

**Table B:  
Leading Causes of Death by Race\*  
North Carolina Residents, 2020**

*Note: Hispanic and Non-Hispanic deaths are in Table D on page 8.*

| <i>White, Non-Hispanic</i> |                                     |               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Rank                       | Cause                               | Number        |
| 1                          | Diseases of the heart               | 15,328        |
| 2                          | Cancer                              | 15,152        |
| 3                          | COVID-19                            | 5,087         |
| 4                          | Other unintentional injuries        | 4,404         |
| 5                          | Chronic lower respiratory diseases  | 4,388         |
| 6                          | Cerebrovascular disease             | 4,160         |
| 7                          | Alzheimer's disease                 | 3,819         |
| 8                          | Diabetes mellitus                   | 2,215         |
| 9                          | Pneumonia and influenza             | 1,388         |
| 10                         | Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis | 1,322         |
|                            | All other causes (Residual)         | 23,264        |
|                            | <b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>      | <b>80,527</b> |

| <i>African American, Non-Hispanic</i> |   |               |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------------|
| Rank                                  | Cause                                     | Number        |
| 1                                     | Diseases of the heart                     | 4,439         |
| 2                                     | Cancer                                    | 4,075         |
| 3                                     | COVID-19                                  | 2,120         |
| 4                                     | Cerebrovascular disease                   | 1,360         |
| 5                                     | Diabetes mellitus                         | 1,161         |
| 6                                     | Other unintentional injuries              | 1,015         |
| 7                                     | Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome & nephrosis | 765           |
| 8                                     | Alzheimer's disease                       | 739           |
| 9                                     | Chronic lower respiratory diseases        | 693           |
| 10                                    | Homicide                                  | 569           |
|                                       | All other causes (Residual)               | 7,205         |
|                                       | <b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>            | <b>24,141</b> |

| <i>American Indian, Non-Hispanic</i> |   |              |
|--------------------------------------|---|--------------|
| Rank                                 | Cause                                     | Number       |
| 1                                    | Diseases of the heart                     | 201          |
| 2                                    | Cancer                                    | 187          |
| 3                                    | Other unintentional injuries              | 121          |
| 4                                    | COVID-19                                  | 101          |
| 5                                    | Alzheimer's disease                       | 62           |
| 6                                    | Chronic lower respiratory diseases        | 60           |
| 7                                    | Cerebrovascular disease                   | 52           |
| 8                                    | Motor vehicle injuries                    | 51           |
| 9                                    | Diabetes mellitus                         | 46           |
| 10                                   | Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome & nephrosis | 27           |
|                                      | All other causes (Residual)               | 355          |
|                                      | <b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>            | <b>1,263</b> |

| <i>All Other Races, Non-Hispanic</i> |                                   |              |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Rank                                 | Cause                             | Number       |
| 1                                    | Cancer                            | 229          |
| 2                                    | Diseases of the heart             | 175          |
| 3                                    | COVID-19                          | 133          |
| 4                                    | Cerebrovascular disease           | 71           |
| 5                                    | Other unintentional injuries      | 48           |
| 6                                    | Diabetes mellitus                 | 40           |
| 7                                    | Suicide                           | 36           |
| 8                                    | Alzheimer's disease               | 35           |
| 9                                    | Motor vehicle injuries            | 28           |
| 10                                   | Chronic liver disease & cirrhosis | 21           |
|                                      | All other causes (Residual)       | 356          |
|                                      | <b>Total Deaths—All Causes</b>    | <b>1,172</b> |

\* Caution should be taken when comparing the number of deaths across racial groupings. Population size varies considerably from one racial group to another. The number of deaths for each group is to a large extent a reflection of that population size.