PART III.

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 5,600,300 original entries have been made in the indexes, of which 1,630,880 relate to marriages, 2,661,320 to births, and 1,308,100 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

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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 ap-
pointed 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 pur-
pose 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 occured. 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, 1942. The principal numbers and rates relating to Vital Statistics are given in the following table :—

VICTORIA—SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1942.

Division.	Number of—				Rate per 1,000 of Population.*			Infantile Mortality.
	Mar-riages.	Births.	Deaths.	Deaths under One Year.	Mar-riage.	Birth.	Death.	Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.
Greater Melbourne	..	20,261	13,118	887	..	17·70	11·46	43·78
Remainder of the State	..	15,666	8,855	609	..	19·07	10·78	38·87
Victoria	23,636	35,927	21,973	1,496	12·02	18·27	11·18	41·61

* Subject to revision.

MARRIAGES.

**Marriages—
Numbers and
rates.**
    Marriages in Victoria in 1942 reached the record figure of 23,636, an increase of 2,739 over the number (20,897) registered in 1941. The rate per 1,000 of population in 1942 was 12·02 as compared with rates of 10·79 in 1941, 11·76 in 1940, 9·23 in 1939, and 9·16 in 1938. The rate for 1942 was the highest recorded in Victoria. The lowest rate recorded in the history of the State was 5·66 in 1931—a year of acute economic depression. There has been a marked increase since that year, the rate in 1942 being 112 per cent. higher than that in 1931.

    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 1942.

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
1938 ..	17,113	3,844	4,994	3,454	4,821	9·16
1939 ..	17,368	3,527	4,452	3,751	5,638	9·23
1940 ..	22,299	5,001	5,430	5,896	5,972	11·76
1941 ..	20,897	4,367	5,526	4,625	6,379	10·79
1942 ..	23,636	6,685	6,816	4,869	5,266	12·02

* 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.
1938	9·16	9·03	8·85	9·26	9·03	8·83	9·05	10·09
1939	9·23	9·27	8·99	9·51	9·02	9·51	9·23	11·12
1940	11·76	10·95	10·09	11·66	11·25	10·36	11·11	11·28
1941	10·79	10·02	9·55	11·42	10·85	8·98	10·58	8·65
1942	12·02	12·20	11·33	13·36	11·57	10·12	12·00	7·91

The marriage rate in England and Wales in 1942 was 8·9.

Ages of bridegrooms and brides. The ages of bridegrooms and brides who were married in 1942 are shown in combination for various groups in the table which follows :—

VICTORIA—AGES OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES IN COMBINATION, 1942.

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	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
17	1	2	7	6	2	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
18	..	4	13	18	27	18	10	21	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	113
19	..	..	7	38	69	74	40	73	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	303
20	..	3	16	51	99	132	150	214	20	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	687
21 to 24	..	6	47	193	490	854	1,184	4,300	761	66	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,912
25 to 29	..	2	26	55	156	321	567	3,494	2,412	419	58	8	4	..	..	..	..	..	7,522
30 to 34	1	..	3	8	28	47	106	836	1,273	662	169	30	12	2	1	..	..	..	3,178
35 to 39	..	..	..	5	7	10	23	232	518	472	302	81	28	5	1	..	..	..	1,684
40 to 44	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	8	60	160	208	216	153	53	15	2	1	..	879
45 to 49	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	14	44	93	115	110	98	21	2	2	..	502
50 to 54	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	18	28	48	94	91	53	17	3	..	357
55 to 59	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	16	24	39	42	41	24	8	1	..	200
60 to 64	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2	8	10	39	29	21	17	6	..	135
65 to 69	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	6	15	12	12	13	10	2	72
70 to 74	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	1	5	4	5	8	11	3	41
75 and over	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	4	6	6	6	4		27
Total Brides	2	17	120	375	882	1,460	2,090	9,249	5,217	1,970	956	533	387	186	91	57	35	9	23,636

Of every 1,000 men married during the year, 726 were older and 171 younger than their brides, and 103 were of the same age.

In 1942 the oldest bridegroom was aged 87 years, and the oldest bride 81 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 1942 is shown, in varying age groups, in the following table :—

VICTORIA—PROPORTIONS OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES IN AGE GROUPS, 1942.

Age Group.	Proportion per 1,000 of total—		Age Group.	Proportion per 1,000 of total—	
	Bridegrooms.	Brides.		Bridegrooms.	Brides.
Under 16 ..	..	·80	35 to 39 ..	71·25	40·45
16	·13	5·08	40 to 44 ..	37·19	22·55
17	·89	15·87	45 to 49 ..	21·24	16·37
18	4·78	37·32	50 to 54 ..	15·10	7·87
19	12·82	61·77	55 to 59 ..	8·46	3·85
20	29·07	88·42	60 and over	11·63	4·27
21 to 24 ..	334·74	391·31			
25 to 29 ..	318·24	220·72		1,000·00	1,000·00
30 to 34 ..	134·46	83·35			

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 1938 to 1942.

VICTORIA—MARRIAGES OF MINORS.

Year.	Age in Years.							Total.	
	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.
				Bridegrooms.					
1938	..	..	5	19	89	180	252	545	3·18
1939	..	..	2	18	72	151	295	538	3.10
1940	..	..	3	19	88	226	428	764	3.43
1941	..	..	4	18	108	265	469	864	4·13
1942	..	..	3	21	113	303	687	1,127	4·77
				Brides.					
1938	4	24	99	307	577	785	885	2,681	15·67
1939	2	17	94	286	596	844	904	2,743	15·79
1940	2	19	102	363	744	1,158	1,426	3,814	17·10
1941	..	10	113	329	753	1,194	1,542	3,941	18·86
1942	2	17	120	375	882	1,460	2,090	4,946	20·93

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. This was followed by further increases in 1941 and 1942.

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, 1938 TO 1942.

Year.	Bridegrooms.				Brides.			
	Bachelors.	Divorced.	Widowers.	All Bride-grooms.	Spinsters.	Divorced.	Widows.	All Brides.
1938 ..	28·05	40·15	49·35	29·49	25·13	35·20	44·99	26·05
1939 ..	27·97	39·41	49·31	29·36	25·06	34·83	44·90	26·00
1940 ..	27·64	38·57	49·58	28·90	24·80	34·89	44·16	25·71
1941 ..	27·44	39·38	50·33	28·87	24·65	35·19	44·85	25·66
1942 ..	27·14	39·86	49·66	28·44	24·42	35·84	43·54	25·29

In 1942 the mean age at marriage of bridegrooms whose brides were under 45 was 27·57 years, while for brides under 45 the age was 24·41 years.

The most popular age at marriage in 1942 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 1938 to 1942, and the proportions in each condition for periods since 1900.

VICTORIA—CONJUGAL CONDITION OF PERSONS MARRYING, 1938 TO 1942.

Period.	Bridegrooms.				Brides.				Total Mar-riages.
	Bach-elors.	Wid-owers.	Di-vorced.	De-serted.	Spin-sters.	Widows.	Di-vorced.	De-serted.	
1938 ..	15,763	902	439	9	16,088	554	460	11	17,113
1939 ..	16,018	882	462	6	16,304	585	463	16	17,368
1940 ..	20,724	975	591	9	20,950	705	623	21	22,299
1941 ..	19,319	982	585	11	19,532	686	648	31	20,897
1942 ..	21,966	974	696	*	22,291	670	675	*	23,636

* Included with divorced.

VICTORIA—TOTAL MARRIAGES AND PERCENTAGE OF PERSONS MARRYING IN EACH CONJUGAL CONDITION, 1910 TO 1942.

Marriages Between—	1942.		Conjugal Condition.	Percentage of Total—			
	Num-ber.	Per-cen-tage.		1910–19.	1920–29.	1930–39.	1942.
Bachelors and Spinsters ..	21,156	89·51		Bridegrooms.			
Bachelors and Widows ..	345	1·46	Bachelors	92·7	92·1	92·3	93·0
Bachelors and Divorced			Widowers	6·5	6·3	5·5	4·1
Women	465	1·97	Divorced	·8	1·6	2·2	2·9
Widowers and Spinsters ..	604	2·56					
Widowers and Widows ..	263	1·11	Total	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0
Widowers and Divorced							
Women	107	·45		Brides.			
Divorced Men and Spinsters	531	2·25	Spinsters	94·2	93·6	94·4	94·3
Divorced Men and Widows	62	·26	Widows	4·8	4·9	3·4	2·8
Divorced Men and Divorced			Divorced	1·0	1·5	2·2	2·9
Women	103	·43					
			Total	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0
Total Marriages	23,636	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 4·7 and 3·2 in 1938–42. During the same period the proportion of remarriages of divorced men increased from ·7 to 2·8 and of divorced women from ·9 to 2·9. 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

In 1942 decrees granted numbered 953, and remarriages of men and women 696 and 675 respectively.

Marriages in religious denominations. In 1942 the number of marriages celebrated by ministers of religion was 22,433, representing 95 per cent. of the total marriages. Civil marriages numbered 1,203, or 5 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 1922, 1932, and 1942, are shown in the following table :—

VICTORIA—MARRIAGES, RELIGIOUS AND CIVIL.

	1922.		1932		1942.	
	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.
Church of England ..	3,771	29·02	3,096	26·36	7,632	32·29
Roman Catholic Church	2,288	17·60	2,158	18·38	4,775	20·20
Presbyterian Church	2,548	19·61	2,008	17·10	4,318	18·27
Methodist Church ..	1,835	14·12	1,680	14·30	3,415	14·45
Baptist Church	569	4·38	516	4·39	882	3·73
Church of Christ ..	284	2·19	279	2·38	583	2·47
Congregational Church	889	6·84	205	1·75	311	1·32
Salvation Army ..	48	·37	86	·73	114	·48
Hebrew	42	·32	56	·48	123	·52
Lutheran Church ..	59	·45	73	·62	87	·37
Other Sects ..	227	1·75	72	·61	193	·81
Civil Marriages ..	436	3·35	1,515	12·90	1,203	5·09
Total ..	12,996	100·00	11,744	100·00	23,636	100·00

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

VICTORIA—CIVIL MARRIAGES, 1933 TO 1942.

Year.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.	Year.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.
1933 ..	1,340	10·58	1938 ..	770	4·50
1934 ..	1,156	8·34	1939 ..	988	5·69
1935 ..	1,373	8·91	1940 ..	1,329	5·96
1936 ..	1,398	8·78	1941 .	1,478	7·07
1937 ..	1,058	6·52	1942 ..	1,203	5·09

CIVIL MARRIAGES PERFORMED IN THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT STATIST, 1938 TO 1942.

Year.	Number.	Percentage of Total Civil Marriages.
1938 ..	570	74·03
1939 ..	863	87·35
1940 ..	1,199	90·22
1941 ..	1,363	92·22
1942 ..	1,145	95·18

NOTE.—The number of marriages performed in the office of the Government Statist has increased since 1938 mainly because of the abolition of office of certain former registrars of marriages in the metropolitan area.

Registered
clergymen.
The ministers qualified by registration to celebrate marriages numbered 1,995 on 31st December, 1942. The number of ministers in each denomination (excepting Jews and Quakers) was as follows :—

VICTORIA—REGISTERED MINISTERS IN EACH DENOMINATION, 1942.

Denomination.	Number of Registered Ministers.	Denomination.	Number of Registered Ministers.
Church of England	432	Catholic and Apostolic	3
Roman Catholic	499	Free Presbyterian	3
Presbyterian	338	Welsh Calvinistic Metho-	
Methodist	320	dists	2
Baptist	104	Reformed Presbyterian	
Church of Christ	90	Church of Ireland	2
Congregational	59	Ballarat Town Mission	2
Salvation Army	59	Unitarian	1
Lutheran	34	Open Brethren	1
Seventh Day Adventist	24	Latter Day Saints	1
Pentecostal	6	New Church	1
Apostolic Church, Aus-		Greek Orthodox Church	1
tralia	5	Syrian Orthodox	1
Latter Day Saints (Re-			
organized)	4		
Particular Baptists	3	Total	1,995

In 1942 there were 11 civil registrars of marriages.

BIRTHS.

Births— Numbers and rates. The number of births registered in Victoria during the year 1942 was 35,927. This was 1,521 more than the number registered for the preceding year. The rate per 1,000 of population was 18·27. The lowest rate recorded was 15·16 in 1935. Stillbirths, which are excluded from both births and deaths, numbered 950, and correspond to a ratio of 26·4 per 1,000 infants born alive in 1942. There were 1,050 male to every 1,000 female births in 1942, as compared with 1,065 in 1941, 1,053 in 1940, 1,065 in 1939, and 1,063 in 1938.

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. It is clear, however, that other powerful factors are tending to reduce 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 1942.

Period.	Average Annual Number of Births.	Sex.		Quarter of Registration.				Rate per 1,000 of Mean Population.
		Males.	Females.	March.	June.	September.	December.	
1855–59	17,154	8,742	8,412	*	*	*	*	39·49
1860–64	24,060	12,379	11,681	5,614	5,991	6,534	5,921	43·29
1865–69	25,963	13,219	12,744	6,027	6,543	7,105	6,288	39·77
1870–74	27,359	13,944	13,415	6,478	6,769	7,467	6,645	36·35
1875–79	26,584	13,639	12,945	6,333	6,686	7,211	6,354	32·85
1880–84	27,286	13,965	13,321	6,374	7,025	7,300	6,587	30·64
1885–89	32,941	16,883	16,058	7,824	8,289	8,814	8,014	32·27
1890–94	36,945	18,901	18,044	8,669	9,604	9,735	8,937	31·99
1895–99	31,675	16,213	15,462	7,746	8,078	8,323	7,528	26·76
1900–04	30,316	15,544	14,772	7,384	7,682	7,880	7,370	25·08
1905–09	30,994	15,879	15,115	7,489	7,832	8,076	7,597	24·76
1910–14	34,500	17,717	16,783	8,329	8,619	8,850	8,702	25·42
1915–19	33,101	17,014	16,087	8,228	8,336	8,514	8,023	23·13
1920–24	36,022	18,549	17,473	8,729	8,970	9,367	8,956	22·89
1925–29	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
1938 ..	30,344	15,636	14,708	7,416	7,401	7,668	7,859	16·25
1939 ..	30,493	15,728	14,765	7,725	7,446	7,646	7,676	16·20
1940 ..	31,962	16,393	15,569	7,807	7,381	8,065	8,709	16·86
1941 ..	34,406	17,748	16,658	8,256	8,006	8,576	9,568	17·76
1942 ..	35,927	18,402	17,525	9,179	9,174	9,009	8,565	18·27

* 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, 1938 TO 1942.

Year.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1938 ..	16·25	17·39	18·98	15·88	19·87	20·82	17·46	17·93
1939 ..	16·20	17·46	20·08	16·13	19·43	21·03	17·65	18·73
1940 ..	16·86	17·81	20·02	16·80	19·60	20·90	18·02	21·20
1941 ..	17·76	18·48	20·80	18·26	21·62	21·75	18·94	22·81
1942 ..	18·27	18·60	20·46	18·54	21·06	22·09	19·06	21·73

The birth rate in England and Wales in 1942 was 15·8.

Ages of parents of nuptial children. The average ages of fathers and of mothers of nuptial children whose births were recorded in 1942 were 31·88 and 28·25 years respectively. These averages were 4·31 and 3·84 years respectively above the average ages of bridegrooms marrying brides under 45 years of age, and of such brides, for the year 1942. 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, 1942.

Father.		Mother.	
Age Group.	Percentage of Total Parents.	Age Group.	Percentage of Total Parents.
Under 20	0·53	Under 20	3·70
20 to 24	11·62	20 to 24	24·79
25 to 29	29·25	25 to 29	33·56
30 to 34	27·19	30 to 34	22·56
35 to 39	18·17	35 to 39	11·70
40 to 44	8·36	40 to 44	3·39
45 to 49	3·31	45 and over	0·30
50 and over	1·57		
Total	100·00	Total	100·00

It will be seen that, on the experience of 1942, 58·35 per cent. of the mothers were between ages 20 and 30, and 34·26 per cent. between ages 30 and 40. The proportions of fathers at these ages were 40·87 and 45·36 per cent. respectively. Of every 1,000 nuptial births, about 37 were to mothers under 20 years and about 3 to mothers aged 45 years and upwards.

Birth rates in municipalities. 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, cities and principal towns outside Greater Melbourne, and the remainder of the State for the five-year periods 1928 to 1932 and 1933 to 1937, and for the years 1940, 1941 and 1942 :—

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.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1928–1932.	1933–1937.	1940.	1941.	1942.
Greater Melbourne—										
Melbourne	1,348	1,143	1,257	1,303	1,499	14·29	12·68	13·86	14·19	15·20
Box Hill	259	214	267	340	414	18·31	13·84	15·85	19·42	21·62
Braybrook (Part)	187	157	190	227	272	22·28	17·65	19·49	21·62	22·86
Brighton	394	358	509	652	631	13·37	11·69	15·04	18·49	16·87
Brunswick	974	790	833	991	1,122	17·52	14·53	15·06	17·74	19·61
Camberwell	865	759	1,224	1,375	1,458	17·85	14·58	18·98	19·97	20·63
Caulfield	941	807	1,047	1,209	1,287	14·87	12·14	14·71	16·71	16·57
Chelsea ..	127	121	139	147	203	18·66	17·46	19·04	19·52	25·86
Coburg ..	742	634	751	871	920	20·80	16·35	18·11	20·21	19·78
Collingwood	532	492	497	534	550	16·63	16·26	16·65	17·88	18·15
Essendon	766	578	771	896	928	16·59	12·47	15·98	18·25	18·39
Fitzroy ..	517	467	532	509	579	15·96	15·24	17·49	16·71	18·74
Footscray	875	698	782	978	986	19·13	14·97	15·26	17·25	16·18
Hawthorn	424	406	516	650	700	12·70	11·82	14·24	17·20	17·56
Heidelberg (Part)	413	340	432	529	564	16·93	14·02	16·80	20·19	19·25
Kew ..	339	284	335	429	460	13·97	11·58	12·84	15·54	15·23
Malvern	499	470	545	620	700	11·46	10·66	11·85	13·29	14·67
Moorabbin	398	359	475	500	472	23·14	19·20	22·84	23·15	20·52
Mordialloc	148	132	178	218	249	15·37	13·64	17·00	20·24	21·56
Northcote	727	576	660	731	798	17·27	13·55	15·21	16·70	17·85
Oakleigh	264	217	253	306	308	22·72	17·91	19·61	23·09	22·24
Port Melbourne ..	230	197	195	216	240	17·24	15·22	14·66	15·71	16·90
Prahran	696	624	798	909	1,016	13·26	11·84	14·43	16·06	17·35
Preston	703	581	699	760	863	23·87	18·05	20·45	21·58	23·48
Richmond	693	593	640	711	700	16·71	14·95	16·05	17·75	17·09
Sandringham	272	232	320	356	389	15·33	12·67	16·16	17·32	17·44
South Melbourne	660	551	591	603	661	15·06	12·81	13·63	13·87	14·97
St. Kilda	533	512	666	826	862	11·61	10·55	12·91	15·64	15·84
Williamstown	423	326	399	472	430	19·28	14·64	17·20	19·87	17·34
Cities and Principal Towns outside Greater Melbourne—										
Baliarat	664	596	617	670	701	17·14	15·74	15·96	17·16	17·78
Bendigo	550	555	578	600	576	17·10	18·81	19·13	19·66	18·72
Geelong..	844	693	741	723	825	19·26	17·52	18·26	17·67	20·04
Ararat ..	†	102	95	101	100	...	20·76	19·04	20·49	20·12
Castlemaine	105	98	99	97	110	15·16	18·70	18·57	17·40	18·97
Colac ..	†	106	131	132	129	...	20·42	23·52	23·49	22·83
Echuca ..	†	95	91	83	94	...	21·39	20·36	18·63	21·12
Hamilton	138	117	129	139	137	24·47	20·08	21·43	22·88	22·46
Horsham	†	118	124	121	121	...	22·13	22·26	21·72	21·65
Maryborough	118	111	115	103	98	21·35	19·62	19·90	17·71	16·72
Mildura	184	207	249	234	221	28·23	30·54	35·32	33·43	30·27
Sale ..	†	86	133	91	87	...	19·97	30·65	21·04	19·42
Shepparton	151	158	215	169	199	27·51	27·24	35·13	27·57	32·15
Stawell ..	92	85	108	70	82	19·46	17·75	22·27	14·39	16·80
Swan Hill	†	†	108	78	92	...	...	21·82	16·08	18·85
Wangaratta	†	107	133	116	128	...	22·21	26·81	23·11	24·52
Warrnambool	176	175	187	211	203	20·17	19·40	20·17	22·66	21·73
Wonthaggi	141	91	78	108	87	22·44	14·95	11·98	16·69	13·62
Summary—										
Greater Melbourne	15,949	13,618	16,501	18,868	20,261	16·03	13·55	15·54	17·28	17·70
Cities and Principal towns outside Greater Melbourne	3,163	3,500	3,931	3,846	3,990	19·22	18·90	20·13	19·57	20·11
Remainder of State	12,693	11,426	11,530	11,692	11,676	20·40	17·62	18·04	18·02	18·74
Victoria..	31,805	28,544	31,962	34,406	35,927	17·85	15·52	16·86	17·76	18·27

† 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.
1938 ..	..	..	291	2	293	9·75
1939 ..	..	..	317	3	320	10·60
1940 ..	..	..	321	2	323	10·21
1941 ..	..	..	348	1	349	10·24
1942 ..	..	..	398	3	401	11·28

On the average of the five years 1938–42, the proportion of mothers of twins was one in 96, of mothers of triplets, one in 14,683, and of mothers of all multiple births, one in 96 mothers.

A case of quadruplets (3 males and 1 female) was recorded in the metropolitan area in the third quarter of 1937. This was the first case of quadruplets in Victoria since 1917.

Adoption of children. The Adoption of Children Acts make provision for the legal adoption of children under 21 years of age who have never married and for the registration of each adoption by the Government Statist. An amending Act of 1942 (No. 4903) authorises 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 1942, the adoptions of 2,385 male and 3,162 female children were registered. During 1942 adoptions registered comprised 344 male and 420 female children.

Children legitimated. Provision for the legitimation of children is made in the Births, Deaths, and Marriages Acts. Up to the end of 1942 advantage was taken of these Acts to legitimate 4,606 children, of whom 279 were registered in the years 1903 to 1909, 1,347 in 1910 to 1919, 1,374 in 1920 to 1929, 1,019 in 1930 to 1939, 145 in 1940, and 228 in 1941.

Legitimations during 1942 numbered 214.

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 1942 the numbers of legitimations in the several States and in New Zealand during that year were as follows:— Victoria, 15·9; New South Wales, 18·1; Queensland, 31·3; South Australia, 16·3; Western Australia, 39·4; Tasmania, 34·9; and New Zealand, 32·1.

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 1942.

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
1938	30,344	647	654	1,301	4·29
1939	30,493	611	538	1,149	3·77
1940	31,962	571	535	1,106	3·46
1941	34,406	574	563	1,137	3·30
1942	35,927	706	639	1,345	3·74

There has been an appreciable decrease in the proporiton of ex-nuptial births to total births in Victoria since 1913, the percentage having fallen from 6·03 in that year to 3·74 in 1942.

The percentages in the various States and in New Zealand in 1942 were as follows:—Victoria, 3·74; New South Wales, 3·88; Queensland, 4·72; South Australia, 2·99; Western Australia, 3·43; Tasmania, 3·51; Australia, 3·86; and New Zealand, 3·99.

DEATHS.

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

VICTORIA—DEATHS IN EACH QUARTER, 1855 TO 1942.

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
1938 ..	18,955	10,026	8,929	4,016	4,605	5,774	4,560	10·15
1939 ..	20,169	10,779	9,390	4,320	5,048	5,982	4,819	10·72
1940 ..	20,293	10,930	9,363	4,427	4,841	6,150	4,875	10·70
1941 ..	20,522	10,856	9,666	4,194	4,851	6,197	5,280	10·59
1942 ..	21,973	11,520	10,453	4,521	5,475	6,729	5,248	11·18

* 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. 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 its maximum since 1923. There was little fluctuation during the four years following 1934, but the rates for 1939, 1940, 1941, and 1942 were high, being 10·72, 10·70, 10·59, and 11·18 respectively.

The number of deaths in 1942 was 21,973, which was 2,263 more than the average of the preceding five years.

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

In 1942 there were 1,102 male to every 1,000 female deaths, the average for the last five years being 1,132. The corresponding proportion of male to female births in the quinquennium was 1,059. The natural increase for the five-year period was 61,220 (males, 29,796 ; females, 31,424).

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

DEATH RATES—AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND, 1938 TO 1942.

Year.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1938	10·15	9·59	9·19	9·35	9·20	9·71	9·64	9·71
1939	10·72	9·75	9·40	9·63	9·32	10·19	9·93	9·20
1940	10·70	9·43	9·03	9·57	9·64	9·99	9·75	9·25
1941	10·59	9·75	9·21	10·47	10·19	10·76	10·02	9·84
1942	11·18	10·32	9·30	11·03	10·80	10·12	10·49	10·60

In 1942 the death rate in England and Wales was 11·6—non-civilian deaths excluded.

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, cities and principal towns outside Greater Melbourne, and the remainder of the State, for the five-year periods 1928 to 1932 and 1933 to 1937, and for the years 1940, 1941, and 1942.

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.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1928–1932.	1933–1937.	1940.	1941.	1942.
Greater Melbourne—										
Melbourne ..	1,091	1,120	1,209	1,186	1,283	11·57	12·42	13·33	12·92	13·01
Box Hill ..	125	155	176	181	223	8·81	9·99	10·45	10·34	11·64
Braybrook (Part)	56	58	83	92	81	6·70	6·57	8·51	8·76	6·81
Brighton ..	272	316	386	395	382	9·22	10·33	11·40	11·20	10·21
Brunswick ..	532	560	621	595	638	9·57	10·30	11·22	10·64	11·15
Camberwell ..	430	494	627	701	718	8·87	9·49	9·72	10·18	10·16
Caulfield ..	552	656	755	761	820	8·72	9·87	10·61	10·51	10·56
Chelsea	63	83	92	96	102	9·24	12·02	12·60	12·75	12·99
Coburg	287	317	385	372	391	8·06	8·19	9·28	8·63	8·41
Collingwood ..	363	377	428	373	396	11·36	12·47	14·34	12·49	13·07
Essendon ..	429	484	550	545	577	9·30	10·46	11·40	11·10	11·44
Fitzroy	446	452	496	488	552	13·77	14·74	16·31	16·03	17·86
Footscray ..	402	425	504	524	514	8·79	9·12	9·83	9·24	8·43
Hawthorn ..	357	409	462	475	497	10·67	11·90	12·75	12·57	12·47
Heidelberg (Part)	193	210	241	287	290	7·91	8·66	9·37	10·95	9·90
Kew	220	246	263	293	312	9·08	10·06	10·08	10·62	10·33
Malvern ..	404	489	552	551	628	9·28	11·07	12·00	11·81	13·16
Moorabbin ..	130	157	199	160	205	7·55	8·39	9·57	7·41	8·91
Mordialloc ..	85	94	133	123	139	8·86	9·67	12·70	11·42	12·03
Northcote ..	369	408	435	463	484	8·77	9·59	10·03	10·58	10·83
Oakleigh ..	101	115	127	138	153	8·72	9·49	9·84	10·41	11·05
Port Melbourne ..	137	156	121	163	169	10·26	12·08	9·10	11·85	11·90
Prahran ..	628	662	732	788	820	11·96	12·56	13·24	13·92	14·00
Preston	242	267	300	321	383	8·20	8·29	8·78	9·11	10·42
Richmond ..	464	465	477	519	520	11·20	11·73	11·96	12·96	12·70
Sandringham ..	161	177	227	235	255	9·08	9·63	11·46	11·44	11·43
South Melbourne..	486	507	550	541	611	11·09	11·78	12·68	12·44	13·84
St. Kilda ..	452	538	682	708	692	9·84	11·09	13·22	13·41	12·72
Williamstown ..	211	219	263	255	283	9·63	9·81	11·34	10·74	11·41
Cities and Principal Towns outside Greater Melbourne										
Ballarat ..	475	501	543	574	587	12·28	13·23	14·04	14·70	14·89
Bendigo ..	421	441	432	441	519	13·08	14·93	14·30	14·45	16·87
Geelong ..	455	463	485	498	565	10·40	11·70	11·95	12·17	13·73
Ararat ..	†	63	58	67	60	..	12·79	11·62	13·59	12·07
Castlemaine ..	73	64	57	66	78	10·61	12·20	10·69	11·83	13·45
Colac	†	54	65	72	65	..	10·42	11·67	12·81	11·50
Echuca	†	49	55	50	64	..	11·01	12·30	11·22	14·38
Hamilton ..	59	62	60	75	63	10·35	10·60	9·97	12·35	10·33
Horsham ..	†	62	61	62	58	..	11·72	10·95	11·13	10·38
Maryborough ..	59	73	64	88	81	10·66	12·98	11·07	15·13	13·82
Mildura ..	59	80	79	96	99	9·05	11·74	11·21	13·71	13·56
Sale	†	54	46	58	49	..	12·59	10·60	13·41	10·94
Shepparton ..	55	77	72	80	107	9·96	13·29	11·76	13·05	17·29
Stawell ..	51	53	73	59	67	10·87	10·98	15·05	12·13	13·73
Swan Hill ..	†	†	51	41	47	..	..	10·30	8·45	9·63
Wangaratta ..	†	62	65	59	62	..	12·81	13·10	11·75	11·88
Warrnambool ..	91	97	96	91	106	10·46	10·81	10·36	9·77	11·35
Wonthaggi ..	47	50	60	42	58	7·45	8·17	9·22	6·49	9·08
Summary—										
Greater Melbourne	9,688	10,616	12,076	12,329	13,118	9·74	10·56	11·37	11·29	11·46
Cities and Principal Towns outside Greater Melbourne	1,845	2,305	2,422	2,519	2,735	11·22	12·45	12·40	12·82	13·78
Remainder of State	5,311	5,469	5,795	5,674	6,120	8·53	8·44	9·07	8·75	9·82
Victoria.. ..	16,844	18,390	20,293	20,522	21,973	9·45	10·00	10·70	10·59	11·18

† Included in Remainder of State.

Victorian Year-Book, 1942–43.

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 1942 :—

Deaths in hospitals and other public institutions.

VICTORIA—PROPORTION OF DEATHS OF RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN AREAS OCCURRING IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, 1942.

Area.	Number of Deaths of Residents occurring in—		Percentage of Deaths of Residents occurring in—			Deaths of Residents occurring in Public Institutions per 1,000 of Population.
	Public Hospitals.	Other Public Institutions.	Public Hospitals.	Other Public Institutions.	Total Public Institutions.	
GREATER MELBOURNE—						
Melbourne ..	431	128	33·59	9·98	43·57	5·67
Box Hill.. ..	38	15	17·04	6·73	23·77	2·77
Braybrook (Part) ..	31	7	38·27	8·64	46·91	3·19
Brighton ..	47	23	12·30	6·03	18·33	1·87
Brunswick ..	161	42	25·24	6·58	31·82	3·55
Camberwell ..	111	37	15·46	5·15	20·61	2·09
Caulfield	128	49	15·61	5·98	21·59	2·28
Chelsea	33	4	32·35	3·92	36·27	4·71
Coburg	81	19	20·72	4·86	25·58	2·15
Collingwood ..	136	37	34·34	9·35	43·69	5·71
Essendon ..	117	37	20·28	6·41	26·69	3·05
Fitzroy	188	65	34·06	11·77	45·83	8·19
Footscray ..	172	33	33·46	6·42	39·88	3·36
Hawthorn ..	93	28	18·71	5·64	24·35	3·04
Heidelberg (Part) ..	65	46	22·41	15·87	38·28	3·79
Kew	44	22	14·10	7·05	21·15	2·19
Malvern	90	36	14·33	5·73	20·06	2·64
Moorabbin ..	56	17	27·32	8·29	35·61	3·17
Mordialloc ..	33	10	23·74	7·20	30·94	3·72
Northcote ..	108	50	22·32	10·33	32·65	3·54
Oakleigh	27	22	17·65	14·38	32·03	3·54
Port Melbourne ..	63	18	37·28	10·65	47·93	5·70
Prahran	215	64	26·22	7·80	34·02	4·77
Preston	103	37	26·89	9·66	36·55	3·81
Richmond ..	162	40	31·15	7·70	38·85	4·93
Sandringham ..	50	10	19·61	3·92	23·53	2·69
South Melbourne ..	167	51	27·33	8·35	35·68	4·94
St. Kilda ..	155	49	22·40	7·08	29·48	3·75
Williamstown ..	92	12	32·51	4·24	36·75	4·19

VICTORIA—PROPORTION OF DEATHS OF RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN AREAS OCCURRING IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, 1942—*continued.*

Area.	Number of Deaths of Residents occurring in—		Percentage of Deaths of Residents occurring in—			Deaths of Residents occurring in Public Institutions per 1,000 of Population.
	Public Hospitals.	Other Public Institutions.	Public Hospitals.	Other Public Institutions.	Total Public Institutions.	
CITIES AND PRINCIPAL TOWNS OUTSIDE GREATER MELBOURNE—						
Ballarat	120	26	20·44	4·43	24·87	3·70
Bendigo	148	32	28·52	6·16	34·68	5·85
Geelong	133	22	23·54	3·89	27·43	3·77
Ararat	39	..	6·50	..	6·50	7·85
Castlemaine ..	28	11	35·90	14·10	50·00	6·72
Colac	25	3	38·46	4·62	43·08	4·96
Echuca	32	4	50·00	6·25	56·25	8·09
Hamilton ..	26	2	41·27	3·17	44·44	4·66
Horsham.. ..	22	..	37·93	..	37·93	3·94
Maryborough ..	30	5	37·04	6·17	43·21	5·97
Mildura	65	1	65·66	1·01	66·67	9·04
Sale	21	3	42·86	6·12	48·98	5·36
Shepparton ..	39	2	36·45	1·87	38·32	6·62
Stawell	31	1	46·27	1·49	47·76	6·56
Swan Hill ..	*	*	*	*	*	*
Wangaratta ..	30	1	48·39	1·61	50·00	5·94
Warrnambool ..	38	5	35·85	4·72	40·57	4·60
Wonthaggi ..	24	1	41·38	1·72	43·10	3·91
SUMMARY—						
Greater Melbourne	3,197	1,008	24·37	7·69	32·06	3·70
Cities and Principal Towns outside Greater Melbourne.. ..	851	119	31·12	4·35	35·47	4·89
Remainder of State	1,581	379	25·84	6·19	32·03	3·15
Victoria	5,629	1,506	25·62	6·85	32·47	3·63

* Not available.

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

——	1910–14.	1920–24.	1925–29.	1930–34.	1941.	1942.
Greater Melbourne ..	24·3	27·0	29·5	27·7	24·8	24·4
Remainder of State ..	17·0	21·2	23·7	26·3	24·6	27·4
Victoria	20·4	24·3	27·0	27·1	24·7	25·6

In 1942 the number of deaths in all public institutions was 7,135, of which 4,205 were of residents of Greater Melbourne.

The number of deaths in each metropolitan public institution in 1942 is given in the subjoined table :—

VICTORIA—DEATHS IN METROPOLITAN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, 1942.

Institution.	No. of Deaths.	Institution.	No. of Deaths.
HOSPITALS—GENERAL—		SANATORIA—	
Royal Melbourne	860	Heatherton	35
Alfred	687	Greenvale	42
Hamilton Russell Com-		Gresswell	7
munity	37		
Children's	376	Total Sanatoria.. ..	84
St. Vincent's	· 462		
St. Vincent's Intermediate..	14		
Austin	436		
Heidelberg House ..	107	BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS—	
Women's..	196	Melbourne (Cheltenham)	
Prince Henry's	252	Asylum	228
Infectious Diseases ..	134	Victorian Homes for Aged	
Queen Victoria	113	and Infirm	181
Jessie McPherson Com-		Convent. of Little Sisters of	
munity	27	the Poor	72
Williamstown	72	Old Colonists' Homes ..	1
Caulfield Convalescent ..	10		
Eye and Ear	10	Total Benevolent Institu-	
Police	2	tions	482
Total General Hospitals	3,795		
		FOUNDLING HOMES, REFUGES—	
		Broadmeadows	20
HOSPITALS—MENTAL— ..		The Haven, Fitzroy ..	9
Kew	122		
Mont Park	128	Total Refuges, &c. ..	29
Receiving House, Royal Park	91		
		Total Hospitals and other	
Total Mental Hospitals ..	341	Institutions	4,731

Of the 4,731 deaths in the above institutions, 2,709 were of males and 2,022 were of females.

In Greater Melbourne, in the decade 1933–42, there was an average of 10·89 deaths per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 15·76 in the decennium 1892–1901. The reduction in the rate represents a saving of approximately 51,000 lives in the last ten years. A comparison of the death rates from tubercular and certain other diseases for the period 1933–42 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.	1933–42.	Decrease.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	1,654	465	1,189
Other Tubercular Diseases ..	446	60	386
Typhoid Fever	293	4	289
Scarlet Fever	33	7	26
Measles	215	10	205
Diphtheria	196	37	159
Total	2,837	583	2,254

The figures show that the mortality from the six diseases mentioned declined by 79 per cent.—the decline representing a rate of 2,254 per million of the population.

The mortality from all causes showed a net decline of 4,870 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 38 in 1938–42—a reduction of 71 per cent. In other words, where 100 infants died in the earlier period, only 29 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, the remainder of the State, and the whole State, for various periods since 1879, are shown in the following table :—

VICTORIA—INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1880 TO 1942.

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
1938 ..	508	34·1	530	34·3	1,038	34·2
1939 ..	495	32·3	590	38·9	1,085	35·6
1940 ..	655	39·7	606	39·2	1,261	39·5
1941 ..	653	34·6	592	38·1	1,245	36·2
1942 ..	887	43·8	609	38·9	1,496	41·6

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

During the decade, 1933–42, the infantile death rate varied considerably. During each year of the period 1933 to 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. In 1939 the rate rose to 35·6, 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.

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

for the five-year periods 1928–32 and 1933–37, and for the years 1940, 1941, and 1942 were as follows :—

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

Municipality.	Annual Number of Deaths under One Year.					Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.				
	1928–1932.	1933–1937.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1928–1932.	1933–1937.	1940.	1941.	1942.
Greater Melbourne—										
Melbourne	86	55	67	48	66	63·95	48·45	53·30	36·84	44·03
Box Hill	10	8	3	11	15	37·04	38·25	11·24	32·35	36·23
Braybrook (Part) ..	6	8	10	6	10	33·19	49·68	52·63	26·43	36·76
Brighton	15	11	17	16	20	39·11	30·15	33·40	24·54	31·70
Brunswick	60	32	42	38	51	61·63	40·23	50·42	38·35	45·45
Camberwell	30	26	33	48	53	34·68	33·74	26·96	34·90	36·35
Caulfield	39	27	39	38	51	41·87	33·47	37·25	31·43	39·63
Chelsea ..	6	5	4	4	8	47·32	43·12	28·78	27·21	39·40
Coburg ..	33	26	25	30	40	44·47	40·38	33·29	34·44	43·48
Collingwood	38	28	27	17	30	71·78	57·27	54·33	31·83	54·55
Essendon	33	23	22	39	34	42·83	40·51	28·53	43·53	36·63
Fitzroy ..	41	26	33	19	39	79·33	56·98	62·03	37·33	67·36
Footscray	41	29	48	29	35	47·34	40·99	61·38	29·65	35·49
Hawthorn	16	18	22	24	37	37·23	44·31	42·64	36·92	52·85
Heidelberg (Part)	20	11	15	15	35	49·37	32·37	34·72	28·35	62·05
Kew ..	15	9	18	8	20	43·66	30·32	53·73	18·65	43·48
Malvern	19	17	15	17	35	38·91	35·71	27·52	27·42	50·00
Moorabbin	14	14	17	13	24	34·17	37·93	35·79	26·00	50·85
Mordialloc	8	7	6	9	6	55·48	54·55	33·71	41·28	24·10
Northcote	38	24	27	25	42	51·73	41·65	40·91	34·20	52·63
Oakleigh	12	9	1	12	7	46·18	43·36	3·95	39·21	22·72
Port Melbourne ..	16	11	4	10	9	71·24	56·91	20·52	46·30	37·50
Prahran	41	29	19	31	36	58·62	46·44	23·81	34·10	35·43
Preston	31	23	32	29	46	44·08	40·29	45·78	38·15	53·30
Richmond	46	29	30	24	33	65·53	49·27	46·88	33·75	47·14
Sandringham	10	9	11	11	12	35·95	37·04	34·38	30·90	30·85
South Melbourne ..	47	30	19	32	35	70·87	54·77	32·15	53·07	52·95
St. Kilda	22	22	34	34	39	41·67	43·78	51·05	41·16	45·24
Williamstown	19	13	15	16	19	44·44	38·63	37·59	33·90	44·18
Cities and Principal Towns outside Greater Melbourne—										
Ballarat	34	25	33	23	42	51·84	41·62	53·48	34·33	59·91
Bendigo	33	22	24	24	30	60·00	40·32	41·52	40·00	52·08
Geelong ..	49	34	30	38	34	58·56	48·77	40·49	52·56	41·21
Ararat ..	†	4	2	2	1	..	40·85	21·05	19·80	10·00
Castlemaine	5	4	1	3	4	47·80	38·62	10·10	30·93	36·36
Colac ..	†	5	4	4	3	..	45·63	30·53	30·30	23·26
Echuca ..	†	6	2	3	6	..	62·50	21·98	36·14	63·83
Hamilton	5	4	2	6	4	34·63	37·61	15·50	43·17	29·20
Horsham	†	5	1	6	2	..	40·95	8·06	49·59	16·53
Maryborough	5	5	5	6	4	45·84	41·59	43·48	58·25	40·82
Mildura	9	8	6	4	9	47·83	37·68	24·20	17·09	40·72
Sale ..	†	2	3	2	2	..	27·97	22·56	21·98	22·99
Shepparton	8	8	9	4	12	54·16	54·50	41·86	23·67	60·30
Stawell ..	3	4	4	1	3	28·26	47·06	37·04	14·29	36·58
Swan Hill	†	†	12	10	5	..	..	111·11	128·20	54·35
Wangaratta	†	7	10	5	5	..	63·91	75·19	43·10	39·06
Warrnambool	9	6	3	4	14	52·33	34·32	16·04	18·96	68·97
Wonthaggi	8	5	1	3	8	53·67	50·66	12·82	27·78	91·95
Summary—										
Greater Melbourne	812	579	655	653	887	50·94	42·55	39·69	34·61	43·78
Cities and Principal Towns outside Greater Melbourne	168	154	152	148	188	53·24	43·95	38·67	38·48	47·12
Remainder of State	535	437	454	444	421	42·12	38·24	39·38	37·97	36·06
Victoria..	1,515	1,170	1,261	1,245	1,496	47·65	41·00	39·45	36·19	41·64

† 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 1942, comprised 49 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 20·9 in 1938–42. Between 1910–14 and 1938–42, the mortality of infants " one week and under one month " decreased by 52 per cent. and that of infants " one month and under one year " by 73 per cent. Victoria, lost between the ages of one month and one year, 64 out of every 1,000 children born in 1900–04, 33 in 1915–19, and eleven in 1938–42.

On the average of the years, 1938–42, the total rate for males was higher than that for females by 27·9 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 1942 :—

VICTORIA—INFANTILE MORTALITY AT CERTAIN AGES, 1900 TO 1942.

Period.	Deaths Under One Year per 1,000 Births.							
	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	Total under 1 Year.	Males.	Females.
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
1938	20·8	3·9	3·2	2·3	4·0	34·2	38·8	29·3
1939	20·7	5·4	2·8	2·2	4·5	35·6	39·2	31·8
1940	20·9	5·6	4·6	3·5	4·9	39·5	44·9	33·7
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

VICTORIA—INFANTILE MORTALITY AT CERTAIN AGES, MALES AND FEMALES, 1942.

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	416	22·61	49·34	311	17·75	47·48
1 week and under 1 month	139	7·55	16·65	131	7·47	20·00
1 month and under 3 months	84	4·56	9·99	71	4·05	10·84
3 months and under 6 months	81	4·40	9·63	59	3·37	9·01
6 months and under 12 months	121	6·58	14·39	83	4·74	12·67
Total under one year	841	45·70	100·00	655	37·38	100·00

Infantile death rates from certain causes. An examination of the principal causes of infantile mortality over a period of years and at various ages reveals the direction in which an 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 various periods since 1890 and for 1942 are shown in the next two tables.

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.	1940.	1941.	1942.
Epidemic, Endemic, and Infectious Diseases	12·41	7·31	4·87	3·57	3·47	1·37	2·95
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia	11·37	8·13	6·86	6·08	5·13	4·56	6·21
Diarrhœal Diseases	29·66	24·62	16·13	9·85	1·78	1·08	2·39
Congenital Malformations (157)	3·45	4·86	4·38	4·43	4·54	4·04	4·62
Congenital Debility (158)	22·24	12·74	13·09	6·77	·97	1·42	1·20
Prematurity (159)	13·13	14·99	15·17	15·34	12·92	11·86	13·64
Injury at birth (160)	21·51	12·77	7·98	2·57	3·38	4·62	3·48
Early Infancy (161)				3·42	3·94	4·48	3·70
Other diseases				4·42	2·60	1·63	2·87
Violence	3·16	2·47	1·07	·80	·72	1·13	·58
Total, all Causes	116·93	87·89	69·55	57·25	39·45	36·19	41·64

VICTORIA—INFANTILE DEATH RATES, AT VARIOUS AGES. FROM CERTAIN CAUSES, 1942.

Cause of Death.	Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.								
	Age Period.								Average Annual Rate, 1938–42.
	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.	Total.	Males.	Females.	
Epidemic, Endemic, and Infectious Diseases ..	·08	·17	·76	·58	1·36	2·95	3·21	2·68	1·97
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia ..	·50	1·48	1·20	1·36	1·67	6·21	7·39	4·97	4·93
Diarrhoeal Diseases ..	·03	·39	·50	·72	·75	2·39	2·50	2·28	1·61
Congenital Malformations (157)	2·09	·86	·78	·28	·61	4·62	4·95	4·28	4·19
Congenital Debility (158)	·50	·33	·20	·06	·11	1·20	1·58	·80	1·34
Prematurity (159) ..	10·83	2·56	·19	·06	..	13·64	14·45	12·78	12·48
Injury at Birth (160) ..	2·84	·50	·08	·03	·03	3·48	4·29	2·63	3·66
Early Infancy (161) ..	3·01	·50	·16	·03	..	3·70	3·86	3·54	4·03
Other Diseases ..	·20	·70	·36	·61	1·00	2·87	3·04	2·68	2·52
Violence	·16	·03	·08	·17	·14	·58	·43	·74	·82
Total, all Causes ..	20·24	7·52	4·31	3·90	5·67	41·64	45·70	37·38	37·55
Average Annual Rate, 1938–42	20·93	5·33	3·74	3·03	4·52	37·55	42·00	32·83	..

The mortality of infants under one year from pre-natal causes (malformations, congenital debility, prematurity, injury at birth, &c.) was 25·7 per 1,000 births in the period 1938–42 and represented 68 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 1942 was 26·6 of which 72 per cent. occurred in the first week of life.

The mortality from the chief preventable diseases—infectious, respiratory, and diarrhœal—has declined from 40·1 per 1,000 births in 1901–10 to 27·9 in 1911–20 and 8·5 in 1938–42. Deaths from diarrhœal diseases declined from 24·6 per 1,000 births in 1901–10 to 1·6 in 1938–42, the main respiratory diseases from 8·1 to 4·9 and the infectious from 7·3 to 2·0. It will thus be seen that, since the beginning of the century, mortality of infants from diarrhœal diseases has been reduced by 93 per cent. ; the main respiratory diseases by 40 per cent. ; and the infectious by 73 per cent. Of recent years respiratory diseases have displaced diarrhœal as the most fatal of the preventable infantile diseases. With few exceptions the mortality rate of males from infantile diseases is consistently higher than that of females.

The following table shows the number of deaths from the principal causes, and the death rate of infants under one month, for Greater Melbourne and the whole State, for the years 1938 to 1942 :—

VICTORIA—DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE MONTH, 1938 TO 1942.

GREATER MELBOURNE AND WHOLE STATE.

Cause of Death.	Greater Melbourne.					Victoria.				
	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.
Epidemic, Endemic, and Infectious Diseases	1	3	3	4	3	1	7	4	5	9
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia	30	26	25	20	50	37	45	48	34	71
Diarrhœal Diseases	..	3	16	3	9	2	6	18	4	15
Malformations, &c. (157)	32	37	47	52	60	83	74	88	92	106
Wasting Diseases (158)	10	9	2	13	15	32	34	24	38	30
Prematurity	156	184	215	225	268	339	371	408	399	481
Injury at Birth	42	56	65	89	73	80	120	106	157	120
Early Infancy (161)	76	41	55	70	80	139	101	120	148	126
Other Diseases	13	15	10	7	23	25	30	24	14	32
Violence	7	2	4	4	5	12	7	6	5	7
Total, all Causes	367	376	442	487	586	750	795	846	896	997
Deaths per 1,000 Births	24·6	24·5	26·8	25·8	28·9	24·7	26·1	26·5	26·1	27·7

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 the (Commonwealth) Maternity Allowance Act, cases are notified to registrars. After careful enquiry 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, 1933 TO 1942.

Year.	Percentage of Stillbirths to—		Deaths of Infants under One Year per 1,000 Births.			
			Exclusive of Stillbirths.			*Inclusive of Stillbirths.
	Living Births.	All Births.	Under One Month.	One Month and under Twelve Months.	Total under One Year.	
1933 ..	2·9	2·8	27·6	12·8	40·4	67·1
1934 ..	3·1	3·0	27·7	16·9	44·6	73·6
1935 ..	3·0	2·9	27·6	13·6	41·2	69·5
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

* 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, 70 in every 1,000 ex-nuptial infants died within a year, as against 38 in every 1,000 nuptial children. The proportion of ex-nuptial children who died before the age of one year is, therefore, 1·8 times that of nuptial children. In the year 1942 the mortality rate of nuptial infants was 40·1 per 1,000 births. Births and deaths of ex-nuptial children numbered 1,345 and 109 respectively, the death rate being thus 81·0 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.	1942.	1904–08.	1914–18.	1924–28.	1942.
Bronchitis, Broncho-Pneumonia, Pneumonia	6·9	6·1	5·9	5·8	18·6	12·5	13·0	16·4
Diarrhœal Diseases..	19·8	14·2	8·9	2·0	72·6	48·6	23·1	12·6
Prematurity, Congenital Malformations, Marasmus, &c.* ..	30·3	27·2	25·0	19·1	52·1	64·9	46·9	29·7
Other Causes ..	18·3	15·3	14·7	13·2	58·7	36·6	29·3	22·3
Total, all Causes	75·3	62·8	54·5	40·1	202·0	162·6	112·3	81·0

* 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, 5·5 died from diarrhœal diseases within a year, as compared with 1·5 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, bronchopneumonia, and pneumonia) for ex-nuptial and nuptial children were 11·4 and 4·7 per 1,000 births respectively.

In 1942 pre-natal causes (malformations, congenital debility, prematurity, injury at birth, &c.) accounted for 56 deaths, or 51 per cent. of the total deaths of ex-nuptial infants.

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

INFANTILE DEATH RATE—AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND, 1938 TO 1942.

Year.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1938	34·21	41·84	41·28	30·50	33·80	39·74	38·26	35·63
1939	35·58	41·02	35·48	34·93	40·84	40·57	38·23	31·14
1940	39·45	39·02	35·32	35·54	44·18	35·24	38·43	30·36
1941	36·19	43·77	39·13	32·47	35·28	48·98	39·72	29·74
1942	41·64	40·17	34·73	39·72	36·86	42·41	39·49	28·71

In the year 1942, the infantile mortality rates recorded for the Australian States showed that Queensland had the lowest rate, and Tasmania the highest.

The infantile deaths per 1,000 births in the following capital cities in 1941 (latest figures available) were :—Melbourne, 34·6 ; Sydney, 42·1 ; Brisbane, 40·3 ; Adelaide, 37·9 ; Perth, 35·2 ; Hobart, 48·9 ; and Wellington, 35·0.

Deaths of children under 5. years. In 1942 the deaths of male and of female children in Victoria under 5 years of age numbered 1,038 and 835 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, 1940 TO 1942.

Ages.	1940.			1941.			1942.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 1 year	736	525	1,261	724	521	1,245	841	655	1,496
1 year	79	50	129	63	46	109	96	100	196
2 years	33	26	59	41	31	72	40	39	79
3 ,,	28	23	51	37	21	58	28	26	54
4 ,,	23	17	40	27	22	49	33	15	48
5 to 9	83	68	151	106	64	170	98	78	176
10 ,, 14	86	66	152	82	58	140	93	51	144
15 ,, 19	130	89	219	157	92	249	128	90	218
20 ,, 24	182	155	337	164	128	292	121	144	265
25 ,, 29	186	145	331	140	163	303	119	176	295
30 ,, 34	186	160	346	167	155	322	156	173	329
35 ,, 39	242	182	424	237	193	430	200	219	419
40 ,, 44	288	263	551	294	234	528	290	236	526
45 ,, 49	500	373	873	443	370	813	473	362	835
50 ,, 54	644	477	1,121	646	490	1,136	678	500	1,178
55 ,, 59	792	513	1,305	825	592	1,417	823	587	1,410
60 ,, 64	993	743	1,736	994	783	1,777	1,066	757	1,823
65 ,, 69	1,168	989	2,157	1,171	943	2,114	1,278	1,046	2,324
70 ,, 74	1,464	1,248	2,712	1,452	1,292	2,744	1,526	1,422	2,948
75 ,, 79	1,520	1,446	2,966	1,487	1,446	2,933	1,587	1,576	3,163
80 ,, 84	1,038	1,083	2,121	1,029	1,177	2,206	1,173	1,232	2,405
85 ,, 89	390	495	885	437	597	1,034	511	688	1,199
90 ,, 94	104	190	294	101	191	292	134	214	348
95 ..	8	11	19	8	24	32	7	22	29
96 ..	5	11	16	7	7	14	7	17	24
97 ..	5	4	9	7	10	17	6	10	16
98 ..	4	3	7	4	6	10	5	6	11
99 ..	5	2	7	..	5	5	..	4	4
100 ..	2	3	5	3	2	5	1	3	4
101 ..	..	..	..	1	2	3	..	..	..
102 ..	3	..	3	..	1	1	..	..	..
103 ..	1	2	3	1	..	1	..	..	..
104 ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
105 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2
106 ..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
108 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
113 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Unknown	1	..	1	1	..	1	1	2	3
Total ..	10,930	9,363	20,293	10,856	9,666	20,522	11,520	10,453	21,973

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

Of the 62,788 persons who died in Victoria during the last three years 11,033 (or approximately 18 per cent.) were aged 80 years and upwards, and 31—fourteen males and seventeen females—were stated as having attained or passed the age of 100 years. In 1888 deaths of persons aged 80 years and over represented about 3 per cent. of the total deaths in that year.

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

Causes of death. The causes of death in Victoria and Greater Melbourne according to the international abridged classification (1938 revision) for the year 1942 are shown in the following table:—

International Abridged Classification. (Detailed List Numbers in Parentheses.)	Victoria.		Greater Melbourne.	
	Number.	Deaths per Million of Population.	Number.	Deaths per Million of Population.
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers (1, 2) ..	3	1·5	1	·9
2. Plague (3)	..	..	..	..
3. Scarlet Fever (8)	8	4·1	4	3·5
4. Whooping Cough (9)	75	38·1	45	39·3
5. Diphtheria (10)	47	23·9	23	20·1
6. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System (13)	791	402·3	558	487·5
7A. Tuberculosis of the Menignes and Central Nervous System (14) ..	26	13·2	11	9·6
7B. All other forms of Tuberculosis (15–22) ..	62	31·5	41	35·8
8. Malaria (28)	2	1·0	2	1·7
9. Syphilis (30)	130	66·1	95	83·0
10A. Influenza with Respiratory Complications (33A)	68	34·6	25	21·8
10B. Influenza without Respiratory Complications (33B)	68	34·6	28	24·5
11. Smallpox (34)	..	..	..	..
12. Measles (35)	72	36·6	35	30·6
13. Typhus Fever (39)	..	..	..	..
14. Other Infectious or Parasitic Diseases ..	226	115·0	150	131·1
15. Cancer and other Malignant Tumours (45–55)	2,664	1,355·1	1,681	1,468·8
16. Non-malignant Tumours or Tumours of undetermined Nature (56, 57) ..	114	58·0	64	55·9
17. Chronic Rheumatism and Gout (59, 60) ..	61	31·0	30	26·2
18. Diabetes Mellitus (61)	417	212·1	240	209·7
19. Chronic or Acute Alcoholism (77) ..	11	5·6	11	9·6
20. Vitamin-deficiency Diseases, other General Diseases, Diseases of the Blood, and Chronic Poisonings	264	134·3	152	132·8
21. Meningitis (non-meningococcal) and Diseases of the Medulla and Spinal Cord (81, 82)	113	57·5	73	63·8
22. Intra-cranial Lesions of Vascular Origin (83)	2,016	1,025·5	1,243	1,086·1
23. Other Diseases of the Nervous System and Sense Organs..	197	100·2	108	94·4
24. Diseases of the Heart (90–95) ..	6,108	3,106·8	3,530	3,084·3
25. Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	722	367·2	456	398·4
26A. Acute Bronchitis (106 A and C)	41	20·9	19	16·6
26B. Chronic Bronchitis (106 B and D) ..	138	70·2	69	60·3
27. Pneumonia and Broncho-pneumonia (107–109)	1,435	729·9	930	812·6
28. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	311	158·2	175	152·9
29A. Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years of age) (119)	104	52·9	64	55·9
29B. Diarrhoea and Enteritis (two years and over) (120)	61	31·0	29	25·3
30. Appendicitis (121)	92	46·8	59	51·6
31A. Cirrhosis of Liver (124)	115	58·5	83	72·5
31B. Other Diseases of the Liver and Billary Passages (125–127)	136	69·2	78	68·2
32A. Hernia, Intestinal Obstruction (122) ..	180	91·6	106	92·6
32B. Other Diseases of the Digestive System ..	312	158·7	196	171·3
33. Nephritis (130–132)	1,350	686·7	853	745·3
34. Other Diseases of the Genito-urinary System (133–139)	392	199·4	227	198·3
35. Puerperal Infection (140, 147) ..	50	25·4	32	28·0
36. Other Diseases of Pregnancy, Childbirth and the Puerperium (141–146, 148–150) ..	59	30·0	34	29·7
37. Diseases of the Skin, Cellular Tissue, Bones, and Organs of Movement (151–156) ..	55	28·0	32	28·0
38. Congenital malformations and Debility, Premature Birth, and Diseases peculiar to the First Year of Life (157–161)	983	500·0	568	496·3

International Abridged Classification. (Detailed List Numbers in Parentheses.)	Deaths—1942.			
	Victoria.		Greater Melbourne.	
	Number.	Deaths per Million of Population.	Number.	Deaths per Million of Population.
39. Senility, Old-age (162) ..	778	395·7	347	303·2
40. Suicide (163, 164)	130	66·1	75	65·5
41. Homicide (165–168)	11	5·6	9	7·9
42. Automobile Accidents (all motor-driven road vehicles (170))	350	178·0	235	205·3
43. Other Violent or Accidental Deaths	568	288·9	282	246·4
44. Causes of Death Ill-defined, Unknown, or Unspecified (199, 200)	57	29·0	10	8·7
	21,973	11,176·5	13,118	11,461·8

Typhoid Fever.   In 1942 deaths from typhoid fever numbered 3, being equivalent to a rate of 1·5 per million of population, as compared with rates of 0·5 in 1941, 1·6 in 1940, 4 in 1939, 3 in 1938, 31 in 1920–24, 108 in 1905–09, and 301 in 1895–99.   Cases of typhoid fever reported in 1942 numbered 16, or 8 per million of population, as against 259 in 1920–24, and 2,884 in 1895–99.

Scarlet fever.   Scarlet fever, which has been steadily increasing since 1938, reached the highest incidence in recent years in 1941, but both the case fatality and the mortality per million of population are now very low.

In 1942 the deaths from scarlet fever numbered 8, which corresponded to a rate of 4 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 8 in 1941, 8 in 1940, 5 in 1939, 5 in 1938, and 3 in 1937. During 1942 there were 3,150 cases reported as against 5,350 in 1941, 4,363 in 1940, 3,020 in 1939, and 1,714 in 1938.   For the five years mentioned the deaths were less than 1 per cent. of the cases.   Forty-four per cent. of these deaths were of children under 10 years of age.

Whooping cough.   Whooping cough was responsible for 75 deaths in 1942, which equalled a rate of 38 per million of the population at all ages, as compared with rates of 7 in 1941, 63 in 1940, 1 in 1939, and 3 in 1938.   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 43 of the deaths were of infants under 1 year, and all except four 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 1938 to 1942, 50 per cent. of those who died were under 5 years, and 88 per cent. were under 10 years of age.

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

DIPHTHERIA IN VICTORIA AND GREATER MELBOURNE, 1895 TO 1942.

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
1938	1,824	97·7	36	1·9	2·0
1939	1,617	85·9	42	2·2	2·6
1940	1,365	72.0	26	1·4	1·9
1941	2,702	139·5	69	3·6	2·6
1942	1,308	66·5	47	2·4	3·6
GREATER MELBOURNE.					
1895–99	748	162·1	113	24·6	15·1
1900–04	686	136·9	58	11·6	8·5
1905–09	758	140·8	46	8·5	6·1
1910–14	2,343	374·3	114	18·3	4·9
1915–19	2,864	402·6	127	17·9	4·4
1920–24	2,555	314·6	78	9·7	3·1
1925–29	1,843	191·1	52	5·4	2·8
1930–34	3,151	315·9	68	6·8	2·1
1935–39	1,864	182·4	36	3·5	1·9
1938	962	93·4	13	1·3	1·4
1939	915	87.9	23	2·2	2·5
1940	824	77·6	17	1·6	2·1
1941	1,815	166·2	47	4·3	2·6
1942	718	62·7	23	2·0	3·2

The cases of diphtheria which occurred in the metropolitan area, the three principal cities outside Greater Melbourne and 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 1940, 1941, and 1942 are given in the subjoined table :—

VICTORIA—CASES OF DIPHTHERIA.

Locality.	Reported Cases of Diphtheria.					Annual Cases per 10,000 of Population.			
	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1910–19.	1940.	1941.	1942.
Greater Melbourne	962	915	824	1,815	718	39·3	7·8	16·6	6·3
Ballarat	38	26	11	9	26	24·3	2·9	2·3	6·6
Bendigo	19	53	32	66	80	84·6	10·6	21·6	26·0
Geelong	157	116	51	101	21	43·4	12·6	24·7	5·1
Remainder of State	648	507	447	711	463	25·7	6·2	9·7	6·5

Tuberculosis (all forms).   The number of deaths ascribed to tuberculosis during 1942 was 879, the rate per million of population being 447. The lowest rate for Victoria is 409, recorded in 1938.

Death rates from tuberculosis of the respiratory system.   The deaths from tuberculosis of the respiratory system in 1942 numbered 791—460 being of males and 331 of females—and equalled a rate of 402 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 397 in 1941, 383 in 1940, 402 in 1939, 362 in 1938, 660 in 1918–22, 855 in 1908–12, and 1,365 in 1890–92. In 1942 tuberculosis of the respiratory system was responsible for 90 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.				
	Year.					Year.				
	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.
0–9	1	3	9	11	8	2	4	5	5	3
10–14	..	..	..	..	1	2	2	3	5	2
15–19	4	5	8	8	8	22	16	20	19	14
20–24	13	23	19	25	17	41	42	34	32	37
25–29	25	22	26	22	24	49	51	44	48	58
30–34	27	32	31	32	28	49	47	38	32	46
35–39	42	35	39	46	31	26	31	26	32	37
40–44	36	54	39	34	38	30	24	28	18	22
45–49	48	52	54	48	55	14	24	13	21	22
50–54	31	49	45	57	61	17	16	16	21	14
55–59	46	48	47	53	61	14	14	11	25	.11
60–64	32	39	45	54	46	12	10	13	14	12
65–69	31	34	32	39	43	12	13	12	11	19
70 and over ..	34	37	41	40	39	16	29	28	17	34
Unknown ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	371	433	436	469	460	306	323	291	300	331

For the year 1942, the average age of those who died from tuberculosis of the respiratory system was 49·9 years for males and 40·9 years for females.

Tubercular diseases (tuberculosis of the respiratory system excepted). In 1942 there occurred in Victoria 88 deaths from tubercular diseases (excluding tuberculosis of the respiratory system). This number represented a rate of 45 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 55 in 1941, 44 in 1940, 48 in 1939, 47 in 1938; 134 in 1918–22, 182 in 1908–12, and 379 in 1890–92.

Tubercular
death rates in In earlier periods, the death rate from tuberculosis was
Melbourne,   considerably higher in the Metropolis and the mining centres
Ballarat,
Bendigo, and   of Ballarat and Bendigo—Bendigo in particular—than in
Geelong.   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	·4	·8	·8	6·9	5·6	11·5	5·0
1938 ..	4·4	4·2	9·3	2·3	·6	1·0	..	·5	5·0	5·2	9·3	2·8
1939 ..	4·6	7·5	7·3	4·7	·5	·5	·3	1·0	5·1	8·0	7·6	5·7
1940 ..	4·5	5·9	8·3	3·9	·4	·3	·3	·5	4·9	6·2	8·6	4·4
1941 ..	4·8	5·6	7·2	2·7	·6	·8	·3	·2	5·4	6·4	7·5	2·9
1942. ..	4·9	3·3	7·8	5·1	·4	·5	·3	·7	5·3	3·8	8·1	5·8

† Not calculated.

Influenza.   The deaths from influenza in 1942 numbered 136. This
corresponded to a rate of 69 per million of the population
as compared with rates of 35 in 1941, 42 in 1940, 106 in 1939, 53 in
1938, 2,407 in 1919, 71 in 1913–17, 109 in 1908–12, and 381 in 1890–92.

The rate of mortality in 1942 was 23 per cent. above the average
of the previous quinquennium.

Of the deaths recorded in 1942, 50 per cent. were associated with
specified respiratory complications.

With the exception of the 1919 epidemic, when 72 per cent. of the
deaths were of persons between 20 and 50 years of age, influenza has
always proved more fatal to elderly people than to those at middle
or young ages. In 1942, 65 per cent. were of persons over 50 years
of age.

Small-pox—
Deaths from. Persons suffering from small-pox have arrived at Victorian ports on many occasions, but, as they were at once quarantined, the disease has never spread among the people of the State. During the years 1853 to 1942, 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 outbreak since 1898, when 671 deaths resulted from the disease. There were 72 deaths from measles in 1942, representing a rate of 37 per million of population. Rates per million of population were 1 in 1941, 7 in 1940, 35 in 1939, and 0 in 1938. The disease chiefly affects children. On the average of the five years, 1938 to 1942, 31 per cent. of those who died from the disease were under 2 years and 52 per cent. were under 5 years of age.

Other
infectious
and parasitic
diseases. Deaths in 1942 from diseases included under this heading (cause No. 14, on page 111) were cerebro-spinal meningitis 106, erysipelas 6, tetanus 7, septicaemia 24, dysentery 5, acute poliomyelitis 11, acute infectious encephalitis 4, hydatid disease 18, Hodgkin's disease 31, and other diseases 14.

Cerebro-spinal
Meningitis. Five hundred and seventy-five cases were reported during 1942, this being two and a half times the incidence of 1941, and ten times that of 1940.

The incidence in the peak year, 1916, was 32 per cent. higher than that in 1942.

Deaths from cerebro-spinal meningitis numbered 106 in 1942, 46 in 1941, 9 in 1940, 4 in 1939, and 7 in 1938.

Poliomyelitis
(infantile
paralysis). The incidence of Poliomyeltis 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. The years 1928 to 1931 were all years of high incidence. The disease assumed epidemic proportions in 1931, 1934, and 1937. In the 1937–38 epidemic there were 2,096 cases, the number of deaths being 113.

Poliomyelitis was responsible for 11 deaths in 1942, 2 in 1941, 7 in 1940, 9 in 1939, 41 in 1938, 77 in 1937, 4 in 1936, 7 in 1935, 9 in 1934, and 7 in 1933.

Hydatids. In 1942, there were 13 male and 5 female deaths from hydatids, of which 9 of males and 3 of females were attributed to hydatid tumour of the liver. The deaths from hydatids in 1942 were equivalent to a rate of 9 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 9 in 1941, 9 in 1940, 16 in 1939, 6 in1938, 16 in 1918–22, 22 in 1908–12, and 51 in 1890–92.

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Cancer—
Death rates. Deaths from cancer in 1942 numbered 2,664, and represented a death rate of 1,355 per million of the whole population, as compared with rates of 1,381 in 1941, 1,333 in 1940, 1,332 in 1939, 1,226 in 1938, 934 in 1918–22, 833 in 1903–12, and 584 in 1890–92.

Cancer—
Deaths at
various ages. The number of deaths from cancer in various age groups in each of the last five years is given below :—

VICTORIA—DEATHS FROM CANCER AT VARIOUS AGES.

Age Group.	Males.					Females.				
	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.
0–14 ..	4	6	9	5	5	6	4	5	7	3
15–24 ..	3	5	9	5	3	5	1	4	9	7
25–34 ..	24	19	15	10	21	16	17	21	16	31
35–44 ..	50	35	49	53	54	88	94	67	92	75
45–54 ..	119	128	130	113	124	190	196	222	218	210
55–64 ..	263	241	266	263	275	237	274	283	304	322
65–74 ..	413	422	390	453	444	377	418	394	404	380
75–84 ..	268	295	322	316	325	252	281	274	302	280
85 and over ..	14	29	32	41	37	36	42	36	64	68
Total ..	1,158	1,180	1,222	1,259	1,288	1,207	1,327	1,306	1,416	1,376

Ninety-three per cent. of the deaths from cancer in 1942 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 1942 the average age of those who died from the former was 66·7 years for males and 64·7 years for females, while the corresponding averages for tuberculosis were 49·9 years for males and 40·9 years for females.

Seat of cancer. The following table shows the seat of cancer in persons who died from this disease in 1942 :—

VICTORIA—SEAT OF CANCER, 1942.

Seat of Cancer.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Buccal Cavity and Pharynx	67	25	92
Digestive Organs and Peritoneum—			
Oesophagus	48	18	66
Stomach and Duodenum	362	222	584
Intestines other than Duodenum or Rectum	175	212	387
Rectum	86	66	152
Liver and Biliary Passages	41	58	99
Pancreas	44	37	81
Peritoneum	9	7	16
Other Digestive Organs	1	..	1
Respiratory System	102	37	139
Uterus	..	192	192
Other Female Genital Organs	..	69	69
Breast	2	282	284
Male Genital Organs	150	..	150
Urinary Organs	77	30	107
Skin	46	32	78
Brain and other parts of the Nervous System—			
Glioma (not specified as benign)	9	2	11
Other	4	4	8
Other or Unspecified Organs	65	83	148
	1,288	1,376	2,664

Diabetes. The rate of mortality from diabetes shows a marked increase, the average of the last five years being 92 per cent. higher than that for the period 1908–12.

During 1942 diabetes was responsible for 141 male and 276 female deaths, representing a rate of 212 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 213 in 1941, 201 in 1940, 206 in 1939, 199 in 1938, 130 in 1918–22, and 107 in 1908–12.

Vitamin-deficiency diseases, other general diseases, diseases of the blood, and chronic poisonings. Deaths in 1942 from diseases in this category (cause No. 20 on page 111) were acute rheumatic fever 39, exopthalmic goitre 43, other diseases of the thyroid and parathyroid glands 18, pernicious and other hyperchromic anaemias 48, other anaemias 15, leucaemia 49, and other diseases 52.

Meningitis (non-meningococcal) and diseases of the medulla and spinal cord.   In 1942 deaths from these causes numbered 113, the rate per million of population being 57, as compared with rates of 51 in 1941, 53 in 1940, 42 in 1939, and 60 in 1938.

Intra-cranial lesions of vascular origin.   In 1942, 743 male and 1,273 female deaths were ascribed to these causes, the total—2,016—corresponding to a rate of 1,025 per million of the population. Of the 2,016 deaths in 1942, 1,294 were due to cerebral haemorrhage, 23 to cerebral embolism, 571 to cerebral thrombosis, 29 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 111) in 1942 were 20 deaths from encaphalitis (non-epidemic), 51 from epilepsy, 16 from diseases of the ear and mastoid process, and 110 from other diseases.

Diseases of the heart.   During 1942 there were 6,108 deaths ascribed to diseases of the heart, including 13 due to pericarditis, 567 to endocarditis, 3,610 to disease of the myocardium, 1,326 to diseases of coronary arteries, 98 to angina pectoris, 91 to angina pectoris with record of coronary disease, and 403 to other diseases of the heart. The total causes in 1942 represented a rate of 3,106 per million of the population, the rates for previous years being 2,774 in 1941, 2,686 in 1940, 2,663 in 1939, 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 111), in 1942 were arterio-sclerosis 582, and other diseases 140. Of the deaths from arterio-sclerosis, 77 per cent. were of persons aged 70 years and over.

Diseases of the respiratory system.   In 1942 the deaths from respiratory diseases numbered 1,925, which represented a rate of 979 per million of the population as compared with rates of 936 in 1941, 1,016 in 1940, 883 in 1939, and 893 in 1938. Of the deaths in the year under review, 41 were due to acute bronchitis, 138 to chronic bronchitis,

906 to broncho-pneumonia, 241 to lobar pneumonia, 288 to pneumonia unspecified, 62 to pleurisy, 118 to congestion, edema, embolism, &c., of lungs, 58 to asthma, and 73 to other diseases. Further details will be found under causes Nos. 26 to 28 on page 111.

In 1942 the greatest mortality from the respiratory diseases occurred during the months of June, July, and August.

Diseases of
the digestive
system.
        In 1942 there were 578 male and 422 female deaths from digestive ailments, representing a proportion of 509 per million of the population, as against rates of 483 in 1941, 523 in 1940, 536 in 1939, 523 in 1938, 807 in 1922–26, and 2,382 in 1890–92. Deaths from principal diseases in 1942 were : 186 from ulcers of the stomach and duodenum, 165 from diarrhœal diseases, 92 from appendicitis, 63 from hernia, 117 from intestinal obstruction, 115 from cirrhosis of the liver, 63 from biliary calculi, 53 from other diseases of the gall bladder and biliary passages, and 146 from other diseases. Further rates and details are given under causes Nos. 29 to 32 on page 111.

The 165 deaths from diarrhœal diseases in 1942 correspond to a rate of 84 per million of the population as compared with rates of 58 in 1941, 74 in 1940, 81 in 1939, 81 in 1938, 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 1942, 86 were of infants under one year of age, 18 were between the ages of one and two years, 3 between two and five years, while 32 were of persons aged 65 years and over. Infantile diarrhœa has been further dealt with in the section " Infantile Mortality."

Diseases of
the genito-
urinary
system.
        In 1942 there were 1,742 deaths attributed to diseases of the genito-urinary system. This number represented a rate of 886 per million of the population, as against rates of 869 in 1941, 890 in 1940, 891 in 1939, 803 in 1938, 670 in 1918–22, and 700 in 1909–12. In 1942, acute and chronic nephritis were responsible for 1,350 deaths, other diseases of the kidney and ureters for 91, diseases of the prostate for 209, and other genito-urinary diseases for 92.

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 1942 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 1942.

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 ..	19	1	50	58	128	72	5·95	·31	15·64	18·15	40·05	22·53
1941 ..	23	1	44	57	125	78	6·68	·29	12·79	16·57	36·33	22·76
1942 ..	20	1	29	59	109	77	5·57	·28	8·07	16·42	30·34	21·43

Note—See following table regarding deaths from Criminal Abortion.

The following tables give information in age groups for the year 1942 relating to the causes of death of women in childbirth, and the total number of children born to married mothers.

VICTORIA—MATERNAL DEATHS, 1942.

Causes of Death.	Ages at Death.							No. of Married Mothers.	No. of Unmarried Mothers.
	Under 20.	20 to 24.	25 to 29.	30 to 34.	35 to 39.	40 and over.	Total.		
140. Post-abortive Infection—									
(a) Spontaneous, Therapeutic or Unspecified	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..
(b) Criminal Abortion	1	7	13	3	4	1	29	22	7
141. Abortion without mention of Septic Conditions—									
(a) Spontaneous, Therapeutic or Unspecified	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..
(b) Criminal Abortion	..	1	..	2	..	..	3	3	..
142. Ectopic Gestation	..	1	..	..	1	1	3	2	1
143. Haemorrhage of Pregnancy	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	2	..
144. Toxaemias of Pregnancy—									
(a) Eclampsia of Pregnancy	..	3	3	1	3	..	10	10	..
(b) Albuminuria and Nephritis of Pregnancy	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
(c) Acute Yellow Atrophy of Liver Associated with Pregnancy	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
(d) Other Toxaemias of Pregnancy	..	..	1	1	1	..	3	3	..
145. Other Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy	..	1	1	..	..	..	2	2	..
146. Haemorrhage of Childbirth and the Puerperium	..	3	1	1	2	1	8	7	1
147. Infection during Childbirth and the Puerperium—									
(a) Puerperal Infections	..	..	4	2	3	1	10	10	..
(b) Puerperal Thrombophlebitis	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	2	..
(c) Puerperal Embolism and Sudden Death	..	4	1	1	..	2	8	8	..
148. Puerperal Toxaemias—									
(a) Puerperal Eclampsia	1	2	2	1	1	..	7	7	..
(b) Puerperal Albuminuria and Nephritis	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	2	..
(c) Acute Yellow Atrophy of Liver (Post-partum)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(d) Other puerperal Toxaemias	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
149. Other Accidents of Childbirth—									
(a) Caesarean Section	..	..	..	1	2	1	4	4	..
(b) Other Surgical Operations and Instrumental Delivery									
(c) Others	1	3	1	2	1	..	8	8	..
150. Other or Unspecified Diseases of Childbirth and the Puerperium—									
(a) Puerperal Diseases of the Breast	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Others	..	..	2	..	..	1	3	3	..
Total	4	27	32	17	20	9	109	100	9
No. of Married Mothers	3	23	29	16	20	9	100	..	..
No. of Unmarried Mothers	1	4	3	1	..	..	9	..	..
Issue of Married Mothers	3	22	39	25	60	39	188	..	..

Of the 188 children born to the 100 married women who died, 181 were living at the time of their mother's death, or an average of 1·8 children per mother.

First confinements were responsible for 43, or 43·0 per cent. of the total deaths of married mothers, as compared with 37·8 in 1941, 34·9 in 1940, 37·1 in 1939, and 37·1 in 1938.

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 1940, 1941, and 1942, are shown in the following table :—

VICTORIA—MATERNAL DEATHS, 1926 TO 1942.

Age Group.	Mothers.							
	Deaths.				Deaths per 10,000 children born alive.			
	1926–30.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1926–30.	1940.	1941.	1942.
Under 20 years ..	41	8	8	4	47·1	51·6	50·3	24·5
20 to 24 ,, ..	150	30	18	27	39·1	38·9	20·8	29·9
25 ,, 29 ,, ..	231	33	35	32	46·5	31·2	31·0	27·0
30 ,, 34 ,, ..	226	25	30	17	56·8	34·3	38·8	21·3
35 ,, 39 ,, ..	226	16	23	20	88·1	44·6	59·1	48·1
40 years and over	111	16	11	9	117·8	125·5	86·8	68·2
Total ..	985	128	125	109	57·4	40·0	36·3	30·3

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 1942, the deaths of 387 men and 391 women were ascribed to senile decay, as compared with 287 men and 336 women in 1941. 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 1942, 92 males and 38 females took their lives. The deaths represented a rate of 66 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 78 in 1941, 76 in 1940, 77 in 1939, 73 in 1938, 87 in 1918–22, 102 in 1908–12, and 109 in 1890–92. Of the 92 male deaths in 1942 from suicide, 30 or 33 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 34 per cent. of that of the latter.

Homicide. The deaths ascribed to homicide in 1942 numbered 11, of which 4 were of males and 7 of females. These represented a rate of 6 per million of the population, as against rates of 6 in 1941, 6 in 1940, 8 in 1939, 13 in 1938, 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 1942 there were 917 accidental deaths (677 male, 240 female). These represented a rate of 466 per million of population. This proportion was approximately 18 per cent. below the rate (567) for the previous five years. The numbers of deaths from various accidents are given in the appended table :—

VICTORIA—ACCIDENTAL DEATHS, 1938 TO 1942.

Deaths from—	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942. Males.	1942. Females.	1942. Total.
Accidents on Railways	22	26	25	46	25	5	30
Motor Vehicle Accidents.. ..	441	487	471	396	280	70	350
Other Road Transport Accidents ..	59	54	38	52	43	10	53
Water Transport Accidents ..	6	3	7	9	2	..	2
Air Transport Accidents.. ..	23	9	10	7	4	..	4
Accidents in Mines and Quarries ..	20	9	8	9	4	..	4
Agricultural and Forestry Accidents	*	*	23	23	21	..	21
Accidents caused by Machinery, N.E.I.	10	15	9	8	10	1	11
Food Poisoning..	3	2	1	2	1	2	3
Accidental Absorption of Poisonous Gases	9	11	4	5	3	..	3
Other Acute Accidental Poisoning	7	10	14	5	5	7	12
Conflagration	10	74	12	8	6	1	7
Accidental Burns	50	30	41	33	20	11	31
Accidental Mechanical Suffocation..	8	16	15	19	8	6	14
Accidental Drowning	127	131	129	129	78	27	105
Accidental Injury by Firearms ..	29	29	39	26	12	3	15
Accidental Injury by Fall ..	100	162	100	151	106	84	190
Accidental Injury by Crushing ..	14	21	6	15	10	..	10
Injury by Animals	10	6	3	6	3	..	3
Excessive Cold	1	3	1	1	1	..	1
Excessive Heat	1	33	1	3	2	1	3
Lightning	1	..	..	2	1	..	1
Electricity	8	9	10	2	4	..	4
Snakebite	3	2	1	..	..	..	..
Other Venomous Bites and Stings ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Other Accidents	79	103	40	48	28	12	40
	1,041	1,245	1,008	1,006	677	240	917

* Not available.

NOTE.—The high number of deaths recorded in 1939 from conflagration and effects of heat are directly related to the bush fires and heat wave of January of that year.

On the average of the last five years, the female mortality rate from accidents was about 34 per cent. of the rate for males.

Transport accidents.   In 1942 deaths from transport accidents numbered 439, as against 510 in 1941, 551 in 1940, 579 in 1939, 551 in 1938, 568 in 1937, 508 in 1936, 440 in 1935, 385 in 1934, and 350 in 1933.

During the year 1942, deaths connected with transport represented 48 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 1942.

VICTORIA—DEATHS FROM TRANSPORT ACCIDENTS, 1942.

	Collisions.											Other Accidents.	Total.	Males.	Females.
	Railway vehicle.	Tramcar.	Motor car.	Motor lorry, &c.	Motor cycle.	Horse-drawn vehicle, &c.	Bicycle.	Other Vehicle.	Animal.	Fixed object.	Total.				
Railway vehicle ..	..	..	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	30*	35	27	8
Tramcar ..	..	..	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	6	29	35	27	8
Motor-car ..	..	..	9	10	11	1	22	1	2	8	64	145	209	167	42
,, omnibus ..	..	..	..	2	1	..	4	..	..	..	7	22	29	23	6
,, lorry, &c...	..	..	..	3	2	..	11	..	..	4	20	64	84	66	18
,, cycle ..	..	..	..	..	2	..	3	..	..	5	10	7	17	17	..
Horse - drawn vehicle ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	11	9	2
Bicycle	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	11	13	12	1
Aeroplane ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	4	..
Water transport ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	2	..
Total ..	..	..	18	16	17	2	40	1	2	18	114	325	439	354	85

* Includes rail accidents to 10 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 1933 to 1942, were as follows :—

VICTORIA—DEATHS INVOLVING MOTOR VEHICLES, 1933 TO 1942.

Year.	Number of Motor Vehicles (30th June).	Deaths Involving Motor Vehicles.		
		Number.	Per 10,000 Motor Vehicles.	Per 1,000,000 of Population.
1933	179,602	255	14·2	140
1934	188,256	294	15·6	161
1935	200,759	338	16·8	184
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

The mortality per 10,000 vehicles was 17·0 for the period 1938–42 as compared with a rate of 17·0 in 1933–37. The mortality per million of population was 178 in 1942, 204 in 1941, 248 in 1940, 259 in 1939, 236 in 1938, and 246 in 1937. The mortality rate in 1939 was the highest on record.

On the average of the five years, 1938 to 1942, motor cars, &c., were involved in 17·3 deaths per 10,000 cars registered, and motor cycles in 31·0 deaths per 10,000 motor cycles registered.

5909/44.—**8**

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NATURAL INCREASE.

Natural increase per 1,000 of population in Australian States and in New Zealand. 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 New Zealand, for various periods since 1909, as well as detailed particulars for Victoria since 1879, are shown in the following tables :—

NATURAL INCREASE PER 1,000 OF THE MEAN POPULATION.

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

Period.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queens-land.	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
1938 ..	6·10	7·80	9·79	6·53	10·67	11·11	7·82	8·22
1939 ..	5·48	7·71	10·68	6·50	10·11	10·84	7·72	9·53
1940 ..	6·16	8·38	10·99	7·23	9·96	10·91	8·27	11·95
1941 ..	7·17	8·73	11·59	7·79	11·43	10·99	8·92	12·97
1942 ..	7·09	8·28	11·16	7·51	10·26	11·97	8·57	11·13

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	1938 ..	11,389	16·25	10·15	6·10
1905–09	16,062	24·76	11·93	12·83	1939 ..	10,324	16·20	10·72	5·48
1910–14	18,795	25·42	11·57	13·85	1940 ..	11,669	16·86	10·70	6·16
1915–19	16,818	23·13	11·38	11·75	1941 ..	13,884	17·76	10·59	7·17
1920–24	19,647	22·89	10·40	12·49	1942 ..	13,954	18·27	11·18	7·09