

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 the Government Statist or by an Assistant Government Statist are *primâ 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 4,749,800 original entries have been made in the indexes, of which 1,280,100 relate to marriages, 2,355,400 to births, and 1,114,300 to deaths.

On the 1st August, 1932, 55 metropolitan registration offices were closed, and a branch for the registration of births and deaths occurring within the area of Greater Melbourne was established at the office of the Government Statist. This change will result in a considerable financial saving annually, and will facilitate the working of the registration section of the office.

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 1932 was 39,197, yielding £4,726 revenue. Included in the above number were 4,536 free ordinary searches and 419 free certificates.

Law relating to Marriages, Births, and Deaths. The various Acts relating to the registration of marriages, births, and deaths in Victoria were consolidated in 1928.

Marriages may be celebrated by any minister of religion ordinarily officiating as such in one of the religious denominations, and whose name is registered in the office of the Government Statist, also by the Government Statist, an Assistant Government Statist or a duly appointed registrar of marriages. The Governor in Council may prohibit from celebrating marriages any minister who is proved guilty of any offence, misconduct, or impropriety unworthy of his calling, or who makes a business of celebrating marriages for the purpose of profit or gain. Three clear days notice must precede all marriages; where the parties are being married by a minister this notice may be dispensed with, in cases of emergency, on the written permission of a Justice of the Peace. Marriage of minors is permissible only with the written consent of parents or guardian, or in certain circumstances by permission of a Guardian of Minors who is usually a police magistrate. Marriage with a deceased wife's sister is valid. Marriages of Jews and Quakers are exempted from the law relating to marriages, and are deemed legal and valid if celebrated according to their respective usages. Certificates of such marriages must, however, be lodged with the Government Statist for record purposes. No marriage is invalid by reason of its having been celebrated by an unqualified person if either of the parties believed at the time that such person was qualified, or by reason of any formal defect or irregularity.

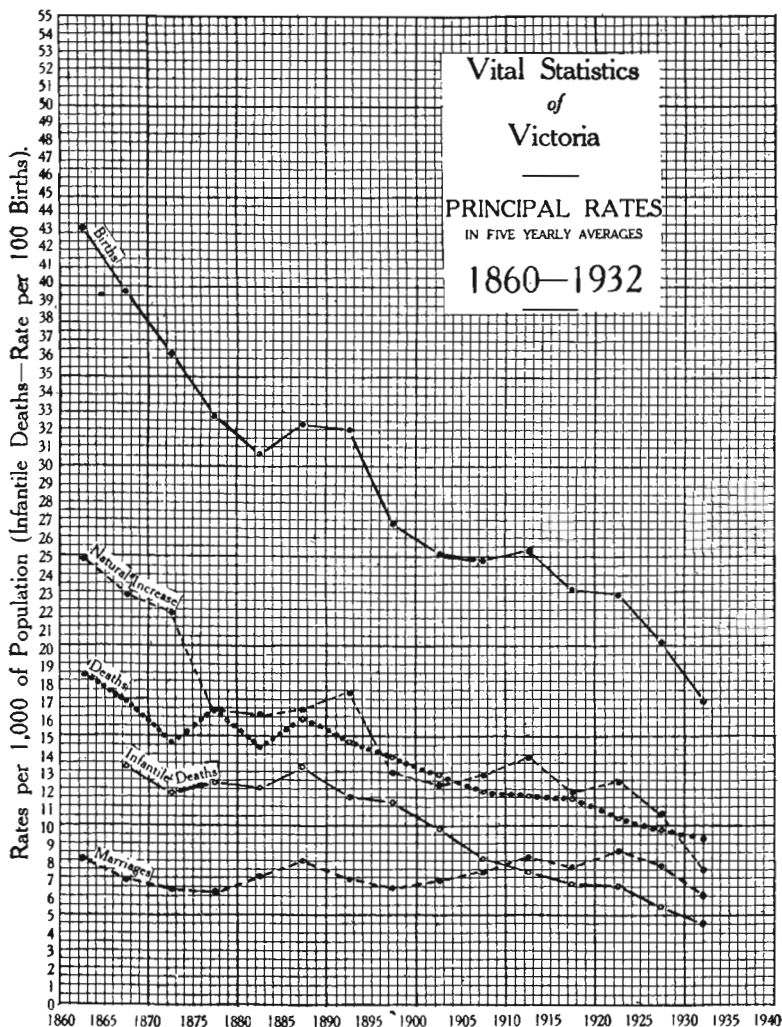
Births of live children must, under a penalty not exceeding £10 for default without reasonable cause, be registered within 60 days. After 60 days and within twelve months, registration may be effected on the payment of a fee of 5s., after twelve months and under seven years, only by authority of the Government Statist (fee 20s.), and after seven years by order of a Judge of the County or Supreme Court (fee 30s.) Births (and deaths under five years of age) of illegitimate children must, in addition to being registered, be notified to the local registrar, by the occupier of the house within 3 or 7 days according to locality. If the mother is the occupier the period of notification is extended to three weeks.

Legitimation of an illegitimate child may be effected at any time after the marriage of the father and mother provided there was at the time of the birth of the child no legal impediment to the marriage.

The Adoption of Children Act 1928 provides for the legal adoption of children and for the registration of each adoption by the Government Statist.

Stillbirths are not registered, but registrars issue burial certificates in accordance with the *Cemeteries Act 1928*, and are instructed to keep a memorandum of each case notified.

Deaths must, under a penalty not exceeding £10, be notified to the local registrar within seven days by the occupier of the house in which the death occurred or by the doctor or nurse in attendance, and must be registered within 21 days. Sudden deaths and deaths of boarded-out children under five years of age should, however, be reported to the Coroner, and registered by him or on his authority.



The principal numbers and rates—male and female—
Summary of Vital Statistics, 1932. relating to Vital Statistics in Victoria for the year 1932, are given in the following table:—

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, VICTORIA, 1932.

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	466,270	6,803	5,044	362	14·59	10·82	53·21
	Females	527,965	6,383	4,685	267	12·09	8·87	41·83
	Total	994,235	13,186	9,729	629	13·26	9·79	47·70
Rest of the State	Males	430,030	7,273	3,954	330	16·91	9·20	45·37
	Females	381,841	7,005	3,122	222	18·35	8·18	31·69
	Total	801,871	14,278	7,076	552	17·81	8·82	38·66
Victoria	Males	*896,300	14,076	8,998	692	15·70	10·04	49·16
	Females	*909,806	13,388	7,807	489	14·72	8·58	36·52
	Total	1,806,106	27,464	16,805	1,181	15·21	9·30	43·00

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

* Subject to revision.

The birth and infantile death rates for 1932 were the lowest recorded in Victoria.

MARRIAGES.

**Marriages—
Numbers and
Rates.**

Marriages in Victoria in 1932 numbered 11,744, corresponding to a rate of 6.50 per 1,000 of the population. Rates for previous years were 5.67 in 1931, 6.52 in 1930 and 7.31 in 1929, the rate for 1931 being the lowest in the history of the State. The highest number of marriages, 14,898, and also the highest rate since 1857—9.85 were recorded in 1920. The high rate of 1920 was mainly due to the marriages of a large number of returned soldiers after their return to civilian life.

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 1932.

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
1931 ..	10,182	2,346	2,638	2,425	2,773	5·67
1932 ..	11,744	2,915	2,866	2,626	3,337	6·50

* Not available.

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.

Marriage rates in Australasia. Marriage rates in each of the other Australasian States in 1932 were as follows:—New South Wales, 6·86; Queensland, 6·61; South Australia, 6·20; Western Australia, 6·87; Tasmania, 6·79; and New Zealand, 6·80. The rate for Australia was 6·66 in 1932, as compared with 5·98 in 1931, 6·71 in 1930, 7·45 in 1929, 7·73 in 1928, 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 1932 are shown in combination for various groups in the table which follows:—

AGES OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES IN COMBINATION IN VICTORIA, 1932.

Ages of Bridegrooms.	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	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
17	2	3	8	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
18	1	1	7	15	25	11	7	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	76
19	1	10	34	50	44	22	29	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	194
20	21	34	42	56	43	60	7	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	264
21 to 25	..	1	8	45	151	270	327	356	1,605	354	40	4	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	3,163
25 to 30	5	19	41	87	162	206	1,868	1,595	202	37	6	2	..	..	..	..	..	4,230
30 to 35	2	4	13	18	32	53	401	755	365	99	27	4	3	1	..	..	..	1,807
35 to 40	3	6	10	13	108	216	212	121	41	16	1	1	..	1	..	749
40 to 45	1	1	7	6	38	88	118	98	65	27	4	..	..	..	..	453
45 to 50	1	12	37	46	61	66	28	12	4	1	..	..	271
50 to 55	2	9	17	34	37	32	15	9	3	1	..	159
55 to 60	2	4	8	23	17	21	17	14	5	2	..	114
60 to 65	1	4	3	9	16	20	12	7	6	4	3	84
65 to 70	1	..	2	6	9	6	9	6	4	..	58
70 to 75	1	1	3	2	2	4	3	3	3	6	4	35
75 and over	1	..	..	1	..	..	2	4	2	10
Total Brides	..	2	19	110	300	503	650	708	4,226	3,074	1,016	489	284	165	83	53	29	24	9	11,744

Of every 1,000 men married during the year, 739 were older and 164 younger than their brides, and 97 were of the same age as their partners.

The following table shows the proportions of both sexes marrying in various age groups for 1932:—

PROPORTIONS OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES IN AGE GROUPS, 1932.

Age Group.	Proportion per 1,000 of total—		Age Group.	Proportion per 1,000 of total—	
	Bridegrooms.	Brides.		Bridegrooms.	Brides.
Under 16 ..	..	1·79	35 to 40 ..	63·78	41·64
16 to 17 ..	·09	9·37	40 to 45 ..	38·57	24·18
17 to 18 ..	1·36	25·54	45 to 50 ..	23·08	14·05
18 to 19 ..	6·47	42·83	50 to 55 ..	13·54	7·07
19 to 20 ..	16·52	55·35	55 to 60 ..	9·71	4·51
20 to 21 ..	22·48	60·29	60 and over	15·92	5·28
21 to 25 ..	269·33	359·84	Total ..	1,000·00	1,000·00
25 to 30 ..	360·18	261·75			
30 to 35 ..	158·97	86·51			

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, 1928 TO 1932.

Year.	Bridegrooms.			Brides.		
	Bachelors.	All Bridegrooms.	Bridegrooms of Brides under 45.	Spinsters.	All Brides.	Brides under 45.
	Years.	Years.	Years.	Years.	Years.	Years.
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
1931 ..	27·89	29·52	28·65	25·02	26·02	25·03
1932 ..	28·02	29·50	28·66	25·19	26·05	25·18

In 1932 the mean marrying age of divorced men was 40·15 years and of widowers 47·88, while for divorced women the age was 35·31 and for widows 43·19.

Birthplaces of persons marrying. Marriage records for 1932 show that 84·9 per cent. of the bridegrooms and 90·6 per cent. of the brides were Australian born while 11·9 per cent. of the grooms and 7·5 per cent. of the brides were born in Great Britain and Ireland. Of all persons married 87·8 per cent. were born in Australia, .8 per cent. in New Zealand, 9·7 per cent. in Great Britain and Ireland, and .5 per cent. in other British Possessions, and only small proportions, about 1·8 per cent. of the bridegrooms and .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 1932 :—

BIRTHPLACES OF PERSONS MARRIED, 1913 AND 1932.

Where Born	Bridegrooms.		Brides.	
	1913.	1932.	1913.	1932.
Australia	9,628	9,969	10,274	10,643
New Zealand	155	95	82	89
England and Wales	972	1,019	644	660
Scotland	213	276	141	181
Ireland	126	101	83	40
Other British Possessions	40	71	24	36
Germany	46	26	19	14
Russia	17	12	3	4
Italy	15	48	12	12
United States	30	16	14	8
Other Foreign Countries and unspecified	82	111	28	57
Total	11,324	11,744	11,324	11,744

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 1932.

Conjugal Condition.	Percentage of Total Marriages.				
	1871-80.	1891-1900.	1911-20.	1921-30.	1932.
Bachelors and Spinsters..	80·59	87·22	90·31	90·70	91·55
Bachelors and Widows ..	7·10	4·23	3·15	2·95	2·27
Widowers and Spinsters..	7·75	6·07	4·81	4·57	4·71
Widowers and Widows ..	4·56	2·48	1·73	1·78	1·47

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

Of every 1,000 persons of each sex married in Victoria in 1932, 917 were bachelors, 62 widowers and 21 divorced men as compared with 946 spinsters, 37 widows and 17 divorced women.

The number of divorced persons re-married during 1932 was 444, which was 70 more than the number for the preceding year. Of the 119,376 persons married during the last five years, divorced persons numbered 2,296, or 1 in every 52 persons, as compared with 1 in every 98 in the period, 1916-20. The following are the numbers of divorced and deserted persons who have re-married during the years 1928 to 1932 :—

DIVORCED AND DESERTED PERSONS RE-MARRYING, 1928 TO 1932.

Year.	Divorced.			Deserted.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1928	248	255	503	2	5	7
1929	236	276	512	3	5	8
1930	236	227	463	7	10	17
1931	184	190	374	4	18	22
1932	243	201	444	3	13	16

The proportions of bridegrooms and brides under 21 years of age are given in the subjoined table for the years 1928 to 1932 :—

Year.	Percentage under 21 years of age.	
	Bridegrooms.	Brides.
1928	4·02	18·11
1929	4·31	18·34
1930	4·70	19·57
1931	5·45	20·30
1932	4·69	19·52

Marriages of minors.

**Marriages in
religious
denomina-
tions.**

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 1932, are shown in the following table:—

MARRIAGES IN VARIOUS DENOMINATIONS.

Denomination.	1913.		1932.	
	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.
Church of England	3,179	28·07	3,096	26·36
Roman Catholic Church	1,922	16·97	2,158	18·38
Presbyterian Church	2,105	18·59	2,008	17·10
Methodist Church	1,633	14·42	1,680	14·30
Baptist Church	449	3·97	516	4·39
Church of Christ	257	2·27	279	2·38
Congregational Church	1,014	8·95	205	1·75
Lutheran Church	71	·63	73	·62
Salvation Army	47	·42	86	·73
Hebrew	43	·38	56	·48
Other Sects	314	2·77	72	·61
Registrars of Marriages	290	2·56	1,515	12·90
Total	11,324	100·00	11,744	100·00

**Civil
marriages.**

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

CIVIL MARRIAGES, 1923 TO 1932.

Year.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.	Year.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.
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
1926 ..	617	4·61	1931 ..	1,143	11·23
1927 ..	845	6·21	1932 ..	1,515	12·90

Registered clergymen. The ministers qualified by registration to celebrate marriages in Victoria numbered 1,787 on 31st December, 1932. The numbers of ministers in each denomination (excepting Jews and Quakers) and civil registrars of marriages were as follows:—

REGISTERED MINISTERS OF EACH DENOMINATION, 1932.

Denomination.	Number of Registered Ministers.	Denomination.	Number of Registered Ministers.
Church of England ..	445	New Church	2
Roman Catholic ..	403	Greek Orthodox Church ..	1
Presbyterian	302	Unitarian	1
Methodist	316	International Bible Students' Association ..	1
Baptist	94	Latter Day Saints (Mormons)	1
Church of Christ ..	69	Open Brethren	3
Congregational ..	55	Pentecostal	1
Lutheran	31		
Salvation Army ..	42		
Latter Day Saints (Re-organized)	3	Total Clergymen	1,787
Seventh Day Adventist ..	10		
Catholic Apostolic ..	3	Civil Registrars of Marriages	20
Free Christian	1		
Australian Church ..	2		
Ballarat Town Mission ..	1	Grand Total	1,807

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 1932 was 27,464. This was 2,868 less than the number registered for the preceding year, and the rate per 1,000 of the population was the lowest experienced in Victoria. Stillbirths, which are excluded from both births and deaths, numbered 794, and corresponded to a ratio of 28·9 per 1,000 infants born alive in 1932. There were 1,051 male to every 1,000 female births in 1932, as compared with 1,063 in 1931, 1,056 in 1930, 1,073 in 1929, and 1,066 in 1928.

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 1932.

Period.	Average Annual Number of Births.	Sex.		Quarter of Registration.				Rate per 1,000 of Mean Population.
		Males.	Females.	March.	June.	Sep-tember.	Decem-ber.	
1855-59	17,154	8,742	8,412	*	*	*	*	39·49
1860-64	24,060	12,379	11,681	5,614	5,991	6,534	5,921	43·29
1865-69	25,963	13,219	12,744	6,027	6,543	7,105	6,288	39·77
1870-74	27,359	13,944	13,415	6,478	6,769	7,467	6,645	36·35
1875-79	26,584	13,639	12,945	6,333	6,686	7,211	6,354	32·85
1880-84	27,286	13,965	13,321	6,374	7,025	7,300	6,587	30·64
1885-89	32,941	16,883	16,058	7,824	8,289	8,814	8,014	32·27
1890-94	36,945	18,901	18,044	8,669	9,604	9,735	8,937	31·99
1895-99	31,675	16,213	15,462	7,746	8,078	8,323	7,528	26·76
1900-04	30,316	15,544	14,772	7,384	7,682	7,880	7,370	25·08
1905-09	30,994	15,879	15,115	7,489	7,832	8,076	7,597	24·76
1910-14	34,500	17,717	16,783	8,329	8,619	8,850	8,702	25·42
1915-19	33,101	17,014	16,087	8,228	8,336	8,514	8,023	23·13
1920-24	36,022	18,549	17,473	8,729	8,970	9,367	8,956	22·89
1925 ..	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	18·65
1931 ..	30,332	15,632	14,700	7,835	7,888	7,294	7,315	16·88
1932 ..	27,464	14,076	13,388	6,819	6,940	6,818	6,887	15·21

* Not available.

Birth rates per 1,000 of the mean population in each of the other Australasian States in 1932 were as follows:—
Birth Rates in Australasia. New South Wales, 17·75; Queensland, 17·89; South Australia, 14·54; Western Australia, 18·85; Tasmania, 20·25; and New Zealand, 17·09. The rate for Australia in 1932 was 16·94 as compared with 18·23 in 1931, 19·93 in 1930, 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 15·3 in the year 1932.

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 1932, 80 out of every 100 children were born to Australian parents, and 95 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:—77·6 in Victoria; 86·1 in Australia; 0·7 in New Zealand; 8·0 in England and Wales; 2·1 in Scotland; 0·9 in Ireland; 0·5 in other British Possessions; and 1·7 in foreign countries. The corresponding percentages for mothers were:—Victoria, 79·9; Australia, 89·2; New Zealand, 0·5; England and Wales, 6·7; Scotland, 1·6; Ireland, 0·6; other British Possessions, 0·4; and foreign countries, 1·0.

**Ages of
parents of
nuptial
children.**

The average ages of fathers and mothers of nuptial children whose births were recorded in 1932 were 33·09 and 29·46 years respectively, which were 4·43 and 4·28 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, 1932.

Father.			Mother.		
Age Group.	Proportion per 100 Births.		Age Group.	Proportion per 100 Births.	
Under 20	64		Under 20	4·89	
20 to 25	11·71		20 to 25	22·31	
25 to 30	26·02		25 to 30	23·87	
30 to 35	26·42		30 to 35	23·31	
35 to 40	17·79		35 to 40	14·58	
40 to 45	10·66		40 to 45	5·56	
45 to 50	4·32		45 and over	48	
50 and over	2·44				
Total	100·00		Total	100·00	

It will be seen that, on the experience of 1932, 51·18 per cent. of the mothers were between ages 20 and 30, and 37·89 per cent. between ages 30 and 40. The proportions of fathers at these ages were 37·73 and 44·21 per cent. respectively. Of every 1,000 nuptial births, about 49 were due to mothers under 20 years, and about 5 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 periods 1923 to 1927 and 1928 to 1932, and the last three years. :—

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

Municipality.	Annual Number of Births.					Births per 1,000 of Mean Population. (Corrected rates.)				
	1923- 1927.	1928- 1932.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1923- 1927.	1928- 1932.	1930.	1931.	1932.
Greater Melbourne—										
Melbourne ..	1,812	1,348	1,475	1,220	1,069	18·39	14·29	15·64	12·99	11·67
Box Hill ..	*	259	285	234	214	*	18·31	19·99	16·16	14·09
Braybrook (Part) ..	*	187	202	186	149	*	22·28	24·00	21·75	17·16
Brighton ..	482	394	405	371	313	18·75	13·37	13·55	12·44	10·52
Brunswick ..	1,161	974	986	888	828	23·42	17·52	17·57	16·08	15·18
Camberwell ..	797	865	989	819	702	23·10	17·85	19·73	16·35	14·06
Caulfield ..	1,065	941	1,000	877	735	19·59	14·87	15·66	13·70	11·40
Chelsea ..		127	129	126	118		18·66	18·91	18·39	17·61
Coburg ..	703	742	770	696	640	25·15	20·80	21·60	19·27	17·34
Collingwood ..	690	532	518	505	469	20·35	16·63	16·17	16·06	15·18
Essendon ..	846	766	781	737	618	19·88	18·59	16·87	15·99	13·44
Fitzroy ..	683	517	515	465	450	19·92	15·96	15·83	14·68	14·49
Footscray ..	980	875	928	777	720	24·20	19·13	20·21	16·89	15·62
Hawthorn ..	325	424	462	387	362	16·63	12·70	13·63	11·52	10·76
Heidelberg (Part) ..	*	413	452	366	338	*	16·93	18·08	15·00	14·02
Kew ..	379	339	356	319	262	17·96	13·97	14·47	13·03	10·81
Malvern ..	636	499	513	466	361	15·07	11·46	11·69	10·72	8·35
Moorabbin ..		398	456	360	359		23·14	25·55	19·93	19·67
Mordialloc ..		148	153	157	113		15·37	15·75	16·33	12·04
Northcote ..	898	727	740	698	625	24·51	17·27	17·57	16·59	14·73
Oakleigh ..	*	264	270	244	205	*	22·72	22·59	20·68	17·80
Port Melbourne ..	278	230	229	220	215	21·14	17·24	16·93	16·76	16·63
Prahran ..	877	696	717	637	593	17·02	13·26	13·56	12·19	11·47
Preston ..	558	703	767	647	568	31·33	23·87	25·64	21·55	18·38
Richmond ..	886	693	682	672	592	20·34	16·71	16·37	16·49	14·82
Sandringham ..	275	272	290	248	216	17·90	15·33	16·08	13·83	11·99
South Melbourne ..	865	660	658	592	575	19·01	15·06	15·01	13·61	13·32
St. Kilda ..	659	533	546	473	458	16·05	11·61	11·81	10·33	9·90
Williamstown ..	485	423	431	414	319	23·25	19·28	19·82	18·92	14·45
Remainder of Metropolis ..	1,364	..	..	..	..	25·88	..	..	..	..
Country Towns—										
Ballarat ..	728	664	654	681	584	18·40	17·14	16·85	17·85	15·45
Bendigo ..	609	550	558	523	506	18·10	17·10	17·37	16·36	15·91
Geelong ..	862	844	906	772	698	21·87	19·26	20·56	17·74	16·02
Chelsea ..	126	..	..	..	..	19·28	..	..	..	..
Castlemaine ..	132	105	105	116	72	18·50	15·16	14·83	17·50	10·93
Hamilton ..	144	138	146	146	105	27·69	24·47	25·80	25·61	18·29
Maryborough ..	114	118	106	128	120	23·57	21·35	19·24	23·15	21·43
Mildura ..	198	184	187	168	185	34·09	28·23	28·55	25·53	28·03
Mordialloc ..	150	..	..	..	..	19·70	..	..	..	..
Shepparton ..	†	151	168	136	160	†	27·51	30·55	24·46	23·27
Stawell ..	111	92	96	86	91	23·88	19·46	20·43	18·11	19·16
Warrambool ..	183	176	163	162	185	22·75	20·17	18·65	18·41	20·00
Wonthaggi ..	159	141	161	150	116	25·06	22·44	24·39	24·59	20·00
Summary—										
Greater Melbourne	17,904	15,949	16,705	14,801	13,186	20·14	16·03	16·65	14·84	13·26
Country Towns ..	3,516	3,163	3,250	3,068	2,822	20·88	19·22	19·66	18·70	17·34
Remainder of State ..	14,255	12,693	13,172	12,463	11,456	23·31	20·40	21·37	19·57	17·65
Victoria ..	35,675	31,805	33,127	30,332	27,464	21·37	17·85	18·56	16·88	15·21

* 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.

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.
1928	361	1
1929	348	3
1930	350	Nil
1931	343	3
1932	250	2

On the average of the five years 1 mother in every 95 gave birth to twins, and 1 in every 17,484 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 1931, the adoptions of 211 male and 412 female children were registered. During 1932, adoptions registered comprised 91 male and 160 female children.

Children legitimized. The first provision for the legitimation of children born out of wedlock was made by the Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages Act 1903. This Act was repealed in 1912 and an Act passed which provided for the legitimation of such children 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 1932 advantage was taken of these Acts to legitimate 3,263 children, of whom 279 were registered in the years 1903 to 1909, 1,347 in 1910 to 1919, 1,374 in 1920 to 1929, 101 in 1930, 85 in 1931, and 77 in 1932.

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 1932, the numbers of legitimations in the various States and New Zealand during that year were as follows:—Victoria, 6·4; New South Wales, 18·9; Queensland, 17·6; South Australia, 11·0; Western Australia, 23·4; Tasmania, 6·6; and New Zealand, 26·2.

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.

EX-NUPTIAL BIRTHS IN VICTORIA, 1910 TO 1932.

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
1931	30,332	748	668	1,416	4·67
1932	27,464	640	561	1,201	4·37

The percentages in the various States and New Zealand in 1932 were as follows:—Victoria, 4·37 per cent.; New South Wales, 5·23 per cent.; Queensland, 4·80 per cent.; South Australia, 3·32 per cent.; Western Australia, 4·18 per cent.; Tasmania, 5·39 per cent.; Australia, 4·78 per cent.; and New Zealand, 5·07 per cent.

Ex-nuptiality in town and country. 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 1932, the proportion of ex-nuptial births to total births was 5·07 per cent. in Greater Melbourne, 5·03 per cent. in the principal country towns, and 3·40 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 1932.

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
1931 ..	17,033	9,190	7,843	3,501	4,020	4,644	4,868	9·48
1932 ..	16,805	8,998	7,807	3,895	4,110	4,750	4,050	9·30

* Not available.

The number of deaths in 1932 was 16,805, which was 33 below the average of the preceding five years.

In 1932 there were 1,153 male to every 1,000 female deaths as compared with an average of 1,157 in the last five years. The corresponding proportion of male to female births in the quinquennium was 1,063, there being an actual excess of 1,299 females in the natural increase for the period.

The death rates per 1,000 of population in each of the other Australian States during 1932 were as follows:—
Death rates in Australasia. New South Wales, 8·44; Queensland, 8·05, South Australia, 8·46; Western Australia, 8·80; and Tasmania, 9·12. The rate for Australia was 8·66 in 1932, as compared with an average annual rate of 8·70 in 1931, 8·59 in 1930, 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 1932, the death rate in New Zealand was 8·02, and in England and Wales, 12·0.

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 1928 to 1932 as compiled by the Commonwealth Statistician, are as follows:—

INDEX OF MORTALITY FOR AUSTRALIA, 1928 TO 1932.

Year.	Index of Mortality for—						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
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
1931	9·88	9·59	9·04	8·69	10·99	10·14	9·56
1932	9·72	9·55	9·31	8·79	11·12	9·88	9·54

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 two States—Queensland and South Australia—had a lower index of mortality than Victoria.

Death rates at various ages. 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 in town and country. 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 five-year periods 1923 to 1927 and 1928 to 1932, and the last three years.

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

Municipality.	Annual Number of Deaths.					Deaths per 1,000 of Mean Population. (Corrected rates.)				
	1923-1927.	1928-1932.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1923-1927.	1928-1932.	1930.	1931.	1932.
Greater Melbourne—										
Melbourne ..	1,264	1,091	1,028	1,111	1,023	12.83	11.57	10.90	11.83	11.17
Box Hill ..	*	125	132	99	132	*	8.81	9.26	6.84	8.69
Braybrook (Part) ..	*	56	61	59	68	*	6.70	7.25	6.90	7.83
Brighton ..	242	272	279	275	286	9.43	9.22	9.33	9.22	9.61
Brunswick ..	520	532	503	535	560	10.50	9.57	8.96	9.69	10.26
Camberwell ..	316	430	442	452	458	9.15	8.87	8.82	9.02	9.17
Caulfield ..	463	552	535	567	553	8.52	8.72	8.38	8.86	8.57
Chelsea ..	..	63	54	64	66	..	9.24	7.92	9.34	9.85
Coburg ..	232	287	270	319	259	8.29	8.06	7.58	8.83	7.02
Collingwood ..	422	363	336	377	354	12.45	11.36	10.49	11.99	11.46
Essendon ..	404	429	409	439	435	9.51	9.30	8.83	9.52	9.46
Fitzroy ..	457	446	394	447	441	13.33	13.77	12.11	14.11	14.20
Footscray ..	397	402	366	417	403	9.78	8.79	7.97	9.07	8.74
Hawthorn ..	331	357	327	381	385	10.51	10.67	9.65	11.34	11.44
Heidelberg (Part) ..	*	193	187	199	207	*	7.91	7.48	8.16	8.59
Kew ..	191	220	217	220	212	9.06	9.08	8.82	8.99	8.74
Malvern ..	368	404	376	412	419	8.71	9.28	8.56	9.48	9.69
Moorabbin ..	..	130	121	129	150	..	7.55	6.78	7.14	8.22
Mordialloc ..	..	85	96	91	74	..	8.88	9.88	9.46	7.88
Northcote ..	349	369	332	398	378	9.53	8.77	7.88	9.46	8.91
Oakleigh ..	*	101	99	85	140	*	8.72	8.28	7.20	11.81
Port Melbourne ..	151	137	132	131	142	11.49	10.26	9.76	9.98	10.90
Prahran ..	608	628	600	600	612	11.80	11.98	11.34	11.48	11.83
Preston ..	168	242	231	231	242	9.44	8.20	7.72	7.69	7.83
Richmond ..	490	464	442	465	457	11.24	11.20	10.61	11.41	11.44
Sandringham ..	121	161	157	163	154	7.86	9.08	8.71	9.09	8.55
South Melbourne ..	539	486	470	471	451	11.85	11.09	10.72	10.83	10.44
St. Kilda ..	441	452	436	401	458	10.73	9.84	9.43	8.76	9.90
Williamstown ..	237	211	187	226	210	11.32	9.63	8.60	10.33	9.52
Remainder of Metropolis ..	520	..	..	..	..	9.86	..	..	..	..
Country Towns—										
Ballarat ..	482	475	430	525	444	12.19	12.28	11.08	13.76	11.75
Bendigo ..	444	421	386	397	408	13.20	13.08	12.02	12.42	12.83
Geelong ..	401	455	455	480	434	10.16	10.40	10.32	11.03	9.96
Chelsea ..	56	..	..	..	..	8.61	..	..	..	..
Castlemaine ..	73	73	75	77	60	10.19	10.61	10.59	11.61	9.10
Hamilton ..	63	59	64	59	53	12.21	10.35	11.31	10.35	9.23
Maryborough ..	59	59	62	53	57	12.25	10.66	11.25	9.58	10.18
Mildura ..	65	59	57	54	77	11.10	9.05	8.70	8.21	11.67
Mordialloc ..	70	..	..	..	..	9.20	..	..	..	..
Shepparton ..	†	55	53	45	66	†	9.96	9.64	8.09	11.66
Stawell ..	53	51	40	61	57	11.38	10.87	8.51	12.84	12.00
Warrnambool ..	80	91	92	95	88	10.00	10.46	10.53	10.80	9.94
Wonthaggi ..	49	47	39	51	50	7.74	7.45	5.91	8.36	8.62
Summary—										
Greater Melbourne ..	9,231	9,688	9,219	9,764	9,729	10.38	9.74	9.19	9.79	9.79
Country Towns ..	1,895	1,845	1,753	1,897	1,794	11.25	11.22	10.60	11.62	11.02
Remainder of State ..	5,407	5,311	4,987	5,372	5,282	8.87	8.53	8.09	8.44	8.14
Victoria ..	16,533	16,844	15,959	17,033	16,805	9.91	9.45	8.94	9.48	9.30

* Included in Remainder of Metropolis.

† Not calculated.

NOTE.—Up to the end of the 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.

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

An examination of particulars of residence of persons who die in the public institutions of Victoria gives a definite indication of the assistance rendered by these institutions to people in different divisions of the State. The numbers and proportions of such deaths in the various municipalities are given below for 1932 :—

PROPORTION OF DEATHS OF RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN AREAS OCCURRING IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, 1932.

Area.	Number of Deaths of Residents occurring in—		Percentage of Deaths of Residents occurring in—			Deaths of Residents occurring in Public Institutions per 1,000 of Population.
	Public Hospitals.	Other Public Institutions.	Public Hospitals.	Other Public Institutions.	Total Public Institutions.	
Greater Melbourne—						
Melbourne ..	377	113	36·85	11·05	47·90	5·35
Box Hill ..	19	5	14·39	3·79	18·18	1·58
Braybrook (Part) ..	21	4	30·88	5·88	36·76	2·88
Brighton ..	55	13	19·23	4·55	23·78	2·29
Brunswick ..	176	39	31·43	6·96	38·39	3·94
Camberwell ..	83	19	18·12	4·15	22·27	2·04
Caulfield ..	108	30	19·53	5·42	24·95	2·14
Chelsea ..	15	8	22·73	12·12	34·85	3·43
Coburg ..	81	15	31·28	5·79	37·07	2·60
Collingwood ..	146	31	41·24	8·76	50·00	5·73
Essendon ..	106	37	24·37	8·50	32·87	3·11
Fitzroy ..	159	56	36·05	12·70	48·75	6·92
Footscray ..	146	25	36·23	6·20	42·43	3·71
Hawthorn ..	77	24	20·00	6·23	26·23	3·00
Heidelberg (Part) ..	55	11	26·57	5·31	31·88	2·74
Kew ..	43	10	20·28	4·72	25·00	2·19
Malvern ..	60	16	14·32	3·82	18·14	1·76
Moorabbin ..	30	16	20·00	10·67	30·67	2·52
Mordialloc ..	14	2	18·92	2·70	21·62	1·70
Northcote ..	129	23	34·13	6·08	40·21	3·58
Oakleigh ..	41	6	29·29	4·28	33·57	3·97
Port Melbourne ..	57	12	40·14	8·45	48·59	5·34
Prahran ..	38	38	23·04	6·21	29·25	3·46
Preston ..	72	14	29·75	5·79	35·54	2·78
Richmond ..	160	39	35·01	8·53	43·54	4·98
Sandringham ..	38	8	24·68	5·19	29·87	2·55
South Melbourne ..	127	39	28·16	8·65	36·81	3·84
St. Kilda ..	90	38	19·65	8·30	27·95	2·77
Williamstown ..	58	8	27·62	3·81	31·43	2·99

PROPORTION OF DEATHS OF RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN AREAS
OCCURRING IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, 1932—*continued.*

Area.	Number of Deaths of Residents occurring in—		Percentage of Deaths of Residents occurring in—			Deaths of Residents occurring in Public Institutions per 1,000 of Population.
	Public Hospitals.	Other Public Institutions.	Public Hospitals.	Other Public Institutions.	Total Public Institutions.	
Country Towns—						
Ballarat	92	32	20·72	7·21	27·93	3·28
Bendigo	115	24	28·19	5·88	34·07	4·37
Geelong	119	22	27·42	5·07	32·49	3·24
Castlemaine ..	25	2	41·67	3·33	45·00	4·10
Hamilton	23	..	43·40	..	43·40	4·01
Maryborough ..	21	4	36·84	7·02	43·86	4·46
Mildura	37	6	48·05	7·79	55·84	6·52
Shepparton ..	22	4	33·33	6·06	39·39	4·59
Stawell	15	1	26·32	1·75	28·07	3·37
Warrnambool ..	34	6	38·63	6·82	45·45	4·52
Wonthaggi ..	22	1	44·00	2·00	46·00	3·97
Summary—						
Greater Melbourne	2,684	699	27·59	7·18	34·77	3·40
Country Towns ..	525	102	29·26	5·69	34·95	3·85
Remainder of State	1,274	287	24·12	5·43	29·55	2·40
Victoria	4,483	1,088	26·68	6·47	33·15	3·08

Of the total deaths in the State in 1932, 26·7 per cent. occurred in public hospitals as against 26·4 per cent. in 1931, 27·2 per cent. in 1930, 24·9 per cent. in 1923, and 20·4 per cent. in 1910-14. The proportion of residents of the Metropolis dying in public hospitals is only slightly higher than in 1910-14; in the country, consequent on a considerable extension of hospital facilities, the proportion of such deaths has increased by about fifty per cent. In 1910-14 the proportion for Greater Melbourne exceeded that for the rest of the State by 43 per cent., in 1923 the excess was 33 per cent., and in 1932 only 8 per cent.

The percentage of deaths occurring in the other public institutions of the State was 6·47 in 1932, 6·53 in 1931 and 5·82 in 1930. The rate in the metropolis is considerably higher than the rate for the rest of the State.

In 1932 the number of deaths in public institutions was 5,571, of which 3,383 were of residents of Greater Melbourne.

Deaths in Metropolitan public institutions. The number of deaths in each metropolitan public institution in 1932 is given in the subjoined table:—

DEATHS IN METROPOLITAN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, 1932.

Institution.	No. of Deaths.	Institution.	No. of Deaths.
Hospitals—		Asylums—	
Melbourne	865	Mental—	
Alfred	483	Kew	99
Children's	449	Mont Park	121
St. Vincent's	204	Receiving House, Royal Park	40
Austin	282	Macleod Military .. ..	..
Women's	194		
Homœopathic	144	Total Mental	260
Infectious Diseases	131		
Caulfield Repatriation	60	Benevolent—	
Queen Victoria	102	Melbourne (Cheltenham)	181
Jessie McPherson Community	23	Victorian Homes for Aged and Infirm	151
Williamstown	34	Convent of Little Sisters of the Poor	66
Caulfield Convalescent	11	Old Colonists' Homes	13
After Care Home	2		
Eye and Ear	19	Total Benevolent	411
Police	1		
Total Hospitals	3,004	Foundling Homes, Refuges—	
		Broadmeadows	5
Sanatoria —		East Melbourne	3
Heatherton	54	The Haven, Fitzroy	5
Jane'sfield	20	Carlton	1
Macleod Military	1	Children's Welfare Depot .. ..	..
Greenvale	26	Berwick	2
Total Sanatoria	101	Total Refuges, etc.	16
		Total Hospitals and other Institutions	3,792

Of the 3,792 deaths in the above institutions, 2,225 were males and 1,567 were females.

Decrease in Metropolitan death rate. In Greater Melbourne, in the decade 1923-32, there were 10·03 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 54,000 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 1923-32 with those for the decennium 1892-1901. The following are the rates :—

Cause of Death.	Deaths per 1,000,000 of Population.		
	1892-1901.	1923-32.	Decrease in 1923-32.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	1,654	601	1,053
Other Tubercular Diseases ...	446	108	338
Typhoid Fever	293	11	282
Scarlet Fever	33	14	19
Measles	215	21	194
Diphtheria	196	64	132
Total	2,837	819	2,018

The figures show that the mortality from the six diseases mentioned declined by 71 per cent. in 1923-32—the decline representing a rate of 2,018 per million of the population.

The mortality from all causes showed a net decline of 5,730 per million of the population during the period mentioned.

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 48 in 1928-32—a reduction of 64 per cent. In other words, where 100 infants died in the earlier years, only 36 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 1932.

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
1931 ..	711	48·0	638	41·1	1,349	44·5
1932 ..	629	47·7	552	38·7	1,181	43·0

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.

Since 1929 a record low infantile death rate for Victoria has been experienced in each succeeding year.

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 five-year periods 1923 to 1927 and 1928 to 1932, and the last three years were as follows:—

Infantile
deaths in
different areas.

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

Municipality.	Annual Number of Deaths under One Year.					Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.				
	1923- 1927.	1928- 1932.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1923- 1927.	1928- 1932.	1930.	1931.	1932.
Greater Melbourne—										
Melbourne ..	163	86	115	67	62	89·97	63·95	77·97	54·91	58·00
Box Hill ..	*	10	14	5	8	*	37·04	49·12	21·37	37·38
Braybrook (Part) ..	*	6	10	8	5	*	33·19	49·50	43·01	33·56
Brighton ..	20	15	15	9	14	41·49	39·11	37·04	24·26	44·73
Brunswick ..	77	60	56	41	53	65·99	61·63	56·80	46·17	64·01
Camberwell ..	34	30	33	19	25	42·15	34·68	33·37	23·20	35·61
Caulfield ..	52	39	40	38	35	48·65	41·87	40·00	43·33	47·62
Chelsea ..	..	6	5	9	6	..	47·32	38·76	71·43	50·85
Coburg ..	44	33	39	29	19	62·29	44·47	50·65	41·67	29·69
Collingwood ..	62	38	36	43	38	89·80	71·78	69·50	85·15	81·02
Essendon ..	52	33	31	33	23	61·26	42·83	39·69	44·78	37·22
Fitzroy ..	57	41	39	44	35	83·50	79·33	75·73	94·62	77·78
Footscray ..	68	41	44	39	31	69·21	47·34	47·41	50·19	43·06
Hawthorn ..	25	16	18	11	11	47·66	37·23	38·96	28·42	30·39
Heidelberg (Part)	*	20	30	16	15	*	49·87	66·37	43·72	44·38
Kew ..	17	15	19	13	7	45·38	43·66	53·37	40·75	26·72
Malvern ..	28	19	16	16	16	44·63	38·91	31·19	34·33	44·32
Moorabbin ..	..	14	13	13	7	..	34·17	28·51	36·11	19·50
Mordialloc ..	..	8	6	12	4	..	55·48	39·22	76·43	35·40
Northcote ..	54	38	32	32	32	60·16	51·73	43·24	45·85	51·20
Oakleigh ..	*	12	12	5	16	*	46·18	44·44	20·49	78·05
Port Melbourne ..	25	16	14	20	13	89·08	71·24	61·14	90·91	60·47
Prabran ..	58	41	39	42	26	66·12	58·62	54·39	65·93	43·84
Preston ..	30	31	33	19	24	54·80	44·08	43·02	29·37	42·25
Richmond ..	65	46	37	46	32	73·81	65·53	54·25	68·45	54·05
Sandringham ..	15	10	9	7	9	53·86	35·95	31·03	28·23	41·67
South Melbourne ..	77	47	49	42	32	89·52	70·87	74·47	70·95	55·65
St. Kilda ..	34	22	25	13	20	50·97	41·67	45·79	27·48	43·67
Williamstown ..	33	19	18	20	11	67·99	44·44	41·76	48·31	34·48
Remainder of Metropolis ..	75	..	..	..	..	54·99	..	..	..	..
Country Towns—										
Ballarat ..	49	34	41	42	24	67·88	51·84	62·69	61·67	41·10
Bendigo ..	48	33	28	30	24	77·81	60·00	50·18	57·36	47·43
Geelong ..	61	49	56	46	40	70·75	58·56	61·81	59·59	57·31
Chelsea ..	10	..	..	..	..	..	79·49	..	..	..
Castlemaine ..	8	5	9	2	5	59·18	47·80	85·71	17·24	69·44
Hamilton ..	10	5	9	3	6	66·76	34·63	61·64	20·55	57·14
Maryborough ..	6	5	5	1	3	48·03	45·84	47·17	7·81	25·00
Mildura ..	13	9	8	12	9	66·53	47·83	42·78	71·43	48·65
Mordialloc ..	13	..	..	..	..	..	86·44	..	..	..
Shepparton ..	†	8	10	10	5	†	54·16	59·52	73·53	31·25
Stawell ..	7	3	3	1	2	61·15	28·26	31·25	11·63	21·98
Warrnambool ..	9	9	4	11	3	49·34	52·33	24·54	67·90	16·22
Wonthaggi ..	10	8	7	11	10	63·99	53·67	43·48	73·33	86·21
Summary—										
Greater Melbourne	1,165	812	847	711	629	65·05	50·94	50·70	48·04	47·70
Country Towns ..	244	168	180	169	131	69·40	53·24	65·38	55·08	46·42
Remainder of State	702	535	514	469	421	49·25	42·12	39·02	37·63	36·75
Victoria ..	2,111	1,515	1,541	1,349	1,181	59·16	47·65	46·52	44·47	43·00

* 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 1928-32 the deaths of children under 1 year of age to every 1,000 births were 51 in Melbourne, 52 in Ballarat, 60 in Bendigo, and 59 in Geelong, as against 42 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." The rate per 1,000 births of infants "under one week," which in 1932 comprised 53 per cent. of the total infantile mortality, has varied from 21.5 in the quinquennium 1910-14 (the earliest years for which the information is available) to 23.7 in 1920-24 and 22.6 in 1932. Since 1910-14 the mortality of infants "over one week and under one month" has decreased by 42 per cent. and that of infants "over one month and under one year" by 54 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 nineteen in 1928-32.

On the average of the years 1928-32, the total rate for males was higher than that for females by 29.2 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 1932:—

INFANTILE MORTALITY AT DIFFERENT AGES, 1900 TO 1932.

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	
1931 ..	22.9	5.7	4.8	4.6	6.5	44.5	49.9	38.7	
1932 ..	22.6	4.6	4.5	4.6	6.7	43.0	49.2	36.5	

**INFANTILE MORTALITY AT DIFFERENT AGES,
MALES AND FEMALES, 1932.**

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 ..	371	26·4	53·6	251	18·7	51·3
1 week to 1 month	82	5·8	11·9	44	3·3	9·0
1 to 3 months ..	77	5·5	11·1	46	3·4	9·4
3 to 6 months ..	66	4·7	9·5	59	4·4	12·1
6 to 12 months ..	96	6·8	13·9	89	6·7	18·2
Total ..	692	49·2	100·0	489	36·5	100·0

The experience of the years 1928-32 shows that, of every 20,000 newly-born boys and girls in equal numbers, 535 boys and 414 girls died within twelve months, and 9,465 of the former and 9,586 of the latter, or 19,051 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 1,286 more survivors in 1928-32 than in 1891-1900, and 1,583 more than in 1881-90.

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 so called non preventable (pre-natal) causes of death, grouped under certain headings, are shown in the subjoined table for the periods 1891-93, 1901-10, 1911-20, 1921-30, and for the years 1931 and 1932:—

INFANTILE DEATH RATES FROM CERTAIN CAUSES.

Cause of Death.	Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births In—					
	1891-93.	1901-10.	1911-20.	1921-30.	1931.	1932.
Epidemic, Endemic, and Infectious Diseases ..	12.41	7.31	4.87	3.57	3.59	2.84
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia ..	11.37	8.13	6.86	6.08	6.33	5.24
Diarrhoeal Diseases ..	29.66	24.62	16.13	9.85	2.31	3.09
Malformations, &c. (157)	3.45	4.86	4.38	4.43	4.55	3.86
Wasting Diseases (158)	22.24	12.74	13.09	6.77	3.20	3.35
Prematurity	13.13	14.99	15.17	15.34	14.14	13.84
Violence	3.16	2.47	1.07	.80	.63	.94
Injury at birth ..	} 21.51	12.77	7.98	2.57	2.90	3.24
Early Infancy (161) ..				3.42	4.32	4.15
All other causes ..				4.42	2.50	2.45
Total, all Causes ..	116.93	87.89	69.55	57.25	44.47	43.00

INFANTILE DEATH RATES, AT DIFFERENT AGES, FROM CERTAIN CAUSES, 1932.

Cause of Death.	Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.									
	Age Period.						Total.	Males.	Females.	Average Annual Rate, 1928-32.
	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 ..	.07	.04	.51	.55	1.67	2.84	2.91	2.76	3.15	
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia ..	.51	.51	.94	1.13	2.15	5.24	5.04	5.45	6.08	
Diarrhoeal Diseases ..	.11	.22	.29	1.13	1.34	3.09	2.91	3.29	4.96	
Malformations, &c. (157)	1.86	.51	.84	.40	.25	3.86	4.26	3.44	4.48	
Wasting Diseases (158)..	1.67	.62	.62	.40	.04	3.35	4.05	2.61	4.51	
Prematurity	11.84	1.31	.62	.07	..	13.84	17.34	10.16	14.18	
Injury at Birth	2.73	.47	.04	..	..	3.24	4.41	2.02	3.14
Early Infancy (161) ..	3.53	.51	.11	..	..	4.15	4.33	3.96	3.46
Violence .. ..	.22	.04	.22	.25	.21	.94	1.07	.82	.70
All other causes ..	.11	.36	.29	.62	1.07	2.45	2.84	2.02	2.99	
Total, all Causes ..	22.65	4.59	4.48	4.55	6.73	43.00	49.16	36.53	47.65	
Average Annual Rate, 1928-32 ..	22.43	6.38	5.36	5.30	8.18	47.65	53.51	41.41	..	

The mortality of infants under one year from pre-natal causes (malformations, congenital debility, prematurity, injury at birth etc.) was 29·8 per 1,000 births in 1928-32 and represented 63 per cent. of all infants who died. Variations in classification in the earlier years prevent exact comparison but no appreciable decline is evident. The rate in 1932 was 28·4, of which 76 per cent. occurred in the first week of life.

The mortality from the chief preventable diseases—infectious, respiratory, and diarrhœal—has declined from 40·1 per 1,000 births in 1901-10 to 27·9 in 1911-20 and 14·2 in 1928-32. Of these causes, deaths from diarrhœal diseases declined from 24·6 per 1,000 births in 1901-10 to 5·0 in 1928-32, the main respiratory diseases from 8·1 to 6·1 and the infectious from 7·3 to 3·2. It will thus be seen that since the beginning of this century mortality of infants from diarrhœal diseases has been reduced by 80 per cent, the main respiratory diseases by 25 per cent., and the infectious by 57 per cent. Of recent years respiratory diseases have displaced diarrhœal as the most fatal of the preventable infantile diseases. With few exceptions the mortality rate of males from infantile diseases is consistently higher than that of females.

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 1928 to 1932:—

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE MONTH, 1928 TO 1932.

Cause of Death.	Greater Melbourne.					Victoria.				
	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
Epidemic, Endemic, and Infectious Diseases ..	10	5	2	5	1	10	6	7	9	3
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia ..	23	55	27	23	19	41	71	37	40	28
Diarrhœal Diseases ..	8	4	..	2	4	10	13	3	4	9
Malformations, &c. (157) ..	62	57	46	44	26	103	113	99	89	65
Wasting Diseases (158) ..	44	52	52	24	26	115	112	120	76	63
Prematurity ..	247	242	234	208	166	482	452	439	411	361
Injury at Birth ..	68	54	47	39	40	119	103	94	87	88
Early Infancy (161) ..	53	56	66	67	59	83	114	100	127	111
Violence ..	7	4	5	3	2	12	6	6	8	7
All other causes ..	21	12	8	7	4	41	32	21	18	13
Total, all Causes ..	543	541	487	422	347	1,016	1,022	926	869	748
Deaths per 1,000 Births	30·4	32·0	29·1	28·5	26·3	23·6	30·4	28·0	28·6	27·2

Stillbirths and Infantile Mortality.

A survey of the mortality from pre-natal causes is not complete without taking into account the loss due to stillbirths. In Victoria stillbirths are not registered but cases are notified to registrars in accordance with the provisions of the Cemeteries

Act and the (Commonwealth) Maternity Allowance Act. Rates based on these notifications should be regarded as minimum rates as they possibly understate the full extent of the loss. In 1932 the rate per 1,000 live births in Victoria was 28·9; in the States where registration of stillbirths is in force the rates for that year were, Western Australia, 24·1 and Tasmania, 28·3. The rate in New Zealand in 1932 was 30·0.

In the following table are given the stillbirth rates and other rates of infantile mortality in Victoria and Greater Melbourne in each of the last ten years:—

Year.	Stillbirths and Deaths under one Year per 1,000 Live Births.							
	Greater Melbourne.				Victoria.			
	* Stillbirths (Notifications).	Under one Month.	1 to 12 Months.	Infant Mortality including Stillbirths.	Stillbirths (Notifications).	Under one Month.	1 to 12 Months.	Infant Mortality including Stillbirths.
1923	31·5	36·1	37·3	104·9	29·4	33·8	31·9	95·1
1924	31·0	34·8	32·9	98·7	30·1	32·1	29·2	91·4
1925	32·1	32·2	28·0	92·3	30·9	30·9	26·1	87·9
1926	31·3	31·5	30·1	92·9	29·7	29·7	25·9	85·3
1927	32·7	34·3	28·2	95·2	30·2	31·3	24·8	86·3
1928	31·3	30·4	26·4	88·1	27·5	29·5	26·1	83·1
1929	34·1	32·0	18·5	84·6	31·1	30·4	16·8	78·3
1930	32·9	29·1	21·6	83·6	29·9	28·0	18·5	76·4
1931	28·8	28·5	19·5	76·8	27·9	28·6	15·9	72·4
1932	29·8	26·3	21·4	77·5	28·9	27·2	15·8	71·9

* Based on the total registrations of births in Greater Melbourne.

It will be seen that, as with other mortality due to pre-natal influences, the rate of stillbirths shows little tendency to decrease. The rate in Victoria now approximates to the total mortality occurring within one month after birth.

On the average of the last ten years, 110 in every 1,000 ex-nuptial infants died within a year, as against 51 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 2·2 times that of nuptial children. In the year 1932 the mortality rate of nuptial infants was 41·2 per 1,000 births. The children born out of wedlock during the same year numbered 1,201, and the deaths of ex-nuptial infants were 99, the death rate being thus 82·4 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 deaths from certain causes per 1,000 nuptial and ex-nuptial births, for the periods 1904-08, 1914-18, 1924-28 and the year 1932:—

Nuptial and ex-nuptial infantile death rates.

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.	1932.	1904-08.	1914-18.	1924-28.	1932.
Diarrhœal Diseases ..	19·8	14·2	8·9	2·6	72·6	48·6	23·1	14·2
Prematurity, Congenital Malformations, Marasmus, &c.* ..	30·3	27·2	25·0	20·9	52·1	64·9	46·9	25·0
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia ..	6·9	6·1	5·9	4·7	18·6	12·5	13·0	15·8
Other causes ..	18·3	15·3	14·7	13·0	58·7	36·6	29·3	27·4
Total, all Causes ..	75·3	62·8	54·5	41·2	202·0	162·6	112·3	82·4

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

The rates for 1932 show that of every 1,000 children born out of wedlock 14·2 died from diarrhœal diseases within a year, as compared with 2·6 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 15·8 and 4·7 per 1,000 births respectively.

Infantile mortality in Australasia. Infantile death rates per 1,000 births in each of the Australian States and New Zealand, in 1932, were as follows:—Victoria, 43·00; New South Wales, 41·03; Queensland, 40·19; South Australia, 36·73; Western Australia, 44·57; Tasmania, 40·53; and New Zealand, 31·22. These figures compare very favourably with the rate for England and Wales, which was 64·6. The rate for Australia was 41·30 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 1932 were as follows:—Melbourne, 47·70; Sydney, 39·01; Brisbane, 50·42; Adelaide, 38·70; Perth, 47·52; Hobart, 50·00; and Wellington, 33·97.

Deaths of children under 5. In 1932 the deaths of male children under 5 years of age numbered 949, and the deaths of female children under that age, 695—the former being in the proportion of 10·55 per cent., and the latter of 8·90 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.

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, 1930 TO 1932.

Ages.	1930.			1931.			1932.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 1 ..	865	676	1,541	780	569	1,349	692	489	1,181
1 to 2	134	139	273	107	100	207	110	90	200
2 ,, 3	63	45	108	61	34	95	48	56	104
3 ,, 4	43	35	78	44	29	73	55	30	85
4 ,, 5	32	32	64	26	29	55	44	30	74
5 ,, 10	144	100	244	159	98	257	175	136	311
10 ,, 15	90	67	157	120	68	188	114	66	180
15 ,, 20	146	109	255	155	120	275	134	109	243
20 ,, 25	180	174	354	167	170	337	181	154	335
25 ,, 30	227	223	450	221	187	408	168	154	322
30 ,, 35	194	212	406	221	251	472	197	192	389
35 ,, 40	256	254	510	249	265	514	258	228	486
40 ,, 45	312	241	553	337	290	627	296	265	561
45 ,, 50	358	310	668	365	320	685	367	336	703
50 ,, 55	453	341	794	482	367	849	491	406	897
55 ,, 60	628	421	1,049	653	451	1,104	590	462	1,052
60 ,, 65	767	617	1,384	858	642	1,500	855	684	1,539
65 ,, 70	1,038	822	1,860	1,163	872	2,035	1,168	889	2,057
70 ,, 75	969	912	1,881	1,179	1,013	2,192	1,228	987	2,215
75 ,, 80	694	718	1,412	868	770	1,638	909	854	1,763
80 ,, 85	470	520	990	551	620	1,171	535	575	1,110
85 ,, 90	276	342	618	294	383	677	275	398	673
90 ,, 95	88	142	230	108	145	253	82	163	245
95 ..	9	13	22	6	12	18	10	21	31
96 ..	7	11	18	4	13	17	3	8	11
97 ..	5	6	11	4	10	14	6	11	17
98 ..	4	7	11	1	3	4	3	7	10
99 ..	7	..	7	2	7	9	1	3	4
100 ..	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	1	1
101 ..	3	2	5	..	1	1	1	3	4
102 ..	2	1	3	2	1	3	1	..	1
103 ..	1	..	1	1	1	2	..	..	..
104 ..	1	..	1	1	1	2	..	..	..
105 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
108 ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	8,467	7,492	15,959	9,190	7,843	17,033	8,998	7,807	16,805

NOTE.—Ages of very old people are frequently overstated; where particulars are available these are verified from official records.

Of the 49,797 persons who died in Victoria during the last three years 6,199 were aged 80 years and upwards, and 28—sixteen males and twelve females—were stated as having attained or passed the age of 100 years.

Causes of Death.

The following tables show the causes of death in Victoria according to the international abridged classification for the period 1922-26 and for the last three years:—

CAUSES OF DEATH, VICTORIA, 1922-1926, 1930, 1931, and 1932.

International Abridged Classification.	Number —			Deaths per Million of the Population.			
	1930.	1931.	1932.	1922-1926.	1930.	1931.	1932.
1. Typhoid Fever (1, 2)	17	26	12	21	10	14	7
4. Measles	34	15	17	17	19	8	9
5. Scarlet Fever	11	27	38	10	6	15	21
6. Whooping Cough	71	72	27	60	40	40	15
7. Diphtheria	86	130	166	59	48	72	92
8a. Influenza—Respiratory	29	235	53	61	16	131	29
8b. Influenza—Other	31	86	35	52	17	49	20
10. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	888	865	813	575	498	481	460
11a. Tubercular Meningitis	56	57	49	42	31	32	27
11b. Other Tuberculous Diseases	117	66	89	58	66	37	49
12. Syphilis	33	43	52	24	18	24	29
13. Malaria .. .. .	..	..	1	1	..	..	1
14. Other Infections or Parasitic Diseases	136	143	145	120	76	80	80
15. Cancer and other Malignant Tumours	1,859	1,953	2,128	1,000	1,042	1,087	1,178
16. Tumours, Non-Malignant or of Un-specified Nature	87	89	90	51	49	50	50
17. Chronic Rheumatism, Gout (57-58)	43	69	58	38	24	38	32
18. Diabetes Mellitus	225	260	296	112	126	145	164
19. Acute and Chronic Alcoholism	11	14	4	11	6	8	2
20. Other General Diseases (Classes 3, 4, 5)	296	278	304	165	166	155	169
21. Locomotor Ataxia, General Paralysis of Insane (80, 83)	28	38	29	31	16	21	16
22. Cerebral Haemorrhage, Embolism, &c. (82)	906	919	942	†	508	511	522
23. Other Diseases of Nervous System and Sense Organs	319	277	333	236	179	154	184
24. Diseases of the Heart (90-95)	2,709	3,162	3,173	1,347	1,518	1,759	1,757
25a. Arterio-sclerosis	646	755	798	†	362	420	442
25b. Other Diseases of Circulatory System	106	114	161	82	59	63	39
26a. Acute Bronchitis (106a and c)	42	45	41	48	24	25	23
26b. Chronic Bronchitis (106b and d)	194	216	205	147	109	120	114
27. Pneumonia (all forms) (107-109)	999	1,221	1,063	734	560	679	589
28. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	302	356	347	214	169	198	190
29a. Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years of age)	228	93	123	294	128	52	68
29b. Diarrhoea and Enteritis (two years and over)	122	139	122	86	68	77	68
30. Appendicitis	152	152	125	71	85	85	69
31a. Cirrhosis of the Liver	79	72	94	49	44	40	52
31b. Other Diseases of the Liver and Biliary Calculi (125-127)	142	123	137	60	80	69	76
32a. Hernia, Intestinal obstruction	153	151	136	99	86	84	75
32b. Other Diseases of the Digestive System	204	250	234	148	114	139	130
33. Nephritis (130-132)	866	997	998	505	486	555	553
34. Other Diseases of the Genito-Urinary System	280	299	274	151	156	166	151
35a. Post-Abortive Sepsis	13	9	9	†	7	5	5
35b. Criminal Abortion (140b)	21	19	30	†	12	11	17
35c. Puerperal Septicaemia	40	34	27	†	22	19	15
36. Other Diseases of Pregnancy and Labour	121	92	89	†	68	51	49
37. Diseases of the Skin, Bones, &c.	95	79	82	61	53	44	45
38. Congenital Debility, Malformations, Premature Birth, &c.	1,014	899	809	731	568	500	448
39. Senility	1,000	1,023	1,031	802†	560	569	571
40. Suicide	207	181	174	87	116	101	96
41. Homicide	15	41	16	14	8	23	9
42. Accidental and Open-verdict Violence, &c. (176-198)	857	777	772	465	480	432	428
43. Non-specified or Ill-defined Causes	69	72	54	94	39	40	30
* Total all Causes	15,959	17,033	16,805	9,898	8,942	9,478	9,305

* One death from No. 2 Typhus Fever in 1926, no deaths from No. 3 Small Pox and No. 9 Plague.

† Comparable figures not available.

‡ Vide page 80.

CAUSES OF DEATH, VICTORIA, GREATER MELBOURNE,
AND REST OF STATE, 1932.

International Abridged Classification.	Number of Deaths.				Deaths per 1,000,000 of Population.	
	Victoria.		Metro-polis.	Rest of State.	Metro-polis.	Rest of State.
	Males.	Fe-males.				
1. Typhoid Fever (1, 2)	6	6	1	11	1	14
4. Measles	7	10	13	4	18	5
5. Scarlet Fever	16	22	27	11	27	14
6. Whooping Cough	8	19	18	9	18	11
7. Diphtheria	95	71	100	66	101	82
8a. Influenza—Respiratory	26	27	28	25	28	31
8b. Influenza—Other	17	18	16	19	16	24
10. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	465	348	502	311	505	388
11a. Tubercular Meningitis	21	28	34	15	34	19
11b. Other Tuberculous Diseases	51	38	51	38	51	47
12. Syphilis	34	18	39	13	39	16
13. Malaria	1	..	..	1	..	1
14. Other Infections or Parasitic Diseases	89	56	91	54	92	67
15. Cancer and other Malignant Tumours	1,045	1,083	1,293	835	1,301	1,041
16. Tumours, Non-Malignant or of Unspecified Nature	33	57	52	38	52	47
17. Chronic Rheumatism, Gout (57-58)	18	40	34	24	34	30
18. Diabetes Mellitus	112	184	163	133	164	166
19. Acute and Chronic Alcoholism	3	1	3	1	3	1
20. Other General Diseases (Classes 3, 4, 5)	149	155	159	145	160	181
21. Locomotor Ataxia, General Paralysis of Insane (80, 83)	25	4	21	8	21	10
22. Cerebral Haemorrhage, Embolism, &c. (82)	400	542	582	360	586	449
23. Other Diseases of Nervous System and Sense Organs	201	132	175	158	176	197
24. Diseases of the Heart (90-95)	1,736	1,437	1,878	1,295	1,889	1,615
25a. Arterio-sclerosis	390	408	544	254	547	317
25b. Other Diseases of Circulatory System	88	73	92	69	93	86
26a. Acute Bronchitis (106a and c)	20	21	24	17	24	21
26b. Chronic Bronchitis (106b and d)	117	88	126	79	127	99
27. Pneumonia (all forms) (107-109)	585	478	625	438	629	546
28. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	227	120	190	157	191	196
29a. Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years of age)	66	57	39	34	90	42
29b. Diarrhoea and Enteritis (two years and over)	57	65	59	63	59	79
30. Appendicitis	70	56	73	52	73	65
31a. Cirrhosis of the Liver	69	25	63	31	63	39
31b. Other Diseases of the Liver and Biliary Calculi (125-127)	59	78	84	53	84	66
32a. Hernia, Intestinal obstruction	78	58	85	51	85	64
32b. Other Diseases of the Digestive System	142	92	131	103	132	128
33. Nephritis (130-132)	524	474	600	398	604	496
34. Other Diseases of the Genito-Urinary System	195	79	170	104	171	130
35a. Post-Abortive Sepsis .. .. .	..	9	4	5	4	6
35b. Criminal Abortion (140b) .. .. .	..	30	26	4	26	5
35c. Puerperal Septicæmia .. .. .	..	27	12	15	12	19
36. Other Diseases of Pregnancy and Labour .. .. .	..	89	38	51	38	64
37. Diseases of the Skin, Bones, &c.	54	28	51	31	51	39
38. Congenital Debility, Malformations, Premature Birth, &c.	497	312	379	430	381	536
39. Senility	436	595	453	578	456	721
40. Suicide	135	39	93	81	94	101
41. Homicide	10	6	13	3	13	4
42. Accidental and Open-verdict Violence, &c. (176-198)	588	184	410	362	412	451
43. Non-specified or Ill-defined Causes	33	21	15	39	15	49
*TOTAL ALL CAUSES	8,998	7,807	9,729	7,076	9,785	8,825

* No deaths from No. 2 Typhus Fever, No. 8 Small Pox, and No. 9 Plague.

Typhoid fever. Up to the beginning of the present century, typhoid fever was regarded as one of the chief menaces to the health of the community, but the introduction and subsequent extensions of the sewerage system and the increased supervision of water supplies, dairying, &c., have resulted in its incidence being reduced to very small proportions. In 1932, deaths numbered 12, being equivalent to a rate of 7 per million of population, as compared with rates of 14 in 1931, 10 in 1930, 31 in 1920-24, 108 in 1905-09, and 301 in 1895-99. Cases of typhoid fever reported in 1932 numbered 98, or 54 per million of population, as against 259 in 1920-24, and 2,884 in 1895-99. The deaths per 100 cases were 13·1 in 1928-32 and 10·4 in 1895-99.

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 1932 only 31 deaths occurred from this cause, and of that number only 8 took place in the last forty-eight 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 1932 there were 17 deaths attributed to this cause, representing a rate of 9 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 8 in 1931, 19 in 1930, 25 in 1929, and 7 in 1928.

On the average of the five years 1928 to 1932, 42 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 1932 the deaths from scarlet fever numbered 38, which corresponded to a rate of 21 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 15 in 1931, 6 in 1930, 7 in 1929, 7 in 1928, and 34 in 1890-92. During 1932 there were 4,152 cases reported, as against 3,386 in 1931, 2,071 in 1930, 1,490 in 1929, and 2,345 in 1928. For the five years mentioned the deaths were less than one per cent. of the cases. Twenty-eight per cent. of these deaths were of children under 10 years of age. 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 27 deaths in 1932, which equalled a rate of 15 per million of the population at all ages, as compared with rates of 40 in 1931, 40 in 1930, 44 in 1929, and 30 in 1928. 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 13 of the deaths

were of infants under 1 year, and all except one 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 29 per cent. higher among females than males.

The continued prevalence of diphtheria throughout the State since 1910, is one of the few instances in which morbidity statistics have not revealed material improvement. On the other hand a very great reduction has taken place since 1890, in the proportion of cases which ended fatally.

On the average of the five years 1928 to 1932, 48 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 1932.

Period.	Annual Cases Reported.		Annual Deaths.		Deaths per 100 Cases Reported.
	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.	
VICTORIA.					
1895-99	1,584	134.6	221	18.8	13.9
1900-04	1,680	139.0	159	13.2	9.5
1905-09	1,410	112.6	89	7.1	6.3
1910-14	4,612	339.1	212	15.6	4.6
1915-19	4,901	342.5	209	14.6	4.3
1920-24	5,739	364.6	179	11.4	3.1
1925-29	3,176	183.8	93	5.4	2.9
1930	3,414	191.3	86	4.8	2.5
1931	5,434	302.3	130	7.2	2.4
1932	7,322	405.4	166	9.2	2.3
GREATER MELBOURNE.					
1895-99	748	162.1	113	24.6	15.1
1900-04	686	136.9	58	11.6	8.5
1905-09	758	140.8	46	8.5	6.1
1910-14	2,343	374.3	114	18.3	4.9
1915-19	2,864	402.6	127	17.9	4.4
1920-24	2,555	314.6	78	9.7	3.1
1925-29	1,843	191.1	52	5.4	2.8
1930	2,223	214.8	45	4.3	2.0
1931	3,257	315.7	75	7.3	2.3
1932	4,144	416.8	100	10.1	2.4

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 1931 and 1932, are given in the subjoined table:—

CASES OF DIPHTHERIA IN DIFFERENT AREAS.

Area.	Reported Cases of Diphtheria.					Annual Cases per 10,000 of Population.		
	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1910-19.	1931.	1932.
Greater Melbourne ..	2,344	2,048	2,223	3,257	4,144	39·3	31·6	41·7
Ballarat	53	117	67	324	300	24·3	77·6	79·4
Bendigo	79	60	53	121	377	84·6	35·9	118·5
Geelong	116	94	91	108	259	43·4	25·3	59·4
Remainder of State	1,675	937	980	1,634	2,242	25·7	25·2	32·1

Influenza. The deaths from influenza in 1932 numbered 88. This corresponded to a rate of 49 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 179 in 1931, 34 in 1930, 77 in 1929, 204 in 1928, 2,407 in 1919, 71 in 1913-17, 109 in 1908-12, and 381 in 1890-92.

In 1932, 60 per cent. of the deaths recorded were associated with specified respiratory 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. In 1932 67 per cent. were of persons over 50 years of age.

Death rates from tuberculosis of the respiratory system. The deaths from tuberculosis of the respiratory system in 1932 numbered 813—465 being of males and 348 of females—and equalled a rate of 450 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 481 in 1931, 498 in 1930, 496 in 1929, 581 in 1928, 660 in 1918-22, 855 in 1908-12, and 1,365 in 1890-92. In England and Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and the Irish Free State in 1931 the deaths from this cause were 742, 620, 903, and 1,032 per million of their respective

populations. 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 at various ages, are given in the next table:—

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM AT VARIOUS AGES.

Age Group.	Males.					Females.				
	Year.					Year.				
	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
0-10 ...	8	9	5	4	3	8	3	4	2	3
10-15 ...	2	1	3	4	1	6	7	3	1	1
15-20 ...	11	17	14	13	7	42	31	33	34	22
20-25 ...	54	47	30	27	31	82	62	71	62	57
25-30 ...	54	53	51	47	41	84	58	79	55	40
30-35 ...	61	57	47	56	45	71	47	54	52	53
35-40 ...	59	68	69	60	57	57	42	38	53	52
40-45 ...	58	57	45	50	49	37	18	29	26	28
45-50 ...	66	49	50	47	43	24	21	25	27	31
50-55 ...	51	55	41	36	55	13	20	21	22	13
55-60 ...	36	28	45	33	43	19	12	12	13	18
60-65 ...	27	43	33	44	30	16	13	14	18	12
65-70 ...	30	22	29	29	30	13	2	12	18	11
70 and over	17	23	20	22	30	11	12	11	10	7
Total ...	534	529	482	472	465	483	348	406	393	348

For the year 1932, the average age of those who died from tuberculosis of the respiratory system was 45.6 years for males and 37.0 years for females.

Tubercular diseases (tuberculosis of the respiratory system excepted).

In 1932 there were in Victoria 138 deaths from tubercular diseases (excluding tuberculosis of the respiratory system), which corresponded to a rate of 76 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 63 in 1931, 97 in 1930, 92 in 1929, 82 in 1928, 134 in 1918-22, 182 in 1908-12, and 379 in 1890-92. In England and Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and the Irish Free State, in 1931, the deaths from similar causes numbered 154, 250, 317, and 288 per million of their respective populations.

Tubercular death rates in Melbourne, Ballarat, and Bendigo.

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 65 per cent. the rate for Greater Melbourne, by 99 per cent. the rate for Ballarat, and by 82 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 1932.

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
1926-30 ..	5·9	5·2	10·7	1·0	·4	·8	6·9	5·6	11·5
1931 ..	5·1	6·5	7·7	·8	1·2	·3	5·9	7·7	8·0
1932 ..	4·9	3·1	8·9	·8	·7	·3	5·7	3·8	9·2

In Geelong the death rate from tuberculosis of the respiratory system per 10,000 of the population was 2·6 in 1932, 4·0 in 1931, 3·8 in 1926-30, and 4·1 in 1921-25. Corresponding rates for deaths from other tubercular diseases were 0 in 1932, ·9 in 1931, ·4 in 1926-30, and ·6 in 1921-25.

Other Infectious and Parasitic Diseases. Deaths in 1932 from diseases included under this heading (No. 14 in the abridged tables) were dysentery 41, erysipelas 14, acute poliomyelitis 4, lethargic encephalitis 12, cerebrospinal meningitis 17, tetanus 16, septicaemia 16, hydatid cysts 16, and other diseases 9.

Acute poliomyelitis was responsible for 4 deaths in 1932, 16 in 1931, 12 in 1930, 17 in 1929, 32 in 1928, 8 in 1927, 8 in 1926, 25 in 1925, 4 in 1924, and 4 in 1923. Of these 130 deaths, 76 were of males and 54 were of females; 7 were under 1 year of age, 40 were between 1 and 5 years; 31 between 5 and 10 years, and 52 over 10 years.

In 1932, there were 10 male and 6 female deaths from hydatids, of which 6 deaths of males and 1 death of females were attributed to hydatid tumour of the liver. The deaths in 1932 were equivalent to a rate of 9 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 12 in 1931, 12 in 1930, 17 in 1929, 15 in 1928, 16 in 1918-22, 22 in 1908-12, and 51 in 1890-92.

Cancer—Death rates. Deaths from cancer in 1932 numbered 2,128, and represented a death rate of 1,178 per million of the whole population, as compared with rates of 1,087 in 1931, 1,042 in 1930, 1,068 in 1929, 1,070 in 1928, 934 in 1918-22, 833 in 1908-12, and 584 in 1890-92. In England and Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and the Irish Free State, in 1931, the deaths per million of population from this cause were 1,484, 1,480, 1,250, and 1,114 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

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.				
	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
0-15	9	8	8	10	11	4	7	8	7	5
15-25	2	4	9	10	8	4	4	7	4	6
25-35	13	15	17	11	9	21	18	24	28	28
35-45	35	32	42	46	41	69	83	70	77	78
45-55	118	100	99	107	105	131	172	162	136	187
55-65	236	260	251	268	273	269	232	235	255	265
65-75	365	371	334	369	402	257	291	291	310	321
75-85	111	122	139	149	172	127	123	124	123	164
85 and over ..	24	19	18	19	24	29	28	21	24	29
Total	913	931	917	989	1,045	961	958	942	964	1,083

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 1932 the average age of those who died from the former was 65·0 years for males and 62·3 years for females, while the corresponding averages for the latter were 45·6 years for males and 37·0 years for females.

Type and seat of cancer. The following table shows the type and seat of cancer in persons who died from this disease in 1932:—

TYPE AND SEAT OF CANCER, 1932.

Type of Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Seat of Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Carcinoma—simplex	863	947	1,810	Buccal cavity and pharynx ..	80	20	100
Epithelioma ..	33	13	46	Stomach, duodenum, liver and biliary ducts ..	355	274	629
Rodent ulcer ..	10	4	14	Intestines, peritoneum and rectum	162	202	364
Sarcoma	47	33	80	Oesophagus and pancreas ..	92	37	129
Other (specified) ..	14	28	42	Respiratory organs	71	19	90
Malignant disease (unspecified) ..	78	58	136	Female genital organs ..	..	217	217
				Female breast ..	..	215	215
				Male genito-urinary organs ..	170	..	170
				Skin	32	18	50
				Other and unspecified organs ..	83	81	164
Total Deaths ..	1,045	1,083	2,128	Total Deaths ..	1,045	1,083	2,128

Fifty-three per cent. of the persons who died from cancer were affected in the digestive tract or peritoneum. Of the females who died from the disease 40 per cent. were affected in the genital organs or the breast.

Diabetes. During 1932 diabetes was responsible for 112 male and 184 female deaths, representing a rate of 164 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 145 in 1931, 126 in 1930, 132 in 1929, 135 in 1928, 130 in 1918-22, and 107 in 1908-12. The 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	0·23	0·39	0·53	0·54	1·11	2·79	8·02	12·51	6·02	1·45

Other General Diseases. Deaths in 1932 from diseases included under this heading (No. 20 in the tables) were acute rheumatic fever 52, exophthalmic goitre 39, other diseases of the thyroid and parathyroid glands 17, pernicious anaemia 79, other anaemias 10, leucaemia 41, Hodgkin's disease 23, and other diseases 43.

Cerebral Haemorrhage, Embolism, &c. In 1932, 400 male and 542 female deaths were ascribed to these causes, the total—942—corresponding to a rate of 522 per million of the population as compared with rates of 511 in 1931 and 508 in 1930. A change in the classification of deaths ascribed to cerebro-vascular lesion in association with arteriosclerosis does not permit of a comparison with earlier years. These deaths are now classified to arteriosclerosis. Of the 942 deaths in 1932, 561 were due to cerebral haemorrhage, 45 to apoplexy, 30 to cerebral embolism, 181 to cerebral thrombosis, 12 to softening of the brain, and 113 to hemiplegia and unspecified paralysis.

Other Diseases of Nervous System and Sense Organs. Included under this heading (No. 23 in the tables) in 1932, were 51 deaths from simple meningitis, 52 from other diseases of the spinal cord, 57 from epilepsy, 25 from diseases of the ear and mastoid process, and 148 from other diseases.

Diseases of the Heart. During 1932 there were 3,173 deaths ascribed to diseases of the heart, including 17 due to pericarditis, 650 to endocarditis, 1,550 to diseases of the myocardium, 250 to diseases of coronary arteries, 193 to angina pectoris, and 513 to other diseases of the heart. The total causes in 1932 represented a rate of 1,757 per million of the population, the rates for previous years being 1,759 in 1931, 1,518 in 1930, 1,347 in 1922-26, and 1,441 in 1908-12. 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	5·28	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 70 and upwards, approximately 1 in 4 is due to some form of this disease.

Arteriosclerosis. Deaths assigned to this cause have in recent years reached considerable proportions. Changes in classification are in part responsible. It is probable, however, that many deaths are now certified thereto which in past years would have been ascribed to senile decay. In 1932 the number of deaths from arteriosclerosis with record of cerebral vascular lesion (cerebral haemorrhage etc.) was 412, and without such record 386. Of the total deaths, 434 or 54 per cent. were persons aged 70 years and over.

Respiratory diseases. In 1932 the deaths from respiratory diseases numbered 1,656, which represented a rate of 917 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 1,022 in 1931, 851 in 1930, 1,080 in 1929, and 1,308 in 1928. Of the deaths in the year under review, 41 were referred to acute bronchitis, 205 to chronic bronchitis, 522 to broncho-pneumonia, 233 to lobar pneumonia, 308 to pneumonia unspecified, 71 to pleurisy, 49 to asthma, 100 to pulmonary congestion, embolism, etc., 96 to chronic interstitial pneumonia, and 31 to other diseases. Further details will be found in the tables under causes Nos 26 to 28.

Diseases of the digestive system.

In 1932 there were 541 male and 430 female deaths from digestive ailments, representing a proportion of 538 per million of the population, as against rates of 545 in 1931, 617 in 1930, 584 in 1929, 784 in 1928, 807 in 1922-26, and 2,382 in 1890-92. Deaths from the principal diseases in 1932 were, 114 from ulcers of the stomach and duodenum, 245 from diarrhoeal diseases, 125 from appendicitis, 45 from hernia, 91 from intestinal obstruction, 94 from cirrhosis of the liver, 40 from biliary calculi, 71 from other diseases of the gall bladder and biliary passages, and 146 from other diseases. Further rates and details are given in the tables (Nos. 29 to 32).

The 245 deaths from diarrhoeal diseases in 1932 corresponded to a rate of 136 per million of the population as compared with rates of 129 in 1931, 196 in 1930, 153 in 1929, 330 in 1928, 380 in 1922-26, 833 in 1908-12, and 1,342 in 1890-92. Until recent years these diseases constituted one of the most fatal menaces to infant life. The decline in the mortality therefrom has however been progressive and since 1928 the rate has reached small proportions. Of the deaths at all ages in 1932, 85 were of infants under one year of age, 38 were between the ages of one and two years, and 23 between two and five years, while 54 were of persons aged 65 years and over. Infantile diarrhoea is further dealt with in the section "Infantile Mortality."

Diseases of the genito-urinary system.

In 1932 there were 1,272 deaths attributed to diseases of the genito-urinary system, which corresponded to a rate of 704 per million of the population, as against rates of 721 in 1931, 649 in 1930, 725 in 1929, 706 in 1928, 670 in 1918-22 and 700 in 1909-12. In 1932 acute and chronic nephritis were responsible for 998 deaths, other diseases of the kidney etc. for 92, diseases of the prostate for 115, and other genito-urinary diseases for 67.

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. In the following table are given the proportions of deaths from puerperal septicaemia and all other puerperal causes for each of the last seven years and the averages of previous periods back to 1871. For reasons set forth in the 1931-32

issue of the Year Book the rates given for years prior to 1926 are not strictly comparable with rates for subsequent years.

DEATHS OF MOTHERS (MARRIED AND SINGLE) TO EVERY 10,000 CHILDREN BORN ALIVE, 1871 TO 1932.

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.	
	Without Abortion.	Septic Abortion.	Criminal Abortion.		Excluding Criminal Abortion.	Including Criminal Abortion.	Without Abortion.	Septic Abortion.	Criminal Abortion.		Excluding Criminal Abortion.	Including Criminal Abortion.
1871-1880	46			127	173		17·12			47·26	64·38	
1881-1890	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 ..	43	15	13	126	184	197	12·16	4·24	3·68	35·63	52·03	55·71
1927 ..	47	14	22	113	174	196	13·40	3·99	6·27	32·22	49·61	55·88
1928 ..	43	6	28	131	180	208	12·46	1·74	8·12	37·97	52·17	60·29
1929 ..	44	13	19	113	170	189	13·09	3·87	5·65	33·63	50·59	56·24
1930 ..	40	13	21	121	174	195	12·07	3·92	6·34	36·53	52·52	58·86
1931 ..	34	9	19	92	135	154	11·21	2·97	6·26	30·33	44·51	50·77
1932 ..	27	9	30	89	125	155	9·83	3·28	10·92	32·41	45·52	56·44

It will be seen that the death rate of women in childbirth fluctuates considerably. The increase during the last few years is probably more apparent than real, owing to the measures taken to identify the association of the puerperal condition with the cause of death shown on the certificate, recourse being had to the information contained in the birth registers and to direct inquiry of the certifying doctor.

The following tables gives information in age groups for the year 1932 relating to the causes of death of women in childbirth, and the total number of children born to married mothers:—

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES, VICTORIA, 1932.

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.			
140. (a) Abortion with septic conditions .. ..	..	3	2	2	1	1	9	8	1
(b) Criminal abortion	6	6	7	4	5	2	30*	17	13
141. Abortion without septic conditions .. ..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2	2	..
142. Ectopic gestation .. ..	..	..	1	1	1	..	3	3	..
143. Other accidents of pregnancy (excluding hæmorrhage) .. ..	..	..	1	..	3	..	4	4	..
144. Puerperal hæmorrhage .. ..	..	2	1	3	3	3	12	12	..
145. Puerperal septicæmia (not consequent on abortion)	1	3	6	8	6	3	27	24	3
146. Puerperal albuminuria and eclampsia	3	5	6	6	4	6	30	28	2
147. Other toxæmias of pregnancy .. ..	..	1	1	5	2	1	10	10	..
148. (a) Phlegmasia alba dolens and thrombosis .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	2	3	3	..
(b) Embolism or sudden death .. ..	..	1	..	3	3	2	9	9	..
149. Other accidents of childbirth—									
(a) Cæsarean section .. ..	..	1	..	..	2	1	4	4	..
(b) Other surgical operations and instrumental delivery .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..
(c) Others .. ..	..	..	1	2	3	4	10	10	..
150. (a) Puerperal diseases of the breast .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Other unspecified conditions of the puerperal state .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..
Total	10	23	28	34	33	27	155	136	19
Married Mothers	2	19	26	31	31	27	136	..	..
Unmarried Mothers	8	4	2	3	2	..	19	..	..
Total Issue of Married Mothers	1	22	46	65	105	142	381	..	..

* Illegal operation 4; self-induced 5; open verdict 21.

Of the 381 children born to the 136 married women who died, 348 were living at the time of their mother's death, or an average of 2.6 children per mother, as compared with 2.6 in 1931, 2.5 in 1930, and 2.8 in 1929.

First confinements were responsible for 44, or 32.4 per cent., of the total deaths of married mothers, as compared with 35.7 per cent. in 1931, 41.4 per cent. in 1930 and 28.1 per cent. in 1929.

Ages at Death of Women in Childbirth. The death rate of women in childbirth varies considerably at different ages, and is higher at older than at younger ages. The number of deaths of women in childbirth and the death rates in various age groups in Victoria, for the period 1920-26 and the years 1930, 1931, and 1932 are shown in the following table :—

DEATH RATES OF WOMEN IN CHILDBIRTH, IN AGE GROUPS, 1920 TO 1932.

Age Group.	Mothers.							
	Deaths.				Deaths per 10,000 children born alive.			
	1920-26.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1920-26.	1930.	1931.	1932.
Under 20 years ..	45	8	6	10	44·9	42·1	34·0	60·0
20 to 25 ,, ..	182	30	22	23	33·6	40·0	30·9	36·6
25 ,, 30 ,, ..	274	39	37	28	36·2	40·9	43·8	36·1
30 ,, 35 ,, ..	279	42	42	34	45·8	56·2	61·6	54·4
35 ,, 40 ,, ..	231	51	30	33	62·7	104·1	67·7	84·6
40 years and over	102	25	17	27	73·7	136·4	98·0	167·5
Total	1,113	195	154	155	44·2	58·9	50·8	56·4

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.

The inclusion of deaths recorded as being due to illegal operations has slightly increased the rates in the three last mentioned years. The rates chiefly affected are those at the younger ages.

Senile decay. During the year 1932, the deaths of 436 men and 595 women were ascribed to senile decay, as compared with 472 men and 551 women in 1931. Prior to 1927, deaths from ill-defined 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 1932 numbered 6,086—3,055 of men and 3,031 of women, or 36·2 per cent. of the total deaths.

In 1932, 585 male and 184 female deaths were attributed to accidents and negligence, which represented a rate of 426 per million of the population. This proportion was slightly below the average rate—473—for the previous five years, and 47 per cent. below the rate—811—for 1890-92. In 1931 a distinction was made for the first time between deaths recorded as “open verdict” and those returned definitely as “accidental.” The numbers of deaths from various accidents in the last five years are given in the appended table :—

DEATHS FROM ACCIDENTAL VIOLENCE, 1928 TO 1932.

Nature or Place of Accident.	Annual Deaths during—						
	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.		
					Total.	Males.	Females
Snake Bite	2	..	2	2	4	2	2
Other Venomous Bites and Stings	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Poisoning by Food ..	3	9	2	1	4	3	1
Absorption of Poisonous Gases	12	10	4	6	3	2	1
Other Acute Poisonings ..	16	17	12	7	3	1	2
Conflagration (Bush fires, &c.)	3	1	6	7	16	13	3
Burns, Scalds, &c. . .	57	64	58	54	39	23	16
Accidental Mechanical Suffocation	11	9	16	14	17	12	5
Drowning { accidental open verdict }	125	97	136	{ 69 42 23 5 }	{ 79 31 21 1 }	{ 62 23 20 1 }	{ 17 8 1 .. }
Firearms { accidental open verdict }	23	26	32	{ 5 15 6 }	{ 1 1 5 }	{ 1 1 5 }	{ }
In Mines and Quarries ..	3	10	6	15	1	1	..
Machines	14	16	7	6	5	5	..
Transport Accidents ..	382	394	406	376	357	282	75
Falls { accidental .. open verdict }	60	71	57	{ 73 3 1 }	{ 89 1 1 }	{ 54 1 1 }	{ 35 }
Other Crushings	17	26	23	18	22	22	..
Injuries by Animals ..	7	10	7	7	11	10	1
Excessive Cold	1	2	..	2	1	..	1
Effects of Heat	5	5	8	2	10	9	1
Lightning .. ..	..	2	2	2	3	3	..
Electricity	4	12	8	4	6	5	1
Other Violence { accidental open verdict }	106	67	65	{ 26 13 }	{ 28 17 }	{ 18 13 }	{ 10 4 }
Total accidental ..	..	..	..	714	719	547	172
,, open verdict	..	..	..	63	50	38	12
Grand Total ..	852	848	857	777	769	585	184

On the average of the last five years the female mortality rate from accidents was about 30 per cent. of the rate for males.

In 1932, deaths from transport accidents (excluding 7 accidents on ships) numbered 350, as against 373 in 1931, 406 in 1930, 394 in 1929, 382 in 1928, 301 in 1927, 309 in 1926, 299 in 1925, 245 in 1924, and 201 in 1923.

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 transport was concerned, for the year 1932 :—

DEATHS FROM TRANSPORT ACCIDENTS, IN VICTORIA, 1932.

	Collisions between—						Pedestrians killed.	Fall from vehicle and other accidents.	Total.	Males.	Females.	
	Railway vehicle.	Motor omnibus, car, lorry.	Motor cycle.	Horse-drawn vehicle.	Bicycle.	Horse.						Total.
Railway train ..	1	10	..	..	..	..	11	26	6	*43	37	6
Tramcar	1	2	..	..	..	3	6	1	10	7	3
Motor omnibus	1	..	..	1	..	2	1	1	4	1	3
,, car	13	20	4	11	1	49	68	47	164	119	45
,, lorry, &c.	1	8	1	4	..	14	21	10	45	37	8
,, cycle	1	1	2	1	5	9	22	36	29	7
Horse - drawn vehicle..	1	..	1	6	16	23	21	2
Bicycle	2	..	2	3	3	8	7	1
Horse	14	14	14	..
Aeroplane
Other vehicles	2	1	3	3	..
Total ..	1	26	31	6	21	2	87	142	121	350	275	75

* Including 12 railway employees.

Accidental deaths involving motor vehicles. The number of motor vehicles (including motor cycles) registered in Victoria and the deaths in which they were involved, for the years 1923 to 1932, were as follows :—

DEATHS INVOLVING MOTOR VEHICLES, 1923 TO 1932.

Year.	Number of Motor Vehicles. (30th June.)	Deaths Involving Motor Vehicles.		
		Number.	Per 10,000 Motor Vehicles.	Per 1,000,000 of Population
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
1931	168,231	296	17·6	165
1932	167,952	262	15·6	145

It will be observed that, while registrations of motor vehicles greatly increased, the mortality per 10,000 motor vehicles fluctuated only slightly during the years mentioned. The mortality per million of the population increased from 64 in 1923 to 145 in 1932.

In 1932, motor cars, &c., were involved in 15 deaths per 10,000 cars registered, and motor cycles in 29 deaths per 10,000 cycles registered.

Suicide. In the year 1932, 135 males and 39 females took their own lives. The deaths represented a rate of 96 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 101 in 1931, 116 in 1930, 103 in 1929, 116 in 1928, 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 1932 numbered 16, of which 10 were of males and 6 of females. These represented a rate of 9 per million of the population, as against rates of 23 in 1931, 11 in 1930, 20 in 1929, 18 in 1928, 14 in 1918-22, and 19 in 1908-12. In 1931, 3 deaths and in 1932, 4 deaths from criminal abortion have been excluded from these figures and included with deaths from puerperal causes.

Vaccinations. On 30th December, 1931, an amendment of the Health Act 1928 repealing the provisions as to compulsory vaccinations came into operation. Particulars of vaccination in past years are given in previous issues of this book.

NATURAL INCREASE

Natural Increase per 1,000 of population in Australasia. The average annual natural increase, i.e., the excess of births over deaths, per 1,000 of the mean 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 MEAN 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
1931 ..	7·40	10·54	10·76	7·18	11·57	12·30	9·53	10·08
1932 ..	5·91	9·31	9·84	6·08	10·05	11·13	8·28	9·07

VICTORIA.

Period.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	Annual Rates per 1,000 of Mean Population.			Period.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	Annual Rates per 1,000 of Mean Population.		
		Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.			Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.
1880-84	14,466	30·64	14·40	16·24	1925 ..	20,086	21·49	9·47	12·02
1885-89	16,741	32·27	15·87	16·40	1926 ..	19,027	20·84	9·63	11·21
1890-94	20,059	31·99	14·62	17·37	1927 ..	18,301	20·30	9·71	10·59
1895-99	15,625	26·76	13·81	12·95	1928 ..	16,790	19·70	10·11	9·59
1900-04	14,859	25·08	12·78	12·30	1929 ..	16,887	18·99	9·45	9·54
1905-09	16,062	24·76	11·93	12·83	1930 ..	17,168	18·56	8·94	9·62
1910-14	18,795	25·42	11·57	13·85	1931 ..	13,299	16·88	9·48	7·40
1915-19	16,818	23·13	11·38	11·75	1932 ..	10,659	15·21	9·30	5·91
1920-24	19,647	22·89	10·40	12·49					

The mean increase in the Australian States for the period 1928-32 was 10·36 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 1928-32—10·36—would enable a population to double itself in 67 years, while, at the Victorian rate of 8·41 per 1,000 of population, a period of 82 years would be required. In England and Wales in 1932 the excess of births over deaths was 3·3 per 1,000 of population.