## Cancer Rates for African Americans vs. Whites

Cancer Incidence – Rate ratios were used to identify cancer sites among African American Pennsylvanians with higher or lower age-adjusted rates than White residents (see table on page 3). For the five-year period of 2001-2005, incidence rates among African American males with liver, myeloma, stomach, larynx and prostate cancers were roughly twice the rates for White males. However, incidence rates among Black males with brain, urinary bladder, testis and skin melanoma cancers were lower than the rates among White males. Incidence rates among African American females with myeloma, esophagus, liver, stomach and larynx cancers were approximately twice the rates for White females. Rates for African American females with ovary, corpus uteri, urinary bladder, thyroid, non-hodgkin lymphomas, brain and skin melanoma cancers were much lower than rates among White females.

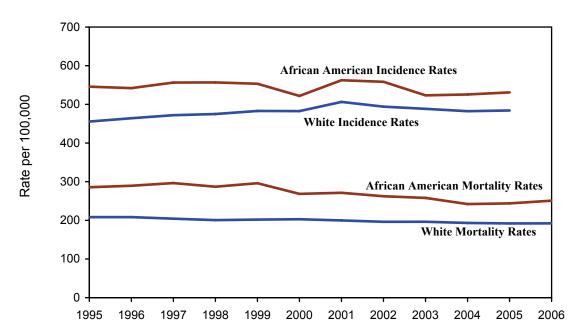
Cancer Mortality – In Pennsylvania, age-adjusted mortality rates among African American males during 2002-2006 were at least twice the rates for White males who died of prostate, stomach, liver and larynx cancers. Mortality rates among African American females who died of larynx, stomach, cervix uteri and myeloma cancers were also at least twice the mortality rates among White females.

## Incidence and Mortality Trends By Race

Cancer Incidence – During the period 1995 to 2005, the age-adjusted cancer incidence rate for African Americans has varied from 545.7 in 1995 to a high of 562.4 in 2001, with lows of 521.8 in 2000 and 523.3 in 2003. The 2005 rate (530.9 per 100,000) was 2.7 percent lower than the 1995 rate (545.7). Incidence rates among African American residents were consistently higher than rates for White residents during the eleven-year period of 1995-2005. Among White residents, the age-adjusted incidence rate increased from 1995 to 2001 followed by some declines. Nonetheless, the 2005 rate (484.2) was 6.3 percent higher than the 1995 rate (455.5).

Cancer Mortality – Among African Americans, the age-adjusted cancer mortality rates between 1995 and 2005 showed an overall decline, with a high of 296.4 in 1997 and a low of 242.1 in 2004. However, in 2006, the cancer death rate for African Americans was approximately 31 percent higher than the rate for White residents. The age-adjusted cancer mortality rates for White residents have generally been on the decline since 1995. The 2006 rate of 192.2 was nearly 8 percent lower than the 1995 rate of 208.4. During the twelve-year period of 1995-2006, the highest mortality rate for Whites occurred in 1995 and 1996 (208.4) and the lowest rate occurred in 2005 (192.0).

## Trends: Cancer Incidence and Mortality Age-Adjusted Rates by Race, Pennsylvania Residents



NOTES: Age-adjusted rates are computed by the direct method using the 2000 U.S. standard million population. Incidence rates are based on all invasive and in situ urinary bladder cancers.

## Cancer Rates for African Americans and Whites

INCIDENCE - MALES 2001-2005	RATES*		African American/	MORTALITY - MALES 2002-2006	RATES*		African American/
	African American	White	White Ratio	Cancer	African American	White	White Ratio
Liver and Intrahepatic Bile Duct	18.3	7.3	2.5	Prostate	60.0	25.5	2.4
Myeloma	11.7	6.1	1.9	Stomach	11.2	5.1	2.2
Stomach	17.9	9.8	1.8	Liver and Intrahepatic Bile Duct	13.7	6.5	2.1
Larynx	13.1	7.4	1.8	Larynx	4.8	2.3	2.1
Prostate	249.7	149.3	1.7	Myeloma	8.1	4.2	1.9
Lung and Bronchus	124.6	88.9	1.4	Oral Cavity and Pharynx	6.3	3.5	1.8
Pancreas	16.9	13.5	1.3	Lung and Bronchus	99.2	71.6	1.4
Oral Cavity and Pharynx	18.6	14.9	1.2	Colon and Rectum	33.0	24.8	1.3
Kidney and Renal Pelvis	25.0	20.1	1.2	Pancreas	15.6	13.2	1.2
Esophagus	11.7	9.8	1.2	Hodgkin Lymphoma	0.8	0.7	1.1
Colon and Rectum	74.9	68.0	1.1	Esophagus	10.0	9.4	1.1
Hodgkin Lymphoma	3.4	3.7	0.9	Kidney and Renal Pelvis	6.2	6.1	1.0
Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma	19.1	24.8	0.8	Leukemia	8.5	10.5	0.8
Leukemia	10.6	16.1	0.7	Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma	6.8	10.4	0.7
Thyroid	3.7	6.0	0.6	Urinary Bladder	5.6	8.9	0.6
Brain and Other Nervous System	4.8	8.3	0.6	Brain and Other Nervous System	2.6	5.2	0.5
Urinary Bladder	23.1	46.1	0.5	Melanoma of the Skin	_	4.6	-
Testis	1.9	7.0	0.3	Testis	_	0.3	-
Melanoma of the Skin	0.8	_	_	Thyroid	_	0.5	_
All Cancers	700.7	575.7	1.2	All Cancers	328.6	243.7	1.3

INCIDENCE - FEMALES 2001-2005  Cancer	RATES*		African American/	MORTALITY - FEMALES 2002-2006	RATES*		African American/
	African American	White	White Ratio	Cancer	African American	White	White Ratio
Myeloma	9.0	3.9	2.3	Larynx	1.3	0.5	2.6
Esophagus	4.2	2.0	2.1	Stomach	5.6	2.4	2.3
Liver and Intrahepatic Bile Duct	4.6	2.3	2.0	Cervix Uteri	4.7	2.1	2.2
Stomach	8.5	4.3	2.0	Myeloma	5.9	2.9	2.0
Larynx	3.0	1.6	1.9	Esophagus	3.5	1.8	1.9
Cervix Uteri	11.4	7.5	1.5	Liver and Intrahepatic Bile Duct	4.3	2.7	1.6
Pancreas	14.9	9.9	1.5	Corpus Uteri	7.3	4.7	1.6
Lung and Bronchus	71.5	53.3	1.3	Urinary Bladder	3.6	2.4	1.5
Oral Cavity and Pharynx	6.4	5.5	1.2	Pancreas	13.4	9.4	1.4
Kidney and Renal Pelvis	11.5	10.4	1.1	Oral Cavity and Pharynx	1.7	1.2	1.4
Colon and Rectum	53.0	48.8	1.1	Lung and Bronchus	53.4	39.2	1.4
Female Breast	120.0	124.8	1.0	Female Breast	34.3	25.8	1.3
Hodgkin Lymphoma	2.6	3.1	0.8	Colon and Rectum	21.0	16.4	1.3
Leukemia	7.4	9.5	0.8	Kidney and Renal Pelvis	3.4	2.9	1.2
Ovary	10.1	14.2	0.7	Leukemia	4.9	5.9	0.8
Corpus Uteri	21.9	30.8	0.7	Ovary	7.1	9.5	0.7
Urinary Bladder	8.1	11.5	0.7	Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma	4.6	6.4	0.7
Thyroid	13.8	19.8	0.7	Brain and Other Nervous System	1.7	3.6	0.5
Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma	11.3	17.4	0.6	Hodgkin Lymphoma	-	0.4	_
Brain and Other Nervous System	3.6	6.0	0.6	Melanoma of the Skin	_	2.1	_
Melanoma of the Skin	0.7	15.2	0.0	Thyroid	_	0.5	_
All Cancers	438.9	437.1	1.0	All Cancers	207.3	162.9	1.3

<sup>\*</sup>Incidence and mortality rates are per 100,000 and age-adjusted to the 2000 US standard million population using 18 five-year age groups.

NOTES: In situ cancers were excluded for all cancer sites with the exception of urinary bladder. Ratios and age-adjusted rates were not calculated for cancer sites with less than 20 events due to unreliability of rates based on small numbers.

Sources: Cancer incidence data were obtained from the Pennsylvania Cancer Registry. Cancer death data were obtained from Pennsylvania's Certificate of Death.