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## **Deaths according to Cause of Death. Year 2007.**

**The gross mortality rate increases 1.9% in 2007 as compared with the previous year**

**Deaths by diseases of the respiratory system increase 11.4% and are the main causes of the increase in mortality**

There were 385,361 deaths in Spain in 2007, that is, 13,883 more than those recorded in 2006.

The gross mortality rate stood at almost 859 deaths per 100,000 inhabitants, which implies a 1.9% increase as compared with 2006. In the case of women, it was 810.9 and in that of men, 907.8.

### **Cardiovascular diseases, the number one cause of death in 2007**

By analysis of the large groups of illnesses, cardiovascular illnesses occupied the first place as cause of death in 2007, representing 32.2% of the total number of deaths.

Tumours continued to occupy second place, as the cause of 26.8% of the total number of deaths. In 2007 there were 103,329 deaths caused by the latter, which implied a 1.6% increase in comparison with the year 2006.

The third group of causes of death with the higher number of deaths was diseases of the respiratory system. In 2007 these caused 44,029 deaths, which implied a 11.4% increase as compared with the previous year. It should be borne in mind that in 2006, the number of deaths due to respiratory diseases decreased, as a result of the high mortality recorded in 2005 as a result of the high incidence of flu.

Indeed, if we compare mortality for 2007 by respiratory diseases with average mortality for the five-year period 2002-2006, a much smaller increase of around 4% may be observed.

## Distribution by chapter of the International Classification of Diseases

Year 2007

Chapters of the ICD	No. of deaths	%
<b>Total diseases</b>	<b>385,361</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Diseases of the circulatory system	124,126	32.21
Tumours	103,329	26.81
Diseases of the respiratory system	44,029	11.43
Diseases of the digestive system	19,650	5.10
Diseases of the nervous system and of the sensory organs	16,723	4.34
External causes of mortality	15,916	4.13
Mental disorders and behaviour	12,310	3.19
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	12,237	3.18
Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings	11,358	2.95
Diseases of the genitourinary system	10,170	2.64
Infectious and parasitic diseases	7,782	2.02
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	3,384	0.88
Diseases of the blood and haematopoietic organs, and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism	1,289	0.33
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	1,186	0.31
Affections originated in the perinatal period	969	0.25
Congenital malformations, deformities and chromosomal anomalies	890	0.23
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	13	0.00

### Ischaemic heart diseases and cerebrovascular diseases are the most significant causes of death

On a more detailed level, the 2007 pattern of mortality was similar to that of the previous year. Ischaemic heart diseases (infarction, angina pectoris, ...) and cerebrovascular diseases continued to occupy first and second place, respectively, in the number of deaths. On the other hand, cardiac failure surpassed bronchial and lung cancer as the third cause of the most deaths.

**Among the most frequent causes of death, the only one which showed a clear decrease was traffic accidents**, which caused 3,811 deaths, 8.0% less than the previous year.

In 2007, the number of persons who died by suicide was 3,263, practically the same as in 2006 (standing at 3,246).

Deaths due AIDS also remained stable, with 1,313 deaths as compared with 1,315 the previous year.

## Number of deaths by most frequent causes of death<sup>1</sup>

Year 2007

<b>Total diseases</b>	<b>385,361</b>
Ischaemic heart diseases	37,222
Cerebrovascular diseases	33,034
Cardiac failure	20,092
Bronchial and lung cancer	19,975
Chronic diseases of the lower respiratory tracts	15,699
Dementia	11,713
Colon cancer	10,409
Diabetes mellitus	10,152
Alzheimer's disease	9,941
Pneumonia	8,581
Hypertensive diseases	7,486
Kidney failure	6,543
Breast cancer	6,046
Stomach cancer	5,747
Prostate cancer	5,584

<sup>1</sup> Causes with a relative weight greater than 1.4%

## Most frequent causes of death in women

In 2007 there were 184,225 deaths among women, which implied a 3.9% increase as compared to the previous year.

**Cerebrovascular diseases remained the number one cause of death among women**, with 18,964 deaths, although this figure implied a 0.4% decrease as compared with that recorded the previous year.

Among deaths due to malignant tumours, breast cancer continued to be the most significant, with 5,983 deaths (0.5% more than the previous year), followed by colon cancer, which increased 4.9% as compared with 2006, with 4,493 deaths among women.

Bronchial and lung cancer continued its rising trend, resulting in the deaths of 2,797 women, 6.2% more than in 2006. As in previous years, the number of women dying from this type of cancer has increased more rapidly than in the case of men (1.8%).

## Number of deaths of women by most frequent causes of death<sup>1</sup>

Year 2007

<b>Total diseases</b>	<b>184,225</b>
Cerebrovascular diseases	18,964
Ischaemic heart diseases	15,974
Cardiac failure	13,060
Dementia	7,909
Alzheimer's disease	6,971
Breast cancer	5,983
Diabetes mellitus	5,948
Hypertensive diseases	4,958
Colon cancer	4,493
Pneumonia	4,104
Chronic diseases of the lower respiratory tracts	3,914
Renal failure	3,300
Bronchial and lung cancer	2,797
Pancreatic cancer	2,294
Stomach cancer	2,233

<sup>1</sup> Causes with a relative weight greater than 1.2%

Among the most common causes of mortality in women, it is worth noting three causes which did not appear in 2007 among the most common causes in men: Alzheimer's disease, with 6,971 deaths (a 9.5% increase as compared with 2006), hypertensive disease with 4,958 (an 8.8% increase) and pancreatic cancer with 2,294 deaths (a 1.2% decrease).

## Most frequent causes of death in men

In 2007 there were 201,136 deaths among men, representing a 3.6% increase as compared with the previous year.

**The number one cause of death in men was ischaemic heart diseases (infarction, angina pectoris, ...), with 21,248 deaths.**

Bronchial and lung cancer was the second cause of death with 17,178 deaths (1.8% more than in 2006). The second most significant type of cancer was cancer of the colon (with 5,916 deaths and a 4.8% increase), the third being that of the prostate (responsible for 5,584 deaths, 3.2% more than the previous year).

## Number of deaths in men by most frequent causes of death<sup>1</sup>

Year 2007

<b>Total diseases</b>	<b>201,136</b>
Ischaemic heart diseases	21,248
Bronchial and lung cancer	17,178
Cerebrovascular diseases	14,070
Chronic diseases of the lower respiratory tracts	11,785
Cardiac failure	7,032
Colon cancer	5,916
Prostate cancer	5,584
Pneumonia	4,477
Diabetes mellitus	4,204
Bladder cancer	3,755
Dementia	3,804
Stomach cancer	3,514
Renal failure	3,243
Cirrhosis of the liver	3,185
Liver cancer	3,028

<sup>1</sup> Causes with a relative weight greater than 1.5%

The most frequent causes of death in men which did not appear among the most common in women in 2007 were: bladder cancer with 3,755 (a 0.3% increase as compared with 2006), cirrhosis of the liver with 3,185 (3.0% more) and liver cancer with 3,028 (a 3.2% increase).

## Principado de Asturias, Galicia and Castilla y León show the highest gross mortality rates

By Autonomous Community, the highest death rates per 100,000 inhabitants in 2007 corresponded to Principado de Asturias (1,196.4), Galicia (1,105.2) and Castilla y León (1,097.6).

On the other hand, the lowest rates were seen in the Autonomous City of Melilla (633.1), in Canarias (650.8) and in Comunidad de Madrid (677.2).

Gross rates were affected by the age structure of each Community, such that a region with a high number of elderly persons would have more deaths than another whose age structure was younger.

**Standardised rates** are calculated in order to avoid this distortion when comparing different populations. These rates represent the number of theoretical deaths per 100,000 inhabitants in each Community if they all had the same population structure (in this case, that of Spain as of 1 July 1999).

In this way, we can observe that the Autonomous Communities with a higher gross rate (Principado de Asturias, Galicia and Castilla y León, all of which have a high percentage of elderly persons in the population), saw substantially decreased death rates in standardised terms.

On the other hand, Canarias and the Autonomous City of Melilla, with the lowest gross rates and with among the youngest populations, came to stand among the Communities with the highest standardised rates.

## Mortality rate per 1,000 inhabitants

	Gross rates 2007		Standardised Rates 2007*
Total	858.8	Total	766.2
Asturias (Principado de)	1,196.4	Ceuta	926.8
Galicia	1,105.2	Andalucía	870.0
Castilla y León	1,097.6	Murcia (Región de)	818.9
Aragón	1,032.4	Melilla	812.8
Extremadura	999.3	Comunidad Valenciana	807.8
Cantabria	990.1	Canarias	806.3
Castilla-La Mancha	929.9	Extremadura	801.4
Rioja (La)	920.0	Asturias (Principado de)	800.3
País Vasco	903.6	Galicia	756.8
Navarra (Comunidad Foral de)	859.6	Cantabria	753.1
Cataluña	837.4	Cataluña	739.9
Comunidad Valenciana	828.5	Castilla-La Mancha	738.8
Andalucía	816.4	Balears (Illes)	737.9
Ceuta	747.9	Aragón	724.9
Murcia (Región de)	723.4	País Vasco	721.7
Balears (Illes)	703.2	Rioja (La)	721.0
Madrid (Comunidad de)	677.2	Castilla y León	689.5
Canarias	650.8	Madrid (Comunidad de)	679.4
Melilla	633.1	Navarra (Comunidad Foral de)	676.9

\* Standardised rates calculated by taking the 1999 population structure in Spain

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**Press office:** Telephone: 91 583 93 63 / 94 08 – Fax: 91 583 90 87 - [gprensa@ine.es](mailto:gprensa@ine.es)  
**Information area:** Telephone: 91 583 91 00 – Fax: 91 583 91 58 – [www.ine.es/infoine](http://www.ine.es/infoine)