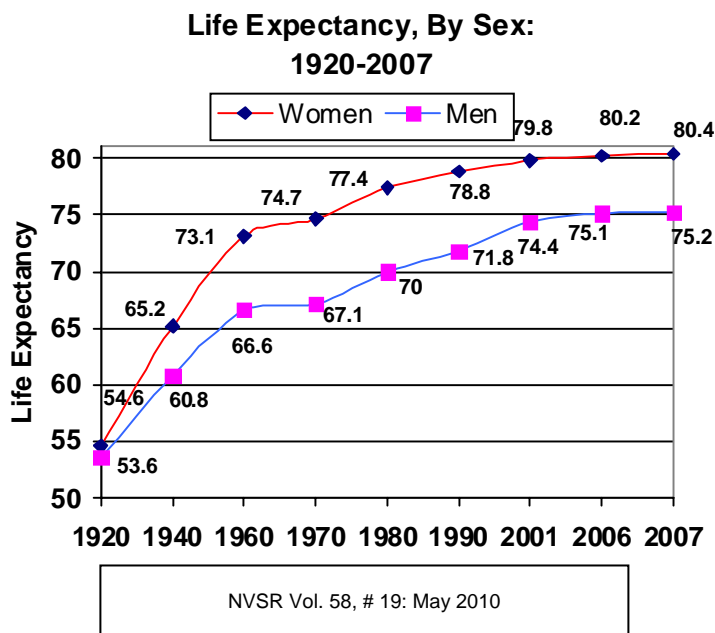


The Silent Health Crisis

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1. Life Expectancy Gender Gap

In 1920, the life expectancy gender gap was only 1.0 year. By 2007 men were dying 5.2 years sooner than women: (diamonds are women, squares are men)



2. Leading Causes of Death, 2006*

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

Cause of Death	Men	Women
Heart disease	248.5	162.2
Cancer	220.1	153.6
Injuries (unintentional)	55.2	25.5
Cerebrovascular disease	43.9	42.6
Chronic lower respiratory disease	47.6	35.9
Diabetes	27.4	20.1
Pneumonia/flu	21.2	15.5
HIV infection	5.9	2.2
Suicide	18.0	4.5
Homicide	9.7	2.5

3. Heart Disease, 2006*

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

Ischemic heart disease	176.5	103.1
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4. Cancer, 2006*

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

Lung, Trachea, Bronchus	67.0	40.0
Colorectal	20.5	14.7

* NCHS Health US 2009. 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:

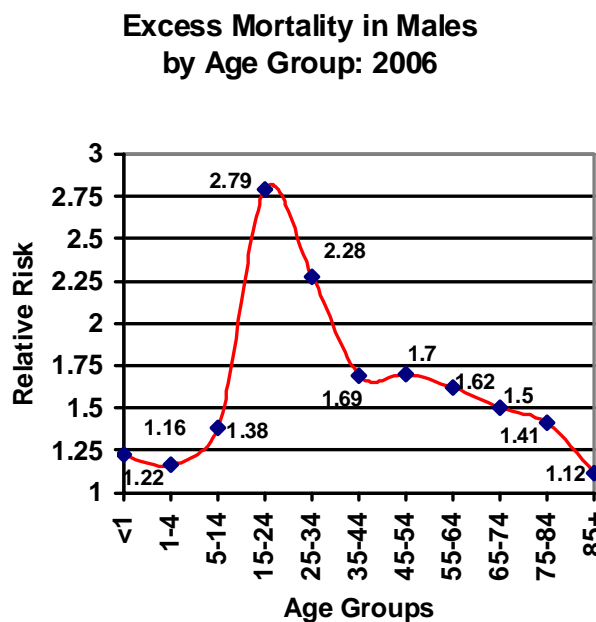
Chance of being a Homicide Victim*

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:



NCHS Health U.S. 2009. 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 Yana Jurovitzki, 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 26 from NCHS; Health, United States, 2009. Additional information can be found at www.menshealthlibrary.com.