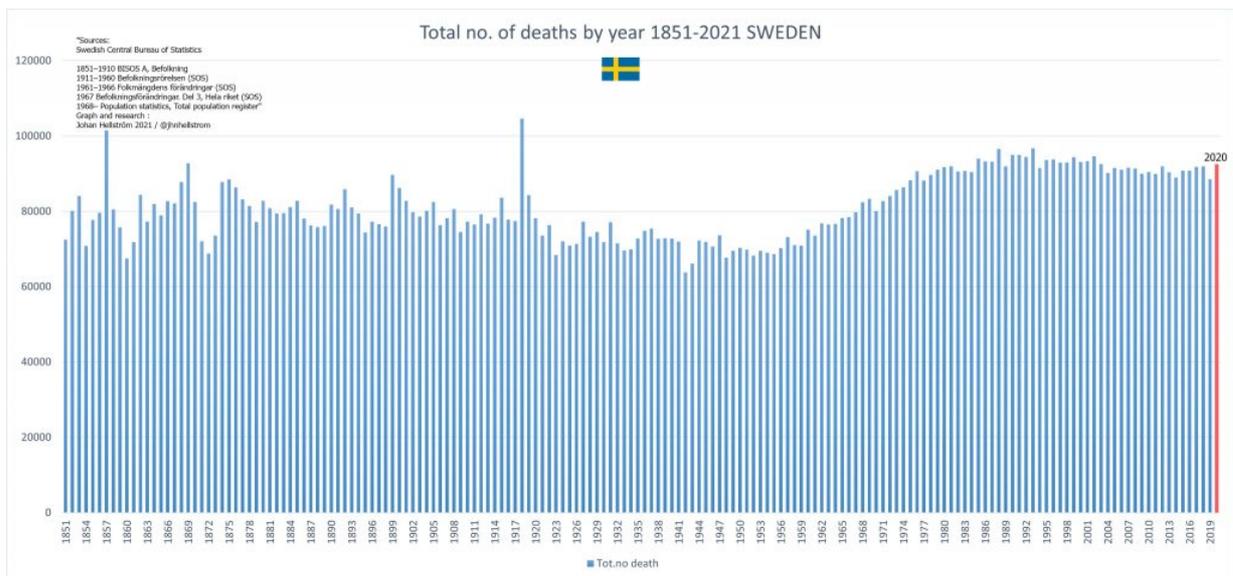


Government policies cause excess deaths. 9,000 operations awaited becomes 200,000. There is no reason and balance in the negligent Johnson Government.

13 January 2021 at 21:38

HEALTH - Thanks to Lockdown sceptics

“ As *Lockdown Sceptics* reported [yesterday](#), 2020 in Sweden was scarcely more deadly than 2017 or 2018. Furthermore, 2019 was so mild that 2019 and 2020 added together had fewer deaths than 2017 and 2018 added together – and this is before any adjustments for age or population size. In other words, no real excess deaths at all, as [this study](#) from the University of Oslo concluded, putting the 2020 extra deaths primarily down to “mortality displacement” or “dry tinder” from 2019.



How can this be when Sweden remained largely open while the UK can't kick its lockdown habit? Perhaps the answer is that lockdown itself kills people, as Recovery explained yesterday in a [press release](#).

Recovery has been warning of this tsunami of excess deaths from Covid policies for months. It's caused a deadly cocktail of fear, mental health problems, and the denial of vital services to patients in urgent need of life-saving care. For example:

- One in three cancer patients says their treatment has been affected and 70% say their mental health has suffered in consequence. Cancer Research UK [says](#) cancer screening was cancelled for three million people and there has been a 39% drop in the seven key diagnostic tests for cancer between March and July – equivalent to 3.2m fewer tests in England alone.
- British Heart Foundation [says](#) that excess death from heart disease has risen with a disturbing 13% rise amongst those under 60 even as Covid was declining in May and June. *“We believe that delays in people seeking care, coupled with a reduced access to routine tests and treatments during the pandemic, have likely contributed to the rise in excess deaths.”*
- A Yonder poll in December revealed that seven out of 10 people in the UK are now seriously worried about the mental health of themselves or someone close. Problem drinking – a killer –

has doubled and now affects around 9 million people. Experts report that suicide amongst young people is rising. Rising domestic abuse during the Spring lockdown offences rise by 18,000 between March and June 2020 (ONS 24.11.20).

- Bristol University's risk experts say that the lockdowns of 2020 will cost 560,000 lives in the UK "because of the deep and prolonged recession they will cause". The Government's own prediction last summer was that more than 200,000 will die as a result of the first lockdown alone (ONS July 2020). It has refused to provide an update showing the additional impact of the tiers and lockdowns since.
- Government figures show that even during the Spring peak, restrictions played a huge role in excess deaths. Covid killed 25,000 people but restrictions caused at least 16,000 unnecessary deaths, as 6,000 people died because they didn't attend A&E through fear and 10,000 people died in care homes because they could not access critical care in hospitals (ONS, August 2020).
- The UN World Food Programme has warned that 270,000,000 people face starvation as a result of the global impact of lockdowns and restrictions. This alone makes the response to Covid the single most lethal policy that Governments have ever adopted, potentially killing many times more than Mao, Stalin and Hitler combined.

Now we can see the combined impact of all this: it's clear in the figures today and it's a timebomb – the excess death from fear and restrictions will only grow while current policies continue.

- Before the lockdowns, 9,000 people had waited more than a year for operations. Now it's close to 200,000. These are not life-threatening conditions, but cause huge pain and misery. Worse, routine problems become life-threatening if left untreated. The problems we already have mean that the NHS will be in crisis for years.
- Each of these people is suffering: so many are in pain, misery, and worse. For many, there is no hope to an end: no indication of a way out. The spiralling backlog of undiagnosed and untreated conditions will see the NHS in crisis for years.

Recovery Campaign Director Jon Dobinson warned that tougher lockdowns, as many are calling for, would only make things worse:

The shocking excess death figures released today have seen hysterical calls for even tougher lockdowns. But that would only make these

lockdowns. But that would only make these problems worse. As experts have been warning from the outset, these toxic lockdowns merely kick the can down the road – they postpone problems, they don't fix them. By prolonging the crisis and extending the period over which deaths take place, they are creating a disaster. We'll see another easing over the summer, but that will be blamed for worse problems in the NHS by the autumn. As Government experts are already warning, vaccination will not end this – new strains and new pressures will see the deadly cycle continue for years unless we find a better way. Even now, the problems are getting worse. We have to recognise the issue and take urgent action before it spirals even further out of control. The latest NHS data shows even fewer non-Covid patients are now being treated. We're spending billions on failed policies which have only made the pandemic worse. It's time for our leaders to acknowledge and address the timebomb of untreated conditions and economic devastation. They are now a terrifying threat to the health and welfare of the UK in themselves. Otherwise, the excess deaths of 2021 and beyond

will dwarf even these.”

Roger Wright-Morris.

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