Health and Wellness for all Arizonans

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State of Arizona

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MISSION
Health and Wellness for all Arizonans

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The Registry would like to recognize the New Mexico Tumor Registry (NMTR) for collecting cancer cases in the Indian Health Services (IHS) facilities. Through our agreement with NMTR and IHS, we are able to include American Indian cases in the state. In our work to capture all cancer cases in Arizona we have signed agreements to receive cases from the Southern Arizona VA Health Care System and the Phoenix VA Health Care System.

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Please note that Arizona Cancer Registry data changes frequently and may not be comparable to earlier reports as cases may have been added, removed or changed.
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# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Executive Summary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Cancer Mortality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Top 5 Cancer Sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- By Year of Death</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- By Age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- By Gender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- By County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- By Race/Ethnicity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td>Cancer Incidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Top 5 Cancer Sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- By Diagnosis Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- By Age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- By Gender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- By County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- By Race/Ethnicity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Cancer by Stage at Diagnosis &amp; County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Incidence and Mortality Maps by County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Appendices</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Executive Summary

The Arizona Cancer Registry is a population-based surveillance system that collects, manages, and analyzes information on the incidence and survival of Arizona residents diagnosed with cancer. The data is captured from a variety of sources and is used to support research and assists in guiding decisions in early detection, quality treatment, and ultimately the effective prevention of cancer. This report describes the cancer burden among Arizonans. On a monthly basis during the last five years an average of 1,016 Arizonans lost their lives to cancer and 2,856 Arizonans were diagnosed with a new cancer.

WHAT IS IN THE REPORT:
- Cancer incidence (new cases) and mortality (cancer deaths) among Arizona residents
- Cancer mortality data of deaths in Arizona from 2016-2020
- Cancer incidence of Arizonans diagnosed with cancer from 2016-2020
- County specific information on top cancer sites and diagnostic stage
- Arizona maps showing county specific incidence and mortality rates
- Cancer incidence and mortality data is provided in counts and age-adjusted rates.
  Rate=Age-Adjusted Rate per 100,000 persons (See technical notes)

DATA SUMMARY

MORTALITY, 2016-2020

AN AVERAGE OF 12,194 ARIZONANS DIED FROM CANCER EACH YEAR AT A RATE OF 131.8 DEATHS PER 100,000 PERSONS

THE DEATH RATE OF CANCER HAS DECREASED 7.3% FROM 2016 TO 2020

THE MEDIAN AGE AT DEATH FOR CANCER IS 73 YEARS OLD

MORE MALES (54.4%) THAN FEMALES (45.6%) DIED FROM CANCER EACH YEAR

BLACK PEOPLE HAVE THE HIGHEST MORTALITY RATE FOR CANCER (146.1 DEATHS PER 100,000 PERSONS)

ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDERS HAVE THE LOWEST MORTALITY RATE FOR CANCER (86.0 DEATHS PER 100,000 PERSONS)

LUNG & BRONCHUS CANCER IS THE LEADING CAUSE OF CANCER DEATH FOR 2016-2020 (25.2 DEATHS PER 100,000 PERSONS)

INCIDENCE, 2016-2020

AN AVERAGE OF 34,274 INVASIVE CANCER CASES ARE DIAGNOSED EACH YEAR IN ARIZONA AT A RATE OF 382 CASES PER 100,000 PERSONS

THE INCIDENCE RATE OF CANCER HAS DECREASED 11% FROM 2016 TO 2020

EARLY STAGE DIAGNOSIS IS MORE COMMON FOR MELANOMA, FEMALE BREAST CANCER AND PROSTATE CANCER

LATE STAGE DIAGNOSIS IS MORE COMMON FOR LUNG & BRONCHUS AND COLORECTAL CANCER

MORE MALES (51.3%) THAN FEMALES (48.7%) ARE DIAGNOSED WITH CANCER EACH YEAR

MEDIAN AGE OF DIAGNOSIS IS 68 YEARS OLD

WHITE NON-HISPANICS HAVE THE HIGHEST RATE OF CANCER DIAGNOSES (420.3 CASES PER 100,000 PERSONS)

ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDERS HAVE THE LOWEST RATE OF CANCER DIAGNOSES (218.1 CASES PER 100,000 PERSONS)
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.

ARIZONA CANCER REGISTRY GOALS

- To collect complete and accurate cancer incidence information and to monitor incidence patterns
- To improve and maintain high standards in the quality of the information collected and reported
- To promote and assist hospital cancer registries
- To identify population subgroups at high risk for cancer
- To assist in the identification of geographic regions of the state for targeted cancer intervention and prevention programs
- To perform cancer studies
- To provide biostatistics and epidemiologic information to the medical community about the cancer burden

TAKE A LOOK AT THE DASHBOARD
Cancer Mortality 2016-2020
# Top 5 2020 Cancer Sites for Arizona Mortality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cancer Site</th>
<th>Median Age at Death</th>
<th>Age-Adjusted Rate per 100,000 Persons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Cancers</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>127.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lung &amp; Bronchus Cancer</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>25.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorectal Cancer</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>11.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pancreatic Cancer</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>9.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female Breast Cancer</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>17.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prostate Cancer</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>17.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On average from 2016-2020, 12,194 Arizonans died from cancer each year at an age-adjusted rate of 131.8 deaths per 100,000 persons.

Median Age of Cancer Death by Gender: 2016-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Median Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percentage of Deaths by Age Group: 2016-2020

- 0-19 yrs: 0.3%
- 20-39 yrs: 1.4%
- 40-49 yrs: 3.1%
- 50-64 yrs: 20.5%
- 65 yrs and older: 74.7%
**Mortality by Gender**

Number and Rate of Deaths by Year and Gender: 2016-2020

On average in 2016-2020,
- 6,632 male Arizonans (54.4%) and 5,563 female Arizonans (45.6%) died from cancer
- Males died at an age-adjusted rate of 154.5 deaths per 100,000 persons
- Females died at an age-adjusted rate of 113.3 deaths per 100,000 persons

**Mortality by County**

Mortality Rate of Cancer by County: 2016-2020

Mohave, Yavapai and Cochise counties reported the highest mortality rates of from cancer.

Apache, Santa Cruz and Yuma counties had the lowest cancer mortality rates from 2016-2020.

A total of 132 cancer deaths had an unknown county from 2016-2020.
On average for 2016-2020,

- White Non-Hispanics had the highest average count at 9,689 deaths per year
- Asian and Pacific Islanders had the lowest average count at 218 deaths
- Black and African Americans had the highest average age-adjusted rate at 146.1 deaths per 100,000 persons
- Asian and Pacific Islanders had the lowest average age-adjusted rate at 86.0 deaths per 100,000 persons

Note: Unknown race/ethnicity case count is 269 cases for the mortality years 2017-2020. Year 2016 had no Unknown race/ethnicity cases. The average annual count for Unknown race/ethnicity is 67 and these cases are included in the All Races category.
Cancer Incidence 2016-2020
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CANCER SITE</th>
<th>MEDIAN AGE AT DIAGNOSIS</th>
<th>AZ CASE COUNT FOR 2020</th>
<th>AGE-ADJUSTED RATE PER 100,000 PERSONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Cancers</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>34,274</td>
<td>382.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female Breast Cancer</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>5,011</td>
<td>104.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lung &amp; Bronchus Cancer</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>3,848</td>
<td>37.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prostate Cancer</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>3,333</td>
<td>67.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melanoma</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>2,655</td>
<td>28.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorectal Cancer</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>2,637</td>
<td>28.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Incidence by Diagnosis Year

### Annual Rate & Number of New Cases by Diagnosis Year: 2016-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>New Cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>391.9</td>
<td>32,882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>391.8</td>
<td>33,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>394.4</td>
<td>35,361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>385.6</td>
<td>35,758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>349.0</td>
<td>33,380</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On average from 2016-2020, 34,274 Arizonans were diagnosed with cancer each year at an age-adjusted rate of 382 new cases per 100,000 persons.

## Incidence by Age

### Median Age of Cancer Diagnosis: 2016-2020

- **68**

### Median Age of Cancer Diagnosis by Gender: 2016-2020

- **69** (Male)  
- **67** (Female)
On average in 2016-2020,

- 17,574 male Arizonans (51.3%) and 16,700 female Arizonans (48.7%) were diagnosed with invasive cancer.
- Males were diagnosed at an age-adjusted rate of 406.8 cases per 100,000 persons.
- Females were diagnosed at an age-adjusted rate of 364.2 cases per 100,000 persons.

Mohave, Yavapai, Pima and Cochise counties reported the highest cancer incidence rates.

Apache, La Paz, Santa Cruz and Gila counties had the lowest cancer incidence rates from 2016-2020.

A total of 233 cancer cases had an unknown county from 2016-2020.
On average for 2016-2020,

- White Non-Hispanics had the highest average count at 27,244 new cases per year
- Asian and Pacific Islanders had the lowest average count at 607 new cases per year
- White Non-Hispanics had the highest average age-adjusted rate at 420.3 new cases per 100,000 persons
- Asian and Pacific Islanders had the lowest average age-adjusted rate at 218.1 new cases per 100,000 persons

Note: Unknown race/ethnicity case count is 2,814 cases for the diagnosis years 2016-2020. The average annual count for Unknown race/ethnicity is 563 and these cases are included in the All Races category.
Cancer by Stage at Diagnosis & County 2016-2020
CANCER IN ARIZONA | 14

Note: The percent of each stage combined may not equal 100 due to rounding.
Coconino County

Percentage of Cases at Stage of Diagnosis: 2016-2020

Gila County

Percentage of Cases at Stage of Diagnosis: 2016-2020

Note: The percent of each stage combined may not equal 100 due to rounding.
Graham County

Percentage of Cases at Stage of Diagnosis: 2016-2020

- Female Breast Cancer: 66% Early Stage, 34% Late Stage
- Lung and Bronchus Cancer: 31% Early Stage, 59% Late Stage
- Prostate Cancer: 20% Early Stage, 27% Late Stage
- Melanoma: 1% Early Stage, 99% Late Stage
- Colorectal Cancer: 26% Early Stage, 74% Late Stage

Greenlee County

Percentage of Cases at Stage of Diagnosis: 2016-2020

- Female Breast Cancer: 65% Early Stage, 22% Late Stage, 3% Unknown Stage
- Lung and Bronchus Cancer: 56% Early Stage, 22% Late Stage, 22% Unknown Stage
- Prostate Cancer: 36% Early Stage, 64% Late Stage
- Melanoma: 100% Early Stage
- Colorectal Cancer: 57% Early Stage, 36% Late Stage

Note: The percent of each stage combined may not equal 100 due to rounding.
Percentage of Cases at Stage of Diagnosis: 2016-2020

La Paz County

Maricopa County

Note: The percent of each stage combined may not equal 100 due to rounding.
Mohave County

Percentage of Cases at Stage of Diagnosis: 2016-2020

Female Breast Cancer: 10% Early Stage, 27% Late Stage, 64% Unknown Stage
Lung and Bronchus Cancer: 16% Early Stage, 59% Late Stage, 24% Unknown Stage
Prostate Cancer: 8% Early Stage, 25% Late Stage, 72% Unknown Stage
Melanoma: 21% Early Stage, 58% Late Stage, 2% Unknown Stage
Colorectal Cancer: 22% Early Stage, 58% Late Stage, 2% Unknown Stage

Navajo County

Percentage of Cases at Stage of Diagnosis: 2016-2020

Female Breast Cancer: 5% Early Stage, 31% Late Stage, 64% Unknown Stage
Lung and Bronchus Cancer: 12% Early Stage, 69% Late Stage, 19% Unknown Stage
Prostate Cancer: 13% Early Stage, 22% Late Stage, 65% Unknown Stage
Melanoma: 10% Early Stage, 62% Late Stage, 28% Unknown Stage
Colorectal Cancer: 10% Early Stage, 62% Late Stage, 28% Unknown Stage

Note: The percent of each stage combined may not equal 100 due to rounding.
Pima County

Percentage of Cases at Stage of Diagnosis: 2016-2020

Pinal County

Percentage of Cases at Stage of Diagnosis: 2016-2020

Note: The percent of each stage combined may not equal 100 due to rounding.
Santa Cruz County

Percentage of Cases at Stage of Diagnosis: 2016-2020

Yavapai County

Percentage of Cases at Stage of Diagnosis: 2016-2020

Note: The percent of each stage combined may not equal 100 due to rounding.
Arizona

Percentage of Cases at Stage of Diagnosis: 2016-2020

Note: The percent of each stage combined may not equal 100 due to rounding.

A total of 95 cases of female breast, lung and bronchus, prostate, melanoma, and colorectal cancer had an unknown county.
Incidence & Mortality County Maps by Cancer Type 2016-2020
Arizona Age-Adjusted Rates for Female Breast Cancer

Incidence 2016-2020

Mortality 2016-2020

Note: In 2016-2020, 15 invasive female breast cancer cases were reported with an unknown county.

Note: In 2016-2020, 5 female breast cancer deaths were reported with an unknown county.
Arizona Age-Adjusted Rates for Lung & Bronchus Cancer

Incidence 2016-2020

Mortality 2016-2020

Note: In 2016-2020, 15 invasive lung and bronchus cancer cases were reported with an unknown county

Note: In 2016-2020, 37 lung and bronchus cancer deaths were reported with an unknown county
Arizona Age-Adjusted Rates for Pancreatic Cancer

Incidence 2016-2020

Mortality 2016-2020

Note: In 2016-2020, 7 invasive pancreatic cancer cases were reported with an unknown county.

Note: In 2016-2020, 12 pancreatic cancer deaths were reported with an unknown county.
Arizona Age-Adjusted Rates for Colorectal Cancer

Incidence 2016-2020

Mortality 2016-2020

Note: In 2016-2020, 16 invasive colorectal cancer cases were reported with an unknown county.

Note: In 2016-2020, 12 pancreatic cancer deaths were reported with an unknown county.
Arizona Age-Adjusted Rates for Prostate Cancer

Incidence 2016-2020

Mortality 2016-2020

Note: In 2016-2020, 36 invasive prostate cancer cases were reported with an unknown county.

Note: In 2016-2020, 5 prostate cancer deaths were reported with an unknown county.
Arizona Age-Adjusted Rates for Melanoma Cancer

Incidence 2016-2020

Mortality 2016-2020

Note: In 2016-2020, 13 invasive melanoma cancer cases were reported with an unknown county.

Note: In 2016-2020, 3 melanoma cancer deaths were reported with an unknown county.
Appendices
Technical Notes

Age-Adjusted Incidence and Mortality Rates
Age adjustment is a process used to compare incidence and mortality rates between populations with different age distributions. Since most disease rates increase with age, the older you get the more likely you are to have health complications, age-adjustment uses a standard population distribution to eliminate the confounding effect of age on rates. The age-adjusted rates represent rates for the population of interest, if the population of interest had the same age distribution as the standard population. Beginning with the 1999 data year, federal agencies and the Arizona Cancer Registry have adopted the year 2000 projected U.S. population as the new standard for age-adjusting incidence. All incidence rates were adjusted using the 2000 U.S. standard population by the direct method, and were presented as number of cancers per 100,000 persons.

Average Counts
This report contains figures that average five years of data to produce an average annual count for incidence of cancer and mortality. Each averaged number is calculated separately, and rounded to a whole number. Due to rounding in various figures the total may not equal 100%.

Behavior (In Situ and Invasive)
Behavior code: The fifth digit of the morphology code that indicates the growth pattern of a tumor, and whether or not it is invasive.
- **In situ**: No penetration of the basement membrane of the tissue of origin.
- **Invasive**: A malignant tumor that has invaded the basement membrane of the tissue of origin.

COVID-19 Impact
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.

Early/Late Stage
Early/Late Stage uses SEER Summary Stage 2000/2018 (in situ, local, regional, and distant) to reclassify stage into three groups:
- **Early Stage**: in situ and local stage combined; cancer is confined to the site from which it started and has not spread to surrounding tissue or other organs in the body.
- **Late Stage**: regional and distant stage combined; cancer has spread to the lymph nodes or other places in the body.
- **Unknown Stage

Gender
Report includes cases identified as male and female only. Excluded from the incidence section for years 2016-2020 are: 9 Intersex people, 24 Transgender people and 2 people of Unknown gender. The mortality section had no cases with an Unknown gender.

Incidence Counts
Incidence counts are the number of new cases diagnosed within a certain timeframe. This report include the number of new cases of cancer diagnosed between 2016-2020. More than one cancer case may be reported for an individual. This “one-to-many” relationship results in a higher number of cancer cases than individual persons recorded in the registry. Certain demographic variables may be unknown for some cases. Therefore comparing total numbers between different figures and tables may not yield equal numbers. Additionally, the totals for all categories within a figure or table may not equal the state total.
Mortality Data Criteria
Cancer mortality rates were calculated on counts of cancer deaths that meet all of the following criteria:
- The cancer death occurs to an Arizona resident
- The primary cause of death is coded C00 to C97 using ICD-10
- The case is reported to the Arizona Office of Vital Records
- The primary cause of death is classified according to the International Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, Tenth Revision, 1992
- Date of Death from years 2016-2020

Population Denominators
The population numbers used for analysis in this report were taken from United States Census Bureau and modified by SEER. The SEER program applied a race/ethnicity bridge to the population numbers previous to the year 2000 to more accurately estimate the number of minorities in years previous to the 2000 census. New intercensal estimates were developed to reflect the actual yearly changes in populations based on the 2010 census. The Arizona Cancer Registry chose to use these population numbers for calculating age-adjusted rates in order to be comparable with other state and national cancer data.

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.

Primary Site
Primary sites were classified according to the International Classification of Diseases for Oncology, Third Edition (a.k.a. ICD-O3).

Race/Ethnicity
Race/Ethnicity is generally identified from the physician’s notations in the medical record. Death Records is another source used to identify race. American Indian race is also identified through linkage with Indian Health Service (IHS) data. This IHS linkage identifies cases that may be misclassified as another race. Race/Ethnicity definitions used in this report are; White Non-Hispanic, White Hispanic, Black/African American, American Indian/Alaskan Native, and Asian & Pacific Islander. Incidence rates were divided into two ethnicity categories: Hispanic and Non-Hispanic Whites. Hispanics that have identified as another race group (Black/African American, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian & Pacific Islander) are included in that race group only. For this report, all cases with an unknown ethnicity were considered Non-Hispanic.

Residence at Diagnosis
The residency of cases at the time of diagnosis was grouped by county and by Arizona residents. Non-Arizona residents were excluded in the analysis.

Data Source
Mortality data is from the Arizona Department of Health Services, Arizona Health Statistics and Vital Statistics Mortality Data.

Cancer incidence data is from the Arizona Department of Health Services Arizona Cancer Registry. Data is from hospitals, physicians, clinics, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, pathology laboratories, death certificates and state data exchanges.
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