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NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

SESSIONAL PAPER NO. 5
(Second Session, 1966)

REPORT ON HEALTH CONDITIONS

IN THE

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

1965

DISPOSITION

Tabled	To Committee	Accepted as Read	Accepted as Amended	Deferred (to Session)	Rejected	Noted not Considered
31.8.66	16.11.66	16.11.66				

REPORT ON HEALTH CONDITIONS IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, 1965

SUMMARY

1. The population of the Territories increased by 4.17% during 1965 and now stands at 25,995. The estimated populations of the three ethnic groups are: Indians - 6,076 (23.4%), Eskimos - 9,382 (36.1%), others 10,537 (40.5%).
2. The overall birth rate was 46.8 per 1000 population compared to the national figure of 24.6. The percentage of births taking place in hospitals and nursing stations is increasing steadily every year. 14.6% of births were illegitimate.
3. The crude death rate of 7.2 per 1000 population is the lowest ever recorded, and 43.5% of the deaths occurred in children under 5 years of age.

The average ages at death were: Indians - 36.1 yrs, Eskimos - 19.8 yrs., Others - 45.4 years.

When deaths under one year of age are excluded the figures are: Indians - 51.2 years, Eskimos - 38.8 years, Others - 51.8 years.

An infant death rate of 59.5 per 1000 live births was recorded.

4. The major causes of death were -

Pneumonia	- 20.2% of all deaths
Injuries and violence	- 19.7% of all deaths
Cardiovascular disease	- 14.9% of all deaths.

5. The incidence of insured hospitalization in 1964 was lower than that recorded for 1963, and the diseases responsible for most hospitalization were:

Diseases of Respiratory System	- 28.6% of patient days
Pregnancy and childbirth	- 13.3% of patient days
Diseases of Digestive System	- 10.4% of patient days

6. There were no serious outbreaks of notifiable diseases during 1965. Measles vaccination is now being offered to all children who have not had this disease and we hope that its incidence will be reduced considerably.
7. The incidence of Gonorrhoea doubled during the year.
8. There were 90 cases of new active tuberculosis discovered as compared to 119 in 1964 and 261 in 1963.
9. The new nursing stations at Aklavik and Fort Franklin have been completed and a three trailer nursing station was placed at Rankin Inlet.

REPORT ON HEALTH CONDITIONS IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, 1965

In comparing vital statistics rates for 1965 with previous years, it should be noted that the 1965 rates are based on birth and death certificates for 1965 which have been received up to 17th March 1966. Other 1965 certificates will be arriving from isolated areas up to about September 1966 so that the 1965 rates as shown are slightly lower than the true rates. The 1964 rates which were shown in the 1964 report have been amended to include certificates received after publication of that report.

POPULATION:

The Estimated population of the Northwest Territories in 1965 was:

	<u>Indians</u>	<u>Eskimos</u>	<u>Others</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number	6,076	9,382	10,537	25,995
Percentage of Total	23.4%	36.1%	40.5%	100%

These figures were estimated by adding the natural increase for the year 1965 to the estimated figures for 1964. No allowance has been made for immigration or emmigration as no data are available on the movement of population in and out of the Territories. An interim census is due in 1966 and while the figures in this census will not be broken down into ethnic groups they should enable us to check on the change in total population between 1961 and 1966.

VITAL STATISTICS:

BIRTHS -

Birth rates (per 1000 population) over the past six years were as follows:

	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>All Canada (1963)</u>
Indians	48	42	41	37.5	39.1	37.5	
Eskimos	56	64	61	59.8	64.5	59.8	
Others	33	42	39	41.0	45.0	41.0	
TOTAL	49.7	48.6	47.3	48.4	50.6	46.8	24.6

The ratio of male to female births over the past three years has been as follows:

Ratio of Male Births to 1000 Female Births

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>All Canada (1963)</u>
Indian	1,163	1,000	1,030	
Eskimo	1,016	989	1,270	
Others	1,069	1,137	1,188	
All Groups	1,057	1,043	1,175	1,053

There is a marked change in the Eskimo ratio since 1964 and it will be interesting to see if this continues in 1966. Nine twin births were recorded and premature births were reported in 4.4% Indian, 7.4% Eskimo, and 11% other births. No triplets were recorded.

Place of Birth:

The percentages of births occurring in hospitals and nursing stations over the past three years were:

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>All Canada (1963)</u>
Indians	70%	77.3%	89.1%	
Eskimos	39%	35.1%	62.4%	
Others	94%	95.4%	97.1%	
All Groups	65%	64.9%	79.7%	98.3%

It is gratifying to note the steady increase in the percentages of births occurring in hospitals and nursing stations - this is to a great extent due to the increase in facilities available in our isolated areas.

Medical Attendance At Birth:

	<u>Indian</u>	<u>Eskimo</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>All Groups</u>
Doctor present	68.5%	37%	90.8%	62.4%
Nurse only present	25.6%	26.9%	7.7%	19.6%
Lay person only present	5.9%	36.1%	1.5%	18.0%

Illegitimate Births:

14.6% of all births were illegitimate, but the Indian percentage was 30.5% which is six times the national average. Table 3 shows that there is a steady increase in illegitimacy in all groups. This is really a social problem due to an increasing lack of morals combined with a lack of knowledge by our young people of the principles of birth control.

Stillbirths:

This rate for all groups was 14.0 per 1,000 livebirths which approximates to the national figure of 12.3.

Livebirths by Age and Ethnic Origin of Mother:

Table 1 gives details on this statistic and as expected we find that Eskimo women produce children at an earlier age than the other groups but a surprising fact is that the percentage of Indian births to mothers under 19 years is much lower than both other groups.

Birth Order by Ethnic Origin of Mother:

Table 2 shows that 50.4% of births were in families of less than two children, and that 78% were in families of less than five children. 12.9% of Indian births were to mothers who had previously borne at least nine children as compared with 10.2% for Eskimos and 3.8% for others.

Table 1
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
Livebirths by Age of Mother
1965

Age of Mother	INDIANS			ESKIMOS			OTHERS			ALL GROUPS			ALL CANADA 1963
	Number	%	%	Number	%	%	Number	%	%	Number	%	%	%
12 - 14 years	2	0.9		-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0.2		
15 - 16 years	3	1.4		10	1.9		3	0.7		16	1.4		
17 - 19 years	14	2.0	4.3	67	12.8	14.7	41	9.9	10.6	122	10.7	12.3	8.9
20 - 24 years	59	29.2		121	23.1		129	31.2		309	27.0		
25 - 29 years	38	18.9		115	21.9		128	30.8		281	24.6		
30 - 34 years	42	20.7		107	20.5		73	17.6		222	19.4		
35 - 39 years	26	12.9	81.7	50	9.5	75.0	32	7.7	87.3	108	9.5	80.5	87.3
40 - 44 years	18	8.9		42	8.0		8	1.9		68	5.9		
45 - 49 years	1	0.6	9.5	10	1.9	9.9	1	0.2	2.1	12	1.1	7.0	3.5
Age not stated	-			2	0.4		-	-		2	0.2		
TOTALS	203	100	100	524	100	100	415	100	100	1142	100	100	

Table 2
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
Birth Order (Livebirths)
1965

	INDIANS			ESKIMOS			OTHERS			ALL GROUPS			ALL CANADA	
	Number	%	%	Number	%	%	Number	%	%	Number	%	%	%	%
1st. Child	34	16.7		66	12.6		106	25.5		206	18.3		25.9	
2nd. Child	24	11.8		66	12.6		112	27.0		202	17.6		23.2	
3rd. Child	23	11.3	39.8	71	13.5	38.7	72	17.3	69.8	166	14.5	50.4	17.8	66.9
4th. Child	24	11.8		63	12.0		41	9.9		128	11.2		12.1	
5th. Child	17	8.5		51	9.7		25	6.1		93	8.1		7.5	
6th. Child	20	9.8	30.1	58	11.2	32.9	16	3.8	19.8	94	8.2	27.5	4.7	24.3
7th. Child	17	8.4		35	6.7		14	3.5		66	5.8		2.9	
8th. Child	11	5.4		32	6.2		7	1.7		50	4.4		1.9	
9th. Child	7	3.4	17.2	28	5.3	18.2	6	1.4	6.6	41	3.6	13.8	1.2	6.0
10th. Child	11	5.4		22	4.2		5	1.2		38	3.3		0.9	
11th. Child	8	3.9		17	3.2		3	0.7		28	2.6		0.6	
12th. Child	2	1.1	10.4	6	1.1	8.5	2	0.5	2.4	10	0.8	6.7	0.4	1.9
13th. Child or more	5	2.5	2.5	9	1.7	1.7	6	1.4	1.4	20	1.6	1.6	0.9	0.9
TOTALS	203	100	100	524	100	100	415	100	100	1142	100	100	100	100

DEATHS:

Table 3 gives details of the various mortality rates and compares them with the rates of the preceding two years.

Crude Death Rate (Total deaths per 1,000 population)

The 1965 rate of 7.2 is the lowest ever recorded and is even lower than the 1963 national rate of 7.8. The Eskimo rate is still the highest at 11.1 while that of the non-Indian non-Eskimo population is only 3.8. However, we must remember that very many of this population group are not permanent residents of the Northwest Territories and leave for the south at an early age or if they are not in good health, - this figure is therefore unrealistic.

The percentage age distribution of deaths was as follows:

	INDIANS		ESKIMOS		OTHERS		ALL GROUPS	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0 - 7 Days	5	11.4	13	12.5	1	2.5	19	10.1
8 - 28 Days	1	2.3	9	8.6	-	-	10	5.3
29 days - 1 yr	7	15.9	28	26.9	4	10.0	39	20.7
1 - 4 yrs	5	11.4	9	8.6	4	-	14	7.4
5 - 9 yrs	1	2.3	4	3.8	-	-	5	2.6
10 - 14 yrs	-	-	3	2.9	-	-	3	1.6
15 - 19 yrs	1	2.3	2	1.9	-	-	3	1.6
20 - 39 yrs	3	6.8	10	9.6	9	22.5	22	11.7
40 - 49 yrs	1	2.3	6	5.8	9	22.5	16	8.5
50 - 59 yrs	7	15.9	5	4.8	5	12.5	17	9.0
60 yrs +	13	29.5	15	14.4	12	30.0	40	21.3
TOTALS	44	100	104	100	40	100	188	100

It will be noted that while 29.6% of Indian and 48% of Eskimo deaths occurred in Children under one year of age, only 12.5% of non-Indian non-Eskimo deaths were in this age group. The high death rate in native children of 1 - 4 years should also be noted.

Average Age at Death:

The average ages of decedents over the last three years have been as follows:

<u>All Decedents</u>	<u>Indians</u>	<u>Eskimos</u>	<u>Others</u>	<u>All Groups</u>	<u>All Canada (1963)</u>
1963	33.16	15.05	31.11	22.0	
1964	29.9	19.3	34.3	24.5	
1965	36.1	19.8	45.4	29.1	62.3

Table 3
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
Vital Statistics 1965^(g)

	INDIANS (1965 Population 6,076)				ESKIMOS (1965 Population 9,382)				OTHERS (1965 Population 10,537)				ALL GROUPS (1965 Population 25,995)				ALL CANADA
	1965		1964	1963	1965		1964	1963	1965		1964	1963	1965		1964	1963	1963
	Number	Rate	Rate	Rate	Number	Rate	Rate	Rate	Number	Rate	Rate	Rate	Number	Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate
Livebirths (a)	203	33.4	39.1	37.5	524	55.8	64.5	59.8	415	39.4	45.0	41.0	1142	43.9	50.6	48.4	24.6
Illegitimate Births (b)	62	30.5	28.2	27	54	10.3	8.4	7.9	51	12.2	11.9	8	167	14.6	13.3	12.3	5.3
Stillbirths (c)	2	9.8	18	23	8	15.3	18.0	10.2	4	9.6	11.0	13	14	12.2	15.5	14.6	12.3
Livebirths born in Hospitals and Nursing Stations (e)	181	89.1	77.4	70	327	62.4	34.0	39	403	97.1	94.9	94	911	79.7	63.9	65	98.3
Maternal Deaths (d)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	25	0	0	0	8.6	3.5
Perinatal Deaths (f) (0-7 days)	7	34.1	38.5	41	13	24.4	29.0	54	5	11.9	30.4	56	25	21.6	31.2	36.5	15.8
Neonatal Deaths (c) (0-28 days)	6	29.5	34.7	18.7	22	41.9	27.7	64.5	1	2.4	21.9	47.4	29	25.4	26.9	46	18.1
Infant Deaths (c) (Under 1 year)	13	64.0	73.9	65.5	50	95.4	92.1	57	5	12.0	35.1	60	68	59.5	68.1	104	26.3
TOTAL DEATHS (a) (Crude Death Rate)	44	9.7	6.6	7.5	104	11.1	14.8	17.4	40	3.8	4.8	5.9	188	7.2	8.8	11.1	7.8
Deaths in Hospitals and Nursing Stations (e)	19	43.2	49	40.5	37	35.6	30.3	29.6	14	35.0	53.1	58.7	70	37.2	38.6	36.8	64.9
Natural Increase (a)	159	26.2	32.4	30	420	44.7	49.7	42.4	375	35.5	40.1	35.1	954	41.7	40.6	37.3	16.8

(a) Rate per 1,000 population. (b) Rate is percentage of total livebirths. (c) Rate per 1,000 livebirths. (d) Rate per 10,000 livebirths.
(e) Rate column shows percentages of livebirths or deaths occurring in Hospitals or Nursing Stations.
(f) Perinatal Death Rate is Stillbirths (28 weeks +) plus infant deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total births (live and stillbirths).
(g) Based on certificates received up to 17 March 1966.

<u>Decedents Over 1 yr of age</u>	<u>Indians</u>	<u>Eskimos</u>	<u>Others</u>	<u>All Groups</u>
1963	47.48	35.9	53.0	?
1964	52.5	32.2	50.8	40.1
1965	51.2	38.8	51.8	45.8

Place of Death:

37.2% of all deaths occurred in hospitals or nursing stations, the national figure being 64.9%.

Maternal Deaths:

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

Perinatal Deaths - (0 - 7 days)

The overall rate was 25.4 per 1000 total births as compared with 31.2 in 1964, and a national rate of 15.8.

Neonatal Deaths - (0 - 28 days)

This rate for the total population was slightly lower than 1964 but the Eskimo rate jumped from 27.7 in 1964 to 41.9 this year.

Infant Deaths - (0 - 365 days)

This rate continues to decline, but we would like to see a more rapid fall in the Eskimo rate which is still 3.6 times that of the all Canada rate of 26.3. The Indian rates stands at 64 per 1000 livebirths which is 2.4 times the national rate.

Natural Increase (births minus deaths)

The natural increase continues at a high level and stands at 41.7 per 1000 population or 2.5 times the national rate. This is one of the highest rates in the world and as previously stated it means that the population will double itself within the next 18 years.

Major Causes of Death: (Table 4)

These were as follows:

Pneumonia	- 38 deaths - 20.2% of total
Injuries & violence	- 37 deaths - 19.7% of total
Cardiovascular disease	- 28 deaths - 14.9% of total
Unknown causes & senility	- 19 deaths - 10.1% of total
Malformations & Diseases of infancy	- 17 deaths - 9.0% of total
Neoplasms (Tumours)	- 14 deaths - 7.4% of total
	TOTAL 81.3% of total

Table 4

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Causes of Death by Ethnic Group and Selected Age Groups, 1965^(a)

Numbers of Cases

Causes of Death Group	GRAND TOTAL	INDIANS								ESKIMOS								OTHERS							
		Infants		Pre sch	Sch	Young Adult	Adult	Eld	Total	Infants		Pre Sch	Sch	Young Adult	Adult	Eld	Total	Infants		Pre sch	Sch	Young Adult	Adult	Eld	Total
		Neo.	29-36	1-4 yrs	5-14 yrs	15-34 yrs	35-64 yrs	65+ yrs		Neo.	29-36	1-4 yrs	5-14 yrs	15-34 yrs	35-64 yrs	65+ yrs		Neo.	29-36	1-4 yrs	5-14 yrs	15-34 yrs	35-64 yrs	65+ yrs	
		0-28 days	days						1-28 days	days							1-28 days	days							
Pneumonia (B31)	38	1	5	1		3	1	2	10	6	8	6		1	1	1	23		1			2	2	5	
Injuries & Accidents (B47-50)	37		1	1	1	3	1	1	8		4	1	6	2	2	15		1			7	5	1	14	
Cardiovascular Diseases (B24-29)	28						1	5	6					2	5	5	12				1	6	3	10	
Senility & Unknown Causes (B45)	19	1							1	5	3	1		1	3	2	15				1	2		3	
Diseases of Infancy & Malformations (B41-44)	17	4	1				1		6	10						10	1							1	
Neoplasms (B18-19)	14					2	3		5					1	3	1	5	1				2	1	4	
Gastrointestinal Diseases (B33-36)	8			2					2	1	4				1	6									
Infective & Parasitic Diseases (B3-17)	7								-		6	1				7									
Diseases of Nervous System (B22-23)	7						1	1	2		1		1	1		3						2		2	
Tuberculosis, All Forms (B1-2)	5						1		1		1		1	2		4								-	
Nephritis & Nephrosis & Cirrhosis of Liver (B37-38)	3										1				1	2						1		1	
Other Respiratory Diseases (B30 & B32)	2								-					2		2									
All Other Diseases (B46)	3		1				1	1	3																
TOTALS	188	6	8	4	1	3	9	13	44	22	28	9	7	9	19	10	104	1	3	-	-	9	20	7	40

(a) Based on certificates received up to 17 March 1966.

The percentage of deaths due to injuries and violence has dropped slightly from 1964 but it is still a cause for concern. A breakdown of these deaths gives the following information:

Deaths from Injuries and Violence 1965

<u>Cause</u>	<u>Indian</u>	<u>Eskimos</u>	<u>Others</u>	<u>All Groups</u>
Drownings	2	4	4	10
Suffocation	2	3	3	9
Burns	1	1	1	3
Gunshot	1	-	1	2
Fractures & haemorrhage	1	2	5	8
Exposure	1	1	-	3
Poisoning (Methyl alcohol)	-	3	-	3
Totals	8	15	14	37

HOSPITALIZATION:

Table 5 shows the incidence of hospitalization of Territorial residents in 1964 broken down into age and ethnic groupings. The continuing high rate of hospitalization of the younger age groups will be noted. It should also be noted that the numbers recorded for patient days are insured days, and that there are many more non-insured days paid out of Medical Services and Territorial Health funds.

A comparison of figures over the past three years shows the following picture:

	Separations ^(a)			Patient Days ^(a)			Average Stay ^(a)		
	1962	1963	1964	1962	1963	1964	1962	1963	1964
Indians	1507	1618	1569	15,298	16,819	15,093	10.1	10.4	9.6
Eskimos	2306	2264	2099	28,390	26,553	21,284	12.3	11.7	10.1
Others	2523	2672	2571	19,433	22,156	19,028	7.7	8.3	7.4
Total	6346	6554	6239	63,121	65,528	55,405	8.7	10.0	8.8

(a) Excluding newborns.

There was a reduction of insured separations and patient days from 1963 to 1964 and the average stay has also reduced. Taking the 1964 population as 24,943, insured hospitalization was 2,221 patient days per 1000 population. Hospitalization in tuberculosis and mental hospitals are not included in the above figures as these are not insured services.

Table 6 shows that the diseases responsible for most hospitalization are:

Table 5
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Insured Hospitalization by Ethnic Origin and Age Groupings 1964 (T.H.I.S.)

Age Group	SEPARATIONS				PATIENT DAYS				AVERAGE STAY			
	Indians	Eskimos	Others	Total	Indians	Eskimos	Others	Total	Indians	Eskimos	Others	Total
Newborn	178	304	434	916	1,275	1,919	2,729	5,923	7.2	6.3	6.3	6.5
Under 1	255	434	250	939	2,890	5,600	2,035	10,525	11.3	12.9	8.1	11.2
1 - 4	261	385	331	977	2,705	4,108	2,401	9,213	10.4	10.7	7.3	9.4
5 - 9	123	224	203	550	947	1,816	947	3,710	7.7	8.1	4.7	6.7
10 - 14	76	92	94	262	552	817	528	1,897	7.3	8.9	5.6	7.2
15 - 19	82	142	163	387	607	1,568	1,035	3,210	7.4	11.0	6.3	8.3
20 - 24	115	182	348	645	750	1,150	2,108	4,008	6.5	6.4	6.1	6.2
25 - 29	117	156	302	575	799	1,373	1,782	3,954	6.8	8.8	5.9	6.9
30 - 34	109	117	242	468	896	716	1,642	3,254	8.2	6.1	6.8	7.0
35 - 39	104	115	189	408	812	936	1,245	2,993	7.8	8.1	6.6	7.3
40 - 44	53	79	134	266	665	844	1,276	2,785	12.5	10.7	9.5	10.5
45 - 49	25	53	79	157	326	732	798	1,856	13.0	13.8	10.1	11.8
50 - 54	37	40	68	145	439	534	802	1,775	11.9	13.4	11.8	12.2
55 - 59	40	16	50	106	479	279	691	1,449	12.0	17.4	13.8	13.7
60 - 64	34	16	43	93	456	191	821	1,468	13.4	11.9	19.1	15.8
65 - 69	36	21	23	80	475	214	307	996	13.2	10.2	13.3	12.5
70 - 74	23	17	19	59	391	241	213	845	17.0	14.2	11.2	14.3
75 - 79	37	5	17	59	441	100	212	753	12.0	20.0	12.5	12.8
80 - 84	28	2	9	39	312	21	112	445	11.1	10.5	12.4	11.4
85 +	14	3	7	24	151	44	74	269	10.8	14.7	10.6	11.2
TOTALS (Excl. Newborn)	1,569	2,099	2,571	6,239	15,093	21,284	19,028	55,405	9.6	10.1	7.4	8.8
%	25.1%	33.6%	41.3%	100%	27.2%	38.4%	34.4%	100%				
1963 TOTALS (Excl. Newborn)	1,618	2,264	2,672	6,554	16,819	26,553	22,156	65,528	10.4	11.7	8.3	10.0

Table 6

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES - Territorial Hospital Insurance Services - 1964

Separations, Patient Days and Average Stay by Ethnic Grouping and Major Disease Categories - Adults & Children

Disease Category	INDIANS			ESKIMOS			OTHERS		
	Separations	Patient Days	Average Stay	Separations	Patient Days	Average Stay	Separations	Patient Days	Average Stay
CLASS 1 Infective & Parasitic Diseases	46	689	15.0	91	1,689	18.6	47	331	14.7
CLASS 2 Neoplasms	15	302	20.1	23	454	19.7	52	664	15.7
CLASS 3 Allergic, Endocrine System, Metabolic & Nutritional	16	307	19.2	19	205	10.8	55	619	12.7
CLASS 4 Diseases of Blood & Blood Forming Organs	7	80	11.4	10	230	23.0	8	48	14.3
CLASS 5 Mental, Psychoneurotic & Personality Disorders	7	20	2.9	19	107	5.6	60	686	9.5
CLASS 6 Diseases Nervous System & Sense Organs	94	975	10.3	183	2,088	11.4	126	1,427	11.1
CLASS 7 Diseases of Circulatory System	50	621	12.4	49	741	15.1	102	1,009	11.8
CLASS 8 Diseases of Respiratory System	552	4,894	8.9	702	7,036	10.0	577	3,976	8.7
CLASS 9 Diseases of Digestive System	150	1,585	10.6	220	1,709	7.8	328	2,478	8.3
CLASS 10 Diseases of Genito-Urinary System	82	918	11.2	60	492	8.2	158	1,067	8.3
CLASS 11 Deliveries & Complications of Pregnancy, Childbirth & the Puerperium	237	1,454	6.1	409	2,386	5.8	626	3,536	5.8
CLASS 12 Diseases of Skin & Cellular Tissue	84	761	9.1	51	528	10.4	60	469	9.0
CLASS 13 Diseases of Bones & Organs of Movement	27	457	16.9	16	620	38.8	50	481	16.8
CLASS 14 Congenital Malformations	8	91	11.4	18	359	19.9	14	231	17.0
CLASS 15 Certain Diseases of Early Infancy	7	269	38.4	17	244	14.4	10	73	17.2
CLASS 16 Symptoms, Senility & Ill-Defined Conditions	54	450	8.3	82	549	6.7	90	437	6.4
CLASS 17 Accidents, Poisonings, Violence	122	1,168	9.6	115	1,670	14.5	202	1,480	7.3
CLASS Y Supplementary Classification for Special Admissions	7	35	5.0	24	181	7.5	5	14	2.8
Unspecified	4	17	4.2	2	87	43.5	2	8	4.0
ALL DIAGNOSES (Excluding newborns)	1,569	15,093	9.6	2,110	21,375	10.1	2,572	19,034	7.4
1963 TOTALS (Excluding newborns)	1,619	16,762	10.4	2,272	25,814	11.8	2,679	22,226	8.3

Newborns

CLASS 9 Diseases of Digestive System	-	-	-	1	6	6.0	-	-	-
CLASS 10 Diseases of Genito-Urinary System	1	7	7.0	1	4	4.0	2	17	8.5
CLASS 14 Congenital Malformations	1	2	2.0	1	2	2.0	-	-	-
CLASS 15 Certain Diseases of Early Infancy	-	-	-	2	42	21.0	2	29	14.5
CLASS 16 Symptoms, Senility & Ill-Defined Conditions	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1.0
CLASS Y Supplementary Classification for Spec. Admissions	176	1,266	7.2	299	1,865	6.2	429	2,680	6.3
ALL DIAGNOSES (Newborns)	178	1,275	7.2	304	1,919	6.3	434	2,729	6.3
1963 TOTALS (Newborns)	158	1,075	6.8	297	2,239	7.5	429	2,734	6.8

Class 8	Diseases of respiratory system	- 28.6% of patient days
Class 11	Diseases and conditions of pregnancy and childbirth	- 13.3% of patient days
Class 9	Diseases of Digestive System	- 10.4% of patient days
Class 6	Diseases of Nervous System and Sense Organs	- 8.0% of patient days
Class 17	Accidents, Poisoning and violence	- 7.8% of patient days
Class 1	Infective and Parasitic Diseases	- 4.9% of patient days

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES:

There were no serious outbreaks of notifiable diseases during the year. Notifications were as follows:

Communicable Disease Returns, 1965
(Based on reports sent to D.B.S.)

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Cases Reported</u>
Gonorrhoea	661
Influenza	371
Rubella	161
Chicken Pox	119
Dysentery (unspecified)	64
Dysentery (bacillary)	8
Infectious Hepatitis	48
Streptococcal Infections	40
Meningitis (unspecified)	36
Meningococcal Infections	7
Measles	25
Gastro-Enteritis	6
Mumps	4
Syphilis	3
Brucellosis	1

Venereal Disease

Gonorrhoea is continuing to increase and the rate now stands at 2,542 per 100,000 population compared to the national rate of 102, i.e. 25 times the Canadian rate. A total of 661 cases were reported in 1965 compared to 373 in 1964 - an increase of 77%. The distribution of cases was as follows:

Venereal Disease, N.W.T. 1965

Location, Sex and Age Grouping

Health District	Totals			0-4		5-9		10-14		15-19		20-39		40 +		Age		Sex	
	All	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	NS	NS	NS	NS
Cape Dorset	1	-	1							1									
Coppermine	1	1	-							1									
Ft Good Hope	20	10	7	1		1				2	1	8	4						3
Aklavik	9	5	3							1		4	3						1
Ft McPherson	18	9	8									5	8	2	-	2			1
Ft Providence	2	1	1							1	1								
Ft Resolution	55	37	15					3		4	5	33	7						3
Ft Simpson	17	15	-							1	-	13	-					1	2
Ft Smith	54	48	5							3	2	37	2	6	-	3			1
Frobisher Bay	5	3	1							1	1	2	-						1
Hay River	168	115	49							6	8	99	38	9	1	3			4
Inuvik	203	112	91					1	1	23	26	79	59	8	4	2			
Norman Wells	1	1	-									1							
Tuktoyaktuk	4	-	-									4							
Yellowknife	103	72	31					2	-	4	8	58	18	8	4	1			
Totals	661	429	212	-	1	-	1	3	4	46	55	344	139	33	9	12			16

Most of the cases occurred in Inuvik, Hay River and Yellowknife Health Districts, although Fort Resolution and Fort Smith are also well represented.

Our Public Health nurses have spent a lot of time on the follow-up and contact tracing of Venereal Disease and lectures and film shows on the subject have been arranged and informational booklets have been distributed. 73% of our Gonorrhoea cases came from the 20 - 39 age group, but 15.2% occurred amongst teenagers. There is no doubt that a more extensive educational program is required and we will require the assistance of teachers, social workers and service clubs in this matter. The problem is of course closely linked with alcoholism and the lack of alternative pastimes and pleasures - more will be said on this subject later in this report.

Tuberculosis:

The incidence of this disease has reduced again this year - i.e. a total of 90 new active cases as against 119 in 1964 and 261 in 1963. Thirty four reactivated cases were hospitalized and it is be-

coming increasingly evident that if the incidence of the disease is to be reduced much further we must reduce the number of reactivations as these are often the cases which are difficult to diagnose and which are a prime cause of spread of the infection. The follow-up of all ex tuberculosis patients with x-ray, sputum and gastric wash examinations requires intensification.

Northwest Territories
Tuberculosis Control 1963-65

	Indians			Eskimos			Others			All Groups		
	1963	1964	1965	1963	1964	1965	1963	1964	1965	1963	1964	1965
Population	5714	5885	6076	8565	8928	9382	9789	10130	10537	21066	21213	21995
No. of new active cases	35	31	23	212	68	50	14	20	17	261	119	90
Incidence of new active cases in population (%)	0.6	0.53	0.37	2.48	0.76	0.53	0.14	0.2	0.16	1.08	0.4	0.35
No. of reactivated cases	16	11	11	37	23	21	2	3	2	55	37	34
No. of tuberculosis tests carried out			2095			5266			1666			9027
No. of B.C.G. vaccinations performed			1144			1561			721			3426

DENTAL HEALTH

We are dissatisfied with the progress we are making in this program - we need many more dentists and until we can entice some into the Territories we cannot do much about it. There is a scarcity of dentists in southern Canada and we require higher salary grades to entice them to the north. We have had some success in encouraging private dentists to settle in Hay River, Fort Smith and Fort Simpson. In these areas we have rented our clinic space to private dentists at \$3.00 per sq. ft. per year (including heating, lighting and cleaning), loaned our equipment at no charge and guaranteed work on the school dental health program and on indigent patients. We have also succeeded in obtaining permission from Treasury Board to subsidize the accommodation of the dentist at Fort Smith and at the time of writing the report we are endeavoring to do the same for the dentist in Fort Simpson. In the proposed Health Services Plan 1967-72 we have recommended a special Isolation and Responsibility allowance for doctors and dentists in the Territories and if this is approved we should better be able to encourage the necessary dental staff to serve in the Territories.

MENTAL HEALTH

We are now starting to make inroads into this problem. We have succeeded in obtaining the services of Provincial Child Guidance teams to hold clinics at Yellowknife, Inuvik, and the Central and Eastern Arctic and arrangements are being made with the Psychiatric Department of the University of Alberta to have psychiatrists tour the major centres on a regular basis. We have also succeeded in recruiting a medical officer with extensive psychiatric experience who has worked with the United Nations for the past five years on the psychiatric problems of refugees, and with his assistance we hope to intensify all aspects of our mental health program.

Many of our mental health problems in the Territories stem from isolation and boredom and it is suggested that recreational facilities should be greatly increased. The long cold dark winters of the Arctic areas necessitate indoor recreation and it is recommended that facilities such as indoor swimming pools, tennis, badminton and basketball courts, curling and skating rinks be provided in all major population centres. More use could possibly be made of recreational space in schools for these purposes. Most northern communities are either poor or transient and cannot be expected to contribute much to the erection of such facilities and it is suggested that the total cost of these facilities be borne by the Territorial and Federal Governments. Their provision would certainly assist the Health Department in its efforts to reduce the very great mental health problem in the Territories.

RADIATION FALL-OUT STUDIES

These studies which were reported in the 1964 report are continuing and at the time of writing this report a technician from the Radiation Protection Division is touring the Eastern Arctic with a portable body counter estimating the amount of Caesium 137 in the local populations.

GUIDE TO TREATMENT FOR NURSES AND LAY DISPENSERS

This Guide to treatment which is intended for the use of nurses and lay dispensers in isolated stations has been produced during the year and has been distributed to the field. This was one of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Health Services.

HOUSING

The need for improved housing for all ethnic groups in the Territories was stressed in the 1964 report, and it was gratifying to hear the recent announcements by the Federal Government that increased funds were being set aside for the provision of better housing for both the Indian and Eskimo populations. However, there is an equal need for improved housing for the non-Indian non-Eskimo population and it is suggested that urgent action should be taken to provide funds for this purpose.

STAFF HOUSING:

I am pleased to report that the Federal Housing Committee have altered the ruling on the provision of quarters for single doctors and dentists. It is now agreed that where self-contained one-bedroom bachelor apartments are not available, such staff may be allocated married quarters. This amendment has removed one serious impediment to the recruitment of doctors and dentists. Our thanks

are due to the Commissioner and Council of the Northwest Territories and to the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources who supported us in presenting our case to the Housing Committee.

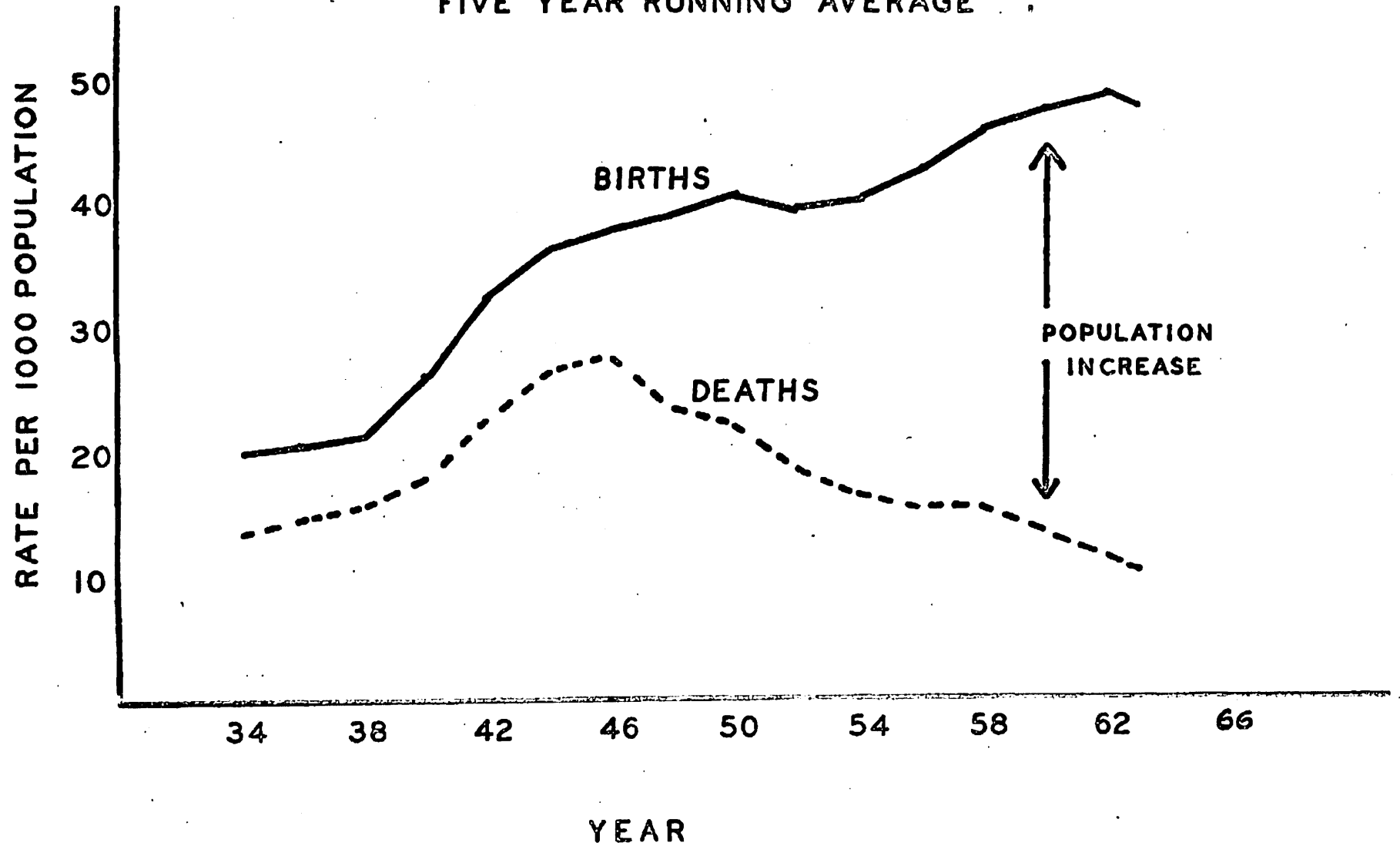
NEW FACILITIES

The new nursing station at Fort Franklin has been completed and is in full operation while a new facility has also been erected to replace the old nursing station at Aklavik.

A three-trailer nursing station has been placed at Rankin Inlet to replace the old unsuitable bunk-house accommodation in that settlement. These trailer nursing stations are proving very suitable for settlements with an uncertain future and two such complexes are planned for Pond Inlet and Igloodik in 1966.

VITAL STATISTICS. N.W.T.

FIVE YEAR RUNNING AVERAGE . .



TUBERCULOSIS. N.W.T.

NEW ACTIVE CASES

