

Middlesex County Cancer Fact Sheet

The Middlesex County Cancer Coalition is made possible by a grant from the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services' Office of Cancer Control and Prevention. The mission of the Middlesex County Cancer Coalition is to implement the New Jersey Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan in Middlesex County. For more information on Comprehensive Cancer Control in NJ, please visit: www.njcancer.gov.

County Demographic Profile 2000 vs. 2006		
	2000 ¹	2006 ²
Population	750,162	786,971
Median Age*	36	37
Racial Composition:		
% White	68	62
% Black	9	10
% Asian	14	18
Ethnic Composition:		
% Hispanic	14	17
Median Household Income*	\$61,446	\$72,669
% of Residents ≥ 25 years of age without high school diploma	16	14
% of Residents living below the poverty level*	7	7

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau; ¹ Census 2000, and

² 2006 American Community Survey

* Compare 2000 and 2006 data with caution; some differences exist due to differences in data methods.

Overall Cancer Burden

From 2000-2004, an average of 596 men and 438 women per 100,000 were diagnosed with cancer each year in Middlesex County. This is comparable to the New Jersey rate of 614 for men and 447 for women. The average annual cancer death rate was 219 for men and 160 for women in Middlesex County, compared to the state rate of 237 for men and 172 for women. As in the state, the types of cancers which affect the most people in Middlesex County are breast, colorectal, lung, and prostate.

Note: Rates are per 100,000 and age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Census population standards.

Overarching Issues

- **County Infrastructure:** An ongoing county cancer coalition exists; however, there is no current county-level comprehensive cancer plan.
- **Prevention and Education:** Cancer prevention and education resources are widely available; however, access issues exist for minority and low-income populations.
- **Transportation:** Several agencies provide no-cost or low-cost transportation assistance; however, age and service area restrictions create barriers to receiving cancer services.
- **Palliation / Quality of Life / Survivorship:** Support services are available, however, awareness and education is needed for health professionals and the general public on palliative care.
- **Providers and Treatment:** With 5 hospitals, 11 radiology and diagnostic facilities, home health agencies and 5 hospices providing treatment, cancer care is considered to be excellent in Middlesex County.
- **Childhood Cancer:** Two children's hospitals within the county offer pediatric hematology and oncology services and treatment.

Middlesex County & New Jersey

Average Annual Age-Adjusted Incidence & Mortality Rates by Site 1996-2000 vs. 2000-2004

All Cancers	Incidence Rate per 100,000*				Mortality Rate per 100,000**			
	Middlesex County			NJ	Middlesex County			NJ
	1996-2000 ¹	2000-2004 ²	% Change	2000-2004 ²	1996-2000 ³	2000-2004 ²	% Change	2000-2004 ²
Male	619.1	596.4	-3.7	614.4	260.6	218.5	-16.2	236.8
Female	442.4	438.0	-1.0	447.0	175.6	160.3	-8.7	171.9
NJ-CCCP Priority Cancer by Gender								
Breast, female	137.1	128.9	-6.0	131.9	30.1	27.5	-8.6	28.5
Cervical, female	9.9	7.9	-20.2	9.6	2.7	2.5	-7.4	2.7
Colorectal, male	84.8	67.7	-20.2	70.2	33.1	24.6	-25.7	25.9
Colorectal, female	49.9	48.3	-3.2	50.8	18.5	16.4	-11.4	18.3
Lung, male	91.0	81.3	-10.7	82.4	73.0	62.2	-14.8	66.5
Lung, female	56.5	53.0	-6.2	55.4	43.0	35.9	-16.5	40.7
Melanoma, male	17.6	19.4	10.2	24.4	3.8	3.6	-5.3	3.9
Melanoma, female	10.8	12.2	13.0	15.0	1.8	1.3	-27.8	1.7
Oral/Oropharyngeal, male	14.2	11.9	-16.2	14.6	3.5	3.3	-5.7	3.8
Oral/Oropharyngeal, female	5.9	5.8	-1.7	6.0	1.6	1.3	-18.8	1.4
Prostate, male	182.3	182.2	-0.1	192.7	33.1	24.9	-24.8	27.0

Sources:

- ¹ New Jersey State Cancer Registry, New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, August 2003.
- ² New Jersey State Cancer Registry, New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. Cancer-Rates. *Info/NJ*. <http://www.nj.gov/health/ces/cancer-rates.shtml> (November 2007).
- ³ National Cancer Institute and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, State Cancer Profiles (Accessed at <http://statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov/>).

Notes:

Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Census population standards.
 A rate at least 10% higher than the corresponding state rate is shown in **bold italics**.
 The annual rates for relatively uncommon cancers tend to fluctuate substantially from year to year because of small numbers of cases. The % change for cancers with low incidence and/or mortality rates should be interpreted with caution.

- * The number of newly diagnosed cases of disease in a specific population during a specific time period per 100,000 people.
- ** The number of deaths due to a disease in a specific population during a specific time period per 100,000 people.

For More Information

New Jersey Department of Health & Senior Services
 Office of Cancer Control and Prevention
 P.O. Box 360
 Trenton, NJ 08611-2425
 (609) 984-4978
www.njcancer.gov

