



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

Article from:

The Actuary

September 1988 – Volume 22, No. 8

Actuarial examination cont'd
realize the difficulty of the exams. People who were not actuaries could not understand why I had to study so much. The worst part was trying to explain to them how you studied so hard and failed the exam."

"A supportive spouse is a definite advantage in the quest to complete the exams!"

"Taking actuarial exams places an enormous burden on a marital relationship. It requires a very under-

standing spouse to really make the combination work."

"I think it is important to realize that a successful actuarial career is possible even for people who place a priority on marriage and family."

"Stopping taking the exams was the best decision I ever made. There is more to life than taking tests and I am able to enjoy everything else that goes on around me."

"Even though exams take up a lot of time, I know that it will pay off in

the end. My future is definitely worth the time spent. If a relationship (friendship, marriage, or any other type) can't survive exams, then it probably wouldn't survive any other crises either. There has to be a balance though. If you spend every spare moment studying, it will make you crazy."

Stacey Brundin, not a member of the Society, is a 1988 graduate of Lebanon Valley College and is an actuarial student with the Guardian Life Insurance Company of America.

Recent smoker/nonsmoker mortality experience

by James D. Brock

Smoker mortality ratios are generally double the ratios for nonsmokers, according to the latest intercompany experience.

Fourteen companies reported smoker/nonsmoker experience separately for the 1984-85 individual life insurance mortality study compiled by the Committee on Individual Life Experience Studies. We have combined those results with the 1983-84 experience contributed by nine companies and previously reported by Harry Woodman in *The Actuary* in November 1987.

The differences in the ratios peak at issue ages 40-49 (Table 1). By duration the spread is highest in the first three durations, where most of the available experience is concentrated (Table 2). The exposures are predominantly male nonsmoker lives (Table 3). The "Unknown" category represents experience for which smoker/nonsmoker classification was not available. Expected deaths are based on the 1975-80 Select Basic Tables.

The smoker/nonsmoker analysis is an ongoing feature of the annual mortality studies published in the *TSA Reports of the Society*. Detailed tables for the 1983-84 and 1984-85 experience will be available later this year from the Society's Research Department.

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ALL STANDARD ISSUES — EXPERIENCE BETWEEN 1983 AND 1985 ANNIVERSARIES

(Amounts shown in \$1,000 units)

TABLE 1 — By Issue Age, Male and Female Combined

Age at Issue	Nonsmoker		Smoker		Unknown	
	Actual Deaths	Mortality Ratio	Actual Deaths	Mortality Ratio	Actual Deaths	Mortality Ratio
0-19	\$ 4,654	62%	\$ 1,305	97%	\$ 41,612	92%
20-29	34,432	66	13,104	109	93,722	96
30-39	88,656	73	40,286	144	172,269	89
40-49	84,906	70	49,304	170	221,431	98
50-59	72,836	82	33,314	171	179,487	100
60 plus	32,195	83	11,227	154	69,676	105
All Ages	\$317,680	74%	\$148,541	153%	\$778,196	96%

TABLE 2 — By Duration, Male and Female Combined

Duration	Nonsmoker		Smoker		Unknown	
	Actual Deaths	Mortality Ratio	Actual Deaths	Mortality Ratio	Actual Deaths	Mortality Ratio
1	\$ 94,357	69%	\$ 44,034	148%	\$ 15,671	224%
2	93,356	71	43,668	153	25,606	145
3	64,025	67	30,320	146	47,232	126
4	41,398	98	17,596	168	64,979	99
5-15	24,543	100	12,923	171	624,709	92
All	\$317,680	74%	\$148,541	153%	\$778,196	96%

TABLE 3 — All Issue Ages and Durations Combined

	Nonsmoker		Smoker		Unknown	
	Actual Deaths	Mortality Ratio	Actual Deaths	Mortality Ratio	Actual Deaths	Mortality Ratio
Medical						
Male	\$147,690	83%	\$51,866	171%	\$371,685	88%
Female	12,314	91	5,919	179	45,399	104
Total	160,004	84	57,785	172	417,084	90
Para-Medical						
Male	\$ 70,045	64%	\$44,098	159%	\$149,773	104%
Female	11,162	70	7,033	161	30,878	111
Total	81,206	65	51,131	159	180,651	105
Non-Medical						
Male	\$ 60,791	70%	\$32,356	133%	\$137,860	107%
Female	15,679	58	7,269	104	42,601	101
Total	76,469	67	39,625	127	180,461	105