

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, A.C.T.

AUSTRALIAN DEMOGRAPHIC REVIEW NO. 111

MARRIAGES, 1959

This issue is devoted to a summary of the marriage statistics for Australia for the year 1959. Detailed tables will be published later in Demography Bulletin No. 77, 1959. Comparative statistics for years prior to those shown herein will be found in Demography Bulletin No. 76, 1958, and earlier issues.

TABLE 1 : MARRIAGES : NUMBER

State or Territory	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
New South Wales	27,645	27,313	28,767	28,554	28,201
Victoria	20,056	20,137	20,239	20,649	20,456
Queensland	10,098	9,934	10,271	10,255	10,581
South Australia	6,226	6,277	6,581	6,505	6,614
Western Australia	5,145	5,080	4,897	5,038	5,387
Tasmania	2,600	2,601	2,507	2,475	2,567
Northern Territory	151	160	178	201	205
Australian Capital Territory	251	278	256	324	352
<u>Australia:</u>	<u>72,172</u>	<u>71,780</u>	<u>73,696</u>	<u>74,001</u>	<u>74,363</u>

TABLE 2 : MARRIAGES : CRUDE MARRIAGE RATES (a)

State or Territory	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
New South Wales	7.92	7.68	7.94	7.73	7.50
Victoria	7.94	7.73	7.57	7.54	7.27
Queensland	7.54	7.27	7.38	7.25	7.36
South Australia	7.59	7.40	7.53	7.25	7.18
Western Australia	7.81	7.50	7.08	7.14	7.49
Tasmania	8.22	8.07	7.59	7.33	7.45
Northern Territory	8.86	8.94	9.50	10.45	10.01
Australian Capital Territory	(b)7.74	(b)8.01	(b)6.80	7.88	7.55
<u>Australia:</u>	<u>7.84</u>	<u>7.61</u>	<u>7.64</u>	<u>7.51</u>	<u>7.39</u>

(a) Number of marriages per 1,000 of mean population. (b) Revised rates based on population estimates adjusted in accordance with the June, 1957 Population Count of Canberra are as follows:- 1955, 7.67; 1956, 7.86; 1957, 6.74.

TABLE 3 : MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN EACH MONTH, 1959

Month	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	N.T.	A.C.T.	AUST.
January	2,504	1,818	1,023	693	494	260	16	30	6,838
February	2,194	1,635	765	542	480	196	25	29	5,866
March	2,307	1,859	621	557	387	247	8	36	6,022
April	3,055	1,783	1,259	643	679	189	21	27	7,656
May	2,133	1,817	832	525	423	207	19	23	5,979
June	2,197	1,464	895	462	342	209	14	31	5,614
July	1,931	1,256	676	424	318	158	13	18	4,794
August	1,873	1,449	696	459	375	180	9	40	5,081
September	2,291	1,541	969	569	428	203	23	28	6,052
October	2,574	1,962	855	702	458	227	16	21	6,815
November	2,453	1,798	788	487	500	219	20	29	6,294
December	2,689	2,074	1,202	551	503	272	21	40	7,352
<u>TOTAL:</u>	<u>28,201</u>	<u>20,456</u>	<u>10,581</u>	<u>6,614</u>	<u>5,387</u>	<u>2,557</u>	<u>205</u>	<u>352</u>	<u>74,363</u>

TABLE 4 : MARRIAGES IN EACH DENOMINATION, AUSTRALIA

Denomination	1958		1959	
	Number	Proportion of Total Marriages	Number	Proportion of Total Marriages
Church of England	20,424	27.60	20,238	27.21
Roman Catholic	19,143	25.87	19,470	26.18
Methodist	9,335	12.61	9,440	12.69
Presbyterian	8,949	12.09	8,920	12.00
Greek Orthodox	2,377	3.21	1,994	2.68
Baptist	1,135	1.53	1,179	1.59
Lutheran	1,038	1.40	1,114	1.50
Congregational	991	1.34	1,013	1.36
Church of Christ	782	1.06	826	1.11
Salvation Army	449	0.61	432	0.58
Seventh-Day Adventist	197	0.27	190	0.26
Unitarian	30	0.04	51	0.07
United Church	27	0.04	32	0.04
Other Christian	620	0.84	685	0.92
Hebrew	292	0.39	295	0.40
Other Non-Christian	1	0.00	6	0.01
Total, Denominational	65,790	88.90	65,885	88.60
Civil Officers	8,211	11.10	8,478	11.40
Grand Total:	74,001	100.00	74,363	100.00

TABLE 5 : MARRIAGES CELEBRATED BY MINISTERS OF RELIGION AND CIVIL OFFICERS : AUSTRALIA

Year	Number of Marriages			Proportion of Total Marriages	
	Celebrated by Ministers of Religion	Celebrated by Civil Officers	Total	Celebrated by Ministers of Religion	Celebrated by Civil Officers
1955	63,959	8,213	72,172	88.62	11.38
1956	63,683	8,097	71,780	88.72	11.28
1957	65,449	8,247	73,696	88.81	11.19
1958	65,790	8,211	74,001	88.90	11.10
1959	65,885	8,478	74,363	88.60	11.40

TABLE 6 : MARRIAGES : CONJUGAL CONDITION OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES, 1959

Marriages Between -	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q.L.D.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	N.T.	A.C.T.	AUST.
Bachelors and -									
Spinsters	23,363	17,312	9,051	5,578	4,458	2,161	178	302	62,403
Widows	468	310	230	136	103	40	5	5	1,297
Divorced Women	1,233	784	351	223	246	107	12	15	2,971
Total Bachelors:	25,064	18,406	9,632	5,937	4,807	2,308	195	322	66,671
Widowers and -									
Spinsters	426	296	155	96	70	40	-	4	1,087
Widows	503	365	206	161	110	42	2	1	1,390
Divorced Women	274	180	75	53	59	13	-	1	655
Total Widowers:	1,203	841	436	310	239	95	2	6	3,132
Divorced Men and -									
Spinsters	1,007	679	261	179	165	103	6	12	2,412
Widows	255	158	78	55	43	22	-	1	612
Divorced Women	672	372	174	133	133	39	2	11	1,536
Total Divorced Men:	1,934	1,209	513	367	341	164	8	24	4,560
Total Spinsters	24,796	18,287	9,467	5,753	4,693	2,304	184	318	65,902
Total Widows	1,226	833	514	352	256	104	7	7	3,299
Total Divorced Women	2,179	1,336	600	409	438	159	14	27	5,162
Total Marriages:	28,201	20,456	10,581	6,614	5,387	2,567	205	352	74,363

TABLE 7 : AGE AND CONJUGAL CONDITION OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES : AUSTRALIA, 1959

Age (Years)	Bridegrooms				Brides			
	Bachelors	Widowers	Divorced	Total	Spinsters	Widows	Divorced	Total
Under 15	-	-	-	-	41	-	-	41
15	-	-	-	-	283	-	-	283
16	37	-	-	37	1,381	-	-	1,381
17	224	-	-	224	3,289	-	-	3,289
18	1,021	-	-	1,021	5,751	2	-	5,753
19	2,196	-	-	2,196	8,174	5	1	8,180
20	3,718	-	-	3,718	8,918	4	11	8,933
21	7,147	2	4	7,153	10,125	18	24	10,167
22	7,694	2	6	7,702	6,861	17	53	6,931
23	7,399	2	13	7,414	4,720	20	66	4,806
24	6,304	8	27	6,339	3,285	22	99	3,406
25	5,246	4	48	5,298	2,390	19	134	2,543
26	4,224	17	60	4,301	1,770	28	171	1,969
27	3,487	12	77	3,576	1,416	41	217	1,674
28	3,175	16	131	3,322	1,159	47	232	1,438
29	2,558	13	147	2,718	960	42	233	1,235
30	2,095	24	156	2,275	769	46	257	1,072
31	1,677	28	186	1,891	619	60	263	942
32	1,367	33	212	1,612	510	61	272	843
33	1,111	24	217	1,352	453	61	211	725
34	977	38	213	1,228	373	65	226	664
35	700	33	200	933	341	71	221	633
36	611	33	183	827	256	66	239	561
37	471	40	171	682	235	75	200	510
38	421	33	179	633	223	79	193	495
39	340	43	194	577	168	88	185	441
40	265	45	168	478	98	76	165	339
41	220	55	144	419	114	84	135	333
42	236	47	137	420	114	83	122	319
43	183	66	132	381	96	82	120	298
44	159	52	146	357	97	99	153	349
45-49	666	346	635	1,647	369	490	518	1,377
50-54	340	410	370	1,120	230	434	250	914
55-59	192	467	238	897	138	327	111	576
60-64	98	382	101	581	95	298	45	438
65 and over	112	857	65	1,034	81	389	35	505
Minors	7,196	-	-	7,196	27,837	11	12	27,860
Adults	59,475	3,132	4,560	67,167	38,065	3,288	5,150	46,503
Total:	66,671	3,132	4,560	74,363	65,902	3,299	5,162	74,363

TABLE 8 : MARRIAGES : AVERAGE AGE OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES : AUSTRALIA

Year	Average Age of Bridegrooms (Years)				Average Age of Brides (Years)			
	Bachelors	Widowers	Divorced	All Bridegrooms	Spinsters	Widows	Divorced	All Brides
1955	26.57	54.44	40.28	28.68	23.40	47.13	36.21	25.42
1956	26.57	55.33	40.60	28.66	23.28	48.02	36.51	25.34
1957	26.47	55.62	40.80	28.54	23.16	47.68	36.72	25.18
1958	26.33	55.59	40.57	28.36	23.03	47.83	36.86	25.00
1959	26.26	55.77	40.73	28.39	22.91	48.36	36.93	25.01

TABLE 9 : MARRIAGES OF MINORS : AUSTRALIA

Year	Number of Minors Married			Proportion of Minors to Total Number Married		
	Males	Females	Total	Males %	Females %	Total %
1955	5,613	24,440	30,053	7.78	33.86	20.82
1956	6,088	25,310	31,398	8.48	35.26	21.87
1957	6,563	26,749	33,312	8.91	36.30	22.60
1958	7,004	27,340	34,344	9.46	36.95	23.21
1959	7,196	27,860	35,056	9.68	37.46	23.57

TABLE 10 : MARRIAGES OF MINORS : STATES

Year	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	N.T.	A.C.T.	AUST.
1955	11,894	7,391	4,462	2,498	2,307	1,356	54	91	30,053
1956	12,304	7,793	4,564	2,685	2,315	1,455	65	117	31,398
1957	13,265	8,343	4,882	2,939	2,291	1,423	69	100	33,312
1958	13,508	8,715	4,968	3,046	2,409	1,467	104	127	34,344
1959	13,386	8,708	5,410	3,197	2,572	1,538	91	154	35,056

TABLE 11 : MARRIAGES OF MINORS : PROPORTION TO TOTAL NUMBER MARRIED
(Per cent.)

Year	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	N.T.	A.C.T.	AUST.
1955	21.51	18.43	22.09	20.06	22.42	26.08	17.88	18.13	20.82
1956	22.52	19.35	23.47	21.39	24.79	27.97	20.31	21.04	21.87
1957	23.06	20.61	23.77	22.33	23.39	28.38	19.38	19.53	22.60
1958	23.65	21.10	24.22	23.41	23.91	29.64	25.87	19.60	23.21
1959	23.73	21.28	25.56	24.17	23.87	29.96	22.20	21.88	23.57

TABLE 12 : MARRIAGES : RELATIVE BIRTHPLACES OF BRIDEGROOM AND BRIDE
AUSTRALIA, 1959

Birthplace of Bridegroom	Birthplace of Bride							Total Brides-grooms
	Aust.	N.Z.	U.K.	Other European	Asia	Africa	Am-erica	
Australia	53,651	235	2,253	763	227	36	40	57,255
New Zealand	355	21	23	5	3	2	1	410
United Kingdom	3,279	41	967	132	46	10	6	4,291
Other European	2,730	39	330	7,525	123	65	7	10,837
Asia	369	7	34	112	286	6	3	822
Africa	89	-	27	87	3	84	1	292
America	143	2	12	12	1	1	5	176
Other and Unspec.	53	2	9	2	1	-	-	80
Total Brides:	60,669	347	3,655	8,638	690	204	67	74,363

TABLE 13 : MARRIAGES : RELATIVE AGES OF BRIDEGROOM AND BRIDE, 1959

Age of Bridegroom (Years)	Age of Bride (years)								Total Brides-grooms
	Under 15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 and over	
15-19	11	2,855	592	18	1	-	1	-	3,478
20-24	21	12,051	18,737	1,317	159	31	3	7	32,326
25-29	7	3,179	11,208	3,723	800	226	50	22	19,215
30-34	-	655	2,885	2,524	1,496	566	155	77	8,358
35-39	-	98	590	836	958	720	302	148	3,652
40-44	1	29	149	273	473	488	358	284	2,055
45-49	1	16	55	108	237	335	357	538	1,647
50 and over	-	3	27	60	122	274	412	2,734	3,632
Total Brides:	41	18,886	34,243	8,859	4,246	2,640	1,638	3,810	74,363

TABLE 14 : MARRIAGES : OCCUPATION OF BRIDEGROOM, 1959

Occupation	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	N.T.	A.C.T.	AUST.
Rural, Fishing and Hunting	2,299	1,944	1,628	731	853	315	14	21	7,805
Professional and Semi-Professional	1,812	1,221	542	370	279	125	12	19	4,380
Administrative	1,119	894	358	227	149	102	11	19	2,879
Commercial and Clerical	5,234	3,731	1,842	1,176	1,015	384	22	72	13,476
Domestic and Protective Service	1,760	1,102	620	385	286	107	35	55	4,350
Craftsmen	7,512	6,018	2,549	1,975	1,304	648	52	114	20,172
Operatives	4,838	2,826	1,682	850	929	518	30	25	11,698
Labourers	3,001	2,090	1,053	751	435	262	20	24	7,636
Indefinite or Not Stated	391	430	174	45	93	80	8	-	1,221
Persons not gainfully occupied	235	200	133	104	44	26	1	3	746
TOTAL:	28,201	20,456	10,581	6,614	5,387	2,567	205	352	74,363

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