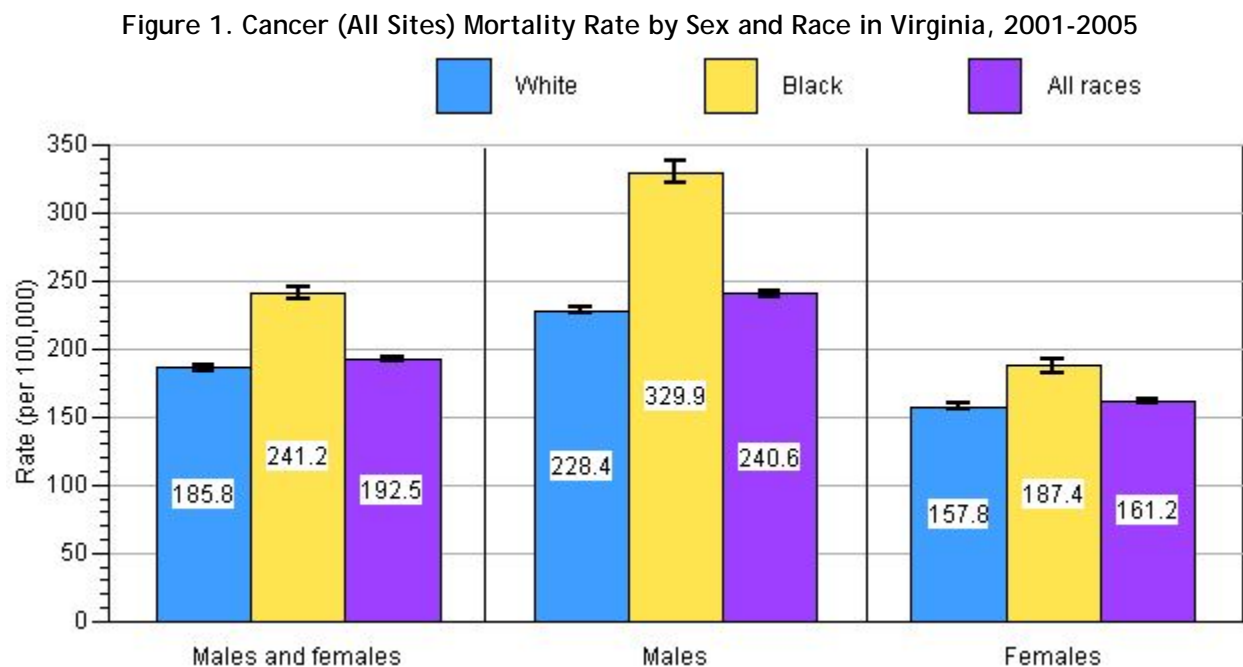


Cancer Mortality in Virginia

- Cancer is the second leading cause of death in the U.S. and Virginia, behind heart disease, *and the leading cause of death for people under the age of 65 years.*
- There were more than 67,000 deaths from cancer between 2001 and 2005 in Virginia, at a *mortality rate* of **192.5** deaths per 100,000 people each year. An estimated **13,990** deaths are expected to occur in Virginia in 2008.
- Men die from cancer at a greater rate than women (Figure 1).
- More cancer deaths occur among whites. However, the mortality rate for blacks is greater than for whites, especially for males (Figure 1).
- The leading causes of death from cancer among men are lung and bronchus cancer, prostate cancer, and colon and rectum cancer. Among women, cancer of the lung and bronchus, breast, and colon and rectum are the leading causes of death from cancer (Figure 2).
- Cancer mortality rates in Virginia and the U.S. declined, on average, by one percentage point each year from 1995 to 2005 (Figure 3).
- For information on cancer mortality in Virginia, go to the Virginia Division of Health Statistics website (<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/HealthStats/>).
- For information on cancer mortality in the U.S. and other states, go to the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results (SEER) website (<http://seer.cancer.gov/>).



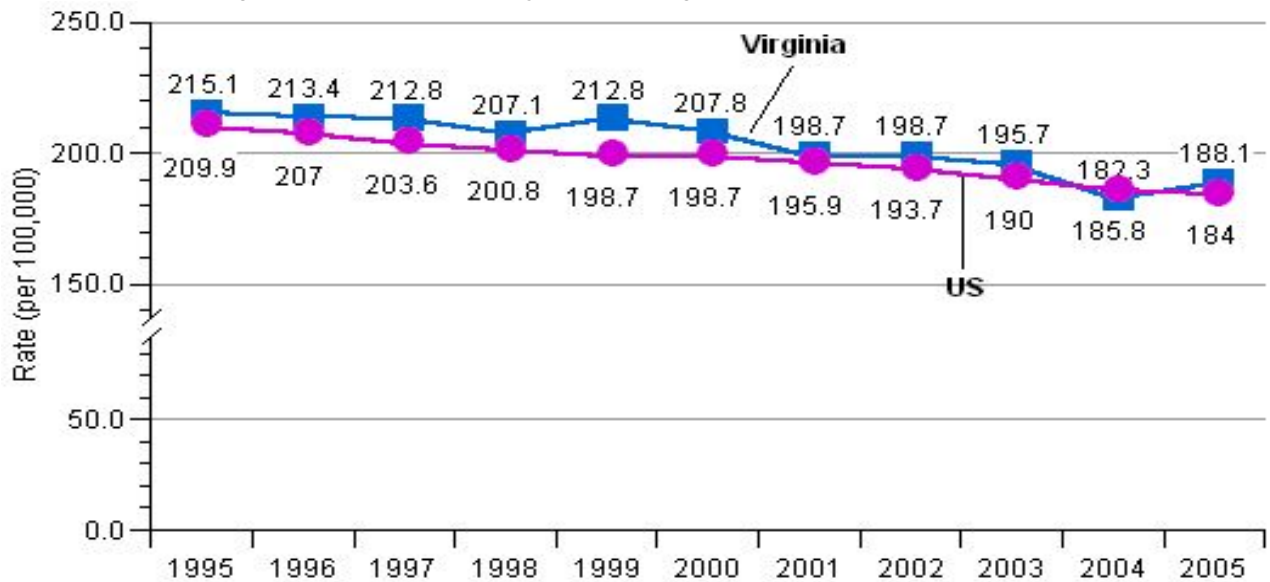
Source: VDH Division of Health Statistics. Rates (per 100,000) are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population. 95% confidence intervals are shown.

Figure 2. Leading Causes of Cancer Death Among Males and Females in Virginia

Top 10 Causes of Cancer Death (Count & Percent) among Males, Virginia, 2001 – 2005			Top 10 Causes of Cancer Death (Count & Percent) among Females, Virginia, 2001 – 2005		
Lung and bronchus	11,300	32.3%	Lung and bronchus	8,398	26.0%
Prostate	3,671	10.5%	Breast	5,323	16.5%
Colon and rectum	3,349	9.6%	Colon and rectum	3,217	9.9%
Pancreas	1,827	5.2%	Pancreas	1,862	5.8%
Leukemia	1,332	3.8%	Ovary	1,772	5.5%
Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	1,237	3.5%	Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	1,124	3.5%
Esophagus	1,187	3.4%	Leukemia	1,089	3.4%
Liver	1,003	2.9%	Uterus	819	2.5%
Urinary Bladder	953	2.7%	Multiple myeloma	693	2.1%
Kidney and renal pelvis	909	2.6%	Brain and other CNS	586	1.8%
All Sites - Males	34,971		All Sites – Females	32,344	

Source: Virginia Division of Health Statistics. The number of cancer deaths by site and their percentage of the total number of cases reported are shown.

Figure 3. Cancer Mortality Rate in Virginia and U.S.: 1995 to 2005



Sources: Virginia Division of Health Statistics (state mortality rates); National Vital Statistics System (NVSS) public use datafile. Rates (per 100,000) are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

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