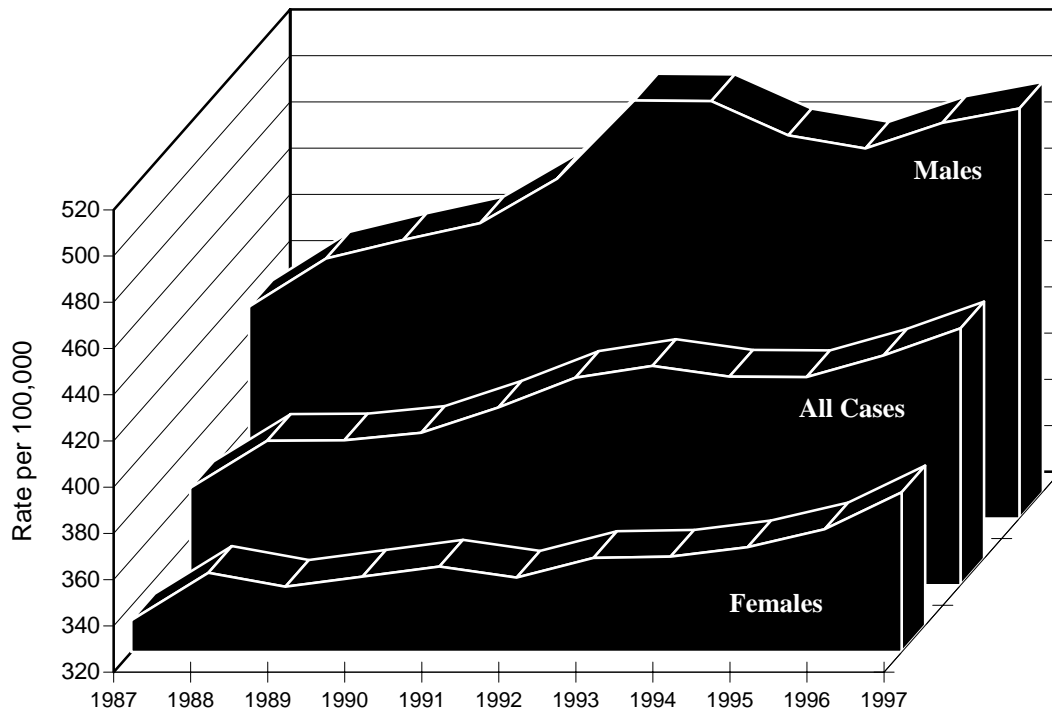
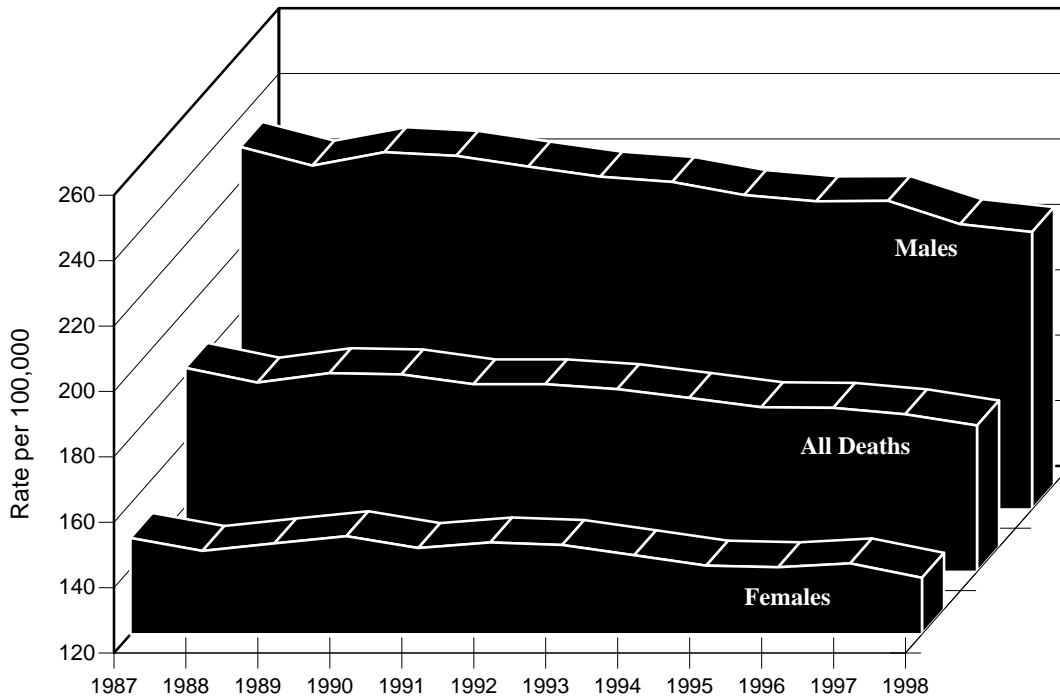


TRENDS: Annual Cancer Incidence and Cancer Mortality Age-Adjusted Rates by Sex, Pennsylvania Residents

Cancer Incidence Rates, 1987-1997



Cancer Mortality Rates, 1987-1998



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

TRENDS: All Cancers and By Sex

Incidence Rates - Between 1987 and 1997, Pennsylvania's age-adjusted cancer incidence rate for all cancers increased by 19.1 percent, from 362.1 per 100,000 to 431.2 in 1997. The rates for both sexes have also increased since 1987, especially for males. A large portion of the increase for males can be attributed to the higher numbers of prostate cancers being diagnosed more easily with use of a simple blood test. Male rates have also consistently been much higher than the rates for female residents of the state. The age-adjusted incidence rate for males in 1997 was 497.4, compared to 389.1 for females. However, while rates for males have fluctuated since 1993, female rates consistently increased since then.

Mortality Rates - Pennsylvania's age-adjusted cancer mortality rate for all cancers declined by 9.6 percent between 1987 and 1998, from 182.4 to 164.8. The age-adjusted mortality rates for both males and females have also declined since 1987 but the mortality rates for males remained approximately 50 percent higher than the rates for females. In 1987, the age-adjusted mortality rate for all male cancers was 230.9. By 1998, the rate had declined by 11.3 percent to 204.9. Among female residents, the age-adjusted mortality rate was 137.3 in 1998 which was 8.2 percent lower than the 1987 rate of 149.5.

Stage of Disease - In 1997, approximately 55 percent of the cancers reported among residents of Pennsylvania were diagnosed at the in situ and local stages of the disease when treatment can be effective and survival rates are high. In 1987, the percent of in situ and local diagnoses was somewhat lower at 50.9. In addition, the percent of regional stage diagnoses declined from 25.8 in 1987 to 23.7 in 1997. Diagnoses of Pennsylvania residents at the distant stage of the disease also declined from 23.4 percent in 1987 to 21.6 percent by 1997.

Among males, there was an increase in the percentage of cancers diagnosed at the in situ stage between 1987 and 1997 (from 3.4 to 5.1 percent). The percent of local stage diagnoses also increased, from 46.1 in 1987 to 50.1 in 1997. For females, the percentage of diagnoses at the in situ stage doubled between 1987 and 1997, from 4.5 to 9.2. However, the percent of local stage diagnoses declined among females, from 47.6 in 1987 to 45.2 in 1997.

There were declines for both sexes in the percentage of diagnoses at the regional stage. Among males, regional stage diagnoses declined from 23.8 to 22.2 percent and, among females, from 27.6 to 25.1. However, while distant stage diagnoses declined for males (from 26.7 to 22.6 percent), there was little change for females (20.3 vs. 20.6 percent).

Percent of Cancer Cases by Stage of Disease at Diagnosis All Cancers and by Sex, Pennsylvania Residents, 1987 and 1997

