

**Religious Denominations of Brides and Bridegrooms.**—The distribution of brides and bridegrooms by religious denominations is roughly the same as that for the population as a whole. Table 28 shows the very strong influence that religion has on marriage. About 71 p.c. of all marriages are between persons of the same religious denomination; among those of Jewish faith, it was 94 p.c. in 1952; among Roman Catholics 89 p.c.; United Church 62 p.c.; and Eastern Orthodox 58 p.c.

**28.—Marriages, by Religious Denominations of Contracting Parties, 1952**

(Exclusive of the Territories)

Denomination of Bridegroom	Denomination of Bride										Total Marriages	Percentage
	Church of England	Baptist	Eastern Orthodox	Jewish	Lutheran	Presbyterian	Roman Catholic	United Church	Other Sects	Not Stated		
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	
Church of England.....	8,414	659	94	8	371	879	1,785	3,780	536	3	16,529	12.9
Baptist.....	655	2,057	21	1	148	211	420	844	243	2	4,602	3.6
Eastern Orthodox.....	122	22	1,135	1	83	31	412	189	70	—	2,065	1.6
Jewish.....	31	3	2	1,778	8	8	50	28	25	—	1,933	1.5
Lutheran.....	469	142	59	1	2,876	130	659	773	280	—	5,389	4.2
Presbyterian.....	1,062	263	39	6	168	2,115	630	1,374	214	—	5,871	4.6
Roman Catholic.....	1,733	358	327	23	722	479	51,589	2,014	730	5	57,980	45.2
United Church.....	3,594	857	141	12	661	1,128	1,965	15,383	784	6	24,531	19.1
Other sects.....	679	302	55	15	323	204	941	983	5,859	2	9,363	7.3
Not stated.....	10	4	—	—	4	—	6	1	3	10	38	...
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>16,769</b>	<b>4,667</b>	<b>1,873</b>	<b>1,845</b>	<b>5,364</b>	<b>5,185</b>	<b>58,457</b>	<b>25,369</b>	<b>8,744</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>128,301</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Percentages.....	13.1	3.6	1.5	1.4	4.2	4.0	45.6	19.8	6.8	--	100.0	71.1 <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Includes Greek Catholic.  
religious denomination.

<sup>2</sup> Percentage of marriages between contracting parties of the same religious denomination.

**Subsection 2.—Dissolutions of Marriage (Divorces)**

For many years after Confederation, the number of divorces granted in Canada was small. There were fewer than 20 divorces in every year before 1900, 21 in 1903, 51 in 1909 and 60 in 1913. These numbers represent less than one per 1,000 of the yearly number of marriages.

After the end of World War I in 1918 the number of divorces increased. The generally unsettled conditions and the long separation of men on Active Service from their wives may have contributed to this increase. Changes in law and procedure may also have been a further factor—at present, Quebec and Newfoundland are the only provinces in which applicants for divorce must secure a private Act of Parliament. The number of divorces increased from 11 in 1900 to a peak of 8,199 in 1947, declining gradually after that year until in 1951 they numbered 5,263. The number rose again to 5,634 in 1952 and 6,055 in 1953.