



SUPPLEMENT TO THE CEYLON GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

No. 7,712—FRIDAY, MAY 31, 1929.

VITAL STATISTICS OF TOWNS IN CEYLON IN THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1929.

REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

THIS report deals with the Vital Statistics of the 35 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 295 (233 General, 4 Kandyan, and 58 Muslim), as against 528 in the previous month and 269 in the corresponding month of last year.

Births.

3. The total births registered numbered 1,866 (1,001 males and 865 females), and were equivalent to an annual rate of 33·66 per 1,000 of the population, as against 34·79 in the preceding month, 35·07 in the corresponding month of last year, and 31·67 the average for the corresponding months since 1919. The rate ranged from 8·06 in Rambukkana to 88·25 in Nawalapitiya. There were 1,636 births of children, whose mothers were residents of the towns, equivalent to an annual rate of 29·51, as against 30·38 in the previous month and 31·40 in the corresponding month of last year.

4. In the city of Colombo the births registered numbered 690 (368 males and 322 females), and were equivalent to an annual rate of 30·35, as against 32·44 in the previous month, 33·50 in the corresponding month of last year, and 28·26 the average for the corresponding months since 1919. The rate, exclusive of the Fort and Pettah Wards, ranged from 14·47 in Kollupitiya to 26·48 in Wellawatta North. There were 585 births of children whose mothers were residents of the city, equivalent to an annual rate of 25·73, as against 26·98 in the previous month and 28·32 in the corresponding month of last year.

Deaths.

5. The total deaths registered during the month numbered 1,974 (1,052 males and 922 females), and were equivalent to an annual rate of 35·61, as against 39·52 in the preceding month and 31·14 in the corresponding month of last year. There were 1,486 deaths of residents of the towns, equivalent to an annual standardized rate of 28·99, as against 31·19 in the preceding month, 24·75 in the corresponding month of last year, and 28·28 the average for the corresponding months since 1919. The standardized death rate ranged from 63·79 in Mannar to 7·68 in Hambantota.

6. In the city of Colombo the deaths registered numbered 626 (350 males and 276 females), and were equivalent to an annual rate of 27·54, as against 29·81 in the preceding month and 27·47 in the corresponding month of last year. There were 495 deaths of residents of the city, which corresponded to an annual standardized rate of 25·07, as against 25·69 in the preceding month, 24·24 in the corresponding month of last year, and 27·03 the average for the corresponding months since 1919. The death rate of residents, exclusive of the Fort and the Pettah Wards, ranged from 25·00 in Maradana East to 5·43 in Kollupitiya.

7. The stillbirths registered numbered 159 (79 males and 80 females), as against 154 in the preceding month and 138 in the corresponding month of last year.

Infant Mortality.

8. The deaths of children under one year of age amounted to 416, and corresponded to a rate of 209 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ended the last day of March, 1929. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 223, as against 226 in the preceding month, 157 in the corresponding month of last year, and 214 the average for the corresponding months since 1919. There were 375 deaths of children under one year of age, whose mothers were residents of the towns, which corresponded to a rate of 229, as against 233 in the preceding month and 158 in the corresponding month of last year.

9. In the city of Colombo the deaths of children under one year of age amounted to 146, and corresponded to a rate of 187 per 1,000 births registered during the twelve months ended March, 1929. Reckoned on the births registered during the month only the rate was 212, as against 203 in the preceding month, 141 in the corresponding month of last year, and 222 the average for the corresponding months since 1919. There were 126 deaths of children under one year of age, whose mothers were residents of the city, which corresponded to a rate of 215, as against 211 in the preceding month and 142 in the corresponding month of last year.

Causes of Death.

10. The highest mortality was from *Pneumonia*, to which 16 per cent. of the total deaths were due. *Malaria and Malarial Cachexia* and *Debility* (of children under one year), each caused 7 per cent.; *Dysentery, Convulsions, and Senility*, each 6 per cent.; *Phthisis*, 5 per cent.; *Enteritis and Anchylostomiasis*, each 4 per cent.; *Bright's Disease and Nephritis, Diarrhoea and Prematurity*, each 3 per cent.; *Worms, Accidents and Negligence, Influenza, Enteric Fever, Puerperal, Septicaemia, and Bronchitis*, each 2 per cent.; and *Heart Disease* 1 per cent.

11. In Colombo, too, the highest mortality was from *Pneumonia*, to which 19 per cent. of the total deaths were due. *Phthisis* caused 8 per cent.; *Senility*, 7 per cent.; *Debility* (of children under one year) 6 per cent.; *Enteritis, Convulsions, and Influenza*, each 5 per cent.; *Malaria and Malarial Cachexia, Bright's Disease and Nephritis, Prematurity, Bronchitis, and Accidents and Negligence*, each 3 per cent.; *Worms, Heart Disease, Diarrhoea, Dysentery, and Diabetes*, each 2 per cent.; and *Anchylostomiasis, Enteric Fever, and Cancer*, each 1 per cent.

12. One death from *Plague* was registered in Colombo, as against 4 deaths in the previous month and 2 in the corresponding month of last year.

13. *Infectious Diseases reported.*—The infectious disease most prevalent during the month was *Chickenpox*, of which 219 cases were reported (161 in Colombo, 24 in Kandy); *Measles* followed with 218 cases (169 in Colombo, 15 in Galle, 10 in Ambalangoda); *Phthisis* 78 (66 in Colombo); *Enteric Fever* 33 (16 in Colombo); *Mumps* 23 (16 in Colombo); *Continued Fever* 15 (11 in Colombo); *Diphtheria* 9 (in Colombo); *Whooping Cough* 6 (in Colombo); *Plague* 4 (in Colombo); *Cholera* 2 (in Ratnapura); and *Smallpox* 1 (in Colombo).

Meteorology.

14. *Rainfall.*—Nawalapitiya recorded the highest rainfall (13·35 in.). In the other towns the rainfall ranged from 10·76 in. in Kegalla to 0·05 of an in. in Kalpitiya. Colombo recorded 6·69 inches.

15.—*Mean Temperature.*—The mean temperature varied from 82·8° in Mannar to 58·9° in Nuwara Eliya, and was 80·3° in Colombo.

Appendix.

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

Registrar-General's Office,
Colombo, May 1, 1929.

G. FURSE ROBERTS,
Registrar-General.

Table I.—Number of Marriages, Births, Deaths, and Stillbirths registered during March, 1929, the Proportion of Births and Deaths per 1,000 of the Population per Annum and the Deaths of Children under One Year of Age and their Proportion per 1,000 registered Births, together with the Average Birth Rates in the corresponding Months since 1919, 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.

* Blanks indicate that there are no observatories or rain gauges.
† Figures not available.

Table II.—Births, Deaths, and Infant Mortality of Residents with their Corresponding Rates for March, 1929.

Principal Towns.	Births.*			Birth Rate. March, 1929.	Deaths.			Death Rate (Standardized).		Infant Mortality	
	Males.	Females.	Persons.		Males.	Females.	Persons.	March, 1929.	Average for March, 1919-1928.	Number registered during March, 1929.†	Rate per 1,000 Births registered during March, 1929.
All 35 Towns ..	875	781	1,636	29·51	750	736	1,486	28·99	28·28	875	229
<i>Western.</i>											
Colombo ..	312	273	585	25·73	260	235	495	25·07	27·03	126	215
Negombo ..	34	23	57	22·86	31	27	58	23·81	28·74	11	193
Moratuwa ..	50	47	97	25·17	37	48	85	22·46	31·28	28	289
Kalutara ..	17	9	26	21·70	15	12	27	22·42	24·13	6	231
Panadure ..	23	11	34	34·27	13	8	21	22·52	21·95	3	88
<i>Central.</i>											
Kandy ..	55	55	110	37·09	31	34	65	24·00	26·58	18	164
Teldeniya ..	—	1	1	10·99	2	1	3	—	—	1	—
Gampola ..	11	6	17	29·31	5	7	12	21·39	23·44	3	176
Awalapitiya ..	17	10	27	82·16	6	2	8	26·43	24·98	2	74
Hatton-Dikoya ..	2	6	8	31·29	8	4	12	55·20	33·41	—	—
Matale ..	19	11	30	38·73	11	9	20	27·57	30·65	5	167
Nuwara Eliya ..	11	12	23	31·84	8	10	18	27·51	17·71	10	435
<i>Southern.</i>											
Galle ..	74	76	150	44·37	51	61	112	32·41	25·27	19	127
Ambalangoda ..	2	3	5	13·99	1	3	4	11·12	—	1	200
Matara ..	40	34	74	50·62	14	14	28	18·79	22·31	10	135
Weligama ..	17	15	32	39·75	10	4	14	16·10	18·86	3	94
Hambantota ..	8	11	19	73·37	1	1	2	7·68	24·31	2	105
Tangalla ..	13	12	25	58·41	6	17	23	53·33	22·16	9	360
<i>Northern.</i>											
Jaffna ..	69	48	117	31·19	87	101	188	51·92	34·68	39	333
Mannar ..	5	4	9	28·15	10	10	20	63·79	42·12	4	444
Mullaittivu ..	3	—	3	20·53	3	3	6	42·79	55·67	2	667
Vavuniya ..	1	2	3	33·41	1	3	4	52·12	53·75	—	—
<i>Eastern.</i>											
Batticaloa ..	14	17	31	33·49	22	18	40	45·04	33·33	11	355
Kalmunai ..	3	3	6	26·91	2	1	3	13·55	—	2	333
Trincomalee ..	11	14	25	29·67	17	30	47	58·35	37·30	13	520
<i>North-Western.</i>											
Kurunegala ..	9	6	15	14·99	14	13	27	31·35	23·47	6	400
Puttalam ..	8	8	16	24·25	24	3	37	60·82	54·18	8	500
Kalpitiya ..	1	1	2	14·52	3	—	3	25·01	—	1	500
Chilaw ..	7	4	11	16·57	18	10	28	48·57	37·61	10	909
<i>North-Central.</i>											
Anuradhapura ..	10	12	22	24·45	16	15	31	41·24	66·67	7	318
<i>Uva.</i>											
Badulla ..	16	15	31	38·91	8	9	17	21·76	28·83	8	258
Lunugala ..	1	—	1	22·00	1	—	1	24·79	—	—	—
<i>Sabaragamuwa.</i>											
Ratnapura ..	8	8	16	23·95	10	8	18	29·38	20·44	3	188
Kegalla ..	3	3	6	17·90	3	2	5	16·70	16·31	2	333
Rambukkana ..	1	1	2	8·06	1	3	4	—	—	2	—

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

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

‡ Figures not available.

Table III.—Causes of Deaths by Sex registered during March, 1929, in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31-36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895.

* One death each from Umbilical sepsis (in Matele), and Asphyxia (in Ratnapura).

[†] Besides 20 deaths mentioned in Table V., footnoted, 6 deaths from Malaria, (2 in Kurunegala), and (1 each in Batticaloa, Puttalam, Kalpitiya, and Bambukkana), 3 from Ricketts, (1 each in Moratuwa, (in Jaffna), 2 from Nephritis (in Tangalle), Vermes (in Chilaw) and Staphylococous infection (in Galle). Eliva, Pamphilus, Neonatorum, and Induella, (in Galle), Intussusception (in Nuwara Eliya).

Table III.—Causes of Deaths by Sex registered during March, 1929, in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31-36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895—*continued*.

Table III.—Causes of Deaths by Sex registered during March, 1929, in each Town of the Island proclaimed under Sections 31–36 of the Ordinance No. 1 of 1895—continued.

Causes of Death.	All 35 Towns.			Western Province.			Central Province.			Southern Province.		
	M	F	Total.	M	F	M + F	M	F	M + F	M	F	M + F
II.—General Mortality (1 Year and Over)												
1. Plague ..	825	733	1,558	268	212	42	34	25	35	16	11	9
2. Smallpox	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Chickenpox	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Measles	7	3	10	5	10	2	1	1	1	1
5. Influenza	8	16	24	5	1	1	1	2	1	1
6. Enteric Fever	20	12	32	6	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
7. Malaria and Malarial Cachexia ..	69	62	131	12	7	4	3	1	1	1	1	1
8. Cholera	3	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9. Diarrhoea	18	28	46	4	5	2	1	1	1	1	1
10. Enteritis	26	33	59	12	11	1	2	1	1	1	1
11. Dysentery	61	53	119	5	5	4	7	1	2	1	1
12. Ankylostomiasis or Dochomitus Duodenalis	29	41	70	4	5	2	2	1	1	2	1
13. Diseases due to other Intestinal Parasites	20	23	43	5	7	1	3	2	3	1	1
14. Cancer	10	6	16	5	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
15. Phthisis	52	50	102	25	25	1	1	2	1	1	1
16. Other Tuberculous Diseases	2	4	6	6	1	2	2	1	1	2	1
17. Anaemia	4	6	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
18. Diabetes Mellitus	13	4	17	8	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
19. Paralysis	13	6	19	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
20. Convulsions	21	20	41	3	6	3	1	1	1	1	1
21. Tetanus	3	7	10	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
22. Heart Disease	13	14	27	4	7	1	2	1	1	2	1
23. Bronchitis	10	10	20	7	5	1	1	1	1	1	1
24. Pneumonia	165	102	267	68	25	9	5	3	2	1	3
25. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System
26. Bright's Disease and Nephritis	9	6	15	3	2	1	1	1	2	1	1
27. Puerperal Eclampsia	24	53	7	32	12	6	2	1	2	1	1
28. Puerperal Septicaemia
29. Accidents of Childbirth	33	9	42	14	2	3	1	1	3	1	1
30. Accidents and Negligence	6	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
31. Homicide	2	1	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
32. Suicide	2	1	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
33. Execution	176*	134†	310	61	54	7	8	10	3	2	1
34. All Other Causes

* Here are included 51 deaths from Senility, 13 from Debility, and 4 from Cerebral Haemorrhage.

† Here are included 58 deaths from Senility, 11 from Debility, and 6 from Cerebral Haemorrhage.

Table III.—Causes of Deaths by Sex registered during, March, 1929, 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.															
	Northern Province.				North-Western Province.				Province of Uva.				Province of Sabaragamuwa.			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
II.—General Mortality (1 Year and Over)	73	82	12	11	1	4	3	5	17	14	2	1	12	25	26	20
1. Plague
2. Smallpox
3. Chickenpox
4. Measles
5. Influenza
6. Enteric Fever
7. Malaria and Malaria Cachexia
8. Cholera
9. Diarrhoea
10. Enteritis
11. Dysentery
12. Ankylostomiasis or Dochmiasis Duo- denalis
3. Diseases due to other Intestinal Parasites
4. Cancer
5. Phthisis
6. Other Tuberculous Diseases
7. Anaemia
8. Diabetes Mellitus
9. Paralysis
10. Convulsions
11. Tetanus
12. Heart Disease
13. Bronchitis
14. Pneumonia
15. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System
16. Bright's Disease and Nephritis
17. Puerperal Eclampsia
18. Accidents of Childbirth
19. Negligence
20. Homicide
21. Suicide
22. Execution
All Other Causes

Table IV.—Number of Births, Deaths, and Stillbirths registered during the Month of March, 1929, 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 1922–1928, in each Sanitary Ward of the City of Colombo.

* 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., not assigned to wards.

Table V.—Causes of Deaths by Sex registered during the Month of March, 1929, in each Ward and of each Race in the City of Colombo.

Causes of Death.	City of Colombo.						Wards.											
							Fort and Galle Face.		Petah.		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	M	F
All Causes	350	276	626	2	1	4	1	23	10	9	6	12	17	29	27			
I.—Infantile Mortality	82	64	146					—	—	14	2	4	1	4	8	4	4	
A.—One Week and under.																		
1. Prematurity	6	6	12															
2. Debility	7	5	12															
3. Convulsions	2	2	4															
4. Tetanus																		
5. Bronchitis																		
6. Pneumonia																		
7. Other Causes																		
B.—Over 1 Week and under 1 Year.																		
1. Prematurity	2	3	5															
2. Debility	13	10	23															
3. Convulsions	9	7	16															
4. Diarrhoea	1		1															
5. Enteritis	5	5	10															
6. Tetanus																		
7. Bronchitis																		
8. Pneumonia																		
9. Syphilis																		
10. Other Causes	20†	13§	33															
II.—General Mortality (1 Year and Over) ..	268	212	480	2	1	4	1	9	8	5	5	8	9	25	23			
1. Plague	1		1															
2. Smallpox																		
3. Chickenpox																		
4. Measles		1	1															
5. Influenza	5	10	15															
6. Enteric Fever	6		8															
7. Malaria and Malarial Cachexia	12	7	19															
8. Cholera																		
9. Diarrhoea	4	5	9															
10. Enteritis	12	11	23															
11. Dysentery	5	5	10															
12. Ankylostomiasis or Dochmias Duo-denitis	4	5	9															
13. Diseases due to other Intestinal Parasites	5	7	12															
14. Cancer	5	3	8															
15. Phthisis	25	25	50															
16. Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	2	3															
17. Anaemia																		
18. Diabetes Mellitus	8	2	10															
19. Paralysis	1	2	3															
20. Convulsions	3	6	9															
21. Tetanus	1	3	4															
22. Heart Disease	4	7	11															
23. Bronchitis	7	5	12															
24. Pneumonia	68	25	93															
25. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	3	2	5															
26. Bright's Disease and Nephritis	9	6	15															
27. Puerperal Eclampsia		3	3															
28. Puerperal Septicaemia		6	6															
29. Accidents of Childbirth		4	4															
30. Accidents and Negligence	14	2	16															
31. Homicide	2		2															
32. Suicide																		
33. Execution		2	2															
34. All Other Causes	61||	54†	115	1														

† Ten deaths from Influenza, 3 from Thrush and 1 each from Food intoxication, Cellulitis of Scalp, Hydrocephalus Worms, Erysipelas, Meningitis, and Nephritis.

§ Four deaths from Influenza, 2 each from Worms, and Nephritis and 1 each from Seabies, Improper feeding, Pyaemia, Whooping Cough and Septic poisoning (infected glands of neck.)

|| Here are included 14 deaths from Senility.

¶ Here are included 30 deaths from Senility and 4 from Debility.

Table V.—Causes of Deaths by Sex registered during the Month of March, 1929, in each Ward and of each Race in the City of Colombo—continued.

Table V.—Causes of Deaths by Sex registered during the Month of March, 1929, in each Ward and of each Race in the City of Colombo—continued.

Causes of Death.	Wards.		Deaths among all Races.												Malays.				Others.						
	Wellawatta South.		Europeans.				Burghers.				Sinhalese.				Tamilis.				Moors.				Others.		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
All Causes	2	12	3	2	17	13	186	167	63	45	42	34	15	6	24	9									
I.—Infantile Mortality			2																						
A.—One Week and under.																									
1. Prematurity																									
2. Debility																									
3. Convulsions																									
4. Tetanus																									
5. Bronchitis																									
6. Pneumonia																									
7. Other Causes																									
B.—Over 1 Week and under 1 Year.																									
1. Prematurity																									
2. Debility																									
3. Convulsions																									
4. Diarrhoea																									
5. Enteritis																									
6. Tetanus																									
7. Bronchitis																									
8. Pneumonia																									
9. Syphilis																									
10. Other Causes																									
II.—General Mortality (1 Year and Over)	2	10	3	2	13	11	137	126	54	37	28	29	12	3	21	4									
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. Anchyllostomiasis or Dochmias Duodenalis																									
13. Diseases due to other Intestinal Parasites																									
14. Cancer																									
15. Phthisis																									
16. Other Tuberculous Diseases																									
17. Anaemia																									
18. Diabetes Mellitus																									
19. Paralysis																									
20. Convulsions																									
21. Tetanus																									
22. Heart Disease																									
23. Bronchitis																									
24. Pneumonia																									
25. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	2	1																							
26. Bright's Disease and Nephritis																									
27. Puerperal Eclampsia																									
28. Puerperal Septicaemia																									
29. Accidents of Childbirth																									
30. Accidents and Negligence																									
31. Homicide																									
32. Suicide																									
33. Execution																									
34. All Other Causes																									