

Men's Statistics Gathered by Man in the Mirror (with sources)



- 113,000,000 men in America 15 years of age and older.¹
- 69,000,000 of these men make no profession of faith in Christ.²
- Only 6,000,000 men are involved in discipleship or spiritual formation—1 in 18 men. Imagine putting a football team on the field, and only one player had studied the playbook.³
- As many as 70% of men seek out pornography.
- As many Christians will divorce as non-Christians (34% vs. 33% according to Barna).
- 40% to 50% of recent marriages will end in divorce according to the United States Census Bureau.⁴
- 4 out of 5 students in evangelical churches will drop out of church by their senior year in high school (Howard Hendricks).
- We have become a fatherless nation. 33%⁵ of the 72 million children in America will go to bed tonight without their biological father in the home.
- 73% of households with children under 18 headed by married couples (vs. 91% in 1960); 27% households headed by single parents.⁶
- Nuclear families comprise less than 23.5% of households.⁷
- 40% of Busters raised by divorced or separated parents.⁸
- More than 50% children born in 1990s spend part childhood in single parent home.^{9 10}
- Two years after a divorce only 53% of children see their non-custodial parent on a monthly basis. Ten years after the divorce on 28% have monthly contact.¹¹
- 66% children born in America will not live with both biological parents through the age of eighteen.¹²

¹ Male Population

113,000,000 men 15 and older as of 2004, 10,600,000 were 15 – 19 years of age, and 10,800,000 were 20 – 24 years of age. <http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/tables/06s0011.xls>, retrieved September 29, 2006.

² Estimate based on 39% indicating “born again.”

- 39% of Americans describe themselves as “a born again Christian.” (2001)
- Two-thirds of Americans (66%) say they have made a personal commitment to Jesus Christ that is still important in their life today. (2001)
- Half of those who attend a Christian church (49%) say that they are absolutely committed to the Christian faith, and another 36% say that they are moderately committed. (2001)
- Commitment to the Christian faith changes considerably with age. Of those who attend church, only 34% of Busters say they are absolutely committed to the Christian faith, compared to 52% of Boomers, 63% of Builders, and 70% of Seniors. (2001)

Retrieved from Barna at <http://www.barna.org/cgi-bin/PageCategory.asp?CategoryID=19>

³ Male Discipleship

Per Barna:

- Of the 16% of churched adults involved in discipleship, 69% rely upon small groups for their growth. (2000)
- Of the 16% of churched adults involved in discipleship, one-fifth (20%) rely upon Sunday school and 11% attend other classes to grow spiritually. (2000)

<http://www.barna.org/cgi-bin/PageCategory.asp?CategoryID=9>

*The following two stats do not take into consideration how participation in discipleship may vary by gender:

16% of America's 38,880,000 men who attend church in discipleship = 6,000,000

69% of 6,000,000 in small groups = 3,500,000

⁴ Garbarino, J. 1992. *Children and Families in the Social Environment*. New York: Aldine de Gruyter (p. 87).

⁵ *Living Arrangements of Children* [Electronic version]. U. S. Census Bureau, U. S. Department of Commerce. April, 1996.

⁶ *The Family Portrait* (The Family Research Council), 14.

⁷ “The Changing American Family,” *New York Times*, May 18, 2001, retrieved from Internet June, 2003.

⁸ Dobson, 106.

⁹ *Ibid.*, 134.

¹⁰ Garbarino, J. 1992. *Children and Families in the Social Environment*. New York: Aldine de Gruyter (p. 87).

¹¹ *Ibid.* (p. 87).

¹² Dobson., 54.

- 62% mothers with children under three employed. 72% mothers with children under 18 hold jobs. Therefore, 59% of kids come home to an empty house. Nobody is home! 80% of woman's salary goes to work-related costs, an expensive hobby.¹³
- In one 25 year study, 40% of children from divorced homes never married (vs. 16% intact families).¹⁴
- Fatherless children are 5 times as likely to live in poverty, repeat a grade, and have emotional problems.¹⁵
- 93% of all people incarcerated are men, and 85% of them have no father figure. Prison worker Bill Glass says that of the thousands of prisoners he has met in 25 years of service, not one of them genuinely loved their dad.¹⁶
- 50% of children from broken homes have not seen their father in over a year.
- One third of all babies born to unmarried women (vs. 3.8% in 1940).¹⁷
- The United States leads the world in single parent families.¹⁸
- Church attendance by generations: 50% Builders, 43% Boomers, 28% Busters.¹⁹
- According to surveys by Religion in American Life, only 2% or 3% of people attended Church because of advertising, while 85% went after being invited by a friend or relative.
- Church consultant Carl George explains that every trained group leader results in ten new people in the church. This alone is ample reason to develop a relationship-based ministry to men. (Theology and Philosophy of Ministry)
- "Seventy percent of all people who become Christians do so by the age of eighteen." --Barna Research Group
- 45% of men live with children.²⁰
- According to surveys by Religion in American Life, only 2% or 3% of people attended Church because of advertising, while 85% went after being invited by a friend or relative.
- The AARP recently released (June 2004) a study that indicated divorces after age 40 are initiated by women 66% of the time. The top three reasons for women were: physical or emotional abuse (23 percent), drug and alcohol abuse (18 percent) and infidelity (17 percent). Men said they sought divorces because they fell out of love (17 percent), they had different values or lifestyles (14 percent) or infidelity (14 percent).
- Interesting/valuable sources for statistics on men:
 - <http://religions.pewforum.org/>
 - <http://barna.org/>
 - <http://www.census.gov/>

Note: Man in the Mirror encourages its constituents to use statistics that have well-researched sources only. Unfortunately, there are statistics being used today in Christendom that are not based on solid research. An example of this is the percentage of families who will attend church if the child/mother/father attends first. No primary source exists for this oft-reported statistic. Just remember, 37% of all statistics are made up... Or is it 49%... Man in the Mirror, March 25, 2008

¹³ Ibid., 54, 107, 106.

¹⁴ Ibid., 64.

¹⁵ American Academy of Pediatrics. (2003). Family pediatrics report of the task force on the family. *Pediatrics*, 111(6), 1541-1571.

¹⁶ Ibid., 60.

¹⁷ Ibid., 133.

¹⁸ Ibid., 134.

¹⁹ Church Attendance by Generations:

- Baby Busters are least likely to attend church in a typical weekend (only 28%) versus Baby Boomers (43%), Builders (50%) and Seniors (52%).
- Over half of teens (56%) attend church on a given Sunday. (1999)

Adults who attended church regularly as a child are nearly three times as likely to be attending a church today as are their peers who avoided the church during childhood (61% to 22%, respectively). (2001)

²⁰ Eggebeen, D. J., & Knoester, C. (2001). Does fatherhood matter for men? [Electronic version]. *Journal of Marriage & Family*, 63(2), 381-393.