

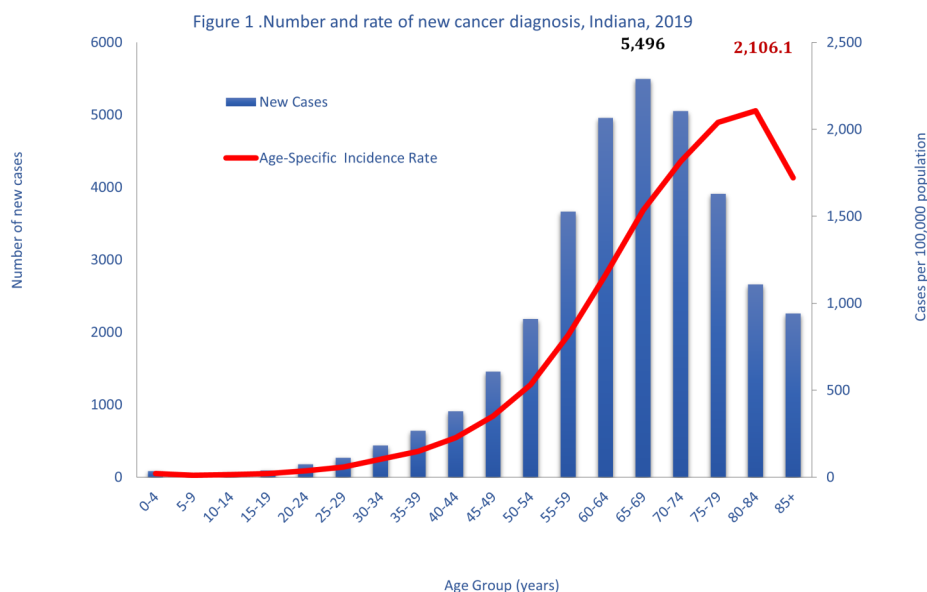
Cancer

Cancer is a group of diseases characterized by uncontrolled growth and spread of abnormal cells. Anyone can get cancer at any age; however, middle and older aged people are most likely to develop cancer. In Indiana, during 2019, 75 percent of all cancer cases occurred among people ages 55–84, including 25 percent among people ages 55–64, 31 percent among people ages 65–74, and 19 percent among people ages 75–84 [See Figure 1].

Indiana's age-adjusted cancer incidence rate from 2015 to 2019, was 456.8 per 100,000 people. This was higher than the national rate of 449.4.³

Fast Facts

- About 2.4 million Indiana residents, or two out of every five people now living in Indiana, will eventually develop cancer.¹
- Although rare, cancer is the second leading cause of death, following deaths from accidents among children ages one to 14.¹
- According to the Indiana State Cancer Registry, during 2015–2019 in Indiana the cancer incidence rate for whites was higher than the rate for African-Americans (482.3 vs. 471.4, respectively), but the African-American cancer mortality rate was higher than the rate for whites (184.3 vs 167.4, respectively).



Source: Indiana State Cancer Registry

Most Common Cancers in Indiana (2015-2019)⁴

- Breast cancer is the most common among women—133 cases per 100,000 females.
- Prostate cancer is the most common among men—91.1 cases per 100,000 males.
- Lung, including bronchus, and colorectal cancers are the next most common among both men and women. Lung cancer is responsible for the most cancer related deaths among both sexes.
 - Lung including bronchus cancer : 70.3 cases per 100,000 people
 - Colorectal cancer: 37.1 cases per 100,000 people

Cancer Screening

- Many cancers can be prevented or identified at an early stage, when treatment is more effective, if people obtain early detection screenings.
- In Indiana during 2020⁴:
 - 75.7 percent of women ages 21 to 65 had a Pap test during the past three years (cervical cancer).
 - 73.6 percent of women ages 50 to 74 had a mammogram during the past two years (breast cancer).
 - 71.2 percent of people ages 50 and older met the United States Preventive Services Task Force recommendations for colorectal cancer screening (fecal occult blood test, sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy).

Survivorship

- Due to advances in treatment and earlier screenings, more people are living after a cancer diagnosis. The American Cancer Society (ACS) defines a cancer survivor as any person who has been diagnosed with cancer, from the time of diagnosis through the balance of life.
- According to the Indiana State Cancer Registry, there were 387,425 cancer survivors in Indiana at the end of 2019.
- The four highest-burden cancers in the state (breast, colorectal, lung, and prostate) account for approximately 54 percent of these survivors.

Get Involved

- The ICC is a statewide network of over 100 agencies, including Indiana Department of Health.
- Help reduce the cancer burden in Indiana through the development, implementation, and evaluation of a comprehensive plan that addresses cancer across the continuum from prevention through end of life.
- Become a member at <https://indianacancer.org/>

References

1. American Cancer Society. Cancer Facts & Figures 2021. Atlanta. American Cancer Society, 2021. <https://www.cancer.org/content/dam/cancerorg/research/cancer-facts-and-statistics/annual-cancer-facts-and-figures/2021/cancer-facts-and-figures-2021.pdf>.
2. Indiana Cancer Consortium, Indiana State Department of Health and the American Cancer Society Great Lakes Division; Indiana Cancer Facts and Figures 2021. <https://indianacancer.org/publication/indiana-cancer-facts-and-figures-sixth-edition/>.
3. National Cancer Institute. State Cancer Profiles. <https://statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov/quick-profiles/index.php?statename=indiana>.
4. Indiana State Department of Health, Data Analysis Team. (2022). Indiana Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2022.

For additional information on cancer in Indiana:

<http://www.chronicdisease.isdh.in.gov/>

