

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	0.83	
Auckland Metropolitan Area	0.72	
Wellington City	0.91	
Wellington Metropolitan Area	0.83	
Christchurch City	0.81	
Christchurch Metropolitan Area	0.75	
Dunedin City	0.87	
Dunedin Metropolitan Area	0.83	

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

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

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Auckland Metropolitan Area	0.66	0.65	0.75	0.72
Wellington Metropolitan Area	0.74	0.79	0.76	0.83
Christchurch Metropolitan Area	0.60	0.72	0.77	0.75
Dunedin Metropolitan Area	0.70	0.74	1.08	0.83

The total births registered for the four metropolitan areas amounted to 728, as against 679 in February—an increase of 50. The deaths in March were 336—an increase of 15 as compared with the previous month. Of the total deaths, males contributed 182, females 154. Sixty of the deaths were of children under five years of age, being 17.86 per cent. of the whole number. Forty-eight 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 March, 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 ..	16	8	10	10	6	3	6	2	19	11	57	34
5 and under 10 years..	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	2	2	7	1
10 " 15 " ..	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	7	1
15 " 20 " ..	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	6
20 " 25 " ..	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	9	7
25 " 30 " ..	1	1	3	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	4	8
30 " 35 " ..	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3
35 " 40 " ..	2	5	6	1	4	2	2	5	2	2	16	11
40 " 45 " ..	2	2	2	1	4	1	1	3	3	2	12	2
45 " 50 " ..	3	2	2	4	1	1	2	3	2	2	8	9
50 " 55 " ..	4	8	3	4	2	2	2	1	4	4	12	16
55 " 60 " ..	5	2	2	1	4	2	1	2	2	2	12	10
60 " 65 " ..	2	5	3	3	5	2	4	3	7	4	21	17
65 years and over ..	16	18	10	11	16	19	17	12	18	10	77	70
Unknown or not stated ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	56	51	48	37	43	38	35	28	65	41	247	195

The deaths of 147 persons of 65 years and upwards were registered for the four metropolitan and nine suburban areas during the month of March, 1921, as against 154 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	..	..	..	..	4	1	1	..	5	2
66	1	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1
67	3	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	2	3	7	4
68	..	2	..	1	..	1	1	..	2	..	3	4
69	1	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3
70	1	1	..	1	3	..	..	..	1	..	5	2
71	1	..	..	..	2	1	1	..	1	..	5	1
72	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	2	3
73	1	1	1	..	..	2	1	1	..	1	3	5
74	..	3	..	1	..	2	..	1	..	..	7	4
75	1	..	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	1	2	4
76	..	1	1	1	2	2	..	1	1	..	4	5
77	..	1	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	3	1
78	2	..	..	1	2	1	1	3	1	..	6	5
79	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	1	2	3
80	1	..	..	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	6	5
81	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	1	3	4
82	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	2	1
83	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	2	1
84	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1
85	1	..	..	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	3	2
86	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1
87	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2	1
88	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
89	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
90	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1
91	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
92	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	3
93	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
94	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
95	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Totals ..	16	18	10	11	16	19	17	12	18	10	77	70