

SUPPLEMENT  
TO THE  
**Ceylon Government Gazette**  
PART I.

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**VITAL STATISTICS OF TOWNS IN CEYLON IN THE  
MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 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 number of births registered was 1,210 (613 males and 597 females), and was equal to an annual rate of 22·27 per 1,000, against 25·46 in the preceding month, 26·12 in the corresponding month of last year, and 27·48 the average of the corresponding months since 1908. The rate ranged from 10·43 in Gampola to 75·62 in Mullaittivu.

3. In the city of Colombo the births registered numbered 396 (196 males and 200 females), and were equal to an annual rate\* of 17·99 per 1,000, against 21·62 in the preceding month, 19·42 in the corresponding month of last year, and 22·77 the average of the corresponding months since 1908. The rate ranged from 11·22 in Kollupitiya to 22·62 in Wellawatta.

**Deaths.**

4. The total deaths registered during the month numbered 1,288 (688 males and 600 females). There were 1,045 deaths of residents in towns, equivalent to an annual rate of 21·90 per 1,000, against 25·65 in the preceding month, 28·34 in the corresponding month of last year, and 28·50 the average for the month of September in each year since 1908. The rate ranged from 5·04 in Nawalapitiya to 6·17 in Chilaw.

5. In the city of Colombo the deaths registered were 379 (208 males and 171 females). There were 328 deaths of residents, equivalent to an annual rate\* of 17·28 per 1,000, against 22·84 in the preceding month, 26·84 in the corresponding month of last year, and 29·22 the average for the month of September in each year since 1908. Wellawatta showed the highest rate (26·27) and Kollupitiya the lowest (6·46).

6. The stillbirths registered were 101 (52 males and 49 females). In the preceding month too a similar number was registered.

**Infant Mortality.**

7. The mortality of infants was equal to a rate of 182 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ending September 30, 1917. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 217, against 232 in the preceding month, 250 in the corresponding month of last year, and 244 the average of the corresponding months since 1908.

8. In the city of Colombo the mortality of infants was equal to a rate of 169 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ending September 30, 1917. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 210, against 209 in the preceding month, 245 in the corresponding month of last year, and 272 the average of the corresponding months since 1908.

**Causes of Death.**

9. The highest death-rate was attributed to *Pneumonia* and *Debility*, to each of which 9 per cent. of the total deaths was due, 7 per cent. each was due to *Convulsions* and *Anchylostomiasis*, 6 per cent. each to *Phthisis* and *Diarrhœa*, 5 per cent. to *Dysentery*, 4 per cent. each to *Enteritis* and *Malaria* and *Malarial Cachexia*, 3 per cent. each to *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis* and *Prematurity*, 2 per cent. each to *Enteric Fever*, *Tetanus*, *Bronchitis*, and *Puerperal Septicæmia*, and 1 per cent. to *Anæmia*.

10. In Colombo the highest death-rate was from *Debility* to which 12 per cent. of the total deaths was due, *Phthisis* caused 10 per cent., *Pneumonia* 8 per cent., *Convulsions* 7 per cent., *Enteritis* 4 per cent., *Dysentery* and *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis* 3 per cent. each, and *Enteric Fever*, *Cancer*, *Diarrhœa*, *Tetanus*, *Bronchitis*, *Anchylostomiasis*, and *Prematurity* 2 per cent. each. Four deaths from *Plague* were registered, against 2 in the preceding month and 21 in the corresponding month of last year.

11. *Infectious Diseases reported.*—The infectious disease most prevalent during the month was *Measles*, of which 107 cases were reported (70 in Colombo, 26 in Kandy), followed by *Phthisis* 68 (56 in Colombo, 10 in Galle), *Chickenpox* 56 (20 in Colombo, 14 in Badulla, 7 in Kandy), *Enteric Fever* 43 (15 in Colombo, 6 in Kandy, 6 in Galle, 5 in Matara), *Continued Fever* 23 (7 in Panadura, 6 in Moratuwa, 5 in Colombo), *Mumps* 10 (5 in Colombo), *Dysentery* 7 (4 in Moratuwa), *Plague* 3 (in Colombo), *Diphtheria* 1 (in Colombo), and *Tonsillitis* 1 (in Batticaloa).

**Metæorology.**

12. *Rainfall.*—Ratnapura recorded the highest rainfall (18·89 inches), followed by Gampola and Kegalla (18·11 inches, each). In the other towns the rainfall ranged from 17·95 inches in Hatton and Dikoya to 1·31 inches in Kalpitiya. Colombo recorded 12·74 inches.

13. *Temperature.*—The mean temperature varied from 60·8° in Nuwara Eliya to 83·4° in Trincomalee, and was 79·9° 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, October 20, 1917.

W. L. KINDERSLEY,  
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 September, 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 the Month in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31-36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895.

Provinces and Towns.	Population (inclusive of the Military) at the Census of March 10, 1911.	Population estimated to 1917 by Inter-censal Increase.		Total Births.		Total Deaths.		Total Stillbirths.		Deaths of Town and Village.		Birth-rate.		Death-rate excluding non-residents.		Mortality of Children under One Year.		Mean Temp. in Inches.	Rainfall.
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Average Birth-rate for Sept., 1908-1916.	Crude, Sept., 1917.	Standardized, September, 1917.	Average Death-rate for Sept., 1908-1916.	Number registered during Sept., 1917.	Its proportion to 1000 births registered during the year ended last day of Sept., 1917.		
<b>All 33 Towns ..</b>	<b>517,377</b>	<b>618,347</b>	<b>618,597</b>	<b>1210</b>	<b>1288</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>1045</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>27.43</b>	<b>20.09</b>	<b>21.90</b>	<b>23.50</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>79.9</b>	<b>12.74</b>		
<i>Western.</i>																			
Colombo ..	219,557	267,888	196,200	396	379	39	328	51	23.77	14.90	17.28	29.22	83	210	169	79.9	12.74		
Negombo ..	13,045	26,339c	32	61	52	1	46	6	28.18	21.25	22.23	25.72	10	164	123	12.22	12.22		
Moratuwa ..	27,256	29,980	41	55	70	2	69	3	33.96	28.00	33.85	31.03	16	167	143	—	—		
Kalutara ..	13,005	14,039	16	11	27	2	22	5	23.40	24.00	23.85	23.48	6	222	149	—	—		
Panadura ..	5,709	7,333	5	3	15	—	13	—	13.27	21.57	25.67	23.95	3	375	259	—	—		
<i>Central.</i>																			
Kandy ..	30,149	32,376	33	64	81	1	51	30	24.05	19.17	20.89	30.78	13	233	180	75.7	12.35		
Gampola ..	5,521	7,003	5	6	9	1	9	—	10.43	15.64	16.23	30.66	1	167	59	—	—		
Nawalapitiya ..	3,767	3,990	13	7	20	1	16	1	60.98	48.79	53.04	22.59	2	100	193	—	—		
Hattton and Dikoya ..	3,149	3,025	3	3	10	15	5	20	11.59	19.32	22.56	18.29	2	286	286	—	—		
Matale ..	7,825d	7,825d	10	7	17	11	11	19	26.43	17.11	19.66	38.25	2	118	94	—	—		
Nuwara Eliya ..	14,910	15,060e	5	13	18	11	17	2	14.54	13.73	15.66	11.02	7	389	411	60.8	12.21		
<i>Southern.</i>																			
Galle ..	39,936	41,810	40	29	69	45	47	9	20.08	24.31	23.65	23.73	15	217	154	78.8	14.38		
Ambalangoda ..	4,384f	4,384f	4	2	6	1	4	—	16.65	11.10	—g	—g	—	—	—	—	—		
Matara ..	13,851	15,276	17	18	35	27	20	2	27.88	35.84	35.11	22.13	6	171	142	—	—		
Weligama ..	8,672	9,428	6	10	16	8	23	—	20.65	32.37	26.74	24.13	2	125	74	—	—		
Hambantota ..	3,092	3,263	2	2	4	7	4	—	14.92	46.39	45.87	33.80	3	—	266	80.4	1.85		
Tangalla ..	3,505	5,704h	10	8	18	2	4	—	38.40	12.80	13.08	28.43	3	167	197	—	—		
<i>Northern.</i>																			
Jaffna ..	40,441	45,229	57	61	118	62	60	5	31.74	35.16	31.60	30.80	41	347	335	82.0	9.86		
Mannar ..	3,777	4,038	14	2	16	3	11	—	75.62	44.39	32.77	36.13	5	313	376	82.8	2.45		
Mullaitivu ..	1,392	1,448	4	5	9	2	4	—	24.04	21.64	23.28	31.54	—	—	—	—	—		
Vavuniya ..	808	1,012	2	—	2	3	1	—	24.04	21.64	16.32	44.18	—	—	—	—	—		
<i>Eastern.</i>																			
Batticaloa ..	10,671	11,138	29	16	45	16	20	3	49.16	41.44	37.71	37.51	13	289	318	82.4	3.61		
Kalmuna ..	—	2,081	3	9	12	5	5	—	70.16	43.24	—g	—g	6	503	541	—	—		
Trincomalee ..	8,840	10,537	7	15	22	6	9	1	25.41	35.68	17.75	38.73	4	182	153	83.4	5.60		
<i>North-Western.</i>																			
Kurunegala ..	8,167	9,482	12	18	30	25	22	18	38.50	29.03	38.23	36.67	5	167	208	79.6	12.96		
Puttalam ..	5,990	6,618	10	5	15	11	6	3	27.58	30.59	27.53	28.30	3	200	159	80.9	3.02		
Kalpitiya ..	1,591	1,667	—	1	1	—	1	—	—g	—g	—g	—g	—	—	—	—	—		
Chilaw ..	5,033	5,668	7	4	11	5	3	—	23.61	28.04	6.17	31.50	—	—	—	—	—		
<i>North-Central.</i>																			
Anuradhapura ..	5,361	6,821	12	6	18	13	6	5	32.11	21.86	30.60	46.74	3	167	182	81.6	7.49		
<i>Uva.</i>																			
Badulla ..	6,487	7,226h	10	19	29	17	16	33	48.83	30.63	20.44	32.62	3	103	112	74.2	11.85		
Lunugala ..	515	601	1	2	3	13	8	21	60.75	36.37	—g	—g	1	—	760	—	—		
<i>Sabaragamuwa.</i>																			
Raknapura ..	5,476	7,215h	6	6	12	18	7	25	20.24	23.69	32.50	31.37	4	333	258	78.9	18.89		
Kegalla ..	2,536	2,669	1	3	4	6	5	11	18.24	24.34	46.00	31.67	—	—	—	—	—		

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 observations or rain gauges. c Includes population of the Negombo Local Board and registration area. d This increase of population is due to the extension of the town limits as from July, 1915. e Estimated to the end of December, 1916, by natural increase method. f Population enumerated at the beginning of 1915. g Standardized death-rates for Kalpitiya and Lunugala towns not available, as the population of these towns has not been enumerated at the Census of 1911 by age and sex, while the town of Kalmuna was created a registration division only in January, 1914, and Ambalangoda in January, 1916. The death-rate given for "All Towns" is therefore independent of the towns, but is scarcely affected by their rates. h Increase of population is due to the extension of the town limits.





Table III.—Number of Births and Deaths registered during the Month of September, 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 September, 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 Sept., 1917.	Its proportion to 1000 births registered during Sept., 1917.	Its proportion per annum to 1000 births registered during this Year ended last day of Sept., 1917.	
															Average for Sept., 1908 to 1916.						September, 1917.
			1917.	1908 to 1916.	September, 1917.	Average for Sept., 1908 to 1916.															
City of Colombo ..	219,557	267,888†	196	200	396	21	18	39	208	171	879	51	328	17.99	22.77	14.90	25.85	17.28	83	210	169
Fort and Galle Face	3,512	3,512‡	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.46	2.14	—	6.43	—	—	—	—
Pettah ..	7,974	7,974‡	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	3	4.58	5.03	4.53	10.08	—	1	—	—
San Sebastian ..	11,546	13,207	9	7	16	2	2	4	7	5	12	—	12	14.74	17.59	11.05	22.64	—	4	260	199
St. Paul's ..	24,735	28,068	13	15	28	2	—	2	9	11	20	—	20	12.14	14.86	8.67	21.11	—	4	143	112
Kotahena ..	40,771	46,274	39	28	67	—	—	—	28	22	50	—	50	17.62	20.55	13.15	20.95	—	17	254	194
New Bazaar ..	22,309	26,055	16	17	33	1	1	2	11	10	21	—	21	15.41	21.75	9.81	26.96	—	6	182	139
Maradana Hospitals	48,093	64,374	38	34	72	7	4	11	81	44	125	39	86	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—
Maradana (exclusive of Hospitals) ..	21,984	25,958	29	44	73	3	5	8	26	31	57	—	57	13.80	18.12	10.77	20.61	—	19	260	213
Slave Island ..	25,410	35,791	17	16	33	3	3	6	13	11	24	—	24	18.28	23.01	11.25	21.19	—	6	154	129
Kollupitiya ..	13,223	16,675§	16	15	31	2	1	3	17	14	31	12	19	11.22	14.15	6.46	15.29	—	7	212	247
Wellawatta ..	13,223	16,675§	16	15	31	1	2	3	16	20	36	—	36	22.62	28.87	26.27	32.49	—	8	258	188

\* 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 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 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, September, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, and 1916.

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

Causes of Deaths.	Wards.											Deaths among all Races.							
	City of Colombo.	Fort and Galle Face.	Pettah.	San Sebastian.	St. Paul's.	Kotahena.	New Bazaar.	Maradana Hospitals.	Maradana (exclusive of Hospitals).	Slave Island.	Kollupitiya.	Wellawatta.	Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamils.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.
All Causes ..	379	—	3	12	20	50	21	125	57	24	31	36	2	22	201	78	47	10	19
I.—Infantile Mortality ..	83	—	1	4	4	17	6	11	19	6	7	8	1	6	50	13	10	2	1
<i>A.—One Week and under.</i>																			
1. Prematurity ..	6	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	—
2. Debility ..	13	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	5	1	1	—	—	1	10	1	—	1	—
3. Convulsions ..	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
4. Diarrhoea ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4a. Enteritis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Tetanus ..	3	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—
6. Bronchitis ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
8. Other Causes ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>B.—Over 1 Week and under 1 Year.</i>																			
1. Prematurity ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Debility ..	20	—	—	1	1	6	1	2	5	1	2	1	—	—	15	2	3	—	—
3. Convulsions ..	18	—	—	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	1	5	1	—	9	4	3	—	1
4. Diarrhoea ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4a. Enteritis ..	8	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	1	—
5. Tetanus ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Bronchitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Pneumonia ..	4	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	—
8. Other Causes ..	7*	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	2	—	2	—	—	1	3	1	2	—	—
II.—General Mortality (1 Year and over) ..	296	—	2	8	16	33	15	114	38	18	24	28	1	16	151	65	37	8	18
1. Plague ..	4	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	—
2. Smallpox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Chickenpox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Measles ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Influenza ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Pyrexia or Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Enteric Fever ..	9	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	7	—	2	—	—
8. Malaria ..	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
9. Malarial Cachexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Cholera ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. Diarrhoea ..	7	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	5	2	—	—	—
11a. Enteritis ..	8	—	1	—	2	1	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	2	5	1	—	—
12. Dysentery ..	13	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	—	—	6	1	—	1	6	5	1	—	—
13. Anchylostomiasis or Dochmius Duodenalis ..	7	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	1
14. Cancer ..	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	7	2	—	—	—
15. Phthisis ..	37	—	1	1	3	3	1	14	4	4	2	4	—	—	21	8	1	2	5
16. Other Tuberculous Diseases ..	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
17. Anemia ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
18. Diabetes Mellitus ..	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—
19. Convulsions ..	7	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	2	2	—	—	3	3	1	—	1
20. Tetanus ..	4	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	1
21. Bronchitis ..	6	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	1	1	2	2	—
22. Pneumonia ..	28	—	—	—	1	3	2	12	4	1	3	2	—	1	15	5	3	—	4
Other Diseases of the Respiratory System ..	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	3	1	—	—
24. Bright's Disease and Nephritis ..	10	—	—	1	—	—	1	5	2	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	—	2
25. Puerperal Eclampsia ..	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
26. Puerperal Septicæmia ..	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—
27. Miscarriage ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28. Other undefined Accidents of Childbirth ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29. Starvation ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30. Accidents or Negligence ..	10	—	—	—	1	1	1	5	1	—	—	1	—	—	8	1	1	—	—
31. Homicide ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
32. Suicide ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
33. Execution ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
34. All other causes ..	112†	—	—	2	6	12	6	40	19	8	5	14	1	11	55	19	19	2	5

\* This includes 3 from Rickets, 2 from Syphilis, 1 from Thrush, and 1 from Colitis.

† Here are included 32 from Old Age, 12 from Debility, 6 from Worms, and 5 from Cerebral Hemorrhage.