WHAT IS AN AGE ADJUSTED RATE?

- Age-adjusting rates is a way to make fairer comparisons between groups with different age distributions.

- The age-adjusted rates are rates that would have existed if the population under study had the same age distribution as the "standard" population.

- In CHARTS, age-adjusted rates are often presented first.

- AADR refers to an age adjusted death rate.

WHY USE AGE-ADJUSTED RATES?

Many health outcomes vary by age. An age-adjusted rate takes age differences into consideration.

- Because death rates for most diseases generally increase with age, a population with a relatively young age distribution will tend to have fewer total deaths from a given disease than a similarly sized population with an older age distribution.

HOW IS IT CALCULATED?

- An age-adjusted rate can is a weighted average with each age-specific rate weighted by the proportion of people in the same age group in the standard population.

- CHARTS uses the 2000 United States standard million population age distribution in its age-adjusted rate calculations

- More Information

Sarasota and Lake Counties

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Populations

	SARASOTA	LAKE
Age <18	14%	19%
Ages 18-64	49%	55%
Ages 65+	37%	27%

Sarasota County

1,270 heart disease deaths
Crude rate of 297.4 per 100,000 population

Age-adjusted rate of 111.6 per 100,000 population

Lake County

1,066 heart disease deaths
Crude rate of 300.7 per 100,000 population

Age-adjusted rate of 160.9 per 100,000 population

- -If

If age distributions were the same in Lake and Sarasota Counties, age-adjusted rates show that Lake County's rate of heart disease death would be greater than Sarasota's.