

**Table 2.15a: Percent distribution of households by type, 10 countries, selected years, 1980-2002**

| Country and year      | Married-couple households <sup>1</sup> |                            |                               | Single-parent households <sup>2</sup> | One-person households | Other households <sup>3</sup> |
|-----------------------|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
|                       | Total                                  | With children <sup>2</sup> | Without children <sup>2</sup> |                                       |                       |                               |
| United States:        |  |                            |                               |                                       |                       |                               |
| 1980                  | 60.8                                   | 30.9                       | 29.9                          | 7.5                                   | 22.7                  | 9.0                           |
| 1990                  | 56.0                                   | 26.3                       | 29.8                          | 8.3                                   | 24.6                  | 11.0                          |
| 1995                  | 54.4                                   | 25.5                       | 28.9                          | 9.1                                   | 25.0                  | 11.5                          |
| 2001                  | 52.3                                   | 24.0                       | 28.3                          | 8.7                                   | 26.1                  | 13.0                          |
| Canada:               |  |                            |                               |                                       |                       |                               |
| 1981                  | 66.8                                   | 36.3                       | 30.5                          | 5.3                                   | 20.3                  | 7.6                           |
| 1991                  | 62.8                                   | 29.6                       | 33.2                          | 5.7                                   | 22.9                  | 8.6                           |
| 1996                  | 60.5                                   | 27.8                       | 32.7                          | 6.4                                   | 24.2                  | 8.9                           |
| 2001                  | 59.4                                   | 25.6                       | 33.8                          | 6.1                                   | 25.7                  | 8.8                           |
| Japan:                |  |                            |                               |                                       |                       |                               |
| 1980                  | 68.4                                   | 42.9                       | 25.6                          | 2.2                                   | 19.8                  | 9.5                           |
| 1990                  | 65.2                                   | 33.1                       | 32.1                          | 2.3                                   | 23.1                  | 9.4                           |
| 1995                  | 62.8                                   | 27.4                       | 35.4                          | 2.0                                   | 25.6                  | 9.6                           |
| 2000                  | 61.1                                   | 23.8                       | 37.4                          | 2.2                                   | 26.5                  | 10.3                          |
| Denmark: <sup>4</sup> |  |                            |                               |                                       |                       |                               |
| 1980                  | 50.3                                   | 25.0                       | 25.3                          | 3.9                                   | 44.9                  | 1.0                           |
| 1990                  | 45.6                                   | 19.5                       | 26.1                          | 4.2                                   | 49.6                  | .6                            |
| 1995                  | 44.9                                   | 18.2                       | 26.6                          | 4.2                                   | 50.4                  | .5                            |
| 2001                  | 45.7                                   | 18.5                       | 27.2                          | 4.2                                   | 49.6                  | .6                            |

*(Table continued)*

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| Country and year  | Married-couple households <sup>1</sup> |                            |                               | Single-parent households <sup>2</sup> | One-person households | Other households <sup>3</sup> |
|-------------------|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
|                   | Total                                  | With children <sup>2</sup> | Without children <sup>2</sup> |                                       |                       |                               |
| France:           |  |                            |                               |                                       |                       |                               |
| 1982              | 67.0                                   | 39.7                       | 27.3                          | 4.3                                   | 24.6                  | 4.1                           |
| 1990              | 64.9                                   | 38.6                       | 26.2                          | 6.6                                   | 26.1                  | 2.5                           |
| 1995              | 62.2                                   | 35.9                       | 26.3                          | 6.7                                   | 28.9                  | 2.3                           |
| 2000              | 60.0                                   | 32.8                       | 27.1                          | 7.2                                   | 30.8                  | 2.0                           |
| Germany:          |  |                            |                               |                                       |                       |                               |
| 1991              | 55.3                                   | 31.6                       | 23.7                          | 7.1                                   | 33.6                  | 4.0                           |
| 1995              | 53.3                                   | 28.8                       | 24.4                          | 7.3                                   | 34.9                  | 4.5                           |
| 2000              | 51.1                                   | 25.9                       | 25.2                          | 7.7                                   | 36.1                  | 5.2                           |
| Ireland:          |  |                            |                               |                                       |                       |                               |
| 1981              | -                                      | -                          | -                             | -                                     | 16.9                  | -                             |
| 1991              | 61.6                                   | 47.9                       | 13.7                          | 10.6                                  | 20.2                  | 7.6                           |
| 1996              | 59.6                                   | 44.5                       | 15.1                          | 11.2                                  | 21.5                  | 7.7                           |
| 2002              | 59.2                                   | 41.4                       | 17.7                          | 11.7                                  | 21.6                  | 7.6                           |
| Netherlands:      |  |                            |                               |                                       |                       |                               |
| 1988              | 64.7                                   | 37.3                       | 27.4                          | 5.4                                   | 28.7                  | 1.2                           |
| 1993              | 63.1                                   | 33.3                       | 29.9                          | 5.0                                   | 30.9                  | 1.0                           |
| 1995 <sup>5</sup> | 61.2                                   | 32.6                       | 28.5                          | 5.6                                   | 32.6                  | .7                            |
| 2000              | 60.2                                   | 30.6                       | 29.6                          | 5.6                                   | 33.4                  | .7                            |
| Sweden:           |  |                            |                               |                                       |                       |                               |
| 1985              | 54.8                                   | 23.8                       | 31.0                          | 3.2                                   | 36.1                  | 5.9                           |
| 1990              | 52.1                                   | 21.9                       | 30.2                          | 3.9                                   | 39.6                  | 4.4                           |

(Table continued)

| Country and year             | Married-couple households <sup>1</sup> |                            |                               | Single-parent households <sup>2</sup> | One-person households | Other households <sup>3</sup> |
|------------------------------|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
|                              | Total                                  | With children <sup>2</sup> | Without children <sup>2</sup> |                                       |                       |                               |
| 1991 <sup>5</sup>            | 52.6                                   | 22.4                       | 30.2                          | 4.1                                   | 41.2                  | 2.2                           |
| 1995                         | 50.7                                   | 21.2                       | 29.4                          | 4.6                                   | 42.3                  | 2.4                           |
| 2000                         | 45.8                                   | 19.1                       | 26.7                          | 5.8                                   | 46.5                  | 1.9                           |
| United Kingdom: <sup>6</sup> |  |                            |                               |                                       |                       |                               |
| 1981                         | 65.0                                   | 31.0                       | 34.0                          | 5.0                                   | 22.0                  | 8.0                           |
| 1991                         | 61.0                                   | 25.0                       | 36.0                          | 6.0                                   | 27.0                  | 6.0                           |
| 1994-95                      | 58.0                                   | 25.0                       | 33.0                          | 7.0                                   | 27.0                  | 8.0                           |
| 2001                         | 58.0                                   | 23.0                       | 35.0                          | 6.0                                   | 29.0                  | 7.0                           |

<sup>1</sup> May include unmarried cohabiting couples. Such couples are explicitly included under married couples in Canada, Denmark, Ireland, France, and the Netherlands. For Sweden, all cohabitants are included as married couples. In other countries, some unmarried cohabitants are included in married couples, while some are classified under “other households,” depending on responses to surveys and censuses.

<sup>2</sup> Children are defined as unmarried children living at home according to the following age limits: under 18 in the United States, Canada, Japan, Denmark, Sweden, and the United Kingdom, except that the United Kingdom includes 15-, 16-, and 17-year-olds in 1981 and 16- and 17-year-olds thereafter only if they are attending school full time; under 25 years in France; and children of all ages in Germany, Ireland, and the Netherlands.

<sup>3</sup> Include both family and nonfamily households not elsewhere classified. These households comprise, for example, siblings residing together, other households comprised of relatives, and households made up of roommates. Some unmarried cohabiting couples may also be included in the “other” group. (See note 1.)

<sup>4</sup> From family-based statistics. However, one person living alone constitutes a family in Denmark. In this respect, the Danish data are closer to household statistics.

<sup>5</sup> Break in series.

<sup>6</sup> Great Britain only (excludes Northern Ireland).

NOTE: Dash indicates data not available.

SOURCE: *Monthly Labor Review*, U.S., September 2003, p. 12. Compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics from national population censuses, household surveys, and other sources. For the United States, data are from the March Current Population Survey; for Canada, Japan, and Ireland, from population censuses; for Denmark, from the Central Population Register; and for France and Germany, from household surveys, except 1982 for France from population census. For the Netherlands, two sources are used: 1988 and 1993 data are from the household survey, and 1995 and 2000 data are from the Municipal Population Register. For Sweden also, two sources are used: 1985 and 1990 data are from population censuses, and data for the later years are from income distribution surveys. For the United Kingdom, 1994-95 figures are from the household survey; data for all other years are from population censuses. Some earlier years’ data are from Constance Sorrentino, “The changing family in international perspective,” *Monthly Labor Review*, March 1990, table 6, p. 47. Data for Canada have been adjusted to U.S. concepts by Statistics Canada. Statistics Sweden provided data using the age limit of 18 for children from both of the sources cited.