

HOW HAVE THE CAUSES OF DEATH IN AUSTRALIA CHANGED FROM 2000 TO 2017?

INTRODUCTION



The objective of this study was to analyse and contrast the causes of death throughout Australia from the year 2000 to 2017. The years 2005, 2010 and 2015 were also compared to allow for trend recognition of how the most significant causes of death of Australians have increased, decreased or have undergone no change at all. We hypothesised that as time has progressed, certain causes will increase, while others will decrease, with the most noticeable trends stemming from the change in lifestyle choices and progression in healthcare technology throughout these years.

DATA COLLECTION

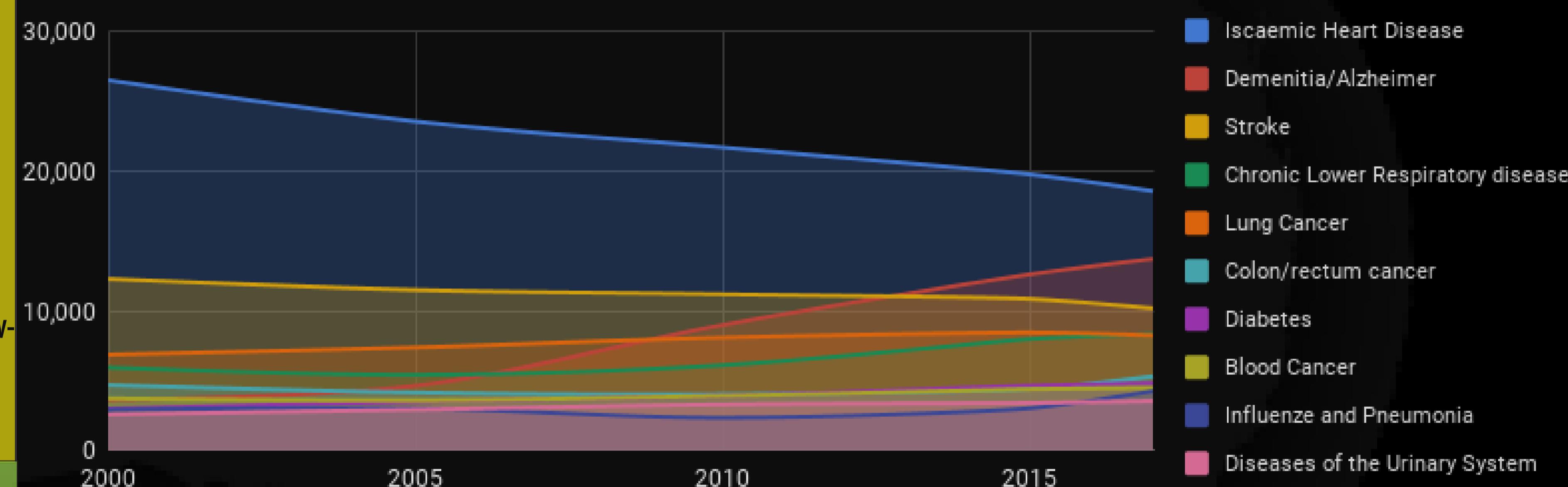
Due to the large scale data collection required for this topic, we sourced all data from online secondary sources. However, our source for data was carefully chosen to ensure both accuracy and reliability. All of our data was sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, who is renowned for having accurate data on a national scale. To scope our data into smaller groups we selected certain years spaced 5 years apart and took the top 10 causes of death for 2017, and then collected data on these same 10 causes for the four other years. Comparison groups were not applicable for this topic, and variation was only considered slightly due to the data being bivariate and the source being extremely reliable.

MAIN DATA ANALYSIS



From 2000 to 2017 there is quite a change in the highest causes of death for Australia. Ischaemic heart disease (blue) deaths began large in number, but soon undertook a shallow, almost linear, negative trend; this decrease will most likely be seen to continue into this year's data. Dementia and Alzheimer disease deaths (red) were very low until mid-2005, from which it saw a sudden increase, as seen on the line graph in a positive curved trend. Other causes of death such as lung cancer, influenza/pneumonia, and lower respiratory diseases took on a tiny increase into 2017, while diseases of the urinary system and blood cancer have maintained a stasis in their number of deaths caused.

Trend of Leading Causes of Death of Australians for 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015, and 2017

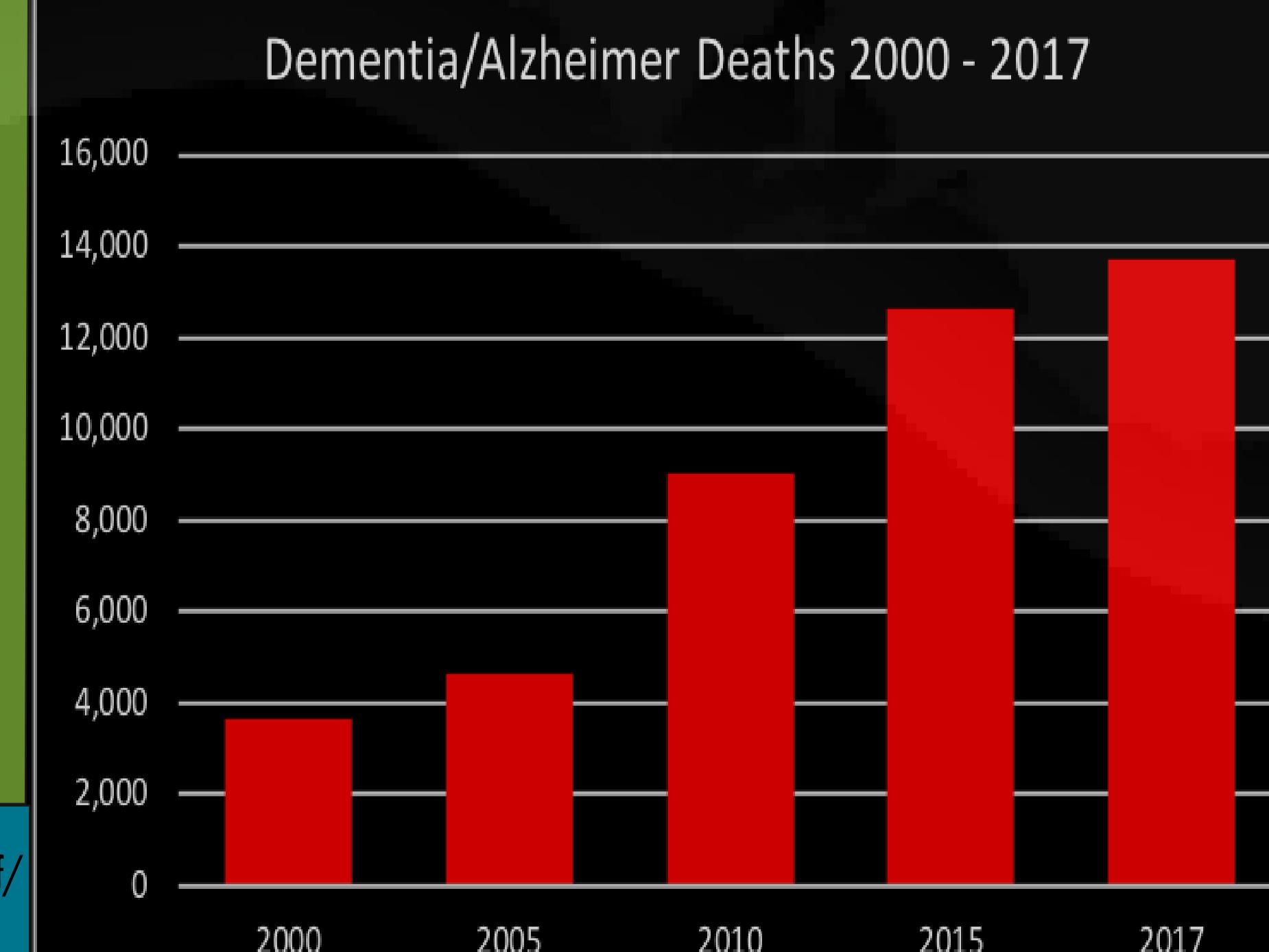


CONCLUSIONS

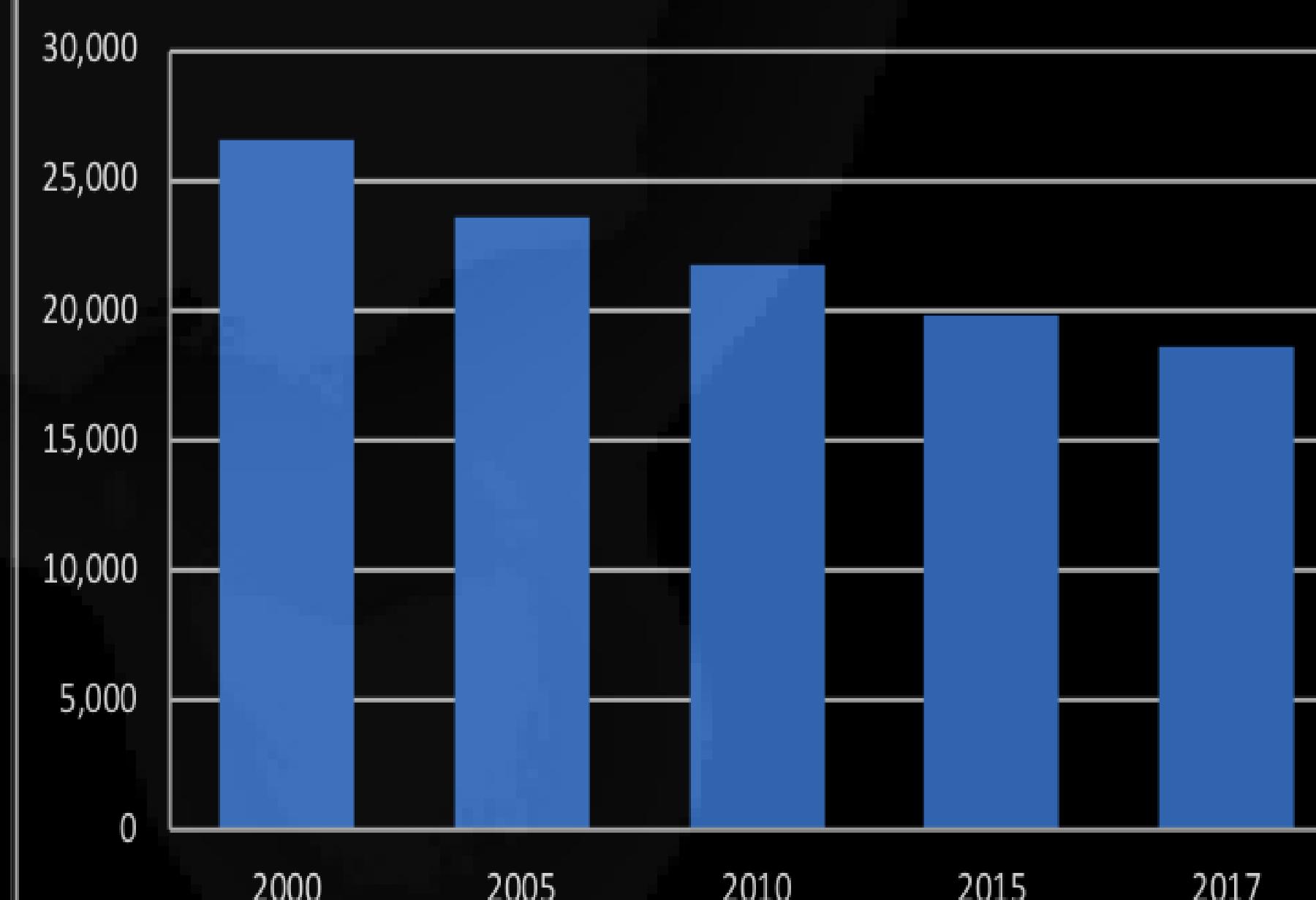


Overall, we conclude that only the highest causes of death in Australia underwent profound changes over these 17 years, while the less renowned causes remain in stasis. Heart disease deaths have indeed been reduced significantly due to the newfound awareness of lifestyle choices, as well as advances in medical technology. Dementia and Alzheimer deaths have been found to be increasingly prevalent in older populations, and so this increase can be strongly correlated with Australia's proportionally increasing aging population.

Dementia/Alzheimer Deaths 2000 - 2017



Ischaemic Heart Disease Deaths 2000 - 2017



BIBLIOGRAPHY

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