

Subsection 6.—Marital Status

After sex and age, marital status analysis is probably next in importance 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 low, the expected birth rate will be low. In 1966, 61.2 p.c. of all married females were in the 15-44 age group compared with 62.9 p.c. in 1961, 64.0 p.c. in 1951, 61.2 p.c. in 1941 and 63.5 p.c. in 1931.

In the 1961-66 period, the total population 15 years of age or over increased by 11.4 p.c. while the single adult population rose by 18.0 p.c., the married by 8.7 p.c. and the widowed and divorced combined by 12.5 p.c. Thus, the proportion of the adult population who were single increased from 26.5 p.c. in 1961 to 28.0 p.c. in 1966 and the married proportion fell from 66.6 p.c. to 65.0 p.c. in the five-year interval. It is of interest that the 1961-66 decline in the proportion married is largely attributable to smaller proportions in this category in the younger adult age groups. The proportion of those 25 years of age or over who were married was approximately the same at the two census years, i.e., 79 p.c., but the married proportion for the 15-24 age group fell from 23.0 p.c. in 1961 to 21.4 p.c. in 1966.

The marital status of the population in 1966 is shown in Table 14.

14.—Marital Status of the Population, by Age Group and Sex, Census 1966

Age Group and Sex		Single	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Total
		No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Under 15 years.....	M.	3,372,847	—	—	—	3,372,847
	F.	3,218,910	—	—	—	3,218,910
	T.	6,591,757	—	—	—	6,591,757
15-19 ".....	M.	917,589	11,188	160	21	928,958
	F.	839,812	68,692	167	96	908,767
	T.	1,757,401	79,880	327	117	1,837,725
20-24 ".....	M.	508,672	217,779	291	373	727,115
	F.	324,762	406,922	1,031	1,468	734,183
	T.	833,434	624,701	1,322	1,841	1,461,298
25-34 ".....	M.	265,222	979,302	1,604	3,832	1,249,960
	F.	149,678	1,068,296	7,368	8,189	1,233,531
	T.	414,900	2,047,598	8,972	12,021	2,483,491
35-44 ".....	M.	146,523	1,114,948	6,408	6,599	1,274,478
	F.	98,428	1,127,718	31,364	11,184	1,268,694
	T.	244,951	2,242,666	37,772	17,783	2,543,172
45-54 ".....	M.	104,744	914,181	15,523	6,587	1,041,035
	F.	89,947	858,387	78,451	10,359	1,037,144
	T.	194,691	1,772,568	93,974	16,946	2,078,179
55-64 ".....	M.	78,678	627,089	32,782	4,846	743,395
	F.	76,473	511,869	142,234	5,739	736,315
	T.	155,151	1,138,958	175,016	10,585	1,479,710
65-69 ".....	M.	28,832	199,031	25,593	1,482	254,938
	F.	28,110	149,170	98,172	1,319	276,771
	T.	56,942	348,201	123,765	2,801	531,703
70 years or over.....	M.	50,657	296,036	113,286	1,639	461,618
	F.	56,706	172,609	315,863	1,043	546,221
	T.	107,363	468,645	429,149	2,682	1,007,839
All Ages.....	M.	5,473,764	4,359,554	195,647	25,379	10,054,344
	F.	4,882,826	4,363,663	674,650	39,397	9,960,536
	T.	10,356,590	8,723,217	870,297	64,776	20,014,880