TOTAL MARRIAGES IN NH (1995-2016)
The number of marriages in NH tumbled with the Great Recession and has not fully recovered.1

% OF NH MARRIAGES THAT WERE FIRST MARRIAGES BY GENDER (1995-2016)
The percent of marriages that are first marriages has risen steadily for both women and men.

AROUND THE REGION: MARRIAGES PER 1,000 PEOPLE (2015)

NEW HAMPSHIRE HAD 6.9 MARRIAGES PER 1,000 PEOPLE IN 2015. NEVADA TOPPED THE CHARTS NATIONWIDE WITH A WHOPPING 31 MARRIAGES PER 1,000.

NUMBER OF SAME-SEX MARRIAGES IN NH BY GENDER (2012-2016)
The New Hampshire legislature approved civil unions in 2007, the first state to do so without litigation. In 2009, New Hampshire became the 6th state to permit same-sex marriage. Same-sex marriages by women far outpace same-sex marriages by men.
In general, fewer people—and far fewer women—are marrying before age 25.

NH MARRIAGES BY AGE & GENDER (2005 & 2015)

For marriages between males and females, GIRLS MAY MARRY AT AGE 13 and BOYS MAY MARRY AT AGE 14 with parental consent and a judge’s permission. For same-sex marriages, both men and women must wait until age 18.

At least 189 CHILDREN (UNDER AGE 18) HAVE BEEN MARRIED IN NH in the last 16 years.3

NH CHILD MARRIAGES

The number of child marriages in NH has steadily declined, as has the disproportionate impact on girls. This may result in part from the decrease in marriages among younger people generally, or from changing cultural attitudes about child marriage.

FOOTNOTES

1. The NH population between the ages of 20 and 49 declined by more than 40,000 people between 1995 and 2016, so at least some of the decline in total marriages is attributable to a decline in the population of younger adults.
2. 73% of both brides and grooms in 2016 were NH residents.
5. When there are more than 0 but fewer than 5 child marriages by girls or boys in a particular year, the NH Secretary of State reports the number as “1 to 4” to protect privacy.