

VITAL STATISTICS.

Registration
of Births,
Deaths, and
Marriages.

The present official system of compulsory registration of births, deaths, and marriages in Victoria has been in force since 1853, and the registers 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 local registrars of births and deaths, and the registrars of marriages, and (so far as regards their registration duties) over the clergymen who celebrate marriages. Copies of entries certified by the Government Statist or by an Assistant Government Statist are *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 5,051,850 original entries have been made in the indexes, of which 1,395,800 relate to marriages, 2,468,450 to births, and 1,187,600 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.

Applicants for searches or certificates of births, deaths, or marriages should, in applying to the Government Statist, furnish particulars of the date and place of the event; also the names of the parties in the case of a marriage, and the name, age (if a death), and parentage in the case of a birth or death. Searches are charged for at the following rates:—2s. 6d. for every search not exceeding a period of five years and for every search extending beyond a period of five years 2s. 6d. for each additional 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 in the early church records, prior to 1st July, 1853, the fee is only 1s., a further sum of 1s. being payable if a certificate be required.

As evidence of the extent of the use made of the information contained in the records, the number of transactions which took place in 1936 was 59,129, and the amount of revenue received was £6,624. Included in the above number were 1,731 free ordinary searches and 297 free certificates.

Law relating to Marriages, Births, and Deaths.

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

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

Legitimation of an illegitimate child born in Victoria may be effected by the father at any time after the marriage of the father to the mother provided there was at the time of the birth of the child no legal impediment to the marriage. Should the father be deceased, however, the mother may, on proof of his admission of paternity, effect the legitimation within two years of his death.

The *Adoption of Children Act* 1928 and the *Adoption of Children Act* 1936 provide for the legal adoption of children and for the registration of each adoption by the Government Statist.

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

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

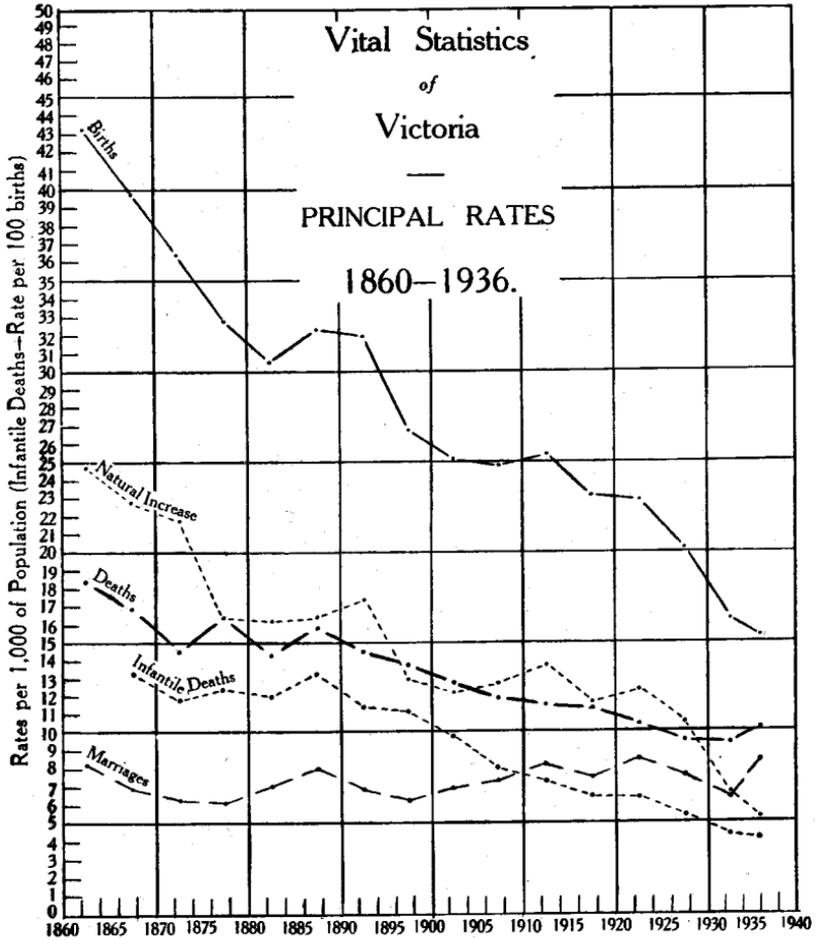
The principal numbers and rates—male and female—Vital Statistics, relating to Vital Statistics in Victoria are given in the following table:—

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, VICTORIA, 1936.

Division.	Sex.	Mean Population.	Number of—			Rate per 1,000 of Population.		Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.
			Births.	Deaths.	Deaths under One Year.	Births.	Deaths.	
Greater Melbourne	Males	474,360	7,078	5,401	338	14·92	11·39	47·75
	Females	538,040	6,654	5,333	267	12·37	9·91	40·13
	Total	1,012,400	13,732	10,734	605	13·56	10·60	44·06
Rest of the State	Males	439,144	7,718	4,595	349	17·58	10·46	45·22
	Females	396,297	7,433	3,449	268	18·76	8·70	36·06
	Total	835,441	15,151	8,044	617	18·14	9·63	40·72
Victoria	Males	913,504	14,796	9,996	687	16·20	10·94	46·43
	Females	934,337	14,087	8,782	535	15·08	9·40	37·98
	Total	1,847,841	28,883	18,778	1,222	15·63	10·16	42·31

MARRIAGES.

Number	15,915
Rate per 1,000 of population	8·61



MARRIAGES.

Marriages—
Numbers and Rates.

Marriages in Victoria in 1936 numbered 15,915, corresponding to a rate of 8·61 per 1,000 of the population. Rates for previous years were 8·38 in 1935, 7·57 in 1934, 6·96 in 1933, and 6·49 in 1932. The highest rate since 1857—9·85, was recorded in 1920. This was mainly due to the marriages of a large number of soldiers after their return to civilian life. The lowest rate recorded in the history of the State was 5·66 in 1931. There has been a steady increase in the rate since that year.

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

MARRIAGES IN EACH QUARTER, VICTORIA, 1855 TO 1936.

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
1932 ..	11,744	2,915	2,866	2,626	3,337	6·49
1933 ..	12,668	2,872	3,331	2,950	3,515	6·96
1934 ..	13,862	3,677	3,457	3,005	3,723	7·57
1935 ..	15,409	3,452	4,265	3,301	4,391	8·38
1936 ..	15,915	3,448	4,776	3,240	4,451	8·61

* Not available.

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

Proportion of marriages at various ages.

The following table shows the proportions of both sexes marrying in various age groups for 1936 :—

PROPORTIONS OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES IN AGE GROUPS, 1936.

Age Group.	Proportion per 1,000 of total—		Age Group.	Proportion per 1,000 of total—	
	Bridegrooms.	Brides.		Bridegrooms.	Brides.
Under 16	1·19	35 to 39 ..	77·41	43·04
16	6·22	40 to 44 ..	34·31	22·75
17	88	45 to 49 ..	22·18	12·57
18	3·39	50 to 54 ..	11·50	5·97
19	10·37	55 to 59 ..	9·36	5·40
20	16·90	60 and over	15·15	6·41
21 to 24	258·75			
25 to 29	366·13	Total ..	1,000·00	1,000·00
30 to 34	173·67			

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 1932 to 1936.

Year.	Age in Years.							Total.	
	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.
Bridegrooms.									
1932	1	16	76	194	264	551	4·69
1933	3	15	87	177	290	572	4·52
1934	2	11	62	177	305	557	4·02
1935	3	11	74	167	261	516	3·35
1936	14	54	165	269	502	3·15
Brides.									
1932	2	19	110	503	650	708	2,292	19·52
1933	12	92	274	542	689	2,268	17·90
1934	3	16	72	260	664	2,323	16·76
1935	5	20	87	261	560	875	16·22
1936	2	17	99	261	590	706	15·66

The proportion of minors marrying has steadily decreased since 1931.

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

MEAN AGE AT MARRIAGE, 1932 TO 1936.

Year.	Bridegrooms.				Brides.			
	Bachelors.	Divorced.	Widowers.	All Bridegrooms.	Spinsters.	Divorced.	Widows.	All Brides.
1932 ..	28·02	40·15	47·88	29·50	25·19	35·31	43·19	26·05
1933 ..	28·00	40·23	48·80	29·45	25·26	36·09	43·52	26·10
1934 ..	28·26	40·89	49·61	29·68	25·40	35·21	45·32	26·25
1935 ..	28·32	40·84	49·99	29·72	25·46	36·10	44·88	26·35
1936 ..	28·41	40·30	49·80	29·76	25·58	35·81	44·97	26·37

In 1936 the mean age at marriage of bridegrooms of brides under 45 was 28·90 years, while for brides under 45 the age was 25·51 years.

Birthplaces of persons marrying. Marriage records for 1936 show that 87·7 per cent. of the bridegrooms and 92·6 per cent. of the brides were Australian born, while 9·5 per cent. of the grooms and 5·9 per cent. of the brides were born in Great Britain and Ireland. Of all persons married 90·2 per cent. were born in Australia, 7 per cent. in New Zealand, 7·7 per cent. in Great Britain and Ireland, 4 per cent. in other British Possessions, and only a small proportion (1·0 per cent.) were natives of foreign countries. The numbers born in Australia and other countries are shown in the subjoined table for the years 1916 and 1936:—

BIRTHPLACES OF PERSONS MARRIED, 1916 AND 1936.

Where Born.	Bridegrooms.		Brides.	
	1916.	1936.	1916.	1936.
Australia	9,929	13,965	10,582	14,740
New Zealand	111	125	64	87
England and Wales	835	1,109	466	699
Scotland	172	298	96	193
Ireland	98	107	69	46
Other British Possessions	31	81	16	46
Germany	20	16	4	9
Russia	24	9	6	5
Italy	12	71	8	29
United States	25	15	10	3
Other Foreign Countries and unspecified	84	119	20	58
Total	11,341	15,915	11,341	15,915

Conjugal condition of persons marrying.

In the following tables are given the number of persons in each conjugal condition marrying in Victoria during each of the five years 1932 to 1936, and the proportions in each condition for periods since 1900.

CONJUGAL CONDITION OF PERSONS MARRYING, 1932 TO 1936.

Period.	Bridegrooms.				Brides.				Total Marriages.
	Bachelors.	Widowers.	Divorced.	Deserted.	Spinsters.	Widows.	Divorced.	Deserted.	
1932 ..	10,768	730	243	3	11,092	438	201	13	11,744
1933 ..	11,735	684	243	6	11,990	434	224	20	12,668
1934 ..	12,830	753	274	5	13,114	448	288	12	13,862
1935 ..	14,273	797	332	7	14,560	513	319	17	15,409
1936 ..	14,769	810	331	5	15,107	471	322	15	15,915

PERCENTAGE OF PERSONS MARRYING IN EACH CONJUGAL CONDITION, 1900 TO 1936.

Marriages Between—	1936.		Conjugal Condition.	Percentage of Total—					
	Number.	Percentage.		1900-09.	1910-19.	1920-29.	1936.		
Bachelors and Spinsters ..	14,307	89.90	Bachelors	91.4	Bridegrooms.		92.8		
Bachelors and Widows ..	237	1.49			92.7	92.1			
Bachelors and Divorced ..	230	1.44	Widowers	8.1	6.5	6.3	5.1		
Widowers and Spinsters ..	550	3.46	Divorced	.5	.8	1.6	2.1		
Widowers and Widows ..	204	1.28	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0		
Widowers and Divorced ..	56	.35	Spinsters	93.4	Brides.		95.0		
Divorced and Spinsters ..	265	1.66			94.2	93.6			
Divorced and Widows ..	30	.19			6.0	4.8		4.9	3.0
Divorced and Divorced ..	36	.23			6.0	4.8		4.9	3.0
Total Marriages ..	15,915	100.00	Divorced	.6	1.0	1.5	2.0		
			Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0		

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

The proportions of widowers and widows remarrying per 100 marriages, declined from 7.7 and 5.8 respectively in 1905-09 to 5.4 and 3.3 in 1932-36. During the same period the proportion of re-marriages of divorced men increased from .5 to 2.0, and of divorced women from .7 to 1.9. 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 granted and of remarriages of divorced men and women in each decade since 1900 were as follows:—1900-09—decrees granted 1,208, remarriages of divorced men and women, 418 and 554; 1910-19—decrees granted 2,258, remarriages 867 and 1,096; and 1920-29—decrees granted 4,392, and remarriages 2,125 and 2,116. In 1936, decrees granted numbered 685, and remarriages 331 and 322.

Marriages in
religious
denomina-
tions.

In 1936 the number of marriages celebrated by ministers of religion was 14,517, representing 91·22 per cent. of the total marriages. Civil registrars performed 1,398 marriages, or 8·78 per cent. of the total.

The numbers and proportions of marriages solemnized according to the rites of the principal religious denominations and of those performed by registrars of marriages, for the years 1916, 1926, and 1936, are shown in the following table :—

MARRIAGES IN VARIOUS DENOMINATIONS.

Denomination.	1916.		1926.		1936.	
	Number.	Per-centage of Total Marriages.	Number.	Per-centage of Total Marriages.	Number.	Per-centage of Total Marriages.
Church of England ..	3,007	26·51	3,836	28·62	4,621	29·04
Roman Catholic Church	2,108	18·59	2,536	18·92	2,939	18·47
Presbyterian Church..	2,055	18·12	2,487	18·55	2,729	17·15
Methodist Church ..	1,645	14·51	1,771	13·21	2,490	15·65
Baptist Church ..	532	4·69	570	4·25	628	3·95
Church of Christ ..	268	2·36	306	2·28	404	2·54
Congregational Church	1,104	9·74	852	6·36	249	1·56
Salvation Army ..	54	·48	58	·43	117	·73
Lutheran Church ..	65	·57	54	·40	90	·56
Hebrew ..	42	·37	51	·38	51	·32
Other Sects ..	99	·87	267	1·99	199	1·25
Registrars of Marriages	362	3·19	617	4·61	1,398	8·78
Total ..	11,341	100·00	13,405	100·00	15,915	100·00

Civil
marriages.

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

CIVIL MARRIAGES, 1927 TO 1936.

Year.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.	Year.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.
1927 ..	845	6·21	1932 ..	1,515	12·90
1928 ..	1,013	7·68	1933 ..	1,340	10·58
1929 ..	1,040	8·04	1934 ..	1,156	8·34
1930 ..	1,224	10·51	1935 ..	1,373	8·91
1931 ..	1,143	11·23	1936 ..	1,398	8·78

Registered clergymen. The ministers qualified by registration to celebrate marriages in Victoria numbered 1,856 on 31st December, 1936. The numbers of ministers in each denomination (excepting Jews and Quakers) and civil registrars of marriages were as follows :—

REGISTERED MINISTERS OF EACH DENOMINATION, 1936.

Denomination.	Number of Registered Ministers.	Denomination.	Number of Registered Ministers.
Church of England ..	424	Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland ..	2
Roman Catholic ..	459	Ballarat Town Mission..	2
Methodist	318	Free Christian ..	1
Presbyterian	312	New Church	1
Baptist	99	Greek Orthodox Church	1
Church of Christ ..	72	Syrian Orthodox ..	1
Congregational ..	58	International Bible Students' Association	1
Salvation Army ..	35	Pentecostal	1
Lutheran	33	Particular Baptists ..	1
Seventh Day Adventist ..	13	Australian Church ..	1
Latter Day Saints (Re-organized)	5	Total Clergymen ..	1,856
Catholic Apostolic ..	3	Civil Registrars of Marriages ..	16
Open Brethren	3	Grand Total ..	1,872
Free Presbyterian ..	3		
Apostolic Church, Australia	3		
Welsh Calvinistic Methodists	2		
Unitarian	2		

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

BIRTHS.

**Births—
Numbers and
Rates.**

The number of births registered in Victoria during the year 1936 was 28,883. This was 999 more than the number registered for the preceding year. The rate per 1,000 of population (15·63) was the highest experienced in Victoria since 1931. The lowest rate recorded was 15·16 in 1935. Stillbirths, which are excluded from both births and deaths, numbered 828, and correspond to a ratio of 28·7 per 1,000 infants born alive in 1936. There were 1,050 male to every 1,000 female births in 1936, as compared with 1,037 in 1935, 1,036 in 1934, 1,042 in 1933, and 1,051 in 1932.

In young communities, birth rates calculated per 1,000 of the population are to some extent unreliable and misleading. In the earlier periods, when, owing to immigration, the population consists for the most part of men and women at the reproductive period of life,

such rates are naturally high. As time proceeds, however, notwithstanding that immigration of reproductive adults may be maintained, the proportion of such adults to the total population must diminish, and with it, consequently, the birth rate. 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:—

BIRTHS IN EACH QUARTER, VICTORIA, 1855 TO 1936.

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
1932 ..	27,464	14,076	13,388	6,819	6,940	6,818	6,887	15.18
1933 ..	28,392	14,491	13,901	6,945	7,081	7,255	7,111	15.59
1934 ..	27,828	14,158	13,670	6,953	6,830	7,109	6,936	15.20
1935 ..	27,884	14,194	13,690	7,014	6,652	6,953	7,265	15.16
1936 ..	28,883	14,796	14,087	7,151	6,936	7,448	7,348	15.63

* Not available.

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:—

Year.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1932 ..	15.18	17.40	18.56	14.74	18.31	19.78	16.86	17.09
1933 ..	15.59	16.99	18.14	15.32	17.95	19.93	16.78	16.59
1934 ..	15.20	16.52	18.17	14.50	17.66	19.51	16.39	16.47
1935 ..	15.16	16.89	18.31	14.14	18.23	19.41	16.55	16.13
1936 ..	15.63	17.31	19.17	15.17	18.84	19.84	17.13	16.64

The birth rate in England and Wales was 14.8 in 1936.

Birthplaces of parents of nuptial children.

The birth records of children born in wedlock show that, in Victoria in 1936, 82 out of every 100 children were born to Australian parents, and 96 out of every 100 to one or both parents born in Australia. Of the total fathers, the percentages born in the States or countries mentioned hereafter were as follows :—77·8 in Victoria ; 86·8 in Australia ; 0·7 in New Zealand ; 7·1 in England and Wales ; 2·1 in Scotland ; 0·8 in Ireland ; 0·6 in other British Possessions; and 1·9 in foreign countries. The corresponding percentages for mothers were :—Victoria, 81·0 ; Australia, 90·7 ; New Zealand, 0·5 ; England and Wales, 5·2 ; Scotland, 1·5 ; Ireland, 0·5 ; other British Possessions, 0·4 ; and foreign countries, 1·2.

Ages of parents of nuptial children.

The average ages of fathers and mothers of nuptial children whose births were recorded in 1936 were 32·77 and 29·12 years respectively, which were 3·87 and 3·61 years respectively above the average ages of bridegrooms marrying brides under 45 years of age, and of such brides, for the year 1936. The proportions of both parents in various age groups are shown in the following table for the year mentioned :—

PERCENTAGE OF PARENTS OF NUPTIAL CHILDREN IN AGE GROUPS, 1936.

Father.			Mother.		
Age Group.	Percentage of Total Parents.		Age Group.	Percentage of Total Parents.	
Under 20	53		Under 20	4·48	
20 to 24	11·83		20 to 24	24·21	
25 to 29	26·95		25 to 29	30·65	
30 to 34	27·39		30 to 34	22·23	
35 to 39	17·90		35 to 39	13·32	
40 to 44	9·19		40 to 44	4·69	
45 to 49	4·20		45 and over	42	
50 and over	2·01				
Total	100·00		Total	100·00	

It will be seen that, on the experience of 1936, 54·86 per cent. of the mothers were between ages 20 and 30, and 35·55 per cent. between ages 30 and 40. The proportions of fathers at these ages were 38·78 and 45·29 per cent. respectively. Of every 1,000 nuptial births, about 45 were to mothers under 20 years, and about 4 to mothers aged 45 years and upwards.

The following table shows the number of births (allotted to the place of usual residence of the mother), and the births per 1,000 of the mean population in Greater Melbourne, other principal towns, and the remainder of the State for the five-year periods 1923 to 1927 and 1928 to 1932, and the last three years:—

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

Municipality.	Annual Number of Births.					Births per 1,000 of Mean Population.				
	1923-1927.	1928-1932.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1923-1927.	1928-1932.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Greater Melbourne—										
Melbourne ..	1,812	1,348	1,120	1,117	1,131	18·39	14·29	12·43	12·39	12·53
Box Hill ..	*	259	197	197	242	*	18·31	12·83	12·77	15·50
Braybrook (Part) ..		187	178	149	156		22·28	20·16	16·78	17·43
Brighton ..	482	394	344	341	365	18·75	13·37	11·42	11·13	11·70
Brunswick ..	1,161	974	757	775	808	23·42	17·52	13·95	14·28	14·83
Camberwell ..	797	865	691	751	752	23·10	17·85	13·63	14·54	14·14
Caulfield ..	1,065	941	778	756	820	19·59	14·87	11·90	11·41	12·15
Chelsea ..		127	108	122	122		18·66	15·72	17·38	17·40
Coburg ..	703	742	614	621	624	25·15	20·80	15·97	16·04	15·95
Collingwood ..	690	532	491	476	514	20·35	16·63	16·15	15·76	17·06
Essendon ..	846	766	561	550	572	19·88	16·59	12·18	11·92	12·31
Fitzroy ..	683	517	469	451	447	19·92	15·96	15·24	14·75	14·64
Footscray ..	980	875	702	682	694	24·20	19·13	15·15	14·67	14·84
Hawthorn ..	525	424	388	383	444	16·63	12·70	11·40	11·17	12·78
Heidelberg (Part) ..	*	413	359	338	336	*	16·93	14·88	14·00	13·73
Kew ..	379	339	254	277	305	17·96	13·97	10·46	11·32	12·37
Malvern ..	636	499	468	450	488	15·07	11·46	10·73	10·18	10·91
Moorabbin ..		398	349	352	348		23·14	18·89	15·60	15·44
Mordialoc ..		148	120	141	127		15·37	12·54	14·26	12·80
Northcote ..	898	727	550	554	578	24·51	17·27	12·96	13·07	13·66
Oakleigh ..	*	264	195	239	214	*	22·72	16·25	19·75	17·64
Port Melbourne ..	278	230	172	200	197	21·14	17·24	13·32	15·49	15·20
Preston ..	877	696	643	610	628	17·02	13·26	12·30	11·54	11·76
Richmond ..	558	703	575	579	541	31·33	23·87	17·95	18·06	16·75
Sandringham ..	886	693	596	566	608	20·34	16·71	15·04	14·28	15·32
South Melbourne ..	275	272	204	225	229	17·90	15·33	11·24	12·30	12·38
St. Kilda ..	865	660	498	550	577	19·01	15·06	11·57	12·77	13·37
Williamstown ..	659	533	458	496	529	16·05	11·61	9·62	10·21	10·70
Remainder of Metropolis ..	485	423	317	306	336	23·25	19·28	14·25	13·76	15·05
Principal Towns—										
Ballarat ..	1,364	..	..	..	..	25·88	..	..	..	..
Bendigo ..	728	664	597	578	583	18·40	17·14	15·88	15·25	15·27
Geelong ..	609	550	558	544	577	18·10	17·10	18·92	18·47	19·37
Ararat ..	862	844	692	650	695	21·87	19·26	17·62	16·42	17·50
Castlemaine ..	†	†	112	87	131	†	†	22·86	17·72	26·46
Colac ..	132	105	96	93	81	18·50	15·16	18·11	17·68	15·40
Echuca ..	†	†	94	104	109	†	†	18·80	20·80	19·82
Hamilton ..	†	†	112	83	92	†	†	25·45	18·61	20·67
Horsham ..	144	138	107	102	132	27·69	24·47	18·45	17·59	22·49
Maryborough ..	†	†	100	123	117	†	†	18·87	23·21	21·83
Mildura ..	114	118	106	106	120	23·57	21·35	18·93	18·93	21·13
Sale ..	198	184	183	208	219	34·09	28·23	27·73	30·36	31·74
Shepparton ..	†	†	83	86	77	†	†	19·30	19·95	17·82
Stawell ..	†	151	157	160	153	†	27·51	27·64	27·44	26·20
Wangaratta ..	111	92	89	82	94	23·88	19·46	18·54	17·08	19·58
Warrnambool ..	†	†	96	99	101	†	†	20·00	20·41	20·87
Wonthaggi ..	188	176	196	144	196	22·75	20·17	21·78	16·00	21·66
Sumary—	159	141	96	84	93	25·06	22·44	17·14	14·00	14·09
Greater Melbourne	17,904	15,949	13,156	13,254	13,732	20·14	16·03	13·18	13·20	13·56
Principal Towns ..	3,240	3,163	3,474	3,333	3,570	20·88	19·22	19·00	18·02	19·08
Remainder of State ..	14,581	12,693	11,198	11,297	11,581	23·31	20·40	17·21	17·37	17·86
Victoria ..	35,675	31,805	27,828	27,884	28,888	21·37	17·85	15·20	15·16	15·63

* Included in Remainder of Metropolis. † Not calculated.
NOTE.—The boundaries of Greater Melbourne were re-defined in 1929.

Multiple
births.

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

CASES OF TWINS AND TRIPLETS.

Year.	Cases of Twins.	Cases of Triplets.	Total Multiple Cases.	Multiple Cases, per 1,000 of Total Cases.
1932 ..	250	2	252	9·26
1933 ..	313	2	315	11·22
1934 ..	328	3	331	12·04
1935 ..	297	..	297	10·76
1936 ..	298	4	302	10·57

On the average of the five years 1932-36 the proportion of mothers giving birth to twins was one in every 94, of mothers giving birth to triplets one in every 12,635, and of mothers of all multiple births one in every 93 mothers.

Adoption of
Children.

The *Adoption of Children Act* 1928 makes provision for the legal adoption of children under 21 years of age who have never married. The *Adoption of Children Act* 1936 provides that for the purpose of legal adoption an infant includes any person over the age of 21 years who has been brought up, maintained, and educated by any person, or two spouses jointly, as his, her or their child under any *de facto* adoption. This Act further provides that the Court may make an order authorizing two spouses jointly to adopt an infant notwithstanding that one of the spouses is the natural parent of the infant. An adopted child has the right of succession whether under an intestacy or disposition to the real and personal property of an adopter, but not of its natural parent or parents; it has no rights of succession to the property of adopting parents' relatives but has rights in estate of natural parents' relatives. Marriage is prohibited between an adopter and an adopted child.

The first registration under the Act of 1928 was effected on 14th October, 1929, and, between that date and the end of the year 1936, the adoptions of 788 male and 1,319 female children have been registered. During 1936 adoptions registered comprised 124 male and 197 female children.

Children legitimized. The first provision for the legitimation of children born out of wedlock was made by the *Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages Act* 1903. This Act was repealed in 1912, and an Act passed which provided for the legitimation of such children at any time after the marriage of the parents, on the application of the father, provided there was no lawful impediment to the marriage of the parents at the time of the birth. An amending Act passed in 1916 allowed legitimation to be effected on the application of the mother if the father were absent on war service or had died not more than two years prior to the date of her application. Up to the end of 1936 advantage was taken of these Acts to legitimate 3,663 children, of whom 279 were registered in the years 1903 to 1909, 1,347 in 1910 to 1919, 1,374 in 1920 to 1929, 101 in 1930, 85 in 1931, 77 in 1932, 93 in 1933, 79 in 1934, 100 in 1935, and 128 in 1936.

Legitimation Acts are in force in all the States and New Zealand, but there are marked differences in the numbers of legitimations resulting therefrom. In proportion to every 100 children born out of wedlock in 1936, the numbers of legitimations in the various States and New Zealand during that year were as follows:—Victoria, 10·1; New South Wales, 18·9; Queensland, 16·5; South Australia, 12·5; Western Australia, 24·5; Tasmania, 21·2; and New Zealand, 36·6.

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

EX-NUPTIAL BIRTHS IN VICTORIA, 1910 TO 1936.

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
1932	27,464	640	561	1,201	4·37
1933	28,392	656	586	1,242	4·37
1934	27,828	630	554	1,184	4·25
1935	27,884	578	608	1,186	4·25
1936	28,883	636	636	1,272	4·40

There has been an appreciable decrease in the proportion of ex-nuptial births to total births in Victoria since 1913, the percentage having fallen from 6.03 in that year to 4.40 in 1936.

The percentages in the various States and New Zealand in 1936 were as follows:—Victoria, 4.40 per cent.; New South Wales, 4.53 per cent.; Queensland, 4.81 per cent.; South Australia, 3.05 per cent.; Western Australia, 3.95 per cent.; Tasmania, 4.74 per cent.; Australia, 4.42 per cent.; and New Zealand, 4.53 per cent.

A larger proportion of ex-nuptiality prevails among residents of Greater Melbourne and of the principal towns than in the rural districts of Victoria. During the year 1936, the proportion of ex-nuptial births to total births was 5.32 per cent. in Greater Melbourne, 4.29 per cent. in the principal towns, and 3.35 per cent. in the rural districts.

DEATHS.

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

DEATHS IN EACH QUARTER, VICTORIA, 1855 TO 1936.

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	7,039	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	4,165	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
1932 ..	16,805	8,998	7,807	3,895	4,110	4,750	4,050	9.29
1933 ..	17,456	9,308	8,148	3,831	4,188	5,222	4,215	9.59
1934 ..	18,648	9,913	8,735	4,160	4,640	5,160	4,688	10.18
1935 ..	18,456	9,856	8,600	3,974	4,457	5,631	4,394	10.03
1936 ..	18,778	9,996	8,782	4,070	4,800	5,454	4,454	10.16

* Not available.

The death rate gradually declined from 18·44 in 1860-64 to 9·50 in 1930-34. 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 has been little fluctuation in the death rate during the last three years.

The number of deaths in 1936 was 18,778, which was 1,098 more than the average of the preceding five years.

In 1936 there were 1,138 male to every 1,000 female deaths, the average for the last five years being 1,143. The corresponding proportion of male to female births in the quinquennium was 1,043. The natural increase for the five-year period was 50,308 (males, 23,644; females, 26,664).

A reliable estimate of the improvement in the health of the community is obtained by comparing the death rates for groups of ages at different periods. Such rates for Victoria are given in the subjoined table for the periods 1891-1900, 1902-11, 1912-21, and 1922-33 :—

DEATH RATES IN CERTAIN AGE GROUPS IN VICTORIA.

Age Group.	Average Annual Deaths per 1,000 at each age.			
	1891-1900.	1902-1911.	1912-1921.	1922-1933.
<i>Males.</i>				
Under 5 ..	39·29	26·73	23·85	17·32
5 to 9 ..	3·36	2·16	2·42	1·74
10 to 14 ..	2·20	1·87	1·75	1·40
15 to 19 ..	3·28	2·72	2·37	2·09
20 to 24 ..	4·79	3·51	3·57	2·77
25 to 34 ..	6·60	4·75	4·71	3·24
35 to 44 ..	9·03	7·81	7·14	5·31
45 to 54 ..	15·32	13·48	13·10	9·99
55 to 64 ..	32·90	25·38	25·05	23·12
65 to 74 ..	62·99	59·04	53·18	52·07
75 and upwards ..	145·05	157·26	157·97	127·72
All Ages ..	15·47	13·30	12·57	10·76
<i>Females.</i>				
Under 5 ..	34·09	22·35	19·26	13·71
5 to 9 ..	3·12	2·03	2·24	1·30
10 to 14 ..	2·06	1·78	1·56	1·05
15 to 19 ..	3·43	2·80	2·27	1·72
20 to 24 ..	4·81	3·59	3·56	2·54
25 to 34 ..	6·89	5·01	4·58	3·29
35 to 44 ..	8·68	7·16	6·01	4·55
45 to 54 ..	12·12	9·96	9·44	7·68
55 to 64 ..	23·64	18·80	17·46	16·06
65 to 74 ..	45·87	46·71	42·01	38·68
75 and upwards ..	124·33	131·77	136·61	114·31
All Ages ..	12·36	10·66	10·35	9·10

The figures show that at all ages lower death rates were experienced for both males and females during the period 1922-33 than in the previous periods.

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 :—

Year.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1932	9.29	8.27	8.35	8.58	8.54	8.90	8.63	8.02
1933	9.59	8.58	8.84	8.44	8.64	9.60	8.92	7.98
1934	10.18	8.95	8.57	9.26	9.23	10.23	9.32	8.48
1935	10.03	9.28	9.16	8.83	9.25	10.25	9.46	8.22
1936	10.16	9.14	8.78	9.30	9.40	10.34	9.43	8.75

The death rate in England and Wales was 12.1 in 1936.

The differences in the age and sex constitutions of the populations of the six States have been taken into account in computing their respective indexes of mortality. The results for each are based upon a standard population, distributed according to sex, into eleven age groups. Mortality indexes for each State for the years 1933 to 1936, as compiled by the Commonwealth Statistician, are as follows :—

INDEX OF MORTALITY FOR AUSTRALIA, 1933 TO 1936.

Year.	Index of Mortality for—						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
1933	8.74	8.52	9.10	7.66	8.74	8.86	8.62
1934	9.30	8.96	8.84	8.39	9.45	9.43	9.04
1935	9.08	9.18	9.39	7.97	9.47	9.54	9.10
1936	9.23	9.12	9.02	8.36	9.62	9.60	9.12

The following table, computed on the basis of allotment of all deaths to the place of usual residence, shows the number of deaths, and the deaths per 1,000 of the mean population in Greater Melbourne, other principal towns and the remainder of the State for the five-year periods 1923 to 1927 and 1928 to 1932, and the last three years.

Death rates in Municipalities.

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

Municipality.	Annual Number of Deaths.					Deaths per 1,000 of Mean Population.				
	1923-1927.	1928-1932.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1923-1927.	1928-1932.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Greater Melbourne—										
Melbourne ..	1,264	1,091	1,139	1,111	1,147	12·83	11·57	12·64	12·32	12·70
Box Hill ..	*	125	150	136	175	*	8·81	9·77	8·81	11·21
Braybrook(Part)..	*	56	64	60	49	*	6·70	7·25	6·76	5·47
Brighton ..	242	272	290	313	335	9·43	9·22	9·63	10·22	10·74
Brunswick ..	520	532	575	536	575	10·50	9·57	10·60	9·87	10·55
Camberwell ..	316	430	470	505	478	9·15	8·87	9·27	9·78	8·98
Caulfield ..	463	552	648	664	665	8·52	8·72	9·00	10·02	9·86
Chelsea ..	..	63	76	92	84	..	9·24	11·06	13·10	11·98
Coburg ..	232	287	338	333	294	8·29	8·08	8·79	8·60	7·52
Collingwood ..	422	363	389	409	369	12·45	11·36	12·79	13·54	12·25
Essendon ..	404	429	487	503	492	9·51	9·30	10·57	10·90	10·59
Fitzroy ..	457	446	432	452	473	13·33	13·77	14·04	14·79	15·49
Footscray ..	397	402	439	416	444	9·78	8·79	9·47	8·95	9·49
Hawthorn ..	331	357	420	427	402	10·51	10·67	12·84	12·45	11·57
Heidelberg(Part)..	*	193	234	222	202	*	7·91	9·70	9·19	8·26
Kew ..	191	220	257	211	260	9·06	9·08	10·68	8·62	10·55
Malvern ..	368	404	493	489	485	8·71	9·28	11·30	11·06	10·85
Moorabbin ..	..	130	142	180	153	..	7·55	7·68	9·67	8·11
Mordialloc ..	..	85	89	105	96	..	8·86	9·30	10·62	9·68
Northcote ..	349	369	418	400	410	9·53	8·77	9·85	9·47	9·62
Oakleigh ..	*	101	125	137	96	*	8·72	10·42	11·32	7·87
Port Melbourne ..	151	137	141	183	169	11·49	10·26	10·92	14·17	13·04
Prahran ..	608	628	661	687	655	11·80	11·96	12·65	13·00	12·26
Preston ..	168	242	280	267	263	9·44	8·20	8·74	8·33	8·14
Richmond ..	490	464	481	469	451	11·24	11·20	12·14	11·83	11·37
Sandringham ..	121	161	178	184	192	7·86	9·08	9·81	10·06	10·38
South Melbourne..	539	486	510	492	539	11·85	11·09	11·85	11·42	12·49
St. Kilda ..	441	452	567	528	547	10·73	9·84	11·91	10·87	11·07
Williamstown ..	237	211	235	200	234	11·32	9·63	10·66	8·99	10·48
Remainder of Metropolis ..	520	..	..	..	..	9·86	..	..	..	..
Principal Towns—										
Ballarat ..	482	475	534	487	517	12·19	12·28	14·20	12·85	13·54
Bendigo ..	444	421	445	432	456	13·20	13·08	15·08	14·67	15·31
Geelong ..	401	465	444	458	486	10·16	10·40	11·24	11·57	12·24
Ararat ..	†	†	62	70	65	†	†	12·65	14·26	13·13
Castlemaine ..	73	73	60	66	63	10·19	10·61	11·32	12·55	11·98
Colac ..	†	†	58	52	54	†	†	11·60	10·40	9·82
Echuca ..	†	†	62	39	50	†	†	14·09	8·74	11·24
Hamilton ..	63	59	65	51	71	12·21	10·35	11·21	8·79	12·10
Horsham ..	†	†	65	58	67	†	†	12·26	10·94	12·50
Maryborough ..	59	59	69	68	70	12·25	10·66	12·32	12·14	12·32
Mildura ..	65	59	94	87	74	11·10	9·05	14·24	12·70	10·72
Sale ..	†	†	58	50	65	†	†	13·49	11·60	15·05
Shepparton ..	†	55	85	66	60	†	9·96	14·91	11·32	10·27
Stawell ..	53	51	57	35	55	11·38	10·87	11·88	7·29	11·46
Wangaratta ..	†	†	70	57	64	†	†	14·68	11·75	13·22
Warrnambool ..	80	91	89	110	110	10·00	10·46	9·89	12·22	12·15
Wonthaggi ..	49	47	50	44	34	7·74	7·45	8·93	7·33	5·15
Summary—										
Greater Melbourne ..	9,231	9,688	10,728	10,711	10,734	10·38	9·74	10·75	10·67	10·60
Principal Towns ..	1,769	1,845	2,367	2,230	2,361	11·25	11·22	12·83	12·06	12·62
Remainder of State ..	5,533	5,311	5,553	5,515	5,683	8·87	8·63	8·68	8·48	8·80
Victoria ..	16,533	16,844	18,648	18,456	18,778	9·91	9·45	10·18	10·03	10·16

* Included in Remainder of Metropolis. † Not calculated.

NOTE.—The boundaries of Greater Melbourne were re-defined in 1929.

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

An examination of particulars of residence of persons who die in the public institutions of Victoria gives a definite indication of the assistance rendered by these institutions to people in different divisions of the State. The numbers and proportions of such deaths in the various municipalities are given below for 1936 :—

PROPORTION OF DEATHS OF RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN AREAS OCCURRING IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, 1936.

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 ..	423	103	36·88	8·98	45·86	5·83
Box Hill ..	32	10	18·29	5·71	24·00	2·69
Braybrook (Part) ..	18	3	36·74	6·12	42·86	2·35
Brighton ..	62	15	18·50	4·48	22·98	2·47
Brunswick ..	178	40	30·95	6·96	37·91	4·00
Camberwell ..	88	25	18·41	5·23	23·64	2·13
Caulfield ..	131	31	19·70	4·66	24·36	2·40
Chelsea ..	21	3	25·00	3·57	28·57	3·42
Coburg ..	98	16	33·33	5·44	38·77	2·92
Collingwood ..	155	31	42·01	8·40	50·41	6·17
Essendon ..	113	33	22·97	6·70	29·67	3·14
Fitzroy ..	191	45	40·38	9·51	49·89	7·73
Footscray ..	136	23	30·63	5·18	35·81	3·40
Hawthorn ..	80	23	19·90	5·72	25·62	2·97
Heidelberg (Part) ..	40	14	19·80	6·93	26·73	2·21
Kew ..	43	10	16·54	3·84	20·38	2·15
Malvern ..	76	21	15·67	4·33	20·00	2·17
Moorabbin ..	44	7	28·76	4·57	33·33	2·70
Mordialloc ..	26	5	27·08	5·21	32·29	3·14
Northcote ..	108	24	26·34	5·85	32·19	3·10
Oakleigh ..	30	8	31·25	8·33	39·58	3·11
Port Melbourne ..	61	15	36·09	8·88	44·97	5·87
Prahran ..	197	47	30·08	7·17	37·25	4·57
Preston ..	76	24	28·90	9·12	38·02	3·10
Richmond ..	157	42	34·81	9·31	44·12	5·01
Sandringham ..	52	10	27·08	5·21	32·29	3·36
South Melbourne ..	198	34	36·73	6·31	43·04	5·38
St. Kilda ..	148	31	27·05	5·67	32·72	3·63
Williamstown ..	69	21	29·49	8·97	38·46	4·03

PROPORTION OF DEATHS OF RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN AREAS
OCCURRING IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, 1936—*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.	
Principal Towns—						
Ballarat	105	34	20·31	6·58	26·89	3·64
Bendigo	129	30	28·29	6·58	34·87	5·34
Geelong	140	22	28·81	4·52	33·33	4·08
Ararat	16	6	24·62	9·23	33·85	4·44
Castlemaine ..	22	4	34·92	6·35	41·27	4·92
Colac	26	2	48·15	3·70	51·85	5·09
Echuca	12	..	24·00	..	24·00	2·70
Hamilton	28	3	39·44	4·22	43·66	5·28
Horsham	24	2	35·82	2·98	38·80	4·85
Maryborough ..	31	2	44·28	2·86	47·14	5·81
Mildura	35	6	47·30	8·11	55·41	5·94
Sale	32	4	49·23	6·15	55·38	8·33
Shepparton ..	24	3	40·00	5·00	45·00	4·62
Stawell	19	..	34·55	..	34·55	3·96
Wangaratta ..	24	2	37·50	3·12	40·62	5·37
Warrnambool ..	20	4	18·18	3·64	21·82	2·65
Wonthaggi ..	14	1	41·18	2·94	44·12	2·27
Summary—						
Greater Melbourne	3,051	714	28·43	6·65	35·08	3·72
Principal Towns ..	701	125	29·69	5·30	34·99	4·41
Remainder of State	1,243	276	21·87	4·86	26·73	2·34
Victoria	4,995	1,115	26·60	5·94	32·54	3·31

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

—	1910-14.	1920-24.	1925-29.	1930-34.	1935.	1936.
Greater Melbourne ..	24·3	27·0	29·5	27·7	27·5	28·4
Rest of State	17·0	21·2	23·7	26·3	27·3	24·2
Victoria	20·4	24·3	27·0	27·1	27·4	26·6

The proportion of residents of Greater Melbourne dying in public hospitals increased slightly between 1910-14 and 1925-29, but since the latter period has shown a tendency to decrease. In the rest of the State the proportion, which in 1910-14 was 30 per cent. below that of Greater Melbourne, increased constantly in each period until in 1930-34 it was slightly below the proportion for the metropolis. In

1935 the proportions for Greater Melbourne and the rest of the State were 27·5 and 27·3 respectively. In 1936 the proportion for Greater Melbourne rose to 28·4 while that for the rest of the State dropped to 24·2.

The percentage of deaths occurring in the other public institutions of the State was 5·94 in 1936 and 6·37 in 1935. The rate in the metropolis is considerably higher than the rate for the rest of the State.

In 1936 the number of deaths in public institutions was 6,110, of which 3,765 were of residents of Greater Melbourne.

The number of deaths in each metropolitan public institution in 1936 is given in the subjoined table:—

DEATHS IN METROPOLITAN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, 1936.

Institution	No. of Deaths.	Institution.	No. of Deaths.
Hospitals—		Asylums—	
Royal Melbourne ..	727	Mental—	
Alfred	658	Kew	95
Hamilton Russell Com- munity	33	Mont Park	103
Children's	418	Receiving House, Royal Park	108
St. Vincent's	412	Macleod Military	3
St. Vincent's Intermediate	39	Total Mental	309
Austin	486	Benevolent—	
Women's	224	Melbourne (Cheltenham) ..	198
Prince Henry's	172	Victorian Homes for Aged and Infirm	138
Infectious Diseases	91	Convent of Little Sisters of the Poor	52
Caulfield Repatriation ..	78	Old Colonists' Homes	6
Queen Victoria	80	Total Benevolent	394
Jessie McPherson Com- munity	28	Foundling Homes, Refuges—	
Williamstown	35	Broadmeadows	12
Caulfield Convalescent ..	10	East Melbourne	1
Eye and Ear	20	The Haven, Fitzroy	4
Police	2	Carlton .. ..	..
Total Hospitals	3,513	Children's Welfare Depot ..	..
Sanatoria —		Berwick .. ..	..
Heatherton	49	Total Refuges, etc.	17
Macleod Military	1	Total Hospitals and other Institutions	
Greenvale	28	4,326	
Gresswell	15		
Total Sanatoria	93		

Of the 4,326 deaths in the above institutions, 2,483 were males and 1,843 were females.

Decrease in
Metropolitan
death rate.

In Greater Melbourne, in the decade 1927-36, there was an average of 10·12 deaths per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 15·76 in the decennium 1892-1901. The reduction in the rate represents a saving of approximately 56,000 lives in the last ten years. That the sanitary conditions of the metropolis have greatly improved is evidenced by a comparison of the death rates from tubercular and certain other diseases for the period 1927-36 with those for the decennium 1892-1901. The following are the rates :—

Cause of Death.	Average Annual Deaths per 1,000,000 of Population.		
	1892-1901.	1927-36.	Decrease in 1927-36.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	1,654	538	1,116
Other Tubercular Diseases ..	446	88	358
Typhoid Fever	293	8	285
Scarlet Fever	33	12	21
Measles	215	13	202
Diphtheria	196	64	132
Total	2,837	723	2,114

The figures show that the mortality from the six diseases mentioned declined by 75 per cent. in 1927-36—the decline representing a rate of 2,114 per million of the population.

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

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 42 in 1932-36—a reduction of 68 per cent. In other words, where 100 infants died in the earlier years, only 32 died in the last five years.

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 milk and water supply. The passing of the Midwives Act in 1915 and the inauguration of the

Infantile
mortality

Infant Welfare movement in 1917, coincide with, and, in a large degree, account for the reduction of the rate in the later years. Particulars of the latter movement will be found in Part "Social Condition" of this volume.

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

INFANTILE MORTALITY IN VICTORIA, 1880 TO 1936.

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
1932 ..	629	47·7	552	38·7	1,181	43·0
1933 ..	550	40·9	598	40·0	1,148	40·4
1934 ..	634	48·2	608	41·4	1,242	44·6
1935 ..	570	43·0	578	39·5	1,148	41·2
1936 ..	605	44·1	617	40·7	1,222	42·3

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

During the last decade the infantile death rate declined from 56·1 in 1927 to 42·3 in 1936. The most pronounced fall in the period occurred in 1929, the rate decreasing from 55·6 in the previous year to 47·2. Following 1929 the rate continued to decline each year until in 1933 the record low rate of 40·4 was recorded. In 1934 the rate increased sharply to 44·6 but dropped in the following year to 41·2.

The number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age, and the deaths per 1,000 births in Greater Melbourne, other principal towns, and the remainder of the State for the five-year periods 1923-27 and 1928-32, and the last three years were as follows :—

Infantile deaths in municipalities.

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

Municipality.	Annual Number of Deaths under One Year.					Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.				
	1923- 1927.	1928- 1932.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1923- 1927.	1928- 1932.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Greater Melbourne—										
Melbourne ..	163	86	56	55	61	89.97	63.95	50.00	49.24	53.93
Box Hill ..	*	10	10	9	9	*	37.04	50.76	45.68	37.19
Braybrook (Part) ..	*	6	15	4	7	*	33.19	84.27	26.84	44.87
Brunswick ..	20	15	9	14	12	41.49	39.11	26.16	41.06	32.88
Cambridge ..	77	60	38	25	28	65.99	61.63	50.20	32.26	34.65
Camberwell ..	34	30	28	27	23	42.15	34.68	40.52	35.95	30.59
Caulfield ..	52	39	35	29	22	48.65	41.87	44.99	38.36	25.83
Chelsea ..	..	6	4	6	6	..	47.32	37.04	49.18	49.18
Coburg ..	44	33	37	19	28	62.29	44.47	60.26	30.59	44.87
Collingwood ..	62	38	34	39	31	89.80	71.78	69.25	81.93	60.31
Essendon ..	52	33	24	23	30	61.26	42.83	42.78	41.82	52.45
Fitzroy ..	57	41	34	29	27	83.50	79.33	72.49	64.30	60.40
Footscray ..	68	41	32	38	24	69.21	47.34	45.58	55.72	34.58
Hawthorn ..	25	16	17	21	23	47.66	37.23	43.81	54.83	51.80
Heidelberg (Part)	*	20	16	11	13	*	49.37	44.57	32.54	38.69
Kew ..	17	15	9	5	11	45.38	43.66	35.43	18.05	36.06
Malvern ..	28	19	15	19	20	44.63	38.91	32.05	42.22	40.98
Moorabbin ..	..	14	12	10	16	..	34.17	34.38	28.41	45.98
Mordialloc ..	..	8	10	10	7	..	55.48	83.83	70.92	55.12
Northcote ..	54	38	22	20	22	60.16	51.73	40.00	36.16	38.06
Oakleigh ..	*	12	4	15	7	*	46.18	20.61	62.70	32.71
Port Melbourne ..	25	16	7	11	7	89.08	71.24	40.70	55.00	35.53
Prahran ..	58	41	46	23	26	66.12	53.62	71.54	37.71	41.40
Preston ..	30	31	24	18	24	54.80	44.08	41.74	31.09	44.36
Richmond ..	65	46	29	30	30	73.81	65.53	48.66	53.00	49.34
Sandringham ..	15	10	13	6	9	53.86	35.85	63.73	26.67	39.30
South Melbourne ..	77	47	15	28	42	89.52	70.87	30.12	50.91	72.79
St. Kilda ..	34	22	22	16	30	50.97	41.67	48.03	32.26	56.71
Williamstown ..	33	19	17	10	10	67.99	44.44	53.63	32.68	29.76
Remainder of Metropolis ..	75	..	..	..	..	54.99	..	..	..	..
Principal Towns—										
Ballarat ..	49	34	35	18	25	67.88	51.84	53.63	31.14	42.88
Bendigo ..	48	33	16	22	25	77.81	60.00	28.67	40.44	43.33
Geelong ..	61	49	38	33	27	70.75	58.56	54.91	50.77	38.85
Ararat ..	†	†	6	3	5	†	†	53.57	34.48	38.17
Castlemaine ..	8	5	5	5	5	59.18	47.80	52.08	53.76	61.73
Colac ..	†	†	5	5	4	†	†	53.19	48.08	36.70
Echuca ..	†	†	7	3	7	†	†	62.50	36.14	76.09
Hamilton ..	10	5	6	3	5	66.76	34.63	56.07	29.41	37.88
Horsham ..	†	†	5	4	4	†	†	50.00	32.52	34.19
Maryborough ..	6	5	2	6	6	48.03	45.84	18.87	56.60	50.00
Mildura ..	13	9	5	13	9	66.53	47.83	27.32	62.50	41.10
Sale ..	†	†	4	1	2	†	†	48.19	11.63	25.97
Shepparton ..	†	†	8	8	11	†	†	50.96	68.75	65.36
Stawell ..	7	3	5	3	6	61.15	28.26	56.18	36.58	63.83
Wangaratta ..	†	†	6	8	2	†	†	62.50	80.81	19.80
Warrnambool ..	9	9	5	8	9	49.34	52.33	25.51	55.56	45.92
Wonthaggi ..	10	8	10	1	5	63.99	53.67	104.17	11.90	53.78
Summary—										
Greater Melbourne ..	1,165	812	634	570	605	65.05	50.94	48.19	43.01	44.06
Principal Towns ..	221	168	168	147	156	69.40	53.24	49.18	44.10	43.70
Remainder of State ..	725	535	440	431	461	49.25	42.12	38.94	38.15	39.81
Victoria ..	2,111	1,515	1,242	1,148	1,222	59.16	47.65	44.63	41.17	42.31

* Included in Remainder of Metropolis.

† Not calculated.

NOTE.—The boundaries of Greater Melbourne were re-defined in 1929

The prejudicial effect of city surroundings on infant life is evidenced by the higher rate of infantile mortality in urban than in country districts. During the years 1932-36 the deaths of children under 1 year of age to every 1,000 births were 45 in Melbourne, 45 in Ballarat, 42 in Bendigo, and 53 in Geelong, as against 39 in the remainder of the State.

An investigation into the experience in regard to infantile mortality over a period of years discloses that the decrease in the infantile death rate, since the earlier periods, has been shared proportionately by each sex, and also by each age period, except that of "under one week." The rate per 1,000 births of infants "under one week," which in 1936 comprised 50 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 21.1 in 1936. Between 1910-14 and 1932-36 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 64 per cent. Victoria lost, between the ages of one month and one year, sixty-four out of every 1,000 children born in 1900-04, thirty-three in 1915-19, and fifteen in 1932-36.

On the average of the years 1932-36, the total rate for males was higher than that for females by 27.3 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 male and female death rates at each age period for the year 1936:—

INFANTILE MORTALITY IN VICTORIA AT DIFFERENT AGES, 1900 TO 1936.

Period.	Deaths Under One Year per 1,000 Births.							Males.	Females.
	Under 1 Week.	1 Week and under 1 Month	1 Month and under 3 Months	3 Months and under 6 Months	6 Months and under 12 Months	Total under 1 Year.			
1900-04 ..	34.4		16.9	21.0	25.9	98.2	105.7	90.4	
1905-09 ..	33.0		13.8	15.1	19.3	81.2	89.3	72.6	
1910-14 ..	21.5	11.1	12.1	12.4	16.7	73.8	81.8	65.3	
1915-19 ..	23.3	10.1	10.5	9.4	12.8	66.1	73.0	58.7	
1920-24 ..	23.7	9.3	9.8	10.0	12.5	65.3	71.8	58.5	
1925-29 ..	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	
1932 ..	22.6	4.6	4.5	4.6	6.7	43.0	49.2	36.5	
1933 ..	22.3	5.3	4.2	3.5	5.1	40.4	45.7	35.6	
1934 ..	22.0	5.7	5.1	4.9	6.9	44.6	50.1	39.9	
1935 ..	21.9	5.7	4.2	3.6	5.8	41.2	45.0	37.2	
1936 ..	21.1	5.5	5.1	4.0	6.6	42.3	46.4	38.0	

INFANTILE MORTALITY AT DIFFERENT AGES, MALES AND FEMALES, 1936.

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 ..	347	23.45	50.51	262	18.60	48.97
1 week and under 1 month ..	88	5.95	12.81	71	5.04	13.27
1 month and under 3 months ..	85	5.75	12.37	63	4.47	11.78
3 months and under 6 months ..	69	4.66	10.04	46	3.27	8.60
6 months and under 12 months ..	98	6.62	14.27	93	6.60	17.38
Total under one year ..	687	46.43	100.00	535	37.98	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 be directed if the decline in the rate is to be maintained. In the following tables the mortality under one year of age from the principal causes is given for various periods since 1890, and in age groups for 1936.

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.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Epidemic, Endemic, and Infectious Diseases ..	12.41	7.31	4.87	3.57	3.59	2.37	2.84
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia ..	11.37	8.13	6.86	6.08	7.55	6.31	6.72
Diarrhoeal Diseases ..	29.66	24.62	16.13	9.85	2.88	1.72	2.46
Malformations, &c. (157) ..	3.45	4.86	4.38	4.43	4.39	4.73	4.71
Wasting Diseases (159) ..	22.24	12.74	13.09	6.77	2.80	2.04	2.60
Prematurity ..	13.13	14.99	15.17	15.34	11.21	12.59	11.39
Injury at birth ..	..	..	..	2.57	3.70	3.16	2.80
Early Infancy (161) ..	21.51	12.77	7.98	3.42	5.14	5.02	4.74
Other diseases ..	..	..	..	4.42	2.44	2.30	3.25
Violence ..	3.16	2.47	1.07	.80	.93	.93	.80
Total, all Causes ..	116.93	87.89	69.55	57.25	44.63	41.17	42.31

INFANTILE DEATH RATES, AT DIFFERENT AGES, FROM CERTAIN CAUSES, 1936.

Cause of Death.	Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Births.								Average Annual Rate, 1932-36.	
	Age Period.						Total.	Males.		Females.
	Under 1 Week.	1 Week and under 1 Month.	1 Month and under 3 Months.	3 Months and under 6 Months.	6 Months and under 12 Months.					
Epidemic, Endemic, and Infectious Diseases ..	.07	.07	.97	.59	1.14	2.84	2.50	3.20	2.85	
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia ..	.63	1.00	1.63	1.03	2.43	6.72	6.83	6.60	6.27	
Diarrhoeal Diseases ..	..	.11	.45	.90	1.00	2.46	2.70	2.20	2.35
Malformations, &c. (157)	2.87	.73	.59	.35	.17	4.71	5.47	3.90	4.58	
Wasting Diseases (158)	1.18	.25	.48	.45	.24	2.60	3.04	2.13	2.78	
Prematurity ..	9.59	1.52	.21	.07	..	11.39	12.98	9.73	12.32	
Injury at Birth ..	2.25	.55	..	..	..	2.80	3.25	2.34	3.20
Early Infancy (161) ..	3.98	.66	.10	..	..	4.74	4.93	4.54	4.64
Other Diseases ..	.17	.59	.55	.52	1.42	3.25	3.78	2.70	2.41	
Violence ..	.35	.03	.14	.07	.21	.80	.95	2.64	.90	
Total, all Causes ..	21.09	5.51	5.12	3.98	6.61	42.31	46.43	37.98	42.30	
Average Annual Rate, 1932-36 ..	21.99	5.36	4.61	4.10	6.24	42.30	47.26	37.13	..	

The mortality of infants under one year from pre-natal causes (malformations, congenital debility, prematurity, injury at birth etc.) was 27.5 per 1,000 births in 1932-36 and represented 65 per cent. of all infants who died. Variations in classification in the earlier

years prevent exact comparison but no appreciable decline is evident. The rate in 1936 was 26·2, of which 76 per cent. occurred in the first week of life.

The mortality from the chief preventable diseases—infectious, respiratory, and diarrhoeal—has declined from 40·1 per 1,000 births in 1901-10 to 27·9 in 1911-20 and 11·5 in 1932-36. Of these causes, deaths from diarrhoeal diseases declined from 24·6 per 1,000 births in 1901-10 to 2·3 in 1932-36, the main respiratory diseases from 8·1 to 6·3 and the infectious from 7·3 to 2·8. It will thus be seen that since the beginning of this century mortality of infants from diarrhoeal diseases has been reduced by 91 per cent.; the main respiratory diseases by 22 per cent.; and the infectious by 62 per cent. Of recent years respiratory diseases have displaced diarrhoeal as the most fatal of the preventable infantile diseases. With few exceptions the mortality rate of males from infantile diseases is consistently higher than that of females.

The following table shows the number of deaths from the principal causes, and the death rate of infants under one month for Greater Melbourne and the whole State, for the years 1932 to 1936:—

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE MONTH, 1932 TO 1936.

Cause of Death.	Greater Melbourne.					Victoria.				
	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Epidemic, Endemic, and Infectious Diseases ..	1	4	5	7	2	3	6	10	11	4
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia ..	19	27	37	27	29	28	39	57	43	47
Diarrhoeal Diseases ..	4	..	5	3	2	9	2	11	6	3
Malformations, &c. (157) ..	26	51	36	40	40	65	110	76	81	104
Wasting Diseases (158) ..	26	21	14	9	12	63	59	48	40	41
Prematurity ..	166	153	152	162	140	361	345	302	340	321
Injury at Birth ..	40	34	48	31	44	88	88	102	84	81
Early Infancy (161) ..	59	55	79	75	74	111	116	139	138	134
Other Diseases ..	4	8	4	4	7	13	14	17	15	22
Violence ..	2	4	5	5	6	7	6	9	12	11
Total, all Causes ..	347	357	335	363	356	748	785	771	770	768
Deaths per 1,000 Births	26·3	26·5	29·3	27·4	25·9	27·2	27·6	27·7	27·6	26·6

Stillbirths and Infantile Mortality.

A survey of the mortality from pre-natal causes is not complete without taking into account the loss due to stillbirths. In Victoria stillbirths are not registered, but cases are notified to registrars in accordance with the provisions of the Cemeteries Act and the (Commonwealth) Maternity Allowance Act. Rates based on these notifications should be regarded as minimum rates, as they possibly understate the full extent of the loss.

The following table contains information relating to stillbirths and infantile mortality in Victoria for the years 1927 to 1936.

Year	Percentage of Stillbirths to—		Deaths of Infants under One Year per 1,000 Births.			
	Living Births.	All Births.	Exclusive of Stillbirths.			*Inclusive of Stillbirths.
			Under One Month.	One Month and under Twelve Months.	Total under One Year.	
1927 ..	3.0	2.9	31.3	24.8	56.1	83.8
1928 ..	2.8	2.7	29.5	26.1	55.6	80.9
1929 ..	3.1	3.0	30.4	16.8	47.2	76.0
1930 ..	3.0	2.9	28.0	18.5	46.5	74.2
1931 ..	2.8	2.7	28.6	15.9	44.5	70.4
1932 ..	2.9	2.8	27.2	15.8	43.0	69.9
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

* 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.

On the average of the last ten years, 93 in every 1,000 ex-nuptial infants died within a year, as against 44 in every 1,000 nuptial children. It is thus seen that the proportion of ex-nuptial children dying before the age of 1 year is 2.1 times that of nuptial children. In the year 1936 the mortality rate of nuptial infants was 40.2 per 1,000 births. The children born out of wedlock during the same year numbered 1,272, and the deaths of ex-nuptial infants were 111, the death rate being thus 87.3 per 1,000 births. With the view of ascertaining the chief reasons for the marked disproportion in the mortality rates of the two classes the following table has been constructed, showing the

Nuptial and Ex-nuptial infantile death rates.

deaths from certain causes per 1,000 nuptial and ex-nuptial births, for the periods 1904-08, 1914-18, 1924-28 and the year 1936 :—

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.	1936.	1904-08.	1914-18.	1924-28.	1936.
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia ..	6·9	6·1	5·9	6·0	18·6	12·5	13·0	22·8
Diarrhoeal Diseases ..	19·8	14·2	8·9	1·9	72·6	48·6	23·1	14·2
Prematurity, Congenital Malformations, Marasmus, &c.* ..	30·3	27·2	25·0	18·5	52·1	64·9	46·9	22·0
Other causes ..	18·3	15·3	14·7	13·8	58·7	36·6	29·3	28·3
Total, all Causes ..	75·3	62·8	54·5	40·2	202·0	162·6	112·3	87·3

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

The rates for the last five years show that of every 1,000 children born out of wedlock 9·2 died from diarrhoeal diseases within a year, as compared with 2·0 deaths per 1,000 nuptial infants from the same cause. Owing to a larger proportion of the former children being deprived of breast food a higher mortality from these diseases might be expected among them than among nuptial infants, but the striking differences in the death rates from this cause and from the chief respiratory diseases indicate considerable neglect in the rearing of ex-nuptial infants. The rates from bronchitis, broncho-pneumonia, and pneumonia were 18·1 and 5·7 per 1,000 births respectively.

In 1936 pre-natal causes (malformations, congenital debility, prematurity, injury at birth, etc.) accounted for 37, or 33 per cent. of the total deaths of ex-nuptial infants.

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

Year.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1932	43·00	40·98	40·19	36·62	44·57	41·19	41·30	31·22
1933	40·43	39·35	42·74	32·13	36·83	41·07	39·52	31·64
1934	44·63	46·36	40·61	35·58	40·89	42·28	43·59	32·11
1935	41·17	39·44	37·26	34·95	40·15	51·84	39·78	32·26
1936	42·31	43·47	36·20	31·09	42·22	49·55	41·16	30·96

Infantile mortality in Australasia.

AGES AT DEATH IN VICTORIA, 1936-37—continued.

Ages.	1934.			1935.			1936.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Years.									
35 to 39	240	233	473	271	237	508	244	230	474
40 " 44	318	320	638	332	306	638	317	269	586
45 " 49	444	380	824	434	339	773	450	380	830
50 " 54	538	434	972	581	423	1,004	533	393	926
55 " 59	733	514	1,247	688	493	1,181	680	521	1,201
60 " 64	915	730	1,645	866	671	1,537	884	653	1,537
65 " 69	1,187	928	2,115	1,204	967	2,171	1,183	991	2,174
70 " 74	1,379	1,186	2,565	1,393	1,200	2,593	1,428	1,139	2,567
75 " 79	1,169	1,072	2,241	1,176	1,104	2,280	1,246	1,203	2,449
80 " 84	602	708	1,310	667	700	1,367	711	744	1,455
85 " 89	307	415	722	300	415	715	337	424	761
90 " 94	109	165	274	100	178	278	79	174	253
95 ..	8	13	21	7	25	32	6	20	26
96 ..	8	11	19	9	9	18	11	7	18
97 ..	3	8	11	7	8	15	7	8	15
98 ..	3	3	6	2	6	8	2	6	8
99 ..	2	8	10	1	2	3	4	7	11
100 ..	4	2	6	..	7	7	..	2	2
101 ..	..	2	2	..	1	1	..	..	..
102 ..	..	2	2	..	1	1	..	1	1
103 ..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
104 ..	..	1	1	1	..	1	1	1	2
109 ..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Unknown	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	4
Total ..	9,913	8,735	18,648	9,856	8,600	18,456	9,996	8,782	18,778

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

Of the 55,882 persons who died in Victoria during the last three years 7,384 (or approximately 13 per cent.) were aged 80 years and upwards, and 28—six males and twenty-two females—were stated as having attained or passed the age of 100 years. In 1886 the number of 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.

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

CAUSES OF DEATH, VICTORIA, 1922-26, 1934, 1935, and 1936.

International Abridged Classification.	Number—			Deaths per Million of the Population.			
	1934.	1935.	1936.	1922-1926.	1934.	1935.	1936.
1. Typhoid Fever (1, 2)	11	16	10	21	6	9	5
4. Measles	25	20	1	17	14	11	1
5. Scarlet Fever	19	5	14	10	10	3	8
6. Whooping Cough	84	50	50	60	46	27	27
7. Diphtheria	110	94	99	59	60	51	53
8a. Influenza—Respiratory	231	158	41	61	126	86	22
8b. Influenza—Other	83	63	42	52	45	34	23
10. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	753	761	762	575	411	414	412
11a. Tubercular Meningitis	40	42	38	42	22	23	21
11b. Other Tuberculous Diseases	96	75	70	58	52	41	38
12. Syphilis	48	47	39	24	26	25	21
13. Malaria	2	..	..	1	..	..	..
14. Other Infectious or Parasitic Diseases ..	123	116	138	120	68	63	75
15. Cancer and other Malignant Tumours ..	2,178	2,260	2,288	1,000	1,190	1,229	1,238
16. Tumours, Non-Malignant or of Un-specified Nature	85	101	106	51	46	55	58
17. Chronic Rheumatism, Gout (57-58)	73	79	66	38	40	43	36
18. Diabetes Mellitus	319	309	311	112	174	168	168
19. Acute and Chronic Alcoholism	4	7	10	11	2	4	5
20. Other General Diseases (Classes 3, 4, 5)	329	332	366	165	180	180	198
21. Locomotor Ataxia, General Paralysis of Insane (80, 83)	37	38	41	31	20	21	22
22. Cerebral Haemorrhage, Embolism, &c. (82)	984	943	980	†	537	513	531
23. Other Diseases of Nervous System and Sense Organs	355	294	307	236	194	159	166
24. Diseases of the Heart (90-95)	3,684	3,945	3,812	1,347	2,012	2,145	2,063
25a. Arterio-sclerosis	922	958	1,104	†	504	521	597
25b. Other Diseases of Circulatory System ..	159	157	172	82	87	85	93
26a. Acute Bronchitis (106a and c)	51	45	47	48	28	24	25
26b. Chronic Bronchitis (106b and d)	213	202	189	147	116	110	102
27. Pneumonia (all forms) (107-109)	1,427	1,354	1,241	734	779	736	672
28. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	369	330	329	214	202	180	178
29a. Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years of age)	106	62	97	294	58	34	53
29b. Diarrhoea and Enteritis (two years and over)	173	111	102	86	94	60	55
30. Appendicitis	124	139	143	71	68	76	78
31a. Cirrhosis of the Liver	88	84	86	49	48	46	47
31b. Other Diseases of the Liver and Biliary Calculi (125-127)	152	130	155	60	83	71	82
32a. Hernia, Intestinal obstruction	159	169	159	99	87	92	86
32b. Other Diseases of the Digestive System	260	287	315	148	142	155	171
33. Nephritis (130-132)	1,118	1,055	1,059	505	611	574	573
34. Other Diseases of the Genito-Urinary System	321	332	349	151	175	180	189
35a. Post-Abortive Sepsis	8	8	7	†	4	4	4
35b. Criminal Abortion (140b)	37	35	49	†	20	19	26
35c. Puerperal Septicaemia (without abortion)	32	19	40	†	17	10	22
36. Other Diseases of Pregnancy and Labour	93	69	85	†	51	38	46
37. Diseases of the Skin, Bones, &c.	87	76	94	61	48	41	51
38. Congenital Debility, Malformations, Premature Birth, &c.	791	815	809	731	432	443	438
39. Senility	1,087	1,010	1,257	802	594	549	680
40. Suicide	171	166	198	87	93	90	107
41. Homicide	26	24	18	14	14	13	10
42. Accidental or Violent Death (176-198)	934	974	990	465	510	530	536
43. Non-specified or Ill-defined Causes ..	67	90	93	94	37	49	50
* Total all Causes	18,648	18,456	18,778	9,898	10,184	10,034	10,162

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

† Comparable figures not available.

‡ Vide page 90.

Detailed classification numbers in brackets.

CAUSES OF DEATH, VICTORIA, GREATER MELBOURNE,
AND REST OF STATE, 1936.

International Abridged Classification.	Number of Deaths.				Deaths per 1,000,000 of Population.	
	Victoria.		Metro- polis.	Rest of State.	Metro- polis.	Rest of State.
	Males.	Fe- males				
1. Typhoid Fever (1, 2)	5	5	5	5	5	6
4. Measles .. .. .	..	1	1	..	1	..
5. Scarlet Fever	6	8	6	8	6	9
6. Whooping Cough	15	35	29	21	29	25
7. Diphtheria	47	52	57	42	56	50
8a. Influenza—Respiratory	28	13	20	21	20	25
8b. Influenza—Other	24	18	27	15	27	18
10. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	394	368	508	254	501	304
11a. Tubercular Meningitis	18	20	26	12	26	14
11b. Other Tuberculous Diseases	45	25	31	39	31	47
12. Syphilis	30	9	35	4	34	5
13. Malaria .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
14. Other Infectious or Parasitic Diseases	79	59	69	69	68	83
15. Cancer and other Malignant Tumours	1,112	1,176	1,386	902	1,369	1,080
16. Tumours, Non-Malignant or of Unspecified Nature	47	59	69	37	68	44
17. Chronic Rheumatism, Gout (57-58)	24	42	38	28	37	34
18. Diabetes Mellitus	107	204	179	132	177	158
19. Acute and Chronic Alcoholism	7	3	4	6	4	7
20. Other General Diseases (Classes 3, 4, 5)	161	205	215	151	213	181
21. Locomotor Ataxia, General Paralysis of Insane (80, 83)	32	9	33	8	33	9
22. Cerebral Haemorrhage, Embolism, &c. (82)	386	594	603	377	595	451
23. Other Diseases of Nervous System and Sense Organs	172	135	171	136	169	163
24. Diseases of the Heart (90-95)	2,148	1,604	2,254	1,558	2,226	1,865
25a. Arterio-sclerosis	478	626	733	371	724	444
25b. Other Diseases of Circulatory System	101	71	97	75	96	90
26a. Acute Bronchitis (106a and c)	32	15	19	28	19	34
26b. Chronic Bronchitis (106b and d)	104	85	114	75	112	90
27. Pneumonia (all forms) (107-109)	669	572	655	586	647	701
28. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	214	115	172	157	170	188
29a. Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years of age)	53	44	61	36	60	43
29b. Diarrhoea and Enteritis (two years and over)	45	57	59	43	58	51
30. Appendicitis	84	59	75	68	74	81
31a. Cirrhosis of the Liver	57	29	60	26	59	31
31b. Other Diseases of the Liver and Biliary Calculi (125-127)	54	101	89	66	88	79
32a. Hernia, Intestinal obstruction	88	71	84	75	83	90
32b. Other Diseases of the Digestive System	205	110	205	110	203	132
33. Nephritis (130-132)	539	520	607	452	599	541
34. Other Diseases of the Genito-Urinary System	263	86	190	159	188	190
35a. Post-Abortive Sepsis .. .. .	..	7	3	4	3	5
35b. Criminal Abortion (140b) .. .. .	..	49	40	9	39	11
35c. Puerperal Septicaemia (without abortion) .. .. .	..	40	22	18	22	22
36. Other Diseases of Pregnancy and Labour .. .. .	..	85	39	46	39	55
37. Diseases of the Skin, Bones, &c.	49	45	58	36	57	43
38. Congenital Debility, Malformations, Premature Birth, &c.	470	339	382	427	377	511
39. Senility	613	644	554	703	548	841
40. Suicide	155	43	98	100	97	120
41. Homicide	13	5	8	10	8	12
42. Accidental or Violent Death (176-198)	762	228	523	467	516	559
43. Non-specified or Ill-defined Causes	61	32	21	72	21	86
*TOTAL ALL CAUSES	9,996	8,782	10,734	8,044	10,602	9,628

* No deaths from No. 2 Typhus Fever, No. 3 Small Pox, and No. 9 Plague.

Detailed classification numbers in brackets.

Typhoid fever. In 1936, deaths from typhoid fever numbered 10, being equivalent to a rate of 5 per million of population, as compared with rates of 9 in 1935, 6 in 1934, 9 in 1933, 7 in 1932, 31 in 1920-24, 108 in 1905-09, and 301 in 1895-99. Cases of typhoid fever reported in 1936 numbered 60, or 32 per million of population, as against 259 in 1920-24, and 2,884 in 1895-99.

The figures show that the mortality from typhoid has been reduced to very small proportions.

Small-pox - Deaths from. Persons suffering from small-pox have arrived at Victorian ports on many occasions, but, as they were at once quarantined, the disease never spread among the people of the State. During the years 1853 to 1936 only 31 deaths occurred from this cause, and of that number only 8 took place in the last fifty-two years of the period. 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. In 1936 there was 1 death attributed to this cause, representing an approximate rate of 1 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 11 in 1935, 14 in 1934, 7 in 1933, and 9 in 1932.

The disease chiefly affects children. On the average of the five years 1932 to 1936, 42 per cent. of those who died from the disease were under 2 years of age and 64 per cent. were under 5 years.

Scarlet fever. In 1936 the deaths from scarlet fever numbered 14, which corresponded to a rate of 8 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 3 in 1935, 10 in 1934, 7 in 1933, 21 in 1932, and 34 in 1890-92. During 1936 there were 2,122 cases reported, as against 1,458 in 1935, 1,834 in 1934, 2,493 in 1933, and 4,152 in 1932. For the five years mentioned the deaths were less than one per cent. of the cases. Seventy per cent. of these deaths were of children under 10 years of age. According to the experience of the last ten years the chance of dying from the disease is 41 per cent. greater for females than for males.

Whooping cough. Whooping cough was responsible for 50 deaths in 1936, which equalled a rate of 27 per million of the population at all ages, as compared with rates of 27 in 1935, 46 in 1934, 21 in 1933, and 15 in 1932. 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 32 of the deaths were of infants under 1 year, and all except two of the deaths were of children less than 5 years of age. On the average of the last ten years the mortality rate from the disease was 52 per cent. higher among females than males.

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

On the average of the five years 1932 to 1936, 51 per cent. of those who died were under 5 years, and 87 per cent. were under 10 years of age.

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

**DIPHThERIA IN VICTORIA AND GREATER MELBOURNE,
1895 TO 1936.**

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
1932	7,322	405·4	166	9·2	2·3
1933	6,564	360·5	126	6·9	1·9
1934	5,490	299·8	110	6·0	2·0
1935	4,309	234·3	94	5·1	2·2
1936	5,218	282·4	99	5·4	1·9
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
1932	4,144	416·8	100	10·1	2·4
1933	3,594	362·3	69	7·0	1·9
1934	2,539	254·4	49	4·9	1·9
1935	2,460	245·0	57	5·7	2·3
1936	3,299	325·8	57	5·6	1·7

Prevalence of diphtheria. The cases of diphtheria which occurred in the metropolitan area, the three principal extra-metropolitan cities, 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 1934, 1935, and 1936 are given in the subjoined table:—

CASES OF DIPHTHERIA.

Area.	Reported Cases of Diphtheria.					Annual Cases per 10,000 of Population.			
	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1910-19.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Greater Melbourne	4,144	3,594	2,539	2,460	3,299	39·3	25·4	24·5	32·6
Ballarat ..	300	237	241	154	159	24·3	64·1	40·6	41·6
Bendigo ..	377	263	109	85	63	84·6	36·9	28·9	21·1
Geelong ..	259	318	181	283	206	43·4	45·8	71·0	51·9
Remainder of State	2,242	2,152	2,420	1,327	1,491	25·7	33·3	18·2	20·5

Influenza. The deaths from influenza in 1936 numbered 83. This corresponded to a rate of 45 per million of the population as compared with rates of 120 in 1935, 171 in 1934, 107 in 1933, 49 in 1932, 2,407 in 1919, 71 in 1913-17, 109 in 1908-12, and 381 in 1890-92.

The rate of mortality was low in 1936, being 64 per cent. below the average of the previous quinquennium.

Of the deaths recorded in 1936, 49 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 1936, 57 per cent. were of persons over 50 years of age.

Tuberculosis (all forms) The number of deaths ascribed to tuberculosis during 1936 was 870, the rate per million of population being 471. This equalled the record low rate recorded in 1933. Tuberculosis of the respiratory system was responsible for 88 per cent. of the deaths from this cause in 1936.

Death rates from tuberculosis of the respiratory system. The deaths from tuberculosis of the respiratory system in 1936 numbered 762—394 being of males and 368 of females—and equalled a rate of 412 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 414 in 1935, 411 in 1934, 405 in 1933, 450 in 1932, 660 in 1918-22, 855 in 1908-12, and 1,365 in 1890-92. The deaths from this cause in Scotland, Northern

Ireland, and the Irish Free State in 1936 were 554, 772, and 894 per million of their respective populations. In 1935 the rate per million of population in England and Wales was 605. The rates of mortality for Victoria at the last six census periods per 10,000 of each sex, in age groups, are shown in the following table:—

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

Age Group.	Annual Mortality from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System per 10,000 of each Sex.					
	1880-82.	1890-92.	1900-02.	1910-12.	1920-22.	1932-34.
<i>Males.</i>						
Under 15 ..	1·74	·90	·38	·46	·42	·24
15 to 19 ..	6·88	5·41	5·06	3·71	2·67	1·07
20 to 24 ..	21·19	18·29	14·35	8·45	7·88	3·59
25 to 34 ..	30·33	23·70	20·31	13·11	9·70	5·44
35 to 44 ..	25·11	28·28	22·07	15·63	12·43	7·46
45 to 54 ..	28·65	31·17	25·05	18·07	13·94	9·05
55 to 64 ..	31·41	36·48	35·75	18·88	13·03	10·56
65 and upwards	18·08	25·40	31·07	13·55	8·65	7·80
All Ages ..	15·33	15·73	13·51	8·98	7·11	4·74
<i>Females.</i>						
Under 15 ..	1·76	1·43	·93	·97	·38	·23
15 to 19 ..	12·50	9·51	8·18	7·62	4·84	2·92
20 to 24 ..	21·00	18·49	12·79	12·68	10·20	6·60
25 to 34 ..	26·56	21·77	18·15	14·03	10·00	7·08
35 to 44 ..	24·06	22·53	17·74	11·51	9·15	5·26
45 to 54 ..	20·72	16·13	14·41	8·18	5·91	3·82
55 to 64 ..	14·26	12·35	12·52	7·47	4·95	3·78
65 and upwards	13·12	8·25	8·18	5·29	3·94	2·88
All Ages ..	12·75	11·51	9·72	7·61	5·55	3·70

A comparison of the mortality from tuberculosis of the respiratory system at the census periods 1920-22 and 1932-34 shows that lower death rates obtained in each age group in 1932-34 than in 1920-22, and that the improvement was greater among males than females.

Deaths from tuberculosis of the respiratory system at various ages.

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

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM AT VARIOUS AGES.

Age Group.	Males.					Females.				
	Year.					Year.				
	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
0-9	3	3	7	3	4	3	4	2	1	7
10-14	1	1	2	..	1	1	3	3	2	2
15-19	7	12	7	9	8	22	27	21	20	27
20-24	31	23	30	26	21	57	56	40	43	57
25-29	41	30	40	39	26	40	51	62	63	60
30-34	45	48	31	36	35	53	42	49	45	53
35-39	57	42	38	43	37	52	35	40	38	34
40-44	49	45	51	51	54	28	27	31	31	40
45-49	43	44	47	40	52	31	24	22	11	18
50-54	55	40	41	55	40	13	10	19	20	17
55-59	43	34	45	45	35	18	15	12	21	10
60-64	30	33	35	27	33	12	14	16	15	13
65-69	30	24	25	20	29	11	12	7	11	16
70 and over ..	30	22	20	36	19	7	16	10	10	14
Total	465	401	419	430	394	348	336	334	331	368

For the year 1936, the average age of those who died from tuberculosis of the respiratory system was 46·2 years for males and 36·6 years for females.

Tubercular diseases (tuberculosis of the respiratory system excepted).

In 1936 there were in Victoria 108 deaths from tubercular diseases (excluding tuberculosis of the respiratory system), which corresponded to a rate of 59 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 64 in 1935, 74 in 1934, 66 in 1933, 76 in 1932, 134 in 1918-22, 182 in 1908-12 and 379 in 1890-92. The deaths from similar causes in Scotland, Northern Ireland, and the Irish Free State in 1936 numbered 183, 244, and 239 per million of their respective populations. In 1935 the rates per million of population in England and Wales was 113.

Tubercular death rates in Melbourne, Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong.

In earlier periods, the death rate from tuberculosis was considerably higher in the Metropolis and the mining centres of Ballarat and Bendigo—Bendigo in particular—than in the rural portions of the State. During recent years the rates for Greater Melbourne and Ballarat have declined considerably.

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
1932 ..	4·9	3·1	8·9	2·0	·8	·7	·3	·	5·7	3·8	9·2	2·0
1933 ..	4·7	2·7	10·1	4·1	·8	·8	·9	1·0	5·5	3·5	11·0	5·1
1934 ..	4·7	5·3	6·1	1·8	·8	1·3	1·0	·7	5·5	6·6	7·1	2·5
1935 ..	4·8	4·7	9·2	3·3	·7	·3	·3	·5	5·5	5·0	9·5	3·8
1936 ..	5·0	1·3	10·4	3·8	·6	·5	1·0	·7	5·6	1·8	11·4	4·5

† Not calculated.

**Other
Infectious
and Parasitic
Diseases.**

Deaths in 1936, from diseases included under this heading (cause No. 14, on page 73) were dysentery 2, erysipelas 28, acute poliomyelitis 4, lethargic encephalitis 9, cerebro-spinal meningitis 4, tetanus 18, septicaemia 39, hydatid cysts 16, and other diseases 18.

Acute poliomyelitis was responsible for 4 deaths in 1936, 7 in 1935, 9 in 1934, 7 in 1933, 4 in 1932, 16 in 1931, 12 in 1930, 17 in 1929, 32 in 1928, and 8 in 1927. Of these 116 deaths, 68 were of males and 48 were of females; 6 were under 1 year of age, 26 were between 1 and 5 years, 27 between 5 and 10 years, and 57 over 10 years.

In 1936, there were 10 male and 6 female deaths from hydatids, of which 6 deaths of males and 4 deaths of females were attributed to hydatid tumour of the liver. The deaths from hydatids in 1936 were equivalent to a rate of 9 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 10 in 1935, 13 in 1934, 12 in 1933, 9 in 1932, 16 in 1918-22, 22 in 1908-12, and 51 in 1890-92.

**Cancer—
Death rates.** Deaths from cancer in 1936 numbered 2,288, and represented a death rate of 1,238 per million of the whole population, as compared with rates of 1,229 in 1935, 1,190 in 1934, 1,180 in 1933, 1,178 in 1932, 934 in 1918-22, 833 in 1908-12, and 584 in 1890-92. The deaths from this cause in Scotland, Northern Ireland, and the Irish Free State in 1936 were 1591, 1286, and 1,154 per million of their respective populations. For the year 1935 in England and Wales the rate per million of population was 1,656.

**Cancer—
Death Rates
at Different
Ages.**

Cancer death rates, computed in relation to the general population in earlier and later periods, are not comparable owing to the changed age distribution of the people. Satisfactory comparisons are obtained by comparing the deaths with the number of persons in the community of the same sex, in age groups. This has been done for four census periods, when the numbers of the

people in age groups were accurately known, and the results are given in the appended table :—

DEATH RATES FROM CANCER IN AGE GROUPS.

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

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

Cancer—Deaths at various ages. The numbers dying from cancer in different age groups in each of the last five years are given below :—

DEATHS FROM CANCER AT VARIOUS AGES.

Age Group.	Males.					Females.				
	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
0-14	11	2	4	5	9	5	5	4	5	3
15-24	8	13	5	5	6	6	6	1	10	9
25-34	9	17	14	21	20	28	17	21	26	14
35-44	41	37	37	50	29	78	84	81	110	90
45-54	105	86	111	103	114	187	175	177	157	194
55-64	273	242	261	237	252	265	287	273	268	304
65-74	402	425	425	419	436	321	330	332	384	338
75-84	172	196	191	208	221	164	180	180	196	189
85 and over ..	24	15	26	15	25	29	31	35	41	35
Total	1,045	1,033	1,074	1,063	1,112	1,083	1,115	1,104	1,197	1,176

Ninety-two per cent. of the deaths from cancer in 1936 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 1936 the average age of those who died from the former was 65·7 years for males and 63·0 years for females, while the corresponding averages for the latter were 46·2 years for males and 36·6 years for females.

The following table shows the seat of cancer in persons who died from this disease in 1936 :—

Seat of Cancer.

SEAT OF CANCER, 1936.

Seat of Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Buccal cavity and pharynx	94	11	105
Oesophagus	54	16	70
Stomach, duodenum, liver and biliary ducts	348	262	610
Pancreas	39	36	75
Intestines, peritoneum and rectum	211	217	428
Respiratory organs	72	25	97
Female genital organs .. .. .	..	251	251
Female breast .. .. .	..	237	237
Male genito-urinary organs	188	..	188
Skin	39	18	57
Other and unspecified organs	67	103	170
Total Deaths	1,112	1,176	2,288

Forty-nine per cent. of the persons who died from cancer were affected in the digestive tract or peritoneum. Of the females who died from the disease 41 per cent. were affected in the genital organs or breast.

Diabetes. The rate of mortality from diabetes has increased, the average of the last five years being 56 per cent. higher than that for the period 1908-12.

During 1936 diabetes was responsible for 107 male and 204 female deaths, representing a rate of 168 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 168 in 1935, 174 in 1934, 163 in 1933, 164 in 1932, 130 in 1918-22, and 107 in 1908-12.

The deaths from diabetes per 10,000 of each sex in age groups for the periods 1900-02, 1910-12, 1920-22, and 1932-34, are shown in the following table:—

DEATH RATES FROM DIABETES.

Age Group.	Average Annual Deaths from Diabetes per 10,000 of each Sex.			
	1900-02.	1910-12.	1920-22.	1932-34.
<i>Males.</i>				
Under 10 ..	·09	·10	·13	·13
10 to 19 ..	·24	·20	·31	·14
20 to 29 ..	·17	·64	·48	·18
30 to 39 ..	·32	·58	·45	·27
40 to 49 ..	·49	1·11	·95	·31
50 to 59 ..	1·38	1·80	2·14	1·92
60 to 69 ..	2·67	5·63	5·19	5·82
70 to 79 ..	4·36	7·34	7·37	13·13
80 and over ..	4·11	7·43	8·42	12·33
All Ages ..	·56	1·00	1·03	1·25

DEATH RATES FROM DIABETES—*continued.*

Age Group.	Average Annual Deaths from Diabetes per 10,000 of each Sex.			
	1900-02.	1910-12.	1920-22.	1932-34.
<i>Females.</i>				
Under 10 ..	·05	·15	·22	·04
10 to 19 ..	·26	·36	·39	·21
20 to 29 ..	·36	·30	·53	·16
30 to 39 ..	·51	·53	·54	·19
40 to 49 ..	·42	·78	1·11	·90
50 to 59 ..	1·42	3·18	2·79	4·00
60 to 69 ..	3·19	8·47	8·02	9·57
70 to 79 ..	5·01	11·54	12·51	17·97
80 and over ..	3·54	6·83	6·02	11·97
All Ages ..	·60	1·26	1·45	2·08

In 1932-34 the rate for females was 66 per cent. higher than that for males.

Deaths in 1936 from diseases included under this heading (cause No. 20 on page 73) were acute rheumatic fever 99, exophthalmic goitre 42, other diseases of the thyroid and parathyroid glands 14, pernicious anaemia 75, other anaemias 11, leucaemia 48, Hodgkin's disease 29, and other diseases 48.

In 1936, 386 male and 594 female deaths were ascribed to these causes, the total—980—corresponding to a rate of 531 per million of the population as compared with rates of 513 in 1935, 537 in 1934, 545 in 1933, and 522 in 1932. Of the 980 deaths in 1936, 579 were due to cerebral haemorrhage, 31 to apoplexy 24 to cerebral embolism, 259 to cerebral thrombosis, 5 to softening) of the brain, and 82 to hemiplegia and unspecified paralysis.

Included under this heading (cause No. 23 on page 73) in 1936, were 39 deaths from simple meningitis, 46 from other diseases of the spinal cord, 53 from epilepsy, 30 from diseases of the ear and mastoid process, and 139 from other diseases.

Diseases of the Heart. During 1936 there were 3,812 deaths ascribed to diseases of the heart, including 16 due to pericarditis, 596 to endocarditis, 2,038 to disease of the myocardium, 568 to diseases of coronary arteries, 169 to angina pectoris, 39 to angina pectoris with record of coronary disease, and 386 to other diseases of the heart. The total causes in 1936 represented a rate of 2,063 per million of the population, the rates for previous years being 2,145 in 1935, 2,012 in 1934, 1,880 in 1933, 1,757 in 1932, 1,347 in 1922-26, and 1,441 in 1908-12. On the average of the three years 1932 to 1934 the deaths from all forms of heart diseases per 10,000 of each sex, in age groups, were as follows:—

DEATH RATES FROM HEART DISEASE AT VARIOUS AGES, 1932-34.

Sex.	Deaths per 10,000 Persons aged—									
	0-14.	15-19.	20-24.	25-34.	35-44.	45-54.	55-64.	65-74.	75 and upwards.	All Ages
Males ..	·51	1·03	1·03	1·76	5·21	16·97	54·44	145·47	316·23	20·71
Females ..	·40	1·21	1·04	1·76	4·27	10·73	35·43	97·32	278·94	16·97

The figures indicate that the mortality rate from heart disease increases greatly as age advances. Of the deaths of persons aged 70 and upwards, approximately 1 in 4 is due to some form of this disease.

In 1936 the number of deaths from arteriosclerosis with record of cerebral vascular lesion (cerebral haemorrhage etc.) was 559, and without such record 545. Of the total deaths, 691 or 63 per cent. were persons aged 70 years and over.

Respiratory diseases. In 1936 the deaths from respiratory diseases numbered 1,806, which represented a rate of 977 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 1,050 in 1935, 1,125 in 1934, 998 in 1933, and 917 in 1932. Of the deaths in the year under review, 47 were due to acute bronchitis, 189 to chronic bronchitis, 670 to broncho-pneumonia, 250 to lobar pneumonia, 321 to pneumonia unspecified, 81 to pleurisy, 36 to asthma, 110 to pulmonary congestion, embolism, etc., 73 to chronic interstitial pneumonia, and 29 to other diseases. Further details will be found under causes Nos. 26 to 28 on pages 73 and 74.

The greatest mortality from the respiratory diseases occurs during the months of June, July, and August.

Diseases of the digestive system.

In 1936 there were 586 male and 471 female deaths from digestive ailments, representing a proportion of 572 per million of the population, as against rates of 534 in 1935, 580 in 1934, 541 in 1933, 538 in 1932, 807 in 1922-26, and 2,382 in 1890-92. Deaths from the principal diseases in 1936 were, 158 from ulcers of the stomach and duodenum, 199 from diarrhoeal diseases, 143 from appendicitis, 39 from hernia, 120 from intestinal obstruction, 86 from cirrhosis of the liver, 61 from biliary calculi, 75 from other diseases of the gall bladder and biliary passages, and 176 from other diseases. Further rates and details are given under causes Nos. 29 to 32 on pages 73 and 74.

The 199 deaths from diarrhoeal diseases in 1936 correspond to a rate of 108 per million of the population as compared with rates of 94 in 1935, 152 in 1934, 109 in 1933, 136 in 1932, 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 1936, 71 were of infants under one year of age, 16 were between the ages of one and two years, and 11 between two and five years, while 49 were of persons aged 65 years and over. Infantile diarrhoea is further dealt with in the section "Infantile Mortality."

Diseases of the genito-urinary system.

In 1936 there were 1,408 deaths attributed to diseases of the genito-urinary system, which corresponded to a rate of 762 per million of the population, as against rates of 754 in 1935, 786 in 1934, 755 in 1933, 704 in 1932, 670 in 1918-22, and 700 in 1909-12. In 1936 acute and chronic nephritis were responsible for 1,059 deaths, other diseases of the kidney, etc., for 91, diseases of the prostate for 178, and other genito-urinary diseases for 80.

Deaths in childbirth.

The death rate of women in childbirth is usually ascertained by comparing the number of deaths of parturient women with the total number of live births. In the following table

are given the proportions of deaths from puerperal septicaemia and all other puerperal causes for each of the last ten years and the averages of previous periods back to 1871. For reasons set forth in the 1931-32 issue of the *Year-Book* the rates given for years prior to 1926 are not strictly comparable with rates for subsequent years.

DEATHS OF MOTHERS (MARRIED AND SINGLE) TO EVERY 10,000 CHILDREN BORN ALIVE, 1871 TO 1936.

Period.	Number of Mothers who Died Annually from—						Deaths of Mothers to every 10,000 Children Born Alive from—					
	Puerperal Septicæmia.			Other Puerperal Causes.	Total.		Puerperal Septicæmia.			Other Puerperal Causes.	Total.	
	Without Abortion.	Septic Abortion.	Criminal Abortion.		Excluding Criminal Abortion.	Including Criminal Abortion.	Without Abortion.	Septic Abortion.	Criminal Abortion.		Excluding Criminal Abortion.	Including Criminal Abortion.
1871-1880	46			127	173		17·12			47·26	64·38	
1881-1890	64			121	185		20·48			38·71	59·19	
1891-1900	66			117	183		20·20			35·81	56·01	
1901-1910	52			114	166		16·93			37·12	54·05	
1911-1920	53			94	147		15·42			27·35	42·77	
1921-1925	43			102	145		11·96			28·37	40·33	
1927 ..	47	14	22	113	174	196	13·40	3·99	6·27	32·22	49·61	55·88
1928 ..	43	6	28	131	180	208	12·46	1·74	8·12	37·97	52·17	60·29
1929 ..	44	13	19	113	170	189	13·09	3·87	5·65	33·63	50·59	56·24
1930 ..	40	13	21	121	174	195	12·07	3·92	6·34	36·53	52·52	58·86
1931 ..	34	9	19	92	135	154	11·21	2·97	6·26	30·33	44·51	50·77
1932 ..	27	9	30	89	125	155	9·83	3·28	10·92	32·41	45·52	56·44
1933 ..	30	7	28	61	98	126	10·57	2·47	9·86	21·48	34·52	44·38
1934 ..	32	8	37	93	133	170	11·50	2·87	13·30	33·42	47·79	61·09
1935 ..	19	8	35	69	96	131	6·81	2·87	12·55	24·75	34·43	46·98
1936 ..	40	7	49	85	132	181	13·85	2·42	16·97	29·43	45·70	62·67

The death rate of women from puerperal causes as shown in the above table declined steadily during each period from 1871-80 to 1921-25, but the average rate for the following years showed a considerable increase.

The following tables give information in age groups for the year 1936 relating to the causes of death of women in childbirth, and the total number of children born to married mothers :—

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES, VICTORIA, 1936.

Causes of Death.	Ages at Death.						Total.	Married Mothers.	Unmarried Mothers.
	Under 20.	20 to 24.	25 to 29.	30 to 34.	35 to 39.	40 and over.			
140. (a) Abortion with septic conditions	1	..	3	2	1	..	7	5	2
(b) Criminal abortion	4	14	15	9	6	1	49*	36	13
141. Abortion without septic conditions .. ..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2	2	..
142. Ectopic gestation .. ..	..	2	3	5	2	2	14	11	3
143. Other accidents of pregnancy (excluding hæmorrhage) .. ..	..	1	..	1	..	..	2	1	1
144. Puerperal hæmorrhage .. ..	..	1	3	5	4	4	17	16	1
145. Puerperal septicæmia (not consequent on abortion)	3	8	11	13	4	1	40	39	1
143. Puerperal albuminuria and eclampsia	1	4	6	4	3	3	21	19	2
147. Other toxæmias of pregnancy	2	3	..	..	..	..	5	4	1
143. (a) Phlegmasia alba dolens and thrombosis .. ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..
(b) Embolism or sudden death .. ..	..	..	3	..	1	1	5	5	..
149. Other accidents of childbirth—									
(a) Cæsarean section	1	..	1	1	..	1	4	4	..
(b) Other surgical operations and instrumental delivery .. ..	..	1	..	1	..	..	2	2	..
(c) Others .. ..	..	1	3	3	2	1	10	10	..
150. (a) Puerperal diseases of the breast .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Other unspecified conditions of the puerperal state .. ..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	2	..
Total	12	36	50	46	23	14	181	157	24
Married Mothers	5	28	45	44	22	13	157	..	..
Unmarried Mothers	7	8	5	2	1	1	24	..	..
Total Issue of Married Mothers	1	24	86	116	61	50	338	..	..

* Illegal operation 2; self-induced 16; open verdict 31.

Of the 338 children born to the 157 married women who died, 324 were living at the time of their mother's death, or an average of 2.1 children per mother, as compared with 2.3 in 1935, 2.5 in 1934, 2.6 in 1933, and 2.6 in 1932.

First confinements were responsible for 57, or 36·3 per cent. of the total deaths of married mothers, as compared with 25·6 per cent. in 1935, 32·9 per cent. in 1934, 28·6 per cent. in 1933, and 32·4 per cent. in 1932.

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 1934, 1935, and 1936 are shown in the following table:—

DEATH RATES OF WOMEN IN CHILDBIRTH, IN AGE GROUPS, 1926 TO 1936.

Age Group.	Mothers.							
	Deaths.				Deaths per 10,000 children born alive.			
	1926-30.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1926-30.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Under 20 years ..	41	5	7	12	47·1	31·7	45·9	76·4
20 to 24 „ ..	150	28	16	36	39·1	41·6	23·1	50·2
25 „ 29 „ ..	231	53	38	50	46·5	64·5	45·9	57·8
30 „ 34 „ ..	226	33	30	46	56·8	54·0	48·3	73·5
35 „ 39 „ ..	226	35	25	23	88·1	97·2	70·2	60·8
40 years and over	111	16	15	14	117·8	100·4	105·9	95·8
Total	985	170	131	181	57·4	61·1	47·0	62·7

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 35 years of age.

During the year 1936, the deaths of 613 men and 644 women were ascribed to senile decay, as compared with 480 men and 530 women in 1935. Prior to 1927, deaths from ill-defined causes, i.e., heart failure, debility, etc., of those persons over 65 years of age, were shown as being due to senile decay. In 1927, however, in accordance with the rule laid down in the International List of Causes of Death, only deaths of persons over 70 years of age from such causes

were included therein. The deaths at ages 70 and over from all causes during 1936 numbered 7,568—3,832 of men and 3,736 of women, or 40.3 per cent. of the total deaths.

In 1936, 762 male and 228 female deaths were attributed to accidents and negligence, which represented a rate of 536 per million of the population. This proportion was above the average rate—471—for the previous five years, and 34 per cent. below the rate—811—for 1890-92. In 1931 a distinction was made for the first time between deaths recorded as "open verdict" and those returned definitely as "accidental." The numbers of deaths from various accidents in the last five years are given in the appended table:—

DEATHS FROM ACCIDENTAL VIOLENCE, 1932 TO 1936.

Nature or Place of Accident.	Annual Deaths during—						
	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.		
					Total.	Males.	Females
Snake Bite	4	..	..	2	1	1	..
Other Venomous Bites and Stings .. ..	..	..	..	1	2	1	1
Poisoning by Food	4	3	5	3	2	2	..
Absorption of Poisonous Gases	3	8	6	6	3	1	2
Other Acute Poisonings	3	5	6	8	5	3	2
Conflagration (Bush fires, &c.)	16	2	4	5	5	4	1
Burns, Scalds, &c.	39	63	68	53	49	21	28
Accidental Mechanical Suffocation	17	10	5	11	6	5	1
Drowning { accidental	79	74	94	88	77	64	13
{ open verdict	31	56	48	55	51	38	13
Firearms { accidental	21	24	26	29	17	17	..
{ open verdict	1	6	7	2	8	8	..
In Mines and Quarries	1	16	17	23	14	14	..
Machines	5	9	12	12	14	13	1
Transport Accidents	357	352	385	440	508	416	92
Falls { accidental	89	94	121	102	106	54	52
{ open verdict	1	5	4	6	2	1	1
Other Crushings	22	20	29	26	20	19	1
Injuries by Animals	11	10	4	6	4	4	..
Excessive Cold	1	5	6	4	3	3	..
Effects of Heat	10	1	15	3	2	1	1
Lightning	3	2	..	4	2	2	..
Electricity	6	4	4	13	2	2	..
Other { accidental	28	39	45	35	48	36	12
{ open verdict	17	25	23	37	39	32	7
Total accidental	719	741	852	874	890	683	207
,, open verdict	50	92	82	100	100	79	21
Grand Total	769	833	934	974	990	762	228

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

In 1936, deaths from transport accidents numbered 508, as against 440 in 1935, 385 in 1934, 350 in 1933, 350 in 1932, 373 in 1931, 406 in 1930, 394 in 1929, 382 in 1928, and 301 in 1927.

During the year 1936, deaths connected with methods of transport represented 51 per cent. of the total deaths from accidents.

In the following table details are given of deaths due to collisions between various types of conveyances, pedestrians killed, and other fatal accidents in which transport was concerned, for the year 1936 :—

DEATHS FROM TRANSPORT ACCIDENTS, IN VICTORIA, 1936.

	Collision between—								Total.	Pedestrians killed.	* Other Accidents.	Total.	Males.	Females.		
	Railway vehicle.	Tramcar.	Motor car.	Motor lorry, etc.	Motor cycle.	Horse-drawn vehicle.	Bicycle.	Fixed object.							Aeroplane.	
Railway vehicle..	1	..	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	7	20	15	42†	38	4	
Tramcar	1	2	..	1	..	3	..	7	9	7	23	17	6	
Motor car	24	6	35	1	36	16	..	118	124	37	279	221	58
„ omnibus	1	..	..	1	..	1	2	2	..
„ lorry, &c.	3	2	14	7	..	26	17	24	67	56	11
„ cycle	4	2	3	3	..	12	15	11	38	34	4
Horse - drawn vehicle	14	14	14	..
Bicycle	1	..	..	1	4	14	19	13	6
Horse	11	11	8	3
Aeroplane	1	1	..	5	6	6	..
Water transport	6	6	6	..
Other transport	1	1	1	..
Total ..	1	1	31	7	43	5	58	26	1	173	189	146	508	416	92	

* Includes all rail accidents to railway employees (collisions excepted) and accidents to persons boarding or leaving vehicles.

† Includes 7 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 1927 to 1936, were as follows:—

DEATHS INVOLVING MOTOR VEHICLES, 1927 TO 1936.

Year.	Number of Motor Vehicles (30th June.)	Deaths Involving Motor Vehicles.		
		Number.	Per 10,000 Motor Vehicles.	Per 1,000,000 of Population
1927	134,135	214	16·0	124
1928	150,343	297	19·8	170
1929	168,578	294	17·4	166
1930	179,887	307	17·1	172
1931	168,231	296	17·6	165
1932	167,952	262	15·6	145
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

It will be observed that, while registrations of motor vehicles increased greatly during the years mentioned, the mortality per 10,000 vehicles fluctuated only slightly with a tendency to decline, the average rate for the period 1932-36 being 16·1 as compared with a rate of 17·6 in 1927-31.

The mortality per million of population was 214 in 1936, 161 in 1934, and 82 in 1924. The mortality rate in 1936 was the highest on record.

On the average of the five years, 1932 to 1936, motor cars, etc., were involved in 16·6 deaths per 10,000 cars registered, and motor cycles in 25·4 deaths per 10,000 motor cycles registered.

Suicide. In the year 1936, 155 males and 43 females took their lives. The deaths represented a rate of 107 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 90 in 1935, 93 in 1934, 103 in 1933, 96 in 1932, 87 in 1918-22, 102 in 1908-12, and 109 in 1890-92. Of the 155 male deaths in 1936 from suicide, 60 or 39 per cent. were connected with firearms. A much lower rate from suicide obtains among females than males, the rate for the former being 29 per cent. of that for the latter on the average of the last five years.

Homicide. The deaths ascribed to homicide in 1936 numbered 18, of which 13 were of males and 5 of females. These represented a rate of 10 per million of the population, as against rates of 13 in 1935, 14 in 1934, 16 in 1933, 9 in 1932, 14 in 1918-22, and 19 in 1908-12. Since 1930 deaths from criminal abortion have been excluded from these figures and included with deaths from puerperal causes.

NATURAL INCREASE

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

NATURAL INCREASE PER 1,000 OF THE MEAN POPULATION.

AUSTRALASIA.

Period.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1910-14	13·85	18·38	18·51	17·68	18·61	19·35	17·03	16·80
1915-19	11·75	15·98	17·06	14·84	15·47	17·83	14·99	16·80
1920-24	12·49	15·73	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
1932 ..	5·89	9·13	10·21	6·16	9·76	10·88	8·23	9·07
1933 ..	6·00	8·42	9·30	6·88	9·31	10·33	7·86	8·61
1934 ..	5·02	7·57	9·59	5·24	8·43	9·28	7·07	7·99
1935 ..	5·13	7·61	9·15	5·31	8·98	9·16	7·09	7·91
1936 ..	5·47	8·17	10·39	5·87	9·44	9·50	7·70	7·89

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					
1895-99	15,625	26·76	13·81	12·95					
1900-04	14,859	25·08	12·78	12·30	1932 ..	10,659	15·18	9·29	5·89
1905-09	16,062	24·76	11·93	12·83	1933 ..	10,936	15·59	9·59	6·00
1910-14	18,795	25·42	11·57	13·85	1934 ..	9,180	15·20	10·18	5·02
1915-19	16,818	23·13	11·38	11·75	1935 ..	9,428	15·16	10·03	5·13
1920-24	19,647	22·89	10·40	12·49	1936 ..	10,105	15·63	10·16	5·47

The Victorian death rates are below those of England and Wales at nearly all periods of life. In England and Wales in 1936 the excess of births over deaths was 2·7 per 1,000 of population.