

Maternal Mortality.—Here again the Maori figures are not available.

For Europeans the maternal-mortality rate, including deaths from septic abortion was 2·05 per 1,000 live births, as compared with 2·24 in 1945. After excluding deaths from septic abortion, the rate was 1·76 (1·94 in 1945).

Summary of Vital Statistics, 1946 :—

	European.	Maori.	Combined.
Population, mean	1,659,145	102,254	1,761,399
Birth-rate per 1,000 population	25·24	56·49	27·05
Death-rate per 1,000 population	9·70	15·91	10·06
Infant-mortality rate per 1,000 live births ..	26·10	74·62	31·99
Death-rate, tuberculosis, all forms, per 10,000 population	3·38	39·04	5·43

This table shows at a glance the main differences between the European and the Maoris in respect of vital statistics.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH

(Europeans only)

The following table gives the main causes of death for the year 1945, and the death-rates therefrom per 10,000 of mean population for that year and the preceding four years. Owing to the difficulty of obtaining detailed statistics so early in the year, no attempt has been made, as in previous years, to supply this information for the year immediately past. The corresponding figures for 1946 will appear in next year's annual report.

Cause.	1945.		1944 : Rate.	1943 : Rate.	1942 : Rate.	1941 : Rate.
	Number.	Rate.				
Heart-disease (all forms)	5,655	35·48	33·49	33·68	36·41	31·55
Cancer	2,213	13·88	14·02	13·85	13·13	13·18
Violence	784	4·92	5·37	6·06	5·76	5·64
Pneumonia	222	1·39	1·32	1·41	1·52	1·48
Pneumonia (secondary to influenza, whooping-cough, and measles)	32	0·20	0·31	0·17	0·81	0·38
Bronchitis	181	1·14	1·14	1·40	1·36	0·94
Broncho-pneumonia	283	1·78	1·82	1·67	2·11	1·98
Tuberculosis (all forms)	603	3·78	3·81	3·72	3·94	3·88
Kidney, or Bright's, disease	417	2·62	2·80	2·83	3·19	3·66
Apoplexy or cerebral hæmorrhage	1,636	10·26	9·28	9·79	9·90	8·95*
Diseases of the arteries	251	1·57	1·23	1·22	1·22	1·14*
Senility	463	2·90	2·94	3·17	3·02	3·13
Diabetes	319	2·00	2·10	2·16	2·28	2·22
Hernia and intestinal obstruction	125	0·78	0·74	0·65	0·74	0·73
Diseases and accidents of childbirth (puerperal mortality)	83	0·52	0·58	0·44	0·55	0·76
Appendicitis	60	0·38	0·50	0·47	0·44	0·55
Diarrhoea and enteritis	125	0·78	0·64	0·58	0·50	0·54
Epilepsy	45	0·28	0·30	0·46	0·53	0·43
Common infectious diseases—						
Influenza (all forms, including pneumonia) ..	53	0·33	0·40	0·42	1·61	0·49
Diphtheria	42	0·26	0·19	0·21	0·16	0·11
Whooping-cough	8	0·05	0·29	0·11	0·03	0·44
Scarlet fever	13	0·08	0·17	0·01	0·01	0·01
Typhoid and paratyphoid	3	0·02	0·02	0·02	0·05	0·05
Measles	10	0·06	..	0·05	0·20	0·03

* Owing to an alteration in the international agreement as to the allocation of deaths to various causes, the figures for these two conditions are not separately comparable with the figures for years before 1940.