

SUPPLEMENT
TO THE
Ceylon Government Gazette

PART I.

No. 7,244 — FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1922.

**VITAL STATISTICS OF TOWNS IN CEYLON IN THE
MONTH OF DECEMBER, 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 1,786 (908 males and 878 females), and was equivalent to an annual rate of 36·39 per 1,000, against 41·73 in the preceding month, 30·21 in the corresponding month of 1920, and 28·32 the average for the corresponding months since 1911. The rate ranged from 20·69 in Kalpitiya to 62·09 in Weligama.

3. In the city of Colombo the births registered numbered 654 (340 males and 314 females), and were equivalent to an annual rate of 31·54 per 1,000, against 38·02 in the preceding month, 24·91 in the corresponding month of 1920, and 23·03 the average for the corresponding months since 1911. The rate, exclusive of the Fort and the Pettah Wards, ranged from 13·89 in Kollupitiya to 29·47 in Maradana.

Deaths.

4. The total deaths registered during the month numbered 1,987 (997 males and 990 females). There were 1,574 deaths of residents, equivalent to an annual standardized rate of 34·95 per 1,000, against 33·37 in the preceding month, 35·26 in the corresponding month of 1920, and 33·56 the average for the month of December in each year since 1911. The rate ranged from 85·29 in Anuradhapura to 5·53 in Nuwara Eliya.

5. In the city of Colombo the deaths numbered 693 (362 males and 331 females). There were 596 deaths of residents, equivalent to an annual standardized rate of 33·35 per 1,000, against 31·05 in the preceding month, 35·25 in the corresponding month of 1920, and 31·98 the average for the month of December in each year since 1911. The rate, exclusive of the Fort and the Pettah Wards, ranged from 30·77 in New Bazaar to 12·40 in Kollupitiya.

6. The stillbirths registered numbered 135 (70 males and 65 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 265 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ended December 31, 1921. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 277, against 225 in the preceding month, 291 in the corresponding month of 1920, and 301 the average for the corresponding months since 1911.

8. In the city of Colombo the mortality of infants was equal to a rate of 287 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ended December 31, 1921. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 324, against 216 in the preceding month, 335 in the corresponding month of 1920, and 328 the average for the corresponding months since 1911.

Causes of Death.

9. The highest mortality was from *Debility*, to which 10 per cent. of the total deaths was due, *Pneumonia* caused 9 per cent., *Convulsions* 7 per cent., *Malaria and Malarial Cachexia*, *Diarrhœa*, and *Phthisis* 6 per cent. each, *Enteritis*, *Bright's Disease and Nephritis*, and *Anchylostomiasis* 5 per cent. each, *Dysentery* 4 per cent., *Prematurity* 3 per cent., *Puerperal Septicæmia* and *Bronchitis* 2 per cent. each, and *Enteric Fever* and *Influenza* 1 per cent. each.

10. In Colombo too the highest mortality was from *Debility*, to which 12 per cent. of the deaths was due. *Pneumonia* and *Phthisis* caused 8 per cent. each, *Convulsions* 7 per cent., *Enteritis* 6 per cent., *Diarrhœa*, *Influenza*, and *Bright's Disease and Nephritis* 3 per cent. each, *Enteric Fever*, *Malaria and Malarial Cachexia*, *Dysentery*, *Bronchitis*, and *Puerperal Septicæmia* 2 per cent. each, and *Anchylostomiasis* and *Plague* 1 per cent. each.

11. Nine deaths from *Plague* were registered (in Colombo), as against 3 in the preceding month and 65 in the corresponding month of 1920.

12. *Infectious Diseases reported.*—The infectious disease most prevalent during the month was *Phthisis*, of which 84 cases were reported (75 in Colombo), *Chickenpox* followed with 46 cases (19 in Colombo, 12 in Kandy, 5 in Ratnapura), *Enteric Fever* 35 (27 in Colombo), *Continued Fever* 26 (19 in Colombo), *Dysentery* 19 (8 in Panadura, 5 in Kalutara, 5 in Puttalam), *Plague* 9 (in Colombo), *Measles* 8 (3 in Colombo, 3 in Kandy), *Mumps* 5 (in Kandy), *Diphtheria* 2 (in Colombo), *Whooping Cough* 1 (in Colombo), and *Smallpox* (modified) 1 (in Hambantota).

Meteorology.

13. *Rainfall.*—Trincomalee recorded the highest rainfall (29·75 in.), followed by Mullaitivu (20·32 in.). In the other towns the rainfall ranged from 17·76 in. in Batticaloa to 0·62 of an in. in Tangalla. Colombo recorded 3·96 inches.

14. *Temperature.*—The mean temperature varied from 58·5° in Nuwara Eliya to 80·5° 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 26, 1922.

G. F. FORREST,
Acting Registrar-General.

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

Wards.	Population (inclusive of the Military and Shipping) at the Census of March 18, 1921.	Total Births.			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, Dec., 1921.†	Number registered during Dec., 1921.	Its proportion to 1000 births registered during Dec., 1921.	Its proportion per annum to 1000 births registered during the year ended last day of Dec., 1921.		
												Average for Dec., 1911 to 1920.	December, 1921.					Average for Dec., 1911 to 1920.	
		Deaths of Non-residents.	Deaths of Residents.	Average for Dec., 1911 to 1920.	December, 1921.	Average for Dec., 1911 to 1920.													
City of Colombo ..	248,794	340	314	654	34	34	68	331	693	97	596	31.54	23.03	23.74	27.82	33.35	212	324	287
Fort and Galle Face	7,320	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pettah ..	7,601	1	1	2	1	—	1	—	8	—	8	3.10	3.99	12.39	8.28	—	1	500	346
San Sebastian ..	11,492	14	8	22	1	—	1	12	21	—	21	22.54	19.41	21.52	25.80	—	11	500	518
St. Paul's ..	23,395	24	16	40	3	—	3	31	60	—	60	20.13	16.72	30.20	23.44	—	20	500	478
Kotahena ..	46,184	50	37	87	—	5	5	51	105	—	105	22.19	23.75	26.78	26.27	—	36	414	302
New Bazaar ..	23,341	15	24	39	3	2	5	31	61	—	61	19.67	22.05	30.77	25.91	—	19	487	359
Maradana Hospitals	—	98	94	192	19	17	36	89	221	91	130	—	—	—	—	—	48	—	—
Maradana (exclusive of Hospitals) ..	57,526	72	72	144	2	5	7	53	97	3	94	29.47	18.15	19.24	24.10	—	37	257	239
Slave Island ..	21,570	25	20	45	4	4	8	29	54	—	54	24.57	21.20	29.48	20.77	—	20	444	418
Kollupitiya ..	23,739	10	18	28	1	—	1	9	28	3	25	13.89	10.77	12.40	10.96	—	10	357	309
Wellawatte ..	26,626	31	24	55	—	1	1	16	37	—	37	24.32	31.13†	16.36	30.02†	—	10	182	166

The birth- and death-rates for December, 1921, shown in this Table have been calculated on the Census population on March 18, 1921.

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

† Standardized death-rates for the wards of the city are not available.

‡ Average for the months of December, 1912-1920.

