

**Natural Increase by Sex.**—According to Table 3, the number of male children born in 1924 in the registration area exceeded the total male deaths for the year by 45,393, while the gain in the female population during the same period was 46,005. Thus, while the number of male children born exceeded the females by 4,021, the higher mortality among males caused a net increase of the female over the male population of 612.

**3.—Excess of Births over Deaths in the Registration Area of Canada, by Provinces and for each Sex, 1924, with Totals for 1921-23.**

Provinces.	Males.			Females.			Both sexes.
	Births.	Deaths.	Excess of births over deaths.	Births.	Deaths.	Excess of births over deaths.	Excess of births over deaths.
Prince Edward Island..	928	490	438	930	466	464	902
Nova Scotia.....	6,189	3,456	2,733	5,612	3,127	2,485	5,218
New Brunswick.....	5,523	2,629	2,894	5,194	2,294	2,900	5,794
Ontario.....	38,582	17,153	19,429	34,928	15,925	19,003	38,432
Manitoba.....	7,804	2,713	5,091	7,650	2,310	5,340	10,431
Saskatchewan.....	11,157	3,176	7,981	10,382	2,596	7,786	15,767
Alberta.....	7,422	2,718	4,704	7,175	2,140	5,035	9,739
British Columbia.....	5,203	3,080	2,123	4,916	1,924	2,992	5,115
<b>Total, 1924.....</b>	<b>89,898</b>	<b>35,415</b>	<b>45,393</b>	<b>76,787</b>	<b>30,782</b>	<b>46,005</b>	<b>91,398</b>
<b>Total, 1923.....</b>	<b>80,566</b>	<b>37,517</b>	<b>43,049</b>	<b>76,331</b>	<b>32,663</b>	<b>43,668</b>	<b>86,715</b>
<b>Total, 1922.....</b>	<b>84,857</b>	<b>37,944</b>	<b>47,013</b>	<b>80,137</b>	<b>31,984</b>	<b>48,153</b>	<b>95,166</b>
<b>Total, 1921.....</b>	<b>87,134</b>	<b>36,411</b>	<b>50,723</b>	<b>81,545</b>	<b>31,311</b>	<b>50,234</b>	<b>101,257</b>

## 2.—Births.

Throughout almost the whole of the civilized world, the birth rate has in the past generation been on the decline, though the consequent decline in the rate of natural increase has to a considerable extent been offset by a decline in the death rate.

The crude birth rate of England and Wales, for example, was 35.4 per 1,000 population on the average of the decennium 1871-80, 32.5 in 1881-90 and 29.9 in 1891-1900. In 1913 the birth rate was 24.1 and, though it rose to 25.5 in 1920, it fell again to 22.4 in 1921, 19.7 in 1923, 18.8 in 1924 and 18.3 in 1925.

Similarly in France, the crude birth rate declined from an average of 25.4 per 1,000 population in the 1870's, 23.9 in the 1880's and 22.2 in the 1890's to 20.4 in 1920 and 19.4 in 1923, rising slightly to 19.6 in 1925. In Germany, again, the crude birth rate was 39.1 in the 1870's, 36.8 in the 1880's, 36.1 in the 1890's, 23.6 in 1922 and 22.5 in 1925.

In Canada the crude birth rate still stands at the comparatively high figure of 26.5 per 1,000 in 1924—the last year for which complete figures are available. This, however, is largely due to the influence of Quebec, where the birth rate stood at the very high figure of 35.1 per 1,000 in 1924, as compared with 23.4 per 1,000 in the registration area, where the figures varied from 18.3 per 1,000 in British Columbia to 26.9 in New Brunswick and 26.4 in Saskatchewan.

Preliminary figures for 1925 show 154,509 living births, which, on the increased estimate of population for that year, gives a rate of 22.6 for the registration area, the provincial rates varying from 18.1 in British Columbia to 24.6 in Saskatchewan and 27.1 in New Brunswick. Statistics of births and birth rates for the years 1921-25 are given by provinces in Table 4, the provincial figures both of births and birth rates for Quebec being appended, so as to show national totals.