

## Methodology

### Data source

This analysis includes findings from the 2014, 2019, 2023, and 2024 [Survey of Income and Program Participation](#) (SIPP). The SIPP is collected by the U.S. Census Bureau.

SIPP is a nationally representative survey that focuses on the income of U.S. households and their participation in government programs. SIPP also collects information on marital status, fertility history, employment and wealth (among other topics).

We use the SIPP because of its household roster, which describes how all family members living together in a household are related to one another. This allows us to directly identify blended families.

Each household in the SIPP is interviewed at yearly intervals over a four-year period. The reference period for the interview questions is the preceding 12-month calendar year. For example, the 2024 SIPP refers to calendar year 2023. In this analysis, we use only information relative to the 12th reference month (December), as it is the most recent measure.

### How we calculated specific statistics

We limit all analyses to children or families living in the United States.

When referencing the education of a child's parent, we use the education of the parent with whom the child lives. If the child lives with both of their parents, we use the highest level of education from either parent.

We present all financial outcomes as median values in 2023 U.S. dollars. We adjust for inflation using the Consumer Price Index.

Comparisons are tested for statistical significance using the replicate weights in the source data. These tests for statistical significance are conducted using 95% confidence intervals.