

Amongst other countries showing a similar female deficiency per 1,000 males are Ceylon (888), the Dominion of New Zealand (896), the Commonwealth of Australia (926), the Union of South Africa (941), the United States (943) and India (953). Excepting India and Ceylon, where female infanticide has prevailed, the countries named are new, and the proportions are affected by immigration in which the male element predominates. In England and Wales the number of females per 1,000 males was 1,068 both in 1911 and 1901, and only Norway shows a greater proportion, viz., 1,069. In other European countries the number of females per 1,000 males is: Scotland, 1,063, Denmark, 1,061, Sweden, 1,046, Italy 1,037, Austria 1,036, France 1,035, Switzerland 1,031, Germany 1,026, Holland 1,021, Hungary 1,019, Belgium 1,017 and Ireland 1,004.

The proportions by provinces in Canada are shown in Table 8 for the two census years 1901 and 1911. For the latter year the number of females per 1,000 males for each province was: British Columbia 560, Alberta 673, Saskatchewan 688, Manitoba 822, Ontario 942, New Brunswick 956, Nova Scotia 961, Quebec 980 and Prince Edward Island 991. It will be seen that the disparity is especially marked in the western provinces.

The situation with regard to sex ratios in the western provinces, as it existed in 1911, may be stated in an even more significant way. The reproductive period of human life is usually considered in the case of females at least, to lie between the ages of 15 to 50—or 15 to 49 inclusive. Where there is an enormous difference between the numbers of the sexes at these ages, there can hardly be a satisfactory normal crude birth-rate per 1,000 of population. Further, such a disproportion between the sexes involves grave moral risks. Table 9 shows that the disparity between the two sexes at these ages in the western provinces was considerably greater than in the total population. For each 1,000 males of these ages there were in Manitoba in 1911 only 723 females, in Saskatchewan 539, in Alberta 534 and in British Columbia only 423. In the comparatively small population of the Yukon, there were in the same year only 232 females to every 1,000 males of these ages.

Table 10 shows the percentage proportion of females to males in the rural and urban divisions of the population, respectively, for the census year 1911. Amongst the rural population the female element is in defect for Canada by 16.48 p.c., but amongst the urban population it is so by only 5.05 p.c. The defect is most marked in the western provinces. In the urban population, in two out of the three Maritime Provinces, in Quebec and in Ontario, there is actually an excess of the female population, such excess being as high as 17.68 p.c. in Prince Edward Island. But in the west the female deficiency is again apparent, though (except as regards Saskatchewan) not to the same extent as in the rural population.