

because the figures are not regarded as complete, the details are in many cases not available, and the small and varying population is not known with sufficient accuracy for each year to enable the rates to be calculated. As these territories contain less than 1/700th of the population of Canada, their vital statistics are a negligible factor in the total.

VITAL STATISTICS OF YUKON AND THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, 1924-39

Year	Yukon			Northwest Territories		
	Births	Marriages	Deaths	Births	Marriages	Deaths
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1924.....	31	5	38	95	39	47
1925.....	22	17	63	57	35	32
1926.....	27	12	68	75	3	51
1927.....	29	19	33	126	20	133
1928.....	30	13	46	222	30	367
1929.....	35	10	54	133	29	168
1930.....	45	17	69	232	36	206
1931.....	40	24	66	141	36	106
1932.....	44	26	62	195	33	122
1933.....	58	15	60	179	26	128
1934.....	44	29	48	203	47	154
1935.....	58	27	69	231	63	175
1936.....	38	26	82	229	68	177
1937.....	74	37	77	210	45	147
1938.....	76	36	63	226	63	181
1939 <sup>1</sup> .....	63	35	82	230	79	189

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary figures.

### Section 1.—Births

Throughout almost the whole of the civilized world the birth rate has, in the past generation, been on the decline, though the consequent reduction in the rate of natural increase has been partly offset by the synchronous decline in the death rate.

The crude birth rate of England and Wales, for example, was 24.1 in 1913, and, though it rose to 25.5 in 1920, it has fallen quite rapidly, with minor fluctuations, to 14.9 in 1937, and rose to 15.1 in 1938.

Similarly, in France the crude birth rate declined from an average of 21.4 in 1920, to 16.1 in 1934, 14.7 in 1937, and 14.6 in 1938. In Germany, again, the crude birth rate was 25.9 in 1920, 17.6 in 1930, and 14.7 in 1933. Since then the rate has recovered to 18.8 in 1937.

In Canada the crude birth rate still stands at a comparatively high figure, being 20.3 per 1,000 in 1939 compared to 20.5 in 1938. This is due largely to the influence of Quebec, where the rate, although declining, stood at 24.8 per 1,000 in 1939, as compared with 17.1 per 1,000 in Ontario. In the other provinces the figures varied from a low of 16.0 in British Columbia to a high of 25.0 in New Brunswick.

For some years previous to 1930 there was a definite tendency for live births in cities and towns of 10,000 population or over to increase but the figures from 1930-36 indicate an opposite trend; since 1936, however, an increase in trend again has been apparent (see Table 2).

**Sex of Live Births.**—Figures for Quebec commence only with the year 1926, when that province entered the registration area, and the totals for Canada are limited in the same manner in consequence. Every province shows an excess of male births for the years or averages shown in Table 1. The table shows that among every 1,000 born in 1939 in the whole of Canada, 512 were males and 488 females. In other words, there were 1,051 males born to every 1,000 females.