**National 2007 (ChildTrends Data Bank)**

Two Married Parents

National—White, non-Hispanic – 73.9%

Black, non-Hispanic—36.6%

Hispanic—65.6%

Living with Mother

National-- White, non-Hispanic – 17.3%

Black, non-Hispanic—50.2%

Hispanic—24.4%

Living with Father

National-- White, non-Hispanic – 3.2%

Black, non-Hispanic—3.6%

Hispanic—2.1%

DC 2007 (Kids Count DC)

D.C.---Single Mothers (Total and by Ward)

Total—58.5% of overall births

Ward 1—56.5%

Ward 2—28.2%

Ward 3—7.6%

Ward 4—56.3%

Ward 5—69.8%

Ward 6—42.1%

Ward 7—83.1%

Ward 8—84.1%

Percentage of Births to Unmarried Teenagers

National—41.5% (2008) (15-19 years old)

D.C.—total--12.2% (2007) (under age 20)

Ward 1—12.0%

Ward 2—5.3%

Ward 3—1.3%

Ward 4—9.4%

Ward 5—14.3%

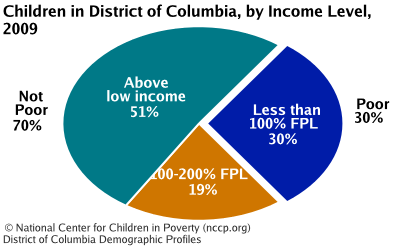
Ward 6—8.0%

Ward 7—18.4%

Ward 8—19.6%

From the NCCP—National Center for Children in Poverty

For 2010, the federal poverty level is $22,050 for a family of four. Children living in families with incomes below the federal poverty level are referred to as poor. But research suggests that, on average, families need an income of about twice the federal poverty level to meet their basic needs. The United States [measures poverty](http://nccp.org/publications/pub_876.html) by an outdated standard developed in the 1960s.



In District of Columbia, there are 54,368 families, with 111,787 children.

**DC Poor Children:** 30% (33,677) of children live in poor families **(National:** 21%), defined as income below 100% of the federal poverty level.

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# of children in DC under 18 in ‘09=114,036

Total Number of Children Eligible for TANF in DC (July ’10) = 28,752.

**Child Trends Commentary**

Children born to unmarried mothers are more likely to grow up in a single-parent household, experience instability in living arrangements, live in poverty, and have socio-emotional problems.1 As these children reach adolescence, they are more likely to have low educational attainment, engage in sex at younger ages, and have a premarital birth.2,3  As young adults, children born outside of marriage are more likely to be idle (neither in school nor employed), have lower occupational status and income, and have more troubled marriages and divorces than those born to married parents.4

Women who give birth outside of marriage tend to be more disadvantaged than their married counterparts, both before and after having a nonmarital birth. Unmarried mothers generally have lower incomes, lower education levels, and greater dependence on welfare assistance than do married mothers.5 Women who have a nonmarital birth also tend to fare worse than single women; for example, they have reduced marriage prospects compared to single women without children.6,7

An increasing proportion of unmarried births occur to cohabiting parents. Although children born to cohabiting parents are more likely to see their parents eventually marry than are those born to non-coresidential parents, nevertheless children born to cohabiting parents experience higher levels of socioeconomic disadvantage and fare worse across a range of behavioral and emotional outcomes than those born to married parents.

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The Following is from the National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse

Incarcerated Absent Fathers

In 2005, # of incarcerated men in state and federal prisons= 1,418,406

In 1999, # of incarcerated males with children=667,900(mothers=53,600)

Non-resident Fathers vs. Resident Fathers of Infants by Education, Employment, Income, & Relationship

Total Fathers-under 20yo --non-res --16.5% \_\_\_\_\_\_ Resident--4.1%

20-24 yo----non-res—37.6%\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Resident—19%

25-29 yo----non-res.—23%\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Resident --24.6%

30-34 yo----non-res.—10.4%\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Resident—25.9%

35 yo &+---non-res—12.5%\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Resident—26.4%

Education---Less than HS-------Non-resident—37.3\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Resident—24.2%

HS Graduate----- Non-resident—37.9\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Resident—33.5%

Some College +---Non-resident—24.8\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Resident—42.3%

Employment—

Non-Resident employed=69.7

Resident employed=88.8

Non-Resident unemployed=30.3

Resident unemployed=11.2

Income (2005) Nonresident Resident

Less than $20,000 44.3% 17.8%

$20,000-49,999 31.5% 41%

$50,000-74,999 16.7% 20.1%

$75,000 + 7.5$ 21.2%

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Young Male Deaths in DC 2007 (Kids Count)

15-19 y.o.—Total Deaths and Homicides

White—1--Homicides-- 0

Black—33--Homicides--20

Hispanic—3--Homicides--2

20-24 y.o.—Violent Deaths Only

White—3

Black—37

Hispanic—1

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Finally, attached are some facts about incarcerated fathers from US Dept of HHS:

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According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, in 2007 an estimated 744,200 state and federal prisoners in the United States were fathers to 1,599,200 children under the age of 18 (Glaze & Maruschak, 2008). An unpublished estimate from Mumola suggests that 7,476,500 children have a parent (mother or father) who is in prison, in jail or under correctional supervision (2006). Few studies have attempted to describe the characteristics of incarcerated fathers and the children they parent. “Parents in Prison and their Minor Children,” a special report from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, is the most complete resource available to date for such information. The report (Glaze & Maruschak, 2008) is based on findings from the Surveys of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities conducted in 2004, and on National Prisoners Statistics program custody counts. The Surveys of Inmates involved quantitative data collection with a representative sample of 18,185 persons incarcerated in state and federal prisons. Below we provide some descriptive information about parents in prison, based primarily on this work and its antecedent (Mumola, 2000).

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| *There are approximately 7.4 million children who have a parent in prison, in jail, or under correctional supervision.* |

* Of the total number of parents in federal prison, 36% were married and 25% were divorced or separated. Among state prisoners, 23% of parents were married and 28% were divorced or separated (Mumola, 2000).
* Of the state and federal prisoners who had minor children in 2004, 92% were men (Glaze & Maruschak, 2008).
* Over half of incarcerated fathers (54%) reported that they were the primary source of financial support for their children prior to their incarceration (Glaze and Maruschak, 2008).
* In 1997, most incarcerated fathers reported incomes below the poverty line prior to incarceration, with 53% earning less than $12,000 in the year before their arrest (Mumola, 2000).
* Among male inmates in state prison, 71% of those who were married were parents to minor children, compared to 44% of those who were never married, 55% of those who were divorced, and 64% of those who were legally separated. Among federal inmates, 77% of married men had minor children, compared to 58% of never-married men, 59% of divorced men, and 69% of men who were separated (Glaze & Maruschak, 2008).
* In a sample of inmates returning to Cleveland, Ohio, after incarceration, Visher and Courtney (2007) found that 46% had lived with a spouse or intimate partner prior to incarceration.
* The median age of incarcerated parents was 32 among those in state facilities and 35 among those in federal facilities in 1997 (Mumola, 2000).
* In 2007, a disproportionate number of fathers incarcerated in state prison were African American (42%) or Latino (20%). African American (49%) and Latino (28%) men made up a disproportionate share of fathers in federal prison as well (Glaze and Maruschak, 2008).

**Source:**  Glaze & Maruschak. (2008). Parents in prison and their minor children.  
*Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report.* Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics.

The average incarcerated father has 2.1 children. Their parenting relationships are often complex, with some men having children with multiple partners. Forty-two percent of state prisoners reported living with one or more of their minor children in the period immediately prior to their incarceration (Glaze & Maruschak, 2008).

* The average age of children with an incarcerated parent is 8 years old (Mumola, 2000).
* Most incarcerated fathers (88%) report that at least one of their children is in the care of the child’s other parent, compared to 37% of mothers (Glaze and Maruschak, 2008).
* Of children with an incarcerated father, 12% live with a grandparent or other relative and 4% live in foster care or with a non-family member (Johnson, 2006).

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| **Age Breakdown of Children with Fathers in Prison** | |
| **Age** | **Age Breakdown of Children with Father in Prison** |
| Less than 1 year | 2.1% |
| 1–4 years | 20.4% |
| 5–9 years | 35.1% |
| 10–14 years | 28.0% |
| 15–17 years | 14.5% |
| **Source:** Mumola, C. (2000). Incarcerated parents and children. *Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report.* Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics. | |

The most recent published estimates for average sentence length for incarcerated fathers are from the Mumola (2000) report, “Incarcerated Parents and their Children.” Average sentence length for fathers was 6 to 7 years among state inmates and 8 to 9 years among federal inmates as of the 1997 data collection on which this report is based.

* Most parents in state (62%) and federal (84%) prison were being held at correctional facilities located more than 100 miles from their last place of residence prior to incarceration (Mumola, 2000).
* Of parents in federal prison, 43% were held more than 500 miles from their last place of residence, compared with 11% of those in state facilities (Mumola, 2000).

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health**

Substance abuse and mental health issues are common among incarcerated parents:

* Of parents in state prison in 2004, 58% of fathers and 65% of mothers reported illicit drug use in the month prior to their arrest (Mumola, 2006).
* Based on the DSM-IV criteria, 67% of fathers incarcerated in state prison reported alcohol or drug dependence or abuse prior to arrest (Glaze and Maruschak, 2008).
* One-third of fathers in state prison committed their offense while under the influence of illicit drugs. Thirty-seven percent of fathers in state prison committed their offense while under the influence of alcohol (Mumola, 2006).
* Parents in prison reported slightly higher problems with substance abuse than did non-parents in prison (Mumola, 2006).
* Of fathers classified as having an alcohol or drug use problem, 42% reported having received any substance abuse treatment since admission for the current incarceration (Glaze and Maruschak, 2008).

Mental health issues also plague many incarcerated parents; 49% of fathers in state prison reported clinically meaningful symptoms of mental illness, as did 38% of fathers in federal prison (Glaze & Maruschak, 2008). In general, rates of mental illness among inmates are two to four times higher than among the general population (Lurigio, 2001).

The intergenerational influences of family involvement in prison are strong. Forty-nine percent of fathers in state prison reported that a member of their family (a parent, sibling, or spouse) had ever been incarcerated. Nineteen percent of fathers in state prison had experienced paternal incarceration and 6% had experienced maternal incarceration (Glaze and Maruschak, 2008).

These descriptive statistics reveal the need for comprehensive services to prepare men for release, including relationship and parenting programs and other rehabilitation services to address substance abuse, mental health, and employment problems which may exacerbate family problems and increase risk for recidivism.