MESSAGE FROM THE MELANOMA TASK FORCE

The Melanoma Task Force is seeking new physician members to assist in the work of this task force and to ensure physician practices are truly reflected in the statistics for Arizona. The goal of the task force is to improve the melanoma reporting process in Arizona.

The task force commitment is bi-monthly virtual meetings and to assist with continued engagement of physician reporting. Please refer to the Arizona Melanoma Task Force Information Sheet for additional information.

Please contact Georgia Yee if interested, georgia.yee@azdhs.gov.

INFORMATION ABOUT ARIZONA MELANOMA CASES REPORTED FOR 2020

Total Invasive Melanoma Cases for 2020: 2,655
Total In Situ Melanoma Cases for 2020: 2,548
Age-Adjusted Invasive Incidence Rate for 2020: 28.19 per 100,000 persons
Age-Adjusted Mortality Rate for 2020: 2.2 per 100,000 persons

2016-2020 DATA ABOUT THE NUMBER AND RATE OF MELANOMA CASES REPORTED

Figure 1: In Situ & Invasive Melanoma Case Counts by Diagnosis Year: 2016-2020

For 2016-2020, there was a 20% increase in the number of in situ and invasive melanoma cases diagnosed in Arizona.

Increasing melanoma counts and rates demonstrate the effect of improved physician reporting.
Age at diagnosis for melanoma differs between males and females. Females have a higher percentage of melanoma cases diagnosed between the ages of 20-50 years old. Males have a higher percentage of cases diagnosed among those who are 50 years and older.

Arizona invasive melanoma age-adjusted incidence rates have increased almost 5% between 2016 and 2020. Between 2015-2019, the national invasive melanoma rate decreased 1.3%. The rate increase for Arizona is most likely due to improved case reporting by dermatologists. United States data for 2020 is not publicly available at this time.

Annually, over 90% of all Arizona melanoma cases are diagnosed in early stage. Early stage diagnosis has increased 3.4% between 2016-2020.

Early Stage is when cancer is confined to site where cancer started.

Late stage is when cancer has spread to lymph nodes or other parts of the body.
The Arizona melanoma mortality age-adjusted rate has decreased 4.3% between 2016-2020, during this time the national melanoma mortality rate has also decreased 9.1%.

The counties with the highest rates are Yavapai, Pima and Maricopa counties.

The counties with the lowest rates are Yuma, Apache, Greenlee and Navajo counties.

White Non-Hispanic Arizonans make up the majority of melanoma cases in Arizona. The number of Arizona melanoma cases reported by physicians with a unknown race/ethnicity has increased 260% between 2016-2020. In 2020, 14.4% of all melanoma cases had race/ethnicity documented as unknown or blank.
Page 4 includes overall numbers about the 2022 melanoma reports submitted by physician offices to the Arizona Cancer Registry. The physician list starts on page 8 and is not included in the web version of this report. The list is grouped by Phoenix Area, Tucson Area, and the rest of the state. The list does not contain physician names where a hospital cancer registry reports their cases. If your name is not listed, the Arizona Cancer Registry has not received reports for 2022 from your office. If the number of reports does not appear accurate for your office, or if you have questions about reporting, please contact Raeann Robinson (raeann.robinson@azdhs.gov) for more information.

### Important Points About Completing the Melanoma Report Form

In order to compile accurate case counts by physician, it is important to complete the Reporting Physician name located on the top of the form. This helps us to maintain accurate counts for this newsletter as well as on the patient record.

### 2022 Information About the Number of Melanoma Reports Submitted by Physician Offices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Phoenix Area</th>
<th>Tucson Area</th>
<th>Rest of the State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Physicians Reporting 2022 Melanoma Cases</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>1,425</td>
<td>668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of 2022 Melanoma Physician Reports Submitted</td>
<td>3,886</td>
<td>1,425</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse Practitioners Reported</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physician Assistants Reported</td>
<td>27.4%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) Reported</td>
<td></td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctors of Medicine (MD) Reported</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>46.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of All Melanoma 2022 Cases in Arizona
NOTES ABOUT THE LISTING OF PHYSICIAN CASES:

Reference date of list is 04/12/2022.

All providers involved with a melanoma case are required by Arizona regulation to report any melanoma case that is not referred to a hospital for diagnosis and/or treatment.

The 2022 number of reports identified in the table above and in the following listing may include non-reportable (e.g., atypical melanocytic dysplasia) cases and/or duplicate reporting. These cases have not been through the quality controlled process. Once the quality control process is initiated non-reportables will be eliminated and the case reports will be matched to the registry database to identify potential duplicates. If duplicates are identified we will use the information reported to consolidate into one "best record" so that each diagnosed melanoma is counted only once for incidence.


U.S. data represents combined data from the CDC National Program of Cancer Registries and the NCI SEER Registries.


The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provide support to the Arizona Cancer Registry under Cooperative Agreement NU58DP006341 (National Program of Cancer Registries Component). The contents of this report are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Note: The impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on patients with cancers and cancer data reporting is reflected in the data available for 2020. Fluctuations in cancer incidence and mortality rates may be due to delays in diagnosis, lack of screening, disruption of patient treatment and follow-up care, and unforeseen health complications due to contracting COVID-19. On a national scale, our standard setters, North American Association of Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Program of Cancer Registries (CDC NPCR), will be implementing a "self-correcting" adjustment for the diagnosis year 2020 due to the pandemic.

Note: To ensure accuracy and consistency the Arizona Cancer Registry produces age-adjusted rates using the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program (SEER) population denominators based on the most current Census data. Due to delays in the 2020 Census and the release of 2021 SEER population denominators, we are unable to publish 2021 mortality data at this time.

Note: The Arizona Cancer Registry database is dynamic, meaning that numbers are updated frequently for any diagnosis year. Previous reports may reflect different numbers due to these updates.

Forms for melanoma reporting can be found at: http://www.azdhs.gov/cancer/MelanomaForm.pdf

Check out the latest melanoma information at: https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/public-health-statistics/cancer-registry/index.php
Researchers at the University of Arizona College of Nursing are actively recruiting survivors of melanoma who are currently living in the Tucson metro area to participate in a pilot mentored community gardening program. All participants will be provided a scholarship for a conveniently located community garden plot and gardening materials and supplies. The study will be provided at no cost to participants.

In general, researchers are looking for persons aged 18 years or older who have been diagnosed with Melanoma, are currently living in Southern Arizona, have interest in learning more about sustainable desert gardening, and are willing to complete online surveys about your health and wear a sensor to learn about UV exposure during the 6-month program. Any level of gardening experience is welcome, from never to expert.

To find out more about the study, please scan the QR code with a camera enabled mobile device or visit https://redcap.link/hmndkgss and fill out a short form. Research staff at University of Arizona can also be reached directly by email at CON-FRESH@arizona.edu. Study staff will follow-up with any interested persons. While the study is currently in Tucson, researchers plan on expanding into the Phoenix metro area in the future.

**ARIZONA CANCER REGISTRY DATA DASHBOARD AVAILABLE**

The Arizona Cancer Registry is pleased to announce that the new cancer registry data dashboard is now available. The dashboard contains Arizona cancer data from 1995 through 2020 with the ability to search for counts and age-adjusted rates by diagnosis year, cancer site, age, gender, race/ethnicity, and county.

**TAKE A LOOK AT THE DASHBOARD**