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# Statistical Brief

## Homeownership: 1989 to 1991

The U.S. homeownership rate remained steady between 1989 and 1991, at 64 percent. This means that nearly 2 in 3 households owned, rather than rented, their homes. However, the rates varied by region, State, and metropolitan area. Using data from the Current Population Survey/Housing Vacancy Survey (CPS/HVS), this brief will examine how homeownership rates changed in these different geographic areas between 1989 and 1991, as well as how the

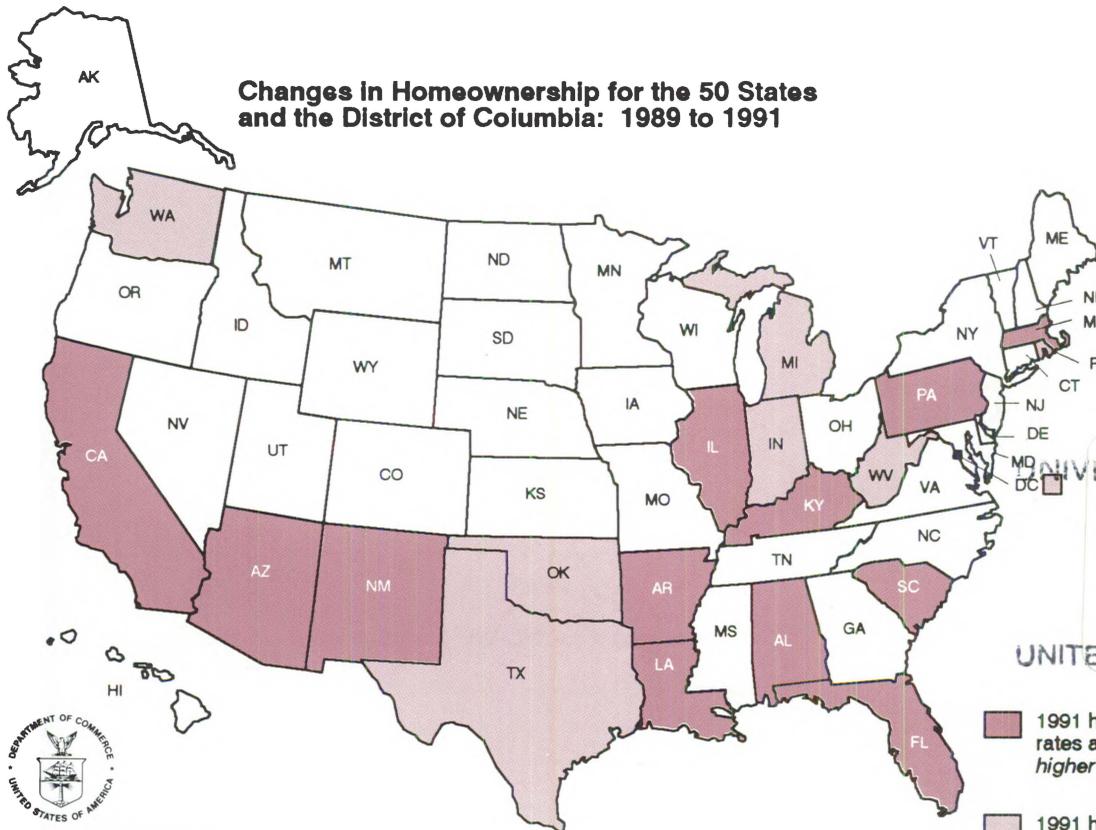
rates looked among different demographic groups.

**Homeownership rises in the West, falls in the Midwest, and remains steady elsewhere.**

The trend in homeownership patterns differed by region. While the homeownership rate rose in the West between 1989 and 1991 (from 58 to 59 percent), it fell in the Midwest (from 68 to 67 percent). Rates in the Northeast and South, however,

remained steady at 62 and 66 percent, respectively.

As the map shows, homeownership rose in 12 States, fell in 8 others, and remained stable in the rest. The majority of the States in which homeownership rates did not change significantly between 1989 and 1991 were located in the Midwest and West: there were 9 States in each region with no change. The Northeast and South had 6 and 7 States, respectively, where rates did not change.



Changes in Homeownership for the 50 States and the District of Columbia: 1989 to 1991

- 1991 homeownership rates are significantly higher than 1989 rates
- 1991 homeownership rates are significantly lower than 1989 rates
- No significant change in homeownership from 1989 to 1991



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**Trends in homeownership vary by age group.**

Although the overall national homeownership rate remained constant from 1989 to 1991, the rate for various age segments of the population fluctuated. The rate for householders under 35 years old experienced a 3-year downward trend which began in 1989, falling from 39 percent in 1989 to 38 percent in 1991.

On the other hand, for older householders (aged 65 years and over), the rate showed a 3-year upward trend which also began in 1989, rising from 76 to 77 percent. There was no detectable change, however, for owners in the 35 to 44, 45 to 54, and 55 to 64 age groups. Homeownership rates for these groups stood at 66, 75, and 80 percent, respectively, in 1991.

**Type of household matters.**

In 1991, married-couple family households were more likely to own a home than nonmarried-couple family households: 79 versus 46 percent. In these nonmarried-couple households, it made a difference whether the householder was a man or a woman; men were more likely to own a home than women (54 percent compared with 44 percent). Women, however, who lived alone were more likely to own a home than men living alone (54 percent versus 43 percent).

**More information:**

*Housing Vacancies and Homeownership, Annual Statistics: 1991, Current Housing Reports, Series H111/91-A.* Contact Customer Services at the Census Bureau for ordering information (301-763-4100).

It is easy to calculate homeownership rates based on various demographic characteristics, for geographic areas down to the block level, using data from the 1990 Census of Housing. This information is available in printed

reports, as well as on microfiche, CD-ROM, and computer tapes. At the national level only, the *American Housing Survey (AHS) for the United States for 1989, Series H150/89*, provides data on owner- and renter-occupied units, cross-tabulated by a number of demographic characteristics. AHS reports are also issued once every 4 years for 44 large metropolitan areas, 11 per year. Contact Customer Services at the Census Bureau for ordering information (301-763-4100).

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*This brief is one of a series that presents information of current interest. It may include data from businesses, households, or other sources. All statistics are subject to sampling variability, as well as survey design flaws, respondent classification and reporting errors, and data processing mistakes. We have taken steps to minimize errors, and analytical statements have been tested and meet statistical standards. However, because of methodological differences, use caution when comparing these data with data from other sources.*

**Homeownership Rates Remain Stable in Most of the 30 Largest Metro Areas**

	1989	1991
<b>Where homeownership rates rose:</b>		
Philadelphia, PA-NJ	71.8%	73.5%
Nassau-Suffolk, NY	77.4%	80.9%
Anaheim-Santa Ana-Garden Grove, CA	52.9%	57.4%
Sacramento, CA	51.7%	56.0%
San Diego, CA	48.7%	54.8%
<b>Where homeownership rates fell:</b>		
New York, NY	34.3%	33.0%
Detroit, MI	72.7%	69.2%
San Bernardino, CA	65.3%	60.1%
<b>Where homeownership rates did not differ statistically:</b>		
Atlanta, GA	61.5%	62.3%
Baltimore, MD	62.9%	62.8%
Boston, MA	55.6%	56.4%
Chicago, IL	56.1%	56.5%
Cleveland, OH	64.5%	64.4%
Dallas, TX	53.0%	52.9%
Denver, CO	58.4%	58.1%
Houston, TX	54.9%	53.6%
Indianapolis, IN	56.7%	56.1%
Kansas City, MO-KS	63.0%	64.0%
Los Angeles-Long Beach, CA	47.4%	48.0%
Miami-Hialeah, FL	47.8%	50.1%
Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI	62.4%	63.0%
Newark, NJ	62.9%	62.7%
Oakland, CA	56.2%	53.9%
Phoenix, AZ	65.4%	65.4%
Pittsburgh, PA	71.7%	71.7%
San Francisco, CA	52.3%	53.8%
San Jose, CA	63.4%	62.4%
St. Louis, MO-IL	58.5%	60.7%
Seattle, WA	64.7%	65.0%
Washington, DC-MD-VA	63.0%	62.4%

Note: Changes in a metro area's homeownership rate must be statistically significant for the rate to be shown as experiencing a rise or fall.