

PART X.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Registration of births, deaths, and marriages. The system of compulsory registration of births, deaths, and marriages in Victoria has been in force since 1853, and the registers contain all necessary information bearing on the family history of the people.

The statutory duties under the Registration Acts are performed by the Government Statist, who has supervision over the registrars of births and deaths, the registrars of marriages, and (so far as regards their registration duties) the clergymen who celebrate marriages. Copies of entries certified by the Government Statist or by an Assistant Government Statist are *prima facie* evidence in the Courts of Australia of the facts to which they relate. At the Government Statist's Office there is kept for reference a complete collection of all registrations effected since 1st July, 1853, as well as originals or certified copies of all existing church records relating to earlier periods, as far back as 1837. Since the present system was instituted approximately 6,438,250 original entries have been made in the indexes, of which 1,940,826 relate to marriages, 3,017,861 to births, and 1,479,563 to deaths.

Law relating to marriages, births, and deaths. The various Acts relating to the registration of marriages, births, and deaths in Victoria were consolidated in 1928, since when the Marriage Act was amended by Acts No. 4561 and 4839 of 1938 and 1941 respectively, and the Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages Act by Act No. 4553 of 1938 and 4858 of 1941.

Marriages may be celebrated by any minister of religion who ordinarily officiates as such in one of the religious denominations, and whose name is registered in the office of the Government Statist; also by the Government Statist, an Assistant Government Statist, or a duly appointed registrar of marriages. The Governor in Council may prohibit from celebrating marriages any minister who is proved guilty of any indictable offence, misconduct or impropriety in the celebration of any marriage, or who makes a business of celebrating marriages for the purpose of profit or gain. At least three clear days before the performance of any marriage, written notice of such marriage must be given to the proposed celebrant by the parties about to be married, but such notice may, in respect of a

marriage by a minister of religion, be dispensed with in the case of emergency by written permission of any Justice of the Peace. Marriage of minors is permissible only with the written consent of parents or guardian or, in certain circumstances, by permission of a Guardian of Minors; should a parent refuse consent, appeal may be made to a Stipendiary Magistrate. Marriage with a deceased wife's sister is valid. Marriages of Jews and Quakers are exempted in part from the law relating to marriages, and are deemed legal and valid if celebrated according to their respective usages. Certificates of such marriages must, however, be lodged with the Government Statist for record purposes. No marriage is invalid by reason of its having been celebrated by an unqualified person if either of the parties believed at the time that such person was qualified, or by reason of any formal defect or irregularity where the identity of the parties to the marriage is not in question.

A person whose husband or wife has been continually absent from such person for the space of seven years or over, and has not been known by such person to be living within that time, may marry without being liable to prosecution for bigamy (*see* sec. 61 of the Crimes Act); but such a marriage would be void, and the issue thereof illegitimate, if it should be subsequently discovered that the former wife (or husband) was alive at the date of the marriage.

Births of live children must, under a penalty not exceeding £10 for default without reasonable cause, be registered within 60 days. After 60 days and within twelve months, registration may be effected, after declaration, on the payment of a fee of 5s.; after twelve months and under seven years, only by authority of the Government Statist (fee 20s.); and after seven years by order of a Judge of a County Court or the Supreme Court (fee 30s.). The occupier of any house or place in which an illegitimate child is born, or in which an illegitimate child under the age of five years dies, is required to give notice of such birth or death to the district registrar within three to seven days, according to the locality of the event. If the mother is the occupier, the period of notification is extended to three weeks.

Deaths must, under a penalty not exceeding £10, be notified to the local registrar by the occupier of the house or tenement in which the death occurred. Registration of death must be effected within 21 days by a person present at the death or in attendance during the last illness of the deceased or, in the case of illness, inability or default of such person, by the occupier of the house or tenement in which the death occurred. The medical practitioner in attendance during the last illness is also required, under a penalty not exceeding £5, to report the death to the registrar, unless the death has been reported to the Coroner.

The principal numbers and rates relating to Vital Statistics are given in the following table:—

VICTORIA—SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1950.

Division.	Number of—				Rate per 1,000 of Population.*			Infantile Mortality.
	Marriages.	Births.	Deaths.	Deaths under One Year.	Marriage.	Birth.	Death.	Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.
Greater Melbourne ..	..	26,426	13,707	512	..	20·20	10·48	19·37
Remainder of the State ..	..	23,404	8,634	489	..	26·14	9·64	20·89
Victoria	20,320	49,830	22,341	1,001	9·22	22·61	10·14	20·09

* Subject to revision.

MARRIAGES.

Marriages in Victoria in 1950 numbered 20,320, an increase of 254 as compared with the number registered in 1949. The rate per 1,000 of population in 1950 was 9·22, as compared with rates of 9·38 in 1949, 9·59 in 1948, 9·95 in 1947, and 10·57 in 1946. The highest rate recorded in Victoria was 12·06 in 1942; the lowest rate was 5·66 in 1931—a year of acute economic depression. From that year to 1942 there was a marked increase, the rate in 1942 being 113 per cent. higher than that in 1931.

The record number of marriages (23,636) in 1942 can be attributed to war-time conditions. The pronounced fall in the number celebrated in 1943 indicated that the influence of those conditions had passed its peak. In the years 1944 and 1945 further falls were recorded, the rate (8·22) in 1945 being the lowest recorded since 1934. In 1946 there was a large increase in the number of marriages, the rate (10·57) being 29 per cent. higher than the rate in 1945. The increase in the number in 1946 reflected the postponment of marriages during the latter years of the war. In 1947 there was an appreciable decline in the number of marriages, the rate falling to 9·95 per 1,000 of population. In the following three years there was little fluctuation in the number, the rate, however, continued to decline, and in 1950 was 9·22 per 1,000 of population.

The following table shows the number of marriages, the quarters in which they were registered, and the proportion per 1,000 of the population since 1854:—

VICTORIA—MARRIAGES IN EACH QUARTER, 1855 TO 1950.

Period.	Average Annual Number of Marriages.	Quarter of Registration.				Rate per 1,000 of Mean Population.
		March.	June.	September.	December.	
1855-59 ..	4,362	*	*	*	*	10·24
1860-64 ..	4,418	1,068	1,166	1,079	1,105	8·16
1865-69 ..	4,533	1,123	1,144	1,113	1,153	6·94
1870-74 ..	4,823	1,168	1,299	1,131	1,225	6·40
1875-79 ..	5,023	1,239	1,307	1,207	1,270	6·21
1880-84 ..	6,296	1,528	1,611	1,483	1,674	7·07
1885-89 ..	8,208	1,899	2,196	1,915	2,198	8·04
1890-94 ..	7,945	1,995	2,100	1,838	2,012	6·88
1895-99 ..	7,627	1,816	2,074	1,778	1,959	6·44
1900-04 ..	8,201	2,000	2,252	1,930	2,019	6·78
1905-09 ..	9,209	2,185	2,548	2,182	2,294	7·36
1910-14 ..	11,244	2,664	3,000	2,644	2,936	8·29
1915-19 ..	10,908	2,437	2,754	2,815	2,902	7·62
1920-24 ..	13,598	3,252	3,578	3,152	3,616	8·64
1925-29 ..	13,301	3,136	3,603	3,047	3,515	7·72
1930-34 ..	12,019	2,929	3,123	2,727	3,240	6·64
1935-39 ..	16,406	3,699	4,484	3,414	4,809	8·84
1940-44 ..	20,609	5,089	5,383	4,812	5,325	10·56
1946 ..	21,405	5,289	5,707	4,678	5,731	10·57
1947 ..	20,437	4,973	5,386	4,374	5,704	9·95
1948 ..	20,035	5,311	5,070	4,174	5,480	9·59
1949 ..	20,066	5,160	5,136	4,129	5,641	9·38
1950 ..	20,320	4,982	5,296	4,472	5,570	9·22

* Not available.

The ordinary marriage rate—per 1,000 of the total population—like birth and death rates similarly estimated, is apt to be misleading in the early settlement stages of countries like Australia, but it affords a ready and approximate comparison between years not widely separated.

Marriage rates
— Australian
States and
New Zealand.

The following statement shown the marriage rate per 1,000 of the population in the Australian States and in New Zealand, for each of the five years 1946 to 1950:—

MARRIAGE RATES—AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND.

Year.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.*
1946	10.57	10.76	10.70	10.55	10.49	10.51	10.64	12.39
1947	9.95	10.11	9.95	10.32	10.50	10.02	10.09	10.94
1948	9.59	9.96	9.01	10.18	10.07	9.18	9.71	9.96
1949	9.38	9.23	8.92	9.27	9.29	8.88	9.23	9.53
1950	9.22	9.31	8.74	9.40	9.73	9.07	9.24	9.19

* Excludes Maoris

The marriage rate in England and Wales in 1950 was 8.2.

Ages of
bridegrooms
and brides.

The ages of bridegrooms and brides who were married in 1950 are shown in combination for various groups in the table which follows:—

VICTORIA—AGES OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES IN COMBINATION, 1950.

Ages of Bridegrooms.	Ages of Brides.														Total Bridegrooms.				
	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21 to 24.	25 to 29.	30 to 34.	35 to 39.	40 to 44.	45 to 49.	50 to 54.		55 to 59.	60 to 64.	65 to 69.	70 and over.
14								1											1
15																			7
16		1	2			1			1										7
17		2	7	1		5				1									33
18		4	10	30	30	23	14	12											124
19		19	53	79	79	75	36	43	9										317
20	1	5	24	67	118	155	109	193	13										685
21 to 24 ..	11	66	218	513	877	1,068	3,843	669	62	9	2								7,338
25 to 29 ..	3	13	71	166	335	499	2,974	1,569	295	63	11								5,999
30 to 34 ..		1	11	19	65	75	604	793	452	170	23	9	1	1					2,224
35 to 39 ..				7	9	17	166	362	331	275	109	20	6	1					1,303
40 to 44 ..					1	3	56	105	193	195	146	56	12	6	1	2			776
45 to 49 ..						3	10	48	69	130	118	89	26	7	3				504
50 to 54 ..					1			5	19	32	54	85	82	55	15	5	3	2	358
55 to 59 ..								2	6	13	23	44	64	54	44	13	5	1	268
60 to 64 ..								1	1	3	5	23	34	56	35	19	7	3	187
65 to 69 ..										1	3	5	17	23	26	11	4	4	108
70 to 74 ..											1	1	3	6	10	11	8	13	53
75 and over											1	2		4	8	4	8	8	35
Total Brides	1	28	142	460	940	1,545	1,828	7,911	3,597	1,452	929	569	374	237	150	82	44	31	20,329

Of every 1,000 men married during the year, 732 were older and 170 younger than their brides, and 98 were of the same age.

In 1950 the oldest bridegroom was aged 88 years, and the oldest bride 80 years. The youngest bridegroom was aged 14 years, and the youngest bride 14 years.

Proportion of marriages at various ages. The proportion of both sexes marrying in 1950 is shown, in varying age groups, in the following table:—

VICTORIA—PROPORTION OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES IN AGE GROUPS, 1950.

Age Group.	Proportion per 1,000 of total—		Age Group.	Proportion per 1,000 of total—	
	Bridegrooms.	Brides.		Bridegrooms.	Brides.
Under 16 ..	0·05	1·43	35 to 39 ..	64·12	45·72
16 ..	0·34	6·99	40 to 44 ..	38·19	28·00
17 ..	1·63	22·64	45 to 49 ..	24·80	18·40
18 ..	6·10	46·26	50 to 54 ..	17·62	11·66
19 ..	15·60	76·03	55 to 59 ..	13·19	7·38
20 ..	33·71	89·6	60 and over ..	18·85	7·73
21 to 24 ..	361·12	381·32			
25 to 29 ..	295·23	177·02		1,000·00	1,000·00
30 to 34 ..	109·45	71·46			

Marriages of minors. The number of minors marrying at each age and the proportion of each sex to the total marriages are given in the following table for each of the five years 1946 to 1950:—

VICTORIA—MARRIAGES OF MINORS.

Year.	Age in Years.							Total.	
	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.
	Bridegrooms.								
1946 .. ..	..	1	3	29	148	355	619	1,155	5·40
1947 .. ..	..	2	5	17	96	283	583	986	4·82
1948 .. ..	..	..	5	22	120	285	603	1,035	5·17
1949 .. ..	..	..	..	29	126	296	647	1,098	5·47
1950	1	..	7	33	124	317	685	1,167	5·74
	Brides.								
1946 .. ..	..	2	23	124	396	977	1,449	1,894	4,865
1947 .. ..	..	2	23	112	386	941	1,483	1,742	4,689
1948 .. ..	..	..	16	125	439	933	1,392	1,751	4,656
1949 .. ..	..	2	19	133	381	1,010	1,554	1,795	4,894
1950 .. ..	..	1	28	142	460	940	1,545	1,823	4,944

The proportion of minors marrying steadily decreased from 1931 to 1936. There was little fluctuation during the following three years, but in 1940 there was an increase, mainly due to the number of brides who were under 21 years of age. A further increase was recorded during each year of the period 1941-44, the proportion of minors marrying in 1944 being 14·35 per cent. of the persons married in that year. There was little variation in the next four years, but in 1949 the proportion increased to 14·93 per cent. This was followed by a slight increase in 1950, the proportion of minors marrying being 15·04 per cent.

Of every 1,000 bridegrooms in 1950, 57 were under 21 years of age ; of every 1,000 brides, 243 were under 21 years of age.

Age at marriage. The mean ages at marriage, according to conjugal condition, are shown in the following table for each of the five years 1946 to 1950 :—

VICTORIA—MEAN AGE AT MARRIAGE, 1946 TO 1950.

Year.	Bridegrooms.				Brides.			
	Bachelors.	Divorced.	Widowers.	All Bridegrooms.	Spinsters.	Divorced.	Widows.	All Brides.
1946 ..	27·4	38·1	51·0	29·1	24·6	34·4	41·1	25·8
1947 ..	27·3	38·5	51·6	29·2	24·4	34·4	42·0	25·9
1948 ..	27·2	38·3	51·6	29·1	24·4	35·1	43·6	25·9
1949 ..	27·1	39·0	51·9	29·0	24·2	34·4	44·8	25·8
1950 ..	27·1	39·3	52·9	29·1	24·3	35·7	44·6	25·9

In 1950 the mean age at marriage of bridegrooms whose brides were under 45 was 27·8 years, while for brides under 45 the age was 25·6 years.

The most popular age at marriage for bridegrooms in 1950 was 23 years, and for brides 21 years.

Conjugal condition of persons marrying. In the following tables are given the number of persons in each conjugal condition marrying during each of the five years 1946 to 1950, and the proportions in each condition for periods since 1910.

**VICTORIA—CONJUGAL CONDITION OF PERSONS
MARRYING, 1946 TO 1950.**

Period.	Bridegrooms.			Brides.			Total Marriages.
	Bachelors.	Widowers.	Divorced.	Spinsters.	Widows.	Divorced.	
1946 ..	19,209	1,046	1,150	19,287	981	1,137	21,405
1947 ..	18,101	1,015	1,321	18,196	971	1,270	20,437
1948 ..	17,736	1,029	1,270	17,906	872	1,257	20,035
1949 ..	17,817	985	1,264	17,905	909	1,252	20,066
1950 ..	18,023	1,001	1,296	18,083	932	1,305	20,320

**VICTORIA—TOTAL MARRIAGES IN 1950 AND PERCENTAGE
OF PERSONS MARRYING IN EACH CONJUGAL
CONDITION, 1910 TO 1950.**

Marriages Between—	1950.		Conjugal Condition.	Percentage of Total—			
	Number.	Percentage.		1910-19.	1920-29.	1930-39.	1950.
Bachelors and Spinsters ..	16 806	82.71	Bachelors Widowers Divorced	Bridegrooms.			
Bachelors and Widows ..	428	2.11		92.7	92.1	92.3	88.7
Bachelors and Divorced Women ..	789	3.88		6.5	6.3	5.5	4.9
Widowers and Spinsters ..	463	2.28	Total	0.8	1.6	2.2	6.4
Widowers and Widows ..	357	1.76		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Widowers and Divorced Women ..	181	0.89		Brides.			
Divorced Men and Spinsters ..	814	4.00	Spinsters Widows Divorced	94.2	93.6	94.4	89.0
Divorced Men and Widows ..	147	0.72		4.8	4.9	3.4	4.6
Divorced Men and Divorced Women ..	335	1.65		1.0	1.5	2.2	6.4
Total Marriages ..	20,320	100.00	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

The proportions of widowers and widows remarrying per 100 marriages declined from 6.5 and 4.7 respectively in 1910-14 to 5.0 and 4.6 in 1946-50. During the same period the proportion of remarriages of divorced men increased from 0.7 to 6.2 and of divorced women from 0.9 to 6.1. The increased proportion of divorced persons remarrying reflects the higher number of decrees for dissolution of marriage granted in recent years. The numbers of such decrees and of remarriages of divorced men and of divorced women for certain periods since 1900 are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—DIVORCED PERSONS REMARRYING SINCE 1900.

Period.	Decrees Granted.	Remarriages.	
		Divorced Men.	Divorced Women.
1900-09	1,208	418	554
1910-19	2,258	867	1,096
1920-29	4,392	2,125	2,116
1930-39	6,059	3,172	3,099
1940	817	591	623
1941	833	585	648
1942	953	696	675
1943	1,375	696	696
1944	1,670	734	788
1945	1,727	990	964
1946	1,619	1,150	1,137
1947	2,266	1,321	1,270
1948	1,660	1,270	1,257
1949	1,766	1,264	1,252
1950	1,591	1,296	1,305

Marriages in religious denominations. In 1950 the number of marriages celebrated by ministers of religion was 18,773, representing 92 per cent. of the total marriages. Civil marriages numbered 1,547, or 8 per cent. of the total.

The numbers and proportions of civil marriages and of marriages solemnized according to the rites of the principal religious denominations for the years 1930, 1940, and 1950, are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—MARRIAGES, RELIGIOUS AND CIVIL.

	1930.		1940.		1950.	
	Number.	Per-centage of Total Marriages.	Number.	Per-centage of Total Marriages.	Number.	Per-centage of Total Marriages.
Church of England ..	3,211	27·58	6,817	30·57	5,908	29·07
Roman Catholic Church ..	2,238	19·23	4,296	19·27	4,093	20·14
Presbyterian Church ..	1,965	16·88	4,194	18·81	4,009	19·73
Methodist Church ..	1,577	13·55	3,332	14·94	2,946	14·50
Baptist Church ..	565	4·85	826	3·70	366	1·80
Church of Christ ..	272	2·34	547	2·45	326	1·60
Congregational Church ..	312	2·68	336	1·51	317	1·56
Lutheran Church ..	69	0·59	100	0·45	236	1·16
Hebrew ..	44	0·38	139	0·62	219	1·08
Salvation Army ..	62	0·53	155	0·70	107	0·53
Other Sects ..	102	0·88	228	1·02	246	1·22
Civil Marriages ..	1,224	10·51	1,329	5·96	1,547	7·61
Total	11,641	100·00	22,299	100·00	20,320	100·00

The following statement shows the numbers and proportions of civil marriages to total marriages performed for each of the ten years 1941 to 1950 :—

VICTORIA—CIVIL MARRIAGES, 1941 TO 1950.

Year.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.	Year.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.
1941	1,478	7·07	1946.. ..	1,406	6·57
1942	1,203	5·09	1947.. ..	1,418	6·94
1943	898	4·89	1948.. ..	1,411	7·04
1944	939	5·26	1949.. ..	1,431	7·13
1945	1,089	6·60	1950.. ..	1,547	7·61

The succeeding statement gives the numbers and proportions of civil marriages performed in the office of the Government Statist during each of the ten years 1941 to 1950 :—

CIVIL MARRIAGES PERFORMED IN THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT STATIST, 1941 TO 1950.

Year.	Number.	Percentage of Total Civil Marriages.
1941	1,363	92·22
1942	1,145	95·18
1943	849	94·54
1944	895	95·31
1945	1,045	95·96
1946	1,310	93·17
1947	1,341	94·57
1948	1,351	95·75
1949	1,378	96·30
1950	1,501	97·03

Registered clergymen.

The ministers qualified by registration to celebrate marriages numbered 2,149 on 31st December, 1950. The number of ministers in each denomination (excepting Jews and Quakers) was as follows :—

**VICTORIA—REGISTERED MINISTERS IN EACH
DENOMINATION, 1950.**

Denomination.	Number of Registered Ministers.	Denomination.	Number of Registered Ministers.
Church of England ..	427	Welsh Calvinistic Methodists	2
Roman Catholic ..	669	Open Brethren ..	3
Presbyterian ..	335	Particular Baptist ..	3
Methodist ..	272	Free Presbyterian Church of Victoria ..	2
Baptist ..	102	Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland ..	3
Churches of Christ ..	91	Catholic and Apostolic ..	1
Salvation Army ..	84	Ballarat Town and City Mission ..	1
Congregational ..	48	Unitarian ..	2
Seventh Day Adventists ..	37	New Church ..	1
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Australia ..	28	International Bible Students	4
United Evangelical Lutheran	13	Greek Orthodox Church ..	1
German Evangelical Lutheran ..	1	Australian Church ..	1
Swedish Evangelical Lutheran ..	2	Christian Israelites ..	1
Re-organized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints ..	6	Syrian Orthodox Church ..	2
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints ..	1	Total ..	2,149
Assemblies of God in Aus- tralia ..	6		

In 1950 there were 5 civil registrars of marriages in Victoria.

BIRTHS.

**Births—
Numbers and
Rates.** The number of births registered in Victoria during the year 1950 was 49,830. This was the highest number registered in Victoria. The rate per 1,000 of population in 1950 was 22·61, as compared with 21·92 in 1949, 22·06 in 1948, and 23·06 in 1947. The year 1928 was the first year in which the birth rate per 1,000 of population in Victoria was under 20. After 1928 it declined steadily until 1935, when the record low rate of 15·17 was experienced. The rate slowly increased during the next five years. In 1941 it rose to 17·80, in 1942 to 18·33, and in 1943 to 19·82. There was little fluctuation in 1944, but in 1945 the rate increased to 20·53. This was followed by an exceptional rise in 1946, the rate (23·05) being the highest recorded for twenty-four years. The increase in the birth rate followed the rise in the marriage rate which began in 1932 and continued until 1942. There was little change in 1947, but in each of the years 1948 and 1949 the birth rate declined. An increase was recorded in 1950, the rate being 22·61. Stillbirths, which are excluded from both births and deaths, numbered 963 and corresponded to a ratio of 19·33 per 1,000 infants born alive in 1950. There were 1,053 male to every 1,000 female births in 1950, as compared with 1,052 in 1949, 1,042 in 1948, 1,062 in 1947, 1,068 in 1946, and 1,061 in 1945.

In young communities, birth rates calculated per 1,000 of the population are to some extent misleading. In the earlier periods when, owing to immigration, the population consists for the most part of men and women at the reproductive period of life, such rates are naturally high. As time proceeds, notwithstanding that immigration of reproductive adults may be maintained, the proportion of such adults to the total population must diminish, and with it, consequently, the birth rate.

The following table shows the number of births—male and female—the quarters in which they were registered, and the proportion per 1,000 of the population since 1854 :—

VICTORIA—BIRTHS IN EACH QUARTER, 1855 TO 1950.

Period.	Average Annual Number of Births.	Sex.		Quarter of Registration.				Rate per 1,000 of Mean Population.
		Males.	Females.	March.	June.	Sep-tember.	Decem-ber.	
1855-59 ..	17,154	8,742	8,412	*	*	*	*	39·49
1860-64 ..	24,060	12,379	11,681	5,614	5,991	6,534	5,921	43·29
1865-69 ..	25,963	13,219	12,744	6,027	6,543	7,105	6,288	39·77
1870-74 ..	27,359	13,944	13,415	6,478	6,769	7,467	6,645	36·35
1875-79 ..	26,584	13,639	12,945	6,333	6,686	7,211	6,354	32·85
1880-84 ..	27,286	13,965	13,321	6,374	7,025	7,300	6,587	30·64
1885-89 ..	32,941	16,883	16,058	7,824	8,289	8,814	8,014	32·27
1890-94 ..	36,945	18,901	18,044	8,669	9,604	9,735	8,937	31·99
1895-99 ..	31,675	16,213	15,462	7,746	8,078	8,323	7,528	26·76
1900-04 ..	30,316	15,544	14,772	7,384	7,682	7,880	7,370	25·08
1905-09 ..	30,994	15,879	15,115	7,489	7,832	8,076	7,597	24·76
1910-14 ..	34,500	17,717	16,783	8,329	8,619	8,850	8,702	25·42
1915-19 ..	33,101	17,014	16,087	8,228	8,336	8,514	8,023	23·13
1920-24 ..	36,022	18,549	17,473	8,729	8,970	9,367	8,956	22·89
1925-29 ..	34,892	18,013	16,879	8,732	8,728	8,856	8,576	20·24
1930-34 ..	29,429	15,075	14,354	7,383	7,409	7,361	7,276	16·27
1935-39 ..	29,467	15,113	14,354	7,285	7,154	7,466	7,562	15·87
1940-44 ..	36,154	18,539	17,615	8,873	8,611	9,211	9,459	18·53
<hr/>								
1946 ..	46,693	24,119	22,574	10,178	10,096	12,032	14,387	23·05
1947 ..	47,366	24,391	22,975	12,575	11,646	11,488	11,657	23·06
1948 ..	46,099	23,520	22,579	11,200	11,498	11,388	12,013	22·06
1949 ..	46,873	24,027	22,846	11,591	11,003	11,945	12,334	21·92
1950 ..	49,830	25,554	24,276	12,426	12,083	12,5·1	12,730	22·61

*Not available.

The following statement shows the birth rate per 1,000 of the population in the Australian States and in New Zealand for each of the five years 1946 to 1950 :—

Birth rates—
Australian
States and
New Zealand.

BIRTH RATES—AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND,
1946 TO 1950.

Year.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.*
1946	23.05	22.83	24.79	24.89	24.56	27.15	23.62	25.26
1947	23.06	23.24	25.66	25.24	25.59	27.70	24.06	26.47
1948	22.06	22.19	24.80	24.11	25.12	26.38	23.08	25.59
1949	21.92	22.10	24.18	23.80	25.35	26.08	22.91	24.98
1950	22.61	22.20	24.62	24.72	25.47	25.66	23.29	24.67

* Excludes Maoris.

The birth rate in England and Wales in 1950 was 15.8.

The average ages of fathers and of mothers of nuptial children whose births were recorded in 1950 were 31.8 and 28.4 years respectively. These averages were 4.0 and 2.8 years respectively above the average ages of bridegrooms marrying brides under 45 years of age, and of such brides, for the year 1950. The proportions of both parents in various age groups are shown in the following table for the year mentioned:—

VICTORIA—PERCENTAGE OF PARENTS OF NUPTIAL CHILDREN IN AGE GROUPS, 1950.

Father.		Mother.	
Age Group.	Percentage of Total Parents.	Age Group.	Percentage of Total Parents.
Under 20	0.42	Under 20	3.77
20 to 24	13.92	20 to 24	27.10
25 to 29	31.98	25 to 29	34.20
30 to 34	24.82	30 to 34	20.37
35 to 39	16.68	35 to 39	11.25
40 to 44	8.19	40 to 44	3.10
45 to 49	2.93	45 and over	0.21
50 and over	1.06		
Total	100.00	Total	100.00

It will be seen that, on the experience of 1950, 61.30 per cent. of the mothers were between the ages 20 and 30 and 31.62 per cent. between ages 30 and 40. The proportions of fathers at these ages were 45.90 and 41.50 per cent. respectively. Of every 1,000 nuptial births, about 38 were to mothers under 20 years and about 2 to mothers aged 45 years and upwards.

The following table shows the number of births (allotted to the place of usual residence of the mother) and the births per 1,000 of the mean population in Greater Melbourne, in cities and principal towns outside Greater Melbourne, and in the remainder of the State for the five-year periods 1928 to 1932, 1933 to 1937, 1938 to 1942, and for the year 1950.

Birth rates in municipalities.

**BIRTHS IN GREATER MELBOURNE, CITIES AND PRINCIPAL
TOWNS OUTSIDE GREATER MELBOURNE, AND
REMAINDER OF STATE.**

Municipality.	Annual Number of Births.				Births per 1,000 of Mean Population.			
	1928-1932.	1933-1937.	1938-1942.	1950.	1928-1932.	1933-1937.	1938-1942.	1950.
Greater Melbourne—								
Melbourne	1,348	1,143	1,264	1,813	14·29	12·68	13·43	18·42
Box Hill	259	214	305	691	18·31	13·84	17·60	26·37
Braybrook (Part) ..	187	157	198	628	22·28	17·65	19·16	31·56
Brighton	394	358	534	700	13·37	11·69	15·47	16·69
Broadmeadows (Part) ..	†	†	†	405	..	..	..	34·62
Brunswick	974	790	939	1,097	17·52	14·53	16·92	18·67
Camberwell	865	759	1,210	1,572	17·85	14·58	19·01	18·73
Caulfield	941	807	1,091	1,382	14·87	12·14	15·21	16·67
Chelsea	127	121	156	380	18·66	17·46	20·94	27·44
Coburg	742	634	776	1,189	20·80	16·35	18·34	21·31
Collingwood	532	492	507	655	16·63	16·26	16·76	22·28
Essendon	766	578	799	1,149	16·59	12·47	16·36	20·03
Fitzroy	517	467	519	671	15·96	15·24	16·77	20·97
Footscray	875	698	862	1,120	19·13	14·97	16·36	20·31
Hawthorn	424	406	568	721	12·70	11·82	15·28	17·65
Heidelberg (Part) ..	413	340	465	960	16·93	14·02	16·84	24·21
Keilor (Part)	†	†	†	79	..	..	..	30·98
Kew	339	284	380	538	13·97	11·58	13·84	17·35
Malvern	499	470	578	828	11·46	10·66	12·49	16·61
Moorabbin	398	359	446	1,266	23·14	19·20	20·50	31·77
Mordialloc	148	132	199	412	15·37	13·64	18·74	24·74
Mulgrave	†	†	†	204	..	..	..	38·86
Northcote	727	576	680	795	17·27	13·55	15·56	17·34
Nunawading	†	†	†	438	..	..	..	34·76
Oakleigh	264	217	270	515	22·72	17·91	20·59	27·69
Port Melbourne	230	197	204	280	17·24	15·22	15·16	19·79
Prahran	696	624	828	1,021	13·26	11·84	14·75	16·90
Preston	703	581	716	1,140	23·87	18·05	19·30	22·85
Richmond	693	593	650	745	16·71	14·95	16·24	19·30
Ringwood	†	†	†	204	..	..	..	32·13
Sandringham	272	232	327	642	15·33	12·67	16·20	21·51

† Included in remainder of State.

BIRTHS IN GREATER MELBOURNE, CITIES AND PRINCIPAL TOWNS
OUTSIDE GREATER MELBOURNE, AND REMAINDER OF STATE—
Continued.

Municipality.	Annual Number of Births.				Births per 1,000 of Mean Population.			
	1928-1932.	1933-1937.	1938-1942.	1950.	1928-1932.	1933-1937.	1938-1942.	1950.
Greater Melbourne— <i>continued</i>								
South Melbourne ..	600	551	594	723	15.06	12.81	13.61	16.60
St. Kilda	533	512	712	969	11.61	10.55	13.62	16.49
Williamstown	423	326	398	494	19.28	14.64	16.94	18.16
Cities and Principal Towns outside Greater Melbourne—								
Ballaarat	664	596	621	927	17.14	15.74	16.01	22.22
Benalla	†	†	†	193	..	..	..	37.66
Bendigo	550	555	566	834	17.10	18.81	18.71	26.22
Geelong	844	693	726	1,003	19.26	17.52	17.85	21.49
Ararat	†	102	104	152	..	20.76	19.82	23.37
Castlemaine	105	98	104	144	15.16	18.70	19.40	24.24
Colac	†	106	125	192	..	20.42	21.22	27.47
Echuca	†	95	88	126	..	21.39	19.73	25.95
Hamilton	138	117	139	199	24.47	20.08	21.79	26.17
Horsham	†	118	125	182	..	22.13	21.76	26.06
Maryborough	118	111	108	154	21.35	19.62	18.61	23.49
Mildura	184	207	247	318	28.23	30.54	31.35	30.72
Sale	†	86	99	232	..	19.97	21.85	42.14
Shepparton	151	158	188	268	27.51	27.24	29.38	28.51
Stawell	92	85	85	134	19.46	17.75	17.52	25.87
Swan Hill	†	†	†	164	..	..	..	35.42
Wangaratta	†	107	123	265	..	22.21	22.36	32.52
Warrnambool	176	175	195	268	20.17	19.40	20.70	25.40
Wonthaggi	141	91	89	110	22.44	14.95	17.80	25.37
Summary—								
Greater Melbourne ..	15,949	13,618	17,175	26,426	16.03	13.55	16.00	20.20
Cities and Principal Towns outside Greater Melbourne	3,163	3,500	3,732	5,865	19.22	18.90	19.42	25.63
Remainder of State ..	12,693	11,426	11,719	17,539	20.40	17.62	18.27	26.31
Victoria	31,805	28,544	32,626	49,830	17.85	15.52	17.11	22.61

† Included in Remainder of State.

The number of cases of multiple births and the proportion per 1,000 of the total cases of births in each of the five years 1946 to 1950 were as follows:—

VICTORIA—MULTIPLE BIRTHS.

Year.	Cases of Twins.	Cases of Triplets.	Cases of Quadruplets.	Total Multiple Cases.	Multiple Cases per 1,000 of Total Cases.
1946	562	14	..	576	12.49
1947	559	10	..	569	12.15
1948	535	2	..	537	11.78
1949	526	3	1	530	11.43
1950	598	10	..	608	12.35

There was one case of quadruplets in 1949; the previous case recorded in Victoria was in 1937.

On the average of the five years 1946-50, the proportion of mothers of twins was one in 84, of mothers of triplets, one in 6,003, of mothers of quadruplets, one in 234,130, and of mothers of all multiple births, one in 83 mothers.

The first Victorian provision for the legal adoption of children who have never married and for the registration of each adoption by the Government Statist was contained in the *Adoption of Children Act* 1928, No. 3605. An amending Act of 1942 (No. 4903) authorizes the transmission of copies of adoption orders made in another State or Territory of the Commonwealth concerning children born in Victoria, or made in Victoria concerning children born in such other State or Territory, and makes further provision for dealing with adoption orders so transmitted to Victoria in the same manner as adoption orders made in Victoria.

The first registration was effected on 14th October, 1929, and between that date and the end of the year 1950, the adoptions of 6,504 male and 7,393 female children were registered. During the five-year period 1946-1950 there were 101 female for every 100 male adoptions.

The following table shows the number of adoptions—male and female—from 1929:—

VICTORIA—CHILDREN ADOPTED, 1929 TO 1950.

Period.	Number of Children Adopted.	
	Males.	Females.
1929	31	56
1930-1934	492	833
1935-1939	843	1,156
1940-1944	1,958	2,125
1945	511	509
1946	531	599
1947	547	571
1948	572	573
1949	501	447
1950	518	524

Children legitimated.

The first Victorian provision for the legitimation of children was contained in the *Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages Act 1903*, No. 1835. Up to the end of 1950 legitimations numbered 5,743.

The table below shows the number of legitimations and the proportion per 100 ex-nuptial births from 1903 :—

VICTORIA—LEGITIMATIONS, 1903 TO 1950.

Period.	Number of Legitimations.	Proportion per 100 Ex-Nuptial Births.
1903-1909	279	2.3
1910-1919	1,347	7.0
1920-1929	1,374	8.5
1930-1939	1,019	8.0
1940-1944	1,010	15.1
1945	139	9.4
1946	145	8.5
1947	138	8.5
1948	103	6.7
1949	106	6.9
1950	83	5.1

Legitimation Acts are in force in all the Australian States and in New Zealand, but there are marked differences in the numbers of legitimations resulting therefrom. In proportion to every 100 children born out of wedlock in 1950 the numbers of legitimations in the several States and in New Zealand during that year were as follows :— Victoria, 5.1; New South Wales, 7.6 (1949); Queensland, 18.4; South Australia, 6.9; Western Australia, 29.6; Tasmania, 32.5; and New Zealand, 22.7.

Ex-nuptial births in Victoria.

The following table shows the number of ex-nuptial births and their percentage to total births since 1909 :—

VICTORIA—EX-NUPTIAL BIRTHS, 1910 TO 1950.

Period.	Average Annual Number of Births.	Average Annual Number of Ex-nuptial Births.			Percentage of Total Births.
		Male.	Female.	Total.	
1910-14	34,500	1,013	979	1,992	5.77
1915-19	33,101	941	912	1,853	5.60
1920-24	36,022	869	821	1,690	4.69
1925-29	34,892	806	752	1,558	4.47
1930-34	29,429	685	620	1,305	4.43
1935-39	29,467	613	615	1,228	4.17
1940-44	36,154	701	638	1,339	3.70
1945	41,200	773	718	1,486	3.61
1946	46,693	880	831	1,711	3.66
1947	47,366	797	828	1,625	3.43
1948	46,099	776	757	1,533	3.33
1949	46,873	780	754	1,534	3.27
1950	49,830	816	801	1,617	3.25

The proportion of ex-nuptial to total births declined in each quinquennial period from 1910 to 1950.

In 1913 the percentage of ex-nuptial to total births was 6·03; in 1950 the percentage was 3·25.

The percentages in the various States and in New Zealand in 1950 were as follows:—Victoria, 3·25; New South Wales, 4·07; Queensland, 4·92; South Australia, 2·75; Western Australia, 3·69; Tasmania, 3·91; Australia, 3·84, and New Zealand, 3·99.

DEATHS.

The following table shows the number of deaths—male and female—the quarters in which they were registered, and the proportion per 1,000 of the population since 1854:—

VICTORIA—DEATHS IN EACH QUARTER, 1855 TO 1950.

Period.	Average Annual Number of Deaths.	Sex.		Quarter of Registration.				Rate per 1,000 of Mean Population.
		Males.	Females.	March.	June.	September.	December.	
1855-59 ..	7,653	4,768	2,885	*	*	*	*	17·78
1860-64 ..	10,210	6,001	4,209	3,257	2,658	2,093	2,202	18·44
1865-69 ..	11,035	6,374	4,661	3,385	2,938	2,243	2,469	16·93
1870-74 ..	10,978	6,365	4,613	3,232	2,744	2,461	2,541	14·56
1875-79 ..	13,289	7,567	5,722	4,016	3,567	2,831	2,875	16·45
1880-84 ..	12,820	7,324	5,496	3,512	3,167	3,013	3,128	14·40
1885-89 ..	16,200	9,307	6,893	4,591	3,912	3,689	4,008	15·87
1890-94 ..	16,886	9,716	7,170	4,643	4,108	3,977	4,158	14·62
1895-99 ..	16,350	9,227	7,123	4,324	3,957	3,808	4,261	13·81
1900-04 ..	15,457	8,686	6,771	3,921	3,750	3,992	3,794	12·84
1905-09 ..	14,932	8,296	6,636	3,805	3,539	3,917	3,671	11·93
1910-14 ..	15,705	8,616	7,089	3,873	3,875	4,137	3,820	11·57
1915-19 ..	16,283	8,860	7,423	3,781	4,172	4,467	3,863	11·38
1920-24 ..	16,375	8,781	7,594	3,846	4,166	4,503	3,860	10·40
1925-29 ..	16,674	8,969	7,705	3,770	4,213	4,602	4,089	9·67
1930-34 ..	17,180	9,175	8,005	3,814	4,214	4,822	4,330	9·50
1935-39† ..	18,984	10,109	8,885	4,043	4,780	5,630	4,541	10·23
1940-44† ..	20,964	11,009	9,895	4,389	5,142	6,338	5,035	10·71
1946† ..	21,534	11,280	10,254	4,736	5,273	6,012	5,513	10·63
1947† ..	21,442	11,261	10,181	4,724	4,992	6,213	5,513	10·44
1948 ..	21,825	11,503	10,322	4,367	5,368	6,672	5,418	10·44
1949 ..	21,991	11,803	10,188	4,606	5,525	6,707	5,153	10·28
1950 ..	22,341	11,781	10,560	4, 77	5,393	6,581	5,3·0	10·14

* Not available. † Excludes deaths of defence personnel from September, 1939 to June, 1947

The death rate gradually declined from 18·44 in 1860-64 to 9·50 in 1930-34 but, during the quinquennium 1935-39, it rose to 10·23. This was followed by a further rise to 10·71 during the quinquennium 1940-44. There has been little fluctuation in the death rate since 1944, the rate in that year being 10·30. In 1950, the rate was 10·14.

The lowest death rate (8·93) in the history of the State was recorded in 1930.

The number of deaths (22,341) in 1950 was the highest on record for the State, and was 883 more than the average of the preceding five years.

In 1950 there were 1,116 male to every 1,000 female deaths, the average for the preceding five years being 1,112. The corresponding proportion of male to female births in the quinquennium was 1,057.

The following statement shows the death rate per 1,000 of the population in each of the Australian States and in New Zealand for each of the five years 1946 to 1950 :—

DEATH RATES—AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND,
1946 TO 1950.

Year.	Vic- toria.	New South Wales.	Queens- land.	South Aus- tralia.	Western Aus- tralia.	Tas- mania.	Aus- tralia.	New Zealand.*
1946	10·63	9·70	9·77	10·17	9·64	10·11	10·00	9·71
1947	10·44	9·53	9·15	9·62	9·39	9·17	9·69	9·39
1948	10·44	10·04	9·31	10·25	9·10	9·55	9·96	9·16
1949	10·28	9·43	8·85	9·45	8·99	8·76	9·51	9·09
1950	10·14	9·60	8·82	9·63	9·05	8·74	9·55	9·31

* Excludes Maoris.

In 1950 the death rate in England and Wales was 11·6.

Compiled on the basis of allotment of all deaths to the place of usual residence, the following table shows the number of deaths, and the deaths per 1,000 of the mean population in Greater Melbourne, in cities and principal towns outside Greater Melbourne, and in the remainder of the State, for the five-year periods 1928 to 1932, 1933 to 1937, 1938 to 1942, and for the year 1950 :—

Death rates in municipalities.

DEATHS IN GREATER MELBOURNE, CITIES AND
PRINCIPAL TOWNS OUTSIDE GREATER MELBOURNE,
AND REMAINDER OF STATE.

Municipality.	Annual Number of Deaths.				Deaths per 1,000 of Mean Population.			
	1928-1932.	1933-1937.	1938-1942.	1950.	1928-1932.	1933-1937.	1938-1942.	1950.
Greater Melbourne—								
Melbourne	1,091	1,120	1,204	1,209	11·57	12·42	12·79	12·28
Box Hill	125	155	179	231	8·81	9·99	10·33	8·82
Braybrook (Part)	56	58	75	116	6·70	6·57	7·26	5·83
Brighton	272	316	366	437	9·22	10·33	10·61	10·42
Broadmeadows (Part)	†	†	†	69	..	..	..	5·90
Brunswick	532	560	601	563	9·57	10·30	10·83	9·58
Camberwell	430	494	641	842	8·87	9·49	10·07	10·03
Caulfield	552	656	767	844	8·72	9·87	10·69	10·18
Chelsea	63	83	93	137	9·24	12·02	12·48	9·89
Coburg	287	317	367	445	8·06	8·19	8·68	7·97
Collingwood	363	377	399	374	11·36	12·47	13·19	12·72
Essendon	429	484	543	626	9·30	10·46	11·12	10·92
Fitzroy	446	452	502	447	13·77	14·74	16·22	13·97
Footscray	402	425	487	543	8·79	9·12	9·24	9·84
Hawthorn	357	409	467	525	10·67	11·90	12·56	12·85
Heidelberg (Part)	193	210	257	362	7·91	8·66	9·31	9·13
Keilor (Part)	†	†	†	10	..	..	..	3·92
Kew	220	246	276	325	9·08	10·06	10·05	10·48
Malvern	404	489	562	606	9·28	11·07	12·15	12·18
Moorabbin	130	157	178	285	7·55	8·39	8·18	7·15
Mordialloc	85	94	126	160	8·86	9·67	11·87	9·61
Mulgrave	†	†	†	45	..	..	..	8·57
Northcote	369	408	450	451	8·77	9·59	10·30	9·84
Nunawading	†	†	†	124	..	..	..	9·84
Oakleigh	101	115	130	163	8·72	9·49	9·91	8·76
Port Melbourne	137	156	152	149	10·26	12·08	11·30	10·53
Prahran	628	662	757	824	11·96	12·56	13·49	13·64
Preston	242	267	306	377	8·20	8·29	8·25	7·55
Richmond	464	465	490	483	11·20	11·73	12·24	12·51
Ringwood	†	†	†	44	..	..	..	6·93
Sandringham	161	177	224	301	9·08	9·63	11·10	10·08

† Included in remainder of State.

DEATHS IN GREATER MELBOURNE, CITIES AND PRINCIPAL TOWNS
OUTSIDE GREATER MELBOURNE, AND REMAINDER OF STATE—
continued.

Municipality.	Annual Number of Deaths.				Deaths per 1,000 of Mean Population.			
	1928-1932.	1933-1937.	1938-1942.	1950.	1928-1932.	1933-1937.	1938-1942.	1950.
Greater Melbourne— <i>continued</i>								
South Melbourne ..	486	507	548	548	11·09	11·78	12·55	12·58
St. Kilda	452	538	660	746	9·84	11·09	12·62	12·70
Williamstown .. .	211	219	262	296	9·63	9·81	11·15	10·88
Cities and Principal Towns outside Greater Melbourne—								
Ballaarat	475	501	565	574	12·28	13·23	14·56	13·76
Benalla	†	†	†	86	..	..	..	16·78
Bendigo	421	441	463	447	13·08	14·93	15·30	14·03
Geelong	455	463	484	546	10·40	11·70	11·90	11·70
Ararat	†	63	60	59	..	12·79	11·44	9·07
Castlemaine .. .	73	64	69	61	10·61	12·20	12·87	10·27
Colac	†	54	63	87	..	10·42	10·70	12·45
Echuca	†	49	54	63	..	11·01	12·11	12·98
Hamilton	59	62	61	84	10·35	10·60	10·34	11·05
Horsham	†	62	60	60	..	11·72	10·45	8·59
Maryborough .. .	59	73	74	68	10·66	12·98	12·75	10·37
Mildura	59	80	88	92	9·05	11·74	11·17	8·89
Sale	†	54	54	63	..	12·59	11·92	11·44
Shepparton .. .	55	77	78	93	9·96	13·29	12·19	9·89
Stawell	51	53	64	68	10·87	10·98	13·19	13·13
Swan Hill	†	†	†	58	..	..	..	12·53
Wangaratta .. .	†	62	62	85	..	12·81	11·27	10·43
Warrnambool .. .	91	97	97	128	10·46	10·81	10·30	12·13
Wonthaggi .. .	47	50	52	55	7·45	8·17	10·40	12·69
Summary—								
Greater Melbourne ..	9,688	10,616	12,069	13,707	9·74	10·56	11·24	10·48
Cities and Principal Towns outside Greater Melbourne	1,845	2,305	2,453	2,777	11·22	12·45	12·76	12·13
Remainder of State ..	5,311	5,469	5,841	5,857	8·53	8·44	9·11	8·79
Victoria	16,844	18,390	20,363	22,341	9·45	10·00	10·68	10·14

† Included in Remainder of State.

Particulars of the residence of persons who died in the public institutions of Victoria give a definite indication of the assistance rendered by such institutions to people in the various divisions of the State. The numbers and proportions of such deaths in the various municipalities are given below for 1950:—

VICTORIA—PROPORTION OF DEATHS OF RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN AREAS OCCURRING IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, 1950.

Area.	Number of Deaths of Residents occurring in—		Percentage of Deaths of Residents occurring in—			Deaths of Residents occurring in Public Institutions per 1,000 of Population.
	Public Hospitals.	Other Public Institutions.	Public Hospitals.	Other Public Institutions.	Total Public Institutions.	
GREATER MELBOURNE—						
Melbourne	390	100	32·26	8·27	40·53	4·98
Box Hill	30	14	12·99	6·06	19·05	1·68
Braybrook (Part) ..	29	8	25·00	6·89	31·89	1·86
Brighton	85	26	19·45	5·95	25·40	2·65
Broadmeadows (Part)	16	6	23·19	8·69	31·88	1·88
Brunswick	150	35	26·64	6·22	32·86	3·15
Camberwell	145	52	17·22	6·18	23·40	2·34
Caulfield	160	56	18·96	6·63	25·59	2·61
Chelsea	28	5	20·44	3·65	24·09	2·38
Coburg	115	25	25·84	5·62	31·46	2·51
Collingwood	114	28	30·48	7·49	37·97	4·83
Essendon	147	42	23·48	6·71	30·19	3·29
Fitzroy	142	34	31·77	7·60	39·37	5·50
Footscray	153	23	28·18	4·23	32·41	3·19
Hawthorn	107	27	20·38	5·14	25·52	3·28
Heidelberg (Part) ..	89	23	24·59	6·35	30·94	2·82
Keilor (Part)	4	..	40·00	..	40·00	1·57
Kew	55	13	16·92	4·00	20·92	2·20
Malvern	94	27	15·51	4·46	19·97	2·43
Moorabbin	77	16	27·02	5·61	32·63	2·33
Mordialloc	30	8	18·75	5·00	23·75	2·28
Mulgrave	13	1	28·89	2·22	31·11	2·67
Northcote	117	27	25·94	5·99	31·93	3·14
Nunawading	22	6	17·74	4·84	22·58	2·22
Oakleigh	41	14	25·15	8·59	33·74	2·96
Port Melbourne	40	6	26·84	4·03	30·87	3·25
Prahran	198	54	24·03	6·55	30·58	4·17
Preston	97	25	25·73	6·63	32·36	2·44
Richmond	142	24	29·40	4·97	34·37	4·30
Ringwood	11	3	25·00	6·82	31·82	2·20
Sandringham	56	20	18·60	6·64	25·24	2·55
South Melbourne	158	26	28·83	4·74	33·57	4·23
St. Kilda	192	53	25·74	7·10	32·84	4·17
Williamstown	92	12	31·08	4·05	35·13	3·82

VICTORIA—PROPORTION OF DEATHS OF RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN AREAS OCCURRING IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, 1950—*continued.*

Area.	Number of Deaths of Residents occurring in—		Percentage of Deaths of Residents occurring in—			Deaths of Residents occurring in Public Institutions per 1,000 of Population.
	Public Hospitals.	Other Public Institutions.	Public Hospitals.	Other Public Institutions.	Total Public Institutions.	
CITIES AND PRINCIPAL TOWNS OUTSIDE GREATER MELBOURNE—						
Ballaarat	204	83	35.54	14.46	50.00	6.88
Benalla	15	5	17.44	5.81	23.25	3.90
Bendigo	137	51	30.65	11.41	42.06	5.91
Geelong	203	57	37.18	10.44	47.62	5.57
Ararat	38	7	64.41	11.86	76.27	6.92
Castlemaine	30	7	49.18	11.48	60.66	6.23
Colac	50	9	57.47	10.34	67.81	8.44
Echuca	38	4	60.32	6.35	66.67	8.65
Hamilton	40	8	47.62	9.52	57.14	6.31
Horsham	37	3	61.67	5.00	66.67	5.73
Maryborough	39	3	57.35	4.41	61.76	6.41
Mildura	47	8	51.09	8.69	59.78	5.31
Sale	30	4	47.62	6.35	53.97	6.18
Shepparton	35	10	37.63	10.75	48.38	4.79
Stawell	47	4	69.12	5.88	75.00	9.85
Wangaratta	48	6	56.47	7.06	63.53	6.63
Warrnambool	62	12	48.43	9.37	57.80	7.01
Wonthaggi	23	4	41.82	7.27	49.09	6.23
SUMMARY—						
Greater Melbourne ..	3,339	839	24.36	6.12	30.48	3.19
Cities and Principal Towns outside Greater Melbourne	1,123	285	41.30	10.48	51.78	6.28
Remainder of State ..	1,950	236	32.97	3.99	36.96	3.26
Victoria	6,412	1,360	28.70	6.09	34.79	3.53

PERCENTAGE OF DEATHS OF RESIDENTS OF GREATER MELBOURNE, OF REMAINDER OF STATE AND OF VICTORIA, OCCURRING IN PUBLIC HOSPITALS IN CERTAIN PERIODS FROM 1910.

	1910-14.	1920-24.	1925-29.	1930-34.	1949.	1950.
Greater Melbourne	24.3	27.0	29.5	27.7	24.2	24.4
Remainder of State	17.0	21.2	23.7	26.3	35.0	35.6
Victoria	20.4	24.3	27.0	27.1	28.4	28.7

In 1950 the number of deaths in all public institutions was 7,772, of which 4,178 were of residents of Greater Melbourne.

Deaths in
metropolitan
public
institutions.

The number of deaths in certain metropolitan public institutions in 1950 is given in the subjoined table :—

VICTORIA—DEATHS IN CERTAIN METROPOLITAN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, 1950.

Institution.	No. of Deaths.	Institution.	No. of Deaths.
HOSPITALS—GENERAL—		SANATORIA—	
Royal Melbourne	1,033	Heatherton	7
Alfred	764	Greenvale	10
Hamilton Russell Com- munity	14	Grosswell	11
Children's	235	Health Department Annexe	5
St. Vincent's	617	Total Sanatoria	33
St. Vincent's Intermediate ..	6	BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS—	
Austin	139	Melbourne (Cheltenham)	
Heidelberg House	23	Asylum	215
Women's	149	Mount Royal	133
Prince Henry's	354	Convent of Little Sisters of the Poor	67
Fairfield	35	Old Colonists' Homes	3
Queen Victoria	153	Total Benevolent Insti- tutions	418
Jessie McPherson Com- munity	5	FOUNDLING HOMES, REFUGES—	
Williamstown	65	Broadmeadows .. ..	..
Caulfield Convalescent	79	Carlton .. ..	..
Eye and Ear	10	East Melbourne	2
After Care Home	1	The Haven, Fitzroy	1
Total General Hospitals	3,682	Berwick .. ..	..
HOSPITALS—MENTAL—		Total Refuges, &c.	3
Janefield	3	Total Hospitals and other Institutions	4,561
Kew	99		
Mont Park	142		
Mental Hospital and Receiv- ing House, Royal Park	181		
Total Mental Hospitals	425		

Of the 4,561 deaths in the above institution, 2,523 were of males and 2,038 were of females.

In Greater Melbourne, in the decade 1941-50, there was an average of 10.86 deaths per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 15.76 in the decennium 1892-1901. The reduction in the rate represents a saving of approximately 58,000

Decrease in
metropolitan
death rate.

lives in the last ten years. A comparison of the death rates from tubercular and certain other diseases for the period 1941-50 with those for the decennium 1892-1901 is shown in the following table:—

DEATH RATES—GREATER MELBOURNE.

Cause of Death.	Average Annual Deaths per 1,000,000 of Population.		
	1892-1901.	1941-50.	Decrease.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	1,654	358	1,296
Other Tubercular Diseases ..	446	37	409
Typhoid Fever	293	3	290
Scarlet Fever	33	3	30
Measles	215	6	209
Diphtheria	196	15	181
Total	2,837	422	2,415

The figures show that the mortality from the six diseases mentioned declined by 85 per cent.—the decline representing a rate of 2,415 per million of the population.

The mortality from all causes showed a net decline of 4,900 per million of the population.

The mortality of children under one year, in proportion to births, reveals a constant decline since 1890—the **infantile mortality.** deaths per 1,000 children born having fallen from 133 in 1885-89 to 24 in 1946-50—a reduction of 82 per cent. In other words, where 100 infants died in the earlier period, only eighteen died in the latter.

The reduction has been contributed to by various health acts and educative measures, including the notification of infectious diseases, the regulation of the manufacture, sale, and distribution of foodstuffs and patent medicines, and the ensuring of a pure water supply. The passing of the Midwives Act in 1915 and the inauguration of the Infant Welfare movement in 1917 coincide with and, in a large degree, account for the reduction of the rate in latter years.

The infantile death rates for Greater Melbourne, for the remainder of the State, and for the whole State, for certain periods since 1879, are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1880 TO 1950.

Period.	Greater Melbourne.		Remainder of State.		Victoria.	
	Average Annual Number of Deaths under One Year.	Rate per 1,000 Births.	Average Annual Number of Deaths under One Year.	Rate per 1,000 Births.	Average Annual Number of Deaths under One Year.	Rate per 1,000 Births.
1880-84 ..	1,649	170·1	1,626	92·3	3,275	120·0
1885-89 ..	2,576	178·5	1,812	97·9	4,388	133·3
1890-94 ..	2,311	140·4	1,926	94·9	4,237	114·7
1895-99 ..	1,650	131·5	1,913	100·0	3,563	112·5
1900-04 ..	1,417	116·5	1,565	86·2	2,982	98·2
1905-09 ..	1,209	96·5	1,307	71·5	2,516	81·2
1910-14 ..	1,345	84·2	1,201	64·9	2,546	73·8
1915-19 ..	1,302	76·2	886	55·4	2,188	66·1
1920-24 ..	1,328	71·6	1,024	58·6	2,352	65·3
1925-29 ..	1,034	58·4	863	50·2	1,897	54·4
1930-34 ..	674	47·3	618	40·7	1,292	43·9
1935-39 ..	543	37·9	574	37·9	1,117	37·9
1940-44 ..	738	36·4	594	37·5	1,332	36·8
<hr/>						
1946 ..	729	27·0	539	27·3	1,268	27·2
1947 ..	725	26·8	520	25·6	1,245	26·3
1948 ..	605	23·8	498	24·1	1,103	23·9
1949 ..	519	20·3	507	23·8	1,026	21·9
1950 ..	512	19·4	489	20·9	1,001	20·1

The practice was introduced in 1923 of allotting all births and deaths to the place of usual residence of the parties. In the cases of births and infantile deaths the mother's residence is considered to be that of the child. This accounts for the slight increase in the rate for the remainder of the State in the period 1920-24, and the corresponding decrease in the rate for the metropolis.

During the period 1937-50 the infantile death rate was subject to considerable fluctuation. In 1937 it fell below 40 per 1,000 births for the first time on record. The rate in 1937 was 36·7; in 1942, the highest rate (41·6) for the period was experienced. Each year after 1942 a decrease was recorded, and new low records were established in each year of the period 1944-50. The rate in 1950 was 20·1.

Infantile deaths in municipalities.

Deaths of infants under one year of age, and the deaths per 1,000 births in Greater Melbourne, in cities and principal towns outside Greater Melbourne, and in the remainder of the State

for the five-year periods 1933-37, 1938-42, and for the years 1948, 1949, and 1950, were as follows:—

INFANTILE DEATHS IN GREATER MELBOURNE, IN CITIES AND PRINCIPAL TOWNS OUTSIDE GREATER MELBOURNE, AND IN REMAINDER OF STATE.

Municipality.	Annual Number of Deaths under One Year.					Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.				
	1933-1937.	1938-1942.	1948.	1949.	1950.	1933-1937.	1938-1942.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Greater Melbourne—										
Melbourne ..	55	53	45	34	39	48.45	42.25	25.20	18.99	21.51
Box Hill ..	8	10	20	7	13	38.25	32.77	35.71	11.15	18.81
Braybrook (Part) ..	8	7	8	3	9	49.68	36.36	19.37	6.37	14.33
Brighton ..	11	16	17	14	11	30.15	29.57	22.61	20.09	15.71
Broadmeadows (Part)	†	†	8	6	4	..	..	36.04	22.64	9.88
Brunswick ..	32	37	29	27	21	40.23	39.61	24.70	23.24	19.14
Camberwell ..	26	39	35	35	24	33.74	31.90	23.30	22.71	15.27
Caulfield ..	27	37	28	29	19	33.47	33.55	19.49	20.35	13.75
Chelsea ..	5	4	9	3	6	43.12	26.96	25.71	9.09	15.79
Coburg ..	26	27	15	28	25	40.38	34.80	14.22	23.99	21.03
Collingwood ..	28	22	18	15	21	57.27	43.75	28.94	25.13	32.06
Essendon ..	23	30	31	25	17	40.51	37.29	24.74	21.35	14.79
Fitzroy ..	26	27	26	18	11	56.98	52.04	36.16	27.23	16.39
Footscray ..	29	34	41	20	27	40.99	39.66	34.20	17.14	24.11
Hawthorn ..	18	22	10	17	14	44.31	38.76	12.55	22.25	19.42
Heidelberg (Part)	11	18	12	17	24	32.37	37.83	15.00	19.10	25.00
Keilor (Part) ..	†	†	1	..	1	..	..	17.86	..	12.66
Kew ..	9	13	14	4	13	30.32	33.14	25.78	7.59	24.16
Malvern ..	17	19	20	14	17	35.71	32.55	24.18	16.57	20.53
Moorabbin ..	14	16	21	24	21	37.93	35.86	25.24	23.98	16.59
Mordialloc ..	7	8	10	15	7	54.55	39.27	26.53	38.27	16.99
Mulgrave ..	†	†	4	3	2	..	..	25.48	20.27	9.80
Northeote ..	24	24	9	11	17	41.65	35.87	10.20	13.45	21.38
Nunawading ..	†	†	8	5	6	..	..	23.67	13.74	13.70
Oakleigh ..	9	6	12	3	13	43.36	23.00	28.99	6.45	25.24
Port Melbourne ..	11	7	7	3	4	56.91	36.24	22.36	11.28	14.29
Prahran ..	29	27	27	14	25	46.44	33.08	23.87	13.35	24.49
Preston ..	23	28	27	31	31	40.29	39.66	26.89	23.11	27.19
Richmond ..	29	25	14	26	8	49.27	38.79	17.74	32.42	10.74

† Included in remainder of State.

INFANTILE DEATHS IN GREATER MELBOURNE, IN CITIES AND
PRINCIPAL TOWNS OUTSIDE GREATER MELBOURNE, AND IN
REMAINDER OF STATE—*continued.*

Municipality.	Annual Number of Deaths under One Year.					Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.				
	1933- 1937.	1938- 1942.	1948.	1949.	1950.	1933- 1937.	1938- 1942.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Greater Melbourne— <i>continued.</i>										
Ringwood ..	†	†	2	5	2	..	..	12·74	25·64	9·80
Sandringham ..	9	10	15	15	10	37·04	30·62	24·08	22·56	15·58
South Melbourne ..	30	28	20	15	13	54·77	46·46	25·87	20·38	17·98
St. Kilda ..	22	31	34	24	29	43·78	43·27	30·63	24·00	29·93
Williamstown ..	13	14	8	9	8	38·63	35·64	16·49	20·59	16·19
Cities and Principal Towns outside Greater Melbourne—										
Ballaarat ..	25	29	17	17	19	41·62	46·05	17·73	18·10	20·49
Benalla ..	†	†	†	†	7	..	..	..	..	36·27
Bendigo ..	22	24	17	18	18	40·32	42·73	23·42	25·28	21·58
Geelong ..	34	30	23	21	21	48·77	41·32	22·31	19·23	20·94
Ararat ..	4	2	6	3	3	40·85	21·15	40·82	21·90	19·73
Castlemaine ..	4	3	6	4	1	38·62	32·69	52·63	36·70	6·94
Colac ..	5	4	4	2	5	45·63	28·71	20·20	10·15	26·04
Echuca ..	6	3	3	3	2	62·50	31·89	25·22	25·64	15·88
Hamilton ..	4	5	9	7	1	37·61	34·68	49·72	34·15	5·03
Horsham ..	5	4	4	4	4	40·95	31·90	26·66	24·24	21·98
Maryborough ..	5	4	3	1	5	41·59	35·12	21·58	6·54	32·47
Mildura ..	8	8	5	7	11	37·68	30·72	16·95	23·33	34·59
Sale ..	2	3	6	4	2	27·97	30·36	37·26	23·26	8·62
Shepparton ..	8	8	5	8	5	54·50	45·65	19·38	30·77	18·65
Stawell ..	4	3	2	3	2	47·06	30·52	17·86	22·90	14·93
Swan Hill ..	†	†	5	2	5	..	..	40·98	16·26	30·49
Wangaratta ..	7	8	5	8	3	63·91	66·56	21·37	36·70	11·32
Warrnambool ..	6	7	6	9	10	34·32	35·97	22·22	35·86	37·31
Wonthaggi ..	5	3	9	3	6	50·66	40·72	10·11	27·78	54·54
Summary—										
Greater Melbourne	579	639	605	519	512	42·55	37·24	23·77	20·27	19·37
Cities and Principal Towns outside Greater Melbourne	154	148	135	124	130	43·95	39·65	25·45	23·01	22·17
Remainder of State	437	438	363	383	359	38·24	37·38	23·66	24·11	20·47
Victoria ..	1,170	1,225	1,103	1,026	1,001	41·00	37·55	23·93	21·89	20·09

† Included in remainder of State.

Infantile mortality at certain ages.

The decrease in the infantile death rate, since the earlier periods, has been shared proportionally by each age-group except that of "under one week". The rate per 1,000 births for infants "under one week" has varied from 21.5 in the quinquennium 1910-14 to 22.7 in 1925-29 and 14.9 in 1946-50. The rate for infants "one week and under one month" declined from 11.1 in 1910-14 to 2.7 in 1946-50, a decrease of 76 per cent., and that for infants "one month and under one year" from 41.2 to 6.3, a decrease of 85 per cent. Between the ages of one month and one year Victoria lost 64 out of every 1,000 children born in 1900-04, 33 in 1915-19, and 6 in 1946-50. In 1950 the mortality of infants "under one week" comprised 63 per cent. of the total infantile mortality.

The rate for male infants is consistently higher than that for females, and in 1946-50 exceeded the female rate by 25.5 per cent.

The tables which follow show the proportion of deaths of infants at various ages under one year for certain periods since 1899, and the male and the female death rates at each age period for the year 1950:—

VICTORIA—INFANTILE MORTALITY AT CERTAIN AGES, 1900 TO 1950.

Period.	Deaths Under One Year per 1,000 Births.							Males.	Females.
	Under One Week.	One Week and under One Month.	One Month and under Three Months.	Three Months and under Six Months.	Six Months and under Twelve Months.	Total under One Year.			
1900-04 ..	34.4		16.9	21.0	25.9	98.2	105.7	90.4	
1905-09 ..	33.0		13.8	15.1	19.3	81.2	89.3	72.6	
1910-14 ..	21.5	11.1	12.1	12.4	16.7	73.8	81.8	65.3	
1915-19 ..	23.3	10.1	10.5	9.4	12.8	66.1	73.0	58.7	
1920-24 ..	23.7	9.3	9.8	10.0	12.5	65.3	71.8	58.5	
1925-29 ..	22.7	7.7	6.9	6.7	10.4	54.4	60.7	47.6	
1930-34 ..	22.3	5.5	4.8	4.6	6.7	43.9	49.2	38.4	
1935-39 ..	21.1	5.1	3.7	2.9	5.1	37.9	42.0	33.6	
1940-44 ..	19.8	5.6	4.0	3.2	4.2	36.8	41.0	32.5	
1946 ..	16.8	3.4	2.4	2.1	2.5	27.2	29.0	25.2	
1947 ..	16.3	3.3	2.4	2.0	2.3	26.3	29.7	22.6	
1948 ..	14.6	2.5	2.3	1.9	2.6	23.9	27.2	20.5	
1949 ..	14.2	2.1	1.8	1.5	2.3	21.9	24.6	19.0	
1950 ..	12.6	2.1	1.6	1.8	2.0	20.1	21.9	18.2	

VICTORIA—INFANTILE MORTALITY AT CERTAIN AGES,
MALES AND FEMALES, 1950.

Age.	Males.			Females.		
	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births.	Percentage at each Age.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births.	Percentage at each Age.
Under 1 week ..	361	14.13	64.46	267	11.00	60.55
1 week and under ..	53	2.07	9.46	52	2.14	11.79
1 month and under ..	37	1.45	6.61	42	1.73	9.52
3 months and under ..	52	2.03	9.29	35	1.44	7.94
6 months and under ..	57	2.23	10.18	45	1.86	10.20
Total under one year ..	560	21.91	100.00	441	18.17	100.00

Infantile death rates from certain causes. An examination of the principal causes of infantile mortality over a period of years and at various ages reveals the direction in which improvement has been achieved, and discloses those causes and factors to which future investigations need to be directed if the decline in the rate is to be maintained. Infant deaths in 1950 are classified according to the Sixth (1948) Revision of the International Classification of Diseases. Owing to the change in classifications, figures for 1950 are not exactly comparable with figures for previous years.

The next two tables show the infant mortality rates from the principal causes for certain periods from 1890 to 1949, and for the year 1950.

VICTORIA—INFANTILE DEATH RATES FROM
CERTAIN CAUSES.

Cause of Death.	Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births in—					
	1891-93.	1901-10.	1911-20.	1921-30.	1931-40.	1941-49.
Epidemic, Endemic, and Infectious Diseases ..	12.41	7.31	4.87	3.57	2.51	1.23
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia ..	11.37	8.13	6.86	6.08	5.58	3.84
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ..	29.66	24.62	16.13	9.85	1.98	1.31
Congenital Malformations (157) ..	3.45	4.86	4.38	4.43	4.29	3.75
Congenital Debility (158) ..	22.24	12.74	13.09	6.77	2.30	0.73
Prematurity (159) ..	13.13	14.99	15.17	15.34	12.40	9.69
Injury at Birth (160) ..				2.57	3.25	3.32
Other Diseases of Early Infancy (161) ..	21.51	12.77	7.98	3.42	4.39	3.30
Other Diseases ..				4.42	2.58	1.77
Violence ..	3.16	2.47	1.07	0.80	0.83	0.75
Total, all Causes ..	116.93	87.89	69.55	57.25	40.11	29.69

The mortality from epidemic, endemic and infectious diseases, the main respiratory diseases, and diarrhoea and enteritis declined from 40.1 per 1,000 births in 1901-10 to 6.4 in 1941-49, a decrease of 84 per cent.

VICTORIA—INFANTILE DEATH RATES, AT VARIOUS AGES, FROM CERTAIN CAUSES, 1950.

Cause of Death. (Detailed List Numbers in Parentheses).	Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.								
	Age Period.						Total.	Males.	Females.
	Under 1 Week.	1 Week and under 1 Month.	1 Month and under 3 Months.	3 Months and under 6 Months.	6 Months and under 12 Months.				
Infective and Parasitic Diseases (1-138)	0.04	0.04	0.08	0.06	0.33	0.55	0.63	0.45	
Pneumonia and Bronchitis (490-493, 500-502)	..	0.02	0.40	0.46	0.54	1.42	1.64	1.20	
Gastro-enteritis and Colitis, except Ulcerative, age four weeks and over (571)	..	..	0.04	0.18	0.14	0.36	0.43	0.29
Congenital Malformations (750-759)	1.31	0.58	0.60	0.42	0.34	3.25	3.05	3.46	
Certain Diseases of Early Infancy— Birth Injuries (760, 761)—									
(a) Without mention of Imma- turity	1.47	0.14	0.02	..	0.02	1.65	1.88	1.40	
(b) With Immatuity	0.90	..	..	..	..	0.90	1.09	0.70
Postnatal Asphyxia and Atelectasis (762)—									
(a) Without mention of Imma- turity	1.28	0.12	..	..	0.02	1.42	1.53	1.32
(b) With Immatuity	1.62	0.17	..	..	..	1.79	2.15	1.40
Infections of the Newborn (763-768)—									
Pneumonia of Newborn—									
(a) Without mention of Immatuity	0.34	0.30	..	..	..	0.64	0.66	0.62
(b) With Immatuity	0.10	0.06	..	..	..	0.16	0.16	0.17
Diarrhoea of Newborn—									
(a) Without mention of Immatuity .. .. .	..	0.06	..	..	..	0.06	0.08	0.04
(b) With Immatuity .. .. .	..	0.04	..	..	..	0.04	0.04	0.04
Ophthalmia Neonatorum—									
(a) Without mention of Immatuity .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) With Immatuity .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pemphigus Neonatorum—									
(a) Without mention of Immatuity .. .. .	..	0.02	..	..	..	0.02	..	0.04
(b) With Immatuity .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Umbilical Sepsis—									
(a) Without mention of Immatuity	0.02	0.02	..	..	..	0.04	0.04	0.04
(b) With Immatuity .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Sepsis of Newborn—									
(a) Without mention of Immatuity .. .. .	..	0.02	..	..	..	0.02	0.04	..
(b) With Immatuity .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Diseases peculiar to Early Infancy (769-775)—									
(a) Without mention of Imma- turity	0.90	0.12	0.02	0.02	0.06	1.12	1.13	1.11	
(b) With Immatuity	0.81	0.08	0.06	..	..	0.95	1.18	0.70
Immatuity unqualified (776)	3.57	0.14	0.02	..	..	3.73	4.34	3.09
All Other Diseases	0.18	0.14	0.32	0.57	0.44	1.65	1.64	1.65	
Accidents, Poisonings, and Violence	0.06	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.16	0.32	0.20	0.45	
Total, All Causes	12.60	2.11	1.58	1.75	2.05	20.09	21.91	18.17	

In 1950, 377 deaths were connected with immaturity, either directly or in association with other causes, and all except four of these deaths were of children under one month of age. The deaths connected with immaturity represented 38 per cent. of the total infant deaths. Congenital malformations were responsible for 162, or 16 per cent. of the infant deaths. It will thus be seen that 54 per cent. of the total infant mortality in 1950 was related to immaturity and congenital malformations.

The following table shows the number of deaths from the principal causes, and the death rate of infants under one month, for Greater Melbourne and Victoria for the year 1950:—

VICTORIA—DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE MONTH,
1950—GREATER MELBOURNE AND VICTORIA.

Cause of Death (Detailed List Numbers in Parentheses).	Greater Melbourne.	Victoria.
Infective and Parasitic Diseases (1-138)	3	4
Pneumonia and Bronchitis (490-493, 500-502)	1	1
Congenital Malformations (750-759)	47	94
Certain Diseases of Early Infancy—		
Birth Injuries (760, 761)—		
(a) Without mention of Immaturity	39	80
(b) With Immaturity	28	45
Postnatal Asphyxia and Atelectasis (762)—		
(a) Without mention of Immaturity	26	70
(b) With Immaturity	71	89
Infections of the Newborn (763-768)—		
Pneumonia of Newborn—		
(a) Without mention of Immaturity	16	32
(b) With Immaturity	7	8
Diarrhoea of Newborn—		
(a) Without mention of Immaturity .. .. .	..	3
(b) With Immaturity	1	2
Other Infections of Newborn—		
(a) Without mention of Immaturity	3	4
(b) With Immaturity .. .. .	..	..
Other Diseases peculiar to Early Infancy (769-775)—		
(a) Without mention of Immaturity	21	51
(b) With Immaturity	20	44
Immaturity unqualified (776)	87	185
All Other Diseases	11	16
Accidents, Poisonings, and Violence	2	5
Total, All Causes	383	733
Deaths per 1,000 Births	14.5	14.7

Nuptial and ex-nuptial infantile death rates.

On the average of the last ten years, 45 in every 1,000 ex-nuptial infants died within a year, as against 28 in every 1,000 nuptial children. The proportion of ex-nuptial children who died before the age of one year is, therefore, 1.6 times that of nuptial children. In the year 1950 the mortality rate of nuptial infants was 19.8 per 1,000 births. Births and deaths of ex-nuptial children numbered 1,617 and 44 respectively, the death rate being thus 27.2 per 1,000 births. The mortality rates of the two classes are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—DEATH RATES OF NUPTIAL AND EX-NUPTIAL INFANTS FROM CERTAIN CAUSES, 1950.

Cause of Death (Detailed List Numbers in Parentheses).	Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.	
	Nuptial.	Ex-nuptial.
Infective and Parasitic Diseases (1-138)	0.54	0.62
Pneumonia and Bronchitis (490-493, 500-502)	1.39	2.47
Gastro-enteritis and Colitis, except Ulcerative, age four weeks and over (571)	0.35	0.62
Congenital Malformations (750-759)	3.24	3.71
Certain Diseases of Early Infancy—		
Birth Injuries (760, 761)—		
(a) Without mention of Immaturity	1.64	1.86
(b) With Immaturity	0.89	1.23
Postnatal Asphyxia and Atelectasis (762)—		
(a) Without mention of Immaturity	1.41	1.86
(b) With Immaturity	1.66	5.56
Infections of the Newborn (763-768)—		
Pneumonia of Newborn—		
(a) Without mention of Immaturity	0.63	1.24
(b) With Immaturity	0.17	..
Diarrhoea of Newborn—		
(a) Without mention of Immaturity	0.04	0.62
(b) With Immaturity	0.04	..
Other Infections of Newborn—		
(a) Without mention of Immaturity	0.08	..
(b) With Immaturity .. ..	..	..
Other Diseases peculiar to Early Infancy (769-775)—		
(a) Without mention of Immaturity	1.16	..
(b) With Immaturity	0.91	1.86
Immaturity Unqualified (776)	3.73	3.71
All Other Diseases	1.66	1.23
Accidents, Poisonings, and Violence	0.31	0.62
Total, All Causes	19.85	27.21

Infantile mortality Australian States and New Zealand.

The following statement shows the infantile death rate per 1,000 births in each of the Australian States and in New Zealand for the years 1946 to 1950:—

INFANTILE DEATH RATE—AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND, 1946 TO 1950.

Year.	Vic- toria.	New South Wales.	Queens- land.	South Aus- tralia.	Western Aus- tralia.	Tas- mania.	Aus- tralia.	New Zealand.*
1946..	27·16	30·22	29·27	27·07	31·06	30·23	29·01	26·10
1947..	26·28	29·81	30·82	24·27	30·92	27·31	28·52	25·04
1948..	23·93	30·30	27·96	29·74	25·60	27·65	27·77	21·95
1949..	21·89	27·29	24·72	27·68	26·42	23·91	25·31	23·78
1950..	20·09	27·04	24·77	24·04	27·13	23·75	24·47	22·75

* Excludes Maoris

In the year 1950 the infantile mortality rates recorded for the Australian States showed that Victoria had the lowest rate and Western Australia the highest.

In Victoria stillbirths are not registered, but, in accordance with the provisions of the Cemeteries Act and of the *Social Services Consolidation Act 1947*, cases (Commonwealth) are notified to registrars.

The following table contains information relating to stillbirths and infantile mortality in Victoria :—

VICTORIA—STILLBIRTHS (RECORDED) AND INFANT MORTALITY, 1941 TO 1950.

Year.	Percentage of Stillbirths to—		Deaths of Infants under One Year per 1,000 Births.			
	Living Births.	All Births.	Exclusive of Stillbirths.			*Inclusive of Stillbirths.
			Under One Month.	One Month and under Twelve Months.	Total under One Year.	
1941 ..	2·8	2·7	26·0	10·2	36·2	62·1
1942 ..	2·6	2·5	27·7	13·9	41·6	66·3
1943 ..	2·6	2·5	23·9	11·9	35·8	60·4
1944 ..	2·3	2·3	23·1	8·9	32·0	54·2
1945 ..	2·4	2·3	21·1	6·9	28·0	50·6
1946 ..	2·2	2·1	20·2	7·0	27·2	48·0
1947 ..	2·0	2·0	19·6	6·7	26·3	45·4
1948 ..	2·0	1·9	17·1	6·8	23·9	42·7
1949 ..	1·9	1·9	16·3	5·6	21·9	40·5
1950 ..	2·0	1·9	14·7	5·4	20·1	38·7

* In the computation of the rates for the numbers inclusive of stillbirths, the latter are taken into account in both births and deaths.

In 1950 the deaths of male and of female children in Victoria under 5 years of age numbered 737 and 564 respectively.

The ages of males and of females who died in each of the years 1948 to 1950 are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—AGES AT DEATH, 1948 TO 1950.

Ages.	1948.			1949.			1950.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 1 year ..	641	462	1,103	591	435	1,026	560	441	1,001
1 year ..	53	52	105	51	46	97	67	62	129
2 years ..	45	25	70	39	22	61	51	27	78
3 ..	20	16	36	33	16	49	30	23	53
4 ..	21	11	32	18	15	33	29	11	40
5 to 9 years	66	46	112	68	49	117	76	45	121
10 .. 14 ..	55	33	88	42	30	72	54	35	89
15 .. 19 ..	88	28	116	89	43	132	87	45	132
20 .. 24 ..	140	74	214	145	76	221	168	80	248
25 .. 29 ..	122	92	214	156	78	234	152	94	246
30 .. 34 ..	151	124	275	133	102	235	138	96	234
35 .. 39 ..	191	149	340	225	157	382	189	144	333
40 .. 44 ..	264	201	465	282	204	486	281	220	501
45 .. 49 ..	424	299	723	469	325	794	401	285	686
50 .. 54 ..	621	539	1,160	619	460	1,079	642	449	1,091
55 .. 59 ..	940	630	1,570	968	646	1,614	938	641	1,579
60 .. 64 ..	1,178	803	1,981	1,224	822	2,046	1,277	886	2,163
65 .. 69 ..	1,376	989	2,365	1,431	1,040	2,471	1,396	1,097	2,493
70 .. 74 ..	1,453	1,284	2,737	1,465	1,321	2,786	1,478	1,303	2,781
75 .. 79 ..	1,514	1,640	3,154	1,494	1,488	2,982	1,444	1,581	3,025
80 .. 84 ..	1,247	1,509	2,756	1,242	1,469	2,711	1,307	1,485	2,792
85 .. 89 ..	678	946	1,624	792	947	1,739	795	1,087	1,882
90 .. 94 ..	182	326	508	186	333	519	176	356	532
95 years ..	10	11	21	15	27	42	18	20	38
96 ..	7	12	19	7	9	16	12	14	26
97 ..	4	9	13	4	13	17	3	7	10
98 ..	7	5	12	7	7	14	4	15	19
99 ..	2	4	6	4	7	11	2	2	4
100 ..	2	..	2	1	..	1	..	3	3
101 ..	..	..	..	1	1	2	1	1	2
102 ..	..	1	1	1	..	1	1	2	3
103 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2
104 ..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
107 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
Unknown ..	1	..	1	1	..	1	2	..	2
Total ..	11,503	10,322	21,825	11,803	10,188	21,991	11,781	10,560	22,341

Of the 66,157 persons who died in Victoria during the last three years 15,353 (or approximately 23 per cent.) were aged 80 years and upwards, and 22—nine males and thirteen females—were stated as having attained or passed the age of 100 years. In 1900 deaths of persons aged 80 years and over represented about 7 per cent. of the total deaths in that year.

The changes that have occurred in the age distribution of the population over the last 50 years are reflected in the above figures.

Causes of death. The Sixth (1948) Revision of the International List of Causes of Death was adopted for use in 1950.

The Revision introduced international rules for a uniform method of selecting the main cause of death to be tabulated if more than one cause is stated on the death certificate.

The comparability of the 1950 statistics with those for previous years will be affected by the adoption of the new method.

The causes of death in Victoria and in Greater Melbourne for 1950 according to the abbreviated List of the Sixth (1948) Revision of the International List of Causes of Death and the rate per million of population are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—CAUSES OF DEATH, NUMBERS AND RATES.

Cause of Death. (Abbreviated International List, 1948 Revision.) (Detailed List Numbers in Parentheses.)	Deaths—1950.			
	Victoria.		Greater Melbourne.	
	Number.	Rate per 1,000,000 of Mean Population.	Number.	Rate per 1,000,000 of Mean Population.
1. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System (1-8) ..	392	177.88	260	198.72
2. Tuberculosis, other forms (10-19) ..	40	18.15	20	15.29
3. Syphilis and its sequelae (20-29) ..	75	34.03	54	41.27
4. Typhoid Fever (40) ..	..	..	..	..
5. Cholera (43) ..	..	..	..	..
6. Dysentery, all forms (45-48) ..	9	4.08	6	4.59
7. Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat (50, 51) ..	5	2.27	3	2.29
8. Diphtheria (55) ..	12	5.45	6	4.59
9. Whooping cough (56) ..	1	0.45	..	..
10. Meningococcal infections (57) ..	30	13.61	24	18.34
11. Plague (58) ..	..	..	..	..
12. Acute poliomyelitis (80) ..	21	9.53	7	5.35
13. Smallpox (84) ..	..	..	..	..
14. Measles (85) ..	8	3.63	2	1.53
15. Typhus and other rickettsial diseases (100-108) ..	..	..	..	..
16. Malaria (110-117) ..	1	0.45	..	..
17. All other diseases classed as infective and parasitic ..	76	34.49	35	26.75
18. Malignant neoplasms, including neoplasms of lymphatic and haematopoietic tissues (140-205) ..	3,209	1,456.13	2,043	1,561.45
19. Benign and unspecified neoplasms (210-239) ..	55	24.96	33	25.22
20. Diabetes mellitus (260) ..	368	166.99	229	175.02
21. Anaemias (290-293) ..	106	48.10	55	42.04
22. Vascular lesions affecting central nervous system (330-334) ..	2,777	1,260.10	1,822	1,392.54
23. Nonmeningococcal meningitis (340) ..	49	22.23	25	19.11
24. Rheumatic fever (400-402) ..	66	29.95	40	30.57
25. Chronic rheumatic heart disease (410-416) ..	185	83.95	110	84.07
26. Arteriosclerotic and degenerative heart disease (420-422) ..	5,912	2,682.66	3,670	2,804.95
27. Other diseases of heart (430-434) ..	450	204.19	225	171.97
28. Hypertension with heart disease (440-443) ..	598	271.35	386	295.02
29. Hypertension without mention of heart (444-447) ..	388	176.06	266	203.30
30. Influenza (480-483) ..	84	38.12	38	29.04

VICTORIA—CAUSES OF DEATH, NUMBERS AND RATES—*continued.*

Cause of Death. (Abbreviated International List, 1948 Revision.) (Detailed List Numbers in Parentheses.)	Deaths—1950.			
	Victoria.		Greater Melbourne.	
	Number.	Rate per 1,000,000 of Mean Popu- lation.	Number.	Rate per 1,000,000 of Mean Popu- lation.
31. Pneumonia (490-493)	845	383.43	511	390.55
32. Bronchitis (500-502)	281	127.51	182	139.10
33. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum (540, 541) ..	144	65.34	88	67.26
34. Appendicitis (550-553)	48	21.78	29	22.16
35. Intestinal obstruction and hernia (560, 561, 570)	159	72.15	84	64.20
36. Gastritis, duodenitis, enteritis and colitis, except diarrhoea of the Newborn (543, 571, 572)	113	51.28	60	45.86
37. Cirrhosis of liver (581)	131	59.44	100	76.43
38. Nephritis and nephrosis (590-594)	542	245.94	323	246.87
39. Hyperplasia of prostate (610)	229	103.91	133	101.65
40. Complications of pregnancy, childbirth, and th: puerperium (640-652, 660, 670-689) ..	43	19.51	16	12.23
41. Congenital malformations (750-759)	229	103.91	117	89.42
42. Birth injuries, postnatal asphyxia and atelec- tasis (760-762)	287	130.23	165	126.11
43. Infections of the Newborn (763-768)	49	22.23	27	20.64
44. Other diseases peculiar to early infancy, and immaturity unqualified (769-776)	289	131.14	131	100.12
45. Senility without mention of psychosis, ill- defined and unknown causes (780-795) ..	588	266.81	285	217.82
46. All other diseases	2,137	969.69	1,393	1,064.66
47. Motor vehicle accidents (E810-E835)	563	255.47	313	239.22
48. All other accidents (E800-E802, E840-E962)	538	244.13	266	203.30
49. Suicide and self-inflicted injury (E963, E970- E979)	186	84.40	108	82.54
50. Homicide and operations of war (E964, E965, E980-E999)	23	10.44	17	12.99
Total	22,341	10,137.55	13,707	10,476.15

Tuberculosis (all forms). The number of deaths ascribed to tuberculosis during 1950 was 432, the rate per million of population being 196. This is the lowest rate recorded for Victoria. The sharp fall in the rate for 1950 is due partly to the change in the method of selecting the underlying cause of death.

Death rates from tuberculosis of the respiratory system. The deaths from tuberculosis of the respiratory system in 1950 numbered 392—282 being of males and 110 of females—and equalled a rate of 178 per million of the population. Rates for previous periods were 294 in 1945-49, 660 in 1918-22, 855 in 1908-12, and 1,365 in 1890-92. In 1950 tuberculosis of the respiratory system was responsible for 91 per cent. of the total deaths from tuberculosis.

The rates of mortality for Victoria at the last seven census periods per 10,000 of each sex, in age groups, are shown in the following table :—

VICTORIA—DEATH RATES FROM TUBERCULOSIS OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM IN AGE GROUPS.

Age Group.	Annual Mortality from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System per 10,000 of each Sex.						
	1880-82.	1890-92.	1900-02.	1910-12.	1920-22.	1932-34.	1946-48.
<i>Males.</i>							
Under 15 ..	1.74	0.90	0.38	0.46	0.42	0.24	0.13
15 to 19 ..	6.88	5.41	5.06	3.71	2.67	1.07	0.35
20 to 24 ..	21.19	18.29	14.35	8.45	7.88	3.59	1.66
25 to 34 ..	30.33	23.70	20.31	13.11	9.70	5.44	2.20
35 to 44 ..	25.11	28.28	22.07	15.63	12.43	7.46	3.66
45 to 54 ..	28.65	31.17	25.05	18.07	13.94	9.05	7.13
55 to 64 ..	31.41	36.48	35.75	18.88	13.03	10.56	9.83
65 and upwards	18.08	25.40	31.07	13.55	8.65	7.80	11.89
All Ages ..	15.33	15.73	13.51	8.98	7.11	4.74	3.82
<i>Females.</i>							
Under 15 ..	1.76	1.43	0.93	0.97	0.38	0.23	0.15
15 to 19 ..	12.50	9.51	8.18	7.62	4.84	2.92	1.02
20 to 24 ..	21.00	18.49	12.79	12.68	10.20	6.60	2.79
25 to 34 ..	26.56	21.77	18.15	14.03	10.00	7.08	3.62
35 to 44 ..	24.06	22.53	17.74	11.51	9.15	5.26	3.02
45 to 54 ..	20.72	16.13	14.41	8.18	5.91	3.82	2.78
55 to 64 ..	14.26	12.35	12.52	7.47	4.95	3.78	2.19
65 and upwards	13.12	8.25	8.18	5.29	3.94	2.88	3.04
All Ages ..	12.75	11.51	9.72	7.61	5.55	3.70	2.18

A comparison of the mortality from tuberculosis of the respiratory system for the census periods 1932-34 and 1946-48 shows that, except in the age group 65 and upwards, lower death rates obtained in each age group in 1946-48 than in 1932-34.

Deaths from tuberculosis of the respiratory system at various ages. The number of deaths from tuberculosis of the respiratory system in 1950, classified according to sex and age-groups, is given in the following table:—

VICTORIA—DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM AT VARIOUS AGES, 1950.

Age Group.	Males.	Females.
0-9	2	3
10-14 .. .. .	..	..
15-19 .. .. .	..	3
20-24	3	10
25-29	5	12
30-34	12	18
35-39	14	15
40-44	22	9
45-49	21	7
50-54	34	7
55-59	42	8
60-64	39	5
65-69	40	2
70 and over	48	11
Total	282	110

For the year 1950, the average age of those who died from tuberculosis of the respiratory system was 56.9 years for males and 41.6 years for females.

Tubercular diseases (tuberculosis of the respiratory system excepted.) In 1950 there occurred in Victoria 40 deaths from tubercular diseases (excluding tuberculosis of the respiratory system). This number represented a rate of 18 per million of the population. Rates for previous periods were 30 in 1945-49, 134 in 1918-22, 182 in 1908-12, and 379 in 1890-92.

Tubercular death rates in Melbourne, Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong and remainder of State.

The following table shows the death rates from tubercular diseases in Melbourne, Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong and the remainder of the State.

VICTORIA—DEATH RATES FROM TUBERCULAR DISEASES IN MELBOURNE, BALLARAT, BENDIGO, GEELONG, AND THE REMAINDER OF THE STATE, 1950.

Year.	Deaths per 10,000 of the Population.														
	Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System.					Other Tubercular Diseases.					All Tubercular Diseases.				
	Greater Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Remainder of the State.	Greater Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Remainder of the State.	Greater Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Remainder of the State.
1950 ..	2.0	2.4	4.7	1.3	1.3	0.1	0.2	..	0.6	0.2	2.1	2.6	4.7	1.9	1.5

Typhoid Fever. There were no deaths from typhoid fever in the years 1949 and 1950. Rates per million of population were 2.4 in 1948, 1.5 in 1947, 1.0 in 1946, 3.0 in 1945, 31 in 1920-24, 108 in 1905-09, and 301 in 1895-99. Cases of typhoid fever reported in 1950 numbered 18 or 8 per million of population, as against 7 per million in 1949, 15 in 1948, 10 in 1947, 11 in 1946, 11 in 1945, 8 in 1944, 238 in 1943, 8 in 1942, 259 in 1920-24, 1,254 in 1905-09, and 2,884 in 1895-99.

The Moorabbin outbreak accounted for 433 of the typhoid fever cases in 1943, and was responsible for 23 deaths.

Scarlet Fever and Streptococcal Sore Throat. There were five deaths from these diseases in 1950 (one from scarlet fever—four from streptococcal sore throat), representing a rate of 2 per million of population.

In Victoria, in the last ten years, scarlet fever reached its highest incidence in 1944, when 7,824 cases were reported. Since that year it has declined considerably, and in 1950 a new low level of incidence was reported. Both the case fatality, and the mortality per million of population are very low.

Diphtheria. A very great reduction has taken place since 1890 in the proportion of diphtheria cases which ended fatally. On the average of the five years 1946 to 1950, 45 per cent. of those who died were under 5 years, and 74 per cent. were under 10 years of age.

The appended table shows for Victoria and Greater Melbourne the reported cases of and deaths from diphtheria, their proportions to the population, and the ratios of deaths to cases for certain periods since 1894 :—

DIPHThERIA IN VICTORIA AND IN GREATER MELBOURNE,
1895 TO 1950.

Period.	Annual Cases Reported.		Annual Deaths.		Deaths per 100 Cases Reported.	
	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.		
VICTORIA.						
1895-99	1,584	134·6	221	18·8	13·9	
1900-04	1,680	139·0	159	13·2	9·5	
1905-09	1,410	112·6	89	7·1	6·3	
1910-14	4,612	339·1	212	15·6	4·6	
1915-19	4,901	342·5	209	14·6	4·3	
1920-24	5,739	364·6	179	11·4	3·1	
1925-29	3,176	183·8	93	5·4	2·9	
1930-34	5,645	312·1	124	6·8	2·2	
1935-39	3,202	171·5	65	3·5	2·0	
1940-44	1,590	81·4	45	2·3	2·8	
1945	899	44·7	39	1·9	4·3	
1946	496	24·5	17	0·8	3·4	
1947	405	19·7	13	0·6	3·2	
1948	397	19·0	10	0·5	2·5	
1949	401	18·7	17	0·8	4·2	
1950	326	14·8	12	0·5	3·7	
GREATER MELBOURNE.						
1895-99	748	162·1	113	24·6	15·1	
1900-04	686	136·9	58	11·6	8·5	
1905-09	758	140·8	46	8·5	6·1	
1910-14	2,343	374·3	114	18·3	4·9	
1915-19	2,864	402·6	127	17·9	4·4	
1920-24	2,555	314·6	78	9·7	3·1	
1925-29	1,843	191·1	52	5·4	2·8	
1930-34	3,151	315·9	68	6·8	2·1	
1935-39	1,864	182·4	36	3·5	1·9	
1940-44	914	80·9	25	2·2	2·8	
1945	610	51·2	28	2·4	4·6	
1946	276	23·3	11	0·9	4·0	
1947	277	22·6	10	0·8	3·6	
1948	280	22·5	9	0·7	3·2	
1949	291	22·8	11	0·9	3·8	
1950	171	13·1	6	0·5	3·5	

The incidence rate of 14·8 per 100,000 of population is the lowest on record in Victoria.

The cases of diphtheria which occurred in the metropolitan area, the three principal cities outside Greater Melbourne and in the remainder of the State in each of the five years 1946 to 1950, and their proportions to the respective populations for the period 1910-19 and the years 1948, 1949, and 1950 are given in the subjoined table :—

VICTORIA—CASES OF DIPHTHERIA.

Locality.	Reported Cases of Diphtheria.					Annual Cases per 10,000 of Population.			
	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.	1910-19.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Greater Melbourne	276	277	280	291	171	39·3	2·2	2·3	1·3
Ballarat ..	5	2	3	2	3	24·3	0·7	0·5	0·7
Bendigo ..	21	7	9	9	9	84·6	2·9	2·9	2·8
Geelong ..	..	1	2	1	..	43·4	0·4	0·2	..
Remainder of State	194	118	103	98	143	25·7	1·4	1·3	1·8

Whooping Cough. Whooping Cough was responsible for one death in 1950, which equalled a rate of 0·5 per million of population.

Rates for previous years were 4 in 1949, 10 in 1948, 3 in 1947, and 5 in 1946. The infantile death rate is more affected than the general rate by this ailment as it is practically confined to children.

Meningococcal Infections. In 1950 deaths from meningococcal infections numbered 30, the rate per million of population being 14.

Acute Poliomyelitis. The incidence of poliomyelitis in Victoria has been recorded since the year 1916, when the disease was added to the list of compulsorily notifiable diseases. The highest incidence (until the 1937-38 epidemic) was 303 cases in 1918. Seven years later, in 1925, 140 cases were reported. In the 1937-38 epidemic there were 2,096 cases, the number of deaths being 113. In the period 1940-48 the cases reported were 20 in 1940, 51 in 1941, 23 in 1942, 9 in 1943, 9 in 1944, 238 in 1945, 247 in 1946, 124 in 1947, and 55 in 1948. An epidemic of poliomyelitis occurred in the year 1949. Seven hundred and sixty cases were reported during the year, the incidence

rate being 35.5 per 100,000 of population. The number of cases of poliomyelitis reported in 1950 was 202, an incidence of 9.2 per 100,000 of population.

There were 21 deaths from poliomyelitis in 1950, which represented a rate of 9.5 per million of population.

Poliomyelitis was responsible for 48 deaths in 1949, 5 in 1948, 9 in 1947, 16 in 1946, 9 in 1945, 11 in 1944, 9 in 1943, 11 in 1942 and 2 in 1941.

**Small-pox—
Deaths from.** During the years 1853 to 1950, only 31 deaths occurred from this cause. The last death from small-pox in Victoria occurred in 1921.

Measles. Although the mortality from measles has varied very considerably from period to period, there has been no very severe epidemic since 1898, when 671 deaths resulted from the disease. There were 8 deaths from measles in 1950 which equalled a rate of 3.6 per million of population. Rates per million of population were 6 in 1949, 4 in 1948, 7 in 1947, and 6 in 1946. The disease chiefly affects children. For the five years 1946–50, 42 per cent. of those who died from the disease were under 2 years and 67 per cent. were under 5 years of age.

**Malignant
Neoplasms,
including
neoplasms of
lymphatic and
haematopoietic
tissues—
Death rates.** Deaths classified under this heading in 1950 include deaths from Hodgkin's disease and Leukaemia and Aleukæmia, which were not formerly included with neoplasms. Deaths from malignant neoplasms in 1950 numbered 3,209, and represented a death rate of 1,456 per million of the whole population. Rates for previous periods were 1,455 in 1949, 1,385 in 1948, 1,416 in 1947, 1,400 in 1946, 1,367 in 1945, 1,331 in 1944, 934 in 1918–22, 833 in 1908–12, and 584 in 1890–92.

**Malignant
Neoplasms—
Death rates
at different
ages.** Death rates relating to malignant neoplasms, computed in relation to the general population in earlier and in later periods, are not comparable owing to the changed age distribution of the people. Satisfactory comparisons are obtained by relating the deaths with the number of persons in the community of the same sex, in age groups. This has been done for five census periods, when the numbers of the people in age groups were accurately known, and the results are given in the appended table:—

VICTORIA—DEATH RATES FROM MALIGNANT
NEOPLASMS IN AGE GROUPS.

Age Group.	Average Annual Deaths from Cancer per 10,000 of each Sex.				
	1900-02.	1910-12.	1920-22.	1932-34.	1946-48.
<i>Males.</i>					
Under 5	0·30	0·73	0·46	0·27	0·60
5 to 9	0·42	0·25	0·13	0·20	0·34
10 to 14	0·20	0·16	0·14	0·24	0·24
15 to 19	0·22	0·15	0·30	0·37	0·61
20 to 24	0·33	0·71	0·64	0·73	0·69
25 to 34	1·26	0·96	0·76	0·93	1·20
35 to 44	3·69	3·16	3·31	3·04	3·00
45 to 54	14·14	16·03	13·94	10·13	11·65
55 to 64	36·00	36·36	40·46	37·25	32·73
65 to 74	59·04	74·15	78·21	85·19	80·46
75 and over ..	74·04	88·40	110·12	133·78	148·20
All Ages	7·52	8·50	9·52	11·63	13·51
<i>Females.</i>					
Under 5	0·26	0·19	0·33	0·38	0·48
5 to 9	0·04	0·10	0·17	0·17	0·18
10 to 14 .. ..	..	0·27	0·05	0·08	0·40
15 to 19	0·28	0·44	0·15	0·17	0·04
20 to 24	0·23	0·41	0·30	0·39	0·60
25 to 34	1·61	1·39	1·28	1·57	1·75
35 to 44	6·05	7·26	6·61	6·00	6·23
45 to 54	18·13	17·87	19·14	17·31	16·47
55 to 64	33·05	38·03	34·48	35·82	33·40
65 to 74	51·18	61·66	63·05	61·17	61·44
75 and over ..	62·70	86·19	92·86	106·19	111·49
All Ages	6·64	8·76	9·63	12·00	14·50

Deaths from malignant neoplasms occur at all age periods, but the rates in the foregoing table show that it is essentially a disease of later life, increasing rapidly in the groups past middle age and reaching a maximum mortality rate in the oldest age group.

**Malignant
Neoplasms,
including
neoplasms of
lymphatic and
haematopoietic
tissues—
Deaths at
certain ages.**

The number of deaths from malignant neoplasms in 1950, classified according to sex and age groups, is given in the following table:—

**VICTORIA—DEATHS FROM MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS
AT CERTAIN AGES, 1950.**

Age Group.	Males.	Females.
0-4	14	5
5-9	11	3
10-14	6	6
15-19	6	7
20-24	11	10
25-29	14	11
30-34	16	15
35-39	21	34
40-44	32	79
45-49	60	76
50-54	100	122
55-59	163	177
60-64	214	208
65-69	235	225
70-74	238	215
75-79	208	199
80-84	149	158
85 and over	65	96
Total	1,563	1,646

Ninety-one per cent. of the deaths from malignant neoplasms in 1950 were at ages 45 years and upwards.

The widely different social and economic effects produced by the prevalence of and deaths from the two important diseases, malignant neoplasms and tuberculosis of the respiratory system, are evidenced by the ages of their victims. For the year 1950 the average age of those who died from the former was 65·1 years for males and 64·9 years for females, while the corresponding averages for the latter were 56·9 years for males and 41·6 years for females.

Malignant Neoplasms, including neoplasms of lymphatic and haematopoietic tissues.

The following table shows the site of the disease in persons who died from malignant neoplasms in 1950 :—

VICTORIA—MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS, 1950.

Site of Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Buccal Cavity and Pharynx	73	22	95
Oesophagus	51	25	76
Stomach	336	227	563
Intestine, except Rectum	152	253	405
Rectum	91	77	168
Larynx	23	1	24
Trachea, and Bronchus and Lung not specified as secondary	180	48	228
Breast	3	303	306
Cervix Uteri .. .. .	..	66	66
Other and Unspecified Parts of Uterus .. .. .	..	101	101
Prostate	167	..	167
Skin	50	33	83
Bone and Connective Tissue	14	13	27
All Other and Unspecified Sites	300	384	684
Leukaemia and Aleukaemia	68	60	128
Lymphosarcoma and Other Neoplasms of Lymphatic and Haematopoietic System	55	33	88
Total	1,563	1,646	3,209

Diabetes Mellitus.

During 1950 diabetes was responsible for 128 male and 240 female deaths, representing a rate of 167 per million of the population. Rates for previous periods were 213 in 1945-49, 130 in 1918-22, and 107 in 1908-12.

The sudden fall in the rate for 1950 is due to the change in the method of selecting the underlying cause of death.

Vascular Lesions affecting Central Nervous System.

In 1950, 1,028 male and 1,749 female deaths were ascribed to these causes, the total—2,777—corresponding to a rate of 1,260 per million of the population. Of the 2,777 deaths in 1950, 67 were due to subarachnoid haemorrhage, 1,540 to cerebral haemorrhage, 973 to cerebral embolism and thrombosis, and 197 to other vascular lesions.

Nonmeningococcal Meningitis.

In 1950 deaths from nonmeningococcal meningitis numbered 49, the rate per million of population being 22.

Diseases of the Heart. During 1950 there were 7,145 deaths ascribed to diseases of the heart including 185 due to chronic rheumatic heart disease, 5,912 to arteriosclerotic and degenerative heart disease, 450 to other diseases of the heart, and 598 to hypertension with heart disease. The total causes in 1950 represented a rate of 3,242 per million of the population.

Diseases of the Respiratory System. In 1950 the deaths from respiratory diseases numbered 1,456 which represented a rate of 661 per million of the population. Of the deaths in the year under review, 84 were due to influenza, 155 to lobar pneumonia, 506 to broncho-pneumonia, 184 to pneumonia, other and unspecified, 281 to bronchitis, 16 to empyema and abscess of lung, 7 to pleurisy, 71 to pulmonary congestion and hypostasis, 47 to bronchiectasis, and 105 to other diseases.

The 84 deaths from influenza in 1950 corresponded to a rate of 38 per million of the population as compared with rates of 10 in 1949, 31 in 1948, 18 in 1947, 26 in 1946, 18 in 1945, 2,407 in 1919, 71 in 1913-17, 109 in 1908-12, and 381 in 1890-92.

The rate of mortality in 1950 was 81 per cent. above the rate of the previous quinquennium.

Influenza has generally proved more fatal to elderly people than to those at middle or young ages. In the epidemic of 1919, however, 72 per cent. of the deaths were of persons between 20 and 50 years of age. In 1950, 11 per cent. of the deaths were of persons under 50 years of age.

In 1950 the greatest mortality from the respiratory diseases occurred during the months of August and September.

Diseases of the digestive system. In 1950 there were 454 male and 376 female deaths from digestive ailments, representing a proportion of 377 per million of the population, as against rates of 398 in 1949, 425 in 1948, 382 in 1947, 442 in 1946, 399 in 1945, 807 in 1922-26, and 2,382 in 1890-92. Deaths from these causes in 1950 were:—144 from ulcers of the stomach and duodenum, 7 from gastritis and duodenitis, 48 from appendicitis, 159 from intestinal obstruction and hernia, 106 from gastro-enteritis and colitis, except diarrhoea of the newborn, 131 from cirrhosis of the liver, 108 from cholelithiasis and cholecystitis, and 127 from other diseases.

In 1950 there were 923 deaths attributed to diseases of the genito-urinary system. This number represented a rate of 419 per million of the population. In 1950 nephritis and nephrosis was responsible for 542 deaths, infections of the kidney for 54, calculi of urinary system for 18, hyperplasia of prostate for 229, and other diseases of genito-urinary system for 80.

The death rate of women in childbirth is usually ascertained by comparing the number of deaths of parturient women with the total number of live births. In the following table are given the number of maternal deaths and the proportion per 10,000 live births for the year 1950, and the averages of previous periods back to 1871.

VICTORIA—DEATHS FROM DELIVERIES AND COMPLICATIONS OF PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH, AND THE PUERPERIUM, 1871 TO 1950.

Period.	Average Annual Number of Deaths from—							Total.	Rate per 10,000 Live Births from—							Total.	
	Sepsis of Pregnancy, Childbirth and the Puerperium (640, 641, 681, 682, 684).	Toxaemias of Pregnancy and the Puerperium (642, 652, 685, 686).	Haemorrhage of Pregnancy and Childbirth (643, 644, 670-672).	Abortion without mention of Sepsis or Toxaemia (650).	Abortion with Sepsis (651).	Other Complications of Pregnancy, Childbirth and the Puerperium (645-649, 673-680, 683, 687-689).			Sepsis of Pregnancy, Childbirth and the Puerperium (640, 641, 681, 682, 684).	Toxaemias of Pregnancy and the Puerperium (642, 652, 685, 686).	Haemorrhage of Pregnancy and Childbirth (643, 644, 670-672).	Abortion without mention of Sepsis or Toxaemia (650).	Abortion with Sepsis (651).	Other Complications of Pregnancy, Childbirth and the Puerperium (645-649, 673-680, 683, 687-689).			
1871-1880						173	173									64.38	64.38
1881-1890						185	185									59.19	59.19
1891-1900						183	183									56.01	56.01
1901-1910						166	166									54.05	54.05
1911-1920						147	147									42.77	42.77
1921-1925						145	145									40.33	40.33
1926-1929						198	198									57.02	57.02
1930-1934						160	160									54.37	54.37
1935-1939						139	139									47.17	47.17
1940-1944						120	120									33.14	33.14
1945-1949						69	69									15.12	15.12
1950	4	15	3	3	8	10	43	0.80	3.01	0.60	0.60	1.61	2.01				8.63

The following table gives information, in age groups, relating to the causes of death of women in childbirth in Victoria for the year 1950 :—

VICTORIA—DEATHS FROM DELIVERIES AND COMPLICATIONS OF PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH AND THE PUERPERIUM, 1950.

Detailed List. No.	Cause of Death.	Ages at Death.						Total.	Number of Married Mothers.	Number of Un-Married Mothers.
		Under 20.	20 to 24.	25 to 29.	30 to 34.	35 to 39.	40 and Over.			
640-649	Complications of Pregnancy—									
640, 641	Infections of genito-urinary tract during pregnancy .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
642	Toxaemias of pregnancy	1	1	4	..	3	1	10	9	
643, 644	Haemorrhage of pregnancy .. ..	..	1	..	..	1	..	2	..
645	Ectopic pregnancy .. ..	..	1	1	1	..	..	3	3
646-649	All other complications of pregnancy .. ..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	1
650-652	Abortion—									
650	Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxaemia—									
	0—Spontaneous or unspecified .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1—Induced for medical or legal indications .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2—Induced for other reasons .. ..	..	..	..	3	..	..	3	2
	3—Other .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
651	Abortion with sepsis—									
	0—Spontaneous or unspecified .. ..	..	2	..	1	..	..	3	3
	1—Induced for medical or legal indications .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2—Induced for other reasons .. ..	..	..	2	2	1	..	5	4
	3—Other .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
652	Abortion with toxaemia but without mention of sepsis—									
	0—Spontaneous or unspecified .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1—Induced for medical or legal indications .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2—Induced for other reasons .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3—Other .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
660	Delivery without complication .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
670-678	Delivery with specified complication—									
670	Delivery complicated by placenta praevia or antepartum haemorrhage .. ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1
671	Delivery complicated by retained placenta .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
672	Delivery complicated by other postpartum haemorrhage .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
674	Delivery complicated by disproportion or malposition of foetus .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
673, 675-678	Delivery with all other complications of childbirth .. ..	..	1	1	..	..	2	4	4

VICTORIA—DEATHS FROM DELIVERIES AND COMPLICATIONS OF PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH AND THE PUERPERIUM, 1950.—*continued.*

Detailed List. No.	Cause of Death.	Ages at Death.						Total.	Number of Married Mothers.	Number of Un-Married Mothers.
		Under 20.	20 to 24.	25 to 29.	30 to 34.	35 to 39.	40 and Over.			
680-689	Complications of the Puerperium—									
680	Puerperal urinary infection without other sepsis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
681	Sepsis of childbirth and the puerperium .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
682	Puerperal phlebitis and thrombosis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
683	Pyrexia of unknown origin during the puerperium .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
684	Puerperal pulmonary embolism	1	..	2	1	..	..	4	4
685	Puerperal eclampsia .. ..	..	..	3	..	..	1	4	4
686	Other forms of puerperal toxæmia .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1
687	Cerebral hæmorrhage in the puerperium .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1
688	Other and unspecified complications of the puerperium .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
689	Mastitis and other disorders of lactation .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total	2	6	15	9	6	5	48	39	4
	Number of married mothers	2	5	13	8	6	5	39
	Number of unmarried mothers	1	2	1	4

Of the 90 children born to the 39 married women who died, 86 were living at the time of their mothers' deaths, or an average of 2·2 children per mother.

The death rate of women in childbirth varies considerably at different ages, and is higher at older than at younger ages. The number of deaths of women in childbirth and the death rates in various age groups in Victoria for the period 1926-30 and the years 1948, 1949, and 1950, are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—MATERNAL DEATHS, 1926 TO 1950.

Age Group.	Mothers.							
	Deaths.				Deaths per 10,000 children born alive.			
	1926-30.	1948.	1949.	1950.	1926-30.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Under 20 years ..	41	1	3	2	47.1	5.1	14.4	9.2
20 to 24 years ..	150	12	6	6	39.1	9.6	4.7	4.4
25 to 29 „ ..	231	9	12	15	46.5	6.2	7.9	8.9
30 to 34 „ ..	226	15	9	9	56.8	14.8	9.	9.0
35 to 39 „ ..	226	12	6	6	88.1	22.4	11.1	10.8
40 years and over	111	14	5	5	117.8	87.8	31.1	30.4
Total ..	985	63	41	43	57.4	13.7	8.7	8.6

The experience of the years 1926-30 showed that, for the age period 35 years and upwards, the deaths of mothers in childbirth were 96 per 10,000 live births, as compared with 47 per 10,000 for those under that age. Corresponding figures for 1950 were 15 per 10,000 live births and 8 per 10,000 live births respectively.

The number of motor vehicles (including motor cycles) registered in Victoria and the deaths in which they were involved, for the years 1941 to 1950, were as follows:—

VICTORIA—DEATHS INVOLVING MOTOR VEHICLES,
1941 TO 1950.

Year.	Number of Motor Vehicles (30th June).	Deaths Involving Motor Vehicles.		
		Number.	Per 10,000 Motor Vehicles.	Per 1,000,000 of Population.
1941	256,502	396	15.4	204
1942	224,293	350	15.6	178
1943	232,940	201	8.6	102
1944	243,450	216	8.9	108
1945	255,147	190	7.4	95
1946	272,050	347	12.8	171
1947	294,927	412	14.0	201
1948	321,443	392	12.2	188
1949	351,428	461	13.1	216
1950	403,965	563	13.9	255

The mortality per 10,000 vehicles was 13·2 for the period 1946-50, as compared with a rate of 11·2 in 1941-45. The mortality per million of population was 255 in 1950, 216 in 1949, 188 in 1948, 201 in 1947, 171 in 1946, 95 in 1945, 108 in 1944, 102 in 1943, 178 in 1942, and 204 in 1941. The mortality rate (259) in 1939 was the highest on record.

On the average of the five years, 1946 to 1950, motor cars, &c., were involved in 12·9 deaths per 10,000 cars registered, and motor cycles in 32·6 deaths per 10,000 motor cycles registered.

Transport accidents. In 1950 deaths from transport accidents numbered 640, as against 539 in 1949, 454 in 1948, 484 in 1947, 420 in 1946, 273 in 1945, 292 in 1944, 302 in 1943, 439 in 1942, and 510 in 1941.

During the year 1950 deaths connected with transport represented 58 per cent. of the total deaths from accidents.

In the following table details are given of deaths due to collisions between various types of transport, and to other fatal accidents in which transport was concerned, for the year 1950 :—

VICTORIA—DEATHS FROM TRANSPORT ACCIDENTS, 1950.

	Collisions.										Total.	Other Accidents.	Total.	Males.	Females.	
	Railway Vehicle.	Tramcar.	Motor Car.	Motor Omnibus.	Motor Lorry, &c.	Motor Cycle.	Horse-drawn Vehicle, &c.	Bicycle.	Animal.	Fixed Object.						Other Object.
Railway vehicle	1	..	11	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	1	17	31	48*	40	8
Tramcar	8	..	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	7	15	22	16	6
Motor car	19	..	35	35	1	28	..	26	..	144	138	282	231	51
Motor omnibus	1	3	3	..	1	..	1	..	9	14	23	19	4
Motor lorry, &c.	16	33	1	17	1	21	..	89	74	163	148	15
Motor cycle..	7	2	5	4	14	..	32	41	73	65	8
Horse-drawn vehicle	3	3	3	..
Bicycle	1	..	..	..	1	8	9	9	..
Aeroplane	3	..	3	3	6	6	..
Water Transport	5	5	5	..
Animal	6	6	3	3
Total ..	1	..	33	1	57	83	4	52	5	65	1	302	338	640	545	95

* Includes rail accidents to seven railway employees.

Accidental deaths. In 1950 there were 1,101 accidental deaths (845 male, 256 female). These represented a rate of 500 per million of population. The rate for the previous five years was 435. The numbers of deaths from various accidental causes are given in the appended table:—

VICTORIA—ACCIDENTAL DEATHS, 1950.

Detailed List No.	Cause of Death.	Males.	Females.	Total.
E800-E802	Railway accidents	28	5	33
E810-E835	Motor vehicle accidents	481	82	563
E840-E845	Other road vehicle accidents	25	8	33
E850-E858	Water transport accidents	5	..	5
E860-E866	Aircraft accidents	6	..	6
E870-E888	Accidental poisoning by solid and liquid substances	11	11	22
E890-E895	Accidental poisoning by gases and vapours	9	4	13
E900-E904	Accidental falls	70	80	150
E912	Accident caused by machinery	18	..	18
E914	Accident caused by electric current	7	2	9
E916	Accident caused by fire and explosion of combustible material	18	8	26
E917, E918	Accident caused by hot substance, corrosive liquid, steam, and radiation	9	9	18
E919	Accident caused by firearm	24	2	26
E924, E925	Accidental mechanical suffocation	2	3	5
E927	Accidents caused by bites and stings of venomous animals and insects	..	..	..
E928	Other accidents caused by animals	4	1	5
E929	Accidental drowning and submersion	92	22	114
E935	Lightning	..	..	..
E910, E,911, E913, E915, E920-E923, E926, E930-E934, E936, E940-E946, E950-E959, E960-E962	All other accidental causes	36	19	55
	Total	845	256	1,101

For the five years 1946-50 the female mortality rate from accidents was 30 per cent. of the rate for males.

Suicide. In the year 1950, 134 males and 52 females took their lives. The deaths represented a rate of 84 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 74 in 1949, 79 in 1948, 79 in 1947, 91 in 1946, 65 in 1945, 87 in 1918-22, 102 in 1908-12, and 109 in 1890-92. Of the 134 male deaths in 1950 from suicide, 38 (28 per cent.) were connected with firearms and explosives. A much lower rate from suicide occurs among females than among males, the rate for the former, for the five-year period 1946-50, being 39 per cent. of that of the latter.

Homicide. The deaths ascribed to homicide in 1950 numbered 21, of which 14 were males and 7 of females. These represented a rate of 9 per million of the population, as against rates of 3 in 1949, 9 in 1948, 5 in 1947, 6 in 1946, 6 in 1945, 14 in 1918-22, and 19 in 1908-12. Since 1930, deaths from criminal abortion have been excluded from this category and included with deaths from maternal causes.

NATURAL INCREASE.

The average annual natural increase, i.e., the excess of births over deaths, per 1,000 of the mean population, in each Australian State, the Commonwealth of Australia, and in New Zealand, for certain periods since 1909, as well as detailed particulars for Victoria since 1879, are shown in the following tables:—

NATURAL INCREASE PER 1,000 OF THE MEAN POPULATION.
AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

Period.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1910-14	13·85	18·38	18·51	17·68	18·61	19·35	17·03	16·80
1915-19	11·75	15·98	17·06	14·84	15·47	17·83	14·99	16·80
1920-24	12·49	15·73	16·13	13·75	13·96	16·66	14·60	14·01
1925-29	10·57	12·99	13·35	11·18	12·71	13·27	12·18	11·65
1930-34	6·77	9·52	10·56	6·89	10·26	11·05	8·78	9·19
1935-39*	5·64	7·91	10·06	6·12	9·85	10·36	7·67	8·37
1946*..	12·42	13·13	15·02	14·72	14·92	17·04	13·62	15·54
1947*..	12·62	13·71	16·51	15·62	16·20	18·53	14·37	17·04
1948 ..	11·62	12·15	15·49	13·86	16·02	16·83	13·12	16·39
1949 ..	11·64	12·67	15·33	14·35	16·36	17·32	13·40	15·89
1950 ..	12·47	12·60	15·80	15·09	16·41	16·92	13·73	15·36

VICTORIA.

Period.	Average Annual Excess of Births over Deaths.	Annual Rates per 1,000 of Mean Population.			Period.	Average Annual Excess of Births over Deaths.	Annual Rates per 1,000 of Mean Population.		
		Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.			Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.
1880-84	14,466	30·64	14·40	16·24	1930-34	12,249	16·27	9·50	6·77
1885-89	16,741	32·27	15·87	16·40	1935-39	10,473	15·87	10·23	5·64*
1890-94	20,059	31·99	14·62	17·37	1940-44	15,250	18·53	10·71	7·82*
1895-99	15,625	26·76	13·81	12·95	1945..	20,704	20·53	10·21	10·32*
1900-04	14,859	25·08	12·84	12·24	1946..	25,159	23·05	10·63	12·42*
1905-09	16,062	24·76	11·93	12·83	1947..	25,924	23·06	10·44	12·62*
1910-14	18,795	25·42	11·57	13·85	1948..	24,274	22·06	10·44	11·62
1915-19	16,818	23·13	11·38	11·75	1949..	24,882	21·92	10·28	11·64
1920-24	19,647	22·89	10·40	12·49	1950..	27,489	22·61	10·14	12·47
1925-29	18,218	20·24	9·67	10·57					

* Excess of births over civilian deaths in the Australian States from September, 1939, to June, 1947.

CREMATION.

There are two crematoria in Victoria—one at Springvale and the other at the new Melbourne General Cemetery, Fawkner. The history of their establishment is contained in an article published in the *Year-Book* 1942-43, page 307.

The numbers of cremations in relation to total deaths are shown in the following table:—

CREMATION IN VICTORIA.

Year.	Cremations at Fawkner.	Cremations at Springvale.	Total Cremations.	Total Deaths.	Percentage of Cremations to Deaths.
1927	32	..	32	16,773	·19
1928	84	..	84	17,708	·47
1929	151	..	151	16,717	·90
1930	162	..	162	15,959	1·02
1931	201	..	201	17,033	1·18
1932	199	..	199	16,805	1·18
1933	369	..	369	17,456	2·11
1934	499	..	499	18,648	2·68
1935	596	..	596	18,456	3·23
1936	358	400	758	18,778	4·04
1937	387	596	983	18,613	5·28
1938	415	752	1,167	18,955	6·16
1939	436	873	1,309	20,169	6·49
1940	571	1,053	1,624	20,293	8·00
1941	662	1,164	1,826	20,425	8·94
1942	753	1,246	1,999	21,973	9·09
1943	850	1,348	2,198	21,327	10·31
1944	892	1,502	2,394	20,502	11·68
1945	965	1,639	2,604	20,496	12·70
1946	1,030	1,920	2,950	21,534	13·69
1947	1,159	2,003	3,162	21,442	14·75
1948	1,293	2,349	3,642	21,825	16·69
1949	1,515	2,642	4,157	21,991	18·90
1950	1,568	2,857	4,425	22,341	19·81
1951	1,739	3,069	4,808	23,446	20·51