

# Marriages and Divorces 2022

**Statistics South Africa**

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## Identification

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### SURVEY ID NUMBER

ZAF\_2022\_MD\_v01\_M

### TITLE

Marriages and Divorces 2022

### ABBREVIATION OR ACRONYM

MD 2022

### COUNTRY

Name	Country code
South Africa	ZAF

### STUDY TYPE

Administrative Data

### ABSTRACT

The Marriages and Divorces (MD) dataset is one of three primary sources of marriage and divorce statistics in South Africa. Unlike the other two sources (population censuses and household sample surveys), the MD dataset is compiled from administrative data and based on continuous recording (i.e. from civil registration systems and administrative records). Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) regularly publishes a series of data on marriages and divorces, with the first dataset in the series beginning in 2006. The most recent dataset in the series is MD 2022.

**Marriage data:** Data on marriages for citizens and permanent residents are obtained from registered marriage records that are collected through the civil registration systems of the Department of Home Affairs (DHA). South Africa recognises three types of marriages by law: civil marriages, customary marriages and civil unions. Before 2008, marriage data only covered civil marriages. The registration of customary marriages and civil unions began in 2003 and 2007 respectively. However from 2008 onwards, Stats SA began publishing available data on customary marriages and civil unions.

**Divorce data:** Data on divorces are obtained from various regional courts that deal with divorce matters. The data are based on successful divorce cases that have been issued with a decree of divorce by the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DoJCD). Divorce cases come from marriages that were registered in different years as well as divorce cases that were filed in different years but whose divorce decrees were granted in the relevant year of collection.

**NOTE:** although both the data on marriages and divorces are collected in the same year, the data sets are not linked to each other.

### KIND OF DATA

Administrative records

### UNIT OF ANALYSIS

Individuals

## Version

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### VERSION DESCRIPTION

Version 01: Edited, anonymised dataset for public distribution

### VERSION DATE

2022

### VERSION NOTES

This version was retrieved by DataFirst on 15 March 2024.

## Scope

### NOTES

Marriage data covers: province of registration, date and type of marriage (religious or civil) and age (and age difference) and status (e.g. single/widow/divorcee) of marital couple.

Divorce data includes: individual level data: Age, gender and population group, status, and occupation and number of children. Data is also collected on the marriage (date, number, type and duration, and matrimonial property system) and the divorce (date of separation and date of divorce).

## Coverage

### GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

National coverage

### GEOGRAPHIC UNIT

The lowest level of geographic aggregation covered by the data is province

### UNIVERSE

The data covers all civil marriages, civil unions and customary marriages that were recorded by the Department of Home Affairs and all divorce applications that were granted by the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development in 2022 in South Africa.

## Producers and sponsors

### PRIMARY INVESTIGATORS

Name	Affiliation
Statistics South Africa	Government of South Africa

### PRODUCERS

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Department of Home Affairs	DHA	Government of South Africa	Data producer
Department of Justice and Constitutional Development	DJCD	Government of South Africa	Data producer

## Data collection

### DATES OF DATA COLLECTION

Start	End
2022-01-01	2022-12-31

### DATA COLLECTION MODE

Other

### DATA COLLECTION NOTES

The marriage data is provided to Statistics South Africa by the South African Department of Home Affairs (DHA) from their marriage registration database based on registration forms.

The divorce data is obtained by Statistic South Africa from the South African Department of Justice and Constitutional Development from administrative records on divorces granted for civil marriages by its divorce courts.

## Access policy

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### ACCESS CONDITIONS

Public access data for use under a Creative Commons CC-BY (Attribution-only) License

### CITATION REQUIREMENTS

Statistics South Africa. Marriages and Divorces 2022 [dataset]. Version 1. Pretoria: Statistics South Africa [producer], 2024. Cape Town: DataFirst [distributor], 2024. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25828/8374-mf88>

### ACCESS AUTHORITY

Name	Affiliation	Email	URL
DataFirst	University of Cape Town	support@data1st.org	<a href="#">Link</a>

## Disclaimer and copyrights

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### COPYRIGHT

Copyright 2013, Statistics South Africa

## Metadata production

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### DDI DOCUMENT ID

DDI\_ZAF\_2022\_MD\_v01\_M

### PRODUCERS

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
DataFirst		University of Cape Town	Metadata producer
Development Data Group	DECDG	The World Bank	Metadata adapted for World Bank Microdata Library

### DATE OF METADATA PRODUCTION

2024-03-15

### DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

Identical to a metadata (zaf-statssa-md-2022-v1) published on DataFirst microdata repository (<https://www.datafirst.uct.ac.za/dataportal/index.php/catalog>). Some of the metadata fields have been edited.

**data\_dictionary**

<b>Data file</b>	<b>Cases</b>	<b>variables</b>
<b>md-2022-civil-marriages-v1</b>	1000	9
<b>md-2022-civil-unions-v1</b>	1000	6
<b>md-2022-customary-marriages-v1</b>	1000	6
<b>md-2022-divorces-v1</b>	1000	24



**Data file: md-2022-civil-marriages-v1**

Cases: 1000

variables: 9

**variables**

ID	Name	Label	Question
V136	ProvinceCode	Name of Province	
V137	MarriageMonth	Month of Marriage	
V138	MarriageYear	Year of Marriage	
V139	SolemnisationCode	Way of Solemnisation	
V140	BridegroomStatusCode	Marital status of Bridegroom	
V141	BrideStatusCode	Marital status of Bride	
V142	BridegroomAge	Age of Bridegroom	
V143	BrideAge	Age of Bride	
V144	AgeDiff	Age difference between bridegroom and bride	

total: 9

**Data file: md-2022-civil-unions-v1**

Cases: 1000

variables: 6

**variables**

ID	Name	Label	Question
V145	ProvinceCode	Name of Province	
V146	RegistrationMonth	Month of Registration	
V147	RegistrationYear	Year of Registration	
V148	Spouse1Age	Age of Spouses-1	
V149	Spouse2Age	Age of Spouses-2	
V150	AgeDiff	Age difference between Spouses-1 and Spouses-2	

total: 6

**Data file: md-2022-customary-marriages-v1**

Cases: 1000

variables: 6

**variables**

ID	Name	Label	Question
V151	ProvinceCode	Name of Province	
V152	MarriageYear	Year of Marriage	
V153	RegistrationYear	Year of Registration	
V154	BridegroomAge	Age of Bridegroom	
V155	BrideAge	Age of Bride	
V156	AgeDiff	Age difference between bridegroom and bride	

total: 6

**Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1**

Cases: 1000

variables: 24

**variables**

ID	Name	Label	Question
V157	ProvinceCode	Name of Province	
V158	MaleRace	Population group of husband	
V159	FemaleRace	Population group of wife	
V160	CoupleRace	Population group of couple	
V161	MaleOccupation	Occupation of Husband	
V162	FemaleOccupation	Occupation of wife	
V163	PlaintiffSex	Sex of plaintiff	
V164	MaleStatus	Marital status of husband	
V165	FemaleStatus	Marital status of wife	
V166	MaleNoTimesMarried	Number of times husband married	
V167	FemaleNoTimesMarried	Number of times wife married	
V168	MaleAge	Age of husband	
V169	FemaleAge	Age of wife	
V170	SolemnisationCode	Way of solemnisation	
V171	MarriagePropertySystem	Matrimonial property system	
V172	MarriageMonth	Month of marriage	
V173	MarriageYear	Year of marriage	
V174	NoOfChildren	Number of children involved	
V175	DivorceMonth	Month of divorce	
V176	DivorceYear	Year of divorce	
V177	DurationOfMarriage	Duration of marriage	
V178	MarriageType	Type of marriage	
V179	PolygamousMarriage	Involved in polygamous marriage	
V180	GroundsForDivorce	Main grounds for divorce	

total: 24



**PROVINCECODE: Name of Province****Data file: md-2022-civil-marriages-v1****Overview**

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 2 Range: 1 - 99 Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Western Cape	11	1.1%
2	Eastern Cape	15	1.5%
3	Northern Cape	13	1.3%
4	Free State	16	1.6%
5	KwaZulu-Natal	185	18.5%
6	North West	5	0.5%
7	Gauteng	597	59.7%
8	Mpumalanga	38	3.8%
9	Limpopo	120	12%
98	Outside RSA	0	0%
99	Unspecified	0	0%

**MARRIAGEMONTH: Month of Marriage****Data file: md-2022-civil-marriages-v1****Overview**

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 2 Range: 1 - 12 Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	January	81	8.1%
2	February	118	11.8%
3	March	121	12.1%
4	April	126	12.6%
5	May	105	10.5%
6	June	89	8.9%
7	July	65	6.5%

8	August	50	5%
9	September	63	6.3%
10	October	54	5.4%
11	November	70	7%
12	December	58	5.8%

## MARRIAGEYEAR: Year of Marriage

Data file: md-2022-civil-marriages-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 4 Range: 2022 - 2022 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
2022	2022	1000	100%

## SOLEMNISATIONCODE: Way of Solemnisation

Data file: md-2022-civil-marriages-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 1 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Religious	0	0%
2	DHA	0	0%
9	Unspecified	1000	100%

## BRIDEGROOMSTATUSCODE: Marital status of Bridegroom

Data file: md-2022-civil-marriages-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 1 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

## Questions and instructions

### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Never married	811	81.1%
2	Divorcee	39	3.9%
3	Widower	7	0.7%
9	Unspecified	143	14.3%

### BRIDESTATUSCODE: Marital status of Bride

Data file: md-2022-civil-marriages-v1

#### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 1 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

## Questions and instructions

### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Never married	867	86.7%
2	Divorcee	29	2.9%
3	Widow	3	0.3%
9	Unspecified	101	10.1%

### BRIDEGROOMAGE: Age of Bridegroom

Data file: md-2022-civil-marriages-v1

#### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 2 Range: 15 - 99 Format: Numeric

## Questions and instructions

### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
15	15	0	0%
17	17	0	0%
18	18	0	0%
19	19	0	0%

20	20	1	0.1%
21	21	3	0.3%
22	22	6	0.6%
23	23	8	0.8%
24	24	5	0.5%
25	25	13	1.3%
26	26	18	1.8%
27	27	26	2.6%
28	28	25	2.5%
29	29	33	3.3%
30	30	32	3.2%
31	31	32	3.2%
32	32	40	4%
33	33	26	2.6%
34	34	40	4%
35	35	34	3.4%
36	36	47	4.7%
37	37	53	5.3%
38	38	47	4.7%
39	39	50	5%
40	40	40	4%
41	41	32	3.2%
42	42	29	2.9%
43	43	26	2.6%
44	44	25	2.5%
45	45	24	2.4%
46	46	20	2%
47	47	17	1.7%
48	48	25	2.5%
49	49	20	2%
50	50	20	2%
51	51	16	1.6%
52	52	16	1.6%
53	53	12	1.2%
54	54	17	1.7%
55	55	16	1.6%
56	56	10	1%
57	57	9	0.9%
58	58	11	1.1%

59	59	9	0.9%
60	60	6	0.6%
61	61	13	1.3%
62	62	4	0.4%
63	63	9	0.9%
64	64	7	0.7%
65	65	4	0.4%
66	66	7	0.7%
67	67	0	0%
68	68	2	0.2%
69	69	1	0.1%
70	70	2	0.2%
71	71	2	0.2%
72	72	0	0%
73	73	1	0.1%
74	74	0	0%
75	75	1	0.1%
76	76	1	0.1%
77	77	1	0.1%
78	78	0	0%
79	79	1	0.1%
80	80	1	0.1%
81	81	2	0.2%
82	82	1	0.1%
83	83	0	0%
84	84	0	0%
85	85	0	0%
86	86	0	0%
87	87	0	0%
88	88	0	0%
89	89	0	0%
90	90	1	0.1%
91	91	0	0%
92	92	0	0%
93	93	0	0%
94	94	0	0%
95	95	0	0%
97	97	0	0%
99	Unspecified	0	0%

**BRIDEAGE: Age of Bride**

Data file: md-2022-civil-marriages-v1

**Overview**

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 2 Range: 12 - 91 Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
12	12	0	0%
13	13	0	0%
15	15	0	0%
16	16	0	0%
17	17	0	0%
18	18	0	0%
19	19	1	0.1%
20	20	6	0.6%
21	21	8	0.8%
22	22	16	1.6%
23	23	21	2.1%
24	24	16	1.6%
25	25	22	2.2%
26	26	40	4%
27	27	33	3.3%
28	28	44	4.4%
29	29	49	4.9%
30	30	49	4.9%
31	31	52	5.2%
32	32	60	6%
33	33	48	4.8%
34	34	52	5.2%
35	35	36	3.6%
36	36	46	4.6%
37	37	45	4.5%
38	38	34	3.4%
39	39	37	3.7%
40	40	33	3.3%

41	41	22	2.2%
42	42	27	2.7%
43	43	20	2%
44	44	14	1.4%
45	45	15	1.5%
46	46	19	1.9%
47	47	14	1.4%
48	48	16	1.6%
49	49	14	1.4%
50	50	7	0.7%
51	51	4	0.4%
52	52	14	1.4%
53	53	5	0.5%
54	54	8	0.8%
55	55	10	1%
56	56	3	0.3%
57	57	8	0.8%
58	58	3	0.3%
59	59	2	0.2%
60	60	4	0.4%
61	61	5	0.5%
62	62	3	0.3%
63	63	2	0.2%
64	64	0	0%
65	65	1	0.1%
66	66	2	0.2%
67	67	2	0.2%
68	68	2	0.2%
69	69	1	0.1%
70	70	0	0%
71	71	0	0%
72	72	1	0.1%
73	73	1	0.1%
74	74	2	0.2%
75	75	0	0%
76	76	0	0%
77	77	0	0%
78	78	0	0%
79	79	0	0%

80	80	0	0%
81	81	1	0.1%
82	82	0	0%
83	83	0	0%
84	84	0	0%
85	85	0	0%
86	86	0	0%
87	87	0	0%
88	88	0	0%
89	89	0	0%
90	90	0	0%
91	91	0	0%

### AGEDIFF: Age difference between bridegroom and bride

Data file: md-2022-civil-marriages-v1

#### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 1 Range: 0 - 9 Format: Numeric

#### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
0	Spouses same age	82	8.2%
1	Bridegroom older	777	77.7%
2	Bridegroom younger	141	14.1%
9	Unspecified	0	0%

**PROVINCECODE: Name of Province****Data file: md-2022-civil-unions-v1****Overview**

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 2 Range: 1 - 99 Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Western Cape	284	28.4%
2	Eastern Cape	32	3.2%
3	Northern Cape	8	0.8%
4	Free State	24	2.4%
5	KwaZulu-Natal	158	15.8%
6	North West	16	1.6%
7	Gauteng	417	41.7%
8	Mpumalanga	11	1.1%
9	Limpopo	8	0.8%
98	Outside RSA	3	0.3%
99	Unspecified	39	3.9%

**REGISTRATIONMONTH: Month of Registration****Data file: md-2022-civil-unions-v1****Overview**

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 2 Range: 1 - 12 Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	January	183	18.3%
2	February	158	15.8%
3	March	253	25.3%
4	April	175	17.5%
5	May	147	14.7%
6	June	28	2.8%
7	July	22	2.2%

8	August	14	1.4%
9	September	8	0.8%
10	October	3	0.3%
11	November	4	0.4%
12	December	5	0.5%

## REGISTRATIONYEAR: Year of Registration

Data file: md-2022-civil-unions-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 4 Range: 2022 - 2022 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
2022	2022	1000	100%

## SPOUSE1AGE: Age of Spouses-1

Data file: md-2022-civil-unions-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 2 Range: 19 - 89 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
19	19	0	0%
20	20	0	0%
22	22	2	0.2%
23	23	4	0.4%
24	24	9	0.9%
25	25	21	2.1%
26	26	24	2.4%
27	27	28	2.8%
28	28	41	4.1%
29	29	53	5.3%

30	30	50	5%
31	31	46	4.6%
32	32	50	5%
33	33	52	5.2%
34	34	50	5%
35	35	41	4.1%
36	36	44	4.4%
37	37	32	3.2%
38	38	35	3.5%
39	39	31	3.1%
40	40	41	4.1%
41	41	25	2.5%
42	42	33	3.3%
43	43	24	2.4%
44	44	17	1.7%
45	45	35	3.5%
46	46	18	1.8%
47	47	14	1.4%
48	48	13	1.3%
49	49	16	1.6%
50	50	19	1.9%
51	51	13	1.3%
52	52	10	1%
53	53	14	1.4%
54	54	10	1%
55	55	13	1.3%
56	56	7	0.7%
57	57	7	0.7%
58	58	9	0.9%
59	59	10	1%
60	60	4	0.4%
61	61	3	0.3%
62	62	9	0.9%
63	63	1	0.1%
64	64	1	0.1%
65	65	1	0.1%
66	66	4	0.4%
67	67	2	0.2%
68	68	2	0.2%

69	69	3	0.3%
70	70	0	0%
71	71	2	0.2%
72	72	2	0.2%
73	73	1	0.1%
74	74	1	0.1%
77	77	1	0.1%
78	78	0	0%
79	79	1	0.1%
80	80	0	0%
81	81	0	0%
84	84	1	0.1%
89	89	0	0%

## SPOUSE2AGE: Age of Spouses-2

Data file: md-2022-civil-unions-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 2 Range: 18 - 81 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
18	18	0	0%
19	19	1	0.1%
20	20	3	0.3%
21	21	4	0.4%
22	22	8	0.8%
23	23	10	1%
24	24	17	1.7%
25	25	32	3.2%
26	26	38	3.8%
27	27	44	4.4%
28	28	38	3.8%
29	29	52	5.2%
30	30	54	5.4%
31	31	67	6.7%

32	32	54	5.4%
33	33	58	5.8%
34	34	49	4.9%
35	35	45	4.5%
36	36	35	3.5%
37	37	43	4.3%
38	38	37	3.7%
39	39	23	2.3%
40	40	31	3.1%
41	41	26	2.6%
42	42	18	1.8%
43	43	30	3%
44	44	17	1.7%
45	45	15	1.5%
46	46	13	1.3%
47	47	15	1.5%
48	48	12	1.2%
49	49	13	1.3%
50	50	14	1.4%
51	51	10	1%
52	52	10	1%
53	53	10	1%
54	54	5	0.5%
55	55	6	0.6%
56	56	4	0.4%
57	57	5	0.5%
58	58	2	0.2%
59	59	3	0.3%
60	60	8	0.8%
61	61	3	0.3%
62	62	5	0.5%
63	63	1	0.1%
64	64	2	0.2%
65	65	1	0.1%
66	66	1	0.1%
67	67	1	0.1%
68	68	0	0%
69	69	3	0.3%
70	70	1	0.1%

71	71	0	0%
72	72	0	0%
73	73	2	0.2%
75	75	1	0.1%
77	77	0	0%
81	81	0	0%

## AGEDIFF: Age difference between Spouses-1 and Spouses-2

Data file: md-2022-civil-unions-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 1 Range: 0 - 2 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
0	Spouses same age	106	10.6%
1	Spouses-1 older	630	63%
2	Spouses-1 younger	264	26.4%

**PROVINCECODE: Name of Province****Data file: md-2022-customary-marriages-v1****Overview**

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 2 Range: 1 - 99 Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Western Cape	6	0.6%
2	Eastern Cape	453	45.3%
3	Northern Cape	1	0.1%
4	Free State	13	1.3%
5	KwaZulu-Natal	120	12%
6	North West	9	0.9%
7	Gauteng	26	2.6%
8	Mpumalanga	69	6.9%
9	Limpopo	287	28.7%
97	Unknown	6	0.6%
98	Outside RSA	5	0.5%
99	Unspecified	5	0.5%

**MARRIAGEYEAR: Year of Marriage****Data file: md-2022-customary-marriages-v1****Overview**

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 4 Range: 1945 - 2022 Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1945	1945	1	0.1%
1947	1947	1	0.1%
1949	1949	1	0.1%
1950	1950	2	0.2%
1951	1951	1	0.1%
1953	1953	1	0.1%

1955	1955	1	0.1%
1956	1956	1	0.1%
1957	1957	1	0.1%
1958	1958	4	0.4%
1959	1959	5	0.5%
1960	1960	6	0.6%
1961	1961	4	0.4%
1962	1962	1	0.1%
1963	1963	6	0.6%
1964	1964	6	0.6%
1965	1965	9	0.9%
1966	1966	12	1.2%
1967	1967	10	1%
1968	1968	20	2%
1969	1969	17	1.7%
1970	1970	24	2.4%
1971	1971	25	2.5%
1972	1972	22	2.2%
1973	1973	21	2.1%
1974	1974	21	2.1%
1975	1975	23	2.3%
1976	1976	36	3.6%
1977	1977	36	3.6%
1978	1978	25	2.5%
1979	1979	30	3%
1980	1980	49	4.9%
1981	1981	38	3.8%
1982	1982	44	4.4%
1983	1983	39	3.9%
1984	1984	46	4.6%
1985	1985	40	4%
1986	1986	38	3.8%
1987	1987	31	3.1%
1988	1988	29	2.9%
1989	1989	28	2.8%
1990	1990	30	3%
1991	1991	16	1.6%
1992	1992	13	1.3%
1993	1993	14	1.4%

1994	1994	16	1.6%
1995	1995	10	1%
1996	1996	9	0.9%
1997	1997	4	0.4%
1998	1998	10	1%
1999	1999	5	0.5%
2000	2000	9	0.9%
2001	2001	6	0.6%
2002	2002	3	0.3%
2003	2003	6	0.6%
2004	2004	9	0.9%
2005	2005	5	0.5%
2006	2006	7	0.7%
2007	2007	8	0.8%
2008	2008	5	0.5%
2009	2009	8	0.8%
2010	2010	7	0.7%
2011	2011	4	0.4%
2012	2012	7	0.7%
2013	2013	7	0.7%
2014	2014	5	0.5%
2015	2015	10	1%
2016	2016	9	0.9%
2017	2017	0	0%
2018	2018	2	0.2%
2019	2019	0	0%
2020	2020	1	0.1%
2021	2021	0	0%
2022	2022	0	0%

## REGISTRATIONYEAR: Year of Registration

Data file: md-2022-customary-marriages-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 4 Range: 2022 - 2022 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
2022	2022	1000	100%

## BRIDEGROOMAGE: Age of Bridegroom

Data file: md-2022-customary-marriages-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 3 Range: 8 - 999 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
8	8	1	0.1%
10	10	1	0.1%
11	11	0	0%
12	12	2	0.2%
15	15	3	0.3%
17	17	16	1.6%
18	18	9	0.9%
19	19	29	2.9%
20	20	59	5.9%
21	21	61	6.1%
22	22	85	8.5%
23	23	90	9%
24	24	99	9.9%
25	25	65	6.5%
26	26	80	8%
27	27	79	7.9%
28	28	70	7%
29	29	46	4.6%
30	30	39	3.9%
31	31	28	2.8%
32	32	31	3.1%
33	33	12	1.2%
34	34	13	1.3%
35	35	17	1.7%
36	36	7	0.7%

37	37	7	0.7%
38	38	10	1%
39	39	7	0.7%
40	40	7	0.7%
41	41	3	0.3%
42	42	4	0.4%
43	43	4	0.4%
44	44	1	0.1%
45	45	5	0.5%
46	46	2	0.2%
47	47	1	0.1%
48	48	1	0.1%
49	49	0	0%
50	50	1	0.1%
51	51	1	0.1%
52	52	1	0.1%
53	53	0	0%
54	54	0	0%
55	55	0	0%
56	56	1	0.1%
57	57	0	0%
58	58	0	0%
59	59	0	0%
60	60	0	0%
61	61	0	0%
62	62	0	0%
63	63	0	0%
64	64	0	0%
65	65	1	0.1%
66	66	0	0%
67	67	0	0%
68	68	0	0%
69	69	0	0%
70	70	0	0%
71	71	0	0%
72	72	0	0%
73	73	0	0%
74	74	0	0%
77	77	0	0%

78	78	0	0%
79	79	0	0%
80	80	0	0%
82	82	0	0%
84	84	0	0%
94	94	0	0%
95	95	0	0%
999	Unspecified	1	0.1%

## BRIDEAGE: Age of Bride

Data file: md-2022-customary-marriages-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 3 Range: 6 - 999 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
6	6	1	0.1%
9	9	1	0.1%
10	10	3	0.3%
11	11	3	0.3%
12	12	11	1.1%
13	13	9	0.9%
14	14	22	2.2%
15	15	40	4%
16	16	93	9.3%
17	17	152	15.2%
18	18	166	16.6%
19	19	154	15.4%
20	20	169	16.9%
21	21	149	14.9%
22	22	27	2.7%
23	23	0	0%
24	24	0	0%
25	25	0	0%
26	26	0	0%

27	27	0	0%
28	28	0	0%
29	29	0	0%
30	30	0	0%
31	31	0	0%
32	32	0	0%
33	33	0	0%
34	34	0	0%
35	35	0	0%
36	36	0	0%
37	37	0	0%
38	38	0	0%
39	39	0	0%
40	40	0	0%
41	41	0	0%
42	42	0	0%
43	43	0	0%
44	44	0	0%
45	45	0	0%
46	46	0	0%
47	47	0	0%
48	48	0	0%
49	49	0	0%
50	50	0	0%
51	51	0	0%
52	52	0	0%
53	53	0	0%
54	54	0	0%
55	55	0	0%
56	56	0	0%
57	57	0	0%
58	58	0	0%
59	59	0	0%
60	60	0	0%
61	61	0	0%
62	62	0	0%
63	63	0	0%
64	64	0	0%
65	65	0	0%

66	66	0	0%
67	67	0	0%
68	68	0	0%
69	69	0	0%
70	70	0	0%
72	72	0	0%
73	73	0	0%
76	76	0	0%
77	77	0	0%
81	81	0	0%
90	90	0	0%
91	91	0	0%
92	92	0	0%
999	Unspecified	0	0%

## AGEDIFF: Age difference between bridegroom and bride

Data file: md-2022-customary-marriages-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 1 Range: 0 - 9 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
0	Spouses same age	19	1.9%
1	Bridegroom older	961	96.1%
2	Bridegroom younger	19	1.9%
9	Unspecified	1	0.1%

**PROVINCECODE: Name of Province****Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 1 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Western Cape	256	25.6%
2	Eastern Cape	78	7.8%
3	Northern Cape	17	1.7%
4	Free State	90	9%
5	KwaZulu-Natal	136	13.6%
6	North West	35	3.5%
7	Gauteng	306	30.6%
8	Mpumalanga	29	2.9%
9	Limpopo	53	5.3%

**MALERACE: Population group of husband****Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 1 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Black African	299	29.9%
2	Coloured	247	24.7%
3	Indian/Asian	87	8.7%
4	White	354	35.4%
5	Other	1	0.1%
9	Unspecified	12	1.2%

**FEMALERACE: Population group of wife****Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 1 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Black African	284	28.4%
2	Coloured	268	26.8%
3	Indian/Asian	78	7.8%
4	White	348	34.8%
5	Other	0	0%
9	Unspecified	22	2.2%

**COUPLERACE: Population group of couple****Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 1 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Black African	274	27.4%
2	Coloured	235	23.5%
3	Indian/Asian	74	7.4%
4	White	344	34.4%
5	Mixed	49	4.9%
9	Unspecified	24	2.4%

**MALEOCCUPATION: Occupation of Husband****Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1****Overview**

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 2    Range: 0 - 99    Format: Numeric

## Questions and instructions

### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
0	Not economically active / Unemployed	139	13.9%
1	Professional, semi-professional and technical occupations	131	13.1%
2	Managers and administrators	93	9.3%
3	Clerical and sales occupations	47	4.7%
4	Transport, delivery and communications	26	2.6%
5	Service occupations	161	16.1%
6	Farming and related occupations	12	1.2%
7	Artisans, apprentice and related occupations	54	5.4%
8	Production foreman, mine and quarry workers	24	2.4%
99	Unspecified	313	31.3%

## FEMALEOCCUPATION: Occupation of wife

Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000    Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete    Decimal: 0    Width: 2    Range: 0 - 99    Format: Numeric

## Questions and instructions

### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
0	Not economically active / Unemployed	207	20.7%
1	Professional, semi-professional and technical occupations	178	17.8%
2	Managers and administrators	85	8.5%
3	Clerical and sales occupations	99	9.9%
4	Transport, delivery and communications	4	0.4%
5	Service occupations	93	9.3%
6	Farming and related occupations	1	0.1%
7	Artisans, apprentice and related occupations	7	0.7%
8	Production foreman, mine and quarry workers	7	0.7%
99	Unspecified	319	31.9%

**PLAINTIFFSEX: Sex of plaintiff**

Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1

**Overview**

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 1 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Male	327	32.7%
2	Female	587	58.7%
3	Both	44	4.4%
9	Unspecified	42	4.2%

**MALESTATUS: Marital status of husband**

Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1

**Overview**

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 1 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Never married	957	95.7%
2	Widower	1	0.1%
3	Divorcee	20	2%
9	Unspecified	22	2.2%

**FEMALESTATUS: Marital status of wife**

Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1

**Overview**

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 1 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

**Questions and instructions**

## CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Never married	926	92.6%
2	Widow	3	0.3%
3	Divorcee	40	4%
9	Unspecified	31	3.1%

## MALENOTIMESMARRIED: Number of times husband married

Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 2 Range: 1 - 99 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	1	965	96.5%
2	2	18	1.8%
3	3	1	0.1%
4	4	0	0%
5	5	0	0%
6	6	0	0%
7	7	0	0%
8	8	0	0%
11	11	0	0%
99	Unspecified	16	1.6%

## FEMALENOTIMESMARRIED: Number of times wife married

Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 2 Range: 1 - 99 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	1	939	93.9%

2	2	39	3.9%
3	3	2	0.2%
4	4	0	0%
5	5	0	0%
6	6	0	0%
8	8	0	0%
11	11	0	0%
99	Unspecified	20	2%

## MALEAGE: Age of husband

Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 3 Range: 20 - 999 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
20	20	2	0.2%
21	21	1	0.1%
22	22	6	0.6%
23	23	24	2.4%
24	24	16	1.6%
25	25	38	3.8%
26	26	57	5.7%
27	27	83	8.3%
28	28	116	11.6%
29	29	153	15.3%
30	30	204	20.4%
31	31	251	25.1%
32	32	48	4.8%
33	33	0	0%
34	34	0	0%
35	35	0	0%
36	36	0	0%
37	37	0	0%
38	38	0	0%

39	39	0	0%
40	40	0	0%
41	41	0	0%
42	42	0	0%
43	43	0	0%
44	44	0	0%
45	45	0	0%
46	46	0	0%
47	47	0	0%
48	48	0	0%
49	49	0	0%
50	50	0	0%
51	51	0	0%
52	52	0	0%
53	53	0	0%
54	54	0	0%
55	55	0	0%
56	56	0	0%
57	57	0	0%
58	58	0	0%
59	59	0	0%
60	60	0	0%
61	61	0	0%
62	62	0	0%
63	63	0	0%
64	64	0	0%
65	65	0	0%
66	66	0	0%
67	67	0	0%
68	68	0	0%
69	69	0	0%
70	70	0	0%
71	71	0	0%
72	72	0	0%
73	73	0	0%
74	74	0	0%
75	75	0	0%
76	76	0	0%
77	77	0	0%

78	78	0	0%
79	79	0	0%
80	80	0	0%
81	81	0	0%
82	82	0	0%
83	83	0	0%
84	84	0	0%
85	85	0	0%
86	86	0	0%
88	88	0	0%
89	89	0	0%
92	92	0	0%
102	102	1	0.1%
999	Unspecified	0	0%

## FEMALEAGE: Age of wife

Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 3 Range: 18 - 999 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
18	18	1	0.1%
19	19	2	0.2%
20	20	2	0.2%
21	21	0	0%
22	22	11	1.1%
23	23	29	2.9%
24	24	41	4.1%
25	25	69	6.9%
26	26	77	7.7%
27	27	95	9.5%
28	28	92	9.2%
29	29	103	10.3%
30	30	101	10.1%

31	31	83	8.3%
32	32	69	6.9%
33	33	35	3.5%
34	34	33	3.3%
35	35	20	2%
36	36	18	1.8%
37	37	21	2.1%
38	38	12	1.2%
39	39	10	1%
40	40	9	0.9%
41	41	1	0.1%
42	42	5	0.5%
43	43	3	0.3%
44	44	5	0.5%
45	45	4	0.4%
46	46	5	0.5%
47	47	2	0.2%
48	48	2	0.2%
49	49	1	0.1%
50	50	4	0.4%
51	51	4	0.4%
52	52	0	0%
53	53	0	0%
54	54	0	0%
55	55	0	0%
56	56	0	0%
57	57	2	0.2%
58	58	1	0.1%
59	59	0	0%
60	60	0	0%
61	61	0	0%
62	62	0	0%
63	63	0	0%
64	64	0	0%
65	65	0	0%
66	66	1	0.1%
67	67	0	0%
68	68	0	0%
69	69	0	0%

70	70	0	0%
71	71	0	0%
72	72	0	0%
73	73	0	0%
74	74	0	0%
75	75	0	0%
76	76	0	0%
77	77	0	0%
78	78	0	0%
79	79	0	0%
80	80	0	0%
81	81	0	0%
82	82	0	0%
83	83	0	0%
999	Unspecified	27	2.7%

### SOLEMNISATIONCODE: Way of solemnisation

Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1

#### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 1 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

#### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Religious	466	46.6%
2	DHA	414	41.4%
9	Unspecified	120	12%

### MARRIAGEPROPERTYSYSTEM: Matrimonial property system

Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1

#### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 58 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

## Questions and instructions

### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	1. In community of property	785	78.5%
2	2. Out of community of property	74	7.4%
3	3. Out of community of property (excluding accrual system)	66	6.6%
4	4. Out of community of property (including accrual system)	50	5%
5	5. Other	0	0%
9	9. Unspecified	25	2.5%

## MARRIAGEMONTH: Month of marriage

Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 15 Range: 1 - 99 Format: Numeric

## Questions and instructions

### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	1. January	47	4.7%
2	2. February	57	5.7%
3	3. March	100	10%
4	4. April	68	6.8%
5	5. May	67	6.7%
6	6. June	74	7.4%
7	7. July	62	6.2%
8	8. August	86	8.6%
9	9. September	100	10%
10	10. October	85	8.5%
11	11. November	88	8.8%
12	12. December	120	12%
99	99. Unspecified	46	4.6%

## MARRIAGEYEAR: Year of marriage

Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1

## Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0 Minimum: 1989 Maximum: 9999 Mean: 2392.575 Standard deviation: 1690.056  
 Type: Continuous Decimal: 0 Width: 10 Range: 1989 - 9999 Format: Numeric

## NOOFCHILDREN: Number of children involved

Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 10 Range: 0 - 5 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
0		520	52%
1		323	32.3%
2		139	13.9%
3		15	1.5%
4		1	0.1%
5		2	0.2%

## DIVORCEMONTH: Month of divorce

Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0  
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 15 Range: 1 - 99 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	1. January	47	4.7%
2	2. February	69	6.9%
3	3. March	82	8.2%
4	4. April	84	8.4%
5	5. May	101	10.1%
6	6. June	88	8.8%
7	7. July	98	9.8%
8	8. August	94	9.4%

9	9. September	107	10.7%
10	10. October	80	8%
11	11. November	95	9.5%
12	12. December	55	5.5%
99	99. Unspecified	0	0%

## DIVORCEYEAR: Year of divorce

Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 10 Range: 2022 - 2022 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
2022		1000	100%

## DURATIONOFMARRIAGE: Duration of marriage

Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0 Minimum: 0 Maximum: 999 Mean: 68.918 Standard deviation: 245.363

Type: Continuous Decimal: 0 Width: 10 Range: 0 - 999 Format: Numeric

## MARRIAGETYPE: Type of marriage

Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 21 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	1. Civil marriage	623	62.3%
2	2. Customary marriage	11	1.1%
3	3. Civil union	23	2.3%

4	4. Other	0	0%
9	9. Unspecified	343	34.3%

## POLYGAMOUSMARRIAGE: Involved in polygamous marriage

Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 14 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	1. Yes	2	0.2%
2	2. No	628	62.8%
9	9. Unspecified	370	37%

## GROUNDSFORDIVORCE: Main grounds for divorce

Data file: md-2022-divorces-v1

### Overview

Valid: 1000 Invalid: 0

Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 25 Range: 1 - 9 Format: Numeric

### Questions and instructions

#### CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	1. Adultery	164	16.4%
2	2. Abuse	95	9.5%
3	3. Childlessness	1	0.1%
4	4. Desertion	107	10.7%
5	5. Financial difficulties	37	3.7%
6	6. Medical Insanity	1	0.1%
7	7. Imprisonment	0	0%
9	9. Unspecified	595	59.5%

# study\_resources

## questionnaires

### Divorces form 07-04

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title Divorces form 07-04  
date 2022-01-01  
country South Africa  
contributors This is the questionnaire for the divorces data.  
filename divorces-form-2022.pdf

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## reports

### Marriages and divorces 2022 statistical release

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title Marriages and divorces 2022 statistical release  
date 2022-01-01  
country South Africa  
contributors This is the final report from the survey.  
publishers Statistics South Africa  
description This is the final report for the dataset.  
filename md-2022-release.pdf

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## technical\_documents

### Marriages and divorces metadata 2022

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title Marriages and divorces metadata 2022  
date 2022-01-01  
country South Africa  
contributors This document contains information about the variables, methodology and marriage legislation.  
filename md-2022-metadata.pdf

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