

### Section 13.—Blind and Deaf-Mutes

Detailed statistics of the blind and of deaf-mutes are given for the 1941 Census in bulletin form. For previous censuses, earlier editions of the Year Book should be referred to.

**Blind.**—A general test which took the form of a block of large blackfaced letters on the Census schedule\* was used to determine the blind. In the case of children under 10 years of age, or older persons who were illiterate, inability to distinguish or count the fingers of one hand at a distance of twelve feet was alternatively adopted. Those who had lost the sight of one eye only were not regarded as blind. The blind in the nine provinces in 1941 numbered 9,962 or 8·7 per 10,000 of the population as compared with 3,266 or 6·1 in 10,000 at the beginning of the century.

**Deaf-Mutes.**—Deaf-mutism, unlike blindness, is preponderantly an infirmity originating at birth or an early age. The number of deaf-mutes in the nine provinces of Canada increased from 5,368 in 1881 to 7,194 in 1941. The number of blind deaf-mutes in Canada is 158, 39·9 p.c. of whom are in Quebec; 29·8 p.c. in Ontario; 8·2 p.c. in Nova Scotia; 5·7 p.c. and 5·1 p.c. in Alberta and British Columbia; 3·8 p.c. in each of the provinces of Prince Edward Island and Manitoba and 1·9 p.c. in the provinces of New Brunswick and Saskatchewan.

\* See Census schedule Form 8, 1941 Census.

#### 33.—Blind<sup>1</sup> by Number and Proportion per 10,000 Population, by Provinces, 1881-1941

Province	Numbers							Proportions per 10,000 Population						
	1881	1891	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1881	1891	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941
P.E. Island.....	68	82	67	58	75	82	111	6·2	7·5	6·5	6·2	8·5	9·3	11·7
Nova Scotia.....	359	406	485	332	576	749	838	8·1	9·0	10·5	6·7	11·0	14·6	14·5
New Brunswick..	212	252	283	232	257	374	729	6·6	7·8	8·5	6·6	6·6	9·2	15·9
Quebec.....	1,102	1,219	1,035	1,117	1,253	2,295	3,152	8·1	8·2	6·3	5·6	5·3	8·0	9·5
Ontario.....	1,102	1,227	1,063	1,077	1,570	2,309	3,131	5·7	5·8	4·9	4·3	5·3	6·7	8·3
Manitoba.....	31	36	104	123	179	461	562	5·0	2·4	4·1	2·7	2·9	6·6	7·7
Saskatchewan....	-	-	54	78	156	386	443	-	-	5·9	1·6	2·1	4·2	4·9
Alberta.....	-	-	60	71	101	237	397	-	-	8·2	1·9	1·7	3·2	5·0
British Columbia	128	128	115	138	221	450	599	25·9	13·0	6·4	3·5	4·2	6·5	7·3
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>3,002</b>	<b>3,350</b>	<b>3,266</b>	<b>3,226</b>	<b>4,388</b>	<b>7,343</b>	<b>9,962</b>	<b>7·0</b>	<b>7·1</b>	<b>6·1</b>	<b>4·5</b>	<b>5·0</b>	<b>7·1</b>	<b>8·7</b>

<sup>1</sup> Not including blind deaf-mutes.

#### 34.—Deaf-Mutes<sup>1</sup> by Number and Proportion per 10,000 Population, by Provinces, 1881-1941

Province	Numbers							Proportions per 10,000 Population						
	1881	1891	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1881	1891	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941
P.E. Island.....	122	87	98	46	40	45	64	11·2	8·0	9·5	5·0	4·5	5·1	6·7
Nova Scotia.....	581	495	627	472	437	456	432	13·2	11·0	13·6	9·6	8·3	8·9	7·5
New Brunswick..	401	354	443	273	297	345	379	12·5	11·0	13·4	7·8	7·6	8·5	8·3
Quebec.....	2,225	2,108	2,488	1,635	1,891	2,778	2,846	16·4	14·2	15·1	8·2	8·0	9·7	8·5
Ontario.....	1,963	1,603	2,002	1,410	1,842	1,807	1,968	10·2	7·6	9·2	5·6	6·3	5·3	5·2
Manitoba.....	49	102	291	296	273	467	419	7·9	6·7	11·4	6·5	4·5	6·7	5·4
Saskatchewan....	-	-	73	180	256	361	484	-	-	8·0	3·7	3·4	3·9	5·7
Alberta.....	-	-	45	147	163	290	342	-	-	6·2	3·9	2·8	4·0	4·3
British Columbia	27	44	92	108	132	218	260	5·5	4·5	5·1	2·8	2·5	3·1	3·2
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>5,368</b>	<b>4,793</b>	<b>6,159</b>	<b>4,567</b>	<b>5,331</b>	<b>6,767</b>	<b>7,194</b>	<b>12·6</b>	<b>10·1</b>	<b>11·6</b>	<b>6·4</b>	<b>6·1</b>	<b>6·5</b>	<b>6·3</b>

<sup>1</sup> Not including blind deaf-mutes.