

SUPPLEMENT

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VITAL STATISTICS OF TOWNS IN CEYLON IN THE MONTH OF APRIL, 1917.

REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

THIS report deals with the Vital Statistics of the 33 principal towns in the Island proclaimed under sections 31-36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895.

Births.

2. The births numbered 1,486 (768 males and 718 females), and were equal to an annual rate of 28·57 per 1,000, against 30·16 in the preceding month, 24·28 in the corresponding month of last year, and 28·16 the average of the corresponding months since 1908. The rate ranged from 9·69 in Nuwara Eliya to 58·82 in Mullaittivu.

3. In the city of Colombo the births numbered 495 (271 males and 224 females), and were equal to an annual rate* of 22·48 per 1,000, against 25·14 in the preceding month, 18·57 in the corresponding month of last year, and 22·44 the average of the corresponding months since 1908. The rate ranged from 5·44 in Kollupitiya to 33·56 in Wellawatta.

Deaths.

4. The total deaths registered during the month numbered 1,539 (825 males and 714 females). There were 1,285 deaths of residents, equivalent to an annual rate of 26·93 per 1,000, against 28·06 in the preceding month, 26·20 in the corresponding month of last year, and 27·70 the average for the month of April in each year since 1908. The rate ranged from 61·41 in Batticaloa to 8·29 in Nuwara Eliya.

5. In the city of Colombo the deaths numbered 582 (324 males and 258 females). There were 525 deaths of residents, equivalent to an annual rate* of 27·66 per 1,000, against 28·81 in the preceding month, 24·17 in the corresponding month of last year, and 26·30 the average for the month of April in each year since 1908. The rate was lowest in Kollupitiya (8·16), and was highest in Wellawatta (32·10).

6. Stillbirths numbered 98 (54 males and 44 females), as against 120 in the preceding month.

Infantile Mortality.

7. The infantile mortality was equal to a rate of 233 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ending April 30, 1917. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 225, against 238 in the preceding month, 234 in the corresponding month of last year, and 238 the average of the corresponding months since 1908.

8. The infantile mortality in the city of Colombo was equal to a rate of 284 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ending April 30, 1917. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 279, against 253 in the preceding month, 233 in the corresponding month of last year, and 265 the average of the corresponding months since 1908.

Causes of Death.

9. The highest mortality was from *Pneumonia*, to which 12 per cent. of the total deaths was due, 9 per cent. was due to *Convulsions*, 8 per cent. to *Debility*, 7 per cent. to *Phthisis*, 6 per cent. to *Diarrhoea*, 4 per cent. to *Anchylostomiasis*, 3 per cent. each to *Dysentery*, *Enteric Fever*, *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis*, and *Puerperal Septicæmia*, 2 per cent. each to *Enteritis*, *Malaria*, *Prematurity*, *Malarial Cachexia*, and *Bronchitis*, and 1 per cent. to *Tetanus*.

10. In Colombo too the highest mortality was from *Pneumonia*, to which 13 per cent. of the total deaths was due, *Convulsions* and *Phthisis* each caused 9 per cent. of the total deaths, *Debility* 8 per cent., *Enteritis* 5 per cent., *Enteric Fever* 4 per cent., *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis* and *Diarrhoea* 3 per cent. each, *Puerperal Septicæmia*, *Prematurity*, *Bronchitis*, and *Malaria* 2 per cent. each, and *Dysentery* and *Anchylostomiasis* 1 per cent. each. Thirty-five deaths from *Plague* were registered, as against 54 in the preceding month and 13 in the corresponding month of last year.

11. *Infectious Diseases reported*.—The most prevalent infectious disease during the month was *Chickenpox*, of which 286 cases were reported (188 in Colombo, 42 in Gampola, 24 in Kandy), followed by *Measles* 164 (104 in Colombo, 19 in Kandy, 14 in Moratuwa), *Phthisis* 76 (62 in Colombo, 10 in Galle), *Enteric Fever* 70 (45 in Colombo, 10 in Galle, 6 in Moratuwa), *Plague* 35 (in Colombo), *Continued Fever* 21 (9 in Moratuwa, 5 in Galle), *Mumps* 6 (3 each in Colombo and Kandy), *Dysentery* 2 (in Moratuwa), and *Diphtheria* 1 (in Kandy).

Meteorology.

12. *Rainfall*.—Hatton and Dikoya recorded the highest rainfall (8·78 inches), followed by Ratnapura (8·14 inches). In the other towns the rainfall ranged from 6·63 inches in Gampola to 0·41 inch in Batticaloa, and was 4·78 inches in Colombo.

13. *Temperature*.—The mean temperature varied from 59·2° in Nuwara Eliya to 85·7° in Jaffna and Mannar, and was 82·2° in Colombo.

14. For detailed statistics, see Tables I. and II. for all towns, and Tables III. and IV. for the city of Colombo, in the Appendix.

Registrar-General's Office,
Colombo, May 23, 1917.

N. W. MORGAPPAH,
for Registrar-General.

* The city-rate is worked differently from the ward-rates, and takes into account hospital events, &c., not assignable to wards.

Table I.—Number of Births and Deaths registered during April, 1917, their Proportion per 1,000 of the Population per Annum, and the Stillbirths and the Deaths of Children under One Year and their Proportion per 1,000 Registered Births, together with the Average Birth- and Death-rates in the corresponding months since 1908, and the Mean Temperature and Rainfall in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31-36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895.

Table with 15 main columns: Province and Towns, Population (1911), Total Births (Males/Females/Persons), Total Deaths (Males/Females/Persons), Total Stillbirths (Males/Females/Persons), Deaths of Infants (Males/Females/Persons), Birth-rate (Average April 1917, 1908-1916), Death-rate (Crude April 1917, Standardized April 1917, 1908-1916), Mortality of Children under One Year (Number registered April 1917, Its proportion to 1000 births, etc.), Mean Temperature per Annum, and Rainfall in Inches.

* The standardized death-rates represent the crude death-rates multiplied by the respective standardizing factor in order to make correction for differences of sex- and age-constitution of the several populations in 1911, as compared with that of the island. † Blanks indicate that there are no observations or rain gauges. ‡ Estimated to the end of December, 1916, by natural increase method. § Estimated from the Census of 1911 by age and sex, while the town of Kalmunna was created a registration division only in January, 1914, and Ambalangoda in January, 1915. ¶ The death-rate given for "All Towns" is therefore independent of these towns, but is scarcely affected by their rates. ** Increase of population is due to the extension of the town limits.

Table III.—Number of Births and Deaths registered during the Month of April, 1917, and the Deaths of Children under One Year, and their Proportion per 1,000 of the Registered Births, together with the Average Birth- and Death-rates for April, 1908 to 1916, in each Ward of the City of Colombo.

Wards.	Population (inclusive of Military) at Census of 1911.	Population estimated to Middle of 1917 by Inter-censal Increase.	Total Births registered.			Stillbirths.			Total Deaths including Deaths in Hospitals and Jails.			Deaths of Non-residents.	Deaths of Residents.	Per Mille per Annum.				Mortality of Children under one Year.		
			Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.			Birth-rate.	Death-rate.		Standardized Death-rate.*	Number registered during April, 1917.	Its proportion to 1000 births registered during April, 1917.	Its proportion per annum to 1000 births registered during the year ended last day of Apr., 1917.
															Average for April, 1908 to 1916.					
			271	224	495	18	13	31	324	258	582			57	525	22.48	22.44	23.84	23.26	188
City of Colombo ..	219,557	267,888†	—	—	—	7	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Fort and Galle Face	3,512	3,512‡	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Pettah ..	7,974	7,974‡	3	1	4	6	3	9	—	9	6.10	3.82	13.73	9.43	4	—	—	—		
San Sebastian ..	11,546	13,207	16	11	27	11	10	21	—	21	24.87	16.78	19.35	18.98	3	111	144			
St. Paul's ..	24,735	28,068	17	7	24	25	18	43	—	43	10.40	13.89	18.64	17.63	11	458	307			
Kotahena ..	40,771	46,274	42	39	81	4	1	5	1	107	21.29	20.82	28.13	20.12	24	296	279			
New Bazaar ..	22,309	26,055	20	21	41	20	23	43	—	43	19.15	19.72	20.08	20.66	13	317	238			
Maradana Hospitals			59	46	105	5	6	11	83	42	—	—	—	—	16	—	—			
Maradana (exclusive of Hospitals) ..	48,093	64,374	57	43	100	4	2	6	53	42	18.90	19.85	17.39	19.38	32	320	369			
Slave Island ..	21,984	24,958	24	27	51	2	1	3	22	21	23.90	22.73	19.22	19.83	17	333	367			
Kollupitiya ..	25,410	35,791	7	9	16	1	1	1	19	14	5.44	12.17	8.16	12.21	6	375	217			
Wellawatta ..	13,223	16,675§	26	20	46	2	18	44	2	26	33.56	34.75	32.10	25.75	12	261	285			

* For explanation of "standardized death-rate" see note *, Table I. The population of the several wards of the city not being available by age- and sex-constitution, their standardized death-rates cannot be calculated.

† Estimated partly on the inter-censal increase method and partly on the natural increase method, i.e., population exclusive of Wellawatta Ward on the former method and that of Wellawatta added to the town on January 1, 1912, on the latter method (as it was not a separate division at the Census of 1901).

‡ The population of these two wards being a fluctuating one, their population cannot be estimated to the middle of 1917. Hence the Census figures are retained.

§ This population is estimated partly on the natural increase method and partly on the inter-censal increase method, i.e., population of Wellawatta on the former method (as it was not a separate division at the Census of 1901) and that of the part of Kollupitiya taken over to Wellawatta on the latter method.

|| For five months, April, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, and 1916.

Table IV.—Causes of Deaths registered during the Month of April, 1917, in each Ward and of each Race in the City of Colombo.

Causes of Deaths.	City of Colombo.	Ward.										Deaths among all Races.							
		Fort and Galle Race.	Pettah.	San Sebastian.	St. Paul's.	Kotahena.	New Bazaar.	Maradana Hospitals.	Maradana (exclusive of Hospitals).	Slave Island.	Kolupitiya.	Wellawatta.	Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamil.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.
All Causes	582	7	9	21	43	108	43	136	95	43	33	44	6	25	305	113	89	21	23
I.—Infantile Mortality	138	—	4	3	11	24	13	16	32	17	6	12	3	4	73	24	18	6	5
A.—One Week and under.																			
1. Prematurity	12			1	1	1		6	1	1		2			7	1	3		1
2. Debility	6			2	2	2			2	2					1	4	1		
3. Convulsions	5								1						1				
4. Diarrhoea	—																		
4a. Enteritis	—																		
5. Tetanus	1									1									
6. Bronchitis	—																		
7. Pneumonia	—																1		
8. Other Causes	2*			1				1											
B.—Over 1 Week and under 1 Year.																			
1. Prematurity	1							5	7	5	1	3				1	6	3	2
2. Debility	33			2	4	4	6	5	7	4	1	2			19	3	3	1	
3. Convulsions	30		2	2	3	3	3		12	4	2	2			19	6	3	1	
4. Diarrhoea	6				1	1			4	2		1			6				
4a. Enteritis	7				1	1	2	1		2		1			3	3		1	
5. Tetanus	1				2	2		1	1	1	1				5	1			
6. Bronchitis	6				7	7		2	4	1	1	2		1	12	3			
7. Pneumonia	19		2	1	1	3	1	2	4	1	1	2		2	5	2			1
8. Other Causes	9†			1								2		1					
II.—General Mortality (1 Year and over)	444	7	5	18	32	84	30	120	63	26	27	32	3	21	227	89	71	15	18
1. Plague	—							1		1		10		3	17	5	8		
2. Smallpox	34					14													
3. Chickenpox	—																		
4. Measles	3					1					1	1		1					
5. Influenza	—																		
6. Pyrexia or Fever	3																		

* One was due to Stomatitis and one to Asphyxia.

† This includes 2 from Stomatitis, 2 from Syphilis, 2 from Ricketts, 1 from Plague, 1 from Measles, and 1 from Worms.

Table IV.—Causes of Deaths registered during the Month of April, 1917, in each Ward and of each Race in the City of Colombo—continued.

Causes of Deaths.	City of Colombo.	Ward.										Deaths among all Races.								
		Port and Galle Face.	Pettah.	San Sebastian.	St. Paul's.	Kotahena.	New Bazaar.	Mardana Hospitals.	Mardana (exclusive of Hospitals).	Slave Island.	Kollupitiya.	Wellawatta.	Europeans.	Burgbers.	Sinhalese.	Tamilis.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.	
II.—General Mortality (1 Year and over)— <i>contd.</i>																				
7. Enteric Fever ..	22			1	1	4	4	4	2	1	3	4	2	2	2	12	5	3	3	2
8. Malaria ..	9					1	1	3	3			3			3	3	1	1	2	
9. Malarial Cachexia ..	1														1	1				
10. Cholera ..	—																			
11. Diarrhoea ..	9			1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1			5	1	3	2	1	
11a. Enteritis ..	21			1	1	3	2	2	1	3	1	1			12	4	2	2	2	
12. Dysentery ..	7							2	1	1	1	1			3	1	1	1	1	
13. Anchylostomiasis or Doehmianus Duo- denalis ..	8							6		2		1			3	5				
14. Cancer ..	7					1		6		2		1			3	4				
15. Phthisis ..	52			3	10	11	2	8	9	5	1	1	3	25	13	25	7	2	2	
16. Other Tuberculous Diseases ..	2					1			1	1				1	1	1	2	1		
17. Anæmia ..	3					1	1		1					2	1	2	2			
18. Diabetes Mellitus ..	5					2	1		1	3	4			2	1	2	4	1		
19. Convulsions ..	17			1	1	4	1			3		3	3	7	2	7	4	1		
20. Tetanus ..	3							2	1	1				1	1	1	1			
21. Bronchitis ..	3							1	1	1				1	1	1	1			
22. Pneumonia ..	3							5	1	1				1	1	1	1			
23. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System ..	56			2	4	11	2	24	5	4	2	1	1	38	10	10	4	1	3	
24. Bright's Disease and Nephritis ..	6							1	2	2	1			3		3	1	2		
25. Puerperal Eclampsia ..	19				1	3	4	8	1	1	1			12	2	12	4	1	1	
26. Puerperal Septicæmia ..	1							1						1		1				
27. Miscarriage ..	13			1	2	1		4	2	3		1	1	7	2	7	1	2		
28. Other undefined Accidents of Childbirth ..	—																			
29. Starvation ..	2							1	1			1	1	1		1				
30. Accidents or Negligence ..	8							6	1					4	1	4	1			
31. Homicide ..	2							2						2		2				
32. Suicide ..	2													1		1				
33. Execution ..	1													1		1				
34. All other causes ..	125*	3	1	8	9	23	8	27	29	6	5	5	5	57	30	25	2	2	6	

* Here are included 30 from Old Age, 10 from Worms, 8 from Paralysis, and 5 from Debility.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS IN CEYLON DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL, 1917.

Table with columns: STATION, OBSERVER, RAINFALL (Feet, In., Date), BAROMETER REDUCED TO 32" (Mean Reading, Highest Reading, Lower Reading), TEMPERATURE OF THE AIR AND OF EVAPORATION (Mean Daily, Maximum, Minimum), and STATION (Name, Height above Sea Level, Total No. of Days on which Rain fell, Greatest Quantity in any 24 hours).

Table with columns: STATION, NAME OF SENDER, RAINFALL (Feet, In., Date), STATION, NAME OF SENDER, RAINFALL (Feet, In., Date). This table lists specific meteorological observations from various stations across Ceylon, including details on rainfall amounts and dates.

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The Observatory, Colombo, May 19, 1917.

H. C. COZLE, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, COLOMBO, CEYLON.