



Key Points

Incidence

- For all years combined, 1995-2016, the age-adjusted incidence rate among American Indian/Alaskan Native (AI/AN) population for all cancers is 599.1 per 100,000 population, merging the 689.2 male rate and 547.0 female rate. The comparable statistics for whites (available in WISH) are a rate of 473.5 for all cancers, a male rate of 536.7 and a female rate of 429.8.
- The most frequently diagnosed cancer among AI/AN men for all years combined was prostate cancer (age-adjusted rate of 160.0), followed by lung cancer (125.1), and colorectal cancer (101.8).
- Across five-year intervals, colorectal cancer incidence rate among AI/AN males decreased from 121.0 during earlier years (1997-2001) to 85.3 during recent years (2012-2016), while the female rate declined from 63.7 to 55.6, declines that were not statistically significant.
- Lung cancer rates changed over the years for both sexes; the rate among males decreased from 130.2 during 1997-2001 to 102.1 during 2012-2016, while the rate among females increased from 103.9 to 108.5.
- Cervical cancer incidence declined from 25.0 during 1997-2001 to 14.2 during 2012-2016. However, the most recent five-year rate is more than twice as high as the white rate (6.1).
- The incidence of female breast cancer increased significantly (79.3 to 138.2) from the earlier years (1997-2001) to the more recent years (2012-2016).

Mortality

- For all years combined, 1995- 2017, the age-adjusted mortality rate for all cancers among the AI/AN population is 243.5 per 100,000, based on a male rate of 300.5 and a female rate of 209.8. The comparable mortality rates for whites are a rate of 175.8 for all cancers, a male rate of 215.6, and a female rate of 149.1.
- For all years, the leading causes of cancer deaths for the AI/AN population were lung (80.2), colorectal (23.7), prostate (38.9), breast (22.2), and liver (12.4). There were more deaths from lung cancer (378) than from the next four causes combined (236).
- Overall, AI/AN men and women are 1.8 times as likely to die of lung cancer and 2.7 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 1998-2002 years (217.8) to more recent 2013-2017 years (208.1), but the difference was not statistically significant.
- During 2013-2017, the leading cause of cancer deaths among AI/ANs was lung cancer, based on a mortality rate of 64.9.

Notes

All cancer rates for AI/AN are based on residence in 32 Contract Health Service Delivery Area/Purchased Referred Care Delivery Area (CHSDA/PRCDA) 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.

