



No. 84-201). Some rough estimates of birth, natural increase, and death rates back to the mid-1800s by 10-year periods are contained in Sections 4.6.1, 4.6.3 and 4.7.1, respectively.

**4.5.2 Summary of principal data**

Table 4.32 provides a summary of the principal vital statistics for 1971, 1972 and 1973 for Canada, the provinces and territories, with comparative figures by five-year periods back to 1951-55. Table 4.33 shows similar data for urban centres of 50,000 population and over for 1973 with comparative averages for 1966-70 and 1961-65. More detailed information on all aspects of current vital statistics as summarized in these tables, including analyses of recent trends, appears in the annual reports *Vital statistics of Canada, Births* (Catalogue No. 84-204), *Marriages and divorces* (Catalogue No. 84-205), *Deaths* (Catalogue No. 84-206) and *Causes of death* (Catalogue No. 84-203), and in other regular and special reports. In addition, certain unpublished data are available on request.

**4.6 Fertility**

Of all the various interactions of the demographic factors which produce population change (fertility, mortality, nuptiality, immigration, emigration), none exerts greater influence than the rate of reproduction or fertility. By comparison, the nation's death and immigration