Stroke Mortality in Kansas, 2009-2013

Final U.S. data for 2013 showed stroke (cerebrovascular disease) was the 5th leading cause of death, responsible for 128,978 deaths [1]. Stroke was also the 5th leading cause of death in Kansas in 2013, responsible for 1,306 deaths [2]. The Kansas age-adjusted stroke death rate was 37.6 per 100,000 population, which was higher than the goal set by the Healthy People 2020 project, 34.8 stroke deaths per 100,000 population [3].

Kansas Highlights

- There were 6,750 Kansas resident stroke deaths in the 2009-2013 period.

- The age-adjusted stroke death rate for Kansas residents in the 2009-2013 period was 40.0 deaths per 100,000 population.

- North Central Kansas had the highest age-adjusted stroke death rate (43.7 deaths per 100,000 population) in 2009-2013, while Northwest Kansas had the lowest age-adjusted stroke rate (33.4 deaths per 100,000 population), but the Northwest Kansas rate was the only one which was statistically distinct from all the other rates.

- More Kansas women than men died of stroke. In 2009-2013 there were 4,126 Kansas resident female stroke deaths, compared to 2,624 male stroke deaths. However, the age-adjusted stroke death rates were statistically indistinguishable: 39.6 deaths per 100,000 for Kansas resident females and 39.7 deaths per 100,000 Kansas resident males. The convergence of age-adjusted stroke death rates for men and women is due to differences in age of death: men account for 56.2 percent of stroke deaths before age 65, but only 36.4 percent of stroke deaths for ages 65 and older.

- White non-Hispanics had more stroke deaths (6,058 deaths, or 38.7 deaths per 100,000 group population) than any other Kansas population group in the 2009-2013 period, but Black non-Hispanics had the highest age-adjusted stroke death rate (337 deaths, or 55.6 deaths per 100,000 group population).
• Age-group 85 and older had more stroke deaths than any other age-group (3,308) in the 2009-2013 period, as well as the highest age-specific stroke death rate (1,078.2 deaths per 100,000 group population).

• Stroke, not specified as hemorrhage or infarction accounted for a majority (56.8%) of Kansas resident stroke deaths in the 2009-2013 period, followed by inter-cerebral hemorrhage (12.3%), other cerebrovascular diseases (8.6%), sequelae of cerebrovascular diseases (8.1%), other non-traumatic intracranial hemorrhage (7.2%), subarachnoid hemorrhage (3.5%), and cerebral infarction (3.4%).

State and National Comparisons

The Kansas stroke death rate has been higher than the national rate throughout the 2009-2013 period. In 2013, the Kansas age-adjusted stroke death rate (37.6 stroke deaths per 100,000 population) was 3.9% higher than the national age-adjusted rate (36.2 stroke deaths per 100,000 population).

Want to know more about stroke?

For information about Kansas stroke prevention programs, visit the webpage of the Kansas Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program (part of KDHE’s Bureau of Health Promotion), www.kdheks.gov/cardio/index.htm.

Authors: David Oakley, Joy Crevoiserat, Greg Crawford

* Differences in age-adjusted rates may be assumed to be statistically significant unless it is explicitly stated that they are not.

Related References: