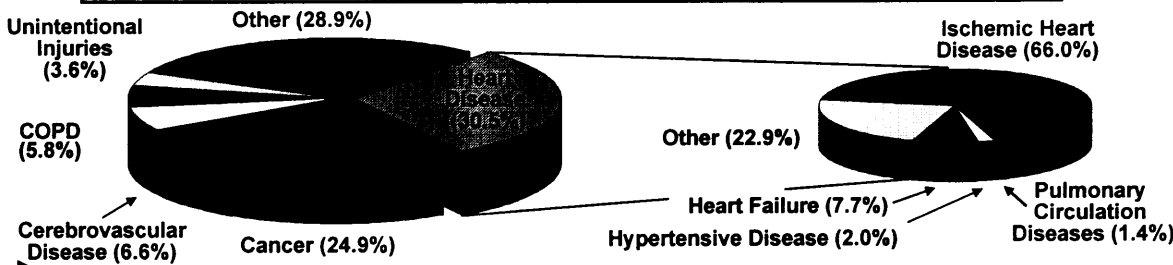


LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, MAINE: 1997 ALL AGES

Number 7

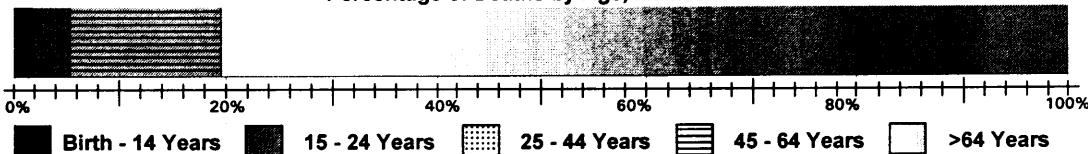
Five Leading Causes of Death: 1997 Maine Residents, All Ages	
Cause of Death	Deaths
Heart Disease	3,627
Cancer	2,978
Cerebrovascular Disease	786
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)	695
Unintentional Injuries	434
All Other Causes	3,456
Total Deaths	11,976



➔ In 1997, 11,976 Maine residents died. This resulted in a statewide death rate of 465 deaths per 100,000 population; this was comparable to the national rate of 456 deaths/100,000. Heart disease was the leading cause of death in Maine, consistent with what was observed nationally.

➔ More than ¾ of the deaths which occurred in Maine in 1997 occurred to residents 65 years old and older. Nearly 40% of those deaths were to Maine residents 85 years old and older.

Percentage of Deaths by Age, Maine: 1997



➔ Because the vast majority of deaths occurred to elderly residents, leading causes of death for all ages were heavily weighted by those deaths; while the leading cause of death to all Maine residents was heart disease (residents >64 years old accounted for 85% of these deaths), the leading cause of death for those younger than 65 years old was cancer, and for residents younger than 45, it was injuries.

Notes: US rates are for whites only. All rates are for underlying cause of death and are age-adjusted to the US 1940 standard population; these rates have been standardized to eliminate differences due solely to variations in the age composition of the populations. Unless noted, differences in rates are not statistically significant, i.e., they could be accounted for by chance alone.

National data were obtained from the National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 47, No. 19, June 30, 1999. A full citation is available.

For further data on this topic, please contact:

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Governor



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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Series 8

DEATHS: 1997
ALL AGES
FACT SHEET