

MARRIAGES & DIVORCES



"Tenakee Wedding"
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MARRIAGES

There were 5,476 marriages performed in Alaska in 2005, involving 4,667 Alaska resident brides and 4,666 Alaska resident grooms. The number of marriages in 2005 was 2.2 percent lower than the 5,599 marriages that occurred in 2004. The crude marriage rate in 2005 was 8.3 marriages per 1,000 residents, down from 8.5 marriages per 1,000 in 2004.

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 2.4 marriages per 1,000 residents was in the Wade Hampton Census Area. The highest rate of 13.7 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 non-resident couples travel there to get married.

There were 600 marriages in which neither the bride nor the groom was a resident of Alaska, identical to the number of nonresident marriages in 2004. The Juneau Borough had the largest number of nonresident marriages in 2005 with 191, which accounted for 47.2 percent of all marriages occurring in Juneau. The Municipality of Anchorage had the second greatest number of nonresident marriages with 148.

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 2005, there were 1,158 divorces granted in Alaska. This represents a 8.5 percent increase from the 1,067 divorces granted in 2004.

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 2005, there were 1,700 dissolutions of marriage in Alaska. This is a 3.7 percent decrease from the 1,765 dissolutions reported in 2004.

An annulment is a judicial pronouncement declaring a marriage never existed. In 2005, there were five annulments granted in Alaska, which is two less than reported in 2004.

There were 17 instances in which the type of decree was not specified. When not otherwise stated, the term divorce refers to all methods collectively.

In 2005, the total of 2,880 divorces, dissolutions, and annulments resulted in a crude divorce rate of 4.3 divorces per 1,000 population, unchanged from 2004.

TABLE 27 MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES: ALASKA, 2005 AND 2003–2005

	TOTAL OCCURRENCES				TOTAL RESIDENTS (MALE)				TOTAL RESIDENTS (FEMALE)			
	2005 NUMBER	2005 RATE	03–05 NUMBER	03–05 RATE	2005 NUMBER	2005 RATE	03–05 NUMBER	03–05 RATE	2005 NUMBER	2005 RATE	03–05 NUMBER	03–05 RATE
MARRIAGES	5,476	8.3	16,329	8.3	4,666	13.7	13,994	13.8	4,667	14.4	13,977	14.6
DIVORCES	2,880	4.3	8,627	4.4	2,398	7.0	7,185	7.1	2,452	7.6	7,387	7.7
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION	1,700	2.6	5,305	2.7	1,424	4.2	4,431	4.4	1,453	4.5	4,561	4.8
DIVORCE	1,158	1.7	3,242	1.6	954	2.8	2,682	2.6	983	3.0	2,760	2.9
ANNULMENT	5	0.0	18	0.0	5	0.0	16	0.0	2	0.0	12	0.0

Rates are per 1,000 residents.

TABLE 28 MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES BY CENSUS AREA OR BOROUGH: ALASKA, 2005 AND 2003–2005

CENSUS AREA OR BOROUGH	TOTAL OCCURRENCES				TOTAL RESIDENTS (MALE)				TOTAL RESIDENTS (FEMALE)			
	2005 NUMBER	2005 RATE	03–05 NUMBER	03–05 RATE	2005 NUMBER	2005 RATE	03–05 NUMBER	03–05 RATE	2005 NUMBER	2005 RATE	03–05 NUMBER	03–05 RATE
ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	10	3.8	19	2.4	8	4.6	18	3.4	11	12.1	23	8.4
DIVORCES					2	1.1	9	1.7	1	1.1	7	2.6
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					1	0.6	3	0.6	1	1.1	4	1.5
DIVORCE					1	0.6	6	1.1	0	0.0	3	1.1
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
ALEUTIANS WEST CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	24	4.6	67	4.2	23	6.8	69	6.7	22	11.9	67	12.1
DIVORCES					8	2.3	28	2.7	11	6.0	30	5.4
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					4	1.2	12	1.2	7	3.8	16	2.9
DIVORCE					4	1.2	16	1.6	4	2.2	14	2.5
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE												
MARRIAGES	2,292	8.2	6,793	8.2	2,108	15.0	6,252	14.9	2,101	15.3	6,304	15.5
DIVORCES					1,132	8.0	3,394	8.1	1,201	8.7	3,596	8.8
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					653	4.6	2,082	5.0	682	5.0	2,186	5.4
DIVORCE					469	3.3	1,283	3.1	511	3.7	1,378	3.4
ANNULMENT					3	0.0	9	0.0	2	0.0	8	0.0
BETHEL CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	75	4.4	211	4.1	74	8.4	219	8.3	79	9.6	223	9.1
DIVORCES					12	1.4	31	1.2	10	1.2	25	1.0
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					3	0.3	7	0.3	4	0.5	12	0.5
DIVORCE					9	1.0	23	0.9	6	0.7	13	0.5
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
BRISTOL BAY BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	6	5.6	19	5.8	9	15.2	22	12.2	9	18.8	22	14.8
DIVORCES					4	6.7	10	5.5	4	8.3	8	5.4
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					3	5.1	5	2.8	3	6.3	5	3.4
DIVORCE					1	1.7	5	2.8	1	2.1	3	2.0
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
DENALI BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	19	10.4	88	15.7	11	11.1	43	13.8	12	14.4	43	17.3
DIVORCES					9	9.1	28	9.0	10	12.0	27	10.9
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					6	6.1	14	4.5	6	7.2	14	5.6
DIVORCE					3	3.0	14	4.5	4	4.8	13	5.2
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
DILLINGHAM CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	25	5.2	73	5.0	23	9.3	72	9.5	23	9.9	69	9.8
DIVORCES					6	2.4	20	2.7	4	1.7	19	2.7
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					4	1.6	13	1.7	3	1.3	9	1.3
DIVORCE					2	0.8	7	0.9	0	0.0	9	1.3
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	898	10.2	2,531	9.9	818	18.1	2,376	18.0	778	18.3	2,263	18.2
DIVORCES					411	9.1	1,183	9.0	417	9.8	1,212	9.8
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					238	5.3	723	5.5	241	5.7	752	6.1
DIVORCE					171	3.8	453	3.4	176	4.1	454	3.7
ANNULMENT					1	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0
HAINES BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	17	7.7	65	9.6	11	9.5	42	12.0	9	8.6	42	12.8
DIVORCES					8	6.9	16	4.6	7	6.7	17	5.2
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					5	4.3	11	3.1	5	4.8	12	3.6
DIVORCE					3	2.6	5	1.4	2	1.9	5	1.5
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 BY CENSUS AREA OR BOROUGH:
ALASKA, 2005 AND 2003–2005**

CENSUS AREA OR BOROUGH	TOTAL OCCURRENCES				TOTAL RESIDENTS (MALE)				TOTAL RESIDENTS (FEMALE)			
	2005 NUMBER	2005 RATE	03–05 NUMBER	03–05 RATE	2005 NUMBER	2005 RATE	03–05 NUMBER	03–05 RATE	2005 NUMBER	2005 RATE	03–05 NUMBER	03–05 RATE
JUNEAU BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	405	13.0	1,196	12.7	207	13.2	586	12.4	216	13.9	611	13.1
DIVORCES					98	6.3	292	6.2	111	7.1	311	6.6
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					67	4.3	200	4.2	72	4.6	199	4.3
DIVORCE					30	1.9	87	1.8	38	2.4	107	2.3
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	2	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	455	8.9	1,440	9.3	329	12.5	1,055	13.3	338	13.6	1,067	14.2
DIVORCES					161	6.1	528	6.6	180	7.2	551	7.3
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					115	4.4	381	4.8	129	5.2	406	5.4
DIVORCE					46	1.8	143	1.8	51	2.0	143	1.9
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	104	7.9	346	8.7	77	11.6	251	12.4	74	11.4	247	12.6
DIVORCES					58	8.7	169	8.3	58	8.9	182	9.3
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					34	5.1	97	4.8	38	5.9	101	5.1
DIVORCE					24	3.6	71	3.5	20	3.1	80	4.1
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
KODIAK ISLAND BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	88	6.5	304	7.4	82	11.5	280	13.0	80	12.3	276	14.0
DIVORCES					52	7.3	155	7.2	48	7.4	153	7.8
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					27	3.8	94	4.4	25	3.8	93	4.7
DIVORCE					24	3.4	60	2.8	23	3.5	59	3.0
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1
LAKE AND PENINSULA BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	5	3.1	21	4.3	6	7.0	22	8.6	5	6.6	24	10.4
DIVORCES					3	3.5	7	2.7	2	2.6	9	3.9
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					2	2.3	4	1.6	2	2.6	6	2.6
DIVORCE					1	1.2	3	1.2	0	0.0	3	1.3
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	577	7.8	1,739	8.2	498	13.0	1,499	13.6	529	14.8	1,540	15.0
DIVORCES					257	6.7	767	7.0	235	6.6	736	7.2
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					156	4.1	444	4.0	148	4.1	429	4.2
DIVORCE					95	2.5	302	2.7	82	2.3	293	2.9
ANNULMENT					1	0.0	3	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0
NOME CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	45	4.8	130	4.6	43	8.7	129	8.7	42	9.3	127	9.4
DIVORCES					13	2.6	56	3.8	12	2.7	52	3.8
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					9	1.8	34	2.3	9	2.0	36	2.7
DIVORCE					4	0.8	22	1.5	3	0.7	16	1.2
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	23	3.3	68	3.2	28	7.9	77	7.0	29	8.7	77	7.5
DIVORCES					8	2.2	21	1.9	10	3.0	21	2.0
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					2	0.6	5	0.5	2	0.6	6	0.6
DIVORCE					6	1.7	16	1.4	7	2.1	14	1.4
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	32	4.4	92	4.2	34	9.0	96	8.4	35	9.9	94	8.8
DIVORCES					18	4.8	38	3.3	16	4.5	34	3.2
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					5	1.3	15	1.3	4	1.1	10	0.9
DIVORCE					13	3.4	23	2.0	12	3.4	24	2.3
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 BY CENSUS AREA OR BOROUGH: ALASKA, 2005 AND 2003–2005

CENSUS AREA OR BOROUGH	TOTAL OCCURRENCES				TOTAL RESIDENTS (MALE)				TOTAL RESIDENTS (FEMALE)			
	2005 NUMBER	2005 RATE	03–05 NUMBER	03–05 RATE	2005 NUMBER	2005 RATE	03–05 NUMBER	03–05 RATE	2005 NUMBER	2005 RATE	03–05 NUMBER	03–05 RATE
PRINCE OF WALES-OUTER KETCHIKAN CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	31	5.6	84	5.0	25	8.3	75	8.2	26	10.5	75	9.9
DIVORCES					13	4.3	53	5.8	8	3.2	50	6.6
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					9	3.0	35	3.8	4	1.6	33	4.4
DIVORCE					4	1.3	18	2.0	4	1.6	17	2.3
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
SITKA BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	74	8.3	253	9.4	52	11.6	189	14.1	54	12.1	193	14.5
DIVORCES					34	7.6	87	6.5	33	7.4	92	6.9
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					22	4.9	61	4.5	23	5.1	70	5.3
DIVORCE					12	2.7	26	1.9	10	2.2	21	1.6
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1
SKAGWAY-HOONAH-ANGOON CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	42	13.7	107	11.4	19	11.8	51	10.2	20	13.8	48	10.8
DIVORCES					8	5.0	14	2.8	5	3.5	13	2.9
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					7	4.3	9	1.8	4	2.8	9	2.0
DIVORCE					1	0.6	4	0.8	1	0.7	3	0.7
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
SOUTHEAST FAIRBANKS CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	45	7.0	136	7.3	44	13.0	121	12.4	40	13.0	118	13.4
DIVORCES					17	5.0	58	5.9	9	2.9	47	5.3
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					10	2.9	36	3.7	5	1.6	34	3.9
DIVORCE					7	2.1	22	2.2	4	1.3	13	1.5
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
VALDEZ-CORDOVA CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	98	9.8	271	8.9	58	10.9	197	12.2	59	12.4	185	12.9
DIVORCES					30	5.7	107	6.7	30	6.3	104	7.3
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					23	4.3	76	4.7	22	4.6	74	5.2
DIVORCE					7	1.3	31	1.9	8	1.7	30	2.1
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
WADE HAMPTON CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	18	2.4	60	2.7	21	5.4	64	5.5	20	5.5	63	5.8
DIVORCES					5	1.3	6	0.5	2	0.6	5	0.5
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					3	0.8	4	0.3	0	0.0	0	0.0
DIVORCE					2	0.5	2	0.2	2	0.6	5	0.5
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
WRANGELL-PETERSBURG CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	35	5.7	121	6.4	27	8.4	94	9.5	28	9.5	94	10.5
DIVORCES					13	4.0	45	4.6	11	3.7	41	4.6
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					8	2.5	31	3.1	5	1.7	26	2.9
DIVORCE					5	1.5	13	1.3	6	2.0	15	1.7
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0
YAKUTAT BOROUGH												
MARRIAGES	3	4.8	7	3.5	3	9.4	9	8.6	4	13.3	9	9.5
DIVORCES					2	6.3	4	3.8	2	6.6	3	3.2
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					1	3.1	2	1.9	1	3.3	2	2.1
DIVORCE					1	3.1	2	1.9	1	3.3	1	1.1
ANNULMENT					0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
YUKON-KOYUKUK CENSUS AREA												
MARRIAGES	29	4.8	87	4.6	22	6.8	77	7.6	21	7.4	68	7.9
DIVORCES					10	3.1	35	3.5	10	3.5	24	2.8
TYPE OF DECREE												
DISSOLUTION					4	1.2	20	2.0	4	1.4	9	1.0
DIVORCE					6	1.9	15	1.5	6	2.1	15	1.7
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 BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION:
ALASKA, 2005 AND 2003–2005**

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION	TOTAL OCCURRENCES		TOTAL RESIDENTS (MALE)		TOTAL RESIDENTS (FEMALE)	
	2005 NUMBER	03–05 NUMBER	2005 NUMBER	03–05 NUMBER	2005 NUMBER	03–05 NUMBER
AHTNA INCORPORATED						
MARRIAGES	33	94	24	75	25	71
DIVORCES			11	33	10	26
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			7	20	5	16
DIVORCE			4	13	5	10
ANNULMENT			0	0	0	0
ALEUT CORPORATION						
MARRIAGES	34	86	42	121	47	118
DIVORCES			10	54	12	53
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			5	25	8	27
DIVORCE			5	28	4	26
ANNULMENT			0	0	0	0
ARCTIC SLOPE REGIONAL CORPORATION						
MARRIAGES	23	68	32	86	32	83
DIVORCES			8	24	10	22
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			2	5	2	7
DIVORCE			6	19	7	14
ANNULMENT			0	0	0	0
BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION						
MARRIAGES	45	130	50	148	49	141
DIVORCES			13	61	12	58
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			9	37	9	38
DIVORCE			4	24	3	20
ANNULMENT			0	0	0	0
BRISTOL BAY NATIVE CORPORATION						
MARRIAGES	35	109	45	154	47	148
DIVORCES			13	47	10	48
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			9	29	8	26
DIVORCE			4	18	1	21
ANNULMENT			0	0	0	0
CALISTA CORPORATION						
MARRIAGES	93	271	100	307	105	313
DIVORCES			17	45	12	36
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			6	15	4	18
DIVORCE			11	29	8	18
ANNULMENT			0	0	0	0

Total divorce occurrences by Native Regional Corporation are not available.

**TABLE 29 MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION:
ALASKA, 2005 AND 2003-2005**

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION	TOTAL OCCURRENCES		TOTAL RESIDENTS (MALE)		TOTAL RESIDENTS (FEMALE)	
	2005 NUMBER	03-05 NUMBER	2005 NUMBER	03-05 NUMBER	2005 NUMBER	03-05 NUMBER
CHUGACH ALASKA CORPORATION						
MARRIAGES	136	357	86	251	84	241
DIVORCES			41	132	41	137
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			32	91	30	96
DIVORCE			9	40	11	40
ANNULMENT			0	0	0	0
COOK INLET REGION INCORPORATED						
MARRIAGES	3,256	9,800	2,913	8,754	2,945	8,859
DIVORCES			1,528	4,658	1,595	4,849
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			908	2,890	946	3,000
DIVORCE			604	1,715	636	1,802
ANNULMENT			4	12	2	9
DOYON LIMITED						
MARRIAGES	989	2,838	922	2,697	879	2,578
DIVORCES			447	1,334	446	1,342
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			258	808	256	822
DIVORCE			187	519	190	514
ANNULMENT			1	1	0	1
KONIAG INCORPORATED						
MARRIAGES	88	304	86	288	82	283
DIVORCES			52	157	48	155
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			27	94	25	93
DIVORCE			24	62	23	61
ANNULMENT			0	1	0	1
NANA REGIONAL CORPORATION						
MARRIAGES	32	92	40	105	40	101
DIVORCES			18	38	16	40
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			5	15	4	13
DIVORCE			13	23	12	27
ANNULMENT			0	0	0	0
SEALASKA CORPORATION						
MARRIAGES	711	2,179	452	1,391	468	1,423
DIVORCES			234	729	235	749
TYPE OF DECREE						
DISSOLUTION			153	474	152	478
DIVORCE			80	247	82	263
ANNULMENT			0	3	0	1

Total divorce occurrences by Native Regional Corporation are not available.

