



STATISTICAL REPORT
MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE RATES
FOR EMIRATIS - EMIRATE OF DUBAI
2016-2019



Emiratis, Targeted Groups

Emirati population is defined as all usual residents within the geographical boundaries of Dubai at certain time, regardless of the emirate that issued the family book/ passport/ decree summary (Marsoom) for them.

The table below shows the number of Emirati population who are usually residing in Dubai and the targeted groups, with the aim to measure marriage and divorce rates for them:

Number of Emirati population who are usually residing in the Emirate of Dubai 2016 - 2019 (mid-year)

Statement	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total number of Emiratis in mid-year	228,125	239,315	249,400	258,950
Number of Emiratis aged 15 years and over in mid-year	153,694	161,238	168,000	174,460
Number of married Emiratis aged 15 years and over in mid-year	71,692	73,360	76,780	79,660
Number of unmarried Emiratis aged 15 years and over in mid-year	82,002	87,878	91,220	94,800

Source: Dubai Statistics Center

Marriage & Divorce Rates for Emiratis

Divorce Rates

Divorce rates for Emiratis in Dubai continued to decline gradually, reaching 2.3 per 1,000 of marriageable age.

The data below shows that divorce rates for Emiratis in Dubai are gradually declining between 2016 and 2019. The general divorce rate was about 2.28 per 1,000 Emiratis living in Dubai who are of marriageable age in all cases where both spouses are Emirati citizens.

It is worth mentioning that the divorce incidents registered at Dubai Courts are all divorce cases that are registered during the years of the study in Dubai.

Due to the nature of the demographic composition of Dubai, in case of these rates calculating the total population of Dubai, it is preferable to exclude labor camps' individuals from the measurement equation so that we can get more accurate picture of this phenomenon and the causes of its spread among the society under study.

Clarification

The process of measuring divorce rates is a statistical methodology at the international level and is measured by statistical agencies using standardized methodologies and concepts. As the rates of Crude Divorce, General Divorce and Refined Divorce one of the most important rates associated with this social phenomenon.

Crude Divorce Rate it means: The number of divorce cases per 1,000 of the population, and apply it on a particular category of population as Emiratis, for example: The number of Emirati citizens divorce cases recorded during the year is calculated for every 1,000 of Emirati population in the mid of that year.

General Divorce Rate: It's the number of divorce cases per 1,000 of the population who are in the marriage age regardless of their social status. To focus on a certain category of the Emirati population as an instance, the number of divorce cases among Emiratis is calculated for every 1,000 of the Emirati population who are in the marriage age by the mid-year regardless of their social status.

Net (Refined) Divorce Rate: is the divorce cases for every 1,000 of the married population by the mid-year. To focus on a certain category of the Emirati population for instance, the number of divorce cases among the Emiratis is calculated for every 1,000 married Emiratis by the mid-year.

Divorce Rates (per 000) for Emiratis in Dubai 2016-2019 (Both spouses are Emirati¹, Emirati husband and Emirati wife)

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019
Crude Divorce Rate for Emirati	2.30	2.26	1.66	1.53
General Divorce Rate for Emiratis who are in the age marriage	3.42	3.36	2.46	2.28
Net (Refined) Divorce Rate for married Emiratis	7.32	7.37	5.38	4.98

Source: Dubai Statistics Center

Divorce Rates (per 000) for Emiratis in Dubai 2016-2019 (one of the spouses is an Emirati²)

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019
Crude Divorce Rate for Emirati	1.46	1.42	1.02	0.91
General Divorce Rate for Emiratis who are in the age marriage	2.16	2.11	1.51	1.35
Net (Refined) Divorce Rate for married Emiratis	4.63	4.63	3.31	2.96

Source: Dubai Statistics Center

Divorce Rates (per 000) for Emiratis in Dubai 2016-2019 (total number of divorce cases¹⁺²)

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019
Crude Divorce Rate for Emirati	3.76	3.68	2.67	2.44
General Divorce Rate for Emiratis who are in the age marriage	5.58	5.46	3.97	3.63
Net (Refined) Divorce Rate for married Emiratis	11.95	12.01	8.69	7.95

Source: Dubai Statistics Center

Divorce Facts Registered in the Emirate of Dubai 2016 -2019

Statement	2016	2017	2018	2019
Emirati husband - Emirati wife ⁽¹⁾	525	541	413	397
Emirati husband – Non-Emirati wife* ⁽²⁾	332	340	254	236
Non-Emirati Husband – Non-Emirati Wife	1,313	1,279	1,362	1,096
Total	2,170	2,160	2,029	1,729

* Includes cases of Emirati with Non-Emirati for both male and female.

Source: Dubai Courts

Clarification

There are many statistical reports in general and those that are related to divorce rates in particular that some studies and some media handle that include inaccurate statistical indicators and outputs. This is due to the fact that they were issued from non-competent bodies that do not have sufficient information inputs or that are not calculated in accordance with the internationally accredited scientific statistical methodologies. No doubt such numbers might have negative feedback on their users and the public opinion. These might have social reflections. Therefore, Dubai Statistics Center always emphasizes on the importance of relying on the official figures issued from statistical bodies as being the competent bodies and their outputs are marked with high accuracy and reliability.

Marriage Rates

Crude Marriage Rate is defined as the number of marriage cases for every 1,000 population. To focus on a certain category of population as the Emiratis for instance, the number of marriage cases among Emiratis that are registered during the year for every 1,000 of the Emirati population is calculated in the mid of that year.

General Marriage Rate is the number of marriage cases for every 1,000 of the population who are in the marriage age regardless of their social status. To focus on a certain category of population such the Emiratis for instance, the number of marriage cases among the Emiratis for every 1,000 of the Emirati population who are at the marriage age by the mid-year is calculated regardless of their social status.

Net (Refined) Marriage Rate is the number of marriage cases for every 1,000 of the unmarried population (who have not previously married, divorced and widows of both genders) by the mid-year. To focus on a certain category of population such as the Emiratis for instance, the number of marriage cases among Emiratis for every 1,000 unmarried Emiratis by the mid-year is calculated.

Marriage Rates (per 000) for Emiratis in Dubai 2016-2019 (Both spouses are Emirati¹, Emirati husband and Emirati wife)

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019
Crude Marriage Rate for Emiratis	4.80	4.39	3.87	3.69
General Marriage Rate for Emiratis who are in the age marriage	7.12	6.52	5.74	5.48
Net (Refined) Marriage Rate for non-married Emiratis	13.34	11.96	10.58	10.08

Source: Dubai Statistics Center

Marriage Rates (per 000) for Emiratis in Dubai 2016-2019 (one of the spouses is an Emirati²)

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019
Crude Marriage Rate for Emiratis	2.93	2.90	2.81	2.70
General Marriage Rate for Emiratis who are in the age marriage	4.35	4.30	4.17	4.01
Net (Refined) Marriage Rate for non-married Emiratis	8.16	7.90	7.68	7.37

Source: Dubai Statistics Center

Marriage Rates (per 000) for Emiratis in Dubai 2016-2019 (total number of marriage contracts¹⁺²)

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019
Crude Marriage Rate for Emiratis	7.73	7.29	6.68	6.39
General Marriage Rate for Emiratis who are in the age marriage	11.47	10.82	9.92	9.49
Net (Refined) Marriage Rate for non-married Emiratis	21.50	19.86	18.26	17.46

Source: Dubai Statistics Center

Marriage Contracts Registered in Emirate of Dubai 2016-2019

Statement	2016	2017	2018	2019
Emirati husband - Emirati wife ⁽¹⁾	1,094	1,051	965	956
Emirati Husband- Non-Emirati Wife* ⁽²⁾	669	694	701	699
Non-Emirati husband- Non-Emirati wife	2,696	2,651	2,778	2,943
Total	4,459	4,396	4,444	4,598

* Includes cases of Emirati with Non-Emirati for both male and female.

Source: Dubai Courts