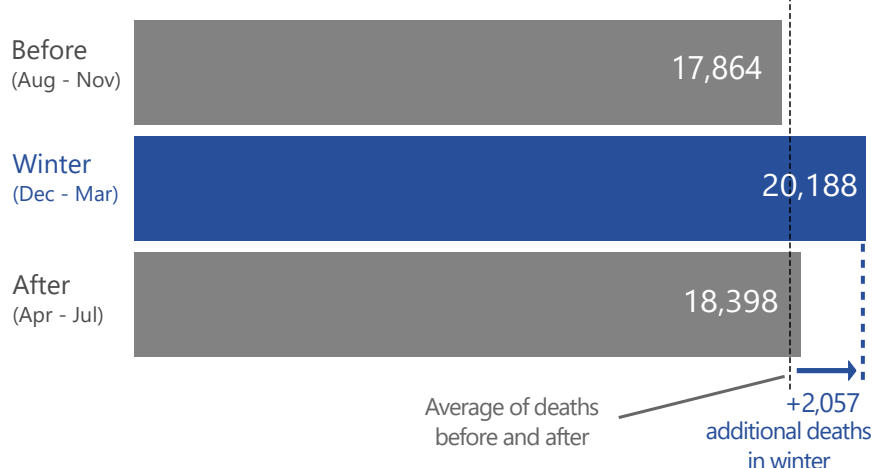


## Mortality increases during the winter

The winter months see a higher number of deaths than other times of the year.

We measure the size of this effect by looking at the difference between deaths registered over four months in winter and the average number of deaths in the two periods before and after.

Deaths before, during and after winter 2018/19

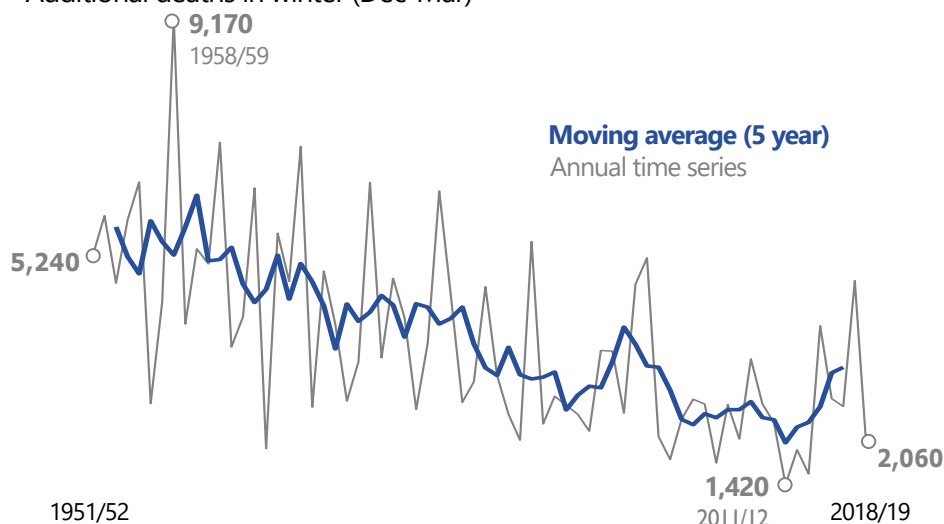


## Winter mortality has decreased since 1951/52

Mortality in winter has been higher than in the seasons before and after for each winter since records began in 1951/52.

The scale of this difference has fluctuated year on year. The 5-year moving average shows a long-term downward trend, but has increased in recent years.

Additional deaths in winter (Dec-Mar)



## The largest increase was in chronic lower respiratory diseases

17% of the additional deaths in winter were caused by chronic lower respiratory diseases, 16% by coronary heart disease, and 15% by dementia and Alzheimer's disease.

Other causes not shown account for smaller numbers of additional deaths

Additional deaths in winter (Dec-Mar) by underlying cause

