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IMPLICATIONS FOR CHANGE IN THE STRUCTURE AND SIZE
OF AMERICAN HOUSEHOLDS, 1970 TO 1985

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Lawrence L. Santi
Center for Demography and Ecology
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin 53706

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Abstract

This paper investigates the household-level implications of recent changes in the composition of the population by age and by marital status. Strong and relatively stable patterns of household headship mediated the impact of these population changes, moderating change in the distribution of householders by age and amplifying change in the distribution of householders by marital status. The changing marital status distribution of householders thus emerges as a pivotal aspect of change in American households, with implications for both the structure and size of households.

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The 1970's constituted a decade of dramatic change in the structure and size of American households. The proportion of households headed by married couples declined sharply, while female-headed families and non-family households registered considerable increases. Against the backdrop of these changes in household structure, the average size of households fell from 3.17 persons in 1970 to 2.75 in 1980. These general trends have continued on into the 1980's, although at much slower rates (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1986a).

Various aspects of these changes in the structure and size of American households have attracted scholarly interest in recent years. Because of its obvious implications for social welfare, the growth of female-headed families has received the greatest attention (Cutright, 1974; Ross and Sawhill, 1975; Smith and Cutright, 1985). Similar concerns have motivated studies of the welfare implications of recent decreases in household and family size (Bianchi, 1980; Cutright and Smith, 1986). With respect to the demographic bases of changing household size, Kobrin (1976) emphasizes the contribution of the increasing numbers of small, non-family households while Treas (1981) focuses on fertility decreases within family households.

Yet despite this growing literature on changes in American households, our understanding of these changes remains somewhat fragmented. The present paper attempts to remedy this situation by an examination of some general demographic trends which

underlie the various manifestations of household-level change.

Of particular interest are changes in the composition of the population by age and marital status. The passage of the large baby-boom cohorts into adulthood has received a good deal of attention in recent years, perhaps more in the popular than in the scholarly literature. And such changes in marriage patterns as the increasing age at first marriage and increasing rates of marital disruption have been the focus of a large body of recent research (Cherlin, 1981; Espenshade, 1985; Rodgers and Thornton, 1985; Schoen, et.al., 1985). Yet while it is generally assumed that these changes in the population have had much to do with changes in the structure and size of households, the precise nature of these linkages has yet to be specified. It is the goal of this paper to make these linkages more explicit.

We begin with a brief review of changes in the composition of the population by age and marital status. Although trends in period and cohort rates of marital events have received extensive treatment in the previously cited literature, a cross-sectional view of the marital composition of the population is of particular interest in the present context. We then proceed to a parallel review of changes in the distribution of householders by age and marital status, emphasizing the ways in which patterns of household headship have mediated the transformation of population change into household change. Finally, we draw out the implications of changes in the characteristics of householders for changes in the structure and size of households.

Change in the Composition of the Household Population

Marginal distributions of the household population by age and by marital status for the years 1970, 1975, 1980, and 1985 are presented in Table 1. A full three-way cross-classification of age by marital status by year is shown in Appendix Table 1. The data in these and subsequent tables are from the March Current Population Surveys for these four years; these data constitute the basis for Current Population Reports dealing with household and family characteristics (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1971, 1976, 1981 and 1986a).

Table 1 About Here

The upper panel of Table 1 shows the progress of the large baby-boom cohorts through the ranks of potential householders and into the ages of peak family formation. Over this 15-year period, persons between the ages of 20 and 39 have come to represent an increasing share of the household population, with the greatest increase observed within the 30 to 34 year category. Also apparent are slight increases in the population 65 years of age and older.

The lower panel shows the cross-sectional manifestations of recent changes in patterns of marriage. The greatest changes are the decreasing percentage of married persons in the population and the increasing percentage of divorced or separated persons. The percentage of never-married persons increased slightly over this period, while widowed persons constituted a relatively stable share of the household population.

An analysis of the three-way table in Appendix Table 1 (see Table 3) revealed significant three-way interaction among age, marital status and year, which implies that the changing patterns of marriage did themselves vary by age. An inspection of Appendix Table 1 shows that the greatest decreases in the percentage of married persons were concentrated among 20 to 29-year olds, on the one hand, and among 40 to 59-year olds on the other; the decreases among younger persons are reflected in disproportionately large increases in the percentage of never-married persons, while those of the older category show up as increases in the percent divorced or separated. The sheer numeric strength of the increase in 30 to 34-year olds is reflected in the increases in the proportion of this age category in all categories of marital status (except widowed). Throughout this 15-year period, widowed persons have been concentrated among persons 65 years of age and older, and slight increases in the proportion of widowed persons 75 years of age and older have been more than offset by decreasing proportions of younger widowed persons.

Change in the Composition of Householders

Table 2 and Appendix Table 2 show comparable data for householders. The upper panel of Table 2 shows that the greatest increases in householders were concentrated among persons between the ages of 25 and 39. It is interesting to note that persons under the age of 25, who constituted a sizeable proportion of the household population throughout this 15-year period, appear to be grossly underrepresented among the ranks of householders.

Table 2 About Here

With respect to the changing composition of householders by marital status, we see patterns similar to those observed within the population at large, although the magnitudes of the changes appear to have been accentuated among householders. Thus, the 6 percentage point drop in married persons appears as a 12 point drop in married-couple households. The 5 point increase in divorced or separated persons manifests itself as a 7 point increase among householders, while the 2 point increase in never-married persons shows up as a 6 point increase in never-married householders.

Again, an analysis of the three-way Appendix table (see text Table 3) revealed significant three-way interaction, which reflected the same basic patterns observed among the household population, although at the altered magnitudes observed in the marginal tables for householders.

In comparing the changing distribution of householders with the changing distribution of the household population, one comes away with the impression that changes in the age distribution of the population were somewhat muted on the way to the ranks of householders while changes in the marital distribution were amplified. This impression is supported by a decomposition of the two three-way tables, the results of which are presented in Table 3.

Table 3 About Here

The upper panel of Table 3 shows a series of log-linear models relevant to the assessment of change in the composition of the household population and of householders.

The bottom panel shows how these models can be used to partition change in the three-way tables into components attributable to changes in the age distribution, changes in the marital status distribution (conditional upon changing age) and to changes in the association of age and marital status (interaction).

We see in the case of household population that changes in the age distribution and changes in the marital status distribution accounted for approximately equal proportions of change. With respect to change in the distribution of householders, on the other hand, the component attributable to changing marital status is twice that attributable to changing age composition.

It is quite clear, then, that changes in characteristics of the population over this 15-year period were by no means uniformly translated into changes in the characteristics of householders. The unexamined link in this process is the probability that an individual with certain characteristics chooses to head his or her own household (i.e., headship rates). Previous research (Kobrin, 1973; Carliner, 1975), has shown that headship rates vary dramatically by age and by marital status, the compositional factors of primary interest to the present research. It is to an examination of recent patterns of household headship that we now turn.

Recent Patterns of Household Headship

Marginal headship rates by age and by marital status are presented in Table 4, and a full cross-classification of headship by age and marital status is shown in Appendix Table 3. The results of an analysis of the full table are presented in Table 5.

Tables 4 and 5 About Here

The most striking features of these data are the strength of the relationships between age, marital status and headship and the stability of these relationships over time. Model 11 in Table 5, which allows for change in the composition of the household population by age and marital status, posits a relationship between headship and the joint compositional variable, but allows for no change in headship rates, accounts for almost 99% of the variation in the full cross-classification of headship by age, marital status and year. Model 17 shows that the major portion of the residual variation left by Model 11 is attributable to changes in marital status-specific headship rates.

These results are reflected in the marginal headship rates displayed in Table 4. Focusing first on the upper panel, we see that headship rates are extremely low for the youngest age category and increase quite rapidly over the next two age groups. Headship rates continue to increase with age beyond the age of 30, although at a much slower pace. With respect to change in patterns of headship by age, we observe slight and fairly uniform increases in headship rates over each 5-year interval, the major exception being a slight downturn in headship among the youngest three age groups between 1980 and 1985.

As suggested by the log-linear analysis, patterns of headship by marital status have been somewhat more variable through time. Headship rates for married persons are constrained by conventions for reckoning headship (i.e., one head per household) to an upper limit of 50%. The bottom panel of Table 4 shows that throughout the 15-

year period of observation, the headship rates of married persons have hewn quite closely to this maximum. This suggests that the dramatic decreases in the proportion of households headed by married couples were due primarily to decreases in the proportion of married persons in the population at large and to increases in the share of households headed by persons of other marital statuses.

Headship rates for never-married persons, for example, have increased substantially over this same period, due in part to the increasing age of never-married persons (see Appendix Table 1) and in part to real increases in age-specific headship rates among this group (see Appendix Table 3). The sharp increases in the proportion of households headed by never-married persons can thus be seen as a function of increases in the proportion of never-married persons, amplified by increasing headship propensities among this group.

Headship rates for divorced or separated persons showed only a slight increase over the 15-year period, but the fact that they have consistently been higher than those of married persons insured that the increases in the proportion of divorced/separated persons would result in an increasing share of households headed by persons in disrupted marital statuses. Compositional change would thus appear to be the major factor contributing to the increase in households headed by divorced or separated persons.

With respect to widowed persons, headship rates increased while their proportion of the population decreased slightly. These factors, countered by increases in the proportions of households headed by never-married and divorced/separated persons, resulted

in a relatively stable share of households headed by widowed persons.

What we have observed, then, is a population whose composition by age and marital status changed dramatically during the past 15 years. Relatively stable patterns of household headship, however, exerted a profound selective impact on the manner in which these population changes were translated into household changes.

These headship patterns muted the impact of the baby boom cohorts on the age distribution of householders, at least at the youngest ages. Once these cohorts reached their late 20's, it was their distinctive patterns of marriage (or, more precisely, their patterns of non-marriage) which, in conjunction with increasing headship propensities, made such an impact on the inventory of American households. The relatively high headship rates of divorced/separated persons insured that their increase in the population at large would have a significant impact at the household level. The decrease in the proportion of married-couple households can thus be seen as a result of decreases in the proportion of married persons in the population at large, amplified by increases in the relative shares of households headed by never-married and divorced/separated persons.

Perhaps the most striking finding to emerge from the preceding analyses is the manner in which the pronounced and relatively stable patterns of household headship moderated change in the distribution of householders by age, and amplified change in the distribution of householders by marital status. In the next two sections, we examine the implications of the changing marital characteristics of householders for changes in the structure and size of American households.

Implications for Changes in the Distribution of Households by Type

Much of the discussion of change in the structure of American households has been cast in terms of a typology of households which has been employed by the Census Bureau since 1970. This typology recognizes a basic distinction between "family households" and "non-family households", with a family being defined as two or more persons related by birth, marriage or adoption, who share a common residence. Households are further categorized in terms of the sex and marital status of the householder to produce the five-fold typology shown in Table 6.

Table 6 About Here

It is this typology which is typically used to document the decline in married-couple households, and the growth in both female-headed families (Ross and Sawhill, 1975) and non-family households (Kobrin, 1976). As the data in Table 6 indicate, these trends have continued on into the first half of the 1980's, although at slower rates.

The question to be addressed in the present section is the extent to which the changing distribution of households by type is attributable to the previously examined changes in the distribution of householders by marital status. While the marital status of householders does enter, in part, into the definition of the Census household typology, the Census typology relies on a crude distinction between married and non-married householders, on the one hand, and on non-marital forms of family relationships, on the other. Thus, a household headed by a divorced person could be either a family household or a non-family household, depending upon the presence or absence of related family

members, which may include but need not be restricted to children of the householder. At issue, then, is the relative importance of changing marriage patterns vis-a-vis other types of family relationships for the observed changes in the distribution of households by type.

Data bearing on this issue are presented in Table 7, which cross-classifies households by type and by marital status/sex of the householder. The results of an analysis of this table are shown in Table 8 (See Bishop, Fienberg and Holland, 1975, for a discussion of the analysis of "incomplete" contingency tables.).

Tables 7 and 8 About Here

Since married householders (according to the marital status of the householder) translate directly into married-couple households (according to the Census typology), the analysis was conducted twice, once including married householders and once excluding them. These parallel sets of models are displayed in the upper panel of Table 8. The bottom panel of this table shows how these models can be used to partition change in Table 7 into components attributable to change in the marital status distribution and to change in the household type distribution net of marital change.

Model 1 allows for an association between marital status and type of household, but posits no change in the distribution of households either by type or by marital status. Comparing the L^2 statistic for this model for the full table with that for the table omitting married householders represents a test of the significance of a particular type of change in the distribution of householders by marital status; namely, change in the

proportion of married-couple households versus change in the proportion of households headed by non-married persons taken together. Approximately 61% of the residual variation in Table 7 is accounted for by this single contrast, indicating that the decrease in the percentage of married-couple households is by far the greatest portion of change observed in Table 7. Taking into account additional changes in the distribution of householders by marital status accounts for an additional 34% of the variation in Table 7. Once these changes in the distribution of householders by marital status are taken into account, approximately 5% of the residual variation in Table 7 is attributable to changes in the distribution of households by type.

These residual patterns of change in the distribution of households by type are somewhat interesting, and will be briefly noted here with reference to Table 7. With respect to widowed householders, we observe for both men and women a decrease in the likelihood that these persons are heading a family household. This trend is probably due to increasing longevity, on the one hand, coupled with increases in the likelihood that young adults (many of whom would presumably be the children of these widowed persons) form their own, independent households.

For householders of other marital statuses, the patterns of change appear to vary by sex. The likelihood that a never-married householder is heading a family household appears to have decreased for men while it has increased for women. The pattern for never-married women is consistent with the work of Smith and Cutright (1985), who observed increases both in the proportion of never-married women with children ever

born and in the proportion of such women who head their own households.

Changes in the types of households formed by divorced or separated householders are even more complex. Over the entire 15-year period, the proportion of family households among all households headed by divorced/separated females was approximately two-thirds, while the corresponding figure for divorced/separated males was about one-fifth. However, for males, change in the proportion of households which are family households showed a kind of "saw-tooth" pattern, while the proportion of divorced/separated female householders heading family households increased from 1970 to 1975 and decreased over the later two five-year intervals. Whether these changes reflect real changes in marital fertility and/or post-marital child custody constitutes an interesting question for future research.

Although they may, indeed, prove to be substantively important, these residual patterns of change should not distract us from the primary conclusion to be drawn from this analysis. Clearly, changing marriage patterns and the changing marital status distribution of householders constituted the major driving force behind the dramatic changes in household structure observed over the past decade and a half.

Implications for Change in the Average Size of Households

This final analytical section investigates the implications of the changing distribution of householders by marital status for recent changes in the average size of households. As was noted at the outset of this paper, average household size decreased sharply from 1970 to 1980, and at a more gradual rate in the early 1980's. A more detailed view of

these changes is presented in Table 9.

Table 9 About Here

In addition to the aggregate-level trend in household size, the upper panel of Table 9 shows how the size of households changed within categories of marital status of householders (for economy, these within-category sizes will be referred to as marital-specific sizes). The greatest decreases in household size occurred among married-couple households, followed by households headed by divorced/separated persons and, finally, by households headed by widowed persons. The average size of households headed by never-married persons actually increased slightly over this 15-year period.

The lower two panels of this table show how these changes in marital-specific household sizes were distributed by the age of household members; the middle panel shows change in marital-specific numbers of children while the bottom panel shows change in marital-specific numbers of adults. We observe that changes in the average number of children per household track quite closely with changes in the average number of all persons per household, indicating that changes in marital-specific household sizes were due primarily to changes in numbers of children per household. Changes in marital-specific numbers of adults per household were relatively minor over the entire 15-year interval.

Thus, when we speak of change in marital-specific household sizes, we are referring almost entirely to change in average numbers of children. However, when we are concerned with aggregate change in the average size of households, we must also concern

ourselves with change in the distribution of householders by marital status. The significance of this distinction was recognized by Kuznets (1978), who argued that the average size of households in a society is a function of both the living arrangements of adults and the average number of children per household.

To assess the relative impact of these two components on recent decreases in the average size of households, expected household sizes were calculated by applying marital-specific household sizes for 1970 to the changing distribution of householders by marital status. These expected household sizes are thus those which one would anticipate purely on the basis of changes in the distribution of householders by marital status. The results of these calculations are displayed in Table 10.

Table 10 About Here

Over the whole 15-year period, approximately 42% of the decrease in the average size of households could be attributed to changes in the distribution of householders by marital status. However, we also observe an increase in the relative weight of this factor through time, from 30% in the early 1970's to 67% in the early 1980's. This suggests a shift in the underlying dynamics of the recent decline in the average size of households.

In the first half of the 1970's, the bulk of this decrease was attributable to changes in marital-specific household sizes, which, we have seen, depend mainly on average numbers of children per household. These decreases in children per household, in turn, can be attributed to the cumulative effect of post-baby boom fertility decreases, which began in the early 1960's and continued on into the 1970's. (Period fertility can be

expected to have a protracted effect on household size, since children can be expected to remain in the parental household for 15 to 20 years.)

By the second half of the 1970's, fertility rates had levelled off, and the continued decline in the average size of households came to have relatively more to do with changes in the distribution of householders by marital status. This shift in the relative balance of forces came about primarily through a decrease in the absolute impact of earlier decreases in fertility, although the absolute effect of the changing distribution of householders also appears to have increased slightly.

During the early 1980's, the absolute impact of both components decreased, although the fertility component appears to have decreased more than the marriage/household component. As a result, the slower rate of decline in average household size observed over this period came to have relatively more to do with changes in the distribution of householders by marital status.

Summary and Conclusions

The data presented in this paper revealed dramatic changes over the past 15 years in the composition of the population by age and by marital status. However, strong and relatively stable patterns of household headship mediated the impact of these population changes on changes at the household level, moderating change in the distribution of householders by age and amplifying change in the distribution of householders by marital status. The changing marital status distribution of householders thus emerges as a pivotal aspect of change in the structure and size of American households.

With respect to household structure, the changing marital distribution accounted for a major portion of change in the distribution of households by type; indeed, the decreasing percentage of married-couple households was by far the largest component of household change. With respect to the average size of households, change in the marital status distribution of householders was responsible for a considerable amount of the decrease observed over the past decade and a half, and the relative importance of this factor has increased steadily over this period.

As for the future of American households, the preceding analyses suggest that any prediction will depend greatly upon the kinds of assumptions one is willing to make about trends in marriage and headship patterns. A recent publication by the U.S. Bureau of the Census (1986b), based upon the same data analyzed in the present report, indicates that a continuation of recent trends in marriage and headship would drive the percentage of married-couple households to below 50% by the year 2000. If, however,

patterns of marriage and headship were to remain stable at their 1985 levels, the mere aging of the population would be expected to produce negligible shifts in the distribution of households by type.

Although the present research has tended to emphasize the role of changing marriage patterns in recent changes in American households, our understanding of these household changes would be enhanced by further study of the implications of changing fertility patterns and a more detailed examination of patterns of relationships among members of households. However, given the centrality of marriage patterns to processes of household change, further work on the underlying causes of the changing marriage patterns themselves would be welcome.

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Table 1: Marginal Distributions of the Household Population 15 Years of Age and Older, by Age and by Marital Status: 1970, 1975, 1980, and 1985

Age	1970	1975	1980	1985
15-19	15.4	15.4	12.1	10.1
20-24	10.6	11.5	11.9	11.2
25-29	9.2	10.3	11.0	11.6
30-34	7.7	8.6	10.0	10.9
35-39	7.5	7.2	8.2	9.4
40-44	8.2	6.9	6.9	7.7
45-49	8.3	7.3	6.6	6.3
50-54	7.5	7.4	6.9	6.0
55-59	6.8	6.5	6.7	6.3
60-64	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.9
65-69	4.6	4.9	5.1	5.1
70-74	3.5	3.5	3.9	4.0
75+	4.9	4.8	5.2	5.6
Totals	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Marital Status	1970	1975	1980	1985
Married	62.3	59.6	58.2	56.2
Never-Married	24.5	25.9	25.6	26.1
Divorced/Separated	5.5	7.0	8.8	10.3
Widowed	7.8	7.5	7.4	7.4
Totals	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
N	104,930	99,077	139,587	125,403

Table 2: Marginal Distributions of Householders,
by Age and by Marital Status: 1970, 1975, 1980 and 1985

Age	1970	1975	1980	1985
15-19	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.5
20-24	6.3	7.5	7.3	5.8
25-29	9.7	11.0	11.3	11.1
30-34	8.8	10.0	11.3	12.0
35-39	8.9	8.4	9.6	11.1
40-44	9.7	8.3	8.0	9.0
45-49	9.9	8.8	7.6	7.4
50-54	9.5	9.4	8.2	7.2
55-59	9.2	8.2	8.2	7.5
60-64	7.9	7.7	7.2	7.5
65-69	6.7	7.1	6.9	6.8
70-74	5.3	5.4	5.7	5.7
75+	7.5	7.5	7.9	8.4
Totals	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Marital Status	1970	1975	1980	1985
Married	70.6	66.0	60.6	57.9
Never-Married	6.9	8.8	11.9	13.1
Divorced/Separated	8.8	11.5	14.1	15.8
Widowed	13.7	13.7	13.3	13.1
Totals	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
N	45,444	44,161	65,036	59,568

Table 3: Decomposition of Change in Household Population
and in Householders, by Age and Marital Status

Model	Margins Fitted*			df	L ² Values for:	
					Population	Householders
1	23	1		153	10,996.88	6,131.88
2	23	12		117	6,501.83	4,575.13
3	23	13		144	8,594.84	2,907.33
4	23	12	13	108	1,933.27	1,346.23

*where 1 = Year
2 = Age
3 = Marital Status

Component	Contrast	df	Population		Householders	
			L ²	%	L ²	%
Age	$L_1^2 - L_2^2$	36	4,495.05	40.9	1,556.75	25.4
Marital/Age	$L_2^2 - L_4^2$	9	4,568.56	41.5	3,228.90	52.7
Interaction	L_4^2	108	1,933.27	17.6	1,346.23	21.9
Total	L_1^2	153	10,996.88	100.0	6,131.88	100.0

Table 4: Headship Rates by Age and by Marital Status
1970, 1975, 1980 and 1985

Age	1970	1975	1980	1985
15-19	1.6	2.1	3.2	2.3
20-24	25.7	29.0	28.6	24.6
25-29	45.6	47.8	48.2	45.7
30-34	49.5	52.2	53.0	52.4
35-39	51.1	52.1	54.7	55.9
40-44	51.4	53.1	54.3	55.6
45-49	51.7	53.4	54.5	55.5
50-54	54.8	56.3	56.0	57.2
55-59	58.5	56.8	57.4	57.1
60-64	60.2	59.9	58.7	60.8
65-69	62.7	64.3	63.3	63.7
70-74	66.5	69.3	68.5	67.8
75+	66.7	69.5	71.6	71.6
Totals	43.4	44.6	46.8	47.6

Marital Status	1970	1975	1980	1985
Married	49.1	49.4	48.8	49.0
Never-Married	12.2	15.1	21.8	24.0
Divorced/Separated	70.0	73.0	74.9	73.3
Widowed	76.8	81.7	84.2	84.5
Totals	43.4	44.6	46.8	47.6

Table 5: Logit Models for the Four-Way Cross-Classification of Householder Status by Year, Age and Marital Status

Model	Margins Fitted*	df	L
1	234	207	114,166.11
2		204	113,630.91
3		195	23,708.04
4		204	43,406.63
5		192	23,566.97
6		201	42,951.83
7		192	6,287.47
8		189	6,204.19
9		156	23,256.42
10		192	41,343.10
11		156	1,383.89
12		153	5,941.89
13		180	5,485.50
14		153	1,278.25
15		144	5,214.72
16		117	997.61
17		144	458.74
18		108	287.33
19		1234	0

* where 1 = Householder Status (Yes/No)
 2 = Year (1970/1975/1980/1985)
 3 = Age (13 5-year intervals: 15-19, 20-24, ..., 70-74, 75+)
 4 = Marital Status (Married, Never-Married, Divorced/Separated, Widowed)

Table 6: Distribution of Households by Type:
1970, 1975, 1980 and 1985

Type of Household	1970	1975	1980	1985
Family				
Married Couple	70.6	66.0	60.9	58.0
Male-Headed	1.9	2.1	2.2	2.6
Female-Headed	8.7	10.0	10.8	11.7
Non-Family				
Male-Headed	6.3	8.3	10.9	11.7
Female-Headed	12.4	13.6	15.3	16.1
<hr/>				
Totals	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
N	45,444	44,161	65,036	59,568

Table 7: Households by Type and Marital Status/Sex of Householder:
1970, 1975, 1980, and 1985

Year	Marital Status/Sex of Householder	Family		Non-Family		Totals
		Married Male- Couple	Female- Headed	Male- Headed	Female- Headed	
1970						
	Married	100.0	*	*	*	100.0
	Never-Married Male	*	19.5	*	80.5	100.0
	Divorced/Separated Male	*	22.8	*	77.2	100.0
	Widowed Male	*	29.9	*	70.1	100.0
	Never-Married Female	*	*	26.5	*	73.5
	Divorced/Separated Female	*	*	65.4	*	34.6
	Widowed Female	*	*	33.0	*	67.0
1975						
	Married	100.0	*	*	*	100.0
	Never-Married Male	*	13.9	*	86.1	100.0
	Divorced/Separated Male	*	24.2	*	75.8	100.0
	Widowed Male	*	25.7	*	74.3	100.0
	Never-Married Female	*	*	29.2	*	70.8
	Divorced/Separated Female	*	*	67.1	*	32.9
	Widowed Female	*	*	31.0	*	69.0
1980						
	Married	100.0	*	*	*	100.0
	Never-Married Male	*	11.5	*	88.5	100.0
	Divorced/Separated Male	*	18.9	*	81.1	100.0
	Widowed Male	*	26.5	*	74.5	100.0
	Never-Married Female	*	*	29.2	*	70.8
	Divorced/Separated Female	*	*	65.4	*	34.6
	Widowed Female	*	*	28.3	*	71.7
1985						
	Married	100.0	*	*	*	100.0
	Never-Married Male	*	12.2	*	87.8	100.0
	Divorced/Separated Male	*	22.5	*	77.5	100.0
	Widowed Male	*	25.2	*	74.8	100.0
	Never-Married Female	*	*	33.0	*	67.0
	Divorced/Separated Female	*	*	64.0	*	36.0
	Widowed Female	*	*	27.5	*	72.5

Table 8: Decomposition of Change in Households,
by Household Type and Marital Status/Sex of Householder

Model	Margins Fitted*			Full Table		Omitting Married Couples	
				df	L^2_a	df	L^2_b
1	12	3		36	3,423.00	33	1,332.73
2	12	13		24	1,074.14	24	1,074.14
3	12	23		18	184.39	18	184.39
4	12	13	23	12	104.62	12	104.62

*where 1 = Household Type
2 = Marital Status/Sex of Householder
3 = Year

Component	Contrast	df	L^2	%
Decrease in Married Couples	$L^2_{1a} - L^2_{1b}$	3	2,090.27	61.0
Other Changes in Marital Status/Sex	$L^2_{1b} - L^2_{3b}$	15	1,148.34	33.6
Net Change in Household Type	$L^2_{3b} - L^2_{4b}$	6	79.77	2.3
Residual (Interaction)	L^2_{4b}	12	104.62	3.1
Total	L^2_{1a}	36	3,423.00	100.0

Table 9: Average Household Size by Marital Status of Householder:
1970, 1975, 1980 and 1985

Marital Status of Householder	All Persons				Change, 1970-1985
	1970	1975	1980	1985	
Married	3.69	3.48	3.34	3.30	-0.39
Never-Married	1.63	1.61	1.65	1.72	0.09
Divorced/Separated	2.44	2.36	2.20	2.18	-0.26
Widowed	1.72	1.68	1.60	1.60	-0.12
All Households	3.17	2.94	2.75	2.69	-0.48

Marital Status of Householder	Persons Under 18				Change, 1970-1985
	1970	1975	1980	1985	
Married	1.38	1.16	1.01	0.95	-0.43
Never-Married	0.17	0.19	0.22	0.27	0.10
Divorced/Separated	1.05	0.97	0.80	0.72	-0.33
Widowed	0.28	0.26	0.20	0.18	-0.10
All Households	1.12	0.93	0.78	0.72	-0.40

Marital Status of Householder	Persons 18 and Over				Change, 1970-1985
	1970	1975	1980	1985	
Married	2.32	2.32	2.33	2.35	0.03
Never-Married	1.46	1.42	1.42	1.45	-0.01
Divorced/Separated	1.39	1.38	1.40	1.46	0.07
Widowed	1.44	1.42	1.40	1.42	-0.02
All Households	2.05	2.01	1.97	1.97	-0.08

Table 10: The Effect of the Changing Distribution of Householders by Marital Status on Changes in the Average Size of Households

	1970	1975	1980	1985	1970-1985
Average Household Size					
Actual	3.17	2.94	2.75	2.69	
Expected*	3.17	3.10	3.01	2.97	
Change					
Actual	-0.23	-0.19	-0.06		-0.48
Expected*	-0.07	-0.09	-0.04		-0.20
Percentage of Actual Change due to Changing Marital Status					
	30.4	47.4	66.7		41.7

*By applying marital status-specific household sizes for 1970 to the changing distribution of householders by marital status

Appendix 1: Household Population 15 Years of Age and Older, by Age and Marital Status: 1970, 1975, 1980 and 1985

Marital Status	Age	1970	1975	1980	1985
Married	15-19	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.3
	20-24	5.3	5.1	4.2	3.1
	25-29	7.2	7.4	6.8	6.5
	30-34	6.6	6.8	7.3	7.3
	35-39	6.5	5.8	6.4	7.0
	40-44	6.9	5.7	5.4	5.7
	45-49	6.9	5.9	5.2	4.8
	50-54	6.2	5.9	5.4	4.6
	55-59	5.2	4.9	5.1	4.7
	60-64	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.2
	65-69	2.9	3.2	3.3	3.3
	70-74	1.9	2.1	2.3	2.3
	75+	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.2
Never-Married	15-19	14.4	14.5	11.4	9.7
	20-24	4.7	5.7	7.0	7.5
	25-29	1.4	1.8	2.9	3.7
	30-34	0.6	0.8	1.2	1.9
	35-39	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.9
	40-44	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5
	45-49	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3
	50-54	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3
	55-59	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3
	60-64	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
	65-69	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
	70-74	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
	75+	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Divorced/ Separated	15-19	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
	20-24	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6
	25-29	0.6	1.0	1.2	1.3
	30-34	0.5	0.9	1.4	1.7
	35-39	0.5	0.8	1.1	1.5
	40-44	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.4
	45-49	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.0
	50-54	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.8
	55-59	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7
	60-64	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5
	65-69	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4
	70-74	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3
	75+	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Widowed	15-19	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	20-24	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	25-29	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	30-34	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
	35-39	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
	40-44	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
	45-49	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2
	50-54	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.3
	55-59	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5
	60-64	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8
	65-69	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1
	70-74	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.3
	75+	2.6	2.5	2.7	2.9
Totals		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
N		104,930	99,077	139,587	125,403

Appendix 2: Distribution of Householders by Age and Marital Status: 1970, 1975, 1980 and 1985

Marital Status	Age	1970	1975	1980	1985
Married	15-19	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1
	20-24	4.5	4.4	3.3	2.4
	25-29	7.8	7.8	6.6	6.1
	30-34	7.4	7.5	7.6	7.3
	35-39	7.4	6.5	6.8	7.4
	40-44	7.9	6.3	5.7	6.0
	45-49	7.7	6.6	5.5	5.0
	50-54	7.3	6.8	5.7	4.9
	55-59	6.4	5.6	5.6	5.0
	60-64	5.0	4.9	4.5	4.6
	65-69	3.7	3.9	3.7	3.8
	70-74	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.7
75+	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.8	
Never-Married	15-19	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.3
	20-24	1.2	2.2	3.2	2.9
	25-29	1.0	1.7	2.9	3.4
	30-34	0.5	0.9	1.4	2.1
	35-39	0.4	0.4	0.7	1.1
	40-44	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6
	45-49	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
	50-54	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4
	55-59	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
	60-64	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4
	65-69	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3
	70-74	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
75+	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	
Divorced/ Separated	15-19	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	20-24	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.5
	25-29	0.9	1.5	1.8	1.6
	30-34	0.9	1.5	2.3	2.4
	35-39	0.9	1.4	2.0	2.5
	40-44	1.1	1.3	1.6	2.2
	45-49	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.7
	50-54	0.9	1.2	1.3	1.3
	55-59	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2
	60-64	0.7	0.6	0.7	1.0
	65-69	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7
	70-74	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4
75+	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	
Widowed	15-19	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	20-24	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	25-29	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
	30-34	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
	35-39	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
	40-44	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2
	45-49	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.4
	50-54	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.6
	55-59	1.4	1.3	1.1	0.9
	60-64	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6
	65-69	2.1	2.3	2.2	2.0
	70-74	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3
75+	4.1	4.2	4.5	4.8	
Totals		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
N		45,444	44,161	65,036	59,568

Appendix 3: Headship Rates by Age and Marital Status:
1970, 1975, 1980 and 1985

Marital Status	Age	1970	1975	1980	1985
Married	15-19	15.6	18.7	18.1	15.4
	20-24	36.4	38.7	37.2	35.8
	25-29	46.7	46.8	45.3	44.2
	30-34	48.6	49.1	48.5	47.7
	35-39	49.4	49.3	49.3	49.9
	40-44	49.1	49.3	48.8	49.8
	45-49	48.7	49.8	49.4	49.7
	50-54	50.9	51.1	50.1	50.6
	55-59	53.0	51.0	50.7	50.7
	60-64	53.9	52.7	51.6	51.3
	65-69	55.6	54.7	53.0	53.3
	70-74	58.1	59.3	56.9	55.5
	75+	64.9	63.3	61.2	60.6
Never-Married	15-19	0.7	1.1	2.3	1.7
	20-24	11.5	17.5	21.4	18.3
	25-29	30.6	41.2	46.6	43.6
	30-34	36.8	49.7	51.1	54.3
	35-39	39.6	39.1	55.4	61.1
	40-44	37.3	44.3	53.7	52.3
	45-49	38.2	41.9	55.0	53.0
	50-54	53.5	55.6	56.5	66.4
	55-59	59.0	49.4	60.1	55.5
	60-64	57.4	63.0	57.9	78.0
	65-69	60.1	68.1	63.7	65.2
	70-74	66.1	74.7	72.2	73.8
	75+	64.1	67.9	73.9	72.2
Divorced/ Separated	15-19	13.5	16.5	17.8	21.3
	20-24	42.4	52.2	49.3	44.3
	25-29	65.0	65.9	67.5	59.4
	30-34	72.0	75.9	76.2	69.6
	35-39	76.0	77.2	82.3	80.3
	40-44	77.4	81.4	82.3	78.1
	45-49	75.5	77.4	79.3	77.4
	50-54	75.9	81.2	81.8	79.5
	55-59	82.8	77.5	80.2	79.3
	60-64	81.1	77.1	75.7	84.9
	65-69	70.6	81.1	76.6	82.6
	70-74	79.7	82.6	81.2	79.3
	75+	71.0	76.7	80.8	80.4
Widowed	15-19	0.0	66.7	100.0	100.0
	20-24	65.0	80.0	85.7	75.0
	25-29	80.0	71.9	71.4	69.0
	30-34	83.8	93.2	91.4	90.9
	35-39	86.0	90.5	88.0	82.6
	40-44	91.9	86.6	89.6	88.0
	45-49	83.2	85.5	85.8	87.9
	50-54	85.9	86.3	88.3	89.3
	55-59	83.6	85.9	89.6	87.8
	60-64	80.9	85.7	84.3	87.7
	65-69	79.0	84.9	88.5	88.7
	70-74	78.6	85.5	87.2	87.0
	75+	68.0	74.0	78.7	79.5
Totals		43.4	44.6	46.8	47.6

Mailing Address:

Center for Demography and Ecology
University of Wisconsin
1180 Observatory Drive
Madison, Wisconsin 53706-1393
U.S.A.