

This is the author's version of information that was later published as:

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Supplementary Note from Professor Danny Dorling

In my testimony I offered to provide further information on the most common cause of death of people in Britain in case of inaccuracy in my recall. With several colleagues in work in preparation for a new atlas of mortality by cause in Britain we have been studying the major causes of death across this island over the period 1981 to 2004 (inclusive). About one hundred causes of death are being mapped including groupings of causes that are hard to classify as one group. The source data for our analysis has been provided by the General Register Office for Scotland and from the Office for National Statistics (for those deaths occurring in England and Wales). The data we are analysing does not include Northern Ireland. We analyse by 20 age groups and find:

Most common cause of death of people dying in Britain by age over the period 1981 to 2004

Age	Most death due to:
0	Other conditions in the perinatal period
1-4	Congenital malformations of heart
5-9	Pedestrian and motor vehicle accidents
10-14	Pedestrian and motor vehicle accidents
15-19	Other motor vehicle accidents
20-24	Other motor vehicle accidents
25-29	Other motor vehicle accidents
30-34	Other motor vehicle accidents
35-39	Heart attack and chronic heart disease
40-44	Heart attack and chronic heart disease
45-49	Heart attack and chronic heart disease
50-54	Heart attack and chronic heart disease
55-59	Heart attack and chronic heart disease
60-64	Heart attack and chronic heart disease
65-69	Heart attack and chronic heart disease
70-74	Heart attack and chronic heart disease
75-79	Heart attack and chronic heart disease
80-84	Heart attack and chronic heart disease
85-89	Heart attack and chronic heart disease
90+	Heart attack and chronic heart disease

Note: Motor vehicles (mostly cars) are the major killer between ages 5 and 34 in this country. This is of child pedestrians being killed in a collision with a motor vehicle between ages 5 and 14, and then through involvement in other motor vehicle accidents, most often as drivers and passenger between the ages of 15 and 34. It is possible that motor vehicles are a major factor before age 5 given that most deaths due to congenital malformations occur in the earlier years for those aged 1-4.

Source: Analysis by the author and colleagues of mortality records as work in preparation for a national atlas of mortality according to roughly one hundred key causes to be published by the Policy Press in Autumn 2008.

Definitions: "Other conditions in the perinatal period" - over half of deaths in this category are due to trauma around the time of birth or shortly after, such as asphyxia and other respiratory distress. The deaths come under cause-codings: ICD-9 codes: 760-779; ICD-10 codes: G70.2, P00-P05, P07, P10-P11, P15, P20-P28, P29.0-P29.1, P29.8, P35-P37, P39, P50, P52, P54, P59-P61, P70, P74, P76-P78, P83, P90-P92, P94, P96, Q86.0. "Congenital Malformations of the heart" include deaths due medical condition present at birth ICD-9 codes: 745-747; ICD-10 codes: P29.3, Q20-Q28 "Pedestrian and motor vehicle accidents" includes deaths to pedestrians due to collision with a vehicle of some kind ICD-9 codes: E812.7, E813.7, E814.7, E815.7, E816.7, E817.7, E818.7, E819.7, E821.7, E822.7, E823.7, E824.7, E825.7, E826.0; ICD-10 codes: V01-V04, V06, V09.0-V09.3; "Other motor vehicle accident death are those deaths where the passenger or driver of the vehicle dies. Pedestrian deaths and the deaths of cyclists are not included here: ICD9: 810-812, 815-825 (excluding -.7's). Heart attack and chronic heart disease: ICD9: 410-414 and 429.