

MARRIAGES & DIVORCES

MARRIAGES

In 2005, 5,532 marriages were performed in Vermont, 304 less than in 2004. The 2005 Vermont rate was 8.9 per 1,000 of population, the lowest rate in Vermont in more than 20 years, but higher than the 2005 U.S. provisional rate of 7.7. Marriages between two out-of-state residents accounted for 31.1 percent of the marriages in Vermont ([Table G-2](#)).

There was the usual seasonal variation with more marriages occurring in summer than in any other season. August (863) was the most popular month for marriages in 2005 ([Table G-7](#)).

Just over half (52.4 percent) of the marriages were firsts for both bride and groom ([Table G-5](#)). For the brides, 64.1 percent were first marriages, and for the grooms, 62.9 percent were first marriages. Remarriages for both bride and groom accounted for 25.2 percent of marriages in Vermont.

The percentage of civil ceremonies decreased to 59.9 percent in 2005 ([Table G-8](#)). This is the second decrease since 1990.

DIVORCES

There were 2,219 divorces granted in 2005, a decrease of 233 from 2004. This represents a rate of 3.6 per 1,000 residents, slightly lower than the 2005 U.S. provisional rate of 3.7.

The median length of marriages ending in divorce was 9 years 4 months, with a range of 2 months to 55 years 10 months. A little more than fifty-six percent of divorces followed a separation of a year or longer ([Table H-3](#)). The median age at the time of divorce was 39 for women with a range of 18 to 90 years. The median age at the time of divorce was 42 for men with a range of 18 to 90 years.

In 2005, 60 percent of divorces involved at least one child under the age of 18 ([Table H-5](#)), and a total of 1,058 children ([Table H-7](#)) were involved in a divorce. This represents an estimated 0.8 percent of all children residing in Vermont.