

PRESS RELEASE

Statistics on Marriages and Divorces, 2024

Fewer Marriages in 2024 compared to 2023; Lower Marriage Rates and Higher Median Age at First Marriage in 2024 compared to 2014

1. A total of 26,328 marriages were registered in 2024, 7.0% lower than the 28,310 marriages registered in 2023, according to the 'Statistics on Marriages and Divorces, 2024' publication released by the Singapore Department of Statistics (DOS). The average number of marriages registered per year in the last five years between 2020 and 2024 (27,001) was lower than the preceding five years between 2015 and 2019 (27,389).
2. General marriage rates¹ for both males and females in 2024 were lower than a decade ago. There were 42.0 marriages per thousand unmarried males aged 15 to 49 years in 2024, down from 44.4 in 2014. Similarly, there were 40.1 marriages per thousand unmarried females aged 15 to 49 years in 2024, down from 40.8 in 2014.
3. The median ages at first marriage for grooms and brides were 31.1 years and 29.6 years respectively in 2024, up from 30.2 years for grooms and 28.2 years for brides a decade ago, reflecting the continuing trend towards later marriages.

More Marital Dissolutions in 2024 compared to 2023; Lower Divorce Rates and Higher Median Age at Divorce in 2024 compared to 2014

4. In 2024, a total of 7,382 marriages ended in a divorce or an annulment, a 3.7% increase from the 7,118 marital dissolutions in 2023. The average number of marital dissolutions per year between 2020 and 2024 (7,291) was lower than the preceding five-year period between 2015 and 2019 (7,536).
5. The general divorce rates² were lower for both males and females in 2024 compared to 2014. In 2024, there were 6.3 marital dissolutions for every thousand married males aged 20 years and over, down from 7.0 in 2014. Similarly, there were 5.7 marital dissolutions for every thousand married females aged 20 years and over in 2024, down from 6.5 in 2014.
6. Over the last ten years, the median age at divorce rose from 42.6 years in 2014 to 44.4 years in 2024 for male divorcees, and from 38.4 years to 40.9 years for female divorcees.

¹ General marriage rate refers to the number of marriages registered among residents aged 15 to 49 years during the year, out of every thousand unmarried residents in the same age group.

² General divorce rate refers to the number of divorces and annulments granted to married residents aged 20 years and over during the year, out of every thousand married residents in the same age group.

7. The median duration of marriage for divorces in 2024 was 11.1 years, longer than the 10.4 years in 2014. Couples who were married for 5 to 9 years made up the largest share, accounting for 29.0% of divorces in 2024.

Lower Dissolution Rates Before the 10th Marriage Anniversary Among the 2006-2013 Resident Marriage Cohorts³ than the 2005 Marriage Cohort

8. Compared with the 2005 marriage cohort, the 2006 to 2013 marriage cohorts had lower dissolution rates before the 10th marriage anniversary. The cumulative proportion of resident marriages that dissolved before the 10th anniversary declined from 17.0% for the 2005 marriage cohort to 14.4% for the 2013 marriage cohort.

9. The proportion of resident marriages that dissolved was the highest when marriages progressed from the 5th anniversary to before the 10th anniversary, as compared to other 5-yearly intervals. From the 10th anniversary onwards, the proportion of marriages that dissolved was smaller with each subsequent 5-yearly milestone.

10. The report on 'Statistics on Marriages and Divorces, 2024' and accompanying materials are available on the SingStat Website at www.singstat.gov.sg/publications/population/marriages-and-divorces.

Singapore Department of Statistics

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For enquiries, please contact:

Mr Chan Jun Han

T (+65) 6332 5207

E CHAN_Jun_Han@singstat.gov.sg

Ms Joanne Tan

T (+65) 6332 7722

E Joanne_TAN@singstat.gov.sg

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³ Resident marriage cohorts refer to marriages contracted in a particular year between persons where either or both are Singapore citizens or permanent residents. Data on marriage cohort dissolution rates are based on local marriage and dissolution records up to 2023.