

Age and Marital Status of Contracting Parties.—The distribution of marriages by sex, age and marital status of the contracting parties is given in Table 37. About 93 p.c. of marriages are entered into by persons who have not previously been married. The average age at marriage of bachelors is about 28 years, that of spinsters slightly under 25 years. The average age of widowers at the time of remarriage is more than 20 years higher than that of bachelors, being 50.3 years in 1940-42 and 52.0 in 1944. The average age of widowers at the time of remarriage is also more than 20 years higher than that of spinsters; it was 46.4 years in 1940-42 and 46.9 in 1944. The percentage distribution by age of widowers and widows who remarry is naturally altogether different from that of bachelors or spinsters.

Widows and widowers constitute about 4 p.c. and 6 p.c., respectively, of all brides and bridegrooms. Divorced persons constitute only 2.0 p.c. of the total.

37.—Marriages in Canada, by Age and Marital Status of Contracting Parties, 1943 and 1944, with Three-Year Average, 1940-42

Ages	BRIDEGROOMS											
	Av. 1940-42				1943				1944			
	Bach- elors	Wid- owers	Di- vorced	Total	Bach- elors	Wid- owers	Di- vorced	Total	Bach- elors	Wid- owers	Di- vorced	Total
NUMBERS												
Under 20 years..	3,305	1	Nil	3,305	4,574	1	1	4,576	4,924	1	Nil	4,925
20-24 years..	41,911	40	21	41,972	40,389	37	19	40,445	37,497	53	40	37,590
25-29 "	41,051	212	166	41,429	32,286	191	167	32,644	27,109	179	258	27,546
30-34 "	17,922	388	279	18,589	14,359	402	321	15,082	12,498	405	431	13,334
35-39 "	7,405	521	294	8,220	6,535	454	309	7,298	5,775	514	484	6,773
40-44 "	3,137	545	224	3,906	3,044	497	234	3,775	2,906	611	354	3,871
45-49 "	1,616	566	146	2,328	1,566	566	187	2,319	1,432	671	238	2,341
50-54 "	909	622	73	1,604	847	637	114	1,598	739	806	147	1,692
55-59 "	512	588	44	1,144	554	632	52	1,238	404	822	84	1,310
60-64 "	246	496	19	761	275	575	25	875	218	698	34	950
65 years or over.....	185	697	8	890	209	852	6	1,067	148	980	19	1,147
Totals, Stated Ages	118,199	4,675	1,274	124,148	104,638	4,844	1,435	110,917	93,650	5,740	2,089	101,479
Ages not stated.....	28	1	Nil	29	14	5	1	20	15	2	Nil	17
Totals, All Ages.....	118,227	4,676	1,274	124,177	104,652	4,849	1,436	110,937	93,665	5,742	2,089	101,496
Average age	28.0	50.3	39.0	29.0	27.8	51.5	39.6	29.0	27.6	52.0	39.5	29.2
PERCENTAGES												
Under 20 years..	2.8	-	-	2.7	4.4	1	0.1	4.1	5.3	2	-	4.9
20-24 years..	35.5	0.9	1.6	33.8	38.6	0.8	1.3	36.5	40.0	0.9	1.9	37.0
25-29 "	34.7	4.5	13.1	33.4	30.9	3.9	11.6	29.4	29.0	3.1	12.4	27.2
30-34 "	15.2	8.3	21.9	15.0	13.7	8.3	22.4	13.6	13.3	7.1	20.6	13.1
35-39 "	6.3	11.1	23.1	6.6	6.2	9.4	21.5	6.6	6.2	9.0	23.2	6.7
40-44 "	2.7	11.7	17.6	3.1	2.9	10.3	16.3	3.4	3.1	10.6	17.0	3.8
45-49 "	1.4	12.1	11.4	1.9	1.5	11.7	13.0	2.1	1.5	11.7	11.4	2.3
50-54 "	0.8	13.3	5.7	1.3	0.8	13.1	8.0	1.4	0.8	14.0	7.0	1.7
55-59 "	0.4	12.6	3.4	0.9	0.5	13.0	3.6	1.1	0.4	14.3	4.0	1.3
60-64 "	0.2	10.6	1.5	0.6	0.3	11.9	1.8	0.8	0.2	12.2	1.6	0.9
65 years or over.....	0.2	14.9	0.7	0.7	0.2	17.6	0.4	1.0	0.2	17.1	0.9	1.1
Totals, Stated Ages	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percentage.	95.2	3.8	1.0	100.0	94.3	4.4	1.3	100.0	92.3	5.7	2.1	100.0

¹ One case during the three-year period.

² Less than one-tenth of one per cent.