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| 29 June 2018   |  | | --- | | **MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES, 2017** | |

Statistics of marriages in 2017 recorded a slight increase of the number of marriages by 0.4% in relation to 2017, i.e. from 35 921 in 2016 to 36 047 in 2017. The average age of brides and grooms was 31 and 34 respectively. The number of first marriages in the Republic of Serbia decreased by 0.4% in relation to 2016 and was 28 919. Average age at the moment of first marriage was still 31 for grooms and 28 for brides.

Homogenous marriages were the most frequent, meaning marriages between grooms and brides of the same ethnical affiliation (88%). The most numerous marriages were those where grooms and brides were of the same educational attainment (67%). Observing the economic activity of grooms and brides, in 49% of marriages, both grooms and brides were economically active, performing an occupation.

In 2017 the number of divorces was 9 262 divorces and shows a growth of 2.4% in relation to 2016. Average age at the moment of divorce was 40 for wives and 44 for husbands. Average duration of marriage before divorce in 2017 was 13.4 years.

The largest number of divorces in 2017 involved marriages with children – 55% (5 117 divorces). After divorce, the dependent children in 72% cases had the custody of mother.

Starting from 1998 the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia has not at disposal and may not provide available certain data relative to AP Kosovo and Metohija and therefore these data are not included in the coverage for the Republic of Serbia (total).

**Marriages and divorces**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2013** | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** | **2017** |
| **Marriages ‒ total** | **36 209** | **36 429** | **36 949** | **35 921** | **36 047** |
| **of which, first marriages** | 30 049 | 30 163 | 30 248 | 29 048 | 28 919 |
| Average age at first marriage – **groom** | 30.6 | 30.9 | 31.0 | 31.2 | 31.2 |
| Average age at first marriage – **bride** | 27.5 | 27.9 | 28.0 | 28.2 | 28.3 |
| **Divorces – total** | **8 170** | **7 614** | **9 381** | **9 046** | **9 262** |
| Average age at divorce –**husband** | 42.7 | 43.1 | 43.5 | 43.5 | 43.7 |
| Average age at divorce –  **wife** | 39.0 | 39.3 | 39.8 | 40.0 | 40.2 |
| Average duration of marriage before divorce (years) | 13.4 | 13.6 | 13.3 | 13.3 | 13.4 |