

31.—Maternal Deaths in Each Province, by Causes of Death, 1940—concluded

Int. List No.	Cause of Death	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Canada ¹
148	Puerperal phlegmasia alba dolens, embolism, or sudden death (not specified as septic).....	Nil	14	9	50	47	10	8	13	5	156
	(a) Phlegmasia alba dolens and thrombosis....	"	3	1	4	6	2	Nil	5	Nil	21
	(b) Embolism.....	"	7	4	24	22	4	4	2	2	69
	(c) Sudden death.....	"	4	4	22	19	4	4	6	3	66
149	Other accidents of childbirth.....	1	5	3	31	19	4	4	11	3	81
	(a) Cæsarean operation..	Nil	Nil	1	8	6	Nil	1	1	2	19
	(b) Other surgical operations and instrumental delivery.....	"	"	Nil	2	2	1	Nil	3	Nil	8
	(c) Dystocia.....	1	1	1	6	3	1	"	3	"	16
	(d) Rupture of uterus in parturition.....	Nil	2	1	4	3	2	"	1	"	13
	(e) Others under this title	"	2	Nil	11	5	Nil	3	3	1	25
150	Other or unspecified conditions of the puerperal state.....	"	1	"	6	2	"	4	3	2	18
	(a) Puerperal diseases of the breast.....	"	Nil	"	Nil	Nil	"	1	Nil	1	2
	(b) Others under this title	"	1	"	6	2	"	3	3	1	16
	Totals.....	6	54	56	377	254	57	62	69	43	978

¹ Exclusive of the Territories.

Section 4.—Natural Increase

During recent years the rate of natural increase of the population of Canada has declined. In 1921 the rate was 17·8; it declined to 13·3 in 1926 and to 12·2 in 1929. After 1929 there was a temporary improvement but the rates for 1935, 1936, 1937 and 1938 were downward; improvement is again apparent for 1939 and 1940. Among the provinces the trends generally follow that of Canada with minor exceptions. Quebec shows the greatest improvement in death rate for the period since 1926; the rate of 10·1 for 1940 was the lowest for the period 1926-40.

The Province of Quebec has been generally regarded as having one of the highest rates of natural increase per 1,000 population of any civilized area. The rate for Quebec was 17·1 in 1931 and, while it was gradually reduced in line with common experience to a low point of 12·8 in 1937, it has since recovered somewhat and stood at 15·7 for 1940. Saskatchewan has usually approached Quebec in the matter of natural increase and for the years 1934 and 1935 the rates for this prairie province actually exceeded those for Quebec, although for later years they have been lower. Alberta has followed Saskatchewan fairly closely. In the case of the two western provinces the high rates of natural increase are due to their relatively younger populations and lower crude death rates.

The rate of natural increase in 1939 was 15·9 per 1,000 in the Union of South Africa (Whites), 9·5 in New Zealand, 7·8 in Australia, 6·0 in Northern Ireland, 4·9 in Eire, 4·5 in Scotland and 2·8 in England and Wales, so that Canada compares quite favourably with most other British countries.

The rates of natural increase per 1,000 of the mean population for other countries for 1937 (the latest uniform year) are: Netherlands, 11·0; Japan, 13·6; Italy, 8·7; Denmark, 7·2; Germany, 7·1; United States, 5·8; Finland, 6·6; Switzerland, 3·7; Norway, 4·7; Belgium, 2·2; Sweden, 2·3; France, —0·3.