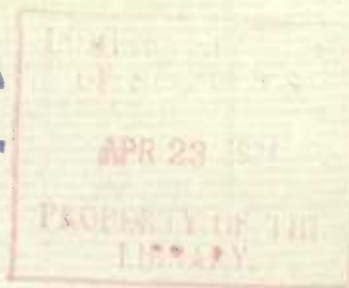


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CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH

DIVORCES GRANTED IN CANADA

in

1933

Published by Authority of the Hon. H.H. Stevens, M.P.
Minister of Trade and Commerce.

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OTTAWA

1934

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THE

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LAND OFFICE

EXAMINATION OF THE LANDS

AND THE LANDS

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LAND OFFICE

in

1933

THE

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LAND OFFICE

OFFICE

1933

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH
OTTAWA

Dominion Statistician:	R. H. Coats, B.A., F.S.S. (Hon.), F.R.S.C.
Chief, General Statistics Branch:	S. A. Cudmore, M.A., F.S.S.

DIVORCES IN CANADA, 1933

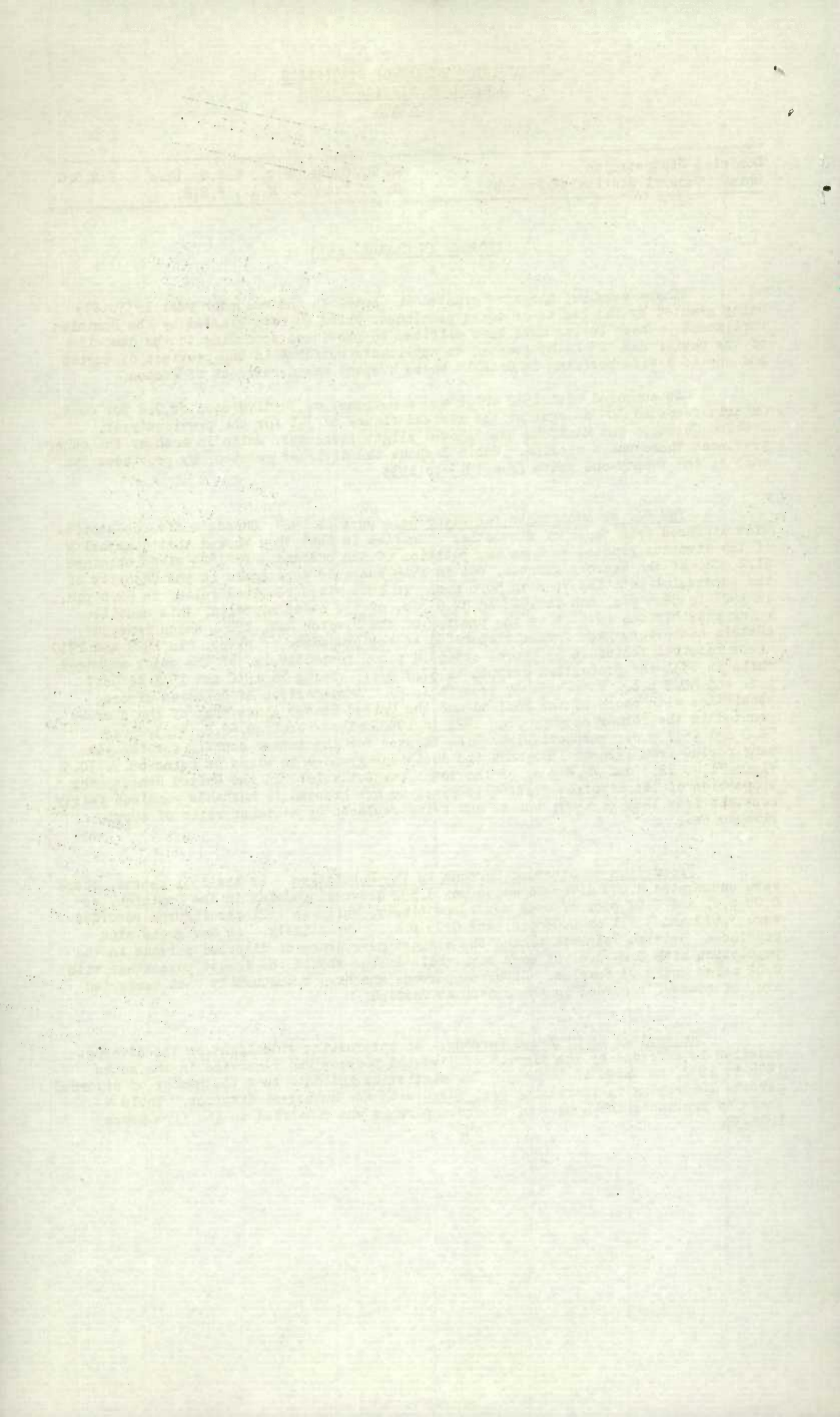
There were 923 divorces granted in Canada in the calendar year 1933, 899 being granted by the courts of seven provinces, while 24 were granted by the Dominion Parliament. These latter have been allotted to provinces according to the domicile of the petitioner, 23 being granted to applicants residing in the province of Quebec and one to a wife residing in Ontario whose husband was a resident of Quebec.

As compared with 1932 there was a decrease of 72 divorces, or 7.2 per cent. Ontario recorded 304 as against the revised figure of 341 for the previous year. British Columbia and Manitoba also showed slight increases, while in each of the other provinces there was a decline. Table 1 shows the divorces granted, by provinces, in each of the twenty-one years from 1913 to 1933.

The Sex of Applicants for Divorces.— Up till 1924, Canada's divorce statistics differed from those of most other countries in that they showed that a majority of the divorces granted were on the petition of the husband. In 1924 wives obtained 51.2 p.c. of the decrees granted, but in 1925 husbands were again in the majority of the successful petitioners with 50.6 p.c. In 1926 wives received relief in 52.0 p.c., in 1927 in 52.6 p.c. and in 1928 in 52.0 p.c. of the cases adjudged, this condition being possibly due in part to the passing of the Divorce Act, 1925, which removed certain anomalies which formerly operated to the prejudice of wives. In 1929 and 1930 wives received relief in 53.9 p.c. and 58.4 p.c., respectively, of the cases adjudged, while in 1931 the proportion dropped to 57.7 p.c., rising in 1932 and 1933 to 58.7 p.c. and 58.9 p.c., respectively (see Table 2). A comparison of Canadian divorce statistics with those of New Zealand and the United States shows that of the decrees granted in the former country from 1928 to 1932, wives received 52.8, 57.3, 56.3, 58.0 and 55.7 p.c., respectively, while figures for the latter country for the six year period from 1926 to 1931 show the decisions granted to wives as being 69.9, 70.5, 71.0, 71.4, 72.3 and 72.8 p.c. of the total respectively. In the United States, the proportion of two divorces granted to wives to one granted to husbands remained fairly constant from 1889 to 1923, but is now being replaced by a higher ratio of about five to two.

Proportion of Divorced Persons in the Population.— At the 1931 census, there were enumerated 4,049 divorced males and 3,392 divorced females in the Dominion, or 0.08 p.c. and 0.07 p.c. of each sex respectively, while in 1921 the figures recorded were 3,670 and 3,731 or 0.08 p.c. and 0.09 p.c., respectively. As among the nine provinces, British Columbia showed the highest percentage of divorced persons in the population with 0.24 p.c. of each sex, while Quebec showed the lowest percentage with 0.02 males and 0.03 females. Divorced persons who have subsequently been remarried are, of course, recorded in the census as married.

Remarriage of Divorced Persons.— An interesting side light on the divorce question is afforded by the figures of divorced persons who remarried in the years 1926 to 1932, as shown in Table 3. The statistics indicate that the number of divorced persons remarrying is increasing *pari passu* with the number of divorces. Table 4 shows by provinces the number of divorced persons who remarried in the five years 1928-32.



1. DIVORCES GRANTED IN CANADA, 1913 - 1933

(Final Decrees)

Note.- In Prince Edward Island, one divorce was granted in 1913 and one in 1931.

	Ont.	Que.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	N.S.	N.B.	B.C.	Total for Canada
1913.....	20	4	4	1	6	-	4	20	60
1914.....	18	7	4	2	2	10	12	15	70
1915.....	10	3	3	1	1	13	6	16	53
1916.....	13	1	1	2	2	14	11	18	67
1917.....	10	4	2	1	-	8	6	23	54
1918.....	10	2	2	1	-	24	10	65	114
1919.....	49	4	36	3	83	36	13	147	376
1920.....	91	9	65	26	42	45	15	136	429
1921.....	101	9	84	50	122	41	13	128	548
1922.....	90	6	129	37	97	35	12	138	544
1923.....	105	11	87	41	81	22	19	139	505
1924.....	114	13	118	23	77	42	15	136	543
1925.....	121	13	101	42	79	30	15	150	551
1926.....	113	10	154	48	85	19	12	167	608
1927.....	182	13	148	60	102	29	17	197	748
1928.....	213	25	168	55	79	28	14	203	785
1929.....	208	30	147	69	89	30	21	222	816
1930.....	207	40	151	62	114	19	27	255	875
1931.....	90*	39	154	51	94	36	20	208	692*
1932.....	341*	24	149	61	114	35	26	245	995*
1933.....	304	23	135	48	116	27	12	258	923

2. DIVORCES GRANTED IN CANADA, 1931 - 1933, BY PROVINCES
AND SEX OF PLAINTIFF

(Final Decrees)

Provinces	To Husbands:			To Wives:			Totals:		
	1931	1932	1933	1931	1932	1933	1931	1932	1933
P.E. Island.....	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Nova Scotia.....	18	19	10	18	16	17	36	35	27
New Brunswick.....	8	14	10	12	12	2	20	26	12
Quebec.....	7	6	9	31	18	14	38	24	23
Ontario.....	45*	166*	125	45*	175*	179	90*	341*	304
Manitoba.....	40	39	39	54	75	77	94	114	116
Saskatchewan.....	24	28	23	27	33	25	51	61	48
Alberta.....	69	66	56	85	83	79	154	149	135
British Columbia..	61	90	82	127	155	176	208	245	258
Canada.....	293*	428*	354	399*	567*	569	692*	995*	923

*Revised figures.

3. DIVORCED PERSONS REMARRIED, BY SEX, 1926 - 32

Year	Males	Females
1926.....	484	512
1927.....	586	521
1928.....	749	739
1929.....	756	703
1930.....	759	668
1931.....	669	589
1932.....	661	579

4. DIVORCED PERSONS REMARRIED, BY PROVINCES, 1928 - 32

Note.- The number of divorced men who married divorced women was 112 in 1928, 111 in 1929, 109 in 1930, 101 in 1931 and 73 in 1932.

	<u>1928</u>		<u>1929</u>		<u>1930</u>		<u>1931</u>		<u>1932</u>	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Prince Edward Is.	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	-
Nova Scotia.....	24	19	24	17	25	16	28	27	20	24
New Brunswick....	60	56	46	35	23	29	25	24	25	17
Quebec.....	45	56	52	37	66	49	68	52	69	44
Ontario.....	193	150	187	175	200	155	174	137	198	154
Manitoba.....	62	57	64	63	66	54	73	43	59	51
Saskatchewan.....	42	56	46	55	63	50	43	47	53	35
Alberta.....	122	103	118	90	101	108	102	107	88	103
British Columbia.	201	228	218	230	214	207	155	152	148	151
Total.....	749	739	756	703	759	668	669	589	661	579

Of the 303 divorces granted in 1933 by the Ontario courts,* the parties in 63 cases were married outside the province, while in 8 cases the marriages were reported to have taken place in Ontario, but were not recorded in the office of the Registrar General. The remaining 232 cases have been analysed as to age by the Registrar General's Office and the resulting table is republished here as Table 5, through the kind permission of that Department, on account of its general bearing on the question of how far disparity of ages between husbands and wives is a predisposing element in bringing about divorce.

*One divorce was granted by Parliament to an Ontario petitioner.

5. AGES OF THE PARTIES TO 232 DIVORCES GRANTED IN ONTARIO, 1933.

Ages of Men	NO. of Men	Ages of Women																							45 and over		
		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42		43	44
21	1		1																								
22	2	1		1																							
23	-																										
24	1				1																						
25	11				5	4	1	1																			
26	12	1	1			2	1	6		1																	
27	10	1		2	3	1	1	1	1																		
28	9		1			1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1														
29	17		1				1	4	3	3	3	1			1												
30	10					1	2	2			1	2			2												
31	8								1	2	1	1	3														
32	9		1		1		1			1	1	1	2			1											
33	17								2		1	2	6	2	3		1										
34	13							1	2	1	1	3	3	1		2	2										
35	5							1			1	2	1	1													
36	14		1			1		1				2	2	1	5		2		1								
37	6							1				1			2		1										
38	5		1													1	1		1							1	
39	8																1		2	3		1					
40	12								1				2		1		1	1	1	2	1	2					
41	13													2	1		1		2	2	3	1	1				
42	5											1						1			1			1			
43	3																					1			1		
44	7														1		2			3		1			1		
45	6											1				1		1			1			1	1		
46	4									1													1			1	1
47	-																										
48	5											1										1					3
49	5																1				1				1		2
50	2																					1					1
51	2																						1				2
52	2																							1			1
53	1											1															
54	1																										1
55	1																										1
56	2																1								1		
57	-																										
58	1																										1
59	-																										
60	1																										1
61	1																										1
Total	232	3	7	3	10	10	8	13	10	11	10	13	21	7	16	5	15	5	8	7	8	9	2	2	4	4	15

COMPARISONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES

In Table 6 are given comparative figures of divorces and marriages in England and Wales, Australia, New Zealand and Canada for the years 1916 and subsequently. The percentage of divorces to marriages taking place in the same year, as here given, is seen in the case of England and Wales to have increased during these years from 0.35 p.c. to 1.27 p.c.; in Australia from 1.53 p.c. to 4.12 p.c.; in New Zealand from 2.41 p.c. to 6.18 p.c.; and in Canada from 0.1 p.c. to 1.57 p.c. Similar figures for the United States, where, of course, the total number of divorces is unusually large owing to the comparative ease with which they may be obtained, show increases from 27,919 in 1887 to 42,937 in 1896, 72,062 in 1906, 114,000 in 1916, 148,815 in 1922, 165,096 in 1923, 170,952 in 1924, 175,449 in 1925, 180,853 in 1926, 192,037 in 1927, 195,939 in 1928, 201,468 in 1929, falling to 191,591 in 1930, 183,664 in 1931 and 160,329 in 1932. The percentage of divorces to marriages increased from 10.6 to 16.3 during the years 1916 to 1932, divorces during this period increasing by 40.64 p.c. (In 1931 divorces granted to women in the United States constituted 72.8 p.c. of the total granted, as compared with 72.3 p.c. in 1930.)

6. NUMBER OF MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES IN ENGLAND AND WALES,
AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND CANADA IN RECENT YEARS

	England and Wales		Australia		New Zealand		Canada	
	No. of Mar- riages	No. of Di- vorces	No. of Mar- riages	No. of Di- vorces	No. of Mar- riages	No. of Di- vorces	No. of Mar- riages	No. of Di- vorces
1916...	279,846	990	40,289	617	8,213	198	65,000*	67
1917...	258,855	703	33,666	652	6,417	219	60,000*	54
1918...	287,163	1,111	33,141	681	6,227	199	55,000*	114
1919...	369,411	1,654	40,540	879	9,519	336	70,000*	376
1920...	379,658	3,090	51,552	1,152	12,175	469	80,931	429
1921...	320,852	3,522	46,869	1,480	10,635	511	69,732	548
1922...	299,524	2,588	44,731	1,326	9,556	522	64,420	544
1923...	292,408	2,667	44,541	1,460	10,070	522	66,463	505
1924...	296,416	2,286	45,869	1,528	10,259	526	65,129	543
1925...	295,689	2,605	46,899	1,844	10,419	612	64,644	551
1926...	279,860	2,622	47,865	1,632	10,680	614	66,658	608
1927...	308,370	3,190	49,033	1,899	10,478	540	69,515	748
1928...	303,228	4,018	48,593	1,829	10,537	572	74,311	785
1929...	313,316	3,396	47,500	2,036	10,967	635	77,288	816
1930...	315,109	3,563	43,255	1,783	11,075	620	71,657	875
1931...	311,847	3,764	38,882	-	9,817	591	66,591	684
1932...	307,184	3,894	43,634	-	9,896	612	62,531	995

*Estimated.

STATE OF NEW YORK

IN SENATE,
January 15, 1902.

REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSIONER OF THE LAND OFFICE,
IN RESPONSE TO A RESOLUTION
PASSED BY THE SENATE
MAY 1, 1899.

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321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328
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505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512
513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520
521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528
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937	938	939	940	941	942	943	944
945	946	947	948	949	950	951	952
953	954	955	956	957	958	959	960
961	962	963	964	965	966	967	968
969	970	971	972	973	974	975	976
977	978	979	980	981	982	983	984
985	986	987	988	989	990	991	992
993	994	995	996	997	998	999	1000

Table 7, taken from the German official publication, Wirtschaft und Statistik, shows the number of divorces in many countries, together with their ratios to population in recent years, as compared with their ratio to population in the pre-war year 1913. In most countries there has been a striking increase in divorce in the last twenty years.

7. DIVORCES IN CERTAIN COUNTRIES, 1930-1932, AND RATIO TO POPULATION, 1913 AND 1930-1932

Country	No. of Divorces			Divorces per 100,000 Population			
	1930	1931	1932	1913	1930	1931	1932
United States.....	191,591	183,664	160,329	-	155.5	148.0	128.4
Austria ^{2/}	6,573	6,730	-	11.4 ^{1/}	97.9	100.0	-
Japan.....	51,259	50,609	-	113.3	79.5	77.4	-
Latvia.....	1,450	1,425	-	-	76.3	74.4	-
Switzerland ^{3/}	2,738	2,871	-	41.8	67.5	70.4	-
Estonia.....	697	711	-	-	62.5	63.6	-
Germany.....	40,722	39,971	41,922	27.9	63.3	61.8	65.0
Denmark.....	238	242	240	-	59.6	60.0	59.1
Union of South Africa (Whites)...	1,034	963	987	18.9	57.5	52.7	53.1
France.....	20,367	21,222	21,848	37.7	48.9	50.7	52.1
Hungary ^{2/}	5,495	4,357	-	-	63.6	50.0	-
Yugoslavia.....	5,826	6,393	-	-	42.3	45.7	-
New Zealand.....	620	591	612	-	41.6	40.9	42.1
Luxemburg.....	95	122	-	9.6	31.7	40.5	-
Czechoslovakia.....	5,697	5,945	-	-	38.8	40.2	-
Saar.....	252	322	-	-	31.5	39.5	-
Denmark.....	2,300	2,472	-	28.3	64.9	39.3	-
Roumania.....	6,727	7,003	7,370	44.1	37.6	38.9	40.0
Sweden.....	2,218	2,346	2,352	13.7	36.2	38.1	38.1
Holland.....	2,851	3,007	-	18.1	36.2	37.7	-
Belgium.....	2,491	2,531	2,522	15.9	30.8	31.1	30.8
Norway.....	839	855	876	20.5	29.9	30.3	30.9
Finland.....	780	1,070	-	8.5	21.4	29.1	-
Scotland.....	469	569	-	5.3	9.7	11.7	-
England and Wales..	3,563	3,764	-	1.6	9.0	9.4	-
CANADA.....	875	692	995	0.8	8.6	9.3	9.4

1/ Previous area.

2/ Including judicial separations and annulments.

3/ Including annulments.

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