

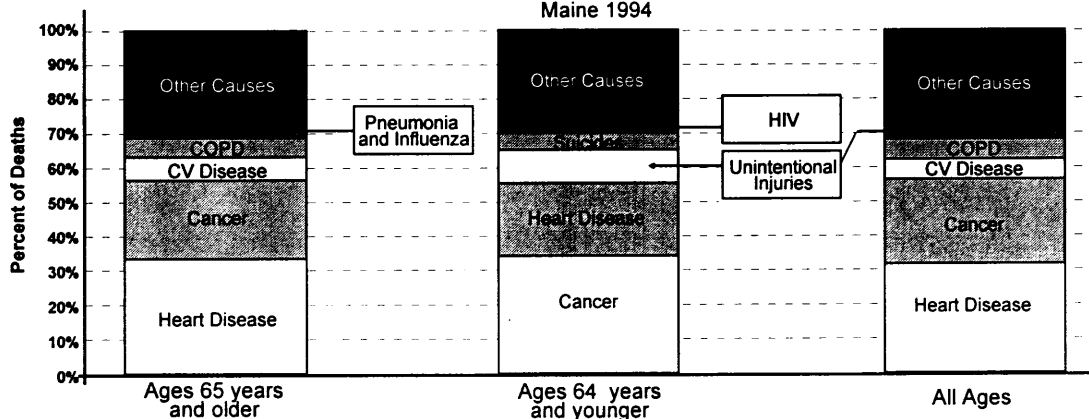
MAINE RESIDENTS AGED 65 AND OLDER

July 1, 1994

Number 8

- ➔ Maine had an estimated 172,975 residents 65 years old and older in 1994; this represented 14% of the state's population; nationally, residents in this age range represented 12.7% of the population.
- ➔ Although 60% of Maine residents aged 65 years old and older were women (this was the same proportion experienced nationally), women represented three quarters of Maine residents who were aged 85 and older; this also is comparable to the national proportion of 72%.
- ➔ Maine's population is aging. Since the 1970 census, the number of Maine residents 65 years old and older has increased by more than 58,000 individuals, and the proportion this group represents of Maine's population has increased by almost 2.5%
- ➔ Although this aging of the population is consistent with the national trend, Maine has historically had an "older" population than the country as a whole; however the difference is slowly narrowing. The 1970 census indicated that elderly residents represented 9.8% of the U.S. population while in Maine they represented 11.6%, a difference of 1.8%. In 1994, this difference had narrowed to 1.3%
- ➔ 78% of Maine deaths were to residents aged 65 years old and older. The leading cause of death to this group was heart disease, followed by cancer, cerebrovascular (CV) disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and pneumonia and influenza. For those deaths to residents younger than 65, the leading cause was cancer, followed by heart disease, unintentional injuries, suicides, and HIV.

FIVE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH BY AGE COHORT
Maine 1994



Notes: National data were obtained from the 1995 Statistical Abstract of the United States. A full citation is available upon request.

Unless noted, differences between national data and Maine data are not statistically significant, i.e., they could be accounted for by chance alone.

For further data on this topic, please contact:
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