

Since the introduction of a comprehensive vital statistics system, there has been a similar definite downward trend from the crude death rate of 11.5 per 1,000 population in 1921 to 10.7 in 1930, and 9.8 in 1940. In 1941 the rate rose slightly to 10.0 but dropped again in 1942 to 9.7. The improvement has been general in all provinces, particularly in Quebec. The increase in the number of deaths, and the death rate in 1941 was due to a higher mortality rate for certain communicable diseases.

Age and Sex Distribution of Decedents.—Numerically speaking, for both sexes, the greatest number of deaths occur during the first year of life, although some startling reductions have been made in recent years. It will be seen in Table 16 that the average ages of decedents have been increasing steadily and that, for the most part, the ratios of deaths over 60 years have not diminished. On the other hand striking reductions have been apparent in the earlier years of life, particularly under 30 years of age. While much has been accomplished through the methods of therapeutic and preventive medicine, it must be remembered that the declining death rate in the younger ages is in a large measure responsible for the ageing of the population in Canada.

16.—Deaths by Sex, for Specified Age Groups, 1941 and 1942, with Five-Year Averages 1926-30

Age Group	Numbers						Percentages					
	Males			Females			Males			Females		
	Average age 1926-30	1941	1942	Average age 1926-30	1941	1942	Average age 1926-30	1941	1942	Average age 1926-30	1941	1942
Under 1 year	12,546	8,788	8,392	9,516	6,448	6,259	21.5	13.8	13.3	18.8	12.7	12.5
1 year	1,793	856	818	1,542	726	695	3.1	1.3	1.3	3.0	1.4	1.4
2 years	807	459	448	721	347	377	1.4	0.7	0.7	1.4	0.7	0.8
3 "	563	318	322	501	295	281	1.0	0.5	0.5	1.0	0.6	0.6
4 "	439	245	271	404	198	211	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.4
Totals, Under 5 Years of Age	16,148	10,666	10,251	12,685	8,014	7,823	27.7	16.7	16.3	25.1	15.8	15.7
5-9 years	1,459	888	764	1,228	670	607	2.5	1.4	1.2	2.4	1.3	1.2
10-14 "	1,038	787	652	943	536	508	1.8	1.2	1.0	1.9	1.1	1.0
15-19 "	1,406	1,118	1,072	1,339	823	797	2.4	1.8	1.7	2.6	1.6	1.6
20-24 "	1,520	1,332	1,501	1,605	1,039	1,020	2.6	2.1	2.4	3.2	2.0	2.0
25-29 "	1,417	1,317	1,247	1,525	1,173	1,139	2.4	2.1	2.0	3.0	2.3	2.3
30-34 "	1,326	1,211	1,167	1,486	1,148	1,113	2.3	1.9	1.9	2.9	2.3	2.2
35-39 "	1,645	1,497	1,360	1,686	1,242	1,217	2.8	2.3	2.2	3.3	2.4	2.4
40-44 "	1,938	1,744	1,698	1,723	1,464	1,346	3.3	2.7	2.7	3.4	2.9	2.7
45-49 "	2,279	2,416	2,291	1,832	1,817	1,727	3.9	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.5
50-54 "	2,562	3,354	3,410	1,962	2,227	2,245	4.4	5.3	5.4	3.9	4.4	4.5
55-59 "	2,896	4,393	4,397	2,214	2,851	2,957	5.0	6.9	7.0	4.4	5.6	5.9
60-64 "	3,509	5,285	5,418	2,764	3,483	3,517	6.0	8.3	8.6	5.5	6.9	7.0
65-69 "	4,284	6,053	6,163	3,448	4,412	4,380	7.4	9.5	9.8	6.8	8.7	8.8
70-74 "	4,662	6,489	6,503	3,885	4,980	4,918	8.0	10.2	10.3	7.7	9.8	9.8
75-79 "	4,381	6,418	6,377	3,876	5,457	5,431	7.5	10.1	10.1	7.7	10.7	10.9
80-89 "	4,969	7,786	7,632	5,251	7,931	7,710	8.5	12.2	12.1	10.4	15.6	15.4
90 years or over	820	1,076	1,056	1,099	1,514	1,491	1.4	1.7	1.7	2.2	3.0	3.0
Totals, Stated Ages	58,255	63,830	62,959	50,552	50,781	49,946	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ages not stated	96	22	54	22	6	19	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals, All Ages	58,351	63,852	63,013	50,574	50,787	49,965	-	-	-	-	-	-