

THE RECENT TREND OF MORTALITY IN GREAT BRITAIN

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IN continuation of the tables given in *J.I.A.* 86, 315-19, central death-rates in age-groups for males and females separately in the year 1960, and the ratios of these death-rates to the corresponding rates for the years 1950-52 taken as the standard, are shown in Table 1. The deaths are those recorded as occurring in Great Britain in the year and the population used is the 'home' population, i.e. the number of people actually in the country at a stated time, as estimated by the Registrars General of England and Wales and of Scotland.

In order that the trend of mortality rates may be conveniently studied, the group death-rates and the ratios to the 1950-52 standard since 1950

Table 1. *Death-rates for age-groups in Great Britain in the year 1960 and ratios of these rates to the rates for 1950-52*

| Age-group | Death-rates in 1960 | | Ratios to 1950-52 rates | |
|---------------|---------------------|---------|-------------------------|---------|
| | Males | Females | Males | Females |
| 0 | ·02663 | ·02048 | ·77 | ·77 |
| 1-4 | ·00097 | ·00079 | ·69 | ·66 |
| 5-9 | ·00053 | ·00036 | ·78 | ·75 |
| 10-14 | ·00039 | ·00026 | ·71 | ·67 |
| 15-19 | ·00089 | ·00037 | ·93 | ·54 |
| 20-24 | ·00117 | ·00045 | ·84 | ·45 |
| 25-29 | ·00105 | ·00062 | ·70 | ·50 |
| 30-34 | ·00126 | ·00086 | ·72 | ·59 |
| 35-39 | ·00195 | ·00140 | ·84 | ·73 |
| 40-44 | ·00305 | ·00221 | ·86 | ·82 |
| 45-49 | ·00527 | ·00350 | ·84 | ·83 |
| 50-54 | ·00949 | ·00539 | ·86 | ·84 |
| 55-59 | ·01706 | ·00822 | ·94 | ·83 |
| 60-64 | ·02790 | ·01370 | ·95 | ·86 |
| 65-69 | ·0431 | ·0230 | ·95 | ·86 |
| 70-74 | ·0664 | ·0390 | ·96 | ·85 |
| 75-79 | ·1012 | ·0685 | ·92 | ·86 |
| 80-84 | ·157 | ·115 | ·92 | ·86 |
| 85 and over | ·231 | ·213 | ·81 | ·91 |
| All ages: | | | | |
| Crude rates | ·01224 | ·01088 | ·962 | ·976 |
| Standardized* | ·01149 | ·00936 | ·903 | ·839 |

* Standardized on 1951 Census age distribution.

are set out in Tables 2 and 3, and the ratios to the 1950-52 standard are shown in graphical form in Figs. 1 and 2. Figures for 1949 and earlier years have not been given, but they are available in previous articles. In these tables and graphs the age-groups have been reduced to six—under age 1 (infants), 1-4 (young children), 5-14 (children of school age), 15-44 (younger adults), 45-64 (older adults) and 65 and over (elderly). Further, the group death-rates and ratios have been standardized on the age distribution of Great Britain at the 1951 Census so as to eliminate the effect of changes in the age distribution of the population.

Table 2. *Standardized death-rates for age-groups in Great Britain*
(standardized on 1951 Census age distribution)

| Year | Age-group | | | | | | All ages |
|---------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|----------|
| | Under 1 | 1-4 | 5-14 | 15-44 | 45-64 | 65 and over | |
| | Males | | | | | | |
| 1930-32 | ·07953 | ·00760 | ·00196 | ·00412 | ·01637 | ·0873 | ·01588 |
| 1950 | ·03511 | ·00146 | ·00067 | ·00206 | ·01448 | ·0796 | ·01246 |
| 1951 | ·03524 | ·00149 | ·00062 | ·00199 | ·01528 | ·0877 | ·01336 |
| 1952 | ·03293 | ·00134 | ·00055 | ·00184 | ·01404 | ·0787 | ·01211 |
| 1953 | ·03139 | ·00127 | ·00053 | ·00174 | ·01392 | ·0790 | ·01204 |
| 1954 | ·02992 | ·00108 | ·00046 | ·00170 | ·01382 | ·0787 | ·01192 |
| 1955 | ·02955 | ·00104 | ·00049 | ·00167 | ·01382 | ·0807 | ·01208 |
| 1956 | ·02842 | ·00099 | ·00044 | ·00161 | ·01375 | ·0804 | ·01199 |
| 1957 | ·02779 | ·00104 | ·00048 | ·00164 | ·01391 | ·0774 | ·01176 |
| 1958 | ·02676 | ·00096 | ·00045 | ·00160 | ·01364 | ·0793 | ·01183 |
| 1959 | ·02597 | ·00100 | ·00044 | ·00161 | ·01358 | ·0784 | ·01173 |
| 1960 | ·02663 | ·00094 | ·00046 | ·00160 | ·01335 | ·0765 | ·01149 |
| Females | | | | | | | |
| 1930-32 | ·05973 | ·00686 | ·00178 | ·00351 | ·01243 | ·0735 | ·01519 |
| 1950 | ·02681 | ·00128 | ·00047 | ·00169 | ·00874 | ·0617 | ·01104 |
| 1951 | ·02668 | ·00130 | ·00043 | ·00156 | ·00895 | ·0674 | ·01174 |
| 1952 | ·02556 | ·00106 | ·00039 | ·00136 | ·00822 | ·0584 | ·01032 |
| 1953 | ·02461 | ·00110 | ·00039 | ·00131 | ·00801 | ·0585 | ·01025 |
| 1954 | ·02272 | ·00083 | ·00034 | ·00127 | ·00794 | ·0572 | ·00999 |
| 1955 | ·02270 | ·00095 | ·00035 | ·00117 | ·00783 | ·0591 | ·01018 |
| 1956 | ·02153 | ·00082 | ·00031 | ·00112 | ·00770 | ·0585 | ·01002 |
| 1957 | ·02160 | ·00086 | ·00033 | ·00115 | ·00770 | ·0550 | ·00960 |
| 1958 | ·02068 | ·00075 | ·00028 | ·00109 | ·00755 | ·0567 | ·00972 |
| 1959 | ·02062 | ·00081 | ·00031 | ·00107 | ·00742 | ·0561 | ·00961 |
| 1960 | ·02048 | ·00076 | ·00031 | ·00102 | ·00728 | ·0545 | ·00936 |

As a link with the earlier series of tables that appeared in the *Journal*, showing the trend of mortality in England and Wales since 1930-32, figures for Great Britain for the average of those three years have been included in Tables 2 and 3.

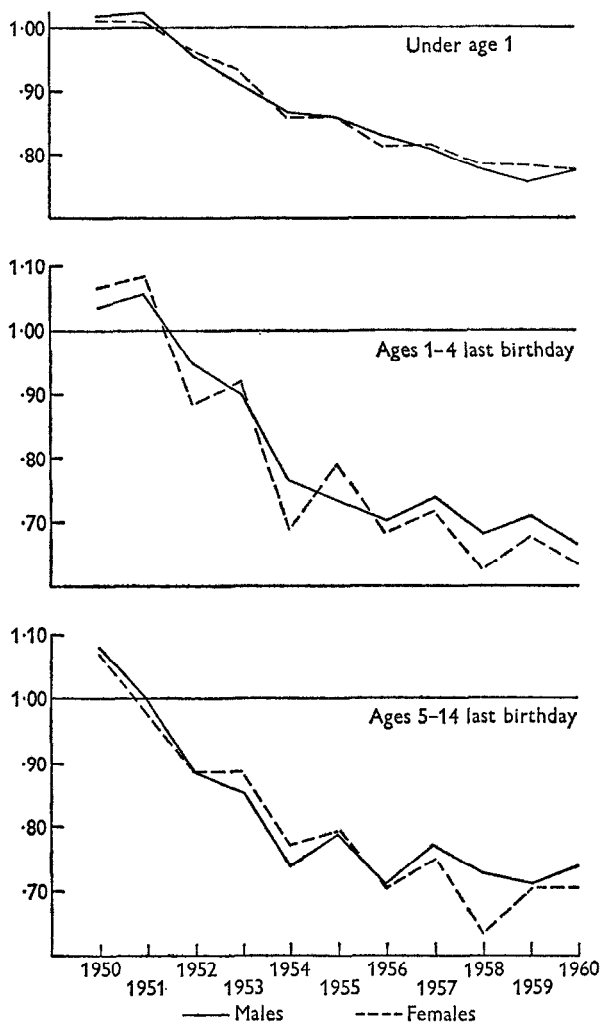


Fig. 1. Ratios of group death-rates (standardized) to 1950-52 rates—children.

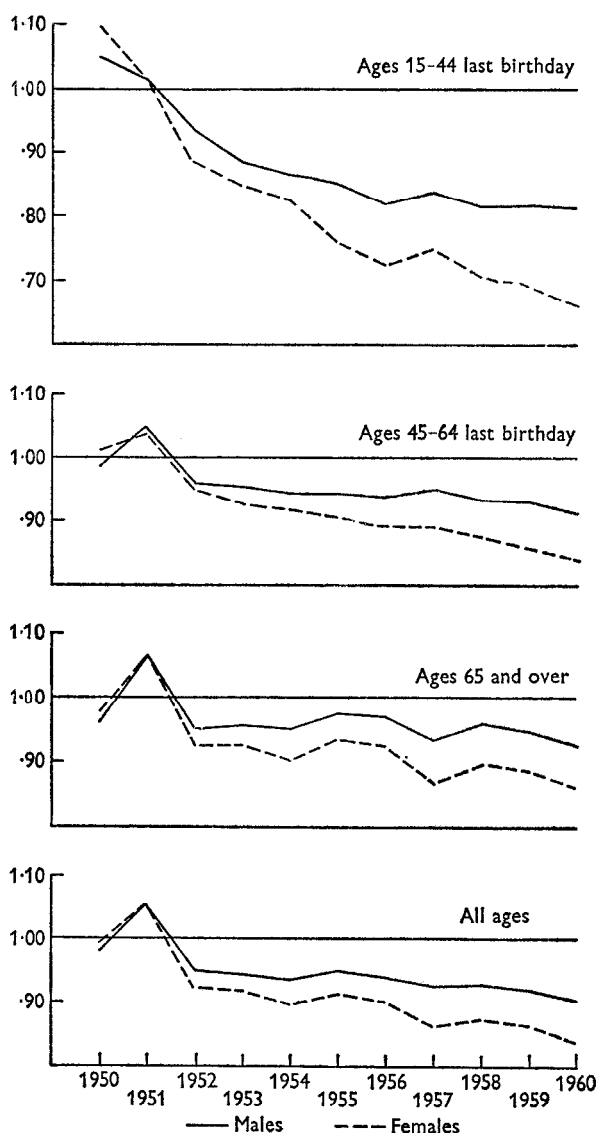


Fig. 2. Ratios of group death-rates (standardized) to 1950-52 rates—adults and all ages.

The standardized death-rates in the year 1960 for all ages combined were lighter than in 1959 by about 2% for men and 2½% for women, and were 10% less for men and 16% less for women than the 1950-52 standard. Because of the changing age-structure of the population the crude death-rates, which in 1960 were 4% less for men and 2½% less for women than in 1950-52, have declined much more slowly than the standardized rates.

Table 3. *Ratios of standardized death-rates for age-groups in Great Britain to the rates for 1950-52 (standardized on 1951 Census age distribution)*

| Year | Age-group | | | | | 65 and over | All ages |
|---------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|----------|
| | Under 1 | 1-4 | 5-14 | 15-44 | 45-64 | | |
| | Males | | | | | | |
| 1930-32 | 2.307 | 5.390 | 3.161 | 2.102 | 1.120 | 1.054 | 1.247 |
| 1950 | 1.018 | 1.035 | 1.081 | 1.051 | .990 | .961 | .979 |
| 1951 | 1.022 | 1.057 | 1.000 | 1.015 | 1.045 | 1.059 | 1.049 |
| 1952 | .955 | .950 | .887 | .939 | .960 | .950 | .951 |
| 1953 | .910 | .901 | .855 | .888 | .952 | .954 | .946 |
| 1954 | .868 | .766 | .742 | .867 | .945 | .950 | .936 |
| 1955 | .857 | .738 | .790 | .852 | .945 | .975 | .949 |
| 1956 | .824 | .702 | .710 | .821 | .940 | .971 | .942 |
| 1957 | .806 | .738 | .774 | .837 | .951 | .935 | .924 |
| 1958 | .776 | .681 | .726 | .816 | .933 | .958 | .929 |
| 1959 | .753 | .709 | .710 | .821 | .929 | .947 | .921 |
| 1960 | .772 | .667 | .742 | .816 | .913 | .924 | .903 |
| | Females | | | | | | |
| 1930-32 | 2.256 | 5.716 | 4.046 | 2.279 | 1.439 | 1.163 | 1.362 |
| 1950 | 1.012 | 1.067 | 1.068 | 1.097 | 1.012 | .976 | .990 |
| 1951 | 1.008 | 1.083 | .977 | 1.013 | 1.036 | 1.066 | 1.053 |
| 1952 | .965 | .883 | .886 | .883 | .951 | .924 | .926 |
| 1953 | .929 | .917 | .886 | .851 | .927 | .926 | .919 |
| 1954 | .858 | .692 | .773 | .825 | .919 | .905 | .896 |
| 1955 | .857 | .792 | .796 | .760 | .906 | .935 | .913 |
| 1956 | .813 | .683 | .705 | .727 | .891 | .926 | .899 |
| 1957 | .816 | .717 | .750 | .747 | .891 | .870 | .861 |
| 1958 | .781 | .625 | .636 | .708 | .874 | .897 | .872 |
| 1959 | .779 | .675 | .705 | .695 | .859 | .888 | .862 |
| 1960 | .773 | .633 | .705 | .662 | .843 | .862 | .839 |