

Salem County Cancer Fact Sheet

The Salem County Cancer Coalition is made possible by a grant from the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services' Office of Cancer Control and Prevention. The mission of the Salem County Cancer Coalition is to implement the New Jersey Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan in Salem County. For more information on Comprehensive Cancer Control in NJ, please visit: www.njcancer.gov.

County Demographic Profile 2000 vs. 2006		
	2000 ¹	2006 ²
Population	64,285	66,595
Median Age*	38	39
Racial Composition:		
% White	81	81
% Black	15	15
% Asian	1	0.5
Ethnic Composition:		
% Hispanic	4	5
Median Household Income*	\$45,573	\$58,164
% of Residents ≥ 25 years of age without high school diploma	14	13
% of Residents living below the poverty level*	10	9

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau; ¹ Census 2000, and

² 2006 American Community Survey

* Compare 2000 and 2006 data with caution; some differences exist due to differences in data methods.

Overall Cancer Burden

From 2000-2004, an average of 644 men and 452 women per 100,000 were diagnosed with cancer each year in Salem County. This is comparable to the New Jersey rate of 614 for men and 447 for women. The average annual cancer death rate was 286 for men and 184 for women in Salem County, compared to the state rate of 237 for men and 172 for women. As in the state, the types of cancers which affect the most people in Salem County are breast, colorectal, lung, and prostate.

Note: Rates are per 100,000 and age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Census population standards.

Overarching Issues

- **Access and Resources:** Between 8,000 and 9,000 Salem County residents are uninsured. Without health insurance, access to healthcare may be diminished, which may result in cancer diagnoses occurring at later stages and higher morbidity and mortality rates.
- **School Health Education:** Since there is no standardized curriculum, cancer-related subjects may not be adequately addressed in schools.
- **Providers and Treatment:** No significant gaps were identified among providers and treatment facilities.
- **Advocacy:** Most initiatives focus on smoking ordinances or take place at the state level. A county cancer coalition will ensure that more advocacy strides will be made in Salem County.
- **Palliation Care:** Hospice care is widely available and can be provided in the home or in a nursing home.
- **Nutrition and Physical Activity:** According to the 2007 Salem County Community Health Profile, approximately 32% of residents are obese. Salem County does not have an active education or promotional structure to educate the public about the importance of nutrition and fitness.
- **Childhood Cancer:** A lack of resources exists due to the specialization of the field and the low number of cases.

Salem County & New Jersey

Average Annual Age-Adjusted Incidence & Mortality Rates by Site 1996-2000 vs. 2000-2004

All Cancers	Incidence Rate per 100,000*				Mortality Rate per 100,000**			
	Salem County			NJ	Salem County			NJ
	1996-2000 ¹	2000-2004 ²	% Change	2000-2004 ²	1996-2000 ³	2000-2004 ²	% Change	2000-2004 ²
Male	580.4	644.3	11.0	614.4	285.3	286.0	0.2	236.8
Female	461.4	452.1	-2.0	447.0	209.0	183.6	-12.2	171.9
NJ-CCCP Priority Cancer by Gender								
Breast, female	136.7	121.6	-11.0	131.9	27.4	27.2	-0.7	28.5
Cervical, female	12.5	11.8	-5.6	9.6	3.8	***		2.7
Colorectal, male	76.7	81.6	6.4	70.2	31.5	27.7	-12.1	25.9
Colorectal, female	50.5	51.8	2.6	50.8	23.7	23.1	-2.5	18.3
Lung, male	105.0	107.9	2.8	82.4	82.0	88.4	7.8	66.5
Lung, female	63.5	64.9	2.2	55.4	55.7	54.9	-1.4	40.7
Melanoma, male	16.9	26.3	55.6	24.4	7.4	7.0	-5.4	3.9
Melanoma, female	10.2	10.2	0.0	15.0	1.0	2.0	100.00	1.7
Oral/Oropharyngeal, male	16.4	18.3	11.6	14.6	6.4	6.2	-3.1	3.8
Oral/Oropharyngeal, female	7.0	8.2	17.1	6.0	2.1	***		1.4
Prostate, male	157.9	171.2	8.4	192.7	26.5	40.7	53.6	27.0

Sources:

- ¹ New Jersey State Cancer Registry, New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, August 2003.
- ² New Jersey State Cancer Registry, New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. Cancer-Rates. *Info/NJ*. <http://www.nj.gov/health/ces/cancer-rates.shtml> (November 2007).
- ³ National Cancer Institute and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, State Cancer Profiles (Accessed at <http://statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov/>).

Notes:

Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Census population standards.
 A rate at least 10% higher than the corresponding state rate is shown in **bold italics**.
 The annual rates for relatively uncommon cancers tend to fluctuate substantially from year to year because of small numbers of cases. The % change for cancers with low incidence and/or mortality rates should be interpreted with caution.

- * The number of newly diagnosed cases of disease in a specific population during a specific time period per 100,000 people.
- ** The number of deaths due to a disease in a specific population during a specific time period per 100,000 people.
- *** Data not available because number is too small.

For More Information

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