Strategic Policy, Planning and Performance

Report

Public Health Intelligence



Subject: Jersey Mortality Report 2023 – Preliminary

Date of report: 17 October 2024

Introduction

The number of deaths occurring in the calendar year 2023¹, and their distribution by age and sex are included. Agestandardised mortality rates (ASMRs) have been calculated to enable comparisons across time and between jurisdictions.

The Jersey Mortality Report usually provides a comprehensive analysis of deaths categorized by their underlying causes. However, due to a substantial number of cases pending inquest verdicts or confirmation of the cause of death, the 2023 Mortality Report will be released in two parts.

The first part being a preliminary report detailing the number of deaths of Jersey residents and their distribution by age and sex, including comparisons over time and between jurisdictions.

The second report will provide a further breakdown of deaths including the cause of death information and will replace the first report. This will be published at a later date once sufficient data is available. This approach is intended to ensure both accuracy and transparency in the data presented.

Information on the data sources and processing are given in the notes section of this report.

Summary

In 2023:

- there were 880 Jersey residents recorded as having died²; this was 40 deaths fewer than the 920 recorded in 2022
- of the 880 recorded deaths, 470 deaths were males, and 410 deaths were females; male deaths increased by 20 and female deaths decreased by 60 compared to 2022
- there were 130 deaths of individuals of working age (aged 16-64 years), of whom around 69% were male
- there were 250 premature deaths (occurring before 75 years of age), which accounted for 29% of deaths in 2023; 62% of these premature deaths were male
- the average (mean) age at death for Jersey residents in 2023 was 79 years; an increase of 12 years since 1960 (67 years)
- the average (mean) age at death for women in 2023 was 81 years; the mean for men was 77 years
- the median age of deaths in 2023 was 80 years for males and 84 for females, both of which have remained unchanged in the last 5 years
- the age-standardised mortality rate (ASMR) for Jersey was 820 per 100,000 population, which is statistically similar to each annual ASMR for Jersey within the last decade, and significantly lower than the ASMR for England (965 per 100,000) and Wales (1,087 per 100,000) in 2023³
- the ASMR for males (1,040 per 100,000) was significantly higher than that for females (656 per 100,000)

¹ See notes for definition of deaths included in this report.

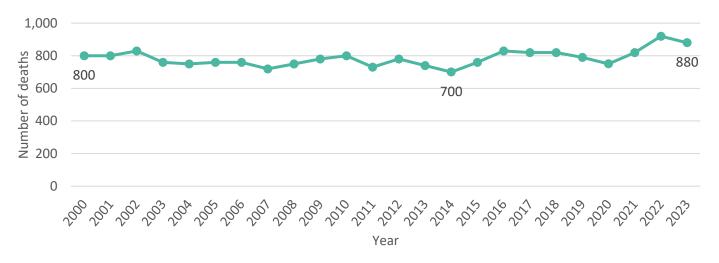
² See notes section for details of how death counts are rounded.

³ Deaths registered in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)

Deaths

- in 2023, there were a total of 880 deaths of Jersey residents, which was a decrease of 4% compared to 2022 (920 deaths)⁴
- the number of deaths fluctuates from year to year; the number of deaths reached its lowest point since 2000 in 2014 (700 deaths) but numbers have increased since then
- the number of deaths in 2022 and 2023 show a notable increase compared to prior years; the number of deaths in earlier years, particularly between 2000 and 2012, show more stability, generally staying around the 750-800 range

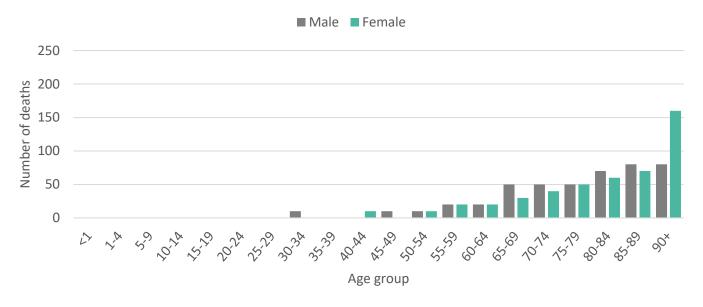
Figure 1. Annual number of deaths, Jersey (2000 to 2023)



Numbers of deaths by age and sex

- in 2023, there were 470 deaths of males and 410 deaths of females; in 2023, there were around 20 more male deaths than in 2022, and 60 fewer female deaths than in 2022
- the number of deaths of males was similar or greater than the number of deaths of females in each age group up to 85-89 years of age; there were a greater number of deaths of females in the 90 years and over age group (Figure 2)⁵

Figure 2. Number of deaths by age and sex, Jersey (2023)



⁴ See notes for definition of deaths included in this report.

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⁵ Caution is needed when looking at numbers of deaths across age groups and sex because of the different population sizes.

Infant and child deaths

- there have been fewer than 5 recorded deaths of children aged under 1 year of age in 2023⁶; this has been consistent since 2013
- as in the previous 10 years, in 2023 there had been fewer than 5 deaths annually in children aged between 1 and 15 years

Working age deaths (aged 16-64 years of age)

- in 2023, there were 130 deaths among individuals between the ages of 16 and 64, which comprised 14% of the total number of deaths, of these deaths, 69% were male
- since 2007, the number of deaths amongst those of working age has ranged between a low of 110 (in 2019) and a high of 160 (in 2009 and 2013)

Premature deaths (under 75 years of age)

• there were 250 deaths of Jersey residents in 2023 under 75 years of age ('premature deaths'); premature deaths accounted for 29% of deaths in 2023, 62% of these deaths were male

Deaths of people aged 75 or over

 there were 630 deaths of people aged 75 or over in 2023, accounting for 71% of all deaths; this proportion has risen from 62% of all deaths recorded in 2007

Deaths of people aged 85 or over (old age deaths)

• there were 370 deaths of people aged 85 or over in 2023, accounting for 42% of all deaths; 54% of deaths in this age group were female, largely due to there being more females in this age category

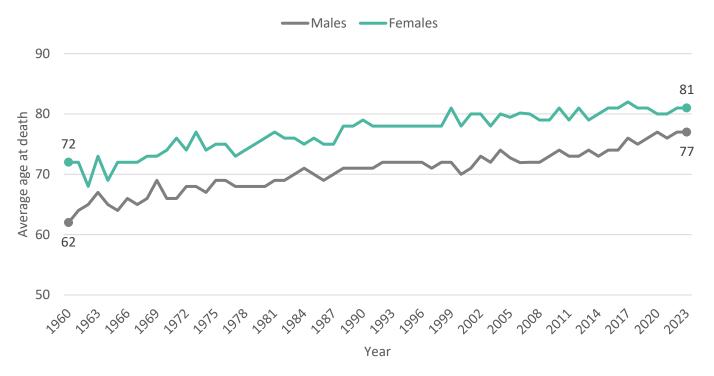
Average age of deaths

• the average (mean) age at death for Jersey residents in 2023 was 79 years; an increase of 12 years since 1960 (67 years)

- the average (mean) age at death for women in 2023 was 81 years; the mean for men was 77 years
- the average (mean) age at death for both women and men in 2023 remained unchanged from the previous year
- the mean age at death for women has increased by 9 years (Figure 3) between 1960 and 2023 (from 72 to 81 years), while the mean age at death for men has seen a greater increase of 15 years over the same period (62 to 77 years)

⁶ Small numbers are not disclosed to ensure that information does not identify an individual.

Figure 3. Average age of death, Jersey (1960 to 2023)

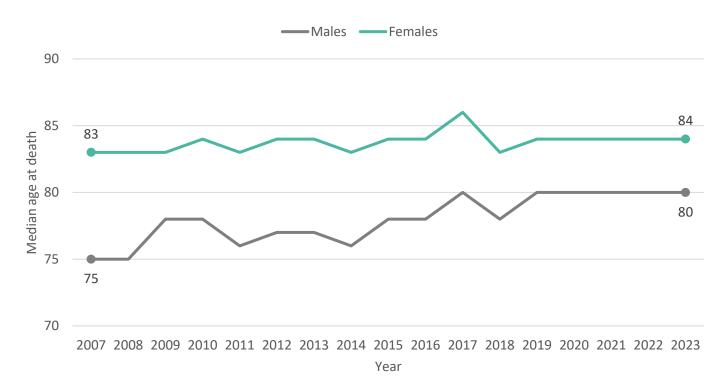


Median age of deaths

The median average age of death is the age at which half of deaths occurred below, and half occurred above.

- the median age of deaths in 2023 was 80 years for males, which has remained unchanged in the last 5 years
- the median age of deaths in 2023 was 84 years for females (Figure 4), and has changed very little since 2007
- while the median age of death has remained stable, the mean age of death shows a slightly more variable trend over time

Figure 4: Median age at death, Jersey (2007–2023)



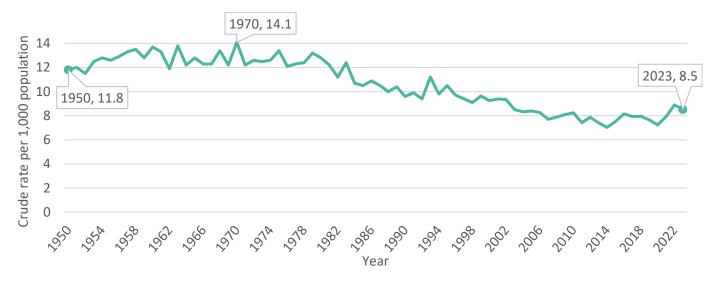
Crude mortality rate

The crude mortality rate refers to the number of deaths during a particular year, expressed per 1,000 of the resident population⁷. Note that the crude mortality rate does not adjust for the differences in age distribution of the population over time.

Therefore, as Jersey has an aging population⁸, this must be considered when interpreting changes to the crude mortality rate, while age-standardised mortality rates provide a more accurate representation of population mortality trends over time.

- the crude mortality rate in 2023 was 8.5 per 1,000 population, which was a slight decrease from 8.9 per 1,000 population in 2022
- the crude mortality rate has fluctuated sporadically over time, but has generally decreased since reaching a peak of 14.1 per 1,000 in 1970

Figure 5. Crude mortality rate (per 1,000 per population), Jersey (1950 to 2023)



Age-standardised mortality rate

Age-standardised mortality rates (ASMR) allow comparisons to be made across jurisdictions and through time, without being affected by differences in the underlying age and sex structures of the population.

The ASMR is calculated as a weighted average of the age-specific mortality rates per 100,000 persons, where the weights are the proportions of persons in the corresponding age groups of the European standard population (see notes for further details).

In 2023:

- the ASMR for Jersey was 820 per 100,000 (Figure 6); the ASMR for males (1,040 per 100,000) was significantly higher than that for females (656 per 100,000) (Figure 7)
- the ASMR for Jersey residents in 2023 was statistically similar to all ASMRs in the last decade (Figure 6)
- Jersey had a significantly lower ASMR than the latest available data from England and Wales⁹, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and the UK overall¹⁰ (Table 1)
- both male and female ASMR were slightly lower than in England overall, but were similar to some of the regions such as London and the South East (Table 1)

⁷ Annual Population Estimates by Age and Sex – Statistics Jersey, October 2024

⁸ Population and Migration Statistics - Statistics Jersey, June 2023

⁹ Deaths registered in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)

¹⁰ Deaths registered by area of usual residence, UK - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)

Figure 6. Age Standardised Mortality Rate (ASMR) per 100,000 per population, Jersey (2012 to 2023)

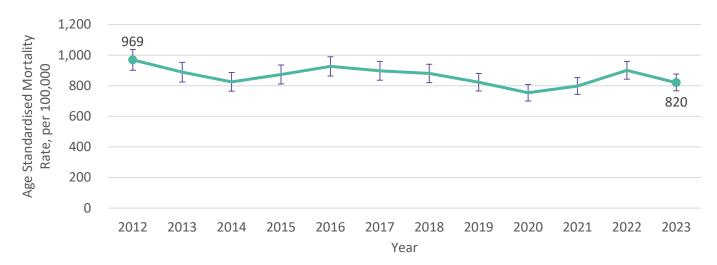
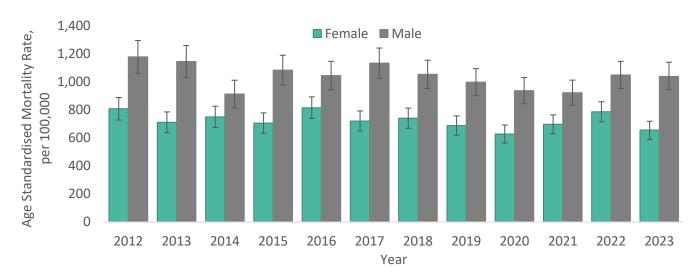


Table 1. Age-standardised mortality rates overall per 100,000 population, by sex, for Jersey (2023), England and Wales (2023)¹¹, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and across the United Kingdom (2021)¹²

	Males	Females	All
JERSEY	1,040	656	820
ENGLAND	1,134	827	965
NORTH EAST	1,290	947	1,101
NORTH WEST	1,264	933	1,083
YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER	1,213	892	1,036
EAST MIDLANDS	1,172	867	1,005
WEST MIDLANDS	1,175	861	1,003
EAST OF ENGLAND	1,069	781	910
LONDON	1,046	731	869
SOUTH EAST	1,044	759	886
SOUTH WEST	1,074	782	914
WALES	1,237	904	1,054
SCOTLAND	1,375	1,024	1,181
NORTHERN IRELAND	1,223	901	1,044
UNITED KINGDOM	1,213	880	1,029

• the ASMR for females has been consistently lower than males in Jersey since 2012 (Figure 7)

Figure 7. Age-standardised mortality rates per 100,000 population, by sex, for Jersey (2012 to 2023)



¹¹ Deaths registered in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)

¹² Deaths registered by area of usual residence, UK - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)

Notes

Data sources

- the Marriage and Civil Status (Jersey) Law 2001 requires all deaths to be registered with the Superintendent Registrar within 5 days of the date of death, unless they have been referred to the Viscount. Data on deaths is compiled and clerically checked against other administrative sources to ensure that all deaths have been accurately detailed
- deaths data used in this report include those deaths that were registered in Jersey, plus deaths that occurred abroad to Jersey residents where the body was repatriated to Jersey
- Mid-year population estimates supplied by Statistics Jersey are the official source of population sizes in-between censuses (see "Population Estimates" below)

Methodology

Crude Rates

Crude rates were calculated as the number of deaths occurring in a year divided by the census population estimate for that year, multiplied by 1,000.

Population Estimates

Population estimates recently published by Statistics Jersey (October 2024)¹³ are used to calculate rates in this report. As such, rates presented in this report may differ slightly to those presented in previous publications, which will have used older population estimates.

Age standardisation

Age-standardised rates have been calculated using the 2013 European Standard Population, in line with methodology used by Public Health England. This allows comparisons of mortality rates across time and place excluding the impact of different underlying age and gender structures.

Briefly; numerator data for each age band are divided by the denominator population data for each age band respectively to give age specific death rates for Jersey these age specific rates are multiplied by the standard population for each age group respectively and aggregated across all the age groups to give the age adjusted count of deaths for Jersey. This age adjusted count of deaths is divided by the total standard population for the whole age range included in the indicator and multiplied by 100,000 to give the age standardised mortality rate for Jersey. When the observed total number of deaths was fewer than 25, mortality rates are typically not calculated, as there were too few deaths to calculate directly standardised rates reliably.

Delays

Due to the delays which can sometimes occur with registration of deaths, and the time it takes for death cause to be coded by the Office for National Statistics (UK). It is standard for mortality to be reported in arrears; therefore, numbers reported here should be treated as provisional.

Rounding

All death numbers have been independently rounded to the nearest 10.

¹³ Annual <u>Population Estimates by Age and Sex</u> – Statistics Jersey, October 2024

Confidence Intervals and statistical significance

Confidence intervals have been used in this report to compare Jersey age standardised mortality rates. Calculations based on small numbers of events are often subject to random fluctuations. The confidence interval indicates the range within which the variation could be considered due to random fluctuations.

Feedback

If you would like to provide feedback, then please contact us on the following address or email us at: healthintelligence@gov.je

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