

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

	Death-rate per 1,000 of Population.	
Auckland City.. .. .	1.18	
Auckland Metropolitan Area .. .. .	1.08	
Wellington City .. .. .	1.13	
Wellington Metropolitan Area .. .. .	1.14	
Christchurch City .. .. .	1.10	
Christchurch Metropolitan Area .. .. .	1.02	
Dunedin City .. .. .	1.33	
Dunedin Metropolitan Area .. .. .	1.28	

Including the suburban portions, Dunedin is the highest and Christchurch the lowest.

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

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
Auckland Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.89	1.10	0.72	1.08
Wellington Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.84	0.81	1.09	1.14
Christchurch Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.97	1.21	0.95	1.02
Dunedin Metropolitan Area .. .. .	1.15	0.92	0.90	1.28

The total births registered for the four metropolitan areas amounted to 792, as against 813 in September—a decrease of 21. The deaths in September were 467—a decrease of 5 as compared with the previous month. Of the total deaths males contributed 261, females 206. Ninety-six of the deaths were of children under five years of age, being 20.55 per cent. of the whole number. Seventy 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 October, 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 .. .. .	14	14	21	15	10	8	11	3	17	13	73	53
5 and under 10 years..	1	1	4	..	2	2	2	1	3	2	12	6
10 " 15 " .. .. .	1	1	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	5	3
15 " 20 " .. .. .	2	1	1	..	1	2	2	..	1	2	7	5
20 " 25 " .. .. .	..	4	*	5	..	..	2	..	1	3	3	12
25 " 30 " .. .. .	2	3	..	2	1	2	1	4	1	3	5	14
30 " 35 " .. .. .	..	3	1	..	..	1	..	1	1	4	2	9
35 " 40 " .. .. .	4	2	5	..	1	6	1	3	2	3	13	14
40 " 45 " .. .. .	3	2	3	4	3	2	2	1	1	3	12	12
45 " 50 " .. .. .	3	4	4	..	1	1	..	1	2	1	10	7
50 " 55 " .. .. .	5	3	6	1	3	1	3	2	1	3	18	10
55 " 60 " .. .. .	9	7	4	3	5	3	4	2	2	2	24	17
60 " 65 " .. .. .	4	4	6	3	2	2	2	..	5	1	19	10
65 years and over .. .. .	37	22	14	11	20	24	23	19	37	23	131	99
Unknown or not stated .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Totals.. .. .	85	71	71	44	50	54	55	37	74	65	335	271

\* Excluding Gisborne; returns not yet received.

The deaths of 230 persons of 65 years and upwards were registered for the four metropolitan and nine suburban areas during the month of October, 1920, as against 247 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	3	..	..	1	..	4	2	..	3	..	8	5
66	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	1	1	1	2	3
67	3	2	2	2	..	..	..	..	1	2	6	6
68	3	..	2	..	1	..	1	1	1	1	8	2
69	2	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	4	3	6	6
70	3	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	1	6	2
71	..	..	..	1	3	..	1	1	1	1	5	3
72	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	2	3	..	5	4
73	2	..	1	1	..	2	..	1	..	1	3	5
74	1	4	1	..	2	1	..	1	2	..	6	6
75	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	1	..	3	2
76	3	3	..	..	..	1	1	3	1	2	5	9
77	1	3	2	..	2	1	3	1	1	1	9	6
78	2	2	..	1	..	..	2	1	2	1	6	5
79	2	..	1	..	2	3	..	1	3	1	8	5
80	..	1	1	1	1	..	2	..	3	..	7	2
81	1	1	..	..	..	2	..	1	1	2	2	6
82	2	2	..	..	4	2	2	1	1	2	9	7
83	1	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	4	1
84	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	..	1	3	2
85	3	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	1	..	7	..
86	..	1	1	..	..	2	..	2	1	..	2	5
87	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
88	2	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	2	1	6	3
89	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	3	3	..
92	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1
95	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
97	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
98	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Totals ..	37	22	14	11	20	24	23	19	37	23	131	99

\* Excluding Gisborne; returns not yet received.