

# Part II

## Eighty Years of Trends in Sex-Specific and Age-Specific Mortality

### Introduction to Part II

The age structure of mortality in Ukraine has changed profoundly since the late 1920s. It has followed a very different path from that taken in Western European countries and, in contrast, very close to that of the other countries of the former USSR. In presenting this age structure, we shall take up the comparisons with France and Russia that we used in previous Introductions to emphasize the distinctive nature of life expectancy trends in Ukraine (Chap. 5). But it is imperative that we first discuss the quality of registration of deaths in Ukraine in some depth, and this will lead to an attempt to correct the historical series (Chap. 4).<sup>1</sup> Two short chapters will then look at two specific issues that may throw additional light on the reasons for Ukrainian mortality trends: an analysis of the differences in age-specific mortality between Ukrainians and Russians, according to whether they live in Ukraine or in Russia (Chap. 6), followed by a discussion of the extent of possible cohort effects (Chap. 7).

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<sup>1</sup>Annex II, available at the Website (<http://www.demogr.mpg.de/books/drm/009> or <http://extras.springer.com/>), gives the complete series of annual estimates by year of age from 1927 to 2000, for each of the four main functions of the complete annual life tables: probabilities of dying, number of survivors, number of deaths, life expectancies.