

Dealing with the four principal urban areas only, it is found that the inclusion of the suburban portions lowers the death-rate in the case of Auckland, Christchurch, and Dunedin, but Wellington remains the same.

	Death-rate per 1,000 of Population.			
Auckland City	0.98
Auckland Urban Area	0.89
Wellington City	0.81
Wellington Urban Area	0.81
Christchurch City	0.68
Christchurch Urban Area	0.60
Dunedin City	0.95
Dunedin Urban Area	0.93

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

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

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Auckland Urban Area	1.67	0.90	0.93	0.89
Wellington Urban Area	5.81	0.84	0.63	0.81
Christchurch Urban Area	1.81	1.04	0.94	0.60
Dunedin Urban Area	2.81	0.98	0.96	0.93

The total births registered for the four principal urban areas amounted to 793, as against 735 in November—an increase of 58. The deaths in December were 357—an increase of 41 as compared with the previous month. Of the total deaths males contributed 195, females 162. Fifty-four of the deaths were of children under five years of age, being 15.41 per cent. of the whole number. Thirty-nine of these were under one year of age.

The following table shows the deaths in various age-groups occurring in the thirteen urban areas during the month of December, 1921:—

Age-group.	URBAN AREAS.										Total.	
	Auckland.		Wellington.		Christchurch.		Dunedin.		Others.			
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Under 5 years ..	10	8	5	11	8	5	2	5	12	5	37	34
5 and under 10 years ..	5	3	1	..	2	..	..	..	3	..	11	3
10 " 15 " ..	1	3	2	..	..	1	..	..	2	1	5	5
15 " 20 " ..	3	1	1	1	..	1	3	1	1	..	8	4
20 " 25 " ..	..	2	2	2	..	1	3	..	1	..	6	5
25 " 30 " ..	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	5
30 " 35 " ..	2	3	2	..	..	1	1	..	1	4	6	8
35 " 40 " ..	4	2	3	1	2	1	2	..	2	2	13	6
40 " 45 " ..	3	2	2	4	2	2	2	5	3	3	12	16
45 " 50 " ..	5	3	2	4	..	1	3	..	..	3	10	11
50 " 55 " ..	8	1	6	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	19	6
55 " 60 " ..	4	4	4	4	3	..	3	1	5	..	19	9
60 " 65 " ..	7	2	1	3	1	3	6	3	5	1	20	12
65 years and over ..	25	26	14	9	17	9	8	15	29	18	93	77
Totals ..	77	63	46	41	37	26	35	32	65	39	260	201

The deaths of 170 persons of 65 years and upwards were registered for the thirteen urban areas during the month of December, 1921, as against 169 in the previous month. The following table shows the classification:—

Age.	URBAN AREAS.										Total	
	Auckland.		Wellington.		Christchurch.		Dunedin.		Others.			
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
65	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	4	2
66	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	2	3	3
67	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	2	2	5
68	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	4	..	5	2
69	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	4	1
70	2	1	1	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	5	3
71	1	1	..	3	3	1	1	1	..	2	5	8
72	2	2	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	4	3
73	2	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	1	1	6	2
74	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	1	4	2
75	3	2	1	1	..	2	2	..	4	2	10	7
76	4	5	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	5	6
77	..	1	..	1	1	1	..	1	1	1	2	5
78	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	2	2	1	4	5
79	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	3	2
80	2	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	3	2
81	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	1	2	2	6	3
82	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
83	..	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	3	1
84	2	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	5	2
85	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	3	4
86	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1
87	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
88	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	2	2
89	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..
90	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
91	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
93	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
97	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
98	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Total ..	25	26	14	9	17	9	8	15	29	18	93	77