

married females, and proportion of females married has become steadily more favourable to the birth rate from 1871 to 1921 but that, since the latter date, the trend has been less favourable.

10.—Conjugal Condition of the Population, 15 Years of Age or Over, by Sex, Census Years 1911-41

NOTE.—Figures for censuses previous to 1911 are not comparable.

Year and Sex		Single		Married		Widowed		Divorced and Legally Separated		Total ¹
		No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	
1911.....	M.	1,161,088	45.0	1,326,959	51.5	88,716	3.4	2,087	0.1	2,597,133
	F.	765,092	34.8	1,247,761	56.8	178,961	8.2	2,255	0.1	2,201,780
1921.....	M.	1,173,730	39.2	1,697,145	56.7	119,571	4.0	3,664	0.1	2,994,720
	F.	881,771	32.0	1,630,636	59.2	236,283	8.6	3,726	0.1	2,752,637
1931.....	M.	1,519,844	41.0	2,032,691	54.9	148,851	4.0	4,048	0.1	3,713,221
	F.	1,148,977	34.0	1,937,458	57.3	288,530	8.5	3,392	0.1	3,378,579
1941.....	M.	1,703,528	39.8	2,363,528	55.2	170,743	4.0	42,770	1.0	4,281,237
	F.	1,328,489	33.0	2,292,478	56.9	354,378	8.8	51,399	1.3	4,026,867

¹ Includes conjugal condition not stated; percentages are based on stated condition.

In Canada as a whole there are more married males than married females because of the excess of married male immigrants. Other striking statistics of conjugal condition are the great preponderance of widows compared to widowers and the large and increasing numbers of divorced or legally separated persons, but the reasons for these figures are more apparent.

Conjugal condition of the 1941 population 15 years of age or over, by provinces and sex, is shown at p. 102 of the 1945 Year Book.

Section 5.—Racial Origins

A population composed of divers racial stocks gives rise to political, economic and social problems quite different in nature from those of one with a small admixture of foreign elements, although, to the extent that certain racial stocks are more readily assimilated than others, the problems are mitigated. It is equally true that the different educational, moral, economic, religious and political backgrounds of a people of mixed origins lend variety and diversity to the national life.

The two basic stocks of the Canadian people are the French and the English: historically the French is much the older and, excepting for the Census of 1921, has exceeded in numbers any one of the basic British Isles stocks.

It will be seen from Table 11 that, at the time of Confederation, the largest of the groups comprising the British Isles races was the Irish and that the Irish and the Scottish together outnumbered the English by almost two to one. The English, however, exceeded the Irish after 1881, while the Scottish took second place after 1911. From 1881 to 1901, those of Irish origin increased only 3.3 p.c.: the smaller proportion of Irish to English and Scottish was due not alone to a decline in immigration but to their emigration from Canada. The relative gains from 1911 to 1921 of the British Isles races as a group brought them to over one-half (55.4 p.c.) of the total population. The English (with 28.96 p.c.) ranked first in 1921 of all races in Canada, the French were second (27.91 p.c.), the Scottish were third (13.35 p.c.), and the Irish fourth (12.61 p.c.). In 1931 the French again assumed the premier position and the English ranked second, outnumbered by 187,000, yet there were only 54 French to every 100 persons of English, Scottish, Irish and Welsh descent combined. There was a relative reduction in the British Isles races