

# South Africa - Marriages and Divorces 2019

**Statistics South Africa**

Report generated on: September 1, 2022

Visit our data catalog at: <https://www.datafirst.uct.ac.za/dataportal/index.php>

## Identification

### SURVEY ID NUMBER

zaf-statssa-md-2019-v1

### TITLE

Marriages and Divorces 2019

### COUNTRY

Name	Country code
South Africa	zaf

### STUDY TYPE

Administrative Data

### 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 2019.

**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). 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 sets are not linked to each other.

### KIND OF DATA

Administrative records

### UNIT OF ANALYSIS

Individuals

## Version

### VERSION DESCRIPTION

v1: Edited, anonymised dataset for public distribution

### VERSION DATE

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 2019 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
2019-01-01	2019-12-31

### 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 Statistic 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 2019 [dataset]. Version 1. Pretoria: Statistics South Africa [producer], 2021. Cape Town: DataFirst [distributor], 2021. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25828/ez31-k904>

### ACCESS AUTHORITY

Name	Affiliation	Email	URL
DataFirst	University of Cape Town	support@data1st.org	<a href="#">Link</a>

## Disclaimer and copyrights

---

### COPYRIGHT

Copyright 2013, Statistics South Africa

## 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**

<b>Data file</b>	<b>Cases</b>	<b>Variables</b>
<b>md-2019-civil-marriages-v1</b>	129597	9
<b>md-2019-civil-unions-v1</b>	1771	6
<b>md-2019-customary-marriages-v1</b>	2789	6
<b>md-2019-divorces-v1</b>	23710	24



**Data file: md-2019-civil-marriages-v1**

Cases: 129597

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-2019-civil-unions-v1**

Cases: 1771

Variables: 6

**Variables**

ID	Name	Label	Question
V10	ProvinceCode	Name of Province	
V11	RegistrationMonth	Month of Registration	
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-2019-customary-marriages-v1**

Cases: 2789

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-2019-divorces-v1**

Cases: 23710

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	MaleAge	Age of husband	
V34	FemaleAge	Age of wife	
V35	SolemnisationCode	Way of solemnisation	
V36	MarriagePropertySystem	Matrimonial property system	
V37	MarriageMonth	Month of marriage	
V38	MarriageYear	Year of marriage	
V39	NoOfChildren	Number of children involved	
V40	DivorceMonth	Month of divorce	
V41	DivorceYear	Year 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-2019-civil-marriages-v1****Overview**

Valid: 129597    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 13    Range: 1 - 99    Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Western Cape	16783	13%
2	Eastern Cape	13333	10.3%
3	Northern Cape	3692	2.8%
4	Free State	8700	6.7%
5	KwaZulu-Natal	21753	16.8%
6	North West	8477	6.5%
7	Gauteng	32352	25%
8	Mpumalanga	7103	5.5%
9	Limpopo	10084	7.8%
97	Unknown	18	0%
98	Outside RSA	557	0.4%
99	Unspecified	6745	5.2%

**MARRIAGEMONTH: Month of Marriage****Data file: md-2019-civil-marriages-v1****Overview**

Valid: 129597    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 9    Range: 1 - 12    Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	January	8364	6.5%
2	February	9185	7.1%
3	March	11881	9.2%
4	April	10526	8.1%
5	May	9608	7.4%
6	June	9709	7.5%

7	July	8923	6.9%
8	August	9896	7.6%
9	September	11856	9.1%
10	October	11802	9.1%
11	November	12660	9.8%
12	December	15187	11.7%

## MARRIAGEYEAR: Year of Marriage

Data file: md-2019-civil-marriages-v1

### Overview

Valid: 129597    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 4    Range: 2019 - 2019    Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
2019	2019	129597	100%

## SOLEMNISATIONCODE: Way of Solemnisation

Data file: md-2019-civil-marriages-v1

### Overview

Valid: 129597    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 11    Range: 1 - 9    Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Religious	40657	31.4%
2	DHA	75519	58.3%
9	Unspecified	13421	10.4%

## BRIDEGROOMSTATUSCODE: Marital status of Bridegroom

Data file: md-2019-civil-marriages-v1

### Overview

Valid: 129597    Invalid: 0

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

## Questions and instructions

### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Never married	105163	81.1%
2	Divorcee	4852	3.7%
3	Widower	918	0.7%
9	Unspecified	18664	14.4%

## BRIDESTATUSCODE: Marital status of Bride

Data file: md-2019-civil-marriages-v1

### Overview

Valid: 129597    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 13    Range: 1 - 9    Format: Numeric

## Questions and instructions

### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Never married	111464	86%
2	Divorcee	3328	2.6%
3	Widow	622	0.5%
9	Unspecified	14183	10.9%

## BRIDEGROOMAGE: Age of Bridegroom

Data file: md-2019-civil-marriages-v1

### Overview

Valid: 129597    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 11    Range: 17 - 999    Format: Numeric

## Questions and instructions

### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
17	17	3	0%
18	18	15	0%
19	19	52	0%

20	20	129	0.1%
21	21	307	0.2%
22	22	631	0.5%
23	23	1156	0.9%
24	24	1960	1.5%
25	25	2635	2%
26	26	3463	2.7%
27	27	4139	3.2%
28	28	4731	3.7%
29	29	4996	3.9%
30	30	5288	4.1%
31	31	5238	4%
32	32	5276	4.1%
33	33	5331	4.1%
34	34	5462	4.2%
35	35	5322	4.1%
36	36	5284	4.1%
37	37	5101	3.9%
38	38	4550	3.5%
39	39	4434	3.4%
40	40	4119	3.2%
41	41	3731	2.9%
42	42	3626	2.8%
43	43	3459	2.7%
44	44	3478	2.7%
45	45	3008	2.3%
46	46	2753	2.1%
47	47	2831	2.2%
48	48	2191	1.7%
49	49	2495	1.9%
50	50	2116	1.6%
51	51	2075	1.6%
52	52	1667	1.3%
53	53	1564	1.2%
54	54	1482	1.1%
55	55	1450	1.1%
56	56	1382	1.1%
57	57	1216	0.9%
58	58	920	0.7%

59	59	1016	0.8%
60	60	934	0.7%
61	61	893	0.7%
62	62	787	0.6%
63	63	641	0.5%
64	64	515	0.4%
65	65	539	0.4%
66	66	464	0.4%
67	67	391	0.3%
68	68	280	0.2%
69	69	318	0.2%
70	70	274	0.2%
71	71	199	0.2%
72	72	187	0.1%
73	73	167	0.1%
74	74	114	0.1%
75	75	122	0.1%
76	76	83	0.1%
77	77	95	0.1%
78	78	83	0.1%
79	79	100	0.1%
80	80	59	0%
81	81	43	0%
82	82	47	0%
83	83	35	0%
84	84	21	0%
85	85	22	0%
86	86	20	0%
87	87	23	0%
88	88	9	0%
89	89	13	0%
90	90	8	0%
91	91	9	0%
92	92	6	0%
93	93	6	0%
94	94	4	0%
96	96	1	0%
99	99	1	0%
999	Unspecified	2	0%



**BRIDEAGE: Age of Bride****Data file: md-2019-civil-marriages-v1****Overview**

Valid: 129597    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 2    Range: 13 - 98    Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
13	13	2	0%
14	14	2	0%
15	15	6	0%
16	16	14	0%
17	17	44	0%
18	18	160	0.1%
19	19	401	0.3%
20	20	758	0.6%
21	21	1355	1%
22	22	2169	1.7%
23	23	3033	2.3%
24	24	4279	3.3%
25	25	5045	3.9%
26	26	5826	4.5%
27	27	6405	4.9%
28	28	6665	5.1%
29	29	6758	5.2%
30	30	6670	5.1%
31	31	6116	4.7%
32	32	5930	4.6%
33	33	5765	4.4%
34	34	5590	4.3%
35	35	4979	3.8%
36	36	4916	3.8%
37	37	4584	3.5%
38	38	3948	3%
39	39	3789	2.9%
40	40	3219	2.5%

41	41	2713	2.1%
42	42	2677	2.1%
43	43	2553	2%
44	44	2356	1.8%
45	45	2261	1.7%
46	46	1918	1.5%
47	47	1918	1.5%
48	48	1507	1.2%
49	49	1592	1.2%
50	50	1411	1.1%
51	51	1302	1%
52	52	1031	0.8%
53	53	954	0.7%
54	54	860	0.7%
55	55	710	0.5%
56	56	727	0.6%
57	57	651	0.5%
58	58	504	0.4%
59	59	496	0.4%
60	60	504	0.4%
61	61	387	0.3%
62	62	299	0.2%
63	63	269	0.2%
64	64	235	0.2%
65	65	191	0.1%
66	66	188	0.1%
67	67	152	0.1%
68	68	130	0.1%
69	69	115	0.1%
70	70	98	0.1%
71	71	69	0.1%
72	72	61	0%
73	73	52	0%
74	74	54	0%
75	75	39	0%
76	76	40	0%
77	77	29	0%
78	78	17	0%
79	79	24	0%

80	80	18	0%
81	81	11	0%
82	82	9	0%
83	83	10	0%
84	84	6	0%
85	85	7	0%
86	86	4	0%
87	87	1	0%
88	88	1	0%
89	89	3	0%
90	90	1	0%
93	93	3	0%
98	98	1	0%

### AGEDIFF: Age difference between bridegroom and bride

Data file: md-2019-civil-marriages-v1

#### Overview

Valid: 129597    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 18    Range: 0 - 9    Format: Numeric

#### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
0	Spouses same age	10151	7.8%
1	Bridegroom older	98714	76.2%
2	Bridegroom younger	20730	16%
9	Unspecified	2	0%

**PROVINCECODE: Name of Province****Data file: md-2019-civil-unions-v1****Overview**

Valid: 1771 Invalid: 0

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

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Western Cape	443	25%
2	Eastern Cape	64	3.6%
3	Northern Cape	18	1%
4	Free State	48	2.7%
5	KwaZulu-Natal	216	12.2%
6	North West	41	2.3%
7	Gauteng	779	44%
8	Mpumalanga	28	1.6%
9	Limpopo	23	1.3%
98	Outside RSA	6	0.3%
99	Unspecified	105	5.9%

**REGISTRATIONMONTH: Month of Registration****Data file: md-2019-civil-unions-v1****Overview**

Valid: 1771 Invalid: 0

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

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	January	81	4.6%
2	February	142	8%
3	March	180	10.2%
4	April	144	8.1%
5	May	141	8%
6	June	113	6.4%
7	July	106	6%

8	August	155	8.8%
9	September	183	10.3%
10	October	158	8.9%
11	November	181	10.2%
12	December	187	10.6%

## REGISTRATIONYEAR: Year of Registration

Data file: md-2019-civil-unions-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1771 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 4 Range: 2019 - 2019 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
2019	2019	1771	100%

## SPOUSE1AGE: Age of Spouses-1

Data file: md-2019-civil-unions-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1771 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 2 Range: 19 - 84 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
19	19	1	0.1%
20	20	2	0.1%
21	21	5	0.3%
22	22	15	0.8%
23	23	15	0.8%
24	24	33	1.9%
25	25	27	1.5%
26	26	40	2.3%
27	27	51	2.9%
28	28	74	4.2%

29	29	83	4.7%
30	30	89	5%
31	31	76	4.3%
32	32	98	5.5%
33	33	78	4.4%
34	34	86	4.9%
35	35	83	4.7%
36	36	62	3.5%
37	37	68	3.8%
38	38	58	3.3%
39	39	55	3.1%
40	40	50	2.8%
41	41	51	2.9%
42	42	43	2.4%
43	43	45	2.5%
44	44	31	1.8%
45	45	36	2%
46	46	29	1.6%
47	47	33	1.9%
48	48	40	2.3%
49	49	31	1.8%
50	50	30	1.7%
51	51	24	1.4%
52	52	18	1%
53	53	25	1.4%
54	54	8	0.5%
55	55	13	0.7%
56	56	25	1.4%
57	57	14	0.8%
58	58	10	0.6%
59	59	20	1.1%
60	60	27	1.5%
61	61	6	0.3%
62	62	7	0.4%
63	63	6	0.3%
64	64	8	0.5%
65	65	6	0.3%
66	66	8	0.5%
67	67	1	0.1%

68	68	3	0.2%
69	69	3	0.2%
70	70	4	0.2%
71	71	3	0.2%
72	72	4	0.2%
73	73	3	0.2%
74	74	1	0.1%
75	75	1	0.1%
76	76	1	0.1%
77	77	1	0.1%
83	83	2	0.1%
84	84	1	0.1%

## SPOUSE2AGE: Age of Spouses-2

Data file: md-2019-civil-unions-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1771 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 2 Range: 19 - 89 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
19	19	5	0.3%
20	20	10	0.6%
21	21	15	0.8%
22	22	26	1.5%
23	23	27	1.5%
24	24	32	1.8%
25	25	51	2.9%
26	26	60	3.4%
27	27	91	5.1%
28	28	87	4.9%
29	29	102	5.8%
30	30	97	5.5%
31	31	99	5.6%
32	32	86	4.9%
33	33	75	4.2%

34	34	86	4.9%
35	35	76	4.3%
36	36	70	4%
37	37	49	2.8%
38	38	45	2.5%
39	39	57	3.2%
40	40	46	2.6%
41	41	33	1.9%
42	42	31	1.8%
43	43	28	1.6%
44	44	34	1.9%
45	45	27	1.5%
46	46	21	1.2%
47	47	29	1.6%
48	48	25	1.4%
49	49	32	1.8%
50	50	32	1.8%
51	51	23	1.3%
52	52	18	1%
53	53	20	1.1%
54	54	12	0.7%
55	55	20	1.1%
56	56	9	0.5%
57	57	11	0.6%
58	58	8	0.5%
59	59	7	0.4%
60	60	10	0.6%
61	61	4	0.2%
62	62	3	0.2%
63	63	4	0.2%
64	64	5	0.3%
65	65	10	0.6%
66	66	2	0.1%
67	67	2	0.1%
69	69	4	0.2%
70	70	6	0.3%
71	71	2	0.1%
72	72	1	0.1%
74	74	2	0.1%



77	77	1	0.1%
79	79	1	0.1%
80	80	1	0.1%
89	89	1	0.1%

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

Data file: md-2019-civil-unions-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1771    Invalid: 0

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

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
0	Spouses same age	154	8.7%
1	Spouses-1 older	1075	60.7%
2	Spouses-1 younger	542	30.6%

**PROVINCECODE: Name of Province****Data file: md-2019-customary-marriages-v1****Overview**

Valid: 2789 Invalid: 0

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

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Western Cape	11	0.4%
2	Eastern Cape	230	8.2%
3	Northern Cape	72	2.6%
4	Free State	46	1.6%
5	KwaZulu-Natal	1163	41.7%
6	North West	53	1.9%
7	Gauteng	191	6.8%
8	Mpumalanga	323	11.6%
9	Limpopo	634	22.7%
97	Unknown	54	1.9%
98	Outside RSA	11	0.4%
99	Unspecified	1	0%

**MARRIAGEYEAR: Year of Marriage****Data file: md-2019-customary-marriages-v1****Overview**

Valid: 2789 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 1948 - 9999 Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1948	1948	2	0.1%
1952	1952	1	0%
1953	1953	1	0%
1954	1954	4	0.1%
1955	1955	2	0.1%
1956	1956	1	0%

1957	1957	7	0.3%
1958	1958	4	0.1%
1959	1959	3	0.1%
1960	1960	6	0.2%
1961	1961	8	0.3%
1962	1962	9	0.3%
1963	1963	12	0.4%
1964	1964	9	0.3%
1965	1965	10	0.4%
1966	1966	15	0.5%
1967	1967	10	0.4%
1968	1968	27	1%
1969	1969	13	0.5%
1970	1970	28	1%
1971	1971	18	0.6%
1972	1972	21	0.8%
1973	1973	22	0.8%
1974	1974	29	1%
1975	1975	27	1%
1976	1976	23	0.8%
1977	1977	30	1.1%
1978	1978	43	1.5%
1979	1979	39	1.4%
1980	1980	47	1.7%
1981	1981	41	1.5%
1982	1982	48	1.7%
1983	1983	38	1.4%
1984	1984	36	1.3%
1985	1985	47	1.7%
1986	1986	42	1.5%
1987	1987	45	1.6%
1988	1988	43	1.5%
1989	1989	38	1.4%
1990	1990	43	1.5%
1991	1991	44	1.6%
1992	1992	52	1.9%
1993	1993	30	1.1%
1994	1994	39	1.4%
1995	1995	40	1.4%

1996	1996	25	0.9%
1997	1997	31	1.1%
1998	1998	33	1.2%
1999	1999	37	1.3%
2000	2000	40	1.4%
2001	2001	19	0.7%
2002	2002	14	0.5%
2003	2003	21	0.8%
2004	2004	24	0.9%
2005	2005	38	1.4%
2006	2006	36	1.3%
2007	2007	50	1.8%
2008	2008	24	0.9%
2009	2009	49	1.8%
2010	2010	57	2%
2011	2011	37	1.3%
2012	2012	51	1.8%
2013	2013	75	2.7%
2014	2014	55	2%
2015	2015	82	2.9%
2016	2016	83	3%
2017	2017	83	3%
2018	2018	213	7.6%
2019	2019	511	18.3%
9999	Unspecified	4	0.1%

## REGISTRATIONYEAR: Year of Registration

Data file: md-2019-customary-marriages-v1

### Overview

Valid: 2789    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 4    Range: 2019 - 2019    Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
2019	2019	2789	100%

**BRIDEGROOMAGE: Age of Bridegroom****Data file: md-2019-customary-marriages-v1****Overview**

Valid: 2789    Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 11    Range: 13 - 999    Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
13	13	2	0.1%
14	14	1	0%
16	16	1	0%
17	17	5	0.2%
18	18	7	0.3%
19	19	24	0.9%
20	20	44	1.6%
21	21	46	1.6%
22	22	65	2.3%
23	23	68	2.4%
24	24	65	2.3%
25	25	89	3.2%
26	26	78	2.8%
27	27	102	3.7%
28	28	71	2.5%
29	29	106	3.8%
30	30	86	3.1%
31	31	98	3.5%
32	32	114	4.1%
33	33	109	3.9%
34	34	105	3.8%
35	35	106	3.8%
36	36	93	3.3%
37	37	100	3.6%
38	38	92	3.3%
39	39	77	2.8%
40	40	80	2.9%
41	41	80	2.9%
42	42	80	2.9%
43	43	70	2.5%

44	44	62	2.2%
45	45	48	1.7%
46	46	48	1.7%
47	47	47	1.7%
48	48	28	1%
49	49	38	1.4%
50	50	32	1.1%
51	51	36	1.3%
52	52	38	1.4%
53	53	36	1.3%
54	54	32	1.1%
55	55	26	0.9%
56	56	28	1%
57	57	17	0.6%
58	58	17	0.6%
59	59	19	0.7%
60	60	24	0.9%
61	61	12	0.4%
62	62	13	0.5%
63	63	16	0.6%
64	64	8	0.3%
65	65	9	0.3%
66	66	7	0.3%
67	67	13	0.5%
68	68	8	0.3%
69	69	8	0.3%
70	70	6	0.2%
71	71	4	0.1%
72	72	5	0.2%
73	73	6	0.2%
74	74	5	0.2%
75	75	3	0.1%
76	76	4	0.1%
78	78	1	0%
80	80	4	0.1%
81	81	1	0%
82	82	6	0.2%
88	88	2	0.1%
91	91	1	0%

95	95	1	0%
97	97	1	0%
99	99	1	0%
999	Unspecified	4	0.1%

## BRIDEAGE: Age of Bride

Data file: md-2019-customary-marriages-v1

### Overview

Valid: 2789 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 10 - 999 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
10	10	2	0.1%
11	11	1	0%
12	12	2	0.1%
13	13	4	0.1%
14	14	11	0.4%
15	15	15	0.5%
16	16	39	1.4%
17	17	47	1.7%
18	18	82	2.9%
19	19	91	3.3%
20	20	106	3.8%
21	21	92	3.3%
22	22	108	3.9%
23	23	113	4.1%
24	24	126	4.5%
25	25	117	4.2%
26	26	113	4.1%
27	27	97	3.5%
28	28	113	4.1%
29	29	94	3.4%
30	30	109	3.9%
31	31	101	3.6%
32	32	109	3.9%

33	33	93	3.3%
34	34	102	3.7%
35	35	95	3.4%
36	36	81	2.9%
37	37	78	2.8%
38	38	83	3%
39	39	56	2%
40	40	48	1.7%
41	41	36	1.3%
42	42	43	1.5%
43	43	31	1.1%
44	44	41	1.5%
45	45	23	0.8%
46	46	35	1.3%
47	47	27	1%
48	48	19	0.7%
49	49	22	0.8%
50	50	25	0.9%
51	51	17	0.6%
52	52	20	0.7%
53	53	12	0.4%
54	54	9	0.3%
55	55	10	0.4%
56	56	15	0.5%
57	57	6	0.2%
58	58	10	0.4%
59	59	6	0.2%
60	60	10	0.4%
61	61	1	0%
62	62	9	0.3%
63	63	2	0.1%
64	64	8	0.3%
65	65	5	0.2%
66	66	5	0.2%
67	67	1	0%
69	69	3	0.1%
70	70	1	0%
74	74	1	0%
75	75	1	0%



79	79	1	0%
83	83	1	0%
87	87	1	0%
999	Unspecified	4	0.1%

## AGEDIFF: Age difference between bridegroom and bride

Data file: md-2019-customary-marriages-v1

### Overview

Valid: 2789 Invalid: 0

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

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
0	Spouses same age	139	5%
1	Bridegroom older	2401	86.1%
2	Bridegroom younger	245	8.8%
9	Unspecified	4	0.1%

**PROVINCECODE: Name of Province****Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 23710    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 13    Range: 1 - 9    Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Western Cape	6108	25.8%
2	Eastern Cape	3137	13.2%
3	Northern Cape	521	2.2%
4	Free State	1745	7.4%
5	KwaZulu-Natal	4033	17%
6	North West	176	0.7%
7	Gauteng	6318	26.6%
8	Mpumalanga	587	2.5%
9	Limpopo	1085	4.6%

**MALERACE: Population group of husband****Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 23710    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 13    Range: 1 - 9    Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Black African	11020	46.5%
2	Coloured	4779	20.2%
3	Indian/Asian	1473	6.2%
4	White	5506	23.2%
5	Other	70	0.3%
9	Unspecified	862	3.6%

**FEMALERACE: Population group of wife****Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 23710    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 13    Range: 1 - 9    Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Black African	10969	46.3%
2	Coloured	4957	20.9%
3	Indian/Asian	1428	6%
4	White	5375	22.7%
5	Other	18	0.1%
9	Unspecified	963	4.1%

**COUPLERACE: Population group of couple****Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 23710    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 13    Range: 1 - 9    Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Black African	10677	45%
2	Coloured	4502	19%
3	Indian/Asian	1299	5.5%
4	White	5268	22.2%
5	Mixed	816	3.4%
9	Unspecified	1148	4.8%

**MALEOCCUPATION: Occupation of Husband****Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 23710    Invalid: 0

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

## Questions and instructions

### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
0	Not economically active	4132	17.4%
1	Professional, semi-professional and technical occupations	2926	12.3%
2	Managers and administrators	2845	12%
3	Clerical and sales occupations	1332	5.6%
4	Transport, delivery and communications	903	3.8%
5	Service occupations	3360	14.2%
6	Farming and related occupations	79	0.3%
7	Artisans, apprentice and related occupations	1238	5.2%
8	Production foreman, mine and quarry workers	603	2.5%
99	Unspecified	6292	26.5%

## FEMALEOCCUPATION: Occupation of wife

Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 23710    Invalid: 0

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

## Questions and instructions

### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
0	Not economically active	5758	24.3%
1	Professional, semi-professional and technical occupations	3327	14%
2	Managers and administrators	1592	6.7%
3	Clerical and sales occupations	2817	11.9%
4	Transport, delivery and communications	81	0.3%
5	Service occupations	2700	11.4%
6	Farming and related occupations	7	0%
7	Artisans, apprentice and related occupations	162	0.7%
8	Production foreman, mine and quarry workers	222	0.9%
99	Unspecified	7044	29.7%

**PLAINTIFFSEX: Sex of plaintiff****Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 23710    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 11    Range: 1 - 9    Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Male	8210	34.6%
2	Female	12615	53.2%
9	Unspecified	2885	12.2%

**MALESTATUS: Marital status of husband****Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 23710    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 13    Range: 1 - 9    Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Never married	19257	81.2%
2	Widower	332	1.4%
3	Divorcee	2726	11.5%
9	Unspecified	1395	5.9%

**FEMALESTATUS: Marital status of wife****Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 23710    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 13    Range: 1 - 9    Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
-------	----------	-------	--

1	Never married	19456	82.1%
2	Widow	263	1.1%
3	Divorcee	2367	10%
9	Unspecified	1624	6.8%

## MALENOTIMESMARRIED: Number of times husband married

Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 23710    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 11    Range: 1 - 99    Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	1	19535	82.4%
2	2	2805	11.8%
3	3	263	1.1%
4	4	45	0.2%
5	5	6	0%
6	6	3	0%
7	7	2	0%
8	8	2	0%
99	Unspecified	1049	4.4%

## FEMALENOTIMESMARRIED: Number of times wife married

Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 23710    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 11    Range: 1 - 99    Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	1	19803	83.5%
2	2	2402	10.1%
3	3	230	1%

4	4	43	0.2%
5	5	7	0%
6	6	1	0%
7	7	1	0%
99	Unspecified	1223	5.2%

## MALEAGE: Age of husband

Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 23710 Invalid: 0

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

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
20	20	2	0%
21	21	4	0%
22	22	12	0.1%
23	23	22	0.1%
24	24	50	0.2%
25	25	50	0.2%
26	26	89	0.4%
27	27	118	0.5%
28	28	182	0.8%
29	29	247	1%
30	30	305	1.3%
31	31	368	1.6%
32	32	444	1.9%
33	33	534	2.3%
34	34	663	2.8%
35	35	679	2.9%
36	36	747	3.2%
37	37	871	3.7%
38	38	766	3.2%
39	39	831	3.5%
40	40	882	3.7%
41	41	855	3.6%

42	42	861	3.6%
43	43	910	3.8%
44	44	909	3.8%
45	45	886	3.7%
46	46	875	3.7%
47	47	928	3.9%
48	48	815	3.4%
49	49	793	3.3%
50	50	773	3.3%
51	51	722	3%
52	52	638	2.7%
53	53	588	2.5%
54	54	531	2.2%
55	55	546	2.3%
56	56	469	2%
57	57	454	1.9%
58	58	323	1.4%
59	59	317	1.3%
60	60	253	1.1%
61	61	264	1.1%
62	62	208	0.9%
63	63	183	0.8%
64	64	181	0.8%
65	65	135	0.6%
66	66	132	0.6%
67	67	107	0.5%
68	68	67	0.3%
69	69	97	0.4%
70	70	61	0.3%
71	71	63	0.3%
72	72	42	0.2%
73	73	34	0.1%
74	74	27	0.1%
75	75	33	0.1%
76	76	20	0.1%
77	77	13	0.1%
78	78	18	0.1%
79	79	13	0.1%
80	80	11	0%



81	81	12	0.1%
82	82	2	0%
83	83	3	0%
84	84	6	0%
86	86	5	0%
87	87	2	0%
88	88	2	0%
89	89	3	0%
91	91	1	0%
95	95	1	0%
99	99	1	0%
100	100	3	0%
999	Unspecified	648	2.7%

## FEMALEAGE: Age of wife

Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 23710 Invalid: 0

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

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
20	20	8	0%
21	21	19	0.1%
22	22	41	0.2%
23	23	80	0.3%
24	24	101	0.4%
25	25	143	0.6%
26	26	251	1.1%
27	27	316	1.3%
28	28	418	1.8%
29	29	513	2.2%
30	30	590	2.5%
31	31	657	2.8%
32	32	685	2.9%
33	33	882	3.7%

34	34	901	3.8%
35	35	992	4.2%
36	36	943	4%
37	37	991	4.2%
38	38	976	4.1%
39	39	878	3.7%
40	40	862	3.6%
41	41	898	3.8%
42	42	937	4%
43	43	845	3.6%
44	44	844	3.6%
45	45	776	3.3%
46	46	773	3.3%
47	47	764	3.2%
48	48	674	2.8%
49	49	600	2.5%
50	50	576	2.4%
51	51	554	2.3%
52	52	448	1.9%
53	53	392	1.7%
54	54	390	1.6%
55	55	347	1.5%
56	56	298	1.3%
57	57	258	1.1%
58	58	225	0.9%
59	59	220	0.9%
60	60	169	0.7%
61	61	154	0.6%
62	62	126	0.5%
63	63	112	0.5%
64	64	84	0.4%
65	65	75	0.3%
66	66	69	0.3%
67	67	58	0.2%
68	68	37	0.2%
69	69	37	0.2%
70	70	30	0.1%
71	71	28	0.1%
72	72	24	0.1%

73	73	15	0.1%
74	74	11	0%
75	75	4	0%
76	76	11	0%
77	77	5	0%
78	78	6	0%
79	79	5	0%
80	80	5	0%
81	81	3	0%
83	83	1	0%
84	84	1	0%
85	85	1	0%
89	89	1	0%
95	95	1	0%
97	97	1	0%
999	Unspecified	570	2.4%

## SOLEMNISATIONCODE: Way of solemnisation

Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 23710 Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Religious	10876	45.9%
2	DHA	10581	44.6%
9	Unspecified	2253	9.5%

## MARRIAGEPROPERTYSYSTEM: Matrimonial property system

Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 23710 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	19366	81.7%
2	Out of community of property	1285	5.4%
3	Out of community of property (excluding accrual system)	668	2.8%
4	Out of community of property (including accrual system)	1546	6.5%
5	Other	0	0%
9	Unspecified	845	3.6%

### MARRIAGEMONTH: Month of marriage

Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1

#### Overview

Valid: 23710 Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 1 - 99 Format: Numeric

## Questions and instructions

### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	January	1547	6.5%
2	February	1678	7.1%
3	March	1866	7.9%
4	April	1956	8.2%
5	May	1689	7.1%
6	June	1533	6.5%
7	July	1695	7.1%
8	August	1539	6.5%
9	September	2003	8.4%
10	October	2077	8.8%
11	November	2173	9.2%
12	December	3192	13.5%
99	Unspecified	762	3.2%

### MARRIAGEYEAR: Year of marriage

Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1

## Overview

Valid: 23710 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 11 Range: 1956 - 9999 Format: Numeric

## Questions and instructions

### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1956		2	0%
1959		1	0%
1960		2	0%
1961		1	0%
1963		2	0%
1965		2	0%
1966		5	0%
1967		5	0%
1968		4	0%
1969		8	0%
1970		12	0.1%
1971		8	0%
1972		9	0%
1973		9	0%
1974		13	0.1%
1975		12	0.1%
1976		30	0.1%
1977		24	0.1%
1978		34	0.1%
1979		37	0.2%
1980		52	0.2%
1981		61	0.3%
1982		78	0.3%
1983		64	0.3%
1984		74	0.3%
1985		97	0.4%
1986		112	0.5%
1987		119	0.5%
1988		143	0.6%
1989		161	0.7%
1990		208	0.9%
1991		223	0.9%

1992		241	1%
1993		283	1.2%
1994		333	1.4%
1995		318	1.3%
1996		451	1.9%
1997		382	1.6%
1998		456	1.9%
1999		531	2.2%
2000		576	2.4%
2001		512	2.2%
2002		615	2.6%
2003		691	2.9%
2004		743	3.1%
2005		807	3.4%
2006		900	3.8%
2007		1011	4.3%
2008		1129	4.8%
2009		1117	4.7%
2010		1202	5.1%
2011		1254	5.3%
2012		1305	5.5%
2013		1236	5.2%
2014		1228	5.2%
2015		1174	5%
2016		1169	4.9%
2017		962	4.1%
2018		605	2.6%
2019		86	0.4%
9999	Unspecified	781	3.3%

## NOOFCHILDREN: Number of children involved

Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 23710    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 10    Range: 0 - 6    Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

Value	Category	Cases	
0		10446	44.1%
1		6418	27.1%
2		5162	21.8%
3		1432	6%
4		219	0.9%
5		28	0.1%
6		5	0%

## DIVORCEMONTH: Month of divorce

Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 0 Invalid: 23710

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

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	January	0	0%
2	February	0	0%
3	March	0	0%
4	April	0	0%
5	May	0	0%
6	June	0	0%
7	July	0	0%
8	August	0	0%
9	September	0	0%
10	October	0	0%
11	November	0	0%
12	December	0	0%
99	Unspecified	0	0%
Sysmiss		23710	

## DIVORCEYEAR: Year of divorce

Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1

**Overview**

Valid: 23710    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 10    Range: 2019 - 2019    Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
2019		23710	100%

**DURATIONOFMARRIAGE: Duration of marriage**

Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1

**Overview**

Valid: 23710    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 11    Range: 0 - 99    Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
0		86	0.4%
1		605	2.6%
2		962	4.1%
3		1169	4.9%
4		1174	5%
5		1228	5.2%
6		1236	5.2%
7		1305	5.5%
8		1254	5.3%
9		1202	5.1%
10		1117	4.7%
11		1129	4.8%
12		1011	4.3%
13		900	3.8%
14		807	3.4%
15		743	3.1%
16		691	2.9%
17		615	2.6%
18		512	2.2%



19		576	2.4%
20		531	2.2%
21		456	1.9%
22		382	1.6%
23		451	1.9%
24		318	1.3%
25		333	1.4%
26		283	1.2%
27		241	1%
28		223	0.9%
29		206	0.9%
30		158	0.7%
31		142	0.6%
32		118	0.5%
33		110	0.5%
34		95	0.4%
35		70	0.3%
36		63	0.3%
37		76	0.3%
38		60	0.3%
39		49	0.2%
40		34	0.1%
41		33	0.1%
42		24	0.1%
43		30	0.1%
44		12	0.1%
45		10	0%
46		9	0%
47		7	0%
48		7	0%
49		10	0%
50		6	0%
51		2	0%
52		5	0%
53		3	0%
54		2	0%
56		2	0%
59		1	0%
99	Unspecified	826	3.5%

**MARRIAGETYPE: Type of marriage****Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 23710    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 18    Range: 1 - 9    Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Civil marriage	12240	51.6%
2	Customary marriage	137	0.6%
3	Civil union	183	0.8%
9	Unspecified	11150	47%

**POLYGAMOUSMARRIAGE: Involved in polygamous marriage****Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 23710    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 11    Range: 1 - 9    Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Yes	248	1%
2	No	11517	48.6%
9	Unspecified	11945	50.4%

**GROUNDSFORDIVORCE: Main grounds for divorce****Data file: md-2019-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 23710    Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 22    Range: 1 - 9    Format: Numeric

## Questions and instructions

### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Adultery	3531	14.9%
2	Abuse	1923	8.1%
3	Childlessness	10	0%
4	Desertion	2350	9.9%
5	Financial difficulties	668	2.8%
6	Medical Insanity	13	0.1%
7	Imprisonment	42	0.2%
8	Other (Specify)	0	0%
9	Unspecified	15173	64%