

There were 25 still-births recorded which are not included either as births or deaths in the various figures and rates given in this report. The still-birth rate per 100 live births for the last four years is as follows : 1924, 1.68 ; 1925, 1.82 ; 1926, 2.44 ; 1927, 1.53. The above figures show a drop of 23 still-births as compared with 1926, when 48 were recorded, but it is doubtful if the present year's record is correct.

DEATHS.

During the year 495 deaths were registered, giving a death-rate per 1,000 of midyear population 12.82, whereas during 1926 and 1925 the deaths numbered 723 and 857, with death-rates of 19.36 and 23.75 respectively. If accurate, the above death-rate would be very satisfactory.

Deaths of Samoans, Western Samoa, 1927.

										Males.	Females.	Total.
Upolu	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	185	143	328
Savai'i	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	101	66	167
Total for Western Samoa										286	209	495

Deaths by Months, 1927.

—	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Males ..	36	19	27	33	45	31	20	16	11	19	13	16	286
Females	18	14	28	27	20	24	22	13	13	8	15	7	209
Total	54	33	55	60	65	55	42	29	24	27	28	23	495

Ages at Death (Samoans), 1927.

		0-1 Day.	1-2 Days.	2-3 Days.	3-4 Days.	4-5 Days.	5-6 Days.	6-7 Days.	Total 0-1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total 0-1 Month. 1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-12 Months.	Total under 1 Year.	1-2 Years.	2-3 Years.	3-4 Years.	4-5 Years.	5-10 Years.	Over 10 Years	Total.	
UPOLU :—																								
Males	..	..	1	2	1	1	..	..	5	..	1	1	7	6	12	36	61	17	4	2	1	10	185	
Females	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	2	6	3	..	10	6	2	26	44	18	2	4	2	5	143	
Total	..	..	1	2	2	2	2	..	2	11	3	1	2	17	12	14	62	105	35	6	3	15	328	
SAVA'I :—																								
Males	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	1	4	3	..	..	7	4	7	21	39	8	3	2	1	2	101
Females	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	3	1	7	..	6	8	21	12	1	..	..	1	66
Total	..	..	2	..	..	1	1	..	1	5	5	3	1	14	4	13	29	60	20	4	2	1	3	167
TOTALS, W. SAMOA :—																								
Males	..	..	2	2	1	2	1	..	1	9	3	1	1	14	10	19	57	100	25	7	4	2	12	286
Females	..	..	1	..	1	1	2	..	2	7	5	3	2	17	6	8	34	65	30	3	4	2	6	209
Total	..	..	3	2	2	3	3	..	3	16	8	4	3	31	16	27	91	165	55	10	8	4	18	495

INFANT MORTALITY.

As has already been stated, the infant-mortality rate for the year under review is 101 per 1,000 births registered, which, compared with 106 for 1926, 186 for 1925, and 153 for 1924, reads very well. Owing, however, to the very strong reasons for believing that this rate is merely approximate, it is not advisable to attach much weight to it. It is a grave pity that the mortality rate for this year has to be viewed with suspicion. Under normal conditions of registration, coupled with the absence of epidemics in any form, a low mortality rate was confidently anticipated. As matters stand at present it is not possible to give more accurate figures, though it is probable that facts *re* registration may shortly come to light which will make the figures quoted to be accepted as fairly accurate in the near future. Much careful work remains to be done to obtain anything like a true record for the year 1927, and, further, much depends upon the willingness or otherwise of the Native officials concerned to disclose their knowledge of the matter. The recorded number of deaths during 1927 (495) is so far below the figures of 1926, which was 723, as to make all statistics for this year seem very doubtful indeed. The percentage of deaths of children as registered works out about 44.4 per cent. under the age of two years and 48.8 under the age of five years.