Marriage-to-Divorce Ratio in the U.S.
Geographic Variation, 2014

2,241,036 : 1,145,110
Number of Marriages : Number of Divorces
2 Marriages per every 1 Divorce

Marriage-to-Divorce Ratio in the U.S., 2014

- Consistent with estimates of the marriage-to-divorce ratio for 2013, there were almost two marriages for every one divorce in the U.S. in 2014 (FP-14-17).
- Between 1970 and 2011, the marriage-to-divorce ratio has seen an overall decrease. However, since 2012, the overall trend is moving toward nearly two marriages per one divorce.
- Since 1970, 2011 had the lowest marriage to divorce ratio at 1.7 marriages for every one divorce (FP-13-14).

Five Highest and Lowest Marriage to Divorce Ratios, 2014

- Most states (94%) have greater numbers of marriages than divorces. The top three are Wyoming (3.25), Hawaii (3.09), and Alaska (2.78).
- Wyoming has the highest ratio of marriage to divorce in 2014. For every one divorce, there are roughly three marriages.
- Three states have almost equal numbers of marriages and divorces in 2014 (marriage to divorce ratios less than 1.5) – West Virginia, Florida, and Maine.
- West Virginia has the lowest ratio with 1.37 marriages per one divorce in 2014.

Women’s Highest and Lowest Marriage to Divorce Ratios

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hawaii</td>
<td>3.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>2.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>2.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Wash, D.C.</td>
<td>2.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>1.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>1.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>1.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>1.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>1.37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
State Changes in Rankings, 2013-2014

- Almost 3/4 (71%) of states saw an increase in the marriage-to-divorce ratio.
- Wyoming experienced the largest increase in the ratio of marriage to divorce with the addition of almost 1.5 marriages (a ratio of 3.25).
- Nine states had virtually the same marriage-to-divorce ratio in 2014 as they did in 2013: these states were West Virginia, Ohio, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Florida, Indiana, Michigan, Kansas, and Nebraska. The Midwest is predominantly represented among these states.
- Consistent with the increase in the divorce rate, 30% of states saw a decrease in their marriage-to-divorce ratio. The three states with the largest decreases were Rhode Island, North Dakota, and Utah.

### References:


### Suggested Citation:


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