



Deaths of young people

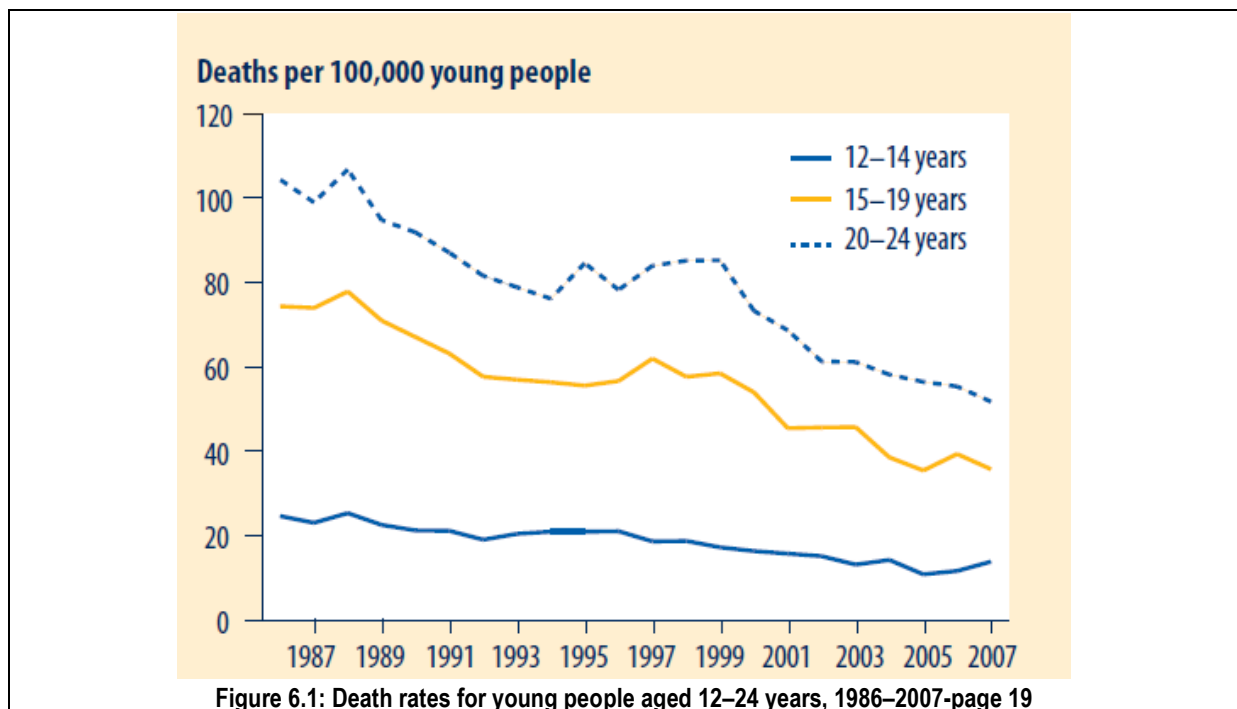
*Extracted from Young Australians: their health and wellbeing 2011
Released June 2011*

The good news...

- Death rates have halved among young Australians over the last two decades—37 per 100,000 in 2007.
- Declines in death rates occurred across all three age groups: 12–14, 15–19 and 20–24 years—declines of 40%, 52% and 48% respectively, over the last two decades.

The not so good news...

- The decrease in death rates over the period was greater for males (51%) than for females (41%); however, the rate for males remained consistently higher than for females (more than twice as high) over this period.
- Death rates among Indigenous young people are 3 times higher than the national rate.
- The rate for young people living in remote areas is 2.6 times higher than the national rate.
- Injury (including traffic accidents and suicide) and poisoning accounted for two-thirds of all deaths.



Male & female death rates

- Males accounted for over two-thirds (70%) of all youth deaths.
- Males accounted for almost three-quarters (72%) of all youth deaths in the 15–24 year age group.

Age group death rates

- The death rate for 20–24 year olds was almost 4 times as high as for 12–14 year olds and 1.4 times as high as for 15–19 year olds.
- Over half (55%) of all deaths among young people occurred among 20–24 year olds.



How does Australia compare internationally?

- Australia's mortality rate among young people aged 15–24 years was the 7th lowest of 26 OECD countries, and well below the average of 53 per 100,000 for these 26 countries.

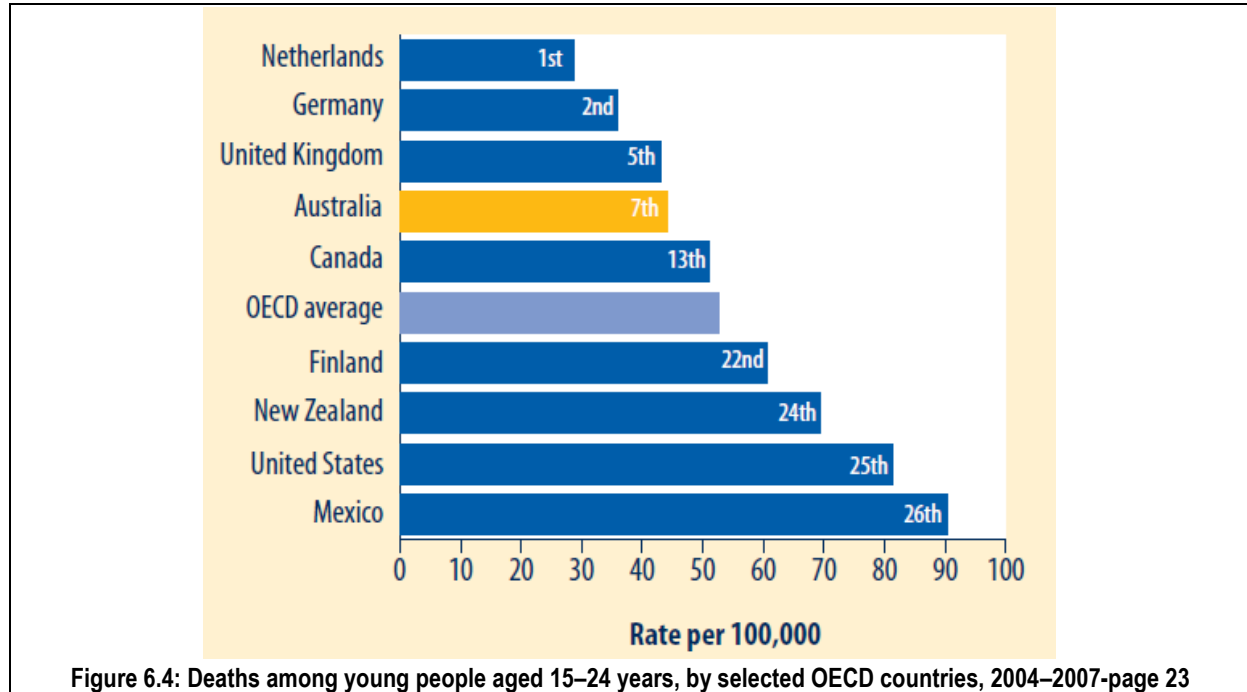


Figure 6.4: Deaths among young people aged 15–24 years, by selected OECD countries, 2004–2007-page 23