

MARRIAGES & DIVORCES

MARRIAGES

In 2008, 4,937 marriages were performed in Vermont, 383 less than in 2007. The 2008 Vermont rate was 7.9 per 1,000 of population, the lowest rate in Vermont since 1962, but higher than the 2008 U.S. provisional rate of 7.1. Marriages between two out-of-state residents accounted for 33.3 percent of the marriages in Vermont ([Table F-2](#)).

There was the usual seasonal variation with more marriages occurring in summer than in any other season. August (959) was the most popular month for marriages in 2008 ([Table F-7](#)).

More than half (56.9 percent) of the marriages were firsts for both bride and groom ([Table F-5](#)). For the brides, 67.4 percent were first marriages, and for the grooms, 66.8 percent were first marriages. Remarriages for both bride and groom accounted for 22.5 percent of marriages in Vermont.

The percentage of civil ceremonies increased slightly from 58.5 percent in 2007 to 61.3 percent in 2008 ([Table F-8](#)).

DIVORCES

There were 2,259 divorces granted in 2008, a decrease of only 3 from 2007. This represents a rate of 3.6 per 1,000 residents, slightly higher than the 2008 U.S. provisional rate of 3.5.

The median length of marriages ending in divorce was 9 years 7 months, with a range of 2 months to 53 years. Almost 60 percent of divorces followed a separation of a year or longer ([Table G-3](#)). The median age at the time of divorce was 40 for women with a range of 18 to 84 years. The median age at the time of divorce was 43 for men with a range of 20 to 86 years.