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CASELLI, G. & ENZO, L. Graphiques et analyse démographique: quelques éléments d'histoire et d'actualité. In 1669, Huygens plotted the survival function of the life table in order to calculate mean and median expectations of life at different ages. The problem of plotting demographic data simultaneously in three dimensions (by age, period and cohort) has resulted in the Lexis diagram, in stereograms, and most recently in the method of contour maps as a representation of demographic surfaces.