

and the mother French, the person's origin is said to be English. Illegitimate children, however, are usually classified by the origin of their mother, since the origin of the father is seldom known.

Table 20 shows that about two-thirds of Canadian children are born to parents who are both of the same origin; one-third are born to parents of different origins. A certain amount of this inter-mixture has no doubt been going on for many years. It is clear that, more than biology or 'race', geography, language, religion and economic resources contribute primarily to the formation of different ethnic or cultural groups.

20.—Numbers and Percentages of Live Births to Parents of Specified Origins, 1941-45, with Five-Year Averages, 1936-45

NOTE.—Figures for 1944 and 1945 are by residence; for previous years by place of occurrence.

Origin of Parents and Year	Numbers			Percentages			
	Father	Mother	Both Parents	Father	Mother	Both Parents	
English.....	Av. 1936-40	45,985	48,724	28,889	20.1	21.3	12.6
	Av. 1941-45	55,231	58,617	32,491	20.0	21.2	11.7
	1941	51,470	54,073	30,393	20.2	21.2	11.9
	1942	55,706	58,913	33,103	20.5	21.6	12.2
	1943	58,130	61,136	34,527	20.5	21.6	12.2
	1944	56,138	59,551	32,908	19.8	21.0	11.6
	1945	54,711	59,412	31,522	18.9	20.6	10.9
Irish.....	Av. 1936-40	20,603	20,192	7,569	9.0	8.8	3.3
	Av. 1941-45	24,988	25,137	8,325	9.0	9.1	3.0
	1941	23,413	23,185	7,864	9.2	9.1	3.1
	1942	24,684	24,665	8,184	9.1	9.1	3.0
	1943	25,533	26,134	8,564	9.0	9.2	3.0
	1944	25,438	25,631	8,492	9.0	9.0	3.0
	1945	25,871	26,069	8,521	9.0	9.0	3.0
Scottish.....	Av. 1936-40	21,148	21,141	7,778	9.2	9.2	3.4
	Av. 1941-45	26,071	26,409	8,716	9.4	9.5	3.1
	1941	24,146	24,184	8,134	9.5	9.5	3.2
	1942	26,304	26,115	8,772	9.7	9.6	3.2
	1943	27,066	27,197	9,037	9.5	9.6	3.2
	1944	26,263	27,058	8,787	9.2	9.5	3.1
	1945	26,575	27,490	8,851	9.2	9.5	3.1
French.....	Av. 1936-40	87,238	91,251	81,888	38.1	39.9	35.8
	Av. 1941-45	107,883	113,085	100,635	39.0	40.8	36.4
	1941	98,946	103,772	92,362	38.8	40.6	36.2
	1942	104,683	110,000	97,612	38.4	40.4	35.8
	1943	108,482	113,865	101,096	38.3	40.2	35.6
	1944	112,087	117,576	104,672	39.4	41.4	36.8
	1945	115,218	120,212	107,431	39.9	41.6	37.2
Other origins.....	Av. 1936-40	44,309	46,114	28,951	19.4	20.2	12.7
	Av. 1941-45	50,693	52,624	28,854	18.3	19.0	10.4
	1941	46,811	49,151	27,993	18.2	19.2	10.9
	1942	49,420	51,599	28,523	18.1	18.9	10.5
	1943	52,314	54,129	29,621	18.4	19.0	10.5
	1944	51,764	53,402	28,861	18.2	18.8	10.2
	1945	53,156	54,839	29,272	18.4	19.0	10.1