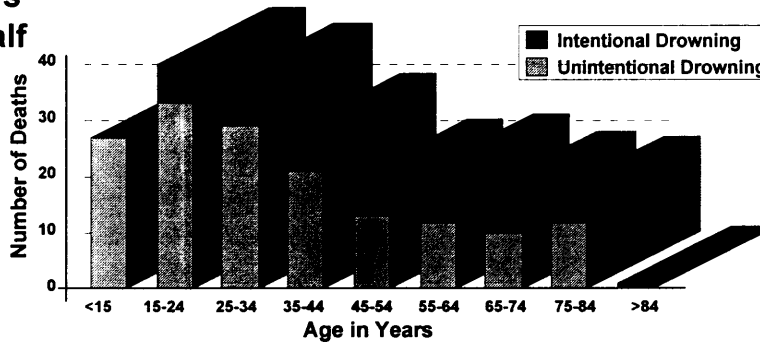


DROWNING DEATHS IN MAINE

Data are from the MAINE VITAL STATISTICS SYSTEM: Maine residents, 1987 - 1996

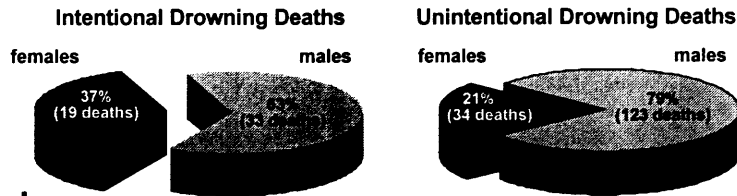
- ➔ During the 10 year period 1987 - 1996, 209 Maine residents died from drowning, resulting in a death rate of 1.8 deaths/100,000 population - a rate significantly greater than the national rate of 1.5 deaths. Three quarters of these deaths (157) were the result of unintentional drownings; 50 were suicides; 2 were homicides.
- ➔ More than a quarter of unintentional drowning victims (42) were adolescents - Maine residents younger than 20 years old - and well over half (89) were Maine residents who were younger than 35. Elderly residents - residents aged 65 years old and older - accounted for 14% of unintentional drowning deaths.

Number of Deaths Due to Intentional Drowning by Age
Maine: 1987 - 1996



- ➔ However, elderly residents accounted for more than a quarter of all intentional drowning deaths (14) while adolescents represented 6% of these deaths - 2 suicides and 1 homicide.
- ➔ Males accounted for 75% of Maine's drowning deaths - a proportion consistent with what was observed nationally. In fact, males were 3½ times more likely to die from unintentional drownings than females and twice as likely to die from intentional drownings; these were significant differences.
- ➔ Maine's death rate due to drownings was significantly higher than all of the New England states except Vermont.

Percent of Deaths Due to Drowning by Gender
Maine: 1987 - 1996



STATE	Adjusted Rate	STATE	Adjusted Rate	STATE	Adjusted Rate
Connecticut	1.2	Massachusetts	1.0	Rhode Island	1.4
MAINE	1.8	New Hampshire	1.3	Vermont	1.4

Notes: 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 populations. Unless noted, differences in rates are not statistically significant, i.e., they could be accounted for by chance alone.

National data and 10 year rates were obtained from CDC WONDER. Full citations are available upon request.

For further data on this topic, please contact:

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