

Comparative Crude Death Rates of Different Countries.—In Table 22 will be found a comparative statement of the crude death rates of various countries for the latest available year. Those of the provinces of Canada are also given for comparison. The Netherlands, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, South Africa, and Norway are the only countries with death rates under 10.0 per 1,000 of population. The low death rates in the Prairie Provinces are in all three cases due in part to a favourable age distribution of population.

22.—Crude Death Rates of Various Countries and of the Provinces of Canada in Recent Years.

Country.	Year.	Crude Death Rate.	Country or Province.	Year.	Crude Death Rate.
Country—			Country—concluded.		
Netherlands.....	1934	8.4	Poland.....	1934	14.4
New Zealand.....	1934	8.5	Hungary.....	1934	14.5
Australia.....	1934	9.3	Lithuania.....	1934	14.6
Canada	1935	9.7	Greece.....	1934	15.0
Union of South Africa (Whites).....	1934	9.7	France.....	1934	15.1
Norway.....	1934	9.9	Spain.....	1934	15.9
Uruguay.....	1934	10.0	Jamaica.....	1934	17.1
Denmark.....	1934	10.4	Costa Rica.....	1934	17.7
Iceland.....	1934	10.4	Japan.....	1934	18.1
Germany.....	1934	10.9	Roumania.....	1934	20.7
United States (reg. area).....	1934	11.0	Palestine.....	1934	21.9
Sweden.....	1934	11.2	Salvador.....	1933	22.7
Switzerland.....	1934	11.3	Ceylon.....	1934	22.9
England and Wales.....	1934	11.8	British India.....	1934	24.9
Newfoundland.....	1934	11.9	Straits Settlements.....	1934	26.5
Panama.....	1934	11.9	Egypt.....	1934	26.6
British Isles.....	1934	12.0	Chile.....	1934	26.8
Belgium.....	1934	12.3			
Finland.....	1934	12.4	Province of Canada—		
Austria.....	1934	12.7	Saskatchewan.....	1935	6.6
Scotland.....	1934	12.9	Alberta.....	1935	7.5
Irish Free State.....	1934	13.0	Manitoba.....	1935	8.1
Czechoslovakia.....	1934	13.2	British Columbia.....	1935	9.3
Italy.....	1934	13.3	Ontario.....	1935	9.9
Northern Ireland.....	1934	13.7	Quebec.....	1935	10.7
Latvia.....	1934	13.9	Prince Edward Island.....	1935	11.0
Bulgaria.....	1934	14.0	New Brunswick.....	1935	11.1
Estonia.....	1934	14.1	Nova Scotia.....	1935	11.7

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, the Dominion, provincial, and municipal health authorities have all taken part in the struggle to reduce infantile mortality, and usually, in the absence of epidemics, each year is showing an improvement. In the fifteen years for which the figures are available there is evident a very considerable decline in infantile mortality. In 1921 the infant death rate for Canada (using figures from provincial sources for Quebec) was 102 per 1,000 live births. This rate had been reduced to 71 in 1935. Table 23 gives figures for the whole of Canada for the years 1931 to 1935 and averages for the five-year periods 1921-25, 1926-30, and 1931-35. The infantile mortality in Quebec exceeds that in any other province, although a study of the rates shows that steady improvement has been made in the ten-year period during which the province has been included in the registration area. In Canada as a whole over 6,000 infant lives were preserved in 1935 which, under conditions prevailing in 1926, would probably have been lost.