

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

Countries.	Years.	Crude Death Rate.	Countries.	Years.	Crude Death Rate.
Saskatchewan.....	1928	7.2	Greece.....	1924	12.6
Manitoba.....	1928	8.2	Panama.....	1926	12.6
New Zealand.....	1927	8.4	Sweden.....	1927	12.7
Western Australia.....	1927	8.7	Belgium.....	1927	13.0
Alberta.....	1928	8.9	Scotland.....	1927	13.5
Queensland.....	1927	8.9	Quebec.....	1928	13.8
South Australia.....	1927	8.9	Newfoundland.....	1923	14.2
Australia.....	1927	9.4	Finland.....	1927	14.4
New South Wales.....	1927	9.4	Northern Ireland.....	1927	14.6
Tasmania.....	1927	9.4	Argentina.....	1921	14.8
Victoria.....	1927	9.6	Austria.....	1927	14.8
Union of South Africa (Whites)....	1927	9.8	Irish Free State.....	1927	14.8
British Columbia.....	1928	10.1	Latvia.....	1924	14.8
Netherlands.....	1927	10.2	Czechoslovakia.....	1925	15.2
Denmark.....	1926	11.0	Italy.....	1927	15.8
Norway.....	1927	11.0	France.....	1927	16.5
Canada.....	1928	11.3	Estonia.....	1927	17.3
Nova Scotia.....	1928	11.3	Hungary.....	1927	17.7
Prince Edward Island.....	1928	11.3	Spain.....	1927	18.9
United States (Reg. Area).....	1927	11.4	Japan.....	1927	19.8
Uruguay.....	1927	11.4	Bulgaria.....	1924	20.7
Ontario.....	1928	11.5	Jamaica.....	1925	21.4
Prussia.....	1927	11.9	Roumania.....	1926	21.5
Germany.....	1927	12.0	Ceylon.....	1927	21.7
New Brunswick.....	1928	12.0	Chile.....	1927	25.3
England and Wales.....	1927	12.3	Egypt.....	1925	26.2
Switzerland.....	1927	12.3	British India.....	1926	26.8
Iceland.....	1927	12.4			

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 eight 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 1928 is 7.10 p.c., the lowest on record for the former registration area. Deaths of children under one year of age constituted 20.9 p.c. of all deaths in 1927, and 19.4 p.c. (provisional figure) in 1928, 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 1921-28, the figures for the latest year being provisional.