

Marriages and Divorces 2024

Statistics South Africa

report_generated_on: May 26, 2026

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Identification

SURVEY ID NUMBER

ZAF_2024_MD_v01_M

TITLE

Marriages and Divorces 2024

ABBREVIATION OR ACRONYM

MD 2024

COUNTRY/ECONOMY

Name	Country code
South Africa	ZAF

STUDY TYPE

Other Household Survey [hh/oth]

ABSTRACT

The Marriages and Divorces (MD) dataset is one of three primary sources of marriage and divorce statistics in South Africa. Unlike the other two sources (population censuses and household sample surveys), the MD dataset is compiled from administrative data and based on continuous recording (i.e. from civil registration systems and administrative records). Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) regularly publishes a series of data on marriages and divorces, with the first dataset in the series beginning in 2006. The most recent dataset in the series is MD 2024.

Marriage data: Data on marriages for citizens and permanent residents are obtained from registered marriage records that are collected through the civil registration systems of the Department of Home Affairs (DHA). South Africa recognises three types of marriages by law: civil marriages, customary marriages, and civil unions. Before 2008, marriage data only covered civil marriages. The registration of customary marriages and civil unions began in 2003 and 2007 respectively. However, from 2008 onwards, Stats SA began publishing available data on customary marriages and civil unions.

Divorce data: Data on divorces are obtained from various regional courts that deal with divorce matters. The data are based on successful divorce cases that have been issued with a decree of divorce by the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DoJCD) and the Office of the Chief Justice. Divorce cases come from marriages that were registered in different years as well as divorce cases that were filed in different years but whose divorce decrees were granted in the relevant year of collection.

NOTE: Although both the data on marriages and divorces are collected in the same year, the data files from each cannot be merged because there is no to link the records at the individual level

KIND OF DATA

Administrative records data [adm]

UNIT OF ANALYSIS

Individuals

Version

VERSION DESCRIPTION

Version 1: Edited, anonymised data for public distribution.

VERSION DATE

2026

VERSION NOTES

DataFirst downloaded this version from the StatsSA website on 8th May, 2026

Scope

NOTES

The marriage data is provided to Statistics South Africa by the South African Department of Home Affairs (DHA) from their marriage registration database based on registration forms. The province of registration of marriages and unions recorded may not necessarily be the province or place of usual residence of the couple. Hence, registration of the marriage can take place at any DHA office. The divorce data is obtained by Statistics South Africa from the South African Department of Justice and Constitutional Development from administrative records on divorces granted for civil marriages by its divorce courts.

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC UNIT

The lowest level of geographic aggregation covered by the data is province

UNIVERSE

The data covers all civil marriages, civil unions and customary marriages that were recorded by the Department of Home Affairs and all divorce applications that were granted by the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development in 2024 in South Africa.

Producers and sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATORS

Name	Affiliation
Statistics South Africa	Government of South Africa

PRODUCERS

Name	Affiliation	Role
Department of Home Affairs	Government of South Africa	Data producer
Department of Justice and Constitutional Development	Government of South Africa	Data producer

Data collection

DATES OF DATA COLLECTION

Start	End
2024	2024

DATA COLLECTION MODE

Other [other]

DATA COLLECTORS

Name	Abbreviation	Role	Affiliation
Department of Home Affairs	DHA	Marriage registration	Government of South Africa
Department of Justice and Constitutional Development	DOJCD	Divorce data	Government of South Africa

Access policy

CONTACTS

Name	Email	URL
DataFirst Support	support@data1st.org	Link

ACCESS CONDITIONS

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CITATION REQUIREMENTS

Statistics South Africa. Marriages and Divorces 2024 [dataset]. Version 1. Pretoria: Statistics South Africa [producer], 2026. Cape Town: DataFirst [distributor], 2026. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25828/nbz2-1504>

ACCESS AUTHORITY

Name	Affiliation	Email	URL
DataFirst	University of Cape Town	support@data1st.org	Link

LOCATION OF DATA COLLECTION

DataFirst data repository

ARCHIVE WHERE STUDY IS ORIGINALLY STORED

Statistics South Africa's Isibalo site

Metadata production

DDI DOCUMENT ID

DDI_ZAF_2024_MD_v01_M

PRODUCERS

Name	Affiliation	Role	Abbreviation
Datafirst	University of Cape Town	Metadata producer	
Development Data Group	World Bank Group	Metadata adapted for World Bank Microdata Library	DECDG

DATE OF METADATA PRODUCTION

2026-05-13

DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

Identical to a metadata (zaf-statssa-md-2024-v1) published on DataFirst microdata repository (<https://www.datafirst.uct.ac.za/dataportal/index.php/catalog>). Some of the metadata fields have been edited.

data_dictionary

Data file	Cases	variables
md-2024-civil-marriage-v1	97510	9
md-2024-civil-union-v1	2229	6
md-2024-customary-v1	2634	6
md-2024-divorces-v1	24202	24

Data file: md-2024-civil-marriage-v1

Cases: 97510

variables: 9

variables

ID	Name	Label	Question
V1	ProvinceCode	Name of Province	
V2	MarriageMonth	Month of marriage	
V3	MarriageYear	Year of marriage	
V4	SolemnisationCode	Way of solemnisation	
V5	BridegroomStatusCode	Marital status of Bridegroom	
V6	BrideStatusCode	Marital status of Bride	
V7	BridegroomAge	Age of Bridegroom	
V8	BrideAge	Age of Bride	
V9	AgeDiff	Age difference between bridegroom and bride	

total: 9

Data file: md-2024-civil-union-v1

Cases: 2229

variables: 6

variables

ID	Name	Label	Question
V10	ProvinceCode	Name of Province	
V11	MarriageMonth	Month of Marriage	
V12	RegistrationYear	Year of Registration	
V13	Spouse1Age	Age of Spouses-1	
V14	Spouse2Age	Age of Spouses-2	
V15	AgeDiff	Age difference between Spouses-1 and Spouses-2	

total: 6

Data file: md-2024-customary-v1

Cases: 2634

variables: 6

variables

ID	Name	Label	Question
V16	ProvinceCode	Name of Province	
V17	MarriageYear	Year of Marriage	
V18	RegistrationYear	Year of Registration	
V19	BridegroomAge	Age of Bridegroom	
V20	BrideAge	Age of Bride	
V21	AgeDiff	Age difference between bridegroom and bride	

total: 6

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Cases: 24202

variables: 24

variables

ID	Name	Label	Question
V22	ProvinceCode	Name of Province	
V23	MaleRace	Population group of husband	
V24	FemaleRace	Population group of wife	
V25	CoupleRace	Population group of couple	
V26	MaleOccupation	Occupation of Husband	
V27	FemaleOccupation	Occupation of wife	
V28	PlaintiffSex	Sex of plaintiff	
V29	MaleStatus	Marital status of husband	
V30	FemaleStatus	Marital status of wife	
V31	MaleNoTimesMarried	Number of times husband married	
V32	FemaleNoTimesMarried	Number of times wife married	
V33	HusbandAge	Age of husband	
V34	WifeAge	Age of wife	
V35	SolemnisationCode	Way of solemnisation	
V36	MarriageYear	Year of marriage	
V37	NoOfChildren	Number of children involved	
V38	DivorceYear	Year of divorce	
V39	MarriagePropertySystem	RECODE of MarriagePropertySystem2 (Matrimonial property system)	
V40	MarriageMonth	Month of marriage	
V41	DivorceMonth	Month of divorce	
V42	DurationOfMarriage	Duration of marriage	
V43	MarriageType	Type of marriage	
V44	PolygamousMarriage	Involved in polygamous marriage	
V45	GroundsForDivorce	Main grounds for divorce	

total: 24

PROVINCECODE: Name of Province**Data file: md-2024-civil-marriage-v1****Overview**

Valid: 97510 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 98 Mean: 5.0875397395139 Standard deviation: 7.9194226061829
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	Western Cape
2	Eastern Cape
3	Northern Cape
4	Free State
5	KwaZulu-Natal
6	North West
7	Gauteng
8	Mpumalanga
9	Limpopo
98	Outside RSA

MARRIAGEMONTH: Month of marriage**Data file: md-2024-civil-marriage-v1****Overview**

Valid: 97510 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 12 Mean: 6.9466311147575 Standard deviation: 3.5262537077802
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	January
2	February
3	March
4	April
5	May
6	June
7	July
8	August

9	September
10	October
11	November
12	December

MARRIAGEYEAR: Year of marriage

Data file: md-2024-civil-marriage-v1

Overview

Valid: 97510 Minimum: 2024 Maximum: 2024 Mean: 2024 Standard deviation:
Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
2024	2024

SOLEMNISATIONCODE: Way of solemnisation

Data file: md-2024-civil-marriage-v1

Overview

Valid: 97510 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 9 Mean: 2.5048712952518 Standard deviation: 2.4219813719474
Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	Religious
2	DHA
9	Unspecified

BRIDEGROOMSTATUSCODE: Marital status of Bridegroom

Data file: md-2024-civil-marriage-v1

Overview

Valid: 97510 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 9 Mean: 2.315957337709 Standard deviation: 2.9050066751474
Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	Never married
2	Divorcee
3	Widower
9	Unspecified

BRIDESTATUSCODE: Marital status of Bride

Data file: md-2024-civil-marriage-v1

Overview

Valid: 97510 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 9 Mean: 2.0161932109527 Standard deviation: 2.6192261292227
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	Never married
2	Divorcee
3	Widow
9	Unspecified

BRIDEGROOMAGE: Age of Bridegroom

Data file: md-2024-civil-marriage-v1

Overview

Valid: 97510 Minimum: 18 Maximum: 99 Mean: 40.756383960619 Standard deviation: 11.580124886335
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
18	18
19	19
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94	94
98	98
99	Unspecified

BRIDEAGE: Age of Bride**Data file: md-2024-civil-marriage-v1****Overview**

Valid: 97510 Minimum: 16 Maximum: 99 Mean: 36.607865859912 Standard deviation: 10.251753611502
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
16	16
17	17
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89	89
92	92
99	Unspecified

AGEDIFF: Age difference between bridegroom and bride

Data file: md-2024-civil-marriage-v1

Overview

Valid: 97510 Minimum: Maximum: 2 Mean: 1.0740641985437 Standard deviation: 0.49478205587523
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
	Spouses same age
1	Bridegroom older
2	Bridegroom younger

PROVINCECODE: Name of Province**Data file: md-2024-civil-union-v1****Overview**

Valid: 2229 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 98 Mean: 4.6944818304172 Standard deviation: 5.5697366942378
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	Western Cape
2	Eastern Cape
3	Northern Cape
4	Free State
5	KwaZulu-Natal
6	North West
7	Gauteng
8	Mpumalanga
9	Limpopo
98	Outside RSA

MARRIAGEMONTH: Month of Marriage**Data file: md-2024-civil-union-v1****Overview**

Valid: 2229 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 12 Mean: 6.7572902646927 Standard deviation: 3.4762398194608
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	January
2	February
3	March
4	April
5	May
6	June
7	July
8	August

9	September
10	October
11	November
12	December

REGISTRATIONYEAR: Year of Registration

Data file: md-2024-civil-union-v1

Overview

Valid: 2229 Minimum: 2024 Maximum: 2024 Mean: 2024 Standard deviation:
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
2024	2024

SPOUSE1AGE: Age of Spouses-1

Data file: md-2024-civil-union-v1

Overview

Valid: 2229 Minimum: 19 Maximum: 82 Mean: 37.934499775684 Standard deviation: 10.523386731356
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
19	19
20	20
21	21
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80	80
82	82

SPOUSE2AGE: Age of Spouses-2

Data file: md-2024-civil-union-v1

Overview

Valid: 2229 Minimum: 18 Maximum: 999 Mean: 36.54957379991 Standard deviation: 22.630528745071
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
18	18
19	19
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71	71
72	72
76	76

77	77
80	80
82	82
85	85
999	Unspecified

AGEDIFF: Age difference between Spouses-1 and Spouses-2

Data file: md-2024-civil-union-v1

Overview

Valid: 2229 Minimum: Maximum: 9 Mean: 1.2045760430686 Standard deviation: 0.64074453311351
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
	Spouses same age
1	Spouses-1 older
2	Spouses-1 younger
9	Unspecified

PROVINCECODE: Name of Province**Data file: md-2024-customary-v1****Overview**

Valid: 2634 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 99 Mean: 6.3545937737282 Standard deviation: 5.4054314800491
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	Western Cape
2	Eastern Cape
3	Northern Cape
4	Free State
5	KwaZulu-Natal
6	North West
7	Gauteng
8	Mpumalanga
9	Limpopo
98	Outside RSA
99	Unspecified

MARRIAGEYEAR: Year of Marriage**Data file: md-2024-customary-v1****Overview**

Valid: 2634 Minimum: 1938 Maximum: 2024 Mean: 2004.8929384966 Standard deviation: 17.820152806652
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1938	1938
1946	1946
1955	1955
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2015	2015
2016	2016
2017	2017
2018	2018
2019	2019
2020	2020
2021	2021
2022	2022
2023	2023
2024	2024

REGISTRATIONYEAR: Year of Registration

Data file: md-2024-customary-v1

Overview

Valid: 2634 Minimum: 2024 Maximum: 2024 Mean: 2024 Standard deviation:
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
2024	2024

BRIDEGROOMAGE: Age of Bridegroom**Data file: md-2024-customary-v1****Overview**

Valid: 2634 Minimum: 8 Maximum: 999 Mean: 37.438876233865 Standard deviation: 22.245400136237
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
8	8
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77	77
78	78

80	80
82	82
84	84
94	94
104	104
999	Unspecified

BRIDEAGE: Age of Bride

Data file: md-2024-customary-v1

Overview

Valid: 2634 Minimum: 8 Maximum: 999 Mean: 33.793849658314 Standard deviation: 51.028268493829
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
8	8
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74	74
82	82
83	83
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92	92
94	94
999	Unspecified

AGEDIFF: Age difference between bridegroom and bride

Data file: md-2024-customary-v1

Overview

Valid: 2634 Minimum: Maximum: 9 Mean: 1.0645406226272 Standard deviation: 0.5830326878796
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
	Spouses same age
1	Bridegroom older
2	Bridegroom younger
9	Unspecified

PROVINCECODE: Name of Province**Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 24202 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 9 Mean: 5.1104040988348 Standard deviation: 2.6201392234661
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	1. Western Cape
2	2. Eastern Cape
3	3. Northern Cape
4	4. Free State
5	5. KwaZulu-Natal
6	6. North West
7	7. Gauteng
8	8. Mpumalanga
9	9. Limpopo

MALERACE: Population group of husband**Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 24202 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 9 Mean: 2.0842905544996 Standard deviation: 1.6205730673442
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	1. Black African
2	2. Coloured
3	3. Indian/Asian
4	4. White
5	5. Other
9	9. Unspecified

FEMALERACE: Population group of wife**Data file:** md-2024-divorces-v1**Overview**

Valid: 24202 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 9 Mean: 2.1129245516899 Standard deviation: 1.689314049972
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	1. Black African
2	2. Coloured
3	3. Indian/Asian
4	4. White
5	5. Other
9	9. Unspecified

COUPLERACE: Population group of couple**Data file:** md-2024-divorces-v1**Overview**

Valid: 24202 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 9 Mean: 2.2378729030659 Standard deviation: 1.8248314275968
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	1. Black African
2	2. Coloured
3	3. Indian/Asian
4	4. White
5	5. Mixed
9	9. Unspecified

MALEOCCUPATION: Occupation of Husband**Data file:** md-2024-divorces-v1**Overview**

Valid: 24202 Minimum: Maximum: 99 Mean: 34.796504421122 Standard deviation: 45.425774204963

Type: Discrete Width: 60 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
	0. Unemployed
1	1. Professional, semi-professional and technical occupations
2	2. Managers and administrators
3	3. Clerical and sales occupations
4	4. Transport, delivery and communications
5	5. Service occupations
6	6. Farming and related occupations
7	7. Artisans, apprentice and related occupations
8	8. Production foreman, mine and quarry workers
99	99. Unspecified

FEMALEOCCUPATION: Occupation of wife

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 24202 Minimum: Maximum: 99 Mean: 37.678373688125 Standard deviation: 46.848163264483
 Type: Discrete Width: 60 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
	0. Unemployed
1	1. Professional, semi-professional and technical occupations
2	2. Managers and administrators
3	3. Clerical and sales occupations
4	4. Transport, delivery and communications
5	5. Service occupations
6	6. Farming and related occupations
7	7. Artisans, apprentice and related occupations
8	8. Production foreman, mine and quarry workers
99	99. Unspecified

PLAINTIFFSEX: Sex of plaintiff

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 24202 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 9 Mean: 2.0823485662342 Standard deviation: 1.712254657475
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	1. Male
2	2. Female
3	3. Both
9	9. Unspecified

MALESTATUS: Marital status of husband

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 24202 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 9 Mean: 1.4243037765474 Standard deviation: 1.4453078199393
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	1. Never married
2	2. Widower
3	3. Divorcee
9	9. Unspecified

FEMALESTATUS: Marital status of wife

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 24202 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 9 Mean: 1.4460788364598 Standard deviation: 1.5799052798902
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	1. Never married
2	2. Widow
3	3. Divorcee
9	9. Unspecified

MALENOTIMESMARRIED: Number of times husband married

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 24202 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 99 Mean: 3.844103793075 Standard deviation: 16.134254009931
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	1. 1
2	2. 2
3	3. 3
4	4. 4
5	5. 5
6	6. 6
8	8. 8
10	10. 10
99	99. Unspecified

FEMALENOTIMESMARRIED: Number of times wife married

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 24202 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 99 Mean: 4.4676473018759 Standard deviation: 17.88401951797
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	1. 1
2	2. 2

3	3. 3
4	4. 4
5	5. 5
6	6. 6
99	99. Unspecified

HUSBANDAGE: Age of husband

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 24202 Minimum: 21 Maximum: 999 Mean: 79.254772332865 Standard deviation: 172.63618936033
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
21	21. 21
22	22. 22
23	23. 23
24	24. 24
25	25. 25
26	26. 26
27	27. 27
28	28. 28
29	29. 29
30	30. 30
31	31. 31
32	32. 32
33	33. 33
34	34. 34
35	35. 35
36	36. 36
37	37. 37
38	38. 38
39	39. 39
40	40. 40
41	41. 41
42	42. 42

43	43. 43
44	44. 44
45	45. 45
46	46. 46
47	47. 47
48	48. 48
49	49. 49
50	50. 50
51	51. 51
52	52. 52
53	53. 53
54	54. 54
55	55. 55
56	56. 56
57	57. 57
58	58. 58
59	59. 59
60	60. 60
61	61. 61
62	62. 62
63	63. 63
64	64. 64
65	65. 65
66	66. 66
67	67. 67
68	68. 68
69	69. 69
70	70. 70
71	71. 71
72	72. 72
73	73. 73
74	74. 74
75	75. 75
76	76. 76
77	77. 77
78	78. 78
79	79. 79
80	80. 80
81	81. 81

82	82. 82
83	83. 83
84	84. 84
85	85. 85
86	86. 86
87	87. 87
88	88. 88
89	89. 89
90	90. 90
92	92. 92
93	93. 93
999	999. Unspecified

WIFEAGE: Age of wife

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 24202 Minimum: 18 Maximum: 999 Mean: 74.761589951244 Standard deviation: 171.02962375003
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
18	18. 18
19	19. 19
20	20. 20
21	21. 21
22	22. 22
23	23. 23
24	24. 24
25	25. 25
26	26. 26
27	27. 27
28	28. 28
29	29. 29
30	30. 30
31	31. 31
32	32. 32

33	33. 33
34	34. 34
35	35. 35
36	36. 36
37	37. 37
38	38. 38
39	39. 39
40	40. 40
41	41. 41
42	42. 42
43	43. 43
44	44. 44
45	45. 45
46	46. 46
47	47. 47
48	48. 48
49	49. 49
50	50. 50
51	51. 51
52	52. 52
53	53. 53
54	54. 54
55	55. 55
56	56. 56
57	57. 57
58	58. 58
59	59. 59
60	60. 60
61	61. 61
62	62. 62
63	63. 63
64	64. 64
65	65. 65
66	66. 66
67	67. 67
68	68. 68
69	69. 69
70	70. 70
71	71. 71

72	72. 72
73	73. 73
74	74. 74
75	75. 75
76	76. 76
77	77. 77
78	78. 78
79	79. 79
80	80. 80
81	81. 81
83	83. 83
84	84. 84
85	85. 85
86	86. 86
87	87. 87
88	88. 88
89	89. 89
90	90. 90
999	999. Unspecified

SOLEMNISATIONCODE: Way of solemnisation

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 24202 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 9 Mean: 2.2299809933063 Standard deviation: 2.1613170772134
 Type: Discrete Width: 16 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	1. Religious
2	2. DHA
9	9. Unspecified

MARRIAGEYEAR: Year of marriage

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 24202
 Type: Continuous Width: -4 Format: character Weighted variable: 0

NOOFCHILDREN: Number of children involved

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 24202
 Type: Continuous Width: -2 Format: character Weighted variable: 0

DIVORCEYEAR: Year of divorce

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 24202
 Type: Continuous Width: -4 Format: character Weighted variable: 0

MARRIAGEPROPERTYSYSTEM: RECODE of MarriagePropertySystem2 (Matrimonial property system)

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 24202 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 9 Mean: 1.5189653747624 Standard deviation: 1.4611166910114
 Type: Discrete Width: 58 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	1. In community of property
2	2. Out of community of property
3	3. Out of community of property (excluding accrual system)
4	4. Out of community of property (including accrual system)
9	9. Unspecified

MARRIAGEMONTH: Month of marriage

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 24202 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 99 Mean: 10.520742087431 Standard deviation: 17.920765615138

Type: Discrete Width: 15 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	1. January
2	2. February
3	3. March
4	4. April
5	5. May
6	6. June
7	7. July
8	8. August
9	9. September
10	10. October
11	11. November
12	12. December
99	99. Unspecified
100	100. 01
101	101. 02
102	102. 03
103	103. 04
104	104. 05
105	105. 06
106	106. 07
107	107. 08
108	108. 09
109	109. 10
110	110. 11
111	111. 12
112	112. 99

DIVORCEMONTH: Month of divorce

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 24202 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 12 Mean: 6.5764399636394 Standard deviation: 3.1580352250532
 Type: Discrete Width: 15 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	1. January
2	2. February
3	3. March
4	4. April
5	5. May
6	6. June
7	7. July
8	8. August
9	9. September
10	10. October
11	11. November
12	12. December
99	99. Unspecified

DURATIONOFMARRIAGE: Duration of marriage

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 24202 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 99 Mean: 17.367655565656 Standard deviation: 19.412790518536
 Type: Discrete Width: 15 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
99	99. Unspecified

MARRIAGETYPE: Type of marriage

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 24202 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 9 Mean: 4.017808445583 Standard deviation: 3.8416732220361
 Type: Discrete Width: 21 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	1. Civil marriage
2	2. Customary marriage
3	3. Civil union
9	9. Unspecified

POLYGAMOUSMARRIAGE: Involved in polygamous marriage

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 24202 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 9 Mean: 4.8270390876787 Standard deviation: 3.4403905537826
 Type: Discrete Width: 11 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	Yes
2	No
9	Unspecified

GROUNDSFORDIVORCE: Main grounds for divorce

Data file: md-2024-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 24202 Minimum: 1 Maximum: 9 Mean: 6.3765804478969 Standard deviation: 3.3967917994872
 Type: Discrete Width: 22 Format: Numeric Weighted variable: 0

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category
1	Adultery
2	Abuse
3	Childlessness
4	Desertion
5	Financial difficulties

6	Medical Insanity
7	Imprisonment
9	Unspecified

study_resources

questionnaires

Form 07-04 [Divorce Form]

title Form 07-04 [Divorce Form]
authors Statistics South Africa
date 2012-12-31
country South Africa
publishers StatsSA
description This form is used to register divorces in South Africa
filename md-2024-form-07-04.pdf

reports

Statistical Release P0307, 2024

title Statistical Release P0307, 2024
authors Statistics South Africa
date 2026-05-18
country South Africa
publishers StatsSA
abstract This statistical release presents information on civil marriages, customary marriages and civil unions that were registered in 2024 in the South African national marriage registration system maintained by the national Department of Home Affairs (DHA). It highlights trends in the number of marriages and unions as well as demographic and other dynamics amongst married partners.
filename md-2024-report.pdf

technical_documents

Marriages and Divorces Metadata, 2024

title Marriages and Divorces Metadata, 2024
authors Statistics South Africa
date 2026-04-12
country South Africa
publishers StatsSA
filename md-2024-metadata.pdf
