

## PART II.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

Registration  
of births,  
deaths, and  
Marriages.

The system of compulsory registration of births, deaths, and marriages in Victoria has been in force since 1853, and the registers contain all necessary information bearing on the family history of the people. The statutory duties under the Registration Acts are performed by the Government Statist, who has supervision over the registrars of births and deaths, the registrars of marriages, and (so far as regards their registration duties) the clergymen who celebrate marriages. Copies of entries certified by the Government Statist or by an Assistant Government Statist are *prima facie* evidence in the Courts of Australia of the facts to which they relate. At the Government Statist's Office there is kept for reference a complete collection of all registrations effected since 1st July, 1853, as well as originals or certified copies of all existing church records relating to earlier periods, as far back as 1837. Since the present system was instituted approximately 5,887,730 original entries have been made in the indexes, of which 1,736,300 relate to marriages, 2,781,000 to births, and 1,370,430 to deaths.

Since 1st August, 1932, all registrations of births and deaths occurring within the area of Greater Melbourne have been effected at the office of the Government Statist.

Persons desirous of obtaining information as to any birth, death, or marriage registered in Victoria may apply to the Government Statist to have a search made against the records in the registers. They should furnish particulars, as complete as possible, including the date and place of the event, the names of the parties (if a marriage), age (if a death), and, in the case of a birth or death, the parentage. A fee of 2s. 6d. is charged for each search of a period of not more than five years and an additional fee of 2s. 6d. for each additional search period of five years or part thereof. A search fee is not charged in any case where an application for a certificate is lodged within three months of the date of registration of the event. There is no extra charge for an extract of an entry but, for a certificate, a further sum of 5s. is payable. For a search of the early church records, prior to 1st July, 1853, the fee is 1s., a further sum of 1s. being payable if a certificate be required.

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

Marriages may be celebrated by any minister of religion who ordinarily officiates as such in one of the religious denominations, and whose name is registered in the office of the Government Statist; also by the Government Statist, an Assistant Government Statist, or a duly appointed registrar of marriages. The Governor in Council may prohibit from celebrating marriages any minister who is proved guilty of any indictable offence, misconduct or impropriety in the celebration of any marriage, or who makes a business of celebrating marriages for the purpose of profit or gain. At least three clear days before the performance of any marriage, written notice of such marriage must be given to the proposed celebrant by the parties about to be married, but such notice may, in respect of a marriage by a minister of religion, be dispensed with in the case of emergency by written permission of any Justice of the Peace. Marriage of minors is permissible only with the written consent of parents or guardian or, in certain circumstances, by permission of a Guardian of Minors; should a parent refuse consent, appeal may be made to a Police Magistrate. Marriage with a deceased wife's sister is valid. Marriages of Jews and Quakers are exempted in part from the law relating to marriages, and are deemed legal and valid if celebrated according to their respective usages. Certificates of such marriages must, however, be lodged with the Government Statist for record purposes. No marriage is invalid by reason of its having been celebrated by an unqualified person if either of the parties believed at the time that such person was qualified, or by reason of any formal defect or irregularity where the identity of the parties to the marriage is not in question.

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

Births of live children must, under a penalty not exceeding £10 for default without reasonable cause, be registered within 60 days. After 60 days and within twelve months, registration may be effected, after declaration, on the payment of a fee of 5s.; after twelve months and under seven years, only by authority of the Government Statist (fee 20s.); and after seven years by order of a Judge of a County Court or the Supreme Court (fee 30s.). The

occupier of any house or place in which an illegitimate child is born, or in which an illegitimate child under the age of five years dies, is required to give notice of such birth or death to the district registrar within three to seven days, according to the locality of the event. If the mother is the occupier, the period of notification is extended to three weeks.

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

**Summary of Vital Statistics, 1945.** The principal numbers and rates relating to Vital Statistics are given in the following table:—

#### VICTORIA—SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1945.

Division.	Number of—				Rate per 1,000 of Population.*			Infantile Mortality.
	Marriages.	Births.	Deaths.	Deaths under One Year.	Marriage.	Birth.	Death.	Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.
Greater Melbourne ..	..	23,706	12,282	637	..	19·90	10·31	26·87
Remainder of the State	..	17,494	8,214	518	..	21·32	10·01	29·61
Victoria .. ..	16,501	41,200	20,496	1,155	8·20	20·48	10·19	28·03

\* Subject to revision.

#### MARRIAGES.

**Marriages—Numbers and rates.** Marriages in Victoria in 1945 numbered 16,501, a decrease of 1,356 as compared with the number registered in 1944. The rate per 1,000 of population in 1945 was 8·20 as compared with rates of 8·94 in 1944, 9·27 in 1943, 12·03 in 1942, and 10·79 in 1941. The highest rate recorded in Victoria was 12·03 in 1942; the lowest rate was 5·66 in 1931—a year of acute economic depression. From that year to 1942, there was a marked increase, the rate in 1942 being 112 per cent. higher than that in 1931.

The high number of marriages in each of the years 1941 and 1942 can be attributed to war-time conditions. The pronounced fall in the number celebrated in 1943 indicated that the influence of

those conditions had passed its peak. In the years 1944 and 1945 further falls were recorded, the rate (8·20) in 1945 being the lowest recorded since 1934.

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

VICTORIA—MARRIAGES IN EACH QUARTER, 1855 TO 1945.

Period.	Average Annual Number of Marriages.	Quarter of Registration.				Rate per 1,000 of Mean Population.
		March.	June.	September.	December.	
1855-59 ..	4,362	*	*	*	*	10·24
1860-64 ..	4,418	1,068	1,166	1,079	1,105	8·16
1865-69 ..	4,533	1,123	1,144	1,113	1,153	6·94
1870-74 ..	4,823	1,168	1,299	1,131	1,225	6·40
1875-79 ..	5,023	1,239	1,307	1,207	1,270	6·21
1880-84 ..	6,296	1,528	1,611	1,483	1,674	7·07
1885-89 ..	8,208	1,899	2,196	1,915	2,198	8·04
1890-94 ..	7,945	1,995	2,100	1,838	2,012	6·88
1895-99 ..	7,627	1,816	2,074	1,778	1,959	6·44
1900-04 ..	8,201	2,000	2,252	1,930	2,019	6·78
1905-09 ..	9,209	2,185	2,548	2,182	2,294	7·36
1910-14 ..	11,244	2,664	3,000	2,644	2,936	8·29
1915-19 ..	10,908	2,437	2,754	2,815	2,902	7·62
1920-24 ..	13,598	3,252	3,578	3,152	3,616	8·64
1925-29 ..	13,301	3,136	3,603	3,047	3,515	7·72
1930-34 ..	12,019	2,929	3,123	2,727	3,240	6·64
1935-39 ..	16,406	3,699	4,484	3,414	4,809	8·83
1940-44 ..	20,609	5,089	5,383	4,812	5,325	10·54
1941 ..	20,897	4,367	5,526	4,625	6,379	10·79
1942 ..	23,636	6,685	6,816	4,869	5,266	12·03
1943 ..	18,356	5,292	4,347	4,192	4,525	9·27
1944 ..	17,857	4,101	4,794	4,479	4,483	8·94
1945 ..	16,501	4,241	3,987	3,669	4,604	8·20

\* Not available.

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

**Marriage rates**  
—Australian  
States and  
New Zealand.

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

MARRIAGE RATES—AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND.

Year.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1941 .. ..	10·79	10·74	9·53	11·38	10·72	8·96	10·58	8·65
1942 .. ..	12·03	12·25	11·29	13·31	11·37	10·10	12·00	7·91
1943 .. ..	9·27	9·26	9·49	10·18	9·44	8·67	9·36	7·53
1944 .. ..	8·94	9·20	10·63	9·68	9·28	7·88	9·33	8·43
1945 .. ..	8·20	8·73	9·18	8·46	7·73	7·54	8·52	10·14

The marriage rate in England and Wales in 1945 was 9·3.

The ages of bridegrooms and brides who were married in 1945 are shown in combination for various groups in the table which follows:—

VICTORIA—AGES OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES IN COMBINATION, 1945.

Ages of Bridegrooms.	Ages of Brides.													Total Bridegrooms.					
	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21 to 24.	25 to 29.	30 to 34.	35 to 39.	40 to 44.	45 to 49.		50 to 54.	55 to 59.	60 to 64.	65 to 69.	70 and over.
16 .. ..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
17 .. ..	..	2	8	10	7	3	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36
18 .. ..	..	3	13	27	39	21	13	14	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	131
19 .. ..	..	1	13	39	65	82	47	52	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	301
20 .. ..	..	2	7	35	85	113	97	174	13	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	529
21 to 24 ..	1	4	24	109	335	576	789	2,957	452	46	11	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,305
25 to 29 ..	..	1	18	44	138	246	332	2,138	1,308	13	41	5	4	..	..	..	..	..	4,553
30 to 34 ..	..	..	4	9	24	49	85	636	833	493	120	33	8	1	1	..	..	..	2,296
35 to 39 ..	..	1	..	5	6	15	20	195	341	347	248	63	22	1	2	2	..	..	1,268
40 to 44 ..	..	..	..	..	2	3	5	47	113	188	180	131	44	6	1	1	1	..	722
45 to 49 ..	..	..	..	2	..	2	2	19	41	74	96	95	87	29	11	2	1	..	461
50 to 54 ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	3	17	34	66	75	54	57	17	1	1	1	327
55 to 59 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	5	14	38	41	48	56	27	10	4	..	246
60 to 64 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	7	17	25	38	23	19	4	5	143
65 to 69 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	6	6	10	21	15	18	9	2	92
70 to 74 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	2	5	9	10	9	7	9	54
75 and over	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	4	6	7	6	9	34
Total Brides	1	14	87	280	704	1,110	1,395	6,240	3,130	1,485	815	470	307	222	113	69	33	26	16,501

Of every 1,000 men married during the year, 729 were older and 169 younger than their brides, and 102 were of the same age.

In 1945 the oldest bridegroom was aged 83 years, and the oldest bride 80 years. The youngest bridegroom was aged 16 years, and the youngest bride 14 years.

**Proportion of marriages at various ages.** The proportions of both sexes marrying in 1945 is shown, in varying age groups, in the following table:—

VICTORIA—PROPORTIONS OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES IN AGE GROUPS, 1945.

Age Group.	Proportion per 1,000 of total—		Age Group.	Proportion per 1,000 of total—	
	Bridegrooms.	Brides.		Bridegrooms.	Brides.
Under 16 ..	..	.91	35 to 39 ..	76.84	49.39
16 .. ..	.18	5.27	40 to 44 ..	43.76	28.48
17 .. ..	2.18	16.97	45 to 49 ..	27.94	18.61
18 .. ..	7.94	42.66	50 to 54 ..	19.82	13.45
19 .. ..	18.24	67.27	55 to 59 ..	14.91	6.85
20 .. ..	32.06	84.54	60 and over ..	19.57	7.76
21 to 24 ..	321.50	378.16			
25 to 29 ..	275.92	189.69		1,000.00	1,000.00
30 to 34 ..	139.14	89.99			

**Marriages of minors.** The number of minors marrying at each age and the proportion of each sex to the total marriages are given in the following table for each of the five years 1941 to 1945.

VICTORIA—MARRIAGES OF MINORS.

Year.	Age in Years.							Total.	
	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.
Bridegrooms.									
1941 .. ..	..	..	4	18	108	265	469	864	4.13
1942 .. ..	..	..	3	21	113	303	687	1,127	4.77
1943 .. ..	..	..	7	39	128	262	504	940	5.12
1944 .. ..	..	..	2	30	141	282	525	981	5.49
1945 .. ..	..	..	3	36	131	301	529	1,000	6.06
Brides.									
1941 .. ..	..	10	113	329	753	1,194	1,542	3,941	18.86
1942 .. ..	..	2	17	120	375	882	1,460	4,946	20.93
1943 .. ..	..	2	15	114	309	827	1,299	4,153	22.62
1944 .. ..	..	1	13	85	287	752	1,301	4,144	23.21
1945 .. ..	..	1	14	87	280	704	1,110	3,591	21.76

The proportion of minors marrying steadily decreased from 1931 to 1936. There was little fluctuation during the following three years, but in 1940 an increase was recorded, mainly due to the number of brides who were under 21 years of age. A further increase was recorded during each year of the period 1941-44 the proportion of minors marrying in 1944 being 14.35 per cent. of the persons married in that year. The proportion in 1945 was 13.91 per cent., the slight decrease being due to the fewer number of brides who were under 21 years of age.

Of every 1,000 bridegrooms in 1945, 61 were under 21 years of age; of every 1,000 brides, 218 were under 21 years of age.

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

VICTORIA—MEAN AGE AT MARRIAGE, 1941 TO 1945.

Year.	Bridegrooms.				Brides.			
	Bachelors.	Divorced.	Widowers.	All Bridegrooms.	Spinsters.	Divorced.	Widows.	All Brides.
1941 ..	27.9	39.9	50.8	29.4	25.2	35.7	45.4	26.2
1942 ..	27.6	40.4	50.2	28.9	24.9	36.3	44.0	25.8
1943 ..	27.6	40.4	50.5	29.2	24.8	35.8	44.5	25.9
1944 ..	27.5	40.1	51.0	29.2	24.8	35.3	43.8	26.0
1945 ..	27.8	39.2	52.0	29.8	24.9	34.9	43.2	26.4

In 1945 the mean age at marriage of bridegrooms whose brides were under 45 was 28.6 years, while for brides under 45 the age was 25.1 years.

The most popular age at marriage in 1945 for bridegrooms was 23 years, and for brides 21 years.

**Conjugal condition of persons marrying.** In the following tables are given the number of persons in each conjugal condition marrying during each of the five years 1941 to 1945, and the proportions in each condition for periods since 1900.

**VICTORIA—CONJUGAL CONDITION OF PERSONS  
MARRYING, 1941 TO 1945.**

Period.	Bridegrooms.				Brides.				Total Marriages.
	Bachelors.	Widowers.	Divorced.	Deserted.	Spinsters.	Widows.	Divorced.	Deserted	
1941 ..	19,319	982	585	11	19,532	686	648	31	20,897
1942 ..	21,966	974	696	*	22,291	670	675	*	23,636
1943 ..	16,780	880	696	*	17,022	638	696	*	18,356
1944 ..	16,198	925	734	*	16,378	691	788	*	17,857
1945 ..	14,544	967	990	*	14,720	817	964	*	16,501

\* Included with divorced.

**VICTORIA—TOTAL MARRIAGES AND PERCENTAGE OF  
PERSONS MARRYING IN EACH CONJUGAL CONDITION,  
1910 TO 1945.**

Marriages Between—	1945.		Conjugal Condition.	Percentage of Total—			
	Number.	Percentage.		1910-19.	1920-29.	1930-39.	1945.
Bachelors and Spinsters ..	13,485	81.72	Bachelors Widowers Divorced	Bridegrooms.			
Bachelors and Widows ..	415	2.52		92.7	92.1	92.3	88.14
Bachelors and Divorced Women ..	644	3.90	6.5	6.3	5.5	5.86	
Widowers and Spinsters ..	533	3.23	8	1.6	2.2	6.00	
Widowers and Widows ..	293	1.78	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.00
Widowers and Divorced Women ..	141	.85	Spinsters Widows Divorced	Brides.			
Divorced Men and Spinsters	702	4.25		94.2	93.6	94.4	89.21
Divorced Men and Widows	109	.66		4.8	4.9	3.4	4.95
Divorced Men and Divorced Women ..	179	1.09	1.0	1.5	2.2	5.84	
Total Marriages ..	16,501	100.00	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.00

NOTE.—In this table deserted persons are included with divorced.

The proportions of widowers and widows remarrying per 100 marriages, declined from 6.5 and 4.7 respectively in 1910-14 to 4.9 and 3.6 in 1941-45. During the same period the proportion of remarriages of divorced men increased from .7 to 3.8 and of divorced women from .9 to 3.9. The increased proportion of divorced persons remarrying reflects the higher number of decrees for dissolution of marriage granted in recent years. The numbers of such decrees and of remarriages of divorced men and of divorced women for various periods since 1900 are shown in the following table :—



## VICTORIA—DIVORCED PERSONS REMARRYING SINCE 1900.

Period.	Decrees Granted.	Remarriages.	
		Divorced Men.	Divorced Women.
1900-09 .. ..	1,208	418	554
1910-19 .. ..	2,258	867	1,096
1920-29 .. ..	4,392	2,125	2,116
1930-39 .. ..	6,059	3,172	3,099
1940 .. ..	817	591	623
1941 .. ..	833	585	648
1942 .. ..	953	696	675
1943 .. ..	1,375	696	696
1944 .. ..	1,670	734	788

In 1945 decrees granted numbered 1,727, and remarriages of men and of women 990 and 964 respectively.

**Marriages in religious denominations.** In 1945 the number of marriages celebrated by ministers of religion was 15,412, representing 93 per cent. of the total marriages. Civil marriages numbered 1,089, or 7 per cent. of the total.

The numbers and proportions of civil marriages and of marriages solemnized according to the rites of the principal religious denominations for the years 1925, 1935, and 1945, are shown in the following table:—

## VICTORIA—MARRIAGES, RELIGIOUS AND CIVIL.

	1925.		1935.		1945.	
	Number.	Per-centage of Total Marriages.	Number.	Per-centage of Total Marriages.	Number.	Per-centage of Total Marriages.
Church of England ..	3,790	28·35	4,414	28·65	5,158	31·26
Roman Catholic Church	2,461	18·41	2,956	19·18	2,990	18·12
Presbyterian Church ..	2,540	19·00	2,576	16·72	3,191	19·34
Methodist Church ..	1,885	14·10	2,379	15·44	2,566	15·55
Baptist Church ..	631	4·72	593	3·85	559	3·39
Church of Christ ..	319	2·39	414	2·69	317	1·92
Congregational Church	899	6·72	272	1·77	205	1·24
Salvation Army ..	57	·42	121	·78	99	·60
Hebrew ..	39	·29	65	·42	99	·60
Lutheran Church ..	55	·41	76	·49	74	·45
Other Sects ..	166	1·24	170	1·10	154	·93
Civil Marriages ..	528	3·95	1,373	8·91	1,089	6·60
Total ..	13,370	100·00	15,409	100·00	16,501	100·00

**Civil marriages.** The following statement shows the numbers and proportions of civil marriages performed for each of the last ten years :—

VICTORIA—CIVIL MARRIAGES, 1936 TO 1945.

Year.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.	Year.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.
1936 .. ..	1,398	8·78	1941.. ..	1,478	7·07
1937 .. ..	1,058	6·52	1942.. ..	1,203	5·09
1938 .. ..	770	4·50	1943.. ..	898	4·89
1939 .. ..	988	5·69	1944.. ..	939	5·26
1940 .. ..	1,329	5·96	1945.. ..	1,089	6·60

CIVIL MARRIAGES PERFORMED IN THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT STATIST, 1939 TO 1945.

Year.	Number.	Percentage of Total Civil Marriages.
1939 .. ..	863	87·35
1940 .. ..	1,199	90·22
1941 .. ..	1,363	92·22
1942 .. ..	1,145	95·18
1943 .. ..	849	94·54
1944 .. ..	895	95·31
1945 .. ..	1,045	95·96

**Registered clergymen.** The ministers qualified by registration to celebrate marriages numbered 1,965 on 31st December, 1945. The number of ministers in each denomination (excepting Jews and Quakers) was as follows :—

**VICTORIA—REGISTERED MINISTERS IN EACH  
DENOMINATION, 1945.**

Denomination.	Number of Registered Ministers.	Denomination.	Number of Registered Ministers.
Church of England ..	428	Open Brethren .. ..	3
Roman Catholic .. ..	472	Particular Baptists ..	2
Presbyterian .. ..	339	Free Presbyterian .. ..	2
Methodist .. ..	296	Reformed Presbyterian	
Baptist .. ..	118	Church of Ireland ..	2
Church of Christ .. ..	90	Catholic and Apostolic ..	1
Salvation Army .. ..	63	Ballarat Town Mission ..	1
Congregational .. ..	54	Unitarian .. ..	1
Lutheran .. ..	37	Latter Day Saints .. ..	1
Seventh Day Adventist ..	33	New Church .. ..	1
Latter Day Saints (Re-		International Bible Students	1
organized) .. ..	7	Greek Orthodox Church ..	1
Apostolic Church of Aus-		Australian Church .. ..	1
tralia .. ..	4	Free Christian .. ..	1
Pentecostal .. ..	3		
Welsh Calvinistic Methodists	3	Total .. ..	1,965

In 1945 there were 8 civil registrars of marriages in Victoria.

### BIRTHS.

**Births—**  
**Numbers and**  
**Rates.**

The number of births registered in Victoria during the year 1945 was 41,200. This was 1,842 more than the number registered for the preceding year. The rate per 1,000 of population in 1945 was 20·48 as compared with 19·70 in 1944. The rate for 1945 was the highest recorded since 1926. After 1927 the birth-rate declined steadily until 1935 when the record low rate of 15·16 was experienced. There was a slow increase during the next five years. In 1941 the rate rose to 17·77. This was followed by further rises in the years 1942 and 1943, the rate in 1943 being 19·75. There was little fluctuation in 1944, but in 1945 a further rise was recorded, the rate (20·48) being the highest for the last nineteen years. The increase in the birth rate followed the rise in the marriage rate which began in 1932 and continued until 1942. Stillbirths, which are excluded from both births and deaths, numbered 981 and correspond to a ratio of 23·8 per 1,000 infants born alive in 1945. There were 1,061 male to every 1,000 female births in 1945, as compared with 1,048 in 1944, 1,047 in 1943, 1,050 in 1942, and 1,065 in 1941.

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

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

VICTORIA—BIRTHS IN EACH QUARTER, 1855 TO 1945.

Period.	Average Annual Number of Births.	Sex.		Quarter of Registration.				Rate per 1,000 of Mean Population.
		Males.	Females.	March.	June.	Sep-tember.	Decem-ber.	
1855-59 ..	17,154	8,742	8,412	*	*	*	*	39·49
1860-64 ..	24,060	12,379	11,681	5,614	5,991	6,534	5,921	43·29
1865-69 ..	25,963	13,219	12,744	6,027	6,543	7,105	6,288	39·77
1870-74 ..	27,359	13,944	13,415	6,478	6,769	7,467	6,645	36·35
1875-79 ..	26,584	13,639	12,945	6,333	6,686	7,211	6,354	32·85
1880-84 ..	27,286	13,965	13,321	6,374	7,025	7,300	6,587	30·64
1885-89 ..	32,941	16,883	16,058	7,824	8,289	8,814	8,014	32·27
1890-94 ..	36,945	18,901	18,044	8,669	9,604	9,735	8,937	31·99
1895-99 ..	31,675	16,213	15,462	7,746	8,078	8,323	7,528	26·76
1900-04 ..	30,316	15,544	14,772	7,384	7,682	7,880	7,370	25·08
1905-09 ..	30,994	15,879	15,115	7,489	7,832	8,076	7,597	24·76
1910-14 ..	34,500	17,717	16,783	8,329	8,619	8,850	8,702	25·42
1915-19 ..	33,101	17,014	16,087	8,228	8,336	8,514	8,023	23·13
1920-24 ..	36,022	18,549	17,473	8,729	8,970	9,367	8,956	22·89
1925-29 ..	34,892	18,013	16,879	8,732	8,728	8,856	8,576	20·24
1930-34 ..	29,429	15,075	14,354	7,383	7,409	7,361	7,276	16·27
1935-39 ..	29,467	15,113	14,354	7,285	7,154	7,466	7,562	15·85
1940-44 ..	36,154	18,539	17,615	8,873	8,611	9,211	9,459	18·49
1941 ..	34,406	17,748	16,658	8,256	8,006	8,576	9,568	17·77
1942 ..	35,927	18,402	17,525	9,179	9,174	9,009	8,565	18·28
1943 ..	39,117	20,011	19,106	9,053	8,977	10,596	10,491	19·75
1944 ..	39,358	20,142	19,216	10,068	9,515	9,811	9,964	19·70
1945 ..	41,200	21,206	19,994	10,382	10,354	9,978	10,486	20·48

\*Not available.

Birth rates—  
Australian  
States and  
New Zealand.

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

BIRTH RATES—AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND,  
1941 TO 1945.

Year.	Vic- toria.	New South Wales.	Queens- land.	South Aus- tralia.	Western Aus- tralia.	Tas- mania.	Aus- tralia.	New Zealand.
1941 ..	17·77	18·53	20·74	18·21	21·35	21·71	18·94	22·81
1942 ..	18·28	18·68	20·39	18·46	20·68	22·04	19·06	21·73
1943 ..	19·75	20·16	22·09	21·36	21·85	23·10	20·65	19·70
1944 ..	19·70	20·76	23·02	21·40	22·39	21·19	20·99	21·59
1945 ..	20·48	21·28	24·77	22·31	21·79	23·35	21·77	23·22

The birth rate in England and Wales in 1945 was 16·1.

The average ages of fathers and of mothers of nuptial children whose births were recorded in 1945 were 32·7 and 28·8 years respectively. These averages were 4·1 and 3·7 years respectively above the average ages of bridegrooms marrying brides under 45 years of age, and of such brides, for the year 1945. The proportions of both parents in various age groups are shown in the following table for the year mentioned :—

VICTORIA—PERCENTAGE OF PARENTS OF NUPTIAL  
CHILDREN IN AGE GROUPS, 1945.

Father.			Mother.		
Age Group.	Percentage of Total Parents.		Age Group.	Percentage of Total Parents.	
Under 20 .. ..	53		Under 20 .. ..	2·65	
20 to 24 .. ..	11·57		20 to 24 .. ..	24·02	
25 to 29 .. ..	26·80		25 to 29 .. ..	30·98	
30 to 34 .. ..	27·31		30 to 34 .. ..	24·90	
35 to 39 .. ..	18·95		35 to 39 .. ..	13·51	
40 to 44 .. ..	9·86		40 to 44 .. ..	3·68	
45 to 49 .. ..	3·37		45 and over .. ..	26	
50 and over .. ..	1·61				
Total .. ..	100·00		Total .. ..	100·00	

It will be seen that, on the experience of 1945, 55·00 per cent. of the mothers were between ages 20 and 30, and 38·41 per cent. between ages 30 and 40. The proportions of fathers at these ages were 38·37 and 46·26 per cent. respectively. Of every 1,000 nuptial births, about 27 were to mothers under 20 years and about 3 to mothers aged 45 years and upwards.

The following table shows the number of births (allotted to the place of usual residence of the mother) and the births per 1,000 of the mean population in Greater Melbourne, in cities and principal towns outside Greater Melbourne, and in the remainder of the State for the five-year periods 1928 to 1932 and 1933 to 1937, and for the years 1943, 1944, and 1945 :—

Birth rates in municipalities.

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

Municipality.	Annual Number of Births.					Births per 1,000 of Mean Population.				
	1928-1932.	1933-1937.	1943	1944.	1945.	1928-1932.	1933-1937.	1943.	1944.	1945.
<b>Greater Melbourne—</b>										
Melbourne ..	1,348	1,143	1,804	1,655	1,709	14.29	12.68	18.15	16.47	16.87
Box Hill ..	259	214	418	448	445	18.31	13.84	21.19	22.40	21.87
Braybrook (Part) ..	187	157	342	320	287	22.28	17.65	26.99	24.86	21.77
Brighton ..	394	358	743	730	750	13.37	11.69	19.50	18.89	19.12
Brunswick ..	974	790	1,164	1,116	1,209	17.52	14.53	20.15	19.06	20.35
Camberwell ..	865	759	1,624	1,529	1,581	17.85	14.58	22.79	21.14	21.52
Caulfield ..	941	807	1,516	1,484	1,597	14.87	12.14	19.18	18.45	19.58
Chelsea ..	127	121	171	224	227	18.66	17.46	21.51	27.72	27.41
Coburg ..	742	634	1,080	1,008	1,067	20.80	16.35	22.89	21.03	21.89
Collingwood ..	532	492	583	597	618	16.63	16.26	19.11	19.32	19.71
Essendon ..	766	578	1,118	1,096	1,271	16.59	12.47	21.92	21.18	24.14
Fitzroy ..	517	467	623	639	669	15.96	15.24	20.00	20.25	20.97
Footscray ..	875	698	1,117	1,117	1,111	19.13	14.97	18.02	17.76	17.97
Hawthorn ..	424	406	718	778	848	12.70	11.82	17.86	19.10	20.56
Heidelberg (Part) ..	413	340	640	613	632	16.93	14.02	21.23	19.95	20.08
Kew ..	339	284	591	538	536	13.97	11.58	19.28	17.33	17.09
Malvern ..	499	470	865	835	933	11.46	10.66	17.96	17.13	18.94
Moorabbin ..	398	359	554	603	598	23.14	19.20	23.28	24.76	24.02
Mordialloc ..	148	132	286	257	294	15.37	13.64	23.67	21.01	23.61
Northcote ..	727	576	939	890	916	17.27	13.55	20.79	19.41	19.70
Oakleigh ..	264	217	374	360	378	22.72	17.91	26.56	25.23	25.93
Port Melbourne ..	230	197	275	251	251	17.24	15.22	19.27	17.39	17.17
Prahran ..	696	624	1,129	1,103	1,179	13.26	11.84	19.04	18.38	19.44
Preston ..	703	581	907	938	958	23.87	18.05	24.22	24.63	24.61
Richmond ..	693	593	861	783	783	16.71	14.95	20.79	18.64	18.41
Sandringham ..	272	232	410	436	458	15.33	12.67	17.90	18.75	19.32
South Melbourne ..	660	551	645	793	748	15.06	12.81	14.47	17.56	16.39
St. Kilda ..	533	512	1,056	1,074	1,076	11.61	10.55	19.27	19.36	19.19
Williamstown ..	423	326	543	524	577	19.28	14.64	21.44	20.43	22.15
<b>Cities and Principal Towns outside Greater Melbourne—</b>										
Ballarat ..	664	596	735	780	758	17.14	15.74	18.61	19.76	19.19
Bendigo ..	550	555	594	596	597	17.10	18.81	19.29	19.33	19.34
Geelong ..	844	693	936	836	884	19.26	17.52	22.72	20.27	21.40
Ararat ..	†	102	98	97	113	..	20.76	19.41	19.21	22.31
Castlemaine ..	105	98	111	100	116	15.16	18.70	19.24	17.39	20.17
Colebrookdale ..	†	106	146	113	163	..	20.42	25.89	20.03	28.85
Echuca ..	†	95	72	85	85	..	21.39	16.11	18.97	18.93
Hamilton ..	138	117	144	134	155	24.47	20.08	23.96	21.97	25.41
Horseshoe Bend ..	†	118	113	106	111	..	22.13	20.18	18.93	19.47
Maryborough ..	118	111	123	91	130	21.35	19.62	20.85	15.42	21.94
Mildura ..	184	207	245	246	209	28.23	30.54	32.67	31.74	26.12
Sale ..	†	86	141	109	119	..	19.97	29.38	21.80	23.80
Shepparton ..	151	158	197	217	234	27.51	27.24	31.52	34.72	37.29
Stawell ..	92	85	84	74	92	19.46	17.75	17.07	14.98	18.59
Swan Hill ..	†	†	93	114	105	..	..	18.79	23.03	21.21
Wangaratta ..	†	107	138	105	120	..	22.21	25.56	19.44	22.22
Warrnambool ..	176	175	169	158	208	20.17	19.40	18.13	16.99	22.37
Wonthaggi ..	141	91	103	97	113	22.44	14.95	16.22	15.35	22.60
<b>Summary—</b>										
Greater Melbourne ..	15,949	13,618	23,096	22,739	23,706	16.03	13.55	19.89	19.32	19.90
Cities and Principal towns outside Greater Melbourne ..	3,163	3,500	4,242	4,058	4,312	19.22	18.90	21.26	20.29	21.64
Remainder of State ..	12,693	11,426	11,779	12,561	13,182	20.40	17.62	19.00	20.23	21.26
Victoria ..	31,805	28,544	39,117	39,358	41,200	17.85	15.52	19.75	19.70	20.48

† Included in Remainder of State.

Multiple  
births.

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

## VICTORIA—MULTIPLE BIRTHS.

Year.	Cases of Twins.	Cases of Triplets.	Total Multiple Cases.	Multiple Cases, per 1,000 of Total Cases.
1941 .. .. .	348	1	349	10·24
1942 .. .. .	398	3	401	11·28
1943 .. .. .	408	5	413	10·67
1944 .. .. .	436	7	443	11·38
1945 .. .. .	478	2	480	11·78

On the average of the five years 1941-45, the proportion of mothers of twins was one in 91, of mothers of triplets, one in 10,445, and of mothers of all multiple births, one in 90 mothers.

The last case of quadruplets recorded in Victoria was in 1937.

Adoption of  
children.

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

The first registration was effected on 14th October, 1929, and between that date and the end of the year 1945, the adoptions of 3,835 male and 4,679 female children were registered. During the last five years there were 106 female for every 100 male adoptions.

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

## VICTORIA—CHILDREN ADOPTED, 1929 TO 1945.

Period.	Number of Children Adopted.	
	Males.	Females.
1929 .. .. .	31	56
1930-1934 .. .. .	492	833
1935-1939 .. .. .	843	1,156
1940-1944 .. .. .	1,958	2,125
1945 .. .. .	511	509

**Children legitimated.** The first Victorian provision for the legitimation of children was contained in the *Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages Act* 1903, No. 1835. Up to the end of 1945 legitimations numbered 5,168.

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

VICTORIA—LEGITIMATIONS, 1903 TO 1945.

Period.	Number of Legitimations.	Proportion per 100 Ex-Nuptial Births.
1903-1909 .. .. .	279	2·3
1910-1919 .. .. .	1,347	7·0
1920-1929 .. .. .	1,374	8·5
1930-1939 .. .. .	1,019	8·0
1940-1944 .. .. .	1,010	15·1
1945 .. .. .	139	9·4

Legitimation Acts are in force in all the Australian States and in New Zealand, but there are marked differences in the numbers of legitimations resulting therefrom. In proportion to every 100 children born out of wedlock in 1945 the numbers of legitimations in the several States and in New Zealand during that year were as follows:— Victoria, 9·5; New South Wales, 9·9; Queensland, 15·6; South Australia, 4·9; Western Australia, 33·3; Tasmania, 32·1; and New Zealand, 22·2.

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

VICTORIA—EX-NUPTIAL BIRTHS, 1910 TO 1945.

Period.	Average Annual Number of Births.	Average Annual Number of Ex-nuptial Births.			Percentage of Total Births.
		Male.	Female.	Total.	
1910-14 .. .. .	34,500	1,013	979	1,992	5·77
1915-19 .. .. .	33,101	941	912	1,853	5·60
1920-24 .. .. .	36,022	869	821	1,690	4·69
1925-29 .. .. .	34,892	806	752	1,558	4·47
1930-34 .. .. .	29,429	685	620	1,305	4·43
1935-39 .. .. .	29,467	613	615	1,228	4·17
1940-44 .. .. .	36,154	701	638	1,339	3·70
1945 .. .. .	41,200	773	713	1,486	3·61



The percentage of ex-nuptial births to total births was 6·03 in 1913. There has been an appreciable decrease since that year.

The percentages in the various States and in New Zealand in 1945 were as follows :—Victoria, 3·61 ; New South Wales, 4·42 ; Queensland, 6·75 ; South Australia, 3·34 ; Western Australia, 4·79 ; Tasmania, 3·18 ; Australia, 4·48 ; and New Zealand, 4·93.

### DEATHS.

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

#### VICTORIA—DEATHS IN EACH QUARTER, 1855 TO 1945.

Period.	Average Annual Number of Deaths.	Sex.		Quarter of Registration.				Rate per 1,000 of Mean Population.
		Males.	Females.	March.	June.	September.	December.	
1855-59 ..	7,653	4,768	2,885	*	*	*	*	17·78
1860-64 ..	10,210	6,001	4,209	3,257	2,658	2,093	2,202	18·44
1865-69 ..	11,035	6,374	4,661	3,385	2,938	2,243	2,469	16·93
1870-74 ..	10,978	6,365	4,613	3,232	2,744	2,461	2,541	14·56
1875-79 ..	13,289	7,567	5,722	4,016	3,567	2,831	2,875	16·45
1880-84 ..	12,820	7,324	5,496	3,512	3,167	3,013	3,128	14·40
1885-89 ..	16,200	9,307	6,893	4,591	3,912	3,689	4,008	15·87
1890-94 ..	16,886	9,716	7,170	4,643	4,108	3,977	4,158	14·62
1895-99 ..	16,350	9,227	7,123	4,324	3,957	3,808	4,261	13·81
1900-04 ..	15,457	8,686	6,771	3,921	3,750	3,992	3,794	12·84
1905-09 ..	14,932	8,296	6,636	3,805	3,539	3,917	3,671	11·93
1910-14 ..	15,705	8,616	7,089	3,873	3,875	4,137	3,820	11·57
1915-19 ..	16,283	8,860	7,423	3,781	4,172	4,467	3,863	11·38
1920-24 ..	16,375	8,781	7,594	3,846	4,166	4,503	3,860	10·40
1925-29 ..	16,674	8,969	7,705	3,770	4,213	4,602	4,089	9·67
1930-34 ..	17,180	9,175	8,005	3,814	4,214	4,822	4,330	9·50
1935-39 ..	18,994	10,109	8,885	4,043	4,780	5,630	4,541	10·22
1940-44 ..	20,904	11,009	9,895	4,389	5,142	6,338	5,035	10·69
1941 ..	20,425	10,759	9,666	4,175	4,821	6,178	5,251	10·55
1942 ..	21,973	11,520	10,453	4,521	5,475	6,729	5,248	11·18
1943 ..	21,327	11,192	10,135	4,464	5,360	6,503	5,000	10·77
1944 ..	20,502	10,644	9,858	4,358	5,212	6,129	4,803	10·26
1945 ..	20,496	10,647	9,849	4,360	5,150	5,894	5,092	10·19

\* Not available.

The death rate gradually declined from 18.44 in 1860-64 to 9.50 in 1930-34 but, during the quinquennium 1935-39, it rose to 10.22. This was followed by a further rise to 10.69 during the quinquennium 1940-44. The lowest death rate (8.93) in the history of the State was recorded in 1930. It remained low for the following three years, but in 1934 it rose to 10.18. This was the maximum rate since 1923. There was little fluctuation during the four years following 1934. The rate rose sharply to 10.72 in 1939 and remained high for each year of the period 1940-44. In 1945 the rate was 10.19.

The number of deaths in 1945 was 20,496, which was 408 less than the average of the preceding five years.

The number in 1942 was the highest on record for the State.

In 1945 there were 1,081 male to every 1,000 female deaths, the average for the preceding five years being 1,113. The corresponding proportion of male to female births in the quinquennium was 1,052.

**Death rates—** The following statement shows the death rate per 1,000 of the population in each of the Australian States and New Zealand. and in New Zealand for the last five years :—

DEATH RATES—AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND,  
1941 TO 1945.

Year.	Vic- toria.	New South Wales.	Queens- land.	South Aus- tralia.	Western Aus- tralia.	Tas- mania.	Aus- tralia.	New- Zealand.
1941	10.55	9.78	9.19	10.44	10.07	10.74	10.02	9.84
1942	11.18	10.37	9.27	10.99	10.60	10.09	10.49	10.60
1943	10.77	10.16	10.06	10.53	9.56	10.43	10.30	10.04
1944	10.26	9.28	8.81	9.62	9.23	10.16	9.53	9.87
1945	10.19	9.32	8.77	9.62	9.62	9.74	9.52	10.07

In 1945 the death rate in England and Wales was 11.4.

**Death rates in municipalities.** Compiled on the basis of allotment of all deaths to the place of usual residence, the following table shows the number of deaths, and the deaths per 1,000 of the mean population in Greater Melbourne, in cities and principal towns outside Greater Melbourne, and in the remainder of the State, for the five-year periods 1928 to 1932 and 1933 to 1937, and for the years 1943, 1944, and 1945.

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

Municipality.	Annual Number of Deaths.					Deaths per 1,000 of Mean Population.				
	1928-1932.	1933-1937.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1928-1932.	1933-1937.	1943.	1944.	1945.
<b>Greater Melbourne—</b>										
Melbourne ..	1,091	1,120	1,226	1,227	1,225	11.57	12.42	12.33	12.21	12.09
Box Hill ..	125	155	207	175	209	8.81	9.99	10.49	8.75	10.27
Braybrook (Part) ..	56	58	90	94	88	6.70	6.57	7.10	7.30	6.68
Brighton ..	272	316	372	379	432	9.22	10.33	9.76	9.81	11.01
Brunswick ..	532	560	633	631	586	9.57	10.30	10.96	10.78	9.86
Camberwell ..	430	494	746	712	703	8.87	9.49	10.47	9.84	9.57
Caulfield ..	552	656	907	832	840	8.72	9.87	11.47	12.50	10.30
Chelsea ..	63	83	98	101	111	9.24	12.02	12.33	12.50	13.41
Coburg ..	287	317	434	413	407	8.06	8.19	9.20	8.62	8.35
Collingwood ..	363	377	378	394	310	11.36	12.47	12.39	12.75	9.89
Essendon ..	429	484	573	576	546	9.30	10.46	11.23	11.13	10.37
Fitzroy ..	446	452	470	447	441	13.77	14.74	15.09	14.17	13.82
Footscray ..	402	425	478	519	485	8.79	9.12	7.71	8.25	7.84
Hawthorn ..	357	409	463	477	462	10.67	11.90	11.52	11.71	11.20
Heidelberg (Part) ..	193	210	274	281	248	7.91	8.66	9.09	9.15	7.88
Kew ..	220	246	314	332	297	9.08	10.06	10.24	10.69	9.47
Malvern ..	404	489	610	608	586	9.28	11.07	12.66	12.47	11.90
Moorabbin ..	130	157	223	179	179	7.55	8.39	9.37	7.35	7.19
Mordialloc ..	85	94	136	127	146	8.86	9.67	11.26	10.38	11.73
Northcote ..	369	408	463	445	434	8.77	9.59	10.25	9.71	9.33
Oakleigh ..	101	115	171	121	159	8.72	9.49	12.14	8.48	10.90
Port Melbourne ..	137	156	148	162	152	10.26	12.08	10.37	11.23	10.40
Prahan ..	628	662	793	754	758	11.96	12.56	13.38	12.56	12.50
Preston ..	242	267	366	344	352	8.20	8.29	9.77	9.03	9.04
Richmond ..	464	465	461	409	447	11.20	11.73	11.13	9.74	10.51
Sandringham ..	161	177	242	220	240	9.08	9.63	10.57	9.46	10.13
South Melbourne ..	486	507	509	485	512	11.09	11.78	11.42	10.74	11.22
St. Kilda ..	452	538	731	671	685	9.84	11.09	13.34	12.09	12.21
Williamstown ..	211	219	255	277	242	9.63	9.81	10.07	10.80	9.29
<b>Cities and Principal Towns outside Greater Melbourne—</b>										
Ballarat ..	475	501	601	515	566	12.28	13.23	15.22	13.04	14.33
Bendigo ..	421	441	417	412	462	13.08	14.93	13.54	13.36	14.96
Geelong ..	455	463	478	509	488	10.40	11.70	11.60	12.34	11.82
Ararat ..	†	63	49	52	52	..	12.79	9.70	10.30	10.27
Castlemaine ..	73	64	65	57	70	10.61	12.20	11.27	9.91	12.17
Colac ..	†	54	84	69	63	..	10.42	14.89	12.23	11.15
Echuca ..	†	49	44	45	46	..	11.01	9.84	10.04	10.24
Hamilton ..	59	62	87	74	62	10.35	10.60	14.48	12.13	10.16
Horsham ..	†	62	72	68	49	..	11.72	12.86	12.14	8.60
Maryborough ..	59	73	80	62	69	10.66	12.98	13.56	10.51	11.65
Mildura ..	59	80	73	86	89	9.05	11.74	9.73	11.10	11.12
Sale ..	†	54	68	53	55	..	12.59	14.17	10.60	11.00
Shepparton ..	55	77	83	79	90	9.96	13.29	13.28	12.64	14.34
Stawell ..	51	53	65	78	72	10.87	10.98	13.21	15.79	14.54
Swan Hill ..	†	†	55	45	49	..	..	11.11	9.09	9.90
Wangaratta ..	†	62	62	65	71	..	12.81	11.48	12.04	13.15
Warrnambool ..	91	97	126	117	99	10.46	10.81	13.52	12.58	10.64
Wonthaggi ..	47	50	46	43	43	7.45	8.17	7.24	6.80	8.60
<b>Summary—</b>										
Greater Melbourne	9 688	10,616	12,771	12,392	12,282	9.74	10.56	11.00	10.53	10.31
Cities and Principal Towns outside Greater Melbourne ..	1,845	2,305	2,555	2,429	2,495	11.22	12.45	12.81	12.15	12.52
Remainder of State ..	5,311	5,469	6,001	5,681	5,719	8.53	8.44	9.68	9.15	9.22
Victoria ..	16,844	18,390	21,327	20,502	20,496	9.45	10.00	10.77	10.26	10.19

† Included in Remainder of State.

Deaths in hospitals and other public institutions.

Particulars of the residence of persons who died in the public institutions of Victoria give a definite indication of the assistance rendered by such institutions to people in the various divisions of the State. The numbers and proportions of such deaths in the various municipalities are given below for 1945 :—

VICTORIA—PROPORTION OF DEATHS OCCURRING IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN AREAS, 1945.

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.	
<b>GREATER MELBOURNE—</b>						
Melbourne .. ..	425	110	34.69	8.98	43.67	5.28
Box Hill .. ..	21	15	10.05	7.17	17.22	1.77
Braybrook (Part) ..	21	4	23.86	4.55	28.41	1.90
Brighton .. ..	79	22	18.29	5.09	23.38	2.58
Brunswick .. ..	144	41	24.57	7.00	31.57	3.11
Camberwell .. ..	114	47	16.22	6.68	22.90	2.19
Caulfield .. ..	141	46	16.78	5.48	22.26	2.29
Chelsea .. ..	28	6	25.23	5.40	30.63	4.11
Coburg .. ..	93	23	22.85	5.65	28.50	2.38
Collingwood .. ..	106	23	34.19	7.42	41.61	4.11
Essendon .. ..	115	31	21.06	5.68	26.74	2.77
Fitzroy .. ..	159	34	36.05	7.71	43.76	6.05
Footscray .. ..	135	39	27.84	8.04	35.88	2.81
Hawthorn .. ..	87	31	18.83	6.71	25.54	2.86
Heidelberg (Part) ..	48	13	19.35	5.24	24.59	1.94
Kew .. ..	58	20	19.53	6.73	26.26	2.49
Malvern .. ..	83	31	14.16	5.29	19.45	2.31
Moorabbin .. ..	47	15	26.26	8.38	34.64	2.49
Mordialloc .. ..	33	8	22.60	5.48	28.08	3.29
Northcote .. ..	124	27	28.57	6.22	34.79	3.25
Oakleigh .. ..	47	8	29.56	5.03	34.59	3.77
Port Melbourne .. ..	43	10	28.29	6.58	34.87	3.63
Prahran .. ..	225	55	29.68	7.26	36.94	4.62
Preston .. ..	88	26	25.00	7.39	32.39	2.93
Richmond .. ..	147	33	32.89	7.38	40.27	4.23
Sandringham .. ..	38	15	15.83	6.25	22.08	2.24
South Melbourne .. ..	156	40	30.47	7.81	38.28	4.29
St. Kilda .. ..	156	39	22.77	5.69	28.46	3.48
Williamstown .. ..	75	8	30.99	3.31	34.30	3.19

VICTORIA—PROPORTION OF DEATHS OCCURRING IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN AREAS, 1945—*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.	
<b>CITIES AND PRINCIPAL TOWNS OUTSIDE GREATER MELBOURNE—</b>						
Ballarat .. ..	129	70	22·83	12·39	35·22	5·04
Bendigo .. ..	130	33	28·32	7·19	35·51	5·28
Geelong .. ..	126	36	25·92	7·41	33·33	3·92
Ararat .. ..	28	3	52·83	5·66	58·49	6·13
Castlemaine ..	37	7	52·86	10·00	62·86	7·65
Colac .. ..	35	4	55·55	6·35	61·90	6·90
Echuca .. ..	21	3	45·65	6·52	52·17	5·35
Hamilton .. ..	34	3	53·97	4·76	58·73	6·07
Horsham .. ..	20	6	40·00	12·00	52·00	4·56
Maryborough ..	37	6	52·86	8·57	61·43	7·25
Mildura .. ..	52	5	59·09	5·68	64·77	7·13
Sale .. ..	29	6	51·79	10·71	62·50	7·00
Shepparton ..	49	3	53·84	3·30	57·14	8·28
Stawell .. ..	37	3	50·68	4·11	54·79	8·08
Wangaratta ..	37	4	52·11	5·63	57·74	7·59
Warrnambool ..	52	6	53·61	6·18	59·79	6·24
Wonthaggi ..	21	6	47·73	13·63	61·36	4·29
<b>SUMMARY—</b>						
Greater Melbourne ..	3,036	820	24·72	6·68	31·40	3·24
Cities and Principal Towns outside Greater Melbourne	874	204	35·75	8·34	44·09	5·51
Remainder of State	1,820	281	31·55	4·87	36·42	3·36
Victoria .. ..	5,730	1,305	27·95	6·37	34·32	3·50

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

—	1910-14.	1920-24.	1925-29.	1930-34.	1944.	1945.
Greater Melbourne ..	24·3	27·0	29·5	27·7	24·2	24·7
Remainder of State ..	17·0	21·2	23·7	26·3	32·8	32·8
Victoria .. ..	20·4	24·3	27·0	27·1	27·6	27·9

In 1945 the number of deaths in all public institutions was 7,035, of which 3,856 were of residents of Greater Melbourne.

Deaths in  
metropolitan  
public  
institutions.

The number of deaths in certain metropolitan public institutions in 1945 is given in the subjoined table :—

VICTORIA—DEATHS IN CERTAIN METROPOLITAN  
PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, 1945.

Institution.	No. of Deaths.	Institution.	No. of Deaths.
<b>HOSPITALS—GENERAL—</b>		<b>SANATORIA—</b>	
Royal Melbourne .. ..	806	Heatherton .. ..	30
Alfred .. ..	680	Greenvale .. ..	16
Hamilton Russell Com- munity .. ..	12	Gresswell .. ..	7
Children's .. ..	243	Total Sanatoria .. ..	53
St. Vincent's .. ..	593	<b>BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS—</b>	
Austin .. ..	174	Melbourne (Cheltenham)	
Heidelberg House .. ..	50	Asylum .. ..	154
Women's .. ..	169	Mount Royal .. ..	115
Prince Henry's .. ..	330	Convent of Little Sisters of the Poor .. ..	78
Infectious Diseases .. ..	55	Old Colonists' Homes .. ..	1
Queen Victoria .. ..	147	Total Benevolent Institu- tions .. ..	348
Jessie McPherson Com- munity .. ..	30	<b>FOUNDLING HOMES, REFUGES—</b>	
Williamstown .. ..	53	Broadmeadows .. ..	1
Caulfield Convalescent .. ..	10	The Haven, Fitzroy .. ..	9
Eye and Ear .. ..	7	Berwick .. ..	..
Police .. ..	2	Total Refuges, &c. .. ..	10
After Care Home .. ..	1	Total Hospitals and other Institutions .. ..	4,194
Total General Hospitals	3,362		
<b>HOSPITALS—MENTAL—</b>			
Janefield .. ..	4		
Kew .. ..	106		
Mont Park .. ..	177		
Receiving House, Royal Park	134		
Total Mental Hospitals	421		

Of the 4,194 deaths in the above institutions, 2,355 were of males and 1,839 were of females.

Decrease in  
metropolitan  
death rate.

In Greater Melbourne, in the decade 1936-45, there was an average of 10·90 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 53,000 lives in the last ten years. A comparison of the death rates from tubercular and certain other diseases for the period 1936-45 with those for the decennium 1892-1901 is shown in the following table :—

## DEATH RATES—GREATER MELBOURNE.

Cause of Death.	Average Annual Deaths per 1,000,000 of Population.		
	1892-1901.	1936-45.	Decrease.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	1,654	432	1,222
Other Tubercular Diseases ..	446	51	395
Typhoid Fever .. ..	293	4	289
Scarlet Fever.. .. .	33	6	27
Measles .. .. .	215	7	208
Diphtheria .. .. .	196	25	171
Total .. .. .	2,837	525	2,312

The figures show that the mortality from the six diseases mentioned declined by 81 per cent.—the decline representing a rate of 2,312 per million of the population.

The mortality from all causes showed a net decline of 4,860 per million of the population.

**Infantile mortality.** The mortality of children under one year, in proportion to births, reveals a constant decline since 1890—the deaths per 1,000 children born having fallen from 133 in 1885-89 to 34 in 1941-45—a reduction of 74 per cent. In other words, where 100 infants died in the earlier period, only 26 died in the latter.

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

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

VICTORIA—INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1880 TO 1945.

Period.	Greater Melbourne.		Remainder of State.		Victoria.	
	Average Annual Number of Deaths under One Year.	Rate per 1,000 Births.	Average Annual Number of Deaths under One Year.	Rate per 1,000 Births.	Average Annual Number of Deaths under One Year.	Rate per 1,000 Births.
1880-84 ..	1,649	170·1	1,626	92·3	3,275	120·0
1885-89 ..	2,576	178·5	1,812	97·9	4,388	133·3
1890-94 ..	2,311	140·4	1,926	94·9	4,237	114·7
1895-99 ..	1,650	131·5	1,913	100·0	3,563	112·5
1900-04 ..	1,417	116·5	1,565	86·2	2,982	98·2
1905-09 ..	1,209	96·5	1,307	71·5	2,516	81·2
1910-14 ..	1,345	84·2	1,201	64·9	2,546	73·8
1915-19 ..	1,302	76·2	886	55·4	2,188	66·1
1920-24 ..	1,328	71·6	1,024	58·6	2,352	65·3
1925-29 ..	1,034	58·4	863	50·2	1,897	54·4
1930-34 ..	674	47·3	618	40·7	1,292	43·9
1935-39 ..	543	37·9	574	37·9	1,117	37·9
1941 ..	653	34·6	592	38·1	1,245	36·2
1942 ..	887	43·8	609	38·9	1,496	41·6
1943 ..	787	34·1	612	38·2	1,399	35·8
1944 ..	705	31·0	553	33·3	1,258	32·0
1945 ..	637	26·9	518	29·6	1,155	28·0

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

During the decade, 1936-45, the infantile death rate varied considerably. In 1936 the rate was over 40, but in 1937 a pronounced fall occurred, the rate dropping to 36·7. This was followed by a further drop in 1938, the new record low rate of 34·2 being recorded. The rate rose slightly in 1939, and was followed by a further rise to 39·5 in 1940. In 1941 the rate dropped to 36·2; this was followed by a sharp rise to 41·6 in 1942. In 1943 a marked reduction was recorded, the rate being 35·8; a further fall occurred in 1944, when the record low rate of 32·0 was recorded. In 1945 the rate was 28·0. This is the record low rate for Victoria and is the first occasion on which the rate has been under 30 in Victoria.

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



of the State for the five-year periods 1928-32 and 1933-37, and for the years 1943, 1944, and 1945 were as follows:—

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

Municipality.	Annual Number of Deaths under One Year.					Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.				
	1928-1932.	1933-1937.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1928-1932.	1933-1937.	1943.	1944.	1945.
<b>Greater Melbourne—</b>										
Melbourne ..	86	55	79	53	45	63.95	48.45	43.79	32.02	26.33
Box Hill ..	10	8	9	8	10	37.04	38.25	21.53	17.86	22.47
Braybrook (Part) ..	6	8	8	12	6	33.19	49.68	23.39	37.50	20.91
Brighton ..	15	11	22	25	17	39.11	30.15	29.61	34.25	22.67
Brunswick ..	60	32	51	36	46	61.63	40.23	43.81	32.26	38.04
Camberwell ..	30	26	53	49	44	34.68	33.74	32.64	32.05	27.83
Caulfield ..	39	27	57	47	49	41.87	33.47	37.60	31.67	30.68
Chelsea ..	6	5	7	8	7	47.32	43.12	40.93	35.70	30.84
Coburg ..	33	26	39	40	23	44.47	40.38	36.11	39.68	21.56
Collingwood ..	38	28	27	19	13	71.78	57.27	46.31	31.83	21.04
Essendon ..	33	23	25	36	38	42.83	40.51	22.36	32.85	29.90
Fitzroy ..	41	26	19	23	22	79.33	56.98	30.50	35.99	32.88
Footscray ..	41	29	31	37	19	47.34	40.99	27.75	33.12	17.10
Hawthorn ..	16	18	26	13	9	37.23	44.31	36.21	16.71	10.61
Heidelberg (Part) ..	20	11	13	16	17	49.37	32.37	20.31	26.10	26.90
Kew ..	15	9	12	11	9	43.66	30.32	20.30	20.45	16.79
Malvern ..	19	17	22	24	17	38.91	35.71	25.43	28.74	18.22
Moorabbin ..	14	14	12	18	9	34.17	37.93	21.66	29.85	15.05
Mordialloc ..	8	7	10	8	11	55.48	54.55	34.97	31.13	37.41
Northcote ..	38	24	34	34	30	51.73	41.65	36.21	38.20	32.75
Oakleigh ..	12	9	18	6	14	46.18	43.36	48.13	16.67	37.04
Port Melbourne ..	16	11	11	8	8	71.24	56.91	40.00	31.87	31.87
Prahran ..	41	29	38	36	42	58.62	46.44	33.66	32.64	35.62
Preston ..	31	23	35	26	21	44.08	40.29	38.59	27.72	21.92
Richmond ..	46	29	29	26	21	65.53	49.27	33.68	33.21	26.82
Sandringham ..	10	9	12	6	15	35.95	37.04	29.27	13.76	32.75
South Melbourne ..	47	30	28	25	26	70.87	54.77	43.46	31.53	34.75
St. Kilda ..	22	22	37	39	32	41.67	43.78	35.01	36.31	29.74
Williamstown ..	19	13	23	16	17	44.44	38.63	42.34	30.53	29.46
<b>Cities and Principal Towns outside Greater Melbourne—</b>										
Ballarat ..	34	25	46	25	21	51.84	41.62	62.58	32.05	27.70
Bendigo ..	33	22	19	22	19	60.00	40.32	31.99	36.91	31.83
Geelong ..	49	34	26	24	30	58.56	48.77	27.78	28.71	33.94
Ararat ..	†	4	1	2	6	..	40.85	10.20	20.62	53.08
Castlemaine ..	5	4	5	1	3	47.80	38.62	45.05	10.00	25.86
Colac ..	†	5	10	6	4	..	45.63	68.49	53.10	24.54
Echuca ..	†	6	1	4	..	..	62.50	13.89	47.06	..
Hamilton ..	5	4	4	3	3	34.63	37.61	27.78	22.39	19.35
Horsham ..	†	5	6	2	3	..	40.95	53.10	18.87	27.03
Maryborough ..	5	5	5	3	..	45.84	41.59	40.65	32.97	..
Mildura ..	9	8	6	6	5	47.83	37.68	24.49	24.39	23.92
Sale ..	†	2	9	2	1	..	27.97	63.83	18.35	8.40
Shepparton ..	8	8	9	8	17	54.16	54.50	45.68	36.87	72.65
Stawell ..	3	4	4	5	5	28.26	47.06	47.62	67.57	54.35
Swan Hill ..	†	†	5	6	9	..	..	53.76	52.63	85.71
Wangaratta ..	†	7	5	2	3	..	63.91	36.23	19.05	25.00
Warrnambool ..	9	6	7	7	7	52.33	34.32	41.42	44.30	33.65
Wonthaggi ..	8	5	4	9	5	53.67	50.66	38.83	92.78	44.24
<b>Summary—</b>										
Greater Melbourne	812	579	787	705	637	50.94	42.55	34.08	31.00	26.87
Cities and Principal Towns outside Greater Melbourne	168	154	172	137	141	53.24	43.95	40.55	33.76	32.70
Remainder of State	535	437	440	416	377	42.12	38.24	37.36	33.12	28.60
Victoria ..	1,515	1,170	1,399	1,258	1,155	47.65	41.00	35.76	31.96	28.03

† Included in remainder of State.

**Infantile mortality at certain ages.** 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 1945, comprised 63 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 19.2 in 1941-45. Between 1910-14 and 1941-45, the mortality of infants "one week and under one month" decreased by 54 per cent. and that of infants "one month and under one year" by 75 per cent. Between the ages of one month and one year Victoria lost 64 out of every 1,000 children born in 1900-04, 33 in 1915-19, and ten in 1941-45.

In the period 1941-45, the total rate for males was higher than that for females by 25.6 per cent.

The tables which follow show the proportion of deaths of infants at various ages under one year for certain periods since 1899, and the male and the female death rates at each age period for the year 1945:—

VICTORIA—INFANTILE MORTALITY AT CERTAIN AGES, 1900 TO 1945.

Period.	Deaths Under One Year per 1,000 Births.						Males.	Females.
	Under One Week.	One Week and under One Month.	One Month and under Three Months.	Three Months and under Six Months.	Six Months and under Twelve Months.	Total under One Year.		
1900-04 ..	34.4		16.9	21.0	25.9	98.2	105.7	90.4
1905-09 ..	33.0		13.8	15.1	19.3	81.2	89.3	72.6
1910-14 ..	21.5	11.1	12.1	12.4	16.7	73.8	81.8	65.3
1915-19 ..	23.3	10.1	10.5	9.4	12.8	66.1	73.0	58.7
1920-24 ..	23.7	9.3	9.8	10.0	12.5	65.3	71.8	58.5
1925-29 ..	22.7	7.7	6.9	6.7	10.4	54.4	60.7	47.6
1930-34 ..	22.3	5.5	4.8	4.6	6.7	43.9	49.2	38.4
1935-39 ..	21.1	5.1	3.7	2.9	5.1	37.9	42.0	33.6
1940-44 ..	19.8	5.6	4.0	3.2	4.2	36.8	41.0	32.5
1941 ..	22.0	4.1	3.7	3.0	3.4	36.2	40.8	31.3
1942 ..	20.2	7.5	4.3	3.9	5.7	41.6	45.7	37.4
1943 ..	17.6	6.3	4.2	3.4	4.3	35.8	39.8	31.5
1944 ..	18.8	4.3	3.3	2.5	3.1	32.0	34.9	28.9
1945 ..	17.6	3.5	2.4	1.9	2.6	28.0	31.6	24.3

VICTORIA—INFANTILE MORTALITY AT CERTAIN AGES,  
MALES AND FEMALES, 1945.

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 ..	420	19.80	62.69	307	15.36	63.30
1 week and under						
1 month ..	84	3.96	12.54	59	2.95	12.17
1 month and under						
3 months ..	61	2.88	9.10	38	1.90	7.83
3 months and under						
6 months ..	45	2.12	6.72	35	1.75	7.22
6 months and under						
12 months ..	60	2.83	8.95	46	2.30	9.48
Total under one year ..	670	31.59	100.00	485	24.26	100.00

An examination of the principal causes of infantile mortality over a period of years and at various ages reveals the direction in which improvement has been achieved, and discloses those causes and factors to which future investigations need to be directed if the decline in the rate is to be maintained. The infant mortality rates from the principal causes for certain periods since 1890 and for the year 1945 are shown in the next two tables.

**Infantile death rates from certain causes.**

VICTORIA—INFANTILE DEATH RATES FROM  
CERTAIN CAUSES.

Cause of Death.	Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births in—						
	1891-93.	1901-10.	1911-20.	1921-30.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Epidemic, Endemic, and Infectious Diseases ..	12.41	7.31	4.87	3.57	2.22	1.12	.97
Bronchitis Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia ..	11.37	8.13	6.86	6.08	4.99	3.99	3.45
Diarrhoeal Diseases ..	29.66	24.62	16.13	9.85	2.07	1.49	.90
Congenital Malformations (157) ..	3.45	4.86	4.38	4.43	4.06	4.29	3.54
Congenital Debility (158) ..	22.24	12.74	13.09	6.77	1.20	.97	.53
Prematurity (159) ..	13.13	14.99	15.17	15.34	10.71	10.65	9.61
Injury at birth (160) ..	} 21.51	} 12.77	} 7.98	} 2.57	} 3.20	} 3.02	} 3.45
Early Infancy (161) ..							
Other Diseases ..							
Violence ..	3.16	2.47	1.07	.80	.79	.76	.75
Total, all Causes ..	116.93	87.89	69.55	57.25	35.76	31.96	28.03

VICTORIA—INFANTILE DEATH RATES, AT VARIOUS AGES,  
FROM CERTAIN CAUSES, 1945.

Cause of Death.	Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.									
	Age Period.						Total.	Males.	Females.	Average Annual Rate, 1941-45.
	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 ..	.02	.02	.29	.15	.49	.97	1.23	.70	1.70	
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia ..	.51	.68	.87	.56	.83	3.45	3.87	3.00	4.60	
Diarrhoeal Diseases ..	.02	.24	.10	.22	.32	.90	.85	.95	1.58	
Congenital Malformations (157) .. ..	1.77	.71	.41	.39	.26	3.54	3.72	3.35	4.10	
Congenital Debility (158)	.37	.05	.07	.02	.02	.53	.75	.30	1.05	
Prematurity (159) ..	8.69	.85	.07	..	..	9.61	10.47	8.71	11.22	
Injury at Birth (160) ..	3.21	.19	.05	..	..	3.45	4.20	2.65	3.53	
Early Infancy (161) ..	2.89	.37	.02	..	..	3.28	3.44	3.10	3.83	
Other Diseases .. ..	.05	.34	.37	.38	.41	1.55	1.98	1.10	2.08	
Violence .. ..	.12	.02	.15	.22	.24	.75	1.08	.40	.80	
Total, all Causes ..	17.65	3.47	2.40	1.94	2.57	28.03	31.59	24.26	34.49	
Average Annual Rate, 1941-45 .. ..	19.16	5.12	3.56	2.90	3.75	34.49	38.29	30.48	..	

The mortality of infants under one year from pre-natal causes (malformations, congenital debility, prematurity, injury at birth, &c.) was 23.7 per 1,000 births in the period 1941-45 and represented 69 per cent. of the total infant deaths. Variations in classification in the earlier years prevent exact comparison but no appreciable decline is evident. The rate in 1945 was 20.4 of which 83 per cent. occurred in the first week of life.

The mortality from the chief preventable diseases—infectious, respiratory, and diarrhoeal—has declined from 40·1 per 1,000 births in 1901–10 to 27·9 in 1911–20 and 7·9 in 1941–45. Deaths from diarrhoeal diseases declined from 24·6 per 1,000 births in 1901–10 to 1·6 in 1941–45, the main respiratory diseases from 8·1 to 4·6 and the infectious from 7·3 to 1·7. It will thus be seen that, since the beginning of the century, mortality of infants from diarrhoeal diseases has been reduced by 93 per cent.; the main respiratory diseases by 43 per cent.; and the infectious by 77 per cent. Of recent years respiratory diseases have displaced diarrhoeal 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 1941 to 1945:—

VICTORIA—DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE MONTH,  
1941 TO 1945.

GREATER MELBOURNE AND WHOLE STATE.

Cause of Death.	Greater Melbourne.					Victoria.				
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Epidemic, Endemic, and Infectious Diseases .. ..	4	3	1	..	2	5	9	2	..	2
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia .. ..	20	50	49	29	39	34	71	70	46	49
Diarrhoeal Diseases .. ..	3	9	17	11	8	4	15	23	21	11
Malformations, &c. (157) ..	52	60	52	59	55	92	106	93	120	102
Wasting Diseases (158) ..	13	15	18	11	4	38	30	32	30	17
Prematurity .. ..	225	268	254	249	211	399	481	408	411	393
Injury at Birth .. ..	89	73	66	65	78	157	120	121	117	140
Early Infancy (161) .. ..	70	80	81	67	78	148	126	154	134	134
Other Diseases .. ..	7	23	18	11	10	14	32	30	23	16
Violence .. ..	4	5	4	6	3	5	7	5	9	6
<b>Total, all Causes ..</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>911</b>	<b>870</b>
<b>Deaths per 1,000 Births ..</b>	<b>25·8</b>	<b>28·9</b>	<b>24·2</b>	<b>22·3</b>	<b>20·6</b>	<b>26·1</b>	<b>27·7</b>	<b>23·9</b>	<b>23·1</b>	<b>21·1</b>

**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, in accordance with the provisions of the Cemeteries Act and of the (Commonwealth) *Social Services Consolidation Act, 1947*, cases are notified to registrars. After careful inquiry it can be stated that the percentage of stillbirths not notified is very small.

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

VICTORIA—STILLBIRTHS (RECORDED) AND INFANT MORTALITY, 1936 TO 1945.

Year.	Percentage of Stillbirths to—		Deaths of Infants under One Year per 1,000 Births.			
	Living Births.	All Births.	Exclusive of Stillbirths.			*Inclusive of Stillbirths.
			Under One Month.	One Month and under Twelve Months.	Total under One Year.	
1936 ..	2.9	2.8	26.6	15.7	42.3	69.0
1937 ..	2.7	2.6	26.1	10.6	36.7	61.6
1938 ..	3.0	2.9	24.7	9.5	34.2	61.9
1939 ..	2.8	2.7	26.1	9.5	35.6	62.1
1940 ..	2.8	2.7	26.5	13.0	39.5	65.6
1941 ..	2.8	2.7	26.0	10.2	36.2	62.1
1942 ..	2.6	2.5	27.7	13.9	41.6	66.3
1943 ..	2.6	2.5	23.9	11.9	35.8	60.4
1944 ..	2.3	2.3	23.1	8.9	32.0	54.2
1945 ..	2.4	2.3	21.1	6.9	28.0	50.6

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

It will be seen that, as with other mortality due to pre-natal influences, the rate of stillbirths shows little tendency to decrease.

**Nuptial and ex-nuptial infantile death rates.** On the average of the last ten years, 58 in every 1,000 ex-nuptial infants died within a year, as against 35 in every 1,000 nuptial children. The proportion of ex-nuptial children who died before the age of one year is, therefore, 1.7 times that of nuptial children. In the year 1945 the mortality rate of nuptial infants was 27.8 per 1,000 births. Births and deaths of ex-nuptial children numbered 1,486 and 51 respectively, the death rate being thus 34.3 per 1,000 births. The disproportion in the mortality rates of the two classes is manifested in the following table:—

VICTORIA—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.	1945.	1904-08.	1914-18.	1924-28.	1945.
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia ..	6·9	6·1	5·9	3·3	18·6	12·5	13·0	6·1
Diarrhoeal Diseases ..	19·8	14·2	8·9	·8	72·6	48·6	23·1	2·7
Prematurity, Congenital Malformations, Marasmus, &c.* ..	30·3	27·2	25·0	13·8	52·1	64·9	46·9	11·4
Other Causes ..	18·3	15·3	14·7	9·9	58·7	36·6	29·3	14·1
Total, all Causes	75·3	62·8	54·5	27·8	202·0	162·6	112·3	34·3

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

The rates for the last five years show that, of every 1,000 children born out of wedlock, 6·4 died from diarrhoeal diseases within a year, as compared with 1·4 deaths per 1,000 nuptial infants from the same cause. Owing to a larger proportion of the former children being deprived of breast food, a higher mortality from these diseases might be expected than amongst 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 the respiratory diseases (bronchitis, broncho-pneumonia, and pneumonia) for ex-nuptial and nuptial children were 10·3 and 4·4 per 1,000 births respectively.

In 1945 pre-natal causes (malformations, congenital debility, prematurity, injury at birth, &c.) accounted for 28 deaths, or 55 per cent. of the total deaths of ex-nuptial infants.

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

INFANTILE DEATH RATE—AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND, 1941 TO 1945.

Year.	Vic-toria.	New South Wales.	Queens-land.	South Aus-tralia.	Western Aus-tralia.	Tas-mania.	Aus-tralia.	New Zealand.
1941..	36·19	43·77	39·13	32·47	35·28	48·98	39·72	29·77
1942..	41·64	40·19	34·73	39·72	36·86	42·41	39·50	28·71
1943..	35·76	36·18	37·79	36·67	32·63	40·56	36·26	31·37
1944..	31·96	30·68	31·32	29·07	32·57	38·27	31·34	30·12
1945..	28·03	30·63	29·76	28·08	29·52	27·48	29·38	27·99

In the year 1945, the infantile mortality rates recorded for the Australian States showed that Tasmania had the lowest rate and New South Wales the highest.

The infantile deaths per 1,000 births in the following capital cities in 1945 were:—Melbourne, 26·9; Sydney, 27·6; Brisbane, 28·2; Adelaide, 28·1; Perth, 25·2; Hobart, 18·0; and Wellington, 32·0.

Deaths of children under 5 years.

In 1945 the deaths of male and of female children in Victoria under 5 years of age numbered 822 and 588 respectively.

Ages at death.

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

VICTORIA—AGES AT DEATH, 1943 TO 1945.

Ages.	1943.			1944.			1945.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 1 year..	797	602	1,399	702	556	1,258	670	485	1,155
1 year ..	80	60	140	74	54	128	51	42	93
2 years ..	47	42	89	46	33	79	38	15	53
3 " ..	43	16	59	22	13	35	33	27	60
4 " ..	24	21	45	21	19	40	30	19	49
5 to 9 years	96	65	161	84	45	129	81	41	122
10 " 14 "	81	60	141	70	55	125	66	37	103
15 " 19 "	103	75	178	103	87	190	126	60	186
20 " 24 "	98	120	218	82	120	202	75	98	173
25 " 29 "	118	153	271	92	137	229	87	122	209
30 " 34 "	127	196	323	142	156	298	120	150	270
35 " 39 "	188	174	362	154	166	320	170	172	342
40 " 44 "	280	244	524	262	241	503	259	226	485
45 " 49 "	453	326	779	398	330	728	391	339	730
50 " 54 "	591	562	1,153	614	463	1,077	613	491	1,104
55 " 59 "	825	590	1,415	811	595	1,406	844	576	1,420
60 " 64 "	1,095	749	1,844	1,088	787	1,875	1,036	755	1,791
65 " 69 "	1,213	1,028	2,241	1,175	981	2,156	1,259	1,011	2,270
70 " 74 "	1,484	1,255	2,739	1,381	1,298	2,679	1,336	1,236	2,572
75 " 79 "	1,560	1,501	3,061	1,472	1,457	2,929	1,468	1,535	3,003
80 " 84 "	1,187	1,306	2,493	1,145	1,311	2,456	1,146	1,375	2,521
85 " 89 "	577	736	1,313	559	689	1,248	584	794	1,378
90 " 94 "	104	213	317	117	216	333	135	193	328
95 years ..	10	12	22	10	16	26	9	19	28
96 " ..	5	9	14	9	9	18	6	11	17
97 " ..	2	8	10	6	12	18	8	5	13
98 " ..	2	2	4	1	5	6	3	5	8
99 " ..	..	5	5	2	5	7	1	4	5
100 " ..	1	3	4	..	..	..	..	2	2
101 " ..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	2
102 " ..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
103 " ..	..	..	..	1	1	2	1	2	3
104 " ..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
Unknown ..	1	..	1	..	1	1	1	..	1
Total ..	11,192	10,135	21,327	10,644	9,858	20,502	10,647	9,849	20,496

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



Of the 62,325 persons who died in Victoria during the last three years 12,604 (or approximately 20 per cent.) were aged 80 years and upwards, and 16—four males and twelve females—were stated as having attained or passed the age of 100 years. In 1895 deaths of persons aged 80 years and over represented about 5 per cent. of the total deaths in that year.

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

The causes of death in Victoria and in Greater Melbourne according to the international abridged classification (1938 revision) for the year 1945 are shown in the following table:—

International Abridged Classification. (Detailed List Numbers in Parentheses.)	Deaths—1945.			
	Victoria.		Greater Melbourne.	
	Number.	Deaths per Million of Population.	Number.	Deaths per Million of Population.
1. Typhoid and-Paratyphoid Fevers (1, 2) ..	6	2·08	6	5·04
2. Plague (3) .. .. .	..	..	..	..
3. Scarlet Fever (8) .. .. .	4	1·09	2	1·68
4. Whooping Cough (9) .. .. .	15	7·46	8	6·71
5. Diphtheria (10) .. .. .	39	19·38	28	23·50
6. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System (13)	649	322·58	431	361·73
7A. Tuberculosis of the Meninges and Central Nervous System (14) .. .. .	25	12·43	14	11·75
7B. All other forms of Tuberculosis (15-22) ..	56	27·83	29	24·34
8. Malaria (28) .. .. .	..	..	..	..
9. Syphilis (30) .. .. .	115	57·16	90	75·54
10A. Influenza with Respiratory Complications (33A) .. .. .	24	11·93	12	10·07
10B. Influenza without Respiratory Complica- tions (33B) .. .. .	12	5·96	6	5·04
11. Smallpox (34) .. .. .	..	..	..	..
12. Measles (35) .. .. .	15	7·46	10	8·39
13. Typhus Fever (39) .. .. .	..	..	..	..
14. Other Infections or Parasitic Diseases ..	117	58·15	68	57·07
15. Cancer and other Malignant Tumours (45-55) .. .. .	2,751	1,367·36	1,710	1,435·17
16. Non-malignant Tumours or Tumours of Undetermined Nature (56, 57) .. .. .	101	50·20	61	51·20
17. Chronic Rheumatism and Gout (59, 60) ..	56	27·83	42	35·25
18. Diabetes Mellitus (61) .. .. .	418	207·76	264	221·57
19. Chronic or Acute Alcoholism (77) .. .. .	9	4·47	7	5·87
20. Vitamin-deficiency Diseases, other General Diseases, Diseases of the Blood, and Chronic Poisonings .. .. .	249	123·76	128	107·43
21. Meningitis (non-meningococcal) and Diseases of the Medulla and Spinal Cord (81, 82)	72	35·79	38	31·89
22. Intra-cranial Lesions of Vascular Origin (83)	2,060	1,023·01	1,279	1,073·44
23. Other Diseases of the Nervous System and Sense Organs .. .. .	200	99·41	116	97·36
24. Diseases of the Heart (90-95) .. .. .	6,344	3,153·24	3,764	3,159·04
25. Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	752	373·76	483	405·37
26A. Acute Bronchitis (106A and C) .. .. .	36	17·89	15	12·59
26B. Chronic Bronchitis (106B and D) .. .. .	150	74·56	87	73·02
27. Pneumonia and Broncho-pneumonia (107- 109) .. .. .	1,124	558·68	737	618·55
28. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	253	125·75	151	126·73
29A. Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years of age) (119) .. .. .	45	22·37	24	20·14
29B. Diarrhoea and Enteritis (two years and over) (120) .. .. .	62	30·82	26	21·82
30. Appendicitis (121) .. .. .	80	39·76	47	39·45

International Abridged Classification. (Detailed List Numbers in Parentheses.)	Deaths—1945.			
	Victoria.		Greater Melbourne.	
	Number.	Deaths per Million of Population.	Number.	Deaths per Million of Population.
31A. Cirrhosis of Liver (124) .. .. .	78	38·77	54	45·32
31B. Other Diseases of the Liver and Biliary Passages (125-127) .. .. .	141	70·08	85	71·34
32A. Hernia, Intestinal Obstruction (122) .. .	156	77·54	91	76·37
32B. Other Diseases of the Digestive System .. .	240	119·29	148	124·21
33. Nephritis (130-132) .. .. .	1,300	646·16	831	697·44
34. Other Diseases of the Genito-urinary system (133-139) .. .. .	281	139·67	167	140·16
35. Puerperal Infection (140, 147) .. .. .	28	13·92	17	14·27
36. Other Diseases of Pregnancy, Childbirth, and the Puerperium (141-146, 148-150) .. .	50	24·85	18	15·11
37. Diseases of the Skin, Cellular Tissue, Bones, and Organs of Movement (151-156) .. .. .	32	15·91	17	14·27
38. Congenital Malformations and Debility, Premature Birth, and Diseases peculiar to the First Year of Life (157-161) .. .. .	865	429·94	469	393·62
39. Senility, Old-age (162) .. .. .	632	314·13	292	245·07
40. Suicide (163, 164) .. .. .	131	65·11	74	62·11
41. Homicide (165-168) .. .. .	12	5·96	11	9·23
42. Automobile Accidents (all motor-driven road vehicles (170) .. .. .	191	94·94	112	94·00
43. Other Violent or Accidental Deaths .. .. .	480	238·58	203	170·37
44. Causes of Death Ill-defined, Unknown, or Unspecified (199, 200) .. .. .	40	19·88	10	8·39
	20,496	10,187·36	12,282	10,308·03

**Typhoid Fever.** In 1945 deaths from typhoid fever numbered 6, being equivalent to a rate of 3·0 per million of population, as compared with rates of 2·0 in 1944, 13·6 in 1943, 1·5 in 1942, 0·5 in 1941, 31 in 1920-24, 108 in 1905-09, and 301 in 1895-99. Cases of typhoid fever reported in 1945 numbered 23 or 11 per million of population, as against 8 in 1944, 238 in 1943, 8 in 1942, 16 in 1941, 259 in 1920-24, 1,254 in 1905-09, and 2,884 in 1895-99.

The number of cases reported in 1944 was the lowest on record.

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

**Scarlet Fever.** Scarlet fever, which has been steadily increasing since 1938, reached its highest incidence in recent years in 1944, but both the case fatality and the mortality per million of population are now very low.

In 1945, the deaths from scarlet fever numbered 4, which corresponded to a rate of 2 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 4 in 1944, 7 in 1943, 4 in 1942, 8 in 1941, and 8 in 1940. During 1945 there were 2,710 cases reported as against 7,824 in 1944, 6,020 in 1943, 3,150 in 1942, and 5,350 in 1941.

For the five years 1941-45 the deaths were less than 1 per cent. of the cases. Forty-nine per cent. of these deaths were of children under 10 years of age.

**Whooping Cough.** Whooping cough was responsible for 15 deaths in 1945, which equalled a rate of 7 per million of the population at all ages, as compared with rates of 9 in 1944, 12 in 1943, 38 in 1942, and 7 in 1941. 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 12 of the deaths were of infants under 1 year, and all except one of the deaths were of children under 5 years of age.

**Diphtheria.** A very great reduction has taken place since 1890 in the proportion of diphtheria cases which ended fatally. On the average of the five years 1941 to 1945, 51 per cent. of those who died were under 5 years, and 85 per cent. were under 10 years of age.

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

#### DIPHTHERIA IN VICTORIA AND IN GREATER MELBOURNE, 1895 TO 1945.

Period.	Annual Cases Reported.		Annual Deaths.		Deaths per 100 Cases Reported.
	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.	
VICTORIA.					
1895-99 .. ..	1,584	134·6	221	18·8	13·9
1900-04 .. ..	1,680	139·0	159	13·2	9·5
1905-09 .. ..	1,410	112·6	89	7·1	6·3
1910-14 .. ..	4,612	339·1	212	15·6	4·6
1915-19 .. ..	4,901	342·5	209	14·6	4·3
1920-24 .. ..	5,739	364·6	179	11·4	3·1
1925-29 .. ..	3,176	183·8	93	5·4	2·9
1930-34 .. ..	5,645	312·1	124	6·8	2·2
1935-39 .. ..	3,202	171·5	65	3·5	2·0
1940-44 .. ..	1,590	81·4	45	2·3	2·8
1941 .. ..	2,702	139·5	69	3·6	2·6
1942 .. ..	1,308	66·5	47	2·4	3·6
1943 .. ..	1,330	67·2	48	2·4	3·6
1944 .. ..	1,247	62·4	34	1·7	2·7
1945 .. ..	899	44·7	39	1·9	4·3

DIPHTHERIA IN VICTORIA AND IN GREATER MELBOURNE, 1895 TO  
1945—*continued.*

Period.	Annual Cases Reported.		Annual Deaths.		Deaths per 100 Cases Reported.
	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.	
<b>GREATER MELBOURNE.</b>					
1895-99 .. ..	748	162.1	113	24.6	15.1
1900-04 .. ..	686	136.9	58	11.6	8.5
1905-09 .. ..	758	140.8	46	8.5	6.1
1910-14 .. ..	2,343	374.3	114	18.3	4.9
1915-19 .. ..	2,864	402.6	127	17.9	4.4
1920-24 .. ..	2,555	314.6	78	9.7	3.1
1925-29 .. ..	1,843	191.1	52	5.4	2.8
1930-34 .. ..	3,151	315.9	68	6.8	2.1
1935-39 .. ..	1,864	182.4	36	3.5	1.9
1940-44 .. ..	914	80.9	25	2.2	2.8
1941 .. ..	1,815	166.2	47	4.3	2.6
1942 .. ..	718	62.7	23	2.0	3.2
1943 .. ..	580	50.0	21	1.8	3.6
1944 .. ..	635	54.0	18	1.5	2.8
1945 .. ..	610	51.2	28	2.4	4.6

The number of cases (899) reported in Victoria in 1945 was the lowest ever recorded, the incidence rate being 44.7 per 100,000 of population.

The cases of diphtheria which occurred in the metropolitan area, the three principal cities outside Greater Melbourne and in the remainder of the State in each of the last five years, and their proportions to the respective populations for the period 1910-19 and the years 1943, 1944, and 1945, are given in the subjoined table:—

**VICTORIA—CASES OF DIPHTHERIA.**

Locality.	Reported Cases of Diphtheria.					Annual Cases per 10,000 of Population.			
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1910-19.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Greater Melbourne	1,815	718	580	635	610	39.3	5.0	5.4	5.1
Ballarat ..	9	26	25	7	4	24.3	6.3	1.8	1.0
Bendigo ..	66	80	88	60	29	84.6	28.6	19.4	9.4
Geelong ..	101	21	23	37	12	43.4	5.6	9.0	2.9
Remainder of State	711	463	614	508	244	25.7	8.7	7.1	3.4

**Tuberculosis (all forms)** The number of deaths ascribed to tuberculosis during 1945 was 730, the rate per million of population being 363. This is the lowest rate recorded for Victoria.

**Death rates from tuberculosis of the respiratory system.** The deaths from tuberculosis of the respiratory system in 1945 numbered 649—382 being of males and 267 of females—and equalled a rate of 323 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 340 in 1944, 323 in 1943, 402 in 1942, 397 in 1941, 660 in 1918–22, 855 in 1908–12, and 1,365 in 1890–92. In 1945 tuberculosis of the respiratory system was responsible for 89 per cent. of the total deaths from tuberculosis.

**Deaths from tuberculosis of the respiratory system at various ages.** The number of deaths from tuberculosis of the respiratory system in each of the last five years, and the ages and sexes of the deceased, are given in the next table :—

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

Age Group.	Males.					Females.				
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
0-9 .. ..	11	8	5	1	2	5	3	3	1	4
10-14 .. ..	..	1	1	..	..	5	2	1	1	..
15-19 .. ..	8	8	5	8	10	19	14	8	17	13
20-24 .. ..	25	17	17	13	13	32	37	28	33	36
25-29 .. ..	22	24	21	21	22	48	58	36	39	35
30-34 .. ..	32	28	24	26	24	32	46	41	38	31
35-39 .. ..	46	31	44	30	38	32	37	30	22	28
40-44 .. ..	34	38	37	35	27	18	22	20	24	34
45-49 .. ..	48	55	42	51	43	21	22	13	18	9
50-54 .. ..	57	61	44	54	54	21	14	12	10	12
55-59 .. ..	53	61	47	47	37	25	11	8	13	11
60-64 .. ..	54	46	40	50	43	14	12	8	10	16
65-69 .. ..	39	43	31	41	33	11	19	9	11	11
70 and over ..	40	39	52	45	36	17	34	13	20	27
Total .. ..	469	460	410	422	382	300	331	230	257	267

For the year 1945, the average age of those who died from tuberculosis of the respiratory system was 49·9 years for males and 41·3 years for females.

**Tubercular diseases (tuberculosis of the respiratory system excepted.)** In 1945 there occurred in Victoria 81 deaths from tubercular diseases (excluding tuberculosis of the respiratory system). This number represented a rate of 40 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 37 in 1944, 53 in 1943, 45 in 1942, 55 in 1941, 134 in 1918-22, 182 in 1908-12, and 379 in 1890-92.

**Tubercular death rates in Melbourne, Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong.** In earlier periods, the death rate from tuberculosis was considerably higher in the Metropolis and in the mining centres of Ballarat and Bendigo—Bendigo in particular—than in the rural portions of the State.

### VICTORIA—DEATH RATES FROM TUBERCULAR DISEASES IN MELBOURNE, BALLARAT, BENDIGO, AND GEELONG.

Period.	Deaths per 10,000 of the Population.											
	Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System.				Other Tubercular Diseases.				All Tubercular Diseases.			
	Greater Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Greater Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Greater Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.
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	4·6	1·5	1·0	2·2	1·9	8·4	7·7	14·1	6·5
1926-30 ..	5·9	5·2	10·7	4·2	1·0	0·4	0·8	0·8	6·9	5·6	11·5	5·0
1941 ..	4·8	5·6	7·2	2·7	0·6	0·8	0·3	0·2	5·4	6·4	7·5	2·9
1942 ..	4·9	3·3	7·8	5·1	0·4	0·5	0·3	0·7	5·3	3·8	8·1	5·8
1943 ..	3·6	4·3	4·8	2·9	0·6	0·8	1·0	0·3	4·2	5·1	5·8	3·2
1944 ..	3·8	3·5	6·2	3·2	0·4	0·3	0·3	0·2	4·2	3·8	6·5	3·4
1945 ..	3·6	3·6	3·9	3·6	0·4	0·5	0·3	0·5	4·0	4·1	4·2	4·1

† Not calculated.

**Influenza.** The deaths from influenza in 1945 numbered 36. This corresponded to a rate of 18 per million of the population as compared with rates of 23 in 1944, 50 in 1943, 69 in 1942, 35 in 1941, 2,407 in 1919, 71 in 1913-17, 109 in 1908-12, and 381 in 1890-92.

The rate of mortality in 1945 was 59 per cent. below the rate of the previous quinquennium.

Of the deaths recorded in 1945, 67 per cent. were associated with specified respiratory complications.

Influenza has generally proved more fatal to elderly people than to those at middle or young ages. In the epidemic of 1919, however, 72 per cent. of the deaths were of persons between 20 and 50 years of age. In 1945, 44 per cent. of the deaths were of persons under 50 years of age.

**Small-pox—** Persons suffering from small-pox have arrived at  
**Deaths from.** Victorian ports on many occasions, but, as they were at once quarantined, the disease has never spread among the people of the State. During the years 1853 to 1945, only 31 deaths occurred from this cause. The last death from small-pox in Victoria occurred in 1921.

**Measles.** Although the mortality from measles has varied very considerably from period to period, there has been no very severe epidemic since 1898, when 671 deaths resulted from the disease. There were 15 deaths from measles in 1945. Rates per million of population were 7 in 1945, 0 in 1944, 2 in 1943, 37 in 1942, and 1 in 1941. The disease chiefly affects children. On the average of the five years, 1941-45, 39 per cent. of those who died from the disease were under 2 years and 55 per cent. were under 5 years of age.

**Other infectious and parasitic diseases.** Deaths in 1945 from diseases included under this heading (cause No. 14, on page 85) were cerebro-spinal meningitis 21, tetanus 5, septicaemia 7, dysentery 13, acute poliomyelitis 9, acute infectious encephalitis 3, hydatid disease 14, Hodgkin's disease 28, and other diseases 17.

**Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.** One hundred and seventeen cases were reported in 1945.

Deaths from cerebro-spinal meningitis numbered 21 in 1945, 23 in 1944, 76 in 1943, 106 in 1942, and 46 in 1941.

**Poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis).** The incidence of Poliomyelitis in Victoria has been recorded since the year 1916, when the disease was added to the list of compulsorily notifiable diseases. The highest incidence (until the 1937-38 epidemic) was 303 cases in 1918. Seven years later, in 1925, 140 cases were reported. In the 1937-38 epidemic there were 2,096 cases, the number of deaths being 113. Two hundred and thirty-eight cases were reported in 1945.

Poliomyelitis was responsible for 9 deaths in 1945, 11 in 1944, 9 in 1943, 11 in 1942, 2 in 1941, 7 in 1940, 9 in 1939, 41 in 1938, 77 in 1937, and 4 in 1936.

**Hydatids.**

In 1945, there were 8 male and 6 female deaths from hydatids, of which 4 of males and 2 of females were attributed to hydatid tumour of the liver. The deaths from hydatids in 1945 were equivalent to a rate of 7 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 11 in 1944, 12 in 1943, 9 in 1942, 9 in 1941, 16 in 1918-22, 22 in 1908-12, and 51 in 1890-92.

**Cancer—  
Deaths at  
certain ages.**

Deaths from cancer in 1945 numbered 2,751, and represented a death rate of 1,367 per million of the whole population, as compared with rates of 1,331 in 1944, 1,380 in 1943, 1,355 in 1942, 1,381 in 1941, 934 in 1918-22, 833 in 1908-12, and 584 in 1890-92.

**Cancer—  
Deaths at  
certain ages.**

The number of deaths from cancer in certain age groups in each of the last five years is given below:—

## VICTORIA—DEATHS FROM CANCER AT CERTAIN AGES.

Age Group.	Males.					Females.				
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
0-14 .. ..	5	5	10	5	9	7	3	4	3	7
15-24 .. ..	5	3	5	5	4	9	7	7	8	6
25-34 .. ..	10	21	15	17	13	16	31	28	23	25
35-44 .. ..	53	54	42	29	43	92	75	82	64	77
45-54 .. ..	113	124	140	119	131	218	210	242	218	229
55-64 .. ..	263	275	280	305	315	304	322	310	325	329
65-74 .. ..	453	444	416	427	402	404	380	416	393	399
75-84 .. ..	316	325	310	312	314	302	280	302	297	323
85 and over ..	41	37	53	49	53	64	68	70	60	72
Total .. ..	1,259	1,288	1,271	1,268	1,284	1,416	1,376	1,461	1,391	1,467

Ninety-three per cent. of the deaths from cancer in 1945 were at ages 45 years and upwards.



The widely different social and economic effects produced by the prevalence of and deaths from the two important diseases, cancer and tuberculosis of the respiratory system, are evidenced by the ages of their victims. For the year 1945 the average age of those who died from the former was 66·8 years for males and 65·1 years for females, while the corresponding averages for tuberculosis were 49·9 years for males and 41·3 years for females.

The following table shows the seat of cancer in persons who died from this disease in 1945:—

## VICTORIA—SEAT OF CANCER, 1945.

Seat of Cancer.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Buccal Cavity and Pharynx .. .. .	65	14	79
Digestive Organs and Peritoneum—			
Oesophagus .. .. .	53	29	82
Stomach and Duodenum .. .. .	310	247	557
Intestines other than Duodenum or Rectum .. .. .	151	220	371
Rectum .. .. .	77	55	132
Liver and Biliary Passages .. .. .	50	73	123
Pancreas .. .. .	54	59	113
Peritoneum .. .. .	11	4	15
Other Digestive Organs .. .. .	2	1	3
Respiratory System .. .. .	141	38	179
Uterus .. .. .	..	176	176
Other Female Genital Organs .. .. .	..	86	86
Breast .. .. .	1	288	289
Male Genital Organs .. .. .	160	..	160
Urinary Organs .. .. .	74	35	109
Skin .. .. .	38	45	83
Brain and other parts of the Nervous System—			
Glioma (not specified as benign) .. .. .	8	5	13
Other .. .. .	2	5	7
Other Unspecified Organs .. .. .	87	87	174
	1,284	1,467	2,751

**Diabetes.** The rate of mortality from diabetes shows a marked increase, the average of the last five years being 98 cent. higher than that for the period 1908-12.

During 1945 diabetes was responsible for 132 male and 286 female deaths, representing a rate of 208 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 208 in 1944, 220 in 1943, 212 in 1942, 213 in 1941, 130 in 1918-22, and 107 in 1908-12.

**Vitamin-deficiency diseases, other general diseases, diseases of the blood, and chronic poisonings.** Deaths in 1945 from diseases in this category (cause No. 20 on page 85) were acute rheumatic fever 35, exophthalmic goitre 31, other diseases of the thyroid and parathyroid glands 15, pernicious and other hyperchromic anaemias 42, other anaemias 15, leukaemia 61, and other diseases 50.

**Meningitis (non-meningococcal) and diseases of the medulla and spinal cord.** In 1945, deaths from these causes numbered 72, the rate per million of population being 36, as compared with rates of 50 in 1944, 62 in 1943, 57 in 1942, and 51 in 1941.

**Intra-cranial lesions of vascular origin.** In 1945, 824 male and 1,236 female deaths were ascribed to these causes, the total—2,060—corresponding to a rate of 1,024 per million of the population. Of the 2,060 deaths in 1945, 1,363 were due to cerebral haemorrhage, 16 to cerebral embolism, 554 to cerebral thrombosis, 28 to softening of the brain, 95 to hemiplegia and unspecified paralysis, and 4 to other intra-cranial effusions.

**Other diseases of nervous system and sense organs.** In this category (cause No. 23 on page 85) in 1945, were 11 deaths from encephalitis (non-epidemic), 49 from epilepsy, 15 from diseases of the ear and mastoid process and 125 from other diseases.

**Diseases of the heart.** During 1945 there were 6,344 deaths ascribed to diseases of the heart, including 11 due to pericarditis, 494 to endocarditis, 3,775 to diseases of the myocardium, 1,571 to diseases of coronary arteries, 60 to angina pectoris, 97 to angina pectoris with record of coronary disease, and 336 to other diseases of the heart. The total causes in 1945 represented a rate of 3,153 per million of the population, the rates for previous years being 3,020 in 1944, 3,072 in 1943, 3,106 in 1942, 2,774 in 1941, 1,347 in 1922-26, and 1,441 in 1908-12.

**Other diseases of the circulatory system.** Deaths under this heading (cause No. 25 on page 85) in 1945 were arterio-sclerosis 602, and other diseases 150. Of the deaths from arterio-sclerosis, 77 per cent. were of persons aged 70 years and over.

**Diseases of the respiratory system.** In 1945 the deaths from respiratory diseases numbered 1,563, which represented a rate of 777 per million of the population as compared with rates of 791 in 1944, 926 in 1943, 979 in 1942, and 936 in 1941. Of the deaths in the year under review, 36 were due to acute bronchitis, 150 to chronic bronchitis, 695 to broncho-pneumonia, 193 to lobar pneumonia,

236 to pneumonia unspecified, 40 to pleurisy, 119 to congestion, edema, embolism, &c., of lungs, 51 to asthma, and 43 to other diseases. Further details will be found under causes Nos. 26 to 28 on page 85.

In 1945 the greatest mortality from the respiratory diseases occurred during the month of August.

**Diseases of the digestive system.** In 1945 there were 443 male and 359 female deaths from digestive ailments, representing a proportion of 399 per million of the population, as against rates of 464 in 1944, 519 in 1943, 509 in 1942, 483 in 1941, 807 in 1922-26, and 2,382 in 1890-92. Deaths from principal diseases in 1945 were: 143 from ulcers of the stomach and duodenum, 107 from diarrhoeal diseases, 80 from appendicitis, 57 from hernia, 99 from intestinal obstruction, 78 from cirrhosis of the liver, 62 from biliary calculi, 57 from other diseases of the gall bladder and biliary passages, and 119 from other diseases. Further rates and details are given under causes Nos. 29 to 32 on pages 85 and 86.

The 107 deaths from diarrhoeal diseases in 1945, correspond to a rate of 53 per million of the population as compared with rates of 66 in 1944, 85 in 1943, 84 in 1942, 58 in 1941, 380 in 1922-26, 833 in 1908-12, and 1,342 in 1890-92. The age incidence of these diseases shows that they are heaviest at the extremes of life. In earlier 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 1945, 37 were of infants under one year of age, 8 were between the ages of one and two years, 4 between two and five years, while 33 were of persons aged 65 years and over. Infantile diarrhoea has been further dealt with in the section "Infantile Mortality."

**Diseases of the genito-urinary system.** In 1945 there were 1,581 deaths attributed to diseases of the genito-urinary system. This number represented a rate of 786 per million of the population, as against rates of 829 in 1944, 869 in 1943, 886 in 1942, 869 in 1941, 670 in 1918-22, and 700 in 1909-12. In 1945 nephritis was responsible for 1,300 deaths, other diseases of the kidney and ureters for 52, diseases of the prostate for 148, and other genito-urinary diseases for 81.

**Maternal deaths.** 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 infection and all other diseases of pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium for the year 1945 and the averages of previous periods back to 1871. The rates given for years prior to 1940 are not strictly comparable with those for subsequent years.

## VICTORIA—MATERNAL DEATHS, 1871 TO 1945.

Period.	Average Annual Number of Deaths from—						Rate per 10,000 Live Births from—					
	Puerperal Infection.			Other Diseases of Pregnancy, Childbirth, and the Puerperium. (Detailed List No. 141-146, 148-150).	Total.		Puerperal Infection.			Other Diseases of Pregnancy, Childbirth, and the Puerperium. (Detailed List No. 141-146, 148-150).	Total.	
	Infection during Childbirth and the Puerperium. (Detailed List No. 147).	Post-abortive Infection (Detailed List No. 140).			Including Criminal Abortion.	Excluding Criminal Abortion.	Infection during Childbirth and the Puerperium. (Detailed List No. 147).	Post-abortive Infection (Detailed List No. 140).			Including Criminal Abortion.	Excluding Criminal Abortion.
		Spontaneous, Therapeutic, or Unspecified.	Criminal Abortion.					Spontaneous, Therapeutic, or Unspecified.	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		
1926-29..	44	12	21	121	198	177	12.78	3.46	5.92	34.86	57.02	51.10
1930-34..	33	9	27	91	160	133	11.08	3.13	9.17	30.99	54.37	45.20
1935-39..	18	6	41	74	139	98	5.97	1.90	14.05	25.25	47.17	33.12
1940-44..	19	2	36	63	120	80	5.31	0.67	9.90	17.26	33.14	22.18
1941 ..	23	1	44	57	125	78	6.68	0.29	12.79	16.57	36.33	22.76
1942 ..	20	1	29	59	109	77	5.57	0.28	8.07	16.42	30.34	21.43
1943 ..	23	5	39	69	136	93	5.88	1.28	9.97	17.64	34.77	23.78
1944 ..	11	4	17	69	101	81	2.79	1.02	4.32	17.53	25.66	20.58
1945 ..	14	2	12	50	78	63	3.40	0.48	2.91	12.14	18.93	15.29

Note—See following table regarding deaths from Criminal Abortion.

The following tables give information in age groups for the year 1945 relating to the causes of death of women in childbirth, and the total number of children born to married mothers.

VICTORIA—MATERNAL DEATHS, 1945.

Causes of Death.	Ages at Death.						Number of Married Mothers.	Number of Un-Married Mothers.
	Under 20.	20 to 24.	25 to 29.	30 to 34.	35 to 39.	40 and Over.		
140. Post-abortive Infection—								
(a) Spontaneous, Therapeutic, or Un-specified .. .. .	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	..
(b) Criminal Abortion .. .. .	..	3	3	2	2	2	12	11
141. Abortion without mention of Septic Conditions—								
(a) Spontaneous, Therapeutic, or Un-specified .. .. .	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..
(b) Criminal Abortion .. .. .	..	1	..	..	1	..	3	2
142. Ectopic Gestation .. .. .	..	..	2	1	1	..	4	4
143. Haemorrhage of Pregnancy .. .. .	..	..	1	2	1	..	4	4
144. Toxaemias of Pregnancy—								
(a) Eclampsia of Pregnancy .. .. .	..	1	..	2	..	1	4	4
(b) Albuminuria and Nephritis of Pregnancy .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(c) Acute Yellow Atrophy of Liver Associated with Pregnancy .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4
(d) Other Toxaemias of Pregnancy .. .. .	..	1	1	..	2	..	4	4
145. Other Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy .. .. .	..	1	..	1	1	..	3	3
146. Haemorrhage of Childbirth and the Puerperium .. .. .	..	..	..	5	..	..	5	5
147. Infection during Childbirth and the Puerperium—								
(a) Puerperal Infections .. .. .	..	..	..	1	2	1	4	4
(b) Puerperal Thrombophlebitis .. .. .	..	..	1	3	1	..	5	5
(c) Puerperal Embolism and Sudden Death .. .. .	..	..	2	1	2	..	5	5
148. Puerperal Toxaemias—								
(a) Puerperal Eclampsia .. .. .	..	..	3	..	..	..	3	3
(b) Puerperal Albuminuria and Nephritis .. .. .	..	1	..	..	2	..	3	3
(c) Acute Yellow Atrophy of Liver (Post-partum) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(d) Other Puerperal Toxaemias .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
149. Other Accidents of Childbirth—								
(a) Laceration, Rupture, or other Trauma of Pelvic Organs and Tissue .. .. .	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	3
(b) Other Accidents of Childbirth .. .. .	..	1	4	3	..	..	8	8
150. Other or Unspecified Diseases of Childbirth and the Puerperium—								
(a) Puerperal Diseases of the Breast .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Others .. .. .	..	1	1	1	1	1	5	5
Total .. .. .	..	10	22	24	17	5	78	76
Number of Married Mothers .. .. .	..	8	22	24	17	5	76	..
Number of Unmarried Mothers .. .. .	..	2	..	..	..	..	2	..
Issue of Married Mothers .. .. .	..	4	33	48	30	18	133	..

Of the 133 children born to the 76 married women who died, 128 were living at the time of their mother's death, or an average of 1.7 children per mother.

First confinements were responsible for 30, or 39.5 per cent. of the total deaths of married mothers, as compared with 44.6 in 1944, 40.5 in 1943, 43.0 in 1942, and 37.8 in 1941.

The death rate of women in childbirth varies considerably at different ages, and is higher at older than at younger ages. The number of deaths of women in childbirth and the death rates in various age groups in Victoria for the period 1926-30 and the years 1943, 1944, and 1945, are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—MATERNAL DEATHS, 1926 TO 1945.

Age Group.	Mothers.							
	Deaths.				Deaths per 10,000 children born alive.			
	1926-30.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1926-30.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Under 20 years ..	41	8	5	..	47.1	48.4	32.9	..
20 ,, 24 ,, ..	150	24	19	10	39.1	23.8	19.9	9.9
25 ,, 29 ,, ..	231	36	20	22	46.5	28.7	16.6	17.5
30 ,, 34 ,, ..	226	40	26	24	56.8	44.3	27.1	23.8
35 ,, 39 ,, ..	226	22	19	17	88.1	49.8	36.7	31.0
40 years and over ..	111	6	12	5	117.8	41.9	81.0	31.1
Total ..	985	136	101	78	57.4	34.8	25.7	18.9

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

**Senile decay.** During the year 1945, the deaths of 280 men and 352 women were ascribed to senile decay, as compared with 302 men and 321 women in 1944. Prior to 1927, deaths from ill-defined causes, i.e., heart failure, debility, &c., of those persons over 65 years of age, were classified as senile decay. In that year, however, only deaths of persons over 70 years of age from such causes were so classified.

**Suicide.** In the year 1945, 84 males and 47 females took their lives. The deaths represented a rate of 65 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 61 in 1944, 55 in 1943, 66 in 1942, 78 in 1941, 87 in 1918-22, 102 in 1908-12, and 109 in 1890-92. Of the 84 male deaths in 1945 from suicide, 29 or 34 per cent. were connected with firearms. A much lower rate from suicide obtains among females than among males, the rate for the former, on the average of the last five years, being 46 per cent. of that of the latter.

**Homicide.** The deaths ascribed to homicide in 1945 numbered 12, of which 9 were of males and 3 of females. These represented a rate of 6 per million of the population, as against rates of 10 in 1944, 7 in 1943, 6 in 1942, 6 in 1941, 14 in 1918-22, and 19 in 1908-12. Since 1930 deaths from criminal abortion have been excluded from this category and included with deaths from maternal causes.

**Accidental deaths.** In 1945 there were 671 accidental deaths (473 male, 198 female). These represented a rate of 334 per million of population. This proportion was approximately 27 per cent. below the rate (457) for the previous five years. The numbers of deaths from various accidents are given in the appended table:—

VICTORIA—ACCIDENTAL DEATHS, 1941 TO 1945.

Deaths from—	Number.						
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.		
					Males.	Females.	Total.
Railway accidents (except collisions with motor vehicles) .. ..	46	30	35	32	28	7	35
Motor Vehicle Accidents .. ..	396	350	201	216	148	43	191
Other Road Transport Accidents ..	52	53	57	41	29	9	38
Water Transport Accidents .. ..	9	2	6	3	..	..	..
Air Transport Accidents .. ..	7	4	3	..	9	..	9
Accidents in Mines and Quarries ..	9	4	5	4	2	..	2
Agricultural and Forestry Accidents	23	21	16	14	20	..	20
Accidents caused by Machinery							
N.E.I. .. ..	8	11	1	3	4	..	4
Food Poisoning .. ..	2	3	..	..	..	..	..
Accidental absorption of Poisonous Gases .. ..	5	3	5	6	8	1	9
Other Acute Accidental Poisoning ..	5	12	10	13	10	7	17
Conflagration .. ..	8	7	5	49	6	3	9
Accidental Burns .. ..	33	31	48	35	14	13	27
Accidental Mechanical Suffocation ..	19	14	20	17	12	3	15
Accidental Drowning .. ..	129	105	117	115	55	18	73
Accidental Injury by Firearms .. ..	26	15	10	10	13	..	13
Accidental Injury by Fall .. ..	151	190	132	155	66	76	142
Accidental Injury by Crushing .. ..	15	10	6	6	2	1	3
Injury by Animals .. ..	6	3	7	3	..	..	..
Excessive Cold .. ..	1	1	4	1	..	..	..
Excessive Heat .. ..	3	3	10	..	5	3	8
Lightning .. ..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..
Electricity .. ..	2	4	12	4	2	..	2
Snakebite .. ..	..	..	2	3	..	..	..
Other Venomous Bites and Stings ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Accidents .. ..	48	40	40	50	40	14	54
	1,006	917	752	780	473	198	671

NOTE.—The high number of deaths recorded in 1944 from conflagration is directly related to the bush fires of that year.

On the average of the last five years, the female mortality rate from accidents was about 36 per cent. of the rate for males.

**Transport accidents.**

In 1945 deaths from transport accidents numbered 273 as against 292 in 1944, 302 in 1943, 439 in 1942, 510 in 1941, 551 in 1940, 579 in 1939, 551 in 1938, 568 in 1937, and 508 in 1936.

During the year 1945, deaths connected with transport represented 41 per cent. of the total deaths from accidents.

In the following table details are given of deaths due to collisions between various types of transport, and to other fatal accidents in which transport was concerned, for the year 1945.

**VICTORIA—DEATHS FROM TRANSPORT ACCIDENTS, 1945.**

	Collisions.											Other Accidents.		Total.	Males.	Females.
	Railway vehicle.	Tramcar	Motor car.	Motor Omnibus.	Motor lorry, &c.	Motor cycle.	Horse-drawn vehicle, &c.	Bicycle.	Other Vehicle.	Animal.	Fixed object.	Total.	Total.			
Railway vehicles..	..	..	4	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	6	*34	40	33	7
Tramcar ..	..	..	1	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	5	15	20	14	6
Motor car ..	..	..	4	2	8	5	..	7	..	..	10	36	61	97	70	27
Motor omnibus ..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	8	11	8	3
Motor lorry, &c...	..	..	..	..	1	7	..	6	..	..	..	14	48	62	51	11
Motor cycle ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	4	8	12	10	2	..
Horse-drawn vehicle ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	9	7	2
Bicycle ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	11	12	11	1	..
Other vehicle ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..
Aeroplane ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	9	9	..
Water transport ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	9	2	14	13	1	15	..	2	13	69	204	273	214	59

\* Includes rail accidents to six 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 1936 to 1945, were as follows:—



VICTORIA—DEATHS INVOLVING MOTOR VEHICLES,  
1936 TO 1945.

Year.	Number of Motor Vehicles (30th June).	Deaths Involving Motor Vehicles.		
		Number.	Per 10,000 Motor Vehicles.	Per 1,000,000 of Population.
1936 .. ..	219,925	395	18·0	214
1937 .. ..	233,573	456	19·5	246
1938 .. ..	250,455	441	17·6	236
1939 .. ..	261,855	487	18·6	259
1940 .. ..	266,677	471	17·7	248
1941 .. ..	256,502	396	15·4	204
1942 .. ..	224,293	350	15·6	178
1943 .. ..	232,940	201	8·6	102
1944 .. ..	243,450	216	8·9	108
1945 .. ..	255,147	190	7·4	95

The mortality per 10,000 vehicles was 11·2 for the period 1941-45 as compared with a rate of 18·3 in 1936-40. The mortality per million of population was 95 in 1945, 108 in 1944, 102 in 1943, 178 in 1942, 204 in 1941, 248 in 1940, 259 in 1939, 236 in 1938, 246 in 1937, and 214 in 1936. The mortality rate in 1939 was the highest on record.

The decrease in the number of deaths involving motor vehicles in 1943, 1944, and 1945 can be attributed mainly to restriction in the use of private motor vehicles due to petrol rationing.

On the average of the five years, 1941 to 1945, motor cars, &c., were involved in 11·3 deaths per 10,000 cars registered, and motor cycles in 17·5 deaths per 10,000 motor cycles registered.

### NATURAL INCREASE.

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

**Natural increase per 1,000 of population in Australian States and in New Zealand.**

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

Period.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1910-14	13·85	18·38	18·51	17·68	18·61	19·35	17·03	16·80
1915-19	11·75	15·98	17·06	14·84	15·47	17·83	14·99	16·80
1920-24	12·49	15·73	16·13	13·75	13·96	16·66	14·60	14·01
1925-29	10·57	12·99	13·35	11·18	12·71	13·27	12·18	11·65
1930-34	6·77	9·52	10·56	6·89	10·26	11·05	8·78	9·19
1935-39	5·63	7·91	10·06	6·12	9·85	10·36	7·67	8·37
1941 ..	7·17	8·75	11·55	7·77	11·28	10·97	8·92	12·97
1942 ..	7·10	8·31	11·12	7·47	10·08	11·95	8·57	11·13
1943 ..	8·98	10·00	12·03	10·83	12·29	12·67	10·35	9·66
1944 ..	9·44	11·48	14·21	11·78	13·16	11·03	11·46	11·72
1945 ..	10·29	11·96	16·00	12·69	12·17	13·61	12·25	13·15

## VICTORIA.

Period.	Average Annual Excess of Births over Deaths.	Annual Rates per 1,000 of Mean Population.			Period.	Average Annual Excess of Births over Deaths.	Annual Rates per 1,000 of Mean Population.		
		Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.			Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.
1880-84	14,466	30·64	14·40	16·24	1925-29	18,218	20·24	9·67	10·57
1885-89	16,741	32·27	15·87	16·40	1930-34	12,249	16·27	9·50	6·77
1890-94	20,059	31·99	14·62	17·37	1935-39	10,473	15·85	10·22	5·63
1895-99	15,625	26·76	13·81	12·95					
1900-04	14,859	25·08	12·78	12·30	1941..	13,981	17·77	10·60	7·17
1905-09	16,062	24·76	11·93	12·83	1942..	13,954	18·28	11·18	7·10
1910-14	18,795	25·42	11·57	13·85	1943..	17,790	19·75	10·77	8·98
1915-19	16,818	23·13	11·38	11·75	1944..	18,856	19·70	10·26	9·44
1920-24	19,647	22·89	10·40	12·49	1945..	20,704	20·48	10·19	10·29