

B. LOCAL VITAL STATISTICS.
(From the Reports of District Health Officers.)

AUCKLAND DISTRICT.

In accordance with the decision of the Department, to facilitate comparison with other countries, and that our figures may synchronize with those of the Registrar-General, the vital statistics for the first time cover the period January to December inclusive. They deal only with the population of the City of Auckland and the boroughs of Birkenhead, Devonport, Grey Lynn, Mount Eden, Newmarket, Northcote, and Parnell. The alteration involves the overlapping of the first three months of 1910, which were included in 1910 report. This fact must be noted when dealing later on with any term of years.

Population.

The mean population for the year 1910 in the above-mentioned boroughs upon which the statistics are based is,—

Auckland City	...	43,683
Suburban boroughs	...	36,586
		80,269

In the population of Greater Auckland the Registrar-General includes the road districts Arch Hill, Eden Terrace, Epsom, Mount Albert, Mount Roskill, One Tree Hill, Point Chevalier, Remuera, and Parnell Riding (including the Domain and Hospital reserves), 19,756. Onehunga Borough adds a further 3,693 (1906 census), making a total of 103,718. The following statistics, however, deal with the population of the boroughs, 80,269 :—

<i>Birth-rate.</i>	Per 1,000 of Mean Population.
1910—Auckland	27·75
Auckland and suburban boroughs	26·01
The average birth-rates for the previous ten years are :—	
Auckland City	30·28
Auckland and suburban boroughs	28·28

<i>Death-rate.</i>	Per 1,000 of Mean Population.
1910—Auckland City	11·88
Auckland and suburban boroughs	9·73
The average death-rates for the previous ten years (1900–9) are—	
Auckland City	12·97
Auckland and suburban boroughs	11·28

There is, therefore, a decrease from the average, although slightly above the rate for previous year, when it was 9·30 for city and suburbs.

Natural Increase of Population.

	Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.	Increase per 1,000 of Mean Population.
Auckland and suburban boroughs	2,088	781	1,307	16·28

The births show a continued fall, and the deaths, both in the city and suburbs, are in excess of the previous year, resulting in a considerable reduction in the natural increase of population as compared with the previous year, when it was 18·28. The birth-rate is the lowest recorded for a number of years, being 2·25 less in the city than in 1901.

Infant Mortality.

In Auckland and suburban boroughs,—

Deaths of infants under 1 year were...	...	165
Deaths of infants between 1 and 5 years	...	49
		214

	Auckland City.	Auckland and Suburban Boroughs.
Deaths of children under 1 year per 100 births,—		
For 1910	9·57	7·90
Mean for previous five years	9·34	8·37
Mean for previous ten years	10·71	9·77

Mean for the whole Dominion for ten years—7·19.

This table exhibits a satisfactory decrease in infant mortality over the decennary period, though necessarily not so marked as the improvement is maintained. Last year infant mortality was considerably greater than in the previous year, and the improvement over the ten years is only maintained by the lower record of the years immediately preceding.