

16.—Average Ages of Parties Contracting Marriages, by Provinces, 1931 and 1932.

Province.	1931.			1932.		
	Average Age of Bridegrooms.	Average Age of Brides.	Excess of Average Age of Bridegrooms.	Average Age of Bridegrooms.	Average Age of Brides.	Excess of Average Age of Bridegrooms.
Prince Edward Island.....	29.2	24.9	4.3	29.0	24.5	4.5
Nova Scotia.....	28.9	24.4	4.5	28.4	24.0	4.4
New Brunswick.....	29.3	24.5	4.8	28.9	24.4	4.5
Quebec.....	29.1	25.5	3.6	29.5	25.8	3.7
Ontario.....	28.8	24.9	3.9	28.9	24.9	4.0
Manitoba.....	29.9	24.8	5.1	29.7	24.7	5.0
Saskatchewan.....	28.8	23.4	5.4	28.9	23.5	5.4
Alberta.....	29.3	24.0	5.3	29.3	23.9	5.4
British Columbia.....	31.3	26.4	4.9	31.1	26.1	5.0
Canada (Exclusive of Territories).....	29.2	24.9	4.3	29.2	24.9	4.3

Out of each 1,000 bridegrooms in 1932, 906 were bachelors, 83 widowers, 11 divorced men; out of each 1,000 brides 935 were spinsters, 55 widows, 9 divorced women. The first year in which as many as 1 p.c. of those marrying had previously been divorced was 1928. There is a fairly close resemblance between the figures of divorces granted, as shown in Table 19 of this chapter, and the number of divorced persons re-married, more particularly in the case of males. Thus 995 divorces were granted in 1932, while 661 divorced males and 579 divorced females married again. This of course does not mean that these were the same persons.

Nativity of Brides and Bridegrooms.—The majority of marriages contracted in the western provinces in past years have been between persons born outside Canada. This condition however is being gradually changed and, although in Alberta and British Columbia, the majority of the bridegrooms in the marriages contracted in 1931 and 1932 were born outside of Canada, as a rule the percentages show a general reduction over the past few years. Canadian-born brides were in the majority, in both years, in each province. In the Maritime Provinces and Quebec, the Canadian-born brides and grooms showed a marked predominance, varying between 86 p.c. and 98 p.c., and in Ontario over 66 p.c. of grooms and 73 p.c. of brides were Canadian born in 1932. Taking Canada as a whole, nearly 68 p.c. of all grooms and exactly 76 p.c. of all brides were born in Canada; these are the highest percentages shown for the period covered by the statistics. Table 17 gives the number of marriages per 1,000 population in each province, as well as the percentage distribution of brides and grooms according to nativity for the years indicated.