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Lifetime Risk of Developing or Dying From Cancer

The lifetime risk of developing or dying from cancer refers to the chance a person has, over the course of their lifetime (from birth to death), of being diagnosed with or dying from cancer. These risk estimates are one way to measure how widespread cancer is in the United States.

- Males
- Females

The following tables list lifetime risks of developing and dying from certain cancers for men and women in the United States. The information is from the National Cancer

Males

Thyroid 0.7 153 0.1 1,780

Females

| | Risk | of developing | | Risk of dying from | |
|--|------|---------------|------|--------------------|-------|
| | % | 1 in | % | | 1 in |
| Any cancer | 39.6 | 3 | 17 | | 6 |
| Bladder (includes in situ) | 1.1 | 89 | 0.3 | | 311 |
| Brain and nervous system | 0.5 | 186 | 0.4 | | 243 |
| Breast | 13 | 8 | 2.5 | | 41 |
| Cervix | 0.7 | 152 | 0.2 | | 473 |
| Colon and rectum | 3.9 | 25 | 1.5 | | 67 |
| Esophagus | 0.2 | 434 | 0.2 | | 536 |
| Hodgkin lymphoma | 0.2 | 527 | <0.1 | | 4,071 |
| Kidney and renal pelvis | 1.4 | 73 | 0.3 | | 330 |
| Larynx (voice box) | 0.1 | 844 | <0.1 | | 2,416 |
| Leukemia | 1.3 | 75 | 0.6 | | 159 |
| Liver and bile duct | 0.7 | 143 | 0.5 | | 182 |
| Lung and bronchus | 5.9 | 17 | 3.8 | | 26 |
| Melanoma of the skin* | 2.5 | 41 | 0.2 | | 473 |
| Multiple myeloma | 8.0 | 131 | 0.4 | | 284 |
| Non-Hodgkin lymphoma | 1.9 | 52 | 0.6 | | 176 |
| Oral cavity and pharynx (mouth and throat) | 0.7 | 139 | 0.2 | | 541 |
| Ovary | 1.1 | 87 | 8.0 | | 130 |
| Pancreas | 1.7 | 60 | 1.3 | | 74 |

| Stomach | 0.6 | 155 | 0.3 | 371 |
|---------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Thyroid | 1.7 | 58 | 0.1 | 1,467 |
| Uterus | 3.1 | 32 | 0.7 | 153 |

^{*}The risk numbers for melanoma are for non-Hispanic White individuals. The risk among people of other races/ethnicities is likely to be lower.

References

American Cancer Society. Lifetime Probability of Developing (2017-2019) or Dying (2018-2020) from Cancer (*Cancer Facts & Figures 2024* Supplemental Data). 2024. Accessed at https://www.cancer.org/content/dam/cancer-org/research/cancer-facts-and-statistics/annual-cancer-facts-and-figures/2024/sd4-lifetime-probability-2024.pdf on January 18, 2024.

Last Revised: January 18, 2024

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Our team is made up of doctors and oncology certified nurses with deep knowledge of cancer care as well as editors and translators with extensive experience in medical writing.

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