

Table 18 shows the rates of natural increase in the provinces and for each sex separately. The high rates in the Prairie Provinces are partly accounted for by their relatively younger populations and consequent low death rates. In Quebec the death rate in the period 1926-30 was high but it has since declined steadily. High birth rates and in Quebec the declining death rates have given Newfoundland, Alberta, Quebec and New Brunswick the highest rates of natural increase in Canada in recent years (excluding the Yukon and Northwest Territories).

The rates of natural increase are higher for females than for males in all provinces because of the higher death rates for males. In the western provinces particularly, the ratio of males to females in the total population is higher than in other parts of Canada and this tends to lower the rate of natural increase. In Canada, a country with a fairly young population and where immigration has been on a large scale, an excess of males is to be expected but the higher rate of natural increase for females may gradually reduce this excess. The trend is towards an eventual excess of females in the total population—as there now is in most European countries—unless immigration again raises the male ratio or death rates among males are drastically reduced.

18.—Natural Increase and Rates per 1,000 Population, by Sex and Province, 1931-57

Province and Year	Excess of Births Over Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Population	Males		Females		
			Number	Rate per 1,000 Males	Number	Rate per 1,000 Females	
Newfoundland.....	1951	8,734	24.2	4,369	23.6	4,365	24.8
	1956	11,483	27.6	5,722	26.8	5,761	28.6
	1957	12,117	28.5	5,906	26.9	6,211	30.1
Prince Edward Island.....	1931	967	10.9	517	11.4	450	10.6
	1941	915	9.6	483	9.8	432	9.4
	1951	1,747	17.9	872	17.4	875	18.2
	1956	1,724	17.4	765	15.1	959	19.7
	1957	1,760	17.7	836	16.7	924	18.9
Nova Scotia.....	1931	5,647	11.0	2,836	10.8	2,811	11.3
	1941	6,989	12.1	3,335	11.3	3,654	13.0
	1951	11,313	17.6	5,596	17.2	5,717	18.0
	1956	13,368	19.2	6,719	19.0	6,649	19.5
	1957	13,339	19.0	6,423	18.0	6,916	20.1
New Brunswick.....	1931	6,157	15.1	3,099	14.9	3,058	15.3
	1941	7,088	15.5	3,396	14.5	3,692	16.5
	1951	11,202	21.8	5,522	21.3	5,680	22.1
	1956	11,915	21.5	6,014	21.5	5,901	21.5
	1957	12,425	22.0	6,250	21.9	6,175	22.1
Quebec.....	1931	49,119	17.1	24,984	17.3	24,135	16.9
	1941	54,871	16.5	27,561	16.5	27,310	16.5
	1951	86,030	21.2	42,961	21.2	43,069	21.2
	1956	100,842	21.8	50,220	21.7	50,622	21.9
	1957	105,473	22.2	52,320	21.9	53,153	22.4
Ontario.....	1931	33,504	9.8	16,472	9.4	17,032	10.1
	1941	33,036	8.7	15,705	8.2	17,331	9.3
	1951	70,846	15.4	34,737	15.0	36,109	15.8
	1956	96,285	17.9	46,813	17.2	49,472	18.4
	1957	101,756	18.1	49,498	17.5	52,258	18.7
Manitoba.....	1931	9,057	12.9	4,239	11.5	4,818	14.5
	1941	8,317	11.4	3,834	10.1	4,483	12.7
	1951	13,207	17.0	6,388	16.2	6,819	17.9
	1956	14,887	17.5	6,929	16.0	7,958	19.1
	1957	14,994	17.4	7,014	16.0	7,980	18.9
Saskatchewan.....	1931	15,265	16.5	7,499	15.0	7,766	18.4
	1941	12,006	13.4	5,651	11.8	6,355	15.2
	1951	15,293	18.4	7,192	16.6	8,101	20.4
	1956	17,393	19.7	8,251	18.0	9,142	21.7
	1957	17,178	19.5	8,175	17.9	9,003	21.3