

4.47 Divorces¹ and rates, 1977 and 1978

Province or territory	Number		% change 1977-78	Rate per 100,000 population		% change 1977-78
	1977	1978		1977	1978	
Newfoundland	456	427	-6.4	81.1	75.0	-7.5
Prince Edward Island	136	135	-0.7	113.1	110.7	-2.1
Nova Scotia	1,802	1,960	8.8	215.7	233.1	8.1
New Brunswick	1,961	1,153	20.0	140.0	165.9	18.5
Quebec	14,501	14,865	2.5	230.8	236.6	2.5
Ontario	19,735	20,534	4.0	235.7	243.1	3.1
Manitoba	2,085	2,187	4.9	202.2	211.8	4.7
Saskatchewan	1,474	1,428	-3.1	157.4	150.7	-4.3
Alberta	5,843	6,059	3.7	307.6	310.4	0.9
British Columbia	8,251	8,265	0.2	330.4	326.7	-1.1
Yukon	59	65	10.2	274.4	299.5	9.1
Northwest Territories	67	77	14.9	154.7	176.6	14.2
Canada	55,370	57,155	3.2	237.7	243.4	2.4

¹Only those filed under the divorce laws of July 2, 1968.

4.48 Alleged grounds for divorce¹ by type of offence, 1971, 1975 and 1976

Alleged grounds	1971		1975		1976	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Marital offence						
Adultery	11,261	28.5	20,356	30.0	22,182	30.4
Physical cruelty	5,102	12.9	9,387	13.9	10,605	14.5
Mental cruelty	5,677	14.4	11,204	16.5	12,916	17.7
Other	176	0.4	185	0.3	199	0.3
Total	22,216	56.2	41,132	60.7	45,902	62.9
Marriage breakdown by reason of:						
Addiction to alcohol	856	2.2	1,658	2.4	1,806	2.5
Separation for not less than 3 years	13,874	35.1	22,376	33.0	22,623	31.0
Desertion by petitioner for not less than 5 years	1,988	5.0	2,001	3.0	2,061	2.8
Other	588	1.5	602	0.9	621	0.8
Total	17,306	43.8	26,637	39.3	27,111	37.1
Total, alleged grounds ¹	39,522	100.0	67,769	100.0	73,013	100.0

¹See footnote to Table 4.47.

*Totals are higher than the number of divorces because some divorce decrees involve more than one alleged ground.

4.49 Divorces¹ by number of dependent children, 1971, 1975 and 1976

Number of children	1971		1975		1976	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0	13,241	44.6	21,458	42.4	23,996	44.3
1	6,189	20.9	11,523	22.7	12,272	22.6
2	5,430	18.3	9,985	19.7	10,523	19.4
3	2,825	9.5	4,643	9.2	4,726	8.7
4	1,250	4.2	1,904	3.8	1,793	3.3
5 and more	737	2.5	1,098	2.2	897	1.7
Total, divorces	29,672	100.0	50,611	100.0	54,207	100.0
Average number of children	1.17		1.17		1.10	

¹See footnote to Table 4.47.