

Sex of Live Births.—Wherever birth statistics have been collected, they have shown an excess of male over female births. No conclusive explanation of this excess has yet been given. Nevertheless, it is so much of an accepted statistical fact that a proper ratio of male to female births has become one of the criteria of complete registration. The number of males to every 1,000 females born in Canada in 1941-51 varied between 1,051 and 1,067. In 1951 there were 1,058 males born for every 1,000 females. Variations in the provincial sex ratios are due to chance variation because of the relatively small number of births involved. The smaller the total number of births, the greater the chance of wide sex-ratio variations from year to year.

3.—Sex Ratio of Live Births, by Province, 1921-51

Province	Male	Female	Males to 1,000 Females	Province	Male	Female	Males to 1,000 Females
	No.	No.	No.		No.	No.	No.
Newfoundland.....	1949 6,255	6,026	1,038	Manitoba.....	1921 9,455	9,023	1,048
	1950 6,853	6,311	1,086		1931 7,255	7,121	1,019
	1951 5,984	5,754	1,040		1941 7,616	7,196	1,058
P. E. Island.....	1921 1,073	1,083	991		1949 9,949	9,343	1,065
	1931 998	881	1,132		1950 9,950	9,311	1,069
	1941 1,078	971	1,110		1951 10,374	9,568	1,084
	1949 1,457	1,374	1,060	Saskatchewan.....	1921 11,620	10,873	1,069
	1950 1,442	1,443	999		1931 10,942	10,389	1,053
	1951 1,373	1,278	1,074		1941 9,472	8,992	1,053
Nova Scotia.....	1921 6,695	6,326	1,058		1949 11,179	10,483	1,066
	1931 5,931	5,684	1,043		1950 11,027	10,519	1,048
	1941 7,074	6,829	1,036		1951 11,107	10,626	1,045
	1949 9,219	8,520	1,082	Alberta.....	1921 8,493	8,068	1,053
	1950 8,895	8,367	1,063		1931 8,938	8,314	1,075
	1951 8,842	8,283	1,067		1941 8,882	8,426	1,054
New Brunswick.....	1921 5,942	5,523	1,076		1949 12,783	12,152	1,052
	1931 5,548	5,253	1,056		1950 13,138	12,487	1,052
	1941 6,200	6,072	1,021		1951 13,760	13,243	1,039
	1949 8,603	8,070	1,066	British Columbia....	1921 5,549	5,104	1,087
	1950 8,472	7,921	1,070		1931 5,350	5,054	1,059
	1951 8,190	7,885	1,039		1941 7,694	7,344	1,048
Quebec.....	1921 46,705	42,044	1,111		1949 13,957	13,344	1,046
	1931 43,051	40,555	1,062		1950 13,887	13,229	1,050
	1941 45,905	43,304	1,060		1951 14,418	13,659	1,056
	1949 60,153	56,671	1,061				
	1950 61,333	57,778	1,062				
	1951 62,160	58,770	1,058				
Ontario.....	1921 38,307	35,845	1,069	Canada (Exclusive	1921 133,839	123,889	1,080
	1931 35,609	33,600	1,060	of the Territories)	1931 123,622	116,851	1,058
	1941 37,254	35,008	1,064		1941 131,175	124,142	1,057
	1949 54,784	51,817	1,057		1949 188,339	177,800	1,059
	1950 55,911	52,797	1,059		1950 190,908	180,163	1,060
	1951 59,220	55,607	1,065		1951 195,428	184,673	1,058

Hospitalized Births.—In 1951 over 79 p.c. of Canadian births occurred in hospital. Although the proportions of hospitalized births have increased steadily since 1921 in all provinces, these proportions still vary widely. The existence of prepaid or provincially sponsored hospital, maternity or medical-care plans in some provinces, the unavailability of hospital facilities, particularly in remote rural areas, in others, and preference for home delivery in some local areas are among the factors accounting for provincial variations in this respect.