

Changing American Households

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

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*The views expressed on statistical issues are those of the author and not necessarily those of the U.S. Census Bureau.

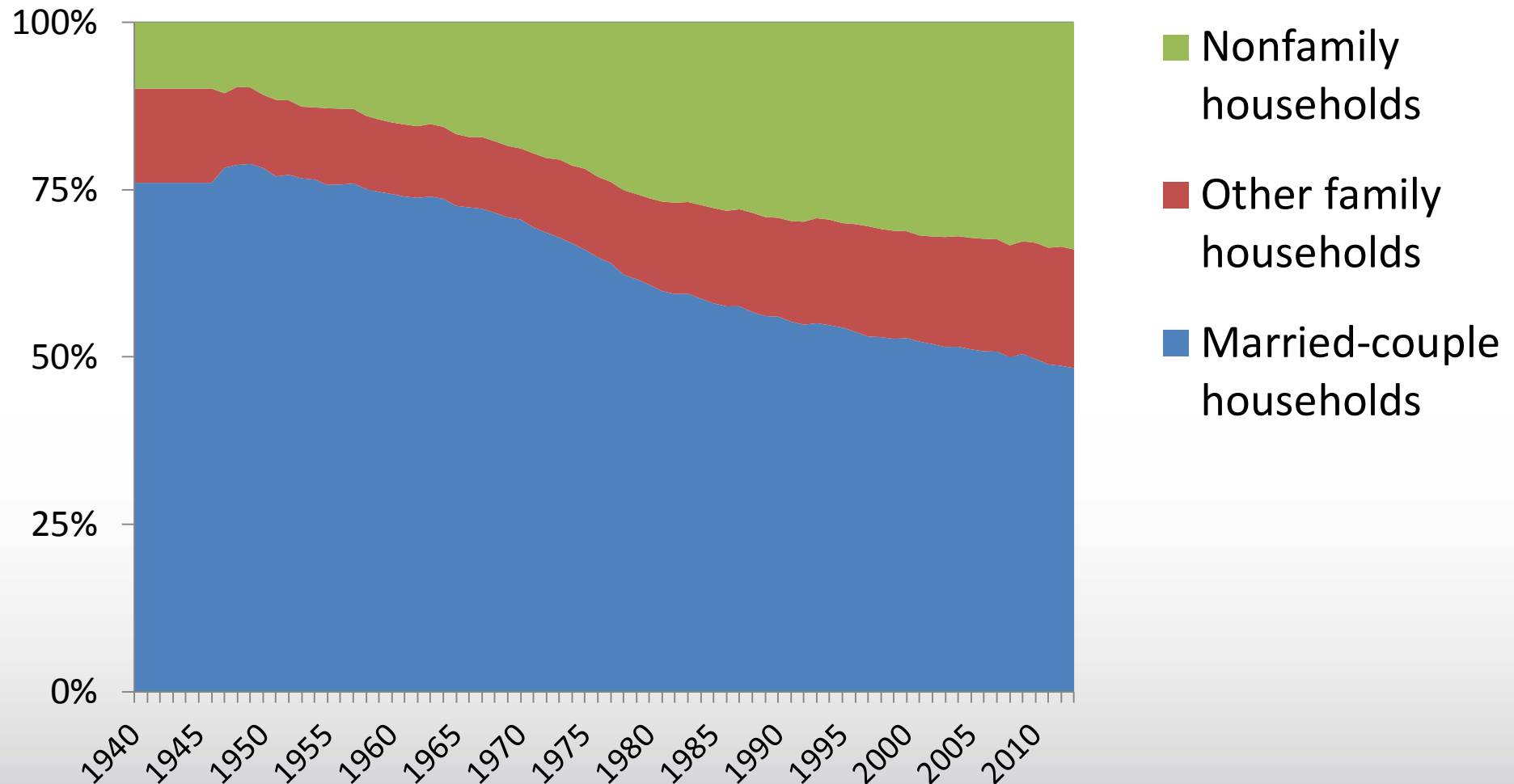
Outline

- Review trends in family and household composition
 - Discuss contributing factors
- Provide context for estimates of households and housing units

Summary of changes and trends

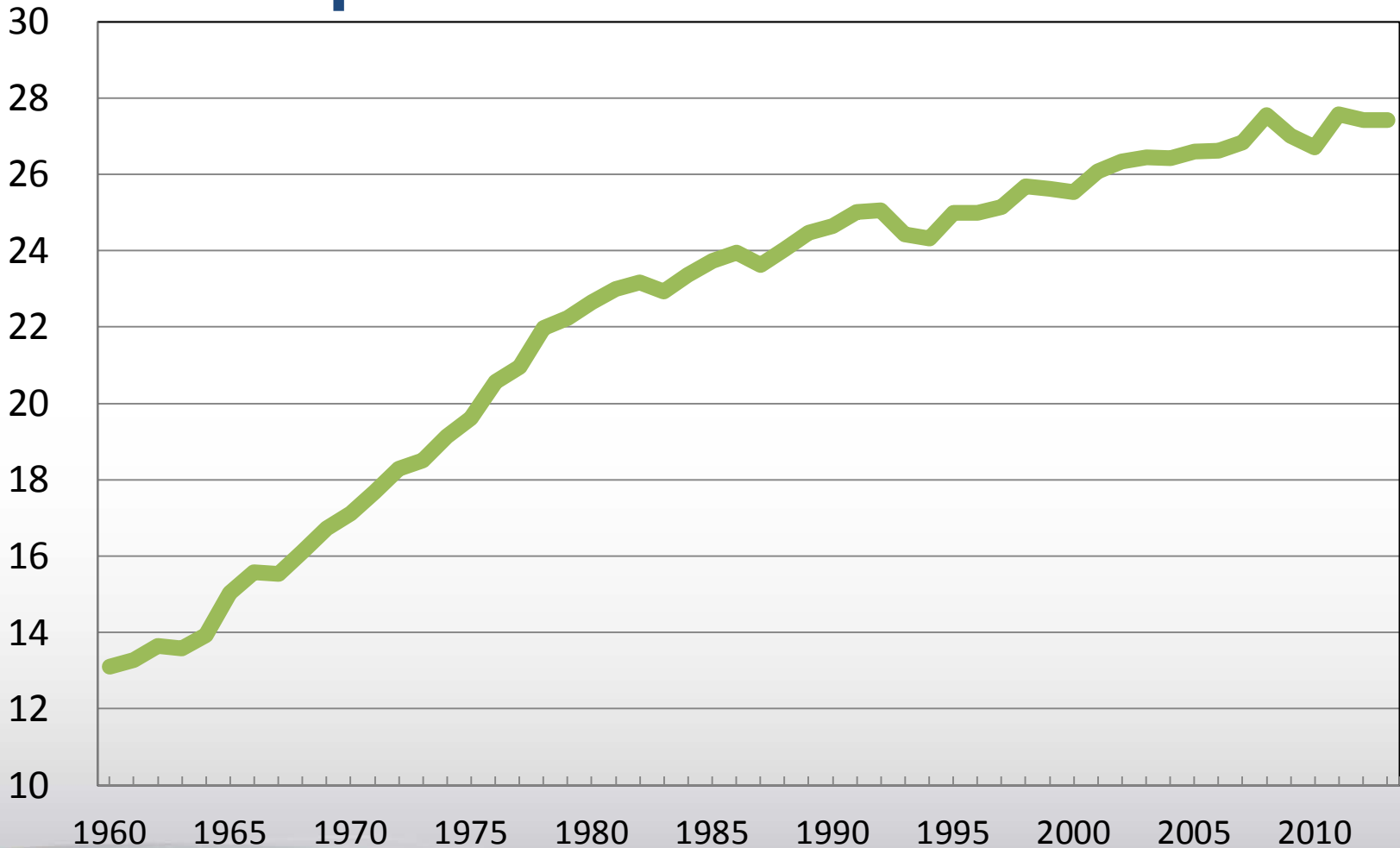
- Shifts in household and family type
- Living arrangements by age
- Adult children living in parents' home
- Multigenerational households

Household by type: 1940 to 2013



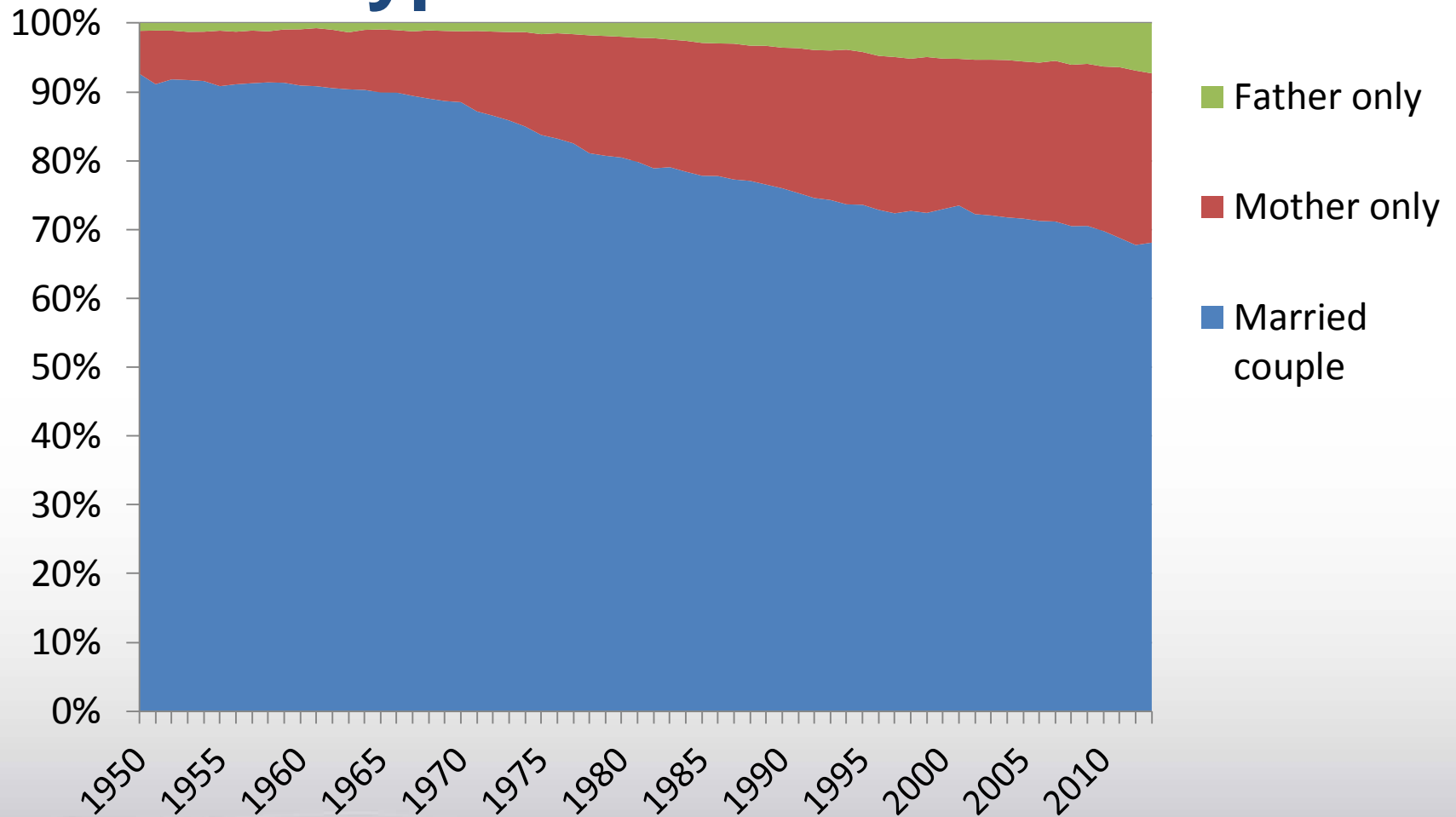
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census, 1940, and Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplements, 1947 to 2013.

Percentage of households with one person: 1960 to 2013



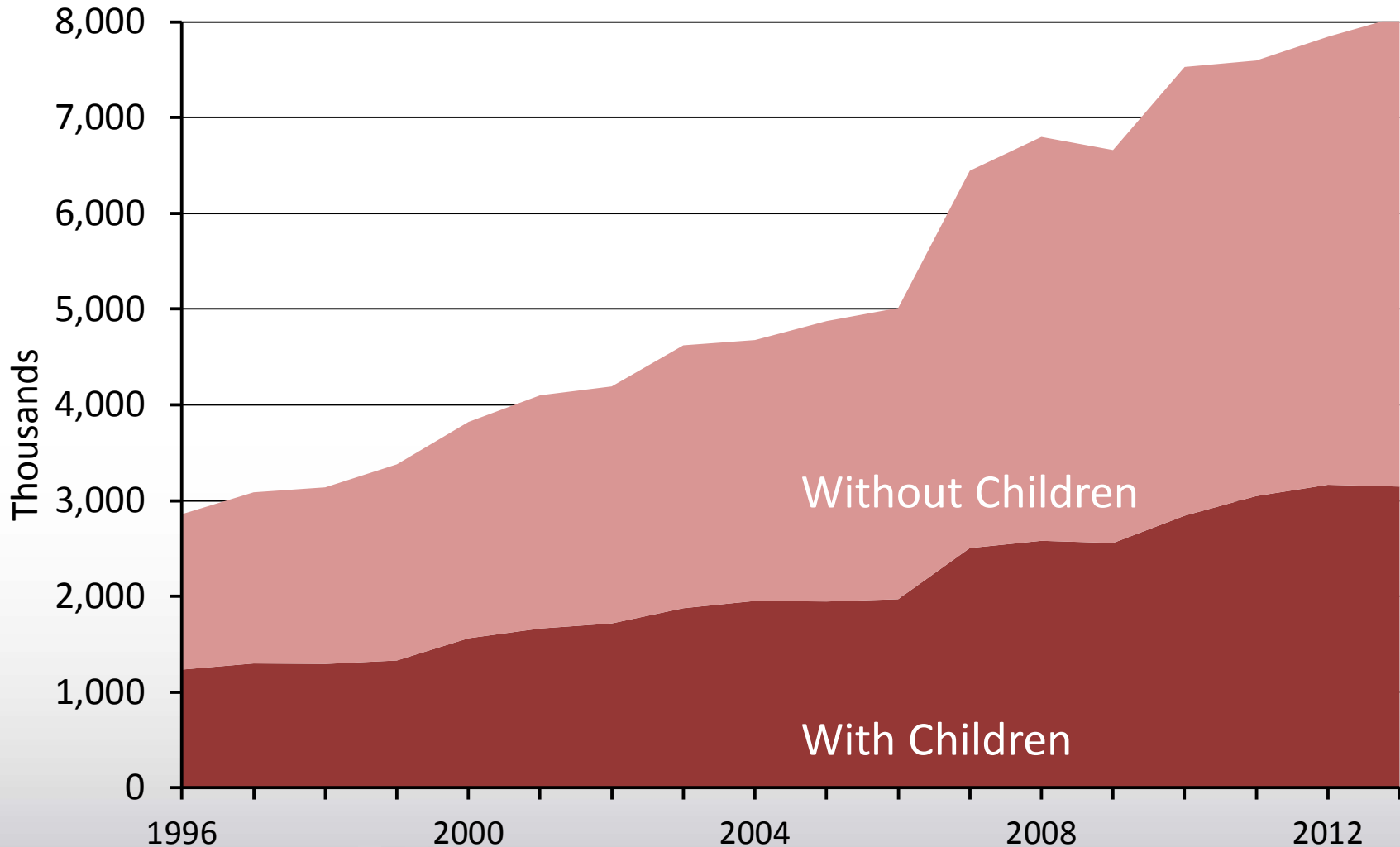
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplements, 1960 to 2013.

Families with children under 18, by type: 1950 to 2013



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplements, 1950 to 2013.

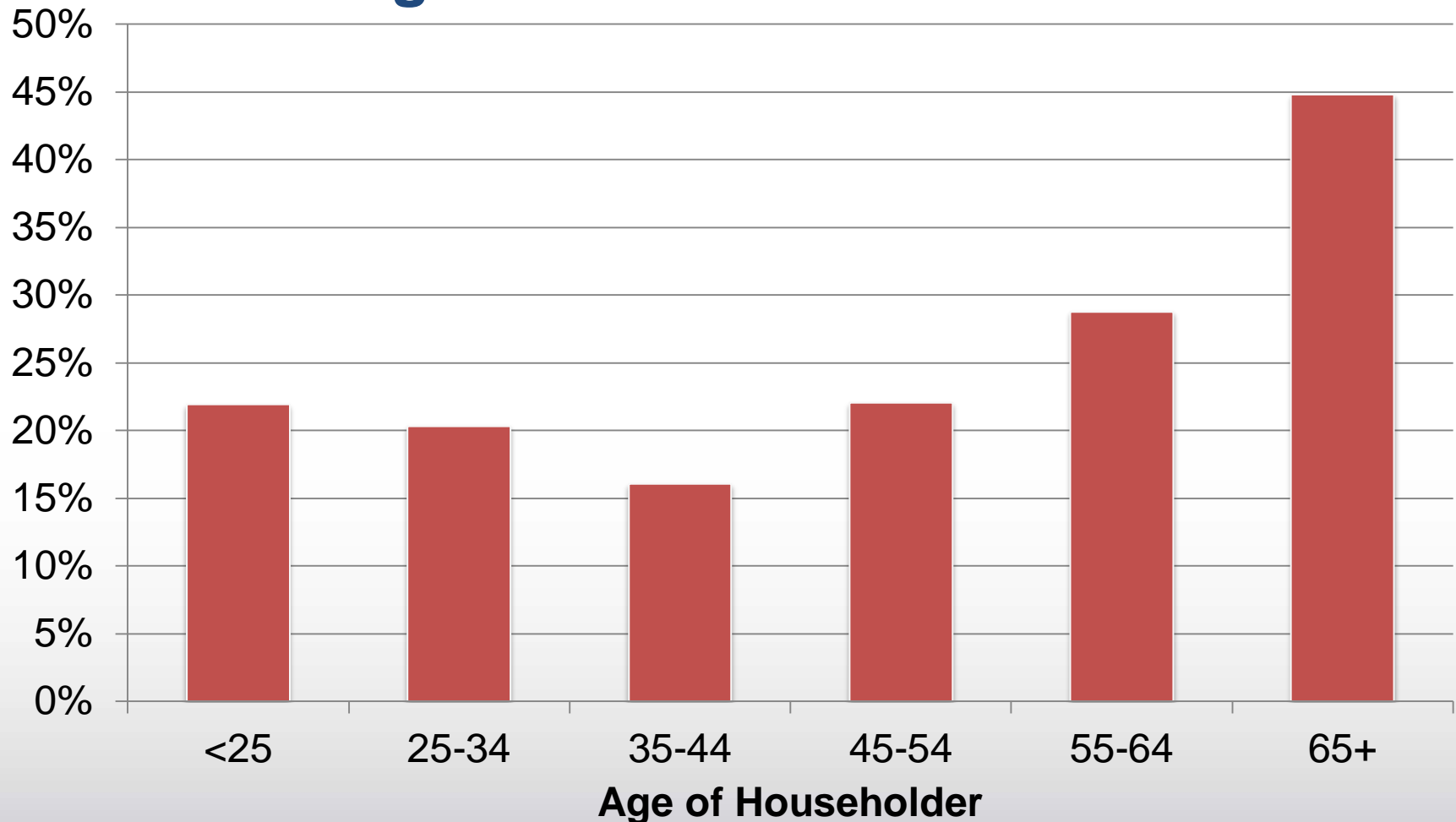
Unmarried opposite-sex couples, by presence of children: 1996 to 2013



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplements, 1996 to 2013.

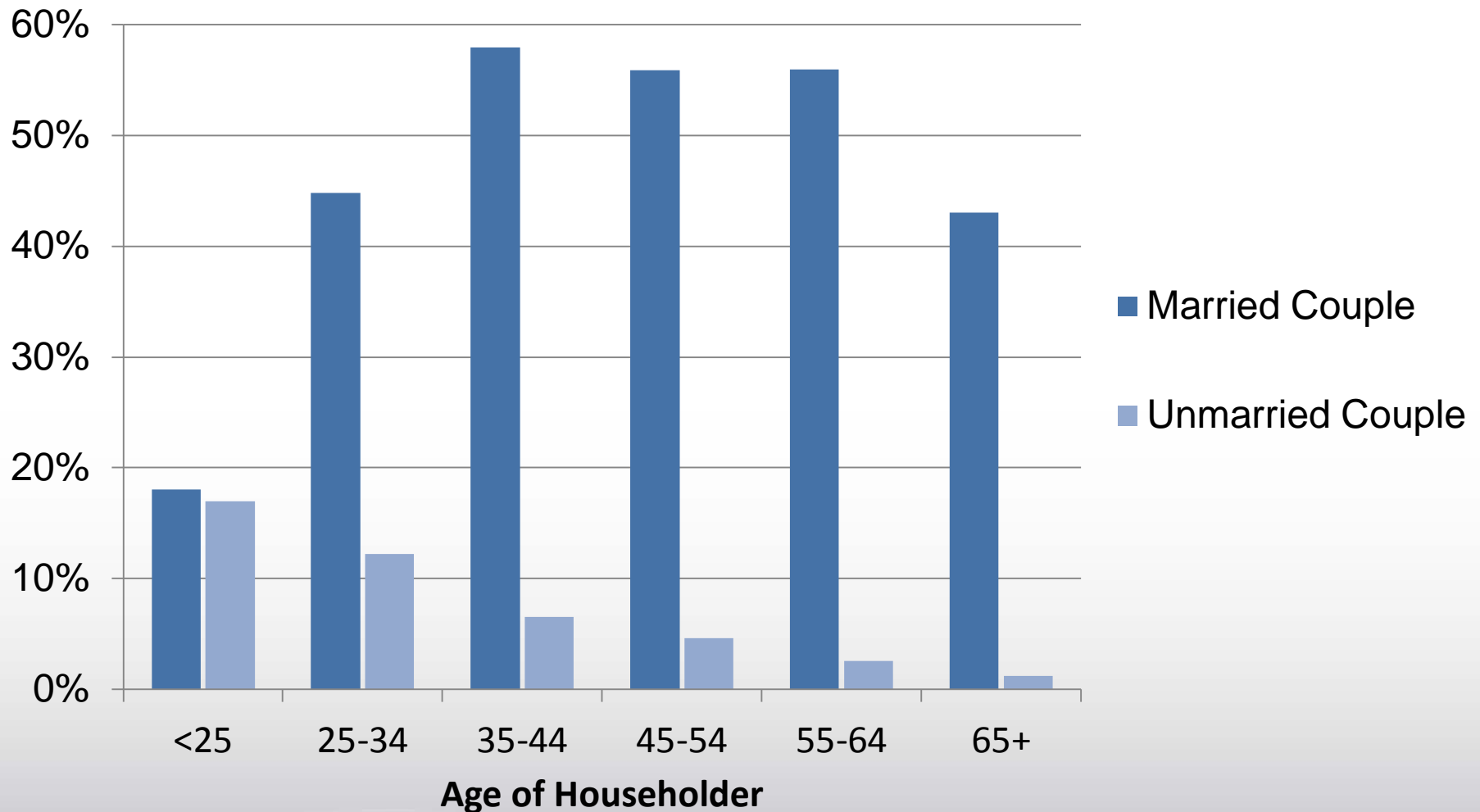
Note: Due to changes in data collection, couples that do not include the householder are included beginning in 2007.

Percentage of households with one person, by age of householder: 2010



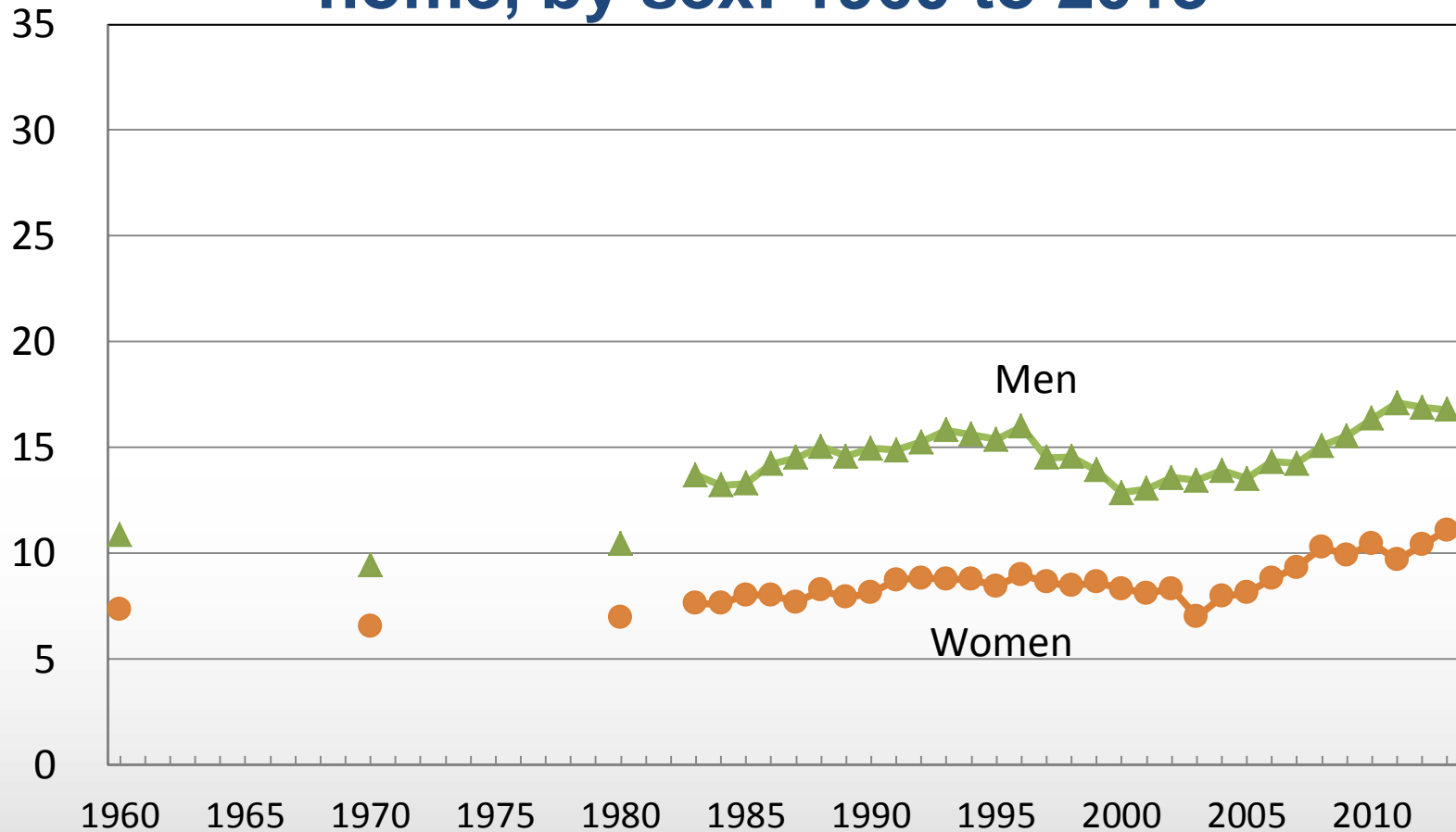
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplements, 2010.

Percentage of households with married and unmarried couple, by age of householder: 2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplements, 2010.

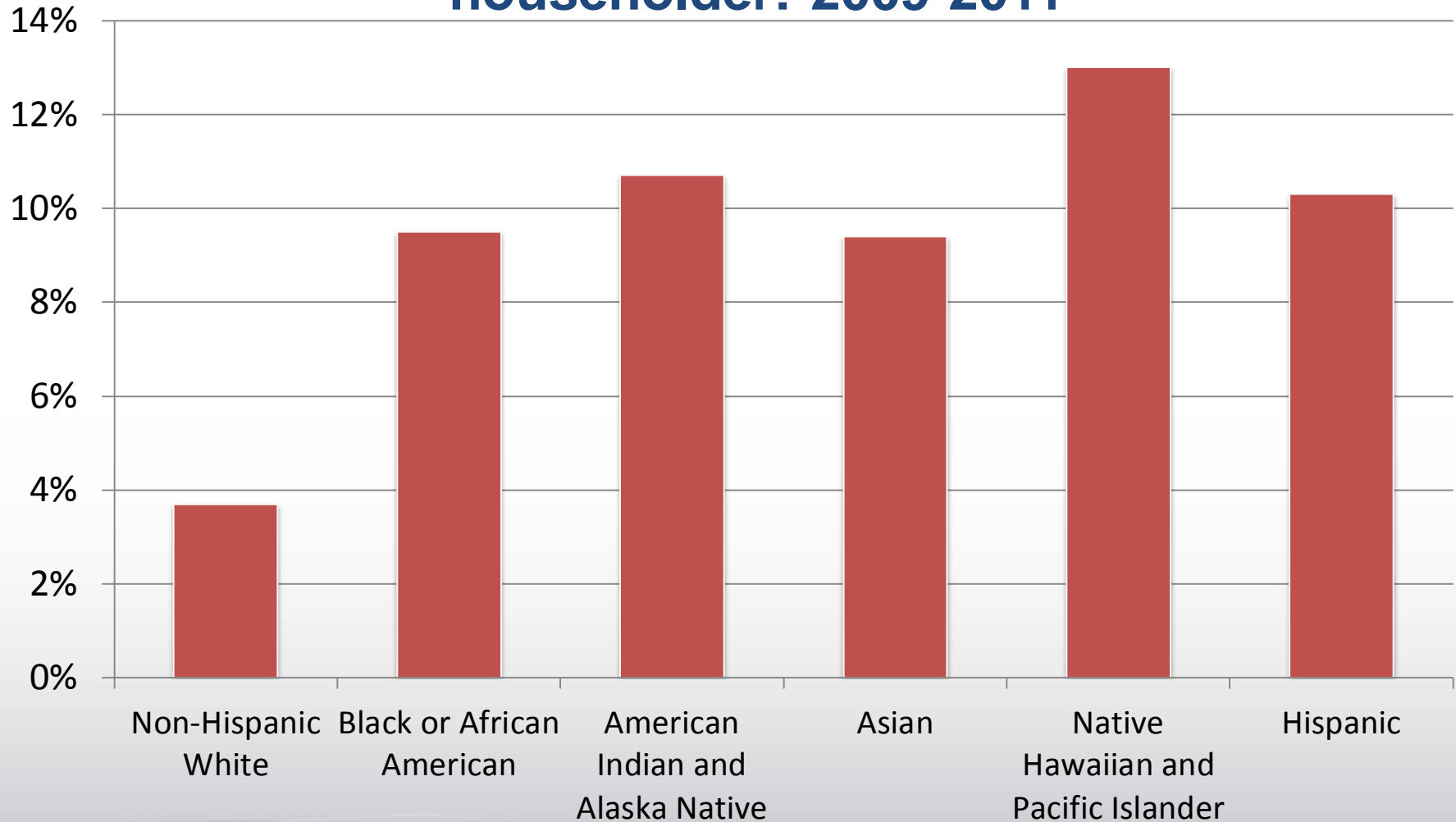
Percentage of adults 25 to 34 living in parents' home, by sex: 1960 to 2013



Note: Unmarried college students living in dormitories are counted as living in group quarters in decennial data and as living in their parents' home in CPS data.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Censuses, 1960 to 1980, and Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplements, 1983 to 2013.

Percentage of family households that are multigenerational, by race and Hispanic origin of householder: 2009-2011



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 American Community Survey.

Review

- American households are diverse
- Changes in families and living arrangements have slowed in recent years
- Census Bureau continues to refine measures to capture family diversity

Useful Links

- Families and living arrangements:
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/families/>
- Marriage and divorce:
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/socdemo/marriage/>
- Children:
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/socdemo/children/>
- Fertility: <http://www.census.gov/hhes/fertility/>

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