

Canadian Infant Mortality.—Table 1, pp. 187-189, shows the striking improvement that has taken place in the rate of infant mortality during the past 25 years. Of the 1,155,000 children born in 1950-52, approximately 45,000 died and 62,000 lived to their first birthday who would have died at the rate prevailing in the period 1926-30.

As illustrated in Table 18, infant mortality of males is 25 to 30 p.c. higher than that of females for Canada as a whole, with wider variations for the individual provinces. As pointed out earlier, there were between 1,051 and 1,067 males born to every 1,000 females in the 1941-52 period. Because male infant mortality is higher, the excess of males is reduced drastically by the end of the first year. For example, in 1950-52, 593,810 male children were born compared with 559,889 female children, an excess of 33,921 or 6.6 p.c.; 25,882 male children died during their first year compared with 19,329 female children, that is, 6,553 more. The excess of males at one year of age was thus reduced to 27,368 or 5.6 p.c.

As indicated in Tables 1 and 18, infant mortality rates vary considerably from province to province. One of the principal causes of these variations appears to be the different proportions of births that take place in hospital or under proper medical care (*see also* p. 193). Along with increased hospitalization has come better and more widespread pre-natal and post-natal care. Other factors have also been important, particularly the supervision of water supplies, improved sanitation, the pasteurization of milk and the use of antibiotics.

18.—Distribution of Infant Deaths, by Sex and Province, 1921-52

Province and Year	Males	Fe-males	Rate per 1,000 Male Live Births	Rate per 1,000 Fe-male Live Births	Province and Year	Males	Fe-males	Rate per 1,000 Male Live Births	Rate per 1,000 Fe-male Live Births
Newfoundland.....	1950	408	350	60	Manitoba.....	1921	868	665	92
	1951	361	276	60		1931	535	389	74
	1952	318	254	49		1941	447	341	59
P. E. Island.....	1921	95	85	89	1951	369	289	36	
	1931	78	50	78	1952	364	283	34	
	1941	102	61	95	Saskatchewan.....	1921	1,048	766	90
1951	60	30	44	1931		851	612	78	
1952	48	35	34	1941		531	415	56	
Nova Scotia.....	1921	738	573	110	1951	353	323	32	
	1931	510	404	86	1952	431	356	37	
	1941	545	363	77	Alberta.....	1921	808	583	95
1951	344	250	39	1931		675	522	76	
1952	365	250	39	1941		506	373	57	
New Brunswick.....	1921	740	559	125	1951	531	358	39	
	1931	565	379	102	1952	515	364	34	
	1941	515	421	83	British Columbia....	1921	343	259	62
1951	472	363	58	1931		292	222	55	
1952	433	296	51	1941		316	236	41	
Quebec.....	1931	5,417	4,026	126	1951	487	352	34	
	1941	3,916	2,854	85	1952	480	390	31	
	1951	3,335	2,486	54	Canada (exclusive of the Territories)	1921 ¹	8,558	6,335	98
1952	3,664	2,668	56	1931		11,667	8,693	94	
Ontario.....	1921	3,918	2,845	102		1941	8,788	6,448	67
	1931	2,744	2,089	77		1951	8,322	6,262	43
	1941	1,910	1,384	51		1952	8,757	6,516	42
1951	2,010	1,535	34						
1952	2,169	1,620	34						

¹ Excludes the Province of Quebec.