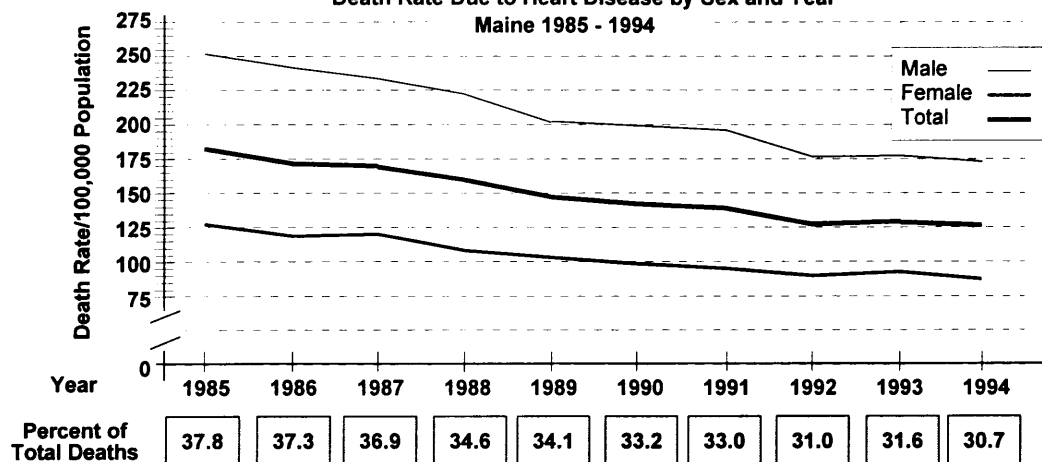


DEATHS DUE TO HEART DISEASE

Maine: 1985 - 1994

- ➔ A lead objective of the *Healthy Maine 2000* effort is to reduce the incidence of death in Maine due to heart disease to no more than 100 deaths per 100,000 population by the year 2000.
- ➔ Between 1985 and 1994, 38,357 Maine residents died from heart disease. It was the leading cause of death in Maine and in the nation during each of those years.
- ➔ In 1994, there were 3,560 deaths in Maine due to this cause; this represented a death rate of 127 per 100,000 population compared to the U.S. rate of 135; this difference in rates is *statistically significant**.
- ➔ During this 10-year period, the death rate in Maine due to heart disease decreased from 183 deaths per 100,000 to 127, a *significant decrease**. As a percentage of all deaths, deaths from this cause decreased from almost 38% to about 31%.

Death Rate Due to Heart Disease by Sex and Year
Maine 1985 - 1994



- ➔ Although the death rate due to heart disease has been consistently higher for males than for females, those rates have decreased for both sexes over the 10 year period, from 252 to 175 deaths per 100,000 population for males, and from 129 to 88 deaths per 100,000 population for females; both decreases in rates are *statistically significant**.
- ➔ The county with the highest death rate due to heart disease for the 10 year period was Somerset county (174/100,000), the lowest was Lincoln county (127/100,000). The difference in these 10-year-rates between the two counties is *significant**; the difference between these county rates and the state rate of 150/100,000 for the 10 years is also *significant**.

NOTE : To maintain consistency and comparability with the National Center for Health Statistics, deaths due to heart disease were determined by examining deaths attributed to ICD-9 codes 390-398, 402, 404-429.

*All rates are for underlying cause of death, for whites only and are age-adjusted to the US 1940 standard population; these are rates that have been standardized to eliminate differences due solely to variations in the age composition of the popu-

For further data on this topic, please contact:

the Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics, Bureau of Health
at 35 Anthony Avenue, State House Station 11, Augusta, Maine 04333-0011
The contact person(s) is: Catherine St. Pierre - (207) 624-5445

For program information, please contact: Pat Jones at 287-5180

Angus S. King, Jr.
Governor



Kevin W. Concannon
Commissioner

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