

# Healthy People 2020 Cancer Objectives

Healthy People 2020 provides objectives for improving the health of all Americans and has established benchmarks to monitor progress over time. Specifically, the cancer objectives for Healthy People 2020 support monitoring trends in cancer incidence, mortality, and survival to better assess the progress made toward decreasing the burden of cancer in the United States. The objectives reflect the importance of promoting evidence-based screening for cervical, colorectal, and breast cancer by measuring the use of screening tests identified in the [U.S. Preventive Services Task Force \(USPSTF\) recommendations](#). The objectives for 2020 also highlight the importance of monitoring the incidence of invasive cancer (cervical and colorectal) and late-stage breast cancer, which are intermediate markers of cancer screening success.<sup>1</sup>

One of the Healthy People 2020 Cancer objectives is to “reduce the number of new cancer cases, as well as the illness, disability, and death caused by cancer.”<sup>2</sup> The target set for the year 2020 is to reduce cancer deaths to a rate of no more than 160.6 per 100,000 people.<sup>2</sup> As a comparison, the 2005-2009 Cuyahoga County cancer age-adjusted (2000 U.S. population standard) death rate was 196.3 per 100,000 people. The rate for Cuyahoga County was higher than the 2005-2009 cancer age-adjusted death rate for the Nation (178.7).<sup>3</sup> To meet the Healthy People 2020 target death rate for cancer, the Cuyahoga County age-adjusted cancer death rate would have to be reduced by 18.2% or by a rate of approximately 36 cancer-related deaths per 100,000 people. Additionally, the mortality rate for the City of Cleveland (262.0 per 100,000 people) would have to be reduced by 38.7% or 101 cancer-related deaths per 100,000 people.

Healthy People 2020 objectives for the reduction female breast, cervical, lung, colorectal, oropharyngeal, prostate, and melanoma cancer deaths are presented below, along with additional Healthy People 2020 objectives related to cancer. (See **Table 3**).

To meet the Healthy People 2020 Cancer Objectives our community would need to reduce:

- Cancer Death Rate by 18.2% in Cuyahoga County and by 38.7% in Cleveland.
- Lung Cancer Death Rate by 15.7% in Cuyahoga County and by 43.8% in Cleveland.
- Female Breast Cancer Death Rate by 21.4% in Cuyahoga County and by 31.8% in Cleveland.
- Cervical Cancer Death Rate by 12.0% in Cuyahoga County and by 48.8% in Cleveland.
- Colorectal Cancer Death Rate by 15.7% in Cuyahoga County and by 40.6% in Cleveland.
- Oropharyngeal Cancer Death Rate by 23.3% in Cuyahoga County and by 58.9% in Cleveland.
- Prostate Cancer Death Rate by 30.7% in Cuyahoga County and by 52.6% in Cleveland.
- Invasive Colorectal Cancer by 19.2% in Cuyahoga County and by 35.7% in Cleveland.
- Invasive Cervical Cancer by 23.7% in Cuyahoga County and by 53.3% in Cleveland.
- Late-stage Female Breast Cancer Rate by 13.0% in Cuyahoga County and by 16.8% in Cleveland.

Cuyahoga County and the City of Cleveland are meeting the Healthy People 2020 goal for the Melanoma Cancer Death Rate of 2.4 per 100,000 population. The rate of cancer deaths due to melanoma in Cuyahoga County and the City of Cleveland was 2.2 and 1.6 respectively.

There are also several Healthy People 2020 objectives that currently do not have national baseline data and are under development. These include:

1. Increase the mental and physical health-related quality of life of cancer survivors
2. Increase the proportion of adults who were counseled by their providers about colorectal cancer screening
3. Increase the proportion of men who have discussed with their health care provider whether to have a prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test to screen for prostate cancer
4. Reduce the proportion of adolescents in grades 9 through 12 who report sunburn
5. Reduce the proportion of adults aged 18 years and older who report sunburn

### **References**

1. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Healthy People 2020, Cancer Overview. Washington, DC. Available at <http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topicsobjectives2020/objectiveslist.aspx?topicId=5> Accessed December 10, 2012.
2. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Healthy People 2020, Cancer Objectives. Washington, DC. Available at <http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topicsobjectives2020/objectiveslist.aspx?topicId=5> Accessed December 10, 2012.

**Table 3**

<b>Healthy People 2020 Summary of Cancer Objectives<sup>1</sup></b>			
	<b>Healthy People Objective</b>	<b>Cuyahoga County</b>	<b>Cleveland</b>
Reduce the overall cancer death rate (per 100,000)	160.6	196.3	262.0
Reduce the lung cancer death rate (per 100,000)	45.5	54.0	81.0
Reduce the female breast cancer death rate (per 100,000)	20.6	26.2	30.2
Reduce the death rate from cancer of the uterine cervix (per 100,000)	2.2	2.5	4.3
Reduce the colorectal cancer death rate (per 100,000)	14.5	17.2	24.4
Reduce the oropharyngeal cancer death rate (per 100,000)	2.3	3.0	5.6
Reduce the prostate cancer death rate (per 100,000)	21.2	30.6	44.7
Reduce the melanoma cancer death rate (per 100,000)	2.4	2.2	1.6
Reduce invasive colorectal cancer (per 100,000)	38.6	47.8	60.0
Reduce invasive uterine cervical cancer (per 100,000)	7.1	9.3	15.2
Reduce late-stage female breast cancer (per 100,000)	41.0	47.1	49.3
Increase the proportion of cancer survivors who are living 5 years or longer after diagnosis	72.8%	not available	not available
Increase the proportion of women who receive a cervical cancer screening based on the most recent guidelines	93.0%	not available	not available
Increase the proportion of adults who receive a colorectal cancer screening based on the most recent guidelines	70.5%	not available	not available
Increase the proportion of women who receive a breast cancer screening based on the most recent guidelines	81.1%	not available	not available
Increase the proportion of women who were counseled by their providers about mammograms	76.8%	not available	not available
Increase the proportion of women who were counseled by their providers about Pap tests	65.8%	not available	not available
Reduce the proportion of adolescents in grades 9 through 12 who report using artificial sources of ultraviolet light for tanning	14.0%	not available	not available
Reduce the proportion of adults aged 18 and older who report using artificial sources of ultraviolet light for tanning	13.7%	not available	not available
Increase the proportion of adolescents in grades 9 through 12 who follow protective measures that may reduce the risk of skin cancer	11.2%	not available	not available
Increase the proportion of adults aged 18 years and older who follow protective measures that may reduce the risk of skin cancer	80.1%	not available	not available

<sup>1</sup>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Healthy People 2020. Washington, DC. Available at <http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topicsobjectives2020/objectiveslist.aspx?topicId=5> Accessed December 10, 2012.