

The inclusion of the suburban boroughs lowers the rate at all the four centres.

	Death-rates per 1,000 of Population.
Auckland City	1.25
and seven suburban boroughs	1.01
Wellington City	0.89
and four suburban boroughs	0.88
Christchurch City	0.91
and five suburban boroughs	0.79
Dunedin City	1.03
and five suburban boroughs	0.90

Including the suburbs, the rate at Auckland is the highest and at Christchurch the lowest.

Compared with December, 1914, the results are—

	1914.	1915.
Auckland and suburbs	0.74	1.01
Wellington and suburbs	0.87	0.88
Christchurch and suburbs	0.77	0.79
Dunedin and suburbs	1.03	0.90

The total births in the four chief cities and their suburban boroughs amounted to 597, against 641 in November—a decrease of 44. The deaths in December were 291—an increase of 70 as compared with the previous month. Of the total deaths males contributed 154, females 137. Sixty-two of the deaths were of children under five years of age, being 21.31 per cent. of the whole number; 25 of these were under one year of age.

There were 110 deaths of persons of 65 years and upwards in the four chief cities and their suburban boroughs, as against 79 in November. The following table shows the classification:—

Age.	Auckland.		Wellington.		Christchurch.		Dunedin.		Total.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
65	2	1	1	1	1	..	1	..	5	2
66	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	2
67	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	3	2
68	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2
69	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
70	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	2	1
71	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	3	2	3
72	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	1	2	3
73	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	4	7
74	2	2	..	..	..	1	2	1	4	4
75	2	2	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	4
76	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	2	1
77	..	1	..	1	1	2	..	1	1	5
78	..	1	2	..	1	..	1	..	4	1
79	..	..	1	..	1	2	..	..	2	2
80	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	4	1
81	2	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	4	1
82	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
83	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2
84	..	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	1
85	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	2
86	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	1
87	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
88	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	2	2
89	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1
92	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
93	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..
94	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Totals ..	18	17	12	6	8	16	17	16	55	55

TABLE showing the Causes of the Deaths of Persons at the Four Centres registered during December, 1915.

CAUSES OF DEATH	AUCKLAND AND SUBURBAN BOROUGHS.		WELLINGTON AND SUBURBAN BOROUGHS.		CHRISTCHURCH AND SUBURBAN BOROUGHS.		DUNEDIN AND SUBURBAN BOROUGHS.		TOTAL.
	Under 5 Years.	5 Years and over.	Under 5 Years.	5 Years and over.	Under 5 Years.	5 Years and over.	Under 5 Years.	5 Years and over.	
I.—GENERAL DISEASES.									
(a.) Epidemic Diseases.									
1. Typhoid Fever	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
8. Whooping-cough	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	3
(b.) Other General Diseases.									
20. Septic Infection	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
28. Phthisis	1	4	..	3	..	2	4	16
29. Miliary Tuberculosis	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
30. Tubercular Meningitis	1	..	1
35. Disseminated Tuberculosis	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
37. Syphilis	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
39. Cancer of Buccal Cavity	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
40. " Stomach, Liver	4	..	1	..	4	..	5	14