



Fatherhood and Crime

June 25, 2024

THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY



18
million

Fatherless
CHILDREN
IN THE US

Fathers are
absent from



approximately
80%

OF SINGLE-PARENT HOMES

The United States has the

HIGHEST
RATE

of children in single-parent
households
of any nation in the world.

FATHERLESS FAMILIES ARE

4x more likely to live
in **poverty**

than that for married-couple families

FATHERLESS CHILDREN ARE

more likely to abuse
drugs and show signs
of delinquent behavior



Fatherless children are more likely to suffer from psychosocial development issues, live in poverty, drop out of school, engage in school violence, abuse substances, and enter the juvenile justice system.

- ★ [Father absence](#) as a predictor of violence is robust for both male and female violence.
- ★ [70% of juveniles](#) in state-operated institutions come from single-parent homes
- ★ Most adolescents who enter the justice system have suffered from parental abandonment, substance abuse, or a dysfunctional household. In a [study](#) of 75 juvenile delinquents, 66% experienced fatherlessness, 20% had never lived with their father, and 25% had an alcoholic father.
- ★ It has been [reported](#) that fatherless children are anywhere from 3 to 20 times more likely to be incarcerated than children raised in dual-parent households
- ★ [71% of teachers and 90% of law enforcement officials](#) state that the lack of parental supervision at home is a major factor that contributes to violence in schools.
- ★ In a study of 56 school shootings, [only 10 of the shooters \(18%\)](#) were raised in a stable home with both biological parents. 82% grew up in either an unstable family environment or grew up without both biological parents together.
- ★ Some data suggests [72 percent of adolescent murderers](#) and 70 percent of long-term prison inmates come from fatherless homes
- ★ Children who feel closeness to their father are [80% less likely to spend time in jail](#)
- ★ [75% percent of adolescent patients](#) in substance abuse centers are from fatherless homes.
- ★ Of America's roughly 2 million prisoners, over 800,000 are parents—and [92 percent of those are fathers.](#)
- ★ Around [2.7 million children](#) have at least one parent in prison