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# MORTALITY AND MORBIDITY IN THE UNITED STATES

CARL L. ERHARDT  
and  
JOYCE E. BERLIN,  
editors

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# PREFACE

This final volume of the Vital and Health Statistics Monographs presents a summary picture of mortality and morbidity in the United States, with brief international comparisons and particular emphasis on the decade of the 1960's. Of special concern are the health problems of the aged, infant mortality, mortality and morbidity within the United States by geographic variation and by marital status, and future needs for health resources. This general overview is an attempt to synthesize material presented in great detail in the preceding volumes of this monograph series:

*Accidents and Homicide* by Albert P. Iskrant and Paul V. Joliet

*Infectious Diseases* by Carl C. Dauer, Robert F. Korns, and Leonard M. Schuman

*Trends and Variations in Fertility in the United States* by Clyde V. Kiser, Wilson H. Grabill, and Arthur A. Campbell

*Infant, Perinatal, Maternal, and Childhood Mortality in the United States* by Sam Shapiro, Edward R. Schlesinger, and Robert E. L. Nesbitt, Jr.

*Tuberculosis* by Anthony M. Lowell, Lydia B. Edwards, and Carroll E. Palmer

*The Epidemiology of Oral Health* by Walter J. Pelton, John B. Dunbar, Russell S. McMillan, Palmi Moller, and Albert E. Wolff

*Syphilis and Other Venereal Diseases* by William J. Brown, James F. Donohue, Norman W. Axnick, Joseph H. Blount, Neal W. Ewen, and Oscar G. Jones

*Marriage and Divorce: A Social and Economic Study* by Hugh Carter and Paul C. Glick

*Digestive Diseases* by Albert I. Mendeloff and James P. Dunn

*The Frequency of the Rheumatic Diseases* by Sidney Cobb

*Cardiovascular Diseases in the United States* by Iwao M. Moriyama, Dean E. Krueger, and Jeremiah Stamler

*Cancer in the United States* by Abraham M. Lilienfeld, Morton L. Levin, and Irving I. Kessler

*Mental Disorders/Suicide* by Morton Kramer, Earl S. Pollack, Richard W. Redick, and Ben Z. Locke

*Epidemiology of Neurologic and Sense Organ Disorders* by Leonard T. Kurland, John F. Kurtzke, and Irving D. Goldberg

*Differential Mortality in the United States: A Study in Socioeconomic Epidemiology* by Evelyn M. Kitagawa and Philip M. Hauser

The authors of each of these volumes have our profound gratitude.

The editors of the present volume are greatly indebted to the contributing authors, who generously gave their time and energies to preparation of the various chapters. Included among these is Mortimer Spiegelman who, before his untimely death, had designed the general format and substance of the first three chapters, which were then updated and completed by Carl Erhardt.

It is also fitting, in this final volume, to acknowledge the extensive and devoted assistance of Miss Teresa Hilb, who served as secretary and assistant to both Mr. Spiegelman and Dr. Erhardt. Her careful construction of the typed tables, her meticulous attention to details of the texts and figures, and her able maintenance of minutes and of files, preparation of drafts for reports, verification of data, and keeping of precise records of budget items, was inspiring. Without her contribution, completion of the series would have been infinitely more difficult.

Finally, the monograph series would not exist at all had it not been for Mortimer Spiegelman's initiation of the project and his devotion to it.

To all those involved go our thanks.

Carl L. Erhardt  
Joyce E. Berlin

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