

According to the Census returns of 1891 for Canada, the birth rate in British Columbia was 23·16 per thousand of the population, and the death rate was 13·94 per thousand. In Manitoba the birth rate was 32·53 per thousand and the death rate 10·36 per thousand. In New Brunswick the birth rate was 27·70 per thousand and the death rate 13·36 per thousand. In Nova Scotia the birth rate was 25·41 per thousand and the death rate 14·57 per thousand. In Ontario the birth rate was 24·50 per thousand and the death rate was 11·30 per thousand. In Quebec the birth rate was 36·86 per thousand and the death rate 18·91 per thousand. In Prince Edward Island the birth rate was 24·45 per thousand and the death rate 12·26 per thousand. In the North-west Territories the birth rate was 24·98 per thousand and the death rate 7·32.

Manitoba is the banner province, having the second largest birth rate and the second lowest death rate, the result being that the prairie province has the largest excess of births over deaths.

The following table gives the births, deaths and marriages in each of the respective countries, 1897 :—

BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES, 1897.

Countries.	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Still-Births.
	Number.	Number.	Number.	Number.
Norway	63,300	32,400	14,200	1,700
Sweden (1896)	134,308	77,259	29,376	3,525
Denmark	69,522	38,712	17,488	1,800
German Empire—				
Prussia	1,193,860	682,868	274,693	40,317
Saxony	153,663	92,303	37,001	5,456
Bavaria	216,207	144,625	46,481	6,784
Wurtemberg	71,501	47,358	15,972	2,299
Baden	58,918	37,422	14,245	1,604
Total, German Empire	1,926,690	1,142,056	447,770	64,436
Holland	161,441	83,856	36,796	7,375
Belgium	190,987	113,502	54,198	8,718
France	859,107	751,019	291,462	42,249
Switzerland	90,078	56,399	24,954	3,291
Spain (1894)	632,707	556,355	141,933	*
Italy	1,101,848	695,602	229,041	47,132
Austria (proper)	941,572	646,620	202,936	26,708
Hungary	748,097	529,020	151,176	17,339
Bulgaria (1895)	138,338	90,210	31,230	767
Roumania (1894)	227,708	177,147	50,580	2,646
Uruguay	26,972	12,222	2,746	791
Japan	1,334,993	876,837	365,207	130,237
Servia	101,605	63,237	21,157	1,049
United Kingdom	1,157,180	704,387	303,002	*
Russia in Europe, including Poland (1893)	4,298,323	3,028,300	787,527	14,291
Finland (1896)	81,656	47,061	19,189	2,228

NOTE.—Births and deaths are exclusive of still-births in all cases.