

ARTICLES, PAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS OF ACTUARIAL INTEREST

POPULATION

51, 1

CLERC, P. *Jean de la Fontaine: le calcul démographique et probabiliste dans la fable Le Charlatan (1668) [demographic and probability calculations in la Fontaine's 1668 fable The Charlatan]*. Although used in a false argument in the fable, the proposition that the chance of dying within ten years was one-third (irrespective of age) is here examined in the light of Graunt's contemporary English life table and actual French mortality in the eighteenth century.

POPULATION INDEX

61, 4

Special bibliography of governmental and international current serial publications containing vital statistics. A separate cumulative index of *Population Index* by source, by author and by subject within a geographic area appeared concurrently.

POPULATION TRENDS

83

CHAMPION, T. *Migration to, from and within the United Kingdom*. Studies the geography of migration and the sex, age, ethnicity, social class, household type and tenure of migrants, who contribute one-third of recent population growth. Unexpected findings are that the usual southward drift reversed in 1989–91, that Chinese are the most mobile, and that half those moving house go less than 5 kilometres.

CHARLTON, J. *Which areas are healthiest?* Data from regional health authorities are regrouped according to density, prosperity and industry. Rural and prosperous areas showed the greatest improvements between 1981 and 1992; they also had the smallest differences in life expectation between the sexes, and the difference reduced with time.

HASKEY, J. *The proportion of married couples who divorce: past patterns and current prospects*. Estimates of the proportion of marriages since 1950 which ended in divorce, according to duration, age at marriage and previous marital condition. Life table analysis indicates that 40% of recent marriages may end in divorce, less than 50% will last for 25 years and about 11% for fifty years.

There is a separate cumulative index of all previous articles in *Population Trends* by subject and by author.

84

ARMITAGE, B. & BABB, P. *Trends in fertility*. Unlike the general European fertility decline in recent years, United Kingdom rates have remained fairly stable. Women are having their children at older ages and the percentage childless at age 45 is increasing. One-third of births are to unmarried women.

GRUNDY, E. M. D. *The population aged 60 and over*. The numbers of the elderly is growing more slowly, but the average age is still rising. More live alone, fewer have children nearby, and more

are likely to be providing informal care to other relatives than in the past. Long-term illnesses are increasing, but the extent of serious disability has fallen.

HASKEY, J. *The ethnic minority populations of Great Britain: their estimated sizes and age profiles.* Updates earlier articles derived from census and Labour Force Survey data. The proportion and size of the ethnic minority does not seem to have changed in recent years. About one-half came from the Indian sub-continent and one-quarter from Africa or the Caribbean. Some earlier under-estimation is analysed and corrected.