

# U.S. CANCER HEALTH DISPARITIES

Significant progress has been made against cancer. However, not everyone has benefited equally from the advances and adverse differences in numerous cancer measures exist among certain segments of the U.S. population (see sidebar on **What Are Cancer Health Disparities?**). Some recently identified examples of disparities in cancer incidence rates, death rates, and stage at diagnosis are highlighted here. Disparities in other cancer measures are outlined elsewhere in the report (see sidebars on **Disparities in the Burden of Avoidable Cancer Risk Factors**, **Disparities in Cancer Screening**, **Disparities in Cancer Clinical Trial Participation**, **Disparities in Treatment**, and **Disparities in Quality of Life after a Cancer Diagnosis**).

MORE THAN  
**DOUBLE**

Non-Hispanic black men have a prostate cancer death rate that is **more than double** that for men in any other racial or ethnic group (2).

**75% AND 69%**  
MORE LIKELY

African-American and Hispanic women are **75 percent and 69 percent**, respectively, **more likely** to be diagnosed with breast cancer at an advanced stage than non-Hispanic white women (12).

**DOUBLE**

Non-Hispanic black women have a triple-negative breast cancer incidence rate that is **double** that for non-Hispanic white women (13).

**39%** HIGHER

Non-Hispanic black women have a breast cancer death rate that is **39 percent higher** than that for non-Hispanic white women (13).

**26%** HIGHER

Men living in Appalachia have a lung cancer incidence rate that is **26 percent higher** than that for men living in the remainder of the United States (14).

**61% AND 51%**  
MORE LIKELY

Adolescents and young adults (ages 15 to 39) with head and neck cancer who have Medicaid coverage or no insurance are **61 percent and 51 percent**, respectively, **more likely** to die from their disease than those who have private insurance (15).

MORE THAN **20%**  
MORE LIKELY

Patients of low socioeconomic status with anal cancer are **more than 20 percent more likely** to die from the disease than those of high socioeconomic status (16).

**3X**  
MORE LIKELY

Women living with a same-sex relationship partner are **three times more likely** to die from breast cancer than women living with a male spouse or cohabiting relationship partner (17).

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