

Clark County, Kentucky

African-American Supplement

Leading Causes of Death

County Extension Service District: 4
Area Development District (ADD): Bluegrass
Area Health Education Center (AHEC): Northeast

This profile uses the most current data to assist Extension Agents in understanding the health status of African-Americans in their county. The overall age-adjusted death rate* for African-Americans in Kentucky is 1162.18 people per 100,000. However, disparities exist across the Commonwealth in the number of deaths from various causes. To create this profile, death rates for select causes were compiled by county for all Kentucky counties with more than 2000 African-Americans. The chart below contains Clark County death rates for African-Americans, as well as state and national death rates for comparison.

African-American Age-Adjusted Death Rates,* 2000–2003

Cause of Death	Clark County number of African-American deaths from 2000–2003	Clark County African-American age-adjusted death rate (per 100,000)	Kentucky African-American age-adjusted death rate (per 100,000)	United States African-American age-adjusted death rate (per 100,000)
ALL DEATHS	92	1260.54	1162.18	1075.61
LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH				
• Diseases of the Heart	28	371.65	334.74	306.84
• All Cancers	18	247.05	278.83	237.18
• Cerebrovascular Diseases (Stroke, etc.)	10	129.90	84.15	76.34
• Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	2	25.87	38.57	30.41
• Unintentional Injury	3	52.47	34.79	36.88
• Diabetes	1	12.24	55.25	48.56
SELECT CAUSES OF DEATH				
• Lung Cancer	3	38.41	87.90	61.35
• Breast Cancer	1	13.64	21.67	20.03
• Colorectal Cancer	1	13.64	31.88	25.72
• Cervical Cancer	0	0	3.53	2.84
• Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	34.13	14.33	15.57
• Suicide	0	0	7.50	5.42
• Homicide	2	32.67	17.27	20.92

*Since each county has a different breakdown of age-groups, actual numbers of deaths cannot be compared. Thus, the numbers are "adjusted" for age to allow for comparison.

These data sheets were produced by the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, Health Education through Extension Leadership (HEEL) Program;
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All data was generously compiled and calculated by Ashley Bostic. All age-adjusted rates were adjusted to the 2000 standard population. U.S., Kentucky, and county age-adjusted rates were calculated from CDC Wonders mortality data. ICD-10 Codes were used to define each cause of death. Rates calculated using number of deaths less than 20 are unstable because a small change in the number could greatly impact the rate. Unstable rates are unreliable due to their high variability.