

Causes of Death Among Natives of Alaska 1945 - 1949

With the publication of the results of the 1950 Census on Alaska, it becomes possible to prepare estimates of the Native population in the intercensal years. This has been done in Table 1. With this material available, it becomes possible to calculate standard rates for vital statistics of the Natives of Alaska, which has been available for the period 1945 - 1949 in "Vital Statistics of the United States" published by the National Office of Vital Statistics of the U. S. Public Health Service. Figures on the number of births and deaths contained herein are from this source. All rates were calculated by the Health Statistics Unit of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The Native population of Alaska showed only a slight increase during the period of approximately ten years between the Census of October 1, 1939 and April 1, 1950, as shown in Table 1, Estimated Native Population of Alaska, 1939-1950. Additional estimates for the latter portion of the period are shown in Table 2, Estimated Native Population of Alaska by Age and Sex. The percental increase (or decrease) for all Natives and the three racial subdivisions was:

All Natives	4.3
Aleuts	-30.5
Eskimos	2.0
Indians	24.9

The Aleuts are reported as decreasing by nearly one-third, the Eskimos as increasing by a negligible amount, and the Indians increasing by about one-fourth, with the net effect on the total Native population an increase of less than 5 percent.

There is some reason to believe that the 1950 census figures are incomplete. During the five years 1945-1949 there was an excess of 2,778 births over deaths (See Table 3, Births, Deaths, and Net Increase in Native Population: Alaska 1945-1949). The average net increase, expressed as rate of natural increase per 1,000 population, for these five years was 16.6. If this was also true for the preceding 5 years, there should have been an average percental increase of 1.6 each year, or for the 10-year period a percental increase of 16.6, approximately four times as much as was shown by the Census.

The net increase as given in Table 3 may be over-stated. It is known that registration of births and deaths among Natives, particularly in the remote interior villages, is incomplete. No specific data are available to measure the extent of under-registration of deaths. For births, the 1950 Birth Registration test conducted by the National Office of Vital Statistics in connection with the U. S. Census showed the following results for Natives:

All Births			
	Total No.	Matched to Birth Certificates	Percent Matches
All Alaska	431	361	83.8
Judicial Dist. 1	82	78	95.1
Judicial Dist. 2	132	117	88.6
Judicial Dist. 3	84	67	79.8
Judicial Dist. 4	133	99	74.4

It will be noted that only in the 1st Judicial District, the southeastern panhandle area, does the proportion of births registered exceed 90 percent. It is believed that the registration of deaths, at least within a period of three months after the event which would correspond to the situation of the Birth Registration Test, would show a still greater degree of under-recording. Children dying within the first few months of life are probably not recorded in many instances as either births or deaths. Persons of older ages will probably be eventually recorded, but in some instances too late to be included in the tabulation of deaths for the year the event occurred. It is probable that the official tally of both births and deaths as given in Table 3 is low. The net increase is probably high but the amount of over-statement cannot be determined.

Making allowance for over-statement of net increase, it would still appear that the 1950 population is understated when compared with the 1940 population. The effect on the calculation of rates is probably balanced to a certain degree by the under-registration of births and deaths. The net result is that all rates must be considered as approximations only.

For the five years covered in this report, less than half of the live-births occurring among Natives were attended by a physician, as shown in Table 4. There was an improvement during the period. In 1945 there were 397 livebirths out of a total of 930, or 42.7 percent. In 1949 there were 651 out of 1,315 or 49.5 percent. These proportions are probably somewhat overstated, since under-reporting is largely confined to births not attended by physicians. Even as stated, the proportion of births attended by physicians is far below that in the continental United States. Comparing the five years covered in Alaska with the comparable figures for 1947, the mid-year point within continental United States, the result is:

	Alaska Natives 1945-1949	Total U. S. 1947
Physician in hospital	42.7	84.8
Physician not in hospital	2.7	10.1
Midwife and other	54.6	5.1

Approximately twice as high a percentage of children were born in hospitals in the continental United States as among Alaska Natives, while only about one-tenth as large a fraction were not attended by physicians.

Similar data for deaths are available only for the year 1949. During that year out of 521 deaths among Natives of Alaska, 374 or 71.8 percent did not occur in hospitals. During the same year 50.5 percent of the deaths in continental United States did not occur in hospitals.

Table 5 lists deaths at all ages and death rates for the years 1945 to 1949 inclusive by cause. Because of the small number of deaths included comparisons to rates among Indians and the total population within the continental United States in Table 6 are made to mean rates for Alaskan Natives for the entire 5-year period. All rates are per 100,000 population.

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The leading cause of death among Natives of Alaska during the reporting period was tuberculosis. The rate for the period 1945-1949 inclusive was 662.3, with rates for individual years ranging from 594.0 in 1947 to 765.1 in 1945. Tuberculosis was the leading cause of death in all age-groups except those 65 and over, where it was the third highest cause (See Table 7). For the age-groups 5-19 years and 20-44 years, tuberculosis deaths accounted for over 60 percent of all deaths. The mean rate (all ages) is approximately four times as high as among Indians of the continental United States (169.2) and about 20 times the rate for all races in the continental United States (33.5). While it is possible that some deaths not attended by a physician were falsely ascribed to this cause on the basis of a past history of tuberculosis, the number of deaths ascribed to unknown causes which were actually deaths from tuberculosis counter balances this to an undeterminable degree, and the rate as given is perhaps more likely understated than overstated. The comparison is still higher for non-respiratory tuberculosis. The rate among Alaska Natives is 125.5 per 100,000 population or 19.0 percent of all tuberculosis deaths. Under five years of age non-respiratory tuberculosis accounts for well over half of all tuberculosis deaths, and from 5-19 years about one-sixth. At older ages the proportion decreases (See Table 7). Compared with Indians in the continental United States the Alaska Native rate (all ages) is nearly five times as high, and with the rate for the total population it is fifty times as high. The proportion of non-respiratory to total tuberculosis deaths in these two latter groups is 15.5 and 7.5 percent respectively. About two-thirds of the deaths from non-respiratory tuberculosis among Alaska Natives are attributed to tuberculosis of the meninges and central nervous system. This is slightly higher than among Indians within the continental United States, and considerably higher than the total for all races. In 1947 about one-fourth of all non-respiratory tuberculosis deaths were attributed to these systems in the total population.

The second highest cause of death among Natives of Alaska was influenza and pneumonia. This position is primarily due to deaths among children under 5. On analysis of deaths by age-groups, the category ranked second in the youngest group, and third in the groups 5-19 and 20-44 years. The mean rate (all ages) for the years 1945 to 1949 inclusive was 203.2, while rates for individual years varied from 277.1 in 1945 to 119.0 in 1948. The mean rate was about 75 percent above that among Indians in the continental United States (115.2) and nearly five times as high as the rate for all races in continental United States (43.1).

The third leading cause of death among Natives of Alaska was the category of ill-defined and unknown conditions. This reflects to a large degree the high proportion of Natives dying without medical attendance. To a major degree, this is a cause for the group 65 years of age and over, where this is the leading cause of death. The mean rate (all ages) for the reporting period was 145.8, with a variation from 160.2 in 1949 to 125.4 in 1947. The comparatively high rate in 1949 is somewhat misleading, since the revision in method of selecting underlying cause of death which was inaugurated in 1949 may well have given greater weight to this category in the process of selection. The mean rate was more than one-fifth above that (119.9) among Indians and seven and a half times higher than that (19.2) among the total population of continental United States.

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Non-motor accidents were the fourth leading cause of death among Alaska Natives, with a mean rate of 137.5. For the individual years, rates varied from 166.2 in 1949 to 120.1 in 1946. Between the ages of 5 and 64 this was the second highest cause of death. The mean rate was about twice that among Indians (67.4) and three times that among all races (46.4) in continental United States. Drownings represented more than one-third of non-motor vehicle accidental deaths among Natives, and burns about one-fifth.

Diseases peculiar to early infancy, including birth injuries, pemphigus, icterus and melena of the newborn, malnutrition and immaturity, ranked fifth among the leading causes of death. All deaths attributed to this cause occurred in children under one year of age. For the age group under 5 years it represents the third leading cause, and for children under one year would rank still higher. The mean rate calculated on population of all ages was 74.1, approximately the same as among Indians in continental United States (65.8) but more than 60 percent higher than the comparable rate for all races (45.5).

The sixth among the leading causes of death at all ages, and the second for persons 65 years of age or over, was heart diseases. The mean rate (all ages) was 71.1 more than 40 percent below the comparable Indian rate in continental United States (125.2) and nearly 80 percent below the U. S. rate for all races (321.2). The relatively low frequency among Alaska natives probably reflects the number of persons dying from other causes at comparatively early ages, before deaths from heart disease become a serious problem. During the period 1947-1949 inclusive, 51 of the 63 deaths attributed to heart diseases occurred among persons 45 years of age and over, while 75 percent of deaths from all causes occurred at ages below 45 years.

The seventh leading cause of death, among Alaska Natives was malignant neoplasms. The pattern of comparability is very similar to that for heart diseases, and probably for much the same reasons. Deaths due to vascular lesions affecting the central nervous system, tied for 8th rank, also shows a similar pattern.

The other category tied for eighth position was deaths from gastrointestinal causes. The mean rate was 25.1, with a variation from 41.8 in 1947 to 11.9 in 1949. Part of the reason for the 1949 low was the change in classification, which transferred diarrhea of the newborn from this category to diseases of infancy. During the period 1947-1949, all but 1 of the 26 deaths attributed to this category occurred to children under five years of age. The mean rate (all ages) was about half as high as that (49.1) for Indians within continental United States but four and a half times as high as the general U. S. rate (5.6).

The tenth ranking cause of death among Alaska Natives for the period 1945-1949 inclusive was whooping cough. Of the total 34 deaths attributed to this cause 23 occurred in 1948. Of the 23 deaths occurring that year 22 were children under 5 years of age. The mean rate (all ages) for the five-year period was 20.3, more than two and a half times the rate for Indians in the continental United States (7.6) and nearly 15 times the general U. S. rate (1.4).

Other infectious diseases of childhood, while not included among the ten leading causes were comparatively high for Alaska Natives. The death rate for measles (11.4) was over 60 percent higher than among Indians of the continental United States (7.0) and 38 times as high as the death rate for all races (0.3). The death rate for diphtheria among Alaska Natives was 7.8, more than two and a half times the U. S. Indian rate (2.9) and 13 times the general rate (0.6). Deaths from dysentery amounted to 7.2 per 100,000 among Alaska natives, approximately the same as the rate among Indians in continental United States (7.1) but 12 times the U. S. general rate (0.6).

In analysis of deaths at all ages it becomes evident that infant mortality is proportionately high among Alaska Natives. The infant death rates per 1,000 livebirths and comparable rates for the total population in continental United States are:

	Alaska		U.S.
	No. infant deaths	Rate	Rate
1945	115	123.7	38.3
1946	125	115.2	33.8
1947	121	116.1	32.2
1948	88	76.2	32.0
1949	118	89.7	31.3

The trend, with some variation, has been rather markedly downward. The 1949 rate for Alaska Natives is 27.5 percent lower than the 1945 rate. The U. S. rate during the same period declined 18.3 percent. Comparing within the same year, the 1945 Alaska native rate was somewhat more than three times, and the 1949 rate somewhat less than three times the U. S. rate during the same year.

Infant deaths by cause are available only for the year 1949, and are given in Table 8. The number of deaths involved is extremely small, and possibilities of chance variation are consequently large. The leading cause appears to be influenza and pneumonia. If pneumonia of the newborn were added to other influenza and pneumonia, this would be definitely the leading cause, accounting for 33 of the 118 deaths, or more than one-fourth. The total pneumonia and influenza death rate was 25.1 per 1,000 livebirths, more than 7 times the rate for the continental United States. Diseases of infancy excluding pneumonia of the newborn had a death rate of 16.7 per 1,000 livebirths among Alaska Natives, not markedly different from the general U. S. rate (17.2). There were 16 deaths under one year of age for tuberculosis among Alaska Natives, an infant death rate of 12.2, compared with a rate of 0.1 for continental United States. Approximately 1 out of every 100 Native babies born died from unknown causes, while in the total United States, the ratio was about 1 out of 1,000 livebirths.

Table 1. Estimated Native Population of Alaska 1939 - 1950

	Total	Aleut	Eskimo	Indian
1, 1939, U.S.Census	32,458	5,599	15,576	11,283
July 1, 1940	32,600	5,500	15,600	11,500
July 1, 1941	32,700	5,300	15,600	11,800
July 1, 1942	32,800	5,200	15,600	12,000
July 1, 1943	33,000	5,000	15,700	12,300
July 1, 1944	33,100	4,900	15,700	12,500
July 1, 1945	33,200	4,700	15,700	12,800
July 1, 1946	33,300	4,500	15,800	13,000
July 1, 1947	33,500	4,400	15,800	13,300
July 1, 1948	33,600	4,200	15,800	13,600
July 1, 1949	33,700	4,000	15,900	13,800
1, 1950, U.S.Census	33,863	3,892	15,882	14,089
July 1, 1950	33,900	3,800	15,900	14,200

Table 2. Estimated Native Population of Alaska by Age & Sex 1947 - 1949

	All Ages	Under 5	5 - 19	20 - 44	45 - 64	65 & Over
Total	33,700	5,700	12,400	11,000	3,300	1,300
Male	17,900	2,900	6,500	6,000	1,850	650
Female	15,800	2,800	5,900	5,000	1,450	650
Total	33,600	5,700	12,300	11,000	3,300	1,300
Male	17,850	2,900	6,450	6,000	1,850	650
Female	15,750	2,800	5,850	5,000	1,450	650
1947 - Total	33,500	5,650	12,300	10,950	3,300	1,300
Male	17,800	2,850	6,450	6,000	1,850	650
Female	15,700	2,800	5,850	4,950	1,450	650
1947 - 1949	100,800	17,050	37,000	32,950	9,900	3,900

Table 3

Births, Deaths and Net Increase in Native Population: Alaska 1945-1949

Year	Births		Deaths		Net Increase	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1945	930	28.0	595	17.9	335	10.1
1946	1085	32.6	612	18.4	473	14.2
1947	1042	31.1	518	15.5	524	15.6
1948	1155	34.4	503	15.0	652	19.4
1949	1315	39.0	521	15.5	794	23.6
Total, 1945 - 1949	5527	33.0	2749	16.4	2778	16.6

Table 4

Livebirths Among Natives by Person in Attendance: Alaska, 1945 - 1949
Number Attended By -

	Total	Physician		Midwife and Other
		in Hospital	not in Hospital	
1945	930	361	36	533
1946	1085	419	33	633
1947	1042	432	39	571
1948	1155	524	15	616
1949	1315	623	28	664
Total 1945 - 1949	5527	2359	151	3017

Percent Attended By -

	Total	Physician		Midwife and Other
		in Hospital	in Hospital	
1945	100.0	38.8	3.9	57.3
1946	100.0	38.6	3.0	58.3
1947	100.0	41.5	3.7	54.8
1948	100.0	45.4	1.3	53.3
1949	100.0	47.4	2.1	50.5
Total, 1945 - 1949	100.0	42.7	2.7	54.6

Table 5. Number of Deaths From and Death Rates for Selected Causes of Death Among Natives in Alaska, 1945-1949

Code No. 6th Revision	Code No. 5th Revision	1945		1946		1947		1948		1949		
		No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	
	All Causes	595	1792.2	612	1837.8	518	1546.3	503	1497.0	521	1546.0	
001-019	Tuberculosis, all forms	254	765.1	236	706.7	199	594.0	213	633.9	206	611.3	
001-008	Tuberculosis, respiratory	199	599.4	187	561.6	166	495.5	176	523.8	170	504.5	
010-019	Tuberculosis, other	55	165.7	49	147.1	33	98.5	37	110.1	36	106.8	
010	Meninges & central nervous system	14	42.5	36	108.1	22	65.7	27	80.4	NA	NA	
011	Intestines and peritoneum	3	9.0	4	12.0	1	3.0	2	6.0	NA	NA	
012-013	Bones and Joints	6	18.1	3	9.0	4	11.9	2	6.0	NA	NA	
014-018	Other specified organs	1	3.0	-	-	2	6.0	2	6.0	NA	NA	
019	Disseminated	10	30.1	6	18.0	4	11.9	4	11.9	NA	NA	
020-029	Syphilis and its sequelae	5	15.1	6	18.0	3	9.0	-	-	-	-	
040, 041	Typhoid and paratyphoid fever	1-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
045-048	Dysentery, all forms	27	-	4	12.0	8	23.9	-	-	-	-	
055	Diphtheria	6	18.1	6	18.0	1	3.0	-	-	-	-	
056	Whooping cough	9	30.1	1	3.0	-	-	23	68.5	-	-	
057	Meningococcal infections	6	18.1	-	-	3	9.0	-	-	-	-	
058	Flague	3	9.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	NA	NA	
080,081	Poliomyelitis	36	-	-	-	1	3.0	-	-	-	-	
082,083	Encephalitis, infectious	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NA	NA	
084	Smallpox	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
085	Measles	35	-	10	30.0	-	-	-	-	9	26.7	
100-108	Typhus & other rickettsial diseases	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
110-117	Malaria	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
1/	Other infectious and parasitic diseases	2/	3	9.0	3	9.0	7	20.9	4	11.9	3	8.9
140-205	Malignant neoplasms	45-55	15	45.2	6	18.0	14	41.8	12	35.7	17	50.4
150-156A, 157-159	Digestive organs and peritoneum	46	5	15.1	4	12.0	5	14.9	6	17.9	8	23.7
160-164	Respiratory organs	47	-	-	-	1	3.0	-	-	-	-	
170	Breast	50	1	3.0	-	1	3.0	1	3.0	1	3.0	
171-179	Genital organs	48,49,51	5	15.1	1	3.0	3	9.0	4	11.9	2	5.9
180-181	Urinary organs	52	-	-	-	1	3.0	-	-	2	5.9	
140-148, 156B,165, 190-205	All other sites	45,53-55	4	12.0	1	3.0	3	9.0	1	3.0	4	11.9
260	Diabetes mellitus	61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3.0	
290-299	Anemias	73	1	3.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
307,322	Alcoholism and alcoholic psychosis	77	4	12.0	4	12.0	2	6.0	5	14.9	NA	
330-334	Vascular lesions affecting central nerv.system	83	8	24.1	11	33.0	9	26.9	5	14.9	9	26.7
340	Non-meningococcal meningitis	81	3	9.0	2	6.0	3	9.0	6	17.9	3	8.9
391-399	Otitis media & mastoiditis	89	-	-	4	12.0	-	-	-	NA	NA	
400-407	Rheumatic fever	58	-	-	-	-	-	2	6.0	1	3.0	
410-443	Heart diseases	90-95	23	69.3	33	99.1	25	74.6	18	53.6	20	59.3
410-416	Chronic rheumatic	90a, 92b, c, 93c, 95b	NA	NA	1	3.0	7	20.9	-	-	1	3.0
420-443	All other	90b, 91, 92a, d, e, 93a, b, d, e, 94, 95a, c	NA	NA	32	96.1	18	53.7	18	53.6	19	56.4
444-450	Arteriosclerosis and hypertension	97, 102	3	9.0	1	3.0	-	-	-	-	1	3.0
480-493	Influenza and pneumonia	33, 107-109	92	277.1	92	276.3	75	223.9	40	119.0	41	121.7
500-502	Bronchitis	106	1	3.0	2	6.0	1	3.0	1	3.0	4	11.9
540, 541	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	117	-	-	-	-	-	1	3.0	-	-	
550-553	Appendicitis	121	-	-	1	3.0	5	14.9	2	6.0	3	8.9
560, 561, 570	Hernia & intestinal obstruction	122	3	9.0	6	18.0	2	6.0	4	11.9	2	5.9
543, 571, 572	Gastritis, enteritis, duodenitis & colitis	119-120	7	21.1	9	27.0	14	41.8	8	23.8	4	11.9
581	Cirrhosis of liver	124	-	-	2	6.0	2	6.0	3	8.9	1	3.0
590-594	Nephritis and nephrosis	130-132	4	12.0	5	15.0	1	3.0	2	6.0	3	8.9
640-689	Complications of pregnancy etc.	140-150	4	12.0	4	12.0	2	6.0	7	20.8	1	3.0
640, 641, 681, 682, 684	Sepsis	147	-	-	-	-	-	2	6.0	NA	NA	
642, 685, 686	Toxemias	144, 148	-	-	1	3.0	1	3.0	-	-	NA	
643, 644, 670-2	Hemorrhages	143, 146	1	3.0	2	6.0	-	-	3	8.9	NA	
650-652	Abortions	140, 141	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
645-9, 673-8, 680, 687-689	All other	142, 145, 149, 150	3	9.0	1	3.0	1	3.0	2	6.0	NA	
750-759	Congenital malformations	157	3	9.0	4	12.0	3	9.0	2	6.0	9	26.7
760-776	Certain diseases of early infancy	158-161	19	57.2	24	72.1	29	86.6	25	74.4	27	80.1
780-795	Symptoms, senility & ill-defined conditions	162, 199, 200	51	153.6	53	159.2	42	125.4	44	131.0	54	160.2
Residual	All other diseases	Residual	20	60.2	37	111.1	18	53.7	21	62.5	38	112.8
E810-835	Motor vehicle accidents	170	3	9.0	2	6.0	-	-	3	8.9	1	3.0
E800-2, 840- 962	Other accidents	169, 171-176, 178-195	42	126.5	40	120.1	45	134.3	47	139.9	56	166.2
E800-2, 840-866	Non-motor vehicle transport	169, 171-173	1	3.0	4	12.0	2	6.0	10	29.8	NA	
E870-895	Poisonings	178-179	2	6.0	-	-	-	2	6.0	NA		
E916-918	Fire, hot substances or radiation	180-181	13	39.2	6	18.0	5	14.9	10	29.8	NA	
E919	Firearms	184	2	6.0	3	9.0	2	6.0	3	8.9	NA	
E929	Drownings	183	3	9.0	17	51.1	22	65.7	12	35.7	NA	
E900-916, 920- 928, 930-962	All other	174-176, 182, 185-195	11	33.1	10	30.0	14	41.8	10	29.8	NA	
E963-970-9	Suicide	163-164	3	9.0	4	12.0	3	9.0	3	8.9	1	3.0
E964, 980-5	Homicide and execution	165-168, 198	7	21.1	-	-	1	3.0	2	6.0	6	17.8
E965, 990-9	Injury from operation of war	196-197	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NA	

1/ Includes 030-039, 042-044, 049-054, 059-074, 086-096, 120-138
2/ Includes 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 23-26, 29, 31, 32, 38, 40-44, 177

"NA" indicates no data available.

"-" indicates no deaths reported.

Table 6. Comparison of Death Rates for Selected Causes Among Natives of Alaska
With Indians of Total Population of Continental United States

	Alaska Natives		Continental United States		
	1945-1949 Mean Rate	Indians - 1945-1949 Rate	Ratio	Total Population:1947 Rate	Ratio
All Causes	1643.2	1080.7	1.52	1007.8	1.63
Tuberculosis, all forms	662.3	169.2	3.91	33.5	19.77
Tuberculosis, respiratory	536.8	142.8	3.76	31.0	17.32
Tuberculosis, other	125.5	26.3	4.77	2.5	50.20
Syphilis and its sequelae	8.4	17.4	0.48	8.8	0.95
Typhoid and paratyphoid fever	-	1.4	-	0.2	-
Dysentery, all forms	7.2	7.1	1.01	0.6	12.00
Diphtheria	7.8	2.9	2.69	0.6	13.00
Whooping cough	20.3	7.6	2.67	1.4	14.50
Meningococcal infections	2.4	1.0	2.40	0.6	4.00
Poliomyelitis	0.6	1.1	0.55	0.4	1.50
Measles	11.4	7.0	1.63	0.3	38.00
Typhus & other rickettsial diseases	-	0.5	-	0.2	-
Malaria	-	0.2	-	0.1	-
Other infectious and parasitic diseases	12.0	5.0	2.40	3.7	3.24
Malignant neoplasms	38.3	53.6	0.71	137.5	0.28
Digestive organs and peritoneum	16.7	24.8	0.67	58.0	0.29
Respiratory organs	0.6	2.8	0.21	12.1	0.05
Breast	2.4	2.5	0.96	12.6	0.19
Genital organs	9.0	13.1	0.69	24.7	0.36
Urinary organs	1.8	1.5	1.20	6.5	0.28
All other sites	7.8	9.0	0.87	23.6	0.33
Diabetes mellitus	0.6	15.0	0.04	26.2	0.02
Anemias	0.6	1.7	0.35	1.9	0.32
Vascular lesions affecting centr. nervous system	25.1	39.9	0.63	91.4	0.27
Non-meningococcal meningitis	10.2	4.2	2.43	1.4	7.29
Rheumatic fever	1.8	1.6	1.13	0.7	2.57
Heart diseases	71.1	125.2	0.57	321.2	0.22
Arteriosclerosis and hypertension	3.0	8.7	0.34	19.0	0.16
Influenza and pneumonia	203.2	115.2	1.76	43.1	4.71
Bronchitis	5.4	2.8	1.93	2.4	2.25
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	0.6	2.5	0.24	6.0	0.10
Appendicitis	6.6	3.5	1.89	3.3	2.00
Hernia and intestinal obstruction	10.2	8.5	1.20	7.5	1.36
Gastritis, enteritis, duodenitis & colitis	25.1	49.1	0.51	5.6	4.48
Cirrhosis of liver	4.8	5.0	0.96	10.4	0.46
Nephritis and nephrosis	9.0	26.0	0.35	56.0	0.16
Complications of pregnancy, etc.	10.8	10.9	0.99	3.5	3.09
Congenital malformations	12.6	15.3	0.82	14.2	0.89
Certain diseases of early infancy	74.1	65.8	1.13	45.5	1.63
Symptoms, senility and ill-defined conditions	145.8	119.9	1.22	19.2	7.59
All other diseases	80.1	51.3	1.56	52.1	1.51
Motor vehicle accidents	5.4	40.2	0.13	22.8	0.24
Other accidents	137.5	67.4	2.04	46.4	2.96
Suicide	8.4	7.3	1.15	11.5	0.73
Homicide and execution	9.6	13.6	0.71	6.1	1.57

See Table 5 for Code Numbers of 5th and 6th Revisions.

Table 7. Deaths from Selected Causes by Age:
Alaska 1947 - 1949

	All Ages*											
	Under 5	5 - 19	20 - 44	45 - 64	65 & Over							
Total Deaths	1542	1529.8	527	3090.9	204	551.4	424	1286.8	71	717.2	32	820.5
Tuberculosis, Total	618	613.1	116	680.3	128	345.9	270	819.4	69	697.0	30	769.2
Tbc, respiratory	512	507.9	51	299.1	107	289.2	254	770.9	2	20.2	2	51.3
Tbc, other	106	105.2	65	381.2	21	56.8	16	48.6	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	8	7.9	8	46.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping cough	23	22.8	22	129.0	1	2.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasms	43	42.7	-	-	-	-	7	21.2	21	212.1	15	384.6
Vascular lesions	23	22.8	-	-	1	2.7	2	6.1	6	60.6	14	359.0
Heart diseases	63	62.5	1	5.9	4	10.8	7	21.2	16	161.6	35	897.4
Pneumonia and influenza	156	154.8	104	610.0	7	18.9	10	30.3	14	141.4	21	538.5
Gastro-enteritis	26	25.8	25	146.6	1	2.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maternal	10	9.9	-	-	-	-	10	30.3	-	-	-	-
Diseases of infancy	81	80.4	81	475.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ill-defined conditions	140	138.9	63	369.5	4	10.8	7	21.2	6	60.6	55	1410.3
Motor vehicle	4	4.0	-	-	2	5.4	1	3.0	1	10.1	-	-
Other accidents <u>1/</u>	154	152.8	32	187.7	33	89.2	59	179.1	22	222.2	7	179.5

*Inc. age unknown

1/ Includes deaths from food poisonings 1947-1948. Excludes deaths from food poisoning 1949.

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Table 8. Deaths Under 1 Year & Under 28 days Among Natives
of Alaska and Rates per 1,000 Livebirths for Selected Causes:1949

	Number			Rate per 1,000 Livebirths		
	Under 1 Year	Under 28 days	28-days- 11 mos.	Under 1 Year	Under 28 Days	28 days- 11 mos.
All Causes	118	40	78	89.7	30.4	59.3
Tbc, all forms	16	-	16	12.2	-	12.2
All other infect.diseases	5	-	5	3.8	-	3.8
Meningitis, non-men.	1	-	1	0.8	-	0.8
Influenza & pneumonia	28	1	27	21.3	0.8	20.5
Other respiratory diseases	9	3	6	6.8	2.3	4.6
Gastro-enteritis	2	-	2	1.5	-	1.5
Congenital malformations	8	7	1	6.1	5.3	0.8
Diseases of infancy	27	23	4	20.5	17.5	3.0
Birth injuries	3	3	-	2.3	2.3	-
Asphyxia	3	3	-	2.3	2.3	-
Pneumonia of newborn	5	5	-	3.8	3.8	-
Ill-defined	8	4	4	6.1	3.0	3.0
Immaturity unqualified	8	8	-	6.1	6.1	-
Ill-defined	14	4	10	10.6	3.0	7.6
Accidents	7	2	5	5.3	1.5	3.8
Mechanical suffocation	4	2	2	3.0	1.5	1.5
All other	3	-	3	2.3	-	2.3
All other causes	1		1			