

# Marriage & Divorce

An Overview: 2015	
<b>Marriages:</b>	
Number Occurring in S.D.	6,195
S.D. Rate per 1,000 Population	7.2
U.S. Rate per 1,000 Population	6.9*
<b>**Divorces:</b>	
Number Occurring in S.D.	2,252
S.D. Rate Per 1,000 Population	2.6
U.S. Rate per 1,000 Population	3.2*
Years Married Before Termination in S.D.	
Mean	11
Median	8
Mode	2
Range	
Lower	Less Than 1
Upper	66

Source: National Center for Health Statistics and South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Note: The U.S. marriage and divorce rates are provisional from 2014.

\* The U.S. divorce rate only includes 45 reporting states and the District of Columbia. The U.S. marriage rate excludes Georgia.

\*\* Divorces include annulments.

## Marriages in South Dakota

In 2015, the South Dakota marriage rate was 7.2, a slight increase from 2014. Table 75, below, provides the United

States and South Dakota marriage rates from 2001 through 2015.

**Table 75**  
**Marriages and Marriage Rates by Occurrence,**  
**South Dakota and United States, 2001-2015**

Year	United States*		South Dakota	
	Number	Crude Rate	Number	Crude Rate
2015	NA**	NA**	6,195	7.2
2014	2,140,272	6.9	6,040	7.1
2013	2,081,301	6.8	5,919	7.0
2012	2,131,000	6.8	6,236	7.5
2011	2,118,000	6.8	6,145	7.5
2010	2,096,000	6.8	5,939	7.3
2009	2,080,000	6.8	5,887	7.2
2008	2,157,000	7.1	6,148	7.6
2007	2,197,000	7.3	6,138	7.7
2006	2,193,000	7.5	6,303	8.0
2005	2,249,000	7.6	6,551	8.4
2004	2,279,000	7.8	6,485	8.4
2003	2,245,000	7.7	6,427	8.4
2002	2,290,000	8.0	6,585	8.6
2001	2,326,000	8.2	6,719	8.9

Note: \*The marriage data for the United States is provisional for all years. \*\*2015 data is not available at the time of publication. Crude marriage rates are per 1,000 population. The 2006 U.S. number and rate excludes data from Louisiana.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics and South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Table 76, below, displays marriages by month over the past five years. The most

common time to have a wedding for all years is from June to September.

**Table 76**  
**Month of Marriages for Marriages Occurring in South Dakota, 2011-2015**

Year	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015	
	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%
Total	6,145	100	6,236	100	5,919	100	6,040	100	6,195	100
January	241	3.9	204	3.3	201	3.4	221	3.7	199	3.2
February	267	4.3	262	4.2	237	4.0	267	4.4	232	3.7
March	244	4.0	253	4.1	282	4.8	259	4.3	250	4.0
April	372	6.1	324	5.2	310	5.2	307	5.1	334	5.4
May	536	8.7	540	8.7	517	8.7	592	9.8	585	9.4
June	849	13.8	930	14.9	925	15.6	879	14.6	866	14.0
July	840	13.7	768	12.3	703	11.9	716	11.9	816	13.2
August	791	12.9	814	13.1	857	14.5	891	14.8	972	15.7
September	782	12.7	854	13.7	735	12.4	753	12.5	770	12.4
October	530	8.6	555	8.9	517	8.7	531	8.8	569	9.2
November	380	6.2	289	4.6	335	5.7	258	4.3	283	4.6
December	313	5.1	443	7.1	300	5.1	363	6.0	319	5.1

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

### Divorces in South Dakota

Table 77, below, lists the divorce rates for South Dakota and the United States. The 2015 South Dakota divorce rate was 2.6

divorces per 1,000 population, which decreased slightly from 2.8 in 2014.

**Table 77**  
**Number and Rate of Divorces by Occurrence, South Dakota and United States, 2001-2015**

Year	United States*		South Dakota	
	Number	Crude Rate	Number	Crude Rate
2015	NA	NA	2,252	2.6
2014	813,862	3.2	2,374	2.8
2013	832,157	3.3	2,450	2.9
2012	851,000	3.4	2,550	3.1
2011	877,000	3.6	2,694	3.3
2010	872,000	3.6	2,774	3.4
2009	840,000	3.5	2,686	3.3
2008	844,000	3.5	2,459	3.1
2007	856,000	3.6	2,438	3.1
2006	872,000	3.7	2,465	3.1
2005	847,000	3.6	2,354	3.0
2004	879,000	3.7	2,358	3.0
2003	927,000	3.8	2,502	3.3
2002	955,000	3.9	2,561	3.4
2001	940,000	4.0	2,522	3.3

Note: \*The U.S. data is provisional for all years. Crude divorce rates are per 1,000 population. The years 2013 and 2014 exclude California, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, and Minnesota. The years 2005-2012 exclude data for California, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Louisiana, and Minnesota. The year 2004 excludes data for California, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, and Louisiana and 2003 excludes data from California, Hawaii, Indiana, and Oklahoma. The year 2002 excludes data for California, Indiana, and Oklahoma and 2001 exclude data for California, Indiana, Louisiana, and Oklahoma.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics and South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

For South Dakota, the mean or average duration of the marriages ending in divorce during 2015 was 11 years, the median duration was eight years, and the modal duration was two years. The length of time before terminating the marriage ranged from less than one year to 66 years for South Dakota divorces in 2015.

Table 78, below, displays the duration of marriages ending in divorce for the past 10 years. In 2015, zero to four years and five to nine years is the length most marriages lasted with 32.6 and 23.4 percent, respectively.

**Table 78**  
**Duration of Marriage Ending in Divorces by Year for Divorces Occurring in South Dakota, 2006-2015**

Year	0-4 Years		5-9 Years		10-14 Years		15-19 Years		20-24 Years		25-29 Years		30+ Years	
	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%
2015	735	32.6	528	23.4	355	15.8	231	10.3	182	8.1	94	4.2	127	5.6
2014	755	31.8	591	24.9	359	15.1	235	9.9	193	8.1	114	4.8	127	5.3
2013	783	32.0	626	25.6	389	15.9	266	10.9	167	6.8	109	4.4	110	4.5
2012	845	33.0	648	25.4	387	15.2	235	9.2	198	7.8	119	4.7	121	4.7
2011	884	32.8	686	25.5	415	15.4	285	10.6	184	6.8	119	4.4	121	4.5
2010	951	34.3	703	25.3	431	15.5	281	10.1	178	6.4	106	3.8	124	4.5
2009	916	34.1	693	25.8	384	14.3	261	9.7	194	7.2	114	4.2	124	4.6
2008	858	34.9	618	25.1	368	15.0	214	8.7	165	6.7	110	4.5	126	5.1
2007	831	34.1	667	27.4	345	14.2	235	9.6	161	6.6	101	4.1	98	4.0
2006	854	34.6	599	24.3	372	15.1	226	9.2	170	6.9	135	5.5	109	4.4

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Table 79, below, displays the number of children involved in divorces for the past 10

years. Slightly over half of all divorces in 2015 did not involve children.

**Table 79**  
**Number of Children Involved in Divorce by Year for Divorces Occurring in South Dakota, 2006-2015**

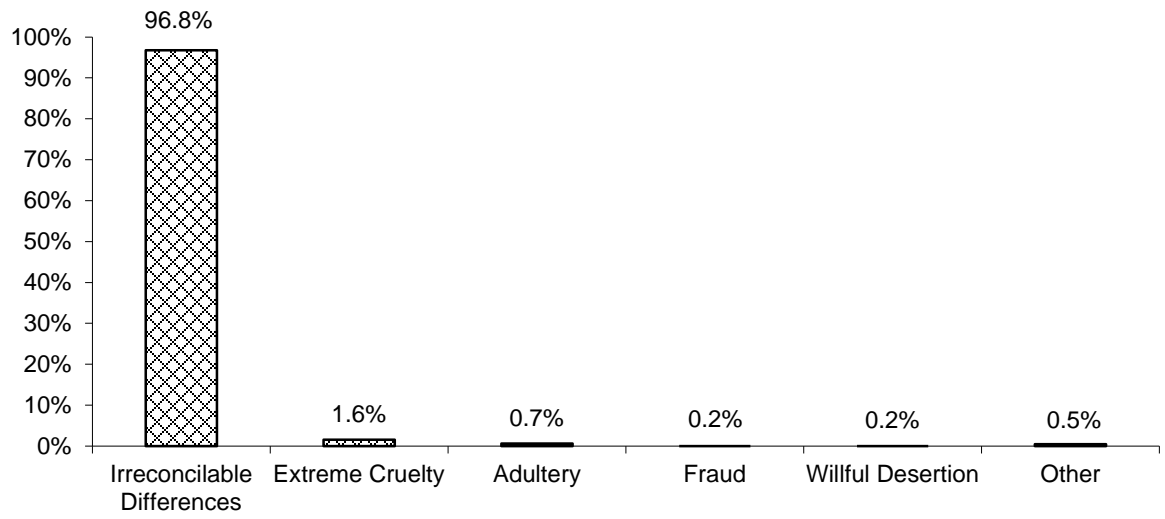
Year	Total		No Children Involved		1 Child Involved		2 Children Involved		3 Children Involved		4 or More Children Involved		Not Stated	
	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%
2015	2,252	100	1,190	52.8	444	19.7	404	17.9	166	7.4	48	2.1	0	-
2014	2,374	100	1,256	52.9	502	21.2	414	17.4	156	6.6	45	1.9	1	-
2013	2,450	100	1,220	49.8	484	19.8	494	20.2	199	8.1	53	2.2	0	-
2012	2,550	100	1,290	50.6	503	19.7	523	20.5	181	7.1	52	2.0	1	-
2011	2,694	100	1,348	50.0	535	19.9	562	20.9	180	6.7	69	2.6	0	-
2010	2,774	100	1,370	49.4	596	21.5	562	20.3	197	7.1	49	1.8	0	-
2009	2,686	100	1,381	51.4	549	20.4	520	19.4	174	6.5	62	2.3	0	-
2008	2,459	100	1,251	50.9	474	19.3	529	21.5	161	6.5	44	1.8	0	-
2007	2,438	100	1,285	52.7	513	21.0	428	17.6	165	6.8	47	1.9	0	-
2006	2,465	100	1,249	50.7	512	20.8	482	19.6	181	7.3	41	1.7	0	-

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics

Figure 47, on the next page, displays causes for the divorce. The majority of

divorces in 2015 stated irreconcilable differences with 96.8 percent.

**Figure 47**  
**Causes for Divorce for Divorces Occurring in South Dakota, 2015**



Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics