111,688 Dead From “Flu” in 46 Cities

Pittsburgh Shows 25.4 Per Cent Death Rate.

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—The influenza epidemic which swept the country during the latter part of last year caused 111,688 deaths in 46 largest cities and increased the combined death rate for those communities in 1918 to 19.6 per thousand, according to statistics made public yesterday by the census bureau. Total figures for the country were not available.

Baltimore, with 26.3 per thousand, and Nashville, with 26.4, had the highest rates of the registration cities, while St. Paul, with 13.9, and Minneapolis and Grand Rapids, with 14 each, had the lowest. Grand Rapids showed the smallest increase, the death rate for 1917 having been 13.1.

The year’s total death rate in New York city was 18.8 per thousand, compared with 1.2 for 1917; in Chicago it was 17.4, against 14.9 the year before; in Philadelphia, where the influenza epidemic was very severe, it was 24.1, compared with 17.1 in 1917. The rate in Cleveland was 16.0 for last year and 12.3 in 1917; Boston, 22.0 and 16.4; St. Louis, 17.6 and 15.1; Pittsburgh, 25.4 and 18.3; Cincinnati, 20.6 and 16.5.