

# SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

# Ceylon Government Gazette

## PART I.

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### VITAL STATISTICS OF TOWNS IN CEYLON IN THE MONTH OF APRIL, 1924.

#### 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.

##### Marriages.

2. The marriages of residents in proclaimed towns numbered 194 (174 General, 4 Kandyan, and 16 Muhammadan), as against 378 in the preceding month and 201 in the corresponding month of last year. In Colombo the number of marriages was 72 (64 General and 8 Muhammadan), as against 137 in the preceding month and 85 in the corresponding month of last year.

##### Births.

3. The births registered numbered 1,503 (749 males and 754 females), and were equivalent to an annual rate of 29·72 per 1,000 of the population, as against 30·31 in the previous month, 30·24 in the corresponding month of last year, and 27·86 the average for the corresponding months since 1914. The rate ranged from 4·11 in Hatton-Dikoya to 57·96 in Nawalapitiya.

4. In the city of Colombo the births registered numbered 535 (265 males and 270 females), and were equal to an annual rate of 25·78 per 1,000, as against 26·39 in the preceding month, 26·72 in the corresponding month of last year, and 22·82 the average for the corresponding months since 1914. The rate, exclusive of the Fort and the Pettah Wards, ranged from 11·26 in San Sebastian to 31·49 in Maradana East.

##### Deaths.

5. The total deaths registered during the month numbered 1,528 (793 males and 735 females). There were 1,250 deaths of residents in the towns, equivalent to an annual standardized rate of 26·73 per 1,000, as against 29·53 in the preceding month, 32·77 in the corresponding month of last year, and 27·43 the average for the month of April in each year since 1914. The rate ranged from 145·31 in Vavuniya to 7·33 in Weligama.

6. In the city of Colombo the deaths registered numbered 570 (297 males and 273 females). There were 493 deaths of town residents, which corresponded to an annual standardized rate of 27·35 per 1,000, as against 29·31 in the preceding month, 34·18 in the corresponding month of last year, and 25·20 the average for the month of April in each year since 1914. The rate, exclusive of the Fort and the Pettah Wards, ranged from 22·45 in Maradana North to 9·91 in Kollupitiya.

7. The stillbirths registered during the month numbered 102 (50 males and 52 females), as against 117 in the preceding month.

##### Infant Mortality.

8. The deaths of children under one year amounted to 318 and corresponded to a rate of 202 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ended April, 1924. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 212, as against 226 in the preceding month, 265 in the corresponding month of last year, and 228 the average for the corresponding months in each year since 1914.

9. In the city of Colombo the deaths of children under one year numbered 112 and corresponded to a rate of 199 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ended April, 1924. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 209, as against 247 in the preceding month, 278 in the corresponding month of last year, and 247 the average for the corresponding months since 1914.

##### Causes of Death.

10. The highest mortality was from *Pneumonia*, to which 16 per cent. of the total deaths were due, *Convulsions* caused 8 per cent. of the deaths, *Debility* (of children under one year) and *Phthisis*, each 6 per cent., *Malaria* and *Malarial Cachexia*, *Dysentery*, and *Diarrhoea*, each 4 per cent., *Enteritis*, *Anchylostomiasis*, *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis*, and *Prematurity*, each 3 per cent., *Puerperal Septicæmia*, *Enteric Fever*, *Influenza*, and *Plague*, each 2 per cent., and *Bronchitis*, *Tetanus*, and *Cancer* 1 per cent. each.

11. In Colombo, too, the highest mortality was from *Pneumonia*, which caused 15 per cent. of the total deaths. *Phthisis* caused 10 per cent. of the deaths, *Convulsions* 8 per cent., *Debility* (of children under one year) 6 per cent., *Enteritis* and *Plague*, each 4 per cent., *Enteric Fever*, and *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis*, each 3 per cent., *Bronchitis*, *Influenza*, *Dysentery*, *Anchylostomiasis*, and *Puerperal Septicæmia*, each 2 per cent., and *Diarrhoea*, *Malaria*, *Cancer*, *Anæmia*, and *Prematurity*, each 1 per cent.

12. Twenty-three deaths from *Plague* (18 males and 5 females) were registered in Colombo, as against 9 in the preceding month and 11 in the corresponding month of last year.

13. *Infectious Diseases reported.*—The infectious disease most prevalent during the month was *Phthisis*, of which 105 cases were reported (95 in Colombo, 4 in Galle); *Measles* followed with 97 cases (94 in Colombo), *Chickenpox* 84 (70 in Colombo, 3 each in Galle and Jaffna), *Enteric Fever* 61 (30 in Colombo, 19 in Galle), *Continued Fever* 33 (24 in Colombo, 5 in Galle), *Plague* 24 (23 in Colombo and 1 in Kandy), *Mumps* 4 (in Colombo), *Whooping Cough* 4 (3 in Badulla and 1 in Colombo), *Smallpox* 2 (in Colombo), *Diphtheria* 2 (in Colombo), and *Acute Diarrhoea* 1 (in Colombo).

##### Meteorology.

14. *Rainfall.*—Kalutara recorded the highest rainfall (13·11 in.). In the other towns the rainfall ranged from 10·90 in Ratnapura to 0·25 in. in Jaffna. Colombo recorded 8·92 in.

15. *Mean Temperature.*—The mean temperature varied from 86·5° in Jaffna to 61·2° in Nuwara Eliya, and was 82·6° in Colombo.

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



Table II.—Causes of Deaths by Sex registered during April, 1924, in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31-36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895.

Causes of Deaths.	All 38 Towns.			Western Province.			Central Province.			Southern Province.		
	M	F	Total	M	F	M	M	F	M	M	F	M
All Causes	793	735	1,528	297	278	23	21	27	32	19	13	7
All Infantile Mortality	168	150	318	55	57	6	5	13	15	3	3	2
A.—One Week and under.												
1. Prematurity	26	12	38	6	2	—	—	8	3	—	—	2
2. Debility	17	17	34	2	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
3. Convulsions	17	10	27	5	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
4. Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4a. Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Tetanus	2	4	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Other Causes	1*	1†	2†	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B.—Over 1 Week and under 1 Year.												
1. Prematurity	3	2	5	—	—	—	—	16	4	—	—	3
2. Debility	28	37	65	9	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
3. Convulsions	27	24	51	9	11	2	—	1	1	—	—	1
4. Diarrhoea	4	5	9	1	—	2	—	5	—	—	—	—
4a. Enteritis	7	6	13	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Tetanus	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Bronchitis	2	5	7	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Pneumonia	16	16	32	8	1	3	—	—	3	1	—	1
8. Other Causes	17‡	10§	27	10	4	—	—	—	—	2	1	—

\* From Dilatation of Heart (in Colombo).

† From Ankylostomiasis (in Colombo).

‡ Besides 10 cases mentioned in Table IV, footnote †, 1 death from Worms (in Kalutara); 2 from Influenza and 1 from Ulcers (in Galle); and 3 from Malaria (1 each in Mannar, Mullaitivu, and Putalam).

§ Besides 4 cases mentioned in Table IV, footnote §, 2 deaths from Worms (in Moratuwa); 1 from Accidental Fall (in Kalutara); 1 from Syphilis (1 each in Kandy and Badulla); and 1 from Dyentery (in Newalepitiya).

Table II.—Causes of Deaths by Sex registered during April, 1924, in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31–36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895—*continued*.

Causes of Deaths.	Northern Province.	Eastern Province.	North-Western Province.	North-Central Province.	Province of Uva.	Provinces of Sabaragamuwa.	Deaths among all Races.						
							M	F	M	F	M	F	M
All Causes ..	53	51	9	11	7	6	16	6	23	17	5	11	24
I.—Infantile Mortality ..	15	15	2	4	1	—	2	—	9	5	1	1	8
A.—One Week and under.													
1. Prematurity ..	4	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Debility ..	..	2	3	..	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—
3. Convulsions ..	..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—
4. Diarrhoea ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4a. Enteritis ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Tetanus ..	..	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Bronchitis ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Pneumonia ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Other Causes ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B.—Over 1 Week and under 1 Year.													
1. Prematurity ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Debility ..	..	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
3. Convulsions ..	..	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
4. Diarrhoea ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4a. Enteritis ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Tetanus ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Bronchitis ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Pneumonia ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Other Causes ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

( 4 )

Table II.—Causes of Deaths by Sex registered during April, 1924, 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 Province.			Southern Province.		
	M	F	Total.	M	F	M	M	F	M	M	F	M
<b>II.—General Mortality (1 Year and over)</b>												
1. Plague	..	585	1,210	242	16	14	5	10	36	8	38	2
2. Smallpox	..	..	..	23	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Chickenpox	..	..	..	—	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Measles	..	..	..	—	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Influenza	..	..	..	13	24	6	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. Pyrexia or Fever	..	..	..	11	4	6	1	1	1	1	2	1
7. Enteric Fever	..	..	..	14	27	8	9	1	1	1	2	1
8. Malaria	..	..	..	13	26	20	46	5	3	4	1	1
9. Malarial Cachexia	..	..	..	11	11	22	—	—	1	1	1	1
10. Cholera	..	..	..	—	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11. Diarrhoea	..	..	..	27	28	55	4	3	1	2	1	1
11a. Enteritis	..	..	..	18	19	37	6	10	2	1	1	1
12. Dysentery	..	..	..	36	26	62	6	5	1	1	2	1
13. Ankylostomiasis or Dochmiasis	..	..	..	—	—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
14. Cancer	..	..	..	19	31	50	4	6	1	1	2	1
15. Phthisis	..	..	..	44	50	94	14	5	3	2	1	1
16. Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	..	5	2	7	2	1	1	1	2	1
17. Anæmia	..	..	..	1	6	7	1	5	..	..	..	..
18. Diabetes Mellitus	..	..	..	4	2	6	1	1	1	1	1	1
19. Convulsions	..	..	..	16	34	50	7	10	1	2	1	1
20. Tetanus	..	..	..	7	2	9	3	2	1	1	2	1
21. Bronchitis	..	..	..	10	4	14	5	3	1	1	1	1
22. Pneumonia	..	..	..	118	89	207	38	36	1	2	7	2
23. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2
24. Bright's Disease and Nephritis	..	..	..	13	4	17	5	2	—	—	1	1
25. Puerperal Endampsia	..	..	..	29	16	45	11	5	2	2	1	2
26. Puerperal Septicæmia	..	..	..	—	9	—	4	—	1	1	1	1
27. Miscarriage	..	..	..	—	33	33	—	10	—	1	1	1
28. Other undefined Accidents of Childbirth	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
29. Starvation	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30. Accidents and Negligence	..	..	..	19	5	24	7	1	1	1	1	1
31. Homicide	..	..	..	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
32. Suicide	..	..	..	—	1	4	1	—	—	—	—	—
33. Execution	..	..	..	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
34. All Other Causes	..	..	..	146†	161*	307	68	53	8	8	10	8

\* Here are included 36 deaths from Senility, 7 from Debility, 18 from Worms, and 6 from Paralysis.

† Here are included 53 deaths from Senility, 18 from Debility, 19 from Worms, and 4 from Paralysis.



Table III.—Number of Births and Deaths registered during the Month of April, 1924, 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 the corresponding Months of 1922 and 1923, in each Sanitary Ward of the City of Colombo.

Wards.	Population (exclusive of the Military and Shipping) at the Census of April, 1921.	Population estimated to the middle of 1924 by Inter-censal Increase.	Total Births.		Stillbirths.		Total Deaths including Deaths in Hospitals and Jails.		Deaths of Non-residents.		Deaths of Residents.		Mortality of Children under one Year.		
			Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	April, 1924.	Average for April, 1922-23.	
City of Colombo ..	244,163	253,224	265	270	535	20	40	297	273	570	77	493	25·78	28·75	
Fort and Galle Face	2,690	2,790	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	15·48	
Pettah	.. 7,601	7,883	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	5	—	3 93	9·74	7·82	
St. Paul's ..	23,395	24,264	15	18	33	—	1	21	22	43	—	43	16·59	17·33	
San Sebastian ..	11,492	11,918	7	4	11	1	—	1	10	20	—	20	11·26	15·06	
Kotahena North ..	18,683	19,378	11	12	23	2	—	2	16	17	—	33	14·48	21·37	
Kotahena South ..	27,488	28,509	34	30	64	—	2	2	20	24	—	44	27·39	20·77	
New Bazaar ..	23,341	24,207	17	22	39	—	1	1	19	19	—	38	19·66	20·70	
Maradana Hospitals ..	—	—	80	65	145	12	11	23	96	83	179	71	108	—	
Maradana North ..	30,404	31,527	31	26	57	—	1	1	30	28	58	—	58	22·06	23·53
Maradana East ..	8,593	8,912	14	9	23	1	—	1	10	6	16	—	16	31·49	23·60
Maradana South (exclusive of Hospitals) ..	18,531	19,219	10	15	25	—	—	—	21	14	35	—	35	15·87	19·32
Slave Island ..	21,564	22,365	11	27	38	2	1	3	14	24	38	—	38	20·73	20·73
Kollupitiya ..	23,752	24,635	12	17	29	—	1	1	12	10	22	2	20	14·36	13·57
Wellawatta North ..	15,816	16,403	12	11	23	2	4	4	16	9	25	3	22	17·11	21·13
Wellawatta South ..	10,813	11,214	11	14	25	—	—	—	6	7	13	—	13	27·20	23·17

\* 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.

Table IV.—Causes of Deaths by Sex registered during the Month of April, 1924, in each Ward, and of each Race in the City of Colombo.

Causes of Death.			City of Colombo.			Wards.											
						Port and Galle Face.		Pettah.		St. Paul's.		San Sebastian.		Kotahena North.		Kotahena South.	
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
All Causes	297	273	570	1	—	5	—	21	22	10	10	16	17	20	24		
I.—Infantile Mortality	55	57	112							8	3	3	6	5	3	7	
A.—One Week and under.																	
1. Prematurity	6	—	6											1	—		
2. Debility	2	6	8										1	1	2	1	1
3. Convulsions	5	3	8										1	1	1	1	1
4. Diarrhoea	—	—	—														
4a. Enteritis	—	—	—														
5. Tetanus	—	—	—														
6. Bronchitis	—	—	—														
7. Pneumonia	—	—	—														
8. Other Causes	1*	1†	2														
B.—Over 1 Week and under 1 Year.																	
1. Prematurity	—	—	—														
2. Debility	9	16	25							1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2
3. Convulsions	9	11	20							2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
4. Diarrhoea	1	—	1										2	—	—	1	1
4a. Enteritis	5	4	9										1	1	1	1	1
5. Tetanus	2	4	6										1	1	1	1	1
6. Bronchitis	—	—	—										1	1	1	1	1
7. Pneumonia	5	8	13										1	1	1	1	1
8. Other Causes	10‡	4§	14										1	1	1	1	1
II.—General Mortality (1 Year and Over)	242	216	458	1	—	5	—	21	19	7	7	10	12	17	17		
1. Plague	18	5	23			2	—	2	1	—	1	2	1	1	2		
2. Smallpox	—	—	—														
3. Chickenpox	—	—	—														
4. Measles	—	2	2														
5. Influenza	8	6	14							1	1	3	—	1	1	1	1
6. Pyrexia or Fever	1	1	2														
7. Enteric Fever	8	9	17														
8. Malaria	5	3	8														
9. Malarial Cachexia	—	—	—														
10. Cholera	—	—	—														
11. Diarrhoea	4	3	7							1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
11a. Enteritis	6	10	16							1	1	1	2	1	1	1	3
12. Dysentery	6	5	11							1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
13. Anchylostomiasis or Dochmias Duo-denalis	4	6	10							1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14. Cancer	5	3	8							5	2	1	1	1	2	—	3
15. Phthisis	28	29	57														
16. Other Tuberculous Diseases	2	—	2														
17. Anaemia	1	5	6														
18. Diabetes Mellitus	1	1	2														
19. Convulsions	7	10	17														
20. Tetanus	3	2	5														
21. Bronchitis	5	3	8														
22. Pneumonia	38	36	74							1	1	4	1	1	4	3	3
23. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	5	2	7														
24. Bright's Disease and Nephritis	11	5	16							1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
25. Puerperal Eclampsia	—	4	4							3	—	1	1	1	1	1	1
26. Puerperal Septicæmia	—	10	10														
27. Miscarriage	—	—	—														
28. Other undefined Accidents of Childbirth	—	2	2														
29. Starvation	—	—	—														
30. Accidents and Negligence	7	1	8														
31. Homicide	—	—	—														
32. Suicide	—	—	—														
33. Execution	—	—	—														
34. All Other Causes	68	53¶	121	1	—	2	—	6	2	—	1	1	1	1	9	3	

\* From Dilatation of heart.

† From Anchylostomiasis.

‡ Four deaths from Influenza, and 1 each from Syphilis Cerebral Compression, Heart Disease, Meningitis; Nephritis, and Peritonitis.

§ Two deaths from Syphilis, and 1 each from Laryngitis and Pyæmia.

¶ Here are included 10 deaths from Old Age, 5 each from Marasmus, Rickets, Heart Disease, and Cirrhosis of Liver and 4 each from Paralysis and Peritonitis.

|| Here are included 18 deaths from Old Age, 8 from Debility, 3 each from Heart Disease and Worms.

Table IV.—Causes of Deaths by Sex registered during the Month of April, 1924, in each Ward, and of each Race in the City of Colombo—continued.

