

# Common Cancer Sites Among Hispanics in Florida, 2002—2004

*Bureau of Epidemiology*



## Executive Summary

In Florida 15,821 Hispanic men and 13,997 Hispanic women were diagnosed with cancer between 2002 and 2004. The percentage of new cancer cases diagnosed among Hispanics has declined by 28% in Florida since 1981. Forty-three percent of the new cancer cases diagnosed among Hispanics were diagnosed at an early stage, and 41% were diagnosed with an advanced stage cancer. Hispanic females (44%) had a greater percentage of advanced stage diagnoses while Hispanic men (46%) had a greater percentage of early stage diagnoses. Since 1981 cancer diagnosed at early stage among Hispanics has increased by 45%. Hispanic blacks had a greater increase in early diagnosis (52%) than did Hispanic whites (45%). Deaths from cancer increased by 1.3% among Hispanics in Florida from 2000 to 2004. From 2002 to 2004, 54% of Hispanics who died of cancer were men and 92% were whites. Lung cancer (44%) and colorectal cancer (25%) were the two leading cancer deaths among Hispanics in Florida.

## Background

Hispanics are the largest minority group in the United States, with a population of 41.3 million (14.2% of the total population) in 2004.<sup>1</sup> It is estimated that this population will continue to grow by more than 1.7 million people per year.<sup>1</sup> The U.S. Hispanic population increased by 141.7% from 1980 to 2000.<sup>2</sup> It is projected that the Hispanic population will reach 47.7 million by the end of this decade and 60.4 million by 2020.<sup>3</sup> Nearly 80% of the Hispanic population live in California, Texas, New York, Florida, Illinois, Arizona, New Jersey, New Mexico, or Colorado.<sup>3</sup>

Florida's Hispanic population grew by more than 200% from 1980 to 2000.<sup>3</sup> From 2002 to 2004, 18% of the total population was Hispanic.<sup>5</sup> About 32% of Hispanics were white and 4% were blacks. It is projected that about 23% of the Florida population will be Hispanic in 2030.<sup>4</sup>

Cancer deaths represented 20% of all deaths

among Hispanics in the United States in 2000, following heart disease (24%).<sup>6</sup> Cancer occurrences can vary across populations because of regional, behavioral, or genetic differences.<sup>6</sup> Hispanics' risk of cancer may differ based on whether they are American or foreign-born, country of origin or heritage, degree of acculturation, and socioeconomic status.<sup>6</sup> The uniqueness of cancer risk among Hispanic populations and the rapid growth in population size highlight the importance of cancer studies among this group.

## Methods

Cancer incidence, stage, and histology data were provided by the Florida Cancer Data System (FCDS). The FCDS is Florida's statewide, population-based cancer registry, and has collected cancer incidence data since 1981.

Mortality data were provided by the Florida Department of Health, Office of Vital Statistics, and are based on information from death certificates.

Only cancer cases/deaths among Hispanic residents of Florida were included in the analysis. Data from 2002 to 2004 were pooled to increase the sample size. Prior to 2003, Hispanic population data by race group were not available. Therefore, 2003 population data were used as the average population for calculating rates for 2002-2004. International Classification of Diseases (ICD) codes of cancer sites reported in this report can be found in Appendix A.

### Overview of Hispanic versus Non-Hispanic Population

The age-adjusted incidence rate of all cancer sites combined among Hispanics was 366.2 per 100,000 population between 2002 and 2004 in Florida. The age-adjusted mortality rate of all cancer sites among Hispanics was 129.0 per 100,000 population in the same time period. Both incidence and mortality rates among Hispanics were significantly lower than non-Hispanic whites and non-Hispanic blacks (see Table 1).

**Table 1. Age-Adjusted Incidence and Mortality Rates of All Cancer Sites by Race/Ethnicity, Florida, 2002—2004**

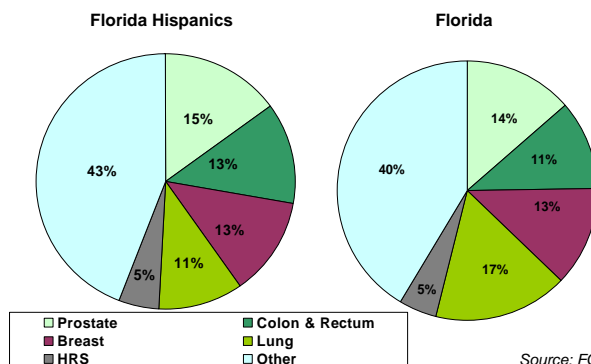
Race/Ethnicity	Incidence Rate (per 100,000)	Mortality Rate (per 100,000)
Hispanic	366.2	129.0
Non-Hispanic White	497.8	185.4
Non-Hispanic Black	458.4	213.0

Source: FCDS

### New Cancer Cases

In Florida, 287,170 new cancer cases were reported between 2002 and 2004, of which 29,828 (10%) were among Hispanics. Of these cases, 15,821 (53%) were Hispanic men and 13,997 (47%) were Hispanic women. Ninety-eight percent of Hispanics diagnosed with cancer were white.

**Figure 1. Percentage of Common Cancer Sites Among Hispanics, Florida, 2002—2004**



Source: FCDS

The most common cancers among Hispanics from 2002 to 2004, were cancers of the lung and bronchus, prostate, breast, colorectal cancer, and cancers of the hematopoietic and reticuloendothelial systems (HRS) (see Figure 1). The age-adjusted incidence rates of breast cancer, lung and bronchus cancer and cancers of HRS were significantly lower among Hispanics compared to the overall state rates (see Table 1).

**Table 2. Age-Adjusted Cancer Incidence Rates Among Hispanics, Florida, 2002—2004**

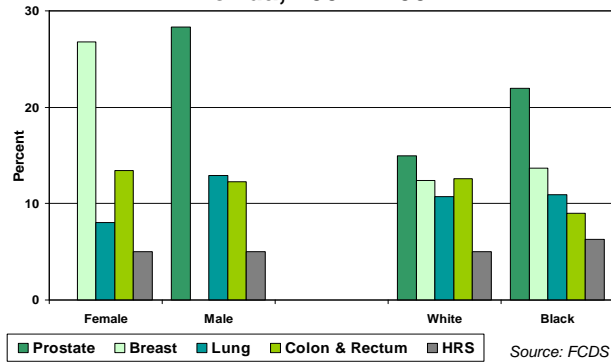
Cancer Sites	Florida Hispanics (per 100,000)	Florida (per 100,000)
Prostate	129.0	129.7
Breast	85.8*	112.0
Colon & Rectum	48.9	48.2
Lung and Bronchus	40.9*	72.1
Hematopoietic & Reticuloendothelial system	18.8*	21.7

\* Significantly different from the state value

Source: FCDS

Hispanic males had more lung cancer cases while Hispanic females had more colorectal cancer cases compared to their counterparts. Hispanic blacks had more cancer cases than Hispanic whites for all sites except for colon and rectum (see Figure 2).

**Figure 2. Percentage of Common Cancer Sites Among Hispanics by Sex and Race, Florida, 2002—2004**

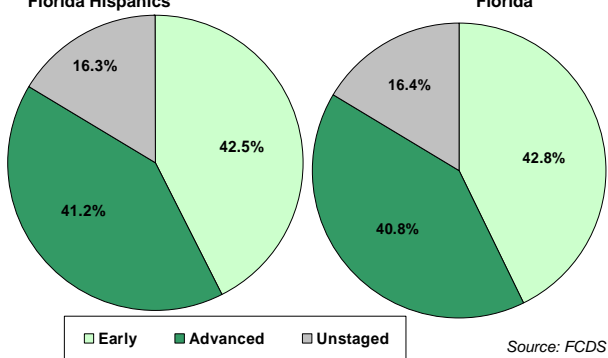


**Cancer Stage**

Cancer can be diagnosed at different stages; from an early stage, where the cancer is in its original location and has no signs of invasion to other organs, to an advanced stage, where the cancer has spread to distant organs. For this analysis, regional and distant stage cancers constitute advanced stages and cancers that have not invaded other organs constitute early stages.

Forty-three percent of the new cancer cases diagnosed among Hispanics from 2002 to 2004 were diagnosed at an early stage, and 41% were diagnosed at advanced stages. The percentages were similar to those observed for the state overall (see Figure 3).

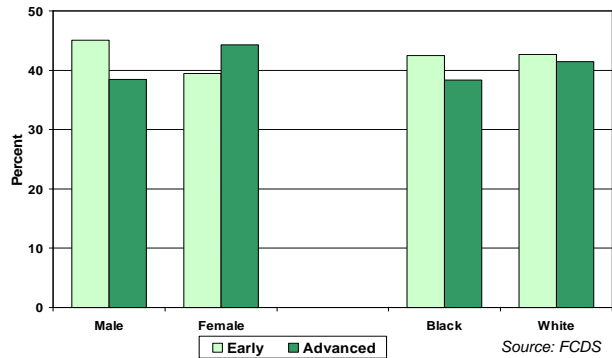
**Figure 3. Percentage of New Cancer Cases by Stage of Diagnosis Among Hispanics, Florida, 2002—2004**



Hispanic females had a significantly greater percentage (44%) of cancer diagnosed at

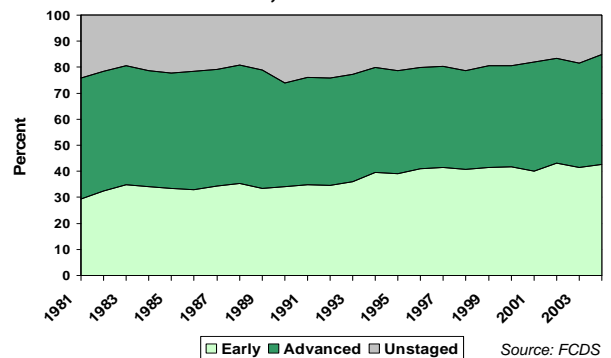
advanced stages than did Hispanic males (38%). The percentage of cancer diagnosed at advanced stages among Hispanic whites and Hispanic blacks were 41% and 38%, respectively (see Figure 4).

**Figure 4. Percentage of New Cancer Cases Among Hispanics by Stage, Sex, and Race, Florida, 2002—2004**



Among Florida Hispanics in 2004, cancers diagnosed at an early stage increased by 44% compared to 1981. Among the common cancer sites among Hispanics, cancer diagnosed at an early stage increased by 24% for breast cancer, but decreased by 23% for lung cancer in 2004 compared to 1981. Bladder cancer diagnosed at advanced stages showed a greater decrease, by 55% since 1981.

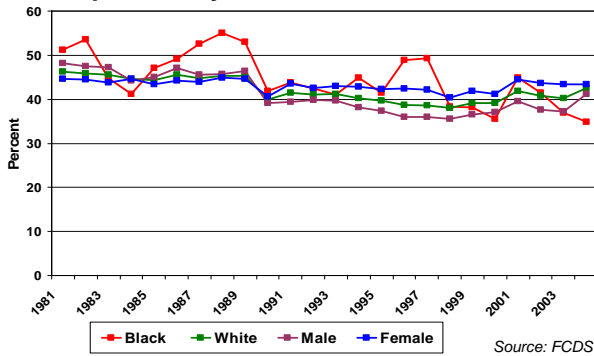
**Figure 5. Percentage of New Cancer Cases Among Hispanics by Stage and Year, Florida, 1981—2004**



Percentage of cancer diagnosed at advanced stages among Hispanics decreased by 6% among males, but remained unchanged among females from 1981 to 2004. During this 24-

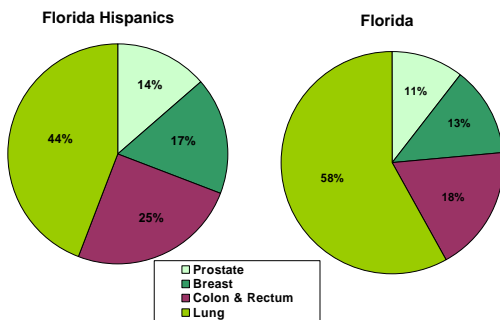
year period, the percentage of cancer diagnosed at advanced stages showed a greater decrease among Hispanic blacks (32%), compared to the decrease among Hispanic whites (8%) (see Figure 6).

**Figure 6. Percentage of New Cancer Cases Diagnosed at Advanced Stage Among Hispanics, by Year, Florida, 1981—2004**



**Deaths from Cancer**

**Figure 7. Percentage of Cancer Deaths Among Hispanics, Florida, 2000—2004**



Note: Total will not add up to 100 since cancers of HRS and other cancer sites are not included

Source: FCDS

From 2002 to 2004, 116,981 deaths from cancer were reported in Florida, of which 10,900 (9.3%) were Hispanic. Forty-six percent of Hispanics who died from cancer were females and 54% were males. Ninety-two percent of Hispanics who died from cancer were white and 7% were black. Among Hispanics, 44% of the cancer deaths were from lung cancer and 25% were from colorectal cancer. The percentage of lung cancer deaths for the overall state was 1.3 times the percentage among Hispanics. The percentages of colorectal, breast, and prostate

cancer deaths were higher among Hispanics compared to overall state rate (see Figure 7).

The age-adjusted mortality rates of breast cancer, colorectal cancer, and lung and bronchus cancer were significantly lower among Hispanics compared to overall state rates (see Table 3).

**Table 3. Age-Adjusted Cancer Mortality Rates Among Hispanics, Florida, 2002—2004**

Cancer Sites	Florida Hispanics (per 100,000)	Florida (per 100,000)
Prostate	22.3	21.3
Breast	17.0*	22.9
Colon & Rectum	15.1*	16.3
Lung and Bronchus	26.3*	53.0
Hematopoietic & Reticuloendothelial system	#	#

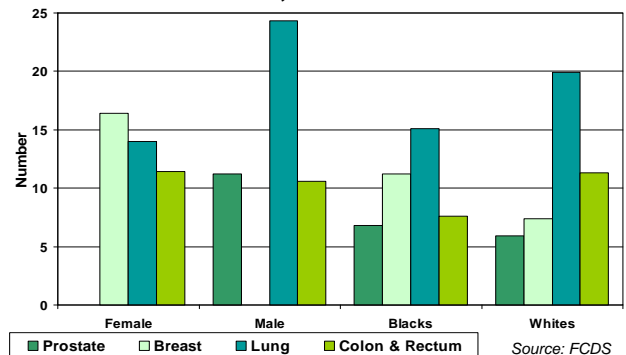
\* Significantly different from the state value

# Less than 10 cases

Source: FCDS

The leading causes of cancer death were breast cancer (16%) among Hispanic females and lung cancer (24%) among Hispanic males (see Figure 8).

**Figure 8. Percentage of Cancer Deaths Among Hispanics by Sex and Race, Florida, 2002—2004**



Source: FCDS

**References:**

- (1) U.S. Census Bureau, 2007, <[www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)>
- (2) Frank Hobbs and Nicole Stoops, U.S. Census Bureau, Special Reports, Series CENSR-4, "Demographic Trends in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century". Table 10, p. A34 <<http://web.gc.cuny.edu/lastudies/Hispanic%20Population%20Growth%20by%20Region%20and%20State,%201980-2000.pdf>>, Accessed 2007
- (3) The Pew Hispanic Center, "Hispanics: A People in Motion Trends 2005," <<http://pewhispanic.org/reports/report.php?ReportID=40>>, Accessed 2007.
- (4) Stan Smith, UF's Bureau of Economic and Business Research, "Florida's Hispanic population to grow more rapidly than that of state", <<http://news.ufl.edu/2004/07/20/hispanic-influx-tip/>>, Accessed 2007
- (5) Florida Department of Health Office of Planning, Evaluation & Data Analysis, <<http://www.floridacharts.com/charts/report.aspx?domain=06&IndNumber=0253>>, Accessed 2007.
- (6) Kate O'Brien, Vilma Cokkinides, Ahmedin Jemal, and Elizabeth Ward, 2003, "Cancer Facts & Figures for Hispanics/Latinos", *America Cancer Society*, <http://www.cancer.org/downloads/STT/CAFF2003HisPWSecured.pdf>

**Contact information:**

For more information on this report please contact Ms. Aruna Surendera Babu at (850) 245-4444 Ext. 2418 or [Aruna\\_Surenderababu@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Aruna_Surenderababu@doh.state.fl.us).

For more information on FCDS please contact Ms. Tara Hylton at (850) 245-4444 Ext. 2441 or [Tara\\_Hylton@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Tara_Hylton@doh.state.fl.us).

**Appendix A:**

Cancer Sites	ICD-O-3 Code	ICD-10 Code
Bladder	C67	C67, D09.0
Breast	C50	C50
Colon & Rectum	C18-C20	C18-C20
Cancers of Hematopoietic and reticuloendothelial System	C42	C96
Lung and Bronchus	C34	C34
Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma	Histology: 9590-9596, 9670-9671, 9673, 9675, 9678-9680, 9684, 9687, 9689-9691, 9695, 9698-9702, 9705, 9708-9709, 9714-9719, 9727-9729, 9823, 9827	C82.0-C85.9, B21.1, B21.2
Prostate	C61	C61