

Section 5.—Marriages and Divorces

Subsection 1.—Marriages

International Comparisons.—Table 27 shows the marriage rates in Canada and the provinces in comparison with those of other countries.

27.—Marriage Rates per 1,000 Population of Various Countries compared with Canada and the Provinces, 1951

(Source: *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics of the United Nations* and other official publications. In certain cases final figures are not available and provisional data are used.)

Country or Province	Marriage Rate	Country or Province	Marriage Rate	Country	Marriage Rate
United States.....	10.6	Canada—concluded		Japan.....	8.0
Czechoslovakia.....	10.41	New Brunswick.....	8.5	Switzerland.....	7.9
Hungary.....	10.41	Saskatchewan.....	8.2	Chile.....	7.8
Western Germany.....	10.3	Nova Scotia.....	7.9	Portugal.....	7.7
Union of South Africa (Whites).....	10.2	Newfoundland.....	7.0	Sweden.....	7.6
Australia.....	9.2	Prince Edward Island	5.9	France.....	7.5
		Austria.....	9.1	Spain.....	7.5
		Netherlands, The.....	8.8	Ceylon.....	6.9
Canada.....	9.2	New Zealand.....	8.7	Italy.....	6.9
Alberta.....	9.9	Norway.....	8.3	Northern Ireland.....	6.9
Ontario.....	9.8	England and Wales.....	8.2	Mexico.....	6.1
British Columbia.....	9.7	Belgium.....	8.1	Ireland, Republic of...	5.4
Manitoba.....	9.5	Denmark.....	8.1	Venezuela.....	4.9
Quebec.....	8.8	Scotland.....	8.1	Peru.....	2.6
		Finland.....	8.0		

¹ 1950.

As a rule, marriage rates vary with the level of economic prosperity. In Canada, England and the United States, the number of marriages was exceptionally high in 1940-42, decreased in 1943 and 1944 but increased in 1945 and 1946, reaching peak rates in the immediate post-war years.

Canadian Marriages.—Table 28 shows the number of marriages and the marriage rates per 1,000 population in Canada and the provinces. Percentages of brides and bridegrooms, according to place of birth, are also given. In 1951, for the country as a whole, about 85 p.c. of the grooms were born in Canada—70 p.c. in the province in which they were married. Almost 90 p.c. of the brides were born in Canada—over 75 p.c. in the province in which they were married. However, there are wide variations from this pattern as between provinces; as might be expected, in the older Atlantic Provinces and Quebec there is a greater tendency to marry native and/or province-born partners than in the other provinces.

28.—Marriages and Marriage Rates, by Province, with Percentage Distribution of Bridegrooms and Brides by Nativity, 1921, 1931, 1941 and 1951

Province and Year	Total Marriages	Rate per 1,000 Population	Born in Province Where Married		Born in Other Provinces		Born Outside Canada	
			Grooms	Brides	Grooms	Brides	Grooms	Brides
			p. c.	p. c.	p. c.	p. c.	p. c.	p. c.
Newfoundland.....1951	2,517	7.0	85.2 ¹	96.7 ¹	2.4 ¹	1.9 ¹	12.4 ¹	1.4 ¹
Prince Edward Island.....1921	518	5.8	92.3	94.6	5.0	1.9	2.7	3.5
1931	490	5.6	89.4	91.8	5.1	4.1	5.5	4.1
1941	673	7.1	78.8	86.6	15.0	9.4	6.2	4.0
1951	583	5.9	82.3	91.1	12.9	6.0	4.8	2.9
Nova Scotia.....1921	3,550	6.8	76.3	81.3	6.4	4.5	17.3	14.2
1931	3,394	6.6	80.3	86.7	5.4	3.6	14.3	9.7
1941	6,596	11.4	73.2	83.8	16.8	9.5	10.0	6.7
1951	5,094	7.9	78.2	86.7	15.9	9.0	6.0	4.3

¹ Excludes "not stated" birthplace.