Massachusetts Fact Sheet

**Leading Causes of Death in Massachusetts in 2017**

- Cancer: 22.0%
- Heart Disease: 20.6%
- Accident: 6.5%
- Chronic Low. Resp. Disease: 4.8%
- Stroke: 4.0%
- Influenza: 2.4%
- Alzheimer's: 2.4%
- Diabetes: 2.2%
- Nephritis: 2.0%
- Septicemia: 1.5%
- All Others >30%

Massachusetts has the 4th lowest death rate from cardiovascular disease in the country.**

- Heart disease is the no. 2 killer in MA*
- 12,140 people in MA died of heart disease in 2017*
- Stroke is the no. 5 killer in MA*
- 2,367 in MA died of stroke in 2017*

---

**Heart Disease and Stroke Risk Factors in MA***

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>MA</th>
<th>US</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults who are current smokers</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults who participate in 150+ min of aerobic physical activity per week</td>
<td>50.9%</td>
<td>50.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults who are overweight or obese+</td>
<td>61.5%</td>
<td>66.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults who have been told that they have had a heart attack</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults who have been told that they have had a stroke</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults who have been told that they have angina or coronary heart disease</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population of adults (18-64) who have some kind of health care coverage</td>
<td>94.7%</td>
<td>89.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school Students who are obese++</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of population covered by Medicaid/Chip+++</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Based on total number of deaths in 2017. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. WISQARS Leading Cause of Death Reports, 2017.
* Also known as COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disorder): COPD and allied conditions (including asthma); the term in the ICD/10 is “chronic lower respiratory diseases.”
+ Overweight is defined as having a body mass index (BMI) of 25.0-29.9. Obese is defined as having a body mass index of 30.0 or more.
++ Students who were ≥ 95th percentile for body mass index, by age and sex. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, 2017.