

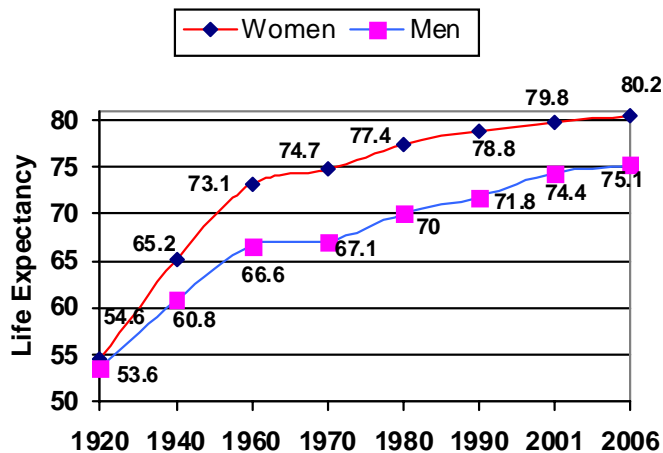
The Silent Health Crisis

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1. Life Expectancy Gender Gap

In 1920, the life expectancy gender gap was only 1.0 year. By 2006, men were dying 5.1 years sooner than women: (diamonds are women, squares are men)

**Life Expectancy, By Sex:
1920-2006**



NCHS: 2006 data from Deaths: Preliminary Data for 2006 released April 2009 & NVSR Vol. 57, # 16

2. Leading Causes of Death, 2005 *

Men have a higher death rate for many of the leading causes of death:

Cause of Death	Men	Women
Heart disease	260.9	172.3
Cancer	225.1	155.6
Injuries (unintentional)	21.7	8.9
Cerebrovascular disease	46.9	45.6
Chronic lower respiratory disease	51.2	38.1
Diabetes	28.4	21.6
Pneumonia/flu	23.9	17.9
HIV infection	6.2	2.3
Suicide	18.0	4.4
Homicide	9.6	2.5

3. Heart Disease, 2005 *

Almost twice as many men as women die of ischemic heart disease:

Ischemic heart disease	187.4	117.7
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4. Cancer, 2005 *

50% more men than women die of cancer. Examples of this disparity include:

Lung, Trachea, Bronchus	69.0	40.5
Colorectal	20.9	14.8

* NCHS Health US 2008. Age-adjusted rates per 100,000 US population

5. Men as Victims of Homicide

The chance of being a homicide victim places African-American men at unusually high risk:

Chance of being a Homicide Victim*

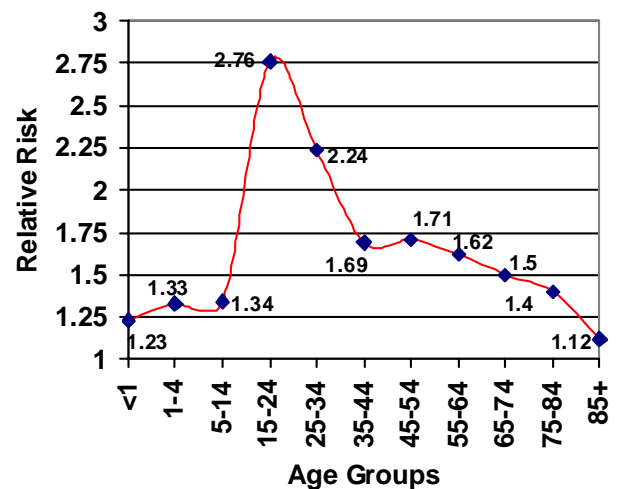
1 in 30 for black males	1 in 179 for white males
1 in 132 for black females	1 in 495 for white females

* BJS Data Report, 1989, page 20

6. Excess Mortality by Age Group

Men are at greater risk of death in every age group. Risk-taking and suicide account for much of the disparity in the 15-24 year age group:

**Excess Mortality in Males
by Age Group: 2003**



NCHS Health U.S. 2008. Age-adjusted rates per 100,000 U.S. population

7. Why Men are at High Risk

- A higher percentage of men have no healthcare coverage.
- Men make ½ as many physician visits for prevention.
- Men are employed in the most dangerous occupations, such as mining, fire fighting, construction, and fishing.
- Society discourages healthy behaviors in men and boys.
- Research on male-specific diseases is under funded.
- Men may have less healthy lifestyles including risk-taking at younger ages.

8. Effect on the Aging Population **

- More males than females are born (105 – 100), but beginning before age 35, women outnumber men.
- Of the 9 million+ older persons living alone, 80% are women.
- More than 1/2 the elderly widows living in poverty were not poor before the death of their husbands.
- At age 100, women outnumber men 8 – 1.

** U.S. Administration on Aging and The New York Times Magazine

We are indebted to Titilope Fadiyimu, Feven Debas & Jennifer McCormick for their assistance with this project. MHN is a non-profit educational organization that promotes the health of men and their families. Men's Health Network, P.O. Box 75972, Washington, DC 20013 - 202-543-MHN-1 – www.menshealthnetwork.org except as noted, all data are from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Center for Health Statistics. Table 28 from NCHS; Health, United States, 2008. Additional information can be found at www.menshealthlibrary.com.



The Men's Health Network -- An informational and educational organization recognizing men's health as a specific social concern.
www.menshealthnetwork.org