

Table 3-4 • Ten leading causes of death by sex and by race and Hispanic origin of women, 2000 (in rank order)

Overall, more people die of heart disease than of any other single cause, although cancer is the leading cause of death for Asian/Pacific Islander women.

| Cause of death | Males total | Females total | Non-Hispanic females | | | | Hispanic females ³ |
|---|----------------|------------------|----------------------|-------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| | | | White | Black | A/PI ¹ | NA ² | |
| Heart disease | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Malignant neoplasms (cancers) | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Cerebrovascular diseases (e.g., stroke) | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 3 |
| Chronic lower respiratory diseases | 5 | 4 | 4 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Diabetes mellitus | 6 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 |
| Influenza and pneumonia | 7 | 6 | 6 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 6 |
| Unintentional injuries (accidents) | 4 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| Alzheimer's disease | | 7 | 5 | | | | |
| Nephritis, nephritic syndrome, and nephrosis (diseases of the kidney) | 9 | 9 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Septicemia | | 10 | 10 | 8 | 10 | 10 | |
| Suicide | 8 | | | | | | |
| Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis | 10 | | | | | 6 | 9 |
| HIV/AIDS | | | | 10 | | | |
| Essential (primary) hypertension and hypertensive renal disease | | | | | 9 | | |
| Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period ⁴ | | | | | | | 8 |

¹ Asian/Pacific Islander. ² Native Americans. ³ People of Hispanic origin may be of any race. ⁴ Conditions causing the death of newborns.

Source: *National Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 50, no. 16, Tables 1 and 2.

Table prepared by the Women's Research and Education Institute (WREI), 2005.