

**[Report 1942] / Medical Officer of Health, Huntingdonshire / County of Huntingdon County Council.**

**Contributors**

Huntingdonshire (England). County Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1942

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HUNTINGDONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



# Annual Report

OF THE

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER

UPON THE

HEALTH AND SANITARY

CONDITION

OF THE

COUNTY OF HUNTINGDON

For the year 1942

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS  
OF THE HUNTINGDONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1942.

Dr. C. B. Moss-Blundell retired in June, 1942, and Dr. J. P. Candler was appointed as temporary County Medical Officer, in his place. It is with great regret that I have to record that Dr. Candler died on the 4th December, 1942, after a period in office of only six months.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

N. H. HARRISON.

*October, 1943.*



## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF AREA.

### 1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres) ... ..	233,985
Population (Census 1931) ... ..	56,206
„ (Estimated mid-1942) ... ..	63,510

### 2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births { Legitimate ...	491	496	987
{ Illegitimate ...	38	43	81
{ Total Births ...	529	539	1,068
Birth rate per 1,000 population ... ..			16·8
Still births ... ..			36
Still birth rate per 1,000 total births ... ..			32·6
Deaths from all causes ... ..			723
Death Rate in:—			
Urban Districts ... ..			10·1
Rural Districts ... ..			12·4
County of Huntingdon ... ..			11·3
England and Wales ... ..			11·6
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of child birth:—			
From Sepsis ... ..			1
From other causes ... ..			—
Maternal Death Rate per 1,000 total births ... ..			·90
Death rate of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births:—			
Legitimate ... ..			47·6
Illegitimate ... ..			111·1
Total death rate ... ..			52·4

BIRTHS.—The Birth-rate for Huntingdonshire for 1942 was 16·8 as compared with 13·9 for 1941.



**STILLBIRTHS.**—The still-birth rate for 1942 was 32·6, as compared with 33·1 in 1941.

**DEATHS.**—The crude death-rate for 1942 was 11·3 as compared with 12·2 in 1941.

The following table sets out the birth-rates and death-rates of the Urban and Rural Districts, and of England and Wales for the past five years:—

	BIRTH RATE					DEATH RATE				
	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942
Urban Districts ...	15·9	15·3	15·6	14·6	16·9	11·5	12·9	13·1	11·4	10·1
Rural Districts ...	14·7	14·2	13·9	13·2	16·9	12·8	13·7	14·8	12·9	12·4
County of Huntingdon ...	15·2	14·7	14·9	13·9	16·8	12·1	13·4	14·2	12·2	11·3
England and Wales ...	15·1	15·0	14·2	14·2	15·8	11·6	12·1	14·3	12·9	11·6

**INFANT MORTALITY.**—The infant mortality rate for 1942 is 52·4 per 1,000 births as compared with 69·4 for 1941, 54·4 for 1940, 36·0 for 1939, and 46·2 for 1938. The rate for England and Wales for the year 1942 was 49.

**MATERNAL MORTALITY.**—The number of women dying from conditions directly associated with child-birth (including sepsis) was 1. This gives a rate of ·9 per 1,000 total births as compared with a rate of 8·5 for 1941, 2·1 for 1940, and nil for 1939.

**CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH.**—The chief causes of death during the year 1942 were Heart Disease 191, Cancer 122, Intra cranial vascular lesions 72, Bronchitis 42, Pneumonia 39, Tuberculosis (pulmonary) 30.



TABLE SHOWING DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES AND IN

CAUSE OF DEATH	CAUSE OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE					
	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough ... ..	1	1	—	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria ... ..	—	2	—	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of Resp. System ... ..	—	—	—	20	4	2
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	—	1	2	—	1	—
8. Syphilitic Diseases ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	1
9. Influenza ... ..	—	—	—	—	4	3
10. Measles ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Acute Infantile Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. Cancer of buc. cav. and Oesoph. (M) Uterus (F) ... ..	—	—	—	—	6	10
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	—	—	—	5	8	9
15. Cancer of Breast ... ..	—	—	—	—	5	5
16. Cancer of all other Sites ... ..	—	—	—	5	16	48
17. Diabetes ... ..	—	—	—	—	5	6
18. Intra. cranial Vascular Lesions ... ..	—	—	—	—	9	64
19. Heart Disease ... ..	—	—	—	5	33	153
20. Other Diseases of Circulatory System ... ..	—	—	—	2	—	21
21. Bronchitis ... ..	1	—	—	—	6	35
22. Pneumonia ... ..	5	—	1	4	4	10
23. Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	6
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	1
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years of age ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
26. Appendicitis ... ..	—	—	1	2	1	1
27. Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	—	1	—	1	3	5
28. Nephritis ... ..	—	—	—	1	3	10
29. Puerperal and Post. Abortive Sepsis ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—
30. Other Maternal Causes ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
31. Premature Birth ... ..	15	—	—	—	—	—
32. Con. Mal. Birth Injuries, Infant. Diseases	25	1	—	—	—	—
33. Suicide ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	5
34. Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	—	1	3	1	3	2
35. Other Violent Causes ... ..	4	1	3	12	6	14
36. All Other Causes ... ..	4	—	1	7	9	40
TOTALS: ALL CAUSES ... ..	56	9	11	67	129	451



## DISTRICTS IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTINGDON, 1942.

TOTALS	URBAN DISTRICTS						RURAL DISTRICTS			
	Huntingdon U.D.	Godmanchester U.D.	St. Ives U.D.	St. Neots U.D.	Ramsey U.D.	Old Fletton U.D.	Huntingdon R.D.	St. Ives R.D.	St. Neots R.D.	Norman Cross R.D.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
26	3	2	—	4	1	3	2	4	4	3
4	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—
2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
7	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	3	2	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16	1	—	1	—	1	2	6	2	2	1
22	1	—	1	4	2	1	5	4	4	—
10	1	—	—	1	2	—	1	4	—	1
69	4	1	2	5	4	10	12	8	9	14
11	—	1	4	2	—	2	—	—	2	—
73	5	2	1	5	7	9	10	12	12	10
191	16	3	7	15	14	22	26	40	25	23
23	1	3	4	—	1	1	3	8	1	1
42	3	—	1	5	5	2	4	9	8	5
24	2	—	2	1	3	2	3	3	4	4
8	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	1	3
2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—
10	2	—	1	1	—	1	2	1	2	—
14	2	—	1	—	2	2	1	2	2	2
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	1	—	—	2	3	3	2	2	2	—
26	1	—	2	1	5	4	4	4	4	1
6	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	2	—
10	1	—	—	1	—	1	2	3	1	1
40	2	—	2	3	9	3	1	15	3	2
61	8	1	2	7	7	4	7	13	6	6
723	56	15	34	61	67	74	93	143	99	81

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN HUNTINGDON COUNTY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1942.**

District	Smallpox	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Typhoid and Paratyphoid	Puerperal Pyrexia	Encephalitis Lethargica	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pneumonia	Chicken Pox	Measles	Acute Poliomyelitis	Total
<b>URBAN.</b>															
Godmanchester ...	—	—	4	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	11
Huntingdon ...	—	—	7	6	6	25	—	—	—	—	13	—	3	—	60
Old Fletton ...	—	—	59	3	4	62	—	1	—	—	3	—	11	—	143
Ramsey ...	—	—	6	1	—	5	—	2	—	—	4	—	—	—	18
St. Neots ...	—	—	4	1	1	8	—	1	—	—	1	—	3	—	19
St. Ives ...	—	—	3	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4	—	2	—	13
<b>RURAL.</b>															
Huntingdon ...	—	—	12	6	2	8	—	2	—	—	10	—	3	—	43
Norman Cross ...	—	—	60	4	1	15	—	—	—	—	5	—	2	—	87
St. Ives ...	—	—	19	4	3	14	—	—	—	—	13	—	11	—	64
St. Neots ...	—	—	9	1	—	7	—	11	—	—	9	—	27	—	64
	—	—	183	26	18	149	—	17	—	—	67	—	62	—	522



**Diphtheria.**—The number of cases of diphtheria notified during 1942 was 26, as compared with 44 in 1941, 62 in 1940, 29 in 1939, 49 in 1938, 202 in 1937.

Immunisation of children under 5 years of age is carried out at the Infant Welfare Centres in the County. During 1942, 659 infants were immunised.

In three Sanitary Districts the County Medical Staff carry out the immunisation of school children (acting as agents for these Districts). In addition the immunisation work in seven Districts is performed by the District Medical Officers.

A total of 3,454 children of all ages were immunised during the year 1942.

There were 2 deaths from diphtheria during the year.

**Scarlet Fever.**—149 notifications were received, and there were no deaths.

**Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers.**—No cases were notified.

**Puerperal Pyrexia.**—17 cases were notified, and 5 of these received institutional treatment.

**Cerebro-Spinal Fever.**—No cases were notified.

**Whooping Cough.**—183 cases were notified during 1942.

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1930.

Part I.—Summary of Notifications during the period 1st Jan., 1942, to the 31st Dec., 1942, in the area of the County of Huntingdon.

		Formal Notifications											
		Number of Primary Notifications of New Cases of Tuberculosis											
AGE PERIODS		0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and upwards	Total
Pulmonary—													
Males ...	...	—	—	2	—	3	6	10	2	3	—	—	26
Females ...	...	—	—	1	—	4	4	4	6	2	1	—	23
Non-Pulmonary—													
Males ...	...	—	1	3	—	1	—	4	1	—	—	—	10
Females ...	...	—	—	1	2	1	2	1	3	—	—	—	10

Part II.—Supplemental Return.

New cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the above mentioned period, otherwise than by formal notification.

Pulmonary—													
Males ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	4
Females ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	6
Non-Pulmonary—													
Males ...	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	5
Females ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4



**TUBERCULOSIS.**  
**Return showing the work of the Dispensaries during the year 1942.**

Diagnosis	Pulmonary				Non-Pulmonary				Total				Grand Total
	Adults		Children		Adults		Children		Adults		Children		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
A.—(1) Number of definite cases on Register at beginning of year ... ..	98	79	6	7	33	26	24	28	131	105	30	35	301
(2) Transfers from other areas ... ..	5	3	1	1	1	—	1	2	6	3	2	3	14
B.—Number of new cases diagnosed during the year—													
Class T.B. minus ... ..	21	27	2	1	—	—	—	—	21	27	2	1	51
Class T.B. plus ... ..	7	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	6	—	—	13
Non-Pulmonary ... ..	—	—	—	—	5	4	3	4	5	4	3	4	16
Cases lost sight of returned during year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C.—Number of cases in A and B written off during the year—													
Recovered ... ..	4	7	—	—	4	3	1	1	8	10	1	1	20
Dead (all causes) ... ..	11	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	10	—	—	21
Removed to other areas ... ..	6	6	—	—	2	2	1	—	8	8	1	—	17
For other reasons ... ..	20	14	1	2	5	1	2	2	25	16	3	4	48
D.—Number of definite cases on Register at the end of the year ... ..	72	60	6	6	22	20	22	28	94	80	28	34	236



## TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of deaths from tuberculosis (all forms) in the County for 1942 was 30, that for Urban Districts being 16, and for Rural Districts 14.

The number of cases of Pulmonary tuberculosis notified during 1942 was 49, as compared with 39 in 1941. 20 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified as against 13 in 1941. In addition 10 pulmonary and 9 non-pulmonary cases came to notice, otherwise than by formal notification (*e.g.*, from death returns, etc.). (See table on page 10.)

**Dispensaries.**—The figures relating to work in connection with Dispensaries are shown in the table on page 11.

**Institutional Treatment.**—Cases of pulmonary tuberculosis are accommodated in Papworth Hall Sanatorium, and children in other out-county Sanatoria. Non-pulmonary cases are admitted mainly to the Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital, Northampton. The following table shows the extent of residential treatment during 1942:—

		In Institutions on January 1st, 1942	Admitted during the year	Discharged during the year	Died in Institutions	In Institutions on 31st December, 1941
No. of Patients	Adults: M ...	20	28	15	8	25
	F ...	11	15	10	2	14
	Children: M ...	1	8	6	—	3
	F ...	2	9	6	—	5
Total ...		34	60	37	10	47



**VENEREAL DISEASES.**

Venereal Diseases Clinics are held at Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, on Tuesdays, at 3.0 p.m., and on Thursdays at 7.0 p.m., and at 28 Fitzwilliam Street, Peterborough, on Tuesdays and Fridays (Men) at 6—8 p.m., and Tuesdays and Fridays (Women) at 3.30—6 p.m.

Table showing Huntingdonshire patients treated at the V.D. Treatment Centres:—

**VENEREAL DISEASES.****Abstract relating to Huntingdon patients treated at the Venereal Diseases Treatment Centres.**

	Cambridge	Peterborough
A.—Number of persons dealt with for the first time and found to be suffering from—		
Syphilis ... ..	7	6
Soft Chancre ... ..	—	—
Gonorrhoea ... ..	—	10
Conditions other than Venereal ...	11	19
Total ... ..	18	35
B.—Attendances of all patients ... ..	212	1140

## MATERNITY AND MID-WIFERY SERVICES.

There are 19 Nursing Associations employing 26 Nurse Midwives. The work done by these Nurses is as follows:—

Midwifery	...	...	...	...	452
Maternity	...	...	...	...	344
General Sick Nursing cases	...	...	...	...	1,691
Number of General Nursing visits	...	...	...	...	27,792
Number of casual visits	...	...	...	...	2,819
Ante-natal visits	...	...	...	...	6,251

The District Nurses also act as Infant Health Visitors, and 7,020 visits were paid to children under 1 year of age in 1942, and 8,354 visits in 1941, and 7,416 visits to children between 1 and 5 years of age in 1942 as compared with 8,603 in 1941.

Dental treatment is available for expectant and nursing mothers. During the year 1942, 148 dentures were supplied, the whole or part cost being recovered from the patient according to her means.

There are 14 Infant Welfare Centres in the County. The total number of children who first attended at the Centres during the year, and who, on the date of their first attendance were:—

Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	616
Between the ages of 1 and 5 years	...	...	...	258

The total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the Centres during the year and who, at the end of the year, were:—

Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	500
Over 1 year of age	...	...	...	975



**MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS.**

13 Male and 12 Female defectives, for whom the Huntingdonshire County Council is responsible, remained in Certified Institutions at the end of the year. There were also 1 male and 2 females on licence from Institutions.

1 male and 8 females were under Guardianship and 25 males and 24 females were under Statutory Supervision.





