

THE CENSUS OF 1871.

ENGLAND.

From the population enumerated at the Census on April 3, 1871, we learn that, notwithstanding the constant flow of emigrants from our shores, numbering 605,165 of English origin in the ten years 1861-1870, the population has increased no less than 2,637,884. The actual enumeration of the Census affords a perfectly reliable basis for the calculation of the percentage of mortality, and serves to correct the estimate for places which during the last decade have exhibited an unusual rate of increase or fluctuation in the population.

The resident population of the United Kingdom in the middle of 1871 is estimated at 31,529,493; that of England and Wales amounting to 22,760,359, of Scotland to 3,936,378, and of Ireland to 5,402,759.

POPULATION of the seventeen largest English towns enumerated at the three Censuses in 1851, 1861, and 1871:—

	Years.			Decennial Increase per cent.	
	1851.	1861.	1871.	1851 to 1861.	1861 to 1871.
Total of seventeen towns	4,454,140	5,299,424	6,188,233	19.0	16.8
London ... ..	2,362,236	2,803,989	3,251,804	18.7	16.0
Portsmouth ... ..	72,096	94,799	112,954	31.5	19.2
Norwich ... ..	68,712	74,891	80,390	9.0	7.3
Bristol ... ..	137,328	154,093	182,524	12.2	18.5
Wolverhampton ... ..	49,985	60,860	68,279	21.8	12.2
Birmingham ... ..	232,841	296,076	343,696	27.2	16.1
Leicester ... ..	60,584	68,056	95,084	12.3	39.7
Nottingham ... ..	57,407	74,693	98,608	30.1	16.0
Liverpool ... ..	375,955	443,938	493,346	18.1	11.1
Manchester ... ..	305,382	338,722	355,665	11.6	5.0
Salford ... ..	88,108	102,449	124,805	20.4	21.8
Bradford ... ..	103,778	106,218	145,827	2.4	37.3
Leeds ... ..	172,270	207,165	259,201	20.3	25.1
Sheffield ... ..	135,310	185,172	239,947	36.9	29.6
Hull ... ..	84,690	97,661	121,598	15.3	24.5
Sunderland ... ..	64,673	81,534	98,335	26.1	20.6
Newcastle ... ..	87,784	109,108	128,160	24.3	17.7
Total of seventeen towns (exclusive of London) ...	2,091,904	2,495,435	2,936,419	19.3	17.7

**LONDON.**—The population of the metropolitan area embraced by the London registration division enumerated on April 3, 1871, and raised to the middle of the year, was 3,263,872 persons, which is within 5403 of the number estimated upon the decreasing rate of increase observed in the two decades 1841-51 and 1851-61. The decennial increase, which was 18.7 per cent between 1851 and 1861, declined to 16.0 per cent during the years 1861-71. In that portion of the area of the Metropolitan and City police districts lying outside the boundaries of registration London the increase of population in the last ten years exceeded 50 per cent. This outer ring of London, however, includes but part of the metropolitan increase which has overflowed the boundaries of the registration division: the home counties, especially Surrey, Kent, Hertfordshire, Berkshire, and Essex, have absorbed a large proportion of the real increase of London, thousands of whose day residents are each night carried by rail to their country residences, where with their families and servants they were enumerated. In the last estimate the annual rate of mortality in London was 23.1 per 1000.

**PORTSMOUTH.**—The population of Portsmouth increased 31.5 per cent between 1851 and 1861; in the ten years 1861 and 1871 the increase was only 19.2 per cent. The population estimated to the middle of the year 1871 upon the numbers enumerated in April, 1871, was 113,450 persons, and 12,014 less than the estimate based upon the rate of increase which prevailed between 1851 and 1861. This over-estimate of the population amounted to 10.6 per cent of the correct number, and has been the means of under-stating the calculated birth and death rates in the borough.

**NORWICH.**—The population of this city estimated to the middle of this year upon the recently enumerated population is 80,533 persons, and within 1254 of the estimate based upon the rate of increase between 1851 and 1861; the decennial increase 1851-61 was 9.0 per cent, and between 1861 and 1871 7.3 per cent; thus the over-estimate of the present population did not exceed 1.6 per cent. Except in Yarmouth the population of nearly all other parts of Norfolk declined between 1861 and 1871.

**BRISTOL.**—The increase of population in this city, which was 12.2 per cent between 1851 and 1861, was 18.5 between 1861 and 1871. The estimate of population based upon the 1851-61 rate of increase was therefore 9334 below the more correct estimate, which is 133,298. This under-estimate was to the extent of 5.4 per cent. Portions of Clifton and Edminster districts outlying the municipal boundaries have absorbed a portion of the natural increase of this city.

**WOLVERHAMPTON.**—The population of this borough estimated upon the enumerated numbers is 68,476 persons, and 5962 less than was estimated from the 1851-61 rate of increase. The increase, which had been 21.6 per cent between the Censuses of 1851 and 1861, did not exceed 12.2 per cent in the more recent decade. The outer ring of Wolverhampton, including Tettenhall, Willenhall, Kinvor, and Bilston, showed a comparatively small increase between 1861 and 1871.

**BIRMINGHAM.**—The increase in the population of this borough was 27.2 per cent between 1851 and 1861, while between 1861 and 1871 it had declined to 16.1 per cent. The present population estimated upon the recently enumerated numbers is 344,980 persons, which, in consequence of the considerable decrease in the rate of increase, was 33,594 below the estimate based upon the rate of increase between 1851-61. Harborne, King's Norton, Erdington, and Handsworth show a larger proportion of the natural increase of Birmingham during the past ten years, which has overflowed the borough boundaries.

**LEICESTER.**—The population of this borough, estimated to the middle of this year upon the numbers enumerated in April last, is 95,882 persons, and 5485 less than was estimated from local information, based upon the increase of inhabited houses in recent years. The increase was only 12.3 in 1851-61, while between 1861-71 it was 39.7. The increase of population outside the borough boundaries, between 1861-71, was not remarkable.

**NOTTINGHAM.**—The present population of Nottingham, estimated upon the numbers recently enumerated, is 83,929 persons, and 3551 lower than was estimated from the rate of increase between 1851-61, corrected from local information. The increase, which between 1851 and 1861 was 30.1 per cent, was only 16.0 per cent in the ten years 1861-71. The districts outlying the borough boundaries have shared the increase of Nottingham.

**LIVERPOOL.**—The present population of Liverpool is 494,649, and so much as 31,576 lower than the estimate based upon the rate of increase between 1851 and 1861; the percentage of error was no less than 6.4 per cent. The rate of increase in the decade 1851-61 was 18.1 per cent, while in the last ten years it has not exceeded 11.1 per cent. The rate of mortality in the last quarter of 1870 was 33.5 per 1000 instead of 31.5. A somewhat considerable proportion of the increase of Liverpool has doubtless overflowed the boundaries of the borough, and contributed to the increase of Birkenhead, Trammere, New Brighton, and the extra-municipal portions of West Derby district.

**MANCHESTER.**—Estimated to the middle of this year upon the recently enumerated numbers, the population of this city is 356,069, and less by 23,041 than the estimate till now in use, and based upon the rate of increase between 1851 and 1861; the percentage of error was so great as 6.5 per cent, which is accounted for when we see that the increase, which had been 11.6 per cent between 1851 and 1861, declined to 5.0 per cent in the recent decade. A considerable portion of the natural increase of Manchester appears in Didsbury and other extra-municipal portions of Chorlton district.

**SALFORD.**—The present population of this borough is 125,422, and 1572 above the estimate framed upon the rate of increase between 1851 and 1861, even after a slight correction, on local representation of an increasing rate of increase; the percentage of error was, however, only 1.3 per cent. The 1851-61 increase was 20.4 per cent, and between 1861 and 1871 it had increased to 21.8 per cent.

**BRADFORD.**—The population of this borough, which only increased 2.4 per cent between 1851 and 1861, showed an increase of no less than 37.3 per cent between 1861 and 1871. The present population of Bradford is 146,987, and within 1043 of the estimate of population in use up to the present time, which is based upon local returns of the number of inhabited houses. If the estimate had been calculated by the rate of increase which prevailed between 1851 and 1861 it would have been too low by more than 35,000, whereas the over-estimate based upon local information was only 1043, and but 0.7 per cent upon the true numbers. The increase of population in the last ten years in some of the townships outlying the municipal boundaries was almost as remarkable as in Bradford itself.

**LEEDS.**—As in Bradford so in Leeds, the rate of increase in the past ten years has been larger than in the decade 1851-61—viz., 25.1 per cent, against 20.3 per cent in the earlier period. The present population of Leeds borough, estimated upon the recently enumerated numbers, is 200,657, and 5451 less than the estimate based upon local returns of the number of inhabited houses in recent years. The increase in the neighbouring district of Dewsbury during the last decade was fully as large as in Leeds borough.

**SHEFFIELD.**—The present population of this borough, estimated from the numbers enumerated in April last, is 241,507 persons, and 13,740 less than the estimate till now in use, based upon the rate of increase between 1851 and 1861. The increase between the Censuses 1851-61 was 36.9 per cent, and, in the more recent decade not more than 29.6; consequently, the percentage of error in the over-estimate was 5.7 per cent. The townships surrounding the borough do not appear to have absorbed any considerable portion of the natural increase of Sheffield.

**HULL.**—The population of this borough, estimated to the middle of this year upon the recent Census numbers, is 122,266 persons, and so many as 12,929 less than the estimate till now in use, which was based upon returns furnished a few years since by the local authorities showing the number of inhabited houses; this gave an over-estimate of 10.6 per cent. The rate of increase between 1851 and 1861 was 15.3 per cent; in the decade 1861-71 this increase was 24.5 per cent. The increase of Hull is fairly represented by that shown within the borough.

**SUNDERLAND.**—The population of this borough, estimated to the present time upon the recently enumerated numbers, is 98,797 persons; the numbers estimated upon the rate of increase between 1851-61 showed an excess of 4240, or 4.3 per cent upon the true numbers. Between 1851 and 1861 the increase was 26.1 per cent, while in the more recent decade it has not been more than 20.6 per cent. The increase of Sunderland is but slightly shared by the townships lying outside the recently extended limits of the borough.

**NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.**—Between 1851 and 1861 the increase in the population of this borough was 24.3 per cent; but in the more recent decade it declined to 17.5 per cent. The present population of the borough, estimated from the enumerated numbers in April last, is 128,677, and 7616 less than the estimate which has till now been used, based upon the 1851-61 rate of increase; the percentage of error in this over-estimate was 5.9. The increase in the population of Gateshead during the ten years 1861-71 was at a greater rate than in Newcastle.

Of the ninety-five counties or divisions of counties the population has increased in eighty-three, leaving a decrease, which amounts in the aggregate to 25,071, in the remaining twelve. Of this decrease, 9755, or more than one third, has occurred in the three Welsh counties of Pembroke, Anglesea, and Brecon, and the remainder in East Cheshire, East and West Cornwall, East Cumberland, North Devon, Huntingdonshire, West Norfolk, South Notts, and South Wilts.

The Registrar-General remarks:—"Only in Bristol and Salford of these seventeen towns was the estimate of population used for calculating the rates of mortality just previous to the last Census enumeration below the actual numbers; in each of the other towns the population was over-estimated, and the birth and death rates in consequence under-estimated. Having regard to the remarkable variations in the rate of increase shown in the two decades, 1851-61 and 1861-71, especially in Portsmouth, Birmingham, Leicester, Nottingham, and Bradford, it may fairly be doubted if a decennial enumeration give a sufficiently reliable basis for estimating town populations, upon which to calculate rates of mortality and other vital statistics. In France, where the movement of population is slower, and not subject to such variable rates of increase or decrease as in England, a census is held quinquennially. How much more necessary is a quinquennial enumeration in England, especially in our largest towns!"