

# Appendix E

## Cheatham County Data Summary

### Morbidity Data

About seventy-five percent of all deaths are caused by heart disease, cancer, and stroke. Death rates from heart disease declined during the last twenty years while death rates from cancer increased during that period. According to Tennessee's Healthy People 2000, Cheatham County's **Deaths From All Causes** is slightly above the State average. The county does not compare favorably with the Mid-Cumberland Region or the State of Tennessee statistics regarding the leading causes of death by age group. The following information was derived from that comparison:

- **Diseases of the Heart** is the leading cause of death throughout the nation. The county rate of deaths from Heart Disease is 11% above the Tennessee rate and 50% above the Year 2000 National Objective. The major modifiable risk factors for cardiovascular disease are high blood pressure, high blood cholesterol, and cigarette smoking.
- **Malignant Neoplasms (Cancer)** are the second leading cause of death throughout the nation. County rates for the 45 to 64 and 65 + age groups have been increasing during the 1983-1994 period and exceed the Region and State rates.
  - **Lung Cancer** is the leading cause of cancer deaths for both men and women. Death rates in Cheatham County from lung cancer are among the highest in the State. The county rate is 30% above the State rate and 47% above the Year 2000 National Objective.
  - **Breast Cancer** is the second leading cause of cancer deaths among women in the U.S. Cheatham County rates are 8% below the State average and equal to the Year 2000 National Objective. However, the quoted rates have been judged unreliable as the relative standard error exceeds 30%.
- **Deaths from Stroke** is the third leading cause of death throughout the nation. Cheatham County's rate is 8% below the State rate but 30% above the Year 2000 National Objective. People with high blood pressure have as much as seven times the risk of a stroke as do those with normal blood pressure. Weight control, smoking cessation, and physical activity are means to reduce the risk of stroke.
- **Diabetes Mellitus** is the fourth leading cause of death in Cheatham County in 1994 (sixth leading cause of death statewide). The rate of death from this disease is 96% higher than the Region and 89% higher than the State.