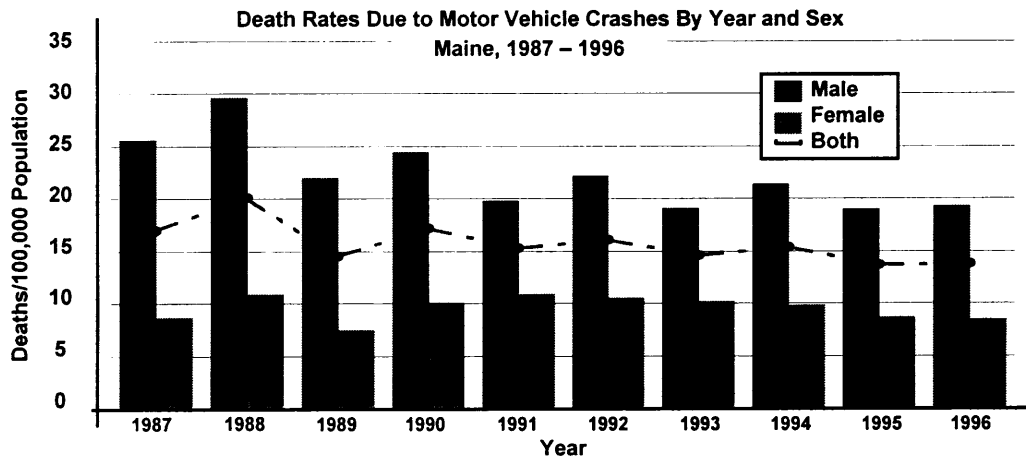


# DEATHS DUE TO MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES

Maine 1987 – 1996

- ➔ From 1987 – 1996, 1,989 Maine residents died as the result of motor vehicle crashes resulting in a death rate of 16.1 deaths per 100,000 population, a rate comparable to the US rate of 17.7. In 1996, however, the Maine rate of 13.8 deaths per 100,000 population was significantly lower than the national rate of 16.3.
- ➔ During this 10 year period, motor vehicle crash deaths in Maine decreased by 29%, from a high of 246 deaths in 1988 to a low of 175 deaths in 1996. Motor vehicle death rates have shown an overall decline during the period as well, from a high of 20.1/100,000 statewide in 1988 to a low of 13.8 in 1996 – a statistically significant decrease.
- ➔ Although the female death rate stayed fairly level during the 10 years, the male rate fell by more than 10 deaths/100,000 between 1988 and 1996 – a drop of 35%. Despite this, the male death rate in 1996, 19.3 deaths/100,000, was still more than twice the female death rate (8.5).



- ➔ Maine's youngest and oldest male drivers had the highest motor vehicle mortality rates in the state. Elderly men 75 years old and older, and young men 15 – 24 years old, had death rates more than 3 times the state's rate (both were approximately 50 deaths/100,000).
- ➔ A third of all motor vehicle crash deaths during this period occurred to Maine residents 20 – 34 years old; deaths to 15 – 19 year old adolescents accounted for an additional 15%.

Percent of Deaths and Death Rates Due to Motor Vehicle Crashes by Age  
Maine, 1987 – 1996

Percent of Deaths	6%	28%	20%	12%	8%	6%	9%	11%
Age	<15	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+
Death Rate/100,000 Population	5.0	31.8	20.2	12.4	11.3	11.1	19.8	29.5

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, that is, they could be accounted for by chance alone.

For further data on this topic, please contact:

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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

MOTOR VEHICLE  
CRASH DEATHS  
FACT SHEET

Series 7