

THE RECENT TREND OF MORTALITY IN GREAT BRITAIN

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THIS note continues an annual series on mortality rates in Great Britain; the previous note in the series appeared in *J.I.A.* **111**, 181 and dealt with mortality in 1981.

Following the 1981 Census, revised estimates of the 'home' population of England and Wales since 1961 have been published. These allow for revision of past estimates in the light of the Census and also for a new definition of 'home' population, which brings the concept closer to that of 'resident' population. The 'home' population is now defined as including residents temporarily outside the country but excluding foreign visitors. It includes members of both H.M. and foreign forces stationed in the United Kingdom but excludes members of H.M. forces who are stationed abroad.

This note presents details of the mortality experience in 1982 and 1983. However, the opportunity has been taken to revise the figures for previous years onto the basis of the new definition of 'home' population. The figures for deaths are not precisely consistent with this definition of the population since they do not necessarily include all deaths of residents whilst temporarily absent from the United Kingdom.

Tables 1 and 2 show central death-rates for Great Britain for the years 1971 to 1983 and Tables 3 and 4 show the ratios of those rates to the corresponding average rates for the 3 years 1980-82, which are now taken as the standard.

The developing pattern of mortality can be illustrated by reference to standardized group death-rates for a few broad age-groups. These are set out in Table 5 for each year from 1971, as well as for a sequence of 3 year periods about the Census dates in 1931, 1951, 1961, 1971 and 1981. The ratios of these rates to the 1980-82 rates are given in Table 6 and they are also shown graphically in Figures 1 and 2. Six age-groups have been used: under age 1 (infants), 1-14 (children), 15-44 (younger adults), 45-64 (the middle aged), 65-79 (younger elderly) and 80 and over (the elderly). The group rates and ratios have been standardized by 5-year age-groups on the age distribution of the Great Britain population at the 1981 Census, in order to eliminate as far as possible the effect of changes in the age structure of the population. However, such changes still have a distorting effect on the oldest age-group, particularly for years up to 1970 for which no disaggregation of the estimated population in the 85 and over age group is available.

The availability of consistent figures spanning a period of 50 years enables an analysis to be made of changing rates of improvement in mortality experience. Table 7 gives annual rates of improvement by 5-year age-groups for periods of 10

Table 1. *Death-rates for age-groups in Great Britain in the years 1971 to 1983—Males*

Age groups	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
Under 1	-02011	-01924	-01891	-01894	-01746	-01629	-01602	-01545	-01487	-01366	-01266	-01236	-01143
1-4	-00076	-00079	-00079	-00074	-00068	-00065	-00061	-00061	-00055	-00058	-00054	-00053	-00047
5-9	-00044	-00042	-00040	-00036	-00035	-00034	-00033	-00033	-00034	-00030	-00027	-00026	-00027
10-14	-00038	-00036	-00034	-00032	-00034	-00032	-00029	-00030	-00029	-00028	-00029	-00028	-00028
15-19	-00091	-00086	-00086	-00090	-00087	-00089	-00084	-00090	-00086	-00083	-00083	-00080	-00075
20-24	-00095	-00099	-00106	-00096	-00100	-00098	-00094	-00100	-00093	-00089	-00087	-00088	-00082
25-29	-00089	-00088	-00094	-00088	-00085	-00088	-00090	-00090	-00092	-00087	-00087	-00085	-00085
30-34	-00111	-00110	-00110	-00109	-00108	-00104	-00099	-00103	-00103	-00097	-00097	-00100	-00098
35-39	-00168	-00169	-00165	-00160	-00154	-00159	-00154	-00164	-00152	-00147	-00139	-00133	-00134
40-44	-00304	-00297	-00294	-00294	-00276	-00273	-00264	-00261	-00261	-00251	-00250	-00238	-00233
45-49	-00548	-00550	-00551	-00536	-00523	-00502	-00491	-00491	-00481	-00457	-00449	-00427	-00427
50-54	-00914	-00942	-00922	-00936	-00922	-00919	-00896	-00898	-00886	-00843	-00810	-00781	-00746
55-59	-01538	-01582	-01603	-01566	-01480	-01500	-01440	-01467	-01495	-01461	-01422	-01396	-01356
60-64	-02573	-02627	-02535	-02502	-02474	-02517	-02423	-02474	-02469	-02341	-02249	-02211	-02238
65-69	-04190	-04330	-04183	-04119	-04044	-04054	-03896	-03934	-03870	-03723	-03637	-03651	-03659
70-74	-06519	-06868	-06636	-06622	-06463	-06512	-06209	-06241	-06181	-05941	-05864	-05834	-05737
75-79	-09760	-10240	-10077	-09826	-09889	-10083	-09628	-09712	-09712	-09334	-09096	-09084	-08903
80-84	-14376	-14921	-14828	-14725	-14720	-15153	-14060	-14360	-14482	-14061	-13877	-13879	-13608
85-89	-21179	-22245	-21620	-21417	-21337	-22121	-20530	-20871	-21371	-20558	-20603	-20536	-20142
90 & over	-30326	-31219	-31263	-31712	-30767	-31675	-29759	-29261	-29696	-27680	-28904	-28020	-27948
All ages:													
Crude	-01212	-01259	-01240	-01234	-01227	-01252	-01208	-01235	-01243	-01214	-01203	-01209	-01203
Standardized*	-01323	-01369	-01342	-01326	-01305	-01320	-01258	-01272	-01268	-01218	-01193	-01183	-01166

* Standardized on 1981 Census age distribution.

Table 2. *Death-rates for age-groups in Great Britain in the years 1971 to 1983—Females*

Age groups	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
Under1	-0.1536	-0.1492	-0.1453	-0.1426	-0.1377	-0.1213	-0.1241	-0.1211	-0.1155	-0.1099	-0.0947	-0.0950	-0.0893
1-4	-0.0063	-0.0070	-0.0061	-0.0059	-0.0054	-0.0048	-0.0051	-0.0053	-0.0048	-0.0046	-0.0045	-0.0041	-0.0040
5-9	-0.0029	-0.0029	-0.0027	-0.0026	-0.0024	-0.0024	-0.0020	-0.0023	-0.0021	-0.0021	-0.0020	-0.0018	-0.0019
10-14	-0.0024	-0.0019	-0.0021	-0.0023	-0.0018	-0.0021	-0.0020	-0.0022	-0.0020	-0.0020	-0.0020	-0.0019	-0.0018
15-19	-0.0038	-0.0040	-0.0041	-0.0037	-0.0037	-0.0034	-0.0034	-0.0037	-0.0031	-0.0033	-0.0032	-0.0030	-0.0031
20-24	-0.0041	-0.0043	-0.0043	-0.0042	-0.0043	-0.0041	-0.0043	-0.0042	-0.0037	-0.0039	-0.0035	-0.0035	-0.0031
25-29	-0.0049	-0.0049	-0.0050	-0.0046	-0.0050	-0.0048	-0.0045	-0.0051	-0.0048	-0.0046	-0.0043	-0.0042	-0.0041
30-34	-0.0075	-0.0070	-0.0069	-0.0066	-0.0067	-0.0068	-0.0064	-0.0067	-0.0065	-0.0061	-0.0061	-0.0062	-0.0058
35-39	-0.0118	-0.0118	-0.0112	-0.0116	-0.0112	-0.0108	-0.0109	-0.0110	-0.0104	-0.0102	-0.0093	-0.0094	-0.0093
40-44	-0.0205	-0.0206	-0.0205	-0.0199	-0.0197	-0.0193	-0.0182	-0.0188	-0.0177	-0.0168	-0.0167	-0.0157	-0.0153
45-49	-0.0356	-0.0357	-0.0352	-0.0346	-0.0330	-0.0332	-0.0321	-0.0315	-0.0314	-0.0293	-0.0288	-0.0277	-0.0267
50-54	-0.0533	-0.0550	-0.0537	-0.0541	-0.0532	-0.0543	-0.0511	-0.0534	-0.0532	-0.0494	-0.0485	-0.0469	-0.0461
55-59	-0.0809	-0.0839	-0.0823	-0.0834	-0.0801	-0.0794	-0.0788	-0.0799	-0.0798	-0.0793	-0.0775	-0.0770	-0.0758
60-64	-0.1251	-0.1283	-0.1250	-0.1264	-0.1247	-0.1247	-0.1241	-0.1252	-0.1287	-0.1223	-0.1186	-0.1206	-0.1191
65-69	-0.2008	-0.2080	-0.2060	-0.2029	-0.1986	-0.2008	-0.1952	-0.1983	-0.1956	-0.1911	-0.1886	-0.1906	-0.1902
70-74	-0.3447	-0.3573	-0.3486	-0.3434	-0.3325	-0.3386	-0.3234	-0.3234	-0.3242	-0.3132	-0.3113	-0.3105	-0.3039
75-79	-0.5911	-0.6147	-0.6011	-0.5875	-0.5726	-0.5835	-0.5516	-0.5513	-0.5543	-0.5331	-0.5191	-0.5216	-0.5056
80-84	-0.9814	-1.0196	-1.0207	-1.0015	-0.9911	-1.0233	-0.9627	-0.9544	-0.9590	-0.9061	-0.9030	-0.8940	-0.8720
85-89	-1.6088	-1.6545	-1.6387	-1.6028	-1.5914	-1.6639	-1.5469	-1.5748	-1.5941	-1.5326	-1.5093	-1.5117	-1.4803
90 & over	-2.5698	-2.6437	-2.6380	-2.6580	-2.6013	-2.7410	-2.4832	-2.4420	-2.4847	-2.3966	-2.4192	-2.4417	-2.4270
All ages:													
Crude	-0.1105	-0.1153	-0.1148	-0.1146	-0.1138	-0.1178	-0.1130	-0.1151	-0.1168	-0.1141	-0.1140	-0.1155	-0.1146
Standardized*	-0.1226	-0.1265	-0.1248	-0.1232	-0.1207	-0.1236	-0.1170	-0.1174	-0.1178	-0.1131	-0.1115	-0.1114	-0.1092

* Standardized on 1981 Census age distribution.

Table 3. Ratios of death-rates for age-groups in Great Britain in the years 1971 to 1983 to the rates for 1980-82—Males

Age groups	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
Under 1	1.56	1.49	1.47	1.47	1.35	1.26	1.24	1.20	1.15	1.06	.98	.96	.89
1-4	1.40	1.44	1.44	1.36	1.25	1.20	1.12	1.12	1.00	1.06	.98	.96	.87
5-9	1.58	1.52	1.45	1.29	1.27	1.23	1.19	1.18	1.22	1.09	.99	.93	.96
10-14	1.35	1.26	1.20	1.14	1.21	1.11	1.01	1.06	1.04	.98	1.01	1.00	.97
15-19	1.11	1.05	1.05	1.09	1.06	1.08	1.02	1.10	1.05	1.02	1.01	.97	.92
20-24	1.08	1.13	1.20	1.09	1.14	1.11	1.07	1.14	1.06	1.01	.98	1.00	.93
25-29	1.04	1.03	1.09	1.02	.99	1.02	1.05	1.05	1.07	1.01	1.01	.98	.99
30-34	1.13	1.13	1.12	1.11	1.10	1.07	1.01	1.05	1.06	.99	.99	1.02	1.00
35-39	1.20	1.21	1.18	1.15	1.10	1.13	1.10	1.17	1.09	1.05	.99	.95	.96
40-44	1.23	1.20	1.19	1.19	1.12	1.11	1.07	1.06	1.06	1.02	1.01	.97	.94
45-49	1.23	1.24	1.24	1.21	1.18	1.13	1.11	1.11	1.08	1.03	1.01	.96	.96
50-54	1.13	1.16	1.14	1.15	1.14	1.13	1.10	1.11	1.09	1.04	1.00	.96	.92
55-59	1.08	1.11	1.12	1.10	1.04	1.05	1.01	1.03	1.05	1.02	1.00	.98	.95
60-64	1.13	1.16	1.12	1.10	1.09	1.11	1.07	1.09	1.09	1.03	.99	.98	.99
65-69	1.14	1.18	1.14	1.12	1.10	1.10	1.06	1.07	1.05	1.01	.99	.99	1.00
70-74	1.11	1.17	1.13	1.13	1.10	1.11	1.06	1.06	1.05	1.01	1.00	.99	.98
75-79	1.06	1.12	1.10	1.07	1.08	1.10	1.05	1.06	1.06	1.02	.99	.99	.97
80-84	1.03	1.07	1.06	1.06	1.06	1.09	1.01	1.03	1.04	1.01	1.00	1.00	.98
85-89	1.03	1.08	1.05	1.04	1.04	1.08	1.00	1.01	1.04	1.00	1.00	1.00	.98
90 & over	1.08	1.11	1.11	1.12	1.09	1.12	1.06	1.04	1.05	.98	1.02	.99	.99
All ages:													
Crude	1.00	1.04	1.03	1.02	1.01	1.04	1.00	1.02	1.03	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Standardized*	1.10	1.14	1.12	1.11	1.09	1.10	1.05	1.06	1.06	1.02	1.00	.99	.97

* Standardized on 1981 Census age distribution.

Table 4. Ratios of death-rates for age-groups in Great Britain in the years 1971 to 1983 to the rates for 1980-82—Females

Age groups	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
Under 1	1.54	1.49	1.45	1.43	1.38	1.21	1.24	1.21	1.16	1.10	.95	.95	.89
1-4	1.44	1.61	1.39	1.35	1.24	1.09	1.16	1.21	1.09	1.04	1.03	.93	.92
5-9	1.47	1.48	1.36	1.32	1.25	1.22	1.04	1.17	1.09	1.10	1.00	.90	.98
10-14	1.24	.99	1.07	1.17	.91	1.08	1.01	1.12	1.05	1.00	1.00	.99	.94
15-19	1.20	1.26	1.30	1.17	1.16	1.09	1.09	1.17	.99	1.06	1.01	.94	.98
20-24	1.13	1.20	1.19	1.15	1.17	1.13	1.18	1.15	1.02	1.09	.95	.96	.86
25-29	1.12	1.11	1.13	1.04	1.15	1.10	1.02	1.17	1.09	1.05	.99	.97	.95
30-34	1.22	1.14	1.12	1.07	1.09	1.11	1.04	1.09	1.05	.99	.99	1.01	.94
35-39	1.23	1.23	1.16	1.21	1.17	1.13	1.13	1.14	1.08	1.06	.97	.98	.96
40-44	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.21	1.20	1.18	1.11	1.14	1.08	1.03	1.02	.96	.93
45-49	1.24	1.25	1.23	1.21	1.15	1.16	1.12	1.10	1.10	1.02	1.01	.97	.93
50-54	1.10	1.14	1.11	1.12	1.10	1.12	1.06	1.11	1.10	1.02	1.00	.97	.95
55-59	1.04	1.08	1.06	1.07	1.03	1.02	1.01	1.03	1.02	1.02	.99	.99	.97
60-64	1.04	1.06	1.04	1.05	1.03	1.06	1.02	1.04	1.07	1.01	.98	1.00	.99
65-69	1.06	1.09	1.08	1.07	1.04	1.06	1.03	1.04	1.03	1.01	.99	1.00	1.00
70-74	1.11	1.15	1.12	1.10	1.07	1.09	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.00	1.00	1.00	.97
75-79	1.13	1.17	1.15	1.12	1.09	1.11	1.05	1.05	1.06	1.02	.99	.99	.96
80-84	1.09	1.13	1.13	1.11	1.10	1.14	1.07	1.06	1.06	1.01	1.00	.99	.97
85-89	1.06	1.09	1.08	1.06	1.05	1.10	1.02	1.04	1.05	1.01	.99	1.00	.98
90 & over	1.06	1.09	1.09	1.10	1.08	1.13	1.03	1.01	1.03	.99	1.00	1.01	1.00
All ages:													
Crude	.97	1.01	1.00	1.00	.99	1.03	.99	1.01	1.02	1.00	1.00	1.01	1.00
Standardized*	1.09	1.13	1.12	1.10	1.08	1.10	1.04	1.05	1.05	1.01	1.00	1.00	.98

* Standardized on 1981 Census age distribution.

Table 5. Standardized death-rates for age-groups in Great Britain (standardized on 1981 Census age distribution)

Year	Under 1	1-14	15-44	45-64	65-79	80 and over	All ages
<i>Males</i>							
1930-32	·07953	·00337	·00390	·01738	·07192	·21402	·01827
1950-52	·03448	·00080	·00182	·01581	·06736	·20856	·01531
1960-62	·02596	·00058	·00147	·01473	·06585	·18979	·01431
1970-72	·02024	·00049	·00136	·01383	·06390	·17605	·01354
1980-82	·01289	·00034	·00118	·01205	·05624	·16694	·01198
1971	·02011	·00049	·00135	·01356	·06200	·17309	·01323
1972	·01924	·00048	·00134	·01387	·06486	·18009	·01369
1973	·01891	·00047	·00135	·01367	·06306	·17797	·01342
1974	·01894	·00044	·00132	·01350	·06219	·17714	·01326
1975	·01746	·00043	·00129	·01314	·06144	·17615	·01305
1976	·01629	·00041	·00128	·01323	·06208	·18174	·01320
1977	·01602	·00038	·00124	·01277	·05935	·16892	·01258
1978	·01545	·00039	·00128	·01296	·05981	·17138	·01272
1979	·01487	·00037	·00125	·01297	·05932	·17377	·01268
1980	·01366	·00036	·00120	·01242	·05703	·16733	·01218
1981	·01266	·00034	·00118	·01201	·05587	·16718	·01193
1982	·01236	·00033	·00115	·01172	·05581	·16632	·01183
1983	·01143	·00032	·00112	·01159	·05511	·16347	·01166
<i>Females</i>							
1930-32	·05973	·00305	·00337	·01303	·05763	·18921	·02071
1950-52	·02648	·00062	·00143	·00911	·04750	·17426	·01624
1960-62	·01987	·00042	·00093	·00779	·04147	·15523	·01407
1970-72	·01552	·00035	·00083	·00747	·03654	·13749	·01253
1980-82	·00999	·00026	·00068	·00687	·03213	·12579	·01120
1971	·01536	·00035	·00082	·00736	·03546	·13498	·01226
1972	·01492	·00035	·00082	·00756	·03681	·13944	·01265
1973	·01453	·00033	·00081	·00739	·03607	·13899	·01248
1974	·01426	·00033	·00079	·00745	·03540	·13708	·01232
1975	·01377	·00029	·00079	·00726	·03446	·13545	·01207
1976	·01213	·00028	·00077	·00736	·03505	·14110	·01236
1977	·01241	·00028	·00074	·00712	·03346	·13107	·01170
1978	·01211	·00030	·00077	·00724	·03357	·13086	·01174
1979	·01155	·00027	·00072	·00731	·03357	·13220	·01178
1980	·01099	·00027	·00070	·00700	·03245	·12624	·01131
1981	·00947	·00026	·00067	·00682	·03192	·12567	·01115
1982	·00950	·00024	·00066	·00679	·03203	·12547	·01114
1983	·00893	·00024	·00064	·00668	·03136	·12310	·01092

Table 6. *Ratios of standardized death-rates for age-groups in Great Britain to the rates for 1980-82 (standardized on 1981 Census age distribution)*

Year	Under 1	1-14	15-44	45-64	65-79	80 and over	All ages
<i>Males</i>							
1930-32	6.168	9.735	3.320	1.442	1.279	1.282	1.525
1950-52	2.674	2.326	1.550	1.312	1.198	1.249	1.278
1960-62	2.013	1.669	1.254	1.222	1.171	1.137	1.194
1970-72	1.570	1.414	1.155	1.148	1.136	1.055	1.130
1980-82	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
1971	1.560	1.430	1.151	1.125	1.102	1.037	1.104
1972	1.492	1.397	1.140	1.151	1.153	1.079	1.143
1973	1.467	1.362	1.150	1.135	1.121	1.066	1.120
1974	1.469	1.262	1.125	1.120	1.106	1.061	1.106
1975	1.354	1.243	1.094	1.090	1.093	1.055	1.089
1976	1.264	1.178	1.093	1.098	1.104	1.089	1.101
1977	1.243	1.104	1.057	1.060	1.055	1.012	1.050
1978	1.198	1.114	1.092	1.076	1.064	1.027	1.062
1979	1.153	1.073	1.063	1.076	1.055	1.041	1.059
1980	1.060	1.040	1.019	1.031	1.014	1.002	1.016
1981	.982	.993	1.002	.996	.994	1.001	.996
1982	.959	.966	.980	.973	.992	.996	.988
1983	.886	.928	.955	.962	.980	.979	.973
<i>Females</i>							
1930-32	5.982	12.007	4.974	1.896	1.793	1.504	1.849
1950-52	2.652	2.434	2.112	1.326	1.478	1.385	1.450
1960-62	1.990	1.643	1.377	1.134	1.291	1.234	1.256
1970-72	1.554	1.380	1.220	1.087	1.137	1.093	1.119
1980-82	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
1971	1.538	1.384	1.210	1.071	1.104	1.073	1.094
1972	1.494	1.382	1.211	1.100	1.145	1.108	1.130
1973	1.455	1.282	1.197	1.076	1.122	1.105	1.115
1974	1.428	1.285	1.161	1.084	1.102	1.090	1.100
1975	1.379	1.135	1.163	1.057	1.072	1.077	1.078
1976	1.215	1.119	1.134	1.071	1.091	1.122	1.104
1977	1.243	1.084	1.098	1.036	1.041	1.042	1.044
1978	1.213	1.174	1.140	1.053	1.045	1.040	1.049
1979	1.157	1.076	1.061	1.064	1.045	1.051	1.052
1980	1.101	1.044	1.038	1.018	1.010	1.004	1.010
1981	.948	1.013	.993	.993	.993	.999	.995
1982	.951	.944	.969	.989	.997	.997	.995
1983	.894	.945	.939	.972	.976	.979	.975

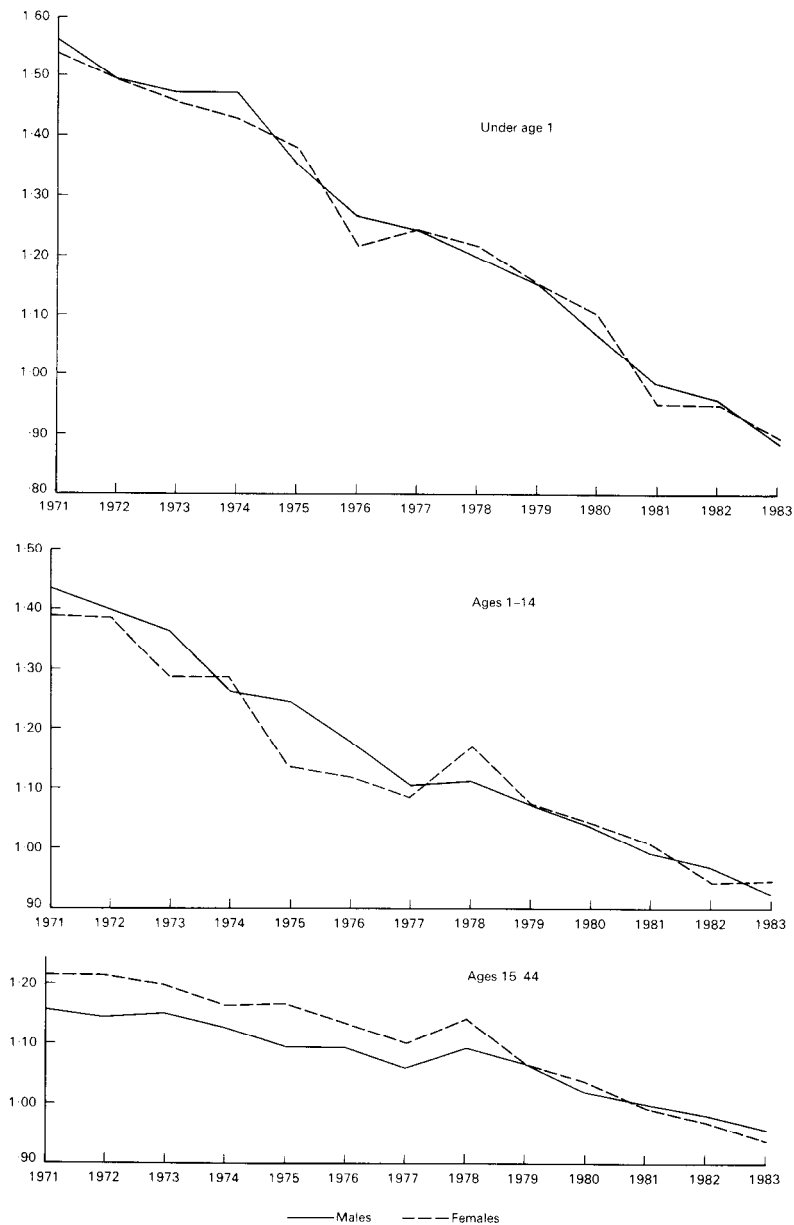


Figure 1. Ratios of standardized group death-rates to 1980-82 rates—children and young adults

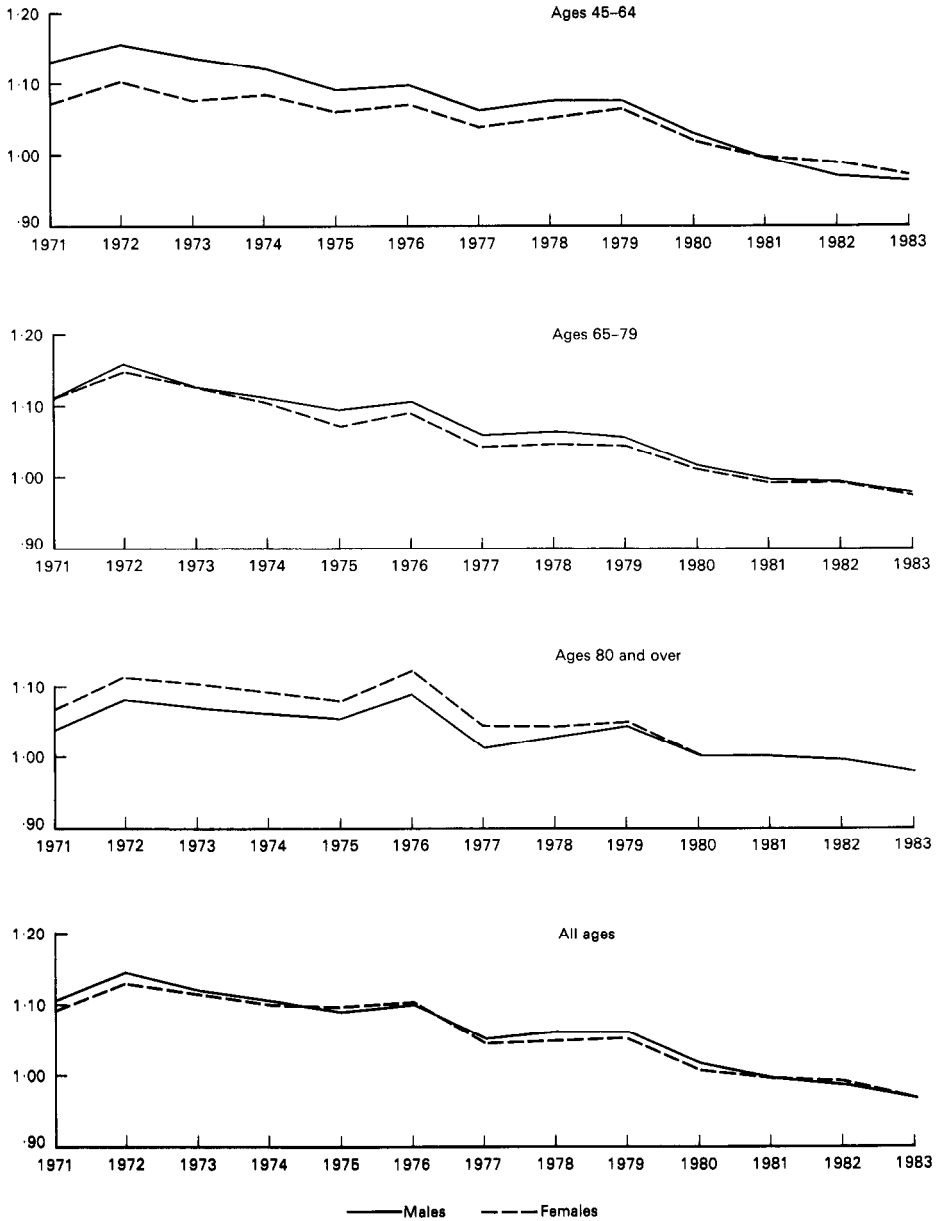
The Recent Trend of Mortality in Great Britain

Figure 2. Ratios of standardized group death-rates to 1980-82 rates—older adults and all ages.

Table 7. *Mortality improvement in Great Britain from 1930-32 to 1980-82*

Age group	Annual percentage reduction				
	1930-32 to 1950-52	1950-52 to 1960-62	1960-62 to 1970-72	1970-72 to 1980-82	1930-32 to 1980-82
<i>Males</i>					
0	4.1	2.8	2.5	4.4	3.6
1-4	8.3	3.4	2.3	3.6	5.2
5-9	6.0	3.2	1.5	4.0	4.2
10-14	5.0	3.1	.8	2.7	3.3
15-19	4.8	.5	.2	.8	2.2
20-24	4.2	2.0	1.5	1.1	2.6
25-29	3.9	3.8	1.3	.5	2.7
30-34	3.7	3.3	1.1	1.3	2.6
35-39	3.6	1.9	1.4	1.8	2.5
40-44	3.0	1.5	.1	2.0	1.9
45-49	2.0	1.6	(.2)	2.1	1.5
50-54	.8	1.4	.2	1.4	1.0
55-59	.3	.6	.8	1.0	.6
60-64	—	.3	.8	1.5	.5
65-69	.2	.2	.3	1.6	.5
70-74	.4	.1	.2	1.4	.5
75-79	.4	.5	.4	.9	.5
80-84	.3	.7	1.0	.3	.5
85 & over	(.1)	1.2	.4	.8	.5
<i>Females</i>					
0	4.0	2.8	2.4	4.3	3.5
1-4	8.5	3.9	1.9	4.1	5.4
5-9	7.0	3.4	1.6	3.6	4.6
10-14	6.4	4.3	1.3	.9	3.9
15-19	5.9	6.0	(.3)	1.7	3.9
20-24	5.1	6.8	1.1	2.0	4.0
25-29	4.5	6.8	2.0	1.3	3.8
30-34	4.2	4.8	2.0	1.8	3.4
35-39	3.7	3.0	1.7	2.1	2.8
40-44	3.0	2.0	.6	2.3	2.2
45-49	2.4	1.8	(.2)	2.2	1.7
50-54	2.0	1.7	.1	1.1	1.4
55-59	1.7	1.7	.1	.5	1.2
60-64	1.5	1.3	.9	.6	1.2
65-69	1.2	1.4	1.1	.9	1.2
70-74	1.0	1.4	1.1	1.3	1.2
75-79	.8	1.3	1.3	1.6	1.2
80-84	.5	1.3	1.5	1.1	1.0
85 & over	.3	1.0	.8	.9	.6

(in one case 20) years and for the full 50 years. A summary of the rates of improvement for the broader age-groupings is given below:

Age groups	<i>Annual rates of mortality improvement (%)</i>				
	1930-32	1950-52	1960-62	1970-72	1980-82
	to 1950-52	to 1960-62	to 1970-72	to 1980-82	to 1980-82
<i>Males</i>					
0	4.1	2.8	2.5	4.4	3.6
1-14	6.9	3.2	1.7	3.6	4.5
15-44	3.7	2.1	.8	1.4	2.4
45-64	.5	.7	.6	1.4	.7
65-79	.3	.2	.3	1.3	.5
80 & over	.1	.9	.7	.5	.5
All ages	.9	.7	.6	1.2	.8
<i>Females</i>					
0	4.0	2.8	2.4	4.3	3.5
1-14	7.7	3.8	1.8	3.3	4.9
15-44	4.2	4.2	1.1	2.0	3.2
45-64	1.8	1.6	.4	.8	1.3
65-79	1.0	1.3	.6	1.3	1.2
80 & over	.4	1.1	1.2	.9	.8
All ages	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.2

The tendency over the years has been for female mortality rates to fall faster than male rates. Table 8 shows the ratio of female mortality rates to male rates for 5-year age-groups over the 50 year period.

The rates for the broader age-groupings may be summarized as follows:

Age groups	<i>Ratios of female mortality rates to male mortality rates</i>				
	1930-32	1950-52	1960-62	1970-72	1980-82
	to 1950-52	to 1960-62	to 1970-72	to 1980-82	to 1980-82
0	.75	.77	.77	.77	.78
1-14	.91	.78	.72	.71	.74
15-44	.86	.79	.63	.61	.58
45-64	.75	.58	.53	.54	.57
65-79	.80	.71	.63	.57	.57
80 & over	.88	.84	.82	.78	.75

Mortality overall (standardized by age-groups) was some 11% lower in 1980-82 than in 1970-72. The 1983 level was a further 2½% lower. The rate of improvement continues to be most marked for infants, where there was a fall of 36% from 1970-72 to 1980-82 and the 1983 level was 11% lower still. The improvement from 1970-72 to 1980-82 was significantly greater for nearly all 5-year age-groups than over the previous 10 years, exceeding 8% for all age-groups except females aged 55 to 64 and males aged 25 to 29 and over 80.

From the numbers of deaths reported for 1984, it would appear that there will be a further marked fall, perhaps 2 to 3%, in the overall level of mortality in that year as compared to 1983.

Table 8. *Ratios of female mortality rates to male mortality rates*

Age group	1930-32	1950-52	1960-62	1970-72	1930-32
	to 1950-52	to 1960-62	to 1970-72	to 1980-82	to 1980-82
0	.75	.77	.77	.77	.78
1-4	.90	.85	.81	.85	.80
5-9	.88	.71	.69	.69	.71
10-14	.95	.71	.62	.59	.71
15-19	.91	.72	.41	.43	.39
20-24	.86	.71	.43	.45	.41
25-29	.93	.82	.59	.56	.51
30-34	.93	.83	.71	.65	.62
35-39	.83	.82	.73	.71	.69
40-44	.76	.76	.72	.69	.67
45-49	.73	.67	.65	.65	.64
50-54	.73	.58	.57	.58	.60
55-59	.74	.54	.49	.52	.55
60-64	.74	.54	.49	.49	.53
65-69	.73	.59	.52	.48	.52
70-74	.75	.67	.58	.53	.53
75-79	.79	.73	.67	.61	.57
80-84	.83	.78	.74	.70	.65
85 & over	.88	.82	.83	.80	.80