

through the child-bearing ages. In other words, this figure represents the average number of females that would be born to each woman who lived to age 50 if the fertility rates of the given year remained unchanged during the whole of her child-bearing period. A gross reproduction rate of 1.000 indicates that, on the basis of current fertility and without making any allowance for mortality among mothers during their child-bearing years, the present generation of child-bearing women would exactly maintain itself. Canada has always had one of the highest gross reproduction rates among the industrialized countries of the world. Even during the period of low birth rates in the 1930's the rate varied between 1.3 and 1.5 and since World War II has ranged between 1.7 and almost 2.0; in 1960 the rate stood at 1.893 and in 1961 at 1.868, still almost double the number required for the population to replace itself. With minor exceptions, provincial reproduction rates are also well above the replacement level.

### 8.—Fertility Rates per 1,000 Women, by Age Group, 1941-61

(Exclusive of Newfoundland for all years and the Yukon and Northwest Territories for 1941-49)

Year	Age Group							Gross Reproduction Rate
	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	
<b>TOTAL WOMEN</b>								
1941.....	30.7	138.4	159.8	122.3	80.0	31.6	3.7	1.377
1942.....	32.0	145.1	168.7	128.0	83.0	32.3	3.6	1.434
1943.....	32.1	146.8	175.4	131.9	86.5	31.9	3.5	1.478
1944.....	31.3	143.3	168.7	134.1	88.1	33.0	3.4	1.457
1945.....	31.6	143.3	168.8	134.3	90.3	33.5	3.7	1.462
1946.....	36.5	169.6	191.4	146.0	93.1	34.5	3.8	1.640
1947.....	42.6	189.1	206.4	150.5	93.1	34.1	3.3	1.753
1948.....	43.2	181.1	197.6	141.4	89.0	32.6	3.3	1.676
1949.....	45.2	181.5	201.2	139.7	88.8	31.5	3.2	1.678
1950.....	46.0	181.3	200.6	141.3	87.9	30.8	3.0	1.678
1951.....	48.1	188.7	198.8	144.5	86.5	30.9	3.1	1.701
1952.....	50.4	201.0	205.2	150.7	87.4	30.7	2.8	1.763
1953.....	52.0	208.2	208.4	153.2	88.1	31.2	2.9	1.812
1954.....	54.3	217.4	213.2	156.5	88.5	32.4	3.2	1.861
1955.....	54.2	218.3	215.1	153.8	89.8	32.3	2.9	1.863
1956.....	55.9	222.2	220.1	150.3	89.6	30.8	2.9	1.874
1957.....	60.2	227.1	224.1	149.4	90.7	30.7	2.8	1.907
1958.....	59.2	226.5	223.3	147.9	87.6	28.9	2.7	1.886
1959.....	60.4	233.8	226.7	147.7	87.3	28.5	2.7	1.915
1960.....	59.8	233.5	224.4	146.2	84.2	28.5	2.4	1.893
1961.....	58.2	233.6	219.2	144.9	81.1	28.5	2.4	1.868
<b>MARRIED WOMEN</b>								
1941.....	453.1	340.2	237.8	158.3	99.1	38.9	4.5	...
1951.....	498.5	350.4	248.1	168.7	100.6	36.6	3.7	...
1956.....	551.5	381.7	265.5	169.8	101.0	35.6	3.4	...
1961.....	541.2	374.4	255.6	161.4	89.9	32.1	2.8	...

Table 8 indicates that in 1961, considering all women whether married or not, women in their 20's were the most reproductive, as might be expected; on the average, for every 1,000 women between the ages of 20 and 25, 234 infants were born during that year or, expressed another way, about one woman out of four in that age group gave birth to a live-born infant. This compares with a rate of 219 for women in the age group 25-29, which is closer to one in five. However, among *married* women, teenage mothers have