

The average age at death of persons of either sex, in each of the ten years 1904–13, was as follows :—

	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.
1904	41·47 years	38·44 years.	1909	42·76 years	38·78 years.
1905	43·03 "	39·13 "	1910	44·47 "	42·25 "
1906	44·39 "	39·35 "	1911	46·17 "	42·37 "
1907	40·43 "	36·66 "	1912	47·19 "	44·91 "
1908	42·50 "	39·14 "	1913	46·26 "	43·04 "

Deaths and Death-rates in the Four Chief Cities and their Suburbs.

The total number of deaths registered for the four centres in 1913 was 3,062—viz., 2,364 in the cities, and 698 in the suburbs.

By including the suburbs the death-rate for last year is lowered at all of the four centres. The rates for the year are,—

	Death-rates per 1,000 of Mean Population.
Auckland City	11·49
and seven suburban boroughs	10·61
Wellington City	9·30
and three suburban boroughs	9·08
Christchurch City	10·40
and three suburban boroughs	10·15
Dunedin City	11·98
and five suburban boroughs	11·03

The death-rates for the cities, including suburban boroughs, for five years are as below :—

	Deaths per 1,000 of Population.				
	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.
Auckland (including suburbs)	9·30	9·73	10·93	9·73	10·61
Wellington "	9·11	8·95	10·08	9·13	9·08
Christchurch "	9·33	10·41	10·36	10·34	10·15
Dunedin "	9·95	10·24	10·43	10·43	11·03

If the number of deaths of infants under one year be excluded, the mortality among the rest of the population is found to have been for 1912 and 1913 in the following ratio to the 1,000 living :—

	1912.	1913.
Auckland (including suburbs)	8·04	8·74
Wellington "	7·44	7·79
Christchurch "	8·65	8·82
Dunedin "	9·40	8·59

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Subjoined is a classified statement of the deaths of infants under one year during 1913, with the ratio of the deaths in each class to the 1,000 births during the 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>					
Male	487	153	151	151	942
Female	343	130	87	151	711
<i>Deaths to the 1,000 Births.</i>					
Male	33·74	10·60	10·46	10·46	65·26
Female	25·40	9·63	6·45	11·18	52·66

Sixty-five out of every thousand of male children born, and fifty-three of every thousand females, are found to have died before attaining the age of one year. The mortality was thus one in fifteen of male children and one in nineteen of females in New Zealand.

It will also be seen from the figures that the chances of living during the first year of age are greater for female than for male infants. Thus during the year 1913 there were,—

100 deaths of males to 70 deaths of females	under 1 month of age ;
100	" 85 " from 1 to 3 months of age ;
100	" 58 " from 3 to 6 months of age ;
100	" 100 " from 6 to 12 months of age ;
100	" 75 " under 12 months of age.

Dealing with the result 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.)