

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

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SOCIAL STATISTICS : AUSTRALIA

NO. 13 : DIVORCE

QUARTER ENDED JUNE, 1963

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. This bulletin contains statistics of divorce for the quarter ended June, 1963 and for previous periods. For further details in respect of past periods, see previous bulletins in this series and the annual issues of the bulletin "Demography".

2. In 1959, the Commonwealth Parliament passed the Matrimonial Causes Act 1959, which came into operation on 1st February, 1961. This Act provides a uniform law throughout Australia with respect to divorce and other matrimonial causes, and supersedes the matrimonial causes laws of the States and Territories except in so far as the transitional provisions of the Act keep them in force for the purpose of completing pending proceedings. Therefore statistics of petitions filed since February, 1961, are on a uniform basis for all States and Territories, but statistics of decrees of dissolution, nullity and judicial separation granted since that date include decrees made on petitions under the superseded laws, and are to that extent not uniformly based. Of the 1,394 decrees absolute for dissolution granted during the quarter ended June, 1963, 1,304 (94 per cent.) were from petitions under the new legislation.

3. The matrimonial relief available under the superseded legislation differed extensively from State to State. For instance, some important variations in the grounds for dissolution of marriage were as follows:-

- (i) Insanity was a ground for dissolution in all States except in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory;
- (ii) in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory a suit for dissolution of marriage could forthwith be instituted against a respondent who failed to comply with an order for restitution of conjugal rights;
- (iii) separation for over five years was a ground only in Western Australia;
- (iv) separation for over five years under a decree of judicial separation or an order granting relief from co-habitation was a ground only in South Australia; and
- (v) impotence was a ground for dissolution of marriage in Western Australia, but a ground for nullity of marriage in each other State and Territory.

Because of these differences in legislation and also some variations from State to State in the basis of compilation of divorce statistics prior to the introduction of the uniform system, the figures for 1961 and subsequent years are not strictly comparable with those for earlier years. See especially the footnotes to tables 9, 14, 16 and 17.

4. Under the new legislation a court may grant decrees of dissolution of marriage (commonly known as divorce), judicial separation, nullity of marriage, restitution of conjugal rights and jactitation of marriage, i.e., that a person has falsely claimed to be another person's wife or husband. Orders may be made for the custody of children, the provision of maintenance, damages and the settlement of marriage property.

5. The statistics in this bulletin refer only to petitions filed and final decrees granted for dissolution, nullity and judicial separation. Statistics of petitions filed relate only to the original petition in a suit, i.e. a cross-petition contained in an answer by the respondent is not taken as a separate petition, nor are the grounds cited in the cross-petition included in table 3.

I. PETITIONS FILED

TABLE 1. - PETITIONS FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE,
NULLITY OF MARRIAGE AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION : QUARTER ENDED JUNE, 1963

Petition for -	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Dissolution of Marriage -									
Husband Petitioner	465	237	101	88	72	28	10	7	1,008
Wife Petitioner	669	357	153	143	93	35	6	15	1,471
Total	1,134	594	254	231	165	63	16	22	2,479
Nullity of Marriage -									
Husband Petitioner	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Wife Petitioner	4	3	2	1	..	..	..	1	11
Total	5	3	2	1	..	..	..	1	12
Dissolution or Nullity -									
Husband Petitioner	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Wife Petitioner	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	3
Judicial Separation -									
Husband Petitioner	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wife Petitioner	3	3	3	..	1	..	..	1	11
Total	3	3	3	..	1	..	..	1	11
Total Petitions -									
Husband Petitioner No.	466	239	101	88	72	28	10	7	1,011
Per cent.	41	40	39	38	43	44	63	29	40
Wife Petitioner No.	676	363	159	144	94	35	6	17	1,494
Per cent.	59	60	61	62	57	56	37	71	60
Total	1,142	602	260	232	166	63	16	24	2,505

TABLE 2. - PETITIONS FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE,
NULLITY OF MARRIAGE AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION : AUSTRALIA

Petition for -	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	Quarter ended -				
						June, 1962	Sept., 1962	Dec., 1962	March, 1963	June, 1963
Dissolution of Marriage -										
Husband Petitioner	3,833	3,843	3,709	4,394	4,072	1,068	1,029	972	1,014	1,008
Wife Petitioner	4,570	4,465	4,385	5,110	5,176	1,315	1,408	1,273	1,258	1,471
Total	8,403	8,308	8,094	9,504	9,248	2,383	2,437	2,245	2,272	2,479
Nullity of Marriage -										
Husband Petitioner	40	22	23	13	15	3	4	5	2	1
Wife Petitioner	35	43	32	44	35	10	13	6	5	11
Total	75	65	55	57	50	13	17	11	7	12
Dissolution or Nullity -										
Husband Petitioner	..	..	..	3	6	1	1	2	1	2
Wife Petitioner	..	..	..	4	5	2	..	2	3	1
Total	..	..	..	7	11	3	1	4	4	3
Judicial Separation -										
Husband Petitioner	13	7	7	2	2	1	..	..	..	..
Wife Petitioner	36	24	31	9	18	6	1	5	7	11
Total	49	31	38	11	20	7	1	5	7	11
Dissolution or Judicial Separation -										
Husband Petitioner	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Total Petitions -										
Husband Petitioner No.	3,886	3,872	3,739	4,412	4,095	1,073	1,034	979	1,018	1,011
Per cent.	46	46	46	46	44	45	42	43	44	40
Wife Petitioner No.	4,641	4,532	4,448	5,167	5,234	1,333	1,422	1,286	1,273	1,494
Per cent.	54	54	54	54	56	55	58	57	56	60
Total	8,527	8,404	8,187	9,579	9,329	2,406	2,456	2,265	2,291	2,505

**TABLE 3. - GROUNDS ON WHICH PETITIONS WERE FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE,
NULLITY OF MARRIAGE AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION :
QUARTER ENDED JUNE, 1963**

Ground	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Petitions for Dissolution of Marriage									
Single grounds -									
Desertion	448	189	106	65	40	25	8	8	889
Adultery	223	126	40	60	66	12	2	8	537
Separation	178	36	40	45	48	14	2	2	415
Cruelty	75	7	3	29	2	2	1	2	121
Drunkenness	13	..	..	..	..	4	..	1	18
Frequent convictions	2	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	5
Non-compliance with restitution decree	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Insanity	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	4
Refusal to consummate	10	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	11
Other single grounds	4	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	7
Dual grounds -									
Desertion and adultery	19	22	5	4	1	..	1	..	52
Desertion and separation	77	136	40	11	4	2	1	..	271
Desertion and cruelty	14	6	1	3	..	..	1	1	26
Desertion and drunkenness	3	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	6
Desertion and frequent convictions	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Desertion and failure to pay maintenance	5	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	6
Adultery and separation	5	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	8
Adultery and cruelty	7	2	2	5	..	..	..	..	16
Cruelty and drunkenness	25	2	5	4	..	..	..	..	36
Other dual grounds	8	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	12
Three grounds or more	13	12	7	1	..	3	..	..	36
Total	1,134	594	254	231	165	63	16	22	2,479
Petitions for Nullity of Marriage									
Bigamy	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	5
Incapacity to consummate	2	3	1	1	..	..	..	..	7
Total	5	3	2	1	..	..	..	1	12
Petitions for Dissolution or Nullity of Marriage									
Three grounds or more	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	3
Petitions for Judicial Separation									
Adultery	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Other single grounds	..	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	4
Dual grounds	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Total	3	3	3	..	1	..	..	1	11

TABLE 4. - PETITIONS FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (a)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Year - 1958	4,102	1,579	952	791	644	267	31	37	8,403
1959	3,884	1,650	976	789	671	283	12	43	8,308
1960	3,746	1,798	863	781	560	274	26	46	8,094
1961	4,215	2,289	1,084	865	620	321	40	70	9,504
1962	4,093	2,148	1,083	910	651	276	39	48	9,248
Quarter ended -									
June, 1962	1,012	586	267	233	187	71	15	12	2,383
September, 1962	1,070	548	292	244	186	74	10	13	2,437
December, 1962	979	559	269	236	118	68	6	10	2,245
March, 1963	1,054	457	249	273	144	63	12	20	2,272
June, 1963	1,134	594	254	231	165	63	16	22	2,479

(a) This table excludes petitions filed for nullity of marriage, judicial separations and any petitions for two or more alternative types of relief.

II. DISSOLUTIONS, ETC. GRANTED : NUMBER

TABLE 5. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a),

NULLITIES OF MARRIAGE AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS GRANTED :

QUARTER ENDED JUNE, 1963

Decree for -	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Dissolution of Marriage -									
Husband Petitioner	289	159	63	37	26	26	4	3	607
Wife Petitioner	431	162	65	45	39	36	5	4	787
Total	720	321	128	82	65	62	9	7	1,394
Nullity of Marriage -									
Husband Petitioner	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wife Petitioner	5	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	7
Total	5	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	7
Judicial Separation -									
Husband Petitioner	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wife Petitioner	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
Total	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
Total Decrees -									
Husband Petitioner No.	289	159	63	37	26	26	4	3	607
Per cent.	40	49	48	45	40	42	44	43	43
Wife Petitioner No.	436	164	67	45	39	36	5	4	796
Per cent.	60	51	52	55	60	58	56	57	57
Total	725	323	130	82	65	62	9	7	1,403

(a) Decrees absolute.

**TABLE 6. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a), NULLITIES OF MARRIAGE
AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS GRANTED : AUSTRALIA**

Decree for	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	Quarter ended -				
						June, 1962	Sept., 1962	Dec., 1962	March, 1963	June, 1963
Dissolution of Marriage -										
Husband Petitioner	3,225	3,291	3,078	3,049	3,295	590	916	974	904	607
Wife Petitioner	3,695	4,024	3,555	3,623	3,923	775	1,045	1,152	1,132	787
Total	6,920	7,315	6,633	6,673(b)	7,220(c)	1,365	1,962(b)	2,127(b)	2,036	1,394
Nullity of Marriage -										
Husband Petitioner	25	21	26	14	12	5	3	2	2	..
Wife Petitioner	36	32	37	22	28	8	3	9	8	7
Total	61	53	63	36	40	13	6	11	10	7
Judicial Separation -										
Husband Petitioner	2	..	2	..	2	..	1	1	..	..
Wife Petitioner	11	2	11	2	3	1	..	1	..	2
Total	13	2	13	2	5	1	1	2	..	2
Total Decrees -										
Husband Petitioner										
No.	3,252	3,312	3,106	3,063	3,309	595	920	977	906	607
Per cent.	46	45	46	46	46	43	47	46	44	43
Wife Petitioner										
No.	3,742	4,058	3,603	3,647	3,954	784	1,048	1,162	1,140	796
Per cent.	54	55	54	54	54	57	53	54	56	57
Total	6,994	7,370	6,709	6,711(b)	7,265(c)	1,379	1,969(b)	2,140(b)	2,046	1,403

(a) Decrees absolute.

(b) Includes one dissolution granted on petitions by both parties, and not shown against husband or wife.

(c) Includes two dissolutions granted on petitions by both parties, and not shown against husband or wife.

TABLE 7. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE GRANTED (a)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Year - 1958	3,217	1,698	759	483	536	176	15	36	6,920
1959	3,363	1,861	739	503	584	222	14	29	7,315
1960	3,243	1,296	696	610	540	210	5	33	6,633
1961	3,156	1,248	779	679	466	286	23	36	6,673
1962	3,113	1,615	920	660	582	248	38	44	7,220
Quarter ended -									
June, 1962	664	292	151	101	84	61	7	5	1,365
September, 1962	847	461	232	146	177	66	14	19	1,962
December, 1962	963	420	248	267	158	56	8	7	2,127
March, 1963	807	429	306	219	191	66	8	10	2,036
June, 1963	720	321	128	82	65	62	9	7	1,394

(a) Decrees absolute. This table excludes nullities of marriage and judicial separations.

TABLE 8. - GROUNDS ON WHICH DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a), NULLITIES OF MARRIAGE
AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS WERE GRANTED : QUARTER ENDED JUNE, 1963

Ground	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Dissolution of Marriage									
Single grounds -									
Desertion	349	126	69	21	21	25	4	2	617
Adultery	155	56	20	21	17	17	2	4	292
Separation	122	55	26	19	23	14	2	..	261
Cruelty	32	3	1	10	1	..	..	..	47
Drunkenness	8	1	..	2	..	2	..	..	13
Frequent convictions	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
Non-compliance with restitution decree	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Failure to pay maintenance	1	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	5
Insanity	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	5
Refusal to consummate	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Other single grounds	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dual grounds -									
Desertion and adultery	4	14	..	..	..	..	1	..	19
Desertion and separation	9	50	7	4	..	2	..	1	73
Desertion and cruelty	4	3	1	1	..	..	..	..	9
Desertion and drunkenness	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Adultery and separation	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Cruelty and drunkenness	14	3	..	..	..	2	..	..	19
Other dual grounds	..	4	1	2	..	..	..	..	7
Three grounds or more	..	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	6
Total	720	321	128	82	65	62	9	7	1,394
Nullity of Marriage									
Bigamy	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	3
Incapacity to consummate	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Total	5	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	7
Judicial Separation									
Single grounds	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2

(a) Decrees absolute.

TABLE 9. - GROUNDS ON WHICH DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE, NULLITIES OF MARRIAGE
AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS WERE GRANTED : AUSTRALIA

Ground (a)	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	Quarter ended				
						June, 1962	Sept., 1962	Dec., 1962	March, 1963	June, 1963
Dissolution of Marriage										
Single grounds -										
Desertion	4,257	4,492	3,873	3,600	3,505	640	984	1,039	948	617
Adultery	1,988	2,124	2,103	1,811	1,490	275	382	437	432	292
Separation (b)	114	136	133	342	1,159	235	303	352	351	261
Cruelty	208	209	216	231	204	47	56	55	53	47
Drunkenness	64	77	56	53	74	15	24	23	23	13
Frequent convictions	..	..	..	12	18	4	3	4	5	2
Imprisonment	25	25	19	9	3	1	..	2	1	..
Failure to pay maintenance	20	24	23	18	17	3	3	7	3	5
Non-compliance with restitution decree (c)	..	..	..	296	57	20	10	7	14	14
Insanity	17	19	12	12	36	3	14	11	7	5
Refusal to consummate (d)	..	1	5	8	16	3	5	6	3	2
Other single grounds	9	3	1	6	6	1	..	2	2	1
Dual grounds -										
Desertion and adultery	84	87	71	93	104	19	26	32	35	19
Desertion and separation (e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	36	312	46	93	88	92	73
Desertion and cruelty (e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	9	35	7	8	12	15	9
Desertion and drunkenness (e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	5	22	8	6	5	6	1
Desertion and frequent convictions (e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	3	12	1	3	5	..	..
Desertion and failure to pay maintenance (e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	1	13	3	5	2	2	..
Adultery and separation (e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	3	8	1	3	3	5	1
Adultery and cruelty (e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	4	6	..	2	2	1	..
Adultery and bigamy (f)	2	1	1	6	2	1	1	..	..	..
Separation and insanity (e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	1	4	1	1	2	..	..
Separation and failure to pay maintenance	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..
Cruelty and drunkenness	132	117	120	97	63	18	14	18	15	19
Other dual grounds (e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	2	16	3	8	2	5	7
Three grounds or more (e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	15	38	10	8	11	13	6
Total	6,920	7,315	6,633	6,673	7,220	1,365	1,962	2,127	2,036	1,394
Nullity of Marriage										
Bigamy	19	15	24	9	14	5	4	4	3	3
Invalid Marriage	3	4	6	2	2	..	..	1	1	..
Incapacity to consummate	34	28	31	24	24	8	2	6	6	4
Consanguinity	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other grounds	2	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Not stated	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	61	53	63	36	40	13	6	11	10	7
Judicial Separation										
Desertion	4	..	10	..	2	..	..	2	..	1
Adultery	1	1	3	1	2	1	1	..	..	..
Cruelty	8	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other grounds	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Total	13	2	13	2	5	1	1	2	..	2

(a) Statistics in respect of dissolutions of marriage for which petitions were lodged in or after February, 1961 are on a uniform basis in all States. Petitions lodged (Continued next page)

before that date were dealt with under the various, now superseded, State laws even if they were heard in 1961 or later years. Furthermore, there were changes made in some States regarding the way in which divorce statistics were compiled. For instance, dissolutions made on more than one ground were allocated to the more important ground in earlier years. For these reasons, comparisons from year to year of the figures shown in the above table should be made with caution. See also Explanatory Notes, page 2.

- (b) Separation was a ground for dissolution in only two States under the old legislation.
- (c) This was a ground in one State only under the old legislation. Separate figures were not compiled before 1961, the dissolutions on this ground being included with desertion.
- (d) This was a ground for dissolution in only one State under the old legislation.
- (e) Not separately compiled before 1961. See note (a) above.
- (f) "Adultery and Bigamy" is not a ground for dissolution under the new Commonwealth legislation.

III. DISSOLUTIONS GRANTED - AGES OF PARTIES

TABLE 10. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE : AGES OF PARTIES AT TIME OF MARRIAGE (a),
AUSTRALIA, QUARTER ENDED JUNE, 1963

Age of Husband (Years)	Age of Wife (Years)											Total Husbands	
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not stated	No.	Per cent.
Under 20	71	11	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	84	6
20-24	287	313	41	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	649	47
25-29	76	195	91	25	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	393	28
30-34	18	45	37	23	8	1	..	..	..	..	..	132	10
35-39	5	15	18	10	7	7	1	1	..	..	..	64	5
40-44	2	2	2	10	1	5	5	..	..	..	..	27	2
45-49	..	..	2	6	7	2	2	1	1	..	..	21	1
50-54	..	2	1	1	4	3	1	1	..	..	..	13	1
55-59	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	1	..	..	..	5	..
60 and over	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	1	..	4	..
Not stated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..
Total (No. Wives)	459	584	193	83	34	22	10	4	2	1	2	1,394	..
(%)	33	42	14	6	2	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	100

(a) Marriages for which decrees absolute for dissolution were granted.

TABLE 11. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE : AGES OF PARTIES AT TIME OF DISSOLUTION
OF MARRIAGE (a), AUSTRALIA, QUARTER ENDED JUNE, 1963

Age of Husband (Years)	Age of Wife (Years)											Total Husbands	
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not stated	No.	Per cent.
Under 20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20-24	1	17	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21	1
25-29	1	65	77	12	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	156	11
30-34	..	13	112	105	14	2	..	..	..	..	..	246	18
35-39	..	4	29	116	115	20	3	1	..	..	..	288	21
40-44	..	1	4	35	83	80	14	2	2	..	..	221	16
45-49	..	..	2	10	30	62	57	9	5	1	..	176	12
50-54	..	..	1	1	8	24	46	28	12	2	..	122	9
55-59	..	..	1	1	2	5	15	29	19	8	..	80	6
60 and over	..	..	..	1	..	3	10	10	12	46	..	82	6
Not stated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..
Total (No. Wives)	2	100	229	281	253	196	145	79	50	57	2	1,394	..
(%)	..	7	17	20	18	14	10	6	4	4	..	..	100

(a) Decree absolute.

TABLE 12. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE :
AGE OF HUSBAND AT TIME OF DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (a), AUSTRALIA

Period	Age of Husband (Years)										Total
	Under 25	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not stated	
Year - 1958	110	940	1,528	1,372	1,026	775	545	285	210	129	6,920
1959	131	929	1,626	1,494	1,075	852	586	321	229	72	7,315
1960	143	931	1,377	1,324	989	822	473	291	212	71	6,633
1961	135	812	1,356	1,294	977	814	568	324	313	80	6,673
1962	137	813	1,271	1,383	1,134	921	678	453	392	38	7,220
Quarter ended -											
June, 1962	24	134	244	264	201	194	122	90	82	10	1,365
September, 1962	40	234	343	371	310	249	193	112	105	5	1,962
December, 1962	47	252	367	397	331	257	213	150	104	9	2,127
March, 1963	44	226	380	390	350	241	161	128	113	3	2,036
June, 1963	21	156	246	288	221	176	122	80	82	2	1,394

(a) Decree absolute.

TABLE 13. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE :
AGE OF WIFE AT TIME OF DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (a), AUSTRALIA

Period	Age of Wife (Years)										Total
	Under 25	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 and over	Not stated	
Year - 1958	492	1,401	1,556	1,239	875	634	318	170	109	126	6,920
1959	539	1,425	1,679	1,322	986	678	369	148	97	72	7,315
1960	582	1,261	1,439	1,210	865	652	300	145	108	71	6,633
1961	524	1,228	1,337	1,156	910	684	365	195	191	83	6,673
1962	539	1,150	1,365	1,337	1,019	796	475	241	259	39	7,220
Quarter ended -											
June, 1962	86	206	250	264	196	162	83	48	60	10	1,365
September, 1962	155	315	391	345	275	225	134	46	71	5	1,962
December, 1962	176	356	392	370	302	232	143	82	66	8	2,127
March, 1963	144	355	398	360	301	212	132	75	56	3	2,036
June, 1963	102	229	281	253	196	145	79	50	57	2	1,394

(a) Decree absolute.

IV. DURATION OF MARRIAGE AND NUMBER AND AGE OF CHILDREN

TABLE 14. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a) : DURATION OF MARRIAGE AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN (b), AUSTRALIA, QUARTER ENDED JUNE, 1963

Duration of Marriage	Dissolutions of Marriage with -							Total Marriages Dissolved		Total Number of Children (b)
	No Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	4 Children	5 Children	6 Children and over	No.	Per cent.	
Under 5	48	28	2	..	..	..	..	78	6	32
5 - 9	179	119	59	17	5	..	1	380	27	314
10 - 14	99	85	76	35	19	4	1	319	23	444
15 - 19	57	68	76	40	12	4	3	260	19	426
20 - 24	40	35	47	16	7	2	..	147	10	215
25 - 29	57	22	15	4	6	2	1	107	8	106
30 and over	86	10	5	1	1	..	..	103	7	27
Total Marriages Dissolved (No.)	566	367	280	113	50	12	6	1,394	..	..
Total Marriages Dissolved (%)	41	26	20	8	4	1	..	..	100	..
Total Number of Children (b)	..	367	560	339	200	60	38	1	..	1,564

(a) Decrees absolute.

(b) At time of petition. The term "children" used in the Commonwealth legislation refers to living "children of the marriage" under 21 years; but the table above includes a small number of dissolutions granted to petitions filed under old legislation in which the term "children" was used differently.

TABLE 15. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a) : DURATION OF MARRIAGE, AUSTRALIA

Period	Number of Marriages Dissolved whose Duration was (Years) -								Total Marriages Dissolved
	Under 5	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30 and over	Not stated	
Year - 1958	475	2,207	1,830	1,125	621	357	303	2	6,920
1959	489	2,275	1,978	1,236	667	384	283	3	7,315
1960	533	2,016	1,804	991	682	354	252	1	6,633
1961	481	1,928	1,693	1,032	783	371	384	1	6,673
1962	448	1,889	1,798	1,226	883	458	518	..	7,220
Quarter ended -									
June, 1962	63	353	373	229	149	91	107	..	1,365
September, 1962	143	510	450	332	272	130	125	..	1,962
December, 1962	153	573	524	332	255	137	153	..	2,127
March, 1963	133	554	450	386	253	121	139	..	2,036
June, 1963	78	380	319	260	147	107	103	..	1,394

(a) Decreases absolute.

TABLE 16. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE (a) : NUMBER OF CHILDREN (b), AUSTRALIA

Period	Dissolutions of Marriage with -								Total Marriages Dissolved	Total Number of Children
	No Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	4 Children	5 Children	6 Children and over	Number of Children not stated		
Year - 1958	2,387	1,882	1,477	687	291	107	88	1	6,920	9,197
1959	2,510	1,927	1,627	741	330	92	88	..	7,315	9,797
1960	2,213	1,733	1,452	719	291	120	105	..	6,633	9,302
1961	2,589	1,717	1,398	641	204	79	45	..	6,673	7,945
1962	2,873	1,897	1,421	664	243	72	50	..	7,220	8,384
Quarter ended -										
June, 1962	558	338	266	129	48	15	11	..	1,365	1,599
September, 1962	761	539	386	176	72	18	10	..	1,962	2,281
December, 1962	854	566	411	187	73	19	17	..	2,127	2,443
March, 1963	774	507	455	189	81	19	11	..	2,036	2,475
June, 1963	566	367	280	113	50	12	6	..	1,394	1,564

(a) Decreases absolute.

(b) At time of petition. The figures shown for periods until 1960 inclusive are based on the definitions of children set down in the legislation of the various States. Since 1961 a uniform definition of children has been used, but see note (b) to Table 14.

TABLE 17. - CHILDREN OF DISSOLVED MARRIAGES (a) : AUSTRALIA,
QUARTER ENDED JUNE, 1963

Petitioner	Ages of Children at Time of Petition - (Years)																		Total Number of Children
	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16-20	Not stated	
Husband	5	12	25	34	44	29	51	30	46	38	29	37	29	35	34	32	99	7	616
Wife	5	10	29	50	65	56	69	58	66	68	64	53	65	53	55	44	138	..	948
Total	10	22	54	84	109	85	120	88	112	106	93	90	94	88	89	76	237	7	1,564

(a) See note (b) to Table 14.

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS
CANBERRA, A.C.T. 10TH SEPTEMBER, 1963K.M. ARCHER
COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

NOTE: - Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 70413 Extension 342 or, in each State Capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.