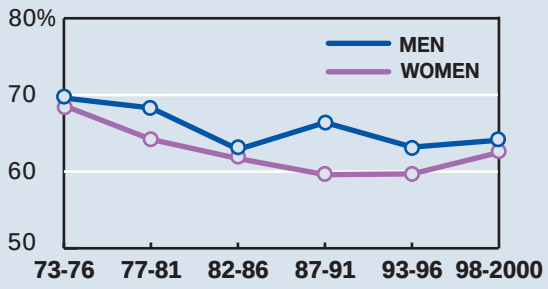
THE State OF MATRIMONY

Happily married?

Percentage of married Americans age 18 and older who said their marriages were 'very happy'



Source: National Opinion Research Center of the University of Chicago.

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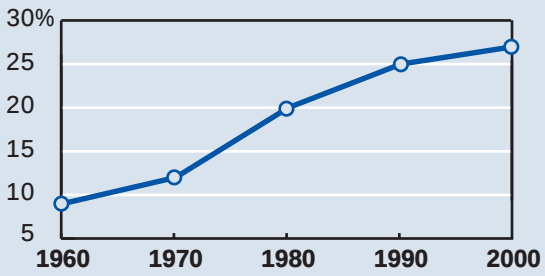
The rise of single parents

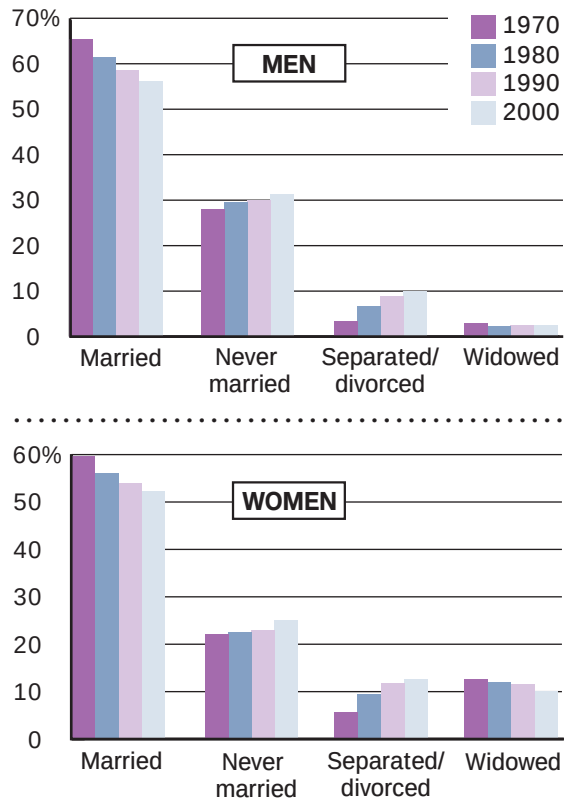
Percentage of children under age 18 living with a single parent



Source: US Bureau of the Census

Less marriage, more divorce

Americans aged 15 and older have grown less likely to be married since 1970. The 'divorced' and 'never married' categories have risen.



Source: US Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, March Supplements: 1970 to 2000.

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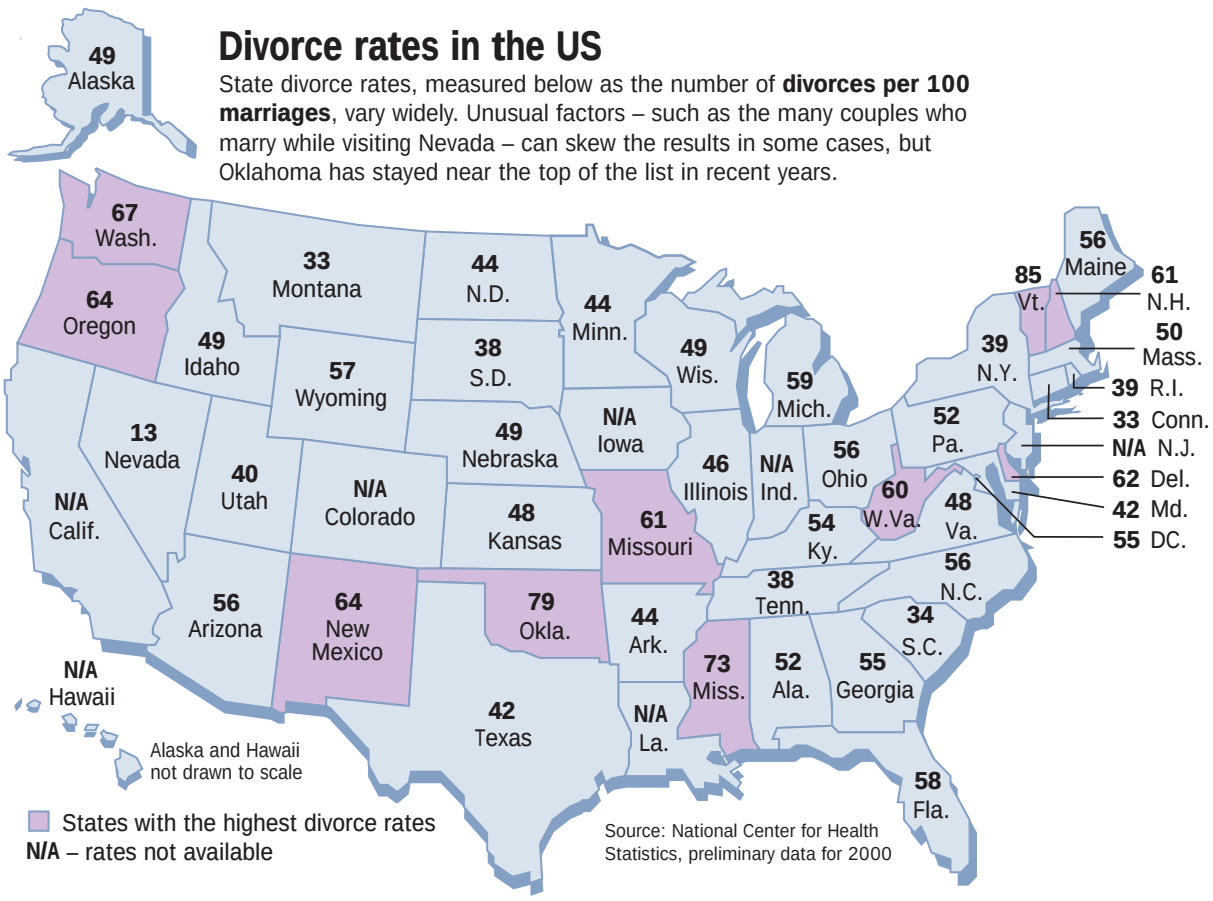
Divorce rates in the US

State divorce rates, measured below as the number of **divorces per 100 marriages**, vary widely. Unusual factors – such as the many couples who marry while visiting Nevada – can skew the results in some cases, but Oklahoma has stayed near the top of the list in recent years.



Source: National Center for Health Statistics, preliminary data for 2000

Divorce rates in selected developed countries

Country	Rate*
Russia	60
United States	51
Sweden	48
Norway	44
Britain	42
Canada	38
Switzerland	36
Austria	34
Czech Republic	33
France	33
Germany	30
The Netherlands	28

*Rate equals number of couples getting divorced each year per 100 couples getting married

Source: "Where Women Stand" (Random House)

LILIAN AKWISOMBE – STAFF

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