



In Sickness and In Health: Disease and Disability in Contemporary America (Applied Demography Series)

Richard K. Thomas

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The increasing importance of sickness and disability data across health-related disciplines is the focus of this concise but comprehensive resource. It reviews the basics of morbidity at the population level by defining core concepts, analyzing why morbidity has overtaken mortality as central to demographic study, and surveying ways these data are generated, accessed, and measured. Subsequent chapters demonstrate how this knowledge can be used to better understand—and potentially solve—critical public health issues, benefitting not only populations served, but also areas such as health services planning, resource allocation, and health policy-setting.

To make this material useful to the most readers, this reference:

- Explains why and how morbidity data are categorized by health professionals and other data users.
- Examines various methods of identifying and measuring morbidity data.
- Identifies demographic and non-demographic factors associated with morbidity.
- Describes and evaluates sources of U.S. morbidity data.
- Reviews the current state of morbidity in the U.S., and what it means for healthcare and society in general.
- Suggests future uses of morbidity data in reducing health disparities and improving population health.

In Sickness and In Health is uniquely r

levant to demographers and demography students, public health professionals, and epidemiologists. Its presentation of concepts and applications makes the book a valuable classroom text and a useful guide for those addressing challenges facing U.S. healthcare.

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