

**MORTALITY**

Adult/adolescent mortality rates, measures of premature mortality (years of potential life lost – YPLL), and child/infant mortality rates can be used to measure disease burden on a community. Overall mortality rate can reflect the health and well-being of a population along with the quality of healthcare available in the area. Age, gender and race/ethnicity are important covariates to be aware of when calculating mortality rates and can provide additional insights that might help influence policy decisions.

**Figure 1: Top 10 Leading Causes of Death in 2015**

Overall Percentage of Total Deaths for 2015		
Cause of Death	Overall % Total Deaths Pasco County, FL	Overall % Total Deaths Florida
Cancer	22.7% (n=1,338)	22.9% (n=43,877)
Heart Disease	21.7% (n=1,278)	23.6% (n=45,199)
Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	8.4% (n=492)	6.1% (n=11,685)
Unintentional Injuries	5.5% (n=326)	5.4% (n=10,346)
Stroke	5.0% (n=295)	6.0% (n=11,410)
Alzheimer’s Disease	3.4% (n=199)	3.7% (n=7,021)
Diabetes Mellitus	3.4% (n=199)	2.8% (n=5,394)
Kidney Disease	1.9% (n=113)	1.7% (n=3,194)
Chronic Liver Disease	1.9% (n=111)	1.6% (n=3,075)
Suicide	1.7% (n=103)	1.6% (n=3,152)

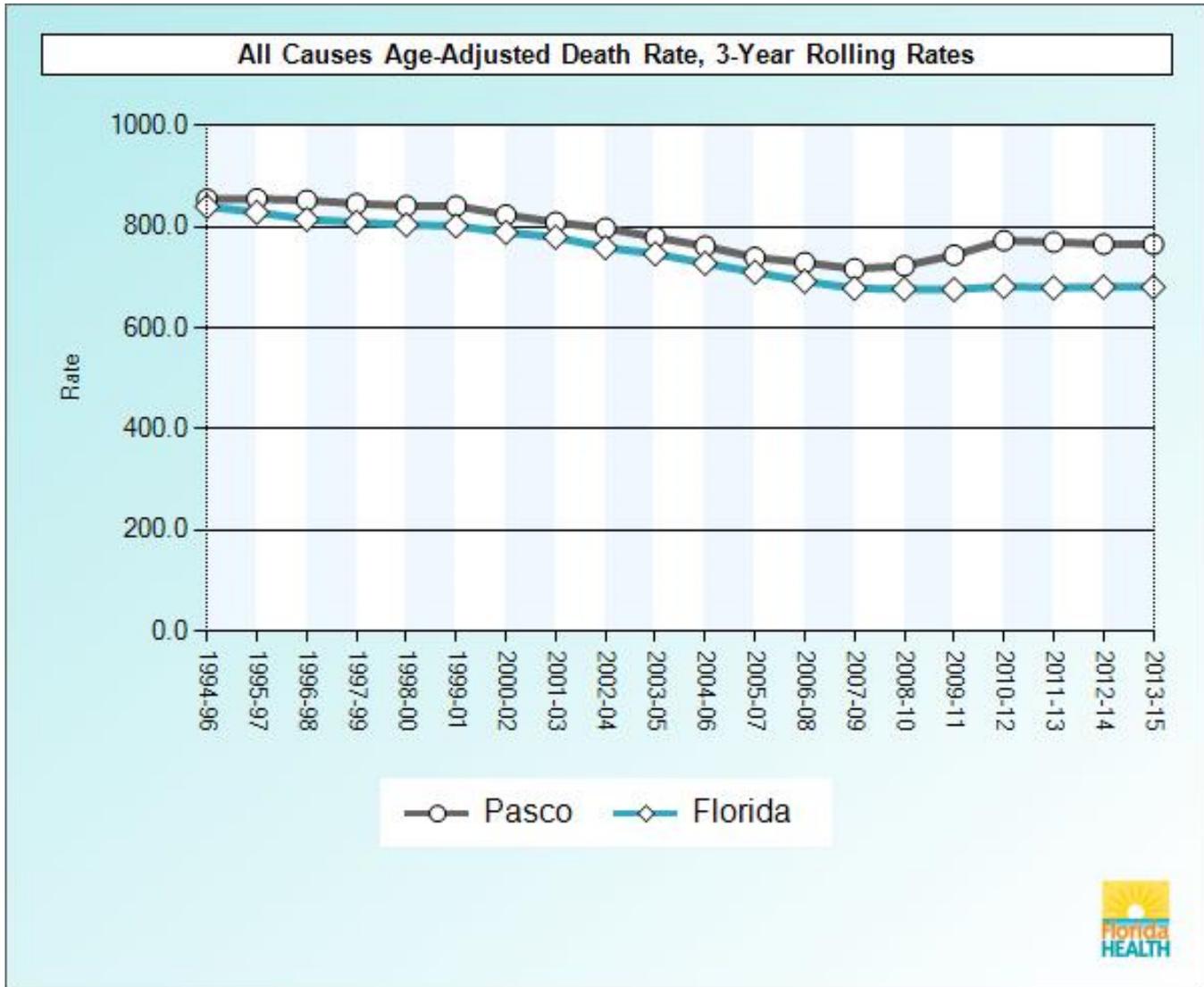
*Where highlighted red, proportion for Pasco County compares unfavorably to state proportion.  
Where highlighted green, proportion for Pasco County compares unfavorably to state proportion.*

Source: Florida CHARTS

Identifying the leading causes of death can help prioritize interventions for a community. For example, if cancer and chronic lower respiratory disease were the leading causes of death for a county, developing interventions related to those two outcomes would help reduce mortality. Cancer and heart disease are the leading causes of death in both Pasco County and the state of Florida. However, cancer ranks higher than heart disease in Pasco County, with the opposite being true for the state. Pasco County fares better than state average in 4 out of 10 leading causes of death (cancer, heart disease, stroke, Alzheimer’s disease). Mortality due to cancer and heart disease are trending downward relative to the state average. Mortality due to stroke decreased significantly from 2014 to 2015 (5.8% to 5.0%).

In comparison to the state, Pasco County ranks worse in 6 out of the top 10 leading causes of death (chronic lower respiratory disease, unintentional injury, diabetes mellitus, kidney disease, chronic liver disease and cirrhosis, and suicide). Mortality due to chronic lower respiratory disease is significantly higher than the state average (8.4% vs. 6.1%) and trending upward.

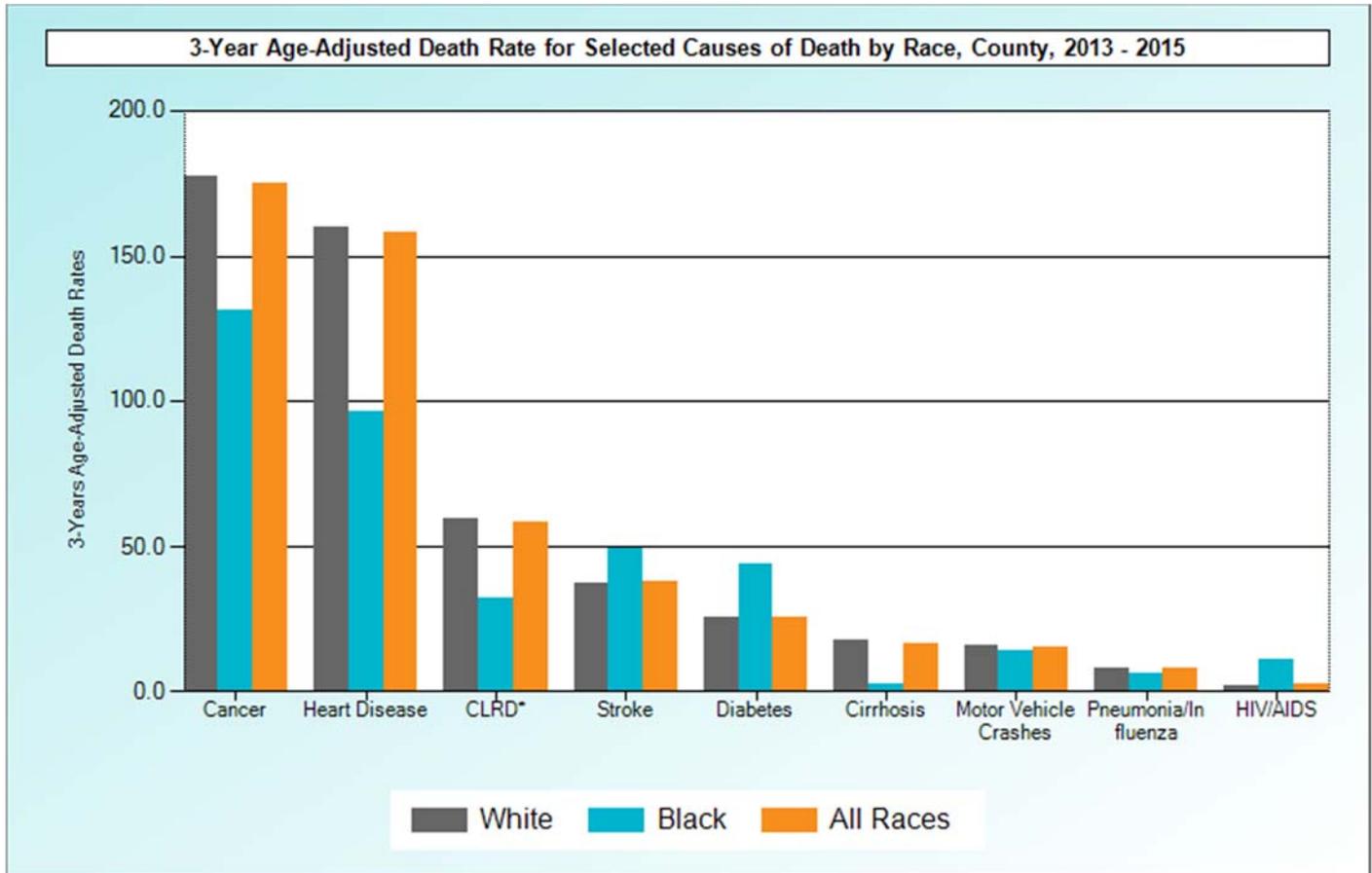
Figure 2: All Causes Age-Adjusted Death Rate, 3-Year Rolling Rate per 100,000 Population, Pasco vs. Florida



Source: Florida CHARTS

The all-cause age-adjusted death rate in Pasco County (3-year rolling rate, per 100,000) has remained consistent since a spike between 2010 - 2012. The all-cause age-adjusted death rate in Pasco County is significantly higher than the state of Florida age-adjusted death rate (2013 – 2015 rolling rate: 765.4 per 100,000 vs. 680.8 per 100,000).

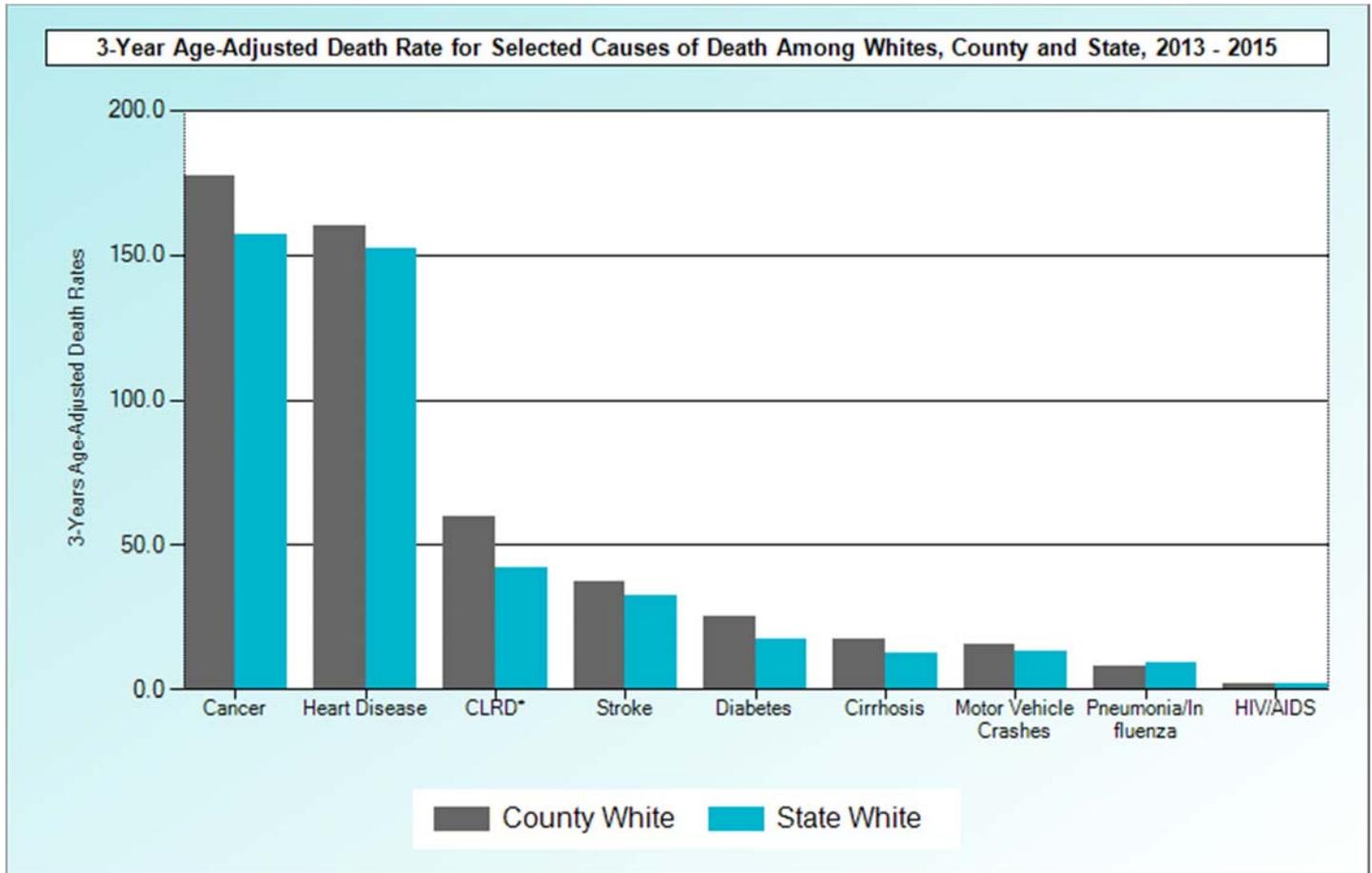
Figure 3: 3-Year Age-Adjusted Death Rate for Major Causes of Death by Race, Pasco County, 2013-2015



Source: Florida CHARTS

Within Pasco County, 3-year age-adjusted death rates for cancer, heart disease, chronic lower respiratory disease, and cirrhosis are significantly worse among Caucasians compared to African-Americans. 3-year age-adjusted death rates for stroke, diabetes, and HIV/AIDS are significantly worse among African-Americans compared to Caucasians in Pasco County.

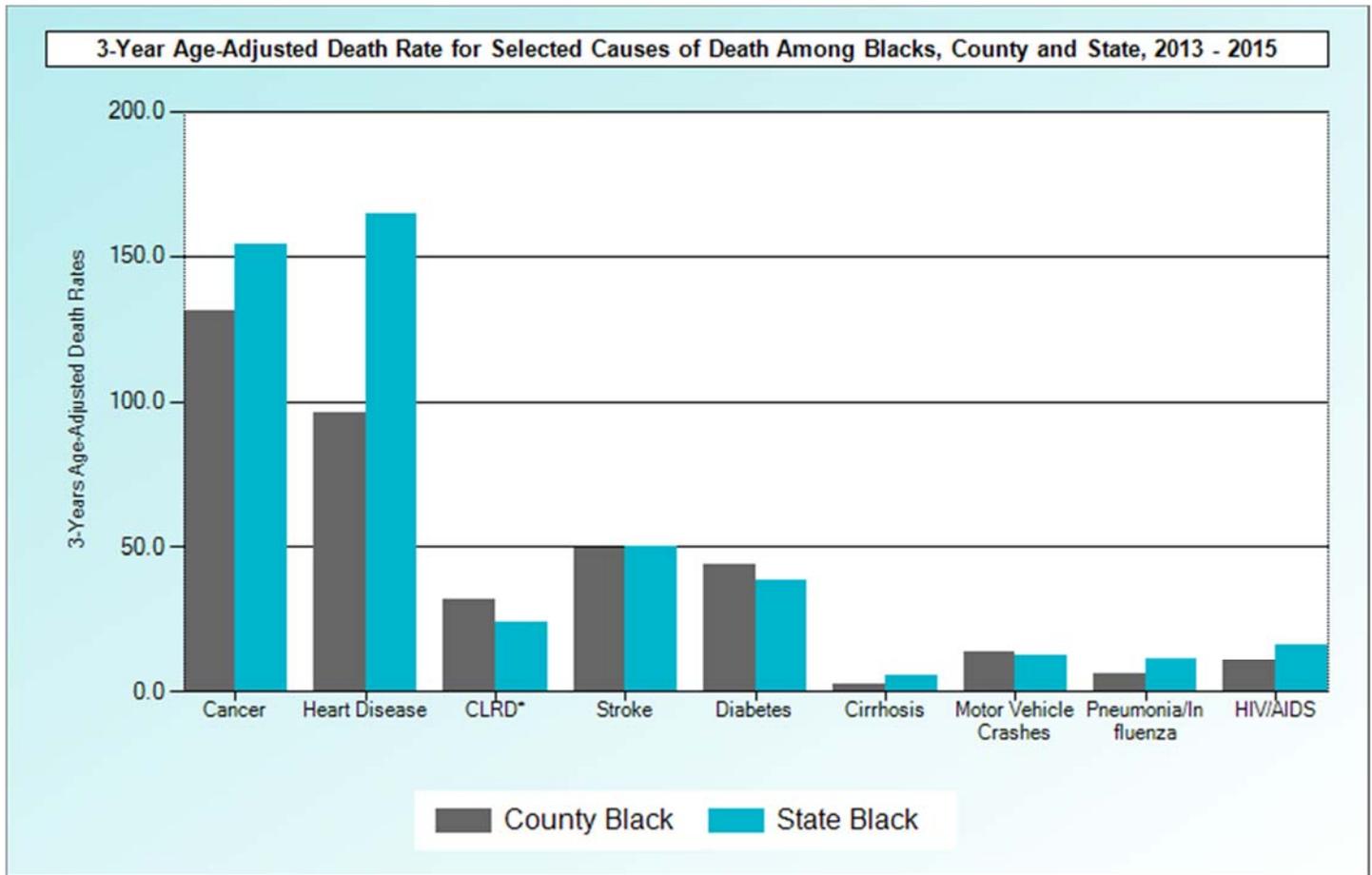
Figure 4: 3-Year Age-Adjusted Death Rate for Major Causes of Death among Whites, Pasco County, 2013-2015



Source: Florida CHARTS

Within Pasco County, the 3-year age-adjusted death rates for the major causes of death among the Caucasian population were significantly higher than the state average for cancer, heart disease, chronic lower respiratory disease, stroke, diabetes, cirrhosis and motor vehicle crashes. 3-year age-adjusted death rates for Caucasians in Pasco County were slightly lower than the state average in regards to pneumonia/influenza and HIV/AIDS.

Figure 5: 3-Year Age-Adjusted Death Rate for Major Causes of Death among Blacks, Pasco County, 2013-2015



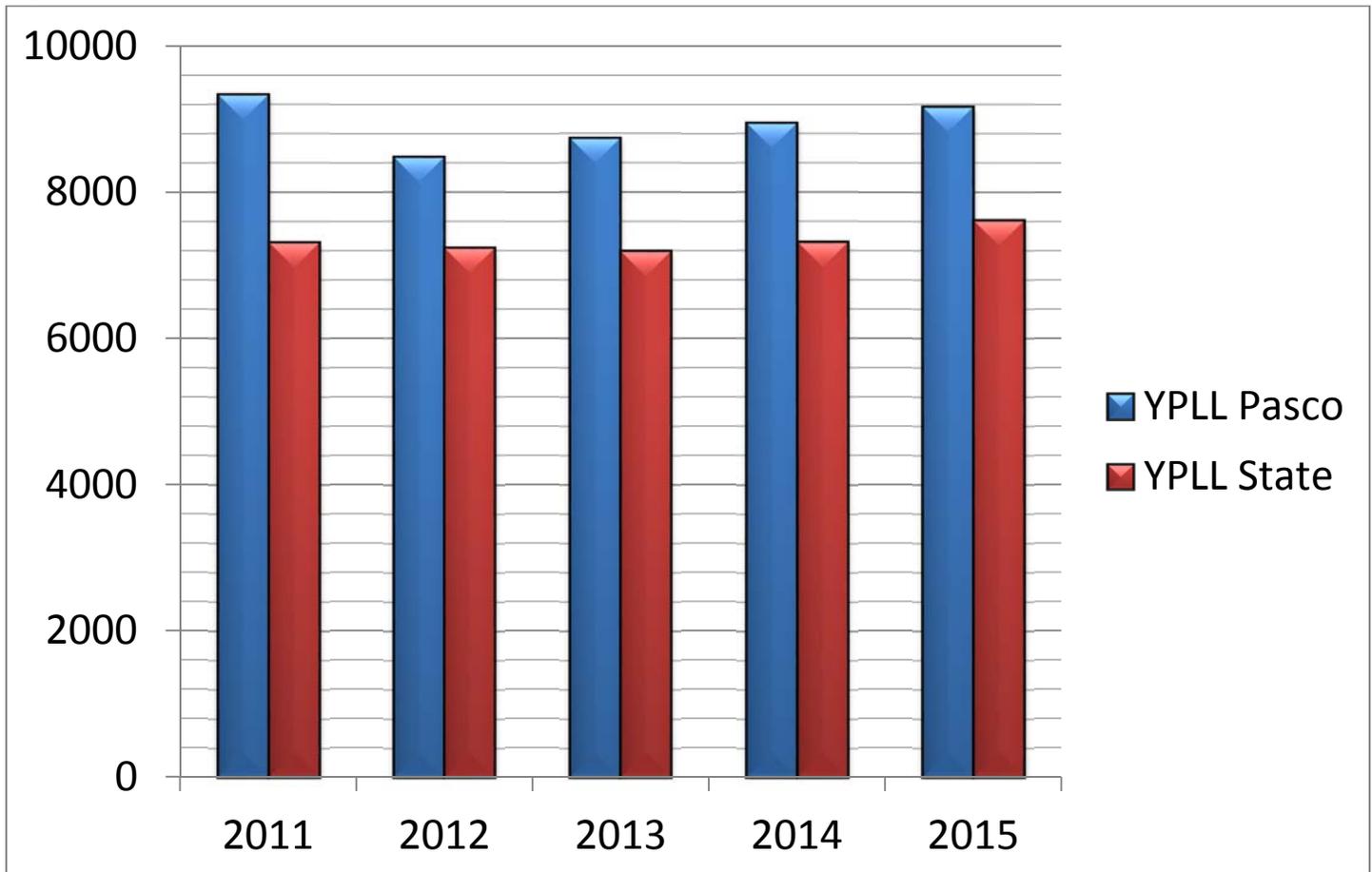
Source: Florida CHARTS

Within Pasco County, 3-year age-adjusted death rates for the major causes of death among the African-American population are significantly higher than the state average for chronic lower respiratory disease, and diabetes. 3-year age-adjusted death rates for the African-American population in Pasco County were significantly lower than the state average for cancer, heart disease, stroke, cirrhosis, pneumonia/influenza and HIV/AIDS. 3-year age-adjusted death rates are slightly higher among Pasco County African-Americans compared to the state average. 3-year age-adjusted death rates for stroke among the African-American population are similar between Pasco County and the state.

**YEARS OF POTENTIAL LIFE LOST (YPLL) RATES**

Years of potential life lost (YPLL) is a measure of premature mortality, an estimate of the average additional years an individual would have lived had he/she not died prematurely. Deaths among younger persons will contribute more to the YPLL calculation than deaths among older persons. The upper age limit for calculating YPLL is arbitrary, however, a generally accepted threshold in the United States is the age of 75. Therefore, individuals who die before age 75 are defined as having lost some potential years of life. As described in Florida CHARTS, the YPLL rate is calculated in the following manner: (1) Calculate (75-(age at death)) for all deaths that occurred for a specific cause in a certain county and then (2) add the results of this calculation and calculate a rate per 100,000 population under 75.

**Figure 6: Years of Potential Life Lost <75, Rate per 100,000, Pasco County vs State**



Source: Florida CHARTS

YPLL per 100,000 in Pasco County have been increasing steadily between 2012 - 2015, after a significant decrease between 2011 - 2012. YPLL per 100,000 have consistently been significantly higher for Pasco County compared to the state over the previous 5 years.

Figure 7: Years of Potential Life Lost &lt;75, Rate per 100,000, Pasco County vs. State

YPLL – Top 10 Causes of Death: Pasco County vs. State of Florida		
Cause of Death	YPLL-75 per 100,000 for Pasco County	YPLL-75 per 100,000 for State of Florida
Cancer	2,142.0	1,652.5
Heart Disease	1,324.5	1,070.6
Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	480.9	228.7
Unintentional Injuries	1,536.6	1,251.4
Stroke	163.2	195.5
Alzheimer's Disease	10.4	13.4
Diabetes Mellitus	358.5	207.3
Kidney Disease	107.8	87.5
Chronic Liver Disease	345.4	239.1
Suicide	516.1	424.5

Where highlighted **red**, proportion for Pasco County compares unfavorably to state proportion.  
Where highlighted **green**, proportion for Pasco County compares unfavorably to state proportion.

Source: Florida CHARTS

For cause-specific YPLL, Pasco County rates worse than the state average for every leading cause of death, except for stroke and Alzheimer's Disease. These are mainly diseases of old age; therefore, this chart could be interpreted as saying that Pasco County residents are dying significantly earlier than their statewide counterparts in regards to similar causes of death.