Cause of Death Mortality: International Trends by Socio-Economic Group

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Outline

- Motivation and long term goals
- Data
- Comparison of US, Denmark and England
- England: deeper dive





Purpose of looking at cause of death data

- What are the key drivers of all-cause mortality?
- How are the key drivers changing over time?
- Which causes of death have high levels of inequality:
 - by education;
 - by affluence;
 - deprivation?
- Can we point to specific causes of death as responsible for growing inequality?
- Leading to: insight into mortality underpinning life insurance and pensions



Drivers

- Medical advances \rightarrow
- ullet Public health initiatives o ?? period effects Health spending by age o
- Individual risk factors:
 - Controllable (Cancer UK: preventable)
 e.g. smoking, diet, exercise, alcohol, sun, drugs,
 hygiene, risky sex, stress, environment...
 - leading to cohort effects
 - Not (easily) controllable
 e.g. genetic, affluence, education,
 character/personality traits, ...



Socio-economic datasets

Cause of death data for:

- US (males and females)
 - by education level: low (\leq high school); high (\geq some college)
- Denmark (males only):
 - by education level: low (< high sch.);
 medium (=high sch.); high (≥ some college)
 (cohorts > 1920 only)
 - by individual affluence: 10 deciles
- England (males and females)
 - by small area income deprivation: 10 deciles
 - by region: 9 areas

Cause of Death Groupings

US1.1	Infectious diseases excl. HIV/AIDS	US 1.2	HIV/AIDS
1	Infectious diseases	2	Cancer: mouth, gullet, stomach
3	Cancer: gut, rectum	4.1	Cancer: larynx
4.2	Cancer: trachea	4.3	Cancer: lung, bronchus
5	Cancer: breast	6.1	Cancer: uterus, cervix
6.2	Cancer: ovary	6.3	Cancer: other female genital
7.1	Cancer: prostate, testicular	7.2	Cancer: other male genital
8	Cancer: skin, bones and certain organs	9	Cancer: lymphatic
10	Benign tumours	11	Diseases: blood
12	Diabetes	13	Mental illness
14.1	Diseases of nervous system excl. Alzh.	14.2	Alzheimers
15	Blood pressure + rheumatic fever	16	Ischaemic heart diseases
17	Other heart diseases	18	Diseases: cerebrovascular
19	Diseases: circulatory	20	Diseases: lungs, breathing
21	Diseases: digestive (excl. alcohol: 27)	22	Diseases: urine, kidney,
23	Diseases: skin, bone, tissue	24(DU)	Senility without mental illness
25	Road/other accidents	26	Other causes
27	$Alcohol \to liver \; disease$	28	Suicide
29	Accidental Poisonings		

Colours \Rightarrow broad CoD groups (e.g. cancers) Detail \Rightarrow able to separate causes with and without significant risk factors or inequality

Data - Other Details

US

- Deaths subdivided into 30 CoD groups
- Single ages 40-89 and born between 1914 and 1970
- Single years 1989-2015

Denmark

- 29 CoD groups
- Age groups 31-35, 36-40, ..., 91-95
- Five-year blocks 1985-89, 1990-94, 1995-99, 2000-2004, 2005-2009

England

- 34 CoD groups
- Age groups 20-24, 25-29, ..., 85-89
- Single years 2001-2016

England – Deprivation – Top 10 CoD

Males; Ages 70-74; Year 2016

Rank	Most Deprived	Least Deprived
1	Respiratory	Skin & organ cancer
2	Ischaemic heart	Ischaemic heart
3	Lung cancer etc.	Respiratory
4	Skin & organ cancer	Lung cancer etc.
5	Cerebrovascular	Prostate cancer
6	Oesoph., stom. cancer	Cancer: lymphatic, myeloma, etc.
7	Bowel, gut cancer	Nervous system excl. Alzh.
8	Other heart dis.	Cerebrovascular
9	Digestive diseases	Oesoph., stom. cancer
10	Prostate cancer	Bowel, gut cancer

No controllable risk factors: e.g. Prostate – almost no inequality.

Significant controllable risk factors feature much more heavily amongst the most deprived.

England – Deprivation – Top 10 CoD

Females; Ages 70-74; Year 2016

Rank	Most Deprived	Least Deprived
1	Respiratory	Skin & organ cancer
2	Lung cancer etc.	Lung cancer etc.
3	Skin & organ cancer	Respiratory
4	Ischaemic heart	Ischaemic heart
5	Cerebrovascular	Breast cancer
6	Digestive diseases	Cerebrovascular
7	Other heart dis.	Cancer: lymphatic, myeloma, etc.
8	Breast cancer	Nervous system excl. Alzh.
9	Bowel, gut cancer	Bowel, gut cancer
10	Mental illnesses	Ovarian cancer

No controllable risk factors: e.g. Breast and other cancers

Significant controllable risk factors feature much more heavily amongst the most deprived.



Multi-Country Comparisons

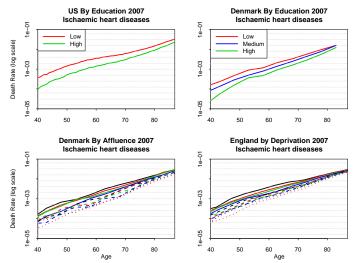
- Up to 34 causes of death
- Many very low death rates or not so interesting
- Here: a few of the more interesting cases
 - Major CoD's
 - Widening gap
 - Unexpected regional effects
 - Story to tell that might apply to other CoD's

Impact of Controllable Risk Factors

- Risk factors (controllable and not controllable)
 ⇒
 Impact on cause of death rates
- Some risk factors ⇒ big impact on some causes
 e.g. smoking → lung cancer
 e.g. several risk factors → ischaemic heart
 disease
 ⇒ significant inequality gaps
 - \Rightarrow significant inequality gaps
- Other causes of death:
 no known (significant) controllable risk factors
 e.g. prostate cancer, breast cancer



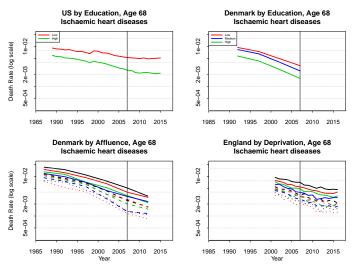
Multi-Country: Year 2007, Males, Ischaemic Heart Disease



US: slightly wider than Denmark

England similar to Denmark but higher

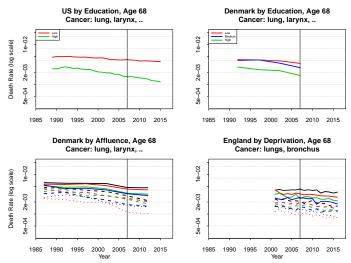
Multi-Country: Age 68, Males, Ischaemic Heart Disease



Significant improvements, but not throughout

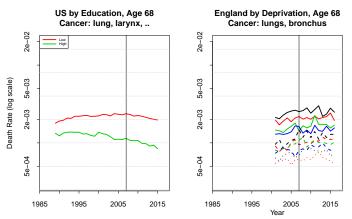


Multi-Country: Age 68, Males, Lung Cancer



Significant inequality; improvements might be driven by smoking prevalence

Multi-Country: Age 68, Females, Lung Cancer

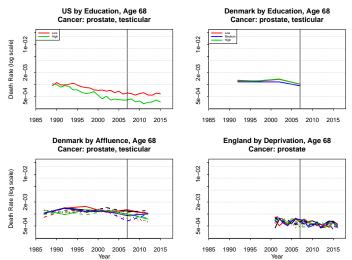


Significant inequality; deterioration mainly driven by smoking prevalence

Impact of Controllable Risk Factors

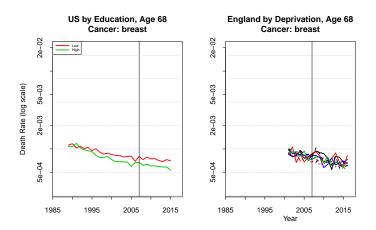
- Risk factors (controllable and not controllable)
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 Impact on cause of death rates
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 - ⇒ significant inequality gaps
- Other causes of death:
 no known (significant) controllable risk factors
 e.g. prostate cancer, breast cancer

Multi-Country: Age 68, Males, Prostate Cancer



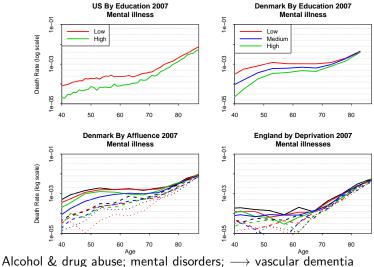
No controllable risk factors; US improvements; DK vs US genetic factors? US some inequality vs England/Denmark: healthcare system

Multi-Country: Age 68, Females, Breast Cancer



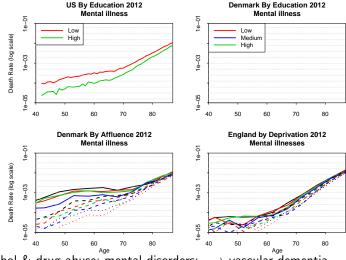
No controllable risk factors; US inequalities; England equality (?)

Variation in Reporting Practice: e.g. Mental Illness

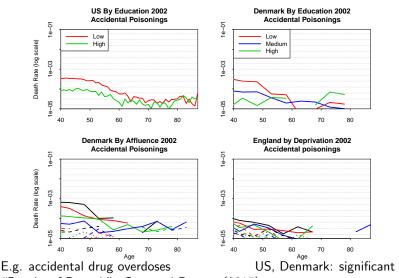


Multiple CoD + Reporting practice (??) \Rightarrow DK >> US >> Eng.

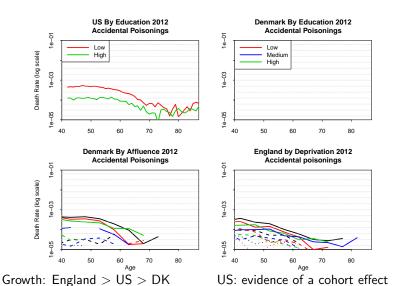
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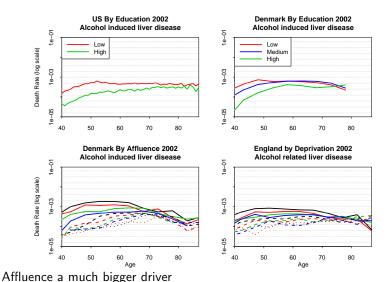


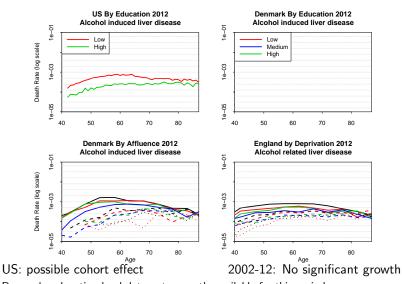
Alcohol & drug abuse; mental disorders; \longrightarrow vascular dementia Multiple CoD + Reporting practice (??) \Rightarrow DK >> US >> Eng.



"Deaths of Despair": Case and Deaton (2015)







Denmark: education level data not currently available for this period

England: Deeper Dive

Compare

- Income deprivation deciles
- 9 English regions



England: Income Deprivation versus Region



North East North West Yorkshire & Humber East Midlands West Midlands East of England London South East South West

Not in dataset: Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland

Age (& Deprivation)Standardised Mortality Rate

(CoD) Death rates:
$$m(x)$$
, $m_I(i,x)$, $m_R(r,x)$, $m_{RI}(r,i,x)$

$$ASMR = \frac{\sum_x m(x)ES(x)}{\sum_x ES(x)}$$
where $ES(x) =$ "standard" population

Variants: $ASMR_I(i) = \frac{\sum_x m_I(i,x)ES(x)}{\sum_x ES(x)}$ (income decile)

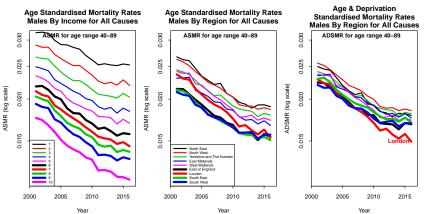
$$ASMR_R(r) = \frac{\sum_x m_R(r,x)ES(x)}{\sum_x ES(x)}$$
 (region)

$$ASMR_{RI}(r,i) = \frac{\sum_x m_{RI}(r,i,x)ES(x)}{\sum_x ES(x)}$$
 (region, income)

$$ADSMR_R(r) = \frac{1}{10}\sum_x ASMR_{RI}(r,i)$$

ADSMR adjusts for different income deprivation mix by region

England: Males (40-89) ASMR and ADSMR Inequality



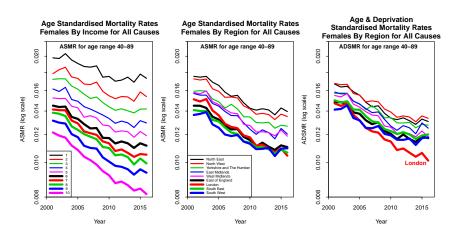
Income deprivation deciles: widening gap Clear "London Effect".

Greater improvements in healthcare??

Greater improvements in GDP??

Educational attainment rising faster?? (immigration??)

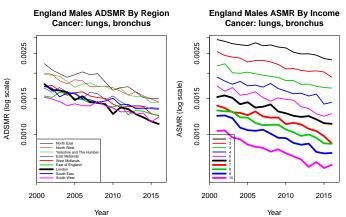
England: Females (40-89) ASMR and ADSMR Inequality



Males and females: significant regional effects remain after accounting for income deprivation

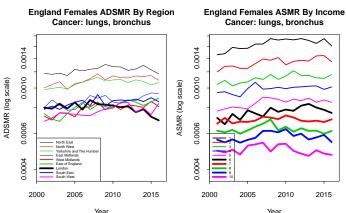
(All cause data: other non-regional covariates being investigated)

Lung Cancer: Males



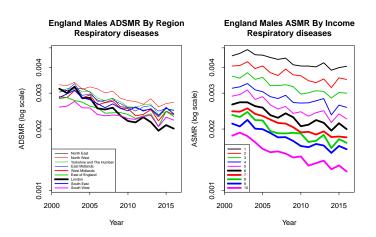
Significant variation between income deciles (\Rightarrow smoking prevalence) Significant variation between regions (after standardisation) $\times 1.5$ variation by region; $\times 2.5$ by income decile London effect; Northern regions very poor

Lung Cancer: Females



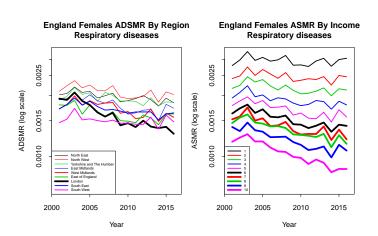
Slight worsening \Rightarrow ?? smoking prevalence rising Same northern regions do badly Wider regional spread

Respiratory Diseases: Males



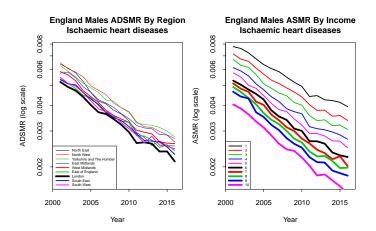
Flatter than males: similar pattern to lung cancer males

Respiratory Diseases: Females



Similar pattern to lung cancer females Weaker improvements than males linked to smoking prevalence, especially high deprivation

Ischaemic Heart Disease: Males



Success story: major improvements

Less good: widening gap and regional inequality

Females: similar picture

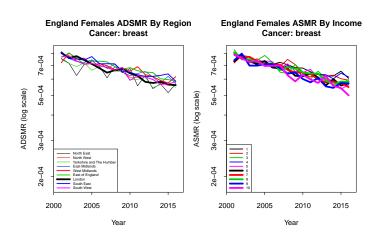
A Broad Observation

As the impact of a *controllable* risk factor on a particular CoD increases we observe:

- greater inequality in the corresponding CoD death rates
 - by income deprivation
 - by region
 - by region even after adjusting for differing levels of income deprivation
- Possible sources of the region effect:
 - Other socio-economic variables?
 E.g. education levels within each income deprivation decile
 - Greater deprivation on average across the region leads to generally poorer health behaviour?
 - , 777

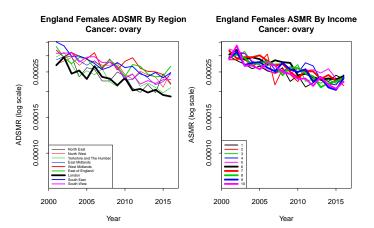


Breast Cancer: An Equality "Success Story"



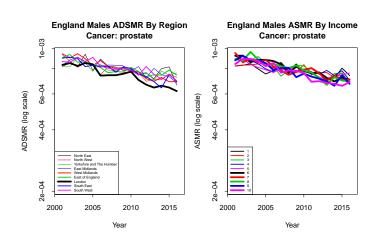
Limited controllable risk factors
"Success story": no significant income or regional inequality
(including ?? diagnosis)

Ovarian Cancer: A Regional Lottery?

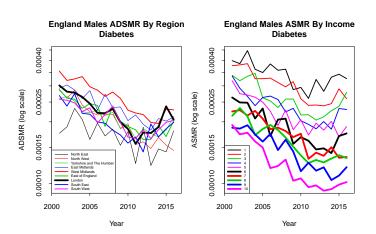


Limited controllable risk factors Limited income effect Significant regional effect

Prostate Cancer: A Small London Effect?

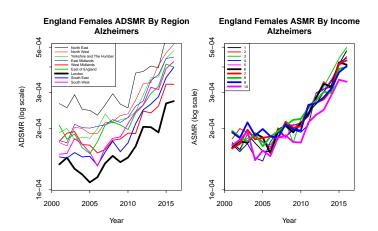


Diabetes: Males



Significant inequality
Widening inequality gap by income deciles
Worsening mortality after about 2010

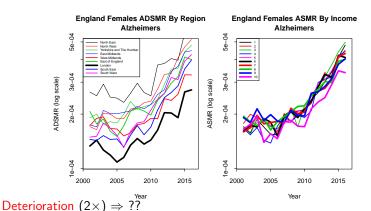
Alzheimers: Females (no clear controllable risk factors)



Modest income effect Strong regional effect \Rightarrow ?? health migration

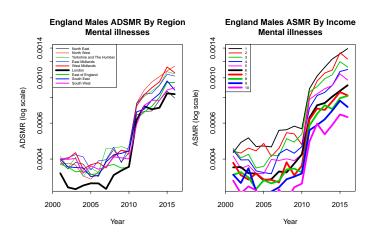


Alzheimers: Females (no clear controllable risk factors)



- evidence for non-independence of causes of death improvements elsewhere
 - \Rightarrow ?? more frail survivors in old age
- gradual shift in reported cause of death

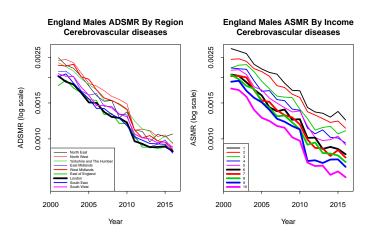
Shifting Classification 2010-2011: Mental Illness



Cause of shift: doubling in vascular and other dementias as CoD (Additional source: Human Cause of Death Database (HCD))

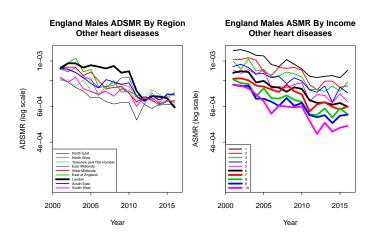


Shifting Classification 2010-2011: Cerebrovascular Diseases



E.g. stroke \leftrightarrow vascular dementia (Additional source: Human Cause of Death Database (HCD))

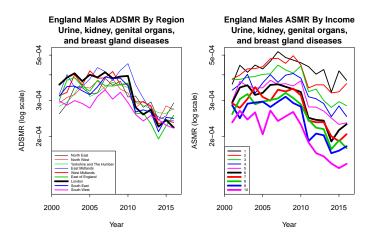
Shifting Classification 2010-2011: Other Heart Diseases



Pulmonary heart diseases; heart failure \(\sqrt{a} \) after 2011 (Additional source: Human Cause of Death Database (HCD))



Shifting Classification 2010-2011: Genitourinary Diseases



N39: Urinary tract infection \(\sqrt{Additional source: Human Cause of Death Database (HCD))} \)



Which Causes of Death \Rightarrow Growing Inequality?

- Ischaemic heart disease
- Diabetes
- Cerebrovascular
- Circulatory
- Respiratory diseases
- Mental illnesses (females)
- Lung cancer

 \Rightarrow a widening gap in the prevalence of controllable risk factors: smoking, diet, exercise, alcohol etc.

no significant causes of death with narrowing inequality gap

Many Questions Remain

- Is it possible to decompose improvements into medical advances and changes in risk "taking"?
- E.g. Can we link smoking prevalence to e.g. lung cancer mortality?
- What are the causes of the London Effect?



Summary

- Affluence or income deprivation is better than education for all CoD if you have the data
- Impact of affluence/education/region varies with CoD
- Significant levels of inequality for most of the big CoD's
- CoD absolute levels vary between countries: local practice(?)
- But degree of inequality by CoD is consistent from country to country
- Second order differences between countries may be due to healthcare systems
- England:
 - Regional differences in addition to income effects
 - Consistent patterns by CoD connected to controllable risk factors



Find Out More

- Appendix to these slides: lots more on the English data
- Work in progress: reports and papers in 2019
- Some related presentations already online
- Follow us at:

www.macs.hw.ac.uk/~andrewc/ARCresources www.actuaries.org.uk/ARC



Thank You!

Questions?

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W: www.macs.hw.ac.uk/~andrewc/ARCresources





Actuarial Research Centre

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The Actuarial Research Centre (ARC) is the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries' (IFoA) network of actuarial researchers around the world. The ARC seeks to deliver cutting-edge research programmes that address some of the significant, global challenges in actuarial science, through a partnership of the actuarial profession, the academic community and practitioners.

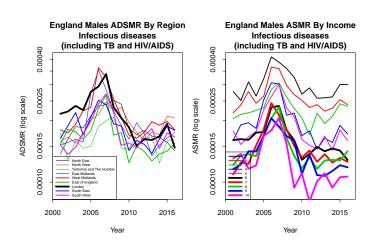
The 'Modelling, Measurement and Management of Longevity and Morbidity Risk' research programme is being funded by the ARC, the SoA and the CIA.

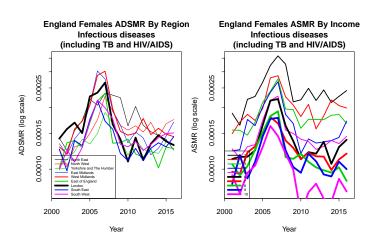
www.actuaries.org.uk/arc

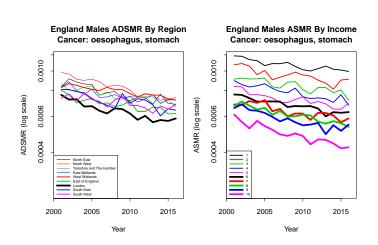


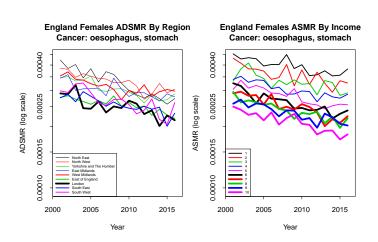
England

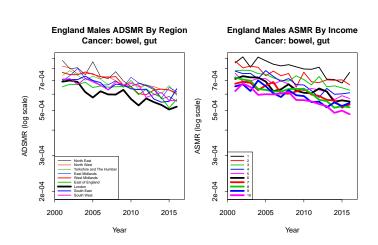
Income and Regional cause of death plots in full.

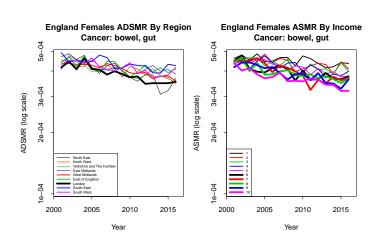


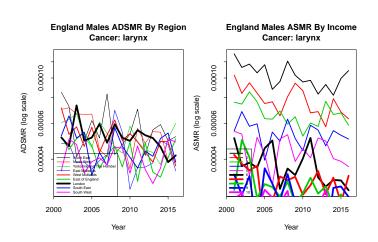


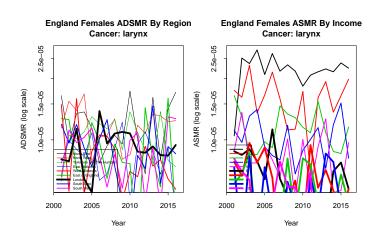


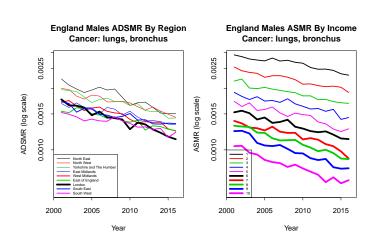


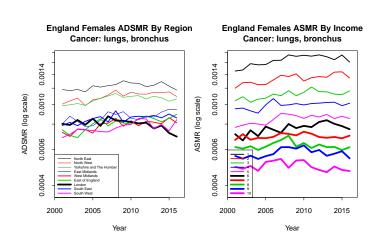


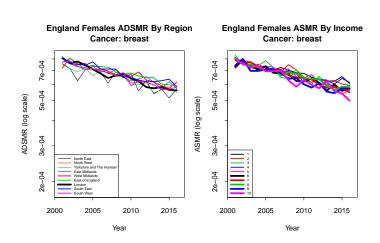


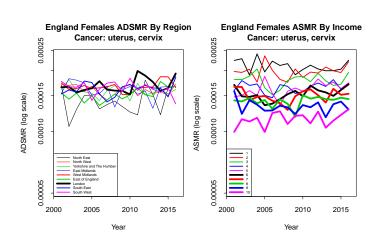


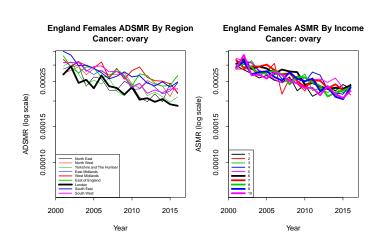


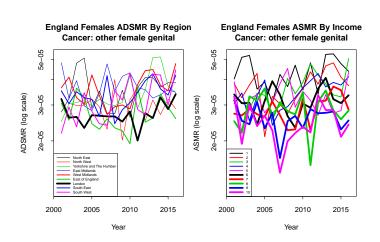


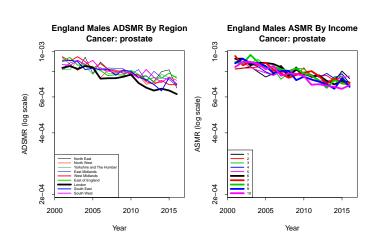


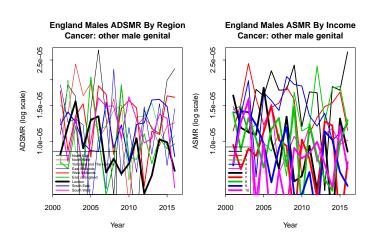


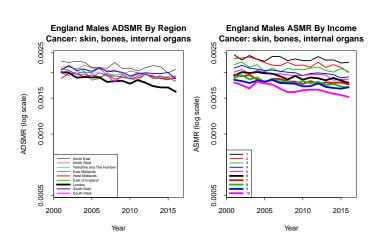


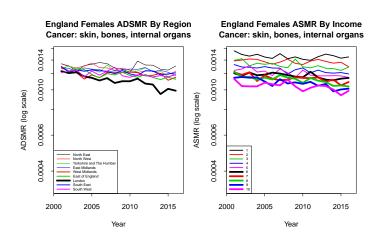


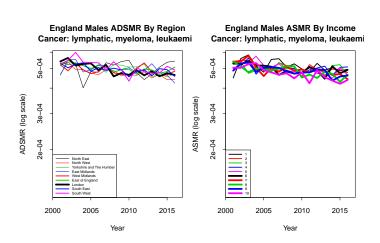


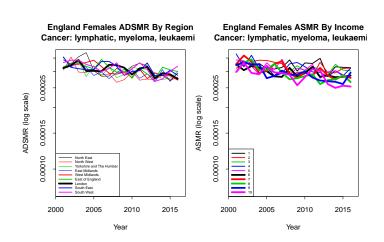


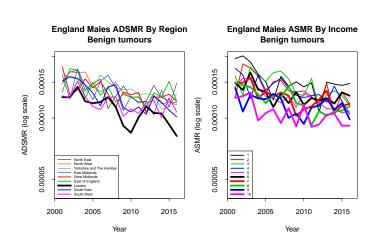


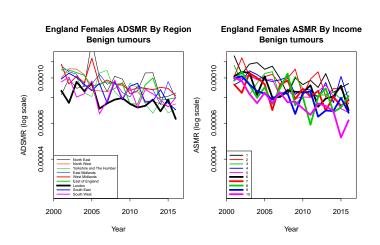


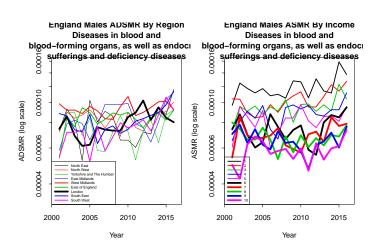


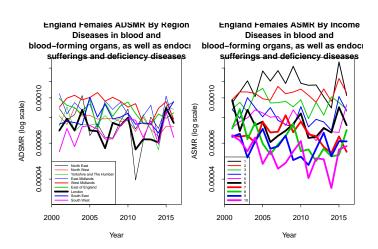


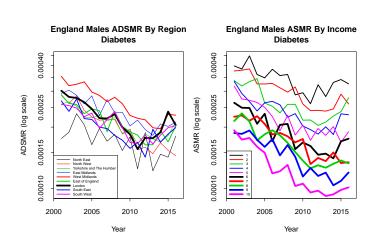


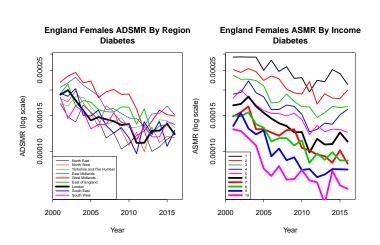


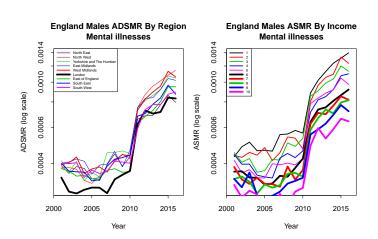


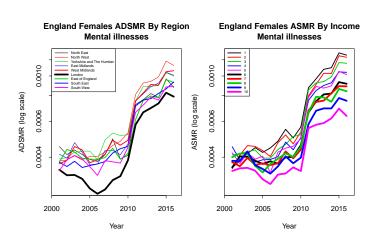


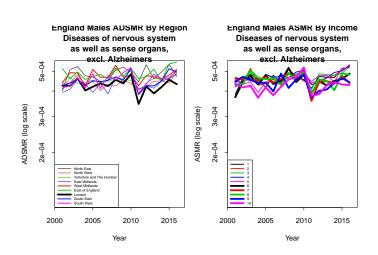


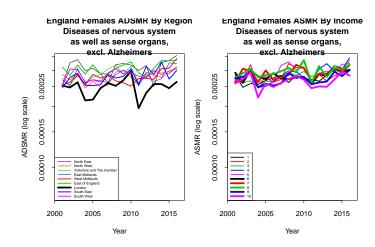


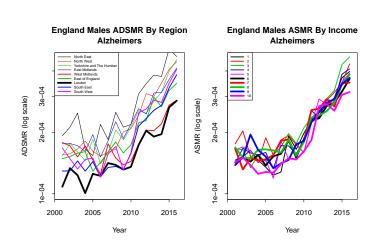


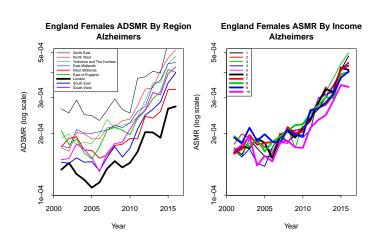


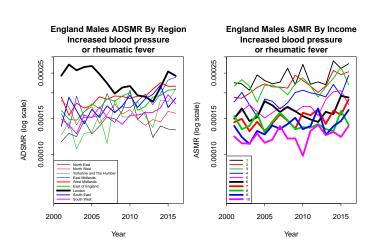


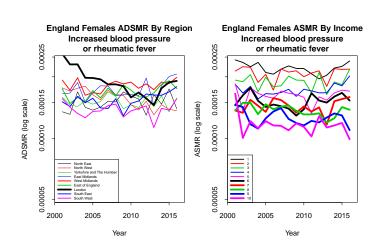


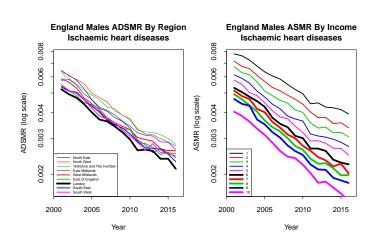


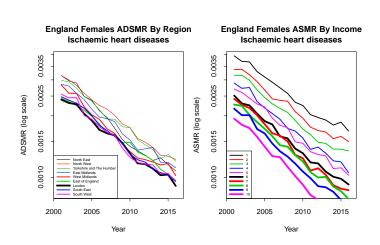


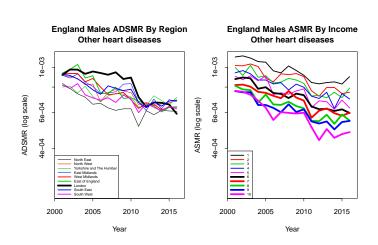


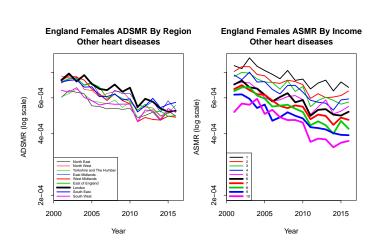


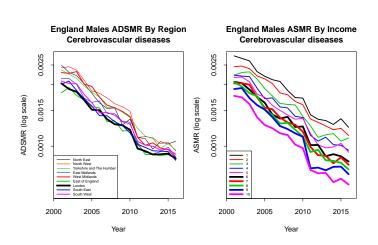


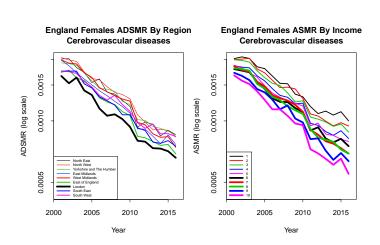


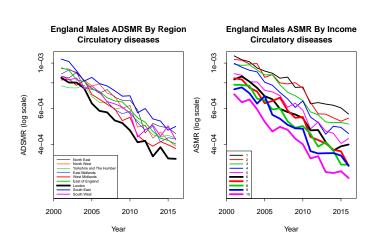


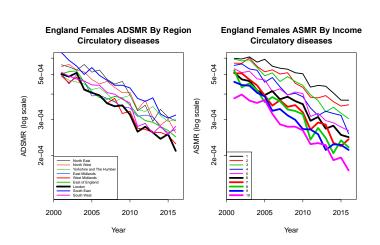


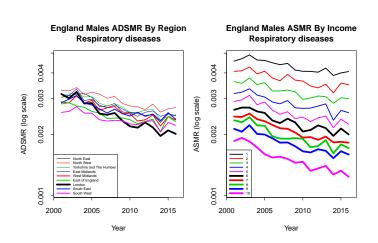


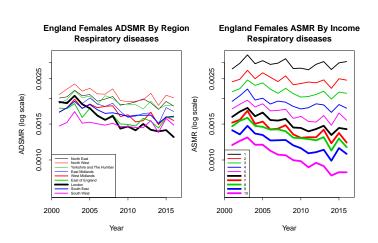


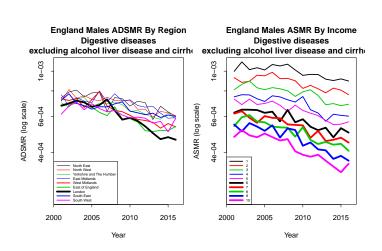


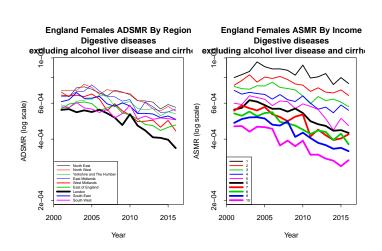


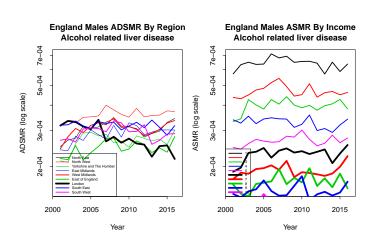


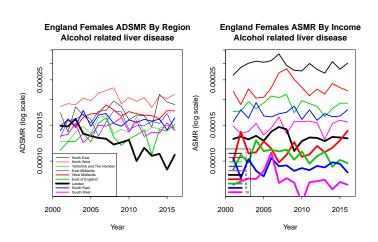


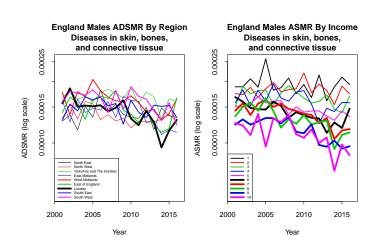


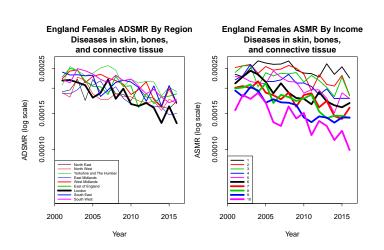


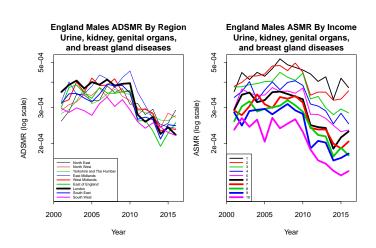


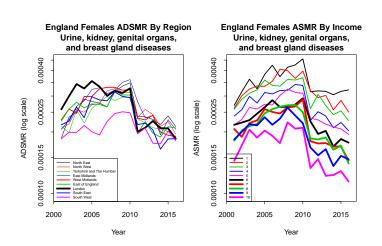


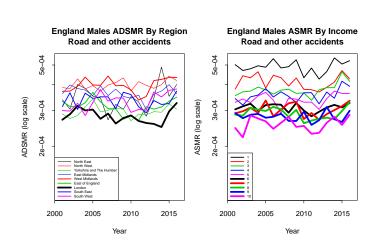


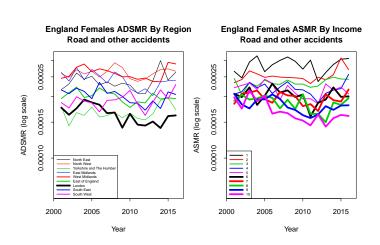


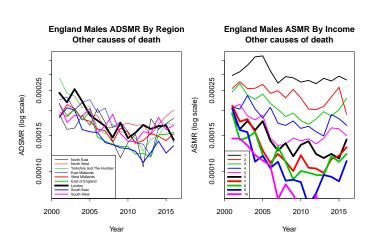


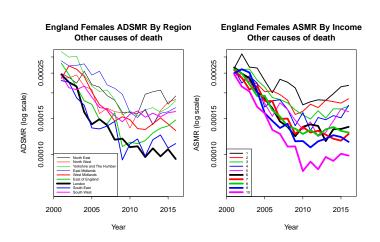


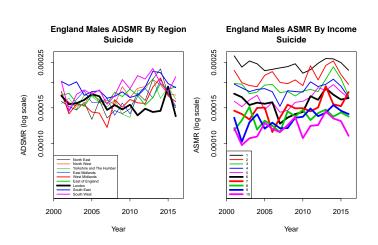


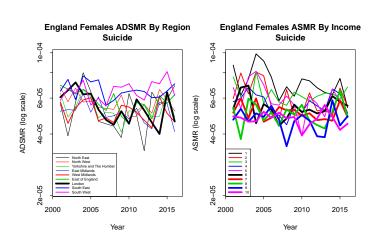


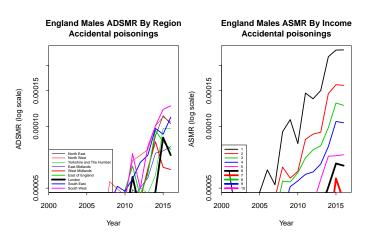


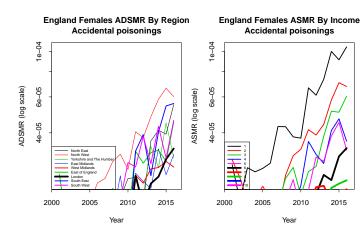












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