

As a rule, marriage rates vary with the level of economic prosperity. They fell during the depression years following 1929, but recovered in the later 1930's. In Canada, England and the United States, the number of marriages was exceptionally high in 1940-42, decreased in 1943 and 1944 but increased in 1945 and 1946. In Canada there were 20 p.c. fewer marriages in 1944 than in 1942. In 1945 there were 7 p.c. more marriages than in 1944 and in 1946 the number was 5 p.c. more than in 1942, the previous high year. The number decreased in 1947 and 1948.

Canadian Marriages.—Table 37 shows the number of marriages and the marriage rates per 1,000 population in Canada and the provinces. Percentages of brides and bridegrooms according to place of birth are also given.

The proportion of brides and bridegrooms born in Canada is increasing. The average in 1941-45 was more than 10 p.c. greater than in 1931-35. In the Western Provinces, over one-third of the marriages solemnized in 1931-35 were between persons born outside Canada. In 1941-45, taking Canada as a whole, approximately 88 p.c. of all bridegrooms and 92 p.c. of all brides were born in Canada. In the Western Provinces the proportions were 76 p.c. and 86 p.c., respectively. The higher proportion of marriages between persons born in Canada was due to the restricted immigration of recent years. A slight increase was shown in the number of grooms and a decrease in the number of brides born outside Canada in 1948 compared with 1947.

37.—Marriages and Marriage Rates, by Provinces, with Percentage Distribution of Bridegrooms and Brides by Nativity, 1945-48

Province and Year	Total Marriages	Rate per 1,000 Population	Born in Province Where Married		Born in Other Provinces		Born Outside Canada		
			Grooms	Brides	Grooms	Brides	Grooms	Brides	
			p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	
Prince Edward Island.....	1945	680	7.4	75.0	87.6	20.0	8.5	5.0	3.8
	1946	837	8.9	85.4	91.3	9.9	5.9	4.7	2.9
	1947	676	7.2	85.9	88.5	8.6	5.5	5.5	6.1
	1948	635	6.8	86.0	91.8	8.5	3.8	5.5	4.4
Nova Scotia.....	1945	5,992	9.6	63.5	79.4	27.0	12.6	9.5	8.0
	1946	6,549	10.7	77.3	85.1	14.9	7.5	7.8	7.4
	1947	5,861	9.4	80.9	84.0	11.2	6.9	7.8	9.0
	1948	5,093	8.0	80.1	84.3	12.3	6.8	7.7	8.9
New Brunswick.....	1945	4,491	9.6	74.1	85.5	17.1	8.6	8.8	5.9
	1946	5,866	12.2	78.9	86.7	12.6	7.3	8.5	6.0
	1947	5,189	10.6	78.6	84.6	10.5	7.2	10.9	8.3
	1948	4,640	9.2	78.4	84.2	10.4	7.3	11.2	8.4
Quebec.....	1945	33,211	9.3	87.4	90.7	6.7	5.3	5.9	3.9
	1946	36,650	10.1	86.6	89.2	7.4	6.6	6.1	4.3
	1947	35,494	9.6	88.0	89.9	6.4	5.9	5.6	4.2
	1948	34,646	9.1	86.9	89.3	6.7	6.0	6.5	4.8
Ontario.....	1945	34,137	8.5	74.5	78.7	12.1	11.1	13.4	10.2
	1946	46,073	11.2	73.7	77.4	12.2	11.3	14.1	11.4
	1947	44,056	10.5	73.6	76.1	11.8	10.9	14.5	13.0
	1948	43,242	10.1	72.0	75.9	12.0	11.0	15.9	13.0
Manitoba.....	1945	6,579	8.9	62.8	73.8	20.0	15.9	17.3	10.4
	1946	8,594	11.8	68.1	74.3	17.3	15.6	14.6	10.1
	1947	7,712	10.4	70.9	75.4	15.9	13.8	13.3	10.8
	1948	7,325	9.7	70.2	75.7	14.5	13.4	15.4	10.9
Saskatchewan.....	1945	6,369	7.5	70.5	82.8	14.6	8.7	14.9	8.4
	1946	8,279	9.9	74.9	84.0	13.0	7.9	12.2	8.0
	1947	7,674	9.1	76.7	83.7	11.5	7.0	11.7	9.3
	1948	7,171	8.4	76.4	85.7	11.6	6.3	11.9	7.9