10 Must-know Cancer Statistics for 2015



Each year, American Cancer Society researchers do a deep dive into cancer data to provide the most current information about the disease in the United States, including the projected numbers of new cancer cases and deaths.

Below are 10 key numbers from the American Cancer Society's Cancer Facts & Figures 2015 publication and Cancer Statistics, 2015 article. All figures are for the US.

More than

1.5 million: The number of cancer deaths averted during the past two decades. This is due to a 22% drop in cancer mortality over that time period.

1,658,370: The number of new cancer cases expected to be diagnosed in 2015

589,430: The number of Americans expected to die of cancer in 2015, about 1 600 people per day. 1,600 people per day

171,000: The estimated number of cancer deaths in 2015 that will be due to smoking. That is nearly 30% of all the cancer deaths predicted to occur in 2015.

36% The decline in lung cancer death rates among men between 1990 and 2011. Lung cancer death rates among women dropped 11% from 2002 to 2011.

The five-year relative survival rate for all cancers combined diagnosed between 2004 and 2010. This is up from 49% in 1975 to 1977.

Number of women expected to be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer in 2015. 231,840: Breast cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer in women, with the exception of skin cancer.

60,290: Estimated number of women who will be diagnosed with breast carcinoma in situ in 2015. The majority (83%) of these will be ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS).

220,800: Number of men expected to be diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2015 – the most frequently diagnosed cancer in men, aside from skin cancer

132,700: Number of colorectal cancer cases expected to be diagnosed in 2015. An estimated 49,700 deaths from the disease will occur this year. Colorectal cancer is the third leading cause of cancer death in both men and women and the second leading cause of cancer death when men and women are combined.



Explore these statistics and more in Cancer Facts & Figures 2015 and Cancer Statistics, 2015.

cancer.org/research