

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 1941-45 has varied between 1,057 and 1,067.

Hospitalization and medical attendance at birth have increased in Canada. In 1926-30, only 22 p.c. of live births occurred in hospitals, while in 1940-42 the proportion was 49.5 p.c. and in 1945, 63 p.c. The provinces still differ greatly in this respect. In Quebec, less than one-third of births take place in hospitals, and in New Brunswick less than one-half. In Nova Scotia 72 p.c. of births were hospitalized in 1945, in Ontario 82 p.c., in the Prairies 87 p.c., and in British Columbia 93 p.c.

International Comparisons.—A comparison of the birth rates in Canada and the provinces with those in other countries is shown in Table 10. For Germany, Italy and most countries that were occupied by the enemy, the figures are given for 1939. Later figures, even when available, cannot be considered reliable. This also applies to later tables showing international comparisons, i.e., Tables 22, 37 and 38.

10.—Birth Rates per 1,000 Population of Various Countries of the World Compared with Canada and the Provinces for Recent Years

(Sources: League of Nations, Year Book and other official sources. In certain cases final figures are not available and provisional data are shown.)

Country or Province	Year	Birth Rate	Country or Province	Year	Birth Rate
Egypt.....	1944	52.3	Canada—concluded		
Palestine (excluding Bedouins)....	1945	44.8	British Columbia.....	1945	19.9
Costa Rica.....	1944	41.8			
Straits Settlements.....	1940	41.3	Ontario.....	1945	19.7
Panama.....	1943	39.0			
Salvador.....	1943	38.1	Greece.....	1939	23.5
Ceylon.....	1945	36.8	Roumania.....	1943	23.4
Chile.....	1945	33.3	New Zealand.....	1945	23.1
Jamaica.....	1944	33.0	Denmark.....	1944	22.6
Japan.....	1941	29.9	Lithuania.....	1939	22.4
Newfoundland and Labrador.....	1944	29.3	Spain.....	1944	22.4
Union of South Africa (Whites)....	1944	26.6	Eire.....	1945	22.3
British India.....	1944	25.1	Northern Ireland.....	1945	22.0
Poland.....	1938	24.5	Bulgaria.....	1944	21.9
Netherlands.....	1944	24.0	Australia.....	1945	21.8
Canada.....	1945	23.9	Austria.....	1939	20.9
New Brunswick.....	1945	29.3	Latvia.....	1941	20.7
Quebec.....	1945	29.3	Iceland.....	1943	20.5
Nova Scotia.....	1945	25.0	Germany (territory of 1937).....	1939	20.3
Prince Edward Island.....	1945	24.5	Finland.....	1944	20.2
Alberta.....	1945	24.1	Sweden.....	1945	20.2
Saskatchewan.....	1945	22.4	United States.....	1945	19.8
Manitoba.....	1945	22.1	Switzerland.....	1944	19.6
			Hungary.....	1943	19.4
			Uruguay.....	1942	19.4
			Estonia.....	1941	19.2
			Italy.....	1945	18.3
			Scotland.....	1945	16.9
			France (86 departments).....	1945	16.4
			England and Wales.....	1945	16.0
			Belgium.....	1945	15.5