

#### 4.—Percentages of Legitimate Children Born Alive to Canadian-Born, British-Born or Foreign-Born Mothers, by Provinces, 1939-42

Province	Nativity of Mothers											
	Canadian Born				British Born				Foreign Born			
	1939	1940	1941	1942	1939	1940	1941	1942	1939	1940	1941	1942
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
Prince Edward Island...	95.9	95.6	96.6	95.4	1.5	0.8	0.9	1.7	2.6	3.6	2.5	2.9
Nova Scotia.....	91.7	91.8	92.3	92.8	5.8	5.4	5.4	5.0	2.5	2.7	2.3	2.2
New Brunswick.....	94.5	95.0	95.5	95.3	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.7	3.4	3.2	2.6	3.0
Quebec.....	96.4	96.7	97.1	97.2	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.1	2.2	2.1	1.8	1.7
Ontario.....	82.3	83.8	85.6	86.4	9.7	8.9	7.8	7.2	8.0	7.3	6.6	6.4
Manitoba.....	79.4	81.8	83.7	85.3	6.0	5.2	4.6	4.4	14.6	12.9	11.6	10.3
Saskatchewan.....	74.0	77.1	79.6	81.7	5.1	4.5	3.7	3.6	21.0	18.5	16.6	14.7
Alberta.....	67.6	70.9	73.4	75.7	7.3	6.5	5.9	5.7	25.1	22.7	20.7	18.6
British Columbia.....	72.1	74.7	77.6	79.1	13.4	12.0	10.9	10.1	14.5	13.3	11.6	10.7
<b>Canada<sup>1</sup>.....</b>	<b>86.0</b>	<b>87.2</b>	<b>88.7</b>	<b>89.5</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.2</b>

<sup>1</sup> Exclusive of the Territories.

**Fertility Rates.**—The crude birth rate of a young country is subject to influences that vitiate comparison with older lands. These influences are the result, to some extent, of differences in age or sex constitution or in conjugal condition. For this reason birth rates are frequently based on the number of births per thousand women within suitably chosen age groups. Such rates are commonly known as fertility rates. At pp. 150-152 of the 1936 Year Book specific fertility rates of married women between the ages of 15 and 49 years are given, by provinces, for 1921, 1922 and 1930-32. See also the article at pp. 100-115 of the 1942 Year Book.

**Multiple Births in Canada.**—During the seventeen-year period 1926-42, out of a total of 4,061,687 recorded confinements, 48,082 or one in 84.5 were multiple confinements. Of these 47,641 were twin and 437 were triplet confinements, while one, in British Columbia in 1931, was a quadruplet confinement from which all the children died within a few hours of birth. A multiple confinement resulted in the birth of quintuplets in 1934. In 1937 there were 2 quadruplet confinements in Quebec, all children being born alive.

In the years 1941 and 1942, one confinement in every 90 and 92, respectively, was a twin confinement, a proportion that is fairly representative for the other years of the period. There were 22 triplet confinements in 1941 and 26 in 1942. In 1941, of the children born (alive or dead), one child in every 45 was a unit of a multiple birth and in 1942 the proportion was one in every 46. Children born alive numbered one in 46 and 47, while for stillborn children the proportions were one in 21 and one in 26, respectively, for the years 1941 and 1942. Stillborn children resulting from multiple confinements formed 5.7 p.c. in 1941 and 4.5 p.c. in 1942 of the total children born, as against 2.6 p.c. and 2.5 p.c. in single confinements.