

13.—Age Distribution of the Population by Province, Census 1956

Province or Territory	0-4 Years	5-9 Years	10-14 Years	15-19 Years	20-24 Years	25-34 Years
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Newfoundland.....	63,374	59,539	45,997	35,660	30,018	52,207
Prince Edward Island.....	12,285	12,521	9,828	8,190	6,147	11,002
Nova Scotia.....	85,972	82,033	67,566	56,326	49,069	90,428
New Brunswick.....	74,299	73,034	57,938	47,048	36,421	69,286
Quebec.....	597,728	586,621	467,237	370,246	353,191	707,106
Ontario.....	628,825	563,678	425,922	346,850	365,160	856,108
Manitoba.....	100,367	91,460	72,516	60,427	57,674	121,608
Saskatchewan.....	109,603	97,953	79,214	68,359	58,992	120,182
Alberta.....	149,697	125,820	97,318	80,486	82,842	173,475
British Columbia.....	156,759	140,588	108,518	86,433	86,397	206,736
Yukon Territory.....	1,847	1,335	795	623	1,134	2,739
Northwest Territories.....	2,807	2,471	1,745	1,653	2,065	3,545
Canada.....	1,983,563	1,807,053	1,434,594	1,162,301	1,129,110	2,414,422
	35-44 Years	45-54 Years	55-64 Years	65-69 Years	70+ Years	All Ages
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Newfoundland.....	47,866	32,441	23,183	8,911	15,878	415,074
Prince Edward Island.....	11,688	9,335	7,939	3,325	7,025	99,285
Nova Scotia.....	89,889	65,755	48,772	19,926	38,981	694,717
New Brunswick.....	66,500	49,607	37,291	15,348	27,844	554,616
Quebec.....	587,601	436,476	288,149	103,607	160,416	4,628,378
Ontario.....	751,882	581,506	430,627	167,371	287,004	5,404,933
Manitoba.....	115,396	87,941	66,084	29,240	47,327	850,040
Saskatchewan.....	114,626	87,351	65,739	30,108	48,538	880,665
Alberta.....	148,334	108,779	75,038	31,796	49,531	1,123,116
British Columbia.....	202,007	150,188	110,059	54,078	96,701	1,398,464
Yukon Territory.....	1,747	1,004	476	191	299	12,190
Northwest Territories.....	2,248	1,482	804	212	281	19,313
Canada.....	2,139,784	1,611,865	1,154,161	464,113	779,825	16,080,791

Section 10.—Marital Status

Next to the sex and age distribution of a population, that of marital status is probably most fundamental from a vital, economic and social viewpoint. The number of married females between 15 and 45 years of age is a most significant factor in the fertility of a population; if the proportion of females in this group is small, the expected proportion of births will also be small. In 1956, 64.3 p.c. of all married females were in the age group 15-44 years, as compared with 64.0 p.c. in 1951, 61.2 p.c. in 1941, and 63.5 p.c. in 1931. This trend indicates a movement towards conditions more favourable to a higher birth rate than those which existed during the period of world-wide depression.

The high birth rate of the period 1951-56, which has had such a considerable effect on the increase in the total population and on its age composition, has also been an influence on the increase of 15.7 p.c. in the single population. Most of this gain was in the population under 15 years of age. During the same period, the married population increased by 14.1 p.c., widowed by 10.5 p.c., and divorced by 14.9 p.c. Other striking statistics of marital status are the excess of married males over married females (largely owing to a preponderance of male immigrants whose wives had not yet joined them), the great preponderance of widows as compared to widowers and the large and increasing number of divorced persons.