



**AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

**CANBERRA**

**MARRIAGES  
AUSTRALIA**

**1982**

**CATALOGUE NO. 3306.0**

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AUSTRALIA  
1982**

**R. J. CAMERON**  
Australian Statistician

**AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

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• Commonwealth of Australia 1983

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|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PHONE INQUIRIES | <i>for more information about these statistics—contact Mr Mark Patton on Canberra (062) 52 6423 or any of our State offices.</i>               |
|                 | <i>other inquiries including copies of publications—contact Information Services on Canberra (062) 52 6627 or in any of our State offices.</i> |
| MAIL INQUIRIES  | <i>write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any of our State offices.</i>                                    |

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## EXPLANATORY NOTES

## General

The *Australian Marriage Act 1961* came into full operation on 1 September 1961.

2. Under the Act, marriages may be celebrated by a minister of religion registered as an authorised celebrant, by a district registrar or by other persons authorised by the Attorney-General. Notice of the intended marriage must be given to the celebrant at least one calendar month but within 3 calendar months before the marriage. A celebrant must transmit an official certificate of the marriage for registration to a district registrar in the State in which the marriage took place.

3. From 20 June 1973, the minimum age at which a person may marry without parental consent was reduced from 21 to 18 years although the minimum age at which persons are legally free to marry remained at 18 years for males and 16 years for females. Males between the age of 16 and 18 years may marry with parental or guardian consent and an order from a judge or magistrate. The marriage of a female between 16 and 18 years requires the consent of her parents or guardians only. A judge or magistrate may, in exceptional circumstances, make an order authorising a male who has attained 16 years or a female who has attained 14 years to marry a person of marriageable age.

## Statistics

4. The statistics in this publication refer to marriages registered by the State and Territorial Registrars during the year shown. There is usually an interval of at least some days between the celebration and the registration of a marriage. As a result of the delay in registration some marriages celebrated in one year are not registered until the following year. Table 12 shows the number of marriages which were actually celebrated in each month in the years 1977 to 1982 and registered by the end of 1982.

5. Figures for years before 1966 exclude registered marriages identified as those of full-blood Aborigines. The rates for years prior to 1966 are based on the population excluding full-blood Aborigines. Tribal marriages are excluded from the statistics for all years.

## Definitions

6. Generally, marriage rates shown in this publication for the years 1971 to 1981 are calculated using estimates of the resident population introduced after the 1981 Census. However, for Table 3, details of the population by age and marital status on an estimated resident basis were not available in time for figures to be revised in this issue. Consequently, the marriage rates shown in Table 3 are based on actual population census counts. A description of the conceptual basis of the estimated resident population is contained in 'Population Estimates: An outline of the new conceptual basis of A.B.S. population estimates' (3216.0) published in March 1982. Revised population estimates are shown in the *Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly* (3101.0) (Latest edition).

7. *Crude marriage rate* is the number of marriages per 1000 mean population.

8. *First marriage ratio* is the number of males or females of a certain age marrying for the first time per 1000 mid-year population of males or females of the same age irrespective of marital status. In publications for years up to and including 1978, these were referred to as first marriage rates. The sum of these ratios is called the *index of total first marriages*.

9. *Age and marital status specific rates* distinguish first marriages and remarriages and use as the denominator the appropriate population estimates by marital status and age. (see also paragraph 6 above) Thus, *first marriage rates* are the numbers of males and females of a certain age marrying for the first time per 1000 (mid-year) population of never married males and females of the same age. These rates should not be confused with first marriage ratios as defined above. *Remarriage rates* are the number of remarrying males and females per 1,000 widowed and divorced males and females respectively of the same age. Because population estimates by marital status and age are at present only available from census data, such rates can only be shown for census years.

10. The *median age* of the bride or bridegroom is that age which divides the population of brides or bridegrooms into two halves, one half being below the median age and one half above.

## Additional statistics available

11. A list of tabulations produced annually is attached in Appendix B.

## Related publications

12. Other ABS publications which may be of interest are:

*Estimated Age Distribution of the Population, States and Territories of Australia*, 30 June 1982 (3201.0)

*Australian Demographic Statistics Quarterly* (3101.0)—issued quarterly

*Divorces, Australia*, 1982 (3307.0)

13. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

## Symbols and other usages

— nil, or rounded to zero

p preliminary

r figures or series revised since previous issue

— break in continuity of series (where drawn across a column between consecutive figures)

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

There were 117,275 marriages in 1982. This is a 3.0 per cent increase over 1981 compared with a 4.3 per cent increase between 1980 and 1981. The crude marriage rate (marriages per 1,000 mean population) rose to 7.7 (1981 : 7.6), having been as low as 7.2 in 1978 and 1979. The largest increase occurred for South Australia, where the crude rate rose from 7.8 in 1981 to 8.2 in 1982.

The number of marriages in which both parties had not previously been married increased 2.6 per cent in 1982 to 79,633. The number of remarriages (involving at least one partner previously married) rose 3.8 per cent to 37,642. Both increases are lower than those recorded in 1981 (3.8 per cent and 5.3 per cent respectively). In terms of the proportion of all marriages, 32.1 per cent involved at least one partner who had been previously married (1981 : 31.8 per cent).

The index of total first marriages (the sum of age specific first marriage rates based on the per thousand mid year population for each age and sex) rose to 699.8 for males and 707.9 for females, both being the highest levels since 1976, but well below the levels before 1970.

In 1982, the number of first marriages for males rose by 2.7 per cent to 89,858 (1981 : 87,460) and by 2.9 per cent to 90,844 for females (1981 : 88,308). This continues the trend of increases in the number of first marriages since 1978.

The proportion of remarriages has been rising gradually since 1978, following a very large increase between 1975 and 1978, probably due to an increase in the number of divorced persons in the population. In 1982, the percentage of brides and grooms who had previously been widowers or widows fell for the fourth year in succession to 2.6 per cent for males and 3.1 per cent for females.

Of the 47,281 divorced persons remarrying in 1982, 51.6 per cent (12,208) married another person who had also been previously divorced.

| Year    | Per cent of grooms previously |          | Per cent of brides previously |          |
|---------|-------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|----------|
|         | Widowed                       | Divorced | Widowed                       | Divorced |
| 1966-70 | 3.1                           | 6.0      | 3.4                           | 5.9      |
| 1971-75 | 3.1                           | 8.2      | 3.4                           | 7.8      |
| 1975    | 3.2                           | 10.3     | 3.5                           | 9.9      |
| 1976    | 3.4                           | 17.6     | 4.0                           | 16.5     |
| 1978    | 3.2                           | 19.5     | 3.7                           | 18.5     |
| 1980    | 3.0                           | 20.2     | 3.6                           | 18.8     |
| 1981    | 2.8                           | 20.4     | 3.3                           | 19.2     |
| 1982    | 2.6                           | 20.8     | 3.1                           | 19.5     |

## Civil and religious ceremonies

In 1976, 71.1 per cent of marriages were performed by a Minister of Religion. The proportion fell to 63.7 per cent in 1980 and to 61.3 per cent in 1982. The lowest proportion of marriages performed by a Minister of Religion was in the Northern Territory at 36.7 per cent in 1982, and the highest in Victoria at 63.2 per cent.

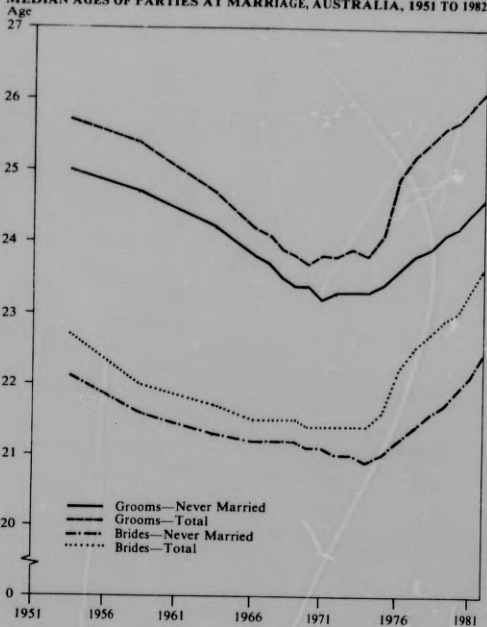
## Age at marriage

The trend towards an increasing median age at marriage evident for more than a decade continued in 1982. For males it has increased from 23.9 years in the periods 1966-1970 and 1971-1975 to 26.1 in 1982 and for females from 21.5 years in 1966-1970 to 23.6 years in 1982. Median age at marriage for those not previously married increased in 1982 to 24.6 years (1981 : 24.4) for males and 22.4 years (1981 : 22.1) for females.

The trend evident toward deferral of marriage beyond ages more common in the earlier part of the last decade also continued for those not previously married. This is reflected in first marriage ratios for males over 24 years which have been rising since 1977 (Table 4) whereas ratios for males under 23 years have declined. For brides, first marriages in the teenage years have continued to fall. The first marriage ratio for 17 year old brides, for example, has fallen from 30.4 in 1976 to 14.0 in 1982, and the rate for 19 year olds has fallen from 107.8 in 1976 to 70.1 in 1982. Marriage rates for ages 22 and above have been rising, particularly in the age range 22 to 26 years but also in the older female age groups. The marriage rate for 25 year olds, for example, has risen from 28.6 in 1976 to 41.8 in 1982, the rate for 28 year olds from 13.0 to 18.9 and the rate for 33 year olds from 4.6 to 5.2. The total cumulated ratio for females under 35 years rose from 674.3 in 1981 to 684.0 in 1982.

The median age at remarriage for those who have been previously divorced has not changed substantially since 1976 for males or females. In 1976 it was 36.6 for males and 32.6 for females and in 1982, 36.1 for males and 33.1 for females.

# MEDIAN AGES OF PARTIES AT MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA, 1951 TO 1982



## FIRST MARRIAGE RATIOS, AUSTRALIA, 1976 TO 1982

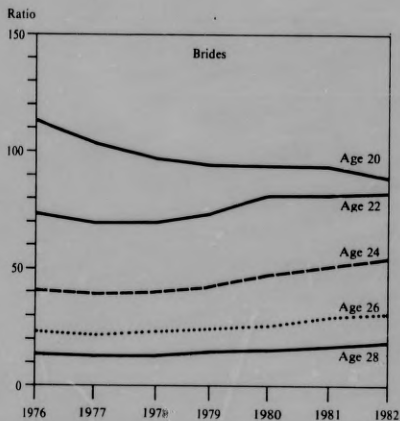
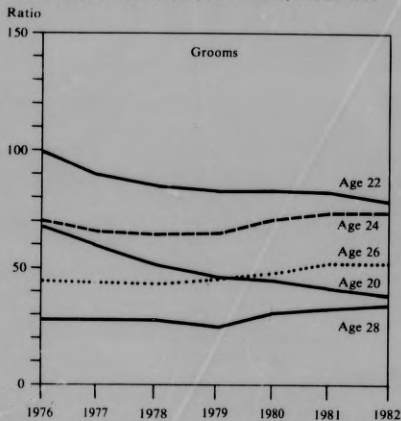


TABLE 1. MARRIAGES REGISTERED, STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1951 TO 1982

|                  | <i>N.S.W.</i> | <i>Vic.</i> | <i>Qld</i> | <i>S.A.</i> | <i>W.A.</i> | <i>Tas.</i> | <i>N.T.</i> | <i>A.C.T.</i> | <i>Australia</i> |
|------------------|---------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|------------------|
| Annual averages— |               |             |            |             |             |             |             |               |                  |
| 1951-1955        | 28,483        | 20,007      | 10,171     | 6,290       | 5,232       | 2,539       | 146         | 234           | 73,102           |
| 1956-1960        | 28,432        | 20,422      | 10,254     | 6,517       | 5,145       | 2,573       | 190         | 321           | 73,854           |
| 1961-1965        | 31,788        | 23,262      | 11,437     | 7,514       | 5,768       | 2,700       | 248         | 533           | 83,250           |
| 1966-1970        | 39,216        | 29,481      | 14,717     | 9,920       | 8,147       | 3,330       | 394         | 983           | 106,188          |
| 1971-1975        | 40,313        | 30,262      | 16,082     | 10,616      | 9,185       | 3,442       | 492         | 1,411         | 111,803          |
| 1976-1980        | 37,284        | 27,648      | 16,222     | 10,134      | 9,563       | 3,296       | 590         | 1,560         | 106,297          |
| Annual totals—   |               |             |            |             |             |             |             |               |                  |
| 1977             | 36,159        | 27,558      | 15,737     | 10,126      | 10,063      | 3,166       | 618         | 1,491         | 104,918          |
| 1978             | 35,904        | 27,178      | 15,431     | 9,800       | 9,404       | 3,148       | 576         | 1,517         | 102,958          |
| 1979             | 36,906        | 27,019      | 16,082     | 9,778       | 9,239       | 3,254       | 553         | 1,565         | 104,396          |
| 1980             | 38,965        | 27,724      | 17,157     | 10,064      | 9,594       | 3,433       | 661         | 1,642         | 109,240          |
| 1981             | 40,679        | 28,648      | 18,305     | 10,252      | 10,111      | 3,515       | 719         | 1,676         | 113,905          |
| 1982             | 41,955        | 28,851      | 18,928     | 10,936      | 10,455      | 3,576       | 818         | 1,756         | 117,275          |

TABLE 2. CRUDE MARRIAGE RATES, STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1951 TO 1982(a)

|                       | <i>N.S.W.</i> | <i>Vic.</i> | <i>Qld</i> | <i>S.A.</i> | <i>W.A.</i> | <i>Tas.</i> | <i>N.T.</i> | <i>A.C.T.</i> | <i>Australia</i> |
|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|------------------|
| Average annual rates— |               |             |            |             |             |             |             |               |                  |
| 1951-1955             | 8.4           | 8.3         | 7.9        | 8.1         | 8.4         | 8.4         | 9.1         | 8.2           | 8.3              |
| 1956-1960             | 7.7           | 7.5         | 7.1        | 7.3         | 7.4         | 7.7         | 8.6         | 7.5           | 7.5              |
| 1961-1965             | 7.9           | 7.6         | 7.3        | 7.4         | 7.4         | 7.5         | 8.1         | 7.3           | 7.6              |
| 1966-1970             | 9.0           | 8.8         | 8.5        | 8.8         | 8.9         | 8.8         | 5.8         | 8.7           | 8.8              |
| 1971-1975r            | 8.3           | 8.2         | 8.2        | 8.6         | 8.3         | 8.5         | 5.3         | 8.2           | 8.3              |
| 1976-1980             | 7.4           | 7.2         | 7.5        | 7.9         | 7.8         | 7.9         | 5.4         | 7.2           | 7.4              |
| Annual rates—         |               |             |            |             |             |             |             |               |                  |
| 1977r                 | 7.2           | 7.2         | 7.4        | 7.9         | 8.4         | 7.6         | 5.9         | 7.0           | 7.4              |
| 1978r                 | 7.1           | 7.0         | 7.1        | 7.6         | 7.7         | 7.5         | 5.3         | 7.0           | 7.2              |
| 1979r                 | 7.2           | 7.0         | 7.3        | 7.5         | 7.4         | 7.7         | 4.8         | 7.1           | 7.2              |
| 1980r                 | 7.5           | 7.1         | 7.6        | 7.7         | 7.6         | 8.1         | 5.6         | 7.3           | 7.4              |
| 1981r                 | 7.8           | 7.3         | 7.8        | 7.8         | 7.8         | 8.2         | 5.8         | 7.4           | 7.6              |
| 1982                  | 7.9           | 7.2         | 7.8        | 8.2         | 7.8         | 8.3         | 6.3         | 7.6           | 7.7              |

(a) Rates for the years 1971 to 1982 are based on the latest estimates of resident population (see paragraph 6 of the Explanatory notes).

TABLE 3. AGE AND MARITAL STATUS SPECIFIC MARRIAGE RATES(a), CENSUS YEARS, 1954 TO 1981

|                                          | 1954  | 1961  | 1966  | 1971  | 1976 <sup>c</sup> | 1981  |
|------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------------|-------|
| <i>Bachelor/spinster marriage rates—</i> |       |       |       |       |                   |       |
| <i>Bachelors—</i>                        |       |       |       |       |                   |       |
| 15-19                                    | 7.8   | 10.5  | 14.9  | 16.3  | 10.3              | 5.7   |
| 20-24                                    | 126.9 | 131.6 | 152.8 | 179.9 | 131.6             | 93.6  |
| 25-29                                    | 146.8 | 160.2 | 195.7 | 184.8 | 146.8             | 127.1 |
| 30-34                                    | 90.2  | 94.2  | 100.3 | 99.7  | 88.9              | 82.9  |
| 35-39                                    | 54.0  | 50.3  | 48.6  | 50.7  | 49.7              | 47.0  |
| 40-44                                    | 33.4  | 27.1  | 27.9  | 27.9  | 27.5              | 25.0  |
| 45-49                                    | 23.1  | 18.5  | 15.7  | 15.8  | 17.0              | 13.8  |
| 50 and over                              | 7.5   | 6.3   | 5.8   | 6.1   | 6.9               | 5.8   |
| <i>Spinsters—</i>                        |       |       |       |       |                   |       |
| 15-19                                    | 57.7  | 56.7  | 61.5  | 72.4  | 50.9              | 31.8  |
| 20-24                                    | 267.1 | 266.3 | 272.0 | 293.1 | 198.4             | 147.5 |
| 25-29                                    | 185.0 | 188.4 | 183.9 | 184.9 | 145.3             | 125.1 |
| 30-34                                    | 94.5  | 92.3  | 90.8  | 93.0  | 89.6              | 74.0  |
| 35-39                                    | 50.7  | 49.6  | 45.0  | 47.2  | 51.8              | 42.4  |
| 40-44                                    | 29.4  | 25.8  | 24.9  | 26.3  | 27.5              | 22.5  |
| 45-49                                    | 17.1  | 16.5  | 15.9  | 14.3  | 16.3              | 15.4  |
| 50 and over                              | 4.1   | 3.9   | 3.6   | 3.3   | 4.1               | 2.7   |
| <i>Remarriage Rates—</i>                 |       |       |       |       |                   |       |
| <i>Bridegrooms—</i>                      |       |       |       |       |                   |       |
| 15-19                                    | —     | —     | 5.0   | —     | —                 | —     |
| 20-24                                    | 260.9 | 243.2 | 142.7 | 151.6 | 266.2             | 194.2 |
| 25-29                                    | 281.9 | 305.4 | 399.2 | 325.9 | 371.0             | 243.9 |
| 30-34                                    | 234.1 | 237.4 | 308.3 | 274.8 | 320.8             | 207.9 |
| 35-39                                    | 179.2 | 156.4 | 198.9 | 184.0 | 259.3             | 167.6 |
| 40-44                                    | 132.1 | 113.4 | 119.1 | 130.0 | 198.3             | 128.7 |
| 45-49                                    | 98.9  | 92.0  | 97.4  | 89.6  | 148.7             | 99.7  |
| 50-54                                    | 76.7  | 68.0  | 73.3  | 69.8  | 106.2             | 72.0  |
| 55-59                                    | 50.3  | 49.5  | 50.4  | 50.9  | 73.4              | 53.8  |
| 60 and over                              | 15.2  | 15.2  | 15.6  | 16.7  | 22.1              | 17.3  |
| <i>Brides—</i>                           |       |       |       |       |                   |       |
| 15-19                                    | 129.9 | 148.5 | 55.6  | 68.4  | 116.8             | 77.7  |
| 20-24                                    | 351.2 | 339.5 | 316.2 | 308.9 | 312.2             | 232.4 |
| 25-29                                    | 330.9 | 328.3 | 304.3 | 279.8 | 289.6             | 196.3 |
| 30-34                                    | 187.4 | 192.4 | 199.4 | 165.0 | 207.0             | 139.7 |
| 35-39                                    | 121.2 | 110.5 | 113.9 | 103.8 | 140.8             | 98.6  |
| 40-44                                    | 73.8  | 62.2  | 66.8  | 68.7  | 97.6              | 72.4  |
| 45-49                                    | 44.4  | 42.1  | 45.9  | 43.1  | 65.3              | 46.8  |
| 50-54                                    | 22.3  | 22.7  | 23.1  | 24.4  | 33.1              | 26.6  |
| 55-59                                    | 10.5  | 11.3  | 12.7  | 13.0  | 17.0              | 13.5  |
| 60 and over                              | 2.5   | 2.6   | 2.5   | 2.7   | 3.4               | 2.8   |

(a) Per 1,000 population as at 30 June, based on census counts (actual location) by age and marital status. No adjustment has been made to population data for census under-enumeration.

TABLE 4. FIRST MARRIAGE RATIOS(a), 1951 TO 1982

|                        | BRIDEGROOMS |     |      |      |      |       |       |       |       |      |      |      |
|------------------------|-------------|-----|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|------|
|                        | Age (years) |     |      |      |      |       |       |       |       |      |      |      |
|                        | 16          | 17  | 18   | 19   | 20   | 21    | 22    | 23    | 24    | 25   | 26   | 27   |
| Average annual ratios— |             |     |      |      |      |       |       |       |       |      |      |      |
| 1951-1955              | 0.4         | 2.8 | 11.0 | 26.8 | 49.2 | 100.8 | 110.5 | 110.0 | 96.2  | 81.0 | 65.0 | 51.9 |
| 1956-1960              | 0.5         | 3.3 | 13.7 | 31.3 | 54.7 | 105.6 | 115.7 | 111.8 | 97.0  | 79.9 | 64.3 | 52.4 |
| 1961-1965              | 0.4         | 3.1 | 18.7 | 37.6 | 60.2 | 106.2 | 120.4 | 117.6 | 101.8 | 84.3 | 67.4 | 52.7 |
| 1966-1970              | 0.1         | 1.9 | 22.8 | 47.3 | 71.4 | 121.5 | 132.5 | 124.5 | 103.9 | 82.5 | 64.3 | 50.2 |
| 1971-1975              | 0.2         | 1.8 | 22.6 | 47.4 | 81.1 | 121.1 | 120.1 | 102.4 | 81.7  | 64.7 | 48.7 | 37.5 |
| 1976-1980              | 0.1         | 0.7 | 10.4 | 26.4 | 53.5 | 80.4  | 87.6  | 79.8  | 66.9  | 55.9 | 44.3 | 34.8 |
| Annual ratios—         |             |     |      |      |      |       |       |       |       |      |      |      |
| 1977                   | 0.1         | 0.7 | 11.4 | 29.2 | 59.2 | 85.4  | 88.7  | 78.8  | 65.1  | 52.1 | 42.9 | 32.9 |
| 1978                   | 0.1         | 0.5 | 9.7  | 24.9 | 50.4 | 77.8  | 84.4  | 76.9  | 64.9  | 54.6 | 42.3 | 33.9 |
| 1979                   | 0.0         | 0.5 | 8.3  | 21.6 | 45.9 | 73.5  | 82.5  | 77.0  | 65.6  | 56.4 | 45.6 | 34.8 |
| 1980                   | 0.0         | 0.5 | 7.9  | 20.6 | 44.2 | 70.9  | 83.5  | 81.8  | 70.2  | 59.7 | 47.4 | 37.6 |
| 1981                   | 0.0         | 0.4 | 7.5  | 18.8 | 41.8 | 67.7  | 81.7  | 81.7  | 73.8  | 61.9 | 50.9 | 39.6 |
| 1982                   | 0.0         | 0.4 | 6.2  | 17.5 | 38.0 | 64.8  | 78.4  | 81.7  | 74.1  | 64.3 | 52.2 | 42.4 |

|                        | Age (years) |      |      |      |      |      |      | Cumulated ratios |       |             | Index of total first marriages (b) |
|------------------------|-------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------------------|-------|-------------|------------------------------------|
|                        | 28          | 29   | 30   | 31   | 32   | 33   | 34   | Under 35         | 35-39 | 40 and over |                                    |
| Average annual ratios— |             |      |      |      |      |      |      |                  |       |             |                                    |
| 1951-1955              | 43.2        | 34.0 | 26.6 | 21.0 | 18.2 | 14.4 | 12.7 | 875.7            | 42.3  | 58.5        | 976.5                              |
| 1956-1960              | 43.1        | 34.8 | 28.1 | 21.5 | 17.6 | 14.0 | 11.4 | 900.7            | 34.7  | 45.6        | 981.0                              |
| 1961-1965              | 42.0        | 32.6 | 26.4 | 20.7 | 17.1 | 13.5 | 11.2 | 933.9            | 33.6  | 38.0        | 1,005.5                            |
| 1966-1970              | 38.3        | 29.8 | 23.3 | 17.7 | 14.1 | 11.2 | 9.6  | 966.9            | 29.9  | 35.4        | 1,032.2                            |
| 1971-1975              | 28.2        | 22.3 | 17.6 | 13.9 | 10.9 | 9.0  | 7.3  | 838.4            | 22.9  | 30.9        | 892.2                              |
| 1976-1980              | 27.7        | 21.7 | 17.0 | 13.1 | 10.3 | 8.2  | 6.6  | 645.3            | 20.8  | 28.5        | 694.7                              |
| Annual ratios—         |             |      |      |      |      |      |      |                  |       |             |                                    |
| 1977                   | 26.7        | 21.2 | 15.8 | 12.6 | 10.4 | 7.9  | 6.2  | 647.3            | 19.8  | 29.2        | 696.3                              |
| 1978                   | 27.3        | 20.8 | 16.9 | 12.6 | 10.6 | 7.8  | 6.8  | 623.2            | 20.6  | 28.9        | 672.7                              |
| 1979                   | 27.5        | 22.8 | 17.4 | 13.2 | 10.0 | 8.8  | 6.4  | 617.7            | 20.5  | 26.1        | 664.3                              |
| 1980                   | 30.2        | 23.0 | 19.0 | 14.1 | 10.6 | 8.2  | 6.8  | 636.2            | 20.4  | 26.2        | 682.8                              |
| 1981                   | 32.4        | 24.6 | 18.8 | 14.7 | 12.4 | 9.3  | 7.5  | 645.5            | 22.7  | 27.5        | 695.7                              |
| 1982                   | 34.1        | 27.3 | 21.2 | 16.6 | 12.3 | 10.1 | 8.0  | 649.6            | 22.9  | 27.3        | 699.8                              |

(a) Per 1,000 mid-year population at each age and sex. Rates for the years 1971 to 1982 are based on new population estimates revised after the 1981 Census. (see paragraph 6 of the Explanatory notes). (b) The sum of the age specific ratios.

TABLE 4. FIRST MARRIAGE RATIOS(a), 1951 TO 1982—continued

|                        | BRIDES      |      |      |       |       |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |
|------------------------|-------------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                        | Age (years) |      |      |       |       |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |
|                        | 16          | 17   | 18   | 19    | 20    | 21    | 22    | 23   | 24   | 25   | 26   | 27   |
| Average annual ratios— |             |      |      |       |       |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |
| 1951-1955              | 17.2        | 44.8 | 86.9 | 123.3 | 133.5 | 162.4 | 115.6 | 85.0 | 63.0 | 47.4 | 35.2 | 27.3 |
| 1956-1960              | 19.3        | 47.4 | 88.7 | 125.0 | 138.3 | 161.3 | 111.0 | 78.0 | 56.6 | 40.8 | 31.0 | 23.5 |
| 1961-1965              | 21.3        | 47.7 | 83.7 | 118.9 | 132.9 | 157.4 | 109.9 | 76.8 | 53.5 | 38.8 | 28.1 | 20.9 |
| 1966-1970              | 22.2        | 49.5 | 90.7 | 128.1 | 144.0 | 157.2 | 110.5 | 76.7 | 52.8 | 37.9 | 27.3 | 19.8 |
| 1971-1975              | 21.3        | 47.8 | 98.6 | 131.4 | 137.6 | 126.4 | 86.9  | 59.9 | 41.4 | 30.4 | 22.5 | 16.9 |
| 1976-1980              | 8.5         | 22.3 | 62.7 | 89.4  | 99.7  | 93.0  | 73.2  | 55.1 | 41.7 | 30.6 | 23.2 | 17.6 |
| Annual ratios—         |             |      |      |       |       |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |
| 1977                   | 9.7         | 25.3 | 69.2 | 95.2  | 102.5 | 93.2  | 69.0  | 51.4 | 39.1 | 28.4 | 21.6 | 16.5 |
| 1978                   | 7.6         | 20.5 | 60.5 | 86.9  | 95.8  | 90.0  | 69.7  | 53.4 | 40.0 | 29.5 | 22.4 | 17.1 |
| 1979                   | 6.7         | 18.5 | 52.5 | 79.9  | 93.8  | 91.1  | 73.2  | 56.4 | 42.2 | 31.5 | 24.1 | 18.1 |
| 1980                   | 6.2         | 16.6 | 48.8 | 77.0  | 93.6  | 94.0  | 80.6  | 60.9 | 46.9 | 35.2 | 25.5 | 19.1 |
| 1981                   | 5.6         | 15.2 | 46.8 | 75.3  | 92.4  | 94.4  | 81.0  | 66.1 | 50.7 | 36.9 | 28.3 | 21.3 |
| 1982                   | 4.7         | 14.0 | 41.9 | 70.1  | 88.7  | 93.7  | 82.6  | 69.8 | 54.4 | 41.8 | 31.0 | 23.7 |

|                        | Age (years) |      |      |      |     |     |     | Cumulated ratios |       |             | Index of total first marriages (b) |
|------------------------|-------------|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|------------------|-------|-------------|------------------------------------|
|                        |             |      |      |      |     |     |     |                  |       |             |                                    |
|                        | 28          | 29   | 30   | 31   | 32  | 33  | 34  | Under 35         | 35-39 | 40 and over |                                    |
| Average annual ratios— |             |      |      |      |     |     |     |                  |       |             |                                    |
| 1951-1955              | 21.2        | 16.9 | 13.6 | 10.9 | 9.3 | 7.6 | 6.6 | 1,031.3          | 23.5  | 37.0        | 1,091.8                            |
| 1956-1960              | 18.1        | 14.3 | 11.5 | 9.1  | 7.6 | 6.4 | 5.6 | 997.9            | 18.0  | 28.4        | 1,044.3                            |
| 1961-1965              | 15.6        | 12.3 | 10.0 | 8.1  | 6.6 | 5.2 | 4.4 | 955.0            | 14.9  | 23.6        | 993.5                              |
| 1966-1970              | 15.3        | 11.7 | 9.1  | 7.2  | 5.5 | 4.7 | 3.9 | 975.1            | 12.2  | 19.6        | 1,006.9                            |
| 1971-1975              | 12.7        | 10.2 | 8.0  | 6.5  | 5.2 | 4.3 | 3.5 | 871.6            | 10.9  | 15.8        | 898.2                              |
| 1976-1980              | 13.7        | 10.4 | 8.3  | 6.7  | 5.4 | 4.1 | 3.5 | 668.9            | 11.4  | 14.7        | 695.0                              |
| Annual ratios          |             |      |      |      |     |     |     |                  |       |             |                                    |
| 1977                   | 12.5        | 10.3 | 7.5  | 6.5  | 5.3 | 3.9 | 3.3 | 670.4            | 11.2  | 16.5        | 698.1                              |
| 1978                   | 13.1        | 10.4 | 8.7  | 6.3  | 5.4 | 4.1 | 3.5 | 644.8            | 11.5  | 14.0        | 670.3                              |
| 1979                   | 14.5        | 10.5 | 8.6  | 5.9  | 5.0 | 3.9 | 3.1 | 639.7            | 11.2  | 12.8        | 663.7                              |
| 1980                   | 15.4        | 11.0 | 8.7  | 7.0  | 5.4 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 659.9            | 10.5  | 12.7        | 683.1                              |
| 1981                   | 16.8        | 12.8 | 9.3  | 7.5  | 5.6 | 4.8 | 3.5 | 674.3            | 11.2  | 12.7        | 698.2                              |
| 1982                   | 18.9        | 14.4 | 10.8 | 8.2  | 6.2 | 5.2 | 3.9 | 684.0            | 11.7  | 12.2        | 707.9                              |

(a) Per 1,000 mid-year population at each age and sex. Rates for the years 1971 to 1982 are based on new population estimates revised after the 1981 Census. (See paragraph 6 of the Explanatory notes). (b) The sum of the age specific ratios.

TABLE 5. PREVIOUS MARITAL STATUS OF BRIDEGROOM AND BRIDE, 1951 TO 1982

|                             | Bridegroom    |         |          |         | Bride         |         |          |         |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------|----------|---------|---------------|---------|----------|---------|
|                             | Never married | Widowed | Divorced | Total   | Never married | Widowed | Divorced | Total   |
| NUMBER                      |               |         |          |         |               |         |          |         |
| Annual averages—            |               |         |          |         |               |         |          |         |
| 1951-1955                   | 64,893        | 3,382   | 4,827    | 73,102  | 64,357        | 3,519   | 5,226    | 73,102  |
| 1956-1960                   | 66,364        | 3,086   | 4,404    | 73,854  | 65,579        | 3,305   | 4,970    | 73,854  |
| 1961-1965                   | 75,384        | 3,063   | 4,803    | 83,250  | 74,962        | 3,218   | 5,070    | 83,250  |
| 1966-1970                   | 96,438        | 3,320   | 6,430    | 106,188 | 96,341        | 3,568   | 6,279    | 106,188 |
| 1971-1975                   | 99,203        | 3,473   | 9,126    | 111,802 | 99,287        | 3,810   | 8,705    | 111,802 |
| 1976-1980                   | 82,344        | 3,394   | 20,559   | 106,297 | 82,987        | 4,022   | 19,288   | 106,297 |
| Annual totals—              |               |         |          |         |               |         |          |         |
| 1977                        | 81,172        | 3,385   | 20,361   | 104,918 | 81,694        | 3,999   | 19,225   | 104,918 |
| 1978                        | 79,581        | 3,279   | 20,098   | 102,958 | 80,142        | 3,818   | 18,998   | 102,958 |
| 1979                        | 80,226        | 3,266   | 20,904   | 104,396 | 80,893        | 3,996   | 19,507   | 104,396 |
| 1980                        | 83,950        | 3,264   | 22,026   | 109,240 | 84,770        | 3,920   | 20,550   | 109,240 |
| 1981                        | 87,460        | 3,152   | 23,293   | 113,905 | 88,308        | 3,727   | 21,870   | 113,905 |
| 1982                        | 89,858        | 2,988   | 24,429   | 117,275 | 90,844        | 3,579   | 22,852   | 117,275 |
| PROPORTION (PER CENT)       |               |         |          |         |               |         |          |         |
| Average annual percentages— |               |         |          |         |               |         |          |         |
| 1951-1955                   | 88.8          | 4.6     | 6.6      | 100.0   | 88.0          | 4.8     | 7.2      | 100.0   |
| 1956-1960                   | 89.9          | 4.2     | 6.0      | 100.0   | 88.8          | 4.5     | 6.7      | 100.0   |
| 1961-1965                   | 90.6          | 3.7     | 5.8      | 100.0   | 90.0          | 3.9     | 6.1      | 100.0   |
| 1966-1970                   | 90.8          | 3.1     | 6.0      | 100.0   | 90.7          | 3.4     | 5.9      | 100.0   |
| 1971-1975                   | 88.7          | 3.1     | 8.2      | 100.0   | 88.8          | 3.4     | 7.8      | 100.0   |
| 1976-1980                   | 77.5          | 3.2     | 19.3     | 100.0   | 78.0          | 3.8     | 18.2     | 100.0   |
| Annual percentages—         |               |         |          |         |               |         |          |         |
| 1977                        | 77.4          | 3.2     | 19.4     | 100.0   | 77.9          | 3.8     | 18.3     | 100.0   |
| 1978                        | 77.3          | 3.2     | 19.5     | 100.0   | 77.8          | 3.7     | 18.5     | 100.0   |
| 1979                        | 76.8          | 3.1     | 20.0     | 100.0   | 77.5          | 3.8     | 18.7     | 100.0   |
| 1980                        | 76.8          | 3.0     | 20.2     | 100.0   | 77.6          | 3.6     | 18.8     | 100.0   |
| 1981                        | 76.8          | 2.8     | 20.4     | 100.0   | 77.5          | 3.3     | 19.2     | 100.0   |
| 1982                        | 76.6          | 2.6     | 20.8     | 100.0   | 77.5          | 3.1     | 19.5     | 100.0   |

TABLE 6. RELATIVE PREVIOUS MARITAL STATUS OF BRIDEGROOM AND BRIDE, STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1982

| Marital status of— |               |        |        |        |        |        |       |      |        |           |
|--------------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|------|--------|-----------|
| Bridegroom         | Bride         | N.S.W. | Vic.   | Qld    | S.A.   | W.A.   | Tas.  | N.T. | A.C.T. | Australia |
| Never married      | Never married | 28,245 | 20,224 | 12,916 | 7,234  | 7,075  | 2,442 | 442  | 1,055  | 79,633    |
|                    | Widowed       | 275    | 202    | 126    | 57     | 66     | 17    | 3    | 10     | 756       |
|                    | Divorced      | 3,503  | 2,116  | 1,515  | 847    | 903    | 315   | 102  | 168    | 9,469     |
|                    | Total         | 32,023 | 22,542 | 14,557 | 8,138  | 8,044  | 2,774 | 547  | 1,233  | 89,858    |
| Widowed            | Never married | 210    | 129    | 76     | 42     | 41     | 16    | 2    | 4      | 520       |
|                    | Widowed       | 455    | 341    | 203    | 145    | 92     | 42    | 1    | 14     | 1,293     |
|                    | Divorced      | 437    | 257    | 198    | 103    | 109    | 42    | 5    | 24     | 1,175     |
|                    | Total         | 1,102  | 727    | 477    | 290    | 242    | 100   | 8    | 42     | 2,988     |
| Divorced           | Never married | 3,927  | 2,436  | 1,743  | 1,005  | 942    | 326   | 129  | 183    | 10,691    |
|                    | Widowed       | 551    | 323    | 273    | 160    | 132    | 55    | 12   | 24     | 1,530     |
|                    | Divorced      | 4,352  | 2,823  | 1,878  | 1,343  | 1,095  | 321   | 122  | 274    | 12,208    |
|                    | Total         | 8,830  | 5,582  | 3,894  | 2,508  | 2,169  | 702   | 263  | 481    | 24,429    |
| Total              | Never married | 32,382 | 22,789 | 14,735 | 8,281  | 8,058  | 2,784 | 573  | 1,242  | 90,844    |
|                    | Widowed       | 1,281  | 866    | 602    | 362    | 290    | 114   | 16   | 48     | 3,579     |
|                    | Divorced      | 8,292  | 5,196  | 3,591  | 2,293  | 2,107  | 678   | 229  | 466    | 22,852    |
|                    | Total         | 41,955 | 28,851 | 18,928 | 10,936 | 10,455 | 3,576 | 818  | 1,756  | 117,275   |

TABLE 7. RELATIVE AGES OF BRIDEGROOM AND BRIDE, 1982

| Age of bridegroom (years) | Age of bride (years) |     |       |       |       |        |        |        |       |       |       |       |
|---------------------------|----------------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|                           | Under 16             | 16  | 17    | 18    | 19    | 20     | 21     | 22     | 23    | 24    | 25    | 26    |
| Under 18                  | —                    | 8   | 25    | 16    | 2     | 1      | 1      | —      | —     | —     | —     | —     |
| 18                        | 5                    | 79  | 160   | 235   | 161   | 65     | 44     | 23     | 13    | 13    | 7     | 8     |
| 19                        | 3                    | 94  | 281   | 572   | 639   | 384    | 166    | 85     | 57    | 43    | 16    | 13    |
| 20                        | 4                    | 104 | 313   | 928   | 1,290 | 1,230  | 589    | 295    | 177   | 106   | 53    | 38    |
| 21                        | 5                    | 73  | 255   | 1,027 | 1,763 | 2,117  | 1,746  | 843    | 397   | 233   | 162   | 98    |
| 22                        | 4                    | 55  | 199   | 790   | 1,578 | 2,135  | 2,278  | 1,651  | 856   | 407   | 253   | 140   |
| 23                        | 1                    | 56  | 159   | 564   | 1,212 | 1,774  | 2,136  | 1,840  | 1,348 | 683   | 357   | 237   |
| 24                        | 3                    | 20  | 108   | 369   | 794   | 1,196  | 1,689  | 1,656  | 1,481 | 1,074 | 594   | 325   |
| 25                        | —                    | 15  | 76    | 258   | 571   | 913    | 1,117  | 1,273  | 1,247 | 1,030 | 822   | 443   |
| 26                        | 3                    | 27  | 49    | 196   | 368   | 634    | 816    | 946    | 969   | 942   | 728   | 558   |
| 27                        | —                    | 10  | 29    | 128   | 266   | 400    | 576    | 669    | 710   | 721   | 684   | 541   |
| 28                        | —                    | 9   | 32    | 86    | 177   | 304    | 404    | 490    | 545   | 556   | 558   | 549   |
| 29                        | —                    | 5   | 9     | 72    | 123   | 222    | 337    | 366    | 427   | 443   | 438   | 422   |
| 30-34                     | 1                    | 14  | 24    | 117   | 250   | 429    | 637    | 778    | 1,014 | 1,090 | 1,099 | 1,184 |
| 35-39                     | —                    | 4   | 8     | 42    | 58    | 103    | 143    | 214    | 244   | 301   | 358   | 357   |
| 40-44                     | —                    | 2   | 3     | 7     | 21    | 26     | 28     | 44     | 72    | 80    | 89    | 103   |
| 45-49                     | —                    | —   | 1     | 6     | 5     | 11     | 10     | 22     | 21    | 29    | 28    | 38    |
| 50-54                     | —                    | —   | 1     | 1     | 3     | 3      | 3      | 6      | 8     | 12    | 13    | 18    |
| 55-59                     | —                    | —   | 2     | —     | 1     | 4      | 4      | 3      | 4     | 5     | 7     | 3     |
| 60 and over               | —                    | —   | —     | —     | 1     | 1      | —      | 3      | 3     | 3     | 2     | 4     |
| Total brides              | 29                   | 575 | 1,744 | 5,414 | 9,283 | 11,952 | 12,724 | 11,227 | 9,593 | 7,771 | 6,268 | 5,079 |
| Proportion %              | —                    | 0.5 | 1.5   | 4.6   | 7.9   | 10.2   | 10.9   | 9.6    | 8.2   | 6.6   | 5.3   | 4.3   |

| Age of bridegroom (years) | Age of bride (years) |              |              |               |              |              |              |              |            |              | Total bridegrooms | Proportion % |
|---------------------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
|                           | 27                   | 28           | 29           | 30-34         | 35-39        | 40-44        | 45-49        | 50-54        | 55-59      | 60 and over  |                   |              |
| Under 18                  | —                    | —            | —            | —             | —            | —            | —            | —            | —          | —            | 53                | —            |
| 18                        | 2                    | 4            | —            | 9             | 1            | 2            | —            | —            | —          | —            | 831               | 0.7          |
| 19                        | 9                    | 11           | 7            | 10            | 4            | —            | —            | —            | —          | —            | 2,404             | 2.1          |
| 20                        | 23                   | 17           | 17           | 32            | 9            | 1            | —            | —            | —          | —            | 5,226             | 4.5          |
| 21                        | 58                   | 36           | 24           | 88            | 15           | 1            | —            | —            | —          | —            | 8,941             | 7.6          |
| 22                        | 98                   | 65           | 39           | 101           | 21           | 5            | 1            | —            | —          | —            | 10,656            | 9.1          |
| 23                        | 165                  | 133          | 72           | 144           | 30           | 5            | 1            | —            | —          | —            | 10,957            | 9.3          |
| 24                        | 206                  | 152          | 102          | 206           | 43           | 11           | 2            | —            | —          | —            | 10,031            | 8.6          |
| 25                        | 289                  | 208          | 140          | 263           | 52           | 9            | 4            | —            | —          | —            | 8,730             | 7.4          |
| 26                        | 371                  | 241          | 158          | 339           | 69           | 13           | 2            | 1            | —          | —            | 7,430             | 6.3          |
| 27                        | 466                  | 295          | 189          | 419           | 87           | 20           | 2            | 1            | —          | —            | 6,213             | 5.3          |
| 28                        | 393                  | 362          | 221          | 527           | 119          | 21           | 5            | —            | —          | —            | 5,358             | 4.6          |
| 29                        | 388                  | 333          | 270          | 576           | 144          | 21           | 8            | —            | 1          | —            | 4,605             | 3.9          |
| 30-34                     | 1,206                | 1,117        | 1,085        | 3,231         | 1,103        | 293          | 61           | 17           | 1          | —            | 14,751            | 12.6         |
| 35-39                     | 377                  | 440          | 477          | 2,238         | 1,524        | 528          | 151          | 27           | 8          | 3            | 7,605             | 6.5          |
| 40-44                     | 114                  | 119          | 170          | 1,088         | 1,110        | 800          | 344          | 98           | 23         | 6            | 4,347             | 3.7          |
| 45-49                     | 35                   | 64           | 66           | 418           | 645          | 669          | 480          | 189          | 67         | 19           | 2,823             | 2.4          |
| 50-54                     | 20                   | 17           | 27           | 202           | 325          | 414          | 526          | 366          | 149        | 62           | 2,176             | 1.9          |
| 55-59                     | 11                   | 7            | 12           | 88            | 132          | 219          | 325          | 397          | 263        | 173          | 1,660             | 1.4          |
| 60 and over               | 7                    | 3            | 7            | 52            | 77           | 118          | 205          | 357          | 431        | 1,204        | 2,478             | 2.1          |
| <b>Total Brides</b>       | <b>4,238</b>         | <b>3,624</b> | <b>3,083</b> | <b>10,031</b> | <b>5,510</b> | <b>3,150</b> | <b>2,117</b> | <b>1,453</b> | <b>943</b> | <b>1,467</b> | <b>117,275</b>    | <b>100.0</b> |
| Proportion %              | 3.6                  | 3.1          | 2.6          | 8.6           | 4.7          | 2.7          | 1.8          | 1.2          | 0.8        | 1.3          | 100.0             |              |

TABLE 8. AGE AND PREVIOUS MARITAL STATUS OF BRIDEGROOM AND BRIDE, 1982

| Age years   | Previous marital status |         |          |         |               |         |          |         |
|-------------|-------------------------|---------|----------|---------|---------------|---------|----------|---------|
|             | Bridegroom              |         |          |         | Bride         |         |          |         |
|             | Never married           | Widowed | Divorced | Total   | Never married | Widowed | Divorced | Total   |
| Under 16    | -                       | -       | -        | -       | 29            | -       | -        | 29      |
| 16          | 4                       | -       | -        | 4       | 575           | -       | -        | 575     |
| 17          | 49                      | -       | -        | 49      | 1,742         | -       | 2        | 1,744   |
| 18          | 831                     | -       | -        | 831     | 5,409         | 1       | 4        | 5,414   |
| 19          | 2,402                   | -       | 2        | 2,404   | 9,268         | -       | 15       | 9,283   |
| 20          | 5,220                   | -       | 6        | 5,226   | 11,888        | 1       | 63       | 11,952  |
| 21          | 8,929                   | -       | 12       | 8,941   | 12,564        | 7       | 153      | 12,724  |
| 22          | 10,601                  | 2       | 53       | 10,656  | 10,890        | 12      | 325      | 11,227  |
| 23          | 10,834                  | 3       | 120      | 10,957  | 9,045         | 16      | 532      | 9,593   |
| 24          | 9,757                   | 4       | 270      | 10,031  | 6,949         | 29      | 793      | 7,771   |
| 25          | 8,281                   | 4       | 445      | 8,730   | 5,250         | 35      | 983      | 6,268   |
| 26          | 6,743                   | 10      | 677      | 7,430   | 3,871         | 44      | 1,164    | 5,079   |
| 27          | 5,332                   | 13      | 868      | 6,213   | 2,927         | 42      | 1,269    | 4,238   |
| 28          | 4,259                   | 14      | 1,085    | 5,358   | 2,307         | 40      | 1,277    | 3,624   |
| 29          | 3,429                   | 15      | 1,161    | 4,605   | 1,780         | 58      | 1,245    | 3,083   |
| 30-34       | 8,533                   | 103     | 6,115    | 14,751  | 4,165         | 284     | 5,582    | 10,031  |
| 35-39       | 2,565                   | 155     | 4,885    | 7,605   | 1,260         | 330     | 3,920    | 5,510   |
| 40-44       | 935                     | 177     | 3,235    | 4,347   | 418           | 330     | 2,402    | 3,150   |
| 45-49       | 445                     | 244     | 2,134    | 2,823   | 215           | 397     | 1,505    | 2,117   |
| 50-54       | 308                     | 340     | 1,528    | 2,176   | 110           | 492     | 851      | 1,453   |
| 55-59       | 202                     | 466     | 992      | 1,660   | 73            | 427     | 443      | 943     |
| 60 and over | 199                     | 1,438   | 841      | 2,478   | 109           | 1,034   | 324      | 1,467   |
| Total       | 89,858                  | 2,988   | 24,429   | 117,275 | 90,844        | 3,579   | 22,852   | 117,275 |
| Median Age  | 24.6                    | 59.4    | 36.1     | 26.1    | 22.4          | 51.5    | 33.1     | 23.6    |

TABLE 9. MEDIAN AGES AND PREVIOUS MARITAL STATUS OF BRIDEGROOM AND BRIDE, 1951 TO 1982

|                  | Previous marital status |         |          |       |               |         |          |       |
|------------------|-------------------------|---------|----------|-------|---------------|---------|----------|-------|
|                  | Bridegroom              |         |          |       | Bride         |         |          |       |
|                  | Never married           | Widowed | Divorced | Total | Never married | Widowed | Divorced | Total |
| Annual averages— |                         |         |          |       |               |         |          |       |
| 1951-1955        | 25.0                    | 54.3    | 38.9     | 25.7  | 22.1          | 45.3    | 34.6     | 22.7  |
| 1956-1960        | 24.7                    | 56.5    | 39.3     | 25.4  | 21.6          | 47.6    | 35.4     | 22.0  |
| 1961-1965        | 24.2                    | 56.6    | 40.4     | 24.7  | 21.3          | 49.2    | 36.6     | 21.7  |
| 1966-1970        | 23.5                    | 56.7    | 39.8     | 23.9  | 21.2          | 50.1    | 36.1     | 21.5  |
| 1971-1975        | 23.3                    | 57.8    | 37.3     | 23.9  | 21.0          | 51.1    | 33.0     | 21.4  |
| 1976-1980        | 23.9                    | 58.4    | 36.1     | 25.4  | 21.6          | 51.6    | 32.5     | 22.7  |
| Annual—          |                         |         |          |       |               |         |          |       |
| 1977             | 23.8                    | 58.4    | 35.9     | 25.2  | 21.4          | 50.9    | 32.2     | 22.5  |
| 1978             | 23.9                    | 58.5    | 35.9     | 25.4  | 21.6          | 51.8    | 32.4     | 22.7  |
| 1979             | 24.1                    | 58.6    | 36.1     | 25.6  | 21.7          | 52.3    | 32.6     | 22.9  |
| 1980             | 24.2                    | 58.6    | 35.8     | 25.7  | 21.9          | 52.0    | 32.8     | 23.0  |
| 1981             | 24.4                    | 59.1    | 36.0     | 25.9  | 22.1          | 52.1    | 32.9     | 23.3  |
| 1982             | 24.6                    | 59.4    | 36.1     | 26.1  | 22.4          | 51.5    | 33.1     | 23.6  |

TABLE 10. MARRIAGES : CATEGORY OF AUTHORISED CELEBRANT, STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1982

| Category of celebrant                                  | N.S.W.        | Vic.          | Qld           | S.A.          | W.A.          | Tas.         | N. T.        | A. C. T.     | Australia      |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| NUMBER                                                 |               |               |               |               |               |              |              |              |                |
| Ministers of religion of recognised denominations (a)— |               |               |               |               |               |              |              |              |                |
| Roman Catholic Church                                  | 8,778         | 6,710         | 3,567         | 1,684         | 1,993         | 497          | 93           | 293          | 23,615         |
| Church of England in Australia                         | 7,912         | 3,927         | 2,531         | 1,091         | 1,582         | 997          | 48           | 237          | 18,325         |
| Uniting Churches in Australia(b)                       | 4,562         | 3,909         | 2,561         | 2,069         | 1,008         | 346          | 78           | 124          | 14,657         |
| Presbyterian Church of Australia(b)                    | 1,409         | 440           | 455           | 52            | 44            | 42           | —            | 83           | 2,525          |
| Orthodox Churches(b)                                   | 888           | 879           | 125           | 207           | 88            | 2            | 21           | 22           | 2,232          |
| Baptist Union of Australia(b)                          | 706           | 431           | 377           | 269           | 165           | 80           | 9            | 15           | 2,052          |
| Lutheran Churches(b)                                   | 151           | 217           | 437           | 554           | 48            | 9            | 6            | 21           | 1,443          |
| Churches of Christ in Australia(b)                     | 197           | 454           | 219           | 225           | 206           | 28           | 4            | 14           | 1,347          |
| Other denominations                                    | 1,790         | 1,273         | 1,149         | 519           | 626           | 148          | 41           | 111          | 5,657          |
| <i>Total</i>                                           | <i>26,393</i> | <i>18,240</i> | <i>11,421</i> | <i>6,670</i>  | <i>5,760</i>  | <i>2,149</i> | <i>300</i>   | <i>920</i>   | <i>71,853</i>  |
| Civil celebrants—                                      |               |               |               |               |               |              |              |              |                |
| Official Registrars                                    | 5,759         | 2,231         | 1,861         | 2,344         | 1,012         | 441          | 247          | 570          | 14,465         |
| Other civil celebrants                                 | 9,803         | 8,380         | 5,646         | 1,922         | 3,683         | 986          | 271          | 266          | 30,957         |
| <i>Total</i>                                           | <i>15,562</i> | <i>10,611</i> | <i>7,507</i>  | <i>4,266</i>  | <i>4,695</i>  | <i>1,427</i> | <i>518</i>   | <i>836</i>   | <i>45,422</i>  |
| <b>All Celebrants</b>                                  | <b>41,955</b> | <b>28,851</b> | <b>18,928</b> | <b>10,936</b> | <b>10,455</b> | <b>3,576</b> | <b>818</b>   | <b>1,756</b> | <b>117,275</b> |
| PROPORTION (Per cent)                                  |               |               |               |               |               |              |              |              |                |
| Ministers of religion of recognised denominations(a)—  |               |               |               |               |               |              |              |              |                |
| Roman Catholic Church                                  | 20.9          | 23.3          | 18.8          | 15.4          | 19.1          | 13.9         | 11.4         | 16.7         | 20.1           |
| Church of England in Australia                         | 18.9          | 13.6          | 13.4          | 10.0          | 15.1          | 28.0         | 5.9          | 13.5         | 15.6           |
| Uniting Churches in Australia(b)                       | 10.9          | 13.5          | 13.5          | 18.9          | 9.6           | 9.7          | 9.5          | 7.1          | 12.5           |
| Presbyterian Church of Australia(b)                    | 3.4           | 1.5           | 2.4           | 0.5           | 0.4           | 1.2          | —            | 4.7          | 2.2            |
| Orthodox Churches(b)                                   | 2.1           | 3.0           | 0.7           | 1.9           | 0.8           | 0.1          | 2.6          | 1.3          | 1.9            |
| Baptist Union of Australia(b)                          | 1.7           | 1.5           | 2.0           | 2.5           | 1.6           | 2.2          | 1.1          | 0.9          | 1.7            |
| Lutheran Churches(b)                                   | 0.4           | 0.8           | 2.3           | 5.1           | 0.5           | 0.3          | 0.7          | 1.2          | 1.2            |
| Churches of Christ in Australia(b)                     | 0.5           | 1.6           | 1.2           | 2.1           | 2.0           | 0.8          | 0.5          | 0.8          | 1.1            |
| Other denominations                                    | 4.3           | 4.4           | 6.1           | 4.7           | 6.0           | 4.1          | 5.0          | 6.3          | 4.8            |
| <i>Total</i>                                           | <i>62.9</i>   | <i>63.2</i>   | <i>60.3</i>   | <i>61.0</i>   | <i>55.1</i>   | <i>60.1</i>  | <i>36.7</i>  | <i>52.4</i>  | <i>61.3</i>    |
| Civil celebrants—                                      |               |               |               |               |               |              |              |              |                |
| Official Registrars                                    | 13.7          | 7.7           | 9.8           | 21.4          | 9.7           | 12.3         | 30.2         | 32.5         | 12.3           |
| Other civil celebrants                                 | 23.4          | 29.0          | 29.8          | 17.6          | 35.2          | 27.6         | 33.1         | 15.1         | 26.4           |
| <i>Total</i>                                           | <i>37.1</i>   | <i>36.8</i>   | <i>39.7</i>   | <i>39.0</i>   | <i>44.9</i>   | <i>39.9</i>  | <i>63.3</i>  | <i>47.6</i>  | <i>38.7</i>    |
| <b>All celebrants</b>                                  | <b>100.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>   |

(a) Under authority of the *Australian Marriage Act 1961*.(b) Includes churches grouped under this heading as proclaimed under the *Australian Marriages Act 1961*.

TABLE 11. MARRIAGES CELEBRATED BY MINISTERS OF RELIGION,  
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION, 1951 TO 1982

|                             | N.S.W. | Vic. | Qld  | S.A. | W.A. | Tas. | N.T. | A.C.T. | Australia |
|-----------------------------|--------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--------|-----------|
| Average annual percentages— |        |      |      |      |      |      |      |        |           |
| 1951-1955                   | 86.2   | 91.8 | 96.2 | 87.5 | 81.2 | 84.9 | 75.9 | 84.7   | 89.0      |
| 1956-1960                   | 85.4   | 91.8 | 96.7 | 88.3 | 83.9 | 84.8 | 82.3 | 83.8   | 88.7      |
| 1961-1965                   | 86.0   | 91.3 | 94.4 | 88.7 | 85.3 | 86.3 | 82.3 | 81.0   | 88.7      |
| 1966-1970                   | 87.3   | 92.2 | 91.8 | 89.0 | 83.7 | 87.7 | 75.8 | 77.0   | 89.0      |
| 1971-1975                   | 82.8   | 86.5 | 86.2 | 80.3 | 77.5 | 84.1 | 61.6 | 71.8   | 84.0      |
| 1976-1980                   | 67.3   | 68.5 | 66.6 | 66.9 | 58.4 | 68.9 | 42.1 | 56.9   | 66.4      |
| Annual percentages—         |        |      |      |      |      |      |      |        |           |
| 1977                        | 68.4   | 70.3 | 68.0 | 68.0 | 58.3 | 70.7 | 41.6 | 57.5   | 67.6      |
| 1978                        | 66.8   | 67.4 | 65.3 | 66.9 | 56.8 | 69.5 | 39.8 | 56.5   | 65.6      |
| 1979                        | 65.2   | 65.9 | 64.0 | 65.7 | 54.7 | 66.2 | 37.4 | 55.8   | 64.0      |
| 1980                        | 64.6   | 66.1 | 63.5 | 64.1 | 55.8 | 64.9 | 38.9 | 56.6   | 63.7      |
| 1981                        | 63.8   | 64.4 | 61.0 | 63.9 | 54.4 | 64.0 | 35.7 | 55.9   | 62.4      |
| 1982                        | 62.9   | 63.2 | 60.3 | 61.0 | 55.1 | 60.1 | 36.7 | 52.4   | 61.3      |

TABLE 12. MONTH OF CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE, 1977 TO 1982(a)

| Month of celebration | 1977           | 1978           | 1979           | 1980           | 1981           | 1982           |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| NUMBER               |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| January              | 11,424         | 10,166         | 9,914          | 9,796          | 11,527         | 11,933         |
| February             | 9,062          | 8,461          | 8,639          | 8,946          | 9,743          | 9,909          |
| March                | 9,402          | 10,151         | 10,670         | 11,512         | 10,147         | 10,790         |
| April                | 11,120         | 9,420          | 9,319          | 9,342          | 9,526          | 11,038         |
| May                  | 8,180          | 7,990          | 8,158          | 9,292          | 10,090         | 9,715          |
| June                 | 6,964          | 6,678          | 7,510          | 6,791          | 6,963          | 6,900          |
| July                 | 5,715          | 6,388          | 5,320          | 5,495          | 6,084          | 6,704          |
| August               | 6,927          | 6,830          | 6,765          | 8,641          | 8,293          | 7,243          |
| September            | 8,068          | 9,469          | 9,926          | 8,327          | 9,549          | 9,656          |
| October              | 9,507          | 8,081          | 8,281          | 9,544          | 11,671         | 12,345         |
| November             | 8,719          | 8,828          | 9,197          | 11,313         | 10,240         | 10,364         |
| December             | 10,615         | 11,098         | 11,129         | 9,523          | 9,585          | 8,247          |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>105,703</b> | <b>103,560</b> | <b>104,828</b> | <b>108,522</b> | <b>113,418</b> | <b>114,844</b> |
| PER CENT             |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| January              | 10.8           | 9.8            | 9.5            | 9.0            | 10.2           | 10.4           |
| February             | 8.6            | 8.2            | 8.2            | 8.2            | 8.6            | 8.6            |
| March                | 8.9            | 9.8            | 10.2           | 10.6           | 8.9            | 9.4            |
| April                | 10.5           | 9.1            | 8.9            | 8.6            | 8.4            | 9.6            |
| May                  | 7.7            | 7.7            | 7.8            | 8.6            | 8.9            | 8.5            |
| June                 | 6.6            | 6.4            | 7.2            | 6.3            | 6.1            | 6.0            |
| July                 | 5.4            | 6.2            | 5.1            | 5.1            | 5.4            | 5.8            |
| August               | 6.6            | 6.6            | 6.5            | 8.0            | 7.3            | 6.3            |
| September            | 7.6            | 9.1            | 9.5            | 7.7            | 8.4            | 8.4            |
| October              | 9.0            | 7.8            | 7.9            | 8.8            | 10.3           | 10.7           |
| November             | 8.2            | 8.5            | 8.8            | 10.4           | 9.0            | 9.0            |
| December             | 10.0           | 10.7           | 10.6           | 8.8            | 8.5            | 7.2            |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b>   |

(a) Figures exclude marriages celebrated in the years shown but not registered by the end of 1982.

TABLE 13. RELATIVE BIRTHPLACES OF BRIDEGROOM AND BRIDE, 1982

NOTE: The following table excludes 77,184 marriages (66 per cent of all marriages) where both bridegroom and bride were Australian-born.

| Country of birth       | Marriages involving bridegrooms born in overseas countries as shown, and— |                                             |                         |                                 | Marriages involving brides born in overseas countries as shown, and— |                                             |                         |                            |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
|                        | Bride born in same country                                                | Bride born in different overseas country(a) | Bride born in Australia | Total overseas born bridegrooms | Groom born in same country                                           | Groom born in different overseas country(a) | Groom born in Australia | Total overseas born brides |
| New Zealand            | 401                                                                       | 399                                         | 1,312                   | 2,112                           | 401                                                                  | 391                                         | 1,061                   | 1,853                      |
| Europe—                |                                                                           |                                             |                         |                                 |                                                                      |                                             |                         |                            |
| Austria                | 10                                                                        | 80                                          | 131                     | 221                             | 10                                                                   | 53                                          | 79                      | 142                        |
| Germany                | 109                                                                       | 304                                         | 682                     | 1,095                           | 109                                                                  | 242                                         | 476                     | 827                        |
| Greece                 | 343                                                                       | 130                                         | 457                     | 930                             | 343                                                                  | 71                                          | 141                     | 555                        |
| Hungary                | 40                                                                        | 85                                          | 70                      | 195                             | 40                                                                   | 39                                          | 43                      | 122                        |
| Italy                  | 356                                                                       | 273                                         | 1,047                   | 1,676                           | 356                                                                  | 162                                         | 429                     | 947                        |
| Malta                  | 99                                                                        | 76                                          | 254                     | 429                             | 99                                                                   | 61                                          | 170                     | 330                        |
| Netherlands            | 63                                                                        | 173                                         | 567                     | 803                             | 63                                                                   | 149                                         | 359                     | 571                        |
| Poland                 | 217                                                                       | 65                                          | 79                      | 361                             | 217                                                                  | 64                                          | 74                      | 355                        |
| UK and Ireland         | 2,284                                                                     | 1,164                                       | 7,188                   | 10,636                          | 2,284                                                                | 1,092                                       | 6,260                   | 9,636                      |
| Yugoslavia             | 708                                                                       | 217                                         | 405                     | 1,330                           | 708                                                                  | 105                                         | 200                     | 1,013                      |
| Other Europe           | 243                                                                       | 374                                         | 577                     | 1,194                           | 243                                                                  | 286                                         | 309                     | 928                        |
| Total                  | 4,472                                                                     | 2,941                                       | 11,457                  | 18,870                          | 4,472                                                                | 2,324                                       | 8,630                   | 15,426                     |
| Asia—                  |                                                                           |                                             |                         |                                 |                                                                      |                                             |                         |                            |
| China                  | 95                                                                        | 124                                         | 54                      | 273                             | 95                                                                   | 85                                          | 46                      | 226                        |
| Cyprus                 | 97                                                                        | 29                                          | 75                      | 201                             | 97                                                                   | 70                                          | 46                      | 213                        |
| Hong Kong              | 90                                                                        | 96                                          | 45                      | 231                             | 90                                                                   | 95                                          | 63                      | 248                        |
| India                  | 60                                                                        | 105                                         | 175                     | 340                             | 60                                                                   | 101                                         | 146                     | 307                        |
| Indonesia              | 78                                                                        | 53                                          | 83                      | 214                             | 78                                                                   | 74                                          | 76                      | 228                        |
| Lebanon                | 253                                                                       | 63                                          | 122                     | 438                             | 253                                                                  | 72                                          | 33                      | 358                        |
| Malaysia               | 159                                                                       | 104                                         | 167                     | 430                             | 159                                                                  | 148                                         | 232                     | 539                        |
| Philippines            | 99                                                                        | 19                                          | 33                      | 151                             | 99                                                                   | 372                                         | 475                     | 946                        |
| Singapore              | 16                                                                        | 43                                          | 82                      | 141                             | 16                                                                   | 89                                          | 77                      | 182                        |
| Sri Lanka              | 31                                                                        | 40                                          | 70                      | 141                             | 31                                                                   | 31                                          | 59                      | 121                        |
| Turkey                 | 106                                                                       | 24                                          | 26                      | 156                             | 106                                                                  | 19                                          | 10                      | 135                        |
| Vietnam                | 455                                                                       | 45                                          | 13                      | 513                             | 455                                                                  | 104                                         | 17                      | 576                        |
| Other Asia             | 244                                                                       | 217                                         | 200                     | 661                             | 244                                                                  | 259                                         | 209                     | 712                        |
| Total                  | 1,783                                                                     | 962                                         | 1,145                   | 3,890                           | 1,783                                                                | 1,519                                       | 1,489                   | 4,791                      |
| Africa—                |                                                                           |                                             |                         |                                 |                                                                      |                                             |                         |                            |
| Egypt                  | 65                                                                        | 100                                         | 123                     | 288                             | 65                                                                   | 57                                          | 71                      | 193                        |
| South Africa           | 33                                                                        | 51                                          | 132                     | 216                             | 33                                                                   | 62                                          | 147                     | 242                        |
| Other Africa           | 64                                                                        | 136                                         | 293                     | 493                             | 64                                                                   | 147                                         | 238                     | 449                        |
| Total                  | 162                                                                       | 287                                         | 548                     | 997                             | 162                                                                  | 266                                         | 456                     | 884                        |
| America—               |                                                                           |                                             |                         |                                 |                                                                      |                                             |                         |                            |
| Canada                 | 18                                                                        | 48                                          | 173                     | 239                             | 18                                                                   | 43                                          | 153                     | 214                        |
| U.S.A.                 | 42                                                                        | 131                                         | 403                     | 576                             | 42                                                                   | 116                                         | 275                     | 433                        |
| Other America          | 120                                                                       | 130                                         | 147                     | 397                             | 120                                                                  | 185                                         | 146                     | 451                        |
| Total                  | 180                                                                       | 309                                         | 723                     | 1,212                           | 180                                                                  | 344                                         | 574                     | 1,098                      |
| Pacific Islands        | 109                                                                       | 96                                          | 262                     | 467                             | 109                                                                  | 149                                         | 321                     | 579                        |
| Not stated or 'at sea' | 1                                                                         | —                                           | 5                       | 6                               | 1                                                                    | 1                                           | 6                       | 8                          |
| Total                  | 7,108                                                                     | 4,994                                       | 15,452                  | 27,554                          | 7,108                                                                | 4,994                                       | 12,537                  | 24,639                     |

(a) A table providing relative birthplaces of parties born in different countries is available on request.

## APPENDIX A

CHARACTERISTICS COLLECTED BY THE AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
FOR EACH MARRIAGE REGISTERED

- MARRIAGE** —Month and year of registration of marriage  
 —Day, month and year of celebration of marriage  
 —State in which marriage was registered  
 —Marriage Celebrant (rites used)
- BRIDEGROOM**—Previous marital status  
 —Birthplace  
 —Date of birth  
 —Birthplace of father  
 —Birthplace of mother  
 —Period of residence in Australia if born overseas
- BRIDE** —Previous marital status  
 —Birthplace  
 —Date of birth  
 —Birthplace of father  
 —Birthplace of mother  
 —Period of residence in Australia if born overseas

## APPENDIX B

## LIST OF MARRIAGE TABULATIONS PRODUCED ANNUALLY

| <i>Table<br/>Number</i> | <i>Description</i>                                                             |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| M 01.                   | Year and month of occurrence by month of registration.                         |
| M 02.                   | Category of celebrant by State of registration.                                |
| M 03.                   | Relative age of groom and bride.                                               |
| M 04.                   | Relative previous marital status of groom and bride by State of registration.  |
| M 05.                   | Relative ages by relative previous marital status of groom and bride.          |
| M 06.                   | Quarter of registration by age and previous marital status of groom and bride. |
| M 07.                   | Birthplace by age by previous marital status of groom and bride.               |
| M 08.                   | Relative birthplaces of groom and bride.                                       |