Quick Reference for the FloridaCHARTS Death Query

This application is set up in sections. To use it, you do not have to follow any particular order. Sections A, B, C, and D are provided as a suggested sequence and described below. Frequently asked questions are included at the end.

Florida Death Query System Toolbar

Undo Last and Start Over
These buttons clear or undo your work. The undo last will only remove the last change you have made. The start over button will return you to the report that you originally started with.

Go To Death Rate, Go To Death Count
This button will switch between the Death Rates and Death Counts applications. If you are looking for rates of any kind, you must switch to the rates application.

Help
Download a brief document explaining how to use the system.

Getting Started
Watch a video demonstration of the system and its features.

Data Dictionary
Read about each of the data elements included in the system, its source, and other interpretative information.

Feedback
Send us your thoughts or questions about the system.

A. Select Quick Standard Reports
Prepared reports that are commonly needed have been created as defaults and are available near the top left of the page. Click a report title and that report will be displayed in the results section at the bottom of the page (D. Your Current Report).

Many times, the standard reports are all you need.

B. Create a Custom Report
If you need to find out more than what the standard reports deliver, create your own.

1. First, select ‘resident’ or ‘recorded’.

Resident data deal only with deaths to Florida residents. Recorded data are based on all deaths that occurred in Florida, regardless of the person’s residency. Resident deaths is the default setting since it is most frequently of interest.
Now select the information needed.

2. Add/Remove Row Variables
3. Add/Remove Column Variables
4. Add/Remove Filter Variables

Click ‘Add/Remove Rows’, ‘Add/Remove Columns’, or ‘Add/Remove Filters’ to modify what is displayed in the report table at the bottom of the screen. The same options are available from all three of these areas.

By default, your selections are set on “ALL”. For example, if you check “age”, “race”, all ages or races will be included. You can modify this if you like.

Click the checkbox to make your choices. You may select up to 3 items for rows, up to 4 items for columns and up to 5 items for filters. Use this same feature to uncheck and remove items no longer needed. Click OK to apply your selections.

C. Refine Current Selections (limit selections or drag-and-drop between Rows, Columns and Filters)

Buttons in the row, column and filter sections are interactive. Click the triangular down arrow to see the available data.

Now click the + to see additional choices.

Icons at the top can uncheck or check all options at once. Check boxes turn data on and off.

Rows

Items in this area control what data will be displayed horizontally or in rows. It is best to place items in this area that have several types – counties, single ages, etc. When changing your tables, it is best to remove unwanted items before adding new ones. You may drag and drop items from the columns or filters section to the rows section if you like.
Columns
Items in this area control what data will be displayed vertically or in columns. It is best to place items in this area that have only a few types - sex, race, ethnicity, etc. You may drag and drop items to put them in the order you would like. You may also drag and drop items from the columns or filters section to the rows section if you like. As with rows, it is best to remove unwanted items before adding new ones.

Filters
These buttons will not appear as a column or row in reports, but they will control what sectors of the information will make it into the report. For instance, a death query with a row variable of counties and a column variable of ethnicity and a year filter of 2008 & 2009 will give total deaths by ethnicity for all counties for 2008 and 2009, but the years will not appear as a column or row in the table.

5. Select Death Rate: (Death Rate Only)
Death counts, AADR (age adjusted death rate, crude and YPLL (years of potential life lost) are available in the Death Rate query. This feature is not provided in the death count query.

6. Report Type
The report type options allow you to choose the type of information that will be displayed in the report. Counts are available in the Death Count Query. Counts, rates and a combination of counts and rates are available in the Death Rates section.

D. Your Current Report
As you change selections of rows, columns and filters, your report changes to provide that information.

Your Current Report Toolbar
A toolbar gives you control over the format of the report table and allows saving and loading reports. Reports can also be exported to Microsoft Excel from the toolbar. NOTE: When exporting a report that has a column or row with a “+” symbol, remember to expand the section before exporting or the sub-categories will not appear in Excel.

Table and Chart tabs
These tabs toggle between showing the results of the query as a data table or a chart. If the chart tab is selected, the toolbar at the top of the page will also change to show new buttons for formatting the chart. Pie and column charts are both available and the charts can be exported or saved like the data tables.
Expanding the data elements

When some queries are executed, the row variables will show a “+” sign indicating that they may be expanded to show their sub-categories. By clicking the “-” sign, they can be collapsed into major categories again.

Frequently Asked Questions:

How do I get data only for my county?
First, select a standard report that uses county, for example, Death Counts by Year by County. In section C. “Refine Current Selections”, click the down arrow on the residence county. You will see all counties displayed. Click and unselect all counties. Now select only the county that you want by checking that county.

How do I get the state total without seeing all of the counties?
Here is an example. To see the state totals for the Death Counts by Age Groups by County, one way is to select this report and then change it to show what you want to see. Go to the “Refine Current Selections”, click and drag “Residence County” and place it under “Filters”. You may notice that all the data goes away. This is because you need to have some data placed in the “rows” area. Click and drag “113 Causes of Death” from “Filters” and place it under “Rows”. Leave the filter selections on “All”. Now the state total is what is included in your report.

No data is displayed in my report, only blank cells.
You have made a selection for which there is no data. For example, you may have removed all selections from a row, column or filter area. If this is the case, add some selections.

Another reason may be that, given the combination of factors you have selected, there were no occurrences of death. If your age range is small, the number of years is small, or the geography (county, city, zip, census tract) is a small area, then it is possible there were not any deaths. Try expanding the criteria to obtain results.