

63 (a) From 1981 to 1985 the average rate of change is $\frac{f(1985) - f(1981)}{1985 - 1981} = \frac{6948 - 128}{4} = 1705$.

From 1985 to 1990 the average rate of change is $\frac{f(1990) - f(1985)}{1990 - 1985} = \frac{31,269 - 6948}{5} = 4864.2$.

From 1990 to 1995 the average rate of change is $\frac{f(1995) - f(1990)}{1995 - 1990} = \frac{45,765 - 31,269}{5} \approx 2899.2$.

(b) From 1981 to 1985, AIDS deaths increased by 1705 deaths per year. Other results can be interpreted similarly.

(c) The rate of increase in deaths may be beginning to slow down in the United States.