

17.—Quartile and Decile Ages of Decedents, by Sex, 1926, 1937, and 1938

Position in Array, by Age	Both Sexes			Males			Females		
	1926	1937	1938	1926	1937	1938	1926	1937	1938
First quartiles..... years of age	1.83	20.89	26.22	1.34	19.36	25.53	2.85	22.27	26.88
Second quartiles..... "	45.50	58.37	60.28	45.16	57.91	59.59	45.89	59.00	61.27
Third quartiles..... "	70.70	74.29	74.82	70.05	73.31	73.89	71.51	75.40	75.93
First deciles..... months of age	0.88	3.75	3.95	0.60	3.21	3.40	1.43	4.59	4.83
Second deciles..... years of age	0.71	6.44	14.35	0.55	4.96	12.69	0.98	8.63	16.20
Third deciles..... "	6.95	31.40	37.06	4.30	31.08	37.19	12.15	31.72	36.91
Fourth deciles..... "	28.77	48.49	51.78	26.47	48.71	51.64	30.61	48.24	51.95
Fifth deciles..... "	45.50	58.37	60.28	45.16	57.91	59.59	45.89	59.00	61.27
Sixth deciles..... "	58.40	65.65	67.00	57.73	64.72	65.94	59.13	67.01	68.27
Seventh deciles..... "	67.15	71.66	72.43	66.44	70.54	71.45	68.00	72.90	73.57
Eighth deciles..... "	74.05	76.77	77.20	73.28	75.92	76.27	74.00	77.82	78.31
Ninth deciles..... "	80.82	82.41	82.68	79.89	81.41	81.78	81.85	83.49	83.72

When comparisons of the rates of mortality in several communities are made by age groups the effects of differences in age constitution between these communities are eliminated, but by a process that does not bring together and express completely as a single figure the facts of the situation. It has therefore been considered desirable to adopt a particular community as a standard, and to find what the death rates of other communities would have been if the age and sex constitution of their population had corresponded to those of the community taken as a standard. The 'standard' population chosen for this purpose in England and Wales and the United States is the "standard million", based on the age and sex distribution per million of the population of England and Wales at the Census of 1901. That age and sex distribution was as follows:—

Age Group	Both Sexes	Males	Females
All ages.....	1,000,000	483,543	516,457
Under 5 years of age.....	114,262	57,039	57,223
5-9.....	107,209	53,462	53,747
10-14.....	102,735	51,370	51,365
15-19.....	99,796	49,420	50,376
20-24.....	95,946	45,273	50,673
25-34.....	161,579	76,425	85,154
35-44.....	122,849	59,394	63,455
45-54.....	89,222	42,924	46,298
55-64.....	59,741	27,913	31,828
65-74.....	33,080	14,691	18,389
75 or over.....	13,581	5,632	7,949

Regarding the standard million of England and Wales the Registrar General says: "As the population of this country in 1901 included relatively few infants and old people it forms a standard exceptionally favourable to low mortality".

The process above described has been applied to the population of the eight provinces, the former registration area of Canada, for the years 1921-39 and to the population of Quebec for the years 1926-39 (see p. 124 of the 1940 Year Book). The rates for individual years have been calculated directly from the proportions shown in each sex and age group at the Census of 1931.

The crude and standardized rates given for recent years, especially 1937 and 1938, in Table 18 should be accepted with some qualification as the census data on which the calculations hinge are from six to eight years removed.