

NOTES

Introduction

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Chapter 1: The Calm before the Storm

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Chapter 2: Things Come Apart

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Chapter 3: Deaths of Despair

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18. Authors' calculations from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System and National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey data.

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20. From the late 1990s to 2017, the fraction of forty-five-to-fifty-four-year-olds with a bachelor's degree remained nearly constant at around one-third. If the fraction with and without a bachelor's degree had changed dramatically since the late 1990s, there would be a worry that what we are seeing in the figure are not changes in death rates but rather changes in the kind of people who do and do not have a bachelor's degree. The stability of the shares of the population makes such an account unlikely.

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Chapter 7: The Misery and Mystery of Pain

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7. Anne Case and Angus Deaton, 2017, "Suicide, age, and well-being: An empirical investigation," in David A. Wise, ed., *Insights in the economics of aging*, National Bureau of Economic Research Conference Report, University of Chicago Press for NBER, 307–34.

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10. The question asked in the Gallup surveys pertains to “yesterday,” while the questions asked in the NHIS pertain to the last three months, which may explain the higher fraction reporting pain in the NHIS. That said, the patterns observed, of faster increases before age sixty than after sixty, are similar in the two surveys. We have no explanation for the high pain levels among elderly Europeans in figure 7.2.

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Chapter 8: Suicide, Drugs, and Alcohol

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Chapter 9: Opioids

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