



Liver Cancer in Florida, 2005

Bureau of Epidemiology



Primary liver cancer begins in the cells of the liver, an organ that removes harmful materials from the blood and helps digest food. In the United States, cancer affecting the liver is more commonly secondary cancer, which occurs when tumors from other parts of the body spread (metastasize) to the liver. Cancers that commonly spread to the liver include colon, lung, and breast cancers. Risk factors that are associated with liver cancer include chronic liver infection, cirrhosis, exposure to Aflatoxin, excessive alcohol consumption, smoking, male gender, family history, and age. The American Cancer Society estimates that 21,370 new cases and 18,410 deaths will be related to liver cancer in the United States in 2008. In 2005, there were 1,229 hospital discharges for the treatment of liver cancer in Florida. The average length of stay per hospitalization was seven days. The total hospital charges for liver cancer hospitalization in 2005 were \$51 million. Data for this report were obtained from the Florida Cancer Data System (FCDS), Florida's statewide, population-based cancer registry. The FCDS has collected cancer incidence data since 1981.

Incidence

- In 2005, 1,127 new cases of liver cancer were diagnosed, 847 males and 278 females.
- The age-adjusted incidence rate was 5.1 per 100,000, which was below the national incidence rate (6.8 per 100,000).

- Blacks (6.2 per 100,000) had a higher incidence rate than whites (4.8 per 100,000).
- Rates among both sexes, both races and all four sex-race groups in Florida were lower than the national rates.

Table 1. Age-adjusted Incidence Rate of Liver Cancer per 100,000 Population, FL, FCDS, 2005

	Florida	U.S.
All	5.1	6.8
0-14	0.2	~
15-39	0.3	~
40-64	9.2	~
65+	18.3	~
Male	8.3	10.4
Female	2.2	3.7
White	4.8	5.8
Black	6.2	8.2
White Male	7.9	8.9
White Female	2.1	3.1
Black Male	10.2	13.1
Black Female	3.0	4.3
~ No data available for comparison		

- Incidence rates increased with age.
- Males (8.3 per 100,000) had a higher incidence rate than females (2.2 per 100,000) overall and in both race groups.

Mortality

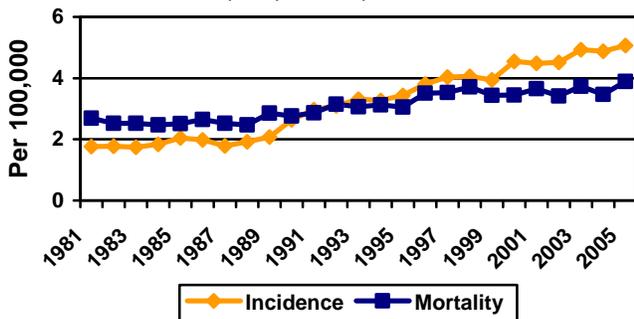
Table 2. Age-adjusted Mortality Rate of Liver Cancer per 100,000 Population, FL, FCDS, 2005

	Florida	U.S.
All	3.9	5.3
0-14	0.0	~
15-39	0.2	~
40-64	6.0	~
65+	17.2	~
Male	6.2	7.8
Female	1.9	3.2
White	3.6	4.8
Black	5.5	7.0
White Male	5.8	7.1
White Female	1.7	3.0
Black Male	8.8	11.4
Black Female	2.8	3.8
~ No data available for comparison		

- In 2005, 890 Floridians died of liver cancer, 641 males and 249 females.
- The age-adjusted mortality rate was 3.9 per 100,000 population which was below the national rate (5.3 per 100,000).
- Mortality rates increased with age.

- Mortality rate among males (6.2 per 100,000) was three times the rate among females (1.9 per 100,000).
- Blacks (5.5 per 100,000) had a higher mortality rate than whites (3.6 per 100,000) overall and among both sexes.
- Rates among both sexes, both races, and four sex-race groups in Florida were lower compared to the national rates.

Figure 1. Age-adjusted Rate of Liver Cancer, FL, FCDS, 1981-2005



- The 2005 incidence rate (5.1 per 100,000) was 2.5 times the rate in 1981 (1.8 per 100,000).
- The 2005 mortality rate (3.9 per 100,000) was 45% higher compared to the rate in 1981 (2.7 per 100,000).

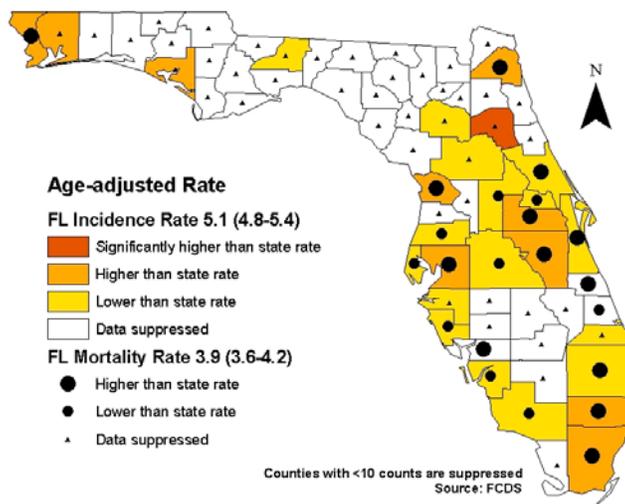
Diagnosis Stage

- The percentage of cancer cases diagnosed without a stage was greater than those diagnosed with a stage.
- The percentage of cancer diagnosed at an early stage was higher among females (37.4%) compared to males (33.9%).
- The percentage of cancer diagnosed at a later stage was higher among blacks (41.3%) than in whites (32.6%)

	Early	Advanced	Unknown
All	34.7	33.5	36.1
Male	33.9	33.9	32.2
Female	37.4	32.0	30.6
White	34.9	32.6	32.5
Black	31.2	41.3	27.5

- The percentage of cancer diagnosed at an early stage increased by 15%, while the percentage of cancer diagnosed at an unknown stage decreased by 12% in 2005 compared to 1981.

Figure 2. Age-adjusted Incidence and Mortality Rates of Liver Cancer per 100,000 Population, FL, 2005



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