



American Heart Association International **CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE**

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the leading cause of death worldwide. In 2020, approximately

19.1 million people died from CVD – accounting for

32% of global deaths.^{1,2}

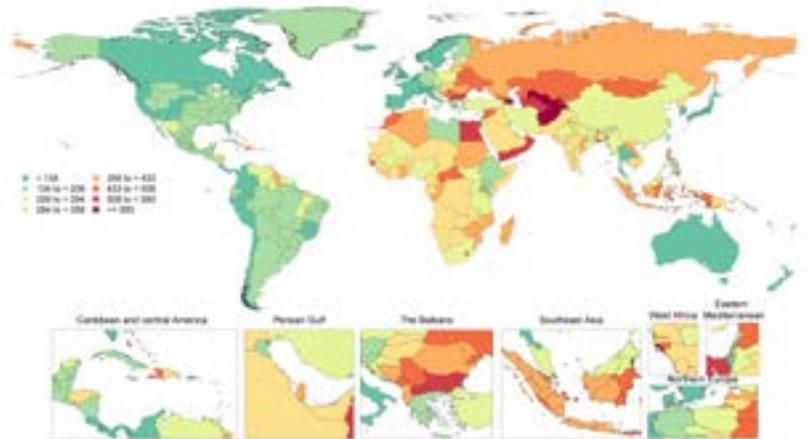
For nearly 100 years, the American Heart Association has been leading the fight against heart disease and stroke. **In the last 10 years, we've expanded our reach to over 100 countries,** working with organizations around the world to help change policies, implement programs, and strengthen healthcare systems to help improve and save lives.

We believe that where you live should not limit your health or the quality of your life.

The Difference between Life and Death

The **highest rates of death from CVD** were in **Eastern Europe and Central Asia**; rates were lowest for locations in high-income **Asia Pacific and North America, Latin America, Western Europe, and Australasia.**²

CVD deaths have increased nearly 19% since 2010.¹



Our Approach

TREATMENT STANDARDS/QUALITY

Healthcare quality standards and training programs to improve patient care, like Healthcare Certification, Get With The Guidelines®, Emergency Cardiovascular Care, Helping Children Survive, and Professional Education.

PREVENTION

Messaging and programs that help workplaces and communities improve their health and prevent death and disability from cardiovascular disease, like Go Red for Women®, and Life's Simple 7.

REIMAGINING OUR SCIENCE

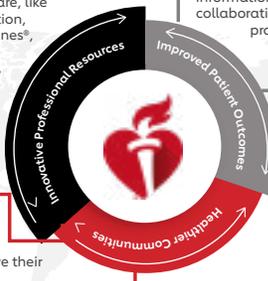
With an even greater emphasis on discovery, data and dissemination of breakthrough information through clinical guidelines, collaborative science sessions, and best practice knowledge sharing and treatment.

KNOWLEDGE SHARING

Guidelines, science sessions and best practice programs share knowledge and standardize treatment recommendations for governments, and healthcare systems.

ADVOCACY

Global advocacy for healthier hearts and brains among governments, civil society, and intergovernmental and public health organizations like the United Nations, World Economic Forum and World Health Organization



We cannot improve the global burden of CVD alone. That's why **we collaborate with more than 200 organizations** around the world to prevent and treat CVD.

As a member of the **NCD Alliance** and the **Taskforce on Women and Non-Communicable Diseases**, we're working with global health organizations worldwide to reach the United Nations target of **decreasing CVD by 25% by 2025.**

Lasting systemic improvements in CVD outcomes require a multi-pronged approach to develop **global systems of care.**



Reimagining our Science

The American Heart Association (AHA) translates scientific evidence into clinical practice guidelines with **recommendations for CVD prevention, diagnosis and care.**

We're one of largest funders for CVD research. We've dedicated more than

\$5B to CVD and stroke research since 1949.

17% of every dollar contributed goes to research.

We've helped fund major medical advances in treating CVD, including the **first implanted pacemaker, the first use of CPR to treat cardiac arrest patients and the first artificial heart valve replacement surgery.**

The AHA awarded its first research grant in 1948 to Nobel Prize winner Dr. Albert Szent-Gyorgyi. **2019 marked the 14th Nobel Prize winner whose research was funded by AHA.**



Prevention

Our **International Go Red for Women®** program educates women on the risk factors for and symptoms of heart attack and stroke and encourages healthy behaviors to prevent CVD.

To date, there are more than **55 organizations** in **50 countries** hosting community events, awareness activities and health checks.



Advocacy

We serve as a technical advisor to **HEARTS** as part of the **Global Hearts initiative** along with the **World Health Organization (WHO)** and the **Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)**. HEARTS supports Ministries of Health to improve the management of CVD in primary health care settings.



Knowledge sharing

The American Heart Association is one of 11 leading CVD research funders collaborating through the **Global Cardiovascular Research Funders Forum**. The group, which includes six European foundations, is working together share data on research funding, clinical trials and strategic initiatives to improve treatment and survival from CVD worldwide.

Beginning in **1925**, for our first **Scientific Sessions** meeting

AHA convened scientists and healthcare professionals for to learn the latest CVD developments. Today it is the **largest annual cardiovascular meeting in the U.S.** and a leading international destination for the cardiovascular health community.



Treatment, Standards and Quality

Our **Get With The Guidelines® and Healthcare Certification** programs have been proven to improve patient outcomes. Since 2003, **more than 1,300 hospitals** have entered **more than 12 million patient records** into our database. We're working with the **Emirates Cardiac Society** to offer Primary and Comprehensive Chest Pain Certification in the Middle East.

Better Hearts Better Cities is a comprehensive program to **prevent and treat hypertension in low- to middle-income countries**. We provide expert technical assistance and evidence-based resources to our local partners who educate patients, improve the quality of care, increase access to medications and create healthier living and working conditions. We currently have programs in **Mongolia, Senegal and Brazil**.

Since **2015**, we've supported the development of the **World Health Organization's Emergency Systems of Care Program**.

The AHA has helped with initiatives dedicated to strengthening systems of emergency care delivery in low and middle-income countries, including the development of training and assessment tools and resources.



We've created a network of more than **69,000 instructors** helping save lives through **resuscitation and First Aid training** for nearly **22 million people** at more than **4,000 centers and sites** worldwide.

Who We Work With

- American College of Cardiology
- American College of Cardiology Foundation
- European Heart Network
- European Society of Cardiology
- InterAmerican Heart Foundation
- Interamerican Society of Cardiology
- NCD Alliance
- Taskforce on Women and Noncommunicable Diseases
- United Nations World Economic Forum
- World Health Organization
- World Heart Federation
- + 200 organizations worldwide

¹Tsao CW, Aday AW, Almarazooq ZI, Alonso A, Beaton AZ, Bittencourt MS, Boehme AK, Buxton AE, Carson AP, Commodore-Mensah Y, Elkind MSV, Evenson KR, Eze-Nliam C, Ferguson JF, Generoso G, Ho JE, Kalani R, Khan SS, Kissela BM, Knutson KL, Levine DA, Lewis TT, Liu J, Loop MS, Ma J, Mussolino ME, Navaneethan SD, Perak AM, Poudel R, Rezk-Hanna M, Roth GA, Schroeder EB, Shah SH, Thacker EL, VanWagner LB, Virani SS, Voecks JH, Wang N-Y, Yaffe K, Martin SS; on behalf of the American Heart Association Council on Epidemiology and Prevention Statistics Committee and Stroke Statistics Subcommittee. Heart disease and stroke statistics—2022 update: a report from the American Heart Association [published online ahead of print Wednesday, January 26, 2022]. Circulation. doi: 10.1161/CIR.0000000000001052

²WHO, 2021 Fact Sheet on Cardiovascular Disease

Map data courtesy of the Global Burden of Disease Study 2020, Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, University of Washington. Printed with permission. Copyright © 2021 University of Washington. More information is available on the Global Burden of Disease Study website.