

Table 25 - Demographic Yearbook 2007

Table 25 presents the number of divorces by number of dependent children and the percentage distribution for the latest available year between 1998 and 2007.

Description of variables: Divorces are the final legal dissolutions of a marriage, which confer on the parties the right to remarry as defined by the laws of each country or area. Unless otherwise noted, divorce statistics exclude legal separations which do not allow remarriage. These statistics refer to the number of divorces granted, and not to the number of persons divorcing.

The number of dependent children of divorced persons is defined as the total number of living children under 18 years of age who are dependent on either of the parties to a divorce at the time the petition for divorce is filed. This should include children of any previous marriage.

The classification for the number of dependent children used in this table is the following: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and over and number unknown. The aggregate number of dependent children is also shown as reported.

Reliability of data: Data from civil registers of divorces which are reported as incomplete (less than 90 per cent completeness) or of unknown completeness are considered unreliable and are set in italics rather than in roman type. For more information about the quality of vital statistics data in general, see section 4.2 of the Technical Notes.

Limitations: Statistics on divorces by number of dependent children are subject to the same qualifications which have been set forth for vital statistics in general and divorce statistics in particular as discussed in Section 4 of the Technical Notes.

Earlier data: Divorces by number of dependent children have been shown previously in issues of the Demographic Yearbook featuring marriage and divorce statistics. For information on years covered, readers should consult the Historical Index.