

Facts & Figures

Cancer in Wisconsin



96 Number of Wisconsin residents who are diagnosed with cancer every day

35,280	Number of expected new invasive cancer cases in Wisconsin in 2020*
2,690	Number of expected lung cancer deaths in Wisconsin in 2020. Lung cancer causes more deaths in Wisconsin than prostate, breast, and colorectal cancers combined.*
5,120	Number of Wisconsin women expected to be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer – the most commonly diagnosed cancer among women after skin cancer – in 2020*
2,540	Number of Wisconsin residents expected to be diagnosed with colorectal cancer – the third-most commonly diagnosed cancer among men and women – in 2020*

Source: *American Cancer Society. *Cancer Facts & Figures 2020*. Atlanta: American Cancer Society; 2020.



Cancer in Wisconsin

Overview

In Wisconsin from 2012 to 2016, an average of 32,160 residents were diagnosed with invasive cancers and more than 11,398 died of these diseases each year. Males have higher cancer incidence and mortality rates than females in the state, and cancer rates increase with age, most dramatically after age 50. Figure 1 displays the leading cancer sites by percentage of new invasive cases and cancer deaths among females and males, respectively.

The overall cancer incidence and mortality rates in Wisconsin are higher than rates reported nationwide (Tables 1 and 2).

Cancer Incidence

Table 1 shows the 2012-2016 average annual new cases and age-adjusted incidence rates for 23 common cancers by sex in Wisconsin, along with national comparisons. For all

cancer sites combined, the state incidence rate (466.9 per 100,000) was higher than the national rate (448.0 per 100,000). Among the four most common cancers, female breast, lung, and prostate cancer incidence rates were higher, but colorectal cancer incidence was lower in Wisconsin compared to the national rates.

Prostate cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer among Wisconsin males, representing 23% of all newly diagnosed cancers. Breast cancer remains the most frequently diagnosed cancer in Wisconsin women, representing 29% of all female cancer diagnoses. Overall, lung cancer continues to be the most frequently diagnosed cancer in the state for both men and women combined.

Cancer Mortality

Cancer is currently the leading cause of death in Wisconsin, with a 2016 mortality rate of 162.8. While mortality rates for both cancer and heart disease are declining, heart disease mortality has dropped more quickly than cancer mortality in recent years.

Table 1. Average Annual Number of Cancer Cases and Age-adjusted Rates by Sex, Wisconsin and US, 2012-2016

	Total WI Cases	Total WI Rate	Total US Rate	Male WI Cases	Male WI Rate	Male US Rate	Female WI Cases	Female WI Rate	Female US Rate
All sites	32,160	466.9	448.0	16,416	506.6	488.8	15,744	440.5	420.9
Brain and other nervous system	453	7.0	6.5	255	8.2	7.6	198	6.0	5.5
Cervix uteri	196						196	6.6	7.6
Colon and rectum	2,551	37.2	38.7	1,342	42.3	44.4	1,209	32.7	33.9
Esophagus	370	5.2	4.5	291	8.9	7.9	79	2.1	1.8
Female breast	4,584						4,584	130.6	125.2
Hodgkin lymphoma	179	3.1	2.6	103	3.5	3.0	77	2.6	2.3
Kidney and renal pelvis	1,250	18.2	16.6	809	24.8	22.5	441	12.4	11.5
Larynx	242	3.4	3.3	194	5.7	5.7	48	1.3	1.3
Leukemia	1,155	17.2	14.1	692	22.3	18.1	463	12.9	11.0
Liver and intrahepatic bile duct	510	7.1	8.3	356	10.4	12.7	154	4.1	4.4
Lung and bronchus	4,190	59.8	59.2	2,170	67.7	69.1	2,020	53.9	51.7
Melanoma of the skin	1,588	23.9	21.8	925	29.2	27.9	663	20.1	17.2
Myeloma	492	7.0	6.8	282	8.8	8.4	211	5.6	5.5
Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	1,427	20.9	19.2	790	25.3	23.2	638	17.4	16.0
Oral cavity and pharynx	860	12.2	11.7	606	17.8	17.7	254	7.0	6.4
Ovary	423						423	11.7	11.1
Pancreas	940	13.3	12.8	497	15.4	14.5	444	11.5	11.2
Prostate	3,791			3,792	108.1	104.1			
Stomach	415	6.0	6.6	275	8.6	8.9	141	3.9	4.6
Testis	190			190	7.0	5.6			
Thyroid	838	13.8	14.5	216	7.0	7.4	622	20.7	21.4
Urinary bladder	1,591	22.8	20.1	1,219	39.4	35.0	372	9.8	8.7
Uterine	1,184						1,184	31.7	26.6

Rates are per 100,000 and age-adjusted to the 2000 US standard population.

Source: Wisconsin Cancer Reporting System, Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services and the National Center for Health Statistics.

Table 2. Average Annual Number of Cancer Deaths and Age-adjusted Rates by Sex, Wisconsin and US, 2012-2016

	Total WI Deaths	Total WI Rate	Total US Rate	Male WI Deaths	Male WI Rate	Male US Rate	Female WI Deaths	Female WI Rate	Female US Rate
All sites	11,398	162.8	161.0	6,025	193.9	193.1	5,373	139.1	137.7
Brain and other nervous system	329	4.8	4.4	184	5.8	5.4	145	4.0	3.6
Cervix uteri	56						56	1.6	2.3
Colon and rectum	939	13.3	14.2	479	15.5	16.9	460	11.5	11.9
Corpus and uterus	195						195	5.0	4.7
Esophagus	346	4.8	4.0	275	8.5	7.1	71	1.8	1.5
Female breast	743						743	19.5	20.6
Hodgkin lymphoma	23	0.4	0.3	14	0.5	0.4	9	0.2	0.2
Kidney and renal pelvis	291	4.1	3.8	190	5.9	5.5	100	2.6	2.3
Larynx	64	1.0	1.0	51	1.6	1.8	12	0.3	0.4
Leukemia	499	7.2	6.5	285	9.5	8.8	213	5.4	4.9
Liver and intrahepatic bile duct	397	5.5	6.5	263	7.9	9.6	134	3.5	3.9
Lung and bronchus	2,896	41.1	41.9	1,570	49.6	51.6	1,325	34.8	34.4
Melanoma of the skin	175	2.5	2.5	117	3.8	3.7	58	1.6	1.5
Myeloma	235	3.4	3.3	127	4.2	4.2	108	2.7	2.7
Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	407	5.9	5.6	232	7.8	7.3	175	4.4	4.4
Oral cavity and pharynx	176	2.4	2.4	126	3.8	3.9	50	1.3	1.3
Ovary	269						269	7.1	7.0
Pancreas	830	11.7	11.0	428	13.3	12.6	402	10.2	9.6
Prostate	593			593	20.6	19.2			
Stomach	181	2.6	3.1	108	3.4	4.2	73	1.9	2.3
Testis	6			6	0.2	0.3			
Thyroid	38	0.5	0.5	18	0.6	0.5	20	0.5	0.5
Urinary bladder	322	4.5	7.6	234	7.9	2.1	88	2.2	2.1

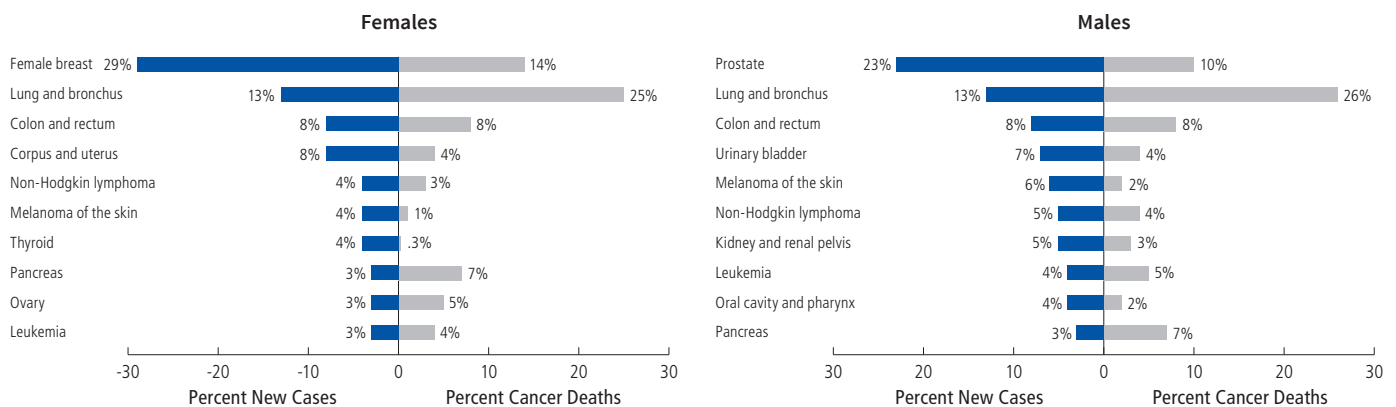
Rates are per 100,000 and age-adjusted to the 2000 US standard population.

Source: Wisconsin Cancer Reporting System, Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services, and the National Center for Health Statistics.

The 2012-2016 cancer mortality rate in Wisconsin for all sites was similar to the national rate (162.8 compared to 161.0). Lung cancer remains the leading cause of cancer deaths among both males and females in the state, with an annual average of 1,570 men and 1,325 women dying from the disease (Table 2).

The positive side, however, is that from 1995 to 2016 overall cancer mortality rates for both males and females in Wisconsin declined. This decline is attributed to the increase in early detection, better treatments, and increased awareness of risk reduction behaviors.

Figure 1. Leading Cancer Sites: Percentage of New Cases and Deaths among Females and Males in Wisconsin, 2012-2016



Source: Wisconsin Cancer Reporting System, Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services, and the National Center for Health Statistics.



Attacking from every angle.™



bbb.org/charity