

Subsection 2.—Divorces

Before World War I the number of divorces granted in Canada represented less than one per 1,000 of the yearly number of marriages. After that War, however, there was a definite upward trend; the number advanced to 8,213 in 1947, declined gradually to a postwar low of 5,270 in 1951 and since then has again moved sharply upward; the 1966 preliminary figure of 10,215 was the highest on record.

30.—Dissolutions of Marriage (Divorces), by Province, 1941-66

NOTE.—Figures for individual years from 1900 to 1953 are given in the 1956 Year Book, p. 230, and for 1954-63 in the 1965 edition, pp. 263-264.

Year	Nfld.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Canada
NUMBERS											
Av. 1941-45.....	..	2	92	104	99	1,398	305	207	432	937	3,576
" 1946-50.....	..	21	185	245	303	2,839	500	383	724	1,676	6,877
" 1951-55.....	5	10	212	167	327	2,430	356	231	612	1,461	5,811
" 1956-60.....	5	4	227	194	403	2,801	315	247	788	1,514	6,498
" 1961-65.....	5	8	277	199	380	3,342	376	298	1,226	1,592	7,723 ¹
1964.....	7 ²	5	315	210	834 ²	3,508	418	315	1,389	1,596	8,623 ³
1965.....	3	16	323	237	226	4,087	443	312	1,348	1,961	8,974 ⁴
1966 ⁵	11	18	406	155	988	4,077	524	321	1,567	2,124	10,215 ⁵
RATES PER 100,000 POPULATION											
Av. 1941-45.....	..	2.2	15.4	22.4	2.9	35.8	42.0	24.4	54.3	104.8	30.3
" 1946-50.....	..	22.1	29.7	49.3	8.0	66.4	66.8	45.9	84.6	155.8	53.0
" 1951-55.....	1.3	9.8	32.0	31.4	7.6	49.2	44.0	26.9	60.3	116.8	39.1
" 1956-60.....	1.2	4.0	32.0	33.9	8.2	48.4	35.9	27.6	65.3	99.8	38.2
" 1961-65.....	1.0	7.9	36.8	32.5	7.0	51.7	39.8	31.8	87.7	93.5	40.9 ¹
1964.....	1.4 ²	4.7	41.4	34.0	15.0 ²	53.3	43.6	33.4	97.0	91.8	44.8 ³
1965.....	0.6	14.8	42.4	38.0	4.0	60.7	46.0	32.8	92.9	109.6	45.9 ⁴
1966 ⁵	2.2	16.6	53.7	25.1	17.1	58.6	54.4	33.6	107.1	113.4	51.0 ⁵

¹ Includes 17 in Yukon Territory and three in the Northwest Territories. ² Includes Bills of Divorce passed by the House of Commons during the 1964-65 Session of Parliament. ³ Includes 24 in Yukon Territory and two in the Northwest Territories. ⁴ Includes 12 in Yukon Territory and six in the Northwest Territories. ⁵ Includes 21 in Yukon Territory and three in the Northwest Territories.

Section 6.—Canadian Life Tables

Five 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, 1956 and 1961. The life table values for 1961 are given in abbreviated form in Table 31.

Life tables give some measure of the health and general conditions of survival of an 'artificial' 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 1961, of 100,000 males born, 3,058 would have died in their first year, according to the mortality rates in effect during the period 1960-62, so that 96,942 would survive to one year of age; 179 would have died in their second year so that 96,763 survived to two years of age, and so on. At 100 years of age only 105 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 number of years which a person on the average might expect to live if the mortality rates in the given years remained constant throughout his lifetime.