



Renfrew County and District Health Unit

Community Health Status Report

Issue Number 3 - December 1994

SUMMARY

The major causes of death in Renfrew County and District, accounting for 85% of the 800 deaths each year are heart disease, cancer, respiratory disease and injuries. The major causes of premature death as indicated by Potential Years of Life Lost are injuries, heart disease and cancer. Male rates of PYLL exceed female rates for each of the three. Cancer is the major cause of premature death for women.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death accounting for 360 deaths each year. Nearly as many women as men die of heart disease, but men die at younger ages. The second major cause of death is cancer which causes 200 deaths each year. Before age 45, cancer death rates are higher in women; after age 45 they are higher in men. Overall more men than women die of cancer each year.

Injuries are a major cause of death accounting for 50 deaths each year. Although they account for only about 7% of all deaths, they are important as a cause of premature mortality, contributing 25% of all PYLL in our community each year. Injury death rates for males generally range from two to four times higher than female rates.

There are a number of significant differences between mortality rates in Renfrew County and District and Ontario which account for the higher mortality rates from all causes which were highlighted in the previous report. These differences include:

- higher death rates for all heart disease, heart attack and stroke .men and women here die of heart disease at younger ages .
men and women here die of cancer at younger ages
- higher death rates for all injuries, motor vehicle accidents and suicides
- there are more potential years of life lost here due to all injuries, motor vehicle
- accidents and suicides

Some of the reasons for these differences will be explored in our next report. An interesting question raised by this report is whether life expectancy is lower for Renfrew County and District residents than residents of Ontario. The Ministry of Health has no published data on this at the present time, but they agreed to look into it for us. Results will be presented in a future report.



Renfrew County and District Health Unit

"Promoting Healthy People in a Healthy Environment"

[Home](#) | [About Us](#) | [Clinics and Classes](#) | [Health Info](#) | [Community Health Status](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Contact Us](#)