The U.S. Census Bureau estimates 7% of all U.S. households were headed by single mothers in 1999, up from 5% three decades earlier. Although poverty rates among these households have improved to 34% in 1999 from 42% in 1989, many of these families have an annual income just above the federal poverty threshold. Approximately 60% of single mother headed households make less than $25,000 a year. Children raised by a single mother are more likely to engage in risky behavior, abuse drugs and alcohol, engage in sex at younger ages, commit crimes, and perform poorly in school.