

The lifetime risk of developing or dying from cancer refers to the chance a person has, over the course of his or her lifetime (from birth to death), of being diagnosed with or dying from cancer. These risk estimates, like annual incidence and mortality data, provide another measure of how widespread cancer is in the United States.

The following tables list lifetime risks of developing and dying from certain cancers for men and women. The information is from the US National Cancer Institute's Surveillance Epidemiology and End Results (SEER) Database, and is based on incidence and mortality data for the United States from 2009 through 2011, the most current years for which data are available

The risk is expressed both in terms of a percentage and as odds. For example, the risk that a man will develop bladder cancer during his lifetime is 3.83%. This means he has about 1 chance in 26 of developing bladder cancer (100/3.83 = 26.1). Put another way, 1 out of every 26 men in the United States will develop bladder cancer during his lifetime.

These numbers are average risks for the overall US population. Your risk may be higher or lower than these numbers, depending on your particular risk factors.

Males

Risk of developing	Risk of dying from

	%	1 in	%	1 in
All invasive sites	43.31	2	22.83	4
Bladder (includes in situ)	3.83	26	0.91	110
Brain and nervous system	0.69	145	0.51	196
Breast	0.13	769	0.03	3,333
Colon and rectum	4.84	21	2.04	49
Esophagus	0.80	125	0.79	127
Hodgkin disease	0.24	417	0.05	2,000
Kidney and renal pelvis	2.04	49	0.61	164
Larynx (voice box)	0.59	169	0.20	500
Leukemia	1.70	59	1.03	97
Liver and bile duct	1.27	79	0.90	111
Lung and bronchus	7.43	13	6.47	15
Melanoma of the skin	2.56	39	0.43	233
Multiple myeloma	0.83	120	0.47	213
Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	2.36	42	0.87	115
Oral cavity and pharynx	1.55	65	0.39	256
Pancreas	1.52	66	1.35	74
Prostate	15.02	7	2.66	38
Stomach	1.08	93	0.49	204
Testicles	0.38	263	0.02	5,000
Thyroid	0.57	175	0.05	2,000

Females

Risk of developing		Risk of dying from		
%	1 in	%		1 in

All invasive sites	37.81	3	19.26	5
Bladder (includes in situ)	1.14	88	0.34	294
Brain and nervous system	0.55	182	0.40	250
Breast	12.33	8	2.72	37
Cervix	0.65	154	0.23	435
Colon and rectum	4.49	22	1.85	54
Esophagus	0.23	435	0.21	476
Hodgkin disease	0.20	500	0.03	3,333
Kidney and renal pelvis	1.19	84	0.35	286
Larynx (voice box)	0.13	769	0.05	2,000
Leukemia	1.19	84	0.72	139
Liver and bile duct	0.53	189	0.47	213
Lung and bronchus	6.17	16	4.95	20
Melanoma of the skin	1.61	62	0.21	476
Multiple myeloma	0.62	161	0.38	263
Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	1.91	52	0.69	145
Oral cavity and pharynx	0.67	149	0.18	556
Ovary	1.33	75	0.98	102
Pancreas	1.48	68	1.32	76
Stomach	0.67	149	0.33	303
Thyroid	1.68	60	0.07	1,429
Uterine corpus	2.73	37	0.57	175

References

Howlader N, Noone AM, Krapcho M, Garshell J, Miller D, Altekruse SF, Kosary CL, Yu M, Ruhl J, Tatalovich Z, Mariotto A, Lewis DR, Chen HS, Feuer EJ, Cronin KA (eds). SEER Cancer Statistics Review, 1975-2011, National Cancer Institute. Bethesda, MD, http://seer.cancer.gov/csr/1975_2011/, based on November 2013 SEER data submission, posted to the SEER website, April 2014. Updated September 10, 2014.

Lifetime Risk (Percent) of Being Diagnosed with Cancer by Site and Race/Ethnicity: Males, 18 SEER Areas, 2009-2011 (Table 1.16) and Females, 18 SEER Areas, 2009-2011 (Table 1.17). 2014. Accessed at http://seer.cancer.gov/csr/1975_2011/results_merged/topic_lifetime_risk_diagnosis.pdf on September 24, 2014.

Lifetime Risk (Percent) of Dying from Cancer by Site and Race/Ethnicity: Males, Total US, 2009-2011 (Table 1.19) and Females, Total US, 2009-2011 (Table 1.20). 2014. Accessed at

http://seer.cancer.gov/csr/1975_2011/results_merged/topic_lifetime_risk_death.pdf on September 24, 2014.

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