

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 .. .. .	0.96	
Auckland Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.75	
Wellington City .. .. .	0.01	
Wellington Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.86	
Christchurch City .. .. .	0.85	
Christchurch Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.72	
Dunedin City .. .. .	0.66	
Dunedin Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.57	

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

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

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Auckland Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.64	0.64	0.73	0.75
Wellington Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.83	0.92	0.68	0.86
Christchurch Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.60	0.61	0.69	0.72
Dunedin Metropolitan Area .. .. .	0.74	0.74	0.87	0.57

The total births registered for the four metropolitan areas amounted to 679, as against 840 in January—a decrease of 66. The deaths in February were 321—a decrease of 2 as compared with the previous month. Of the total deaths males contributed 183, females 138. Fifty-eight of the deaths were of children under five years of age, being 18.07 per cent. of the whole number. Forty-two 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, 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 ..	15	6	17	3	5	5	3	4	7	11	47	29
5 and under 10 years..	2	1	..	..	2	1	..	..	3	..	7	2
10 " 15 " ..	1	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	3	1
15 " 20 " ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	3
20 " 25 " ..	..	1	3	..	..	2	1	..	1	..	5	3
25 " 30 " ..	..	2	..	1	3	2	2	..	..	2	5	7
30 " 35 " ..	..	..	2	3	..	..	..	1	1	2	3	6
35 " 40 " ..	2	1	3	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	10	8
40 " 45 " ..	2	2	5	4	2	2	1	1	..	..	10	9
45 " 50 " ..	2	3	3	1	2	4	..	..	1	1	8	9
50 " 55 " ..	6	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	13	9
55 " 60 " ..	3	2	3	1	4	2	1	..	..	2	11	7
60 " 65 " ..	5	2	7	1	3	3	2	1	1	2	18	9
65 years and over ..	27	25	10	16	15	15	10	6	15	15	77	77
Unknown or not stated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals..	65	47	54	34	39	39	25	18	35	41	218	179

The deaths of 154 persons of 65 years and upwards were registered for the four metropolitan and nine suburban areas during the month of February, 1921, as against 143 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	2	1	1	1	..	..	..	3	3	6	
66	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	2	2	
67	1	..	..	..	1	1	1	2	..	4	2	
68	2	..	1	..	1	..	2	1	2	7	3	
69	..	2	1	2	..	1	..	..	..	1	5	
70	..	2	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	1	5	
71	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	1	
72	2	1	1	..	1	2	..	2	1	6	4	
73	..	2	..	3	1	1	2	..	..	3	6	
74	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	1	
75	2	1	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	3	3	
76	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	3	..	
77	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	
78	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	2	3	4	
79	1	3	..	..	..	1	..	2	1	3	5	
80	..	1	..	1	2	..	1	1	1	4	3	
81	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	2	2	
82	1	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	2	4	
83	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	1	2	3	3	
84	2	2	1	..	2	1	..	..	1	5	4	
85	..	2	1	2	..	1	1	..	1	2	6	
86	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	3	3	
87	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	3	1	
88	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	
89	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	
90	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	
91	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	
92	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	
94	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	
Totals ..	27	25	10	16	15	15	10	6	15	15	67	77

\* Excluding Gisborne (returns not to hand).