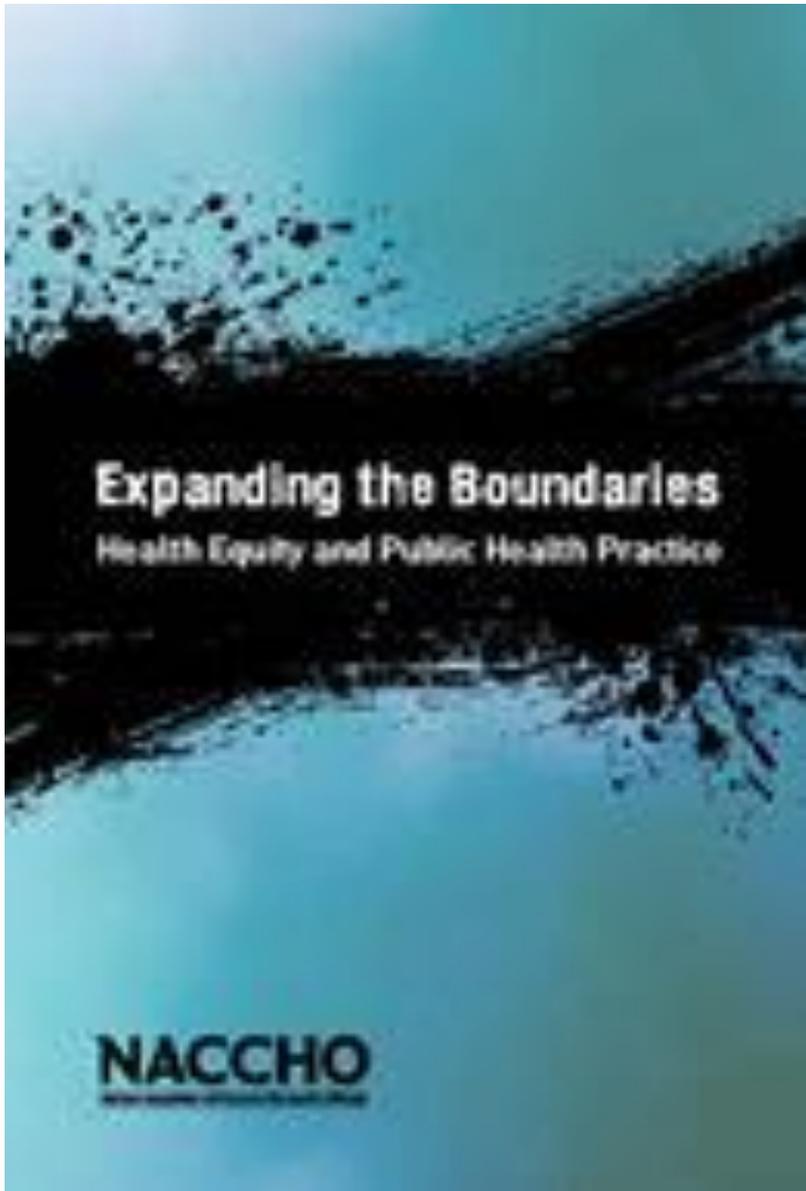


HEALTH EQUITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE

Bob Prentice, PhD

Co-founder and former director (retired)
BAY AREA REGIONAL HEALTH INEQUITIES
INITIATIVE



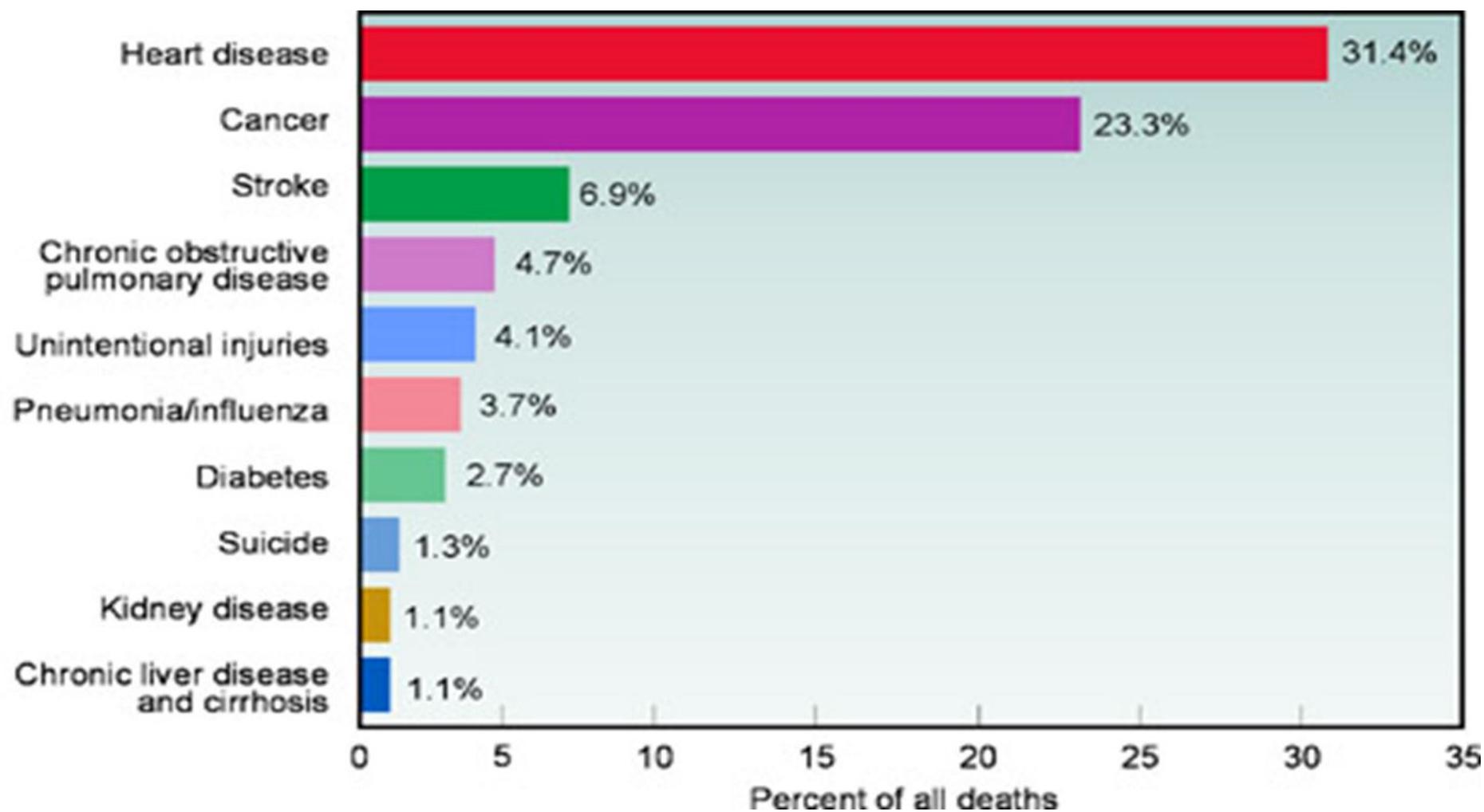
Expanding the Boundaries

Health Equity and Public Health Practice

NACCHO
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTY HEALTH OFFICERS

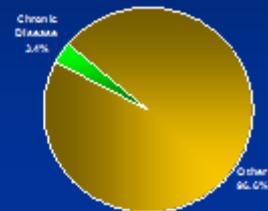
OVERVIEW

- BRIEF REVIEW OF HISTORY OF PUBLIC HEALTH OVER THE LAST 3+ DECADES AS CONTEXT FOR WHERE WE ARE TODAY
 - EMPHASIS ON CHRONIC DISEASE , SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH AND THEIR INFLUENCE ON PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE
- RECOGNITION THAT SOCIAL INEQUALITIES CONTRIBUTE TO DIFFERENCES IN HEALTH AND THAT PUBLIC HEALTH AND ITS STRATEGIC PARTNERS MUST ADDRESS THOSE UNDERLYING INEQUALITIES AND NOT JUST THEIR CONSEQUENCES



BURDEN OF DISEASE: DISABILITY ADJUSTED LIFE YEARS (DALYs) LOS ANGELES COUNTY

(SOURCE: JONATHAN FIELDING, MD, MPH, MBA, DIRECTOR AND HEALTH OFFICER, LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH)



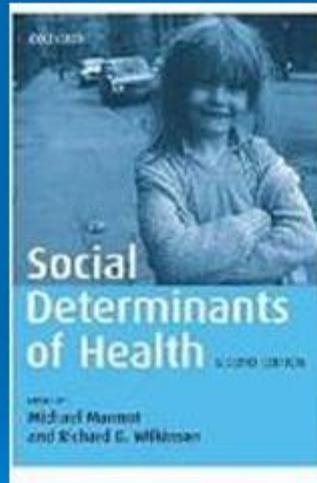
ACTUAL CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE UNITED STATES

Source: Mokdad et al, JAMA 2004; 291:1238-1245

2000

Deaths

Causes	Deaths	
	Estimated Number	% of Total
Tobacco	435,000	18.1
Poor diet and lack of physical activity	400,000*	16.6*
Alcohol consumption	85,000	3.5
Microbial agents	75,000	3.1
Toxic agents	55,000	2.3
Motor vehicle	43,000	1.8
Firearms	29,000	1.2
Sexual behavior	20,000	0.8
Illicit drug use	17,000	0.7
Total	1,159,000	48.2



Commission on Social Determinants of Health FINAL REPORT



Commission on
Social Determinants of Health

Closing the gap in a generation

Health equity through action on
the social determinants of health



Health inequities or inequalities are “. . . differences that are unnecessary and avoidable but, in addition, are also considered unjust and unfair.” (Margaret Whitehead)

“Social justice is a matter of life and death These inequities in health, avoidable health inequalities, arise because of the circumstances in which people grow, live, work, and age, and the systems put in place to deal with illness. The conditions in which people live and die are, in turn, shaped by the political, social, and economic forces.”

The principles of action include the need to “(i)mprove the conditions of daily life . . . (and) tackle the inequitable distribution of power, money, and resources—the structural drivers of those conditions of daily life”

HEALTH IN ALL POLICIES

A Guide for State and
Local Governments



The Spirit Level

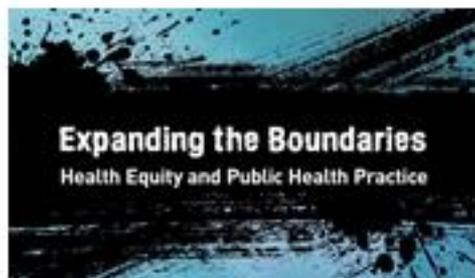
Why More Equal Societies Always Do Better

Richard Wilkinson
and Kate Pickett



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