

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
6TH COUNCIL, 42ND SESSION**

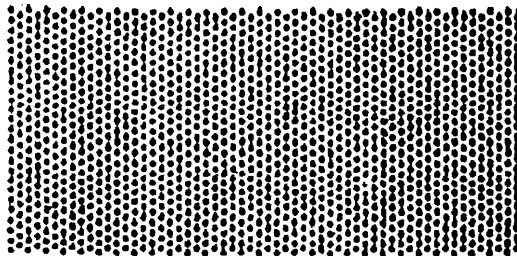
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REPORT
on
HEALTH CONDITIONS
In the
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
1969



Northern Health Service
Department of National Health and Welfare

1970

REPORT ON HEALTH CONDITIONS IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES - 1969

POPULATION:

The 1969 population of the Territories is estimated as follows:

	<u>INDIANS</u>	<u>ESKIMOS</u>	<u>OTHERS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Number	6,180	11,175	13,928	31,283
Percent	19.7%	35.7%	44.6%	100%

These figures are based on natural increases only and as the 1961 census is the base year, it is likely that the figure for the non native population is much too low. Over the past two years there has been a great influx of non natives into the Territories due to increased mining activity and the transfer of Government activities from the south to Yellowknife. Accurate figures will be available when the 1971 census is completed.

VITAL STATISTICS:

BIRTHS:

Birth rate per 1,000 population for the various ethnic groups were:

Indians - 40.1 Eskimos - 49.4 Others - 28.0 All Groups - 38.0

All rates are down slightly from 1968 but the overall rate is still over twice the Canadian rate of 18.2.

There is some evidence that there is an increasing interest in family planning in the native population in the Western section of the Territories and information on this subject is freely available to them at all Hospitals, Clinics and Nursing Stations.

MALE-FEMALE BIRTH RATIO:

The ratio of male births per 1,000 female births was:

Indians 1032 Eskimos - 1067 Others - 1085 All Groups - 1065

The ratio in Eskimos which has been below 1011 for the past 3 years has now come up to a more normal level.

TWIN BIRTHS:

10 twin births were recorded and the distribution was 2 in Indians and 8 in Eskimos.

BIRTH WEIGHTS:

Average weights were:

	<u>INDIANS</u>		<u>ESKIMOS</u>		<u>OTHERS</u>	
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
1969	7.18 lbs.	7.02 lbs.	7.23 lbs.	6.68 lbs.	7.41 lbs.	7.51 lbs.
1968	7.39 lbs.	6.94 lbs.	7.23 lbs.	6.85 lbs.	7.28 lbs.	7.49 lbs.

No significant differences were noted in the birth weights of infants in different areas of the Northwest Territories.

PLACE OF BIRTH:

93% of all births occurred in Hospitals or Nursing Stations and even the percentage for Eskimos is quite high at 85.9%.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS:

The overall percentage of illegitimate births dropped from 19.4% to 17.7% and while this is twice the national figure, it should be noted that marriages by native custom are not taken into consideration in estimating this rate.

STILLBIRTHS:

14 stillbirths were reported, i.e. a rate of 11.7 per 1,000 births.

BIRTHS OUTSIDE TERRITORIES:

140 Territorial births (11.7%) occurred in Hospitals outside the Territories. This is in part due to our policy that those who are having their first child or those who have had six or more previous births must come to the nearest hospital. Many of the out-of-Territory births occurred at Churchill.

DEATHS:

Table I gives details of the various death rates and compares them with the previous two years.

CRUDE DEATH RATE: (Total Deaths per 1,000 Population)

This rate was 6.7 in 1969 and has been fairly constant over the past four years.

VITAL STATISTICS. N.W.T.

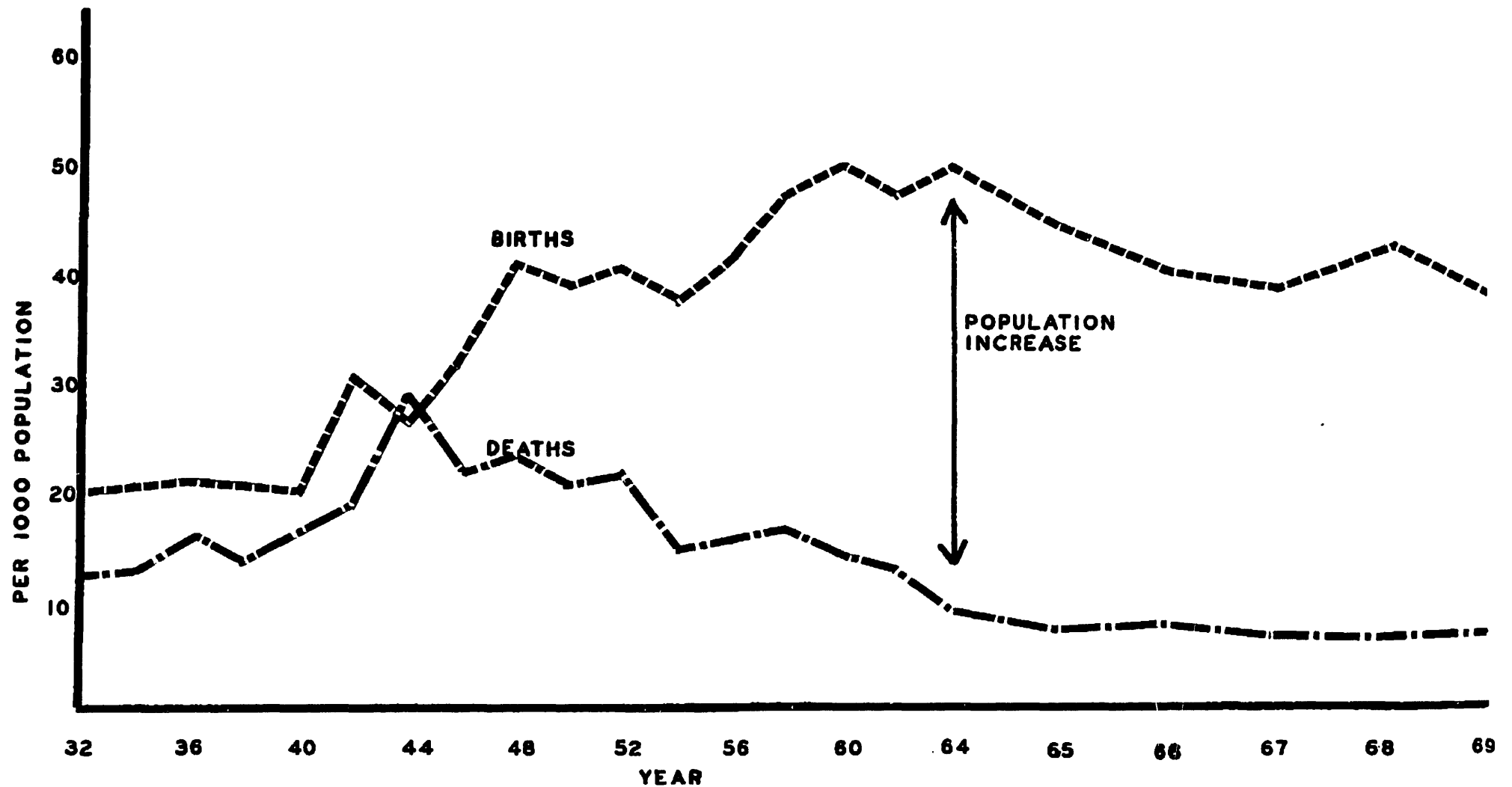


TABLE I
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
Vital Statistics - 1969 (g)

	INDIANS			ESKIMOS			OTHERS			ALL GROUPS			ALL CANADA				
	1969 Pop. - 6,180			1969 Pop. - 11,175			1969 Pop. - 13,928			1969 Pop. - 31,283							
	1969 No.	1968 Rate	1967 Rate	1969 No.	1968 Rate	1967 Rate	1969 No.	1968 Rate	1967 Rate	1969 No.	1968 Rate	1967 Rate	1967 Rate				
Livebirths (a)	248	40.1	42.6	42.3	552	49.4	53.3	53.4	390	28.0	32.1	25.5	1190	38.0	41.7	38.6	18.2
Illegitimate Births (b)	84	33.9	39.6	36.1	80	14.5	13.9	12.3	47	12.0	14.6	12.2	211	17.7	19.4	17.4	8.3
Stillbirths (c)	1	4.0	11.7	16.4	7	12.6	22.7	23.6	6	15.3	9.1	11.9	14	11.7	15.8	18.6	14.3
Livebirths born in Hospitals and Nursing Stations (e)	243	98.0	97.6	97.1	474	85.9	80.2	74.4	390	100	100	99.7	1107	93.0	90.6	86.9	99.4
Maternal Deaths (d)	-	-			-	-			-	-			-	-			
Perinatal Deaths (f) (0-7 days)	4	20.2	34.8	36.1	17	43.0	51.2	44.5	6	30.3	31.7	26.4	27	34.0	41.2	37.3	24.7
Neonatal Deaths (c) (0-28 days)	4	16.1	31.4	20.5	17	30.7	40.2	30.9	6	15.4	25.2	17.8	27	22.7	33.2	24.7	15.2
Infant Deaths (c) (under 1 year)	6	24.2	54.9	45.1	50	90.5	89.1	83.8	8	20.5	27.4	29.6	64	53.7	60.9	59.3	22.0
Total Deaths (a) (Crude Death Rate)	40	6.5	7.7	6.9	113	10.1	10.6	10.3	58	4.1	3.16	3.9	211	6.7	6.6	6.8	7.4
Deaths in Hospitals and Nursing Stations (e)	20	50.0	50.0	50.0	62	54.8	47.4	40.6	33	57.0	60.5	57.7	115	54.5	50.7	47.0	67.1
Natural Increase (a)	208	33.6	34.9	35.3	439	39.2	42.6	43.1	332	23.8	28.9	21.6	979	31.3	35.0	31.8	10.8

(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 March 31, 1970.

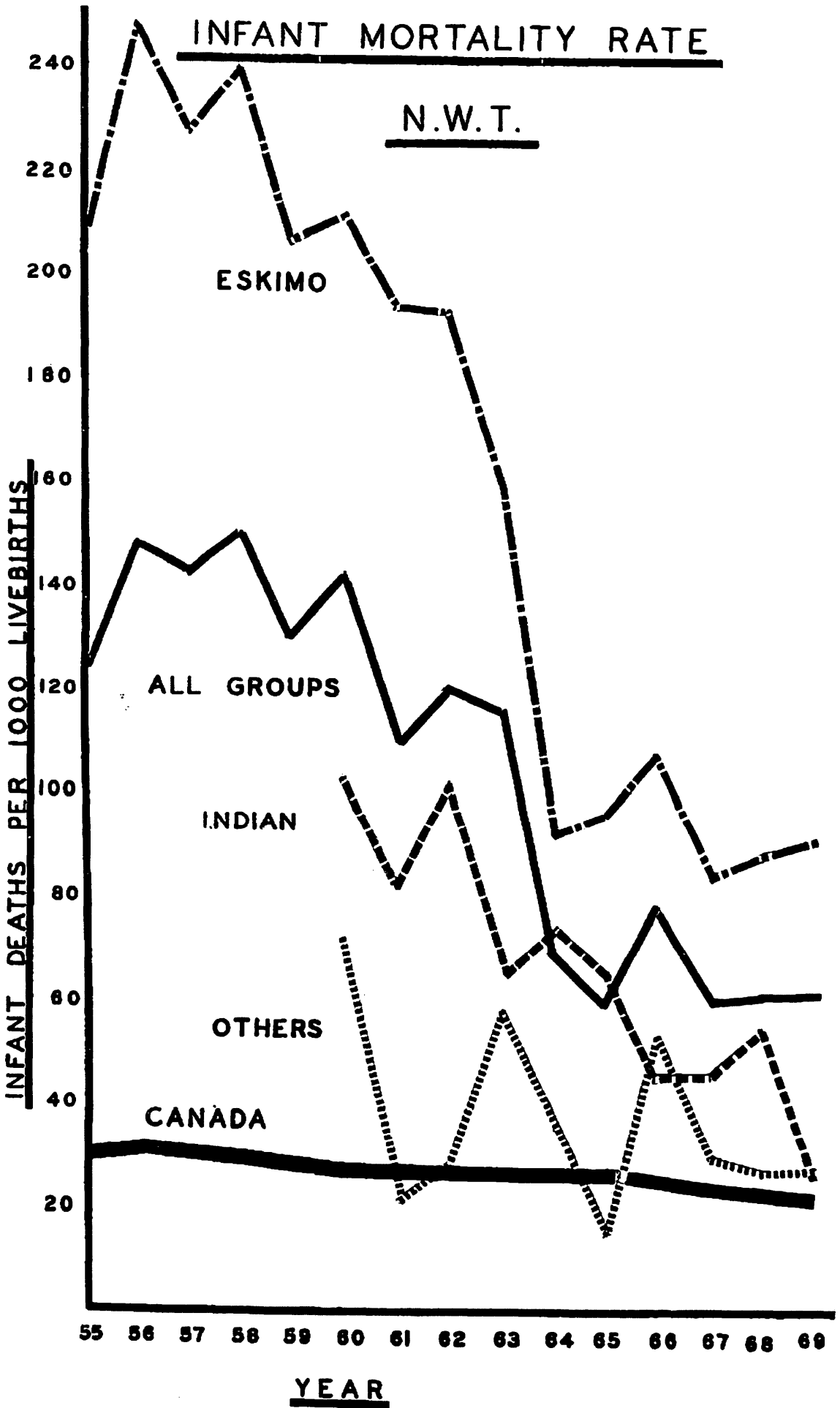
TABLE II

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES 1969 (*)

Vital Statistics in Zones and Areas

Population	MacKenzie Area						Inuvik Zone						Keewatin Area				Baffin Zone			
	Indians		Eskimos		Others		Indians		Eskimos		Others		Eskimos		Others		Eskimos		Others	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
	4304		2272		10195		1886		1772		2580		2375		313		4756		850	
Livebirths	184	42.7	115	50.6	263	25.7	64	33.9	74	41.8	93	36.0	131	55.2	10	31.9	232	48.8	24	28.2
Illegitimate Births	52	28.3	10	8.6	32	12.2	32	50.0	27	36.5	13	14.0	7	5.3	-	-	36	15.5	2	8.3
Stillbirths	1	5.4	-	-	6	2.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	15.2	-	-	5	21.5	-	-
Livebirths born in Hospital	180	97.8	87	75.6	263	100	63	98.4	71	95.9	93	100	123	93.8	10	100	193	83.2	24	100
Maternal Deaths	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Perinatal Deaths (0-7 days)	2	16.2	2	17.4	4	37.1	2	31.0	2	27.0	2	21.5	4	45.1	-	-	9	59.0	-	-
Neonatal Deaths (0-28 days)	2	10.8	2	17.4	4	15.2	2	31.0	2	27.0	2	21.5	4	30.5	-	-	9	38.7	-	-
Infant Deaths (under 1 year)	3	16.3	11	95.6	5	19.0	3	46.8	7	94.5	3	32.3	15	114.5	-	-	17	73.2	-	-
TOTAL DEATHS (Crude Death Rate)	26	6.0	20	8.8	49	4.8	14	7.4	18	10.1	9	3.5	28	11.7	-	-	47	9.9	-	-
Deaths in Hospitals and Nursing Stations	16	61.5	8	40.0	23	46.9	4	28.6	7	38.8	5	55.5	20	71.4	-	-	27	57.4	-	-
Natural Increase	168	39.0	95	41.8	224	22.0	50	26.5	56	31.6	84	32.5	103	43.4	10	31.9	185	38.8	24	28.2

(*) Based on certificates received up to March 31, 1970



The rates for the various ethnic groups were:

Indians - 6.5 Eskimos - 10.1 Others - 3.9 All Canada - 7.4

The percentage age distribution of deaths was as follows:

AGE GROUP	INDIANS		ESKIMOS		OTHERS		ALL GROUPS	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0 - 7 Days	4	10.0	17	15.0	7	12.0	28	13.2
8 - 28 Days	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29 days - 1 Yr	2	5.0	33	29.2	1	1.7	36	17.1
1 - 4 Years	1	2.5	8	7.1	4	6.8	13	6.2
5 - 9 Years	1	2.5	3	2.6	3	5.2	7	3.3
10 - 14 Years	-	-	4	3.5	-	-	4	1.8
15 - 19 Years	2	5.0	3	2.6	1	1.7	6	2.8
20 - 29 Years	3	7.5	9	7.9	6	10.3	18	8.5
30 - 39 Years	1	2.5	5	4.4	7	12.0	13	6.2
40 - 49 Years	-	-	10	8.8	8	13.7	18	8.5
50 - 59 Years	-	-	9	7.9	9	15.5	18	8.5
60 Years +	26	65.0	12	10.6	12	20.6	50	23.7
TOTAL	40	100.0	113	100.0	58	100.0	211	100.0

30% of the total deaths occurred in children under 1 year while 44% of the Eskimo deaths were in this age group. As noted in previous years the older age structure of the non-native population leads to a much higher percentage of the deaths occurring in the over 40 age groups in "Others". 65% of Indian deaths were in persons over 60 years of age.

PLACE OF DEATH:

54.5% of all deaths occurred in hospitals or Nursing Stations and we are gradually coming up to the national percentage of 67.1%.

MATERNAL DEATHS:

No maternal deaths were reported.

PERINATAL DEATHS: (0 - 7 days)

This rate was down in all groups from the 1968 figures.

NEONATAL DEATHS: (0 - 28 days)

This rate decreased in all ethnic groups -

	INDIANS	ESKIMOS	OTHERS	ALL GROUPS
1969	16.1	30.7	15.4	22.7
1968	31.4	40.2	25.2	33.2

An interesting point is that all the neonatal deaths occurred in babies under 7 days old and not one death occurred in babies in the 7 - 28 day age group. Most of our neonatal deaths are attributed to prematurity and it is becoming increasingly evident that further detailed investigation as to the causes of prematurity in northern residents must be undertaken.

INFANT DEATHS: (0 - 365 days)

The Indian and non-native groups show a reduction from 1968 while the Eskimo rate remained steady at about 90 per 1000 livebirths.

	INDIANS	ESKIMOS	OTHERS	ALL GROUPS
1969	24.2	90.5	20.5	53.7
1968	54.9	89.1	27.4	60.9

On scanning Table II it will be noted that there are differences in rate in the various Zones but these change from year to year and when you compare the rates over a few years there is no statistical difference.

NATURAL INCREASE:

A small reduction has occurred in all groups but the population is still reproducing itself at 2.9 times the national rate.

MAJOR CAUSES OF DEATH:

These were as follows:

TABLE III
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
Causes of Death by Ethnic Group and Selected Age Groups 1969
Number of Deaths

CAUSES OF DEATH	GRAND TOTAL	INDIANS									ESKIMOS									OTHERS											
		Infants			Pre Sch	School		Young Adult	Adult	Eld	Total	Infants			Pre Sch	School		Young Adult	Adult	Eld	Total	Infants			Pre Sch	School		Young Adult	Adult	Eld	Total
		0-28	29-	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-34	35-64	65+			0-28	29-	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-34	35-64	65+			0-28	29-	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-34	35-64	65+		
		days	365	yrs	yrs	yrs	yrs	yrs	yrs			days	365	yrs	yrs	yrs	yrs	yrs	yrs			days	365	yrs	yrs	yrs	yrs	yrs	yrs		
Injuries & Accidents (BE47-50)	55	-	-	-	-	-	5	1	1	7	-	5	-	2	3	11	3	-	24	-	1	1	1	-	9	12	-	24			
Pneumonia (B31)	37	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	5	8	-	14	4	1	-	-	4	1	24	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	2	5			
Diseases of Infancy & Malformations (B41-44)	29	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	16	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7			
Cardiovascular Diseases (B24-29)	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	5	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	8			
Diseases of Nervous System (B22-23)	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	5	1	-	-	1	1	-	8	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	4			
Neoplasms (B18)	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	6	1	8	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	2	5			
Senility, Unknown & Other Diseases (B45-46)	9	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	3			
Infective & Parasitic Diseases (B3-17)	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Other Respiratory Diseases (B30&B32)	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Gastrointestinal Diseases (B33-36)	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	1	1	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Tuberculosis, All Forms (B1-2)	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Cirrhosis of Liver & Hyperplasia of Prostate (B37-39)	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2			
Complications of Pregnancy (B40)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
TOTALS	211	4	2	1	1	-	5	1	26	40	17	33	8	3	4	16	24	8	113	7	1	4	3	-	10	23	10	58			

	<u>No of Deaths</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Deaths</u>
Injuries, Violence and Accidents	55	26.1%
Pneumonia	37	17.5%
Diseases of Infancy, Prematurity & Malformations	29	13.7%
Cardiovascular Diseases	29	13.7%
Diseases of Central Nervous System	15	7.1%
Neoplasms	15	7.1%
Senility, Unknown & Other Diseases	9	4.2%
Total	189	89.6%

Injuries, Accidents and Violence are the main cause of death and further analyses of these figures gives us the following information:

DEATHS FROM ACCIDENTS, INJURIES & VIOLENCE 1969

	<u>INDIANS</u>	<u>ESKIMOS</u>	<u>OTHERS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Drownings	4	9	3	16
Suffocation	-	6	1	7
Burns	1	-	5	6
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	2	2	5
Aircraft Accidents	-	-	4	4
Gunshot wounds	-	4	-	4
Crush Injuries	-	-	4	4
Suicide	-	1	3	4
Exposure	1	1	1	3
Hanging	-	-	1	1
Homicide	-	1	-	1
TOTALS	7	24	24	55

R.C.M.P. reports indicate that out of 44 accidental or violent deaths investigated by them 18 (41%) were judged to be associated with the excessive use of alcohol.

Cancer caused 15 deaths in the Territories during the year and the ethnic distribution was as follows:

NEOPLASMS (CANCERS) - 1969

<u>Site of Disease</u>	<u>INDIANS</u>	<u>ESKIMOS</u>	<u>OTHERS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Lungs	1	1	2	4
Kidney	1	1	1	3
G.I. Tract	-	2 (Nasopharynx)	1	3
Liver	-	2	-	2
Cervix	-	1	-	1
Neuroblastoma	-	1	-	1
Generalized	-	-	1	1
Totals	2	8	5	15

This gives a rate of 48 per 100,000 population which is low compared to the national figure.

HOSPITALIZATION:

No data are as yet available on Hospitalization for the year 1968 as in spite of repeated requests we have not been able to obtain the computerized data from the Research & Statistics Branch in time for this report.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES:

Major notifications were as follows:

Influenza	1154
Rubella	178
Dysentery (unspecified)	95
Streptococcal Throat & Scarlet Fever	58
Chicken pox	47
Measles	44
Bacillary Dysentery	27
Infectious Hepatitis	26
Meningococcal Infections	13
Meningitis (unspecified)	20
Botulism	10

All cases of Botulism occurred at Cape Dorset and 3 deaths resulted from this outbreak. A new experimental vaccine has been developed against this disease by the Communicable Disease Centre in the United States and the possibility of its use in the Arctic is being investigated. Meanwhile all hospital and nursing station centres in the Territories have been supplied with sufficient stocks of antitoxin to treat 5 cases.

Meningitis is still a matter of grave concern and we are investigating the possible use of a vaccine against this disease. An experimental vaccine has been developed and we had hoped to have a trial of this vaccine in 1969 in Baffin Island. However, the trial has had to be postponed.

TUBERCULOSIS:

One hundred and thirty four new active cases of Tuberculosis were discovered during the year, a reduction of 23% on the previous year's figures.

Year	INDIANS			ESKIMOS			OTHERS			ALL GROUPS		
	1969	1968	1967	1969	1968	1967	1969	1968	1967	1969	1968	1967
Population	6180	5972	5763	11175	10736	10278	13928	13596	13202	31283	30304	29243
New active	17	35	28	103	119	114	14	18	17	134	172	159
Incidence	0.27	0.58	0.48	0.92	1.1	1.1	0.1	0.13	0.13	0.42	0.56	0.54
Reactivated	8	9	7	29	22	25	2	3	1	39	34	33
Recent converters										62	100	
Home therapy										271	167	82
Chemoprophylaxis										300	262	116
Tuberculin tests										11078	9222	13364
B.C.G.										2429	2222	3904
No of x-ray survey Films										28747	22406	
No of referred Films										10244	8182	
No of Bact. tests										12327	4503	

TABLE IV
DISTRIBUTION OF NEW AND REACTIVATED TUBERCULOSIS CASES - 1969

HEALTH DISTRICT	INDIANS		ESKIMOS		OTHERS		TOTAL '69		TOTAL '68	
	NEW	RE- ACT	NEW	RE- ACT	NEW	RE- ACT	NEW	RE- ACT	NEW	RE- ACT
W 31 - Tuktoyaktuk			3				3			1
W 32 - Inuvik-Aklavik			2	3	1		3	3	10	3
W 4 - Ft. McPherson									2	
W 5 - Ft. Good Hope	2						2		5	1
W 6 - Ft. Norman-Franklin	1						1		2	2
TOTAL - INUVIK ZONE	3		5	3	1		9	3	19	7
W 1 - Cambridge Bay			8				8		9	1
W 2 - Coppermine			3	1			3	1	7	2
E 4 - Spence Bay			3				3		5	
W 7 - Port Radium										
W 8 - Ft. Simpson-Liard					2		2		3	1
W 10 - Ft. Resolution	1	3					1	3	4	1
W 11 - Ft. Rae	4	3					4	3	8	2
W 12 - Snowdrift-Reliance	2						2		3	
W 14 - Ft. Smith	3				2	1	5	1	5	1
W 92 - Hay River					3	1	3	1	6	1
W 93 - Ft. Providence	1	2					1	2	3	
W 132 - Yellowknife	3				5		8		9	3
- Resolute Bay									6	1
TOTAL - MACKENZIE AREA	14	8	14	1	12	2	40	11	68	13
E 1 - Eskimo Point			3				3		5	1
- Whale Cove									2	
E 2 - Baker Lake			8	4			8	4	9	
E 3 - Rankin Inlet			1	1			1	1	2	
- Chesterfield In.			1				1		2	
- Coral Harbour			1				1		1	
- Repulse Bay			3				3		3	
- Fort Churchill										
TOTAL - KEEWATIN AREA			17	5			17	5	24	1
E 5 - Arctic Bay			6	1			6	1	5	
- Cape Christian				1				1	4	1
- Grise Fiord			1				1		1	
- Igloolik			5				5		1	
- Hall Beach			3	2			3	2	13	
- Pond Inlet			3	1			3	1	4	
E 6 - Pangnirtung			11				11		2	1
- Broughton Island			3				3		6	
E 7 - Cape Dorset			15	3			15	3	8	5
- Frobisher Bay			19	11	1		20	11	13	5
- Lake Harbour			1	1			1	1		
E 9 - Belcher Island									4	1
TOTAL - EASTERN ARCTIC			67	20	1		68	20	61	13
GRAND TOTAL	17	8	103	29	14	2	134	39	172	34

The bacteriological status of newly discovered cases was as follows:

	Direct Smear Positive		Culture Positive		Biopsy Positive		Non Bacillary	
	New	React.	New	React.	New	React.	New	React.
Indians	3	2	10	5	1	-	3	1
Eskimos	12	13	61	9	3	-	29	5
Others	2	-	7	2	2	-	3	-
TOTALS	17	15	78	16	6	-	35	6
% of Total	9.8%	8.7%	45.1%	9.2%	3.5%	-	20.2%	3.5%

This means that 72.8% of all cases discovered were infective at the time of discovery and that over one quarter of these were highly infective. The fact that there is this high infectivity even in cases in the early stages of the disease partly explains the difficulties which have to be overcome in the effective control of this disease. However, we are confident that within a few years we will have reduced the incidence to a marked degree as the expansion of our outpatient therapy and chemoprophylaxis on the hidden reservoir of cases will reduce new infections and relapses and so reduce the reservoir of bacilli.

The distribution of new and reactivated cases among the various ethnic groups and in geographic areas is shown in Table IV.

The classification of the new and reactivated pulmonary cases was as follows:

	<u>Pleurisy</u>	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Minimal</u>	<u>Mod. Advanced</u>	<u>Far Advanced</u>	<u>Total</u>
New Cases	3	33	57	31	1	125
% of Total	2.4	26	45.6	24.8	-	100
Reactivated Cases	-	-	4	33	-	37
% of Total	-	-	10.8	89.1	-	100

Over 75% of newly discovered cases were in the very early stages of the disease and this means that our case finding procedures are working well. 33% of cases were discovered at community surveys, 38.7% by referred films and 28.3% by bacteriological tests. All procedures are proving their value in the control of this disease.

VENEREAL DISEASE:

GONORRHEA:

Table V gives the incidence of this disease in the Northwest Territories during 1969. It will be noted that there was an overall reduction of 8.7% on the figures from 1968. The greatest reduction occurred in Inuvik Zone (31%) and the incidence also decreased in MacKenzie Area (9.8%) and Baffin Zone (8.4%) but there was a marked increase in incidence in Keewatin Area (16%) which was mainly due to an outbreak which occurred at Chesterfield Inlet.

The disease incidence among the various groups was as follows:

Indians - 2226 per 100,000 population

Eskimos - 1574 " " "

Others - 1572 " " "

All Groups - 1697 per 100,000 population

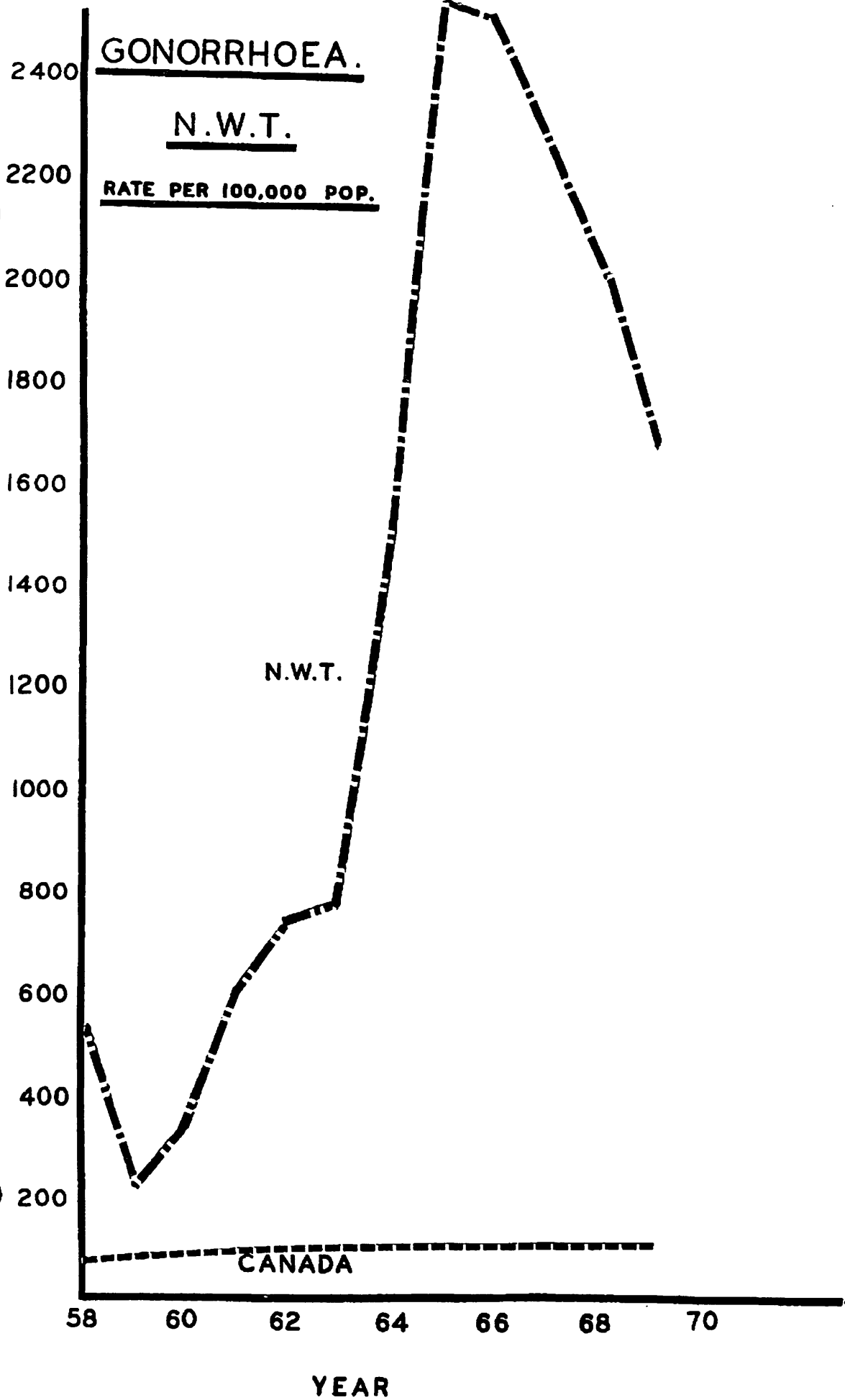
The sex-age distribution of confirmed cases in the three ethnic groups was as follows:

Ethnic Group	Total By Sex		1-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-39	40-59	60+	Age
	M.	F.								N.S.
Indians	86	50	-	-	22	43	54	13	2	2
%			-	-	16.1	31.6	39.7	9.5	1.4	1.4
Eskimos	99	77	2	1	43	65	48	12	-	5
%			1.1	0.6	24.4	36.9	27.3	6.8	-	2.8
Others	194	25	-	-	22	86	93	12	2	4
%			-	-	10.0	39.2	42.5	5.4	0.9	1.8
TOTALS	379	152	2	1	87	194	195	37	4	11
			0.4	0.2	16.3	36.5	36.7	6.9	0.8	2.1

TABLE V
TOTAL CASES OF GONORRHEA REPORTED IN NORTHWEST TERRITORIES - 1969

ZONE or AREA	INDIAN		ESKIMO		OTHERS (inc. METIS)		TOTALS by SEX		TOTAL 1969	TOTAL 1968		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F				
NO.	NAME		M	F	M	F	M	F				
W31	Tuktoyaktuk				18	7 (18)	1		19	7 (18)	26 (18)	27 (11)
W32	Inuvik - Aklavik		17	22 (18)	27	26 (15)	50	12 (5)	94	60 (38)	154 (38)	194 (20)
W 4	McPherson		16	12 (4)			1	1	17	13 (4)	30 (4)	45 (10)
W 5	Fort Good Hope			(1)						(1)	(1)	26 (8)
W 6	Fort Norman - Franklin		6	6 (2)				2	6	8 (2)	14 (2)	31 (10)
TOTAL - INUVIK ZONE			39	40 (25)	45	33 (33)	52	15 (5)	136	88 (63)	224 (63)	323 (59)
W 1	Cambridge Bay						1		1		1	2 (1)
W 2	Coppermine				1	(1)			1	(1)	1 (1)	2 (3)
E 4	Spence Bay											
W 7	Port Radium											
W 8	Fort Simpson - Liard		7	2 (12)			7		14	2 (14)	16 (14)	8 (5)
W10	Fort Resolution			(1)			1	1 (1)	1	1 (2)	2 (2)	1
W11	Fort Rae		2	(1)					2	(1)	2 (1)	16 (4)
W12	Snowdrift - Reliance											
W14	Fort Smith			2 (2)			16	2 (10)	16	4 (12)	20 (12)	14 (11)
W92	Hay River		7	(3)			40		47	(10)	47 (10)	38 (10)
W93	Fort Providence		3	(1)				1	3	1 (1)	4 (1)	13 (3)
W132	Yellowknife		28	6 (15)		(2)	54	5 (12)	82	11 (29)	93 (29)	111 (39)
TOTAL - MACKENZIE AREA			47	10 (35)	1	(3)	119	9 (32)	167	19 (70)	186 (70)	206 (76)
E 1	Eskimo Point				9	6 (1)			9	6 (1)	15 (1)	1
E 2	Baker Lake											
E31	Chesterfield Inlet				22	17		1	22	18	40	3 (1)
E32	Coral Harbour					1				1	1	
TOTAL - KEEWATIN AREA			-	-	31	24 (1)	-	1	31	25 (1)	56 (1)	4 (1)
E 5	Pond Inlet - Resolute				1				1		1	(1)
E 6	Pangnirtung					(2)	1		1	(2)	1 (2)	5
E71	Frobisher Bay				21	20 (22)	22		43	20 (25)	63 (25)	72 (23)
E72	Lake Harbour											
E73	Cape Dorset											(3)
TOTAL - BAFFIN ZONE			-	-	22	20 (24)	23	(3)	45	20 (27)	65 (27)	77 (27)
TOTAL - N.W.T.			86	50 (60)	99	77 (61)	194	25 (40)	379	152 (161)	531 (161)	610 (163)

(Parenthesis - Unconfirmed cases)



The only significant difference in age-group incidence is that there is a greater percentage of cases occurring in the under 20 year group in the native population.

A total of 785 contacts were named by the patients with confirmed disease and 707 of these were located and examined. The remaining 78 named contacts could not be located.

The interim treatment project initiated at Inuvik in 1968 has been continued during 1969, and while we have had problems encouraging the participants to attend regularly, there is no doubt that this project contributed to the reduced incidence in this town.

SYPHILIS:

Six cases of Syphilis were reported, four of which were in the infective stage when discovered. Four of the cases were Indians while two were non-native. No cases were reported in Eskimos. All cases occurred in the MacKenzie Area (5) and Baffin Zone (1). The incidence of this disease has not changed since 1968.

MEDICAL OFFICER COVERAGE:

As in the previous few years our recruitment of Medical Officers was very good and adequate coverage was maintained at all Government clinics. A certified surgeon has been stationed at Inuvik since July and this reduces the number of evacuations required for emergency and many elective surgical procedures. Our high level of recruitment allowed us to lend two Government doctors to support private practice in Yellowknife during the summer months. All indications are that we will be able to maintain this high level of coverage in 1970-71.

UNIVERSITY INVOLVEMENT:

McGill University and the Universities of Alberta, Manitoba and Western Ontario provided excellent assistance and support to our programs as follows:

MCGILL UNIVERSITY - Two experienced doctors who were recruited and employed on contract by the University have been stationed at Frobisher Bay since mid 1969; and two residents rotating on a monthly basis from Montreal General and Montreal Children's Hospitals have been stationed at this clinic.

Visiting Specialists have also been supplied at an increasing frequency.

Arrangements have been made for McGill University to provide a third general duty doctor in 1970.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA - Increased specialists' visits to Inuvik and MacKenzie Zones have been arranged by the University, which also arranged for a rotating resident to be posted to Inuvik Clinic.

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO - I wish to make special mention of the contribution made by Dr. Charles Thompson, Ophthalmologist, and Dr. Spoerel, Anaesthetist, from this University, who for the past few years have always willingly responded to our requests for specialist coverage for Baffin Zone. This University is very interested in assisting us in the provision of dental coverage to Baffin Island and plans to send some of their dental teaching staff and final year students to Pangnirtung in 1970 to assess how best they could assist us in improving the dental health of the native population.

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA - This University plans to co-ordinate our Specialist visits for the Keewatin Area of the Territories and in 1970 will provide some touring Medical Officer coverage from Churchill. They plan to operate a clinic of three to four doctors at Fort Churchill and this should provide good patient care for our residents who are evacuated to this centre for care and hospitalization.

DENTAL OFFICER COVERAGE:

Our dental coverage was not adequate during 1969 as we were short 3 dentists for most of the year. Prospects look brighter for 1970-71 and we hope to be able to fill most of our posts before the Fall of 1970. A second dental practitioner is joining the private practice clinic at Yellowknife and this will provide more adequate coverage for the capital city.

NURSING COVERAGE:

Our Hospital nursing staff were kept up to strength all year but we had a few scarce periods as regards outstation nursing staff. However, we were able to keep all stations covered and we are now placing three nurses at many of our larger stations to provide more adequate coverage and also to provide relief staff at other stations when sudden staff shortages occur.

TRAINING COURSES:

A course for native Community Aides took place at Inuvik in early 1969, and an orientation program for Community Health Workers began in October in preparation for the course which is to be held at Churchill from January to March 1970. We co-operated with the Education Department of the Territorial Government in setting up a School for Registered Nursing Assistants in October, and the pupils will receive their five months' practical training at hospitals in the MacKenzie Region.

MENTAL HEALTH:

A study of mental health services in the Yukon and the Northwest Territories was carried out during the year by three independent Psychiatrists from southern Universities - Drs. J.D. Atcheson, D.D. Rodgers and C. Hellon. They have submitted a detailed report which provides guidelines along which the mental health services in the Northwest Territories should be developed. A copy of this report has been forwarded to the Commissioner.

NORTHERN MEDICAL RESEARCH:

Dr. O. Schaefer continues his studies on diabetes, nutrition and cardiovascular disease among the native population groups in the north. He has also participated with Dr. J. Hildes in the I.B.P. program at Igloolik and has presented four papers at International Conferences at Prague and Zurich. He has also acted as consultant internist during his numerous tours of the north. Dr. R.D.P. Eaton, parasitologist, joined the staff of the Northern Research Unit during the year and he is concentrating on the epidemiology of amoebic dysentery among the Indian population and the incidence of parasitic diseases in native populations.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH:

The increased national interest in pollution has stressed the importance of this aspect of our work. Environmental Health Control is a difficult task in the Arctic due to the severe climate, the presence of permafrost and the fact that most communities are very small and the cost of providing piped water and sewage systems high. However, many of our problems have arisen because of poor community planning in past years, and even at the present time insufficient thought and foresight is going into the planning of new communities. In the near future we must consider the provision of piped water and sewage systems for all permanent communities in the Northwest Territories, and if this is kept in mind when planning these settlements, the operation and maintenance of piped systems is less expensive than the cost of labour and vehicles required in trucking water and sewage around settlements which are spread over large areas of tundra. The capital costs may appear high but when offset against lower maintenance costs and a more effective system it compares favourably with existing methods. However, it can only be an economic proposition in communities which have been planned with this in mind - hence the importance of careful community planning.

NEW FACILITIES:

The new permanent nursing stations at Rankin Inlet and Gjoa Haven were completed during 1969 and are now in full operation. A trailer nursing station was set up in Port Burwell and two trailers were sent into Resolute Bay to convert the Health Station to a Nursing Station. Eskimo Point Nursing Station was extended to provide more adequate space for Clinics and to provide accommodation for a third nurse. A trailer clinic unit was placed at Arctic Bay and a trailer residence unit at Clyde River to provide more adequate space for our activities.

Building plans for 1970 include new nursing stations^o for Clyde River, Broughton Island, Fort Providence, Fort Resolution and Fort McPherson. Two extra trailers will be sent to Repulse Bay to complete a trailer nursing station and the trailer station at Rankin Inlet will be transferred to Whale Cove. A Health Station will be positioned at Grise Fiord to provide space for our Community Aide there, and Coral Harbour Nursing Station will be expanded.

TUBERCULOSIS. N.W.T.

NEW ACTIVE CASES

