

25.—Proportion of 1,000 Deaths of Infants Under One Year of Age Occurring at Each Age Period, 1937-38—concluded.

Age at Death.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Canada. ¹
1938.										
Under 1 month.....	421	481	501	458	582	492	514	523	525	501
Under 1 day.....	96	160	143	154	266	187	171	197	218	183
1 day and under 1 week.....	219	208	206	170	216	179	210	195	210	191
1 week and under 2 weeks.....	44	44	72	57	45	55	74	50	50	55
2 weeks and under 3 weeks.....	18	41	30	39	59	45	30	43	16	37
3 weeks and under 1 month.....	44	58	49	38	25	29	29	58	31	54
1 month and under 2 months.....	132	107	102	99	74	108	85	91	77	93
2 months and under 3 months.....	114	95	81	95	68	85	85	59	74	84
3 months and under 4 months.....	79	76	72	59	56	63	57	68	59	61
4 months and under 5 months.....	44	61	51	53	38	64	54	58	38	50
5 months and under 6 months.....	61	38	34	42	38	51	60	22	32	41
6 months and under 7 months.....	44	33	37	42	31	35	36	36	41	38
7 months and under 8 months.....	53	23	31	38	22	29	34	38	41	33
8 months and under 9 months.....	9	23	20	34	29	24	23	32	27	30
9 months and under 10 months.....	26	27	17	30	24	17	21	31	32	27
10 months and under 11 months.....	9	17	28	26	18	17	16	23	25	23
11 months and under 1 year.....	9	19	24	24	20	15	14	18	27	21
Totals, 1938.....	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000

¹ Exclusive of the Territories.

Infantile Mortality in Canadian Cities and Towns.—In interpreting the statistics of Table 26, it should be observed that a very low rate for any particular year means little, since wide fluctuations from year to year are the rule. Moreover, since maternity hospitals in many urban centres draw patients from surrounding districts, the rates based on place of occurrence are often quite different from rates based on place of residence. This is illustrated particularly in the case of Westmount, where the number of infant deaths under one year by place of occurrence in 1938 was 31, compared with 7 by place of residence. Vancouver has a splendid record among the large cities over the three years. Three Rivers, Sorel, Westmount, Quebec City, and Lévis have all rates of over 100 for 1938, and most of them have high rates over the three-year period. Apart from Vancouver, already mentioned, among the large cities Montreal has recorded steady improvement over the period and Winnipeg and Toronto have very low rates and good records.

The infantile mortality in the cities of Canada has been greatly reduced in the years since the inauguration of Dominion vital statistics. Thus the rate for Toronto has fallen from 90 in 1921 to 48 in 1938, that for Winnipeg from 78 to 37, for Vancouver from 56 to 33, for Hamilton from 88 to 37, for Ottawa from 130 to 61, for London from 92 to 45, for Edmonton from 89 to 40, for Halifax from 135 to 63, for Saint John from 147 to 62. Altogether, in the 13 cities of 40,000 population or over in the former registration area of Canada, there were 41,923 live births in 1921 and 3,833 infant deaths, being a rate of 91 per 1,000 live births. In 1938 in these same cities there were 37,984 live births but only 1,666 infant deaths, or a rate of 44 per 1,000 live births.