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FP-12-14 Remarriage Rate in the U.S., 2010

Julissa Cruz

Bowling Green State University - Main Campus

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Remarriage Rate in the U.S., 2010

Julissa Cruz

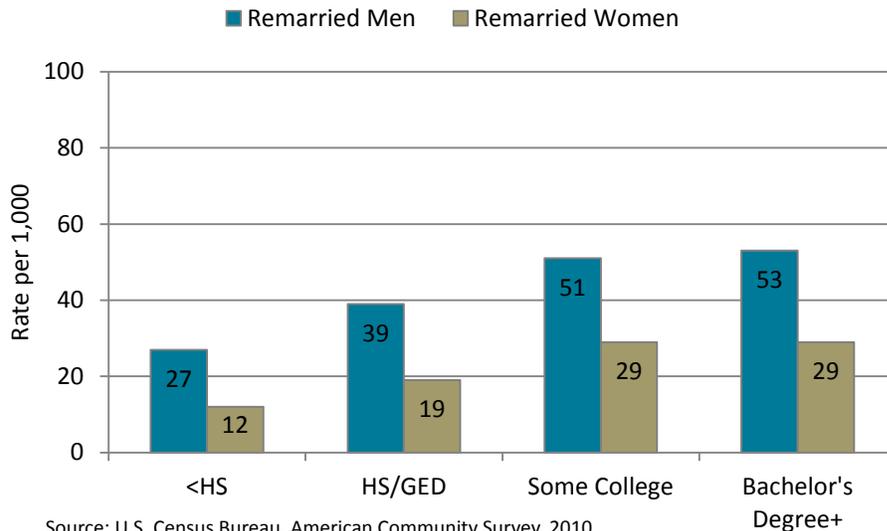
With almost half of all marriages ending in divorce, the U.S. claims the highest divorce rate in the world (Amato 2010; Cherlin 2010). Most divorced individuals do not stay single (Sweeney 2010). Data from the mid-1990s indicate 69% of women and 78% of men remarry after a divorce (Schoen and Standish 2001). Although remarriage rates were declining in the 1980s and 1990s, more recent estimates have been unavailable due to a lack of appropriate data (Sweeney 2010). The 2010 ACS offers a unique opportunity to estimate today's remarriage rate.

- In 2010, the overall marriage rate was approximately 37 per 1,000—37 marriages occurred per 1,000 men and women aged 18 and older.
 - The marriage rate was higher for men (40 per 1,000) than for women (35 per 1,000).
- Among all marriages in 2010, nearly 1 in 3 (30%) were remarriages.
- The remarriage rate in 2010 was approximately 30 per 1,000—30 remarriages occurred per 1,000 men and women aged 18 and older who were eligible for a remarriage (see *Note* below).
 - The remarriage rate was much higher for men (43 per 1,000) than for women (23 per 1,000).

Educational Attainment of Men and Women Who Remarried, 2010

- There is an educational gradient in remarriage rates such that remarriage is most common among those with at least some college education.
 - Among those at risk of a remarriage, more than 50 per 1,000 men and nearly 30 per 1,000 women with at least some college education remarry, whereas less than 40 per 1,000 men and 20 per 1,000 women with a high school degree or less remarry.

Figure 1. Remarriage Rates per 1,000 Men and Women by Educational Attainment, 2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2010

Note: This profile limits analyses to ever married respondents aged 18 and older at risk of a remarriage in the past 12 months. This excludes respondents who indicate being currently married or separated and did not experience a marriage or divorce or become widowed within the past 12 months. Additionally, this profile excludes respondents who are currently married or separated whose first marriage occurred within the past 12 months.

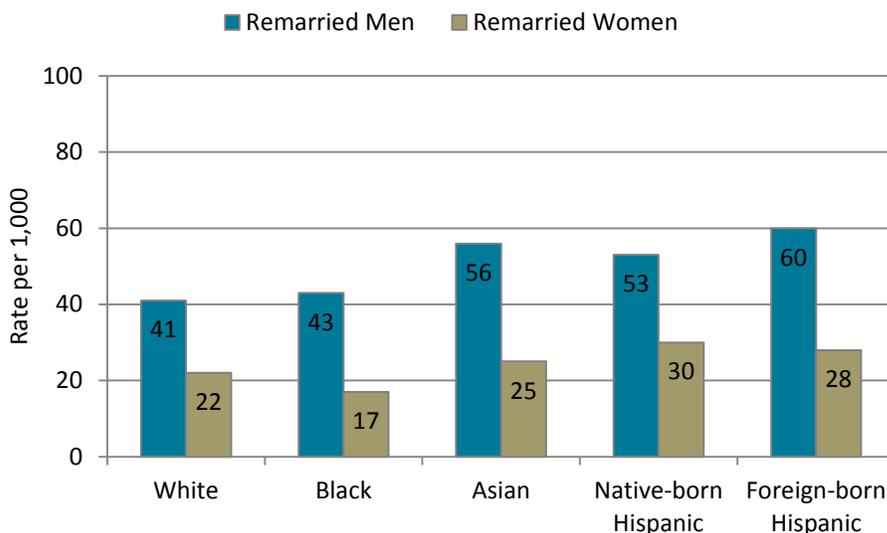
This profile draws on research published in the following articles:

- Amato, P. R. (2010). Research on divorce: Continuing trends and new developments. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 72(3), 650-666. DOI: 10.1111/j.1741-3737.2010.00723.x
- Cherlin, A. (2010). Demographic trends in the United States: A review of research in the 2000s. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 72(3), 403-419. DOI: 10.1111/j.1741-3737.2010.00710.x
- Schoen, R., & Standish, N. (2001). The retrenchment of marriage: Results from marital status life tables for the United States, 1995. *Population and Development Review*, 27(3), 553-563. DOI: 10.1111/j.1728-4457.2001.00553.x
- Sweeney, M. (2010). Remarriage and stepfamilies: Strategic sites for family scholarship in the 21st century. *Journal of Marriage and Family* 72(3), 667-684. DOI: 10.1111/j.1741-3737.2010.00724.x

Race, Ethnicity, and Hispanic Nativity of Men and Women Who Remarried, 2010

- Among all race and ethnic groups examined, men were more likely than women to remarry in 2010.
 - Among men, foreign-born Hispanics have the highest rate of remarriage (60 per 1,000), whereas White men have the lowest (41 per 1,000). In other words, roughly 6% of foreign-born Hispanic men eligible for remarriage did so in 2010 compared to 4.1% of eligible White men.
 - Among women, native-born Hispanics have the highest rate of remarriage (30 per 1,000), whereas Black women have the lowest rate (17 per 1,000).

Figure 2. Remarriage Rates per 1,000 Men and Women by Race, Ethnicity, and Hispanic Nativity, 2010

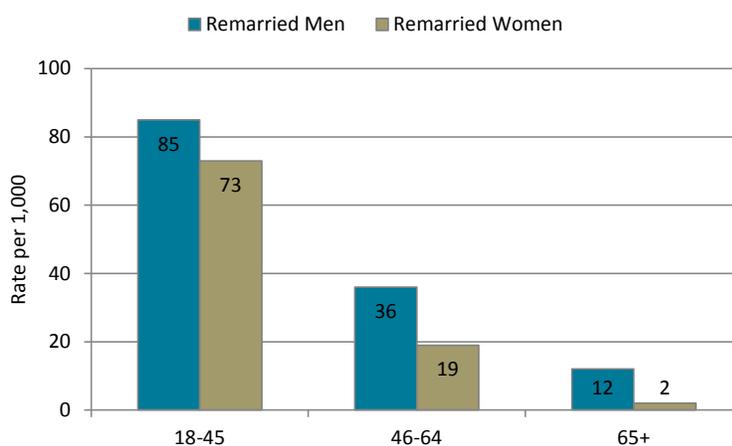


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2010

Age Distribution of Men and Women Who Remarried, 2010

- The proportion of individuals who remarry declines with age.
 - Among men, those in the youngest age group (18-45) have the highest remarriage rate (85 per 1,000). Those men in the oldest age group (65+) have the lowest (12 per 1,000).
 - Among women, those in the youngest age group also have the highest remarriage rate (73 per 1,000), whereas only 2 per 1,000 women aged 65+ remarried in 2010.
- Although more men than women remarry within each age group, the percentage difference between the remarriage rates of men and women within the same age category increases precipitously with age.
 - There is a 15% difference between the remarriage rates of men and women aged 18-45. This percentage increases to 62% among baby boomers (aged 46-64), and increases again to 143% among those aged 65 and older.

Figure 3. Remarriage Rates per 1,000 Men and Women by Age, 2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2010

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