# Highlights

* Shaded contour maps are a way of showing how something varies over a two dimensional surface.
* A two dimensional surface where the dimensions are age and year is known as a Lexis surface.
* A Lexis surface where the outcome variable is mortality is known as a mortality surface.
* Mortality surfaces for around 100 populations from 37 nations have been produced.
* These surfaces can show how place and space influences health and longevity.