

In the case of brides in the age groups 25-29 years and 30-34 years, the bridegrooms approximate most closely in age to their brides. Since these tables are based upon all marriages contracted during the year, the figures given should not be understood to signify the average ages at *first* marriage. Out of each 1,000 bridegrooms in 1940, 953 were bachelors, 38 widowers, 9 divorced men; out of each 1,000 brides, 964 were spinsters, 27 widows, 9 divorced women. The first year in which as many as 1 p.c. of those marrying had previously been divorced was 1928. The comparison between the figures of divorces granted, as shown in Table 15 of this chapter, and the number of divorced persons re-married is of some interest. Thus 2,369 divorces were granted in 1940, while 1,139 divorced males and 1,136 divorced females married again. This, of course, does not mean that these were the same persons as were divorced in 1940.

11.—Differences in Ages of Bridegrooms and Brides, 1939

Age Group of Bridegrooms	Average Age of Bridegrooms	Average Age of Brides	Excess of Average Age of Bridegrooms	Age Group of Brides	Average Age of Brides	Average Age of Bridegrooms	Excess of Average Age of Bridegrooms
All bridegrooms....	29.0	25.1	3.9	All brides.....	25.1	29.0	3.9
Under 20 years.....	19.1	19.3	-0.2	Under 20 years.....	18.6	24.6	6.0
20-24 years.....	23.0	21.5	1.5	20-24 years.....	22.5	26.5	4.0
25-29 years.....	27.3	24.0	3.3	25-29 years.....	27.1	29.7	2.6
30-34 years.....	32.1	26.6	5.5	30-34 years.....	32.0	34.3	2.3
35-39 years.....	37.2	29.3	7.9	35-39 years.....	37.2	40.0	2.8
40-44 years.....	42.3	32.9	9.4	40-44 years.....	42.2	46.0	3.8
45-49 years.....	47.3	36.7	10.6	45-49 years.....	47.3	51.5	4.2
50 years or over....	59.8	48.5	11.3	50 years or over....	59.3	61.3	2.0

Nativity of Brides and Bridegrooms.—The majority of marriages contracted in the western provinces in past years were between persons born outside Canada. This condition, however, is being quickly changed and such percentages in all the western provinces show a general reduction over the past few years. (See Table 12.) Both Canadian-born brides and bridegrooms are now in the majority in each province and in the Maritime Provinces, Quebec and Ontario they show a marked predominance. Taking Canada as a whole, 87 p.c. of all grooms and 91 p.c. of all brides in 1940 were born in Canada; these are the highest percentages shown for any year of the period covered by the statistics.

12.—Percentage Distribution of Grooms and Brides, by Nativity and Provinces, 1938-40, with Five-Year Averages, 1921-40

NOTE—For figures for single years 1921-37, see previous editions of the Year Book beginning with the 1929 edition.

Province	Year	Marriages		Percentage Distribution of Grooms and Brides, by Nativity					
		Total	Per 1,000 Population	Born in Province of Residence		Born in Other Provinces		Born Outside Canada	
				Grooms	Brides	Grooms	Brides	Grooms	Brides
		No.	No.	p. c.	p. c.	p. c.	p. c.	p. c.	p. c.
Prince Edward Island.	Av. 1921-25	473	5.4	90.8	93.8	5.1	2.6	4.1	3.7
	Av. 1926-30	473	5.4	90.8	93.5	4.1	2.9	5.1	3.6
	Av. 1931-35	496	5.6	89.7	92.6	4.7	3.6	5.6	3.8
	Av. 1936-40	623	6.6	88.4	92.9	6.3	4.5	5.3	2.6
	1938	591	6.3	87.1	94.1	7.6	4.1	5.2	1.9
	1939	641	6.7	90.2	93.6	6.2	3.9	3.6	2.5
	1940	703	7.5	89.9	94.2	6.3	4.6	3.8	1.3