

Facts about Missouri

Father Involvement

Nationally, “over the past thirty years, the rise in violent crime parallels the rise in families abandoned by fathers”.

Patrick Fagan
The Heritage Foundation, 1995

On a national level, “children living in two-parent homes are...44% less likely to be physically abused, 47% less likely to suffer physical neglect, 43% less likely to suffer emotional neglect, and 55% less likely to suffer some form of child abuse”.

Hon. Rick Santorum
The Heritage Foundation, 2003

Missouri:

Missouri: The number of single-parent families rose from 19.5% in 1990 to 24.3% in 2005

Missouri Kids Count, 2006

There were 61.4 juvenile law referrals ages 10-17 (per 1,000) in 2004.

Missouri Kids Count, 2006

Dallas County:

The number of single-parent families rose from 13.9% in 1990 to 18.1% in 2000.

Missouri Kids Count, 2006

There were 124.77 juvenile law referrals per 1,000 in 2000.

MO Dept. of Health and Senior Services, 2001

Juvenile Children Receiving Mental Health Services for Serious Emotional Disturbance:

Missouri: from 28,029 in 2001 to 45,449 in 2005, this is about a 62% increase.

Dallas County: from 98 in 2001 to 172 in 2005, this is about a 79% increase within four years.

Kids Count Missouri, 2006



Out-of-Wedlock Pregnancies

“I asked Oklahoma State University and Oklahoma University to examine the question of why Oklahoma was poor...[The] economists said, ‘You have too much divorce, too many out-of-wedlock births...’”

Frank Keating
Former Oklahoma Governor

Missouri:

Missouri: In 2005, 37.8% of births (29,669 out of 78,547 births) in Missouri were to unmarried women.

MO Dept. of Health and Senior Services, 2005

Missouri: In 2005, the rate of births to teens (ages 15-19) was 42.4 per 1,000.

Missouri Kids Count, 2006

Dallas County:

The percentage of births to unmarried mothers was 23.9% (49 out of 205 births) in 2005.

MO Dept. of Health and Senior Services, 2005

In 2005, the rate of births to teens (ages 15-19) was 49.7 per 1,000.

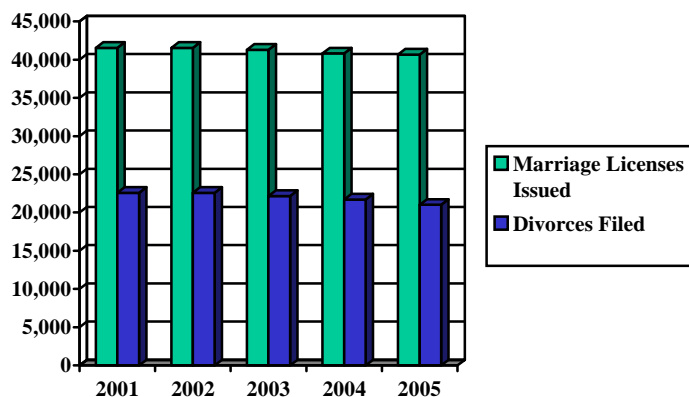
Missouri Kids Count, 2006

Marriage and Divorce

Nationally, “spouses who said they were quite unhappy with their marriage *who stayed married* were much happier five years later”.

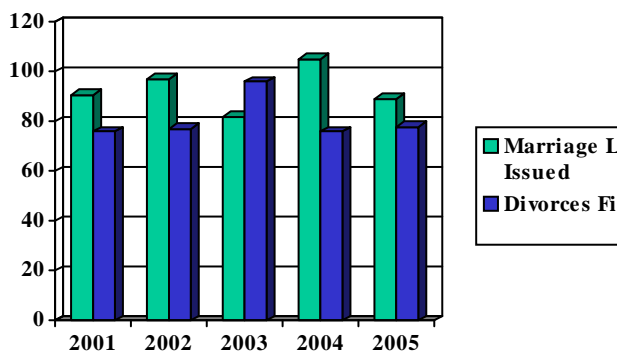
Linda Waite & Maggie Gallagher
The Case for Marriage

Missouri:



Missouri Vital Statistics, 2006

Dallas County:



Missouri Vital Statistics, 2006

To help couples, who choose marriage for themselves, develop the skills and knowledge to form and sustain healthy marriages.

Administration for Children and Families –
Healthy Marriage Mission Statement

In 2003, there were more divorces (96) than weddings. Also, in 2005, there was almost the same amount of marriages (89) as there were divorces (78) in Dallas County.

MO Dept. of Health and Senior Services, 2006

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