

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX I.—GENERAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1909-10.

PART I.—VITAL STATISTICS.

For the following statistics relating to birth, death-rates, infant mortality, and causes of death, the Department is indebted to the returns of the Registrar-General. They relate to the year 1909.

BIRTHS.

The number of births registered during 1909 was 26,524, or 27·29 in every 1,000 persons living. The number is 584 in excess of that for the year 1908, an increase of 2·25 per cent., but the rate lower by 0·16 per thousand. From 1882 until the year 1899 there was a regular fall in the rate. The births registered in a year numbered 19,846 in 1884, and, after falling to 17,876 in 1892, have risen to the number first stated above.

The number of male children born during 1909 was 13,502, and of female children 13,022.

The following table shows the number registered, the birth-rate calculated on the total population, and comparison with the average rate for 1882-86 taken as 100. Indications of a gradual increase are apparent, the improvement since 1899 being 8·64 per cent. on the rate per 1,000 in that year.

Births, Number and Rate.

Year.	Total Number of Births registered.	Birth-rate.		Year.	Total Number of Births registered.	Birth-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	19,410	35·40	100	1898	18,955	25·74	73
1887	19,135	32·09	91	1899	18,835	25·12	71
1888	18,902	31·22	88	1900	19,546	25·60	72
1889	18,457	30·07	85	1901	20,491	26·34	74
1890	18,278	29·44	83	1902	20,655	25·89	73
1891	18,273	29·01	82	1903	21,829	26·61	75
1892	17,876	27·83	79	1904	22,766	26·94	76
1893	18,187	27·50	78	1905	23,682	27·22	77
1894	18,528	27·28	77	1906	24,252	27·08	76
1895	18,546	26·78	76	1907	25,094	27·30	77
1896	18,612	26·33	74	1908	25,940	27·45	77
1897	18,737	25·96	73	1909	26,524	27·29	77

The average number of children to a marriage may be ascertained by comparing the number of legitimate births for a series of years with the marriages, but commencing with the marriages in the year preceding that for which the first number of births is taken. Calculating in this way the figures for the twenty-year period 1890-1909 show a decline from 4·87 to 3·13 as below :—

Year.	Marriages.	Legitimate Births.	Proportion of Births to every Marriage solemnized in the Preceding Year.
1889	3,632
1890	3,797	17,675	4·87
1891	3,805	17,635	4·64
1892	4,002	17,283	4·54
1893	4,115	17,514	4·37
1894	4,178	17,824	4·33
1895	4,110	17,711	4·24
1896	4,843	17,778	4·32
1897	4,928	17,911	3·70
1898	5,091	18,154	3·68
1899	...	18,066	3·54
1899	5,461
1900	5,860	18,640	3·41
1901	6,095	19,554	3·34
1902	6,394	19,734	3·23
1903	6,748	20,835	3·26
1904	6,983	21,737	3·22
1905	7,200	22,600	3·24
1906	7,592	23,120	3·21
1907	8,192	23,937	3·15
1908	8,094	24,835	3·03
1909	...	25,301	3·13