

25.—Death Rates per 100,000 Population in the Registration Area, by Principal Causes, 1921-1926.—concluded.

Int. List No.	Causes of death.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926 ¹ .
159	Congenital malformations.....	13	14	15	16	16	16
160-163	Diseases of early infancy.....	95	95	87	81	75	103
164	Senility (old age).....	45	42	44	39	31	29
165-174	Suicides.....	7	7	8	8	9	7
175-203	Violent deaths (suicides excepted).....	57	56	58	55	57	55
	Other specified causes.....	137	130	127	129	125	102
	Total specified causes.....	1,025	1,035	1,048	975	970	1,131
204-205	Ill-defined diseases.....	32	26	19	19	17	13
	Total Deaths.....	1,057	1,061	1,067	994	987	1,144

¹ Provisional figures for Canada, including Quebec, not previously included in the registration area.

Communicable diseases.—The five epidemic diseases shown first in Table 24 accounted for the deaths of 2,119 persons (provisional figure) in 1926 in the former registration area, as compared with 3,131 in 1921—a reduction of 32.3 p.c. in the five years. In particular, deaths from typhoid fever dropped from 501 in 1921 to 210 in 1926 and deaths from diphtheria from 1,297 in 1921 to 552 in 1926. Deaths from scarlet fever were also reduced from 410 to 204. On the other hand, measles, after very irregular variations, took 511 lives in 1926 as compared with 297 in 1921, and whooping-cough showed a slight increase from 626 in 1921 to 642 in 1926.

Influenza.—Deaths from influenza vary considerably from year to year; but experience for the six years 1921-26 seems to show a certain periodicity in three-year periods. The figures show that 1921 was a year of low, 1922 of average and 1923 of high death-rate, while 1924 was low, 1925 average and 1926 high.

Tuberculosis.—Tuberculosis, in spite of all that has been done to combat it, seems to take almost an equal number of lives from year to year, the statistics showing a remarkable consistency. The former registration area showed 4,631 deaths from tuberculosis in 1926 as compared with 4,789 in 1921. Of course, the population was greater in the later year.

Cancer.—Deaths from cancer in the former registration area have shown an almost steady increase from 1921, which to some extent may be due to better diagnosis (ill-defined diseases have been reduced from 2,068 in 1921 to 739 in 1926). The increase between 1921 and 1926 has been from 4,826 to 5,766, or nearly 20 p.c.

Diseases of the heart and arteries.—These related diseases have shown an extraordinary increase in the five-year period, rising from 8,576 (6,021 heart and 2,555 arteries) in 1921 to 12,531 (8,539 heart and 3,992 arteries) in 1926. To some extent this may have been due to better diagnosis.

Bronchitis and pneumonia.—Deaths attributed to bronchitis fell fairly steadily from 905 in 1921 to 411 in 1926. On the other hand, deaths from pneumonia, though low in 1924 and 1925, numbered 5,762 in 1926 as compared with 5,966 in 1921.

Diarrhœa and enteritis.—These causes of deaths, affecting for the most part children, have shown a steady decline parallel with the drop in infant mortality; they fell from 3,218 in 1921 to 1,675 in 1926.

Nephritis.—This is another of the diseases which is showing a consistent increase in its mortality rate from year to year; deaths numbered 2,041 in 1921, and rose consistently to 3,125 in 1926.