

PB190: Marital status

Domain/Area	Basic data/Demographic data
Transmission type	Regular
Reference period	Current
Unit	All current household members aged 16 and over
Mode of collection	Personal interview, proxy or register
Values	<i>1</i> Never married <i>2</i> Married <i>3</i> Separated <i>4</i> Widowed <i>5</i> Divorced
Flags	<i>1</i> Filled <i>-1</i> Missing

Description

Marital status is the conjugal status of each individual in relation to the marriage laws of the country (i.e. de jure status). It therefore does not necessarily correspond with the actual situation of the household in terms of co-habitation, arrangements, etc.

Some countries have a legal framework for registering partnerships (in most countries these are same-sex partnership and they have a legal status parallel to married couples). Such information has also to be treated in a harmonised way and it is proposed to treat them as married and to classify them under code 2 when the relationship still exists, otherwise as 3-5 as appropriate (legal separation or death of one of the partners or so on).