

**Spokane Regional Health District evaluates death records to track mortality trends among county residents.** The leading causes of death, as presented here, parallel that of the National Center for Health Statistics, housed in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Each cause of death represents a group of distinct diagnoses. For example, within the category of cancer are many types of cancer, each with its own risk factors, treatments and preventive measures. National mortality statistics can be found at the CDC's web site: [cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/deaths.htm](http://cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/deaths.htm). Washington state data is available through the Washington State Department of Health, [doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports.aspx](http://doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports.aspx).

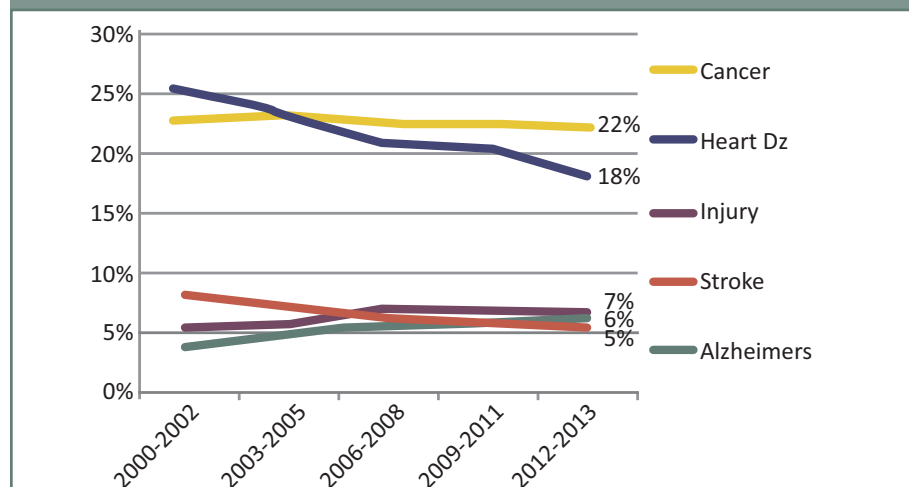
**The leading causes of death among Spokane County residents in 2014 were cancer and heart disease.** The proportion of deaths from these two causes of death has decreased since 2000 to a low of 39.3% in 2013. These two causes of deaths were also the leading cause of death nationally (46.1% in 2013) and in Washington State (43.9% in 2014). Leading causes of death vary by age. Perinatal conditions, which make survival difficult, such as a preterm birth, respiratory distress, or feeding problems are the leading cause of death for infants. Younger age groups are more likely to die from either intentional or unintentional injury than are older age groups. Among older age groups, leading causes of death are more likely related to chronic physical health conditions, such as heart disease.

## Top 10 Leading Causes of Death, Spokane County 2014

Rank	Cause of Death	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Cumulative Percent
1	Cancer	939	22.6%	22.6%
2	Heart Disease	757	18.2%	40.8%
3	Unintentional Injury	268	6.5%	47.3%
4	Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	265	6.4%	53.7%
5	Alzheimer's Disease	264	6.4%	60.0%
6	Stroke	231	5.6%	65.6%
7	Diabetes	125	3.0%	68.6%
8	Suicide	90	2.2%	70.8%
9	Infections/Parasitic Diseases	73	1.8%	72.5%
10	Chronic Liver Disease/Cirrhosis	71	1.7%	74.2%
	All Other Causes	1,070	25.8%	100.0%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,153</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	

## Leading Causes of Death Over Time, Spokane County

Rolling average percent of deaths



## Leading Causes of Death by Age Group, 2010-2014

Age Group	Cause of Death	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Cumulative Percent
< 1 year	Perinatal Conditions	69	43.1%	43.1%
	Birth Defects	44	27.5%	70.6%
	Sudden Infant Death Syndrome	27	16.9%	87.5%
	All Other Causes	20	12.5%	100.0%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	
1-14 years	Unintentional Injuries	16	23.9%	23.9%
	Birth Defects	10	14.9%	38.8%
	Cancer	8	11.9%	50.7%
	Illness	7	10.4%	61.2%
	All Other Causes	26	38.8%	100.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		
15-24 years	Unintentional Injuries	85	43.4%	43.4%
	Suicide	37	18.9%	62.2%
	Cancer	13	6.6%	68.9%
	All Other Causes	61	31.1%	100.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		
25-44 years	Unintentional Injuries	195	24.4%	24.4%
	Suicide	131	16.4%	40.9%
	Cancer	114	14.3%	55.1%
	All Other Causes	358	44.9%	100.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>798</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		
45-64 years	Cancer	1,240	30.8%	30.8%
	Heart Disease	631	15.7%	46.5%
	Unintentional Injuries	347	8.6%	55.1%
	All Other Causes	1,808	44.9%	100.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,026</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		
65+ years	Cancer	3,150	20.7%	20.7%
	Heart Disease	3,145	20.7%	41.3%
	Alzheimer's Disease	1,181	7.8%	49.1%
	All Other Conditions	7,749	50.9%	100.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,225</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		

Data Source: Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics