

Number, Timing, and Duration of Marriages and Divorces: 2016¹

Current Population Reports

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INTRODUCTION

Marriage and divorce are key events that shape many areas of people's lives, including their happiness, health, and economic resources. In order to understand the living arrangements and composition of families in the United States, it is also important to examine marriage and divorce. The number, timing, and duration of marriages and divorces often reflect the changing economic conditions, social norms, and cultural attitudes prevalent in the country, which in turn affect important family characteristics.

This report uses data from several major demographic surveys collected by the U.S. Census Bureau to provide a comprehensive look at both current and earlier marital patterns in the United States. Data come from the American Community Survey (ACS), the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), and the Social Security Supplement to the SIPP (SSA).

The ACS collects data about the current marital status of adults, as well as how many times they have been married, the year their current marriage began, and whether adults married, divorced, or were widowed in the past 12 months. SIPP and SSA data contain more detailed marital history information for men and women 15 years and over, as well as additional information about their characteristics, households, and the people with whom they live. The SSA was a reinterview of SIPP respondents from the 2014 panel

that collected information on up to three marriages in order to provide additional estimates on marriage duration, anniversaries, and other estimates. Information about both spouses is available for people who are currently married. See Appendix A for more details regarding these surveys.²

Highlights

- By 2016, the median age at first marriage had risen approximately 2 full years since 2008, to 30 for men and 28 for women.
- Among ever-married adults 20 years and over, 34 percent of women and 33 percent of men had ever been divorced, while the percentage ever divorced was highest for adults aged 55 to 64 (about 43 percent for both sexes).
- Among race and Hispanic origin groups, ever-married Asian women and men had the lowest proportion ever divorced (14 percent and 11 percent respectively).
- Women who divorced in the previous 12 months were more likely than recently divorced men to be in poverty (20 percent compared with 11 percent, respectively).
- Among ever-married adults 20 years and over, 14 percent of women had ever been widowed,

¹ This report meets all of the U.S. Census Bureau's Disclosure Review Board (DRB) standards and has been assigned DRB approval number CBDRB-FY20-POP001-0147.

² More survey information is also available at these Web sites: ACS <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs.html>, SIPP <www.census.gov/sipp/>, and SSA <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sipp/data/datasets/2014-panel/ssa.html>.

KEY TERMS

Marital status. The marital status classification refers to the status at the time of interview. “Married, spouse present” applies to married couples in which both spouses were living in the same household, even though one may be temporarily absent (for example, on business, vacation, a visit, or in a hospital). “Married, spouse absent” relates to people who are living apart for reasons other than marital problems (for example, spouses living apart because one or the other was employed elsewhere, on duty with the Armed Forces, or incarcerated). “Separated” refers to married couples who are living apart because of marital problems. “Divorced” indicates people who report that they have received a legal divorce decree and have not remarried. “Widowed” indicates that a person’s last marriage ended in the death of his or her spouse. The term “never married” applies to those who have never been legally married, as well as to those whose marriages were annulled.

Marital history. Marital history refers to when a respondent reported being married, separated, divorced or widowed during his or her lifetime.

It also includes the number of times the respondent has been married in his or her lifetime.

Marital event. Refers to a change in marital status: getting married, getting divorced, or being widowed. It excludes getting separated.

Currently married. In this report, the term “currently married” is used to refer to those who are married and whose spouse is present in the household at interview month.*

Birth or marriage cohort. A cohort signifies a group of people born or married in a specified time period (e.g., people born from 1945 through 1949).

Current age. Age at interview month.

Median. The median is the value which divides the observations’ distribution into two parts, such that at most half of the observations are below and at most half of the observations are above the median value.

** Analyses of currently married people require information on both spouses; therefore, this category excludes married respondents with an absent spouse because information on the absent spouse is not collected.*

compared with 6 percent of men. Yet, among people 75 years and over, 58 percent of women and 28 percent of men had ever been widowed.

- Among currently married women in their first marriage in 2016, 10 percent were in an interracial/interethnic marriage and 8 percent were in a mixed nativity marriage, i.e., one spouse was foreign-born and the other was native-born.
- Among those currently married in 2016, 76 percent of men and 77 percent of women were in their first marriage.

- Among men in same-sex marriages in 2016, 82 percent were in their first marriage, while 75 percent of currently married women in same-sex marriages were in their first marriage.
- By 2014, over half of both men and women in their first marriage who married between 1970 and 1984 had reached at least their 25th anniversary.

MARITAL PATTERNS

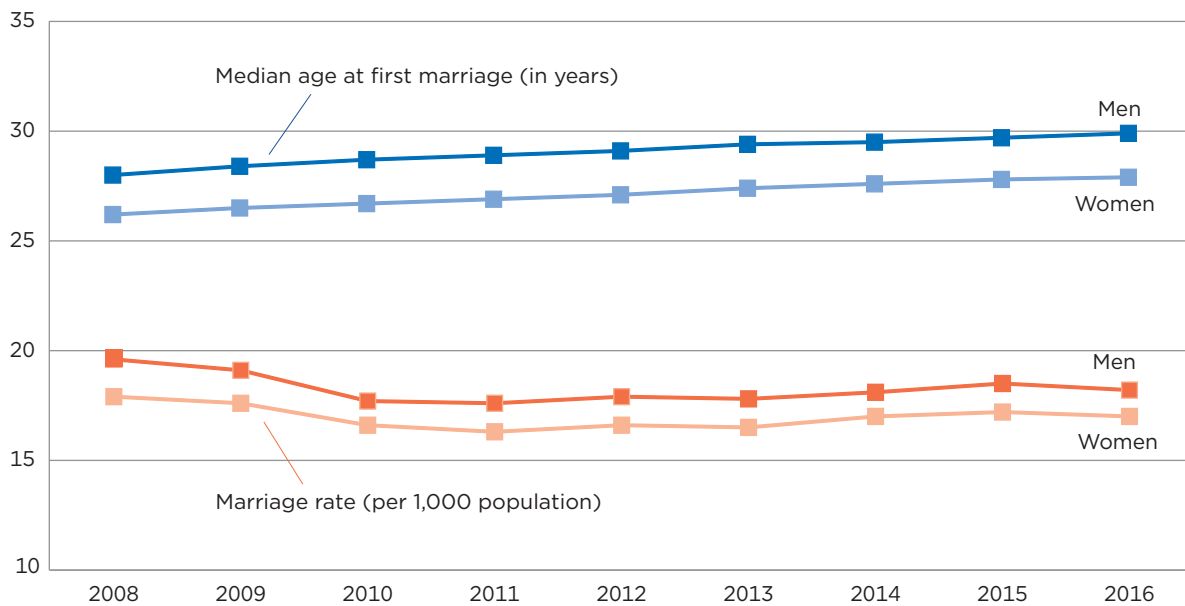
One of the most noticeable changes in marital patterns during the past 5 decades has been an increase of about 7 years in

age at first marriage. It was about 23 years for men and 20 years for women in the 1960s.³ Figure 1 shows that from 2008 to 2016, the median age at first marriage went up for both men and women by approximately 2 full years. In 2008, the median age at first marriage was 28 for men and 26 for women, but in 2016 this estimate rose to 30 for men and 28 for women.

Over the period covering 2008 to 2016, marriage rates decreased

³ Before the 1950s, ages at first marriage were a bit higher than in later decades. Historical table MS-2 presents the estimated median age at first marriage from 1890 to present at <www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/families/marital.html>.

Figure 1.
Median Age and Marriage Rate at First Marriage by Sex: 2008–2016



Note: The marriage rate for women is the number of marriages occurring in the past 12 months per 1,000 women 15 years and over. The marriage rate for men is calculated in the same way for men 15 years and over.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008–2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

for both men and women. The marriage rate is defined as the number of people reporting a marriage occurring in the past 12 months per 1,000 population 15 years and over. The decline of marriage rates, however, is less linear than median age at first marriage, as rates for both men and women fell from 2008 to 2011 but have risen slightly since. Nonetheless, marriage rates for men decreased from 20 in 2008 to 18 in 2016, while for women they decreased from 18 in 2008 to 17 in 2016.

Figure 2 shows median age at first marriage by race and

Hispanic origin.⁴ In 2016, Black men and women had the highest median age at first marriage (32 and 31, respectively), while men and women who identified as Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (NHPI) had among the lowest estimates (28 and 26, respectively).⁵ For non-Hispanic Whites as well as Asian and Hispanic origin groups, the

⁴ A person may report more than one race. Unless otherwise noted, in this report all references to a specific race are people who reported that category alone. Unless otherwise noted, race categories include Hispanic, since Hispanic respondents may be of any race.

⁵ For men, the marriage rates of NHPI did not significantly differ from those of non-Hispanic Whites.

median age at first marriage was 30 for men and 28 for women.⁶

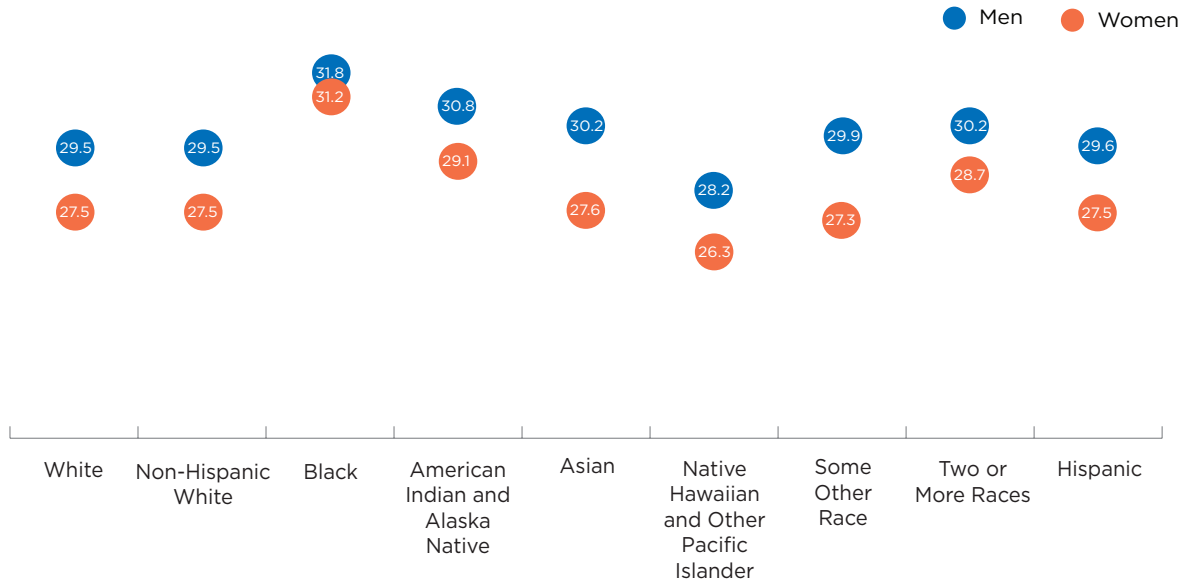
Figure 3 shows marriage rates by race and Hispanic origin. Black women had among the lowest marriage rates compared to women of other race and Hispanic origin groups, at 13 per 1,000.⁷ For men, Blacks and non-Hispanic Whites had significantly lower marriage rates than Asians, people of Two or More Races,

⁶ For men, the median age at marriage for Asians is significantly higher than for non-Hispanic Whites and Hispanics.

⁷ The marriage rates of Black women did not significantly differ from the rate for NHPI women.

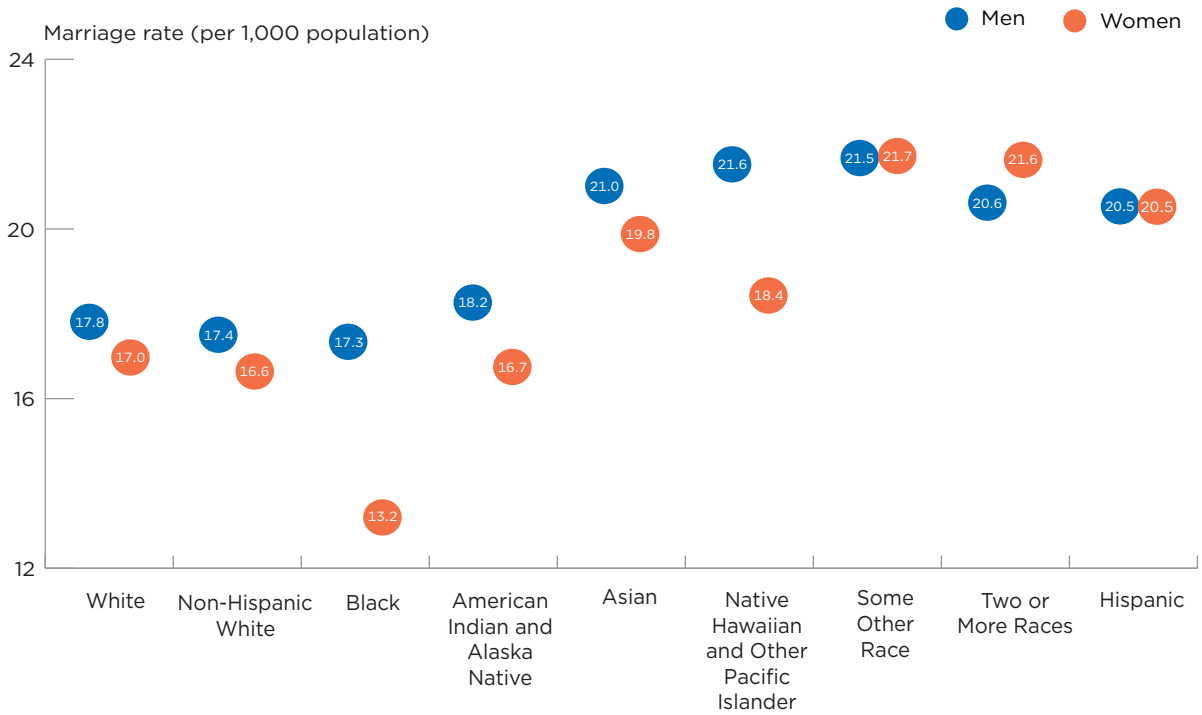
Figure 2.
Median Age at First Marriage in Years by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2016

(In years)



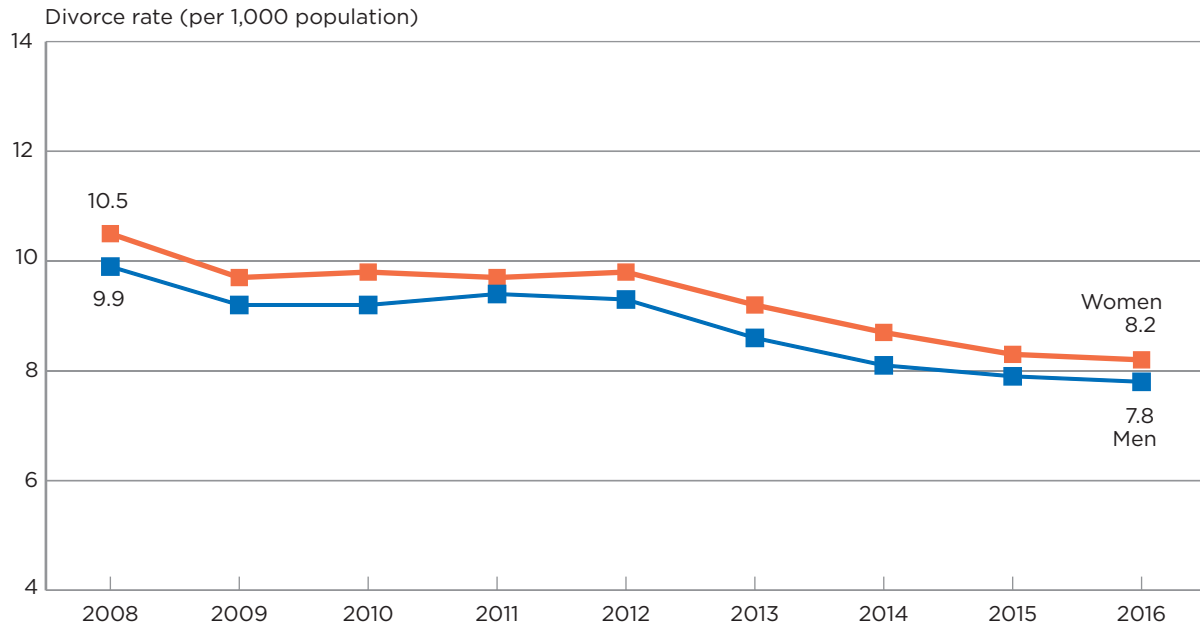
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Figure 3.
Marriage Rate per 1,000 Men and Women 15 Years and Over by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2016



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Figure 4.
Divorce Rate per 1,000 Men and Women 15 Years and Over by Sex: 2008-2016



Note: The divorce rate for women is the number of divorces occurring in the past 12 months per 1,000 women 15 years and over. The divorce rate for men is calculated in the same way for men 15 years and over.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Hispanics, and those belonging to Some Other Race.⁸

Like marriage rates, divorce rates were also lower in 2016 compared to 2008 (Figure 4).⁹

⁸ The marriage rates of Black men did not significantly differ from the rate of non-Hispanic White men.

⁹ This trend is also apparent in published Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) marriage and divorce rates for the past 2 decades. The NCHS compiled state-level administrative data from marriage certificates and divorce decrees, including information from a subset of states on previous marital status. See CDC/NCHS National Vital Statistics System tables on the "Provisional number of marriages and marriage rate: United States, 2000-2018" and "Provisional number of divorces and annulments and rate: United States, 2000-2018," available at <www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/dvs/national-marriage-divorce-rates-00-18.pdf>.

The divorce rate is defined as the number of people reporting a divorce occurring in the past 12 months per 1,000 population 15 years and over (separately for men and women). In 2016, the divorce rate for both men and women was 8 per 1,000, significantly lower than the 2008 estimate of 11 for women and 10 for men. Similar to the pattern for marriage rates, the divorce rate from 2008 to 2016 did not necessarily decrease steadily each year. For example, from 2009 to 2012, the divorce rate did not change. Nonetheless, divorce rates in 2016 were lower than in 2008, and this

may be related to fewer divorces among more recent marriages.¹⁰

The rise in median age at first marriage is reflected in an increasing proportion of younger adults who were never married. Table 1 shows the percentage of women never married, by 5-year age groups, from 25 to 29 to 55 years and over.¹¹ For young adults, the proportion of women aged 25

¹⁰ Phillip N. Cohen, "The Coming Divorce Decline," *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World*, 2019.

¹¹ This section makes reference to 2008 and 2006 data in different paragraphs because these are the earliest ACS published estimates on marriage/divorce rates and median age at first marriage respectively. The marital history questions were added to the ACS in 2008.

to 29 who were never married increased from 46 percent in 2006 to 60 percent in 2016, while the proportion never married at ages 30 to 34 increased from 26 percent in 2006 to 36 percent in 2016. The change was smaller for women 55 years and over (6 percent to 7 percent). In other words, most women still marry but are waiting until they are older to do so.

The growth in the percentage of women who were never married spans race and Hispanic origin groups. Whether for non-Hispanic Whites, Blacks, American Indian and Alaska Natives (AIAN), Asians, people of Two or More Races, or Hispanics, there was a significant increase from 2006 to 2016 in the proportion of women who were never married among both younger (i.e., 25 to 29 years old) and older (i.e., 55 years and over) age groups.

Although the percentage of never married increased for all race and Hispanic origin groups across the decade, the proportion of adult women who were never married varied by race and Hispanic origin. Black women were the most likely to remain never married through young adulthood and middle age. Specifically, 79 percent of Black women aged 25 to 29 had never married, compared with 56 percent of non-Hispanic White women in 2016. Among women 55 years and over, three times as many Black women as non-Hispanic White women were never married (18 percent vs. 6 percent). Similarly, in 2006, a higher proportion of Black women had never married

than non-Hispanic White women at each age group.

Differences in the proportion who had never married by sex and age group (Figure 5) were apparent in 2016, as they were in 2006. For each age group shown, a higher proportion of men were never married than women. For example, among men aged 25 to 29, 71 percent had never married, compared to 60 percent of women. Among adults aged 30 to 34, 46 percent of men had never married, in contrast to 36 percent of women. While these gaps by sex persist by age group, men and women both experienced an increase in the proportion never married in each age group, from 2006 to 2016.

In summary, during the past decade, fewer adults were getting married, they waited longer to get married, and once they said “I do,” fewer got divorced. These patterns are particularly striking for Black women, who were the most likely to never marry across age categories when compared to women of other race and Hispanic origin groups.

MARITAL INDICATORS

This section provides basic information about the marital situation of adults, including those who had ever married, had ever divorced, or had ever been widowed, as well as characteristics of those with a marital event in the preceding year. Marital history is related to socioeconomic status and health. Those who are married often have higher socioeconomic status, whether that is because people are more selective about whom

and when they marry, or because marriage helps build wealth.¹² In contrast, divorce is associated with an increased risk of living in poverty, while becoming a widow affects a person’s health by increasing his or her own probability of dying.^{13, 14}

Commonly, adults have married only once—48 percent of men and 52 percent of women (Table 2). These proportions have declined since 1996, when 54 percent of men and 60 percent of women had married only once.¹⁵ Marital patterns are shown by age group, since marital status varies throughout the life course. For example, few teens are expected to be married and more young adults in their 20s are delaying marriage, as mentioned earlier, but for all age groups 30 to 34 and over, the majority had married. About 12 percent of men and 13 percent of women had married twice, while 3 percent of men and

¹² An example can be found from Janet Wilmot and Gregor Koso, “Does Marital History Matter? Marital Status and Wealth Outcomes Among Preretirement Adults,” *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, Vol. 64:1:254–268, 2002. Also, Jim P. Stimpson, Fernando A. Wilson, and M. Kristen Peek, “Marital Status, the Economic Benefits of Marriage, and Days of Inactivity Due to Poor Health,” *International Journal of Population Research*, Vol. 2012: Article ID 568785, 2012, available online at <<https://doi.org/10.1155/2012/568785>>. Also, Andrew J. Cherlin, *The Marriage-Go-Round*, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2009.

¹³ Cecile Bourreau-Dubois and Myriam Doriat-Duban, “Covering the Costs of Divorce: The Role of Family, the State and the Market,” *Population*, Vol. 71:3: 457–477, 2016.

¹⁴ Felix Elwert and Nicholas A. Christakis, “Widowhood and Race,” *American Sociological Review*, 71(1): 16–41, 2006.

¹⁵ Rose M. Kreider and Jason M. Fields, *Number, Timing, and Duration of Marriages and Divorces: Fall 1996*, Current Population Reports, P70-80, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC, 2001. The report is available online at <<https://www2.census.gov/library/publications/2002/demo/p70-80.pdf>>.

Table 1.

Percent of Women Never Married by Age, Race, and Hispanic Origin: 2006, 2011, and 2016

Race and Hispanic origin	25-29 years	30-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55 and over
Total					
2006	45.6	26.2	16.4	10.6	5.5
2011	53.8	31.9	18.6	12.4	6.3
2016	59.7	36.1	21.2	13.5	7.4
White Alone					
2006	40.6	21.6	12.8	8.4	4.8
2011	49.6	27.0	14.5	9.6	5.2
2016	55.7	31.5	16.8	10.4	6.0
White Alone, Non-Hispanic					
2006	40.9	21.4	12.5	8.2	4.7
2011	49.6	26.2	13.7	9.3	5.0
2016	55.5	30.6	16.0	9.9	5.7
Black or African-American Alone					
2006	70.2	51.3	36.9	25.0	11.3
2011	75.6	57.5	40.8	29.2	14.6
2016	79.0	61.6	44.1	31.3	17.5
American Indian and Alaska Native Alone					
2006	56.0	31.1	24.3	15.0	7.4
2011	60.3	44.2	26.9	18.8	9.3
2016	65.8	46.8	29.0	18.9	10.1
Asian Alone					
2006	46.3	21.1	11.8	6.9	5.0
2011	51.3	23.5	12.6	8.3	5.0
2016	55.7	25.9	13.0	8.1	6.1
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone					
2006	45.8	22.1	18.6	9.4	4.4
2011	45.7	34.7	17.5	12.3	5.9
2016	52.8	40.3	31.0	15.9	9.7
Some Other Race Alone					
2006	42.9	25.7	16.8	12.8	8.9
2011	52.4	34.2	22.1	15.4	10.6
2016	58.3	40.0	25.5	16.6	12.1
Two or More Races					
2006	54.2	32.2	20.6	12.4	6.2
2011	57.5	38.6	22.0	13.8	7.5
2016	64.6	41.1	26.9	16.3	9.2
Hispanic or Latino (of Any Race)					
2006	41.3	24.9	16.0	11.6	7.7
2011	51.1	32.3	20.0	13.5	8.6
2016	58.1	37.4	22.2	14.8	10.1

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006, 2011, and 2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

4 percent of women had married three or more times. The proportion of men and women married twice was between 19 and 23 percent for men and women 50 years and over.

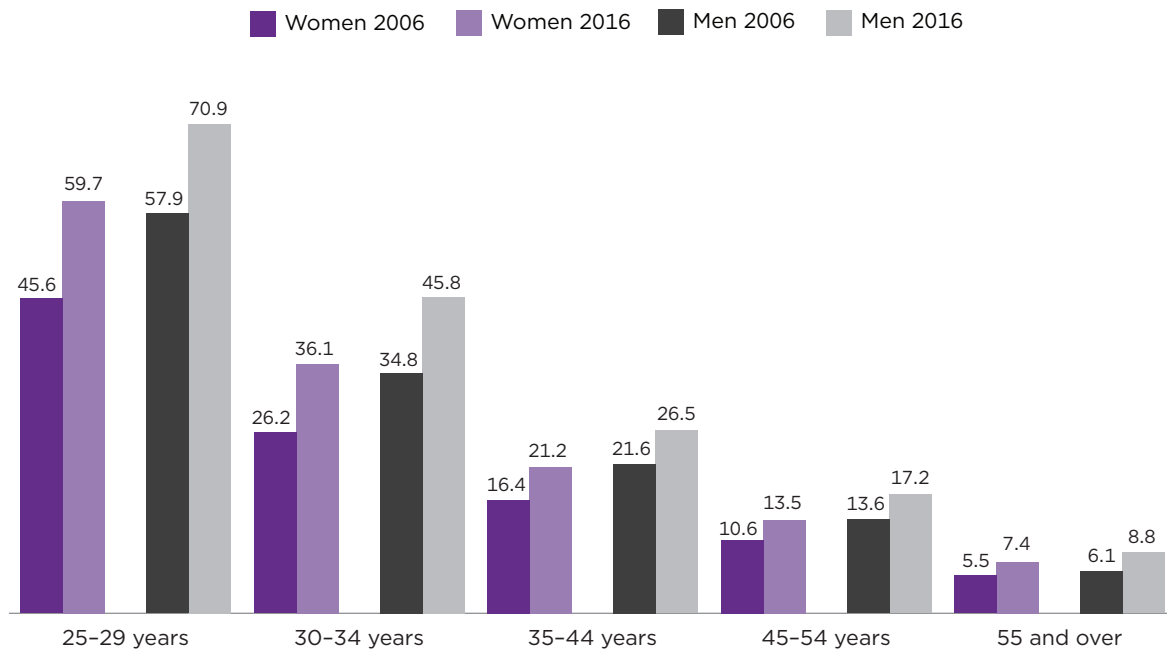
Tables 3a and 3b show the percentage of ever-married adults

who had ever divorced or ever been widowed by age, race, and Hispanic origin.¹⁶ About 34 percent of all ever-married adult

¹⁶ The current section discusses the proportion of adults who have experienced marriages and divorces over the life course in contrast to the previous section, which discusses marriage and divorce rates in the last decade.

women and 33 percent of all ever-married adult men had ever been divorced, while the percentage ever divorced was highest for ever-married adults 55 to 64 years (about 43 percent for both

Figure 5.
Percent Never Married by Sex and Age: 2006 and 2016



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 and 2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

sexes).¹⁷ These proportions are much lower for those 75 years and over, for whom widowhood is more prevalent (Figures 6a and 6b). Overall, 14 percent of ever-married women had ever been widowed, compared with 6 percent of ever-married men. Among ever-married people 75 years and over, 58 percent of women and 28 percent of men had ever been

¹⁷ The percent ever divorced is not statistically different for all women compared to all men. Both comparisons of the percentage ever divorced and the percentage ever divorced among 55- to 64-year-olds are not statistically different between men and women. The percent ever divorced among women aged 55 to 64 (43 percent) is not statistically different from the second-highest age group, women 45 to 54 years old (42 percent).

widowed, and most women were still widowed at the time of the survey. This large difference in the percentages of men and women 75 years and over who had ever been widowed is because women have a longer life expectancy than men and usually are younger than their husbands, so they are more likely to experience the death of their spouse.¹⁸

The proportions of ever-married women and men who were

¹⁸ Elizabeth Arias and Jiaquan Xu, United States Life Tables, 2017, *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 68, No. 7, National Center for Health Statistics: Hyattsville, MD, 2019. The report is available at <www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr68/nvsr68_07-508.pdf>.

ever divorced or had ever been widowed were higher than the proportions currently divorced or currently widowed because many people remarry. Among ever-married adults, about 17 percent of women and 15 percent of men were currently divorced, while 12 percent of women and 4 percent of men were currently widowed.

The prevalence of widowhood and divorce differs across race and Hispanic origin. Ever-married Black or African-American women and ever-married women shown in the all other races and combinations group in Table 3a show the highest levels of ever being

Table 2.
Marital History for People 15 Years Old and Over by Age and Sex: 2016

Characteristic	Percent										
	Total	15-17 years	18-19 years	20-24 years	25-29 years	30-34 years	35-39 years	40-49 years	50-59 years	60-69 years	70 years and over
Men											
Total (numbers)	127,900,000	6,480,000	4,511,000	11,410,000	11,500,000	10,900,000	10,380,000	20,210,000	21,280,000	17,340,000	13,850,000
Never married	36.9	99.2	98.5	92.2	70.9	45.8	30.6	20.1	15.0	9.1	4.6
Ever married	63.1	0.8	1.5	7.8	29.1	54.2	69.4	79.9	85.0	90.9	95.4
Married once	47.6	0.8	1.5	7.7	27.8	50.2	60.7	63.1	60.3	59.1	65.5
Still married	37.5	0.6	1.3	6.9	24.4	43.3	50.3	50.1	45.7	45.9	47.3
Married twice	12.1	X	X	0.2	1.2	3.8	7.9	14.2	19.3	23.3	21.8
Still married	9.1	X	X	0.1	1.0	3.2	6.6	11.1	14.3	17.3	15.8
Married 3 or more times	3.4	X	X	X	0.1	0.2	0.8	2.5	5.3	8.5	8.0
Still married	2.4	X	X	X	<0.1	0.2	0.6	2.0	3.9	6.0	5.5
Women											
Total (numbers)	134,300,000	6,170,000	4,330,000	10,770,000	11,190,000	10,800,000	10,470,000	20,530,000	22,250,000	19,160,000	18,610,000
Never married	30.6	99.2	97.5	86.8	59.7	36.1	24.4	16.0	11.6	8.0	4.9
Ever married	69.4	0.8	2.5	13.2	40.3	63.9	75.6	84.0	88.4	92.0	95.1
Married once	52.4	0.8	2.5	12.8	38.0	57.6	64.0	64.5	61.3	61.0	70.6
Still married	35.5	0.6	2.2	11.3	32.5	48.0	50.9	48.2	42.8	39.4	28.3
Married twice	13.3	X	X	0.4	2.2	5.8	10.5	16.1	20.9	22.9	18.7
Still married	8.4	X	X	0.3	1.9	4.8	8.2	11.7	14.0	14.1	7.4
Married 3 or more times	3.6	X	X	X	0.1	0.5	1.2	3.4	6.2	8.1	5.8
Still married	2.1	X	X	X	0.1	0.4	0.9	2.3	3.9	4.6	2.3

X Not applicable. Too young to have experienced this marital event and provide reliable estimates.
 <0.1 Rounds to zero.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Table 3a.

**Percent Ever Divorced or Widowed for Ever-Married Women by Age, Race, and Hispanic Origin:
2014**

Characteristic	Total (in thousands)	Ever divorced	Currently divorced	Ever widowed	Currently widowed
All Races and Hispanic Origin					
Total (aged 20 and over)	92,522	33.7	16.9	14.2	12.0
20-24 years	1,608	7.1	5.6	<0.1	<0.1
25-29 years	4,987	13.4	8.3	0.7	0.5
30-34 years	7,378	22.3	13.1	1.1	0.8
35-44 years	16,608	30.8	17.8	1.8	1.1
45-54 years	19,070	41.6	19.9	5.1	3.4
55-64 years	19,032	42.6	20.2	11.4	8.5
65-74 years	13,081	38.5	19.0	25.5	20.7
75 and over	10,759	24.0	9.6	58.0	54.2
White Alone					
Total (aged 20 and over)	75,533	34.3	16.3	14.2	11.9
20-24 years	1,349	6.5	4.7	<0.1	<0.1
25-29 years	4,090	14.4	9.2	0.7	0.5
30-34 years	5,789	23.2	13.6	1.1	0.9
35-44 years	12,874	32.4	17.9	1.8	1.2
45-54 years	15,366	42.3	19.3	5.0	3.3
55-64 years	15,672	42.4	18.8	10.5	7.7
65-74 years	11,039	39.0	18.4	24.2	19.2
75 and over	9,355	24.0	9.3	57.3	53.1
White Alone, Non-Hispanic					
Total (aged 20 and over)	63,996	35.6	16.6	15.0	12.5
20-24 years	923	6.2	4.6	<0.1	<0.1
25-29 years	3,181	14.6	9.4	0.5	0.3
30-34 years	4,532	23.8	13.6	1.5	1.1
35-44 years	9,865	34.4	18.4	1.5	0.9
45-54 years	12,899	43.8	19.6	4.8	3.0
55-64 years	13,964	43.5	19.2	10.3	7.4
65-74 years	10,036	39.5	18.2	23.8	18.8
75 and over	8,597	24.4	9.3	57.4	53.0
Black or African-American Alone					
Total (aged 20 and over)	9,222	38.9	25.2	16.4	14.6
20-24 years	99	13.5	13.5	<0.1	<0.1
25-29 years	429	8.3	5.6	<0.1	<0.1
30-34 years	641	28.6	17.5	2.1	2.1
35-44 years	1,864	33.7	26.0	2.2	1.2
45-54 years	2,108	45.7	28.2	6.0	4.4
55-64 years	1,968	49.4	32.8	15.7	13.1
65-74 years	1,291	41.8	26.1	36.4	32.3
75 and over	822	30.5	13.8	67.8	66.0
Asian Alone					
Total (aged 20 and over)	5,428	13.9	7.8	9.0	7.8
20-24 years	85	10.2	10.2	<0.1	<0.1
25-29 years	346	4.4	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
30-34 years	695	7.7	5.3	<0.1	<0.1
35-44 years	1,410	10.3	5.4	1.1	0.3
45-54 years	1,013	17.7	10.0	3.4	2.6
55-64 years	941	25.9	12.8	12.9	9.3
65-74 years	535	18.1	12.5	20.8	19.8
75 and over	403	2.6	2.6	51.6	49.8
All Other Races and Combinations					
Total (aged 20 and over)	2,340	41.5	21.6	15.6	12.0
20-24 years	74	6.5	6.5	<0.1	<0.1
25-29 years	122	25.0	11.0	5.6	5.6
30-34 years	253	26.0	11.7	<0.1	<0.1
35-44 years	461	36.7	21.1	3.2	1.5
45-54 years	583	49.2	24.6	9.0	3.9
55-64 years	451	54.3	30.2	20.1	14.3
65-74 years	216	43.3	23.6	37.4	31.9
75 and over	180	41.3	17.3	66.2	62.2

See footnote at end of table.

Table 3a.

Percent Ever Divorced or Widowed for Ever-Married Women by Age, Race, and Hispanic Origin: 2014—Con.

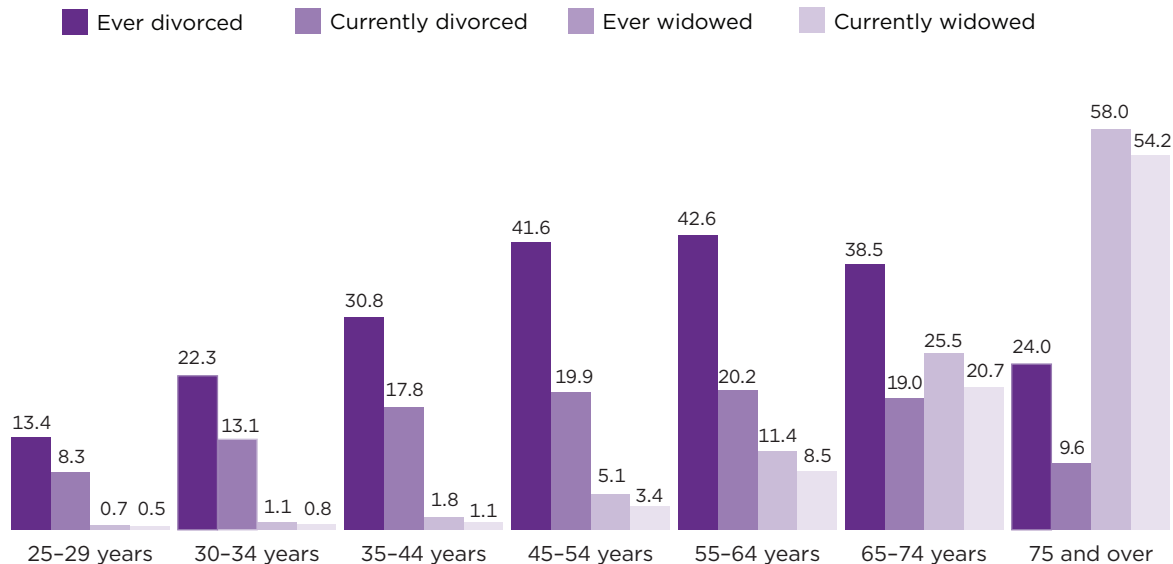
Characteristic	Total (in thousands)	Ever divorced	Currently divorced	Ever widowed	Currently widowed
Hispanic or Latino (of Any Race) Total (aged 20 and over)	12,472	27.3	15.6	9.8	8.4
20–24 years	456	6.5	4.7	<0.1	<0.1
25–29 years	979	13.6	8.1	2.0	1.6
30–34 years	1,401	21.9	12.9	<0.1	<0.1
35–44 years	3,244	25.5	16.3	2.6	2.1
45–54 years	2,706	34.9	19.2	5.4	4.0
55–64 years	1,820	34.8	16.7	12.3	10.2
65–74 years	1,080	35.2	21.1	27.3	22.2
75 and over	786	19.3	10.2	57.3	54.4

<0.1 Rounds to zero.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2014 Panel, Wave 1.

Figure 6a.

Percent Ever Divorced or Ever Widowed for Ever-Married Women by Age



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2014 Panel, Wave 1.

divorced (39 percent and 41 percent, respectively).^{19, 20} Their male

¹⁹ Some Other Race as collected in the ACS does not include NHPI and AIAN; however, other race as collected in SIPP does due to SIPP's smaller sample size.

²⁰ The percentages of ever divorced among Black women and women of an other race are not statistically different from each other.

counterparts show similar patterns.²¹ In contrast, ever-married Asian women and men had the lowest proportions of people who had ever divorced

²¹ Among men, the percentage of ever divorced of an other race are not statistically different from the percentage ever divorced of Black men and non-Hispanic men.

(14 percent and 11 percent respectively).²² About 27 percent of ever-married Hispanic women and 26 percent of ever-married

²² The percentage ever divorced among Asian women and Asian men are not statistically different from each other.

Table 3b.

Percent Ever Divorced or Widowed for Ever-Married Men by Age, Race, and Hispanic Origin: 2014

Characteristic	Total (in thousands)	Ever divorced	Currently divorced	Ever widowed	Currently widowed
All Races and Hispanic Origin					
Total (aged 20 and over)	79,866	33.0	14.9	5.6	3.6
20-24 years	863	6.2	5.8	<0.1	<0.1
25-29 years	3,521	10.1	6.5	0.6	0.5
30-34 years	6,160	15.9	9.6	0.6	0.6
35-44 years	15,052	27.4	14.0	0.6	0.4
45-54 years	17,959	40.1	20.0	2.0	1.1
55-64 years	17,292	42.5	18.5	3.8	2.2
65-74 years	11,431	38.6	14.0	10.2	6.1
75 and over	7,589	24.4	7.3	27.9	19.5
White Alone					
Total (aged 20 and over)	66,306	33.6	14.8	5.6	3.6
20-24 years	755	5.3	4.8	<0.1	<0.1
25-29 years	2,891	10.0	6.6	0.4	0.4
30-34 years	4,888	16.0	9.6	0.8	0.7
35-44 years	12,068	28.6	14.6	0.6	0.4
45-54 years	14,699	40.9	20.0	1.8	0.9
55-64 years	14,534	43.2	18.0	3.5	2.1
65-74 years	9,873	39.0	13.3	9.9	5.7
75 and over	6,599	23.7	6.9	27.8	19.5
White Alone, Non-Hispanic					
Total (aged 20 and over)	55,993	35.0	15.3	6.2	3.9
20-24 years	540	5.9	5.4	<0.1	<0.1
25-29 years	2,118	9.7	6.9	0.6	0.6
30-34 years	3,756	15.9	9.8	0.9	0.8
35-44 years	9,253	30.9	15.9	0.7	0.5
45-54 years	12,203	42.4	20.9	1.9	0.9
55-64 years	12,977	43.7	17.9	3.7	2.2
65-74 years	9,081	39.3	13.5	10.1	5.7
75 and over	6,064	24.5	7.0	28.4	19.7
Black or African-American Alone					
Total (aged 20 and over)	7,292	38.7	20.3	6.7	4.3
20-24 years	76	7.8	7.8	<0.1	<0.1
25-29 years	280	17.3	10.1	1.4	<0.1
30-34 years	544	22.8	13.0	<0.1	<0.1
35-44 years	1,476	28.3	14.9	0.3	<0.1
45-54 years	1,806	44.4	22.5	4.0	2.3
55-64 years	1,609	49.9	28.1	5.3	3.4
65-74 years	913	42.4	25.3	13.1	8.3
75 and over	589	40.2	11.5	34.1	24.1
Asian Alone					
Total (aged 20 and over)	4,282	11.4	5.8	3.0	2.0
20-24 years	19	31.5	31.5	<0.1	<0.1
25-29 years	246	4.9	2.9	1.7	1.7
30-34 years	470	5.3	4.4	<0.1	<0.1
35-44 years	1,128	9.6	4.7	0.7	0.7
45-54 years	911	17.5	9.1	0.9	0.9
55-64 years	771	12.4	4.6	4.8	1.8
65-74 years	442	12.6	4.9	5.6	4.6
75 and over	295	8.9	6.9	16.0	10.0
All Other Races and Combinations					
Total (aged 20 and over)	1,985	38.5	20.3	6.0	4.0
20-24 years	12	11.2	11.2	<0.1	<0.1
25-29 years	104	8.3	4.0	<0.1	<0.1
30-34 years	259	20.3	12.3	<0.1	<0.1
35-44 years	380	38.6	19.4	1.0	<0.1
45-54 years	543	44.3	28.0	2.0	2.0
55-64 years	378	45.8	24.0	7.7	4.4
65-74 years	204	57.2	17.6	21.5	15.5
75 and over	106	23.5	13.1	29.7	19.5

See footnote at end of table.

Table 3b.

Percent Ever Divorced or Widowed for Ever-Married Men by Age, Race, and Hispanic Origin: 2014—Con.

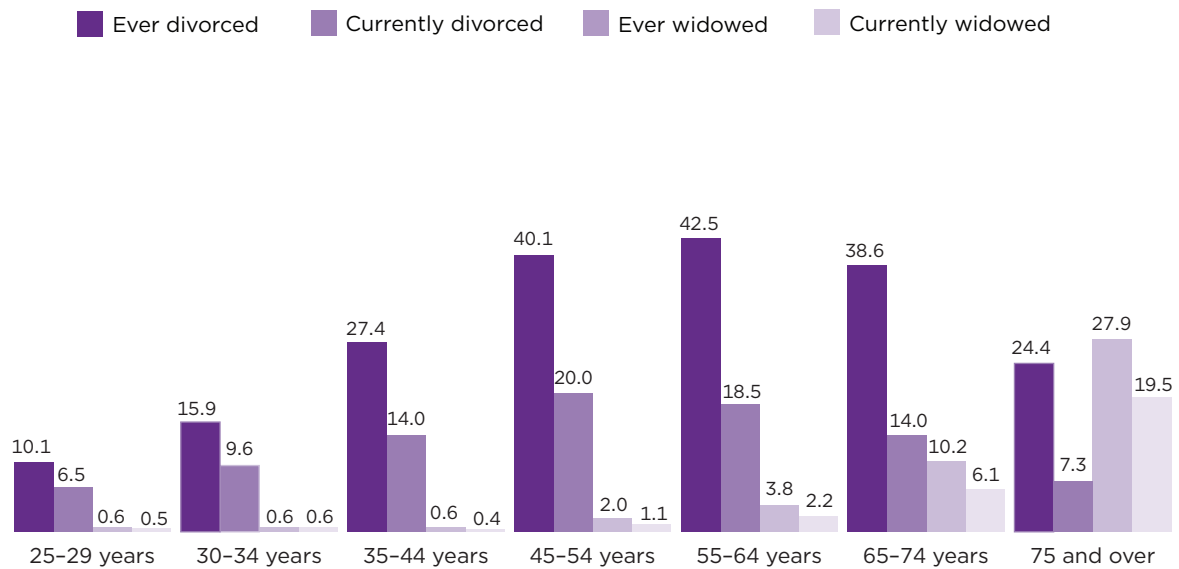
Characteristic	Total (in thousands)	Ever Divorced	Currently Divorced	Ever Widowed	Currently Widowed
Hispanic or Latino (of Any Race) Total (aged 20 and over)	11,015	26.1	12.4	2.5	1.9
20–24 years	223	4.1	3.7	<0.1	<0.1
25–29 years	803	10.2	5.4	<0.1	<0.1
30–34 years	1,212	17.3	10.7	0.5	0.4
35–44 years	2,983	21.0	10.2	0.2	0.2
45–54 years	2,750	33.1	16.2	1.6	1.2
55–64 years	1,651	39.8	18.4	1.8	0.8
65–74 years	831	35.7	11.5	9.1	6.2
75 and over	561	15.3	5.9	20.4	17.2

<0.1 Rounds to zero.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2014 Panel, Wave 1.

Figure 6b.

Percent Ever Divorced or Ever Widowed for Ever-Married Men by Age

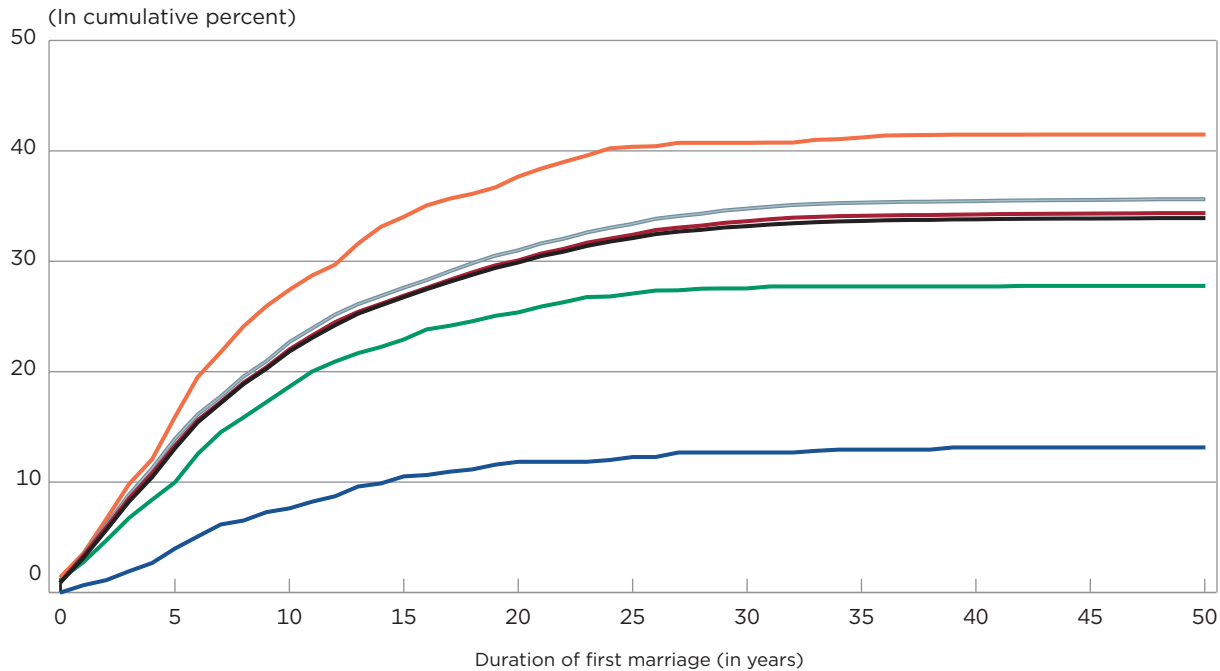


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2014 Panel, Wave 1.

Figure 7.

Cumulative Percent of Divorced Women by the Duration of First Marriage Ending in Divorce by Selected Race and Hispanic Origin Groups: 2014

— Total
— Black or African American non-Hispanic alone
— White alone
— Asian non-Hispanic alone
— White non-Hispanic
— Hispanic or Latino (of any race)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Social Security Administration Supplement to the Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2014 Panel, Wave 1.

Hispanic men had ever divorced.²³ Ever-married non-Hispanic White women and men show similar trends to all adults in the proportions widowed and divorced. Regarding widowhood, ever-married Asian and Hispanic adults had the lowest proportions ever widowed.²⁴ However, across older ages, ever-married Black women and ever-married women shown in the all other races and combinations group in

²³ The percentage of ever divorced among Hispanic women is not statistically different from the percent ever divorced among Hispanic men.

²⁴ The percentage of ever widowed among Asian and Hispanic women are not statistically different from each other, and neither was the percent ever widowed among Asian and Hispanic men.

Table 3a had the highest proportions widowed (68 percent and 66 percent, respectively among 75 years and over).²⁵ Despite experiencing the loss of a spouse more often than other race groups, research suggests Black women may have other sources of support that may decrease the negative effect of widowhood on their health.²⁶

The SIPP asks whether a person's first marriage ended in divorce,

²⁵ The percentage of ever widowed among all women 75 years and over is not statistically different from that of women of an other race in the same age group (58 percent and 66 percent respectively).

²⁶ Felix Elwert and Nicholas A. Christakis, "Widowhood and Race," *American Sociological Review*, 71(1): 16-41, 2006.

and when. This allows for the calculation of the length of first marriages rather than simply estimating a divorce rate for a particular year. Figure 7 illustrates the difference in the cumulative percentage of women whose first marriages ended in divorce, by race and Hispanic origin. The graph shows the result of combining all first marriages, regardless of when they occurred, and so represents the average experience of all ever-married women as of 2014.

Marriages are most susceptible to divorce in their early years. After 5 years, approximately 13 percent of all first marriages had ended in divorce. Proportions ending in

divorce after 5 years were lower for Asian (4 percent) and Hispanic women (10 percent). The percentages divorced from a first marriage for non-Hispanic Black and non-Hispanic White women were not statistically different until about the ninth year of marriage. After the ninth year, non-Hispanic Black women divorced in higher percentages. This trend led to non-Hispanic Black women's eventual level of 41 percent of first marriages ending in divorce, compared with about 36 percent for non-Hispanic White women. The percentages of first marriages ending in divorce were lower for Asian (13 percent) and Hispanic (28 percent) women. Although researchers do not agree on the causes of these differences, marital quality, economic factors and cultural factors have been found to influence divorce and these differ greatly by race and Hispanic origin.²⁷

To sum up this section, most adults marry at least once. Adults aged 55 to 64 years have the highest proportion divorced, while those 75 years and over have the highest proportion widowed. Women become widows in higher proportions than men because they live longer and marry younger. Older people, particularly women, experiencing these events may be particularly disadvantaged as they are more likely to live alone, have less access to

internet and computers, and have more disabilities.²⁸

Characteristics of Men and Women Who Were Married, Divorced, or Widowed in the Preceding Year

Table 4 shows the characteristics of men and women who were married, divorced, or widowed in the preceding 12 months, regardless of their current marital status. About 4.6 million adults married, 2.0 million adults divorced, and 1.4 million adults were widowed in the last year. Not surprisingly, the ages of individuals had strong associations with whether they were married, divorced, or widowed in the preceding year. For example, 44 percent of men and 45 percent of women who married in the last year were aged 25 to 34, an age group that only makes up 17 percent of the adult population 15 years and over (Table 4). Given that individuals who divorce need to first be married, it is not surprising that the majority of men and women who divorced in the last year were older. The highest percentages of those who divorced in the last year were those 35 to 44 years old (28 percent of both men and women). As expected, the majority of widowed males and females were 65 years and over (71 percent and 69 percent, respectively).

There were also variations in the racial and Hispanic origin composition of those who had recent marital events. For instance, 19 percent of men and women married in the last 12 months were of

Hispanic or Latino origin, while this was true of just 9 percent of those who were recently widowed, for both sexes. Conversely, 75 percent of men and 70 percent of women widowed in the last year were non-Hispanic White, compared with 62 percent of recently married men and women. Such differences in the profile of those recently married or widowed are consistent with the fact that non-Hispanic Whites are older, on average, than the Hispanic population. In 2016, the median age of the Hispanic population was 28.9, while it was 43.4 for the non-Hispanic White population.²⁹

Researchers have found that increasingly, those who marry tend to have higher educational attainment.³⁰ Perhaps reflecting this, those who married in the past 12 months generally had higher levels of education than the overall population. While 18 percent of all people 15 years and over had a bachelor's degree, 23 percent of men and 25 percent of women who married in the past 12 months had a bachelor's degree. While 11 percent of men who married in the last year and 10 percent of all adults had a graduate or professional degree, 13 percent of women who married in the past 12 months had such credentials.

Women who divorced in the previous 12 months were more likely to live with their own children compared to recently divorced men. For those divorced in the past 12 months, 19 percent of men were living with their own children, while 39 percent of women were

²⁷ Jennifer Roebuck Bulanda and Susan L. Brown, "Race-Ethnic Differences in Marital Quality and Divorce," *Social Science Research*, 36(3): 945-967, 2007.

²⁸ Andrew W. Roberts, Stella U. Ogunwole, Laura Blakeslee, and Megan A. Rabe, "The Population 65 Years and Older in the United States: 2016," American Community Survey Reports, ACS-38, U.S. Census Bureau, 2018, <www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2018/acs/ACS-38.pdf>.

²⁹ U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 ACS 1-year estimates tables B01002I and B01002H.

³⁰ Shelly Lundberg, Robert A. Pollak, and Jenna Stearns, "Family Inequality: Diverging Patterns in Marriage, Cohabitation, and Childbearing," *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 30(2):79-101, 2016.

Table 4.

Characteristics of People 15 Years Old and Over With a Marital Event in the Last 12 Months

Characteristic	Percent						
	Total	Men			Women		
		Married	Divorced	Widowed	Married	Divorced	Widowed
Total (numbers)	254,100,000	2,282,000	958,100	448,800	2,274,000	1,089,000	977,800
Age							
15-24 years	15.8	14.9	2.4	0.8	20.8	4.0	0.3
25-34 years	17.1	43.7	19.2	1.7	44.6	23.6	1.1
35-44 years	15.7	20.1	27.8	2.7	17.0	28.2	2.8
45-54 years	16.6	11.5	25.4	7.2	10.6	23.5	7.8
55-64 years	16.1	6.4	16.9	16.7	5.1	14.0	18.8
65 years and over	18.8	3.4	8.4	71.0	2.1	6.7	69.2
Race and Hispanic or Latino Origin							
White alone	74.3	73.3	76.0	80.9	73.8	74.4	76.3
White alone, non-Hispanic	63.8	61.6	66.8	74.8	61.7	64.1	70.0
Black or African-American alone	12.1	11.0	13.1	10.5	9.9	13.2	12.4
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.8
Asian alone	5.6	6.2	3.0	4.2	6.7	4.2	6.4
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Some Other Race alone	4.7	5.8	4.2	2.0	5.7	4.4	2.3
Two or More Races	2.4	2.7	2.5	1.6	3.0	2.7	1.6
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	16.1	18.6	14.3	8.9	18.8	15.8	9.3
Nativity							
Native-born	83.7	80.9	86.0	88.0	82.4	84.0	84.2
Foreign-born	16.3	19.1	14.0	12.0	17.6	16.0	15.8
Educational Attainment							
Less than high school	16.6	10.5	12.0	21.7	8.5	9.2	20.8
High school graduate	26.2	26.2	31.1	33.6	20.1	24.5	36.4
Some college	29.2	29.9	32.8	23.6	33.3	37.6	25.9
Bachelor's degree	17.7	22.5	15.2	12.2	24.6	18.8	10.2
Graduate degree or professional degree	10.3	10.9	8.8	8.9	13.4	9.9	6.7
Family Status¹							
Living with own children under 18	23.6	30.4	19.4	4.8	33.2	38.6	4.8
Has an unmarried partner	5.7	X	15.5	2.0	X	13.5	1.3
Living in a multigenerational household	8.0	6.1	6.7	7.9	7.1	12.7	10.8
Times Married²							
Once	75.5	72.2	66.3	72.1	72.9	67.4	71.0
Twice	19.2	20.6	25.0	21.2	20.3	23.6	21.9
Three or more times	5.3	7.1	8.7	6.7	6.9	9.0	7.2
Public Assistance							
Household receives public assistance ³	17.7	15.2	18.6	18.9	16.5	28.0	22.0
Poverty Level							
Below the poverty level	12.4	7.6	11.2	12.7	8.8	20.4	19.3
100-199 percent of poverty level	16.7	14.6	15.9	22.5	15.3	22.9	27.7
200-299 percent of poverty level	16.4	15.7	17.9	18.7	15.7	19.6	18.5
Over 300 percent of poverty level	54.5	62.1	54.9	46.0	60.3	37.2	34.5
Employment, Among 16 Years and Over							
Employed	60.8	85.2	76.4	25.6	73.5	73.5	22.8
Unemployed	3.6	3.8	4.6	1.9	4.5	5.0	1.3
Not in labor force	35.5	11.0	19.0	72.5	21.9	21.5	75.9

X Not applicable.

¹ Family status categories do not add to 100 percent because they are not mutually exclusive. Meaning, a respondent may be living with a child and an unmarried partner.² Question asked of those who have ever been married.³ Includes households that receive cash public assistance income, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, previously known as Food Stamps) benefits.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Table 5.

Percent Intermarried¹ for Currently Married Women in Their First Marriage: 2016

Characteristic	Number of marriages (numbers)	Percent			
		Interracial or Hispanic and non-Hispanic	Mixed nativity ²	Both native-born	Both foreign-born ³
Total	43,340,000	10.3	8.0	75.4	16.5
Race and Hispanic Origin					
White alone	34,260,000	7.0	6.4	84.6	9.1
White alone, non-Hispanic	30,090,000	5.1	4.7	91.4	3.9
Black or African-American alone	2,925,000	8.0	6.9	77.1	16.0
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	232,000	52.1	6.8	84.7	8.4
Asian alone	3,393,000	20.6	19.3	9.8	70.9
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	61,460	44.8	17.1	59.1	23.8
Some Other Race alone	1,743,000	15.3	18.9	22.8	58.3
Two or More Races ⁴	718,500	100.0	12.6	68.7	18.8
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	6,157,000	22.4	18.5	32.8	48.7
Age					
15-24 years	873,600	16.7	11.9	76.2	11.9
25-34 years	7,699,000	15.2	10.1	73.0	16.9
35-44 years	9,520,000	13.3	10.1	67.9	22.0
45-54 years	9,138,000	10.3	7.8	72.9	19.3
55 years and over	16,110,000	5.9	5.8	82.4	11.8
Education					
Less than high school	3,884,000	7.2	9.3	37.6	53.1
High school graduate	9,813,000	8.1	6.9	77.6	15.5
Some college	12,160,000	11.5	7.7	82.5	9.8
Bachelor's degree	10,690,000	11.3	8.2	78.7	13.1
Graduate degree or professional degree	6,785,000	11.7	9.3	76.1	14.6
Median duration of current marriage (in years)	43,340,000	13.7	15.6	23.9	19.2

¹ Intermarried includes marriages that are interracial, interethnic, or mixed nativity.

² Mixed nativity includes people whose spouse's nativity status differs from their own, or marriages in which one spouse is native-born and the other is not.

³ Foreign-born includes any person born outside of the United States, excluding those born abroad to U.S. citizen parents or born in U.S. territories.

⁴ The seven race groups used in this report are White alone, Black or African American alone, American Indian and Alaska Native alone, Asian alone, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, Some Other Race alone, and Two or More Races. If either spouse or partner was not in the same single race as the other spouse or partner, or if at least one spouse or partner was in a multiple-race group, then the couple is classified as an interracial couple. Also, if one spouse was Hispanic or Latino and the other was not, then the couple is classified as an interethnic couple.

Note: This table shows estimates at the couple level, and includes female householders in same-sex married couples.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

doing so. Given that women were more often caring for their children following a divorce than men, multigenerational households may be a support strategy.³¹ Recently divorced women were more likely to be living in a multigenerational household—13 percent of such women, compared with 7 percent

of recently divorced men and 8 percent of all adults.

The economic well-being of those with recent marital events also differed by sex. Women who divorced in the past 12 months were more likely to receive public assistance than recently divorced men (28 percent and 19 percent, respectively). Women who divorced in the past 12 months were also more likely than recently divorced men to be in poverty (20

percent compared with 11 percent, respectively).

Similarly, 85 percent of recently married men and 74 percent of recently married women were employed, while 61 percent of adults 16 years and over were employed. High employment rates were also reported by the recently divorced relative to all adults (76 percent of men and 74 percent of women). The recently married and divorced were younger overall than the total adult population, so

³¹ Joan R. Kahn, Francis Goldscheider, and Javier Garcia-Manglano, "Growing Parental Economic Power in Parent-Adult Child Households: Coresidence and Financial Dependency in the United States: 1960-2010," *Demography*, 50(4):1449-1475, 2013.

it makes sense that they were also more likely to be employed.³²

Overall, these characteristics reflect two overarching findings. First, differences among the recently married, divorced, and widowed may be attributable to age differences (such as differences in race and Hispanic origin, and employment). Second, the data show that recently divorced women were financially strained compared with others, having higher poverty rates, lower

³² Since the universe for the employment estimates is adults 16 years and over, and not the typical “working age population” that excludes those 65 years and over, Table S2301 at <<https://data.census.gov>> may play a role in the employment disparities between those with recent marital events and the general population.

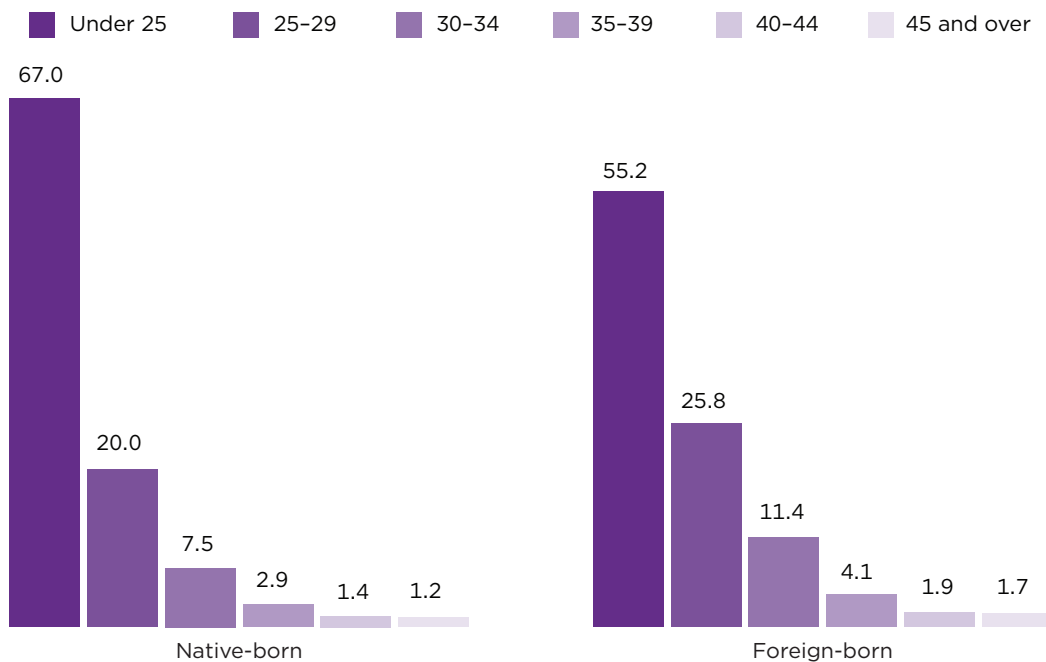
Table 6.

Marital History by Nativity: 2014

Characteristic	Total (in thousands)	Percent	
		Native-born	Foreign-born
All adults	252,089	100.0	100.0
Never married	79,425	33.1	23.6
Ever married	172,664	66.9	76.4
Total ever married	172,664	100.0	100.0
Ever divorced	57,558	36.4	20.3
Ever widowed	17,589	10.9	7.0
Times Married			
Once	131,371	73.7	86.3
Twice	32,575	20.5	11.9
Three or more	8,718	5.8	1.8
Age at first marriage	172,664	100.0	100.0
Under 25 years	98,315	59.5	46.1
25-29 years	42,507	23.5	29.5
30-34 years	18,712	9.9	14.7
35-39 years	7,367	4.0	5.4
40-44 years	2,998	1.6	2.2
45-49 years	1,390	0.7	1.2
50 years and over	1,374	0.8	0.9

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2014 Panel, Wave 1.

Figure 8a.
Women’s Age at First Marriage by Nativity: 2014
(Percent)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2014 Panel, Wave 1.

incomes, and greater use of public assistance, despite high employment rates. Such financial differences were likely interrelated, considering the data also show that recently divorced women were more often living with their children than similar men, and research shows that women routinely earn less than men.³³

Another aspect of the diversity of American family life is

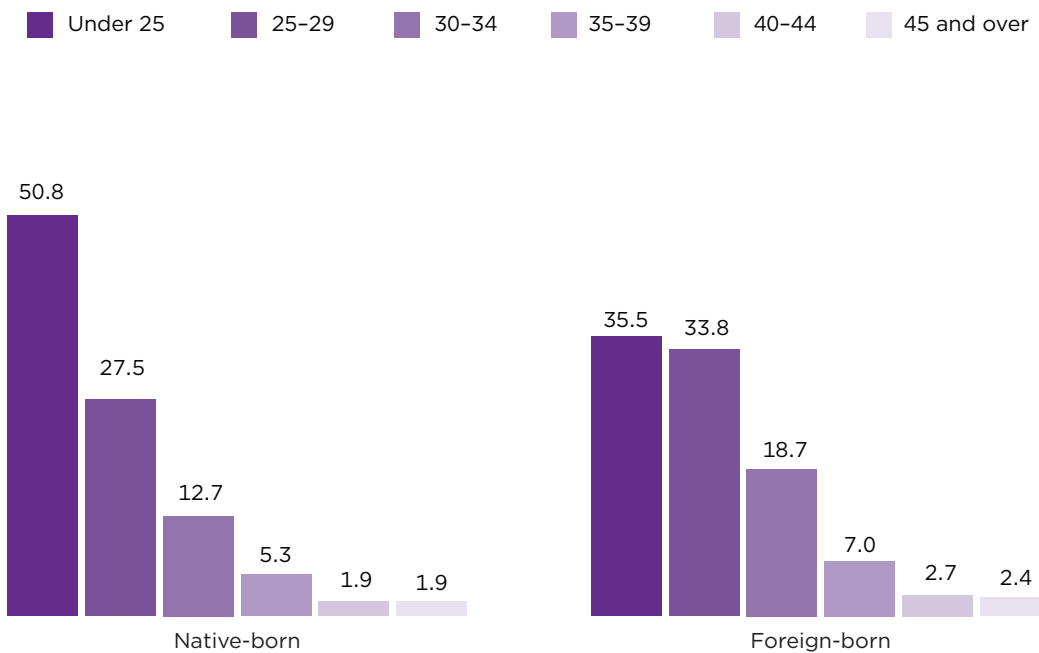
³³ Hadas Mandel and Moshe Semyonov, "Gender Pay Gap and Employment Sector: Sources of Earnings Disparities in the United States 1970-2010," *Demography*, 51:5:1597-1618, 2014.

the frequency of interracial and Hispanic/non-Hispanic marriage. Because the ACS and the SIPP do not collect information on the race and Hispanic origin identities of previous spouses, or spouses not currently living together, the data are only shown for spouses who were currently married and living together in the same household. Research has shown that interracial couples have higher rates of divorce than other couples, so the percentage of currently married interracial couples shown in the table may be lower than the

percentage of interracial couples at the time of marriage.³⁴ Despite this gap between how often interracial couples get married compared with how many married interracial couples there are at any moment, the proportion of interracial couples has grown over time. Increases in immigration from Latin America, the Caribbean, and Asia in the past couple of decades have provided a larger pool of potential spouses

³⁴ Jenifer L. Bratter and Rosalind B. King, "But Will It Last? Marital Instability Among Interracial and Same-Race Couples," *Family Relations* 57:160-171, 2008.

Figure 8b.
Men's Age at First Marriage by Nativity: 2014
 (Percent)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2014 Panel, Wave 1.

Table 7.

Times Married by Sex, Selected Race, and Hispanic Origin Among Currently Married Adults: 2016

Race and Hispanic origin	Totals	White alone	White alone, non-Hispanic	Black or African-American alone	American Indian and Alaska Native alone	Asian alone	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	Two or More Races	Hispanic or Latino (of any race)
Currently married (total) ..	117,400,000	94,270,000	83,400,000	8,260,000	672,500	7,650,000	175,400	1,926,000	16,010,000
Men (total) ..	59,030,000	47,490,000	42,030,000	4,338,000	331,100	3,542,000	88,830	941,700	8,080,000
Times married (percent):									
Once ..	76.2	75.0	74.0	72.3	71.6	90.7	83.0	77.6	83.4
Twice ..	18.8	19.5	20.2	22.6	21.2	8.2	14.6	17.7	14.1
Three or more ..	5.0	5.5	5.8	5.2	7.3	1.1	2.4	4.7	2.5
Women (total) ..	58,420,000	46,780,000	41,370,000	3,922,000	341,400	4,108,000	86,550	984,200	7,933,000
Times married (percent):									
Once ..	77.1	75.6	74.6	77.4	72.0	90.1	80.2	77.3	83.7
Twice ..	18.3	19.3	19.9	19.2	21.2	9.0	16.7	18.2	14.3
Three or more ..	4.5	5.1	5.5	3.4	6.8	0.9	3.1	4.5	2.0
Married in the last year (total) ..	3,860,000	2,931,000	2,508,000	366,200	26,950	221,800	7,047	104,600	660,600
Men (total) ..	1,936,000	1,470,000	1,260,000	197,400	13,860	98,270	3,842	50,130	330,500
Times married (percent):									
Once ..	71.1	69.7	68.4	67.7	72.0	84.9	78.7	77.8	78.7
Twice ..	21.5	22.0	22.7	24.2	22.9	12.8	15.9	17.7	17.9
Three or more ..	7.5	8.3	8.9	8.1	5.1	2.3	5.4	4.5	3.4
Women (total) ..	1,924,000	1,461,000	1,248,000	168,800	13,090	123,500	3,205	54,430	330,100
Times married (percent):									
Once ..	72.1	70.4	69.2	71.3	69.4	83.9	67.8	78.0	78.5
Twice ..	20.9	21.7	22.2	23.7	19.9	14.8	26.4	15.0	18.0
Three or more ..	7.0	8.0	8.6	5.0	10.7	1.3	5.8	7.0	3.5

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Table 8. **Number of Times Married for Currently Married People in Opposite-Sex Couples: 2016**

Characteristic	Number of times husband has been married							
	All current marriages			Married within the last year				
	Total	Married once	Married twice	Married three or more times	Total	Married once	Married twice	Married three or more times
Number of Times Wife Has Been Married								
Total	57,910,000	44,020,000	10,930,000	2,955,000	1,831,000	1,290,000	399,200	141,000
Married once	44,680,000	39,110,000	4,805,000	766,300	1,317,000	1,116,000	169,100	31,690
Married twice	10,610,000	4,316,000	4,920,000	1,369,000	383,900	149,100	173,400	61,410
Married three or more times.	2,626,000	598,300	1,209,000	819,200	129,900	25,290	56,690	47,920
Percent of Marriages								
Total	100.0	76.0	18.9	5.1	100.0	70.5	21.8	7.7
Married once	77.2	67.5	8.3	1.3	71.9	61.0	9.2	1.7
Married twice	18.3	7.5	8.5	2.4	21.0	8.2	9.5	3.4
Married three or more times.	4.5	1.0	2.1	1.4	7.1	1.4	3.1	2.6

Note: This table includes only people who are married to an opposite-sex spouse who is present in the household.
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Table 9.

Number of Times Married for Spouses in Same-Sex Married Couple Households: 2016

Characteristic	Number of times person has been married (all currently married couple households)		
	Total	Married once	Married two or more times
Total	1,000,000	783,500	216,800
Percent	100.0	78.3	21.7
Female Spouses			
Total	516,400	386,900	129,500
Percent	100.0	74.9	25.1
Male Spouses			
Total	483,900	396,700	87,280
Percent	100.0	82.0	18.0

Note: This table includes householders and spouses who are of the same sex and are present in the household.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

who are foreign-born and racially or ethnically diverse, which has contributed to the growth of interracial/interethnic and mixed nativity marriages.^{35, 36}

Among women in their first marriage in 2016, 10 percent were in interracial or Hispanic/non-Hispanic marriages, defined as each spouse belonging to different race groups or Hispanic origin (Table 5). AIAN and NHPI women had the highest proportion of interracial or Hispanic/non-Hispanic marriages (52 percent and 45 percent, respectively); non-Hispanic White and Black women had the lowest proportions (5 percent and 8 percent, respectively).

³⁵ Gretchen Livingston and Anna Brown, "2017 Intermarriage in the U.S. 50 Years After Loving v. Virginia," Pew Research Center, Washington, DC. The report is available online at <www.pewsocialtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2017/05/Intermarriage-May-2017-Full-Report.pdf>. Also, Jeffrey S. Passel, Wendy Wang, and Paul Taylor, "Marrying Out: One-in-Seven New U.S. Marriages is Interracial or Interethnic," Pew Research Center, Washington, DC, June 15, 2010.

³⁶ Luke J. Larsen and Nathan P. Walters, "Married-Couple Households by Nativity Status: 2011," U.S. Census Bureau, ACSBR/11-16, 2013.

About 22 percent of Hispanic women of any race in their first marriage were in an interracial or Hispanic/non-Hispanic marriage in 2016.

A higher proportion of currently married younger women were in interracial or Hispanic/non-Hispanic first marriages. Approximately one in six 15- to 24-year-olds were intermarried, as were 15 percent of those aged 25 to 34. The youngest women (those 15–24 years old) were almost three times more likely to be intermarried than the oldest women (those 55 years and over) (6 percent). Only 7 percent of first marriages for currently married women with less than a high school degree were interracial or Hispanic/non-Hispanic, while this was the case for 12 percent of women with a graduate or professional degree.

Table 5 also shows the proportion of currently married women in their first marriage who are in a mixed nativity marriage, defined as one foreign-born spouse and

one native-born spouse. Overall, 8 percent of these women were in mixed nativity marriages. This ranged from just 5 percent of non-Hispanic White women in mixed nativity marriages, to 19 percent of Asian, Some Other Race, and Hispanic women.³⁷ The high proportions of these groups with mixed nativity marriages are unsurprising given high levels of immigration from Asia and Latin America. Younger women were more often in mixed nativity marriages, with the youngest group (15- to 24-year-olds) having about twice the percentage mixed as women 55 years and over—12 percent compared with 6 percent, respectively.

Table 6 offers information on the marital history of adults in 2014 by their nativity.³⁸ About two-thirds (67 percent) of native-born people had ever married, compared with about three-quarters (76 percent) of foreign-born people. Among ever-married adults, higher proportions of native-born people had ever divorced (36 percent) or ever been widowed (11 percent) than foreign-born people (20 percent and 7 percent respectively). Native-born people were also more likely to remarry; about 26 percent were married two or more times, compared to foreign-born people, of whom only 14 percent had remarried.

³⁷ Asian, Some Other Race, and Hispanic women are statistically different from each other. The proportion of NHPI women in mixed nativity marriages (17 percent) is not statistically different from Hispanic women in this type of couple arrangement (19 percent).

³⁸ This part relies on 2014 SIPP data because of the availability of additional detailed marital history compared to 2016 ACS data.

Table 10.

Percent Reaching Stated Anniversaries by Marriage Cohort and Sex for First Marriages: 2014

Sex and year of marriage	Anniversary								
	Number of marriages (in thousands)	Standard error (in thousands)	5th	10th	15th	20th	25th	30th	35th
Men									
1970-1974	6,609	206	86.4	73.6	64.3	58.0	54.8	51.1	50.0
1975-1979	6,668	213	84.9	71.3	63.4	57.4	52.3	50.7	X
1980-1984	7,133	231	88.1	74.3	62.7	57.2	54.6	X	X
1985-1989	6,683	225	84.3	69.2	59.3	54.1	X	X	X
1990-1994	7,996	288	83.9	70.9	62.1	X	X	X	X
1995-1999	7,678	270	88.2	73.6	X	X	X	X	X
2000-2004	7,174	276	87.0	X	X	X	X	X	X
Women									
1970-1974	7,526	214	86.4	71.5	64.2	56.5	52.3	48.7	46.6
1975-1979	7,122	232	82.9	70.4	63.0	57.6	52.8	49.7	X
1980-1984	8,081	253	84.1	73.2	62.4	58.0	52.8	X	X
1985-1989	7,503	277	85.0	69.0	57.8	50.8	X	X	X
1990-1994	7,705	274	85.8	73.5	67.2	X	X	X	X
1995-1999	7,711	284	88.3	75.6	X	X	X	X	X
2000-2004	7,653	277	87.5	X	X	X	X	X	X

X Not applicable.

Note: Marriage cohort did not have sufficient time to reach the stated anniversary at the time of the survey.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Social Security Administration Supplement to Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2014 Panel, Wave 1.

Differences in age at first marriage by nativity may contribute to variations in remarriage rates. Foreign-born adults marry at older ages than the native-born. Less than half (46 percent) of foreign-born people married by age 24, while 59 percent of native-born people had married by this age. Figures 8a and 8b show the ages at first marriage by nativity and sex. Among foreign-born women, 55 percent had married by age 24, compared with 67 percent of native-born women. Among men, 35 percent of the foreign-born had married by age 24, compared with 51 percent of native-born men. Marrying at younger ages provides native-born people with more time to experience changes in marital status throughout their lives.

Although being in an interracial, Hispanic/non-Hispanic, or mixed nativity marriage may have its own challenges, many women, especially younger women, marry spouses of a different race, Hispanic origin, or nativity than

themselves. Recent immigration from Asia and Latin America may be facilitating union formation among race and Hispanic origin groups linked to these regions. These results also show that foreign-born adults marry at later ages and have marriages that last longer than native-born adults.

MARITAL HISTORY

A higher proportion of U.S. residents marry than the residents of many developed countries. U.S. residents are also more likely to remarry.³⁹ The characteristics of those who remarry differ from those who marry only once.⁴⁰ This section describes the marital history of currently married adults, specifically the number of times married, as well as the duration of first marriages.

³⁹ Andrew J. Cherlin, *The Marriage-Go-Round*, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2009.

⁴⁰ Jamie M. Lewis and Rose M. Kreider, "Remarriage in the United States," *American Community Survey Reports, ACS-30*, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC, 2015.

Number of Times Married for Those Currently Married

Out of all currently married adults, those who married in the last year may differ in the number of times married by sex, race, or Hispanic origin (Table 7). Among those currently married, 76 percent of men and 77 percent of women were in their first marriage, while this estimate was lower for those currently married who married in the last year—71 percent for men and 72 percent for women (Table 7). These proportions are quite similar to those reported in previous years.⁴¹ Recent marriages were less likely than all marriages to be a first marriage. However, the majority of both current and recent marriages were first marriages across sex, race, and Hispanic origin. Among men, Asian Americans were among the most likely to be in their first marriage for those currently married (91 percent) and

⁴¹ Rose M. Kreider, "Number, Timing, and Duration of Marriages and Divorces: 2001," *Current Population Reports, P70-97*, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC, 2005.

those who married in the last year (85 percent).⁴² For women, this pattern also held true, with 90 percent of currently married Asian women and 84 percent of those who married in the last year experiencing their first marriage. Hispanics were also more likely to be in their first marriage, compared to non-Hispanic Whites.⁴³ A higher proportion of Black women compared to Black men were in their first marriage, with 77 percent of currently married Black women in their first marriage, compared to 72 percent of currently married Black men. For those who married in the last year, 71 percent of Black women, compared to 68 percent of Black men, were in their first marriage.

Not all newlyweds begin married life with the same marital history. One or both spouses may have married previously, which means some couples enter the marriage with children and commitments from previous marital unions. Table 8 examines currently married opposite-sex couples, taking a more detailed look at the number of times wives and husbands had been married by 2016. While both spouses were in their first marriage in 68 percent of all currently married couples in 2016, this situation occurred for just 61 percent of the couples who had married in the year prior to the interview. In other words, recent marriages were less likely than all marriages to be the first marriage for both spouses.

About 8 percent of all currently married couples involved a wife

who was in her second marriage and a husband who was in his first marriage, while another 8 percent of all currently married couples involved a husband who was in his second marriage and a wife who was in her first marriage. Nearly 8 percent of currently married couples and 9 percent of couples married within the previous year involved spouses who were both in their second marriage, while 1 percent of all currently married couples consisted of a husband and wife who had both been married 3 or more times; this combination also applied to 3 percent of couples married in the last year (Table 8).

In contrast to the marital history of opposite-sex married couples in Table 8, Table 9 highlights currently married same-sex couple households and the number of times these spouses have been married. The ACS only identifies same-sex married couples that include the householder, so they are referred to as households for this reason. Since the overall number of couples is far smaller than for male/female couples, we do not show the full grid of the number of times married for the first spouse crossed by that of the second spouse. Instead, we show the percentage of all spouses in same-sex married couple households for those who have been married once and those who have been married two or more times. Approximately 78 percent of spouses currently in same-sex marriages were in their first marriage. Among men in same-sex marriages, 82 percent were in their first marriage, compared with 75 percent of currently married women in same-sex marriages.

While it is important to show the marital history estimates of same-sex married couples, there are limitations in interpreting the data. First, there are known measurement issues in estimating same-sex couples. In reviewing the 2010 Census data, the Census Bureau became aware of a reporting error that affected the number of same-sex married couples. Even a very small proportion of inadvertent mismarks in something like reported sex by the much larger group of opposite-sex married couples may lead to substantial effects on the estimates of the far smaller groups of same-sex couples. Starting in 2019, the ACS expanded the response categories for the relationship to householder question to include same-sex and opposite-sex categories for spouses as well as unmarried partners, in order to improve the measurement of same-sex couples.

Second, the marital history of same-sex married individuals is inherently more complex compared to those in male/female marriages given the 2015 Supreme Court ruling that overturned the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and allowed same-sex marriage in every state of the United States for the first time. Because of this, the number of times married for adults in same-sex marriages reflects legal barriers, as well as personal choice. In addition, adults currently in same-sex marriages may have had previous marriages with spouses of the same or opposite sex. Given these differences, comparisons with opposite-sex married couples should be made with caution.

⁴² There is no significant difference between Asian and NHPI men married in the last year.

⁴³ There is some overlap between the Hispanic and White categories; however, this comparison was statistically significant.

Duration of Marriages

How long do marriages last?

While previous reports for earlier cohorts show that first marriages occurring in the early 1960s lasted longer than those occurring after enactment of new divorce laws (1975 to 1979), the anniversary rates are similar across marriage cohorts after 1970.⁴⁴ Other factors that contribute to the proportion who reach a given anniversary are the age at marriage, as well as differential death rates by age, since survey data only include information from those who are still alive. The effect of the increasing age at first marriage is controlled for in the table by only showing estimates for marriage durations that the specified marriage cohort has had ample time to reach. Since the highest anniversary shown is the 35th, the fact that death rates are higher for older adults should have a minimal effect on the estimates, because many of those who married in the late 1970s married in their early 20s and were in their 60s when interviewed. Compared to previous reports, this report does not include data on couples reaching their 40th anniversary because of small sample size in earlier marriage cohorts, while later marriage cohorts did not have enough time to reach that anniversary, given that the latest collection dates for the SSA survey were in the fall of 2014.

⁴⁴ Earlier reports on the “Number, Timing and Duration of Marriages and Divorces” are available at <www.census.gov/topics/families/marriage-and-divorce/library/publications.html>.

Marital longevity, measured as the proportion of marriages reaching select anniversaries, exhibits small changes of less than 10 percentage points across time since the 1970s. Table 10 shows that about 58 percent of men who married between 1970 and 1974 stayed married for at least 20 years, and about 54 percent of men who married between 1985 and 1989 stayed married as long.⁴⁵ Similarly, about 57 percent of women married from 1970 through 1974 reached their 20th anniversary, compared with 51 percent of women married in 1985 to 1989. The percentage of adults reaching the 25th anniversary has remained stable. Over half of marriages occurring from 1970 to 1984 for both men and women reached their 25th anniversary. So although age at first marriage continues to rise, as evidenced earlier in this report, the duration of marriage has fluctuated little across recent cohorts.

To sum up, most people who are currently married are in their first marriage. The proportions of adults remarrying are similar by sex, except among same-sex couples, for whom legal marriage has only recently become available. The duration of marriages has not changed across recent cohorts.

In conclusion, when and how people experience a marriage or a divorce varies greatly by their demographic and social

⁴⁵ The percent of men married between 1970 to 1974 who reached their 20th anniversary (58 percent) is not statistically different from this percent among men married between 1985 to 1989 (54 percent).

characteristics, previous marital experiences, and many other attributes. These events remain an important feature of people’s lives, rousing the continued attention of researchers, policymakers and the general public.

CONTACTS

Additional information on family statistics can be found by contacting the SIPP Coordination and Outreach Staff at <census.sipp@census.gov> or 1-888-245-3076. For further information on the content of this report, contact:

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APPENDIX A. SOURCE AND ACCURACY

Source of the Data

The data in this report are from the 2006, 2008–2016 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-year estimates, the 2014 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), and the 2014 Social Security Administration (SSA) Supplement to the SIPP. These surveys were conducted in the United States and collect information on the U.S. resident population in the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The population represented (the population universe) in the ACS is the population living in both households and group quarters—that is, the resident population of the United States. 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). When estimates require information from both spouses or pertain to specific household characteristics, then tables using ACS data are shown only for the population living in households.⁴⁶ The Census Bureau is both the sponsor and the collector of the ACS. For

⁴⁶ These tables include: Table 4, Table 5, Table 7, Table 8, and Table 9.

more information, please visit the ACS Web site at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs>.

The Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) is a nationally-representative panel survey administered by the Census Bureau that collects information on the short-term dynamics of employment, income, household composition, and eligibility and participation in government assistance programs. It is a leading source of information on specific topics related to economic well-being, family dynamics, education, wealth and assets, health insurance, child care, and food security. Each SIPP panel follows individuals for several years, providing monthly data that measure changes in household and family composition and economic circumstances over time. For more information, please visit the SIPP Web site at <www.census.gov/sipp>. The population represented (the population universe) in the 2014 SIPP is the civilian, noninstitutionalized population living in the United States.

To reduce burden on the SIPP respondents, the survey was redesigned for the 2014 panel and topical modules with detailed questions about a given topic used in previous panels, including a marital history module, were

removed from the 2014 SIPP. Instead, these marital history questions were asked separately on the 2014 SSA supplement, conducted from September 2014 through November 2014 via a telephone survey of 2014 Wave 1 SIPP respondents. Therefore, the population represented in the 2014 SSA (the population universe) is the civilian, noninstitutionalized population living in the United States, the same as SIPP. For more information, please visit the SIPP SSA Web site at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sipp/about/SSA-Supplement.html>.

Accuracy of the Estimates

The estimates in this report (which may be presented in the text, figures, and tables) are based on responses from a sample of the population and may differ from the actual values because of sampling and nonsampling error. As a result, apparent differences between the estimates for two or more groups may not be statistically significant. All comparisons presented in this report have taken sampling error into account and are significant at the 90 percent confidence level unless otherwise noted. This means the 90 percent confidence interval for the difference between the estimates being compared does not include zero. Replicate weights

were used to account for clustering and sampling in the estimation of errors. Nonsampling errors in surveys may be attributed to a variety of sources, such as how the survey was 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, wording of questions, review of the work of interviewers and coders, and statistical review of reports to minimize these errors.

The use of population weights to create population estimates from survey data corrects for bias because of over- or under-coverage, but biases may still be present; for example, 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. Each survey provides their own population weights with their data.

The final ACS population estimates are adjusted in the

weighting procedure for coverage error by controlling specific survey estimates to independent population controls by age, race, sex, and Hispanic origin. The final ACS estimates of housing units are controlled to independent estimates of total housing. Additionally, ACS estimates are rounded to a maximum of four significant digits for disclosure protection purposes.

For further information on the ACS sample, weighting procedures, sampling error, nonsampling error, and quality measures from the ACS, go to www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/code-lists.html.

In the SIPP, households were classified into two strata, such that one stratum had a higher concentration of low-income households than the other. The low income stratum was oversampled to increase the accuracy of estimates for statistics of low-income households and program participation. Therefore, SIPP weights were used to create population estimates since households were not selected with equal probability. The SIPP weighting procedure uses ratio estimation, whereby sample estimates are adjusted to independent estimates of the national population by age, race, sex, and Hispanic

origin. Additionally, SIPP totals are rounded to the thousands for disclosure protection purposes.

Since the 2014 SSA sample is a subset of the SIPP 2014 Panel, they share the same survey design and procedures for developing population weights. The SSA program produced person-level cross-sectional weights corresponding to September 2014. Comparisons between SSA and other SIPP products or other surveys should be made with caution because of differences in sources, such as the seasonal patterns for many characteristics, different nonsampling errors, and different concepts and procedures.

For further information on the SIPP and SSA statistical standards and the computation and use of standard errors, go to www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sipp/tech-documentation/source-accuracy-statements.html, or contact Mahdi S. Sundukchi of the Census Bureau's Demographic Statistical Methods Division at mahdi.s.sundukchi@census.gov. For further information on SIPP nonresponse, go to www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sipp/tech-documentation/nonresponse-reports.html.

Appendix B.

Margins of Error for Table 1, Percent of Women Never Married by Age, Race, and Hispanic Origin: 2006, 2011, and 2016

Race and Hispanic origin	25-29 years	30-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55 and over
Total					
2006.....	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
2011.....	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
2016.....	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
White Alone					
2006.....	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
2011.....	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
2016.....	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
White Alone, Non-Hispanic					
2006.....	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
2011.....	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
2016.....	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
Black or African-American Alone					
2006.....	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.3
2011.....	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.3
2016.....	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.2
American Indian and Alaska Native Alone					
2006.....	3.2	2.5	1.5	1.3	0.8
2011.....	3.1	2.8	1.7	1.4	0.9
2016.....	2.4	2.1	1.5	1.4	0.7
Asian Alone					
2006.....	1.1	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.3
2011.....	1.2	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.3
2016.....	0.9	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.2
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone					
2006.....	6.9	5.5	3.9	3.1	1.7
2011.....	6.2	5.9	4.0	2.8	2.0
2016.....	5.8	5.6	3.7	3.1	2.0
Some Other Race Alone					
2006.....	0.9	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.5
2011.....	1.2	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.7
2016.....	1.2	1.1	0.7	0.7	0.6
Two or More Races					
2006.....	1.8	2.0	1.2	1.0	0.6
2011.....	1.8	1.6	1.0	0.8	0.7
2016.....	1.2	1.5	1.1	0.9	0.5
Hispanic or Latino (of Any Race)					
2006.....	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.3
2011.....	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3
2016.....	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006, 2011 and 2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Margins of Error for Table 2, Marital History for People 15 Years Old and Over by Age and Sex: 2016

Characteristic	Percent										
	Total	15-17 years	18-19 years	20-24 years	25-29 years	30-34 years	35-39 years	40-49 years	50-59 years	60-69 years	70 years and over
Male											
Total (numbers)	30,620	14,690	21,430	22,710	18,570	18,530	37,420	38,200	38,980	45,210	29,020
Never married	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Ever married	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Married once	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Still married	0.1	<0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Married twice	<0.1	X	X	<0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Still married	<0.1	X	X	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Married 3 or more times	<0.1	X	X	X	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Still married	<0.1	X	X	X	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Female											
Total (numbers)	25,650	11,400	22,450	21,950	16,900	16,180	36,940	42,250	34,890	40,140	30,350
Never married	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Ever married	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Married once	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Still married	0.1	<0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Married twice	<0.1	X	X	<0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Still married	<0.1	X	X	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Married 3 or more times	<0.1	X	X	X	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Still married	<0.1	X	X	X	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

X Not applicable. Too few cases to show estimates.
 <0.1 Rounds to zero.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Margins of Error for Table 4, Characteristics of People 15 Years Old and Over With a Marital Event in the Last 12 Months

Characteristic	Percent						
	Totals	Men			Women		
		Married	Divorced	Widowed	Married	Divorced	Widowed
Total (numbers)	42,140	27,430	16,240	8,957	26,340	16,940	11,920
Age							
15-24 years	<0.1	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.1
25-34 years	<0.1	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.2
35-44 years	<0.1	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.2
45-54 years	<0.1	0.3	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.6	0.4
55-64 years	<0.1	0.3	0.6	0.8	0.2	0.5	0.5
65 years and over	<0.1	0.2	0.4	1.2	0.1	0.4	0.7
Race and Hispanic or Latino Origin							
White alone	<0.1	0.5	0.8	1.1	0.4	0.9	0.6
White alone, non-Hispanic	<0.1	0.5	0.8	1.1	0.4	0.9	0.7
Black or African American alone	<0.1	0.3	0.7	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.5
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	<0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
Asian alone	<0.1	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.4
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Some Other Race alone	<0.1	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2
Two or More Races	<0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	<0.1	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.5
Nativity							
Native-born	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.6
Foreign-born	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.6
Educational Attainment							
Less than high school	<0.1	0.4	0.6	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.6
High school graduate	0.1	0.6	0.8	1.0	0.5	0.8	0.7
Some college	<0.1	0.5	0.8	1.1	0.5	0.9	0.6
Bachelor's degree	0.1	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.5
Graduate degree or professional degree	<0.1	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.4
Family Status							
Living with own children under 18	<0.1	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.4
Has an unmarried partner	<0.1	X	0.6	0.3	X	0.5	0.2
Living in a multigenerational household	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.5	0.6
Times Married¹							
Once	0.1	0.6	0.7	1.2	0.5	0.8	0.7
Twice	0.1	0.5	0.7	1.0	0.5	0.7	0.6
Three or more times	<0.1	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.4
Public Assistance							
Household receives public assistance ²	0.1	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.5	0.7	0.6
Poverty Level							
Below the poverty level	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.7	0.6
100-199 percent of poverty level	0.1	0.4	0.6	0.9	0.4	0.6	0.6
200-299 percent of poverty level	0.1	0.4	0.7	1.0	0.4	0.7	0.6
Over 300 percent of poverty level	0.1	0.6	0.8	1.3	0.7	0.9	0.7
Employment Among 16 Years Old and Over							
Employed	0.1	0.5	0.8	1.1	0.6	0.7	0.5
Unemployed	<0.1	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.1
Not in labor force	<0.1	0.4	0.7	1.2	0.5	0.7	0.6

X Not applicable.

<0.1 Rounds to zero.

¹ Question asked of those who have ever been married.² Includes households that receive cash public assistance income, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, previously known as Food Stamps) benefits.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Margins of Error for Table 5, Percent Intermarried¹ for Currently Married Women in Their First Marriage: 2016

Characteristic	Number of marriages (numbers)	Percent			
		Interracial or Hispanic and non-Hispanic	Mixed nativity ²	Both native-born	Both foreign-born ³
Total	135,400	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Race and Hispanic Origin					
White alone	110,500	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
White alone, non-Hispanic	103,300	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Black or African-American alone	25,270	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	6,853	1.2	0.8	1.1	0.9
Asian alone	23,300	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	3,928	3.2	2.7	3.4	2.6
Some Other Race alone	19,760	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7
Two or More Races ⁴	13,680	<0.1	0.5	0.8	0.8
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	36,480	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.4
Age					
15-24 years	17,780	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.6
25-34 years	49,640	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2
35-44 years	42,100	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
45-54 years	40,080	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
55 years and over	55,930	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Education					
Less than high school	29,680	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4
High school graduate	48,500	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Some college	56,480	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
Bachelor's degree	52,810	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Graduate degree or professional degree	45,750	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2
Median duration of current marriage (in years)	135,400	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

<0.1 Rounds to zero.

¹ Intermarried includes marriages that are interracial, interethnic, or mixed nativity.

² Mixed nativity include people whose spouse's nativity status differs from their own, or marriages in which one spouse is native-born and the other is not.

³ Foreign-born includes any person born outside of the United States, excluding those born abroad to U.S. citizen parents or born in U.S. territories.

⁴ The seven race groups used in this report were White alone, Black or African-American alone, American Indian and Alaska Native alone, Asian alone, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, Some other race alone, and Two or more races. If either spouse or partner was not in the same single race as the other spouse or partner, or if at least one spouse or partner was in a multiple race group, then the couple was classified as an interracial couple. Also, if one spouse was Hispanic or Latino and the other was not, then the couple was classified as an interethnic couple.

Note: This table shows estimates at the couple level, and includes female householders in same-sex married couples.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Margins of Error for Table 7, Times Married by Sex, Selected Race, and Hispanic Origin Among Currently Married Adults: 2016

Race and Hispanic origin	Totals	White alone	White alone, non-Hispanic	Black or African-American alone	American Indian and Alaska Native alone	Asian alone	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	Two or More Races	Hispanic or Latino (of any race)
Currently married (numbers)	272,300	213,300	176,400	49,350	15,780	40,340	6,116	31,720	74,090
Men (numbers)	146,900	117,900	97,820	29,560	9,212	22,360	3,892	18,250	41,410
Times married (percent):									
Once	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	1.1	0.3	2.1	0.7	0.2
Twice	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	1.0	0.2	2.0	0.6	0.2
Three or more	<0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.8	0.4	0.1
Women (numbers)	138,100	110,500	94,400	28,340	9,243	24,470	4,287	17,250	43,140
Times married (percent):									
Once	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	1.1	0.2	2.1	0.6	0.2
Twice	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.9	0.2	2.0	0.5	0.2
Three or more	<0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.7	0.3	0.1
Married in the last year	51,090	40,470	34,680	13,510	3,075	10,600	1,580	5,183	18,130
Men (numbers)	26,330	20,750	17,800	7,845	2,073	5,175	898	3,372	10,400
Times married (percent):									
Once	0.6	0.7	0.7	1.9	5.6	2.1	10.6	3.2	1.3
Twice	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.7	4.9	2.0	9.9	2.8	1.3
Three or more	0.3	0.4	0.4	1.2	3.0	0.6	5.5	1.5	0.4
Women (numbers)	26,400	21,010	18,420	7,126	1,740	6,388	1,045	3,517	9,395
Times married (percent):									
Once	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.6	6.5	1.9	14.5	2.9	1.3
Twice	0.5	0.5	0.6	1.7	5.5	2.0	13.7	2.1	1.4
Three or more	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.8	3.9	0.4	7.6	1.8	0.6

<0.1 Rounds to zero.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Margins of Error for Table 8, Number of Times Married for Currently Married People in Opposite-Sex Couples: 2016

Characteristic	Number of times husband has been married							
	All current marriages			Married within the last year				
	Total	Married once	Married twice	Married three or more times	Total	Married once	Married twice	Married three or more times
Number of Times Wife Has Been Married								
Total	139,200	119,800	52,590	27,540	24,950	11,340	5,846	
Married once.....	126,400	115,200	31,810	13,430	20,250	6,011	2,798	
Married twice	55,740	35,920	40,150	16,220	10,830	7,284	3,515	
Married three or more times.....	24,290	10,670	14,730	14,090	5,394	4,213	3,422	
Percent of marriages								
Total	X	0.1	0.1	<0.1	X	0.6	0.3	
Married once.....	0.1	0.1	0.1	<0.1	0.5	0.3	0.2	
Married twice	0.1	0.1	0.1	<0.1	0.5	0.4	0.2	
Married three or more times.....	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	

X Not applicable.
 <0.1 Rounds to zero.
 Note: This table includes only people who are married to an opposite-sex spouse who is present in the household.
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Appendix H.

Margins of Error for Table 9, Number of Times Married for Spouses in Same-Sex Married Couple Households: 2016

Characteristic	Number of times person has been married (all currently married couple households)		
	Total	Married once	Married two or more times
Total	19,170	16,760	7,027
Percent	X	0.6	0.6
Female Spouses			
Total	13,420	10,980	5,363
Percent	X	0.8	0.8
Male Spouses			
Total	15,100	12,810	4,669
Percent	X	0.8	0.8

X Not applicable.

Note: This table includes householders and spouses who are of the same sex, and are present in the household.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.