

Canada the discrepancies are likely to be greater than in older and more settled places. The census returns being the only ones available, it is not therefore possible to give any information respecting the excess of births over deaths, proportion of births and deaths to population, and other interesting information, with sufficient accuracy to render the figures of any value, and such figures and comparisons based on the census returns as are given in the following paragraphs must be considered in this light and be simply taken for what they may be worth.

Excess
of males
over
females.

114. It is now recognized as a universal fact that more males are born than females, though the proportions vary considerably in different countries. According to the census returns of 1871, 106·5 boys were born in the Dominion to every 100 girls, and in 1881 the proportion was almost unchanged, being 106·3 boys to 100 girls.

Proportions in
the Pro-
vinces.

115. The following is the order of the Provinces with regard to the proportions of male births to female, according to the census of 1881 :—

PROPORTION OF MALE TO FEMALE BIRTHS, BY PROVINCES—1881.

	Boys to 100 Girls.		Boys to 100 Girls..
New Brunswick.....	107·24	Prince Edward Island..	103·43
Ontario	107·02	Manitoba	99·45
Quebec.....	106·17	British Columbia.....	96·65
Nova Scotia.....	106·07		

Proportions in
other
countries.

116. The proportions varied considerably in the several Provinces ; in Manitoba and British Columbia female births being in excess of males. The proportions of males to females in those countries of which particulars could be obtained, are shown by the following figures :—

PROPORTION OF MALE TO FEMALE BIRTHS IN CERTAIN COUNTRIES—1870 to 1879.

	Boys to 100 Girls.		Boys to 100 Girls..
Italy	107·1	Belgium	105·9
Austria	106·8	Scotland.....	105·7
France	106·4	Ireland	105·6
Switzerland	106·3	Australasia.....	104·6
German Empire.....	106·2	England and Wales.....	103·9
Holland	106·1		