

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Subjoined is a classified statement of the deaths of infants under one year during 1909, with the ratio of the deaths in each class to the 1,000 births during the year :—

Year.	Sex.	Under 1 Month.	1 and under 3 Months.	3 and under 6 Months.	6 and under 12 Months.	Total under 12 Months.
<i>Number of Deaths.</i>						
1909	Male	469	160	151	172	952
	Female	325	125	107	125	682
<i>Deaths to the 1,000 Births.</i>						
1909	Male	34·74	11·85	11·18	12·74	70·51
	Female	24·96	9·60	8·21	9·60	52·37

Seventy-one out of every thousand of male children born, and fifty-two of every thousand females, are found to have died before attaining the age of one year. The mortality was thus one in fourteen of male children and one in nineteen of females in New Zealand, where conditions are far more favourable to infant life than in Australia, at least as far as relates to the cities.

It will also be seen from the figures that the chances of living during the first year of age are greater for female than for male infants. Thus, during the year 1909 there were—

100 deaths of males to	72 deaths of females	under 1 month of age ;
100	81	from 1 to 3 months of age ;
100	73	from 3 to 6 months of age ;
100	75	from 6 to 12 months of age ;
100	74	under 12 months of age.

Dealing with the results for ten years, the deaths of infants under one year are in the large proportion of three-fourths of the total deaths under five, as might be expected, the first year being the tenderest period. (See notes to tables.)

Deaths of Infants under One Year, and Proportion to Births.

Year.	Deaths of Infants under 1 Year of Age. (Totals for each Year, and Means of 10 Years.)					Total Births registered in each Year, and Mean of 10 Years.	Proportion of Deaths of Infants under 1 Year to every 1,000 Births.
	Under 1 Month.	1 Month and under 3 Months.	3 Months and under 6 Months.	6 Months and under 12 Months.	Total under 12 Months.		
1900	607	288	293	281	1,469	19,546	75·2
1901	610	272	292	289	1,463	20,491	71·4
1902	665	344	313	390	1,712	20,655	82·9
1903	692	346	367	365	1,770	21,829	81·1
1904	669	260	356	331	1,616	22,766	71·0
1905	714	285	290	310	1,599	23,682	67·5
1906	717	247	244	298	1,506	24,252	62·1
1907	763	446	500	519	2,228	25,094	88·8
1908	810	242	347	362	1,761	25,940	67·9
1909	794	285	258	297	1,634	26,524	61·6
Means of ten years	704	301	326	344	1,675	23,080	72·6

NOTE.—The total number of deaths of infants for the period included in the table is 16,758.

Deaths of Children under One Year to 1,000 Births.

Country.	Deaths per 1,000 Births.	Country.	Deaths per 1,000 Births.
Chili	320	Scotland (1907)	110
Hungary	199	Denmark (1907)	106
Ceylon	183	Ireland	97
Jamaica	175	Victoria	86
Prussia	173	Western Australia	85
Servia	158	Sweden (1907)	77
Italy (1907)	155	New South Wales	76
Japan (1907)	151	Tasmania	75
Belgium (1907)	132	Queensland	70
Netherlands	125	South Australia	70
Switzerland (1907)	121	New Zealand	68
England and Wales	120	Norway (1907)	67
Finland (1907)	112		