

MARRIAGES & DIVORCES



"Tenakee Wedding"
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MARRIAGES

There were 5,359 marriages performed in Alaska in 2001, involving 4,689 Alaska resident brides and 4,663 Alaska resident grooms. This is an increase of 1.7 percent from the 5,268 marriages that occurred in 2000. The crude marriage rate in 2001 was 8.5 marriages per 1,000 residents, up from 8.4 marriages per 1,000 in 2000.

Crude marriage rates (the number of marriages occurring in a census area or borough per 1,000 residents) vary widely in Alaska. For instance, the lowest rate of 1.1 marriages per 1,000 residents was in the Aleutians East borough. The highest rate of 13.4 marriages per 1,000 residents was in the Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon census

area. Locations that are popular tourist destinations (such as Skagway) may have higher marriage rates because many non-resident couples travel there to get married.

There were 514 marriages in which neither the bride nor the groom was a resident of Alaska, a 12.5 percent increase from the 457 nonresident marriages in 2000. The Juneau Borough had the largest number of nonresident marriages in 2001 with 148, which accounted for 40 percent of all marriages occurring in Juneau. The Municipality of Anchorage had the second greatest number of nonresident marriages with 123.

DIVORCES

There are three administrative methods for terminating a marriage in Alaska: divorce, dissolution, and annulment.

Divorce is an adversarial process in which the terms of the decree are decided by the courts based upon evidence, testimony, and in accordance with Alaska statutes. These terms include disposition of property, living arrangements, and custody and support for any minor children involved. In 2001, there were 1073 divorces granted in Alaska. This represents a 24.0 percent increase from the 865 divorces granted in 2000.

A dissolution of marriage is a cooperative agreement between the husband and wife in which both parties agree to the terms for distribution of property, living arrangements, and support and custody of minor children. The agreement is reviewed by the court, which can amend it if it determines the terms are not equitable.

In 2001, there were 1,875 dissolutions of marriage in Alaska. This is a 22.4 percent increase from the 1,532 dissolutions reported in 2000.

An annulment is a judicial pronouncement declaring a marriage never existed. In 2001, there were 12 annulments granted in Alaska, which is three more than reported in 2000.

There were 130 instances in which the type of decree was not specified. When not otherwise stated, the term divorce refers to all methods collectively.

In 2001, the total of 3,090 divorces, dissolutions, and annulments resulted in a crude divorce rate of 4.9 divorces per 1,000 population, compared with 4.0 in 2000.

TABLE 27 MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES IN ALASKA: 2001 AND 1999–2001

	TOTAL OCCURRENCES				TOTAL RESIDENTS (MALE)				TOTAL RESIDENTS (FEMALE)			
	2001 NUMBER	2001 RATE	99–01 NUMBER	99–01 RATE	2001 NUMBER	2001 RATE	99–01 NUMBER	99–01 RATE	2001 NUMBER	2001 RATE	99–01 NUMBER	99–01 RATE
MARRIAGES	5,359	8.5	16,103	8.6	4,663	14.3	14,139	14.5	4,689	15.3	14,208	15.6
DIVORCES	3,090	4.9	9,143	4.9	2,583	7.9	7,609	7.8	2,685	8.7	7,832	8.6
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION	1,875	3.0	5,644	3.0	1,575	4.8	4,686	4.8	1,637	5.3	4,874	5.4
DIVORCE	1,073	1.7	3,182	1.7	897	2.7	2,662	2.7	925	3.0	2,687	3.0
ANNULMENT	12	0.0	29	0.0	9	0.0	24	0.0	10	0.0	23	0.0

Rates are per 1,000 residents

TABLE 28 MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES IN ALASKA: 2001 AND 1999-2001 BY CENSUS AREA OR BOROUGH

CENSUS AREA OR BOROUGH	TOTAL OCCURRENCES				TOTAL RESIDENTS (MALE)				TOTAL RESIDENTS (FEMALE)			
	2001 NUMBER	2001 RATE	99-01 NUMBER	99-01 RATE	2001 NUMBER	2001 RATE	99-01 NUMBER	99-01 RATE	2001 NUMBER	2001 RATE	99-01 NUMBER	99-01 RATE
ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	3	1.1	17	2.3	13	7.7	35	7.6	12	13.0	33	11.6
DIVORCES					4	2.4	15	3.2	2	2.2	13	4.6
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					3	1.8	10	2.2	1	1.1	7	2.5
DIVORCE					1	0.6	5	1.1	1	1.1	6	2.1
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
ALEUTIANS WEST CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	18	3.4	55	3.4	25	7.6	73	7.3	20	10.2	61	10.1
DIVORCES					14	4.2	40	4.0	14	7.1	37	6.1
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					7	2.1	25	2.5	6	3.1	20	3.3
DIVORCE					6	1.8	13	1.3	5	2.5	13	2.1
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0	1	0.2
MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE												
MARRIAGES	2,266	8.6	6,657	8.5	2,122	15.8	6,215	15.6	2,139	16.4	6,286	16.3
DIVORCES					1,190	8.9	3,503	8.8	1,286	9.9	3,733	9.7
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					695	5.2	2,088	5.2	750	5.8	2,248	5.8
DIVORCE					425	3.2	1,269	3.2	455	3.5	1,326	3.4
ANNULMENT					8	0.1	17	0.0	9	0.1	15	0.0
BETHEL CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	58	3.6	267	5.5	63	7.5	278	11.0	62	8.0	283	12.3
DIVORCES					17	2.0	48	1.9	21	2.7	48	2.1
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					9	1.1	29	1.1	11	1.4	24	1.0
DIVORCE					7	0.8	16	0.6	9	1.2	20	0.9
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
BRISTOL BAY BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	5	4.2	26	7.0	13	20.0	48	23.9	12	22.8	39	23.1
DIVORCES					10	15.4	20	10.0	6	11.4	20	11.8
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					5	7.7	11	5.5	4	7.6	13	7.7
DIVORCE					3	4.6	7	3.5	2	3.8	7	4.1
ANNULMENT					1	1.5	1	0.5	0	0.0	0	0.0
DENALI BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	16	8.4	54	9.5	10	9.3	49	15.2	11	13.3	49	20.1
DIVORCES					6	5.6	21	6.5	5	6.1	15	6.2
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					3	2.8	11	3.4	2	2.4	10	4.1
DIVORCE					3	2.8	10	3.1	3	3.6	5	2.1
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
DILLINGHAM CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	18	3.7	67	4.6	24	9.4	84	11.1	22	9.3	82	11.7
DIVORCES					12	4.7	34	4.5	11	4.7	33	4.7
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					5	2.0	13	1.7	5	2.1	12	1.7
DIVORCE					6	2.3	19	2.5	5	2.1	17	2.4
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	807	9.7	2,429	9.7	757	17.5	2,337	17.9	761	18.9	2,304	19.3
DIVORCES					423	9.8	1,221	9.3	430	10.7	1,231	10.3
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					262	6.1	766	5.9	268	6.7	775	6.5
DIVORCE					157	3.6	442	3.4	161	4.0	448	3.7
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0
HAINES BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	25	10.5	72	9.9	21	17.2	65	17.5	19	16.5	63	17.9
DIVORCES					6	4.9	25	6.7	9	7.8	34	9.6
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					5	4.1	20	5.4	8	6.9	28	7.9
DIVORCE					1	0.8	4	1.1	1	0.9	4	1.1
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	1	0.3	0	0.0	1	0.3

RATES ARE PER 1,000 RESIDENTS
 TOTAL DIVORCE OCCURRENCES BY CENSUS AREA OR BOROUGH ARE NOT AVAILABLE.

TABLE 28 MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES IN ALASKA: 2001 AND 1999–2001 BY CENSUS AREA OR BOROUGH

CENSUS AREA OR BOROUGH	TOTAL OCCURRENCES				TOTAL RESIDENTS (MALE)				TOTAL RESIDENTS (FEMALE)			
	2001 NUMBER	2001 RATE	99–01 NUMBER	99–01 RATE	2001 NUMBER	2001 RATE	99–01 NUMBER	99–01 RATE	2001 NUMBER	2001 RATE	99–01 NUMBER	99–01 RATE
JUNEAU BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	370	12.1	1,066	11.6	223	14.4	682	14.7	223	14.7	675	14.9
DIVORCES					114	7.4	343	7.4	119	7.8	364	8.1
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					79	5.1	224	4.8	82	5.4	240	5.3
DIVORCE					29	1.9	101	2.2	30	2.0	102	2.3
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	502	10.0	1,529	10.3	386	14.9	1,169	15.1	384	15.9	1,190	16.7
DIVORCES					216	8.3	607	7.8	219	9.0	630	8.8
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					161	6.2	436	5.6	160	6.6	463	6.5
DIVORCE					51	2.0	160	2.1	53	2.2	152	2.1
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.0
KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	146	10.5	410	9.8	103	14.6	307	14.3	101	14.8	304	14.9
DIVORCES					56	7.9	199	9.3	46	6.8	198	9.7
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					32	4.5	109	5.1	27	4.0	118	5.8
DIVORCE					24	3.4	88	4.1	19	2.8	79	3.9
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
KODIAK ISLAND BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	88	6.2	281	6.7	86	11.5	262	11.7	84	12.5	260	13.2
DIVORCES					70	9.4	193	8.6	56	8.3	158	8.0
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					41	5.5	121	5.4	33	4.9	98	5.0
DIVORCE					21	2.8	58	2.6	17	2.5	47	2.4
ANNULMENT					1	0.1	2	0.1	0	0.0	1	0.1
LAKE AND PENINSULA BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	3	1.7	11	2.1	11	12.0	30	10.6	7	8.4	28	11.1
DIVORCES					3	3.3	12	4.2	1	1.2	7	2.8
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					0	0.0	5	1.8	0	0.0	3	1.2
DIVORCE					3	3.3	7	2.5	1	1.2	4	1.6
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	551	8.9	1,608	9.1	464	14.4	1,377	15.0	476	15.9	1,406	16.5
DIVORCES					285	8.9	780	8.5	297	9.9	787	9.3
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					179	5.6	492	5.3	177	5.9	484	5.7
DIVORCE					97	3.0	268	2.9	108	3.6	285	3.4
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	2	0.0	1	0.0	2	0.0
NOME CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	49	5.3	164	5.9	51	10.4	168	11.4	47	10.7	165	12.7
DIVORCES					21	4.3	62	4.2	19	4.3	60	4.6
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					11	2.2	39	2.6	11	2.5	35	2.7
DIVORCE					9	1.8	21	1.4	7	1.6	24	1.8
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	32	4.4	92	4.2	40	10.5	120	10.3	39	11.2	121	11.6
DIVORCES					10	2.6	44	3.8	9	2.6	38	3.6
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					5	1.3	18	1.6	6	1.7	22	2.1
DIVORCE					5	1.3	26	2.2	3	0.9	16	1.5
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	23	3.2	92	4.3	25	6.7	107	9.7	26	7.4	106	10.4
DIVORCES					10	2.7	28	2.5	10	2.8	34	3.3
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					4	1.1	13	1.2	6	1.7	20	2.0
DIVORCE					5	1.3	12	1.1	3	0.9	11	1.1
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

Rates are per 1,000 residents
Total divorce occurrences by census area or borough are not available.

TABLE 28 MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES IN ALASKA: 2001 AND 1999–2001 BY CENSUS AREA OR BOROUGH

CENSUS AREA OR BOROUGH	TOTAL OCCURRENCES				TOTAL RESIDENTS (MALE)				TOTAL RESIDENTS (FEMALE)			
	2001 NUMBER	2001 RATE	99–01 NUMBER	99–01 RATE	2001 NUMBER	2001 RATE	99–01 NUMBER	99–01 RATE	2001 NUMBER	2001 RATE	99–01 NUMBER	99–01 RATE
PRINCE OF WALES-OUTER KETCHIKAN CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	28	4.8	107	5.8	35	10.9	120	11.8	35	13.3	118	14.0
DIVORCES					22	6.9	80	7.9	26	9.9	72	8.6
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					12	3.7	48	4.7	12	4.6	37	4.4
DIVORCE					10	3.1	29	2.9	14	5.3	35	4.2
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
SITKA BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	57	6.5	200	7.6	56	12.4	167	12.4	59	13.6	171	13.3
DIVORCES					28	6.2	95	7.1	32	7.4	101	7.8
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					21	4.7	69	5.1	23	5.3	74	5.7
DIVORCE					7	1.6	23	1.7	9	2.1	26	2.0
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0
SKAGWAY-HOONAH-ANGOON CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	45	13.4	128	12.4	20	11.2	78	14.1	21	13.3	78	16.3
DIVORCES					7	3.9	37	6.7	7	4.4	31	6.5
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					6	3.4	28	5.1	5	3.2	21	4.4
DIVORCE					1	0.6	9	1.6	0	0.0	7	1.5
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
SOUTHEAST FAIRBANKS CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	45	7.6	139	7.6	38	12.3	124	12.9	46	16.2	128	14.5
DIVORCES					24	7.8	75	7.8	24	8.4	72	8.2
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					18	5.8	49	5.1	14	4.9	47	5.3
DIVORCE					6	1.9	26	2.7	10	3.5	25	2.8
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
VALDEZ-CORDOVA CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	101	10.0	288	9.4	101	18.8	258	15.8	94	19.8	247	17.3
DIVORCES					41	7.6	138	8.4	29	6.1	119	8.3
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					23	4.3	85	5.2	22	4.6	74	5.2
DIVORCE					17	3.2	47	2.9	6	1.3	42	2.9
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
WADE HAMPTON CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	26	3.6	74	3.5	27	7.2	89	8.0	28	8.0	88	8.6
DIVORCES					6	1.6	18	1.6	6	1.7	17	1.7
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					3	0.8	12	1.1	2	0.6	6	0.6
DIVORCE					3	0.8	6	0.5	4	1.1	11	1.1
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
WRANGELL-PETERSBURG CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	35	5.3	137	6.7	34	9.7	139	12.9	36	11.5	138	14.2
DIVORCES					24	6.9	83	7.7	28	8.9	93	9.6
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					14	4.0	53	4.9	19	6.0	58	6.0
DIVORCE					8	2.3	21	2.0	7	2.2	27	2.8
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
YAKUTAT BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	4	5.7	16	7.1	4	10.4	19	14.9	4	12.6	16	16.5
DIVORCES					1	2.6	4	3.1	6	18.9	13	13.4
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					0	0.0	1	0.8	3	9.4	6	6.2
DIVORCE					1	2.6	2	1.6	3	9.4	5	5.2
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
YUKON-KOYUKUK CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	37	5.7	116	6.0	35	10.0	99	9.4	32	10.6	96	10.8
DIVORCES					16	4.5	40	3.8	8	2.7	29	3.3
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					8	2.3	22	2.1	5	1.7	19	2.1
DIVORCE					6	1.7	16	1.5	3	1.0	9	1.0
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

Rates are per 1,000 residents
Total divorce occurrences by census area or borough are not available.

TABLE 29 MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES IN ALASKA: 2001 AND 1999–2001 BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION	TOTAL OCCURRENCES		TOTAL RESIDENTS (MALE)		TOTAL RESIDENTS (FEMALE)	
	2001 NUMBER	99–01 NUMBER	2001 NUMBER	99–01 NUMBER	2001 NUMBER	99–01 NUMBER
AHTNA INCORPORATED						
MARRIAGES	41	118	34	103	31	94
DIVORCES			14	44	11	35
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			8	28	10	26
DIVORCE			6	15	1	9
ANNULMENT			0	0	0	0
ALEUT CORPORATION						
MARRIAGES	21	72	38	108	32	94
DIVORCES			18	55	16	50
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			10	35	7	27
DIVORCE			7	18	6	19
ANNULMENT			0	1	0	1
ARCTIC SLOPE CORPORATION						
MARRIAGES	32	92	40	120	39	121
DIVORCES			10	44	9	38
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			5	18	6	22
DIVORCE			5	26	3	16
ANNULMENT			0	0	0	0
BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION						
MARRIAGES	49	164	51	168	47	165
DIVORCES			21	62	19	60
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			11	39	11	35
DIVORCE			9	21	7	24
ANNULMENT			0	0	0	0
BRISTOL BAY NATIVE CORPORATION						
MARRIAGES	26	103	47	160	40	147
DIVORCES			25	66	18	60
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			10	29	9	28
DIVORCE			12	33	8	28
ANNULMENT			0	0	0	0
CALISTA CORPORATION						
MARRIAGES	84	341	90	367	90	371
DIVORCES			23	66	27	65
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			12	41	13	30
DIVORCE			10	22	13	31
ANNULMENT			0	0	0	0

Total divorce occurrences by Native Regional Corporation are not available.

TABLE 29 MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES IN ALASKA: 2001 AND 1999–2001 BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION	TOTAL OCCURRENCES		TOTAL RESIDENTS (MALE)		TOTAL RESIDENTS (FEMALE)	
	2001 NUMBER	99–01 NUMBER	2001 NUMBER	99–01 NUMBER	2001 NUMBER	99–01 NUMBER
CHUGACH ALASKA CORPORATION						
MARRIAGES	120	374	107	292	103	286
DIVORCES			49	154	43	143
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			32	101	30	92
DIVORCE			15	47	12	48
ANNULMENT			0	0	0	0
COOK INLET REGIONAL CORPORATION						
MARRIAGES	3,260	9,595	2,934	8,637	2,960	8,757
DIVORCES			1,669	4,834	1,777	5,092
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			1,018	2,974	1,069	3,151
DIVORCE			569	1,684	609	1,749
ANNULMENT			8	19	10	19
DOYON LIMITED						
MARRIAGES	904	2,733	839	2,598	850	2,571
DIVORCES			469	1,353	467	1,346
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			291	846	289	851
DIVORCE			172	492	177	486
ANNULMENT			0	15	0	1
KONIAG INCORPORATED						
MARRIAGES	88	282	86	262	84	260
DIVORCES			70	193	56	158
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			41	121	33	98
DIVORCE			21	58	17	47
ANNULMENT			0	2	0	1
NANA REGIONAL CORPORATION						
MARRIAGES	23	92	25	107	26	106
DIVORCES			10	28	10	34
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			4	13	6	20
DIVORCE			5	12	3	11
ANNULMENT			0	0	0	0
SEALASKA CORPORATION						
MARRIAGES	710	2,136	496	1,577	498	1,563
DIVORCES			258	866	273	906
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			169	552	179	582
DIVORCE			81	277	83	285
ANNULMENT			0	2	0	1

TOTAL DIVORCE OCCURRENCES BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION ARE NOT AVAILABLE.