 562	0.2 3.2 10.3 16.2 21.1 20.6 28.4	3.5 22.1 26.7 17.7 12.1 8.4 9.6	2.9 11.3 16.9 16.2 17.6 16.7 18.4	0.2 4.6 9.1 12.6 19.6 21.6 32.3	
Bace and Hispanic Origin of Reference Person White alone White alone, non-Hispanic Black alone Asian alone Other race	22,519 18,152 2,182 1,519 582	1,127 804 222 49 76	6,358 4,586 3,068 184 356	1,354 1,154 289 42 58	84.0 67.7 8.1 5.7 2.2	76.5 54.5 15.1 3.3 5.2	63.8 46.0 30.8 1.8 3.6	77.7 66.2 16.6 2.4 3.3	
Hispanic (any race)	4,628	356	1,988	221	17.3	24.2	19.9	12.7	
Education of Father Not high school graduate. High school graduate. Some college. Bachelor's degree or higher.	3,185 7,584 6,638 9,395	407 638 313 117	(X) (X) (X) (X)	259 726 478 279	11.9 28.3 24.8 35.1	27.6 43.3 21.2 7.9	(X) (X) (X) (X)	14.9 41.7 27.4 16.0	
Education of Mother Not high school graduate High school graduate Some college Bachelor's degree or higher	2,864 6,854 7,479 9,605	348 564 438 124	1,750 3,395 3,343 1,478	(X) (X) (X) (X)	10.7 25.6 27.9 35.8	23.6 38.3 29.7 8.4	17.6 34.1 33.5 14.8	(X) (X) (X) (X)	
Employment of Father Not employed Employed	2,074 24,729	297 1,177	(X) (X)	354 1,388	7.7 92.3	20.1 79.9	(X) (X)	20.3 79.7	
Employment of Mother Not employed Employed.	8,735 18,068	581 893	2,898 7,067	(X) (X)	32.6 67.4	39.4 60.6	29.1 70.9	(X) (X)	
Household Food Stamp Receipt Yes No	1,125 25,677	313 1,161	2,760 7,205	184 1,557	4.2 95.8	21.2 78.8	27.7 72.3	10.6 89.4	
Tenure Owned home Rented ² home	21,017 5,785	608 866	4,367 5,599	1,070 672	78.4 21.6	41.2 58.8	43.8 56.2	61.4 38.6	
Household Income in 2006 Income under \$10,000 \$10,000 to \$14,999 \$15,000 to \$19,999 \$25,000 to \$29,999 \$30,000 to \$39,999 \$40,000 to \$49,999 \$50,000 to \$74,999 \$75,000 to \$99,999 \$100,000 and over	388 376 615 718 814 2,172 2,413 5,993 4,660 8,654	82 82 104 122 84 228 198 283 152 140	1,541 966 930 785 807 1,318 944 1,413 614 648	100 84 68 96 110 292 231 362 165 233	1.4 1.4 2.3 2.7 3.0 8.1 9.0 22.4 17.4 32.3	5.6 5.6 7.1 8.3 5.7 15.5 13.4 19.2 10.3 9.5	15.5 9.7 9.3 7.9 8.1 13.2 9.5 14.2 6.2 6.5	5.7 4.8 3.9 5.5 6.3 16.8 13.3 20.8 9.5 13.4	

(X) Not applicable.

 $^{\rm 1}$ Includes unmarried opposite sex couples who have at least one joint child. $^{\rm 2}$ "No cash rent" is included with rent.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement, 2007.

unmarried. Previously, children living with two unmarried parents were shown as living with a mother or father only. Overall, Table 3 shows that the majority of family groups with children under 18 were maintained by married couples (67 percent). One-quarter were maintained by mothers with no spouse present (25 percent), while 4 percent were unmarried couples with children and 4 percent were fathers with no spouse present.

The family reference people in married-couple and father-only family groups were older, with 49 percent and 54 percent 40 years old and over, respectively, compared with 18 percent of unmarried parents and 35 percent of mother-only family groups. While 68 percent of married couples with children were White, non-Hispanic, this was the case for 46 percent of the motheronly family groups. A higher percentage of mother-only family groups (31 percent) were maintained by a Black reference person than were married-couple family groups (8 percent). Asians made up 6 percent of the married-couple family groups with children but just 2 percent of the mother-only families. One-quarter (24 percent) of the unmarried-parent family groups were maintained by Hispanics, and they made up one-fifth (20 percent) of the mother-only family groups with children.12

A higher proportion of married parents had at least a bachelor's degree (35 percent of the men and 36 percent of the women) than unmarried parents (8 percent) or parents in mother-only (15 percent) or father-only (16 percent) family groups.¹³ Unmarried parents were more likely to have less than a high school diploma (28 percent of men and 24 percent of women), compared with married parents (12 percent of men and 11 percent of women) and parents in motheronly (18 percent) and father-only (15 percent) family groups.¹⁴

Married fathers were more likely to be employed (92 percent) than fathers in unmarried-parent family groups or father-only groups (80 percent each).¹⁵ Mothers in motheronly family groups were the most likely to be employed (71 percent) compared to married mothers (67 percent).

Over one-quarter (28 percent) of mother-only family groups received food stamps, while about one-fifth (21 percent) of the unmarriedparent family groups did, along with about one-tenth (11 percent) of the father-only family groups. A lower percentage (4 percent) of married-couple family groups with children received food stamps.

Married parents were the most likely to own their home (78

percent), while over half (61 percent) of father-only family groups owned their home. Less than half of the unmarried-parent and mother-only family groups lived in homes they owned (41 percent and 44 percent, respectively).

Married parents had the highest household income, which is connected to the fact that they had, on average, more adult earners present than the other types of family groups and were, on average, older than the family groups with two unmarried parents. Half of the married-parent family groups had household incomes of at least \$75,000. In contrast, 20 percent of the unmarried-parent groups, 13 percent of the mother-only groups, and 23 percent of the father-only groups had household incomes that high. At the opposite end of the spectrum, one-quarter of the mother-only family groups had household incomes less than \$15,000, a statistically higher proportion than for any of the other types of family groups. Eleven percent of father-only and unmarriedparent family groups and 3 percent of married-couple family groups had household incomes this low.16

Overall, socioeconomic indicators show that family groups with children under 18 maintained by

Definition Box 3.

Changes in the collection of data on cohabitation. For some months in 1995 and in the historical tables since 1996, a category of relationship to the householder has been available from the Current Population Survey for use in the direct measurement of cohabitation. This category allows respondents to identify an individual in the household as the "unmarried partner" of the householder. Beginning in 2007, a question was also asked of adults who lived with adult nonrelatives to find out if they had a boyfriend, girlfriend, or partner living in the household.

¹² The percentage of father-only family groups that were maintained by White, non-Hispanic fathers was not statistically different from the percentage of father-only family groups maintained by Hispanics.

¹³ The percentages of parents in motheronly and father-only family groups with at least a bachelor's degree were not statistically different.

¹⁴ The percentages of parents in motheronly and father-only family groups with less than a high school diploma were not statistically different.

¹⁵ The percentages of fathers in unmarried-parent family groups and fatheronly family groups that are employed were not statistically different.

¹⁶ The percentage of father-only family groups with household incomes less than \$15,000 was not statistically different from the percentage of unmarried-parent family groups with household incomes this low.

married parents were more likely to own their homes, have higher household incomes, be employed, and have at least a bachelor's degree. They were less likely to receive food stamps than other family types.

AMERICA'S PARENTS

Often, when families with children are discussed, attention is focused primarily on children. This section highlights parents' living situations and their characteristics. Overall in the United States, more family groups with children under 18 had a mother present than a father (Table 3). Parents who are not living with their children's other parent may be living with a boyfriend or girlfriend, a relative, or a nonrelative who may contribute resources to the household and be available for child care.

Ninety-four percent of fathers who lived with their child under 18 also lived with the child's mother.

Figure 7 uses CPS data to contrast the living arrangements of fathers and mothers, showing the percentage of fathers and mothers who lived with their child's other parent, lived with their child and another adult, or lived alone with their







child. An overwhelming majority of fathers (94 percent) lived with their child and the child's mother, compared with 74 percent of mothers who lived with their child and the child's father. Mothers were more likely than fathers to live with their children on their own. While 17 percent of mothers lived alone with their child, only 3 percent of fathers did. Fathers who lived with their children under 18 were more often than not also living with the child's mother.

Stay-at-home mothers numbered 5.6 million in 2007.

Recently, much interest has focused on married couples with children and a "stay-at-home" parent. This term typically describes a family where the father or mother stays home to care for the children while the other spouse is employed. For this report, stay-at-home mothers are those who have a husband who was in the labor force all 52 weeks last year, while she was out of the labor force during the same 52 weeks to care for the home and family. The characteristics of these women are compared with those of other mothers in married-couple family groups with children under 15. This comparison group of other mothers includes those who were in the labor force at least 1 week in the last year, had husbands who were out of the labor force at least 1 week last year, or did not report the primary reason they were out of the labor force as "to care for home and family."

In this report, estimates of the number of stay-at-home mothers and fathers caring for children under 15 are based not on the parents' activities as child care providers but rather on the basis of their responses to the primary

Table 4.

Stay-At-Home Mothers Compared With Other Mothers in Married-Couple Family Groups With Children Under 15: 2007

	Stay-at-home mo	others	Other mothers		
Characteristic	Number (in thousands)	Percent	Number (in thousands)	Percent	
Total	5,563	100.0	17,944	100.0	
Age of Mother 15 to 24 years 25 to 34 years 35 to 44 years 45 years and over	393 * 2,046 * 2,383 * 742 *	7.1 36.8 42.8 13.3	892 5,953 8,078 3,020	5.0 33.2 45.0 16.8	
Age of Youngest Child 0 to 1 year 2 to 4 years 5 years and over	1,549 * 1,637 * 2,377 *	27.8 29.4 42.7	3,689 4,095 10,160	20.6 22.8 56.6	
Average age gap between mother and youngest child (in years)	31.0	(X)	30.9	(X)	
Educational Attainment of Mother. Less than high school High school diploma Some college. Bachelor's degree . Master's degree or higher	1,041 * 1,499 * 1,246 * 1,364 414 *	18.7 26.9 22.4 24.5 7.4	1,495 4,373 5,275 4,659 2,141	8.3 24.4 29.4 26.0 11.9	
Race and Hispanic Origin of Mother White alone White alone, non-Hispanic Black alone Asian alone Other race	4,802 * 3,359 * 239 * 412 * 111	86.3 60.4 4.3 7.4 2.0	14,927 12,296 1,529 1,093 395	83.2 68.5 8.5 6.1 2.2	
Hispanic (any race)	1,484 *	26.7	2,811	15.7	
Nativity of Mother Native Foreign born	3,673 * 1,890 *	66.0 34.0	14,560 3,384	81.1 18.9	
Family Income in 2006 Under \$10,000. \$10,000 to \$14,999. \$15,000 to \$19,999. \$20,000 to \$24,999. \$25,000 to \$29,999. \$30,000 to \$39,999. \$40,000 to \$49,999. \$50,000 to \$74,999. \$75,000 to \$99,999. \$100,000 and over.	89 166 * 290 * 308 * 307 * 750 * 595 * 1,113 * 600 * 1,345 *	1.6 3.0 5.2 5.5 5.5 13.5 10.7 20.0 10.8 24.2	315 209 320 404 472 1,283 1,571 4,179 3,362 5,829	1.8 1.2 2.3 2.6 7.2 8.8 23.3 18.7 32.5	
Poverty Status in 2006 Below poverty level	687 * 4,877 *	12.3 87.7	915 17,028	5.1 94.9	

* Asterisk indicates a significant difference at the 90 percent confidence level in the percentages for the two groups of mothers.

(X) Not applicable.

Note: Stay-at-home family groups are married-couple family groups with children under 15 where one parent is in the labor force all of the previous year and his or her spouse is out of the labor force for the entire year with the reason "taking care of home and family."

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement, 2007.

reason why they were not in the labor force during the previous 52 weeks. The labor-force-based measure is an item asked on the CPS ASEC and allows consistent measures of stay-at-home parent families over time.¹⁷ Census Bureau estimates are shown for marriedcouple family groups with own children under 15.

Journalists and academics alike have debated the existence of an "opt-out revolution," or highly educated, high-earning mothers leaving the labor force to raise their children.¹⁸ Rather than engaging in this debate, this section provides basic characteristics of stay-at-home mothers compared with other married mothers with children under 15. Table 4 provides a snapshot of the age, race and ethnicity, educational attainment, nativity, and family income for stay-at-home and non-stay-athome mothers. In 2007, 24 million married-couple family groups included children under 15 years old. Table 4 shows that 5.6 million (24 percent) of these family groups included a stay-at-home mother.¹⁹

Stay-at-home mothers were younger and had younger children than other mothers.

Stay-at-home mothers were somewhat younger than other moms, with 44 percent under 35 years old, compared with 38 percent of the other mothers. These differences in the age structure between the two groups of mothers should be kept in mind when examining other social and economic characteristics that may be influenced by age. A higher percentage of the stay-athome mothers had an infant in the household—28 percent compared with 21 percent. Fifty-seven percent had a preschool-aged child (under 5), compared with 43 percent of the other mothers.

Stay-at-home mothers were less educated than other mothers.

While 19 percent of the stay-athome mothers had less than a high school diploma, 8 percent of the other mothers had this level of educational attainment. Thirty-two percent of the stay-at-home mothers had at least a bachelor's degree, compared with 38 percent of the other mothers.

Stay-at-home mothers were more likely to be Hispanic and more likely to be foreign born than other mothers.

More than one-quarter (27 percent) of stay-at-home mothers were Hispanic, compared with 16 percent of the other mothers. Correspondingly, stay-at-home mothers, were less likely to be White, non-Hispanic (60 percent compared with 69 percent) and Black (4 percent compared with 9 percent).²⁰ About one third (34 percent) of stay-at-home mothers were foreign born, while less than one-fifth (19 percent) of the other mothers were foreign born.

Stay-at-home mothers had lower family incomes and were more likely to be in poverty than other mothers.

Stay-at-home mothers had lower family incomes than other mothers, as might be expected since, by definition, they were out of the labor force. While half of the other mothers had family incomes of at least \$75,000, this is true for onethird (35 percent) of the stay-athome mothers. Twelve percent of stay-at-home mothers were below the poverty level, compared with 5 percent of the other mothers.

In 2007, 66 percent of married couples with children under 18 had both spouses in the labor force.

Despite press and academic attention. stav-at-home parents are a small proportion of married parents. Annual CPS estimates provide a look at changes over time in the labor force participation of married couples with children under 18.21 In 1986, 59 percent of married couples with children under 18 had both spouses in the labor force. This percentage rose to 68 in 2000 and was slightly lower, at 66 percent, in 2007. The percentage of couples where only the husband was in the labor force correspondingly decreased between 1986 and 2007, as did the percentage of couples with neither the husband nor the wife in the labor force. There was an increase in the percentage of couples where only the wife was in the labor force. This was a small percentage of couples but rose from 2 percent to 3 percent from 1986 to 2007.

¹⁷ To access a historical table showing married-couple family groups with stay-athome parents, see <www.census.gov /population/socdemo/hh-fam/shp1.xls>.

¹⁸ Belkin, Lisa. October 26, 2003. "The Opt-Out Revolution," *New York Times*; Graff, E.J. 2007. "The Opt-Out Myth," *Columbia Journalism Review*, Vol. 45, No. 6, p.51; Williams, Joan C., Jessica Manvell, and Stephanie Bornstein. 2006. "Opt Out or Pushed Out? How the Press Covers Work/Family Conflict: The Untold Story of Why Women Leave the Workforce," The Center for Worklife Law, University of California, Hastings College of Law. <www.uchastings.edu/site_files/WLL /OptOutPushedOut.pdf>.

¹⁹ The estimated number of stay-at-home fathers in 2007 was 165,000.

²⁰ The percentage of stay-at-home mothers who were other race was not statistically different from the percentage of other mothers who were other race.

²¹ See Table MC-1 at <www.census.gov /population/socdemo/hh-fam/mc1.xls>.



* DC is represented at 4.5 times the scale of other continental states. Note: See <www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2007.pdf> for further information on the accuracy of the data. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2007.

AMERICA'S CHILDREN

Children occupy an important place in American society. Their welfare is a concern to both parents and the public at large. The previous section provided a look at family living situations from the parents' perspective, while this section considers living arrangements from the child's perspective. For example, in the last section, CPS data were used to look at changes over time in the labor force participation of married parents, while in this section, ACS data are used to examine the proportion of own children in each state with married parents who are both in the labor force. This section also uses CPS data to investigate variation in the living arrangements of children of different ages.

The percentage of own children living with married parents, for whom both parents are in the labor force, varied regionally.

While the CPS data discussed in the previous section provided a historical look at changes in the percentage of married couples with own children under 18 in which both spouses were in the labor force, the ACS can provide a look at this from the child's point of view. Figure 8 shows a state map of the percentage of own children under 18 with both parents in the labor force. Nationally, 62 percent of own children in married-couple households have both parents in the labor force. Western states are characterized by lower-than-average percentages of own children in married-couple households with both parents in the labor force, while Northern and Eastern states are characterized by higher-than-average percentages. The states with the highest percentages include South Dakota, Vermont, and North Dakota. In contrast, Arizona (53 percent) and Utah (53 percent) had the lowest percentages.²²

Living arrangements of children varied by age and race and Hispanic origin.

CPS data contain additional detail about children living with two unmarried parents that is not present in the ACS. This section looks

²² Arizona and Utah were not statistically different from West Virginia (55 percent).



at differences in children's living arrangements by age. CPS data do not follow the same people over time, but by looking at characteristics by age of the child, we can approximate changes in children's living arrangements throughout their childhood.

Figure 9 shows that, regardless of the age of the child, roughly 70 percent of children lived with married parents. This included children who lived with two biological parents, as well as those who lived with a biological parent and a stepparent or with two adoptive parents. For example, a child may live with two biological parents while he or she is under 6 years old and may later experience the divorce of his or her parents. This child may then spend several years in a mother-only family before his or her mother remarries. This example illustrates the fact that in this cross-sectional look at children's living arrangements, it is important to keep in mind that as children age, they may spend time in several of the arrangements listed. Even though about 70 percent of children at each age lived with married parents, any given child may not have always lived with married parents and may later live in a mother-only family or another arrangement.

Infants under age 1 had the highest percentage that lived with two unmarried parents (10 percent). For children 12 to 17, just 1 percent lived with two unmarried parents.

This difference may indicate both the fact that the prevalence of cohabitation has risen over the last 10 to 15 years and the fact that cohabiting couples have high rates of dissolution, so they may not remain together for 12 to 17 vears after the child's birth.²³ The percentage of children living with their mother only, whether the mother lived with another adult or on her own, was highest for children 12 to 17 years old. So, while 20 percent of children aged 1 lived with their mother only (11 percent with a mom who was the sole adult), 25 percent of children 12 to 17 lived with their mother only (18

²³ Osborne, Cynthia, Wendy D. Manning, and Pamela J. Smock. 2007. "Married and Cohabiting Parents' Relationship Stability: A Focus on Race and Ethnicity," *Journal of Marriage and Family*, Vol. 69:1345–1366.



percent with a mom who was the sole adult).²⁴

The youngest children were most likely to live with two unmarried parents.

Figure 10 shows household living arrangements for children living with unmarried parents, excluding the 70 percent of children who lived with married parents. This figure shows more clearly the differences across age groups in the living arrangements for these children. One-third of infants under 1 living with unmarried parents lived with two unmarried parents, but 4 percent of children 12 to 17 did so. Conversely, while about another one-third (34 percent) of infants lived with their mother who was the sole adult, 60 percent of children 12 to 17 living with unmarried parents lived in this arrangement.²⁵ The percentage of children who lived with their father who was the sole adult is also higher for older age groups. Only about 1 percent of infants lived in this arrangement, while 11 percent of teens lived with their father who was the sole adult.

Black children lived with a sole parent more often than Hispanic children or children of other races.

The proportion of children who lived with a sole adult parent varied by the race and Hispanic origin of the child. While 35 percent of Black children 0 to 2 years and 42 percent of Black teens 12 to 17 lived with a sole adult parent, this was true for just 1 percent of Asian children 0 to 2 years and 9 percent of Asian teens (Figure 11).²⁶ In

²⁴ The percentage of children living with their mother only does not differ for children under 1 and those aged 1 to 2, and the percentage of children living with their mother only does not differ for those aged 6 to 11 and 12 to 17.

²⁵ The percentages of children under age 1 and those aged 1 to 2 living with their mother who was the sole adult were not statistically different.

²⁶ The percentages of Black children who lived with a sole adult parent for ages 3 to 5, 6 to 11, and 12 to 17 were not statistically different. The percentage of Asian children aged 0 to 2 who lived with a sole adult parent was not statistically different from zero. The percentages of Asian children aged 3 to 5 and 6 to 11 who lived with a sole adult parent were not statistically different.



contrast, 6 percent of White, non-Hispanic children and 10 percent of Hispanic children 0 to 2 years lived with a sole adult parent, while 17 percent of White, non-Hispanic teens and 22 percent of Hispanic teens did so.²⁷

SOURCE OF THE DATA

The data in this report are from the 2007 CPS ASEC and ACS. The population represented (the population universe) in the ASEC is the civilian noninstitutionalized population living in the United States. Members of the Armed Forces living off post or with their families on post are included if at least one civilian adult lives in the household. The institutionalized population, which is excluded from the population universe, is composed primarily of the population in correctional institutions and nursing homes (91 percent of the 4.1 million institutionalized people in Census 2000). Most of the data from the ASEC were collected in March (with some data collected in February and April), and the data were controlled to independent population estimates for March 2007. For annual time series from the CPS, data collected in the 2007 ASEC may be compared with data collected in the March supplement to the CPS in prior years.

This report also presents data from the 2007 ACS. The population represented (the population universe) in the ACS is the population living in both households and group quarters (that is, the resident population). The group quarters' population consists of the institutionalized population (such as people in correctional institutions or nursing homes) and the noninstitutionalized population (most of whom are in college dormitories). For tabulation purposes in this report, ACS data are shown only for the population living in households since relationship data are not collected for the group guarters' population.

ACCURACY OF THE ESTIMATES

Statistics from surveys are subject to sampling and nonsampling error. All comparisons presented in this report have taken sampling

²⁷ Just because sole parents do not have a coparent present in the household does not mean that the other parent is uninvolved. Census Bureau surveys only include household members and cannot show links to parents living outside the household. Using other data sources, researchers have found that noncoresidential parents are often involved in their children's lives. Edin, Kathryn, Laura Tach, and Ronald Mincy. 2009. "Claiming Fatherhood: Race and the Dynamics of Paternal Involvement Among Unmarried Men," Annals, AAPSS, Vol. 621, pp.149-177. See also, Mincy, Ronald B. and Helen Oliver. 2003. Age, Race, and Children's Living Arrangements: Implications for TANF Reauthorization, The Urban Institute, Series B, No. B-53. <www.urban.org/url.cfm?ID=310670>.

error into account and are significant at the 90 percent confidence level. This means the 90 percent confidence interval for the difference between the estimates being compared does not include zero. Nonsampling errors in surveys may be attributed to a variety of sources, such as how the survey is designed, how respondents interpret questions, how able and willing respondents are to provide correct answers, and how accurately the answers are coded and classified. The Census Bureau employs quality control procedures throughout the production process, including the overall design of surveys, the wording of questions, review of the work of interviewers and coders, and statistical review of reports, to minimize these errors.

The CPS weighting procedure uses ratio estimation, whereby sample estimates are adjusted to independent estimates of the national population by age, race, sex, and Hispanic origin. This weighting partially corrects for bias due to undercoverage, but biases may still be present when people who are missed by the survey differ from those interviewed in ways other than age, race, sex, and Hispanic origin. How this weighting procedure affects other variables in the survey is not precisely known. All of these considerations affect comparisons across different surveys or data sources.

For further information on statistical standards and the computation and use of standard errors, go to <www.census.gov/apsd/techdoc /cps/cpsmar07.pdf> or contact the Census Bureau's Demographic Statistical Methods Division via e-mail at <dsmd.source.and .accuracy@census.gov>.

The final ACS population estimates are adjusted in the weighting procedure for coverage error by controlling specific survey estimates to independent population controls by sex, age, race, and Hispanic origin. The final ACS estimates of housing units are controlled to independent estimates of total housing. This weighting partially corrects for bias due to over- or undercoverage, but biases may still be present; for example, when people who are missed by the survey differ from those interviewed in ways other than sex, age, race, and Hispanic origin. How this weighting procedure affects other variables in the survey is not precisely known. All of these considerations affect comparisons across different surveys or data sources.

For further information on the ACS sample, weighting procedures, sampling error, nonsampling error, and quality measures from the ACS, see <www.census.gov/acs/www /Downloads/ACS/accuracy2007 .pdf>.

MORE INFORMATION

Detailed tables from the 2007 CPS ASEC are available on the Census Bureau's Web site <www.census .gov> Once on the site, click "Subjects A to Z," select "F," then select "Data" under "Families and Households Data." From the "Families and Living Arrangements" page, under "2007 March CPS," select from the list of options.

To access ACS tables about households and families, visit the American FactFinder on the Census Bureau's Web site at <http:// factfinder.census.gov>.

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Appendix Table A. Comparison of Census Bureau Data Sources for Families and Households

Survey characteristics	American Community Survey (ACS)	Current Population Survey (CPS)			
Geographic scope	Annual estimates of the nation, regions, states, congressional districts, and geographies of 65,000 or more. Three-year estimates for places of 20,000 or more (available starting in 2008). Five-year estimates of areas as small as census tracts (available starting in 2010).	National estimates and estimates of selected characteristics for regions and states.			
Periodicity of collection	Every year.	Every year.			
Timeliness	Released year after collection cycle.	Released year after collection cycle.			
Sample size	Annual sample of about 3 million addresses. Data are collected from about one-twelfth of the sample each month.	The data come from the Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC), which is based on a sample of about 99,000 households.			
Data collection method	Mail, telephone, and personal-visit interviews for the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. About half of the responses are obtained by mail. The ACS is a mandatory survey.	Telephone and personal-visit interviews for the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The CPS is a voluntary survey.			
Questionnaire item(s)	Relationship asked of all people to the house- holder. Asked of all people in households.	Relationship asked of all people to the householder. Also asks if both parents are present and if anyone lives with anyone else as a partner/boyfriend/girlfriend.			
Unique measures/data	Can produce estimates of foster children, biological, adopted, and stepchildren.	Only survey to produce estimates of unrelated subfamilies and most complete estimate of unmarried partner couples.			
Technical issues	None.	Most reliable survey for identifying chil- dren living with unmarried parents.			
Population universe	The ACS includes the resident population of the United States, including household and group quarter's populations.	The CPS includes the civilian noninstitu- tionalized population and Armed Forces personnel living off post or with their families on post.			
Tables available/detail	Detailed tables showing a range of socioeco- nomic characteristics.	Detailed tables showing a range of socio- economic characteristics.			
Sampling error information	Only for published tables.	Can be computed by data user.			
Historical data	The ACS began in 1996 in a limited number of test sites and began national implementation in 2000.	Household and family data in various detail available since 1947.			
Public-use file	Yes.	Yes.			
Electronic accessibility	Tables through American FactFinder; Public-use files through Data Ferrett.	Public-use files through Data Ferrett.			

Appendix Table B. Margins of Error¹ for Table 1 Estimates—Households by Type and Selected Characteristics: 2007

			Fam	ily households		Nonfamily households			
Characteristic				Other	families				
	All house- holds	Total	Married couple	Male house- holder	Female house- holder	Total	Male house- holder	Female house- holder	
All households	144,356	150,790	163,903	39,567	55,811	79,752	59,771	64,752	
Age of Householder 15 to 24 years 25 to 34 years 35 to 44 years 45 to 54 years 55 to 64 years 65 years and over	36,535 53,749 48,979 45,761 35,775 48,672	29,063 52,910 45,403 50,365 37,470 39,441	23,158 57,092 47,393 46,168 33,233 34,761	11,257 20,434 21,461 15,428 10,858 9,792	18,713 29,921 33,127 25,773 17,019 18,322	24,606 36,231 30,307 39,225 34,737 38,219	18,458 27,344 28,423 26,597 21,501 20,148	18,929 22,598 24,234 24,125 26,698 31,337	
Race and Hispanic Origin of									
Householder White alone	90,775 77,261 44,321	109,440 93,678 34,685	123,717 107,371 30,053	30,337 26,893 14,883	44,031 38,176 30,532	73,713 71,041 38,826	53,928 49,027 25,947	55,416 52,179 26,843	
alone	13,605 24,463	10,880 20,297	8,671 21,649	3,874 7,404	5,000 8,947	7,180 18,507	5,367 12,138	4,830 11,572	
Islander alone Some Other Race alone Two or more races	5,024 35,292 25,459	4,435 31,232 18,186	4,126 26,757 15,718	1,486 12,673 5,203	2,508 16,231 8,063	2,688 19,863 12,512	2,077 13,986 9,196	1,872 12,068 8,517	
Hispanic (any race)	43,179	40,437	40,474	17,902	22,585	27,331	18,713	17,618	
Size of Household 1 person. 2 people. 3 people. 4 people. 5 people. 6 people. 7 or more people.	81,159 88,770 63,841 58,861 36,038 25,706 18,231	(X) 90,483 64,743 59,396 35,758 25,616 17,865	(X) 81,220 56,058 55,384 35,661 20,466 16,062	(X) 23,986 22,596 14,781 11,362 7,785 6,709	(X) 34,543 34,254 28,574 14,565 12,786 7,722	81,159 35,414 14,724 9,658 5,784 2,806 2,261	53,721 26,838 12,578 8,620 4,807 2,535 1,844	65,269 23,367 8,608 4,187 2,380 1,317 1,269	
Average size	0.01	-	-	0.01	0.01	-	-	-	
Number of Related Children Under 18 No related children With related children 1 child 2 children 3 children 4 or more children	103,667 86,010 57,961 52,022 32,602 22,857	95,196 86,010 57,961 52,022 32,602 22,857	91,223 92,739 52,601 48,971 30,313 18,627	20,092 32,796 25,735 15,922 9,331 6,315	29,591 50,224 32,817 30,598 21,970 14,810	79,752 (X) (X) (X) (X) (X) (X)	59,771 (X) (X) (X) (X) (X) (X)	64,752 (X) (X) (X) (X) (X) (X)	
Presence of Own Children Under 18 No own children With own children under 12 With own children under 6 With own children under 3 With own children under 3 With own children under 1	103,077 89,168 82,096 66,597 52,665 29,596	96,590 89,168 82,096 66,597 52,665 29,596	93,794 93,744 81,792 64,542 48,512 26,212	22,638 30,360 25,814 18,513 15,854 10,783	33,494 43,810 40,031 32,171 23,961 13,717	79,752 (X) (X) (X) (X) (X) (X)	59,771 (X) (X) (X) (X) (X) (X)	64,752 (X) (X) (X) (X) (X) (X)	
Tenure Owned home Rented home Occupied without payment	227,236 114,886 22,916	184,436 70,391 14,889	166,949 41,304 12,748	25,500 32,262 4,659	36,928 46,252 8,809	76,508 69,942 17,393	41,934 50,696 14,454	54,166 47,241 10,666	

- Represents or rounds to zero.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ This number, when added to or subtracted from the corresponding estimate in Table 1, represents the 90 percent confidence interval around the estimate.

Note: See <www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2007.pdf> for further information on the accuracy of the data.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2007.