

I.—AGE-STANDARDIZED PERCENTAGES<sup>1</sup> OF FEMALES, AGES 15 TO 49 YEARS, MARRIED<sup>2</sup>, BY SPECIFIED COUNTRIES FOR STATED CENSUS YEARS

SOURCE: *International Vital Statistics*, Bureau of the Census, Washington, U.S.A., Table P, p. 389.

Country	Census Year	Per-centage	Country	Census Year	Per-centage
Ireland.....	1926	40.4	Belgium.....	1930	59.7
Northern Ireland <sup>3</sup> .....	1926	44.0	Poland.....	1931	60.8
Finland.....	1930	44.0	Union of South Africa <sup>4</sup> .....	1926	61.1
Norway.....	1930	45.4	Cuba <sup>5, 9</sup> .....	1931	61.5
Sweden.....	1935	46.4	France.....	1931	62.8
Scotland.....	1931	47.2	Hungary.....	1930	64.6
Switzerland.....	1930	47.3	Greece.....	1928	65.8
Austria.....	1934	47.4	Puerto Rico.....	1935	66.5
England and Wales.....	1931	49.9	United States.....	1930	66.7
Latvia.....	1935	50.3	Straits Settlements <sup>10</sup> .....	1931	71.7
Estonia.....	1934	50.6	Yugoslavia.....	1931	72.5
Germany <sup>4</sup> .....	1933	52.1	Ceylon.....	1921	73.7
Portugal.....	1930	52.7	Japan.....	1930	73.8
Chile.....	1930	53.1	Ukraine (U.S.S.R.).....	1926	74.1
Lithuania.....	1923 <sup>5</sup>	53.2	Bulgaria.....	1934	75.0
Netherlands.....	1930	53.2	U.S.S.R. <sup>11</sup> .....	1926	75.4
Italy.....	1936	54.2	Palestine (British mandate) <sup>12</sup> .....	1931	76.6
New Zealand <sup>6</sup> .....	1936	54.3	Non-federated Malay States <sup>10</sup> .....	1931	77.7
Mexico.....	1930	54.4	Federated Malay States <sup>10</sup> .....	1931	78.3
Denmark.....	1935	54.7	Turkey <sup>13</sup> .....	1935	80.3
Australia <sup>6</sup> .....	1933	55.1	Formosa.....	1930	81.8
Saar Territory.....	1935	57.9	Kwantung.....	1930	82.1
Spain <sup>7</sup> .....	1920	58.7	Egypt <sup>12</sup> .....	1930	84.5
Canada.....	1931	58.9	Chosen.....	1930	88.4
Czechoslovakia.....	1930	59.2	British India.....	1931	95.0

<sup>1</sup> Based on age distribution of female population of England and Wales. Appendix A, "Table 20, England and Wales. Graduated Table of the Population Enumerated in 1901, at Each Year of Age . . .", p. 22. Census of England and Wales, 1901, General Report with Appendices. London, 1904. <sup>2</sup> Data obtained from Table 28 which gives the percentage of females, single, by 5-year age groups, in specified countries. Percentage of females, married, derived by taking the difference between 100 p.c. and the percentage of females, single, in each age group. <sup>3</sup> Among the unmarried are included persons whose marital status was unknown. <sup>4</sup> Not including Saar Territory. <sup>5</sup> The census was taken on Jan. 20, 1925; for the Territory of Klaipeda (141,645 inhabitants). <sup>6</sup> Not including the aborigines. <sup>7</sup> The age groups are from 14 to 20, 21 to 25, 26 to 30, 31 to 35, 36 to 40, 41 to 50 and 51 years and over. <sup>8</sup> European population. <sup>9</sup> Age groups 14-20, 21-30, 31-40, 41-50 and 51 years and over. <sup>10</sup> Among the unmarried are included widowed and divorced persons of both sexes. Not including the nomad population. <sup>11</sup> Including the U.S.S.R. of Asia. <sup>12</sup> Not including nomad population. <sup>13</sup> Including European Turkey.

There appears at first sight to be an inconsistency in the relation between marriage frequency and fertility. Usually when marriage rates have been observed in any one country over a considerable period of time no marked trend has been seen in the probability of marriage, while fertility has declined rapidly and steadily. Yet Table I shows on the whole a correspondence between high proportions married and high fertility, though there are many striking exceptions to this rule. The explanation is that different countries are at different stages of an historic process too complex and often too gradual to be revealed by the study of a single country. At one extreme of the scale British India represents a condition of universal marriage where the only checks on population increase are famine and disease. From this point family limitation can take place in two ways. The first is a postponement of marriage. This process has gone on to some extent everywhere outside of Asia and has gone furthest in Ireland, which has the lowest marriage frequency known, though its birth rate is by no means the lowest. (There is evidence that this factor has influenced family limitation in the Province of Quebec, see p. 107.) The more usual course of events has been that reduction in the size of the family of married couples has superseded restrictions on marriage as a means of reducing fertility and has come to be the principal factor in the decline of the birth rate. In England