

# Life in the United States Then & Now

Many elements of our lives have changed drastically since the pioneer era. Here are a few examples of those changes...

**mid-1800's**

**early 2010's**

**Average Lifespan**

65 years  
... if you survived to age 21  
one out of ten did not

78.5 years

**Average Age  
at First Marriage**

Women: 18 yrs  
Men: 25 yrs

Women: 27 yrs  
Men: 29 yrs

**Average  
Family Size**

7-9 children

2 children

**Infant  
Mortality Rate**

14%

0.6%

**Medical Care**

People are most  
likely to be born  
and die at home

People are most  
likely to be born  
at a hospital

**Leading Causes  
of Death**

malaria  
tuberculosis  
hookworm

heart disease  
cancer  
respiratory disease

**A marriage is more  
likely to end due to**

Death

Divorce