

religion has on marriage. About 70 p.c. of all marriages are between persons of the same religious denomination; among those of Jewish faith, it was 95 p.c. in 1951; among Roman Catholics 89 p.c.; United Church 62 p.c.; and Eastern Orthodox 55 p.c.

30.—Marriages, by Religious Denominations of Contracting Parties, 1951

(Exclusive of the Territories)

Denomination of Bridegroom	Denomination of Bride										Total Marriages	Percentage
	Church of England	Baptist	Eastern Orthodox	Jewish	Lutheran	Presbyterian	Roman Catholic ¹	United Church	Other Sects	Not Stated		
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	
Church of England.....	8,503	693	119	6	402	944	1,804	3,914	539	4	16,928	13.2
Baptist.....	708	2,139	30	7	119	212	405	959	266	—	4,845	3.8
Eastern Orthodox.....	125	23	1,020	1	82	26	384	156	63	1	1,881	1.5
Jewish.....	27	7	3	1,838	11	11	44	27	13	—	1,981	1.5
Lutheran.....	405	109	69	2	2,354	151	584	743	252	1	4,670	3.6
Presbyterian.....	1,138	264	40	3	158	2,284	704	1,467	196	—	6,254	4.9
Roman Catholic ¹	1,643	350	343	14	612	482	51,398	1,885	730	4	57,461	44.8
United Church.....	3,858	861	154	6	660	1,188	2,001	15,727	824	2	25,281	19.7
Other sects.....	616	221	55	14	275	191	871	924	5,737	2	8,906	6.9
Not stated.....	2	—	2	—	—	—	6	3	3	7	23	--
Totals.....	17,025	4,667	1,835	1,891	4,673	5,489	58,201	25,805	8,623	21	128,230	100.0
Percentages.....	13.3	3.6	1.4	1.5	3.6	4.3	45.4	20.1	6.7	--	100.0	71.0 ²

¹ Includes Greek Catholic religious denomination.

² Percentage of marriages between contracting parties of the same religious denomination.

Subsection 2.—Dissolutions of Marriage (Divorces)

For many years after Confederation, the number of divorces granted in Canada were small. There were fewer than 20 divorces in every year before 1900, 21 in 1903, 51 in 1909 and 60 in 1913. These numbers represent less than one per 1,000 of the yearly number of marriages.

The end of World War I in 1918 saw an increase in the number of divorces. The generally unsettled conditions and the long separation of men on Active Service from their wives may have contributed to this increase. Changes in law and procedure may also have been a further factor—at present, Quebec and Newfoundland are the only provinces in which applicants for divorce must secure a private Act of Parliament. The number of divorces had increased to 114 in 1918; 608 in 1926; 700 in 1931; 1,570 in 1936; and 2,369 in 1940. From 1940, the number increased annually to a peak of 8,199 in 1947, declining gradually since that year until in 1951 they were 5,263 or 36 p.c. lower than in 1947. The number rose to 5,562 in 1952.