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Changing American Households

U.S. Census Bureau

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Changing American Households

Abstract
Census Bureau Director Robert Groves appeared on C-SPAN's "Washington Journal" on Friday, Nov. 4, and discussed Changing American Households. These slides and charts illustrate the changes discussed by Groves.

Keywords
households, income, poverty, family, census

Comments
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Definitions

• **Household** - all the people living in a housing unit.

• **Householder** - a person age 15 and over whose name is on the lease or mortgage.

• **Single-person household** - a household that contains only one person.

• **Family** - a household that contains at least one additional person who is related to the householder by birth, marriage or adoption.
How American Households are Changing

• Marital Patterns have driven changes in American Households.

• Since 2007, there has been an increase in the number of households with an additional adult living in them.

• There has been an increase in the percentage of multi-earner households in the past 10 years.
Percentage of Families with Children by Family Type: 1950-2010

Unmarried Couples in Thousands by Presence of Children: 1996 to 2010

Percent of Households with one Person: 1960 to 2011

Percentage Single-Person Households by Age of Householder: 2010

Percentage Married-Couple and Unmarried Partner Households by Age of Householder: 2010

Definitions

• **Additional adult** - a person aged 18 years or older who is not the householder nor his or her spouse or cohabiting partner and is not enrolled in school.

• **Family households** are headed by a householder living with at least one relative.

• **Non-family households** include one or more unrelated adults sharing a household.
Percentage of Households with At Least One Additional Adult, 2007 to 2011

Distribution of Total Adult Population and Additional Adults by Age Category, 2011

Percent of Adults Aged 25 to 34 Who are the Child of the Householder: 1983 to 2011

NOTE: In CPS data, unmarried college students living in dormitories are counted as living in their parent(s) home.
Poverty Rates of Adults Aged 25 to 34 Years: 2010

- Official Poverty - All Adults Aged 25 to 34: 15.2%
- Official Poverty Residing in Their Parents' Household: 8.4%
- Personal Income Below Poverty - (less than $11,344) Living in Their Parents' Household: 45.3%

Definitions

**Median Household Income** - The income value where half the households have incomes above and half below;

**Quintiles** - Each quintile contains 20% of households; in 2010 the lowest quintile had incomes below $20,000, the second between $20,000 and $38,040, the middle between $38,040 and $61,720, the fourth between $61,720 and $100,085, the highest had incomes above $100,085.
Income Distribution of Married and Non-married Couple Households

Median Household Income by Number of Earners:
1990-2010
(In 2010 dollars)

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