# Recent Trends in U.S. Childbearing Intentions

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**Abstract:**
The U.S. period TFR has declined steadily since the Great Recession, to 1.73 children in 2018, the lowest level since the 1970s. This pattern could mean that current childbearing cohorts will end up with fewer children than previous cohorts or this same pattern could be an artifact of a tempo distortion if individuals are simply postponing births they plan to eventually have. In this research note, we use data on current parity and future intended births from the 2006-2017 National Survey of Family Growth to shed light on this issue. We find that total intended parity declined (from 2.26 in 2006-2010 to 2.16 children in 2013-2017), and the proportion of women intending to remain childless increased slightly. Decomposition indicated that the decline was not due to changes in population composition, but rather changes in the subgroup rates themselves. The decline in intended parity is particularly notable at young ages and among Latinxs. These results indicate that although tempo distortion is likely an important contributor to the decline in TFR, it is not the sole explanation: U.S. individuals are intending to have fewer children than their immediate predecessors, which may translate into a decline in cohort completed parity. However, the change in intended parity is modest and average intended parity remains above two children.

**Introduction**

The U.S. Total Fertility Rate (TFR) has declined steadily since the Great Recession, from a level of 2.12 in 2007 to 1.73 in 2018 (Human Fertility Database 2019; Martin et al. 2019). It is unclear how much of the recent decline in fertility is an artifact of a tempo distortion (i.e. women are simply postponing births they will eventually have) or if the drop in period fertility signals a shift toward smaller families.

To help shed light on this question, demographers often rely on statements of expected or intended lifetime fertility as an early indicator of potential shifts in cohort completed fertility, independent of postponement effects (Morgan 2001). Fertility preferences, while imperfect, have proved useful for recent U.S. cohorts, with research showing that average completed fertility falls somewhat short of average intended fertility, with gaps ranging from about 0.15 to 0.25 births (Beaujouan and Berghammer 2019; Hagewen and Morgan 2005; Morgan and Rackin 2010).

In this research note we answer a critical question: Has total intended parity declined since the Great Recession (during which period TFR declined)? Here, we examine trends in average total intended parity between 2006 and 2017 and assess whether these trends can be tied to shifts at the high or low end of the parity distribution (i.e. changes in intending no children and/or changes in intending large families), since these may be linked to different types of fertility regimes. We also use Oaxaca-Blinder decomposition methods to quantify the extent to which changes in total intended parity are driven by changes in population composition versus changes in the rate schedule. Finally, we investigate whether changes in intended parity occur across various subgroups of the population, including populations that have historically bolstered U.S. fertility rates, such as foreign-born Latinxs (Hartnett 2014; Livingston 2016).

**Data and Methods**

Data

Data come from the National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG), a nationally representative sample of the civilian, non-institutionalized population ages 15-44. We use data collected between 2006 and 2017 (the most recent year available), which yielded 41,745 female and male respondents between the ages of 15 and 44. Male and female samples are pooled since the goal of the study is to describe changes in intentions in the U.S. population as a whole (stratified analyses shown in the Appendix indicate that although levels of intended parity are lower for men, gender-specific trends are roughly the same). All observations were retained in the analysis.

The 2006-2017 data are subdivided into five "mini-waves" that each span approximately two years (2006-2008; 2008-2010; 2011-2013; 2013-2015; 2015-2017), but examining trends in intended parity across these mini-waves and by subgroup lacks statistical power to detect relatively small changes. In order to maximize sample size in the analyses we combine mini-waves into two four-year time periods (2006-2010 and 2013-2017) to assess change over time. We conduct several robustness checks and find that trends are generally consistent across specifications for assessing change over time (see Appendix). Data are weighted using NSFG-designed 4-year weights for the 2006-2010 period (representing the population in June 2008) and for the 2013-2017 period (representing the population in July 2015) (National Center for Health Statistics 2019a).

Measures

*Total Intended Parity*. The total number of children each individual intends to have is calculated as the sum of their "current parity" and the "additional number of children" intended (Daugherty and Martinez 2016). "Current parity" is the number of children the respondent ever gave birth to (for women) or ever fathered (for men), at the time of the survey. It is computed by the NSFG data team based on responses given throughout the survey. "Additional children intended" is computed by the NSFG team based on a series of questions in which respondents are asked whether they intend to have any more children, and if so, how many more they intend to have.[1]

For analyses examining changes in average intended parity, we treat total intended parity as a continuous variable. For analyses examining whether there have been changes at the high or low end of the parity distribution, we create two dummy variables. The first is whether the respondent intends no children (compared to more), and the second is whether the respondent intends four or more children (compared to fewer than four).

*Subgroups*. We examine changes in intended parity separately for various population subgroups. We compare trends by gender, age, race-ethnicity-nativity, and mother's education. Age variation is captured using 5-year age intervals (from 15-19 to 40-44). The respondent's race-ethnicity-nativity is coded as a 5-category variable: non-Latinx White (hereafter "White"), non-Latinx Black (hereafter "Black"), native-born Latinx of any race, foreign-born Latinx[2] of

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[1] These questions are asked about the respondent as an individual if they are not married/cohabiting and questions are asked jointly in reference to the respondent and their partner if they are married/cohabiting. A small proportion of respondents say they "don't know" and are then asked for the largest and smallest possible number of children intended, and these responses are averaged together. As a result, <1% of respondents have a value for "additional children intended" that is a fraction (e.g. 1.5 or 2.5). In addition, if the respondent reports that they or their marital/cohabiting partner is sterile, they are coded as intending no additional children. NSFG includes current pregnancies with additional children intended.

[2] If "born outside the United States" = 1, the respondent is considered "foreign-born." Otherwise, the respondent is coded as "native-born."

any race, and non-Latinx other race. The respondent's socioeconomic background is captured using their mother's education, since the respondent's own education is endogenous with fertility (Bailey et al. 2013; Kalmijn 1994). Mother's education is categorized as: less than high school, high school degree, some college, a bachelor's degree (or higher), or no mother figure.[3]

Analytic Approach

First, we present weighted descriptive statistics on total intended parity and intentions for childlessness and large families for the periods 2006-2010 and 2013-2017. We use t-tests to evaluate changes over time.

We then use Oaxaca-Blinder decomposition (Jann 2008) to evaluate the relative roles of changes in population composition versus changes in intended parity within subgroups (i.e. changes in the rate schedule). In the decomposition, the characteristics identified are: age, race-ethnicity-nativity, and socioeconomic background (mother's education).

Next, we present weighted descriptives for our outcomes of interest (mean total intended parity, proportion intending no children, and proportion intending four or more children), by various characteristics. Again, we show results separately for 2006-2010 and 2013-2017, and use t-tests to assess change between the two periods (with alternative tests presented in the Appendix).

**Results**

Table 1 shows rates from the two time periods, as well as decomposition results for three measures: total intended parity, the proportion intending no children, and the proportion

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[3] The "no mother figure" group is very small, so results for this group are presented in the tables, but not the figures (in the interest of space).

intending four or more children. First, we examine the top half of the table, which displays the change in the rates. Column 1 indicates that total intended parity declined from 2.26 in 2006-2010 to 2.16 in 2013-2017. This represents a decline of 0.11 births.[4] As part of this change, we see an increase in the proportion intending no children (column 2), from approximately 8.9% to 11.1% (an increase of 2.2%). In Column 3, we see that the proportion intending four or more children was 12.8% in the earlier period and 11.4% in the later period. (This decline of 1.4% is not significant at p<0.05.)

[TABLE 1 HERE]

The bottom two rows of the table show the results of the three decompositions. Column 1 indicates that the decline over time in total intended parity was not due to compositional changes in the population during this time (i.e. the coefficient is not significant, and, in fact, is in the opposite direction of the change, suggesting that, if anything, compositional changes might have had a buoying effect on total intended parity). Rather, the decline in total intended parity is fully explained by changes in the rate schedule (i.e. changes over time in the group-specific rates). This same general pattern is apparent for "intends no children" (column 2).

We now turn to the subgroup-specific rates and investigate whether these have changed during the study period. Figure 1a presents subgroup trends for total intended parity, Figure 1b for the proportion intending to have no children, and Figure 1c for the proportion intending to have large families (four or more children). (The underlying numbers, along with supplemental information, such as sample sizes, standard errors, and exact p-values are located in Table 2). Notably, the overall pattern of results is consistent with a broad-based decline in parity intentions (i.e. decline in average intended parity, increase in proportion intending childlessness, and

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[4] Note: some of these numbers do not sum due to rounding

decline in proportion intending large families), which was present for all subgroups (by gender, age, race-ethnicity-nativity and mother's education), though not all changes are significant at p<0.05. We discuss each subgroup in turn:

[TABLE 2 HERE]

[FIGURES 1A, 1B, 1C HERE]

*Gender*. The gender-specific rates indicate that total intended parity has declined for both women and men (and, as alluded to earlier, we see that total intended parity appears to be a bit lower for men, compared with women). Figure 1b shows that intended childlessness has increased for both women and men (from 8% to 10% for women and from 10% to 12% for men).

*Age*. The youngest age groups show evidence of declining intentions, and particularly an increase in intended childlessness. Specifically, Figure 1a illustrates declines in average intended parity that are more pronounced at younger ages, and Figure 1b shows a striking increase in the intention to have no children among the youngest age groups. (The lack of change in intended childlessness at older ages may be due, in part, to the fact that changes in expectations for no children are constrained by births that have already taken place.) Regarding changes in the intention to have large families, there is little discernable age pattern (Figure 1c).

*Race-ethnicity-nativity*. Among our combined racial-ethnic and nativity groups, the most striking changes are among Latinxs. There has been a substantial decline in total intended parity among both native-born and foreign-born Latinxs. This coincides with an increase in the intention to be childless among native-born Latinxs and a decline in the intention to have large families among foreign-born Latinxs. In addition, there has been a notable increase in the intention of having no children among those who are non-Latinx White.

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*Mother's Education*. Strong SES patterns are not evident in the trends for total intended parity (Figure 1a) nor in trends for the intention to have large families (Figure 1c). In contrast, increases in the intention to have no children are more evident among mid- to high-SES individuals than among lower-SES individuals (Figure 1b).

**Discussion**

Falling period fertility rates during the last decade present the possibility that current childbearing cohorts will have fewer children than their predecessors (Morgan 2001). Falling fertility – particularly when fertility falls quickly to low levels – creates conditions for an aging and shrinking population in the long term. Overall, we found evidence that intended parity in the U.S. has, in fact, changed by about a tenth of a birth (2.26 to 2.16) between the 2006-2010 and 2013-2017 periods, and this decline was not explained by changing population composition. While much recent research (particularly in Europe) has emphasized the tendency of parity intentions to remain fixed at high levels even as childbearing conditions become more challenging (Hagewen and Morgan 2005; Sobotka and Beaujouan 2014), our results provide support for the "moving-target" model proposed by Lee (1980), which argues that a population's fertility preferences can and do change over time in response to macro conditions.

One notable set of findings was the decline in intended parity among younger age groups, and, in particular, the rise in the intention of having no children among younger individuals. Intention trends among younger age groups are of the greatest interest since period fertility rates have fallen the most at these ages (National Center for Health Statistics 2019b) and a large fraction of their childbearing still lies in the future. The fact that we see more evidence of change among younger people than older people could be due to the fact that for older respondents, a

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greater fraction of intended parity is made up of achieved fertility, and thus there may be less potential for decline in the older age groups. Another factor may be that younger individuals were forming their childbearing desires during a period that was difficult for childbearing (in contrast to older individuals, who had formed their initial childbearing preferences prior the recession). These differences could also be due to the fact that the younger cohorts face larger obstacles to financial and social independence (such as higher student debt) compared with previous generations (Houle 2014; Settersten and Ray 2010).

Trends by race-ethnicity-nativity revealed significant changes among Latinxs. In particular, native-born Latinxs exhibited a decline in total intended parity, paired with an increase in intended childlessness, while for foreign-born Latinxs there was a decline in total intended parity paired with a decline in the intention to have large families. It has been noted that the decline in TFR during the recent period has been steepest among Latinxs (Ely and Hamilton 2018). The results presented here suggest that this is probably not solely due to delayed childbearing among Latinx women (whose age at first birth is relatively low), but that Latinxs, in fact, increasingly want fewer children. This is in line with the fact that fertility rates among immigrants tend to decline with time in the U.S. (Lee 2003; Parrado and Morgan 2008). Perhaps further reinforcing this trend is the fact that fertility rates in Mexico and Central America have also fallen precipitously (Jenkins and Macadar 2018; Population Reference Bureau 2019).

Our findings indicate that there has been a small, but marked shift in lifetime parity intentions, of about 0.11 births. To put this in context, the TFR declined from 2.08 in 2008 (the midpoint of the 2006-2010 NSFG) to 1.84 in 2015 (the midpoint of the 2013-2017 NSFG), a decline of 0.24 births (Martin et al. 2017). The fact that the TFR decline (0.24) was more than twice the decline in intended parity (0.11) suggests that tempo distortions account for a large

share of the decline in TFR, but that changing intentions are likely contributing as well. In sum, the changes in intended parity are not large, they may not be permanent, and some are concentrated among subgroups that had higher-than-average fertility levels before the recession, such as Latinx women. Even after a decade of decline, average total intended parity remains above replacement level (at 2.16 children), and, if current cohorts were to follow the achievement patterns of prior cohorts, their current parity intentions indicate that they would end up with near-replacement-level fertility levels.

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**TABLES AND FIGURES**

Table 1. Results from Oaxaca-Blinder Decomposition: Changes in Total Intended Parity, Intending No Children, and Intending Four or More Children, NSFG 2006-10 and 2013-17 (Weighted)

|  | Total Intended Parity | | Intends No Children | | Intends 4 or More | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | β | SE | β | SE | β | SE |
| 2006-10 | 2.264* | 0.036 | 0.089* | 0.004 | 0.128* | 0.010 |
| 2013-17 | 2.157* | 0.029 | 0.111* | 0.004 | 0.114* | 0.008 |
| Δ | -0.108* | 0.046 | 0.022* | 0.006 | -0.014 | 0.013 |
| Explained by compositional changes | 0.008 | 0.009 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Explained by changes in rates | -0.116* | 0.045 | 0.022* | 0.006 | -0.014 | 0.013 |

* $p<.05$, ** $p<.01$

Note: Characteristics included in the decomposition are: age category (15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49), race-ethnicity-nativity (White, Black, native-born Latinx, foreign-born Latinx, other race), mother's education (less than HS, HS, some college, BA or higher, no mother). Numbers may not sum due to rounding.

Table 2. Mean Total Intended Parity, Proportion Intending No Children, and Proportion Intending Four or More Children, by Various Characteristics, NSFG 2006–10 and 2013–17 (Weighted)

| | n | Total Intended Parity | | | | | Proportion Intending No children | | | | | Proportion Intending 4 or More Children | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 2006–10 | | 2013–17 | | p-value (for Δ) | 2006–10 | | 2013–17 | | p-value (for Δ) | 2006–10 | | 2013–17 | | p-value (for Δ) |
| | | Mean | (SE) | Mean | (SE) | | Mean | (SE) | Mean | (SE) | | Mean | (SE) | Mean | (SE) | |
| All | 41,745 | 2.264 | (0.034) | 2.157 | (0.028) | 0.016 | 0.089 | (0.004) | 0.111 | (0.004) | 0.000 | 0.128 | (0.010) | 0.114 | (0.007) | 0.264 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Women | 22,849 | 2.328 | (0.038) | 2.222 | (0.028) | 0.026 | 0.083 | (0.004) | 0.102 | (0.005) | 0.004 | 0.141 | (0.012) | 0.126 | (0.008) | 0.283 |
| Men | 18,896 | 2.202 | (0.036) | 2.091 | (0.034) | 0.026 | 0.095 | (0.005) | 0.121 | (0.005) | 0.001 | 0.116 | (0.009) | 0.103 | (0.009) | 0.304 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15–19 | 8,481 | 2.247 | (0.042) | 2.110 | (0.038) | 0.017 | 0.075 | (0.006) | 0.108 | (0.007) | 0.000 | 0.101 | (0.011) | 0.089 | (0.010) | 0.420 |
| 20–24 | 6,899 | 2.333 | (0.085) | 2.167 | (0.047) | 0.089 | 0.080 | (0.007) | 0.116 | (0.009) | 0.002 | 0.135 | (0.029) | 0.105 | (0.012) | 0.347 |
| 25–29 | 7,640 | 2.334 | (0.040) | 2.217 | (0.037) | 0.034 | 0.071 | (0.006) | 0.104 | (0.007) | 0.001 | 0.123 | (0.010) | 0.120 | (0.010) | 0.806 |
| 30–34 | 6,929 | 2.310 | (0.037) | 2.216 | (0.039) | 0.083 | 0.074 | (0.008) | 0.099 | (0.009) | 0.028 | 0.137 | (0.009) | 0.130 | (0.009) | 0.610 |
| 35–39 | 6,136 | 2.241 | (0.044) | 2.151 | (0.041) | 0.140 | 0.102 | (0.007) | 0.105 | (0.008) | 0.779 | 0.147 | (0.009) | 0.113 | (0.009) | 0.010 |
| 40–44 | 5,660 | 2.129 | (0.047) | 2.067 | (0.048) | 0.355 | 0.130 | (0.010) | 0.137 | (0.010) | 0.639 | 0.128 | (0.012) | 0.128 | (0.013) | 0.985 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| NL White | 21,070 | 2.131 | (0.051) | 2.041 | (0.041) | 0.168 | 0.103 | (0.005) | 0.130 | (0.006) | 0.001 | 0.102 | (0.015) | 0.096 | (0.011) | 0.729 |
| NL Black | 8,418 | 2.385 | (0.036) | 2.314 | (0.039) | 0.181 | 0.078 | (0.006) | 0.088 | (0.008) | 0.315 | 0.165 | (0.010) | 0.147 | (0.009) | 0.207 |
| Latinx NB | 5,428 | 2.433 | (0.047) | 2.259 | (0.048) | 0.010 | 0.061 | (0.006) | 0.099 | (0.009) | 0.001 | 0.145 | (0.012) | 0.131 | (0.009) | 0.363 |
| Latinx FB | 4,107 | 2.758 | (0.048) | 2.552 | (0.049) | 0.003 | 0.037 | (0.006) | 0.049 | (0.008) | 0.221 | 0.225 | (0.012) | 0.178 | (0.016) | 0.017 |
| Other Race | 2,722 | 2.359 | (0.167) | 2.121 | (0.051) | 0.175 | 0.088 | (0.012) | 0.102 | (0.012) | 0.398 | 0.146 | (0.039) | 0.095 | (0.014) | 0.214 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mom <HS | 9,315 | 2.517 | (0.040) | 2.425 | (0.035) | 0.085 | 0.070 | (0.007) | 0.074 | (0.008) | 0.712 | 0.183 | (0.009) | 0.172 | (0.010) | 0.450 |
| Mom HS | 13,300 | 2.171 | (0.030) | 2.086 | (0.025) | 0.034 | 0.093 | (0.005) | 0.111 | (0.006) | 0.022 | 0.108 | (0.008) | 0.104 | (0.006) | 0.682 |
| Mom Some College | 9,805 | 2.224 | (0.057) | 2.103 | (0.041) | 0.085 | 0.089 | (0.006) | 0.119 | (0.008) | 0.005 | 0.117 | (0.014) | 0.101 | (0.011) | 0.387 |
| Mom Bachelor's | 8,975 | 2.202 | (0.072) | 2.090 | (0.051) | 0.203 | 0.102 | (0.007) | 0.131 | (0.009) | 0.008 | 0.116 | (0.022) | 0.094 | (0.013) | 0.381 |
| No Mom Figure | 350 | 2.327 | (0.135) | 2.093 | (0.192) | 0.321 | 0.098 | (0.022) | 0.197 | (0.051) | 0.075 | 0.166 | (0.035) | 0.162 | (0.046) | 0.956 |

Note: NL = non-Latinx; NB = Native-born; FB = Foreign-born; HS = High school

Figure 1a. Total Intended Parity, By Characteristics. NSFG 2006-10 and 2013-17 (Weighted)



†p<0.10, *p<0.05, **p<0.01 (for change over time, within subgroup)
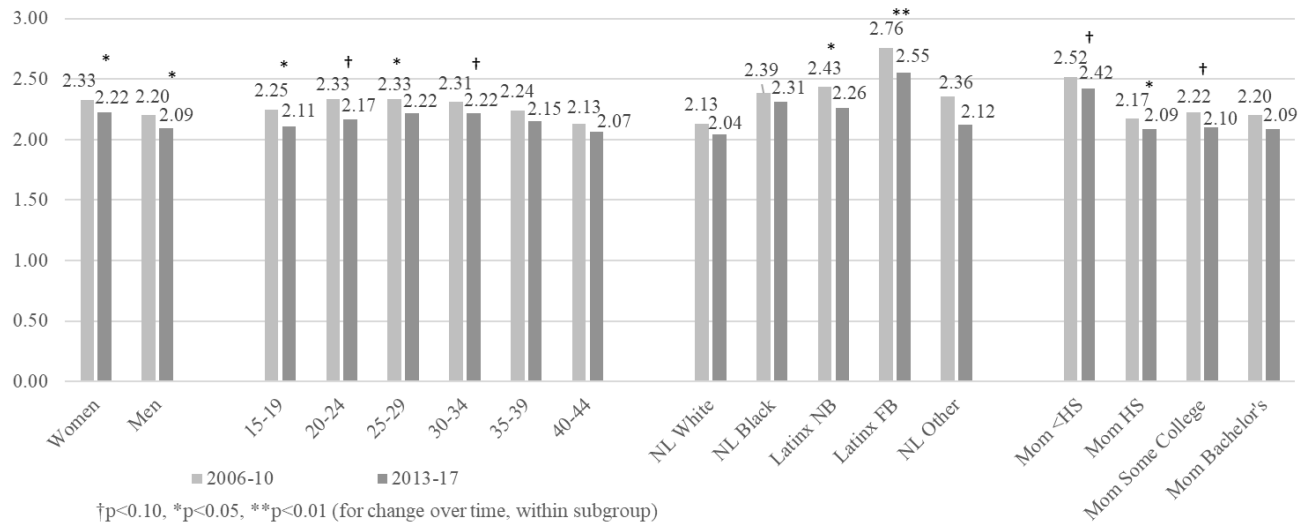
2006-10    2013-17

Figure 1b. Proportion Intending No Children, By Characteristics. NSFG 2006-10 and 2013-17 (Weighted)



†p<0.10, *p<0.05, **p<0.01 (for change over time, within subgroup)
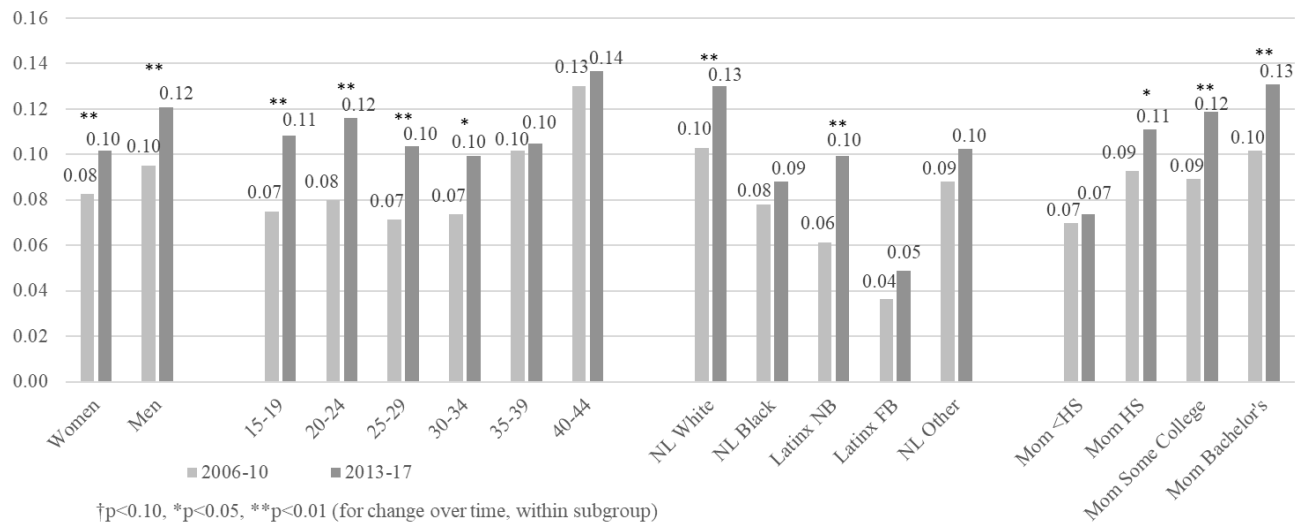
2006-10    2013-17

Figure 1c. Proportion Intending 4 or More Children, By Characteristics. NSFG 2006-10 and 2013-17 (Weighted)



†p<0.10, *p<0.05, **p<0.01 (for change over time, within subgroup)

2006-10    2013-17
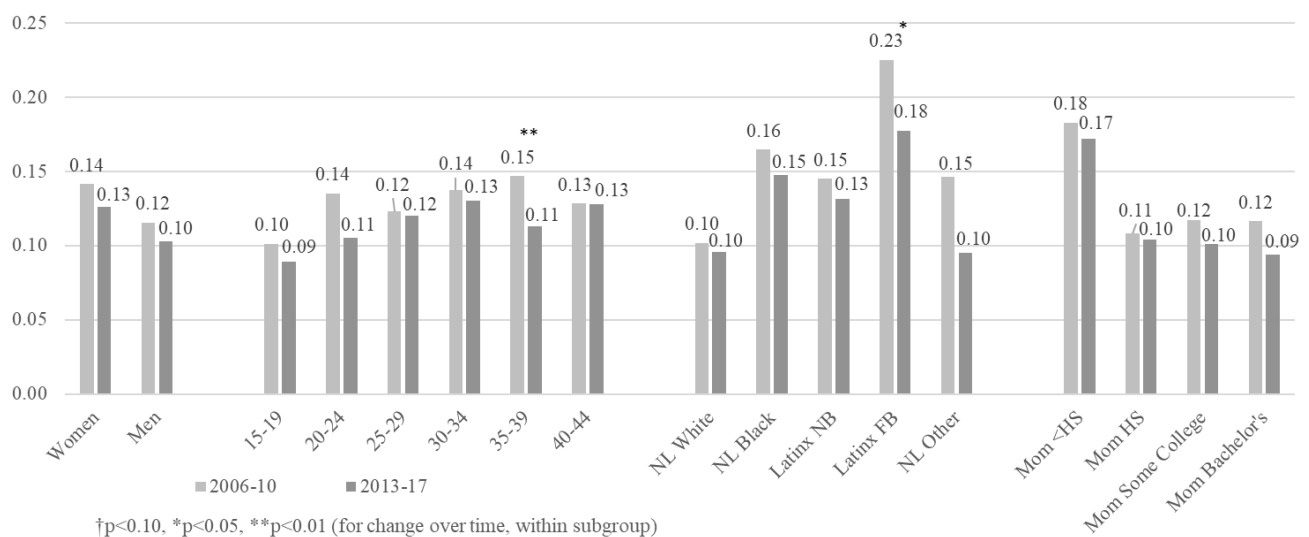
# APPENDIX

Appendix Table 1. Total Intended Parity, Intends No Children, and Intends Four or More Children, for Five Individual Mini-Waves (NSFG 2006-2017)

Panel A: Total Intended Parity (means)

| | Women | | | | | | | Men | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2006-2008 | 2008-2010 | 2011-2013 | 2013-2015 | 2015-2017 | Δ (2015-17 - 2006-08) | Linear change test | 2006-2008 | 2008-2010 | 2011-2013 | 2013-2015 | 2015-2017 | Δ (2015-17 - 2006-08) | Linear change test |
| All | 2.327 | 2.310 | 2.286 | 2.220 | 2.222 | -0.105 | † | 2.212 | 2.183 | 2.220 | 2.104 | 2.063 | -0.149 | * |
| 15-19 | 2.247 | 2.278 | 2.232 | 2.080† | 2.094 | -0.154 | * | 2.290 | 2.138 | 2.161 | 2.081* | 2.141 | -0.149 | |
| 20-24 | 2.459 | 2.283 | 2.254 | 2.271 | 2.288 | -0.171 | | 2.400 | 2.194 | 2.242 | 2.005† | 2.104 | -0.296 | † |
| 25-29 | 2.379 | 2.312 | 2.306 | 2.271 | 2.319 | -0.060 | | 2.323 | 2.289 | 2.297 | 2.147† | 2.068* | -0.256 | * |
| 30-34 | 2.364 | 2.397 | 2.495 | 2.349 | 2.276 | -0.087 | | 2.209 | 2.239 | 2.238 | 2.190 | 2.027 | -0.182 | † |
| 35-39 | 2.287 | 2.411 | 2.235 | 2.225 | 2.202 | -0.085 | | 2.061 | 2.201 | 2.302† | 2.133 | 2.050 | -0.011 | |
| 40-44 | 2.240 | 2.184 | 2.188 | 2.102 | 2.128 | -0.112 | | 1.995 | 2.039 | 2.086 | 2.067 | 1.984 | -0.011 | |
| NL White | 2.178 | 2.153 | 2.168 | 2.113 | 2.133 | -0.045 | | 2.106 | 2.054 | 2.053 | 1.974 | 1.935 | -0.171 | |
| NL Black | 2.348 | 2.453 | 2.351 | 2.290 | 2.308 | -0.040 | | 2.345 | 2.367 | 2.513 | 2.223 | 2.405 | 0.061 | |
| Latinx NB | 2.556 | 2.560 | 2.406 | 2.390 | 2.360† | -0.196 | * | 2.330 | 2.282 | 2.387 | 2.216 | 2.070* | -0.260 | * |
| Latinx FB | 2.910 | 2.860 | 2.795 | 2.707† | 2.523** | -0.387 | ** | 2.581 | 2.704 | 2.654 | 2.528 | 2.417 | -0.164 | |
| NL Other | 2.605 | 2.436 | 2.369 | 2.084 | 2.162 | -0.442 | | 2.242 | 2.087 | 2.250 | 2.170 | 1.978 | -0.264 | |
| Mom <HS | 2.613 | 2.610 | 2.590 | 2.535 | 2.438 | -0.175 | † | 2.383 | 2.468 | 2.479 | 2.365 | 2.347 | -0.036 | |
| Mom HS | 2.167 | 2.260 | 2.232 | 2.211 | 2.165 | -0.002 | | 2.108 | 2.100 | 2.164 | 2.057 | 1.901** | -0.207 | * |
| Mom Some College | 2.310 | 2.242 | 2.194 | 2.149 | 2.121 | -0.189 | † | 2.214 | 2.068 | 2.237 | 1.993 | 2.123 | -0.091 | |
| Mom Bachelor's | 2.295 | 2.139 | 2.153 | 2.049 | 2.213 | -0.082 | | 2.207 | 2.171 | 2.061 | 2.055 | 2.025 | -0.182 | |
| No Mom Figure | 1.908 | 2.740† | 2.450 | 2.211 | 2.078 | 0.170 | | 2.333 | 2.104 | 2.783 | 2.041 | 1.959 | -0.374 | |

This table shows results from additional tests determining whether there were statistically significant changes in parity intentions over time: (1) Means from 2006-2008 were compared to means from each of the later mini-waves using t-tests. These results are listed in the column to the right of each mini-wave. (2) We estimate OLS regression models which predict total expected parity, where the only predictor variable is the survey year (mid-point of the mini-wave, treated as a continuous variable). These results are listed in the columns labeled "Linear Change Test." Note: NL = non-Latinx; NB = Native-born; FB = Foreign-born; HS = High school

† p<.10, * p<.05, ** p<.01

Appendix Table 1 (continued). Total Intended Parity, Intends No Children, and Intends Four or More Children, for Five Individual Mini-Waves (NSFG 2006-2017)

Panel B: Proportion Intending No Children

| | Women | | | | | | | Men | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2006-2008 | 2008-2010 | 2011-2013 | 2013-2015 | 2015-2017 | Δ (2015-17 - 2006-08) | Linear change test | 2006-2008 | 2008-2010 | 2011-2013 | 2013-2015 | 2015-2017 | Δ (2015-17 - 2006-08) | Linear change test |
| All | 0.090 | 0.079 | 0.090 | 0.100 | 0.102 | 0.012 | * | 0.102 | 0.092 | 0.098 | 0.107 | 0.134** | 0.032 | ** |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15-19 | 0.075 | 0.080 | 0.110* | 0.127** | 0.136** | 0.061 | ** | 0.050 | 0.095** | 0.071 | 0.081* | 0.095** | 0.045 | † |
| 20-24 | 0.097 | 0.079 | 0.065* | 0.087 | 0.093 | -0.005 | | 0.080 | 0.067 | 0.107 | 0.134* | 0.146* | 0.067 | ** |
| 25-29 | 0.073 | 0.061 | 0.079 | 0.089 | 0.091 | 0.018 | † | 0.084 | 0.076 | 0.088 | 0.105 | 0.132† | 0.048 | * |
| 30-34 | 0.071 | 0.045† | 0.062 | 0.066 | 0.077 | 0.006 | | 0.107 | 0.075 | 0.089 | 0.112 | 0.140 | 0.033 | † |
| 35-39 | 0.098 | 0.082 | 0.110 | 0.103 | 0.106 | 0.007 | | 0.134 | 0.104 | 0.096 | 0.100 | 0.114 | -0.020 | |
| 40-44 | 0.122 | 0.123 | 0.119 | 0.134 | 0.116 | -0.005 | | 0.159 | 0.135 | 0.135 | 0.110† | 0.180 | 0.021 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| NL White | 0.111 | 0.089† | 0.100 | 0.117 | 0.121 | 0.010 | | 0.122 | 0.104 | 0.113 | 0.122 | 0.158* | 0.036 | * |
| NL Black | 0.076 | 0.070 | 0.084 | 0.089 | 0.075 | -0.001 | | 0.075 | 0.090 | 0.070 | 0.102 | 0.094 | 0.019 | |
| Latinx NB | 0.044 | 0.070† | 0.095** | 0.079** | 0.091** | 0.047 | * | 0.063 | 0.068 | 0.068 | 0.104† | 0.119* | 0.057 | ** |
| Latinx FB | 0.027 | 0.031 | 0.022 | 0.041 | 0.027 | 0.000 | | 0.050 | 0.037 | 0.049 | 0.055 | 0.071 | 0.021 | |
| NL Other | 0.069 | 0.073 | 0.086 | 0.089 | 0.115 | 0.046 | | 0.103 | 0.108 | 0.132 | 0.074 | 0.130 | 0.028 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mom <HS | 0.062 | 0.068 | 0.049 | 0.046 | 0.069 | 0.007 | | 0.082 | 0.065 | 0.067 | 0.081 | 0.100 | 0.018 | |
| Mom HS | 0.099 | 0.076† | 0.087 | 0.095 | 0.112 | 0.014 | | 0.106 | 0.098 | 0.109 | 0.089 | 0.147* | 0.041 | † |
| Mom Some College | 0.095 | 0.074 | 0.114 | 0.100 | 0.099 | 0.005 | | 0.112 | 0.095 | 0.093 | 0.133 | 0.136 | 0.024 | |
| Mom Bachelor's | 0.101 | 0.098 | 0.110 | 0.147* | 0.117 | 0.015 | | 0.107 | 0.103 | 0.111 | 0.124 | 0.139 | 0.031 | † |
| No Mom Figure | 0.172 | 0.115 | 0.095 | 0.189 | 0.209 | 0.037 | | 0.059 | 0.099 | 0.107 | 0.241† | 0.165 | 0.107 | |

This table shows results from additional tests determining whether there were statistically significant changes in parity intentions over time: (1) Proportions from 2006-2008 were compared to proportions from each of the later mini-waves using t-tests. These results are listed in the column to the right of each mini-wave. (2) We estimate logistic regression models which predict the intention to have no children, where the only predictor variable is the survey year (mid-point of the mini-wave, treated as a continuous variable). These results are listed in the columns labeled "Linear Change Test." Note: NL = non-Latinx; NB = Native-born; FB = Foreign-born; HS = High school

† p<.10, * p<.05, ** p<.01

Appendix Table 1 (continued). Total Intended Parity, Intends No Children, and Intends Four or More Children, for Five Individual Mini-Waves (NSFG 2006-2017)

Panel C: Proportion Intending 4 or More Children

| | Women | | | | | | | Men | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2006-2008 | 2008-2010 | 2011-2013 | 2013-2015 | 2015-2017 | Δ (2015-17 - 2006-08) | Linear change test | 2006-2008 | 2008-2010 | 2011-2013 | 2013-2015 | 2015-2017 | Δ (2015-17 - 2006-08) | Linear change test |
| All | 0.154 | 0.129 | 0.142 | 0.127 | 0.123 | -0.031 | | 0.126 | 0.107 | 0.119 | 0.101 | 0.101 | -0.025 | |
| 15-19 | 0.122 | 0.109 | 0.137 | 0.102 | 0.092 | -0.030 | | 0.097 | 0.080 | 0.086 | 0.071 | 0.081 | -0.016 | |
| 20-24 | 0.187 | 0.111 | 0.120 | 0.103† | 0.142 | -0.045 | | 0.166 | 0.084† | 0.123 | 0.093 | 0.082 | -0.084 | |
| 25-29 | 0.151 | 0.112 | 0.132 | 0.134 | 0.142 | -0.009 | | 0.132 | 0.096 | 0.118 | 0.090† | 0.099 | -0.033 | |
| 30-34 | 0.151 | 0.145 | 0.190 | 0.152 | 0.122 | -0.030 | | 0.135 | 0.117 | 0.119 | 0.123 | 0.122 | -0.012 | |
| 35-39 | 0.153 | 0.169 | 0.131 | 0.135 | 0.106† | -0.046 | * | 0.125 | 0.153 | 0.156 | 0.106 | 0.101 | -0.024 | |
| 40-44 | 0.158 | 0.128 | 0.142 | 0.133 | 0.130 | -0.029 | | 0.106 | 0.114 | 0.116 | 0.121 | 0.122 | 0.016 | |
| NL White | 0.124 | 0.094 | 0.113 | 0.102 | 0.113 | -0.011 | | 0.111 | 0.080 | 0.078 | 0.077 | 0.085 | -0.026 | |
| NL Black | 0.165 | 0.166 | 0.175 | 0.160 | 0.140 | -0.025 | | 0.161 | 0.165 | 0.193 | 0.129 | 0.162 | 0.001 | |
| Latinx NB | 0.197 | 0.174 | 0.162 | 0.163 | 0.143 | -0.054 | | 0.100 | 0.119 | 0.159* | 0.124 | 0.085 | -0.015 | |
| Latinx FB | 0.257 | 0.261 | 0.234 | 0.216 | 0.128** | -0.130 | ** | 0.192 | 0.207 | 0.217 | 0.187 | 0.163 | -0.029 | |
| NL Other | 0.215 | 0.146 | 0.183 | 0.093† | 0.127 | -0.088 | | 0.138 | 0.065† | 0.135 | 0.086 | 0.059* | -0.079 | |
| Mom <HS | 0.223 | 0.195 | 0.194 | 0.184 | 0.160* | -0.063 | * | 0.161 | 0.164 | 0.176 | 0.180 | 0.149 | -0.012 | |
| Mom HS | 0.118 | 0.112 | 0.129 | 0.140 | 0.099 | -0.020 | | 0.099 | 0.098 | 0.112 | 0.085 | 0.087 | -0.012 | |
| Mom Some College | 0.142 | 0.117 | 0.127 | 0.100 | 0.109 | -0.033 | | 0.126 | 0.082 | 0.107 | 0.077 | 0.108 | -0.018 | |
| Mom Bachelor's | 0.148 | 0.093 | 0.123 | 0.089 | 0.131 | -0.017 | | 0.139 | 0.092 | 0.089 | 0.072* | 0.082 | -0.056 | |
| No Mom Figure | 0.093 | 0.277 | 0.240 | 0.173 | 0.167 | 0.074 | | 0.108 | 0.140 | 0.377 | 0.230 | 0.082 | -0.026 | |

This table shows results from additional tests determining whether there were statistically significant changes in parity intentions over time: (1) Proportions from 2006-2008 were compared to proportions from each of the later mini-waves using t-tests. These results are listed in the column to the right of each mini-wave. (2) We estimate logistic regression models which predict the intention to have four or more children, where the only predictor variable is the survey year (mid-point of the mini-wave, treated as a continuous variable). These results are listed in the columns labeled "Linear Change Test." Note: NL = non-Latinx; NB = Native-born; FB = Foreign-born; HS = High school
† p<.10, * p<.05, ** p<.01

Appendix Table 1 (continued). Total Intended Parity, Intends No Children, and Intends Four or More Children, for Five Individual Mini-Waves (NSFG 2006-2017)

| | Panel D: Subgroup Ns | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Women | | | | | Men | | | | |
| | 2006-2008 | 2008-2010 | 2011-2013 | 2013-2015 | 2015-2017 | 2006-2008 | 2008-2010 | 2011-2013 | 2013-2015 | 2015-2017 |
| All | 5,849 | 6,423 | 5,599 | 5,698 | 4,879 | 4,863 | 5,536 | 4,811 | 4,505 | 3,992 |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15-19 | 1,085 | 1,199 | 1,037 | 1,010 | 924 | 1,076 | 1,302 | 1,088 | 999 | 886 |
| 20-24 | 1,004 | 1,094 | 960 | 953 | 744 | 803 | 930 | 810 | 731 | 640 |
| 25-29 | 1,115 | 1,251 | 1,070 | 1,047 | 934 | 853 | 954 | 854 | 790 | 696 |
| 30-34 | 963 | 1,084 | 976 | 1,035 | 879 | 728 | 827 | 774 | 744 | 669 |
| 35-39 | 844 | 954 | 813 | 873 | 752 | 710 | 790 | 620 | 622 | 591 |
| 40-44 | 838 | 841 | 743 | 780 | 646 | 693 | 733 | 665 | 619 | 510 |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| NL White | 3,104 | 3,191 | 2,583 | 2,701 | 2,306 | 2,642 | 2,803 | 2,412 | 2,303 | 2,020 |
| NL Black | 1,201 | 1,334 | 1,227 | 1,193 | 1,184 | 803 | 1,051 | 931 | 833 | 819 |
| Latinx NB | 630 | 816 | 930 | 836 | 700 | 574 | 697 | 770 | 594 | 581 |
| Latinx FB | 547 | 730 | 527 | 557 | 401 | 494 | 644 | 402 | 419 | 315 |
| NL Other | 367 | 352 | 332 | 411 | 288 | 350 | 341 | 296 | 356 | 257 |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mom <HS | 1,405 | 1,585 | 1,351 | 1,317 | 1,077 | 1,095 | 1,239 | 964 | 931 | 666 |
| Mom HS | 1,957 | 1,990 | 1,677 | 1,742 | 1,430 | 1,668 | 1,847 | 1,631 | 1,460 | 1,206 |
| Mom Some College | 1,314 | 1,586 | 1,424 | 1,343 | 1,200 | 1,068 | 1,248 | 1,116 | 1,056 | 990 |
| Mom Bachelor's | 1,129 | 1,209 | 1,096 | 1,233 | 1,122 | 992 | 1,160 | 1,068 | 1,030 | 1,100 |
| No Mom Figure | 44 | 53 | 51 | 63 | 50 | 40 | 42 | 32 | 28 | 30 |

Note: NL = non-Latinx; NB = Native-born; FB = Foreign-born; HS = High school