Table **13** illustrates the fact that the risk of having a stillborn child increases with the age of the mother. Although stillbirth rates for mothers of all ages have been declining, they continue to be three to four times as high for mothers over 40 years of age as for mothers under 30. The average age of mothers who bore stillborn children in 1963 was 29.9 years; the median age was 29.3. The average age of mothers who bore legitimate live-born children was 27.9 and of those who bore illegitimate live-born offspring was 23.4.

**13.—Stillbirths and Ratios per 1,000 Live Births, by Age of Mother, 1963**

(Exclusive of Newfoundland)

| Age Group of Mother | Live Births | Stillbirths | Stillbirth Ratio per 1,000 Live Births |
|---|---|---|---|
| | No. | No. | No. |
| Under 20 years | 40,518 | 403 | 9.9 |
| 20 — 24 " | 139,621 | 1,240 | 8.9 |
| 25 — 29 " | 121,554 | 1,247 | 10.3 |
| 30 — 34 " | 84,302 | 1,094 | 13.0 |
| 35 — 39 " | 47,665 | 958 | 20.1 |
| 40 — 44 " | 14,959 | 464 | 31.0 |
| 45 — 49 " | 1,033 | 40 | 38.7 |
| 50 years or over | 11 | 1 | 90.9 |
| Ages not stated | 661 | 20 | ... |
| **Totals, All Ages** | **450,324** | **5,467** | **12.1** |
| Average age of mothers................yrs. | 27.7 | 29.9 | ... |
| Median age of mothers[1]................ " | 26.7 | 29.3 | ... |

[1] The age above and below which half of the stillbirths occurred.

Table **14** shows the causes of stillbirths in 1963.

**14.—Stillbirths, by Cause, 1963**

| International List No. | Cause | Males | Females | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | No. | No. | No. |
| Y 30 | Chronic disease in mother | 72 | 66 | 138 |
| Y 31 | Acute disease in mother | 16 | 12 | 28 |
| Y 32 | Diseases and conditions of pregnancy and childbirth | 247 | 210 | 457 |
| Y 33 | Absorption of toxic substance from mother | 3 | — | 3 |
| Y 34 | Difficulties in labour | 166 | 143 | 309 |
| Y 35 | Other causes in mother | 33 | 35 | 68 |
| Y 36 | Placental and cord conditions | 1,188 | 1,000 | 2,188 |
| Y 37 | Birth injury | 33 | 20 | 53 |
| Y 38 | Congenital malformation of foetus | 309 | 432 | 741 |
| Y 39 | Diseases of foetus and ill-defined causes | 885 | 862 | 1,747 |
| | **All Causes** | **2,952** | **2,780** | **5,732** |

# Section 3.—Deaths*

No official crude† death rates are available prior to 1921, but some indication of these may be obtained from studies of the early censuses as follows:—

| Intercensal Period | Estimated Average Annual Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 Population) | Intercensal Period | Estimated Average Annual Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 Population) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1851–61 | 22 | 1891–1901 | 16 |
| 1861–71 | 21 | 1901–11 | 13 |
| 1871–81 | 19 | 1911–21 | 13 |
| 1881–91 | 18 | | |

*For international comparisons, see Section 7, pp. 282-283.
† A crude rate is one based on the *total* population.