

TABLE showing the Causes of the Deaths in the Four Chief Cities and their Suburbs registered during the Year, 1915—continued.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	AUCKLAND AND SUBURBAN BOROUGHS.		WELLINGTON AND SUBURBAN BOROUGHS.		CHRISTCHURCH AND SUBURBAN BOROUGHS.		DUNEDIN AND SUBURBAN BOROUGHS.		TOTALS.
	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.	
XII.—OLD AGE.									
154. Senility .. .. .	..	81	..	27	..	66	..	73	247
XIII.—VIOLENCE.									
155. Suicide—By Poisoning .. .. .	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	2	5
157. " By Strangulation .. .. .	..	4	..	1	..	1	..	2	8
158. " By Drowning .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
159. " By Firearms .. .. .	..	2	..	3	..	1	..	1	7
160. " By Cutting-instruments .. .. .	..	3	..	1	..	3	..	..	7
161. " By Jumping from Bridge .. .. .	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
165. Accident—Poisoning .. .. .	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
167. " Burns, Scalds .. .. .	..	3	1	..	1	..	..	..	5
168. " Death under Anæsthetic .. .. .	..	2	..	1	..	..	1	..	4
168. " Gas Poisoning .. .. .	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	5
168. " Overlain .. .. .	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	2
169. " Drowning .. .. .	..	3	..	5	..	1	..	4	13
170. " Gunshot Wound .. .. .	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
172. " Fall .. .. .	..	6	..	8	..	1	..	2	17
174. " Crushed in Machinery .. .. .	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	2	4
175. " Collision with Vehicle .. .. .	..	4	..	8	..	8	1	4	25
175. " Fall of Building .. .. .	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
179. Effects of Heat .. .. .	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
181. Electrocution .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
183. Homicide by Cutting-instrument .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
185. Fractures .. .. .	..	4	..	3	..	1	..	2	10
186. Foreign Body in Larynx .. .. .	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
186. Air Embolism .. .. .	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
186. Other Accidents .. .. .	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Totals .. .. .	2	41	2	36	2	20	2	21	126
XIV.—ILL-DEFINED DISEASES.									
187. Dropsy .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
187. Ascites .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
188. Syncope .. .. .	..	2	..	1	..	12	..	1	16
189. Heart-failure .. .. .	..	13	1	6	1	8	..	5	34
189. Asthenia .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	2
189. Not specified .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Totals .. .. .	..	15	1	10	1	21	..	7	55
General Totals .. .. .	209	735	146	570	121	545	129	600	3,055

## BIRTHS AND BIRTH-RATES.

Up to and including 1912, all births occurring in the four centres were treated as belonging to the centres. Owing chiefly to the fact that many women living in country districts go to the cities to enter public or private maternity homes, it was found that the birth-rates for the centres were usually well above the rate for the whole Dominion. For the past three years information as to domicile of parents has been obtained, and the births allocated accordingly, the result being that many births which in former years would have been included in the municipalized area are now excluded, the rates being reduced accordingly. No proper comparison is therefore possible as between these three years and previous years, the apparent decrease being due not to any actual falling-off in numbers but to the alteration in system explained above. The rates for 1913, 1914, and 1915 are, of course, quite comparable with each other.

The total number of births registered as occurring in the four chief cities and suburban boroughs in 1915 was 7,209, as against 7,311 for the previous year.

The birth-rates for last year were,—

	Birth-rates per 1,000 of Mean Population.
Auckland City .. .. .	21.95
"    and seven suburban boroughs .. .. .	23.13
Wellington City .. .. .	24.04
"    and four suburban boroughs .. .. .	24.19
Christchurch City .. .. .	21.54
"    and five suburban boroughs .. .. .	22.19
Dunedin City .. .. .	19.68
"    and five suburban boroughs .. .. .	20.73

By the inclusion of the suburbs the rate is raised in the case of all four centres. Excluding the suburbs, it will be observed that Wellington has the highest rate, Auckland next highest, Christchurch and Dunedin following. The birth-rate for the Dominion last year was 25.36 per thousand. All four centres are thus below the average.