

Statistics on Myocardial Infarctions 2020

In the year 2020, about 22,200 people suffered from acute myocardial infarction (AMI) and 4,800 people died with acute myocardial infarction as an cause of death. The number of cases and mortality increases with age. More men than women suffers and dies from myocardial infarction.

Incidence and mortality rate decreases

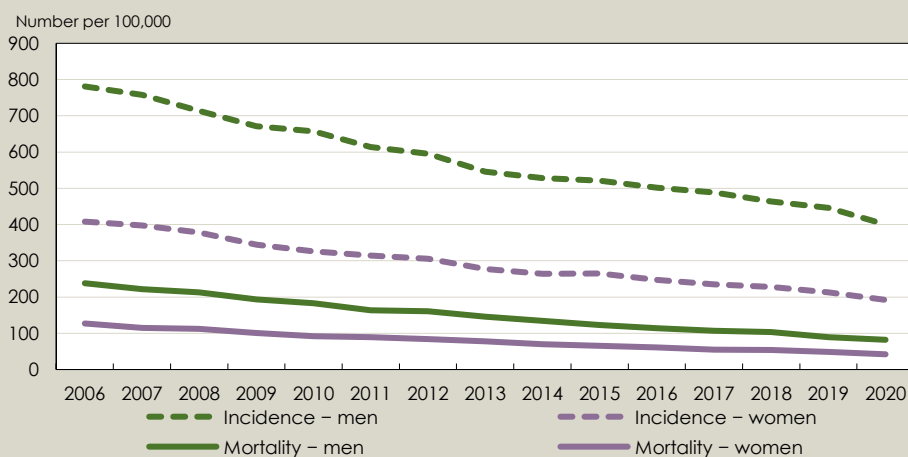
In recent decades, both incidence, the number of myocardial infarctions per 100,000 inhabitants, and mortality, the number of deaths per 100,000 inhabitants, have decreased steadily (figure 1). In 2020, around 22,200 people suffered from acute myocardial infarction, corresponding to about 290 people per 100,000 inhabitants. The incidence decreased with 9 percent since 2019, which could be an effect of fewer people seeking care during the COVID-19 pandemic [1].

Around 4,800 people died in acute myocardial infarction 2020, corresponding to 60 deceased per 100,000 inhabitants.

It is much more common for men to suffer from acute myocardial infarction compared to women. The difference has decreased over time, but in 2020, both the age standardized incidence and the age standardized mortality rate were around twice as high for men as for women.

Figure 1. AMI incidence and mortality rate per 100,000 inhabitants 20 years and older, by gender, 2006–2020

Age standardized figures

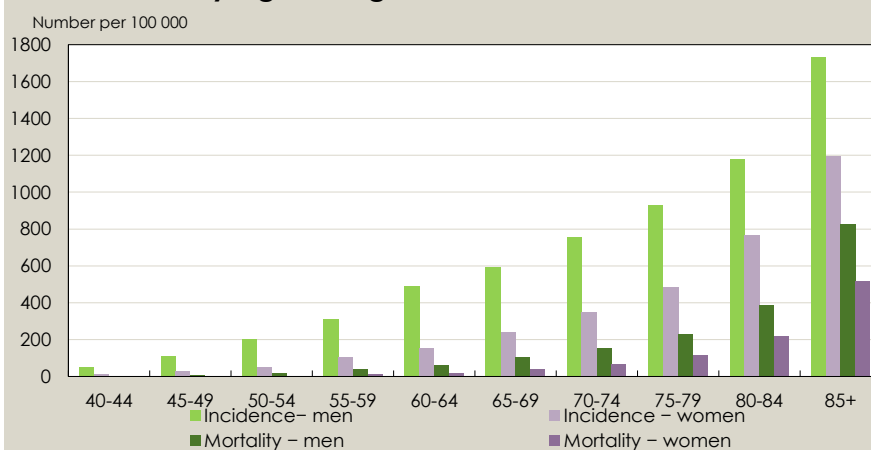


Source: Swedish Patient Register and Swedish Cause of Death Register, National Board of Health and Welfare

Large age differences

Acute myocardial infarction and mortality in myocardial infarction increases with increasing age, and men are more affected regardless of age. Around five percent of the cases of acute myocardial infarction among men that occurred in 2020 were among males younger than 50 years. The corresponding figure for women was two percent. Figure 2 shows incidence and mortality for different age groups in 2020. Among women, in the age group 85 years and older, acute myocardial infarction was almost five times more common than in the age group 65–69 years. For men it was three times more common.

Figure 2. AMI incidence and mortality rate per 100,000 inhabitants by age and gender, 2020



Source: Swedish Patient Register and Swedish Cause of Death Register, National Board of Health and Welfare

One in four with myocardial infarction dies within 28 days

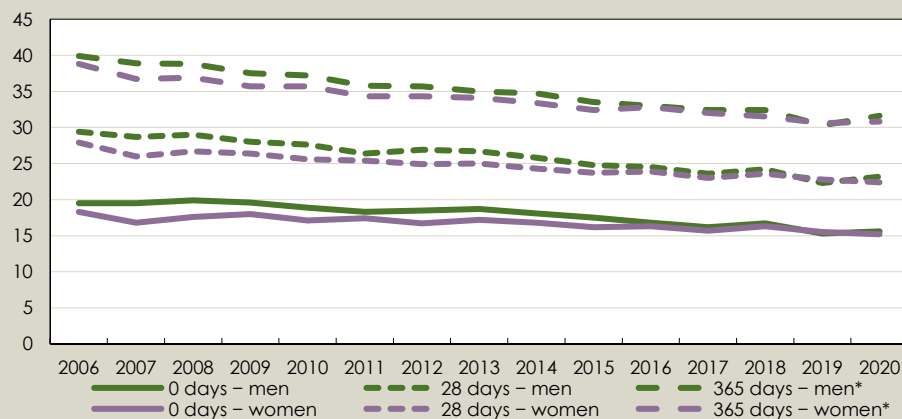
The case fatality rate, the proportion who die among the cases of acute myocardial infarction has decreased over time (figure 3). The case fatality rate has been higher for men than for women, but the difference between the sexes has declined. By 2020, age-standardized case fatality rate was slightly the same among men compared to women, but the share of cases after 0 days and 28 days were some higher for men than for women.

In 16 percent of the cases of acute myocardial infarctions 2020, the person died the same day and in 24 percent of the cases, the person died within 28 days. Within a year, 33 percent of the men and the women who suffered a myocardial infarction had died, regardless of the cause of death.

Figure 3. AMI case fatality rate, deaths within 0, 28 and 365 days, 20 years of age and older, 2006–2020

Age standardized figures

Percent



* Preliminary figures for 2020

Source: Swedish Patient Register and Swedish Cause of Death Register, National Board of Health and Welfare

Higher mortality among people with low education

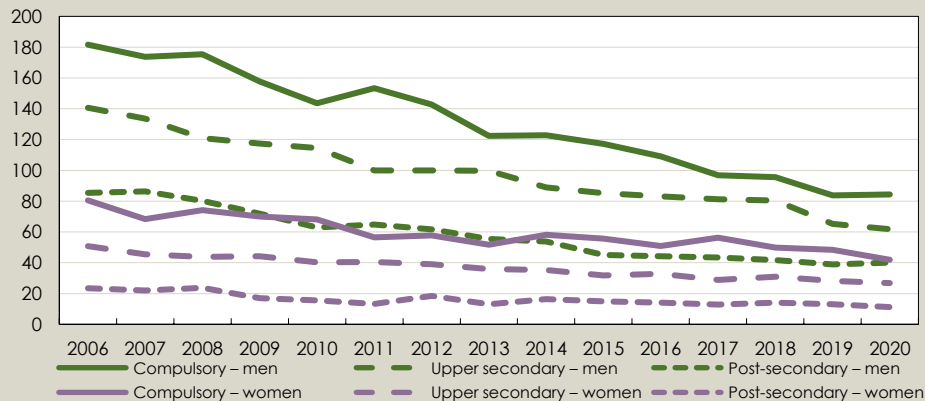
There are clear differences in the acute myocardial infarction mortality between groups with different educational levels. People with compulsory education only have the highest mortality rate.

From 2015, the mortality among men with post-secondary education have been lower than among women with compulsory education only (figure 4). The reason is that men with post-secondary education have had a more favorable trend with regard to mortality.

Figure 4. AMI mortality rate per 100,000 inhabitants, by sex, educational level, 45-74 years of age, 2016-2020

Age standardized figures

Number per 100 000



Source: Swedish Cause of Death Register and Swedish Register of Education, National Board of Health and Welfare.

Sources of data

In the AMI 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.

Comparisons with previous years

The National Board of Health and Welfare has not investigated in more detail whether the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has had an impact on the conditions for registration and collection of data for 2020. The statistics therefore needs to be read on the grounds that it may have been affected by that.

Age standardized numbers

Some of the figures are age standardized, which means they are adjusted for differences in the age structure of the population.

More information

You can find more tables, graphs and information in the following Excel file (in Swedish, but with English list of terms):

<https://www.socialstyrelsen.se/statistik-och-data/statistik/statistikamnen/hjartinfarkter/>

If you want to use our statistical database:

https://sdb.socialstyrelsen.se/if_hji/val_eng.aspx

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