
**HEALTH AND POPULATION CHANGE IN TYNE & WEAR 2000
AN ANALYSIS OF ONS' VITAL STATISTICS**

2001

By

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KEY POINTS

Introduction:

This report presents information on long-term trends in fertility and mortality in Tyne & Wear and its constituent Districts. It analyses a six-year data series (1995-2000) and covers fertility amongst women of all ages, those aged 11-15, 16-34 and 35+, and the share of live births within and outside of marriage. Mortality rates, major causes of death and natural change (i.e. population change arising from live births and deaths) are also covered.

Fertility:

Fertility in Tyne & Wear and its constituent Districts is low relative to the region and England & Wales. Since 1994 Total Fertility Rates (TFRs) in four Tyne & Wear Districts have tended to converge on England & Wales. South Tyneside was the exception and the only District where the six-year average TFR (1.77) exceeded the national rate (1.73) (§3). General Fertility Rates (GFRs) are also low in Tyne & Wear but since 1995 have diverged from the England & Wales rate (§4).

Live Births by Age of Mother:

Fertility rates for women aged over 15 fell in Tyne & Wear between 1995 and 2000, except for women aged 35+ in North Tyneside and Gateshead:

- For females aged 11-15, fertility rates fell between 1993-96 and 1997-2000 in all Districts, sharply in Sunderland (27%) and Gateshead (24%) (§5.1).
- For women aged 16-34 fertility rates fell between 1995 and 2000 by between 5% (Newcastle) and 10% (South Tyneside). This suggests a large number of women are choosing to have fewer children or not to raise a family, possibly in order to pursue careers. Women in this age group have 88% of all births (§5.2).
- For women aged 35+, fertility rates fell marginally in Tyne & Wear between 1995 and 2000. They rose, however, by 9% in North Tyneside and 4% in Gateshead (§5.3).

Live Births by Marital Status:

For the first time, in 2000 the number of births outside of marriage exceeded the number of births within marriage in Tyne & Wear and the North East (§6.2). Between 1995 and 2000, the average proportion of live births within marriage in Tyne & Wear was 11 percentage points below the national average (52%, E&W 63%). The proportion within marriage also declined at a more rapid rate than nationally (down 9 percentage points, E&W down 5 percentage points) (§6.1).

Mortality:

Mortality in Tyne & Wear is high compared to the national average. Between 1995 and 2000, Standardised Mortality Ratios (SMRs) in Tyne & Wear averaged 113 (E&W=100). Between 1995 and 2000, SMRs rose (deteriorated) in all Tyne & Wear districts, except Newcastle which had no improvement. In South Tyneside the SMR rose by 6% (§7).

Deaths by Cause:

Between 1995 and 2000 five causes accounted for 90% of all deaths in Tyne & Wear: circulatory diseases, cancers, respiratory diseases, diseases of the digestive system and injury & poisoning. The major causes were ischaemic heart disease (IHD); pneumonia; trachea, bronchus & lung cancer; chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and suicide & self-inflicted injury.

In Tyne & Wear, in 2000:

- Circulatory diseases are the most common cause of death accounting for 37% of deaths, slightly less than in England & Wales (39%) (§8.1).
- Cancers were more often responsible for deaths (27%), than in England & Wales (25%) (§8.2).

- Respiratory diseases also accounted for more deaths (18%), than in England & Wales (17%). Moreover deaths from respiratory diseases rose in all Tyne & Wear districts (§8.3).
- Diseases of the digestive system caused 5% of deaths (England & Wales 4%). Since 1995 deaths from this cause rose by nearly a quarter in Tyne & Wear (§8.4).
- Deaths caused by injury & poisoning accounted for 3% of deaths at county, regional and national level (§8.5).

'Natural Change' in Population (Live births minus deaths):

In Tyne & Wear, natural change is becoming more negative. Since 1998 the natural change in population of Tyne & Wear has been negative by over 1,000 persons each year. In 1995-1997 it had been half, or less than this (§9). Between 1995 and 2000 the total population of Tyne & Wear fell by 27,400 (-2.4%) (§2). Thus the main cause of population decline remains out-migration, not natural change.

1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents information on long-term trends in fertility and mortality in Tyne & Wear and its constituent Districts. It analyses a six-year data series (1995-2000) and covers fertility amongst women of all ages, those aged 11-15, 16-34 and 35+, and the percentage of live births within and outside of marriage. Mortality rates, major causes of death and natural change (i.e. population change arising from live births and deaths) are also covered. Patterns in Tyne & Wear are compared with regional and national trends.

The source of the data is births and deaths registrations, published annually by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) for Wards, Local Authorities, Health Authorities, Government Office Regions and England & Wales. The data are useful analytically insofar as they are statistically reliable and a long time-series is available.

Total Fertility Rates (TFRs) and General Fertility Rates (GFRs) are reported as key indicators of fertility. TFRs estimate the average number of children women will bear if they experience age-specific fertility rates throughout their childbearing years (aged 15-44 years). TFRs are the most statistically robust measure of fertility as they take into account the age-structure of the female population in reproductive years. GFRs estimate the number of live births per thousand females of childbearing age (aged 15-44 years). These rates fail to take into account the female population age-structure.

Standardised Mortality Rates (SMRs) are the standard measure of mortality. SMRs show how mortality in a given area compares to the national level taking into account differences in age- and sex-structure e.g. an SMR of 115 is 15% above the national average. SMRs have value in that they are age- and sex- specific¹. For example, North Tyneside might have a relatively elderly age-structure. The SMR for the area takes this into account.

Raw data for live births and deaths by Ward in Tyne & Wear are tabled in the Appendices. These data should be treated with some caution as numbers of births and deaths are closely related to population size.

Government Office Regions (GORs) replaced Standard Statistical Regions (SSRs) in 1996. The North East GOR excludes Cumbria. This change prevents direct analyses of regional time-series between 1995 and 2000.

¹ For a more detailed account of the TFR and SMR methodologies refer to *Key Population and Vital Statistics*, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright.

2. MID-YEAR ESTIMATES OF POPULATION

The Registrar General's Mid-Year Estimates, updated year on year from the most recent Census of Population, are used as the base for fertility and mortality rates. Table 1 presents the Mid-Year Estimates for Tyne & Wear, its constituent Districts, the North East GOR and England & Wales between 1995 and 2000.

Within the Tyne & Wear Districts, Sunderland (six-year average 292,600) and Newcastle (six-year average 277,400) have the largest populations. Gateshead (six-year average 199,500) and North Tyneside (six-year average 193,700) have slightly smaller populations and South Tyneside has the smallest population (six-year average 154,800).

The population of Tyne & Wear fell between 1995 and 2000 by 27,400 (-2.4%). Population in all the Tyne & Wear Districts, with the exception of North Tyneside, declined during 1995-2000. Population in Newcastle fell by 4%, whilst in Gateshead, Sunderland and South Tyneside it fell by 2%. Population in North Tyneside remained stable.

Table 1: Total Population

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Average
Gateshead	201,800	201,000	200,200	198,900	198,100	196,900	199,500
Newcastle	283,100	282,300	279,500	276,100	273,000	270,500	277,400
North Tyneside	193,900	193,600	193,300	194,000	193,200	194,000	193,700
South Tyneside	156,300	156,100	155,400	154,600	153,500	152,700	154,800
Sunderland	295,800	294,300	293,000	292,300	290,700	289,500	292,600
Tyne & Wear	1,131,000	1,127,300	1,121,400	1,115,800	1,108,500	1,103,600	1,117,900
North East GOR	2,605,100	2,600,500	2,594,400	2,589,600	2,579,000	2,577,300	2,591,000
England & Wales	51,820,200	52,010,200	52,211,200	52,427,900	52,689,900	52,943,300	52,350,500

Source: Register General's Mid-Year Estimates, ONS, Crown Copyright

Between 1995 and 2000, the female population aged 15-44 fell slightly more quickly, than the overall population. Table 2, shows the female population aged 15-44 (used as the base for fertility rates). Newcastle (six-year average 61,800) and Sunderland (61,100) have the largest populations of women of childbearing age. Gateshead (40,800) and North Tyneside (39,300) have smaller populations and South Tyneside has the smallest average population of 30,600.

The child-bearing population, females aged 15-44, declined steadily in all Districts between 1995 and 2000, with the exception of North Tyneside. In Newcastle the child-bearing population declined by 5%, in Sunderland it fell by 4%, in South Tyneside it fell by 3%, and in Gateshead by 2%. The female population aged 15-44 in North Tyneside remained stable.

Table 2: Female Population Aged 15-44*

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Average
Gateshead	41,300	41,100	41,000	40,600	40,500	40,300	40,800
Newcastle	63,400	63,100	62,200	61,100	60,700	60,100	61,800
North Tyneside	39,300	39,200	39,100	39,300	39,200	39,400	39,300
South Tyneside	31,100	30,900	30,800	30,400	30,200	30,100	30,600
Sunderland	62,500	61,800	61,100	60,700	60,400	60,100	61,100
Tyne & Wear	237,600	236,200	234,100	232,200	231,000	229,900	233,500
North East GOR	538,900	536,100	532,600	529,800	527,128	525,658	531,700
England & Wales	10,728,600	10,741,200	10,754,100	11,226,100	10,795,848	10,851,300	10,849,500

Source: Register General's Mid-Year Estimates, ONS, Crown Copyright

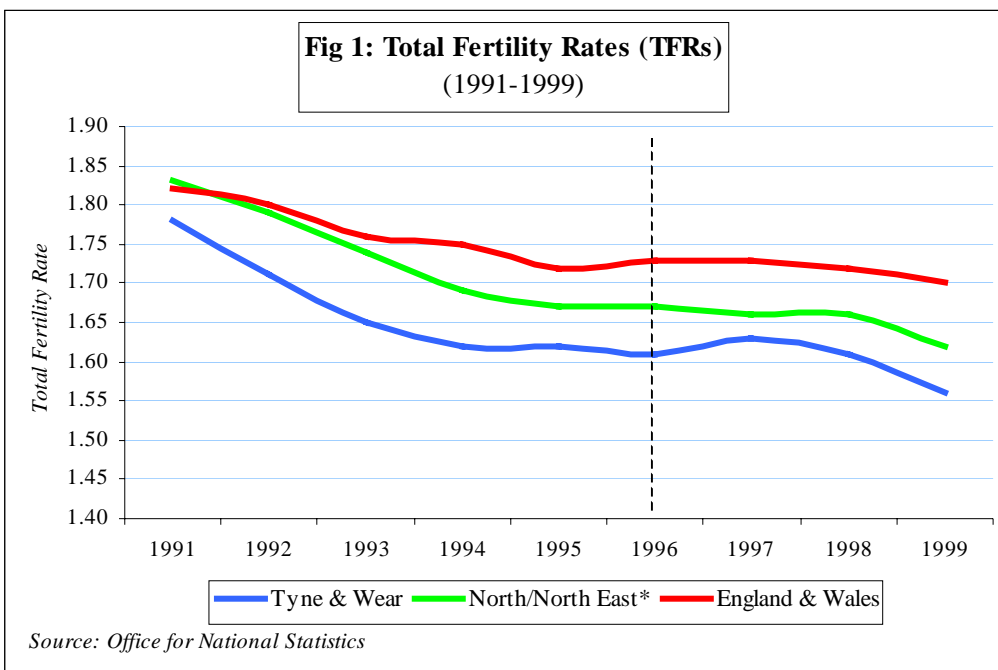
* the child-bearing population.

3. TOTAL FERTILITY RATES (TFRs)

Total Fertility Rates (TFRs) are a standard measure of fertility. TFRs represent the average number of live births a woman will bear throughout her lifetime. They are the most statistically robust measure of fertility, as they take into account the population age structure of women in their reproductive years. Data for 2000 are currently unavailable, therefore TFRs between 1994 and 1999 are considered.

Figure 1, displaying TFRs during 1991-1999, reveals both persistently low TFRs for Tyne & Wear and a widening gap relative to England & Wales. TFRs in Tyne & Wear averaged 1.61 during 1994-99, whereas in England & Wales the average was 1.73. Fertility in Tyne & Wear has been persistently lower than in the region (Northern Region until 1995, thereafter North East).

Between 1994 and 1999, fertility in the County (-4%) declined at a similar rate to that experienced nationally (-3%).



* Note: Government Office regions (GORs), in this case the North East, replaced Standard Statistical Regions (SSRs) in 1996. The North East GOR excludes Cumbria.

Since 1994, fertility rates in three Districts have tended to converge towards the England & Wales rate (Figure 2 and Table 3). This happened in Gateshead, North Tyneside and especially Newcastle. In South Tyneside, by contrast fertility has risen slightly higher than in England & Wales, although fluctuations were more pronounced (six-year average TFR of 1.77, E&W 1.73). Fertility in Newcastle (six-year average 1.55) was markedly lower than the national rate from 1992-96. Since 1996 Newcastle's fertility has sharply converged. TFRs were also below the national rate in North Tyneside (1.66), Sunderland (1.66) and Gateshead (1.64).

Between 1994 and 1999, TFRs declined in Gateshead (-1%) and Sunderland (-3%). By contrast, TFRs rose in Newcastle (+5%), South Tyneside (+3%) and North Tyneside (+2%).

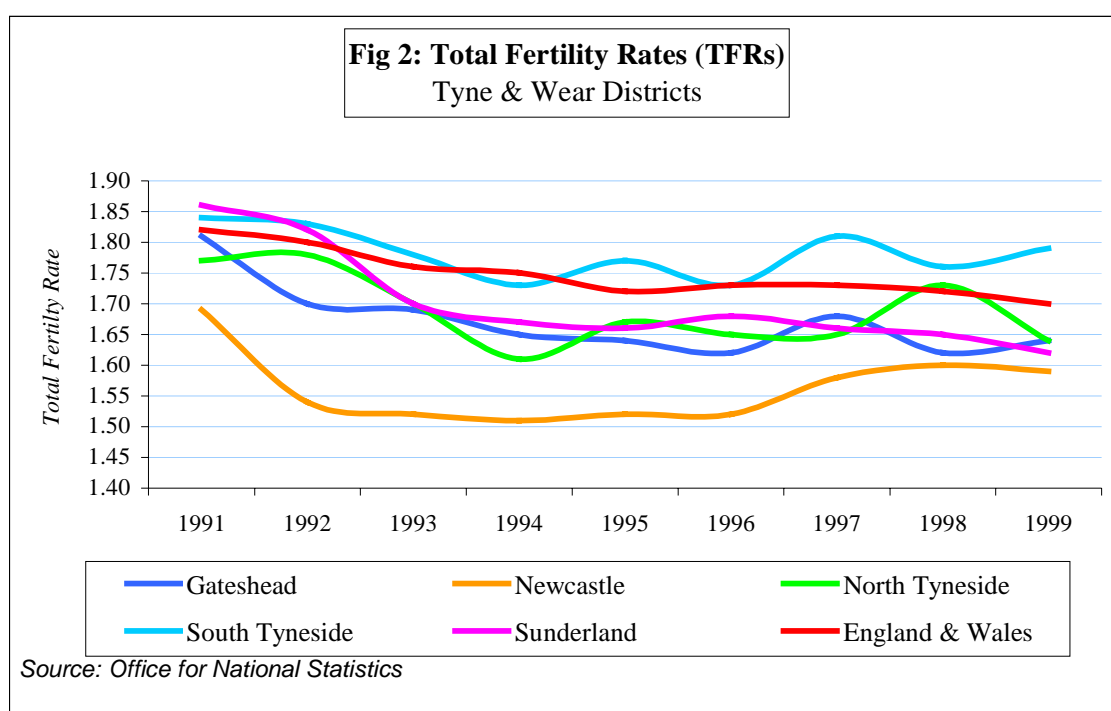


Table 3: Total Fertility Rates (TFRs)

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	Average
Gateshead	1.65	1.64	1.62	1.68	1.62	1.64	1.64
Newcastle	1.51	1.52	1.52	1.58	1.60	1.59	1.55
North Tyneside	1.61	1.67	1.65	1.65	1.73	1.64	1.66
South Tyneside	1.73	1.77	1.73	1.81	1.76	1.79	1.77
Sunderland	1.67	1.66	1.68	1.66	1.65	1.62	1.66
Tyne & Wear	1.62	1.62	1.61	1.63	1.61	1.56	1.61
North/North East	1.69	1.67	1.67	1.66	1.66	1.62	1.66
England & Wales	1.75	1.72	1.73	1.73	1.72	1.70	1.73

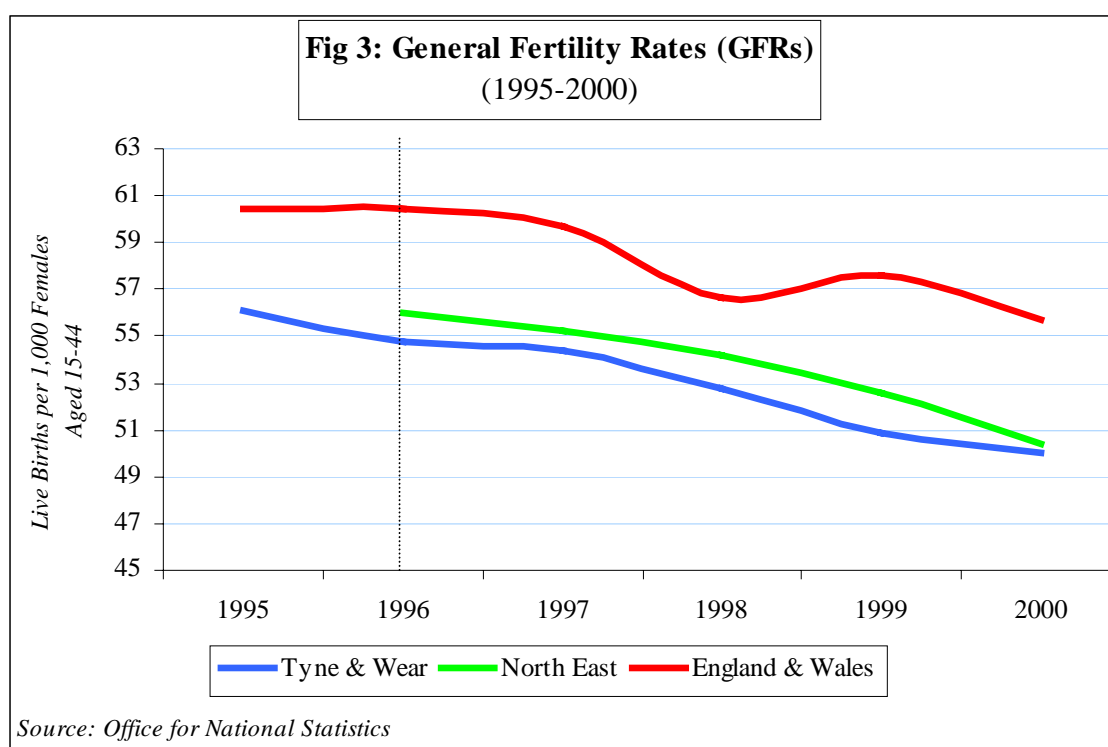
Source: Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright

4. GENERAL FERTILITY RATES (GFRs)

General Fertility Rates (GFRs) are another standard measure of fertility. These rates calculate the number of live births per thousand females of child-bearing age (15-44). They are less robust than TFRs as they fail to account for age structure.

Similar to TFRs, GFRs show fertility in Tyne & Wear to be below national and regional rates (Figure 3 and Table 4). Between 1995 and 2000, the average GFR in Tyne & Wear was 53, whereas in England & Wales the six-year average was 58.

Moreover, between 1995 and 2000 the decline in GFRs in Tyne & Wear (-11%) was greater than that experienced nationally (-8%).



At District level, GFRs were lower in all Tyne & Wear Districts than the national rate (Figure 4 & Table 4). GFRs were particularly low in Newcastle (six-year average of 50, E&W 59). Although average GFRs for Sunderland (53), North Tyneside (54), Gateshead (54) and South Tyneside (56) were higher, rates also remained below the national rate.

Between 1995 and 2000 GFRs in all Districts fell, with the rate of decline in all Districts exceeding the national rate of decline (of -8%). South Tyneside's rate of decline was greatest (-16%). The decline was slower in Sunderland (-12%), Gateshead (-10%), Newcastle (-9%) and North Tyneside (-9%).

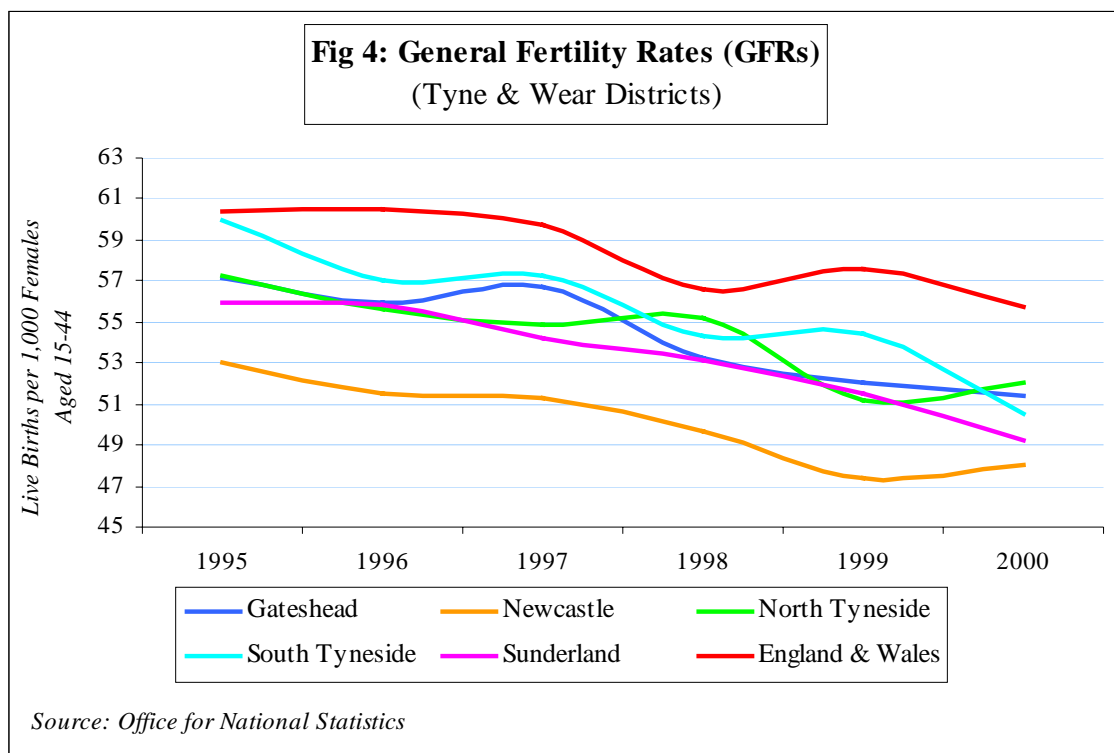


Table 4: General Fertility Rates (GFRs)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Average
Gateshead	57	56	57	53	52	51	54
Newcastle	53	51	51	50	47	48	50
North Tyneside	57	56	55	55	51	52	54
South Tyneside	60	57	57	54	54	51	56
Sunderland	56	56	54	53	52	49	53
Tyne & Wear	56	55	54	53	51	50	53
North East	n.a.	56	55	54	53	50	54
England & Wales	60	60	60	57	58	56	59

Source: Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright

5. LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE OF MOTHER

Between 1995 and 2000, the average number of births per annum in Tyne & Wear was 12,412. Live births by age of mother cover three standard age groups: 11-15, 16-34 and 35+.

5.1 Mothers Aged 11-15

Between 1995 and 2000, on average the youngest mothers had 52 live births per year in Tyne & Wear, 0.4% of the total births (Table 5). Given the very low numbers, fertility rates for females aged 11-15 fluctuated considerably in most Tyne & Wear Districts (Figure 5). In Sunderland, the six-year average rate of 1.7 live births per 1,000 females aged 11-15 was the highest of all Tyne & Wear Districts. Newcastle had the next highest average fertility rate of 1.5 live births per 1,000 females aged 11-15. South Tyneside (1.4), North Tyneside (1.4) and Gateshead (1.2) had lower average rates.

Between 1993-1996 and 1997-2000 the trend was downwards. The average fertility rate for females aged 11-15 fell in all Tyne & Wear Districts. Their fertility rates fell most substantially in Sunderland (-27%) and Gateshead (-24%). Smaller decreases were apparent in Newcastle (-12%), whilst fertility rates remained relatively stable in North Tyneside (-2%) and South Tyneside (-0.1%).

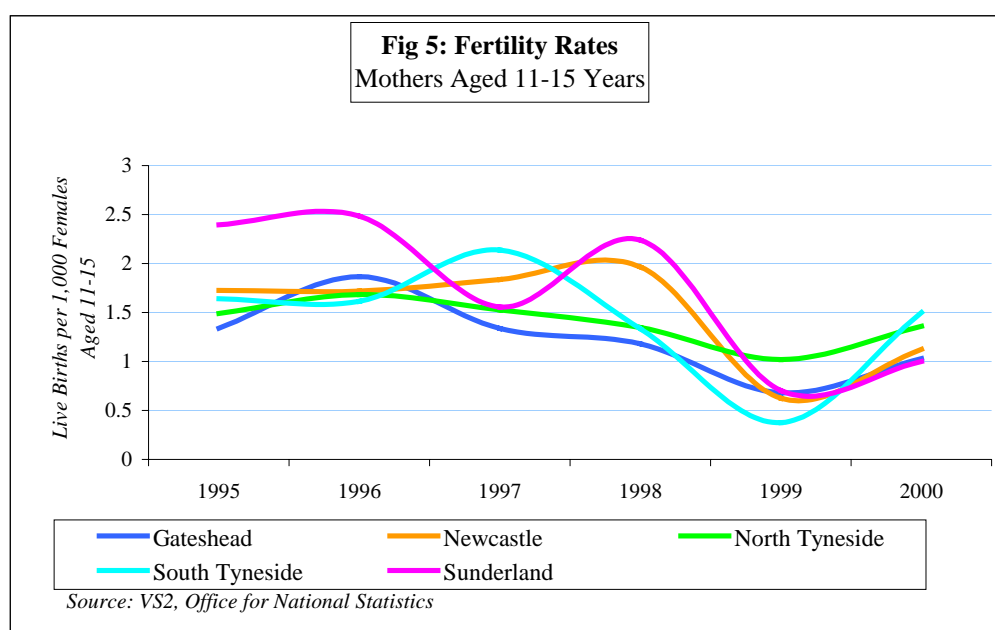
The number of live births to mothers aged 11-15 in Tyne & Wear fell sharply in 1999 to only 24, but rose sharply in 2000 to 41.

Table 5: Live Births (Mothers Aged 11-15)

	1995		1996		1997		1998		1999		2000		Average	
	no.	rate	no.	rate	no.	rate	no.	rate	no.	rate	no.	rate	no.	rate*
Gateshead	8	1.3	11	1.9	8	1.3	7	1.2	4	0.7	6	1.0	7	1.2
Newcastle	14	1.7	14	1.7	15	1.8	16	2.0	5	0.6	9	1.1	12	1.5
North Tyneside	9	1.5	10	1.7	9	1.5	8	1.3	6	1.0	8	1.4	8	1.4
South Tyneside	8	1.6	8	1.6	11	2.1	7	1.3	2	0.4	8	1.5	7	1.4
Sunderland	23	2.4	24	2.5	15	1.6	22	2.2	7	0.7	10	1.0	17	1.7
Tyne & Wear	62	1.8	67	1.9	58	1.7	60	1.7	24	0.7	41	1.2	52	1.5

Source: VS2, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright

* Note: The rate is calculated as the number of live births per 1,000 females aged 11-15 years.



Note: Births average about 10 per District per year.

5.2 Mothers Aged 16-34

The vast majority of births (88%) are to women aged 16-34, averaging 10,962 per year between 1995 and 2000 (Table 6).

Between 1995 and 2000, fertility rates for women aged 16-34 were highest in South Tyneside (six-year average rate of 83 live births per 1,000 women aged 16-34). North Tyneside and Sunderland had the slightly lower rate of 78 births per 1,000 women aged 16-34, whilst Gateshead's average rate was 77. Fertility in Newcastle was substantially lower, averaging 66 (Table 6 and Figure 6).

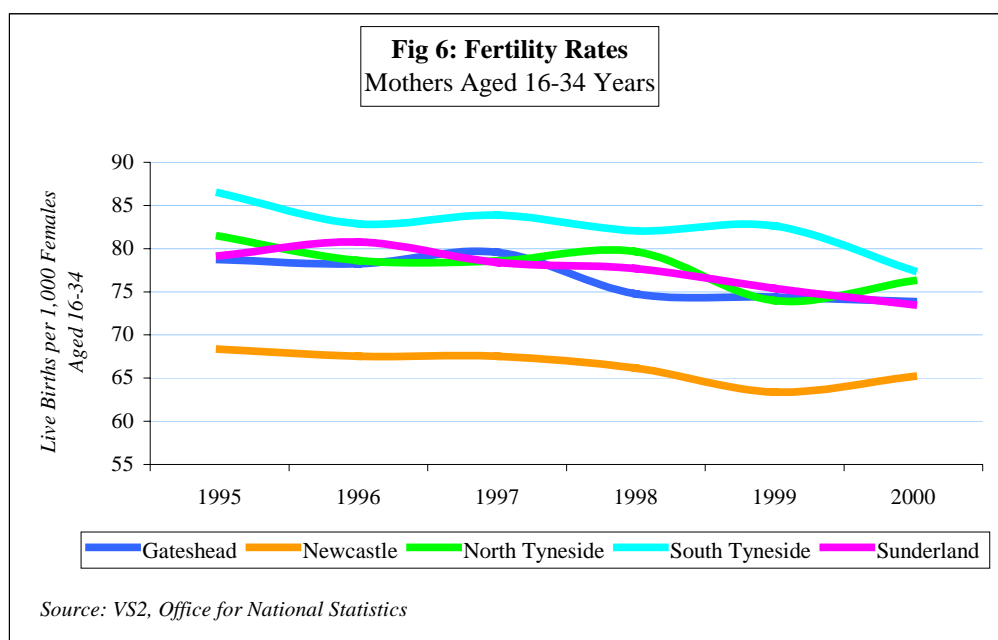
Fertility rates declined between 1995 and 2000 for women aged 16-34 by 10% in South Tyneside, 7% in Sunderland, 6% in Gateshead and North Tyneside, and 5% in Newcastle. This decline in rates is most likely to be the effect of a large number of women choosing to have fewer children, or choosing not to raise families, possibly in order to pursue careers.

Table 6: Live Births (Mothers Aged 16-34)

	1995		1996		1997		1998		1999		2000		Average	
	no.	rate	no.	rate	no.	rate	no.	rate	no.	rate	no.	rate	no.	rate
Gateshead	2,114	78.7	2,074	78.2	2,069	79.6	1,893	74.8	1,838	74.4	1,786	73.9	1,962	76.7
Newcastle	2,952	68.3	2,864	67.5	2,762	67.5	2,605	66.2	2,464	63.4	2,484	65.2	2,689	66.4
North Tyneside	1,989	81.4	1,903	78.6	1,878	78.6	1,888	79.6	1,716	74.0	1,756	76.3	1,855	78.1
South Tyneside	1,685	86.5	1,585	82.9	1,561	83.9	1,484	82.1	1,457	82.6	1,324	77.5	1,516	82.7
Sunderland	3,162	79.2	3,151	80.8	2,992	78.4	2,906	77.7	2,774	75.4	2,654	73.5	2,940	77.6
Tyne & Wear	11,902	77.3	11,577	76.5	11,262	76.3	10,776	74.9	10,249	72.6	10,004	72.2	10,962	75.1

Source: VS2, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright

Note: The rate is calculated as the number of live births per 1,000 women aged 16-34 years.



5.3 Mothers Aged 35+

Live births by mothers aged 35 or over accounted for 11.3% of all births between 1995 and 2000 in Tyne & Wear. Between 1995 and 2000, Newcastle had relatively high fertility rates for women aged 35+, averaging 20 live births per 1,000 women aged 35-44 (Figure 7 and Table 7). By contrast, Sunderland (14) and South Tyneside (16) had low average rates. North Tyneside (19) and Gateshead (18) had average rates slightly below Newcastle.

Between 1995 and 2000, fertility rates for the 35+ fell slightly in Tyne & Wear. They rose in North Tyneside (+9%) and Gateshead (+4%). By contrast, fertility rates for women aged 35+ fell in Sunderland (-12%), Newcastle (-9%) and South Tyneside (-2%). Falls in fertility rates for this age group are most likely the effect of women choosing not to raise a family or to have fewer children than previously, possibly in order to establish careers.

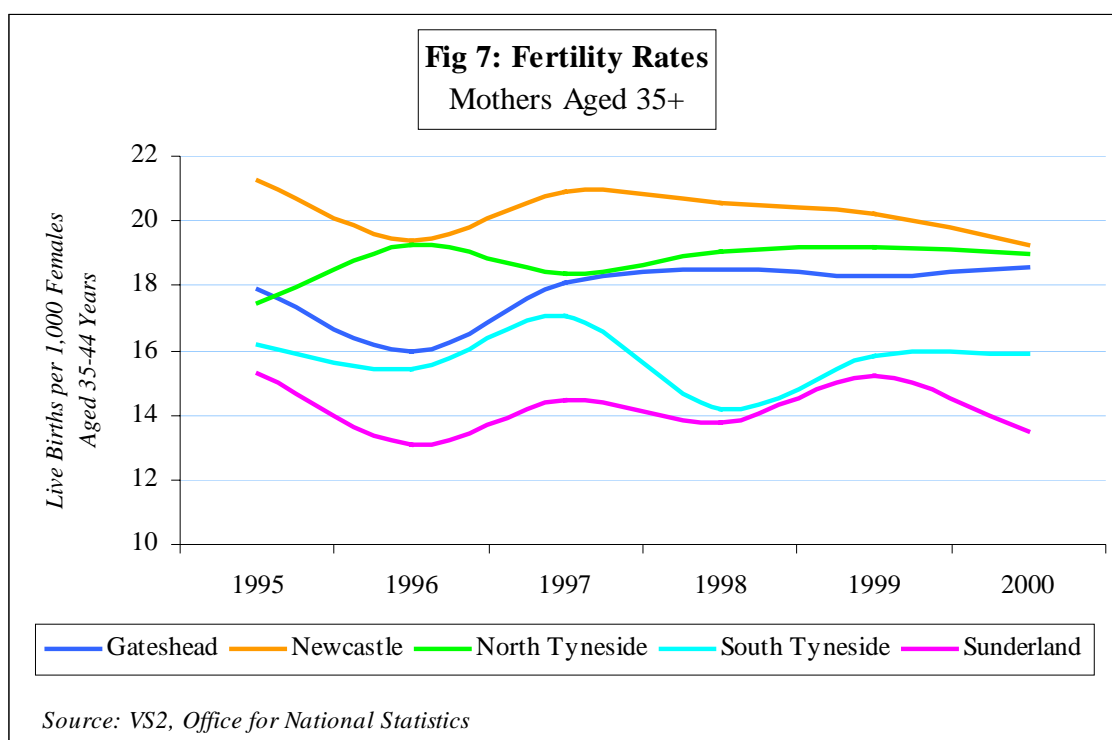


Table 7: Live Births (Mothers Aged 35+)

	1995		1996		1997		1998		1999		2000		Average	
	no.	rate	no.	rate	no.	rate	no.	rate	no.	rate	no.	rate	no.	rate
Gateshead	237	17.9	215	16.0	250	18.1	262	18.5	267	18.3	278	18.6	252	17.9
Newcastle	394	21.3	371	19.4	411	20.9	413	20.6	410	20.2	394	19.3	399	20.3
North Tyneside	238	17.4	266	19.3	258	18.4	275	19.0	284	19.2	288	19.0	268	18.7
South Tyneside	171	16.1	168	15.4	191	17.1	162	14.2	184	15.8	189	15.9	178	15.8
Sunderland	315	15.3	273	13.1	304	14.4	295	13.8	330	15.2	296	13.5	302	14.2
Tyne & Wear	1,355	17.7	1,293	16.6	1,414	17.7	1,407	17.3	1,475	17.8	1,445	17.1	1,398	17.4

Source: VS2, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright

Note: The rate is calculated as the number of live births per 1,000 females aged 35-44 years.

6. LIVE BIRTHS BY MARITAL STATUS

In 2000, for the first time, the majority of births in Tyne & Wear (52%) and the North East (51%) were outside marriage.

6.1 Live Births Within Marriage

Between 1995 and 2000, the average percentage of live births within marriage in Tyne & Wear was markedly lower than in England & Wales. Tyne & Wear was 11 percentage points below the national average (52%, E&W 63%) (Table 8 and Figure 8), with the proportion declining at a more rapid rate (down 9 percentage points) than in England & Wales (down 5 percentage points).

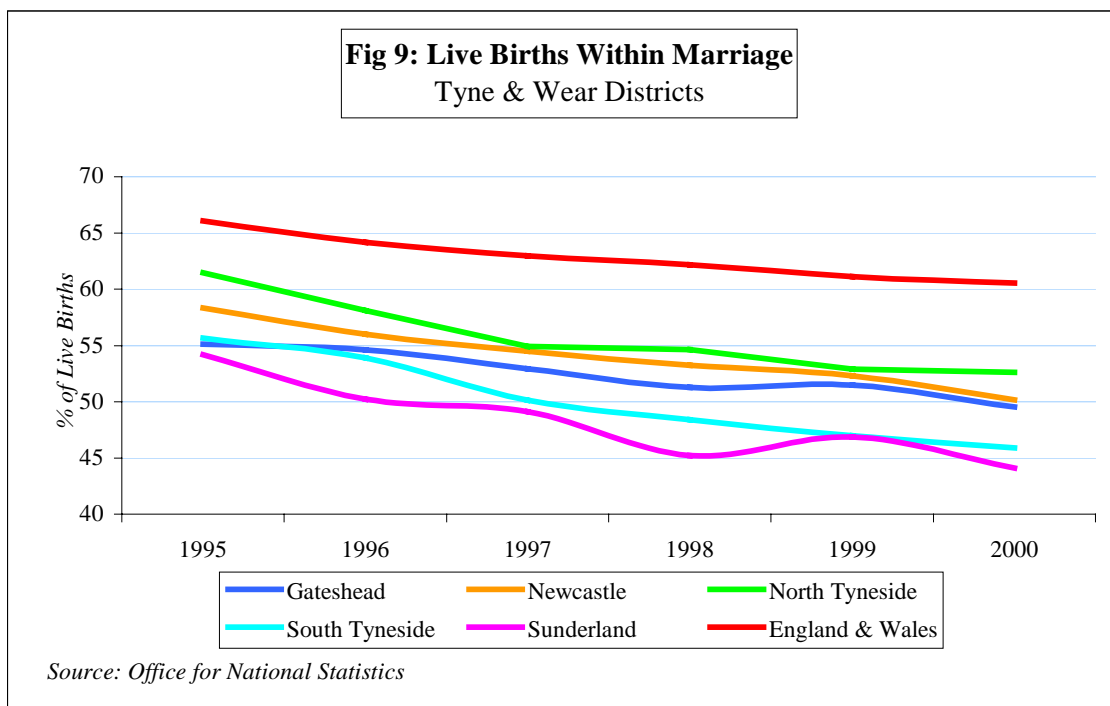
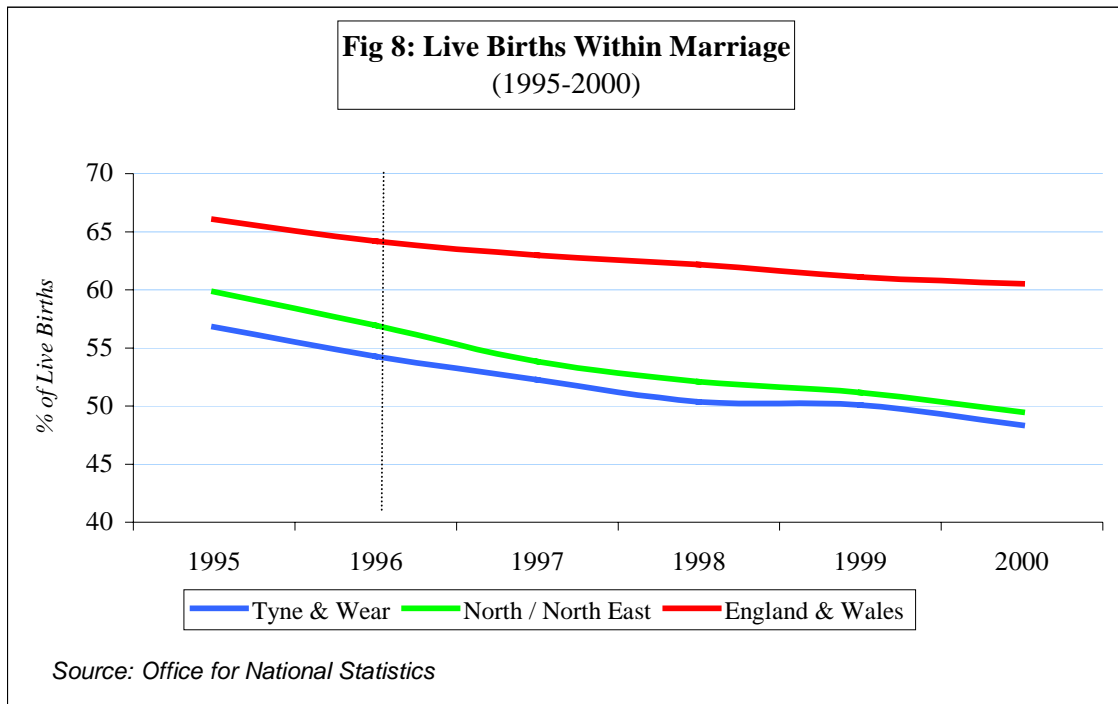
The proportion of live births within marriage between 1995 and 2000 was lower in all Tyne & Wear Districts than the national average. North Tyneside had the highest average proportion of live births within marriage, at 56%. This was still, however, 7 percentage points below the national average. The proportion of live births within marriage in Newcastle (54%) and Gateshead (54%) were slightly lower. South Tyneside (50%) and Sunderland (48%) had the lowest averages (Table 8 and Figure 9).

The proportion of live births within marriage fell in all Tyne & Wear Districts between 1995 and 2000. The largest fall of 10 percentage points was seen in South Tyneside and Sunderland. In Newcastle and North Tyneside the proportion fell by 8 points. Gateshead showed the most moderate decline of 5 percentage points.

Table 8: Percentage of Live Births Within Marriage

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Average
Gateshead	55	55	53	51	51	50	53
Newcastle	58	56	54	53	52	50	54
North Tyneside	61	58	55	55	53	53	56
South Tyneside	56	54	50	48	47	46	50
Sunderland	54	50	49	45	47	44	48
Tyne & Wear	57	54	52	50	50	48	52
North / North East	60	57	54	52	51	49	n.a
England & Wales	66	64	63	62	61	61	63

Source: VSI, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright



6.2 Live Births Outside of Marriage

In 2000, the number of births outside of marriage exceeded the number of births within marriage for the first time, in both Tyne & Wear and the North East.

Between 1995 and 2000, the average proportion of live births outside of marriage in Tyne & Wear was 48%; 11 percentage points above the national average (E&W 37%) (Table 9 and Figure 10). The proportion rose by 9 percentage points in Tyne & Wear and 5 percentage points in England & Wales during this period.

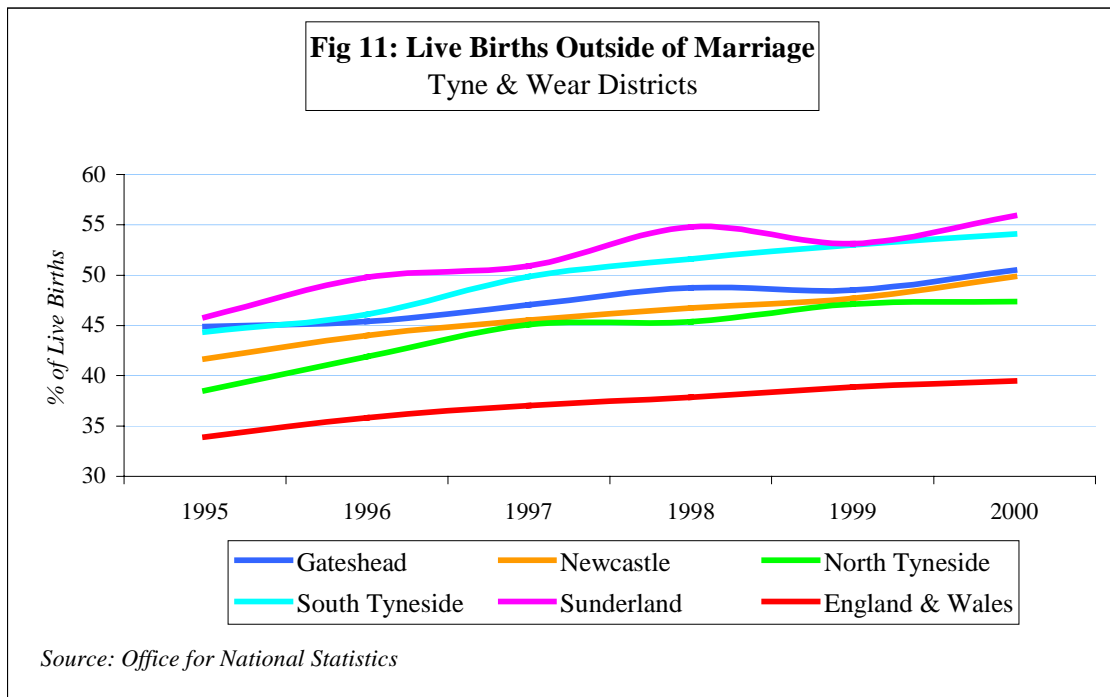
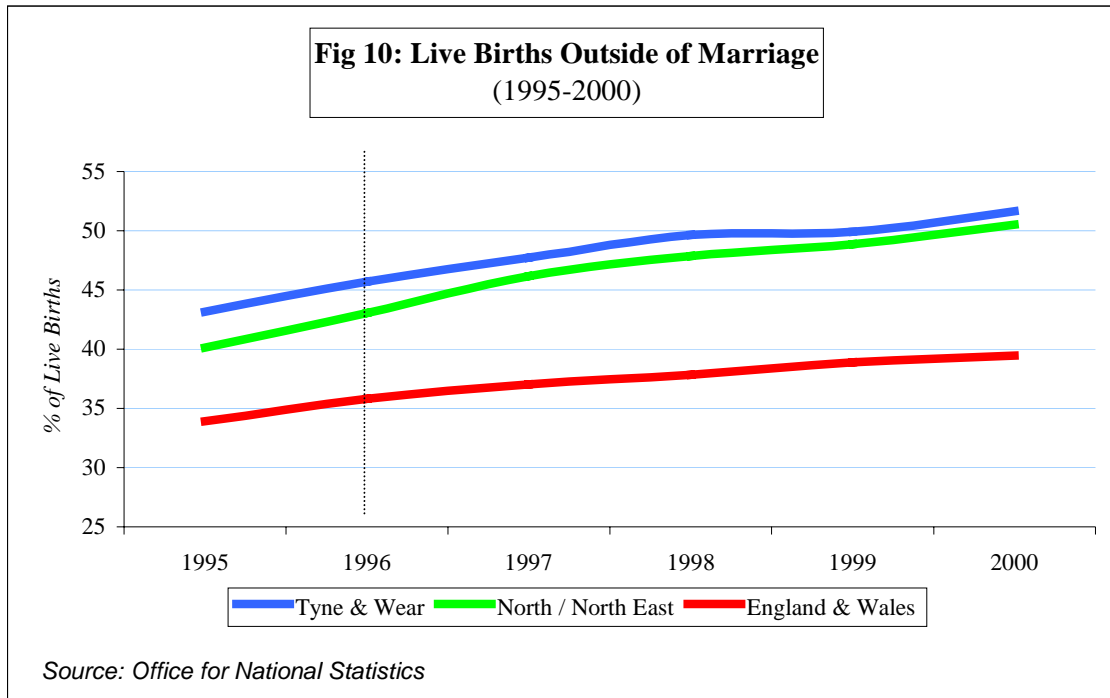
At District-level, Sunderland (6-year average of 52%) and South Tyneside (average of 50%) had by far the largest proportions of live births outside of marriage. Gateshead (47%) and Newcastle (46%) had lower average proportions. North Tyneside had the smallest proportion, at 44% (Table 9 and Figure 11).

The proportion of live births outside of marriage increased in all Tyne & Wear Districts between 1995 and 2000. South Tyneside and Sunderland showed the largest increases of 10 percentage points. In North Tyneside and Newcastle the proportion rose by 8 points. Gateshead showed a relatively moderate rise of 5 points.

Table 9: Percentage of Live Births Outside of Marriage

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Average
Gateshead	45	45	47	49	49	50	47
Newcastle	42	44	46	47	48	50	46
North Tyneside	39	42	45	45	47	47	44
South Tyneside	44	46	50	52	53	54	50
Sunderland	46	50	51	55	53	56	52
Tyne & Wear	43	46	48	50	50	52	48
North / North East	40	43	46	48	49	51	n.a
England & Wales	34	36	37	38	39	39	37

Source: VSI, Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright



7. STANDARDISED MORTALITY RATIOS (SMRs)

Standardised Mortality Ratios (SMRs) are calculated as (observed deaths/expected deaths) x 100, where expected deaths are the number that would occur if the population of an area experienced age and sex mortality rates of England & Wales².

Table 10 and Figure 12 reveal extremely high mortality ratios for both Tyne & Wear and the region relative to the nation. In Tyne & Wear, SMRs fluctuated between 1995 and 2000, but averaged 113. SMRs in the region follow a broadly similar pattern to the County.

Between 1995 and 2000, SMRs varied between the Tyne & Wear Districts (Figure 13 and Table 10). In North Tyneside, the six-year average SMR was 106 (6 points above the national average). This was low relative to the other Districts. The average SMR in Newcastle was 112 and 113 in South Tyneside. In Gateshead (118) and Sunderland (117) the average SMRs were higher.

Between 1995 and 2000, SMRs rose (deteriorated) in all the Tyne & Wear districts except Newcastle, which was unchanged. The most significant increase was in South Tyneside (+6%). SMRs rose by 3% in Sunderland, by 2% in Gateshead and by 1% in North Tyneside.

SMRs for 2000 for all Districts in England are, as yet, unavailable. Therefore SMRs for 1999 are considered. SMRs probably correlate more with poverty than with heavy industry. In 1999, the North East (112) had the highest SMR of all the English regions, the lowest region was the South West (90). At district level Manchester had the highest SMR in England (127), whilst East Dorset had the lowest SMR of 75. Compared to other urban / industrialised areas of England, Tyne & Wear had a typical SMR (112). Such areas as Manchester (127), Liverpool (126) and Corby (118) had SMRs higher than Tyne & Wear, whilst areas such as Birmingham (104), Nottinghamshire (101) and Sheffield (99) had significantly lower SMRs. It is notable that areas with more widespread experience of coal-mining, such as Nottinghamshire, or a history of heavy industry (Sheffield) had much better SMRs than Tyne & Wear.

Table 10: Standard Mortality Rates (SMRs)

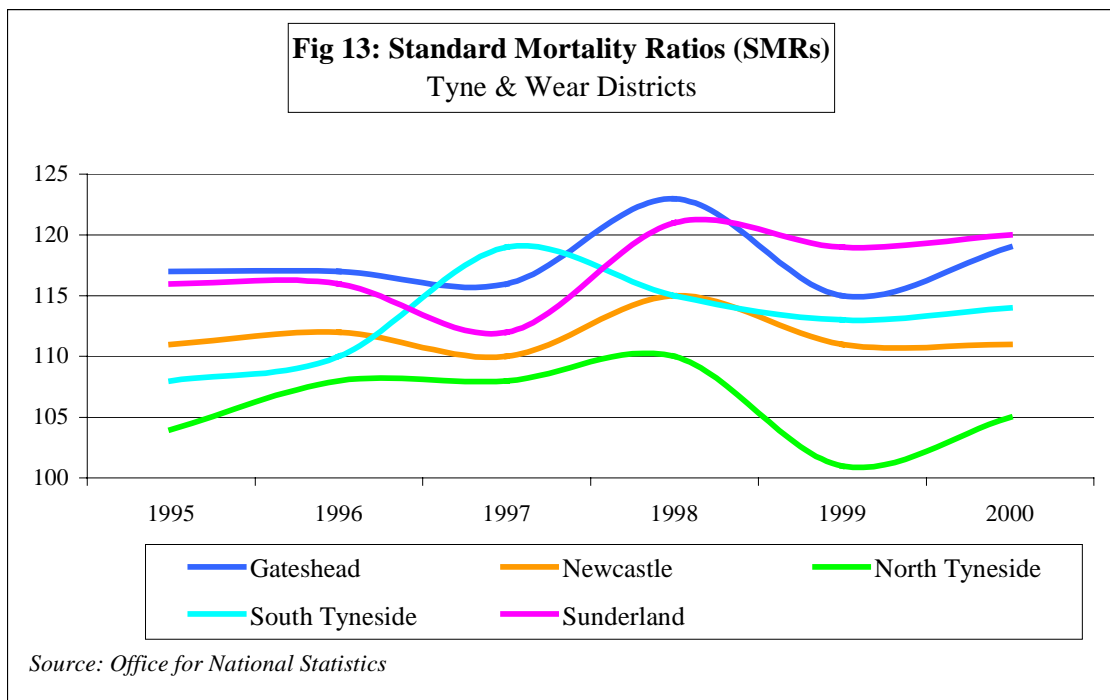
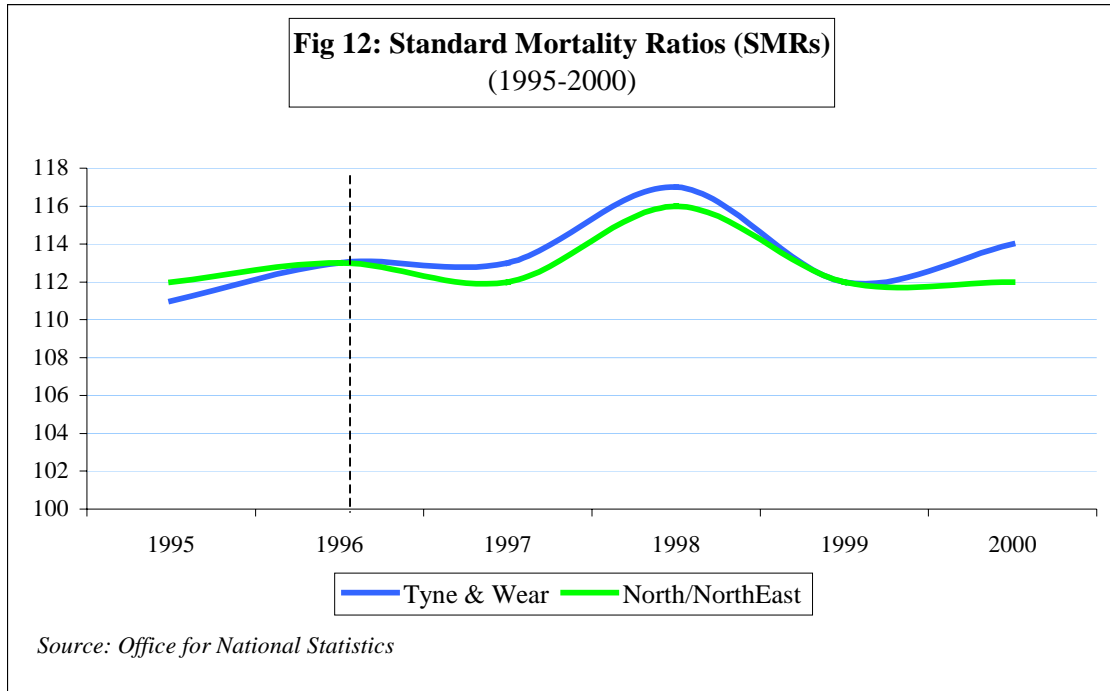
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Average
Gateshead	117	117	116	123	115	119	118
Newcastle	111	112	110	115	111	111	112
North Tyneside	104	108	108	110	101	105	106
South Tyneside	108	110	119	115	113	114	113
Sunderland	116	116	112	121	119	120	117
Tyne & Wear	111	113	113	117	112	114	113
North/NorthEast	112	113	112	116	112	112	n.a.
England & Wales *	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Key Population and Vital Statistics, ONS, Crown Copyright

Note: 1995 figure is for the North, 1996-2000 figures are for the North East.

*England & Wales is the national standard for 1995 and 1996. Thereafter the standard also includes figures for "Elsewhere", defined as those people who are not residents of England & Wales, but unfortunately died whilst visiting England & Wales.

² As defined in 'Key Population and Vital Statistics 1999', Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright. See also Introduction to this report (§1).



8. DEATHS BY CAUSE

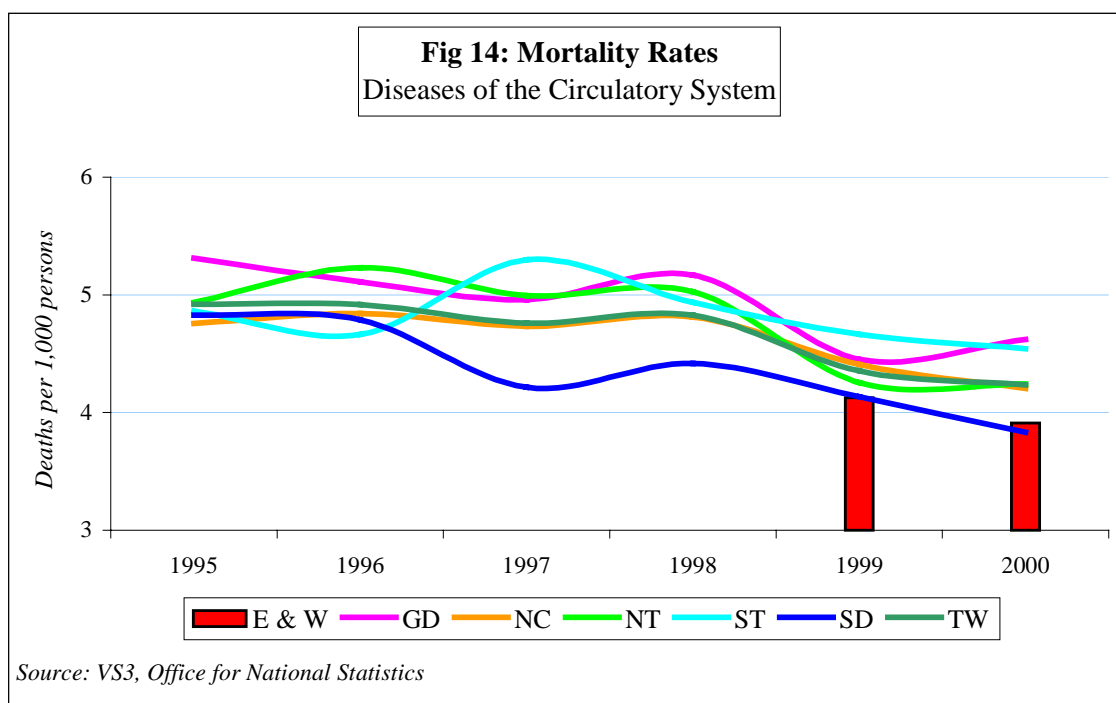
Circulatory diseases, cancers, respiratory diseases, diseases of the digestive system and injury & poisoning were the largest causes of death in Tyne & Wear between 1995 and 2000. These five causes account for 90% of all deaths in 2000. The total number of deaths, from all causes, in 2000 was 12,710.

8.1 Circulatory Diseases

In 2000, circulatory diseases (failure of the heart and blood vessels) accounted for 37% (4,700) of all deaths in Tyne & Wear. In the North East 38% of all deaths were attributed to circulatory diseases, whilst in England & Wales the figure was slightly higher at 39%. The Public Health Observatory³ states that “the North East has the highest *premature* death rate [i.e. under 75 years] from circulatory diseases in the country” [England]. (TWRI’s italics).

Circulatory diseases were by far the largest causes of death in Tyne & Wear between 1995 and 2000. Rates were highest in Gateshead (six-year average of 4.9 deaths per 1,000 persons) (Figure 14). North Tyneside and South Tyneside had slightly lower average rates of 4.8 deaths per 1,000 persons, whilst Newcastle had an average rate of 4.6. Sunderland had the lowest rate of 4.4 deaths per 1,000 persons.

The number of deaths caused by circulatory diseases fell by 16% (-890 deaths) in Tyne & Wear Districts, between 1995-2000. The largest declines in mortality rates were apparent in Sunderland (-21%), North Tyneside (-14%) and Gateshead (-13%). Mortality rates fell at a slower rate in Newcastle (-12%) and South Tyneside (-7%).



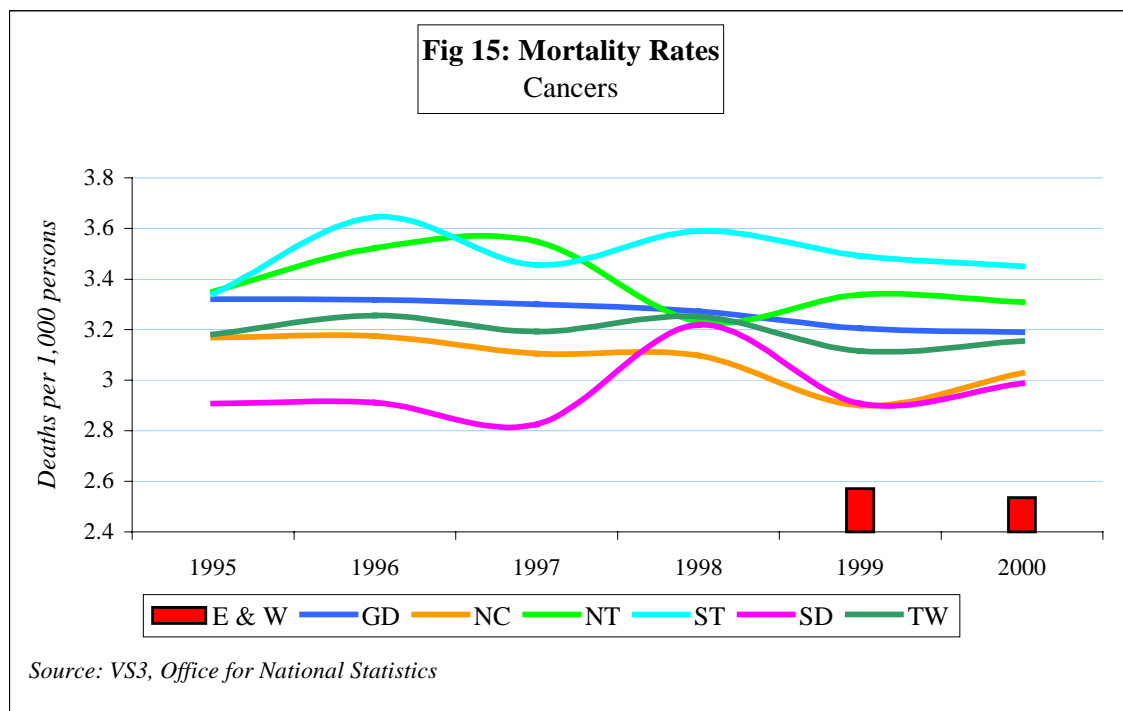
³Northern & Yorkshire Public Health Observatory. 'Towards a Healthier North East: A Profile of Health and its Determinants in the North East of England'

8.2 Cancers

In 2000, 27% (3,500) of all deaths in Tyne & Wear were due to cancers, as in the North East. This is slightly more than for England & Wales (25%). Death rates from cancers in all Tyne & Wear Districts are well above the average for England & Wales. The Public Health Observatory notes that “the North East has the highest premature [under 75 years] death rate in the country from all cancers. The rate is significantly higher than for the nation as a whole and than all other Government Office regions”. It also notes that “The overall [cancer] death rate is falling but the incidence (the number of cases) is increasing as the population gets older”.

Cancers, were the second largest cause of death in Tyne & Wear between 1995 and 2000. Mortality rates were highest in South Tyneside (six-year average of 3.5 per 1,000 persons) and North Tyneside (six-year average 3.3 deaths per 1,000 persons) (Figure 15). Gateshead had a slightly lower average mortality rate of 3.2 deaths per 1,000 persons. In Newcastle and Sunderland the average rate was 3.0 deaths per 1,000 persons.

Cancer mortality rates declined in Gateshead (-4%), Newcastle (-4%) and North Tyneside (-1%) between 1995 and 2000. In South Tyneside and Sunderland mortality rates due to cancers increased by 3%.

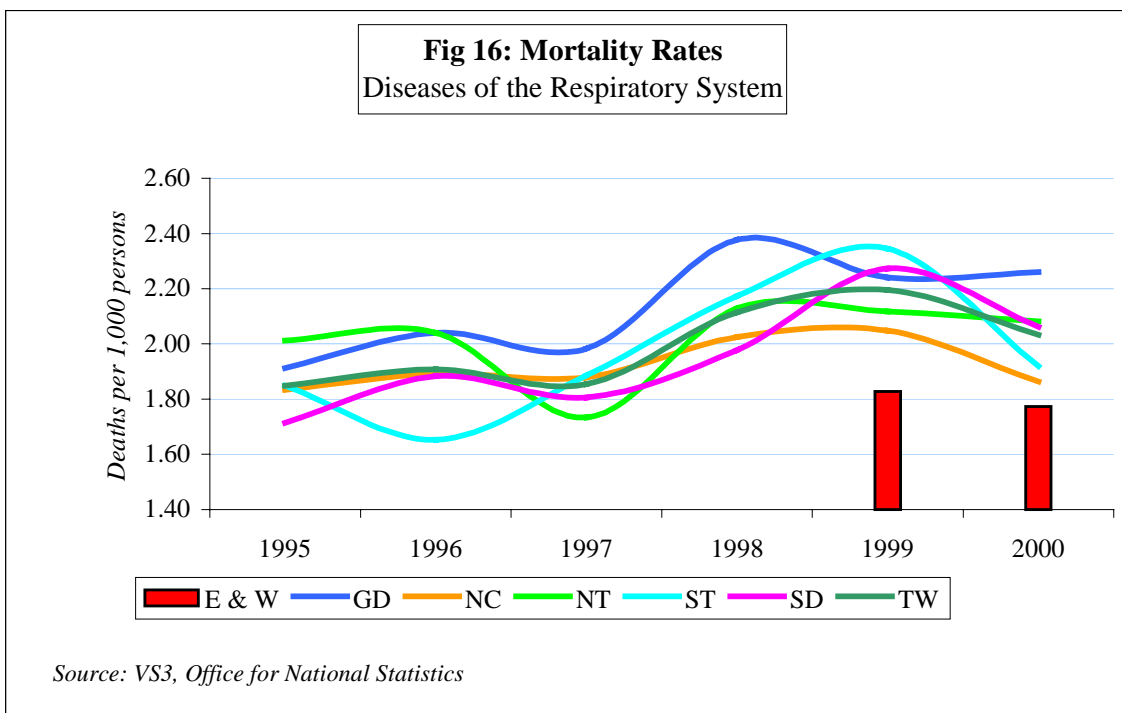


8.3 Respiratory Diseases

In 2000, 17% of all deaths in the North East and England & Wales were as a result of respiratory diseases. In Tyne & Wear this figure was one percentage point higher.

Respiratory diseases (for example pneumonia, bronchitis and emphysema) were the third largest cause of death in Tyne & Wear between 1995-2000. Mortality rates were highest in Gateshead (six-year average of 2.1 deaths per 1,000 persons). North Tyneside, South Tyneside and Sunderland had mortality rates of 2.0, whilst Newcastle had the lowest rate of 1.9 deaths per 1,000 persons (Figure 16).

Mortality rates for diseases of the respiratory system rose in all Tyne & Wear districts, especially in Gateshead (+18%) and Sunderland (+20%). By contrast, rises were small in Newcastle (+2%), North Tyneside (+4%) and South Tyneside (+4%).



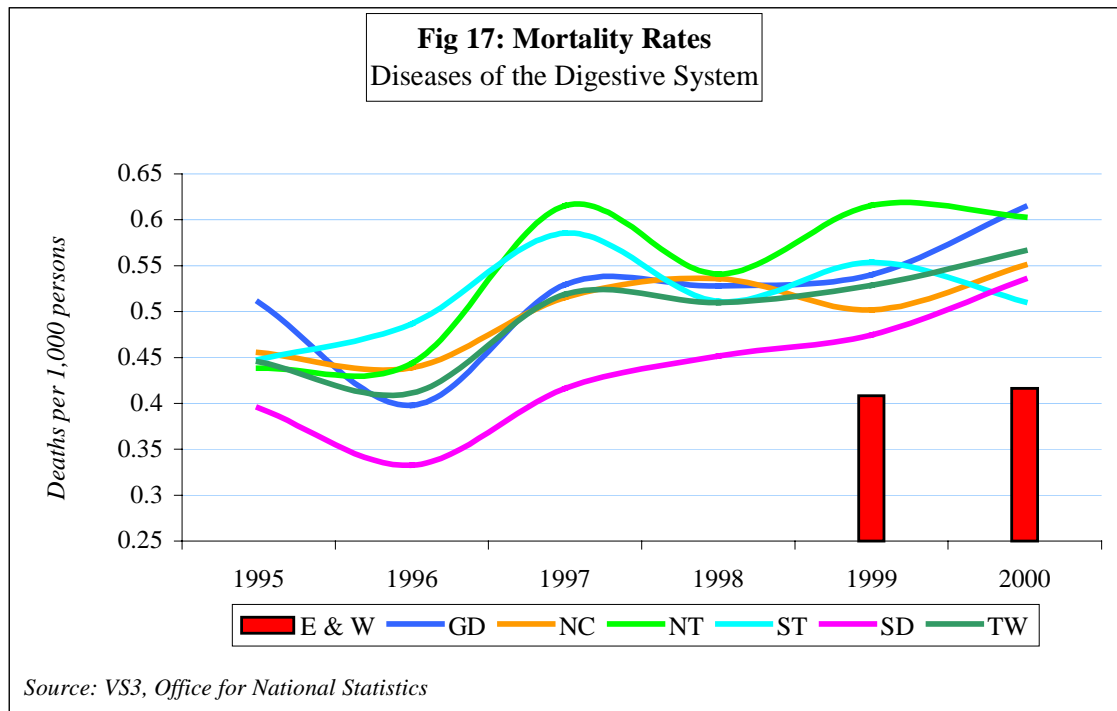
8.4 Diseases of the Digestive System

In 2000, 4% of all deaths in the North East and England & Wales were as a result of diseases of the digestive system. In Tyne & Wear this figure was one percentage point higher.

Deaths from diseases of the digestive system have risen by 24% since 1995 in Tyne & Wear.

Diseases of the digestive system (e.g. ulcer of stomach & duodenum and chronic liver disease & cirrhosis) were the fourth largest cause of death in Tyne & Wear, between 1995 and 2000. In Gateshead, Newcastle, North Tyneside and South Tyneside the average rate over the six-years was 0.5 deaths per 1,000 persons. In Sunderland the rate was 0.4 deaths per 1,000 persons.

Deaths caused by diseases of the digestive system rose (+152 deaths) in all Tyne & Wear Districts between 1995-2000. The most notable rise in mortality rates were in North Tyneside (+38%) and Sunderland (+35%). In Newcastle mortality rates for diseases of the digestive system rose by 21%, in Gateshead by 20% and in South Tyneside by 14%.

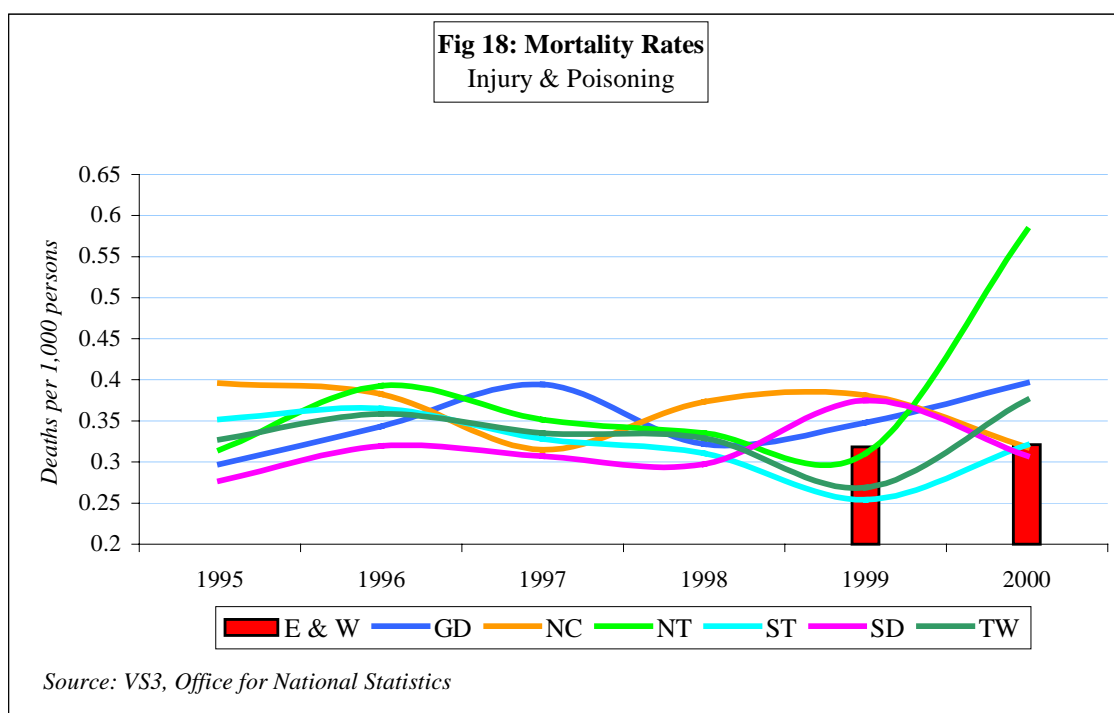


8.5 Injury & Poisoning

In 2000, 3% of all deaths were a result of injury & poisoning at national, regional and county level (about 370 deaths p.a. in Tyne & Wear). The Public Health Observatory notes that “The (death) rate for the North East is not significantly different from the national rate, but is significantly lower than rates for the North West and East Midlands”. It also notes that, “Mortality rates due to accidents are higher in the North East than nationally for children and older people, but are lower in the North East than nationally for young people”.

Injury & poisoning (including all accidents) was the fifth largest cause of death in Tyne & Wear between 1995 and 2000. Rates were highest in Gateshead, Newcastle and North Tyneside (six-year averages of 0.4 deaths per 1,000 persons) (Figure 18). In South Tyneside and Sunderland the average rate was 0.3 deaths per 1,000 persons.

The number of deaths due to injury & poisoning fluctuate considerably, averaging about 70 deaths p.a. per District. Between 1995 and 2000 rates of death arising from injury & poisoning declined in Newcastle (-20%) and South Tyneside (-9%). Increases were recorded in Sunderland (+11%) and Gateshead (+33%). In North Tyneside there was a large increase of 85%. This was due, in part, to an increase in the number of deaths due to accidental falls (up from 18 in 1999, to 48 in 2000).



8.6 Other Causes

Between 1995 and 2000 in Tyne & Wear, deaths from diseases of blood & blood-forming organs declined (-40%, -18), as did congenital anomalies (-33%, -10) and Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders (-11%, -18). This was offset by substantial rises in deaths due to diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue (+47%, +9), ill-defined conditions (+39%, +46) and infectious & parasitic diseases (+31%, +28).

9. NATURAL CHANGE

'Natural change' is population change resulting from live births and deaths (Table 11). It excludes population change occurring as a result of net migration.

Between 1995 and 2000, North Tyneside and Gateshead lost on average around 230 people per annum due to natural change. South Tyneside annually lost around 220 people and Newcastle 120 people. Over the six-year period, Sunderland's natural change has turned from positive to negative with an average natural change of just +3 persons per annum.

Between 1995 and 2000, the population in Tyne & Wear and in the North East declined as a result of natural change. However, nationally population increased due to natural change.

Table 11: Natural Change

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Average 1995-2000
Gateshead	-165	-186	-118	-403	-239	-289	-233
Newcastle	21	-94	-42	-274	-235	-106	-122
North Tyneside	-102	-273	-248	-278	-264	-238	-234
South Tyneside	-17	-122	-261	-303	-266	-336	-218
Sunderland	253	153	179	-145	-171	-251	3
Tyne & Wear	-37	-522	-490	-1403	-1175	-1220	-808
North East	-307	-777	-393	-1830	-1625	-2033	-1161
England & Wales*	82236	86478	84041	82466	68340	66564	78354

Source: VSI, Office for National Statistics

* England & Wales figure includes "Elsewhere" defined as births and deaths of non-resident people visiting England & Wales.

APPENDICES

Table A1: Live Births by Ward (Gateshead)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Bede	150	113	130	117	100	96
Bensham	123	121	124	117	108	125
Birtley	83	91	88	88	71	68
Blaydon	125	164	136	118	112	124
Chopwell & Rowlands Gill	101	94	103	101	101	97
Chowdene	82	75	72	75	78	83
Crawcrook & Greenside	93	128	100	104	89	111
Deckham	121	110	101	99	84	73
Dunston	135	111	124	121	108	96
Felling	119	99	101	98	71	80
High Fell	79	75	82	100	91	90
Lamesley	91	85	105	78	77	84
Leam	151	119	141	118	112	129
Low Fell	105	88	94	88	107	106
Pelaw & Heworth	94	88	67	95	72	73
Ryton	80	96	114	77	104	91
Saltwell	120	146	119	115	141	144
Teams	135	140	136	108	122	92
Whickham North	98	103	109	94	115	92
Whickham South	80	87	97	88	92	80
Winlaton	63	57	59	62	46	58
Wrekendyke	131	110	125	101	108	78
Total	2359	2300	2327	2162	2109	2070

Source: VS4 - Vital Statistics for Wards, ONS, Crown Copyright

Table A2: Live Births by Ward (Newcastle)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Benwell	102	136	101	97	85	101
Blakelaw	157	133	162	142	148	126
Byker	120	103	112	105	97	91
Castle	124	120	108	129	119	111
Dene	163	137	139	132	136	143
Denton	105	111	101	85	106	91
Elswick	170	175	158	148	151	153
Fawdon	121	147	121	123	118	116
Fenham	154	127	159	124	129	120
Grange	134	145	130	143	128	117
Heaton	91	104	103	97	77	94
Jesmond	110	87	88	109	82	84
Kenton	159	132	146	135	157	145
Lemington	126	113	107	129	105	124
Monkchester	156	165	175	142	128	123
Moorside	115	121	104	89	100	91
Newburn	145	123	111	111	102	87
Sandyford	106	87	90	75	83	92
Scotswood	132	110	124	109	104	101
South Gosforth	129	133	119	148	130	144
Walker	131	141	111	108	100	121
Walkergate	123	110	97	118	86	98
West City	106	86	86	77	65	76
Westerhope	98	96	116	98	92	69
Wingrove	166	181	189	141	143	167
Woolsington	117	126	131	120	108	102
Total	3360	3249	3188	3034	2879	2887

Source: VS4 - Vital Statistics for Wards, ONS, Crown Copyright

Table A3: Live Births by Ward (North Tyneside)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Battle Hill	150	140	132	169	132	117
Benton	79	81	61	83	74	95
Camperdown	113	118	103	97	93	100
Chirton	160	149	153	174	128	156
Collingwood	120	105	116	120	117	125
Cullercoats	77	84	71	74	66	75
Holystone	182	167	137	158	165	172
Howdon	94	103	94	100	90	78
Longbenton	87	91	55	60	43	55
Monkseaton	104	119	125	116	100	115
North Shields	110	114	114	77	92	110
Northumberland	154	131	121	146	122	111
Riverside	130	113	135	118	92	102
St. Mary's	55	57	66	56	71	54
Seatonville	95	84	112	100	87	82
Tynemouth	82	72	84	81	88	83
Valley	138	138	127	131	133	138
Wallsend	119	125	129	123	120	101
Weetslade	86	102	115	101	88	80
Whitley Bay	101	86	95	87	105	103
Total	2236	2179	2145	2171	2006	2052

Source: VS4 - Vital Statistics for Wards, ONS, Crown Copyright

Table A4: Live Births by Ward (South Tyneside)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
All Saints	130	110	136	97	123	89
Beacon & Bents	111	91	97	97	92	86
Bede	93	81	101	72	82	83
Biddick Hall	94	87	88	93	80	76
Boldon Colliery	109	106	121	96	102	119
Cleadon & East Boldon	86	83	72	74	85	77
Cleadon Park	124	112	96	91	94	85
Fellgate & Hedworth	102	99	80	93	97	71
Harton	71	53	52	65	56	52
Hebburn Quay	97	95	132	115	105	98
Hebburn South	31	43	51	43	34	34
Horsley Hill	89	84	70	78	73	73
Monkton	114	111	98	109	103	78
Primrose	92	91	94	76	78	83
Rekendyke	103	112	110	111	90	87
Tyne Dock & Simonside	100	66	69	60	77	70
Westoe	118	108	93	90	90	80
West Park	63	78	69	61	64	71
Whitburn & Marsden	72	66	68	46	66	54
Whiteleas	65	85	66	86	52	55
Total	1864	1761	1763	1653	1643	1521

Source: VS4 - Vital Statistics for Wards, ONS, Crown Copyright

Table A5: Live Births by Ward (Sunderland)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Castletown	132	141	129	117	133	130
Central	125	152	143	143	126	121
Colliery	106	119	115	106	96	102
Eppleton	160	153	143	146	129	134
Fulwell	111	97	98	85	103	90
Grindon	180	148	119	113	112	102
Hendon	135	128	114	109	129	115
Hetton	108	125	128	116	114	116
Houghton	111	111	112	121	87	104
Pallion	89	105	100	97	84	89
Ryhope	188	169	128	180	170	122
St. Chad's	98	121	110	80	98	91
St. Michael's	79	83	91	76	80	63
St. Peter's	94	89	93	86	92	91
Shiney Row	177	180	183	174	167	183
Silksworth	168	165	136	150	120	116
South Hylton	176	142	155	146	138	123
Southwick	139	129	107	135	112	99
Thorney Close	141	135	133	121	127	106
Thornholme	111	101	117	132	111	143
Town End Farm	155	166	161	133	148	131
Washington East	184	176	177	150	134	136
Washington North	174	186	187	170	169	144
Washington South	193	205	199	185	179	166
Washington West	166	122	133	152	153	143
Total	3500	3448	3311	3223	3111	2960

Source: VS4 - Vital Statistics for Wards, ONS, Crown Copyright

Table A6: Deaths by Ward (Gateshead)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Bede	128	127	116	125	109	105
Bensham	103	91	94	111	106	102
Birtley	86	100	89	86	95	103
Blaydon	117	98	90	117	104	71
Chopwell & Rowlands Gill	117	96	90	122	108	97
Chowdene	118	119	118	129	103	118
Crawcrook & Greenside	101	101	117	91	109	89
Deckham	109	102	114	106	81	94
Dunston	98	95	129	138	111	109
Felling	145	137	140	138	125	134
High Fell	110	125	120	132	120	148
Lamesley	118	121	113	115	117	110
Leam	106	100	107	117	98	120
Low Fell	161	158	131	146	112	138
Pelaw & Heworth	92	105	113	123	105	100
Ryton	94	121	103	124	117	102
Saltwell	82	98	92	94	70	92
Teams	126	128	111	98	105	102
Whickham North	180	173	159	169	144	120
Whickham South	79	69	94	80	82	69
Winlaton	144	127	111	121	122	125
Wrekendyke	110	95	94	83	105	111
Total	2524	2486	2445	2565	2348	2359

Source: VS4 - Vital Statistics for Wards, ONS, Crown Copyright

Table A7: Deaths by Ward (Newcastle)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Benwell	106	115	90	92	125	117
Blakelaw	118	112	111	126	104	110
Byker	145	124	150	147	134	150
Castle	110	82	84	123	93	99
Dene	151	151	135	150	132	151
Denton	115	128	137	134	143	115
Elswick	156	151	130	149	137	133
Fawdon	127	129	127	136	128	104
Fenham	139	160	162	129	127	125
Grange	200	200	195	169	165	161
Heaton	93	85	87	83	81	81
Jesmond	165	161	145	152	131	95
Kenton	129	145	150	148	126	140
Lemington	150	132	113	116	114	96
Monkchester	162	131	119	140	149	143
Moorside	94	118	106	94	107	73
Newburn	120	131	137	136	130	117
Sandyford	148	159	125	146	135	124
Scotswood	103	109	85	108	83	78
South Gosforth	113	139	137	138	145	134
Walker	124	133	144	142	114	136
Walkergate	131	120	109	106	119	112
West City	135	117	105	115	97	95
Westerhope	119	108	133	135	137	135
Wingrove	118	110	100	92	85	64
Woolsington	68	93	114	102	73	105
Total	3233	3228	3140	3216	3114	2993

Source: VS4 - Vital Statistics for Wards, ONS, Crown Copyright

Table A8: Deaths by Ward (North Tyneside)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Battle Hill	98	117	120	119	105	99
Benton	119	143	115	128	144	133
Camperdown	76	84	88	79	71	99
Chirton	94	103	119	128	109	91
Collingwood	127	113	101	111	84	116
Cullercoats	127	130	112	118	145	115
Holystone	120	121	118	139	107	122
Howdon	105	100	116	96	82	99
Longbenton	124	125	89	101	87	69
Monkseaton	114	134	125	130	136	113
North Shields	172	167	190	208	194	209
Northumberland	102	107	117	104	102	102
Riverside	102	143	146	110	110	127
St. Mary's	83	82	90	91	94	73
Seatonville	92	99	90	124	82	89
Tynemouth	110	117	101	118	100	107
Valley	121	110	117	123	106	117
Wallsend	137	153	155	133	121	137
Weetslade	113	111	118	116	121	105
Whitley Bay	214	193	166	173	170	168
Total	2350	2452	2393	2449	2270	2290

Source: VS4 - Vital Statistics for Wards, ONS, Crown Copyright

Table A9: Deaths by Ward (South Tyneside)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
All Saints	91	84	109	84	95	87
Beacon & Bents	127	96	127	122	96	112
Bede	137	116	129	139	139	123
Biddick Hall	76	96	90	93	95	84
Boldon Colliery	86	100	106	101	83	85
Cleadon & East Boldon	60	78	75	63	87	74
Cleadon Park	80	59	77	76	68	71
Fellgate & Hedworth	72	75	77	62	74	82
Harton	113	97	113	117	109	97
Hebburn Quay	84	88	94	110	98	73
Hebburn South	70	93	94	75	80	86
Horsley Hill	76	96	122	100	90	107
Monkton	143	140	154	117	148	130
Primrose	120	114	137	128	103	125
Rekendyke	114	100	97	118	108	94
Tyne Dock & Simonside	60	80	67	69	69	72
Westoe	117	108	111	123	94	108
West Park	65	82	84	61	77	70
Whitburn & Marsden	86	73	70	100	78	83
Whiteleas	104	108	91	98	118	94
Total	1881	1883	2024	1956	1909	1857

Source: VS4 - Vital Statistics for Wards, ONS, Crown Copyright

Table A10: Deaths by Ward (Sunderland)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Castletown	109	113	111	141	140	132
Central	129	147	111	134	149	135
Colliery	162	167	148	139	125	116
Eppleton	153	137	160	150	157	157
Fulwell	90	106	89	114	90	88
Grindon	103	124	111	86	85	105
Hendon	200	171	166	198	168	132
Hetton	149	181	157	170	154	170
Houghton	130	117	113	141	127	131
Pallion	140	143	135	144	159	155
Ryhope	138	160	107	131	142	139
St. Chad's	123	98	117	148	145	140
St. Michael's	112	113	131	96	127	98
St. Peter's	188	182	175	199	188	192
Shiney Row	153	146	153	162	179	183
Silksworth	121	140	108	133	115	132
South Hylton	143	135	131	113	134	107
Southwick	127	132	124	144	116	131
Thorney Close	144	114	129	119	110	100
Thornholme	156	138	151	166	133	117
Town End Farm	76	91	89	84	76	83
Washington East	130	132	128	119	129	165
Washington North	111	113	93	110	104	89
Washington South	111	101	89	107	82	97
Washington West	76	94	106	120	148	117
Total	3274	3295	3132	3368	3282	3211

Source: VS4 - Vital Statistics for Wards, ONS, Crown Copyright