

SUBOPTIMAL USE OF CANCER SCREENING TESTS

Not all people for whom cancer screening is recommended are up to date with U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommended screening guidelines. In addition, some people for whom screening is not recommended, such as individuals above the recommended age range for a given cancer screening test, often get screened. The following are selected examples of suboptimal uses of cancer screening tests based on recent data:

33%

33 percent¹ of adults ages 50–75 were not up to date with colorectal cancer screening in 2018.

28%

28 percent of women ages 50–74 were not up to date with breast cancer screening in 2018.

82%

82 percent of adults ages 55–80, with a 30+ pack-year smoking history who currently smoke or have quit within the past 15 years, were not up to date with lung cancer screening in 2018–2019.

20%

20 percent of women ages 21–65 were not up to date with cervical cancer screening in 2018.

74%

74 percent of women ages 75 and older (above recommended age) received screening for breast cancer in 2018.

59%

59 percent of men ages 76 and older (above recommended age) received screening for colorectal cancer in 2018.

65%

65 percent of women ages 30–65 were overscreened (more frequently than recommended for this age group) for cervical cancer in 2013–2014.

¹All percentages in this sidebar are rounded to the nearest integer.