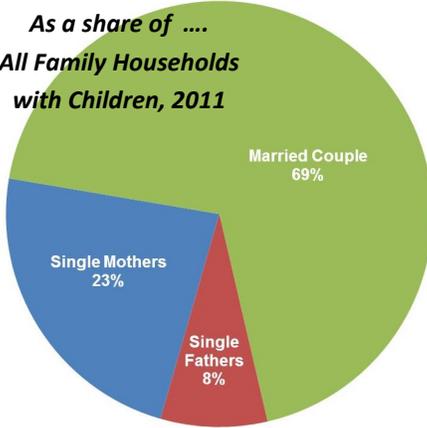
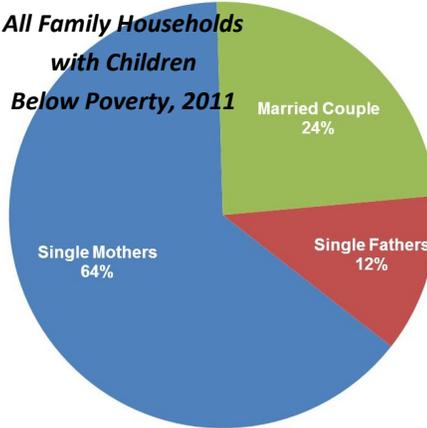




*As a share of ...*  
**All Family Households with Children, 2011**



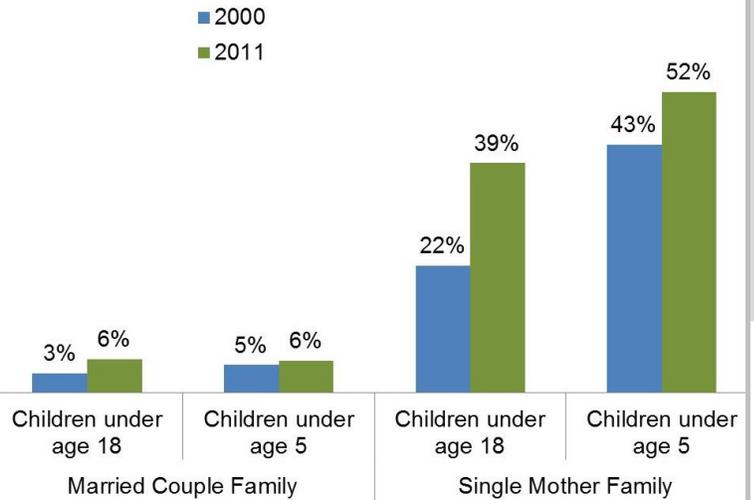
**All Family Households with Children Below Poverty, 2011**



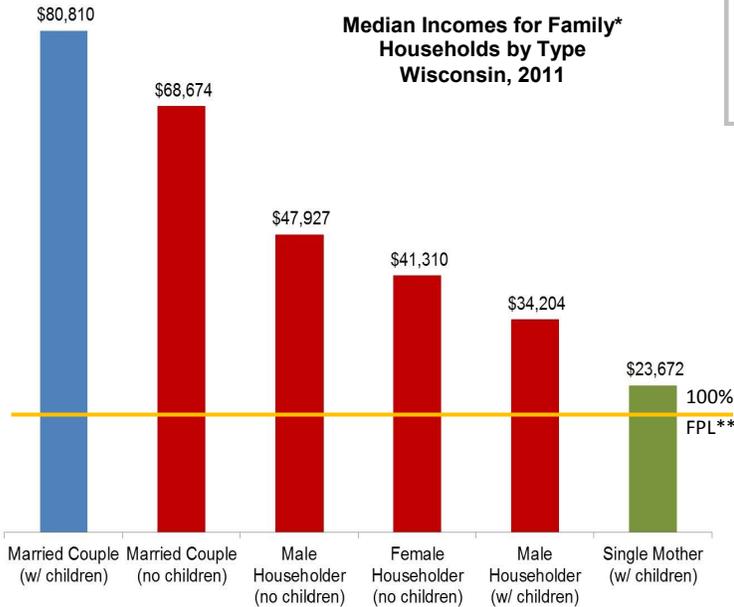
**64%** Female-headed households with children (commonly referred to as single-mother households) account for 23% of all family households with children in the state, but represented 64% of such families living below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). By county in Wisconsin, the share of children living in single-parent households (male and female-headed) ranges from 16% (Iowa County) to 52% (Menominee County).

**52%** The poverty rate for single-mother families has increased markedly since 2000. In 2011, 1-in-2 single-mother families with children under the age of 5 lived below the Federal Poverty Level—52% compared to 43% in 2000. The poverty rate for single-mother families with children under age 18 nearly doubled over the decade—from 22% to 39%. By comparison, 6% of married-couple households with children under age 5 were below the poverty line, up slightly from 2000.

**Poverty Rate for Married-Couple Families with Children and Single-Mother Families, Wisconsin, 2000 vs. 2011**



**Median Incomes for Family Households by Type Wisconsin, 2011**



**125%** Single mothers have the lowest median income of any family household type in WI—earning about one-third the median income for married couple families. In 2011, the median income for single mothers was \$23,672 or about 125% of the FPL for a family of 3.\*\* About 40% of single mothers had annual income at or below 100% of the FPL for a family of 3 and about 20% of single mothers had an annual income of \$10,000 or less.

*Wisconsin's Institute for Research on Poverty is creating a new way to measure poverty, noting that the official poverty measure counts only pre-tax cash income and misses the poverty-combating effects of public policies such as food, child care and medical assistance and tax credits such as the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). Learn more at [www.irp.wisc.edu](http://www.irp.wisc.edu).*

Note: \*The U.S. Census Bureau reports on "households" as *family* and *non-family*. A "family household" includes a householder and one or more people in the same household who are related to the householder. They are grouped into three categories: married-couple, female-headed (no husband present), or male-headed (no wife present), each may or may not include children. For purposes of this fact sheet, a single-mother household is a female-headed, family household that includes minor children. \*\*In 2011, the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for a family of 3 was \$18,530. Sources: American Community Survey, 2009-2011 (3-yr estimate): B17010 (series); ACS 2011: B19131 and B19126; and 2000 Census: SF4. County Health Rankings and Roadmap, <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/#app/wisconsin/2012/measures/factors/82/data>.

Is there a **FAST FACT** or topic you would like to see profiled? Contact us at 608.266.2219 or [christine.lidbury@wi.gov](mailto:christine.lidbury@wi.gov)

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