

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA CANCER CONTROL
COLLABORATIVE (SFCCC)

CANCER DISPARITY DATA REPORT

PREPARED BY: HEALTH COUNCIL OF SOUTH FLORIDA

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The following report includes information on cancer disparity data for Breast, Cervical, Colorectal, Lung, Melanoma, Ovarian and Prostate cancers for all the counties in Florida's Southeast Region: Broward, Indian River, Martin, Miami- Dade, Monroe, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, and St. Lucie counties. Incidence rates and death rates by race and ethnicity for each cancer type and each county were reviewed and notable data points highlighting racial and ethnic disparities in the Southeast Region are provided below. The data provided was retrieved from the Florida Department of Health, Florida Health Charts, and depicts the most recent data available (2017 data for incidence rates and 2018 data for death rates).

BREAST CANCER

INCIDENCE RATES

- Breast cancer incidence rates in the Southeast Region ranged from 86.1 to 131.7 cases per 100,000 female population, with the smallest overall rate observed in Monroe County and the highest overall rate observed in Okeechobee County.
- Within counties, racial and ethnic disparities exist for breast cancer incidence. Non-Hispanics in Miami-Dade County face a higher rate of breast cancer compared to Hispanics (136.0 to 96.1), and Black residents face lower rates of breast cancer incidence compared to white residents in multiple counties, including Broward, Martin, Palm Beach, and St. Lucie.
- Okeechobee has a breast cancer incidence rate of 304.2 for Black residents compared to 117.9 for white residents, but this must be interpreted with caution due to the small sample size and number of cases in Okeechobee*.

DEATH RATES

- Racial and ethnic disparities disproportionately affect Black people in the case of breast cancer death rates. Overall, breast cancer death rates range from 9.5 per 100,000 population to 30.8 per 100,000 population across counties in the Southeast. In Broward County, Black residents face a 41%

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higher death rate for breast cancer when compared to white residents (25.1 per 100,000 to 17.7 per 100,000).

- The case is similar in Miami-Dade and Indian River counties. Hispanics face a much higher death rate for breast cancer in Martin County (38.2 per 100,000 to 11.9 per 100,000)*.

CERVICAL CANCER

INCIDENCE RATES

- Overall rates for cervical cancer incidence are relatively similar across counties in the Southeast Region, with most having rates between 7.3 and 12.9 per 100,000 (Indian River has a rate of 5.2 per 100,000).
- While these rates are generally lower than other cancer rates, such as breast, lung, and prostate cancers, disparities still exist in these populations. In Martin County, Black residents have a cervical cancer incidence of 27.1 compared to 5.8 per 100,000 for white residents. Caution is always needed for interpretation of these small populations with unstable rates, but the disparity is still large.
- In many counties, including Indian River, Monroe, and Okeechobee, there were no cases of cervical cancer in Black or Hispanic populations. This is likely due to small population sizes of these minority groups in these counties.

DEATH RATES

- The death rate for cervical cancer is very low in the Southeast Region, comparable to the State of Florida average. Death rates range from 1.6 to 2.8 per 100,000, with the Florida rate being 2.6 per 100,000.
- In Broward County, Black residents face a higher death rate than white residents (3.7 per 100,000 to 2.4 per 100,000).
- Hispanics in Palm Beach County face a death rate of 3.0 compared to 2.0 per 100,000 for Non-Hispanics.
- Similar to incidence rates for cervical cancer, some counties are limited in the data they have and show a death rate of 0 for certain groups (including Black residents in Monroe and Okeechobee, and Hispanic residents in Indian River and Martin counties). The rate is zero likely because the racial minority group(s) are so small in these counties.

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COLORECTAL CANCER

INCIDENCE RATES

- The overall incidence rates for colorectal cancer in the Southeast Region range from 29.6 to 40.3 per 100,000. The highest rate was observed in Indian River County, while the lowest rates were observed in Okeechobee and Palm Beach counties (29.6 and 29.9 per 100,000, respectively).
- In terms of racial disparities for colorectal cancer, some notable differences exist in certain counties. For example, in Monroe County, Black residents have a lower rate of incidence (22.6 per 100,000) compared to white residents (35.6 per 100,000). Black residents face higher incidence rates in Indian River and Martin Counties, but these rates are unstable due to small case numbers and should be interpreted with caution.

DEATH RATES

- The overall colorectal cancer death rates do not vary much between counties (ranging from 11.2 to 15.4 per 100,000).
- Similar to what is seen in other cancers, Black residents often face similar or lower incidence rates but higher death rates when compared to white residents. For instance, in Broward County, Black residents face a death rate of 18.7 for colorectal cancer compared to 15.1 for whites.
- Similar disparities are seen in Palm Beach County, with Black residents having a death rate of 17.4 compared to 10.7 for white residents.
- Hispanic residents in Okeechobee County have a much higher death rate compared to Non-Hispanic residents (43.7 to 10.6 per 100,000)*.

LUNG CANCER

INCIDENCE RATES

- The overall incidence rates for lung cancer across the Southeast Region ranged between 39.0 and 92.8 deaths per 100,000, with the highest rate observed in Okeechobee County.
- Compared to the Statewide rate of 56.4 deaths per 100,000, residents of Indian River County also experienced a high lung cancer incidence rate (64.4 per 100,000).

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DEATH RATES

- The overall lung cancer death rates in the Southeast Region ranged between 22.0 and 46.0 deaths per 100,000, with the highest rates observed in Okeechobee County (46.0 per 100,000) and St. Lucie County (41.6 per 100,000).
- In Indian River County, a higher death rate was observed among Black residents (41.1 per 100,000) compared to white residents (38.2 per 100,000).
- Racial disparities were also observed in Martin County, where Black residents experienced a higher death rate (38.8 per 100,000) compared to white residents (31.0 per 100,000)*.

MELANOMA

INCIDENCE RATES

- The overall incidence rates for melanoma across the Southeast Region ranged between 6.8 and 62.0 cases per 100,000, with the highest rate observed in Martin County.
- Martin County (62.0 per 100,000), Indian River County (44.6 per 100,000), Monroe County (28.8 per 100,000), and Palm Beach County (27.2 per 100,000) each experienced higher rates of melanoma compared to the State (25.5 per 100,000).

DEATH RATES

- The overall melanoma death rates in the Southeast Region ranged between 0.0 and 4.0 deaths per 100,000, with the highest rates observed in Indian River County and Martin County (each with 4.0 deaths per 100,000).
- St. Lucie County has a higher Melanoma death rate among Hispanic residents (4.3 per 100,000) compared to Non-Hispanic residents (3.0 per 100,000)*.

OVARIAN CANCER

INCIDENCE RATES

- The overall incidence rate for ovarian cancer across the Southeast Region ranged between 7.1 and 13.9 cases per 100,000 female population, however four out of eight counties in this geographical area exhibited unstable rates (i.e. less than 20 cases).

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- The greatest racial disparity was observed in Monroe County, in which Black residents were almost 3 times more likely to develop ovarian cancer than white residents (33.9 compared to 11.8 per 100,000, respectively)*.
- The ovarian cancer incidence rates in Miami-Dade County also indicate racial disparities, as Black residents experienced an incidence rate of 10.7 per 100,000 compared to 8.8 per 100,000 among white residents.
- The greatest ethnic disparity was observed in Okeechobee County, in which Hispanic residents experienced an incidence rate of 91.5 per 100,000 compared to 10.4 per 100,000 among non-Hispanics*.
- Broward County also has a higher incidence rate of ovarian cancer among Hispanic residents compared to Non-Hispanic residents (11.6 compared to 9.4 per 100,000, respectively).

DEATH RATES

- The overall ovarian cancer death rates in the Southeast Region ranged between 5.0 to 7.2 deaths per 100,000 female population, with the highest rates observed in Broward and Palm Beach counties (each with 7.2 deaths per 100,000).
- In St. Lucie County, Black residents were two times more likely than white residents to die from ovarian cancer (11.8 per 100,000 compared to 6.3 per 100,000)*.
- In Palm Beach County, the ovarian cancer death rate is higher among Black residents compared to white residents (9.4 compared to 6.9 per 100,000 respectively).
- In Indian River, Monroe, and St. Lucie counties, pronounced differences were observed among Hispanics and non-Hispanics; in which Hispanics exhibited a substantially higher rate than their counterparts, however these rates are considered unstable since the number of deaths for each of these counties were less than 5.

PROSTATE CANCER

INCIDENCE RATES

- The overall incidence rate for prostate cancer across the Southeast Region ranged between 71.0 and 101.7 cases per 100,000 male population, with the highest rate observed in Indian River County.

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- The greatest racial disparity was observed in St. Lucie County, where Black male residents were 2 times more likely to develop prostate cancer compared to their white counterparts (160.5 compared to 70.2 per 100,000, respectively).

- Racial disparities were also observed in Broward and Palm Beach Counties where Black male residents experienced higher incidence rates compared to white male residents (127.3 compared to 74.0 per 100,000, respectively, in Broward County and 152.1 compared to 89.3 per 100,000, respectively, in Palm Beach County).

- In Indian River County, Martin County, and Monroe County, pronounced differences were also observed among Black male residents and white male residents; in which Black male residents exhibited a substantially higher rate than their counterparts, however these rates are considered unstable since the number of cases for each of these counties were less than 20.

DEATH RATES

- The overall prostate cancer death rate in the Southeast Region ranged between 10.1 to 20.0 deaths per 100,000 male population, with the highest rates observed in Miami-Dade County (20.0 per 100,000) and Indian River County (19.9 per 100,000).

- The greatest racial disparity was observed in Broward County, where Black male residents were almost 3 times more likely to die from prostate cancer compared to white male residents (38.1 compared to 14.3 per 100,000).

- Racial disparities were also observed in Miami-Dade County and Palm Beach County, where Black male residents were twice as likely to die from prostate cancer compared to their white counterparts (36.0 compared to 17.3 per 100,000, respectively, in Miami-Dade County and 27.2 compared to 12.8 per 100,000, respectively in Palm Beach County).

- Racial and ethnic disparities were both observed in St. Lucie County, where Black male residents experienced a higher prostate cancer death rate compared to white male residents (24.1 compared to 17.1 per 100,000, respectively) and Hispanic male residents experienced a higher death rate compared to Non-Hispanic male residents (28.8 compared to 17.3 per 100,000, respectively).

CONCLUSION

As shown in the data above, cancer disparities are very evident throughout the Southeast region of Florida. The Southeast region of Florida consist of a very diverse population. Due to this diversity, the Southeast Florida Cancer Control Collaborative (SFCCC) has implemented a multicomponent intervention approach to guide its cancer control efforts. To increase the

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demand for cancer screenings in the Southeast region, SFCCC uses a multicomponent approach that consists of client reminders, group and one-on-one education, and small media. The Annie Appleseed Project distributes patient reminders in the form of postcards to the Palm Beach County community to encourage residents to follow the screening guidelines set by the American Cancer Society. Collaborative members from the University of Miami (UM), American Cancer Society, and the Cleveland Clinic have held educational symposiums to educate the residents on the importance of cancer screenings, guidelines to early detection of cancer, and recommendations to reducing the risk of developing cancer. In addition to support groups, the Lynn Cancer Institute offers one-on-one education for clients, caregivers, and families.

The Collaborative also utilizes interventions focusing on reducing structural barriers to increase community access to cancer screenings. The strategies used include offering services in alternative or non-clinical settings. Since transportation is a known barrier to access medical and screening services, members from the Florida International University (FIU) and the Linda Fenner 3D Mammography Mobile Center bring screening mammography services, education and navigational support directly to eligible women in underserved communities. Additionally, Collaborative members from the Cleveland Clinic formed a partnership with CVS Pharmacy to provide cancer screenings at various CVS Pharmacy locations. The Collaborative uses small media such as brochures and social media to educate residents about appropriate cancer screening guidelines, healthy eating, nutrition, and active living. The overall goal of using the multicomponent intervention approach is to inform and motivate the community to adopt health lifestyle behaviors, reduce their risk of cancer, and encourage participation in cancer screenings.

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