



The UK's number one killer

Heart and circulatory disease is easily the biggest killer in the UK – accounting for nearly half of all deaths in 1991. The highest incidence is found in Northern Ireland, followed by Scotland, with the lowest death rate in the south east of England

Leading causes of death in the United Kingdom

All ages over 28 days (1991)

	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%
Heart / circulatory disease	142,914	45.74	155,067	46.95	297,981	46.36
Cancer	85,330	27.31	78,603	23.80	163,933	25.51
Respiratory disease	35,347	11.31	37,488	11.35	72,835	11.33
Injuries / poisoning	13,028	4.17	7,509	2.27	20,537	3.20
All other causes	35,823	11.47	51,607	15.63	87,430	13.60
Total	312,442		330,274		642,716	

Heart disease – death rate by region

Men Women

Per 100,000 population (1990)

United Kingdom	372	321
----------------	-----	-----

Northern Ireland	452	390
------------------	-----	-----

North West	418	362
------------	-----	-----

West Midlands	383	327
---------------	-----	-----

Wales	401	331
-------	-----	-----

South West	340	286
------------	-----	-----



Scotland	442	385
----------	-----	-----

England	359	312
---------	-----	-----

North	418	376
-------	-----	-----

Yorkshire and Humberside	398	339
--------------------------	-----	-----

East Midlands	361	314
---------------	-----	-----

East Anglia	323	279
-------------	-----	-----

South East	320	283
------------	-----	-----

SOURCE: British Heart Foundation
© GRAPHIC NEWS