

Births in Urban Centres.—Table 2, pp. 245-247, shows the number of births in 1963, as compared with the average for 1956-60, to mothers residing in each urban centre of 20,000 population or over. Because the populations of urban centres are not known for intercensal years, birth rates cannot be computed for the 1956-60 period or for 1963.

Illegitimacy.*—In 1963, over 5 p.c. of the live births in Canada were illegitimate. This percentage is low compared with that of many countries of the world but has been rising, particularly during the past five years.

5.—Illegitimate Live Births and Percentages of Total Live Births, by Province, 1941-63

Year	Nfld.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Yukon	N.W.T.	Canada ¹
ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS													
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Av. 1941-45	406	107	1,074	591	3,003	3,751	597	673	852	889	..	..	11,536
" 1946-50	441	152	1,244	754	3,382	4,256	766	914	1,202	1,516	..	..	14,375
" 1951-55	426	139	1,082	659	4,086	4,065	969	1,044	1,481	1,898	53	50	15,951
" 1956-60	587	139	1,201	687	4,675	4,891	1,166	1,194	1,941	2,505	72	102	19,160
1961.....	666	135	1,334	735	4,931	5,456	1,469	1,419	2,430	2,680	94	141	21,490
1962.....	625	133	1,394	739	5,195	5,813	1,558	1,384	2,572	2,804	91	135	22,443
1963.....	761	131	1,455	812	5,644	6,351	1,683	1,580	2,741	3,079	78	143	24,458
PERCENTAGES OF TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS													
Av. 1941-45	4.4	4.9	7.1	4.5	3.1	4.8	3.8	3.6	4.5	5.0	..	..	4.2
" 1946-50	3.6	5.3	6.9	4.5	2.9	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.9	5.9	..	..	4.1
" 1951-55	3.2	5.1	5.9	4.0	3.2	3.2	4.5	4.4	4.8	6.1	12.9	7.5	3.8
" 1956-60	3.9	5.2	6.3	4.1	3.3	3.2	5.2	5.0	5.3	6.4	14.2	10.8	4.1
1961.....	4.3	4.8	6.9	4.4	3.6	3.5	6.3	5.9	6.2	6.9	16.8	12.6	4.5
1962.....	4.1	4.7	7.2	4.5	3.8	3.7	6.8	5.9	6.6	7.4	16.6	11.9	4.8
1963.....	4.9	4.4	7.7	5.1	4.2	4.1	7.4	6.7	7.1	8.2	15.6	12.3	5.3

¹ Figures for Newfoundland are included from 1949, and those for the Yukon and Northwest Territories from 1951.

Multiple Births.—Approximately one confinement in 90 in Canada results in the birth of more than one child as compared with one in 85 several years ago—in other words, the chances of a confinement resulting in the birth of more than one child are fewer now than formerly. The chance of a mother delivering twins is about one in 90, triplets, one in about 10,000 and quadruplets, one in about 750,000 or more. Two sets of quadruplets were born in Canada during 1960—the first since 1957—and one set in each of 1962 and 1963. In 1963 a total of 466,537 mothers bore a total of 471,544 infants, of which 465,767, or almost 99 out of every 100, were born alive.

Other facts illustrated by Table 6 are that the proportion of stillbirths is higher among multiple than among single births, about twice as high for twins and between three and five times as high for triplets.

* The term "illegitimate", as used here, does not refer to all births conceived out of wedlock but is necessarily restricted to those in which parents reported themselves as not having been married to each other at the time of birth or registration and, in Ontario, to those in which the marital status of the mother was reported as "single" at the time of birth or registration.