DADS MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE!

Children who grow up with INVOLVED fathers are:

- **39%** more likely to earn mostly A’s in school
- **45%** less likely to repeat a grade
- **60%** less likely to be suspended or expelled from school
- **2x** as likely to go to college and find stable employment after high school
- **75%** less likely to have a teen birth
- **80%** less likely to spend time in jail

FATHERHOOD BEGINS EARLY FOR LESS EDUCATED MEN

Among men with:

- Less than a high school diploma: 70%
- A high school diploma: 60%
- A bachelor’s degree or higher: 15%

Percentage who are fathers by age 24

CHILDREN ARE INCREASINGLY BORN TO UNMARRIED PARENTS

IN 2014, 40% OF ALL CHILDREN WERE BORN TO UNMARRIED PARENTS.

Percent of births that are to unmarried women

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NONMARITAL CHILDBEARING IS THE NORM FOR YOUNGER PARENTS

IN 2014, 66% OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 20-24 WERE TO UNMARRIED WOMEN.


Percentage of births that are to unmarried women

MOTHER'S AGE AT CHILD'S BIRTH

- 15-19 YEARS OLD
- 20-24 YEARS OLD
- 25-29 YEARS OLD
- 30-34 YEARS OLD

IN 2014, 66% OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 20-24 WERE TO UNMARRIED WOMEN.
MOST UNMARRIED PARENTS ARE TOGETHER AROUND THE TIME OF THEIR BABY’S BIRTH

Relationship status of unmarried parents three months after baby’s birth:

- Living together: 62%
- Dating: 18%
- Just friends: 5%
- Not in any type of relationship: 15%

TWO-THIRDS OF UNMARRIED PARENTS ARE LIVING TOGETHER SOON AFTER THEIR BABY’S BIRTH.

SOURCE: CFRP PATERNITY ESTABLISHMENT STUDY, TEXAS MOTHERS AT 3 MONTHS AFTER CHILD’S BIRTH, 2013 (N=700).
NEARLY HALF OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS SAY THERE IS AN ALMOST CERTAIN CHANCE THEY WILL MARRY THEIR CHILD’S FATHER IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

13% Little or no chance
15% A 50-50 chance
23% A pretty good chance
49% An almost certain chance

SOURCE: CFRP PATERNITY ESTABLISHMENT STUDY, TEXAS MOTHERS AT 3 MONTHS AFTER CHILD’S BIRTH, 2013 (N=700).
Most unmarried parents want dad to be actively involved in their newborn’s life

Unmarried mother’s desire for father’s involvement in raising their newborn

- 89% Completely or greatly involved
- 5% Somewhat or slightly involved
- 6% Not involved at all

The large majority of unmarried mothers want the father of their newborn to be involved in raising the child.

Source: CFRP Paternity Establishment Study, Texas mothers at 3 months after child’s birth, 2013 (N=700).
SOME FATHERS ARE NOT INVOLVED FROM THE START

MORE THAN ONE-FIFTH OF FATHERS ARE NOT PRESENT AT THEIR CHILD’S BIRTH.

Present at child’s birth: 79%

Absent from child’s birth: 21%

SOURCE: CFRP PATERNITY ESTABLISHMENT STUDY, TEXAS MOTHERS AT 3 MONTHS AFTER CHILD’S BIRTH, 2013 (N=700).
FATHER’S ABSENCE AT HIS CHILD’S BIRTH SIGNALS RISK FOR THE MOTHER AND BABY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Birth-Absent Father</th>
<th>Birth-Present Father</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MOTHER EXPERIENCED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DURING PREGNANCY</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOTHER RECEIVED NO HELP FROM FATHER DURING PREGNANCY</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BABY HAD SERIOUS HEALTH COMPLICATIONS AT BIRTH</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOTHER EXPERIENCED SERIOUS HEALTH PROBLEMS DURING PREGNANCY OR AT BIRTH</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>17%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

SOURCE: CFRP PATERNITY ESTABLISHMENT STUDY, TEXAS MOTHERS AT 3 MONTHS AFTER CHILD’S BIRTH, 2013 (N=700).
WHEN UNMARRIED PARENTS BREAK UP, HALF OF FATHERS DO NOT SEE THEIR NEWBORNS

48% OF FATHERS WHO ARE NOT IN A ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIP WITH THEIR CHILD’S MOTHER HAD NO CONTACT WITH THEIR NEWBORN IN THE LAST 30 DAYS.

SOURCE: CFRP PATERNITY ESTABLISHMENT STUDY, TEXAS MOTHERS AT 3 MONTHS AFTER CHILD’S BIRTH, 2013 (N=700).
About half of parents who were unmarried and living together at their child’s birth have broken up by the time their child is 5 years old.

Percentage of unmarried parents who have broken-up:

- 1 year after child’s birth: 22%
- 3 years after child’s birth: 35%
- 5 years after child’s birth: 46%

Source: Carlson and Vanorman, 2013 using Fragile Families data.
FATHERS WHO DO NOT LIVE WITH THEIR CHILDREN MISS OUT ON DAILY LIFE

Percentage of NONRESIDENT fathers who say they participated in each activity at least several times a week in the past month

- Take child to or from activities: 11%
- Help child with homework: 16%
- Have meal with child: 10%
- Talk with child about child’s day: 31%

CHILDREN RAISED BY A SINGLE MOTHER ARE MUCH MORE LIKELY TO BE POOR

Percentage of children living in poverty

- Children in single-mother families live in poverty: 43%
- Children in married-couple families live in poverty: 10%

Source: Child Trends, U.S. Census Bureau, 2015.
CHILD SUPPORT LIFTS NEARLY ONE MILLION PEOPLE OUT OF POVERTY

CHILD SUPPORT IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF A FAMILY’S SAFETY NET.

- **9%** of children in WIC
- **23%** of children in child support
- **4%** of children in TANF

NO CHILD SUPPORT ORDER = NO SUPPORT FOR THE CHILD

Type of support received by mothers WITHOUT a child support order

- 67% No Support
- 18% Both financial and in-kind support
- 8% Only in-kind support
- 7% Only financial support
- 8% Financial and in-kind support

WITHOUT A CHILD SUPPORT ORDER, TWO-THIRDS OF UNMARRIED FATHERS DON’T CONTRIBUTE ANYTHING TO THEIR 3-YEAR-OLD CHILD.

SOURCE: CFRP TEXAS ASP SIGNERS STUDY (TASS) MOTHERS AT 3½ YEARS AFTER BIRTH, 2013 (N=529); OAG-CSD ADMINISTRATIVE DATA FILES.

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BARRIERS PREVENT FATHERS FROM SUPPORTING THEIR FAMILIES

Percentage of new, unmarried fathers experiencing financial barriers

- No high school degree: 23%
- Currently unemployed: 16%
- Not authorized to work in U.S.: 13%

SOURCE: CFRP PATERNITY ESTABLISHMENT STUDY, TEXAS MOTHERS AT 3 MONTHS AFTER CHILD’S BIRTH, 2013 (N=700).
INCARCERATION RECORDS MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR MANY FATHERS TO GET A JOB, A HOME, AND A HIGHER EDUCATION

Criminal background checks are used by:

- 87% EMPLOYERS
- 80% LANDLORDS
- 66% COLLEGES

MOMS AND DADS AGREE THAT CHILDREN ARE BETTER OFF WHEN BOTH PARENTS ARE INVOLVED

Percentage of parents who believe that children are better off when both parents are involved

84% Agree
16% Disagree

SOURCE: ZERO TO THREE NATIONAL PARENT SURVEY, 2016.
NEARLY TWO-THIRDS OF FATHERS WANT MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO BE A BETTER PARENT.
TOP 10 GREATEST NEEDS OR CHALLENGES FACED BY THE FATHERS YOU SERVE:

1. Lack of self-efficacy or confidence as a father
2. Limited education level and skills
3. Lack of employment
4. No services available for fathers, only mothers
5. Custody and parenting time agreements
6. Incarceration records that limit employment opportunities
7. Housing stability
8. Issues related to child support
9. Mental health
10. Substance abuse problems