

Statistics on Stroke 2017

In 2017, there were more than 27,600 stroke cases involving approximately 25,800 people. About 6,500 people died of the disease. Since 2002, the number of people suffering from a stroke and mortality per 100,000 inhabitants have both dropped by close to 40 per cent, taking into account the age structure of the population. In 26 percent of stroke cases in 2016, the person died within 28 days of falling ill.

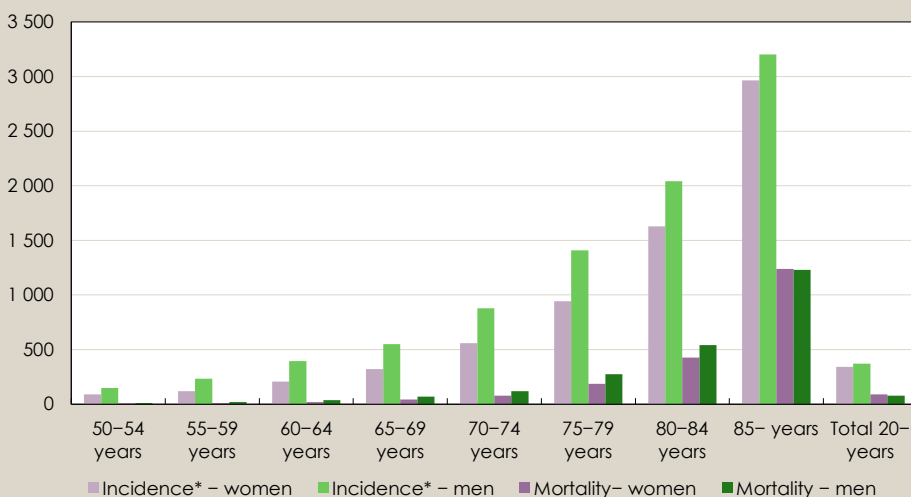
Stroke is most common among the elderly

Statistics on stroke include both cerebral infarction and brain haemorrhage. According to preliminary figures for 2017, approximately 25,800 people suffered a stroke during the year (see info box on page 3), which is a decrease of about 600 people compared with the previous year. The number of cases of stroke was just over 27,600, which corresponds to 360 stroke cases per 100,000 inhabitants (incidence). About 6,500 people died with stroke being the cause of death in 2017. This corresponds to approximately 80 deaths per 100,000 inhabitants (mortality).

Stroke occurs at all ages, but is much more common among the elderly than among younger people. Figure 1 shows incidence and mortality in 2017 for different age groups. Both the number of strokes and deaths per 100,000 people in the population increases significantly for each higher age range.

Figure 1. Number of stroke cases and stroke mortality per 100 000 inhabitants by sex and age 2017

Number per 100 000



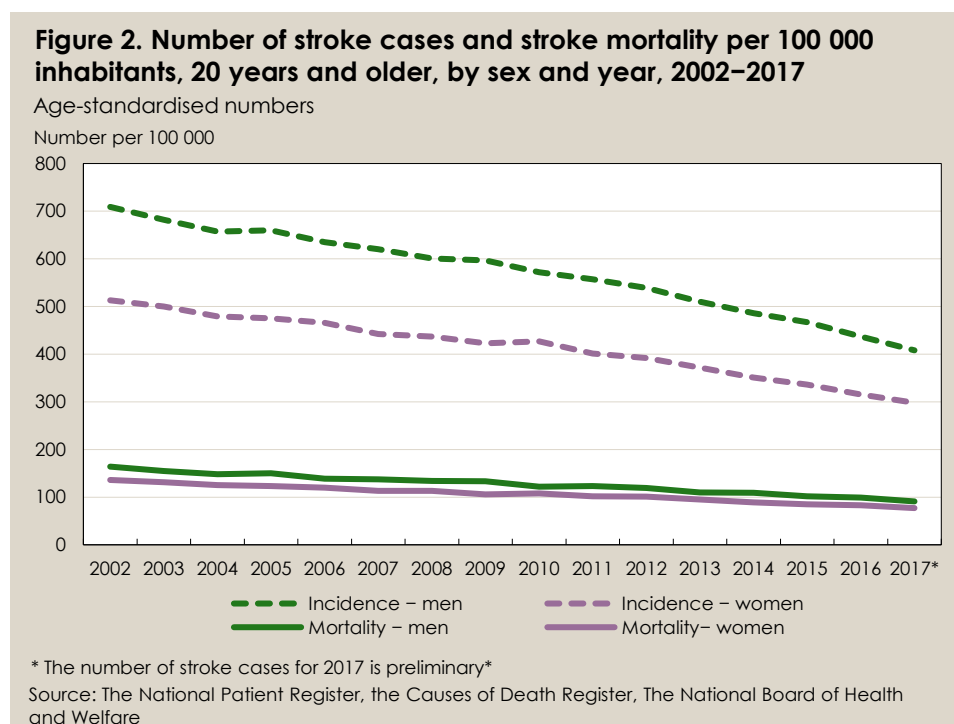
* The number of stroke cases for 2017 is preliminary*

Source: The National Patient Register, the Causes of Death Register, The National Board of Health and Welfare

It is more common for men to suffer a stroke than for women. Within each age group, except 85+, there is higher incidence and higher mortality for men. However, for the entire population from 20 years of age and upwards, the difference in incidence between the sexes is smaller, while mortality in the population is somewhat higher for women than for men. This is because older people suffer stroke to a greater extent than younger people and because the proportion of elderly people is higher among women than among men.

Incidence and mortality are decreasing

During the 2000s, both the number of stroke cases per 100,000 inhabitants and the number of deaths per 100,000 inhabitants have decreased steadily. Figure 2 shows the trend for women and men between 2002 and 2017. The figures are age-standardised, which means they are adjusted for differences in the age structure of the population. Both incidence and mortality have fallen by almost 40 per cent during the period, both for women and for men.



Taking into account differences in age structure, almost 40 per cent more cases of stroke are found to occur among men compared with women. The difference between the sexes is less in terms of mortality. With regard to age structure and numbers in the population, more men die than women, although the absolute number of women who die from stroke is higher.

Differences between counties in the proportion who die after a stroke

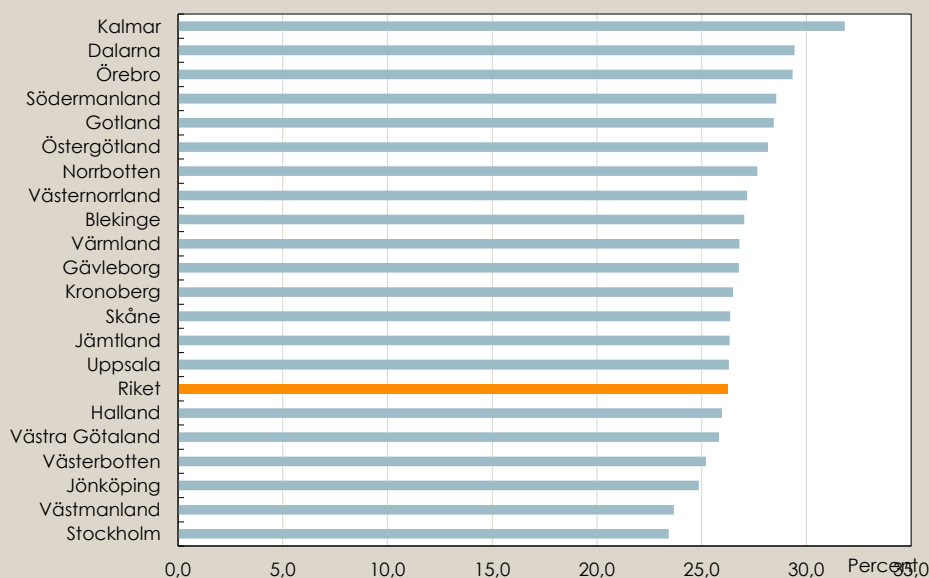
Lethality is the proportion of cases in which the person dies within a certain period of time. Among the cases of stroke that occurred in 2017, the person died that same day in 14 per cent of cases. In 25 per cent of cases, the person died within 28 days, and in 36 per cent of cases, the person died within one year. This includes all those who died, regardless of cause of death.

The percentage who die the same day as suffering the stroke is the same for women as for men, while women have one percentage point higher lethality within 28 days and within one year compared to men.

The lethality differs between counties. Figure 3 shows the percentage who died within 28 days of suffering a stroke, divided by county of residence. For better comparability between the counties, the average values for 2014–2017 are presented and the figures are age-standardised.

Figure 3. Proportion dead within 28 days of all stroke cases, by county of residence, 20 years and older, mean value 2015–2017

Age-standardised numbers



* The number of stroke cases for 2017 is preliminary*

Source: The National Patient Register, the Causes of Death Register, The National Board of Health and Welfare

The lowest lethality was seen in residents of Stockholm, Västmanland and Jönköping. The percentage who died within 28 days of suffering a stroke in those counties was less than 25 per cent. Kalmar had the highest mortality rate with almost 32 per cent, followed by Dalarna, where the stroke victim died within 28 days in a little over 29 per cent of cases.

Stroke diseases in the statistics according to ICD-10:

- Intracerebral haemorrhage (I61)
- Cerebral infarction (I63)
- Stroke, not specified as haemorrhage or infarction (I64)

Preliminary figures from the National Patient Register for 2017

In the stroke statistics, the incidence date is estimated using the admission date in the National Patient Register or the date of death in the Swedish Cause of Death Register. The National Patient Register only contains instances of care where the patient has been discharged. The instances of care that began in 2017 but ended in 2018 are not included in this report, meaning that the most recent year's figures for inpatient care will be adjusted slightly. Those treated in hospital who were discharged in the year after the admission year only make up around 2 per cent of the cases.

More information

You will find more tables, diagrams and other information in the Excel file:

www.socialstyrelsen.se/publikationer2018/2018-12-40

For those who want to perform their own searches of the database statistics:

www.socialstyrelsen.se/statistik/statistikdatabas

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