2018

FP-18-06 Fathers with Resident Minor Children, 2016

Kasey J. Eickmeyer
Bowling Green State University, eickmek@bgsu.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.bgsu.edu/ncfmr_family_profiles

Part of the Family, Life Course, and Society Commons

Repository Citation
https://scholarworks.bgsu.edu/ncfmr_family_profiles/169

This Report is brought to you for free and open access by the Sociology at ScholarWorks@BGSU. It has been accepted for inclusion in National Center for Family and Marriage Research Family Profiles by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@BGSU.
Stepfamilies in the United States are increasingly common (FP-16-09), as a growing share of men are living with children to whom they are not biologically related (stepfathers). Using the 2016 Current Population Survey (CPS), we examine the union status, educational attainment, and average income of three types of fathers with resident minor children: fathers living with only biological children, fathers living with only stepchildren, and fathers living with both stepchildren and biological children.

In 2016, the vast majority (91%) of fathers who lived with minor children were living with only their biological children. Nearly equal shares (4% and 5%, respectively) of fathers lived with only stepchildren or both stepchildren and biological children. On average, men who were only stepfathers were slightly older (age 42) than fathers with only biological children (41) and fathers with both stepchildren and biological children (38).

### Union Status of Fathers with Resident Minor Children

- **Most** fathers with resident minor children were currently married in 2016 regardless of their biological relationship to resident children.
- It was more common for fathers with only stepchildren to live in cohabiting unions (13%) than for fathers with only biological children (7%) or both step- and biological children (8%).

#### Educational Attainment of Fathers with Resident Minor Children

- **64%** of fathers with only biological children had some college education or higher, compared to 52% of fathers with both step- and biological children and 49% of fathers with only stepchildren.
- Nearly two-thirds of fathers with only biological children had a bachelor’s degree or higher compared to less than a quarter (23% and 19%, respectively) of either fathers with only stepchildren or fathers with both step- and biological children.

#### Average Income of Fathers with Resident Minor Children

- Fathers with only biological children had the highest average income ($66,000) followed by those with both step- and biological children ($52,000). Fathers with only stepchildren reported an average income of about $45,000.

### Data Source

NCFMR’s core research themes.

These profiles examine topics related to the NCFMR’s core research themes.

**Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2016

---

### Suggested Citation:


---

**Family Profiles:** Original reports summarizing and analyzing nationally representative data with the goal to provide the latest analysis of U.S. families. These profiles examine topics related to the NCFMR’s core research themes.