

LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH

MAINE: 1982 and 1997

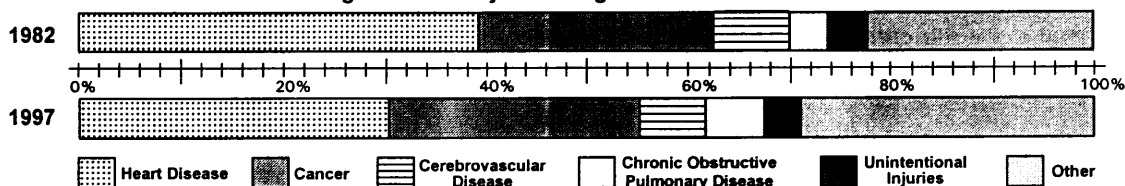
Number 8

Five Leading Causes of Death Maine: 1982 and 1997

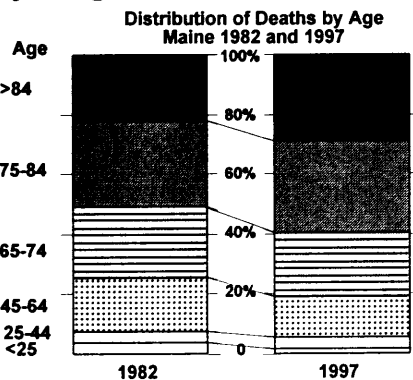
Cause of Death	1982		1997	
	Deaths	Rank	Deaths	Rank
Heart Disease	4,104	1	3,627	1
Cancer	2,425	2	2,978	2
Cerebrovascular Disease	795	3	786	3
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	382	5	695	4
Unintentional Injuries	425	4	434	5
All Other Causes	2,320		3,456	
Total Deaths	10,451		11,976	

- ➔ 1,525 more Maine residents died in 1997 than in 1982, an increase of 15%. The crude death rate also rose - from 9.2 deaths/1,000 population to 9.6 deaths - a statistically significant increase.
- ➔ Over the 15 year period, the same 5 causes have been the leading causes of death for Maine residents. However, the proportion of deaths due to the #1 cause, heart disease, has decreased by 23% and the proportion of deaths from Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), has increased by 57%. In fact, deaths due to COPD, moved from 5th leading cause in 1982, to 4th leading cause by 1997.

Percentage of Deaths by 5 Leading Causes: Maine: 1982 and 1997



- ➔ The distribution of deaths by age changed between 1982 and 1997. The proportion of Maine's youth, residents younger than 25, that died in 1997 was half the proportion that died in 1982, while the proportion of Maine resident deaths to individuals 75 years old or older rose by nearly 10%.
- ➔ In 1982 there were 146 infant deaths and an infant death rate of 8.7 deaths per 1,000 live births. In 1997, fewer than half that number of infants died (70) resulting in an infant death rate of 5.1 deaths.



For further data on this topic, please contact:

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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Series 8

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