



# Leading Causes of Death: Cancer Fact Sheet

Cancer is currently the leading cause of death for Napa County residents. Between 2005 and 2008 there were a total of 1,149 cancer deaths, an average of 287 deaths per year. Death (mortality) rates refer to the number of deaths per 100,000 population. They are age-adjusted to show comparisons among populations with different age distributions. In Napa County, the 2005-2008 age-adjusted cancer death rate is 174.5 deaths per 100,000 persons. Lung cancer was the leading cause of cancer deaths during this time period, with an age-adjusted rate of 45.9 deaths per 100,000 persons.

## ***Highlights***

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### Risk Factors

- In a 2007 survey, 62% of Napa County adults reported being overweight or obese (Table 1), which increases risk for endometrial (uterine), breast, prostate and colorectal cancers.
- An estimated 20.8% of Napa County adult males currently smoke (Table 1); the risk of developing lung cancer is approximately 23 times higher in men who smoke cigarettes compared to those who never smoked.

### Screening and Trends

- Greater than 90% of Napa County women age 18 and above are estimated to have had a Pap screening test for cervical cancer in the past 3 years, according to a 2007 survey (Table 2).
- Napa County has a higher age-adjusted cancer death rate than the state of California (Figure 1), but this difference is not statistically significant for the most recently available years (2006-2008).
- Napa County's cancer death rate has been declining since the 2003-2005 time period (Figure 1), but is still above the Healthy People 2010 objective of no more than 158.6 deaths per 100,000.

### Death rates by race/ethnicity and gender

- For the years 2005-2008, the cancer death rate for African Americans was significantly higher than for other race/ethnicities (Table 4).
- African Americans had a rate of 356.6 cancer deaths per 100,000 population and were almost twice as likely (Rate Ratio = 1.91) as whites to die from cancer (Table 3).
- The cancer death rates for Hispanic and Asian/Pacific Islander residents were significantly lower (48% and 45%, respectively) than the cancer death rate for white Napa County residents (Table 3).
- The cancer death rate for females in Napa County was 28% lower (Rate Ratio = 0.72) than for males (Table 3).

## Risk Factors

Table 1: Percentage of adults who reported behaviors and conditions that put them at risk of Cancer, Napa County, 2007.

	Current Smoker	Former Smoker	No moderate or vigorous physical activity	Overweight or Obese	Binge drinking in past year
Napa County	14.6%	24.8%	57.5%	62.0%	34.6%
California	14.3%	23.6%	63.7%	57.1%	29.7%
<b>Gender</b>					
Male	20.8%	27.8%	57.7%	72.5%	45.9%
Female	8.7%	22.1%	57.3%	52.2%	23.9%

Source: California Health Interview Survey, 2007

## Screening

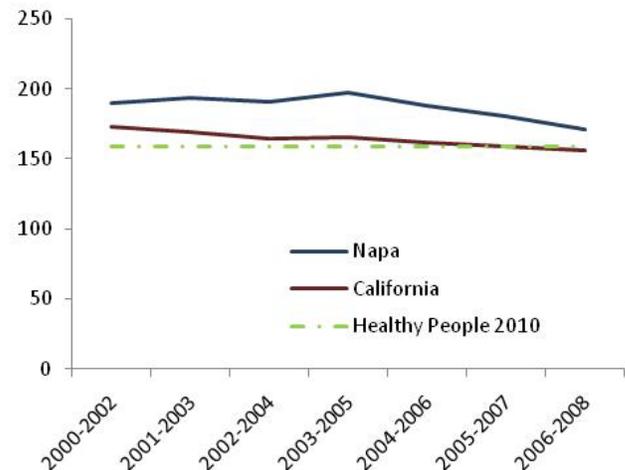
Table 2: Percentage of adults who reported cancer screening, Napa County and California, 2007.

	Napa	California
Adults >50 yrs who have ever had sigmoidoscopy/ fecal occult blood test	80.0%	74.5%
Women ≥ 18 yrs who have had a pap test in the past 3 years	93.9%	84.1%
Women ≥ 30 yrs who have had a mammogram in the past 2 years	64.5%	63.6%

Source: California Health Interview Survey, 2007

## Trend over time

Figure 1: Cancer death rates for Napa County and California, 3 year moving averages, 2000-2008.



Rates are age-adjusted per 100,000 persons  
Source: County Health Status Profiles, 2004-2010

## Deaths

Table 3: Cancer death rates and rate ratios by race/ethnicity and gender, Napa County 2005-2008.

Race/Ethnicity	Deaths	Rate	Rate Ratio	95% CI
White, non-Hispanic	1021	186.6	referent group	--
Hispanic	69	96.8	0.52	0.41, 0.66
Asian/Pacific Islander	29	103.3	0.55	0.38, 0.80
African American	23	356.5	1.91	1.26, 2.90
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	*	*	*
Two or more race categories	6	*	*	*
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	599	207.3	referent group	--
Female	550	150.0	0.72	0.64, 0.81

Rates are age-adjusted per 100,000 persons

\*Rates are unstable due to small numbers

Sources: California Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics Death Statistical Master files 2005, 2006, 2007 & 2008; State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000-2050. Sacramento, CA, July 2007.

Table 4: Cancer deaths<sup>1</sup> by gender, race/ethnicity, age category and cause, Napa County 2005-2008

	Deaths			
	Total	Percent	Age-adjusted Rate <sup>2</sup>	95% CI
<b>Total</b>	1149	100	174.5	164.3 184.8
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	599	52.1	207.3	190.6 224.0
Female	550	47.9	150.0	137.2 162.9
<b>Race/ethnicity</b>				
White, non-Hispanic	1021	88.9	186.6	174.8 198.3
Hispanic	69	6.0	96.8	72.7 120.9
Asian/Pacific Islander	29	2.5	103.3	65.5 141.2
African American	23	2.0	356.5	206.3 506.7
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	0.1	*	* *
Two or more Race Categories	6	0.5	*	* *
<b>Age category <sup>3</sup></b>				
UNDER 1 YEAR	0	0.0	*	* *
1-4 YEARS	0	0.0	*	* *
5-14 YEARS	0	0.0	*	* *
15-24 YEARS	6	0.5	*	* *
25-34 YEARS	6	0.5	*	* *
35-44 YEARS	19	1.7	26.9	16.2 42.0
45-54 YEARS	79	6.9	101.0	80.0 125.9
55-64 YEARS	176	15.3	267.0	227.5 306.4
65-74 YEARS	244	21.2	639.3	559.1 719.5
75-84 YEARS	369	32.1	1342.7	1205.7 1479.8
85 YEARS AND OVER	250	21.8	1834.2	1606.8 2061.6
<b>Cause</b>				
Lung (ICD10 C33-C34)	298	25.9	45.9	40.7 51.2
Colorectal (ICD10 C18-C21)	95	8.3	14.1	11.2 16.9
Female breast (ICD10 C50)	79	6.9	21.2	16.4 25.9
Prostate (ICD10 C61)	73	6.4	24.8	19.1 30.5
All other cancers	604	52.6	92.5	85.1 100.1

1Cause of death ICD10 COO-C95

2Rates are age-adjusted per 100,000 persons

3Rates are age-specific per 100,000 persons

\*Rates are unstable due to small numbers

Note: 95% CI are confidence intervals for the age-adjusted and age-specific rates. The confidence interval indicates the degree of reliability of a measurement (rate).

Sources: California Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics Death Statistical Master files 2005, 2006, 2007& 2008; State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000–2050. Sacramento, CA, July 2007.