

The average age at death of persons of either sex, in each of the ten years 1902–11, was as follows :—

	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.
1902	... 41·07 years	34·88 years.	1907	... 40·43 years	36·66 years.
1903	... 39·56 "	35·43 "	1908	... 42·50 "	39·14 "
1904	... 41·47 "	38·44 "	1909	... 42·76 "	38·78 "
1905	... 43·03 "	39·13 "	1910	... 44·47 "	42·25 "
1906	... 44·39 "	39·35 "	1911	... 46·17 "	42·37 "

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

The total number of deaths registered for the four centres in 1911 was 2,932—viz., 2,308 in the cities, and 624 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	13·68
and seven suburban boroughs	10·93
Wellington City	10·32
and three suburban boroughs	10·08
Christchurch City	10·95
and three suburban boroughs	10·36
Dunedin City	11·79
and five suburban boroughs	10·43

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

	Deaths per 1,000 of Population.				
	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.
Auckland (including suburbs)	11·43	10·41	9·30	9·73	10·93
Wellington "	11·28	9·10	9·11	8·95	10·08
Christchurch "	14·37	9·52	9·33	10·41	10·36
Dunedin "	12·02	10·50	9·95	10·24	10·43

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 1910 and 1911 in the following ratio to the 1,000 living :—

	1910.	1911.
Auckland (including suburbs)	7·67	9·21
Wellington "	6·91	8·17
Christchurch "	8·62	8·67
Dunedin "	8·24	9·28

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Subjoined is a classified statement of the deaths of infants under one year during 1911, 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>						
1911	Male	447	130	135	147	859
	Female	304	87	99	135	625
<i>Deaths to the 1,000 Births.</i>						
1911	Male	23·03	9·61	9·98	10·86	63·48
	Female	23·71	6·78	7·72	10·53	48·74

Sixty-three out of every thousand of male children born, and forty-nine of every thousand females, are found to have died before attaining the age of one year. The mortality was thus one in sixteen of male children and one in twenty-one 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 1911 there were—

100 deaths of males to	72 deaths of females	under 1 month of age ;
100	71	from 1 to 3 months of age ;
100	77	from 3 to 6 months of age ;
100	97	from 6 to 12 months of age ;
100	77	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.)