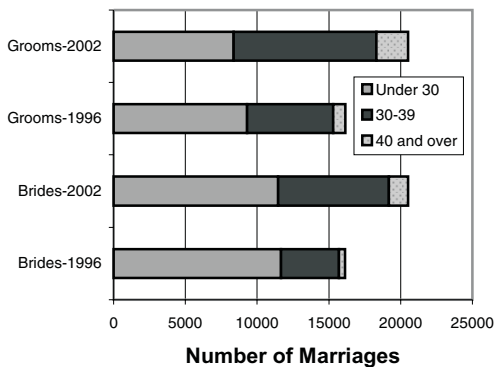




Marriages 2002

**Ages of Brides and Grooms,
1996 and 2002**



	2002	1996
Marriages	20,556	16,174
Average Age of Groom	32.5	30.2
Average Age of Bride	30.4	28.4
Civil Marriages	3,683	928

Couples marrying later

The average age of grooms in 2002 was 32.5 years, compared with 30.2 years in 1996 and 28.6 years in 1990. The pattern for brides is similar with the average age increasing steadily from 26.6 years in 1990 to 30.4 years in 2002. *See Table 1.*

The number of marriages registered in 2002 was 20,556, which equates to a crude marriage rate of 5.2 per 1,000 of the population. This compares with a total of 16,174 and a marriage rate of 4.5 per thousand in 1996.

The number of civil marriages almost quadrupled from 928 in 1996 to 3,683 in 2002. This represents an increase from 5.7% of all marriages in 1996 to 17.9% in 2002. A contributing factor to this increase was the legalisation of divorce in 1997 and the consequential increase in the incidence of re-marriage. *See Table 1.*

The most popular month for marriage in 2002 was August, when 17% of marriages occurred. The least popular months were January and February, with just 3% of marriages occurring in each of these months. Saturday is the most popular day of the week to get married with almost 40% of marriages occurring on that day. The least popular day was Sunday when just 2% of marriages were recorded. *See Table 16.*

Data for the years 1997-2001 inclusive are not yet available due to difficulties associated with extraction of the relevant information from the marriage registration documentation.

Work on the marriage data for 2003 and 2004 is ongoing. Difficulties in the processing of data for these years are also being experienced due to the phased implementation of the electronic registration system.

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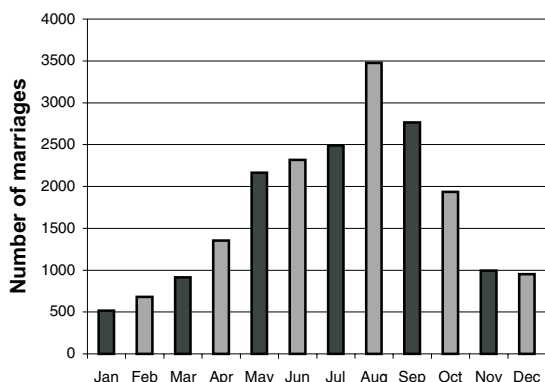
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Marriages by month



Almost 60% of grooms aged over thirty on wedding day

In 2002 59.3% of grooms were aged thirty or over on their wedding day. This contrasts with 42.4% in 1996 and just 28% in 1990. The proportion of older brides has also increased, with 44.2% aged thirty or over in 2002 compared with 27.7% in 1996 and 16.2% in 1990. *See Table 1.*

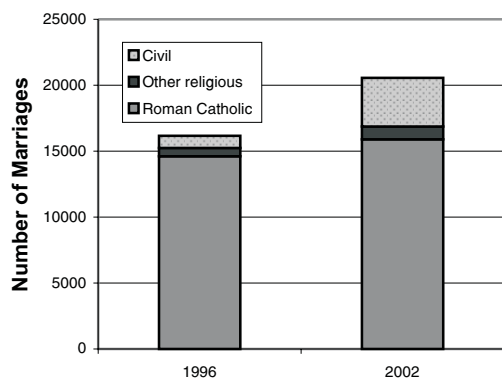
The overall marriage rate for males aged 16 to 49, which had declined from 20.4 per thousand in 1991 to 17.7 in 1996, increased to 19.7 per 1,000 in 2002. However an examination of the age specific marriage rates shows vastly differing trends over the entire period for those in their twenties vis-à-vis those in their thirties. The marriage rate declined for each age from 20 to 28 inclusive between 1991 and 2002 while a small increase occurred for those aged 29 years. For each of the ages 30 to 49 inclusive there were significant increases in the male marriage rate in all cases.

The overall marriage rate for females aged 16 to 49 shows a similar pattern and increased from 17.8 marriages per 1,000 in 1996 to 20.2 marriages per 1,000 in 2002. The marriage rate for females decreased for each age from 20 to 26 inclusive between 1991 and 2002. For those aged 27 the rate increased between 1991 and 1996 but fell back to just below the 1991 rate in 2002. There were significant increases in the female marriage rate for each age from 28 to 49 inclusive. *See Table 2.*

In 2002 the groom was older than the bride in 63% of marriages, the same age in a further 12% of marriages and in the remaining 25% of cases the bride was older than the groom. *See Tables 7 and 8.*

The highest average age for grooms was in Dun Laoghaire Rathdown, with an average age of 34.8 years, with the lowest average age of 30.4 years in County Longford. The highest average age for brides was also in Dun Laoghaire Rathdown, with an average age of 32.4 years, while the lowest average age was 28.7 years in County Donegal. *See Tables 9 and 10.*

Form of Ceremony, 1996 and 2002



Catholic Church marriages fall as a proportion of all marriages

The number of Roman Catholic marriage ceremonies increased from 14,607 in 1996 to 15,908 in 2002. However, this increase masked a significant decline, from over 90% to 77%, in the proportion of all marriages accounted for by these ceremonies. The quadrupling in the number of Civil Marriages (with the proportion of the total increasing from under 6% to almost 18%) accounts for this decline in the Roman Catholic share.

The number of Church of Ireland ceremonies increased from 483 to 781, or from 3% of all marriages in 1996 to 3.8% of all marriages in 2002.

The number of marriages for other religious denominations that are licensed to register marriages¹ showed very little change over the five-year period from 1996 to 2002, increasing from 156 to 184. *See Table 1.*

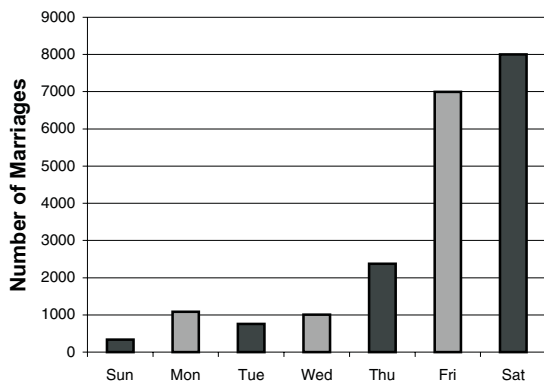
Couples in Civil Marriages older than overall average

The average age of the groom in civil marriages was 36.4 years, almost 4 years higher than the overall average of 32.5. The average age of the bride in civil marriages was 33.4 years, 3 years higher than the overall average of 30.4. A contributing factor to this higher average age is re-marriage following divorce. However, specific data on this category is not yet available.

Over one-third of grooms (34.8%) and brides (35.5%) residing in Dublin City had civil marriages. On the other hand, less than one in twenty grooms (4.7%) and brides (4.5%) living in County Monaghan had civil marriages.

¹ See Background Notes

Marriages by day of week



At regional level, 28.4% of grooms and 29% of brides living in the Dublin region had civil marriages. By contrast, only 10.5% of grooms and 9.8% of brides living in the Border region had civil marriages. *See Tables 14 and 15.*

Less couples living outside Ireland after marriage

Almost 90% of grooms and just over 91% of brides were living in Ireland before marriage. The future permanent residence of the married couple was stated to be outside Ireland in just over 11% of marriages, compared with 16% in 1996. *See Tables 1, 9 and 10.*

Over 88% of grooms residing in Donegal married brides residing in Donegal. On the other hand, less than 63% of Leitrim grooms married brides residing in Leitrim.

In relation to brides almost 85% of brides residing in Wexford married grooms residing in Wexford. At the other end of the scale, however, just 52% of Leitrim brides married grooms residing in Leitrim.

In almost 1,700 marriages the bride and groom were both resident outside the State. In a further 473 cases a non-resident groom married a bride resident in the State while just 159 non resident brides married grooms living here. *See Tables 11 and 12.*

Table 1 Summary data for marriages 1990-1996 and 2002

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	2002
State	17,838	17,441	16,636	16,824	16,621	15,604	16,174	20,556
Marriages per 1,000 population	5.1	4.9	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.3	4.5	5.2
Average Age of Groom	28.6	28.7	29.0	29.3	29.8	30.0	30.2	32.5
Average Age of Bride	26.6	26.9	27.1	27.4	27.8	28.1	28.4	30.4
Percentage of Marriages by Age of Groom								
Under 20	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.7
20-24	23.8	22.0	19.6	17.3	14.9	12.8	10.8	5.4
25-29	47.1	47.4	47.9	47.9	47.4	46.5	46.3	34.6
30-34	18.3	20.0	21.6	23.0	24.3	27.3	29.0	34.9
35-39	5.6	5.7	5.9	6.5	7.3	7.8	8.2	13.6
Over 40	4.1	4.0	4.2	4.6	5.4	5.1	5.2	10.8
Percentage of Marriages by Age of Bride								
Under 20	3.4	3.2	2.5	2.1	1.6	1.6	1.2	1.2
20-24	37.8	35.1	32.4	29.9	27.3	23.7	21.6	11.7
25-29	42.6	43.5	46.2	46.8	47.5	49.1	49.5	42.9
30-34	11.1	12.6	13.5	14.8	16.7	18.8	19.9	28.3
35-39	3.1	3.6	3.3	4.0	4.1	4.4	5.1	9.4
Over 40	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.4	2.8	2.4	2.7	6.5
Form of Ceremony								
Roman Catholic	16,626	16,293	15,255	15,400	15,200	14,158	14,607	15,908
Church of Ireland	423	392	521	444	434	425	483	781
Presbyterian	73	52	98	58	51	76	91	112
Methodist	27	30	35	43	33	25	38	40
Jewish	6	0	0	1	3	1	2	6
Other Religious	27	25	32	41	50	28	25	26
Civil Marriages	656	649	695	837	850	891	928	3,683
Country of Future Residence								
Outside Republic of Ireland	3,123	2,887	2,656	2,740	2,661	2,502	2,604	2,293
Northern Ireland	174	202	176	204	235	216	271	256
Britain	1,933	1,845	1,710	1,614	1,537	1,404	1,359	1,205
Europe (remainder)	192	162	193	242	166	203	222	182
U.S.A	524	438	363	415	509	490	570	480
Elsewhere	300	240	214	265	214	189	182	170
Percentage of Marriages with Country of Future Residence outside Republic of Ireland	17.5	16.6	16.0	16.3	16.0	16.0	16.1	11.2

Table 2 Age specific marriage rates in 1991,1996 and 2002

Age	Marriages per 1,000 males at specified ages			Marriages per 1,000 females at specified ages		
	1991	1996	2002	1991	1996	2002
All ages, 16-49	20.4	17.7	19.7	20.7	17.8	20.2
16-19	1.2	0.6	1.0	4.3	1.5	2.0
20	7.7	1.9	2.0	18.0	6.1	4.7
21	13.8	4.7	3.0	31.4	12.0	7.3
22	26.5	9.1	5.6	50.5	21.7	12.1
23	41.9	16.3	8.2	65.2	32.9	20.8
24	59.2	28.3	15.8	78.2	50.8	30.2
20-24	28.2	11.7	6.8	47.1	24.3	14.8
25	71.6	45.2	25.6	80.3	60.4	43.1
26	79.9	55.4	35.8	74.8	67.4	52.7
27	73.6	67.4	51.0	61.9	70.3	61.2
28	65.8	65.6	57.4	48.5	60.7	64.9
29	51.9	57.5	57.3	37.2	50.0	59.4
25-29	68.5	57.9	45.6	60.4	61.8	56.4
30	44.1	53.1	59.5	28.0	38.1	52.7
31	34.2	44.7	54.4	21.2	29.5	45.2
32	25.5	34.9	46.0	15.8	22.2	38.2
33	20.9	27.9	41.1	12.1	17.9	29.0
34	16.0	23.0	33.3	9.3	13.1	23.9
30-34	28.3	36.7	47.1	17.4	24.2	38.1
35	13.0	16.1	28.4	7.7	10.5	18.3
36	10.6	12.3	23.1	6.3	7.9	16.0
37	6.9	10.3	17.9	5.5	5.8	12.8
38	6.0	7.6	14.6	3.5	3.8	10.6
39	5.1	6.1	12.5	3.0	3.2	8.0
35-39	8.3	10.5	19.3	5.2	6.3	13.1
40	3.9	4.9	10.6	2.3	2.7	6.9
41	3.4	4.2	8.1	1.6	2.4	6.2
42	3.1	3.4	6.7	1.1	1.4	4.4
43	3.3	2.7	6.3	1.2	0.9	3.7
44	1.6	2.8	5.6	0.7	1.4	3.1
40-44	3.1	3.6	7.5	1.4	1.8	4.9
45	1.9	2.1	4.9	1.1	1.2	2.7
46	1.3	1.7	4.7	0.8	0.8	3.0
47	1.6	1.3	4.4	0.7	0.5	2.2
48	1.0	1.4	3.7	0.4	0.7	2.5
49	0.9	1.3	3.3	0.5	0.7	2.3
45-49	1.4	1.6	4.2	0.7	0.8	2.5

Table 3 Marriages registered in 2002 classified according to age of groom/age of bride and form of ceremony

Age	Form of Ceremony*					Total
	Catholic	Church of Ireland	Presbyterian	Other Religious denominations	Civil marriages	
Age of groom						
Under 20	78	-	1	-	56	135
20-24	748	30	13	13	315	1,119
25-29	6,036	260	30	21	755	7,102
30-34	6,016	263	35	20	838	7,172
35-39	2,054	116	13	12	595	2,790
40-44	576	42	6	3	386	1,013
45-49	191	19	4	-	310	524
50-54	83	8	5	2	210	308
55-59	47	14	2	1	109	173
60 and over	71	13	3	-	104	191
Not stated	8	16	-	-	5	29
All ages	15,908	781	112	72	3,683	20,556
Age of bride						
Under 20	134	2	2	1	112	251
20-24	1,766	77	15	22	529	2,409
25-29	7,558	336	50	25	841	8,810
30-34	4,710	226	23	14	825	5,798
35-39	1,235	72	10	6	597	1,920
40-44	299	19	5	2	345	670
45-49	89	11	1	1	215	317
50-54	36	10	4	-	118	168
55-59	32	11	1	1	61	106
60 and over	34	1	1	-	35	71
Not stated	15	16	-	-	5	36
All ages	15,908	781	112	72	3,683	20,556
Average age of groom	31.6	33.2	33.8	31.4	36.4	32.5
Average age of bride	29.7	30.9	30.9	28.9	33.4	30.4

* There is at present no provision for the civil registration of Muslim Marriage Ceremonies solemnised in the State.

Table 4 Marriages registered in 2002 classified by socio-economic group and age of groom

Socio-economic group of groom	Age of groom												Average age of groom
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not stated	All ages	
Farmers, relatives assisting and farm managers	2	21	237	326	139	55	26	13	14	23	1	857	34.3
Other agricultural occupations and fishermen	4	25	109	92	36	13	10	4	-	2	-	295	31.7
Higher professional	2	35	704	909	318	93	57	23	13	16	4	2,174	32.9
Lower professional	2	50	479	544	218	91	59	34	15	10	-	1,502	33.4
Employers and managers	4	88	966	1,262	494	173	94	68	45	29	6	3,229	33.5
Salaried employees	-	18	234	237	87	20	17	14	8	4	-	639	32.7
Intermediate non - manual workers	3	97	588	543	187	86	47	13	10	16	3	1,593	32.2
Other non - manual workers	9	196	859	784	362	144	71	45	27	18	3	2,518	32.5
Skilled manual workers	14	353	2,238	1,952	754	258	102	69	22	37	11	5,810	31.8
Other manual workers	15	97	520	412	151	67	29	17	10	7	-	1,325	31.6
Not stated	80	139	168	111	44	13	12	8	9	29	1	614	30.2
Total	135	1,119	7,102	7,172	2,790	1,013	524	308	173	191	29	20,556	32.5

Table 5 Marriages registered in 2002 classified by socio-economic group and age of bride

Socio-economic group of bride	Age of bride												Average age of bride
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not stated	All ages	
Farmers, relatives assisting and farm managers	-	4	18	21	11	7	3	-	-	1	-	65	33.5
Other agricultural occupations and fishermen	-	11	23	22	7	1	-	1	-	1	-	66	30.7
Higher professional	-	60	809	628	190	44	18	9	5	-	5	1,768	31.0
Lower professional	6	255	1,723	1,143	358	122	57	37	19	12	6	3,738	31.0
Employers and managers	3	165	1,189	1,023	296	76	42	22	16	2	7	2,841	31.1
Salaried employees	-	42	197	133	34	12	5	4	-	1	-	428	30.3
Intermediate non - manual workers	21	731	2,288	1,277	418	167	60	28	11	12	6	5,019	29.9
Other non - manual workers	36	484	1,295	766	292	94	57	22	15	9	6	3,076	30.0
Skilled manual workers	2	62	336	218	61	17	11	7	4	1	2	721	30.5
Other manual workers	8	158	354	211	67	24	16	6	4	1	-	849	29.6
Not stated	175	437	578	356	186	106	48	32	32	31	4	1,985	30.2
Total	251	2,409	8,810	5,798	1,920	670	317	168	106	71	36	20,556	30.4

Table 6 Marriages registered in 2002 classified by socio-economic group of bride and groom

Socio-economic group of groom	Socio-economic group of bride											Total
	Farmers, relatives assisting and farm managers	Other agricultural occupations and fishermen	Higher professional	Lower professional	Employers and managers	Salaried employees	Intermediate non - manual workers	Other non - manual workers	Skilled manual workers	Other manual workers	Not stated	
Farmers, relatives assisting and farm managers	28	3	47	230	63	19	230	120	25	43	49	857
Other agricultural occupations and fishermen	2	19	16	38	28	4	82	58	11	10	27	295
Higher professional	3	2	625	506	344	57	332	141	57	19	88	2,174
Lower professional	4	4	151	640	197	27	205	136	47	10	81	1,502
Employers and managers	8	4	292	530	839	79	707	407	98	58	207	3,229
Salaried employees	1	-	58	131	111	52	142	82	27	9	26	639
Intermediate non - manual workers	1	5	90	267	188	28	600	198	56	56	104	1,593
Other non - manual workers	4	9	85	267	287	40	653	657	60	136	320	2,518
Skilled manual workers	10	16	358	984	658	102	1,623	945	297	266	551	5,810
Other manual workers	3	3	35	108	86	17	375	266	31	228	173	1,325
Not stated	1	1	11	37	40	3	70	66	12	14	359	614
Total	65	66	1,768	3,738	2,841	428	5,019	3,076	721	849	1,985	20,556

Table 7 Marriages registered in 2002 classified by groom's age and bride's relative age

Age of Groom	Relative Age of Bride							Not stated	Total
	10 or more years older	5 to 9 years older	1 to 4 years older	Same Age	1 to 4 years younger	5 to 9 years younger	10 or more years younger		
All ages	166	874	4,025	2,528	8,163	3,529	1,225	17	20,527
16	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
17	-	1	3	1	1	-	-	-	6
18	3	9	14	26	4	-	-	-	56
19	2	4	23	13	29	-	-	-	71
Under 20	5	15	41	40	34	-	-	-	135
20	2	4	26	12	24	-	-	-	68
21	5	15	28	13	41	-	-	-	102
22	5	24	77	27	57	2	-	-	192
23	7	24	97	41	91	2	-	-	262
24	12	63	175	82	153	10	-	-	495
20-24	31	130	403	175	366	14	-	-	1,119
25	8	58	264	145	282	26	-	3	786
26	20	48	327	197	458	49	-	-	1099
27	14	95	460	310	640	70	1	1	1591
28	13	90	468	327	769	111	3	1	1782
29	11	58	427	293	875	170	7	3	1844
25-29	66	349	1,946	1,272	3,024	426	11	8	7,102
30	11	62	379	239	935	240	13	-	1879
31	8	64	291	197	814	301	18	1	1694
32	2	37	208	167	675	292	24	2	1407
33	6	49	172	107	537	321	29	1	1222
34	4	23	134	67	384	318	40	-	970
30-34	31	235	1,184	777	3,345	1,472	124	4	7,172
35	8	28	87	47	330	274	53	-	827
36	6	15	61	46	239	226	76	-	669
37	5	18	61	33	163	169	71	1	521
38	4	7	42	22	125	146	70	1	417
39	1	13	26	18	99	125	73	1	356
35-39	24	81	277	166	956	940	343	3	2,790
40	1	6	25	7	85	101	67	1	293
41	1	4	14	13	57	85	54	-	228
42	1	5	14	6	46	56	53	-	181
43	-	6	17	11	30	50	51	-	165
44	-	4	14	4	31	45	48	-	146
40-44	3	25	84	41	249	337	273	1	1,013
45	2	3	14	6	30	45	26	-	126
46	1	4	12	5	17	32	46	-	117
47	2	4	8	6	20	36	34	-	110
48	-	3	9	6	8	35	29	-	90
49	-	3	3	5	15	22	33	-	81
45-49	5	17	46	28	90	170	168	-	524
50-54	-	11	27	14	42	73	141	-	308
55-59	-	6	9	6	28	50	73	1	173
60-64	-	4	4	4	21	32	48	-	113
65-69	1	1	3	2	3	7	19	-	36
70-74	-	-	1	3	3	5	13	-	25
75 and over	-	-	-	-	2	3	12	-	17
Not Stated	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29

Table 8 Marriages registered in 2002 classified by bride's age and groom's relative age

Age of Bride	Relative Age of Groom							Not stated	Total
	10 or more years older	5 to 9 years older	1 to 4 years older	Same Age	1 to 4 years younger	5 to 9 years younger	10 or more years younger		
All ages	1,225	3,529	8,163	2,528	4,025	874	166	10	20,520
16	1	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	9
17	2	2	10	1	1	-	-	-	16
18	23	15	59	26	2	-	-	-	125
19	13	25	40	13	10	-	-	-	101
Under 20	39	44	115	40	13	-	-	-	251
20	18	50	62	12	12	-	-	-	154
21	38	85	89	13	18	1	-	-	244
22	35	122	198	27	20	-	-	-	402
23	57	202	309	41	58	1	-	1	669
24	70	258	452	82	75	2	-	1	940
20-24	218	717	1,110	175	183	4	-	2	2,409
25	72	292	692	145	116	8	-	-	1325
26	93	334	831	197	159	8	-	1	1623
27	85	320	929	310	260	16	-	1	1921
28	85	334	931	327	349	16	1	1	2044
29	51	244	808	293	461	39	1	-	1897
25-29	386	1,524	4,191	1,272	1,345	87	2	3	8,810
30	66	228	639	239	449	50	-	-	1671
31	52	186	503	197	411	55	4	1	1409
32	60	130	377	167	370	60	3	-	1167
33	49	95	267	107	247	78	5	-	848
34	41	87	217	67	227	59	5	-	703
30-34	268	726	2,003	777	1,704	302	17	1	5,798
35	31	68	140	47	170	71	6	1	534
36	42	55	122	46	122	68	10	-	465
37	29	56	92	33	97	65	9	2	383
38	28	39	72	22	84	51	12	-	308
39	28	42	49	18	42	41	10	-	230
35-39	158	260	475	166	515	296	47	3	1,920
40	17	31	35	7	52	42	8	1	193
41	23	37	36	13	31	23	12	-	175
42	16	21	27	6	29	14	8	-	121
43	10	19	29	11	13	7	9	-	98
44	11	14	12	4	16	20	6	-	83
40-44	77	122	139	41	141	106	43	1	670
45	10	12	10	6	15	12	5	-	70
46	8	17	15	5	16	4	9	-	74
47	4	9	15	6	11	7	4	-	56
48	8	12	9	6	12	6	8	-	61
49	8	11	10	5	8	7	7	-	56
45-49	38	61	59	28	62	36	33	-	317
50-54	25	36	31	14	36	15	11	-	168
55-59	8	26	25	6	18	13	10	-	106
60-64	6	7	9	4	4	8	1	-	39
65-69	2	5	4	2	2	5	1	-	21
70-74	-	1	1	3	1	2	-	-	8
75 and over	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	3
Not Stated	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36

Table 9 Marriages registered in 2002 classified by age and area of residence of groom before marriage

Area of residence of groom	Age of groom												Average age of groom
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not stated	All ages	
Total	135	1,119	7,102	7,172	2,790	1,013	524	308	173	191	29	20,556	32.5
LEINSTER	94	589	3,566	3,624	1,429	511	305	188	108	111	14	10,539	32.7
Carlow	5	15	90	88	33	11	4	2	3	4	-	255	32.2
Dublin City	41	148	696	933	400	166	89	51	26	29	2	2,581	33.3
South Dublin	9	67	444	435	148	55	39	20	10	10	-	1,237	32.3
Fingal	7	42	367	347	134	62	29	17	8	7	2	1,022	32.7
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown	2	35	192	290	119	35	40	25	21	16	2	777	34.8
Kildare	5	44	338	319	117	34	22	13	11	6	1	910	32.2
Kilkenny	2	20	121	116	44	17	7	8	5	4	-	344	32.8
Laois	6	20	107	84	46	10	9	7	3	4	1	297	32.4
Longford	3	11	72	55	10	4	1	-	-	2	1	159	30.4
Louth	1	30	245	164	70	17	9	3	3	3	3	548	31.3
Meath	5	40	279	230	99	20	11	13	2	4	-	703	31.8
Offaly	-	20	109	84	38	14	3	4	2	4	1	279	32.1
Westmeath	4	12	115	97	36	10	7	7	2	3	-	293	32.3
Wexford	3	36	207	184	65	24	14	8	5	8	-	554	32.3
Wicklow	1	49	184	198	70	32	21	10	7	7	1	580	32.7
MUNSTER	16	293	1,805	1,721	634	252	104	68	44	45	2	4,984	32.3
Clare	3	23	164	177	60	26	11	12	7	5	2	490	33.0
Cork City	5	51	213	206	89	32	17	7	5	5	-	630	32.3
Cork County	1	71	542	512	207	74	32	16	10	12	-	1,477	32.4
Kerry	1	27	203	193	66	29	12	7	8	5	-	551	32.4
Limerick City	2	21	100	96	34	14	6	5	1	1	-	280	31.9
Limerick County	-	31	192	166	53	19	6	5	4	5	-	481	31.8
North Tipperary	2	20	113	102	29	14	5	5	4	2	-	296	31.9
South Tipperary	2	21	126	121	36	20	6	5	2	3	-	342	32.2
Waterford City	-	16	52	58	27	8	5	2	-	2	-	170	32.2
Waterford County	-	12	100	90	33	16	4	4	3	5	-	267	32.6
CONNACHT	13	99	685	622	239	91	53	25	13	23	-	1,863	32.5
Galway City	3	12	86	83	50	17	10	4	1	2	-	268	33.1
Galway County	4	29	228	231	77	24	23	8	6	5	-	635	32.4
Leitrim	-	5	38	32	15	5	-	1	-	1	-	97	32.0
Mayo	3	27	158	134	57	24	7	5	4	4	-	423	32.1
Roscommon	2	10	68	69	22	6	4	3	-	6	-	190	32.6
Sligo	1	16	107	73	18	15	9	4	2	5	-	250	32.5
ULSTER (part of)	4	88	428	331	92	41	20	10	2	5	7	1,028	31.0
Cavan	-	13	91	83	19	15	5	3	-	2	-	231	31.9
Donegal	3	59	246	174	55	18	12	5	2	1	7	582	30.7
Monaghan	1	16	91	74	18	8	3	2	-	2	-	215	30.9
REGIONAL AUTHORITIES:													
Border	6	139	818	600	195	78	38	18	7	14	10	1,923	31.3
Midland	13	63	403	320	130	38	20	18	7	13	3	1,028	32.0
West	12	78	540	517	206	71	44	20	11	17	-	1,516	32.5
Dublin	59	292	1,699	2,005	801	318	197	113	65	62	6	5,617	33.2
Mid-East	11	133	801	747	286	86	54	36	20	17	2	2,193	32.2
Mid-West	7	95	569	541	176	73	28	27	16	13	2	1,547	32.2
South-East	12	120	696	657	238	96	40	29	18	26	-	1,932	32.4
South-West	7	149	958	911	362	135	61	30	23	22	-	2,658	32.3
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND	127	1,069	6,484	6,298	2,394	895	482	291	167	184	23	18,414	32.5
Northern Ireland	-	16	115	111	32	10	8	6	3	1	1	303	32.1
Britain	7	22	313	473	230	68	23	4	1	4	4	1,149	32.9
Elsewhere	-	11	180	281	132	40	11	7	2	2	1	667	33.2
Not stated	1	1	10	9	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	29.3

Table 10 Marriages registered in 2002 classified by age and area of residence of bride before marriage

Area of residence of bride	Age of bride												Average age of bride
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not stated	All ages	
Total	251	2,409	8,810	5,798	1,920	670	317	168	106	71	36	20,556	30.4
LEINSTER	158	1,180	4,443	2,925	1,020	403	188	108	63	43	19	10,550	30.7
Carlow	7	41	124	61	28	5	3	4	2	1	-	276	30.0
Dublin City	57	263	887	753	305	123	47	28	15	11	6	2,495	31.2
South Dublin	18	136	516	329	109	44	26	7	7	5	2	1,199	30.5
Fingal	11	83	448	296	95	47	25	9	3	3	2	1,022	31.0
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown	10	53	299	263	99	40	22	19	7	6	5	823	32.4
Kildare	7	99	424	217	79	34	11	11	5	1	1	889	30.4
Kilkenny	-	32	152	97	41	13	8	6	-	4	-	353	31.3
Laois	7	38	137	67	23	6	4	-	3	1	-	286	29.6
Longford	2	19	79	45	7	4	1	-	-	1	-	158	29.2
Louth	3	78	293	142	50	14	6	4	2	1	2	595	29.8
Meath	8	91	334	206	49	13	10	5	3	2	-	721	29.8
Offaly	3	44	125	69	15	7	3	1	2	-	-	269	29.4
Westmeath	7	41	143	78	30	7	6	3	3	2	-	320	30.2
Wexford	10	90	254	137	40	24	7	-	7	3	-	572	29.9
Wicklow	8	72	228	165	50	22	9	11	4	2	1	572	30.7
MUNSTER	51	658	2,255	1,401	418	153	75	40	26	18	3	5,098	30.2
Clare	5	63	188	145	42	22	8	3	2	3	-	481	30.7
Cork City	15	87	278	194	54	24	10	3	8	3	-	676	30.2
Cork County	7	179	674	427	138	39	21	7	7	3	-	1,502	30.2
Kerry	5	62	264	163	56	18	12	4	2	2	-	588	30.5
Limerick City	2	31	134	72	18	13	2	2	2	-	-	276	30.1
Limerick County	6	76	232	121	32	11	3	8	2	2	1	494	29.6
North Tipperary	2	43	131	71	23	8	8	2	2	-	-	290	30.0
South Tipperary	2	46	173	85	28	8	5	2	-	2	-	351	29.9
Waterford City	3	38	64	45	12	4	2	2	-	1	1	172	29.5
Waterford County	4	33	117	78	15	6	4	7	1	2	1	268	30.4
CONNACHT	28	240	861	534	190	53	29	13	13	6	2	1,969	30.3
Galway City	4	34	110	84	39	7	4	1	3	2	-	288	30.9
Galway County	12	77	283	179	69	21	12	4	2	2	1	662	30.4
Leitrim	1	17	54	33	9	2	-	-	-	1	-	117	29.5
Mayo	4	63	207	124	36	10	5	3	2	-	-	454	29.8
Roscommon	4	18	96	52	14	3	2	-	3	1	-	193	29.9
Sligo	3	31	111	62	23	10	6	5	3	-	1	255	30.8
ULSTER (part of)	9	209	535	238	78	26	9	1	3	1	6	1,115	28.9
Cavan	2	31	129	60	16	5	1	-	2	-	-	246	29.3
Donegal	7	135	281	125	47	18	5	-	-	1	6	625	28.7
Monaghan	-	43	125	53	15	3	3	1	1	-	-	244	28.9
REGIONAL AUTHORITIES:													
Border	16	335	993	475	160	52	21	10	8	3	9	2,082	29.4
Midland	19	142	484	259	75	24	14	4	8	4	-	1,033	29.7
West	24	192	696	439	158	41	23	8	10	5	1	1,597	30.3
Dublin	96	535	2,150	1,641	608	254	120	63	32	25	15	5,539	31.2
Mid-East	23	262	986	588	178	69	30	27	12	5	2	2,182	30.3
Mid-West	15	213	685	409	115	54	21	15	8	5	1	1,541	30.1
South-East	26	280	884	503	164	60	29	21	10	13	2	1,992	30.2
South-West	27	328	1,216	784	248	81	43	14	17	8	-	2,766	30.3
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND	246	2,287	8,094	5,098	1,706	635	301	162	105	68	30	18,732	30.4
Northern Ireland	1	26	90	46	21	4	2	2	-	1	-	193	30.2
Britain	3	64	391	383	126	18	8	4	1	2	3	1,003	30.9
Elsewhere	1	32	224	265	65	12	6	-	-	-	2	607	31.0
Not stated	-	-	11	6	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	21	31.2

Table 11 Marriages in 2002 classified by area of residence of groom before marriage, also showing whether bride has same area of residence

Area of residence-Groom	Total	Area of residence - Bride				% of brides from same area as groom
		Same Area as Groom	Different Area from Groom: Republic of Ireland	Different Area from Groom: Not Republic of Ireland	Not Stated	
Carlow	255	200	54	1	-	78.4
Dublin City	2,581	2,058	502	21	-	79.7
South Dublin	1,237	1,002	226	6	3	81.0
Fingal	1,022	825	182	14	1	80.7
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown	777	587	181	9	-	75.5
Kildare	910	735	172	2	1	80.8
Kilkenny	344	253	87	3	1	73.5
Laois	297	215	79	3	-	72.4
Longford	159	104	53	2	-	65.4
Louth	548	472	68	8	-	86.1
Meath	703	549	145	9	-	78.1
Offaly	279	201	78	-	-	72.0
Westmeath	293	230	61	2	-	78.5
Wexford	554	484	67	3	-	87.4
Wicklow	580	448	127	3	2	77.2
Clare	490	395	92	3	-	80.6
Cork City	630	486	140	4	-	77.1
Cork County	1,477	1,191	275	10	1	80.6
Kerry	551	475	73	3	-	86.2
Limerick City	280	210	68	2	-	75.0
Limerick County	481	348	130	3	-	72.3
North Tipperary	296	213	82	1	-	72.0
South Tipperary	342	248	91	3	-	72.5
Waterford City	170	136	33	1	-	80.0
Waterford County	267	193	71	3	-	72.3
Galway City	268	205	62	-	1	76.5
Galway County	635	482	149	3	1	75.9
Leitrim	97	61	34	2	-	62.9
Mayo	423	332	83	7	1	78.5
Roscommon	190	124	66	-	-	65.3
Sligo	250	188	60	2	-	75.2
Cavan	231	175	53	3	-	75.8
Donegal	582	514	51	17	-	88.3
Monaghan	215	168	41	6	-	78.1
Northern Ireland	303	144	154	5	-	47.5
Britain	1,149	926	205	17	1	80.6
Elsewhere	667	547	114	5	1	82.0
Not Stated	23	-	16	-	7	-

Table 12 Marriages in 2002 classified by area of residence of bride before marriage, also showing whether groom has same area of residence

Area of residence-Bride	Total	Area of residence - Groom				% of grooms from same area as bride
		Same Area as Bride	Different Area from Bride: Republic of Ireland	Different Area from Bride: Not Republic of Ireland	Not Stated	
Carlow	276	200	66	10	-	72.5
Dublin City	2,495	2,058	394	39	4	82.5
South Dublin	1,199	1,002	187	9	1	83.6
Fingal	1,022	825	176	21	-	80.7
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown	823	587	202	33	1	71.3
Kildare	889	735	137	15	2	82.7
Kilkenny	353	253	91	9	-	71.7
Laois	286	215	69	2	-	75.2
Longford	158	104	45	8	1	65.8
Louth	595	472	80	43	-	79.3
Meath	721	549	158	14	-	76.1
Offaly	269	201	64	4	-	74.7
Westmeath	320	230	82	8	-	71.9
Wexford	572	484	81	7	-	84.6
Wicklow	572	448	108	16	-	78.3
Clare	481	395	81	5	-	82.1
Cork City	676	486	172	17	1	71.9
Cork County	1,502	1,191	282	25	4	79.3
Kerry	588	475	105	8	-	80.8
Limerick City	276	210	60	6	-	76.1
Limerick County	494	348	138	8	-	70.4
North Tipperary	290	213	73	4	-	73.4
South Tipperary	351	248	99	4	-	70.7
Waterford City	172	136	31	5	-	79.1
Waterford County	268	193	65	10	-	72.0
Galway City	288	205	76	7	-	71.2
Galway County	662	482	169	11	-	72.8
Leitrim	117	61	47	9	-	52.1
Mayo	454	332	110	11	1	73.1
Roscommon	193	124	67	2	-	64.2
Sligo	255	188	56	11	-	73.7
Cavan	246	175	60	11	-	71.1
Donegal	625	514	59	52	-	82.2
Monaghan	244	168	46	29	1	68.9
Northern Ireland	193	144	38	11	-	74.6
Britain	1,003	926	71	6	-	92.3
Elsewhere	607	547	50	10	-	90.1
Not Stated	21	-	12	2	7	-

Table 13 Marriages registered in each county and city during 2002, classified by form of ceremony

Province, county or city	Form of Ceremony*					
	Catholic	Church of Ireland	Presbyterian	Other Religious denominations	Civil marriages	Total
Total	15,908	781	112	72	3,683	20,556
LEINSTER	7,673	458	42	35	2,411	10,619
Carlow	211	16	-	-	51	278
Dublin City	1,454	63	24	16	1,608	3,165
South Dublin	706	18	4	4	-	732
Fingal	472	22	1	1	-	496
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown	418	87	4	2	-	511
Kildare	693	40	4	2	186	925
Kilkenny	359	27	-	3	66	455
Laois	277	27	-	1	40	345
Longford	140	2	-	-	36	178
Louth	616	9	-	-	75	700
Meath	549	27	-	1	92	669
Offaly	329	17	-	1	40	387
Westmeath	319	15	-	1	33	368
Wexford	539	19	2	-	90	650
Wicklow	591	69	3	3	94	760
MUNSTER	4,846	159	-	23	916	5,944
Clare	578	6	-	1	1	586
Cork City	564	7	-	4	443	1,018
Cork County	1,335	67	-	6	9	1,417
Kerry	647	20	-	5	95	767
Limerick City	145	9	-	2	176	332
Limerick County	513	10	-	2	34	559
North Tipperary	324	5	-	2	19	350
South Tipperary	345	19	-	-	33	397
Waterford City	84	9	-	1	83	177
Waterford County	311	7	-	-	23	341
CONNACHT	2,153	68	9	6	249	2,485
Galway City	317	11	7	2	127	464
Galway County	640	17	-	-	29	686
Leitrim	132	2	-	2	9	145
Mayo	595	26	1	2	48	672
Roscommon	202	2	-	-	-	204
Sligo	267	10	1	-	36	314
ULSTER (part of)	1,236	96	61	8	107	1,508
Cavan	272	20	4	4	27	327
Donegal	723	49	41	3	69	885
Monaghan	241	27	16	1	11	296
REGIONAL AUTHORITIES:						
Border	2,251	117	62	10	227	2,667
Midland	1,065	61	-	3	149	1,278
West	1,754	56	8	4	204	2,026
Dublin	3,050	190	33	23	1,608	4,904
Mid-East	1,833	136	7	6	372	2,354
Mid-West	1,560	30	-	7	230	1,827
South-East	1,849	97	2	4	346	2,298
South-West	2,546	94	-	15	547	3,202

* There is at present no provision for the civil registration of Muslim Marriage Ceremonies solemnised in the State.

Table 14 Marriages registered in 2002 classified by area of residence of groom

Area of residence of groom	Form of Ceremony*					
	Catholic	Church of Ireland	Presbyterian	Other Religious denominations	Civil marriages	Total
Total	15,908	781	112	72	3,683	20,556
LEINSTER	7,685	407	36	31	2,380	10,539
Carlow	194	10	-	-	51	255
Dublin City	1,573	93	13	5	897	2,581
South Dublin	913	34	5	6	279	1,237
Fingal	763	31	6	2	220	1,022
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown	482	83	6	7	199	777
Kildare	709	28	1	2	170	910
Kilkenny	265	16	-	-	63	344
Laois	232	22	-	-	43	297
Longford	136	3	-	2	18	159
Louth	465	7	-	-	76	548
Meath	591	13	1	3	95	703
Offaly	223	13	-	2	41	279
Westmeath	252	5	-	1	35	293
Wexford	449	12	2	-	91	554
Wicklow	438	37	2	1	102	580
MUNSTER	3,975	92	1	16	900	4,984
Clare	383	4	-	4	99	490
Cork City	427	6	-	2	195	630
Cork County	1,178	45	-	6	248	1,477
Kerry	451	6	-	2	92	551
Limerick City	204	1	-	2	73	280
Limerick County	432	4	-	-	45	481
North Tipperary	267	8	1	-	20	296
South Tipperary	300	10	-	-	32	342
Waterford City	110	3	-	-	57	170
Waterford County	223	5	-	-	39	267
CONNACHT	1,556	38	3	2	264	1,863
Galway City	176	4	3	1	84	268
Galway County	546	16	-	-	73	635
Leitrim	86	2	-	-	9	97
Mayo	367	6	-	1	49	423
Roscommon	169	2	-	-	19	190
Sligo	212	8	-	-	30	250
ULSTER (part of)	828	62	46	6	86	1,028
Cavan	187	12	5	3	24	231
Donegal	467	34	27	2	52	582
Monaghan	174	16	14	1	10	215
REGIONAL AUTHORITIES:						
Border	1,591	79	46	6	201	1,923
Midland	843	43	-	5	137	1,028
West	1,258	28	3	2	225	1,516
Dublin	3,731	241	30	20	1,595	5,617
Mid-East	1,738	78	4	6	367	2,193
Mid-West	1,286	17	1	6	237	1,547
South-East	1,541	56	2	-	333	1,932
South-West	2,056	57	-	10	535	2,658
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND	14,044	599	86	55	3,630	18,414
Northern Ireland	259	22	11	2	9	303
Britain	962	128	12	8	39	1,149
Elsewhere	621	31	3	7	5	667
Not stated	22	1	-	-	-	23

* There is at present no provision for the civil registration of Muslim Marriage Ceremonies solemnised in the State.

Table 15 Marriages registered in 2002 classified by area of residence of bride

Area of residence of bride	Form of Ceremony*					
	Catholic	Church of Ireland	Presbyterian	Other Religious denominations	Civil marriages	Total
Total	15,908	781	112	72	3,683	20,556
LEINSTER	7,680	404	46	36	2,384	10,550
Carlow	203	19	1	-	53	276
Dublin City	1,507	79	17	6	886	2,495
South Dublin	886	37	5	7	264	1,199
Fingal	749	33	6	4	230	1,022
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown	512	71	7	6	227	823
Kildare	693	25	4	1	166	889
Kilkenny	271	18	-	2	62	353
Laois	229	19	1	-	37	286
Longford	136	4	-	-	18	158
Louth	514	7	-	-	74	595
Meath	603	18	1	4	95	721
Offaly	215	9	-	2	43	269
Westmeath	273	8	-	1	38	320
Wexford	468	12	2	-	90	572
Wicklow	421	45	2	3	101	572
MUNSTER	4,083	101	-	16	898	5,098
Clare	380	2	-	4	95	481
Cork City	472	7	-	2	195	676
Cork County	1,208	40	-	8	246	1,502
Kerry	486	12	-	-	90	588
Limerick City	198	4	-	1	73	276
Limerick County	436	9	-	1	48	494
North Tipperary	260	10	-	-	20	290
South Tipperary	308	9	-	-	34	351
Waterford City	109	3	-	-	60	172
Waterford County	226	5	-	-	37	268
CONNACHT	1,657	43	4	2	263	1,969
Galway City	198	4	3	1	82	288
Galway County	574	14	-	-	74	662
Leitrim	105	2	-	-	10	117
Mayo	389	16	1	1	47	454
Roscommon	175	1	-	-	17	193
Sligo	216	6	-	-	33	255
ULSTER (part of)	912	70	41	5	87	1,115
Cavan	200	14	4	2	26	246
Donegal	511	37	25	2	50	625
Monaghan	201	19	12	1	11	244
REGIONAL AUTHORITIES:						
Border	1,747	85	41	5	204	2,082
Midland	853	40	1	3	136	1,033
West	1,336	35	4	2	220	1,597
Dublin	3,654	220	35	23	1,607	5,539
Mid-East	1,717	88	7	8	362	2,182
Mid-West	1,274	25	-	6	236	1,541
South-East	1,585	66	3	2	336	1,992
South-West	2,166	59	-	10	531	2,766
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND	14,332	618	91	59	3,632	18,732
Northern Ireland	162	15	8	1	7	193
Britain	832	119	11	5	36	1,003
Elsewhere	565	27	2	7	6	607
Not stated	17	2	-	-	2	21

* There is at present no provision for the civil registration of Muslim Marriage Ceremonies solemnised in the State.

Table 16 Marriages registered in 2002 classified by month and day of week of marriage

Month of occurrence	Day of occurrence							Total
	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
January	2	45	45	51	66	171	137	517
February	7	52	43	51	101	217	208	679
March	22	44	35	45	91	302	375	914
April	17	98	70	68	121	441	538	1,353
May	35	84	61	102	247	854	783	2,166
June	40	105	70	87	207	721	1,086	2,316
July	41	119	89	144	296	854	946	2,489
August	63	174	99	163	440	1,164	1,372	3,475
September	42	120	83	112	355	919	1,135	2,766
October	43	88	69	86	218	686	744	1,934
November	7	51	40	47	102	362	387	996
December	19	104	50	53	129	303	293	951
Total	337	1,084	753	1,009	2,373	6,994	8,004	20,556

Background Notes

Source	<p>These statistics have been compiled from the marriage registration forms of all marriages registered in the Republic of Ireland in 2002.</p> <p>The release has been prepared by the Central Statistics Office for the Minister for Health and Children in accordance with the provisions of Section 2 of the Vital Statistics and Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act, 1952.</p>
Methodology	<p>Where the weekday and month of a marriage are specified in this release, it refers to the date on which the marriage occurred. Note that some marriages registered in 2002 (and hence included in these statistics) occurred in years before 2002.</p>
Form of Ceremony	<p>Marriages celebrated according to the rites and ceremonies of the Roman Catholic Church, the rites and ceremonies of the Church of Ireland, the forms and disciplines of the Presbyterian Church, the usages of the Society of Friends, the usages of people professing the Jewish religion, and the usages of certain other Religious Bodies have been classified under their respective religions.</p> <p>There is at present no provision for the civil registration of Muslim Marriage Ceremonies solemnised in the State.</p>
Remarriage	<p>The information required to identify divorced peoples remarriages was not extracted at the time of initial processing. However this issue will be addressed during the preparation of the marriage data relating to the years 1997 – 2004 inclusive.</p>
Socio-Economic Group (SEG)	<p>This classification is determined by a person's occupation or, in some cases by a combination of occupation and employment status. The men and women whose marriages were registered in 2002 were classified by SEG on the basis of the information on occupation given in the marriage register.</p>
Area of residence	<p>Four classifications of district are available: that in which the marriage took place, the areas of residence of the bride and groom prior to marriage, and the intended future residence.</p>
Age specific marriage rates	<p>The age specific marriage rates are calculated as follows: $\text{Age Specific Rate} = \frac{\text{Number of Males(or Females) of that age whose marriages were registered} \times 1,000}{\text{Population of Males (or Females) of that age}}$ The small number of marriages for which the age is not stated are distributed in proportion before this calculation is made.</p>
Marriages per 1,000 population	<p>This is calculated for each year as follows: $\text{Marriages per 1,000 population} = \frac{\text{Number of Marriages registered} \times 1,000}{\text{population}}$</p>
Marriage data 1997-2004	<p>The CSO are currently working with the GRO to identify a process for the extraction of marriage data from the marriage registration forms for the year 1997-2001. The introduction of the electronic registration of marriages for all marriages since September 2003 is also causing some difficulties in relation to the preparation of marriage data for 2003 and 2004. Data for all of these years will be made available as soon as possible.</p>

NUTS2 and NUTS3 regions

The regional classifications in this release are based on the NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units) classification used by Eurostat. The NUTS3 regions correspond to the eight Regional Authorities established under the Local Government Act, 1991 (Regional Authorities) (Establishment) Order, 1993, which came into operation on 1 January 1994. The NUTS2 regions, which were proposed by Government and agreed by Eurostat in 1999, are groupings of the NUTS3 regions. The composition of the regions is set out below.

Border, Midland and Western NUTS2 Region

Border	Cavan Donegal Leitrim Louth Monaghan Sligo
Midland	Laoighis Longford Offaly Westmeath
West	Galway City Galway County Mayo Roscommon

Southern and Eastern NUTS2 Region

Dublin	Dublin Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Fingal South Dublin
Mid-East	Kildare Meath Wicklow
Mid-West	Clare Limerick City Limerick County North Tipperary
South-East	Carlow Kilkenny South Tipperary Waterford City Waterford County Wexford
South-West	Cork City Cork County Kerry