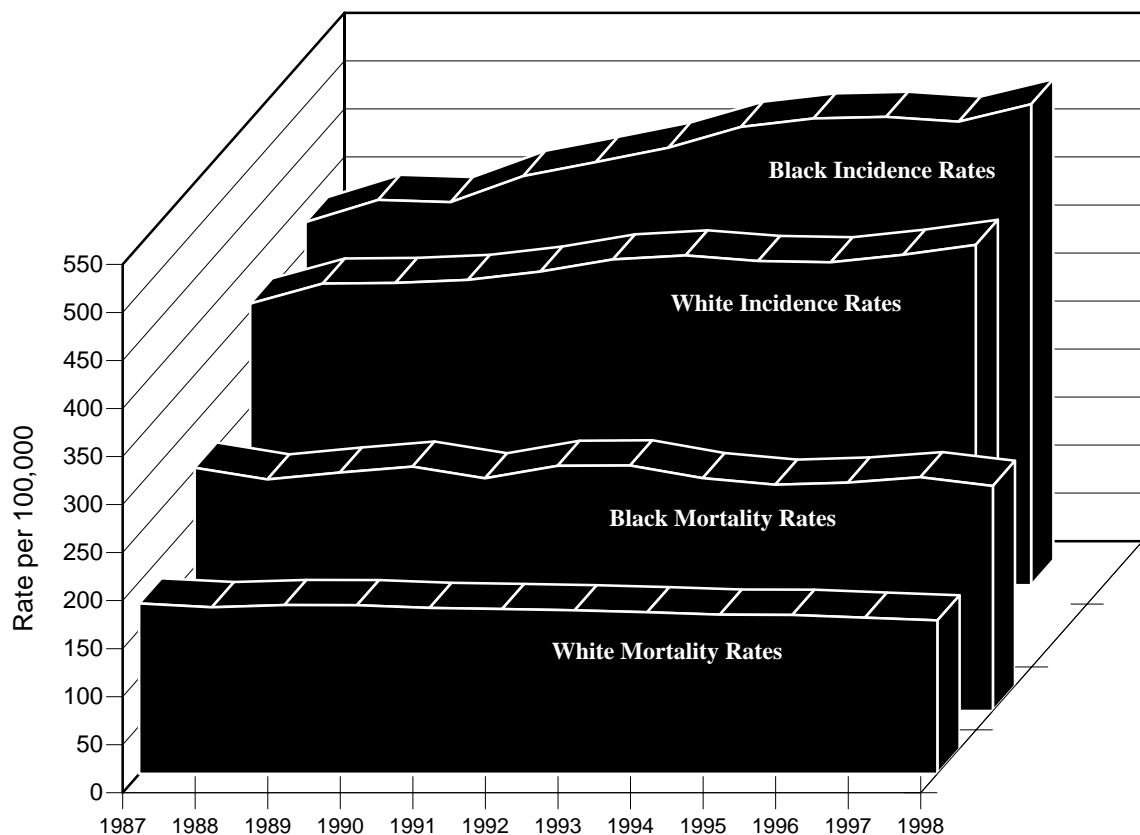
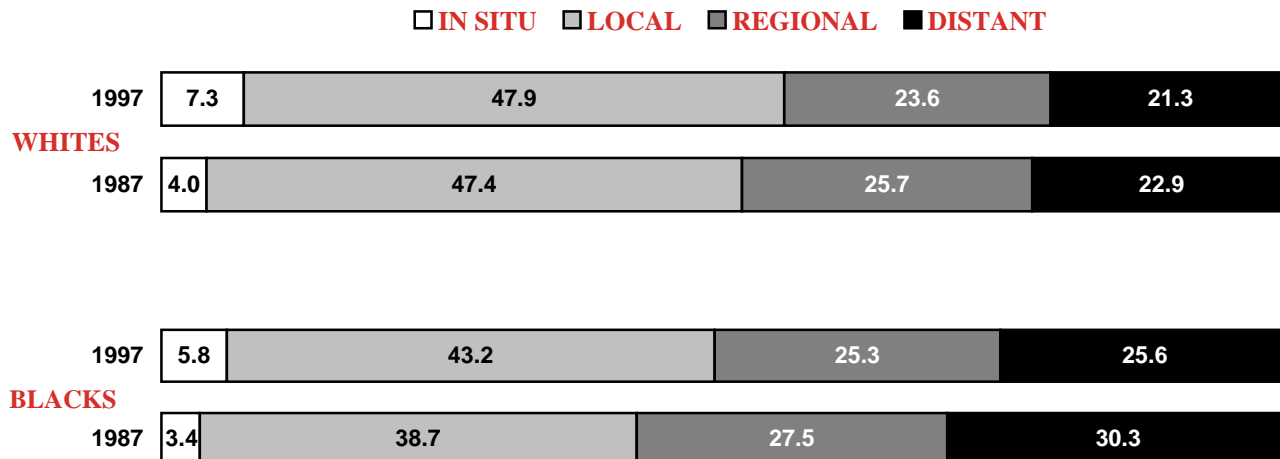


## *TRENDS: Annual Cancer Incidence and Cancer Mortality Age-Adjusted Rates by Race, Pennsylvania Residents*



Note: Age-adjusted rates are computed by the direct method using the 1970 U.S. standard million population.

## *Percent of Cancer Cases by Stage of Disease at Diagnosis Pennsylvania Residents by Race, 1987 and 1997*



## TRENDS By Race

**Incidence Rates** – Pennsylvania’s age-adjusted cancer incidence rates increased since 1987 for both whites and blacks. Among whites, the 1997 rate (419.8 per 100,000) was 17.0 percent higher than the 1987 rate (358.7). The 1997 rate for blacks (500.7) was 32.5 percent higher than their 1987 rate (377.9). The rates for blacks were about 5 percent higher than for whites in 1987 and 1989; however, by 1997, the black rate was 19.3 percent higher.

**Mortality Rates** – The age-adjusted cancer mortality rates for white residents have been on the decline since 1987. The 1998 rate of 159.7 per 100,000 was 10.0 percent lower than the 1987 rate of 177.4. Among blacks, the rate has fluctuated between 255.6 and 234.3 during the period of 1987-1998, with their lowest rate recorded in 1998. Unfortunately, black rates have remained about 40-45 percent higher than the rates for whites.

**Stage of Disease** – Between 1987 and 1997, both whites and blacks experienced increases in the percentages of diagnoses at the in situ and local stages and decreases in the percentages of regional and distant stages. Blacks also experienced more dramatic changes in the local and distant stages.

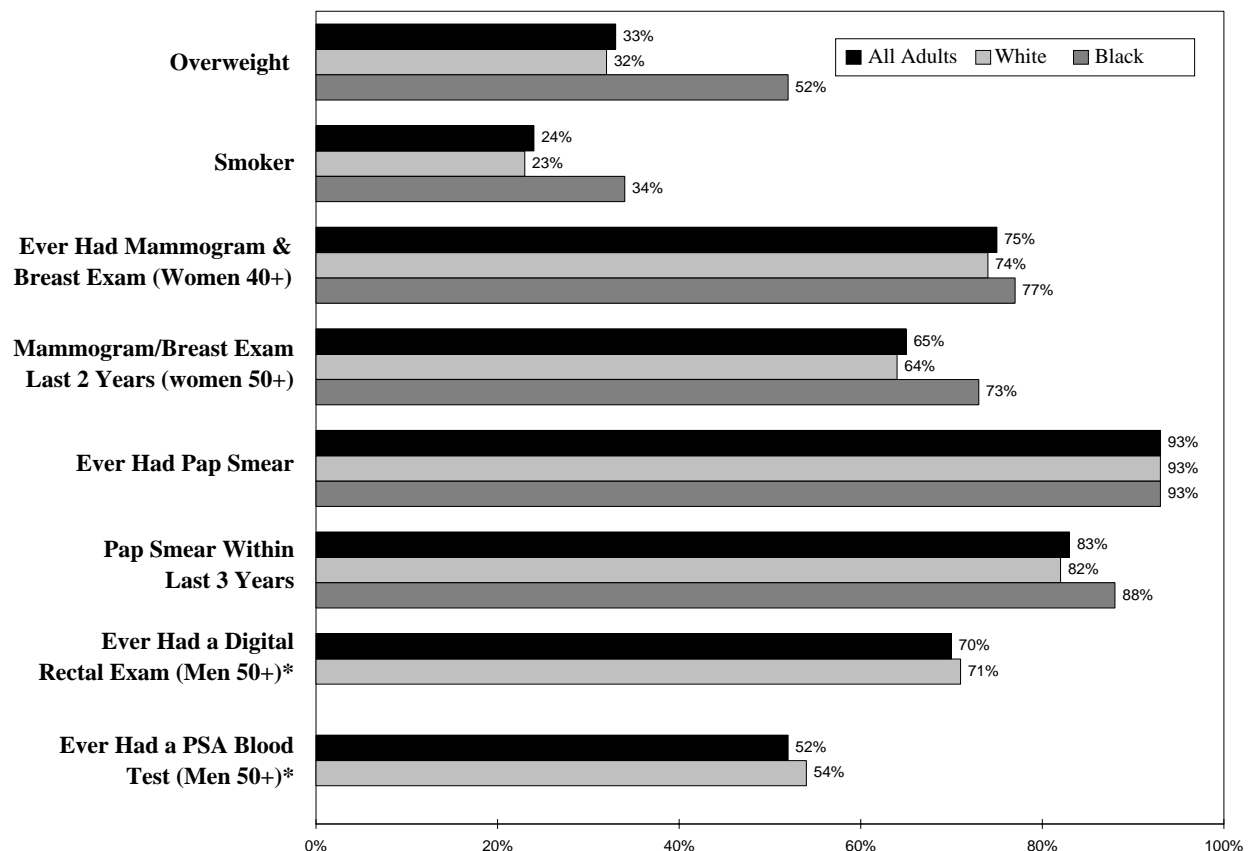
## Behavioral Risk Factors

The Pennsylvania Department of Health conducts a telephone sample survey of adult residents as part of its Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Results from the 1998 survey for selected risk factors that impact on cancer incidence are shown below for all, white, and black adults.

Thirty-three percent of the adults who responded to the survey were considered to be overweight. Pennsylvania usually is among those states with the highest percentages of overweight adults in the country. Twenty-four percent of the respondents smoked cigarettes regularly in 1998. The percentages of women who had ever had mammograms, breast exams and Pap smears were relatively high; however, somewhat lower percentages were reported for women aged 50 and older who had had a mammogram and breast exam in the past two years. Seventy percent of men aged 50 and older reported that they had ever had a digital rectal examination. Fifty-two percent of men aged 50 and older responded in 1998 that they had ever had a Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) test.

A few risk factors highlighted some differences between the races. More blacks were overweight (52 vs. 32 percent) and smokers (34 vs. 23 percent). More black women (aged 50+) had had mammograms and breast exams in the last two years and Pap smears (aged 18+) within the last three years.

## Selected Behavioral Risk Factors by Race, Pennsylvania Adults, 1998



Notes: Percentages were calculated using weighted data, i.e., the age, sex and race distribution of the estimated state population. Racial data exclude Hispanics.  
\* Data for Blacks not shown due to small total numbers.