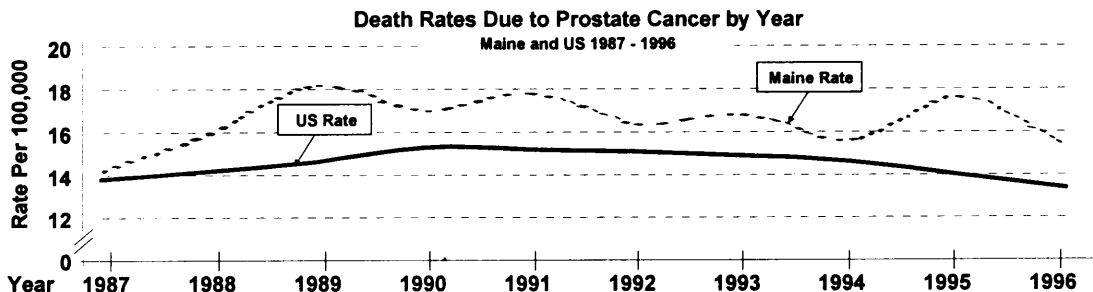
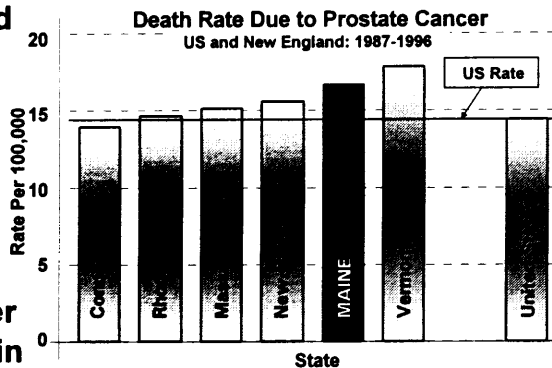


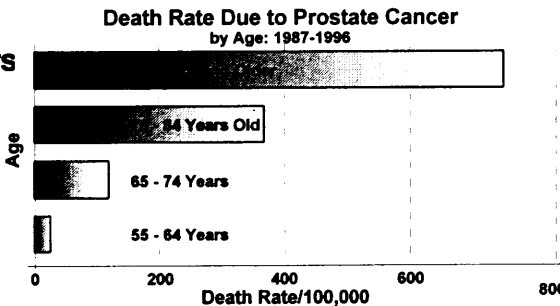
DEATHS DUE TO PROSTATE CANCER

Maine Residents: 1987 - 1996

- ➔ Prostate cancer is the most common cancer (excluding skin cancer) of American men. The American Cancer Society estimates that in 1999 about 179,300 new cases of prostate cancer will be diagnosed in the US and that 37,000 men will die of this disease.¹
- ➔ During the 10 year period, 1987 - 1996, 1,766 Maine residents died from prostate cancer. This resulted in a death rate of 16.6/100,000 population; a rate significantly higher than the national rate of 14.4.
- ➔ In fact, during that period, Maine had the 2nd highest death rate due to prostate cancer in New England and 3rd highest in the country.
- ➔ Nationally, during the 10 year period, prostate cancer death rates gradually increased from 1987 to 1990, and then continually declined to 1996 when the rate fell to 13.4 deaths/100,000 - a rate slightly lower than at the beginning of the period in 1987 when the rate was 13.8. In Maine, the death rate fluctuated repeatedly throughout the 10 year period, ending with a 1996 death rate of 15.3 deaths/100,000 - a rate of 1 death/100,000 more than in 1987.



- ➔ The incidence of prostate cancer, as well as the death rate due to that cancer, increased dramatically with age. For men younger than 54 years old, the death rate from this cause was less than 3 deaths/100,000 population. For men 65 - 74 years old, the death rate increased to 120 deaths/100,000 and for men over 84, to 750 deaths.



Notes: All rates are for the male population only, for underlying cause of death, 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. Age specific rates cannot be age adjusted. 1995 and 1996 Maine data, and all national data (national data are for whites only) were obtained from CDC Wonder. Unless noted, differences in rates are not statistically significant, i.e., they could be accounted for by chance alone.

Footnote 1: American Cancer Society, The Prostate Cancer Resource Center. A full citation is available upon request.

For further data on this topic, please contact:

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