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Living Arrangements and Housing

The impact of family

On this page: Children's living arrangements with parents and grandparents, and family housing circumstances

- Children in single-parent households are likelier to live in poverty, have fewer relationships with male role models, have less time to interact with working parents, and have lower academic standing.
- Grandparents raising their grandchildren often need help – such as child care, support groups, and physical and mental health services – managing their responsibilities and maintaining a stable home environment.
- Low-income families are likelier to rent their homes, missing the financial benefits of home ownership. Children of renters are likelier to experience destabilization caused by high housing costs, overcrowding, and poor conditions.

	—Columbia County—		—Pennsylvania—	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Living Arrangements				
• Own children under age 18 living with 2 parents	9,677	—	2,026,701	—
• Own children under age 18 living with mother only	2,132	—	586,266	—
• Own children under age 18 living with father only	998	—	161,604	—
• Own children under age 6 living with 2 parents	2,866	—	616,445	—
• Own children under age 6 living with mother only	558	—	175,030	—
• Own children under age 6 living with father only	356	—	54,440	—
Grandparents				
• Grandparents responsible for their own grandchildren and living with them	318	44.9%	80,423	39.2%
• Grandparents responsible for their own grandchildren for five or more years, now living with them	122	17.2%	31,622	15.4%
Housing				
• Owner-occupied households with own children	5,120	20.5%	1,068,530	22.4%
• Owner-occupied, single-mother households with own children	453	1.8%	118,865	2.5%
• Renter-occupied households with own children	1,873	7.5%	369,049	7.7%
• Renter-occupied single-mother households with own children	709	2.8%	172,504	3.6%
Neighborhoods				
• Children under age 18 living in neighborhoods where 20% or more of the population is below poverty	999	7.5%	448,161	15.3%

All data, U.S. Census of Population and Housing. Published by Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children, a strong, effective and trusted voice to improve the health, early education, and well-being of the Commonwealth's children, 1-800-257-2030; www.papartnerships.org. See www.papartnerships.org for research citations. Funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, www.aecf.org.