

UNINTENTIONAL POISONING DEATHS

Maine, 1984 - 1993

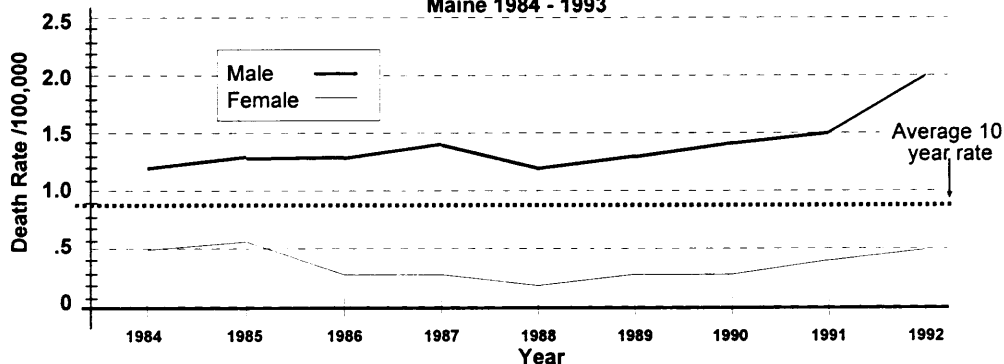
- ➔ In the decade between 1984 and 1993, 136 Maine residents died from unintentional poisoning, 97 males and 39 females. Maine's death rate due to poisonings was .9/100,000 residents for the period; however, the annual rate has increased from 0.9 in 1984 to 1.5 in 1993. The national death rate due to unintentional poisoning in 1993 was 2.8/100,000¹; a rate significantly higher than the Maine rate.
- ➔ Almost 70% of these Maine deaths (94) were due to "accidental poisoning by drugs and medicaments". However, 6 of the 7 deaths to residents younger than 20 years old were to Mainers aged 10-19, and were from poisonings by "other" substances; half of these were petroleum products and solvents. One very young resident (less than 5 years old) died from an unintentional poisoning during the decade.
- ➔ Although the very elderly, 75 years old and older, represented 5 1/2% to 6% of Maine's population during this period, they constituted almost 23% of the deaths due to unintentional poisoning.

Deaths and Death Rates Due to Unintentional Poisoning by Age
Maine, 1984 - 1993

Number of Deaths	7	20	32	18	19	9	31
Age	<20	20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50 - 64	65 - 74	75 and older
Death Rate/100,000	.2	1.1	1.6	1.2	1.2	1.0	4.0

- ➔ Males died from unintentional poisonings at 2 1/2 times the rate of females; this difference was significant. The rate of male poisoning deaths also increased by 2 1/2 times over this 10 year period, from 1.0/100,000 to 2.5/100,000; the average rate for the period was 1.5. The female death rate was essentially flat, averaging .4 for the period.

Death Rates* Due to Unintentional Poisoning by Sex
Maine 1984 - 1993



NOTE: All rates are for underlying cause of death, for whites only and are age adjusted to the US 1940 standard population (rates for age groups cannot be age-adjusted); 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.

Footnote 1: A full citation will be provided upon request.

* Due to the small numbers involved, 3 year moving averages of the rates were used.

For further data on this topic, please contact:
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