

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

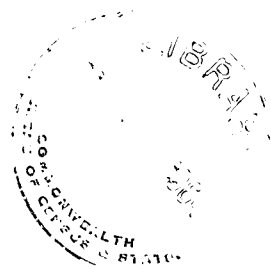
CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

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SOCIAL STATISTICS : AUSTRALIA

NO. 24 : DIVORCE

QUARTER ENDED JUNE, 1964



<u>Table</u>	<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>Page</u>
..	Explanatory Notes	2
	<u>I. PETITIONS FILED FOR DISSOLUTION, NULLITY AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION</u>	
1.	Petitions Filed : States, quarter ended June, 1964	3
2.	Petitions Filed : Australia, 1959 to June quarter, 1964	3
3.	Grounds on which Petitions were Filed : States, quarter ended June, 1964	4
4.	Petitions Filed for Dissolution of Marriage : States, 1959 to June quarter, 1964	5
	<u>II. DISSOLUTIONS, ETC. GRANTED : NUMBER</u>	
5.	Dissolutions, Nullities and Judicial Separations Granted : States, quarter ended June, 1964	5
6.	Dissolutions, Nullities and Judicial Separations Granted : Australia, 1959 to June quarter, 1964	6
7.	Dissolutions Granted : States, 1959 to June quarter, 1964	6
8.	Grounds on which Dissolutions, Nullities and Judicial Separations were Granted : States, quarter ended June, 1964	7
9.	Grounds on which Dissolutions, Nullities and Judicial Separations were Granted : Australia, 1959 to June quarter, 1964	8
	<u>III. DISSOLUTIONS GRANTED : AGES OF PARTIES</u>	
10.	Ages of Parties at time of Marriage : Australia, quarter ended June, 1964	9
11.	Ages of Parties at time of Dissolution : Australia, quarter ended June, 1964	9
12.	Age of Husband : Australia, 1959 to June quarter, 1964	10
13.	Age of Wife : Australia, 1959 to June quarter, 1964	10
	<u>IV. DISSOLUTIONS GRANTED : DURATION OF MARRIAGE AND NUMBER AND AGE OF CHILDREN</u>	
14.	Duration of Marriage and Number of Children : Australia, quarter ended June, 1964	10
15.	Duration of Marriage : Australia, 1959 to June quarter, 1964	11
16.	Number of Children : Australia, 1959 to June quarter, 1964	11
17.	Children of Dissolved Marriages : Ages, Australia, quarter ended June, 1964	11

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bulletin contains statistics of divorce for the quarter ended June, 1964, and for previous periods. For further details in respect of past periods, see previous issues in this series and the annual bulletin "Demography".

2. The Commonwealth Matrimonial Causes Act 1959 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 some decrees made on petitions under the superseded laws and are to that extent not uniformly based. Of the 1,301 decrees for dissolution granted during the quarter ended June, 1964, 1,242 (95 per cent.) were from petitions under the new legislation.

3. Because of differences in legislation and also some variations from State to State in the bases 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 and 16.

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 a 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, 1964

Petition for -	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Dissolution of Marriage -									
Husband Petitioner	474	272	121	98	94	35	11	10	1,115
Wife Petitioner	672	370	134	158	96	52	9	18	1,509
Total	1,146	642	255	256	190	87	20	28	2,624
Nullity of Marriage -									
Husband Petitioner	3	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	5
Wife Petitioner	1	3	..	2	..	..	..	..	6
Total	4	4	..	2	1	..	..	..	11
Dissolution or Nullity -									
Wife Petitioner	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Judicial Separation -									
Wife Petitioner	2	3	..	2	1	..	..	..	8
Dissolution or Judicial Separation -									
Wife Petitioner	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total Petitions -									
Husband Petitioner No.	477	273	121	98	95	35	11	10	1,120
Per cent.	41	42	47	38	49	40	55	36	42
Wife Petitioner No.	675	378	134	162	97	52	9	18	1,525
Per cent.	59	58	53	62	51	60	45	64	58
Total	1,152	651	255	260	192	87	20	28	2,645

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

Petition for -	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	Quarter ended -				
						June, 1963	Sept., 1963	Dec., 1963	March, 1964	June, 1964
Dissolution of Marriage -										
Husband Petitioner	3,843	3,709	4,394	4,072	4,000	1,008	987	991	954	1,115
Wife Petitioner	4,465	4,385	5,110	5,176	5,602	1,471	1,483	1,390	1,271	1,509
Total	8,308	8,094	9,504	9,248	9,602	2,479	2,470	2,381	2,225	2,624
Nullity of Marriage -										
Husband Petitioner	22	23	13	15	11	1	2	6	..	5
Wife Petitioner	43	32	44	35	28	11	6	6	8	6
Total	65	55	57	50	39	12	8	12	8	11
Dissolution or Nullity -										
Husband Petitioner	..	..	3	6	5	2	2	..	..	..
Wife Petitioner	..	..	4	5	10	1	2	4	3	1
Total	..	..	7	11	15	3	4	4	3	1
Judicial Separation -										
Husband Petitioner	7	7	2	2	3	..	2	1	..	..
Wife Petitioner	24	31	9	18	26	11	2	6	12	8
Total	31	38	11	20	29	11	4	7	12	8
Dissolution or Judicial Separation -										
Husband Petitioner	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Wife Petitioner	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Total Petitions -										
Husband Petitioner No.	3,872	3,739	4,412	4,095	4,020	1,011	993	998	954	1,120
Per cent.	46	46	46	44	42	40	40	42	42	42
Wife Petitioner No.	4,532	4,448	5,167	5,234	5,666	1,494	1,493	1,406	1,294	1,525
Per cent.	54	54	54	56	58	60	60	58	58	58
Total	8,404	8,187	9,579	9,329	9,686	2,505	2,486	2,404	2,248	2,645

TABLE 3. - GROUNDS ON WHICH PETITIONS WERE FILED FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE,

NULLITY OF MARRIAGE AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION :

QUARTER ENDED JUNE, 1964

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	444	239	114	72	43	38	10	5	965
Adultery	270	117	42	59	67	15	4	6	580
Separation	170	98	45	43	53	19	..	4	432
Cruelty	66	14	7	43	8	5	2	5	150
Drunkenness	9	4	4	9	1	3	1	2	33
Intoxication by drugs	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	3
Refusal to consummate	6	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	9
Insanity	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	3
Frequent convictions	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	4
Rape	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	3
Other single grounds	3	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	6
Dual grounds -									
Desertion and adultery	18	35	5	4	4	1	1	..	68
Desertion and separation	82	101	26	10	8	4	1	1	233
Desertion and cruelty	14	4	..	5	..	..	1	..	24
Desertion and drunkenness	8	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	12
Desertion and frequent convictions	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	4
Adultery and separation	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	1	6
Adultery and cruelty	1	1	2	2	..	..	..	..	6
Adultery and drunkenness	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Cruelty and drunkenness	25	6	1	3	2	..	..	2	39
Other dual grounds	8	2	2	3	..	1	..	..	16
Three grounds or more	12	9	1	1	1	1	..	..	25
Total Petitions for Dissolution	1,146	642	255	256	190	87	20	28	2,624
Other Petitions									
Petitions for nullity of marriage -									
Bigamy	2	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	5
Incapacity to consummate	2	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	6
Total Petitions for Nullity	4	4	..	2	1	..	..	..	11
Petitions for dissolution or nullity of marriage	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Petitions for judicial separation	2	3	..	2	1	..	..	..	8
Petition for dissolution or judicial separation	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total Petitions other than for Dissolution of Marriage	6	9	..	4	2	..	..	..	21

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.
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
1963	4,339	2,163	1,061	1,005	623	271	50	90	9,602
Quarter ended -									
June, 1963	1,134	594	254	231	165	63	16	22	2,479
September, 1963	1,104	558	296	243	168	71	10	20	2,470
December, 1963	1,047	554	262	258	147	74	12	28	2,382
March, 1964	1,020	467	261	231	143	68	7	28	2,225
June, 1964	1,146	642	255	256	190	87	20	28	2,624

(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 SEPARATION GRANTED :

QUARTER ENDED JUNE, 1964

Decree for -	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Dissolution of Marriage -									
Husband Petitioner	223	127	53	67	48	26	6	10	560
Wife Petitioner	300	155	76	113	49	36	5	6	740
Petition by Both	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Total	523	282	129	180	98	62	11	16	1,301
Nullity of Marriage -									
Husband Petitioner	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	2
Wife Petitioner	4	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	7
Total	4	3	..	1	..	1	..	..	9
Judicial Separation -									
Wife Petitioner	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2
Total Decrees -									
Husband Petitioner No.	223	128	53	67	48	27	6	10	562
Per cent.	42	45	41	37	48	43	55	63	43
Wife Petitioner No.	305	157	76	114	50	36	5	6	749
Per cent.	58	55	59	63	51	57	45	37	57
Petition by Both No.	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Per cent.	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Total	528	285	129	181	99	63	11	16	1,312

(a) Decrees absolute.

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

Decree for	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	Quarter ended -				
						June, 1963	Sept., 1963	Dec. 1963	March, 1964	June, 1964
Dissolution of Marriage -										
Husband Petitioner	3,291	3,078	3,049	3,295	3,226	607	871	844	860	560
Wife Petitioner	4,024	3,555	3,623	3,923	4,180	787	1,082	1,179	1,116	740
Total	7,315	6,633	6,673(b)	7,220(c)	7,406(d)	1,394	1,953	2,026(d)	1,976	1,301(b)
Nullity of Marriage -										
Husband Petitioner	21	26	14	12	7	..	3	2	3	2
Wife Petitioner	32	37	22	28	25	7	5	5	6	7
Total	53	63	36	40	32	7	8	7	9	9
Judicial Separation -										
Husband Petitioner	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wife Petitioner	2	11	2	3	7	2	4	1	1	2
Total	2	13	2	5	7	2	4	1	1	2
Total Decrees -										
Husband Petitioner										
No.	3,312	3,106	3,063	3,309	3,233	607	874	846	863	562
Per cent.	45	46	46	46	43	43	44	42	43	43
Wife Petitioner										
No.	4,058	3,603	3,647	3,954	4,212	796	1,091	1,185	1,123	749
Per cent.	55	54	54	54	57	57	56	58	57	57
Total	7,370	6,709	6,711(b)	7,265(c)	7,445(d)	1,403	1,965	2,034(d)	1,986	1,312(b)

(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.

(d) Includes three 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.
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
1963	3,293	1,616	910	698	553	260	38	41	7,409
Quarter ended -									
June, 1963	720	321	128	82	65	62	9	7	1,394
September, 1963	850	436	240	204	158	53	4	8	1,953
December, 1963	916	430	236	193	139	79	17	16	2,026
March, 1964	746	440	337	211	168	48	4	22	1,976
June, 1964	523	282	129	180	98	62	11	16	1,301

(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, 1964

Ground	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Dissolution of Marriage									
Single grounds -									
Desertion	230	103	64	52	21	29	6	7	512
Adultery	124	53	18	47	40	10	3	4	299
Separation	96	47	28	37	27	17	..	1	253
Cruelty	19	1	7	26	..	2	..	1	56
Drunkenness	7	..	1	3	1	1	..	..	13
Non-compliance with restitution decree	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	3
Refusal to consummate	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	5
Insanity	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	3
Other single grounds	1	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	5
Dual grounds -									
Desertion and adultery	5	14	2	2	2	1	..	..	26
Desertion and separation	14	49	4	4	2	2	..	..	75
Desertion and cruelty	3	3	..	..	1	..	1	..	8
Adultery and cruelty	2	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	5
Cruelty and drunkenness	11	..	2	2	1	..	..	1	17
Other dual grounds	2	3	1	..	1	..	..	1	8
Three grounds or more									
	3	8	..	1	1	..	..	..	13
Total	523	282	129	180	98	62	11	16	1,301
Nullity of Marriage									
Bigamy	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Incapacity to consummate	1	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	5
Pregnancy	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Total	4	3	..	1	..	1	..	..	9
Judicial Separation									
Desertion	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Separation	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Total	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)	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	Quarter ended				
						June, 1963	Sept., 1963	Dec., 1963	March, 1964	June, 1964
Dissolution of Marriage										
Single grounds -										
Desertion	4,492	3,873	3,600	3,505	3,324	617	868	891	861	512
Adultery	2,124	2,103	1,811	1,490	1,611	292	427	460	409	299
Separation (b)	136	133	342	1,159	1,342	261	362	368	406	253
Cruelty	209	216	231	204	240	47	66	74	60	56
Drunkenness	77	56	53	74	73	13	21	16	11	13
Frequent convictions	..	..	12	18	13	2	4	2	4	1
Imprisonment	25	19	9	3	3	..	1	1	..	..
Failure to pay maintenance	24	23	18	17	10	5	..	2	2	2
Non-compliance with restitution decree(c)	..	..	296	57	40	14	6	6	4	3
Refusal to consummate(d)	1	5	8	16	14	2	5	4	9	5
Insanity	19	12	12	36	21	5	4	5	3	3
Other single grounds	3	1	6	6	7	1	1	3	1	2
Dual grounds -										
Desertion and adultery	87	71	93	104	115	19	26	35	32	26
Desertion and separation (e)	(e)	(e)	36	312	369	73	112	92	108	75
Desertion and cruelty (e)	(e)	(e)	9	35	51	9	11	16	14	8
Desertion and drunkenness (e)	(e)	(e)	5	22	18	1	4	7	4	1
Desertion and frequent convictions (e)	(e)	(e)	3	12	2	..	..	2	1	1
Desertion and failure to pay maintenance (e)	(e)	(e)	1	13	6	..	2	2	2	..
Adultery and separation (e)	(e)	(e)	3	8	13	1	4	3	6	..
Adultery and cruelty (e)	(e)	(e)	4	6	6	..	3	2	4	5
Adultery and bigamy (f)	1	1	6	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Separation and insanity (e)	(e)	(e)	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Separation and failure to pay maintenance	..	..	..	..	7	..	1	1	..	..
Cruelty and drunkenness	117	120	97	63	65	19	13	18	16	17
Other dual grounds (e)	(e)	(e)	2	16	17	7	3	2	8	6
Three grounds or more (e)	(e)	(e)	15	38	42	6	9	14	11	13
Total	7,315	6,633	6,673	7,220	7,409	1,394	1,953	2,026	1,976	1,301
Nullity of Marriage										
Bigamy	15	24	9	14	10	3	2	2	1	3
Invalid marriage	4	6	2	2	1	..	..	..	1	..
Incapacity to consummate	28	31	24	24	21	4	6	5	7	5
Consanguinity	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other grounds	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Not stated	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	53	63	36	40	32	7	8	7	9	9
Judicial Separation										
Desertion	..	10	..	2	2	1	1	..	..	1
Adultery	1	3	1	2	2	..	2	..	..	..
Cruelty	1	..	1	..	2	1	1	..	1	..
Other grounds	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	1
Total	2	13	2	5	7	2	4	1	1	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 before that date were dealt with under the various, now superseded, State laws
(Continued next page)

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, 1964

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	63	15	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	80	6
20-24	272	313	34	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	623	48
25-29	72	174	66	13	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	331	25
30-34	7	35	39	24	7	5	1	..	..	..	..	118	9
35-39	6	10	18	18	14	4	1	..	..	..	..	71	6
40-44	3	9	5	11	12	6	..	1	..	..	..	47	4
45-49	..	..	1	4	3	..	4	..	1	..	..	13	1
50-54	..	..	2	2	1	1	3	..	..	..	..	9	..
55-59	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	4	..
60 and over	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	..
Not stated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	..
Total Wives	{ No. 423	556	167	75	42	18	11	4	2	..	3	1,301	..
	{ % 33	43	13	6	3	1	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, 1964

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.
20-24	2	23	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28	2
25-29	1	52	80	8	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	142	11
30-34	2	17	95	76	16	7	..	1	..	..	..	214	17
35-39	..	4	16	91	90	16	3	2	1	..	..	223	17
40-44	..	2	2	21	87	78	12	4	..	..	..	206	16
45-49	..	..	3	6	34	71	64	9	1	..	..	188	15
50-54	..	..	1	2	11	19	57	37	6	2	..	135	10
55-59	..	..	..	..	5	6	13	25	24	9	..	82	6
60 and over	..	..	..	..	..	6	6	8	24	35	1	80	6
Not stated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	..
Total Wives	{ No. 5	98	200	204	243	204	155	86	56	46	4	1,301	..
	{ % ..	7	15	16	19	16	12	7	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 - 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
1963	154	840	1,358	1,414	1,193	893	687	442	400	28	7,409
Quarter ended -											
June, 1963	21	156	246	288	221	176	122	80	82	2	1,394
September, 1963	34	213	346	361	312	238	208	129	104	8	1,953
December, 1963	55	246	386	375	309	238	196	105	101	15	2,026
March, 1964	28	227	326	353	304	259	204	138	134	3	1,976
June, 1964	28	142	214	223	206	188	135	82	80	3	1,301

(a) Decree absolute.

TABLE 13. - DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGE :
AGE OF WIFE 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 - 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	795	475	241	259	39	7,220
1963	546	1,293	1,409	1,267	1,104	766	511	260	224	29	7,409
Quarter ended -											
June, 1963	102	229	280	253	197	145	79	50	57	2	1,394
September, 1963	126	336	359	328	288	208	168	76	58	6	1,953
December, 1963	174	374	372	325	318	201	132	59	53	18	2,026
March, 1964	135	302	348	327	308	262	139	74	78	3	1,976
June, 1964	103	200	204	243	204	155	86	56	46	4	1,301

(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, 1964

Duration of Marriage (Years)	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 or more Children	No.	Per cent.	
Under 5	50	21	7	3	..	..	..	81	6	44
5 - 9	118	115	58	18	3	2	..	314	24	307
10 - 14	72	91	61	41	15	3	..	283	22	411
15 - 19	46	66	75	43	11	12	5	258	20	481
20 - 24	37	31	52	21	13	6	3	163	13	301
25 - 29	34	30	16	8	4	1	2	95	7	124
30 and over	85	13	5	4	..	..	..	107	8	35
Total Marriages Dissolved	(No. 442)	(% 34)						1,301	..	..
Total Number of Children (b)	..	367	548	414	184	120	70	..	..	1,703

(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	
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
1963	501	1,994	1,660	1,346	906	510	492	..	7,409
Quarter ended -									
June, 1963	78	380	319	260	147	107	103	..	1,394
September, 1963	123	524	427	356	243	142	138	..	1,953
December, 1963	167	536	464	344	262	139	114	..	2,026
March, 1964	120	454	472	343	245	177	165	..	1,976
June, 1964	81	314	283	258	163	95	107	..	1,301

(a) Decrees 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 Child- ren	1 Child	2 Child- ren	3 Child- ren	4 Child- ren	5 Child- ren	6 or more Children		
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
1963	2,890	1,865	1,596	668	281	69	40	7,409	8,795
Quarter ended -									
June, 1963	566	367	280	113	50	12	6	1,394	1,564
September, 1963	801	473	392	178	72	24	13	1,953	2,284
December, 1963	749	518	469	188	78	14	10	2,026	2,472
March, 1964	773	470	429	191	68	29	16	1,976	2,421
June, 1964	442	367	274	138	46	24	10	1,301	1,703

(a) Decrees 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

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	
Husband	6	11	19	35	43	40	37	43	36	50	42	46	31	40	33	30	113	655
Wife	12	20	41	53	61	64	58	86	48	68	54	52	76	59	54	59	181	1,046
By Both	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Total	18	31	60	88	104	104	95	129	84	119	97	98	107	99	87	89	294	1,703

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

K. M. ARCHER
COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS
CANBERRA, A.C.T. 30TH OCTOBER, 1964

NOTE: Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 41971 Extension 71 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.