

Disease(s)	Year(s)	Population(s)	Location	Article Title	Full Citation	Journal	Type of data	Nutshell Thesis	Notes
Malaria, Yellow Fever	1861-1865		Arkansas, Texas, Missouri	Trans-Mississippi Miasmas: How Malaria and Yellow Fever Shaped the Course of the Civil War in the Confederacy's Western Theatre.	Bell, Andrew McLwaine. "Trans-Mississippi Miasmas: How Malaria and Yellow Fever Shaped the Course of the Civil War in the Confederacy's Western Theatre." East Texas Historical Journal 48, no. 2 (2009): 3-13.	East Texas Historical Journal, 2009		"The article explores the effects of malaria and yellow fever on the Western portions of the Confederate States during the U.S. Civil War. It notes that mosquito-borne illnesses were most prevalent in Arkansas and Texas, noting the rate of epidemics experienced during the war. Particular focus is given to the influence of the threat of disease regarding military strategy and decision-making among Union and Confederate military commanders. The connection between yellow fever and malaria to the military stalemate which developed in Texas and the invasion of Missouri from Arkansas is also discussed."	
				Sewers in the City: A Case Study of Individual-Level Mortality and Public Health Initiatives in Northampton, Massachusetts, at the Turn of the Century	Beemer, Jeffrey K., Douglas L. Anderton and Susan Hautaniemi Leonard. Sewers in the City: A Case Study of Individual-Level Mortality and Public Health Initiatives in Northampton, Massachusetts, at the Turn of the Century. Journal of the History of Medicine and the Allied Sciences. 60(1):42-72. 2005.	Journal of the History of Medicine and the Allied Sciences, 2005			
		Children and Infants, slaves	North America, Anglophone Caribbean	Children and Slavery in the New World: A Review	Campbell, Gwyn. "Children and Slavery in the New World: A Review." Slavery and Abolition 27, no. 2 (2006): 261-285.	Slavery and Abolition, 2006	Historiography review w/focus on nutrition studies/height studies, slave narratives	A few health-related themes covered including the labor and health of slave children, differential mortality between free and enslaved black children by age, and "smothering deaths" of children in 1860.	See detailed notes
	1775-2008	Men, soldiers	Battlefields	Two Faces of Death: Fatalities from Disease and Combat in America's Principal Wars, 1775-Present	Cirillo, Vincent J. "Two Faces of Death: Fatalities from Disease and Combat in America's Principal Wars, 1775-Present." Perspectives in Biology and Medicine 51, no. 1 (Winter 2008): 121-133.	Perspectives in Biology and Medicine	Joseph K. Barnes, Medical and Surgical History of the Civil War (12 vols, 1870)	Names the era of 1775-1918 as the "disease era" of war based on the primary causes of death.	
Dysentery/intestinal disease	1846-1848	Men, soldiers	Southwest/bor Mexico	"More Fatal than Powder and Shot": Dysentery in the U.S. Army During the Mexican War, 1846-1848	Cirillo, Vincent J. "More Fatal than Powder and Shot": Dysentery in the U.S. Army During the Mexican War, 1846-1848." Perspectives in Biology and Medicine 52, no. 3 (Summer 2009): 400-413.	Perspectives in Biology and Medicine		98% of non-combat deaths in this war caused by disease, especially dysentery	
Malaria, Hookworm		Children, slave	South	Diets Verses Diseases: The Anthropometrics of Slave Children	Coelho, Philip R.P. and Robert A. McGuire. "Diets Verses Diseases: The Anthropometrics of Slave Children." Journal of Economic History 60, no. 1 (March 2000): 232-246.	Journal of Economic History		Diseases not diets explain lower slave child growth compared to the child growth of the whole population	
Diphtheria			Philadelphia	The Elusive Role of Scientific Medicine in Mortality Decline: Diphtheria in Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century Philadelphia	Condran, Gretchen A. "The Elusive Role of Scientific Medicine in Mortality Decline: Diphtheria in Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century Philadelphia." Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences 63, no. 4 (October 2008): 484-522	Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences		"The designation of the Klebs-Loeffler bacillus as the cause of diphtheria in the early 1890s and the subsequent development of the antitoxin treatment in the years immediately following were at the time and continue to be viewed as triumphs of scientific medicine....The data suggest that the antitoxin had some effect on already declining diphtheria death rates, but because of changes in understandings of the disease and contemporaries' presentation of the data, the size of that effect and its role in mortality decline more generally elude us...."	See detailed notes.
		Children	New York, Chicago, New Orleans	Early Death: Mortality Among Young Children in New York, Chicago, and New Orleans	Condran, Gretchen A. and Harold A. Lentzner. "Early Death: Mortality Among Young Children in New York, Chicago, and New Orleans." Journal of Interdisciplinary History 34, no. 3 (Winter 2004): 315-354.	Journal of Interdisciplinary History		"Examines the seasonal pattern of mortality among infants and young children from 1870 through 1917 in New York, Chicago, and New Orleans. Dependence of the study of historical trends in infant and early childhood mortality on vital statistics; Evidence of the seasonal pattern of mortality at young ages; Utilization of an index of the seasonal peak in mortality for three age groups under age five."	
	1870-1920	Infants	Philadelphia	Defining and Managing Infant Mortality: A Case Study of Philadelphia, 1870-1920	Condran, Gretchen A. and Jennifer Murphy. "Defining and Managing Infant Mortality: A Case Study of Philadelphia, 1870-1920." Social Science History 32, no. 4 (2008): 473-513.	Social Science History		Gross # of infant deaths and the change of listed causes over time; "Using Philadelphia as a case study, we examine the history of the infant mortality rate from 1870 through 1920. Our emphasis is not on explaining the trends in the death rates of the very young but on the uses and meanings given to the infant mortality rate during the second half of the nineteenth century and the first decades of the twentieth century specifically as they related to three efforts to lower infant death rates--removing infants from the city, improving the supply of milk, and establishing child hygiene programs."	
	1900			Mortality Variations in US Cities in 1900: A Two-Level Explanation by Cause of Death and Underlying Factors	Crimmins, Eileen M. and Gretchen A. Condran. Mortality Variations in US Cities in 1900: A Two-Level Explanation by Cause of Death and Underlying Factors. Social Science History 7, no. 1 (1983): 31-59.	Social Science History			
	1790-1900	Whites, Men and Women	US	Decennial Life Tables for the White Population of the United States, 1790-1900	Hacker, David J. "Decennial Life Tables for the White Population of the United States, 1790-1900." Historical Methods 43, no. 2 (2010): 45-79.	Historical Methods, 2010		"In this article, the author constructs new life tables for the white population of the United States in each decade between 1790 and 1900. Drawing from several recent studies, he suggests best estimates of life expectancy at age 20 for each decade. These estimates are fitted to new standards derived from the 1900-1902 rural and 1900-1902 overall death registration area life tables using a two-parameter logit model with fixed slope. The resulting decennial life tables more accurately represent sex- and age-specific mortality rates while capturing known mortality trends."	

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	1850-1910		US	Estimated Life Tables for the United States, 1850-1910	Haines, Michael R. "Estimated Life Tables for the United States, 1850-1910." Historical Methods 31, no. 4 (Fall 1998): 149-169.	Historical Methods, 1998	Raw mortality data from other articles	Mortality fluctuates before about 1880 but steadily declines after that. Exact picture of mortality in 1850s and 1860s unclear. Mortality rate not "under control" until roughly 1870.	
Respiratory, gastrointestinal, cardiovascular	1850-1910	Adults, children/infants	New England, MA, Holyoke and Northampton	Mill Town Mortality: Consequences of Industrial Growth in Two Nineteenth Century New England Mill Towns	Hautaniemi, Susan I., Alan C. Swedlund and Douglas L. Anderton. "Mill Town Mortality: Consequences of Industrial Growth in Two Nineteenth-Century New England Towns." Social Science History 23:1. 1999	Social Science History	Individual-level census data linked to death registrations for Holyoke and Northampton. Multivariate analysis.	Total mortality and causes of death for people of Holyoke and Northampton can be explained by the trends of urbanization, industrialization, and immigration, as well as improvements made to water supplies/waste management and public health at the turn of the 20th century	See detailed notes.
Typhus			US	A Stranger to Our Camps: Typhus in American History	Humphreys, Margaret. A Stranger to Our Camps: Typhus in American History. Bulletin of the History of Medicine 80, no. 2 (2006): 269-290.	Bulletin of the History of Medicine		Reviews apparent outbreaks of typhus inside the US national border. Concludes that typhus did not become widely established in the US population despite frequent contacts with infected travelers, probably because of the peculiarities of the US louse population compared to the European louse population.	
	1862-1863	Men, soldiers	Helena, Arkansas	"This Godforsaken Town": Death and Disease at Helena, Arkansas, 1862-1863	Kohl, Rhonda M. "This Godforsaken Town": Death and Disease at Helena, Arkansas, 1862-1863. Civil War History 50, no. 2 (2004): 109-144.	Civil War History		Joseph K. Barnes, Medical and Surgical History of the Civil War (12 vols, 1870); Indiana Sanitary Commission hospital register; Helena hospital register	Examines the especially high rates of disease at this position held by the Union army. Also points out the negative medical side effects of era treatments
Hookworm	1840-1920			Migrant Clinics and Hookworm Science: Peripheral Origins of International Health, 1840-1920	Palmer, Steven. Migrant Clinics and Hookworm Science: Peripheral Origins of International Health, 1840-1920. Bulletin of the History of Medicine 83, no.4 (2009):676-709.	Bulletin of the History of Medicine			
Smallpox		Native Americans, Infants, Pregnant Women		Smallpox and American Indians Revisited	Riley, James C. "Smallpox and American Indians Revisited." Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences 65, no. 4 (2010): 445-477.	Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences, 2010		"[Post-1977 research on variola] updates factors that may have aggravated smallpox lethality in American Indians, giving new information about infectivity, the proportion of people who may have contracted smallpox, the burden on infants of mothers who had not had smallpox, and the toll for pregnant women. This essay reviews old and new hypotheses about why so many in the New World died from smallpox using recent smallpox research and older sources."	See detailed notes.
Congenital syphilis	post-1865	Blacks	Southwest Arkansas	Biological Consequences of Segregation and Economic Deprivation: A Post-Slavery Population from Southwest Arkansas	Rose, J.C. "Biological Consequences of Segregation and Economic Deprivation: A Post-Slavery Population From Southwest Arkansas." Journal of Economic History 49 (June 1989), 351-60.	Journal of Economic History	Skeletons		
None, base nutrition/risk factors	Up to 1865	Slaves	South	A Dreadful Childhood: The Excess Mortality of American Slaves	Richard H. Steckel, "A Dreadful Childhood: The Excess Mortality of American Slaves," Social Science History 10 (Winter 1986): 427-465.	Social Science History			
Malaria, Hookworm		Children, slave	South	Diets Verses Diseases...A Reply	Richard H. Steckel, "Diets Versus Diseases in the Anthropometrics of Slave Children: A Reply," Journal of Economic History 60 (2000), 247-59.	Journal of Economic History		Diets not diseases explain lower slave child growth	
		Slaves, incl. infants and children	South	Slave Mortality: Analysis of Evidence from Plantation Records	Richard H. Steckel, "Slave Mortality: Analysis of Evidence from Plantation Records," Social Science History 3 (October 1979): 86-114	Social Science History	Plantation Records	Rates of deaths esp for infants but not causes - seasonal patterns, etc	
None	1850-1860	Women and Children, all races	US	The Health and Mortality of Women and Children, 1850-1860	Richard H. Steckel, "The Health and Mortality of Women and Children, 1850-1860," of Economic History 48 (June 1988): 333-345.	Journal of Economic History	Census records	Variation in deaths by region, as # of siblings goes up child death goes up, infant death reduced when occupational status up, socioeconomic status mattered less to mortality than expected based on modern experiences	
None		Children/Infants slave	US	A Peculiar Population: The Nutrition, Health, and Mortality of American Slaves from Childhood to Maturity	Richard H. Steckel, "A Peculiar Population: The Nutrition, Health, and Mortality of American Slaves from Childhood to Maturity," Journal of Economic History 46 (September 1986): 721-41.	Journal of Economic History		The greatest variation in health and nutrition of slaves was by age more than any other factor	
Malaria	ca. 1880		California (Central Valley)	Insalubrious California: Perception and Reality	Thompson, Kenneth. "Insalubrious California: Perception and Reality." Annals of the Association of American Geographers 59, no. 1 (1969): 50-64.	Annals of the Association of American Geographers	Booster tracts, contemporary medical journals and other publications, collections of primary source documents, diaries of individuals (published or not), medical/geographical maps or guidebooks	Examines the poor reputation of California's Central Valley as unhealthy because of its marshy environment under miasma theory. Endemic malaria infections peaked in CA around 1880.	See detailed notes.
Waterborne diseases, typhoid	1889-1921	Adults, black and white	North Carolina, New Orleans	Race, Disease, and the Provision of Water in American Cities, 1889-1921	Troesken, Werner. "Race, Disease, and the Provision of Water in American Cities, 1889-1921." Journal of Economic History, vol. 61, no. 3, (September 2001): 750-77.	Journal of Economic History			
Waterborne diseases, typhoid	1880-1925	Adults, black and white		The Limits of Jim Crow: Race and the Provision of Water and Sewerage in American Cities, 1880-1925	Troesken, Werner. "The Limits of Jim Crow: Race and the Provision of Water and Sewerage in American Cities, 1880-1925," Journal of Economic History, vol. 62, no. 3, (September 2002): 734-773.	Journal of Economic History			