

# Marriage and Divorce Statistics in 2015

## I. Marriage

**The number of marriages went down by 0.9 percent (2.7 thousand cases) to 302.8 thousand cases in 2015.**

- The crude marriage rate (the number of marriages per 1,000 population) stood at 5.9 cases in 2015, which recorded the lowest figure after the first-time statistical production in 1970.

[ Table ] Number of marriages and crude marriage rate (2005-2015)

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Number of marriages (thousand cases)	314.3	330.6	343.6	327.7	309.8	326.1	329.1	327.1	322.8	305.5	<b>302.8</b>
Change (thousand cases)	5.7	16.3	12.9	-15.8	-18.0	16.3	3.0	-2.0	-4.3	-17.3	<b>-2.7</b>
Percent (%)	1.8	5.2	3.9	-4.6	-5.5	5.3	0.9	-0.6	-1.3	-5.4	<b>-0.9</b>
Crude marriage rate*	6.5	6.8	7.0	6.6	6.2	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.0	<b>5.9</b>

\* The number of marriages per 1,000 population

- The couples of 'males at first marriage and females at first marriage' occupied 78.7 percent of the total marriages. The couples of 'males at remarriage and females at remarriage' occupied 11.5 percent of the total marriages.
- The mean age at first marriage for males was 32.6 years in 2015, up 0.2 year from 2014. The mean age at first marriage for females was 30.0 years in 2015, up 0.2 year from 2014.
- The mean age at first marriage for females exceeded 30 years for the first time.

[ Table ] Mean age at first marriage and remarriage (2005-2015)

(Unit: year)

		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Change*	
													From 2014	From 2005
First marriage	Males	30.9	31.0	31.1	31.4	31.6	31.8	31.9	32.1	32.2	32.4	<b>32.6</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>1.7</b>
	Females	27.7	27.8	28.1	28.3	28.7	28.9	29.1	29.4	29.6	29.8	<b>30.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>2.2</b>
Remarriage	Males	44.1	44.4	44.8	45.0	45.7	46.1	46.3	46.6	46.8	47.1	<b>47.6</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>3.5</b>
	Females	39.6	39.7	40.1	40.3	41.1	41.6	41.9	42.3	42.5	43.0	<b>43.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>3.9</b>

\* Rounded to 2 decimal places

- Older female couples at first marriage occupied 16.3 percent of the total marriages, which showed an ever-increasing trend.
- Older male couples occupied 67.6 percent of the total marriages, which showed a decreasing trend.

○ The number of marriages with foreign spouses declined by 8.8 percent (2 thousand cases) to 21.3 thousand cases in 2015.

- In 2015, marriages with a foreign spouse occupied 7.0 percent of the total marriages, down 0.6%p from 2014.

[ Table ] Marriage with a foreign spouse (2005-2015)

(Unit: thousand cases, %)

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of marriages	314.3	330.6	343.6	327.7	309.8	326.1	329.1
Marriage with a foreign spouse	42.4	38.8	37.6	36.2	33.3	34.2	29.8
Korean males and foreign females	30.7	29.7	28.6	28.2	25.1	26.3	22.3
Korean females and foreign males	11.6	9.1	9.0	8.0	8.2	8.0	7.5
	2012	2013	2014	2015	Percent	Year-on-year percent change	
Number of marriages	327.1	322.8	305.5	302.8	100.0	-0.9	
Marriage with a foreign spouse	28.3	26.0	23.3	21.3	7.0	-8.8	
Korean males and foreign females	20.6	18.3	16.2	14.7	4.8	-9.1	
Korean females and foreign males	7.7	7.7	7.2	6.6	2.2	-7.9	

○ As for the crude marriage rate by province, Sejong recorded the highest figures of 8.2 cases, which was followed by Seoul (6.5 cases) and Ulsan (6.4 cases).

[ Table ] Number of marriages and crude marriage rate by province (2014-2015)

(Unit: case, %, per 1,000 population)

	Number of marriages						Crude marriage rate		
	2014	Percent	2015	Percent	Year-on-year Change	Percent change	2014	2015	Year-on-year change
The nation*	305,507	100.0	302,828	100.0	-2,679	-0.9	6.0	5.9	-0.1
Seoul	64,823	21.2	64,193	21.2	-630	-1.0	6.5	6.5	0.0
Busan	18,927	6.2	18,553	6.1	-374	-2.0	5.4	5.3	-0.1
Daegu	12,552	4.1	12,545	4.1	-7	-0.1	5.1	5.1	0.0
Incheon	17,251	5.6	17,118	5.7	-133	-0.8	6.0	5.9	-0.1
Gwangju	8,213	2.7	7,945	2.6	-268	-3.3	5.6	5.4	-0.2
Daejeon	9,118	3.0	8,805	2.9	-313	-3.4	6.0	5.8	-0.2
Ulsan	7,674	2.5	7,483	2.5	-191	-2.5	6.6	6.4	-0.2
Sejong	920	0.3	1,498	0.5	578	62.8	6.7	8.2	1.5
Gyeonggi	74,306	24.3	73,950	24.4	-356	-0.5	6.1	6.0	-0.1
Gangwon	7,785	2.5	7,876	2.6	91	1.2	5.1	5.1	0.0
Chungbuk	8,774	2.9	8,872	2.9	98	1.1	5.6	5.6	0.0
Chungnam	12,040	3.9	12,331	4.1	291	2.4	5.9	6.0	0.1
Jeonbuk	9,211	3.0	9,060	3.0	-151	-1.6	5.0	4.9	-0.1
Jeonnam	9,357	3.1	9,275	3.1	-82	-0.9	4.9	4.9	0.0
Gyeongbuk	14,183	4.6	14,273	4.7	90	0.6	5.3	5.3	0.0
Gyeongnam	19,056	6.2	18,671	6.2	-385	-2.0	5.7	5.6	-0.1
Jeju	3,593	1.2	3,676	1.2	83	2.3	6.0	6.0	0.0

\* Including overseas marriages

- The mean age at first marriage for males and females in Seoul was 33.0 years and 30.8 years, respectively, which recorded the highest figure.

[ Table ] Mean age at marriage by province (2014-2015)

(Unit: year)

	Mean age at first marriage						Mean age at remarriage					
	2014		2015		Year-on-year change**		2014		2015		Year-on-year change**	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
The nation*	32.4	29.8	32.6	30.0	0.2	0.2	47.1	43.0	47.6	43.5	0.5	0.5
Seoul	32.8	30.7	33.0	30.8	0.1	0.1	48.1	44.4	48.5	45.0	0.4	0.6
Busan	32.7	30.4	32.9	30.5	0.2	0.2	47.7	43.6	48.6	44.9	0.9	1.3
Daegu	32.3	30.0	32.5	30.2	0.2	0.2	47.0	43.3	47.2	43.6	0.2	0.4
Incheon	32.3	29.6	32.5	29.9	0.2	0.2	47.0	43.3	47.5	44.1	0.5	0.8
Gwangju	32.5	29.9	32.8	30.1	0.3	0.2	46.9	42.7	46.2	42.4	-0.7	-0.3
Daejeon	32.1	29.7	32.3	29.8	0.1	0.1	46.4	42.9	47.8	43.9	1.4	1.1
Ulsan	32.0	29.6	32.0	29.7	-0.1	0.1	45.6	42.4	46.1	42.2	0.5	-0.2
Sejong	32.9	29.8	32.5	30.3	-0.4	0.5	46.5	42.7	47.3	42.4	0.7	-0.3
Gyeonggi	32.4	29.9	32.6	30.0	0.1	0.1	46.9	43.3	47.4	43.8	0.5	0.5
Gangwon	32.2	29.4	32.2	29.6	0.0	0.2	47.3	43.7	48.1	44.1	0.8	0.4
Chungbuk	31.9	29.1	32.2	29.5	0.3	0.4	46.7	42.5	47.2	42.9	0.5	0.3
Chungnam	32.0	29.0	32.1	29.2	0.0	0.2	46.1	42.1	47.2	43.1	1.1	1.0
Jeonbuk	32.3	29.4	32.6	29.4	0.3	0.0	46.9	42.4	47.5	42.9	0.6	0.5
Jeonnam	32.3	29.2	32.6	29.3	0.3	0.2	47.7	43.5	47.6	43.0	0.0	-0.6
Gyeongbuk	32.0	29.5	32.3	29.5	0.3	0.1	47.2	42.7	47.8	43.4	0.6	0.7
Gyeongnam	32.2	29.6	32.3	29.8	0.1	0.1	47.0	43.1	47.5	42.9	0.5	-0.2
Jeju	32.4	29.8	32.8	30.1	0.4	0.3	46.8	42.6	47.4	43.7	0.6	1.1

\* Including overseas marriages

\*\* Rounded to 2 decimal places

## II. Divorce

**The number of divorces went down by 5.5 percent (6.4 thousand cases) to 109.2 thousand cases in 2015.**

- The crude divorce rate (the number of divorces per 1,000 population) stood at 2.1 cases in 2015, which recorded the lowest figure after recording 2.0 cases in 1997.
- The divorce rate of married people (the number of divorces per 1,000 married population) stood at 4.4 cases in 2015, which dropped by 0.3 case from 2014.

[ Table ] Number of divorces, crude divorce rate and divorce rate of married people (2005-2015)

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Number of divorces (thousand cases)	128.0	124.5	124.1	116.5	124.0	116.9	114.3	114.3	115.3	115.5	109.2
Change (thousand cases)	-10.9	-3.5	-0.5	-7.5	7.5	-7.1	-2.6	0.0	1.0	0.2	-6.4
Percent change (%)	-7.8	-2.7	-0.4	-6.1	6.4	-5.8	-2.2	0.0	0.9	0.2	-5.5
Crude divorce rate*	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.1
Divorce rate of married people**	5.5	5.3	5.2	4.9	5.2	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.4

\* Per 1,000 population

\*\* Per 1,000 married population aged 15 or more

- The mean age at divorce for males and females was 46.9 years and 43.3 years, respectively. These figures showed an upward trend.

[ Table ] Mean age at divorce (2005-2015)

(Unit: year)

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Change*	
												From 2014	From 2005
Males	42.1	42.6	43.2	44.3	44.5	45.0	45.4	45.9	46.2	46.5	46.9	0.4	4.9
Females	38.6	39.0	39.5	40.5	40.7	41.1	41.5	42.0	42.4	42.8	43.3	0.5	4.8

\* Rounded to 2 decimal places

- The mean duration of marriage before getting divorced was 14.6 years in 2015, up 0.3 year from the previous year.
- The duration of '20 years or more' of marriage occupied the highest share at 29.9 percent, which was followed by the duration of 'less than 5 years' (22.6 percent).

[ Table ] Number of divorces by mean duration of marriage before getting divorced (2005-2015)

(Unit: thousand cases, %, year)

	2005		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
	Percent						
Total*	128.0	(100.0)	124.5	124.1	116.5	124.0	116.9
Less than 5 years	33.1	(25.9)	33.0	33.7	33.1	33.7	31.5
5 to 9 years	28.5	(22.3)	27.3	25.5	21.7	23.6	22.0
10 to 14 years	23.6	(18.4)	22.4	21.7	18.3	20.0	18.6
15 to 19 years	18.9	(14.8)	18.0	18.3	16.5	18.4	16.9
20 years or more	23.9	(18.6)	23.8	25.0	26.9	28.3	27.8
- 20 to 24 years	12.6	(9.8)	12.0	11.7	11.9	12.8	12.6
- 25 to 29 years	6.5	(5.0)	6.7	7.2	7.9	8.3	7.7
- 30 years or more	4.8	(3.7)	5.2	6.1	7.1	7.2	7.5
Mean duration of marriage	12.0	-	12.1	12.3	12.8	12.9	13.0

  

	2011		2012		2013	2014	2015	Year-on-year	
	Percent		Percent					percent change	
Total*	114.3	114.3	115.3	115.5	109.2	100.0	-5.5		
Less than 5 years	30.7	28.2	27.3	27.2	24.7	22.6	-9.2		
5 to 9 years	21.7	21.5	21.5	22.0	20.8	19.1	-5.3		
10 to 14 years	17.4	17.7	16.9	16.3	14.9	13.6	-8.7		
15 to 19 years	16.2	16.6	17.2	17.0	16.2	14.8	-4.5		
20 years or more	28.3	30.2	32.4	33.1	32.6	29.9	-1.6		
- 20 to 24 years	12.6	13.6	14.4	14.2	13.4	12.3	-5.7		
- 25 to 29 years	7.7	8.0	8.7	8.6	8.8	8.1	2.2		
- 30 years or more	7.9	8.6	9.4	10.3	10.4	9.6	1.1		
Mean duration of marriage	13.2	13.7	14.1	14.3	14.6	-	-		

\* Including 'Unidentified'

- The number of divorces from foreign spouses declined by 15.6 percent (1.5 thousand cases) to 8.2 thousand cases in 2015.
- In 2015, divorces from foreign spouses occupied 7.5 percent of the total divorces, down 0.9%p from 2014.

[ Table ] Divorce from a foreign spouse (2005-2015)

(Unit: thousand cases, %)

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of divorces	128.0	124.5	124.1	116.5	124.0	116.9	114.3
Divorce from a foreign spouse	4.2	6.1	8.3	11.0	11.5	11.1	11.5
Korean males and foreign females	2.4	3.9	5.6	7.9	8.2	7.9	8.3
Korean females and foreign males	1.8	2.2	2.7	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.1
	2012	2013	2014	2015	Percent	Year-on-year percent change	
Number of divorces	114.3	115.3	115.5	<b>109.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-5.5</b>	
Divorce from a foreign spouse	10.9	10.5	9.8	<b>8.2</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>-15.6</b>	
Korean males and foreign females	7.9	7.6	7.0	<b>5.7</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>-17.9</b>	
Korean females and foreign males	3.0	2.9	2.8	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>-9.5</b>	

- As for the crude divorce rate by province, Incheon recorded the highest figure of 2.5 cases, which was followed by Jeju (2.4 cases), Chungnam (2.3 cases) and Gangwon (2.3 cases).

[ Table ] Number of divorces and crude divorce rate by province (2014-2015)

(Unit: case, %, per 1,000 population)

	Number of divorces						Crude divorce rate		
	2014	Percent	2015	Percent	Year-on-year Change	Year-on-year Percent change	2014	2015	Year-on-year change
The nation*	115,510	100.0	<b>109,153</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-6,357</b>	<b>-5.5</b>	2.3	<b>2.1</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Seoul	19,477	16.9	<b>18,176</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>-1,301</b>	<b>-6.7</b>	2.0	<b>1.8</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Busan	7,345	6.4	<b>6,649</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>-696</b>	<b>-9.5</b>	2.1	<b>1.9</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
Daegu	4,794	4.2	<b>4,497</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>-297</b>	<b>-6.2</b>	1.9	<b>1.8</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Incheon	7,417	6.4	<b>7,116</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>-301</b>	<b>-4.1</b>	2.6	<b>2.5</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Gwangju	3,051	2.6	<b>2,842</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>-209</b>	<b>-6.9</b>	2.1	<b>1.9</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Daejeon	3,221	2.8	<b>2,999</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>-222</b>	<b>-6.9</b>	2.1	<b>2.0</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Ulsan	2,731	2.4	<b>2,406</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>-325</b>	<b>-11.9</b>	2.4	<b>2.1</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
Sejong	280	0.2	<b>324</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>15.7</b>	2.0	<b>1.8</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
Gyeonggi	28,892	25.0	<b>27,688</b>	<b>25.4</b>	<b>-1,204</b>	<b>-4.2</b>	2.4	<b>2.2</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Gangwon	3,630	3.1	<b>3,484</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>-146</b>	<b>-4.0</b>	2.4	<b>2.3</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Chungbuk	3,671	3.2	<b>3,486</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>-185</b>	<b>-5.0</b>	2.3	<b>2.2</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Chungnam	4,915	4.3	<b>4,724</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>-191</b>	<b>-3.9</b>	2.4	<b>2.3</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Jeonbuk	4,091	3.5	<b>3,755</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>-336</b>	<b>-8.2</b>	2.2	<b>2.0</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
Jeonnam	4,135	3.6	<b>4,033</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>-102</b>	<b>-2.5</b>	2.2	<b>2.1</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Gyeongbuk	5,503	4.8	<b>5,348</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>-155</b>	<b>-2.8</b>	2.1	<b>2.0</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Gyeongnam	7,602	6.6	<b>7,368</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>-234</b>	<b>-3.1</b>	2.3	<b>2.2</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Jeju	1,530	1.3	<b>1,447</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>-83</b>	<b>-5.4</b>	2.6	<b>2.4</b>	<b>-0.2</b>

\* Including overseas divorces