

Statistics on Stroke 2021

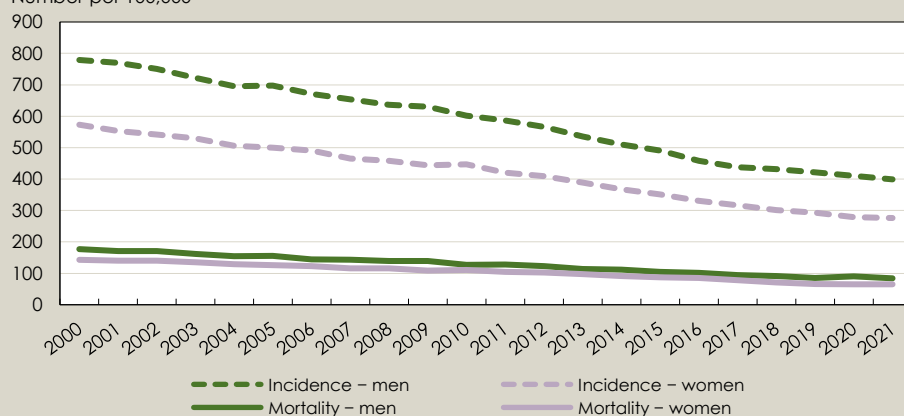
In 2021, there were about 27,000 cases of stroke affecting approximately 25,400 people. During the 2000s, both the age adjusted incidence, number of stroke cases per 100,000 inhabitants, and the mortality, number of deaths per 100,000 inhabitants, have been reduced by half.

Stroke incidence same as in 2020

Statistics on stroke include both cerebral infarction and brain haemorrhage. In 2021, about 27,000 stroke cases occurred divided into 25,400 people, which was the same number as in 2020. 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 2000 and 2021. 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 been reduced by half since the year 2000. Women have a slightly greater reduction in incidence and mortality compared with men.

Figure 1. Number of stroke cases and stroke mortality per 100,000 inhabitants, 20 years and older, by sex and year, 2000–2021

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

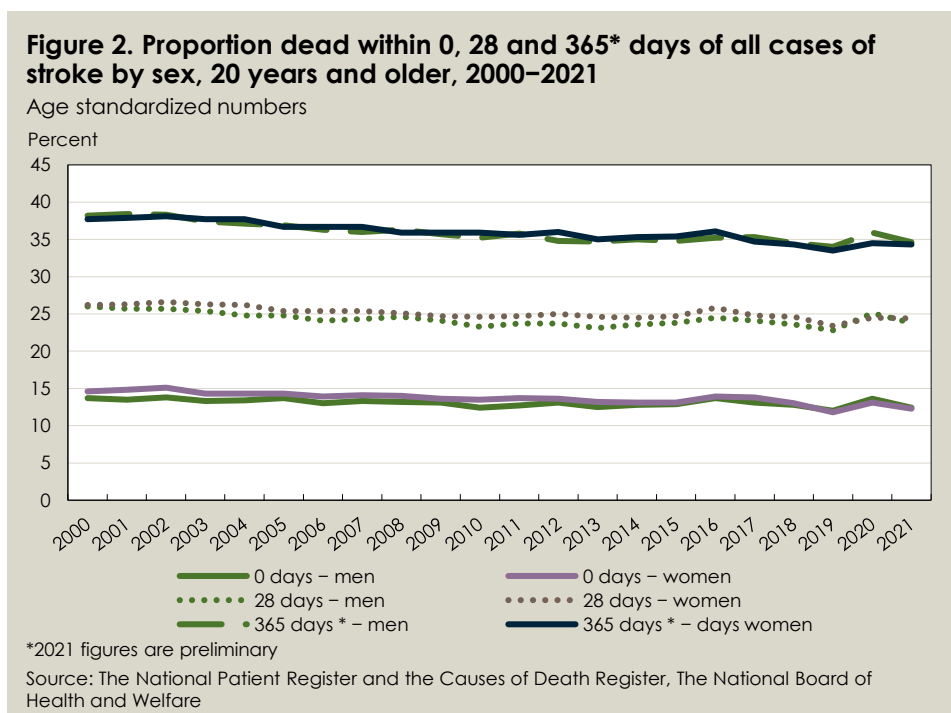
About 5,900 people died with stroke being the cause of death in 2021, a decrease of slightly less than 130 people compared to 2020. These statistics include deaths with stroke as the underlying¹ cause of death or as another cause of death mentioned on the cause of death certificate. With focus only on the group who

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.

have stroke as the underlying cause of death a small increase with 80 persons 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 in 2020 and 2021, however, the number om deaths from covid-19 was significantly lower in 2021.

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 dies regardless of the cause of death within a certain period of time. Figure 2 shows the proportion of women and men, between the years 2000 and 2021, 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 2021, 12 percent of those who suffered a stroke died on the same day, 24 percent within 28 days and 35 percent within 365 days. There is only a marginal difference in case fatality rate between men and women. Just like the fact that mortality increases with age, so does lethality. Among people aged 85 or older who suffered a stroke in 2021, 23 percent died on the same day, while 41 percent died within 28 days.



Stroke more common among men

Considering differences in age structure, in the last five years, on average, there have been roughly 40 percent more cases of stroke per 100,000 population among the male population compared with the female population. The difference

between the sexes is slightly less in terms of mortality. When differences in age structure are considered, in the last five years, on average, approximately 30 per cent more men than women have died.

In absolute numbers slightly fewer men than women died of stroke in 2021. This has been the case for the whole time period except for 2020 when roughly the same number of men and women died of stroke. The fact that the number of women who die of stroke has been higher than the number of men 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:

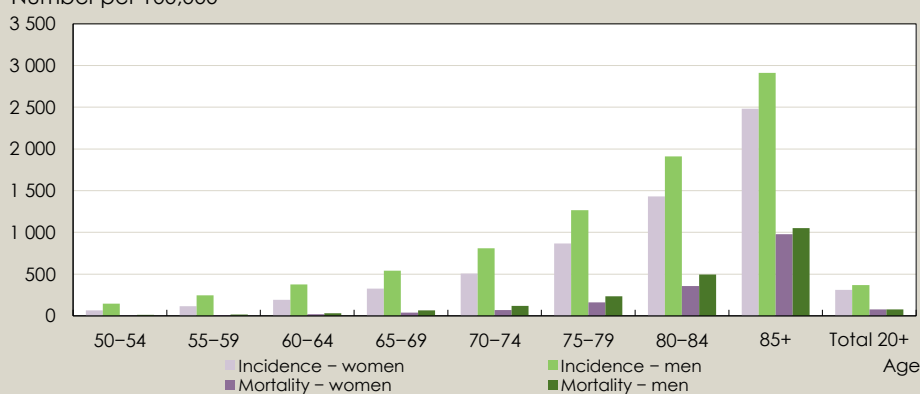
- Intracerebral haemorrhage (I61)
- Cerebral infarction (I63)
- Stroke, not specified as haemorrhage or infarction (I64)

Stroke most common among the elderly

Stroke occurs at all ages, but is much more common among the elderly than among younger people. Only just over 3 percent of the cases that occurred in 2021 affected a person who was younger than 50 years. This meant that just under 900 people younger than 50 years old suffered a stroke in 2021. Only one percent of all who died were younger than 50 years, which corresponds to around 70 people. Three out of four who suffered a stroke in 2021 were aged 70 years or older. Of those who died of a stroke, almost nine out of ten were 70 years or older.

Figure 3. Number of stroke cases and stroke mortality per 100,000 inhabitants, by sex and age, 2021

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 2021 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

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