

# Marriage-related Statistics



### Vital Statistics Information Box

#### MARRIAGES BY OTHER NON CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2010

**Table 52, Religious Representatives on Register and Marriages Performed by Religious Denomination uses religious denomination categories from Statistics Canada. In 2010, a total of 1,150 marriages in British Columbia were solemnized by representatives of Other Non Christian religions. The table below provides additional details about these marriages.**

Religious Denomination	Number of Religious Representatives	Number Who Performed Marriages	Number of Marriages Performed
Baha'i	96	28	46
Buddhist	28	12	38
Hindu	31	19	89
Muslim	53	27	160
Sangam	11	4	8
Sikh	130	56	589
Spiritualist	117	65	314
Wiccan	13	6	15
Other*	35	4	6
Total	514	221	1,265

Note: \*Other consists of religious denominations where the representatives performed less than 5 marriages in 2010: Unknown, Konko-Kyo, and Zoroastrian.

## *Marriage Introduction*

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The Agency records all marriages that occurred in BC. Unlike the birth and death statistics, which are based on usual residence, marriage information includes all marriages performed in the province whether the parties were residents or non-residents. The Agency does not record divorce decrees. The tables in this section contain information about marriages by previous marital status, ages of the parties involved, and type of ceremony.

In Table 50, the 22,311 marriages are categorized by the previous marital status of each partner. In 2010, in 67.7 percent of marriages (15,113), both partners were marrying for the first time, and in 17.5 percent (3,915), one of the partners was marrying for the first time. There were 2,614 marriages (11.7 percent) where both partners were previously divorced.

Table 51 shows number of marriages by ages of those marrying in 2010. There were 7,134 marriages (32.0 percent) where both parties were in their 20s and 4,293 marriages (19.2 percent) where both parties were in their 30s. There were also 316 marriages ( 1.4 percent) where at least one of the parties was in their teens and 1,230 marriages ( 5.5 percent) where at least one of those marrying was 60 years or older.

Table 52 indicates that there were 7,325 registered religious representatives in BC but less than half of them (3,036) solemnized marriages in 2010. Of all marriages in 2010, 36.7 percent (8,192) were solemnized by religious representatives.

Table 53 shows the number of marriages performed by marriage commissioners, both private and public servants, and the number of each type of commissioner with appointments in 2010. The table indicates that 63.3 percent (14,119) of all 22,311 marriages were civil ceremonies performed by commissioners. Since 1988, when 42.5 percent of marriages were performed by commissioners, the share of civil marriages has risen steadily.

TABLE 50  
**MARRIAGES BY MARITAL STATUS**  
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2010

	Single	Widowed	Divorced	N.S.
Single	15,113			
Widowed	174	175		
Divorced	3,741	494	2,614	
N.S.	-	-	-	-

Note: N.S. - Not stated.

TABLE 51  
**MARRIAGES BY AGE**  
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2010

Age (in Years)	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-59	60+	N.S.
15-19	41									
20-24	198	1,493								
25-29	63	1,921	3,720							
30-34	11	449	2,871	2,009						
35-39	1	105	783	1,514	770					
40-44	2	33	214	433	722	384				
45-49	-	15	57	158	331	494	349			
50-59	-	8	28	65	153	332	631	723		
60+	-	-	7	22	16	39	125	510	511	
N.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Note: N.S. - Not stated.



TABLE 52  
**RELIGIOUS REPRESENTATIVES ON REGISTER AND  
 MARRIAGES PERFORMED BY RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION**  
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2010

Religious Denomination	Number of Religious Representatives	Number Who Performed Marriages	Number of Marriages Performed
Anglican	468	213	445
Baptist	803	329	676
Eastern Orthodox	42	16	59
Jewish	42	20	55
Lutheran	251	97	190
Mennonite / Hutterite	427	217	411
Pentecostal	816	292	807
Presbyterian	221	68	121
Catholic	471	223	858
Salvation Army	179	47	76
Jehovah's Witnesses	86	50	102
United Church	453	259	680
Other Christian Religions	2,542	978	2,426
Other Non Christian Religions	514	221	1,265
Unknown / Not Stated	10	6	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,325</b>	<b>3,036</b>	<b>8,192</b>

Note: Religious categories shown above are from Statistics Canada. Individuals with temporary appointments are counted once for each appointment.

TABLE 53  
**MARRIAGE COMMISSIONERS ON REGISTER  
 BY TYPE AND MARRIAGES PERFORMED**  
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2010

Type of Commissioner	Number of Commissioners	Number Who Performed Marriages	Number of Marriages Performed
Private Commissioner*	542	514	14,118
Public Servant	8	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>14,119</b>

Note: Individuals with temporary appointments are counted once for each appointment.  
 \* Includes 177 temporary appointments.

### Vital Statistics Information Box

#### USUAL RESIDENCE OF PERSONS MARRIED IN BRITISH COLUMBIA IN 2010

##### OPPOSITE SEX MARRIAGES

Area	Province/State or Country	Males	Females
<b>Canada</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>20,892</b>	<b>20,973</b>
	British Columbia	19,239	19,397
	Alberta	1,196	1,154
	Ontario	240	225
	Saskatchewan	81	76
	Manitoba	55	50
	Quebec	26	21
	Northwest Territories	15	15
	Nova Scotia	15	14
	Yukon	9	8
	New Brunswick	8	7
	Newfoundland & Labrador	7	6
Prince Edward Island	1	0	
<b>United States</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>359</b>
	Washington	127	109
	California	75	69
	New York	25	20
	Florida	19	14
	Oregon	18	13
	Texas	15	15
	Illinois	17	10
	Pennsylvania	8	6
	Colorado	8	4
	Maryland	7	5
	Nevada	7	5
	Utah	6	5
	Arizona	3	8
	North Carolina	6	4
	Louisiana	5	5
	Ohio	6	3
	Missouri	5	4
Other	71	60	
<b>Mexico, Central &amp; South America</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
	Cayman Island	4	3
	Mexico	3	2
	Other	2	5
<b>Europe</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>174</b>
	United Kingdom	113	82
	Germany	34	35
	Switzerland	9	11
	Scandinavian Countries	8	10
	Netherlands	8	6
	Austria	6	4
	Other	21	26
<b>Asia &amp; Middle East</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>59</b>
	Hong Kong	15	17
	Japan	8	14
	China	5	6
	Other	14	22
<b>Africa</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Oceania</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>36</b>
	Australia	37	31
	New Zealand	7	5
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>21,614</b>	<b>21,614</b>

### Vital Statistics Information Box

#### USUAL RESIDENCE OF PERSONS MARRIED IN BRITISH COLUMBIA IN 2010 SAME SEX MARRIAGES

Area	Province/State or Country	Males	Females
<b>Canada</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>524</b>
	British Columbia	398	471
	Alberta	10	35
	Ontario	8	10
	Saskatchewan	-	6
	New Brunswick	-	2
<b>United States</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>197</b>
	Washington	26	45
	California	31	33
	Arizona	12	16
	Oregon	12	16
	Texas	10	12
	Georgia	6	10
	Colorado	4	12
	Florida	9	5
	New Mexico	2	8
	New York	4	5
	Illinois	4	3
	Utah	-	6
	Nevada	2	3
	Alaska	1	4
	Virginia	4	-
Other	10	19	
<b>Mexico, Central &amp; South America</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>
	United Kingdom	7	9
	Other	8	6
<b>Asia &amp; Middle East</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>27</b>
	China	6	6
	Hong Kong	4	8
	Taiwan	2	6
	Japan	4	3
	Israel	4	2
	Other	3	2
<b>Africa</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Oceania</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>17</b>
	Australia	10	17
	New Zealand	2	-
<b>Unknown</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>610</b>	<b>784</b>