

[Report 1939] / Medical Officer of Health, Worthing R.D.C.

Contributors

Worthing (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1939

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/qrtqrm9x>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

WEST SUSSEX (SOUTHERN) COMBINED SANITARY DISTRICT.

Tel: 49 Worthing.

R.H.Wilshaw, M.D., M.R.C.P.,
Medical Officer of Health.

10 Bulkington Avenue,
Worthing.



22nd November 1940

Gentlemen,

Acting on the instructions contained in Circular 2067, in which it states that reports should be confined to essential and urgent matters which have affected the public health during the year, especially any matters arising from or connected with the war, outbreaks of infectious disease, and measures for maternity and child welfare, together with any exceptional administrative measures taken or recommended by the Medical Officer of Health, I beg to make the following observations.

Statistics 1939.

		Worthing R.D.	England & Wales.
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	14.1	15.0
Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	10.9	12.1
Corrected Death Rate	...	9.2	-
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	...	40	50

The population as given by the Registrar General on which the Birth Rate is calculated is 24,890, and that on which the Death Rate is calculated is 26,650. The factor for correction is 0.84, which gives a corrected Death Rate of 9.2.

Evacuation.

On the outbreak of war approximately 2851 children and mothers were evacuated to Worthing Rural District from vulnerable areas. During the last three months of the year the presence of these children caused no appreciable increase in the incidence of infectious disease. In September Sick Bays were established at Lancing, Findon and Warningcamp, for the reception of sick evacuee children. It was not found necessary to use the Sick Bay at Warningcamp, but 34 children were treated at Lancing and 6 at Findon.

Infectious Disease.

During the year the following cases of infectious disease were notified:

Scarlet Fever (inc.7 evacuees)	37	(7 in 1938)
Diphtheria (inc.14 ")	24	(16 " ")
Typhoid Fever	1	(Nil " ")
Pneumonia	9	(25 " ")
Tuberculosis	21	(18 " ")
Erysipelas	11	
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	
Whooping Cough	11	
Measles	1	

Of the 37 cases of Scarlet Fever, 29 occurred in residential Schools or Homes in the district. Of the 24 cases of Diphtheria, 12 occurred in a Home for evacuated children.

Housing.

No. of new houses erected during 1939:

By Private Enterprise	... 351
By Local Authority	... 68

Total number of dwelling houses inspected
for housing defects (under Public Health
and Housing Acts) ... 428

No. of Inspections made for the purpose ... 1795

No. of dwelling houses found to be in a
state so dangerous and injurious to
health as to be unfit for human
habitation ... 10

Bacteriological Samples of Milk.

	No. Samples taken	No. complying with standard.	No. failing to comply with standard.
Tuberculin Tested	25	20	5
Accredited	68	51	17
Pasteurised	4	2	2
Ordinary	3	1	2

Where the results were not satisfactory appropriate action was
taken.

Water.

Fourteen samples of water from the public supplies were sent for
bacteriological examination and all proved satisfactory.

Sanitary Inspection.

I have had a complete report from the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Oates,
as in former years, but as this is not required I do not think it
necessary to amplify any further beyond stating that 5401 visits and
inspections were made as compared with 4160 the previous year.

Records.

All records, including statistics supplied by the Registrar General,
are being carefully preserved in order that after the termination of the
war a report can be made dealing more fully with the period from the
beginning of 1939 to the end of the last complete year, so that annual
records may, as far as practicable, be continuous and complete.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

(signed) R.H. WILSHAW.

Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairmen and Members of the
Worthing Rural District Council.