



## Key Points

### Incidence

- For all years combined, 1995-2014, the age-adjusted incidence rate among American Indian/Alaskan Native (AI/AN) population for all cancers is 593.0 per 100,000 population, merging the 677.8 male rate and 543.4 female rate. The comparable statistics for whites (available in [WISH](#)) include a total rate of 473.3, a male rate of 542.0, and a female rate of 426.7.
- The most frequently diagnosed cancer among AI/AN men for all years combined was prostate cancer (age-adjusted rate of 159.2), followed by lung cancer (126.7), and colorectal cancer (102.2).
- Across five-year intervals, colorectal cancer incidence rate among AI/AN males decreased significantly from 153.1 during earlier years (1995-1999) to 76.8 during recent years (2010-2014), while the female rate declined from 58.9 to 52.6, a decline that was not statistically significant.
- Lung cancer rates increased over the years for both sexes; the rate among males increased from 116.5 during 1995-1999 to 139.4 during 2010-2014, while the rate among females increased from 100.3 to 118.5.
- Cervical cancer incidence declined from 22.7 during 1995-1999 to 13.8 during 2010-2014. However, the most recent five-year rate is more than twice as high as the white rate (5.6).
- The incidence of female breast cancer increased significantly (72.0 to 131.5) from the earlier years (1995-1999) to the more recent years (2010-2014).

### Mortality

- For all years combined, the age-adjusted mortality rate for all cancers among the AI/AN population is 254.6 per 100,000, based on a male rate of 316.1 and a female rate of 218.3. The comparable mortality rates for whites are a rate of 179.5 for all cancers, a male rate of 220.9, and a female rate of 151.9.
- For all years, the leading causes of cancer deaths for the AI/AN population were lung (87.3), colorectal (24.2), prostate (15.1), breast (14.3), and liver (13.1). There were more deaths from lung cancer (331) than from the next four causes combined (230).
- Overall, AI/AN men and women are 1.8 times as likely to die of lung cancer and 2.9 times as likely to die of liver cancer as white men and women.
- Across five-year intervals, the total cancer mortality rate among the AI/ANs decreased from the earlier 1995-1999 years (273.9) to more recent 2010-2014 years (234.9), but the difference was not statistically significant.
- During 2010-2014, the leading cause of cancer deaths for both males and females was lung cancer, based on a mortality rate of 79.0 for males and 94.4 for females. Other leading cancer death rates among females were breast cancer (24.6) and liver cancer (14.5), while for males, liver cancer (30.9) and colorectal cancer (19.4) were the second and third highest.

### Notes

All cancer rates for AI/AN are based on residence in 32 Contract Health Service Delivery Area (CHSDA) counties. These highlights are provided as an aid to reading the statistical tables and to encourage more analyses of the CHSDA AI/AN cancer rates. For additional statistical data, please visit [WISH](#) to access statewide incidence and mortality cancer data for all races, including AI/AN. Differences in certain rates are noted as statistically significant, while other differences are of practical interest.

