

Mortality Data (Continued)

- ⇒ **Motor Vehicle Accidental Deaths** (1992-1994) accounted for 46% of deaths occurring by accident or adverse effects statewide and 50% in Stewart County. However, from 1993-1995 the county's MVA death rates were among the highest in the State (averaging 4 per year); the county rate is 93% higher than the State rate and 185% higher than the Year 2000 National Objective. Since 1986, the MVA death rate has been highest in the 15-24 age group. Statewide statistics (1992-1994) show the 15-24 age group MVA death rates are the highest (44.1 per 100,000). Stewart County has a 165.0 death rate per 100,000 population in this age group representing a 274% differential from the State rate in the 15-24 age group.
- ⇒ **Nonmotor Vehicle Accidental Deaths** represent 54% of statewide deaths and 50% of county deaths from accidents or adverse effects (1992-1994). The county rate in this category is 76% above the State rate. The 65 and up age group has the highest rates for the State and the county. The county rate (97.3 per 100,000 population) is 32% above the State rate. The 15-24 age group has the second highest NVA death rate in the county (55.0 per 100,000 population). This rate is 439% above the state rate for this age group.
- **Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease And Allied Conditions** are the fifth leading cause of death in the State (1994). In Houston County COPD is the sixth leading cause of death. The county rate of death from this cause is 45% below the State rate (1992-1994).
 - **Pneumonia And Influenza** are the fifth leading cause of death in Stewart County (tied with Stroke) in the 1992-1994 mortality data. The county death rate from pneumonia and influenza is 55% above the State rate.
 - **Violent Death Rates** (motor vehicle accidents, homicides, and suicides) in the county were 18% lower in the county when compared to the State during the 1992-1994 period. The latest available data (1993-1995) for these categories follows:
 - ⇒ The **Motor Vehicle Accidental Death Rate** in the county is among the highest in the State (averaging 4 per year); the county is 93% higher than the State and 173% higher than the Year 2000 National Objective. Preventive measures to reduce the MVA death rate include using seat belts, helmet laws, better design in both vehicles and roadways, traffic and drunk driving law enforcement, reduced highway speed, and safety education.
 - ⇒ The **Homicide** rate in the county is 52% higher than the Region but 19% lower than the State. The three-year average (1993-1995) for Stewart County is one (1) homicide per year. The county rate is 33% higher than the Year 2000 National Objective.
 - ⇒ The **Suicide** rate in the county is 49% lower than the Region and 54% lower than the State rate. The county rate is among the lowest in the State. The county rate is 44% lower than the Year 2000 National Objective. Currently the most promising approach to suicide prevention is the early identification and treatment of persons suffering from mental disorders.