

Statistics on Stroke 2020

In 2020, there were about 27,000 stroke cases involving approximately 25,400 people. The number of people, per 100,000 population, suffering from stroke has decreased by over 40 percent over the past 15 years. Approximately 6,100 people died in 2020 as a result of the disease, an increase compared to 2019.

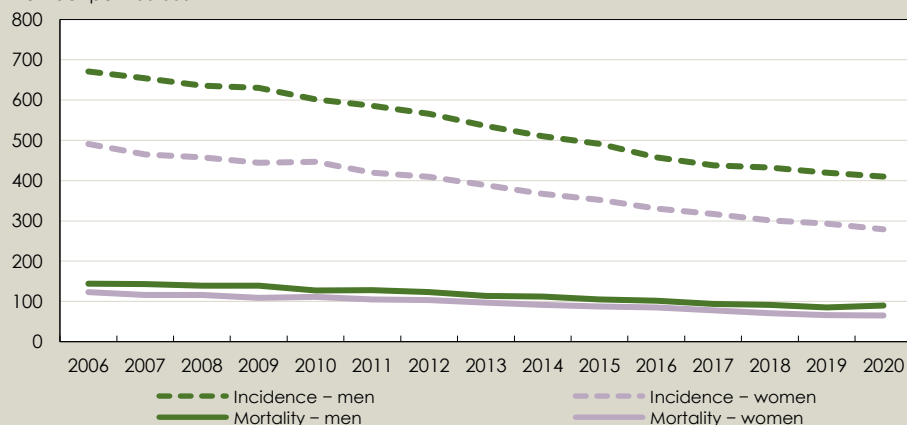
Stroke incidence is decreasing

During the 2000s, both the incidence, number of stroke cases per 100,000 inhabitants, and the mortality, number of deaths per 100,000 inhabitants, have decreased steadily. Figure 1 shows the trend for women and men between 2006 and 2020. The figures are age-standardized, which means that they are adjusted for differences over the years in the age structure of the population. Both incidence and mortality have fallen by over 40 percent during the period. Women have a slightly greater reduction in incidence and mortality compared with men. In 2020, about 27,000 stroke cases occurred divided into 25,400 people, a decrease of almost 400 people compared to the previous year.

Figure 1. Number of stroke cases and stroke mortality per 100,000 inhabitants, 20 years and older, by sex and year, 2006–2020

Age-standardized numbers

Number per 100 000



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

About 6,100 people died with stroke being the cause of death in 2020, an increase of about 200 people compared to 2019. These statistics include deaths with stroke as an underlying¹ cause of death as well as other causes of death

¹ The underlying cause of death is the disease or injury that initiated the chain of disease events that directly led to death, and the circumstances of an accident or act of violence that caused the fatal injury. In addition to the underlying cause of death, other causes of death are often mentioned on the cause of death certificate, such as complications due to the underlying cause of death and contributing causes of death.

mentioned on the cause of death certificate. A slight decrease among those who have stroke as the underlying cause of death can be observed. Covid-19 was one of the most common underlying causes of death among those who had stroke as another cause of death.

Bigger gender differences in 2020

Taking into account differences in age structure and the number of people in the population, approximately 47 percent more cases of stroke per 100,000 population occur among the male population compared with the female population. The difference between the sexes is slightly less in terms of mortality. About 38 percent more men than women died with stroke being the cause of death in 2020 per 100,000 population. It is the largest overrepresentation of men, both for cases of stroke and deaths in stroke, so far back data is available, in other words since 1987. The fact that more men than women had covid-19 as the underlying cause of death among those who had stroke as another cause of death may be the reason why the gender difference was particularly significant in 2020.

In absolute numbers, about the same number of men and women died as a result of stroke in 2020. Until 2019 more women than men died as a result of stroke. This is because older people suffer from stroke to a much greater extent than younger people, and the proportion of women is higher in the older part of the population.

Stroke diseases in the statistics according to ICD-10-SE:

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

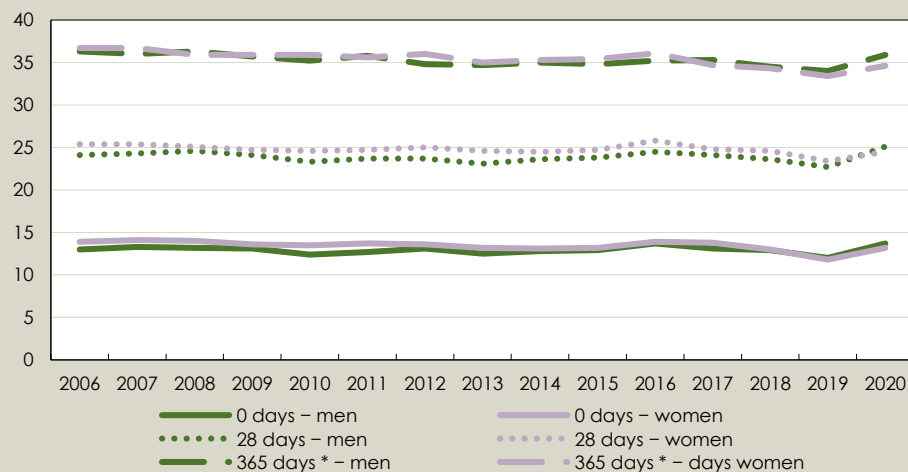
Every fourth person with a stroke dies within 28 days

The proportion of people who die as a result of their stroke has been fairly constant over time. Case fatality rate is the proportion of people that die within certain period of time. Figure 2 shows the proportion of women and men, between the years 2006 and 2020, who died the same day, within 28 and 365 days having suffered a stroke. The figures are age-standardized. Of the stroke cases that occurred in 2020, 14 percent of those who suffered a stroke died on the same day, 25 percent within 28 days and 35 percent within 365 days. There is only a marginal difference in case fatality rate between men and women.

Figure 2. Proportion dead within 0, 28 and 365 days of all cases of stroke by sex, 20 years and older, 2006–2020

Age-standardized numbers

Percent



*2020 figures are preliminary

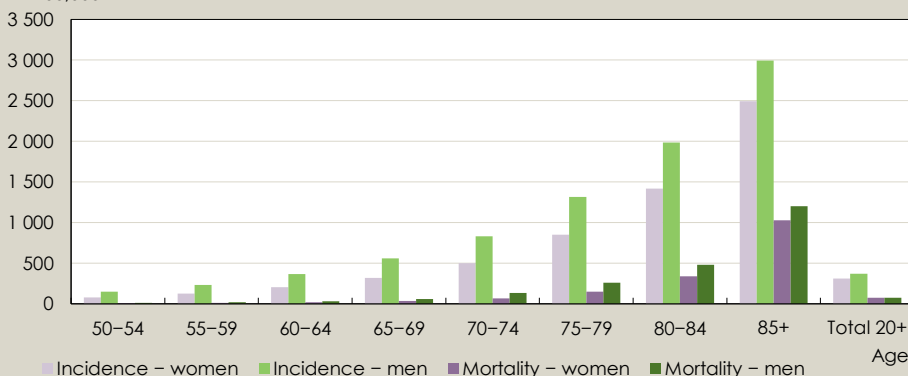
Source: The National Patient Register and the Causes of Death Register, The National Board of Health and Welfare

Stroke most common among the elderly

Stroke occurs at all ages, but is much more common among the elderly than among younger people. Less than 4 percent of the cases that occurred in 2020 affected a person who was younger than 50 years, only one percent among those who died were younger than 50 years. The majority, 74 percent, of those who suffered a stroke in 2020 were aged 70 years or older. Of those who die of stroke, almost 90 percent were over 70 years old.

Figure 3. Number of stroke cases and stroke mortality per 100,000 inhabitants, by sex and age, 2020

Number per 100,000



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

Figure 3 shows incidence and mortality in 2020 for women and men divided in different age groups. Both the number of strokes and deaths per 100,000 people in the population increases significantly for each higher age group. Within each age group there is a higher incidence rate and a higher mortality rate for men compared to women.

Sources of data

In the stroke statistics, the incidence date is estimated using the admission date in the National Patient Register. In case the patient died without having received treatment at a hospital, the incidence date is estimated using the date of death in the Swedish Cause of Death Register. All events from day 0 to day 27 belong to the same incidental case.

More information

You can find more tables, diagrams and information here

<https://www.socialstyrelsen.se/en/statistics-and-data/statistics/>

If you want to use our statistical database (in Swedish):

https://sdb.socialstyrelsen.se/if_stroke/val.aspx

Contact:

Christian Lovering and Pernilla Fagerström, statistical inquiries

Telephone: +46 (0) 75-247 30 00

E-mail: patientregistret@socialstyrelsen.se

Anastasia Simi, inquiries regarding the subject of stroke

Telephone: +46 (0)75-247 30 00

E-mail: anastasia.simi@socialstyrelsen.se