

Canadian Births.—In Canada, in 1921, the birth rate was 29 per 1,000. Since a rate of 35 per 1,000 is very high for countries of modern western civilization, the Canadian birth rate had probably not fallen far or for long before then. It fell continuously until 1937, when it was 20 per 1,000 but since then, owing to economic recovery and the War, it rose to 22 in 1940, to 24 in 1943 and to 27 in 1948. The birth rates in the provinces followed the same general trend, though in the Maritimes the fall stopped before 1930.

Sex of Live Births.—Wherever birth statistics have been collected, they have shown an excess of male over female births. No conclusive explanation of this excess has yet been given. Nevertheless it is so much of an accepted statistical fact that a proper ratio of male to female births has become one of the criteria of complete registration. The number of males to every 1,000 females born in Canada in 1941-48 varied between 1,067 and 1,051.

Hospitalization and medical attendance at birth have increased in Canada. In 1926-30, only 22 p.c. of live births occurred in hospitals, while in 1940-42 the proportion was 50 p.c. and in 1948, 72 p.c. The provinces still differ greatly in this respect. In 1948 the proportions of births that occurred in hospitals were: Quebec 41 p.c., New Brunswick 64 p.c., Prince Edward Island 76 p.c., Nova Scotia 80 p.c., Ontario 88 p.c., Manitoba 89 p.c., Saskatchewan 92 p.c., Alberta 95 p.c., and British Columbia 96 p.c.

10.—Live Births by Sex, Birth Rates, and Ratio of Males to Females, by Provinces, 1945-48

Province and Year	Total Live Births	Rate per 1,000 Population	Males		Females		Males to 1,000 Females
			Number	P.C. of Total	Number	P.C. of Total	
Prince Edward Island.....1945	2,258	24.5	1,167	51.7	1,091	48.3	1,070
.....1946	2,793	29.7	1,444	51.7	1,349	48.3	1,070
.....1947	2,992	31.8	1,532	51.2	1,460	48.8	1,049
.....1948	2,842	30.6	1,453	51.1	1,389	48.9	1,046
Nova Scotia.....1945	15,527	25.0	8,086	52.1	7,441	47.9	1,087
.....1946	17,914	29.3	9,133	51.0	8,781	49.0	1,040
.....1947	19,265	31.0	9,771	50.7	9,494	49.3	1,029
.....1948	17,791	28.0	9,094	51.1	8,697	48.9	1,046
New Brunswick.....1945	13,693	29.3	6,999	51.1	6,694	48.9	1,046
.....1946	16,274	33.9	8,293	51.0	7,981	49.0	1,039
.....1947	17,771	36.2	9,134	51.4	8,637	48.6	1,058
.....1948	17,279	34.4	8,889	51.4	8,390	48.6	1,059
Quebec.....1945	104,283	29.3	53,582	51.4	50,701	48.6	1,057
.....1946	111,285	30.7	57,280	51.5	54,005	48.5	1,061
.....1947	115,553	31.1	59,393	51.4	56,160	48.6	1,058
.....1948	114,709	30.3	58,938	51.4	55,771	48.6	1,087
Ontario.....1945	78,974	19.7	40,817	51.7	38,157	48.3	1,070
.....1946	97,446	23.8	50,385	51.7	47,061	48.3	1,071
.....1947	108,853	26.0	55,716	51.2	53,137	48.8	1,049
.....1948	104,195	24.2	53,459	51.3	50,736	48.7	1,054
Manitoba.....1945	16,253	22.1	8,425	51.8	7,828	48.2	1,076
.....1946	18,794	25.9	9,645	51.3	9,149	48.7	1,054
.....1947	20,409	27.5	10,374	50.8	10,035	49.2	1,034
.....1948	18,870	24.9	9,615	51.0	9,255	49.0	1,039
Saskatchewan.....1945	18,926	22.4	9,794	51.7	9,132	48.3	1,072
.....1946	21,433	25.7	10,974	51.2	10,459	48.8	1,049
.....1947	23,334	27.7	11,968	51.3	11,366	48.7	1,053
.....1948	21,562	25.2	11,012	51.1	10,550	48.9	1,044
Alberta.....1945	19,939	24.1	10,315	51.7	9,624	48.3	1,072
.....1946	22,184	27.6	11,302	50.9	10,882	49.1	1,039
.....1947	24,631	30.0	12,680	51.5	11,951	48.5	1,061
.....1948	24,075	28.5	12,331	51.2	11,744	48.8	1,050
British Columbia.....1945	18,877	19.9	9,727	51.5	9,150	48.5	1,063
.....1946	22,609	22.5	11,489	50.8	11,120	49.2	1,033
.....1947	26,286	25.2	13,405	51.0	12,881	49.0	1,041
.....1948	25,984	24.0	13,332	51.3	12,652	48.7	1,054
Canada (Exclusive of the Territories).....1945	288,730	23.9	145,912	51.6	139,818	48.4	1,065
.....1946	330,732	26.9	169,945	51.4	160,787	48.6	1,057
.....1947	359,094	28.6	183,973	51.2	175,121	48.8	1,051
.....1948	347,367	27.0	178,123	51.3	169,184	48.7	1,053