Marriage & Divorce

An Overview: 2018

Marriages:
- Number Occurring in S.D.: 5,757
- S.D. Rate per 1,000 Population: 6.5
- U.S. Rate per 1,000 Population: 6.9*

**Divorces:**
- Number Occurring in S.D.: 2,265
- S.D. Rate Per 1,000 Population: 2.6
- U.S. Rate per 1,000 Population: 2.9*

Years Married Before Termination in S.D.
- Mean: 11
- Median: 8
- Mode: 3
- Range: Lower Less Than 1, Upper 57

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 2017.
**The U.S. divorce rate only includes 45 reporting states and the District of Columbia.
Divorces include annulments.

Marriages in South Dakota

In 2018, the South Dakota marriage rate decreased to 6.5, down from 6.7 in 2017. The number of marriages in 2018 (5,757) is the lowest in over 14 years.

Table 78, below, provides the United States and South Dakota marriage rates from 2004 through 2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>United States*</th>
<th>South Dakota</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Crude Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>NA**</td>
<td>NA**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2,236,496</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2,251,411</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2,221,579</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>2,140,272</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2,081,301</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>2,131,000</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2,118,000</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2,096,000</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>2,080,000</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>2,157,000</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>2,197,000</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>2,193,000</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>2,249,000</td>
<td>7.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>2,279,000</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: *The marriage data for the United States is provisional for all years. **2018 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. The 2013 and 2014 U.S. number and rate excludes data from Georgia.
Source: National Center for Health Statistics and South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics
Table 79, 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>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Num</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Num</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Num</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6,040</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>6,195</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>6,271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>334</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>592</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>585</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>879</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>866</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>716</td>
<td>11.9</td>
<td>816</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>891</td>
<td>14.8</td>
<td>972</td>
<td>15.7</td>
<td>805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>753</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>12.4</td>
<td>830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>531</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>569</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>673</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>283</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>363</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>334</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Divorces in South Dakota

Table 80, below, lists the divorce rates for South Dakota and the United States. The 2018 South Dakota divorce rate was 2.6 divorces per 1,000 population, which decreased slightly from 2.7 in 2017.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>United States*</th>
<th>South Dakota</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Crude Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>NA**</td>
<td>NA**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>787,251</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>776,288</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>800,909</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>813,862</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>832,157</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>851,000</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>877,000</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>872,000</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>840,000</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>844,000</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>856,000</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>872,000</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>847,000</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>879,000</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: *The U.S. data is provisional for all years. Crude divorce rates are per 1,000 population. **2018 data are not available at time of publication. The year 2017 excludes data from California, Hawaii, Indiana, Minnesota, and New Mexico. The year 2016 excludes data for California, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Minnesota, and New Mexico. The years 2013-2015 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.

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 2018 was 11 years, the median duration was eight years, and the modal duration was three years. The length of time before terminating the marriage ranged from less than one year to 57 years for South Dakota divorces in 2018.

Table 81, below, displays the duration of marriages ending in divorce for the past 10 years. In 2018, zero to four years and five to nine years is the length most marriages lasted with 30.6 and 24.9 percent, respectively.

Table 81
Duration of Marriage Ending in Divorces by Year for Divorces Occurring in South Dakota, 2009-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>0-4 Years</th>
<th>5-9 Years</th>
<th>10-14 Years</th>
<th>15-19 Years</th>
<th>20-24 Years</th>
<th>25-29 Years</th>
<th>30+ Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Num</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Num</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Num</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Num</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>692</td>
<td>30.6</td>
<td>563</td>
<td>24.9</td>
<td>368</td>
<td>16.2</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>719</td>
<td>30.8</td>
<td>543</td>
<td>23.2</td>
<td>374</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>791</td>
<td>33.0</td>
<td>553</td>
<td>23.0</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>735</td>
<td>32.6</td>
<td>528</td>
<td>23.4</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>15.8</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>755</td>
<td>31.8</td>
<td>591</td>
<td>24.9</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>783</td>
<td>32.0</td>
<td>626</td>
<td>25.6</td>
<td>389</td>
<td>15.9</td>
<td>266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>845</td>
<td>33.0</td>
<td>648</td>
<td>25.4</td>
<td>387</td>
<td>15.2</td>
<td>235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>884</td>
<td>32.8</td>
<td>686</td>
<td>25.5</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>15.4</td>
<td>285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>951</td>
<td>34.3</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>25.3</td>
<td>431</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>916</td>
<td>34.1</td>
<td>693</td>
<td>25.8</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Table 82, below, displays the number of children involved in divorces for the past 10 years. Slightly over half (51.4%) of all divorces in 2018 did not involve children.

Table 82
Number of Children Involved in Divorce by Year for Divorces Occurring in South Dakota, 2009-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>No Children Involved</th>
<th>1 Child Involved</th>
<th>2 Children Involved</th>
<th>3 Children Involved</th>
<th>4 or More Children Involved</th>
<th>Not Stated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Num</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Num</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Num</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Num</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>2,265</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1,164 51.4</td>
<td>412 18.2</td>
<td>446 19.7</td>
<td>179 7.9</td>
<td>64 2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2,340</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1,227 52.4</td>
<td>410 17.5</td>
<td>485 20.7</td>
<td>159 6.8</td>
<td>59 2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2,400</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1,298 54.1</td>
<td>459 19.1</td>
<td>432 18.0</td>
<td>166 6.9</td>
<td>43 1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2,252</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1,190 52.8</td>
<td>444 19.7</td>
<td>404 17.9</td>
<td>166 7.4</td>
<td>48 2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>2,374</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1,256 52.9</td>
<td>502 21.2</td>
<td>414 17.4</td>
<td>156 6.6</td>
<td>45 1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2,450</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1,220 49.8</td>
<td>484 19.8</td>
<td>494 20.2</td>
<td>199 8.1</td>
<td>53 2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>2,550</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1,290 50.6</td>
<td>503 19.7</td>
<td>523 20.5</td>
<td>181 7.1</td>
<td>52 2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2,694</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1,348 50.0</td>
<td>535 19.9</td>
<td>562 20.9</td>
<td>180 6.7</td>
<td>69 2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2,774</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1,370 49.4</td>
<td>596 21.5</td>
<td>562 20.3</td>
<td>197 7.1</td>
<td>49 1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>2,686</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1,381 51.4</td>
<td>549 20.4</td>
<td>520 19.4</td>
<td>174 6.5</td>
<td>62 2.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 2018 stated irreconcilable differences with 98.0 percent.
Figure 47
Causes for Divorce for Divorces Occurring in South Dakota, 2018

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