

Dealing with the four metropolitan areas only, it is found that the inclusion of the suburban portions lowers the death-rate at Auckland, Christchurch, and Dunedin.

	Death-rate per 1,000 of Population.	
Auckland City .. .. .	1.02	
Auckland Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.85	
Wellington City .. .. .	0.50	
Wellington Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.59	
Christchurch City .. .. .	1.15	
Christchurch Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.99	
Dunedin City .. .. .	0.96	
Dunedin Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.87	

Including the suburban portions, the rate at Christchurch is the highest and at Wellington the lowest.

Compared with January, 1917, the results are—

	1917.	1918.
Auckland Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.89	0.85
Wellington Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.64	0.59
Christchurch Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.76	0.99
Dunedin Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.92	0.87

The total births in the four metropolitan areas amounted to 781, as against 675 in December, 1917—an increase of 106. The deaths in January, 1918, were 321—a decrease of 32 as compared with the previous month. Of the total deaths males contributed 180, females 141. Fifty-six of the deaths were of children under five years of age, being 17.44 per cent. of the whole number. Thirty-seven of these were under one year of age.

The following table shows the deaths in various age-groups occurring in the four metropolitan, and total of nine suburban, areas during the month of January, 1918 :—

Age-group.	METROPOLITAN AREA.								NINE SUBURBAN AREAS		Total.	
	Auckland.		Wellington.		Christchurch.		Dunedin.		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.				
Under 5 years ..	12	9	5	8	10	8	..	4	6	4	33	33
5 and under 10 years..	1	..	..	1	2	..	..	1	1	1	4	3
10 " " 15 " " ..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	1	1	1	3	3
15 " " 20 " " ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	1
20 " " 25 " " ..	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	2	..	1	3	6
25 " " 30 " " ..	3	..	1	..	2	1	1	1	3	3	10	5
30 " " 35 " " ..	1	1	2	1	..	1	..	1	..	2	3	6
35 " " 40 " " ..	2	2	3	..	1	..	2	1	2	2	10	5
40 " " 45 " " ..	4	2	..	1	2	..	1	1	2	..	9	4
45 " " 50 " " ..	8	2	3	1	1	2	2	4	1	1	15	10
50 " " 55 " " ..	2	4	2	2	3	2	3	2	5	1	15	11
55 " " 60 " " ..	6	..	2	1	4	1	1	1	3	1	16	4
60 " " 65 " " ..	2	2	2	2	6	2	4	1	4	1	18	8
65 years and over ..	31	17	11	5	12	27	14	12	18	9	86	70
Unknown or not stated ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals.. ..	73	40	33	23	46	46	28	32	47	28	227	169

There were 156 deaths of persons of 65 years and upwards in the four metropolitan and nine suburban areas during the month of January, 1918, as against 171 in the previous month. The following table shows the classification :—

Age.	METROPOLITAN AREA.								NINE SUBURBAN AREAS.		Total.	
	Auckland.		Wellington.		Christchurch.		Dunedin.		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.				
65	1	1	..	..	..	4	..	1	..	..	1	6
66	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2
67	2	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	2	3	5
68	2	1	2	..	..	1	2	..	1	..	7	2
69	1	1	1	1	..	1	2	..	..	1	4	4
70	1	2	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	1	3	5
71	..	1	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	..	1	4
72	1	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	1	..	6	..
73	3	1	..	..	3	2	2	1	1	2	9	6
74	3	..	3	..	1	..	..	1	1	2	8	3
75	2	1	..	1	1	2	..	2	2	..	5	6
76	2	2	1	..	3	2	1	1	2	..	9	5
77	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	2
78	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	2
79	1	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	1	..	3	3
80	5	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	1	..	8	1
81	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
82	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3	2
83	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	1
84	2	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	..	..	3	3
85	..	..	..	1	..	2	1	..	1	1	2	4
86	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2
87	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..
88	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
89	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
90	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
91	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
94	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	1	..
99	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Totals ..	31	17	11	5	12	27	14	12	18	9	86	70