

4.54 Alleged grounds for divorce¹ by type of offence, 1970-73

Alleged grounds	1970		1971		1972		1973	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Marital offence								
Adultery	10,070	25.7	11,261	28.5	12,645	29.6	14,853	30.3
Physical cruelty	4,704	11.9	5,102	12.9	5,579	13.0	6,598	13.5
Mental cruelty	5,244	13.4	5,677	14.4	6,308	14.7	7,734	15.8
Other	164	0.4	176	0.4	152	0.4	142	0.3
Total	20,182	51.4	22,216	56.2	24,684	57.7	29,327	59.9
Marriage breakdown by reason of:								
Addiction to alcohol	896	2.3	856	2.2	859	2.0	1,032	2.1
Separation for not less than 3 years	14,938	38.1	13,874	35.1	14,803	34.6	16,197	33.1
Desertion by petitioner for not less than 5 years	2,507	6.4	1,988	5.0	1,919	4.5	1,806	3.7
Other	704	1.8	588	1.5	504	1.2	583	1.2
Total	19,045	48.6	17,306	43.8	18,085	42.3	19,618	40.1
Total, alleged grounds ²	39,227	100.0	39,522	100.0	42,769	100.0	48,945	100.0

¹See footnote to Table 4.53.²Totals are higher than the numbers of divorces because some divorce decrees involve more than one alleged ground.4.55 Divorces¹ by number of dependent children, 1970-73

Number of children	1970		1971		1972		1973	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0	13,714	46.9	13,241	44.6	14,305	44.2	15,890	43.3
1	6,013	20.6	6,189	20.9	7,078	21.9	8,209	22.4
2	5,025	17.2	5,430	18.3	5,956	18.4	6,842	18.6
3	2,624	9.0	2,825	9.5	2,963	9.2	3,384	9.2
4	1,180	4.0	1,250	4.2	1,294	3.9	1,520	4.2
5 and more	682	2.3	737	2.5	768	2.4	859	2.3
Total, divorces	29,238	100.0	29,672	100.0	32,364	100.0	36,704	100.0
Average number of children	1.11	...	1.17	...	1.15	...	1.16	...

¹ See footnote to Table 4.53.4.56 Divorces¹ by duration of marriage, 1970-73

Duration of marriage	1970		1971		1972		1973	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Less than 1 year	58	0.2	75	0.3	84	0.3	99	0.3
1 year	390	1.3	472	1.6	524	1.6	645	1.8
2 years	834	2.9	931	3.1	1,022	3.2	1,165	3.2
3 "	1,094	3.7	1,258	4.2	1,465	4.5	1,712	4.7
4 "	1,406	4.8	1,638	5.5	1,948	6.0	2,152	5.9
Total, 1-4 years	3,724	12.7	4,299	14.4	4,959	15.3	5,674	15.6
5 years	1,388	4.7	1,687	5.7	2,020	6.2	2,403	6.5
6 "	1,430	4.9	1,586	5.3	1,924	5.9	2,237	6.1
7 "	1,479	5.1	1,468	4.9	1,717	5.3	2,146	5.8
8 "	1,350	4.6	1,471	5.0	1,523	4.7	1,900	5.2
9 "	1,251	4.3	1,270	4.3	1,465	4.5	1,664	4.5
Total, 5-9 years	6,898	23.6	7,482	25.2	8,649	26.7	10,350	28.1
10-14 years	5,655	19.3	5,631	18.9	5,905	18.2	6,490	17.7
15-19 "	4,401	15.1	4,290	14.5	4,442	13.7	4,930	13.4
20-24 "	3,615	12.4	3,438	11.6	3,518	10.9	3,896	10.6
25-29 "	2,510	8.6	2,307	7.8	2,445	7.6	2,734	7.4
30 years and over	2,319	7.9	2,123	7.2	2,323	7.2	2,502	6.8
Not stated	58	0.2	27	0.1	39	0.1	29	0.1
Total, divorces	29,238	100.0	29,672	100.0	32,364	100.0	36,704	100.0
Median duration of marriage	13.5	...	12.6	...	12.1	...	11.8	...

¹See footnote to Table 4.53.