

DIVORCE

1968



**COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS
CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA**

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CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

SOCIAL STATISTICS : AUSTRALIA

NO. 71 : DIVORCE 1968

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bulletin contains statistics of dissolutions of marriage (commonly known as divorce), nullities of marriage and judicial separations for the year ended December 1968 and some comparative figures for previous years. For further details in respect of past years, see previous issues in this series and the annual bulletin "Demography" (ref. no. 4.9). Summary figures of divorce are also published quarterly, the latest being Social Statistics, No. 70 : Divorce - December quarter 1968, (ref. no. 13.2) issued on 13 May 1968.

2. The Commonwealth Matrimonial Causes Act 1959 came into operation on 1 February 1961. This Act provided a uniform law throughout Australia with respect to divorce and other matrimonial causes, and superseded the Matrimonial Causes laws of the States and Territories except in so far as the transitional provisions of the Act kept them in force for the purpose of completing pending proceedings. Therefore statistics of decrees granted in 1961 and for some time thereafter include some decrees made on petitions under the superseded laws and are to that extent not uniformly based. By 1968 the number of such decrees had become insignificant.

3. Under the Matrimonial Causes Act 1959-1966, a court may grant decrees of dissolution of marriage (commonly known as divorce), judicial separation, nullity of marriage, restitution of conjugal rights and jactitation of marriage (i.e., that a person should refrain from making a false claim that a marriage has taken place between him and another person). Orders may be made for the custody and welfare of children, maintenance, the settlement of property and damages for adultery.

4. 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 counted as a separate petition, nor are the grounds cited in a cross-petition included in Table 2.

5. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in percentages in tables are due to rounding.

I. PETITIONS FILED : DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE, NULLITY OF MARRIAGE
AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION

TABLE 1. - PETITIONS FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE, NULLITY OF MARRIAGE
AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION, 1964 TO 1968

Year	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
<u>PETITIONS FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE</u>									
1964	4,484	2,357	1,121	1,034	653	322	53	124	10,148
1965	4,679	2,501	1,266	1,107	736	328	61	161	10,839
1966	4,892	2,621	1,173	1,133	787	357	46	123	11,132
1967	5,427	2,700	1,424	1,178	888	319	55	162	12,153
1968	5,558	2,771	1,464	1,186	995	405	59	181	12,619
1968-Husband petitioner	2,025	1,112	609	422	485	197	33	63	4,946
-Wife petitioner	3,533	1,659	855	764	510	208	26	118	7,673
<u>PETITIONS FOR NULLITY OF MARRIAGE</u>									
1964	17	15	4	5	2	..	..	1	44
1965	20	12	1	13	2	3	..	..	51
1966	27	14	4	7	3	..	..	..	55
1967	28	16	5	11	2	..	..	3	65
1968	28	10	6	5	5	2	..	3	59
1968-Husband petitioner	7	5	2	..	2	1	..	1	18
-Wife petitioner	21	5	4	5	3	1	..	2	41
<u>PETITIONS FOR DISSOLUTION OR NULLITY OF MARRIAGE</u>									
1964	3	10	2	2	..	..	..	..	17
1965	3	15	5	2	..	..	..	..	25
1966	6	8	3	3	..	..	..	1	21
1967	4	13	1	2	..	..	..	..	20
1968	5	16	4	1	..	..	..	..	26
1968-Husband petitioner	1	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
-Wife petitioner	4	10	4	1	..	..	..	..	19
<u>PETITIONS FOR JUDICIAL SEPARATION</u>									
1964	13	7	6	4	1	2	..	1	34
1965	4	4	6	5	..	..	..	2	21
1966	13	1	4	2	1	..	..	4	25
1967	13	2	7	15	..	1	..	1	39
1968(a)	7	6	6	8	3	1	..	6	37
<u>TOTAL PETITIONS</u>									
1964	4,517	(b)2,390	1,133	1,045	656	324	53	126	(b)10,244
1965	4,706	2,532	1,278	1,127	738	331	61	163	10,936
1966	4,938	(b)2,645	1,184	(c)1,147	791	357	46	128	(d)11,236
1967	5,472	(b)2,732	1,437	(b)1,207	890	320	55	166	(c)12,279
1968	5,598	2,803	1,480	(b)1,201	1,003	408	59	190	(b)12,742
1968-Husband petitioner	2,033	1,123	611	422	487	198	33	64	4,971
Per cent	36	40	41	35	49	49	(e)	(e)	39
-Wife petitioner	3,565	1,680	869	(b)779	516	210	26	126	(b)7,771
Per cent	64	60	59	65	51	51	(e)	(e)	61

(a) All on petition by wife. (b) Includes one petition for dissolution or judicial separation. (c) Includes two petitions for dissolution or judicial separation.

(d) Includes three petitions for dissolution or judicial separation. (e) Percentage not shown because of small number of cases.

TABLE 2. - GROUNDS ON WHICH PETITIONS WERE FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE,
NULLITY OF MARRIAGE AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION : 1968

Ground	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
PETITIONS FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE									
Single grounds -									
Desertion	2,023	1,054	549	337	319	130	13	46	4,471
Adultery	1,359	699	294	319	371	148	16	43	3,249
Separation	642	356	220	148	208	75	21	11	1,681
Cruelty	588	65	111	220	22	13	2	42	1,063
Drunkenness	73	10	17	17	11	2	1	1	132
Intoxication by drugs	2	..	1	3	..	..	..	..	6
Failure to pay maintenance	1	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	7
Non-compliance with restitution decree	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	3
Refusal to consummate	20	6	8	1	1	2	..	..	38
Insanity	4	2	2	1	..	..	..	..	9
Frequent convictions	13	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	16
Imprisonment	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2
Rape	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Sodomy	5	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	10
Presumption of death	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	3
Other single grounds	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	3
Dual grounds -									
Desertion and adultery	47	118	31	18	13	2	2	3	234
Desertion and separation	356	331	134	53	20	15	1	3	913
Desertion and cruelty	112	28	16	10	3	1	2	1	173
Desertion and drunkenness	14	6	7	2	..	1	..	..	30
Desertion and failure to pay maintenance	1	..	1	2	2	..	..	1	7
Desertion and refusal to consummate	..	1	2	..	1	1	..	..	5
Desertion and frequent convictions	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Desertion and other	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	3
Adultery and separation	3	4	4	2	2	1	..	..	16
Adultery and cruelty	33	10	10	9	1	3	..	4	70
Adultery and drunkenness	4	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	8
Adultery and other	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
Separation and cruelty	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	4
Separation and drunkenness	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Separation and failure to pay maintenance	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	2
Separation and other	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Cruelty and drunkenness	175	29	30	28	9	6	1	21	299
Cruelty and refusal to consummate	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cruelty and frequent convictions	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Cruelty and other	8	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Drunkenness and drug intoxication	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	4
Three grounds or more	62	33	18	7	3	3	..	4	130
<u>Total</u>	5,558	2,771	1,464	1,186	995	405	59	181	12,619

TABLE 2. - GROUNDS ON WHICH PETITIONS WERE FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE,
NULLITY OF MARRIAGE AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION : 1968 - continued

Ground	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
PETITIONS FOR NULLITY OF MARRIAGE									
Bigamy	8	4	..	2	2	..	..	1	17
Invalid marriage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Consent under duress or by fraud	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Incapacity to consummate	15	6	5	3	2	2	..	1	34
Unsound mind	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pregnancy	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2
Multiple grounds	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
<u>Total</u>	28	10	6	5	5	2	..	3	59
PETITIONS FOR DISSOLUTION OR NULLITY OF MARRIAGE									
<u>Total</u>	5	16	4	1	..	..	..	..	26
PETITIONS FOR JUDICIAL SEPARATION									
Desertion	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	3
Adultery	3	1	1	4	2	1	..	..	12
Cruelty	2	3	3	2	..	..	..	2	12
Drunkenness	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
Desertion and adultery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Adultery and cruelty	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cruelty and drunkenness	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	2	5
Three or more grounds	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
<u>Total</u>	7	6	6	8	3	1	..	6	37
PETITIONS FOR DISSOLUTION OR JUDICIAL SEPARATION									
<u>Total</u>	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
TOTAL PETITIONS									
For dissolution of marriage	5,558	2,771	1,464	1,186	995	405	59	181	12,619
For nullity of marriage	28	10	6	5	5	2	..	3	59
For dissolution or nullity of marriage	5	16	4	1	..	..	..	..	26
For judicial separation	7	6	6	8	3	1	..	6	37
For dissolution or judicial separation	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
<u>Total</u>	5,598	2,803	1,480	1,201	1,003	408	59	190	12,742

**TABLE 3. - PETITIONS FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE, NULLITY OF MARRIAGE
AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION : BY SEX OF PETITIONER
AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN (a), AUSTRALIA 1968**

Petition for -	Marriages with -							Total petitions	Total number of children (a)
	no children	1 child	2 children	3 children	4 children	5 children	6 or more children		
Dissolution of marriage -									
Husband petitioner	1,819	1,170	1,111	519	212	81	34	4,946	6,427
Wife petitioner	2,182	1,917	1,856	1,046	423	150	99	7,673	11,850
<u>Total</u>	4,001	3,087	2,967	1,565	635	231	133	12,619	18,277
Nullity of marriage -									
Husband petitioner	16	1	..	1	..	..	..	18	4
Wife petitioner	32	6	2	1	..	..	..	41	13
<u>Total</u>	48	7	2	2	..	..	..	59	17
Dissolution or nullity -									
Husband petitioner	6	..	1	..	..	..	..	7	2
Wife petitioner	13	5	..	..	..	..	1	19	11
<u>Total</u>	19	5	1	..	..	..	1	26	13
Judicial separation -									
Husband petitioner	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wife petitioner	8	5	5	12	2	4	1	37	85
<u>Total</u>	8	5	5	12	2	4	1	37	85
Dissolution or judicial separation -									
Husband petitioner	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wife petitioner	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	3
<u>Total</u>	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	3
Total petitions -									
Husband petitioner	1,841	1,171	1,112	520	212	81	34	4,971	6,433
Wife petitioner	2,235	1,933	1,863	1,060	425	154	101	7,771	11,962
<u>TOTAL</u>	4,076	3,104	2,975	1,580	637	235	135	12,742	18,395

(a) At time of petition. The term "children" refers to "children of the marriage" as defined in the Matrimonial Causes Act, living and under 21 years.

**TABLE 4. - PETITIONS FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE, NULLITY OF MARRIAGE
AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION : BY NUMBER OF CHILDREN (a), AUSTRALIA, 1964 TO 1968**

Year	Marriages with -							Total petitions	Total number of children (a)
	no children	1 child	2 children	3 children	4 children	5 children	6 or more children		
1964	3,528	2,586	2,238	1,186	457	150	99	10,244	13,051
1965	3,747	2,722	2,393	1,285	510	165	114	10,536	14,565
1966	3,775	2,836	2,503	1,225	577	194	126	11,236	15,622
1967	4,160	2,978	2,792	1,431	586	222	110	12,279	17,048
1968	4,076	3,104	2,975	1,580	637	235	135	12,742	18,395

(a) See note (a) to table 3.

**II. DECREES GRANTED : DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE, NULLITY OF MARRIAGE AND
JUDICIAL SEPARATION**

**TABLE 5. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE, NULLITIES OF MARRIAGE
AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS GRANTED, 1964 TO 1968**

Year	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a)									
1964	3,024	2,130	981	887	542	229	31	93	7,917
1965	3,440	2,089	1,052	852	604	279	41	134	8,491
1966	4,515	2,131	1,031	1,069	637	317	58	101	9,859
1967	4,555	2,039	1,074	929	726	248	20	97	9,688
1968	4,880	2,515	1,135	915	812	302	23	149	10,731
1968-Husband petitioner	1,756	1,048	467	336	365	153	14	52	4,191
Wife petitioner	3,122	1,465	668	579	447	149	9	97	6,536
Granted on petition of both	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
NULLITIES OF MARRIAGE (a)									
1964	14	19	5	3	2	1	..	..	44
1965	14	13	3	3	2	..	..	..	35
1966	19	11	7	9	3	1	..	..	50
1967	17	15	6	9	1	..	..	2	50
1968	24	10	4	4	..	1	..	1	44
1968-Husband petitioner	10	4	1	2	..	1	..	..	18
Wife petitioner	14	6	3	2	..	..	..	1	26
JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS									
1964	3	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	6
1965	1	1	4	..	..	1	..	1	8
1966	4	2	1	2	..	1	..	2	12
1967	2	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	8
1968 (b)	7	..	1	3	..	..	..	3	14
TOTAL DECREES									
1964	3,041	2,151	986	890	545	230	31	93	7,967
1965	3,455	2,103	1,059	855	606	280	41	135	8,534
1966	4,538	2,144	1,039	1,080	640	319	58	103	9,921
1967	4,574	2,054	1,083	941	727	248	20	99	9,746
1968	4,911	2,525	1,140	922	812	303	23	153	10,789
1968-Husband petitioner	1,766	1,052	468	338	365	154	14	52	4,209
Per cent	36	42	41	37	45	51	(c)	(c)	39
-Wife petitioner	3,143	1,471	672	584	447	149	9	101	6,576
Per cent	64	58	59	63	55	49	(c)	(c)	61
Granted on petition of both	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	4

(a) Decrees absolute. (b) All on petition by wife. (c) Percentage not shown because of small number of cases.

**TABLE 6. - GROUNDS ON WHICH DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE, NULLITIES OF MARRIAGE
AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS WERE GRANTED : 1968**

Ground	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (a)									
Single grounds -									
Desertion	2,327	1,221	559	339	255	113	7	42	4,863
Adultery	1,032	674	198	264	301	85	5	52	2,611
Separation	765	512	254	137	204	69	4	14	1,959
Cruelty	400	36	68	114	22	6	1	23	670
Drunkenness	75	19	25	19	9	2	..	1	150
Failure to pay maintenance	3	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	10
Non-compliance with restitution decree	2	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	5
Refusal to consummate	17	15	3	3	..	..	..	1	39
Insanity	2	2	..	3	..	..	..	..	7
Frequent convictions	8	6	1	2	1	..	..	..	18
Imprisonment	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	4
Rape	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Presumption of death	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	4
Other single grounds	7	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	9
Dual grounds -									
Desertion and adultery	40	7	10	3	4	4	..	..	68
Desertion and separation	42	4	4	19	1	15	3	..	88
Desertion and cruelty	35	3	..	1	2	1	1	1	44
Desertion and drunkenness	11	1	1	3	..	..	..	..	16
Desertion and failure to pay maintenance	4	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	6
Desertion and other	2	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	5
Adultery and cruelty	6	1	2	2	..	..	..	1	12
Adultery and other	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	3
Separation and refusal to consummate	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cruelty and drunkenness	87	5	6	4	3	2	1	..	118
Cruelty and other	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Other dual grounds	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Three grounds or more	8	..	..	1	..	1	..	3	13
<u>Total</u>	4,880	2,515	1,135	915	812	302	23	149	10,731
NULLITY OF MARRIAGE (a)									
Bigamy	13	2	1	1	..	..	..	1	18
Invalid marriage	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	2
Incapacity to consummate	10	8	2	2	..	1	..	..	23
Unsound mind	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
<u>Total</u>	24	10	4	4	..	1	..	1	44
JUDICIAL SEPARATION									
Desertion	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Adultery	4	..	..	3	..	..	..	1	8
Cruelty	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Desertion and adultery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Cruelty and drunkenness	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	2
<u>Total</u>	7	..	1	3	..	..	..	3	14

(a) Decrees absolute

**TABLE 7. - GROUNDS ON WHICH DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE, NULLITIES OF MARRIAGE
AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS WERE GRANTED : AUSTRALIA, 1964 TO 1968**

Ground	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (a)					
Single grounds -					
Desertion	3,468	3,777	4,532	4,398	4,863
Adultery	1,833	2,035	2,288	2,270	2,611
Separation	1,687	1,706	1,968	1,868	1,959
Cruelty	316	380	488	550	670
Drunkenness	81	103	142	128	150
Intoxication by drugs	4	1	3	1	3
Failure to pay maintenance	10	10	6	3	10
Non-compliance with restitution decree	17	15	7	5	5
Refusal to consummate	22	24	23	30	39
Insanity	16	13	10	7	7
Frequent convictions	12	23	15	12	18
Imprisonment	5	7	6	7	4
Rape	4	5	1	3	4
Sodomy	2	1	2	1	3
Presumption of death	2	2	2	4	4
Other single grounds	..	5	..	1	3
Dual grounds -					
Desertion and adultery	73	93	93	76	68
Desertion and separation	159	108	67	68	88
Desertion and cruelty	44	36	34	50	44
Desertion and drunkenness	13	26	20	24	16
Desertion and failure to pay maintenance	5	4	5	4	6
Desertion and frequent convictions	4	1	4	3	4
Desertion and other	6	4	2	2	1
Adultery and separation	9	2	7	9	1
Adultery and cruelty	11	6	8	12	12
Adultery and other	6	2	2	3	2
Separation and failure to pay maintenance	..	..	2	1	..
Separation and other	8	6	3	4	1
Cruelty and drunkenness	69	76	98	126	118
Cruelty and other	6	6	3	..	2
Drunkenness and other	4	1	1	1	..
Other dual grounds	..	..	1	1	2
Three grounds or more	21	13	16	16	13
Total	7,917	8,491	9,859	9,688	10,731
NULLITY OF MARRIAGE (a)					
Bigamy	16	13	21	15	18
Invalid marriage	3	2	2	5	2
Incapacity to consummate	23	20	22	27	23
Other grounds	2	..	5	3	1
Total	44	35	50	50	44
JUDICIAL SEPARATION					
Desertion	2	..	3	1	1
Adultery	1	5	4	5	8
Cruelty	2	1	2	2	2
Other grounds	1	2	3	..	3
Total	6	8	12	8	14

(a) Decrees absolute.

III. DISSOLUTIONS GRANTED : AGES OF PARTIES

TABLE 8. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE GRANTED (a)

AGES OF PARTIES AT TIME OF MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA 1968

Age of husband (years)	Age of wife (years)											Total husbands	
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not stated	Number	Per cent
Under 20	771	154	14	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	940	9
20 - 24	2,285	2,654	285	39	11	4	1	..	..	..	..	5,279	49
25 - 29	542	1,348	524	111	35	4	2	2	..	..	1	2,569	24
30 - 34	118	359	252	145	57	19	2	..	..	..	1	953	9
35 - 39	22	100	107	81	82	31	12	1	1	..	..	437	4
40 - 44	4	32	38	52	42	46	11	8	1	..	..	234	2
45 - 49	3	12	11	23	28	34	25	7	1	1	..	145	1
50 - 54	1	1	9	10	12	15	15	9	6	..	..	78	1
55 - 59	..	1	1	1	4	12	7	18	5	..	..	49	..
60 and over	..	..	1	1	2	3	7	7	10	16	..	47	..
<u>Total (Number</u>	<u>3,746</u>	<u>4,661</u>	<u>1,242</u>	<u>464</u>	<u>273</u>	<u>168</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>10,731</u>	<u>..</u>
<u>wives (Per cent</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>..</u>	<u>..</u>	<u>..</u>	<u>..</u>	<u>..</u>	<u>100</u>

(a) Decreases absolute; excludes nullities of marriage and judicial separations granted.

TABLE 9. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE GRANTED (a)

AGE OF HUSBAND AT TIME OF MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA, 1964 TO 1968

Year of dissolution of marriage	Age of husband (years)											Total
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not stated	
1964	497	3,776	2,024	814	380	202	102	52	28	30	12	7,917
1965	636	4,069	2,162	799	386	192	120	62	33	26	6	8,491
1966	770	4,685	2,525	937	409	248	142	66	39	30	8	9,859
1967	783	4,653	2,401	910	462	223	116	71	34	33	2	9,688
1968	940	5,279	2,569	953	437	234	145	78	49	47	..	10,731

(a) Decreases absolute; excludes nullities of marriage and judicial separations granted.

TABLE 10. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE GRANTED (a)

AGE OF WIFE AT TIME OF MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA, 1964 TO 1968

Year of dissolution of marriage	Age of wife (years)											Total
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not stated	
1964	2,465	3,473	1,041	437	247	119	67	24	21	10	13	7,917
1965	2,796	3,667	1,072	464	243	114	69	26	16	16	3	8,491
1966	3,322	4,241	1,244	482	271	140	80	35	24	13	7	9,859
1967	3,286	4,186	1,160	468	281	135	74	39	21	16	2	9,688
1968	3,746	4,661	1,242	464	273	168	82	52	24	17	2	10,731

(a) Decreases absolute; excludes nullities of marriage and judicial separations granted.

TABLE 11. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE GRANTED (a)
AGES OF PARTIES AT TIME OF DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA 1968

Age of husband (years)	Age of wife (years)										Total husbands		
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not stated	Number	Per cent
Under 20	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
20 - 24	9	293	38	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	343	3
25 - 29	3	618	954	68	12	1	1	..	..	..	..	1,657	15
30 - 34	..	121	853	724	88	16	2	3	..	1	..	1,808	17
35 - 39	..	16	207	665	644	123	21	5	3	1	1	1,686	16
40 - 44	..	4	48	205	623	602	154	15	5	3	..	1,659	15
45 - 49	..	1	18	53	182	547	469	100	23	4	..	1,397	13
50 - 54	..	1	6	9	45	152	350	314	63	13	..	953	9
55 - 59	..	..	3	9	19	63	120	207	176	40	1	638	6
60 and over	..	..	2	2	5	11	60	110	143	256	..	589	5
Total (Number)	12	1,055	2,129	1,738	1,618	1,515	1,177	754	413	318	2	10,731	..
wives (Per cent)	..	10	20	16	15	14	11	7	4	3	..	..	100

(a) Decrees absolute; excludes nullities of marriage and judicial separations granted.

TABLE 12. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE GRANTED (a)
AGE OF HUSBAND AT TIME OF DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA, 1964 TO 1968

Year of dissolution of marriage	Age of husband (years)									Total	
	Under 25	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over		Not stated
1964	165	913	1,305	1,441	1,282	1,017	798	499	484	13	7,917
1965	194	1,062	1,369	1,582	1,461	1,038	824	467	468	6	8,491
1966	279	1,338	1,577	1,695	1,631	1,191	980	587	574	7	9,859
1967	255	1,293	1,562	1,547	1,653	1,320	931	581	544	2	9,688
1968	344	1,657	1,808	1,686	1,659	1,397	953	638	589	..	10,731

(a) Decrees absolute; excludes nullities of marriage and judicial separations granted.

TABLE 13. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE GRANTED (a)
AGE OF WIFE AT TIME OF DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA, 1964 TO 1968

Year of dissolution of marriage	Age of wife (years)									Total	
	Under 25	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over		Not stated
1964	584	1,292	1,365	1,364	1,207	900	568	340	283	14	7,917
1965	662	1,528	1,368	1,523	1,322	934	603	275	268	8	8,491
1966	879	1,800	1,645	1,563	1,460	1,078	706	401	321	6	9,859
1967	840	1,709	1,567	1,534	1,517	1,132	752	354	281	2	9,688
1968	1,067	2,129	1,738	1,618	1,515	1,177	754	413	318	2	10,731

(a) Decrees absolute; excludes nullities of marriage and judicial separations granted.

IV. DISSOLUTIONS GRANTED : MISCELLANEOUS TABLES

TABLE 14. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE GRANTED (a) : DURATION OF MARRIAGE AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN (b), AUSTRALIA 1968

Duration of marriage (years)	Marriages with -							Total marriages dissolved		Total number of children (b)
	no child- ren	1 child	2 child- ren	3 child- ren	4 child- ren	5 child- ren	6 or more child- ren	Number	Per cent	
Under 5	556	233	50	15	2	1	..	857	8	391
5 - 9	1,129	993	675	179	32	13	3	3,024	28	3,092
10 - 14	494	481	611	350	138	46	10	2,130	20	3,598
15 - 19	306	304	463	351	159	49	46	1,678	16	3,460
20 - 24	281	273	392	248	147	52	33	1,426	13	2,871
25 - 29	382	235	157	68	26	2	7	877	8	913
30 and over	579	104	42	8	6	..	..	739	7	236
<u>Total marriages dissolved</u>	(Number) 3,727	2,623	2,390	1,219	510	163	99	10,731	..	..
	(Per cent) 35	24	22	11	5	2	1	..	100	..
<u>Total number of children (b)</u>	..	2,623	4,780	3,657	2,040	815	646	..	..	14,561

(a) Decreases absolute; excludes nullities of marriage and judicial separations granted.

(b) At time of petition. The term "children" refers to "children of the marriage" as defined in the Matrimonial Causes Act, living and under 21 years.

TABLE 15. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE GRANTED (a)
DURATION OF MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA, 1964 TO 1968

Year of dissolution of marriage	Duration of marriage (years)								Total marriages dissolved
	Under 5	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30 and over	Not stated	
1964	501	1,980	1,741	1,474	984	633	602	2	7,917
1965	572	2,204	1,843	1,569	1,072	647	584	..	8,491
1966	780	2,550	2,004	1,743	1,287	786	709	..	9,859
1967	691	2,457	1,958	1,681	1,432	836	633	..	9,688
1968	857	3,024	2,130	1,678	1,426	877	739	..	10,731

(a) Decreases absolute; excludes nullities of marriage and judicial separations granted.

TABLE 16. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE GRANTED (a)
NUMBER OF CHILDREN (b), AUSTRALIA, 1964 TO 1968

Year of dissolution of marriage	Marriages with -							Total marriages dissolved	Total number of children (b)
	no child- ren	1 child	2 child- ren	3 child- ren	4 child- ren	5 child- ren	6 or more child- ren		
1964	2,885	2,052	1,703	810	309	104	54	7,917	9,997
1965	2,891	2,180	1,905	967	352	116	80	8,491	11,426
1966	3,500	2,507	2,158	1,039	410	152	93	9,859	12,950
1967	3,249	2,462	2,204	1,077	486	131	79	9,688	13,213
1968	3,727	2,623	2,390	1,219	510	163	99	10,731	14,561

(a) Decreases absolute; excludes nullities of marriage and judicial separations granted.

(b) See note (b) to table 14.

TABLE 17. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE GRANTED (a)
AGES OF CHILDREN OF MARRIAGE (b) : AUSTRALIA 1968

Granted on petition of-	Ages of children at time of petition (years)																		Total number of children
	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 to 20	Not stated	
Husband	33	88	188	292	320	321	332	331	307	301	277	279	259	253	252	231	973	2	5,039
Wife	67	180	373	536	645	611	640	617	579	565	553	537	491	482	445	438	1,755	1	9,515
Both	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	7
Total	100	269	562	828	965	933	972	949	886	867	830	816	750	735	698	669	2,729	3	14,561

(a) Decrees absolute; excludes nullities of marriage and judicial separations granted.
(b) At time of petition. The term "children" refers to "children of the marriage" as defined in the Matrimonial Causes Act, living and under 21 years.

TABLE 18. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE GRANTED (a)
DURATION OF MARRIAGE AND AGES OF PARTIES AT TIME OF DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE
AUSTRALIA 1968

Duration of marriage (years)	Age at time of dissolution of marriage (years)											Total marriages dissolved	
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not stated	Number	Per cent
HUSBAND													
Under 5	1	199	360	128	59	38	20	15	11	26	..	857	8
5 - 9	..	144	1,219	915	309	154	101	75	53	54	..	3,024	28
10 - 14	..	..	78	724	745	314	117	62	47	43	..	2,130	20
15 - 19	..	..	..	41	543	646	281	87	50	30	..	1,678	16
20 - 24	..	..	..	..	30	486	571	189	97	53	..	1,426	13
25 - 29	..	..	..	..	..	21	302	365	122	67	..	877	8
30 and over	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	160	258	316	..	739	7
Total (Number marriages dissolved)	1	343	1,657	1,808	1,686	1,659	1,397	953	638	589	..	10,731	..
(Per cent dissolved)	..	3	15	17	16	15	13	9	6	5	..	..	100
WIFE													
Under 5	12	437	243	62	33	17	19	8	13	13	..	857	8
5 - 9	..	618	1,499	432	170	111	82	52	31	28	1	3,024	28
10 - 14	..	..	387	1,006	404	151	80	50	29	23	..	2,130	20
15 - 19	..	..	..	238	834	383	123	57	27	16	..	1,678	16
20 - 24	..	..	..	..	177	746	356	97	31	19	..	1,426	13
25 - 29	..	..	..	..	..	107	453	239	57	21	..	877	8
30 and over	..	..	..	..	..	..	64	251	225	198	1	739	7
Total (Number marriages dissolved)	12	1,055	2,129	1,738	1,618	1,515	1,177	754	413	318	2	10,731	..
(Per cent dissolved)	..	10	20	16	15	14	11	7	4	3	..	..	100

(a) Decrees absolute; excludes nullities of marriage and judicial separations granted.

TABLE 19. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE GRANTED (a) : DURATION OF MARRIAGE
AND MARITAL STATUS OF PARTIES AT TIME OF MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA 1968

Duration of marriage (years)	Marital status at time of marriage of -									
	Husband					Wife				
	Single	Widowed	Divorced	Not stated	Total	Single	Widowed	Divorced	Not stated	Total
Under 5	739	34	84	..	857	732	41	84	..	857
5 - 9	2,686	93	245	..	3,024	2,636	103	284	1	3,024
10 - 14	1,899	46	185	..	2,130	1,858	63	209	..	2,130
15 - 19	1,517	25	136	..	1,678	1,505	37	136	..	1,678
20 - 24	1,316	19	91	..	1,426	1,302	31	93	..	1,426
25 - 29	844	7	26	..	877	835	12	30	..	877
30 and over	724	7	8	..	739	725	4	10	..	739
TOTAL	9,725	231	775	..	10,731	9,593	291	846	1	10,731

(a) Decrees absolute; excludes nullities of marriage and judicial separations granted.

TABLE 20. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE GRANTED (a) : MARITAL STATUS
OF PARTIES AT TIME OF MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA 1968

Marital status of husband at time of marriage	Marital status of wife at time of marriage -				
	Single	Widowed	Divorced	Not stated	Total
Single	9,080	139	505	1	9,725
Widowed	74	73	84	..	231
Divorced	439	79	257	..	775
TOTAL	9,593	291	846	1	10,731

(a) Decrees absolute; excludes nullities of marriage and judicial separations granted.

TABLE 21. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE GRANTED (a) : MARITAL STATUS
OF PARTIES AT TIME OF MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA, 1964 TO 1968

Year of dissolution of marriage	Marital status at time of marriage of -									
	Husband					Wife				
	Single	Widowed	Divorced	Not stated	Total	Single	Widowed	Divorced	Not stated	Total
1964	7,188	175	553	1	7,917	7,049	232	636	..	7,917
1965	7,694	189	605	3	8,491	7,557	220	712	2	8,491
1966	8,943	206	709	1	9,859	8,735	290	834	..	9,859
1967	8,750	205	733	..	9,688	8,604	261	823	..	9,688
1968	9,725	231	775	..	10,731	9,593	291	846	1	10,731

(a) Decrees absolute; excludes nullities of marriage and judicial separations granted.

TABLE 22. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE GRANTED (a) : NUMBER
OF TIMES THE PARTIES HAVE BEEN DIVORCED, AUSTRALIA 1968

Husband	Wife					Not stated	Total
	Now divorced for the first time	Now divorced for the second time	Now divorced for the third time	Now divorced for the fourth time			
Now divorced for the first time	9,362	574	15	..	1	9,952	
Now divorced for the second time	502	250	8	..	..	760
Now divorced for the third time	16	2	..	..	..	18
Now divorced for the fourth time	1	..	..	..	..	1
<u>TOTAL</u>	9,881	826	23	..	1	10,731	

(a) Decrees absolute; excludes nullities of marriage and judicial separations granted.

TABLE 23. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE GRANTED (a)
MONTH IN WHICH GRANTED 1968

Month	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
January	333	215	106	81	72	20	4	18	849
February	543	342	100	69	98	35	1	13	1,201
March	604	272	138	67	103	2	3	13	1,202
April	454	29	2	8	12	13	..	3	521
May	523	195	70	92	56	28	..	6	970
June	402	253	99	89	40	29	1	17	930
July	321	190	79	78	62	28	2	14	774
August	473	235	113	85	71	29	1	15	1,022
September	276	234	94	74	63	38	3	18	800
October	175	119	116	54	72	18	1	5	560
November	334	209	109	97	92	2	1	12	856
December	442	222	109	121	71	60	6	15	1,046
<u>TOTAL</u>	4,880	2,515	1,135	915	812	302	23	149	10,731

(a) Decrees absolute; excludes nullities of marriage and judicial separations granted.

K. M. ARCHER
COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600

22 JULY 1969

NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 63 9111 extension 2268 cr, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.