

Table 2. Historical Living Arrangements of Children: 1880 to 2009

(Numbers in thousands)

Living arrangements	Year													
	1880 ¹	1900 ¹	1910 ¹	1920 ¹	1940 ¹	1950 ¹	1960 ¹	1970 ²	1980 ²	1990 ²	1996 ³	2001 ⁴	2004 ⁵	2009 ⁶
Children	22,027	30,784	34,997	39,535	40,435	46,506	64,586	69,162	63,427	64,137	71,494	72,501	73,227	74,129
Living with --														
Two parents	18,359	25,916	29,880	34,122	34,404	40,365	55,885	58,939	48,624	46,503	50,685	51,113	51,013	50,835
One parent	2,332	3,172	3,389	3,742	4,178	4,144	6,644	8,200	12,466	15,867	18,165	18,472	19,335	20,211
Mother only	1,770	2,310	2,470	2,588	3,186	3,452	5,820	7,452	11,406	13,874	16,340	16,297	16,973	17,468
Father only	562	862	919	1,154	992	692	824	748	1,060	1,993	1,825	2,175	2,363	2,743
Neither parent	1,337	1,695	1,729	1,672	1,852	1,998	2,057	2,023	2,337	1,767	2,644	2,917	2,878	3,083
Percent living with --	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Two parents	83.3	84.2	85.4	86.3	85.1	86.8	86.5	85.2	76.7	72.5	70.9	70.5	69.7	68.6
One parent	10.6	10.3	9.7	9.5	10.3	8.9	10.3	11.9	19.7	24.7	25.4	25.5	26.4	27.3
Mother only	8.0	7.5	7.1	6.5	7.9	7.4	9.0	10.8	18.0	21.6	22.9	22.5	23.2	23.6
Father only	2.6	2.8	2.6	2.9	2.5	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.7	3.1	2.6	3.0	3.2	3.7
Neither parent	6.1	5.5	4.9	4.2	4.6	4.3	3.2	2.9	3.7	2.8	3.7	4.0	3.9	4.2

1/ Source: Data for these years come from the Public Use Micro Samples collected and made available by IPUMS, Historical Census Projects.

Note: For 1880-1940, children in group quarters are included (1 percent or less of all children). For more information see <http://usa.ipums.org/usa/design.shtml>

2/ Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Historical Table CH-1 (available on the internet).

For more information about CPS see <http://www.census.gov/aprd/techdoc/cps/cps-main.html>

3/ Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1996 Survey of Income and Program Participation, Wave 2

4/ Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001 Survey of Income and Program Participation, Wave 2

5/ Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 Survey of Income and Program Participation, Wave 2

6/ Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 Survey of Income and Program Participation, Wave 2

For information on sampling and nonsampling error in SIPP see www.census.gov/sipp/source.html.

Statistics from surveys are subject to error arising from a variety of sources

Internet Release date: June 2011