

CANCER

Cancer Deaths
Total 2011 - 2015

	Count	Age-adjusted rate (per 100,000)
Black Male	701	263.08
White Male	3,366	225.01
Louisville Metro	8,240	188.47
Black Female	733	184.89
White Female	3,308	162.04
Hispanic Male	38	113.89
Other Female	36	106.82
Hispanic Female	33	93.60
Other Male	25	85.08

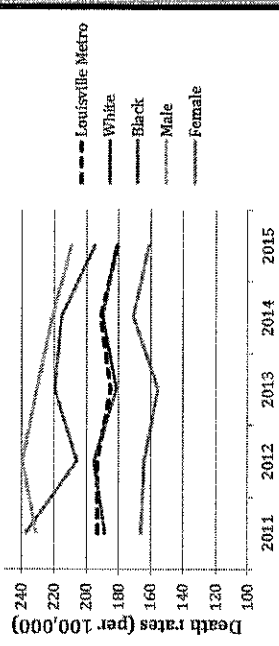
Data Source: 2011-2015 Kentucky Vital Statistics
Age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Standard Population
Racial categories are non-Hispanic.

Cancer Incidence &
Death Rates 2011 - 2014

Cancer Type	Louisville Metro Age-adjusted Incidence Rate	Louisville Metro Age-adjusted Death Rate
All Cancers	593.3	191.0
Lung and bronchus	89.0	95.5
Breast (female only)	172.2	23.3
Prostate	135.8	20.1
Colorectal	54.6	15.5
Pancreas	14.2	41.8
Leukemia	17.8	8.6
Liver and intrahepatic bile duct	10.6	7.9
Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	21.7	6.7
Urinary bladder	22.3	4.3
Cervical	6.6	3.2
Melanoma of the skin	38.7	3.1
Oral cavity and pharynx	14.7	2.7

Data Source: Kentucky Cancer Registry www.cancer-rates.info/kv
Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Standard Population per 100,000
for the years 2011-2014.
Incidence describes the number of newly diagnosed cases.

Cancer Death Rates, 2011-2015



Data Source: 2011-2015 Kentucky Vital Statistics
Age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Standard Population



FOOD
SYSTEMS



ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY



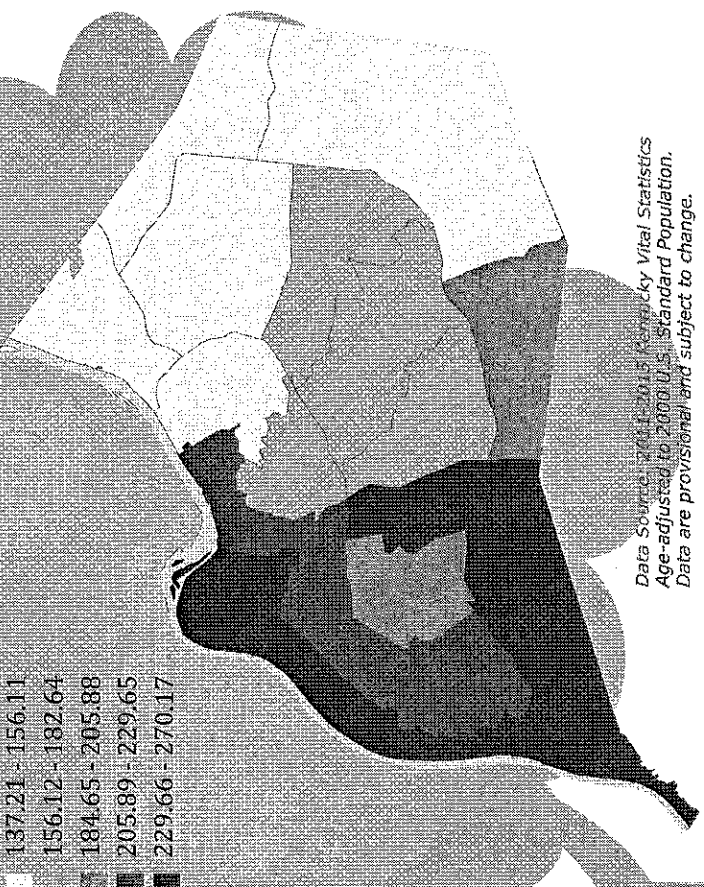
EMPLOYMENT
AND INCOME



HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES

Cancer

Age-adjusted death rate per 100,000



Data Source: 2011-2015 Kentucky Vital Statistics
Age-adjusted to 2000 U.S. Standard Population.
Data are provisional and subject to change.

Cancer is the leading cause of death for Louisville Metro. Breast and prostate cancers are those that predominantly affect residents. Not all those who get cancer die from it, as the incidence rate (how many new people are diagnosed each year) is almost 3 times higher than the death rate for Louisville Metro, and has slowly been declining. Elevated cancer death rates are clustered in the entire western half of the county. Overall, White and Black men are dying at higher rates than women from any kind of cancer.

The median age of those who died from cancer in Louisville Metro from 2011-2015 was 72.



HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

A study by the American Cancer Society showed that **people who are uninsured or underinsured are more likely to be diagnosed with cancer at its more advanced stages.** By then, cancer treatment is more expensive and patients are more likely to die from the disease.⁵

The number of new cancer cases as well as many deaths can be reduced or prevented with early screenings.⁶ Screening for cervical (pap tests), colorectal and breast cancers (mammograms) helps find these diseases at an early stage, when treatment is most effective.⁶ Where one lives should not determine if one lives. Making sure that families who live in poverty have access to affordable health insurance is an important first step in saving lives from cancer.⁸

Vaccines can also reduce cancer risk.⁷ The human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine helps prevent most cervical cancers and several other kinds of cancer.⁷ The hepatitis B vaccine can also help lower the risk of liver cancer.⁷



EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME

For a family that has the available income and structural support, preventing cancer is much more cost-effective than treating it.⁹ However, many families either cannot afford the preventative measures (such as eating healthy foods or seeking medical care) or must navigate structural barriers (such as limited green space for exercise or polluted air).

In addition to whether someone has enough income to prevent cancer, the type of job one works also matters. **Certain jobs put one at higher risk for cancer.** These include:

Agriculture, forestry and fishing – too much sun or exposure to agricultural chemicals.⁹

Construction and painting – exposure to asbestos, too much sun, silica, diesel engine exhaust, coal products, paints and solvents, wood dust.⁹

Manufacturing and mining industries – exposure to fossil fuels, asbestos, silica, solvents or too much sun.⁹

Service industries (such as truck driving, inspectors, etc) – too much sun, second-hand smoke, diesel engine exhaust.⁹



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Pollution of air, water, and soil with cancer-causing (carcinogenic) chemicals contributes to the incidence of cancer.¹⁰ Worldwide, it is estimated that outdoor air pollution contributed to 3.2 million premature cancer deaths in 2012.¹⁰

Research shows that residents who live in communities with concentrated poverty are more likely to live near polluting industries and polluted land and water.¹¹ These communities, which are also navigating high rates of violence, inequities in both food and employment access, as well as other diagnoses (such as risk of infant mortality, diabetes, obesity, etc.) are more susceptible to the consequences of pollutants because their bodies are navigating high stress and other diagnoses.^{12,13}

Lung cancer also is the leading cause of cancer death.¹⁴ Cigarette smoking is responsible for almost all cases of lung cancer.¹⁴ Adults exposed to secondhand smoke at home or at work have a 20 to 30% increased risk of developing lung cancer.¹⁴ Many cancer-causing and toxic chemicals are found in higher concentrations in secondhand smoke than in smoke inhaled by smokers.¹⁴



FOOD SYSTEMS

People with less healthy diets are more likely to develop cancer. **From many studies done on the association between diet and cancer, experts concluded that the food we eat can affect our risk of cancer.**^{15,16,17}

Because there are a variety of types, there are different ways diet can impact the risk of cancer. For example, diets high in processed and red meat can increase the risk of colorectal cancer, while research suggests that eating fruit and vegetables reduces the risk of mouth, upper throat, larynx and lung cancers.^{18,19,20,21,22,23,24} There is strong evidence linking high fiber foods, which are typically also fresh fruits and vegetables, to a reduction in colorectal cancer risk.^{25,26}

Research also shows that diet-related obesity significantly raises the risk of endometrial (uterine), breast, prostate, colorectal cancers.¹⁰ An active lifestyle and healthy diet both help to maintain a healthy weight.

However, it is incredibly difficult to maintain a healthy diet when households are food insecure, meaning there is limited access to fresh food. This can occur either because households do not have enough money to afford all of their competing financial responsibilities or there are few or no physical locations in their neighborhood to purchase fresh foods. According to the US Department of Agriculture, around 12.3% of all US households were food insecure in 2016.²⁷ When looking at Black or Hispanic households, the percentage increases significantly to 22.5% and 18.5% respectively.²⁷