

Sex and Age Distribution of Deaths.—Despite reductions in infant mortality, more deaths still occur in the first year of life than in any other year. The number of children dying under five years of age was reduced from an average of 25,174 in 1930-32 to 17,949 in 1940-42. In 1948 the number was 17,899.

The percentage distribution of deaths has changed greatly since 1930-32. The percentages of deaths at all ages up to 50 years have declined, and the percentages at ages over 50 have increased. The average age at death has gradually risen. The reduction in mortality rates in the early and middle years of life increases the number of people in the older age groups and raises the average age of the population as a whole. In 1931, 16.6 p.c. of the population was 50 years of age or over and the average age of all males was 29.0 years and of all females 28.1 years. In 1941, 19.7 p.c. of the population was 50 years of age or over, and the average age of all males had risen to 30.7 years and of all females to 30.2 years. Compared with most European countries, however, the population of Canada is still young. The average age of death for males in 1948 was 54.6 years and for females 56.8 years.

25.—Deaths, by Sex and Age Groups, 1947 and 1948

(Exclusive of the Territories)

Age Group	Males				Females			
	1947		1948		1947		1948	
	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.
Under 1 year.....	9,430	14.2	8,654	12.8	6,906	13.5	6,510	12.5
1 year.....	654	1.0	712	1.1	548	1.1	592	1.1
2 years.....	347	0.5	336	0.5	266	0.5	277	0.5
3 ".....	245	0.4	265	0.4	192	0.4	183	0.4
4 ".....	208	0.3	209	0.3	151	0.3	161	0.3
Totals, Under 5 Years of Age.....	10,884	16.4	10,176	15.1	8,063	15.7	7,723	14.9
5 - 9 years.....	703	1.1	686	1.0	465	0.9	423	0.8
10 - 14 ".....	523	0.8	479	0.7	359	0.7	328	0.6
15 - 19 ".....	874	1.3	800	1.2	675	1.3	541	1.0
20 - 24 ".....	1,075	1.6	1,122	1.7	881	1.7	761	1.5
25 - 29 ".....	1,078	1.6	1,011	1.5	869	1.7	799	1.5
30 - 34 ".....	1,083	1.6	1,031	1.5	945	1.8	876	1.7
35 - 39 ".....	1,339	2.0	1,368	2.0	1,048	2.0	1,102	2.1
40 - 44 ".....	1,687	2.5	1,742	2.6	1,210	2.4	1,260	2.4
45 - 49 ".....	2,435	3.7	2,391	3.5	1,605	3.1	1,608	3.1
50 - 54 ".....	3,194	4.8	3,299	4.9	2,119	4.1	2,172	4.2
55 - 59 ".....	4,550	6.8	4,605	6.8	2,778	5.4	2,894	5.6
60 - 64 ".....	6,021	9.1	6,258	9.3	3,747	7.3	3,787	7.3
65 - 69 ".....	7,118	10.7	7,225	10.7	4,658	9.1	4,687	9.0
70 - 74 ".....	7,269	10.9	7,768	11.5	5,506	10.7	5,731	11.0
75 - 79 ".....	6,776	10.2	7,190	10.7	5,740	11.2	6,091	11.7
80 - 89 ".....	8,453	12.7	8,846	13.1	8,761	17.1	9,263	17.8
90 years or over.....	1,342	2.0	1,395	2.1	1,824	3.6	1,894	3.6
Totals, Stated Ages.....	66,404	100.0	67,392	100.0	51,253	100.0	51,930	100.0
Ages not stated.....	34	--	35	--	13	--	17	--
Totals, All Ages.....	66,438	100.0	67,427	100.0	51,266	100.0	51,957	100.0

Causes of Death.—About 91 p.c. of the deaths in Canada are due to the 28 specified causes given in Table 26. About 80 p.c. are due to ten causes: diseases of the heart; cancer, intracranial lesions, violent deaths, nephritis, diseases of early infancy, pneumonia, tuberculosis, influenza and diseases of the arteries.