

mately 9 p.c. Death rates for males up to age 45 have been roughly halved during the past 25 years; those for females in the same ages have been reduced as much as three to four times.

These reductions in the mortality rates in early and middle years of life have had the effect of increasing the number of people in the older age groups and of raising the average age of the population as a whole. As a natural consequence much larger proportions of deaths are now occurring at the older ages. Further, the reductions in rates will eventually raise the average age at death. In 1921 the average age at death of males was 39.0 years and of females 41.1 years; by 1954 this had advanced to 57.3 and 60.0 respectively. These trends are indicated clearly in Table 12.

12.—Distribution of Deaths by Age and Sex 1921, 1931, 1941, 1953 and 1954

Age Group	1921 ¹		1931		1941		1953		1954	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
	NUMBER									
Under 5 years.....	10,827	8,303	14,511	11,226	10,666	8,014	9,858	7,350	9,245	6,840
5 - 9 "	1,166	979	1,241	963	888	670	789	394	696	407
10 - 14 "	674	611	821	806	787	536	474	278	439	222
15 - 19 "	866	741	1,311	1,132	1,118	823	764	311	653	300
20 - 24 "	947	946	1,502	1,453	1,332	1,039	1,057	427	952	378
25 - 29 "	1,046	1,035	1,388	1,414	1,317	1,173	953	590	936	531
30 - 34 "	1,002	1,051	1,301	1,432	1,211	1,148	1,065	670	1,021	669
35 - 39 "	1,263	1,223	1,512	1,574	1,497	1,242	1,339	925	1,209	901
40 - 44 "	1,254	1,073	1,888	1,493	1,744	1,464	1,846	1,275	1,770	1,271
45 - 49 "	1,345	1,066	2,314	1,738	2,416	1,817	2,549	1,566	2,415	1,544
50 - 54 "	1,492	1,288	2,855	1,993	3,355	2,227	3,696	2,154	3,646	2,060
55 - 59 "	1,727	1,337	3,057	2,246	4,394	2,851	4,764	2,775	4,656	2,633
60 - 64 "	2,121	1,652	3,583	2,855	5,288	3,483	6,382	3,835	6,379	3,679
65 - 69 "	2,277	1,976	4,249	3,348	6,057	4,412	8,168	5,179	8,172	5,005
70 - 74 "	2,550	2,184	4,867	4,073	6,495	4,981	9,244	6,605	9,227	6,455
75 - 79 "	2,378	2,135	4,368	4,029	6,421	5,461	8,532	7,041	8,639	6,942
80 - 84 "	1,833	1,799	3,206	3,215	5,020	4,906	6,440	6,071	6,552	5,918
85 years or over.....	1,643	1,912	2,555	2,998	3,846	4,540	5,497	6,518	5,533	6,625
Totals, All Ages.....	36,411	31,311	56,529	47,988	63,852	50,787	73,417	53,964	72,140	52,380
	PERCENTAGE									
Under 5 years.....	29.8	26.5	25.7	23.4	16.7	15.8	13.4	13.6	12.8	13.1
5 - 9 "	3.2	3.1	2.2	2.0	1.4	1.3	1.1	0.7	1.0	0.8
10 - 14 "	1.9	2.0	1.5	1.7	1.2	1.1	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.4
15 - 19 "	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.4	1.8	1.6	1.0	0.6	0.9	0.6
20 - 24 "	2.6	3.0	2.7	3.0	2.1	2.0	1.4	0.8	1.3	0.7
25 - 29 "	2.9	3.3	2.5	2.9	2.1	2.3	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.0
30 - 34 "	2.7	3.4	2.3	3.0	1.9	2.3	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.3
35 - 39 "	3.5	3.9	2.7	3.3	2.3	2.4	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.7
40 - 44 "	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.1	2.7	2.9	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.4
45 - 49 "	3.7	3.4	4.1	3.6	3.8	3.6	3.5	2.9	3.3	2.9
50 - 54 "	4.1	4.1	5.0	4.2	5.3	4.4	5.0	4.0	5.1	3.9
55 - 59 "	4.7	4.3	5.4	4.7	6.9	5.6	6.5	5.1	6.5	5.0
60 - 64 "	5.8	5.3	6.3	5.9	8.3	6.9	8.7	7.1	8.8	7.0
65 - 69 "	6.2	6.3	7.5	7.0	9.5	8.7	11.1	9.6	11.3	9.6
70 - 74 "	7.0	7.0	8.6	8.5	10.2	9.8	12.6	12.2	12.8	12.3
75 - 79 "	6.5	6.8	7.7	8.4	10.1	10.7	11.6	13.0	12.0	13.3
80 - 84 "	5.0	5.7	5.7	6.7	7.9	9.7	8.8	11.3	9.1	11.3
85 years or over.....	4.5	6.1	4.5	6.2	6.0	8.9	7.5	12.1	7.7	12.6
Totals, All Ages.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

¹ Excludes the Province of Quebec.