

Sounds of Encouragement Association

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Bahamian Marriage & Family Facts & Figures for 2000

1. 87,742 Households in the Bahamas

- i. 37,321 Bahamian homes where married parents live together - 42.5%
- ii. 50,140 Bahamian homes where no married parents live together - 57.5%
Including 7, 342 Common Law Households

2. 2,366 Marriages and 503 Divorces in 2000

- i. 415 divorces among couples with 0 to 2 children.
The more children a couple has, the less likely the couple will divorce.

3. Young mothers (10-19) accounted for 13% of the registered births; 93% of these mothers were single

4. Marriages/Divorce Per 1000 Population

YEAR	MARRIAGES	PER 1000	POPULATION	DIVORCE PER 1000	
1970	1,435	8.4	170,000	N.A	
1980	1,396	6.6	210,000	0.6	
1981	1,205	5.5	214,000	0.8	
1984	1,720	7.6	226,000	1.6	
1990		2,185	8.6	225,000	1.4
1991		2,491	9.6	260,000	1.3
1987	1,888	7.9	240,000	1.8	
1993	2,620	9.7	269,000	1.5	
1998	1,684	5.7	293,000	1.2	
2000	2,366	7.8	304,000	1.5	

5. Divorce By Duration of Marriage

Duration of Marriages	Number of Divorces
1 Year	2
2 Years	12
3 Years	26
4 Years	28
8 Years	34
10-14 Years	121
15-19 Years	55
20 and Over	123

6. Divorce By Number of Children to Marriage

Number of Children Number of Divorcees

0	172
1	133
2	110
3	61
4	16
5	5
6	1
8 & 9	-
10 and More	4

7. Comparison with Jamaica 2001

22,301 Marriages, 1691 Divorces - 1/13

8. Worldwide Divorce Rate Per 1000 population

Sri Lanka	0.15	Qatar	0.97
Brazil	0.26	Guadeloupe	1.18
Italy	0.27	Barbados	1.21
Mexico	0.33	Bahamas	1.6
Turkey	0.37	Finland	1.85
Mongolia	0.37	Canada	2.46
Chile	0.38	Australia	2.52
Jamaica	0.38	New Zealand	2.63
Cyprus	0.39	Denmark	2.81
El Salvador	0.41	United Kingdom	3.08
Ecuador	0.42	Russia	3.36
Mauritius	0.47	Puerto Rico	4.47
Thailand	0.58	US	4.95
Syria	0.65		
Panama	0.68		
Brunei	0.72		
Greece	0.76		
China	0.79		
Singapore	0.80		
Tunisia	0.82		
Albania	0.83		
Portugal	0.88		
Korea	0.88		
Trinidad	0.97		

9. The ten highest countries per 1000 population

Sri Lanka	0.15
Jamaica	0.38
Trinidad	0.97
Guadeloupe	1.18
Barbados	1.21
Bahamas	1.6
Canada	2.46
United Kingdom	3.08
US	4.95

10. Cuba Three of every four marriages end in divorce. - 75% divorce rate and rampant cohabitation

11. Russia The number of divorces surpassed the number of marriages by 19,600 from January to March this year (2002). In the first quarter of 2001, the number of marriages was 6,100 more than that of divorces.

12. Percentage of Divorces in Select Countries (*Percentage from marriages*)

Belarus	68%
Russian Federation	65%
Sweden	64%
United Kingdom	53%
United States	49%
Canada	45%
Bahamas	25%
Turkmenistan	18%
Italy	12%
Albania	7%
Macedonia	5%

13. Most Popular Months for Getting Married in the Bahamas

January	215
February	121
June	168
July	175
August	139
September	99
December	204

14. Most Popular Ages in the Bahamas for Getting Married

Age of Bride	Age of Groom	Marriages
15-19	60 & Over	2
20-24	30-34	223
30-34	30-34	283
30-34	35-39	206
45-49	50-54	33
60 &	20-24	2
60 &	60 &	24

15. Total Marriages Per Age Group

	Age	Marriages
Groom	30-34	656
Bride	30-34	680
Groom	35-39	520
Bride	25-29	554

16. Divorce By Age Groups

Age of Husband	Age of Wife	Divorces
35-39	35-39	54
30-34	40-44	2
40-44	25-29	1
50+	50+	113

16. Birth for 2000

4,551 Total Live Births

1,896 Birth from married mothers **41%**

2,646 From Single Mothers **59%**

17. Births in Jamaica 2001

48,065 Total live birth

39,503 Total births from single mothers 82%

18. The Truth

“Very religious and traditional couples stay married longer but are the most unhappy among married couples.” “When the person's allegiance to the scripture was combined with dangerous teachings, much pain often resulted.”