

17.—Infant Mortality and Rates per 100,000 Live Births, by Cause, 1959-61

Inter-national List No.	Cause of Death	Numbers of Deaths			Rates per 100,000 Live Births		
		1959	1960	1961	1959	1960	1961
001-019	Tuberculosis.....	18	7	8	4	1	2
020-029	Syphilis.....	1	—	1	--	—	--
045-048	Dysentery.....	9	23	14	2	5	3
050	Scarlet fever.....	2	1	1	--	--	--
052	Erysipelas.....	2	—	1	--	--	--
055	Diphtheria.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
056	Whooping cough.....	39	63	24	8	13	5
057	Meningococcal infections.....	25	35	8	5	7	2
085	Measles.....	28	27	30	6	6	6
140-239	Neoplasms.....	53	44	42	11	9	9
273	Diseases of thymus gland.....	29	23	13	6	5	3
325	Mental deficiency.....	65	52	75	14	11	16
340	Meningitis (non-meningococcal).....	79	89	109	16	19	23
391, 392	Otitis media.....	89	86	59	19	18	12
470-475	Acute upper respiratory infections.....	59	57	81	12	12	17
480-483	Influenza.....	175	119	108	37	25	23
490-493	Pneumonia (4 weeks and over).....	1,389	1,415	1,273	290	296	268
500-502	Bronchitis.....	105	105	74	22	22	16
543	Gastritis and duodenitis.....	2	5	4	--	1	1
560-570	Hernia and intestinal obstruction.....	102	97	107	21	20	22
571	Gastro-enteritis and colitis.....	490	483	400	102	101	84
572	Chronic enteritis, and ulcerative colitis.....	1	5	2	--	1	--
750-759	Congenital malformations.....	2,149	2,076	2,192	448	434	461
760, 761	Injury at birth.....	1,400	1,265	1,264	292	264	266
762	Postnatal asphyxia and atelectasis.....	1,535	1,522	1,502	320	318	316
763	Pneumonia of newborn (under 4 weeks).....	454	454	410	95	95	86
764	Diarrhoea of newborn (under 4 weeks).....	126	80	86	26	17	18
765-768	Other infections of the newborn.....	43	48	43	9	10	9
769	Antenatal toxæmia.....	121	91	120	25	19	25
770	Erythroblastosis.....	377	343	325	79	72	68
771	Hæmorrhagic disease of newborn.....	107	93	97	22	19	20
772	Nutritional maladjustment.....	71	48	53	15	10	11
773	Ill-defined diseases peculiar to early infancy... ..	849	875	972	177	183	204
774-776	Immaturity.....	2,369	2,261	2,284	494	472	480
795	Ill-defined and unknown causes.....	145	96	80	30	20	17
E810-E825	Motor vehicle accidents.....	24	14	24	5	3	5
E900-E904	Accidental falls.....	10	17	14	2	4	3
E916	Accidents caused by fire.....	29	24	23	6	5	5
E921, E922	Inhalation and ingestion of food or other object.....	303	306	317	63	64	67
E924, E925	Accidental mechanical suffocation.....	159	145	178	33	30	37
	Other accidental and violent deaths.....	42	51	64	9	11	13
	Other specified causes.....	520	532	458	108	111	96
	<b>Totals, All Causes.....</b>	<b>13,595</b>	<b>13,077</b>	<b>12,940</b>	<b>2,837</b>	<b>2,733</b>	<b>2,720</b>

**Infant Mortality in Urban Centres.**—Because of the relatively small numbers of infant deaths in individual cities and towns, the rates for these centres usually vary widely from year to year. As is evident from Table 2, pp. 222-226, many cities and towns have maintained consistently low rates as compared with the national rate or the rate for the province in which they are situated.

**Subsection 3.—Maternal Mortality**

As indicated in Table 1, pp. 220-221, the number of mothers who die in pregnancy and childbirth has been greatly reduced during the past two decades. Although the number of births has been much greater in recent years, the number of maternal deaths declined steadily from 1940 (when there were 978 deaths and a rate of 40 deaths for every 10,000 births delivered alive) to 255 in 1957; the slightly higher figure of 263 in both 1958 and 1959 was followed by all-time lows of 215 in 1960 and 219 in 1961. Since 1945 the rate of maternal mortality has been less than 20 per 10,000 live births, since 1951 it has been under 10, and in both 1960 and 1961 it was under five. Despite this improvement, Canada's maternal death rate (4.6 in 1961) is higher than the rates for several other countries such as Sweden (3.7), England and Wales (3.4) and the United States (3.2). Mortality among unmarried mothers is higher than among married mothers.