

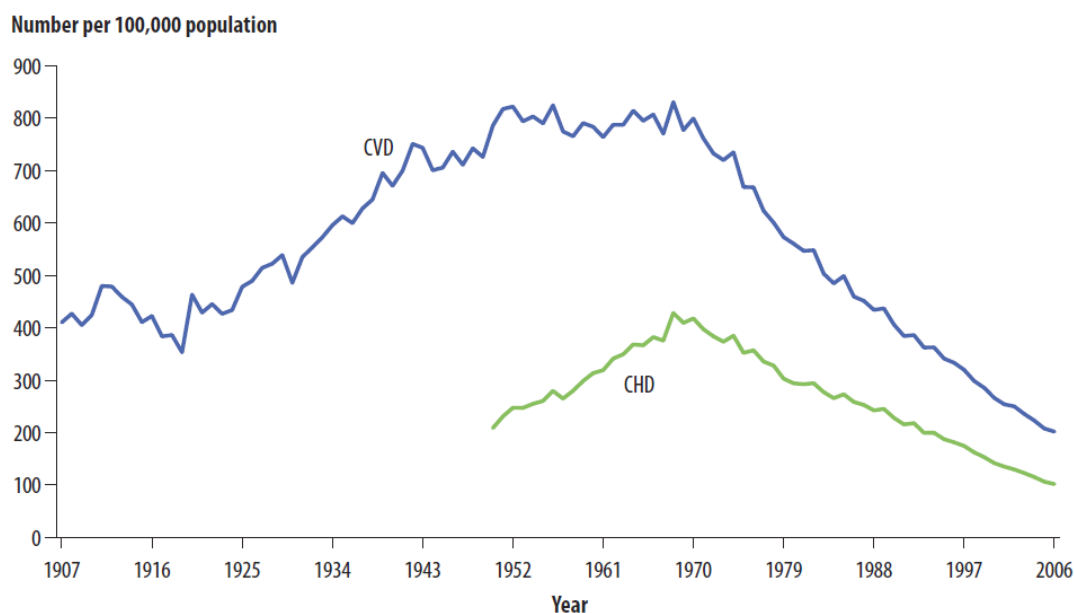


Cardiovascular disease in Australia

Extracted
from *Impact of falling cardiovascular disease death rates bulletin*
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Key points

- Cardiovascular disease (CVD) continues to have a major impact on the health of Australians in terms of prevalence, mortality, morbidity, burden of disease and expenditure.
- An estimated 3.7 million Australians, 19% of the population, have a long-term cardiovascular condition and around 1.4 million Australians have a disability associated with the disease.
- CVD remains our biggest cause of death, accounting for 45,670 deaths (34% of all deaths) in Australia in 2006. In 2003, it accounted for 18% of the total Australian burden of disease.
- CVD remains Australia's leading cause of death, causing 45,670 deaths in 2006 (34% of all deaths).
- CVD death rates have fallen considerably since the late 1960s and early 1970s when CVD was responsible for around 60,000 deaths annually, or roughly 55% of all deaths each year.
- Coronary heart disease, the most common form of CVD, is the largest single cause of death and the most common cause of sudden death in Australia.



Note: Standardised directly to the 2001 Australian population.
Source: AIHW 2008c.

Figure 2: Age-standardised death rates (ASRs), CVD and CHD, 1907 to 2006