

Diabetes Mortality by State for 1950

In 1950, the death rate from diabetes in the United States was 16.2 per 100,000 population. Final figures by State, recently released by the National Office of Vital Statistics, show considerable variation in this death rate from State to State. The diabetes death rate was lowest in New Mexico, where a rate of 5.6 per 100,000 was recorded, and highest in Rhode Island, which had a rate of 35.9 per 100,000. Seven States, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Alabama, Arkansas, Tennessee, and North Caro-

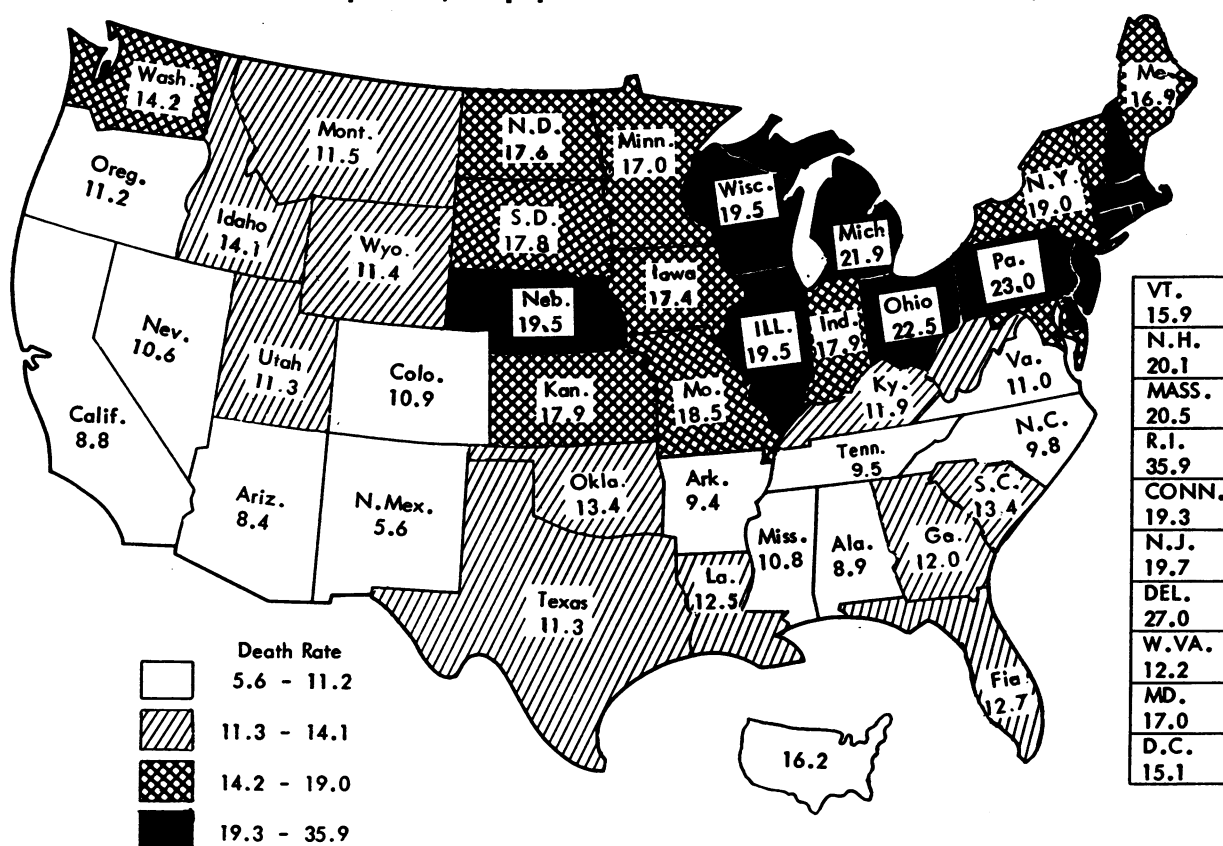
lina, had less than 10 deaths per 100,000, while rates greater than 20 per 100,000 were recorded for New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Rhode Island.

An array of the States by their 1950 diabetes death rate and division by quartiles shows a definite pattern on the map. Generally, the southern and western States have low death rates, and the northeastern and north central States have high rates.

Many factors undoubtedly influence the variation in the diabetes death rate among States and among regions. The differences may be due to real variations in the death rates for diabetes

This report was prepared by the Division of Chronic Disease and Tuberculosis, Public Health Service.

Diabetes deaths per 100,000 population in the continental United States, 1950



because of varying case fatality rates or varying prevalence rates. They are in part reflections of differences in the social, economic, and cultural patterns of the population groups, and differences in the availability of medical facilities and in methods of reporting causes of death.

Another important factor to be considered in comparing the death rates among the States is

the age, race, and sex composition of their populations. States having a high proportion of older people would be expected to have a high death rate for this disease. The rate among the nonwhite population (14.4 per 100,000 population) was slightly lower than that for the white (16.4); while for females, the rate (19.9) was considerably higher than for males (12.5).

Environmental Health Training Courses

Twenty-three training courses will be conducted during fiscal 1954 by the Environmental Health Center of the Public Health Service at Cincinnati, Ohio—15 in the various aspects of sanitation and 8 in radiological health.

These short courses are given for professional personnel from State and local health departments, water pollution control agencies, the Public Health Service, other governmental units, educational institutions, and industries cooperating with these agencies in environmental sanitation programs.

The advanced sanitation courses planned during 1953 and 1954 are :

Sept. 17-18: Fluoride analysis.
Sept. 23-25: Seminar on individual household sewage disposal systems.
Oct. 12-16: Membrane filter in bacteriological analysis of water.
Nov. 2-6: Nuisance organisms in water supplies.
Nov. 30-Dec. 11: For chemists—water pollution investigations.
Jan. 11-15: Bacteriological examination of water.
Jan. 18-22: Bacteriological examination of milk and dairy products.
Jan. 25-29: Food sanitation training.
Feb. 16-18: Phenol determination.
March 8-19: For sanitary engineers—water pollution abatement programs.
April 7-9: Bioassay of industrial wastes.
May 3-7: Membrane filter in bacteriological analysis of water.
May 19-21: Analyses of metals in industrial wastes.
June 8-11: For aquatic biologists—water pollution control.
Emergency sanitation training (will be scheduled if requests are sufficient).

In radiological health training, the basic course, which stresses basic radiation physics and survey techniques, will be presented :

Oct. 5-16, 1953	January 11-22, 1954	May 3-14, 1954
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The intermediate course, emphasizing laboratory assay of radio elements and X-ray survey techniques, will be given :

Oct. 19-30, 1953	Jan. 25-Feb. 5, 1954	May 17-28, 1954
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An advanced course for professional personnel concerned in particular with occupational health problems will be presented :

Feb. 8-19, 1954

The date of a short course for water works personnel will be announced later.

A bulletin describing the courses and giving further details is available upon request from the Officer in Charge, Environmental Health Center, Public Health Service, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Cincinnati, Ohio.