

DESCRIPTION

Cancer is a group of diseases that are characterized by uncontrolled growth and spread of abnormal cells. These cells can form a tumor which may invade or destroy normal tissue. Cancer is classified by the body part in which it originates, its appearance and laboratory tests. Approximately 75 percent of cancers deaths are among people 65 and older. The five leading causes of cancer death in Minnesota are: lung/bronchus, colon/rectum, breast and prostate, which all together account for 45 percent of all cancer deaths.¹

HOW ARE WE DOING

The death rate from cancer has been slowly declining for the last two decades; however, cancer is still the leading cause of death since 2000. Each year in the state there are an estimated 26,000 newly diagnosed cases; meaning approximately one out of every two residents will be diagnosed in their lifetime.¹ In Ramsey County between 2010 and 2014, there were 12,663 incidences of cancer. Within this, 1,983 were diagnosed breast cancer, 1,471 were lung cancer, 1,005 cases of colorectal cancer and 748 were melanoma.² In 2016, there were 9,845 Minnesota residents and 877 Ramsey County residents who lost their life to cancer, the leading cause of death.³ In 2016, the overall age adjusted cancer mortality for Ramsey County is 145.3 which is below the national benchmark of 161.4 per 100,000 people.⁴

BENCHMARK INDICATOR

Healthy People 2020: Reduce the overall cancer death rate.

U.S. Target: 161.4 per 100,000 population.

DISPARITIES

- Statewide during 2008-2012, the overall cancer mortality rates were lowest among Asian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic populations, higher among non-Hispanic white and African-American populations, and highest among American Indian/Alaska Native populations.¹
- Between 2004 and 2013 in Minnesota, American Indian males had the highest rates of all cancers 648.1 per 100,000 people compared to a rate of 475.8 among all males.²
- For men, the chance of getting cancer at some point is about 1 in 2, whereas for women the chances are about 2 in 5. In 2013, the rate among females was 421.3 per 100,000 compared to the male rate of 475.8.³
- In Minnesota in 2012, 8.3 percent of cancer cases and 8.2 percent of cancer deaths in males were due to colon and rectum cancer.⁴
- Between 2008 and 2012 in Ramsey County, there were 195 new colon and rectum cancer cases, and 68 deaths each year.⁴

RISK FACTORS

About one-third of cancer deaths are related to poor diet, physical inactivity and being overweight. Another 30 percent of all cancer deaths are caused by smoking and tobacco use.¹

WHAT RAMSEY COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS DOING

Saint Paul – Ramsey County Public Health provides some clinical services focused on

Information to note

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¹ Minnesota Cancer Facts & figures 2015. Minnesota Department of Health Web Site. <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/healthimprovement/data/reports/cancerfactsfigures.html>. Accessed October 3, 2017.

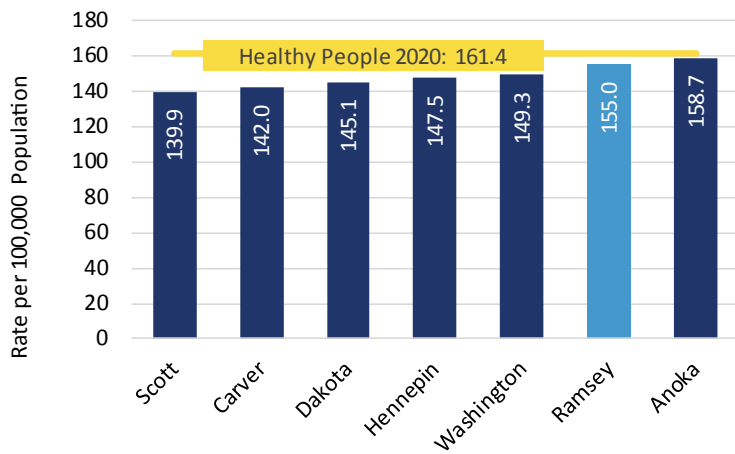
² Minnesota Cancer Facts & figures 2015. Minnesota Department of Health Web Site. <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/healthimprovement/data/reports/cancerfactsfigures.html>. Accessed October 3, 2017.

³ Leading Cancer Cases and Deaths, 2014. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web Site. <https://nccd.cdc.gov/USCSDataViz/rdPage.aspx>. Accessed October 3, 2017.

⁴ Minnesota Cancer Facts & Figures 2015. Minnesota Department of Health Web site. <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/healthimprovement/content/documents/CancerFandF.pdf>. Accessed January 10, 2018.

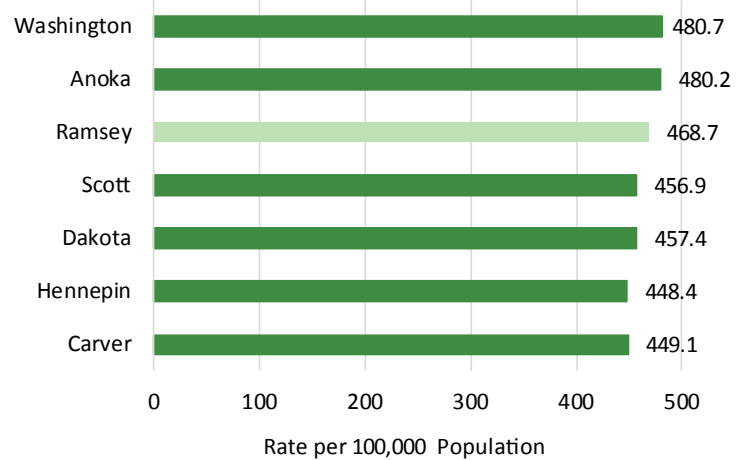
preventing and detecting cancer including screening for cervical cancer and breast cancer, and promoting the use of condoms which may help to prevent spread of certain STIs which may lead to cancer. Saint Paul – Ramsey County Public Health maintains a disease surveillance role, monitoring cancer rates in Ramsey County. Additionally, Ramsey County provides funding to five Ramsey County community clinics to help off-set the cost of services, including cancer prevention and detection services, provided to uninsured and underinsured clients.

Cancer Mortality, 2012-2016



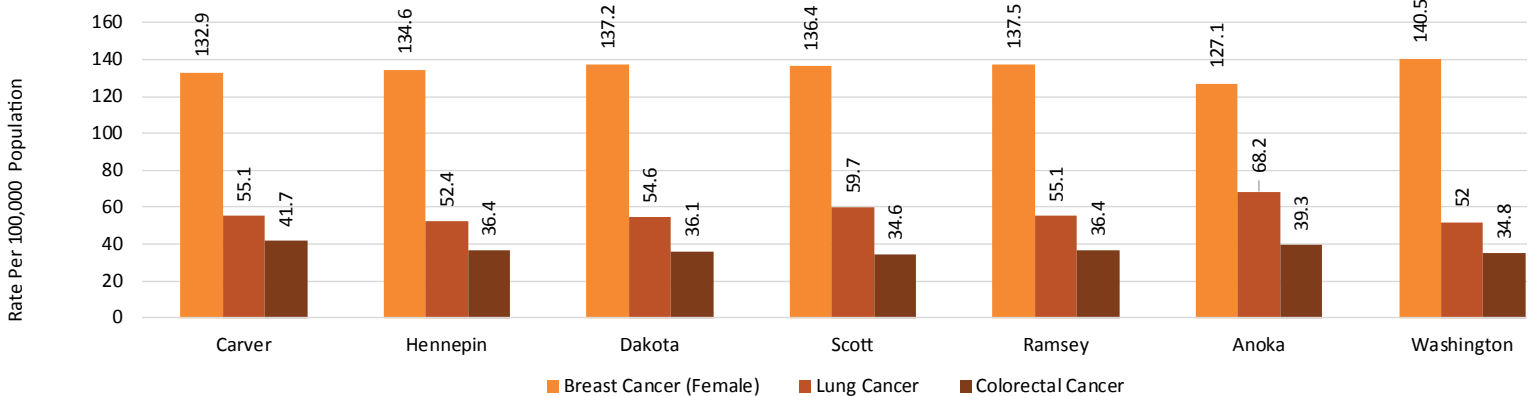
Source: Minnesota County Health Tables.⁵

Cancer Incidence, 2011-2015



Source: MN Public Health Data Access. Minnesota Department of Health Web Site.⁶

Cancer Incidence for Lung, Colorectal, and Breast Cancers, 2011-2015



Source: MN Public Health Data Access. Minnesota Department of Health Web Site.⁷

⁵ Minnesota County Health Tables. Minnesota Department of Health Web Site. <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/chs/countytables/>. Accessed October 3, 2017.

⁶ MN Public Health Data Access. Minnesota Department of Health Web Site. <https://apps.health.state.mn.us/mndata/webmap/lungcancer.html>. Accessed October 3, 2017.

⁷ MN Public Health Data Access. Minnesota Department of Health Web Site. <https://apps.health.state.mn.us/mndata/webmap/lungcancer.html>. Accessed May 15, 2018.