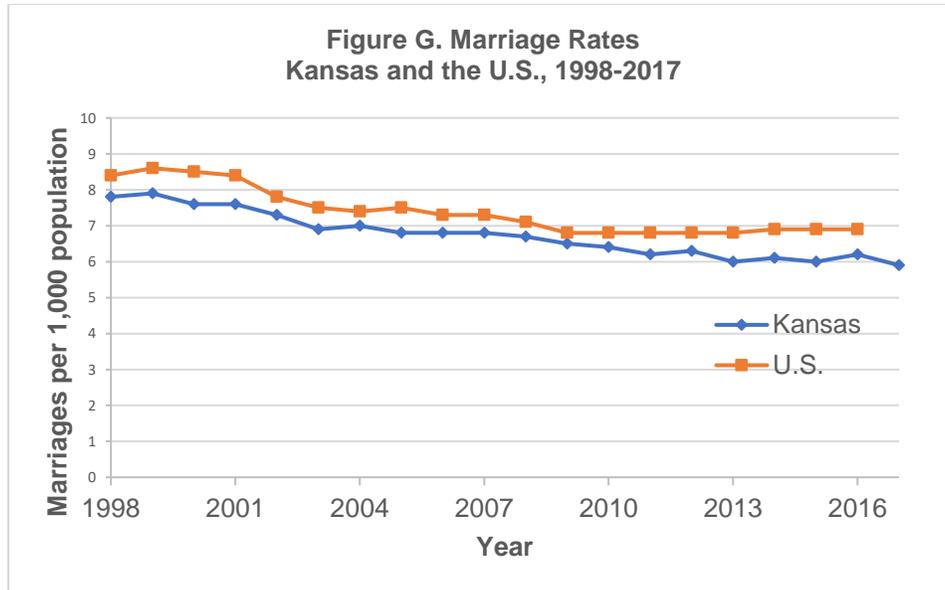


Marriages

In 2017, 17,274 marriages occurred in Kansas, a decrease of 3.8 percent from the 2016 total of 17,948 marriages (Table F1).



The Kansas marriage rate in 2017 was 5.9 marriages per 1,000 population. This rate was 4.8 percent lower than the 6.2 percent rate recorded in 2016, and was the lowest rate recorded for the state of Kansas in the last twenty years (1998–2017) (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 2017, 59.1 percent of all marriages involved first-time partners (Table F4).

More marriages occurred in September (11.7%) than any other month in 2017. October and June were the second and third most popular months (Figure F3).

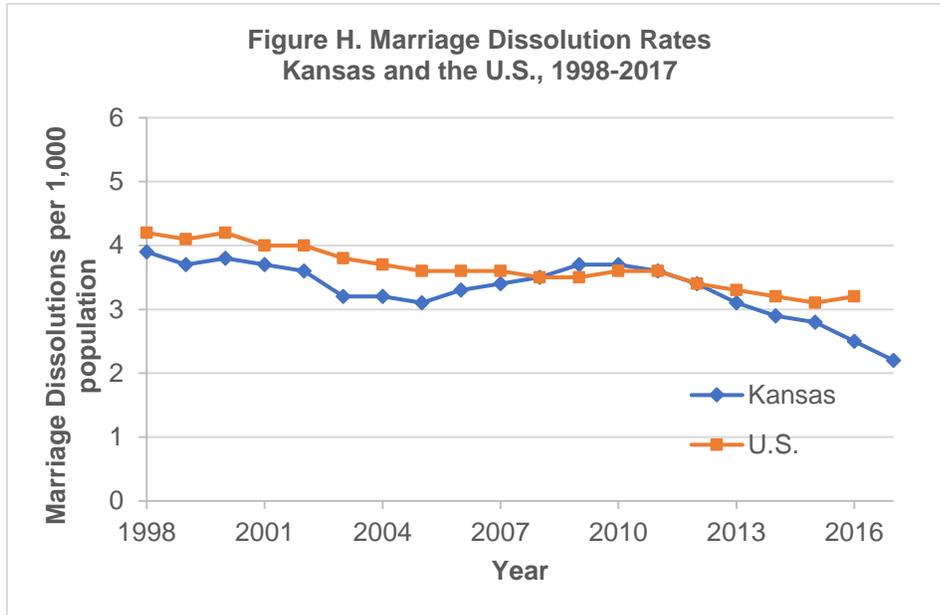
Age at Marriage

Kansas couples are delaying marriage. In 1998, 11.4 percent of the brides and 4.6 percent of the grooms were under 20 years of age. In 2017, however, only 4.7 percent of the brides and 2.2 percent of the grooms were under 20 (Table F5).

The average age of all brides in 2017 was 31.5 years and that of grooms was 33.5 years. Women marrying for the first time averaged 26.6 years while first time grooms averaged 28.4 years. Of those persons who remarried in 2017, women were, on average, 42.2 years old and men were 45.0 years of age (Figure F4).

Marriage Dissolutions

In 2017, 6,494 marriage dissolutions (6,402 divorces and 92 annulments) occurred in Kansas, a decline of 9.8 percent from the 2016 total of 7,198 (Table F1, Table F7).



The Kansas marriage dissolution rate in 2017 was 2.2 per 1,000 population, which was 43.6 percent lower than the 1997 rate of 3.9 (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 2017 have not been released at the time this summary was written (Table F1, Figure F2).

The ratio of marriages to divorces in Kansas in 2017 was 2.7:1 (Table F1).

Age at Marriage Dissolution

The most common age-group of husbands involved in marriage dissolutions in 2017 was 30-34; 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 2017 was 38.6 years for wives and 40.7 years for husbands, as compared to 35.2 years for wives and 37.5 years for husbands in 1998 (Figure F5).

Marriage Dissolution Characteristics

In 2017, 32.5 percent of marriages ending in divorce or annulment lasted four years or less (Table F7).

There were 5,885 minor children affected as a result of marriage dissolutions in 2017. At least one minor child was reported to be involved in almost half (47.9%) of the marriage dissolutions (Table F8, Figure F6).