

SUPPLEMENT
TO THE
Ceylon Government Gazette
PART I.

No. 6,886 — FRIDAY, JULY 6, 1917.

**VITAL STATISTICS OF TOWNS IN CEYLON IN THE
MONTH OF MAY, 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 1,398 (751 males, 646 females, and 1 whose sex was undistinguishable), and were equal to an annual rate of 26·62 per 1,000, against 28·57 in the preceding month, 24·97 in the corresponding month of last year, and 27·71 the average of the corresponding months since 1908. The rate ranged from 10·74 in Ambalangoda to 107·51 in Kalmunai.

3. In the city of Colombo the births numbered 445 (220 males and 225 females), and were equal to an annual rate* of 19·56 per 1,000, against 22·48 in the preceding month, 16·88 in the corresponding month of last year, and 22·51 the average of the corresponding months since 1908. The rate ranged from 9·21 in Kollupitiya to 30·36 in Wellawatta.

Deaths.

4. The total deaths registered during the month numbered 1,458 (796 males, 661 females, and 1 whose sex was undistinguishable). There were 1,189 deaths of residents, equivalent to an annual rate of 24·68 per 1,000, against 26·93 in the preceding month, 28·52 in the corresponding month of last year, and 27·83 the average for the month of May in each year since 1908. The rate ranged from 86·24 in Mullaittivu to 10·13 in Weligama.

5. In the city of Colombo the deaths numbered 515 (263 males and 252 females). There were 462 deaths of residents, equivalent to an annual rate* of 23·56 per 1,000, against 27·66 in the preceding month, 26·24 in the corresponding month of last year, and 27·60 the average for the month of May in each year since 1908. The rate ranged from 4·28 in Kollupitiya to 24·71 in Wellawatta.

6. Stillbirths numbered 99 (55 males and 44 females), as against 98 in the preceding month.

Infantile Mortality.

7. The infantile mortality was equal to a rate of 282 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ending May 31, 1917. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 240, against 225 in the preceding month, 231 in the corresponding month of last year, and 235 the average of the corresponding months since 1908.

8. The infantile mortality in the city of Colombo was equal to a rate of 260 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ending May 31, 1917. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 297, against 279 in the preceding month, 256 in the corresponding month of last year, and 288 the average of the corresponding months since 1908.

Causes of Death.

9. The highest mortality was from *Pneumonia*, to which 13 per cent. of the total deaths was due, 10 per cent. was due to *Convulsions*, 9 per cent. to *Debility*, 6 per cent. each to *Phtisis* and *Diarrhoea*, 5 per cent. to *Anchylostomiasis*, 4 per cent. to *Malaria* and *Malarial Cachexia*, 3 per cent. each to *Enteritis*, *Dysentery*, and *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis*, 2 per cent. each to *Prematurity*, *Enteric Fever*, and *Puerperal Septicæmia*, and 1 per cent. to *Bronchitis*.

10. In Colombo too the highest mortality was from *Pneumonia*, to which 12 per cent. of the total deaths was due, *Convulsions* and *Phtisis* each caused 11 per cent. of the total deaths, *Debility* 9 per cent., *Enteritis* 5 per cent., *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis* 4 per cent., *Enteric Fever* 3 per cent., *Puerperal Septicæmia* 2 per cent., and *Prematurity*, *Bronchitis*, and *Anchylostomiasis* 1 per cent. each. Eleven deaths from *Plague* were registered, as against 35 in the preceding month and 9 in the corresponding month of last year.

11. *Infectious Diseases reported*.—The most prevalent infectious disease during the month was *Chickenpox*, of which 187 cases were reported (95 in Colombo, 24 in Kandy, 23 in Nuwara Eliya, 21 in Gampola), followed by *Measles* 151 (113 in Colombo, 23 in Kandy, 6 in Galle), *Phtisis* 92 (79 in Colombo, 6 in Galle, 4 in Puttalam), *Enteric Fever* 56 (39 in Colombo, 9 in Galle, 4 in Moratuwa), *Continued Fever* 26 (8 in Moratuwa, 6 in Colombo, 6 in Galle), *Plague* 11 (in Colombo), *Mumps* 6 (2 each in Colombo, Kandy, and Nuwara Eliya), *Dysentery* 5 (3 in Panadure and 2 in Moratuwa), and *Smallpox* 1 (in Colombo).

Meteorology.

12. *Rainfall*.—Ratnapura recorded the highest rainfall (9·85 inches), followed by Matara (9·26 inches). In the other towns the rainfall ranged from 7·88 inches in Gampola to 0·29 inch in Batticaloa, and was 5·59 inches in Colombo.

13. *Temperature*.—The mean temperature varied from 60·6° in Nuwara Eliya to 85·1° in Mannar and Trincomalee, and was 82·0° 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, June 20, 1917.

N. W. MORGAPPAH,
Acting 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 May, 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 Rates per 1,000 Registered Births for each year since 1908, based on the latest available figures. See also Sections 31-36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895.

^a 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.
^b Blanks indicate that there are no observatories or rain gauges.
^c Sex of one not distinguishable.
^d Includes population of the Negombo Local Board and registration area.
^e This increase of population is due to the extension of the town limits from July, 1915.
^f Estimated to the end of December, 1916, by natural increase method.
^g Population enumerated at the beginning of 1916.
^h Standardized death-rates for Kalpitiya and Lunuganga towns not available.
ⁱ Population of these towns has not been enumerated.
^j Census of 1911 by age and sex, while the town of Kalmunai was created a registration division only in January, 1914, and Ambalangoda in January, 1915.
^k The death-rate given for "All Towns" is therefore independent of the towns, but is scarcely affected by their rates.

Table II.—Causes of Deaths registered during May, 1917, in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31-36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895.

* These are due to Atelectasis (1 each in Colombo and Panadure) and 1 each from Asphyxia and Head Injuries (in Colombo) and Malformation (in Jaffna).

This includes, besides 13 deaths mentioned in Table IV, footnote †, 2 deaths from Malaria (in Jaffna), 2 from Erysipelas (1 each in Hambantota and Jaffna), 2 from Stomatitis (1 each in Negombo and Moratuwa), and 1 each from Abscess (in Jaffna), Rickets (in Anuradhapura), Ankylostomiasis (in Lunugala), Worms (in Kurunegala), and Syphilis (in Kandy).

Table II.—Causes of Deaths registered during May, 1917, in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31–36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895—continued.

Causes of Deaths.	All 33 Towns.	Western Province.			Central Provinces.			Southern Province.			Northern Province.			North-Western Province.			North-Central Province.			Province of Uva.			Province of Sabaragamuwa.			Deaths among all Races.			
		Colombo.	Negombo.	Mortawwa.	Kallutara.	Pandure.	Galle.	Nuwara Eliya.	Tangalle.	Matale.	Matara.	Mullaitivu.	Vavuniya.	Kurunegala.	Kegalla.	Burdigama.	Sinhalese.	Burmese.	Tamilis.	Mooris.	Malays.	Others.							
II.—General Mortality—contd.																													
4. Influenza	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Pyrexia or Fever	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Enteric Fever	26	13	—	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Malaria	28	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Malarial Cachexia	25	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Diarrhoea	73	4	6	1	1	4	2	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10a. Enteritis	40	19	1	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. Dysentery	47	3	2	—	—	—	3	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Anchylostomiasis or Duodenitis	80	6	—	2	1	—	1	—	1	8	3	7	13	1	1	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. Cancer	14	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14. Phthisis	93	56	3	3	—	1	—	—	—	3	2	1	1	1	1	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15. Other Tuberculous Diseases	92	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16. Anaemia	6	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17. Diabetes Mellitus	7	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18. Convulsions	29	10	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
19. Tetanus	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20. Bronchitis	11	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21. Pneumonia	156	50	8	14	3	—	1	13	1	5	1	3	2	4	1	2	8	4	2	6	1	6	10	1	1	2	—	3	
22. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	9	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23. Bright's Disease and Nephritis	37	19	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
24. Puerperal Folliculitis	9	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25. Puerperal Septicæmia	23	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26. Misceariage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
27. Other undefined Accidents of Childbirth	14	6	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28. Starvation	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29. Accidents or Negligence	36	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30. Horniaide	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31. Suicide	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32. Execution	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
33. All other causes	326*	132	7	13	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Here are included 84 from Old Age (42 in Colombo), 33 from Worms (10 in Galle), 35 from Debility (6 in Badulla), and 20 from Paralysis (5 in Galle).

Table III.—Number of Births and Deaths registered during the Month of May, 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 May, 1908 to 1916, in each Ward of the City of Colombo.

Wards.	Population (Inclusive of Census of 1911.)	Population estimated to Middle of 1917 by Intercensal Increase.	Total Births registered.				Stillbirths.				Total Deaths including Deaths in Hospitals and Jails.				Per Mille per Annum.				Mortality of Children under one Year.		
			Males.		Females.		Males.		Females.		Males.		Females.		Males.		May, 1917.	Its proportion to 1000 births registered during the Year ended last day of May, 1917.	Per Mille per Annum.		
																	Standard- ized Death- rate.*	Death-rate.	Per Mille per Annum.		
City of Colombo ..	219,557	267,888†	220	225	445	16	16	32	263	252	515	53	462	19·56	22·51	20·31	24·42	23·56	132	297	260
Fort and Galle Face.	3,612	3,612‡	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4	—	4	—	—	2·29	13·41	11·07	—	—	—
Pettah ..	7,974	7,974‡	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	4	—	4	—	—	4·93	5·91	8·93	—	—	—
San Sebastian ..	11,646	13,207	12	8	20	—	—	—	11	6	16	—	16	17·83	16·98	14·26	18·51	—	8	400	368
St. Paul's ..	24,735	28,068	24	25	49	2	—	2	22	25	47	—	47	20·56	15·25	19·72	19·56	—	13	265	339
Kotahena ..	40,771	46,274	39	43	82	2	—	2	46	39	85	—	85	20·86	19·41	21·63	20·86	—	28	341	310
New Bazaar ..	22,309	26,055	19	19	38	—	—	—	19	30	49	—	49	17·17	20·63	22·14	22·93	—	15	395	318
Mardana Hospitals (exclusive of Hospitals) ..	48,093	64,374	23	41	64	9	8	17	79	60	129	42	87	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—
Slave Island ..	21,984	25,958	25	17	42	1	1	2	19	23	42	2	40	19·68	15·00	21·64	—	—	33	418	364
Kollupitiya ..	25,410	35,791	18	10	28	1	—	1	11	8	19	6	13	9·21	13·32	4·28	12·42	—	3	107	104
Wellawatta ..	13,223	16,675§	20	23	43	—	1	1	20	15	35	—	35	30·36	36·89||	24·71	30·76||	—	11	256	253

* 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 intercensal 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 intercensal 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, May, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, and 1916.

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

Causes of Deaths.	City of Colombo.	Deaths among all Races.																			
		Port and Galle Race.	Fettab.	San Sebastian.	St. Paul's.	New Bazaar.	Marciana Hospitals.	Slave Island.	Kollupitiya.	Wellawatte.	Burmahers.	Europeans.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.						
All Causes	515	4	4	16	47	85	49	129	85	42	19	35	4	28	238	126	84	15	20		
I.—Infantile Mortality																					
4.—One Week and under.		..	132	—	—	8	13	28	15	11	33	10	8	11	1	9	57	30	27	6	2
1. Prematurity		..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Debility		..	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Convulsions		..	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Diarrhoea		..	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4a. Enteritis		..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Tetanus		..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Bronchitis		..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Pneumonia		..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Other Causes		..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B.—Over 1 Week and under 1 Year.																					
1. Prematurity		..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Debility		..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Convulsions		..	35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Diarrhoea		..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4a. Enteritis		..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Tetanus		..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Bronchitis		..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Pneumonia		..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Other Causes		..	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
II.—General Mortality (1 Year and over)																					
1. Plague		..	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Smallpox		..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Chickenpox		..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Measles		..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Influenza		..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Pyrexia or Fever		..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* One was due to Asphyxia, 1 to Homœsse, and 1 to Atelectasis.

† This includes 4 from Congenital Syphilis, 2 from Rickets, 2 from Thrush, 1 from Worms, 1 from Acute Tuberular Fever, 1 from Purpura, and 1 from Dyspepsia.

Table IV.—Causes of Deaths registered during the Month of May, 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.						
			Europeans.	Burgesses.	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Mosors.	Melays.	Others.
II.—General Mortality (1 Year and over)— contd.									
7. Enteric Fever	..	13	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
8. Malaria	..	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
9. Malarial Cachexia
10. Cholera	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11. Diarrhoea
11a. Enteritis	..	19	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12. Dysentery	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13. Anchylostomiasis or Dochmias Duo- denalis	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
14. Cancer	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15. Phthisis	..	56	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
16. Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17. Anaemia	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
18. Diabetes Mellitus	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
19. Convulsions	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20. Tetanus	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
21. Bronchitis	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
22. Pneumonia	..	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
23. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
24. Bright's Disease and Nephritis	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25. Puerperal Endometritis	..	19	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
26. Puerperal Septicæmia	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
27. Miscarriages	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
28. Other undefined Accidents of Childbirth
29. Starvation
30. Accidents or Negligence	..	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
31. Homicide	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
32. Suicide	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
33. Execution	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
34. All other causes	..	132*	2	3	12	15	2	8	1
									66

* Here are included 42 from Old Age, 10 from Septicæmia, 10 from other Organic Diseases of the Heart, 8 from Marasmus, 6 from Rickets, 6 from Cerebral Haemorrhage, 4 from Paralysis, 4 from Syphilis, 4 from Diabetes, and 4 from Debility.