

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

No. 7,006 — THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1919.

**VITAL STATISTICS OF TOWNS IN CEYLON IN THE  
MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1919.**

**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 1,525 (788 males and 737 females), and was equivalent to an annual rate of 30.61 per 1,000, against 31.85 in the preceding month, 30.99 in the corresponding month of last year, and 31.25 the average for the corresponding months since 1909. The rate ranged from 9.48 in Nuwara Eliya to 82.97 in Lunugala.

3. In the city of Colombo the births registered numbered 565 (305 males and 260 females), and were equivalent to an annual rate\* of 25.77 per 1,000, against 26.16 in the preceding month, 26.20 in the corresponding month of last year, and 27.18 the average for the corresponding months since 1909. The rate ranged from 8.17 in Kollupitiya to 29.00 in Wellawatta.

**Deaths.**

4. The total deaths registered during the month numbered 2,028 (1,106 males and 922 females). There were 1,604 deaths of residents in towns, equivalent to an annual rate of 35.09 per 1,000, against 33.59 in the preceding month, 27.44 in the corresponding month of last year, and 31.94 the average for the month of February in each year since 1909. The rate ranged from 123.73 in Anuradhapura to 19.23 in Kegalla.

5. In the city of Colombo the deaths numbered 653 (373 males and 280 females). There were 558 deaths of residents, equivalent to an annual rate\* of 29.53 per 1,000, against 28.01 in the preceding month, 24.71 in the corresponding month of last year, and 30.06 the average for the month of February in each year since 1909. The rate ranged from 31.21 in San Sebastian to 9.48 in Kollupitiya.

6. The stillbirths registered numbered 98 (47 males and 51 females), against 101 in the preceding month.

**Infant Mortality.**

7. The mortality of infants under one year of age was equal to a rate of 289 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ended February 28, 1919. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 250, against 273 in the preceding month, 232 in the corresponding month of the previous year, and 260 the average for the corresponding months since 1909.

8. In the city of Colombo the mortality of infants was equal to a rate of 308 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ended February 28, 1919. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 250, against 265 in the preceding month, 216 in the corresponding month of the previous year, and 283 the average for the corresponding months since 1909.

**Causes of Death.**

9. The highest mortality was attributed to *Pneumonia*, to which 15 per cent. of the total deaths was due, 8 per cent. was due to *Debility*, 7 per cent. each to *Malaria* and *Malarial Cachexia* and *Convulsions*, 5 per cent. each to *Phthisis*, *Diarrhoea*, *Influenza*, and *Dysentery*, 4 per cent. each to *Enteritis* and *Anchylostomiasis*, 3 per cent. to *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis*, 2 per cent. each to *Enteric Fever* and *Bronchitis*, and 1 per cent. each *Prematurity* and *Puerperal Septicæmia*.

10. In Colombo too the highest mortality was from *Pneumonia*, to which 12 per cent. of the total deaths was due, 10 per cent. was due to *Phthisis*, 8 per cent. to *Convulsions*, 7 per cent. each to *Debility* and *Enteritis*, 5 per cent. to *Influenza*, 3 per cent. each to *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis* and *Dysentery*, 2 per cent. each to *Diarrhoea*, *Enteric Fever*, and *Bronchitis*, and 1 per cent. each to *Tetanus*, *Prematurity*, and *Anchylostomiasis*. One death from *Plague* was registered (in Colombo).

11. *Infectious Diseases reported.*—The infectious disease most prevalent during the month was *Phthisis*, of which 101 cases were reported (91 in Colombo, 6 in Galle), followed by *Enteric* 56 (33 in Colombo, 7 in Panadure, 5 in Batticaloa), *Chickenpox* 51 (36 in Colombo), *Continued Fever* 34 (21 in Colombo, 7 in Moratuwa), *Dysentery* 6 (4 in Moratuwa), *Measles* 4 (3 in Colombo), *Diphtheria* 2 (in Colombo), *Mumps* 1 (in Colombo), *Smallpox* 1 (in Galle), and *Plague* 1 (in Colombo).

**Meteorology.**

12. *Rainfall.*—Ratnapura recorded the highest rainfall (3.09 inches), followed by Trincomalee (2.90 inches) and Kalutara (2.65 inches). In the other towns it ranged from 2.43 inches in Galle to 0.02 of an inch in Kurunegala, Puttalam, and Jaffna, respectively. Colombo recorded 0.34 of an inch.

13. *Temperature.*—The mean temperature varied from 59.4° in Nuwara Eliya to 82.3° in Ratnapura, and was 81.6° in Colombo.

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

Registrar-General's Office,  
Colombo, March 25, 1919.

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 February, 1919, 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 1909, 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 estimated to the Middle of 1919 by Intercessional Increase.	Total Births.		Total Deaths.		Deaths of Town Residential.	Birth-rate.	Mortality of Children under One Year.			Rainfall in Inches. 6
		Total	Males	Total	Males			Standardized. <sup>a</sup>	Its proportion to 1000 births registered during Feb., 1919.		
		Persons	Males	Persons	Males			Average Death-rate for Feb., 1919, 1909–1913	Per annum to 1000 births registered during Feb., 1919.		
All 38 Towns	617,877	788,787	1,525	922	2,028	47	51	98	420	1,604	30.61
Western.											
Colombo	219,575	285,795	305,260	565	373	280	653	17	20	37	558
Negombo	13,045	27,036	53	34	87	65	54	119	1	2	105
Matale	27,256	30,932	42	58	100	61	111	1	2	3	109
Kalutara	14,386	17,111	28	11	28	11	15	26	1	3	20
Panadura	13,005	14,366	17	11	28	11	7	18	—	—	13
General.	5,709	7,936	7	8	15	11	—	—	5	—	24
Kandy	30,149	32,197	45	48	93	67	61	108	4	1	5
Gampola	6,521	7,550	13	9	22	5	7	12	—	—	28
Newapitiya	3,767	4,061	1	2	3	2	9	11	—	—	2
Hatton and Dikoya	3,026	3,187	2	3	5	4	6	10	—	—	10
Matale	5,792	8,073 <sup>d</sup>	10	9	19	22	15	37	1	1	7
Nuwara Eliya	14,910	15,131 <sup>e</sup>	4	7	11	10	6	16	1	1	17
Galle Southern.	39,936	42,418	63	55	118	67	53	110	9	7	16
Ambarangoda	—	4,604	1	6	7	4	—	—	—	—	4
Matale	13,851	17,593 <sup>d</sup>	28	25	53	33	21	54	1	1	11
Welligama	8,672	9,684	12	17	29	7	8	15	—	—	15
Hambantota	3,092	3,318	5	3	8	7	5	12	—	—	3
Tangalle	3,505	6,187 <sup>d</sup>	7	3	10	9	6	15	—	—	6
Northern.											
Jaffna	40,441	46,858	66	74	140	74	94	168	3	2	5
Mannar	3,777	4,191	8	4	12	18	4	22	—	—	3
Mullaitivu	1,392	1,466	3	1	4	3	4	7	—	—	7
Vavuniya	808	1,087	—	—	3	3	5	1	3	2	2
Easter.											
Betticaloa	10,671	11,290	13	19	32	13	9	22	1	—	22
Kalmunai	—	2,124	5	4	9	11	8	19	1	1	12
Trincomalee	8,840	11,136	13	12	25	15	13	28	—	—	1
North-Western.											
Kuruegala	8,167	9,931	9	11	20	86	48	134	2	3	5
Puttalam	6,930	6,830	14	6	20	32	23	55	1	3	4
Kalpitiya	1,691	1,691	—	—	—	2	3	6	—	—	5
Chilaw	5,033	6,274 <sup>d</sup>	12	12	24	40	39	79	1	1	35
North-Central.											
Anuradhapura	6,361	7,358	4	15	19	39	28	67	3	2	5
Uva.											
Badulla	6,487	7,361 <sup>d</sup>	10	9	19	—	16	34	—	—	14
Lunugala	515	629	—	4	4	8	5	13	—	—	10
Sabaragamuwa.											
Ratnapura	5,476	7,543 <sup>d</sup>	11	3	14	12	13	25	1	2	3
Kegalla	2,536	2,712	6	6	10	7	7	14	—	—	11

<sup>a</sup> 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.  
<sup>b</sup> Blanks indicate that there are no observatories or rain gauges.  
<sup>c</sup> Due to the extension of the town limits.  
<sup>d</sup> Includes population of the Negombo Local Board and registration area.  
<sup>e</sup> Estimated to the end of December, 1918, by natural increase method.  
<sup>f</sup> 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 Kalmunai was created a registration division only in January, 1914, and Ambalangoda in January, 1916. The death-rates given for "All Towns" is, therefore, independent of the towns, but is scarcely affected by their rates.

Table II.—Causes of Deaths registered during February, 1919, in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31–36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895.

Causes of Deaths.	Western Province.	Central Province.	Southern Province.	Northern Provinces.	Eastern Provinces.	North-Western Province.	North-Central Province.	Province of Uva.	Province of Sabaragamwawa.	Deaths among all Races.															
										All Causes	All Causes	All Causes	All Causes	All Causes	All Causes	All Causes									
<b>I.—Infantile Mortality</b>																									
<i>A.—One Week and under.</i>																									
1. Prematurity . . . . .	26	8	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
2. Debility . . . . .	62	18	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
3. Convulsions . . . . .	34	10	1	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
4. Diarrhoea . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
4a. Enteritis . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
5. Tetanus . . . . .	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
6. Bronchitis . . . . .	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
7. Pneumonia . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
8. Other Causes . . . . .	—	—	2*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
<i>B.—Over 1 Week and under 1 Year.</i>																									
1. Prematurity . . . . .	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
2. Debility . . . . .	49	18	7	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
3. Convulsions . . . . .	68	30	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
4. Diarrhoea . . . . .	14	3	1	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
4a. Enteritis . . . . .	21	14	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
5. Tetanus . . . . .	—	—	6	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
6. Bronchitis . . . . .	—	—	19	6	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
7. Pneumonia . . . . .	—	—	22	9	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
8. Other Causes . . . . .	—	51†	22	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
<b>II.—General Mortality (1 Year and over).</b>																									
1. Plague . . . . .	1,647	512	101	—	—	83	21	14	89	911	9	3510	89	44411	913	185									
1a. Smallpox . . . . .	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
2. Chickenpox . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									
3. Measles . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—									

\* These are due to 1 death from Intestinal Obstruction (in Moratuwa) and 1 from diseases not specified (in Anuradhapura).

† This includes, besides 22 deaths mentioned in Table IV, 1 death from Malaria (5 in Negombo), 4 from Thrush (3 in Negombo and 1 in Moratuwa), 3 from Syphilis (1 each in Kandy and Nuwara Eliya), 2 from Dysentery (in Jaffna), 2 from Burns (1 in Galle, 1 in Badulla), and 1 each from Worms (in Galle), Nephritis (in Kandy), Influenza (in Jaffna), and Paralysis of Intestines (in Kandy).

Table II.—Causes of Deaths registered during February, 1919, in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31–36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895—continued.

Causes of Deaths.	All 88 Towns.	Western Province.	Central Provinces.	Southern Province.	Northern Province.	Eastern Province.	North-Western Province.	North-Central Province.	Province of Sabaragamuwa.	Deaths among all Races.
										Others.
<b>II.—General Mortality—contd.</b>										
4. Influenza .....	92	17	4	1	—	6	—	5	—	5
5. Pyrexia or Fever .....	8	5	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
6. Enteric Fever .....	44	14	6	16	1	2	—	—	—	1
7. Malaria .....	97	3	5	—	—	1	1	9	3	2
8. Malaria Cachexia .....	39	—	—	9	—	1	1	4	3	1
9. Cholera .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Diarrhoea .....	90	11	12	4	3	—	1	2	1	—
10a. Enteritis .....	64	29	2	1	—	3	1	4	1	—
11. Dystentery .....	89	18	6	3	—	1	1	1	1	1
12. Anchylostomiasis or Dochmiasis Duodenalis .....	82	7	3	—	1	—	1	—	1	—
13. Cancer .....	9	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
14. Phthisis .....	107	64	1	8	1	—	4	1	3	—
15. Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	8	3	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
16. Anaemia .....	8	2	1	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
17. Diabetes Mellitus .....	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18. Convulsions .....	37	14	1	1	—	—	1	2	1	—
19. Tetanus .....	7	6	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
20. Bronchitis .....	18	5	—	—	—	—	4	1	4	10
21. Pneumonia .....	286	72	10	7	3	2	19	2	1	6
22. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System .....	10	8	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
23. Bright's Disease and Nephritis .....	55	18	2	—	—	—	5	—	—	—
24. Puerperal Eclampsia .....	6	4	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
25. Puerperal Septicæmia .....	26	6	3	2	1	—	3	—	—	—
26. Misce Marriage .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
27. Other undefined Accidents of Childbirth .....	10	3	2	2	1	—	1	—	—	6
28. Starvation .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
29. Accidents or Negligence .....	33	6	1	—	1	—	7	—	—	22
30. Homicide .....	10	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	9
31. Suicide .....	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4
32. Execution .....	6	2	1	—	—	—	4	—	—	6
33. All Other Causes .....	393*	171	15	25	6	3	18	2	4	5
							7	3	3	12
							47	22	13	59
							7	1	1	5
							37	2	2	3
							52	17	2	1
							13	21	5	—
							—	—	—	—
							47	32	7	2
							37	21	6	—
							40	37	9	—
							5	4	—	—
							44	28	10	—
							5	4	—	—
							3	2	—	—
							1	4	2	1
							15	12	7	3
							2	3	1	—
							4	10	4	—
							166	86	19	3
							6	—	—	6

\* Here are included 127 deaths from Old Age (50 in Colombo), 42 from Debility (7 each in Colombo and Galle), and 25 from Paralysis (12 in Colombo).

Table III.—Number of Births and Deaths registered during the Month of February, 1919, 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 February, 1909 to 1918, in each Ward of the City of Colombo.

Wards.	Population (Inclusive of Military) at the Census of 1911.	Population Estimated to Middle of 1919 by Inter-censal Increase.	Total Births registered.		Stillbirths.		Total Deaths including Deaths in Hospitals and Jails.		Deaths of Non-residents.		Deaths of Residents.		Birth-rate, February, 1919.		Death-rate.		Per Mills per Annum.		Mortality of Children under one Year.		
			Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Average for Feb., 1909 to 1918.	February, 1919.	Average for Feb., 1909 to 1918.	February, 1919.	Per Mills per Annum.	Number registered during Feb., 1919.	Its proportion to 1000 births registered during the year ended last day of Feb., 1919.		
<b>City of Colombo ..</b>	<b>219,557</b>	<b>285,795</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>25·77</b>	<b>27·18</b>	<b>25·45</b>	<b>26·18</b>	<b>29·53</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>308</b>
Fort and Galle Face	3,612	3,612†	1	2	3	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	11·13	2·99	—	—	4·82	—	—	—
Pettah	7,974	7,974†	5	1	6	—	—	—	6	1	7	—	7	9·81	6·79	11·44	11·97	—	—	2	333
San Sebastian	11,546	13,780	8	16	24	—	2	2	16	17	33	—	33	22·70	22·90	31·21	23·74	—	—	11	658
St. Paul's	24,735	29,210	30	24	54	—	1	1	30	21	61	—	61	24·09	19·37	23·75	23·77	—	—	17	536
Kotahena	40,771	48,168	48	23	71	2	3	5	47	29	76	—	76	19·21	26·10	20·86	24·66	—	—	20	282
New Bazaar	22,309	27,362	24	29	53	—	4	4	29	25	54	—	54	25·25	26·84	25·72	26·80	—	—	18	340
Maradana Hospitals	48,093	70,574	91	86	177	9	6	15	112	76	188	81	107	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	—
Maradana (exclusive of Hospitals)	..	..	40	31	71	3	—	3	66	60	116	2	114	13·11	22·22	21·06	22·40	—	—	24	338
Slave Island	21,984	27,353	26	15	41	1	1	2	27	28	55	1	54	19·53	24·12	25·73	19·34	—	—	16	390
Kollupitiya	25,410	39,878	13	12	25	1	—	1	25	14	39	10	29	8·17	14·91	9·48	11·99	—	—	10	400
Wellawatta	13,223	17,984	19	21	40	1	3	4	14	19	33	—	33	29·00	35·21‡	23·92	27·13‡	—	—	7	175

\* 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.

† The population of these two wards being a fluctuating one, their population cannot be estimated to the middle of 1919. Hence the Census figures are retained.

‡ Average for months of February, 1913-1918.

Table IV.—Causes of Deaths registered during the Month of February, 1919, in each Ward and of each Race in the City of Colombo.

Causes of Death.		City of Colombo.	Wards.										Deaths among all Races.							
			1	7	33	51	76	54	188	116	55	39	33	7	24	360	183	91	14	24
All Causes ..	653																			
I.—Infantile Mortality	141																			
A.—One Week and under.																				
1. Prematurity ..	8																			
2. Debility ..	18																			
3. Convulsions ..	10																			
4. Diarrhoea ..																				
4a. Enteritis ..																				
5. Tetanus ..																				
6. Bronchitis ..																				
7. Pneumonia ..																				
8. Other Causes ..																				
B.—Over 1 Week and under 1 Year.																				
1. Prematurity ..																				
2. Debility ..	18																			
3. Convulsions ..	30																			
4. Diarrhoea ..	3																			
4a. Enteritis ..	14																			
5. Tetanus ..	1																			
6. Bronchitis ..	6																			
7. Pneumonia ..	9																			
8. Other Causes ..	22*																			
II.—General Mortality (1 Year and over)	512	1	5	22	84	56	36	172	92	89	29	26	6	20	284	107	68	8	19	
1. Plague ..	1																			
2. Smallpox ..																				
3. Chickenpox ..																				
4. Measles ..																				
5. Influenza ..	32																			
6. Pyrexia or Fever ..	5																			
7. Enteric Fever ..	14																			
8. Malaria ..	3																			
9. Malarial Cachexia ..																				
10. Cholera ..																				
11. Diarrhoea ..	11																			
11a. Enteritis ..	29																			
12. Dysentery ..	18																			
13. Ankylostomiasis or Duodenitis ..	7																			
14. Cancer ..	5																			
15. Phthisis ..	64																			
16. Other Tuberculous Diseases ..	3																			
17. Anaemia ..	2																			
18. Diabetes Mellitus ..																				
19. Convulsions ..	14																			
20. Tetanus ..	6																			
21. Bronchitis ..	5																			
22. Pneumonia ..	72	1	1	1	1	4	8	22	11	3	6	6	1	2	40	16	1	7	6	
23. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System ..	8																			
24. Bright's Disease and Nephritis ..	18																			
25. Puerperal Eclampsia ..	4																			
26. Puerperal Septicæmia ..	6																			
27. Miscarriage ..																				
28. Other undefined Accidents of Childbirth ..	3																			
29. Starvation ..	1																			
30. Accidents or Negligence ..	6																			
31. Homicide ..	1																			
32. Suicide ..	1																			
33. Execution ..	2																			
34. All Other Causes ..	171†		10	10	17	12	45	41	14	12	10	4	8	95	30	25	4	5		

\* 4 deaths from Want of Breast Milk, 3 from Worms, 2 each from Syphilis and Dysentery, and 1 each from Influenza, Rickets, Furunculosis, Meningitis, Pyrexia, Diphtheria, Pericarditis, Thrush, Gastritis, Dentition, and Nephritis.

† Here are included 50 deaths from Old Age, 22 from Worms, 12 from Paralysis, 10 from Marasmus, 7 from Peritonitis, and 7 from Debility.