**Morbidity.**

The word morbid is related to sickness and disease. As a concept, morbidity can be applied to an individual (eg. Someone with diabetes). This refers to having a disease or a symptom of disease or the amount of disease in a population. It is the incidence of a disease and the rate of a population which is affected.

Furthermore, it can be defined as departure from a state of physical or psychological well-being resulting from disease, illness, injury, or sickness especially where the affected individual is aware of his or her condition. According to World Health Organization (who), morbidity could be measured in terms of:

1. Number of persons who were ill,
2. Illnesses these persons experienced and
3. The duration of these illnesses.

The outbreak of disease can have serious impact on the entire population. Data on the frequency and distribution of disease and illnesses can aid the control and spread of diseases and in some case may lead to the identification and cause of such diseases and illnesses.

**Illnesses**

The term illness and sickness are both generally used as a symptom for disease. However, the term illness is occasionally used to refer specifically to the patient’s personal experience of his or her disease.

**Disease**

This can be referred to as any condition that causes pain, dysfunction, distress, social problems for a person. It sometimes includes injuries, disabilities, disorders, syndromes, infections, isolated symptoms etc. diseases can be classified into communicable and non-communicable diseases. Non infectious diseases are all other diseases including most forms of cancer, heart diseases and genetic disease. Examples of diseases are acute disease, genetic disease, terminal disease etc

**Disorder**

A disorder is a functional abnormality or disturbance. Medical disorders can be categorized into mental disorders, physical disorders, genetic disorders, emotional and behavioural disorders and functional disorders.

**Mortality**

Mortality rate or death rate is a measure of the number of deaths in a particular population, scaled to the size of that population, per unit of time. It is typically expressed in units of deaths per 1000 individuals per year. The rate at which death occurs depends on many factors such as age, sex, race, occupation, social class and also during an outbreak of diseases and infections. Incidence of deaths can reveal much about a population’s standard of living.

**Determinants of Mortality (deaths)**

Mortality is one of the central components in the process of social development and modernization. It is a sensitive indicator of other aspects of social and economic progress. The level of mortality often closely reflects the level of distribution of living conditions within a community or population group.

1. Studies have shown that male mortality is generally higher than female mortality. This has been attributed mainly to the hazardous occupations in which males engage in.
2. Rural mortality is also generally higher than the urban ones. According to the 1999 Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) infants and child mortality were considerably higher in the rural areas than in the urban areas in all health zones of Nigeria.

This can be explained by the differences in the level of socio-economic development between the urban and the rural areas.

1. Mortality tends to vary according to the socio-economic status of the people. People with higher disposable income and education tend to experience lower mortality than those with lower income and low education. For instance, maternal mortality- that is mortality of women in the reproductive age 15-49 years varied according to the educational status of women.

**Measures of Mortality**

Crude death rate: the total number of deaths per 1000 population in a given year

**Note: calculations on this will be sent differently which is also the same format for calculating fertility rate.**