first quartile age for males, for instance, the age has risen from 3·82 years in 1931 to 13·42 years in 1932, or by 251 p.c.　That this improvement is mainly due to betterment in the early months of life (between the first and second deciles) is indicated in the second part of the table.

22.—Quartile and Decile Ages of Decedents, by Sex, 1926, 1931 and 1932.

Position in Array by Age.	Both Sexes.			Males.			Females.		
	1926.	1931.	1932.	1926.	1931.	1932.	1926.	1931.	1932.
First quartiles............... years of age	1·83	5·73	16·79	1·34	3·82	13·42	2·85	8·65	19·43
Second quartiles............ "	45·50	51·25	55·59	45·16	50·76	55·10	45·89	52·14	56·23
Third quartiles............... "	70·70	71·83	73·40	70·05	70·87	72·60	71·51	72·90	74·37
First deciles................months of age	0·88	1·29	1·99	0·60	0·91	1·51	1·43	1·83	2·70
Second deciles............... years of age	0·71	1·20	3·40	0·55	0·86	2·27	0·98	1·72	5·66
Third deciles................. "	6·95	18·85	26·29	4·30	16·67	24·51	12·15	20·98	27·95
Fourth deciles................ "	28·77	37·06	43·99	26·47	36·77	43·81	30·61	37·34	44·16
Fifth deciles................. "	45·50	51·25	55·59	45·16	50·76	55·10	45·89	52·14	56·23
Sixth deciles................. "	58·40	61·19	64·26	57·73	60·28	63·43	59·13	62·49	65·26
Seventh deciles.............. "	67·15	68·71	70·67	66·44	67·77	69·88	68·00	69·88	71·68
Eighth deciles............... "	74·05	74·69	76·02	73·28	73·72	75·20	74·00	75·74	76·97
Ninth deciles................ "	80·82	80·99	82·04	79·89	80·14	81·12	81·85	82·05	82·99

Adjusted Death Rates.—While the crude death rate gives the actual mortality per 1,000 of population, the differing age constitution of the population in different communities and the high mortality among infants and elderly people make the crude death rate no true test of the relative expectation of life in such communities. Where the age and health constitution of a particular group is particularly favourable to low mortality, for example among the selected lives of soldiers in peace time, the crude and the adjusted death rates will be lower than elsewhere.

When comparisons of the rates of mortality in several communities are made by age groups the effects of differences in age constitution between these communities are eliminated, but by a rather cumbrous process which does not bring together and express as a single figure the facts of the situation.　It has therefore been considered desirable to adopt a particular community as a standard, and to find what the death rates of other communities would have been if the age and sex constitution of their population had corresponded to those of the community taken as a standard.　The "standard" population chosen for this purpose in England and Wales and the United States is the "standard million", based on the age and sex distribution per million of the population of England and Wales at the Census of 1901.　That age and sex distribution was as follows:—

Age Group.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.
All ages...	1,000,000	483,543	516,457
Under 5 years...	114,262	57,039	57,223
5- 9 years..	107,209	53,462	53,747
10-14 years...	102,735	51,370	51,365
15-19 years...	99,796	49,420	50,376
20-24 years...	95,946	45,273	50,673
25-34 years...	161,579	76,425	85,154
35-44 years...	122,849	59,394	63,455
45-54 years...	89,222	42,924	46,298
55-64 years...	59,741	27,913	31,828
65-74 years...	33,080	14,691	18,389
75 years and over...	13,581	5,632	7,949