

Lung Cancer

Lung cancer is not a single disease; rather it is a group of cancers that originate in the lung and associated tissues. Lung cancers are divided into three major types: small cell lung cancer (SCLC), non-small lung cancer (NSCLC) and lung carcinoid tumors. Lung cancer accounts for more deaths than any other cancer in men and women.¹

In Indiana, during 2019, approximately 5,586 residents were diagnosed with lung cancer and 3,538 died as a result of this disease (Table 1).

Table 1. Burden of Lung Cancer—Indiana, 2015-2019*

| | Average number of cases per year (2015–2019) | Rate per 100,000* (2015–2019) | Number of cases (2019) | Rate per 100,000* (2019) |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Indiana Incidence | 5,732 | 70.6 | 5,586 | 65.6 |
| Indiana Deaths | 3,726 | 46.3 | 3,538 | 41.9 |

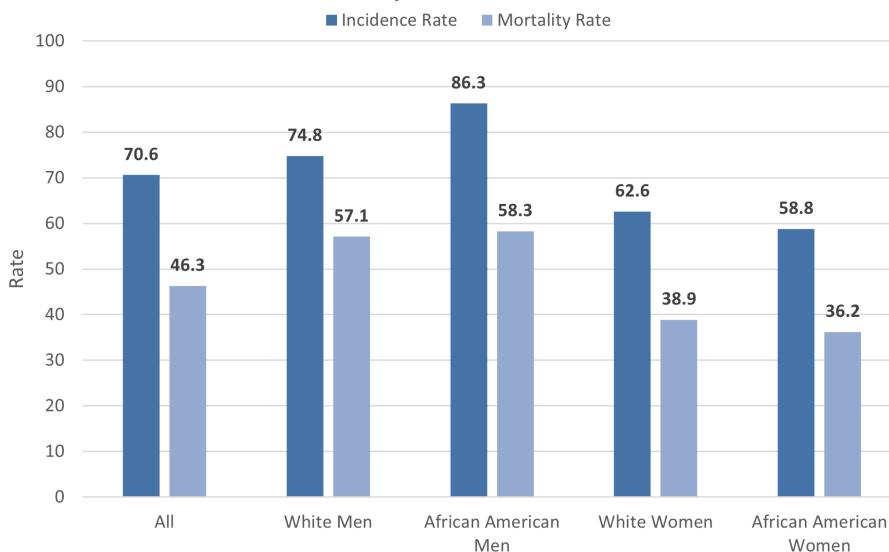
*Age-adjusted to the US 2000 Standard Population.

Source: Indiana State Cancer Registry

Disparities

Disparities between lung cancer incidence and mortality rates exist between genders and races. In Indiana, during 2015-2019, white and black males had significantly higher incidence and mortality rates when compared to females of the same race. In addition, black males had higher mortality rates when compared to white males (figure 1).²

Figure 1: Age-Adjusted Lung Cancer Incidence and Mortality Rates in Indiana, by Race and Sex, 2015-2019*



*Age-adjusted per 100,000 people per US Standard 2000 Population.

Source: Indiana State Cancer Registry

Fast Facts

- Overall, lung cancer mortality rates are about three times higher for smokers than for people who never smoked.³
- Exposure to radon gas is the second-leading cause of lung cancer in the United States.¹
- Over 1 million adults in Indiana currently smoke cigarettes with Indiana's adult smoking rate being 19.4 in 2020 which was above the national adult smoking rate in the US of 15.5.²
- According to the *Indiana Cancer Facts and Figures* report, that approximately 7,330 lung cancer deaths each year in the US are a result of secondhand smoke exposure.²

Common Signs and Symptoms of Lung Cancer¹

- A cough that does not go away or gets worse.
- Coughing up blood or sputum streaked with blood.
- Chest pain that is worse with deep breathing, coughing or laughing.
- Voice changes or hoarseness.
- Weight loss and loss of appetite.
- Shortness of breath or feeling tired or weak.

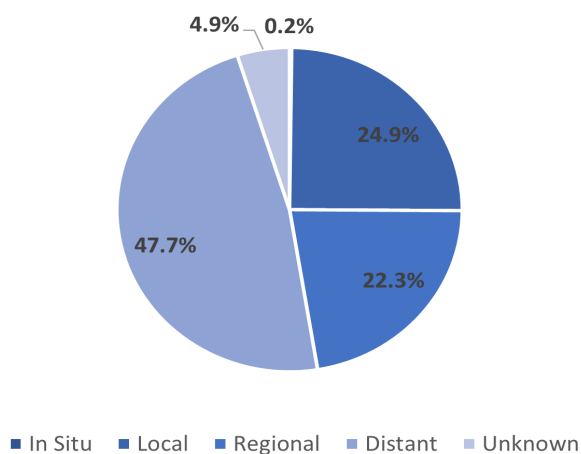


Figure 2. Percent of Lung Cancer Cases Diagnosed During Each Stage* - Indiana, 2015-2019

includes invasive and in situ cases

Can Lung Cancer Be Detected Early?

The United States Preventive Services Task Force recommends annual screening for lung cancer with low dose computed tomography in adults aged 55 to 80 years who have a 30-pack-per-year smoking history and currently smoke, or who have quit within the past 15 years. Screening should be discontinued once a person has not smoked for 15 years, or develops a health problem that substantially limits life expectancy or the ability or willingness to have curative lung surgery.

Get Involved: Join the Indiana Cancer Consortium (ICC)

- The ICC is a statewide network of over 100 agencies, including the Indiana State Department of Health.
- ICC seeks to reduce the cancer burden in Indiana through the development, implementation and evaluation of a comprehensive plan that addresses cancer across the continuum from prevention through end of life.

References

1. American Cancer Society. Cancer Facts & Figures 2022. Atlanta: American Cancer Society; 2022.
2. Indiana State Department of Health. Indiana State Cancer Registry
3. CDC, Tobacco-Related Mortality. CDC; 2020. Accessed at https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/fact_sheets/health_effects/tobacco_related_mortality/index.htm.

For additional information on the impact of cancer in Indiana, please visit: <http://www.chronicdisease.isdh.in.gov/>

