

Passaic County Cancer Fact Sheet

The Passaic County Cancer Coalition is made possible by a grant from the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services' Office of Cancer Control and Prevention. The mission of the Passaic County Cancer Coalition is to implement the New Jersey Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan in Passaic County. For more information on Comprehensive Cancer Control in NJ, please visit: www.njcancer.gov.

County Demographic Profile 2000 vs. 2006		
	2000 ¹	2006 ²
Population	489,409	497,093
Median Age*	35	36
Racial Composition:		
% White	62	60
% Black	13	12
% Asian	4	5
Ethnic Composition:		
% Hispanic	30	34
Median Household Income*	\$56,054	\$49,940
% of Residents ≥ 25 years of age without high school diploma	27	20
% of Residents living below the poverty level*	12	15

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau; ¹ Census 2000, and

² 2006 American Community Survey

* Compare 2000 and 2006 data with caution; some differences exist due to differences in data methods.

Overall Cancer Burden

From 2000-2004, an average of 588 men and 408 women per 100,000 were diagnosed with cancer each year in Passaic County, compared to the New Jersey rate of 614 for men and 447 for women. The average annual cancer death rate was 231 for men and 167 for women in Passaic County, compared to the state rate of 237 for men and 172 for women. As in the state, the types of cancers which affect the most people in Passaic County are prostate, breast, lung, and colorectal.

Note: Rates are per 100,000 and age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Census population standards.

Overarching Issues

- **Access and Resources:** Poverty severely limits access to medical treatment and follow up care in Passaic County.
- **School Health Education:** Additional research is required to understand the extent to which Passaic County students receive cancer-related education in their schools.
- **Providers and Treatment:** Services offered through the county's cancer care community are uncoordinated and fragmented. This system is often difficult for health professionals and consumers of health services to understand and navigate.
- **Advocacy:** Advocacy activities intended to affect legislation and promote policies to advance cancer prevention, diagnostic, and therapeutic care in Passaic County are minimal.
- **Palliative Care:** Palliative care services are provided by hospitals, visiting nurse services, and private organizations, but it is unclear if the services are uniformly available and defined by all of their providers.
- **Nutrition and Physical Activity:** Some nutrition and physical activity education is available to limited resource residents of Passaic County.
- **Childhood Cancer:** Childhood cancer services are primarily provided by St. Joseph's Hospital.

Passaic County & New Jersey

Average Annual Age-Adjusted Incidence & Mortality Rates by Site 1996-2000 vs. 2000-2004

All Cancers	Incidence Rate per 100,000*				Mortality Rate per 100,000**			
	Passaic County			NJ	Passaic County			NJ
	1996-2000 ¹	2000-2004 ²	% Change	2000-2004 ²	1996-2000 ³	2000-2004 ²	% Change	2000-2004 ²
Male	602.3	588.2	-2.3	614.4	258.1	231.3	-10.4	236.8
Female	438.9	407.8	-7.1	447.0	180.0	167.0	-7.2	171.9
NJ-CCCP Priority Cancer by Gender								
Breast, female	144.2	116.2	-19.4	131.9	31.1	28.1	-9.6	28.5
Cervical, female	11.1	11.1	0.0	9.6	2.9	3.0	3.4	2.7
Colorectal, male	84.4	70.1	-16.9	70.2	29.6	25.7	-13.2	25.9
Colorectal, female	56.0	49.9	-10.9	50.8	18.5	18.3	-1.1	18.3
Lung, male	98.8	79.3	-19.7	82.4	83.8	61.9	-26.1	66.5
Lung, female	65.3	44.6	-31.7	55.4	46.3	33.3	-28.1	40.7
Melanoma, male	25.5	17.9	-29.8	24.4	5.2	4.2	-19.2	3.9
Melanoma, female	16.7	11.2	-32.9	15.0	3.0	2.1	-30.0	1.7
Oral/Oropharyngeal, male	16.6	14.5	-12.7	14.6	3.1	5.7	83.9	3.8
Oral/Oropharyngeal, female	7.0	6.3	-10.0	6.0	1.0	1.9	90.0	1.4
Prostate, male	194.4	185.3	-4.7	192.7	29.6	28.4	-4.1	27.0

Sources:

- ¹ New Jersey State Cancer Registry, New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, August 2003.
- ² New Jersey State Cancer Registry, New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. Cancer-Rates. *Info/NJ*. <http://www.nj.gov/health/ces/cancer-rates.shtml> (November 2007).
- ³ National Cancer Institute and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, State Cancer Profiles (Accessed at <http://statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov/>).

Notes:

Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Census population standards.

A rate at least 10% higher than the corresponding state rate is shown in **bold italics**.

The annual rates for relatively uncommon cancers tend to fluctuate substantially from year to year because of small numbers of cases. The % change for cancers with low incidence and/or mortality rates should be interpreted with caution.

* The number of newly diagnosed cases of disease in a specific population during a specific time period per 100,000 people.

** The number of deaths due to a disease in a specific population during a specific time period per 100,000 people.

For More Information

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