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FP-18-06 Fathers with Resident Minor Children, 2016

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FP-18-06

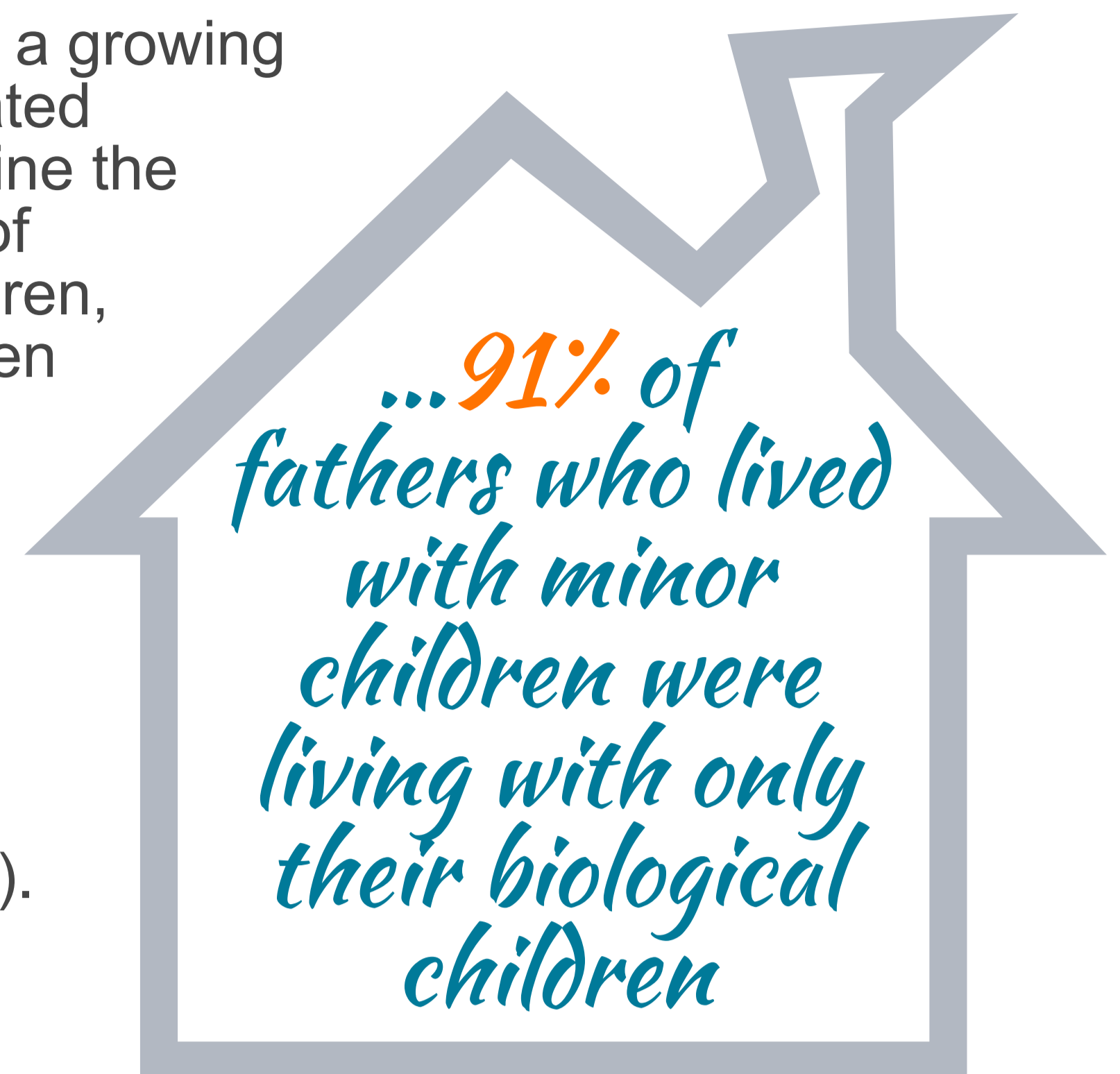
Fathers with Resident Minor Children, 2016

Kasey J. Eickmeyer



Stepfamilies in the United States are increasingly common (FP-16-09), as a growing share of men are living with children to whom they are not biologically related (stepfathers). Using the 2016 Current Population Survey (CPS), we examine the union status, educational attainment, and average income of three types of fathers with resident minor children: fathers living with only biological children, fathers living with only stepchildren, and fathers living with both stepchildren and biological children.

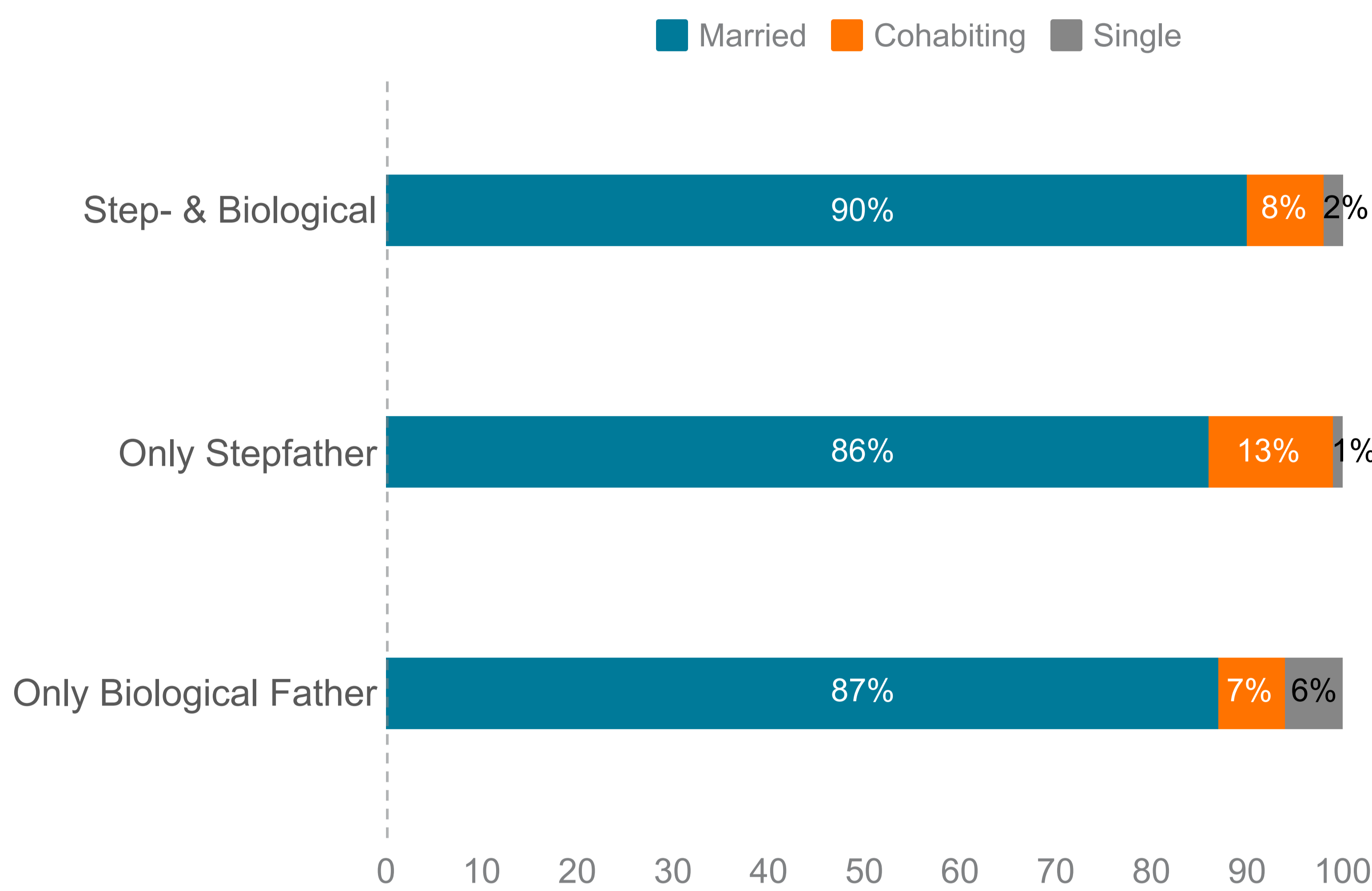
In 2016, the vast majority (91%) of fathers who lived with minor children were living with only their biological children. Nearly equal shares (4% and 5%, respectively) of fathers lived with only stepchildren or both stepchildren and biological children. On average, men who were only stepfathers were slightly older (age 42) than fathers with only biological children (41) and fathers with both stepchildren and biological children (38).



Union Status of Fathers with Resident Minor Children

- Most fathers with resident minor children were currently married in 2016 regardless of their biological relationship to resident children.
- It was more common for fathers with only stepchildren to live in cohabiting unions (13%) than for fathers with only biological children (7%) or both step- and biological children (8%).

Figure 1. Union Status of Fathers with Resident Minor Children by Father Type, 2016



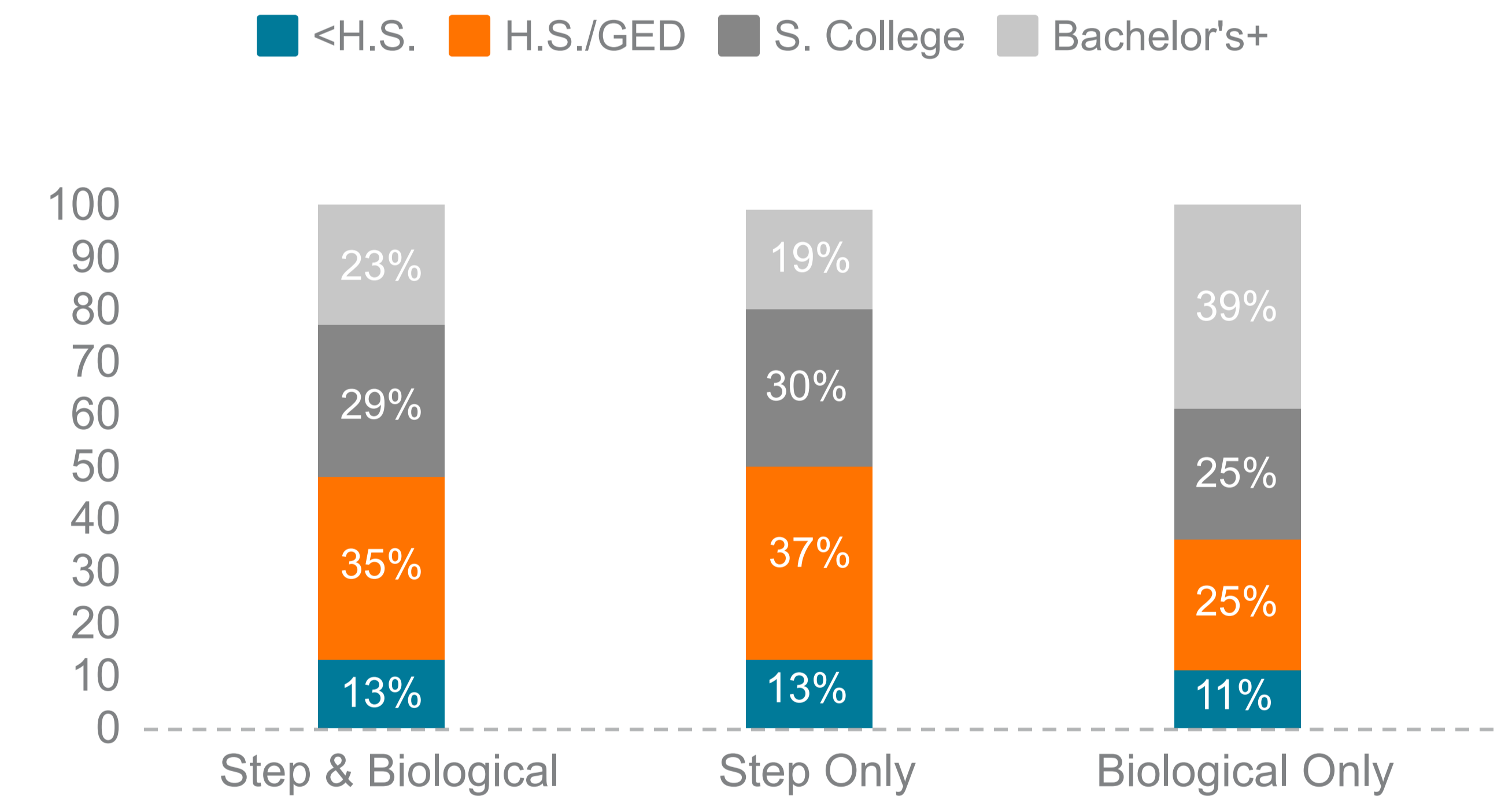
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2016

Educational Attainment of Fathers with Resident Minor Children

Among fathers with resident minor children, fathers with only biological children had the highest levels of education.

- 64% of fathers with only biological children had some college education or higher, compared to 52% of fathers with both step- and biological children and 49% of fathers with only stepchildren.
- Nearly two-fifths of fathers with only biological children had a bachelor's degree or higher (23% compared to 19%, respectively) of either fathers with only stepchildren or fathers with both step- and biological children.

Figure 2. Educational Attainment Among Fathers with Minor Children by Father Type, 2016

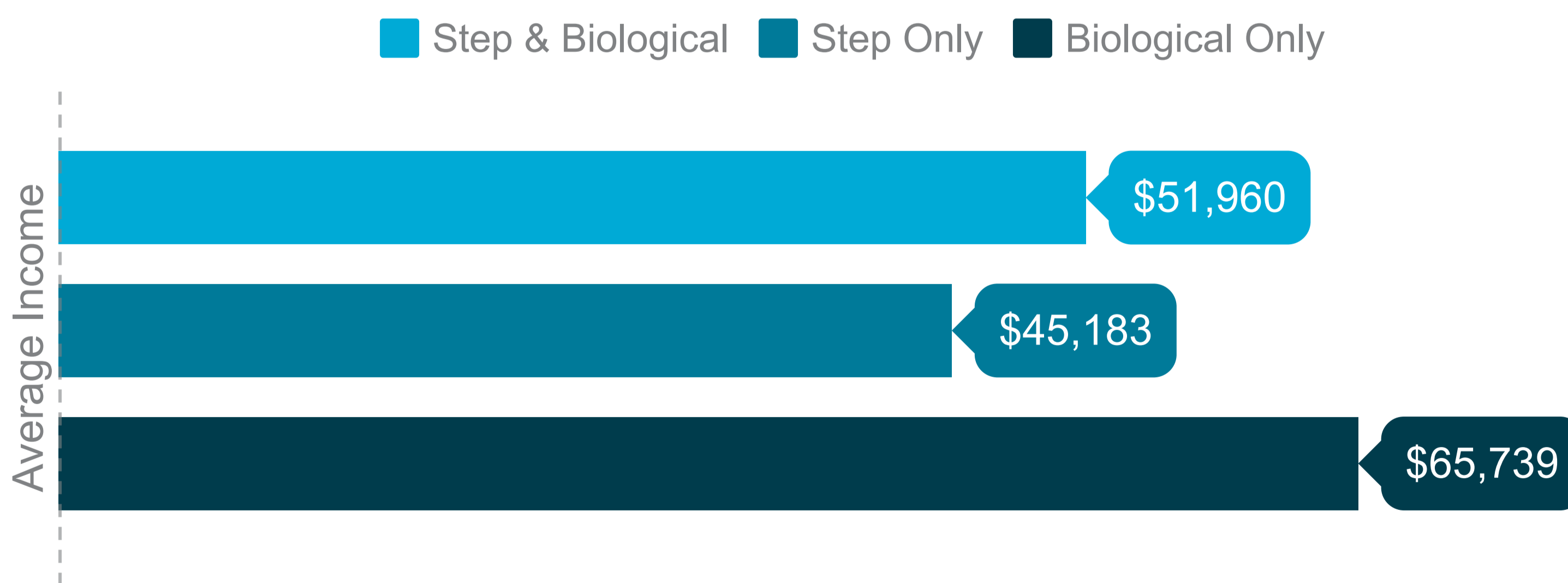


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2016

Average Income of Fathers with Resident Minor Children

- Fathers with only biological children had the highest average income (\$66,000) followed by those with both step- and biological children (\$52,000). Fathers with only stepchildren reported an average income of about \$45,000.

Figure 3. Average Income Among Fathers with Resident Minor Children by Father Type, 2016



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2016

Data Source:

Flood, S., King, M., Ruggles, S., Warren, J.R. (2015). *Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, Current Population Survey: Version 4.0*. [dataset]. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota. <http://doi.org/10.18128/D030.V4.0>.

References:

Guzzo, K.B. (2016). Stepfamilies in the U.S. *Family Profiles*, FP-16-09. Bowling Green, OH: National Center for Family & Marriage Research. <https://www.bgsu.edu/ncfmr/resources/data/family-profiles/guzzo-stepfamilies-women-fp-16-09.html>

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