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FP-21-18 The U.S. Remarriage Rate, 2019: Trends and Geographic Variation by Gender

Leslie Reynolds
Bowling Green State University, reynoll@bgsu.edu

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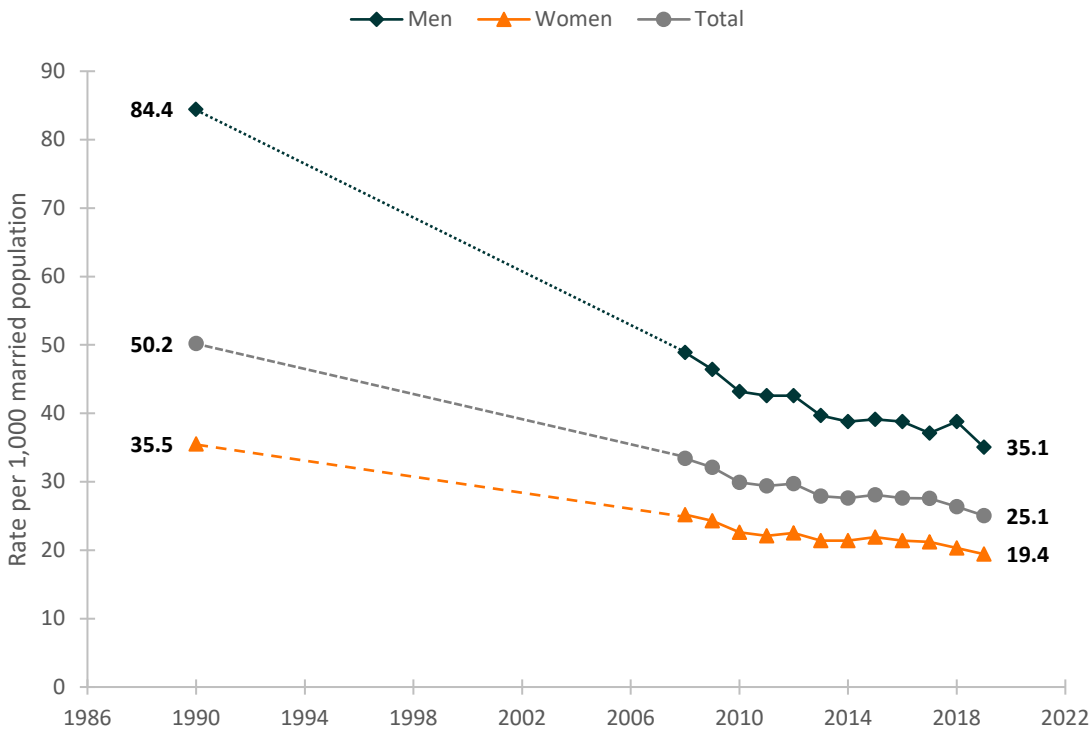
The U.S. Remarriage Rate, 2019: Trends and Geographic Variation by Gender

Author: Leslie Reynolds

Although approximately half of all marriages in the U.S. end in divorce (Amato, 2010; Cherlin, 2010), the remarriage rate has declined steadily in recent decades (Brown & Lin, 2013; Schweizer, 2019). In this profile, we examine the trend in the remarriage rate since 1990 (see Note) and investigate geographic variation in the remarriage rate by gender using recent American Community Survey (ACS) data. This profile is an update of a previous profile on the Geographic Variation in the Remarriage Rate (FP-15-08).

- In 2019, the remarriage rate was approximately 25.1 remarriages per 1,000 men and women eligible to remarry.
 - This estimate represents a 50% decrease from the 1990 remarriage rate and a 25% decrease from the 2008 remarriage rate.
- The remarriage rate is consistently higher for men (35.1) than women (19.4).
 - Men experienced a slightly greater decline (28%) than women (23%) since 2008.
- Men are older, on average, than women when they remarry (not shown).
 - In 2019, the median age at remarriage was 48 for men and 44 for women (compared to 45.5 and 42.8 in 2013).

Figure 1. Remarriage Rate in the U.S., 1990-2019



Sources: NCFMR analyses of U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-yr. est., 2008-2019

Note: This profile estimates remarriage rates based on adults (18 and older) at risk of remarriage in the past 12 months. Men and women at risk are divorced or widowed.



“In 2019, the remarriage rate was 25.1 remarriages per 1,000 men and women eligible to remarry. This estimate represents a 50% decrease from the 1990 remarriage rate and a 25% decrease from the 2008 remarriage rate.”

Five States with the Highest and Lowest Remarriage Rates

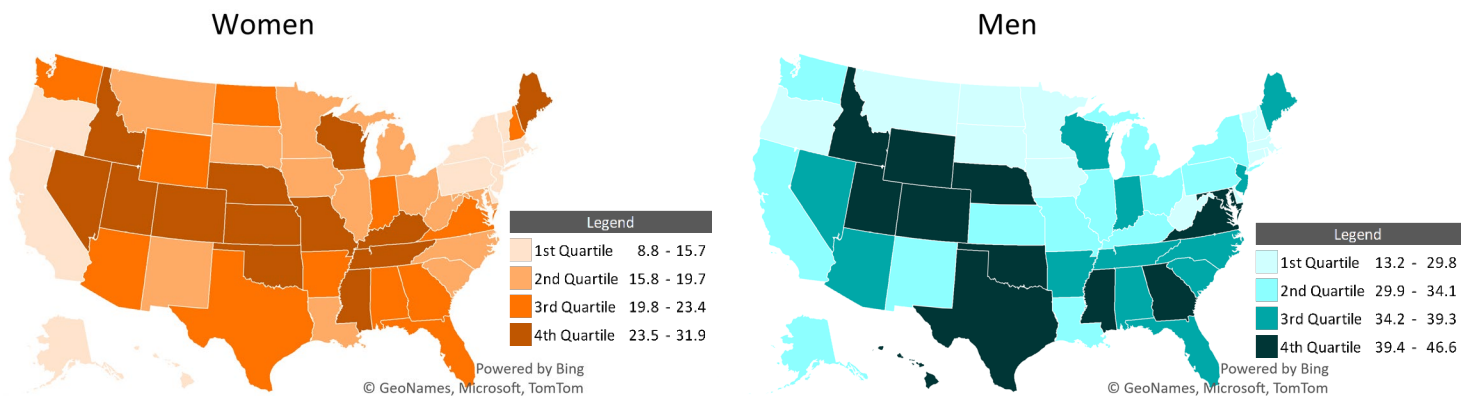
- Among the states with the highest remarriage rates for both men and women, most are located in the West or the Midwest.
 - For women, the lowest remarriage rates are located in the Northeastern United States (Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Vermont, Pennsylvania, District of Columbia).
 - For men, the lowest remarriage rates are located in the Northeastern (Rhode Island, Vermont, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire) and Midwest (North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota) United States.

Table 1. Women's and Men's Highest and Lowest Remarriage Rates

Women		
1	Delaware	8.8
2	Hawaii	11.1
3	Massachusetts	12.2
4	New Jersey	12.4
5	Rhode Island	12.8
	U.S.	19.4
47	Nebraska	26.7
48	Mississippi	27.1
49	Utah	29.4
50	Idaho	30.1
51	Maine	31.9

Men		
1	Rhode Island	13.2
2	North Dakota	15.7
3	Vermont	16.2
4	Delaware	17.9
5	South Dakota	20.6
	U.S.	35.1
47	Wash., D.C.	45.2
48	Wyoming	45.3
49	Mississippi	45.6
50	Oklahoma	46.2
51	Idaho	46.6

Figure 2: Geographic Variation of U.S. Women's and Men's Remarriage Rates by state, 2019



Source: NCFMR analyses of U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-yr. est., 2019

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