

# Marriage Statistics Before and After the Pandemic\*

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2020 was marked by a worldwide panic affecting many aspects of one's private life. This study aims to investigate the trends in marriage licenses in the City of Toronto from pre and post pandemic times. Based on the exploration of the data, there is strong evidence to support the hypothesis that the number of marriage licenses increased significantly post-pandemic. The results of this study are significant, as they impact the future directions population regulations for governmental institutions.

## 1 Introduction

You can and should cross-reference sections and sub-sections. We use R Core Team (2023) and Gelfand (2022).

The remainder of this paper is structured as follows.

## 2 Data

Some of our data is of marriages (Figure 1), from Gelfand (2022). Before the pandemic, obtaining a marriage license was a relatively simple, in-person process at local government offices. Couples typically applied in person, often requiring a brief waiting period before receiving their license. However, the pandemic disrupted this process, with office closures and restricted services causing delays. In response, many jurisdictions introduced online systems, allowing couples to apply for marriage licenses remotely via virtual meetings or online applications. Post-pandemic, some of these digital services have remained in place, offering more

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\*Code and data supporting this analysis are available at: [https://github.com/DeniseChang9/Marriage\\_License.git](https://github.com/DeniseChang9/Marriage_License.git)

convenience and flexibility, while others returned to in-person operations, though often with extended backlogs due to the disruptions.

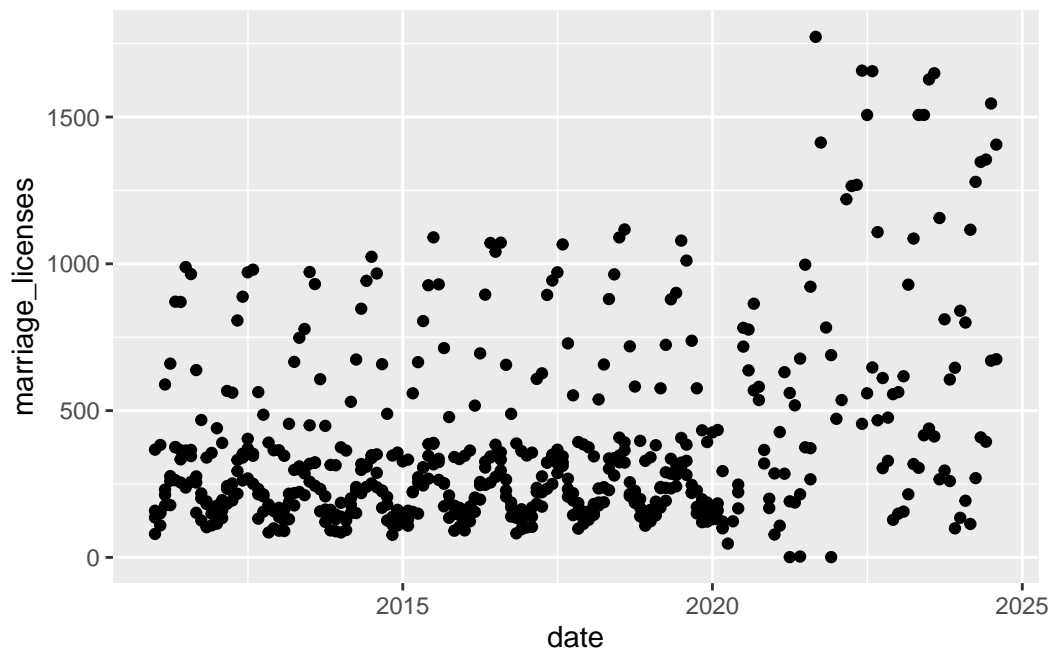


Figure 1: Bills of penguins

## References

- Gelfand, Sharla. 2022. *Opendatatoronto: Access the City of Toronto Open Data Portal*. <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=opendatatoronto>.
- R Core Team. 2023. *R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing*. Vienna, Austria: R Foundation for Statistical Computing. <https://www.R-project.org/>.