

Dealing with the four metropolitan areas only, it is found that the inclusion of the suburban portions lowers the death-rate in each case.

	Death-rate per 1,000 of Population.	
Auckland City .. .. .	0.95	
Auckland Metropolitan Area .. .. .		0.74
Wellington City .. .. .	0.71	
Wellington Metropolitan Area .. .. .		0.67
Christchurch City .. .. .	0.84	
Christchurch Metropolitan Area .. .. .		0.70
Dunedin City .. .. .	0.96	
Dunedin Metropolitan Area .. .. .		0.90

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

Compared with January, 1918, 1919, and 1920, the results are—

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Auckland Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.85	0.71	0.72	0.74
Wellington Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.59	1.74	1.13	0.67
Christchurch Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.99	0.87	0.72	0.70
Dunedin Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.87	0.92	0.93	0.90

The total births registered for the four metropolitan areas amounted to 845, as against 775 in December—an increase of 70. The deaths in January were 323—a decrease of 41 as compared with the previous month. Of the total deaths males contributed 149, females 174. Fifty-seven of the deaths were of children under five years of age, being 17.65 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 January, 1921:—

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	12	9	8	4	6	4	4	10	16	37	46
5 and under 10 years..	..	..	..	3	2	3	1	..	1	1	4	7
10 " 15 " ..	1	1	1	..	2	1	..	1	2	1	6	4
15 " 20 " ..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	2	3
20 " 25 " ..	..	2	..	3	..	1	..	2	..	2	..	10
25 " 30 " ..	2	2	..	3	1	..	2	1	..	1	5	7
30 " 35 " ..	1	..	1	..	1	1	2	..	2	1	7	2
35 " 40 " ..	3	5	..	2	..	..	..	2	2	..	5	9
40 " 45 " ..	4	..	5	1	..	2	1	2	2	5	12	10
45 " 50 " ..	8	1	1	1	2	4	3	2	1	1	15	9
50 " 55 " ..	2	3	1	3	..	3	..	2	4	4	7	15
55 " 60 " ..	2	5	1	2	2	4	2	..	1	1	8	12
60 " 65 " ..	1	3	2	1	4	1	3	1	2	1	12	7
65 years and over ..	19	21	9	12	11	21	17	13	11	9	67	76
Unknown or not stated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals..	54	56	30	39	29	47	36	32	38	43	187	217

The deaths of 143 persons of 65 years and upwards were registered for the four metropolitan and nine suburban areas during the month of January, 1921, as against 186 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	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	1	
66	1	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	3	2	
67	2	..	..	1	1	2	..	1	2	4	4	
68	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	3	3	
69	..	2	..	..	1	3	1	1	..	4	4	
70	3	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	1	5	3	
71	..	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	1	3	
72	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	2	3	
73	..	..	2	..	..	1	2	..	1	5	2	
74	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	
75	..	2	1	2	..	1	2	1	..	3	6	
76	1	..	..	..	..	3	2	1	1	4	4	
77	2	2	..	1	..	1	2	..	1	5	4	
78	1	..	1	1	1	2	..	..	1	4	3	
79	..	2	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	2	4	
80	1	1	1	..	2	1	1	1	1	5	4	
81	1	..	1	1	..	1	1	..	1	4	4	
82	1	1	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	1	4	
83	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	
84	..	2	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	1	4	
85	..	3	..	1	..	..	3	1	..	1	7	
86	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	
87	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	
88	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	
90	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	
91	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	
93	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	
94	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	
Totals ..	19	21	9	12	11	21	17	13	11	9	67	76

\* Excluding Invercargill; returns not to hand.