

FAMILY STRUCTURE AND INCOME

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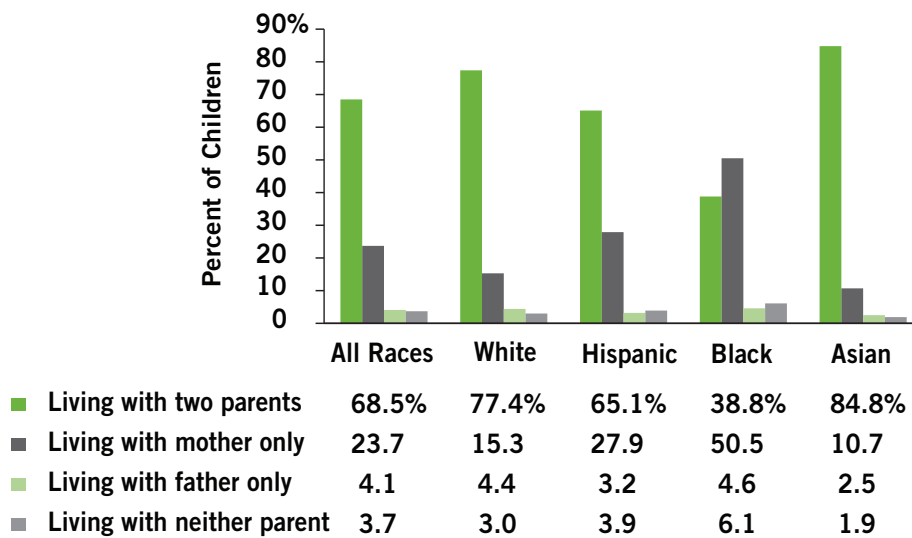
THE AVERAGE WEALTH OF WHITE HOUSEHOLDS IN 2011 (\$110,500) VERSUS BLACK HOUSEHOLDS (\$6,314).

Every child deserves a safe, permanent and loving family and all parents and caregivers aspire to support and prepare their children for a better life than the previous generation. Children do not choose their families. The structure and financial status of the family into which a child is born impacts their development and ability to reach their full potential. Single parents and families with lower incomes have fewer resources to ensure a healthy and head start for their children. Our societal responsibility is to ensure that regardless of birth, all children have access to the resources they need to survive and thrive and reach their potential.

According to the most recent data on family structure:

- Almost 70 percent of all children lived with two parents in 2013 (see Figure 1). However, more than half of all Black children and over 30 percent of Hispanic children lived with only one parent, usually their mother.
- Black children were twice as likely as White children to live with neither parent. Usually a grandparent or another relative-caretaker parented them.

Figure 1: Living Arrangements of Children by Race/Ethnicity, 2013



Source: U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey, 2013 Annual Social and Economic Supplement, Table C9.

My Mom’s Story

One job. Two jobs. Three jobs.
 Endless bus rides to and from.
 Home in time to catch a ride, give instructions, wave goodbye.
 Lonely mom and lonely kids.
 Cleans businesses at night, homes in the day.
 Once a week, she cleans the big house for the white lady who says,
 “Good morning, I hope you’re ready to work.”

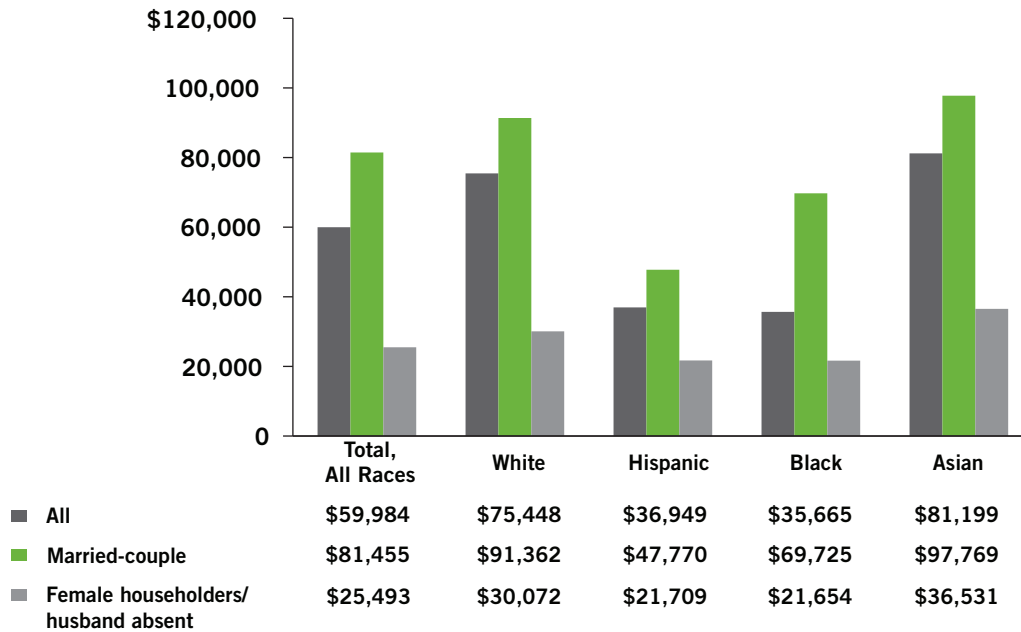
— Diane, age 15

According to the most recent data on wealth and family income:

- The average wealth of White households in 2011 (\$110,500) was nearly 14 times that of Hispanic households (\$7,683), and more than 17 times that of Black households (\$6,314).¹
- Asian and White families with children had median incomes more than twice that for Black and Hispanic families. The median income was \$81,199 for Asian families, \$75,448 for White families, \$35,665 for Black families, and \$36,949 for Hispanic families (see Figure 2).
- The median income of married-couple families with children was three times higher than that of families with children headed by single women (see Figure 2).
- Median income among families with children was over twice as high in the highest state (New Jersey, \$85,185) than in the lowest state (Mississippi, \$40,875) (see Table C-1).

Find state data in Family Structure and Income tables in Appendix.

Figure 2: Median Income of Families with Children, by Family Type, 2012



Source: U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey, 2013 Annual Social and Economic Supplement, Table FINC-03.