

24.—Crude Death Rates of Various Countries in Recent Years.

Countries.	Years.	Crude Death Rate.	Countries.	Years.	Crude Death Rate.
Saskatchewan.....	1927	7.2	United States (Reg. Area).....	1926	12.2
Alberta.....	1927	8.1	Belgium.....	1926	12.8
Manitoba.....	1927	8.2	Iceland.....	1923	12.8
New Zealand.....	1926	8.7	Scotland.....	1926	13.0
South Australia.....	1926	8.7	Finland.....	1926	13.4
Western Australia.....	1926	8.9	Greece.....	1921	13.8
Queensland.....	1925	8.9	Quebec.....	1927	13.9
Tasmania.....	1926	9.1	Irish Free State.....	1926	14.1
New South Wales.....	1925	9.2	Newfoundland.....	1923	14.2
Australia.....	1926	9.4	Latvia.....	1924	14.8
Victoria.....	1925	9.5	Argentina.....	1921	14.8
Union of South Africa (Whites).....	1926	9.6	Austria.....	1926	14.9
Netherlands.....	1926	9.8	Northern Ireland.....	1926	15.0
British Columbia.....	1927	10.0	Estonia.....	1924	15.2
Prince Edward Island.....	1927	10.5	Czechoslovakia.....	1925	15.2
Uruguay.....	1926	10.5	Hungary.....	1926	16.6
Norway.....	1926	10.6	Italy.....	1925	16.8
Denmark.....	1935	10.8	France.....	1926	17.5
Ontario.....	1927	10.9	Spain.....	1926	19.0
Panama.....	1923	11.0	Japan.....	1926	19.2
Canada.....	1927	11.1	Bulgaria.....	1924	20.7
Germany.....	1926	11.5	Rumania.....	1925	21.0
England and Wales.....	1926	11.6	Jamaica.....	1925	21.4
Nova Scotia.....	1927	11.7	Ceylon.....	1926	24.7
Switzerland.....	1926	11.7	British India.....	1925	24.7
Sweden.....	1926	11.8	Egypt.....	1925	26.2
Prussia.....	1925	11.9	Chile.....	1926	27.6
New Brunswick.....	1927	11.9			

Subsection 2.—Infantile and Maternal Mortality.

In recent years a great part of the energy devoted by the medical profession and sanitarians to effect a decline in the death rate has gone to reduce infantile mortality, and in this field a large measure of success has been attained. In Canada, both the Dominion, provincial and municipal health authorities have taken part in the struggle to reduce infantile mortality, and usually, in the absence of epidemics, each year is showing an improvement. Even in the seven years for which the figures are available for the former registration area, there is evident a very considerable decline in infantile mortality. In 1920 more than 10 p.c. of all children born died in the first year of life; in 1921 the proportion dropped to 8.8 p.c. or 14,893 deaths in a total of 168,979 births; in 1922 the infantile death rate showed a further betterment, dropping to 8.7 p.c. or 14,256 deaths in 164,194 births, while in 1923 it showed a slight increase to 8.8 p.c. In 1924, however, there was a considerable improvement, the rate falling to 7.85 p.c. and increasing but slightly in 1925 and 1926 to 7.86 p.c. and 7.99 p.c. respectively. The provisional figure for 1927 is 7.46 p.c., the lowest on record for the former registration area. Deaths of children under one year of age constituted 17.1 p.c. of all deaths in 1926, and 16.3 p.c. (provisional figure) in 1927, as compared with 20.7 p.c. in 1922. Table 25 summarizes the statistics for the former registration area and for Canada exclusive of the territories for the years 1923-27, the figures for the latest year being provisional.