

Age and Marital Status of Bridegrooms and Brides.—Over 91 p.c. of the marriages in 1954 were between persons who had not previously been married; 5 p.c. of the brides and nearly 5 p.c. of the grooms had been widowed, and more than 3 p.c. of the marriages were of divorced persons. The average age at marriage of bachelors is just under 27 and that of spinsters just under 24 years. The average age of widowers and widows at the time of remarriage is double that of bachelors and spinsters. Over 90 p.c. of spinsters married in 1954 were under 30 years of age—75 p.c. under 25 years. Over 80 p.c. of bachelors were under 30 years with more than 50 p.c. of these less than 25 years of age. Table 20 gives the age pattern at marriage for bridegrooms and brides for the years 1953 and 1954.

20.—Numbers and Percentages of Bridegrooms and Brides by Age and Marital Status 1953 and 1954

(Exclusive of Yukon and the Northwest Territories)

Year and Age Group	BRIDEGROOMS							
	Numbers				Percentages			
	Bachelors	Widowers	Divorced	Total	Bachelors	Widowers	Divorced	Total
1953								
Under 20 years.....	6,761	—	—	6,761	5.6	—	—	5.2
20 — 24 ".....	57,152	37	163	57,352	47.8	0.6	3.4	43.8
25 — 29 ".....	34,414	178	741	35,333	28.8	2.8	15.6	27.0
30 — 34 ".....	11,793	342	1,040	13,175	9.9	5.3	21.9	10.1
35 — 39 ".....	4,642	452	920	6,014	3.9	7.1	19.4	4.6
40 — 44 ".....	2,317	564	778	3,659	1.9	8.8	16.4	2.8
45 — 49 ".....	1,218	691	514	2,423	1.0	10.8	10.8	1.9
50 — 54 ".....	712	803	296	1,811	0.6	12.5	6.2	1.4
55 — 59 ".....	353	882	163	1,398	0.3	13.8	3.4	1.1
60 — 64 ".....	173	826	79	1,078	0.1	12.9	1.7	0.8
65 years or over.....	144	1,636	48	1,828	0.1	25.5	1.0	1.4
Ages not stated.....	4	—	1	5	—	—	—	—
Totals, All Ages.....	119,683	6,411	4,743	130,837	91.5	4.9	3.6	100.0
Average ages.....	26.3	54.5	38.6	28.2
BRIDES								
	Numbers				Percentages			
	Spinsters	Widows	Divorced	Total	Spinsters	Widows	Divorced	Total
Under 20 years.....	33,162	21	13	33,196	27.7	0.3	0.3	25.4
20 — 24 ".....	55,989	142	421	56,552	46.8	2.2	9.3	43.2
25 — 29 ".....	18,663	414	1,071	20,148	15.6	6.3	23.5	15.4
30 — 34 ".....	6,329	702	1,082	8,113	5.3	10.7	23.8	6.2
35 — 39 ".....	2,697	749	804	4,250	2.3	11.4	17.7	3.2
40 — 44 ".....	1,431	792	571	2,794	1.2	12.1	12.5	2.1
45 — 49 ".....	739	871	342	1,952	0.6	13.3	7.5	1.5
50 — 54 ".....	378	810	163	1,351	0.3	12.3	3.6	1.0
55 — 59 ".....	170	708	58	936	0.1	10.8	1.3	0.7
60 — 64 ".....	89	569	15	673	0.1	8.7	0.3	0.5
65 years or over.....	70	785	10	865	0.1	12.0	0.2	0.7
Ages not stated.....	5	2	—	7	—	—	—	—
Totals, All Ages.....	119,722	6,565	4,550	130,837	91.5	5.0	3.5	100.0
Average ages.....	23.7	47.9	34.8	25.3