



Family Profile No. 32, 2025

Marriage-Divorce Ratio in the U.S.: Geographic Variation, 2024

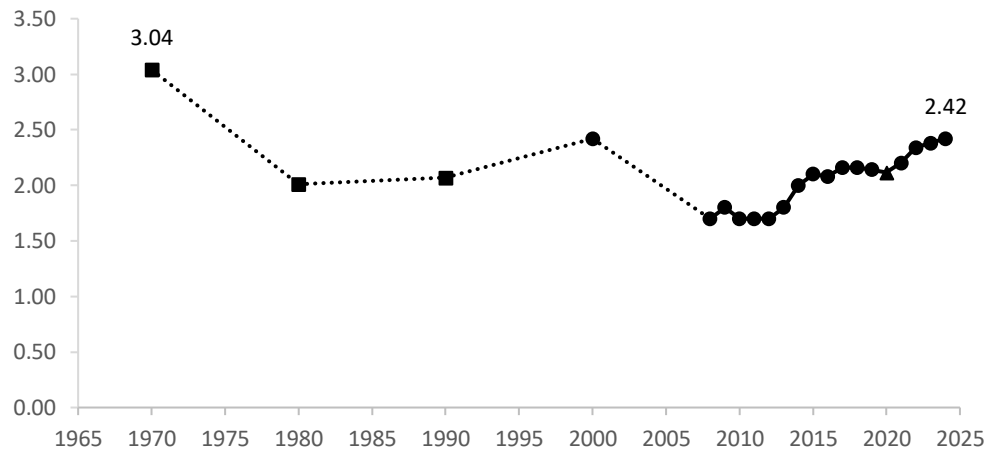
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This family profile updates previous profiles on the marriage-divorce ratio (Eickmeyer, 2015; Loo, 2023; Marino & Juteau, 2022; Reynolds, 2020; Schweizer, 2019a & 2019b; Westrick-Payne, 2022; Westrick-Payne, 2024; Wu, 2017) and examines national, regional, and state variation in the ratio of marriages to divorces. Using recent American Community Survey (ACS) data, we calculate national and state level marriage-divorce ratios by dividing the number of women’s marriages by the number of women’s divorces for a given population in a given year. Data for these estimates come from the most recent release of the American Community Survey and represent the year 2024. The margins of error (at a 90% confidence interval) were also calculated and presented alongside the ratios.

U.S. Marriage-Divorce Ratio, 2024

- In 2024 there were 2,390,482 marriages and 986,810 divorces in the last year. This represents a marriage-divorce ratio of 2.42, which is slightly higher than the ratio of 2.38 observed in 2023.
- The ratio remained stable from 2015 through 2021 ranging from 2.10 to 2.16, meaning approximately two marriages for every one divorce (FP-22-27). The most recent data from 2024 indicates another uptick and represents the largest marriage to divorce ratio since the ACS began collecting information on recent marriage and divorce experience in 2008.

Figure 1. Women’s Marriage-Divorce Ratio, 1970-2024



Source: NCFMR analyses of 1970-2000, National Center for Health Statistics; 2008-2019 and 2021-2024, U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-yr est., and 2020 American Community Survey, 1-year Experimental PUMS, Tables B12001, B12501 & B12503

Five Highest and Lowest Marriage-Divorce Ratios, 2024

Figure 2. Women's Highest and Marriage-Divorce Ratios, 2024

- In 2024 all states had a greater number of marriages than divorces. Washington D.C. (3.77), Idaho (3.48), Utah (3.23), Utah (3.21), Kansas (3.13), and New Jersey (3.04) had the highest marriage-divorce ratios in 2024.
- The states with the lowest marriage-divorce ratios were Mississippi (1.82), New Hampshire (1.73), Rhode Island (1.68), Vermont (1.50), and Delaware (1.44).

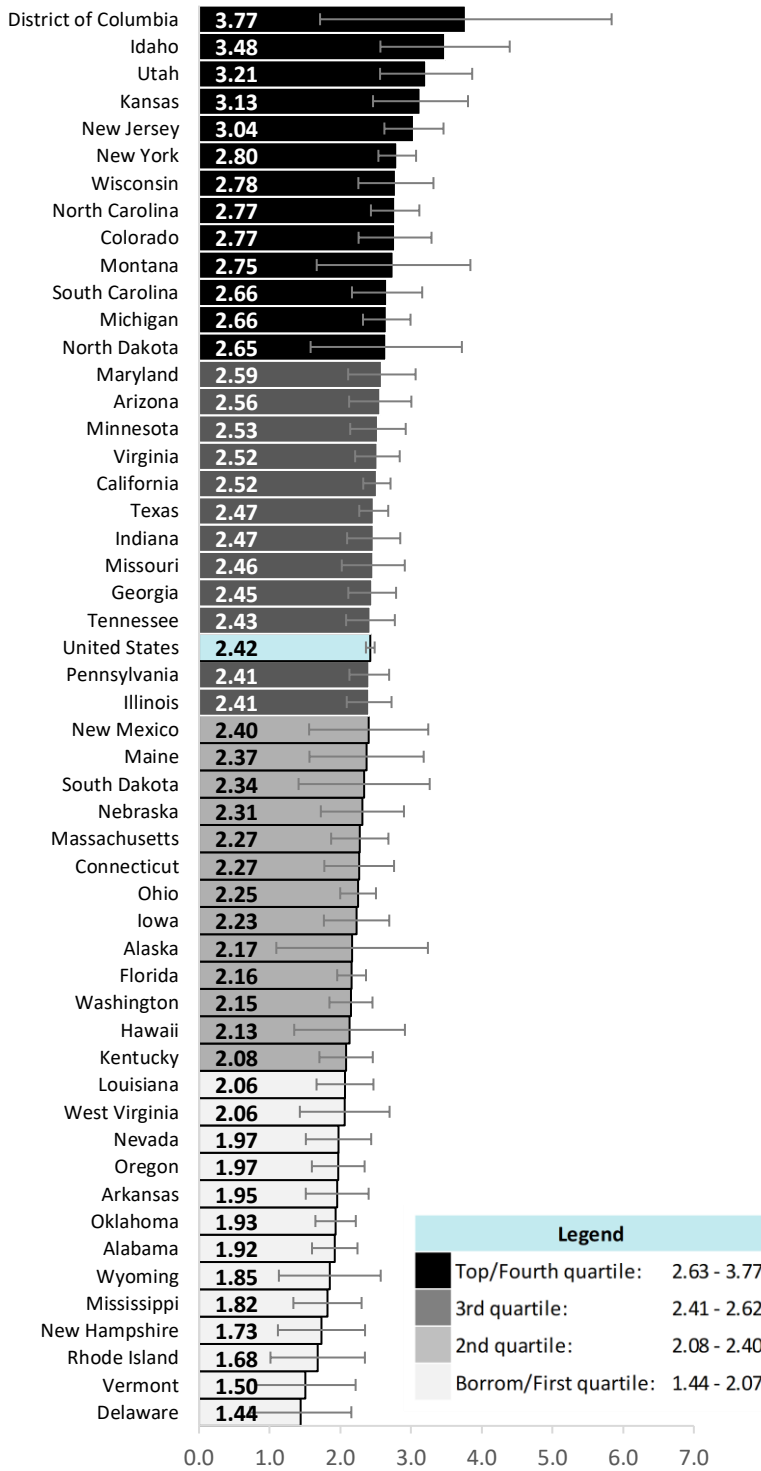
| Rank | State | Ratio |
|------------|----------------------|-------------|
| 1. | District of Columbia | 3.77 |
| 2. | Idaho | 3.48 |
| 3. | Utah | 3.21 |
| 4. | Kansas | 3.13 |
| 4. | New Jersey | 3.04 |
| USA | | 2.42 |
| 47. | Mississippi | 1.82 |
| 48. | New Hampshire | 1.73 |
| 49. | Rhode Island | 1.68 |
| 50. | Vermont | 1.50 |
| 51. | Delaware | 1.44 |

Source: NCFMR analyses of American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Tables B12001, B12501 & B12503, 2024

State Rankings in Marriage-Divorce Ratios, 2024

- The states with the highest marriage-divorce ratios and representing the top quartile in 2024 had ratios of at least 2.63 marriages per 1.0 divorces.
- The states with the lowest marriage-divorce ratios and representing the bottom quartile in 2024 had 1.44 to 2.7 marriages per 1.0.

Figure 3. State-Level Women’s Marriage-Divorce Ratios by Quartile, 2024

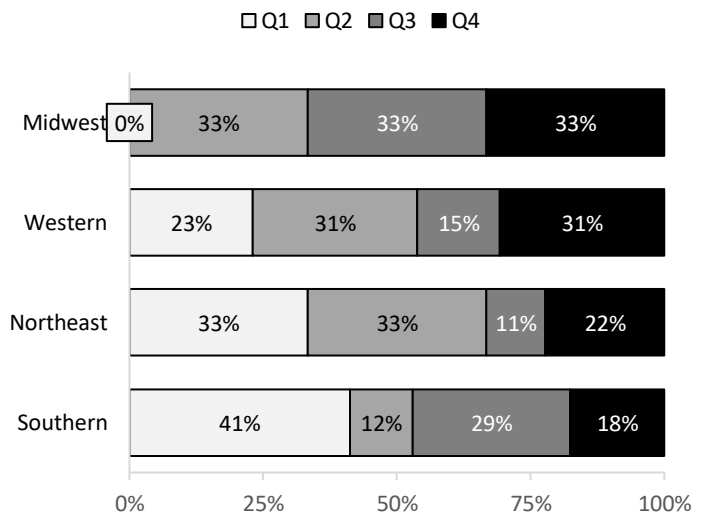


Source: NCFMR analyses of American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Tables B12001, B12501 & B12503, 2024

Regional Variation in Marriage-Divorce Ratios, 2024

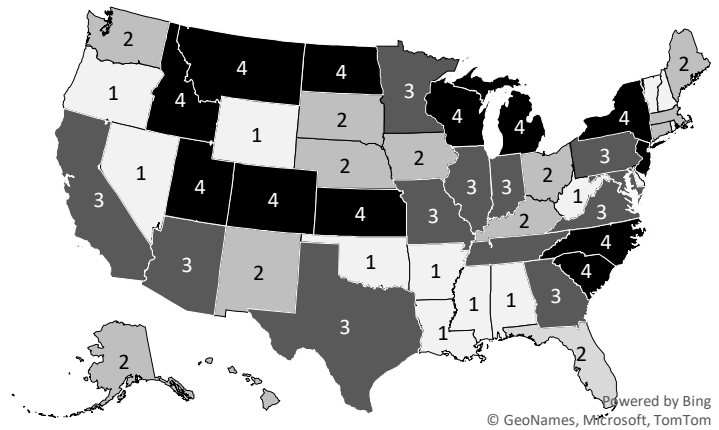
- Generally, in 2024, states in the Midwest and West exhibited high marriage-divorce ratios with more than three-in-ten (31-33%) of their states falling in the top/fourth quartile. In the Midwest, an additional one-third (33%) of their states fell in the third quartile.
- Slightly more than one-fifth (22%) of Northeastern states were found in the top/fourth quartile, whereas one-third (33%) were in the lowest/first quartile.
- Generally, Southern states had low marriage-divorce ratios. They clustered in the bottom/first quartile with 41%. However, 29% fell in the third quartile.

Figure 4. Regional Variation of Women’s Marriage-Divorce Ratios, 2024



Source: NCFMR analyses of American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Tables B12001, B12501 & B12503, 2024

Figure 5. State-level Map of Women’s Marriage-Divorce Ratios in the U.S., 2024



Source: NCFMR analyses of American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Tables B12001, B12501 & B12503, 2024

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