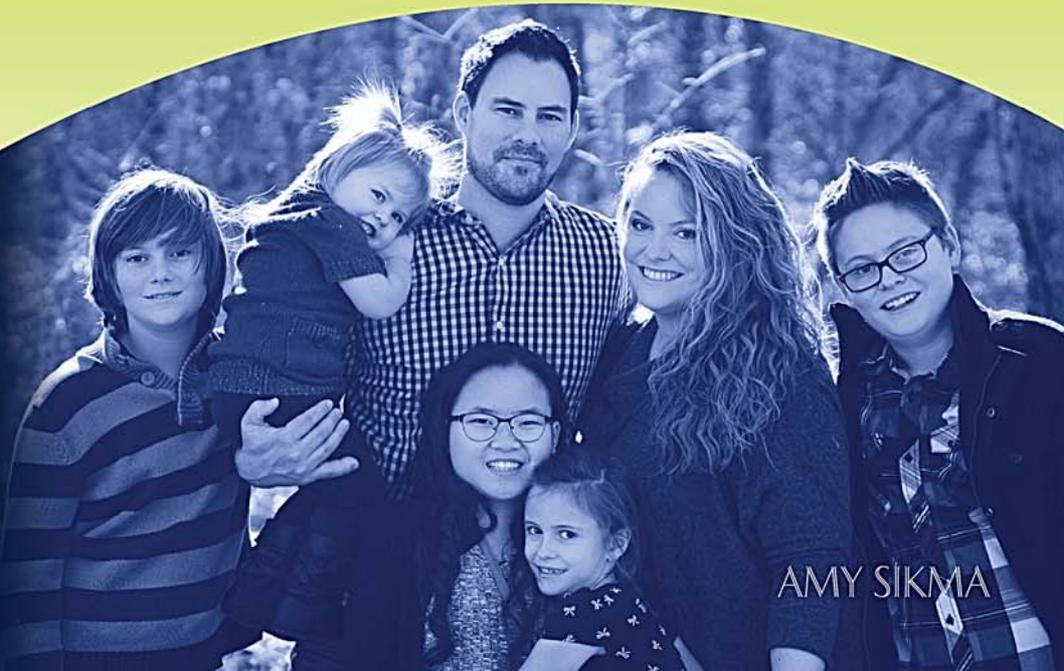




WISCONSIN'S CULTURAL INDICATORS

2019 EDITION



AMY SIKMA



Wisconsin's Cultural Indicators 2019 Edition

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WISCONSIN FAMILY COUNCIL

Marriage|Family|Life|Liberty

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A Message from Julaine Appling, President



Wisconsin's Cultural Indicators, 2019 Edition, is a unique publication, bringing together important data regarding the health and well-being of our state in a way no other work in the state does. This 2019 edition, following the concept we used in the 2014 edition, gives special attention to family structure. While common sense and anecdotal data tell us that family structure is directly related to our state's well-being, the data is overwhelmingly in support of this position.

Our hope is policymakers, educators, community leaders, pastors and ministry leaders, and others will find great value in this work and will use the information to guide them as they consider policies, plans and programs. In our thinking, much more should be directed to strengthening, preserving and promoting married mom-and-dad households if we want to ensure a bright future for our own families, as well as for our churches, communities, state and nation.

Virtually all the indicators we look at in *Wisconsin's Cultural Indicators, 2019 Edition*, would be improved if we returned to the "gold standard" for marriage and family. Social science research continues to show, among other things, that children who grow up in the homes of their married dads and moms, on average, do better in school, avoid trouble with the law, are less likely to abuse drugs or alcohol, are less likely to experience abuse of any kind, enjoy better health, are less likely to experience poverty, more likely to delay sexual activity, and are more likely to marry and have strong marriages themselves than are children in any other family structure.

At Wisconsin Family Council, we are committed to strong families. We offer this publication with optimism that others will understand these families are Wisconsin's best natural resource—and will join us in strengthening, preserving and promoting them.

About the Author

Amy Sikma is a freelance research writer with an emphasis on public policy. She earned a B.A. in Political Science and has worked in state politics and public policy in Wisconsin for over a decade, including as the Director of Communications and Advocacy for Wisconsin Family Action and as a legislative staffer in the State Assembly. Amy was the Senior Research Assistant for the 2014 edition of *Wisconsin's Cultural Indicators*. She resides in Wisconsin with her husband and two children.

About the Original Concept

Although Wisconsin Family Council has done several editions of Wisconsin's Cultural Indicators, the 2014 edition was significantly different from previous editions. The 2019 edition builds directly on the 2014 edition. Darryn Beckstrom is appropriately credited with the original concept for the 2014 edition and this subsequent edition.

Darryn C. Beckstrom graduated in 2010 from the University of Wisconsin with Ph.D. in Political Science and in 2009 graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Minnesota Law School. She also has earned two master's degrees from the University of Wisconsin: an M.A. in Political Science (2005) and an M.P.A. in Policy Analysis and Management (2006). Darryn has been awarded numerous honors during her academic career, including the Clara Penniman Distinguished Graduate Fellowship, the Hovland Journal Article Prize and the Bradley Foundation Dissertation Fellowship. While in law school, she clerked for the Honorable Chief Justice Lorie S. Gildea of the Minnesota Supreme Court and was an extern for the Honorable Diane E. Murphy of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. Darryn is married, and she and her husband Ben have two children.

Executive Summary

Beginning in 1997, when Wisconsin Family Council published the first edition of *Wisconsin's Cultural Indicators*, this publication has focused on comparative analysis and conservative commentary on Wisconsin-specific data and trends that impact the state's greatest natural resource: her families. This is the fourth edition of this comprehensive publication, a one-of-a-kind document that has expanded over the years and continues to cover more topics in this publication. The goal of *Cultural Indicators* is to give lawmakers, church and community leaders and pro-family advocates a "lay of the land" when it comes to the social science and cultural trends impacting Wisconsin's children, marriages and families. The concept is predicated on and rooted in the reality that as the family goes, so goes the state.

We talk frequently at Wisconsin Family Council about how intact families are the gold standard for children—being raised in a home with a married dad and mom, with the stability and benefits that family structure entails. This publication undergirds our argument for strong intact families and gives it a sense of both urgency and hope: urgency because new marriages and births show a trend of decreasing over time, which negatively impacts every aspect of our state; hope because data show a decrease over time in abortions or an increase in educational alternatives for parents and students leading to higher achievement.

Wisconsin Family Council believes families are best served by a limited government that respects the irreplaceable role families, churches and other societal institutions play in fostering a free, independent and thriving society and economy. Although current cultural trends tend to reject the influence of traditional marriage, family and religion in favor of government dependence and leftist indoctrination in the classroom, the data in this publication underscore the importance of strong intact families and the "success sequence." The term "success sequence" was developed by researchers to describe the overwhelmingly positive outcomes that follow when individuals graduate high school, get a job and get married before having children.

With that in mind, government policies can intentionally or unintentionally harm families and children; and it is in this regard the *Cultural Indicators* is particularly helpful. We have noted in this publication where national or state public policies or major societal shifts may have positively or negatively impacted certain trends, and how policies or public campaigns might be able to more positively impact those trends in the future. Wisconsin Family Council is committed to promoting and championing these pro-family, pro-children and pro-life policies both now and in the future.

- Wisconsin is a data-heavy state, a fact that has greatly helped our efforts in researching and compiling the *Cultural Indicators*. However, not all data is updated regularly; so in some cases we have had to use statistics from previous years in order to accurately compare data trends. In the previous edition of *Wisconsin's Cultural Indicators* in 2014, much of the data we used that was not reported by the state of Wisconsin (such as the percentage of households in the state with minor children by race and ethnicity) was based on the extremely detailed 2010 U.S. Census. This edition of the *Indicators* uses, wherever possible, the 5-year estimates from the *American Fact Finder*, which constitute the most accurate estimates in non-census years.



Cultural Indicators includes an analysis of data and trends over thirty-two different topics, ranging from marriage statistics to juvenile arrest data, to casino gambling figures in the *Wisconsin Statistics* section. The *Family Structure* section includes charts and analysis comparing the status of children and families across different demographics and family situations. In *Family and the Economy*, we look at the impact of family intactness and changing societal norms on Wisconsin's economy and workforce. The *Status of African American Children in Wisconsin* shines a spotlight on the challenges many minority children face from birth (and even before birth) through childhood and the harmful impact of family fragmentation. *Religion in Wisconsin* gives a brief rundown of religious trends in Wisconsin, including trends among Christians in the state.

Following are a few of the highlights from the 2019 edition of *Wisconsin's Cultural Indicators*.

Vital Statistics

- In 2018, Wisconsin's population was about 5.8 million, making it the 20th largest state in the nation. Persons 65 years and over represented 16.5 percent of Wisconsin's population in 2017, while minors (under 18) represented 22.1 percent of the state's population the same year.
- Reported abortions performed in Wisconsin in 2017 decreased 73 percent since peaking in 1980, but increased almost 3.7 percent over 2016.
- In 2016 the Infant Mortality Rate for babies born to Black/African American mothers was 15.2—a rate nearly three times higher than for babies born to White mothers (5.3).
- Sexually transmitted disease (chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis) rates have skyrocketed since 2015, after decreasing steadily from a record high rate of 517 per 100,000 total population in 2011. The new record rate was 630 in 2017.

Family

- According to the Census Bureau's 5-Year Estimates, 29 percent of all households in Wisconsin in 2017 contained minors. Of those households with minors present, almost 66 percent were married-couple families.
- Forty-five percent of married-couple families with their own children present in the household had an income of \$100,000 or more in 2017, according to 5-year estimates.
- Almost 51 percent of unmarried women age 15-50 who bore a child in the past 12 months in Wisconsin in 2017 were living below 100 percent of the poverty level during those months, compared to 9 percent of married women.
- Over 25 percent of minors in Wisconsin in 2017 lived in households receiving Supplemental Security Income, cash public assistance income or Food Stamps/SNAP in the past 12 months, according to 5-year estimates.

Culture

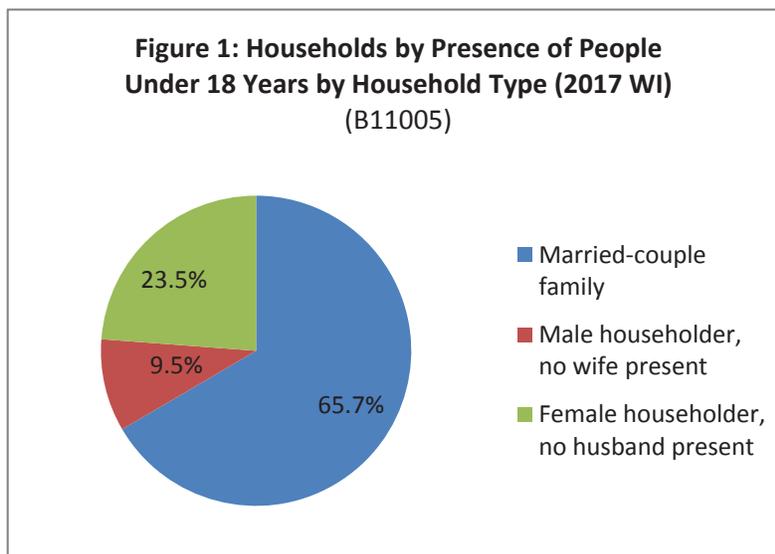
- In 2014 in Wisconsin, 49 percent of Christians favored or strongly favored same-sex marriage, compared to 46 percent who opposed or strongly opposed it.
- Twenty-one percent more females than males from the 2016 graduating class enrolled in a 4-year postsecondary institution in Wisconsin, while 13 percent more male graduates than female graduates enrolled in a 2-year postsecondary institution in the state that same year.
- Between 2000 and 2017, the “handle” (amount casinos take in before expenses and before paying out winnings) increased 40 percent. The 2016 handle of \$16.23 billion surpassed the previous record of \$16.18 billion in 2007 for the first time after a lull following the recession years. The casinos paid out just over \$1 billion in winnings in 2017, meaning Wisconsin residents lost over \$15 billion in casino gambling.
- The percent of Wisconsin adults attending religious services at least once a week declined from 33 percent in 2007 to 27 percent in 2014. Christians attending religious services at least once a week declined from 40 percent in 2007 to 38 percent in 2014.
- In 2017, 16 percent of Wisconsin high school students reported using marijuana in the last 30 days.

Family Structure

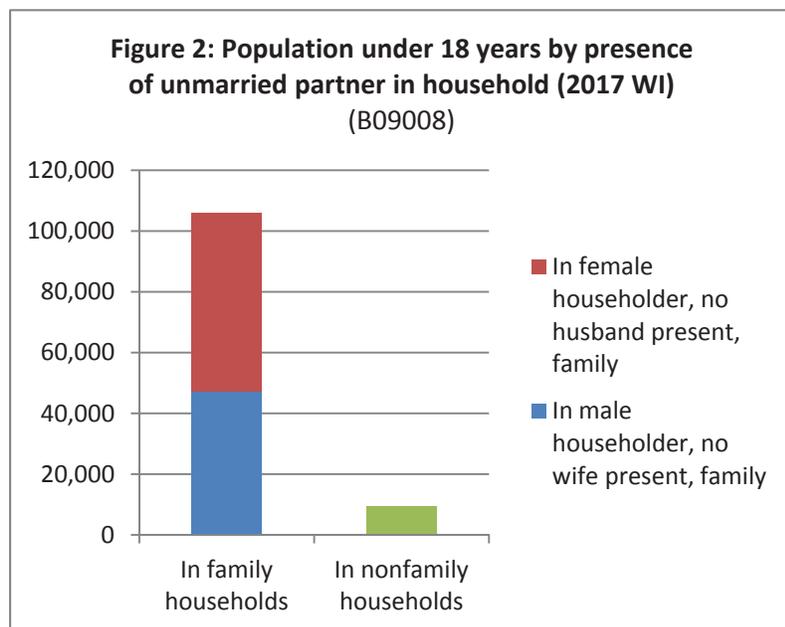


Source: American Fact Finder, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

According to the Census Bureau’s 5-Year Estimates (the most accurate estimates in non-census years), Wisconsin had 677,337 households with one or more people under 18 years in 2017, meaning 29 percent of all households contained minors. The vast majority of these households were married-couple families. See Figure 1 for the household breakdown by family type.



One out of eleven children in Wisconsin lived in a household with the householder’s unmarried partner present in 2017 (5-year estimate). Of those children 51 percent lived in single-mother families (Figure 2). The majority of minors in Wisconsin (876,672 or 67.9 percent) lived in married-couple families with no unmarried partner present. Of all the children in Wisconsin living in households with no unmarried partners present, 74.5 percent were living in married-couple families, 19.7 percent were living in single-mother families and 5.6 percent were living in single-father families.



According to 2015 estimates, in Wisconsin, 70 percent of White alone (non-Hispanic) householders with minors present were married-couple families, compared to 22 percent of Black or African American alone householders.¹ Almost 70 percent of White teens age 15-19 lived in married-couple families in 2017 (5-year estimates), compared to 26 percent of Black or African American teens and 57 percent of Hispanic or Latino teens.²

Children and Same-Sex Couples

There were 14,317 total same-sex households in Wisconsin in 2016 and just over 51 percent of those households were married same-sex couple households.³ Across the country in 2016, 16.5 percent of same-sex couple households had children in the household.⁴ If that percentage extrapolates down to Wisconsin-level data that would mean about 2,362 same-sex households in Wisconsin had children in the household. This is roughly the same percentage (16 percent) of same-sex couples raising their own children in Wisconsin as documented by the 2010 U.S. Census.⁵

Family Structure and Income

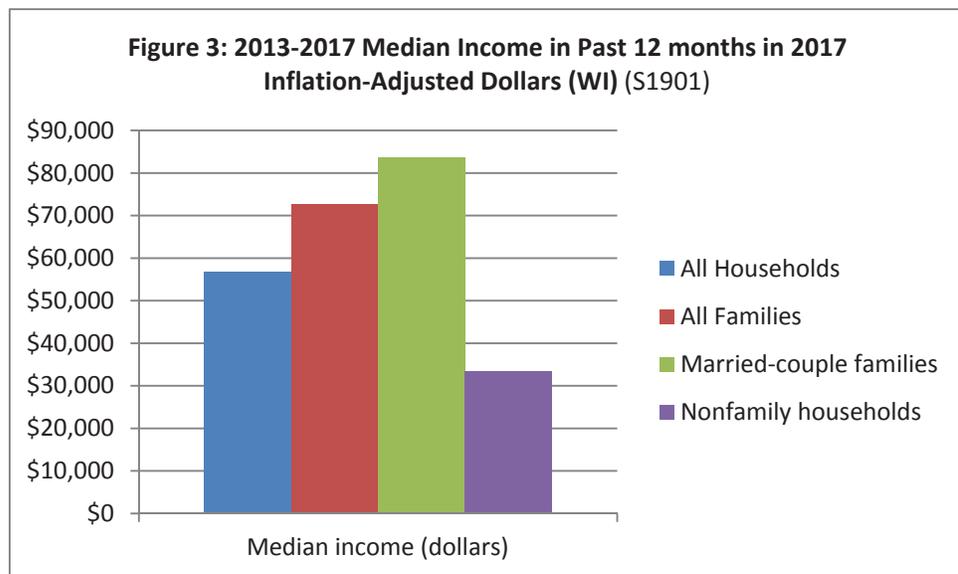
Married-couple family households continue to have the highest median income in Wisconsin: \$83,719 in 2017-inflation adjusted dollars (5-year estimate). (Figure 3) *Please note:* the U.S. Census Bureau defines a family household as a household that is maintained by a householder who is in a family.⁶ A nonfamily household is defined

as either a homeowner living alone or living with unrelated housemates.

A total of 45 percent of married-couple families with their own children present in the household had an income of \$100,000 or more in 2017, according to 5-

year estimates.⁷ By contrast, 80 percent of female householder families with their own children present in the household and with no husband present (in other words, a single-mother family), had an income in the past 12 months of less than \$50,000. About 43 percent of male householder families with their own children present and no wife present (single-father families) had incomes in the past 12 months in 2017 of anywhere between \$35,000 and \$75,000.

As seen in Figure 4 on the following page, a higher percentage of married-couple families with children in the household tend to have higher family incomes compared to single-mother or single-father families. A tragic 16 percent of single-mother families had an annual income of less than \$10,000 in the past 12 months in 2017 according to the estimate, compared to 8 percent of single-father families and barely 1 percent of married-couple families. In fact, 48 percent of single-mother families in Wisconsin in 2017 made less than \$25,000 in the past 12 months, compared to 25 percent of single-father families and 4 percent of married-couple families, according to estimates.



Family Structure and Aggregate Income Deficit

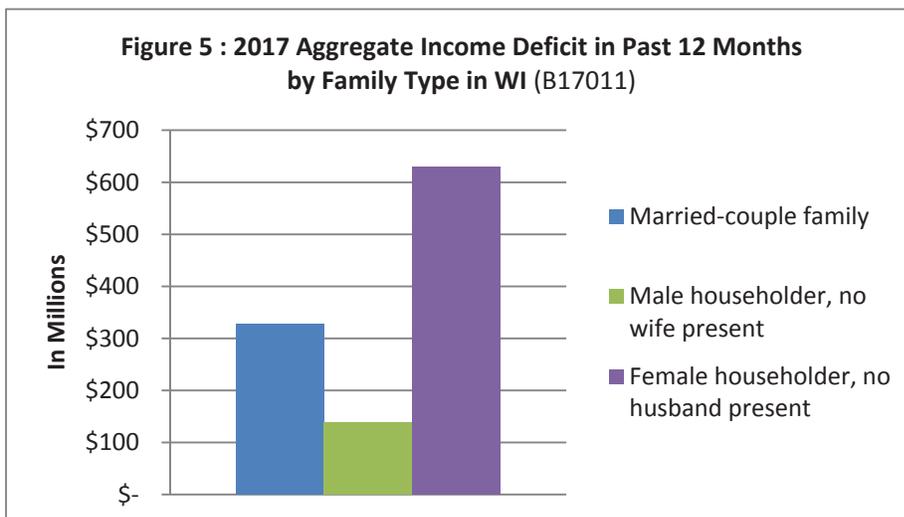
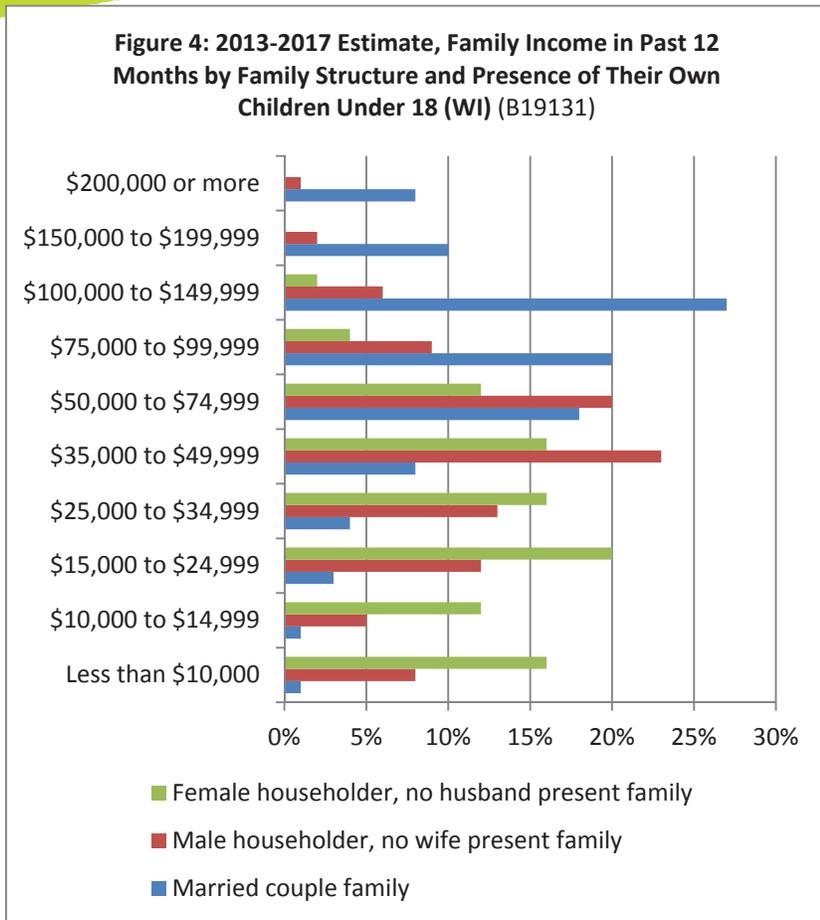
The U.S. Census Bureau defines *income deficit* as the difference between the total income of families below the poverty level and their respective poverty thresholds, showing how much additional income such families would need to earn to be considered “above the poverty line.” *Aggregate income deficit* for families refers only to

those families who are classified as below the poverty level. In 2017 the poverty level for a family of two was \$16,240.

The U.S. Census Bureau states that measuring income deficit is important because “[t]his measure provides an estimate of the amount which would be required to raise the income of all poor families and unrelated individuals to their respective poverty thresholds. The income deficit is thus a measure of the degree of impoverishment of a family or unrelated individual.”

For families in poverty in Wisconsin in 2017, according

to 5-year estimates, the aggregate income deficit for female householder, no husband present families



was almost twice as high as for married-couple families. Single-mother families in the state would have needed a grand total of \$629 million to raise them above the poverty level in 2017 (Figure 5).

Family Structure and Government Assistance

In 2017 Wisconsin issued \$867,250 million in State Food Stamps/Food Share Benefits. Figure 6 shows a few characteristics of families receiving food stamps/SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) in Wisconsin in 2017, according to 5-year estimates. Twenty-seven percent of female householder families with no husband present received food stamps in the state in 2017, compared to almost 15 percent of married couple families and 6 percent of male householder, no wife present, families. The majority of households receiving food stamps (52 percent) had at least one worker in the family in the past 12 months, while almost 30 percent had two or more workers. Almost 49 percent of households receiving food stamps in Wisconsin in 2017 had children under 18 years of age present in the house. The median income for households receiving food stamps/SNAP was \$20,803, compared to \$62,921, for households not receiving food stamps/SNAP.

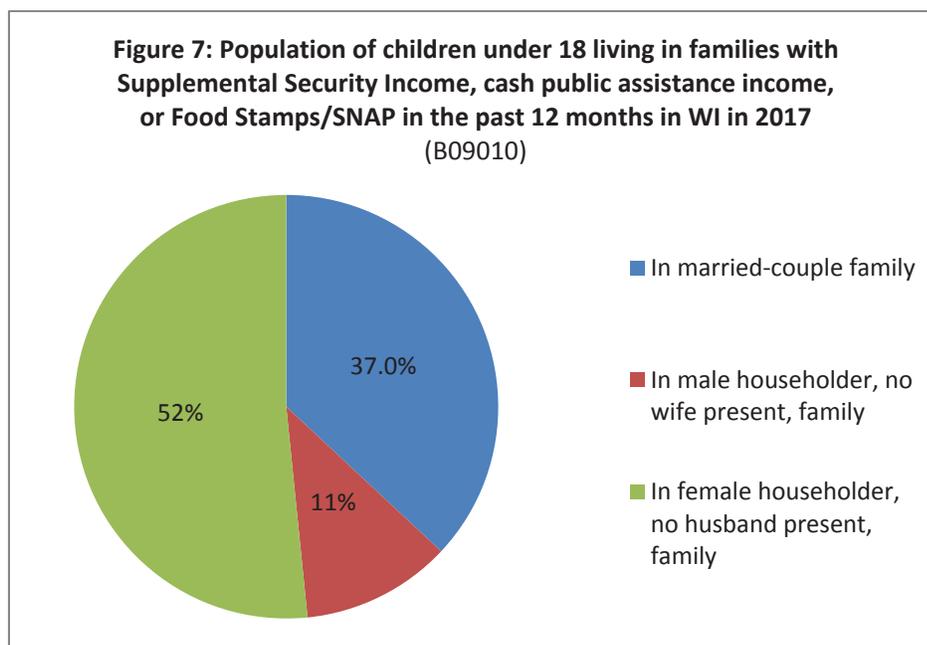
Over 25 percent of minors in Wisconsin in 2017 lived in households receiving

Supplemental Security Income (SSI), cash public assistance income or Food Stamps/SNAP in the past 12 months, according to 5-year estimates. Of those minors living in family households, over half (52 percent), were living in single-mother households, 37 percent were living in married-couple families and

11 percent were living in single-father households. (Figure 7) Of those minors living in family households not receiving SSI, cash public assistance income or Food Stamps/SNAP in the past 12 months, the vast majority (79 percent), were living in married-couple families in 2017.

Figure 6: Characteristics of Families Receiving Food Stamps in WI in 2017
(S2201)

Families	Percent households receiving food stamps/SNAP
Married couple family w/children under 18	14.7%
Male householder, no wife present, with children under 18	6.0%
Female householder, no husband present, with children under 18	27.0%
Below poverty level in past 12 months	46.0%
At or above poverty level in past 12 months	54.0%
No workers in family in past 12 months	18.3%
1 worker in family in past 12 months	52.2%
2 or more workers in family in past 12 months	29.5%





Family Structure and Poverty

Children living in married-couple families in Wisconsin were the least likely of all children in families to be living below the poverty level in 2017. Fourteen percent of all families with related children of the householder present lived below the poverty level in Wisconsin in 2017, according to 5-year estimates. For married-couple families, however, only 5 percent of those families with related children present lived below the poverty level in 2017, compared to almost 38 percent of female householder, no husband present families with related children of the householder present.

(Figure 8)

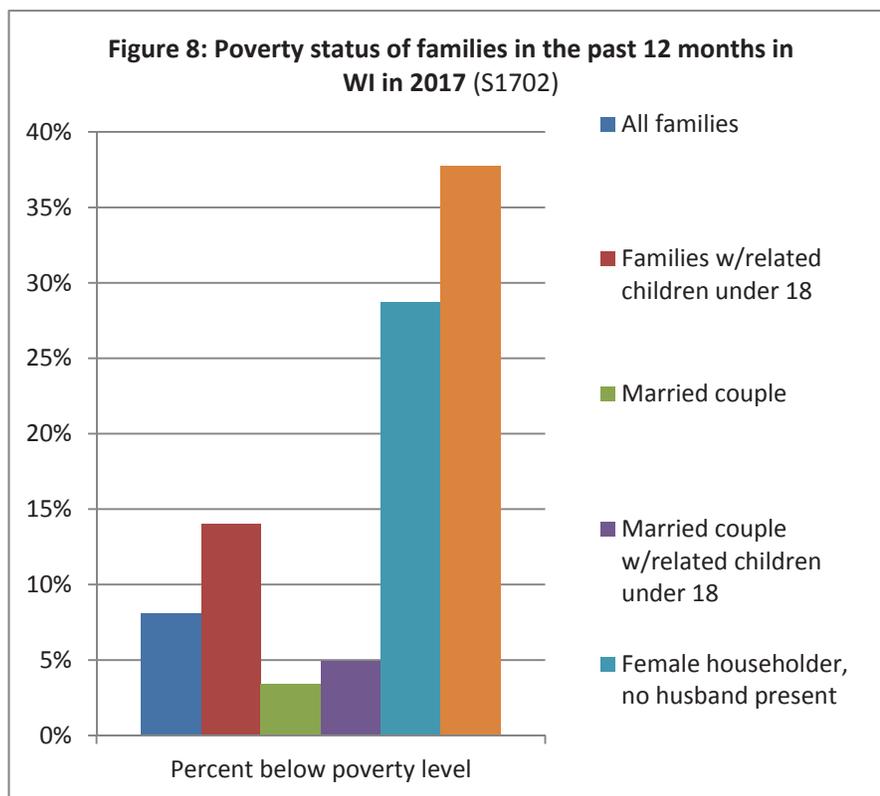
Please note: the U.S. Census Bureau determines poverty thresholds based on family unit and size. For a family of three people in which there is at least one related child under the age of 18, the poverty threshold in 2017 was an income of \$19,730.⁸

The percent of family types living below the poverty level increased significantly, not surprisingly, for single-

mothers depending on the age of the children and the number of children. For single-mother householders with related children under 5 years, 45 percent were living below the poverty level in 2017. For single-mother householders with three or four of their own children present, 58 percent lived below the poverty level in 2017. A staggering 71 percent of single-mother families with five or more of their own children present lived below the poverty level in 2017.

One of the indicators of living below poverty level for female-householder families, and all families, appears to be the education level of the householder. For female householder, no husband present families, where the householder held a bachelor's degree or higher, only 10 percent were living below the poverty level in 2017. By contrast, 48 percent of female-householder families where the householder had less than a high school degree were living below the poverty level in 2017.

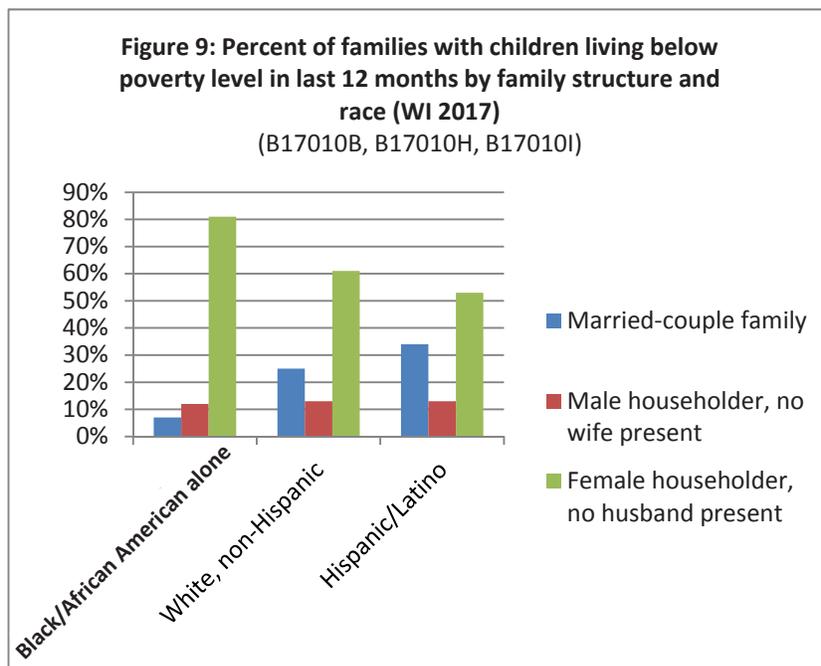
For married-couple families, however, educational attainment of the householder had a much smaller impact on the percentage of families living below the poverty level. Only 14 percent of married-couple families where the householder held less than a high school degree were living below the poverty level in 2017, and only 5 percent with a high school degree or equivalent were living below the poverty level



in the same year. Those percentages dropped to 3 and 1 percent for some college/associates degree and bachelor's degree or higher, respectively.

Race, Poverty and Family Structure

Across almost all races in Wisconsin, single-mother family households disproportionately bear the brunt of poverty: in Black or African American households, 81 percent of those households with children that had an income below the poverty level in the previous 12 months in 2017 (according to 5-year estimates) were female householder, no husband present households. By contrast married couple-families represented only 7 percent of Black or African American households with children, living

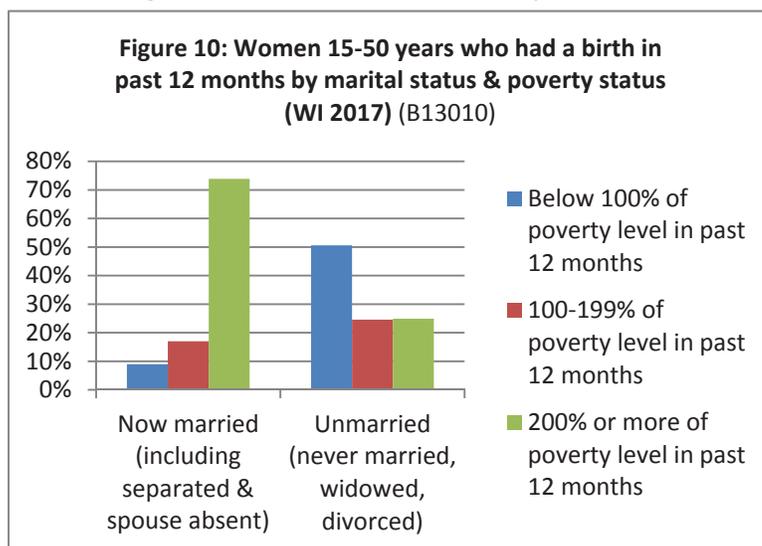


below the poverty level, compared with 25 percent of White, non-Hispanic and 34 percent of Hispanic/Latino families, with children, living below the poverty level. (Figure 9)

Childbearing and Poverty Status

Women living in poverty in Wisconsin in 2017 (according to 5-year estimates) who bore a child in the past 12 months were far more likely to be living below 100 percent of the poverty level if they were never married, widowed or divorced, than married women, even if they were separated or their spouse was absent. Almost 51 percent of unmarried women age 15-50 who bore a child in the past 12 months were living below 100 percent of the poverty level in the past 12 months in Wisconsin in 2017, compared to 9 percent of married women.

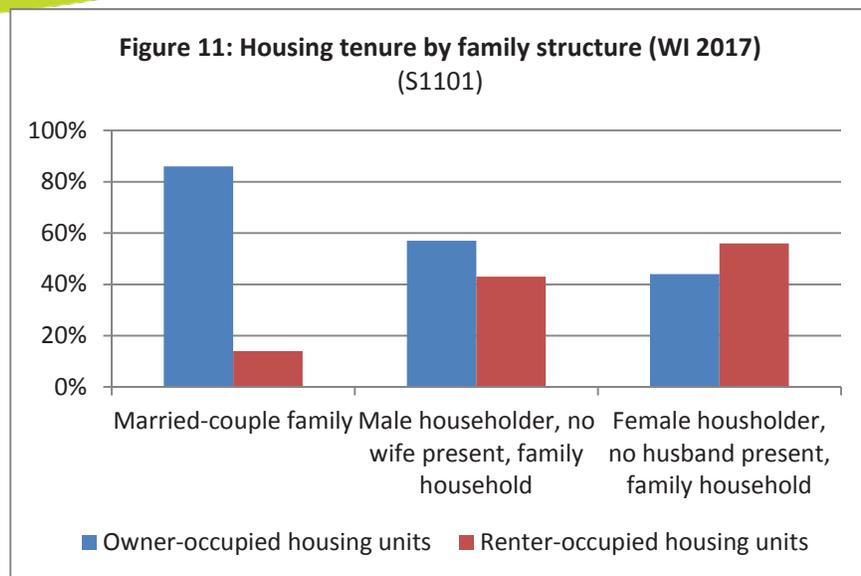
Married women living in poverty who bore a child in the past year in 2017 were far more likely to be living at 200 percent or more of the poverty level: almost 74 percent. Virtually the same percentage of unmarried women who bore a child in the previous year in 2017 were living at 100-199 percent of the



poverty level as were living at 200 percent or more of the poverty level: 24.6 and 24.9 percent, respectively. (Figure 10)

Family Status and Housing

Married couple families were the likeliest of all family - household arrangements to be living in owner-occupied housing in Wisconsin in 2017, according to 5-year estimates. Only 44 percent of female-householder, no husband present families were living in owner-occupied housing units in 2017, compared to 57 percent of male-householder, no wife present families and 86 percent of married-couple families. (Figure 11)



¹ B11005, Households by presence of people under 18 years by household type, Universe: Households, 2011-2015 American Community Survey Selected Population Tables.

² S0902, Characteristics of teenagers 15 to 19 years old, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

³ U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey, 1-year data file.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Wisconsin Census Snapshot: 2010, The Williams Institute, available at: http://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/Census2010Snapshot_Wisconsin_v2.pdf [accessed on August 27, 2018].

⁶ Subject Definitions, U.S. Census Bureau, available at: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/technical-documentation/subject-definitions.html#familyhousehold> [accessed on May 8, 2019]; The Bureau defines a family as “a group of two people or more (one of whom is the householder) related by birth, marriage, or adoption and residing together...”

⁷ B19131, U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

⁸ U.S. Census Bureau, Poverty Thresholds for 2017 by Size of Family and Number of Related Children Under 18 Years, available at: <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/historical-poverty-thresholds.html> [accessed on May 8, 2019].

Wisconsin Statistics

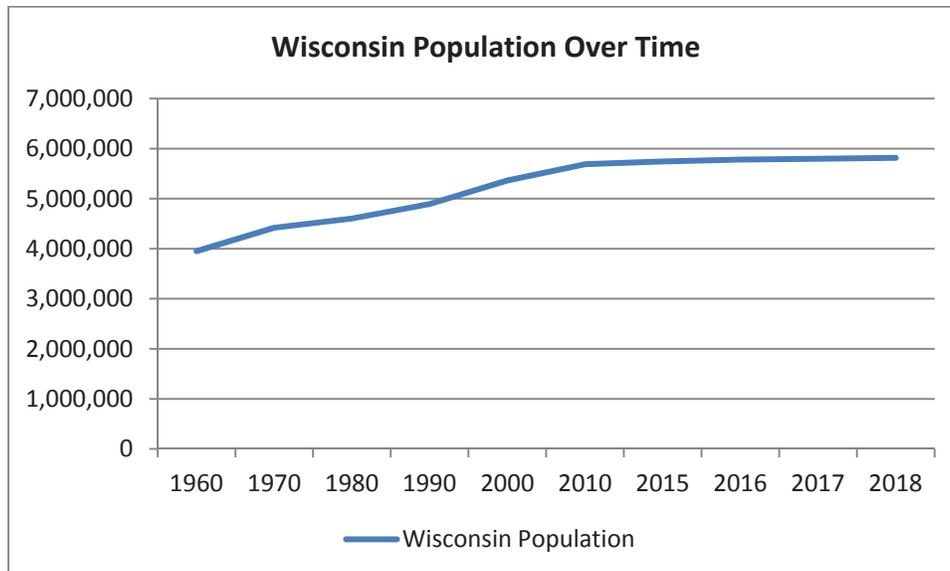
Population

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census

- In 2018, Wisconsin’s population was about 5.8 million, making it the 20th largest state in the nation.¹ By comparison with neighboring states, Illinois is the 6th largest state by population, Michigan is the 10th and Minnesota is the 22nd.
- Wisconsin’s population increased roughly 2 percent from the 2010 Census to the 2018 estimate.
- Persons 65 years and over represented 13.8 percent of Wisconsin’s population in 2010 and 16.5 percent in 2017. Minors (under 18) represented 23.6 percent of the state population in 2010 and 22.1 percent in 2017 (most recent comparable data available).²

Year	Population	
	Wisconsin	United States
1960	3,951,777	179,323,175
1970	4,417,821	203,211,926
1980	4,602,299	226,545,805
1990	4,891,769	249,464,396
2000	5,363,675	281,421,906
2010	5,686,986	308,745,538
2015	5,742,117	316,515,021
2016	5,778,708	323,127,513
2017	5,795,483	325,719,178
2018	5,813,568	327,167,434

- In 2017, 81.3 percent of Wisconsin’s population was non-Hispanic White, 6.9 percent was Hispanic or Latino, 6.7 percent was Black or African American alone, 2.9 percent was Asian alone, and 1.2 percent was American Indian and Alaska Native alone (most recent comparable data available).³
- Wisconsin has an out-migration problem, meaning that more people are migrating out of the state than are migrating into the state. Wisconsin’s out-migration (people leaving the state) in 2016 was 12,395.⁴ In 2017 it was 2,086.⁵ Net population and migration impact Wisconsin’s workforce and tax base and are therefore extremely important to the economic future and stability of the state. The following statistics on total fertility, birth rate and abortion also impact Wisconsin’s population figures.

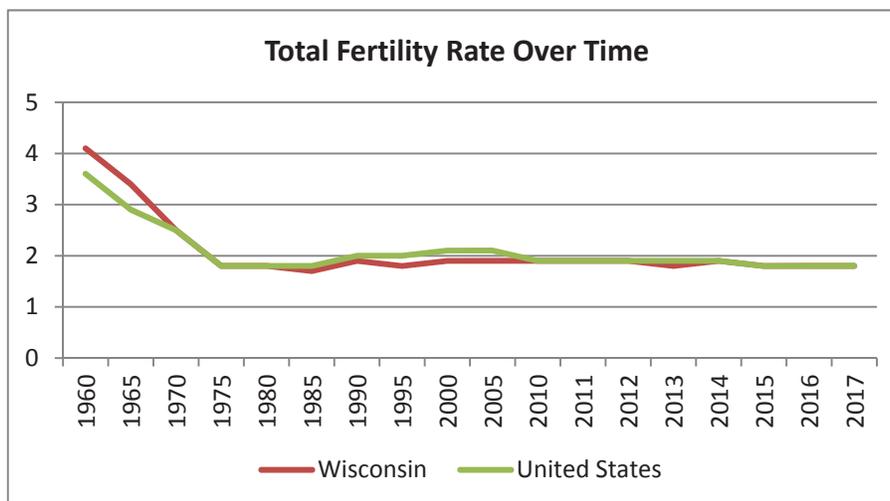


Total Fertility Rate

Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services

- Total fertility rate is a measure of the expected average number of children each woman in a given population would have if she were to have children through her childbearing years (ages 15-44). The current world replacement fertility rate of 2.1 children per woman means that women in a given population would, on average, need to have at least 2.1 children in their lifetime to maintain the current population.⁶
- The total fertility rate in Wisconsin for 2017 (most recent comparable data available) was 1.8 children per woman.⁷ Wisconsin's rate has been below replacement level since the 1970s and in 2015 was the 30th fertility rate in the nation.⁸ This means Wisconsin relies, among other things, on immigration and in-migration, along with people living longer, to maintain its population (see *Population* statistics).
- According to a review of 50 studies, the fertility rates in the U.S. declined by nearly 50 percent, from 3.6 to 1.9, between 1960 and 1973.⁹ Wisconsin mostly mirrored that national trend. For context, in 1960, the Food and Drug Administration granted approval to the first birth control pill and in 1973 the Supreme Court legalized abortion in the landmark *Roe v. Wade* ruling.
- Other reasons for the decline in the total fertility rate include delayed marriage, more women deciding not to have children, cohabitation and policies unfavorable to children and marriage, among other things.¹⁰
- The infertility rate also plays a role in total fertility. In the U.S. from 2011-2015, 12.1 percent of all women aged 15-44 years had impaired fecundity, meaning they are not surgically sterile but find it difficult or impossible to get pregnant or carry a pregnancy to term.¹¹ This is up from 10.9 percent from 2006-2010.

Total Fertility Rate		
Year	Wisconsin	United States
1960	4.1	3.6
1965	3.4	2.9
1970	2.5	2.5
1975	1.8	1.8
1980	1.8	1.8
1985	1.7	1.8
1990	1.9	2.0
1995	1.8	2.0
2000	1.9	2.1
2005	1.9	2.1
2010	1.9	1.9
2011	1.9	1.9
2012	1.9	1.9
2013	1.8	1.9
2014	1.9	1.9
2015	1.8	1.8
2016	1.8	1.8
2017	1.8	1.8

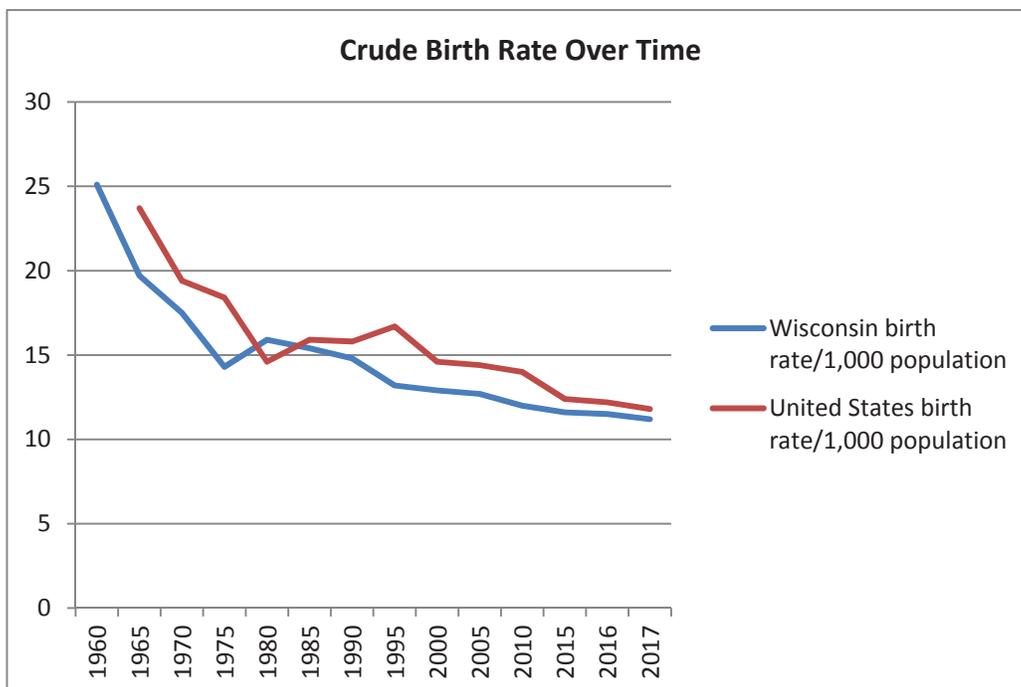


Birth Rate and Live Births

Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services

- In 2017, there were 64,994 live births to Wisconsin residents. The crude birth rate (births per 1,000 population) for 2017 was 11.2.¹² This is the lowest crude birth rate for the state since the statistic was compiled in 1950.
- Between 1960 and 2017, Wisconsin's crude birth rate decreased 55 percent. The crude birth rate in Wisconsin has been at or below the U.S. crude birth rate since 1970.
- Between 1960 and 2017, there was a 35 percent decrease in the number of live births to Wisconsin residents in a year even though the population of Wisconsin increased 47 percent during this time.
- In 2017, there were 2,591 births to Wisconsin women age 19 and under. These births accounted for 4 percent of all births to Wisconsin women that year, a decrease from 8 percent in 2010.¹³
- In 2017, 2 percent of the white women who gave birth were teenagers, 10 percent of the Black/African American women who gave birth, and 8 percent of Hispanic women who gave birth were teenagers. These figures are down from 5 percent, 20 percent and 13 percent, respectively, in 2010.¹⁴

Year	Number of Live Births	Crude Birth Rate/1,000 Population	
		WI	U.S.
1960	99,493	25.1	23.7
1965	82,919	19.7	19.4
1970	77,455	17.5	18.4
1975	65,145	14.3	14.6
1980	74,763	15.9	15.9
1985	73,647	15.4	15.8
1990	72,636	14.8	16.7
1995	67,493	13.2	14.6
2000	69,289	12.9	14.4
2005	70,934	12.7	14.0
2010	68,367	12.0	13.0
2011	67,741	11.9	12.7
2012	67,229	11.8	12.6
2013	66,566	11.6	12.4
2014	67,119	11.7	12.5
2015	67,004	11.6	12.4
2016	66,593	11.5	12.2
2017	64,994	11.2	11.8



Infant Mortality Rate



Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services, U.S. Census Bureau, Centers for Disease Control

- Between 1960 and 2016, the infant mortality rate (infant deaths before the first year per 1,000 live births) decreased 72 percent (most recent comparable data available) in Wisconsin.

Year	Infant Deaths	Infant Deaths/1,000 Live Births				
		Wisconsin	U.S.	White*	Black*	Hispanic*
1960	2,173	21.8	26.0	--	--	--
1965	1,829	22.1	24.7	--	--	--
1970	1,309	16.9	20.0	--	--	--
1975	882	13.5	16.1	--	--	--
1980	769	10.3	12.6	--	--	--
1985	674	9.2	10.6	8.4	17.5	--
1990	611	8.4	9.2	7.2	19.7	--
1995	493	7.3	7.6	6.2	17.9	8.8
2000	457	6.6	6.9	5.6	16.8	4.7
2005	469	6.6	6.9	5.6	15.0	6.7
2010	393	5.7	6.2	4.9	13.9	4.4
2011	427	6.3	6.0	5.3	13.9	6.3
2012	385	5.7	6.0	4.7	13.2	4.6
2013	414	6.2	6.0	4.9	15.8	5.0
2014	380	5.7	5.8	4.9	12.5	4.9
2015	384	5.7	5.9	4.2	14.0	5.8
2016*	415	6.2	5.9	5.3	15.2	4.5

- In 2016, there were 415 infant deaths in Wisconsin, up from 384 in 2015.¹⁵ Conditions originating in the perinatal period were the leading cause of death, causing 41 percent of all infant deaths.¹⁶ The perinatal period is defined by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) as including “just before, during and after birth.”

- The infant mortality rate for infants born to unmarried mothers in 2015 was 8.4 compared to a rate of 4.2 for infants born to married mothers.¹⁷

*Data taken from DHS WISH module, Infant Mortality Query, All Years, Row Variable = Year of Death, Row Variable = Maternal Ethnicity.

- A measure called the *infant mortality disparity ratio* compares rates of infant death between races. The Black/White ratio was 3.0 for the period of 2014-2016, meaning that an infant born to a Black mother was 3.0 times more likely to die than an infant born to a White mother. The American Indian/White ratio was the next highest at 2.2, with all other races falling below 2.0.¹⁸

- For the period of 1979-1981, the infant mortality rate for African American babies born in Wisconsin was 3rd best out of 33 reporting states and D.C. From 1989-91 it was 19th out of 37 reporting states and D.C. By 2006-2008 Wisconsin’s ranking had dropped to 36th out of 40.¹⁹

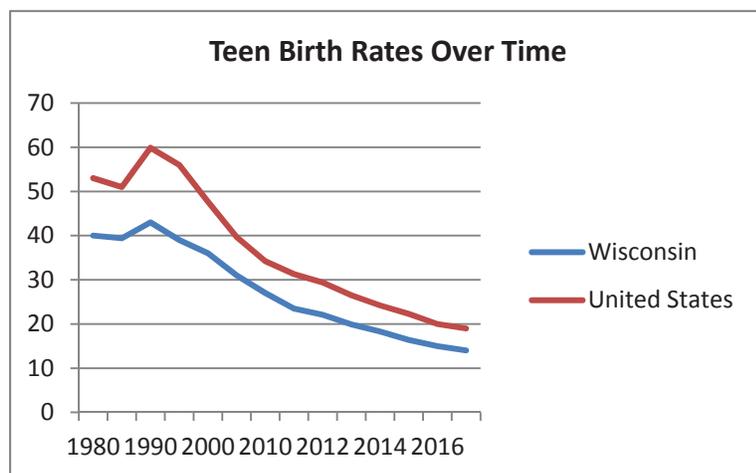


Births to Teenagers, Age 15-19

Sources: Wisconsin Department of Health Services; National Center for Health Statistics; Centers for Disease Control (CDC)

- In 2017, there were 2,591 births to Wisconsin teens (mothers less than 20).²⁰ The birth rate among Wisconsin teenagers aged 15-19 for 2017 was 14.0 births per 1,000 teens (most recent comparable data available).²¹
- Between 1970 and 2017, the birth rate among Wisconsin teens aged 15 to 19 years decreased 70 percent.
- In 2016, the teen birth rate was 8.3 for White teens, 40.6 for Black/African American teens, 33.0 for Hispanic/Latino teens, 12.4 for Asian teens and 30.7 for American Indian/Alaska Native teens (most recent comparable data available).²²
- The downward trends in teen birth rates are likely attributable to a combination of factors that include higher use of pregnancy prevention measures by teens (such as condoms, hormonal contraceptives and IUDs), cultural norms, and societal trends in delayed child-bearing but not necessarily, according to researchers, a decrease in sexual activity.²³ However, results from the Youth Risk Behavior Survey do indicate that the percentage of Wisconsin teenagers self-reporting engaging in sexual activity has declined over the years (see *Sexual Activity Among High School Students*).
- A 2011 study indicated that free access to emergency contraception may have actually lead to an increase in sexually transmitted infections as well as pregnancy rates among teenage girls in the United Kingdom.²⁴
- From 2007 to 2017, the total number of births to teens ages 15-19 in Milwaukee County dropped 61%, from 2,085 to 821.²⁵ This decline is generally attributed to an aggressive, multilateral *Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative* in the City of Milwaukee which utilizes, among other things, comprehensive sex education curriculum in schools and churches.²⁶ During that same time period, the STD rate for Milwaukee County teens ages 15-19 was slowly decreasing before increasing again in 2016; following statewide and national trends (see *Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Ages 15-19*).

Year	Number of Births to Teens	Birth Rate per 1,000 Women 15-19	
		Wisconsin	United States
1970	9,610	46	68
1975	9,535	41	56
1980	9,120	40	53
1985	7,365	39	51
1990	7,262	43	60
1995	6,928	39	56
2000	6,978	36	48
2005	6,007	31	40
2010	5,147	27	34
2011	4,559	24	31
2012	4,195	22	29
2013	3,729	20	27
2014	3,413	18	24
2015	3,074	16	22
2016	2,829	15	20
2017	2,591	14	19



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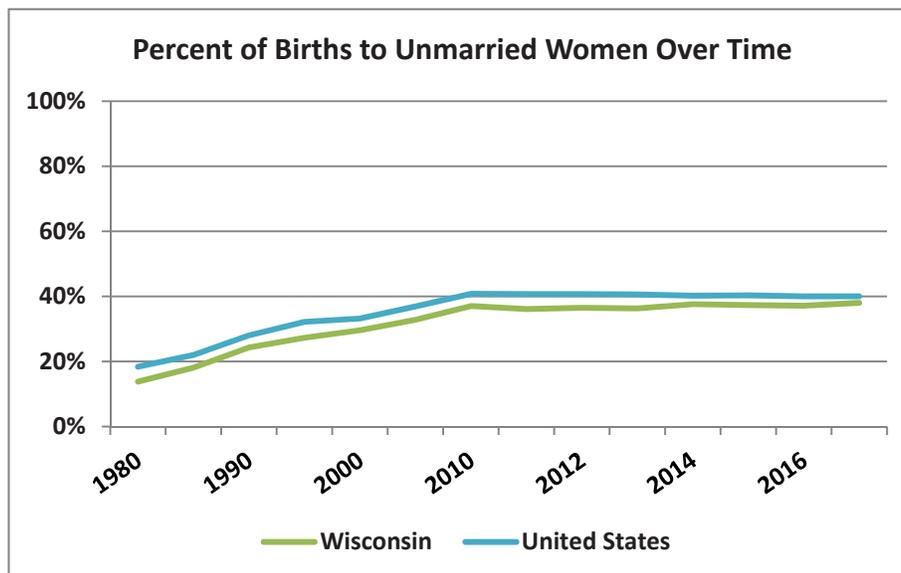
Births to Unmarried Women



Sources: Wisconsin Department of Health Services; National Center for Health Statistics

- In 2017, there were 24,397 births to unmarried Wisconsin women. During this year, 38 percent of babies born in Wisconsin were born to unmarried women.²⁷ This figure is slightly lower than the national average of 40 percent of babies born to unmarried women.
- Although the percentage of births to unmarried women increased 271 percent in Wisconsin and 222 percent nationally from 1980 to 2017 (most recent comparable data available), the number and percentage of unmarried births has remained fairly consistent since 2010.
- In 2017, 20 percent of White women who gave birth in Wisconsin were unmarried; 84 percent of Black/African American births were to unmarried women. In this same year, 56 percent of births to Hispanic women in Wisconsin were to unmarried women.²⁸
- A brief from the Brookings Institution concluded that high unmarried birth rates such as these are damaging. “[T]he evidence is clear that out-of-wedlock childbearing—among both single persons and cohabiting couples—is a primary reason for the lack of family stability in children’s lives and therefore deserves the nation’s full attention.”²⁹

Year	Number of Births to Unmarried Women	Percent of All Births to Unmarried Women	
		Wisconsin	United States
1960	--	3%	5%
1970	6,196	8%	11%
1980	10,352	14%	18%
1985	13,346	18%	22%
1990	17,615	24%	28%
1995	18,420	27%	32%
2000	20,543	29%	33%
2005	23,244	33%	37%
2010	25,228	37%	41%
2011	24,465	36%	41%
2012	24,561	37%	41%
2013	24,147	36%	41%
2014	25,264	38%	40%
2015	25,011	37%	40%
2016	24,705	37%	40%
2017	24,397	38%	40%



Medicaid Paid Births

Sources: Kaiser Family Foundation State Health Facts; Wisconsin Department of Health Services; Women's Health Issues Journal

- Between 2000 and 2014, the percent of all Wisconsin births paid for by Medicaid increased from 36 percent to 50 percent (most recent comparable data available).³¹ This data is not entirely reliable, however, due to reporting inconsistencies.
- The Technical Notes on the *Annual Wisconsin Births and Infant Mortality Report, 2016*, indicates that “according to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Health Care Access and Accountability, almost 50 percent of births in 2014 were paid for by Wisconsin Medicaid/BadgerCare, but Medicaid/BadgerCare was indicated as the principal payer source on only 38 percent of 2014 birth certificates.”³² This rather large discrepancy is apparently due to the fact that, “[In] some cases Wisconsin birth hospitals are reporting private insurance and some Medicaid/BadgerCare under the “Other” category and then naming the actual insurance carrier.”³³
- Current Wisconsin law allows the state to recover Medicaid paid birth costs from the father in the form of child support if the father was not living with the mother before birth and his income was not included in the eligibility determination for Medicaid coverage.³⁴ During 2018, Racine County alone collected over \$700,000 in birth costs.³⁵ Gov. Tony Evers’ 2019-21 proposed State Budget would eliminate this provision.³⁶
- Currently, pregnant women in Wisconsin with a personal income at or below 300 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) are eligible for Medicaid.³⁷ The monthly income level ceiling for 300% of FPL, as of February 1, 2019, for a family size of one was \$3,122.³⁸

Year	Percent of All Wisconsin Births Paid for by Medicaid
2000	36%
2001	38%
2002	39%
2003	38%
2004	43%
2005	44%
2006	43%
2007	44%
2008	50%
2009	49%
2010	50%
2011*	38%
2012*	38%
2013*	38%
2014*	38%
2015*	37%
2016*	36%
2017*	36%

*Data taken from DHS WISH All Births module, *Principal Source of Payment* (see note)³⁰

Family Size	300% of FPL Monthly Income
1	\$3,122.49
2	\$4,227.51
3	\$5,332.50
4	\$6,437.49

Abortion

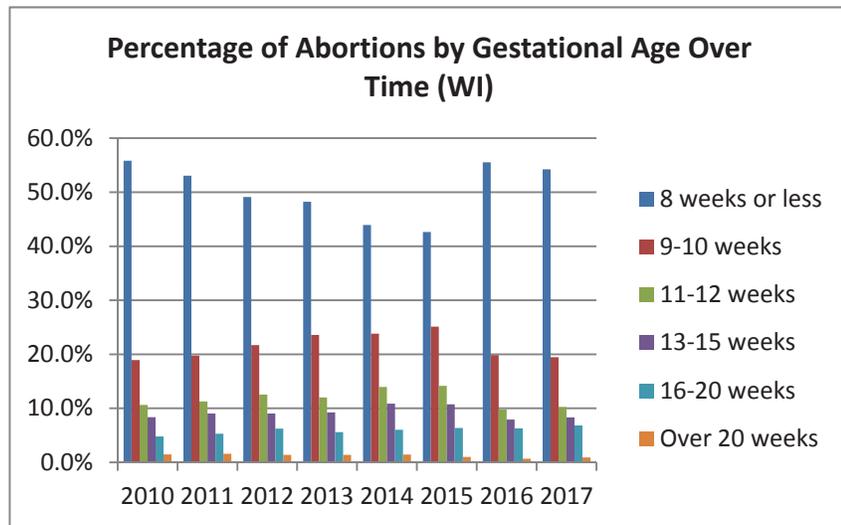
Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services

- The number of reported abortions performed in Wisconsin in 2017 decreased 73 percent since the state's high in 1980, while also increasing almost 3.7 percent from 2016.³⁹
- Women in the 20-24 age-group account for the highest percentage of abortions in 2017 (30), followed by women 25-29 (29), women 30-34 (18), women 35 and older (13), 18-19 year old women (7) and 15-17 year-old teens (3).⁴⁰
- Approximately 566,643 reported abortions occurred in Wisconsin from 1974, the year following *Roe v. Wade*, to 2017.⁴¹ Prior to 1987, the state used an annual survey of medical facilities to estimate the number of abortions performed so this figure may be off. This figure is equivalent to 95 percent of the estimated population of Milwaukee in 2017.⁴²

Year	Number of Abortions Performed	Ratio of Abortions/ 100 Live Births	Rate of Abortions/ 1,000 Women (15-44)	
			WI	U.S.
1975	12,319	19	12	21.7
1980	21,754	29	20	29.3
1985	17,309	24	15	28.0
1990	16,848	23	15	27.4
1995	12,782	19	11	22.5
2000	11,040	16	10	21.3
2005	9,817	14	8	19.4
2010	7,825	11	7	16
2011	7,249	10	6.3	13.9
2012	6,927	10	6.1	--
2013	6,462	10	5.8	12.5
2014	5,800	10	5.2	12.1
2015	5,660	9	5.6	--
2016	5,612	9	5.2	--
2017	5,818	9	5.2	--

- In 2017, 80 percent of women obtaining an abortion had never been married.⁴³ In 2015 Governor Scott Walker signed the Pain Capable Unborn Child Act, 2015 Wisconsin Act 56, which went into effect on February 1, 2016. The Act requires a determination of the probable post-fertilization age of a child before an abortion can be performed and prohibits abortions on babies estimated to be 20 or more weeks post fertilization. The Act includes an exception for medical emergency and a requirement that the physician use an abortion method most likely to allow the child to live unless the method would pose a risk to the mother.⁴⁴

In 2017, Wisconsin reported 53 abortions on babies over 20 weeks of gestation. Gestational age is measured from the beginning of the first day of the woman's last period. Fetal age, or fertilization age, is measured from the date of conception, which in most cases must be estimated because the date of ovulation is usually not known. A baby that is 20 weeks post-fertilization would be, on average, about 22 weeks gestational age.⁴⁵



Marriage

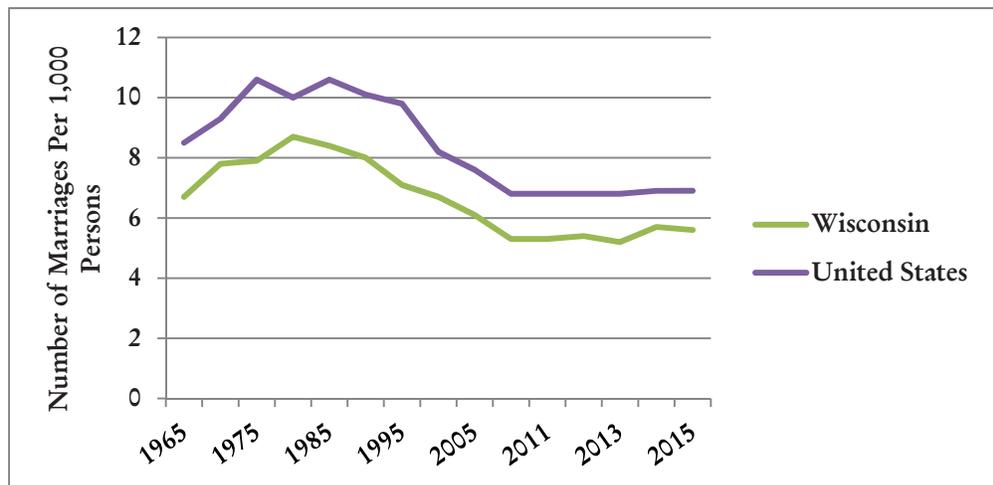
Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services

- In 2015, 32,385 marriages occurred in Wisconsin, an 8 percent increase from 2010 (most recent comparable data available).⁴⁶
- The marriage rate in Wisconsin was 5.6 marriages per 1,000 persons in 2015.⁴⁷ Wisconsin’s rate has been consistently well below the national rate over time.
- The decrease in the marriage rate overall since 1980 results partially from the increasing cohabitation rate in Wisconsin. In 2000, 5.6 percent of coupled households in Wisconsin were unmarried partner households compared to 7.1 percent in 2010.⁴⁸ Between 2000 and 2010, as the cohabitation rate increased, the number of married-couple households decreased.⁴⁹ In 2000, 53 percent of households in Wisconsin were married couple households, while in 2010 just 49 percent of households were married couple households.

Year	Number of Marriages	Marriages Per 1,000 Persons	
		Wisconsin	United States
1960	24,573	6.2	8.5
1965	28,410	6.7	9.3
1970	34,415	7.8	10.6
1975	35,888	7.9	10.0
1980	41,113	8.7	10.6
1985	40,014	8.4	10.1
1990	38,934	8.0	9.8
1995	36,354	7.1	8.9
2000	36,100	6.7	8.5
2005	33,876	6.1	7.5
2010	29,952	5.3	6.8
2011	30,287	5.3	6.8
2012	30,940	5.4	6.8
2013	29,979	5.2	6.8*
2014	32,776	5.7	6.9*
2015	32,385	5.6	6.9

*Excludes GA

- During a four-year estimate from 2012-2016, 77 percent of Married Family Households in Wisconsin had an income in the past 12 months of \$50,000 or greater.⁵⁰
- In separate publications from 2009, 2012 and 2014, various authors found similar results for adults who follow a “success sequence” for avoiding poverty and achieving prosperity. The vast majority of individuals who followed a sequence of marriage before childbirth, following high school graduation and the establishment of a good-paying job were able to avoid poverty (and therefore government dependency) and achieve prosperity and upward mobility.⁵¹ Despite changing attitudes toward marriage, it continues to be a vital component for the future success of our state.



Divorce

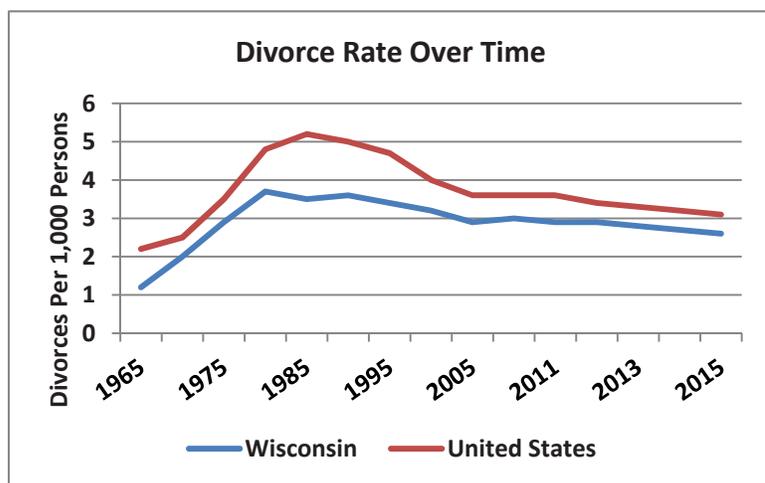


Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services

- In 2015, there were 14,986 divorces in Wisconsin. The divorce rate in this state in 2015 was 2.6 divorces per 1,000 persons (most recent comparable data available).⁵² The divorce rate in Wisconsin decreased 30 percent since 1980 when it reached a peak of 3.7 divorces per 1,000 persons.
- The ratio of Wisconsin marriages to Wisconsin divorces in 2015 was 2.2 to 1, meaning there were 2.2 marriages for each divorce. This ratio has almost steadily decreased over the last century, although it has increased from 2012 when it was 1.9 to 1. In 1960, the ratio was 6.7 to 1; in 1990, the ratio was 2.2 to 1; and in 2000, the ratio was 2.1 to 1.⁵³ This statistic is commonly misinterpreted to mean that any given couple that marries in the state has about a 50 percent chance of divorcing. The ratio of marriages to divorces does not measure the likelihood of divorce that a couple has that married in any given year. It simply measures how many marriages there were in a year compared to how many divorces there were in that year. It does not account for all the past marriages of previous years that have not divorced.
- Over half (52 percent) of the divorces granted in Wisconsin in 2014 (last year data was available) involved couples with children under 18.⁵⁴ Of the 14,986 divorces granted in 2014, 7,865 involved children under 18, affecting a total of 14,676 minors.⁵⁵ The percentage of divorces in Wisconsin involving couples with children had remained steady over the preceding few years.
- Peer-reviewed research has attributed higher levels of poverty, decreases in educational attainment levels, adolescent suicide, and other social problems to high divorce rates.⁵⁶
- The practice of and commitment to religion is an important indicator of marital stability. In fact, “marriages in which both spouses regularly attend religious services frequently are 2.4 times less likely to end in divorce than marriages in which neither spouse worships.”⁵⁷

Year	Number of Divorces	Divorces Per 1,000 Persons	
		Wisconsin	United States
1960	3,672	0.9	2.2
1965	5,232	1.2	2.5
1970	8,930	2.0	3.5
1975	13,187	2.9	4.8
1980	17,589	3.7	5.2
1985	16,596	3.5	5.0
1990	17,727	3.6	4.7
1995	17,313	3.4	4.4
2000	17,388	3.2	4.2
2005	16,297	2.9	3.6
2010	17,285	3.0	3.6
2011	16,635	2.9	3.6
2012	16,332	2.9	3.4*
2013	15,941	2.8	3.3*
2014	15,243	2.7	3.2*
2015	14,986	2.6	3.1*

*Excludes CA, GA, HI, IN, MN (as well as LO in 2012).



Domestic Partnerships

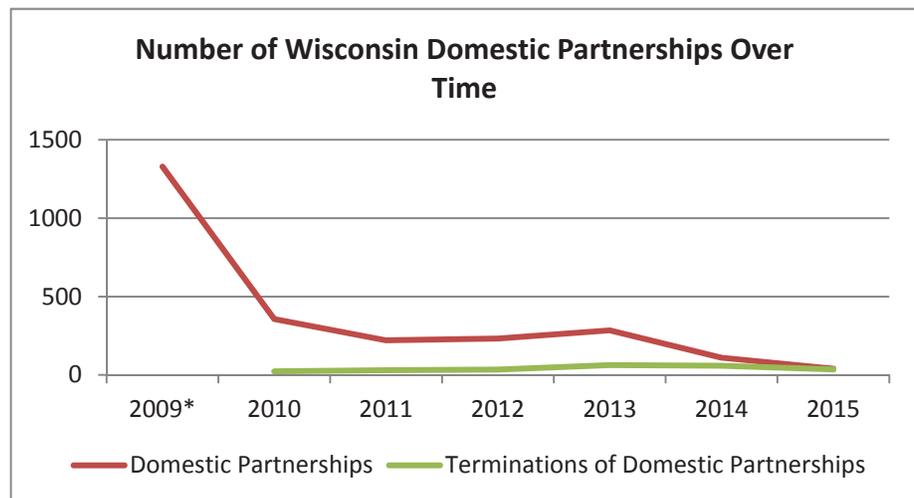
Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services

- In 2009 the Wisconsin State Legislature created a statewide Domestic Partnership Registry (DPR) exclusively for same-sex couples. The law bestowed approximately forty legal rights and benefits on couples who signed up for the registry. The DPR was completely separate from a legal marriage but functioned as equal but separate from marriage in the

Year	Domestic Partnerships	Terminations of Domestic Partnerships	Female Partners	Male Partners
2009*	1,329	--	929	400
2010	356	22	242	114
2011	220	30	160	60
2012	232	34	163	69
2013	284	62	199	85
2014	110	58	68	42
2015	40	35	20	20

*2009 is a partial year, beginning in August.

- specific rights it gave same-sex couples. Those rights include hospital visitation, transfer of real estate between partners without taxes, family medical leave, and spousal privilege in a legal proceeding in which a domestic partner is not required to testify against his or her partner.⁵⁸
- The registry became effective on August 1, 2009, and was closed by legislative act on April 1, 2018. Domestic partnerships already existing before the April 1, 2018, deadline continue to exist with the rights bestowed by the 2009 law, but no new partnerships may be registered.⁵⁹
- The year the registry was enacted, 2009, saw the greatest number of registered Domestic Partnerships, a total of 1,329. No terminations were filed in that first, partial year. Termination of a Domestic Partnership requires only that the couple fill out a form at the county clerk's office. No legal proceedings are required and the benefits bestowed by law are simply revoked. This easy out has led some to term the DPR a "benefits-only, no-obligations" arrangement.⁶⁰
- Registries dwindled drastically after the initial year to 356 in 2010, and then leveled out in the 200s for three years before dropping to 110 in 2014 and finally just 40 in 2015 (latest year data was available). In June of 2015, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Obergefell v. Hodges* that same-sex marriage is a constitutional right, effectively voiding Wisconsin's Marriage Amendment and legalizing same-sex marriage in Wisconsin for the first time.
- Throughout the existence of the DPR, the vast majority of registered partnerships have been between same-sex female partners, anywhere from 62 to 73 percent, with the exception of 2015 in which fifty percent (20) were male partnerships.⁶¹



Sexually Transmitted Diseases

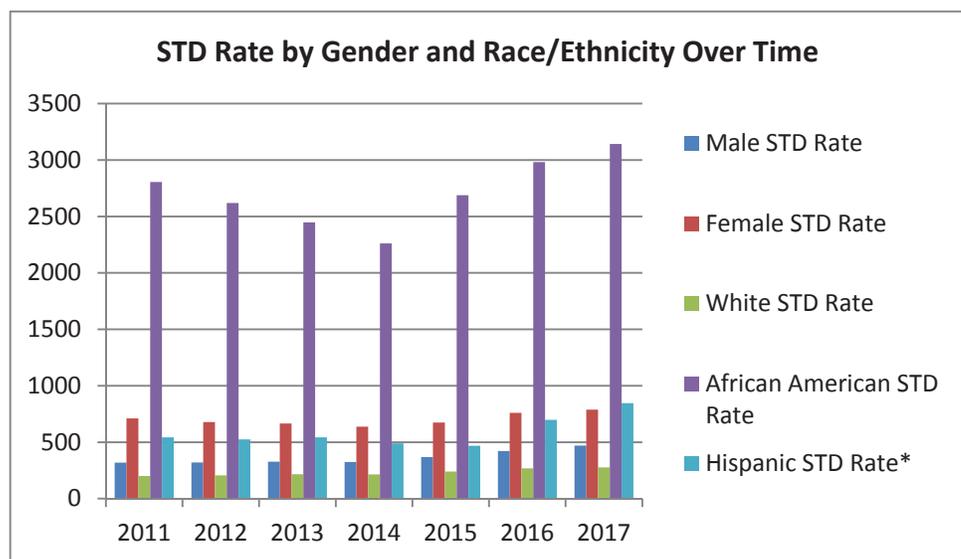


Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin STD Program

- In 2017, 35,470 cases of STDs (chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis) were reported in Wisconsin.⁶² These included 27,287 cases of Chlamydia, 7,610 cases of gonorrhea, and 547 cases of syphilis. The STD rate was 630 cases per 100,000 persons.
- After peaking in 2011, the STD rate in Wisconsin decreased slightly before increasing again in 2015, reaching a historically high rate in 2017.
- The STD rate for females in Wisconsin in 2017 was 788 compared to 470 for males.⁶³ The STD rate for African Americans the same year was 3,143, compared to 277 for Whites and 846 for Hispanics.⁶⁴
- Peer-reviewed research has found a positive correlation between abortion legalization, increased access to contraception, increased use of emergency contraception, and the rate of reported STDs.⁶⁵ According to the research, as the supposed costs of having sex decrease (mainly the cost of an unwed childbirth) due to abortion legalization and increased access to contraceptives, individuals engage in more sexual activity, exemplifying the economic principle of “risk compensation.” Increased sexual activity leads to greater risk of contracting STDs because most methods of contraception, including the Pill, provide little or no protection against STDs. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) states that “condom use cannot provide absolute protection against any STD.”⁶⁶

Year	STD Rate (per 100,000 total population)
	Wisconsin
2000	370
2001	418
2002	440
2003	428
2004	452
2005	477
2006	487
2007	478
2008	479
2009	464
2010	500
2011	517
2012	501
2013	498
2014	483
2015	523
2016	593
2017	630

- The record increase in STD rates is a national trend, one that includes a 28 percent increase in syphilis among newborns, resulting in more than 40 deaths, according to a 2017 Centers for Disease Control (CDC) report. The trends indicate that women, men who have sex with men and newborns have seen the highest increase in specific STD cases.⁶⁷



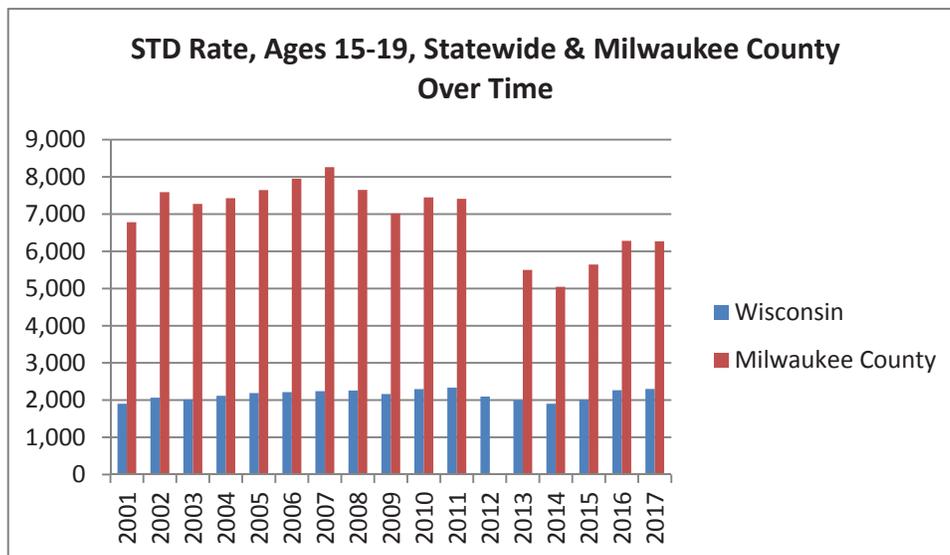
*This is the Hispanic ethnicity total rate; White and African American rates may include individuals of Hispanic ethnicity.⁴⁹

Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Age 15-19

Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin STD Program

- After decreasing from 2012 to 2015, the number of reported STD cases (chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis) increased 13 percent from 2015 to 2016, and another 1 percent from 2016 to 2017 for Wisconsin teens age 15-19.⁶⁸
- In 2017, the STD rate for teens aged 15-19 in Milwaukee County was 6,271, compared to 2,299 statewide. Reported STDs for this age group in Milwaukee County accounted for 48 percent of all reported cases statewide for ages 15-19.⁶⁹
- Social science research indicates that female adolescents from intact families (those whose parents are married) are, on average, less likely to report having a sexually transmitted disease.⁷⁰
- Other research in the United Kingdom indicates that emergency contraception (EC) availability may have increased STD rates among all teenagers by 5 percent and STD rates among teenagers under 16 by 12 percent.⁷¹
- Data shows that although condom use among teens increased somewhat between 2002 and 2010, the incidence of STDs among teens has not significantly decreased.⁷²
- According to the CDC, because of a combination of “behavioral, biological and cultural reasons,” sexually active teenagers and young adults are at a higher risk of contracting an STD than older adults. They estimate that teenagers and young adults age 15-24 contract 50 percent of all new STDs. For sexually active adolescent girls, they estimate that 25 percent have acquired an STD.⁷³

Year	Total STDs	Rate Per 100,000 Population Age 15-19
1996	6,271	1,612
1998	8,031	1,951
2000	8,416	2,066
2002	9,047	2,065
2004	9,195	2,116
2006	9,628	2,213
2008	9,254	2,258
2010	9,275	2,296
2011	9,426	2,333
2012	8,474	2,097
2013	7,943	1,997
2014	7,564	1,901
2015	7,994	2,009
2016	9,024	2,268
2017	9,146	2,299



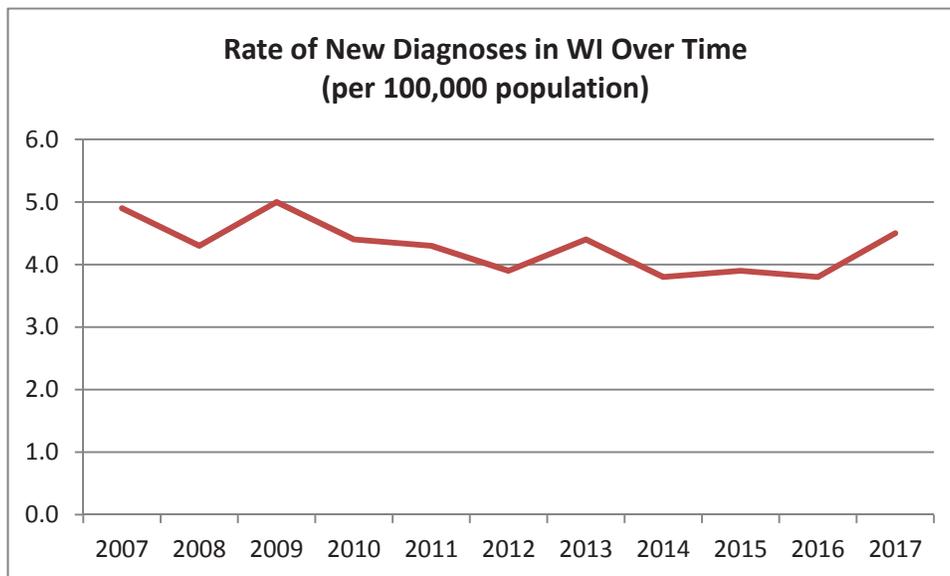
HIV/AIDS Rates



Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services

- In 2017 there were 259 new HIV diagnoses among Wisconsin residents. An additional 231 individuals who were diagnosed with HIV in another state moved to Wisconsin in 2017.⁷⁴
- More than half (51 percent) of new diagnoses occurred for individuals in Milwaukee County.⁷⁵
- In 2017, 7,123 individuals reported with HIV were presumed to be living in the state. Given the likely 15 percent of people who are unaware of their HIV status in the United States overall, the DHS estimates the actual prevalence of HIV in Wisconsin is closer to 8,300.⁷⁶
- Five times as many males as females received a new HIV diagnosis in Wisconsin in 2017 (214 males versus 42 females).⁷⁷
- In 2017, 75 percent of all new reported cases of HIV in Wisconsin were attributed to men who engaged in sex with men (MSM), including 3 percent attributed to both MSM sexual contact as well as injection drug use, 15 percent were attributed to heterosexual contact, 9 percent to injected drug use (IDU).⁷⁸
- Although racial/ethnic minorities constituted 17 percent of the state’s population in 2017, they made up 61 percent of new diagnoses in Wisconsin in 2017.⁷⁹
- According to the CDC, Wisconsin, along with 18 other states (including Minnesota), is considered to have a “Medium HIV Prevalence.” Neighboring Illinois, along with 13 other states, is considered to have “High HIV Prevalence.”⁸⁰

Year	New HIV Diagnoses
2007	276
2008	242
2009	283
2010	253
2011	246
2012	223
2013	250
2014	221
2015	227
2016	221
2017	259



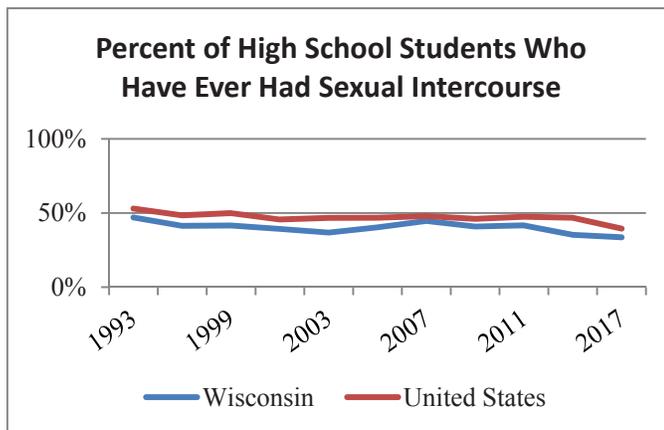
Sexual Activity Among High School Students

Source: National Youth Risk Behavior Survey, U.S. Department of Health and Human Service; Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Year	Percent of High School Students Who Have Ever Had Sexual Intercourse			Percent of High School Students Who Have Had Sexual Intercourse in Past Three Months		
	Wisconsin	Milwaukee	United States	Wisconsin	Milwaukee	United States
1993	47.0%	--	53.0%	32.5%	--	37.5%
1997	41.3%	--	48.4%	28.7%	--	34.8%
1999	41.5%	--	49.9%	30.5%	--	36.3%
2001	39.3%	--	45.6%	29.1%	--	33.4%
2003	36.8%	59.8%	46.7%	26.5%	39.9%	34.3%
2005	40.3%	59.1%	46.8%	29.5%	43.5%	33.9%
2007	44.6%	59.1%	47.8%	32.9%	42.2%	35.0%
2009	40.9%	63.1%	46.0%	29.3%	44.0%	34.2%
2011	41.6%	60.2%	47.4%	30.8%	43.2%	33.7%
2013	35.3%	N/A	46.8%	25.6%	N/A	34.0%
2015*	N/A	N/A	41.2%	N/A	N/A	30.1%
2017	33.6%	N/A	39.5%	24.9%	N/A	28.7%

*Wisconsin was unable to achieve weighted data for the 2015 YRBS.

- In 2017, approximately 34 percent of Wisconsin high school students reported that they had ever had sexual intercourse and 25 percent reported they were currently sexually active (they had sexual intercourse in the past three months). Wisconsin has reported consistently lower percentages than the national average over the years in these two categories.
- Wisconsin high school students are increasingly abstaining from sexual intercourse. Between 1993 and 2017, there was a 29 percent decrease in the percentage of Wisconsin high school students who reported that they had ever had sexual intercourse and a 23 percent decrease in the percentage of Wisconsin high school students who reported being currently sexually active.
- The National Survey of Family Growth for 2006-2010 found “for both male and female teenagers, a significantly smaller percentage were sexually experienced if: they lived with both parents when they were aged 14; their mothers had their first birth at age 20 or over; the teenager’s mother was a college graduate; the teenager lived with both of his/her parents.”⁸¹
- Parents have a significant impact on their children’s sexual behavior.⁸² Social science research suggests that children whose parents discuss with them the social and moral consequences of being sexually active and exercise more involvement and supervision in their children’s activities are less likely to be sexually active.⁸³



K-12 School Enrollment

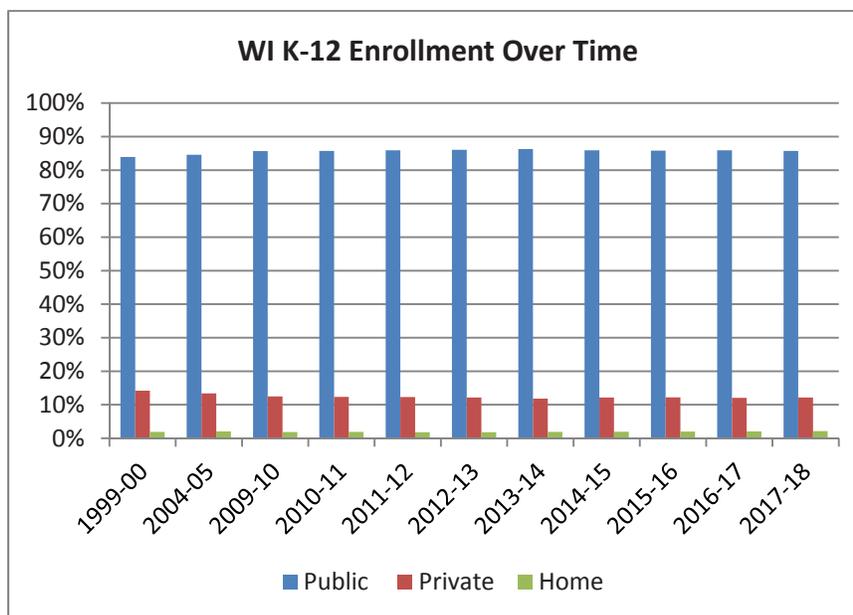
Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

- During the 2018-19 school year, 858,833 K-12 students were enrolled in public schools and 122,540 students were enrolled in private schools. During the previous school year (most recent comparable data) 21,633 students were educated at home in Wisconsin.⁸⁴

Year	School Enrollment (K-12)			
	Public	Private	Home	Total Enrollment
1999-00	877,348	148,366	19,837	1,045,551
2004-05	863,495	136,792	20,743	1,021,030
2009-10	871,262	126,812	19,049	1,017,123
2010-11	871,550	125,372	19,576	1,016,498
2011-12	870,470	124,668	18,137	1,013,275
2012-13	871,551	122,949	18,464	1,012,964
2013-14	873,531	119,801	19,104	1,012,436
2014-15	870,652	123,104	19,850	1,013,606
2015-16	867,137	123,137	20,002	1,010,276
2016-17	863,881	121,500	20,362	1,005,743
2017-18	860,138	121,836	21,633	1,003,607
2018-19	858,833	122,540	N/A	--

- Assuming a comparable number of students were home schooled for the 2018-19 school year as were the year before, approximately 86 percent of all K-12 students in Wisconsin were enrolled in public schools, 12 percent were enrolled in private schools, and about 2 percent were homeschooled.⁸⁵ Since the 1999-00 school year, the percentage of K-12 students enrolled in public school in Wisconsin has fluctuated from 84 percent to currently 86 percent. During that same period, private school enrollment decreased from 14 percent to 12 percent and home school enrollment stayed fairly consistently at right about 2 percent.⁸⁶

- The trends seem to indicate that the distribution of students between public, private and home-based education has and will continue to remain fairly consistent.
- What these figures fail to accurately convey is the increasing demand for education alternatives, such as the School Choice and Charter schools, in Wisconsin's educational landscape. See *Virtual Charter Schools and Parental Choice Program* for more information. Legacy School Choice students who participated in the program prior to the 2015-16 school year are not counted in their resident school district's membership count for general aid purposes.⁸⁷



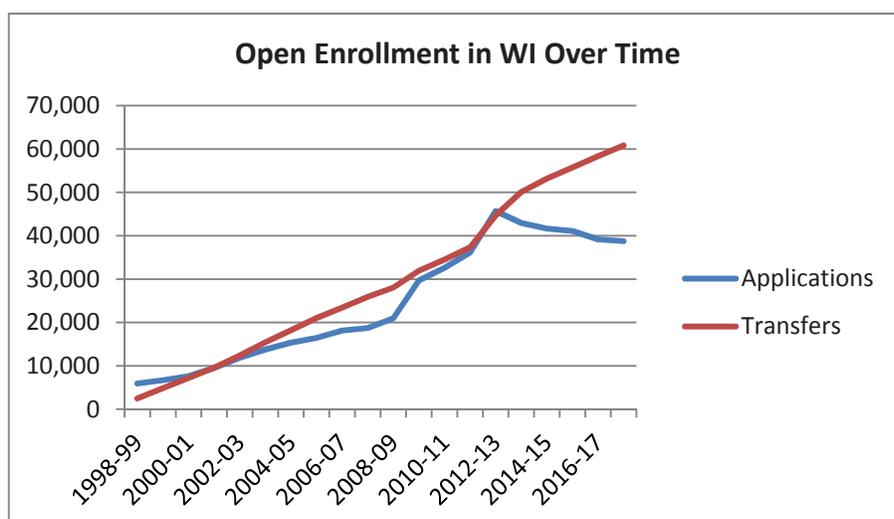
Open Enrollment

Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

- Under Wisconsin law, parents who want their children to attend a public school in a nonresident school district (a district where the family does not reside) can apply to that school district under the state's open enrollment program during an annual application period.⁸⁸ School districts are required to accept open enrollment applications if there is space available in the district.⁸⁹
- Since the 1999-00 school year there has been an almost six-fold increase in the number of open enrollment applications to nonresident school districts, increasing to 38,738 applications during the 2017-18 school year.⁹⁰ Applications peaked during the 2013-14 school year at 45,680 and have slowly decreased since then.⁹¹
- Since the 1999-00 school year there has been a more than twelve-fold increase in the number of all (new and continuing) transfers between school districts through the open enrollment program.⁹² The state created an alternative open enrollment method in 2011 by which parents can apply for open enrollment at any time of the year if any of a number of certain criteria are met (*i.e.*, student moved into the state that year).
- During the 2016-17 school year \$419.3 million was transferred between school districts as a result of student transfers. The average transfer amount for a receiving school district was \$10,555 per transfer student.⁹³

Year	All Applications*	Total Transfers*	Amount Transferred (in millions)
1999-00	6,691	4,858	\$19.6
2000-01	7,616	7,213	\$30.5
2001-02	9,523	9,602	\$42.5
2002-03	11,859	12,378	\$57.4
2003-04	13,770	15,413	\$73.9
2004-05	15,367	18,215	\$88.0
2005-06	16,461	21,028	\$104.0
2006-07	18,122	23,406	\$118.7
2007-08	18,713	25,898	\$135.1
2008-09	20,976	28,025	\$151.2
2009-10	29,707	31,916	\$178.4
2010-11	32,591	34,498	\$196.2
2011-12	36,166	37,332	\$217.6
2012-13	45,680	44,678	\$235.1
2013-14	42,929	50,075	\$266.4
2014-15	41,647	53,188	\$289.6
2015-16	41,118	55,737	\$303.2
2016-17	39,154	58,347	\$387.8
2017-18	38,738	60,820	\$419.3

* Includes alternative applications and transfers.



Virtual Charter Schools

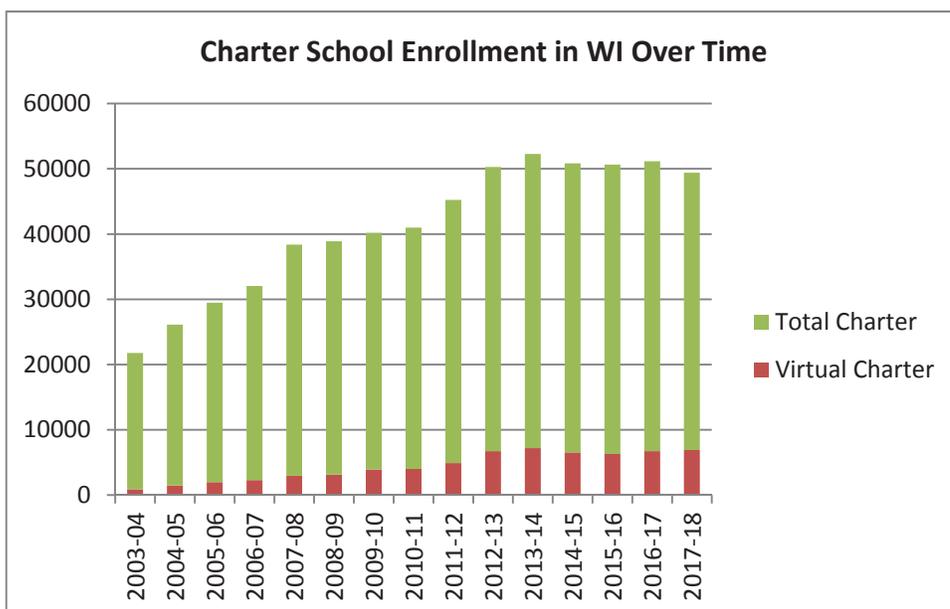


Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

- Virtual charter schools (VCS) in Wisconsin are publicly funded, non-sectarian schools that allow students enrolled in VCS to engage in educational study mostly or entirely at home while communicating with their teachers via email, online discussion or by telephone.⁹⁴
- VCS began to operate in Wisconsin during the 2002-03 school year. Enrollment in virtual charter schools increased from 265 during the pilot school year to 6,905 during the 2017-18 school year, a twenty-six-fold increase in sixteen school years.⁹⁵
- In his first state budget, the 2011-2013 State Budget, former Governor Scott Walker eliminated the existing 5,250 open enrollment cap on VCS (there was no cap on enrollment in resident virtual charter school districts).⁹⁶ During the following school year (2011-12), total enrollment increased 22 percent for VCS.
- Wisconsin also has publicly-funded, non-sectarian brick and mortar charter schools. The charter school program was established in Wisconsin in 1993. For the 2017-18 school year 234 charter schools were in operation, and enrollment for all types of charters was 42,499 pupils.⁹⁷
- Charter schools are either authorized by the school district in which they reside or by independent charter school authorizers (*i.e.*, Common Council of the City of Milwaukee, the Chancellor of UW-Parkside, etc.). They are known for their innovative approach to education, giving parents and students educational alternatives in schools that are sometimes highly specialized in, for example, the STEM sciences, the health sciences or the arts.⁹⁸

Year	Number of Virtual Charter Schools	Enrollment in Virtual Charter Schools*
2002-03	4	265
2003-04	5	882
2004-05	7	1,472
2005-06	9	1,972
2006-07	11	2,302
2007-08	15	2,951
2008-09	14	3,126
2009-10	13	3,925
2010-11	16	4,012
2011-12	25	4,911
2012-13	27	6,737
2013-14	30	7,198
2014-15	33	6,543
2015-16	35	6,303
2016-17	35	6,735
2017-18	39	6,905

*Includes resident & open enrollment



Parental Choice Program

Source: Legislative Fiscal Bureau, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

- In 1989, the Wisconsin State Legislature created the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP), the first of its kind in the nation. MPCP was created for low-income students in the City of Milwaukee whose family income was less than 175 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).⁹⁹ MPCP gave parents who met certain criteria the opportunity to enroll their children in eligible, nonsectarian private schools in Milwaukee at no direct cost to them.

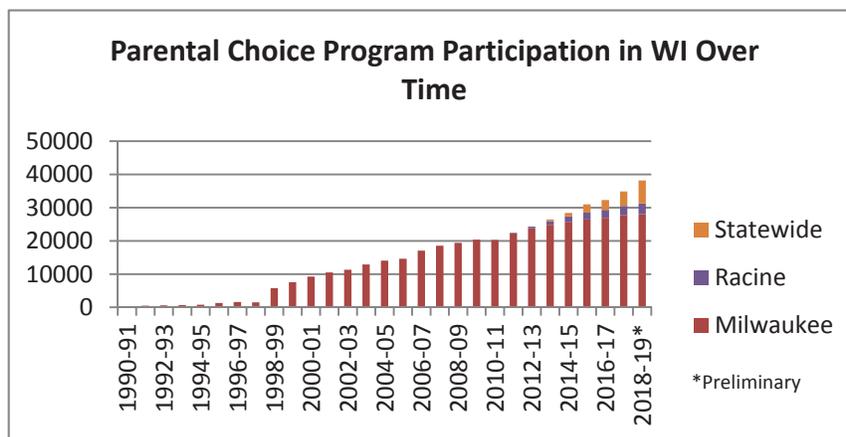
Year	Enrollment	Choice Schools	Per Pupil Amount
1990-91	300	7	\$2,446
1992-93	594	11	\$2,745
1994-95	771	12	\$3,209
1996-97	1,616	20	\$4,373
1998-99	5,761	83	\$4,894
2000-01	9,238	100	\$5,326
2002-03	11,304	102	\$5,783
2004-05	14,071	117	\$5,943
2006-07	17,088	124	\$6,501
2008-09	19,428	127	\$6,607
2010-11	20,256	102	\$6,442
2012-13	23,789	112	\$6,442
2013-14	24,776	110	\$6,442

- Legislation enacted in ensuing years allowed sectarian schools to participate in MPCP, imposed accountability and testing requirements on choice schools, deleted the enrollment limit on the program, raised the income eligibility limit to 300 percent of the FPL, and allowed choice schools outside of the City of Milwaukee but within Milwaukee County to participate in the program. The legislature also created a much smaller choice program in Racine County.¹⁰⁰

Year	Enrollment K-8/9-12*	Schools	Per Pupil Amount K-8/9-12**
2014-15	20,489/5,257	113	\$7,210/\$7,856
2015-16	20,879/5,591	117	\$7,214/\$7,860
2016-17	21,083/5,830	121	\$7,323/\$7,969
2017-18	21,668/6,189	126	\$7,530/\$8,176
2018-19*	22,476/6,441	129	\$7,754/\$8,400

*Starting in 2014-15, choice aid payments varied by grade level.
**Preliminary data.

- The 2013-2015 State Budget created the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program, a statewide program with an enrollment limit of 1,000 pupils by the 2014-2015 school year and a family income eligibility limit of 185 percent of the FPL. In 2015 the legislature started slowly phasing out the enrollment cap on the statewide program and raised the family income eligibility limit to 220 percent of the FPL in the 2017-2019 State Budget (\$53,460 for a family of four; \$60,460 if the pupil's parents are married).¹⁰¹ The income eligibility limit for the Milwaukee and Racine programs is 300 percent of the FPL.¹⁰²



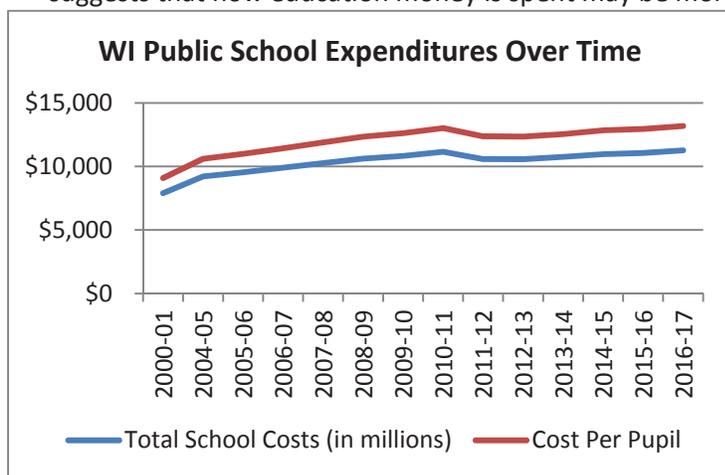
Total Expenditures for Public Education (K-12)

Source: Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, U.S. Census Bureau

- During the 2016-17 school year, the cost per pupil in Wisconsin was \$13,182 (most recent comparable data available).¹⁰³ Since the 2005-06 school year, spending per pupil in Wisconsin increased 20 percent; and since the 2000-01 school year, spending per pupil increased 45 percent.¹⁰⁴
- Total public-school costs were over \$11 billion for the 2016-17 school year.¹⁰⁵ Half of this money, \$5.4 billion, came from state aid.¹⁰⁶

School Year	Total Public School Expenditures (in millions)	State School Aid (in millions)	Costs Per Student	
			WI	U.S.
2000-01	\$7,899.8	\$4,463.3	\$9,087	\$7,284
2005-06	\$9,539.4	\$5,159.1	\$10,989	\$9,138
2009-10	\$10,833.7	\$5,315.4	\$12,624	\$10,600
2011-12	\$10,584.9	\$4,893.5	\$12,375	\$10,608
2012-13	\$10,567.7	\$4,964.4	\$12,343	\$10,724
2013-14	\$10,749.7	\$5,079.2	\$12,546	\$11,003
2014-15	\$10,971.7	\$5,241.7	\$12,842	\$11,392
2015-16	\$11,057.4	\$5,244.2	\$12,942	\$11,762
2016-17	\$11,274.4	\$5,444.6	\$13,182	--

- State school aids made up almost 32 percent of the state's total general fund budget for the 2016-17 fiscal year, making it the largest single program expenditure for the state.¹⁰⁷
- In a state where public education is constitutionally mandated, the savings that parents of private and home school students give the state by taking personal financial responsibility for their children's education is significant. A simple calculation of home school student enrollment + private school enrollment x Wisconsin costs per pupil = \$1.9 billion: the additional cost to taxpayers if pupils enrolled in private and home-based schools were enrolled in public school for the 2016-17 school year. However, the potential costs to taxpayers could not be accurately calculated using this formula because it does not take into account the cost of additional school buildings, economy of scale, etc.
- Although education expenditures have increased nationally over the past several decades, test scores and educational outcomes have not increased on pace with spending. Instead, research suggests that how education money is spent may be more important than how much is spent.¹⁰⁸ As



a national average during the 2014-15 school year, expenditures per student could be broken down as follows: 57 percent for salaries, 23 percent for benefits, 11 percent for purchased services and 8 percent for supplies.¹⁰⁹ Thanks to ACT 10, Wisconsin public schools have at least been able to find savings on the cost of health care benefits, about \$3.2 billion in savings over the course of five years, according to one report.¹¹⁰

ACT Scores

Sources: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction; ACT, Inc.

- The graduating class of 2018 in Wisconsin scored an average composite score of 20.5 (out of a possible 36) on the ACT. A total of 68,000 graduating students in Wisconsin took the ACT college admission exam in 2018. The national average composite score for the 2018 graduating class was 20.8 (most recent comparable data).¹¹¹

- The average composite score, which had remained fairly steady for the preceding six years of graduating classes, dropped more than a point and a half in Wisconsin in 2016. This is because a new law that went into effect the previous year opened up the testing to high school juniors, with the state covering the testing fees. The score for the graduating senior class in 2016 remained at 22.2.¹¹²

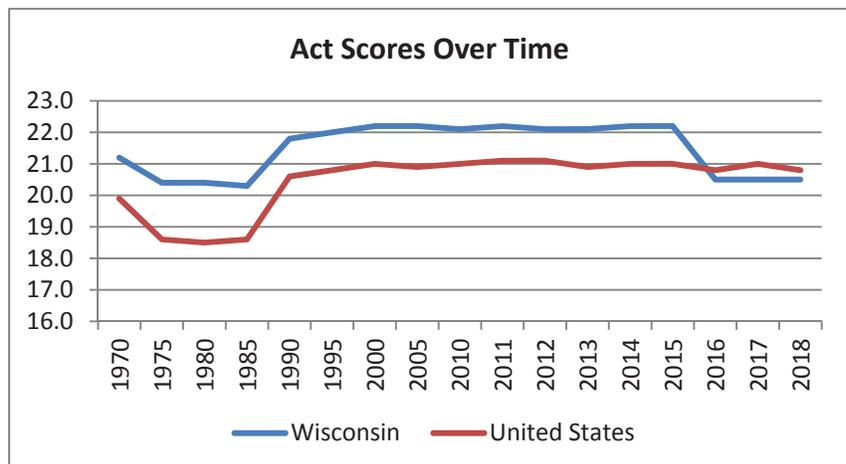
- For the 2018 graduating class (includes 11th and 12th grade 2018 graduates¹¹³), the average composite score for White students was 21.6, compared to 15.8 for African American students, 17.8 for Hispanic students and 20.7 for Asian students.¹¹⁴

- For 2018 graduates, 25 percent met all four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. The national percentage for meeting all four benchmarks was 27 percent. Thirty-seven percent of students met three or four of the benchmarks.¹¹⁵

- Family intactness positively impacts high school graduation rates, educational achievements, grades and even school behavior.¹¹⁶ Students from intact, married families have higher average English and Math GPA scores than students from other family households.¹¹⁷ One study found that high school students from intact families reported more parental involvement than those from single or step-parent families.¹¹⁸

- *Please Note:* The ACT scores and trends and the number of students tested beginning in 2016 reflect the increase in 11th grade students taking the Act for free under a new state policy.

Graduation Year	Composite Score		# of Test Takers
	Wisconsin	United States	Wisconsin
1970	21.2	19.9	36,124
1975	20.4	18.6	13,179
1980	20.4	18.5	21,707
1985	20.3	18.6	24,402
1990	21.8	20.6	33,212
1995	22.0	20.8	37,194
2000	22.2	21.0	43,494
2005	22.2	20.9	45,700
2010	22.1	21.0	47,755
2011	22.2	21.1	47,693
2012	22.1	21.1	47,588
2013	22.1	20.9	46,574
2014	22.2	21.0	46,870
2015	22.2	21.0	46,738
2016	20.5	20.8	66,564
2017	20.5	21.0	66,734
2018	20.5	20.8	68,000



Underage Drinking Among High School Students

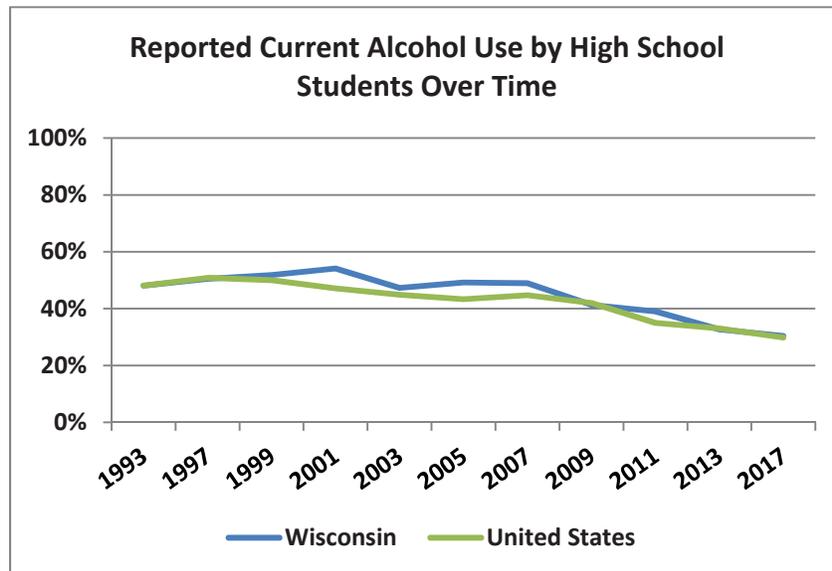


Source: National Youth Risk Behavior Survey, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

- In 2017, 30 percent of Wisconsin high school students reported having at least one drink of alcohol in the past 30 days.¹¹⁹ Between 1997 and 2017, the percentage of high school students in Wisconsin who reported having at least one drink of alcohol in the past 30 days decreased by 38 percentage points.
- The percentage of underage students reporting recent alcohol consumption in Wisconsin has been almost consistently at or above the national percentage since 1993.
- Research suggests that adolescents who lived in intact families in early adolescence (ages 12 to 14) were, on average, less likely to initiate alcohol use in late adolescence (ages 15 to 18) when compared to those who lived in stepparent and single-parent families during early adolescence.¹²⁰
- Research also suggests that high school adolescents from intact families, on average, drink less alcohol than their peers from non-intact families, even when controlling for race, gender, and family income.¹²¹

Year	Percentage of students who had at least one drink of alcohol on one or more of the past 30 days	
	Wisconsin	United States
1993	48%	48%
1997	51%	51%
1999	52%	50%
2001	54%	47%
2003	47%	45%
2005	49%	43%
2007	49%	45%
2009	41%	42%
2011	39%	39%
2013	33%	35%
2015	N/A*	33%
2017	30%	30%

*WI did not achieve weighted results for the 2015 NYRBS.

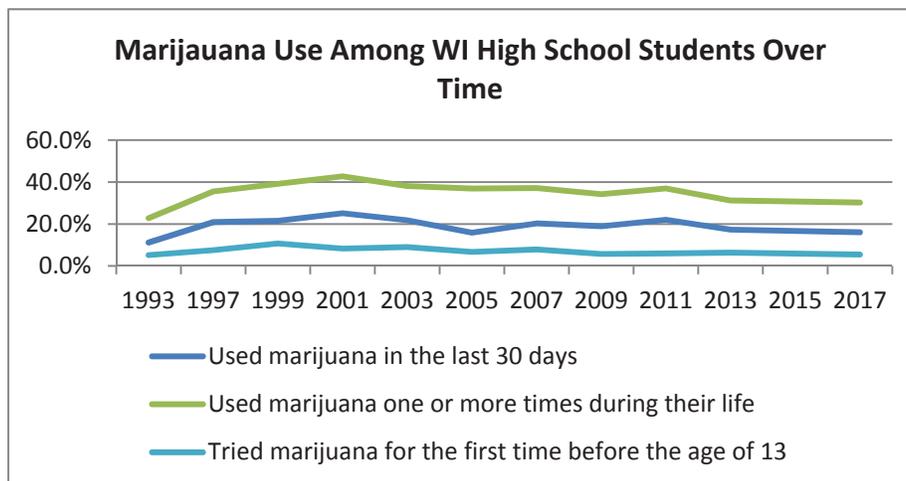


Marijuana Use Among High School Students

Source: National Youth Risk Behavior Survey, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

- In 2017, 16 percent of Wisconsin high school students reported using marijuana in the last 30 days.¹²²
- The percentage of Wisconsin high school students reporting that they used marijuana in the last 30 days decreased by 24 percent from 1997 to 2017.¹²³
- Between 1997 and 2017, the percentage of Wisconsin high school students reporting that they used marijuana one or more times during their life decreased by 17 percent.¹²⁴
- Family structure relates to adolescent drug use. Research suggests that adolescents whose parents were divorced were, on average, almost four times more likely to use illicit drugs by age 14 than adolescents from intact families (where the parents are married and present).¹²⁵
- Research also suggests that adolescents who lived in intact families in early adolescence (ages 12 to 14) were, on average, less likely to initiate marijuana usage in late adolescence (ages 15 to 18) when compared to those who lived in stepparent and single parent families during early adolescence.¹²⁶
- Governor Tony Evers' 2019-21 State Budget would legalize and regulate medical marijuana, including legalizing the in-home cultivation of THC (Tetrahydrocannabinol) for personal medical use in the amount of up to 12 live plants.¹²⁷

Year	Percentage of students who used marijuana in the last 30 days		Percentage of students who used marijuana one or more times during their life	
	Wisconsin	United States	Wisconsin	United States
1993	11%	18%	23%	33%
1997	21%	26%	36%	47%
1999	22%	27%	39%	47%
2001	25%	24%	43%	42%
2003	22%	22%	38%	40%
2005	16%	20%	37%	38%
2007	20%	20%	37%	38%
2009	19%	21%	34%	37%
2011	22%	23%	37%	40%
2013	17%	23%	31%	41%
2015	N/A	22%	N/A	39%
2017	16%	20%	30%	36%



Illegal Drug Use on School Property

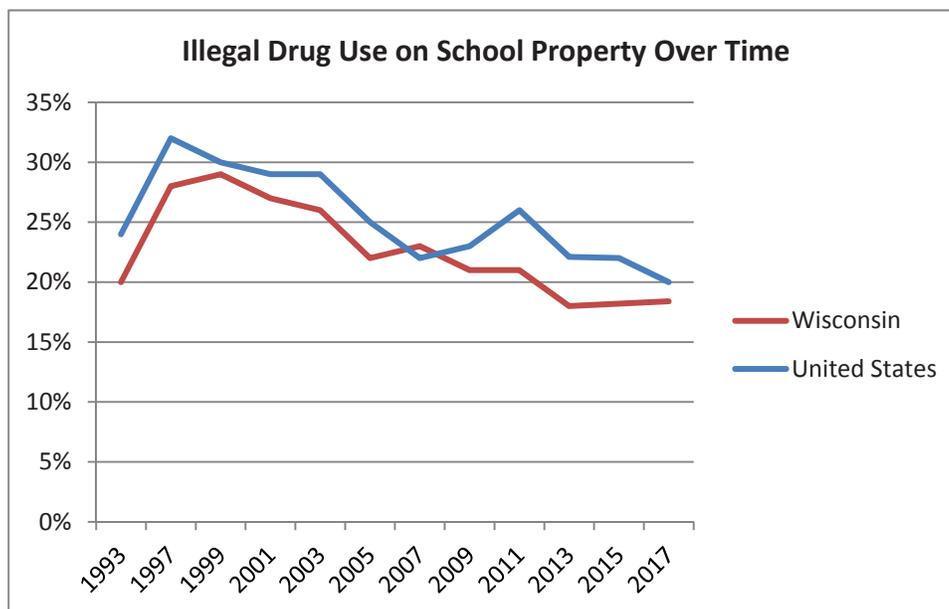


Source: National Youth Risk Behavior Survey, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

- In 2017, 18 percent of Wisconsin high school students reported that they were offered, sold, or given an illegal drug on school property during the past year. This figure is 10 percentage points lower than the percentage of high school students reporting this usage in 1997.
- In 2017, Wisconsin high school males were more likely than females to report that they were offered, sold, or given an illegal drug on school property in the past year (20 percent compared to 17 percent, respectively).
- Of the Black students who responded to the survey, 27 percent reported they were offered, sold or given an illegal drug on school property during the past year, 24 percent of Hispanic/Latino students reported the same, as well as 16 percent of White students and 21 percent of students of multiple races. However, because the sample sizes were so small for some of the ethnicities, these figures are not entirely reliable.¹²⁸

Year	Percent of students offered, sold, or given an illegal drug on school property during the past year	
	Wisconsin	United States
1993	20%	24%
1997	28%	32%
1999	29%	30%
2001	27%	29%
2003	26%	29%
2005	22%	25%
2007	23%	22%
2009	21%	23%
2011	21%	26%
2013	18%	22%
2015	N/A	22%
2017	18%	20%

- Family structure relates to illicit drug use among teenagers. Teenagers from intact families (where the parents are married and present) are, on average, less likely to use illicit drugs when compared to teenagers living in non-intact families. This result holds even when controlling for demographic variables.¹²⁹



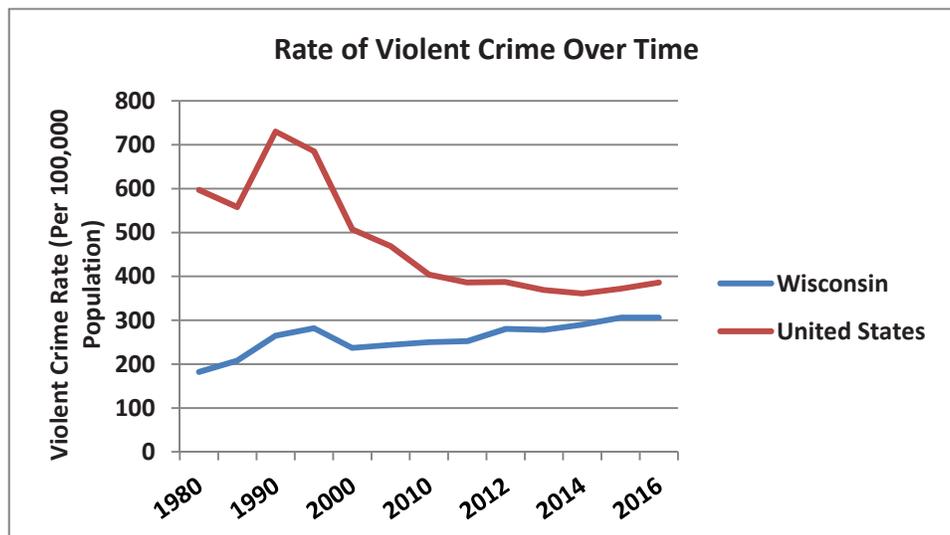
Violent Crime

Sources: Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance, Statistical Analysis Center; Wisconsin Department of Justice UCR Offense Data

- In 2017, there were a total of 123,361 index offenses reported in Wisconsin.¹³⁰ Index offenses include murder, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.¹³¹
- Of the index offenses reported in 2017, 18,531 (15 percent), were for violent crimes and 104,830 (85 percent) were for property crimes.¹³²
- The number of reported index offenses in Wisconsin decreased 46 percent from 1980 to 2017 and 28 percent from 2000, although the number of reported violent crimes increased 117 percent since 1980 and 47 percent since 2000.¹³³
- The violent crime rate in Wisconsin, while remaining lower than the national violent crime rate, has increased 29 percent since 2000 (most recent comparable data available).
- Research indicates that, on average, counties with lower percentages of non-intact families are more likely to have lower rates of homicide than counties with higher percentages of non-intact families.¹³⁴

Year	Index Offenses Reported	Violent Crimes Reported*	Violent Crime Rate (per 100,000 population)	
			WI	U.S.
1960	45,270	1,261	30	--
1965	65,845	1,911	46	--
1970	120,128	3,837	87	--
1975	183,131	6,991	152	--
1980	226,505	8,546	182	597
1985	192,362	9,912	208	558
1990	216,431	12,965	265	730
1995	200,612	14,388	282	685
2000	171,271	12,581	237	507
2005	166,633	13,620	244	469
2010	156,307	14,120	262	404
2011	153,256	14,355	252	386
2012	155,936	16,130	280	387
2013	139,724	15,387	278	369
2014	135,202	16,129	290	361
2015	131,309	16,909	306	372
2016	128,910	17,077	306	386
2017	123,361	18,531	NA	NA

*Does not include Simple Assault. The definition of rape changed in 2017 going forward.



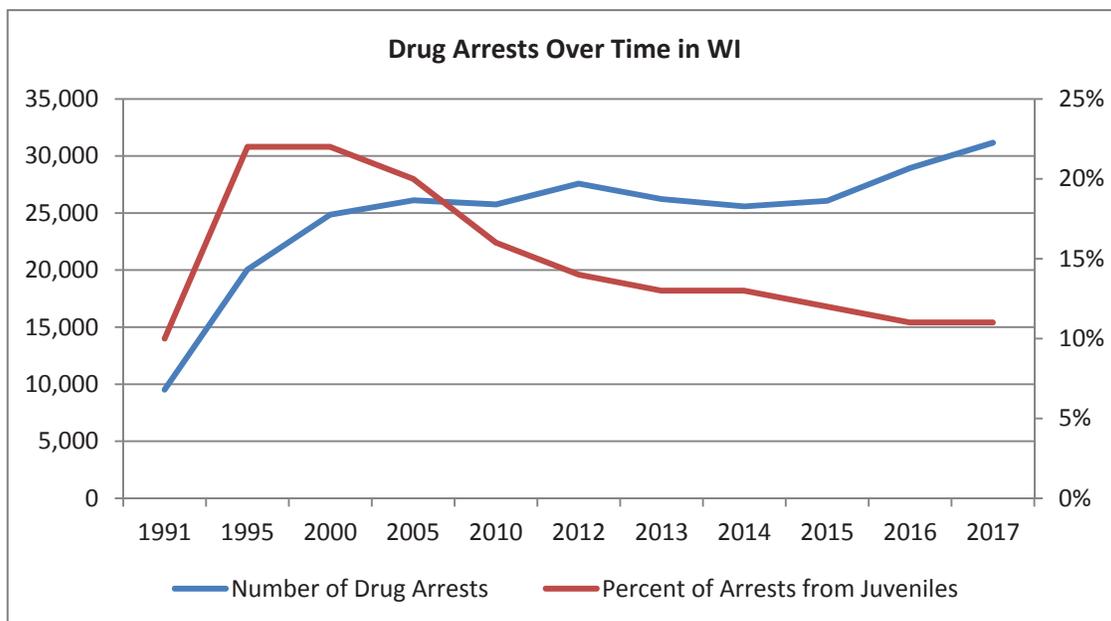
Drug Offenses



Source: Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance, Statistical Analysis Center; Wisconsin Department of Justice UCR Arrest Data

- In 2017, there were 31,157 drug arrests in Wisconsin. Eleven percent of these arrests were of juveniles.¹³⁵
- In 2017, 83 percent of arrests were for drug possession compared to 16 percent for sale and manufacture of drugs.¹³⁶ Marijuana was the most common drug associated with drug sale and possession arrests.¹³⁷
- Between 1991 and 2017, the number of drug arrests in Wisconsin increased over three-fold. The percentage of drug arrests attributed to juveniles increased 10 percent between 1991 and 2005 but decreased again to almost 1991 levels by 2016 and 2017 (most recent comparable data available).¹³⁸
- In almost every category of possession and sale (Opium/Cocaine, Marijuana, Synthetic Narcotic, Other), the number of White offenders arrested in 2017 was over two-and-a-half-to-eight times as many as Black offenders arrested. The one exception was Opium/Cocaine Sales, where 635 Black offenders were arrested compared to 556 White offenders.¹³⁹
- Research suggests that children from intact families are, on average, less likely to try illegal drugs when compared to children from homes with no parents, a single parent, or a blended family, and after controlling for standard economic variables.¹⁴⁰

Year	Number of Drug Arrests	Percent of Arrests from Juveniles
1991	9,518	10%
1995	20,044	22%
2000	24,853	22%
2005	26,112	20%
2010	25,750	16%
2012	27,345	14%
2013	26,220	13%
2014	25,585	13%
2015	26,071	12%
2016	28,951	11%
2017	31,157	11%



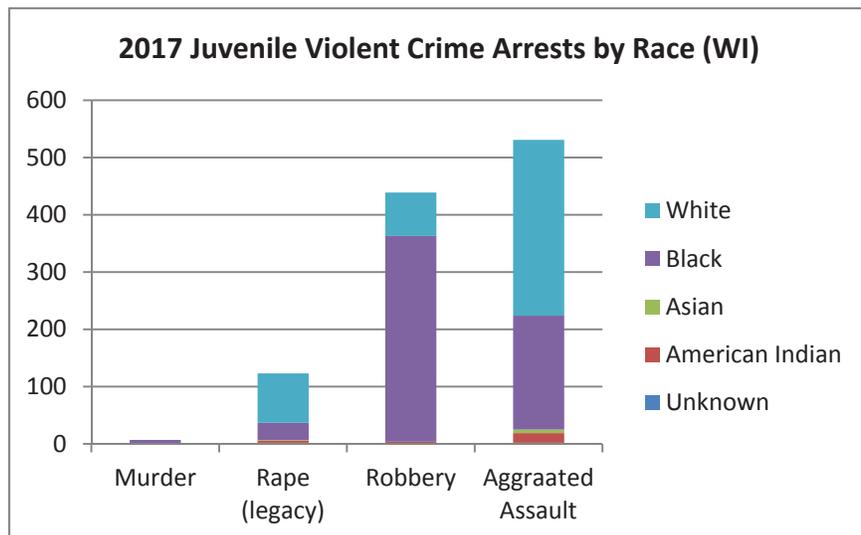
Juvenile Arrests

Source: Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance, Statistical Analysis Center; Wisconsin Department of Justice UCR Arrest Data

- In 2017, there were 9,763 juvenile arrests in Wisconsin for index offenses. Of these arrests, 1,088 were for violent index offenses.¹⁴¹ Property offenses include: theft, vandalism, burglary, stolen property, motor vehicle theft, fraud, arson, embezzlement, and forgery. Violent offenses include: aggravated assault, robbery, rape (2017 definition), and murder.¹⁴²
- Between 2000 and 2017 there was a 56 percent decrease in the number of juveniles arrested for index offenses and a 44 percent decrease in the number of juveniles arrested for violent index offenses.¹⁴³
- Male juveniles accounted for 83 percent of the total juvenile arrests in Wisconsin for violent index offenses in 2017.¹⁴⁴ Female juveniles accounted for 30 percent of the total juvenile arrests in Wisconsin for property index offenses the same year.¹⁴⁵
- In 2017, Black juveniles accounted for 52 percent of juvenile violent offense arrests while White juveniles accounted for 42 percent.¹⁴⁶ After murder (Black juveniles accounted for 100% or 14 murder arrests), juvenile robbery arrests accounted for the greatest racial disparity: Black juveniles accounted for 76 percent of the arrests, followed by rape (2017), where White juveniles accounted for 60 percent of arrests.
- In 2017, for violent index offenses, there were 14 juvenile arrests for murder, 235 for rape (2017), 318 for robbery, and 521 for aggravated assault.¹⁴⁷ In addition, there were also 646 juvenile arrests for burglary, 4,908 for theft, 563 for motor vehicle theft, 59 for arson, 31 for forgery, 114 for fraud, 27 for embezzlement, 466 for stolen property, and 1,861 for vandalism.¹⁴⁸

Year	Juvenile Arrests for Index Offenses	Juvenile Arrests for Violent Index Offenses
1994	32,641	2,674
1996	31,636	2,296
1998	26,791	2,176
2000	22,135	1,930
2002	22,235	2,154
2004	19,617	1,833
2006	17,490	1,774
2008	22,256	1,658
2010	16,518	1,433
2012	15,807	1,439
2013	12,434	1,366
2014	11,882	1,277
2015	10,913	1,137
2016	9,979	1,101
2017	9,763	1,088

- Researchers at the National Healthy Marriage Resource Center have found that juveniles living in intact families are, on average, less likely to engage in criminal behaviors when compared to adolescents living in single-parents families even when controlling for socioeconomic status.¹⁴⁹



Adult Prison Population

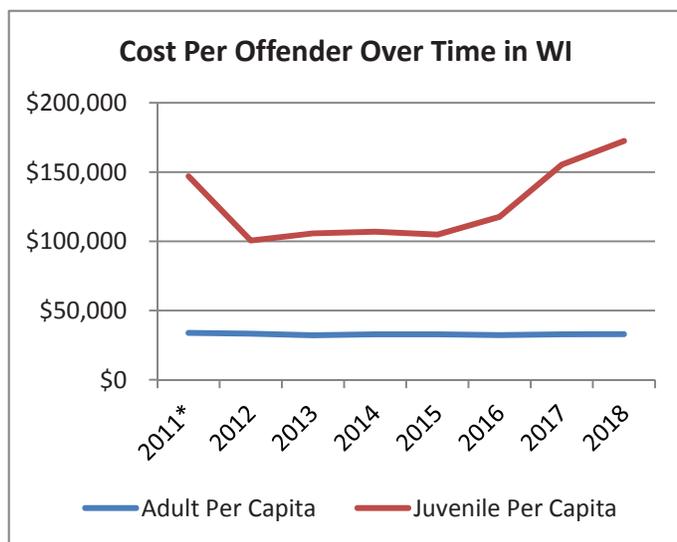
Sources: WI Office of Justice Assistance, Statistical Analysis Center; Legislative Reference Bureau

- Between 1970 and 2011, per inmate expenditures increased almost twelve-fold in Wisconsin from \$4,505 to \$52,833 per inmate (most recent comparable data).¹⁵⁰ Since 1970, the average daily adult *corrections* (not just prison) population in Wisconsin increased more than seven-fold to 90,483 in 2013.¹⁵¹

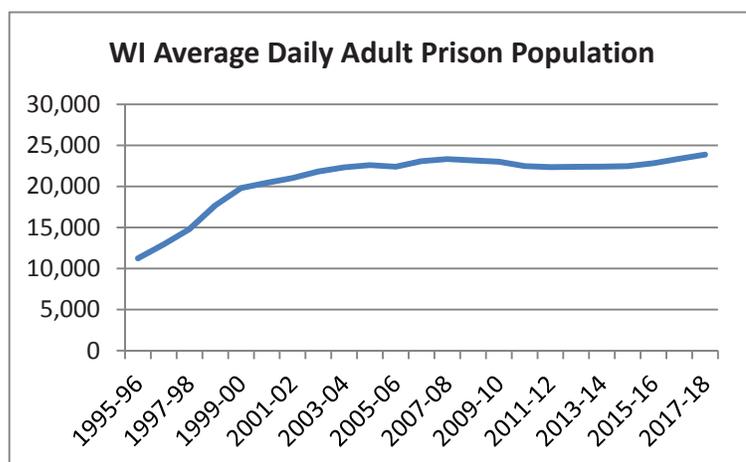
Year	Average Daily Correction Population	Total Costs (in thousands)	State Corrections Expenditures Per Inmate
1970	12,391	\$12,937	\$4,505
1980	23,785	\$49,003	\$14,029
1990	37,221	\$125,875	\$19,917
2000	84,796	\$932,819 ¹	\$43,320 ¹
2010	91,840	\$1,136,178 ²	\$50,625 ²
2011	90,413	\$1,160,898 ³	\$52,833 ³
2013	90,483	\$1,090,920	N/A

¹Data is from FY2001; ²Data is from FY 2009; ³Data is from FY 2011

- A December 2016 DOC point-in-time population report put the male incarcerated population at 42.9 percent Black and 52.2 percent White, and the female population at 20.9 percent Black and 71.2 percent White.¹⁵²
- Expenditures per-capita for adult inmates in FY 2018 was almost \$33,000. Per-capita expenditures for juveniles was over \$172,000 in the same year. *Please note: these are average costs per inmate.*¹⁵³
- For the 2017-18 Fiscal Year (FY) the average daily adult *prison* population was 23,855, an over 100 percent increase from 11,255 during the 1995-96 FY.¹⁵⁴ After peaking during the 07-08 FY, Wisconsin's prison population declined slightly until increasing again during the 12-13 FY.¹⁵⁵ Reasons for this change include higher violent crime rates, an aging prison population, and "truth in sentencing" laws (applies to crimes committed after 1999) resulting in longer incarceration periods.¹⁵⁶
- The corrections cost to the state is far greater than the monetary expenditures alone, as incarcerated parents are not around to give their children an intact-family home. This can lead to a cycle of incarceration as children who grow up in fatherless homes are significantly more likely to be incarcerated as adults.¹⁵⁷



*Ethan Allen School (Wales, WI) for boys closed in 2011.



Casino Gambling

Source: Wisconsin Division of Gaming

- In Fiscal Year (FY) 2017, \$16.35 billion was wagered at casinos on reservations in Wisconsin.¹⁵⁸ For comparison purposes, that is equivalent to about \$2,819 wagered per capita in the state of Wisconsin in the same year (most recent comparable data available).¹⁵⁹
- Between 2000 and 2017, the “handle” (amount casinos take in before expenses and before paying out winnings) increased 40 percent. The 2016 handle of \$16.23 billion surpassed the previous record of \$16.18 billion in 2007 for the first time after a lull following the recession years.
- In FY 2017, Tribal net winnings were \$1.23 billion, or roughly \$212 per person in the state of Wisconsin in the same year. Tribal net winnings increased 68 percent between 2000 and 2017, although it has not yet reached the previous record of \$1.24 billion in 2008.¹⁶⁰
- In FY 2017 tribal payments to the state were \$53.08 million. These payments are set through tribal gaming compacts and litigation and are used to fund various programs, the majority of which directly impact tribes and/or tribal lands.¹⁶¹
- Twenty-four gaming sites are currently operated by eleven Wisconsin Indian tribes and bands across the state.¹⁶²
- Research has found a relationship between the presence of casino gambling in a community and an increase in crime rates in that area.¹⁶³ The study, published in a peer-reviewed journal, found that the opening of a casino in a county increased the total number of index crime arrests in that county (violent and non-violent) by 8.6 percent and non-index crime arrests by 14.8 percent.¹⁶⁴ Researchers also found that crime increased in counties without a casino but that were adjacent to two other counties with a casino and high-crime rates.¹⁶⁵

Year	Handle (in millions)	Net Win (in millions)
2000	\$11,710	\$730
2001	\$12,910	\$830
2002	\$14,180	\$890
2003	\$14,330	\$940
2004	\$15,220	\$990
2005	\$15,830	\$1,100
2006	\$16,040	\$1,150
2007	\$16,180	\$1,220
2008	\$15,710	\$1,240
2009	\$15,550	\$1,220
2010	\$15,120	\$1,220
2011	\$15,310	\$1,190
2012	\$15,900	\$1,180
2013	\$16,050	\$1,190
2014	\$15,210	\$1,160
2015	\$15,870	\$1,150
2016	\$16,230	\$1,190
2017	\$16,350	\$1,230



Wisconsin Lottery Ticket Sales



Source: Wisconsin Department of Revenue, Division of Lottery; Wisconsin Legislative Fiscal Bureau

- Prior to 1988 state lotteries were unconstitutional in Wisconsin but in 1988 Wisconsin amended its constitution to allow for the creation of a state lottery.

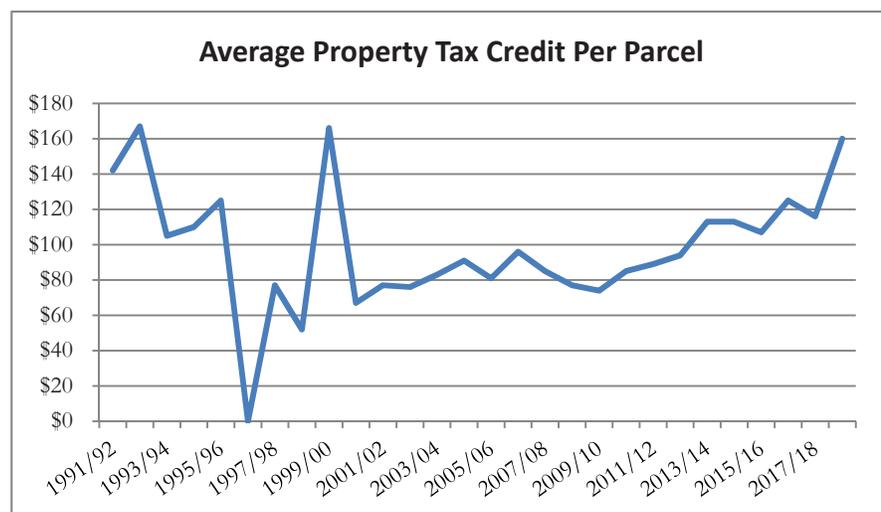
- During the 2017-18 FY gross lottery sales in Wisconsin were \$667 million.¹⁶⁶ Since the first year of the lottery the gross lottery sales have increased over 115 percent.¹⁶⁷

- Revenue generated by the state lottery is used to fund the lottery division, administer the state lottery, as well as to provide a property tax credit to Wisconsin homeowners. In 2018 the average property tax credit per parcel in Wisconsin was \$160.¹⁶⁸ The lowest annual average property tax credit per parcel in the last decade was \$74 in 2009.¹⁶⁹

- Under 1999 Wisconsin Act 9, Wisconsin instituted a *Retailer Performance Program* that pays additional compensation to lottery ticket retailers who “meet certain performance goals identified by the department.”¹⁷⁰

- Under the state constitution, use of state revenue for advertising of the lottery is prohibited: “The expenditure of public funds or of revenues derived from lottery operations to engage in promotional advertising of the Wisconsin state lottery is prohibited.” But between 2004 and 2007, an average of 22.5 percent of the Wisconsin State Lottery’s budget from the state has been reserved for advertising and the posting of legal notices on these advertisements (referred to as “product information” in official documents).¹⁷¹ The constitutionality of such action has not yet been determined, largely because no one has challenged the practice by bringing a lawsuit.

Gross Lottery Sales		Average Tax Credit Per Parcel <i>*Available Since 1991</i>	
Year (Fiscal)	Amount	January, of Year	Average
1989-90	\$309,597,918	1991	\$142
1993-94	\$495,521,300	1995	\$125
1997-98	\$418,640,300	1999	\$166
2001-02	\$427,550,343	2003	\$83
2005-06	\$509,057,400	2007	\$85
2009-10	\$480,942,000	2010	\$85
2010-11	\$502,651,800	2011	\$89
2011-12	\$547,640,700	2012	\$94
2012-13	\$566,102,700	2013	\$113
2013-14	\$568,837,400	2014	\$113
2014-15	\$574,631,400	2015	\$107
2015-16	\$627,165,000	2016	\$125
2016-17	\$602,772,800	2017	\$116
2017-18	\$667,392,400	2018	\$160

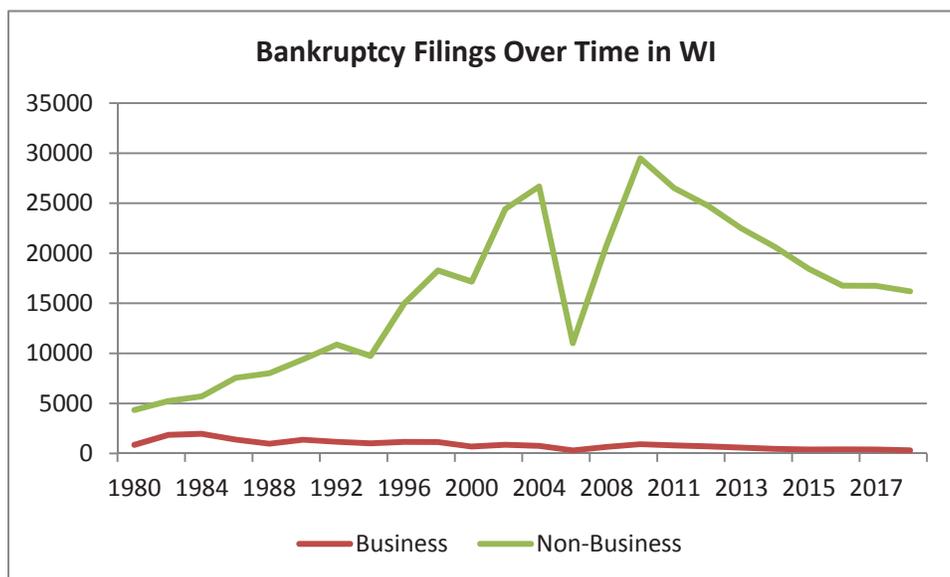


Wisconsin Bankruptcy

Source: American Bankruptcy Institute; U.S. Bankruptcy Courts

- The number of bankruptcy filings in Wisconsin increased significantly from 1980 until 2005, when Congress passed the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act.¹⁷² During the recession, bankruptcy rates returned to and even surpassed pre-2004 levels, before dropping back to 2000 levels in 2016.¹⁷³
- In 1980, 83 percent of all bankruptcy filings in Wisconsin were for non-business filers. In 1990 that percentage was 87 percent, in 2000 it was 96 percent, in 2010 it was 97 percent and in 2018 it was 98 percent.
- In 2010, 81 percent of all bankruptcy filings in Wisconsin were Chapter 7 filings and 19 percent were Chapter 13 filings, compared to 70 percent and 29 percent respectively in 2018. A Chapter 7 bankruptcy is the most common kind of bankruptcy filing – where the debtor has little to no income and much of their unsecured debt is wiped out. A Chapter 13 filing is a debt reorganization bankruptcy with a repayment plan designed by the courts.

Year	Total Filings	Business Filings	Non-Business Filings
1980	5,199	866	4,333
1982	7,073	1,842	5,231
1984	7,652	1,951	5,701
1986	8,932	1,380	7,552
1988	8,972	967	8,005
1990	10,766	1,366	9,400
1992	12,041	1,161	10,880
1994	10,735	995	9,740
1996	16,137	1,150	14,987
1998	19,414	1,137	18,277
2000	17,849	685	17,164
2002	25,295	856	24,439
2004	27,410	742	26,668
2006	11,317	307	11,010
2008	21,448	652	20,796
2010	30,423	930	29,493
2011	27,308	796	26,512
2012	25,455	693	24,762
2013	23,041	569	22,472
2014	21,076	454	20,622
2015	18,793	375	18,418
2016	17,159	403	16,756
2017	17,129	383	16,746
2018	16,502	304	16,198



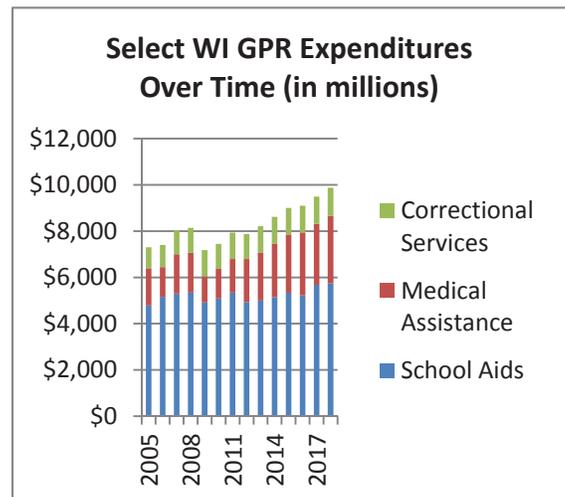
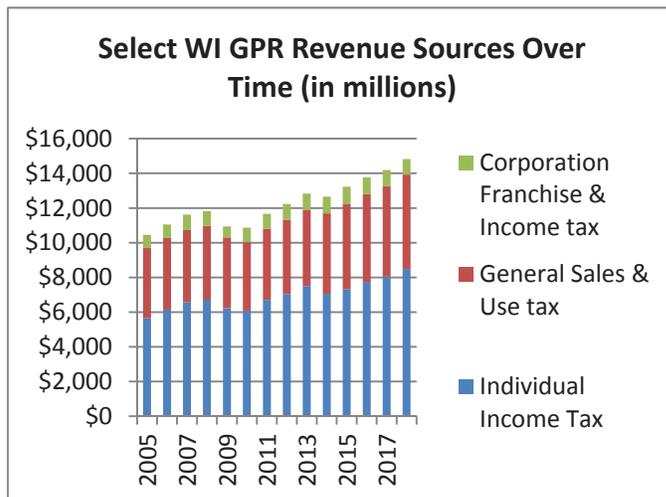
Wisconsin Revenue and Expenditures



Source: Department of Administration; Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau

- Between 1980 and 2010, Wisconsin’s total revenue increased 526 percent while total expenditures increased 487 percent. Between 2010 and 2018, Wisconsin’s total revenue increased 15 percent and expenditures increased 20 percent.¹⁷⁴
- Individual Income taxes were the overall largest source of General Purpose Revenue (GPR) for Wisconsin, generating nearly \$8.5 billion, or 52.5 percent of the state’s GPR tax collections in Fiscal Year (FY) 2018. This figure constitutes a 5.5 percent increase from FY 2017.¹⁷⁵
- General Sales & Use taxes generated the second largest source of GPR at \$5.45 billion or 33.7 percent of GPR tax collections in FY 2018. Corporation Franchise & Income tax was the third largest source of GPR revenue at 5.5 percent of total GPR tax collections in FY 2018.¹⁷⁶ General Sales & Use tax revenue increased 4.3 percent from FY 2017 to FY 2018 and corporate collections decreased 2.9 percent during the same period.
- Education spending is the state’s largest program expenditure. School aids totaled \$5.743 billion, or 34.9 percent of GPR Expenditures in FY 2018.¹⁷⁷ This figure constitutes a 3.4 percent increase in school aids from FY 2017 after adjustments. Medical Assistance is the second largest GPR funded program, coming in at \$2.92 billion or 17.7 percent of GPR expenditures in FY 2018, followed by Correctional Services at \$1.21 billion or 7.4 percent.¹⁷⁸

Fiscal Year (ending June 30)	Total Revenue (in thousands)	Total Expenditures (in thousands)
1980	\$7,381,599	\$6,836,970
1985	\$12,068,756	\$9,981,002
1990	\$14,902,360	\$12,752,292
1995	\$23,083,582	\$18,058,003
2000	\$32,873,310	\$26,444,639
2005	\$37,019,141	\$32,260,409
2010	\$46,238,680	\$40,148,287
2011	\$56,501,061	\$42,926,739
2012	\$40,517,410	\$41,537,806
2013	\$50,021,863	\$42,565,127
2014	\$55,932,631	\$45,088,027
2015	\$44,718,878	\$46,298,588
2016	\$43,924,438	\$45,887,132
2017	\$55,676,097	\$46,991,599
2018	\$53,356,899	\$48,198,804



Family and the Economy

As we have long contended at Wisconsin Family Council, strong families are a necessary component to long-term economic success in Wisconsin. The purpose of this section is to highlight the ways in which economic and education policies can negatively or positively impact families and in turn, the state's economy. Although making good policy that supports the stability and independence of Wisconsin families is a worthwhile endeavor in its own right, the economic benefits of such a policy should be identified.

Although Wisconsin's economy is growing, the state is currently contending with a workforce shortage that will continue in the near future due to demographics such as an aging population and a low birth rate.¹ (See *Population, Total Fertility Rate, Birth Rate and Abortion* figures in the *Wisconsin Statistics* section of this publication.) The shortage is significant enough that both the state and private businesses engaged in expensive ad campaigns in 2018 aimed at millennials in other states in order to attract workers to Wisconsin.² The state's primary business group, *Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce*, is asking Governor Tony Evers to continue the campaign at a cost of about \$7 million.³

Wisconsin's worker shortage persists despite record low unemployment rates during the past year (2.9 as of March, 2019), bolstered by a labor force participation rate of 67.5 percent, neatly outpacing the national rate of 63 percent.⁴ The pro-business Republican leadership of the past ten years in the state has clearly done well for the economy—almost too well. Deregulation and advantageous tax policies and packages for businesses may increase employment opportunities, but they cannot by default also provide a skilled and willing workforce. Workforce availability is complex and dependent on factors including population growth, education availability and options, in-migration versus out-migration and even the state's birth rate, among other things.

The data show that Wisconsin's population is aging: persons 65 years and over represented 14 percent of Wisconsin's population in 2010 and almost 17 percent in 2017 (most recent comparable data available). (See *Wisconsin Statistics: Population*) Minors constituted about 24 percent of the state population in 2010 and 22 percent in 2017, ranking Wisconsin as 34th in the country for percentage of the population under 18 in a recent study.⁵ Wisconsin ranks about middle of the pack (27th) in the country for net natural population growth (birth rate minus death rate).⁶ Attracting young workers from other states may be a temporary solution to the labor shortage, but it is not a long-term fix. The state needs to confront some of the underlying issues in order to address this matter long-term.

Marriage and Family

An American Enterprise Institute (AEI) study in 2014 published a number of findings on the link between family stability and economic growth that will not come as a surprise to those who understand the importance of strong families to the health and future of the state. The report claims that "the nation's retreat from marriage is linked to growing family inequality, male joblessness, and economic stagnation, especially among the ranks of less-educated Americans."⁷ The study's authors estimate that if the nation as a whole was currently experiencing married parenthood at 1980 levels, growth in median income for



families with children would be 44 percent higher.⁸ Interestingly, they link increasing income disparity to the decline of marriage, particularly among the less educated.⁹

While acknowledging the “unknown factor” of personality characteristics that may influence what kind of person not only gets married but experiences the economic benefits of marriage, the authors point out that overwhelming evidence points to a strong, causal link between being raised in an intact family, being currently married and a number of beneficial economic outcomes for Americans.¹⁰ Some of those economic outcomes include a \$6,500 and \$4,700 income advantage for boys and girls, respectively, raised in intact families; a substantial “marriage premium” for married men’s income, no marriage penalty for a married woman’s income, and an at least \$42,000 “family premium” for household incomes where the married parents themselves were raised in an intact family (showing the positive generational impact of an intact family).¹¹ For the most part, these “marriage and intact-family” benefits largely apply across ethnicities and education-levels.

Another AEI study found that states with the highest rate of married parent families enjoyed, on average, an \$1,451 higher per capita GDP, 10.5 percent greater upward income mobility for children from lower-income families, a 13.2 percent decline in the child poverty rate, and a \$3,654 higher median family income.¹² Interestingly, these state-level economic benefits of marriage were stronger for younger adults (ages 25-35) than for older adults (ages 36-59), which the authors interpret as indicating that marriage plays an important role in the labor participation of young men. This is a notable factor because of the increasing problem in America of the disappearance of men from the labor force—an estimated 10 million American men ages 25-54 have left the work force, and apparently all sense of commitment and responsibilities, behind.¹³ Conservatives blame this vast migration of men on the feminization of education, culture and the economy while progressives blame it on the “deindustrialization of America” and the decrease in traditionally heavily male-occupied industries.

The table below contrasts certain economic outcomes for Midwestern states, including Wisconsin, if their share of married parents was the same in 2012 as it had been in 1980.¹⁴

	Actual GDP/Capita	Simulated GDP/Capita	Child poverty rate	Simulated child poverty rate	Median family income	Simulated family income
Wisconsin	\$45,477	\$46,950	21.37%	18.78%	\$48,940	\$52,547
Minnesota	\$51,734	\$53,205	13.81%	11.23%	\$52,722	\$56,322
Illinois	\$52,087	\$53,487	20.10%	17.64%	\$44,958	\$48,386
Indiana	\$43,111	\$45,313	24.01%	20.15%	\$41,595	\$46,987
Michigan	\$40,292	\$42,197	23.18%	19.83%	\$44,974	\$49,638

Using the 2012 actual figures and the simulated figures, Wisconsin allegedly would have experienced a higher GDP/capita by \$1,473, a 12 percent decline in the child poverty rate and a higher median family income by \$3,607 had it maintained its share of married parents from 1980. Wisconsin ranked 5th for the decline in the prevalence of marriage among the top 15 states from 1977-2013, behind Kentucky, Iowa, West Virginia and Vermont.¹⁵ The other Midwestern states were neither in the top 15 in terms of decline nor the lowest 15. In terms of the marriage rate alone (new marriages per 1,000 persons, not prevalence of marriage), Wisconsin experienced a 40 percent decline in new marriages from 1980 to

2013 (See *Wisconsin Statistics: Marriage*). In fact, in a ranking of all fifty states, Wisconsin's marriage rate is one of the lowest in the country, coming in at 46th for 2018.¹⁶

It is essential that lawmakers and leaders seriously consider this data in light of evidence pointing to the many economic benefits that stable, married families bring not only to the family members, but to the state as well. Labor participation is a positive result of stable married families for the children who grow up in them and the men who are in the marriages, although it does typically mean a lower labor participation rate for the women in those families, presumably because the woman is more likely to stay home with the children. The study did find that the loss of stay-at-home women's labor participation, work hours and income were more than offset by the gains in men's labor participation, work hours and income.¹⁷

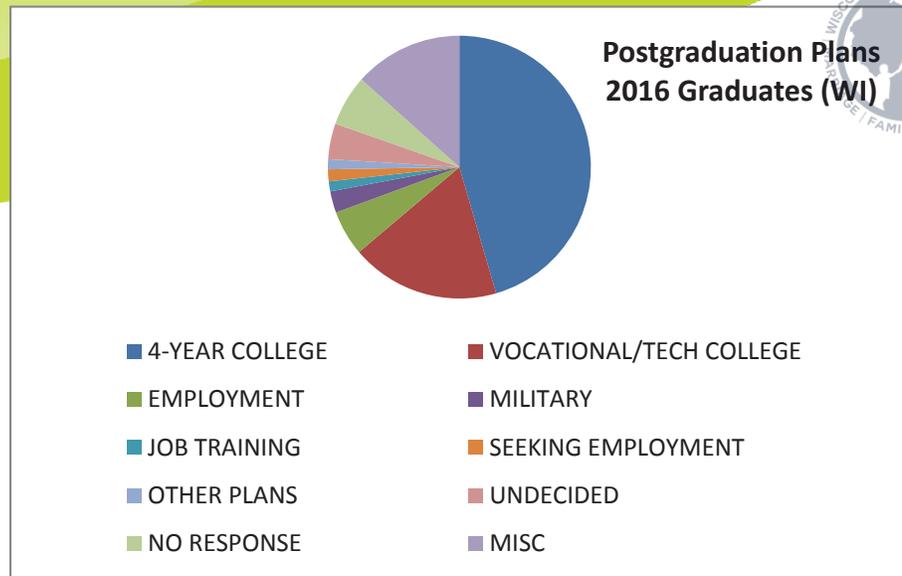
The 2018 Family Prosperity Index, a statistical scoring of economic, social and cultural indicators that contribute to the status of families in the country, also found a connection between marriage and the workforce. The authors conclude: "One area of growing concern is that a decline in the marriage rate is leading to fewer men being in the workforce. It is no coincidence that the decline in men's labor force participation parallels the decline in the marriage rates."¹⁸

While past and present Republican leadership in Wisconsin is to be commended for already pursuing some of the policy recommendations from these findings (such as reducing or eliminating "marriage penalties" in state tax and welfare policies and expanding vocational education options), there are a few notable ideas they have not yet pursued. One would be to "give couples a second chance" with longer waiting periods before finalizing a divorce for couples with minor children where there is no abuse, abandonment or adultery. A second idea would be to require education for couples with minor children at risk of divorce, both on the harmful effects of divorce on children and the options for reconciliation. Instead, Republicans passed a bill in the State Assembly during the 2017-2018 legislative session that would have entirely eliminated the existing six-month waiting period following a divorce before a remarriage can occur in Wisconsin, with no reference to couples with minor children whatsoever.¹⁹ Fortunately, the bill died in the Senate without a vote.²⁰

Another policy recommendation is a public campaign to encourage the "success sequence" (high school graduation, job, and marriage before parenting). The authors of these findings believe that an all-out public campaign to promote marriage could realize the success that previous public campaigns against smoking, drugs and teenage pregnancy have seen.²¹ Such a campaign would need to highlight the wide-ranging benefits of marriage for parents and their children in terms of income equality and mobility, labor participation, avoiding poverty, etc. Ideally it would target younger adults from high school to mid-30s, the age groups that could most benefit from following the "success sequence." Perhaps a better use of the \$7 million in public dollars proposed to fund an ad campaign in an attempt to woo young workers from other states would be a campaign promoting the benefits of the "success sequence" to young adults.²²

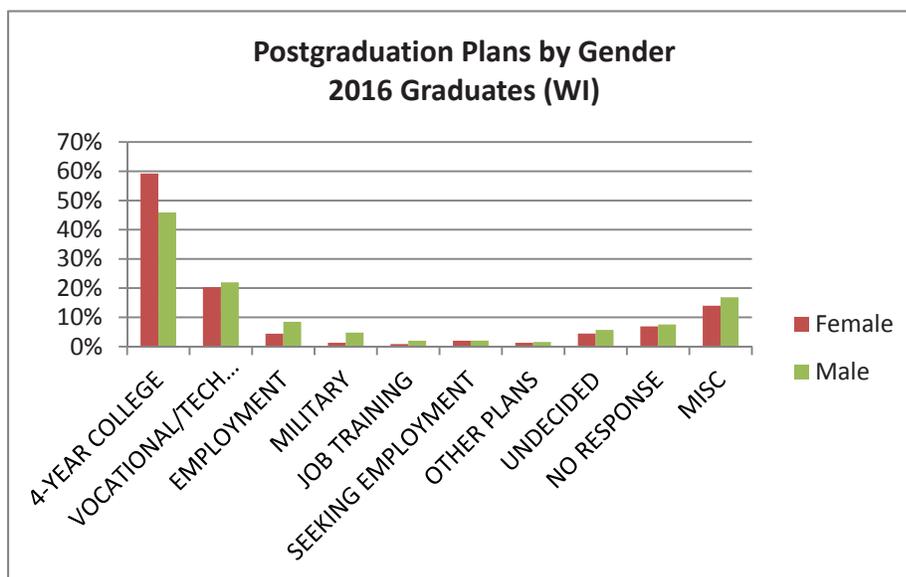
Education

Education is the single-largest program expenditure for the state of Wisconsin and as such, the state should be monitoring the impact of its spending not only on academic outcomes, but on career outcomes for its students as well.²³ One measure should be how well the state moves students from secondary



and post-secondary education into the state’s workforce, and more specifically, into jobs that could support a family, or have the potential to eventually support a family—and how well it is accomplishing this task across genders and ethnicities.

Every year the state administers a voluntary questionnaire to high school graduates regarding their post-graduation plans. *Please note: these results are for estimation purposes only.*²⁴ The figures on this page reflect data from the 2015-2016 school year, the latest comparable data available. The majority of students, 53 percent, indicated that their post-graduation plans involved a 4-year college degree. Vocational or technical college was the plan for 21 percent of graduates. Six percent of students had already secured a career-oriented job for post-graduation while 3 percent intended to join some branch of the military. Just over 1% indicated they intended to pursue job training in the form of an apprenticeship or a Job Training Partnership, etc. Almost 2 percent intended to seek career-oriented employment, a little over 1 percent had undefined “other plans” and 5 percent were undecided. Seven percent did not respond.



Almost 60 percent of female high school graduates planned to attend 4-year college compared to 46 percent of male graduates. Twice as many males as females already had career-oriented employment lined up and almost four times as many males as females planned to join a branch of the military.

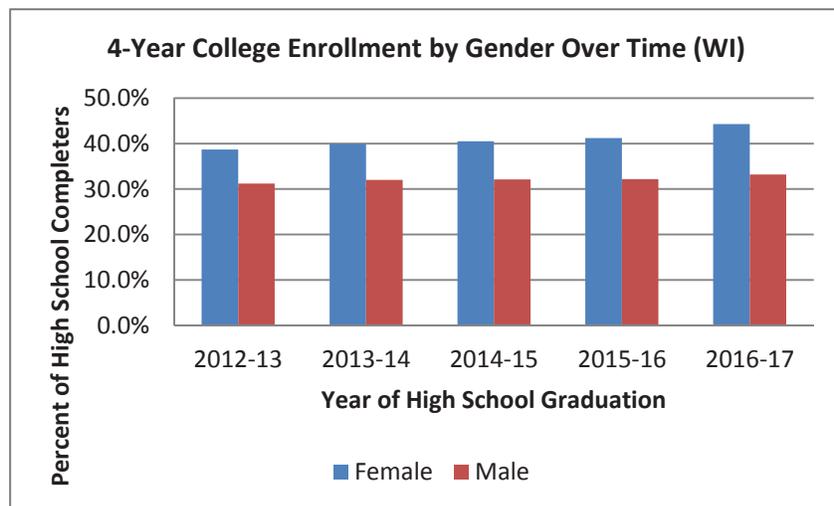
The difference between male and female graduates planning to attend vocational school was small by comparison: not quite 2% more of male respondents indicated vocational or technical college plans compared to female respondents.

The majority of White graduates (56 percent), planned to attend a 4-

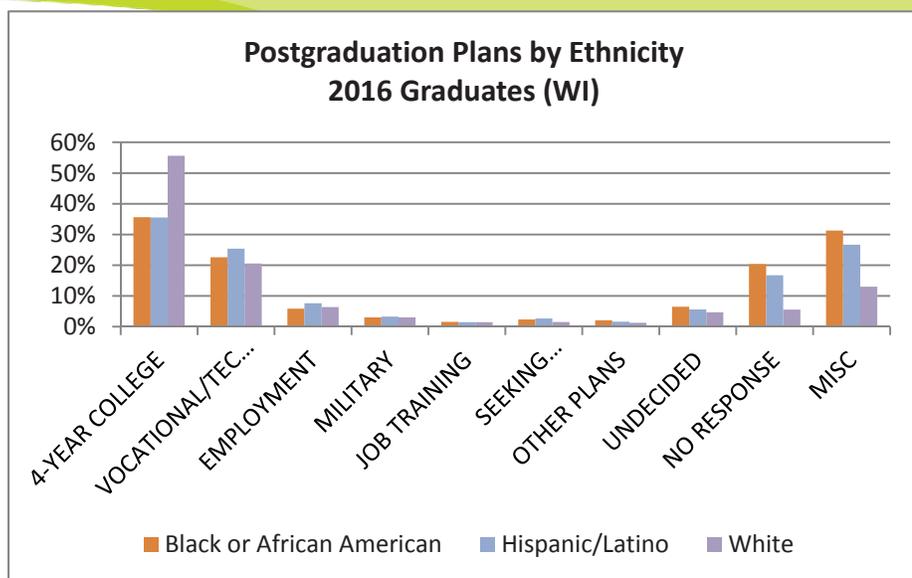
year college, compared to 36 percent of Black or African American and 36 percent of Hispanic/Latino graduates. More Hispanic/Latino graduates (25 percent) planned to attend vocational or technical school than White (21 percent) or Black or African American graduates (23 percent). Otherwise the percentages were fairly similar between the plans of White, Black or African American and Hispanic/Latino graduates: 3 percent of graduates from each ethnicity planned to join the military, for instance.

The apparent trend is that fewer males are enrolling in 4-year schools every year. The following table shows the breakdown between the genders for enrollment in a postsecondary institution (4 year, public or private, in-state and out) based on the year the student graduated high school in Wisconsin.²⁵ Male enrollment in a 4-year college has remained relatively constant over the five-year period, ranging from 31.2 percent for the 2013 class to 33.2 percent for the 2017 class, while female enrollment has grown from 38.7 percent to 44.3 percent over the same time period.

For the class in question (the 2016 graduating class whose postgraduation plans are outlined above),

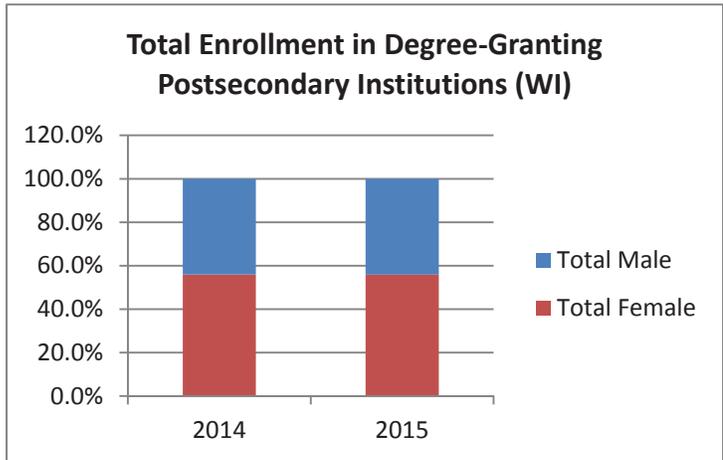


although 59 percent of female graduates in Wisconsin planned to attend a 4-year college, 41 percent of female high school completers actually enrolled in one that year. While 46 percent of male 2016 graduates in the state indicated they planned to attend a 4-year college, only 32 percent of male high school completers enrolled in one that year.

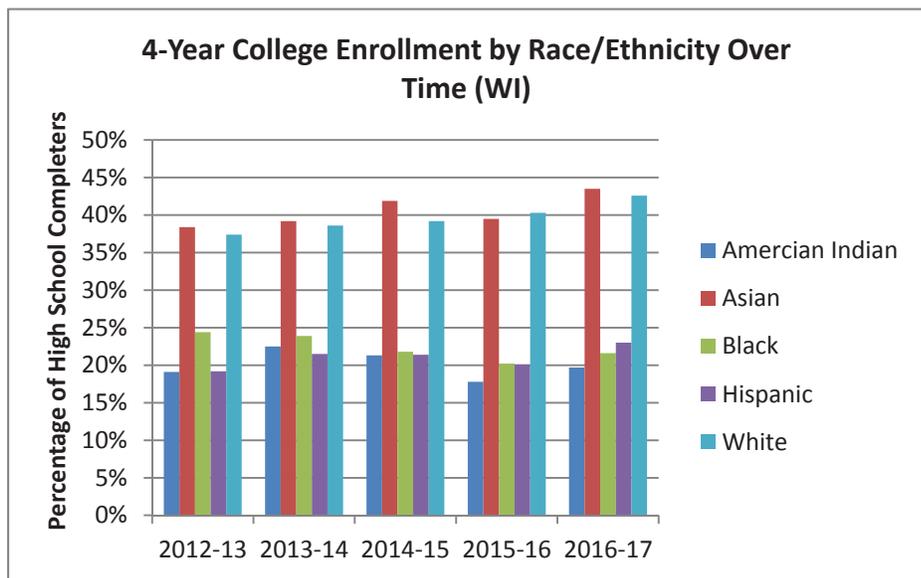


Twenty-one percent more females than males from the 2016 graduating class enrolled in a 4-year postsecondary institution in Wisconsin, compared to 18 percent more for the 2013 graduating class.²⁶ On the other hand, in 2016, 13 percent more male graduates than female graduates enrolled in a 2-year postsecondary institution in the state, a difference that has ranged from 8 to 13 percent more males than females from 2013 to 2017.²⁷

In Wisconsin in 2014 and 2015, females made up 56 percent of fall enrollment in degree-granting, postsecondary institutions.²⁸ That is a 12 percent difference between females versus males attending college in Wisconsin. (Ironically, women start fleeing college when the male population drops below 40 percent.²⁹) This may reflect the post-graduation plans of more male high school graduates to pursue a career-oriented job, apprenticeship or vocational training. According to 2013/2014 data, Wisconsin ranks 9th in the country for the median income of males without a bachelor’s degree (age 25-59) at \$35,133.³⁰ This figure is 20 percent higher than the average per capita income in the state over the past twelve months for the years 2012-2016 (\$29,253—in 2016 dollars).³¹



For the class in question (the 2016 graduating class whose post-graduation plans are outlined above), while almost 36 percent of Black or African American graduates planned to attend a 4-year school, enrollment for Black high school completers was 20 percent that year. Almost 36 percent of Hispanic/Latino 2016 graduating students planned to attend a 4-year college but enrollment for Hispanic high school completers was 20 percent that year. Over 55 percent of White graduating students planned



to attend a 4-year college that same year, compared to the 40 percent of White high school completers who enrolled in a 4-year college that year.

The table on the following page compares the 2015 enrollment data of postsecondary students in Wisconsin and the surrounding states, as well as the

U.S., by ethnicity and the general population in 2015 (latest comparable data available).³² *Please note: this data is from 2015; in other words it reflects the plans of the 2015 graduating class, as well as continuing enrollment, not the 2016 class referenced above; so comparisons are made cautiously.* All ethnic groups listed in the table nearly accurately represented their proportion of the state's population in college enrollment for the year. Only White postsecondary students underrepresented the White population in the state by more than two tenths of a percent—approximately 2.7%. Whether the proportional representation is natural or contrived, however, is difficult to tell. For example, twelve of Wisconsin's thirteen public universities reported consideration of race in their admissions process, a practice known as Affirmative Action.³³

Wisconsin's enrollment comparison is fairly similar to other Midwestern states, as well as the U.S. as a whole. Enrollment percentages broken down by race/ethnicity in each state and the country tend to reflect population percentages by ethnicity. Data from a 2013/2014 study ranked Wisconsin as 21st among the fifty states with 32.4 percent of the population holding a bachelor's degree or higher.³⁴

Please note: the breakdown of college enrollment by population is not an apples-to-apples comparison to postgraduation plans by ethnicity. This information is given to illustrate how Wisconsin compares to surrounding states and the country on college enrollment by ethnicity.

State	Population Type	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	Pacific Islander	American Indian/Alaska Native	Two or more races	Non resident alien
Wisconsin	Postsecondary students	77.6%	5.8%	5.9%	3.7%	0.1%	0.8%	2.6%	3.5%
	General Population	80.3%	6.0%	6.1%	3.9%	0.1%	0.8%	2.7%	N/A
Minnesota	Postsecondary students	67.6%	14.7%	5.1%	5.1%	0.2%	0.8%	3.1%	3.5%
	General Population	70.0%	15.2%	5.3%	5.3%	0.2%	0.8%	3.2%	N/A
Iowa	Postsecondary students	73.3%	9.8%	6.7%	2.5%	0.2%	0.5%	2.1%	4.8%
	General Population	77.0%	10.3%	7.1%	2.6%	0.2%	0.6%	2.2%	N/A
Illinois	Postsecondary students	54.9%	13.7%	17.0%	6.4%	0.2%	0.2%	2.3%	5.2%
	General Population	58.0%	14.5%	17.9%	6.7%	0.2%	0.3%	2.5%	N/A
U.S.	Postsecondary students	54.7%	13.4%	16.5%	6.1%	0.3%	0.7%	3.3%	4.9%
	General Population	57.6%	14.1%	17.3%	6.5%	0.3%	0.8%	3.5%	N/A

The trends indicate a few things: 1) that female students are the most likely of all students to plan for and enroll in a 4-year college; 2) that minority students are significantly less likely to plan to attend a 4-year college and to enroll; 3) these gaps continue to grow.

While females are outpacing males in 4-year college attendance and degrees, the void in the workforce persists, particularly for the skilled labor industries, where a technical or 2-year degree is more pertinent. For instance, a recent report indicates that 70 percent of construction companies nation-wide are having trouble filling positions with qualified workers.³⁵ These are well-paying jobs that could support a family. According to one report, thirty million jobs in the country pay an average of \$55,000 and do not require a bachelor's degree.³⁶ That income is comparable to Wisconsin's median household income in 2016 dollars: \$54,610.³⁷ Since fewer men than women are attending four-year college, you would expect those men not pursuing academic credentials to flood the workforce in these needed positions—however, that is not the case.

Nicholas Eberstadt, a noted socioeconomic and demographic analyst, estimates some 10 million men of working age (25-54) have fled the U.S. workforce and are currently being “floated” by the U.S. economy while hundreds of thousands of manufacturing jobs go empty.³⁸ According to Eberstadt, these men are not working, not looking for work or really doing anything other than idling away their time with gaming, popping pills, watching TV, becoming obese and viewing pornography. “No other developed nation simultaneously floats such a large proportion of its prime-age men entirely outside the labor force,” Eberstadt concludes.³⁹ While progressives call this flight of men the “deindustrialization of America,” George Gilder at the National Review blames a nation-wide, aggressive campaign to feminize America, including its industries that have been typically male-heavy.⁴⁰ He points to the lack of affirmation for males in the education system and the work place, the fact that 60 percent of college students are now female and other aggressive campaigns in media, culture and education to emasculate boys and men as the basis for so many men in their primes leading do-nothing lives. These idle men are not currently good candidates for the plethora of available jobs, let alone for marriage and fatherhood.

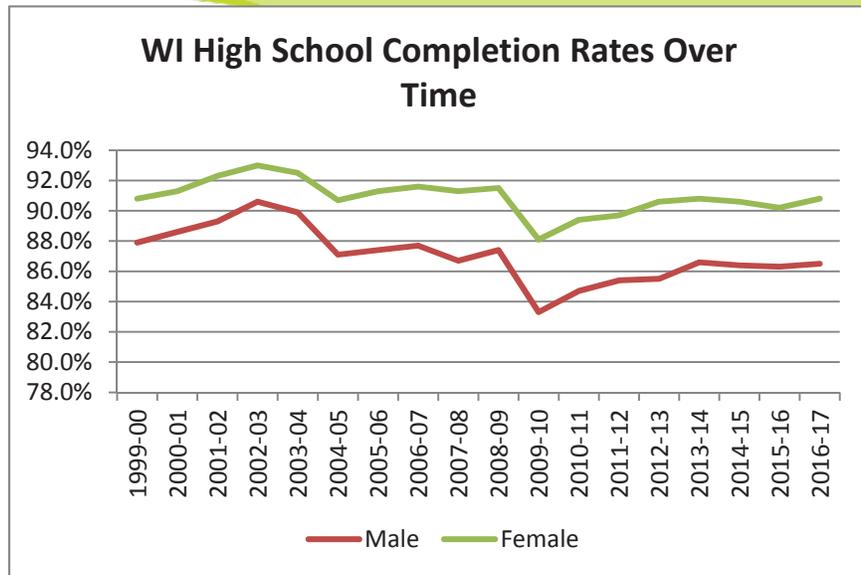
Former Governor Scott Walker and Republican leadership in the State Legislature allocated a significant amount of money to vocational and worker training programs and initiatives, apprenticeship programs, and other initiatives, including a much-needed work requirement for able-bodied, childless adults on food stamps.⁴¹ Further policy approaches might entail, yet again, a public relations campaign to promote vocational training and jobs to high school students and their parents—the parents who tend to be the ones to push their kids toward a 4-year degree.⁴²

Ultimately, however, the harder job is to address the fact that boys are languishing in our education system while the universal effort is to promote girls, who are doing quite well.⁴³ Take, for instance, high school graduation rates.

The following chart compares the high school completion rate (regular diploma) for males versus females in Wisconsin. *Please note: The Department of Public Instruction changed rate calculation formulas during this time period, most notably during the 2009-10 school year. Data prior to 2009-10 is*

legacy; all following data is for four-year graduation rates. In addition, the data for 2015-16 contains known errors, so comparisons are made cautiously.

The gap between male and female graduation rates steadily increased from 1999-00 to 2012-13 when it was over 5 percentage points. Since that time, the male-female graduation gap has hovered right around 4



percentage points. While this gap is nowhere near that of the one for graduation rates between the ethnicities, the fact that it has mostly increased over time is a worrying trend and one that is rarely mentioned. One report on the status of girls in Wisconsin in 2010 did note the gap and indicated that girls are less likely to drop out of high school than boys.⁴⁴

Not surprisingly, no comparable report exists on the status of boys in the state. Unfortunately, the case can be made that male juveniles are at more risk than females in a number of categories. For instance, in 2017 male juveniles accounted for 83 percent of juvenile arrests for violent index crimes and 70 percent of juvenile arrests for property index crimes.⁴⁵ High school boys are more likely than girls to report engaging in risky behaviors such as physical fights, carrying a weapon at school, drinking while driving, drug and tobacco use and risky sexual behaviors.⁴⁶ In many cases, boys are also more likely to begin risky behavior at earlier ages than girls.⁴⁷

One of the proposed solutions to address the flagging interest and achievements of boys in school is to increase vocational schools and training in the state. Former Gov. Walker signed the Technical High School Diploma Act into law in 2011, which allows a school board to grant a special high school diploma to a student who meets the graduation requirements and completes a technical education program in one or more subjects.⁴⁸ However, no publicly available data exists to effectively measure how many students are achieving these technical diplomas. Wisconsin also has Career & Technical Education programs available, depending on the district, in which two out of three high school students participate every year.⁴⁹ In addition, the state has a handful of vocational charter high schools.

Increasing access to school choice and educational alternatives for parents and their students is probably the fastest way to address the issue, however there is still a cap on enrollment for the statewide school choice program. (See *Wisconsin Statistics: Parental Choice Program*.) In addition, Wisconsin’s new Governor, Tony Evers, proposed a cap on all three school choice programs beginning with the 2020-21 school year in his 2019-2021 state budget.⁵⁰ If the traditional public school model is failing an increasing number of boys as well as minorities of both genders, then perhaps it is time to



consider a school funding formula where the money follows the students and the parents have a wide variety of choices regarding where to send their children.

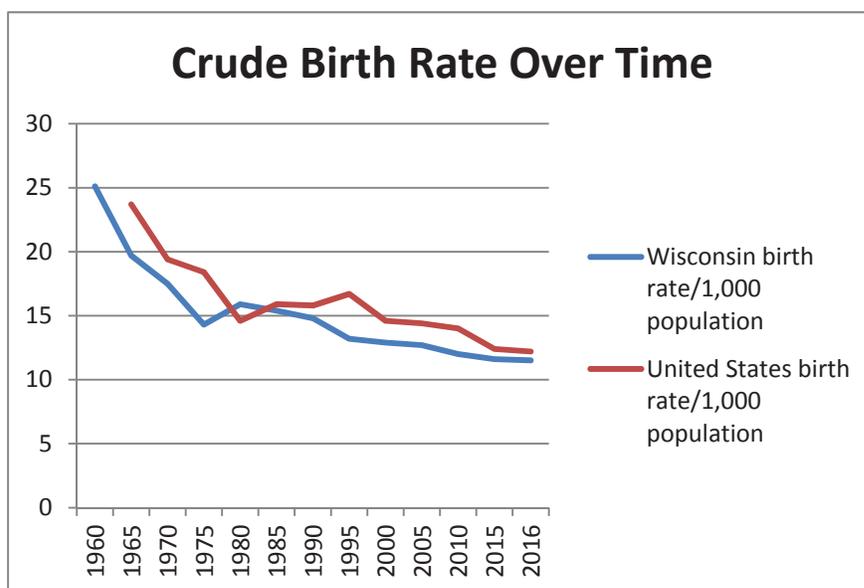
Birth Rate

This aspect of the workforce shortage is perhaps the most difficult for the government to address. The total fertility rate in Wisconsin for 2017 (most recent comparable data) was 1.8 children per woman, well below the replacement rate of 2.1.⁵¹ The crude birth rate (births per 1,000 population) in Wisconsin for 2017 (most recent comparable data) was 11.2—a 30 percent decline since 1980. Interestingly, or perhaps tragically, 1980 was also the state’s peak year for abortions: 21,754 abortions performed for a rate of 29 abortions per 100 live births.⁵² In 2016 the ratio of abortions to 100 live births was 9. Despite the significant decrease in abortions, however, Wisconsin’s birth rate has continued to decline due to, among other things, shifts in cultural attitudes toward childbearing and delayed childbearing.

What constitutes a very personal choice for women and families, however, has a very large impact on Wisconsin’s economy as a growing aging population dependent on pensions and Medicare requires more financial support from the economy while fewer laborers are coming into the market to fill workforce shortages. According to one expert, Wisconsin will require an additional 300,000 workers by 2040, which would require both a higher birth rate as well as significant in-migration.⁵³ However, the state has been experiencing a net out-migration loss since the mid-2000s.⁵⁴

Wisconsin is on the lower end of states in terms of birth rates, ranking at 38th.⁵⁵ The state’s birth rate has been declining since 2007 and has never really picked back up (see *Wisconsin Statistics: Birth Rate and Live Births*). This could be attributed to couples postponing child-bearing due to the economic downturn, in which case the rate should pick back up during a time of economic growth. However, other factors will also come into play—such as the increasing difficulty for women to carry a pregnancy to term as they age.⁵⁶

Mandated paid family leave is one of the first policy suggestions to be mentioned in the wake of news about the economic impact of declining birth rates. While Wisconsin Family Council supports policies that are pro-family, we have serious reservations about this supposedly pro-family solution. One of the first considerations for policy-makers when looking at legislation that impacts families should be whether the policy meets the



threshold of “doing no harm” to families. We believe there is ample evidence to suggest that a mandated paid family leave would do harm to families—particularly to children.

Government cannot be in the business of rewarding or penalizing a family decision such as whether to work or stay at home to take care of a child. Quite literally, the mother and/or father who takes the subsidy and eventually returns to work, turning their child’s care over to daycare workers and teachers, is financially rewarded by the government for their decision. Meanwhile, the mother or father who stays at home to care for a child is in effect financially penalized because they did not choose the option government deems worth subsidizing. The parent who returns to work is paid to care for their child, actually, while the stay-at-home parent is not. In fact, the rewards and penalties are potentially doubled by the fact that the parent who stays at home not only sacrifices their career options in the future, but also their earning potential, while the subsidized parent does not experience those same penalties, or at least not to the same degree.

Additionally, paid family leave, particularly as it is directed toward women, indirectly incentivizes the circumstance of absent or underperforming fathers. The father should be providing the income to care for a new mother during her recovery and those intense first months of child care—that is the arrangement government should be encouraging.

If government mandates paid family leave it must also subsidize it to one degree or another. Proponents from the right side of the political spectrum suggest ways to make such a subsidy “budget neutral” with payroll tax cuts and cuts in spending—although not to programs that help lower income individuals.⁵⁷ However, in the zero-sum game of government budgeting, no new subsidy can be entirely budget-neutral. The population that gains always does so at the expense of the subpopulation that loses.⁵⁸

In addition, providing any percentage of paid leave would actually be regressive. Consider this example: a mother making a \$100,000 income would get 50% of her pay, for instance, and the government would be contributing more, or requiring her employer to contribute more, to her paid leave than a mother making \$25,000 a year: \$12,500 in paid family leave benefits for the lower-income mother compared to a \$50,000 benefit for the six-figure income mother.

Private employers have already started to address the need for paid family leave. In 2016, for example, 34 percent of American workers had employers who offered paid parental leave.⁵⁹ Another survey indicated that the percentage of private employers offering paid leave tripled from 12 percent to 35 percent from the years 2012 to 2018.⁶⁰ The actual greatest need for a paid family leave is, ironically, for those mothers and fathers in lower income jobs whose employers are the least likely to be able to afford such a benefit and who would also potentially qualify for other welfare benefits.

As an alternative to mandated paid family leave, lawmakers should consider policies that are economically beneficial to all families: pro-free-market policies that encourage job creation for family-supporting jobs, income tax reform, tax-free family leave savings accounts, and labor policies that encourage flexible work arrangements and compensatory time banking. Expanding access to employer-provided programs means creating a regulatory and tax atmosphere that attracts growing businesses.



Promoting the proposed public “success sequence” campaign would stress that delaying child-bearing till after a job and marriage—where both parents are committed to each other and the child’s care—is the ideal arrangement for addressing the challenges of child care and a mother’s need and desire to be at home during recovery with her newborn.

Government must also avoid crafting tax and welfare public policy that incentivizes the absence of fathers—particularly married fathers. While public policy will not necessarily influence a person’s decision to marry, it can, and frequently does, conversely reward lifestyles and behavioral choices that lead to financial dependence on government instead of the family unit, and the cycles of poverty that perpetuate such an arrangement.

¹ *Wisconsin, Facing a Worker Shortage, Pitches Its Benefits*, Shayndi Raice, Feb. 12, 2018, *The Wall Street Journal*, available at: <https://www.wsj.com/articles/wisconsin-facing-a-worker-shortage-pitches-its-benefits-1518431400?mod=e2twg> [accessed on July 27, 2018].

² *Ibid.*

³ Wisconsin faces workforce shortage, WKOW.com, March 22, 2019, available at: <https://wkow.com/news/top-stories/2019/03/22/wisconsin-faces-workforce-shortage/> [accessed on May 9, 2019].

⁴ BLS Data: Wisconsin Unemployment Rate Remains at 2.9 Percent in March, State of Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, April 18, 2019 Press Release, available at: https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/newsreleases/2019/unemployment/190418_march_state.pdf [accessed on May 9, 2019]; Civilian labor force participation rate, seasonally adjusted, Bureau of Labor Statistics, available at: <https://www.bls.gov/charts/employment-situation/civilian-labor-force-participation-rate.htm> [accessed on May 9, 2019].

⁵ U.S. Census Bureau Quick Facts: Wisconsin, Population Estimates 2017, available at: <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/WI> [accessed on April 5, 2018]; 2018 Family Prosperity Index, Wendy P. Warcholik, Ph. D. & J. Scott Moody, M.A., Family Prosperity Initiative, available at: http://familyprosperity.org/application/files/4415/2656/8416/2018_Family_Prosperty_Index.pdf [accessed on August 13, 2018]; Single Years of Age and Sex: 2010, 2010 Census Summary File 1; Geography: Wisconsin, American Fact Finder, U.S. Census Bureau, available at: <https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=CF> [accessed on August 13, 2018].

⁶ 2018 Family Prosperity Index, Wendy P. Warcholik, Ph. D. & J. Scott Moody, M.A., Family Prosperity Initiative, available at: http://familyprosperity.org/application/files/4415/2656/8416/2018_Family_Prosperty_Index.pdf [accessed on August 13, 2018].

⁷ *For richer, for poorer: How family structures economic success in America, Executive Summary*, W. Bradford Wilcox, Robert I. Lerman, October 28, 2014, AEI and Institute for Family Studies, available at: <https://www.aei.org/publication/for-richer-for-poorer-how-family-structures-economic-success-in-america/> [accessed on July 28, 2018].

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² *Strong families, prosperous states: Do healthy families affect the wealth of states?*, W. Bradford Wilcox, Robert I. Lerman, Joseph Price, October 19, 2015, American Enterprise Institute and the Institute for Family Studies, available at: <https://www.aei.org/publication/strong-families-prosperous-states/> [accessed on July 28, 2018].

¹³ *The Feminist Economy*, George Gilder, January 23, 2017, National Review Magazine, available at: <https://www.nationalreview.com/magazine/2017/01/23/nicholas-eberstadt-men-without-work/> [accessed on July 28, 2018].

¹⁴ *Strong families, prosperous states: Do healthy families affect the wealth of states?*, W. Bradford Wilcox, Robert I. Lerman, Joseph Price, October 19, 2015, American Enterprise Institute and the Institute for Family Studies, available at: <https://www.aei.org/publication/strong-families-prosperous-states/> [accessed on July 28, 2018].

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ 2018 Family Prosperity Index, Wendy P. Warcholik, Ph. D. & J. Scott Moody, M.A., Family Prosperity Initiative, available at: http://familyprosperity.org/application/files/4415/2656/8416/2018_Family_Prosperty_Index.pdf [accessed on August 13, 2018].

¹⁷ *Why Marriage is Good for Economics*, Aparna Mathur, Oct. 30, 2015, Forbes, available at: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/aparnamathur/2015/10/30/the-family-foundations-of-economic-growth/#1d3a486d2a9b> [accessed on July 28, 2018].

¹⁸ 2018 Family Prosperity Index, Wendy P. Warcholik, Ph. D. & J. Scott Moody, M.A., Family Prosperity Initiative, available at: http://familyprosperity.org/application/files/4415/2656/8416/2018_Family_Prosperty_Index.pdf [accessed on August 13, 2018].

¹⁹ *Marriage Waiting Period Elimination Passes Assembly*, Nov. 8, 2017, Associated Press, available at: <https://www.tmj4.com/news/local-news/marriage-waiting-period-elimination-passes-wisconsin-assembly> [accessed on May 21, 2019].

²⁰ 2017 Assembly Bill 521, Wisconsin State Legislature, available at: <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2017/proposals/ab521> [accessed on July 28, 2018].

²¹ *Strong families, prosperous states: Do healthy families affect the wealth of states?*, W. Bradford Wilcox, Robert I. Lerman, Joseph Price, October 19, 2015, American Enterprise Institute and the Institute for Family Studies, available at: <https://www.aei.org/publication/strong-families-prosperous-states/> [accessed on July 28, 2018].

²² *Wisconsin, Facing a Worker Shortage, Pitches Its Benefits*, Shayndi Raice, The Wall Street Journal, Feb. 12, 2018, available at: <https://www.wsj.com/articles/wisconsin-facing-a-worker-shortage-pitches-its-benefits-1518431400?mod=e2twg> [accessed on July 28, 2018].

²³ Wisconsin Legislative Fiscal Bureau, *State Aid to School Districts Informational Paper 24*, January 2017, available at http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lfb/informational_papers/january_2017/0024_state_aid_to_school_districts_informational_paper_24.pdf [accessed on January 10, 2018].

²⁴ About the Data—Postgraduation Plans, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, available at: <https://dpi.wi.gov/wisedash/about-data/postgrad-plans> [accessed on July 28, 2018].

²⁵ Chart available at: <https://wisedash.dpi.wi.gov/Dashboard/portalHome.jsp?itemlinkid=4602&filtersetid=1fbde80e-bb8f-44b6-a95e-5515f71d9e7a> [accessed on May 15, 2019].

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Data available at: <https://wisedash.dpi.wi.gov/Dashboard/portalHome.jsp?itemlinkid=4602&filtersetid=1fbde80e-bb8f-44b6-a95e-5515f71d9e7a> [accessed on May 15, 2019].

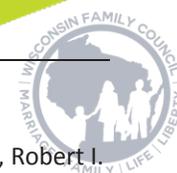
²⁸ Table 304.30, Total fall enrollment in degree-granting postsecondary institutions, by attendance status, sex and state or jurisdiction: 2014 and 2015, Digest of Education Statistics, available at: https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d16/tables/dt16_304.30.asp [accessed on August 1, 2018].

²⁹ *How to Make School Better for Boys*, Christina Hoff Sommers, Sept. 13, 2013, available at: <https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2013/09/how-to-make-school-better-for-boys/279635/> [accessed on August 4, 2018].

³⁰ *Strong families, prosperous states: Do healthy families affect the wealth of states?*, W. Bradford Wilcox, Robert I. Lerman, Joseph Price, October 19, 2015, American Enterprise Institute and the Institute for Family Studies, available at: <https://www.aei.org/publication/strong-families-prosperous-states/> [accessed on July 28, 2018].

³¹ *QuickFacts, Wisconsin*, U.S. Census Bureau, available at: <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/wi> [accessed on August 1, 2018].

³² Table 306.60, Fall enrollment in degree-granting postsecondary institutions, by race/ethnicity of student and state or jurisdiction: 2015, Digest of Education Statistics, available at: https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d16/tables/dt16_306.60.asp [accessed on July 31, 2018].



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- ³⁵ *High-Paying Trade Jobs Sit Empty, While High School Grads Line up for University*, Ashley Gross & Jon Marcus, nprED, available at: https://www.npr.org/sections/ed/2018/04/25/605092520/high-paying-trade-jobs-sit-empty-while-high-school-grads-line-up-for-university?utm_campaign=storyshare&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=social [accessed on August 1, 2018].
- ³⁶ Ibid.
- ³⁷ *QuickFacts, Wisconsin*, U.S. Census Bureau, available at: <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/wi> [accessed on August 1, 2018].
- ³⁸ *The Feminist Economy*, George Gilder, National Review Magazine, January 23, 2017, available at: <https://www.nationalreview.com/magazine/2017/01/23/nicholas-eberstadt-men-without-work/> [accessed on August 1, 2018].
- ³⁹ Ibid.
- ⁴⁰ Ibid.
- ⁴¹ *Scott Walker says he invested \$100 million in worker training*, Tom Kertscher, PolitiFact Wisconsin, August 24, 2014, available at: <https://www.politifact.com/wisconsin/statements/2014/aug/24/scott-walker/scott-walker-says-he-invested-100-million-worker-t/> [accessed on August 1, 2018]; Governor Walker Announces Wisconsin Career Creator Plan to Support Long-Term Workforce Development Needs, January 17, 2018, Office of Governor Scott Walker, available at: <https://walker.wi.gov/press-releases/governor-walker-announces-wisconsin-career-creator-plan-support-long-term-workforce> [accessed on August 1, 2018].
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- ⁴³ *How to Make School Better for Boys*, Christina Hoff Sommers, Sept. 13, 2013, available at: <https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2013/09/how-to-make-school-better-for-boys/279635/> [accessed on August 4, 2018].
- ⁴⁴ *The Status of Girls in Wisconsin: A Report Updated 2010*, Alverno College, Research Center for Women and Girls, available at: https://www.alverno.edu/media/alvernocollege/pdfs/STatusOfGirlsFinalw_Cover.pdf [accessed on August 8, 2018].
- ⁴⁵ *Arrestee Sex and Age Group, by Crime Category and Arrest Year*, UCR Arrest Demographics, Wisconsin Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Data, Wisconsin Department of Justice, available at: <https://www.doj.state.wi.us/dles/bjia/ucr-arrest-demographics> [accessed on July 6, 2018].
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- ⁴⁸ Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, available at: <https://dpi.wi.gov/cte/resources/technical-education> [accessed on August 9, 2018].
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- ⁵⁰ Public Instruction, Summary of Governor’s Budget Recommendations – March, 2019 (by Agency), available at: http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lfb/budget/2019_21_biennial_budget/500_summary_of_governor_s_budget_recommendations_march_2019_by_agency/public_instruction.pdf [accessed on May 20, 2019].

⁵¹ Wisconsin Department of Health Services, *Other Measures of Fertility: Total Fertility Rate, Wisconsin and the United States Selected Years 1950-2017*, available at: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wish/fertility/measures.htm> [accessed on February 28, 2019].

⁵² Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

⁵³ *Wisconsin's Declining Birth Rate May Pose Economic Challenges as Well as Demographic Ones*, Brady Carlson, July 19, 2018, Wisconsin Public Radio, available at: <https://www.wpr.org/wisconsins-declining-birth-rate-may-pose-economic-challenges-well-demographic-ones> [accessed on August 2, 2018].

⁵⁴ *Wisconsin's Birth Rate is Falling, But Why?*, Wisconsin Policy Forum, Focus #13, July 18, 2018, available at: <https://wispolicyforum.org/focus/wisconsins-birth-rate-is-falling-but-why/> [accessed on August 2, 2018].

⁵⁵ Ibid.

⁵⁶ *Fading Fertility, Ready or Not*, Jennifer Lahl, 2017 Index of Culture and Opportunity, The Heritage Foundation, July 20, 2017, available at: <https://www.heritage.org/2017-index-culture-and-opportunity/fading-fertility-ready-or-not> [accessed on August 2, 2018].

⁵⁷ *Paid Family and Medical Leave, An Issue Whose Time Has Come*, AEI-Brookings Working Group on Paid Family Leave, May 2017, available at: https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/es_20170606_paidfamilyleave.pdf [accessed on August 2, 2018].

⁵⁸ *Why it matters that mandated family leave is not a free lunch*, Benjamin Zycher, AEIdeas, March 31, 2017, available at: <http://www.aei.org/publication/why-it-matters-that-mandated-family-leave-is-not-a-free-lunch/> [accessed on August 2, 2018].

⁵⁹ *Leave Paid Family Leave to Employers and States*, Rachel Greszler, The Heritage Foundation, August 1, 2017, available at: <https://www.heritage.org/taxes/commentary/leave-paid-family-leave-employers-and-states> [accessed on August 2, 2018].

⁶⁰ *Americans Want a National Paid Family Leave Program – But Not If They Have to Pay for It: New Survey*, Rachel Greszler, The Heritage Foundation, January 24, 2019, available at: <https://www.heritage.org/budget-and-spending/report/americans-want-national-paid-family-leave-program-not-if-they-have-pay> [accessed on May 20, 2019].

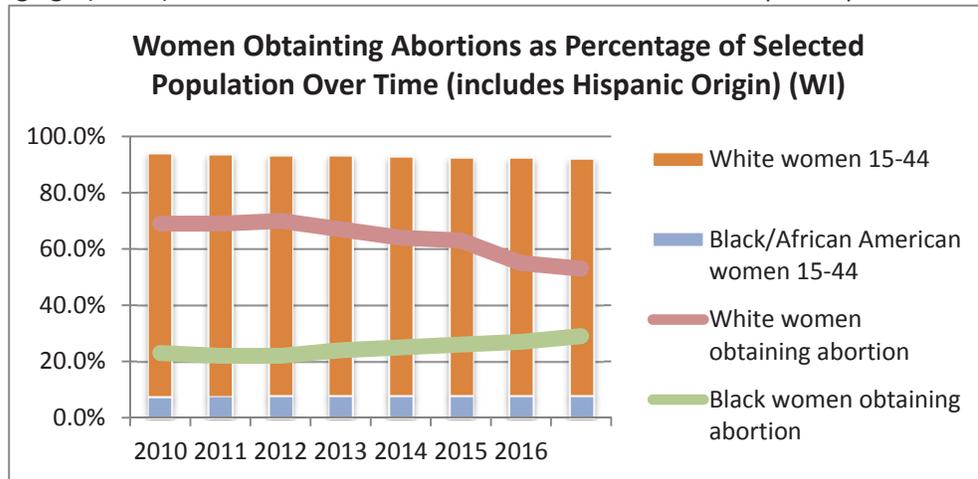
The Status of African American Children in Wisconsin



Throughout this publication, data and social science have been shown to confirm that the intact married-dad-and-mom family is the best place for children to succeed and thrive. In Wisconsin, a majority of African American children appear to be experiencing particularly harmful negative outcomes from family breakdown. The following data and tables provide a selective, statistical overview of the status of African American children in Wisconsin.

Abortion

In 2017, in Wisconsin, Black women obtained 29 percent of all abortions, compared to White women, who obtained 53 percent of all abortions.¹ Black/African American women constituted 8.1 percent of all women of child-bearing age (15-44) in Wisconsin in 2017, while white women made up 84.1 percent of all women of child-bearing age. The abortion rate is the number of abortions per 1,000 women age 15-44. Using that formula, the abortion rate for black women in 2017 in Wisconsin was 18.7 compared to a rate of 3.3 for white women.²



Please note: these measures do not predict the likelihood that an African American baby will be aborted in Wisconsin because that would require a pregnancy rate in order to accurately determine, a statistic that is not collected in the state due to its difficulty to track. However, the data does indicate that a baby carried by a Black/African American mother in the state has a much higher chance of being aborted than one carried by a White mother: Black/African American women obtained abortions at a rate of almost 6 times more than White women.

Birth

Babies born to Black/African American mothers experienced higher rates of low birth weight than any other ethnicity. Over 15 percent of babies born to Black/African American mothers had low birth weight (< 5.5 lbs.) compared to just over 6 percent of babies born to White mothers in 2017.³ The primary risks for low birth weight are premature birth, race (African-American babies are generally two times more likely to be born with low birth weight than white babies), teen mother, multiple births, and the mother's health (substance use/abuse, lack of prenatal care, etc.).⁴ Low birth weight can lead to a number of health and developmental problems for babies.

Year	Low Birthweight White (Non-Hispanic)	Low Birthweight Black/African American (Non-Hispanic)
2010	6.2%	13.8%
2011	6.4%	14.2%
2012	6.5%	13.0%
2013	6.0%	13.9%
2014	6.5%	14.0%
2015	6.2%	15.1%
2016	6.4%	14.9%
2017	6.4%	15.4%

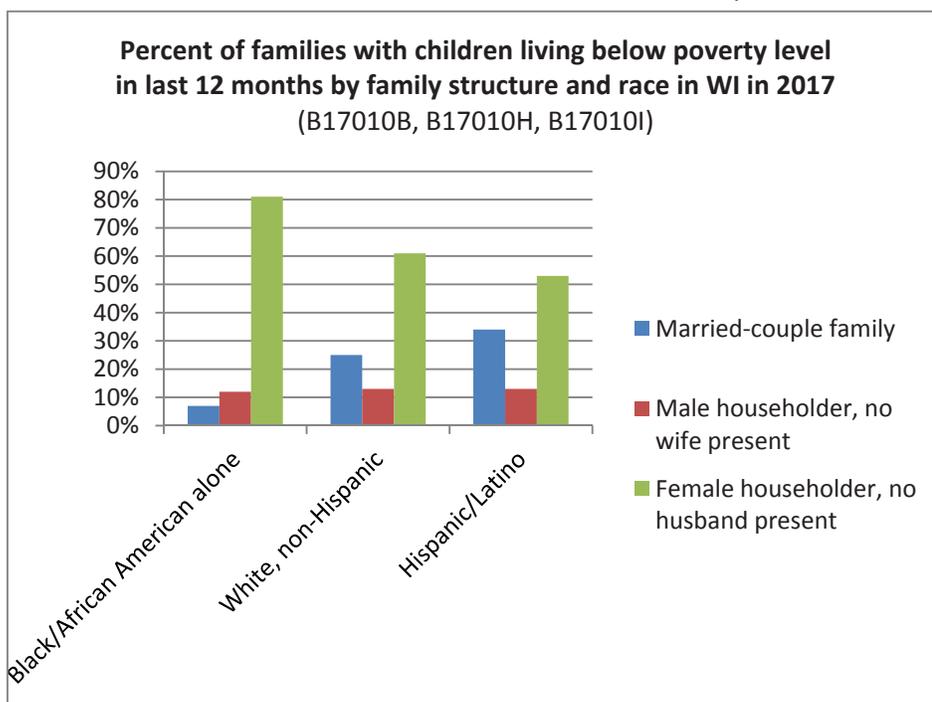
In 2017, 20 percent of babies born to White, non-Hispanic mothers, were born out of wedlock. For babies born to Black, non-Hispanic mothers in Wisconsin in 2017, 84 percent were born to mothers out of wedlock, the highest percentage of out-of-wedlock births of all the ethnicities in the state. (See *Wisconsin Statistics: Births to Unmarried Women*.) This statistic highlights a particularly harmful reality for the vast majority of African American newborns in Wisconsin.

Infant Mortality

The Infant Mortality Rate measures the number of first-year deaths (<365 days) per 1,000 live births. From 1999 to 2016, Black/African American women consistently experienced infant mortality rates higher than every other ethnicity in Wisconsin (with the exception of one year, 2015, in which American Indian/Alaska Natives experienced the highest infant mortality rate in the state). In 2016 the Infant Mortality Rate for babies born to White mothers was 5.3; for babies born to Black/African American mother it was 15.2—a rate nearly three times higher than for babies born to White mothers (most recent comparable data).⁵ For every year from 2010 to 2016, the rate of infant deaths for infants born to Black/African American mothers in Wisconsin was at least 2.5 times as high, and sometimes over 3 times as high, as the rate for babies born to White mothers. The infant mortality rate for Black/African American mothers in Wisconsin for 2016 (15.2) was comparable to the rate in countries such as Syria, Georgia and Iran in 2017.⁶ *Please note: differences in reporting standards between countries may account for some of the disparity between rates in the U.S. and comparable and/or other countries.*

Poverty

In households in Wisconsin with related minor children where the householder is Black/African American, children are more likely to be living in poverty than children in White or Hispanic households in most cases. For 50 percent of female Black/African American householders with related minor children (but no husband present), the household income was below the poverty level for the past 12 months, according to a 2017 U.S. Census Bureau 5-year



estimate (in non-census years, the 5-year estimate is the most accurate). For comparison purposes, the same statistic for White female householders with minor children (no husband present) was 31 percent, and for Hispanic/Latino female householders it was 46 percent. Overall, 40 percent of Black/African American householders with minor children in Wisconsin in 2017 had an income below the poverty level



for the previous 12 months, compared to 9 percent of White householders and 27 percent of Hispanic/Latino householders, according to 5-year estimates.

In a 2012-2015 survey of households in Wisconsin, almost 35 percent of African-American households were found to have food insecurity⁷, compared to about 32 percent of Hispanic households and less than 9 percent of White households.⁸ The gaps between White and African-American households and Hispanic households for food insecurity are much worse in Wisconsin than nationwide: the gap between White households and African-American households is one of the largest in the nation.⁹ Food insecurity is particularly troubling for children on many counts, but according to the survey, it is also linked to “worse educational outcomes for kids.”¹⁰

Education

Wisconsin has long held the notorious reputation of having one of the worst achievement gaps between White and African-American public school students in the nation.¹¹ In 2017, Black students in the 4th grade scored an average of 36 points below White students for mathematics and an average of 33 points below White students for reading.¹² The National Assessment of Educational Progress, from which the achievement data is derived, measures student proficiency in mathematics, reading, science and writing for students in the 4th, 8th and 12th grades.

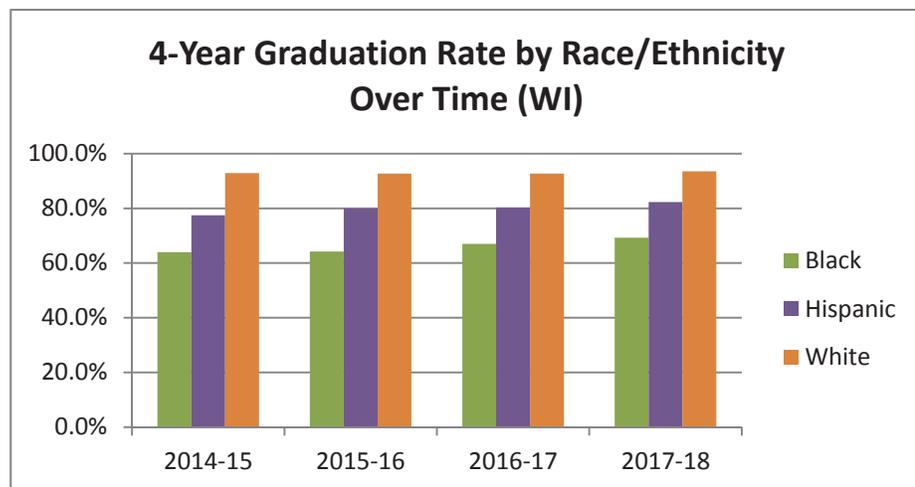
In 2015, 27 percent of Black public school students in the 8th grade in Wisconsin scored at or above *Basic*¹³ in Science and 7 percent scored at or above *Proficient*¹⁴ in Science, compared to 84 percent and 47 percent of White, 8th grade students, respectively.¹⁵ For 8th grade public school students in the state in 2017, Black students scored an average of 36 points lower than White students in Reading, making Wisconsin the second worst state for that particular achievement gap, behind the District of Columbia.¹⁶ Black students are far less likely to achieve proficiency levels in basic academic subjects in the state’s public schools than are White students.

Black students also tend to underperform White students on the ACT. For the 2017 graduating class, the average composite score for White students was 21.5, compared to 16.1 for Black/African-American students in the state while the average composite score for Black/African-Americans nationally was 17.1 (most recent comparable data available).¹⁷ Black students also consistently graduate at lower rates than other ethnicities in the state. For the 2017-18 school year the four-year graduation rate for Black students in Wisconsin was 69 percent, compared to 94 percent for White students.¹⁸

Risk Factors

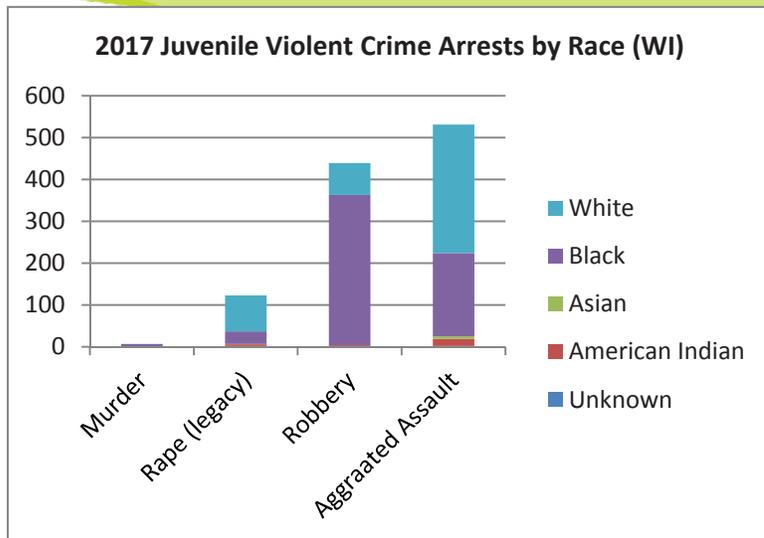
African American teenagers experienced by far the highest rate of STDs in Wisconsin for

teens in 2017: 9,637 cases per 100,000 population, compared to 879 for White teens.¹⁹



Of the Black students who responded to the National Youth Risk Behavior Survey in 2017, 27 percent reported they were offered, sold or given an illegal drug on school property during the past year, compared to 24 percent of Hispanic/Latino students, 16% of White students and 21% of multiple races. However, because the sample sizes were so small for some of the ethnicities, these figures are not entirely reliable.²⁰

In 2017, Black juveniles accounted for 52 percent of juvenile violent offense arrests while White juveniles accounted for 42 percent.²¹



After murder (Black juveniles accounted for 100 percent or 14 murder arrests in 2017), juvenile robbery arrests accounted for the greatest racial disparity: Black juveniles made up 76 percent of the arrests. According to a 2016, national-level study, Wisconsin is one of five states in the country to have a 10-to-1 incarceration rate disparity of African Americans to Whites; the cause(s) of this disparity is highly debated in the state.²²

Conclusion

So many factors are involved in each of the disparities outlined in this section that it would be difficult to accurately implicate and weight all causation factors, which is not the intent of this publication. Clearly, however, family fragmentation is a significant contributor to the disparities—particularly as it is linked to economic, developmental and educational outcomes for children (see the *Marriage and Family* section of *Family and the Economy*).

With 84 percent of African American births occurring to unmarried mothers, it makes sense to look at what is driving this phenomenon and what might be done—and to what extent government should or should not be involved—to give more African American children the benefits of growing up in an intact family.

Researchers expect the racial and ethnic marriage gap, which really began to appear in the 1960s, to only continue to grow.²³ The marriage gap between Black and White women and across socioeconomic and educational strata is well documented without being completely understood.²⁴ The causes behind this trend are complex; social science shows that a variety of factors from the relatively small difference between African American men and women’s average wages, to high African American male incarceration and unemployment rates, to cultural ideas about independence, for example, contribute in various ways to the racial and ethnic marriage divide in the U.S.²⁵ Lest we think this trend is isolated to only some population groups, data shows that all ethnicities are experiencing a growing marriage divide along socioeconomic and educational lines.²⁶

Although government cannot and should not expect to be able to turn this trend around through new programs and spending, it can look at addressing some of the underlying causes that the government may be contributing to or influencing. While African Americans have experienced increases in educational attainment and economic status over the years, their marriage rates have continued to



fall.²⁷ Social science researchers interpret this as indicating that a number of factors are involved beyond the socioeconomic, but that is a good a place to start from the government's perspective.

Higher rates of unemployment, higher incarceration rates, lower levels of education, and lower levels of transition from education to employment for African American men compared to White men, among other things, tends to decrease the pool of potential marriage partners available for African American women.²⁸ Where all males are experiencing the effect of a female-centric education system and its resulting impact on the economy (see *Family and the Economy*), the statistics indicate that African American males have experienced higher levels of particularly harmful outcomes in education and the economy.

Wisconsin Family Council believes policy-makers should always seek at the very least to “do no harm” to families and, ideally, to craft policies that help families thrive. For some Wisconsin children and families, the failures of government welfare policies, institutional injustice in past generations, poor educational options and outcomes and a struggling criminal justice system have contributed to a cycle of poverty and government dependence that is undermining their ability to thrive.

The policy suggestions in the *Family and the Economy* section apply here as well, such as a campaign to promote the “success sequence,” a focus on vocational training opportunities, increasing school choice/alternative options, tax and welfare policies that encourage marriage instead of penalizing it, and economic policies that foster growth and family-supporting jobs. Partnership with local community leaders by the agencies tasked with executing the policies would be vital to ensure that these efforts to promote educational and employment opportunities reach those who need them the most.

A comprehensive reform of the criminal justice system is already necessary from a corrections standpoint, as the state's overall high incarceration rate is straining both the state budget and the prison system. (See *Wisconsin Statistics: Adult Prison Population*.) For example, changes to Wisconsin's particularly strident expungement laws, such as those proposed in a bipartisan manner in the 2019-2020 legislative session, could ultimately help families in a state where easy access to criminal records and a lack of other mitigating documentation, such as a certificate of rehabilitation, makes the collateral consequences of a conviction (*i.e.*, unemployment, homelessness) devastating for those trying to pull their lives and families back together.²⁹

Obviously, immediate efforts to decrease elective abortions, poor birth outcomes and infant mortality for African American babies should take precedence and will require a different strategy in concert with local government, community leaders, non-profits and medical professionals.

The City of Milwaukee and the Milwaukee County Health Department are currently experimenting with a pilot program that will provide doulas to 100 expectant mothers in the city's 53206 zip code, the area with the highest infant mortality rate in the city: 29.1 infant deaths to 1,000 live births.³⁰ Doulas are non-medically trained coaches that provide training and help for mothers before, during and/or after labor. Premature birth and low birth weight are two well-established factors for infant mortality, according to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.³¹ The Milwaukee pilot program intends to target some of those factors by focusing on the health of at-risk mothers with the assistance of doulas. The program's funding and goals make it a valuable pilot program for lawmakers to consider as they attempt to address the extraordinarily high African American infant mortality rates. Republicans on the Joint Finance Committee removed Governor Tony Evers' proposal to provide funding for community-based doulas

and Medicaid reimbursement in select counties for certified doula services because it was tied into his Healthy Women initiative, which included reinstating public funding for Planned Parenthood. At the time of publication, the GOP had not yet voted on a substitute proposal.

The continuing failure of the Milwaukee Public School system to provide a good quality education system to all inner-city children is timely evidence that “throwing money” at a program is not going to provide adequate, long-term solutions. Nor can government expect to change long-standing cultural and socioeconomic factors involved in African American family instability with the “right” program or expenditure. Giving as many African American children as possible the benefits of family intactness will require a concerted, creative effort involving community, including churches, and legislative stakeholders.

All vulnerable children and families would benefit from this effort to help Wisconsin’s at-risk African American children and families thrive, regardless of race and ethnicity, because the factors behind family fragmentation do not discriminate in their destructive influence. While we stress that government’s role in this effort is limited, we do believe there is a role for state government and that all policies that could impact families should be considered in light of their ability to either harm families—particularly at-risk children and families—or help them thrive.

¹ *Reported Induced Abortions in Wisconsin 2017*, Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health Office of Health Informatics, available at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p45360-17.pdf> [accessed on May 22, 2019].

² For an explanation of how the U.S. Census Bureau considers race and ethnicity please see the following document: <https://www.census.gov/mso/www/training/pdf/race-ethnicity-onepager.pdf> [accessed on May 23, 2019].

³ Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Office of Health Informatics. Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH) data query system, <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/wish/>, Low Birthweight Module, [accessed on May 23, 2019].

⁴ Low Birthweight, Stanford Children’s Hospital, available at: <https://www.stanfordchildrens.org/en/topic/default?id=low-birthweight-90-P02382> [accessed on August 22, 2018].

⁵ Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Office of Health Informatics. Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH) data query system, <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wish/index.htm>, Infant Mortality Module, [accessed on August 15, 2018].

⁶ The World Factbook: Country Comparison::Infant Mortality Rate, CIA, 2017 est., available at: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/rankorder/2091rank.html> [accessed on August 15, 2018].

⁷ Defined as: “[Households] lacked assured access to sufficient food for a healthy and active life. Food insecure households may run out of food, cut back the size of meals, or skip meals, due to lack of money for food.” Quick Facts on Food Insecurity in Wisconsin, Judi Bartfeld, Ph.D., UW-Extension, May 2017, available at: https://foodsecurity.wisc.edu/documents/WI_food_security_facts_2017.pdf [accessed on August 21, 2018]

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ *Borsuk: Wisconsin’s achievement gap is our tragic claim to fame. Where’s the outrage?*, Alan J. Borsuk, Journal Sentinel, April 27, 2018, available at: <https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2018/04/27/borsuk-wisconsins-achievement-gap-our-tragic-claim-fame-wheres-outrage/559605002/> [accessed on August 21, 2018].

¹² 2017 Mathematics State Snapshot Report, Wisconsin, Grade 4, Public Schools, available at: <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/subject/publications/stt2017/pdf/2018038WI4.pdf> [accessed on August 21, 2018]; 2017 Reading State Snapshot Report, Wisconsin, Grade 4, Public Schools, available at:



<https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/subject/publications/stt2017/pdf/2018039WI4.pdf> [accessed on August 21, 2018].

¹³ Definitions available at: <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/science/achieve.aspx>.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ 2015 Science State Snapshot Report, Wisconsin, Grade 8, Public Schools, available at:

<https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/subject/publications/stt2015/pdf/2016157WI8.pdf> [accessed on August 21, 2018].

¹⁶ Wisconsin Student Groups and Gaps Data, Reading, Grade 8, Difference in average scale score or score gap between all jurisdictions and Wisconsin, for Race/Ethnicity, 2017, available at:

https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/profiles/stateprofile/overview/WI?cti=PgTab_GapComparisons&chort=2&sub=RED&sj=WI&fs=Grade&st=MN&year=2017R3&sg=Race%2FEthnicity%3A+White+vs.+Black&sgv=Difference&ts=Single+Year&tss=2017R3&sfj=NP [accessed on August 21, 2018].

¹⁷ The ACT Profile Report—State, Graduating Class 2017, Wisconsin, Table 2.3, Average ACT Scores by Race/Ethnicity, available at:

https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/cccr2017/P_50_509999_S_S_N00_ACT-GCPR_Wisconsin.pdf [accessed on August 21, 2018].

¹⁸ WISEDash, HS Completion Rates by Race/Ethnicity (2016-17), available at:

[http://wisedash.dpi.wi.gov/Dashboard/Page/Home/Topic%20Area/Graduation/HS%20Completion%20\(Single%20Year\)/HS%20Completers%20\(Single%20Year\)?filtersetid=f698602a-1ba9-433a-9055-a2f3b97f66b9](http://wisedash.dpi.wi.gov/Dashboard/Page/Home/Topic%20Area/Graduation/HS%20Completion%20(Single%20Year)/HS%20Completers%20(Single%20Year)?filtersetid=f698602a-1ba9-433a-9055-a2f3b97f66b9) [accessed on August 21, 2018].

¹⁹ Sexually Transmitted Diseases in Wisconsin, 2017, Persons 15-19 years of age, Wisconsin Department of Health Services, available at: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p00412-2017.pdf> [accessed on May 23, 2019].

²⁰ Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. 2017 Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey—Summary Table, available at <https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/sspw/pdf/yrebs17summarytables.pdf> [accessed on January 11, 2018].

²¹ *Adult v. Juvenile Arrestees, by Race and Year*, UCR Arrest Demographics, Wisconsin Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Data, Wisconsin Department of Justice, available at: <https://www.doj.state.wi.us/dles/bjia/ucr-arrest-demographics> [accessed on January 19, 2018].

²² The Color of Justice: Racial and Ethnic Disparity in State Prisons; Ashley Nellis, Ph.D., June 14, 2016, available at: <http://www.sentencingproject.org/publications/color-of-justice-racial-and-ethnic-disparity-in-state-prisons/> [accessed on August 22, 2018].

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ The Growing Racial and Ethnic Divide in U.S. Marriage Patterns, R. Kelly Raley, Megan M. Sweeney, Danielle Wondra, *Future Child*, 2015 Fall, 25(2), 89-109, available at:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4850739/> [accessed on August 22, 2018].

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ *A Fresh Start, Wisconsin's Atypical Expungement Law and Options for Reform*, Joe Peterangelo, LaLinda Xlong, Rob Henken, Wisconsin Policy Forum, June 2018, available at:

https://publicpolicyforum.org/sites/default/files/FreshStart_FullReport.pdf [accessed on May 24, 2019]; *Forgiving vs. Forgetting*, Eli Hager, The Marshall Project, available at: <https://www.themarshallproject.org/2015/03/17/forgiving-vs-forgetting> [accessed on May 24, 2019].

³⁰ *State Rep. Stubbs hits target with claim on Wisconsin's black infant mortality rate*, D.L. Davis, PolitiFact Wisconsin, April 16, 2019, available at: <https://www.politifact.com/wisconsin/statements/2019/apr/16/shelia-stubbs/state-rep-stubbs-hits-target-claim-wisconsins-blac/> [accessed on May 29, 2019].

Religion in Wisconsin

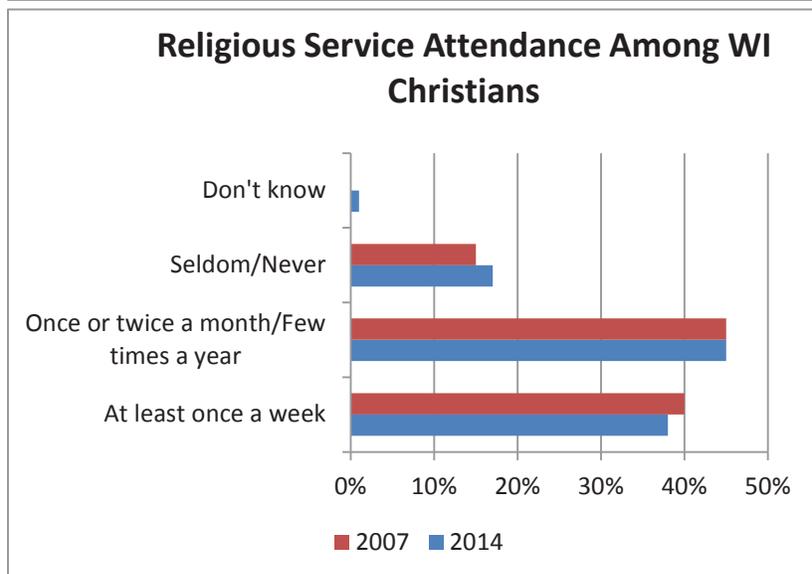
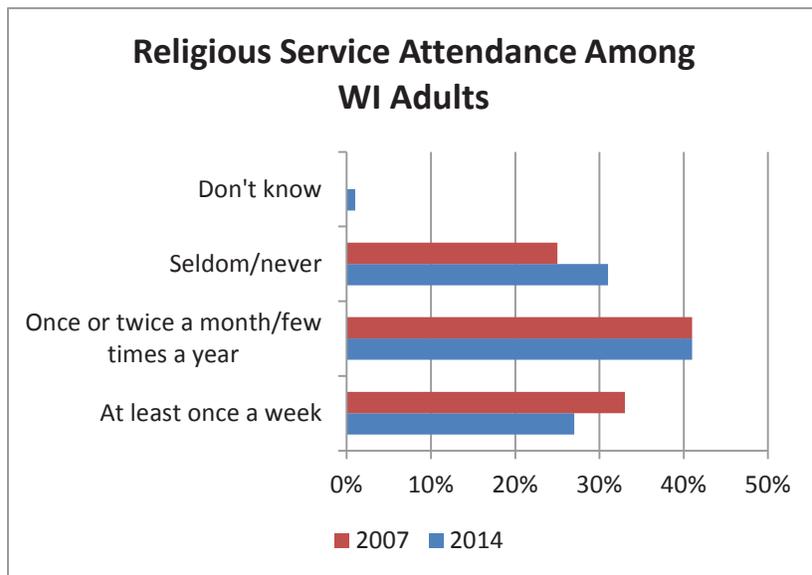
In 2014, the Pew Research Center conducted its second Religious Landscape Study of adults in the United States (the first was in 2007), the results of which are broken down by state. Although the sample sizes are relatively small for the state of Wisconsin, and the cumulative data could hardly be called a trend, the difference between the two years provides potentially illuminating information as to the shape Wisconsin's religious landscape will likely take in the coming years on important cultural and political issues. *Please note: for the 2014 Data on Christians in Wisconsin, the margin of error is approximately +/- 6 points; the 2007 Data on Christians in Wisconsin margin of error is approximately +/- 5 points. For the 2014 Data on Adults in Wisconsin, the margin of error is approximately +/- 5 points; the 2007 Data on Adults in Wisconsin margin of error is approximately +/- 4.5 points.*¹

Religious Attendance in Wisconsin

The percent of Wisconsin adults attending religious services at least once a week declined from 33 percent in 2007 to 27 percent in 2014. Christians attending religious services at least once a week declined from 40 percent in 2007 to 38 percent in 2014.

In both 2007 and 2014, 45 percent of self-identifying Christian respondents in Wisconsin indicated their religious service attendance was irregular (once or twice a month/few times a year).

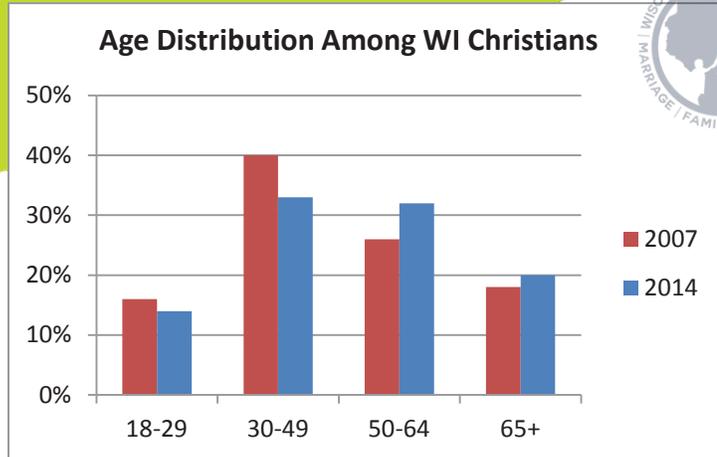
Religious service attendance is an important indicator of the health of families and marriages in Wisconsin because regular service attendance is associated with positive outcomes for both families and marriages.²



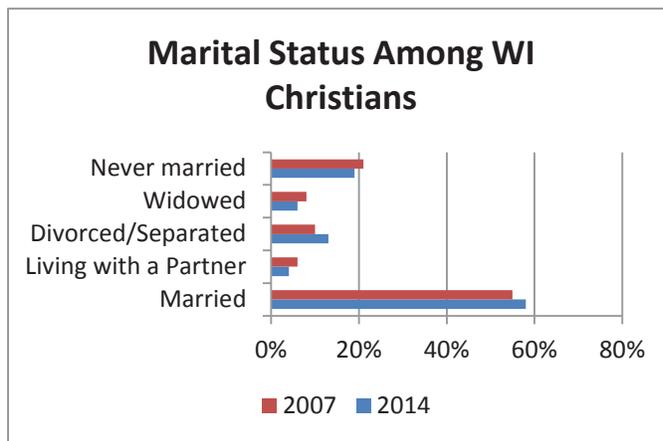
Christians in Wisconsin

Source: Pew Research Center Religious Landscape Study: Christians Who are in Wisconsin³

Christian adults in Wisconsin are generally split fairly evenly between males and females: 50 percent each in 2007 and 52 percent female to 48 percent male in 2014. The respondents showed a trend of aging: 52 percent of respondents were 50 years and older in 2014, compared to 44 percent in 2007.



Wisconsin Christian adults are overwhelmingly a married demographic group, with over 50 percent indicating they were married in both survey years. A growing plurality of Christians in the state is

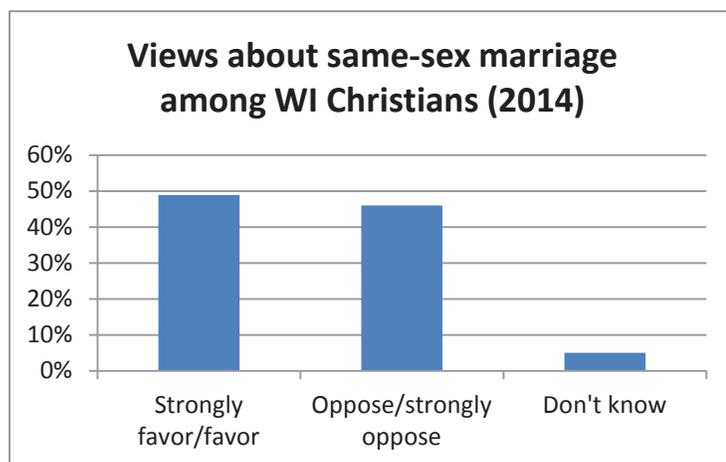


conservative in their political ideology: 48 percent in 2014 compared to 43 percent in 2007. The next largest political affiliation was “moderate,” at 36 percent in 2014 and 37 percent in 2007. Liberals made up 13 percent of the Christian adult population in 2014 and 16 percent in 2007.

However, several responses seem to indicate a discrepancy between how respondents identified on the political spectrum and their positions on issues that tend to divide and

define the political ideologies. In both years, 45 percent of Christian respondents believed abortion should be legal in all or most cases. In 2014, 52 percent of all Christian respondents said abortion should be illegal in all or most cases compared to 49 percent in 2007.

In 2014 (the only year the question was asked) 49 percent of Christians favored or strongly favored same-sex marriage, compared to 46 percent who opposed or strongly opposed it. A super majority of 66 percent of Christians indicated they would rather have a smaller government with fewer services in 2014, compared to 53 percent in 2007.



¹ 2014 Religious Landscape Study: Approximate Margins of Error by Sample Size, available at: <http://www.pewforum.org/about-the-religious-landscape-study/#data-details> [accessed on July 24, 2018].

² *Effects of Religious Practice on Family Relationships*, MARRIPEDIA, available at: http://www.marripedia.org/effects_of_religious_practice_on_family_relationships [accessed on July 24, 2018].

³ Available at: <https://www.pewforum.org/religious-landscape-study/state/wisconsin/christians/christian/> [accessed on July 24, 2018].

Endnotes-Wisconsin Statistics



- ¹ United States Census Bureau, *Population Estimates By State*, available at: <https://www.census.gov/search-results.html?q=state+population+rank&search.x=0&search.y=0&search=submit&page=1&stateGeo=none&searchtype=web&cssp=SERP> [accessed on February 28, 2019].
- ² U.S. Census Bureau Quick Facts: Wisconsin, *Population Estimates July 1, 2018*, available at: <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/WI> [accessed on February 28, 2019]; Single Years of Age and Sex: 2010, 2010 Census Summary File 1; Geography: Wisconsin, American Fact Finder, U.S. Census Bureau, available at: <https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=CF> [accessed on August 13, 2018].
- ³ Ibid.
- ⁴ 2017 Family Prosperity Index, p. 47, available at: <http://wifamilyaction.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/FPI-FullReport2017-WEB.pdf> [accessed on December 6, 2017].
- ⁵ Family Prosperity Institute, Data, Demographics, Domestic Migration Numbers, Migration 2000-2017, available at <https://familyprosperity.org/data> [accessed on February 28, 2019].
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- ¹⁶⁶ State Lottery and Charitable Gaming Informational Paper #84, Wisconsin Legislative Fiscal Bureau, January 2019, available at: http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lfb/informational_papers/january_2019/0085_state_lottery_and_charitable_gaming_informational_paper_85.pdf [accessed on April 4, 2019].
- ¹⁶⁷ Ibid.
- ¹⁶⁸ State Property Tax Credits (School Levy, First Dollar, and Lottery and Gaming Credits) Informational Paper #21, Wisconsin Legislative Fiscal Bureau, January 2019, available at: http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lfb/informational_papers/january_2019/0021_state_property_tax_credits_informational_paper_21.pdf [accessed on April 4, 2019].
- ¹⁶⁹ *Lottery and Gaming Tax Credit*, Division of Research and Policy, Wisconsin Department of Revenue, December 5, 2016, available at: <https://www.revenue.wi.gov/DORReports/ltrycr.pdf> [accessed on January 20, 2018].
- ¹⁷⁰ Ibid; see also Wis. Stat. § 565.10(14)(b)3m, available at: <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/565/10/14/b/3m> [accessed on January 20, 2018].
- ¹⁷¹ Budgets obtained from an open records request on December 13, 2006 to the Wisconsin Lottery and fulfilled by Michael Edmonds, Director, Wisconsin Lottery.
- ¹⁷² Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005 (Pub. L. 109-8, 119 Stat. 23, April 20, 2005).
- ¹⁷³ Table F-2. U.S. Bankruptcy Courts—Business and Nonbusiness Cases Commenced, by Chapter of Bankruptcy Code, During the 12-Month Period Ending December 31, 2016, available at: http://www.uscourts.gov/sites/default/files/data_tables/bf_f2_1231.2016.pdf [accessed on March 15, 2018]; and Table F-2. U.S. Bankruptcy Courts—Business and Nonbusiness Cases Commenced, by Chapter of Bankruptcy Code, During the 12-Month Period Ending December 31, 2017, available at: http://www.uscourts.gov/sites/default/files/data_tables/bf_f2_1231.2017.pdf [accessed on March 15, 2018].
- ¹⁷⁴ *Annual Fiscal Report, Budgetary Basis*, State of Wisconsin 2018, Exhibit A-2, available at: <https://doa.wi.gov/budget/SCO/2018%20AFR%20FINAL.pdf> [accessed on April 4, 2019].
- ¹⁷⁵ Ibid.
- ¹⁷⁶ Ibid.
- ¹⁷⁷ *Annual Fiscal Report, Budgetary Basis, State of Wisconsin 2017*, Table 3, available at: https://doa.wi.gov/budget/SCO/2017_AFR_FINAL.pdf [accessed on April 5, 2018].
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Since 1986, Wisconsin Family Council has been advancing Judeo-Christian principles and values in Wisconsin. We have largely done this by informing Wisconsin citizens, policymakers, and churches about the important pro-family legislative and cultural issues so that they too can be involved in strengthening, preserving and promoting marriage, family, life, and religious liberty in our state.

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