

A table has also been prepared showing, for the year 1905, the number and ages of the youngest orphan children left.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Subjoined is a classified statement of the deaths of infants under one year during 1905, 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>						
1905	Male	406	159	165	171	901
	Female	308	126	125	139	698
<i>Deaths to the 1,000 Births.</i>						
1905	Male	33.53	13.13	13.63	14.12	74.41
	Female	26.61	10.89	10.80	12.01	60.31

Seventy-four out of every thousand of male children born, and sixty of every thousand females, are found to have died before attaining the age of one year. The mortality is thus one in thirteen of male children and one in seventeen of females, even 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 far greater for female than for male infants. Thus, during the year 1905 there were—

100	deaths of males	to 71	deaths of females	under 1 month of age;
100	"	83	"	from 1 to 3 months of age;
100	"	79	"	from 3 to 6 months of age;
100	"	85	"	from 6 to 12 months of age;
100	"	81	"	under 12 months of age.

The rates of infantile mortality—that is, the proportion the deaths of children under one year of age bear to the births—are higher in the Australian States than in New Zealand.

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.		
1896	566	229	304	340	1,439	18,612	77.3
1897	512	240	269	333	1,354	18,737	72.3
1898	573	289	306	342	1,510	18,955	79.7
1899	619	389	378	420	1,806	18,835	95.9
1900	607	288	293	281	1,469	19,546	75.2
1901	610	272	392	289	1,563	20,491	76.3
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
Means of ten years	623	294	327	340	1,584	20,411	77.6

NOTE.—The total number of deaths of infants for the period included in the table is 15,838.

Deaths of Children under Five Years, and Proportion to Deaths at all Ages.

Year.	Deaths of Children under 1 to 5 Years of Age. (Totals for each Year, and Means of 10 Years.)						Total Deaths at all Ages for each Year, and Mean of 10 Years.	Deaths under 5 Years: Per Cent. of Mortality at all Ages.
	Under 1 Year.	1 Year and under 2 Years.	2 Years and under 3 Years.	3 Years and under 4 Years.	4 Years and under 5 Years.	Total Deaths under 5 Years.		
1896	1,439	215	59	76	64	1,853	6,432	28.81
1897	1,354	187	84	69	38	1,732	6,595	26.26
1898	1,510	200	91	72	47	1,920	7,244	26.50
1899	1,806	291	111	74	56	2,338	7,680	30.44
1900	1,469	205	93	64	58	1,889	7,200	26.24
1901	1,563	208	85	68	52	1,976	7,634	25.88
1902	1,712	307	118	92	61	2,290	8,375	27.34
1903	1,770	275	126	111	64	2,346	8,528	27.51
1904	1,616	169	83	63	43	1,974	8,087	24.41
1905	1,599	176	97	61	46	1,979	8,061	24.55
Means of ten years	1,584	223	95	75	53	2,030	7,584	26.76

NOTE.—The total number of deaths included in this table of children under 5 years is 20,297.