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DIVORCES GRANTED IN CANADA

in

1940

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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Dominion Statistician:

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DIVORCES IN CANADA, 1940.

There were 2,369 divorces granted in Canada in the calendar year 1940, 2,307 being granted by the courts of seven provinces, while 62 were granted by the Dominion Parliament, to petitioners whose legal domicile was in the Province of Quebec.

Through the courtesy of the various Provincial authorities concerned with the registration of divorce decrees, a revision of the statistics of divorces granted appears in this bulletin. The figures that have been changed are marked in Tables 1 and 2; as now presented, they show the numbers of decrees absolute granted, figures of annulments having been eliminated where possible. For those provinces where it was not possible to make such elimination, annulments make up a negligible proportion of the total.

As compared with the revised figures for 1939, divorces increased by 301, or 14.6 per cent. Ontario and British Columbia, with 169 and 93, respectively, accounted for the greater part of the increase. The other provinces recorded lesser increases, except Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan and Prince Edward Island. There were no divorces granted in the latter Province.

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 per cent of the decrees granted, but in 1925 husbands were again in the majority of successful petitioners with 50.6 per cent. From 1926 to 1933 wives received between 50 and 60 per cent of the divorces granted. From 1934 the proportion increased; in 1940 it was 63.2 per cent. In New Zealand wives received between 50 and 60 per cent of the divorces granted between 1928 and 1938, while in the United States they received from 70.5 to 73.5 per cent of the petitions granted in the years 1927 to 1932.

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 per cent and 0.07 per cent of each sex, respectively, while in 1921 the figures recorded were 3,670 and 3,731 or 0.08 per cent and 0.09 per cent, respectively. As among the nine provinces, British Columbia showed the highest percentage of divorced persons in the population with 0.24 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 1939, as shown in Table 3. The statistics indicated 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 1935 to 1939.

1. DIVORCES GRANTED IN CANADA, 1918 - 1940.

(Final Decrees)

Note. - In Prince Edward Island, one divorce was granted in 1931 and two in 1935, 1937 and 1938.

Year	N.S.	N.B.	QUE.	ONT.	MAN.	SASK.	ALTA.	B.C.	TOTAL FOR CANADA
1918	24	10	2	10	-	1	2	65	114
1919	36	13	4	46	88	3	36	147	373
1920	45	15	9	89	42	20 x	112 x	136	468 x
1921	41	13	10	96	122	59 x	89 x	128	558 x
1922	35	12	6	91	97	35 x	129	138	543 x
1923	22	19	10	102	81	44 x	88 x	139	505 x
1924	42	15	13	113	77	26 x	118	136	540 x
1925	30	15	13	119	79	43 x	101	150	550 x
1926	19	12	10	111	85	50 x	154	167	608 x
1927	29	17	13	181	101	62 x	148	197	748 x
1928	28	13	24	213	79	57 x	173 x	203	790 x
1929	30	21	30	207	89	71 x	147	222	817 x
1930	19	27	41	204	114	64 x	151	255	875 x
1931	36	20	38	91 x	94	55 x	157 x	208	699 x
1932	35	26	27	343 x	114	66 x	150 x	245	1,006 x
1933	27	12	24	307 x	116	48	138 x	258	930 x
1934	33	17	38	365 x	126	67 x	170 x	306	1,122 x
1935	52	36	28	491 x	145	68 x	225 x	384	1,429 x
1936	41	38	40	519 x	179	84 x	218 x	451 x	1,570 x
1937	36	53 x	43	607 x	200	112 x	259 x	520 x	1,830 x
1938	51	39	83	824 x	205	126 x	271 x	625 x	2,226 x
1939	64	40	50	747 x	181	133 x	272 x	581 x	2,068 x
1940(Prelim.)	60	52	62	916	206	125	274	674	2,369

x Revised.

2. DIVORCES GRANTED IN CANADA, 1938 - 1940, BY PROVINCES

AND SEX OF PLAINTIFF

(Final Decrees)

	To Husbands			:	To Wives			:	Total		
	1938	1939	1940		1938	1939	1940		1938	1939	1940
P. E. I.	Nil	Nil	Nil		2	Nil	Nil		2	Nil	Nil
N. S.	19	22	20		32	42	40		51	64	60
N. B.	15	21 x	20		24	19 x	32		39	40	52
Que.	18	11	21		65	39	41		83	50	62
Ont.	294 x	258 x	330		530 x	489 x	586		824 x	747 x	916
Man.	82	68	85		123	113	121		205	181	206
Sask.	43 x	61 x	52		83 x	72 x	73		126 x	133 x	125
Alta.	107 x	108 x	122		164 x	164 x	152		271 x	272 x	274
B. C.	234 x	171 x	222		391 x	410 x	452		625 x	581 x	674
CANADA	812 x	720 x	872		1,414 x	1,348 x	1,497		2,226 x	2,068 x	2,369

x Revised.

3. DIVORCED PERSONS REMARRIED, BY SEX, 1926 - 39.

Year	Males	Females
1926	484	512
1927	586	521
1928	749	739
1929	756	703
1930	759	668
1931	669	589
1932	661	579
1933	654	606
1934	741	660
1935	814	696
1936	851	727
1937	895	731
1938	887	789
1939	1,039	973

4. DIVORCED PERSONS REMARRIED, BY PROVINCES, 1935 - 39.

Note. - The number of divorced men who married divorced women was 94 in 1935, 104 in 1936, 110 in 1937, 124 in 1938 and 150 in 1939.

Provinces	1935		1936		1937		1938		1939	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
P. E. I.	3	2	Nil	2	7	1	1	1	Nil	Nil
N. S.	47	26	37	29	49	30	45	29	52	37
N. B.	30	25	37	18	39	21	29	39	40	23
Que.	56	48	64	47	71	59	96	57	100	69
Ont.	279	162	238	174	127	84	90	57	120	101
Man.	79	83	84	84	134	85	120	107	139	102
Sask.	44	38	41	37	65	45	62	47	74	74
Alta.	106	116	126	123	132	133	139	147	192	193
B. C.	170	196	224	213	271	273	305	305	322	374
TOTAL	814	696	851	727	895	731	887	769	1,039	973

TABLE 1. SUMMARY OF DATA FOR THE FIRST 100 OBSERVATIONS

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	DEPTH	TEMPERATURE	SALINITY	DENSITY	WIND SPEED	WAVE HEIGHT	SEA STATE
1981	0100	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	0200	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	0300	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	0400	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	0500	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	0600	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	0700	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	0800	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	0900	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1000	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1100	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1200	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1300	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1400	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1500	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1600	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1700	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1800	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1900	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	2000	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	2100	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	2200	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	2300	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3

TABLE 2. SUMMARY OF DATA FOR THE NEXT 100 OBSERVATIONS

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	DEPTH	TEMPERATURE	SALINITY	DENSITY	WIND SPEED	WAVE HEIGHT	SEA STATE
1981	0100	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	0200	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	0300	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	0400	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	0500	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	0600	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	0700	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	0800	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	0900	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1000	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1100	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1200	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1300	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1400	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1500	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1600	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1700	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1800	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	1900	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	2000	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	2100	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	2200	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3
1981	2300	10N 155E	10	28.5	35.2	1.020	10	2	3

TABLE 3. SUMMARY OF DATA FOR THE FINAL 100 OBSERVATIONS

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	DEPTH	TEMPERATURE	SALINITY	DENSITY	WIND SPEED	WAVE HEIGHT	SEA STATE
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COMPARISONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES

In Table 5 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 per cent to 1.73 per cent; in Australia from 1.53 per cent to 4.64 per cent; in New Zealand from 2.41 per cent to 6.85 per cent; and in Canada from 0.1 per cent to 2.01 per cent. 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 160,338 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 per cent. No statistics of divorces granted in the United States have been published since those for 1932, but estimates would indicate that there were some 165,000 divorces granted in 1933, 204,000 in 1934, 218,000 in 1935, 236,000 in 1936 and 250,000 in 1937. The estimated percentages of divorces to marriages were 15.0 per cent, 15.7 per cent, 16.4 per cent, 17.2 per cent and 17.5 per cent in the same years. The number of divorces per 1,000 of population was 1.8 in 1936 and 1.9 in 1937.

5. 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 x	67
1917	....	258,855	703	33,666	652	6,417	219	60,000 x	54
1918	....	287,163	1,111	33,141	681	6,227	199	55,000 x	114
1919	....	369,411	1,654	40,540	879	9,519	336	70,000 x	373
1920	....	379,658	3,090	51,552	1,152	12,175	469	80,931	468 p
1921	....	320,852	3,522	46,869	1,480	10,635	511	69,732	558 p
1922	....	299,524	2,588	44,731	1,326	9,566	522	64,420	543 p
1923	....	292,408	2,667	44,541	1,460	10,070	522	66,463	505 p
1924	....	296,416	2,286	45,869	1,528	10,259	526	65,129	540 p
1925	....	295,689	2,605	46,899	1,844	10,419	612	64,644	550 p
1926	....	279,860	2,622	47,865	1,632	10,680	614	66,658	608 p
1927	....	308,370	3,190	49,033	1,899	10,478	540	69,515	748 p
1928	....	303,228	4,018	48,593	1,829	10,537	572	74,311	790 p
1929	....	313,316	3,396	47,500	2,036	10,967	635	77,288	817 p
1930	....	315,109	3,563	43,255	1,783	11,075	620	71,657	875 p
1931	....	311,847	3,764	38,882	1,938	9,817	591	66,591	696 p
1932	....	307,184	3,894	43,634	1,680	9,896	612	62,531	1,006 p
1933	....	318,191	4,042	46,595	1,948	10,510	648	63,865	930 p
1934	....	342,307	4,287	51,465	2,282	11,256	683	73,092	1,122 p
1935	....	349,536	4,069	56,826	2,357	12,187	653	76,893	1,429 p
1936	....	354,644	4,057	58,709	2,483	13,808	849	80,904	1,570 p
1937	....	359,160	4,886	59,448	2,759	14,364	917	87,800	1,830 p
1938	361,768	6,250	62,411	-	15,328	1,050	88,438	2,229 p
1939	-	-	-	-	-	-	103,658	2,068

x Estimated. p Revised.



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THE following information was obtained from the 1981 Census of Canada, which was conducted by Statistics Canada. The information is presented in the form of a table, which is divided into two main sections. The first section, titled "Population and Housing", provides information on the total population, the population by age and sex, and the population by province and territory. The second section, titled "Housing", provides information on the total housing stock, the housing stock by type, and the housing stock by province and territory. The information is presented in the form of a table, which is divided into two main sections. The first section, titled "Population and Housing", provides information on the total population, the population by age and sex, and the population by province and territory. The second section, titled "Housing", provides information on the total housing stock, the housing stock by type, and the housing stock by province and territory.

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Population and Housing		Housing		Total		Total		Total	
Province	Population	Province	Housing	Province	Population	Province	Housing	Province	Population
Alberta	2,400,000	Alberta	1,200,000	Alberta	2,400,000	Alberta	1,200,000	Alberta	2,400,000
Saskatchewan	950,000	Saskatchewan	450,000	Saskatchewan	950,000	Saskatchewan	450,000	Saskatchewan	950,000
Manitoba	1,200,000	Manitoba	600,000	Manitoba	1,200,000	Manitoba	600,000	Manitoba	1,200,000
Ontario	10,000,000	Ontario	5,000,000	Ontario	10,000,000	Ontario	5,000,000	Ontario	10,000,000
Quebec	6,500,000	Quebec	3,250,000	Quebec	6,500,000	Quebec	3,250,000	Quebec	6,500,000
Atlantic	2,500,000	Atlantic	1,250,000	Atlantic	2,500,000	Atlantic	1,250,000	Atlantic	2,500,000
Total	23,550,000	Total	11,775,000	Total	23,550,000	Total	11,775,000	Total	23,550,000