

## 4.—Number of Living Births and Birth Rates, by Provinces, 1921-1925.

Provinces.	Living Births.					Birth rate per 1,000 population.				
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925. <sup>1</sup>	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925. <sup>1</sup>
P. E. Island.....	2,156	2,160	1,977	1,858	1,672	24.3	24.5	22.5	21.1	19.2
Nova Scotia.....	13,021	12,693	11,680	11,801	11,400	24.9	24.0	22.0	22.1	21.2
New Brunswick.....	11,465	11,564	10,704	10,717	10,929	30.2	29.5	27.0	26.9	27.1
Ontario.....	74,152	71,430	70,056	71,510	70,067	25.3	24.0	23.2	23.4	22.6
Manitoba.....	18,478	17,679	16,472	15,454	14,866	30.3	28.2	25.9	23.9	22.7
Saskatchewan.....	22,493	22,339	20,947	21,539	20,488	29.7	28.4	26.3	26.4	24.6
Alberta.....	10,561	10,163	15,060	14,597	14,924	28.1	26.5	24.3	22.9	22.9
British Columbia.....	10,653	10,166	10,001	10,119	10,163	20.3	18.9	18.4	18.3	18.1
Registration Area.....	168,379	164,194	156,897	157,595	154,569	26.4	25.1	23.7	23.4	22.6
Quebec.....	88,749	88,377	83,579	86,930	-	37.6	35.1	32.2	35.1	-
Canada (exclusive of Territories).....	257,728	252,571	240,476	244,525	-	29.3	27.8	26.1	26.5	-

<sup>1</sup> 1925 figures are subject to revision.

Table 5 gives, in addition, statistics of the number of births in cities of 40,000 population and over for the years 1921 to 1925. These ten cities had in 1921 a total population of 1,328,814 or 20.7 p.c. of the population of the registration area, while the number of births shown below for the year 1921, 38,488, formed 22.0 p.c. of total births recorded for the same year. By 1925 the number of births had declined to 33,349 or by 13.4 p.c.; the percentage of the total for the registration area, however, was 21.6, a decrease since 1921 of only 0.4 p.c. It would seem, therefore, that the recent decline in the birth rate has been but slightly more pronounced in the larger urban centres than throughout the registration area, although greater differences appear in particular years than over the period in question (1921-1925).

## 5.—Living Births in Cities of 40,000 Population and over, 1921-1925.

Cities.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925. <sup>1</sup>
Toronto.....	13,378	12,745	12,680	12,424	11,920
Winnipeg.....	6,323	5,840	5,246	4,786	4,660
Vancouver.....	3,298	2,960	2,398	3,045	3,171
Hamilton.....	3,498	3,146	3,033	3,140	2,938
Ottawa.....	3,250	3,273	3,065	3,044	3,026
Calgary.....	2,086	1,884	1,683	1,612	1,634
London.....	1,458	1,448	1,390	1,452	1,352
Edmonton.....	2,136	2,143	1,951	1,852	1,942
Halifax.....	1,836	1,743	1,519	1,458	1,463
Saint John.....	1,225	1,259	1,304	1,238	1,243
Total.....	38,488	36,441	34,849	34,451	33,349

<sup>1</sup> 1925 figures are subject to revision.

## Legitimate Birth Rates per 1,000 Married Women of Ages 15-44.—

Undoubtedly the test of birth rate most generally accepted by vital statisticians is supplied by the comparison of the total number of legitimate births with the total number of married women between the ages of 15 and 44, though a small number of births occur where the mothers are either below 15 or past the 45th birthday. This test is applied to the registration area of Canada for 1921-24 in Table 6 on the assumptions:—(1) that the number of married women in the country has since 1921 increased proportionately to the estimated increase of the general population, and (2) that the number of Canadian-born, of British-born and of foreign-born married women has since 1921 increased proportionately to the estimated increase of the general population. Since the estimate covers only the short period since the census, the above assumptions may be accepted as approximately correct.

Two points of great importance are brought out by the table:—first, the substantial decline in the birth rate per 1,000 married women in the short period