

COVID-19 is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation.
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Cancer Stat Facts: Lung and Bronchus Cancer

Reports on Cancer (/web/20210318000630/https://seer.cancer.gov/statistics/reports.html)

[Annual Report to the Nation \(/web/20210318000630/https://seer.cancer.gov/report_to_nation/\)](#)

[Cancer Stat Facts \(/web/20210318000630/https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/\)](#)

[Cancer Among AYAs \(/web/20210318000630/https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/aya.html\)](#)

[Common Cancer Sites \(/web/20210318000630/https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/common.html\)](#)

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[Cancer Patterns among Asian and Pacific Islanders in the U.S. \(/web/20210318000630/https://seer.cancer.gov/publications/apicancer/\)](#)

Statistics at a Glance

At a Glance

Estimated New Cases in 2020	228,820
% of All New Cancer Cases	12.7%

Estimated Deaths in 2020	135,720
% of All Cancer Deaths	22.4%

5-Year Relative Survival
20.5%
2010–2016

New cases come from SEER 13. Deaths come from U.S. Mortality.
All Races, Both Sexes. Rates are Age-Adjusted.
Modeled trend lines were calculated from the underlying rates using the Joinpoint Trend Analysis Software.
(<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://surveillance.cancer.gov/joinpoint/>)

New cases are also referred to as incident cases in other publications. Rates of new cases are also referred to as incidence rates.

[View Data Table](#)

Rate of New Cases and Deaths per 100,000: The rate of new cases of lung and bronchus cancer was 54.2 per 100,000 men and women per year. The death rate was 38.5 per 100,000 men and women per year. These rates are age-adjusted and based on 2013–2017 cases and 2014–2018 deaths.

Lifetime Risk of Developing Cancer: Approximately 6.3 percent of men and women will be diagnosed with lung and bronchus cancer at some point during their lifetime, based on 2015–2017 data.

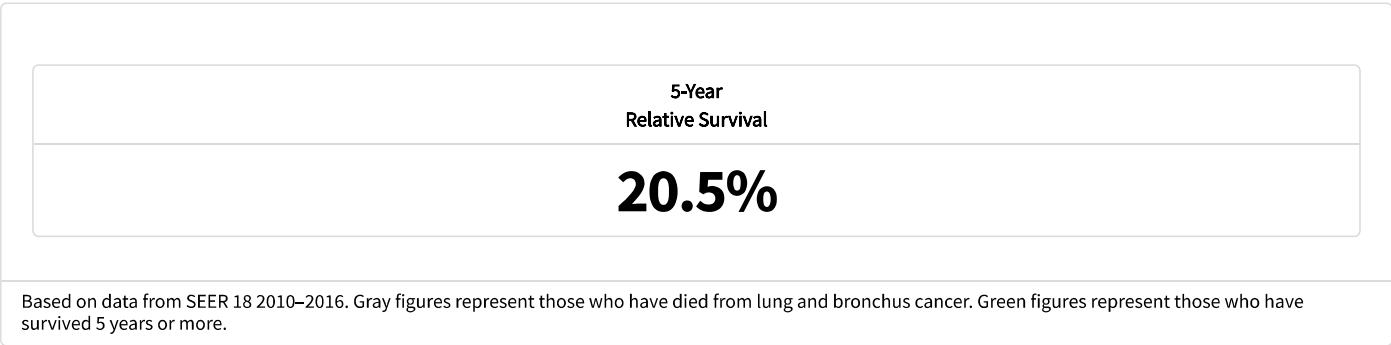
Prevalence of This Cancer: In 2017, there were an estimated 558,250 people living with lung and bronchus cancer in the United States.

Did You Know? Video Series

Survival Statistics

How Many People Survive 5 Years Or More after Being Diagnosed with Lung and Bronchus Cancer?

Relative survival is an estimate of the percentage of patients who would be expected to survive the effects of their cancer. It excludes the risk of dying from other causes. Because survival statistics are based on large groups of people, they cannot be used to predict exactly what will happen to an individual patient. No two patients are entirely alike, and treatment and responses to treatment can vary greatly.



Additional Information

- More about survival statistics (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://surveillance.cancer.gov/survival/measures.html>)
- Additional lung and bronchus cancer survival statistics in SEER*Explorer (https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://seer.cancer.gov/explorer/application.html?site=047&data_type=4&graph_type=6&compareBy=sex&chk_sex_1=1&chk_sex_3=3&chk_sex_2=2&race=1&age_range=1&stage=101&advopt_precision=1)

Survival by Stage

Cancer stage at diagnosis, which refers to extent of a cancer in the body, determines treatment options and has a strong influence on the length of survival. In general, if the cancer is found only in the part of the body where it started it is *localized* (sometimes referred to as stage 1). If it has spread to a different part of the body, the stage is *regional* or *distant*. The earlier lung and bronchus cancer is caught, the better chance a person has of surviving five years after being diagnosed. For lung and bronchus cancer, 17.0% are diagnosed at the local stage. The 5-year relative survival for localized lung and bronchus cancer is 59.0%.

Percent of Cases & 5-Year Relative Survival by Stage at Diagnosis: Lung and Bronchus Cancer

Percent of Cases by Stage

- Localized (17%)**
Confined to Primary Site
- Regional (22%)**
Spread to Regional Lymph Nodes
- Distant (57%)**
Cancer Has Metastasized
- Unknown (4%)**
Unstaged

5-Year Relative Survival

SEER 18 2010–2016, All Races, Both Sexes by SEER Summary Stage 2000

Additional Information

- More about lung and bronchus cancer staging (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://www.cancer.gov/types/lung/patient/non-small-cell-lung-treatment-pdq#section/all>)
- Additional statistics on lung and bronchus cancer by stage in SEER*Explorer (https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://seer.cancer.gov/explorer/application.html?site=047&data_type=4&graph_type=5&compareBy=stage&chk_stage_104=104&chk_stage_105=105&chk_stage_106=106&chk_stage_107=107&series=age_ra)

New Cases and Deaths

How Common Is This Cancer?

Compared to other cancers, lung and bronchus cancer is fairly common.

Common Types of Cancer	Estimated New Cases 2020	Estimated Deaths 2020
1. Breast Cancer (Female)	276,480	42,170
2. Lung and Bronchus Cancer	228,820	135,720
3. Prostate Cancer	191,930	33,330
4. Colorectal Cancer	147,950	53,200
5. Melanoma of the Skin	100,350	6,850
6. Bladder Cancer	81,400	17,980
7. Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma	77,240	19,940
8. Kidney and Renal Pelvis Cancer	73,750	14,830
9. Uterine Cancer	65,620	12,590

Common Types of Cancer	Estimated New Cases 2020	Estimated Deaths 2020
10. Leukemia	60,530	23,100

Lung and bronchus cancer represents 12.7% of all new cancer cases in the U.S.

12.7%

In 2020, it is estimated that there will be 228,820 new cases of lung and bronchus cancer and an estimated 135,720 people will die of this disease.

Who Gets This Cancer?

Lung cancer is more common in men than women, particularly African American men. Smoking is widely recognized as the leading cause of lung cancer. The rate of new cases of lung and bronchus cancer was 54.2 per 100,000 men and women per year based on 2013–2017 cases, age-adjusted.

Rate of New Cases per 100,000 Persons by Race/Ethnicity & Sex: Lung and Bronchus Cancer

MALES	
All Races	61.7
White	62.2
Black	71.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	46.2
American Indian/Alaska Native	43.5
Hispanic	35.1
Non-Hispanic	65.3
FEMALES	
All Races	48.6
White	51.5
Black	43.8
Asian/Pacific Islander	28.6
American Indian/Alaska Native	34.3
Hispanic	24.8
Non-Hispanic	51.9

SEER 21 2013–2017, Age-Adjusted

Percent of New Cases by Age Group: Lung and Bronchus Cancer



Lung and bronchus cancer is most frequently diagnosed among people aged 65–74.

Median Age At Diagnosis
71

SEER 21 2013–2017, All Races, Both Sexes

Who Dies From This Cancer?

Death rates for lung cancer are higher among the middle-aged and older populations. Lung and bronchus cancer is the first leading cause of cancer death in the United States. The death rate was 38.5 per 100,000 men and women per year based on 2014–2018 deaths, age-adjusted.

Death Rate per 100,000 Persons by Race/Ethnicity & Sex: Lung and Bronchus Cancer

MALES	
All Races	46.9
White	47.1
Black	55.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	28.0
American Indian/Alaska Native	38.4
Hispanic	23.0
Non-Hispanic	49.3

FEMALES	
All Races	32.0
White	33.3
Black	29.7
Asian/Pacific Islander	16.3
American Indian/Alaska Native	27.4
Hispanic	12.3
Non-Hispanic	34.0

U.S. 2014–2018, Age-Adjusted

Percent of Deaths by Age Group: Lung and Bronchus Cancer



The percent of lung and bronchus cancer deaths is highest among people aged 65–74.

Median Age At Death
72

U.S. 2014–2018, All Races, Both Sexes

Trends in Rates

Changes Over Time

Keeping track of new cases, deaths, and survival over time (trends) can help scientists understand whether progress is being made and where additional research is needed to address challenges, such as improving screening or finding better treatments.

Using statistical models for analysis, age-adjusted rates for new lung and bronchus cancer cases have been falling on average 2.2% each year over 2008–2017. Age-adjusted death rates have been falling on average 3.6% each year over 2009–2018. 5-year relative survival trends are shown below.

New Cases, Deaths and 5-Year Relative Survival

New cases come from SEER 9. Deaths come from U.S. Mortality.
All Races, Both Sexes. Rates are Age-Adjusted.
Modeled trend lines were calculated from the underlying rates using the Joinpoint Trend Analysis Software.
(<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://surveillance.cancer.gov/joinpoint/>)

SEER 9 5-Year Relative Survival Percent from 1975–2012, All Races, Both Sexes.
Modeled trend lines were calculated from the underlying rates using the Joinpoint Survival Model Software.
(<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://analysistools.nci.nih.gov/jpsurv/>)

[View Data Table](#)

Interactive Statistics with SEER*Explorer

With SEER*Explorer, you can...

Create custom graphs and tables

[Download data and images](#)
[Share links to results](#)

SEER*Explorer is an interactive website that provides easy access to a wide range of SEER cancer statistics. It provides detailed statistics for a cancer site by gender, race, calendar year, age, and for a selected number of cancer sites, by stage and histology.

Explore Additional Lung and Bronchus Cancer Statistics (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://seer.cancer.gov/explorer/application.html?site=047>)

More About This Cancer

Cancer and the Lung

There are two main categories of lung cancer: non-small cell lung cancer and small cell lung cancer. Each type of non-small cell lung cancer has different of cancer cells, which grow and spread in different ways:

- Squamous cell carcinoma (also called epidermoid carcinoma).
- Large cell carcinoma: Cancer that may begin in several types of large cells.
- Adenocarcinoma

Figure: Respiratory Anatomy

Figure: Respiratory anatomy; drawing shows right lung with upper, middle, and lower lobes; left lung with upper and lower lobes; and the trachea, bronchi, lymph nodes, and diaphragm. Inset shows bronchioles, alveoli, artery, and vein.

(<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://www.cancer.gov/Common/PopUps/popDefinition.aspx?id=46216&version=Patient&language=English>): Cancer that begins in the cells that line the alveoli and make substances such as mucus.

Other less common types of non-small cell lung cancer are: pleomorphic

(<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://www.cancer.gov/Common/PopUps/popDefinition.aspx?id=44342&version=Patient&language=English>), carcinoid (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://www.cancer.gov/Common/PopUps/popDefinition.aspx?id=44233&version=Patient&language=English>) tumor, salivary gland carcinoma, and unclassified carcinoma.

There are two main types of small cell lung cancer, again according to cell type: small cell carcinoma (oat cell cancer) and combined small cell carcinoma.

Additional Information

- Learn more about non-small cell lung cancer (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/pdq/treatment/non-small-cell-lung/Patient>)
- Learn more about small cell lung cancer (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/pdq/treatment/small-cell-lung/Patient>)

More Information

Here are some resources for learning more about lung cancer.

- More about risk factors for lung cancer (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://www.cancer.gov/types/lung/patient/non-small-cell-lung-treatment-pdq#section/all>)
- More about symptoms and diagnosis of lung cancer (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://www.cancer.gov/types/lung/patient/non-small-cell-lung-treatment-pdq#section/all>)
- More about treatment options for lung cancer (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://www.cancer.gov/types/lung/patient/non-small-cell-lung-treatment-pdq#section/all>)
- More about clinical trials (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://www.cancer.gov/clinicaltrials>)
- More about cancer prevention (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/pdq/prevention/overview/patient>)

References

All statistics in this report are based on statistics from SEER and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics. Most can be found within SEER*Explorer (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://seer.cancer.gov/explorer/>).

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SEER Cancer Stat Facts: Lung and Bronchus Cancer. National Cancer Institute. Bethesda, MD, <https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/lungb.html> (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/lungb.html>)

*These stat facts focus on population statistics that are based on the U.S. population. Because these statistics are based on large groups of people, they cannot be used to predict exactly what will happen to an individual patient. To see tailored statistics, browse SEER*Explorer (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://seer.cancer.gov/explorer/>). To see statistics for a specific state, go to the State Cancer Profiles (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov/>).*

*The statistics presented in these stat facts are based on the most recent data available, most of which can be found in SEER*Explorer (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://seer.cancer.gov/explorer/>). In some cases, different year spans may be used.*

Estimates of new cases and deaths for 2020 are projections made by the American Cancer Society (ACS), based on earlier reported data.

Cancer is a complex topic. There is a wide range of information available. These stat facts do not address causes, symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, follow-up care, or decision making, although links are provided to information in many of these areas.

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(<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://surveillance.cancer.gov/blog>)

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Contact SEER ([/web/20210318000630/https://seer.cancer.gov/about/contact.html](https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://seer.cancer.gov/about/contact.html))

NCI LiveHelp Online Chat (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210318000630/https://livehelp.cancer.gov/>)

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