

Birth Rates in Various Countries.—The relative positions occupied by Canada and its individual provinces among the countries of the world with respect to crude birth rate (the annual number of births per 1,000 of population) are shown in Table 15.

15.—Crude Birth Rates of Various Countries in Recent Years.

Country or Province.	Year.	Crude Birth Rate.	Country or Province.	Year.	Crude Birth Rate.
Palestine.....	1933	44.4	Saskatchewan.....	1934	20.5
Costa Rica.....	1933	42.7	Tasmania.....	1933	19.9
Egypt.....	1933	42.1	Northern Ireland.....	1933	19.4
Straits Settlements.....	1933	40.9	Czechoslovakia.....	1933	19.2
Salvador.....	1932	39.8	Irish Free State.....	1933	19.2
Ceylon.....	1933	38.6	Manitoba.....	1934	18.2
Russia.....	1929	38.6	Queensland.....	1933	18.1
British India.....	1933	35.5	Western Australia.....	1933	17.9
Ukraine.....	1929	35.3	Latvia.....	1933	17.8
Chile.....	1933	33.4	Scotland.....	1933	17.6
Jamaica.....	1933	33.0	Ontario.....	1934	17.5
Roumania.....	1933	32.0	Finland.....	1933	17.4
Japan.....	1933	31.6	Denmark.....	1933	17.3
Bulgaria.....	1933	29.2	New South Wales.....	1933	17.0
Greece.....	1933	28.8	Australia.....	1933	16.8
Spain.....	1932	28.3	Belgium.....	1933	16.6
Panama.....	1931	27.9	New Zealand.....	1933	16.6
Poland.....	1933	26.5	United States (reg. area).....	1933	16.6
Quebec.....	1934	25.3	Switzerland.....	1933	16.4
New Brunswick.....	1934	23.9	France.....	1933	16.3
Italy.....	1933	23.7	Estonia.....	1933	16.2
Union of South Africa (Whites).....	1933	23.6	Victoria.....	1933	15.6
Newfoundland.....	1933	23.0	South Australia.....	1933	15.3
Iceland.....	1933	22.5	British Isles.....	1933	15.1
Hungary.....	1933	22.0	Prussia.....	1932	15.1
Prince Edward Island.....	1934	21.8	Norway.....	1933	14.8
Nova Scotia.....	1934	21.7	Germany.....	1933	14.7
Alberta.....	1934	21.1	England and Wales.....	1933	14.4
Uruguay.....	1933	21.0	Austria.....	1933	14.3
Netherlands.....	1933	20.8	Sweden.....	1933	13.7
Canada.....	1934	20.5	British Columbia.....	1934	13.5

Section 3.—Marriages and Divorces.

Subsection 1.—Marriages.

The marriage rate in modern countries of the western world is appreciably influenced by the general level of prosperity prevailing. Marriages in such English-speaking countries, for instance, as the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada and Australia tend to increase in "good times" and to diminish in "hard times", when great numbers of those who are contemplating marriage are led to postpone such marriage until the advent of better industrial conditions. Thus marriages in Canada showed considerable declines from the high 1929 level in 1930, 1931, and 1932, but increased generally in 1933 and in 1934.

Summary statistics of marriages contracted in 1921-34 appear in Table 16.