

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

	Death-rate per 1,000 of Population.	
Auckland City	0.88	
Auckland Metropolitan Area	1.00	
Wellington City	0.77	
Wellington Metropolitan Area	0.87	
Christchurch City	1.15	
Christchurch Metropolitan Area	1.11	
Dunedin City	1.24	
Dunedin Metropolitan Area	1.11	

Including the suburban portions, Christchurch and Dunedin with equal rates are the highest, Auckland next highest, and Wellington the lowest.

Compared with May, 1917, 1918, and 1919, the results are—

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
Auckland Metropolitan Area	0.86	0.72	0.94	1.00
Wellington Metropolitan Area	0.80	0.86	0.92	0.87
Christchurch Metropolitan Area	0.83	0.74	0.83	1.11
Dunedin Metropolitan Area	0.79	0.98	0.92	1.11

The total births registered for the four metropolitan areas amounted to 736, as against 721 in April—an increase of 15. The deaths in May were 426—an increase of 95 as compared with the previous month. Of the total deaths males contributed 240, females 186. Sixty-six of the deaths were of children under five years of age, being 15.49 per cent. of the whole number. Forty-three 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 May, 1920 :—

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 ..	13	7	10	6	14	7	5	4	14	9	56	33
5 and under 10 years..	..	4	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	1	6
10 " 15 " ..	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	2	..	5	1
15 " 20 " ..	3	3	1	..	1	1	..	..	3	3	8	7
20 " 25 " ..	1	2	1	3	1	..	1	..	1	..	5	5
25 " 30 " ..	2	3	..	..	1	2	1	1	2	2	6	8
30 " 35 " ..	6	..	3	4	1	..	4	2	1	3	15	9
35 " 40 " ..	1	5	2	3	2	3	..	..	3	3	8	14
40 " 45 " ..	4	5	2	5	2	5	..	..	6	2	14	17
45 " 50 " ..	4	3	..	..	4	2	..	2	1	3	9	10
50 " 55 " ..	5	2	2	2	4	1	2	3	1	4	14	12
55 " 60 " ..	5	4	6	..	1	..	5	4	1	3	18	11
60 " 65 " ..	7	1	6	5	3	5	7	2	5	5	28	18
65 years and over ..	29	25	16	10	22	27	27	10	22	18	116	90
Unknown or not stated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals.. ..	81	64	50	38	57	56	52	28	63	55	303	241

The deaths of 206 persons of 65 years and upwards were registered for the four metropolitan and nine suburban areas during the month of May, 1920, as against 145 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	2	..	..	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	7	4
66	..	1	4	..	3	2	..	..	..	1	7	4
67	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	2	3
68	2	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	5	1
69	..	2	1	1	1	1	1	..	2	1	5	5
70	..	2	..	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	3	3
71	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	2	1
72	..	1	1	..	1	2	..	..	2	..	4	3
73	1	4	1	1	2	1	..	1	1	2	5	9
74	1	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	1	4
75	1	1	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	1	3	4
76	2	2	1	..	2	..	1	..	2	..	8	2
77	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	4	1
78	1	2	..	..	1	3	..	..	1	..	3	5
79	4	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	2	2	6	5
80	2	..	1	..	1	2	3	..	2	..	9	2
81	..	..	2	..	..	3	2	1	1	3	5	7
82	1	..	..	..	4	2	1	2	1	2	7	6
83	2	3	1	..	1	..	2	..	2	..	8	3
84	..	1	1	1	..	1	2	1	..	..	3	4
85	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	4	2
86	2	..	..	1	..	1	2	..	..	1	4	3
87	3	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	4	2
88	..	2	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	2	3
90	1	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	3
92	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
93	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
94	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..
95	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Totals ..	29	25	16	10	22	27	27	10	22	18	116	90