

XIII. SECONDARY DATA FINDINGS

A review of the *secondary data* secured from the Tennessee Department of Health and other sources has allowed for the study of epidemiological data and population data gathered for Hamilton County. Mortality data was reviewed for 1995 and 1997. Some morbidity data was extrapolated for Hamilton County for 1995 from national data obtained from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Trends are also presented for various health indicators .

1. LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH

Data from the Tn. Department of Health reveals that, for 1995 and 1997, the ten *leading causes of death* for Hamilton County (both genders, all races and ages) were:

<u>1995</u>	<u>1997</u>
1. Diseases of the Heart	1. Diseases of the Heart
2. All Cancers	2. All Cancers
3. Cerebrovascular Disease	3. Cerebrovascular Disease
4. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	4. COPD
5. Pneumonia and Influenza	5. Pneumonia and Influenza
6. Accidents and Adverse Effects	6. Accidents and Adverse Effects
7. Atherosclerosis	7. Atherosclerosis
8. Diabetes	8. Diabetes
9. Alzheimers Disease	9. Chronic Liver Disease
10.HIV/AIDS	10. Homicide/ Legal Intervention

It should be noted that the top five on both lists have not changed in the last eight years. When *race* is considered, the ten leading causes of death for Whites and for Blacks are somewhat different. Note: The charts presented on the following pages are presented for two years, 1995 and 1997. Data for most of the last 10 years is very similar.

For 1995, the top three leading causes of death for both races is the same, (Diseases of the Heart, Cancer, Cerebrovascular Disease). For Whites, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease is fourth, while Pneumonia and Influenza rank fourth for Blacks. Accidents were the fifth leading cause of death for both Whites and Blacks .

For 1997, again, Whites and Blacks have the same top three leading causes of death. For Blacks, it should be noted that Diabetes jumped from the ninth leading cause of death in 1995 to the fourth leading cause of death in 1997. Also for Blacks, Hypertension moved up into the top ten rankings.

Homicide does not appear in the top ten rankings for either year when data for Whites is isolated. It is the sixth leading cause of death for Blacks for 1995 and 1997.