

CCRAB ANNUAL REPORT 2022



# THE STATE OF CANCER IN FLORIDA



**Florida Cancer Control  
& Research Advisory Council**



## INTRODUCTION

The Florida Cancer Control and Research Advisory Council (also called CCRAB) was legislatively chartered 42 years ago to advise the Florida Legislature, Florida Board of Governors, and the Florida Surgeon General on ways to reduce the burden of cancer in the state (Florida Statute 1004.435). CCRAB serves as a steering body for statewide cancer prevention and control. CCRAB closely studies and monitors Florida's cancer burden and recommends changes in policies, systems, and environments that lead to improved prevention, earliest detection, highest quality treatment, and survivorship from cancer.

Every five years, CCRAB leads the consensus process for producing a Florida Cancer Plan. The Plan contains goals, objectives, and strategies for all state cancer control stakeholders to reduce Florida's cancer burden and promote health equity for all Floridians. The 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan can be accessed at <http://www.ccrab.org/cancer-plan>.

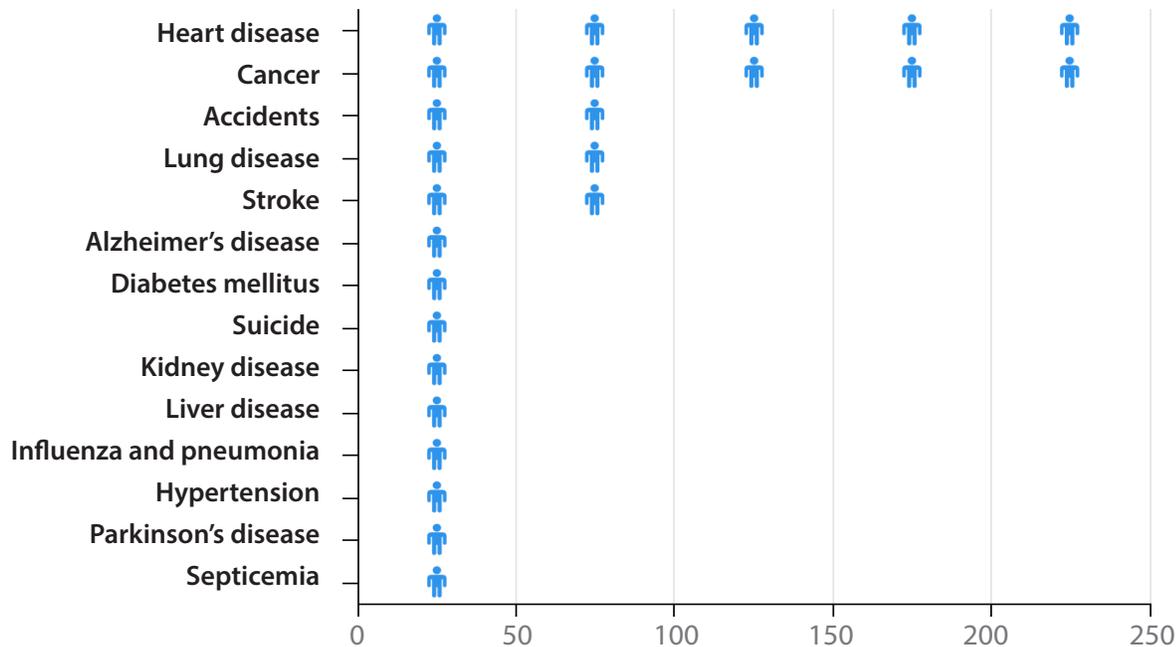
Every year, CCRAB also publishes an Annual Report on Cancer in Florida that includes latest data and trends worth noting for data-driven policy decisions. CCRAB is a resource for cancer information in the State of Florida and can be reached at <http://www.ccrab.org>.

**Note:** Trends in COVID-19 impact on cancer prevention, incidence and mortality in Florida and nationally are still evolving. Initially (2020), cancer screenings dropped drastically for all modalities including colonoscopy for colorectal cancer screening, mammogram for breast cancer screening, cervical cancer screening with Pap test or HPV test, or lung cancer screening with low dose CT to mention a few, as facilities and the public limited or delayed "non-urgent" procedures. Emerging data suggest there has been marked resumption of cancer screenings, but uptake remains below pre-pandemic levels for most cancer screenings. National organizations and State entities continue to implement strategies to support health systems and educate the general public to increase resumption of screenings (not to delay). For example, some health systems have increased use of evidence-based alternatives to colonoscopy screenings by offering home stool-based testing options (i.e., fecal immunochemical tests (FIT) or stool DNA tests (such as Cologuard), when appropriate. The long-term impact on cancer incidence and mortality remains unclear but there are **concerted efforts in every community to boost resumption of cancer screenings.**

## Leading Causes of Death in Florida

Cancer and heart disease are the two leading causes of death in Florida, far higher in incidence than all other causes of death including accidents, chronic lung diseases like emphysema, stroke, Alzheimer’s disease, influenza virus, and diabetes mellitus. A roadmap to ensure high quality cancer data for data-driven policymakers is presented in Goal 2 of the 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan.

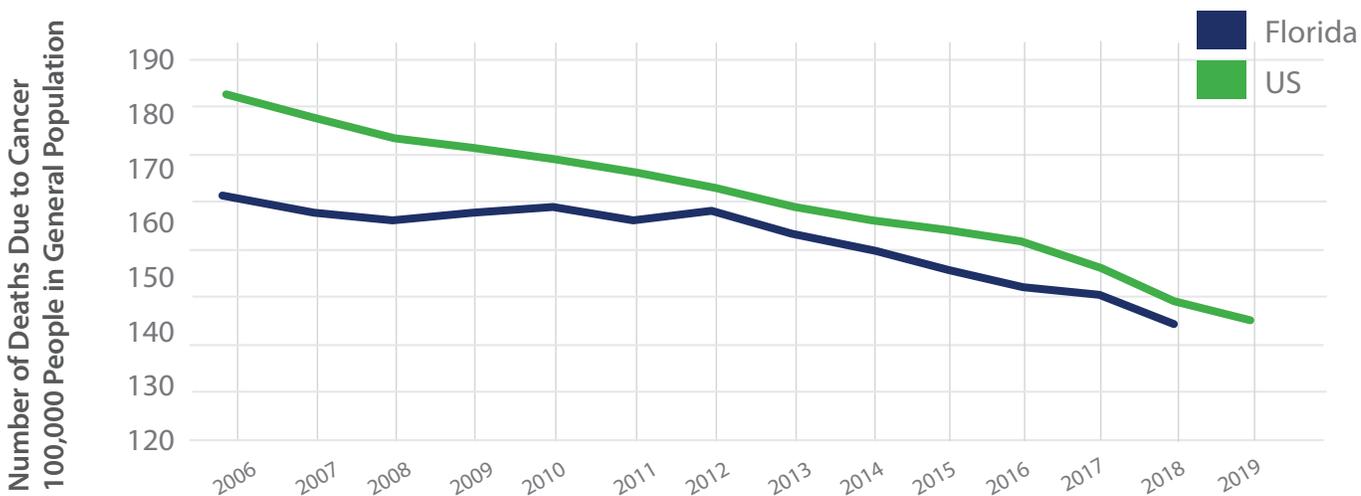
### Florida Death Rate per 100,000 in 2017



Source: CDC National Vital Statistics System, LCWK5 2017 data. Based on the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision.

## Cancer Mortality Rates in Florida versus the United States

The rate of death from cancer in Florida has steadily decreased over the last 10 years. This decline is also seen nationally. The reduction in Florida’s cancer death rate is chiefly due to strong efforts in tobacco prevention and cessation. As written in the Florida Cancer Plan, there are many more opportunities to further prevent and cease tobacco use and secondhand smoke exposure (Goal 3, 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan), such as prohibiting tobacco smoking on Florida’s public beaches and parks. Improved access to cancer screening has also contributed to Florida’s reduction in cancer-related deaths through the earlier detection of cancer when curative intervention is possible (Goals 10-13, 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan). With advent of immunoncology agents, we expect to see further reductions in two of Florida’s most lethal cancers: lung cancer and melanoma. These new therapeutics are being developed in Florida with partial support from Florida’s Bankhead-Coley and James & Esther King Biomedical Research Programs (Goal 21, 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan).

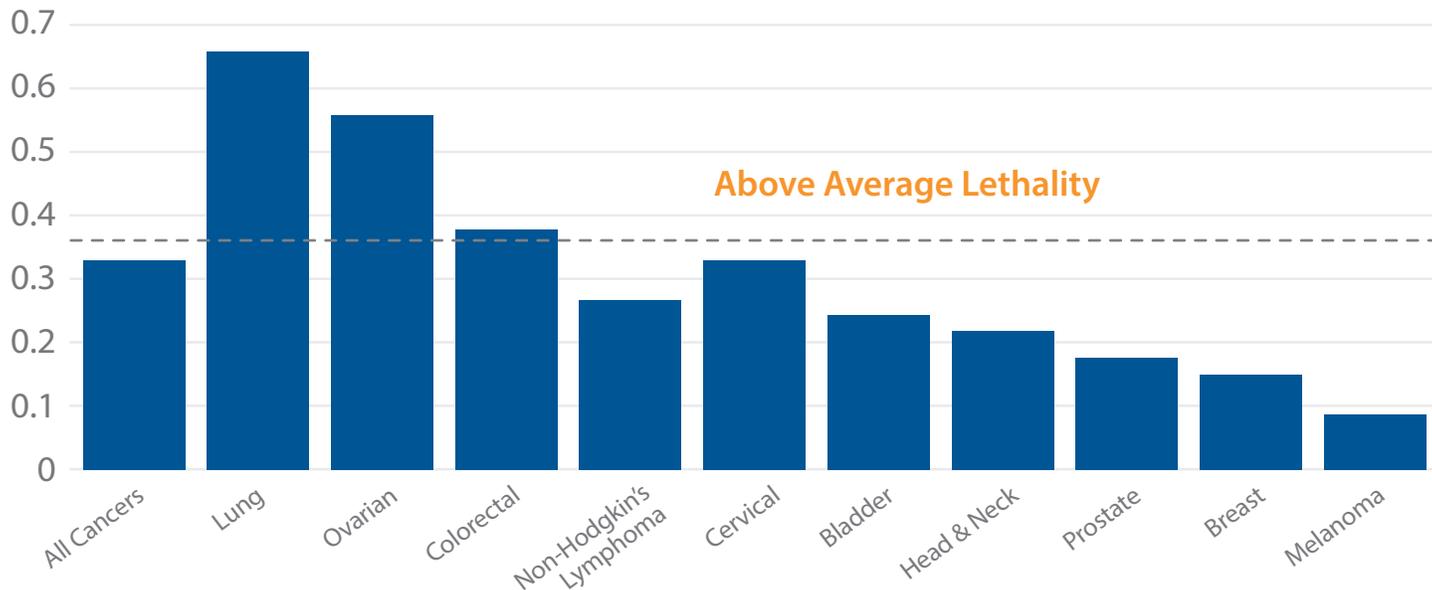


Source: FCDS and SEER

## Top Lethal Cancers in Florida

Lung cancer, ovarian cancer, and colorectal cancers are three of the more lethal cancers in Florida. These cancers often present in late-stage when they have already spread to other sites of the body – also called metastatic disease. Treating metastatic cancer is one of the greatest challenges in oncology. Increased support for Florida’s Bankhead-Coley and James & Esther King Biomedical Research Programs are needed to move new treatments from Florida laboratories to Florida cancer clinics (Goal 21, 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan).

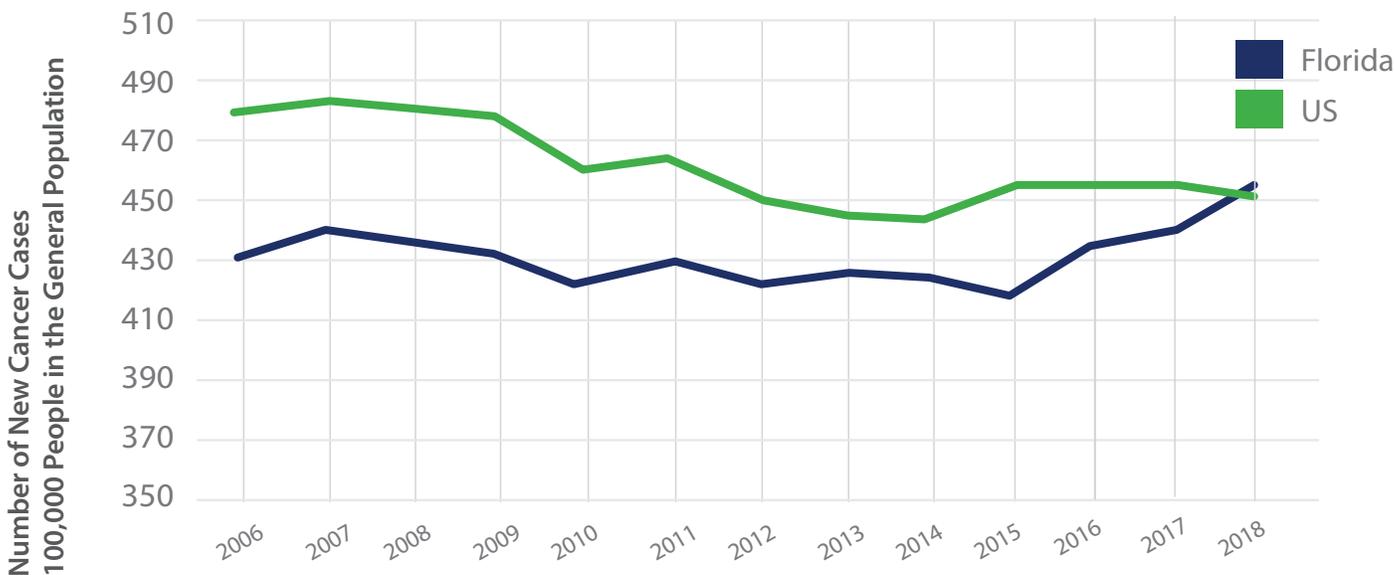
### Proportion of patients dying of each cancer



Source: FCDS

## Cancer Incidence in Florida vs. the United States

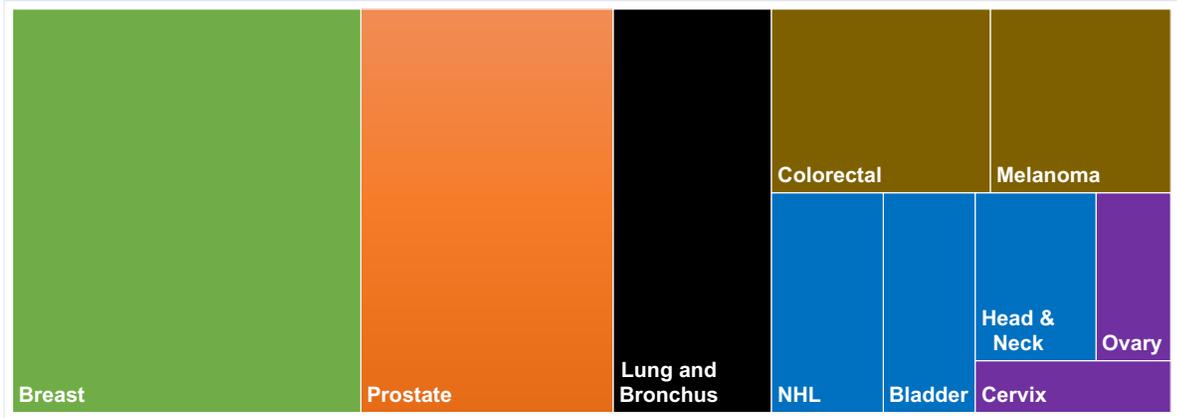
The incidence of cancer in Florida has steadily decreased in the last 10 years, and artifactually shows an increase since 2016. The seemingly higher rates since 2016 are because of improved cancer case capture by Florida’s statewide cancer data and surveillance program, which developed new methods of capturing cancer cases in Florida’s outpatient clinics and Veterans Affairs Medical Centers. As more cancer diagnostic tests and biopsies are being conducted outside of hospital settings where tumor registrars are primarily based, it is important to ascertain cancer cases in outpatient clinics. These new data better reflect Florida’s cancer burden and are supported by Goal 2 in the 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan.



Data Sources: FCDS and SEER

## Cancer Incidence by Type in Florida

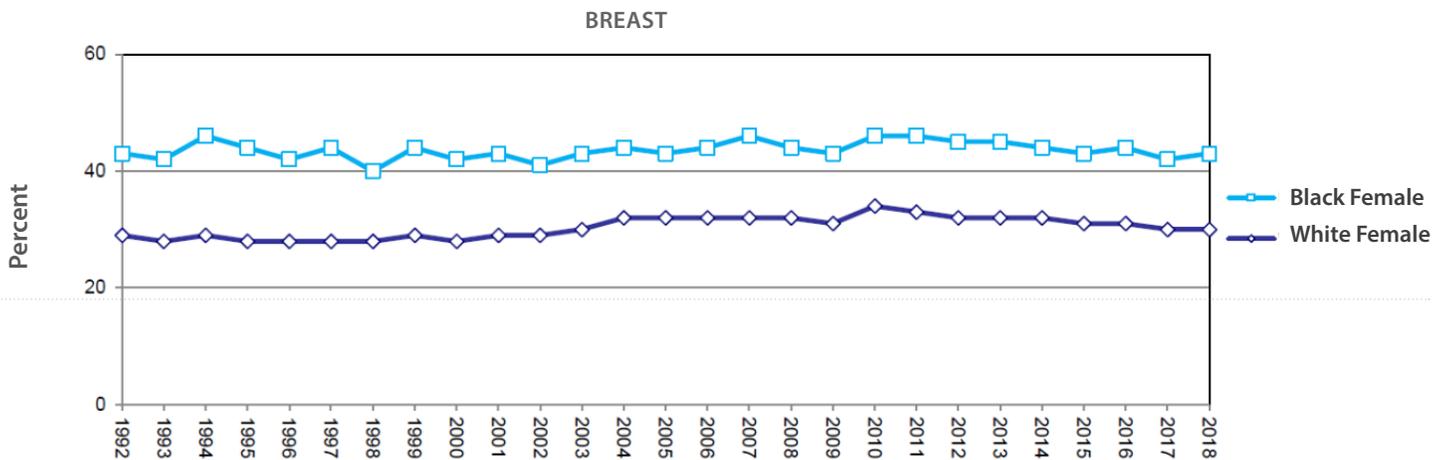
Breast cancer is the most highly incident cancer in Florida based on age-adjusted incidence, followed by prostate cancer, lung cancer, colorectal cancer, and melanoma. Breast cancer also shows the most persistent disparities in advanced stage diagnosis, with black women more likely



to be diagnosed at advanced stage compared to white women. In the 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan, we aim to eliminate cervical cancer in the state through vaccination against human papillomavirus (HPV) and early detection of pre-cancerous tissue (Goal 4), and eliminate cancer-causing hepatitis C virus (HCV) from our state through increased HCV screening and linkage to care (Goal 14).

Source: FCDS

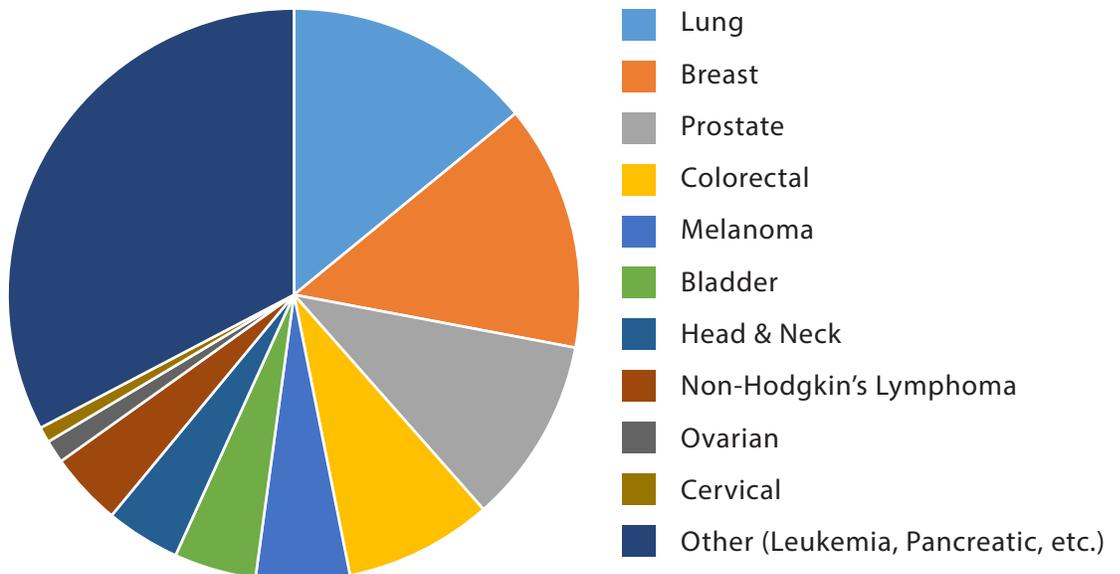
## Percentage of Advanced Stage Breast Cancer at Diagnosis by Race, 1991-2017



Source: FCDS

## Cancer Types by Crude Number of Diagnoses

Every year, over 120,000 Floridians are diagnosed with cancer. In terms of crude number of cases, lung cancer and breast cancer are the two most frequently diagnosed cancers in Florida, followed by prostate cancer, colorectal cancer, melanoma, and bladder cancer.

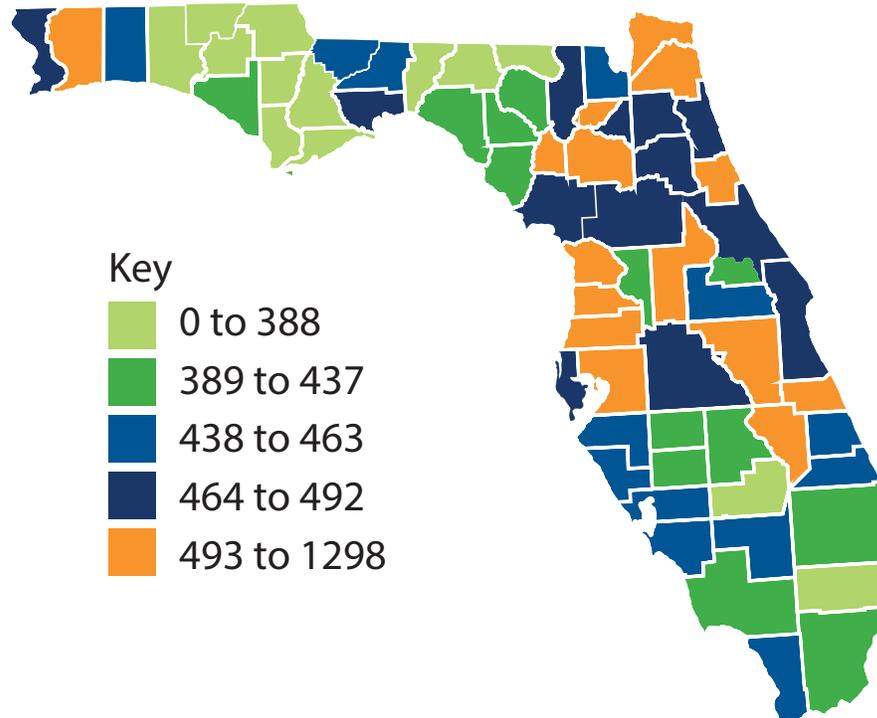


Source: FCDS

## Cancer Incidence by Florida County

Age-adjusted cancer incidence is lower in metropolitan areas, such as counties in South Florida. In contrast, age-adjusted cancer incidence rates are higher in less populated Northern counties along the Interstate 75 corridor, in the Northeast corner of the state, and in the Northwest Panhandle area. These geographic differences demonstrate important health equity concerns for “rural” Floridians with respect to need for increased prevention efforts.

Cancer incidence rates per 100,000 Floridians For 2019

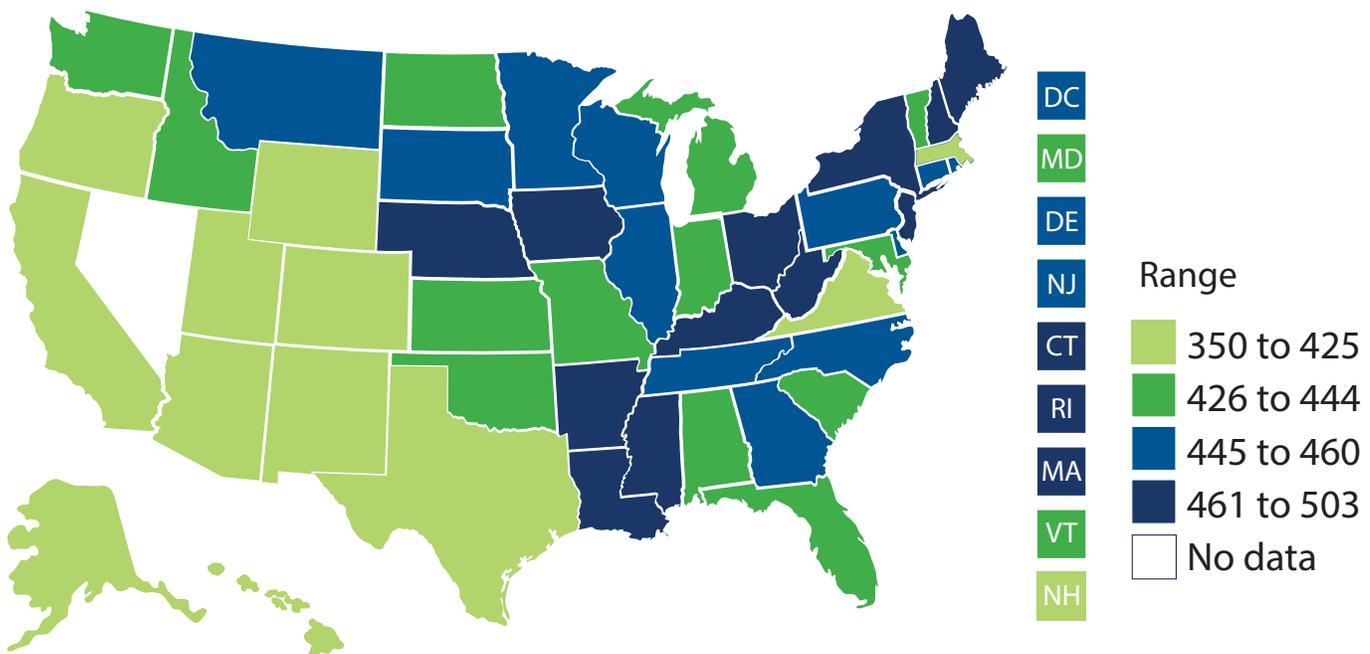


Source: FCDS

## Rate of New Cancers in the United States

Within the US, Florida is in a group of states with lower cancer incidence.

All types of cancer, all ages, all races/ethnicities, male and female, Rate per 100,000 people, 2018

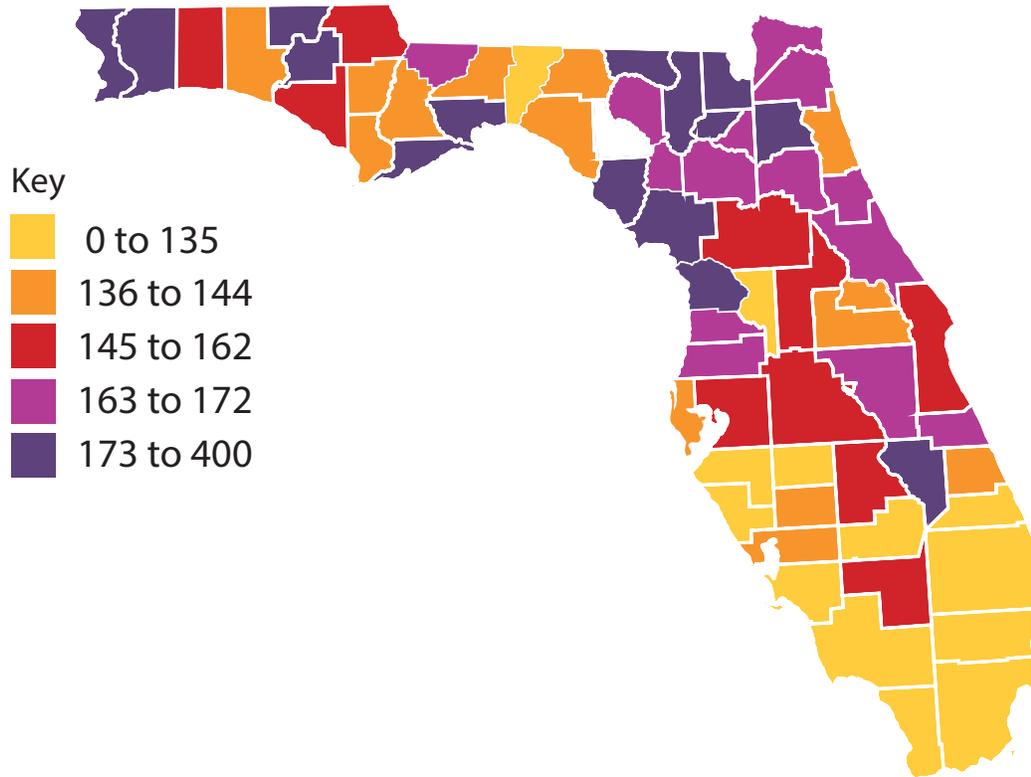


Source: CDC

## Florida Map of Cancer Mortality by County

Deaths from cancer are lower in more populated regions such as counties in South Florida, but higher in less populated counties in the Florida Panhandle. These geographic differences demonstrate important health equity concerns for “rural” Floridians. Access to high quality cancer diagnostic tests and effective cancer treatments for all Floridians is Goal 15 in the 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan.

Age-adjusted cancer mortality rates per 100,000 For 2019

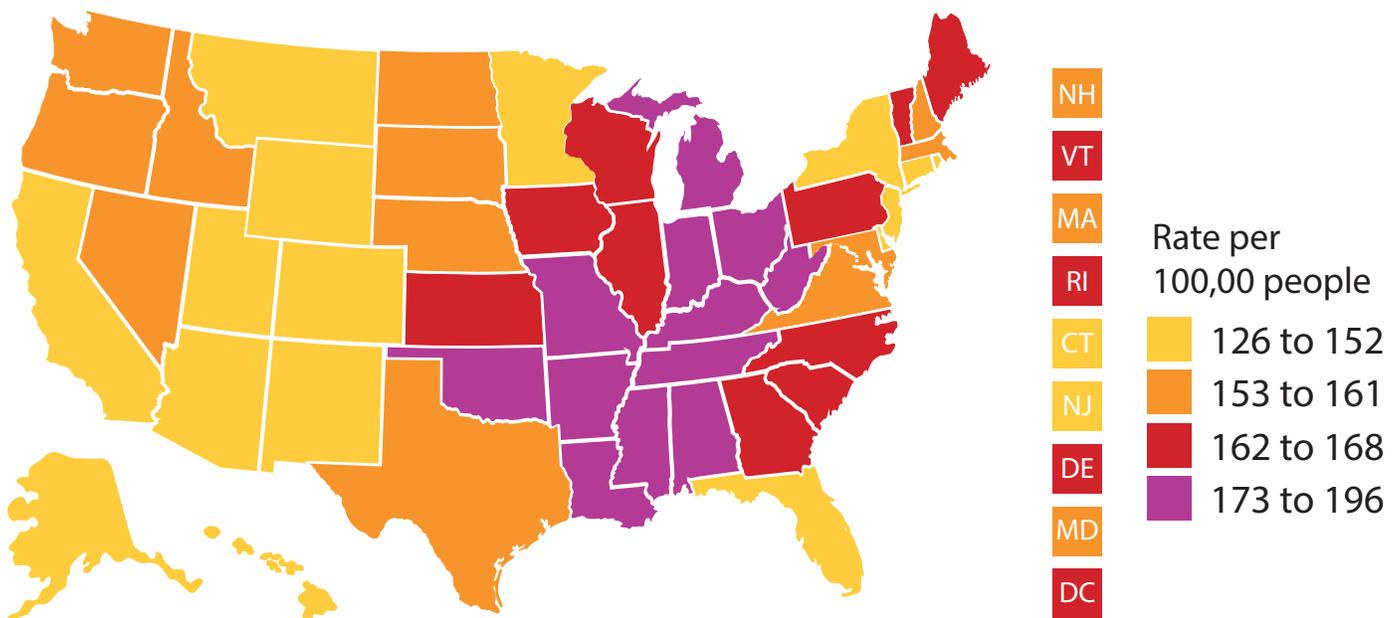


Source: FCDS

## US Map Cancer Mortality

Within the US, Florida is in a group of states with lower cancer mortality.

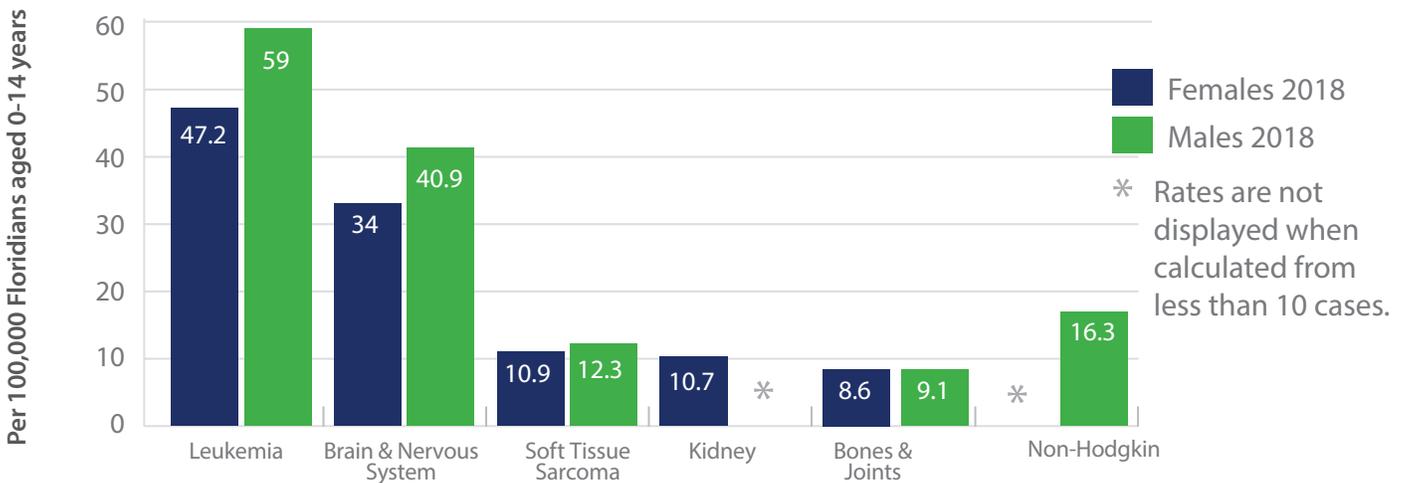
All types of cancer, all ages, all races/ethnicities, male and female, Rate per 100,000 people, 2018



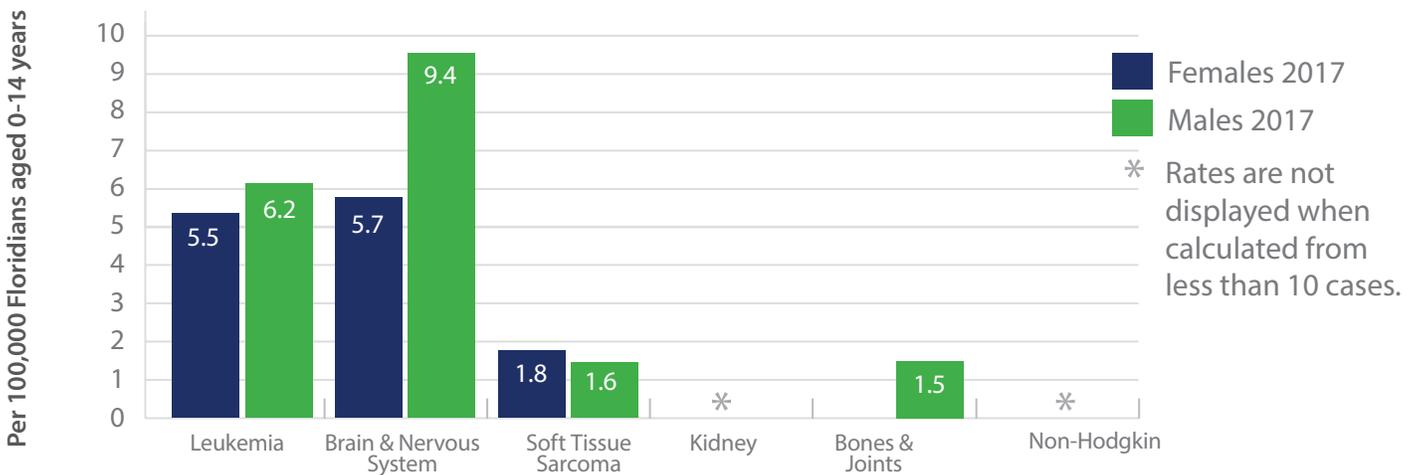
Source: CDC

## Pediatric Cancer Incidence in Florida, Five Highest-Ranked Sites, 2014-2018

Cancers in Florida children were comparable with rates from previous years. Although the majority of our children achieved a good response to treatment for their cancers, relapsing and refractory cancer is still a problem. Furthermore, side effects from the toxicities of treatment are common. Safer and more effective treatments for pediatric cancers are urgently needed. For the first time in the state's history, the Florida Cancer Plan has a Childhood Cancers priority area with goals for high quality health care, survivorship, and research (Goals 18-20, 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan).



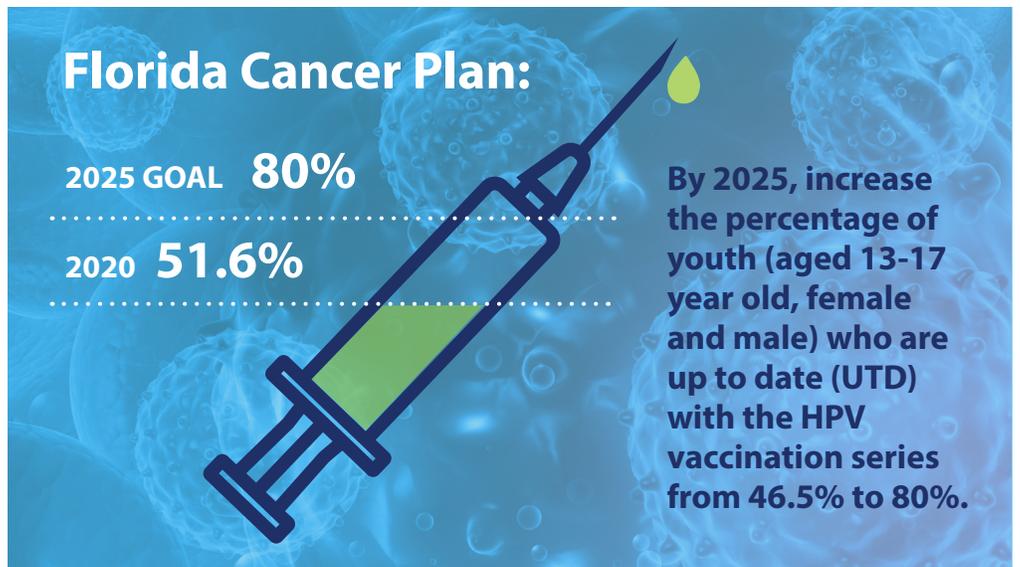
## Pediatric Cancer Mortality in Florida, Five Highest-Ranked Sites, 2014-2018



Source: FCDS

## HPV Vaccinations

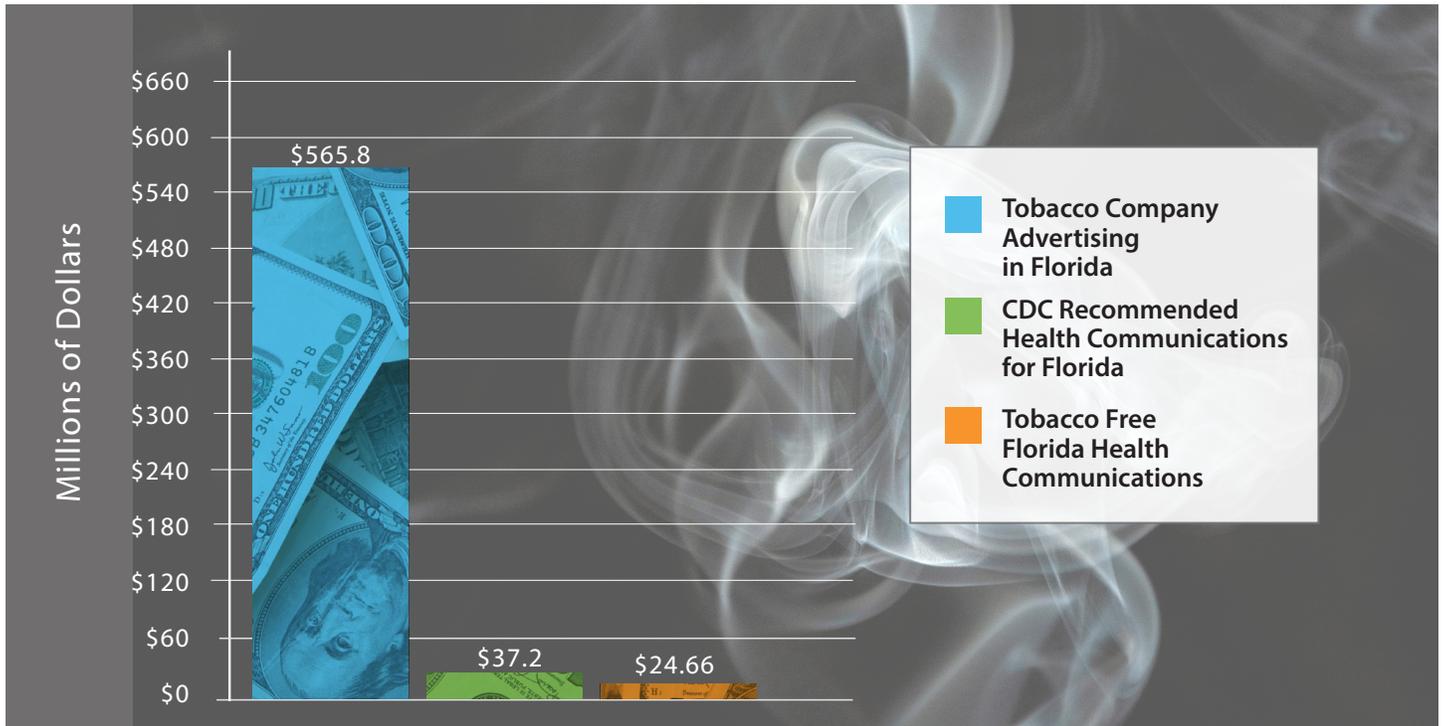
Several HPV strains cause cancer of the cervix and throat in women and men. We aim to eliminate cervical cancer from Florida through vaccinations against HPV and earlier detection of pre-cancerous lesions of the cervix (Goal 4, 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan). HPV is also causing an epidemic of throat cancers in both men and women. Vaccinating against HPV will help prevent throat cancer in future generations of Floridians.



Source: CDC TeenVaxView

## Annual Spending for Tobacco-Related Communications in Florida

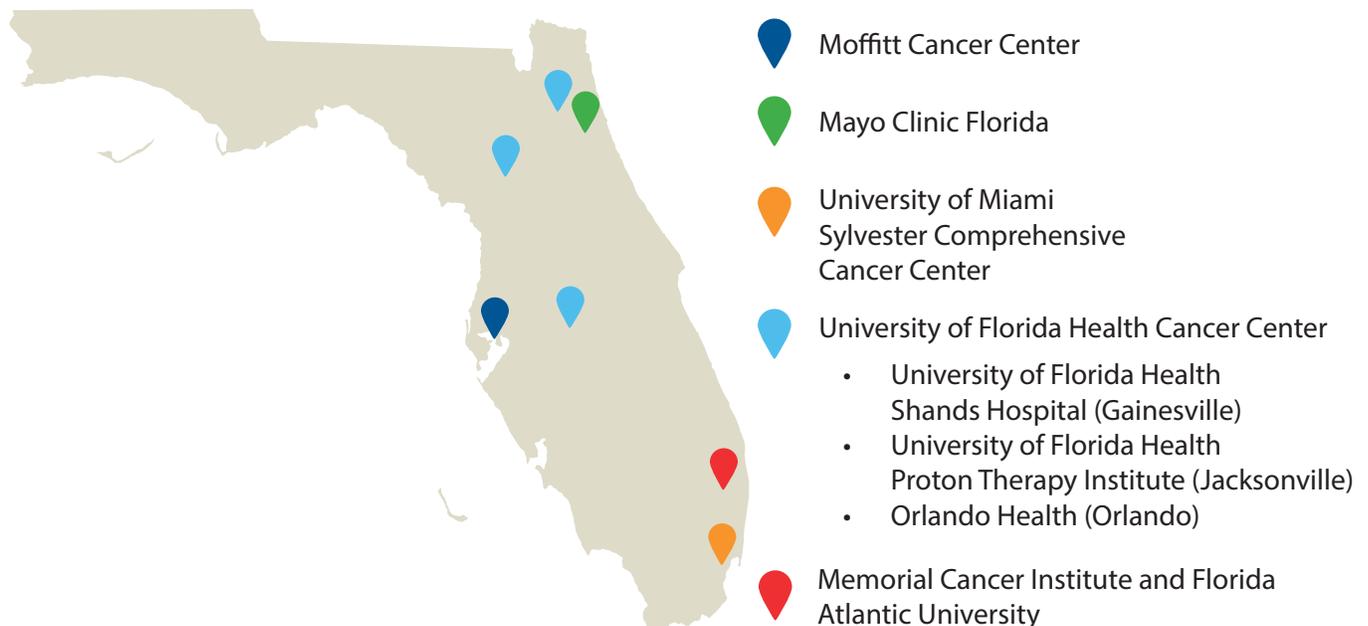
Reducing tobacco exposure (first-hand and second-hand) in Florida has been one of the most effective means in reducing our state's cancer burden by preventing lethal cancers. However, tobacco companies continue to spend hundreds of millions of dollars in promoting tobacco use to Floridians. Increasing health communications from Tobacco Free Florida is a high priority objective in the 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan because of the gains made in preventing lethal cancers (Goal 3, Objective 3.9).



Sources: CDC, Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, State of Florida

## Florida Cancer Centers of Excellence

In 2020, four Florida Cancer Centers of Excellence for oncology care, research and education were designated by a joint committee made up members from the Florida Department of Health, CCRA, and the Florida Biomedical Research Advisory Council. Two of these academic centers headquartered in Florida have earned the designation of a National Cancer Institute (NCI) cancer center. Continued support is needed for the Florida Academic Cancer Center Alliance (FACCA) to achieve the Florida Cancer Plan Objective 21.3 of increasing the number of NCI designated cancer centers headquartered in Florida from 2 to 3 or higher.



Source: Florida Department of Health

# Florida Cancer Control & Research Advisory Council Membership

*(January 2022)*



Chair  
Clement Gwede,  
PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN  
Moffitt Cancer Center



Vice Chair  
Erin Kobetz, PhD, MPH  
Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center  
University of Miami



Senator Aaron Bean  
Senate President's  
Appointee



Asher Chanan-Khan, MD  
Florida Hospital  
Association



Representative  
Linda Chaney  
House Speaker's  
Appointee



Immediate Past Chair  
Christopher Cogle, MD  
Senate President's  
Appointee



Michael Diaz, MD  
Association of Community  
Cancer Centers



Carole Duncanson  
House Speaker's  
Appointee



Patricia I. Geddie, Ph.D.,  
APRN-CNS, AOCNS  
Florida Nurses  
Association



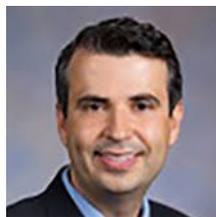
Joseph Ladapo, MD, PhD  
Florida's  
Surgeon General



Nitesh Paryani, MD  
Florida Medical  
Association



Mitchell F. Peabody, DO  
Florida Osteopathic  
Medical Association



Ramzi G. Salloum, PhD  
University of Florida  
Health Cancer Center



Amy Smith, MD  
Governor's Appointee



Megan Wessel, MPH  
American Cancer Society

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**Clement K. Gwede, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN**  
Chair,  
Florida Cancer Control  
& Research Advisory Council  
Clement.Gwede@Moffitt.org

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

### **CCRAB Website**

<http://www.ccrab.org>

### **Florida Cancer Plan 2020-2025**

[www.ccrab.org/cancer-plan](http://www.ccrab.org/cancer-plan)

### **Florida Cancer Data Systems (FCDS)**

<https://fcds.med.miami.edu/inc/statistics.shtml>

### **Florida Regional Community Cancer Collaboratives:**

Northwest Region – [www.nwfccc.org](http://www.nwfccc.org)

North Central Region – [www.ncfcancercontrol.org](http://www.ncfcancercontrol.org)

Northeast Region – [www.hpcnef.org/programs/northeast-florida-cancer-control-collaborative/](http://www.hpcnef.org/programs/northeast-florida-cancer-control-collaborative/)

East Central Region – [www.ecfccc.com](http://www.ecfccc.com)

Southwest Region – [www.swflccc.weebly.com/about.html](http://www.swflccc.weebly.com/about.html)

Southeast Region – [www.healthcouncil.org/sfccc](http://www.healthcouncil.org/sfccc)

### **Florida Comprehensive Cancer Control Programs**

<http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/cancer/cancer-control-florida.html>

### **Florida Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (BCCEDP)**

<http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/cancer/breast-cancer/index.html>

<http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/cancer/cervical-cancer/index.html>

### **Florida Colorectal Cancer Control Program (CRCCP)**

<http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/cancer/colon-cancer/index.html>

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