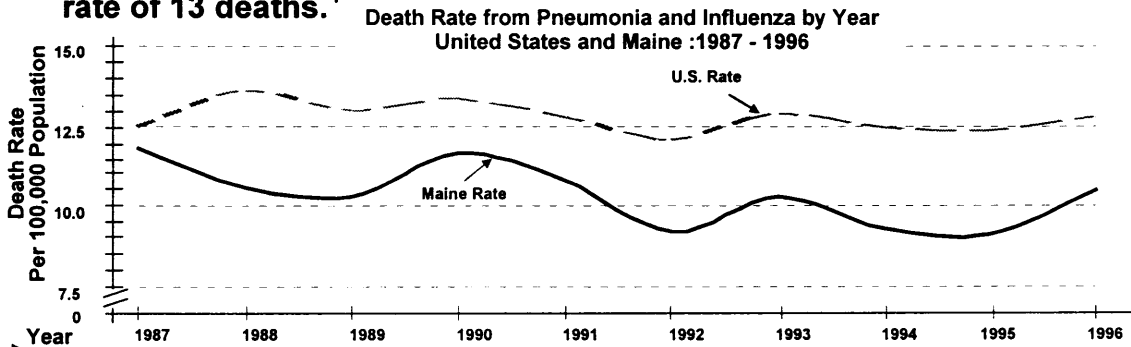


DEATHS DUE TO PNEUMONIA AND INFLUENZA

Maine: 1987 - 1996

- ➔ From 1987 to 1995, "pneumonia and influenza" was the 6th leading cause of death in Maine; in 1996, it was the 5th leading cause. It remains the 6th leading cause nationwide.
- ➔ From 1987 - 1996, 3,622 Maine residents died from pneumonia and influenza resulting in an age-adjusted death rate of 10½ deaths per 100,000 population - a rate *significantly smaller statistically* than the US rate of 13 deaths.¹



- ➔ Although more women than men died from pneumonia and influenza (2,019 women and 1,603 men), the age-adjusted death rate for Maine men was *significantly greater statistically* than that for Maine women - 14 deaths/100,000 population (men) compared to 8 deaths (women).
- ➔ The vast majority of deaths from pneumonia and influenza occurred to Maine's oldest residents; in fact, 93% of these deaths (3,373) occurred to residents 65 years old or older with 70% of the deaths (2,542) occurring to residents at least 80 years old.
- ➔ Through age 79, more men than women died from pneumonia and influenza (633 male deaths compared to 447 female deaths). From age 80 on, more women than men died from this cause (1,572 compared to 970); however, the number of female deaths was not proportional to the distribution of females in this elderly population. Women accounted for approximately 60% of the deaths in this age group even though there were more than twice as many women as men.
- ➔ Only 25% of all Maine adults received a flu shot in the past 12 months.²
- ➔ Although 65% of Maine residents, age 65 and older, received a flu shot in the past 12 months (a shot is recommended annually), only 35% had ever been immunized against pneumonia (one shot is recommended for life).²

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

Footnotes 1, 2: FN1: National data were obtained from CDC WONDER and are for the 9 year period, 1987 - 1995 (1996 data were not available); FN2: Data are for 1995 (the most recent available) and are from the Maine Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Full citations are available upon request.

For further data on this topic, please contact:

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