

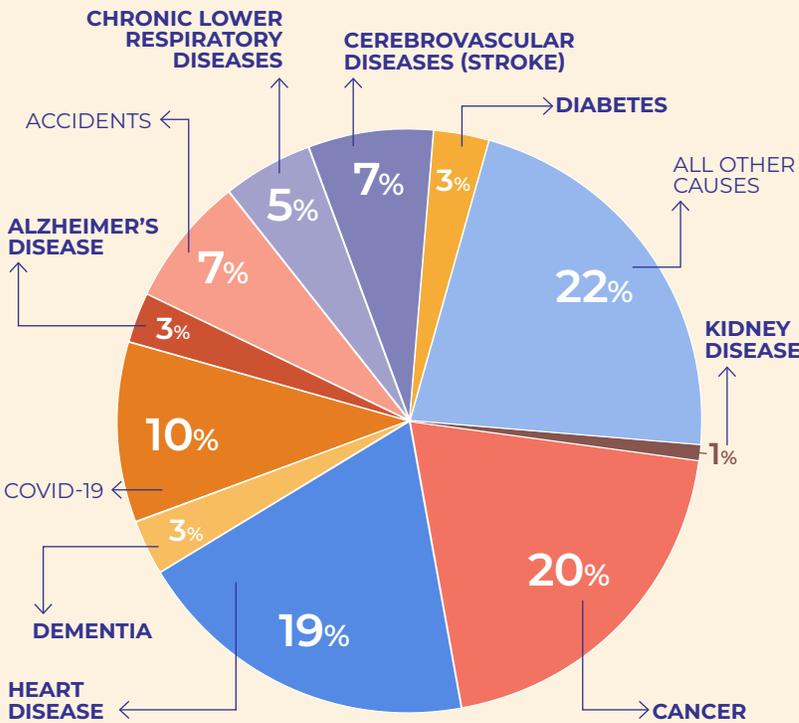


THE STATE OF CHRONIC DISEASE IN DELAWARE

61% of all deaths in Delaware were caused by a chronic disease (in 2020).¹

39% were caused by cancer (20%) and heart disease (19%) combined.¹

PERCENTAGE OF LEADING CAUSES OF DEATHS BY CAUSE IN DELAWARE, 2020¹



Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center. "Delaware Vital Statistics Annual Report, Mortality, 2020." Division of Public Health, Delaware Department of Health and Social Services, n.d. <https://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/hp/2020.html>.

*Bolded text indicates the cause of death is considered a chronic disease.

**This includes all other causes of death not represented in the figure, including but not limited to influenza and pneumonia, chronic liver disease, assault (homicide), and intentional self-harm (suicide).

PROGRESS VS. SETBACKS: Where do individual diseases stand in Delaware?

Prevalence: The proportion of a population that has a specific characteristic in a given time period.

Mortality: The number of deaths in a specific group of people in a given time period.

Cancer

Mortality: Decreased from 2006 to 2020, but higher than U.S. overall.⁴

Incidence: Decreased from 2006 to 2019, but higher than U.S. overall.⁴

Cardiovascular Disease

Includes heart disease and cerebrovascular disease

The second-leading cause of death in Delaware.¹

Mortality: Decreased from 2016 to 2020.²

Prevalence: Increases with age, highest among non-Hispanic Black individuals.²

Stroke

Mortality: Increased from 2016–2020, higher than U.S. rates. More fatal among non-Hispanic Black individuals than non-Hispanic White individuals.²

Prevalence: Stable from 2011 to 2022, increases with age.³

Hypertension and High Cholesterol

Mortality: Stable from 2006–2010 to 2016–2020. Lower than U.S. rates. Twice as fatal among non-Hispanic Black individuals than non-Hispanic White individuals.²

Prevalence: Stable from 2011 to 2021. Hypertension prevalence increases with age.³

Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease

Mortality: Same as U.S. overall, but decreased from 2006–2010 to 2016–2020.²

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

Prevalence: Increased from 2011 to 2022.³

Asthma

Prevalence: Stable from 2011 to 2022.³

Diabetes

Mortality: Stable from 2006–2010 to 2016–2020 but higher in non-Hispanic Black individuals than non-Hispanic White individuals.²

Prevalence: Increased from 2011 to 2022 and is higher in non-Hispanic Black individuals than non-Hispanic White individuals.³

¹ Delaware Health Statistics Center

² National Vital Statistics System

³ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey

⁴ Comprehensive Cancer Control Program

To view *The Burden of Chronic Disease in Delaware 2024*, visit delgov.link/chronicdiseasereport.