

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

	Death-rate per 1,000 of Population.	
Auckland City .. .. .	0.79	
Auckland Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.64	
Wellington City .. .. .	0.86	
Wellington Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.83	
Christchurch City .. .. .	0.55	
Christchurch Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.60	
Dunedin City .. .. .	0.76	
Dunedin Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.74	

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

Compared with February, 1917, the results are—

	1917.	1918.
Auckland Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.80	0.64
Wellington Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.70	0.83
Christchurch Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.78	0.60
Dunedin Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.95	0.74

The total births in the four metropolitan areas amounted to 626, as against 781 in January—a decrease of 155. The deaths in February were 272—a decrease of 49 as compared with the previous month. Of the total deaths, males contributed 152, females 120. Forty-nine of the deaths were of children under five years of age, being 18.01 per cent. of the whole number. Thirty-six 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 February, 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 ..	10	7	9	10	6	5	2	..	9	8	36	30
5 and under 10 years..	..	..	2	2	..	1	..	..	1	..	3	3
10 " 15 " ..	1	1	..	..	3	..	..	..	1	..	5	1
15 " 20 " ..	1	1	..	2	..	..	2	..	..	1	3	6
20 " 25 " ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	3
25 " 30 " ..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	1	3	3	4
30 " 35 " ..	..	1	1	2	1	..	1	1	1	2	4	6
35 " 40 " ..	1	1	1	2	..	1	2	..	1	2	5	6
40 " 45 " ..	4	3	2	2	3	..	2	..	1	2	12	7
45 " 50 " ..	2	2	4	1	2	..	..	2	2	..	10	5
50 " 55 " ..	4	5	3	4	3	1	1	2	..	2	11	14
55 " 60 " ..	7	1	2	1	5	1	2	4	1	2	17	9
60 " 65 " ..	3	2	3	..	2	1	3	1	4	1	15	5
65 years and over ..	13	16	12	13	14	5	11	12	12	8	62	54
Unknown or not stated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals..	46	40	40	39	40	16	26	25	34	33	186	153

There were 116 deaths of persons of 65 years and upwards in the four metropolitan and nine suburban areas during the month of February, 1918, as against 156 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	4	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	4	2	
66	..	..	..	2	1	..	1	..	1	..	3	2
67	3	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	1	5	2
68	..	3	2	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	3	5
69	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	1	3	3
70	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	3	..
71	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	..	..	1	3	2
72	1	5	1	..	..	..	1	..	2	1	5	6
73	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	3	2
74	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
75	..	1	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	3
76	..	..	1	2	..	..	2	2	..	..	3	4
77	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	2
78	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	2	..	4	2
79	..	..	..	1	2	1	1	..	1	1	4	3
80	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	3
81	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	2
82	..	..	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	3	1
83	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3	..
84	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	2
85	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	3
86	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1
87	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	1
88	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
90	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
91	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
92	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	2	1
Totals ..	13	16	12	13	14	5	11	12	12	8	62	54