

The number of infants born in relation to every 1,000 women in the population between the ages of 15 and 45 has been declining for the past few years, dropping from 132 in 1959 to 124 in 1962. However, the rates varied among the provinces from 117 to 183 during the past four years; Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Alberta had, on the whole, the highest rates and Quebec, British Columbia, Ontario and Manitoba, in that order, the lowest. On the other hand, the average annual number of infants born to every 1,000 *married* women in the country as a whole dropped from 187 to 176 during the same period. According to this measure, the five eastern provinces had, on the whole, the highest rates and the five most western provinces the lowest; provincial rates ranged from 153 to 276. Most provincial rates declined in varying degree during the period, notably in 1962.

7.—Crude Fertility Rates, by Province, 1959-62

Province or Territory	Rates per 1,000 Total Women 15-44 Years of Age ¹				Rates per 1,000 Married Women 15-44 Years of Age ¹			
	1959	1960	1961	1962	1959	1960	1961	1962
Newfoundland.....	178.8	181.7	183.5	171.4	268.3	271.9	275.8	262.1
Prince Edward Island.....	148.6	148.6	154.6	150.0	224.3	222.9	232.0	228.4
Nova Scotia.....	134.5	134.6	135.3	134.5	189.6	190.0	190.8	191.1
New Brunswick.....	146.2	144.6	146.0	142.2	218.8	217.0	217.1	213.4
Quebec.....	131.3	124.8	121.8	117.3	209.2	198.6	194.0	187.6
Ontario.....	126.2	125.9	123.2	120.7	168.4	168.1	164.5	161.6
Manitoba.....	126.8	128.5	127.8	124.7	173.9	175.6	174.2	170.3
Saskatchewan.....	138.4	137.3	136.6	133.3	189.6	187.5	185.8	183.4
Alberta.....	148.5	148.0	143.8	140.0	194.8	193.5	186.3	181.5
British Columbia.....	127.6	126.4	120.6	117.6	164.1	163.0	155.7	153.1
Yukon Territory.....	214.8	199.3	187.2	182.3	207.2	..
Northwest Territories.....	260.5	266.8	253.6	252.0	320.8	..
Canada².....	132.3	130.2	127.6	124.1	187.0	183.9	180.2	176.1

¹ Since the number of births to women over 44 is quite small, rates are here restricted to women under 45.

² Excludes the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

The rates shown in Table 7 are *crude* in the sense that they do not take into account differences in fertility in the component age periods within the female reproductive life span, nor the proportions of married women in each age period. It is therefore conventional practice to calculate what are termed *age-specific fertility rates*, i.e., the number of infants born annually to every 1,000 women in *each* of the reproductive age periods, again either for all women or for those who are married. Table 8 provides these two sets of rates—the former for 1941 and 1951-62 and the latter for census years only from 1941, since population data are not available by detailed age groups for intercensal years.

Another measure of fertility in a country is obtainable from what is conventionally referred to as a *gross reproduction rate*. The gross reproduction rates shown in Table 8