

Subsection 1.—General Mortality

Table 21 gives a review of deaths and death rates in Canada since 1926. From a high point of 113,515 deaths in 1929, the number of deaths declined steadily to 101,582 in 1934. There were substantial increases in 1935, 1936 and 1937. The high number of deaths in 1941 and 1943 was partly due to higher mortality from certain communicable diseases.

Since 1931, the Canadian death rate has fluctuated between 10.1 per 1,000 population in 1931 and 9.5 per 1,000 in 1934. It has been more or less stable in Prince Edward Island and Ontario, has been falling considerably in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec, while in the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia it has been rising slightly. The exceptionally low death rates that still prevail in the Prairie Provinces are, to a large extent, due to the favourable age distribution of the population. The slow rise that has taken place in recent years (with the exception of 1944) in the death rates of these provinces and of British Columbia, is the result of the age distribution becoming somewhat less favourable. In all parts of Canada, however, the longer expectation of life shown by the 1941 life tables indicates that the health and general conditions of survival of the population have improved.

Mortality is heavier at all ages for males than for females. Thus, the death rate is higher for the male than for the female population in every province for all the years shown.

21.—Deaths and Death Rates, by Sex and by Provinces, 1941-44, with Five-Year Averages, 1926-40

NOTE.—Figures for 1944 are by place of residence.

Province and Year	Total Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Population	Males		Females		
			Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Males	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Females	
Prince Edward Island.....	Av. 1926-30	969	11.0	501	11.2	468	11.0
	Av. 1931-35	1,001	11.1	525	11.3	475	10.9
	Av. 1936-40	1,080	11.5	568	11.7	512	11.3
	1941	1,134	11.9	595	12.1	539	11.8
	1942	961	10.7	503	10.7	458	10.6
	1943	912	10.0	503	10.6	409	9.4
	1944	925	10.2	488	10.4	438	10.0
Nova Scotia.....	Av. 1926-30	6,362	12.4	3,362	12.8	3,001	11.9
	Av. 1931-35	6,073	11.6	3,186	11.8	2,887	11.3
	Av. 1936-40	6,126	11.0	3,290	11.5	2,836	10.5
	1941	6,914	12.0	3,739	12.6	3,175	11.3
	1942	6,385	10.8	3,503	11.6	2,882	10.0
	1943	6,477	10.7	3,581	11.5	2,896	9.8
	1944	6,229	10.2	3,362	10.7	2,867	9.6
New Brunswick.....	Av. 1926-30	5,019	12.5	2,627	12.8	2,393	12.2
	Av. 1931-35	4,710	11.3	2,509	11.7	2,201	10.8
	Av. 1936-40	5,040	11.4	2,701	11.9	2,339	10.8
	1941	5,184	11.3	2,804	12.0	2,380	10.7
	1942	5,154	11.1	2,741	11.5	2,413	10.6
	1943	4,917	10.6	2,677	11.3	2,240	9.9
	1944	5,131	11.1	2,772	11.7	2,359	10.5
Quebec.....	Av. 1926-30	36,645	13.5	19,031	14.0	17,614	13.0
	Av. 1931-35	32,796	11.0	17,152	11.5	15,644	10.6
	Av. 1936-40	33,221	10.4	17,514	11.0	15,707	9.9
	1941	34,338	10.3	18,344	11.0	15,994	9.6
	1942	33,799	10.0	18,233	10.7	15,566	9.2
	1943	35,069	10.1	18,915	10.9	16,154	9.4
	1944	34,813	9.9	18,569	10.6	16,244	9.3