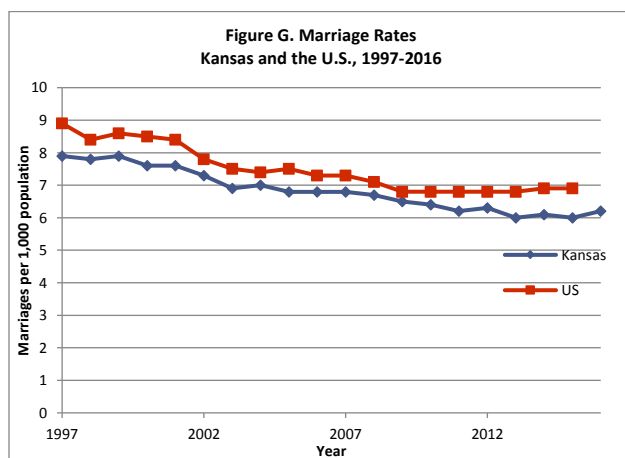


Marriages and Marriage Dissolutions Summary, 2016

Marriages

In 2016, 17,948 marriages occurred in Kansas, an increase of 2.0 percent from the 2015 total of 17,595 marriages (Table F1).



The Kansas marriage rate in 2016 was 6.2 marriages per 1,000 population. This rate was 3.3 percent higher than the 6.0 percent rate recorded in 2015, but still 21.5 percent below the 1997 peak for the 1997-2016 period of 7.9 marriages per 1,000 population (Figure G). For the entire period, Kansas marriage rates have been lower than U.S. marriage rates (Table F1, Figure F1).

Marriage Characteristics

First-time marriages made up more than half of the marriages in Kansas for the fifteenth consecutive year. In 2016, 58.6 percent of all marriages involved first-time partners (Table F4).

More marriages occurred in October (12.7%) than any other month in 2016. June and September were the second and third most popular months (Figure F3).

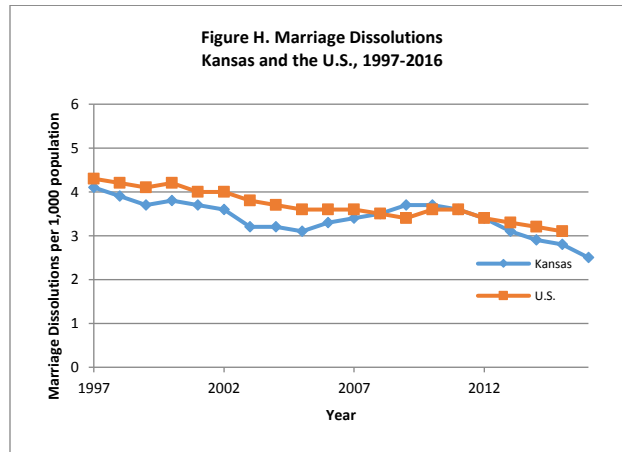
Age at Marriage

Kansas couples are delaying marriage. In 1997, 11.7 percent of the brides and 4.3 percent of the grooms were under 20 years of age. In 2016, however, only 4.6 percent of the brides and 1.9 percent of the grooms were under 20 (Table F5).

The average age of all brides in 2016 was 31.5 years and that of grooms was 33.6 years. Women marrying for the first time averaged 26.6 years while first time grooms averaged 28.5 years. Of those persons who remarried in 2016, women were, on average, 42.2 years old and men were 44.8 years of age (Figure F4).

Marriage Dissolutions

In 2016, 7,198 marriage dissolutions (7,056 divorces and 142 annulments) occurred in Kansas, a decline of 10.4 percent from the 2015 total of 8,036 (Table F1, Table F7).



The Kansas marriage dissolution rate in 2016 was 2.5 per 1,000 population, which was 39.0 percent lower than the 1997 rate of 4.1 (Figure H). Kansas reported a higher marriage dissolution rate than the U.S. from 1952 to 1994. However, in 1995, the state's rate (4.3) dropped below the U.S. rate (4.4) and remained below the national rate until 2008. Since 2008 Kansas rates have sometimes been higher and sometimes lower than the U.S. rates. U.S. rates for 2016 have not been released at the time this summary was written (Table F1, Figure F2).

The ratio of marriages to divorces in Kansas in 2016 was 2.5:1 (Table F1).

Age at Marriage Dissolution

The most common age-group of husbands involved in marriage dissolutions in 2016 was 35-39; the most common age-group of wives involved in marriage dissolutions was 30-34. For couples of the same age-group, the most common age-group was 30-34 (Table F6).

The average age at marriage dissolution in 2016 was 39.1 years for wives and 41.3 years for husbands, as compared to 34.6 years for wives and 36.8 years for husbands in 1997 (Figure F5).

Marriage Dissolution Characteristics

In 2016, 33.5 percent of marriages ending in divorce or annulment lasted four years or less (Table F7).

There were 6,318 minor children affected as a result of marriage dissolutions in 2016. At least one minor child was reported to be involved in almost half (47.8%) of the marriage dissolutions (Table F8, Figure F6).