

22.—Dissolutions of Marriage (Divorces), by Province, 1916-57

NOTE.—Figures for the years 1900-50 are given in the 1956 Year Book, p. 230.

Year	Nfld.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Canada
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
A.v. 1916-20.....	..	—	25	11	4	35	26	5	31	78	215
" 1921-25.....	..	—	34	15	10	104	91	41	105	138	539
" 1926-30.....	..	—	25	18	24	183	94	61	155	209	768
" 1931-35.....	..	1	37	22	31	320	119	61	168	280	1,038
" 1936-40.....	..	1	50	44	56	734	194	116	259	570	2,024
" 1941-45.....	..	2	92	104	99	1,398	305	207	432	937	3,576
" 1946-50.....	1	21	185	245	303	2,839	500	383	724	1,676	6,877
1951.....	4	10	187	156	289	2,109	361	226	589	1,339	5,270
1952.....	3	9	188	200	309	2,218	338	223	630	1,532	5,650
1953.....	9	15	185	181	273	2,324	374	218	603	1,478	6,160
1954.....	8	8	249	117	370	2,469	371	250	610	1,471	5,923
1955.....	1	7	253	181	396	2,531	337	237	627	1,483	6,053
1956.....	5	1	230	215	351	2,478	314	221	685	1,502	6,002
1957 ^a	6	2	250	206	519	2,858	305	242	726	1,559	6,673

Section 6.—Canadian Life Tables

Four official series of life tables for Canada and the provinces and regions have been published to date, based on deaths in the three-year period around each of the Censuses of 1931, 1941, 1951 and 1956. In addition, tables have been computed for Canada as a whole for the years 1945 and 1947 based on estimated populations by sex and age and the deaths recorded in those years. The life table values for 1956 are given in abbreviated form in Table 23.

Life tables give a summary of the health and general conditions of survival of the population in a conventional, standard form. A hypothetical number (100,000) of births of each sex is assumed as a starting point. The life tables show how, on the basis of the mortality rates at each age in the given years, these 100,000 of each sex are reduced in number by death. For example, during the year 1956, of 100,000 males born, 3,472 died in their first year so that 96,528 survived to one year of age; 241 died in their second year so that 96,287 survived to two years of age, and so on. At 100 years of age only 87 of the original 100,000 would have survived. The probability of death at each age is the ratio between the number of deaths and the population at each age. Finally, the expectation of life is the average number of years which a person might expect to live if the mortality rates in the given years remained constant.

Mortality rates at all ages for males have been almost consistently higher than for females. Males have the highest risk of mortality as compared with females during their first year of life, from their late 'teens to early 30's and from age 50 to 65. For both boys and girls the risk of mortality drops rapidly during childhood and is lowest at about age 10, increases gradually to about age 40 for males and about 50 for females and then rises steeply with advancing age. At the mortality rates given in the 1956 Life Table (see Table 23) about 13,000 males would have died before reaching age 50 as compared with about 8,700 females; only 56,466 of the original group of 100,000 males would have survived to age 70 as compared with about 70,327 females.

By 1956 life expectancy at birth in Canada had reached a new high record of 67.6 years for males and 72.9 for females—comparable to the expectancy for other countries of the world with highly developed medical and public health care. Once a child has passed its first year of life however its life expectancy increases appreciably. At one year of age a male child at present mortality risks may, on the average, expect to live an additional 69.0 years and a female 74.0 years, representing for an infant boy a gain of 1.4 years more than his expectation at birth and 1.1 more years for an infant girl. The expectation of life of a 15-year-old boy is 55.9 more years; of a 15-year-old girl 60.6 years. At 25 years of age the expectation is about 46.6 years for men and almost 51 for women and at age 70, 10.5 years for men and 12.2 for women.