

SUPPLEMENT
TO THE
Ceylon Government Gazette

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**VITAL STATISTICS OF TOWNS IN CEYLON IN THE
MONTH OF JANUARY, 1921.**

.. 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 1,813 (945 males and 868 females), and was equivalent to an annual rate of 31·34 per 1,000, against 30·21 in the preceding month, 27·99 in the corresponding month of 1920, and 31·78 the average for the corresponding months since 1911. The rate ranged from 17·91 in Lunugala to 60·99 in Moratuwa.

3. In the city of Colombo the births registered numbered 626 (322 males and 304 females), and were equivalent to an annual rate of 24·15 per 1,000, against 24·91 in the preceding month, 22·51 in the corresponding month of 1920, and 26·63 the average for the corresponding months since 1911. The rate ranged from 12·46 in Kollupitiya to 36·99 in Wellawatta.

Deaths.

4. The total deaths registered during the month numbered 2,508 (1,393 males and 1,115 females). There were 1,937 deaths of residents in towns, equivalent to an annual standardized rate of 36·50 per 1,000, against 35·26 in the preceding month, 36·63 in the corresponding month of 1920, and 33·73 the average for the month of January in each year since 1911. The rate ranged from 156·30 in Anuradhapura to 11·53 in Nuwara Eliya.

5. In the city of Colombo the deaths numbered 851 (495 males and 356 females). There were 761 deaths of residents, equivalent to an annual standardized rate of 34·05 per 1,000, against 35·25 in the preceding month, 34·56 in the corresponding month of 1920, and 29·84 the average for the month of January in each year since 1911. Excluding the Fort and the Pettah Wards the rate ranged from 31·55 in New Bazaar to 10·34 in Kollupitiya.

6. The stillbirths registered numbered 109 (62 males and 47 females), as against 114 in the preceding month.

Infant Mortality.

7. The mortality of infants under one year of age was equal to a rate of 315 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ended January 31, 1921. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 280, against 291 in the preceding month, 254 in the corresponding month of 1920, and 273 the average for the corresponding months since 1911.

8. In the city of Colombo the mortality of infants was equal to a rate of 342 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ended January 31, 1921. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 337, against 335 in the preceding month, 226 in the corresponding month of 1920, and 269 the average for the corresponding months since 1911.

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* and *Enteritis* 7 per cent. each, *Dysentery*, *Diarrhoea*, *Malaria* and *Malarial Cachexia*, *Phthisis*, and *Anchylostomiasis* 5 per cent. each, *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis* 4 per cent., *Enteric Fever*, *Prematurity*, and *Influenza* 2 per cent. each, and *Bronchitis* and *Puerperal Septicæmia* 1 per cent. each.

10. In Colombo too the highest mortality was from *Pneumonia*, to which 12 per cent. of the deaths was due, *Debility* caused 10 per cent., *Phthisis* and *Convulsions* 9 per cent. each, *Plague* 6 per cent., *Enteritis* 5 per cent., *Influenza* and *Enteric Fever* 4 per cent. each, *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis*, *Dysentery*, and *Anchylostomiasis* 3 per cent. each, *Diarrhoea* 2 per cent., and *Bronchitis* and *Malaria* and *Malarial Cachexia* 1 per cent. each.

11. Fifty-five deaths from *Plague* were registered (in Colombo), as against 65 in the preceding month and 26 in the corresponding month of 1920. One death from *Smallpox* was also registered in Colombo.

12. *Infectious Diseases reported.*—The infectious disease most prevalent during the month was *Phthisis*, of which 183 cases were reported (172 in Colombo), *Chickenpox* followed with 118 cases (69 in Colombo, 17 in Kandy, 8 in Anuradhapura, 6 in Ratnapura), *Enteric Fever* 102 (68 in Colombo, 13 in Moratuwa), *Plague* 66 (in Colombo), *Measles* 45 (30 in Colombo, 8 in Ratnapura), *Continued Fever* 35 (24 in Colombo, 5 in Moratuwa), *Smallpox* 10 (in Colombo), *Dysentery* 8 (4 in Puttalam), *Diphtheria* 4 (in Colombo), and *Mumps* 2 (1 in Colombo and 1 in Kandy).

Meteorology.

13. *Rainfall.*—Trincomalee recorded the highest rainfall (24·52 inches), followed by Kalmunai (23·64 inches). In the other towns the rainfall ranged from 20·12 inches in Batticaloa to 2·83 in Matara. Colombo recorded 7·55 inches.

14. *Temperature.*—The mean temperature varied from 59·2° in Nuwara Eliya to 80·2° in Ratnapura, and was 79·8° 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, February 24, 1921.

N. W. MORGAPPAH,
for Registrar-General.

Table I.—Number of Births and Deaths registered during January, 1921, their Proportion per 1,000 of the Population per Annum, and the Stillbirths and 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 1911, 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 the 1921 by the method of Interannual Increase.	Total Births.			Total Deaths.			Total Stillbirths.			Deaths of Town Residents.	Birth-rate.		Death-rate excluding non-residents.				Mean Temperature per annum.	Rainfall in Inches.		
			Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.		Crude, January, 1921.	Standardized, January, 1921.	Average Death-rate for Jan. 1911-1920.	Number registered during Jan., 1921.	Its proportion to 1,000 births registered during the year ending the last day of Jan., 1921.					
All Towns	517,877	681,151	945,868	1,313	1,398	1,115	2,508	62	47	109	551	1,987	31.84	31.78	33.48	36.50	33.73	508	280	315	79.8	7.55
<i>Western.</i>																						
Colombo	219,557	305,249	322,304	626	495	356	851	35	18	53	89	761	24.15	26.63	29.35	34.05	29.84	211	337	342	79.8	7.55
Moratuwa	13,045	27,746	37,35	72	36	38	74	2	2	4	7	149	60.99	53.14	31.40	32.85	39.28	14	194	175	—	5.51
Negombo	27,256	31,852	85,80	165	74	82	156	3	1	4	14	46	51.91	40.96	55.08	60.74	45.95	44	267	369	—	—
Kalutara	13,005	14,742	34,31	65	36	26	62	1	1	2	4	31	39.75	25.42	36.74	36.50	29.84	19	292	484	—	4.99
Panadura	5,709	8,689	13,11	29	22	13	35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	207	—	—	—
<i>Central.</i>																						
Kandy	30,149	34,040	54,54	108	82	74	156	4	4	8	48	108	37.36	30.53	37.36	40.72	29.52	21	194	225	74.8	—
Gampola	5,521	8,139	10,9	19	11	8	19	1	1	1	8	11	27.49	32.90	15.91	16.51	38.31	—	—	—	11.14	—
Navalapitiya	3,767	4,134	7,8	15	11	16	27	—	—	—	20	7	42.73	34.39	19.94	21.68	31.61	2	133	—	13.06	—
Hatton and Dikoya.	3,025	3,225	2,4	6	11	12	23	—	—	—	18	5	21.90	26.15	18.25	21.32	25.34	1	167	212	—	6.66
Matale	5,792	8,329	18,10	23	33	28	61	—	—	—	32	29	39.68	34.10	40.99	47.11	42.57	7	250	106	—	6.45
Nuwara Eliya	14,910	15,142	13,17	30	10	6	16	—	—	—	3	13	23.33	15.04	10.11	11.53	9.28	6	200	320	—	7.04
<i>Southern.</i>																						
Galle	39,936	43,034	74,57	131	98	89	187	2	3	5	44	142	35.84	35.64	38.85	38.04	31.51	27	206	251	59.2	—
Ambalangoda	—	4,835	6,9	15	3	6	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	133	191	78.6	4.26
Matara	13,851	18,083	30,30	60	34	24	58	1	2	3	8	50	39.07	45.27	32.56	31.89	27.86	6	100	149	—	—
Weligama	8,672	9,945	10,19	29	7	13	20	—	—	—	—	20	34.33	42.00	23.68	21.33	18.78	3	103	180	—	2.83
Hambantota	3,092	3,374	3,7	10	10	7	17	—	—	—	5	12	34.89	33.71	41.87	46.82	37.19	5	500	508	—	—
Tangalla	3,505	6,711	9,6	15	7	9	16	—	—	—	3	11	26.32	37.37	19.30	19.73	26.69	1	67	65	—	4.15
<i>Northern.</i>																						
Jaffna	40,441	48,545	72,66	138	89	79	168	3	1	4	18	149	33.47	33.59	36.14	36.92	47.93	41	297	353	78.6	9.07
Mannar	3,777	4,296	8,7	15	7	6	13	—	—	—	4	9	41.11	37.76	24.67	27.16	49.08	6	400	450	—	4.80
Mullaitivu	1,392	1,869	2,1	3	2	4	6	—	—	—	—	6	18.90	32.72	37.80	50.11	45.99	1	333	226	—	18.90
Vavuniya	808	1,167	2,2	4	3	5	8	—	—	—	—	8	40.35	24.40	80.70	109.58	54.01	1	250	654	—	14.72
<i>Eastern.</i>																						
Baticaloa	10,671	11,444	13,9	22	19	14	33	1	3	4	4	29	22.63	28.22	29.84	29.42	31.74	10	455	273	78.4	20.12
Kalmunai	—	2,169	3,3	6	8	3	11	—	—	—	4	7	32.58	53.14	38.01	—	—	3	500	392	—	23.64
Trincomalee	8,840	11,771	14,8	22	18	10	28	—	—	—	—	28	22.01	27.67	28.01	30.74	38.22	7	318	253	—	24.52
<i>North-Western.</i>																						
Kurunegala	8,167	10,402	20,17	37	76	41	117	2	3	5	80	35	41.88	31.42	39.62	40.70	56.66	15	405	529	78.1	10.20
Patalain	5,990	7,049	14,14	28	20	16	36	1	1	2	5	31	46.77	37.58	51.78	55.38	47.74	10	357	446	—	7.12
Kalpitiya	1,591	1,715	2,4	6	1	4	5	—	—	—	—	5	41.20	35.42	34.33	—	—	2	333	386	—	5.84
Chilaw	5,033	6,515	10,18	28	16	15	31	—	—	—	5	25	50.61	36.51	45.18	43.31	47.47	4	143	259	—	3.49
<i>North-Central.</i>																						
Anuradhapura	5,361	7,938	13,7	20	72	43	115	2	—	—	29	86	29.66	24.95	127.56	156.30	69.46	19	950	924	77.1	15.90
<i>Uva.</i>																						
Badulla	6,487	7,498	11,10	21	24	18	42	1	1	2	27	15	32.97	43.29	23.55	25.99	38.64	4	190	176	71.3	13.46
Lunugala	515	657	—	1	26	23	49	—	—	—	49	—	17.91	56.53	—	—	—	1	1000	785	—	—
<i>Sabaragamulla.</i>																						
Ratnapura	5,476	8,191	23,9	32	20	15	35	—	—	—	23	12	47.78	32.76	17.92	20.31	39.99	4	125	178	80.2	13.02
Kegalla	2,536	2,756	6,1	7	12	12	24	2	1	3	10	14	29.91	31.41	59.82	54.86	25.83	5	714	540	—	6.23

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 partly to the extension of the town limits.
 e Estimated to the end of December, 1920, by annual increase method.
 f 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.
 g While the town of Kalpitiya 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 II.—Causes of Deaths registered during January, 1921, in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31–36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895—continued.

Table with columns for Causes of Deaths, All 88 Towns, Western Provinces (Colombo, Negombo, Moratuwa, Kalutara, Panadura), Central Provinces (Kandy, Gampola, Nawalapitiya, Hatton & Dikoya, Matale, Nuwara Eliya, Galle, Ambalangoda, Matare, Weligama, Hambantota, Tangalla, Jaffna, Mannar, Mullativu, Vavuniya, Batticaloa, Kalmonai, Trincomalee), Northern Provinces (Kurunegala, Puttalam, Kalpitiya, Chillaw, Anuradhapura), North-Western Provinces (Baddulla, Lunugala, Kegalla), Eastern Provinces (Sabaragamuwa), and Deaths among all Races (Europeans, Burghers, Sinhalese, Tamils, Moors, Malays, Others).

† Here are included 145 deaths from Semility, 96 from Debility, 87 from Intestinal Parasites, and 25 from Paralysis.

Table III.—Number of Births and Deaths registered during the Month of January, 1921, 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 January, 1911 to 1920, in each Ward of the City of Colombo.

Wards.	Population (inclusive of the Military) at the Census of 1911.	Population Estimated to Middle of 1921 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.*		Number registered during Jan., 1921.	Its proportion to 1000 births registered during Jan., 1921.	Its proportion to 1000 births registered during the year ended last day of Jan., 1921.					
													Average for Jan., 1911, to 1920.	January, 1921.				Average for Jan., 1911, to 1920.	Standardized Death-rate,† Jan., 1921.			
City of Colombo ..	219,557	305,249	322	304	626	35	18	53	495	856	851	90	761	24.15	26.63	29.35	25.98	34.05	211	337	342	
Fort and Galle Face	3,512	3,512†	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	1	1	—	1.70	3.35	9.76	—	—	—	—	
Pettah ..	7,974	7,974†	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	5	—	5	—	6.42	7.33	11.00	—	—	2	—	760
San Sebastian ..	11,546	14,377	9	9	18	—	3	3	8	16	24	—	24	14.74	22.31	19.66	32.08	—	—	8	444	375
St. Paul's ..	24,735	30,470	23	24	47	3	2	5	43	31	74	—	74	18.16	18.92	23.69	22.44	—	—	21	447	532
Kotshena ..	40,771	50,138	62	48	110	6	3	9	59	59	118	—	118	25.83	27.19	27.71	25.70	—	—	36	327	307
New Bazaar ..	22,309	28,735	40	30	70	1	1	2	44	33	77	—	77	28.68	25.43	31.55	26.59	—	—	22	314	411
Maradana Hospitals	48,093	77,371	26	32	58	17	7	24	162	79	241	78	163	—	—	—	—	—	—	29	—	—
Maradana (exclusive of Hospitals) ..	21,984	28,823	83	82	165	3	1	4	80	73	153	—	153	25.11	21.66	23.28	20.60	—	—	57	345	479
Slave Island ..	25,410	44,430	23	27	50	1	—	1	28	34	62	—	62	20.43	23.69	25.33	19.64	—	—	19	380	369
Kollupitiya ..	13,223	19,419	24	23	47	2	1	3	33	15	48	9	39	12.46	12.48	10.34	10.80	—	—	9	191	270
Wellawatte ..	—	—	32	29	61	2	—	2	31	16	47	2	45	36.99	37.46§	27.28	24.36§	—	—	8	131	135

* 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 1921. Hence the Census figures are retained.
 § Average for the months of January, 1913-1920.

Table IV.—Causes of Deaths registered during the Month of January, 1921, in each Ward and of each Race in the City of Colombo.

Causes of Death.	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.	Wellawatte.	Europeans.	Burghers.	Sinhalese.	Tamil.	Moors.	Malays.	Others.
All Causes	851	2	5	24	74	118	77	241	153	62	48	47	4	38	407	187	157	22	36
I.—Infantile Mortality	211		2	8	21	36	22	29	57	19	9	8		8	104	37	51	9	2
A.—One Week and under.																			
1. Prematurity	6							1		2	2	1			2	2	2		
2. Debility	22			3	4	3	1	5		1				1	9	7	5		
3. Convulsions	14			1	1	5	4		2			1			5	4	5		
4. Diarrhoea																			
4a. Enteritis																			
5. Tetanus																			
6. Bronchitis																			
7. Pneumonia																			
8. Other Causes	3*							2	1					3					
B.—Over 1 Week and under 1 Year.																			
1. Prematurity				1	4	10	3	1	15	4	1	2		3	20	5	12	1	
2. Debility	41				6	5	8		20	4	2			2	20	7	17	2	
3. Convulsions	48	1		2	2	1									4	2	1		1
4. Diarrhoea	7			1	2	2	1					1			4	1	2		1
4a. Enteritis	16				3	2		5	4	1	1			1	9	3	1	1	1
5. Tetanus	1								1						1				
6. Bronchitis	3							1	1		1				1			2	
7. Pneumonia	19	1			2	4	1	3	4	3		1		1	13	3	1	1	
8. Other Causes	31†				2	4	2	11	4	4	2	2			17	6	6	2	
II.—General Mortality (1 Year and over)	640	2	3	16	53	82	55	212	96	43	39	39	4	30	303	150	106	18	34
1. Plague	55		1	1	11	3	3	7	4	5	1	19			16	19	18		2
2. Smallpox	1											1			1				
3. Chickenpox																			
4. Measles																			
5. Influenza	29			1	8		4	5	6	2		3		1	14	9	4		1
6. Pyrexia or Fever	6								6						3	2	1		
7. Enteric Fever	32	1			4	5	2	14	3		3		1	6	19	2	4		
8. Malaria	5			1		1		3							1	2			
9. Malarial Cachexia	4							1	3						3				
10. Cholera																			
11. Diarrhoea	12					3	3	4	2					1	4	3	3		1
11a. Enteritis	26			1	1	5	2	12	2	2	1			2	9	8	6		1
12. Dysentery	20				3	3	2	4	3	1	4		1		9	10			
13. Anchylostomiasis or Doohmius						1		19	2					1	12	6	1		2
13. Duodenalis	22															2			
14. Cancer	2						1	1											
15. Phthisis	73	1		2	5	10	9	26	6	7	7			6	41	9	6	3	8
16. Other Tuberculous Diseases	3							1	1	1					2	1			
17. Anæmia	2								1			1			2				
18. Diabetes Mellitus	2	1				1									2				
19. Convulsions	11			1		1	1		4	2	1	1			6	1	4		
20. Tetanus	4				1			3							2		1		1
21. Bronchitis	7			1	2	2		2							3	2	1		1
22. Pneumonia	90	1	1	5	15	7	35	11	7	7	1	1	2	44	20	14	1	8	
23. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	5			1			2			1	1				4				1
24. Bright's Disease and Nephritis	22				1	4	1	14	2					1	11	7	1		2
25. Puerperal Eclampsia	2							2							1	1			
26. Puerperal Septicæmia	8				1			2	1	3	1				2	2	3	1	
27. Miscarriage																			
28. Other undefined Accidents of Childbirth	8					1	1		6						4	1	2	1	
29. Starvation																			
30. Accidents or Negligence	10					1		7	1			1			4	2			4
31. Homicide																			
32. Suicide	1								1						1				
33. Execution	1								1						1				
34. All Other Causes	177‡			6	11	26	19	48	30	13	13	11	1	10	82	38	37	7	2

* One death from Congenital Deformity, 1 from Atelectasis, and 1 from Influenza.

† Seven deaths from Syphilis, 4 from Rickets, 3 from Dysentery, 2 each from Nephritis, Thrush, Gastritis, Influenza, and Heart Disease, and 1 each from Septicæmia, Meningitis, Peritonitis, Diphtheria, Doohmius, Intestinal Obstruction, and Worms.

‡ Here are included 43 deaths from Old Age, 18 from Debility, 16 from Worms, 14 from Paralysis, and 12 from Rickets.