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Health**
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FAST FACTS – LUNG CANCER

Examining Lung Cancer Diagnosis, Survivorship, Stigma, and its Effect on Nonsmokers

Late diagnosis and stigma impact lung cancer survival rates. Nonsmokers are also affected due to inhaling secondhand smoke.

As noted by the National Cancer Institute, the overall five year survival rate among adults diagnosed with lung and bronchus cancer is 17.7%, which is lower compared to adults with other common cancers.¹



Over 57% of lung and bronchus cancer cases are diagnosed at the advanced stage or distant stage. The five year survival rate for distant lung and bronchus cancer is 4.3%.¹

Cancer Among the Leading Causes of Death for Men

Lung cancer makes up approximately 14% of new cancer diagnoses, making it the most commonly diagnosed, preventable cancer.² New and advanced stage lung cancer diagnoses are more commonly found in men.

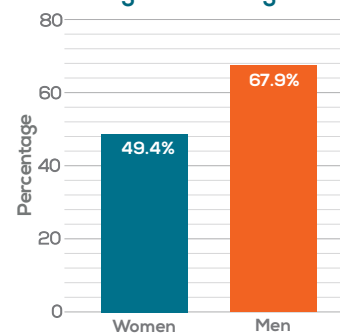
Smoking is correlated with

- heart disease
- lung cancer
- chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- stroke³

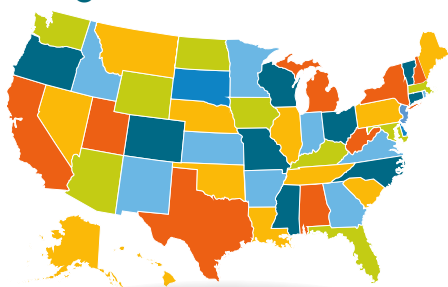
The top 5 leading causes of death among adult men are

- heart disease
- cancer
- unintentional injuries
- chronic lower respiratory diseases
- stroke⁴

New Lung Cancer Diagnoses¹



Lung Cancer in the United States



- Lung cancer incidence varies by gender, age, race, and geography.
- Lung cancer diagnosis and mortality rates vary by state impacting rural, urban and frontier communities at higher rates.⁵
- Lung and bronchus cancer are most frequently diagnosed during the usual age range of Medicare-eligible adults, aged 65-74.
- Lung cancer incidence and mortality rates are higher among African American men, followed by Caucasian and American Indian/Alaska Native men.
- Significant disparities associated with ethnicity among lung cancer diagnoses result from access to surgical care, hospital-level issues, biological differences in response to tobacco, financial barriers, and patient treatment preferences.⁶

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Stigma and its Impact on Health Outcomes

Stigma has been linked to a broad range of negative outcomes across mental and physical health, socioeconomic status, and education levels.⁷

Consequences of lung cancer stigma include:

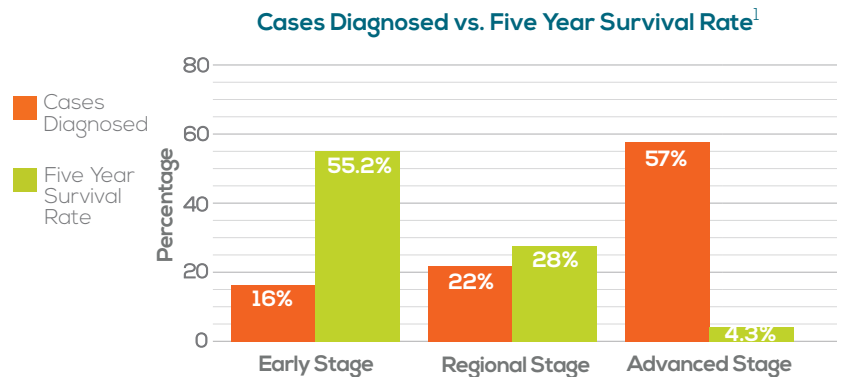
- avoidance or delay in seeking treatment
- increased illness-related distress
- reduced use of healthcare resources⁸
- reduced social support
- lack of illness disclosure

Lung cancer stigma, or fear of stigma, may prevent earlier diagnosis due to disparaging narratives associated with tobacco use and smoking.⁹

Lung and Bronchus Cancer Survivorship

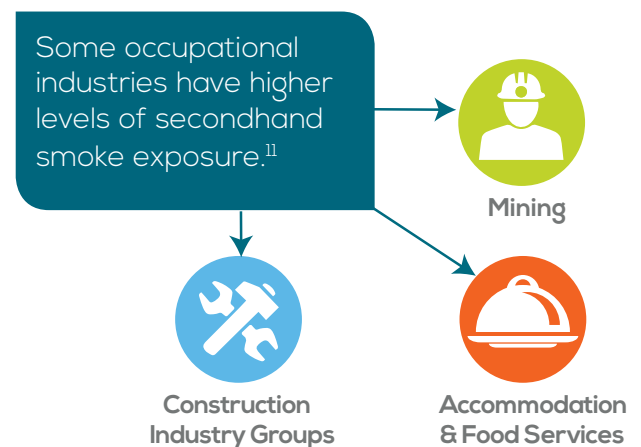
Cancer survival is strongly correlated with initial diagnosis level and subsequent treatment.¹

Early and regular access to screening improves survivorship because the earlier a person is diagnosed, the higher the five year rate of survival.



Lung Cancer in Nonsmokers

- Nonsmokers exposed to secondhand smoke at home or at work increase their risk of developing lung cancer by 20–30%.¹⁰
- More than 1 in 3 nonsmokers residing in multiunit housing are exposed to secondhand smoke, placing them at higher risk for health conditions including cancer and heart disease.¹¹
- Secondhand smoke exposure causes more than 7,300 lung cancer deaths each year among adult nonsmokers.¹⁰



References

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- 2-ACS, *Cancer Facts and Figures 2016 Sheet*, www.cancer.org/research/cancerfactsstatistics/cancer-factsfigures2016
- 3-CDC, *Health Effects of Cigarette Smoking*, www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/fact_sheets/health_effects/effects_cig_smoking
- 4-CDC, *National Center for Health Statistics: Men's Health*, www.cdc.gov/men/lcod/2013/race_ethnicity-men2013.pdf
- 5-CDC, *Lung Cancer Rates by State*, www.cdc.gov/cancer/statistics/state.htm
- 6-Lathan, C., Waldman, L. T., Browning, E., Gagne, J., & Emmons, K. (2015). *Perspectives of African Americans on Lung Cancer: A Qualitative Analysis*. *The Oncologist*, 20(4), pp 393-399. www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25795634
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- 10-CDC, *Health Effects of Secondhand Smoke*, www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/fact_sheets/secondhand_smoke/health_effects
- 11-CDC, *Secondhand Smoke Facts*, www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/fact_sheets/secondhand_smoke/general_facts/learn-about-lung-cancer/lung-cancer-fact-sheet.htm

Additional Resources

- ✓ CDC, *Cancer Survivorship: Support Programs and Services*, www.cdc.gov/cancer/survivorship/links.htm
- ✓ CDC, *Campaign Resources*, www.cdc.gov/tobacco/campaign/tips/index.html
- ✓ ALA, *Lung Cancer Screening Health Insurance Coverage and Access Resources*, www.lung.org/lung-health-and-diseases/lung-disease-lookup/lung-cancer/patient-resources-and-videos
- ✓ NCI, *Cancer Support Services*, www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/managing-care/services/support
- ✓ CMS, *From Coverage to Care Resources*, www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/OMH/OMH-Coverage2Care.html
- ✓ National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, *Using Total Worker Health™ Concepts to Enhance Workplace Tobacco Prevention and Control*, www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/wp-solutions/2015-202/default.html
- ✓ ALA, *Comprehensive Tobacco Cessation & State Cessation Coverage Database: Factsheets and Reports*, www.lung.org/our-initiatives/tobacco/cessation-and-prevention/state-cessation-coverage.html



Contact us to learn more and find out how you can become involved in reducing tobacco and cancer-related disparities among vulnerable, underserved and low-resourced populations with low SES characteristics.

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