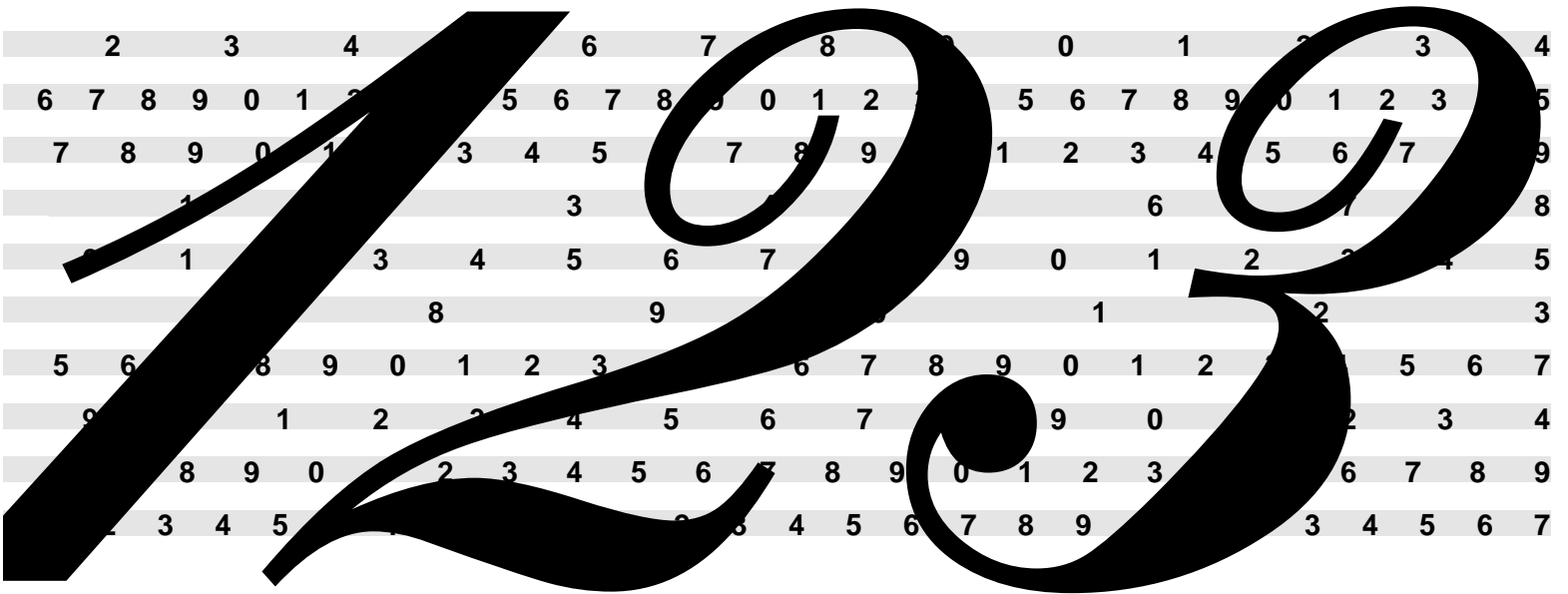


# *Marriage-related Statistics*



## Vital Statistics Information Box

### MARRIAGES BY OTHER NON CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2004

**Table 49, Religious Representatives on Register and Marriages Performed by Religious Denomination, uses religious denomination categories from Statistics Canada. In 2004, a total of 1,022 marriages in British Columbia were solemnized by Other Non Christian Religion representatives. 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	226	26	36
Buddhist	34	10	19
Hindu	47	19	70
Muslim	107	23	157
Sikh	210	48	523
Spiritualist	90	18	204
Wiccan	12	3	6
Other*	54	7	7
<b>Total Other Non Christian Religions</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>1,022</b>

Note: \*Other consists of religious denominations where the representatives performed less than 5 marriages in 2004: Eckankar, Konko-Kyo, Scientology, and Zoroastrian.

## *Summary*

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Statistics arising from marriages are presented in this section. Unlike the birth and death statistics, which are based on usual residence, the marriage information is based on all marriages that occurred in British Columbia and includes non-residents. The tables in this section contain information about marriages by previous marital status, age of bride and groom, and type of ceremony.

Summary statistics for marriages in 2004 are presented below:

- A total of 22,073 marriages were solemnized in the province in 2004.
- In 2004, 62.3% of couples were marrying for the first time (13,746). In 19.7% of the marriages it was the first marriage for only one of the parties (4,359), and 18.0% involved couples where both partners were previously divorced or widowed (3,967).
- In 2004 there were 441 marriages where at least one party was under 20 years of age. These teen marriages accounted for one out of 50 marriages (2.0%). There were only 56 marriages (0.3%) where both parties were teenagers.
- There were 1,147 marriages in 2004 where at least one party was 60 years of age or older. These marriages accounted for one in 20 marriages (5.2%). There were 463 marriages (2.1%) where both parties were aged 60 or older.
- In 2004 almost two fifths (39.2%) of the marriages were performed by religious representatives (8,646) and three fifths (60.8%) were civil ceremonies (13,427).
- In B.C. in 2004 there were 21,009 marriages involving parties of the opposite sex and 1,064 marriages involving parties of the same sex.

TABLE 47  
**MARRIAGES BY MARITAL STATUS**  
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2004

	Single	Widowed	Divorced	N.S.
Single	13,746			
Widowed	192	251		
Divorced	4,167	615	3,101	
N.S.	-	-	1	-

Note: N.S. - Not stated.

#### HIGHLIGHTS TO TABLE 47

- A total of 22,073 marriages were solemnized in the province in 2004.
- In 2004, 62.3% of couples were marrying for the first time (13,746). In 19.7% of the marriages it was the first marriage for only one of the parties (4,359), and 18.0% involved couples where both partners were previously divorced or widowed (3,967).

TABLE 48  
**MARRIAGES BY AGE**  
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2004

Age (in Years)	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-59	60+	N.S.
15-19	56									
20-24	302	1,719								
25-29	65	2,052	2,863							
30-34	12	457	2,447	1,743						
35-39	5	126	642	1,527	774					
40-44	1	44	199	525	809	538				
45-49	-	14	54	152	362	605	353			
50-59	-	15	23	75	196	379	656	779		
60+	-	-	4	7	23	58	117	475	463	
N.S.	-	-	2	-	2	-	2	-	1	350

Note: N.S. - Not stated.  
 Total percentage may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

#### HIGHLIGHTS TO TABLE 48

- In 2004 there were 441 marriages where at least one party was under 20 years of age. These teen marriages accounted for one out of 50 marriages (2.0%). There were only 56 marriages (0.3%) where both parties were teenagers.
- There were 15,146 marriages where at least one party was 25-39 years old. These marriages accounted for more than two-thirds (68.6%) of all marriages in 2004.
- There were 1,147 marriages in 2004 where at least one party was 60 years of age or older. These marriages accounted for one in 20 marriages (5.2%). There were 463 marriages (2.1%) where both parties were aged 60 or older.

**TABLE 49**  
**RELIGIOUS REPRESENTATIVES ON REGISTER AND**  
**MARRIAGES PERFORMED BY RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION**  
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2004

Religious Denomination	Number of Religious Representatives	Number Who Performed Marriages	Number of Marriages Performed
Anglican	516	229	601
Baptist	667	327	769
Eastern Orthodox	51	20	86
Jewish	26	17	48
Lutheran	236	123	304
Mennonite / Hutterite	348	225	430
Pentecostal	773	294	788
Presbyterian	180	84	166
Catholic	458	244	1,144
Salvation Army	152	40	71
Jehovahs Witness	84	59	136
United Church	438	302	1,122
Other Christian Religions	2,063	884	1,937
Other Non Christian Religions	406	154	1,022
Unknown / Not Stated	13	5	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,411</b>	<b>3,007</b>	<b>8,646</b>

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

**TABLE 50**  
**MARRIAGE COMMISSIONERS ON REGISTER**  
**BY TYPE AND MARRIAGES PERFORMED**  
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 2004

Type of Commissioner	Number of Commissioners	Number Who Performed Marriages	Number of Marriages Performed
Private Commissioner*	503	471	13,426
Public Servant	13	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>13,427</b>

Note: Individuals with temporary appointments are counted once for each appointment.  
 \* Includes 129 temporary appointments.

#### HIGHLIGHTS TO TABLE 49/TABLE 50

- In British Columbia, Religious Representatives or Marriage Commissioners perform marriage ceremonies. There were 3,007 Religious Representatives and 472 Marriage Commissioners who solemnized marriages in the province in 2004.
- In 2004 almost two fifths (39.2%) of the marriages were performed by religious representatives (8,646) and three fifths (60.8%) were civil ceremonies (13,427).

### Vital Statistics Information Box

#### USUAL RESIDENCE OF PERSONS MARRIED IN BRITISH COLUMBIA IN 2004

##### OPPOSITE SEX MARRIAGES

Area	Province/State or Country	Males	Females
<b>Canada</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>20,018</b>	<b>20,065</b>
	British Columbia	18,644	18,788
	Alberta	919	871
	Ontario	268	239
	Saskatchewan	66	57
	Manitoba	54	49
	Quebec	24	23
	Northwest Territories	15	13
	Yukon	12	12
	Nova Scotia	12	9
New Brunswick	4	4	
<b>United States</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>676</b>	<b>608</b>
	Washington	213	181
	California	148	128
	Oregon	42	39
	New York	26	22
	Texas	23	24
	Florida	22	19
	Colorado	15	15
	Minnesota	11	15
	Illinois	11	13
	Arizona	12	11
	Georgia	14	9
	Pennsylvania	11	8
	Utah	8	9
	Virginia	8	8
	New Jersey	9	6
	Michigan	7	6
	Ohio	7	6
	Hawaii	6	6
	Wisconsin	7	5
Other States	76	78	
<b>Mexico, Central &amp; South America</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>189</b>
	England	62	58
	Other United Kingdom	58	52
	Germany	38	38
	Sweden	8	7
	Netherlands	5	5
Other Countries	24	29	
<b>Asia &amp; Middle East</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>92</b>
	Japan	24	29
	Hong Kong	25	27
	Other	15	36
<b>Africa</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Oceania</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>36</b>
	Australia	37	33
	New Zealand	4	3
<b>Unknown</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>21,009</b>	<b>21,009</b>

### Vital Statistics Information Box

#### USUAL RESIDENCE OF PERSONS MARRIED IN BRITISH COLUMBIA IN 2004

##### SAME SEX MARRIAGES

Area	Province/State or Country	Males	Females
<b>Canada</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>610</b>
	British Columbia	386	528
	Alberta	45	59
	Ontario	4	11
	Saskatchewan	12	6
	Manitoba	6	2
	Yukon	-	4
<b>United States</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>568</b>
	California	121	115
	Washington	67	154
	Texas	27	32
	Oregon	17	46
	Florida	25	13
	New Mexico	8	22
	Arizona	10	18
	Colorado	16	12
	Minnesota	9	10
	New York	9	10
	Illinois	10	8
	Georgia	6	11
	Utah	6	11
	Nevada	4	12
	Pennsylvania	8	7
	Alaska	2	11
	Ohio	4	9
	Hawaii	10	2
	North Carolina	8	4
	Virginia	8	2
	Wisconsin	2	8
	Kentucky	6	2
	Missouri	-	8
	District of Columbia	6	-
	Other States	32	41
	<b>Mexico, Central &amp; South America</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>
	England	-	8
	Other United Kingdom	5	6
<b>Asia &amp; Middle East</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>8</b>
	Hong Kong	6	2
	Japan	4	-
	Other Countries	8	6
<b>Oceania</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>
	Australia	14	12
	Guam	2	-
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>916</b>	<b>1,212</b>

