



Esophageal Cancer in Florida, 2006

Bureau of Epidemiology



Esophageal cancer forms in the tissues lining the esophagus (the muscular tube through which food passes from the throat to the stomach). Risk factors that are associated with esophageal cancer include older age, being male, tobacco use, alcohol use, diet, obesity, acid reflux, and Barrett's esophagus (abnormal cells in the lower part of the esophagus).

This report presents incidence data on esophageal cancer obtained from the Florida Cancer Data System (FCDS), and mortality data from Florida Department of Health Office of Vital Statistics. The Florida data are compared with data from the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program of the National Cancer Institute (NCI). The U.S. mortality data reported by SEER are provided by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS).

Incidence

- In 2006, 1,122 new esophageal cancer cases were diagnosed in Florida.
- The age-adjusted incidence rate was 4.7 per 100,000 population, which did not differ significantly from the SEER rate (4.4 per 100,000).

	Florida	SEER
Total[†]	4.7	4.4
0-14 [‡]	0.0	N/A
15-39 [‡]	0.1	N/A
40-64 [‡]	6.7	N/A
65+ [‡]	22.4	N/A
Male [†]	8.1	7.4
Female [†]	1.9	1.9
White [†]	4.7	4.5
Black [†]	4.2	5.0
White Male [†]	8.1	7.6
Black Male [†]	6.5	8.4
White Female [†]	1.8	1.9
Black Female [†]	2.3	2.6

- Incidence rates were highest among those aged 65 years and older.
- Males had higher incidence rates than females overall and in both race groups.

Mortality

- In 2006, 941 Floridians died of esophageal cancer.
- The age-adjusted mortality rate was 3.9 per 100,000 population, which was significantly lower than the U.S. rate (4.4 per 100,000).

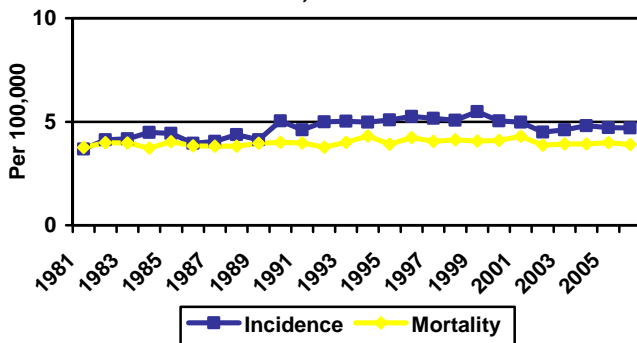
	Florida	U.S.
Total[†]	3.9	4.4
0-14 [‡]	0.0	N/A
15-39 [‡]	0.0	N/A
40-64 [‡]	4.8	N/A
65+ [‡]	20.5	N/A
Male [†]	6.8	7.9
Female [†]	1.5	1.7
White [†]	3.9	4.5
Black [†]	3.7	4.8
White Male [†]	6.8	8.0
Black Male [†]	6.5	8.4
White Female [†]	1.4	1.6
Black Female [†]	1.8	2.3

- Mortality rates were highest among those aged 65 years and older.
- The rates were higher among males regardless of race.

Time Trends of Incidence and Mortality

- The 2006 incidence rate (4.7 per 100,000) was 27% higher than the rate in 1981 (3.7 per 100,000).
- The 2006 mortality rate (3.9 per 100,000) did not differ significantly from the rate in 1981 (3.8 per 100,000).

Figure 1. Age-Adjusted Incidence and Mortality Rates of Esophageal Cancer, Florida, 1981-2006



Stage at Diagnosis

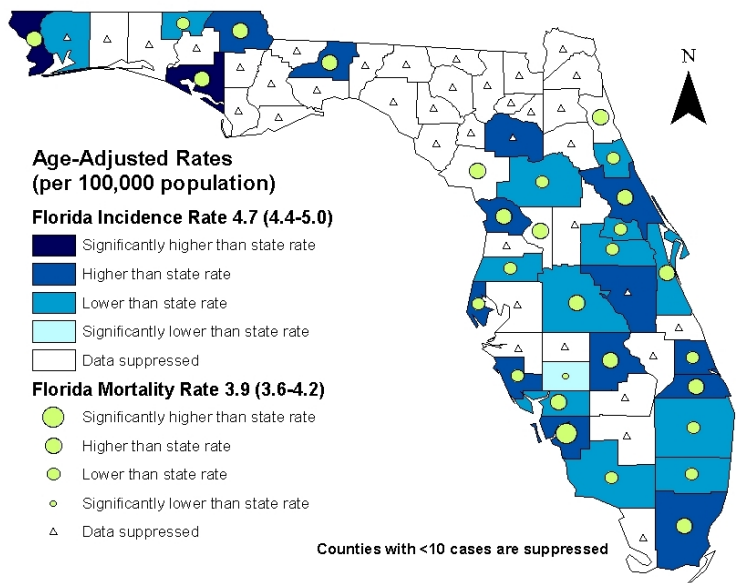
- Early-stage cancer is defined in this report as cancer that is localized to one part or organ of the body. Advanced-stage cancer is defined as cancer that has spread to other organs or throughout the body beyond the organ of cancer origin.
- Of all esophageal cancer cases, 53.8% were diagnosed at an advanced stage, 17.5% were diagnosed at an early stage, and 28.7% were reported without stage information.
- The percentage of cases diagnosed at an advanced stage was greater among males and blacks compared to their counterparts.
- The percentage of cases diagnosed at an early stage was 44% lower in 2006 (17.5%) compared to the rate in 1981 (31%).

- The percentage of cancer cases reported without stage information increased from 26% in 1981 to 28.7% in 2006.

Table 3. Percentage of Esophageal Cancer by Reported Diagnosis Stage, Florida, 2006

	Early	Advanced	Unknown
Total	17.5	53.8	28.7
Male	18.0	54.6	27.5
Female	15.8	51.0	33.2
White	17.6	53.6	28.8
Black	17.4	57.6	25.0
White Male	18.5	54.1	27.5
Black Male	14.1	62.5	23.4
White Female	14.3	52.1	33.6
Black Female	25.9	44.4	29.6

Figure 2. Age-Adjusted Incidence and Mortality Rates of Esophageal Cancer, Florida, 2006



For additional information on this report, please contact Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Epidemiology at 850.245.4401 or visit our website at: <http://www.floridachronicdisease.org/>.

For additional information about the data sources, please refer to 'Sources of Cancer Data' available at: http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease_ctrl/epi/cancer/CancerIndex.htm.

For additional information on esophageal cancer, please visit American Cancer Society website at: <http://www.cancer.org>.