Nothing kills more Americans than heart disease and stroke.

More than 859,000 Americans die of heart disease, stroke, or other cardiovascular diseases every year—that’s one-third of all US deaths. These diseases also take an economic toll, costing $199 billion a year to our health care system and causing $131 billion in lost productivity from premature death alone. Seventy-eight million people have high blood pressure, a key risk factor for heart disease and stroke.

1 in 3 DEATHS
or more than 859,000 people each year

$199 BILLION
in health care system costs

$131 BILLION
in lost productivity on the job

78 MILLION
people with high blood pressure

CDC’s Response

CDC’s Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention supports state, local, tribal, and territorial heart disease and stroke prevention programs that help millions of Americans control their high blood pressure and reduce other risk factors for heart disease and stroke. These efforts have helped lower death rates from heart disease and stroke, which are the first and fifth leading causes of death in the United States.

The percentage of adults who have their high blood pressure under control increased from 43.3% in 2005-2006 to 48.5% in 2015-2016.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
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