



MORTALITY IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY 2006 LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH AND PREMATURE DEATH WITH TRENDS FOR 1997-2006

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Mortality in Los Angeles County 2006 and Mortality Trends 1997-2006

LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH AND PREMATURE DEATH

Message from the Director

A vital function of the Department of Public Health is to monitor the health status of the county population and its communities in order to inform public health planning, education, and advocacy efforts, and to assess the impact of these efforts. This report summarizes information about the leading causes of death and premature death in the County in 2006, and during the 10-year period from 1997 through 2006.

In the last 10 years, the County has seen remarkable declines in most of the leading causes of death, including coronary heart disease, lung cancer, and stroke. For example, death rates from coronary heart disease and stroke decreased 33% and 31%, respectively, in the 10-year period from 1997 through 2006. These reductions were, in large part, the result of improvements in both clinical and community preventive services, including improved treatments for high blood pressure and high cholesterol, as well as successful public health efforts to reduce smoking through vigorous tobacco control policies and programs. These tobacco control efforts have led to a 24% decline in lung cancer mortality during this period, and Los Angeles County now has one of the lowest rates of death from lung cancer among California counties.

Unfortunately, not all groups have shared equally in these favorable trends, and marked disparities in mortality persist. For example, in 2006, the mortality rate from coronary heart disease among blacks was nearly 40% higher than whites, and was double the rate of Hispanics. Coronary heart disease mortality also varied substantially across different regions of the County, with the highest mortality rates in the South and Antelope Valley Service Planning Areas, and the lowest in the West Service Planning Area. While deaths from lung cancer are decreasing, the mortality rates remain unacceptably high in some populations. The lung cancer mortality rate for black males is more than double the County rate and far exceeds the Healthy People 2010 goal.

The disturbing parallel epidemics of obesity and diabetes threaten to halt or even reverse some of the positive trends in mortality, and are contributing to the large health disparities seen across the County. For example, diabetes mortality among black men increased 10% from 1997 to 2006 and was more than double the rate in white and Asian/Pacific Islander men. Diabetes was a leading cause of premature death, and also exacts a tremendous toll in terms of quality of life and the need for health services. Proper nutrition, exercise, and careful monitoring and control of blood sugar and blood pressure levels can prevent many of the complications of diabetes, including damage to the eyes, kidneys, nerves, heart, and blood vessels.

Efforts to address the obesity and diabetes epidemics will require a range of strategies, including community-based interventions to increase physical activity and improve nutrition. Continued work with communities, cities, schools, and businesses is needed to create healthy places where people can be active and where they can purchase healthy foods. While both general and focused community education will be important, these efforts are likely to fall far short without concurrent efforts to institute policies and modify environments in ways that remove many of the barriers to physical activity and healthful eating. For example, research has shown that populations are more physically active when land use practices and policies prioritize compact and mixed use development, sidewalks and street connectivity, bike lanes and jogging paths, park space, traffic calming, and attractive streetscapes. The recent passage of a state menu labeling law requiring posting of calorie information on menus and menu boards at fast-food and sit-down restaurants with 20 or more outlets in the state will provide the public with valuable information for eating more healthfully and managing their weight. However, community education will be required to ensure that County residents are aware, and make optimal use, of this information.

Since 1997, the number of residents in the County aged 65 years or older has increased 15%. In 2006, there were more than one million residents aged 65 years or older, and this is expected to grow to 2.4 million by 2030. Consistent with this increase in the senior population has been a marked rise in Alzheimer's disease mortality. The number of deaths from Alzheimer's disease increased from 465 in 1997 to 1,551 in 2006, an increase of 234%. While much of this change may reflect increased recognition and diagnosis, it also highlights the growing importance of Alzheimer's disease in our aging population. Our growing senior population brings with it the need for expanded programs and support services for seniors, and for family caregivers, to cope with the wide range of health issues that can diminish quality of life, including osteoarthritis, diabetes, heart disease, and increased susceptibility to infectious diseases, as well as difficulty with vision and hearing.

In addition to information about the leading causes of death, this report provides valuable information about the leading causes of premature death, defined as years of potential life lost before the age of 75. While nearly all Angelenos have the potential to live for 75 years or more, many did not reach this milestone. Injuries, including homicide, suicide, and unintentional injuries, which are largely preventable, were the leading cause of death for people 1-44 years of age. Progress has been made in reducing motor vehicle crash injuries and deaths through a multi-pronged approach, including seat belt and child car-seat laws, design of safer vehicles, road maintenance and design to create safer roadway conditions, graduated driver's license laws, and public campaigns and laws to reduce alcohol- and drug-impaired driving. Despite this success, motor vehicle crashes remain a leading cause of death for younger people.

Homicide is the second leading cause of premature death in the County overall, and the leading cause of premature death for blacks, Hispanics, and among those in the South Service Planning Area. Poverty, unemployment, inadequate educational opportunities, crime, substance abuse, and the physical conditions in which we live, all contribute to violent behavior. Ensuring the availability of effective drug treatment programs, after-school programs for youth, and nurse home-visitation programs for teen parents, coupled with community policing programs; clean, well-lit streets that discourage street violence; and laws that control access to firearms and ammunition are important components of the comprehensive approach needed to reduce violence.

Achieving measurable improvements in the health of the population requires a range of strategies, with interventions at all levels and sectors of government, and with the active participation of communities, schools, health care organizations, businesses, foundations, and volunteer organizations. We hope the information in this report will be a helpful guide in carrying out this work, in identifying priorities for action, and in improving the effectiveness of our collective efforts to improve the public's health.



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Mortality in Los Angeles County 2006 and Mortality Trends 1997-2006

LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH AND PREMATURE DEATH

Data highlights for 2006

- On an average day in Los Angeles County, 163 people died, including 41 from coronary heart disease, 37 from cancer, 10 from stroke, and 11 from injuries (homicide, suicide, and unintentional). Six deaths were among children or young adults less than 25 years of age.
- For the year, there were 59,461 deaths: 30,035 males and 29,426 females.
- Twenty-five of every 100 deaths were caused by coronary heart disease (14,842 deaths), the leading cause of death and premature death.
- Twenty-three of every 100 deaths were caused by cancer (13,525 deaths). Among those who died of cancer, lung cancer was most common (3,021 deaths), followed by colorectal cancer (1,362 deaths) and breast cancer (1,071 deaths).
- Injuries—homicide, suicide, and motor vehicle crash and other unintentional injuries—were the leading cause of death for persons aged 1 to 44 years.
- HIV remained an important cause of death and premature death for Hispanics and blacks.
- Homicide was the second-leading cause of premature death overall, and the leading cause of premature death for Hispanics and blacks, in the South Service Planning Area, and in the El Monte, Inglewood, Northeast and San Antonio Health Districts. It was the leading cause of death for persons aged 5 to 44 years.
- Death rates were higher for men than women for every leading cause of death and premature death, except Alzheimer's disease and breast cancer.
- For 12 of the 15 leading causes of death and premature death, death rates were highest among blacks.
- 45% of all deaths were among persons less than 75 years of age. Each death before the age of 75 years resulted in potential years of life lost before reaching that milestone, which, when added together across all deaths, totaled more than 496,000 years of potential life lost before age 75.
- The Healthy People 2010 goal was met for breast cancer, lung cancer and stroke, but not for the other leading causes of death and premature death for which a comparable Healthy People 2010 goal has been established (colorectal cancer, coronary heart disease, emphysema/COPD, HIV, homicide, liver disease, motor vehicle crash, and suicide).

Data highlights for 1997-2006

- There were notable decreases in many of the leading causes of death and premature death from 1997 through 2006. The death rate decreased for female breast cancer (-22%), colorectal cancer (-17%), coronary heart disease (-33%), emphysema/COPD (-15%), homicide (-20%), HIV (-5%), liver disease (-13%), lung cancer (-24%), stroke (-31%), and suicide (-25%).
- The overall death rate decreased 19.5%, from 821 to 661 deaths per 100,000 population.
- Since 1999, there has been no change in the ranking of the six leading causes of death: coronary heart disease, stroke, lung cancer, emphysema/COPD, pneumonia/influenza, and diabetes.
- Coronary heart disease, homicide, and motor vehicle crashes have been the three leading causes of premature death since 1997.
- Alzheimer's disease remained the seventh-leading cause of death in 2006 after moving from the eighth-leading cause in 2005. Deaths increased 234%, from 465 in 1997 to 1,551 in 2006.
- HIV, which was the third-leading cause of premature death in 1997, was not among the 10 leading causes of premature death overall in 2006.



Background

When a death occurs in California, state law requires that a certificate of death be filed within eight days of death and before a decedent is buried or cremated. The certificate of death is a legal document that serves as a permanent record of the death of an individual. To complete a certificate of death, the funeral director collects identifying and demographic information about the decedent from family members and medical records. The decedent's physician or the coroner provides information about the medical conditions or events that precipitated the death.

When the death certificate is complete, it is filed with the local registrar. The local registrar files the document with the State Registrar of Vital Records. State records are aggregated by the National Center for Health Statistics to create an annual national mortality database. There is a delay of about two years before the annual national mortality database is available for use. Errors, omissions, and inaccuracies can occur when the death certificate is completed, and later when it is processed. Some of these errors are detected and corrected; others are not.

This report summarizes information obtained from death certificates (Appendix 1) for all Los Angeles County residents who died in 2006, and mortality trends for 1997 through 2006. While it cannot provide information about every cause of death, it lays the groundwork for future efforts and provides valuable information for public health and medical research, evaluation of prevention and intervention programs, community needs assessments, policy development, and program planning.



Premature death: What is it?

We expect most people to live a long life, but many do not. In 2006, almost half (45%) of the people who died were less than 75 years old. To quantify the impact of early, or premature, death we must consider how long a person was expected to live. For this report, we set our expected lifespan at 75 years of age, a standard cut-off used in public health. Ideally, many people will live longer than 75 years.

If we expect everyone to live to at least 75 years of age, then people who die younger are considered to have died prematurely. For example, a person who died at 63 years of age lost 12 years of expected life, while a person who died at 80 exceeded the expectation and did not lose any years of expected life. For everyone who died during the year, we calculated the years of expected life that were lost if they died before 75. Then, by adding up the total years of life lost for each cause of death, we identified those causes of death responsible for the greatest amount of premature death. Calculations of years of life lost were limited to persons who were at least 1 year of age at the time of death. Infants less than 1 year of age were excluded because prevention of infant mortality differs from prevention of other causes of early mortality.



Measures

This report provides the number of deaths, death rates, and years of life lost before age 75 for the leading causes of death and premature death for 2006 and the 10-year period, 1997 through 2006, for Los Angeles County residents. The variables included in the analysis were age at death, gender, race/ethnicity, service planning area and health district of residence, and underlying cause of death.



A standardized coding system, the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), was used to classify causes of death and to group similar causes of death into categories for analysis.¹ The cause of death groups were based on categories developed by the National Center for Health Statistics.² To identify the leading causes of death, the cause of death groups were ranked by the number of deaths in each group. If two groups had the same number of deaths, then the cause of death that resulted in the most years of life lost was ranked first. To identify the leading causes of premature death, the groups were ranked by the years of life lost in each group. If two causes of death resulted in the same number of years of life lost, then the group that resulted in the greatest number of deaths was ranked first.

When a person dies, it is likely that several factors or conditions contributed to the death. For this report, we analyzed the underlying cause of death, which is the condition that most directly caused the death. By using a single cause of death rather than considering all the conditions present at the time of death, the number of deaths and rates in this report do not reflect the full impact of certain diseases and conditions.³

Some figures include national goals established by Healthy People 2010.⁴ Healthy People 2010 is a set of health-related objectives for the nation to achieve, with the goal of increasing life expectancy and quality of life, and eliminating health disparities in population groups.

Definitions

Age-adjusted death rate: There are age-related differences in the rates at which most health conditions occur. Some conditions are more common among young people, while others are more common among older people. Age adjustment is a technique for removing the effects of age from crude rates so they can be compared. Age adjustment is used to compare two or more populations at one point in time or one population at two or more points in time. To control for differences in



¹ International statistical classification of diseases and related health problems, tenth revision. Geneva: World Health Organization, 1992.

² Instruction manual, Part 9. ICD-10 cause-of-death lists for tabulating mortality statistics. Available at: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/dvs/im9_2002.pdf.pdf.

³ Redelings MD, Sorvillo F, Simon P. A comparison of underlying cause and multiple causes of death: US vital statistics, 2000-2001. *Epidemiology*. 2006 Jan;17(1):100-3.

⁴ Healthy People, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. www.healthypeople.gov.



the age distribution of the populations being compared, the death rates for each population group are applied to a standard population in order to create a comparable summary measure of mortality. In this report, age-adjusted death rates were calculated using the 2000 standard population published by the National Center for Health Statistics (Appendix 2).⁵ All rates were rounded to the nearest whole number; therefore, rates that appear to be the same may differ by a fractional amount.

Age-specific death rate: The number of deaths in a specific age group divided by the population at risk in that age group.

Death rate: The number of deaths divided by the population at risk. Death rates make comparisons between different population groups more meaningful than frequencies alone. This type of rate is also called the crude death rate.

Health District: Using census tract boundaries, the County is divided into 26 health districts that are responsible for planning and providing public health services according to the health needs of the local communities (Appendix 3).

Service Planning Area: Health districts are aggregated to form service planning areas. The County is divided into eight service planning areas (Appendices 3 and 4).

⁵ Anderson RN, Rosenberg HM. Age standardization of death rates: Implementation of the year 2000 standard. National Vital Statistics Reports; Vol. 47 No. 3. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics, 1998.

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LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH AND PREMATURE DEATH

User's Guide to Color

To make the figures easier to understand and interpret, color codes have been used throughout the report. To make it easier to see the overall impact of cancer, the same color is used for all cancers regardless of the type. The same is true for unintentional injuries (accidents); all unintentional injuries, such as drug overdose, motor vehicle crash, or any other unintentional injury, have the same color code.

Coronary heart disease
Stroke
Cancer
Emphysema/chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
Pneumonia/influenza
Diabetes
Alzheimer's disease
Homicide
Unintentional injury (accident)
Self-inflicted injury (suicide)
Liver disease
HIV
Birth defect
Perinatal period condition
Other conditions

User's guide to cause of death and premature death figures

The following series of figures compares the 10 leading causes of death with the 10 leading causes of *premature* death (death before age 75) for the County overall and selected population groups. These figures are designed to facilitate comparisons within population groups. Other figures are designed to facilitate comparisons between population groups.

A				B			
Leading causes of death				Leading causes of <i>premature</i> death			
Rank	Cause of death	No. of deaths	Premature death rank	Rank	Cause of death	Years of life lost	Death rank
1.	Coronary heart disease	14,842	1.	1.	Coronary heart disease	63,590	1.
2.	Stroke	3,622	7.	2.	Homicide	46,799	11.
3.	Lung cancer	3,021	6.	3.	Motor vehicle crash	32,627	12.
4.	Emphysema/COPD	2,665	13.	4.	Liver disease	19,875	9.
5.	Pneumonia/influenza	2,283	20.	5.	Suicide	19,140	17.
6.	Diabetes	2,188	9.	6.	Lung cancer	18,456	3.
7.	Alzheimer's disease	1,551	49.	7.	Stroke	17,485	2.
8.	Colorectal cancer	1,362	12.	8.	Drug overdose	17,065	20.
9.	Liver disease	1,102	4.	9.	Diabetes	16,356	6.
10.	Breast cancer	1,071	10.	10.	Breast cancer	13,760	10.

User's guide

A: The 10 leading causes of death are shown from highest (top) to lowest (bottom) based on the number of deaths from each cause.

B: The 10 leading causes of *premature* death are shown from highest (top) to lowest (bottom) based on the number of years of life lost before age 75 from each cause.

① The cause of death group coded by color.

② The number of deaths due to the specific cause, e.g., there were 14,842 deaths from coronary heart disease and 2,665 deaths from emphysema/COPD.

③ The *premature* death rank for the cause of death, e.g., liver disease was the ninth-ranked cause of death (1,102 deaths) but was the fourth-ranked cause of *premature* death (19,875 years of life lost).

④ The cause of premature death group coded by color.

⑤ The total years of life lost before age 75 for the specific cause of death.

⑥ The death rank for the cause of *premature* death, e.g., stroke was the seventh-ranked cause of *premature* death, resulting in 17,485 years of life lost before age 75 but was the second-ranked cause of death (3,622 deaths).

Figure 1. Ten leading causes of death and premature death

Los Angeles County
59,461 total deaths
496,111 years of life lost*

Leading causes of death				Leading causes of premature** death			
Rank	Cause of death	No. of deaths	Premature death rank	Rank	Cause of death	Years of life lost*	Death rank
1.	Coronary heart disease	14,842	1.	1.	Coronary heart disease	63,590	1.
2.	Stroke	3,622	7.	2.	Homicide	46,799	11.
3.	Lung cancer	3,021	6.	3.	Motor vehicle crash	32,627	12.
4.	Emphysema/COPD	2,665	13.	4.	Liver disease	19,875	9.
5.	Pneumonia/influenza	2,283	20.	5.	Suicide	19,140	17.
6.	Diabetes	2,188	9.	6.	Lung cancer	18,456	3.
7.	Alzheimer's disease	1,551	49.	7.	Stroke	17,485	2.
8.	Colorectal cancer	1,362	12.	8.	Drug overdose	17,065	20.
9.	Liver disease	1,102	4.	9.	Diabetes	16,356	6.
10.	Breast cancer	1,071	10.	10.	Breast cancer	13,760	10.

There were four times more deaths from coronary heart disease than there were from stroke, the second-leading cause of death.

Overall, coronary heart disease (14,842 deaths) and cancer (13,525 deaths) caused nearly half (48%) of all deaths.

For each death from homicide, the second-leading cause of premature death, an average of 45 years of life was lost compared with four years for coronary heart disease.

Homicide, unintentional injury, and suicide caused only 7% of all deaths but 27% of all years of life lost, highlighting the dramatic impact of these conditions on premature death.

Although the years of life lost from liver disease and suicide were similar, there were almost twice as many deaths from liver disease as suicide (662 deaths).

Alzheimer's disease was becoming an increasingly important cause of death in Los Angeles County.

Drug overdose, although not one of the leading causes of death, was an important cause of premature death.

*Excludes infants less than 1 year of age and persons of unknown age.

**Death before age 75 years.

Figure 2. Ten leading causes of death and premature death, by gender

Males				Females			
30,035 total deaths				29,426 total deaths			
322,280 years of life lost*				173,831 years of life lost**			
Leading causes of death				Leading causes of premature** death			
Rank	Cause of death	No. of deaths	Premature death rank	Rank	Cause of death	Years of life lost*	Death rank
1.	Coronary heart disease	7,541	1.	1.	Coronary heart disease	46,642	1.
2.	Lung cancer	1,719	7.	2.	Homicide	41,636	7.
3.	Stroke	1,501	10.	3.	Motor vehicle crash	24,159	11.
4.	Emphysema/COPD	1,275	13.	4.	Liver disease	14,812	8.
5.	Diabetes	1,099	9.	5.	Suicide	14,563	12.
6.	Pneumonia/influenza	1,083	19.	6.	Drug overdose	11,618	17.
7.	Homicide	916	2.	7.	Lung cancer	10,950	2.
8.	Liver disease	758	4.	8.	HIV	9,952	19.
9.	Prostate cancer	694	28.	9.	Diabetes	9,772	5.
10.	Colorectal cancer	686	11.	10.	Stroke	9,644	3.

Males				Females			
30,035 total deaths				29,426 total deaths			
322,280 years of life lost*				173,831 years of life lost**			
Leading causes of death				Leading causes of premature** death			
Rank	Cause of death	No. of deaths	Premature death rank	Rank	Cause of death	Years of life lost*	Death rank
1.	Coronary heart disease	7,301	1.	1.	Coronary heart disease	16,948	1.
2.	Stroke	2,121	4.	2.	Breast cancer	13,716	8.
3.	Emphysema/COPD	1,390	13.	3.	Motor vehicle crash	8,468	15.
4.	Lung cancer	1,302	5.	4.	Stroke	7,841	2.
5.	Pneumonia/influenza	1,200	21.	5.	Lung cancer	7,506	4.
6.	Diabetes	1,089	6.	6.	Diabetes	6,584	6.
7.	Alzheimer's disease	1,074	42.	7.	Drug overdose	5,447	22.
8.	Breast cancer	1,063	2.	8.	Homicide	5,163	32.
9.	Colorectal cancer	676	10.	9.	Liver disease	5,063	14.
10.	Hypertension	536	25.	10.	Colorectal cancer	4,749	9.

For men, the years of life lost from homicide were almost as high as the years of life lost from coronary heart disease, even though there were eight times more deaths from coronary heart disease than homicide.

Injuries (homicide [916 deaths], suicide [506 deaths], and unintentional [1,607 deaths]) caused 33% of the years of life lost among men but only 10% of the total deaths.

HIV continued to be an important cause of premature death among men.

The number of coronary heart disease deaths for men and women was nearly equal, but men lost more than twice as many years of life.

Injuries (homicide [127 deaths], suicide [156 deaths], and unintentional [713 deaths]) caused 16% of the years of life lost among women but only 3% of the deaths.

Emphysema/COPD, pneumonia/influenza, Alzheimer's disease, and hypertension were leading causes of death for women but had less impact on premature death.

*Excludes infants less than 1 year of age and persons of unknown age.

**Death before age 75 years.

Figure 3. Ten leading causes of death and premature death, by race/ethnicity

White				Hispanic											
31,376 total deaths				13,783 total deaths											
171,687 years of life lost*				186,285 years of life lost*											
Leading causes of death			Leading causes of premature** death			Leading causes of death			Leading causes of premature** death						
Rank	Cause of death	No. of deaths	Premature death rank	Rank	Cause of death	Years of life lost*	Death rank	Rank	Cause of death	No. of deaths	Premature death rank	Rank	Cause of death	Years of life lost*	Death rank
1.	Coronary heart disease	8,653	1.	1.	Coronary heart disease	28,506	1.	1.	Coronary heart disease	2,675	3.	1.	Homicide	25,968	5.
2.	Stroke	1,817	9.	2.	Lung cancer	9,509	3.	2.	Stroke	779	7.	2.	Motor vehicle crash	16,310	7.
3.	Lung cancer	1,788	2.	3.	Motor vehicle crash	9,271	16.	3.	Diabetes	774	5.	3.	Coronary heart disease	15,498	1.
4.	Emphysema/COPD	1,771	10.	4.	Drug overdose	8,811	20.	4.	Liver disease	554	4.	4.	Liver disease	10,779	4.
5.	Pneumonia/influenza	1,314	18.	5.	Suicide	8,618	13.	5.	Homicide	545	1.	5.	Diabetes	6,815	3.
6.	Alzheimer's disease	1,105	42.	6.	Liver disease	6,215	12.	6.	Pneumonia/influenza	429	21.	6.	Suicide	6,273	21.
7.	Diabetes	806	8.	7.	Breast cancer	5,594	9.	7.	Motor vehicle crash	425	2.	7.	Stroke	6,162	2.
8.	Colorectal cancer	689	11.	8.	Diabetes	4,835	7.	8.	Lung cancer	384	14.	8.	Drug overdose	5,619	19.
9.	Breast cancer	561	7.	9.	Stroke	4,830	2.	9.	Emphysema/COPD	346	28.	9.	HIV	4,312	25.
10.	Pancreatic cancer	437	15.	10.	Emphysema/COPD	4,498	4.	10.	Colorectal cancer	275	13.	10.	Breast cancer	4,272	12.

Alzheimer's disease was the seventh-leading cause of death overall but was the sixth-leading cause of death for whites.

Lung cancer was the sixth-leading cause of premature death overall but was the second-leading cause of premature death for whites.

Motor vehicle crash and drug overdose caused 2% of the deaths and 11% of the years of life lost among whites.

White				Hispanic											
31,376 total deaths				13,783 total deaths											
171,687 years of life lost*				186,285 years of life lost*											
Leading causes of death			Leading causes of premature** death			Leading causes of death			Leading causes of premature** death						
Rank	Cause of death	No. of deaths	Premature death rank	Rank	Cause of death	Years of life lost*	Death rank	Rank	Cause of death	No. of deaths	Premature death rank	Rank	Cause of death	Years of life lost*	Death rank
1.	Coronary heart disease	8,653	1.	1.	Coronary heart disease	28,506	1.	1.	Coronary heart disease	2,675	3.	1.	Homicide	25,968	5.
2.	Stroke	1,817	9.	2.	Lung cancer	9,509	3.	2.	Stroke	779	7.	2.	Motor vehicle crash	16,310	7.
3.	Lung cancer	1,788	2.	3.	Motor vehicle crash	9,271	16.	3.	Diabetes	774	5.	3.	Coronary heart disease	15,498	1.
4.	Emphysema/COPD	1,771	10.	4.	Drug overdose	8,811	20.	4.	Liver disease	554	4.	4.	Liver disease	10,779	4.
5.	Pneumonia/influenza	1,314	18.	5.	Suicide	8,618	13.	5.	Homicide	545	1.	5.	Diabetes	6,815	3.
6.	Alzheimer's disease	1,105	42.	6.	Liver disease	6,215	12.	6.	Pneumonia/influenza	429	21.	6.	Suicide	6,273	21.
7.	Diabetes	806	8.	7.	Breast cancer	5,594	9.	7.	Motor vehicle crash	425	2.	7.	Stroke	6,162	2.
8.	Colorectal cancer	689	11.	8.	Diabetes	4,835	7.	8.	Lung cancer	384	14.	8.	Drug overdose	5,619	19.
9.	Breast cancer	561	7.	9.	Stroke	4,830	2.	9.	Emphysema/COPD	346	28.	9.	HIV	4,312	25.
10.	Pancreatic cancer	437	15.	10.	Emphysema/COPD	4,498	4.	10.	Colorectal cancer	275	13.	10.	Breast cancer	4,272	12.

Although the number of homicides was almost five times less than the number of coronary heart disease deaths, homicide was the leading cause of premature death for Hispanics.

Liver disease was the ninth-leading cause of death overall but was the fourth-leading cause of death for Hispanics.

Diabetes ranked higher as a cause of death and premature death for Hispanics than the County overall.

Black
8,185 total deaths
93,393 years of life lost*

Leading causes of death				Leading causes of premature** death			
Rank	Cause of death	No. of deaths	Premature death rank	Rank	Cause of death	Years of life lost*	Death rank
1.	Coronary heart disease	2,053	2.	1.	Homicide	15,405	5.
2.	Stroke	495	4.	2.	Coronary heart disease	13,958	1.
3.	Lung cancer	480	3.	3.	Lung cancer	3,822	3.
4.	Diabetes	367	6.	4.	Stroke	3,811	2.
5.	Homicide	344	1.	5.	Motor vehicle crash	3,767	15.
6.	Emphysema/COPD	329	11.	6.	Diabetes	3,288	4.
7.	Pneumonia/influenza	246	20.	7.	HIV	3,095	16.
8.	Colorectal cancer	223	10.	8.	Breast cancer	2,294	10.
9.	Hypertension	174	15.	9.	Drug overdose	2,123	18.
10.	Breast cancer	167	8.	10.	Colorectal cancer	2,070	8.

For each homicide, an average of 45 years of life was lost compared to seven years for coronary heart disease, 33 years for motor vehicle crash, nine years for diabetes, and 29 years for HIV.

HIV was the eleventh-leading cause of premature death overall but was the seventh-leading cause of premature death for blacks.

Asian/Pacific Islander
5,884 total deaths
41,877 years of life lost*

Leading causes of death				Leading causes of premature** death			
Rank	Cause of death	No. of deaths	Premature death rank	Rank	Cause of death	Years of life lost*	Death rank
1.	Coronary heart disease	1,409	1.	1.	Coronary heart disease	5,227	1.
2.	Stroke	522	3.	2.	Motor vehicle crash	3,137	11.
3.	Lung cancer	359	5.	3.	Stroke	2,634	2.
4.	Pneumonia/influenza	284	18.	4.	Suicide	2,580	15.
5.	Diabetes	230	10.	5.	Lung cancer	2,437	3.
6.	Emphysema/COPD	213	24.	6.	Homicide	2,036	18.
7.	Colorectal cancer	171	7.	7.	Colorectal cancer	1,612	7.
8.	Liver cancer	150	8.	8.	Liver cancer	1,587	8.
9.	Stomach cancer	125	11.	9.	Breast cancer	1,576	12.
10.	Nephritis	114	23.	10.	Diabetes	1,325	5.

Cancers were leading causes of death and premature death among Asian/Pacific Islanders.

Stroke was the seventh-leading cause of premature death overall but was the third-leading cause of premature death for Asian/Pacific Islanders.

*Excludes infants less than 1 year of age and persons of unknown age.
**Death before age 75 years.

Figure 4. Comparison of the leading causes of death and premature death, by race/ethnicity

Leading causes of death

Race/ethnicity Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#1 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#2 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#3 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#4 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#5 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate
White 31,376 705 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 8,653 185 per 100,000	Stroke 1,817 39 per 100,000	Lung cancer 1,788 42 per 100,000	Emphysema/COPD 1,771 39 per 100,000	Pneumonia/influenza 1,314 27 per 100,000
Hispanic 13,783 556 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 2,675 129 per 100,000	Stroke 779 36 per 100,000	Diabetes 774 34 per 100,000	Liver disease 554 18 per 100,000	Homicide 545 10 per 100,000
Black 8,185 985 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 2,053 255 per 100,000	Stroke 495 61 per 100,000	Lung cancer 480 58 per 100,000	Diabetes 367 44 per 100,000	Homicide 344 36 per 100,000
Asian/Pacific Islander 5,884 454 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 1,409 112 per 100,000	Stroke 522 41 per 100,000	Lung cancer 359 27 per 100,000	Pneumonia/influenza 284 23 per 100,000	Diabetes 230 18 per 100,000
Los Angeles County Total 59,461 661 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 14,842 168 per 100,000	Stroke 3,622 41 per 100,000	Lung cancer 3,021 35 per 100,000	Emphysema/COPD 2,665 31 per 100,000	Pneumonia/influenza 2,283 26 per 100,000

Leading causes of premature death (before age 75 years)

Race/ethnicity	#1 cause	#2 cause	#3 cause	#4 cause	#5 cause
White	Coronary heart disease	Lung cancer	Motor vehicle crash	Drug overdose	Suicide
Hispanic	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Coronary heart disease	Liver disease	Diabetes
Black	Homicide	Coronary heart disease	Lung cancer	Stroke	Motor vehicle crash
Asian/Pacific Islander	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Stroke	Suicide	Lung cancer
Los Angeles County Total	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Liver disease	Suicide

Note: Los Angeles County Total includes persons of other or unknown race/ethnicity.

Figure 5. Comparison of the leading causes of death and premature death for males, by race/ethnicity

Males: Leading causes of death

Race/ethnicity Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#1 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#2 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#3 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#4 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#5 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate
White 15,182 831 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 4,299 232 per 100,000	Lung cancer 941 51 per 100,000	Emphysema/COPD 793 44 per 100,000	Stroke 704 39 per 100,000	Pneumonia/influenza 612 34 per 100,000
Hispanic 7,440 673 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 1,414 162 per 100,000	Homicide 491 18 per 100,000	Liver disease 397 27 per 100,000	Diabetes 371 39 per 100,000	Stroke 356 38 per 100,000
Black 4,181 1,238 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 1,053 333 per 100,000	Homicide 298 67 per 100,000	Lung cancer 286 85 per 100,000	Stroke 202 61 per 100,000	Diabetes 178 54 per 100,000
Asian/Pacific Islander 3,106 558 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 748 138 per 100,000	Lung cancer 250 43 per 100,000	Stroke 235 43 per 100,000	Pneumonia/influenza 152 30 per 100,000	Emphysema/COPD 141 28 per 100,000
All males 30,035 793 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 7,541 210 per 100,000	Lung cancer 1,719 47 per 100,000	Stroke 1,501 42 per 100,000	Emphysema/COPD 1,275 37 per 100,000	Diabetes 1,099 29 per 100,000

Males: Leading causes of premature death (before age 75 years)

Race/ethnicity	#1 cause	#2 cause	#3 cause	#4 cause	#5 cause
White	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Suicide	Drug overdose	Lung cancer
Hispanic	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Coronary heart disease	Liver disease	Suicide
Black	Homicide	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	HIV	Lung cancer
Asian/Pacific Islander	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Suicide	Motor vehicle crash	Lung cancer
All males	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Liver disease	Suicide

Note: All males includes persons of other or unknown race/ethnicity.

Figure 6. Comparison of the leading causes of death and premature death for females, by race/ethnicity

Females: Leading causes of death

Race/ethnicity Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#1 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#2 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#3 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#4 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#5 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate
White 16,194 601 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 4,354 146 per 100,000	Stroke 1,113 38 per 100,000	Emphysema/COPD 978 37 per 100,000	Lung cancer 847 35 per 100,000	Alzheimer's disease 769 24 per 100,000
Hispanic 6,343 466 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 1,261 104 per 100,000	Stroke 423 33 per 100,000	Diabetes 403 31 per 100,000	Breast cancer 237 15 per 100,000	Pneumonia/influenza 231 19 per 100,000
Black 4,004 802 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 1,000 200 per 100,000	Stroke 293 59 per 100,000	Lung cancer 194 39 per 100,000	Diabetes 189 38 per 100,000	Breast cancer 164 32 per 100,000
Asian/Pacific Islander 2,778 376 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 661 91 per 100,000	Stroke 287 39 per 100,000	Pneumonia/influenza 132 18 per 100,000	Lung cancer 109 14 per 100,000	Breast cancer 101 12 per 100,000
All females 29,426 556 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 7,301 135 per 100,000	Stroke 2,121 40 per 100,000	Emphysema/COPD 1,390 27 per 100,000	Lung cancer 1,302 26 per 100,000	Pneumonia/influenza 1,200 22 per 100,000

Females: Leading causes of premature death (before age 75 years)

Race/ethnicity	#1 cause	#2 cause	#3 cause	#4 cause	#5 cause
White	Coronary heart disease	Breast cancer	Lung cancer	Drug overdose	Motor vehicle crash
Hispanic	Breast cancer	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Diabetes	Stroke
Black	Coronary heart disease	Breast cancer	Homicide	Stroke	Lung cancer
Asian/Pacific Islander	Breast cancer	Stroke	Motor vehicle crash	Coronary heart disease	Lung cancer
All females	Coronary heart disease	Breast cancer	Motor vehicle crash	Stroke	Lung cancer

Note: All females includes persons of other or unknown race/ethnicity.

Figure 7. Comparison of the leading causes of death, by age group

Leading causes of death

Age group Number of deaths Age-specific death rate	#1 cause Number of deaths Age-specific death rate	#2 cause Number of deaths Age-specific death rate	#3 cause Number of deaths Age-specific death rate	#4 cause Number of deaths Age-specific death rate	#5 cause Number of deaths Age-specific death rate
<1 year old 738 476 per 100,000	Low birthweight/prematurity 129 83 per 100,000	Heart defect 53 34 per 100,000	CNS malformation 26 17 per 100,000	Pregnancy complication 22 14 per 100,000	Bacterial sepsis of newborn 21 14 per 100,000
1-4 years old 130 21 per 100,000	Birth defect 30 5 per 100,000	Motor vehicle crash 13 --	Homicide 10 --	Leukemia 6 --	Drowning 6 --
5-14 years old 177 11 per 100,000	Homicide 25 2 per 100,000	Motor vehicle crash 24 2 per 100,000	Birth defect 17 --	Brain/CNS cancer 10 --	Leukemia 9 --
15-24 years old 1,088 74 per 100,000	Homicide 439 30 per 100,000	Motor vehicle crash 211 14 per 100,000	Suicide 80 5 per 100,000	Leukemia 32 2 per 100,000	Drug overdose 31 2 per 100,000
25-44 years old 3,569 115 per 100,000	Homicide 397 13 per 100,000	Motor vehicle crash 307 10 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 233 7 per 100,000	Suicide 231 7 per 100,000	Drug overdose 227 7 per 100,000
45-64 years old 11,971 519 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 2,400 104 per 100,000	Lung cancer 730 32 per 100,000	Liver disease 631 27 per 100,000	Stroke 557 24 per 100,000	Diabetes 527 23 per 100,000
65-74 years old 9,112 1,696 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 2,145 399 per 100,000	Lung cancer 842 157 per 100,000	Emphysema/COPD 537 100 per 100,000	Stroke 526 98 per 100,000	Diabetes 512 95 per 100,000
75+ years old 32,674 6,487 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 10,058 1,997 per 100,000	Stroke 2,417 480 per 100,000	Pneumonia/influenza 1,842 366 per 100,000	Emphysema/COPD 1,829 363 per 100,000	Alzheimer's disease 1,473 292 per 100,000
Los Angeles County Total 59,461 661 per 100,000***	Coronary heart disease 14,842 168 per 100,000	Stroke 3,622 41 per 100,000	Lung cancer 3,021 35 per 100,000	Emphysema/COPD 2,665 31 per 100,000	Pneumonia/influenza 2,283 26 per 100,000

Note: Los Angeles County Total includes persons of unknown age.

Among persons aged 1 to 44 years, unintentional injuries, including motor vehicle crashes and drug overdoses, were the leading causes of death, and homicide was the second-leading cause of death.

Birth defects were an important cause of death for children and adolescents.

Sixty-eight percent of coronary heart disease deaths, 67% of stroke deaths, and 81% of pneumonia/influenza deaths occurred in persons 75 years of age or older. In contrast, only 48% of diabetes deaths, 47% of lung cancer deaths, 10% of suicides, and 9% of motor vehicle crash deaths occurred in persons 75 years of age or older.

--Number of deaths is too small to calculate a reliable rate.

***Age-adjusted rate.

Figure 8. Leading causes of death for males, by age group and race/ethnicity

		Race/ethnicity Deaths from all causes	#1 cause Number of deaths	#2 cause Number of deaths	#3 cause Number of deaths
Males	0-14 years 586 deaths	White 83	Perinatal period condition 24	Birth defect 20	Drowning 4
		Hispanic 350	Perinatal period condition 119	Birth defect 85	Homicide 21
		Black 107	Perinatal period condition 47	Birth defect 14	Homicide 7
		Asian/Pacific Islander 43	Perinatal period condition 19	Homicide 4	Birth defect 4
	15-24 years 855 deaths	White 118	Motor vehicle crash 38	Suicide 20	Homicide 11
		Hispanic 509	Homicide 249	Motor vehicle crash 90	Suicide 28
		Black 162	Homicide 125	Motor vehicle crash 8	Suicide 7
		Asian/Pacific Islander 61	Homicide 18	Motor vehicle crash 18	Suicide 9
	25-44 years 2,445 deaths	White 693	Drug overdose 77	Motor vehicle crash 71	Suicide 68
		Hispanic 1,140	Homicide 183	Motor vehicle crash 129	Drug overdose 70
		Black 444	Homicide 121	HIV 39	Coronary heart disease 37
		Asian/Pacific Islander 152	Suicide 23	Coronary heart disease 19	Motor vehicle crash 11
	45-64 years 7,275 deaths	White 3,221	Coronary heart disease 860	Lung cancer 201	Liver disease 160
		Hispanic 2,018	Coronary heart disease 418	Liver disease 255	Diabetes 126
		Black 1,342	Coronary heart disease 346	Lung cancer 101	Stroke 76
		Asian/Pacific Islander 652	Coronary heart disease 144	Lung cancer 66	Liver cancer 56

65-74 years 5,098 deaths	White 2,511	Coronary heart disease 688	Lung cancer 284	Emphysema/COPD 175
	Hispanic 1,136	Coronary heart disease 274	Diabetes 84	Lung cancer 77
	Black 847	Coronary heart disease 243	Lung cancer 96	Diabetes 54
	Asian/Pacific Islander 577	Coronary heart disease 135	Lung cancer 69	Stroke 44
75+ years 13,775 deaths	White 8,555	Coronary heart disease 2,685	Emphysema/COPD 525	Pneumonia/influenza 500
	Hispanic 2,287	Coronary heart disease 658	Stroke 149	Pneumonia/influenza 138
	Black 1,279	Coronary heart disease 427	Lung cancer 86	Emphysema/COPD 80
	Asian/Pacific Islander 1,621	Coronary heart disease 450	Stroke 140	Pneumonia/influenza 122

Note: In each age group, the number of deaths from all causes includes persons of other or unknown race/ethnicity.

Almost all perinatal period condition deaths occurred in infants less than one year of age. Among infants, one-third of the perinatal period condition deaths resulted from low birthweight/prematurity.

Half of the deaths from birth defects occurred in infants less than one year of age. Overall, congenital heart defects were the most common.

Injuries (homicide, suicide, and unintentional) caused 81% of all deaths among adolescent and young adult males aged 15 to 24 years.

The homicide rate of 183 per 100,000 for black males aged 15 to 24 years was more than 18 times higher than the overall County rate of 10 per 100,000.

Among men, 82% of all homicides were committed with a firearm. The highest proportion was among those aged 15 to 24 years, 95% of whom were killed with a firearm. Forty-two percent of all suicides were committed with a firearm. The highest proportion was among elderly men (75 years of age or older), 70% of whom committed suicide with a gun.

HIV remained a leading cause of death among black men aged 25 to 44 years.

Coronary heart disease was the leading cause of death for men 45 years of age or older.

Figure 9. Leading causes of death for females, by age group and race/ethnicity

	Race/ethnicity	#1 cause	#2 cause	#3 cause
	Deaths from all causes	Number of deaths	Number of deaths	Number of deaths
0-14 years 459 deaths	White 66	Perinatal period condition 29	Birth defect 15	Brain/CNS cancer 2
	Hispanic 273	Birth defect 86	Perinatal period condition 77	Homicide 9
	Black 77	Perinatal period condition 30	Birth defect 16	Motor vehicle crash 6
	Asian/Pacific Islander 42	Perinatal period condition 14	Birth defect 12	Insufficient number
15-24 years 233 deaths	White 52	Motor vehicle crash 19	Drug overdose 6	Homicide 5
	Hispanic 116	Motor vehicle crash 25	Homicide 16	Leukemia 11
	Black 49	Homicide 13	Motor vehicle crash 7	Asthma 2
	Asian/Pacific Islander 16	Motor vehicle crash 5	Suicide 2	Insufficient number
25-44 years 1,124 deaths	White 342	Drug overdose 36	Breast cancer 32	Suicide 27
	Hispanic 435	Breast cancer 42	Motor vehicle crash 29	Homicide 24
	Black 228	Homicide 22	Coronary heart disease 18	Breast cancer 16
	Asian/Pacific Islander 112	Motor vehicle crash 15	Suicide 10	Stroke 10
45-64 years 4,696 deaths	White 2,012	Coronary heart disease 270	Breast cancer 200	Lung cancer 183
	Hispanic 1,281	Coronary heart disease 132	Breast cancer 124	Diabetes 95
	Black 930	Coronary heart disease 169	Breast cancer 75	Lung cancer 59
	Asian/Pacific Islander 444	Breast cancer 61	Stroke 46	Coronary heart disease 44

Females

65-74 years 4,014 deaths	White 1,846	Coronary heart disease 333	Lung cancer 195	Emphysema/COPD 186
	Hispanic 1,010	Coronary heart disease 199	Diabetes 103	Stroke 65
	Black 715	Coronary heart disease 174	Stroke 59	Lung cancer 53
	Asian/Pacific Islander 426	Coronary heart disease 88	Stroke 37	Lung cancer 31
75+ years 18,899 deaths	White 11,876	Coronary heart disease 3,734	Stroke 937	Alzheimer's disease 741
	Hispanic 3,228	Coronary heart disease 917	Stroke 267	Diabetes 193
	Black 2,005	Coronary heart disease 638	Stroke 165	Alzheimer's disease 103
	Asian/Pacific Islander 1,738	Coronary heart disease 526	Stroke 193	Pneumonia/influenza 120

Note: In each age group, the number of deaths from all causes includes persons of other or unknown race/ethnicity.

Almost all perinatal period condition deaths occurred in infants less than one year of age. Thirty-six percent of the perinatal period condition infant deaths resulted from low birthweight/prematurity.

Slightly more than half (55%) of the deaths from birth defects occurred in infants less than one year of age. Overall, congenital heart defects were the most common.

Unintentional injuries including motor vehicle crashes and drug overdoses were the leading cause of death for adolescent and young adult women aged 15 to 24 years.

Coronary heart disease was a leading cause of death for women 45 years of age or older.

Overall, 19% of all women who died were aged 25 to 64 years. Among women who died of breast cancer, 48% were aged 25 to 64 years.

For the first time, Alzheimer's disease was the third-leading cause of death for white and black women 75 years of age or older.

Figure 10. Leading causes of death and premature death, by service planning area (SPA) of residence

Antelope Valley (SPA 1)

2,125 deaths

22,325 years of life lost*

Leading causes of death				Leading causes of premature** death			
Rank	Cause of death	No. of deaths	Premature death rank	Rank	Cause of death	Years of life lost*	Death rank
1.	Coronary heart disease	463	2.	1.	Motor vehicle crash	2,710	6.
2.	Emphysema/COPD	150	9.	2.	Coronary heart disease	2,588	1.
3.	Stroke	125	10.	3.	Homicide	1,900	9.
4.	Lung cancer	123	6.	4.	Suicide	1,196	12.
5.	Diabetes	106	7.	5.	Drug overdose	963	14.

San Fernando (SPA 2)

12,345 deaths

87,525 years of life lost*

Leading causes of death				Leading causes of premature** death			
Rank	Cause of death	No. of deaths	Premature death rank	Rank	Cause of death	Years of life lost*	Death rank
1.	Coronary heart disease	3,262	1.	1.	Coronary heart disease	12,129	1.
2.	Stroke	758	9.	2.	Motor vehicle crash	6,529	11.
3.	Lung cancer	675	5.	3.	Homicide	4,263	22.
4.	Emphysema/COPD	578	14.	4.	Suicide	3,933	14.
5.	Pneumonia/influenza	454	17.	5.	Lung cancer	3,822	3.

San Gabriel (SPA 3)

10,736 deaths

76,872 years of life lost*

Leading causes of death				Leading causes of premature** death			
Rank	Cause of death	No. of deaths	Premature death rank	Rank	Cause of death	Years of life lost*	Death rank
1.	Coronary heart disease	2,666	1.	1.	Coronary heart disease	9,247	1.
2.	Stroke	679	7.	2.	Homicide	5,128	18.
3.	Lung cancer	562	4.	3.	Motor vehicle crash	4,914	14.
4.	Emphysema/COPD	536	16.	4.	Lung cancer	3,390	3.
5.	Pneumonia/influenza	409	26.	5.	Liver disease	3,282	9.

Metro (SPA 4)

6,540 deaths

56,522 years of life lost*

Leading causes of death				Leading causes of premature** death			
Rank	Cause of death	No. of deaths	Premature death rank	Rank	Cause of death	Years of life lost*	Death rank
1.	Coronary heart disease	1,673	1.	1.	Coronary heart disease	7,634	1.
2.	Stroke	400	9.	2.	Homicide	5,105	11.
3.	Pneumonia/influenza	302	16.	3.	HIV	3,559	10.
4.	Lung cancer	267	10.	4.	Motor vehicle crash	2,653	16.
5.	Emphysema/COPD	247	13.	5.	Liver disease	2,597	9.

West (SPA 5)
4,039 deaths
21,415 years of life lost*

Leading causes of death				Leading causes of premature** death			
Rank	Cause of death	No. of deaths	Premature death rank	Rank	Cause of death	Years of life lost*	Death rank
1.	Coronary heart disease	1,004	1.	1.	Coronary heart disease	2,629	1.
2.	Stroke	258	11.	2.	Suicide	1,489	13.
3.	Lung cancer	217	4.	3.	Homicide	1,138	27.
4.	Pneumonia/influenza	188	30.	4.	Lung cancer	1,098	3.
5.	Emphysema/COPD	139	15.	5.	Drug overdose	1,040	20.

South (SPA 6)
5,853 deaths
73,515 years of life lost*

Leading causes of death				Leading causes of premature** death			
Rank	Cause of death	No. of deaths	Premature death rank	Rank	Cause of death	Years of life lost*	Death rank
1.	Coronary heart disease	1,422	2.	1.	Homicide	14,380	3.
2.	Stroke	349	4.	2.	Coronary heart disease	9,254	1.
3.	Homicide	310	1.	3.	Motor vehicle crash	4,220	12.
4.	Lung cancer	271	7.	4.	Stroke	3,020	2.
5.	Diabetes	256	6.	5.	Liver disease	2,628	11.

East (SPA 7)
7,370 deaths
61,193 years of life lost*

Leading causes of death				Leading causes of premature** death			
Rank	Cause of death	No. of deaths	Premature death rank	Rank	Cause of death	Years of life lost*	Death rank
1.	Coronary heart disease	1,836	1.	1.	Coronary heart disease	7,461	1.
2.	Stroke	421	7.	2.	Homicide	5,737	10.
3.	Diabetes	366	4.	3.	Motor vehicle crash	3,926	14.
4.	Emphysema/COPD	330	15.	4.	Diabetes	2,942	3.
5.	Lung cancer	325	8.	5.	Liver disease	2,649	8.

South Bay (SPA 8)
9,739 deaths
83,319 years of life lost*

Leading causes of death				Leading causes of premature** death			
Rank	Cause of death	No. of deaths	Premature death rank	Rank	Cause of death	Years of life lost*	Death rank
1.	Coronary heart disease	2,360	1.	1.	Coronary heart disease	10,674	1.
2.	Stroke	600	5.	2.	Homicide	8,170	9.
3.	Lung cancer	564	4.	3.	Motor vehicle crash	4,876	12.
4.	Emphysema/COPD	479	13.	4.	Lung cancer	3,624	3.
5.	Pneumonia/influenza	366	23.	5.	Stroke	3,347	2.

*Excludes infants less than 1 year of age and persons of unknown age.
**Death before age 75 years.

Figure 11. Comparison of the leading causes of death and premature death, by service planning area (SPA) of residence

Leading causes of death

Service Planning Area Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#1 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#2 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#3 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#4 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#5 cause Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate
SPA 1: Antelope Valley 2,125 868 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 463 205 per 100,000	Emphysema/COPD 150 67 per 100,000	Stroke 125 56 per 100,000	Lung cancer 123 51 per 100,000	Diabetes 106 44 per 100,000
SPA 2: San Fernando 12,345 643 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 3,262 172 per 100,000	Stroke 758 40 per 100,000	Lung cancer 675 36 per 100,000	Emphysema/COPD 578 31 per 100,000	Pneumonia/influenza 454 24 per 100,000
SPA 3: San Gabriel 10,736 612 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 2,666 153 per 100,000	Stroke 679 39 per 100,000	Lung cancer 562 32 per 100,000	Emphysema/COPD 536 31 per 100,000	Pneumonia/influenza 409 24 per 100,000
SPA 4: Metro 6,540 593 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 1,673 153 per 100,000	Stroke 400 37 per 100,000	Pneumonia/influenza 302 28 per 100,000	Lung cancer 267 26 per 100,000	Emphysema/COPD 247 23 per 100,000
SPA 5: West 4,039 547 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 1,004 133 per 100,000	Stroke 258 34 per 100,000	Lung cancer 217 31 per 100,000	Pneumonia/influenza 188 24 per 100,000	Emphysema/COPD 139 19 per 100,000
SPA 6: South 5,853 831 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 1,422 218 per 100,000	Stroke 349 52 per 100,000	Homicide 310 28 per 100,000	Lung cancer 271 42 per 100,000	Diabetes 256 38 per 100,000
SPA 7: East 7,370 647 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 1,836 164 per 100,000	Stroke 421 38 per 100,000	Diabetes 366 33 per 100,000	Emphysema/COPD 330 30 per 100,000	Lung cancer 325 30 per 100,000
SPA 8: South Bay 9,739 696 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 2,360 173 per 100,000	Stroke 600 44 per 100,000	Lung cancer 564 41 per 100,000	Emphysema/COPD 479 36 per 100,000	Pneumonia/influenza 366 28 per 100,000
Los Angeles County Total 59,461 661 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 14,842 168 per 100,000	Stroke 3,622 41 per 100,000	Lung cancer 3,021 35 per 100,000	Emphysema/COPD 2,665 31 per 100,000	Pneumonia/influenza 2,283 26 per 100,000

Note: Los Angeles County Total includes persons of unknown residence.

Leading causes of premature death (before age 75 years)

Service Planning Area	#1 cause	#2 cause	#3 cause	#4 cause	#5 cause
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	Motor vehicle crash	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Suicide	Drug overdose
SPA 2: San Fernando	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Homicide	Suicide	Lung cancer
SPA 3: San Gabriel	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Lung cancer	Liver disease
SPA 4: Metro	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	HIV	Motor vehicle crash	Liver disease
SPA 5: West	Coronary heart disease	Suicide	Homicide	Lung cancer	Drug overdose
SPA 6: South	Homicide	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Stroke	Liver disease
SPA 7: East	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Diabetes	Liver disease
SPA 8: South Bay	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Lung cancer	Stroke
Los Angeles County Total	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Liver disease	Suicide

Note: Los Angeles County Total includes persons of unknown residence.

Figure 12. Comparison of the leading causes of premature death, by service planning area (SPA) of residence and gender

Males: Leading causes of premature death (before age 75 years)

Service Planning Area	#1 cause	#2 cause	#3 cause	#4 cause	#5 cause
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	Motor vehicle crash	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Suicide	Liver disease
SPA 2: San Fernando	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Homicide	Suicide	Liver disease
SPA 3: San Gabriel	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Suicide	Liver disease
SPA 4: Metro	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	HIV	Liver disease	Suicide
SPA 5: West	Coronary heart disease	Suicide	Homicide	Drug overdose	Motor vehicle crash
SPA 6: South	Homicide	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Liver disease	Stroke
SPA 7: East	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Liver disease	Diabetes
SPA 8: South Bay	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Lung cancer	Suicide
All males	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Liver disease	Suicide

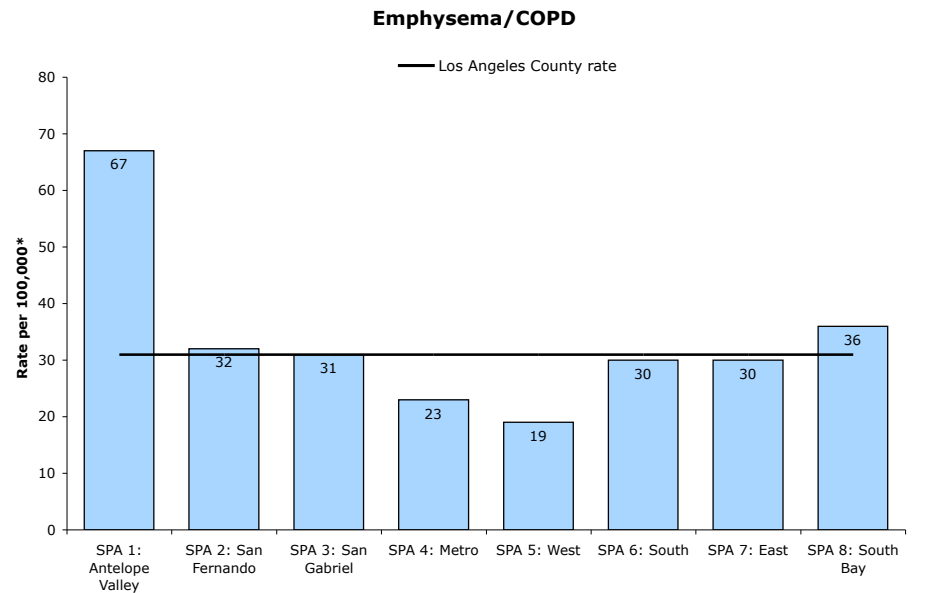
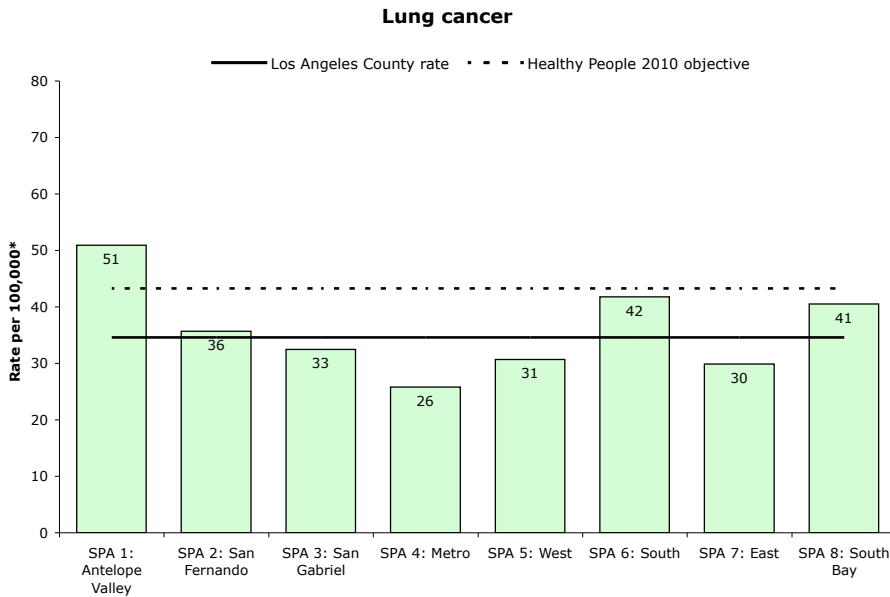
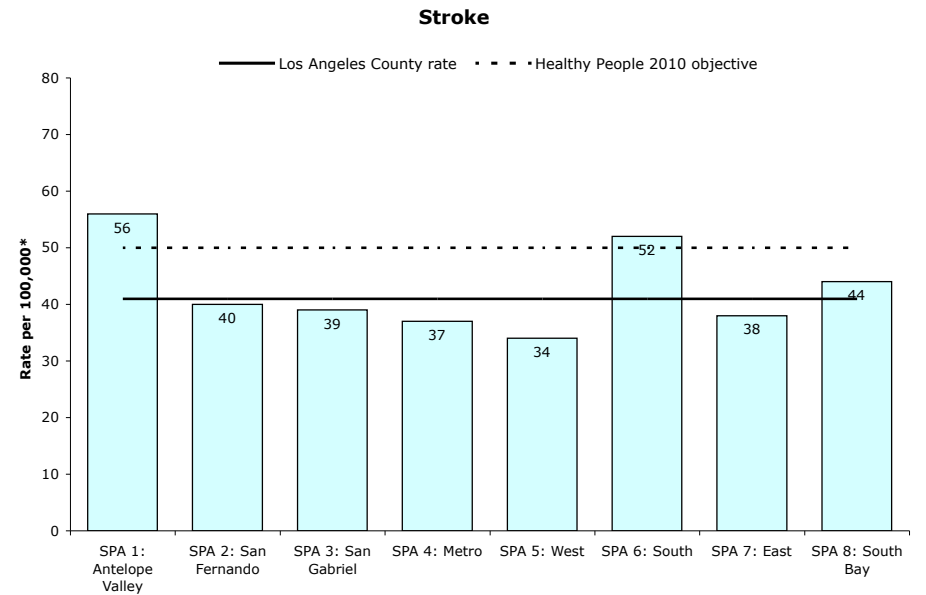
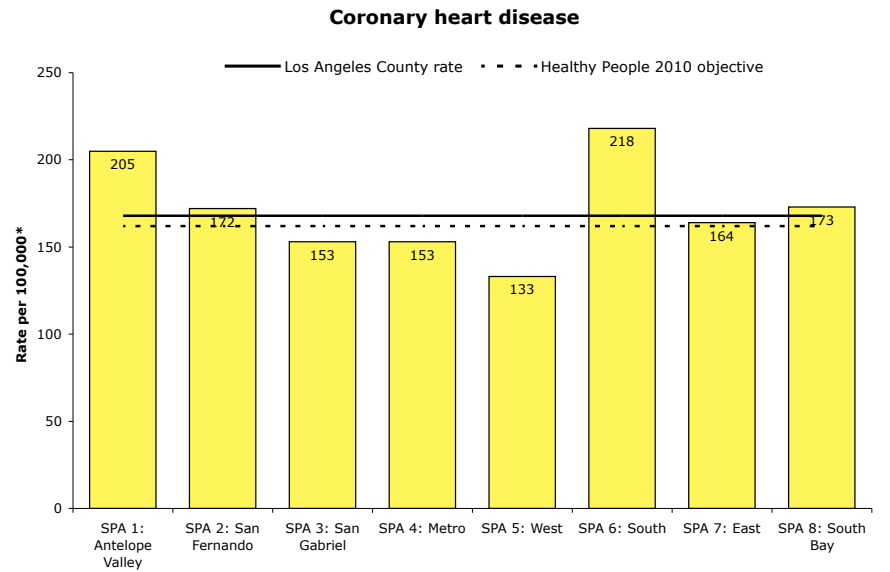
Note: All males includes persons of unknown residence.

Females: Leading causes of premature death (before age 75 years)

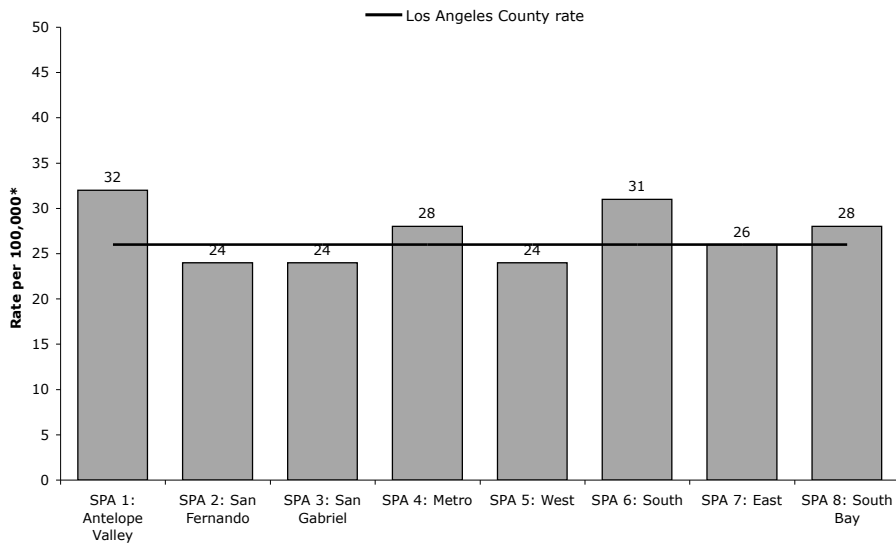
Service Planning Area	#1 cause	#2 cause	#3 cause	#4 cause	#5 cause
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Breast cancer	Drug overdose	Diabetes
SPA 2: San Fernando	Breast cancer	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Lung cancer	Stroke
SPA 3: San Gabriel	Coronary heart disease	Breast cancer	Lung cancer	Stroke	Motor vehicle crash
SPA 4: Metro	Coronary heart disease	Breast cancer	Motor vehicle crash	Diabetes	Stroke
SPA 5: West	Breast cancer	Coronary heart disease	Lung cancer	Suicide	Stroke
SPA 6: South	Coronary heart disease	Breast cancer	Homicide	Stroke	Motor vehicle crash
SPA 7: East	Coronary heart disease	Breast cancer	Diabetes	Motor vehicle crash	Homicide
SPA 8: South Bay	Coronary heart disease	Breast cancer	Stroke	Lung cancer	Motor vehicle crash
All females	Coronary heart disease	Breast cancer	Motor vehicle crash	Stroke	Lung cancer

Note: All females includes persons of unknown residence.

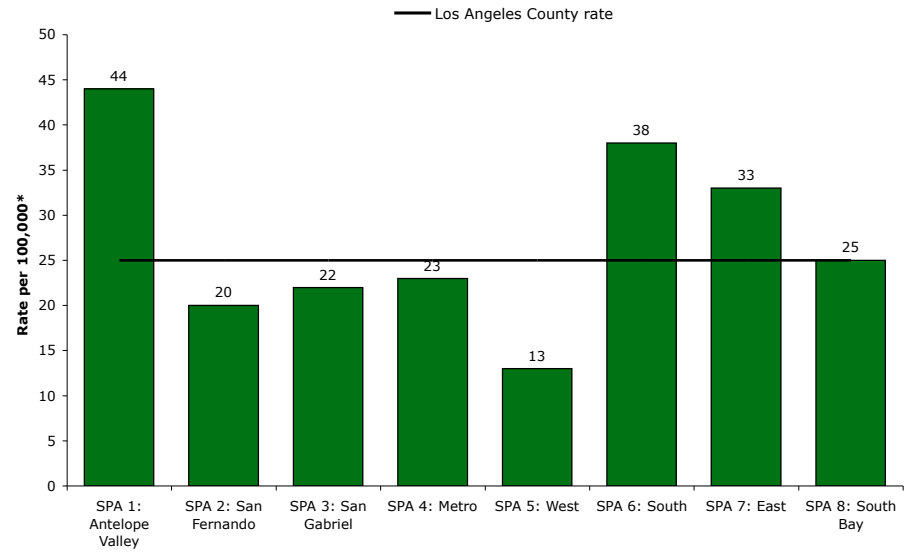
Figure 13. Death rates for selected causes of death, by service planning area (SPA) of residence



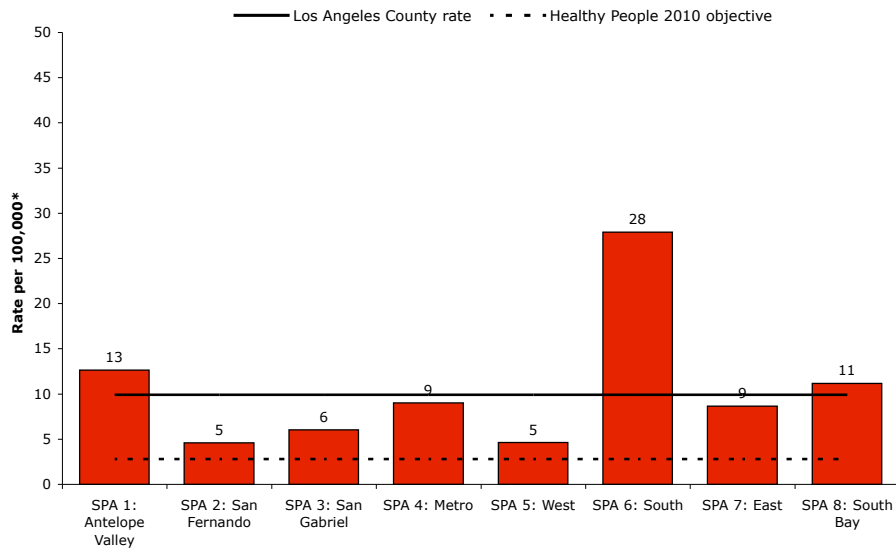
Pneumonia/influenza



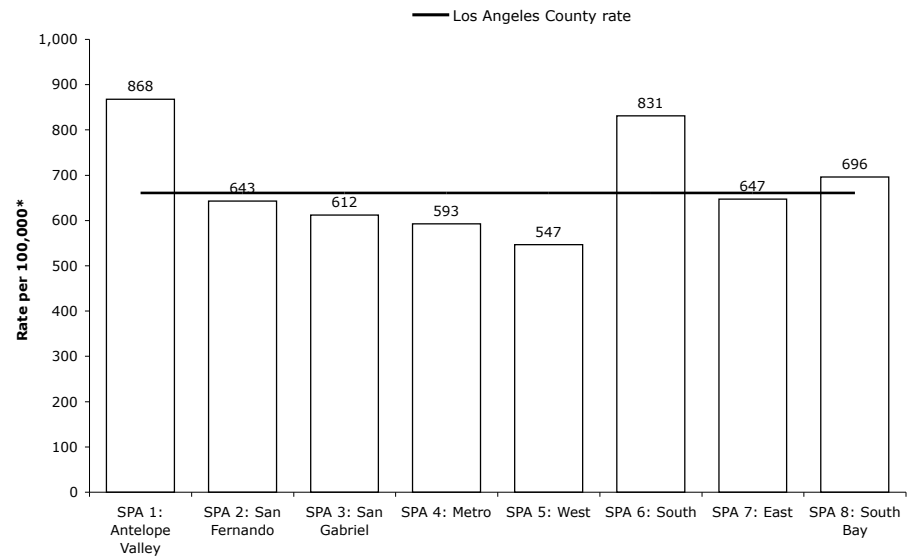
Diabetes



Homicide



All causes of death



*Age-adjusted.

Figure 14. Comparison of the leading causes of death, by health district of residence

Leading causes of death

Health District Number of deaths Age-adjusted death rate	#1 cause Number of deaths	#2 cause Number of deaths	#3 cause Number of deaths	#4 cause Number of deaths	#5 cause Number of deaths
Alhambra 2,346 533 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 607	Stroke 157	Lung cancer 139	Pneumonia/influenza 112	Emphysema/COPD 102
Antelope Valley 2,125 868 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 463	Emphysema/COPD 150	Stroke 125	Lung cancer 123	Diabetes 106
Bellflower 2,216 683 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 557	Stroke 133	Lung cancer 118	Diabetes 98	Emphysema/COPD 96
Central 1,837 585 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 448	Stroke 135	Emphysema/COPD 80	Pneumonia/influenza 75	Diabetes 69
Compton 1,418 802 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 310	Homicide 84	Stroke 83	Lung cancer 73	Diabetes 66
East LA 1,210 627 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 310	Stroke 87	Diabetes 68	Pneumonia/influenza 61	Lung cancer 37
East Valley 2,455 670 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 646	Lung cancer 130	Stroke 124	Emphysema/COPD 113	Pneumonia/influenza 99
El Monte 2,158 604 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 496	Stroke 138	Diabetes 106	Emphysema/COPD 94	Lung cancer 90
Foothill 2,038 640 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 515	Stroke 132	Emphysema/COPD 109	Lung cancer 102	Pneumonia/influenza 73
Glendale 2,396 579 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 621	Stroke 168	Lung cancer 115	Emphysema/COPD 113	Alzheimer's disease 102
Harbor 1,387 672 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 330	Stroke 78	Lung cancer 70	Pneumonia/influenza 58	Emphysema/COPD 51
Hollywood-Wilshire 3,031 598 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 812	Stroke 173	Pneumonia/influenza 143	Lung cancer 142	Emphysema/COPD 116
Inglewood 2,343 735 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 558	Stroke 148	Lung cancer 129	Emphysema/COPD 104	Diabetes 102

Long Beach 3,043 753 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 775	Emphysema/COPD 195	Lung cancer 184	Stroke 171	Pneumonia/influenza 117
Northeast 1,672 589 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 413	Stroke 92	Pneumonia/influenza 84	Diabetes 80	Lung cancer 58
Pasadena 1,010 639 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 285	Emphysema/COPD 58	Stroke 56	Pneumonia/influenza 49	Lung cancer 48
Pomona 3,184 656 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 763	Stroke 196	Lung cancer 183	Emphysema/COPD 173	Diabetes 120
San Antonio 1,787 617 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 411	Diabetes 91	Emphysema/COPD 88	Stroke 84	Pneumonia/influenza 66
San Fernando 2,390 706 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 607	Stroke 162	Lung cancer 148	Emphysema/COPD 107	Pneumonia/influenza 83
South 1,058 964 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 254	Homicide 69	Stroke 64	Diabetes 54	Lung cancer 53
Southeast 679 779 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 148	Homicide 48	Stroke 46	Lung cancer 30	Diabetes 25
Southwest 2,698 821 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 710	Stroke 156	Lung cancer 115	Diabetes 111	Homicide 109
Torrance 2,966 630 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 697	Stroke 203	Lung cancer 181	Emphysema/COPD 129	Pneumonia/influenza 125
West 4,039 547 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 1,004	Stroke 258	Lung cancer 217	Pneumonia/influenza 188	Emphysema/COPD 139
West Valley 5,104 636 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 1,388	Stroke 304	Lung cancer 282	Emphysema/COPD 245	Alzheimer's disease 179
Whittier 2,157 653 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 558	Stroke 117	Diabetes 109	Emphysema/COPD 109	Lung cancer 106
Los Angeles County Total 59,461 661 per 100,000	Coronary heart disease 14,842	Stroke 3,622	Lung cancer 3,021	Emphysema/COPD 2,665	Pneumonia/influenza 2,283

Note: Los Angeles County Total includes persons of unknown residence.

Figure 15. Comparison of the leading causes of premature death, by health district of residence

Leading causes of premature death (before age 75 years)

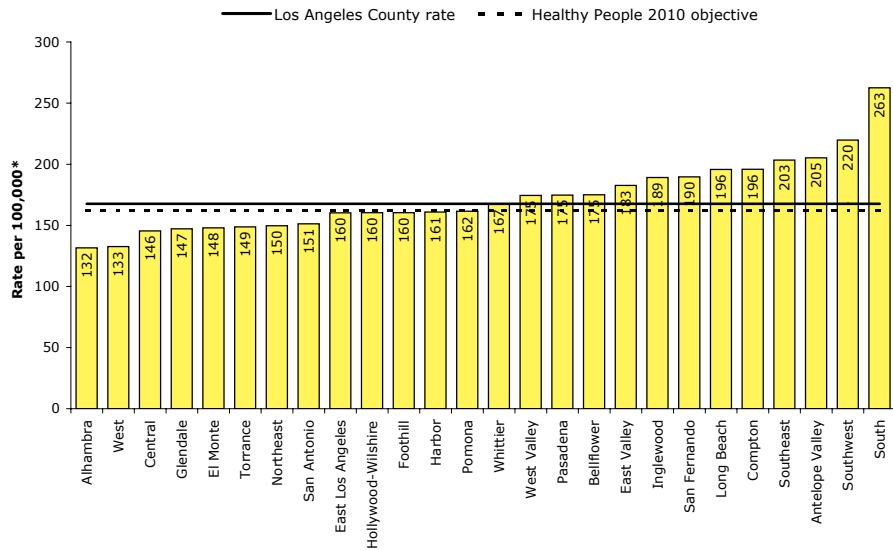
Health District	#1 cause	#2 cause	#3 cause	#4 cause	#5 cause
Alhambra	Coronary heart disease	Lung cancer	Motor vehicle crash	Liver disease	Stroke
Antelope Valley	Motor vehicle crash	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Suicide	Drug overdose
Bellflower	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Diabetes	Lung cancer
Central	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	HIV	Suicide	Liver disease
Compton	Homicide	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Stroke	Liver disease
East Los Angeles	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Liver disease	Motor vehicle crash	Diabetes
East Valley	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Homicide	Suicide	Drug overdose
El Monte	Homicide	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Liver disease	Drug overdose
Foothill	Coronary heart disease	Lung cancer	Homicide	Breast cancer	Motor vehicle crash
Glendale	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Lung cancer	Breast cancer	Stroke
Harbor	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Suicide	Liver disease
Hollywood/Wilshire	Coronary heart disease	HIV	Homicide	Suicide	Motor vehicle crash
Inglewood	Homicide	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Stroke	Lung cancer

Long Beach	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Lung cancer	HIV
Northeast	Homicide	Coronary heart disease	Liver disease	Motor vehicle crash	Drug overdose
Pasadena	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Suicide	Colorectal cancer
Pomona	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Suicide	Homicide	Lung cancer
San Antonio	Homicide	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Diabetes	Liver disease
San Fernando	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Liver disease	Suicide	Breast cancer
South	Homicide	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Stroke	Diabetes
Southeast	Homicide	Coronary heart disease	Stroke	Motor vehicle crash	Suicide
Southwest	Homicide	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Diabetes	Stroke
Torrance	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Homicide	Lung cancer	Suicide
West	Coronary heart disease	Suicide	Homicide	Lung cancer	Drug overdose
West Valley	Coronary heart disease	Motor vehicle crash	Homicide	Suicide	Lung cancer
Whittier	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Liver disease	Diabetes
Los Angeles County Total	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Liver disease	Suicide

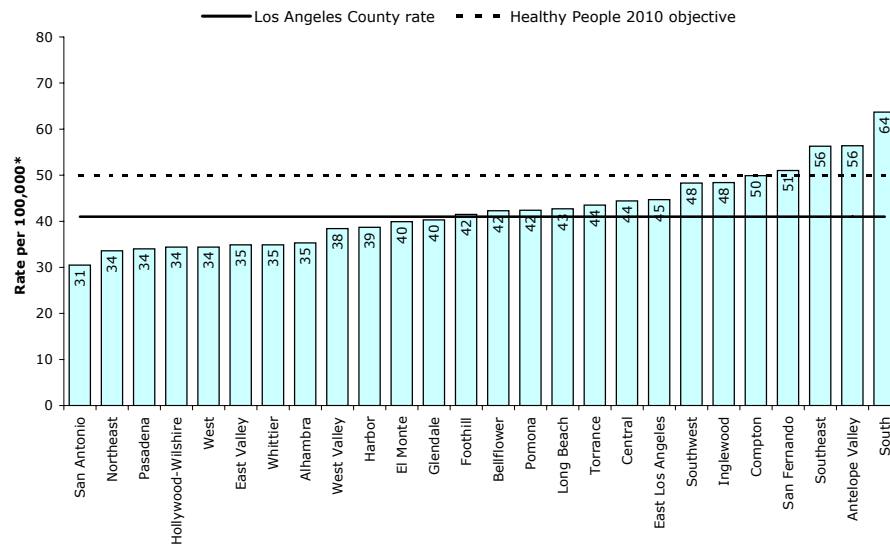
Note: Los Angeles County Total includes persons of unknown residence.

Figure 16. Death rates for selected causes of death, by health district of residence

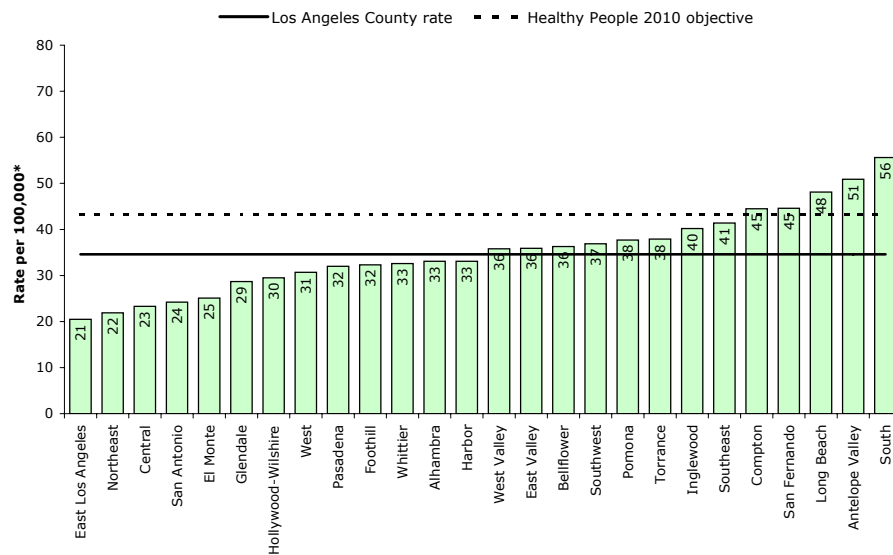
Coronary heart disease



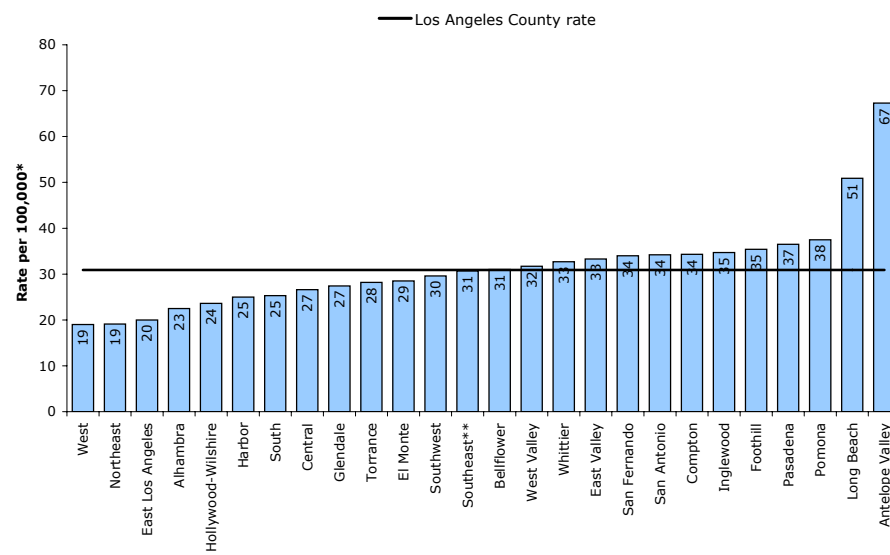
Stroke



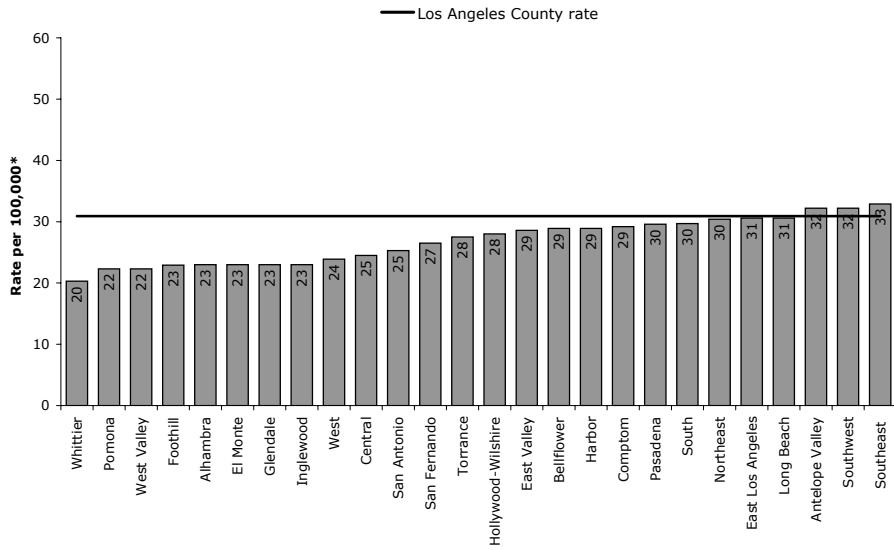
Lung cancer



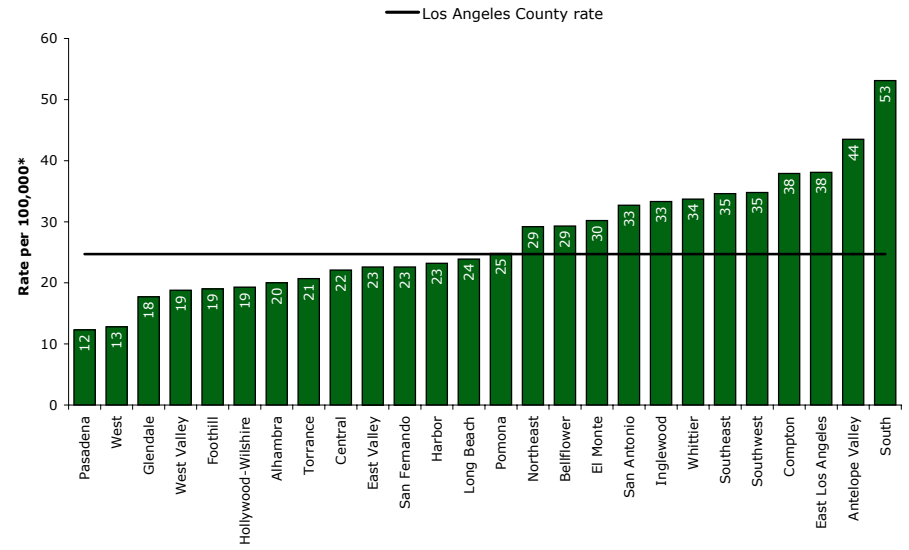
Emphysema/COPD



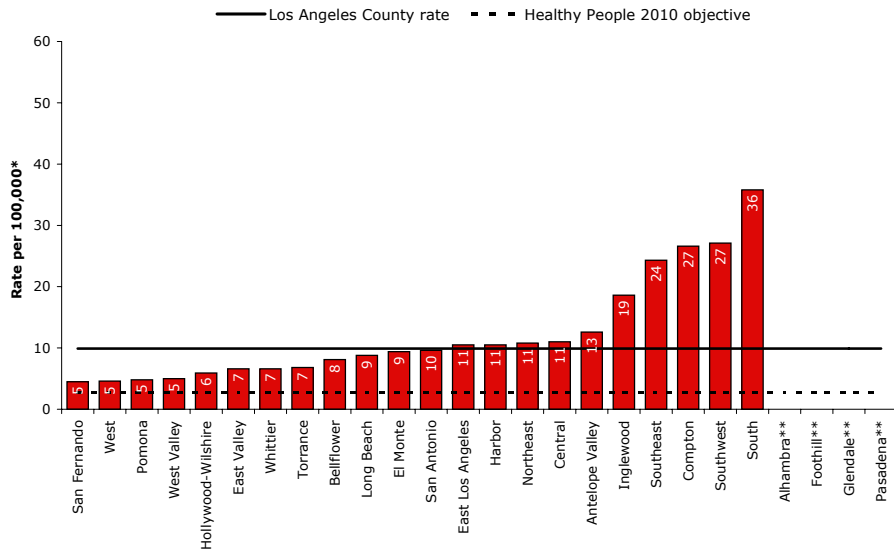
Pneumonia/influenza



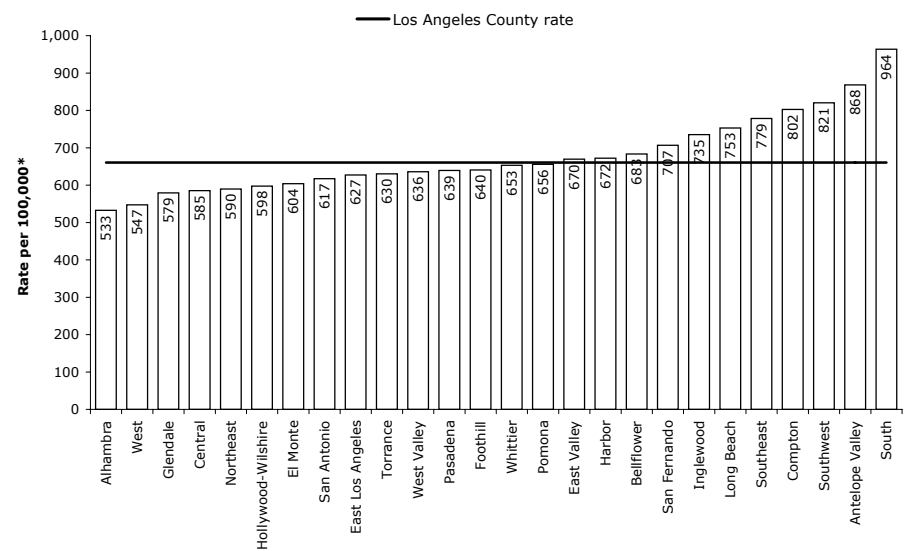
Diabetes



Homicide



All causes of death



*Age-adjusted.
**Number of deaths is too small to calculate a reliable rate.

Figure T1. Comparison of the leading causes of death, by year

Leading causes of death

Year	#1 cause No. of deaths	#2 cause No. of deaths	#3 cause No. of deaths	#4 cause No. of deaths	#5 cause No. of deaths	#6 cause No. of deaths	#7 cause No. of deaths	#8 cause No. of deaths	#9 cause No. of deaths	#10 cause No. of deaths
2006	Coronary heart disease 14,842	Stroke 3,662	Lung cancer 3,021	Emphysema/COPD 2,665	Pneumonia/ influenza 2,283	Diabetes 2,188	Alzheimer's disease 1,551	Colorectal cancer 1,362	Liver disease 1,102	Breast cancer 1,071
2005	Coronary heart disease 15,154	Stroke 3,775	Lung cancer 3,036	Emphysema/COPD 2,770	Pneumonia/ influenza 2,333	Diabetes 2,305	Alzheimer's disease 1,546	Colorectal cancer 1,409	Breast cancer 1,174	Homicide 1,066
2004	Coronary heart disease 15,296	Stroke 4,121	Lung cancer 3,034	Emphysema/COPD 2,641	Pneumonia/ influenza 2,272	Diabetes 2,201	Colorectal cancer 1,414	Alzheimer's disease 1,340	Breast cancer 1,166	Homicide 1,069
2003	Coronary heart disease 16,320	Stroke 4,249	Lung cancer 3,150	Emphysema/COPD 2,796	Pneumonia/ influenza 2,419	Diabetes 2,178	Colorectal cancer 1,450	Alzheimer's disease 1,285	Breast cancer 1,084	Homicide 1,066
2002	Coronary heart disease 16,293	Stroke 4,169	Lung cancer 3,081	Emphysema/COPD 2,604	Pneumonia/ influenza 2,494	Diabetes 2,122	Colorectal cancer 1,315	Homicide 1,148	Liver disease 1,085	Breast cancer 1,064
2001	Coronary heart disease 16,828	Stroke 4,259	Lung cancer 3,232	Emphysema/COPD 2,723	Pneumonia/ influenza 2,421	Diabetes 1,890	Colorectal cancer 1,423	Homicide 1,099	Breast cancer 1,096	Liver disease 1,010
2000	Coronary heart disease 16,903	Stroke 4,410	Lung cancer 3,150	Emphysema/COPD 2,660	Pneumonia/ influenza 2,477	Diabetes 1,879	Colorectal cancer 1,360	Liver disease 1,121	Breast cancer 1,058	Homicide 992
1999	Coronary heart disease 17,394	Stroke 4,435	Lung cancer 3,243	Emphysema/COPD 2,836	Pneumonia/ influenza 2,242	Diabetes 1,820	Colorectal cancer 1,378	Breast cancer 1,101	Liver disease 1,047	Homicide 896
<i>Because of changes to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 1997-1998 may not be comparable to 1999-2006.</i>										
1998	Coronary heart disease 17,163	Stroke 3,928	Pneumonia/ influenza 3,594	Lung cancer 3,150	Emphysema/COPD 2,553	Diabetes 1,753	Colorectal cancer 1,302	Breast cancer 1,135	Liver disease 1,019	Homicide 984
1997	Coronary heart disease 17,448	Stroke 4,160	Pneumonia/ influenza 3,346	Lung cancer 3,316	Emphysema/COPD 2,565	Diabetes 1,746	Colorectal cancer 1,336	Homicide 1,232	Breast cancer 1,120	Liver disease 1,041

Figure T2. Comparison of the leading causes of premature death, by year

Leading causes of premature death (before age 75 years)

Year	#1 cause	#2 cause	#3 cause	#4 cause	#5 cause	#6 cause	#7 cause	#8 cause	#9 cause	#10 cause
2006	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Liver disease	Suicide	Lung cancer	Stroke	Drug overdose	Diabetes	Breast cancer
2005	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Suicide	Lung cancer	Liver disease	Diabetes	Stroke	Drug overdose	Breast cancer
2004	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Suicide	Lung cancer	Liver disease	Drug overdose	Stroke	Diabetes	HIV
2003	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Suicide	Lung cancer	Drug overdose	Liver disease	Stroke	Diabetes	HIV
2002	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Lung cancer	Suicide	Liver disease	Drug overdose	Stroke	HIV	Diabetes
2001	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Suicide	Lung cancer	Liver disease	HIV	Stroke	Drug overdose	Diabetes
2000	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Lung cancer	Liver disease	Suicide	Stroke	Drug overdose	HIV	Breast cancer
1999	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Lung cancer	Suicide	Drug overdose	HIV	Liver disease	Stroke	Diabetes
<i>Because of changes to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 1997-1998 may not be comparable to 1999-2006.</i>										
1998	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	Suicide	Lung cancer	Liver disease	HIV	Drug overdose	Stroke	Breast cancer
1997	Coronary heart disease	Homicide	Motor vehicle crash	HIV	Suicide	Lung cancer	Liver disease	Stroke	Drug overdose	Breast cancer

Alzheimer's disease *at a glance*

Number **49** cause of premature death

Number **7** cause of death

In 2006, Alzheimer's disease was the seventh-leading cause of death overall, the fifth-leading cause of death for white women, and the third-leading cause of death for white and black women 75 years of age or older. Alzheimer's disease death rates have increased substantially since 1997. Changes to the ICD coding system in 1999 account for some of the increase, as well as the aging population and greater awareness of the disease.

In simple terms . . .

Alzheimer's disease is a progressive brain disorder that results in a decline in a person's ability to carry out daily activities by causing changes in the areas of the brain that control thought, memory, and language. Alzheimer's disease usually progresses slowly, starting with memory problems and ending with severe brain damage. There are medications that may lessen some of the symptoms of Alzheimer's disease but there is no cure. Current medications have been shown to be more effective the earlier they are given. Scientists are exploring possible connections between Alzheimer's disease and high cholesterol, high blood pressure, and physical inactivity.

Risk factors

Age, family history

Community opportunities for intervention

- Develop community support networks for caregivers
- Assist persons with early Alzheimer's disease to plan for their future financial and medical needs

Individual opportunities for prevention

- Maintain good overall health by staying physically active, and controlling high blood pressure and cholesterol
- Keep the brain active by playing puzzle games, reading, and other mentally stimulating activities
- Slow the progression of symptoms through early diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's disease symptoms

Los Angeles County deaths

1,551

Los Angeles County death rate Healthy People 2010 Objective

18 deaths per 100,000 population

None

ICD-9 codes

331.0

ICD-10 codes

G30

References

Alzheimer's Association at WWW.ALZ.ORG

Alzheimer's Disease Education and Referral Center at WWW.ALZHEIMERS.ORG

Referral

Alzheimer's Association helpline: 1-800-272-3900

Mortality Trends in Los Angeles County 1997-2006
Figure T3. Trends in Alzheimer's disease mortality

	1997		1998			1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006		
	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*		No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	
Los Angeles County	465	7	433	6	<i>Because of changes to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 1997-1998 may not be comparable to 1999-2006.</i>	772	11	820	11	905	12	973	12	1,285	16	1,340	16	1,546	18	1,551	18	
Males	156	6	132	5		256	10	270	10	309	11	318	11	405	14	399	13	450	14	477	15	
Females	309	7	301	7		516	11	550	11	596	12	655	13	880	17	941	17	1096	20	1074	19	
White	359	8	338	8		584	13	618	13	719	15	755	15	957	19	975	19	1132	22	1105	22	
Hispanic	37	3	38	3		84	7	84	7	73	6	93	7	161	11	143	9	168	10	217	12	
Black	50	8	41	7		83	13	89	13	90	14	97	14	119	17	155	21	176	24	151	21	
Asian/Pacific Islander	19	--	16	--		19	--	28	3	22	3	25	3	42	4	65	6	69	6	76	6	
Males																						
White	115	8	98	6		189	12	203	12	238	14	246	14	295	16	289	16	319	17	336	19	
Hispanic	14	--	14	--		27	7	24	5	30	7	37	7	46	9	46	8	53	8	71	11	
Black	22	11	16	--		34	16	29	12	34	14	28	12	37	15	40	17	55	22	45	19	
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	--	4	--		5	--	14	--	7	--	6	--	23	6	24	5	23	5	25	5	
Females																						
White	244	9	240	8		395	13	415	13	481	16	509	16	662	21	686	21	813	25	769	24	
Hispanic	23	3	24	3		57	8	60	8	43	5	56	6	115	12	97	10	115	10	146	12	
Black	28	7	25	6		49	12	60	13	56	13	69	15	82	17	115	24	121	24	106	21	
Asian/Pacific Islander	14	--	12	--		14	--	14	--	15	--	19	--	19	--	41	6	46	7	51	7	
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	12	--	13	--		23	14	30	17	26	15	39	21	43	24	43	24	60	31	50	25	
SPA 2: San Fernando	82	6	104	7		181	12	181	11	206	12	255	15	325	18	343	19	409	22	407	22	
SPA 3: San Gabriel	86	7	89	7		148	11	175	12	177	12	210	14	273	17	268	16	307	18	313	18	
SPA 4: Metro	45	5	48	5		90	10	86	9	101	10	102	10	119	11	120	11	137	12	142	13	
SPA 5: West	42	6	30	5		62	9	83	11	75	10	77	10	115	15	133	16	161	20	116	15	
SPA 6: South	40	8	26	5	54	11	53	10	63	12	60	11	75	13	108	18	101	16	99	16		
SPA 7: East	45	5	60	7	86	11	79	9	93	10	93	10	135	13	144	13	148	13	194	17		
SPA 8: South Bay	111	11	61	6	126	12	130	11	158	14	132	11	196	16	175	14	222	17	221	17		

*Age-adjusted rate per 100,000. Population estimates were revised, therefore, death rates for 2001-2004 may differ from those previously published.
 --Number of deaths is too small to calculate a reliable rate.

Breast cancer *at a glance*

Number **10** cause of premature death

Number **10** cause of death

In 2006, breast cancer was the eighth-leading cause of death and the second-leading cause of premature death for women. For Hispanic women aged 25 to 44 years and Asian/Pacific Islander women aged 45 to 64 years, breast cancer was the leading cause of death. Among Hispanic and Asian/Pacific Islander women, it was the leading cause of premature death. The death rates for breast cancer were highest among black women, and in the South and Antelope Valley Service Planning Areas.

In simple terms . . .

Cancer is the result of abnormal growth of the cells in a part of the body. Normal body cells grow, divide, and die. Cancer cells grow and divide as do normal cells, but they outlive normal cells and continue to form new abnormal cells. The abnormal cells begin to replace normal tissue. Cancer cells develop because of damage to DNA. DNA can be damaged by something in the environment, or damaged DNA can be inherited. Most of the time, when DNA becomes damaged the body is able to repair it. In cancer cells, the damaged DNA is not repaired. Breast cancer develops in the cells of the breast. Men can get breast cancer but it is uncommon.

Risk factors (for women)

Age, family history of breast cancer, previous breast cancer, race, early radiation treatment to the chest area, menstruation before age 12 or menopause after age 55, genetic mutation linked to breast cancer, treatment with the drug DES (diethylstilbestrol), not having children, excessive alcohol consumption, being overweight, physical inactivity, postmenopausal hormone therapy for more than five years

Community opportunities for prevention

- Promote the availability of low-cost breast cancer screening
- Provide education on the importance of receiving on-schedule breast cancer screening

Individual opportunities for prevention

- Follow recommended breast cancer screening guidelines
- Limit alcohol consumption
- Maintain a healthy weight
- Consult with your physician about increasing physical activity

Los Angeles County deaths

1,071 (1,063 females)

Los Angeles County death rate

20.7 deaths per 100,000 females

Healthy People 2010 Objective 3-3

21.3 deaths per 100,000 females

ICD-9 codes

174-175

ICD-10 codes

C50

References

American Cancer Society at WWW.CANCER.ORG
National Cancer Institute at WWW.CANCER.GOV

Referral

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Office of Women's Health hotline: **1-800-793-8090**
CA Department of Public Health, Cancer Detection Programs - Every Woman Counts: **1-800-511-2300**

Mortality Trends in Los Angeles County 1997-2006
Figure T4. Trends in breast cancer (female) mortality

	1997		1998		Because of changes to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 1997-1998 may not be comparable to 1999-2006.	1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*		No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*
Los Angeles County	1,111	26	1,125	27		1,089	25	1,045	24	1,088	24	1,052	23	1,074	22	1,157	24	1,168	23	1,063	21
Females																					
White	668	31	673	31		635	29	606	28	621	28	612	27	570	25	613	27	631	27	557	25
Hispanic	186	17	192	17		196	18	169	14	213	17	176	14	242	17	222	15	223	15	237	15
Black	178	40	160	35		163	37	170	36	159	34	150	31	158	32	199	40	181	36	164	32
Asian/Pacific Islander	76	13	98	17		92	15	97	15	91	14	112	16	102	14	120	16	132	17	101	12
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	29	26	25	22		37	30	25	20	30	25	36	29	41	30	30	23	51	36	40	27
SPA 2: San Fernando	224	25	280	31		259	28	244	25	253	26	242	24	238	23	241	22	261	24	264	23
SPA 3: San Gabriel	214	26	205	25		192	23	183	21	213	24	203	22	185	20	209	22	204	21	192	19
SPA 4: Metro	129	26	112	23		101	20	110	22	97	19	117	22	104	19	130	22	117	20	104	17
SPA 5: West	87	24	79	22		84	24	94	25	79	22	101	27	88	23	97	26	99	25	85	22
SPA 6: South	125	35	111	32		100	29	97	27	83	23	89	24	97	26	113	28	113	29	110	27
SPA 7: East	117	22	138	26		135	25	115	21	132	24	105	18	144	24	130	21	130	21	122	19
SPA 8: South Bay	185	28	172	26		180	27	176	25	193	27	159	22	171	23	201	26	192	24	143	18

*Age-adjusted rate per 100,000. Population estimates were revised, therefore, death rates for 2001-2004 may differ from those previously published.

Colorectal cancer *at a glance*

Number **12** cause of premature death

Number **8** cause of death

Colorectal cancer has been the seventh- or eighth-leading cause of death for the past 10 years. The death rate from colorectal cancer decreased 24% for whites, from 21 to 16 deaths per 100,000 in 1997 and 2006, respectively. In 2006, colorectal cancer was the seventh-leading cause of death and premature death for Asian/Pacific Islanders, and was the sixth-leading cause of death in Pasadena and San Fernando Health Districts.

In simple terms . . .

Cancer is the result of abnormal growth of the cells in a part of the body. Normal body cells grow, divide, and die. Cancer cells grow and divide as do normal cells, but they outlive normal cells and continue to form new abnormal cells. The abnormal cells begin to replace normal tissue. Cancer cells develop because of damage to DNA. DNA can be damaged by something in the environment, or damaged DNA can be inherited. Most of the time, when DNA becomes damaged the body is able to repair it. In cancer cells, the damaged DNA is not repaired. Colorectal cancer develops in the cells of the colon or the rectum.

Risk factors

Age, personal and family history of polyps or colorectal cancer, inflammatory bowel disease, physical inactivity, being overweight, alcohol abuse, a diet high in fat and low in fruits and vegetables, smoking

Community opportunities for prevention

- Promote the availability of low-cost colorectal cancer screening
- Increase the availability of affordable, nutritious foods

Individual opportunities for prevention

- Obtain routine medical care to detect and remove precancerous colorectal polyps
- Follow recommended screening guidelines for stool tests and special medical exams to detect colon cancer
- Eat plenty of fruits, vegetables, and whole grain foods, while limiting consumption of high-fat foods
- Consult with your physician about increasing physical activity

Los Angeles County deaths 1,362

Los Angeles County death rate 15.3 deaths per 100,000 population

Healthy People 2010 Objective 3-5 13.7 deaths per 100,000 population

ICD-9 codes 153-154

ICD-10 codes C18-C21

References

American Cancer Society at WWW.CANCER.ORG

National Cancer Institute at WWW.CANCER.GOV

Referral

American Cancer Society helpline: [1-800-227-2345](tel:1-800-227-2345)

Mortality Trends in Los Angeles County 1997-2006
Figure T5. Trends in colorectal cancer mortality

	1997		1998		1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*
Los Angeles County	1,336	19	1,302	18	1,378	19	1,360	18	1,423	18	1,315	16	1,450	17	1,414	17	1,409	16	1,362	15
Males	653	22	649	21	696	23	676	21	722	22	655	19	710	20	674	19	708	19	686	18
Females	683	16	653	15	682	16	684	15	701	15	660	14	740	15	740	15	701	14	676	13
White	855	21	774	19	832	20	787	19	812	19	763	18	824	19	767	18	737	17	689	16
Hispanic	172	11	190	13	205	13	221	13	217	12	206	11	241	12	230	11	270	12	275	12
Black	188	27	196	27	196	27	204	27	227	30	192	25	211	26	237	29	213	26	223	27
Asian/Pacific Islander	115	14	141	15	144	15	142	14	164	16	148	13	170	14	177	15	184	14	171	13
Males																				
White	417	25	376	22	427	25	391	22	409	23	368	20	401	22	358	20	365	20	350	19
Hispanic	85	13	102	17	100	16	103	15	116	16	111	14	127	14	116	15	154	17	134	14
Black	94	31	88	30	93	35	99	34	107	37	94	30	90	28	111	34	102	29	110	33
Asian/Pacific Islander	55	14	82	20	75	18	80	18	88	19	79	17	90	17	87	16	82	14	89	15
Females																				
White	438	18	398	16	405	17	396	16	403	16	395	15	423	16	409	16	372	14	339	13
Hispanic	87	10	88	10	105	11	118	12	101	10	95	9	114	10	114	9	116	9	141	10
Black	94	23	108	25	103	23	105	23	120	27	98	21	121	25	126	26	111	23	113	23
Asian/Pacific Islander	60	13	59	12	69	12	62	11	76	13	69	11	80	12	90	13	102	14	82	11
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	35	19	41	22	45	23	36	18	45	22	43	21	60	27	59	26	56	24	30	13
SPA 2: San Fernando	270	17	285	18	275	17	309	18	304	18	286	16	292	16	322	17	327	17	306	16
SPA 3: San Gabriel	263	19	241	17	254	18	250	17	266	18	255	16	278	17	248	15	286	17	267	15
SPA 4: Metro	152	17	148	17	150	17	157	17	176	19	149	15	163	16	146	14	148	14	151	14
SPA 5: West	110	17	99	15	104	16	103	15	115	17	95	14	110	16	89	13	103	14	89	12
SPA 6: South	135	24	135	24	127	23	135	23	133	23	133	22	137	22	149	23	134	20	143	21
SPA 7: East	164	19	148	17	168	18	163	17	157	16	149	15	159	15	159	15	148	13	161	14
SPA 8: South Bay	205	18	200	17	252	22	207	17	219	18	202	16	241	19	230	17	204	15	213	15

Because of changes to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 1997-1998 may not be comparable to 1999-2006.

*Age-adjusted rate per 100,000. Population estimates were revised, therefore, death rates for 2001-2004 may differ from those previously published.

Coronary heart disease *at a glance*

Number 1 cause of premature death

Number 1 cause of death

Although there were 2,606 fewer deaths from coronary heart disease in 2006 than in 1997, coronary heart disease remained the leading cause of death every year for the past 10 years. The death rate decreased 33%, from 249 deaths per 100,000 population in 1997 to 168 deaths per 100,000 population in 2006. Coronary heart disease was the leading cause of death for males and females, all race/ethnic groups, in every service planning area and health district, and among persons 45 years of age or older.

In simple terms . . .

Coronary heart disease is a condition in which the flow of blood to the heart muscle is reduced. Blood carried by the coronary arteries provides the heart with a constant supply of necessary oxygen and nutrients. When coronary arteries become blocked or clogged by cholesterol and fat deposits, they cannot supply enough oxygen-carrying blood to the heart. The result is coronary heart disease. When the flow of blood to the heart is cut off, a heart attack results and the heart muscle is permanently damaged from the lack of oxygen.

Risk factors

Diabetes, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, cigarette smoking, being overweight, physical inactivity, previous heart attack or angina, family history of early heart disease, age

Community opportunities for prevention

- Promote physical activity by providing access to safe places like parks to walk, play, and exercise
- Restrict smoking in public places and worksites
- Provide access to smoking cessation programs
- Encourage people to quit smoking through media campaigns

Individual opportunities for prevention

- Eat a healthy diet
- Consult with your physician about increasing physical activity
- Stop smoking
- Manage diabetes and cholesterol levels, and control blood pressure
- Reduce stress
- Get regular medical check-ups

Los Angeles County deaths 14,842

Los Angeles County death rate 168 deaths per 100,000 population

Healthy People 2010 Objective 12-1 162 deaths per 100,000 population

ICD-9 codes 402, 410-414, 429.2

ICD-10 codes I11, I20-I25

References

American Heart Association at WWW.AMERICANHEART.ORG
National Heart Lung and Blood Institute at WWW.NHLBI.NIH.GOV

Referral

Los Angeles County Division of the American Heart Association: 213-291-7000

Mortality Trends in Los Angeles County 1997-2006
Figure T6. Trends in coronary heart disease mortality

	1997		1998		Because of changes to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 1997-1998 may not be comparable to 1999-2006.	1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*		No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*
Los Angeles County	17,448	249	17,163	242		17,394	241	16,903	220	16,828	220	16,293	204	16,320	197	15,296	180	15,154	174	14,842	168
Males	8,592	308	8,468	301		8,328	290	8,200	268	8,343	272	8,029	250	8,131	243	7,662	222	7,613	215	7,541	210
Females	8,856	204	8,695	198		9,066	203	8,703	183	8,485	179	8,264	168	8,189	161	7,634	146	7,541	141	7,301	135
White	11,678	274	11,339	265		11,220	262	10,967	243	10,592	238	10,016	219	10,003	216	9,236	197	8,953	190	8,653	185
Hispanic	2,315	178	2,340	177		2,512	184	2,376	161	2,571	170	2,600	160	2,632	151	2,626	141	2,766	139	2,675	129
Black	2,310	341	2,293	333		2,429	351	2,261	309	2,308	316	2,262	301	2,269	292	2,085	264	2,045	254	2,053	255
Asian/Pacific Islander	1,099	144	1,158	145		1,198	143	1,255	136	1,319	141	1,365	136	1,352	125	1,292	113	1,344	111	1,409	112
Males																					
White	5,619	342	5,483	333		5,222	315	5,135	293	5,162	298	4,878	273	4,880	267	4,505	243	4,362	234	4,299	232
Hispanic	1,175	216	1,211	221		1,296	230	1,238	202	1,338	214	1,323	195	1,382	188	1,415	180	1,465	176	1,414	162
Black	1,150	428	1,089	401		1,134	420	1,095	390	1,124	395	1,084	368	1,093	355	1,012	325	1,044	324	1,053	333
Asian/Pacific Islander	625	182	673	189		660	180	712	175	701	172	714	162	739	156	696	141	717	138	748	138
Females																					
White	6,059	221	5,856	213		5,998	218	5,832	200	5,430	189	5,138	175	5,123	173	4,731	158	4,591	153	4,354	146
Hispanic	1,140	151	1,129	146		1,216	152	1,138	132	1,233	139	1,277	134	1,250	123	1,211	112	1,301	113	1,261	104
Black	1,160	279	1,204	285		1,295	302	1,166	256	1,184	262	1,178	254	1,176	244	1,073	220	1,001	202	1,000	200
Asian/Pacific Islander	474	113	485	111		538	116	543	106	618	118	651	114	613	101	596	92	627	91	661	91
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	460	273	448	257		488	266	461	239	471	245	500	246	496	237	488	232	467	215	463	205
SPA 2: San Fernando	3,618	240	3,537	230		3,615	230	3,603	213	3,577	213	3,550	204	3,520	196	3,419	187	3,377	180	3,262	172
SPA 3: San Gabriel	3,275	244	3,293	241		3,334	240	3,188	214	3,175	213	2,972	191	2,949	181	2,704	161	2,781	162	2,666	153
SPA 4: Metro	2,070	234	2,061	233		2,060	232	1,935	207	1,890	202	1,855	189	1,826	180	1,662	160	1,724	161	1,673	153
SPA 5: West	1,352	208	1,304	198		1,194	179	1,273	179	1,135	131	1,056	145	1,089	147	1,036	137	980	128	1,004	133
SPA 6: South	1,702	317	1,649	307		1,711	319	1,558	275	1,644	289	1,606	271	1,562	257	1,443	230	1,404	218	1,422	218
SPA 7: East	2,024	240	2,020	238		2,103	242	2,073	225	2,053	222	1,976	203	1,949	189	1,847	172	1,854	169	1,836	164
SPA 8: South Bay	2,845	263	2,755	252		2,795	252	2,721	230	2,754	233	2,704	221	2,758	217	2,529	193	2,493	185	2,360	173

*Age-adjusted rate per 100,000. Population estimates were revised, therefore, death rates for 2001-2004 may differ from those previously published.

Diabetes *at a glance*

Number **9** cause of premature death

Number **6** cause of death

Diabetes has been the sixth-leading cause of death each year since 1997. Since 1999, diabetes has become an increasingly important cause of premature death. In 2006, diabetes was the ninth-leading cause of premature death overall, but for Hispanic women, it was the third-leading cause of death and the fourth-leading cause of premature death. For men, diabetes was the fifth-leading cause of death. The death rates were highest for black men.

In simple terms . . .

Diabetes is a disease in which the body does not produce or properly use insulin. Insulin is a hormone necessary to convert sugar, starches, and other food into energy needed for daily life. Insulin controls the amount of sugar in the blood by moving it into the cells, where the body can use it for energy. Diabetes results in too much sugar in the blood, which can damage the eyes, kidneys, nerves, heart, and blood vessels, and reduce the body's ability to fight infections.

Risk factors

Family history of diabetes, being overweight, physical inactivity, age

Community opportunities for prevention

- Promote physical activity by providing access to safe places like parks to walk, play, and exercise
- Promote medical screening for diabetes
- Increase the availability of affordable, nutritious foods
- Enforce physical activity and nutrition education as part of a comprehensive school health curriculum

Individual opportunities for prevention

- Maintain a healthy weight
- Consult with your physician about increasing physical activity
- Eat plenty of fruits, vegetables, and whole grain foods, while limiting consumption of high-fat foods
- Limit the intake of salt and sugar

Los Angeles County deaths

2,188

Los Angeles County death rate Healthy People 2010 Objective 5-5

25 deaths per 100,000 population
Not comparable

ICD-9 codes

250

ICD-10 codes

E10-E14

References

American Diabetes Association at WWW.DIABETES.ORG
National Diabetes Education Program at WWW.NDEP.NIH.GOV

Referral

American Diabetes Association information line: [1-800-DIABETES \(1-800-342-2383\)](tel:1-800-DIABETES)

Mortality Trends in Los Angeles County 1997-2006

Figure T7. Trends in diabetes mortality

	1997		1998		1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*
Los Angeles County	1,746	24	1,753	24	1,820	25	1,879	24	1,890	24	2,122	26	2,178	26	2,201	26	2,305	26	2,188	25
Males	818	27	879	28	829	27	876	27	886	27	996	29	1,053	30	1,063	30	1,140	31	1,099	29
Females	928	22	874	21	991	23	1,003	22	1,004	22	1,126	24	1,125	23	1,138	23	1,165	23	1,089	21
White	744	18	708	17	739	18	797	19	775	19	840	20	835	19	863	20	897	20	806	19
Hispanic	526	35	545	35	567	37	579	35	639	38	678	38	719	37	741	36	773	36	774	34
Black	309	43	327	46	321	44	325	43	308	41	374	48	378	48	339	42	389	47	367	44
Asian/Pacific Islander	158	18	166	19	187	21	171	17	164	16	212	20	233	21	251	22	236	19	230	18
Males																				
White	359	21	378	22	358	21	384	22	380	21	400	22	424	23	446	24	455	25	412	22
Hispanic	245	38	269	40	258	40	265	38	279	39	319	42	339	42	347	40	390	42	371	39
Black	139	49	140	46	131	46	141	46	144	45	164	52	158	49	158	48	181	55	178	54
Asian/Pacific Islander	70	19	87	22	81	20	83	19	83	18	107	23	124	25	109	22	109	20	132	23
Females																				
White	385	16	330	14	381	16	413	17	395	16	440	17	411	16	417	16	442	18	394	16
Hispanic	281	32	276	31	309	35	314	33	360	36	359	34	380	33	394	34	383	31	403	31
Black	170	40	187	44	190	43	184	41	164	37	210	45	220	46	181	37	208	42	189	38
Asian/Pacific Islander	88	18	79	17	106	21	88	16	81	14	105	17	109	18	142	21	127	18	98	13
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	35	17	32	17	39	20	43	20	54	26	71	33	69	29	73	35	78	32	106	44
SPA 2: San Fernando	301	19	316	20	309	19	330	20	330	19	335	19	395	22	396	22	411	22	377	20
SPA 3: San Gabriel	269	19	305	22	305	21	354	24	306	20	395	25	361	22	423	25	438	26	389	22
SPA 4: Metro	224	26	220	25	245	28	220	24	269	29	276	29	271	27	257	25	277	26	245	23
SPA 5: West	76	12	80	13	80	12	80	12	76	11	101	15	113	16	115	16	103	14	91	13
SPA 6: South	210	37	234	42	248	44	247	42	237	40	286	47	289	46	258	40	294	45	256	38
SPA 7: East	317	35	312	34	315	35	315	33	337	35	350	35	336	32	356	33	381	35	366	33
SPA 8: South Bay	310	27	249	21	277	24	285	23	274	22	303	24	337	26	310	23	320	23	343	25

Because of changes to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 1997-1998 may not be comparable to 1999-2006.

*Age-adjusted rate per 100,000. Population estimates were revised, therefore, death rates for 2001-2004 may differ from those previously published.

Drug overdose (unintentional) *at a glance*

Number **8** cause of premature death

Number **20** cause of death

Overall, the death rates from drug overdose have changed little in the past 10 years. Drug overdose has not been a leading cause of death but has been a leading cause of premature death for each of the past 10 years. In 2006, it was the leading cause of death for white men aged 25 to 44 years, and the fourth-leading cause of premature death among men in the West Service Planning Area. Among black men, the drug overdose death rate peaked in 2002 at 22 deaths per 100,000 population.

In simple terms . . .

In this report, drug overdose refers to any death from an unintentional overdose of illegal drugs, prescription or over-the-counter medication, or alcohol. Drug overdose does not include any drug, medicine, or alcohol taken with homicidal or suicidal intent.

Risk factors

Lacking positive, consistent adult role models; doing poorly in school; delinquent behavior or belonging to gangs; a family history of alcohol or substance abuse; having parents in the criminal justice system; an environment where drugs or alcohol are used excessively and are easily available; self-medication for psychological or physical ailments; drug dependence from prolonged use for chronic pain. Among drug users, the risk of overdose is increased when drugs are injected, mixed with alcohol, used in combination with other drugs, or where there is a history of overdose.

Community opportunities for prevention

- Set age restrictions for purchasing frequently abused over-the-counter medications
- Promote the availability of prevention and treatment programs
- Develop community resources where parents can get help
- Engage media and offer local experts to address prescription and over-the-counter drug misuse

Individual opportunities for prevention

- Keep track of prescription and over-the-counter medications at home, and dispose of all medications properly
- Increase awareness about the risk of prescription and over-the-counter drug abuse, especially by young family members
- Use medications only as directed

Los Angeles County deaths

557

Los Angeles County death rate Healthy People 2010 Objective

5.4 deaths per 100,000 population
Not comparable

ICD-9 codes

E850-E858, E860

ICD-10 codes

X40-X45

References

Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America at WWW.CADCA.ORG
Center for Substance Abuse Prevention at WWW.PREVENTION.SAMHSA.GOV

Referral

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Alcohol and Drug Program Administration helpline:
[1-800-564-6600](tel:1-800-564-6600)

Mortality Trends in Los Angeles County 1997-2006
Figure T8. Trends in drug overdose mortality

	1997		1998		1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*
Los Angeles County	460	5	532	6	598	7	489	5	484	5	611	6	620	6	556	6	528	5	557	5
Males	355	8	385	8	461	10	375	8	353	8	444	9	437	9	388	8	377	7	372	7
Females	105	2	147	3	137	3	114	2	131	3	167	3	183	4	168	3	151	3	185	4
White	237	7	276	8	304	9	253	8	243	7	301	9	326	10	308	9	266	8	288	9
Hispanic	127	4	153	4	197	5	148	4	141	4	170	5	178	5	155	4	137	3	172	4
Black	87	10	93	10	92	10	80	9	96	11	131	14	102	11	80	8	113	12	81	8
Asian/Pacific Islander	6	--	6	--	2	--	4	--	4	--	8	--	11	--	6	--	5	--	10	--
Males																				
White	175	10	183	10	226	13	184	11	168	10	199	12	206	12	204	12	180	11	181	11
Hispanic	112	7	131	7	174	10	127	7	118	7	146	8	151	8	128	6	114	5	134	6
Black	63	16	62	15	58	15	56	14	63	16	93	22	70	17	47	11	73	17	46	10
Asian/Pacific Islander	2	--	6	--	1	--	4	--	4	--	5	--	7	--	4	--	5	--	6	--
Females																				
White	62	4	93	6	78	5	69	4	75	4	102	6	120	7	104	6	86	5	107	6
Hispanic	15	--	22	1	23	1	21	1	23	1	24	1	27	1	27	1	23	1	38	2
Black	24	5	31	6	34	7	24	5	33	7	38	7	32	6	33	6	40	8	35	7
Asian/Pacific Islander	4	--	0	--	1	--	0	--	0	--	3	--	4	--	2	--	0	0	4	--
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	11	--	10	--	20	6	19	--	17	--	27	8	30	9	31	10	19	--	31	9
SPA 2: San Fernando	71	4	88	4	99	5	82	4	80	4	126	6	97	4	101	5	114	5	104	5
SPA 3: San Gabriel	66	4	74	4	82	5	72	4	64	4	75	4	63	4	65	4	64	4	75	4
SPA 4: Metro	76	7	89	8	94	8	88	8	66	6	75	6	107	9	84	7	67	5	73	6
SPA 5: West	32	5	43	6	43	7	25	4	32	5	49	7	54	8	41	6	29	4	33	5
SPA 6: South	62	8	67	9	59	8	45	6	43	6	68	9	56	7	45	5	68	8	49	6
SPA 7: East	54	5	62	5	80	7	59	5	70	6	55	5	68	6	60	5	51	4	75	6
SPA 8: South Bay	65	4	74	5	93	6	71	5	76	5	100	7	101	6	90	6	79	5	81	5

Because of changes to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 1997-1998 may not be comparable to 1999-2006.

*Age-adjusted rate per 100,000. Population estimates were revised, therefore, death rates for 2001-2004 may differ from those previously published.
 --Number of deaths is too small to calculate a reliable rate.

Emphysema/COPD *at a glance*

Number **13** cause of premature death

Number **4** cause of death

Since 1997, emphysema/COPD has been the fourth- or fifth-leading cause of death but has not been among the overall leading causes of premature death. In 2006, emphysema/COPD was the third-leading cause of death for females and persons aged 65 to 74 years, and the second-leading cause of death in the Antelope Valley Service Planning Area, which also had the highest death rate from emphysema/COPD.

In simple terms . . .

Emphysema/COPD are conditions that interfere with the normal flow of air in and out of the lungs, making it difficult to breathe. Emphysema is the most common form of COPD. Emphysema is a lung disease that involves damage to the air sacs (alveoli) in the lungs. The air sacs are unable to completely deflate, making them unable to fill with fresh air and ensure adequate oxygen supply to the body.

Risk factors

Cigarette smoking, secondhand smoke, occupational exposure to certain industrial pollutants

Community opportunities for prevention

- Increase the availability of effective smoking cessation services
- Decrease exposure to indoor and outdoor secondhand smoke
- Support an increase in the tobacco tax

Individual opportunities for prevention

- Stop smoking
- Avoid people who smoke

Los Angeles County deaths

2,665

Los Angeles County death rate

30.9 deaths per 100,000 population
90.2 deaths per 100,000 adults aged 45 years and over

Healthy People 2010 Objective 24-10

62.3 deaths per 100,000 adults aged 45 years and over. The Healthy People 2010 objective includes some causes of chronic bronchitis not included in this report. These additional causes would increase the number of deaths in Los Angeles by 1%.

ICD-9 codes

492, 496

ICD-10 codes

J43-J44

References

American Lung Association at WWW.LUNGUSA.ORG
National Heart Lung and Blood Institute at WWW.NHLBI.NIH.GOV

Referral

American Lung Association helpline: 1-800-LUNG-USA
It's Quitting Time LA: 1-800 NO-BUTTS

Mortality Trends in Los Angeles County 1997-2006
Figure T9. Trends in emphysema/COPD mortality

	1997		1998		1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*
Los Angeles County	2,565	37	2,553	36	2,836	39	2,660	35	2,723	36	2,604	33	2,796	34	2,641	32	2,770	33	2,665	31
Males	1,232	45	1,246	45	1,384	49	1,299	43	1,301	43	1,246	40	1,377	43	1,278	39	1,348	39	1,275	37
Females	1,333	31	1,307	30	1,452	33	1,361	30	1,422	31	1,358	29	1,419	29	1,363	27	1,422	28	1,390	27
White	1,928	46	1,939	46	2,099	50	1,979	45	1,992	46	1,887	43	1,989	45	1,835	41	1,840	41	1,771	39
Hispanic	219	18	206	17	254	19	231	17	261	18	249	16	311	19	305	18	344	18	346	18
Black	256	38	292	43	307	44	263	36	281	38	293	40	287	38	297	39	331	52	329	41
Asian/Pacific Islander	158	22	113	15	170	20	178	20	184	20	164	17	198	19	192	18	238	20	213	17
Males																				
White	862	52	867	52	966	58	892	50	887	51	855	48	896	49	830	45	823	45	793	44
Hispanic	123	29	124	27	139	29	125	23	125	24	126	22	175	28	162	25	177	25	167	23
Black	138	55	171	66	171	65	151	53	153	54	149	55	169	58	154	52	184	60	170	56
Asian/Pacific Islander	107	34	82	25	106	30	127	34	133	35	111	27	131	30	125	28	154	32	141	28
Females																				
White	1,066	41	1,072	42	1,133	45	1,087	41	1,105	43	1,032	39	1,093	41	1,005	38	1,017	37	978	37
Hispanic	96	13	82	11	115	14	106	13	136	15	123	13	136	14	143	13	167	15	179	15
Black	118	28	121	29	136	32	112	25	128	28	144	31	118	25	143	31	147	30	159	33
Asian/Pacific Islander	51	12	31	8	64	13	51	10	51	10	53	9	67	11	67	10	84	12	72	10
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	109	63	102	58	133	74	119	63	138	70	125	63	140	69	120	58	159	74	150	67
SPA 2: San Fernando	533	35	510	33	577	37	538	32	529	32	519	30	575	33	513	29	563	31	578	32
SPA 3: San Gabriel	500	37	473	35	540	39	487	33	484	33	494	32	529	33	515	31	537	32	536	31
SPA 4: Metro	263	30	243	28	254	29	234	25	259	28	236	24	246	24	234	23	270	26	247	23
SPA 5: West	167	26	142	22	176	27	187	27	179	26	191	27	178	25	166	22	158	22	139	19
SPA 6: South	186	35	231	43	245	45	199	35	201	35	212	36	195	32	205	34	219	34	197	30
SPA 7: East	322	38	367	42	385	44	359	39	356	38	335	35	402	39	372	35	316	29	330	30
SPA 8: South Bay	476	44	481	44	521	47	527	45	558	48	489	40	521	42	497	38	542	41	479	36

Because of changes to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 1997-1998 may not be comparable to 1999-2006.

*Age-adjusted rate per 100,000. Population estimates were revised, therefore, death rates for 2001-2004 may differ from those previously published.

Homicide *at a glance*

Number **2** cause of premature death

Number **11** cause of death

Homicide has been the second-leading cause of premature death every year for the past 10 years. In 2006, it was the leading cause of premature death for blacks, Hispanics, and among those in the South Service Planning Area. It was also the leading cause of death for persons aged 5 to 44 years. The death rate from homicide was highest for black men—67 deaths per 100,000 population—which was more than 6 times the homicide rate for the County overall.

In simple terms . . .

Homicide is the killing of one person by another, including acts of terrorism. Some homicides are committed in self-defense, but the majority of homicides do not involve self-defense. Homicide may be committed with a weapon such as a gun or knife, or may result from means including strangulation, drowning, poisoning, burning, pushing the victim from a high place, neglect, abandonment, or abuse. Deaths from injuries caused by law enforcement officers or military in the line of duty are not included in this category.

Risk factors

Intimate partner violence, poor access to quality education, lack of employment opportunities, youths with excessive unstructured free time, gang affiliation, alcohol and substance abuse, witnessing and experiencing violence, access to firearms

Community opportunities for prevention

- Create social norms that promote healthy relationships
- Develop after-school programs for children and adolescents
- Support nurse home-visitation programs for teenage parents
- Support community policing
- Make substance abuse treatment services widely available
- Build communities that discourage street violence with well-lit streets and plenty of pedestrian traffic

Individual opportunities for prevention

- Maintain respectful relationships with family and friends
- Pursue a good education
- Seek help for substance abuse
- Recognize that easy access to firearms is a risk for homicide
- If firearms are kept in the home, store them unloaded and locked with the ammunition locked separately

Los Angeles County deaths 1,043

Los Angeles County death rate 9.9 deaths per 100,000 population

Healthy People 2010 Objective 15-32 2.8 deaths per 100,000 population

ICD-9 codes E960-E969

ICD-10 codes X85-Y09, Y87.1

References

National Youth Violence Prevention Resource Center at WWW.SAFEYOUTH.ORG

CDC National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at WWW.CDC.GOV/NCIPC/DVP/DVP.HTM

Figure T10. Trends in homicide mortality

	1997		1998		1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*
Los Angeles County	1,232	12	984	10	896	9	992	10	1,099	11	1,148	11	1,066	10	1,069	10	1,066	10	1,043	10
Males	1,079	21	826	16	751	15	847	17	937	18	990	19	931	18	940	18	940	18	916	17
Females	153	3	158	3	145	3	145	3	162	3	158	3	135	3	129	3	126	2	127	2
White	171	5	141	4	101	3	127	4	142	5	133	4	119	4	105	4	101	3	97	3
Hispanic	624	14	498	10	465	10	486	10	527	11	567	11	520	10	531	10	570	11	545	10
Black	379	39	296	31	276	29	343	36	361	38	393	41	369	38	388	41	362	38	344	36
Asian/Pacific Islander	48	4	45	4	53	4	35	3	47	4	51	4	57	4	42	3	33	2	50	4
Males																				
White	135	8	97	6	72	5	86	6	97	6	98	6	93	6	77	5	69	4	76	5
Hispanic	569	24	441	18	411	17	437	18	473	19	501	19	471	18	481	17	528	19	491	18
Black	329	71	246	55	230	52	302	68	315	70	352	78	324	72	348	78	320	72	298	67
Asian/Pacific Islander	39	7	38	7	37	6	22	4	37	6	36	6	42	6	33	5	23	3	46	7
Females																				
White	36	2	44	3	29	2	41	3	45	3	35	2	26	1	28	2	32	2	21	1
Hispanic	55	3	57	2	54	3	49	2	54	2	66	3	49	2	50	2	42	2	54	2
Black	50	10	50	10	46	9	41	8	46	9	41	8	45	9	40	8	42	8	46	9
Asian/Pacific Islander	9	--	7	--	16	--	13	--	10	--	15	--	15	--	9	--	10	--	4	--
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	25	9	22	7	16	--	18	--	21	7	27	8	36	11	33	10	37	11	46	13
SPA 2: San Fernando	125	6	107	5	101	5	99	5	142	7	139	7	120	6	101	5	104	5	98	5
SPA 3: San Gabriel	143	8	112	6	112	6	97	5	114	6	111	6	106	6	131	7	103	5	116	6
SPA 4: Metro	179	14	116	10	110	9	132	11	140	11	145	12	126	10	115	9	118	9	112	9
SPA 5: West	32	5	32	5	20	3	22	3	43	6	38	6	24	4	24	4	26	4	25	5
SPA 6: South	314	31	258	26	268	26	311	31	337	32	355	34	315	29	356	32	372	34	310	28
SPA 7: East	161	12	146	11	112	8	106	8	107	8	129	9	117	8	108	7	130	9	126	9
SPA 8: South Bay	221	14	182	12	144	10	193	13	175	11	190	12	192	12	177	11	161	10	179	11

Because of changes to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 1997-1998 may not be comparable to 1999-2006.

*Age-adjusted rate per 100,000. Population estimates were revised, therefore, death rates for 2001-2004 may differ from those previously published.
 --Number of deaths is too small to calculate a reliable rate.

In 2006, HIV was the second-leading cause of death for black men aged 25 to 44 years. It was a leading cause of premature death for men, Hispanics, blacks, and in the Central, Hollywood-Wilshire, and Long Beach Health Districts.

In simple terms . . .

HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) affects the body's ability to fight infections and certain cancers by damaging the immune system. HIV is spread by sexual contact through blood or mucous membrane exposure to infected blood, semen, vaginal secretions, or rectal mucus; by sharing needles and/or syringes (primarily for drug injection) with someone who is infected, or, less commonly (and now very rarely in countries where blood is screened for HIV antibodies), through transfusions of infected blood or blood clotting factors. Babies born to HIV-infected women may become infected before or during birth or through breast-feeding after birth. There is no scientific evidence that HIV can be transmitted in other ways.

Risk factors

Having unprotected sex with an HIV-infected person or a person whose HIV status is unknown, sharing drug needles and syringes

Community opportunities for prevention

- Educate the community about how HIV is transmitted and how to avoid getting infected
- Provide HIV counseling and testing
- Provide access to drug treatment programs
- Screen pregnant women for HIV infection and use drug therapies to reduce the transmission of HIV from mother to baby

Individual opportunities for prevention

- Do not have unprotected sex with a partner whose HIV status is unknown
- Do not share drug needles and syringes
- Learn your HIV status by getting tested for antibodies to HIV.

Los Angeles County deaths 414

Los Angeles County death rate 4.1 deaths per 100,000 population

Healthy People 2010 Objective 13-14 0.7 deaths per 100,000 population

ICD-9 codes 042-044

ICD-10 codes B20-B24

References

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at WWW.NIAID.NIH.GOV/PUBLICATIONS/AIDS.HTM
CDC HIV/AIDS Prevention at WWW.CDC.GOV/HIV

Referral

California HIV/AIDS hotline: [1-800-367-AIDS](tel:1-800-367-AIDS)

Mortality Trends in Los Angeles County 1997-2006
Figure T11. Trends in HIV mortality

	1997		1998		<i>Because of changes to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 1997-1998 may not be comparable to 1999-2006.</i>	1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*		No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*
Los Angeles County	680	7	552	6		581	6	506	6	558	6	502	5	497	5	498	5	438	4	414	4
Males	596	13	468	10		506	11	442	10	485	11	428	9	438	9	436	9	378	8	355	7
Females	84	2	84	2		75	2	64	1	73	1	74	2	59	1	62	1	60	1	59	1
White	262	8	218	6		236	7	187	6	195	6	151	4	167	5	174	5	139	4	155	4
Hispanic	218	6	186	5		178	5	155	4	182	5	187	5	170	5	177	5	158	4	139	3
Black	186	20	139	15		155	17	150	16	170	18	148	16	145	15	136	14	131	14	108	12
Asian/Pacific Islander	12	--	8	--		12	--	8	--	9	--	14	--	10	--	7	--	6	--	8	--
Males																					
White	245	14	205	12		212	12	172	10	180	10	140	8	161	9	159	9	126	7	139	8
Hispanic	186	11	155	9		164	9	140	8	156	9	165	9	143	8	159	8	140	7	121	6
Black	152	36	100	24		120	29	118	29	138	33	109	26	121	28	109	25	102	24	87	21
Asian/Pacific Islander	11	--	7	--		10	--	7	--	9	--	12	--	9	--	6	--	6	--	6	--
Females																					
White	17	--	13	--		24	1	15	--	15	--	11	--	6	--	15	--	13	--	16	--
Hispanic	32	2	31	2		14	--	15	--	26	1	22	1	27	1	18	--	18	--	18	--
Black	34	7	39	8		35	7	32	6	32	6	39	8	24	5	27	5	29	6	21	4
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	--	1	--		2	--	1	--	0	0	2	--	1	--	1	--	0	--	2	--
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	15	--	14	--		8	--	9	--	19	--	11	--	10	--	4	--	9	--	6	--
SPA 2: San Fernando	83	4	85	4		80	4	63	3	74	4	68	3	53	3	67	3	68	3	53	2
SPA 3: San Gabriel	81	5	62	4		62	4	45	3	47	3	51	3	39	2	49	3	30	2	47	3
SPA 4: Metro	211	19	184	17		183	17	171	16	155	14	133	12	167	14	133	11	129	10	132	10
SPA 5: West	33	5	17	--		22	3	16	--	19	--	16	--	20	3	23	3	14	--	17	--
SPA 6: South	94	12	67	8		85	12	83	11	90	11	87	10	96	12	106	13	76	9	57	7
SPA 7: East	45	4	48	4		43	4	32	3	42	4	42	3	38	3	35	3	35	3	31	2
SPA 8: South Bay	115	8	74	5		91	6	83	6	97	6	85	5	67	4	71	5	69	4	65	4

*Age-adjusted rate per 100,000. Population estimates were revised, therefore, death rates for 2001-2004 may differ from those previously published.
 --Number of deaths is too small to calculate a reliable rate.

Liver disease *at a glance*

Number **4** cause of premature death

Number **9** cause of death

Liver disease was again one of the 10 leading causes of death after a break since 2002. It has been a leading cause of premature death every year for the past 10 years. The death rates from liver disease have consistently been higher for men than for women, with Hispanic men having the highest rates overall. In 2006, liver disease was the third-leading cause of death for Hispanic men and persons aged 45 to 64 years.

In simple terms . . .

The liver stores vitamins and nutrients from food. It also breaks down toxic substances from the blood, and removes waste products from the body. When normal liver cells are damaged, they are replaced by scar tissue. The scar tissue interferes with the flow of blood through the liver and prevents the liver from carrying out its normal functions. Damage from scarring of the liver (cirrhosis) cannot be reversed. Sustained heavy alcohol consumption is the leading cause of cirrhosis. Chronic hepatitis, a prolonged swelling and irritation of the liver, also causes liver damage. Viral infections as well as non-viral causes such as autoimmune diseases, alcoholism, and exposure to certain drugs or environmental toxins can lead to these two types of liver disease.

Risk factors

Excessive alcohol consumption, prolonged exposure to certain chemicals and medications, viral hepatitis infection

Community opportunities for prevention

- Provide access to alcohol treatment programs
- Promote hepatitis B vaccination for groups at high risk
- Promote screening for hepatitis C

Individual opportunities for prevention

- Limit alcohol intake
- Follow manufacturer's instructions when using household and industrial chemicals
- Follow doctor's instructions when taking prescription and over-the-counter drugs
- Avoid behaviors that promote transmission of hepatitis B and hepatitis C, such as injection drug use and unprotected sex

Los Angeles County deaths 1,102

Los Angeles County death rate 11.5 deaths per 100,000 population

Healthy People 2010 Objective 26-2 3.2 deaths per 100,000 population

ICD-9 codes 571

ICD-10 codes K70, K73-K74

References

American Liver Foundation at WWW.LIVERFOUNDATION.ORG

National Digestive Diseases Information Clearinghouse at WWW.DIGESTIVE.NIDDK.NIH.GOV

Referral

Greater Los Angeles Chapter of the American Liver Foundation: [310-670-4624](tel:310-670-4624)

Mortality Trends in Los Angeles County 1997-2006
Figure T12. Trends in liver disease mortality

	1997		1998		1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*
Los Angeles County	1,041	13	1,019	13	1,047	13	1,121	14	1,010	12	1,085	12	1,053	12	1,035	11	1,061	11	1,102	11
Males	709	19	713	19	712	19	760	20	695	18	741	18	727	17	698	16	759	17	758	17
Females	332	8	306	7	335	8	361	8	315	7	344	7	326	7	337	7	302	6	344	7
White	477	13	424	11	471	13	461	12	416	11	432	11	403	10	428	11	397	10	386	10
Hispanic	425	20	452	20	423	19	499	22	458	19	504	19	498	19	458	17	501	17	554	18
Black	86	11	86	11	104	13	102	12	97	11	100	11	92	10	98	11	102	11	98	11
Asian/Pacific Islander	46	5	45	4	41	4	46	4	32	3	39	3	42	3	46	4	48	4	49	4
Males																				
White	312	18	280	16	296	17	298	17	265	15	277	15	253	14	295	16	267	14	263	14
Hispanic	316	31	343	32	319	30	361	33	343	31	381	31	377	30	308	23	383	29	397	27
Black	52	15	57	16	68	20	64	17	63	17	51	13	62	16	62	16	68	18	59	14
Asian/Pacific Islander	26	6	27	6	23	5	30	6	19	--	25	5	26	4	29	5	31	5	29	5
Females																				
White	165	8	144	7	175	9	163	8	151	8	155	8	150	7	133	6	130	6	123	6
Hispanic	109	11	109	10	104	10	138	12	115	10	123	9	121	10	150	11	118	8	157	11
Black	34	7	29	6	36	8	38	8	34	7	49	10	30	6	36	7	34	6	39	8
Asian/Pacific Islander	20	4	18	--	18	--	16	--	13	--	14	--	16	--	17	--	17	--	20	3
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	36	15	29	12	30	12	40	16	40	16	35	13	48	17	40	13	39	13	43	14
SPA 2: San Fernando	165	10	157	9	174	10	187	10	144	8	168	9	180	9	190	9	199	10	200	9
SPA 3: San Gabriel	204	14	164	11	190	13	191	12	187	12	178	11	177	10	173	10	197	11	207	11
SPA 4: Metro	149	16	159	17	138	15	151	16	136	14	159	16	134	13	131	12	127	11	136	12
SPA 5: West	54	9	49	8	54	9	56	9	45	7	55	8	55	8	40	6	41	6	41	6
SPA 6: South	115	18	102	16	106	17	117	18	110	17	119	17	106	15	118	17	102	14	120	16
SPA 7: East	160	16	189	19	174	18	197	19	161	15	185	17	177	16	173	15	176	15	163	14
SPA 8: South Bay	144	11	162	13	174	13	165	12	154	11	162	12	155	11	139	10	159	11	156	10

Because of changes to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 1997-1998 may not be comparable to 1999-2006.

*Age-adjusted rate per 100,000. Population estimates were revised, therefore, death rates for 2001-2004 may differ from those previously published.
 --Number of deaths is too small to calculate a reliable rate.

Lung cancer *at a glance*

Number **6** cause of premature death

Number **3** cause of death

Lung cancer has been the third-leading cause of death for 8 of the past 10 years, and one of the leading causes of premature death for each of the past 10 years. Since 1997, the death rate from lung cancer has decreased 24%, from 46 deaths per 100,000 in 1997, to 35 deaths per 100,000 in 2006. In 2006, lung cancer was the second-leading cause of death for men, and the fourth-leading cause of death for women. The death rates were higher for men than women, and were highest for black men.

In simple terms . . .

Cancer is the result of abnormal growth of the cells in a part of the body. Normal body cells grow, divide, and die. Cancer cells grow and divide as do normal cells, but they outlive normal cells and continue to form new abnormal cells. The abnormal cells begin to replace normal tissue. Cancer cells develop because of damage to DNA. DNA can be damaged by something in the environment, or damaged DNA can be inherited. Most of the time, when DNA becomes damaged the body is able to repair it. In cancer cells, the damaged DNA is not repaired. Most lung cancers start in the lining of the tubes called the bronchi.

Risk factors

Cigarette smoking and breathing the smoke of others; exposure to cancer-causing substances, including radon, asbestos, uranium, and arsenic; prior lung cancer

Community opportunities for prevention

- Increase the availability of effective smoking cessation services
- Decrease exposure to indoor and outdoor secondhand smoke
- Support an increase in the tobacco tax

Individual opportunities for prevention

- Stop smoking
- Avoid people who smoke
- Reduce exposure to cancer-causing substances

Los Angeles County deaths

3,021

Los Angeles County death rate

34.6 deaths per 100,000 population

Healthy People 2010 Objective 3-2

43.3 deaths per 100,000 population

ICD-9 codes

162

ICD-10 codes

C33-C34

References

American Cancer Society at WWW.CANCER.ORG

The Guide to Community Preventive Services at WWW.THECOMMUNITYGUIDE.ORG

National Cancer Institute at WWW.CANCER.GOV

Referral

American Cancer Society helpline: 1-800-227-2345

It's Quitting Time LA: 1-800 NO-BUTTS

Mortality Trends in Los Angeles County 1997-2006
Figure T13. Trends in lung cancer mortality

	1997		1998		Because of changes to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 1997-1998 may not be comparable to 1999-2006.	1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*		No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*
Los Angeles County	3,316	46	3,150	43		3,243	44	3,150	41	3,232	42	3,081	39	3,150	38	3,034	36	3,036	35	3,021	35
Males	1,880	61	1,722	55		1,814	58	1,765	54	1,797	55	1,702	50	1,713	49	1,710	48	1,608	44	1,719	47
Females	1,436	34	1,428	34		1,429	34	1,385	31	1,435	32	1,379	30	1,437	31	1,324	27	1,428	29	1,302	26
White	2,227	55	2,104	52		2,082	52	2,018	49	2,039	50	1,950	47	1,942	46	1,825	43	1,830	43	1,788	42
Hispanic	300	20	323	21		347	22	341	20	348	20	363	21	381	20	366	19	370	17	384	18
Black	526	72	463	62		494	67	476	62	482	63	455	58	451	56	452	55	457	56	480	58
Asian/Pacific Islander	252	29	256	28		314	32	308	30	356	34	306	28	367	31	379	31	368	29	359	27
Males																					
White	1,185	67	1,074	62		1,082	62	1,079	60	1,056	60	1,034	57	989	54	974	53	921	50	941	51
Hispanic	179	30	207	32		220	35	211	31	219	32	217	31	237	29	231	29	210	23	236	27
Black	341	115	278	90		293	99	271	86	289	94	258	81	267	82	263	78	243	73	286	85
Asian/Pacific Islander	169	45	161	39		217	51	201	45	229	51	188	39	215	42	235	44	228	42	250	43
Females																					
White	1,042	45	1,030	45		1,000	44	939	40	983	43	916	39	953	40	851	36	909	38	847	35
Hispanic	121	14	116	13		127	13	130	13	129	12	146	14	144	13	135	12	160	13	148	12
Black	185	43	185	42		201	46	205	46	193	43	197	42	184	39	189	39	214	43	194	39
Asian/Pacific Islander	83	17	95	19		97	18	107	18	127	21	118	19	152	23	144	21	140	19	109	14
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	124	65	117	60		117	56	119	57	117	55	109	49	120	53	114	50	122	53	123	51
SPA 2: San Fernando	702	45	688	43		718	44	657	39	710	42	665	38	695	39	643	35	683	37	675	36
SPA 3: San Gabriel	568	41	528	37		535	37	554	37	597	40	544	35	563	35	531	32	596	35	562	32
SPA 4: Metro	336	39	291	33		313	36	316	35	318	35	294	31	313	32	290	29	285	28	267	26
SPA 5: West	251	40	242	38		250	39	230	35	236	36	255	38	216	32	222	32	220	31	217	31
SPA 6: South	353	62	303	53		358	63	300	51	310	53	300	50	286	46	297	47	293	45	271	42
SPA 7: East	391	43	354	39		404	44	397	41	360	37	339	34	356	35	366	35	332	31	325	30
SPA 8: South Bay	581	50	614	53		539	46	569	46	569	46	567	45	580	44	544	41	496	36	564	41

*Age-adjusted rate per 100,000. Population estimates were revised, therefore, death rates for 2001-2004 may differ from those previously published.

Motor vehicle crash *at a glance*

Number **3** cause of premature death

Number **12** cause of death

For the past 10 years, motor vehicle crashes have been the third-leading cause of premature death. In 2006, they were the second-leading cause of premature death for Hispanics and Asian/Pacific Islanders, and the second-leading cause of death for persons aged 1 to 44 years. The death rates were higher for men than women, and highest for black men.

In simple terms . . .

Motor vehicle crashes can occur on any public roadway including streets, alleys, or highways. They also can occur in non-public areas such as parking lots or driveways. Motor vehicle crashes that occur on public roadways are referred to as traffic collisions. Any type of vehicle can be involved in a motor vehicle crash, including a car, truck, bus, or motorcycle. The person injured in a motor vehicle crash may be the driver or passenger of the vehicle that caused the crash, or of the vehicle that was hit. The injured person may also be a pedestrian or bicyclist.

Risk factors

Risk factors for crashing: driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs (illicit, prescription, or over-the-counter), driving recklessly, driving while distracted, disobeying traffic laws, lack of driving experience, younger or older age, hazardous road conditions, neglecting routine car maintenance. Risk factors for injury after a crash: not using seat belts or other passenger safety restraints such as child safety seats, unsafe car design

Community opportunities for prevention

- Actively enforce all traffic laws, including laws addressing seat belt use and child passenger safety
- Use media campaigns to reduce alcohol-impaired driving
- Comply with the graduated licensing system for teenage drivers
- Support national efforts for safe car design with safety features such as antilock brakes or electronic stability control systems

Individual opportunities for prevention

- Do not drive while impaired by alcohol or drugs
- Always wear seat belts, even for short trips
- Place young children in an age-appropriate, properly installed child safety seat or booster seat
- Have children younger than 12 years of age ride in the back seat

Los Angeles County deaths

965

Los Angeles County death rate

9.6 deaths per 100,000 population

Healthy People 2010 Objective 15-15

8.0 deaths per 100,000 population (rate for traffic-related deaths only)

ICD-9 codes

E810-E825

ICD-10 codes

V02-V04, V09.0, V09.2, V12-V14, V19.0-V19.2, V19.4-V19.6, V20-V79, V80.3-V80.5, V81.0-V81.1, V82.0-V82.1, V83-V86, V87.0-V87.8, V88.0-V88.8, V89.0, V89.2

References

The Guide to Community Preventive Services at WWW.THECOMMUNITYGUIDE.ORG
The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration at WWW.NHTSA.DOT.GOV

Referral

California Highway Patrol (non-emergency): [1-800-TELL-CHP](tel:1-800-TELL-CHP)

Mortality Trends in Los Angeles County 1997-2006
Figure T14. Trends in motor vehicle crash mortality

	1997		1998		1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*
Los Angeles County	885	10	782	9	751	8	811	9	890	9	851	9	967	10	947	10	925	9	965	10
Males	601	14	528	12	517	12	564	13	598	13	578	12	697	15	647	14	650	13	681	14
Females	284	6	254	6	234	5	247	5	292	6	273	6	270	5	300	6	275	5	284	6
White	335	10	302	9	247	7	297	9	304	9	292	9	343	10	340	10	287	9	312	10
Hispanic	360	10	292	9	330	9	324	9	359	10	373	9	418	10	374	9	428	10	425	10
Black	89	10	89	10	96	11	99	11	129	14	108	12	107	12	120	13	106	11	115	12
Asian/Pacific Islander	98	9	96	9	75	7	88	8	95	8	75	6	95	7	107	8	95	7	110	8
Males																				
White	220	13	205	12	172	11	205	13	216	13	190	12	246	15	218	14	201	13	220	14
Hispanic	258	15	204	13	237	13	241	13	242	14	270	13	317	15	270	13	304	14	321	15
Black	66	16	61	15	63	15	63	15	82	19	77	20	71	17	85	20	83	20	82	20
Asian/Pacific Islander	56	11	56	11	43	8	54	10	56	10	40	7	60	10	71	12	58	10	55	8
Females																				
White	115	6	97	6	75	4	92	5	88	5	102	6	97	6	122	7	86	5	92	5
Hispanic	102	6	88	5	93	6	83	5	117	7	103	5	101	5	104	5	124	6	104	5
Black	23	5	28	6	33	7	36	7	47	9	31	6	36	7	35	7	23	5	33	7
Asian/Pacific Islander	42	7	40	7	32	5	34	6	39	6	35	5	35	5	36	5	37	5	55	7
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	41	15	68	22	49	17	45	15	64	22	69	22	71	22	83	28	80	25	73	22
SPA 2: San Fernando	200	11	169	9	151	8	167	9	196	10	172	8	203	10	180	9	197	9	197	9
SPA 3: San Gabriel	156	10	123	8	121	7	137	8	140	8	140	8	138	8	153	8	179	10	147	8
SPA 4: Metro	114	11	93	9	85	8	81	7	98	9	78	7	99	8	84	7	91	8	82	7
SPA 5: West	42	7	43	7	32	5	47	7	32	5	35	5	40	6	37	6	35	6	41	6
SPA 6: South	87	10	79	10	85	11	93	11	121	13	110	12	106	12	106	11	99	10	118	13
SPA 7: East	109	9	92	8	103	9	96	8	91	8	114	9	110	9	105	8	106	8	110	8
SPA 8: South Bay	119	8	96	7	106	8	123	9	123	8	114	8	114	8	112	7	117	7	137	9

Because of changes to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 1997-1998 may not be comparable to 1999-2006.

*Age-adjusted rate per 100,000. Population estimates were revised, therefore, death rates for 2001-2004 may differ from those previously published.

Pneumonia/influenza *at a glance*

Number **20** cause of premature death

Number **5** cause of death

Pneumonia/influenza has been the fifth-leading cause of death since 1999 but it has not been among the leading causes of premature death. In 2006, pneumonia/influenza was the third-leading cause of death in the Hollywood-Wilshire and Northeast Health Districts, and for persons 75 years of age or older. The death rates from pneumonia/influenza were higher for men than for women.

In simple terms . . .

Pneumonia is an inflammation of the lungs caused by an infection that can result in difficulty breathing. The infection can be caused by bacteria, viruses, or fungi. Pneumonia is a common illness that is often mild but can be quite severe, even fatal. The severity of the infection depends on the organism that caused it, and the person's age and health.

Influenza, often called "the flu," is a respiratory disease caused by influenza viruses. Influenza can cause mild to severe illness that can result in death. Bacterial pneumonia can be a complication of influenza.

Risk factors

Young children and the elderly, underlying chronic medical conditions such as diabetes and asthma

Community opportunities for prevention

- Educate the community about the recommendations for influenza and pneumococcal pneumonia vaccination
- Provide information about the availability of low-cost or no-cost vaccinations for certain individuals
- Encourage employees with influenza to stay home when they are sick to avoid spreading the illness to others

Individual opportunities for prevention

- Follow recommended guidelines for influenza and pneumococcal pneumonia vaccination
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water
- Stop smoking
- Stay away from people who are sick
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth

Los Angeles County deaths

2,283

Los Angeles County death rate Healthy People 2010 Objective

26 deaths per 100,000 population

None

ICD-9 codes

480-487

ICD-10 codes

J10-J18

References

American Lung Association at WWW.LUNGUSA.ORG

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at WWW.CDC.GOV/FLU

Referral

Los Angeles County Info Line for free or low-cost immunization clinics: [1-800-427-8700](tel:1-800-427-8700)

Mortality Trends in Los Angeles County 1997-2006
Figure T15. Trends in pneumonia/influenza mortality

	1997		1998		1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*
Los Angeles County	3,346	49	3,594	52	2,242	32	2,477	32	2,421	32	2,494	31	2,419	29	2,272	27	2,333	27	2,283	26
Males	1,473	58	1,621	63	964	37	1,063	37	1,065	38	1,155	39	1,121	36	1,013	32	1,055	32	1,083	32
Females	1,873	43	1,973	44	1,278	28	1,414	29	1,356	28	1,339	27	1,298	25	1,259	24	1,278	24	1,200	22
White	2,295	53	2,403	55	1,475	33	1,608	34	1,488	32	1,595	64	1,475	31	1,330	27	1,338	27	1,314	27
Hispanic	469	38	497	41	339	27	366	26	398	28	383	26	411	25	408	24	448	24	429	22
Black	326	51	415	63	238	36	255	36	270	39	269	37	271	37	257	34	238	31	246	32
Asian/Pacific Islander	247	35	272	37	189	25	239	28	259	30	236	25	250	25	265	24	300	26	284	23
Males																				
White	964	62	1,042	66	613	39	663	39	622	37	723	41	659	36	613	33	580	32	612	34
Hispanic	229	50	242	54	159	34	161	30	180	34	182	33	189	29	174	26	208	29	198	26
Black	144	64	187	77	97	41	114	42	120	51	124	46	139	51	100	37	103	36	117	42
Asian/Pacific Islander	132	45	149	48	94	30	119	33	140	40	120	31	130	31	118	26	161	34	152	30
Females																				
White	1,331	47	1,361	48	862	30	945	31	866	29	872	29	816	27	717	24	758	25	702	23
Hispanic	240	32	255	34	180	23	205	24	218	25	201	22	222	22	234	22	240	21	231	19
Black	182	44	228	54	141	33	141	31	150	33	145	31	132	28	157	32	135	27	129	26
Asian/Pacific Islander	115	28	123	29	95	22	120	25	119	23	116	21	120	20	147	23	139	20	132	18
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	64	42	79	47	45	27	53	30	61	33	69	35	72	37	50	25	68	35	70	32
SPA 2: San Fernando	717	48	697	46	510	33	495	29	496	30	529	31	521	29	500	28	472	25	454	24
SPA 3: San Gabriel	661	50	711	53	407	30	515	35	529	36	483	31	467	29	488	29	477	28	409	24
SPA 4: Metro	407	46	444	50	330	37	344	36	335	35	344	34	350	34	293	28	319	29	302	28
SPA 5: West	312	47	331	50	218	32	239	33	206	29	230	31	212	28	184	24	188	24	188	24
SPA 6: South	265	51	327	62	158	30	212	38	204	37	192	33	183	30	183	29	181	28	202	31
SPA 7: East	401	49	412	50	232	28	292	32	259	29	262	27	253	25	262	25	2,586	23	284	26
SPA 8: South Bay	512	49	580	55	339	31	318	27	316	28	375	31	350	28	298	23	360	27	366	28

Because of changes to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 1997-1998 may not be comparable to 1999-2006.

*Age-adjusted rate per 100,000. Population estimates were revised, therefore, death rates for 2001-2004 may differ from those previously published.

Stroke at a glance

Number 7 cause of premature death

Number 2 cause of death

For the past 10 years, stroke has been the second-leading cause of death and the seventh- to ninth-leading cause of premature death. In 2006, however, stroke was the second-leading cause of premature death for Asian/Pacific Islander women. Since 1997, the death rate from stroke has decreased 31%, from 59 deaths per 100,000 to 41 deaths per 100,000 in 2006. The decrease was similar for both men and women. The death rate for blacks has been consistently higher than for other race/ethnic groups.

In simple terms . . .

A stroke occurs when the blood supply to part of the brain is suddenly interrupted or when a blood vessel in the brain bursts, spilling blood into the spaces surrounding brain cells. When that happens, part of the brain cannot get the blood and oxygen it needs. Without oxygen, nerve cells in the affected part of the brain die within minutes. When the nerve cells cannot function, the part of the body controlled by these cells cannot function either.

Risk factors

High blood pressure, cigarette smoking, diabetes, high cholesterol, being overweight, physical inactivity, excessive alcohol use, age, family history of stroke, prior stroke or heart attack

Community opportunities for prevention

- Promote physical activity by providing access to safe places like parks to walk, play, and exercise
- Restrict smoking in public places and worksites
- Provide access to smoking cessation programs
- Encourage people to quit smoking through media campaigns
- Promote access to blood pressure screening

Individual opportunities for prevention

- Control high blood pressure
- Stop smoking
- Manage diabetes
- Maintain a healthy weight
- Consult with your physician about increasing physical activity
- Eat a diet low in fat and salt
- Learn the stroke warning signs

Los Angeles County deaths 3,622

Los Angeles County death rate 41 deaths per 100,000 population

Healthy People 2010 Objective 12-7 50 deaths per 100,000 population

ICD-9 codes 430-434, 436-438

ICD-10 codes I60-I69

References

American Stroke Association at WWW.STROKEASSOCIATION.ORG

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke at WWW.NINDS.NIH.GOV/DISORDERS/STROKE

Referral

Los Angeles County Division of the American Heart Association: [213-291-7000](tel:213-291-7000)

Mortality Trends in Los Angeles County 1997-2006
Figure T16. Trends in stroke mortality

	1997		1998			1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006		
	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*		No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	
Los Angeles County	4,160	59	3,928	55	<i>Because of changes to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 1997-1998 may not be comparable to 1999-2006.</i>	4,435	62	4,410	57	4,259	56	4,169	52	4,249	51	4,121	49	3,775	43	3,622	41	
Males	1,681	61	1,550	55		1,803	64	1,816	60	1,691	56	1,701	54	1,754	53	1,718	51	1,554	45	1,501	42	
Females	2,479	57	2,378	54		2,632	59	2,594	55	2,568	55	2,468	51	2,495	49	2,403	47	2,221	42	2,121	40	
White	2,565	60	2,376	55		2,611	60	2,599	57	2,483	55	2,382	51	2,441	52	2,234	47	1,962	41	1,817	39	
Hispanic	623	44	621	43		704	49	717	46	708	44	711	42	755	41	785	42	782	38	779	36	
Black	562	82	536	78		658	95	618	84	591	82	589	79	584	76	572	74	530	66	495	61	
Asian/Pacific Islander	404	52	387	47		452	53	465	49	472	49	473	46	462	43	513	44	489	40	522	41	
Males																						
White	985	61	861	53		1,004	61	1,005	58	923	54	932	53	918	51	881	48	770	42	704	39	
Hispanic	272	46	297	49		315	54	343	54	322	48	326	48	342	44	364	47	360	43	356	38	
Black	223	83	210	79		262	94	247	85	232	82	227	77	248	84	208	71	206	67	202	61	
Asian/Pacific Islander	198	59	180	49		217	60	216	52	212	51	209	48	242	82	260	53	216	42	235	43	
Females																						
White	1,580	57	1,515	55		1,607	58	1,594	55	1,560	55	1,450	50	1,523	51	1,353	46	1,192	40	1,113	38	
Hispanic	351	43	324	38		389	46	374	41	386	41	385	38	413	39	421	38	422	35	423	33	
Black	339	80	326	77		396	92	371	81	359	80	362	78	336	69	364	75	324	65	293	59	
Asian/Pacific Islander	206	47	207	44		235	48	249	47	260	47	264	44	220	35	253	38	273	39	287	39	
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	140	85	122	72		109	61	124	66	110	58	106	52	131	65	125	61	124	60	125	56	
SPA 2: San Fernando	788	52	822	54		864	55	887	53	866	52	840	48	898	50	905	50	734	40	758	40	
SPA 3: San Gabriel	776	58	677	49		806	58	784	52	749	50	806	52	822	51	756	45	729	43	679	39	
SPA 4: Metro	501	56	474	53		525	59	485	51	475	50	462	47	453	44	426	41	374	35	400	37	
SPA 5: West	387	59	341	52		384	57	383	53	368	51	379	52	342	45	321	42	332	43	258	34	
SPA 6: South	396	72	397	73		465	86	455	80	434	76	403	67	401	65	407	65	376	58	349	52	
SPA 7: East	423	55	495	58		522	60	527	57	493	53	513	52	479	46	499	47	460	42	421	38	
SPA 8: South Bay	693	64	594	54		744	67	745	63	733	62	651	64	676	64	635	49	638	48	600	44	

*Age-adjusted rate per 100,000. Population estimates were revised, therefore, death rates for 2001-2004 may differ from those previously published.

Suicide *at a glance*

Number **5** cause of premature death

Number **17** cause of death

For each of the past 10 years, suicide has been the fourth- or fifth-leading cause of premature death. Suicide death rates have been consistently higher for men than for women, with white men having the highest rates overall. In 2006, suicide was the third-leading cause of death for persons aged 15 to 24 years, and the third-leading cause of premature death for white and Asian/Pacific Islander men. The suicide death rate was highest for those aged 75 years or older.

In simple terms . . .

Suicide refers to a person intentionally taking his or her own life.

Risk factors

Suicidal behavior is complex. Risk factors for suicidal behavior include mental illness such as depression or bipolar disorder, alcohol or drug abuse, previous suicide attempts, family history of suicide, history of being sexually abused, impulsive or aggressive tendencies, and having a firearm in the home.

Community opportunities for prevention

- Increase public awareness that suicide is preventable
- Educate health care providers and the public to identify and respond to persons at risk for suicide
- Provide access to mental health and substance abuse services

Individual opportunities for prevention

- Limit access to lethal means of self-harm, including the stockpiling of prescription medications
- Remove firearms from the home
- If firearms are in the home, store them unloaded and locked with the ammunition locked separately
- Seek mental health counseling
- Get treatment for substance abuse
- Respond to threats of self-harm and do not leave a suicidal person alone

Los Angeles County deaths

662

Los Angeles County death rate

6.6 suicides per 100,000 population

Healthy People 2010 Objective 18-1

4.8 suicides per 100,000 population

ICD-9 codes

E950-E959

ICD-10 codes

X60-X84, Y87.0

References

National Institute of Mental Health at WWW.NIMH.NIH.GOV

National Mental Health Information Center at WWW.MENTALHEALTH.SAMHSA.GOV

Referral

Didi Hirsch Community Mental Health Center Suicide Prevention Center: [1-877-7-CRISIS](tel:1-877-7-CRISIS)

Mortality Trends in Los Angeles County 1997-2006
Figure T17. Trends in suicide mortality

	1997		1998		1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*
Los Angeles County	776	9	794	9	732	8	711	8	762	8	727	8	727	8	696	7	695	7	662	7
Males	611	15	625	15	579	14	562	14	608	14	564	13	582	13	537	12	524	11	506	11
Females	165	4	169	4	153	3	149	3	154	3	163	3	145	3	159	3	171	3	156	3
White	473	13	510	14	449	13	434	12	443	13	401	11	442	12	379	11	388	11	367	10
Hispanic	166	5	157	5	154	5	155	4	188	5	171	4	163	4	182	4	172	4	165	4
Black	59	7	64	7	52	6	57	6	51	5	72	8	55	6	42	4	50	5	47	5
Asian/Pacific Islander	75	7	62	5	75	6	61	5	78	6	81	6	65	5	92	7	81	6	82	6
Males																				
White	369	21	396	23	343	21	337	20	350	20	297	17	342	20	284	16	286	16	279	16
Hispanic	136	8	130	8	132	8	130	8	161	9	151	8	148	8	154	8	146	6	133	6
Black	46	12	52	12	44	11	44	11	40	9	55	14	45	11	32	8	37	9	40	10
Asian/Pacific Islander	57	11	46	8	60	11	47	9	56	10	59	10	45	7	67	10	54	8	54	8
Females																				
White	104	6	114	6	106	6	97	5	93	5	104	6	100	6	95	5	102	6	88	5
Hispanic	30	2	27	2	22	--	25	1	27	1	20	1	15	--	28	1	29	1	32	1
Black	13	--	12	--	8	--	13	--	11	--	17	--	10	--	10	--	13	--	7	--
Asian/Pacific Islander	18	--	16	--	15	--	14	--	22	3	22	3	20	3	25	3	27	4	28	4
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	24	10	33	13	30	11	35	13	32	12	37	14	37	13	35	11	34	12	37	11
SPA 2: San Fernando	172	9	184	10	167	9	165	9	177	9	148	7	162	8	159	8	154	7	145	7
SPA 3: San Gabriel	137	9	127	8	126	8	124	8	131	8	125	7	110	6	118	7	122	7	118	6
SPA 4: Metro	101	9	106	10	111	10	89	8	98	8	97	9	97	8	78	7	89	7	81	6
SPA 5: West	76	11	65	10	63	9	66	10	54	8	61	9	65	10	59	8	70	10	56	8
SPA 6: South	49	6	37	5	42	5	46	5	44	5	44	5	41	4	46	5	33	3	46	5
SPA 7: East	80	7	93	8	63	6	76	7	82	7	70	6	80	6	67	5	67	5	57	4
SPA 8: South Bay	123	9	137	10	121	9	101	7	134	9	131	9	114	8	112	7	113	7	105	7

Because of changes to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 1997-1998 may not be comparable to 1999-2006.

*Age-adjusted rate per 100,000. Population estimates were revised, therefore, death rates for 2001-2004 may differ from those previously published.
 --Number of deaths is too small to calculate a reliable rate.

Mortality Trends in Los Angeles County 1997-2006
Figure T18. Trends in mortality from all causes of death

	1997		1998		Because of changes to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 1997-1998 may not be comparable to 1999-2006.	1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*		No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*	No. of deaths	Death rate*
Los Angeles County	60,070	821	58,923	797		59,614	798	59,032	749	59,774	756	59,586	726	61,026	721	59,153	682	60,145	679	59,461	661
Males	30,340	997	29,723	968		29,674	955	29,660	902	29,968	908	29,968	871	30,907	867	29,839	818	30,308	812	30,035	793
Females	29,730	688	29,200	668		29,940	677	29,372	630	29,806	637	29,618	610	30,119	599	29,314	575	29,837	572	29,426	556
White	36,560	883	35,435	857		35,120	849	34,697	804	34,189	801	33,672	773	34,105	772	32,324	727	32,101	716	31,376	705
Hispanic	10,776	630	10,670	620		11,189	640	11,107	594	11,879	622	11,969	588	12,803	594	12,632	561	13,574	573	13,783	556
Black	8,323	1,147	8,239	1,128		8,484	1,159	8,258	1,073	8,447	1,101	8,482	1,076	8,517	1,059	8,372	1,024	8,413	1,016	8,185	985
Asian/Pacific Islander	4,250	517	4,447	515		4,690	522	4,787	494	5,085	211	5,255	496	5,352	476	5,591	473	5,820	468	5,884	454
Males																					
White	17,563	1,058	17,029	1,023		16,664	1,000	16,577	950	16,360	946	16,171	912	16,454	911	15,615	856	15,336	836	15,182	831
Hispanic	6,004	774	5,962	782		6,199	796	6,179	742	6,446	758	6,596	723	7,100	731	6,950	691	7,517	712	7,440	673
Black	4,353	1,470	4,200	1,408		4,193	1,418	4,217	1,348	4,356	1,402	4,338	1,345	4,365	1,322	4,224	1,267	4,321	1,274	4,181	1,238
Asian/Pacific Islander	2,329	644	2,469	647		2,558	650	2,593	610	2,714	625	2,744	594	2,846	580	2,919	570	3,012	563	3,106	558
Females																					
White	18,997	746	18,406	727		18,456	728	18,120	686	17,829	684	17,501	661	17,651	656	16,709	621	16,765	617	16,194	601
Hispanic	4,772	523	4,708	504		4,990	526	4,928	484	5,433	521	5,373	486	5,703	487	5,682	462	6,057	482	6,343	466
Black	3,970	923	4,039	931		4,291	979	4,041	880	4,091	893	4,144	882	4,152	863	4,148	848	4,092	466	4,004	802
Asian/Pacific Islander	1,921	419	1,978	414		2,132	425	2,194	404	2,371	424	2,511	420	2,506	395	2,672	398	2,808	826	2,778	376
SPA 1: Antelope Valley	1,762	952	1,711	892		1,788	911	1,778	863	1,862	884	1,961	894	2,075	921	1,972	870	2,137	917	2,125	868
SPA 2: San Fernando	11,917	765	11,821	744		12,014	743	12,011	699	12,182	710	12,229	688	12,670	698	12,435	670	12,591	664	12,345	643
SPA 3: San Gabriel	10,824	779	10,585	750		10,784	752	10,747	709	10,828	713	10,827	685	10,895	664	10,582	627	11,074	641	10,736	612
SPA 4: Metro	7,237	791	6,974	765		7,029	769	6,817	713	6,864	713	6,726	671	6,866	665	6,516	618	6,687	618	6,540	593
SPA 5: West	4,605	714	4,389	676		4,371	667	4,382	629	4,192	607	4,287	605	4,290	596	4,098	560	4,132	558	4,039	547
SPA 6: South	6,191	1,045	6,083	1,036		6,150	1,049	5,962	966	6,130	987	6,174	956	6,063	915	6,058	890	6,019	865	5,853	831
SPA 7: East	7,243	805	7,352	814		7,430	813	7,395	769	7,386	763	7,273	719	7,428	701	7,240	662	7,359	658	7,370	647
SPA 8: South Bay	9,906	872	9,681	843		9,714	836	9,590	783	9,786	797	9,759	769	9,992	763	9,453	702	9,796	711	9,739	696

*Age-adjusted rate per 100,000. Population estimates were revised, therefore, death rates for 2001-2004 may differ from those previously published.

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
USE BLACK INK ONLY / NO ERASERS, WHITEOUTS OR ALTERATIONS
(S-11 (REV. 1/09))

LOCAL REGISTRATION NUMBER

STATE FILE NUMBER

1. NAME OF DECEDENT --- FIRST (Given)		2. MIDDLE		3. LAST (Family)	
AKA, ALSO KNOWN AS --- Include full AKA (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST)		4. DATE OF BIRTH mm/dd/ccyy		5. AGE Yrs. IF UNDER ONE YEAR: Months Days IF UNDER 24 HOURS: Hours Minutes	
9. BIRTH STATE/FOREIGN COUNTRY		10. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		11. EVER IN U.S. ARMED FORCES? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNK <input type="checkbox"/>	
13. EDUCATION --- Highest Level/Degree (see worksheet on back)		14/15. WAS DECEDENT HISPANIC/LATINO(A)/SPANISH? (If yes, see worksheet on back.) YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		16. DECEDENT'S RACE --- Up to 3 races may be listed (see worksheet on back)	
17. USUAL OCCUPATION --- Type of work for most of life. DO NOT USE RETIRED		18. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY (e.g., grocery store, road construction, employment agency, etc.)		19. YEARS IN OCCUPATION	
20. DECEDENT'S RESIDENCE (Street and number or location)		23. ZIP CODE		25. STATE/FOREIGN COUNTRY	
21. CITY		22. COUNTY/PROVINCE		24. YEARS IN COUNTY	
26. INFORMANT'S NAME, RELATIONSHIP		27. INFORMANT'S MAILING ADDRESS (Street and number or rural route number, city or town, state, ZIP)			

28. NAME OF SURVIVING SPOUSE --- FIRST		29. MIDDLE		30. LAST (Maiden Name)	
31. NAME OF FATHER --- FIRST		32. MIDDLE		33. LAST	
35. NAME OF MOTHER --- FIRST		36. MIDDLE		37. LAST (Maiden)	
39. DISPOSITION DATE mm/dd/ccyy		40. PLACE OF FINAL DISPOSITION		34. BIRTH STATE	
41. TYPE OF DISPOSITION(S)		42. SIGNATURE OF EMERALMER		43. LICENSE NUMBER	
44. NAME OF FUNERAL ESTABLISHMENT		45. LICENSE NUMBER		47. DATE mm/dd/ccyy	

101. PLACE OF DEATH		102. IF HOSPITAL, SPECIFY ONE IP <input type="checkbox"/> ER/OP <input type="checkbox"/> DOA <input type="checkbox"/>		103. IF OTHER THAN HOSPITAL, SPECIFY ONE Hospice <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing Home <input type="checkbox"/> Decedent's Home <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	
104. COUNTY		105. FACILITY ADDRESS OR LOCATION WHERE FOUND (Street and number or location)		106. CITY	

107. CAUSE OF DEATH		108. DEATH REPORTED TO CORONER? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
IMMEDIATE CAUSE (A) (Final disease or condition resulting in death)		Time Interval Between Onset and Death (A1)	
(B)		(B1) <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
(C)		(C1) <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
(D)		(D1) <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	

112. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH BUT NOT RESULTING IN THE UNDERLYING CAUSE GIVEN IN 107

113. WAS OPERATION PERFORMED FOR ANY CONDITION IN ITEM 107 OR 112? (If yes, list type of operation and date.)

114. I CERTIFY THAT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE DEATH OCCURRED AT THE HOUR, DATE, AND PLACE STATED FROM THE CAUSES STATED. Decedent Attended Since Decedent Last Seen Alive

115. SIGNATURE AND TITLE OF CERTIFIER

116. LICENSE NUMBER

117. DATE mm/dd/ccyy

118. TYPE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN'S NAME, MAILING ADDRESS, ZIP CODE

119. I CERTIFY THAT IN MY OPINION DEATH OCCURRED AT THE HOUR, DATE, AND PLACE STATED FROM THE CAUSES STATED. MANNER OF DEATH Natural Accident Homicide Suicide Pending Investigation Could not be determined

120. INJURED AT WORK? YES NO UNK

121. INJURY DATE mm/dd/ccyy

122. HOUR (24 Hours)

CORONER'S USE ONLY

123. PLACE OF INJURY (e.g., home, construction site, wooded area, etc.)

124. DESCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCURRED (Events which resulted in injury)

125. LOCATION OF INJURY (Street and number, or location, and city, and ZIP)

126. SIGNATURE OF CORONER / DEPUTY CORONER

127. DATE mm/dd/ccyy

128. TYPE NAME, TITLE OF CORONER / DEPUTY CORONER

STATE REGISTRAR	A	B	C	D	E	FAX AUTH. #	CENSUS TRACT
-----------------	---	---	---	---	---	-------------	--------------

Appendix 2. Los Angeles County population estimates and United States standard population

Los Angeles County population estimates, 2006

	Age Group (years)											All ages
	Less than 1	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85+	
Males												
White	14,319	59,587	162,403	168,334	179,459	257,201	268,559	200,361	116,892	78,172	28,712	1,533,999
Hispanic	51,063	202,315	491,134	417,071	434,417	387,154	246,607	127,570	60,595	30,691	9,064	2,457,682
Black	6,144	25,467	73,954	68,582	52,491	67,585	61,384	38,973	24,398	10,794	3,496	433,268
Asian/Pacific Islander	7,778	29,816	76,128	92,436	99,504	103,516	100,303	68,669	39,404	22,581	7,092	647,227
American Indian/Alaska Native	114	383	2,051	2,229	2,048	2,602	2,495	1,653	917	425	168	15,085
All races	79,418	317,568	805,670	748,652	767,919	818,058	679,348	437,226	242,206	142,663	48,532	5,087,261
Females												
White	13,545	56,019	152,644	165,350	172,791	236,741	251,822	204,766	131,215	116,343	55,991	1,557,227
Hispanic	48,882	194,483	471,211	392,628	390,479	355,761	258,641	149,100	81,469	50,021	18,192	2,410,867
Black	5,868	24,178	71,814	72,772	62,198	80,157	72,986	51,082	32,039	19,254	8,407	500,755
Asian/Pacific Islander	7,146	27,639	72,056	89,188	108,130	118,186	118,255	80,398	49,412	32,418	10,903	713,731
American Indian/Alaska Native	105	347	2,040	2,140	2,079	2,563	2,682	2,063	1,006	591	348	15,964
All races	75,546	302,666	769,765	722,078	735,677	793,408	704,386	487,409	295,141	218,627	93,841	5,198,544
Los Angeles County												
White	27,864	115,606	315,047	333,684	352,250	493,942	520,381	405,127	248,107	194,515	84,703	3,091,226
Hispanic	99,945	396,798	962,346	809,699	824,896	742,915	505,248	276,670	142,064	80,712	27,256	4,868,549
Black	12,012	49,645	145,768	141,354	114,689	147,742	134,370	90,055	56,437	30,048	11,903	934,023
Asian/Pacific Islander	14,924	57,455	148,184	181,624	207,634	221,702	218,558	149,067	88,816	54,999	17,995	1,360,958
American Indian/Alaska Native	219	730	4,091	4,369	4,127	5,165	5,177	3,716	1,923	1,016	516	31,049
All races	154,964	620,234	1,575,436	1,470,730	1,503,596	1,611,466	1,383,734	924,635	537,347	361,290	142,373	10,285,805

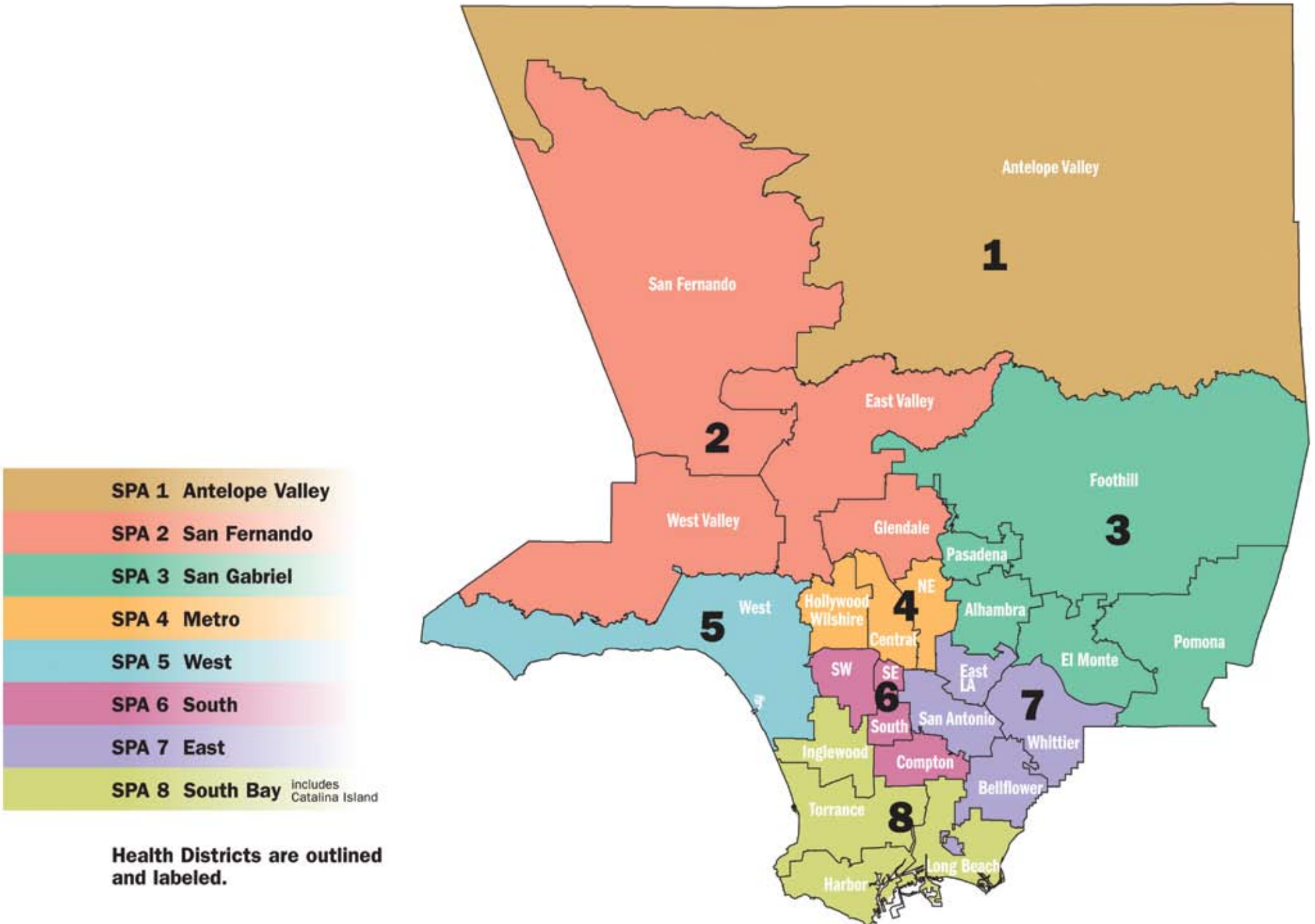
Notes: July 1, 2006 smoothed population estimates by Walter R. McDonald & Associates, Inc., released May 18, 2007.

United States standard population, 2000⁴

	Age Group (years)											All ages
	Less than 1	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85+	
United States												
All races	13,818	55,317	145,565	138,646	135,573	162,613	134,834	87,247	66,037	44,842	15,508	1,000,000

⁴ Anderson RN, Rosenberg HM. Age standardization of death rates: Implementation of the year 2000 standard. National Vital Statistics Reports; Vol. 47 No. 3. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics, 1998.

Appendix 3. Health district and service planning area (SPA) boundaries



Appendix 4. Incorporated cities in Los Angeles County, by service planning area (SPA)

SPA 1 Antelope Valley Pop. 347,823	SPA 2 San Fernando Pop. 2,146,515	SPA 3 San Gabriel Pop. 1,868,116	SPA 4 Metro Pop. 1,260,196	SPA 5 West Pop. 636,309	SPA 6 South Pop. 1,041,685	SPA 7 East Pop. 1,379,540	SPA 8 South Bay Pop. 1,605,621
Lancaster Palmdale	Agoura Hills Burbank Calabasas Glendale Hidden Hills La Canada Flintridge Los Angeles San Fernando Santa Clarita Westlake Village	Alhambra Arcadia Azusa Baldwin Park Bradbury Claremont Covina Diamond Bar Duarte El Monte Glendora Industry Irwindale La Puente La Verne Monrovia Monterey Park Pasadena Pomona Rosemead San Dimas San Gabriel San Marino Sierra Madre South El Monte South Pasadena Temple City Walnut West Covina	Los Angeles West Hollywood	Beverly Hills Culver City Los Angeles Malibu Santa Monica	Compton Los Angeles Lynwood Paramount	Artesia Bell Bell Gardens Bellflower Cerritos Commerce Cudahy Downey Hawaiian Gardens Huntington Park La Habra Heights La Mirada Lakewood Maywood Montebello Norwalk Pico Rivera Santa Fe Springs Signal Hill South Gate Vernon Whittier	Avalon Carson El Segundo Gardena Hawthorne Hermosa Beach Inglewood Lawndale Lomita Long Beach Los Angeles Manhattan Beach Palos Verdes Estates Rancho Palos Verdes Redondo Beach Rolling Hills Rolling Hills Estates Torrance

Notes: July 1, 2006 smoothed population estimates by Walter R. McDonald Associates, Inc., released May 18, 2007.





Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

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Suggested citation: Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology. Mortality in Los Angeles County 2006: Leading causes of death and premature death with trends for 1997-2006. September 2009.

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

Gloria Molina, First District

Mark Ridley-Thomas, Second District

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