

SUPPLEMENT TO THE CEYLON GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

No. 7,630 — FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1928.

VITAL STATISTICS OF TOWNS IN CEYLON IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1927.

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 404 (326 General, 3 Kandyan, and 75 Muslim), as against 479 in the preceding month and 445 in the corresponding month of the previous year. In Colombo the number of marriages was 170 (124 General and 46 Muslim), as against 198 in the preceding month and 173 in the corresponding month of the previous year.

Births.

3. The births registered numbered 2,068 (1,043 males and 1,025 females), and were equivalent to an annual rate of 38·27 per 1,000 of the population, as against 37·78 in the preceding month, 37·74 in the corresponding month of the previous year, and 31·78 the average for the corresponding months since 1917. The rate exclusive of the town of Lunugala, where no births were registered, ranged from 21·98 in Mannar to 91·05 in Nawalapitiya. There were 1,828 births of children whose mothers were residents of the towns, equivalent to an annual rate of 33·82, as against 33·94 in the preceding month and 33·78 in the corresponding month of the previous year.

4. In the city of Colombo the births registered numbered 821 (426 males and 395 females), and were equivalent to an annual rate of 36·92, as against 34·67 in the preceding month, 38·38 in the corresponding month of the previous year, and 28·36 the average for the corresponding months since 1917. The rate, exclusive of the Fort and Pettah Wards, ranged from 12·48 in Kollupitiya to 35·78 in Maradana East. There were 697 births of children whose mothers were residents of the city, equivalent to an annual rate of 31·35, as against 29·42 in the preceding month, and 32·70 in the corresponding month of the previous year.

Deaths.

5. The total deaths registered during the month numbered 1,948 (1,043 males and 905 females), and were equivalent to an annual rate of 36·04, as against 30·65 in the preceding month, and 30·21 in the corresponding month of the previous year. There were 1,434 deaths of residents of the towns, equivalent to an annual standardized rate of 28·70, as against 24·69 in the preceding month, 25·17 in the corresponding month of the previous year, and 32·39 the average for the corresponding months since 1917. The standardized death rate ranged from 68·02 in Kalimunai to 13·42 in Vavuniya.

6. In the city of Colombo the deaths registered numbered 710 (389 males and 321 females), and were equivalent to an annual rate of 31·93, as against 24·50 in the preceding month, and 27·74 in the corresponding month of the previous year. There were 532 deaths of residents of the city, which corresponded to an annual standardized rate of 27·55, as against 21·19 in the preceding month, 25·24 in the corresponding month of the previous year, and 32·40 the average for the corresponding months since 1917. The death rate of residents, exclusive of the Fort and Pettah Wards, ranged from 23·05 in New Bazaar to 12·02 in Kollupitiya.

7. The stillbirths registered during the month numbered 199 (104 males and 95 females), as against 148 in the preceding month.

Infant Mortality.

8. The deaths of children under one year amounted to 421, and corresponded to a rate of 228 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ended December, 1927. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only, the rate was 204, as against 196 in the preceding month, 185 in the corresponding month of the previous year, and 271 the average for the corresponding months since 1917. There were 371 deaths of children under one year whose mothers were residents of the towns, which corresponded to a rate of 203, as against 199 in the preceding month and 192 in the corresponding month of the previous year.

9. In the city of Colombo the deaths of children under one year amounted to 171, and corresponded to a rate of 237 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ended December, 1927. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only, the rate was 208, as against 154 in the preceding month, 186 in the corresponding month of the previous year, and 232 the average for the corresponding months since 1917. There were 144 deaths of children under one year, whose mothers were residents of the city, which corresponded to a rate of 207, as against 160 in the preceding month and 199 in the corresponding month of the previous year.

Causes of Death.

10. The highest mortality was from *Pneumonia*, to which 15 per cent. of the total deaths were due. *Debility* (of children under one year) caused 8 per cent.; *Convulsions*, 7 per cent.; *Phthisis*, 6 per cent.; *Diarrhoea* and *Malaria* and *Malarial Cachexia*, each 5 per cent.; *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis*, 4 per cent.; *Dysentery*, *Enteritis*, *Prematurity*, *Anchylostomiasis*, and *Worms*, each 3 per cent.; *Accidents*, *Influenza*, *Puerperal Septicaemia*, and *Heart Disease*, each 2 per cent.; *Enteric Fever*, *Bronchitis*, *Tetanus*, and *Paralysis*, each 1 per cent.

11. In Colombo, too, the highest mortality was from *Pneumonia*, to which 17 per cent. of the total deaths were due. *Debility* (of children under one year) and *Phthisis*, each caused 8 per cent.; *Convulsions*, 6 per cent.; *Bright's Disease* and *Nephritis*, 4 per cent.; *Influenza*, *Enteritis*, *Accidents*, *Prematurity*, *Diarrhoea*, and *Heart Disease*, each 3 per cent.; *Puerperal Septicaemia*, *Malaria* and *Malarial Cachexia*, and *Bronchitis*, each 2 per cent.; *Dysentery*, *Cancer*, *Enteric Fever*, *Worms*, and *Paralysis*, each 1 per cent.

12. Nine deaths (8 males and 1 female) from *Plague* were registered in Kandy, as against 8 in the previous month. There have been no deaths from *Plague* registered in Colombo since October last.

13. *Infectious Diseases reported*.—The infectious disease most prevalent during the month was *Chickenpox*, of which 101 cases were reported (55 in Colombo, 11 in Jaffna); *Phthisis* followed with 89 (64 in Colombo, 5 each in Galle and Kurunegala); *Enteric Fever* 23 (12 in Colombo, 6 in Moratuwa); *Continued Fever* 18 (12 in Colombo, 4 in Kandy); *Measles* 17 (11 in Colombo, 3 in Galle); *Plague* 10 (8 in Kandy, and 2 in Colombo); *Diphtheria* 5 (4 in Colombo); *Dysentery* 4 (2 in Moratuwa); *Whooping Cough* 3 (2 in Colombo); *Diarrhoea* 2 (in Moratuwa); *Mumps* 1 (in Colombo); and *Smallpox* 1 (in Colombo).

Meteorology.

14. *Rainfall*.—Batticaloa recorded the highest rainfall (21·82 in.). In the other towns the rainfall ranged from 18·54 in. in Kalmunai to 0·91 in. in Negombo. Colombo recorded 3·63 in.

15. *Mean Temperature*.—The mean temperature varied from 81·2° in Ratnapura to 59·3° in Nuwara Eliya, and was 80·4° in Colombo.

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

Registrar-General's Office,
Colombo, January 30, 1928.

C. COOMARASWAMY.
Registrar-General.

Table II.—Births, Deaths, and Infant Mortality of Residents with their Corresponding Rates for December, 1927.

Provinces and Towns.	Births.*			Birth Rate, December, 1927.	Deaths.			Death Rate (Standardized).	Infant Mortality.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.		Males.	Females.	Persons.		Average for December, 1917-1926.	Number registered during December, 1927. †	
All 33 Towns	916	912	1,828	33·82	759	675	1,434	28·79	32·39	371	208
<i>Western.</i>											
Colombo	358	339	697	31·35	285	247	532	27·55	32·40	144	207
Negombo	36	43	79	32·15	22	24	46	19·16	30·75	6	78
Moratuwa	45	52	97	25·66	51	48	99	26·68	40·10	17	175
Kalutara	20	24	44	37·06	16	15	31	25·97	30·12	5	114
Panadure	18	12	30	30·52	6	15	21	22·74	25·23	2	67
<i>Central.</i>											
Kandy	55	64	119	40·81	57	46	103	38·88	30·73	23	193
Gampola	14	14	28	49·41	10	7	17	31·01	22·17	9	321
Nawalapitiya	7	13	20	62·79	4	7	11	37·50	35·62	3	150
Hatton-Dikoya	4	4	8	31·47	4	1	5	23·13	36·60	1	125
Matale	10	15	25	32·62	9	10	19	26·47	39·71	5	200
Nuwara Eliya	16	8	24	34·22	6	4	10	15·74	17·85	5	208
<i>Southern.</i>											
Galle	65	54	119	35·36	45	41	86	25·00	27·11	24	202
Ambalangoda	8	11	19	56·17	3	3	6	17·63	—‡	1	53
Matara	33	27	60	41·29	22	15	37	24·99	26·70	11	183
Weligama	18	16	34	42·65	5	10	15	18·67	23·36	2	59
Hambantota	9	11	20	78·51	4	6	10	39·01	44·97	5	250
Tangalla	9	12	21	49·41	8	4	12	28·02	25·16	7	333
<i>Northern.</i>											
Jaffna	53	61	114	30·69	41	49	90	25·10	31·78	23	202
Mannar	3	2	5	15·70	6	6	12	38·42	33·39	4	800
Mullaithivu	2	2	4	28·02	3	1	4	29·19	35·04	—	500
Vavuniya	1	1	2	22·94	1	—	1	13·42	61·70	1	—
<i>Eastern.</i>											
Batticaloa	23	14	37	40·28	18	4	22	24·96	32·76	7	189
Kalmunai	4	5	9	40·51	7	8	15	68·02	—‡	4	444
Trincomalee	12	17	29	34·86	16	14	30	37·72	37·41	7	241
<i>North-Western.</i>											
Kurunegala	20	16	36	37·26	25	25	50	60·13	37·90	14	389
Puttalam	13	14	27	42·11	12	19	31	52·43	54·49	11	407
Kalpitiya	2	5	7	50·92	3	1	4	33·42	—‡	—	320
Chilaw	7	18	25	39·15	12	15	27	48·69	42·23	8	—
<i>North-Central.</i>											
Anuradhapura	15	11	26	31·13	25	12	37	53·03	71·46	8	308
<i>Uva.</i>											
Badulla	18	12	30	38·98	12	6	18	23·86	46·68	3	100
Lunugala	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24·90	—‡	—	—
<i>Sabaragamuwa.</i>											
Ratnapura	12	12	24	36·93	15	8	23	38·50	24·65	7	292
Kegalla	6	3	9	27·63	6	4	10	34·37	25·86	4	444

* Births of infants whose mothers were residents of the towns.

† Deaths of children under 1 year whose mothers were residents of the towns.

‡ Not available.

Table III.—Causes of Deaths by Sex registered during December, 1927, in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31–36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895.

		Western Province.		Central Province.		Southern Provinces.	
Causes of Death.		All 33 Towns.		Hambantota.		Wellawama.	
		M	F	Total.	M	F	M
All Causes	..	1,943	905	1,948	389	29	27
I.—Infantile Mortality	..	240	181	421	105	66	2
A.—One Week and under.							
1. Prematurity	..	21	23	44	10	1	1
2. Debility	..	50	26	76	24	6	2
3. Convulsions	..	17	8	25	3	3	1
4. Tetanus	..	3	1	4	2	1	1
5. Bronchitis	..	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Pneumonia	..	—	—	1	—	—	—
7. Other causes	..	6*	3†	9	6	—	—
B.—Over 1 Week and under 1 Year.							
1. Prematurity	..	8	4	12	2	—	—
2. Debility	..	37	40	77	15	1	1
3. Convulsions	..	43	26	68	17	6	2
4. Diarrhoea	..	2	4	6	1	1	1
5. Enteritis	..	5	10	15	3	2	1
6. Tetanus	..	2	3	5	1	—	—
7. Bronchitis	..	3	2	5	—	—	—
8. Pneumonia	..	19	20	39	8	9	1
9. Syphilis	..	2	—	2	—	—	—
10. Other Causes	..	21‡	12§	33	14	5	—

* One death each from Intestinal Obstruction, Cerebral Haemorrhage, Asphyxia, Delayed Labour, and 2 from Maternal Joxæmia (in Colombo).

† Besides 1 death mentioned in Table V., footnote †, 1 each from Pulmonary Congestion (in Moratuwa) and Cerebral Haemorrhage (in Hambantota.)

‡ Besides 14 deaths mentioned in Table V., footnote ‡, 1 each from Aphtous Stomatitis (in Moratuwa), Heart-failure (in Nuwara Eliya), Thrush (in Hambantota), Burns (in Jaffna), Malaria (in Kurungala), Vermes and Influenza (in Ratnapura).

§ Besides 5 deaths mentioned in Table V., footnote § 1 each from Influenza (in Kandy), Septicæmia (in Kalutara), Malarial Fever (in Metale), Dysentery (in Mannar), Helminthiasis (in Kurungala), Worms (in Puttalam), and Malarial Fever (in Badulla).

Table III.—Causes of Deaths by Sex registered during December, 1927, in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31–36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1896—continued.

Causes of Death.		Northern Province.		Eastern Province.		North-Western Province.		Province of Uva.		Province of Sabaragamuwa.		Deaths among all Races.		Deaths among all Races.		
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
All Causes ..	49 52	9 9	3 1	3 2	23 4	8 10	19 15	42 34	17 22	3 1	17 23	25 12	17 10	11 9	28 25	17 13
I.—Infantile Mortality ..	13 11	3 2	—	—	5 2	1 3	4 3	5 10	4 8	—	—	6 5	4 3	2 1	—	4 1
A.—One Week and under.																
1. Prematurity ..	1 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Debility ..	1 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Convulsions ..	1 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Tetanus ..	1 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Bronchitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Other Causes ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B.—Over 1 Week and under 1 Year.																
1. Prematurity ..	4 4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Debility ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Convulsions ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Diarrhoea ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Enteritis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Tottanus ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Bronchitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Syphilis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Other Causes ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

6)

B.—Over 1 Week and under 1 Year.

- Prematurity ..
- Debility ..
- Convulsions ..
- Tetanus ..
- Bronchitis ..
- Pneumonia ..
- Syphilis ..
- Other Causes ..

Table III.—Causes of Deaths by Sex registered during December, 1927, in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31–36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895—continued.

Causes of Death.	All 88 Towns.		Western Province.		Central Province.		Southern Province.		
	M	F	Total	M	F	M	F	M	F
II.—General Mortality (1 Year and Over)									
1. Plague ..	803	724	1,527	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Smallpox ..	—	8	9	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Chickenpox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Measles ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Influenza ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Enteric Fever ..	15	12	27	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Malaria and Malarial Cachexia ..	20	6	26	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Cholera ..	47	29	76	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Diarrhoea ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Enteritis ..	40	37	77	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. Dysentery ..	22	21	43	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Ancylostomiasis or Dochimus Duodenalis ..	35	29	64	4	6	2	—	—	—
13. Diseases due to other Intestinal Parasites ..	25	31	56	1	5	2	3	—	—
14. Cancer ..	20	30	50	4	5	3	2	—	—
15. Phtisis ..	11	7	18	9	2	—	—	2	—
16. Other Tuberculous Diseases ..	61	54	115	24	30	2	4	1	2
17. Anaemia ..	4	4	8	1	1	—	—	2	1
18. Diabetes Mellitus ..	3	6	9	2	3	—	—	2	1
19. Paralysis ..	11	1	12	6	1	—	—	1	1
20. Convulsions ..	9	11	20	3	5	1	2	1	3
21. Tetanus ..	17	24	41	3	9	—	—	1	1
22. Heart Disease ..	9	2	11	3	—	2	1	1	1
23. Bronchitis ..	23	9	32	12	7	1	1	2	1
24. Pneumonia ..	5	10	15	2	7	1	4	1	5
25. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System ..	149	98	247	62	42	4	7	6	4
26. Bright's Disease and Nephritis ..	7	6	13	4	3	—	—	1	1
27. Puerperal Eclampsia ..	38	34	72	13	10	3	—	1	1
28. Puerperal Septicaemia ..	—	8	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
29. Accidents of Childbirth ..	—	35	—	15	3	3	—	1	1
30. Accidents and Negligence ..	—	30	11	41	17	4	1	1	1
31. Homicide ..	9	2	11	2	—	—	2	2	2
32. Suicide ..	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	3	2
33. Execution ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	14
34. All Other Causes ..	*185	190	*375	72	75	6	8	17	8

* Here are included 65 deaths from Senility, 10 from Debility, and 8 from Cerebral Haemorrhage.
† Here are included 89 deaths from Senility, 9 from Debility, and 2 from Cerebral Haemorrhage.

Table III.—Causes of Deaths by Sex registered during December, 1827, in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31–36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895—continued.

Causes of Death.			Deaths among all Races.												Deaths among all Races.			Deaths among all Races.			
Northern Province.			Eastern Province.						North-Western Province.						Province of Uva.			Province of Sabaragamuwa.			
M	F	M	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	M	F	M	M	F	M	F	
II.—General Mortality			2	18	2	7	7	15	12	37	24	13	14	3	1	12	18	19	10	15	9
(1 Year and Over)	41	6	1	2	2	7	7	15	12	37	24	13	14	3	1	12	18	19	10	15	9
1. Plague																					
2. Smallpox																					
3. Chickenpox																					
4. Measles																					
5. Influenza																					
6. Enteric Fever																					
7. Malaria and Malarial Cachexia																					
8. Cholera																					
9. Diarrhoea																					
10. Enteritis																					
11. Dysentery																					
12. Anthrolostomiasis or Dochirus Duo-nalis																					
13. Disease, due to other Intestinal Parasites																					
14. Cancer																					
15. Pithecia																					
16. Other Tuberculous Diseases																					
17. Anæmia																					
18. Diabetes Mellitus																					
19. Pneumatis																					
20. Convulsions																					
21. Tetanus																					
22. Heart Disease																					
23. Bronchitis																					
24. Pneumonia																					
25. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System																					
26. Bright's Disease and Nephritis																					
27. Peritonitis																					
28. Puorporal Septicæmia																					
29. Accidents of Childbirth																					
30. Accidents and Negligence																					
31. Homicide																					
32. Suicide																					
33. Execution																					
34. All Other Causes																					

Table IV.—Number of Births, Deaths, and Stillbirths registered during the Month of December, 1927, 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 1922–1926, in each Sanitary Ward of the City of Colombo.

Wards.	Population (exclusive of the Military and Shipping) at the Census of March 18, 1921.	Births.										Mortality of Children under One Year.										
		Stillbirths.					Deaths including Deaths in Hospitals and Jails.					Per Mille per Annum.					Per Mille per Annum.					
		Males. Persons.	Females. Persons.	Males. Persons.	Females. Persons.	Males. Persons.	Deaths of Non-residents in Town Hospitals and Jails.	Deaths of Residents in Town Hospitals and Jails.	Birth Rate.	Average December, 1927.	Standard- ized Death- rate.	Average December, 1922–26.	Per Mille per Annum.	Deaths of Non-residents in Town Hospitals and Jails.	Deaths of Residents in Town Hospitals and Jails.	Birth Rate.	Average December, 1927.	Standard- ized Death- rate.	Average December, 1922–26.	Per Mille per Annum.		
City of Colombo ..	244,163	261,793	426	395	821	45	34	79	389	321	710	171	532	36·92†	32·33	23·93†	28·35	27·55	171	208	237	
Fort and Galle Face	2,690	2,885	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pettah ..	7,601	8,150	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	4·33	3·31	4·33	6·95	—	—	—	—	
St. Paul's ..	23,395	25,084	32	16	48	2	2	4	23	24	47	—	—	46	22·53	20·09	21·69	27·45	—	12	250	285
San Sebastian ..	11,492	12,322	15	15	30	—	1	1	13	8	21	—	—	21	28·67	19·15	20·07	19·80	—	11	367	463
Kotahena North ..	18,683	20,034	23	22	45	—	2	2	15	16	30	—	—	30	26·45	26·31	17·63	20·93	—	7	156	162
Kotahena South ..	27,488	29,473	33	31	64	5	2	7	29	27	56	—	—	56	26·57	26·93	22·37	25·74	—	15	234	251
New Bazaar ..	23,341	25,027	26	27	53	3	3	6	23	27	50	—	—	49	24·94	22·82	23·05	31·70	—	13	245	235
Maradana Hospitals ..	—	—	152	137	289	27	17	44	164	119	283	169	114	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—
Maradana North ..	30,404	32,593	47	44	91	4	2	6	35	28	63	—	63	32·87	26·77	22·76	20·24	—	20	220	291	
Maradana East ..	8,593	9,214	16	12	28	1	—	1	10	9	19	2	17	35·78	25·67	21·73	24·05	—	8	286	377	
Maradana South (ex- clusively of Hospitals)	18,531	19,870	11	13	24	—	1	1	12	12	24	—	24	14·22	17·54	14·22	20·64	—	7	292	268	
Slave Island ..	21,564	23,121	35	34	69	1	—	1	25	21	46	—	41	35·14	20·28	20·88	23·86	—	9	131	155	
Kollupitiya ..	23,752	25,468	14	13	27	—	1	1	20	6	26	—	26	12·48	13·49	12·02	11·03	—	10	370	345	
Wellawatta North ..	15,816	16,958	9	17	26	—	1	1	7	12	19	—	19	18·05	19·96	13·19	20·75	—	4	154	120	
Wellawatta South ..	10,813	11,594	11	13	24	2	4	9	13	22	—	22	24·37	23·32	22·34	13·89	—	5	208	218		

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

† The city rate is worked differently from the ward rates, and takes into account events in hospitals, &c., of residents not assigned to wards.

