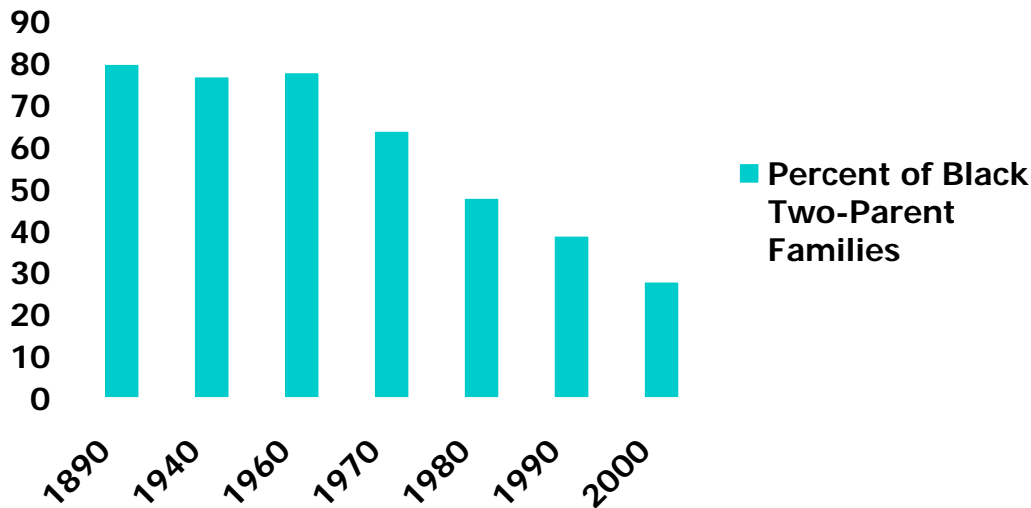


Black Marriage Rates Declining Rapidly since the 60's



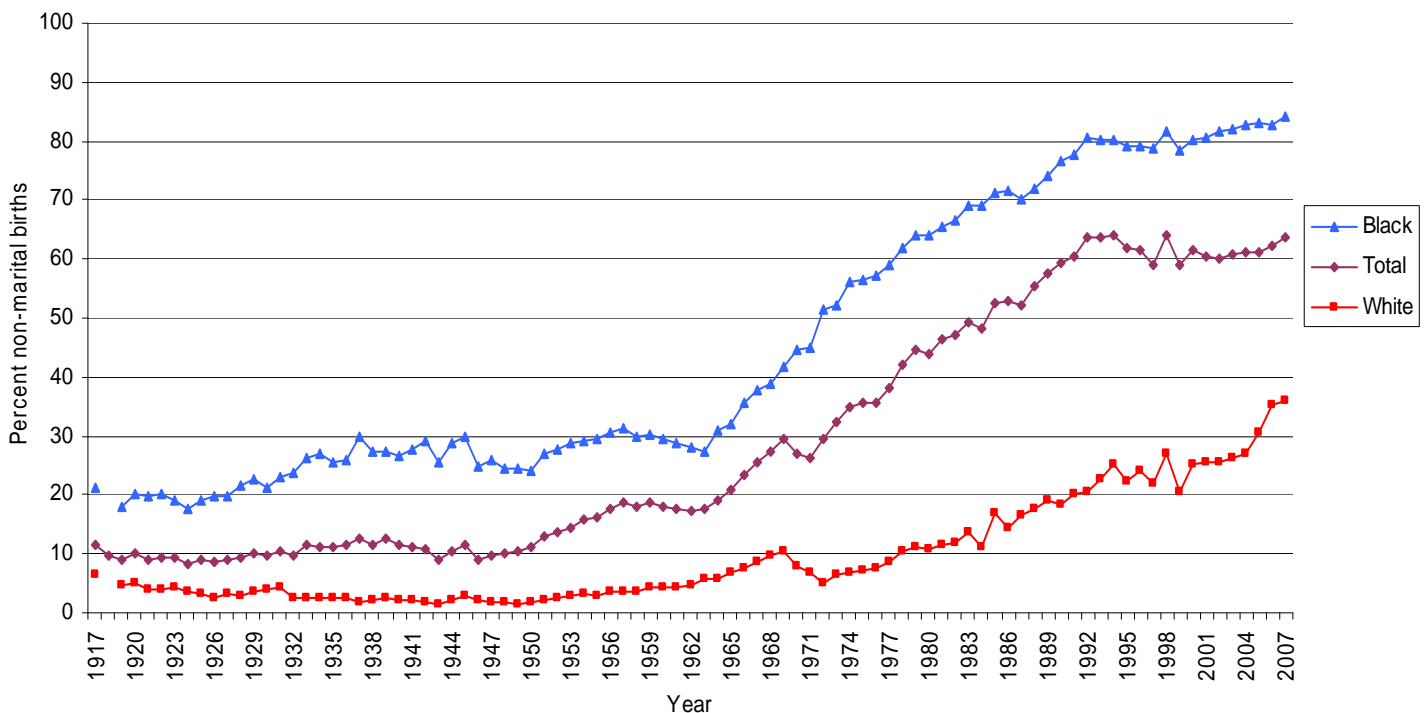
US. Census Bureau Statistics

	1890	1940	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
Percent of Black Two-Parent Families	80	77	78	64	48	39	28

The marriage rate in the Black community has dropped from an all time high of 80% in 1890 and remained level until the 1960's, when we had few resources, to an all time low of 28% in 2000 when we have more money, education and opportunity than ever!

Marriage, Divorce and Non-Marital Births in Richmond

Percent Non-marital Births among Richmond City, VA Residents



Percent non-marital births (PNMB) was calculated as number of non-marital births divided by total number of live births; e.g., Among black non-marital births (NMB), the Black PNMB=(# NMB to black women)/(Total # live births to black women)* 100

Resources for community and individuals at:
First Things First of Greater Richmond
www.FirstThingsRichmond.org

“Non-marital births in Richmond City are nearly twice that of the United States or Virginia at large”

Census & NVSS Data	United States		Virginia		Richmond Metro*		Richmond City	
Never Married	68,515	29.4%	26.2%		29.0%		40.9% (1.5X)	
Now Married	122,840	52.7%	55.7%		51.4%		34.7% (0.64x)	
Separated	49,963	2.1%	2.9%		3.0%		4.2% (2X)	
Widowed	13,914	6.0%	6.2%		6.5%		8.6% (1.3x)	
Divorced	22,806	9.8%	9.0%		9.8%		11.5% (1.2x)	
Non-Marital Births^ 2007								
Total	1,641,700	36.8%	38,281	35.3%	5,041	38.8%	2014	63.5%
White		26.6%	20,110	27.5%	2,025	24.7%	486	35.9 %
Black		70.7%	15,544	65.6%	2,924	71.7%	1601	84.1%

The above data is based on 2000 Census Data, Virginia Center for Health Statistics <http://www.vdh.state.va.us/stats/NonMaritalBirths00.pdf> and NVSS, Births: Final Data for 2000. Vol. 50, No. 5. *Contains data from Richmond City, Chesterfield, and Henrico. ^ Source: NVSS, Births: Final Data for 2000. Vol. 50,-5.

Virginia Marriages 2007: VA 58,287; Richmond Metro (PD 15) 5,748; Richmond City: 1,870
 Virginia Divorces 2007: VA 29,519; Richmond Metro (PD 15) 3,541; Richmond City: 1,054

Financial Costs: The costs for marital failure and non-marital births are staggering. Excluding non-marital births, which cost the government billions of TANF dollars, a June 25, 2003 report from Utah State University indicates that the **estimated cost to the government of divorce alone in Virginia exceeds \$280 million or \$312 per household... For Divorce and non-marital births in Virginia: \$776,000,000 according to a 2008 report.**

So what's the big deal? Fatherless Children are:

- 5 times more likely to be poor
- 2-3 times more likely to smoke cigarettes
- 2 times more likely to drop out of school
- 150 percent more likely to experience a non-marital teen pregnancy
- 70 percent of juveniles in state institutions grew up in fatherless homes
- 72 percent of adolescent murderers grew up without their fathers

From **Father Facts** (Fourth Edition) ©2002, National Fatherhood Initiative

Marriage is associated with the following benefits:

- Married men earn an average of 25-40% more per year.
- Married women and their children are much less likely to experience poverty.
- Married couples report more satisfying and more frequent sex
- Children do better in school and are less likely to be delinquent or drop out.
- Less likely to be victims or perpetrators of violent crime.
- Teens with married parents are less likely to have early sexual debut/pregnancy.
- Lower crime rates in neighborhoods with more married families.

First Things First provides research proven solutions to strengthen families.

Resources for community and individuals at:
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www.FirstThingsRichmond.org