

**LEADING CAUSES OF HOSPITALIZATION AND RATES  
ZIP CODE 98108  
1989-1993**

**10% HIGHER ALL HOSPITALIZATIONS  
COMPARED TO OVERALL SEATTLE AVERAGES**

**83% HIGHER PREGNANCY COMPLICATION RATE**

**57% HIGHER ASTHMA RATE**

**28% HIGHER PNEUMONIA/INFLUENZA RATE**

**26% HIGHER RESPIRATORY DISEASE RATE**

**14% HIGHER DIGESTIVE SYSTEM DISEASE RATE**

**GENETIC DISEASES ARE STATISTICALLY  
SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER**

Genetic Diseases in zip code 98108 were mainly classified as Disorders of Lipid Metabolism and Hereditary Hemolytic Anemia, which include sickle cell anemia.

All rates are averaged over the five year period in order to make them more statistically reliable.

Rates are also age-adjusted, meaning they are standardized so that meaningful comparisons can be made between two populations which may have very different age structures. Differences in rates between Seattle and area including Georgetown is independent of the relative age make-up of those regions.

*Data from Seattle-King County Department of Public Health*

**GEORGETOWN AREA COMMUNITY HEALTH INDICATORS**

**CENSUS TRACTS 109 AND 112  
1991-1995**

**SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER MORTALITY RATES  
THAN OVERALL SEATTLE AVERAGES**

**48% HIGHER ALL CAUSES OF DEATH**

**57% HIGHER HEART DISEASE**

**36% HIGHER CANCER DEATH**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**CENSUS TRACTS 93, 109, 110 and 112  
1989-1993**

**AVERAGE LIFE EXPECTANCY WAS 70.4  
COMPARED TO SEATTLE'S AVERAGE OF 76.0 YEARS**

**OF CANCER DEATHS, 31% WERE LUNG CANCER**

**PNEUMONIA AND INFLUENZA IN TOP FIVE LEADING  
CAUSES OF DEATH**

**INFANT MORTALITY RATE 50% HIGHER**

Data from Seattle-King County Department of Health



**City of Seattle**  
Norman B. Rice, Mayor



**King County**  
Ron Sims, Executive

**Seattle-King County Department of Public Health**

Alonzo L. Plough, Ph.D., MPH, Director

Lorna Dove  
Georgetown Crime Prevention and Community Council  
6435 Flora Ave. S.  
Seattle, WA 98108

June 20, 1997

Dear Ms. Dove,

We hope that you find the information in the attached tables useful. The following are a few notes concerning these data and the way in which they are presented.

1. Hospitalization data are reported by the zip code of a person's residence, while death data are reported by census tract of residence. For this reason, the geographic definitions of Georgetown and the city of Seattle are different depending on whether you're looking at deaths or hospitalizations.
2. For the hospitalization analysis, Georgetown was defined as zip code 98108.
3. Two separate census tract definitions for your community were used for the death data. While census tract 109 most closely approximates your community, the number of deaths in this area is too small to show any significant differences from city and county rates. However, when census tracts 109 and 112 are combined (roughly, your community plus South Park), statistically significant differences do appear.
4. The tables show *rates* of hospitalization and death. Statistical tests were performed to determine which rates in your community are significantly higher than those in the city or county. "Significant", in this sense, means that the difference is probably not due to random variation, but likely represents a real difference. Those rates are bolded on the tables.
5. The rate of hospitalization or death for a specific cause is expressed as the number of hospitalizations (deaths) per 100,000 persons in the population. For example, the rate of death from heart disease in King County is 105 deaths per 100,000. The actual number of deaths and hospitalizations in your community are also shown to the right in the attached tables.
6. All rates are averaged over a five year period in order to make them more statistically reliable.
7. Rates are also age-adjusted, meaning they are standardized so that you can make meaningful comparisons between two populations which may have very different age structures. For example, the difference in Pneumonia/Influenza hospitalization rates between King County and Georgetown is *independent* of the relative age make-up of those regions.

8. If there were fewer than 5 cases of any particular event, a rate was not calculated for that time period.
9. Hospitalization rates do not include data from federal institutions (military hospitals) or free-standing drug, alcohol, rehab or psychiatric units.
10. Hospitalization rates represent the number of persons hospitalized for a given cause, regardless of how many times they were hospitalized for the same reason in the same year. That is, if a child was hospitalized three times in one year for asthma, only one of those hospitalizations would be included in this analysis.
11. The category *Genetic Diseases* in the hospitalization data is a broad category that includes a variety of diseases. When we examined the specific types of genetic diseases for which people in zip code 98108 were being hospitalized, we found that they were mainly classified as Disorders of Lipid Metabolism and Hereditary Hemolytic Anemias, which includes sickle cell anemia.
12. It is important to note some of the limitations of hospital discharge data. Hospitalization rates are measures of severe episodes of illness. As you can see from the enclosed chart, the hospitalization rate for asthma is statistically significantly higher in the 98108 zip code compared to King County and Seattle+North County. While we can say that hospitalization for asthma is higher in your neighborhood than it is for Seattle+NC or King County, we do not know if there are proportionally more cases of asthma in your neighborhood than there are in King County or Seattle+NC. While these higher rates of hospitalization may reflect truly higher rates of asthma in your neighborhood, they may also be associated with lack of access to health care which could result in "poorly managed" asthma, leading to higher rates of hospitalization.

If you have any questions about these data, please call us again.

Sincerely,



Nita Heimann



Marianne Sullivan

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# Georgetown Neighborhood Profile

Prepared by  
Seattle-King County Department of Public Health  
Epidemiology, Planning, and Evaluation Unit  
November 16, 1995

## Introduction

This report contains a summary health profile of Georgetown, drawn from data currently available to the Health Department. We chose indicators based on how common and how severe a health problem is, and on how modifiable its risk factors are. We did preliminary analyses of each indicator, looking at time trends and comparing neighborhood rates to city rates, then identified a subset of the core indicators of interest. This report contains the subset of interest. A list of all indicators, along with the numbers and rates for Georgetown, is available in the Technical Appendix.

## General Health Status

The age-gender distribution in Georgetown indicates that it is a younger population than the City of Seattle as a whole (Figures 1 and 2). There is a larger proportion of young children in Georgetown, and, after age 50, there is a gradual decline in the population of each successively older age group.

Figure 1.

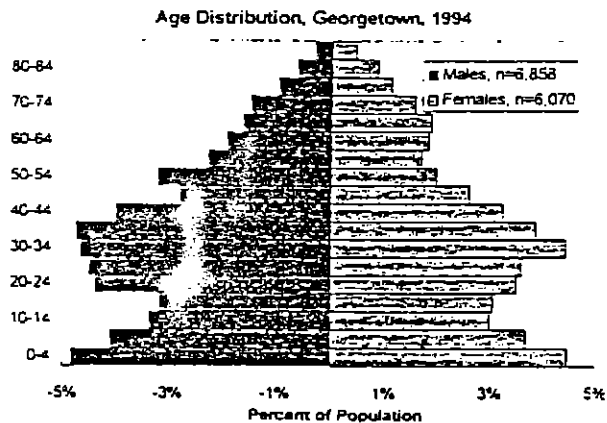
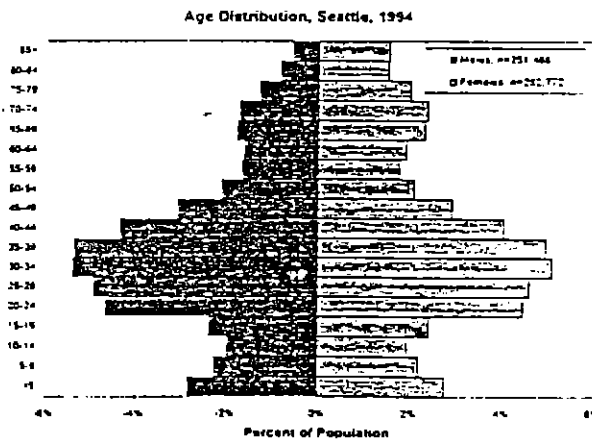


Figure 2.



Average life expectancy in Georgetown from 1989 to 1993 was 70.4 years, significantly lower than Seattle's average of 76.0 years.

The five leading causes of death in Georgetown from 1989-93 were heart disease, cancer, unintentional injury, stroke, and pneumonia and influenza (Table 1). Where unintentional injury was the third leading cause of death in Georgetown, it was seventh in Seattle as a whole.

**Hospitalization Rates\* for Selected Causes  
King County, Seattle+North County, and Georgetown^  
Average from 1989-1993**

Georgetown hospitalization rates are bolded when they are statistically significantly higher than both King County and Seattle+NC rates.

Cause of Hospitalization	King County	Seattle+NC	Georgetown^	Avg. Annual # of Hospitalizations in Georgetown
All Cancer	321.0	325.1	299.3	81.4
..Colorectal Cancer	30.9	30.0	30.2	9.0
..Respiratory Cancer	31.3	31.8	36.7	10.2
..(F) Breast Cancer	87.4	93.7	79.4	9.6
..(F) Cervical Cancer	15.1	13.2	22.3	2.4
..(M) Prostate Cancer	82.1	74.1	65.6	10.0
..Bladder Cancer	10.0	8.8	12.9	4.6
..Kidney Cancer	7.3	6.2	6.7	1.8
..Brain Tumor	9.7	9.4	~	~
..Lymphatic/Hemat.Canc.	26.2	29.4	17.4	4.8
Genetic Diseases	14.9	19.5	<b>34.6</b>	6.2
Diseases of the Heart	499.7	481.5	516.5	140.0
..Ischemic Heart Dis.	280.8	251.3	268.0	68.8
All Respiratory Disease	444.3	511.1	<b>645.0</b>	142.0
Pneumonia/Influenza	157.9	180.3	<b>230.1</b>	56.8
..Influenza	4.3	5.0	6.7	1.6
Asthma	96.5	120.9	<b>190.0</b>	36.0
Occupational Disease	1.6	1.6	~	~
Congenital Anomalies	52.1	54.4	60.0	10.6
Severe ENT Infections	23.4	29.4	37.4	6.4
IUGR	3.9	4.6	10.6	1.8

\* Rates = number of persons hospitalized per 100,000 persons averaged over 5 years and age-adjusted to the 1940 U.S. population.

^ Consists of zip code 98108.

..indicates a subset of the preceding category.

~ Rates based on fewer than 5 hospitalizations for the entire time period are not calculated.

"ENT" = Ear, Nose, Throat

"IUGR" = Intrauterine Growth Retardation

Source: Washington State Department of Health, Office of Hospital and Patient Data Systems.

Prepared by: Epidemiology, Planning and Evaluation, Seattle-King County Department of Public Health, 06/97

**Death Rates\* from Selected Causes  
King County, Seattle, and Georgetown Census Tracts  
Average from 1991-1995**

Georgetown census tract death rates are bolded when they are statistically significantly higher than both King County and Seattle rates. The exception is the rate for Other Cancer, which is only statistically higher than the King County rate.

Cause of Death	King County	Seattle	Census Tracts 109 & 112	Census Tract 109	Avg. Annual # of Deaths in 109 & 112	Avg. Annual # of Deaths in 109
Heart Disease	105.0	113.6	190.1	149.4	7.2	3.8
..Ischemic Heart Disease	80.6	85.4	158.2	99.8	6.0	3.0
All Cancer	124.3	130.1	213.5	114.4	7.8	2.4
..Respiratory Cancer	36.2	37.6	54.2	~	1.8	~
..Colorectal Cancer	11.5	12.0	27.3	~	1.2	~
..Breast Cancer in Women	21.0	19.6	~	~	~	~
..Prostate Cancer (M)	16.3	16.7	~	~	~	~
..Cervical Cancer (F)	1.8	2.0	~	~	~	~
..Other Cancer	57.9	62.3	115.0	72.4	4.0	1.4
Pneumonia and Influenza	11.9	12.8	13.2	~	1.0	~
..Pneumonia	11.7	12.7	13.2	~	1.0	~
..Influenza	0.2	0.2	~	~	~	~

\* Rates = number of deaths per 100,000 persons averaged over 5 years and age-adjusted to the 1940 U.S. population.

..indicates a subset of the preceding category.

~ Rates based on fewer than 5 deaths for the entire time period are not calculated.

Source: Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics  
Prepared by: Epidemiology, Planning and Evaluation, Seattle-King County Department of Public Health, 06/97

**Hospitalization Rates\* for Respiratory Disease by Age  
King County, Seattle+North County, and Georgetown^  
Average from 1989-1993**

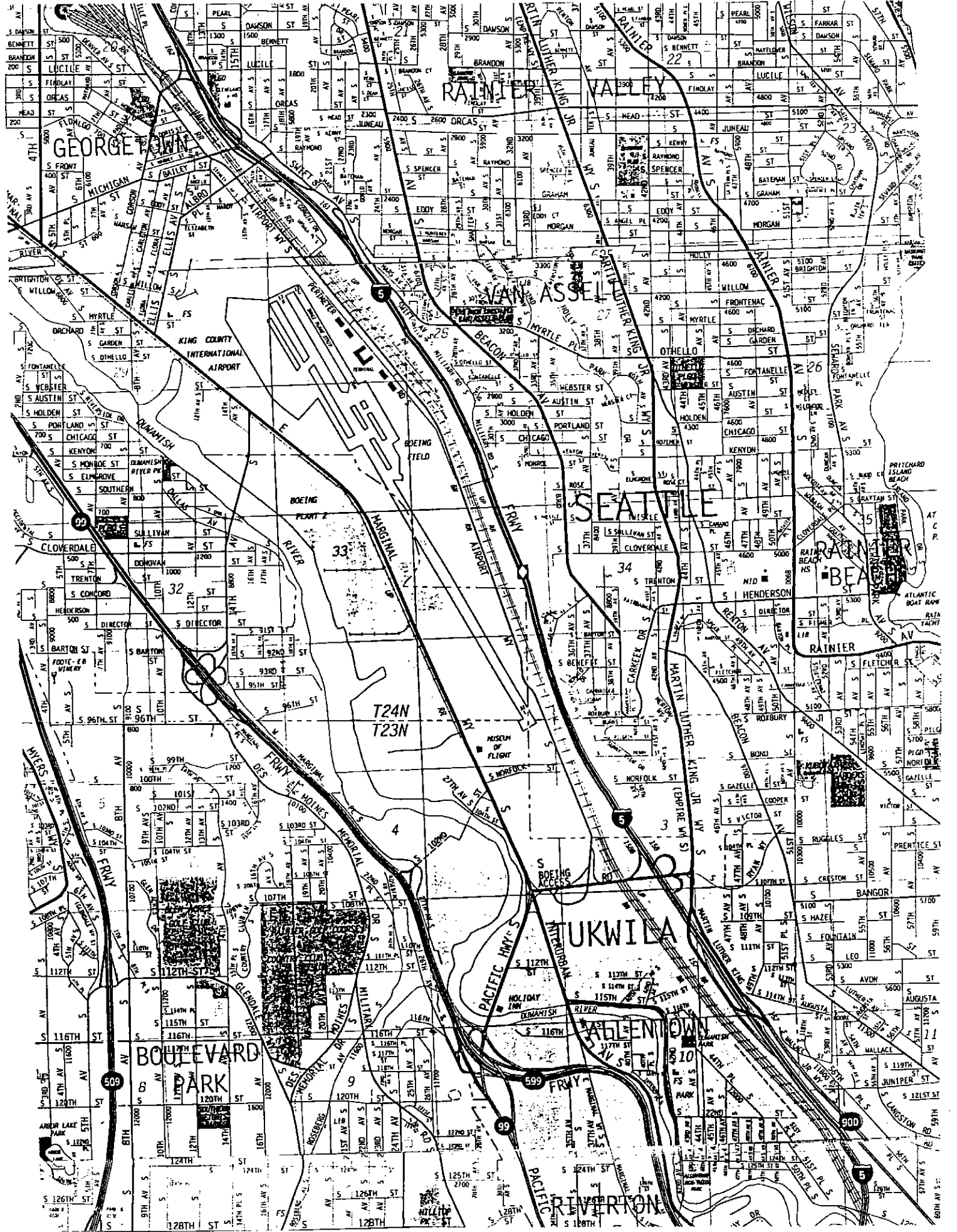
Georgetown hospitalization rates are bolded when they are statistically significantly higher than both King County and Seattle+NC rates. The exception is the rate for All Respiratory Disease among 45-64 year olds, which is only statistically higher than the King County rate.

Cause of Hospitalization	Age Group	King County	Seattle+NC	Georgetown^	Avg. Annual # of Hospitalizations in Georgetown
All Respiratory Disease	0-4	1109.9	1351.4	<b>2194.5</b>	33.8
	5-17	215.9	278.8	<b>357.3</b>	11.4
	18-44	195.8	236.2	<b>336.5</b>	26.4
	45-64	490.3	617.2	<b>660.6</b>	22.2
	65+	2143.5	2090.0	1855.8	48.2
Pneumonia/Influenza	0-4	237.1	254.3	<b>571.4</b>	8.8
	5-17	39.8	40.8	56.4	1.8
	18-44	74.0	99.8	<b>150.4</b>	11.8
	45-64	186.9	253.7	261.9	8.8
	65+	1097.8	1091.0	985.7	25.6
Asthma	0-4	346.0	532.2	<b>831.1</b>	12.8
	5-17	105.0	148.5	<b>231.9</b>	7.4
	18-44	41.3	41.8	<b>86.7</b>	6.8
	45-64	84.0	92.7	119.0	4.0
	65+	169.4	159.8	192.5	5.0

\* Rates = number of persons in age group hospitalized per 100,000 persons in age group, averaged over 5 years and age-adjusted to the 1940 U.S. population.

^ Consists of zip code 98108.





# Georgetown As Defined By Zip Code and Census Tract

