

Reference Metadata in ESMS 2.0 structure

Statistical survey on marriages

PM_SB.1_A_EN_2024_1

Reference Metadata in ESMS 2.0 structure

1	Contact
1.1	Contact organisation
State Statistical Office	
1.2	Contact organisation unit
Department for population statistics	
1.3	Contact name
Dijana Krstevska	
1.4	Contact person function
Head of departement	
1.5	Contact mail address
Dame Gruev 4, 1000 Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia	
1.6	Contact email address
dijana.krstevska@stat.gov.mk	
1.7	Contact phone number
00389 2 3249 417	
1.8	Contact fax number
00389 2 311 336	
2	Metadata update
2.1	Metadata last certified
01/07/2025	
2.2	Metadata last posted
01/07/2025	
2.3	Metadata last update
01/07/2025	

3	Statistical presentation
3.1	Data description
<p>Data for the marriages, demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the spouses for monitoring the occurrence that happens with the conclusion of marriage, as biological and social community of life and renewal of the population This statistical survey provides data on marriages in accordance with the Family Law ("Official Gazette" No.80/1992, 9/1996, 38/2004, 33/2006, 84/2008, 67/10, 156/10, 39/12, 44/12, 38/14,115/14 и 104/15) recorded in the register of marriages.</p>	
3.2	Classification system
<p>Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics - NTES, 2019</p> <p>National Classification of Occupations, 2015</p> <p>System of education in the country in terms of ISCED2011 - International Standard Classification of Education MSKOB (2013);</p>	
3.3	Sector coverage
not applicable	
3.4	Statistical concepts and definitions
<p>Marriage is the act by which the legal relationship of husband and wife is constituted.- (Family Law) Former marital status may be: unmarried, which means that people have never previously been married; widowed, indicates that people are not married, but the previous marriage was terminated by the death of the spouse; divorced, indicates that people are not married, but the previous marriage was terminated by divorce. Marriage order indicates how much marriages concluded the person, including the marriage is to be registered. Nuptiality rates (marriages per 1000 population). This rate, are the ratio between the number of marriages in the calendar year and same mid- year population. Average age of the bride/ groom - This indicator is a weidhted arithmetic mean of the age, which shows how many years in average, has the bride or the groom in one calendar year in one territory.The calculation is based on the total number of marriages and the age of brrde and groom separately.</p>	
3.5	Statistical unit
Every marriage according to the valid legal regulations, recorded in the register of marriages.	
3.6	Statistical population
<p>All concluded marriages in the current (calendar) year occurred in the Republic of North Macedonia, according to the valid legal regulations and recorded in the register of marriages. According to the international recommendations for publishing vital statistics and with the aim of presenting the situation more objectively, starting from 2004, the State Statistical Office has changed the methodology of presenting data on vital events, where the total number of cases includes vital events occurring only in the Republic of Macedonia.</p>	
3.7	Reference area
NTES 0,1,2,3, 4	

3.8	Time coverage
Since 1947. Since 1994 at regional level according to Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics - NUTS.	
3.9	Base period
not applicable	
4	Unit of measure
Number of marriages.	
5	Reference period
Current (calendar) year from 01.01 to 31.12	
6	Institutional mandate
6.1	Legal acts and other agreements
<p>National Legislation: Law on State Statistics ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" No. 54/1997, 21/2007, 51/2011, 104/2013, 42/2014, 192/2015, 27/16, 83/18, 220/18 and "Official Gazette of the Republic of North Macedonia" No. 31/20) (https://www.stat.mk/en/about-us/legal-acts/law-on-state-statistics/)</p> <p>Programme of Statistical Surveys 2023-2027 ("Official Gazette of the Republic of North Macedonia" No. 29/23 and 57/25) (https://www.stat.mk/en/about-us/legal-acts/program-for-statistical-surveys/)</p> <p>EU Legislation: Regulation (EU) No 1260/2013 of the European Parliament on European demographic statistics, Regulation (EU) No 205/2014, Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 205/2014 of 4 March 2014 laying down uniformed conditions for the implementation of Regulation (EU) No 1260/2013.</p> <p>UN Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System Revision 3.</p>	
6.2	Data sharing
Data are shared with joint annual questionnaires and transmitted to EUROSTAT via EDAMIS:POPSTAT and annual questionnaires to: UN Statistics Division- Demographic Statistics Section-Questionnaire on Vital Statistics.	
7	Confidentiality
7.1	Confidentiality - policy
<p>1. The protection of individual data is regulated by the Law on State Statistics (https://www.stat.mk/en/about-us/legal-acts/law-on-state-statistics/).</p> <p>2. The basic principles and activities undertaken to ensure data confidentiality are described in the Policy on Statistical Confidentiality (https://www.stat.mk/en/about-us/policies-and-strategies/policy-on-statistical-confidentiality/).</p>	
7.2	Confidentiality - data treatment

Pursuant to Article 38 of the Law on State Statistics (<https://www.stat.mk/en/about-us/legal-acts/law-on-state-statistics/>) and the Policy on Statistical Confidentiality (<https://www.stat.mk/en/about-us/policies-and-strategies/policy-on-statistical-confidentiality/>), individual data are not published.

8 Release policy

8.1 Release calendar

The date of data publication is determined in the Advance Release Calendar, which is updated quarterly.

8.2 Release calendar access

<https://www.stat.mk/en/publishing-calendar/#/>

8.3 User access

All users have equal access to statistics at the same time: this means that the publication dates are announced in advance and no user has access to official statistics before they are published. Statistical data are first published in the "News Releases" edition on the website of the State Statistical Office at 12:00.

9 Frequency of dissemination

Monthly and quarterly as preliminary data, and on annual basis as final data.

10 Accessibility and clarity

10.1 News release

News Releases are published and they are available on the website of the SSO in the section: "News Releases" - <https://www.stat.mk/en/all-new-releases>

Natural change in population, quarterly - <https://www.stat.mk/en/stat/population-and-living-conditions/population/natural-movement-of-the-population/>

Marriges and divorces , annually: <https://www.stat.mk/en/stat/population-and-living-conditions/population/natality/natality-2024-final-data/>

Demographic data by urban and rural area, annually : <https://www.stat.mk/en/stat/population-and-living-conditions/population/live-births-deaths-and-migration-by-urban-and-rural-areas-and-by-regions/>

10.2 Publications

Statistical Yearbook: <https://www.stat.mk/en/all-publications/statistical-yearbook-2024/statistical-yearbook-2024/>

North Macedonia in figures: <https://www.stat.mk/en/all-publications/north-macedonia-in-figures-2024/north-macedonia-in-figures-2024/>

Regions in the North Macedonia: <https://www.stat.mk/en/all-publications/regions-of-north-macedonia-2024/regions-of-north-macedonia-2024/>

Women and men in North Macedonia: <https://www.stat.mk/en/all-publications/women-and-men-in-north-macedonia-2023/women-and-men-in-north-macedonia-2025/>

MakStat selection: <https://www.stat.mk/en/all-publications/makstat-selection-2024/makstat-selection-2024/>

Monthly Statistical Bulletin: <https://www.stat.mk/en/all-publications/monthly-statistical-bulletin/monthly-statistical-bulletin-05-2025/>

10.3 On-line database

MAKSTAT database available on the web site of the State Statistical Office.

<https://makstat.stat.gov.mk/PXWeb/pxweb/en/MakStat/>

10.4 Micro-data access

The use of microdata by external users is possible only for research purposes and is done in accordance with the Law on State Statistics (Article 41, Article 42 and Article 43). Access to anonymised microdata is defined by an internal procedure of the State Statistical Office "Access to anonymised microdata for scientific research purposes" (<https://www.stat.mk/en/about-us/procedures/rules-for-access-to-anonymised-microdata-for-research-purposes/>).

10.5 Other

At the request of users, data are also prepared in a form according to their needs.

10.6 Documentation on methodology

The methodological notes are published on the web site of the State Statistical Office.

<https://www.stat.gov.mk/Esmslzvestai.aspx>

10.7 Quality documentation

A Quality Report is prepared after the final processing and dissemination of the data in accordance with the internal and Eurostat Metadata Handler (ESS-MH).

11 Quality management

11.1 Quality assurance

The quality of the processes and products in the State Statistical Office is ensured by adhering to the European Statistics Code of Practice (<https://www.stat.mk/en/about-us/quality/code-of->

practice/) and the Quality Assurance Framework within the European Statistical System (ESS Quality Assurance Framework – <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/64157/4392716/ESS-QAF-V2.0-final.pdf>). The quality criteria are also determined in the Law on State Statistics in Article 4b and Article 4c (<https://www.stat.mk/en/about-us/legal-acts/law-on-state-statistics/>).

11.2 Quality assessment

The State Statistical Office carries out statistical activities in accordance with the Statistical Business Process Model, which is based on the international model - Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM). The application of this model and international standards in statistical production ensures a high level of accuracy and comparability of data.

12 Relevance

12.1 User needs

Demographic data and indicators calculated on the basis of data obtained from statistical survey are of particular interest both by the domestic public and the international (eg. Institutions, universities, media and individuals) for creation and implementation of the scientific and development policies in the society. The data is used directly, but is also used to calculate the statistical indicators from other sectors.

12.2 User satisfaction

Starting from 2009, the State Statistical Office conducts a User Satisfaction Survey every three years.

12.3 Completeness

In terms of the the indicators provided by Regulation. 1260/2013 of the European Commission, SSO provides about 90% of them.

13 Accuracy and reliability

13.1 Overall accuracy

The survey methodology and the data collection method ensure good coverage and accuracy of the data.

13.2 Sampling error

Not applicable

13.3 Non-sampling error

Not applicable

14 Timeliness and punctuality

14.1 Timeliness

T+180

14.2 Punctuality

The data are published on the day announced in the Advance Release Calendar.

15	Coherence and comparability
15.1	Comparability - geographical
There is geographical comparability of the released data at national and regional level. With respect to geographical comparability with other EU countries, it is also ensured because data are collected in line with EU regulations.	
15.2	Comparability - over time
At the national level, without break in the time series, data are comparable from 1947. Number of reference periods in the time series from the last break: 79. At the regional level, without break in the time series, data are comparable from 1994. Number of reference periods in the time series from the last break: 22.	
15.3	Coherence - cross domain
Cross-domain coherence of data is ensured (comparison with data from administrative register of population).	
15.4	Coherence - internal
Internal coherence of data is ensured. The monthly and quarterly preliminary data in the current year are used for monitoring the coverage and trend of the treated event (births) with data from the previous year and comparison between the preliminary and definitive (final) data.	
16	Cost and burden
not calculated	
17	Data revision
17.1	Data revision - policy
Data revision is made in accordance with the Statistical Data Revision Policy of the SSO: (https://www.stat.mk/en/about-us/policies-and-strategies/data-revision/).	
17.2	Data revision - practice
not applicable	
18	Statistical processing
18.1	Source data
The source of data for this statistical survey is administrative i.e the data are obtained on the basis of records / registration of marriages in the register book for marriages by the Department for Civil Registration. According to the legal provisions on keeping the register of marriages, every marriage shall be entered in the register of marriages maintained for the area of its occurrence, regardless whether the couples usually resides in this area. In processing, the data are grouped by permanent place of residence of the bride and groom.	

18.2	Frequency of data collection
Monthly.	
18.3	Data collection
<p>Data collection is made by self-enumeration method using paper statistical form (VIT.3) form reporting units, i.e. register offices. Self-enumeration (about 90%) is done electronically, while offices without the possibility of electronic data entry complete the paper statistical form (VIT.3) manually. Printed copy of the electronic data entry and completed questionnaires by register offices are delivered (by mail or personally) to the regional departments of statistics, no later than the 5th of the month for the previous month.</p>	
18.4	Data validation
<p>Control of data is carried out in accordance with the established methodological rules and guidelines for control. First control of the data is performed by the regional offices of the SSO. For monitoring the coverage they complete the statistical form Monthly report on vital statistics (DEM 4), which is submitted electronically to the State Statistical Office, no later than the 10th of the month for the previous month. For any deviations, the reporting units are contacted. The next stage is data coding and data entry according to established rules and methodological instructions for control.</p>	
18.5	Data compilation
<p>After verification and possible corrections in consultation with the reporting units, i.e. register offices, completed questionnaires are entered in the regional offices in an application with on-line controls. Missing data are provided by imputation of data, according to the established methodological rules and guidelines for control. Data entered in regional departments are then taken by the subject-matter department in the Central Office, where additional control, processing and tabulation of data is done by using established methodological rules and defined control criteria</p>	
18.6	Adjustment
Data adjustment is not performed.	
19	Comment
A.1	Annexes