

VITAL STATISTICS.

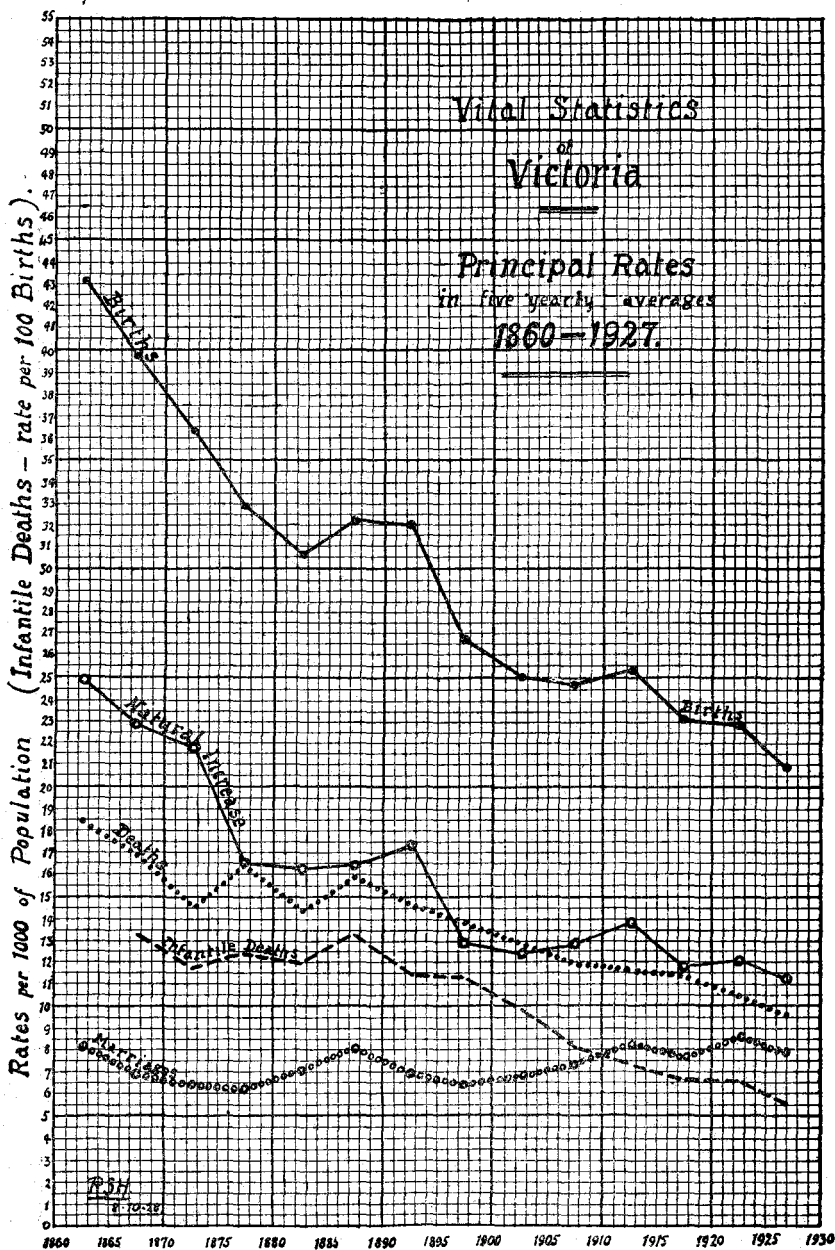
Registration
of Births,
Deaths, and
Marriages.

The present official system of compulsory registration of births, deaths, and marriages in Victoria has been in force since 1853, and the registers—framed on the best models—are replete with 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 control over the local registrars of births and deaths, and the registrars of marriages, and (so far as regards their registration duties) over the clergymen who celebrate marriages. Copies of entries certified by him or by the Assistant Government Statist are *prima facie* evidence in the Courts of Australia of the facts to which they relate. At the head office in Melbourne 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 4,614,400 original entries have been made in the indexes, of which 1,236,300 relate to marriages, 2,297,600 to births, and 1,080,500 to deaths.

Applicants for searches or certificates of births, deaths, or marriages should, in applying to the Government Statist, furnish particulars of the date and place of the event; also the names of the parties in the case of a marriage, and the name, age (if a death), and parentage in the case of a birth or death. Searches are charged for at the following rates:—2s. 6d. for the first five years and an additional 2s. 6d. for every five years or part of five years thereafter. There is no extra charge for an extract of an entry, but, for a certificate, a further sum of 5s. is payable, except where application is made within three months of the registration of the event, when the extra charge is only 2s. 6d. For a search in the early church records, prior to 1st July, 1853, the fee is only 1s., a further sum of 1s. being payable if a certificate is required.

As evidence of the extent by which the information in the records is availed of, the number of transactions which took place in 1930 was 39,911, yielding £5,099 revenue. Included in the above number were 4,413 free ordinary searches and 418 free certificates.

The *Year-Book* for 1916-17 contains on pages 301 to 303 a statement of the law relating to marriages and the registration of births and deaths in Victoria. The various Acts were consolidated in 1928.



Summary of Vital Statistics, 1930. The principal numbers and rates—male and female—relating to Vital Statistics in Victoria for the year 1930, are given in the following table:—

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, VICTORIA, 1930.

Division.	Sex.	Mean Population.	Number of—			Rate per 1,000 of Population.		Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.
			Births.	Deaths.	Deaths under One Year.	Births.	Deaths.	
Greater Melbourne	Males	488,930	8,576	4,661	463	17·54	9·53	54·34
	Females	545,630	8,129	4,558	381	14·90	8·35	46·87
	Total	1,034,560	16,705	9,219	847	16·15	8·91	50·70
Rest of the State	Males	395,305	8,439	3,806	399	21·35	9·63	47·28
	Females	354,846	7,983	2,934	295	22·50	8·27	36·95
	Total	750,151	16,422	6,740	694	21·89	8·98	42·26
Victoria	Males	884,235	17,015	8,467	865	19·24	9·58	50·84
	Females	900,476	16,112	7,492	676	17·89	8·32	41·96
	Total	1,784,711	33,127	15,959	1,541	18·56	8·94	46·52

NOTE.—Particulars of marriages are available only for the whole State.

The birth, death, and infantile death rates for 1930 were the lowest ever recorded in Victoria.

MARRIAGES.

Marriages—Numbers and Rates. Marriages in Victoria in 1930 numbered 11,641. This was 1,294 less than the number for the previous year, and 3,257 less than the greatest number recorded—that for 1920.

The ordinary marriage rate—per 1,000 of the total population—like birth and death rates similarly estimated, is somewhat unreliable in comparatively newly settled countries like Australia, especially in earlier periods, but it affords a ready and approximate comparison between years not widely separated.

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:—

MARRIAGES IN EACH QUARTER, VICTORIA, 1855 TO 1930.

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 ..	13,370	3,064	3,594	3,201	3,511	8·00
1926 ..	13,405	3,012	3,757	3,085	3,551	7·90
1927 ..	13,608	3,152	3,835	3,000	3,621	7·88
1928 ..	13,186	3,162	3,524	3,148	3,352	7·53
1929 ..	12,935	3,292	3,303	2,801	3,539	7·31
1930 ..	11,641	2,837	3,323	2,630	2,851	6·52

* Not available.

The highest number of marriages in the history of the State—14,898, and also the highest rate per 1,000 of the population since 1857—9·85, were recorded in 1920. This was mainly due to the marriages of a large number of returned soldiers who had settled down to ordinary civilian life. Excluding the war year, 1918, the rate for 1930 was the lowest recorded since 1903, when the rate was 6·31.

Marriage rates in Australasia. Marriage rates in each of the other Australasian States in 1930 were as follows:—New South Wales, 6·99; Queensland, 6·59; South Australia, 5·70; Western Australia, 7·66; Tasmania, 6·70; and New Zealand, 7·77. The rate for Australia was 6·71 in 1930, as compared with 7·45 in 1929, 7·73 in 1928, 7·95 in 1927, and an average annual rate of 8·38 in the period 1920 to 1924, 7·75 in 1915 to 1919, and 8·72 in 1910 to 1914.

Marriages. (Census and standardized rates.)

Census rates and explanations of factors affecting the crude marriage rate will be found in previous editions of this work.

The ages of bridegrooms and brides who were married in 1930 are shown in combination for various groups in the table which follows :—

AGES OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES IN COMBINATION IN VICTORIA, 1930.

Ages of Bridegroom.	Ages of Brides.																Total Bridegrooms.			
	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21 to 25.	25 to 30.	30 to 35.	35 to 40.	40 to 45.	45 to 50.	50 to 55.	55 to 60.		60 to 65.	65 to 70.	70 and over.
16	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
17	1	1	2	5	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
18	2	8	16	22	15	9	17	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	90
19	1	3	10	27	38	35	21	27	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	165
20	4	15	35	59	51	45	58	7	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	275
21 to 25	11	39	134	261	301	359	1,664	333	25	9	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	3,141
25 to 30	1	..	5	17	55	119	155	221	1,767	1,449	244	45	10	1	1	..	..	..	..	4,090
30 to 35	4	13	19	31	55	504	676	382	104	19	4	1	..	..	..	..	1,813
35 to 40	1	2	..	1	14	12	130	237	210	143	47	9	1	..	..	..	..	807
40 to 45	1	2	3	5	40	83	99	111	72	23	5	4	2	1	451
45 to 50	16	16	36	54	64	59	45	4	2	2	..	286
50 to 55	8	13	19	19	41	46	30	22	5	1	..	185
55 to 60	1	1	14	14	20	21	21	16	8	1	..	117
60 to 65	1	1	2	10	15	20	11	14	17	3	95
65 to 70	1	..	5	6	16	10	9	13	12	2	72
70 to 75	3	3	3	3	6	2	4	24
75 and over	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	12
Total Brides	1	1	27	96	285	528	611	729	4,233	2,840	1,051	546	303	175	81	54	50	21	9	11,641

Of every 1,000 men married during the year, 734 were older and 171 younger than their brides, and 95 were of the same age as their partners.

The following table shows the proportions of both sexes marrying in various age groups for 1930 :—

PROPORTIONS OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES IN AGE GROUPS, 1930.

Age Group.	Proportion per 1,000 of total—		Age Group.	Proportion per 1,000 of total—	
	Bridegrooms.	Brides.		Bridegrooms.	Brides.
Under 16 ..	..	2.49	35 to 40 ..	69.32	46.90
16 to 17 ..	3.35	8.25	40 to 45 ..	38.74	26.03
17 to 18 ..	1.20	24.48	45 to 50 ..	24.57	15.03
18 to 19 ..	7.73	45.36	50 to 55 ..	15.89	6.96
19 to 20 ..	14.18	52.49	55 to 60 ..	10.05	4.64
20 to 21 ..	23.62	62.62	60 and over	17.44	6.87
21 to 25 ..	269.82	363.63			
25 to 30 ..	351.35	243.97	Total ..	1,000.00	1,000.00
30 to 35 ..	155.74	90.28			

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

MEAN AGE AT MARRIAGE, 1926 TO 1930.

Year.	Bridegrooms.			Brides.		
	Bachelors.	All Bridegrooms	Bridegrooms of Brides under 45.	Spinsters.	All Brides.	Brides under 45.
	Years.	Years.	Years.	Years.	Years.	Years.
1926 ..	28·24	29·64	28·87	25·51	26·40	25·62
1927 ..	28·19	29·51	28·71	25·37	26·34	25·50
1928 ..	28·12	29·55	28·66	25·34	26·34	25·42
1929 ..	28·07	29·59	28·71	25·31	26·23	25·35
1930 ..	28·16	29·72	28·81	25·19	26·22	25·29

In 1930 the mean marrying age of divorced men was 41·28 years and of widowers 48·66, while for divorced women the age was 35·93 and for widows 43·96.

Birthplaces of persons marrying. Marriage records show that, of the persons married in Victoria during 1930, 86·3 per cent. were born in Australia, 11·3 per cent. in the United Kingdom, and 1·2 per cent. in other British Possessions, and that only small proportions, about 1·6 per cent. of the bridegrooms and 0·8 per cent. of the brides, were natives of foreign countries. The numbers born in Australia and other countries are shown in the subjoined table for the years 1913 and 1930 :—

BIRTHPLACES OF PERSONS MARRIED, 1913 AND 1930.

Where Born.	Bridegrooms.		Brides.	
	1913.	1930.	1913.	1930.
Australia	9,628	9,731	10,274	10,356
New Zealand	155	95	82	88
England and Wales	972	1,156	644	803
Scotland	213	317	141	201
Ireland	126	119	83	56
Other British Possessions	40	55	24	45
Germany	46	17	19	11
Russia	17	5	3	5
Italy	15	35	12	13
United States	30	19	14	6
Other Foreign Countries	82	112	28	57
Total	11,324	11,641	11,324	11,641

Conjugal condition of persons marrying.

The following statement shows the percentages of persons in each conjugal condition who have married in different periods since 1870 :—

CONJUGAL CONDITION OF PERSONS MARRYING, 1871 TO 1930.

Conjugal Condition.	Percentage of Total Marriages.					
	1871-80.	1881-90.	1891-1900.	1901-10.	1911-20.	1930.
Bachelors and Spinsters..	80·59	85·84	87·22	88·46	90·31	91·20
Bachelors and Widows ..	7·10	4·72	4·23	3·66	3·15	2·52
Widowers and Spinsters..	7·75	6·17	6·07	5·70	4·81	4·46
Widowers and Widows ..	4·56	3·27	2·48	2·18	1·73	1·82

NOTE.—In this table divorced men and women are included with bachelors and spinsters respectively.

Of every 1,000 persons of each sex married in Victoria during 1930, 63 were widowers and 43 were widows, as against 64 and 38 respectively in 1929, 59 and 44 in 1928, 58 and 44 in 1927, and 63 and 47 in 1926.

The number of divorced persons re-married during 1930 was 463, which was 49 less than the number for the preceding year. Of the 129,550 persons married during the last five years, divorced persons numbered 2,413, or 1 in every 54 persons, as compared with 1 in every 98 in the period, 1916-20. The following are the numbers of divorced persons who have re-married since 1925 :—

DIVORCED PERSONS RE-MARRYING, 1926 TO 1930.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1926	243	227	470
1927	227	238	465
1928	248	255	503
1929	236	276	512
1930	236	227	463

Marriages of minors.

The proportions of bridegrooms and brides under 21 years of age are given in the subjoined table for the years 1926 to 1930 :—

Year.	Percentage under 21 years of age.	
	Bridegrooms.	Brides.
1926	4·08	17·20
1927	4·15	17·47
1928	4·02	18·11
1929	4·31	18·34
1930	4·70	19·57

Marriages in religious denominations. The numbers and proportions of marriages solemnized according to the rites of the principal religious denominations and of those performed by registrars of marriages, for the years 1913 and 1930, are shown in the following table:—

MARRIAGES IN VARIOUS DENOMINATIONS.

Denomination.	1913.		1930.	
	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.
Church of England	3,179	28·07	3,211	27·58
Roman Catholic Church	1,922	16·97	2,238	19·23
Presbyterian Church	2,105	18·59	1,965	16·88
Methodist Church	1,633	14·42	1,577	13·55
Baptist Church	449	3·97	565	4·85
Congregational Church	1,014	8·95	312	2·68
Church of Christ	257	2·27	272	2·34
Lutheran Church	71	·63	69	·59
Salvation Army	47	·42	62	·53
Hebrew	43	·38	44	·38
Other Sects	314	2·77	102	·88
Registrars of Marriages	290	2·56	1,224	10·51
Total	11,324	100·00	11,641	100·00

Excepting the ratios for the Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, and Methodist churches, there were great disparities between the proportion of marriages celebrated according to the rites of each of the principal denominations and the proportionate number of adherents possessed by it in the community.

Civil marriages. The following statement shows the numbers and proportions of marriages performed by lay registrars, for each of the last ten years:—

CIVIL MARRIAGES, 1921 TO 1930.

Year.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.	Year.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.
1921 ..	389	2·85	1926 ..	617	4·61
1922 ..	436	3·35	1927 ..	845	6·21
1923 ..	508	3·87	1928 ..	1,013	7·68
1924 ..	658	4·95	1929 ..	1,040	8·04
1925 ..	528	3·95	1930 ..	1,224	10·51

Registered clergymen. The ministers qualified by registration to celebrate marriages in Victoria numbered 1,772 on 31st December, 1930. The numbers of ministers in each denomination (excepting Jews and Quakers) and lay registrars of marriages were as follows:—

REGISTERED MINISTERS OF EACH DENOMINATION, 1930.

Denomination.	Number of Registered Ministers.	Denomination.	Number of Registered Ministers.
Church of England ..	458	Ballarat Town Mission ..	1
Roman Catholic ..	383	New Church	2
Presbyterian	303	Greek Orthodox Church ..	1
Methodist	306	Unitarian	1
Congregational	61	International Bible Students' Association ..	1
Baptist	91	Latter Day Saints (Mormons)	1
Church of Christ	72	Open Brethren	3
Lutheran	30		
Salvation Army	39	Total Clergymen	1,772
Latter Day Saints (Re-organized)	3	Lay Registrars of Marriages	20
Seventh Day Adventist	10		
Catholic Apostolic	2	Grand Total	1,792
Free Christian	2		
Australian Church	2		

Marriages of Jews and Quakers are exempted from the law relating to marriages in Victoria, and are deemed legal and valid if celebrated according to their respective usages.

BIRTHS.

Births—Numbers and Rates. The number of births registered in Victoria during the year 1930 was 33,127. This was 477 less than the number registered for the preceding year, and the rate per 1,000 of the population was the lowest ever experienced in Victoria. Stillbirths, which are excluded from both births and deaths, numbered 991, and corresponded to a ratio of 2.99 per 100 infants born alive in 1930. There were 1,056 male to every 1,000 female births in 1930, as compared with 1,073 in 1929, 1,066 in 1928, 1,062 in 1927, and 1,061 in 1926.

In young communities, birth rates calculated per 1,000 of the population are to some extent unreliable and 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, however, 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:—

BIRTHS IN EACH QUARTER, VICTORIA, 1855 TO 1930.

Period.	Average Annual Number of Births.	Sex.		Quarter of Registration.				Rate per 1,000 of Mean Population.
		Males.	Females.	March.	June.	September.	December.	
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 ..	35,922	18,593	17,329	8,938	8,790	9,195	8,999	21·49
1926 ..	35,362	18,203	17,159	8,832	8,861	8,950	8,719	20·84
1927 ..	35,074	18,068	17,006	8,508	8,742	9,265	8,559	20·30
1928 ..	34,498	17,805	16,693	8,870	8,684	8,716	8,228	19·70
1929 ..	33,604	17,394	16,210	8,512	8,564	8,153	8,375	18·99
1930 ..	33,127	17,015	16,112	8,360	8,308	8,329	8,130	18·56

* Not available.

Birth rates per 1,000 of the mean population in each of the other Australasian States in 1930 were as follows:—New South Wales, 20·95; Queensland, 20·14; South Australia, 17·19; Western Australia, 21·98; Tasmania, 22·11; and New Zealand, 18·80. The rate for Australia in 1930 was 19·93 as compared with 20·31 in 1929, 21·33 in 1928, 24·40 in 1920 to 1924, 25·89 in 1915 to 1919, and 27·73 in 1910 to 1914. The birth rate in England and Wales was 16·3 in the year 1930.

Births.
(Census and Standardized rates.)

Census rates and explanations of factors affecting the crude birth rate will be found in previous issues of this work.

Birthplaces of parents of nuptial children.

The birth records of children born in wedlock show that, in Victoria in 1930, 78 out of every 100 children were born to Australian parents, and 96 out of every 100 to one or both parents born in Australia. Of the total fathers, the percentages born in the States or countries mentioned hereafter were as follows:—76·5 in Victoria; 85·1 in Australia; 0·7 in New Zealand; 8·6 in England and Wales; 2·3 in Scotland; 1·0 in Ireland; 0·4 in other British Possessions; and 1·9 in foreign countries. The corresponding percentages for mothers were:—Victoria, 79·5; Australia, 88·4; New Zealand, 0·6; England and Wales, 6·9; Scotland, 1·9; Ireland, 0·7; other British Possessions, 0·3; and foreign countries, 1·2.

Ages of parents of nuptial children.

The average ages of fathers and mothers of nuptial children whose births were recorded in 1930 were 33·03 and 29·49 years respectively, which were 4·22 and 4·20 years above the average ages of bridegrooms marrying brides under 45 years of age, and of such brides for the same year. The proportions of both parents in various age groups are shown in the following table for the year mentioned:—

PERCENTAGE OF PARENTS IN AGE GROUPS, 1930.

Father.		Mother.	
Age Group.	Proportion per 100 Births.	Age Group.	Proportion per 100 Births.
Under 20	55	Under 20	4·56
20 to 25	11·55	20 to 25	22·16
25 to 30	26·93	25 to 30	29·41
30 to 35	25·27	30 to 35	23·14
35 to 40	18·58	35 to 40	15·09
40 to 45	10·43	40 to 45	5·23
45 to 50	4·28	45 and over	·41
50 and over	2·41		
Total	100·00	Total	100·00

It will be seen that, on the experience of 1930, 51·57 per cent. of the mothers were between ages 20 and 30, and 38·23 per cent. between ages 30 and 40. The proportions of fathers at these ages were 38·48 and 43·85 per cent. respectively. Of every 1,000 nuptial births, about 46 were due to mothers under 20 years, and about 4 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, the principal country towns, and the remainder of the State for the five-year period 1923 to 1927 and the years 1928 to 1930 :—

BIRTHS IN GREATER MELBOURNE, PRINCIPAL COUNTRY TOWNS, AND REMAINDER OF STATE, 1923 TO 1930.

Municipality.	Number of Births.			Births per 1,000 of Mean Population.				
	Annual Average, 1923-1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	Annual Average, 1923-1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
Greater Melbourne—								
Melbourne ..	1,812	1,610	1,366	1,475	17.80	15.81	13.38	14.50
Box Hill ..	*	280	283	285	*	22.06	20.99	20.65
Braybrook (Part) ..	*	*	210	202	*	*	29.66	28.02
Brighton ..	482	467	413	405	18.75	16.51	14.32	13.81
Brunswick ..	1,161	1,109	1,057	986	23.42	19.75	18.59	17.39
Camberwell ..	797	896	919	989	23.10	20.38	19.45	19.97
Caulfield ..	1,065	1,074	1,019	1,000	18.49	15.61	14.17	13.52
Chelsea ..	..	..	118	129	..	..	16.39	17.74
Coburg ..	703	812	792	770	23.98	21.66	20.14	19.46
Collingwood ..	690	620	549	518	20.35	18.65	16.69	16.01
Essendon ..	846	881	812	781	21.31	20.71	18.70	17.68
Fitzroy ..	683	592	562	515	19.92	17.77	17.05	15.94
Footscray ..	980	1,006	942	928	23.09	20.83	18.49	17.89
Hawthorn ..	525	448	463	462	16.63	13.61	13.87	13.85
Heidelberg (Part) ..	..	456	454	452	*	21.90	21.55	21.40
Kew ..	379	388	370	356	17.96	16.05	15.02	14.25
Malvern ..	636	604	549	513	15.07	13.35	11.95	11.05
Moorabbin ..	..	..	417	456	..	..	26.13	26.45
Mordialloc ..	..	..	170	153	..	..	16.62	14.85
Northcote ..	898	812	759	740	24.51	19.81	18.25	17.87
Oakleigh ..	*	*	294	270	*	*	26.49	24.11
Port Melbourne ..	278	254	233	229	21.14	19.03	17.32	17.22
Prahran ..	877	821	712	717	17.02	15.64	13.52	13.63
Preston ..	558	764	770	767	31.33	27.82	26.94	26.27
Richmond ..	886	813	705	682	20.34	18.84	16.47	16.16
Sandringham ..	275	309	300	290	15.93	13.75	12.68	12.34
South Melbourne ..	865	794	683	658	18.34	16.71	14.30	13.74
St. Kilda ..	659	621	566	546	16.05	14.59	13.13	12.71
Williamstown ..	485	511	440	431	21.77	20.95	17.64	17.18
Remainder of Metropolis ..	1,364	940	..	..	25.88	29.78	..	..
Country Towns—								
Ballarat ..	728	693	706	654	17.75	16.50	16.73	15.55
Bendigo ..	609	577	586	558	18.10	17.04	17.39	16.56
Geelong ..	862	911	931	906	21.87	21.11	21.36	20.88
Chelsea ..	126	143	..	..	19.28	20.00	..	..
Castlemaine ..	132	119	111	105	18.50	16.60	15.48	14.64
Hamilton ..	144	156	140	146	27.69	29.43	26.32	27.55
Maryborough ..	114	120	115	106	23.57	24.24	23.19	21.37
Mildura ..	198	192	188	187	34.09	31.74	30.82	31.17
Mordialloc ..	150	146	..	..	19.70	14.51	..	..
Shepparton ..	†	135	158	168	†	24.55	27.72	30.55
Stawell ..	111	103	84	96	23.88	21.73	17.68	20.43
Warrnambool ..	183	185	184	163	22.75	22.84	22.44	20.12
Wonthaggi ..	159	153	128	161	25.06	22.01	18.26	23.00
Summary—								
Greater Melbourne ..	17,904	17,882	16,927	16,705	19.93	18.11	16.48	16.15
Country Towns ..	3,516	3,633	3,331	3,250	20.64	19.64	19.71	19.36
Remainder of State ..	14,255	12,983	13,346	13,172	23.73	22.43	23.27	22.62
Victoria ..	35,675	34,498	33,604	33,127	21.37	19.70	18.99	18.56

* Included in Remainder of Metropolis.

† Not calculated.

NOTE.—Up to the end of 1923, Greater Melbourne was defined as that area within a radius of ten miles of the Elizabeth-street Post Office. At the beginning of 1929, the area was re-defined to conform to the expansion of the Metropolis in a south-easterly direction, and to include, as far as possible, complete Local Government areas. In the Heidelberg shire, the Greensborough Riding, and, in the Braybrook Shire, the Western Riding, are excluded.

Twin and triplet births. The numbers of cases of twin and triplet births in Victoria in the last five years were as follows :—

CASES OF TWINS AND TRIPLETS.

Year.	Cases of Twins.	Cases of Triplets.
1926	377	4
1927	397	3
1928	361	1
1929	348	3
1930	350	Nil

On the average of the five years 1 mother in every 93 gave birth to twins, and 1 in every 15,437 was delivered of triplets. The proportions for the decennium ended 1917 were 1 in every 94 and 1 in every 9,538 respectively.

Adoption of Children. The *Adoption of Children Act* 1928 makes provision for the legal adoption of children. An adopted child has the right of succession whether under an intestacy or disposition to the real and personal property of an adopter, but not of its natural parent or parents; it has no rights of succession to the property of adopting parents' relatives, but has rights in estate of natural parents' relatives. Marriage is prohibited between an adopter and an adopted child.

The first registration under the above Act was effected on 14th October, 1929, and, between that date and the end of the year 1929, the adoptions of 31 male and 56 female children were registered. During 1930, adoptions registered comprised 112 male and 205 female children.

Children legitimized. In December, 1912, an Act was passed which provides that children born out of wedlock may be legitimized at any time after the marriage of the parents, on the application of the father, provided there was no lawful impediment to the marriage of the parents at the time of the birth. An amending Act passed in 1916 allowed legitimation to be effected on the application of the mother if the father were absent on war service or had died not more than two years previously. Up to the end of 1929 advantage was taken of these Acts, and of an Act (now repealed) passed in 1903, to legitimate 3,101 children, of whom 279 were registered in the years 1903 to 1909, 1,347 in 1910 to 1919, 1,374 in 1920 to 1929, and 101 in 1930.

Legitimation Acts are in force in all the States and 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 1930, the numbers of legitimations in the various States and New Zealand during that year were as follows:—Victoria, 6·8; New South Wales, 15·2; Queensland, 16·9; South Australia, 6·8; Western Australia, 34·0; Tasmania, 5·9; and New Zealand, 25·2.

Ex-nuptial
Births in
Victoria.

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

EX-NUPTIAL BIRTHS IN VICTORIA, 1910 TO 1930.

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	35,922	809	734	1,543	4·30
1926	35,362	818	785	1,603	4·53
1927	35,074	811	745	1,556	4·44
1928	34,498	845	780	1,625	4·71
1929	33,604	744	717	1,461	4·35
1930	33,127	751	729	1,480	4·47

The percentages in the various States and New Zealand in 1930 were as follows:—Victoria, 4·47 per cent.; New South Wales, 4·87 per cent.; Queensland, 5·03 per cent.; South Australia, 3·38 per cent.; Western Australia, 4·07 per cent.; Tasmania, 4·60 per cent.; Australia, 4·62 per cent.; and New Zealand, 5·12 per cent.

A larger proportion of ex-nuptiality prevails among residents of Greater Melbourne and of the principal country towns than in the rural districts of Victoria. During the year 1930, the proportion of ex-nuptial births to total births was 5·00 per cent. in Greater Melbourne, 5·02 per cent. in the principal country towns, and 3·66 per cent. in the rural districts.

DEATHS.

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:—

DEATHS IN EACH QUARTER, VICTORIA, 1855 TO 1930.

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 ..	15,836	8,582	7,254	3,744	4,039	4,334	3,719	9.47
1926 ..	16,335	8,765	7,570	3,622	4,439	4,239	4,035	9.63
1927 ..	16,773	8,982	7,791	3,809	4,271	4,714	3,979	9.71
1928 ..	17,708	9,384	8,324	4,087	4,176	4,735	4,710	10.11
1929 ..	16,717	9,131	7,586	3,587	4,138	4,987	4,005	9.45
1930 ..	15,959	8,467	7,492	3,682	4,112	4,334	3,831	8.94

* Not available.

In 1930, the rate per 1,000 of the population was the lowest ever experienced in Victoria.

The death rates per 1,000 of population in each of the other Australian States during 1930 were as follows:—
Death rates in Australasia. New South Wales, 8·53; Queensland, 7·93; South Australia, 8·35; Western Australia, 9·02; and Tasmania, 9·00. The rate for Australia was 8·59 in 1930, as compared with an average annual rate of 9·41 in 1925 to 1929, 9·79 in 1920 to 1924, 10·90 in 1915 to 1919, and 10·70 in 1910 to 1914. In the year 1930, the death rate in New Zealand was 8·56, and in England and Wales, 11·4.

The differences in the age and sex constitutions of the populations of the six States have been taken into account in computing their respective indexes of mortality. The results for each are based upon a standard population, distributed according to sex, into eleven age groups. Mortality indexes for each State for the years 1926 to 1930 as compiled by the Commonwealth Statistician, are as follows:—
Index of mortality.

INDEX OF MORTALITY FOR AUSTRALIA, 1926 TO 1930.

Year.	Index of Mortality for—						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
1926	9·91	10·62	10·47	9·02	10·63	9·70	10·20
1927	10·02	10·64	10·20	9·30	10·71	10·43	10·43
1928	10·45	10·40	9·91	9·21	11·14	10·76	10·24
1929	9·78	11·14	10·21	8·97	11·69	10·98	10·39
1930	9·31	9·54	9·03	8·69	11·16	9·66	9·38

Though the death rate is usually higher in Victoria than in any other Australian State, the figures in the above table show that, by taking an average over the last five years, only one State—South Australia—had a lower index of mortality than Victoria.

Information relating to death rates for groups of ages at the decennial periods, 1891-1900, 1902-11, and 1912-21, will be found in previous issues of this publication.
Death rates at various ages.

The following table, computed on the basis of allotment of all deaths to the place of usual residence, shows the number of deaths, and the deaths per 1,000 of the mean population in Greater Melbourne, the principal country towns, and the remainder of the State for the period 1923 to 1930:—
Death rates in town and country.

DEATHS IN GREATER MELBOURNE, PRINCIPAL COUNTRY TOWNS, AND REMAINDER OF STATE, 1923 TO 1930.

Municipality.	Number of Deaths.				Deaths per 1,000 of Mean Population.			
	Annual Average, 1923-1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	Annual Average, 1923-1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
Greater Melbourne—								
Melbourne ..	1,264	1,191	1,101	1,028	12·42	11·69	10·78	10·11
Box Hill ..	*	135	128	132	*	10·48	9·50	9·57
Braybrook (Part) ..	*	*	37	61	*	*	5·23	8·46
Brighton ..	242	248	270	279	9·43	8·77	9·36	9·52
Brunswick ..	520	576	487	503	10·50	10·26	8·56	8·87
Camberwell ..	316	427	370	442	9·15	9·71	7·83	8·93
Caulfield ..	463	545	559	535	8·04	7·92	7·77	7·24
Chelsea ..	..	..	58	54	..	..	8·06	7·43
Coburg ..	232	279	310	270	7·90	7·44	7·88	6·83
Collingwood ..	422	392	358	334	12·45	11·70	10·88	10·30
Essendon ..	404	442	421	409	10·19	10·39	9·69	9·26
Fitzroy ..	457	499	448	394	13·33	14·98	13·59	12·19
Footscray ..	397	442	382	366	9·36	9·15	7·50	7·05
Hawthorn ..	331	355	335	327	10·51	10·79	10·04	9·81
Heidelberg (Part) ..	..	185	187	187	..	8·89	8·88	8·85
Kew ..	191	249	204	217	9·06	10·32	8·28	8·68
Malvern ..	368	421	391	376	8·71	9·31	8·51	8·10
Moorabbin ..	..	..	119	121	..	..	7·46	7·02
Mordialloc ..	..	..	84	96	..	..	8·21	9·32
Northcote ..	349	370	367	332	9·53	9·03	8·83	8·02
Oakleigh ..	*	*	98	99	*	*	8·83	8·84
Port Melbourne ..	151	146	134	132	11·49	10·94	9·96	9·92
Prahran ..	608	670	656	600	11·80	12·77	12·44	11·40
Preston ..	168	267	237	231	9·44	9·72	8·29	7·91
Richmond ..	490	501	457	442	11·24	11·61	10·68	10·47
Sandringham ..	121	148	185	157	6·99	6·58	7·82	6·68
South Melbourne..	539	534	505	470	11·43	11·24	10·57	9·82
St. Kilda ..	441	495	467	436	10·73	11·63	10·84	10·15
Williamstown ..	237	223	210	187	10·63	9·14	8·42	7·45
Remainder of Metropolis ..	520	290	..	..	9·86	9·19	..	..
Country Towns—								
Ballarat ..	482	480	497	430	11·76	11·43	11·78	10·23
Bendigo ..	444	487	426	386	13·20	14·38	12·64	11·46
Geelong ..	401	491	417	455	10·16	11·38	9·57	10·48
Chelsea ..	56	72	..	..	8·61	10·07	..	..
Castlemaine ..	73	79	75	75	10·19	11·02	10·46	10·46
Hamilton ..	63	51	66	64	12·21	9·62	12·41	12·08
Maryborough ..	59	63	59	62	12·25	12·73	11·90	12·50
Mildura ..	65	49	58	57	11·10	8·10	9·51	9·50
Mordialloc ..	70	81	..	..	9·20	8·05	..	..
Shepparton ..	†	63	47	53	†	11·45	8·25	9·64
Stawell ..	53	53	46	40	11·38	11·18	9·68	8·51
Warrnambool ..	80	97	84	92	10·00	11·98	10·24	11·36
Wonthaggi ..	49	49	46	39	7·74	7·05	6·57	5·57
Summary—								
Greater Melbourne	9,231	10,028	9,565	9,219	10·28	10·15	9·31	8·91
Country Towns ..	1,895	2,115	1,821	1,753	11·13	11·43	10·80	10·44
Remainder of State	5,407	5,565	5,331	4,987	9·01	9·62	9·29	8·56
Victoria ..	16,533	17,708	16,717	15,959	9·91	10·11	9·45	8·94

* Included in Remainder of Metropolis.

† Not calculated.

NOTE.—Up to the end of 1928, Greater Melbourne was defined as that area within a radius of ten miles of the Elizabeth-street Post Office. At the beginning of 1929, the area was re-defined to conform to the expansion of the Metropolis in a south-easterly direction, and to include, as far as possible, complete Local Government areas. In the Heidelberg Shire, the Greensborough Riding, and in the Braybrook Shire, the Western Riding, are excluded.

In Greater Melbourne, in the decade 1921-30, there were 10·12 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 51,000 lives in the last ten years. That the sanitary conditions of the metropolis have greatly improved is evidenced by a comparison of the death rates from tubercular and certain other diseases for the period 1921-30 with those for the decennium 1892-1901. The following are the rates :—

Cause of Death.	Deaths per 1,000,000 of Population.		
	1892-1901.	1921-30.	Decrease in 1921-30.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	1,654	636	1,018
Other Tubercular Diseases ...	446	122	324
Typhoid Fever	293	14	279
Scarlet Fever	33	11	22
Measles	215	19	196
Diphtheria	196	63	133
Total	2,837	865	1,972

The figures show that the mortality from the six diseases mentioned declined by 69 per cent. in 1921-30—the decline representing a rate of 1,972 per million of the population.

The mortality from all causes showed a net decline of 5,640 per million of the population during the period mentioned.

Residents of different areas dying in hospitals and other public institutions.

An examination of the particulars of residence of persons who have died in the public institutions of Victoria during recent years reveals definite and interesting information regarding the assistance rendered by these institutions to people in different divisions of the State. For Greater Melbourne, the principal country towns, and the remainder of the State, the percentages of the total deaths, and the rate per 1,000 of the population, of residents thereof which occurred in public institutions during the year 1930 were as follows:—

PROPORTION OF DEATHS OF RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN AREAS OCCURRING IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, 1930.

Area.	Percentage of Deaths of Residents occurring in—			Deaths of Residents occurring in Public Institutions per 1,000 of Population.
	Public Hospitals.	Other Public Institutions.	Total Public Institutions.	
Greater Melbourne—				
Melbourne	38.33	11.67	50.00	5.05
Box Hill	17.43	5.30	22.73	2.17
Braybrook (Part) ..	32.78	6.56	39.34	3.33
Brighton	16.85	4.30	21.15	2.01
Brunswick	32.60	7.16	39.76	3.53
Camberwell	15.16	5.43	20.59	1.84
Caulfield	22.43	4.49	26.92	1.95
Chelsea	27.78	11.11	38.89	2.89
Coburg	37.40	6.30	43.70	2.98
Collingwood	38.10	5.65	43.75	4.54
Essendon	22.25	5.62	27.87	2.58
Fitzroy	36.55	10.15	46.70	5.69
Footscray	33.61	7.10	40.71	2.87
Hawthorn	22.02	3.97	25.99	2.55
Heidelberg (Part) ..	28.88	2.67	31.55	2.79
Kew	20.28	3.68	23.96	2.08
Malvern	16.75	1.60	18.35	1.49
Moorabbin	27.27	8.26	35.53	2.49
Mordialloc	22.92	7.29	30.21	2.82
Northcote	28.01	4.82	32.83	2.63
Oakleigh	33.33	5.05	38.38	3.39
Port Melbourne	40.91	4.54	45.45	4.51
Prahran	28.83	5.50	34.33	3.91
Preston	30.74	4.76	35.50	2.81
Richmond	36.20	8.14	44.34	4.64
Sandringham	22.93	4.46	27.39	1.83
South Melbourne	33.19	7.66	40.85	4.01
St. Kilda	26.60	5.05	31.65	3.21
Williamstown	26.20	4.28	30.48	2.27

PROPORTION OF DEATHS OF RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN AREAS
OCCURRING IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, 1930—*continued.*

Area.	Percentage of Deaths of Residents occurring in—			Deaths of Residents occurring in Public Institutions per 1,000 of Population.
	Public Hospitals.	Other Public Institutions.	Total Public Institutions.	
Country Towns—				
Ballarat	25·58	8·37	33·95	3·47
Bendigo	26·43	4·92	31·35	3·59
Geelong	28·13	5·50	33·63	3·53
Castlemaine	37·33	8·00	45·33	4·74
Hamilton	31·25	4·69	35·94	4·34
Maryborough	43·55	4·84	48·39	6·05
Mildura	29·82	3·51	33·33	3·17
Shepparton.. ..	35·85	5·66	41·51	4·00
Stawell	30·00	2·50	32·50	2·77
Warrnambool	32·61	2·17	34·78	3·95
Wonthaggi	38·46	2·56	41·02	2·29
Summary—				
Greater Melbourne ..	28·92	6·37	35·29	3·14
Country Towns	28·98	5·76	34·74	3·63
Remainder of State..	23·52	4·83	28·35	2·43
Victoria	27·24	5·82	33·06	2·96

Of the total deaths in the State 27·24 per cent. occurred in public hospitals in 1930, as against 26·92 per cent. in 1929, 27·9 per cent. in 1928, 27·1 per cent. in 1927, 27·0 per cent. in 1926, and 20·9 per cent. in 1910-15. For the metropolitan area 35·3 per cent. of the total deaths took place in public institutions as compared with 30·0 for the rest of the State. Taking the proportions for fatal cases as an index of all cases dealt with, it would appear that, relatively to population, the assistance rendered by public institutions to the residents of Greater Melbourne exceeds by about 18 per cent. that given to people residing elsewhere.

Residents of Greater Melbourne who died in public institutions in Victoria during 1930 numbered 3,253.

Deaths in Metropolitan public institutions.

In 1930 the deaths in public institutions were 33·06 per cent. of the total in the State. The number of deaths in each metropolitan public institution in 1930 is given in the subjoined table :—

DEATHS IN METROPOLITAN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, 1930.

Institution.	No. of Deaths.	Institution.	No. of Deaths.
Hospitals—		Asylums—	
Melbourne	836	Mental—	
Alfred	597	Kew	95
Children's	439	Mont Park	90
St. Vincent's	173	Receiving House, Royal Park	25
Austin	281	Macleod Military .. ..	..
Women's	199		
Homœopathic	90	Total Mental	210
Infectious Diseases	93		
Caulfield Repatriation	72	Benevolent—	
Queen Victoria	100	Melbourne (Cheltenham)	150
Williamstown	32	Victorian Homes for Aged and	
Caulfield Convalescent	27	Infirm	84
After Care Home	2	Convent of Little Sisters of the	
Eye and Ear	14	Poor	40
Police	1	Old Colonists' Homes	6
Total Hospitals	2,956	Total Benevolent	280
		Foundling Homes, Refuges—	
		Broadmeadows	12
		East Melbourne	3
		The Haven, Fitzroy	10
		Carlton	1
		Children's Welfare Depot .. ..	..
		Berwick	1
		Total Refuges, etc.	27
		Total Hospitals and other	
		Institutions	3,587
Sanatoria —			
Heatherton	74		
Janefield	14		
Macleod Military	1		
Greenvale	25		
Total Sanatoria	114		

Of the 3,587 deaths in the above institutions, 2,080 were males and 1,507 were females.

Infantile mortality. The mortality of children under one year in proportion to births reveals a constant decline since 1890—the deaths per 1,000 children born having fallen from 133 in 1885–89 to 52 in 1926–30—a reduction of 61 per cent. In other words, where 100 infants died in the earlier years, only 39 died in the last five years.

Various health Acts and educative measures have contributed to the reduction, 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 milk and 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 the later years. Particulars of the latter movement will be found in Part "Social Condition" of this volume.

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

INFANTILE MORTALITY IN VICTORIA, 1880 TO 1930.

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 ..	1,079	60·2	967	53·7	2,046	57·0
1926 ..	1,104	61·6	863	49·5	1,967	55·6
1927 ..	1,118	62·5	848	49·4	1,966	56·1
1928 ..	1,015	56·8	904	54·4	1,919	55·6
1929 ..	855	50·5	732	43·9	1,587	47·2
1930 ..	847	50·7	694	42·3	1,541	46·5

In computing birth and death rates the system 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 a corresponding decrease in the rate for the Metropolis.

In 1930 the infantile death rate for Victoria was the lowest ever experienced in the history of the State.

The number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age, and the deaths per 1,000 births in Greater Melbourne, the principal country towns, and the remainder of the State for the period 1923 to 1930 were as follows:—

Infantile
deaths in
different areas.

INFANTILE DEATHS IN GREATER MELBOURNE, PRINCIPAL COUNTRY TOWNS, AND REMAINDER OF STATE, 1923 TO 1930.

Municipality.	Number of Deaths under One Year.				Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.			
	Annual Average, 1923-1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	Annual Average, 1923-1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
Greater Melbourne—								
Melbourne ..	163	104	83	115	89·97	64·6	60·76	77·97
Box Hill ..	*	15	6	14	53·6	21·20	49·12	49·12
Braybrook (Part)	*	*	2	10	*	9·52	49·50	49·50
Brighton ..	20	19	20	15	41·49	40·7	48·43	37·04
Brunswick ..	77	85	65	56	65·99	76·6	61·49	56·80
Camberwell ..	34	36	37	33	42·15	40·2	40·26	33·37
Caulfield ..	52	48	36	40	48·65	44·7	35·33	40·00
Chelsea ..	..	..	3	5	..	..	25·42	38·76
Coburg ..	44	37	41	39	62·29	45·6	51·77	50·65
Collingwood ..	62	44	30	36	89·80	71·0	54·64	69·50
Essendon ..	52	40	37	31	61·26	45·4	45·67	39·69
Fitzroy ..	57	44	43	39	83·50	74·3	76·51	75·73
Footscray ..	68	61	32	44	69·21	60·6	33·97	47·41
Hawthorn ..	25	19	20	18	47·66	42·4	43·20	38·96
Heidelberg (Part)	*	18	23	30	*	39·5	50·66	66·37
Kew ..	17	21	14	19	45·38	54·1	37·84	53·37
Malvern ..	28	24	25	16	44·63	39·7	45·54	31·19
Moorabbin ..	..	..	21	13	..	..	50·36	28·51
Mordialloc ..	..	..	10	6	..	..	58·82	39·22
Northcote ..	54	42	50	32	60·16	51·7	65·88	43·24
Oakleigh ..	*	*	11	12	*	37·41	44·44	44·44
Port Melbourne ..	25	23	12	14	89·08	90·6	51·50	61·14
Prahran ..	58	54	43	39	66·12	65·8	60·39	54·39
Preston ..	30	45	34	33	54·80	58·9	44·16	43·02
Richmond ..	65	57	55	37	73·81	70·1	78·01	54·25
Sandringham ..	15	13	11	9	53·86	42·1	36·67	31·03
South Melbourne ..	77	65	46	49	89·52	81·9	67·35	74·47
St. Kilda ..	34	24	29	25	50·97	38·6	51·24	45·79
Williamstown ..	33	29	16	18	67·99	56·8	36·36	41·76
Remainder of Metropolis ..	75	48	..	..	54·99	51·1	..	..
Country Towns—								
Ballarat ..	49	41	24	41	67·88	59·2	33·99	62·69
Bendigo ..	48	50	33	28	77·81	86·7	56·31	50·18
Geelong ..	61	55	50	56	70·75	60·4	53·71	61·81
Chelsea ..	10	7	..	..	79·49	49·0	..	..
Castlemaine ..	8	6	3	9	59·18	50·4	27·03	85·71
Hamilton ..	10	5	1	9	66·76	32·1	7·14	61·64
Maryborough ..	6	6	12	5	48·03	50·0	104·35	47·17
Mildura ..	13	6	9	8	66·53	31·3	47·87	42·78
Mordialloc ..	13	9	..	..	86·44	61·6	..	..
Shepparton ..	†	12	4	10	†	88·9	25·32	59·52
Stawell ..	7	3	4	3	61·15	29·1	47·62	31·25
Warrnambool ..	9	20	8	4	49·34	108·1	43·48	24·54
Wonthaggi ..	10	10	Nil	7	63·99	65·4	00·00	43·48
Summary—								
Greater Melbourne	1,165	1,015	855	847	65·05	56·8	50·51	50·70
Country Towns ..	244	230	148	180	69·40	63·3	44·43	55·38
Remainder of State	702	674	584	514	49·25	51·9	43·76	39·02
Victoria ..	2,111	1,919	1,587	1,541	59·16	55·6	47·23	46·62

* Included in Remainder of Metropolis.
 † Not calculated.

NOTE.—Up to the end of 1928, Greater Melbourne was defined as that area within a radius of ten miles of the Elizabeth-street Post Office. At the beginning of 1929, the area was re-defined to conform to the expansion of the Metropolis in a south-easterly direction, and to include, as far as possible, complete Local Government areas. In the Heidelberg Shire, the Greensborough Riding, and in the Braybrook Shire, the Western Riding, are excluded.

The prejudicial effect of city surroundings on infant life is evidenced by the mortality being heavier in urban than in country districts. During the years 1926-30 the deaths of children under 1 year of age to every 1,000 births were 57 in Melbourne, 53 in Ballarat, 62 in Bendigo, and 58 in Geelong, as against 47 in the remainder of the State.

An investigation into the experience in regard to infantile mortality over a period of years discloses that the decrease in the infantile death rate, since the earlier periods, has been shared proportionately by each sex, and also by each age period, except that of "under one week." Comparing the quinquennia 1910-14 (the earliest years for which the information is available) with 1926-30, the mortality rate of infants "under one week" increased by 4 per cent., that of infants "over one week and under one month" decreased by 33 per cent., and for "over one month and under one year" the decrease was 46 per cent. Victoria lost, between the ages of one month and one year, sixty-four out of every 1,000 children in 1900-04, thirty-two in 1915-19, and twenty-two in 1926-30.

On the average of the years 1926-30, the total rate for males was higher than that for females by 27·1 per cent.

The tables which follow show the percentage of deaths of infants at various ages under one year for certain periods since 1899, and male and female death rates at each age period for the year 1930 :—

INFANTILE MORTALITY AT DIFFERENT AGES, 1900 TO 1930.

Period.	Deaths Under One Year per 1,000 Births.							Males.	Females.
	Under 1 Week.	1 Week to 1 Month.	1 to 3 Months.	3 to 6 Months.	6 to 12 Months.	Total under 1 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 ..	23·1	7·8	7·9	7·1	11·1	57·0	62·9	50·5	
1926 ..	22·6	7·1	7·1	7·5	11·3	55·6	61·3	49·6	
1927 ..	22·6	8·7	7·5	7·1	10·2	56·1	62·8	48·9	
1928 ..	22·5	6·9	6·6	7·2	12·4	55·6	61·1	49·8	
1929 ..	22·4	8·0	5·2	4·6	7·0	47·2	55·1	38·7	
1930 ..	21·7	6·2	5·5	5·3	7·8	46·5	50·8	42·0	

**INFANTILE MORTALITY AT DIFFERENT AGES,
MALES AND FEMALES, 1930.**

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 ..	402	23·6	46·5	319	19·8	47·2
1 week to 1 month	119	7·0	13·7	86	5·3	12·7
1 to 3 months ..	100	5·9	11·6	82	5·1	12·1
3 to 6 months ..	105	6·2	12·1	70	4·4	10·4
6 to 12 months ..	139	8·1	16·1	119	7·4	17·6
Total ..	865	50·8	100·0	676	42·0	100·0

Probable mortality of Infants.

The experience of the years 1926-30 shows that, of every 20,000 newly-born boys and girls in equal numbers, 583 boys and 459 girls died within twelve months, and 9,417 of the former and 9,541 of the latter, or 18,958 of mixed sexes, were living at the end of the year. The corresponding numbers surviving the first year in earlier periods were 17,765 in the ten years 1891-1900 and 17,468 in 1881-90. It is thus seen that, of every 20,000 births comprising equal numbers of each sex, there were 1,193 more survivors in 1926-30 than in 1891-1900, and 1,490 more than in 1881-90.

Infantile death rates from certain causes.

An investigation of infantile mortalities would be incomplete if the diseases which have proved fatal in different periods of years were not ascertained, and their incidence in each period compared. Information of this nature reveals the causes of high death rates, and, when a fairly early period is selected for comparison with recent years, it shows in what direction improvements have taken place. The chief preventable and non-preventable causes of death, grouped under certain headings, are shown in the subjoined table for the periods 1891-93, 1901-10, 1911-20, and for the years 1928 to 1930:—

INFANTILE DEATH RATES FROM CERTAIN CAUSES.

Cause of Death.	Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births in—					
	1891-93.	1901-10.	1911-20.	1928.	1929.	1930.
Epidemic, Endemic, and Infectious Diseases ..	12·41	7·31	4·87	3·37	2·86	3·08
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia ..	11·37	8·13	6·86	6·49	6·87	5·28
Diarrhœal Diseases ..	29·66	24·62	16·13	9·83	3·84	4·98
Malformations, &c. (159)	3·45	4·86	4·38	4·67	4·82	4·38
Wasting Diseases (160)	22·24	12·74	13·09	5·91	4·58	5·13
Prematurity	13·13	14·99	15·17	14·61	13·99	14·25
Violence	3·16	2·47	1·07	·84	·63	·51
Injury at birth ..	} 21·51	} 12·77	} 7·98	3·51	3·15	2·90
Early Infancy (162) ..				2·52	3·48	3·05
All other causes ..				3·88	3·01	2·96
Total, all Causes ..	116·93	87·89	69·55	55·63	47·23	46·52

INFANTILE DEATH RATES, AT DIFFERENT AGES, FROM CERTAIN CAUSES, 1930.

Cause of Death.	Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.									
	Age Period.						Total.	Males.	Females.	Average Annual Rate, 1926-30.
	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.					
Epidemic, Endemic, and Infectious Diseases ..	·03	·18	·85	·57	1·45	3·08	2·70	3·48	3·33	
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia ..	·54	·57	1·33	·97	1·87	5·28	4·94	5·65	6·34	
Diarrhœal Diseases ..	·03	·06	·63	1·57	2·69	4·98	6·00	3·91	7·22	
Malformations, &c. (159)	1·99	1·00	·48	·64	·27	4·38	5·05	3·66	4·66	
Wasting Diseases (160) ..	2·54	1·09	·75	·42	·33	5·13	5·82	4·41	5·60	
Prematurity	11·23	2·02	·64	·33	·03	14·25	15·75	12·66	14·50	
Injury at Birth	2·45	·39	·03	..	·03	2·90	3·11	2·67	3·18	
Early Infancy (162) ..	2·51	·51	·03	..	..	3·05	3·35	2·73	2·87
Violence	·18	..	·18	·09	·06	·51	·59	·43	·74	
All other causes ..	·27	·37	·57	·69	1·06	2·96	3·53	2·36	3·87	
Total, all Causes ..	21·77	6·19	5·49	5·28	7·79	46·52	50·84	41·96	52·31	
Average Annual Rate, 1926-30 ..	22·38	7·42	6·41	6·34	9·76	52·31	58·34	45·90	..	

Of every 1,000 infants born during 1921-30, 10 died from diarrhoeal and 7 from wasting diseases, as compared with 29 from these causes in 1911-20, 37 in 1901-10, and 52 in 1891-93—a decrease of 67 per cent. since the last mentioned period. In 1921-30, acute bronchitis, broncho-pneumonia and pneumonia were responsible for 6.1 deaths per 1,000 births, as compared with 11.4 in 1891-93—a decline of 46 per cent. between the two periods. Of every 1,000 children who died in the last ten years, 343 deaths were due to prematurity and congenital malformations, which may be regarded as of a non-preventable nature, while 172 died from diarrhoeal diseases. The mortality from the latter diseases was highest during the months December to April.

An examination of the male and female mortalities from infantile diseases discloses the fact that the male rate was consistently higher than the female rate, except in the case of whooping cough.

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 the whole State, for the years 1926 to 1930:—

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE MONTH, 1926 TO 1930.

Cause of Death.	Greater Melbourne.					Victoria.				
	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
Epidemic, Endemic, and Infectious Diseases ..	11	6	10	5	2	13	12	10	6	7
Convulsions ..	9	4	7	3	..	16	15	16	11	..
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia ..	15	45	23	55	27	26	57	41	71	37
Diarrhoeal Diseases ..	7	5	8	4	..	13	14	10	13	3
Malformations, &c. (159) ..	56	57	62	57	46	106	104	103	113	99
Wasting Diseases (160) ..	50	67	44	52	52	134	149	115	112	120
Prematurity ..	270	284	247	242	234	502	481	482	452	439
Injury at Birth ..	57	62	68	54	47	100	120	119	103	94
Early Infancy (162) ..	55	48	53	56	66	86	93	83	114	100
Violence ..	6	12	7	4	5	8	16	12	6	6
All other causes ..	28	24	14	9	8	48	38	25	21	21
Total, all Causes ..	564	614	543	541	487	1,052	1,099	1,016	1,022	926
Deaths per 1,000 Births	31.5	34.3	30.4	32.0	29.1	29.7	31.3	29.5	30.4	28.0

On the average of the last ten years, 122 in every 1,000 ex-nuptial infants died within a year, as against 54 in every 1,000 nuptial children. It is thus seen that the proportion of ex-nuptial children dying before the age of 1 year is 2.3 times that of nuptial children. In the year 1930 the mortality rate of nuptial infants was 43.90 per 1,000 births. The children born out of wedlock during the same year numbered 1,480, and the deaths of ex-nuptial infants were 152, the death rate being thus 102.70 per 1,000 births. With the view of ascertaining the chief reasons for the marked disproportion in the mortality rates of the two classes the following table has been constructed, showing the

Nuptial and
ex-nuptial
infantile
death rates.

deaths from certain causes per 1,000 nuptial and ex-nuptial births, for the periods 1904-08, 1914-18, 1924-28 and the year 1930 :—

DEATH RATES OF NUPTIAL AND EX-NUPTIAL INFANTS FROM CERTAIN CAUSES.

Cause of Death.	Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.							
	Nuptial.				Ex-nuptial.			
	1904-08.	1914-18.	1924-28.	1930.	1904-08.	1914-18.	1924-28.	1930.
Diarrhoeal Diseases ..	19·8	14·2	8·9	4·4	72·6	48·6	23·1	16·9
Prematurity, Congenital Malformations, Marasmus, &c.* ..	30·3	27·2	25·0	23·0	52·1	64·9	46·9	41·2
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia ..	6·9	6·1	5·9	4·7	18·6	12·5	13·0	17·6
Other causes ..	18·3	15·3	14·7	11·8	58·7	36·6	29·3	27·0
Total, all Causes ..	75·3	62·8	54·5	43·9	202·0	162·6	112·3	102·7

* Not including "Injury at Birth" and "Other Diseases peculiar to Early Infancy."

The rates for 1930 show that of every 1,000 children born out of wedlock 16·9 died from diarrhoeal diseases within a year, as compared with 4·4 deaths per 1,000 nuptial infants from the same cause. Owing to a larger proportion of the former children being deprived of breast food a higher mortality from these diseases might be expected among them than among nuptial infants, but the striking differences in the death rates from this cause and from the chief respiratory diseases indicate considerable neglect in the rearing of ex-nuptial infants. The rates from bronchitis, broncho-pneumonia, and pneumonia were 17·6 and 4·7 per 1,000 births respectively.

Infantile death rates per 1,000 births in each of the Australian States and New Zealand, in 1930, were as follows :—Victoria, 46·52; New South Wales, 49·84; Queensland, 39·97; South Australia, 48·38; Western Australia, 46·74; Tasmania, 50·56; and New Zealand, 34·48. These figures compare very favourably with the rate for England and Wales, which was 60·0. The rate for Australia was 47·24 as compared with 61·0 in 1920-24, 64·3 in 1915-19, and 71·7 in 1910-14.

The infantile deaths per 1,000 births in the Australasian capitals in 1930 were as follows :—Melbourne, 50·70; Sydney, 49·94; Brisbane, 40·00; Adelaide, 55·14; Perth, 51·93; Hobart, 62·98; and Wellington, 40·12.

In 1930 the deaths of male children under 5 years of age numbered 1,137, and the deaths of female children under that age, 927—the former being in the proportion of 13·43 per cent., and the latter of 12·37 per cent., to the total number of deaths of the respective sexes at all ages. Previous issues of the *Year-Book* contain detailed information relating to the deaths of children under 5 years of age for periods since 1870.

Deaths of children under 5.

Ages at death.

The ages of males and females, who died in each of the last three years, are shown in the following table:—

AGES AT DEATH IN VICTORIA, 1923 TO 1930.

Ages.	1928.			1929.			1930.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 1 ..	1,088	831	1,919	959	628	1,587	865	676	1,541
1 to 2	185	133	318	130	116	246	134	139	273
2 ,, 3	90	73	163	62	53	115	63	45	108
3 ,, 4	58	43	101	51	46	97	43	35	78
4 ,, 5	36	26	62	34	27	61	32	32	64
5 ,, 10	160	126	286	132	88	220	144	100	244
10 ,, 15	120	91	211	94	62	156	90	67	157
15 ,, 20	164	148	312	161	118	279	146	109	255
20 ,, 25	222	220	442	228	169	397	180	174	354
25 ,, 30	219	264	483	234	205	439	227	223	450
30 ,, 35	231	286	517	229	218	447	194	212	406
35 ,, 40	309	307	616	287	266	553	256	254	510
40 ,, 45	344	298	642	318	287	605	312	241	553
45 ,, 50	440	373	813	384	338	722	358	310	668
50 ,, 55	557	400	957	495	393	888	453	341	794
55 ,, 60	635	493	1,128	674	474	1,148	628	421	1,049
60 ,, 65	900	707	1,607	904	629	1,533	767	617	1,384
65 ,, 70	1,086	824	1,904	1,122	859	1,981	1,038	822	1,860
70 ,, 75	986	795	1,781	1,043	829	1,872	969	912	1,881
75 ,, 80	697	665	1,362	710	669	1,379	694	718	1,412
80 ,, 85	460	591	1,051	440	535	975	470	520	990
85 ,, 90	266	409	675	294	351	645	276	342	618
90 ,, 95	104	163	267	104	171	275	88	142	230
95 ..	12	21	33	14	14	28	9	13	22
96 ..	4	10	14	12	9	21	7	11	18
97 ..	4	12	16	8	9	17	5	6	11
98 ..	5	9	14	4	11	15	4	7	11
99 ..	6	1	7	2	6	8	7	..	7
100 ..	..	2	2	2	2	4	..	..	..
101 ..	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	2	5
102 ..	1	..	1	..	2	2	2	1	3
103 ..	..	1	1	..	1	1	1	..	1
104 ..	..	2	2	..	..	..	1	..	1
106 ..	1*	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
107 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	*1	..	1
Total ..	9,384	8,324	17,708	9,131	7,586	16,717	8,467	7,492	15,959

* Age not verified.

Of the 50,384 persons who died in Victoria during the last three years 5,994 were aged 80 years and upwards, and 26—twelve males and fourteen females—had attained or passed the age of 100 years. To every 100 female deaths there were 113 male deaths in 1930, as against 120 in 1929, 113 in 1928, 115 in 1927, and 116 in 1926.

The death rates from the chief diseases are shown in the appended table for the period 1908-12 and for the last three years :—

Death rates
from certain
diseases.

DEATHS PER MILLION FROM CERTAIN CAUSES.

International Classification Number.	Cause of Death.	Deaths per Million of the Population.			
		1908- 1912.	1928.	1929.	1930.
1	Typhoid Fever	98	21	11	10
7	Measles	33	7	25	19
8	Scarlet Fever	16	7	7	6
9	Whooping Cough	77	30	44	40
10	Diphtheria and Croup	122	75	57	48
11	Influenza	109	204	77	34
22	Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis (pre- viously Infantile Paralysis) .. .. .	..	18	10	7
24	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis .. .. .	..	11	14	6
31	Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	855	581	496	498
32-37	Other Tubercular Diseases	182	82	92	97
38	Syphilis	51	41	23	18
43-49	Cancer	833	1,070	1,068	1,042
57	Diabetes	107	135	132	126
58, 65	Anæmia, Chlorosis, Leucæmia	81	65	74	77
71a	Simple Meningitis	133	35	32	36
72, 73	Locomotor Ataxia and other diseases of Spinal Cord	71	36	36	48
74a	Apoplexy and Hæmorrhage of the Brain	449	493	492	465
78	Epilepsy	35	29	27	20
87-90	Heart Disease (including Endocar- ditis, Pericarditis, and Angina Pec- toris)	1,441	1,373	1,480	1,459
99	Acute and Chronic Bronchitis	348	184	144	132
100, 101	Broncho-pneumonia and Pneumonia	834	921	759	560
102	Pleurisy	45	37	40	32
103	Congestion of Lungs and Pulmonary Apoplexy	63	66	55	47
105, 106	Asthma and Pulmonary Emphysema	60	30	21	17
111, 112	Diseases of the Stomach (Cancer excepted)	99	74	74	60
113, 114	Enteritis, Gastro-enteritis, and Diar- rheal Diseases	833	330	153	196
117	Appendicitis	81	76	71	85
118	Hernia, Intestinal Obstruction	113	88	99	86

DEATHS PER MILLION FROM CERTAIN CAUSES—*continued.*

International Classification Numbers.	Cause of Death.	Deaths per Million of the Population.			
		1908- 1912.	1928.	1929.	1930.
Part 116, 121	Hydatids	22	15	17	12
120, 122, 124	Cirrhosis and other diseases of the Liver (Cancer excepted)	158	103	88	93
123	Biliary Calculi	27	32	32	31
126	Simple Peritonitis (non- <i>puerperal</i>)..	35	23	20	11
128, 129	Acute and Chronic Nephritis, <i>Uræ-</i> <i>mia</i> , <i>Bright's Disease</i>	576	545	556	486
132	Calculi of the Urinary System	7	10	9	6
133, 135	Diseases of the Bladder and Prostate	94	66	78	76
164	Old Age	*1,030	609	590	560
165-174	Suicide	102	116	103	116
175-196	Accidental Violence	531	486	479	480
201-203	Homicide	19	18	20	11
197-200	All Causes	11,771	10,111	9,449	8,942

* Not comparable with later years.

The above and other causes of death are dealt with in subsequent paragraphs.

Vaccinations.

Since the introduction of a clause in the *Health Act* of 1919 which came into operation on 24th March, 1920, and which enabled a parent to make a statutory declaration that he conscientiously believed vaccination to be prejudicial to the health of the child, compulsory vaccination has become practically non-operative. Particulars of past years are given in previous issues of this book.

Typhoid fever.

The reported cases of typhoid fever for the whole State declined from 288 per 100,000 of population in 1895-99 to 53 per 100,000 in 1914-18, and 8 per 100,000 in 1930, or by 97 per cent. in the intervening years. The death rate from the disease decreased by 96.7 per cent. during the same period. The deaths per 100 cases in 1925-29 were 12.6 as compared with 13.0 in 1890-94. During 1930 there were 146 reported cases of typhoid fever, of which 48 occurred in the metropolitan area. Deaths numbered 17, the rate being 11.6 per 100 cases.

The cases of, and deaths from typhoid fever in proportion to population each declined by approximately 98 per cent. in Greater Melbourne between 1895-99 and 1930. The introduction and extension of the sewerage system coincide closely with, and in a large measure account for this great improvement.

Small-pox—Deaths from. Persons suffering from small-pox have arrived at Victorian ports on many occasions, but, as they were at once quarantined, the disease never spread among the people of the State. During the years 1853 to 1930 only 31 deaths occurred from this cause, and of that number only 8 took place in the last forty-six years of the period.

Measles. Although the mortality from measles has varied very considerably from period to period, there has been no very severe epidemic outbreak since 1898, when 671 deaths resulted from the disease. In 1930 there were 34 deaths attributed to this cause, representing a rate of 19 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 25 in 1929, 7 in 1928, 30 in 1927, and 8 in 1926.

On the average of the five years 1926 to 1930, 43 per cent. of those who died from the disease were under 2 years of age and 74 per cent. were under 5 years.

Scarlet fever. In 1930 the deaths from scarlet fever numbered 11, which corresponded to a rate of 6 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 7 in 1929, 7 in 1928, 17 in 1927, 9 in 1926, 10 in 1925, and 34 in 1890-92. During 1930 there were 2,071 cases reported, as against 1,490 in 1929, 2,345 in 1928, 2,290 in 1927, and 1,151 in 1926. For the five years mentioned the deaths were less than one per cent. of the cases. According to the experience of the last ten years the chance of dying from the disease is 38 per cent. greater for females than for males.

Whooping cough. Whooping cough was responsible for 71 deaths in 1930, which equalled a rate of 40 per million of the population at all ages, as compared with rates of 44 in 1929, 30 in each of 1928 and 1927, and 71 in 1926. The infantile death rate is more affected than the general rate by this ailment, as it is practically confined to children. In the year under review 47 of the deaths were of infants under 1 year, and all except four of the deaths were of children less than 5 years of age. On the average of the last ten years the mortality rate from the disease was 23 per cent. higher among females than males.

Diphtheria. The prevalence of diphtheria throughout the State during the last twenty years was an unsatisfactory feature of the statistics of sickness relating to that period. On the other hand a very great reduction took place from period to period in the proportion of cases which ended fatally.

On the average of the five years 1926 to 1930, 54 per cent. of those who died were under 5 years, and 88 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, and their proportions to the population, also the ratios of deaths to cases for different periods since 1894 :—

DIPHTHERIA IN VICTORIA AND GREATER MELBOURNE,
1895 TO 1930.

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	2,631	157·4	71	4·2	2·7
1926	2,471	145·6	70	4·1	2·8
1927	3,254	188·4	93	5·4	2·9
1928	4,267	243·6	131	7·5	3·1
1929	3,256	184·1	101	5·7	3·1
1930	3,414	191·3	86	4·8	2·5
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	1,567	174·3	41	4·6	2·6
1926	1,461	157·4	37	4·0	2·5
1927	1,795	187·0	49	5·1	2·7
1928	2,344	237·3	74	7·5	3·2
1929	2,048	199·4	60	5·8	2·9
1930	2,223	214·8	45	4·3	2·0

The cases of diphtheria which occurred in five divisions of the State in each of the last five years and their proportions to the respective populations, for the period 1910-19 and the years 1929 and 1930, are given in the subjoined table:—

CASES OF DIPHTHERIA IN DIFFERENT AREAS.

Area.	Reported Cases of Diphtheria.					Annual Cases per 10,000 of Population.		
	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1910-19.	1929.	1930.
Greater Melbourne ..	1,461	1,795	2,344	2,048	2,223	39·3	19·9	21·5
Ballarat	43	37	53	117	67	24·3	27·7	15·9
Bendigo	35	67	79	60	53	84·6	17·8	15·7
Geelong	167	231	116	94	38	43·4	21·6	8·8
Remainder of State	765	1,124	1,675	937	1,033	25·7	15·0	16·4

Influenza. The deaths from influenza, in 1930 numbered 60, which corresponded to a rate of 34 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 77 in 1929, 204 in 1928, 40 in 1927, 118 in 1926, 2,407 in 1919, 71 in 1913-17, 109 in 1908-12, and 381 in 1890-92.

In 1930, 48 per cent. of the deaths recorded were associated with specified pneumonic complications.

With the exception of the 1919 epidemic, when 72 per cent. of the deaths were of persons between 20 and 50 years of age, influenza has always proved more fatal to elderly people than to those at middle or young ages,

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis). Opinions have been expressed by members of the medical profession that the name "infantile paralysis" as applied to "acute anterior poliomyelitis" is misleading, for adults are attacked and paralysis is not a constant symptom, consequently, since 1924, deaths occurring from this disease are indicated by the medical nomenclature.

Mortality returns show that acute anterior poliomyelitis was responsible for 12 deaths in 1930, 17 in 1929, 32 in 1928, 8 in 1927, 8 in 1926, 25 in 1925, 4 in 1924, 4 in 1923, and 8 in 1922. Of the above 118 deaths, 66 were of males and 52 were of females; 7 were under 1 year of age, 36 were between 1 and 5 years, 30 were between 5 and 10 years, and 45 were over 10 years.

Cerebro-spinal meningitis. Cerebro-spinal meningitis was responsible for 10 deaths in 1930, 24 in 1929, 20 in 1928, 13 in 1927, 19 in 1926, 28 in 1925, an annual average of 19 in 1918-22, 326 in 1916, 338 in 1915, and an annual average of 12 in 1911-14. An outbreak of this disease in the winter of 1915 resulted in the deaths of approximately 650 persons in eighteen months.

Death rates from tuberculosis of the respiratory system. The deaths from tuberculosis of the respiratory system in 1930 numbered 888—482 being of males and 406 of females—and equalled a rate of 498 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 496 in 1929, 581 in 1928, 546 in 1927, 545 in 1926, 660 in 1918-22, 855 in 1908-12, and 1,365 in 1890-92. In England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and the Irish Free State in 1929, the deaths from this cause were 800, 670, 978, and 1,018, per million of their respective popula-

tions. The incidence of mortality for Victoria at various ages for the period 1920-22 was as follows:—

DEATH RATES IN VICTORIA FROM TUBERCULOSIS OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM IN AGE GROUPS, 1920-22.

Sex.	Annual Mortality from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System per 10,000 of each Sex, Aged—								
	0-15.	15-20.	20-25.	25-35.	35-45.	45-55.	55-65.	65 and Over.	All Ages.
Males ..	0·42	2·67	7·88	9·70	12·43	13·94	13·03	8·65	7·11
Females	0·38	4·84	10·20	10·00	9·15	5·91	4·95	3·94	5·55

The ages and sexes of those who died from tuberculosis of the respiratory system in each of the last five years are given in the next table:—

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM AT VARIOUS AGES.

Age Group.	Males.					Females.				
	Year.					Year.				
	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
0-10 ...	3	6	8	9	5	1	4	8	3	4
10-15 ...	2	3	2	1	3	1	3	6	7	3
15-20 ...	18	19	11	17	14	35	39	42	31	33
20-25 ...	33	40	54	47	30	74	72	82	62	71
25-30 ...	45	70	54	53	51	53	72	84	58	79
30-35 ...	53	69	61	57	47	66	55	71	47	54
35-40 ...	61	54	59	68	69	41	48	57	42	26
40-45 ...	63	48	58	57	45	42	35	37	18	29
45-50 ...	57	48	66	49	50	39	24	24	21	25
50-55 ...	38	47	51	55	41	23	29	13	20	21
55-60 ...	46	34	36	23	45	23	16	19	12	12
60-65 ...	41	36	27	43	33	11	16	16	13	14
65-70 ...	26	20	30	23	29	8	18	13	2	12
70 and over	16	10	17	23	20	5	9	11	12	11
Total ...	502	504	534	529	482	422	440	483	348	406

For the year 1930, the average age of those who died from tuberculosis of the respiratory system was 43·7 years for males and 35·3 years for females.

In earlier periods, the death rate from tuberculosis was considerably higher in urban centres—particularly Bendigo—than in the rural portions of the State. During recent years the rates for Greater Melbourne and Ballarat have declined to about the level of that for the whole of the State. The rate for Bendigo has declined considerably, but that for the last five years exceeded by 66 per cent. the rate for Greater Melbourne, by 107 per cent. the rate for Ballarat, and by 85 per cent. the rate for Victoria. The suitability of the Bendigo climate for persons suffering from this disease, encouraging them to take up residence in that city, and the presence of ex-miners in the community, are the principal factors in the continued high death rate. The rates in these localities from tubercular diseases are given in the appended table for different periods since 1890:—

DEATH RATES FROM TUBERCULAR DISEASES IN MELBOURNE, BALLARAT, AND BENDIGO, 1891 TO 1930.

Period.	Deaths per 10,000 of the Population.								
	Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System.			Other Tubercular Diseases.			All Tubercular Diseases.		
	Greater Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Greater Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Greater Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.
1891-1900 ..	16·7	17·1	24·1	4·7	3·5	4·0	21·4	20·6	28·1
1901-05 ..	13·9	15·3	22·7	4·2	4·0	4·7	18·1	19·3	27·4
1906-10 ..	10·8	11·5	21·2	3·0	2·1	2·0	13·8	13·6	23·2
1911-15 ..	9·1	10·3	16·5	2·1	2·2	2·1	11·2	12·5	18·6
1916-20 ..	8·3	11·2	16·0	1·9	1·5	2·0	10·2	12·7	18·0
1921-25 ..	6·9	6·7	11·9	1·5	1·0	2·2	8·4	7·7	14·1
1926 ..	5·9	6·7	10·1	·9	·5	·3	6·8	7·2	10·4
1927 ..	6·3	5·3	10·6	1·2	·2	·9	7·5	5·5	11·5
1928 ..	6·6	5·5	10·3	·9	·2	·6	7·5	5·7	10·9
1929 ..	5·3	5·5	10·4	1·0	·9	1·2	6·3	6·4	11·6
1930 ..	5·6	2·9	12·2	1·1	·2	1·2	6·7	3·1	13·4

Tubercular diseases (tuberculosis of the respiratory system excepted).

In 1930 there were in Victoria 173 deaths from tubercular diseases (excluding tuberculosis of the respiratory system), which corresponded to a rate of 97 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 92 in 1929, 82 in 1928, 100 in 1927, 84 in 1926, 134 in 1918-22, 182 in 1908-12, and 379 in 1890-92. In England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and the Irish Free State, in 1929, the deaths from similar causes numbered 159, 270, 315, and 297 per million of their respective populations.

**Tubercular
diseases—
Deaths of
recent arrivals.**

The experience of recent years shows that the tubercular death rate in Victoria is but slightly affected by the arrival from beyond Australia of persons suffering from tubercular diseases. Only one of those who died in 1930 had been born outside and resident less than one year in Australia, and 12 had resided in the continent for a shorter period than five years.

**Cancer—
Deaths at
various ages.**

The numbers dying from cancer in different age groups in each of the last five years are given below :—

DEATHS FROM CANCER AT VARIOUS AGES.

Age Group.	Males.					Females.				
	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
0-15	7	3	9	8	8	6	5	4	7	8
15-25	3	5	2	4	9	4	3	4	4	7
25-35	12	14	13	15	17	21	22	21	18	24
35-45	25	40	35	32	42	93	78	69	83	70
45-55	117	107	118	100	99	162	163	181	172	162
55-65	266	255	236	260	251	235	238	269	232	235
65-75	276	261	365	371	334	226	265	257	291	291
75-85	124	112	111	122	139	104	117	127	123	124
85 and over ..	24	14	24	19	18	15	27	29	28	21
Total	854	811	913	931	917	866	918	961	958	942

The widely different social and economic effects produced by the prevalence of and deaths from the two important diseases, cancer and tuberculosis of the respiratory system, are evidenced by the ages of their victims. For the year 1930 the average age of those who died from the former was 63·8 years for males and 61·7 years for females, while the corresponding averages for the latter were 43·7 years for males and 35·3 years for females.

**Cancer—
Death rates.** Deaths from cancer in 1930 numbered 1,859, and represented a death rate of 1,042 per million of the whole population, as compared with rates of 1,068 in 1929, 1,070 in 1928, 1,001 in 1927, 1,014 in 1926, 934 in 1918-22, 833 in 1908-12, and 584 in 1890-92. In England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and the Irish Free State, in 1929, the deaths per million of population from

this cause were 1,437, 1,460, 1,179, and 1,058 respectively. The death rates in Victoria for various age groups, for the period 1920-22, are shown in the following table:—

DEATH RATES FROM CANCER IN AGE GROUPS, 1920-22.

Age Group.	Deaths from Cancer per 10,000 of each Sex.	
	Males.	Females.
0 to 5	0·46	0·39
5 ,, 10	0·13	0·17
10 ,, 15	0·14	0·05
15 ,, 20	0·30	0·15
20 ,, 25	0·64	0·30
25 ,, 35	0·76	1·28
35 ,, 45	3·31	6·61
45 ,, 55	13·94	19·14
55 ,, 65	40·46	34·48
65 ,, 75	78·21	63·05
75 and over ..	110·12	92·86
All Ages	9·52	9·63

Type and Seat of cancer.

The following table shows the type and seat of cancer in persons who died from this disease in 1930:—

TYPE AND SEAT OF CANCER, 1930.

Type of Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Seat of Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Carcinoma—simplex	755	798	1,553	Buccal cavity ..	60	5	65
Epithelioma ..	25	18	43	Stomach and liver	375	264	639
Rodent ulcer ..	11	2	13	Peritoneum, intes-			
Sarcoma ..	48	48	96	tines and rectum	176	162	338
Other (specified) ..	11	7	18	Female genital			
Malignant disease				organs ..	..	181	181
(unspecified) ..	67	69	136	Breast ..	..	166	166
				Skin ..	37	23	60
				Other and unspes-			
				sified organs ..	269	141	410
Total Deaths ..	917	942	1,859	Total Deaths ..	917	942	1,859

Thirty-four per cent. of the persons who died from cancer were affected in the stomach or liver. Of the females who died from the disease 37 per cent. were affected in the genital organs or the breast.

During 1930 diabetes was responsible for 101 male and 124 female deaths, representing a rate of 126 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 132 in 1929, 135 in 1928, 130 in 1927, 109 in 1926, 130 in 1918-22, and 107 in 1908-12. The

Diabetes.

incidence of mortality from diabetes in Victoria at various ages, for the period 1920-22, was as follows:—

DEATHS FROM DIABETES PER 10,000 OF EACH SEX, 1920-22.

Sex.	Deaths per 10,000 of each Sex Aged—									
	0-10.	10-20.	20-30.	30-40.	40-50.	50-60.	60-70.	70-80.	80 and Over.	All Ages.
Males ..	0·13	0·31	0·48	0·45	0·95	2·14	5·19	7·37	8·42	1·03
Females	0·22	0·39	0·53	0·54	1·11	2·79	8·02	12·51	6·02	1·45

Anæmia, chlorosis, leucæmia. Anæmia, chlorosis, and leucæmia were responsible for 137 deaths in 1930, which corresponded to a rate of 77 per million of the population, as against rates of 74 in 1929, 65 in 1928, 81 in 1927, 98 in 1926, 92 in 1918-22, and 81 in 1908-12.

Diseases of the spine. In 1930 locomotor ataxia and other diseases of the spine, excluding acute anterior poliomyelitis, accounted for 55 male and 31 female deaths, representing a death rate of 48 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 36 in 1929 and 1928, 43 in 1927, 39 in 1926, 60 in 1918-22, and 71 in 1908-12.

Heart disease. During 1930 there were 2,290 deaths ascribed to organic heart disease, 19 to pericarditis, 116 to acute endocarditis and myocarditis, and 179 to angina pectoris. Since 1924 deaths of persons over 45 years of age, from endocarditis and myocarditis (unspecified) have been ascribed to organic heart disease. The total—2,604—from these causes represented a rate of 1,459 per million of the population, as compared with 1,480 in 1929, 1,373 in 1928, 1,323 in 1927, 1,255 in 1926, 1,302 in 1918-22, and 1,441 in 1908-12. Of the 2,604 persons who died from these diseases in 1930, only 25, or 0·96 per cent., were under 15 years of age. On the average of the three years 1920 to 1922 the deaths from all forms of heart diseases per 10,000 of each sex, in age groups were as follows:—

DEATH RATES FROM HEART DISEASE AT VARIOUS AGES, 1920-22.

Sex.	Deaths per 10,000 Persons aged—									
	0-15.	15-20.	20-25.	25-35.	35-45.	45-55.	55-65.	65-75.	75 and upwards.	All Ages
Males ..	1·52	1·92	2·04	2·64	5·40	14·52	40·62	112·20	247·10	13·74
Females ..	1·15	1·85	1·53	3·25	5·26	10·73	29·53	85·65	208·17	11·70

The figures indicate that the mortality rate from heart disease is a function of age, and that it attains its maximum at the oldest age. Of the deaths of persons aged 75 and upwards, approximately 1 in 5 is due to some form of this disease.

In 1930 the deaths from respiratory diseases numbered 1,518, which represented a rate of 851, per million of the population, as compared with rates of 1,080 in 1929, 1,308 in 1928, 1,151 in 1927, and 1,033 in 1926. Of the deaths from complaints of this nature in the year under review, 41 were referred to acute bronchitis, 84 to chronic bronchitis, 111 to bronchitis unspecified, 458 to broncho-pneumonia, 541 to pneumonia, 57 to pleurisy, and 28 to asthma. These six diseases accounted for 87 per cent. of the total respiratory mortality. The seasonal incidence of these maladies in normal years is greatest during the months May to September.

In 1930 there were 574 male and 528 female deaths from digestive ailments, representing a proportion of 617 per million of the population, as against rates of 584 in 1929, 784 in 1928, 732 in 1927, 778 in 1926, 1,009 in 1918-22, and 2,382 in 1890-92. Diarrhoeal diseases were responsible for 350 deaths, which were equivalent to a rate of 196 per million of population, the corresponding rates in previous periods being 153 in 1929, 330 in 1928, 272 in 1927, 332 in 1926, 532 in 1918-22, 833 in 1908-12, and 1,342 in 1890-92. The age incidence of these diseases shows that they are heaviest at the extremes of life. Of the 350 deaths from diarrhoeal diseases in the year under review, 228, or 65 per cent., were of children under 2 years of age, and 56, or 16 per cent., were of persons over 65 years of age. There were 43 male and 36 female deaths from cirrhosis of the liver, 57 male and 101 female deaths from other affections of that organ (including hydatids), and 71 male and 82 female deaths from hernia and intestinal obstruction.

The deaths from appendicitis numbered 152 in 1930, which represented a death rate of 85 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 71 in 1929, 76 in 1928, 75 in 1927, 74 in 1926, and 63 in 1918-22. Hospital records show that during the year ended 30th June, 1930, there were 3,589 cases treated, and that 63, or 1.8 per cent., ended fatally, as compared with fatality rates of 2.3 per cent. in 1929, 1.9 per cent. in 1928, 2.3 per cent. in 1927, 1.8 per cent. in 1926, and 6 per cent. in the period 1908-12.

Hydatids. In 1930 there were 12 male and 10 female deaths from hydatids, of which 8 males and 8 females were attributed to hydatid tumor of the liver. Of the above deaths 7 were of residents of Greater Melbourne, 3 of the Central, 2 of the North Central, 2 of the Gippsland, 1 of the Mallee, 1 of the Northern, 5 of the Western, and 1 of the Wimmera districts. The deaths from hydatids were equivalent to a rate of 12 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 17 in 1929, 15 in 1928, 10 in 1927, 11 in 1926, 16 in 1918-22, 22 in 1908-12, and 51 in 1890-92.

Diseases of urinary system In 1930 there were 1,159 deaths attributed to diseases of the urinary system, which corresponded to a rate of 649 per million of the population, as against rates of 725 in 1929, 706 in 1928, 740 in 1927, 677 in 1926, 670 in 1918-22, and 700 in 1909-12. Acute and chronic nephritis were responsible for 866 deaths, or 75 per cent., and complaints of the bladder and prostate for 136 deaths, or nearly 12 per cent., of the total maladies of the urinary system.

Deaths in childbirth. 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. The proportions for each of the last five years and the averages of previous periods back to 1871 are given below :—

DEATHS OF MOTHERS (MARRIED AND SINGLE) TO EVERY 10,000 CHILDREN BORN ALIVE, 1871 TO 1930.

Period.	Number of Mothers who Died Annually from—			Deaths of Mothers to every 10,000 Children Born Alive from—		
	Puerperal Septicæmia.	Other Puerperal Causes.	Total.	Puerperal Septicæmia.	Other Puerperal Causes.	Total.
1871-80 ..	46	127	173	17·12	47·26	64·38
1881-90 ..	64	121	185	20·48	38·71	59·19
1891-1900 ..	66	117	183	20·20	35·81	56·01
1901-1910 ..	52	114	166	16·93	37·12	54·05
1911-1920 ..	53	94	147	15·42	27·35	42·77
1921-1925 ..	43	102	145	11·96	28·37	40·33
1926 ..	64	130	194	18·10	36·76	54·86
1927 ..	78	118	196	22·24	33·64	55·88
1928 ..	65	139	204	18·84	40·29	59·13
1929 ..	69	114	183	20·53	33·93	54·46
1930 ..	69	121	190	20·83	36·53	57·36

It will be seen that the death rate of women in childbirth fluctuates considerably, and, in 1928, reached a higher rate than had occurred in any year since 1903. The increase during the last few years, however, is probably more apparent than real, owing to the greater use made, for classification purposes, of the information contained in the birth registers in identifying the association of the puerperal condition with the cause of death shown on the certificate.

The following tables gives information in age groups for the year 1930 relating to the causes of death of women in childbirth, and the total number of children born to married mothers:—

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES, VICTORIA, 1930.

Causes of Death.	Ages at Death.						Total.	Married Mothers.	Unmarried Mothers.
	Under 20.	20 to 25.	25 to 30.	30 to 35.	35 to 40.	40 and over.			
Accidents of Pregnancy—									
(a) Abortion	1	..	1	1	..	..	3	3	..
(b) Ectopic Gestation	1	1	..	4	2	1	9	9	..
(c) Other	1	1	1	..	3	..	6	6	..
Puerperal Hæmorrhage .. .. .	..	2	4	6	3	5	20	20	..
Other Accidents of Labour—									
(a) Cæsarean section .. .. .	..	1	..	..	1	1	3	3	..
(b) Other surgical operations and instrumental delivery .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..
(c) Others .. .. .	..	2	5	3	6	1	17	17	..
Puerperal Septicæmia	3	9	20	14	15	8	69	62	7
Puerperal Phlegmasia Alba Dolens .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Embolism and Sudden Death .. .. .	..	3	3	6	6	1	19	19	..
Puerperal Albuminuria and Convulsions	2	7	5	8	13	7	42	40	2
Following Childbirth (not otherwise defined) .. .. .	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
Puerperal Diseases of the Breast.. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	8	27	39	42	50	24	190	181	9
Married Mothers	5	25	39	40	50	22	181	..	..
Unmarried Mothers	3	2	..	2	..	2	9	..	..
Total Issue of Married Mothers	1	29	71	81	183	117	487	..	..

Of the 487 children born to the 181 married women who died, 449 were living at the time of their mother's death, or an average of 2.5 children per mother, as compared with 2.8 in 1929, and 2.6 in 1928.

First confinements were responsible for 75, or 41.4 per cent., of the total deaths of married mothers, as compared with 28.1 per cent. in 1929, and 25.5 per cent. in 1928.

The death rate of women in childbirth varies considerably at different ages, and is less at younger than at older ages. The number of deaths of women in childbirth and the death rates in various age groups in Victoria, for the period 1920-26 and the years 1928, 1929, and 1930 are shown in the following table:—

DEATH RATES OF WOMEN IN CHILDBIRTH, IN AGE GROUPS, 1920 TO 1930.

Age Group.	Mothers.							
	Deaths.				Deaths per 10,000 children born alive.			
	1920-26.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1920-26.	1928.	1929.	1930.
Under 20 years ..	45	7	5	8	44.9	38.9	28.2	42.1
20 to 25 ,, ..	182	23	32	27	33.6	29.2	41.8	36.0
25 ,, 30 ,, ..	274	50	40	39	36.2	50.3	40.7	40.9
30 ,, 35 ,, ..	279	52	37	42	45.8	66.2	48.6	56.2
35 ,, 40 ,, ..	231	46	40	50	62.7	89.2	82.1	101.9
40 years and over	102	26	29	24	73.7	138.4	154.6	131.7
Total	1,113	204	183	190	44.2	59.1	54.5	57.4

The experience of the years 1920-26 showed that, for the age period 35 years and upwards, the deaths of mothers in childbirth were 66 per 10,000 live births, as compared with 39 per 10,000 for those under 35 years of age.

During the year 1930, the deaths of 441 men and 559 women were ascribed to senile decay, as compared with 483 men and 561 women in 1929. Prior to 1927, deaths from ill-defined

Senile decay.

causes, i.e., heart failure, debility, etc., of those persons over 65 years of age, were shown as being due to senile decay. In 1927, however, in accordance with the rule laid down in the International List of Causes of Death, only deaths of persons over 70 years of age from such causes were included therein. The deaths at ages 70 and over from all causes during 1930 numbered 5,211—2,537 of men and 2,674 of women, or 32·7 per cent. of the total deaths.

In 1930, 655 male and 202 female deaths were attributed to **Accidental violence**, accidents and negligence, which represented a rate of 480 per million of the population. This proportion was slightly below the average rate—496—for the previous five years, and 41 per cent. below the rate—811—for 1890-92. The numbers of deaths from various accidents in the last five years are given in the appended table:—

DEATHS FROM ACCIDENTAL VIOLENCE, 1926 TO 1930.

Nature or Place of Accident.	Annual Deaths during—						
	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.		
					Total.	Males.	Females
Poisoning by Food ..	5	4	3	9	2	2	..
Snake Bite ..	3	1	2	..	2	..	2
Other Venomous Bites and Stings ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Other Acute Poisonings ..	11	16	16	17	12	8	4
Conflagration (Bush fires, &c.) ..	28	8	3	1	6	2	4
Burns, Scalds, &c... ..	71	58	57	64	58	27	31
Accidental Mechanical Suffocation ..	13	10	11	9	16	10	6
Absorption of Poisonous Gases ..	20	12	12	10	4	3	1
Drowning ..	131	137	125	97	136	102	34
Firearms ..	27	19	23	26	32	30	2
Falls ..	72	71	60	71	57	48	9
In Mines and Quarries ..	5	15	3	10	6	6	..
Machines ..	11	9	14	16	7	7	..
Vehicular Accidents ..	309	301	382	394	406	328	78
Other Crushings ..	24	30	17	26	23	23	..
Injuries by Animals ..	11	4	7	10	7	5	2
Excessive Cold ..	2	..	1	2	..	..	..
Effects of Heat ..	7	15	5	5	8	5	3
Lightning ..	..	3	..	2	2	2	..
Electricity ..	8	7	4	12	8	8	..
Fractures, Unspecified ..	62	65	54	39	31	15	16
Other Violence ..	64	57	52	28	34	24	10
Total ..	884	842	852	848	857	655	202

On the average of the last five years the female mortality rate from accidents was about 29 per cent. of the rate for males.

In 1930, deaths from vehicular accidents numbered 406, as against 394 in 1929, 382 in 1928, 301 in 1927, 309 in 1926, 299 in 1925, 245 in 1924, 201 in 1923, 163 in 1922, 178 in 1921, and 153 in 1920.

In the following table details are given of deaths due to collisions between various types of conveyances, pedestrians killed, and other fatal accidents in which vehicles were concerned, for the year 1930 :—

DEATHS FROM VEHICULAR ACCIDENTS, IN VICTORIA, 1930.

	Collisions between—						Pedestrians killed.	Fall from vehicle and other accidents.	Total.	Males.	Females.	
	Railway train.	Motor omnibus, car, lorry.	Motor cycle.	Horse-drawn vehicle.	Bicycle.	Aeroplane.						Total.
Railway train ..	1	11	1	..	..	..	13	32*	16	61	50	11
Tramcar	5	..	1	..	..	6	7	7	20	18	2
Motor omnibus	1	1	..	..	..	2	1	..	3	3	..
" car	19	20	..	14	..	53	80	50	183	145	38
" lorry, &c.	4	12	..	5	..	21	29	19	69	51	18
" cycle	5	3	..	..	8	7	20	35	31	4
Horse - drawn vehicle	2	..	2	5	18	25	23	2
Bicycle	2	4	6	4	2
Aeroplane	4	4	3	1
Total ..	1	40	39	4	21	..	105	163	138	406	328	78

* Including 11 railway employees.

The number of motor vehicles (including motor cycles) registered in Victoria and the deaths in which they were involved, for the years 1922 to 1930, were as follows :—

Accidental deaths involving motor vehicles.

DEATHS INVOLVING MOTOR VEHICLES, 1922 TO 1930.

Year.	Number of Motor Vehicles. (30th June.)	Deaths Involving Motor Vehicles.		
		Number.	Per 10,000 Motor Vehicles	Per 1,000,000 of Population.
1922	39,638	65	16·4	41
1923	54,637	103	18·9	64
1924	69,809	135	19·3	82
1925	89,403	174	19·5	104
1926	103,551	193	18·6	114
1927	134,135	214	16·0	124
1928	150,343	297	19·8	170
1929	168,578	294	17·4	166
1930	179,887	307	17·1	172

It will be observed that, while registrations of motor vehicles more than quadrupled, the mortality per 10,000 motor vehicles fluctuated only slightly during the years mentioned. The mortality per million of the population increased from 41 in 1922 to 172 in 1930.

In 1930, motor cars, &c., were involved in 18 deaths per 10,000 cars registered, and motor cycles in 27 deaths per 10,000 cycles registered.

Suicide. In the year 1930, 170 males and 37 females took their own lives. The deaths represented a rate of 116 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 103 in 1929, 116 in 1928, 108 in 1927, 93 in 1926, 87 in 1918-22, 102 in 1908-12, and 109 in 1890-92. A much lower rate from suicide obtains among females than males, the rate for the former being 25 per cent. of that for the latter on the average of the last five years.

Homicide. The deaths ascribed to homicide in 1930 numbered 20, of which 13 were of males and 7 of females. These represented a rate of 11 per million of the population, as against rates of 20 in 1929, 18 in 1928, 18 in 1927, 20 in 1926, 14 in 1918-22, and 19 in 1908-12.

NATURAL INCREASE.

The average annual natural increase, i.e., the excess of births over deaths, per 1,000 of the population, in the various Australian States, the Commonwealth of Australia, and New Zealand, for different 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 POPULATION.

AUSTRALASIA.

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	15·80	16·03	13·72	14·04	16·71	14·62	14·19
1925 ..	12·02	14·85	14·96	11·91	13·23	14·89	13·69	12·88
1926 ..	11·21	13·34	13·19	11·82	13·21	14·57	12·60	12·31
1927 ..	10·59	13·10	13·18	11·14	13·22	13·33	12·22	11·84
1928 ..	9·59	13·26	12·99	10·84	12·68	12·07	11·88	11·07
1929 ..	9·54	11·41	11·01	9·70	12·45	12·27	10·76	10·26
1930 ..	9·62	12·42	12·21	8·84	12·96	13·11	11·34	10·24

VICTORIA.

Period.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	Annual Rates per 1,000 of Population.			Period.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	Annual Rates per 1,000 of Population.		
		Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.			Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.
1880-84	14,466	30·64	14·40	16·24	1920-24	19,647	22·89	10·40	12·49
1885-89	16,741	32·27	15·87	16·40	1925 ..	20,086	21·49	9·47	12·02
1890-94	20,059	31·99	14·62	17·37	1926 ..	19,027	20·84	9·63	11·21
1895-99	15,625	26·76	13·81	12·95	1927 ..	18,301	20·30	9·71	10·59
1900-04	14,859	25·08	12·78	12·30	1928 ..	16,790	19·70	10·11	9·59
1905-09	16,062	24·76	11·93	12·83	1929 ..	16,887	18·99	9·45	9·54
1910-14	18,795	25·42	11·57	13·85	1930 ..	17,168	18·56	8·94	9·62
1915-19	16,818	23·13	11·38	11·75					

The mean increase in the Australian States for the period 1926-30 was 11·76 per 1,000 of population, which is probably greater than will prevail when the age constitution of the people becomes similar to that of old settled countries. At present the proportion of elderly people is smaller than in those countries, and, partly as a

consequence of this, the death rate is lower. The Victorian death rates are below those of England and Wales at nearly all periods of life. The Australian annual rate of increase due to excess of births over deaths for 1926-30—11·76—would enable a population to double itself in 59 years, while, at the Victorian rate of 10·11 per 1,000 of population, a period of 69 years would be required. In England and Wales in 1930 the excess of births over deaths was 4·9 per 1,000 of population.
