

from 162 in 1900 to 47 in 1940 and 32 in 1948. The energy devoted in recent years to reducing infant mortality has resulted in definite improvement in many other countries.

**27.—Infant Mortality per 1,000 Live Births in Various Countries of the World compared with Canada and the Provinces for Recent Years**

(Sources: Monthly Bulletin of Statistics of the United Nations and other official publications. In certain cases final figures are not available and provisional data are used.)

Country or Province	Year	Infant Mortality Rate	Country	Year	Infant Mortality Rate
Iceland.....	1947	22	Northern Ireland.....	1948	45
New Zealand (excluding Maoris)...	1948	22	Scotland.....	1948	45
Sweden.....	1948	23	Ireland.....	1948	49
Australia.....	1948	28	Panama.....	1948	50
Netherlands.....	1948	29	France <sup>1</sup> .....	1948	51
Norway.....	1948	30	Finland.....	1948	52
United States.....	1948	32	Belgium (adjusted).....	1948	59
England and Wales.....	1948	34	Spain.....	1948	69
Denmark.....	1948	35	Italy.....	1948	70
Israel (Jewish only).....	1948	35	Newfoundland and Labrador.....	1946	74
Switzerland.....	1948	36	Austria.....	1948	76
Union of South Africa (Whites).....	1948	37	Japan.....	1947	76
<b>Canada (excluding the Territories)</b> .....	<b>1948</b>	<b>44</b>	Ceylon.....	1948	92
British Columbia.....	1948	33	Costa Rica.....	1948	92
Prince Edward Island.....	1948	34	Jamaica.....	1947	92
Ontario.....	1948	35	El Salvador.....	1947	96
Alberta.....	1948	39	Hungary.....	1947	111
Nova Scotia.....	1948	39	Bulgaria.....	1947	130
Saskatchewan.....	1948	40	Chile.....	1948	160
Manitoba.....	1948	41	Roumania.....	1947	199
Quebec.....	1948	54			
New Brunswick.....	1948	61			

<sup>1</sup> Excluding infants born alive but who die before registration of birth.

**Canadian Infant Mortality.**—A striking improvement has been shown in the rate of infant mortality during the past 25 years. Of the children born in 1944-48, approximately 72,000 lived to their first birthday who would have died at the rate prevailing in the period 1926-30.

Infant mortality of males is 25 to 30 p.c. higher than that of females. It was pointed out earlier that there were between 1,051 and 1,067 males born to every 1,000 females. Because male infant mortality is higher, the excess of males is much less at the end of the first year. For example, in 1940-42, 397,038 male children were born, compared with 374,908 female children, an excess of 22,130 or 5.9 p.c.; 25,024 male children died during their first year compared with 18,646 female children, that is 6,378 more. The excess of males at one year of age is thus reduced to 15,752, or 4.4 p.c. By the age of 52, according to the life table on p. 167, the numbers of males and females will have become equal.

Infant mortality rates vary considerably from province to province. One of the principal causes of these variations appears to be the different proportions of births which take place in hospitals or under proper medical care. Examples of these differences have been given earlier, see p. 169. Along with increased hospitalization has come better and more widespread pre-natal and post-natal care. Other factors, particularly the supervision of water supplies, improved sanitation and the pasteurization of milk, also have been important.