

South Africa - Marriages and Divorces 2016

Statistics South Africa

Report generated on: September 1, 2022

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Identification

SURVEY ID NUMBER

zaf-statssa-md-2016-v1

TITLE

Marriages and Divorces 2016

COUNTRY

Name	Country code
South Africa	zaf

STUDY TYPE

Administrative Data

ABSTRACT

Marriage data:

In South Africa Civil Marriages are administered through the Marriage Act, 1961 (Act No. 25 of 1961) as amended, and its associated regulations. Customary marriages are governed by the Recognition of Customary Marriages Act, 1998 (Act No. 120 of 1998) which came into effect on 15 November 2000. Civil unions (relationships between same-sex couples that are legally recognized by a state authority) are covered by the Civil Union Act, 2006 (Act No. 17 of 2006) which came into operation on 30 November 2006.

The South African Department of Home Affairs is responsible for the administration of marriages in South Africa, under these laws. After the ceremony of a marriage or a civil union, the marriage officer submits the data to the nearest office of the Department of Home Affairs (DHS), where the marriage / civil union details for citizens and permanent residents are recorded in the National Population Register (NPR). Statistics South Africa obtains data on marriages and civil unions from DHA through the State Information Technology Agency (SITA) for this dataset.

NOTE: In customary marriages, the two spouses and their witnesses present themselves at a DHA office in order to register a customary marriage. Therefore the province of registration is not necessarily the province of the place of usual residence of the couple since the registration of the marriage can take place in any DHA office.

Divorce data:

The dissolution of registered marriages and civil unions is governed by the Divorce Act, 1979 as amended, and its associated regulations (Act No.70 of 1979) and the Jurisdiction of Regional Courts Amendment Act, 2008 (Act No. 32 of 2008) as amended which came into effect on 9 August 2010. The South African Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DJCD) is responsible for managing divorces under these Acts. Statistics South Africa obtains the divorce data from the DJCD for this dataset.

NOTE: The data includes divorce applications that were concluded in 2016, that is, that were finalised and issued with decrees of divorce in 2016 by DJCD.

KIND OF DATA

Administrative records

UNIT OF ANALYSIS

Individuals

Version

VERSION DESCRIPTION

v1: Edited, anonymised dataset for public distribution

VERSION DATE

2018

VERSION NOTES

Version 1 of the Marriages and Divorces 2016 dataset was downloaded from the Statistics South Africa website on the 5 August 2020

Scope

NOTES

Marriage data covers province of registration, date and type of marriage (religious or civil) and age (and age difference) and status (e.g. single/widow/divorcee) of marital couple.

Divorce data includes individual level data: Age, gender and population group, status, and occupation and number of children. Data is also collected on the marriage (date, number, type and duration, and matrimonial property system) and the divorce (date of separation and date of divorce).

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

The data has national coverage.

GEOGRAPHIC UNIT

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

UNIVERSE

The data covers all civil 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 2016 in South Africa.

Producers and sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATORS

Name
Statistics 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
2016-01-01	2016-12-31

DATA COLLECTION MODE

Other

DATA COLLECTION 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 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.

Data Appraisal

DATA APPRAISAL

Geography is problematic in this dataset as not all the data files have geographic data. The Civil Marriages and Civil Unions data files include a Province of Registration variable but the Customary Marriages data file does not. There is also no geographical data in the Divorces file. As this data file includes divorce data from only a subset of divorce courts, this lack of geographical information compromises its usability.

Access policy

ACCESS CONDITIONS

Public access data for use under a Creative Commons CC-BY (Attribution-only) License

CITATION REQUIREMENTS

Statistics South Africa. Marriages and Divorces 2016 [dataset]. Version 1. Pretoria: Statistics South Africa [producer], 2018. Cape Town: DataFirst [distributor], 2020. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25828/rt9q-fn75>

ACCESS AUTHORITY

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

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Metadata production

DDI DOCUMENT ID

ddi-zaf-datafirst-md-2014-v1

PRODUCERS

Name	Affiliation	Role
DataFirst	University of Cape Town	Metadata producer

DATE OF METADATA PRODUCTION

2022-09-01

DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

Version 2

Data Description

Data file	Cases	Variables
md-2016-civil-marriages-v1	139512	9
md-2016-civil-unions-v1	1331	6
md-2016-customary-marriages-v1	3978	6
md-2016-divorces-v1	25326	24

Data file: md-2016-civil-marriages-v1

Cases: 139512

Variables: 9

Variables

ID	Name	Label	Question
V91	ProvinceCode	Name of Province	
V92	MarriageMonth	Month of Marriage	
V93	MarriageYear	Year of Marriage	
V94	SolemnisationCode	Way of Solemnisation	
V95	BridegroomStatusCode	Marital status of Bridegroom	
V96	BrideStatusCode	Marital status of Bride	
V97	BridegroomAge	Age of Bridegroom	
V98	BrideAge	Age of Bride	
V99	AgeDiff	Age difference between bridegroom and bride	

Total: 9

Data file: md-2016-civil-unions-v1

Cases: 1331

Variables: 6

Variables

ID	Name	Label	Question
V100	ProvinceCode	Name of Province	
V101	RegistrationMonth	Month of Registration	
V102	RegistrationYear	Year of Registration	
V103	Spouse1Age	Age of Spouses-1	
V104	Spouse2Age	Age of Spouses-2	
V105	AgeDiff	Age difference between Spouses-1 and Spouses-2	

Total: 6

Data file: md-2016-customary-marriages-v1

Cases: 3978

Variables: 6

Variables

ID	Name	Label	Question
V106	ProvinceCode	Name of Province	
V107	MarriageYear	Year of Marriage	
V108	RegistrationYear	Year of Registration	
V109	BridegroomAge	Age of Bridegroom	
V110	BrideAge	Age of Bride	
V111	AgeDiff	Age difference between bridegroom and bride	

Total: 6

Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1

Cases: 25326

Variables: 24

Variables

ID	Name	Label	Question
V112	ProvinceCode	Name of Province	
V113	MaleRace	Population group of husband	
V114	FemaleRace	Population group of wife	
V115	CoupleRace	Population group of couple	
V116	MaleOccupation	Occupation of Husband	
V117	FemaleOccupation	Occupation of wife	
V118	PlaintiffSex	Sex of plaintiff	
V119	MaleStatus	Marital status of husband	
V120	FemaleStatus	Marital status of wife	
V121	MaleNoTimesMarried	Number of times husband married	
V122	FemaleNoTimesMarried	Number of times wife married	
V123	MaleAge	Age of husband	
V124	FemaleAge	Age of wife	
V125	SolemnisationCode	Way of solemnisation	
V126	MarriagePropertySystem	Matrimonial property system	
V127	MarriageMonth	Month of marriage	
V128	MarriageYear	Year of marriage	
V129	NoOfChildren	Number of minor children involved	
V130	DivorceMonth	Month of divorce	
V131	DivorceYear	Year of divorce	
V132	DurationOfMarriage	Duration of marriage	
V133	MarriageType	Type of marriage	
V134	PolygamousMarriage	Involved in polygamous marriage	
V135	GroundsForDivorce	Main grounds for divorce	

Total: 24

PROVINCECODE: Name of Province**Data file: md-2016-civil-marriages-v1****Overview**

Valid: 139512 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 13 Range: 1 - 99 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Western Cape	20565	14.7%
2	Eastern Cape	15438	11.1%
3	Northern Cape	4278	3.1%
4	Free State	9219	6.6%
5	KwaZulu-Natal	21440	15.4%
6	North West	9699	7%
7	Gauteng	36413	26.1%
8	Mpumalanga	7663	5.5%
9	Limpopo	9409	6.7%
97	Unknown	118	0.1%
98	Outside RSA	372	0.3%
99	Unspecified	4898	3.5%

MARRIAGEMONTH: Month of Marriage**Data file: md-2016-civil-marriages-v1****Overview**

Valid: 139512 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 9 Range: 1 - 12 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	January	9077	6.5%
2	February	10360	7.4%
3	March	11801	8.5%
4	April	12498	9%
5	May	9980	7.2%
6	June	9177	6.6%

7	July	9855	7.1%
8	August	9609	6.9%
9	September	12118	8.7%
10	October	13677	9.8%
11	November	13098	9.4%
12	December	18262	13.1%

MARRIAGEYEAR: Year of Marriage

Data file: md-2016-civil-marriages-v1

Overview

Valid: 139512 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 4 Range: 2016 - 2016 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
2016	2016	139512	100%

SOLEMNISATIONCODE: Way of Solemnisation

Data file: md-2016-civil-marriages-v1

Overview

Valid: 139512 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Religious	43359	31.1%
2	DHA	80748	57.9%
9	Unspecified	15405	11%

BRIDEGROOMSTATUSCODE: Marital status of Bridegroom

Data file: md-2016-civil-marriages-v1

Overview

Valid: 139512 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Bachelor	113738	81.5%
2	Divorcee	5151	3.7%
3	Widower	1343	1%
9	Unspecified	19280	13.8%

BRIDESTATUSCODE: Marital status of Bride

Data file: md-2016-civil-marriages-v1

Overview

Valid: 139512 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Spinster	120501	86.4%
2	Divorcee	3337	2.4%
3	Widow	1044	0.7%
9	Unspecified	14630	10.5%

BRIDEGROOMAGE: Age of Bridegroom

Data file: md-2016-civil-marriages-v1

Overview

Valid: 139512 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 15 - 999 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
15	15	1	0%
16	16	1	0%
17	17	2	0%

18	18	20	0%
19	19	81	0.1%
20	20	184	0.1%
21	21	444	0.3%
22	22	844	0.6%
23	23	1583	1.1%
24	24	2375	1.7%
25	25	3497	2.5%
26	26	4383	3.1%
27	27	5148	3.7%
28	28	5694	4.1%
29	29	5904	4.2%
30	30	6304	4.5%
31	31	6683	4.8%
32	32	6447	4.6%
33	33	6338	4.5%
34	34	6332	4.5%
35	35	5583	4%
36	36	5266	3.8%
37	37	4932	3.5%
38	38	4507	3.2%
39	39	4571	3.3%
40	40	4215	3%
41	41	3994	2.9%
42	42	3869	2.8%
43	43	3379	2.4%
44	44	3371	2.4%
45	45	2689	1.9%
46	46	2920	2.1%
47	47	2453	1.8%
48	48	2317	1.7%
49	49	1956	1.4%
50	50	1989	1.4%
51	51	1821	1.3%
52	52	1726	1.2%
53	53	1588	1.1%
54	54	1461	1%
55	55	1236	0.9%
56	56	1252	0.9%

57	57	983	0.7%
58	58	1077	0.8%
59	59	876	0.6%
60	60	890	0.6%
61	61	720	0.5%
62	62	661	0.5%
63	63	612	0.4%
64	64	597	0.4%
65	65	494	0.4%
66	66	485	0.3%
67	67	386	0.3%
68	68	313	0.2%
69	69	280	0.2%
70	70	236	0.2%
71	71	186	0.1%
72	72	153	0.1%
73	73	144	0.1%
74	74	180	0.1%
75	75	117	0.1%
76	76	136	0.1%
77	77	95	0.1%
78	78	97	0.1%
79	79	70	0.1%
80	80	58	0%
81	81	43	0%
82	82	44	0%
83	83	37	0%
84	84	40	0%
85	85	23	0%
86	86	40	0%
87	87	21	0%
88	88	15	0%
89	89	10	0%
90	90	13	0%
91	91	4	0%
92	92	3	0%
93	93	1	0%
95	95	2	0%
96	96	1	0%

97	97	5	0%
98	98	1	0%
99	99	1	0%
999	Unspecified	2	0%

BRIDEAGE: Age of Bride

Data file: md-2016-civil-marriages-v1

Overview

Valid: 139512 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 3 Range: 13 - 98 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
13	13	1	0%
14	14	2	0%
15	15	4	0%
16	16	16	0%
17	17	76	0.1%
18	18	266	0.2%
19	19	685	0.5%
20	20	1168	0.8%
21	21	1943	1.4%
22	22	2821	2%
23	23	4154	3%
24	24	5401	3.9%
25	25	6724	4.8%
26	26	7499	5.4%
27	27	7749	5.6%
28	28	7471	5.4%
29	29	7332	5.3%
30	30	7389	5.3%
31	31	7147	5.1%
32	32	6638	4.8%
33	33	6032	4.3%
34	34	5715	4.1%
35	35	4959	3.6%

36	36	4497	3.2%
37	37	4083	2.9%
38	38	3489	2.5%
39	39	3428	2.5%
40	40	3135	2.2%
41	41	2879	2.1%
42	42	2763	2%
43	43	2356	1.7%
44	44	2413	1.7%
45	45	1852	1.3%
46	46	1935	1.4%
47	47	1590	1.1%
48	48	1607	1.2%
49	49	1271	0.9%
50	50	1301	0.9%
51	51	1134	0.8%
52	52	1054	0.8%
53	53	988	0.7%
54	54	838	0.6%
55	55	659	0.5%
56	56	682	0.5%
57	57	554	0.4%
58	58	517	0.4%
59	59	421	0.3%
60	60	469	0.3%
61	61	346	0.2%
62	62	262	0.2%
63	63	272	0.2%
64	64	244	0.2%
65	65	180	0.1%
66	66	166	0.1%
67	67	168	0.1%
68	68	126	0.1%
69	69	98	0.1%
70	70	86	0.1%
71	71	68	0%
72	72	54	0%
73	73	46	0%
74	74	54	0%

75	75	39	0%
76	76	36	0%
77	77	34	0%
78	78	21	0%
79	79	22	0%
80	80	23	0%
81	81	13	0%
82	82	8	0%
83	83	10	0%
84	84	7	0%
85	85	3	0%
86	86	8	0%
87	87	3	0%
88	88	2	0%
89	89	2	0%
92	92	1	0%
94	94	1	0%
95	95	1	0%
98	98	1	0%

AGEDIFF: Age difference between bridegroom and bride

Data file: md-2016-civil-marriages-v1

Overview

Valid: 139512 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 18 Range: 0 - 9 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
0	Spouses same age	10956	7.9%
1	Bridegroom older	106635	76.4%
2	Bridegroom younger	21919	15.7%
9	Unspecified	2	0%

PROVINCECODE: Name of Province**Data file: md-2016-civil-unions-v1****Overview**

Valid: 1331 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 13 Range: 1 - 99 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Western Cape	358	26.9%
2	Eastern Cape	57	4.3%
3	Northern Cape	15	1.1%
4	Free State	36	2.7%
5	KwaZulu-Natal	249	18.7%
6	North West	29	2.2%
7	Gauteng	494	37.1%
8	Mpumalanga	22	1.7%
9	Limpopo	17	1.3%
98	Outside RSA	4	0.3%
99	Unspecified	50	3.8%

REGISTRATIONMONTH: Month of Registration**Data file: md-2016-civil-unions-v1****Overview**

Valid: 1331 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 9 Range: 1 - 12 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	January	62	4.7%
2	February	114	8.6%
3	March	126	9.5%
4	April	125	9.4%
5	May	97	7.3%
6	June	88	6.6%
7	July	77	5.8%

8	August	105	7.9%
9	September	150	11.3%
10	October	124	9.3%
11	November	121	9.1%
12	December	142	10.7%

REGISTRATIONYEAR: Year of Registration

Data file: md-2016-civil-unions-v1

Overview

Valid: 1331 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 4 Range: 2016 - 2016 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
2016	2016	1331	100%

SPOUSE1AGE: Age of Spouses-1

Data file: md-2016-civil-unions-v1

Overview

Valid: 1331 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 2 Range: 20 - 84 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
20	20	4	0.3%
21	21	6	0.5%
22	22	12	0.9%
23	23	13	1%
24	24	24	1.8%
25	25	37	2.8%
26	26	43	3.2%
27	27	37	2.8%
28	28	58	4.4%
29	29	70	5.3%

30	30	61	4.6%
31	31	68	5.1%
32	32	64	4.8%
33	33	53	4%
34	34	59	4.4%
35	35	47	3.5%
36	36	40	3%
37	37	43	3.2%
38	38	39	2.9%
39	39	44	3.3%
40	40	39	2.9%
41	41	41	3.1%
42	42	25	1.9%
43	43	25	1.9%
44	44	31	2.3%
45	45	30	2.3%
46	46	31	2.3%
47	47	24	1.8%
48	48	21	1.6%
49	49	29	2.2%
50	50	34	2.6%
51	51	17	1.3%
52	52	18	1.4%
53	53	15	1.1%
54	54	15	1.1%
55	55	8	0.6%
56	56	19	1.4%
57	57	11	0.8%
58	58	12	0.9%
59	59	5	0.4%
60	60	5	0.4%
61	61	4	0.3%
62	62	8	0.6%
63	63	4	0.3%
64	64	9	0.7%
65	65	4	0.3%
66	66	2	0.2%
67	67	2	0.2%
68	68	1	0.1%

69	69	3	0.2%
70	70	5	0.4%
71	71	2	0.2%
72	72	1	0.1%
74	74	1	0.1%
75	75	1	0.1%
76	76	3	0.2%
77	77	2	0.2%
78	78	1	0.1%
84	84	1	0.1%

SPOUSE2AGE: Age of Spouses-2

Data file: md-2016-civil-unions-v1

Overview

Valid: 1331 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 2 Range: 19 - 86 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
19	19	3	0.2%
20	20	5	0.4%
21	21	7	0.5%
22	22	22	1.7%
23	23	34	2.6%
24	24	50	3.8%
25	25	63	4.7%
26	26	53	4%
27	27	58	4.4%
28	28	69	5.2%
29	29	62	4.7%
30	30	72	5.4%
31	31	76	5.7%
32	32	46	3.5%
33	33	74	5.6%
34	34	51	3.8%
35	35	36	2.7%

36	36	49	3.7%
37	37	29	2.2%
38	38	29	2.2%
39	39	29	2.2%
40	40	32	2.4%
41	41	33	2.5%
42	42	22	1.7%
43	43	22	1.7%
44	44	26	2%
45	45	22	1.7%
46	46	22	1.7%
47	47	28	2.1%
48	48	26	2%
49	49	14	1.1%
50	50	24	1.8%
51	51	12	0.9%
52	52	16	1.2%
53	53	19	1.4%
54	54	11	0.8%
55	55	9	0.7%
56	56	13	1%
57	57	6	0.5%
58	58	11	0.8%
59	59	8	0.6%
60	60	6	0.5%
61	61	4	0.3%
62	62	9	0.7%
63	63	6	0.5%
64	64	1	0.1%
66	66	2	0.2%
67	67	4	0.3%
69	69	1	0.1%
72	72	2	0.2%
76	76	2	0.2%
86	86	1	0.1%

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

Data file: md-2016-civil-unions-v1

Overview

Valid: 1331 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 17 Range: 0 - 2 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
0	Spouses same age	83	6.2%
1	Spouses-1 older	821	61.7%
2	Spouses-1 younger	427	32.1%

PROVINCECODE: Name of Province**Data file: md-2016-customary-marriages-v1****Overview**

Valid: 3978 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 13 Range: 1 - 99 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Western Cape	13	0.3%
2	Eastern Cape	405	10.2%
3	Northern Cape	22	0.6%
4	Free State	39	1%
5	KwaZulu-Natal	1680	42.2%
6	North West	52	1.3%
7	Gauteng	224	5.6%
8	Mpumalanga	318	8%
9	Limpopo	1110	27.9%
97	Unknown	92	2.3%
98	Outside RSA	19	0.5%
99	Unspecified	4	0.1%

MARRIAGEYEAR: Year of Marriage**Data file: md-2016-customary-marriages-v1****Overview**

Valid: 3978 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 1934 - 9999 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1934	1934	1	0%
1947	1947	1	0%
1948	1948	1	0%
1950	1950	3	0.1%
1951	1951	2	0.1%
1952	1952	2	0.1%

1953	1953	1	0%
1954	1954	6	0.2%
1955	1955	6	0.2%
1956	1956	9	0.2%
1957	1957	8	0.2%
1958	1958	19	0.5%
1959	1959	12	0.3%
1960	1960	19	0.5%
1961	1961	14	0.4%
1962	1962	15	0.4%
1963	1963	20	0.5%
1964	1964	13	0.3%
1965	1965	26	0.7%
1966	1966	26	0.7%
1967	1967	30	0.8%
1968	1968	38	1%
1969	1969	55	1.4%
1970	1970	34	0.9%
1971	1971	39	1%
1972	1972	41	1%
1973	1973	51	1.3%
1974	1974	60	1.5%
1975	1975	60	1.5%
1976	1976	75	1.9%
1977	1977	63	1.6%
1978	1978	60	1.5%
1979	1979	65	1.6%
1980	1980	74	1.9%
1981	1981	74	1.9%
1982	1982	83	2.1%
1983	1983	69	1.7%
1984	1984	84	2.1%
1985	1985	69	1.7%
1986	1986	71	1.8%
1987	1987	65	1.6%
1988	1988	82	2.1%
1989	1989	77	1.9%
1990	1990	77	1.9%
1991	1991	69	1.7%

1992	1992	60	1.5%
1993	1993	66	1.7%
1994	1994	68	1.7%
1995	1995	60	1.5%
1996	1996	53	1.3%
1997	1997	45	1.1%
1998	1998	59	1.5%
1999	1999	58	1.5%
2000	2000	39	1%
2001	2001	34	0.9%
2002	2002	34	0.9%
2003	2003	33	0.8%
2004	2004	36	0.9%
2005	2005	37	0.9%
2006	2006	48	1.2%
2007	2007	52	1.3%
2008	2008	81	2%
2009	2009	60	1.5%
2010	2010	93	2.3%
2011	2011	77	1.9%
2012	2012	98	2.5%
2013	2013	97	2.4%
2014	2014	102	2.6%
2015	2015	234	5.9%
2016	2016	573	14.4%
9999	Unspecified	12	0.3%

REGISTRATIONYEAR: Year of Registration

Data file: md-2016-customary-marriages-v1

Overview

Valid: 3978 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 4 Range: 2016 - 2016 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
2016	2016	3978	100%

BRIDEGROOMAGE: Age of Bridegroom**Data file: md-2016-customary-marriages-v1****Overview**

Valid: 3978 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 14 - 999 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
14	14	5	0.1%
15	15	4	0.1%
16	16	2	0.1%
17	17	3	0.1%
18	18	23	0.6%
19	19	36	0.9%
20	20	57	1.4%
21	21	96	2.4%
22	22	120	3%
23	23	141	3.5%
24	24	163	4.1%
25	25	145	3.6%
26	26	152	3.8%
27	27	161	4%
28	28	156	3.9%
29	29	165	4.1%
30	30	135	3.4%
31	31	153	3.8%
32	32	160	4%
33	33	147	3.7%
34	34	146	3.7%
35	35	129	3.2%
36	36	133	3.3%
37	37	96	2.4%
38	38	104	2.6%
39	39	124	3.1%
40	40	102	2.6%
41	41	79	2%

42	42	85	2.1%
43	43	82	2.1%
44	44	69	1.7%
45	45	65	1.6%
46	46	59	1.5%
47	47	61	1.5%
48	48	57	1.4%
49	49	50	1.3%
50	50	53	1.3%
51	51	52	1.3%
52	52	42	1.1%
53	53	31	0.8%
54	54	32	0.8%
55	55	28	0.7%
56	56	26	0.7%
57	57	23	0.6%
58	58	23	0.6%
59	59	22	0.6%
60	60	23	0.6%
61	61	21	0.5%
62	62	15	0.4%
63	63	12	0.3%
64	64	14	0.4%
65	65	14	0.4%
66	66	9	0.2%
67	67	11	0.3%
68	68	8	0.2%
69	69	4	0.1%
70	70	7	0.2%
71	71	3	0.1%
72	72	3	0.1%
73	73	1	0%
74	74	3	0.1%
75	75	3	0.1%
76	76	3	0.1%
77	77	1	0%
78	78	4	0.1%
79	79	4	0.1%
80	80	1	0%

81	81	1	0%
83	83	1	0%
88	88	1	0%
90	90	1	0%
95	95	1	0%
999	Unspecified	12	0.3%

BRIDEAGE: Age of Bride

Data file: md-2016-customary-marriages-v1

Overview

Valid: 3978 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 12 - 999 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
12	12	10	0.3%
13	13	10	0.3%
14	14	12	0.3%
15	15	40	1%
16	16	74	1.9%
17	17	106	2.7%
18	18	165	4.1%
19	19	187	4.7%
20	20	169	4.2%
21	21	187	4.7%
22	22	192	4.8%
23	23	169	4.2%
24	24	177	4.4%
25	25	190	4.8%
26	26	180	4.5%
27	27	168	4.2%
28	28	177	4.4%
29	29	158	4%
30	30	144	3.6%
31	31	116	2.9%
32	32	130	3.3%

33	33	100	2.5%
34	34	118	3%
35	35	94	2.4%
36	36	85	2.1%
37	37	77	1.9%
38	38	81	2%
39	39	71	1.8%
40	40	58	1.5%
41	41	48	1.2%
42	42	66	1.7%
43	43	40	1%
44	44	41	1%
45	45	41	1%
46	46	35	0.9%
47	47	32	0.8%
48	48	24	0.6%
49	49	27	0.7%
50	50	16	0.4%
51	51	20	0.5%
52	52	13	0.3%
53	53	21	0.5%
54	54	19	0.5%
55	55	11	0.3%
56	56	11	0.3%
57	57	8	0.2%
58	58	6	0.2%
59	59	6	0.2%
60	60	10	0.3%
61	61	6	0.2%
62	62	3	0.1%
63	63	1	0%
64	64	3	0.1%
65	65	4	0.1%
66	66	1	0%
68	68	1	0%
69	69	2	0.1%
73	73	1	0%
75	75	1	0%
77	77	1	0%

85	85	1	0%
91	91	1	0%
999	Unspecified	12	0.3%

AGEDIFF: Age difference between bridegroom and bride

Data file: md-2016-customary-marriages-v1

Overview

Valid: 3978 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 41 Range: 0 - 9 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
0	Spouses same age	198	5%
1	Bridegroom older	3411	85.7%
2	Bridegroom younger	357	9%
9	Either bridegroom or bride age is missing	12	0.3%

PROVINCECODE: Name of Province**Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 13 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Western Cape	6224	24.6%
2	Eastern Cape	3352	13.2%
3	Northern Cape	638	2.5%
4	Free State	2361	9.3%
5	KwaZulu-Natal	4314	17%
6	North West	558	2.2%
7	Gauteng	5816	23%
8	Mpumalanga	1035	4.1%
9	Limpopo	1028	4.1%

MALERACE: Population group of husband**Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 13 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Black African	10980	43.4%
2	Coloured	4949	19.5%
3	Indian/Asian	1728	6.8%
4	White	6477	25.6%
5	Other	95	0.4%
9	Unspecified	1097	4.3%

FEMALERACE: Population group of wife**Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 13 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Black African	10944	43.2%
2	Coloured	5094	20.1%
3	Indian/Asian	1648	6.5%
4	White	6418	25.3%
5	Other	20	0.1%
9	Unspecified	1202	4.7%

COUPLERACE: Population group of couple**Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 13 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Black African	10641	42%
2	Coloured	4711	18.6%
3	Indian/Asian	1529	6%
4	White	6293	24.8%
5	Mixed	841	3.3%
9	Unspecified	1311	5.2%

MALEOCCUPATION: Occupation of Husband**Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 57 Range: 0 - 99 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
0	Not economically active	4378	17.3%
1	Professional, semi-professional and technical occupations	2410	9.5%
2	Managers and administrators	3478	13.7%
3	Clerical and sales occupations	1607	6.3%
4	Transport, delivery and communications	902	3.6%
5	Service occupations	2281	9%
6	Farming and related occupations	114	0.5%
7	Artisans, apprentice and related occupations	1720	6.8%
8	Production foreman, mine and quarry workers	1008	4%
99	Unspecified	7428	29.3%

FEMALEOCCUPATION: Occupation of wife

Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 57 Range: 0 - 99 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
0	Not economically active	6103	24.1%
1	Professional, semi-professional and technical occupations	3113	12.3%
2	Managers and administrators	1931	7.6%
3	Clerical and sales occupations	3248	12.8%
4	Transport, delivery and communications	63	0.2%
5	Service occupations	2043	8.1%
6	Farming and related occupations	20	0.1%
7	Artisans, apprentice and related occupations	257	1%
8	Production foreman, mine and quarry workers	415	1.6%
99	Unspecified	8133	32.1%

PLAINTIFFSEX: Sex of plaintiff**Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Male	8651	34.2%
2	Female	12954	51.1%
3	Both	1868	7.4%
9	Unspecified	1853	7.3%

MALESTATUS: Marital status of husband**Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Bachelor	20172	79.6%
2	Widower	383	1.5%
3	Divorcee	2953	11.7%
9	Unspecified	1818	7.2%

FEMALESTATUS: Marital status of wife**Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Spinster	20378	80.5%
2	Widow	357	1.4%
3	Divorcee	2514	9.9%
9	Unspecified	2077	8.2%

MALENOTIMESMARRIED: Number of times husband married

Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 1 - 99 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	1	20871	82.4%
2	2	3018	11.9%
3	3	340	1.3%
4	4	73	0.3%
5	5	18	0.1%
6	6	4	0%
11	11	1	0%
12	12	1	0%
99	Unspecified	1000	3.9%

FEMALENOTIMESMARRIED: Number of times wife married

Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 1 - 99 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	1	21175	83.6%
2	2	2611	10.3%

3	3	294	1.2%
4	4	51	0.2%
5	5	5	0%
6	6	1	0%
8	8	1	0%
99	Unspecified	1188	4.7%

MALEAGE: Age of husband

Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 20 - 999 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
20	20	1	0%
21	21	3	0%
22	22	10	0%
23	23	27	0.1%
24	24	35	0.1%
25	25	81	0.3%
26	26	122	0.5%
27	27	155	0.6%
28	28	226	0.9%
29	29	294	1.2%
30	30	397	1.6%
31	31	493	1.9%
32	32	566	2.2%
33	33	625	2.5%
34	34	756	3%
35	35	695	2.7%
36	36	788	3.1%
37	37	751	3%
38	38	841	3.3%
39	39	864	3.4%
40	40	914	3.6%

41	41	978	3.9%
42	42	968	3.8%
43	43	912	3.6%
44	44	1003	4%
45	45	902	3.6%
46	46	992	3.9%
47	47	907	3.6%
48	48	907	3.6%
49	49	795	3.1%
50	50	791	3.1%
51	51	646	2.6%
52	52	730	2.9%
53	53	658	2.6%
54	54	562	2.2%
55	55	488	1.9%
56	56	476	1.9%
57	57	355	1.4%
58	58	361	1.4%
59	59	290	1.1%
60	60	268	1.1%
61	61	242	1%
62	62	197	0.8%
63	63	179	0.7%
64	64	198	0.8%
65	65	119	0.5%
66	66	128	0.5%
67	67	95	0.4%
68	68	95	0.4%
69	69	87	0.3%
70	70	53	0.2%
71	71	52	0.2%
72	72	51	0.2%
73	73	33	0.1%
74	74	32	0.1%
75	75	22	0.1%
76	76	28	0.1%
77	77	26	0.1%
78	78	15	0.1%
79	79	16	0.1%

80	80	7	0%
81	81	11	0%
82	82	10	0%
83	83	1	0%
84	84	7	0%
85	85	4	0%
86	86	6	0%
87	87	1	0%
89	89	3	0%
93	93	1	0%
97	97	1	0%
999	Unspecified	973	3.8%

FEMALEAGE: Age of wife

Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 19 - 999 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
19	19	3	0%
20	20	14	0.1%
21	21	29	0.1%
22	22	61	0.2%
23	23	96	0.4%
24	24	152	0.6%
25	25	223	0.9%
26	26	318	1.3%
27	27	380	1.5%
28	28	467	1.8%
29	29	579	2.3%
30	30	755	3%
31	31	848	3.3%
32	32	892	3.5%
33	33	910	3.6%

34	34	1026	4.1%
35	35	908	3.6%
36	36	971	3.8%
37	37	964	3.8%
38	38	939	3.7%
39	39	942	3.7%
40	40	949	3.7%
41	41	892	3.5%
42	42	903	3.6%
43	43	904	3.6%
44	44	898	3.5%
45	45	813	3.2%
46	46	791	3.1%
47	47	760	3%
48	48	752	3%
49	49	626	2.5%
50	50	559	2.2%
51	51	527	2.1%
52	52	487	1.9%
53	53	436	1.7%
54	54	395	1.6%
55	55	332	1.3%
56	56	289	1.1%
57	57	237	0.9%
58	58	260	1%
59	59	171	0.7%
60	60	169	0.7%
61	61	136	0.5%
62	62	116	0.5%
63	63	94	0.4%
64	64	89	0.4%
65	65	70	0.3%
66	66	45	0.2%
67	67	44	0.2%
68	68	43	0.2%
69	69	33	0.1%
70	70	27	0.1%
71	71	26	0.1%
72	72	23	0.1%

73	73	7	0%
74	74	4	0%
75	75	6	0%
76	76	5	0%
77	77	10	0%
78	78	7	0%
79	79	3	0%
80	80	4	0%
81	81	2	0%
82	82	4	0%
84	84	1	0%
87	87	1	0%
89	89	1	0%
999	Unspecified	898	3.5%

SOLEMNISATIONCODE: Way of solemnisation

Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Religious	11794	46.6%
2	DHA	10971	43.3%
9	Unspecified	2561	10.1%

MARRIAGEPROPERTYSYSTEM: Matrimonial property system

Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 55 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	In community of property	20445	80.7%
2	Out of community of property	2048	8.1%
3	Out of community of property (excluding accrual system)	650	2.6%
4	Out of community of property (including accrual system)	1301	5.1%
5	Other	0	0%
9	Unspecified	882	3.5%

MARRIAGEMONTH: Month of marriage

Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 1 - 99 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	January	1735	6.9%
2	February	1718	6.8%
3	March	2087	8.2%
4	April	2067	8.2%
5	May	1794	7.1%
6	June	1633	6.4%
7	July	1662	6.6%
8	August	1723	6.8%
9	September	2210	8.7%
10	October	2195	8.7%
11	November	2285	9%
12	December	3251	12.8%
99	Unspecified	966	3.8%

MARRIAGEYEAR: Year of marriage

Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 1953 - 9999 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1953		1	0%
1955		1	0%
1956		1	0%
1959		1	0%
1960		1	0%
1961		1	0%
1962		2	0%
1963		3	0%
1964		3	0%
1965		3	0%
1966		5	0%
1967		4	0%
1968		13	0.1%
1969		5	0%
1970		11	0%
1971		11	0%
1972		15	0.1%
1973		28	0.1%
1974		19	0.1%
1975		36	0.1%
1976		40	0.2%
1977		50	0.2%
1978		46	0.2%
1979		52	0.2%
1980		76	0.3%
1981		87	0.3%
1982		116	0.5%
1983		111	0.4%
1984		146	0.6%
1985		165	0.7%
1986		187	0.7%
1987		208	0.8%
1988		247	1%
1989		250	1%
1990		320	1.3%

1991		327	1.3%
1992		388	1.5%
1993		390	1.5%
1994		461	1.8%
1995		494	2%
1996		543	2.1%
1997		563	2.2%
1998		617	2.4%
1999		663	2.6%
2000		677	2.7%
2001		763	3%
2002		795	3.1%
2003		872	3.4%
2004		1007	4%
2005		1084	4.3%
2006		1197	4.7%
2007		1298	5.1%
2008		1368	5.4%
2009		1324	5.2%
2010		1418	5.6%
2011		1409	5.6%
2012		1378	5.4%
2013		1309	5.2%
2014		1050	4.1%
2015		637	2.5%
2016		62	0.2%
9999	Unspecified	967	3.8%

NOOFCHILDREN: Number of minor children involved

Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 10 Range: 0 - 7 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
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0		11404	45%
1		6979	27.6%
2		5356	21.1%
3		1344	5.3%
4		200	0.8%
5		32	0.1%
6		10	0%
7		1	0%

DIVORCEMONTH: Month of divorce

Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 1 - 99 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	January	1388	5.5%
2	February	2117	8.4%
3	March	2058	8.1%
4	April	1940	7.7%
5	May	2296	9.1%
6	June	2365	9.3%
7	July	2246	8.9%
8	August	2204	8.7%
9	September	2202	8.7%
10	October	2265	8.9%
11	November	2444	9.7%
12	December	1801	7.1%
99	Unspecified	0	0%

DIVORCEYEAR: Year of divorce

Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 10 Range: 2016 - 2016 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
2016		25326	100%

DURATIONOFMARRIAGE: Duration of marriage

Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0 Minimum: 0 Maximum: 999 Mean: 50.094 Standard deviation: 189.262
 Type: Continuous Decimal: 0 Width: 10 Range: 0 - 999 Format: Numeric

MARRIAGETYPE: Type of marriage

Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 18 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Civil marriage	8471	33.4%
2	Customary marriage	90	0.4%
3	Civil union	116	0.5%
9	Unspecified	16649	65.7%

POLYGAMOUSMARRIAGE: Involved in polygamous marriage

Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
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1	Yes	134	0.5%
2	No	7563	29.9%
9	Unspecified	17629	69.6%

GROUNDSDIVORCE: Main grounds for divorce

Data file: md-2016-divorces-v1

Overview

Valid: 25326 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 22 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Adultery	2383	9.4%
2	Abuse	1266	5%
3	Childlessness	8	0%
4	Desertion	1656	6.5%
5	Financial difficulties	531	2.1%
6	Medical Insanity	15	0.1%
7	Imprisonment	37	0.1%
8	Other (Specify)	0	0%
9	Unspecified	19430	76.7%