

## Section 2.—Marriages and Divorces

## Subsection 1.—Marriages

The marriage rate in most countries is influenced appreciably by the general economic prosperity level. Immediately following the declaration of war, sudden abnormal rises were apparent all over the world. These high marriage rates, for the most part, have been maintained under existing war conditions with its impetus of full employment and high ratio of enlisted population.

In Canada, marriages reached a peak in 1929 after which recession was steady until 1932; in 1933 the decline was arrested slightly (by 2 p.c.); in 1934 a definite improvement was apparent (17 p.c.), and was maintained until 1939 when the marriages jumped 66 p.c. over those occurring in 1932. In 1941, 1942 and 1943 the increases were 95 p.c., 104 p.c. and 77 p.c., respectively, over the 1932 low point. Provincial marriage trends have been consistent with that for the whole Dominion.

**Age at Marriage and Marital Status.**—The average age of all bridegrooms in the Dominion in 1941 was 28·9, in 1942, 29·0 and in 1943, 28·9, while that for all brides was 25·1 in 1941 and 25·2 in 1942 and 1943. The average excess of the bridegroom's age, was therefore, 3·8 years in 1941 and 1942 and 3·7 in 1943. Out of each 1,000 bridegrooms in 1942, 951 were bachelors, 38 widowers and 11 divorced men; out of each 1,000 brides 960 were spinsters, 28 widows and 12 divorced women, while in 1943 there were 943 bachelors, 44 widowers, and 13 divorced men and 955 spinsters, 33 widows and 13 divorced women. The distribution of marriages by sex, age and marital status for 1942 and 1943 is given in Table 12. A comparison between the figures of divorces granted, as shown in Table 16, and the number of divorced persons re-married shows that divorces granted in 1941, 1942 and 1943 numbered 2,461, 3,089 and 3,263, respectively, while there were 1,269, 1,414 and 1,436 divorced males and 1,213, 1,489 and 1,420 divorced females, respectively, married again. This, of course, does not mean that these were the same persons as were divorced in those years.

## 12.—Marriages in Canada, by Marital Status and Ages of Contracting Parties, 1942 and 1943

Ages	Total Contracting Parties		Bridegrooms						Brides					
			Bachelors		Widowers		Divorced Men		Spinsters		Widows		Divorced Women	
	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Under														
20 years..	28,910	27,869	3,984	4,574	Nil	1	Nil	1	24,908	23,279	13	8	5	6
20-24 years..	99,290	88,904	44,069	40,389	36	37	22	19	54,931	48,197	99	106	133	156
25-29 years..	66,542	53,287	39,947	32,286	192	191	196	167	25,591	20,087	259	234	357	322
30-34 years..	28,805	23,451	18,061	14,359	370	402	286	321	9,361	7,674	381	349	346	346
35-39 years..	13,124	11,345	7,718	6,535	500	454	325	309	3,883	3,379	443	393	255	275
40-44 years..	6,653	5,995	3,376	3,044	549	497	246	234	1,756	1,605	529	482	197	133
45-49 years..	4,128	3,717	1,837	1,566	605	566	168	187	916	835	486	457	116	106
50-54 years..	2,683	2,547	1,003	847	666	637	85	114	454	407	429	495	46	47
55-59 years..	1,902	1,857	572	554	662	632	46	52	269	207	327	395	26	17
60-64 years..	1,265	1,323	304	275	521	575	27	25	135	122	271	318	7	8
65 years or over.....	1,409	1,539	207	209	765	852	13	6	88	99	335	369	1	4
Age not stated.....	33	40	14	14	Nil	5	Nil	1	19	20	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>254,744</b>	<b>221,874</b>	<b>121,092</b>	<b>104,652</b>	<b>4,866</b>	<b>4,849</b>	<b>1,414</b>	<b>1,436</b>	<b>122,311</b>	<b>105,911</b>	<b>3,572</b>	<b>3,606</b>	<b>1,489</b>	<b>1,420</b>