



## Changes in Living Arrangements of Young Adults

There is some continuity but for the most part substantial changes in the living arrangements of young adults in America (persons aged 18-24 years old). Since 1967, the principal element of stability is that the percentage of men who live at home has moved in a tight range between 55 and 60% (see Chart 1). This constancy is true regardless of generation, i.e. it holds for baby boomers, Gen X, Millennials, or the oldest members of Gen Z. Although most women aged 18-24 now live at home, that was not always the case. In the early 1970s, the percentage of women living at home was in the low 40's. That share then increased to about 45% by the early 1980s where it remained relatively constant until the Global Financial Crisis. The proportion of women aged 18-24 living at home then increased to 50% and more recently to 55% as of the Spring of 2020 when the most recent survey was conducted.

The other significant change for both men and women is a decline in marriage that is only partially offset by an increase in cohabitation (see Charts 2,3 and 4). In 1967, 46.3% of women and 31.3% of men aged 18-24 were married or living with a partner. As of 2020, only 11.3% of men and 17.8% of women are married or living with a partner. The proportion of men or women aged 18-24 who are either living alone, living with relatives or living with nonrelatives rose from around 10% in the 70s to 30% in 2010 but has been stable since then (see Chart 5). Women are more likely to live with other relatives, e.g. siblings while men are more likely to live with nonrelatives (see Charts 6 and 7). There is almost no differences in the percentage that live alone (see Chart 8).

### Conclusion:

Living arrangements of young adults have become more complex. While the percentage of men living at home has remained roughly constant since 1967, the proportion of men who are married or living with a partner has declined by about 20 percentage points while the share living alone, with relatives or nonrelatives has increased by 20 percentage points. There is greater flux with women. The proportion living at home increased by about 15 percentage points and the percentage living alone, with relatives or nonrelatives rose by about 20 percentage points. The share who are married or living with a partner, however fell by nearly 35 percentage points.

Chart 1

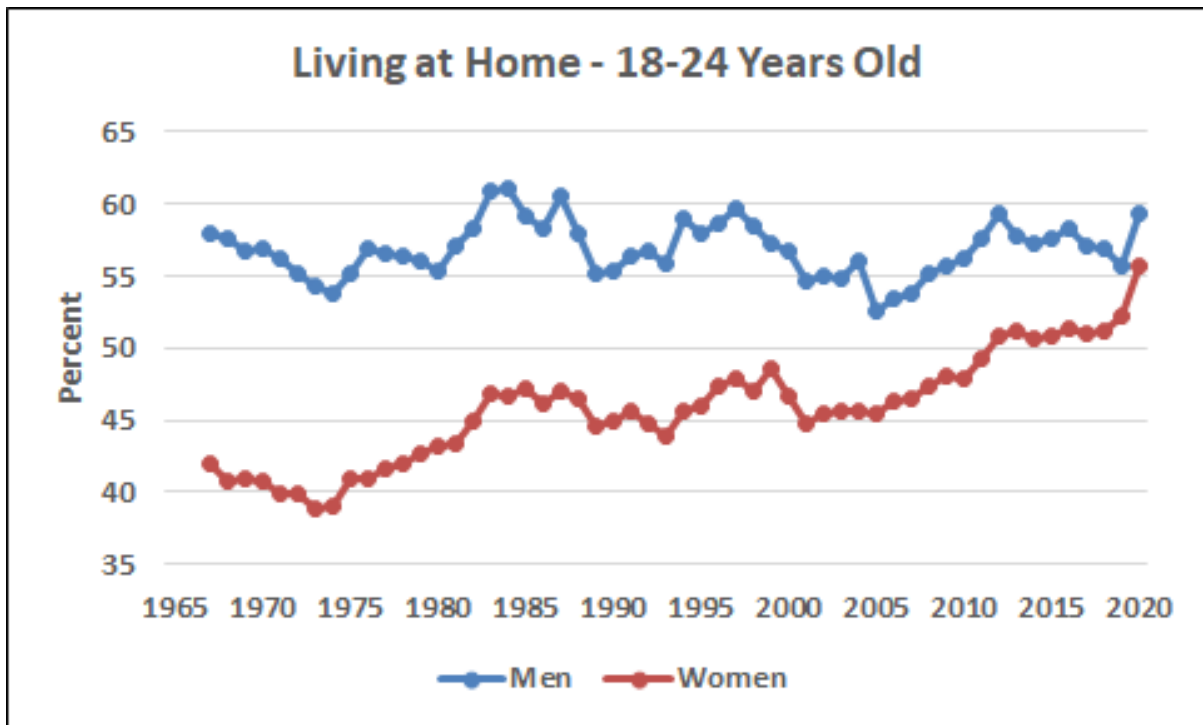


Chart 2

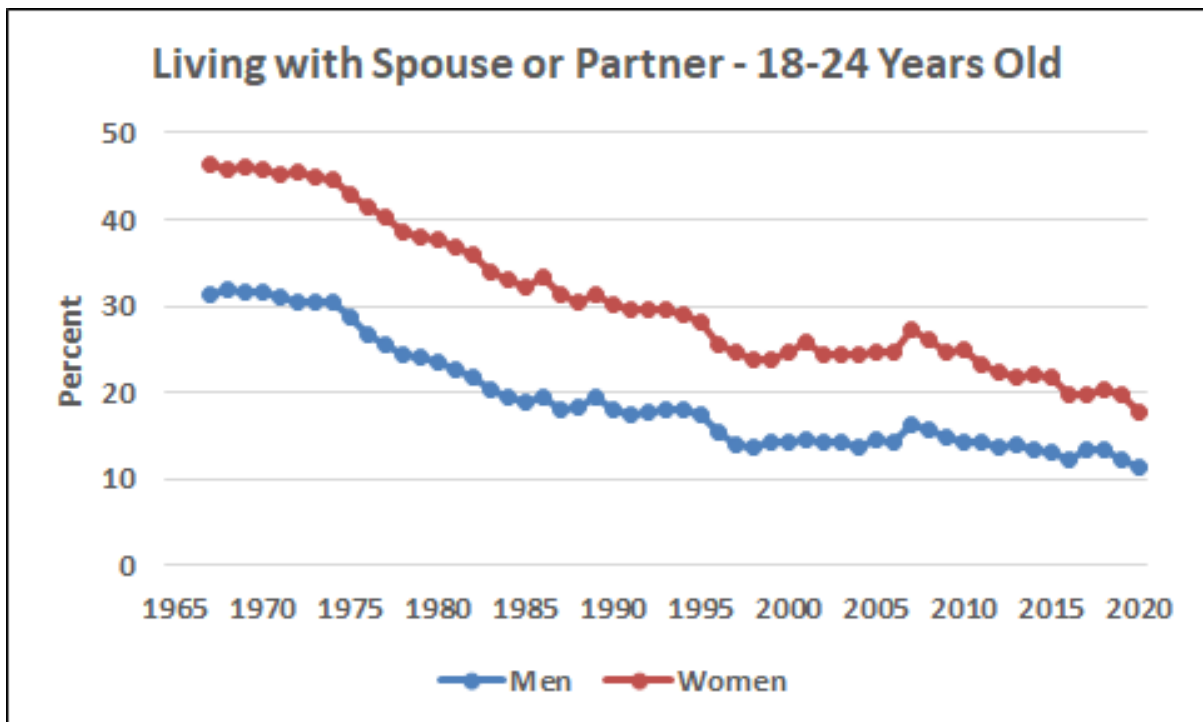


Chart 3

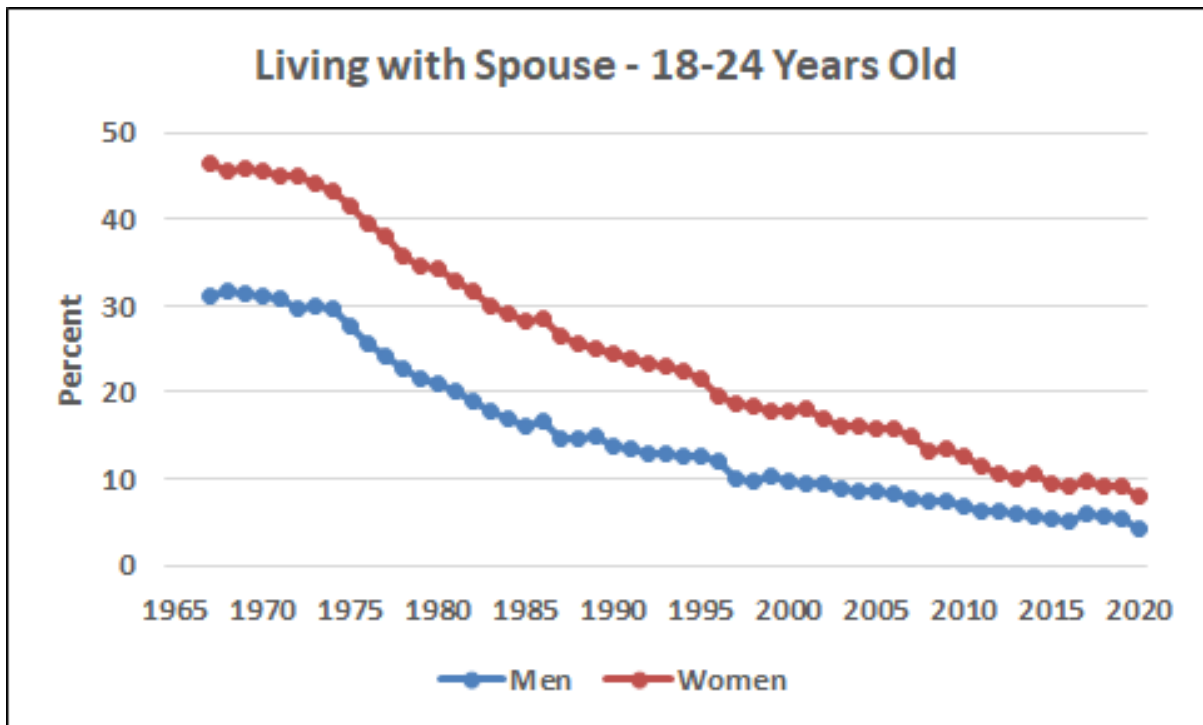


Chart 4

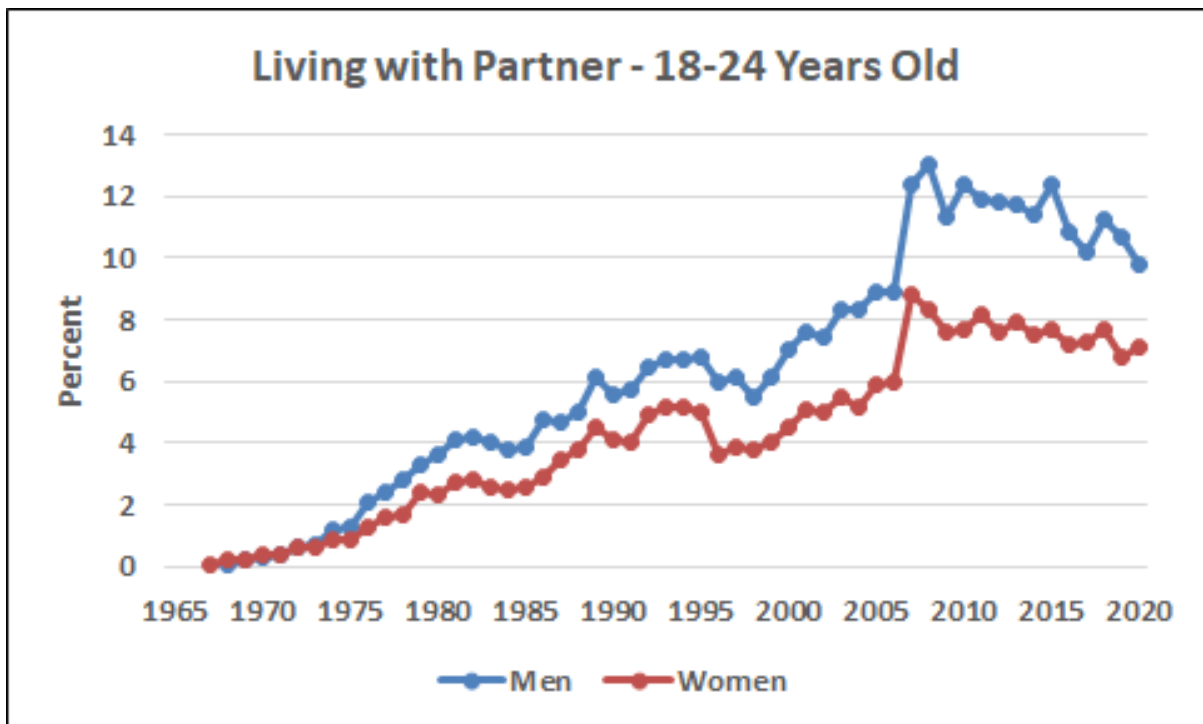


Chart 5

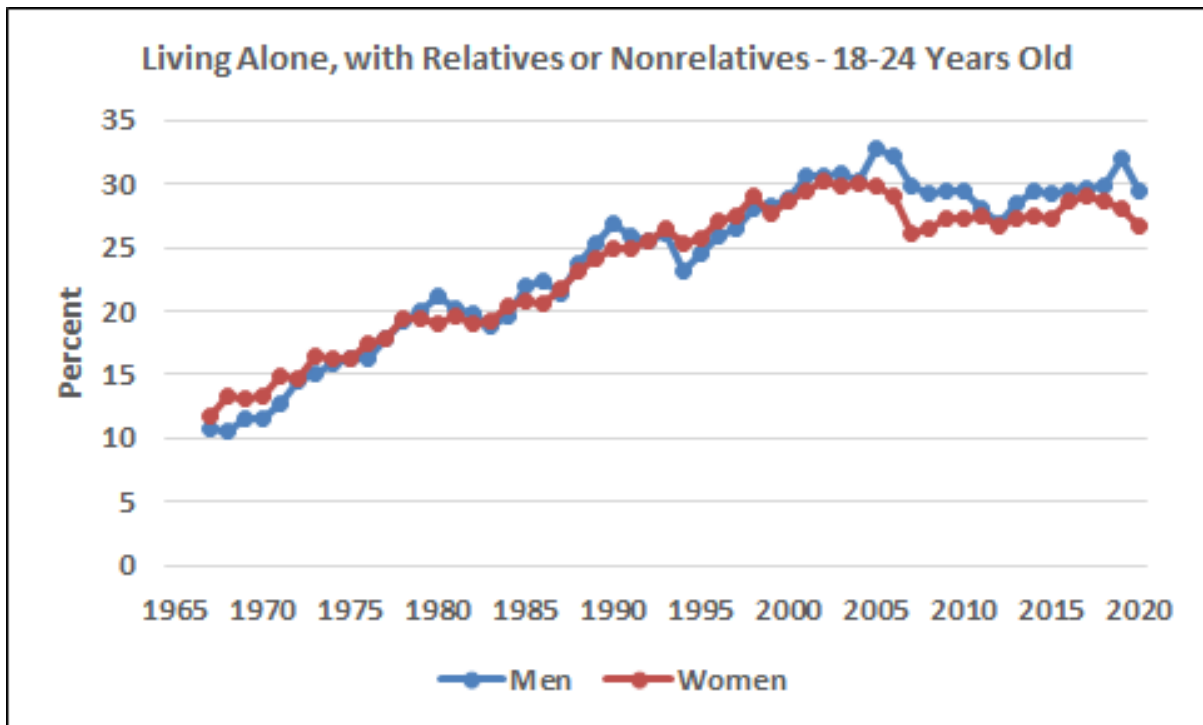


Chart 6

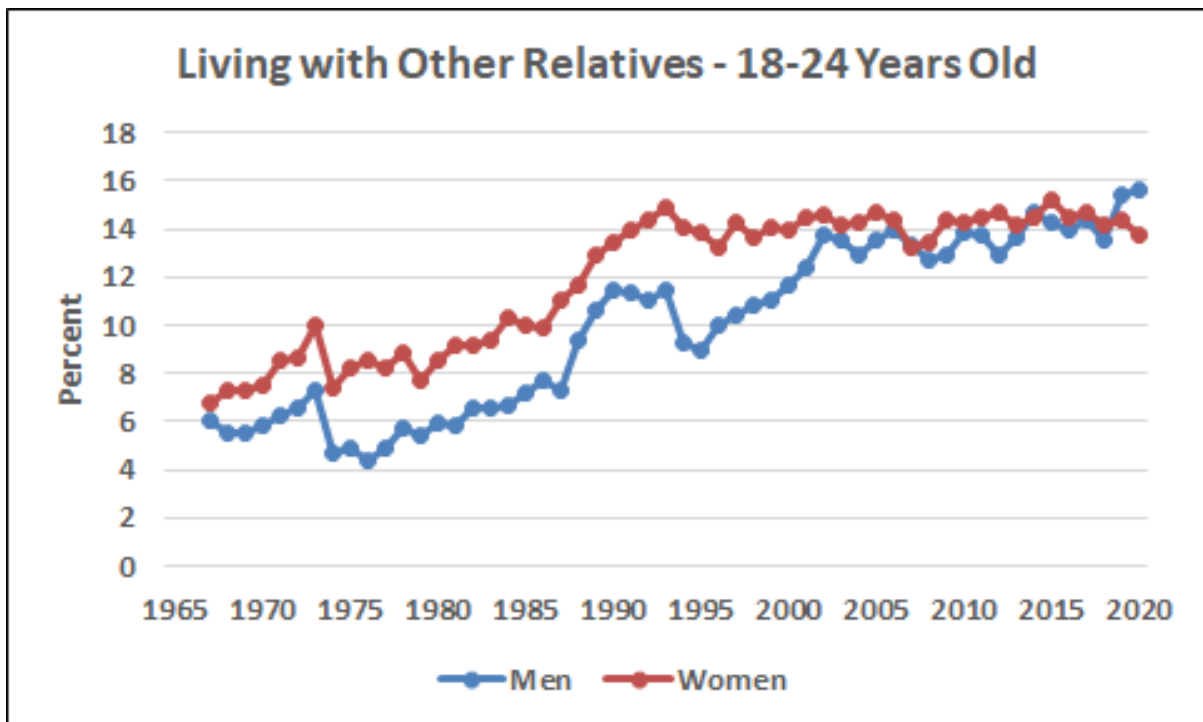


Chart 7

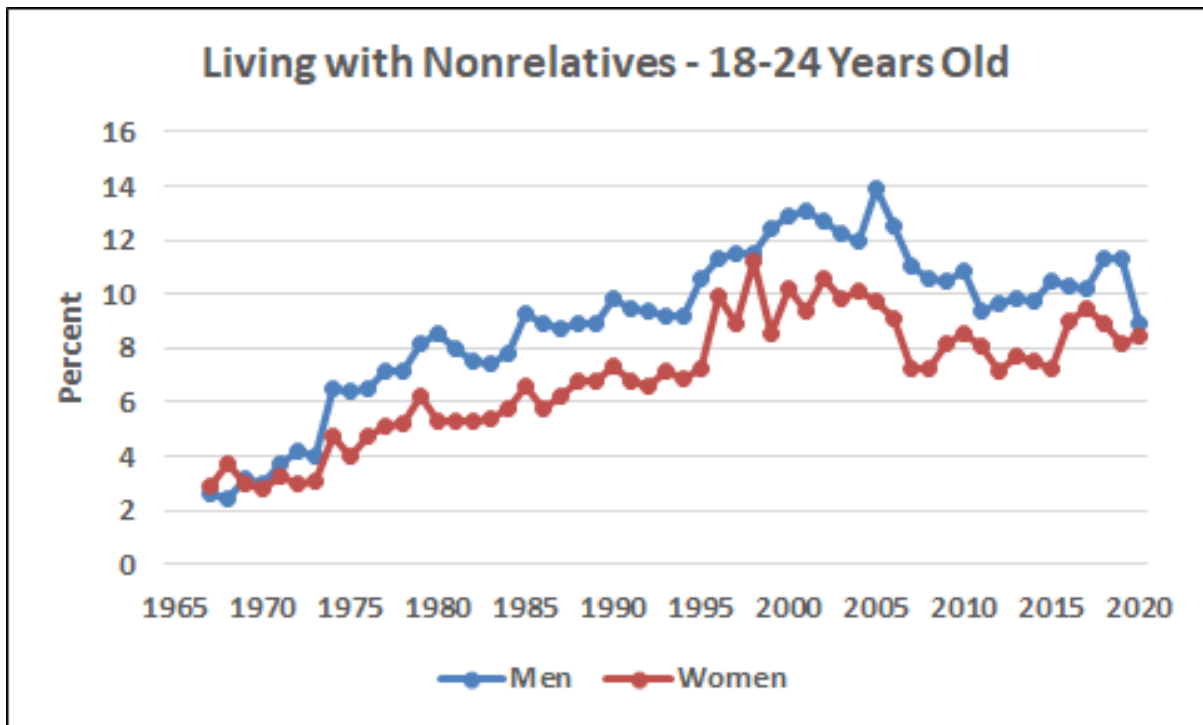


Chart 8

