

Subsection 6.—Marital Status

After age and sex, marital status analysis is probably next in importance from a vital, economic and social viewpoint. The number of married females between 15 and 45 years of age is a most significant factor in the fertility of a population. If the proportion of females in this group is low, the expected birth rate will be low. In 1961, 62.9 p.c. of all married females were in the 15-44 age group compared with 64.0 p.c. in 1951, 61.2 p.c. in 1941 and 63.5 p.c. in 1931.

The high birth rate in the 1951-61 period, besides having a notable effect on the general population growth and age composition, has been an influence on the 32.7-p.c. increase in the single population. During the same period, the married population increased by 28.2 p.c. and the widowed by 21.0 p.c. Other striking features are the excess of married males (largely consisting of male immigrants whose wives had not yet joined them) and the great preponderance of widows over widowers.

The marital status of the population in 1961 is shown in Table 13.

13.—Marital Status of the Population, by Age Group and Sex, Census 1961

Age Group and Sex		Single	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Total
		No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Under 15 years.....	M.	3,166,091	—	—	—	3,166,091
	F.	3,025,831	—	—	—	3,025,831
	T.	6,191,922	—	—	—	6,191,922
15 - 19 "	M.	719,727	9,198	88	22	729,035
	F.	642,007	61,197	262	58	703,524
	T.	1,361,734	70,395	350	80	1,432,559
20 - 24 "	M.	408,005	178,618	233	282	587,139
	F.	241,435	353,215	931	926	596,507
	T.	649,440	531,833	1,164	1,209	1,183,646
25 - 34 "	M.	293,298	959,702	1,864	3,440	1,258,304
	F.	158,119	1,051,198	7,407	6,079	1,222,803
	T.	451,417	2,010,900	9,271	9,519	2,481,107
35 - 44 "	M.	143,174	1,034,645	7,527	5,722	1,191,068
	F.	108,573	1,052,760	28,258	9,226	1,198,817
	T.	251,747	2,087,405	35,785	14,948	2,389,885
45 - 54 "	M.	100,426	834,787	17,128	6,084	958,425
	F.	91,012	751,129	69,415	8,523	920,079
	T.	191,438	1,585,916	86,543	14,607	1,878,504
55 - 64 "	M.	74,357	540,934	35,390	4,033	654,714
	F.	65,697	439,436	125,540	4,083	634,756
	T.	140,054	980,370	160,930	8,116	1,289,470
65 - 69 "	M.	26,251	185,739	26,516	1,179	239,685
	F.	25,019	136,933	84,579	886	247,417
	T.	51,270	322,672	111,095	2,065	487,102
70 years or over.....	M.	46,235	276,102	110,761	1,334	434,432
	F.	47,871	158,711	262,324	714	469,620
	T.	94,106	434,813	373,085	2,048	904,052
All Ages.....	M.	4,977,564	4,019,725	199,507	22,097	9,218,893
	F.	4,405,564	4,004,579	578,716	30,495	9,019,354
	T.	9,383,128	8,024,304	778,223	52,592	18,238,247

Subsection 7.—Ethnic Groups and Birthplaces

Ethnic Group.—A population made up of diverse ethnic groups gives rise to political, social and economic problems quite different in nature from those of one with a more homogeneous ethnic composition. These problems are mitigated, however, to the extent