

**Natural Increase by Sex.**—According to Table 3, the number of male children born in 1926 in Canada exceeded the total male deaths for the year by 62,884, while the gain in the female population during the same period was 62,412. Thus, while the number of male children born exceeded the females by 6,976, the higher mortality among males, *viz.*, 56,979 as compared with 50,475, reduced the net excess of the natural increase of the males to 472. Provisional figures for 1927 are as follows:—Males, births 120,367, deaths 56,196, natural increase 64,171; Females, births 113,238, deaths 48,940, natural increase 64,298.

**3.—Excess of Births over Deaths in Canada, by Provinces and for each Sex, 1926, with Totals for 1921-26.**

Provinces.	Males.			Females.			Both sexes. Excess of births over deaths.
	Births.	Deaths.	Excess of births over deaths.	Births.	Deaths.	Excess of births over deaths.	
Prince Edward Island.	887	452	435	865	440	419	854
Nova Scotia.	5,638	3,374	2,264	5,342	3,992	2,350	4,614
New Brunswick.	5,294	2,608	2,686	5,046	2,394	2,652	5,338
Quebec.	42,475	19,232	23,243	39,690	18,019	21,671	44,914
Ontario.	34,742	18,721	16,021	32,875	17,188	15,687	31,708
Manitoba.	7,593	2,936	4,657	7,063	2,399	4,664	9,326
Saskatchewan.	10,651	3,393	7,258	10,065	2,667	7,398	14,656
Alberta.	7,410	2,931	4,479	7,046	2,228	4,818	9,297
British Columbia.	5,168	3,332	1,836	4,895	2,142	2,753	4,589
<b>Total, 1926</b>	<b>119,863</b>	<b>56,979</b>	<b>62,884</b>	<b>112,887</b>	<b>50,475</b>	<b>62,412</b>	<b>125,396</b>
<b>Total, 1925</b>	<b>124,696</b>	<b>52,450</b>	<b>72,246</b>	<b>117,707</b>	<b>46,327</b>	<b>71,379</b>	<b>143,611</b>
<b>Total, 1924</b>	<b>125,590</b>	<b>52,327</b>	<b>73,263</b>	<b>118,535</b>	<b>46,326</b>	<b>72,209</b>	<b>145,972</b>
<b>Total, 1923</b>	<b>124,003</b>	<b>55,490</b>	<b>68,513</b>	<b>116,473</b>	<b>49,840</b>	<b>66,633</b>	<b>135,146</b>
<b>Total, 1922</b>	<b>129,055</b>	<b>54,505</b>	<b>74,550</b>	<b>123,516</b>	<b>47,983</b>	<b>75,533</b>	<b>150,054</b>
<b>Total, 1921</b>	<b>133,839</b>	<b>53,685</b>	<b>80,154</b>	<b>123,889</b>	<b>47,470</b>	<b>76,419</b>	<b>156,573</b>

## Section 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, 18.3 in 1925 and 17.8 in 1926.

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 and falling to 18.8 in 1926. 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, 22.5 in 1925 and 19.3 in 1926.

In Canada the crude birth rate still stands at the comparatively high figure of 24.6 per 1,000 in 1927. This, however, is largely due to the influence of Quebec, where the birth rate stood at the very high figure of 31.9 per 1,000 in 1927, as compared with 21.2 per 1,000 in Ontario. In the other provinces the figures varied