

The following table shows the number of deaths, and the death-rate per 1,000 of the living population ; also a comparison with the average rate for 1882-86 :—

Year.	Total Number of Deaths.	Death-rate.		Year.	Total Number of Deaths.	Death-rate.	
		Per 1,000 of Population.	Compared with Rate in 1882-86 taken as 100.			Per 1,000 of Population.	Compared with rate in 1882-86 taken as 100.
1882-86	5,944	10·84	100	1898	7,244	9·84	91
1887	6,137	10·29	95	1899	7,680	10·24	94
1888	5,708	9·43	87	1900	7,200	9·43	87
1889	5,772	9·44	87	1901	7,634	9·81	90
1890	5,994	9·66	89	1902	8,375	10·50	97
1891	6,518	10·35	95	1903	8,528	10·40	96
1892	6,459	10·06	93	1904	8,087	9·57	88
1893	6,767	10·23	94	1905	8,061	9·27	86
1894	6,918	10·19	94	1906	8,339	9·31	86
1895	6,863	9·91	91	1907	10,066	10·95	101
1896	6,432	9·10	84	1908	9,043	9·57	88
1897	6,595	9·14	84	1909	8,959	9·22	85
				1910	9·639	9·71	89

The death-rates of males and females for the last ten years are shown separately in the next table, and also the number of male deaths to every 100 female deaths :—

Year.	Deaths per 1,000 of the Total Population.			Deaths of Males to every 100 Females.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	
1900	10·33	8·43	9·43	123
1901	10·80	8·71	9·81	124
1902	11·64	9·23	10·50	126
1903	11·43	9·24	10·40	124
1904	10·64	8·37	9·57	127
1905	10·18	8·24	9·27	124
1906	10·40	8·08	9·31	129
1907	11·81	9·98	10·95	118
1908	10·62	8·38	9·57	127
1909	10·18	8·14	9·22	125
1910	10·67	8·63	9·71	124

Males of tender years are more delicate than females, and, later in life, more liable to accident. These disadvantages are partly compensated by the preponderance of male births, but the tendency of the natural increase is towards an equalization in the numbers of the sexes.

For the purpose of considering the mortality in New Zealand more closely than can be done by means of crude death-rates, it is desirable to ascertain the rates at different age-periods of the population. The abnormally high rate in 1907, due to prevalence of epidemic diseases, is strikingly illustrated by comparison with the average for the previous five years.

Death-rates per 1,000 living at Various Age-periods.

Ages.		Average, 1902-6.	1908.	1909.	1910.	Decrease per Cent. in 1910, compared with 1902-6.
Under 5 years		21·75	20·38	18·77	19·48	10·44
5 years and under 10 years		2·07	1·76	1·96	1·85	10·63
10	15	1·64	1·64	1·35	1·21	26·22
15	20	2·64	2·03	2·23	2·06	21·97
20	25	3·69	3·42	3·08	2·82	23·58
25	35	4·55	4·37	4·43	4·54	0·22
35	45	6·30	6·24	6·71	6·06	3·81
45	55	10·35	10·47	9·73	9·54	7·83
55	65	20·26	18·06	17·97	19·53	3·60
65	75	47·06	44·75	42·62	45·60	3·10
75 and upwards		124·65	132·36	125·91	162·03	+ 29·91
All ages		9·81	9·57	9·22	9·71	1·02