

# Cuyahoga County Cancer Profile

Ohio Department of Health

2019



## Introduction

Approximately four out of 10 Ohioans will be diagnosed with cancer at some point during their lifetime. Cancer is the second leading cause of death, accounting for nearly one in every four deaths in Ohio and the United States. Disparities in rates may be associated with lifestyle factors, lack of access to health care, later stage at diagnosis, inadequate treatment or other risk factors that should be addressed in cancer prevention, early detection and control initiatives. This report provides an overview of cancer in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, including data on cancer incidence (new cases) and mortality (deaths), Ohio and U.S. comparisons, trends, stage at diagnosis and risk factors. This information can be used to increase awareness about the burden of cancer in Cuyahoga County and to develop targeted cancer programs in the community.

## Overview

- An average of 7,678 new invasive cancer cases and 3,023 deaths occurred each year among Cuyahoga County residents from 2012-2016.
- In 2012-2016, the cancer incidence rate for all sites/types combined in Cuyahoga County was 476.3 per 100,000, compared with the Ohio rate of 461.9 per 100,000 and the U.S. rate of 442.0 per 100,000.
- The 2012-2016 cancer mortality rate in Cuyahoga County was 179.0 per 100,000, compared with the Ohio rate of 176.8 per 100,000 and the U.S. rate of 161.0 per 100,000.
- Cancer incidence and mortality rates among males were higher than the rates for females in Cuyahoga County, Ohio and the United States in 2012-2016. Cancer incidence and mortality rates among blacks were higher than the rates for whites in Cuyahoga County during this time period.

**Table 1.** Average Annual Number and Age-adjusted Rates of Invasive Cancer Cases and Cancer Deaths by Sex and Race in Cuyahoga County, Ohio and the United States, 2012-2016<sup>1,2,3</sup>

Demographics		Incidence				Mortality			
		Cuyahoga County		Ohio	U.S.	Cuyahoga County		Ohio	U.S.
		Cases	Rate	Rate	Rate	Deaths	Rate	Rate	Rate
Total		7,678	476.3	461.9	442.0	3,023	179.0	176.8	161.0
Sex	Male	3,758	525.3	500.7	481.0	1,518	216.1	212.6	193.1
	Female	3,920	444.6	437.5	417.1	1,504	154.6	151.5	137.7
Race	White	5,412	470.6	458.1	451.7	2,125	170.9	175.6	161.5
	Black	2,032	480.6	452.7	442.9	858	206.2	197.8	185.6

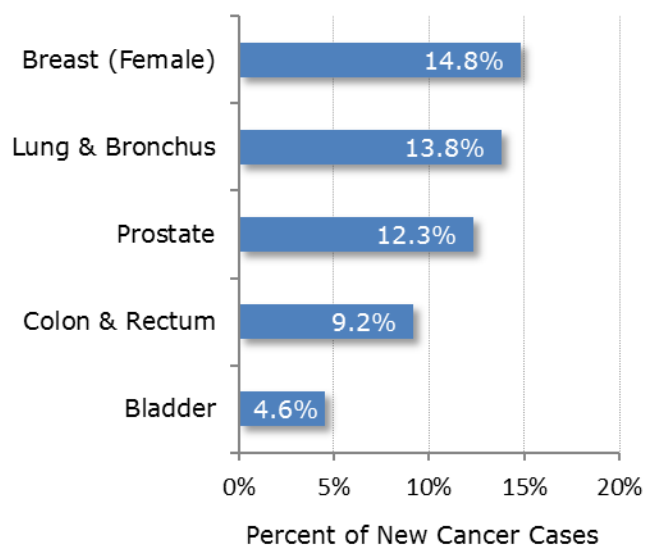
<sup>1</sup> Source of Ohio data: Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System and the Bureau of Vital Statistics, Ohio Department of Health, 2019.

<sup>2</sup> Source of U.S. data: Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results Program, National Cancer Institute and the National Center for Health Statistics, 2019.

<sup>3</sup> Rates are per 100,000 and age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

## Leading Cancers

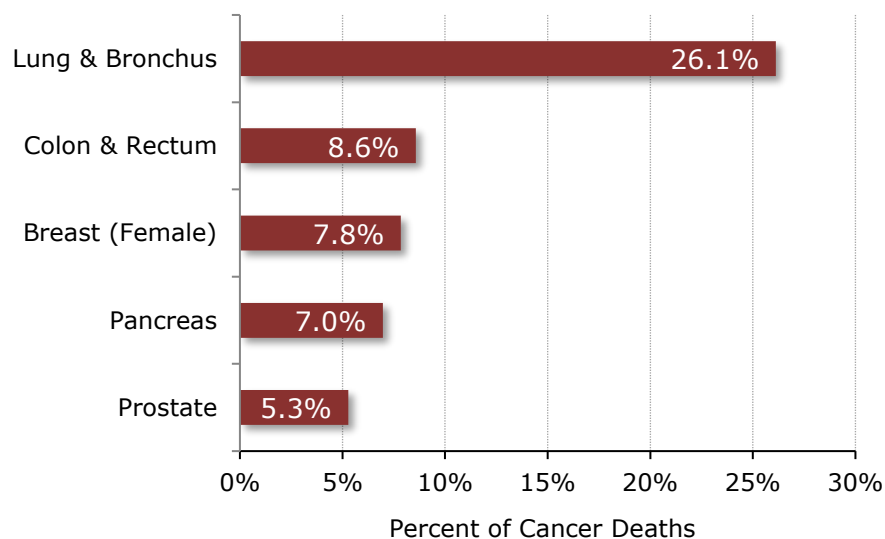
**Figure 1.** Percentage of Cancer Cases by Site/Type for the Top Five Cancers in Cuyahoga County, 2012-2016<sup>1</sup>



The leading sites/types of cancer incidence in Cuyahoga County in 2012-2016 were female breast, lung and bronchus, prostate, colon and rectum, and bladder, representing 55 percent of all invasive cancer cases.

<sup>1</sup> Source: Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System, Ohio Department of Health, 2019.

**Figure 2.** Percentage of Cancer Deaths by Site/Type for the Top Five Cancers in Cuyahoga County, 2012-2016<sup>1</sup>



The leading sites/types of cancer mortality in Cuyahoga County in 2012-2016 were lung and bronchus, colon and rectum, female breast, pancreas and prostate, representing 55 percent of all cancer deaths.

<sup>1</sup> Source: Bureau of Vital Statistics, Ohio Department of Health, 2019.

Female breast cancer was the leading cause of cancer incidence in Cuyahoga County in 2012-2016, accounting for 14.8 percent of cancer cases, while lung and bronchus cancer was the leading cause of cancer mortality, accounting for 26.1 percent of cancer deaths.

## Cancer Sites/Types

**Table 2.** Average Annual Number and Age-adjusted Rates of Invasive Cancer Cases and Cancer Deaths by Site/Type in Cuyahoga County, Ohio and the United States, 2012-2016<sup>1,2,3</sup>

Cancer Site/Type	Incidence				Mortality			
	Cuyahoga County		Ohio	U.S.	Cuyahoga County		Ohio	U.S.
	Cases	Rate	Rate	Rate	Deaths	Rate	Rate	Rate
<b>All Sites/Types</b>	<b>7,678</b>	<b>476.3</b>	<b>461.9</b>	<b>442.0</b>	<b>3,023</b>	<b>179.0</b>	<b>176.8</b>	<b>161.0</b>
Bladder	350	20.9	22.0	20.1	88	5.1	5.0	4.4
Brain & Other CNS	93	6.4	7.1	6.4	66	4.2	4.6	4.4
Breast (Female)	1,139	132.5	127.4	127.5	237	25.1	22.4	20.6
Cervix	43	6.1	7.6	7.3	19	2.5	2.3	2.3
Colon & Rectum	703	43.1	41.5	38.6	259	15.2	15.7	14.2
Esophagus	85	5.1	5.2	4.3	84	5.0	5.0	4.0
Hodgkin Lymphoma	41	3.3	2.8	2.7	4	0.3	0.3	0.3
Kidney & Renal Pelvis	267	16.7	17.1	16.1	62	3.6	3.9	3.8
Larynx	68	4.1	4.0	3.0	20	1.2	1.3	1.0
Leukemia	190	12.3	12.2	14.1	109	6.6	6.9	6.5
Liver & Intrahepatic Bile Duct	158	9.0	7.0	8.8	120	6.8	5.9	6.5
Lung & Bronchus	1,060	63.8	68.5	54.9	789	47.0	50.3	41.9
Melanoma of the Skin	274	18.0	22.9	22.2	28	1.7	2.8	2.5
Multiple Myeloma	123	7.5	6.0	6.9	64	3.8	3.6	3.3
Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma	314	19.9	19.1	19.6	102	6.0	6.1	5.6
Oral Cavity & Pharynx	182	11.2	11.8	11.3	51	3.1	2.7	2.5
Ovary	99	11.4	11.0	11.4	73	7.6	7.4	7.0
Pancreas	234	13.8	12.8	12.9	210	12.3	11.6	11.0
Prostate	945	124.4	103.0	109.5	160	23.5	19.0	19.2
Stomach	127	7.7	6.4	7.4	64	3.8	2.7	3.1
Testis	34	6.1	5.8	5.9	2	0.4	0.3	0.3
Thyroid	234	17.0	15.1	15.8	9	0.5	0.5	0.5
Uterus	289	31.7	29.7	27.5	55	5.8	5.0	4.7

<sup>1</sup> Source of Ohio data: Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System and the Bureau of Vital Statistics, Ohio Department of Health, 2019.

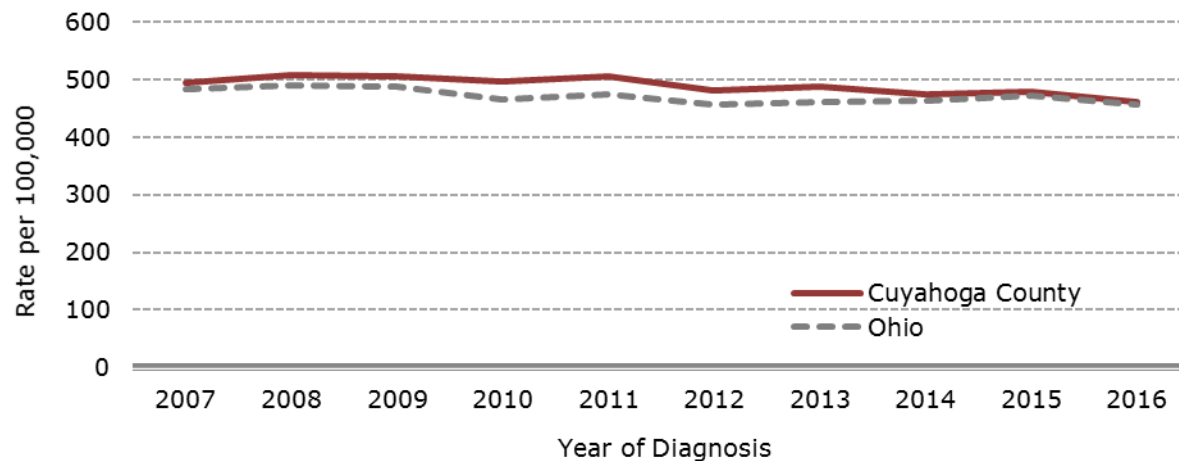
<sup>2</sup> Source of U.S. data: Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results Program, National Cancer Institute and the National Center for Health Statistics, 2019.

<sup>3</sup> Rates are per 100,000 and age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population. Rates are sex specific for cancers of the breast, cervix, ovary, prostate, testis and uterus.

CNS = Central Nervous System

## Trends

**Figure 3.** Age-adjusted Cancer Incidence Rates in Cuyahoga County and Ohio by Year, 2007-2016<sup>1,2</sup>



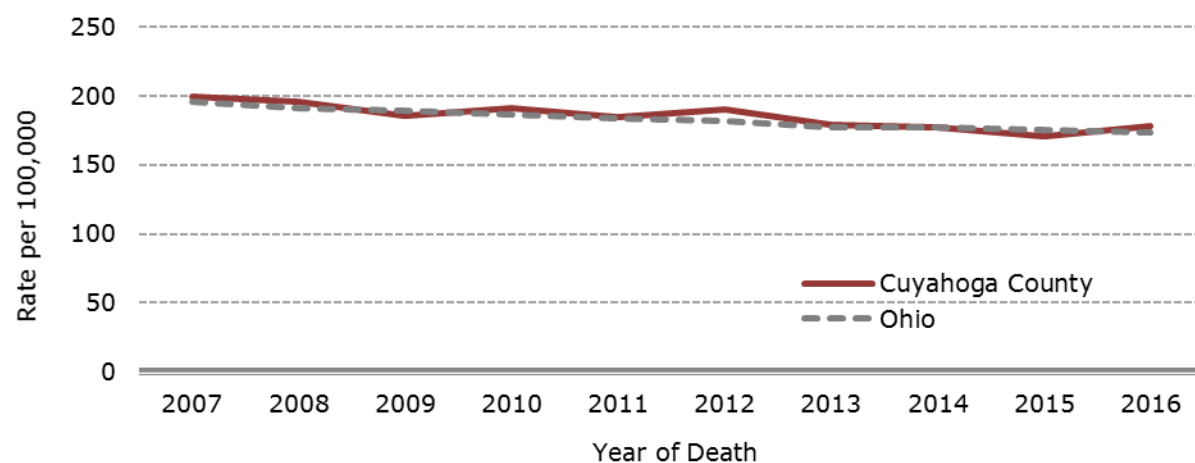
<sup>1</sup> Source: Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System, Ohio Department of Health, 2019.

<sup>2</sup> Rates are per 100,000 and age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Standard Population.

Note: Incidence rates are often variable over time at the county level, particularly for counties with small populations.

Cancer incidence rates decreased 7 percent in Cuyahoga County and 6 percent in Ohio from 2007-2016.

**Figure 4.** Age-adjusted Cancer Mortality Rates in Cuyahoga County and Ohio by Year, 2007-2016<sup>1,2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Source: Bureau of Vital Statistics, Ohio Department of Health, 2019.

<sup>2</sup> Rates are per 100,000 and age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Standard Population.

Note: Mortality rates are often variable over time at the county level, particularly for counties with small populations.

Cancer mortality rates decreased 11 percent in Cuyahoga County and 11 percent in Ohio from 2007-2016.

## Stage at Diagnosis

**Table 3.** Percent of Cancer Cases by Stage at Diagnosis for Select Cancer Sites/Types in Cuyahoga County, Ohio and the United States, 2012-2016<sup>1,2,3</sup>

Cancer Site/Type	Cuyahoga County		Ohio		U.S.	
	Early Stage	Late Stage	Early Stage	Late Stage	Early Stage	Late Stage
Breast (Female)	69.8	28.7	70.2	27.9	72.1	26.3
Cervix	41.6	54.7	43.8	51.2	43.1	51.6
Colon & Rectum	34.2	51.5	37.3	53.1	41.0	52.8
Lung & Bronchus	19.7	70.0	20.1	70.8	21.7	72.2
Melanoma of the Skin	84.8	8.2	82.2	8.6	89.6	6.8
Oral Cavity & Pharynx	30.2	64.9	30.1	65.0	33.1	61.5
Prostate	78.4	18.0	70.7	19.5	72.1	19.7

<sup>1</sup> Source of Ohio data: Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System, Ohio Department of Health, 2019.

<sup>2</sup> Source of U.S. data: Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results Program, National Cancer Institute, 2019.

<sup>3</sup> Early and late stage values do not add up to 100 percent because unstaged/missing stage cancers are not included.

Cancer stage at diagnosis is the extent or spread of the tumor from the site of origin. The stages, in order of increasing spread, are *in situ*, local, regional and distant. Early stage cancers are those diagnosed at the *in situ* or local stage, and late stage cancers are those diagnosed at the regional or distant stage. Cancers may also be reported as unstaged or with a missing stage (not shown). Regular screening can result in the detection of these cancers at earlier stages, when treatment is more likely to be successful.

- Among the cancers selected, those with the highest proportions of late-stage tumors in Cuyahoga County were lung and bronchus cancer (70.0 percent), followed by oral cavity and pharynx cancer (64.9 percent), and cervical cancer (54.7 percent).
- Cervical cancer had a higher percentage of late stage tumors in Cuyahoga County compared to Ohio in 2012-2016. Please note that the percentage of unstaged/missing stage cases varies by cancer site/type and region; therefore, comparisons between Cuyahoga County, Ohio and the United States should be interpreted with caution.

## Risk Factors

**Table 4.** Percent of Adults who are Current Smokers, Obese or Physically Inactive in Cuyahoga County with Comparison to Ohio and the United States, 2015, 2016<sup>1</sup>

Risk Factor	Cuyahoga County	Ohio	U.S.
Current Smoker	20.6	22.5	17
Obese	29.9	31.8	29
Physically Inactive	23.0	24.6	22

<sup>1</sup> Source: County Health Rankings, [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org), 2019. Current smoker data are from 2016, and obesity and physical inactivity data are from 2015.

Current Smoker = Percentage of adults who are current smokers

Obese = Percentage of adults with a body mass index (BMI)  $\geq 30$

Physically Inactive = Percentage of adults that reported no leisure-time physical activity in the past 30 days

A cancer risk factor is anything that increases a person's risk of developing cancer. Modifiable cancer risk factors include health behaviors and lifestyle factors (e.g., tobacco use, obesity and physical inactivity). It is often not just one factor that increases a person's risk of developing cancer; rather, cancer most often results from a complex interaction of multiple factors.

- The percentage of adults in Cuyahoga County who are current smokers is 20.6 percent, compared to 22.5 percent in Ohio and 17 percent in the United States.
- The percentage of adults who are obese in Cuyahoga County is 29.9 percent, compared to 31.8 percent in Ohio and 29 percent in the United States.
- The percentage of adults that report no leisure-time physical activity in Cuyahoga County is 23.0 percent, compared to 24.6 percent in Ohio and 22 percent in the United States.

### Did You Know?

- Tobacco use is associated with 12 types of cancer. Nearly one-third of all cancer deaths could be prevented by eliminating tobacco use.
- Overweight and obesity are associated with at least 13 types of cancer. Nearly one-fifth of cancer deaths could be prevented by adopting healthy diet and exercise practices.

## Sources of Data and Additional Information

### Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System (OCISS)

Cancer incidence data were provided by OCISS, the central cancer registry for Ohio. OCISS data can be accessed through the **Ohio Public Health Data Warehouse**, <http://publicapps.odh.ohio.gov/EDW/DataCatalog>.

### Ohio Vital Statistics

Cancer mortality data were provided by the Bureau of Vital Statistics and analyzed by the Chronic Disease Epidemiology and Evaluation Section at the Ohio Department of Health. Cancer mortality data can also be accessed through the Ohio Public Health Data Warehouse.

### County Health Rankings

Risk factor data were obtained from *County Health Rankings Key Findings 2019*, University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, available at [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org).

### U.S. Statistics

Cancer statistics for the United States were obtained from the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program, National Cancer Institute, and the National Center for Health Statistics, available at: <http://seer.cancer.gov>. Data sources include the *SEER Cancer Statistics Review, 1975-2016* and the SEER\*Stat Database, SEER 21 Registries Research Data, released April 2019, based on the November 2018 submission. Stage distributions were calculated using SEER\*Stat software version 8.3.5.

### Other Sources of Information

Ohio Department of Health, Cancer Data and Statistics:

<https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/ohio-cancer-incidence-surveillance-system/data-statistics/data-statistics>

American Cancer Society:

<http://www.cancer.org>

National Cancer Institute:

<http://www.cancer.gov>

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## **Suggested Citation**

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