

THE ELEVEN LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE STATE OF IOWA  
 1947 - 1946 Comparison

Cause	1947 Total Deaths	Percent of Total Deaths	1946 Total Deaths	Percentage Increase or Decrease 1947 over 1946
All Causes.....	26,599	100.0	25,890	+ 2.7
Heart Disease (All Forms).....	8,681	32.64	7,992	+ 8.6
Cancer (All Sites).....	3,825	14.38	3,734	+ 2.4
Cerebral Hemorrhage, Embolism, Thrombosis, and Softening...	3,105	11.67	2,919	+ 6.4
Accidents (All Forms).....	1,920	7.22	1,856	+ 3.4
Congenital Malformations and Diseases of Early Infancy...	1,495	4.96	1,424	+ 5.0
Nephritis (Acute and Chronic).	1,319	5.62	1,445	- 8.7
Pneumonia (All Forms).....	833	3.13	864	- 3.6
Diabetes Mellitus.....	675	2.54	682	- 1.0
Arteriosclerosis (except cor- onary or renal sclerosis)...	525	1.97	571	- 8.1
Suicide.....	373	1.40	333	+12.0
Tuberculosis (All Forms).....	296	1.11	309	- 4.2
All Other Causes.....	3,552	13.35	3,761	- 5.6

There was one change in the relative position of the eleven leading causes of death in 1947 as compared with the year 1946. Congenital Malformations and Early Infancy Diseases displaced Nephritis as the fifth ranking cause of death in Iowa. The record high number of births in 1947 accounts for the increase in the deaths due to Congenital Malformations and Diseases of Early Infancy since there were so many more individuals subject to the risk of dying from this combination of causes. The number of births increased by 13.6% and deaths from this cause grouping increased only 5.0%. Hence, this increase should not be viewed with alarm.

The tenth ranking cause of death, suicide, showed the largest percentage increase of any of the eleven leading causes. The increase was 12.0%. Next in order of percentage increase and first in regard to total numbers was Heart Disease with an increase of 689 or 8.6%. Heart Disease is by far the leading cause of death in Iowa. In fact, approximately one out of every three deaths which occurred in Iowa in 1947 was due to Heart Disease.

Cancer, the second ranking cause of death, increased by 2.4% in 1947 over 1946. However, this increase was slightly less than the 2.7% increase in total deaths. This fact may have some encouraging implications.

Deaths due to Cerebral Hemorrhage and Accidents also increased in 1947 over 1946, while Nephritis, Pneumonia, Diabetes Mellitus, Arteriosclerosis and Tuberculosis deaths were less in 1947 than in 1946.



	DIPHTHERIA	INFLUENZA	MEASLES	MENINGITIS	PNEUMONIA	POLIOMYELITIS	SCARLET FEVER	SMALLPOX	CHICKENPOX	TUBERCULOSIS	TYPHOID FEVER	UNDULANT FEVER	WHOOPING COUGH	SYPHILIS	GONORRHEA
Jackson															
Jasper															
Jefferson															
Johnson							1							2	1
Jones			1							1			1		
Keokuk															
Kossuth															
Lee									3				1	2	
Linn			21			1	1		5	1				2	1
Louisa															
Lucas															
Lyon												1			
Madison															
Mahaska															1
Marion														1	
Marshall									3					1	1
Mills															
Mitchell															
Monona															
Monroe															
Montgomery			4												
Muscatine			1						2						
O'Brien			1												
Osceola															
Page			1												
Palo Alto															
Plymouth															
Pocahontas							1								
Polk			4				7		4	1				2	4
Pottawattamie			1							7				1	
Poweshiek									1						
Ringgold															
Sac			1												
Scott			1				2							2	1
Shelby															
Sioux															
Story			21						3	1					
Tama															
Taylor															
Union															
Van Buren															
Wapello						1									
Warren															
Washington														1	
Wayne															
Webster															
Winnebago															
Winneshiek															
Woodbury			13			2			1					2	
Worth													1		
Wright															
TOTAL	0	0	255	0	3	4	15	0	68	14	0	2	8	25	11
Same Wk. '47	0	70	1248	2	6	1	24	0	88	23	0	8	27	30	33
Last Week	1	0	289	1	1	5	20	0	102	11	0	2	15	25	14
1st 19 Wks. '48	22	43	8882	26	63	29	776	0	1954	329	7	112	203	608	332