

2.—Summary of Principal Vital Statistics for Urban Centres of 10,000 Population or Over,¹ 1951-58—concluded

Province and Urban Centre	Live Births		Deaths		Natural Increase		Infant Mortality			Marriages ²	
	Av. 1951-55	1958	Av. 1951-55	1958	Av. 1951-55	1958	Av. 1951-55	1958		Av. 1951-55	1958
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	Rate ³	No.	Rate ³	No.	No.
Manitoba—concluded											
St. Louis, s.m.....	..	630	..	155	..	475	..	16	25	..	119
Winnipeg, c.....	5,766	5,969	2,408	2,610	3,358	3,359	26	154	26	3,350	2,722
Saskatchewan—											
Moose Jaw, c.....	774	923	287	290	487	633	27	14	15	365	298
Prince Albert, c.....	558	603	133	176	425	427	29	20	33	279	268
Regina, c.....	2,143	2,880	589	636	1,554	2,244	23	51	18	1,039	1,017
Saskatoon, c.....	1,811	2,565	529	693	1,282	1,872	28	67	26	872	855
Swift Current, c.....	275	367	77	84	198	283	33	8	22	133	124
Alberta—											
Calgary, c.....	4,462	6,737	1,304	1,582	3,158	5,155	27	171	25	2,015	2,249
Edmonton, c.....	6,481	8,570	1,346	1,607	5,135	6,963	23	198	23	2,823	3,141
Jasper Place, t.....	442	847	37	78	405	769	18	24	28	16	18
Lethbridge, c.....	816	921	195	233	621	688	25	15	16	406	361
Medicine Hat, c.....	464	587	173	206	291	381	20	8	14	283	251
Red Deer, c.....	358	605	73	111	285	494	23	8	13	173	218
British Columbia—											
Burnaby, d.m.....	..	2,556	..	684	..	1,872	..	56	22	..	491
Chilliwack, d.m.....	..	468	..	120	..	348	..	10	21	..	94
Coquitlam, d.m.....	..	625	..	96	..	529	..	12	19	..	66
Esquimalt, d.m.....	..	300	..	76	..	224	..	3	10	..	130
Langley, d.m.....	..	358	..	131	..	227	..	6	17	..	66
Maple Ridge, d.m.....	..	367	..	132	..	235	..	6	16	..	104
Matsqui, d.m.....	..	321	..	93	..	228	..	4	12	..	95
Nanaimo, c.....	331	405	151	181	180	224	25	11	27	208	184
New Westminster, c.....	584	673	272	323	312	350	19	13	19	574	559
North Vancouver, c.....	647	669	190	176	457	493	19	14	21	152	138
North Vancouver, d.m.....	..	952	..	179	..	773	..	16	17	..	123
Oak Bay, d.m.....	..	223	..	189	..	34	..	3	13	..	83
Penticton, c.....	247	257	89	110	158	147	32	6	23	107	120
Port Alberni, c.....	255	334	56	77	199	257	25	13	39	92	114
Prince George, c.....	370	591	69	63	301	528	33	12	20	154	218
Prince Rupert, c.....	302	372	95	95	207	277	41	17	46	135	104
Richmond, d.m.....	..	1,007	..	144	..	863	..	17	17	..	121
Saanich, d.m.....	..	992	..	367	..	625	..	18	18	..	129
Surrey, d.m.....	..	1,768	..	463	..	1,305	..	33	19	..	224
Trail, c.....	..	380	..	86	..	306	21	8	27	115	107
Vancouver, c.....	7,738	8,395	4,223	4,508	3,515	3,887	22	176	21	4,587	4,695
Victoria, c.....	1,159	1,297	768	843	391	454	21	31	24	777	700
West Vancouver, d.m.....	..	385	..	182	..	203	..	7	18	..	118

¹ As at the 1956 Census: residents only.² By place of occurrence.³ Per 1,000 live births.

Section 2.—Births*

The Canadian birth rate in 1921 was 29 per 1,000 population. As a rate of 35 is very high for countries of modern western civilization, the Canadian rate had probably not fallen far, nor for long, before 1921. It fell continuously until 1937 when it reached a low of 20 but, as a result of economic recovery and the War, it rose to 22 in 1940, 24 in 1943 and a record high of nearly 29 in 1947. Since then it has fluctuated between 27 and 28.5 and in 1958 stood at 27.6.

The birth rates in most provinces followed similar trends but there were some regional differences in the birth rate pattern in recent years. Although all provinces had record high rates immediately following World War II, average birth rates in Ontario and the western provinces were higher during 1951-55 than those for the 1946-50 period, while those for Quebec and the Maritimes were lower. In fact, Ontario, British Columbia and Alberta had record high crude birth rates during the past three to four years.

* For international comparisons, see Section 7, pp. 267-268.