

30-Year-Olds: Then and Now

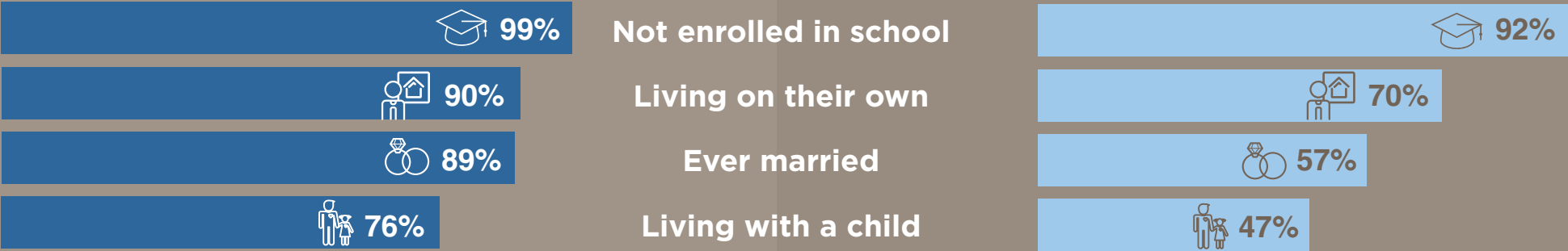
1975 2015

71%

In 1975, nearly 3 in 4 30-year-olds had married, had a child, were not enrolled in school, and lived on their own.
In 2015, just 1 in 3 30-year-olds have these characteristics.

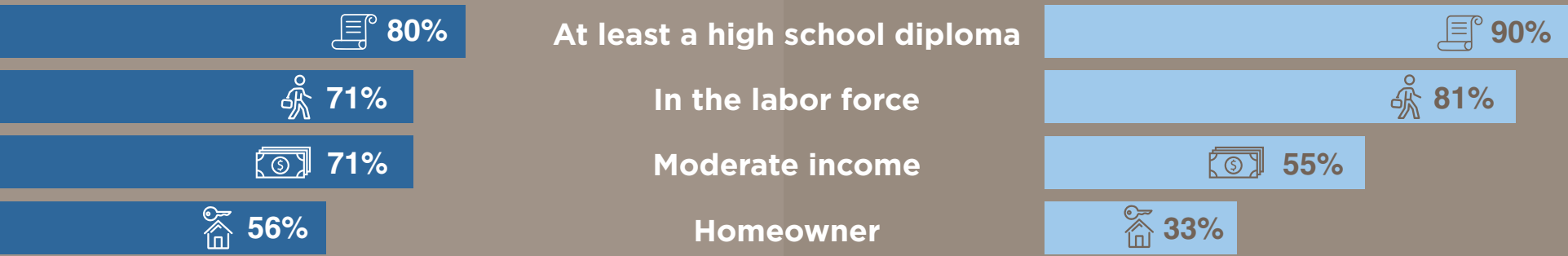
32%

Characteristics of Young Adults* (In percent)



Today, more 30-year-olds have earned at least a high school diploma and are in the labor force, while fewer are earning a moderate income or are homeowners.

Selected Socioeconomic Characteristics of Young Adults** (In percent)



* Enrollment status is independent of labor force participation. In 1975, we can only identify whether the young adult lives with a child under 18, and not necessarily whether they are the parent of the child.
** A moderate income is defined as a household income between 66 percent and 200 percent of the national median household income. Women who were out of the labor force because they reported taking care of home or family were still counted as having all four socioeconomic characteristics, as long as they met the other three characteristics (diploma, income, and homeownership). To be a homeowner, the 30-year-old must be the householder or spouse of the householder who owns or is buying their home (i.e., not renting).