

Deaths

There were 24,413 resident deaths recorded for Kansans in 2007, a decrease of 0.3 percent from the 2006 total of 24,489. ([Table 35](#))

Comanche (19.1), Harper (17.4) and Ness (17.1) counties had the highest five-year (2003-2007) county crude death rates per 1,000 population. Riley (4.6), Finney (4.8), and Douglas (5.3) counties had the lowest five-year crude death rates per 1,000 population. ([Table 35](#), [Figure 27](#))

Cherokee (10.2), Wyandotte (9.9), and Comanche, Cowley, and Harper (each 9.5) counties had the highest five-year (2003-2007) county age-adjusted death rates per 1,000 population. Riley (6.3), Kiowa (6.4), and Johnson (6.7) counties had the lowest five-year age-adjusted death rates. ([Table 35](#))

Belleville (24.5), Eureka (21.6), and Anthony (19.8) had the highest five-year city death rates (2003-2007) per 1,000 population. Manhattan (4.5), Olathe (4.7), and Lawrence (4.9) experienced the lowest five-year city death rates. ([Table 36](#))

The Kansas death rate in 2007 was 8.8 deaths per 1,000 population, which was 10.0 percent higher than the estimated U.S. rate of 8.0 deaths per 1,000 population. ([Figure 27](#))

Of all stillbirths in 2007, 86.0 percent were attributed to conditions originating in the perinatal period and 12.9 percent to congenital anomalies. ([Table 37](#))

An examination of the components that constitute perinatal period III mortality (see definition in Technical Notes) shows that the number of stillbirths declined 21.2 percent and hebdomadal deaths increased 1.2 percent from 1988 to 2007. Caution should be used in interpreting these changes due to the relatively small number of occurrences. In 2007, there were 349 perinatal period III deaths, representing a death rate of 8.3 deaths per 1,000 live births plus stillbirths. This rate has decreased 18.6 percent from the 1988 rate of 10.2. ([Tables 38](#) and [39](#))

A total of 333 infant deaths occurred to Kansas residents in 2007, an increase of 40 more than in 2006 (293). The statewide infant death rate for 2007 was 7.9 infant deaths per 1,000 live births an increase of 9.7 percent from the rate of 7.2 in 2006. The 2007 rate is the highest since 1996 (8.2). The White non-Hispanic infant death rate was 6.8 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2007, an increase of 9.7 percent from the rate of 6.2 in 2006. The Black non-Hispanic infant death rate in 2007 was 19.6, an increase of 12.0 percent from the rate of 17.5 in 2006. The Hispanic infant death rate was 8.4 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2007, an increase of 35.5 percent from the rate of 6.2 in 2006. ([Figure 28](#), [Tables 40](#) and [41](#))

During the five-year period, 2003-2007, the infant death rate for Kansas was 7.3. Lane County had the highest infant death rate (31.9) during this time period. Of those counties reporting infant deaths, Marshall County had the lowest rate (1.6). Sixteen counties had no infant deaths. ([Table 41](#))

Deaths (Cont.)

Of all infant deaths in 2007, 44.4 percent were attributed to conditions originating in the perinatal period, 20.4 percent were attributed to congenital anomalies, 15.0 percent to sudden infant death syndrome and 20.1 percent to all other causes. ([Table 42](#))

For each year from 1988 to 2004 there were five or fewer maternal deaths among Kansas residents. In 2007 there were six maternal deaths to Kansas residents, a rate of 1.4 per 10,000 live births. ([Table 2](#), [Figure 30](#))

The Kansas age-adjusted death rate (see Technical Notes pgs. 144-145) per 1,000 standard U.S. 2000 population was consistently below that of the U.S. from 1990-2005. ([Table 45](#), [Figure 31](#))

The state's 2007 age-adjusted death rate for males (9.3) was 40.9 percent higher than the rate of 6.6 for females. ([Table 45](#))

The average age at death of Kansas residents in 2007 was 74.2 years, a 1.6 percent increase from the average age at death of 73.0 years in 1988. ([Table 46](#))

Just over 64 percent (64.3) of the White non-Hispanic residents who died in 2007 were 75 years of age or older while only 40.0 percent of deceased Black non-Hispanic residents and 31.7 percent of deceased Hispanic residents were from the same age group. ([Table 48](#))

The average age at death varies between sexes and racial groups. In 2007, males died 7.4 years younger than females (70.4 years vs. 77.8 years). The average age at death for the White non-Hispanic population in 2007 was 75.6 years, twelve years older than that of the Black non-Hispanic population (average age at death at 63.2 years). The average age at death for Hispanics was 53.6. ([Table 48](#))

The two leading causes of death in Kansas in 2007 (heart disease and malignant neoplasms) had average ages at death of 79.1 and 71.9 years, respectively. Alzheimer's disease had the highest average age at death of any of the leading causes of death (86.5 years). ([Table 51](#))

The average age at death for male unintentional injury victims for 1988 and 2007 was 43.5 and 50.5 respectively, while for females the average age was 55.7 and 61.2 years respectively. For this time period, the average age at death increased 9.9 percent for female unintentional injury victims while for male unintentional injury victims it increased 16.1 percent. ([Table 51](#))

Heart disease and unintentional injuries were causes with the highest difference in average age at death between males and females in 2007. ([Table 51](#))

The cause-specific death rate for Alzheimer's Disease in Kansas was 31.0 deaths per 100,000 population in 2007. The rate for females (44.1) was over twice as high as the rate for males (17.7). ([Table 51](#))

Deaths (Cont.)

The cancer death rate for 2007 was 193.7 deaths per 100,000 population, 2.5 percent lower than the rate of 198.6 in 1988. ([Table 51](#))

In 2007, the unintentional injury death rate was 44.7 deaths per 100,000 population, 13.5 percent higher than the rate of 39.4 in 1988. ([Table 51](#))

The 2007 age-adjusted mortality rate was 780.4 per 100,000 standard U.S. 2000 population compared to the 2006 rate of 792.6. The decrease was not statistically significant. (see Technical notes) ([Table 52](#))

Heart disease has gradually declined, as a cause of death, from 322.0 deaths per 100,000 population in 1988 to 206.3 deaths in 2007. Conversely, cancer rates steadily increased from 198.6 to 207.1 deaths per 100,000 population from 1988 to 1996, but have generally declined since 1996. ([Figure 32](#))

For each of the five leading causes of death, the age-adjusted death rate declined between 2006 and 2007, although the differences were not statistically significant. ([Table 52](#))

Kansas death rates from cerebrovascular disease have decreased by 24.2 percent over the last twenty years, from 70.8 in 1988 to 53.7 in 2007. ([Figure 32](#))

In 2007, unintentional injuries were the leading cause of death for Kansas residents 1-44 years of age. ([Figure 33](#))

For the age-group 15-24, unintentional injuries were followed by suicides and homicides as leading causes of death. Together, they accounted for 72.5 percent of deaths in this age-group. ([Figure 33](#))

In 2007, cancer of the respiratory and intrathoracic organs, digestive organs and breast were the leading causes of cancer deaths in women. ([Table 54](#))

In 2007, motor-vehicle injuries resulted in 444 deaths, accounting for 35.8 percent of all unintentional injury deaths. ([Table 56](#))

In 2007, 380 Kansas residents died due to suicide. Fifty-eight of these were to decedents with the construction and extraction occupations followed by sales (36), installation, repair and maintenance (30) and transportation and material moving (30) groups. ([Table 58](#))

Mortality in Kansas was responsible for 201,602 years of potential life lost in 2007 (See Technical Notes pg. 146). Cancer was the second leading cause of death in Kansas, but accounted for the most years of potential life lost (43,844 years). Unintentional injuries represented nearly two times the years of potential life lost among men (19,840 years) compared to women (10,307 years). ([Table 60](#), [Figure 34](#))