

## ARTICLES, PAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS OF ACTUARIAL INTEREST

### OCCUPATIONAL PENSION SCHEMES 1983 Seventh Survey by the Government Actuary (HMSO 1986)

This time the survey was based on a random sample of 9,000 employees who responded to the General Household Survey (the 1983 GHS volume includes a breakdown by industry). About 1250 schemes were scrutinised in detail, including about 100 in public sector.

### ENGLISH LIFE TABLES No.14, 1980-82 (OPCS Series DS No.7)

Based on the mortality experience of England and Wales in three years 1980-82, the crude rates for most ages were graduated by cubic splines. Besides separate tables for males and females, a 'persons' table is given, combining the sexes in the ratio 106 male births to 100 female ones. Monetary functions (at rates of interest between 2 and 10% per annum) are available separately on microfiche.

### OCCUPATIONAL MORTALITY, GREAT BRITAIN (OPCS Series DS No. 6)

The volume reports an analysis of the last full-time occupations of all men and women who died 16-74 in Great Britain in the years 1979, 1980, 1982 and 1983. Data for 1981 were omitted because of an industrial dispute involving Registrars of Births, Deaths and Marriages in England and Wales. The mortality of women by their own occupation are available for England and Wales only. Analyses are also presented by the Registrar General's social class classification. Occupation details (as recorded in a 100% random sample of the 1981 Census of population returns) have been used for the calculation of mortality rates.

Occupations have been classified into approximately 550 separate units according to the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys 1980 classification, for over 200 causes (and groups of causes) of death classified according to the 9th Revision of the International Classification of Diseases. 87 microfiche give the results in detail.

### PREDICTABILITY IN SCIENCE AND SOCIETY

This account of a joint symposium of the Royal Society and the British Academy, held in March 1986, includes several papers on economic theory and models as well as three on forecasting of other matters: weather prediction, marine resources (which are both highly variable and difficult to observe) and the recently recognized failure of predictability in Newtonian dynamics: a simple example of a chaotic system is a spherical pendulum whose pivot moves with a slightly different periodicity from the weight.

### POPULATION TRENDS

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HASKEY, J. *One-parent families in Great Britain*. Data sources are examined for both numbers and

characteristics. In 1984 it is estimated that there were 940,000 such families and the numbers were still rising. Tables are given by age of parent, and size of family.

MCDOWALL, M. *The mortality of agricultural workers*. An introduction to the recent Occupational Mortality report by means of a specific example, examining hypotheses on agricultural occupational hazards.

SPARK, J. *Marital condition estimates 1971–85*. Describes the new series (revised to incorporate a change in definition and the 1981 Census results). The extent of the revision is given, and changes in the marital composition over the period outlined.

WERNER, B. *Trends in first, second, third and later births*. The increase in illegitimate births has meant that birth order within marriage has become less reliable as a guide to overall birth orders. A method using the General Household Survey is described, tested against the Hospital Inpatient Enquiry. Tables by age of mother and birth order are given.

## 46

WERNER, B. *Ethnic minority populations in Great Britain*. A summary of the main demographic features by ethnic group and age.

BRITTON, M. AND EDISON, N. *The changing balance of the sexes in England and Wales, 1851–2001*. The trend in the sex ratio by age is examined, and the contribution of births, deaths and migrants analysed.

WERNER, B. AND CHALK, S. *Projections of first, second, third and later births*. The timing and progression of family building is discussed on a cohort (generation) basis. The results of projecting certain trends are presented in detail.

BULUSU, L. *Recent patterns of migration from and to the United Kingdom*. Numbers entering the U.K. have remained fairly stable, but recently there has been a fall in the number leaving, particularly among men and those going to the Old Commonwealth.

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ARMITAGE, R. I. *English Regional fertility and mortality patterns 1975–1985*. A widening of the north/south differential in fertility is noted, with high rates for younger women and low rates for older women in northern regions.

ALDERSON, M. *The use of area mortality*. History and methodology are illustrated, with specimen maps from the forthcoming Decennial Supplement.

HASKEY, J. *Social class differentials in remarriage after divorce*. A forward-linkage sample exercise examined the effect of social class on remarriage, by age-group, duration since divorce (up to 30 months), length of previous marriage and whether childless or not.

## 48

A special issue celebrating 150 years of the General Register Office. Changes in population size, structure and distribution over the period are described, as well as trends in fertility, marriage and divorce. A brief history of the collection of mortality and morbidity data is given within a review of the developments in census-taking since 1841 and of the complementary work of the Social Survey.