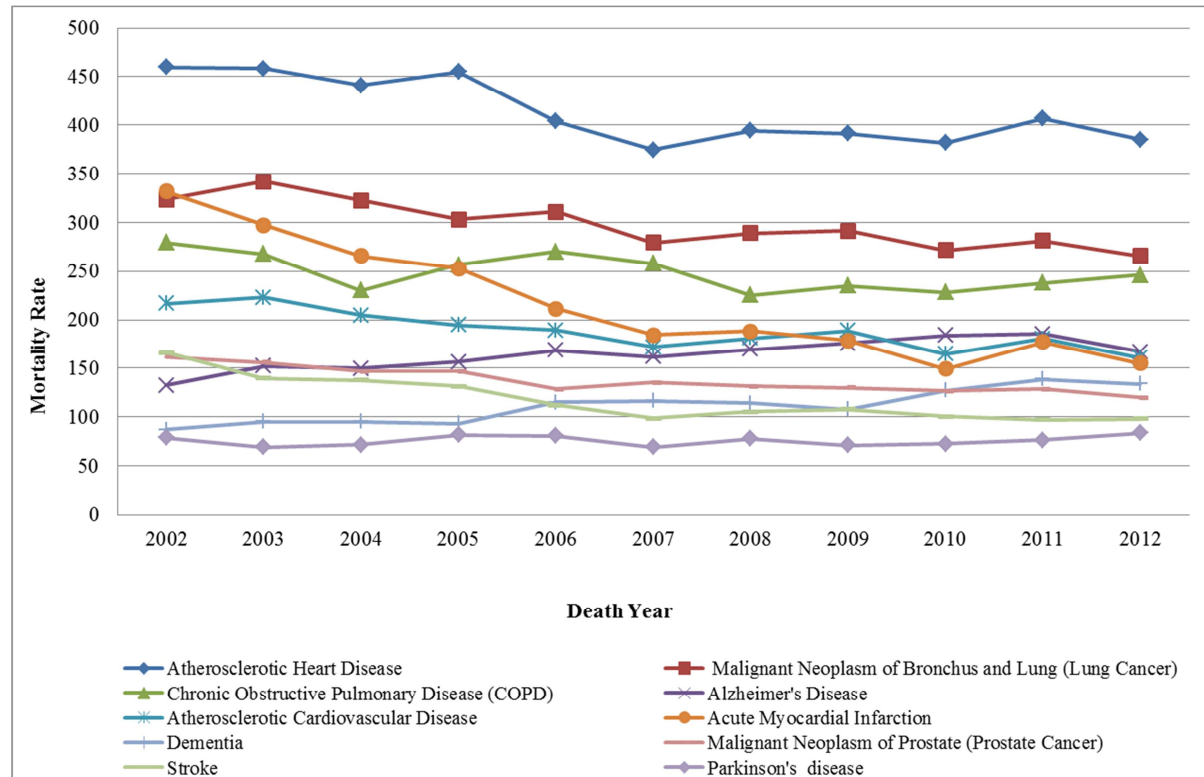


Figure 12. Specific Leading Causes of Death Among Arizona Resident Males, 65 Years and Older, 2002-2012



earlier stages of old age increases the likelihood of developing Alzheimer's disease. While cognitive decline is an inevitable outcome of the aging process, multiple health-related factors including nutrition, physical activity, and tobacco and alcohol use have been related to cognitive decline (Alwin and Hofer 2008). By focusing on the prevention of age-related cognitive decline now, we can help to reduce the expense and difficulties we certainly will face as our population ages.