

Cancer is the second leading cause of death in the U.S., accounting for almost 1 in every 4 deaths.¹ NIH-sponsored research and improved cancer control has helped to make significant gains in the fight against cancer. A study looking at the status of cancer in the U.S. between 1975-2005 found a significant decrease in incidence and death rates from all cancers combined in men and women overall.² But, the risk for being diagnosed with cancer increases with age¹ and a recent study projected overall cancer incidence will increase by about 45% from 2010-2030, accounted for largely by cancer diagnoses in older Americans and minorities.³ A robust research effort is needed to better understand the development, treatment and prevention of cancer, and its interaction with the aging process. Such research could yield enormous health and economic benefits and allow older Americans to live healthier lives for longer.

Impact of Cancer

- In the U.S., men have a slightly less than 1 in 2 lifetime risk of developing cancer and women have a little more than a 1 in 3 lifetime risk.¹
- An estimated 1,479,350 Americans will be newly diagnosed with and 562,340 will die from cancer (all sites) in 2009.¹
- About 77% of all cancers are diagnosed in people age 55 and older.¹
- For 2009, the leading sites for estimated new cancer cases in males were the prostate, lung and bronchus, and colon and rectum; For females, they were the breast, lung and bronchus and colon and rectum.¹
- The NIH estimated the overall cost of cancer in the U.S. in 2008 was \$228.1 billion.¹

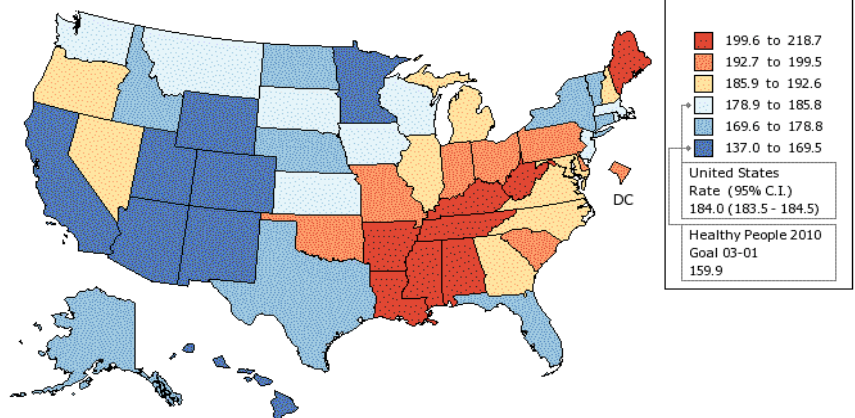
1. American Cancer Society. *Cancer Facts and Figures 2009*. Atlanta: American Cancer Society; 2009.
2. Jemal A, et al. Annual Report to the Nation on the Status of Cancer, 1975-2005, Featuring Trends in Lung Cancer, Tobacco Use and Tobacco Control. *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* (2008) 100(23):1672-1694.
3. Smith BD, et al. Future of Cancer Incidence in the United States: Burdens Upon an Aging, Changing Nation. *Journal of Clinical Oncology* (2009) 27(17): 2758-2765.

Reports

Alliance for Aging Research Cancer Publications
American Cancer Society *Cancer Facts & Figures*
NCI Fact Sheets on cancer topics
NCI (SEER) Publications
CDC Cancer Prevention and Control Publications

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Age-Adjusted Death Rates for United States, 2005 All Cancer Sites All Races (includes Hispanic), Both Sexes, All Ages



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[State Cancer Registries](#) may provide more current or more local data.

Data presented on the State Cancer Profiles Web Site may differ from statistics reported by the State Cancer Registries ([for more information](#)).

Source: Death data provided by the [National Vital Statistics System](#) public use data file. Death rates calculated by the National Cancer Institute using [SEER*Stat](#). Death rates (deaths per 100,000 population per year) are age-adjusted to the [2000 US standard population](#) (19 age groups: <1, 1-4, 5-9, ..., 80-84, 85+). The Healthy People 2010 goals are based on rates adjusted using different methods but the differences should be minimal. Population counts for denominators are based on Census populations as [modified](#) by NCI. The US populations included with the data release have been adjusted for the population shifts due to hurricanes Katrina and Rita for 62 counties and parishes in Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas (See [US Population Data - 1969-2005](#) for more information.)

Healthy People 2010 Goal 03-01: Reduce the overall cancer death rate to 159.9.

[Healthy People 2010](#) Objectives provided by the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#).

Because of the impact on Louisiana's population for the July - December 2005 time period due to Hurricanes Katrina/Rita, [SEER excluded Louisiana cases](#) diagnosed for that six month time period. So the count has been suppressed due to data consistency issues.

Searchable Databases

The Silver Book Online:

Age- A Major Risk Factor for Cancer
Prevalence and Incidence of Cancer
The Economic Burden of Cancer
The Human Burden of Cancer

Federally and privately supported clinical trials registry
National Institutes on Aging Sponsored Research
National Cancer Institute (NCI) Clinical Trials database
NCI Cancer Statistics
CDC National Program of Cancer Registries
American Cancer Society Research Program and Funding
CDC Chronic Disease Cost Calculator (state Medicaid costs for cancer)

Maps:

CDC WONDER U.S. Cancer Statistics
NCI State Cancer Profiles (includes interactive maps feature)
NCI Cancer Mortality Maps and Graphs

Recent Innovation:

The Silver Book Online Innovative Medical Research
Alliance for Aging Research News Room
CDC Cancer News
Journal of the National Cancer Institute
NCI Cancer Bulletin (cancer research news)
NCI Clinical Trial Results (summaries organized by type of cancer or topic)
Friends of Cancer Research Cancer Policy News