

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, A.C.T.

MONTHLY AUSTRALIAN DEMOGRAPHIC REVIEW

Number 67.

July, 1956.

This number of the Review is devoted to a summary of the marriage and divorce statistics for Australia for the year 1955. Detailed tables will be published later in Demography Bulletin No. 73, 1955. Comparative statistics for years prior to those shown herein will be found in Demography Bulletin No. 72, 1954, (to be released shortly) and earlier issues.

PART A. - MARRIAGES

TABLE 1 : MARRIAGES : NUMBER

State or Territory	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
New South Wales	30,341	29,351	27,573	27,503	27,645
Victoria	21,117	20,220	19,238	19,404	20,056
Queensland	10,814	10,056	9,859	10,027	10,098
South Australia	6,646	6,241	6,149	6,190	6,226
Western Australia	5,390	5,389	5,032	5,204	5,145
Tasmania	2,607	2,553	2,424	2,512	2,600
Northern Territory	143	137	154	143	151
Australian Capital Territory	240	225	211	246	251
Australia:	77,298	74,172	70,640	71,229	72,172

TABLE 2 : MARRIAGES : CRUDE MARRIAGE RATES (a)

State or Territory	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
New South Wales	9.25	8.78	8.14	8.02	7.92
Victoria	9.28	8.63	8.03	7.91	7.94
Queensland	8.84	8.01	7.66	7.64	7.54
South Australia	9.07	8.27	7.92	7.77	7.59
Western Australia	9.29	8.97	8.10	8.13	7.81
Tasmania	9.04	8.56	7.91	8.07	8.22
Northern Territory	9.42	9.08	9.91	8.82	8.86
Australian Capital Territory	9.73	8.47	7.35	8.10	7.74
Australia:	9.18	8.59	8.01	7.92	7.84

(a) Number of marriages per 1,000 of mean population.

TABLE 3 : MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN EACH MONTH, 1955

Month	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	N.T.	A.C.T.	AUST.
January	2,038	1,447	898	519	507	216	14	18	5,657
February	2,513	1,757	810	551	479	223	5	21	6,359
March	2,349	1,613	614	449	443	187	11	23	5,689
April	2,801	2,414	1,104	713	523	350	14	36	7,955
May	2,338	1,268	899	486	410	183	11	16	5,611
June	2,154	1,364	858	406	350	190	11	25	5,358
July	1,693	1,336	583	428	314	176	16	14	4,560
August	1,871	1,222	772	435	306	155	11	18	4,790
September	2,341	1,566	977	554	446	191	13	11	6,099
October	2,651	2,090	823	604	428	225	22	15	6,858
November	2,549	1,821	757	510	443	216	12	38	6,346
December	2,347	2,158	1,003	571	496	288	11	16	6,890
TOTAL:	27,645	20,056	10,098	6,226	5,145	2,600	151	251	72,172

TABLE 4 : MARRIAGES IN EACH DENOMINATION : AUSTRALIA

Denomination	1954		1955	
	Number	Proportion of Total Marriages	Number	Proportion of Total Marriages
Church of England	21,596	30.32	21,459	29.73
Roman Catholic	16,412	23.04	17,028	23.59
Presbyterian	9,702	13.62	9,503	13.17
Methodist	9,647	13.54	9,387	13.01
Baptist	1,176	1.65	1,185	1.64
Congregational	1,101	1.54	1,127	1.56
Lutheran	971	1.36	1,096	1.52
Church of Christ	677	.95	800	1.11
Greek Orthodox	496	.70	699	.97
Salvation Army	390	.55	369	.51
Seventh-Day Adventist	147	.21	208	.29
Unitarian	46	.07	56	.08
Other Christian	657	.92	691	.96
Hebrew	336	.47	351	.48
Total, Denominational	63,354	88.94	63,959	88.62
Civil Officers	7,875	11.06	8,213	11.38
Grand Total	71,229	100.00	72,172	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
1951	68,882	8,416	77,298	89.11	10.89
1952	66,318	7,854	74,172	89.41	10.59
1953	62,679	7,961	70,640	88.73	11.27
1954	63,354	7,875	71,229	88.94	11.06
1955	63,959	8,213	72,172	88.62	11.38

TABLE 6 : MARRIAGES : CONJUGAL CONDITION OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES, 1955.

Marrriages Between -	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	N.T.	A.C.T.	AUS-1
Bachelors and -									
Spinsters	22,740	16,809	8,579	5,043	4,241	2,158	122	215	59,907
Widows	521	416	219	131	128	47	1	3	1,466
Divorced Women	1,254	754	354	297	240	110	13	12	3,034
Total Bachelors:	24,515	17,979	9,152	5,471	4,609	2,315	136	230	64,407
Widowers and -									
Spinsters	490	332	178	120	64	49	4	3	1,240
Widows	513	386	164	164	88	34	-	-	1,350
Divorced Women	254	164	74	68	40	26	-	-	626
Total Widowers:	1,257	882	416	352	192	109	4	4	3,216
Divorced Men and -									
Spinsters	1,019	728	312	199	181	110	7	10	2,566
Widows	235	151	79	60	46	21	1	1	594
Divorced Women	619	316	139	144	117	45	3	6	1,389
Total Divorced Men:	1,873	1,195	530	403	344	176	11	17	4,549
Total Spinsters	24,249	17,869	9,069	5,362	4,486	2,317	133	228	63,713
Total Widows	1,269	953	462	355	262	102	2	5	3,410
Total Divorced Women	2,127	1,234	567	509	397	181	16	18	5,049
Total Marriages:	27,645	20,056	10,098	6,226	5,145	2,600	151	251	72,172

TABLE 7 : AGE AND CONJUGAL CONDITION OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES, AUSTRALIA, 1955

Age (Years)	Bridegrooms				Brides			
	Bachelors	Widowers	Divorced	Total	Spinsters	Widows	Divorced	Total
13					3			3
14					22			22
15	2			2	239			239
16	26			26	1,124			1,124
17	178			178	2,764			2,764
18	701			701	5,345	1	3	5,349
19	1,736			1,736	7,192	3	7	7,202
20	2,968	2		2,970	7,723		14	7,737
Minors	5,611	2		5,613	24,412	4	24	24,440
21	6,372		1	6,373	9,234	14	34	9,282
22	7,046		8	7,054	6,380	14	53	6,447
23	6,898		13	6,911	4,678	19	84	4,781
24	6,495		21	6,520	3,648	19	119	3,786
25	5,589	4	54	5,652	2,898	42	159	3,099
26	4,778	10	77	4,865	2,170	34	186	2,390
27	3,939	12	100	4,051	1,692	39	223	1,954
28	3,261	27	146	3,434	1,348	53	239	1,640
29	2,568	27	166	2,761	1,042	55	218	1,315
30	1,957	26	187	2,170	937	51	239	1,227
31	1,452	32	176	1,660	686	73	263	1,022
32	1,270	31	200	1,501	656	71	255	982
33	966	35	218	1,219	491	80	205	776
34	896	44	209	1,149	413	75	265	753
35	690	43	172	905	331	76	217	624
36	544	45	170	759	265	69	167	501
37	436	36	174	646	233	73	188	494
38	391	49	177	617	237	93	204	534
39	382	46	173	601	206	101	180	487
40	340	54	177	571	186	118	173	477
41	304	68	200	572	171	98	158	427
42	278	76	169	523	155	97	157	409
43	201	52	132	385	148	73	139	360
44	208	70	156	434	118	107	132	357
45-49	769	392	556	1,717	450	496	387	1,333
50-54	357	418	368	1,143	240	408	230	878
55-59	220	423	185	828	122	366	88	576
60-64	93	450	92	635	93	298	43	434
65 & over	96	735	72	903	73	294	20	387
Adults	58,796	3,214	4,549	66,559	39,301	3,406	5,025	47,732
Total:	64,407	3,216	4,549	72,172	63,713	3,410	5,049	72,172

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
1951	26.83	52.70	39.66	28.92	23.85	44.69	35.54	25.71
1952	26.70	53.23	39.92	28.79	23.72	45.55	35.72	25.61
1953	26.74	53.81	40.20	28.96	23.72	46.37	36.00	25.73
1954	26.64	54.22	40.52	28.82	23.57	46.88	36.18	25.59
1955	26.57	54.44	40.28	28.68	23.40	47.13	36.21	25.42

TABLE 9 : MARRIAGES OF MINORS : AUSTRALIA

Year	Number of Minors Married			Proportion of Minors to Total Number Married		
	Males	Females	Total	Males %	Females %	Total %
1951	5,268	22,262	27,530	6.82	28.80	17.81
1952	5,157	22,091	27,248	6.95	29.78	18.37
1953	5,107	21,482	26,589	7.23	30.41	18.82
1954	5,291	22,967	28,258	7.43	32.24	19.84
1955	5,613	24,440	30,053	7.78	33.86	20.82

TABLE 10 : MARRIAGES OF MINORS : STATES

Year	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	N.T.	A.C.T.	AUST.
1951	11,253	6,607	4,059	2,261	2,017	1,184	56	93	27,530
1952	11,321	6,539	3,909	2,165	2,072	1,138	42	62	27,248
1953	10,757	6,382	3,923	2,268	2,049	1,083	57	70	26,589
1954	11,364	6,771	4,158	2,394	2,215	1,226	50	80	28,258
1955	11,894	7,391	4,462	2,498	2,307	1,356	54	91	30,053

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.
1951	18.54	15.64	18.77	17.01	18.71	22.71	19.58	19.38	17.81
1952	19.29	16.17	19.44	17.34	19.22	22.29	15.33	13.78	18.37
1953	19.51	16.59	19.90	18.44	20.36	23.34	18.51	16.59	18.82
1954	20.66	17.45	20.73	19.34	21.28	24.40	17.48	16.26	19.84
1955	21.51	18.43	22.09	20.06	22.42	26.08	17.88	18.13	20.82

TABLE 12 : MARRIAGES : RELATIVE BIRTHPLACES OF BRIDEGROOM AND BRIDE AUSTRALIA, 1955

Birthplace of Bridegroom	Birthplace of Bride								Total Brides-grooms
	Aust.	N.Z.	U.K.	Other European	Asia	Africa	America	Other and Unspec.	
Australia	56,509	200	1,783	439	159	35	43	39	59,207
New Zealand	322	22	23	7	2	1	2	1	380
United Kingdom	3,274	47	846	79	33	9	10	7	4,305
Other European	2,412	30	278	4,289	103	40	17	8	7,177
Asia	327	2	27	89	263	9	2	2	721
Africa	85	2	9	34	7	46	-	-	183
America	121	5	13	10	-	1	5	-	155
Other & Unspec.	39	1	1	1	-	-	-	2	44
Total Brides:	63,089	309	2,980	4,948	567	141	79	59	72,172

TABLE 13 : MARRIAGES : RELATIVE AGES OF BRIDEGROOM AND BRIDE, 1955

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	7	2,123	486	25	1	-	-	1	2,643
20-24	9	10,687	17,144	1,732	204	32	16	4	29,828
25-29	8	3,245	11,219	4,877	1,089	236	64	25	20,763
30-34	1	483	2,438	2,416	1,623	515	180	43	7,699
35-39	-	103	511	890	878	676	328	142	3,528
40-44	-	25	156	305	556	584	523	336	2,485
45-49	-	5	52	107	272	329	427	525	1,717
50 and over	-	7	27	46	137	268	492	2,532	3,509
Total Brides:	25	16,678	32,033	10,398	4,760	2,640	2,030	3,608	72,172

TABLE 14 : MARRIAGES : OCCUPATION OF BRIDEGROOM, 1955

Occupation	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	N.T.	A.C.T.	AUST.
Rural, Fishing and Hunting	2,664	2,043	1,701	817	801	304	18	18	8,366
Professional and Semi-Professional	1,515	1,226	444	317	268	123	7	16	3,916
Administrative	1,113	830	345	265	133	101	11	10	2,808
Commercial and Clerical	4,820	3,507	1,662	1,109	858	378	15	48	12,397
Domestic and Protective Service	1,894	1,226	645	327	298	129	26	49	4,594
Craftsmen	7,278	5,978	2,317	1,754	1,289	667	22	59	19,364
Operatives	5,173	2,595	1,756	831	997	541	30	25	11,948
Labourers	2,662	1,824	991	656	380	244	21	25	6,803
Indefinite or not Stated	446	666	186	79	85	88	-	-	1,550
Persons not gainfully occupied	80	161	51	71	36	25	1	1	426
TOTAL:	27,645	20,056	10,098	6,226	5,145	2,600	151	251	72,172

PART B. - DIVORCES

The following tables relating to divorce, nullity of marriage and judicial separation have been prepared from statistics compiled by the Government Statistician of each State and returns received from Judicial Authorities in the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. They relate, in the main, to the year 1955, but summarized figures for earlier years have been added for purposes of comparison.

The number of petitions for divorce, nullity of marriage and judicial separation was 8,340 in 1955, the lowest since 1948; the peak year was 1946 when 9,915 petitions were lodged.

TABLE 15 : NUMBER OF PETITIONS FOR DIVORCE, ETC. LODGED, 1955

State or Territory	Petitions for -									Total Petitions	
	Divorce		Nullity of Marriage		Judicial Separation						
	Husband Petitioner	Wife Petitioner	Husband Petitioner	Wife Petitioner	Husband Petitioner	Wife Petitioner	Husband Petitioner	Wife Petitioner	Total		
New South Wales	1,729	2,363	16	20	2	25	1,747	2,408	4,155		
Victoria	735	865	6	13	2	2	741	880	1,621		
Queensland (a)	385	416	-	2	-	-	385	418	803		
South Australia	357	468	2	7	-	-	359	475	834		
Western Australia	293	267	-	5	8	2	301	274	575		
Tasmania	127	158	-	-	-	-	127	158	285		
Northern Territory	22	18	-	-	-	-	22	18	40		
Aust. Cap. Terr.	14	12	-	-	1	-	15	12	27		
Australia:	3,662	4,567	24	47	11	29	3,697	4,643	8,340		
1954	3,778	4,552	19	45	3	35	3,800	4,632	8,432		
1953	3,860	4,891	31	60	3	37	3,894	4,968	8,862		
1952	3,774	4,800	35	52	3	37	3,812	4,889	8,701		
1951	3,727	4,688	19	31	4	34	3,750	4,753	8,503		

(a) Petitions heard.

The number of decrees granted in Australia during 1955 was 6,782 or 4 per cent. higher than in 1954 and 23 per cent. lower than in the peak year 1947 when 8,815 decrees were granted. The increases in decrees granted from the year 1954 in the various States were 2 per cent. in New South Wales, 10 per cent. in Victoria, 12 per cent. in Queensland and 5 per cent. in South Australia, while the decrees granted decreased by 8 per cent. in Western Australia and by 2 per cent. in Tasmania.

TABLE 16 : DIVORCES, ETC. : NUMBER OF DECREES GRANTED, 1955

State or Territory	Divorce Decrees made Absolute(a)		Nullity of Marriage		Judicial Separation		Total Decrees		
	Husband Petitioner	Wife Petitioner	Husband Petitioner	Wife Petitioner	Husband Petitioner	Wife Petitioner	Husband Petitioner	Wife Petitioner	Total
	New South Wales	1,250	1,624	4	13	1	8	1,255	1,645
Victoria	773	901	4	12	-	1	777	914	1,691
Queensland	385	416	-	2	-	-	385	418	803
South Australia	267	357	1	3	-	-	268	360	628
Western Australia	252	227	-	6	3	-	255	233	488
Tasmania	104	129	-	-	-	-	104	129	233
Northern Territory	6	12	-	-	-	-	6	12	18
Aust. Cap. Terr.	9	12	-	-	-	-	9	12	21
Australia:	3,046	3,678	9	36	4	9	3,059	3,723	6,782
1954	2,933	3,524	18	42	-	11	2,951	3,577	6,528
1953	3,527	4,435	30	39	-	10	3,557	4,484	8,041
1952	3,083	3,959	19	34	-	11	3,102	4,004	7,106
1951	3,276	3,993	21	30	1	6	3,298	4,029	7,327

(a) Victorian figures represent Decrees Nisi granted - not made absolute for a period of at least 3 months.

The following table shows the number of divorce decrees made absolute in 1955 classified according to duration of marriage in conjunction with issue. It will be seen that in the case of 42 per cent. of divorces finalized in 1955 the marriage had been contracted within the previous 10 years. Of the couples divorced in 1955, 33 per cent. had no issue, 29 per cent. had one child, 22 per cent. had two children, 9 per cent. had three children, and 7 per cent. had four or more children. These proportions have varied very little over recent years.

TABLE 17 : DIVORCE DECREES MADE ABSOLUTE : DURATION OF MARRIAGE AND ISSUE, AUSTRALIA, 1955

Duration of Marriage	Number of Divorces where Issue to the Marriage was -							Total Divorces		Total Issue
	0	1	2	3	4	5 and over	Not Stated	Num-ber	Per cent.	
Under 5 Years	358	163	32	2	-	1	-	556	8	238
5 - 9 "	994	753	401	101	25	8	-	2,282	34	2,001
10 - 14 "	448	511	405	132	57	19	-	1,572	23	2,049
15 - 19 "	197	265	260	145	56	45	-	968	15	1,705
20 - 29 "	181	210	283	171	88	93	-	1,026	15	2,197
30 years and over	59	53	69	48	24	58	-	311	5	793
Not stated	2	2	1	1	-	2	-	9	-	12
Total Divorces	2,239	1,957	1,451	600	250	225	2	6,724	-	-
Per cent.	33	29	22	9	4	3	-	100	-	-
Total Issue	-	1,957	2,902	1,800	1,000	1,336	-	-	-	8,995
1954	2,246	1,885	1,353	563	239	171	-	6,457	-	-
Per cent.	35	29	21	9	4	2	-	100	-	-
Total Issue	-	1,885	2,706	1,689	956	1,003	-	-	-	8,239
1953	2,730	2,404	1,581	701	302	244	-	7,962	-	-
Per cent.	34	30	20	9	4	3	-	100	-	-
Total Issue	-	2,404	3,162	2,103	1,208	1,476	-	-	-	10,353
1952	2,383	2,132	1,459	599	259	210	-	7,042	-	-
Per cent.	34	30	21	8	4	3	-	100	-	-
Total Issue	-	2,132	2,918	1,797	1,036	1,262	-	-	-	9,145
1951	2,463	2,329	1,420	574	247	233	3	7,269	-	-
Per cent.	34	32	20	8	3	3	-	100	-	-
Total Issue	-	2,329	2,840	1,722	988	1,373	-	-	-	9,252

The following table shows the number of divorce decrees made absolute in Australia classified according to duration of marriage, and the proportion under each duration, for the years 1951 to 1955.

TABLE 18 : DIVORCE DECREES MADE ABSOLUTE : DURATION OF MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA

Year	Number of Divorces where Duration of Marriage was -							Total Divorces
	Under 5 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-19 years	20-29 years	30 years and over	Not Stated	
1951	636	2,508	1,698	1,007	1,102	317	1	7,269
1952	575	2,265	1,827	1,006	1,039	326	4	7,042
1953	676	2,594	1,993	1,139	1,141	419	-	7,962
1954	576	2,129	1,557	941	945	306	3	6,457
1955	556	2,282	1,572	968	1,026	311	9	6,724
Proportion of Total (Per cent.)								
1951	9	35	23	14	15	4	-	100
1952	8	32	26	14	15	5	-	100
1953	9	33	25	14	14	5	-	100
1954	9	33	24	14	15	5	-	100
1955	8	34	23	15	15	5	-	100

The following table shows the number of divorced husbands and wives in each age group at the time of the divorce decree being made absolute. In 1955 the incidence of divorce was highest in the 25-34 years age group in respect of wives, and in the 30-39 years age group in respect of husbands; divorces in these groups comprised 42.3 per cent and 39.0 per cent respectively of the wives and husbands divorced.

TABLE 19 : DIVORCE DECREES MADE ABSOLUTE : AGES OF PARTIES AT TIME OF DIVORCE : AUSTRALIA

Particulars	Ages (years)							Total	
	Under 25	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-54	55 and over		not stated
(i) Ages of Husbands and Wives, 1955									
Ages of Husbands (Years)	Ages of Wives							Total Husbands	
Under 25	133	19	5	-	-	-	-	1	158
25-29	338	598	83	15	1	-	-	-	995
30-34	67	630	609	96	23	7	-	-	1,435
35-39	22	156	468	427	94	19	-	3	1,189
40-44	6	47	167	421	338	73	7	-	1,059
45-54	2	18	68	159	429	581	34	5	1,296
55 and over	-	2	5	20	58	198	226	-	509
Not stated	3	3	5	1	1	2	1	67	83
Total wives:	571	1,433	1,410	1,139	944	880	268	79	6,724

(ii) Ages of Wives, 1951-1955

Year	Ages of Wives							Total Wives	
1955	571	1,433	1,410	1,139	944	880	268	79	6,724
1954	557	1,420	1,336	1,130	887	805	267	55	6,457
1953	655	1,692	1,743	1,465	1,033	1,013	311	50	7,962
1952	518	1,526	1,564	1,292	968	870	258	46	7,042
1951	534	1,578	1,622	1,362	930	940	258	45	7,269

(iii) Ages of Husbands, 1951-1955

Year	Ages of Husbands							Total Husbands	
1955	158	995	1,435	1,189	1,059	1,296	509	83	6,724
1954	157	1,009	1,380	1,168	990	1,206	490	57	6,457
1953	177	1,266	1,598	1,554	1,247	1,471	602	47	7,962
1952	136	1,025	1,675	1,418	1,014	1,217	511	46	7,042
1951	157	1,085	1,513	1,449	1,195	1,306	522	42	7,269

The grounds for divorce vary in each state. For example, insanity is not a ground for divorce in New South Wales or the Australian Capital Territory. Separation for over five years is a ground for divorce in Western Australia and separation for over five years under a decree of judicial separation or an order granting relief from cohabitation is a ground for divorce in South Australia.

The main grounds on which divorces were granted in 1955 were desertion (including separation for over five years) and adultery. The grounds on which divorces, nullities of marriage and judicial separations were granted in Australia in 1955, together with the percentages of divorces granted on the grounds of desertion and adultery, are shown in Table 20.

TABLE 20 : GROUNDS OF DIVORCE, NULLITY OF MARRIAGE AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION, AUSTRALIA, 1955

Ground on which granted	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	N.T.	A.C.T.	AUST.
(i) Divorce Decrees made Absolute									
Desertion	(a) 1,903	(b) 1,139	(c) 548	(d) 251	(e) 242	156	5	14	4,258
Percent. of total	66%	68%	68%	40%	51%	67%	28%	67%	63%
Adultery	674	476	242	238	212	68	7	5	1,922
Percent. of total	24%	28%	30%	38%	44%	29%	39%	23%	29%
Other -									
Bigamy	-	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	5
Cruelty	114	11	1	113	1	3	5	-	248
Cruelty and Drunkenness	127	20	-	-	5	5	-	1	158
Drunkenness	40	3	-	9	1	1	1	1	56
Gaol for Crime	15	9	-	-	1	-	-	-	25
Insanity	-	12	6	4	3	-	-	-	25
Maintenance	-	-	-	6	10	-	-	-	16
Non-consummation	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	4
Other	1	1	3	2	-	-	-	-	7
Total Other	297	59	11	135	25	9	6	2	544
Percent. of total	10%	4%	2%	22%	5%	4%	33%	10%	8%
GRAND TOTAL:	2,874	(f) 1,674	801	624	479	233	18	21	6,724

(a) Includes "non-compliance with decree for restitution of conjugal rights" - 364; "separation for over five years" - 1. (b) Includes "adultery and desertion" - 61. (c) Includes "adultery and desertion" - 3. (d) Includes "separation for over five years" - 7. (e) Includes "separation for over five years" - 127. (f) Decrees nisi granted.

(ii) Nullities of Marriage Granted

Bigamy	10	4	-	2	6	-	-	-	22
Impotency	6	12	-	1	-	-	-	-	19
Other	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	4
Total:	17	16	2	4	6	-	-	-	45

(iii) Judicial Separations Granted

Adultery	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	6
Cruelty	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Desertion	3	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	6
Total:	9	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	13

TABLE 21: GROUNDS OF DIVORCE, NULLITY OF MARRIAGE AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS,
AUSTRALIA

Grounds on which granted	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
(i) Divorce Decrees made Absolute					
Adultery	1,784	1,834	2,057	1,787	1,922
Adultery and Desertion	16	33	49	58	64
Bigamy	-	-	3	-	5
Cruelty	142	166	237	245	248
Cruelty and Drunkenness	91	111	118	126	158
Desertion	4,893	4,574	5,191	3,987	4,059
Drunkenness	65	75	86	53	56
Gaol for Crime	22	17	21	15	25
Impotency	1	2	-	3	-
Insanity	25	18	18	21	25
Maintenance	24	25	14	19	16
Non-consummation	-	3	4	8	4
Separation for over five years	201	181	160	129	135
Other	5	3	4	6	7
TOTAL:	7,269	7,042	7,962	6,457	6,724
(ii) Nullities of Marriage Granted					
Bigamy	24	20	29	18	22
Impotency	21	31	36	37	19
Non-consummation	5	1	1	-	-
Other	1	1	3	5	4
TOTAL:	51	53	69	60	45
(iii) Judicial Separations Granted					
Adultery	3	2	6	4	6
Cruelty	1	3	2	3	1
Cruelty and Drunkenness	-	2	-	-	-
Desertion	3	4	2	3	6
Other	-	-	-	1	-
TOTAL:	7	11	10	11	13

NOTE: The Victorian component of all figures in this table represents decrees nisi.

S.R. CARVER
ACTING COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, A.C.T.

25TH JULY, 1956