## COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

# CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

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# SOCIAL STATISTICS : AUSTRALIA

NO. 11 : DIVORCE, QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER, 1

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### EXBLANATORY NOTES

- 1. This bulletin contains statistics of divorce for the quarter ended December, 1962, for the year 1962 and for previous periods. For further details in respect of past periods, see previous bulletins in this series and the annual issues of the bulletin "Demography".
- 2. In 1959, the Commonwealth Parliament passed the Matrimonial Causes Act 1959, which came into operation on 1st February, 1961. This Act provided 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of dissolution, nullity and judicial separation granted since that date include decrees made on petitions under the superseded laws, and are to that extent not uniformly based. Of the 2,127 decrees absolute for dissolution granted during the quarter ended December, 1962, 1,897 were from petitions under the new legislation. For 1962 as a whole, 80 per cent. of decrees granted for dissolution were from petitions under the new legislation.
- 3. The matrimonial relief available under the superseded legislation differed extensively from State to State. For instance, some important variations in the grounds for dissolution of marriage were as follows:-
  - (i) Insanity was a ground for dissolution in all States except in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory;
  - (ii) in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory a suit for dissolution of marriage could forthwith be instituted against a respondent who failed to comply with an order for restitution of conjugal rights;
  - (iii) separation for over five years was a ground only in Western Australia;
  - (iv) separation for over five years under a decree of judicial separation or an order granting relief from co-habitation was a ground only in South Australia; and
  - (v) impotence was a ground for dissolution of marriage in Western Australia, but a ground for nullity of marriage in each other State and Territory.

In addition, some dissolutions granted under previous Commonwealth legislation in a particular State could be on grounds not provided for in that State's legislation.

- 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. 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 the cross-petition included in table 3.

# I. PETITIONS FILED

TABLE 1. - PETITIONS FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE,
NULLITY OF MARRIAGE AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION: QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER, 1962

Petition for -	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Dissolution of Marriage - Husband Petitioner Wife Petitioner	406 573	250 309	125 144	93 143	54 64	34 34	5 1	5 5	972 1,273
<u>Total</u>	979	559	269	236	118	68	6	10	2,245
Nullity of Marriage - Husband Petitioner Wife Petitioner	3	3	• • o •	1	1		••	o •	5 6
<u>Total</u>	. 6	3	••	1	1	••	••	••	11
Dissolution or Nullity - Husband Petitioner Wife Petitioner		2	1	1	• •		••	• •	2 2
<u>Total</u>	• •	2	1	1	••	••	••	0.0	4
Judicial Separation - Husband Petitioner Wife Petitioner	3	2		• • •	••		• •	• •	° ° 5
<u>Total</u>	3	2 ·			••		• •	• 0	5
Total Petitions -  Husband Petitioner No.  Per cent.  Wife Petitioner No.  Per cent.	409 41 579 59	250 44 316 56	126 47 144 53	95 40 143 60	55 46 64 54	34 50 34 50	5 83 1 17	5 50 5 , 50	979 43 1,286 57
Total	988	566	270	238	119	68	6	10	2,265

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

							Quar	ter en	ded -	
Petition for -	<b>19</b> 58	1959	1960	1961	1962	Dec., 1961	March, 1962	June, 1962	Sept., 1962	Dec., 1962
Dissolution of Marriage -										
Husband Petitioner	3,833	3,843	3,709	4,394	4,072	1,033	1,003			972
Wife Petitioner	4,570				5,176		1,180	1,315	1,408	1,273
<u>Total</u>	8,403	8,308	8,094	9,504	9,248	2,330	2,183	2,383	2,437	2,245
Nullity of Marriage - Husband Petitioner	40	22	. 23	13	15	,	,	3	Λ	5
Wife Petitioner	35	43	32		35	. 6	. 6	10	13	5
Total	75	65	55		50,	9	9	13		11
Dissolution or Nullity - Husband Petitioner	••		• •	3.	<i>`</i> ' 6		2	1	1	2
Wife Petitioner	• •	• •	ته ه	4	6 5	1	. 1.	2		2
Total	• •	• •	• •	7	11	.1	3	3	1	4
Judicial Separation - Husband Petitioner Wife Petitioner	13 36	7 24	7 31	2 9.	2 18	2	1 6	1 6	1	* <b>•</b> 5
<u>Total</u>	49	31	38	11	20	2	7	7	1	5
Total Petitions -  Husband Petitioner No.  Per cent.  Wife Petitioner No.  Per cent.	46	46 4 <b>,</b> 532	46 4,448	46 5,167	5,234	44 1,306	46 1,193	45 1,333	1,422	979 43 1,286 57
<u>Total</u>	8,527	8,404	8,187		9,329	2,342	2,202		2,456	

TABLE 3. - GROUNDS ON WHICH PETITIONS WERE FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE,
NULLITY OF MARRIAGE AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION:

QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER, 1962

Grounds	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust
Petition	ns for D	issolu	tion o	f Marı	iage	1			
Single Grounds -									<u> </u>
Desertion Adultery	383 240	198 95	116 49	60 64	37 42	21 21	4	3	822 516
Separation Cruelty	132	98 6	42 7	50 31	26 3	21	1	2	370 111
Drunkenness	15	4	1	2	2				2/
Failure to pay maintenance	1	••		1	3			• •	
Frequent convictions Non-compliance with restitution	1 4	1	1	1	• •	••	••	••	
decree	10	• •	1	• •				••	1.
Insanity	3	3	1	00			• •	• •	
Refusal to consummate Other single grounds	3	° •	1	1	1	••	••	• •	5
Other single grounds	1	,	'	• •	• •	••	• •	• •	
Dual Grounds -									
Desertion and adultery	9	22	6	3		00		••	40
Desertion and separation Desertion and cruelty	56 18	95 6	38	10	2	2	••	1	20
Desertion and drunkenness	4	1	2	00	00	••			25
Adultery and separation	1	1	• •	••	1	• •	••	• •	
Adultery and cruelty	1	2	• •	2	• •	••	••	• •	34
Adultery and drunkenness	21	• 0	1	1	• •	••	• •	• •	,
Cruelty and drunkenness Other dual grounds	1	5	1	5 1	• 0	1	• •	• •	7
Multiple Grounds (a)	14	17	2	4	1	1		••	39
Total	979	559	269	236	118	68	6	10	2,245
Petiti	ons for	Nulli	ty of 1	Marria	.ge	<del></del>	d		<del></del>
Bigamy	4	1		1					(
Invalid Marriage	1	••			1	• •		• •	2
Incapacity to consummate	1	2	••	0 •	• 0		••	• •	
<u>Total</u>	6	3		1	1	۰.	۰.	• •	1 1
Petitions for	Dissolu	tion o	r Null	ity of	Marı	riage			
Multiple Grounds (a)		2	1	1					4
Total	<b></b>	2	1	1				••	
	tions for	<u> </u>		l	L	<u> </u>	1		<u> </u>
	<u> </u>	r Juan	T	e para (	TON	1	1		· I
Adultery	2	1	. • 0	• •	• •	00		• •	
Cruelty Desertion and cruelty	1	1	••	••	~*	50	• •	• 0	
		2	<u> </u>		<b></b>		ļ	-	
Total	. 3								

<sup>(</sup>a) Three grounds or more.

Des

ues:

TABLE 4. - PETITIONS FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE

Period	Nos.Ws	»Vio	Q'1d.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas 🔊	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Year - 1958	4,102	1,579	952	791	644	267	31	37	8,403
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
Quarter ended - December, 1961 March, 1962 June, 1962 September, 1962 December, 1962	1,011	563	254	241	156	71	11	23	2,330
	1,032	455	255	197	160	63	8	13	2,183
	1,012	586	267	233	187	71	15	12	2,383
	1,070	548	292	244	186	74	10	13	2,437
	979	559	269	236	118	68	6	10	2,245

NOTE: Table 4 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 DECEMBER, 1962

Decree for -	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Dissolution of Marriage -									
Husband Petitioner	433	196	116	114	79	29	6	1	974
Wife Petitioner	530	224	132	152	79	27	2	6	1,152
Petition by both		• •	••	1	••	••	••	••	7
Total	963	420	248	267	158	56	8	7	2,127
Nullity of Marriage -			į .						
Husband Petitioner	1		1	••					2
Wife Petitioner	5	2	••	1	1	• •	••	• •	9
Total	6	2	1	1	1	•	• •	• •	11
Judicial Separation -									
Husband Petitioner		••	<b></b>		1				1
Wife Petitioner	••	●. ●	1	••	••	••	••		1
<u>Total</u>	• •	• •	1	••	1	••	••		2
Total Decrees -								`	
Husband Petitioner No.	434	196	117	114	80	29	6	1	977
Per cent.	45	46	47	43	50	52	75	14	46
Wife Petitioner No.	535	226	133	153	80	27	2	6	1,162
Per cent.	55	54	53	57	50	48	25	86	54
Petition by both No.	••	.• •		1		••	• •	••	1
Per cent.	• •	••	••	••	••	• •	••	••	••
<u>Total</u>	969	422	250	268	160	56	8	7	2,140

(a) Decrees absolute.

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

, "							Que	arter	ended -	,
Decree for	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	Dec., 1961	<b>March,</b> 1962	June, 1962	Sept., 1962	Dec., 1962
Dissolution of Marriage -	r									
Husband Petitioner Wife Petitioner			3,078 3,555		3,295 3,923	733 838		590 775	916 1 <b>,</b> 045	974 ⋅ 1,152
<u>Total</u>	6,920	7,315	6,633	6,673( <b>b</b> )	7 <b>,</b> 220(c)	1,571	1,766	1,365	1,962(ъ)	2,127(b)
Nullity of Marriage - Husband Petitioner	25	21	26	4.4	12	4			,	2
Wife Petitioner	25 36	32	37	14 22	28	7	2 8	5 8	3	9 1
<u>Total</u>	61	53	63	<sub>.</sub> 36	40	11	10	13	6	11
Judicial Separation -										
Jusband Petitioner Wife Petitioner	2 11	2	-2 11	2	2	. 1	1	1	1	1 1
Total	13	2	13	2	5	1	1	1	1	2
Total Decrees -										
Husband Petitioner No. Per cent.	3,252 46	3, 312 45	3, 1.06 46	3 <b>,</b> 063 46	3,309 46	737 47	817 46	595 43		977 46
			3,603 54		3,954 54	846	960		1,048 53	1,162 }
<u>Total</u>					7 <b>,</b> 265(c)	1,583				2,140(ъ)

(a) Decrees absolute.

(b) Includes one dissolution granted on petitions by both parties.

(c) Includes two dissolutions granted on petitions by both parties.

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.
Year - 1958	3,217	1,698	759	483	536	176 <sup>-</sup>	15	36	6,920
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
Quarter ended - December, 1961 March, 1962 June, 1962 September, 1962 December, 1962	659	338	213	125	133	84	7	12	1,571
	639	442	289	146	163	65	9	13	1,766
	664	292	151	101	84	61	7	5	1,365
	847	461	232	146	177	66	14	19	1,962
	963	420	248	267	158	56	8	7	2,127

(a) Decrees absolute.

NOTE: Table 7 excludes nullities of marriage and judicial separations.

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TABLE 8. - GROUNDS ON WHICH DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a), NULLITIES OF MARRIAGE
AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS WERE GRANTED: QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER, 1962

Grounds	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'1d.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust
	Dissol	ution	of Ma	rriage					
Single Grounds									
Desertion Adultery Separation Cruelty Drunkenness Non-compliance with	504 184 142 32 16	190 70 59 2	147 45 42 ••	121 70 51 17	46 56 40 1	26 8 18 ••	4 2 1	1 2 3 1	1,039 43 353 55 2
restitution decree Failure to pay maintenance Frequent convictions Insanity Refusal to consummate Other single grounds	3 8 4 2	1	••	2	6	1	••	••	1° (
Dual Grounds					,				
Desertion and adultery Desertion and separation Desertion and cruelty Desertion and Drunkenness	9 22 5 4	21 56 5 1	1 7 ••	1 2	1 2	••	• •	••	36 86 11
Desertion and frequent convictions Adultery and Separation Cruelty and Drunkenness Other dual grounds	2 1 14 2	2 1 2 1	1	•• •• 1	1 1	••	••	••	1
Multiple Grounds (b)	2	8	1	<b></b>	••	••	• •		1
<u>Total</u>	963	420	248	267	158	56	8	7	2,12
	Null	lity o	f Marr	iage				· ·	
Bigamy Invalid Marriage Incapacity to consummate	2 4	2	1	1	1	••	••	••	
Total	6	2	1	1	1	••	••		1
	Judi	icial	Separa	tion			·		
Desertion .	••		1.		1	••	••		<del> </del>

<sup>(</sup>a) Decrees absolute.

<sup>(</sup>b) Three grounds or more.

#### III. DISSOLUTIONS GRANTED - AGES OF PARTIES

TABLE 9. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE: AGES OF PARTIES AT TIME OF MARRIAGE (a),
AUSTRALIA, QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER, 1962

Age of Husband				Age	of-Wi	fe (Ye	ars)				Total Husbands	
(Years)	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30–34	35-39	40-44	45 <b>–</b> 49	50–54	55 and over	Not Stated	No.	Per cent.
Under 20	99	34	3	• •	• •		• 0	• •	• •	• 0	136	6
20-24	407	476	58	. 8	1	• •	••	• •	••	• •	950	45
<b>25–</b> 29	101	285	129	31	5	1,	1		••	••	553	26
30-34	27	84	62	28	18	5	• •	••			224	10
35 <b>-39</b>	6	20	34	33	19	6.	2	1		• •	121	6
40-44		8	9	18	12	10	6				63.	3
45-49	- 1	2	4	6	8	10	6	2			39	2
50-54	l	1		3	5	2	3	2			16	1
55 and						_						
over	<b></b>	- ••		1		2	1	8	4	. <b></b> .	16	1
Not Stated	• •	<b></b>		••	1			••	• •	8	. 9	
Total (No.	641	910	299	128	69	36	19	13	4	. 8	2,127	
Wives (%	30	43	14	6	<b>3</b>	2	1	1	• •	: • •		100

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

TABLE 10. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE: AGES OF PARTIES AT TIME OF DISSOLUTION

OF MARRIAGE (a), AUSTRALIA, QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER, 1962

Age of Husband				Age	of Wi	fe (Ye	ars)		A		Total Husbands	
(Years)	Under 20	20–24	25-29	30-34	35 <b>-3</b> 9	40–44	45-49	50-54	55 and	Not Stated	No.	Per cent.
Under 20							• •				• •	
20-24	6	37	4					• •	• •	•••	47	2
25 <b>–</b> 29	. 1	95	139	14	3		••		• 0	••	252	12
30-34		31	149	159	23	5		. • •	• •.	,	367	17
35-39		4	45	158	148	35	6	1	• •		397	19
40-44		. 2	12	43	136	106	22	8	2	•	. 331	16
45-49	••		5	15	41	98	81	. 14	3		257	12
50-54			2	2	16	37	79	64	13		213	10
55 and			·			'						
over				1	3	20	44	56	130		254	12
Not Stated	••			••	• •	1	• •	• •		8	9	
Total (No.	7	169	356	392	370	302	232	143	148	. 8	2,127	• •
Wives (%		8	17	19	17	14	.11	7				100

(a) Decrees absolute.

TABLE 11. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE: AGE OF HUSBAND AT TIME OF DISSOLUTION
OF MARRIAGE (a), AUSTRALIA

or manufact (a), additional											
Period	Under 25 Years	25-29 Years	30-34 Years	35-39 Years	40-44 Years		50-54 Years	55 Years and over	Not Stated	Total	
Year - 1958	110	940	1,528	1,372	1,026	775	545	495	129	6,920	
1959	131	929	1,626	1,494	1,075	852	586	550	72	7,315	
1960	143	931	1,377	1,324	989	822	473	503	71	6,633	
1961	135	812	1,356	1,294	977	814	568	637	80	6,673	
1962	137	813	1,271	1,383	1,134	921	678	845	38	7,220	
Quarter ended - December, 1961 March, 1962 June, 1962 September, 1962 December, 1962	27	196	312	296	240	175	136	177	12	1,571	
	26	193	317	351	292	221	150	202	14	1,766	
	24	134	244	264	201	194	122	172	10	1,365	
	40	234	343	371	310	249	193	217	5	1,962	
	47	252	367	397	331	257	213	254	9	2,127	

(a) Decree absolute.

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

Period	Under 25 Years	Years				45-49 Years				Total
Year - 1958	492	1,401	1,556			634	318	279		6,920
1959 1960	539 582	1,425 1,261	1,679 1,439	1,322 1,210	986 865	678 652	369 300	245 253	72 71	7,315 6,633
1961 1962	524 538	1,228 1,150	1,337 1,365	1,156 1,337	910	684 797	365 475	386 500	83 39	6,673
Quarter ended -					'			,		,,,,,,,
December, 1961 March, 1962 June, 1962	126 122 86	289 273 206	301 332 250	255 358 264	224 246 196	175 177 162	79 115 83	112 127 108	10 16 10	1,571 1,766 1,365
September, 1962 December, 1962	155	315 356	391 392	345 370	275 302	225	134	117 148	5 8	1,962 2,127

(a) Decree absolute.

# IV. DURATION OF MARRIAGE AND NUMBER AND AGE OF CHILDREN TABLE 13. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a): DURATION OF MARRIAGE AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN (b), AUSTRALIA, QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER, 1962

Duration	-	Disso	Tot Marri Disso	ages.	Total Number of					
of Marriage (Years)	No Child- ren	1 Child	2 Child- ren	3 Child- ren	4 Child- ren	5 Child- ren	6 Child- ren & over	1 100	Per cent.	Child-
Under 5 5 - 9 10 - 14 15 - 19 20 - 24 25 - 29 30 and	104 241 173 67 74 70	37 194 146 69 52 47	11 98 119 96 72 10	29 55 69 25 7	9 20 24 19	1 1 7 3 6 1	1 4 4 7 1	153 573 524 332 255 137	7 27 25 16 12 6	64 525 689 603 422 103
over	125	21	5	2	• •		•	153	7	37
Total (No. Marriages (Dissolved (%	854 40	566 - 27	411	187 9	73 3	19 1	17	2,127	100	•••
Total Number of Children (b)	<i>□</i> = • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	566	822	- 561 -	292	95	107		••	2,443

(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. However, as some dissolutions in this period were granted to petitions filed under old legislation, it has not been possible to make the data in the table above conform exactly to this definition. For instance, New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia included children whether living or dead; only Queensland included adopted children.

TABLE 14. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a) : DURATION OF MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA

	Numbe	Total							
Period	Under	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30 Years	Not	Marriages
	5 Years	Years	Years	Years	Years	Years	and over	Stated	Dissolved
Year - 1958	475	2.207	1,830	1.125	621	357	303	2	6,920
1959	489		1,978		667	384	283	.3	7,315
1960	533	2,016		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	518	••	7,220
Quarter ended -					1				
December, 1961	123	459		216	192	84	117	-1	1,571
March, 1962	89	453		333	207	100	133		1,766
June, 1962	63	353		229	149	91	107	••	1,365
September, 1962	143	510		332	272	130	125	••	1,962
December, 1962	153	573	524	332	255	137	153	• •	2,127
(a) Decrees absol	ute.								

TABLE 15. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a) : NUMBER OF CHILDREN (b), AUSTRALIA

			Total	Total						
Period	No Child- ren	1 Child	2 Child- ren	3 Child- ren	4 Child- ren	-	6 Child- ren and over	Not Stated	Marri- ages Dis- solved	of Child-
Year - 1958 1959 1960 1961 1962 Quarter ended -	2,387 2,510 2,213 2,589 2,874	1,927 1,733 1,717	1,477 1,627 1,452 1,398 1,420	687 741 719 641 665	291 330 291 204 242	107 92 120 79 72	88 88 105 45 51	1	6,920 7,315 6,633 6,673 7,220	9,197 9,797 9,302 7,945 8,392
December, 1961 March, 1962 June, 1962 September, 1962 December, 1962	667 700 558 762 854	375 454 338 538 566	302 358 266 385 411	150 172 129 177 187	47 50 48 71 73	22 20 15 18 19	8 12 11 11 17	••	1,571 1,766 1,365 1,962 2,127	1,775 2,061 1,599 2,289 2,443

(a) Decrees absolute.

TABLE 16. - CHILDREN OF DISSOLVED MARRIAGES (a): AUSTRALIA,

QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER, 1962

Dati		Ages of Children at Time of Petition -															Total Number		
Peti- tioner	Under 12 mths.	1 yr	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.	6 yrs.	7 yrs.	8 yrs.	9 yrs.	10 yrs.	11 yrs.	12 yrs.			-	16-20 yrs.	Not Sta- ted	of Child- ren
Husband	9	23	29	51	65	76	77	80	66	73	65	44	69	41	53	53	172	. 2	1,048
Wife	11	16	48	69	75	82	115	94	99	89	97	89	84	62	90	64	204	6	1,394
By Both					••		••	• •	<u></u>	1	••	••		• •			••		11
Total	20	39	77	120	140	158	192	174	165	163	162	133	153	103	143	117	376	8	2,443

(a) This table refers to children under 21 years, of marriages for which decrees absolute for dissolution were granted in this period.

K. M. ARCHER COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS
CANBERRA, A.C.T. 13TH MARCH, 1963.

NOTE: Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning UO413 Extension 468 or, in each State Capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.

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<sup>(</sup>b) At time of petition. The figures shown for periods until 1960 inclusive are based on the definition of children set down in the legislation of the various States. Since 1961 a uniform definition of children has been attempted, but see note (b) to Table 13.