



Louisiana Colorectal Cancer Statistics

- There are significant gender and race differences in colorectal cancer incidence and mortality rates as well.

2007 - 2011 Colorectal Cancer Incidence						
Average Annual Rates (per 100,000)						
	Whites			Blacks		
	Men & Women	Men	Women	Men & Women	Men	Women
Incidence Rates, LA	48.0	57.6	40.2	61.0	73.3	52.8
Incidence Rates, U.S.	42.3	48.8	36.8	51.2	60.6	44.8
Louisiana Rank	5	2	9	2	2	5

Black men have the highest incidence rates in the state and they have the largest gap among their counterparts nationwide.

2007 - 2011 Colorectal Cancer Mortality						
Average Annual Rates (per 100,000)						
	Whites			Blacks		
	Men & Women	Men	Women	Men & Women	Men	Women
Mortality Rates, LA	16.9	20.7	13.8	25.3	33.1	20.0
Mortality Rates, U.S.	15.5	18.5	13.0	22.1	27.7	18.5
Louisiana Rank	10	8	15	9	6	15

It is a similar story for mortality rates. Louisiana black men have the sixth highest death rate among their counterparts nationwide. However, their incidence rate of the disease is second nationally. These figures suggest that black men are getting diagnosed at later stages, making survival less likely.

- A recent Tulane/LSUHSC-NO study* found a much higher rate of colorectal cancer among 18 Acadian parishes**, particularly among the white population. A subgroup of nine of these parishes had even higher rates, with a colorectal cancer incidence rate 13% above the Louisiana average and 23% higher than the U.S. average. The study is unclear as to why the rate is so high, as the area does not have a high number of major risk factors. The hypothesis is that it may be due to the French-speaking Cajun founder population (a population with similar backgrounds in which genetic diversity has declined over time).

* <http://www.nature.com/ctq/journal/v5/n10/full/ctq201410a.html>

** Acadia, Allen, Assumption, Avoyelles, Calcasieu, Cameron, Evangeline, Iberia, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, Lafourche, Pointe Coupee, St. James, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, Terebonne, Vermilion as the "Acadian 18," and Acadia, Assumption, Avoyelles, Evangeline, Jefferson Davis, Lafourche, St. Landry, St. Martin, and Vermilion as the "Acadian 9" subgroup within the original 18.

- Though the number of colorectal cancer cases for people over 50 has been steadily declining between 1985 and 2011, thanks to screening measures, a recent study showed that cases for people 20 to 34 and 35 to 49 years old are increasing.***Young people are therefore encouraged to know the risk factors and make healthy lifestyle changes, though screening for younger people is not yet a recommendation.

*** Bailey, C. et al. "Increasing Disparities in the Age-Related Incidences of Colon and Rectal Cancers in the United States, 1975-2010" *JAMA Surg.* Published online November 05, 2014. doi:10.1001/jamasurg.2014.1756.

