

VII. POPULATION

A census of the Group was taken on 25th September, 1945, and disclosed that the population had increased by 2,273 since the 1936 census. Natives increased by 2,297, but Europeans decreased by 24. Detailed figures are given in the table below :—

Island.	Europeans.		Natives.		Totals.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
Rarotonga	94	71	2,956	2,654	5,775
Mangaia	4	3	930	907	1,844
Manke	5	10	442	422	879
Mitiaro	1	..	135	116	252
Atiu	9	9	658	569	1,245
Aitutaki	10	6	1,194	1,147	2,357
Palmerston .. ..	..	..	34	31	65
Suwarrow	3	..	2	..	5
Pukapuka	1	..	331	330	662
Manihiki	3	1	221	210	435
Rakahanga .. ..	..	..	165	153	318
Penrhyn	1	..	348	305	654
Manuae .. ..	..	..	28	..	28
	131	100	7,444	6,844	14,519

As at 31st March, 1946, the population totalled 15,005, comprised of 7,843 males and 7,162 females.

INFANT-MORTALITY

The following table shows the infant-mortality rate in the Group for the last five years :—

Year ending 31st March,	Deaths under One Year of Age.	Births.	Infant Death-rate per 1,000 Live Births.
1941-42	22	214	102·8
1942-43	22	231	95·2
1943-44	19	163	116·5
1944-45	15	199	75·4
1945-46	27	226	119·5

VIII. EDUCATION

The work of this Department is in charge of an Education Officer from New Zealand, assisted by 7 European teachers, also from New Zealand, and by 118 local teachers and trainees.

There are twenty-four schools in the Group. Of these, eleven are Administration, seven are London Missionary Society, and six are Roman Catholic Mission Schools. The Administration assists education in the Northern group by subsidizing the local Mission schools.