

15 September 2015

Statistics on Annulments, Separations and Divorces
Year 2014

In 2014, there were 100.746 divorces, 5.6% more than that registered the previous year

Shared custody of underage children was granted in the 21.3% of cases

During 2014, there were 105,893 annulments, separations and divorces, that is, a rate of 2.3 per 1,000 inhabitants.

The total number of dissolutions in 2014 experienced an estimated increase of 5.4% compared with the previous year. The number of divorces increased 5.6%, the separations rate increased 2.7% and the annulments one increased another 2.7%.

By type of process, in 2014, there were 100,746 divorces, 5,034 separations, and 113 annulments. Divorces represented 95.1% of the total, separations represented 4.8% and annulments the remaining 0.1%.

Divorces and separations according to type

76.5% of the divorces and separations in the year 2014 were by mutual agreement, while the remaining 23.5% were contested.

By type of proceedings, of the total divorces, 76.1% were by mutual agreement and 23.9% were contested. In turn, 85.5% of the separations were by mutual agreement and 14.5% were contested.

Average duration of the marriages dissolved

The average duration of the marriages until the date of the judgement was 15.8 years, a similar number to that recorded in 2013.

The marriages dissolved by divorce had an average duration of 15.4 years, while those dissolved by separation had lasted 22.2 years. In turn, the average duration between the date of the marriage and the declaration of annulment was 7.4 years.

30% of the divorces took place after 20 or more years of marriage and 23.5% in unions that had lasted between 6 and 10 years.

In the case of separations, 53.5% of the marriages had a duration longer than 20 years, and 13.3% between 6 and 10 years.

Average duration of the dissolution processes

76.5% of the divorce proceedings in 2014 were resolved in less than six months (75.5% in 2013), while 7.5% of the cases took more than a year (7.9% in 2013).

In separations, 86.2% were resolved in less than six months (84.2% in 2013), while 3.4% took longer than a year (4.8% in 2013).

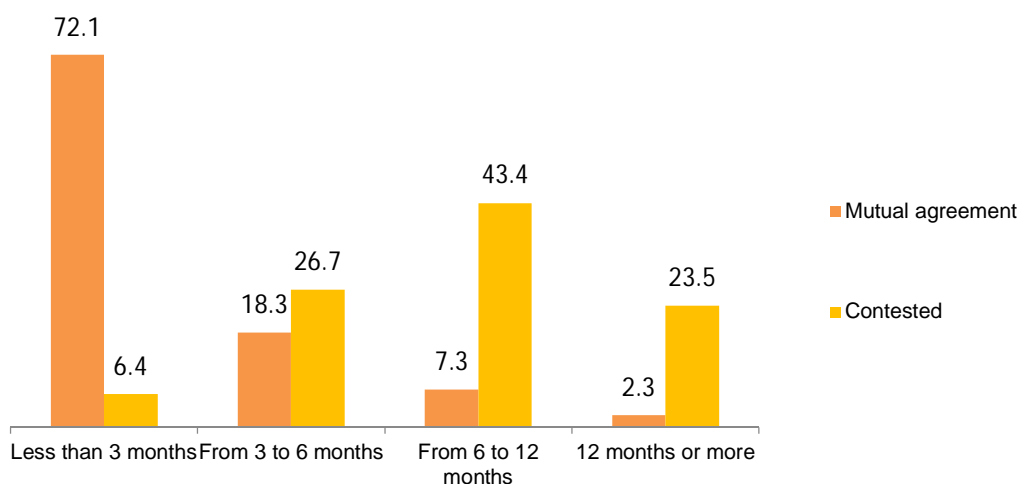
The average duration of the proceedings was 4.4 months, slightly lower than that of 2013 which was 4.5 months. It was slightly lower in the separations (3.2 months) than in the divorces (4.5 months).

According to the type of proceedings of divorces and separations, the average duration of mutual agreement proceedings was 2.8 months, whereas contested proceedings reached 9.6 months.

72.1% of proceedings by mutual agreement was resolved in less than 3 months and 18.3% in a period of time between 3 and 6 months.

In turn, 43.4% of contested proceedings was resolved in a period of time between 6 and 12 months, and 23.5% in 12 months or more.

Contested and mutual agreement proceedings (divorces and separations) by duration. Year 2014



Average age, marital status and nationality of the spouses

The highest number of separations and divorces between different sex spouses took place in 2014 in the age bracket from 40 to 49 years old for both men and women.

The **average age of women** at the time of marriage dissolution was **42.8 years old** (42.6 years old in divorces, 48.2 in separations and 39.7 in annulments). In the case of **men**, the **average age was 45.3 years old** (45.0 years old in divorces, 50.7 in separations and 44.0 in annulments). The said average ages were similar to those registered in 2013.

83.7% of the total annulments, separations and divorces registered in 2014 occurred between spouses with Spanish nationality. In 10.6% of these, one of the spouses was a foreign national, and in 5.7%, both spouses were foreign nationals.

According to the marital status of the spouses when they got married, most of them were single. In the case of men, 6.4% were divorced, and 0.4 widowed. Among women, 7.2% were divorced, and 0.6% widowed.

Number of children, allowance and custody

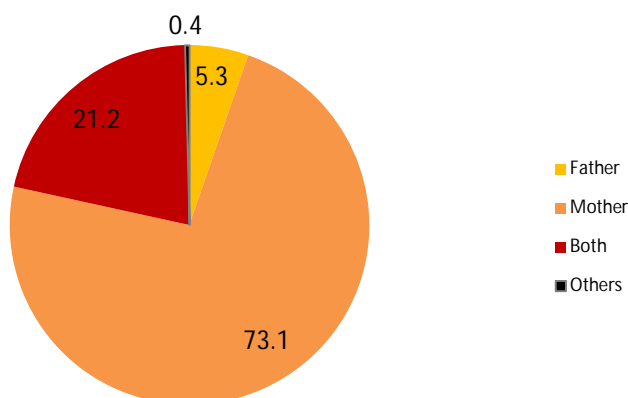
42.6% of the marriages dissolved had no children (no underage or dependent adult children). This percentage was similar to the previous year one.

48.1% only had underage children, 4.3% only had dependent adult children, and 5.1% had underage and dependent adult children. 27.2% of marriages dissolved had only one child (underage or dependent adult child).

In 57.8% of the marriage dissolutions (different sex spouses), maintenance and support was assigned, which is a similar figure to that of the previous year (57.2%). Among them, in 78.3% of the cases, the payment of the maintenance and support pension corresponded to the father (81.5% in 2013), and in 4.6% of the cases, to the mother (4.8% in the previous year), and in 17.1% of the cases to both spouses (13.7% in 2013).

The custody of the underage children was granted to the mother in 73.1% of marriage dissolutions, a lower figure to that observed the previous year (76.2%). In 5.3% of the dissolutions, custody was granted to the father (as compared with 5.5% in 2013), and in 21.2% it was shared (17.9% from the previous year), and in 0.4% it was granted to others institutions or relatives.

Total annulments, separations and divorces by spouse with custody. Year 2014



In 10.0% of marriage dissolutions, there was a compensatory allowance. 92.2% of cases, the compensatory allowance was paid by the husband.

Regarding the person filing the application for dissolution marriage, in 56.8% of the cases it was presented by both spouses, in 27.5% by the wife and in 15.7% by the husband.

Data by Autonomous Community

The rate of annulments, separations and divorces per 1,000 inhabitants in Spain was 2.3 in the year 2014.

By Autonomous Community, those that registered the highest rates per 1,000 inhabitants were Ceuta (2.8), Cataluña (2.6) and Canarias (2.6).

Conversely, the Autonomous Communities with the lowest rates were Castilla y León, Castilla-La Mancha, and Extremadura (all of them at 1.8).

It should be pointed out that the location of annulments, separations and divorces in a specific Autonomous Community has been assigned based upon the location of the legal body that passes the sentence and not upon the place of residence or birth of the spouses.

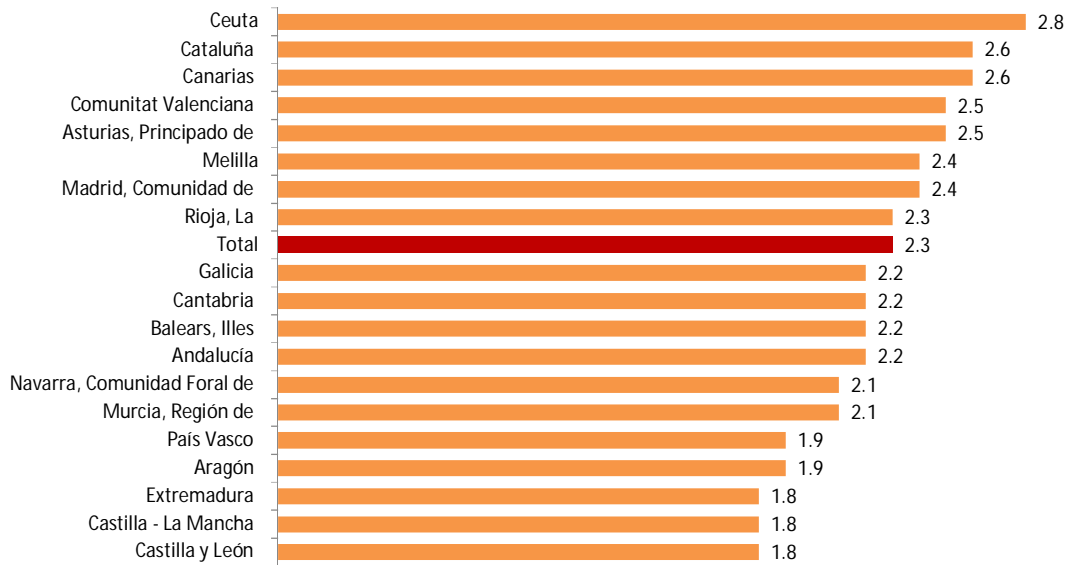
Annulments, separations and divorces by Autonomous City and Community

Absolute figures

Year 2014

	Total	Annulments	Separations	Divorces
Total	105,893	113	5,034	100,746
Cataluña	19,591	33	818	18,740
Andalucía	18,449	38	1,034	17,377
Madrid, Comunidad de	15,256	11	634	14,611
Comunitat Valenciana	12,388	7	592	11,789
Canarias	5,948	2	276	5,671
Galicia	5,575	1	190	5,383
Castilla y León	4,377	1	239	4,137
País Vasco	4,081	5	195	3,881
Castilla-La Mancha	3,715	2	215	3,497
Murcia, Región de	3,103	0	140	2,963
Balears, Illes	2,607	1	149	2,456
Asturias, Principado de	2,510	2	117	2,391
Aragón	2,498	2	113	2,382
Extremadura	1,998	0	131	1,867
Cantabria	1,327	7	53	1,267
Navarra, Comunidad foral	1,303	0	68	1,235
Rioja, La	731	0	18	713
Ceuta	236	0	26	210
Melilla	201	0	25	175

**Rates of annulments, separations, and divorces by Autonomous Community.
Year 2014**



Methodological note

The Statistics on Annulments, Separations and Divorces are an annual statistical operation aimed at studying the annulment, separation and divorce processes presented at the judicial level, and they are compiled using the information regarding judgments provided by the legal bodies with jurisdiction over the subject. The statistics cover the entire country.

The purpose of these statistics is to ascertain the number of judgments on annulments, separations and divorces passed during the reference year.

Information is provided regarding some of the main socio-demographic features of the spouses involved (sex, age, nationality, number of children), about the type of separation or divorce (by mutual agreement or contested) and regarding other variables of social relevance associated with the legal process (maintenance and support, custody, duration of the procedure, etc.)

The Statistics on Annulments, Separations and Divorces are performed by the National Statistics Institute (INE) by virtue of the Agreement signed with the General Council of the Judiciary Branch (GCJB) of 14 of February 1995.

Since 2007, a continuous collection system of the statistical bulletins using online forms has been implemented via the Neutral Judicial Point platform, the services network that the GCJB makes available to users on its website.

The results are published annually. Results are disseminated on a national, Autonomous Community and provincial level.

It is necessary to point out that, as a consequence of the existence of new sources of court information, the methodology used for the statistics was improved during year 2013. This improvement has allowed for a more precise estimate on the number of dissolutions.