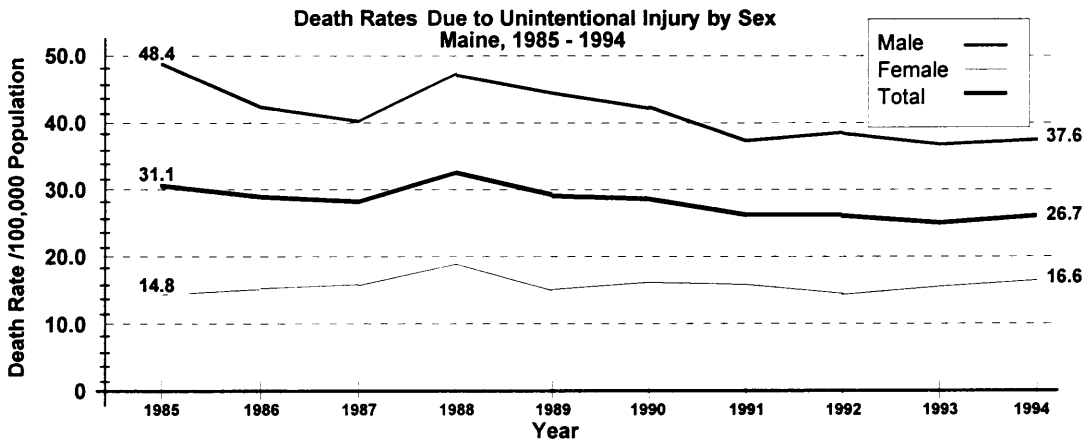


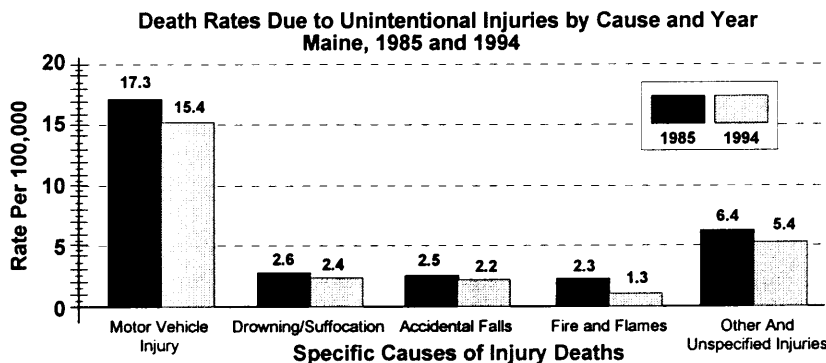
# UNINTENTIONAL INJURY DEATHS

Maine, 1985 - 1994

- ➔ 4,135 Maine residents died from unintentional injuries during the 10 year period, 1985 to 1994. This represented approximately 4% of all Maine deaths. The leading cause of injury deaths, motor vehicle crashes, claimed 2,049 lives - half of all unintentional injury deaths.
- ➔ The death rate in Maine from unintentional injuries decreased from 31.1/100,000 in 1985 to 26.7 in 1994; a significant difference. Consistent with national trends<sup>1</sup>, two thirds of these deaths (2,716) occurred to males, the remainder, 1,419 deaths, to females; however, the death rate to males decreased while the death rate to females increased slightly.



- ➔ After motor vehicle crash deaths, the leading causes of unintentional injury deaths were drowning and suffocation, falls, and fire and flame injuries. The death rate from each of these causes has decreased over the ten year period.



- ➔ Although motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of injury death for all Maine residents, for Maine's elderly residents aged 65 and over, the leading cause of injury death is falls; in fact, falls accounted for more than 1/3 of injury deaths (519) to this group. For Maine's very elderly (aged 80 and over), 50% of injury deaths (753) were due to falls.

NOTE: All rates are for underlying cause of death, for whites only and are age adjusted to the US 1940 standard population; these are rates that have been standardized to eliminate differences due solely to variations in the age composition of the populations. Unless noted, differences in rates are not statistically significant, i.e., they could be accounted for by chance alone.

Footnote 1: Accident Facts, 1995. Data are for 1992, the most current available U.S. data. A full citation will be provided upon request.

For further data on this topic, please contact:

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