



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>.

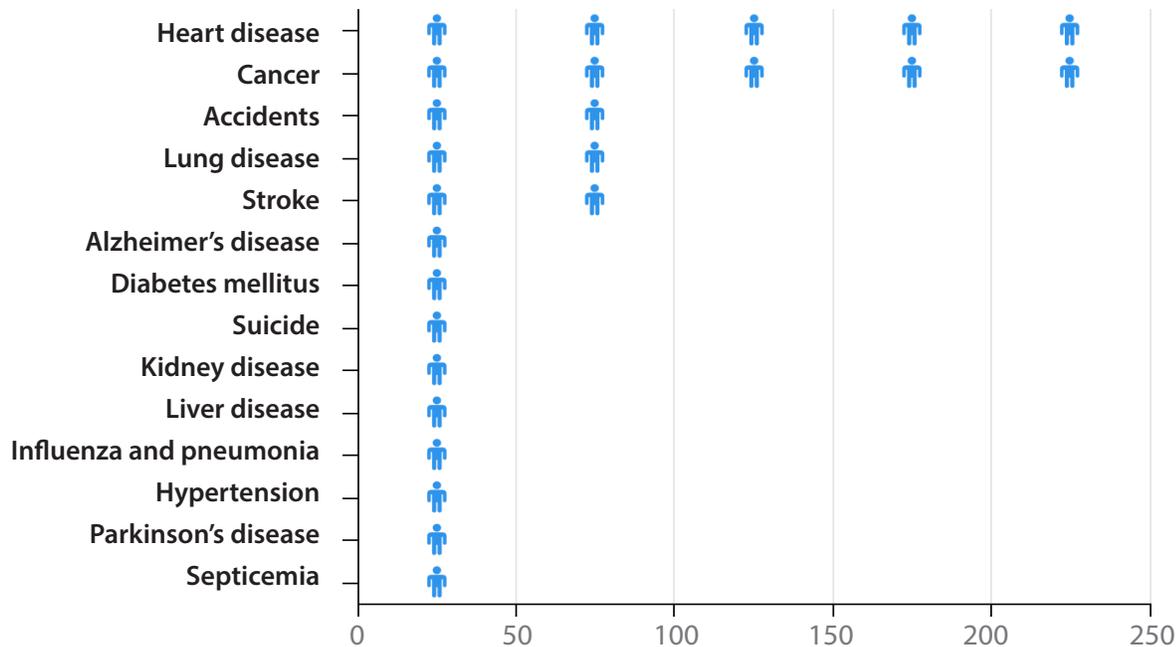
Note: The unrelenting impact of coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19 disease) continues to evolve in the US and worldwide. Based on age-adjusted data from March to October 2020, COVID-19 mortality in the US is among the top three leading causes of mortality overall, and surpasses cancer (second only to heart disease) among age >85, when compared to similar data for other leading causes of deaths the period of March to October 2018.

(<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2774465>). Further monitoring of COVID-19 trends and impact on cancer prevention, incidence and mortality in Florida is warranted as the pandemic ensues.

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.

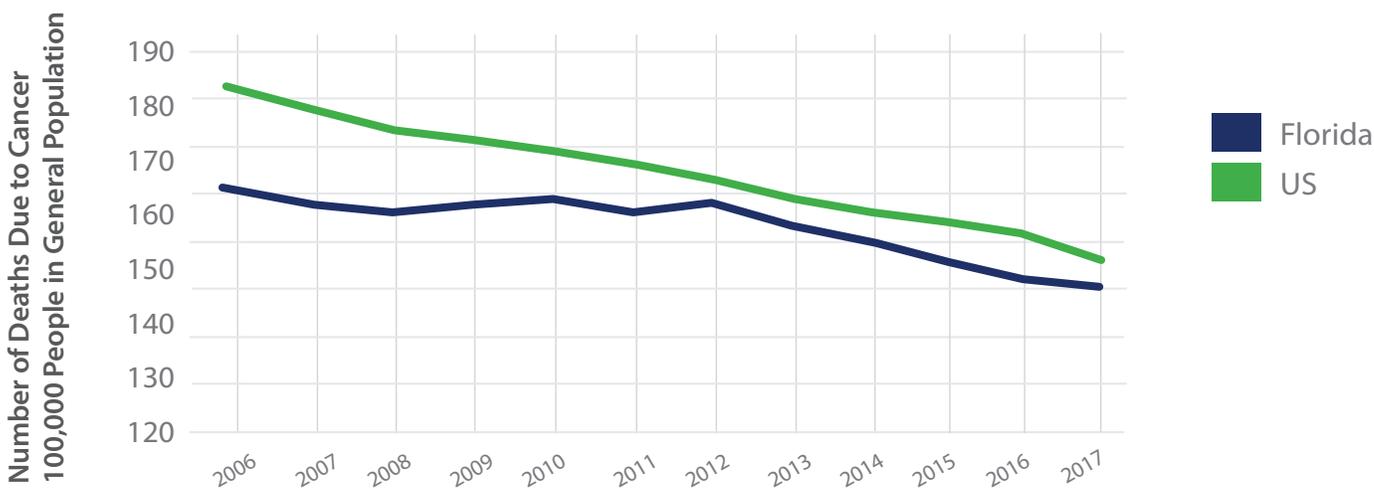
Florida Age-Adjusted Death Rate per 100,000 in 2017



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).

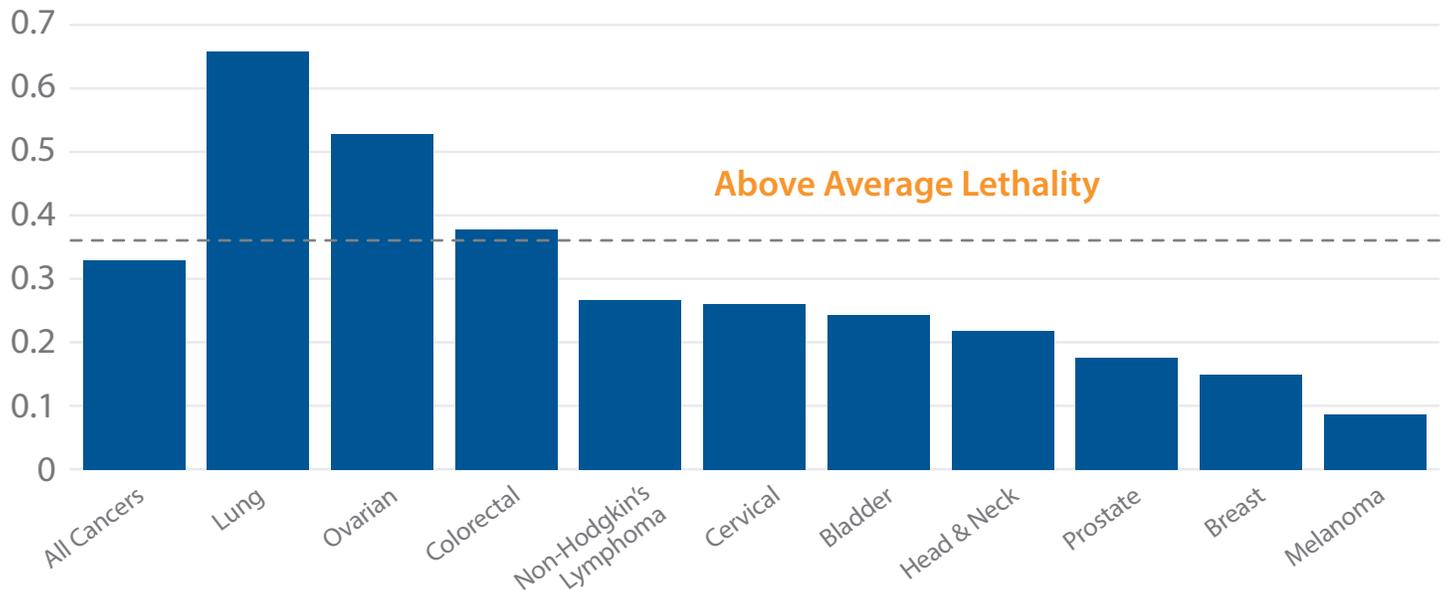


Source: FCDS and SEER

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).

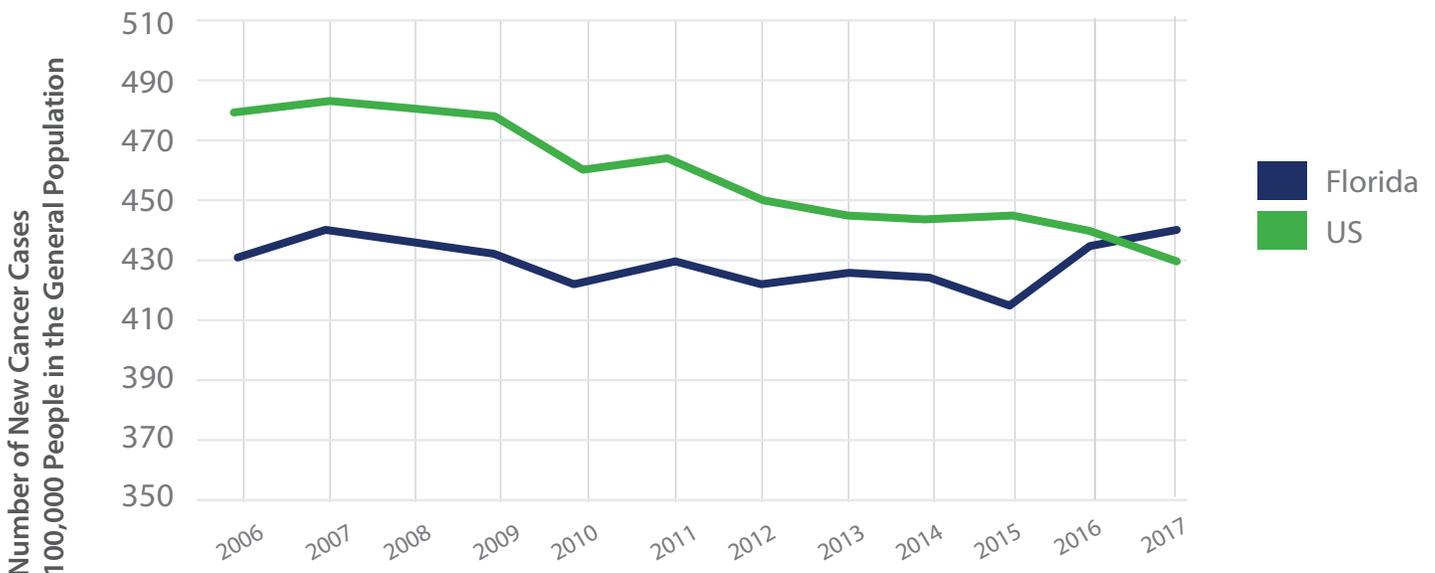
Proportion of patients dying of each cancer



Source: FCDS, 2017

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 in 2016 and 2017. The seemingly higher rates in 2016 and 2017 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

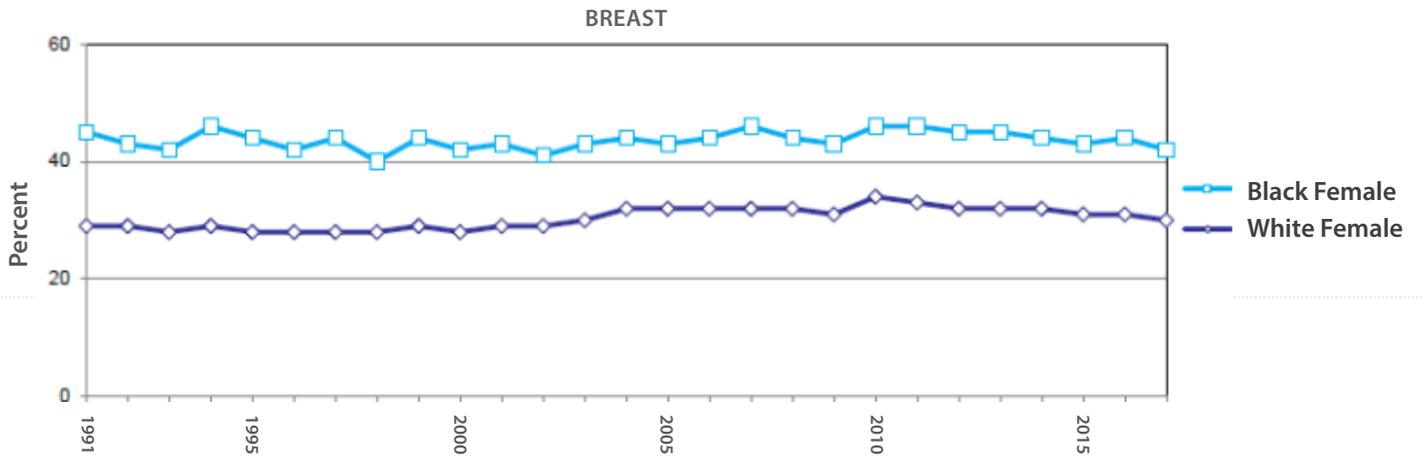
Cancer Incidence by Type in Florida

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, targeted efforts to increase breast cancer screening and early detection (Goal 11) may help reduce this disparity. Also 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

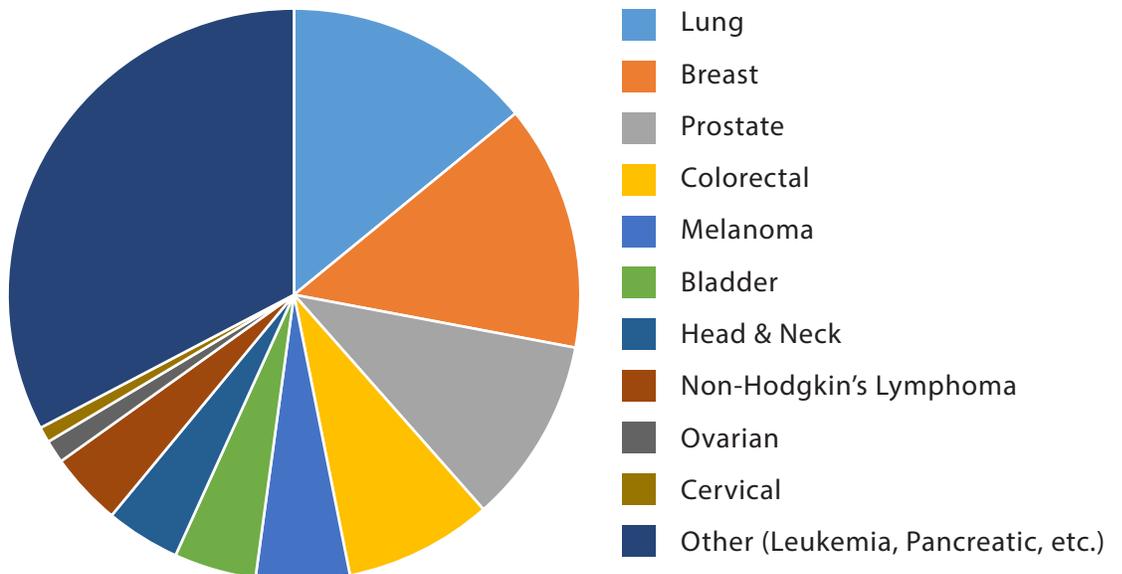
Percentage of Advanced Stage Breast Cancer at Diagnosis by Race, 1991-2017



Data 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.

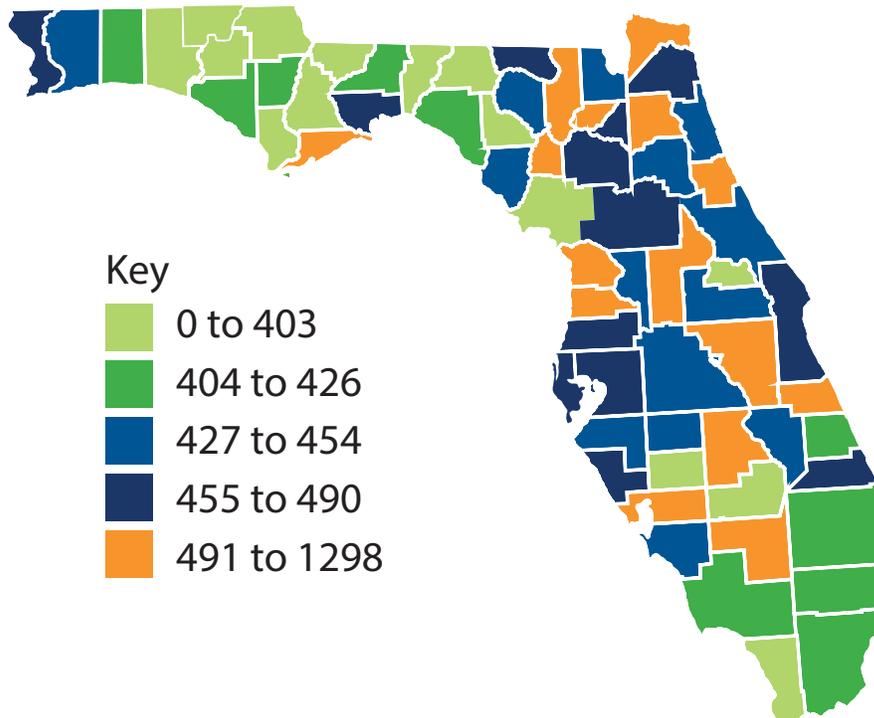


Source: FCDS

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.

Age-adjusted cancer incidence rates per 100,000 Floridians

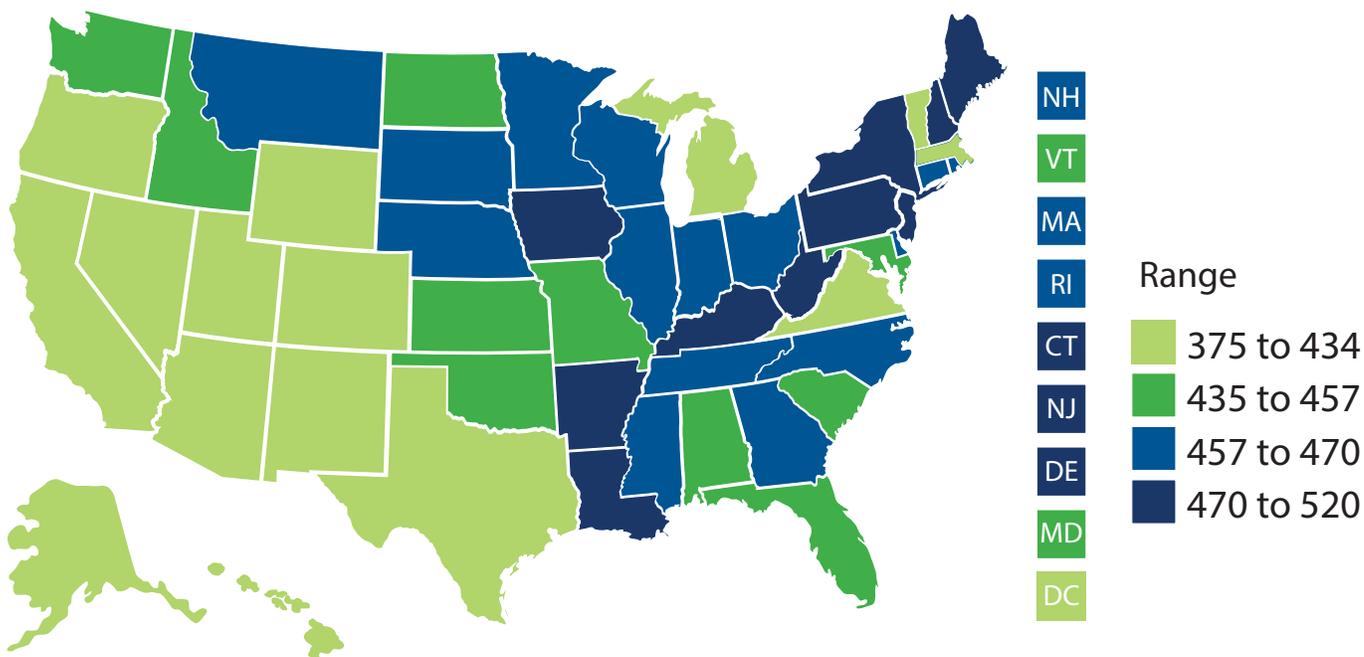


Source: FCDS, 2018

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, 2013-2017

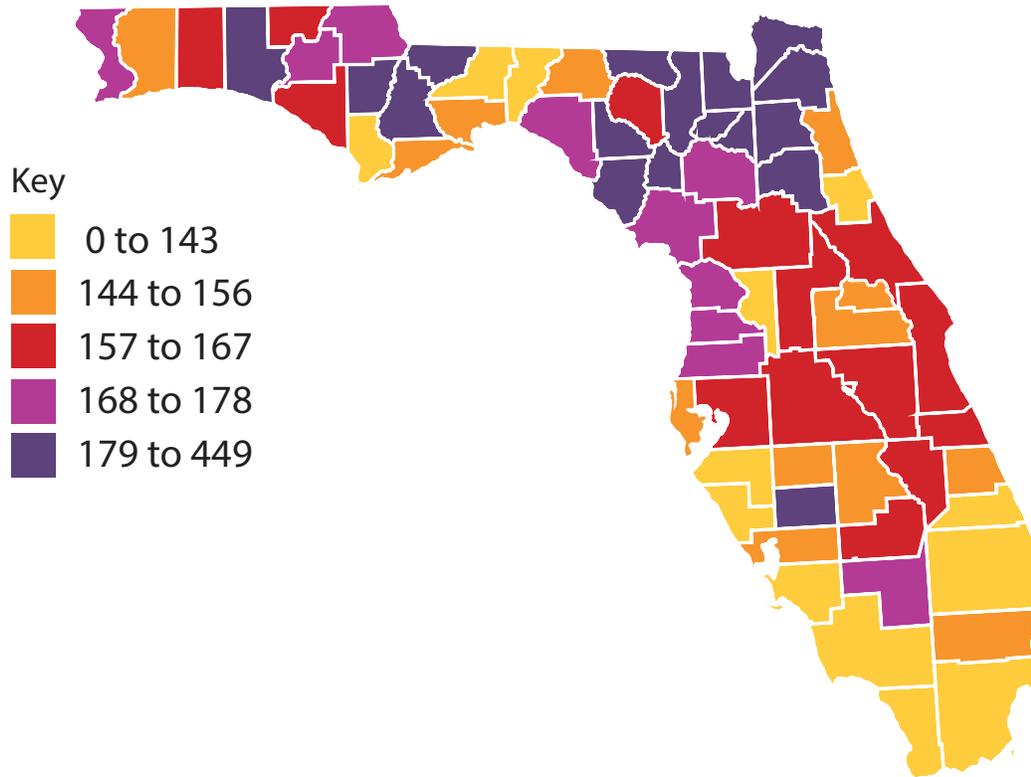


Source: CDC

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

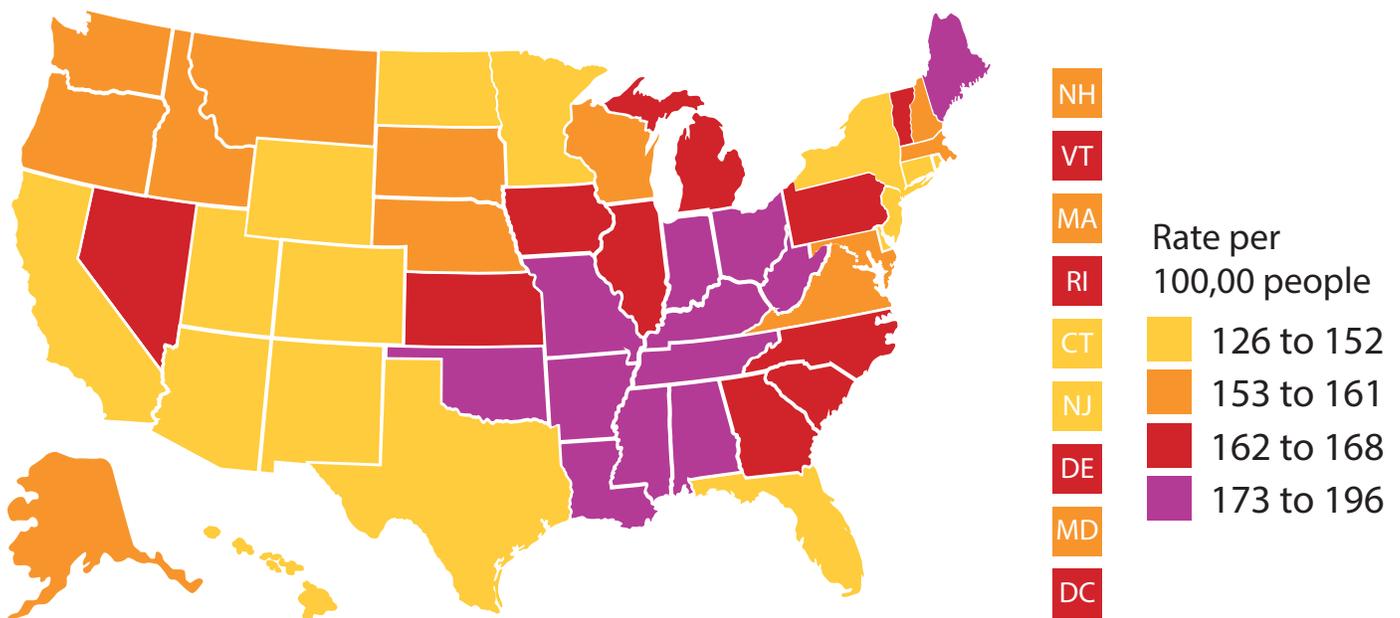


Source: FCDS, 2018

US Map Cancer Mortality

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

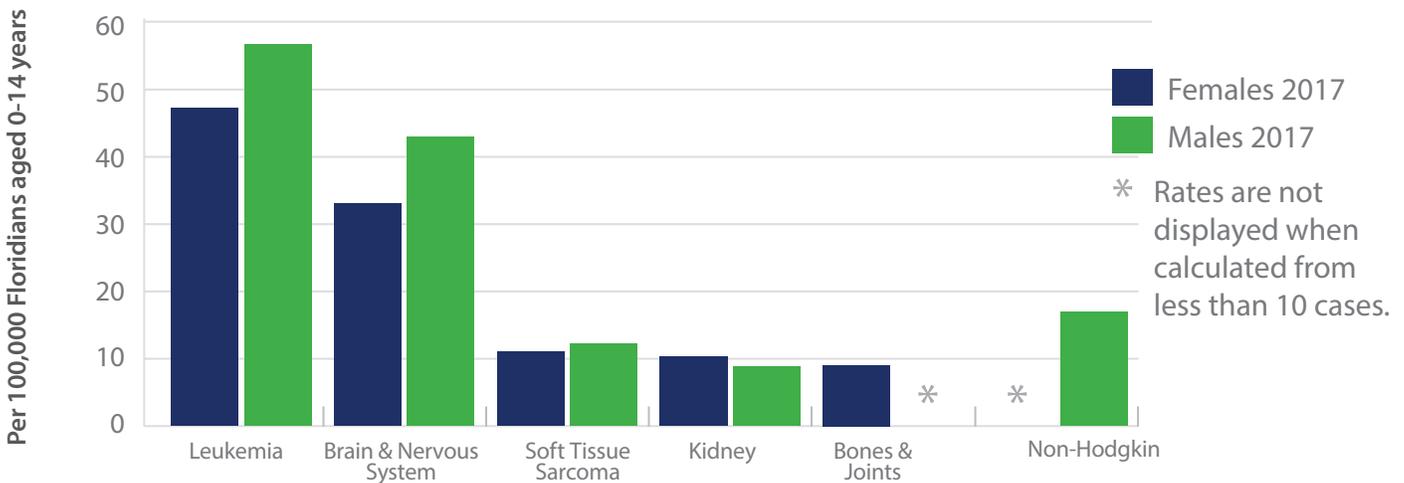
All types of cancer, all ages, all races/ethnicities, male and female, Rate per 100,000 people, 2013-2017



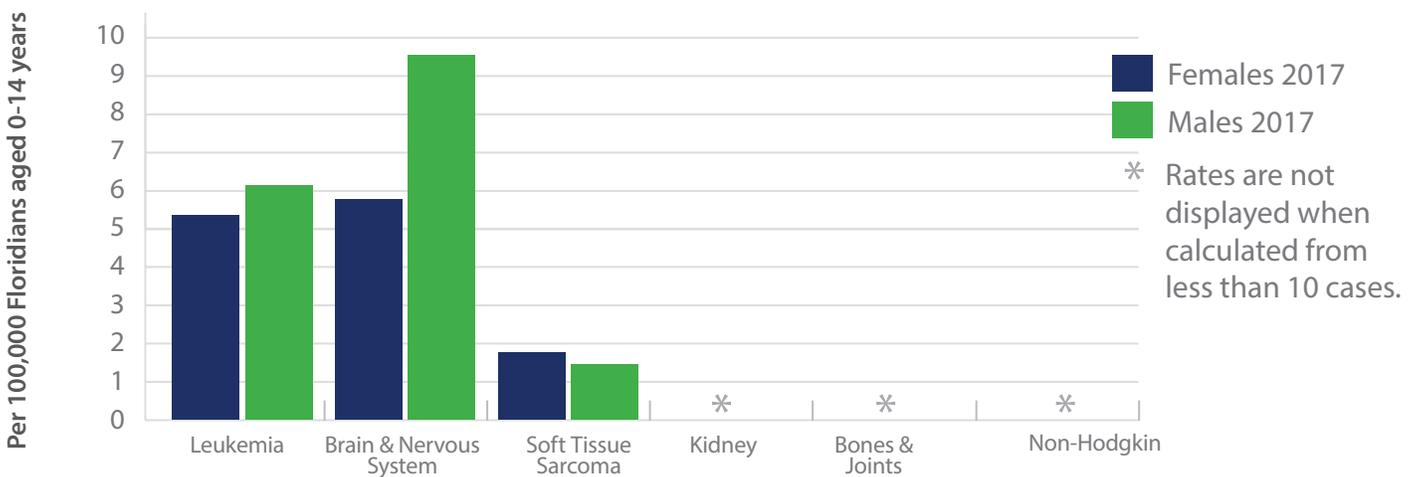
Source: CDC

Pediatric Cancer Incidence in Florida, Five Highest-Ranked Sites, 2013-2017

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, 2013-2017

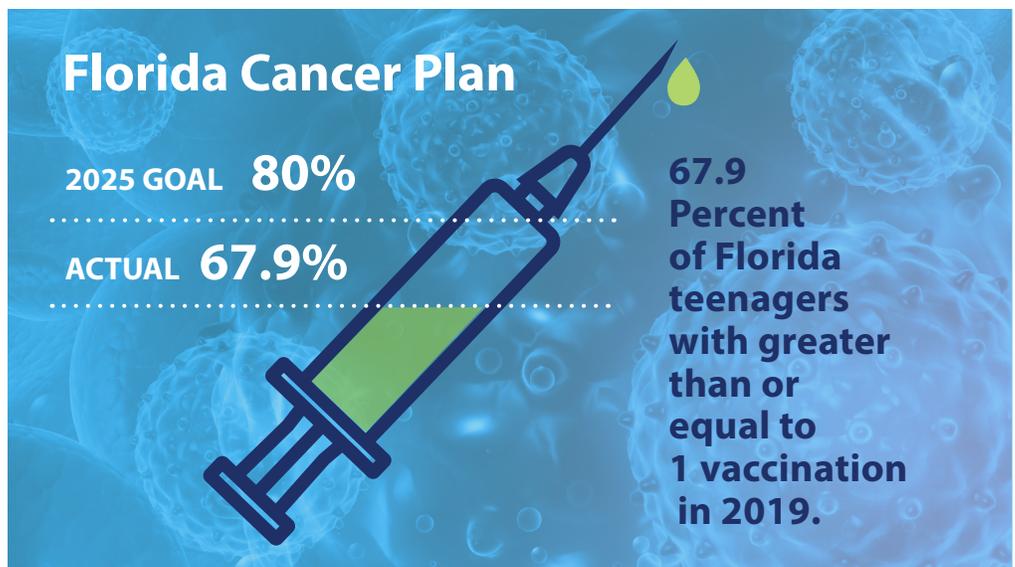


Source: FCDS, 2013-2017

HPV Vaccinations

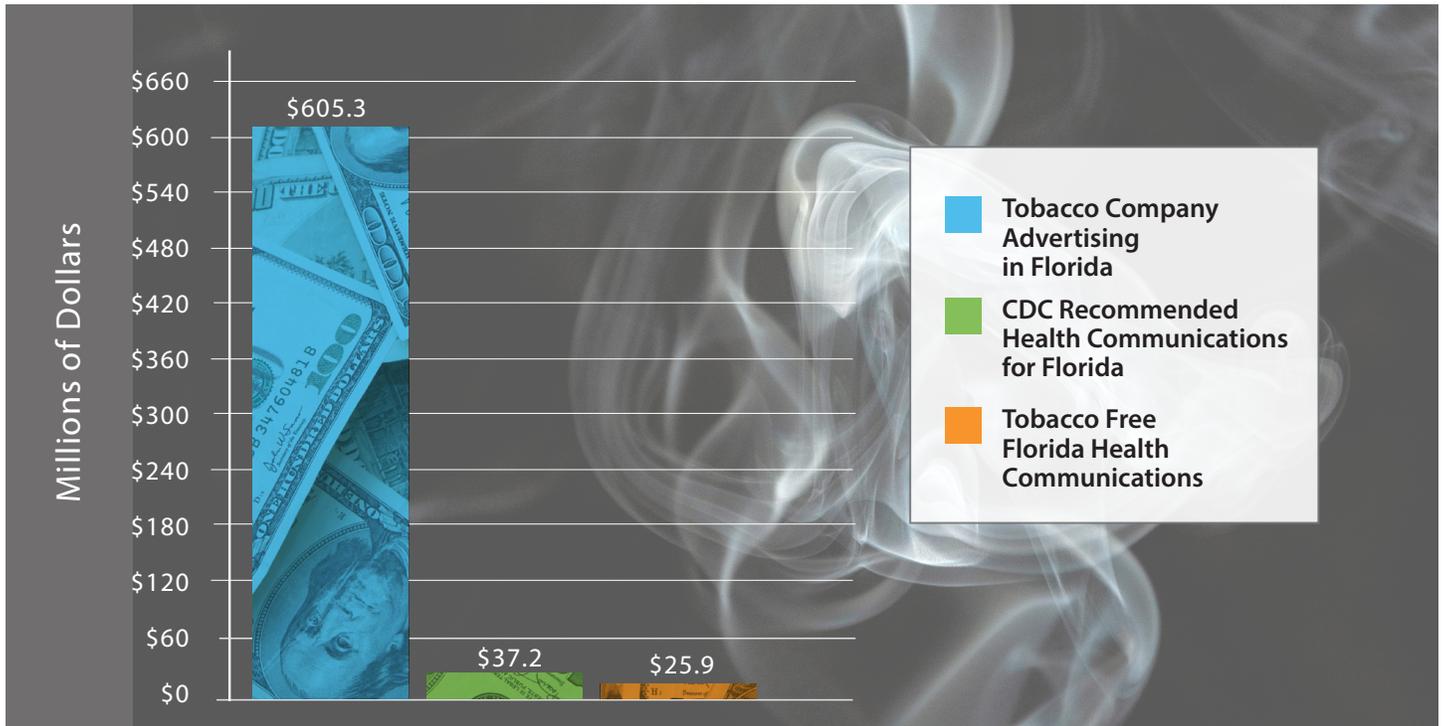
Several HPV strains cause cancer of the cervix and throat in women and men. We aim to eliminate cervical cancer from Florida through vaccinations against HPV and earlier detection of pre-cancerous lesions of the cervix (Goal 4, 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan). HPV is also causing an epidemic of throat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

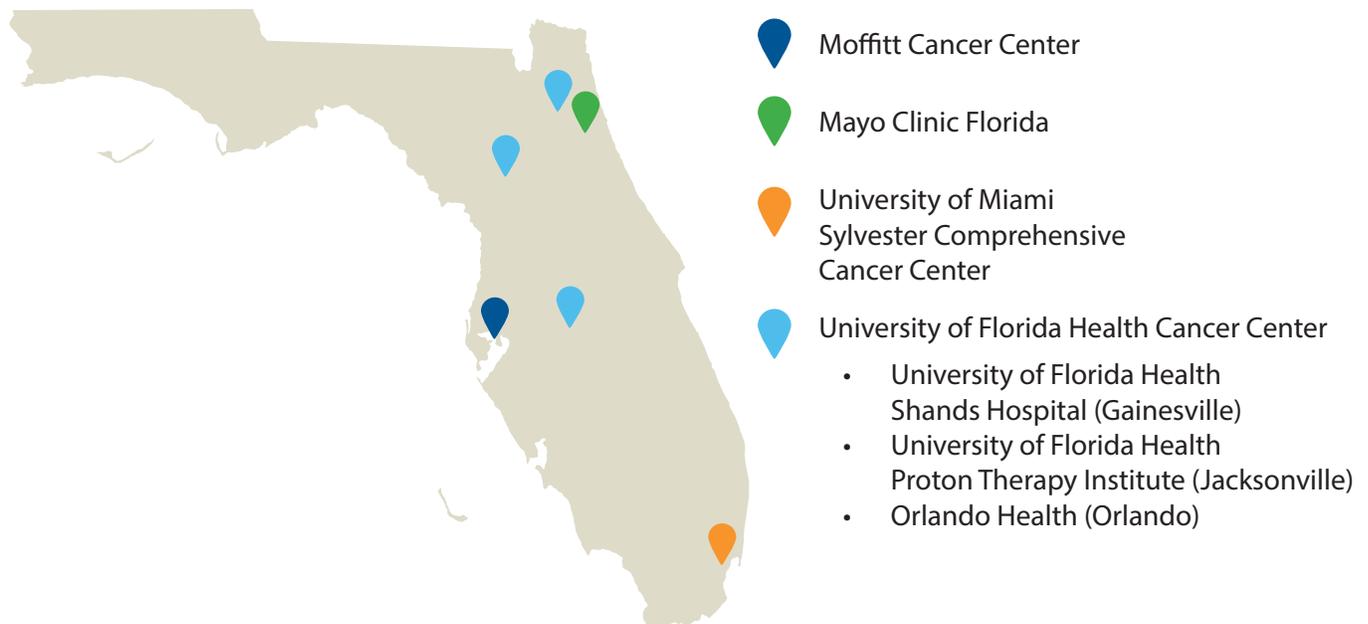
Reducing tobacco exposure (first-hand and second-hand) in Florida has been one of the most effective means in reducing our state's cancer burden by preventing lethal cancers. However, tobacco companies continue to spend hundreds of millions of dollars in promoting tobacco use to Floridians. Increasing 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 2019, 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 2021)



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PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN
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Florida Nurses
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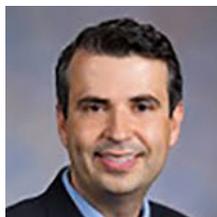
Nitesh Paryani, MD
Florida Medical
Association



Mitchell F. Peabody, DO
Florida Osteopathic
Medical Association



Scott Rivkees, MD
Florida's
Surgeon General



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



Amy Smith, MD
Governor's Appointee



Megan Wessel, MPH
American Cancer Society



TBD
House Speaker's
Appointee

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

CCRAB Website

<http://www.ccrab.org>

Florida Cancer Plan 2020-2025

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

North Central Region – www.ncfcancercontrol.org

Northeast Region – www.hpcnef.org/programs/northeast-florida-cancer-control-collaborative/

East Central Region – www.ecfccc.com

Southwest Region – www.swflccc.weebly.com/about.html

Southeast Region – 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>

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

