



CALIFORNIA CANCER REGISTRY

Pancreatic Cancer in California, 2012-2016



Incidence Rates

Between 2012 and 2016, the overall incidence rate for pancreatic cancer in California was 11.9 new cases per 100,000 persons per year. The pancreatic cancer incidence rate was higher among males (13.4) than among females (10.5) regardless of race/ethnicity. With respect to race/ethnicity, African Americans experienced the highest incidence rate (15.1 new cases per 100,000 persons per year). Pancreatic Cancer Incidence Rates by Sex and Race/Ethnicity, California, 2012–2016*



Pancreatic Cancer Mortality Rates by Sex and Race/Ethnicity, California, 2012-2016*



Mortality Rates

The overall pancreatic cancer mortality rate for males in California was 10.3 deaths per 100,000 persons per year. Again, the pancreatic cancer mortality rate was higher among males (11.7) compared to females (9.1). African Americans, both males and females, experienced the highest mortality rate (13.3 deaths per 100,000 persons) in the state.

* Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Population. Source: California Cancer Registry, California Department of Public Health. Prepared by the California Department of Public Health, California Cancer Registry.

By The Numbers Pancreatic Cancer in California

5,251

The number of new pancreatic cancer cases diagnosed in California in 2016. The number of deaths from pancreatic cancer that occurred in California in 2016.

4.424

Pancreatic cancer is the eleventh most commonly diagnosed cancer in California among both males and females.



Pancreatic cancer is the leading cause of cancerrelated death.

Incidence and Mortality Trends

From 1988 to 2016, the incidence rate of pancreatic cancer increased slightly among both males and females (significant increase of 0.3 percent per year). However, the incidence rate of pancreatic cancer decreased among males (-1.2 percent overall) while it increased among females (6.3 percent overall).

Despite having the highest incidence and mortality rates, African Americans were the only racial/ethnic group in California to experience a statistically significant decline in pancreatic cancer mortality (-0.7 percent per year; -24.0 percent overall) from 1988 to 2016.



* Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Population. Source: California Cancer Registry, California Department of Public Health. Prepared by the California Department of Public Health, California Cancer Registry.

Pancreatic cancer is a leading cause of cancer death largely because there are no detection tools to diagnose the disease in its early stages when surgical removal of the tumor is still possible. Nearly half of all pancreatic cancers in California are diagnosed at the distant stage. In California, the five-year survival for pancreatic cancer when diagnosed at the distant stage is three percent. Pancreatic cancer is one of the few cancers for which survival has not improved substantially over nearly 40 years.



* Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Population. Source: California Cancer Registry, California Department of Public Health. Prepared by the California Department of Public Health, California Cancer Registry.







Five-Year Relative Survival Rates for Pancreatic Cancer in California from 2007–2016

lf diagnosed when the tumor is:	The Five-Year Survival Rate* is:
Localized: The tumor has broken through the basement membrane, but is confined to the primary site.	35 %
Regional: The tumor has spread to the lymph nodes or adjacent tissues.	12 [%]
Distant: The tumor has metastasized or spread to other parts of the body.	3 %
Overall Five-Year Relative Survival Rate for Pancreatic Cancer in California	9 %

Pancreatic cancer may cause only vague symptoms that could indicate many different conditions within the abdomen or gastrointestinal tract. Symptoms include pain (usually abdominal or back pain), weight loss, jaundice (yellowing of the skin and eyes), loss of appetite, nausea, changes in stool, and diabetes.

The cause of the majority of pancreatic cancer cases is unknown. For the few known risk factors (e.g. familial history, smoking, obesity), more research is needed to understand their direct relationship to the disease.

Risk Factors

Certain factors have been shown to be associated with an increased risk of certain types of cancer. The majority of known cancer risk factors are related to individual characteristics (such as age, race/ ethnicity, or family history/genetic susceptibility) and behaviors (such as smoking, diet, physical inactivity, unsafe sex, and sun exposure).

For More Information

For more information on breast cancer risk factors, prevention, screening, symptoms, and treatment:

- National Cancer Institute Check out the NCI's What You Need to Know About[™] Cancer Index at: www.cancer.gov/about-cancer or call the NCI Cancer Information Service: 1-800-4-CANCER
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 www.cdc.gov
- American Cancer Society (ACS) www.cancer.org | 1-800-227-2345