

2012

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Wisconsin  
**Marriages**  
and **Divorces**



Wisconsin Department of Health Services  
Division of Public Health  
Office of Health Informatics  
State Vital Records Office



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# Wisconsin Marriages and Divorces

## 2012

August 2013

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## Introduction

This report presents key information about marriages and divorces that occurred in Wisconsin in 2012. It also contains information from selected previous years, as well as information on the number and rate of marriages and divorces, both in Wisconsin and nationally. The sources of data for Wisconsin are marriage and divorce certificates on file with the State Vital Records Office, Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

The collection of marriage and divorce data is mandated by Chapter 69 of the Wisconsin Statutes. Chapter 69 authorizes the Department of Health Services to supervise and direct the collection of these data. This statute also specifies how local registrars are to collect and file certificates of marriage.

The Department of Health Services produced this publication. Staff of the State Vital Records Office, Registration and Statistics Unit, collected and compiled the marriage and divorce records. Joyce Knapton drafted the summaries in this report and produced the computer programs to generate the tables. Patricia Nametz edited the report. The report was prepared under the supervision of Oskar Anderson, State Registrar, State Vital Records Office, and Director, Office of Health Informatics.

The State Vital Records Office would like to thank the County Clerks and Clerks of Tribal Court for issuing accurate marriage licenses, the local Register of Deeds offices for their accurate recording of all marriage records, and the County Clerks of Court and Clerks of Tribal Court for their timely filing of completed divorce or annulment certificates.

This report is available on the Department of Health Services website, at <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/stats/marriages.htm>.

Comments, suggestions, and requests for additional marriage or divorce data may be addressed to:

Joyce Knapton  
Office of Health Informatics  
Division of Public Health  
Department of Health Services  
P.O. Box 309  
Madison, WI 53701-0309  
Telephone: (608) 267-7815  
E-mail: [Joyce.Knapton@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Joyce.Knapton@dhs.wisconsin.gov)



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## Key Findings

- A total of 30,940 marriages occurred in Wisconsin in 2012, representing an increase of 653 marriages from the 30,287 marriages that occurred in 2011. These counts reflect all marriages that occurred in Wisconsin (of both residents and non-residents of the state).
- Until 2011, the number of marriages had declined annually since 1980.
- Wisconsin's marriage rate in 2012 was 5.4 per 1,000 total population. The marriage rate has declined since 1980, when the rate was 8.7.
- The marriage rate in Wisconsin has been consistently lower than the national rate for at least 90 years.
- The median age for first marriages in 2012 was 26.2 years for women and 27.7 years for men. In 1960, the median age at first marriage was 20.4 for brides and 22.9 for grooms.
- Since 1960, the bride in a first marriage, on average, has been a year or two younger than the groom.
- In 2012, the months with the highest number of marriages were June, August and September. September was the most popular month to marry. In each of the past eight years, the month with the most marriages averaged approximately 14 percent of that year's total marriages. In those same eight years, the month in which the fewest marriages occurred was January.
- Milwaukee County had the highest number of marriages in 2012 (4,443), followed by Dane County (2,599), Waukesha County (1,918) and Brown County (1,682). These are Wisconsin's four most populous counties.
- A total of 16,332 divorces occurred in Wisconsin in 2012, for a divorce rate of 2.9 per 1,000 total population. This is identical to the 2011 rate (2.9).
- In 2012, the ratio of Wisconsin marriages to Wisconsin divorces was 1.9 to 1 (there were 1.9 marriages for each divorce). This ratio has been falling since 1920, when it was 9.2 to 1; it was 6.7 to 1 in 1960; 2.2 to 1 in 1990; and 2.1 to 1 in 2000. The ratio increased slightly from 1.8 in 2011 to 1.9 in 2012.
- The highest number of divorces in 2012 occurred in Milwaukee County (2,265 divorces and 5 annulments), followed by Dane County (1,377 divorces and 7 annulments) and Waukesha County (1,039 divorces and 2 annulments), reflecting the large populations of these three counties.
- Fifty-two percent of all Wisconsin divorces in 2012 involved families with children under 18 years of age. Among divorces involving children, an average of 1.9 children were affected by each divorce.



**Table 1. Marriages and Marriage Rates, Wisconsin and United States, Selected Years, 1920-2012**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Wisconsin Marriages</u>	<u>Wisconsin Marriage Rate*</u>	<u>United States Marriage Rate*</u>
1920	22,293	8.4	12.0
1925	16,385	5.8	10.3
1930	15,328	5.2	9.2
1935	21,075	6.9	10.4
1940	23,379	7.5	12.1
1945	25,269	8.5	12.2
1950	29,081	8.4	11.1
1955	25,543	7.0	9.3
1960	24,573	6.2	8.5
1965	28,410	6.7	9.3
1970	34,415	7.8	10.6
1975	35,888	7.9	10.0
1980	41,113	8.7	10.6
1985	40,014	8.4	10.1
1990	38,934	8.0	9.8
1995	36,354	7.1	8.9
2000	36,100	6.7	8.5
2005	33,876	6.1	7.5
2006	33,437	6.0	7.3
2007	32,159	5.7	7.3
2008	31,444	5.6	7.1
2009	30,057	5.3	6.8
2010	29,952	5.3	6.8
2011	30,287	5.3	6.8
2012	30,940	5.4	+

Source: U.S. marriage rates are from the National Center for Health Statistics, *National Vital Statistics Reports*. Wisconsin numbers and rates are from the State Vital Records Office, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services. The Wisconsin marriage rate for 2012 was calculated using 2011 population figures.

\* Rates shown are marriages per 1,000 total population.

+ The national marriage rate for 2012 was not available for this report.

Notes: The Wisconsin numbers and rates reflect marriages that occurred in Wisconsin. The U.S. marriage rate for 2011 is provisional.

- A total of 30,940 marriages occurred in Wisconsin in 2012, representing an increase of 653 marriages from the 30,287 marriages that occurred in 2011.
- The number of marriages increased for the second year in a row in 2012.
- Wisconsin's marriage rate in 2012 was 5.4 per 1,000 total population. The marriage rate has declined since 1980, when the rate was 8.7.

**Table 2. Median Age at First Marriage and All Remarriages, Wisconsin 1960-2012**

<u>Year</u>	<u>First Marriages</u>		<u>All Remarriages</u>	
	<u>Bride</u>	<u>Groom</u>	<u>Bride</u>	<u>Groom</u>
1960	20.4	22.9	39.9	45.1
1965	20.6	22.5	40.4	45.2
1970	20.8	22.6	37.4	42.6
1975	20.8	22.7	32.4	37.1
1980	21.7	23.5	31.7	34.9
1985	22.9	24.7	33.7	36.9
1990	23.8	25.5	38.3	41.6
1991	23.9	25.6	38.6	41.7
1992	24.1	25.7	38.8	42.3
1993	24.2	25.8	39.0	42.0
1994	24.3	25.8	39.4	42.3
1995	24.5	26.0	39.9	42.6
1996	24.6	26.2	40.4	43.6
1997	24.6	26.3	40.7	43.4
1998	24.6	26.3	41.1	43.9
1999	24.6	26.3	41.6	44.5
2000	24.7	26.3	41.7	44.6
2001	24.7	26.3	42.3	45.2
2002	24.8	26.3	42.9	45.5
2003	24.8	26.4	43.3	46.0
2004	24.9	26.4	43.7	46.6
2005	25.0	26.4	44.4	47.1
2006	25.1	26.6	44.6	47.2
2007	25.2	26.8	45.1	47.6
2008	25.3	26.8	45.2	48.0
2009	25.5	27.1	45.5	48.2
2010	25.7	27.2	45.7	48.9
2011	26.0	27.5	45.9	48.9
2012	26.2	27.7	45.7	48.5

Source: State Vital Records Office, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services.

Note: The median age is one way of expressing the average age, and represents the midpoint of all persons in the group (half are older and half are younger than the median age). For example, in 2005 the median age for brides at first marriage was 25.0, meaning that half of all brides being married for the first time in 2005 were younger, and half were older, than 25.0. The numbers in this table reflect all marriages that occurred in Wisconsin in the stated years.

- The median age for first marriages in 2012 was 26.2 years for women and 27.7 years for men. In 1960, the median age at first marriage was 20.4 for brides and 22.9 for grooms.
- Since 1960, the bride in a first marriage, on average, has been a year or two younger than the groom.

## Marriages

**Table 3. Marriages and Remarriages by Age of Bride and Groom, Wisconsin 2012**

Age in Years	Bride					Groom				
	Total Marriages	First	Second	Third	Fourth or More	Total Marriages	First	Second	Third	Fourth or More
	<b>30,940</b>	<b>22,610</b>	<b>6,431</b>	<b>1,548</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>30,940</b>	<b>22,620</b>	<b>6,656</b>	<b>1,377</b>	<b>287</b>
16	29	29				1	1			
17	47	47				9	9			
18	285	285				69	69			
19	488	484	4			220	220			
20	697	692	5			412	411	1		
21	1,011	1,000	11			619	616	3		
22	1,443	1,424	19			997	992	5		
23	1,811	1,772	39			1,270	1,261	9		
24	2,127	2,074	52	1		1,616	1,593	23		
25-29	9,985	9,206	747	31	1	9,593	9,129	457	7	
30-34	4,940	3,521	1,314	98	7	6,080	4,974	1,050	54	2
35-39	2,400	1,127	1,051	195	27	3,070	1,773	1,148	143	6
40-44	1,820	461	1,003	289	67	2,067	789	1,050	193	35
45-49	1,535	261	855	337	82	1,736	414	1,004	271	47
50-54	1,102	131	634	265	72	1,297	207	758	276	56
55-59	552	60	289	155	48	853	106	487	196	64
60-64	346	25	204	95	22	507	46	300	124	37
65-69	171	6	101	47	17	258	5	159	69	25
70-74	79	3	49	21	6	130	3	90	26	11
75+	72	2	54	14	2	136	2	112	18	4

Source: State Vital Records Office, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services.

Note: Totals shown represent marriages that occurred in Wisconsin in 2012.

- For first-time brides and grooms, the highest number of marriages occurred between the ages of 25 and 29.

**Marriages**

**Table 4. Monthly Marriage Totals by County, Wisconsin 2012**

<b>County</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>
<b>State Total</b>	<b>30,940</b>	<b>927</b>	<b>1,253</b>	<b>1,326</b>	<b>1,574</b>	<b>2,611</b>	<b>4,546</b>	<b>3,421</b>	<b>4,108</b>	<b>4,577</b>	<b>3,425</b>	<b>1,350</b>	<b>1,822</b>
Adams	121	2	2	6	2	9	18	16	16	18	19	4	9
Ashland	140	1	4	8	7	3	15	17	28	27	15	8	7
Barron	332	12	11	9	11	29	52	36	54	59	30	13	16
Bayfield	154	1	5	3	7	4	23	36	31	24	14	4	2
Brown	1,682	49	81	72	110	159	240	174	211	230	183	82	91
Buffalo	68	1	2	3	2	8	13	5	7	16	8	2	1
Burnett	102	5	4	1	5	5	12	14	23	17	12	2	2
Calumet	195	4	4	8	6	20	32	18	30	29	28	10	6
Chippewa	407	10	19	20	21	34	72	36	54	59	54	7	21
Clark	181	4	7	10	6	18	25	20	19	34	20	8	10
Columbia	467	14	20	14	24	44	71	55	48	67	58	25	27
Crawford	91	1	2	2	3	8	16	12	15	14	10	3	5
Dane	2,599	80	114	116	139	244	372	279	337	362	255	139	162
Dodge	414	15	13	16	26	27	63	40	67	60	50	17	20
Door	419	6	12	8	13	28	72	66	68	77	42	14	13
Douglas	238	5	12	8	8	12	34	37	52	37	19	5	9
Dunn	182	5	6	7	11	11	29	12	25	33	29	6	8
Eau Claire	633	10	31	19	32	58	110	72	92	94	57	19	39
Florence	23			1		3	4	5	5	2	3		
Fond du Lac	563	21	22	37	33	41	71	69	68	86	56	22	37
Forest	53		3	3	3	2	10	9	8	6	4	1	4
Grant	260	6	4	10	19	19	38	23	35	45	34	13	14
Green	174	2	9	5	4	13	27	14	24	30	28	6	12
Green Lake	194	2	3	5	8	20	36	19	34	28	25	6	8
Iowa	173	3	7	3	8	17	27	17	21	23	27	6	14
Iron	32			1		3	3	7	6	5	4	2	1
Jackson	86	4	6	4	6	1	14	6	11	18	12	1	3
Jefferson	440	15	19	20	23	41	67	43	56	65	48	16	27
Juneau	127	6	8	4	7	8	21	18	10	12	18	6	9
Kenosha	733	19	43	34	36	55	103	90	95	101	86	32	39
Kewaunee	102	2	3	3	4	11	20	17	9	14	10	4	5
La Crosse	713	14	26	19	44	72	109	65	89	118	90	29	38
Lafayette	71	1	5	2	3	3	11	8	6	7	11	10	4
Langlade	102	1	6	2	4	6	19	12	13	15	13	7	4
Lincoln	148	4	8	4	5	10	23	20	27	23	11	6	7
Manitowoc	457	10	17	14	24	36	61	57	72	64	60	15	27
Marathon	748	27	29	36	33	62	120	74	101	131	69	27	39
Marinette	204	5	7	3	9	19	37	26	20	29	24	12	13
Marquette	71	1	4	6	6	5	11	6	6	8	4	6	8
Menominee	31		1	2		1	5	5	3	5	5	4	
Milwaukee	4,443	163	223	263	299	376	571	467	533	575	466	228	279
Monroe	274	5	8	18	12	34	38	36	23	39	33	11	17

## Marriages

**Table 4. Monthly Marriage Totals by County, Wisconsin 2012**

<u>County</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>	<u>Jul</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>
Oconto	178	5	3	5	16	15	20	22	30	29	17	5	11
Oneida	243	14	11	14	5	15	40	25	42	34	16	6	21
Outagamie	1,079	32	44	55	58	105	163	99	142	143	124	39	75
Ozaukee	407	8	8	8	19	30	71	71	66	54	33	17	22
Pepin	37					1	5	4	7	10	8	1	1
Pierce	168	3	3	5	8	10	35	15	18	37	17	8	9
Polk	212	4	10	12	7	20	30	14	34	41	21	4	15
Portage	314	9	9	18	6	25	48	33	47	51	38	13	17
Price	74	2	5		1	5	7	10	16	8	6	6	8
Racine	818	33	40	43	43	66	114	80	80	130	83	49	57
Richland	92	3	4	3	6	4	11	15	9	8	15	6	8
Rock	712	29	34	20	30	67	102	81	80	117	78	36	38
Rusk	77	2	2	2	7	3	10	7	15	13	8	2	6
St. Croix	374	11	9	14	13	28	61	36	60	55	45	13	29
Sauk	610	22	25	23	30	46	86	57	82	98	78	29	34
Sawyer	107	4	3	2	6	10	16	14	14	22	8	2	6
Shawano	195	7	4	6	13	18	27	23	23	19	30	9	16
Sheboygan	719	26	25	39	27	59	97	85	107	116	67	29	42
Taylor	105	4	4	5	8	4	14	14	16	16	12	1	7
Trempealeau	183	10	5	8	6	17	32	23	21	30	20	4	7
Vernon	184	2	6	8	10	18	26	25	23	23	30	10	3
Vilas	158	5	6	2	3	11	35	14	22	36	17	1	6
Walworth	843	22	27	35	30	65	123	110	112	141	95	35	48
Washburn	107	4	8	3	6	5	22	15	15	15	7	2	5
Washington	597	16	22	21	29	46	79	68	67	110	80	22	37
Waukesha	1,918	54	61	68	84	172	290	207	259	273	231	97	122
Waupaca	396	9	13	11	12	39	76	47	57	56	42	8	26
Waushara	134	4	4	10	8	12	17	20	18	21	9	5	6
Winnebago	848	34	32	44	43	79	114	85	117	106	94	42	58
Wood	404	13	16	13	17	37	60	44	57	59	52	11	25

Source: State Vital Records Office, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services.

Note: These numbers represent marriages that occurred in Wisconsin in 2012.

- In 2012, the months with the highest number of marriages were June, August and September. September was the most popular month to marry. In each of the past eight years, the month with the most marriages averaged approximately 14 percent of that year's total marriages. In those same eight years, the month in which the fewest marriages occurred was January.
- Milwaukee County had the highest number of marriages in 2012 (4,443), followed by Dane County (2,599), Waukesha County (1,918) and Brown County (1,682). These are Wisconsin's four most populous counties.
- The lowest number of marriages occurred in the counties of Florence (23), Menominee (31), Iron (32) and Pepin (37).

**Table 5. Divorces and Divorce Rates, Wisconsin and United States, Selected Years, 1920-2012**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Wisconsin Divorces</u>	<u>Wisconsin Divorce Rate*</u>	<u>United States Divorce Rate*</u>
1920	2,425	0.9	1.6
1925	2,467	0.9	1.5
1930	2,553	0.9	1.6
1935	3,543	1.2	1.7
1940	3,599	1.1	2.0
1945	6,393	2.2	3.5
1950	4,845	1.4	2.6
1955	4,720	1.3	2.3
1960	3,672	0.9	2.2
1965	5,232	1.2	2.5
1970	8,930	2.0	3.5
1975	13,187	2.9	4.8
1980	17,589	3.7	5.2
1985	16,596	3.5	5.0
1990	17,727	3.6	4.7
1995	17,313	3.4	4.4
2000	17,388	3.2	4.2
2005	16,297	2.9	3.6
2006	16,730	3.0	3.6
2007	16,458	2.9	3.6
2008	16,885	3.0	3.5
2009	16,705	2.9	3.4
2010	17,285	3.0	3.6
2011	16,635	2.9	3.6
2012	16,332	2.9	+

Source: U.S. divorce rates are from the National Center for Health Statistics, *National Vital Statistics Reports*. Wisconsin numbers and rates are from the State Vital Records Office, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services. The Wisconsin divorce rate for 2012 was calculated using 2011 population figures.

- Rates shown are divorces and annulments per 1,000 total population.
- + The national divorce rate for 2012 was not available for this report.

Notes: Wisconsin numbers and rates represent divorces and annulments that occurred in Wisconsin. The U.S. divorce rate for 2011 is provisional.

- A total of 16,332 divorces occurred in Wisconsin in 2012, for a divorce rate of 2.9 per 1,000 population. This is identical to the 2011 rate.
- In 2012, the ratio of Wisconsin marriages to Wisconsin divorces was 1.9 to 1 (there were 1.9 marriages for each divorce). This ratio has been falling since 1920, when it was 9.2 to 1; it was 6.7 to 1 in 1960; 2.2 to 1 in 1990; and 2.1 to 1 in 2000. The ratio increased slightly from 1.8 in 2011 to 1.9 in 2012.



## Divorces

**Table 6. Divorces and Annulments by County, Wisconsin 2012**

<u>County</u>	<u>Divorces</u>	<u>Annulments</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Divorces</u>	<u>Annulments</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,302</b>	<b>30</b>			
Adams	68		Marathon	362	
Ashland	50		Marinette	126	
Barron	173		Marquette	51	
Bayfield	52		Menominee	2	
Brown	744		Milwaukee	2,265	5
Buffalo	37		Monroe	178	
Burnett	58	1	Oconto	111	
Calumet	132		Oneida	122	1
Chippewa	200		Outagamie	530	6
Clark	68		Ozaukee	228	
Columbia	210		Pepin	23	
Crawford	57		Pierce	99	
Dane	1,377	7	Polk	163	
Dodge	237		Portage	156	
Door	79		Price	36	
Douglas	124		Racine	452	
Dunn	132		Richland	48	
Eau Claire	305		Rock	449	
Florence	19		Rusk	34	
Fond du Lac	327		St. Croix	320	1
Forest	31		Sauk	232	
Grant	115		Sawyer	54	
Green	106		Shawano	104	
Green Lake	55		Sheboygan	325	
Iowa	67		Taylor	58	1
Iron	27		Trempealeau	62	
Jackson	73		Vernon	91	1
Jefferson	282	2	Vilas	64	
Juneau	99		Walworth	331	1
Kenosha	583		Washburn	47	
Kewaunee	50		Washington	379	
La Crosse	357	1	Waukesha	1,039	2
Lafayette	48		Waupaca	158	1
Langlade	77		Waushara	71	
Lincoln	84		Winnebago	540	
Manitowoc	225		Wood	264	

Source: State Vital Records Office, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services.

Note: These numbers represent divorces and annulments that occurred in Wisconsin in 2012.

- The highest number of divorces in 2012 occurred in Milwaukee County (2,265 divorces and 5 annulments), followed by Dane County (1,377 divorces and 7 annulments) and Waukesha County (1,039 divorces and 2 annulments), reflecting the large populations of these three counties.
- The lowest number of divorces occurred in the counties of Menominee (2 divorces), Florence (19 divorces) and Pepin (23 divorces).

## Divorces

**Table 7. Divorces Affecting Children Under 18 Years of Age by County, Wisconsin 2012**

<u>County</u>	<u>Divorces Granted</u>	<u>Divorces Affecting Children &lt; 18</u>	<u>No. of Children &lt; 18 Affected</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Divorces Granted</u>	<u>Divorces Affecting Children &lt; 18</u>	<u>No. of Children &lt; 18 Affected</u>
<b>State Total</b>	<b>16,332</b>	<b>8,493</b>	<b>15,766</b>				
Adams	68	28	46	Marathon	362	188	361
Ashland	50	22	37	Marinette	126	68	120
Barron	173	97	180	Marquette	51	23	41
Bayfield	52	28	56	Menominee	2		
Brown	744	393	747	Milwaukee	2,270	1,121	2,145
Buffalo	37	13	26	Monroe	178	94	170
Burnett	59	32	53	Oconto	111	57	96
Calumet	132	75	142	Oneida	123	53	85
Chippewa	200	112	201	Outagamie	536	295	562
Clark	68	37	67	Ozaukee	228	121	218
Columbia	210	104	185	Pepin	23	8	15
Crawford	57	31	62	Pierce	99	50	96
Dane	1,384	650	1,146	Polk	163	98	177
Dodge	237	124	233	Portage	156	80	135
Door	79	41	68	Price	36	18	34
Douglas	124	60	113	Racine	452	233	448
Dunn	132	71	148	Richland	48	19	38
Eau Claire	305	150	295	Rock	449	234	422
Florence	19	9	13	Rusk	34	13	26
Fond du Lac	327	164	298	St. Croix	321	188	359
Forest	31	13	19	Sauk	232	117	207
Grant	115	60	107	Sawyer	54	20	33
Green	106	55	108	Shawano	104	50	92
Green Lake	55	30	59	Sheboygan	325	177	311
Iowa	67	34	67	Taylor	59	24	42
Iron	27	13	34	Trempealeau	62	34	64
Jackson	73	38	73	Vernon	92	49	107
Jefferson	284	148	272	Vilas	64	32	56
Juneau	99	51	86	Walworth	332	195	380
Kenosha	583	322	596	Washburn	47	23	45
Kewaunee	50	30	64	Washington	379	205	403
La Crosse	358	195	353	Waukesha	1,041	576	1,030
Lafayette	48	25	46	Waupaca	159	89	167
Langlade	77	46	82	Waushara	71	36	72
Lincoln	84	31	59	Winnebago	540	302	552
Manitowoc	225	127	248	Wood	264	144	268

Source: State Vital Records Office, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services.

Note: These numbers represent divorces and annulments that occurred in Wisconsin in 2012.

- Fifty-two percent of all Wisconsin divorces in 2012 involved couples with children under 18 years of age. Among divorces involving children, an average of 1.9 children were affected by each divorce.

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## **Technical Notes**

### **Marriage Reporting Requirements**

The following is a brief outline of the sequence of events which take place when a marriage occurs in Wisconsin:

- The filing party (officiant) must register the certificate of marriage with the local Register of Deeds (where the marriage took place) within 3 days after the event.
- The local Register of Deeds must transmit the marriage certificate to the State Registrar within 10 working days after its receipt.

### **Divorce Reporting Requirements**

The following is what takes place when a divorce occurs in Wisconsin:

- At the end of every biweekly period, the filing party (clerk of any court) must send to the State Registrar a report of every divorce or annulment of marriage granted during that period.

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***Wisconsin Marriages and Divorces, 2012***  
P-45359-12 (August 2013)

Wisconsin Department of Health Services  
Division of Public Health  
Office of Health Informatics  
State Vital Records Office