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**VITAL STATISTICS OF TOWNS IN CEYLON IN THE
MONTH OF MARCH, 1920.**

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 1,495 (789 males and 706 females), and was equivalent to an annual rate of 26·56 per 1,000, against 27·95 in the preceding month, 28·08 in the corresponding month of last year, and 30·00 the average for the corresponding months since 1910. The rate ranged from 2·50 in Ambalangoda to 44·01 in Kalmunai.

3. In the city of Colombo the births registered numbered 560 (300 males and 260 females), and were equivalent to an annual rate of 22·39 per 1,000, against 22·44 in the preceding month, 22·00 in the corresponding month of last year, and 24·98 the average for the corresponding months since 1910. The rate ranged from 10·94 in Kollupitiya to 36·65 in Wellawatta.

Deaths.

4. The total deaths registered during the month numbered 1,924 (1,074 males and 850 females). There were 1,460 deaths of residents in towns, equivalent to an annual rate of 28·27 per 1,000, against 34·05 in the preceding month, 28·69 in the corresponding month of last year, and 28·44 the average for the month of March in each year since 1910. The rate ranged from 95·48 in Mullaitivu to 7·89 in Hambantota.

5. In the city of Colombo the deaths numbered 579 (335 males and 244 females). There were 493 deaths of residents, equivalent to an annual rate of 22·87 per 1,000, against 28·35 in the preceding month, 24·33 in the corresponding month of last year, and 26·23 the average for the month of March in each year since 1910. The rate ranged from 23·13 in Slave Island to 8·13 in Kollupitiya.

6. The stillbirths registered numbered 85 (50 males and 35 females), as against 90 in the preceding month.

Infant Mortality.

7. The mortality of infants under one year of age was equal to a rate of 255 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ended March 31, 1920. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 233, against 232 in the preceding month, 240 in the corresponding month of last year, and 220 the average for the corresponding months since 1910.

8. In the city of Colombo the mortality of infants was equal to a rate of 269 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ended March 31, 1920. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 238, against 211 in the preceding month, 264 in the corresponding month of last year, and 237 the average for the corresponding months since 1910.

Causes of Death.

9. Ten per cent. each (of the total deaths) was due to *Pneumonia* and *Debility*, 7 per cent. each to *Convulsions*, *Anchylostomiasis*, and *Diarrhœa*, 5 per cent. each to *Dysentery*, *Enteritis*, *Phthisis*, and *Malaria* and *Malarial Cachexia*, 3 per cent. each to *Enteric Fever* and *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis*, 2 per cent. to *Influenza*, and 1 per cent. each to *Prematurity* and *Bronchitis*.

10. In Colombo the largest number of deaths was due to *Pneumonia*, which caused 13 per cent. of the total deaths, 10 per cent. was due to *Debility*, 9 per cent. to *Phthisis*, 8 per cent. to *Convulsions*, 6 per cent. each to *Enteritis* and *Enteric Fever*, 3 per cent. each to *Diarrhœa*, *Influenza*, and *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis*, and 2 per cent. each to *Bronchitis*, *Dysentery*, *Cancer*, and *Anchylostomiasis*.

11. Three deaths from *Plague* were registered in Colombo, as against 18 in the preceding month and 4 in the corresponding month of last year. There were registered 1 death from *Smallpox* and 4 from *Measles* in Colombo.

12. *Infectious Diseases reported.*—The infectious disease most prevalent during the month was *Measles*, of which 272 cases were reported (215 in Colombo, 27 in Kandy, 7 in Moratuwa). *Chickenpox* followed with 210 cases (175 in Colombo, 10 in Galle, 7 in Hatton and Dikoya), *Phthisis* 118 (102 in Colombo, 6 in Kandy), *Enteric Fever* 89 (56 in Colombo, 9 in Galle, 5 in Moratuwa), *Continued Fever* 38 (10 in Colombo, 9 in Galle, 8 each in Moratuwa and Kandy), *Mumps* 8 (4 in Kandy), *Dysentery* 6 (5 in Kurunegala), *Smallpox* 5 (in Colombo), *Whooping Cough* 5 (4 in Mannar), *Diphtheria* 4 (in Colombo), *Plague* 2 (in Colombo), and *Acute Diarrhœa* 1 (in Colombo).

Meteorology.

13. *Rainfall.*—Ratnapura recorded the highest rainfall (11·66 inches), followed by Kurunegala (10·40 inches). In other towns it ranged from 10·34 inches in Negombo to 0·30 of an inch in Mullaitivu. Colombo recorded 5·95 inches.

14. *Temperature.*—The mean temperature varied from 58·8° in Nuwara Eliya to 84·3° in Trincomalee, and was 81·4° in Colombo.

15. 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, April 30, 1920.

N. W. MORGAPPAH,
Acting Registrar-General.

Table I.—Number of Births and Deaths registered during March, 1920, 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 1910, 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 Mukhar) at the Census of March 10, 1911.	Population estimated to the middle of 1920 by Inter-censal Increase.	Total Births.			Total Deaths.			Total Stillbirths.			Deaths of Town and Residents.	Birth-rate.		Death-rate excluding non-residents.				Its proportion to 1,000 births registered during the year ended the 31st March, 1920.	Mean Temperature.	Rainfall in Inches.
			Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.		Crude, March, 1920.	Standardized, 1910-1919.	Average Death-rate for March, 1910-1919.	Number registered during March, 1920.	Its proportion to 1,000 births registered during March, 1920.				
All 33 Towns ..	517,877	664,677	788,707	1,495	1,074	850	1,924	50	35	85	452	26.56	30.00	28.44	349	255	81.4	5.95			
<i>Western.</i>																					
Colombo ..	219,557	295,292	300,260	600	385	244	679	26	18	44	86	22.39	24.98	26.23	133	269	81.4	5.95			
Negombo ..	13,045	27,387c	33	27	42	28	70				15	26.87	43.02	23.28	10	143	10.34	—			
Moratuwa ..	27,256	31,374	56	51	107	64	118	3	4	7	117	40.27	46.83	44.03	42	447	—	—			
Kalutara ..	13,005	14,563	20	14	34	29	58	1	2	3	47	27.56	37.56	33.62	8	206	9.54	—			
Panadura ..	5,709	8,256	8	13	21	11	16		1	1	8	30.03	26.46	15.82	2	169	—	—			
<i>Central.</i>																					
Kandy ..	30,149	33,616	46	53	99	62	95	2	—	2	24	34.77	32.37	24.94	14	168	78.4	8.36			
Gampola ..	5,521	7,839	9	3	12	18	34	2	—	2	14	18.07	35.00	30.12	3	179	10.26	—			
Nawalapitiya ..	3,767	4,097	2	4	6	11	16	1	—	1	11	17.29	33.55	11.53	1	114	—	9.79			
Hatton and Dikoya ..	3,025	3,206	5	3	8	19	11	30	—	—	25	29.46	22.29	18.41	1	125	—	7.61			
Matale ..	5,792	8,200d	10	7	17	20	15	35	1	1	15	24.48	35.83	28.80	5	225	—	5.95			
Nuwara Eliya ..	14,910	15,136e	13	6	19	14	17	31	1	1	23	15.17	13.69	20.46	5	249	58.8	4.67			
<i>Southern.</i>																					
Galle ..	39,936	42,725	82	75	157	91	85	176	2	2	45	43.38	31.36	30.20	26	261	80.9	7.82			
Ambalangoda ..	—	4,718	1	1	2	3	5	—	—	—	—	5	31.67	12.51	—	1	116	—	—		
Matara ..	13,851	17,804d	24	26	50	18	29	47	—	—	6	33.16	38.75	27.19	6	178	—	5.38			
Weligama ..	8,672	9,814	14	12	26	14	24	38	—	—	36	31.28	38.25	43.31	5	204	—	—			
Hambantota ..	3,092	3,346	4	1	5	3	11	4	—	—	2	17.64	38.92	7.06	1	136	80.6	5.36			
Tangalla ..	3,505	6,443d	9	4	13	9	11	20	—	—	5	23.82	33.52	20.16	—	—	—	4.12			
<i>Northern.</i>																					
Jaffna ..	40,441	47,694	50	102	87	71	168	4	4	8	151	25.25	32.21	37.38	36	326	83.6	1.24			
Mannar ..	3,777	4,243	10	12	12	4	16	—	—	—	10	33.39	31.20	27.83	3	361	84.2	1.57			
Mullaitivu ..	1,392	1,475	4	1	5	8	2	10	2	2	9	40.01	52.61	72.03	3	—	—	0.30			
Vavuniya ..	808	1,126	1	1	2	4	—	4	—	—	3	20.96	34.35	31.44	—	—	—	2.36			
<i>Eastern.</i>																					
Batticaloa ..	10,671	11,367	13	11	24	17	14	31	1	2	29	24.93	29.34	30.12	9	218	81.6	1.92			
Kalmunai ..	—	2,146	5	3	8	8	10	—	—	—	5	44.01	51.02	27.50	1	134	—	1.84			
Trincomalee ..	8,840	11,449	11	21	32	10	12	22	—	—	22	33.00	27.17	22.69	1	43	84.3	1.14			
<i>North-Western.</i>																					
Kurunegala ..	8,167	10,164	5	7	12	21	17	38	—	1	11	13.94	33.23	12.78	5	244	82.0	10.40			
Pukulam ..	5,990	6,939	10	14	24	20	16	36	—	—	5	40.84	34.78	52.76	6	398	81.8	7.12			
Kalpitiya ..	1,591	1,703	2	1	3	9	3	12	1	1	12	20.80	32.62	83.20	3	824	—	5.93			
Chilaw ..	5,033	6,393d	7	7	14	17	17	34	1	1	24	25.85	37.54	27.94	4	345	—	7.39			
<i>North-Central.</i>																					
Anuradhapura ..	5,361	7,643	13	11	24	30	13	43	—	—	8	37.07	20.47	52.52	5	428	82.1	3.01			
<i>Uva.</i>																					
Badulla ..	6,487	7,429d	9	9	18	32	16	48	1	3	30	28.61	28.12	28.61	2	99	73.4	6.64			
Lunugala ..	515	643	—	—	—	19	28	47	—	—	47	—	24.70	—	—	—	—	—	10.19		
<i>Sabaraгамuwa.</i>																					
Ratnapura ..	5,476	7,713d	5	8	13	17	8	25	2	3	9	19.90	32.98	13.78	2	154	82.2	11.66			
Kegalle ..	2,536	2,734	5	2	7	11	7	18	—	—	14	30.23	36.58	15.28	1	128	—	8.58			

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 Estimated to the end of December, 1919, by natural increase method.
 d This increase of population is due partly to the extension of the town limits.
 e Estimated to the Census of 1911 by age and sex, while the town of Kalmunai was 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, 1915.
 The death-rates given for "All Towns" are, therefore, independent of the towns, but are scarcely affected by their rates.

Table III.—Number of Births and Deaths registered during the Month of March, 1920, 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 March, 1910 to 1919, in each Ward of the City of Colombo.

Wards.	Population (inclusive of Military) at the Census of 1911.	Population Estimated to Middle of 1920 by Inter-censal 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.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Birth-rate.*	Death-rate.*		Standardized Death-rate.†	Number registered during March, 1920.	Its proportion to 1000 births registered during March, 1920.	Its proportion to annum to 1000 births registered during the year ended last day of Mar., 1920.				
													Average for Mar., 1910 to 1919.	March, 1920.					Average for Mar., 1910 to 1919.			
			March, 1920.	Average for Mar., 1910 to 1919.	March, 1920.	Average for Mar., 1910 to 1919.	March, 1920.	Average for Mar., 1910 to 1919.	March, 1920.	Average for Mar., 1910 to 1919.												
City of Colombo ..	219,557	295,292	300	260	560	26	18	44	335	244	579	86	493	22.89	24.98	19.71	22.93	22.87	133	238	269	
Fort and Galle Face	3,512	3,512†	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pettah ..	7,974	7,974†	—	3	3	2	1	3	7	3	10	—	10	4.44	4.96	14.81	8.22	—	2	—	—	787
San Sebastian ..	11,546	14,075	16	10	26	1	—	1	7	5	12	—	12	21.81	19.71	10.07	17.12	—	7	269	383	
St. Paul's ..	24,735	29,799	21	10	31	1	—	1	23	18	41	—	41	12.28	16.45	16.24	20.65	—	15	484	440	
Kotahena ..	40,771	49,143	51	58	109	5	2	7	47	34	81	—	81	26.19	25.13	19.46	22.31	—	17	156	202	
New Bazaar ..	22,309	28,040	27	23	50	1	3	4	30	18	48	—	48	21.05	23.96	20.21	22.14	—	17	340	429	
Maradana Hospitals			54	42	96	12	10	22	109	71	180	77	103	—	—	—	—	—	16	—	—	—
Maradana (exclusive of Hospitals) ..	48,093	73,894	66	44	110	2	—	2	43	40	83	—	83	17.58	20.04	13.26	18.24	—	27	245	319	
Slave Island ..	21,984	28,078	20	18	38	1	2	3	32	23	55	—	55	15.98	21.94	23.13	20.38	—	13	342	302	
Kollupitiya ..	25,410	42,092	20	19	39	—	—	—	21	17	38	9	29	10.94	13.50	8.13	10.87	—	9	231	309	
Wellawatta ..	13,223	18,685	25	33	58	1	—	1	16	15	31	—	31	36.65	32.96§	19.59	27.03§	—	10	172	227	

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

† For explanation of "standardized death-rate" see note a, 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 1920. Hence the Census figures are retained.

§ Average for months of March, 1912-1919.

