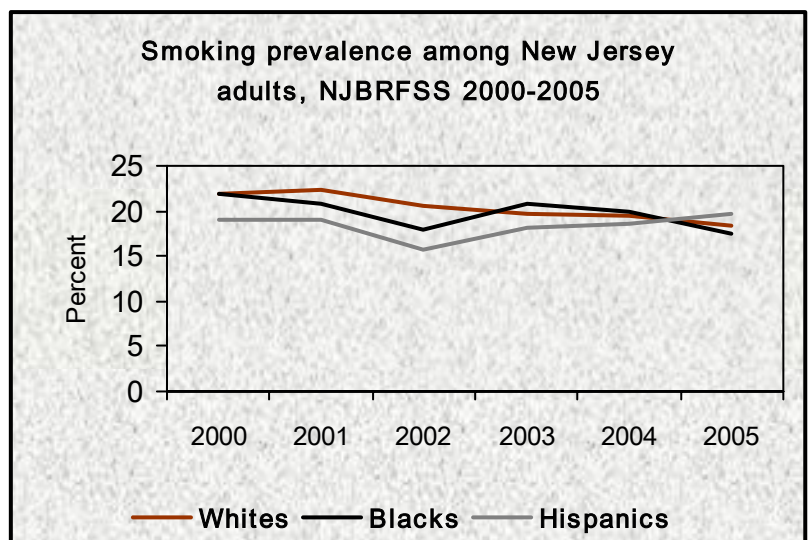
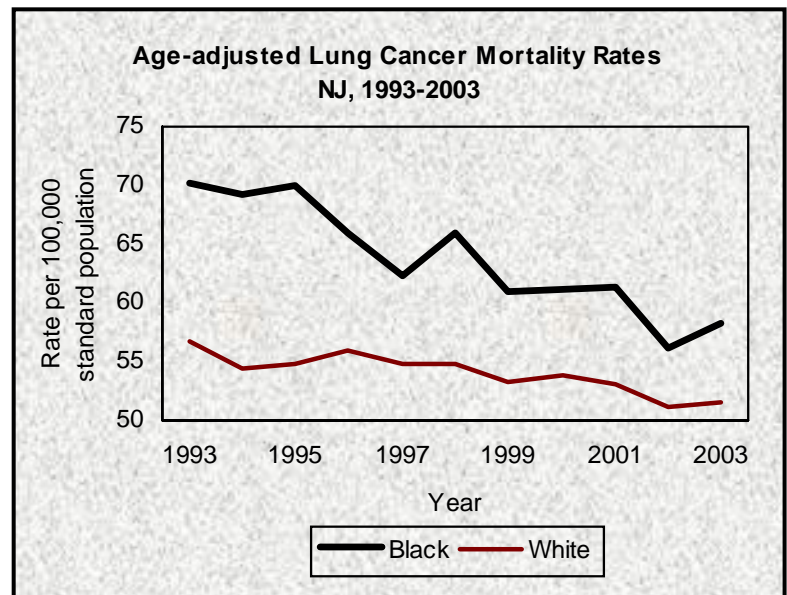


## Lung Cancer

- Each year, nearly 6,000 New Jerseyans are diagnosed with lung cancer and over 4,600 die from this disease.
- The lung cancer incidence rate for men has been on the decline for the past 15 years while for women, the incidence rate has only recently stabilized after years of increasing rates. In 2003, age-adjusted incidence rates were 81.0 per 100,000 for men and 55.1 per 100,000 for women.
- The incidence rate has decreased more for blacks than for whites, yet as of 2003 the rate for blacks remained higher. The age-adjusted lung cancer incidence rate in 2003 was 66.3 for whites and 67.8 for blacks per 100,000 population.
- The male lung cancer mortality rate decreased from 1999 to 2003, while the rate for females remained fairly stable.
- The mortality rate decreased more for blacks than for whites between 1993 and 2003 (14% vs. 4%), although the mortality rate for blacks still exceeds that of whites. In 2003, the age-adjusted lung cancer mortality rate was 51.8 for whites and 59.2 for blacks per 100,000 population.
- Cigarette smoking is the leading cause of lung cancer. Nearly 90% of lung cancer cases are attributable to smoking.
- The estimated proportion of New Jersey adults aged 18 and over who are current smokers in 2005 is 18 percent. There were no statistically significant differences in smoking prevalence among all race/ethnicity groups.
- The proportion of women who smoke has been less than that of men since 1995. The proportion of New Jerseyans aged 65 and over who are current smokers has been significantly less than the proportion among younger age groups since 1996.



- Risk factors for lung cancer include cigarette, cigar, or pipe smoking (the more and the longer you smoke, the greater your risk); exposure to secondhand smoke; and high doses of ionizing radiation, residential radon exposure, and occupational exposure to mustard gas, chloromethyl ethers, inorganic arsenic, chromium, nickel, vinyl chloride, radon, asbestos, or byproducts of fossil fuel. Possible risk factors are air pollution and insufficient consumption of fruits and vegetables.
- Smoking cessation, minimization of exposure to second hand smoke, and radon mitigation can reduce the risk for lung cancer.
- There are currently no national screening recommendations for lung cancer. Recent technological advances and development of new tools for screening have led to renewed trials of methods for detection of early stage lung cancers. The most promising of these is the low radiation dose spiral computer topography (LDCT) scan. Results of lung cancer screening trials have been varied. While studies have established the ability of the LDCT to detect lung cancer at an earlier stage, there is as yet little evidence that screening decreased mortality.
- Treatment for lung cancer may include surgery, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, or photodynamic therapy, alone or in combination.

For more information about lung cancer from the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services: [www.state.nj.us/health/cancer](http://www.state.nj.us/health/cancer)

NJDHSS's Comprehensive Tobacco Control Program: [www.state.nj.us/health/as/ctcp](http://www.state.nj.us/health/as/ctcp)

For information from the Lung Cancer Alliance: [www.alcase.org](http://www.alcase.org)

For information from the American Cancer Society: [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

Sources:

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[NJ State Cancer Registry](#), 1999- 2003 incidence data  
[Cancer Risk Factors](#)

New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, Tobacco Control Program:  
[Comprehensive Tobacco Control Program](#)  
[Tobacco Surveillance Data Brief: Adult Cigarette Smoking Prevalence](#)

New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, [Center for Health Statistics](#):  
 New Jersey 1991-2003 Death Certificate Data Files and [NJSHAD Query System](#)  
[New Jersey Behavioral Risk Factor Survey](#), 1991-2003 data

New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, [Office of Cancer Control and Prevention](#)  
[Lung Cancer Fact Sheet](#), and Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan



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