

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

REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

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

Births.

2. The number of births registered was 1,701 (838 males and 863 females), and was equivalent to an annual rate of 30·21 per 1,000, against 31·83 in the preceding month, 26·12 in the corresponding month of 1919, and 28·27 the average for the corresponding months since 1910. The rate ranged from 17·64 in Hambantota to 62·60 in Hatton and Dikoya:

3. In the city of Colombo the births registered numbered 623 (312 males and 311 females), and were equivalent to an annual rate of 24·91 per 1,000, against 29·91 in the preceding month, 21·55 in the corresponding month of 1919, and 23·33 the average for the corresponding months since 1910. Excluding the Fort and the Pettah Wards the rate ranged from 8·98 in Kollupitiya to 40·44 in Wellawatta.

Deaths.

4. The total deaths registered during the month numbered 2,352 (1,280 males and 1,062 females). There were 1,821 deaths of residents, equivalent to an annual standardized rate of 35·26 per 1,000, against 27·29 in the preceding month, 34·18 in the corresponding month of 1919, and 32·99 the average for the month of December in each year since 1910. The rate ranged from 128·71 in Anuradhapura to 3·55 in Nuwara Eliya.

5. In the city of Colombo the deaths numbered 869 (504 males and 365 females). There were 760 deaths of residents, equivalent to an annual standardized rate of 35·25 per 1,000, against 27·99 in the preceding month, 34·94 in the corresponding month of 1919, and 31·74 the average for the month of December in each year since 1910. Excluding the Fort and the Pettah Wards the rate ranged from 40·44 in Wellawatta to 8·41 in Kollupitiya.

6. The stillbirths registered numbered 114 (62 males and 52 females), as against 118 in the preceding month.

Infant Mortality.

7. The mortality of infants under one year of age was equal to a rate of 311 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ended December 31, 1920. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 291, against 243 in the preceding month, 316 in the corresponding month of 1919, and 304 the average for the corresponding months since 1910:

8. In the city of Colombo the mortality of infants was equal to a rate of 343 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ended December 31, 1920. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 335, against 249 in the preceding month, 367 in the corresponding month of 1919, and 330 the average for the corresponding months since 1910.

Causes of Death.

9. The highest mortality was from *Pneumonia*, to which 11 per cent. of the total deaths was due, *Debility* caused 10 per cent., *Convulsions* 8 per cent., *Enteritis* and *Diarrhœa* 6 per cent. each, *Phthisis*, *Malaria* and *Malarial Cachexia*, and *Anchylostomiasis* 5 per cent. each, *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis* and *Dysentery* 4 per cent. each, *Bronchitis*, *Enteric Fever*, and *Influenza* 2 per cent. each, and *Prematurity* and *Puerperal Septicæmia* 1 per cent. each.

10. In Colombo too the highest mortality was from *Pneumonia*, to which 11 per cent. of the deaths was due, *Convulsions* caused 10 per cent., *Debility* 9 per cent., *Plague* and *Phthisis* 7 per cent. each, *Enteritis* 5 per cent., *Influenza* 4 per cent., *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis* and *Dysentery* 3 per cent. each, *Diarrhœa*, *Enteric Fever*, and *Bronchitis* 2 per cent. each, and *Puerperal Septicæmia* 1 per cent.

11. Sixty-five deaths from *Plague*, the largest number for the year, were registered (in Colombo), as against 28 in the preceding month and 19 in the corresponding month of 1919. Three deaths from *Smallpox* were also registered in Colombo.

12. *Infectious Diseases reported.*—The infectious disease most prevalent during the month was *Phthisis*, of which 78 cases were reported (72 in Colombo), *Enteric Fever* followed with 68 cases (39 in Colombo, 10 in Moratuwa, 6 in Galle), *Plague* 67 (in Colombo), *Measles* 38 (19 in Ratnapura, 14 in Colombo), *Chickenpox* 32 (21 in Colombo), *Continued Fever* 21 (9 in Panadura, 6 in Colombo), *Dysentery* 7 (4 in Puttalam), *Smallpox* 7 (in Colombo), and *Acute Diarrhœa* 1 (in Moratuwa).

Meteorology.

13. *Rainfall.*—Galle recorded the highest rainfall (12·16 inches), followed by Kalutara (11·17 inches). In the other towns the rainfall ranged from 10·87 inches in Lunugala to 2·45 inches in Hatton. Colombo recorded 4·42 inches.

14. *Temperature.*—The mean temperature varied from 58·2° in Nuwara Eliya to 80·1° in Ratnapura, and was 78·6° 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, January 28, 1921.

F. BARPLETT,
Registrar-General.

Table I.—Number of Births and Deaths registered during December, 1920, their Proportion per 1,000 of the Population per Annum, and the Stillbirths and Deaths of Children under One Year and their Proportion 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 Military) 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 Residents.	Average Birth-rate for Dec. 1910-1919.	Crude Death-rate, Dec. 1920.	Death-rate excluding non-residents.		Number registered during Dec., 1920.	Its proportion to 1000 births registered during the year ended the last day of Dec., 1920.	Its proportion per annum to 1000 births registered during the year ended the last day of Dec., 1920.	Mean Temperature.	Rainfall in Inches.			
			Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.				Standardized.	Standardized.								
All Towns	517,877	664,677	838,863	1,701	1,290	1092	2,852	62	52	114	1,821	30-21	28-27	32-35	35-26	32-99	495	291	311	78-6	4-42
<i>Western.</i>																					
Colombo	219,857	295,292	312,311	623	504	365	869	33	21	54	760	24-91	23-33	30-39	35-25	31-74	209	335	343	78-6	4-42
Negombo	13,045	27,387	36	48	55	44	99	1	1	2	87	36-21	36-44	37-51	39-23	36-98	13	155	162	—	5-11
Kalutara	27,256	31,374	61	50	52	66	118	1	1	2	115	41-77	40-91	43-28	47-73	44-83	46	414	400	—	—
Moratuwa	13,005	14,563	21	32	53	30	53	1	1	1	41	42-97	30-42	33-24	33-02	29-64	8	151	203	—	11-17
Panadura	6,709	8,256	12	11	23	8	13	1	1	1	9	32-89	29-20	12-87	15-32	21-46	1	43	56	—	—
<i>Central.</i>																					
Kandy	30,149	33,616	52	47	99	61	113	5	1	6	84	34-77	30-04	29-50	32-15	30-71	23	232	249	74-6	4-40
Gampola	5,521	7,839	9	10	19	21	34	2	2	2	21	28-62	34-46	31-63	32-82	29-83	7	368	395	—	3-65
Nawalapitiya	3,767	4,037	4	3	7	9	12	21	—	—	4	20-17	29-01	11-53	12-53	41-22	2	286	225	—	—
Hatton and Dikoya.	3,025	3,206	9	8	17	16	11	27	—	—	8	62-60	28-45	29-46	34-41	28-97	2	118	209	—	4-65
Matale	5,792	8,200	14	24	38	36	67	1	2	3	30	54-71	29-89	43-19	49-64	45-99	9	237	320	—	2-45
Nuwara Eliya	14,910	15,136	12	11	23	4	10	—	—	—	4	17-94	18-83	3-12	3-55	14-01	1	43	55	—	2-68
<i>Southern.</i>																					
Galle	39,936	42,725	51	42	93	54	119	4	4	8	96	25-70	28-63	26-53	25-97	28-90	19	204	178	78-2	12-16
Ambalangoda	—	4,718	4	5	9	5	14	1	1	2	14	22-52	—	35-03	—	—	1	111	102	—	—
Matara	13,851	17,804	21	30	51	32	52	1	1	1	36	33-82	44-48	23-87	23-38	28-73	10	196	257	—	3-95
Weligama	8,672	9,814	5	12	17	11	23	—	—	—	22	20-45	40-35	26-47	23-85	23-28	2	118	87	—	—
Hambantota	3,092	3,346	2	3	5	10	13	—	—	—	11	17-64	37-19	33-81	43-40	38-70	2	400	219	78-6	3-18
Tangalla	3,505	6,443	3	10	13	12	24	—	—	—	19	23-82	31-94	33-82	35-58	28-66	4	308	257	—	5-08
<i>Northern.</i>																					
Jaffna	40,441	47,694	56	56	111	82	152	—	—	—	145	27-48	28-88	35-89	36-67	33-76	37	333	325	77-2	3-99
Mannar	3,777	4,243	10	8	18	8	17	1	1	1	14	50-09	30-68	38-96	42-89	44-82	5	278	378	78-5	5-32
Mullaitivu	1,392	1,478	3	1	4	2	2	—	—	—	1	32-01	31-98	8-03	10-61	44-63	—	—	—	—	4-17
Vavuniya	808	1,126	1	1	2	3	6	—	—	—	6	20-96	25-89	62-89	85-40	63-21	—	—	—	—	4-32
<i>Eastern.</i>																					
Baticaloa	10,671	11,367	18	20	38	21	36	1	2	3	27	39-47	28-27	28-04	27-66	31-79	11	289	294	77-7	9-80
Kalmunai	—	2,146	5	3	8	4	6	—	—	—	1	44-01	46-41	5-50	—	—	—	—	—	—	10-21
Trincomalee	8,840	11,449	15	17	32	8	22	30	2	1	30	33-00	30-24	30-94	33-96	37-47	11	344	405	79-2	6-15
<i>North-Western.</i>																					
Kurunegala	8,167	10,164	23	24	47	56	104	1	4	5	42	54-60	34-74	48-79	50-12	42-74	18	383	662	77-3	2-75
Puttalam	5,990	6,939	16	16	32	25	39	1	1	2	37	54-45	32-97	62-95	67-34	51-87	8	250	361	77-2	5-15
Kalpitiya	1,691	1,703	3	1	4	3	6	—	—	—	6	27-73	45-12	41-60	—	—	4	—	727	—	—
Chilaw	5,033	6,393	9	10	19	18	37	—	—	—	23	35-09	35-03	42-47	40-72	37-75	6	316	412	—	3-52
<i>North-Central.</i>																					
Anuradhapura	5,361	7,643	14	11	25	57	41	98	1	4	68	38-62	26-77	105-04	128-71	62-62	13	520	667	76-1	3-84
<i>Uva.</i>																					
Badulla	6,487	7,429	14	15	29	27	49	1	1	2	33	46-09	41-60	52-44	57-86	43-31	11	379	488	70-6	5-91
Lunugala	515	643	2	—	2	25	15	40	—	—	4	36-74	34-68	73-47	—	—	2	—	—	—	10-87
<i>Sabaragamulla.</i>																					
Ratnapura	5,476	7,713	17	16	33	19	40	1	1	2	13	50-51	26-12	19-90	22-56	37-10	10	303	452	80-1	8-15
Kegalla	2,536	2,734	5	7	12	11	10	21	2	3	10	51-83	28-19	43-19	39-61	21-42	—	—	—	—	4-10

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 Includes population of the Negombo Local Board and registration area.
 d This increase of population is due partly to the extension of the town limits.
 e Estimated to the end of December, 1919, by natural increase method.
 f Standardized death-rates for Kalpitiya and Lunugala towns are 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, 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 December, 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 December, 1910 to 1919, in each Ward of the City of Colombo.

Wards.	Population (inclusive of the Military) at the Census of 1911.	Population Estimated to Middle of 1920 by Interannual 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 Dec., 1920.	Its proportion to 1000 births registered during Dec., 1920.	Its proportion per annum to 1000 births registered during the year ended last day of Dec., 1920.
														Average for Dec., 1910, to 1919.	December, 1920.	Average for Dec., 1910, to 1919.	December, 1920.				
City of Colombo ..	219,557	295,292	312	311	623	33	21	54	504	365	869	109	780	24.91	23.33	30.89	27.74	85.25	209	335	343
Fort and Galle Face	3,512	3,512†	1	—	1	—	—	4	1	5	4	1	1	3.36	3.89	3.36	6.76	—	1	—	—
Pettah ..	7,974	7,974†	1	1	2	—	—	4	—	4	—	—	4	2.96	4.01	5.92	9.55	—	1	—	369
San Sebastian ..	11,546	14,075	13	8	21	2	—	2	18	11	29	—	29	17.62	19.60	24.33	25.53	—	8	381	382
St. Paul's ..	24,735	29,799	30	25	55	2	—	2	45	27	72	—	72	21.79	16.54	28.53	23.43	—	22	400	555
Kotahena ..	40,771	49,143	66	80	146	3	2	5	59	55	114	—	114	35.08	22.45	27.39	25.98	—	44	301	379
New Bazaar ..	22,309	28,040	38	39	77	1	3	4	37	29	66	—	66	32.42	20.66	27.79	26.48	—	26	338	506
Maradana Hospitals			38	21	59	17	11	28	153	101	254	94	160	—	—	—	—	—	24	—	—
Maradana (exclusive of Hospitals) ..	48,093	73,894	57	57	114	4	2	6	84	74	158	1	157	18.21	19.04	25.08	24.91	—	50	439	439
Slave Island ..	21,984	28,078	22	30	52	1	2	3	35	28	63	—	63	21.87	22.42	26.49	20.40	—	18	346	371
Kollupitiya ..	25,410	42,092	12	20	32	1	—	1	17	21	38	8	30	8.98	12.02	8.41	11.93	—	6	188	184
Wellawatta ..	13,223	18,686	34	30	64	2	1	3	48	18	66	2	64	40.44	29.97§	40.44	28.71§	—	9	141	156

* 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 the "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 the months of December, 1912-1919.

Table IV.—Causes of Deaths registered during the Month of December, 1920, in each Ward and of each Race in the City of Colombo.

Causes of Death.	City of Colombo.	Wards.											Deaths among all Races.						
		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	869	5	4	29	72	114	66	254	158	63	38	66	6	88	436	198	136	26	29
I.—Infantile Mortality	209	1	1	8	22	44	26	24	50	18	6	9	1	11	101	49	33	9	5
A.—One Week and under.																			
1. Prematurity ..	6	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	3	—	1	3	1	—	—	1
2. Debility ..	16	—	—	—	2	5	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	7	8	1	—	—
3. Convulsions ..	18	—	—	1	4	4	3	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	6	5	7	—	—
4. Diarrhoea ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4a. Enteritis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Tetanus ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Bronchitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Other Causes ..	5*	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—
B.—Over 1 Week and under 1 Year.																			
1. Prematurity ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Debility ..	45	—	—	2	8	1	6	21	5	—	—	—	—	3	18	12	7	2	3
3. Convulsions ..	52	—	1	12	9	11	—	10	5	1	2	—	—	2	29	12	6	2	1
4. Diarrhoea ..	3	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	1	—
4a. Enteritis ..	15	1	—	—	4	1	3	3	3	—	—	—	—	2	9	—	1	—	—
5. Tetanus ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
6. Bronchitis ..	6	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	1	—
7. Pneumonia ..	17	—	—	1	1	8	3	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	10	3	2	1	1
8. Other Causes ..	24†	—	—	2	3	5	3	6	1	3	1	—	—	2	10	7	4	1	—
II.—General Mortality (1 Year and over)	660	4	3	21	50	70	40	230	108	45	32	57	5	27	335	149	103	17	24
1. Plague ..	65	—	—	3	9	1	—	6	5	7	1	33	—	1	12	26	20	—	6
2. Smallpox ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
3. Chickenpox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Measles ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Influenza ..	28	—	2	8	—	1	3	5	4	3	2	—	—	2	10	6	8	—	2
6. Pyrexia or Fever ..	4	—	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	—
7. Enteric Fever ..	20	—	—	2	5	1	9	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	13	2	2	1	1
8. Malaria ..	5	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—
9. Malarial Cachexia ..	4	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
10. Cholera ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. Diarrhoea ..	18	—	—	3	9	3	—	5	1	1	—	—	—	2	9	6	1	—	—
11a. Enteritis ..	31	—	—	—	3	1	16	5	2	2	2	—	—	1	20	5	3	1	—
12. Dysentery ..	24	—	—	2	3	—	12	1	1	5	—	—	—	1	13	7	—	—	3
13. Anchylostomiasis or Dochmius Duodenalis ..	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	1	—	—
14. Cancer ..	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	—
15. Phthisis ..	65	—	—	3	3	11	3	21	9	6	8	1	—	1	31	24	7	2	—
16. Other Tuberculous Diseases ..	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	1	—	—
17. Anæmia ..	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
18. Diabetes Mellitus ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
19. Convulsions ..	14	—	—	2	1	2	—	2	6	1	—	—	—	—	4	3	4	3	—
20. Tetanus ..	5	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	—
21. Bronchitis ..	12	—	—	4	—	2	3	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	4	3	4	—	—
22. Pneumonia ..	78	3	—	1	7	4	35	18	2	1	6	—	—	1	43	19	8	2	5
23. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System ..	9	—	—	—	1	2	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	2	—	—
24. Bright's Disease and Nephritis ..	29	—	—	1	2	1	3	16	3	1	1	—	—	1	19	6	3	—	—
25. Puerperal Eclampsia ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
26. Puerperal Septicæmia ..	8	—	—	1	—	—	1	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	1	—	—
27. Miscarriage ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28. Other undefined Accidents of Childbirth ..	6	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29. Starvation ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30. Accidents or Negligence ..	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	2	2	—	—
31. Homicide ..	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
32. Suicide ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
33. Execution ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
34. All Other Causes ..	187‡	—	1	8	9	22	15	62	45	13	7	5	3	13	106	23	32	8	2

* Two deaths from Cerebral Compression, and 1 each from Congenital Deformity, Syphilis, and Atelectasis.

† Four deaths from Influenza, 3 from Syphilis, 2 each from Thrush, Gastritis, Worms, and Scabies, and 1 each from Starvation, Rickets, Chorea, Dysentery, Continued Fever, Burns, Septicæmia, Sores, and Nephritis.

‡ Here are included 37 deaths from Old Age, 17 from Debility, 14 from Marasmus, 13 from Paralysis, 9 from Rickets, and 8 each from Worms and Peritonitis.