Sex differentials in adult mortality in Sri Lanka

Conference Paper · December 2021

CITATIONS
0

1 author:

Neranjala Sumathipala
University of Colombo
10 PUBLICATIONS **0** CITATIONS

SEE PROFILE

Sex differentials in adult mortality in Sri Lanka

W. P. N. L. Sumathipala

Department of Demography, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Adult women live longer than men and have a lower death rate when compared with the adult males in Sri Lanka. There is significant gap between adult male and female survival. The objective of this study is to examine the sex differentials in causes of adult mortality in Sri Lanka. This study was based on secondary data from the Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka. According to the Indoor Morbidity and Mortality Report, there were 30,746 adult deaths (in the population of 15-59 years) in 2012. Of them, 21,360 were males and 9,386 were females. The univariate and bivariate analyses were done and the Chi-square test was analysed using python programming and results were presented using descriptive and graphical forms. Results showed the major causes of deaths by age and the gender of deceased persons. Accordingly, diseases of circulatory system have contributed at a slightly high percentage to overall deaths. Males have a higher percentage (32.47 % for 15-39 age group and 29.17% for 40-59 age group) value than females. Hence P-value of Chi-square test is <0.0001, and it is clear that there is an association between deaths by diseases of circulatory system and gender. Moreover, Chi-square statistics show that there is an association between road accidents and gender of fatalities while adult male group aged 15-39 is the most vulnerable group to road accidents in Sri Lanka. Based on the findings, it is evident that adult males were more vulnerable to deaths due to external causes, road accidents, and circulatory system diseases than female adults. Thus, health policies to reduce adult deaths and fill the gender gap in adult mortality should be introduced.

Keywords: *sex differentials, adult mortality, diseases of the circulatory system*