United States Cancer Statistics (USCS)

U.S. Cancer Statistics: Highlights from 2016 Incidence

U.S. Cancer Statistics Data Briefs, No. 8
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This data brief uses the most recent data available at the time of publication. More recent data may be available in a newer data brief or in the U.S. Cancer Statistics Data Visualizations tool.

Each year, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Cancer Institute (NCI) produce updated U.S. Cancer Statistics data. These data are the official federal cancer statistics for the United States. The U.S. Cancer Statistics provides cancer information on the entire US population. Information about new cancer cases (incidence) comes from CDC's National Program of Cancer Registries (NPCR) and NCI's Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program. The latest data release includes cancers diagnosed through 2016.

- In 2016, a total of 1,658,716 new cancer cases were reported in the United States: 833,308 among males and 825,408 among females.
- The overall incidence rate was 436 per 100,000 people. The overall rate was 471 per 100,000 among males and 413 per 100,000 among females.
- By cancer sites, the highest incidence rates among males were prostate, lung and bronchus, and colon and rectum. Among females, the three leading sites—breast, lung and bronchus, and colon and rectum—accounted for half of cancers diagnosed among females in 2016 (Table 1).

Table 1. Number, Rate,[a] and Percentage,[b] of Invasive Cancer[c] Incidence by Sex and Leading Sites—United States, 2016

Site	Number	Rate	Percentage
Males			
Prostate	192,443	101.4	23.1
Lung and Bronchus	113,044	64.3	13.6
Colon and Rectum	73,829	42.5	8.9

Site	Number	Rate	Percentage
Urinary Bladder	55,780	33.0	6.7
Melanomas of the Skin	48,762	28.4	5.9
Kidney and Renal Pelvis	40,455	22.8	4.9
Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma	37,334	21.9	4.5
Oral Cavity and Pharynx	32,611	17.8	3.9
Leukemias	28,231	16.8	3.4
Pancreas	25,385	14.5	3.0
Females			
Breast	245,299	124.2	29.7
Lung and Bronchus	105,185	49.6	12.7
Colon and Rectum	67,441	33.2	8.2
Corpus and Uterus, NOS[d]	56,808	27.3	6.9
Thyroid	35,441	20.6	4.3
Melanomas of the Skin	33,714	17.7	4.1
Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma	31,069	15.3	3.8
Kidney and Renal Pelvis	23,184	11.6	2.8
Pancreas	23,708	11.2	2.9
Ovary	20,418	10.3	2.5

Source: High-quality data from cancer registries funded by NPCR and SEER, covering 100% of the US population.

[a]Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 US standard population (19 age groups – Census P25–1130).

[b]Percentage based on all invasive cancers by sex (total invasive cancers for males or females).

[c]Excludes basal and squamous cell carcinomas of the skin except when these occur on the skin of the genital organs and *in situ* cancers except urinary bladder.

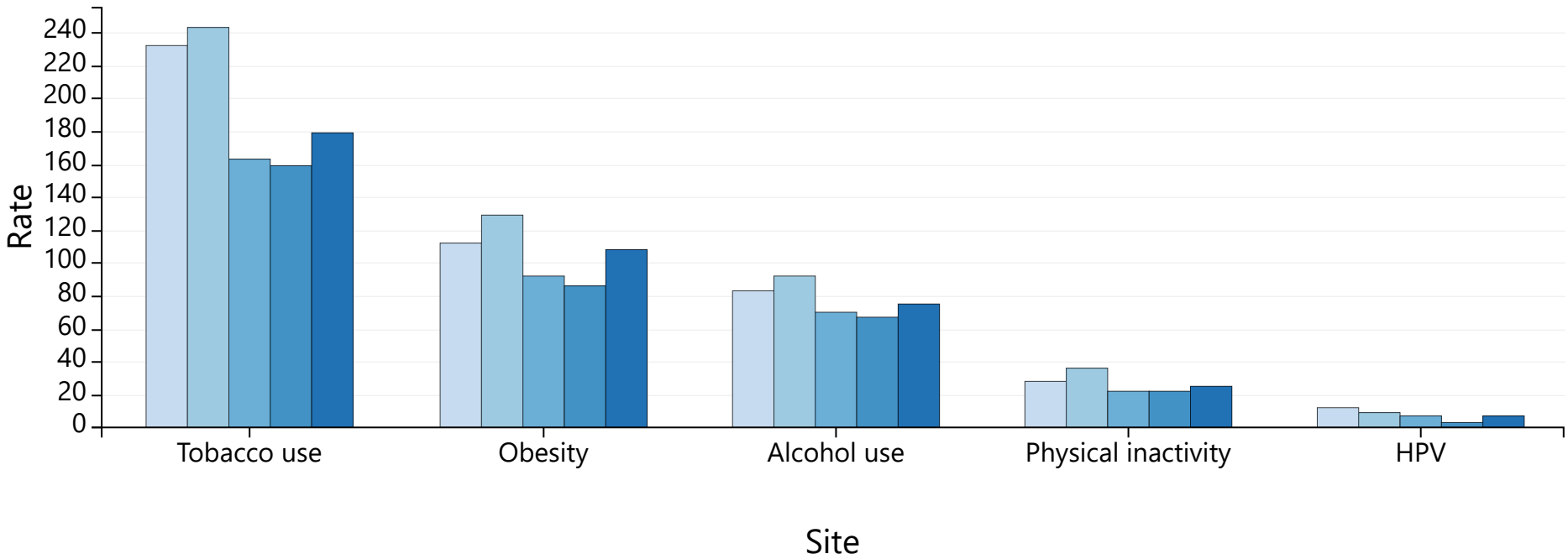
[d]NOS – not otherwise specified.

Some risk factors increase the risk of cancer at multiple cancer sites. For example, strong evidence suggests that physical activity reduces the risk of breast cancer in postmenopausal women, endometrium cancer, and colon cancer. Because cancer registries do not routinely collect information about risk factors, cancer types associated with alcohol use, human papillomavirus infection (HPV), obesity, physical inactivity, and tobacco use were analyzed (Figure 1).

For females, obesity-associated cancers were the highest of the five risk factor-associated cancer groups among all racial groups and Hispanics. For males, tobacco- and obesity-associated cancers were the leading groups among the five risk factor-associated cancers among all races and Hispanic people (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Invasive Cancer[a] Incidence Rates[b] for Five Risk Factor-Associated Cancer Groups,[c] by Racial and Ethnic Groups[d] and Sex—United States, 2016

A. Males



Data Table

	Tobacco use	Obesity	Alcohol use	Physical inactivity	HPV
White	232	112	83	28	12
Black	243	129	92	36	9
American Indian/Alaska Native	163	92	70	22	7
Asian/Pacific Islander	159	86	67	22	3
Hispanic	179	108	75	25	7

Download Table Data (csv)

B. Females

Data Table

	Obesity	Alcohol use	Physical inactivity	Tobacco use	HPV
White	218	170	146	143	14
Black	221	173	147	146	13
American Indian/Alaska Native	151	115	111	92	9
Asian/Pacific Islander	160	128	100	94	7
Hispanic	190	134	115	112	13

Download Table Data (csv)

Source: High-quality data from cancer registries funded by NPCR and SEER, covering 100% of the US population.

[a]Excludes basal and squamous cell carcinomas of the skin except when these occur on the skin of the genital organs and *in situ* cancers except urinary bladder.

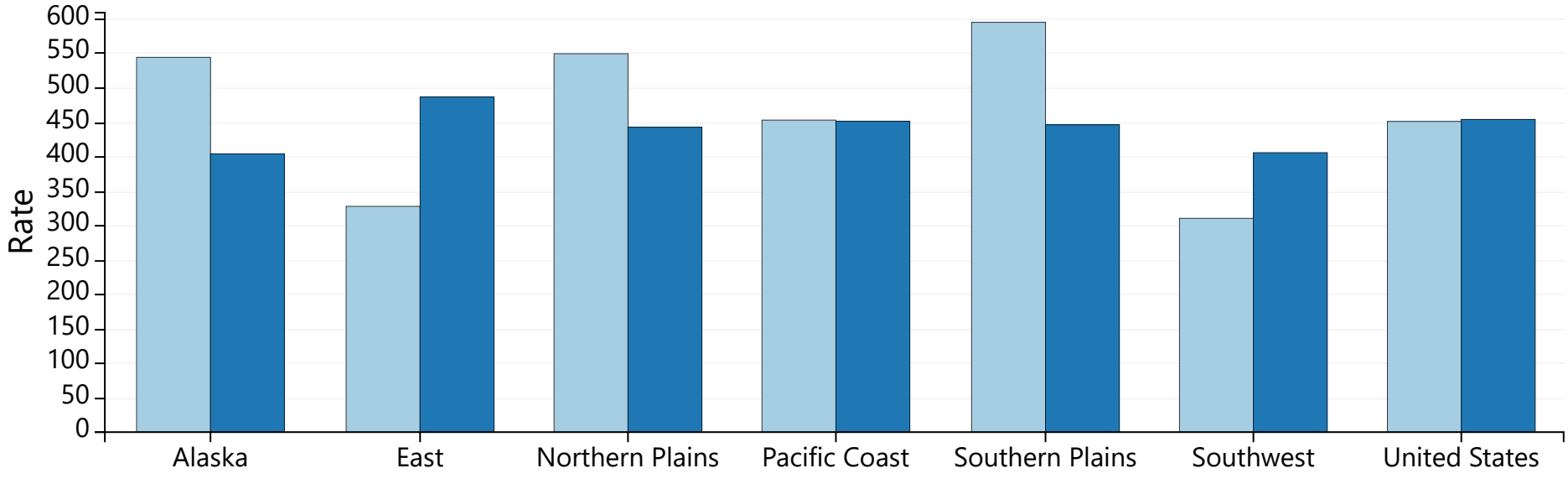
[b]Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 US standard population (19 age groups – Census P25–1130).

[c]**Alcohol-associated cancers** include oral cavity and pharynx, esophagus, colon and rectum, liver, larynx, and female breast. **HPV-associated cancers** include microscopically confirmed carcinoma of the cervix and squamous cell carcinomas of the vagina, vulva, penis, anus, rectum, and oropharynx. **Obesity-associated cancers** include adenocarcinoma of the esophagus; cancers of the breast (in postmenopausal women), colon and rectum, endometrium (corpus uterus), gallbladder, gastric cardia, kidney (renal cell), liver, ovary, pancreas, and thyroid; meningioma, and multiple myeloma. **Physical inactivity-associated cancers** include breast cancer in postmenopausal women, endometrium (corpus uterus) cancer, and colon cancer. **Tobacco-associated cancers** include oral cavity and pharynx, esophagus; stomach; colon and rectum; liver; pancreas; larynx; lung, bronchus, and trachea; cervix; kidney and renal pelvis; urinary bladder; and acute myeloid leukemia.

[d]Race categories are not mutually exclusive from Hispanic origin.

The overall cancer incidence rate among American Indian and Alaska Native people living in Indian Health Service (IHS) Purchased/Referred Care Delivery Areas (PRCDA) counties was similar to rates among non-Hispanic White people living in PRCDA counties in the United States. Variations were seen in the Alaska, East, Northern Plains, Southern Plains, and Southwest IHS regions (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Invasive Cancer[a] Incidence Rates[b] by Indian Health Service Region, All Cancer Sites Combined—United States, 2012–2016



Data Table

	Alaska	East	Northern Plains	Pacific Coast	Southern Plains	Southwest	Unite
American Indian/Alaska Native	543.6	327.5	548.9	452.6	594.4	310.1	
Non-Hispanic White	403.7	486.2	442.2	450.9	445.8	405.4	

Scroll for additional info

Download Table Data (csv)

[a]Excludes basal and squamous cell carcinomas of the skin except when these occur on the skin of the genital organs and *in situ* cancers except urinary bladder.

[b]Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 US standard population (19 age groups – Census P25–1130). Data for American Indian and Alaska Native people are restricted to non-Hispanic American Indian and Alaska Native people living in IHS Purchase/Referred Care Delivery Area (PRCDA) counties. Non-Hispanic White people living in PRCDA counties are presented for comparison.

Delve into U.S. Cancer Statistics Further

The Data Visualizations tool makes it easy for anyone to explore and use the latest cancer data.

You can use this tool to create interactive graphics examining—

- New cancer cases.
- Cancer deaths by—
  - State, county, and Congressional district.
  - Sex, age, race, and ethnicity.

Researchers can analyze incidence data from the entire United States with the Public Use Database, available through SEER*Stat software.

More Information

- U.S. Cancer Statistics
- National Program of Cancer Registries
- Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program

Suggested Citation

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