



**Australian  
Bureau of  
Statistics**

**1993  
DIVORCES  
AUSTRALIA**

**Catalogue No. 3307.0**



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# **DIVORCES AUSTRALIA 1993**

**IAN CASTLES**  
Australian Statistician

**AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

**CATALOGUE NO. 3307.0**

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**INQUIRIES**

- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Michael Nunn on Canberra (06) 252 6755 or any ABS State office.
- for further information about other ABS statistics and services please refer to the back page of this publication.

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## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

In 1993 there were 48,324 divorces granted in Australia. While this is an 11 per cent increase on the number granted in 1983 (43,525), there has been an associated 12 per cent increase in the married population. Divorces granted in 1993 were the highest since 1976, the year the Family Law Act came into operation, when there were 63,230 divorces granted.

The marital status specific divorce rate, the number of divorces granted per 1,000 married population, is much the same as it was in 1983. Over the last ten years the rate, for both men and women, has varied, having fallen from 12.2 in 1983 to 10.8 in 1988 and then having risen again in 1993 to 12.1.

The crude divorce rate is the number of divorces granted per 1,000 population. In 1993, the national crude divorce rate rose to 2.7 per 1,000 population. Internationally crude divorce rates vary. The latest available United Nations figures show the USA had the highest crude divorce rate (4.7) while Brazil, Chile, Italy and Turkey share the lowest rate (0.5).

### States and Territories of usual residence

Details of divorces granted in 1993 are, for the first time, presented on both a State or Territory of usual residence at separation basis (Part A) and a State or Territory of registration basis (Part B). Details presented on a State or Territory of usual residence basis are considered to be a more accurate reflection of divorce, on a State basis, in Australia. (See paragraphs 7, 8, 9 and 10 of the Explanatory Notes).

In 1993, on a State or Territory of usual residence basis, Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory recorded the highest crude divorce rate at 3.0 per 1,000 population while the Northern Territory recorded the lowest at 2.3 per 1,000 population. It is considered that the low Northern Territory rate reflects, in part, the low marriage rate recorded by that Territory. Preliminary 1993 results indicate the Northern Territory had a crude marriage rate (the number of marriages granted per 1,000 population) of 4.7 per 1,000 population compared with a national crude marriage rate of 6.4 per 1,000 population.

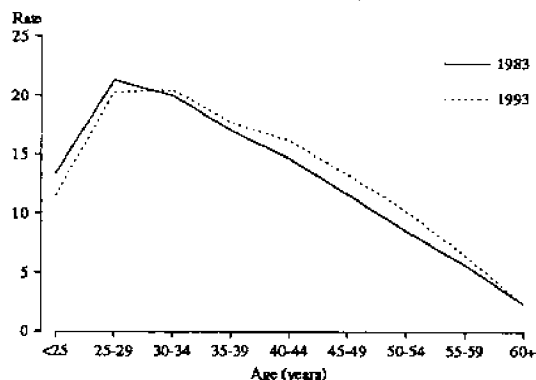
On a State or Territory of usual residence basis Tasmania had the highest median interval between marriage and final separation at 8.3 years. The Northern Territory had the lowest median at 6.9 years.

### Australian data

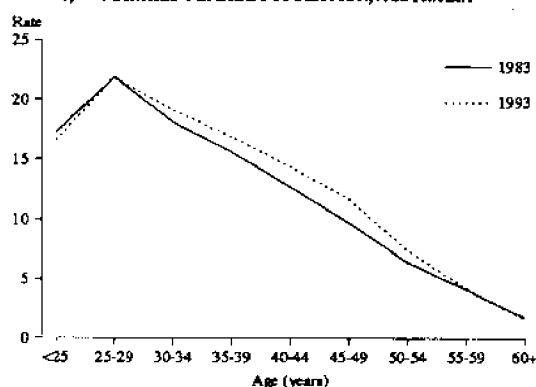
#### Age at divorce

Age specific divorce rates relate to the number of divorces granted, by age of divorcing parties, per 1,000 married population in a specific age. When comparing 1983 with 1993 there has been a variation in the age specific divorce rates. With the exception of the 60 and over age group for both men and women, all age group specific rates from the 30 to 34 years age group have increased for both men and women with the highest percentage increase being in the 50 to 54 years age group for men (20%) and in the 45 to 49 years age group for women (21%). For men these rates increased from 8.5 per 1,000 married population in the 50 to 54 years age group in 1983 to 10.2 in 1993 and for women in the 45 to 49 years age group from 9.7 per 1,000 married population in 1983 to 11.7 in 1993.

MALES: AGE SPECIFIC DIVORCE RATES  
PER 1,000 MARRIED MALE POPULATION, AUSTRALIA

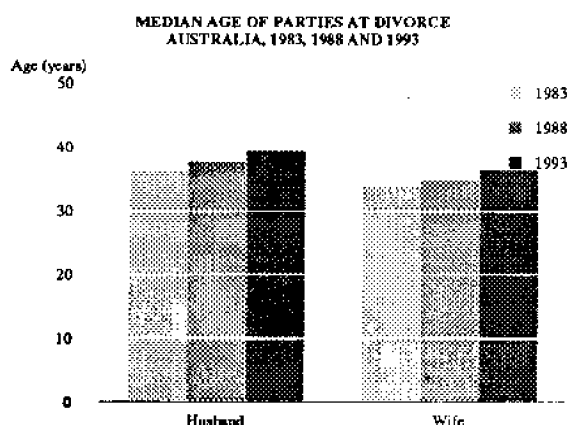


FEMALES: AGE SPECIFIC DIVORCE RATES  
PER 1,000 MARRIED FEMALE POPULATION, AUSTRALIA



For the first time since the introduction of the Family Law Act, in 1976, the peak divorce rate for men moved from the 25 to 29 years age group to the 30 to 34 years age group in 1993. However, the peak divorce group for women remained in the 25 to 29 years age group.

The median age at divorce is the age where there are as many divorcing above that age as there are divorcing below it. In 1993 the median age at divorce for both men and women continued the rise evident since 1980. The median age at divorce reached 39.3 years for men and 36.4 years for women. When compared with 1983 these medians have risen by 3.0 years for men and 2.7 years for women.



### *Duration of marriage*

Over the last ten years there has been variation in the time taken by couples to separate and in the time taken to become officially divorced. The 1993 median duration of marriage to separation was 7.6 years, having risen from 7.3 years in 1988 but having fallen from 7.8 years in 1983. Over the same period the median duration of marriage to issue of final decree was 10.7 years, the highest median recorded over the period, having risen from 10.1 years in 1988 and 10.6 years in 1983.

### *Previous marital status of divorcees*

Between 1983 and 1993 the percentage of divorces to men and women who had been previously divorced has continued to rise. In 1993 men who had been previously divorced represented 17.1 per cent of all men divorcing, an increase of 5.7 percentage points on 1983. Women who had been previously divorced represented 16.1 per cent of all women divorcing in 1993, an increase of 5.2 percentage points on 1983.

### *Applicant for divorce*

There has been a significant increase in the number of joint applications for divorce since 1984, the first year comparative details became available. Of the total

divorces granted in 1993, 15.8 per cent were to applications made jointly by the husband and wife, 35.3 per cent were to the husbands as applicant and 48.9 per cent were to the wife as applicant. Comparative figures for 1984 are 0.4 per cent for joint applications, 41.0 per cent for the husband as applicant and 58.5 per cent for the wife as applicant.

### *Children involved in divorce*

In 1993, 53 per cent of all divorces granted involved dependent children (children aged under 18 years). This compares with 62 per cent in 1983. The numbers of dependent children involved in divorce fell to 48,055 in 1993 from 52,059 in 1983. However, over the last ten years the average number of children per divorce has remained constant at 1.9 children per divorce.

### *Birthplace of husband and wife*

Of the divorces granted in Australia in 1993, 56 per cent (27,127) were divorces where both parties were born in Australia. In 1983 the corresponding percentage was 62 per cent (26,971). Divorces where both parties were born in the same overseas country represented 13 per cent (6,298) in 1993 and 12 per cent in 1983 (5,150).

Table 21 in Part D of this publication shows information on divorces granted in Australia in 1993 and compares details of those divorces granted to men and women born in Australia with details of men and women born in selected overseas countries who were divorced in Australia.

In 1993, Chinese born Australian residents had the highest divorce rate for men at 13.5 per 1,000 Chinese born men in the Australian population and for women at 17.0 per 1,000 Chinese born women in the Australian population. Italian born recorded the lowest divorce rate at 4.1 for men and 2.8 for women. The corresponding Australian born rates are, for males, 4.8 and for females, 4.9.

Italian born people divorcing in the Australian population had the highest median duration of marriage for both men and women, at 16.7 years and 17.4 years respectively. While Italian born women had the longest median duration of residence before divorce, 28.7 years, the longest median duration of residence before divorce for men was for German born men, at 32.0 years. The lowest median durations of marriage were for men born in Viet Nam, 5.1 years and women born in China, 4.6 years. Men and women born in China recorded the shortest median duration of residence before divorce, 5.0 years and 4.4 years respectively.

Divorces granted in 1993 showed that men and women born in China had the oldest median age at time of marriage (27.9 years for men and 26.2 years for women), while Australian born men and women had the youngest median age at marriage (24.7 years for men and 22.3 years for women).



## PART A: DIVORCES — STATES AND TERRITORIES OF USUAL RESIDENCE AT SEPARATION

TABLE 1. DIVORCES: SUMMARY(a), STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1993

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Other(b)	Australia
PERSONS										
Divorces granted	16,358	10,935	8,501	3,939	4,620	1,425	390	887	1,269	48,324
Crude divorce rate (per 1,000 population)	2.7	2.4	2.7	2.7	2.8	3.0	2.3	3.0	..	2.7
Median duration of marriage (years)	10.3	10.6	11.0	11.3	11.5	11.1	10.6	11.1	10.1	10.7
Median interval between marriage and final separation (years)	7.1	7.7	7.9	8.2	8.1	8.3	6.9	8.2	5.2	7.6
<i>Divorces involving children —</i>										
Number	8,281	5,871	4,724	1,946	2,475	879	228	504	526	25,434
Percentage of total divorces	50.6	53.7	55.6	49.4	53.6	61.7	58.5	56.8	41.4	52.6
Average issue	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.9
<i>Applicant —</i>										
Husband	5,851	4,085	3,151	1,328	1,264	478	113	276	533	17,079
Wife	8,092	5,151	4,439	2,063	1,869	804	192	402	605	23,617
Joint	2,415	1,699	911	548	1,487	143	85	209	131	7,628
HUSBAND										
<i>Age specific divorce rate (c) —</i>										
Age group (years) —										
24 and under	1.2	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.6	1.4	0.6	0.7	..	1.0
25-29	8.7	7.9	8.3	8.2	7.4	10.2	4.7	8.4	..	8.5
30-34	13.0	12.5	12.7	12.7	12.5	14.8	9.0	13.6	..	13.1
35-39	13.2	11.6	12.9	13.4	12.9	16.3	10.9	13.1	..	13.2
40-44	12.5	11.7	12.9	12.4	12.5	15.3	12.0	13.0	..	12.8
45-49	10.7	9.4	11.3	11.0	11.3	11.9	8.1	10.7	..	10.8
50-54	8.2	7.2	8.6	8.6	9.3	8.2	6.6	8.8	..	8.3
55 and over	2.6	2.2	2.9	2.4	3.1	2.3	3.0	4.9	..	2.7
<i>Marital status at marriage (number) —</i>										
Never married	13,464	9,135	6,766	3,163	3,739	1,153	314	735	1,085	39,554
Widowed	170	117	94	33	40	18	2	4	5	483
Divorced	2,724	1,683	1,641	743	841	254	74	148	179	8,287
Total	16,358	10,935	8,501	3,939	4,620	1,425	390	887	1,269	48,324
<i>Median age (years) —</i>										
at marriage	25.5	25.1	24.9	24.8	25.3	24.5	25.9	25.5	26.1	25.2
at final separation	36.0	36.0	36.7	36.4	36.8	36.0	36.5	36.5	33.7	36.2
at decree made absolute	39.1	38.9	39.8	39.4	40.1	39.1	39.4	39.5	38.4	39.3
WIFE										
<i>Age specific divorce rate (c) —</i>										
Age group (years) —										
24 and under	2.6	2.0	2.2	2.1	1.9	2.2	1.8	1.8	..	2.3
25-29	12.8	11.5	12.2	12.1	11.3	15.8	7.9	12.9	..	12.5
30-34	14.0	12.2	13.6	14.1	14.3	15.2	10.9	14.2	..	13.9
35-39	13.0	11.8	13.2	13.0	13.2	16.5	10.4	12.4	..	13.2
40-44	11.5	10.5	11.5	11.3	11.5	13.3	11.1	12.1	..	11.5
45-49	9.0	8.3	10.2	9.9	9.5	9.3	7.3	9.6	..	9.3
50-54	5.8	5.0	6.2	5.6	6.6	5.8	5.5	7.0	..	5.9
55 and over	1.2	1.0	1.4	1.2	1.6	1.2	1.7	2.2	..	1.3
<i>Marital status at marriage (number) —</i>										
Never married	13,538	9,305	6,747	3,174	3,784	1,156	322	734	1,140	39,900
Widowed	221	128	139	55	63	25	5	16	6	658
Divorced	2,599	1,502	1,615	710	773	244	63	137	123	7,766
Total	16,358	10,935	8,501	3,939	4,620	1,425	390	887	1,269	48,324
<i>Median age (years) —</i>										
at marriage	22.8	22.6	22.4	22.3	22.5	22.0	22.8	22.7	23.5	22.6
at final separation	33.1	33.3	33.8	33.9	33.7	33.2	32.7	33.8	31.1	33.3
at decree made absolute	36.2	36.3	36.8	36.7	37.0	36.3	35.9	36.6	35.5	36.4

(a) See Explanatory Notes for definitions of the terms used. (b) Includes divorces where usual residence was Christmas Island or the Cocos (Keeling) Islands (4), Overseas (1,183) or not stated (77). See paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Explanatory Notes. (c) Per 1,000 population.

## PART B: DIVORCES — STATES AND TERRITORIES OF REGISTRATION

TABLE 2. DIVORCES : SUMMARY(a), STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1993

	NSW(b)	Vic.	Qld(b)	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT(b)	Australia
PERSONS									
Divorces granted	14,753	11,050	9,935	4,063	4,654	1,465	343	2,061	48,324
Crude divorce rate (per 1,000 population)	2.5	2.5	3.2	2.8	2.8	3.1	2.0	6.9	2.7
Median duration of marriage (years)	9.9	10.6	11.3	11.3	11.5	11.0	10.5	11.4	10.7
Median interval between marriage and final separation (years)	6.7	7.7	8.0	8.3	8.0	8.2	6.6	8.3	7.6
<i>Divorces involving children —</i>									
Number	7,180	5,905	5,544	1,999	2,466	909	187	1,244	25,434
Percentage of total divorces	48.7	53.4	55.8	49.2	53.0	62.0	54.5	60.4	52.6
Average issue	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.7	1.9	1.9
<i>Applicant —</i>									
Husband	5,345	4,090	3,705	1,369	1,264	501	114	691	17,079
Wife	7,144	5,246	5,224	2,144	1,868	819	148	1,024	23,617
Joint	2,264	1,714	1,006	550	1,522	145	81	346	7,628
HUSBAND									
<i>Age specific divorce rate (c) —</i>									
Age group (years) —									
24 and under	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.6	1.4	0.5	1.3	1.0
25-29	8.2	7.9	9.2	8.5	7.5	11.0	5.3	18.1	8.5
30-34	11.8	12.5	15.0	13.4	12.7	15.5	6.2	31.1	13.1
35-39	11.7	12.1	15.2	13.5	13.1	16.4	8.7	33.6	13.2
40-44	11.1	11.7	15.5	13.0	12.5	15.3	10.5	30.0	12.8
45-49	9.4	9.5	13.2	11.2	11.3	12.0	8.0	25.8	10.8
50-54	7.5	7.3	9.9	8.6	9.3	8.3	6.9	19.1	8.3
55 and over	2.3	2.2	3.5	2.6	3.1	2.5	3.4	10.9	2.7
<i>Marital status at marriage (number) —</i>									
Never married	12,153	9,249	7,916	3,276	3,780	1,182	282	1,716	39,554
Widowed	146	115	107	37	42	17	2	17	483
Divorced	2,454	1,686	1,912	750	832	266	59	328	8,287
Total	14,753	11,050	9,935	4,063	4,654	1,465	343	2,061	48,324
<i>Median age (years) —</i>									
at marriage	25.6	25.1	25.0	24.8	25.3	24.5	26.0	25.1	25.2
at final separation	35.8	35.9	36.7	36.4	36.6	35.8	37.4	36.3	36.2
at decree made absolute	38.9	38.9	40.0	39.4	40.0	39.0	40.3	39.4	39.3
WIFE									
<i>Age specific divorce rate (c) —</i>									
Age group (years) —									
24 and under	2.4	2.1	2.4	2.3	1.9	2.3	1.7	4.0	2.3
25-29	11.7	11.5	13.9	12.6	11.6	16.4	7.9	29.6	12.5
30-34	12.9	12.3	15.9	14.6	14.4	15.5	7.6	34.2	13.9
35-39	11.4	12.0	16.0	13.4	13.3	16.8	9.2	33.3	13.2
40-44	10.2	10.6	13.6	11.7	11.4	13.8	10.0	24.7	11.5
45-49	8.1	8.3	11.7	10.0	9.4	9.2	7.7	20.4	9.3
50-54	5.2	5.1	7.2	5.6	6.8	6.0	5.2	15.7	5.9
55 and over	1.1	1.0	1.7	1.3	1.7	1.3	1.7	5.3	1.3
<i>Marital status at marriage (number) —</i>									
Never married	12,233	9,423	7,938	3,277	3,814	1,181	282	1,752	39,900
Widowed	183	124	168	61	66	23	4	29	658
Divorced	2,337	1,503	1,829	725	774	261	57	280	7,766
Total	14,753	11,050	9,935	4,063	4,654	1,465	343	2,061	48,324
<i>Median age (years) —</i>									
at marriage	23.0	22.6	22.4	22.3	22.5	22.1	22.7	22.2	22.6
at final separation	32.9	33.3	33.8	33.7	33.6	33.2	32.8	33.3	33.3
at decree made absolute	35.9	36.3	37.0	36.6	36.9	36.4	36.5	36.5	36.4

(a) See Explanatory Notes for definitions of the terms used. (b) See paragraphs 7 and 10 of Explanatory Notes. (c) Per 1,000 population.

TABLE 3. DIVORCES: NUMBER GRANTED, STATES AND TERRITORIES OF REGISTRATION

	NSW (a)	Vic.	Qld (a)	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT (a)	Australia
<i>Census years —</i>									
1966	4,515	2,131	1,031	1,069	637	317	58	101	9,859
1971	<u>5,467</u>	<u>3,072</u>	<u>1,404</u>	<u>1,264</u>	<u>1,064</u>	<u>429</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>192</u>	<u>12,947</u>
1976	22,147	16,625	9,611	6,142	4,818	1,758	423	1,706	63,230
1981	14,512	9,769	6,470	4,132	3,481	1,139	393	1,516	41,412
1986	11,661	9,670	7,042	3,776	4,001	1,245	381	1,641	39,417
1991	13,151	11,134	8,934	4,215	4,446	1,383	397	1,970	45,630
<i>Annual totals —</i>									
1983	14,023	10,663	7,474	4,431	3,822	1,359	371	1,382	43,525
1988	11,880	10,250	7,690	4,031	3,964	1,220	275	1,697	41,007
1989	12,743	10,253	7,123	3,740	4,089	1,269	435	1,731	41,383
1990	12,414	10,406	8,509	4,066	3,845	1,170	421	1,804	42,635
1991	13,151	11,134	8,934	4,215	4,446	1,383	397	1,970	45,630
1992	13,949	10,533	8,984	4,074	4,540	1,365	345	1,875	45,665
1993	14,753	11,050	9,935	4,063	4,654	1,465	343	2,061	48,324

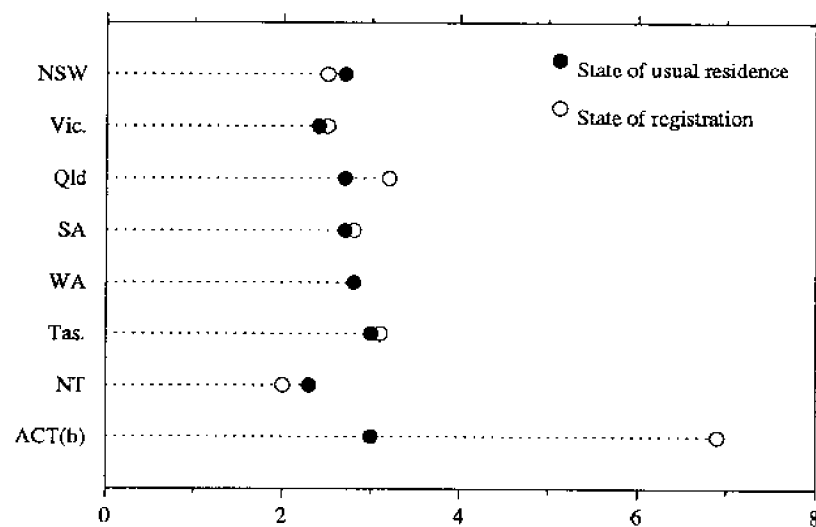
(a) See paragraph 10 of Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 4. DIVORCES: CRUDE DIVORCE RATES, PER 1,000 POPULATION  
STATES AND TERRITORIES OF REGISTRATION

	NSW (a)	Vic.	Qld (a)	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT (a)	Australia
<i>Census year rates —</i>									
1966	1.1	0.7	0.6	1.0	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.9
1971	<u>1.2</u>	<u>0.9</u>	<u>0.8</u>	<u>1.1</u>	<u>1.0</u>	<u>1.1</u>	<u>0.6</u>	<u>1.3</u>	<u>1.0</u>
1976	4.5	4.4	4.6	4.8	4.1	4.3	4.3	8.2	4.5
1981	2.8	2.5	2.8	3.1	2.7	2.7	3.2	6.7	2.8
1986	2.1	2.3	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.6	6.2	2.5
1991	2.2	2.5	3.0	2.9	2.7	3.0	2.4	6.8	2.6
<i>Annual rates —</i>									
1983	2.6	2.6	3.0	3.3	2.8	3.1	2.7	5.8	2.8
1988	2.1	2.4	2.8	2.9	2.6	2.7	1.7	6.2	2.5
1989	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.7	6.3	2.5
1990	2.1	2.4	2.9	2.8	2.4	2.5	2.6	6.4	2.5
1991	2.2	2.5	3.0	2.9	2.7	3.0	2.4	6.8	2.6
1992	2.3	2.4	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.9	2.1	6.4	2.6
1993	2.5	2.5	3.2	2.8	2.8	3.1	2.0	6.9	2.7

(a) See paragraph 10 of Explanatory Notes.

CRUDE DIVORCE RATES(a), 1993



(a) Per 1,000 mean calendar year population. (b) See paragraph 10 of Explanatory Notes.

## PART C: INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON

*Divorce is a legal event and internationally, for statistical purposes, has been defined in terms of the laws of individual countries or areas. This has implications for international comparability of data. The propensity to divorce is affected by: the relative ease or difficulty of obtaining a divorce according to the laws of individual countries or areas; the ability of individuals to meet financial and other costs of court procedures and the dominant religious beliefs and social customs of individual countries or areas. Some countries have no legal provision for divorce, hence statistical details are not available. International comparisons of crude divorce rates are also affected by age distributions and proportions of people married.*

**DIVORCES: NUMBERS GRANTED AND CRUDE DIVORCE RATES (a)**  
**AUSTRALIA AND SELECTED COUNTRIES**

<i>Country</i>	<i>Reference period</i>	<i>Number of divorces registered</i>	<i>Crude divorce rate (a)</i>
Brazil	1989	66,070	0.5
Chile	1990	6,048	0.5
Italy	1990	27,836	0.5
Turkey	1989	25,376	0.5
Mexico	1990	54,012	0.6
Yugoslavia	1990	19,418	0.8
Poland	1991	35,000	0.9
Hong Kong	1990	5,551	1.0
Portugal	1991	10,649	1.0
Japan (b)	1990	157,608	1.3
Romania	1990	32,966	1.4
Singapore	1991	4,419	1.6
France	1990	105,813	1.9
Netherlands	1991	28,300	1.9
Switzerland	1990	13,183	2.0
Austria	1990	16,282	2.1
Sweden	1991	19,000	2.2
Hungary	1990	24,863	2.4
Norway	1990	10,170	2.4
<b>Australia</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>42,635</b>	<b>2.5</b>
New Zealand	1991	9,133	2.7
United Kingdom	1990	165,658	2.9
Denmark	1989	15,152	3.0
Canada	1989	80,716	3.1
Ukraine	1990	192,800	3.7
Puerto Rico	1990	13,695	3.8
Russian Federation	1989	582,500	3.9
Cuba	1991	43,485	4.1
United States of America (c)	1991	1,187,000	4.7

(a) Per 1,000 population. (b) Numbers relate to Japanese nationals only, however the rate is calculated on total population.  
(c) Estimates based on divorces and annulments reported by a varying number of states.

Source: *United Nations Demographic Yearbook, 1991.*

## PART D: DIVORCES — AUSTRALIAN DATA

TABLE 6. DIVORCES: AGE AND MARITAL STATUS SPECIFIC DIVORCE RATES  
PER 1,000 MARRIED POPULATION (a), AUSTRALIA

	Age group (years)									
	24 and under (b)	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Total
HUSBAND										
Census year rates —										
1966	2.5	6.7	7.6	6.9	6.6	5.3	4.6	3.4	1.2	3.7
1971	2.3	6.7	6.7	5.5	5.1	4.5	3.5	2.7	1.1	4.2
1976	17.9	31.6	28.8	23.9	21.2	18.6	15.0	11.1	5.0	18.9
1981	13.8	22.4	18.9	16.2	13.5	10.9	8.3	5.4	2.3	11.9
1986	12.1	18.6	17.1	14.8	13.3	11.1	8.3	5.4	2.1	10.7
1991 (c)	10.6	20.5	19.7	17.0	14.7	12.5	9.0	5.9	2.2	11.6
Annual rates —										
1983	13.4	21.3	20.0	17.1	14.7	11.6	8.5	5.7	2.4	12.2
1988 (c)	11.2	19.3	18.4	15.6	13.4	11.1	8.0	5.3	2.1	10.8
1989 (c)	10.7	19.0	18.1	15.4	13.5	11.2	8.1	5.6	2.1	10.8
1990 (c)	9.9	19.4	18.4	15.8	13.8	11.7	8.5	5.6	2.0	10.9
1991 (c)	10.6	20.5	19.7	17.0	14.7	12.5	9.0	5.9	2.2	11.6
1992 (c)	10.6	19.9	19.5	17.4	14.7	12.5	9.3	6.0	2.2	11.5
1993	11.5	20.3	20.5	17.7	16.2	13.3	10.2	6.5	2.4	12.1
WIFE										
Census year rates —										
1966	3.9	7.7	7.3	6.1	5.7	4.7	3.4	2.6	0.9	3.8
1971	3.6	7.6	6.1	5.0	4.6	4.0	3.0	2.0	0.8	4.2
1976	22.7	31.4	26.9	22.0	19.2	16.0	12.6	8.8	4.0	18.8
1981	18.0	22.0	16.9	14.7	11.8	8.9	6.2	4.1	1.7	11.9
1986	15.9	18.5	15.8	13.7	12.0	9.5	6.0	3.7	1.5	10.6
1991 (c)	16.1	21.5	18.3	15.6	13.5	10.6	6.5	3.8	1.4	11.5
Annual rates —										
1983	17.3	21.9	18.1	15.6	12.7	9.7	6.4	4.1	1.8	12.2
1988 (c)	16.1	19.8	16.7	14.2	12.1	9.5	5.7	3.6	1.4	10.8
1989 (c)	15.1	19.8	16.5	14.2	12.3	9.4	6.1	3.6	1.4	10.7
1990 (c)	15.1	20.5	16.8	14.4	12.7	9.7	6.3	3.6	1.3	10.9
1991 (c)	16.1	21.5	18.3	15.6	13.5	10.6	6.5	3.8	1.4	11.5
1992 (c)	16.2	21.4	18.1	15.9	13.4	10.7	6.9	3.8	1.4	11.5
1993	16.6	21.9	19.1	16.9	14.4	11.7	7.4	4.2	1.6	12.1

(a) Per 1,000 married men and women respectively, as at 30 June for each year shown. See paragraph 15 of Explanatory Notes. (b) For the purpose of calculating rates in this column, married persons aged between 15 and 24 have been included in the denominator. (c) Rates for 1987 to 1992 have been revised due to the finalisation of population estimates based on 1991 Census results.

TABLE 7. DIVORCES: AGE OF PARTIES AT DATE OF MARRIAGE, PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION, AUSTRALIA

	Age group (years)								Total number	Median age
	19 and under	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50 and over		
HUSBAND										
Census year percentages —										
1966	7.8	47.5	25.6	9.5	4.1	2.5	1.4	1.4	9,859	24.3
1971	10.1	52.0	22.4	7.7	3.6	1.8	1.1	1.2	12,947	23.6
1976	11.3	53.8	20.4	6.7	3.2	1.9	1.1	1.4	63,230	23.4
1981	10.3	53.4	20.8	7.1	3.2	1.9	1.2	1.7	41,412	23.5
1986	7.6	49.0	23.0	9.3	4.5	2.3	1.7	2.2	39,417	24.2
1991	6.0	45.2	25.3	10.6	5.4	3.0	1.8	2.4	45,630	24.8
Annual percentages —										
1983	9.3	52.0	21.7	7.9	3.5	2.0	1.2	2.0	43,525	23.7
1988	6.9	47.7	24.2	9.5	4.8	2.7	1.7	2.4	41,007	24.4
1989	6.6	46.9	24.3	9.9	5.0	2.9	1.6	2.4	41,383	24.6
1990	6.5	45.6	24.8	10.5	5.3	3.1	1.8	2.3	42,635	24.7
1991	6.0	45.2	25.3	10.6	5.4	3.0	1.8	2.4	45,630	24.8
1992	5.6	44.0	26.0	11.0	5.6	3.2	1.9	2.4	45,665	25.0
1993	5.3	42.9	26.9	11.1	5.8	3.5	1.9	2.5	48,324	25.2
WIFE										
Census year percentages —										
1966	33.7	43.0	12.6	4.9	2.7	1.4	0.8	0.7	9,859	21.4
1971	38.0	43.4	10.2	3.8	2.1	1.0	0.8	0.7	12,947	21.0
1976	39.0	43.3	9.3	3.4	1.9	1.2	0.8	0.9	63,230	21.0
1981	37.3	43.5	10.2	3.8	2.0	1.2	0.7	1.0	41,412	20.9
1986	30.5	44.2	12.7	5.5	2.9	1.5	0.9	1.2	39,417	21.6
1991	24.5	44.8	16.1	6.8	3.7	1.9	1.0	1.1	45,630	22.3
Annual percentages —										
1983	35.0	43.9	10.9	4.4	2.2	1.4	0.8	1.1	43,525	21.1
1988	27.4	45.2	13.8	6.1	3.3	1.8	0.9	1.2	41,007	21.8
1989	26.4	44.9	14.7	6.1	3.5	1.8	1.0	1.2	41,383	22.0
1990	25.6	44.7	15.2	6.7	3.6	1.8	1.0	1.1	42,635	22.1
1991	24.5	44.8	16.1	6.8	3.7	1.9	1.0	1.1	45,630	22.3
1992	23.3	44.9	16.3	7.1	3.9	2.1	1.1	1.1	45,665	22.4
1993	22.3	44.7	17.1	7.5	3.8	2.2	1.2	1.1	48,324	22.6

TABLE 8. DIVORCES : RELATIVE AGES OF PARTIES AT DATE OF MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA, 1993

Age group of husband (years)	Age group of wife (years)									Total
	19 and under	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50 and over	Not stated	
19 and under	1,882	608	49	11	6	3	—	—	1	2,560
20-24	6,882	11,928	1,503	294	74	17	6	1	18	20,723
25-29	1,560	6,678	3,632	799	206	67	20	6	16	12,984
30-34	290	1,603	1,833	1,097	364	123	37	7	7	5,361
35-39	81	481	714	782	457	193	59	15	6	2,788
40-44	29	171	318	382	389	271	102	29	3	1,694
45-49	6	56	106	138	210	207	139	65	1	928
50 and over	10	44	102	102	139	183	216	389	7	1,192
Not stated	16	21	13	9	7	3	3	1	21	94
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,756</b>	<b>21,590</b>	<b>8,270</b>	<b>3,614</b>	<b>1,852</b>	<b>1,067</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>48,324</b>

TABLE 9. DIVORCES : RELATIVE AGES OF PARTIES AT DATE DECREE MADE ABSOLUTE, AUSTRALIA, 1993

Age group of husband (years)	Age group of wife (years)									Total	
	24 and under	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over		Not stated
24 and under	711	209	61	14	8	1	—	—	—	1	1,005
25-29	1,434	3,406	735	131	41	11	6	1	—	8	5,773
30-34	452	3,563	4,411	825	212	64	20	4	1	7	9,559
35-39	111	837	3,462	3,664	685	153	43	5	6	7	8,973
40-44	45	261	998	3,118	3,175	601	102	21	8	8	8,337
45-49	13	97	282	900	2,435	2,291	325	59	13	13	6,428
50-54	7	44	112	247	593	1,570	1,010	164	48	4	3,799
55-59	4	16	39	76	195	421	700	452	129	2	2,034
60 and over	7	14	45	62	100	232	338	494	1,021	9	2,322
Not stated	10	20	15	10	9	4	2	2	1	21	94
Total	2,794	8,467	10,160	9,047	7,453	5,348	2,546	1,202	1,227	80	48,324

TABLE 10. DIVORCES : AGE OF PARTIES AT DATE DECREE MADE ABSOLUTE  
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION, AUSTRALIA

	Age group (years)									Total number	Median age
	24 and under	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over		
HUSBAND											
Census year percentages—											
1966	2.8	13.6	16.0	17.2	16.5	12.1	9.9	6.0	5.8	9,859	40.1
1971	3.8	18.8	18.6	14.4	14.3	12.2	8.0	5.4	4.4	12,947	37.9
1976	5.6	21.4	19.1	14.3	11.3	10.4	8.0	4.8	4.9	63,230	36.2
1981	4.9	20.7	22.5	16.6	11.9	8.5	6.7	4.1	3.9	41,412	35.5
1986	3.4	16.8	19.9	19.4	14.6	10.3	6.6	4.4	4.4	39,417	37.5
1991	2.4	14.0	20.4	18.9	17.0	11.8	7.1	3.9	4.4	45,630	38.4
Annual percentages—											
1983	4.2	18.0	21.9	19.0	13.1	8.9	6.3	4.1	4.1	43,525	36.3
1988	2.7	16.1	20.7	19.2	16.0	10.3	6.4	4.0	4.3	41,007	37.6
1989	2.6	15.5	20.4	18.8	16.5	10.8	6.6	4.1	4.4	41,383	38.0
1990	2.3	14.9	20.4	18.7	16.8	11.3	7.0	4.0	4.3	42,635	38.2
1991	2.4	14.0	20.4	18.9	17.0	11.8	7.1	3.9	4.4	45,630	38.4
1992	2.2	13.0	20.1	19.2	16.8	12.5	7.4	4.0	4.5	45,665	38.7
1993	2.1	11.9	19.8	18.6	17.3	13.3	7.9	4.2	4.8	48,324	39.3
WIFE											
Census year percentages—											
1966	8.9	18.3	16.7	15.9	14.8	10.9	7.2	4.1	3.3	9,859	36.9
1971	11.2	23.5	17.0	13.0	12.5	10.4	6.3	3.6	2.4	12,947	34.4
1976	13.8	24.3	17.8	12.8	9.8	8.4	6.3	3.5	3.0	63,230	33.1
1981	13.3	24.3	20.8	14.9	10.0	6.5	4.7	2.8	2.3	41,412	32.8
1986	9.8	21.2	20.2	18.1	12.5	8.2	4.5	2.6	2.5	39,417	34.7
1991	6.8	19.7	21.3	18.1	15.3	9.4	4.7	2.3	2.4	45,630	35.5
Annual percentages—											
1983	11.4	22.9	21.0	17.1	10.8	7.0	4.4	2.7	2.5	43,525	33.7
1988	8.3	21.6	20.8	17.8	13.8	8.3	4.2	2.4	2.4	41,007	34.8
1989	7.4	21.3	20.6	18.0	14.5	8.4	4.6	2.4	2.5	41,383	35.1
1990	7.1	21.0	20.7	17.8	15.0	8.8	4.8	2.3	2.3	42,635	35.3
1991	6.8	19.7	21.3	18.1	15.3	9.4	4.7	2.3	2.4	45,630	35.5
1992	6.4	18.8	21.1	18.5	15.1	10.1	5.1	2.3	2.4	45,665	35.9
1993	5.8	17.5	21.0	18.7	15.4	11.1	5.3	2.5	2.5	48,324	36.4

TABLE 11. DIVORCES : MARITAL STATUS OF PARTIES AT DATE OF MARRIAGE AND DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
AUSTRALIA, 1993

Duration of marriage (years)	Husband				Wife			
	Never married	Widowed	Divorced	Total	Never married	Widowed	Divorced	Total
1 and under 2	374	21	152	547	395	19	133	547
2 and under 3	1,927	68	572	2,567	1,963	58	546	2,567
3 and under 4	2,605	49	775	3,429	2,650	63	716	3,429
4 and under 5	2,620	33	720	3,373	2,628	56	689	3,373
5 and under 6	2,318	31	645	2,994	2,301	48	645	2,994
6 and under 7	2,014	45	639	2,698	2,024	50	624	2,698
7 and under 8	1,907	24	568	2,499	1,931	49	519	2,499
8 and under 9	1,752	21	546	2,319	1,801	35	483	2,319
9 and under 10	1,678	22	513	2,213	1,723	22	468	2,213
10 and under 15	6,860	71	1,835	8,766	6,892	109	1,765	8,766
15 and under 20	5,337	48	845	6,230	5,353	75	802	6,230
20 and under 25	5,023	24	297	5,344	5,081	37	226	5,344
25 and under 30	2,875	13	115	3,003	2,895	22	86	3,003
30 and over	2,264	13	65	2,342	2,263	15	64	2,342
Total	39,554	483	8,287	48,324	39,900	658	7,766	48,324

TABLE 12. DIVORCES : MARITAL STATUS OF PARTIES AT DATE OF MARRIAGE  
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION, AUSTRALIA

	Husband				Wife			
	Never married	Widowed	Divorced	Total number	Never married	Widowed	Divorced	Total number
Census year percentages —								
1966	90.7	2.1	7.2	9,859	88.6	2.9	8.5	9,859
1971	91.6	1.7	6.7	12,947	90.6	2.0	7.4	12,947
1976	91.9	1.6	6.4	63,230	91.2	2.0	6.8	63,230
1981	89.4	1.2	9.4	41,412	89.1	1.6	9.3	41,412
1986	84.4	1.3	14.3	39,417	84.8	1.6	13.5	39,417
1991	82.8	0.9	16.3	45,630	83.4	1.2	15.4	45,630
Annual percentages —								
1983	87.3	1.3	11.4	43,525	87.5	1.7	10.9	43,525
1988	83.6	1.0	15.3	41,007	84.2	1.4	14.4	41,007
1989	83.4	1.0	15.6	41,383	84.1	1.2	14.7	41,383
1990	82.9	0.9	16.2	42,635	83.5	1.2	15.3	42,635
1991	82.8	0.9	16.3	45,630	83.4	1.2	15.4	45,630
1992	82.3	1.0	16.7	45,665	82.8	1.3	15.9	45,665
1993	81.9	1.0	17.1	48,324	82.6	1.4	16.1	48,324

TABLE 13. DIVORCES : MEDIAN DURATION OF MARRIAGE AND MARITAL STATUS OF PARTIES  
AT DATE OF MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA  
(Years)

	Husband				Wife			
	Never married	Widowed	Divorced	Total	Never married	Widowed	Divorced	Total
Census year medians —								
1966	14.3	11.2	11.8	14.0	14.4	12.0	11.4	14.0
1971	12.8	10.1	11.5	12.7	12.8	11.3	11.9	12.7
1976	11.4	9.0	9.5	11.2	11.4	9.7	9.8	11.2
1981	10.7	6.2	5.7	10.2	10.7	7.6	5.9	10.2
1986	11.9	6.6	6.6	10.6	11.8	7.4	6.7	10.6
1991	11.3	7.1	7.6	10.3	11.2	7.5	7.7	10.3
Annual medians —								
1983	11.5	6.8	5.8	10.6	11.4	7.1	6.2	10.6
1988	11.3	6.7	6.9	10.1	11.2	8.3	7.0	10.1
1989	11.3	6.9	7.3	10.2	11.2	8.0	7.3	10.2
1990	11.1	7.3	7.3	10.1	11.0	7.6	7.4	10.1
1991	11.3	7.1	7.6	10.3	11.2	7.5	7.7	10.3
1992	11.4	7.0	7.9	10.5	11.3	8.0	7.9	10.5
1993	11.6	6.9	8.1	10.7	11.6	7.7	8.0	10.7

TABLE 14. DIVORCES : AGE OF PARTIES AT DATE OF FINAL SEPARATION AND DURATION OF MARRIAGE BETWEEN DATE OF MARRIAGE AND DATE OF FINAL SEPARATION, AUSTRALIA, 1993

Duration of marriage (years)	Age group (years)										Not stated	Total
	19 and under	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over		
HUSBAND												
Under 1	92	880	1,008	566	315	248	141	92	55	114	31	3,542
1 and under 2	24	979	1,462	750	405	280	150	84	57	70	19	4,280
2 and under 3	4	677	1,563	834	395	278	162	98	38	65	6	4,120
3 and under 4	—	329	1,257	802	371	241	134	86	39	39	7	3,305
4 and under 5	—	131	1,052	796	338	222	120	60	41	52	2	2,814
5 and under 6	—	53	911	838	377	191	109	65	38	44	3	2,629
6 and under 7	—	10	665	782	329	229	96	50	33	47	—	2,241
7 and under 8	—	2	463	823	424	191	106	51	34	29	—	2,123
8 and under 9	—	1	263	829	435	207	97	65	37	28	1	1,963
9 and under 10	—	—	144	791	401	180	104	66	21	31	2	1,740
10 and under 15	—	—	52	2,055	2,696	1,172	440	231	132	157	1	6,936
15 and under 20	—	—	—	95	2,197	2,294	669	222	99	100	5	5,681
20 and under 25	—	—	—	—	76	1,614	1,647	433	134	61	4	3,969
25 and under 30	—	—	—	—	—	47	724	725	188	90	—	1,774
30 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	291	406	473	—	1,183
Not stated	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	24
Total	120	3,062	8,840	9,961	8,759	7,394	4,712	2,619	1,352	1,400	105	48,324
WIFE												
Under 1	342	1,239	859	421	268	162	106	52	37	38	18	3,542
1 and under 2	215	1,561	1,187	572	312	193	116	61	25	32	6	4,280
2 and under 3	66	1,387	1,351	569	328	204	109	56	18	24	8	4,120
3 and under 4	18	879	1,226	556	295	150	97	48	16	17	3	3,305
4 and under 5	—	505	1,216	550	249	134	76	42	22	18	2	2,814
5 and under 6	—	288	1,211	573	273	138	67	36	21	16	6	2,629
6 and under 7	—	108	1,016	609	243	126	75	26	16	19	3	2,241
7 and under 8	—	39	911	637	280	139	58	34	13	10	2	2,123
8 and under 9	—	8	714	669	300	144	64	29	23	8	4	1,963
9 and under 10	—	1	490	737	281	125	46	26	19	14	1	1,740
10 and under 15	—	—	504	3,335	1,821	756	267	124	67	59	3	6,936
15 and under 20	—	—	—	601	3,189	1,392	330	73	39	51	6	5,681
20 and under 25	—	—	—	—	489	2,368	901	146	38	23	4	3,969
25 and under 30	—	—	—	—	—	254	1,036	379	72	33	—	1,774
30 and over	—	—	—	—	—	1	88	457	354	282	1	1,183
Not stated	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	24
Total	641	6,015	10,685	9,829	8,328	6,286	3,436	1,589	780	644	91	48,324

TABLE 15. DIVORCES : PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION AND MEDIAN DURATION BETWEEN DATE OF MARRIAGE AND DATE OF FINAL SEPARATION PRECEDING DIVORCE, AUSTRALIA

	Duration of marriage (years)							Total number	Median duration (years)
	4 and under	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30 and over		
Census year percentages —									
1981	36.4	24.9	15.9	10.2	7.0	3.5	2.1	41,412	7.5
1986	37.6	21.5	16.0	11.7	7.2	3.7	2.3	39,417	7.6
1991	37.7	22.5	14.4	12.0	7.7	3.4	2.3	45,630	7.4
Annual percentages —									
1983	35.9	23.4	17.1	11.0	6.9	3.4	2.2	43,525	7.8
1988	38.5	22.1	15.1	11.8	6.8	3.4	2.4	41,007	7.3
1989	37.9	22.3	14.9	12.0	7.0	3.4	2.3	41,383	7.3
1990	38.2	22.4	14.4	11.7	7.3	3.4	2.3	42,635	7.3
1991	37.7	22.5	14.4	12.0	7.7	3.4	2.3	45,630	7.4
1992	37.8	22.5	14.4	11.7	7.7	3.6	2.3	45,665	7.4
1993	37.4	22.1	14.4	11.8	8.2	3.7	2.4	48,324	7.6



TABLE 16. DIVORCES : AGE OF PARTIES AT DATE DECREE MADE ABSOLUTE  
AND DURATION OF MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA, 1993

Duration of marriage (years)	Age group (years)									Not stated	Total
	24 and under	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over		
HUSBAND											
1 and under 2	96	133	113	61	40	35	12	13	43	1	547
2 and under 3	359	875	538	253	216	95	81	54	81	15	2,567
3 and under 4	311	1,180	874	360	271	174	105	58	81	15	3,429
4 and under 5	168	1,154	950	447	266	177	103	38	62	8	3,373
5 and under 6	61	893	969	457	259	151	90	42	63	9	2,994
6 and under 7	9	642	971	454	226	171	93	53	71	8	2,698
7 and under 8	1	438	976	495	250	155	71	48	62	3	2,499
8 and under 9	—	263	942	515	251	139	97	57	52	3	2,319
9 and under 10	—	125	903	585	260	164	81	33	59	3	2,213
10 and under 15	—	70	2,252	3,228	1,622	762	388	199	235	10	8,766
15 and under 20	—	—	71	2,031	2,509	901	354	166	193	5	6,230
20 and under 25	—	—	—	87	2,101	2,237	598	175	142	4	5,344
25 and under 30	—	—	—	—	66	1,241	1,207	326	155	8	3,003
30 and over	—	—	—	—	—	26	519	772	1,023	2	2,342
Total	1,005	5,773	9,559	8,973	8,337	6,428	3,799	2,034	2,322	94	48,324
WIFE											
1 and under 2	164	158	84	50	31	19	15	8	16	2	547
2 and under 3	799	793	427	205	128	100	47	18	44	6	2,567
3 and under 4	814	1,215	614	309	207	144	60	34	26	6	3,429
4 and under 5	571	1,354	681	312	209	127	56	26	27	10	3,373
5 and under 6	300	1,262	714	303	182	111	67	21	30	4	2,994
6 and under 7	107	1,097	745	328	183	110	63	30	31	4	2,698
7 and under 8	32	918	850	332	163	94	54	29	23	4	2,499
8 and under 9	5	703	859	373	185	103	52	18	18	3	2,319
9 and under 10	2	475	942	411	213	89	37	22	21	1	2,213
10 and under 15	—	491	3,720	2,553	1,042	514	227	104	101	14	8,766
15 and under 20	—	1	524	3,218	1,621	531	174	77	80	4	6,230
20 and under 25	—	—	—	652	2,912	1,397	253	60	63	7	5,344
25 and under 30	—	—	—	1	377	1,832	622	97	65	9	3,003
30 and over	—	—	—	—	—	177	819	658	682	6	2,342
Total	2,794	8,467	10,160	9,047	7,453	5,348	2,546	1,202	1,227	80	48,324

TABLE 17. DIVORCES : PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION AND MEDIAN DURATION BETWEEN DATE OF MARRIAGE  
AND DATE DECREE MADE ABSOLUTE, AUSTRALIA

	Duration of marriage (years)								
	4 and under	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30 and over	Total number	Median duration
Census year percentages —									
1966	7.9	25.9	20.3	17.7	13.1	8.0	7.2	9,859	13.8
1971	9.3	30.0	20.0	14.3	12.4	7.7	6.3	12,947	12.4
1976	15.5	30.2	18.1	12.5	9.8	7.5	6.4	63,230	11.0
1981	20.8	28.5	19.6	11.9	8.6	5.6	5.0	41,412	10.2
1986	21.7	26.2	17.8	14.3	9.4	5.6	4.9	39,417	10.6
1991	21.3	27.4	17.6	13.1	10.4	5.7	4.5	45,630	10.3
Annual percentages —									
1983	20.3	26.9	20.5	13.3	8.6	5.4	5.0	43,525	10.6
1988	21.4	28.1	17.3	14.2	9.3	5.1	4.7	41,007	10.1
1989	20.9	28.3	17.1	13.9	9.9	5.3	4.6	41,383	10.2
1990	20.9	28.5	17.3	13.1	10.2	5.4	4.6	42,635	10.1
1991	21.3	27.4	17.6	13.1	10.4	5.7	4.5	45,630	10.3
1992	21.0	26.8	18.4	12.9	10.5	5.7	4.7	45,665	10.5
1993	20.5	26.3	18.1	12.9	11.1	6.2	4.8	48,324	10.7

TABLE 18. DIVORCES : RELATIVE BIRTHPLACES OF PARTIES, AUSTRALIA, 1993

Country of birth	Husband born in country shown and wife born in				Wife born in country shown and husband born in			
	Australia	Same overseas country	Different overseas country	Total	Australia	Same overseas country	Different overseas country	Total
<b>OCEANIA AND ANTARCTICA—</b>								
Australia	27,127	—	5,061	32,188	27,127	—	6,471	33,598
Fiji	103	154	43	300	144	154	89	387
New Zealand	506	567	223	1,296	452	567	307	1,326
Other	84	49	42	175	76	49	64	189
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,820</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>5,369</b>	<b>33,959</b>	<b>27,799</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>6,931</b>	<b>35,500</b>
<b>EUROPE AND FORMER USSR—</b>								
Austria	52	9	41	102	29	9	32	70
Former USSR & Baltic States	30	63	29	122	17	63	29	109
Former Yugoslav Republics	167	351	124	642	67	351	62	480
Germany	266	107	140	513	252	107	155	514
Greece	148	151	54	353	42	151	32	225
Hungary	33	55	45	133	17	55	23	95
Ireland	119	56	86	261	87	56	60	203
Italy	264	181	141	586	95	181	68	344
Malta	96	62	34	192	52	62	37	151
Netherlands	262	63	131	456	166	63	73	302
Poland	34	169	42	245	26	169	45	240
United Kingdom	2,707	1,674	690	5,071	2,104	1,674	603	4,381
Other	241	213	205	659	167	213	160	540
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,419</b>	<b>3,154</b>	<b>1,762</b>	<b>9,335</b>	<b>3,121</b>	<b>3,154</b>	<b>1,379</b>	<b>7,654</b>
<b>MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA—</b>								
Egypt	58	58	60	176	26	58	34	118
Lebanon	93	190	60	343	19	190	41	250
Turkey	38	101	29	168	5	101	11	117
Other	99	78	128	305	27	78	77	182
<b>Total</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>992</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>667</b>
<b>SOUTHEAST ASIA—</b>								
Indonesia	52	42	34	128	28	42	41	111
Malaysia	66	61	70	197	71	61	93	225
Philippines	30	244	7	281	303	244	185	732
Singapore	29	25	26	80	30	25	40	95
Thailand	12	15	7	34	56	15	63	134
Viet Nam	12	403	150	565	9	403	95	507
Other	17	65	42	124	6	65	32	103
<b>Total</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>1,409</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>1,907</b>
<b>NORTHEAST ASIA—</b>								
China	87	404	143	634	102	404	250	756
Hong Kong	24	79	75	178	32	79	70	181
Other	19	60	32	111	32	60	47	139
<b>Total</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>923</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>1,076</b>
<b>SOUTHERN ASIA—</b>								
India	89	90	62	241	42	90	57	189
Sri Lanka	33	61	18	112	10	61	13	84
Other	49	17	27	93	5	17	7	29
<b>Total</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>302</b>
<b>THE AMERICAS—</b>								
Canada	53	12	21	86	70	12	31	113
Chile	16	48	24	88	13	48	36	97
United States of America	180	34	63	277	155	34	57	246
Other	55	117	80	252	57	117	92	266
<b>Total</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>703</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>722</b>
<b>AFRICA (Excluding North Africa)—</b>								
South Africa	49	60	36	145	45	60	47	152
Other	103	77	80	260	64	77	87	228
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>380</b>
Other and not stated	96	33	23	152	61	33	22	116
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,598</b>	<b>6,298</b>	<b>8,428</b>	<b>48,324</b>	<b>32,188</b>	<b>6,298</b>	<b>9,838</b>	<b>48,324</b>

TABLE 19. DIVORCES : PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN OF THE MARRIAGE (a)  
AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN OF PARTIES, AUSTRALIA

	Number of children						Total divorces	Total number of children	Average number of children (b)
	0	1	2	3	4	5 or more			
<i>Census year percentages —</i>									
1966	35.5	25.4	21.9	10.5	4.2	2.5	9,859	12,950	2.0
1971	32.5	24.6	23.0	12.4	4.8	2.8	12,947	18,451	2.1
1976	37.3	23.3	22.8	10.7	4.0	1.8	63,230	73,645	1.9
1981	38.9	21.5	25.6	10.0	3.0	1.0	41,412	49,616	2.0
1986	40.3	21.2	25.8	9.5	2.5	0.7	39,417	45,231	1.9
1991	45.8	20.1	23.2	8.4	2.1	0.4	45,630	46,697	1.9
<i>Annual percentages —</i>									
1983	38.4	21.8	26.2	10.2	2.7	0.7	43,525	52,059	1.9
1988	42.5	21.5	24.7	8.7	2.2	0.5	41,007	44,395	1.9
1989	44.7	20.4	23.7	8.7	2.1	0.5	41,383	43,317	1.9
1990	44.4	20.5	23.8	8.6	2.3	0.5	42,635	44,913	1.9
1991	45.8	20.1	23.2	8.4	2.1	0.4	45,630	46,697	1.9
1992	47.1	19.9	22.2	8.2	2.2	0.4	45,665	45,704	1.9
1993	47.4	20.0	21.8	8.2	2.2	0.5	48,324	48,055	1.9

(a) See paragraph 16 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Divorces involving one or more children.

TABLE 20. DIVORCES : NUMBER OF CHILDREN OF THE MARRIAGE (a), AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN  
AND DURATION OF MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA, 1993

Duration of marriage (years)	Number of children						Total divorces	Total number of children	Average number of children (b)
	0	1	2	3	4	5 or more			
1 and under 2	442	73	17	11	3	1	547	158	1.5
2 and under 3	2,005	384	130	31	15	2	2,567	808	1.4
3 and under 4	2,486	614	243	69	12	5	3,429	1,381	1.5
4 and under 5	2,211	705	345	83	21	8	3,373	1,770	1.5
5 and under 6	1,660	720	471	106	29	8	2,994	2,139	1.6
6 and under 7	1,349	673	517	122	29	8	2,698	2,229	1.7
7 and under 8	1,096	577	595	193	36	2	2,499	2,500	1.8
8 and under 9	914	530	602	213	49	11	2,319	2,628	1.9
9 and under 10	785	452	691	210	62	13	2,213	2,781	1.9
10 and under 15	2,302	1,608	3,144	1,298	348	66	8,766	13,528	2.1
15 and under 20	1,142	1,017	2,409	1,215	367	80	6,230	11,374	2.2
20 and under 25	1,930	1,713	1,205	390	91	15	5,344	5,737	1.7
25 and under 30	2,311	512	140	28	9	3	3,003	927	1.3
30 and over	2,257	75	10	—	—	—	2,342	95	1.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,890</b>	<b>9,653</b>	<b>10,519</b>	<b>3,969</b>	<b>1,071</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>48,324</b>	<b>48,055</b>	<b>1.9</b>

(a) See paragraph 16 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Divorces involving one or more children.

TABLE 21. DIVORCES GRANTED IN AUSTRALIA, COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF HUSBAND AND WIFE, 1993

Details	Country of birth								
	Australia	China	Germany	Italy	New Zealand	Philippines	U.K. & Ireland	U.S.A.	Viet Nam
HUSBAND									
Number	32,188	634	513	586	1,296	281	5,332	277	565
Population '000 (a)	6,754.1	46.9	58.5	142.3	146.4	30.4	616.3	28.1	70.6
Divorce rate (b)	4.8	13.5	8.8	4.1	8.9	9.2	8.7	9.9	8.0
Median durations (years)									
of marriage	10.9	5.5	15.2	16.7	10.6	8.5	12.2	9.2	5.1
to final separation	7.8	3.1	11.8	13.5	6.9	3.7	8.9	5.9	3.0
of residence	..	5.0	32.0	30.1	12.7	6.3	23.8	12.3	10.1
Median ages (years)									
at marriage	24.7	27.9	27.5	25.5	25.8	27.1	25.8	27.0	26.8
at final separation	35.6	33.4	43.5	41.8	35.9	33.9	39.3	37.5	32.8
at divorce	38.7	36.1	46.3	44.5	39.2	38.2	42.4	40.8	35.0
WIFE									
Number	33,598	756	514	344	1,326	732	4,584	246	507
Population '000 (a)	6,873.8	44.5	60.8	124.6	138.1	55.1	607.9	24.9	66.8
Divorce rate (b)	4.9	17.0	8.5	2.8	9.6	13.3	7.5	9.9	7.6
Median durations (years)									
of marriage	10.9	4.6	15.7	17.4	10.5	7.0	12.7	9.1	6.8
to final separation	7.8	2.5	11.9	13.3	6.8	4.2	9.5	5.8	4.0
of residence	..	4.4	26.3	28.7	12.1	6.6	23.3	12.7	7.4
Median ages (years)									
at marriage	22.3	26.2	24.1	21.8	23.0	25.4	22.9	25.6	22.9
at final separation	33.0	30.3	40.5	38.5	32.9	31.9	35.7	35.1	31.5
at divorce	36.1	32.5	44.3	41.8	36.4	35.1	38.9	38.2	34.1

(a) Estimated resident population by country of birth, 1993 preliminary. (b) Per 1,000 male and female estimated resident population by country of birth, 1993 preliminary.

## PART E: POPULATION

TABLE 22. ESTIMATED MEAN RESIDENT POPULATION,  
STATES AND TERRITORIES, AT 31 DECEMBER  
(\*000)

<i>Selected years</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT(a)</i>	<i>Australia(b)</i>
1976	4,960.8	3,811.4	2,091.7	1,274.6	1,178.9	412.4	98.3	207.4	14,035.7
1981	5,237.4	3,949.3	2,344.6	1,318.4	1,301.2	427.1	123.4	227.8	14,929.1
1983	5,353.3	4,035.0	2,481.4	1,345.8	1,368.5	432.8	136.2	238.6	15,391.7
1986	5,533.2	4,161.5	2,623.5	1,382.5	1,457.9	446.5	154.4	258.9	16,018.5
1988	5,709.3	4,264.7	2,741.8	1,405.4	1,536.4	451.2	159.4	271.9	16,540.3
1989	5,777.4	4,321.5	2,826.3	1,419.2	1,578.6	455.4	161.3	276.6	16,816.4
1990	5,833.7	4,377.4	2,898.5	1,432.4	1,612.5	461.8	163.5	282.2	17,062.0
1991	5,899.2	4,420.8	2,962.4	1,446.3	1,636.6	466.7	165.8	288.8	17,286.5
1992 p	5,958.3	4,450.3	3,034.7	1,457.2	1,657.9	469.6	167.5	294.2	17,489.7
1993 p	6,001.4	4,465.2	3,117.4	1,463.2	1,677.0	471.5	169.6	298.7	17,664.5

(a) Excludes Jervis Bay Territory from 1 July, 1993. (b) Includes 'Other Territories' from 1 July, 1993 - see paragraph 8 of Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 23. ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION BY MARITAL STATUS, AGE GROUP AND SEX  
AUSTRALIA, AT 30 JUNE 1993p  
(\*000)

<i>Age group (years)</i>	<i>Males</i>					<i>Females</i>				
	<i>Never married</i>	<i>Currently married</i>	<i>Widowed</i>	<i>Divorced</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Never married</i>	<i>Currently married</i>	<i>Widowed</i>	<i>Divorced</i>	<i>Total</i>
14 and under	1,965.9	...	...	...	1,965.9	1,865.3	...	...	...	1,865.3
15-19	655.4	8.2	.8	.7	665.1	617.9	12.1	.9	.7	631.5
20-24	651.7	79.3	2.0	3.0	736.0	549.3	156.1	2.6	5.5	713.5
25-29	381.5	284.7	2.4	14.7	683.4	262.7	387.6	3.8	25.3	679.3
30-34	223.4	466.5	2.8	37.2	729.9	143.3	531.7	5.6	49.5	730.1
35-39	122.3	506.7	3.2	49.7	681.9	79.1	535.2	7.7	63.2	685.3
40-44	74.8	516.7	4.1	58.7	654.2	47.5	516.6	11.1	72.5	647.8
45-49	50.4	483.9	5.3	56.3	596.0	31.1	459.2	16.2	67.2	573.7
50-54	34.6	373.3	6.6	42.3	456.7	20.7	343.1	23.3	46.6	433.8
55-59	28.3	314.8	9.2	31.1	383.4	16.7	286.5	38.0	34.0	375.1
60-64	27.6	288.7	14.2	24.8	355.3	16.7	251.1	62.7	26.9	357.4
65-69	24.6	264.7	21.9	19.3	330.5	17.2	221.4	95.8	21.4	355.8
70-74	17.4	194.4	27.0	11.7	250.5	16.5	155.9	117.0	14.2	303.6
75-79	11.2	118.9	27.4	5.9	163.4	15.1	88.9	119.0	8.0	230.9
80-84	6.5	61.2	22.9	2.9	93.5	11.9	42.4	99.2	4.5	157.9
85 and over	3.8	26.9	19.3	1.7	51.8	12.1	18.0	89.3	3.8	123.2
All ages	4,279.3	3,988.8	169.2	360.1	8,797.4	3,722.9	4,005.8	692.0	443.2	8,864.0

TABLE 24. ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION BY MARITAL STATUS AND SEX  
AUSTRALIA, AT 30 JUNE  
(\*000)

<i>Selected years</i>	<i>Males</i>					<i>Females</i>				
	<i>Never married</i>	<i>Currently married</i>	<i>Widowed</i>	<i>Divorced</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Never married</i>	<i>Currently married</i>	<i>Widowed</i>	<i>Divorced</i>	<i>Total</i>
1976	3,448.8	3,344.4	134.3	104.7	7,032.0	2,941.3	3,354.9	576.1	128.8	7,001.0
1981	3,643.6	3,477.7	139.1	187.9	7,448.3	3,131.8	3,487.6	622.2	233.5	7,475.0
1983	3,752.6	3,572.4	141.0	220.3	7,686.3	3,217.1	3,582.2	636.5	271.3	7,707.1
1986	3,901.9	3,692.5	144.1	261.7	8,000.2	3,337.6	3,704.3	654.3	322.0	8,018.2
1988	4,023.4	3,787.1	152.2	286.2	8,248.9	3,461.2	3,800.5	667.8	353.7	8,283.2
1989	4,086.0	3,848.1	156.4	297.1	8,387.6	3,522.9	3,862.5	673.7	367.8	8,426.8
1990	4,143.3	3,898.6	160.0	309.4	8,511.3	3,580.1	3,912.5	677.9	383.4	8,553.9
1991	4,186.1	3,940.2	165.2	323.9	8,615.4	3,633.9	3,953.0	681.3	400.5	8,668.6
1992	4,234.3	3,967.6	167.3	341.8	8,711.0	3,680.5	3,982.8	686.8	421.5	8,771.6
1993 p	4,279.3	3,988.8	169.2	360.1	8,797.4	3,722.9	4,005.8	692.0	443.2	8,864.0

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

## Introduction

The *Family Law Act 1975* came into operation throughout Australia on 5 January 1976, repealing the Matrimonial Causes legislation which had been operative since 1961. Under Family Law legislation the irretrievable breakdown of marriage is the only ground on which a divorce is granted. This ground is established by the husband and wife having lived apart for 12 months or more and there being no reasonable likelihood of reconciliation. Applications for nullity of marriage under Family Law legislation must be on the ground that the marriage is void because of failure to meet a legal requirement such as that neither party be already lawfully married to another person. There is no provision for judicial separation under Family Law legislation.

2. Successful applicants for a divorce under Family Law legislation are initially granted a decree nisi. This becomes absolute after one month unless it is rescinded, appealed against, or the Court has not declared its satisfaction as to proper arrangements having been made for the welfare of children involved.

3. At the time of the introduction of the Family Law Act there were applications pending for divorce which had been previously filed under the Matrimonial Causes legislation. Family Law legislation provided that these cases could be continued under the superseded legislation or transferred and heard under the Family Law legislation. The publication *Divorces, 1976* (3307.0) differentiated between those cases in which a divorce was granted under Matrimonial Causes legislation and those cases in which a divorce was granted under Family Law legislation. Such differentiation is not made for subsequent years.

## Statistics

4. The statistics shown in this publication relate to calendar years and are compiled by the ABS from information supplied by Family Court Registries in respect of each application which resulted in a decree absolute being granted. The Family Court, since 1988, has progressively introduced a computer system for capturing Divorce data. This involves entering data onto the computer on receipt of an application. Data for finalised divorces are sent on tape to the ABS, on a monthly basis, for all Registries except Darwin.

5. Data for Darwin is currently supplied on a Statistical Report which is forwarded to the ABS on finalisation of proceedings. A reproduction of the Statistical Report used appears in Appendix A.

6. In the interpretation of data it is important to bear in mind that the availability of judges and the complexity of the cases brought before them can affect the number of decrees made absolute or granted in any one year. A rise in numbers in one year may be due wholly or in part to the clearing of a backlog of cases from an earlier period. In addition, of course, legislative changes and the expectation of new legislation, rules and practises, may affect the number of applications.

DIVORCES APPLIED FOR AND GRANTED DURING THE YEAR  
SHOWN AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DIVORCES GRANTED

1984	71.2	1989	71.9
1985	72.7	1990	73.1
1986	74.7	1991	74.0
1987	73.0	1992	73.9
1988	71.6	1993	73.1

## State and Territory of usual residence

7. The State classification used in Table 1, Part A of this publication, relates to State or Territory of usual residence at the time of separation. This takes account of some Family Courts having responsibility for hearing divorce cases relating to other States or Territories. The Family Courts most affected are Brisbane and the Australian Capital Territory. The Brisbane Family Court hears divorce cases from areas surrounding Lismore and Coffs Harbour in New South Wales, while the ACT Family Court hears cases from much of south-eastern New South Wales and part of Victoria. Another factor influencing the difference between State or Territory of usual residence and State or Territory of registration is that many applications are lodged at the nearest Family Court rather than the court in their State or Territory of usual residence at separation.

8. As a result of an amendment, made in 1992, to the "Acts Interpretation Act" the Indian Ocean Territories of Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands have been included as part of geographic Australia, hence another category of the State/Territory level has been created. This category, will be known as "Other Territories" and will include Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

9. Divorces of persons usually resident in Jervis Bay Territory cannot be identified separately from those divorces of persons usually resident in the area covered by the Jervis Bay postcode. Hence divorces of persons usually resident in Jervis Bay Territory have been included in New South Wales.

## State and Territory of registration

10. The State classification used in Tables 2, 3 and 4, Part B of this publication, relates to State of registration which is based on the location of the Family Court where the divorce is granted and registered. These figures can give a biased view of divorces in States or Territories, as explained in paragraph 7 above. Due to the large number of divorces granted in the ACT where usual residence was in another State, the rates for the ACT are not representative of the ACT population.

## Definitions

11. *Divorces*. The term divorce, as used in this publication, refers to decrees of dissolution of marriage. Prior to 1980 the term was used to include nullities of marriage and, where application was made before 5 January 1976, judicial separations granted. Details of nullities of marriage have not been collected since 1980. Figures in tables 3 and 4 of this publication have been

revised to exclude nullities and judicial separations prior to 1980.

12. *Divorce rates.* In this publication several types of rates are shown. In all cases the rates are expressed per 1,000 of the appropriate population.

13. The *crude divorce rate* is the number of divorces granted during the calendar year per 1,000 of the mean population for the calendar year. (In the interpretation of this rate it must be kept in mind that a large varying proportion of the population used in the denominator is unmarried or below the minimum age of marriage.)

14. The *age specific divorce rate (per 1,000 population)* relates to the number of divorces by age at decree made absolute to the estimated mid-year resident population in specific age groups. Males under 18 and females under 16 are excluded from the population.

15. The *age and marital status specific divorce rate (per 1,000 married population as at 30 June)* relates the number of divorces by age at decree made absolute to the married population in specific age groups. Those classified as *permanently separated* are included in the married population. Males and females under 15 are excluded from the population.

16. *Children are unmarried children of the marriage* who were aged under 18 years at the time of application for divorce. Under the *Family Law Act 1975*, these may include (in certain cases) adopted and ex-nuptial children and children from a former marriage. Children who are married or aged 18 years or more are not subject to custody and guardianship orders and are excluded.

17. *Duration of marriage* is the interval between the date of marriage and the date the decree was made absolute. In Tables 12 and 13, the interval between the date of marriage and the date of final separation is shown. *Date of final separation* is the date, given on the application for divorce, from which the period of living apart is calculated for the purpose of establishing the grounds for divorce. In determining the date of final separation, a single period of resumed cohabitation of less than three months may be ignored, provided the periods of living apart before and after resumed cohabitation amount to 12 months or more in total.

#### Country of birth

18. The classification of countries in this publication is based on the Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics (ASCCSS). For more detailed information refer to the ABS publication *Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics* (1269.0).

19. Recent political developments in Europe and the Former USSR have resulted in a number of changes to the ASCSS. These changes have affected some of the categories in this publication and are detailed in Revision 1.02 of the ASCSS.

#### Marital status

20. Two separate concepts are measured by the ABS. These are Registered Marital Status and Social Marital

Status. They are different personal characteristics and are independent variables with separate classifications. Marital Status in this publication relates to Registered Marital Status which refers to formally registered marriages for which the partners hold a marriage certificate.

#### Additional statistics available

21. In most cases, the ABS can also make available information which is not published. Appendix B is a list of characteristics processed by the ABS for the divorces collection. This information may be made available in one or more of the following forms: microfiche, photocopy, data tape, floppy disk, computer printout, or clerically-extracted tabulation. Generally, a charge is made for providing unpublished information. A list of tables produced annually is attached in Appendix C.

#### State statistics

22. In this publication detailed statistics are provided for Australia but summary figures are given for States.

#### Related publications

Other ABS publications which may be of interest are:

*Marriages, Australia* (3306.0) - issued annually

*Australian Demographic Statistics* (3101.0) - issued quarterly

*Australian Institute of Family Studies Manuscript 1989 - The rise and fall of divorce in Australia* - Gordon A. Carmichael and Peter McDonald.

23. A compendium of all demographic data for each State and the ACT has been released in State specific publications, *Demography*. The first releases contained 1990 data. These publications are released each year for each State and the ACT. The first release for the Northern Territory is planned to contain 1993 data. Should users require detailed State data on divorces prior to the release of this compendium please contact Information Services.

24. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, 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

- n.a. not available
- . . not applicable
- nil or rounded to zero
- break in continuity of series (where drawn across a column between consecutive figures)
- r figures or series revised since previous issue

25. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

## APPENDIX A

## FAMILY COURT OF AUSTRALIA - STATISTICAL REPORT FOR NORTHERN TERRITORY

Instructions

1. This report is to be made out in respect of applications for dissolution of marriage. Month Year  
 2. All fields should be right-justified with leading zeros. e.g. '4 March 1908' show as 0 3 0 8  
 show File Identification Details as Year Number  
 9 0 0 0 6 3 7

REGISTRY..... ☐  
*(See back of form for identifier)*

FILE IDENTIFICATION DETAILS..... Year   Number

DATE APPLICATION FILED..... Month   Year

SEX OF APPLICANT..... ☐  
*(Male 1, Female 2, Joint 3)*

DATE OF MARRIAGE..... Month   Year

DATE OF BIRTH OF HUSBAND..... Month   Year

PLACE OF BIRTH OF HUSBAND.....     
*Please code Australia or country (abroad) as per code list*  
*- see back of form for common codes (if unable to code country, please write in any details available)*

OCCUPATION OF HUSBAND.....      
*(Please write in details from form 4)*

MARITAL STATUS OF HUSBAND AT TIME OF MARRIAGE..... ☐  
*(Not previously married 1, Widowed 3, Divorced 4)*

DATE OF BIRTH OF WIFE..... Month   Year

PLACE OF BIRTH OF WIFE.....     
*Please code Australia or country (abroad) as per code list*  
*- see back of form for common codes (if unable to code country, please write in any details available)*

OCCUPATION OF WIFE.....      
*(Please write in details from form 4)*

MARITAL STATUS OF WIFE AT TIME OF MARRIAGE..... ☐  
*(Not previously married 1, Widowed 3, Divorced 4)*

DATE OF FINAL SEPARATION..... Month   Year

STATE OF USUAL RESIDENCE AT FINAL SEPARATION..... ☐  
*(See back of form for identifier)*

NUMBER OF CHILDREN OF THE MARRIAGE.....    
 (AGED UNDER 18 AT TIME OF APPLICATION)  
*(If no children, please code 00)*

DATE OF BIRTH OF YOUNGEST CHILD OF THE MARRIAGE..... Month   Year    
*(If no children please leave code boxes blank)*

DATE DECREE MADE ABSOLUTE..... Month   Year



## APPENDIX B

## DIVORCE CHARACTERISTICS AVAILABLE

## DIVORCE

Registry  
 State of registration  
 Date of filing of application  
 Postcode and State of separation  
 Sex of applicant  
 Marriage place  
 Marriage rite  
 Date of marriage  
 Date of final separation  
 Duration to separation  
 Month of outcome  
 Duration of marriage  
 Number of previous marriages  
 Date of first arrival in Australia  
 Duration of residence in Australia  
 Number of children of the marriage under 18  
 Number of children of the marriage over 18  
 Total number of children of the marriage  
 Date of birth of children of the marriage under 18 years  
 Age of children of the marriage under 18 years

HUSBAND  
AND WIFE

Place of birth  
 Date of birth  
 Occupation  
 Marital status at time of marriage  
 Age at marriage  
 Age at separation  
 Age at divorce

## APPENDIX C

## LIST OF DIVORCE TABLES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Table  
number

## Description

DIVR0001	State of registry by sex of applicant
DIVR0002	Month of outcome by state
DIVR0003	Ages of husband and wife at marriage
DIVR0004	Ages of husband and wife at date of divorce
DIVR0005	Ages of husband and wife at final separation
DIVR0006	Birthplace of husband by birthplace of wife
DIVR0007	Marital status of husband by marital status of wife (at time of marriage)
DIVR0008	Duration of marriage by marital status of husband and wife
DIVR0009	Age of husband at marriage by duration of marriage
DIVR0010	Age of wife at marriage by duration of marriage
DIVR0011	Age of husband at date of divorce by duration of marriage
DIVR0012	Age of wife at date of divorce by duration of marriage
DIVR0013	Duration of marriage by sex of applicant
DIVR0014	Duration of marriage by number of children under 18
DIVR0015	Age of youngest child by duration of marriage
DIVR0016	Age of youngest child by number of children under 18
*DIVR0017	Age of husband at final separation by duration of cohabitation
*DIVR0018	Age of wife at final separation by duration of cohabitation
DIVR0019	Month and year of application by month of outcome.
DIVR0020	Interval between final separation and filing of application by State
DIVR0021	Interval between final separation and filing of application by duration of marriage

\* NOTE: For the purpose of these tables, duration of cohabitation is the interval between date of marriage and date of final separation.







## For more information ...

The ABS publishes a wide range of statistics and other information on Australia's economic and social conditions. Details of what is available in various publications and other products can be found in the *ABS Catalogue of Publications and Products* available at all ABS Offices (see below for contact details).

### Information Consultancy Service

Information tailored to special needs of clients can be obtained from the Information Consultancy Service available at ABS Offices (see Information Inquiries below for contact details).

### National Dial-a-Statistic Line

0055 86 400

(Steadycom P/L premium rate 25c/21.4 secs.)

This number gives 24-hour access, 365 days a year for a range of statistics.

### Electronic Data Services

DISCOVERY (Key \*656#): The ABS intends discontinuing its statistical information service on DISCOVERY. Please contact Peter Davidson (Phone 06 252 6684) to discuss possible alternatives for acquiring statistics or if you wish to comment on this proposal. For details on electronic data services available, contact Information Services in any of the ABS Offices (see Information Inquiries below for contact details).

### Bookshops and Subscriptions

There are over 400 titles of various publications available from ABS bookshops in all ABS Offices (see below Bookshop Sales for contact details). The ABS also provides a subscription service through which nominated publications are provided by mail on a regular basis at no additional cost (telephone Publications Subscription Service toll free on 008 02 0608 Australia wide).

## Sales and Inquiries

Regional Offices	Information Inquiries	Bookshop Sales
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