

# Marriage Rate in the U.S.

## Geographic Variation, 2014



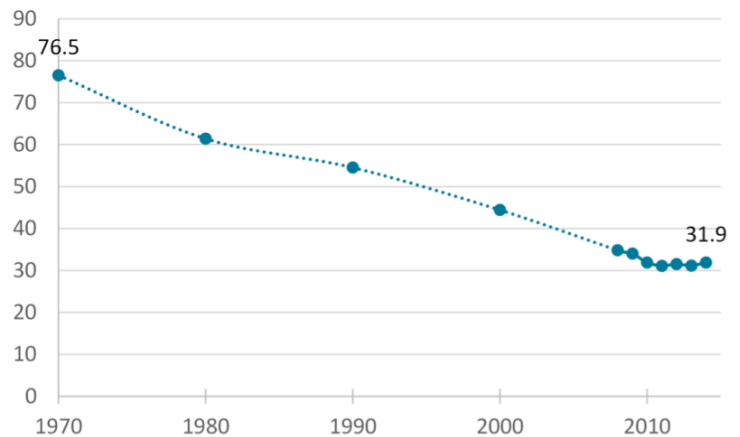
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### Marriage Rate in the U.S.

- As of 2014, the U.S. marriage rate (the number of marriages per 1,000 unmarried women 15 years and older) has been stable since 2010—remaining at a 40-year low.
- In 2014, about 3.2 % of unmarried women aged 15 and older got married. That is, roughly 32 marriages per 1,000 unmarried women. From 2013 to 2014, the marriage rate only increased from 31.2 to 31.9 (FP-14-15).



Figure 1. Women's Marriage Rate, 1970 - 2014



Sources: 1970-2000, National Center for Health Statistics; 2008-2014, U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-yr est.

### Five Highest and Lowest Divorce Rates, 2014

- Utah continues to have the highest marriage rate with 59 per 1,000 unmarried women over the age of 15 marrying in 2014. That is, roughly 5.9% of unmarried women were married in 2014.
- Rhode Island continues to have the lowest marriage rate in the United States. In Rhode Island, about 24 per 1,000 unmarried women over the age of 15 got married in 2014. In other words, 2.4% of unmarried women wed in that year.

### Women's Highest and Lowest Marriage Rates

1. Utah	59.2
2. Alaska	54.6
3. Wyoming	54.3
4. Idaho	48.1
5. Oklahoma	44.4
<b>U.S.</b>	<b>31.9</b>
47. Massachusetts	25.9
48. New York	25.4
49. Florida	24.9
50. Connecticut	24.6
51. Rhode Island	24.3

### References:

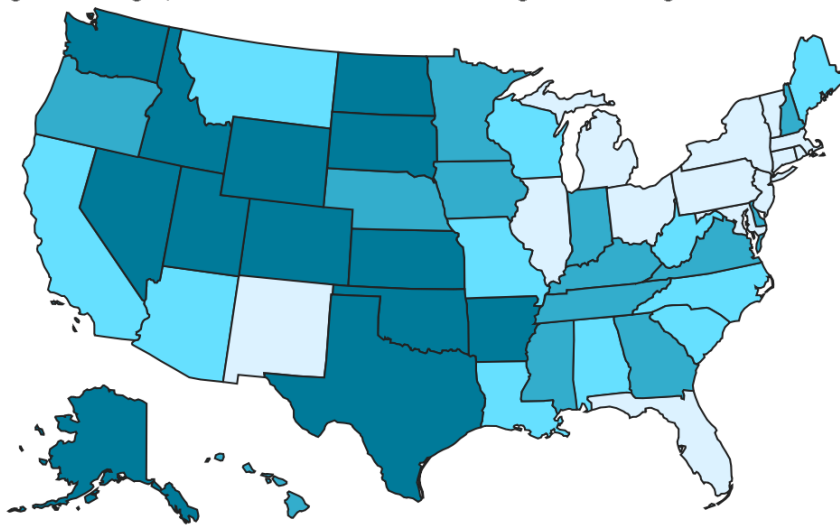
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## State Changes in Rankings, 2013-2014

- Two out of the five states with the highest marriage rates in 2014 (Utah and Oklahoma) were also in the top five in 2013.
- New York and Rhode Island are the only two states in the bottom five in both 2013 and 2014.
- Slightly more than half (57%) of states experienced an increase in their marriage rates between 2013 and 2014. The three states with the greatest increases are Alaska (+40.7%), Wyoming (+30.3%), and Washington D.C. (+28.7%).
  - The large 2014 increase in Alaska comes after it experienced one of the largest marriage rate decreases from 2011 to 2013.
- Three states had virtually unchanged marriage rates since 2013. These stable states are North Carolina (32.9), Illinois (28.1), and Massachusetts (25.9).
- Nearly two-fifths (37%) of states had declining marriage rates. The largest decreases occurred in North Dakota (-21.8%), South Dakota (-11.57%), and Hawaii (-10.19%).
  - North Dakota had the second largest marriage rate in 2013 (49.2), but experienced the largest decrease in 2014 (-21.8%) dropping it to 11th overall.

Rank	State	Marriage Rate	MOE
1	Utah	59.2	+/- 4.9
2	Alaska	54.6	+/- 10.4
3	Wyoming	54.3	+/- 13.7
4	Idaho	48.1	+/- 6.2
5	Oklahoma	44.4	+/- 2.9
6	South Dakota	42.1	+/- 6.5
7	Colorado	41.6	+/- 3.4
8	Arkansas	40.0	+/- 4.4
9	Kansas	39.5	+/- 4.1
10	Washington	39.3	+/- 3.1
11	North Dakota	38.4	+/- 7.6
12	Nevada	38.4	+/- 4.6
13	Texas	38.0	+/- 1.4
14	New Hampshire	37.1	+/- 4.5
15	Virginia	36.8	+/- 2.5
16	Indiana	36.6	+/- 2.0
17	Iowa	36.4	+/- 3.1
18	Tennessee	35.4	+/- 2.7
19	Delaware	35.2	+/- 7.3
20	Hawaii	35.2	+/- 5.1
21	Oregon	34.9	+/- 3.2
22	Nebraska	34.2	+/- 4.1
23	Minnesota	34.2	+/- 2.2
24	Mississippi	34.0	+/- 4.0
25	Kentucky	34.0	+/- 2.7
26	Georgia	33.7	+/- 1.8
27	Montana	33.5	+/- 5.7
28	North Carolina	32.9	+/- 1.9
29	West Virginia	32.7	+/- 4.1
30	Wisconsin	32.6	+/- 2.2
31	Arizona	32.1	+/- 2.5
32	Missouri	32.0	+/- 2.4
	<b>U.S.</b>	<b>31.9</b>	<b>+/- 0.4</b>
33	Wash. D.C.	31.8	+/- 5.8
34	Alabama	31.8	+/- 2.7
35	California	31.5	+/- 0.9
36	Louisiana	31.4	+/- 2.9
37	Maine	31.3	+/- 5.4
38	South Carolina	31.3	+/- 2.6
39	New Mexico	30.3	+/- 4.0
40	Vermont	29.0	+/- 6.9
41	Pennsylvania	28.2	+/- 1.6
42	Ohio	28.2	+/- 1.5
43	Illinois	28.1	+/- 1.8
44	Maryland	27.0	+/- 2.3
45	Michigan	26.4	+/- 1.7
46	New Jersey	25.9	+/- 1.6
47	Massachusetts	25.9	+/- 1.8
48	New York	25.4	+/- 1.1
49	Florida	24.9	+/- 1.1
50	Connecticut	24.6	+/- 2.8
51	Rhode Island	24.3	+/- 5.0

Figure 2. Geographic Variation of Women's Marriage Rate Among States, 2014



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014 1-yr est.

### Suggested Citation:

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