

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

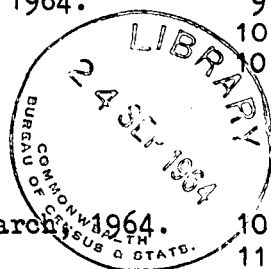
To be treated as strictly CONFIDENTIAL and NOT to be published, broadcast or cabled before NOON on WEDNESDAY, 23RD SEPTEMBER, 1964

SOCIAL STATISTICS : AUSTRALIA

NO. 23 : DIVORCE

QUARTER ENDED MARCH, 1964 AND YEAR ENDED DECEMBER, 1963

<u>Table</u>	<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>Page</u>
	Explanatory Notes.	2
	<u>I. PETITIONS FILED : DISSOLUTION, NULLITY AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION</u>	
1.	Petitions Filed : States, quarter ended March, 1964.	3
2.	Petitions Filed : 1959 to March quarter, 1964.	3
3.	Grounds on which Petitions were Filed : States, quarter ended March, 1964.	4
4.	Petitions Filed for Dissolution of Marriage : States, 1959 to March quarter, 1964.	5
	<u>II. DISSOLUTIONS, ETC. GRANTED : NUMBER</u>	
5.	Dissolutions, Nullities and Judicial Separations Granted : States, quarter ended March, 1964.	5
6.	Dissolutions, Nullities and Judicial Separations Granted : 1959 to March quarter, 1964.	6
7.	Dissolutions Granted : States, 1959 to March quarter, 1964.	6
8.	Grounds on which Dissolutions, Nullities and Judicial Separations were Granted : States, quarter ended March, 1964.	7
9.	Grounds on which Dissolutions, Nullities and Judicial Separations were Granted : 1959 to March quarter, 1964.	8
	<u>III. DISSOLUTIONS GRANTED : AGES OF PARTIES</u>	
10.	Ages of Parties at time of Marriage : quarter ended March, 1964.	9
11.	Ages of Parties at time of Dissolution : quarter ended March, 1964.	9
12.	Age of Husband : 1959 to March quarter, 1964.	10
13.	Age of Wife : 1959 to March quarter, 1964.	10
	<u>IV. DISSOLUTIONS GRANTED : DURATION OF MARRIAGE AND NUMBER AND AGE OF CHILDREN</u>	
14.	Duration of Marriage and Number of Children : quarter ended March, 1964.	10
15.	Duration of Marriage : 1959 to March quarter, 1964.	11
16.	Number of Children : 1959 to March quarter, 1964.	11
17.	Children of Dissolved Marriages : Ages, quarter ended March, 1964.	11
	<u>V. YEAR ENDED DECEMBER, 1963</u>	
18.	Petitions Filed, Dissolution, Nullity and Judicial Separation : States, 1963.	12
19.	Grounds on which Petitions were Filed : States, 1963.	13
20.	Petitions Filed according to Petitioner and number of children : 1963.	14
21.	Dissolutions, Nullities and Judicial Separations Granted, States, 1963.	14
22.	Grounds on which Dissolutions, Nullities and Judicial Separations were Granted : States, 1963.	15
23.	Dissolutions, Nullities and Judicial Separations Granted : by month, 1963.	16
24.	Dissolutions : Ages of Parties at time of Marriage, 1963.	17
25.	Dissolutions : Ages of Parties at time of Dissolution, 1963.	17
26.	Dissolutions : Duration of Marriage and Number of Children, 1963.	18
27.	Children of Dissolved Marriages : Ages, 1963.	18
28.	Dissolutions : Duration of Marriage and Age of Parties at time of Dissolution, 1963.	19
29.	Dissolutions : Duration of Marriage and Conjugal Condition of Parties at time of Marriage, 1961 to 1963.	20
30.	Dissolutions : Conjugal Condition of Parties at time of Marriage, 1961 to 1963.	21
31.	Divorced Parties : Number of Times Previously Divorced, 1962 and 1963.	22



EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bulletin contains statistics of divorce for the quarter ended March, 1964, for the year 1963, and for previous periods. For further details in respect of past periods, see previous issues in this series and the annual bulletin "Demography".

2. The Commonwealth Matrimonial Causes Act 1959 came into operation on 1st February, 1961. This Act provides a uniform law throughout Australia with respect to divorce and other matrimonial causes, and supersedes the matrimonial causes laws of the States and Territories except in so far as the transitional provisions of the Act keep them in force for the purpose of completing pending proceedings. Therefore statistics of petitions filed since February, 1961, are on a uniform basis for all States and Territories, but statistics of decrees of dissolution, nullity and judicial separation granted since that date include some decrees made on petitions under the superseded laws and are to that extent not uniformly based. For 1963 as a whole, 95 per cent. of decrees granted for dissolution were from petitions under the new legislation.

3. Because of differences in legislation and also some variations from State to State in the bases of compilation of divorce statistics prior to the introduction of the uniform system, the figures for 1961 and subsequent years are not strictly comparable with those for earlier years. See especially the footnotes to tables 9, 14, 16 and 26.

4. Under the new legislation a court may grant decrees of dissolution of marriage (commonly known as divorce), judicial separation, nullity of marriage, restitution of conjugal rights and jactitation of marriage (i.e. that a person has falsely claimed to be another person's wife or husband). Orders may be made for the custody of children, the provision of maintenance, damages and the settlement of marriage property.

5. The statistics in this bulletin refer only to petitions filed and final decrees granted, for dissolution, nullity and judicial separation. Statistics of petitions filed relate only to the original petition in a suit, i.e. a cross-petition contained in an answer by the respondent is not taken as a separate petition, nor are the grounds cited in a cross-petition included in tables 3 and 19.

6. Tables 29 to 31, providing information regarding the conjugal condition of parties prior to the present marriage are published for the first time in this series of bulletins.

## I. PETITIONS FILED

TABLE 1. - PETITIONS FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE  
NULLITY OF MARRIAGE AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION : QUARTER ENDED MARCH, 1964

Petition for -	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Dissolution of Marriage -									
Husband Petitioner	392	209	124	103	69	37	4	16	954
Wife Petitioner	628	258	137	128	74	31	3	12	1,271
Total	1,020	467	261	231	143	68	7	28	2,225
Nullity of Marriage -									
Wife Petitioner	3	3	1	1	..	..	..	..	8
Dissolution or Nullity -									
Wife Petitioner	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	3
Judicial Separation -									
Wife Petitioner	8	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	12
Total Petitions -									
Husband Petitioner	No. 392	No. 209	No. 124	No. 103	No. 69	No. 37	No. 4	No. 16	No. 954
Per cent.	38	44	47	44	48	54	57	57	42
Wife Petitioner	No. 639	No. 264	No. 141	No. 130	No. 74	No. 31	No. 3	No. 12	No. 1,294
Per cent.	62	56	53	56	52	46	43	43	58
Total	1,031	473	265	233	143	68	7	28	2,248

TABLE 2. - PETITIONS FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE,  
NULLITY OF MARRIAGE AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION : AUSTRALIA

Petition for -	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	Quarter ended -				
						March, 1963	June, 1963	Sept., 1963	Dec., 1963	March, 1964
Dissolution of Marriage -										
Husband Petitioner	3,843	3,709	4,394	4,072	4,000	1,014	1,008	987	991	954
Wife Petitioner	4,465	4,385	5,110	5,176	5,602	1,258	1,471	1,483	1,390	1,271
Total	8,308	8,094	9,504	9,248	9,602	2,272	2,479	2,470	2,381	2,225
Nullity of Marriage -										
Husband Petitioner	22	23	13	15	11	2	1	2	6	..
Wife Petitioner	43	32	44	35	28	5	11	6	6	8
Total	65	55	57	50	39	7	12	8	12	8
Dissolution or Nullity -										
Husband Petitioner	..	..	3	6	5	1	2	2	..	..
Wife Petitioner	..	..	4	5	10	3	1	2	4	3
Total	..	..	7	11	15	4	3	4	4	3
Judicial Separation -										
Husband Petitioner	7	7	2	2	3	..	..	2	1	..
Wife Petitioner	24	31	9	18	26	7	11	2	6	12
Total	31	38	11	20	29	7	11	4	7	12
Dissolution or Judicial Separation -										
Husband Petitioner	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
Total Petitions -										
Husband Petitioner	No. 3,872	No. 3,739	No. 4,412	No. 4,095	No. 4,020	No. 1,018	No. 1,011	No. 993	No. 998	No. 954
Per cent.	46	46	46	44	42	44	40	40	42	42
Wife Petitioner	No. 4,532	No. 4,448	No. 5,167	No. 5,234	No. 5,666	No. 1,273	No. 1,494	No. 1,493	No. 1,406	No. 1,294
Per cent.	54	54	54	56	58	56	60	60	58	58
Total	8,404	8,187	9,579	9,329	9,686	2,291	2,505	2,486	2,404	2,248

TABLE 3. - PETITIONS FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE,  
NULLITY OF MARRIAGE AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION : GROUNDS,  
QUARTER ENDED MARCH, 1964

Ground	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Petitions for Dissolution of Marriage									
Single grounds -									
Desertion	415	164	99	71	46	26	1	10	832
Adultery	200	109	41	68	53	22	5	4	502
Separation	162	65	47	35	33	10	..	4	356
Cruelty	83	7	8	29	..	4	1	3	135
Drunkenness	23	5	2	5	3	1	..	3	42
Non-compliance with restitution decree	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Refusal to consummate	4	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	7
Frequent convictions	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Other single grounds	2	2	1	1	1	1	..	..	8
Dual grounds -									
Desertion and adultery	12	15	3	3	3	1	..	..	37
Desertion and separation	50	74	47	8	1	..	..	1	181
Desertion and cruelty	16	4	2	2	..	..	..	..	24
Desertion and drunkenness	2	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	5
Adultery and separation	1	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	5
Adultery and cruelty	2	1	..	3	..	1	..	..	7
Cruelty and drunkenness	26	3	2	4	..	2	..	1	38
Other dual grounds	8	4	2	2	..	..	..	1	17
Three grounds or more	8	7	5	..	1	..	..	1	22
Total Petitions for Dissolution	1,020	467	261	231	143	68	7	28	2,225
Other Petitions									
Petitions for nullity of marriage -									
Bigamy	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Incapacity to consummate	2	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	5
Total petitions for nullity	3	3	1	1	..	..	..	..	8
Petitions for dissolution or nullity of marriage	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	3
Petitions for judicial separation	8	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	12
Total Petitions other than for Dissolution of Marriage	11	6	4	2	..	..	..	..	23

TABLE 4. - PETITIONS FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (a)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
1959	3,884	1,650	976	789	671	283	12	43	8,308
1960	3,746	1,798	863	781	560	274	26	46	8,094
1961	4,215	2,289	1,084	865	620	321	40	70	9,504
1962	4,093	2,148	1,083	910	651	276	39	48	9,248
1963	4,339	2,163	1,061	1,005	623	271	50	90	9,602
Quarter ended -									
March, 1963	1,054	457	249	273	144	63	12	20	2,272
June, 1963	1,134	594	254	231	165	63	16	22	2,479
September, 1963	1,104	558	296	243	168	71	10	20	2,470
December, 1963	1,047	554	262	258	146	74	12	28	2,381
March, 1964	1,020	467	261	231	143	68	7	28	2,225

(a) This table excludes petitions filed for nullity of marriage, judicial separations and any petitions for two or more alternative types of relief.

## II. DISSOLUTIONS, ETC. GRANTED : NUMBER

TABLE 5. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a),

### NULLITIES OF MARRIAGE AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS GRANTED :

QUARTER ENDED MARCH, 1964

Decree for -	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Dissolution of Marriage -									
Husband Petitioner	304	207	152	89	75	23	2	8	860
Wife Petitioner	442	233	185	122	93	25	2	14	1,116
Total	746	440	337	211	168	48	4	22	1,976
Nullity of Marriage -									
Husband Petitioner	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	3
Wife Petitioner	1	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	6
Total	1	5	3	..	..	..	..	..	9
Judicial Separation -									
Wife Petitioner	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total Decrees -									
Husband Petitioner	No. 304	209	153	89	75	23	2	8	863
Per cent.	41	47	45	42	45	48	50	36	43
Wife Petitioner	No. 444	236	187	122	93	25	2	14	1,123
Per cent.	59	53	55	58	55	52	50	64	57
Total	748	445	340	211	168	48	4	22	1,986

(a) Decrees absolute.

TABLE 6. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a), NULLITIES OF MARRIAGE  
AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS GRANTED : AUSTRALIA

Decree for	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	Quarter ended -				
						March, 1963	June, 1963	Sept., 1963	Dec., 1963	March, 1964
Dissolution of Marriage -										
Husband Petitioner	3,291	3,078	3,049	3,295	3,226	904	607	871	844	860
Wife Petitioner	4,024	3,555	3,623	3,923	4,180	1,132	787	1,082	1,179	1,116
Total	7,315	6,633	6,673(b)	7,220(c)	7,409(d)	2,036	1,394	1,953	2,026(d)	1,976
Nullity of Marriage -										
Husband Petitioner	21	26	14	12	7	2	..	3	2	3
Wife Petitioner	32	37	22	28	25	8	7	5	5	6
Total	53	63	36	40	32	10	7	8	7	9
Judicial Separation -										
Husband Petitioner	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wife Petitioner	2	11	2	3	7	..	2	4	1	1
Total	2	13	2	5	7	..	2	4	1	1
Total Decrees -										
Husband Petitioner										
No.	3,312	3,106	3,063	3,309	3,233	906	607	874	846	863
Per cent.	45	46	46	46	43	44	43	44	42	43
Wife Petitioner										
No.	4,058	3,603	3,647	3,954	4,212	1,140	796	1,091	1,185	1,123
Per cent.	55	54	54	54	57	56	57	56	58	57
Total	7,370	6,709	6,711(b)	7,265(c)	7,448(d)	2,046	1,403	1,965	2,034(d)	1,986

(a) Decrees absolute.

(b) Includes one dissolution granted on petitions by both parties, and not shown against husband or wife.

(c) Includes two dissolutions granted on petitions by both parties, and not shown against husband or wife.

(d) Includes three dissolutions granted on petitions by both parties, and not shown against husband or wife.

TABLE 7. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE GRANTED (a)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
1959	3,363	1,861	739	503	584	222	14	29	7,315
1960	3,243	1,296	696	610	540	210	5	33	6,633
1961	3,156	1,248	779	679	466	286	23	36	6,673
1962	3,113	1,615	920	660	582	248	38	44	7,220
1963	3,293	1,616	910	698	553	260	38	41	7,409
Quarter ended -									
March, 1963	807	429	306	219	191	66	8	10	2,036
June, 1963	720	321	128	82	65	62	9	7	1,394
September, 1963	850	436	240	204	158	53	4	8	1,953
December, 1963	916	430	236	193	139	79	17	16	2,026
March, 1964	746	440	337	211	168	48	4	22	1,976

(a) Decrees absolute. This table excludes nullities of marriage and judicial separations.

TABLE 8. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a), NULLITIES OF MARRIAGE  
AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS GRANTED : GROUNDS, QUARTER ENDED MARCH, 1964.

Ground	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Dissolution of Marriage									
Single grounds -									
Desertion	393	158	177	63	41	22	1	6	861
Adultery	149	80	53	56	49	12	..	10	409
Separation	121	92	78	49	56	6	3	1	406
Cruelty	29	4	2	19	1	2	..	3	60
Drunkenness	6	1	1	..	1	2	..	..	11
Non-compliance with restitution decree	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	4
Refusal to consummate	7	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	9
Insanity	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	3
Frequent convictions	..	..	1	..	3	..	..	..	4
Other single groups	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	3
Dual grounds -									
Desertion and adultery	6	19	2	1	3	1	..	..	32
Desertion and separation	8	65	13	11	8	2	..	1	108
Desertion and cruelty	5	5	1	2	..	..	..	1	14
Desertion and drunkenness	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	4
Adultery and separation	..	3	2	..	1	..	..	..	6
Adultery and cruelty	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	4
Cruelty and drunkenness	7	4	1	4	..	..	..	..	16
Other dual grounds	6	2	1	1	1	..	..	..	11
Three grounds or more	1	7	..	1	1	1	..	..	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>746</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1,976</b>
Nullity of Marriage									
Bigamy	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Incapacity to consummate	1	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	7
Invalid marriage	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>9</b>
Judicial Separation									
Cruelty	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>1</b>

(a) Decrees absolute.

TABLE 9. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE, NULLITIES OF MARRIAGE  
AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS GRANTED : GROUNDS, AUSTRALIA

Ground (a)	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	Quarter ended				
						March, 1963	June, 1963	Sept., 1963	Dec., 1963	March, 1964
Dissolution of Marriage										
Single grounds -										
Desertion	4,492	3,873	3,600	3,505	3,324	948	617	868	891	861
Adultery	2,124	2,103	1,811	1,490	1,611	432	292	427	460	409
Separation (b)	136	133	342	1,159	1,342	351	261	362	368	406
Cruelty	209	216	231	204	240	53	47	66	74	60
Drunkenness	77	56	53	74	73	23	13	21	16	11
Frequent convictions	..	..	12	18	13	5	2	4	2	4
Imprisonment	25	19	9	3	3	1	..	1	1	..
Failure to pay maintenance	24	23	18	17	10	3	5	..	2	2
Non-compliance with restitution decree (c)	..	..	296	57	40	14	14	6	6	4
Insanity	19	12	12	36	21	7	5	4	5	3
Refusal to consummate (d)	1	5	8	16	14	3	2	5	4	9
Other single grounds	3	1	6	6	7	2	1	1	3	1
Dual grounds -										
Desertion and adultery	87	71	93	104	115	35	19	26	35	32
Desertion and separation (e)	(e)	(e)	36	312	369	92	73	112	92	108
Desertion and cruelty (e)	(e)	(e)	9	35	51	15	9	11	16	14
Desertion and drunkenness (e)	(e)	(e)	5	22	18	6	1	4	7	4
Desertion and frequent convictions (e)	(e)	(e)	3	12	2	..	..	..	2	1
Desertion and failure to pay maintenance (e)	(e)	(e)	1	13	6	2	..	2	2	2
Adultery and separation (e)	(e)	(e)	3	8	13	5	1	4	3	6
Adultery and cruelty (e)	(e)	(e)	4	6	6	1	..	3	2	4
Adultery and bigamy (f)	1	1	6	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Separation and insanity (e)	(e)	(e)	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Separation and failure to pay maintenance	..	..	..	..	7	5	..	1	1	..
Cruelty and drunkenness	117	120	97	63	65	15	19	13	18	16
Other dual grounds (e)	(e)	(e)	2	16	17	5	7	3	2	8
Three grounds or more (e)	(e)	(e)	15	38	42	13	6	9	14	11
Total	7,315	6,633	6,673	7,220	7,409	2,036	1,394	1,953	2,026	1,976
Nullity of Marriage										
Bigamy	15	24	9	14	10	3	3	2	2	1
Invalid marriage	4	6	2	2	1	1	..	..	..	1
Incapacity to consummate	28	31	24	24	21	6	4	6	5	7
Consanguinity	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other grounds	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Not stated	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	53	63	36	40	32	10	7	8	7	9
Judicial Separation										
Desertion	..	10	..	2	2	..	1	1	..	..
Adultery	1	3	1	2	2	..	..	2	..	..
Cruelty	1	..	1	..	2	..	1	1	..	1
Other grounds	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..
Total	2	13	2	5	7	..	2	4	1	1

(a) Statistics in respect of dissolutions of marriage for which petitions were lodged in or after February, 1961 are on a uniform basis in all States. Petitions lodged

(Continued next page)



before that date were dealt with under the various, now superseded, State laws even if they were heard in 1961 or later years. Furthermore, there were changes made in some States regarding the way in which divorce statistics were compiled. For instance, dissolutions made on more than one ground were allocated to the more important ground in earlier years. For these reasons, comparisons from year to year of the figures shown in the above table should be made with caution.

- (b) Separation was a ground for dissolution in only two States under the old legislation.
- (c) This was a ground in one State only under the old legislation. Separate figures were not compiled before 1961, the dissolutions on this ground being included with desertion.
- (d) This was a ground for dissolution in only one State under the old legislation.
- (e) Not separately compiled before 1961. See note (a) above.
- (f) "Adultery and Bigamy" is not a ground for dissolution under the new Commonwealth legislation.

### III. DISSOLUTIONS GRANTED - AGES OF PARTIES

TABLE 10. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE : AGES OF PARTIES AT TIME OF MARRIAGE (a),  
AUSTRALIA, QUARTER ENDED MARCH, 1964

Age of Husband (Years)	Age of Wife (Years)											Total Husbands	
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not Stated	No.	Per cent
Under 20	101	25	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	130	7
20-24	368	494	61	10	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	936	47
25-29	107	245	115	28	10	1	..	..	..	..	1	507	26
30-34	17	56	68	39	14	7	..	..	..	..	..	201	10
35-39	5	25	15	14	20	5	2	..	..	..	..	86	4
40-44	1	4	11	6	8	11	3	1	..	..	..	45	2
45-49	..	1	2	9	7	11	5	2	1	..	..	38	2
50-54	2	..	..	2	6	2	3	..	..	..	..	15	1
55-59	..	2	..	..	..	..	3	2	2	1	..	10	1
60 and over	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	4	..	6	..
Not stated	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	2	..
Total (No. Wives)	601	852	276	108	67	37	19	5	4	5	2	1,976	..
(%)	31	43	14	6	3	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	100

(a) Marriages for which decrees absolute for dissolution were granted.

TABLE 11. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE : AGES OF PARTIES AT TIME OF DISSOLUTION  
OF MARRIAGE (a), AUSTRALIA, QUARTER ENDED MARCH, 1964

Age of Husband (Years)	Age of Wife (Years)											Total Husbands	
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not Stated	No.	Per cent
Under 20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20-24	1	23	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28	1
25-29	2	81	124	17	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	227	12
30-34	..	23	128	142	27	4	2	..	..	..	..	326	17
35-39	..	3	35	136	134	35	10	..	..	..	..	353	18
40-44	..	2	7	40	129	94	27	5	..	..	..	304	15
45-49	..	..	4	9	19	105	94	22	4	1	1	259	13
50-54	..	..	..	2	15	30	74	63	15	5	..	204	10
55-59	..	..	..	..	1	16	21	44	44	12	..	138	7
60 and over	..	..	1	1	1	23	34	4	11	59	..	134	7
Not stated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	3	..
Total (No. Wives)	3	132	302	348	327	308	262	139	74	78	3	1,976	..
(%)	..	7	15	18	17	15	13	7	4	4	..	..	100

(a) Decree absolute.

TABLE 12. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE :  
AGE OF HUSBAND AT TIME OF DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (a), AUSTRALIA

Period	Age of Husband (Years)										Total
	Under 25	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not Stated	
Year - 1959	131	929	1,626	1,494	1,075	852	586	321	229	72	7,315
1960	143	931	1,377	1,324	989	822	473	291	212	71	6,633
1961	135	812	1,356	1,294	977	814	568	324	313	80	6,673
1962	137	813	1,271	1,383	1,134	921	676	453	392	38	7,220
1963	154	840	1,358	1,414	1,193	893	687	442	400	28	7,409
Quarter ended -											
March, 1963	44	225	380	390	351	241	161	128	113	3	2,036
June, 1963	21	156	246	288	221	176	122	80	82	2	1,394
September, 1963	34	213	346	361	312	238	208	129	104	8	1,953
December, 1963	55	246	386	375	309	238	196	105	101	15	2,026
March, 1964	28	227	326	353	304	259	204	138	134	3	1,976

(a) Decree absolute.

TABLE 13. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE :  
AGE OF WIFE AT TIME OF DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (a), AUSTRALIA

Period	Age of Wife (Years)										Total
	Under 25	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not Stated	
Year - 1959	539	1,425	1,679	1,322	986	678	369	148	97	72	7,315
1960	582	1,261	1,439	1,210	865	652	300	145	108	71	6,633
1961	524	1,228	1,337	1,156	910	684	365	195	191	83	6,673
1962	539	1,150	1,365	1,337	1,019	796	475	241	259	39	7,220
1963	546	1,293	1,409	1,267	1,104	766	511	260	224	29	7,409
Quarter ended -											
March, 1963	144	354	398	361	301	212	132	75	56	3	2,036
June, 1963	102	229	280	253	197	145	79	50	57	2	1,394
September, 1963	126	336	359	328	288	208	168	76	58	6	1,953
December, 1963	174	374	372	325	318	201	132	59	53	18	2,026
March, 1964	135	302	348	327	308	262	139	74	78	3	1,976

(a) Decree absolute.

## IV. DURATION OF MARRIAGE AND NUMBER AND AGE OF CHILDREN

TABLE 14. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a) : DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN (b), AUSTRALIA, QUARTER ENDED MARCH, 1964

Duration of Marriage (Years)	Dissolutions of Marriage with -							Total Marriages Dissolved		Total Number of Children (b)
	No Child- ren	1 Child	2 Child- ren	3 Child- ren	4 Child- ren	5 Child- ren	6 and more Children	No.	Per cent.	
Under 5	71	34	11	3	1	..	..	120	6	69
5 - 9	204	141	83	21	4	1	..	454	23	391
10 - 14	134	119	126	65	18	9	1	472	24	689
15 - 19	88	62	94	59	23	11	6	343	17	612
20 - 24	59	56	68	34	15	6	7	245	13	431
25 - 29	84	36	39	9	5	2	2	177	9	183
30 and over	133	22	8	..	2	..	..	165	8	46
Total Marriages Dissolved (No.)	773	470	429	191	68	29	16	1,976	..	..
(%)	39	24	22	10	3	1	1	..	100	..
Total Number of Children (b)	..	470	858	573	272	145	103	..	..	2,421

(a) Decrees absolute.

(b) At time of petition. The term "children" used in the Commonwealth legislation refers to living "children of the marriage" under 21 years; but the table above includes a small number of dissolutions granted to petitions filed under old legislation in which the term "children" was used differently.

TABLE 15. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a) : DURATION OF MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA

Period	Number of Marriages Dissolved whose Duration was (Years)-								Total Marriages Dissolved
	Under 5	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30 and over	Not stated	
1959	489	2,275	1,978	1,236	667	384	283	3	7,315
1960	533	2,016	1,804	991	682	354	252	1	6,633
1961	481	1,928	1,693	1,032	783	371	384	1	6,673
1962	448	1,889	1,798	1,226	883	458	517	1	7,220
1963	501	1,994	1,660	1,346	906	510	492	..	7,409
Quarter ended -									
March, 1963	133	554	450	386	254	122	137	..	2,036
June, 1963	78	380	319	260	147	107	103	..	1,394
September, 1963	123	524	427	356	243	142	138	..	1,953
December, 1963	167	536	464	344	262	139	114	..	2,026
March, 1964	120	454	472	343	245	177	165	..	1,976

(a) Decreases absolute.

TABLE 16. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a) : NUMBER OF CHILDREN (b), AUSTRALIA

Period	Dissolutions of Marriage with -							Total Marriages Dissolved	Total Number of Children
	No Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	4 Children	5 Children	6 and more Children		
1959	2,510	1,927	1,627	741	330	92	88	7,315	9,797
1960	2,213	1,733	1,452	719	291	120	105	6,633	9,302
1961	2,589	1,717	1,398	641	204	79	45	6,673	7,945
1962	2,873	1,897	1,421	664	243	72	50	7,220	8,384
1963	2,890	1,865	1,596	668	281	69	40	7,409	8,795
Quarter ended -									
March, 1963	774	507	455	189	81	19	11	2,036	2,475
June, 1963	566	367	280	113	50	12	6	1,394	1,564
September, 1963	801	473	392	178	72	24	13	1,953	2,284
December, 1963	749	518	469	188	78	14	10	2,026	2,472
March, 1964	773	470	429	191	68	29	16	1,976	2,421

(a) Decreases absolute.

(b) At time of petition. The figures shown for periods until 1960 inclusive are based on the definitions of children set down in the legislation of the various States. Since 1961 a uniform definition of children has been used, but see note (b) to Table 14.

TABLE 17. - CHILDREN OF DISSOLVED MARRIAGES (a) : AUSTRALIA

QUARTER ENDED MARCH, 1964

Petitioner	Ages of Children at Time of Petition - (Years)																	Total Number of Children	
	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16-20		Not Stated
Husband	7	18	32	53	51	55	88	58	59	60	50	56	46	49	45	34	197	2	960
Wife	10	16	49	71	85	84	94	85	104	98	89	108	86	81	66	78	253	4	1,461
Total	17	34	81	124	136	139	182	143	163	158	139	164	132	130	111	112	450	6	2,421

(a) See note (b) to Table 14.

## V. YEAR ENDED DECEMBER, 1963

TABLE 18. - PETITIONS FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE,  
NULLITY OF MARRIAGE AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION, 1963

Petition for -	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Dissolution of Marriage -									
Husband Petitioner	1,716	942	474	386	290	125	30	37	4,000
Wife Petitioner	2,623	1,221	587	619	333	146	20	53	5,602
Total	4,339	2,163	1,061	1,005	623	271	50	90	9,602
Nullity of Marriage -									
Husband Petitioner	5	1	..	2	2	1	..	..	11
Wife Petitioner	13	6	3	3	2	..	..	1	28
Total	18	7	3	5	4	1	..	1	39
Dissolution or Nullity -									
Husband Petitioner	1	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	5
Wife Petitioner	4	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	10
Total	5	8	1	1	..	..	..	..	15
Judicial Separation -									
Husband Petitioner	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	3
Wife Petitioner	8	6	3	2	2	1	..	4	26
Total	8	7	4	3	2	1	..	4	29
Dissolution or Judicial Separation -									
Husband Petitioner	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total Petitions -									
Husband Petitioner No.	1,722	948	475	390	292	126	30	37	4,020
Per cent.	39	43	44	38	46	46	60	39	42
Wife Petitioner No.	2,648	1,238	594	624	337	147	20	58	5,666
Per cent.	61	57	56	62	54	54	40	61	58
Total	4,370	2,186	1,069	1,014	629	273	50	95	9,686

TABLE 19. - PETITIONS FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE,  
NULLITY OF MARRIAGE AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION : GROUNDS, 1963

Ground	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Petitions for Dissolution of Marriage									
Single Grounds -									
Desertion	1,701	754	433	312	150	125	16	22	3,513
Adultery	928	446	188	244	234	53	13	31	2,137
Separation	675	322	175	194	177	51	10	10	1,614
Cruelty	261	25	20	124	4	7	2	11	454
Drunkenness	51	7	2	11	3	7	1	4	86
Failure to pay maintenance	..	..	1	..	5	..	..	..	6
Non compliance with restitution decree	14	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	16
Refusal to consummate	17	5	1	1	1	..	1	1	27
Insanity	10	2	5	2	1	1	..	..	21
Frequent convictions	4	4	1	2	4	1	..	..	16
Imprisonment	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	4
Sodomy	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	3
Other single grounds	4	2	..	1	1	1	..	..	9
Dual Grounds -									
Desertion and Adultery	64	87	18	16	12	5	3	2	207
Desertion and separation	301	389	163	49	19	11	2	4	938
Desertion and cruelty	67	27	8	5	2	..	2	3	114
Desertion and drunkenness	14	4	4	3	1	..	..	..	26
Desertion and frequent convictions	2	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Desertion and failure to pay maintenance	13	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	16
Desertion and refusal to consummate	4	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	6
Adultery and separation	11	5	3	..	..	1	..	..	20
Adultery and cruelty	21	5	3	13	..	..	..	..	42
Separation and failure to pay maintenance	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	4
Separation and insanity	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Cruelty and drunkenness	96	18	12	13	2	2	..	1	144
Cruelty and sodomy	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	4
Other dual grounds	12	2	1	3	1	..	..	1	20
Three grounds or more	59	50	20	9	1	6	..	..	145
Total	4,339	2,163	1,061	1,005	623	271	50	90	9,602
Other Petitions									
Petitions for nullity of marriage-									
Bigamy	10	1	1	1	1	..	..	1	15
Incapacity to consummate	7	6	2	4	2	..	..	..	21
Other Grounds	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	3
Total petitions for nullity	18	7	3	5	4	1	..	1	39
Petitions for dissolution or nullity of marriage	5	8	1	1	..	..	..	..	15
Petitions for judicial separation-									
Adultery	4	5	1	2	1	1	..	..	14
Other grounds	4	2	3	1	1	..	..	4	15
Total petitions for judicial separation	8	7	4	3	2	1	..	4	29
Petitions for dissolution or judicial separation	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total Petitions other than for Dissolution of Marriage	31	23	8	9	6	2	..	5	84

TABLE 20. - PETITIONS FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE, NULLITY OF MARRIAGE  
AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO PETITIONER  
AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN (a) : AUSTRALIA, 1963

Petition for -	Dissolution of Marriage with -							Total Petitions	Total Number of Children (a)
	No Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	4 Children	5 Children	6 and more Children		
Dissolution of Marriage -									
Husband Petitioner	1,544	987	849	398	139	57	26	4,000	4,897
Wife Petitioner	1,796	1,450	1,316	639	267	87	47	5,602	7,834
Total	3,340	2,437	2,165	1,037	406	144	73	9,602	12,731
Nullity of Marriage -									
Husband Petitioner	6	4	..	..	1	..	..	11	8
Wife Petitioner	24	2	1	..	1	..	..	28	8
Total	30	6	1	..	2	..	..	39	16
Dissolution or Nullity -									
Husband Petitioner	3	1	..	..	1	..	..	5	5
Wife Petitioner	7	2	1	..	..	..	..	10	4
Total	10	3	1	..	1	..	..	15	9
Judicial Separation -									
Husband Petitioner	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	3	9
Wife Petitioner	6	6	7	2	1	1	3	26	54
Total	6	7	7	3	1	2	3	29	63
Total Petitions -									
Husband Petitioner	1,553	993	850(b)	399	141	58	26	4,020(b)	4,921
Wife Petitioner	1,833	1,460	1,325	641	269	88	50	5,666	7,900
Total	3,386	2,453	2,175(b)	1,040	410	146	76	9,686(b)	12,821

(a) Living children under 21 at time of petition.

(b) Includes one petition for Dissolution or Judicial Separation.

TABLE 21. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a), NULLITIES OF MARRIAGE  
AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS GRANTED, 1963

Decree for -	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Dissolution of Marriage -									
Husband Petitioner	1,363	759	396	308	251	108	23	18	3,226
Wife Petitioner	1,930	857	514	390	299	152	15	23	4,180
Petition by Both	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	3
Total	3,293	1,616	910	698	553	260	38	41	7,409
Nullity of Marriage -									
Husband Petitioner	3	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	7
Wife Petitioner	10	5	4	5	1	..	..	..	25
Total	13	7	6	5	1	..	..	..	32
Judicial Separation -									
Wife Petitioner	..	3	3	..	..	1	..	..	7
Total Decrees -									
Husband Petitioner No.	1,366	761	398	308	251	108	23	18	3,233
Per cent.	41	47	43	44	45	41	61	44	43
Wife Petitioner No.	1,940	865	521	395	300	153	15	23	4,212
Per cent.	59	53	57	56	54	59	39	56	57
Petition by Both No.	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	3
Per cent.	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Total	3,306	1,626	919	703	554	261	38	41	7,448

(a) Decrees absolute.

TABLE 22. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a), NULLITIES OF MARRIAGE  
AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS GRANTED : GROUNDS, 1963

Ground	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Dissolution of Marriage									
Single Grounds -									
Desertion	1,658	642	482	240	161	112	14	15	3,324
Adultery	713	278	157	189	192	58	8	16	1,611
Separation	541	255	185	147	142	63	9	..	1,342
Cruelty	123	14	19	74	3	2	..	5	240
Drunkenness	48	7	4	6	3	5	..	..	73
Failure to pay maintenance	1	2	..	2	5	..	..	..	10
Non-compliance with restitution decree	38	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	40
Refusal to consummate	6	4	2	..	2	..	..	..	14
Insanity	13	1	3	2	..	2	..	..	21
Frequent convictions	7	..	1	2	1	2	..	..	13
Imprisonment	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	4
Other Single Grounds	1	..	..	..	1	4	..	..	6
Dual Grounds -									
Desertion and adultery	21	62	14	5	6	2	3	2	115
Desertion and separation	36	266	26	15	16	7	2	1	369
Desertion and cruelty	22	15	6	3	2	..	1	2	51
Desertion and drunkenness	10	4	1	1	2	..	..	..	18
Desertion and refusal to consummate	1	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	5
Desertion and frequent convictions	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	3
Desertion and failure to pay maintenance	3	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Adultery and separation	2	6	2	..	3	..	..	..	13
Adultery and cruelty	2	5	..	2	..	..	..	..	9
Separation and failure to pay maintenance	..	1	..	..	6	..	..	..	7
Cruelty and drunkenness	40	11	6	4	..	3	1	..	65
Other dual grounds	1	2	1	2	1	..	..	..	7
Three Grounds or more	5	31	..	2	4	..	..	..	42
Total	3,293	1,616	910	698	553	260	38	41	7,409
Nullity of Marriage									
Bigamy	4	1	3	2	..	..	..	..	10
Incapacity to consummate	9	5	3	3	1	..	..	..	21
Invalid marriage	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total	13	7	6	5	1	..	..	..	32
Judicial Separation									
Desertion	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2
Adultery	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	2
Cruelty	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Desertion and Cruelty	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total	..	3	3	..	..	1	..	..	7

(a) Decrees absolute.

TABLE 23. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a), NULLITIES OF MARRIAGE  
AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS : MONTH IN WHICH GRANTED, 1963

Month	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Dissolution of Marriage									
January	307	127	83	88	50	19	3	4	681
February	294	161	99	78	59	32	..	5	728
March	207	141	124	53	82	15	5	1	628
April	108	29	2	15	16	2	..	..	172
May	282	143	49	22	6	36	2	4	544
June	336	149	77	45	43	24	7	3	684
July	233	69	81	62	55	17	1	3	521
August	439	223	90	126	53	7	2	4	944
September	172	144	69	16	50	29	1	1	482
October	260	146	80	52	38	31	8	6	621
November	291	109	66	65	49	11	2	6	599
December	364	175	90	76	52	37	7	4	805
Total	3,293	1,616	910	698	553	260	38	41	7,409

Nullity of Marriage

January	1	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	4
February	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	3
March	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
April	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
May	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
June	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	3
July	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
August	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
September	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	4
October	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	4
November	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2
December	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total	13	7	6	5	1	..	..	..	32

Judicial Separation

January	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
February	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
March	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
April	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
May	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
June	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
July	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
August	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
September	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
October	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
November	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
December	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total	..	3	3	..	..	1	..	..	7

(a) Decrees absolute.



TABLE 24. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE :

AGES OF PARTIES AT TIME OF MARRIAGE (a), AUSTRALIA, 1963

Age of Husband (Years)	Age of Wife (Years)											Total Husbands	
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not Stated	No.	Per cent.
Under 20	349	91	4	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	447	6
20 - 24	1,440	1,710	244	34	4	1	1	..	..	1	1	3,436	46
25 - 29	375	1,064	437	112	22	7	2	..	..	..	2	2,021	27
30 - 34	83	259	209	107	53	11	2	2	..	..	..	726	10
35 - 39	23	85	87	70	38	26	5	4	..	..	..	338	5
40 - 44	5	22	24	53	43	25	12	3	..	..	..	187	3
45 - 49	1	7	21	18	25	19	11	6	1	1	..	110	2
50 - 54	3	4	4	7	11	12	10	10	2	..	..	63	1
55 - 59	..	3	..	2	4	4	3	4	3	2	..	25	..
60 and over	..	..	2	1	3	3	4	5	6	4	..	28	..
Not Stated	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	26	28	..
Total (No. Wives (%))	2,279 (31)	3,245 (44)	1,033 (14)	406 (5)	204 (3)	108 (2)	50 (1)	35 (..)	12 (..)	8 (..)	29 (..)	7,409 (..)	.. (100)

(a) Marriages for which decrees absolute for dissolution were granted.

TABLE 25. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE :

AGES OF PARTIES AT TIME OF DISSOLUTION (a), AUSTRALIA, 1963

Age of Husband (Years)	Age of Wife (Years)											Total Husbands	
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not Stated	No.	Per cent.
Under 20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20 - 24	9	115	26	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	154	2
25 - 29	5	309	466	51	7	2	..	..	..	..	..	840	12
30 - 34	..	83	608	554	91	19	2	..	..	1	..	1,358	18
35 - 39	..	18	152	568	522	116	26	10	1	..	1	1,414	19
40 - 44	..	5	26	169	449	444	73	16	9	1	1	1,193	16
45 - 49	..	..	9	43	125	335	297	71	9	4	..	893	12
50 - 54	..	1	4	12	47	130	246	194	45	7	1	687	9
55 - 59	..	..	2	3	18	40	83	160	102	34	..	442	6
60 and over	..	1	..	4	8	18	39	60	93	177	..	400	6
Not Stated	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	26	28	..
Total (No. Wives (%))	14 (..)	532 (7)	1,293 (18)	1,409 (19)	1,267 (17)	1,104 (15)	766 (10)	511 (7)	260 (4)	224 (3)	29 (..)	7,409 (..)	.. (100)

(a) Decrees absolute.

TABLE 26. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a) :

DURATION OF MARRIAGE AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN (b), AUSTRALIA, 1963

Duration of Marriage (Years)	Dissolutions of Marriage with -							Total Marriages Dissolved		Total Number of Children (b)	
	No Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	4 Children	5 Children	6 and more Children	No.	Per cent.		
Under 5	308	143	40	5	5	..	..	501	7	258	
5 - 9	888	611	351	113	27	3	1	1,994	27	1,781	
10 - 14	489	421	452	181	90	21	6	1,660	22	2,370	
15 - 19	293	311	402	214	84	23	19	1,346	18	2,325	
20 - 24	243	208	244	124	60	16	11	906	12	1,473	
25 - 29	268	121	78	22	14	4	3	510	7	439	
30 and over	401	50	29	9	1	2	..	492	7	149	
Not Stated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Total Marriages Dissolved	No.	2,890	1,865	1,596	668	281	69	40	7,409	..	..
	%	39	25	22	9	4	1	..	..	100	..
Total Number of Children (b)	..	1,865	3,192	2,004	1,124	345	265	..	..	8,795	

(a) Decrees absolute. (b) At time of petition. The term "children" used in the Commonwealth legislation refers to living children of the marriage under 21 years, but the table above includes a small number of dissolutions granted to petitions filed under old legislation in which the term "children" was used differently.

TABLE 27. - CHILDREN OF DISSOLVED MARRIAGES (a) :

AGES, AUSTRALIA, 1963

Petitioner	Ages of Children at Time of Petition (Years)																	Total Number of Children	
	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 to 20		Not Stated
Husband	21	63	110	180	217	220	246	214	251	200	196	201	190	204	188	178	610	11	3,500
Wife	34	91	211	279	320	334	345	330	347	353	345	324	329	289	291	271	799	1	5,293
Both	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2
Total	55	154	321	459	537	554	591	544	598	554	541	525	519	493	480	449	1409	12	8,795

(a) See note (b) to Table 26.

TABLE 28. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a) :

## DURATION OF MARRIAGE AND AGE OF PARTIES AT TIME OF DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE

AUSTRALIA, 1963

Duration of Marriage (years)	Age of Parties (years)											Total
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not Stated	
HUSBAND												
Under 5	..	103	170	91	66	22	21	11	5	12	..	501
5 - 9	..	51	638	706	286	117	64	50	39	32	11	1,994
10 - 14	..	..	32	542	617	238	97	69	33	24	8	1,660
15 - 19	..	..	..	19	431	512	193	106	47	35	3	1,346
20 - 24	..	..	..	..	14	294	351	155	53	38	1	906
25 - 29	..	..	..	..	..	10	159	204	97	36	4	510
30 and over	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	92	168	223	1	492
Total (No. Marriages Dissolved)	..	154	840	1,358	1,414	1,193	893	687	442	400	28	7,409
(%)	..	2	12	18	19	16	12	9	6	6	..	100
WIFE												
Under 5	14	220	128	58	30	18	14	6	5	8	..	501
5 - 9	..	310	946	372	136	85	59	37	27	12	10	1,994
10 - 14	..	2	218	815	373	124	67	26	18	9	8	1,660
15 - 19	..	..	1	163	614	370	115	55	16	9	3	1,346
20 - 24	..	..	..	1	114	448	231	70	27	12	3	906
25 - 29	..	..	..	..	..	59	241	163	28	15	4	510
30 and over	..	..	..	..	..	..	39	154	139	159	1	492
Total (No. Marriages Dissolved)	14	532	1,293	1,409	1,267	1,104	766	511	260	224	29	7,409
(%)	..	7	18	19	17	15	10	7	4	3	..	100

(a) Decreases absolute.

TABLE 29. - DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (a) : DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
AND CONJUGAL CONDITION OF PARTIES AT TIME OF MARRIAGE,  
AUSTRALIA

Duration of Marriage (years)	Conjugal Condition at Time of Marriage of -									
	Husband					Wife				
	Single	Widowed	Divorced	Not Stated	Total	Single	Widowed	Divorced	Not Stated	Total
Marriages Dissolved in 1961 (a)										
0 - 4	304	19	43	115	481	314	17	52	98	481
5 - 9	1,286	33	133	476	1,928	1,295	63	185	385	1,928
10 - 14	1,089	35	100	469	1,693	1,126	42	135	390	1,693
15 - 19	715	8	41	268	1,032	737	14	54	227	1,032
20 - 24	543	9	19	212	783	586	10	26	161	783
25 - 29	263	7	8	93	371	281	5	5	80	371
30 and over	295	6	3	80	384	314	5	4	61	384
Not Stated	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	1
Total	4,495	117	347	1,714	6,673	4,653	156	461	1,403	6,673
Marriages Dissolved in 1962 (a)										
0 - 4	363	15	50	20	448	347	15	66	20	448
5 - 9	1,529	64	169	127	1,889	1,492	77	195	125	1,889
10 - 14	1,449	36	158	155	1,798	1,405	61	179	153	1,798
15 - 19	1,029	25	76	96	1,226	1,014	30	88	94	1,226
20 - 24	771	16	25	71	883	776	16	22	69	883
25 - 29	420	5	8	25	458	423	8	3	24	458
30 and over	481	8	6	22	517	480	8	7	22	517
Not Stated	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	1
Total	6,042	169	492	517	7,220	5,937	215	561	507	7,220
Marriages Dissolved in 1963 (a)										
0 - 4	402	23	76	..	501	402	26	73	..	501
5 - 9	1,735	62	191	6	1,994	1,699	74	219	2	1,994
10 - 14	1,476	40	139	5	1,660	1,469	41	147	3	1,660
15 - 19	1,202	38	103	3	1,346	1,193	47	105	1	1,346
20 - 24	864	14	28	..	906	866	10	30	..	906
25 - 29	488	7	12	3	510	487	6	14	3	510
30 and over	483	4	4	1	492	486	3	3	..	492
Total	6,650	188	553	18	7,409	6,602	207	591	9	7,409

(a) Decrees absolute.

TABLE 30. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a) : CONJUGAL CONDITION  
OF PARTIES AT TIME OF MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA

Conjugal Condition of Husband at Time of Marriage	Conjugal Condition of Wife at Time of Marriage -				
	Single	Widowed	Divorced	Not Stated	Total
Marriages Dissolved in 1961 (a)					
Single	4,138	83	274	..	4,495
Widowed	48	29	40	..	117
Divorced	185	35	127	..	347
Not Stated	282	9	20	1,403	1,714
Total	4,653	156	461	1,403	6,673
Marriages Dissolved in 1962 (a)					
Single	5,562	128	351	1	6,042
Widowed	75	44	50	..	169
Divorced	291	42	159	..	492
Not Stated	9	1	1	506	517
Total	5,937	215	561	507	7,220
Marriages Dissolved in 1963 (a)					
Single	6,179	104	367	..	6,650
Widowed	83	53	52	..	188
Divorced	332	50	171	..	553
Not Stated	8	..	1	9	18
Total	6,602	207	591	9	7,409

(a) Decrees absolute

TABLE 31. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a) ACCORDING TO NUMBER  
OF TIMES THE PARTIES HAVE BEEN DIVORCED, AUSTRALIA

Husband	Wife				Total
	Now divorced for the first time	Now divorced for the second time	Now divorced for the third time	Not Stated	
1962					
Now divorced for the first time	5,826	375	10	9	6,220
Now divorced for the second time	309	147	5	..	461
Now divorced for the third time	8	4	2	..	14
Not Stated	14	2	1	508	525
Total	6,157	528	18	517	7,220
1963					
Now divorced for the first time	6,411	404	14	6	6,835
Now divorced for the second time	372	154	4	..	530
Now divorced for the third time	7	10	1	..	18
Not Stated	13	3	..	10	26
Total	6,803	571	19	16	7,409

(a) Decrees absolute.

K.M. ARCHER  
COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS  
CANBERRA, A.C.T.      23RD SEPTEMBER, 1964.

NOTE: Inquiries concerning these statistics can be made in Canberra by telephoning 41971 Extension 71 or, in each State Capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.