

Civil Unions and Marriages: September 2015 quarter (provisional) – tables

Embargoed until 10:45am – 04 November 2015

Tables

Statistics NZ releases provisional civil union and marriage quarterly data within five weeks of the end of each quarter. Our data refers to marriages and civil unions that have occurred and been registered with Births, Deaths, and Marriages.

See [Civil Unions and Marriages: September 2015 quarter \(provisional\)](#) (Excel, 3 sheets, 66kB) for the following tables, which are also available from the 'Downloads' box. If you have problems viewing the files, see [opening files and PDFs](#).

1. Civil unions and marriages, by relationship type
2. Civil unions and marriages, by New Zealand resident and overseas resident

This is the last time we will be releasing this table in its current format.

Next release

Civil Unions and Marriages: December 2015 quarter (provisional) will be released on 3 February 2016 in [Infoshare](#).

Access data on Infoshare

As of 4 November 2015 we are releasing civil unions and marriages data in Infoshare.

Infoshare allows you to organise data in the way that best meets your needs. You can view the resulting tables onscreen or download them.

Find the new table '[Quarterly Marriages and Civil Unions \(provisional\)](#)' by selecting the following category from the Infoshare homepage:

Subject category: Population

Group: Marriages Civil Unions and Divorces – VSM

The table provides combined marriage and civil union registrations for same-sex and opposite-sex couples. Available quarterly (for the March, June, September, and December quarters), the series is updated in the first week of May, August, November, and February.

Data quality

Statistics NZ is responsible for releasing marriage and civil union registration data. Our data refers to marriages and civil unions that have occurred and been registered with Births, Deaths, and Marriages. Provisional civil union and marriage quarterly data is available from Statistics NZ within five weeks of the end of the quarter. The quarterly provisional data includes the number of marriages and civil unions between same-sex male, same-sex female, and opposite-sex couples; and transfers from civil unions (as explained below).

For more information about final annual data see [Marriages, civil unions, and divorces – information releases](#).

Civil unions

The Civil Union Act 2004 came into force on 26 April 2005 and the first ceremonies were celebrated on 29 April 2005. This Act introduced a new form of legal relationship. Two people, whether of opposite or the same sex, can enter into a civil union provided they are not currently married to or in a civil union with someone else. A married couple can transfer their relationship to a civil union. From 19 August 2013, any couple in a civil union can transfer their relationship to a marriage (before this date, only opposite-sex couples could transfer their civil union to a marriage).

Marriages

The Marriage (Definition of Marriage) Amendment Act 2013 came into force on 19 August 2013. This Act specifies that two people can marry regardless of their sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The first same-sex marriages were celebrated on 19 August 2013.

More information

[See more on marriages data](#)

[See more on civil unions data](#)

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