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From the Los Angeles Times

## Prevalant Type Of Family: Singles

■ **Couples With Children Eclipsed**

August 18, 2005  
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON -- For the first time, single adults outnumber couples with children as the most common type of household in the United States, according to figures from the 2000 Census.

In 1990, couples with children were the most prevalent family type, followed by singles, childless couples and single parents.

Previous studies showed that singles had moved ahead of married-with-children households. But the Census Bureau analysis, released Tuesday, is the first to divide homes by whether they have partners of any sort, regardless of marital status. Previous examinations put families in one category and non-families, including unmarried couples, in another.

The report, based on new tabulations of the 2000 and 1990 tallies, found that solo households grew 21 percent over the decade, while the next-largest category, married couples without children, grew by only 11 percent.

As a result, couples with children - married or unmarried - now make up 31.3 percent of all homes. Individuals make up 31.6 percent.

For the first time, the Census Bureau also analyzed whether households included partners, regardless of marital status.

It found 60 million households in which the person responding to the Census survey lived with a partner, compared with 46 million without.

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