

AREA AND POPULATION

Nova Scotia, Quebec and Ontario still-births are eliminated from the calculations; but in Prince Edward Island, the Northwest provinces and British Columbia they are included, and for these provinces the numbers of still-births, which are too small to affect materially the birth- and death-rates calculated, are given in a note at the foot of the table. Table 40 gives for 1911 the census population, the number of births, marriages and deaths, the excess of births over deaths and the natural increase per 1,000 of the population for the principal cities of Canada. Table 41 gives by provinces the birth- and death-rates and the natural increase per 1,000 of the population living for the census year ended March 31, 1901, and for the calendar year 1911. In this table the rates for 1901 are calculated entirely from the census returns, whereas for 1911 the rates are calculated from the provincial returns of births, marriages and deaths and from the census returns as regards population.

It must be confessed that in certain respects these tables cannot be regarded as furnishing very trustworthy information, and they can only be used with a considerable degree of caution. A comparison between the two periods in Table 41 shows notable differences, partly no doubt but not altogether due to differences in the nature of the data from which the rates have been calculated. The relatively high birth-rates of Quebec and Manitoba are explainable in the former province by the well-known fecundity of the French population and in the latter by the large number of births amongst the foreign population of European origin, especially in Winnipeg and other cities where the registration of births has been perfected. On the other hand, in British Columbia, where the birth-rate is shown to be relatively low, the cause is to be found in the large numbers in the province of Chinese (19,568), Japanese (8,587) and Hindus (2,292), most of whom are single men, whilst it is also notorious that amongst the Indian population, numbering 20,134, the registration of births is not very perfectly effected. The low death-rate recorded for Saskatchewan in 1911, viz., 5.54, suggests imperfect returns, especially when compared with the more normal rates of 11.90 for Saskatchewan and Alberta in 1900-01 and 9.90 for Alberta in 1911. The returns of mortality statistics as collected at the Census of 1911, have proved to be defective and cannot therefore be used.

39.—Number of Births, Marriages and Deaths, by Provinces, 1911 and 1912.

Provinces.	Births.	Birth-rate per 1,000 living.	Marriages.	Marriage-rate per 1,000 living.	Deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000 living.	Excess of Births over Deaths.
P. E. Island ¹	1911 1,497	15.97	470	5.01	1,114	11.89	383
	1912		(not published in 1912.)				
Nova Scotia....	1911 12,322	25.03	3,004	6.10	8,237	16.73	4,085
	1912 12,681	25.52	2,937	5.91	7,126	14.34	5,555
Quebec.....	1911 74,475	37.18	15,254	7.61	35,904	17.92	38,571
	1912 76,647	37.53	16,055	7.86	32,980	16.15	43,667
Ontario.....	1911 56,096	22.23	25,807	10.23	31,878	12.63	24,218
	1912 58,870	23.00	28,845	11.27	32,150	12.56	26,720