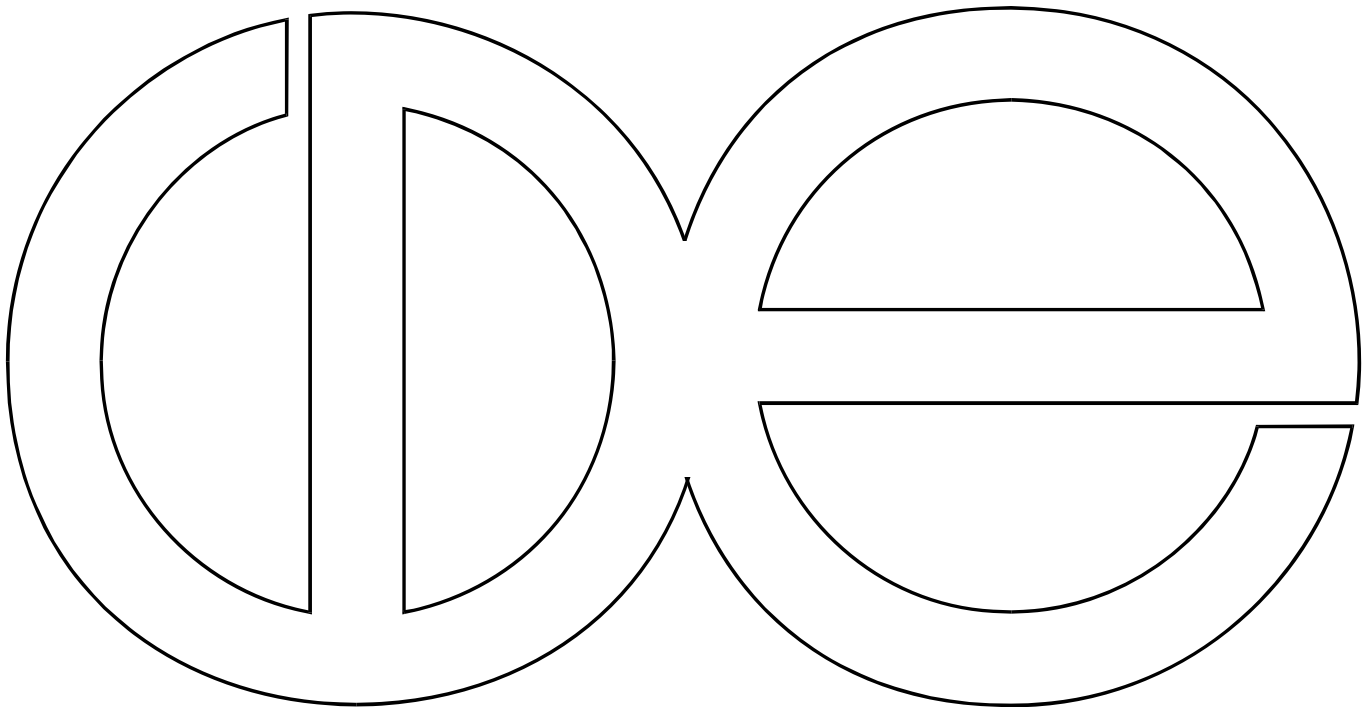


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**Combining Two Nationally Representative
Surveys to Estimate Trends in Divorce in the
United States**

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Combining Two Nationally Representative Surveys to Estimate Trends in Divorce in the United States

Descriptive Finding

Abstract

BACKGROUND

For interpretation of trends in divorce to be valid, a prerequisite is adequate data quality. Past studies have compared various sources of data, with some arriving at optimistic and others more pessimistic conclusions about data quality.

OBJECTIVE

We introduce and assess a new data resource for estimating divorce trends and patterns: pooled data from the National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG) and the Health and Retirement Study (HRS). When combined, these data provide coverage across a broad age range (15+) over a long time series. We compare period divorce rates from 1970 to 2019 using the NSFG/HRS with vital statistics, the American Community Survey, and the Panel Study of Income Dynamics. We illustrate the potential value of the NSFG/HRS by showing trends in rates of legal divorce, marital dissolution, and dissolutions from marriages and cohabiting unions combined.

RESULTS

There is robust evidence across sources showing a US divorce rate decline. We also find correspondence across data sources in divorce rates by age and period. Legal divorce and marital dissolution rates have declined since the 1980s, but there has been no decline in dissolution from marriages and cohabiting unions combined.

CONTRIBUTION

The results support the utility of the pooled NSFG/HRS for studying co-residential relationship dissolution and increase our confidence in other data sources. The NSFG/HRS can be used by researchers to conduct a wide array of analyses such as individual-level hazard modeling, the estimation of cumulative probabilities of marital dissolution by marriage cohort, and subgroup analyses.

1. Introduction

Trends in divorce are a key aspect of family change in the United States and elsewhere. Between 1960 and the late 1970s, the US divorce rate more than doubled. This catalyzed much debate about “what’s happening to the family?”, particularly given the implications of marital dissolution for child and family welfare (Bumpass 1990; Raley and Sweeney 2020; Smock and Schwartz 2020). Since the late 1970s, the divorce rate has plateaued and declined in the United States (Cohen 2019; Kennedy and Ruggles 2014; Stevenson and Wolfers 2011). Declines and plateaus in divorce rates have also been noted in other countries such as Sweden, France, England and Wales, South Korea, and Japan (Härkönen 2014; Jones 2015).

For the interpretation of trends in divorce to be valid, a prerequisite is adequate data quality. Past studies have compared various sources of data to study divorce trends, with some arriving at optimistic conclusions about data quality through the mid-1990s (Bumpass and Raley 2007; Raley 2011) and others more pessimistic about data quality since the mid-1990s (Kennedy and Ruggles 2014). The latter assessment suggests that at least some of the decline in divorce rates may be due to increasing undercounts of divorce in vital statistics data and data quality issues and/or limitations in a number of surveys (Kennedy and Ruggles 2014).

Specifically, scholars have argued that divorce trends calculated from vital statistics should be viewed with considerable skepticism post-1995 (Cohen 2023; Kennedy and Ruggles 2014). At that time, funding was curtailed for the national collection of divorce certificate data from US states (Ventura 2018). Since then, not all states have reported divorce data and there is no centralized system of data quality monitoring. By contrast, the American Community Survey (ACS) is considered a high-quality source of divorce data given that it is nationally representative and asks whether household members have divorced in the past twelve months;

however, these questions have only been asked since 2008. Thus, when used alone, they cannot be used to assess longer-term trends. Further, vital statistics and ACS data only contain information on legal divorce. Not all separations end in divorce, especially for more disadvantaged populations (Tumin and Qian 2017).

The Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) has also been used to estimate trends in divorce (e.g., Martin 2006; Rotz 2016). But in recent years, it has experienced a high and growing rate of imputed missing data on divorce dates (i.e., 30% of divorce dates were imputed in the 2004 wave and nearly half in the 2008 wave) (Kennedy and Ruggles 2014:591). The Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID), another possible data source, contains information on marital separations and cohabitation dissolutions, but does not have rich cohabitation history information.

The National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG) has also been used for numerous studies of divorce (e.g., Bumpass and Raley 2007; Eickmeyer 2019; McErlean 2024) and allows for analyses of trends over many decades, given its rich information on relationship histories (e.g., dates of marriages, separations, divorces, and cohabitations), low rates of missing data on dissolution dates, and generally high response rates (National Center for Health Statistics 2021). A drawback, however, is that it contains information only on relatively young people and thus omits rising divorce rates among older adults, that is, the “gray divorce revolution” (Brown and Lin 2012). For older adults (ages 51 and over), the HRS has been an important resource for divorce research (Brown and Lin 2012). It contains rich retrospective and prospective marital histories over multiple waves, low rates of missing data on divorce dates, prospective cohabitation history information, and generally high response rates (Fisher and Ryan 2018).

Our innovation is to assess a new data resource for estimating divorce and co-residential relationship dissolution trends and patterns: pooled data from the NSFG and the HRS. Overall, we believe that the NSFG and HRS are two data sets in which problems identified in other data sources are minimized, and, when combined, capture a broad age range of divorce, marital dissolution, and cohabitation dissolution experiences across a relatively long historical horizon. We build on past work by (1) comparing period divorce rate trends (both overall and by age) between 1970 and 2019 from the NSFG/HRS data to those from vital statistics, the ACS, and the PSID. We do not include the SIPP given its high rate of imputed missing divorce dates, although analysts could similarly assess the robustness of trends from the SIPP in future research; and (2) illustrating a key advantage of the newly pooled data by showing trends not only in legal divorce, but marital dissolutions, and dissolutions from marriages and cohabiting unions combined. Cohabitation has increased dramatically; thus, studies of divorce alone may increasingly understate co-residential family instability.

Our study is part of a tradition of research assessing the quality of divorce statistics by comparing estimates across multiple sources. This literature includes earlier studies using US data (Bumpass and Raley 2007; Martin 2006; Raley 2011), more recent evaluations of US data sources (Kennedy and Ruggles 2014), and studies comparing divorce rates across data sources in Canada (Margolis et al. 2019). Researchers can use the NSFG/HRS to conduct a wide array of analyses regarding divorce and cohabiting union stability, including estimates of cohort-specific probabilities of marital and cohabiting union dissolution, individual-level hazard models of changing risk factors of dissolution, and subgroup variation in patterns of dissolution. All programs used to generate the results will be made publicly available on Open Science

Framework upon publication, and age-period rates estimates from the NSFG/HRS are reported in the supplemental material.

2. Data and Methods

2.1. Data

We use the pooled NSFG/HRS data to estimate legal divorce, marital dissolution, and co-residential relationship dissolution trends between 1970 and 2019 drawing on retrospective marriage and cohabitation history information in the NSFG and retrospective and prospective data from the HRS. We focus on women because the NSFG did not survey men before 2002 and women's reporting of marital dissolution tends to be more reliable than men's (Bumpass, Castro Martin, and Sweet 1991).

The 1988-2015 waves of the NSFG are representative of women aged 15-44 in the civilian, non-institutionalized population of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Beginning with the 2015-2017 data collection waves, the age range was expanded to 15-49. Respondents were asked retrospective start and end date questions about their different-sex marital and cohabiting in all waves (up to 7 marriages and 6 cohabiting unions).

The HRS is a longitudinal sample representative of older adults. The target population is non-institutionalized men and women aged 51 and older living in households in the contiguous 48 states. The first cohort consists of participants aged 51-61 in 1992, and they have been reinterviewed biennially since then. New cohorts of adults aged 51-56 have been added to the study every 6 years and re-interviewed biennially. A cohort of older adults aged 70 and older (born before 1924) was added to the study in 1993. The HRS collects retrospective information on respondents' marital histories (up to 4 marriages) and prospective information on entries and

exits from marriage and cohabiting unions. Information on same-sex relationship dissolution is available in the HRS, but because it is not in the NSFG, we do not utilize this feature of the data.

2.2. Measurement and Sample

We code a legal divorce as having occurred if the respondent reported that their marriage ended in a divorce or annulment. If the last observed marital status is separation, widowhood, or if the respondent is still married at the time of interview, the end date is coded as censored. Although there is little missing data on marriage end dates in the NSFG and HRS (see supplementary material for details), marriages and divorces tend to be underreported in retrospective accounts (Bumpass and Raley 2007; Hayford and Morgan 2008; Mitchell 2010), suggesting that the NSFG/HRS likely underestimates divorce overall; our comparison of data sources will help illuminate the extent to which this is the case. The total sample size for our legal divorce analysis is N=62,476 marriage spells.

As noted, we also estimate trends in marital dissolution and co-residential relationship dissolution. Marital dissolution is coded as having occurred if the respondent reported that their marriage ended in a separation, divorce, or annulment, whichever occurred first. Co-residential relationship dissolution is coded as having occurred if a marriage spell ends in marital dissolution or if a cohabiting union dissolves. The total sample size for our marital dissolution analysis is N=62,485 marriage spells and, for our analysis of dissolution from marital and cohabiting unions combined, N=89,808 co-residential relationship spells. See the supplementary material for further details on the variable coding to harmonize measures across waves and sources, age and period coverage of the two sources, and sample sizes of divorces and married/cohabiting person-years by age and decade.

2.3. Methods

We show trends in period legal divorce rates because they can be computed across data sources, whereas other measures, such as divorce probabilities by marriage cohort, cannot readily be calculated from all sources, i.e., vital statistics and ACS data. We estimate period trends in divorce rates in the NSFG/HRS as,

$$divrate_t = \sum_a divrate_{a,t} * w_{a,t}^{div} \quad (1)$$

where $divrate_t$ is the period divorce rate for decade t ($t = 1970-1979, \dots, 2010-2019$); $divrate_{a,t}$ are age- and decade-specific divorce rates for women aged 15 and older ($a = 15-19, 20-24, \dots, 70-74, 75+$) estimated from the NSFG/HRS data; and $w_{a,t}^{div}$ are weights reflecting the US population age distribution of married and separated women by decade—this is the population at risk of legal divorce. We use decades because small sample sizes in NSFG/HRS by age and period preclude a more fine-grained categorization of time. To compute weights, we use the typical procedure for computing post-stratification weights for national US data: Census and ACS data (Little 1993). For example, $w_{15-19,1970-79}^{div}$ is the proportion of married women in 1970-1979 who are 15-19 as estimated from decennial census data. We use mid-decade estimates of the population at risk of divorce by decades; 1970-1979 is estimated as the average of the 1970 and 1980 age distributions from the US decennial censuses. For the 2010-2019 period, we use the 2015 ACS for the population distribution of women at risk of divorce.

Both the numerator and denominator for the divorce rate in age group a and decade t ($divrate_{a,t}$) are calculated from the NSFG/HRS data as:

$$divrate_{a,t} = \frac{\# \text{ of divorces}_{a,t}}{\# \text{ of married \& separated women}_{a,t} - (.5 * \# \text{ of divorces}_{a,t})} \quad (2)$$

which estimates age-decade-specific refined divorce rates. Married and separated women are included in the denominator as this is the population at risk of legal divorce. Because we measure time-to-divorce in whole years given that more precise measures are not available in all

survey waves, equation (2) employs the standard demographic technique of subtracting half of the divorces from the denominator on the assumption that divorces are evenly distributed within years (Rowland 2003). To compute these rates internal to the NSFG/HRS data, we use the provided sampling weights normalized such that the average equals one for both sources within waves (Rendall et al. 2008).

We use similar equations to estimate period trends in marital dissolution rates (i.e., divorces or separations, whichever occurred first, with married women as the population at risk) and co-residential relationship dissolution rates (i.e., marital and cohabitation dissolutions with married or cohabiting women as the population at risk).

3. Results

Figure 1 provides a foundation for evaluating the NSFG/HRS trends and comparing them with other sources. It shows single-year estimates of the refined divorce rate between 1970 and 2019 using vital statistics and ACS (also see Goldstein 1999; Smock and Schwartz 2020; Stevenson and Wolfers 2007). We only include the vital statistics and ACS results here because sample sizes from the NSFG/HRS and PSID are too small to support single-year estimates. Figure 1 shows a large decline in the divorce rate with the benefit of 40 years of data since the 1979 peak. The difference between the ACS and vital statistics estimates makes it difficult to estimate the magnitude of the downward trend from 1979 to the late 2010s. Across both sources of data, however, it is clear that there has been a large decline since 1979. In terms of levels, there is evidence that ACS respondents overreport divorce based on a survey experiment conducted by the Census Bureau (O'Connell, Gooding, and Ericson 2007: Tables 34 & 35; Schoen 2016), but the Census Bureau did not test whether ACS respondents also underreported legal divorce, so the true degree of over- versus under-reporting is unknown.

Figure 2 adds NSFG/HRS and PSID trend estimates and groups the data into decade averages, given that some cell sizes in the NSFG/HRS and PSID are small. The divorce decline is apparent in each data source. Bootstrapped 95% confidence intervals of the NSFG/HRS divorce trend (omitted from Figure 2 for clarity but included in Figure 3) indicate that the divorce decline estimated from the NSFG/HRS is unlikely to be due to sampling variability. In terms of levels, as is typical of survey reports, the pooled NSFG/HRS data underestimate divorce compared to the ACS and vital statistics (although levels are similar to the PSID). Thus, we see robust evidence across sources that divorce has declined relative to its peak, although the NSFG/HRS would not be the best data with which to estimate levels of divorce.

Figure 3 shows that, overall, age patterns of divorce across decades are quite similar across sources. There are larger discrepancies across sources at younger ages, with lower estimates of divorce at younger ages in vital statistics and ACS than in NSFG/HRS and PSID data. If respondents are more likely to report separations or dissolutions from cohabitation as ‘divorce’ at young ages, this could be responsible for these differences. Because there are few marriages at young ages in more recent years, these differences are unlikely to have a major impact on population-wide trends, as is apparent in Figure 2. Figure 3 also shows that the higher estimates of divorce in the ACS in Figure 2 in the 2000s and 2010s are concentrated at older ages compared to estimates from the NSFG/HRS and PSID.

As shown in Figure 4, trends in marital dissolution closely follow trends in legal divorce, although marital dissolution rates are higher. Thus, examining trends in legal divorce alone does not lead to a substantial misunderstanding of trends in marital stability—both divorce and marital dissolution have declined over the past several decades in tandem. Figure 4 also indicates that levels of dissolution are higher and flatter when including cohabiting unions. Rather than

declining, co-residential relationship dissolution has remained at a high plateau in the United States.

4. Conclusions

An important part of assessing “what’s happening to the family” is attending to data quality to understand the extent to which estimated trends are believable. All data have their limitations, but in recent decades, scholars have argued that commonly used data sources for describing trends and patterns in divorce have become more problematic in various ways (Kennedy and Ruggles 2014) in contrast to earlier evaluations (e.g., Bumpass and Raley 2007; Raley 2011).

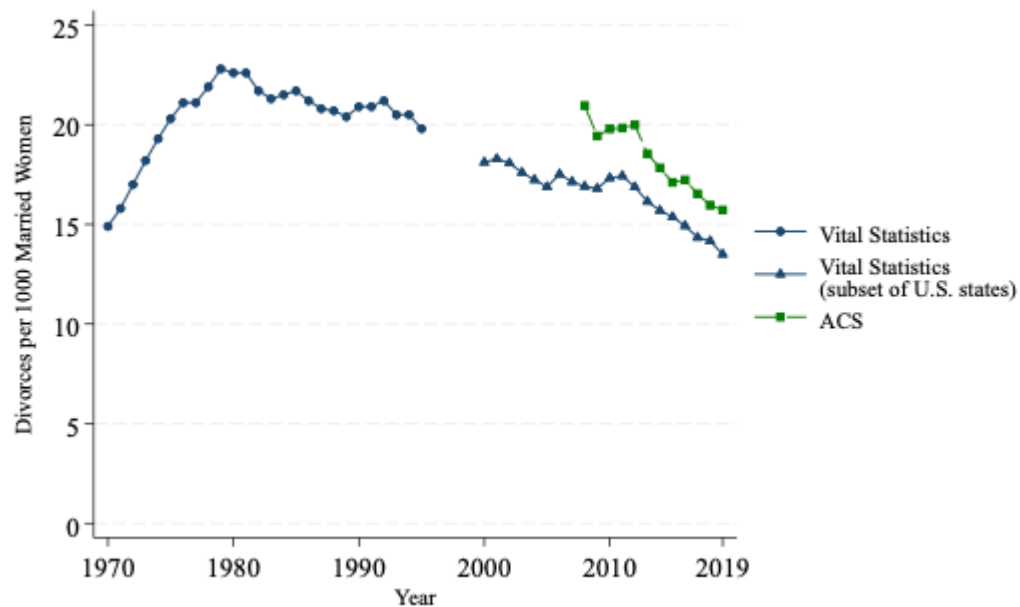
We pooled two high-quality nationally representative surveys, the NSFG and HRS, which together avoid some of the main limitations identified in other sources, and compare estimates to assess the robustness of trends and levels of divorce. The primary benefits of the pooled NSFG/HRS data are that they (a) do not systematically exclude portions of the age distribution, in particular, “gray divorce” is included; (b) provide information on trends across a long time series; (c) contain information on relationship start and dissolution dates for marriages and cohabiting unions thus allowing for a wide range of individual-level event history analyses.

We find robust evidence across data sources (NSFG/HRS, vital statistics, ACS, and PSID) of a sustained decline in the US divorce rate since the 1980s. The correspondence between data sources extends, with the potential exception of divorce at the youngest ages, to patterns by age and by period. Data quality issues could hypothetically explain the divorce decline but given that evidence from a variety of sources all point in the same direction, as well as similar patterns across sources by age, this is unlikely. Still, estimates of divorce *levels* do vary. Vital statistics and ACS data produce higher estimates of divorce than the NSFG/HRS and PSID, which is likely the result of recall error and omissions in marital history reports.

We illustrate the potential of the pooled NSFG/HRS data by showing trends in legal divorce, marital dissolution (legal divorce and separations), and dissolutions from marriage and cohabiting unions combined. Both legal divorce and marital dissolution rates have declined more or less in tandem since the 1980s, but rates of dissolution from marital and cohabiting unions together are higher and have not declined. Thus, increases in cohabitation have fully offset the decline in marital dissolution, indicating that the divorce decline does not imply a broader increase in co-residential relationship stability. These results are consistent with previous studies using data through the mid-1990s (Goldstein 1999; Raley and Bumpass 2003) and using data only including young women (Eickmeyer 2019; Kamp Dush, Jang, and Snyder 2018). Past studies examining trends among young women are subject to the critique that they miss both increases in divorce and cohabitation among older adults.

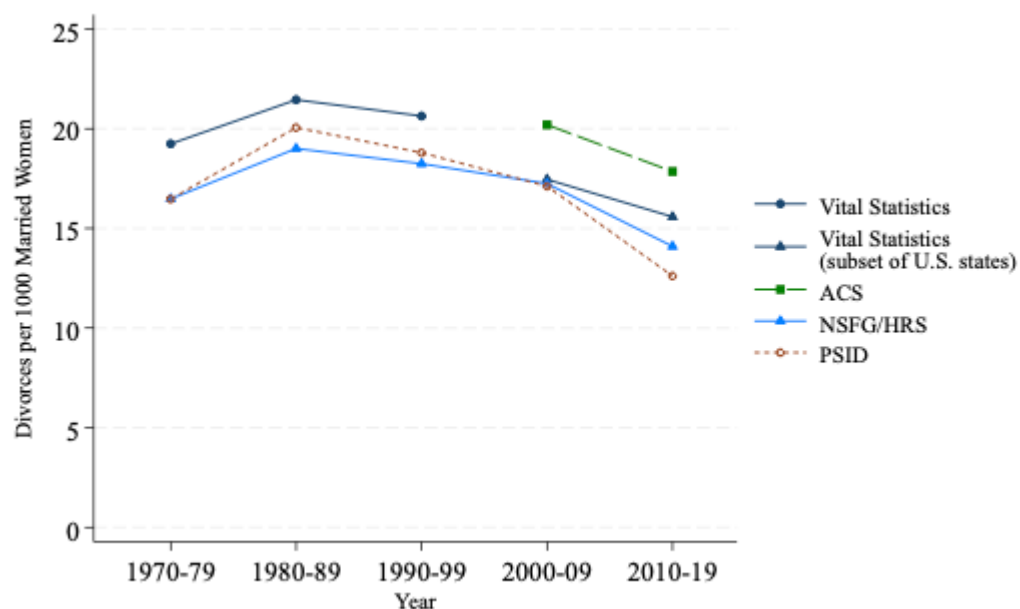
Researchers can use the combined NSFG/HRS to study a wide range of questions about divorce and co-residential relationship stability. For example, because it contains information on marriage start and end dates over a long period for a wide age range of the population, it can be used to estimate trends using different “clocks” (i.e., age, period, and cohort). Researchers may also use these data to estimate other divorce and dissolution measures, such as the cumulative probability of divorce within 20 years of marriage, the median duration of marriage, or changes in the probability of dissolution from cohabiting unions. It also allows for the analysis of differences across subgroups (e.g., by race/ethnicity, education, parenthood status) and individual-level hazard models using a rich set of predictors.

Figure 1: Comparison of refined divorce rate (divorces per 1,000 married women) by data source, single-year estimates from 1970-2019.



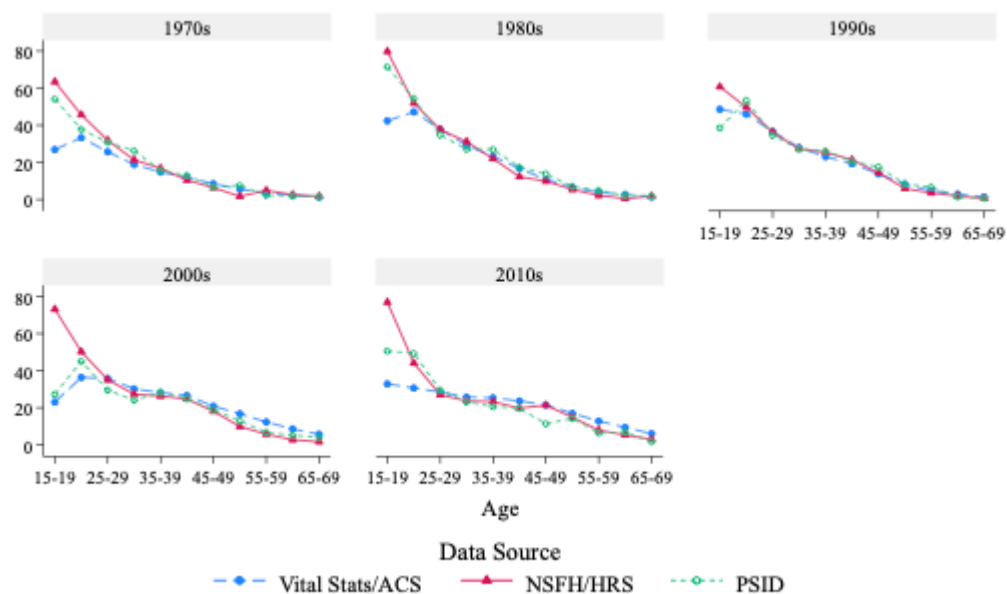
Notes: Vital statistics data from 2000 forward do not include data from all states. States not reporting vary across years (National Center for Health Statistics 2023). When states are not included in the numerator, they are not included in the denominator of the divorce rate calculation. Data from 1970-1995: annual divorces per 1,000 married women aged 15+, Haines (2006:1-688, 1-689); 2000-2021: annual divorces, National Center for Health Statistics (2023) / annual number of married women aged 15+, US decennial census and ACS data (excluding women in states not reporting divorce counts), x 1000. ACS trend data: annual number of women aged 15 years and older who divorced in the previous 12 months and annual number of married women aged 15 years and older (Ruggles et al. 2023).

Figure 2: Comparison of refined divorce rate (divorces per 1,000 married women) by data source, decade averages from 1970-2019.



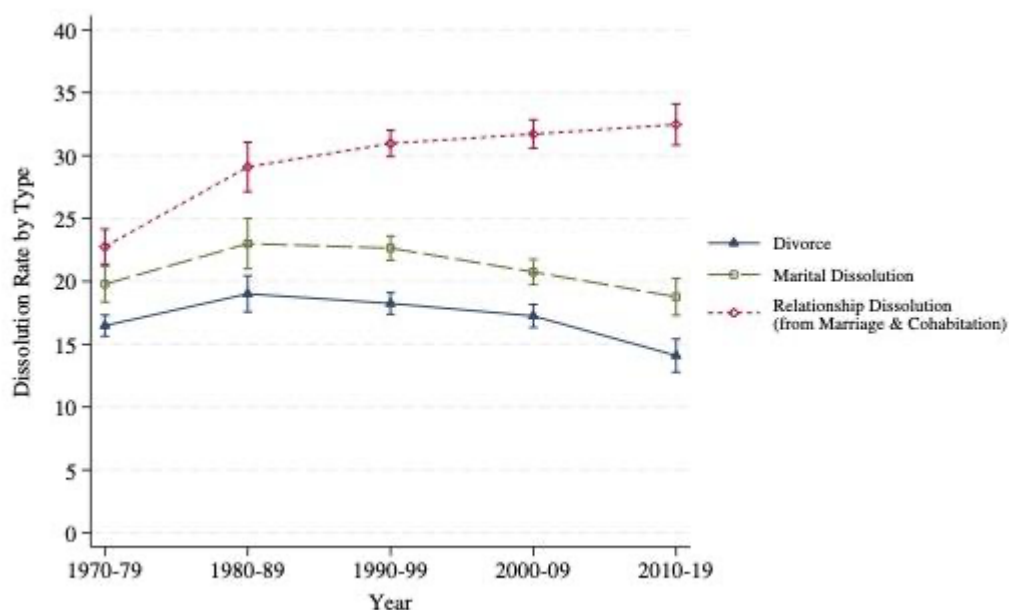
Notes: Vital statistics data from 1970-1995: annual divorces per 1,000 married women aged 15+, Haines (2006:1-688, 1-689); 2000-2021: annual divorces, National Center for Health Statistics (2023) / annual number of married women aged 15+, US decennial census and ACS data (excluding women in states not reporting divorce counts), x 1000. ACS trend data: annual number of women aged 15 years and older who divorced in the previous 12 months and annual number of married women aged 15 years and older (Ruggles et al. 2023); NSFG/HRS data: all NSFG waves from 1988 to 2017-2019; all HRS waves from 1992 to 2020 covering marriage spells through 2019. PSID trends: all waves from 1968 to 2023, covering marriage spells through 2019.

Figure 3: Age-specific divorce rates (divorces per 1,000 married women) by decade and data source



Notes: Vital statistics by age group and year in 1970, 1980, 1984-89, 1990: Clarke (1995); ACS data from 2008-2019 by age group and year = annual number of women who divorced in the previous 12 months / annual number of married women x 1000, Ruggles et al. (2023); For vital statistics and ACS data, data for missing years are linearly interpolated between non-missing years within age group and averaged by decade. NSFG/HRS data: all NSFG waves from 1988 to 2017-2019; all HRS waves from 1992 to 2020 covering marriage spells through 2019. PSID trends: all waves from 1968 to 2023, covering marriage spells through 2019.

Figure 4: Refined dissolution rate per 1,000 women at risk by dissolution type



Notes: Divorces=legal divorce; Marital dissolutions=legal divorce or marital separation, whichever occurred first; Relationship dissolution=marital dissolution or dissolution of non-marital cohabiting union. Women at risk of divorce are those who are married or separated; women at risk of marital dissolution are those who are married (and not separated); women at risk of a union dissolution are those who are either married (and not separated) or in a non-marital cohabiting union. National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG) all waves from 1988 to 2017-2019; Health and Retirement Study (HRS), all waves from 1992 to 2020; US decennial census and American Community Survey data, IPUMS data from Ruggles et al. (2023). Bootstrapped 95% confidence intervals from 2,000 iterations.

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Supplementary Material

(1) Additional data source details

Response rates. In waves through the early 2010s, response rates were high (>75%), after which response rates began declining (roughly 65%) (National Center for Health Statistics 2021).

Average initial response rates are 73% and at re-interview are 69 to 92% (Fisher and Ryan 2018).

Missing end dates. Marriage spells with missing or invalid end dates are excluded from the sample. About 2% of marriage spells in the HRS have missing end dates; missing end dates are not imputed in the HRS. They are imputed in the NSFG and imputation rates are low (ranging from 1.6% of end dates in 2006 to 2.9% of end dates in 2015). An exception is 2002 due to a problem with the skip pattern, causing marriage dissolution data to be missing for about one-third of all marriages that subsequently dissolved; these dates were later imputed by the NSFG team. In the public use NSFG data, <1% of marriage spells have missing or invalid end dates.

Coverage. Figure A1 summarizes coverage of the NSFG and HRS data by age and decade. Between the 1990s and 2010s, the combined data provide information on women aged 15-95+ with substantial overlap between the two surveys. It also shows that there is a coverage gap in the sample for older women in the 1970s and 80s (55+ and 65+). This occurs because, unlike other HRS cohorts, currently married HRS cohort members aged 70 and older interviewed first in 1993 were not asked start and end dates of prior marriages (Health and Retirement Study 1993). We thus impute divorce and dissolution rates using “low,” “medium,” and “high” estimates of the missing rates for these missing combinations rates as follows: a) Low estimate: Assume age- and period-specific dissolution rates for these missing ages and years are zero; b)

Medium estimate. Assume they are the average of non-missing age-specific rates for later years;

c) High estimate: Assume they equal the maximum of non-missing age-specific rates for later years.

Figure A2 shows trends in the three types of dissolution rates we examine with these bounds for the imputation of missing dissolution rates at older ages in the 1970s and 1980s. The effects of the different imputation strategies are smallest for the divorce outcome and largest for the co-residential relationship dissolution outcome. However, in no case does the choice of imputation method affect the substantive interpretation of trends. We use the “medium” estimate in the text, which as we show, aligns with trends from vital statistics well.

Figure A1: NSFG/HRS data coverage by age, decade, and data source

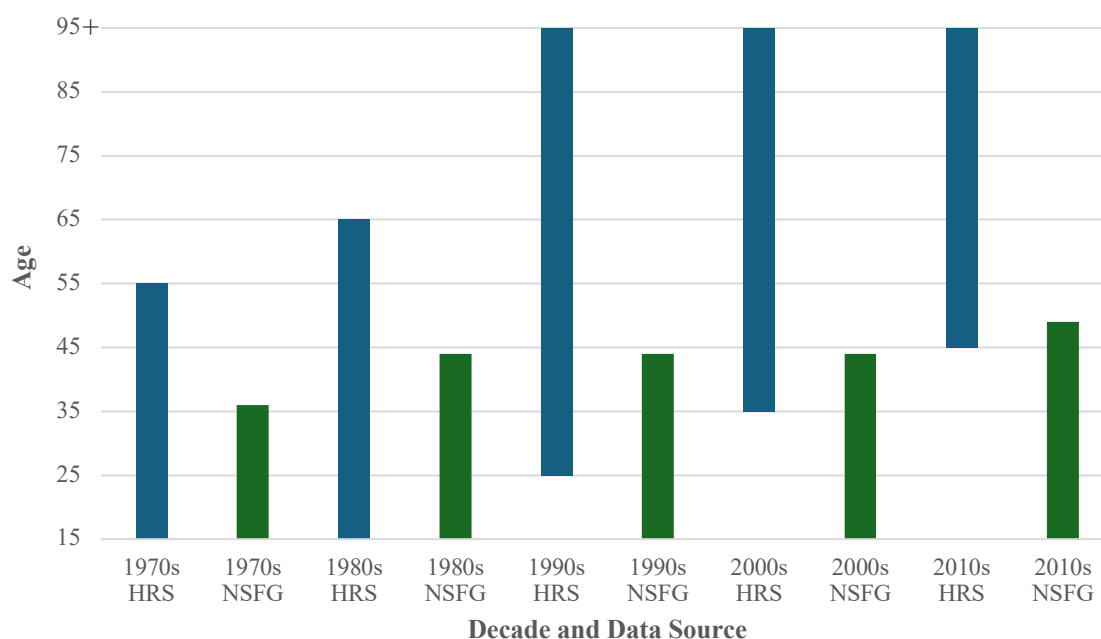
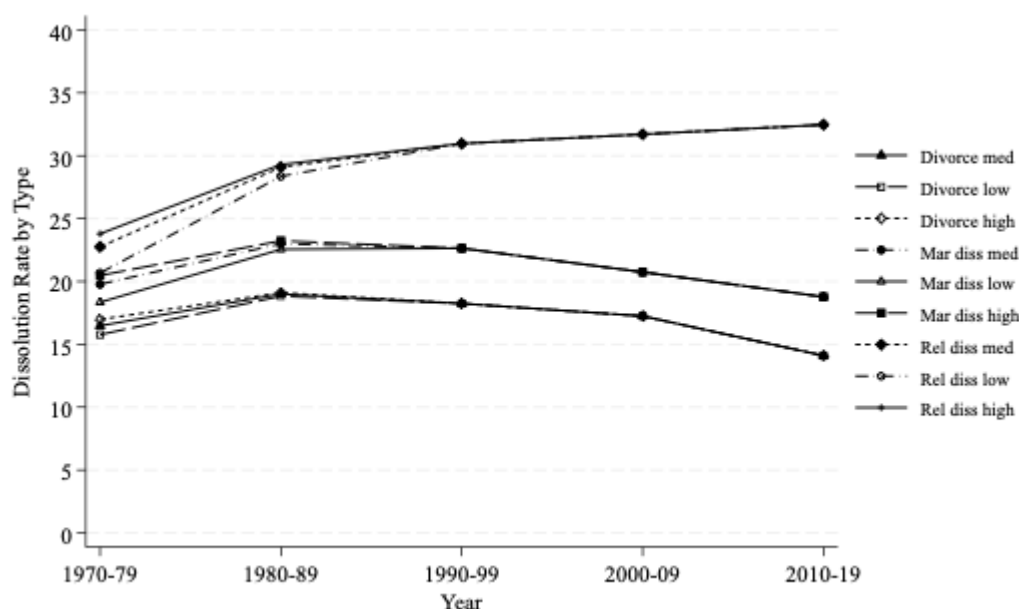
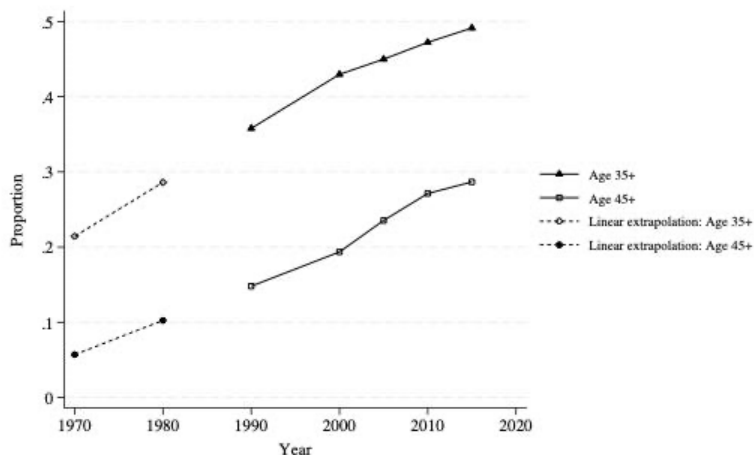


Figure A2. Refined Dissolution Rates by Dissolution Type Per 1,000 Women at Risk: Sensitivity to Imputation of Missing Rates at Older Ages



Another structural issue with the data is that the HRS does not contain retrospective information on cohabitation, although the NSFG does. Thus, the only information in the pooled data on cohabitation dissolution for the 1970s comes from the NSFG on women 35 years of age and younger, and similarly for the 1980s on women 45 years of age and younger. We do not believe this is a large problem due to the comparative rarity of cohabitation among older adults in the 1970s and 1980s. To estimate the magnitude of this issue, we can see that if the proportion of cohabiting women over age 35 in 1970 and over 45 in 1980 is linearly extrapolated backwards (Figure A3), we would expect about 20% of all cohabiting unions in 1970 and only 10% of unions in 1980 to be missing. Thus, while it is important to acknowledge that our estimate of co-residential relationship dissolution is biased downward in these decades, we do not believe this bias is large.

Figure A3. Proportion of Cohabiting Unions Above Age 35 and 45, Observed and Linearly Extrapolated



(2) Measurement of relationship spells & dissolutions

Because of the number of waves in the NSFG and HRS and coding across two data sources, our definitions of the start and end dates of marriage and cohabitation and our method for identifying whether a dissolution occurred and if so, what type, vary somewhat, although we attempt to harmonize across sources and waves as much as possible.

Tables A1 to A3 (end of document) provide details about how we coded our key measures: relationship start dates, end dates, duration, whether or not a dissolution occurred, and, if so, what type. Table A1 provides this information for analyses in which the outcome is legal divorce. Table A2 provides this information for marital dissolutions. Table A3 provides this information for cohabiting unions. For analyses where the outcome is co-residential relationship dissolution, we pool the data on marital and cohabitating dissolutions, coding cohabiting couples who transition to marriage as having one combined relationship spell. For these analyses, “failure” is either a marital dissolution or a dissolution from a cohabiting union.

(3) Sample sizes of divorces and person-years at risk by age and decade

Table A4 shows sample sizes for the numbers of divorces and married person-years (both estimated from the NSFG/HRS data). These are weighted frequencies using probability weights from the NSFG and HRS in which the weights have been normalized within waves and data sources so that the sum of the weights equals the sample size. The structural zeros for the combination of ages and decades shown in Figure 1 from the main text are evident here and are imputed using the method discussed in section (1) above. The data shown in Table A4 are used to construct age and period divorce rates. They are weighted as shown in equation (1) of the text using the age- and period-specific distribution of women at-risk of the dissolution type from Census and ACS data and summed to obtain period divorce rates.

Table A4. Weighted Sample Sizes, Pooled NSFG/HRS Data

Age Category	Decade									
	1970-79		1980-89		1990-99		2000-09		2010-19	
	Divorces	Married Person- Years at Risk	Divorces	Married Person- Years at Risk	Divorces	Married Person- Years at Risk	Divorces	Married Person- Years at Risk	Divorces	Married Person- Years at Risk
15	367	5971	355	4632	171	2900	100	1418	# ^a	200
20	1033	23136	1280	25272	898	18522	559	11411	126	2930
25	713	22705	1357	36719	1147	32271	809	23463	200	7488
30	438	20737	971	31653	872	32376	781	28979	232	9922
35	401	24031	452	20799	659	26216	649	25001	231	10026
40	201	19321	210	17272	345	16304	402	16480	168	8590
45	58	9170	212	21587	139	9664	228	12700	122	5763
50	# ^a	2216	97	17933	80	13610	110	11122	137	9280
55	# ^a	109	# ^a	8312	65	18419	51	8825	82	10423
60	--	# ^a	# ^a	1907	26	14239	30	10762	50	9468
65	--	--	# ^a	89	# ^a	5869	22	12992	21	6997
70	--	--	--	--	# ^a	3172	# ^a	8142	# ^a	7044
75+	--	--	--	--	# ^a	7057	# ^a	6382	# ^a	10302

Notes: Weighted sample sizes are presented. #^a Sample sizes greater than zero but less than 20 are suppressed. The sum of the weights equals the original sample size within data sources (HRS or NSFG) and waves. Cells without sample size entries ("--") are either structural zeros (there is no information on these ages in the data) or have zero reported divorces. See the online appendix text for details on how we imputed estimates for these missing cells.

(4) Divorce, marital dissolution, and co-residential relationship dissolution rates

Table A5 below shows divorce, marital dissolution, and co-residential relationship dissolution rates per 1,000 women estimated from the pooled NSFG/HRS data—the primary estimates in this article.

Table A5. Refined Dissolution Rates by Dissolution Type Per 1,000 Women at Risk by Age and Decade.

Age	Divorce					Marital Dissolution					Co-residential Relationship Dissolution				
	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s
15	63.4	79.8	60.8	73.1	76.9	87.2	112.9	109.6	136.0	126.2	109.4	155.3	174.1	219.7	338.9
20	45.7	51.9	49.7	50.2	44.1	50.7	61.9	66.6	69.2	63.7	62.2	89.7	106.0	131.0	158.7
25	31.9	37.7	36.2	35.1	27.0	35.0	39.6	41.8	40.3	32.6	40.5	50.6	60.1	67.4	73.9
30	21.3	31.1	27.3	27.3	23.7	24.2	31.9	31.9	30.5	31.3	25.2	38.5	41.4	44.5	50.3
35	16.8	22.0	25.5	26.3	23.3	18.6	27.5	27.8	29.8	27.3	18.6	31.4	33.6	39.5	41.9
40	10.4	12.3	21.4	24.7	19.8	11.7	18.8	24.3	25.8	28.5	11.7	19.3	26.2	30.9	40.9
45	6.4	9.9	14.5	18.1	21.4	10.1	11.6	18.1	20.6	24.3	10.1	11.6	18.4	20.6	27.0
50	1.7	5.4	5.9	9.9	14.9	5.4	7.2	10.5	16.2	22.6	5.4	7.2	11.4	17.9	25.0
55	4.9	2.2	3.6	5.8	7.9	8.8	7.2	5.3	9.2	13.3	12.0	7.2	7.1	14.8	18.9
60	2.6	0.5	1.9	2.7	5.3	5.3	7.1	3.2	3.6	7.2	7.3	7.1	4.3	5.9	11.8
65	1.8	1.8	0.6	1.7	3.0	4.9	4.9	7.3	3.0	4.5	7.2	7.2	7.5	5.2	9.0
70	1.1	1.1	0.5	1.7	1.3	3.2	3.2	5.5	2.4	1.6	5.5	5.5	5.5	4.3	6.7
75+	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.8	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.4	2.4	4.7	4.7	2.5	4.8	6.9

Notes: Includes imputed missing rates using "medium" estimates (see online appendix for details).

Table A1. Marriage and Divorce Measures, NSFG & HRS

Data	Marriage		
	Entry	Divorce	Duration
NSFG Wave			
1988	Retrospective month & year variables, up to 4 marriages, including: 1st, 2nd, most recent previous (if married more than 3 times), & current marriage (NSFG-created variables not available)	Retrospective month & year raw variables, divorce end dates for up to 3 marriages: 1st, 2nd, & most recent previous marriage if married more than 3 times. (NSFG-created variables not available.)	"End date - start date" where End date is divorce date for those divorced, date of widowhood for those widowed, and interview date for those still married or separated. Only divorce is coded as failure.
1995	NSFG-created retrospective month & year variables, up to 5 marriages.	Retrospective month & year raw variables: divorce end dates for up to 5 marriages.	"End date - start date" where End date is divorce date for those divorced, date of widowhood for those widowed, and interview date for those still married or separated. Only divorce is coded as failure.
2002	NSFG-created retrospective month & year variables, up to 5 marriages.	Retrospective month & year raw variables: divorce end dates for up to 5 marriages.	"End date - start date" where End date is divorce date for those divorced, date of widowhood for those widowed, and interview date for those still married or separated. Only divorce is coded as failure.
2006-2010	NSFG-created retrospective month & year variables, up to 6 marriages.	Retrospective month & year raw variables: divorce end dates for up to 6 marriages	"End date - start date" where End date is divorce date for those divorced, date of widowhood for those widowed, and interview date for those still married or separated. Only divorce is coded as failure.
2011-2013	NSFG-created retrospective month & year variables, up to 5 marriages.	Retrospective month & year raw variables: divorce end dates for up to 5 marriages	"End date - start date" where End date is divorce date for those divorced, date of widowhood for those widowed, and interview date for those still married or separated. Only divorce is coded as failure.
2013-2015	NSFG-created retrospective month & year variables, up to 5 marriages	Retrospective month & year raw variables: divorce end dates for up to 5 marriages	"End date - start date" where End date is divorce date for those divorced, date of widowhood for those widowed, and interview date for those still married or separated. Only divorce is coded as failure.
2015-2017	Public-use file: NSFG-created retrospective year variables, up to 6 marriages	Public-use file: retrospective year raw variables for divorce, up to 6 marriages	"End date - start date" where End date is divorce year for those divorced, year of widowhood for those widowed, and interview year for those still married or separated. Only divorce is coded as failure.
2017-2019	Public-use file: NSFG-created retrospective year variables, up to 4 marriages. Restricted-use file: month and year variables, up to 4 marriages.	Public-use file: NSFG-created retrospective year variables for divorce (or separation if divorce is preceded by separation), up to 4 marriages. Restricted-use file: month and year variables for divorce only (even when divorce is preceded by separation), up to 4 marriages.	Public-use file: "End date - start date" where End date is divorce date (or separation date if divorce is preceded by separation) for those divorced, date of widowhood for those widowed, and interview date for those still married or separated. Restricted-use file: "End date - start date" where End date is divorce date for those divorced, date of widowhood for those widowed, and interview date for those still married or separated. Only divorce is coded as failure.

Table A1. Continued...

Data	Marriage		
	Entry	Divorce	Duration
HRS Cohort - each dataset contains restropective and longitudinal data from multiple waves			
1992	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 1992): 1) if currently married: month & year of current marriage; 2) if currently separated/divorced/widowed, month & year of last marriage; 3) if currently cohabiting, month & year of first and only marriage or the last marriage if married more than once; 4) marriage year for up to 3 additional marriages if married more than once; SUMMARY: year is available for up to 4 marriages, month is available for up to 1; month is assumed to be January for the rest. PROSPECTIVE (data from 1992-2020): compare between waves, new marriage occurs if: 1) partner ID changed (this includes changing from "0" [not living with a partner/spouse] to an ID # [living with a partner/spouse] or from one ID # to a different ID #) and marital status is married as of change; or 2) partner ID did not change but marital status changed to "married." Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves or censored at the first wave	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 1992): 1) if currently divorced, retrospective divorce month & year of the last marriage; 2) if currently partnered, how the last marriage ended is unknown; 3) retrospective divorce year for up to 3 additional marriages if married more than once (only divorce, widowhood, and "other" were provided as possible answers, not separation; "other" is treated as neither a divorce nor a separation and flagged as "marend_typemis" = 1. SUMMARY: year is available for up to 4 marriages; month is available for up to 1; month is assumed to be June for the rest. PROSPECTIVE (data from 1992-2020): compare between waves, divorce occurs if: 1) marital status changed from "separated" to "divorced;" or 2) marital status changed from "married" to "divorced" [Durations ending in 1995 and 1996 will over estimate divorce in the prospective data because question didn't individually identify separation and divorce dates.] Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves.	"=End year - start year" where End date is divorce year for those divorced, year of widowhood for those widowed, and interview year for those still married or separated. Only divorce is coded as failure.
1993	PROSPECTIVE ONLY (data from 1993-2020): compare between waves: 1) partner ID changed (this includes changing from "0" [not living with a partner/spouse] to an ID # [living with a partner/spouse] or from one ID # to a different ID #) and marital status is married as of change; 2) partner ID did not change but marital status changed to "married." Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves or censored at the first wave	PROSPECTIVE ONLY (data from 1993-2020): compare between waves: 1) marital status changed from "separated" to "divorced." 2) marital status changed from "married" to "divorced" [Durations ending in 1995 and 1996 will over estimate divorce in the prospective data because question didn't individually identify separation and divorce dates.] Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves.	"=End year - start year" where End date is divorce year for those divorced, year of widowhood for those widowed, and interview year for those still married or separated. Only divorce is coded as failure.
1998	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 1998): Marriage year and month for up to the first 3 marriages and 1 most recent marriage (up to 4 in total). PROSPECTIVE (data from 1998-2020): compare between waves: 1) partner ID changed (including changing from "0" to a ID # or from one ID # to a different ID #) and marital status is married as of change; 2) partner ID did not change but marital status changed from "partnered" to "married." Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves or censored at the first wave	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 1998): year and month of divorce (up to 4) calculated based on marriage start date and years of marital duration, if estimated duration = 0 year, duration is assumed to be 6 months. PROSPECTIVE (data from 1998-2020): compare between waves: 1) marital status changed from "separated" to "divorced." 2) marital status changed from "married" to "divorced." Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves.	"=End year - start year" where End date is divorce year for those divorced, year of widowhood for those widowed, and interview year for those still married or separated. Only divorce is coded as failure.

Table A1. Continued...

Data	Marriage		
	Entry	Divorce	Duration
HRS Cohort - each dataset contains restropective and longitudinal data from multiple waves			
2004	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 2004): Marriage year and month for up to the first 4 marriages. PROSPECTIVE (data from 2004-2020): compare between waves: 1) partner ID changed (including changing from "0" to a ID # or from one ID # to a different ID #) and marital status is married as of change; 2) partner ID did not change but marital status changed from "partnered" to "married." Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves or censored at the first wave	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 2004): year and month of divorce (up to 4) calculated based on marriage start date and years of marital duration, if estimated duration = 0 year, duration is assumed to last 6 months. PROSPECTIVE (data from 2004-2020): compare between waves: 1) marital status changed from "separated" to "divorced." 2) marital status changed from "married" to "divorced." Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves.	"=End year - start year" where End date is divorce year for those divorced, year of widowhood for those widowed, and interview year for those still married or separated. Only divorce is coded as failure.
2010	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 2010): Marriage year and month for up to the first 4 marriages. PROSPECTIVE (data from 2010-2020): compare between waves: 1) partner ID changed (including changing from "0" to a ID # or from one ID # to a different ID #) and marital status is married as of change; 2) partner ID did not change but marital status changed from "partnered" to "married." Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves or censored at the first wave	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 2010): year and month of divorce (up to 4) calculated based on marriage start date and years of marital duration, if estimated duration = 0 year, duration is assumed to last 6 months. PROSPECTIVE (data from 2010-2020): compare between waves: 1) marital status changed from "separated" to "divorced." 2) marital status changed from "married" to "divorced." Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves.	"=End year - start year" where End date is divorce year for those divorced, year of widowhood for those widowed, and interview year for those still married or separated. Only divorce is coded as failure.
2016	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 2016): Marriage year and month for up to the first 4 marriages. PROSPECTIVE (data from 2016-2020): compare between waves: 1) partner ID changed (including changing from "0" to a ID # or from one ID # to a different ID #) and marital status is married as of change; 2) partner ID did not change but marital status changed from "partnered" to "married." Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves or censored at the first wave	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 2016): year and month of divorce (up to 4) calculated based on marriage start date and years of marital duration, if estimated duration = 0 year, duration is assumed to last 6 months. PROSPECTIVE (data from 2016-2020): compare between waves: 1) marital status changed from "separated" to "divorced." 2) marital status changed from "married" to "divorced." Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves.	"=End year - start year" where End date is divorce year for those divorced, year of widowhood for those widowed, and interview year for those still married or separated. Only divorce is coded as failure.

Table A2. Marriage and Marital Dissolution Measures, NSFG & HRS

Data	Marriage		
	Entry	Dissolution (divorce/separation whichever comes first)	Duration
NSFG			
1988	Retrospective month & year variables, up to 4 marriages, including: 1st, 2nd, most recent previous (if married more than 3 times), & current marriage (NSFG-created variables not available)	Retrospective month & year raw variables, divorce or separation end dates (whichever comes first) for up to 3 marriages: 1st, 2nd, & most recent previous marriage if married more than 3 times. (NSFG-created variables not available.)	“End date - start date” where End date is divorce date or separation date (whichever occurred first) for those separated or divorced, date of widowhood for those widowed, and interview date for those still married (and not separated). Divorce and separation, whichever occurred first, is coded as failure.
1995	NSFG-created retrospective month & year variables, up to 5 marriages.	NSFG-created retrospective month & year variables. End dates for up to 5 marriages: divorce or separation whichever comes first.	“End date - start date” where End date is divorce date or separation date (whichever occurred first) for those separated or divorced, date of widowhood for those widowed, and interview date for those still married (and not separated). Divorce and separation, whichever occurred first, is coded as failure.
2002	NSFG-created retrospective month & year variables, up to 5 marriages.	NSFG-created retrospective month & year variables. End dates for up to 5 marriages: divorce or separation whichever comes first.	“End date - start date” where End date is divorce date or separation date (whichever occurred first) for those separated or divorced, date of widowhood for those widowed, and interview date for those still married (and not separated). Divorce and separation, whichever occurred first, is coded as failure.
2006-2010	NSFG-created retrospective month & year variables, up to 6 marriages.	NSFG-created retrospective month & year variables. End dates for up to 6 marriages: divorce or separation whichever comes first.	“End date - start date” where End date is divorce date or separation date (whichever occurred first) for those separated or divorced, date of widowhood for those widowed, and interview date for those still married (and not separated). Divorce and separation, whichever occurred first, is coded as failure.
2011-2013	NSFG-created retrospective month & year variables, up to 5 marriages.	NSFG-created retrospective month & year variables. End dates for up to 5 marriages: divorce or separation whichever comes first.	“End date - start date” where End date is divorce date or separation date (whichever occurred first) for those separated or divorced, date of widowhood for those widowed, and interview date for those still married (and not separated). Divorce and separation, whichever occurred first, is coded as failure.
2013-2015	NSFG-created retrospective month & year variables, up to 5 marriages	NSFG-created retrospective month & year variables. End dates for up to 5 marriages: divorce or separation whichever comes first.	“End date - start date” where End date is divorce date or separation date (whichever occurred first) for those separated or divorced, date of widowhood for those widowed, and interview date for those still married (and not separated). Divorce and separation, whichever occurred first, is coded as failure.
2015-2017	NSFG-created retrospective year variables, up to 6 marriages	NSFG-created retrospective year variables. End dates for up to 6 marriages: divorce or separation whichever comes first.	“End date - start date” where End date is divorce date or separation date (whichever occurred first) for those separated or divorced, date of widowhood for those widowed, and interview date for those still married (and not separated). Divorce and separation, whichever occurred first, is coded as failure.
2017-2019	NSFG-created retrospective year variables, up to 4 marriages. Restricted-use file: month and year variables, up to 4 marriages.	NSFG-created retrospective year variables for divorce or separation (whichever comes first), up to 4 marriages. Restricted-use file: month and year variables for divorce or separation (whichever comes first), up to 4 marriages.	“End date - start date” where End date is divorce date or separation date (whichever occurred first) for those separated or divorced, date of widowhood for those widowed, and interview date for those still married (and not separated). Divorce and separation, whichever occurred first, is coded as failure.

Table A2. Continued...

Data	Marriage		
	Entry	Dissolution (divorce/separation whichever comes first)	Duration
HRS Cohort - each dataset contains retrospective and longitudinal data from multiple waves			
1992	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 1992): 1) if currently married: month & year of current marriage; 2) if currently separated/divorced/widowed, month & year of last marriage; 3) if currently cohabiting, month & year of first and only marriage or the last marriage if married more than once; 4) marriage year for up to 3 additional marriages if married more than once; SUMMARY: year is available for up to 4 marriages, month is available for up to 1; month is assumed to be January for the rest. PROSPECTIVE (data from 1992-2020): compare between waves, new marriage occurs if: 1) partner ID changed (this includes changing from "0" [not living with a partner/spouse] to an ID # [living with a partner/spouse] or from one ID # to a different ID #) and marital status is married as of change; or 2) partner ID did not change but marital status changed to "married." Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves or censored at the first wave	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 1992): 1) If currently separated, retrospective month & year of the last marriage; 2) if currently divorced, retrospective divorce month & year of the last marriage; 3) if currently partnered, how the last marriage ended is unknown; 4) retrospective divorce year for up to 3 additional marriages if married more than once (only divorce, widowhood, and "other" were provided as possible answers, not separation; "other" is treated as neither a divorce nor a separation and flagged as "marend_typedis" = 1. SUMMARY: year is available for up to 4 marriages; month is available for up to 1; month is assumed to be June for the rest. PROSPECTIVE (data from 1992-2020): compare between waves: marital status changed from "married" to "separated" or "divorced" [Durations ending in 1995 and 1996 will over estimate divorce in the prospective data because question didn't individually identify separation and divorce dates.] Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves.	"=End year - start year" where End year is either divorce year or separation year (whichever occurred first) for those divorced or separated, year of widowhood for those widowed, or interview year for those still married. Divorce and separation, whichever occurred first, is coded as failure.
1993	PROSPECTIVE ONLY (data from 1993-2020): compare between waves: 1) partner ID changed (this includes changing from "0" [not living with a partner/spouse] to an ID # [living with a partner/spouse] or from one ID # to a different ID #) and marital status is married as of change; 2) partner ID did not change but marital status changed to "married." Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves or censored at the first wave	PROSPECTIVE ONLY (data from 1993-2020): compare between waves: marital status changed from "married" to "separated" or "divorced" [Wave 1, 2H, 4 onward: 1992, 1993, 1998 onward] or "divorced/separated" [Durations ending in 1995 and 1996 will over estimate divorce in the prospective data because question didn't individually identify separation and divorce dates.] Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves.	"=End year - start year" where End year is either divorce year or separation year (whichever occurred first) for those divorced or separated, year of widowhood for those widowed, or interview year for those still married. Divorce and separation, whichever occurred first, is coded as failure.
1998	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 1998): Marriage year and month for up to the first 3 marriages and 1 most recent marriage (up to 4 in total). PROSPECTIVE (data from 1998-2020): compare between waves: 1) partner ID changed (including changing from "0" to a ID # or from one ID # to a different ID #) and marital status is married as of change; 2) partner ID did not change but marital status changed from "partnered" to "married." Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves or censored at the first	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 1998): year and month of divorce (up to 4) calculated based on marriage start date and years of marital duration, if estimated duration = 0 year, duration is assumed to be 6 months. PROSPECTIVE (data from 1998-2020): compare between waves: marital status changed from "married" to "separated" or "divorced" Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves.	"=End year - start year" where End year is either divorce year or separation year (whichever occurred first) for those divorced or separated, year of widowhood for those widowed, or interview year for those still married. Divorce and separation, whichever occurred first, is coded as failure.

Table A2. Continued...

Data	Marriage		
	Entry	Dissolution (divorce/separation whichever comes first)	Duration
HRS Cohort - each dataset contains retrospective and longitudinal data from multiple waves			
2004	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 2004): Marriage year and month for up to the first 4 marriages. PROSPECTIVE (data from 2004-2020): compare between waves: 1) partner ID changed (including changing from "0" to a ID # or from one ID # to a different ID #) and marital status is married as of change; 2) partner ID did not change but marital status changed from "partnered" to "married." Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves or censored at the first wave	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 2004): year and month of divorce (up to 4) calculated based on marriage start date and years of marital duration, if estimated duration = 0 year, duration is assumed to last 6 months. PROSPECTIVE (data from 2004-2020): compare between waves: marital status changed from "married" to "separated" or "divorced" Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves.	"=End year - start year" where End year is either divorce year or separation year (whichever occurred first) for those divorced or separated, year of widowhood for those widowed, or interview year for those still married. Divorce and separation, whichever occurred first, is coded as failure.
2010	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 2010): Marriage year and month for up to the first 4 marriages. PROSPECTIVE (data from 2010-2020): compare between waves: 1) partner ID changed (including changing from "0" to a ID # or from one ID # to a different ID #) and marital status is married as of change; 2) partner ID did not change but marital status changed from "partnered" to "married." Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves or censored at the first wave	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 2010): year and month of divorce (up to 4) calculated based on marriage start date and years of marital duration, if estimated duration = 0 year, duration is assumed to last 6 months. PROSPECTIVE (data from 2010-2020): compare between waves: marital status changed from "married" to "separated" or "divorced" Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves.	"=End year - start year" where End year is either divorce year or separation year (whichever occurred first) for those divorced or separated, year of widowhood for those widowed, or interview year for those still married. Divorce and separation, whichever occurred first, is coded as failure.
2016	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 2016): Marriage year and month for up to the first 4 marriages. PROSPECTIVE (data from 2016-2020): compare between waves: 1) partner ID changed (including changing from "0" to a ID # or from one ID # to a different ID #) and marital status is married as of change; 2) partner ID did not change but marital status changed from "partnered" to "married." Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves or censored at the first wave	RETROSPECTIVE (data collected in 2016): year and month of divorce (up to 4) calculated based on marriage start date and years of marital duration, if estimated duration = 0 year, duration is assumed to last 6 months. PROSPECTIVE (data from 2016-2020): compare between waves: marital status changed from "married" to "separated" or "divorced" Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves.	"=End year - start year" where End year is either divorce year or separation year (whichever occurred first) for those divorced or separated, year of widowhood for those widowed, or interview year for those still married. Divorce and separation, whichever occurred first, is coded as failure.

Table A3. Cohabitation and Cohabitation Dissolution Measures, NSFG & HRS

[illegible]

Table A3. Continued...

Cohabitation	
Data	Duration
HRS Cohort - each dataset contains retrospective and longitudinal data from multiple waves	
1992	PROSPECTIVE: compare between waves: partner ID changed (including changing from "0" to a ID # and changing from one ID to a different ID) AND marital status is "partnered" as of the change. Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves or censored at the first wave
1993	PROSPECTIVE: compare between waves: partner ID changed (including changing from "0" to a ID # and changing from one ID to a different ID) AND marital status is "partnered" as of the change. Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves or censored at the first wave
1998	PROSPECTIVE: compare between waves: partner ID changed (including changing from "0" to a ID # and changing from one ID to a different ID) AND marital status is "partnered" as of the change. Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves or censored at the first wave
2004	PROSPECTIVE: compare between waves: partner ID changed (including changing from "0" to a ID # and changing from one ID to a different ID) AND marital status is "partnered" as of the change. Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves or censored at the first wave
2010	PROSPECTIVE: compare between waves: partner ID changed (including changing from "0" to a ID # and changing from one ID to a different ID) AND marital status is "partnered" as of the change. Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves or censored at the first wave
2016	PROSPECTIVE: compare between waves: partner ID changed (including changing from "0" to a ID # and changing from one ID to a different ID) AND marital status is "partnered" as of the change. Month & year assigned to be the midpoint between waves or censored at the first wave

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