

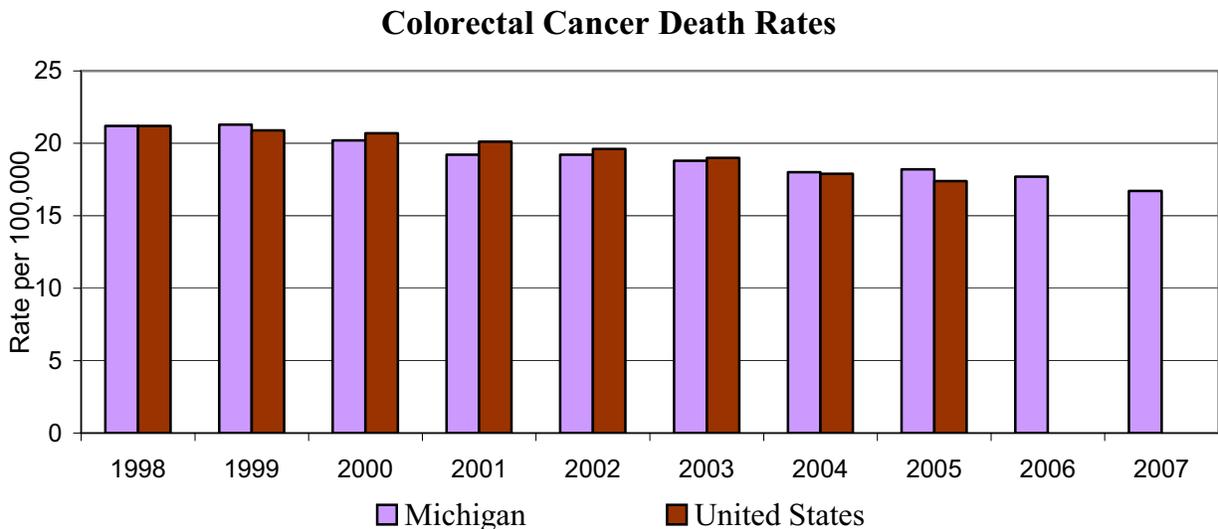


Topic: Cancer and Cancer Screening

15. Colorectal Cancer Deaths

Colorectal cancer remains the third leading cause of cancer-related deaths in Michigan for men and women combined, despite the recent decline in related death rates for Michigan men and women.

How are we doing?



In 2007, 1,872 Michigan men and women died from colorectal cancer. Death rates associated with colorectal cancer have decreased in Michigan, falling from 21.2 deaths per 100,000 men and women in 1998 to 16.7 deaths per 100,000 men and women in 2007.

In 2008, the American Cancer Society estimates that 5,150 Michigan men and women will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer and approximately 1,700 men and women within the state will die from the disease. Screening rates for colorectal cancer have increased and death rates have decreased over the past ten years.

How Does Michigan compare with the U.S.?

Michigan's colorectal cancer rates are comparable to rates in the United States overall. In 2005, Michigan had 18.2 deaths per 100,000 compared to 17.4 deaths per 100,000 in the United States.

How are different populations affected?

In Michigan, colorectal cancer death and incidence rates are higher among blacks than whites. In 2005, colorectal cancer black-to-white ratio for death was 1.5 and in 2004, the incidence rate ratio of blacks to whites was 1.3.

National data show that five-year relative survival rates in the U.S. are lower for black men and women compared to survival rates of white men and women even when colorectal cancer is detected at the same stage.

In Michigan, black men and women report getting screened at a slightly higher rate than white men and women. According to the 2006 Michigan BRFS, 30.6% of black men and women aged 50 years and



Critical Health Indicators

older reported having had a blood stool test within the past 2 years compared to 27.6% of white men and women and 61.7% of black men and women age 50 years and older reported having had a sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy in the past 5 years compared to 55.3% of white men and women.

What is the Department of Community Health doing to improve this indicator?

The Michigan Department of Community Health funds the Michigan Colorectal Cancer Screening Program (MCRCSPP). In its third year, the program continues to provide colorectal cancer screening and follow-up services to asymptomatic, low-income, uninsured/underinsured individuals at three Michigan public health departments serving fifteen counties.

In 2008, approximately 540 uninsured or underinsured men and women enrolled in the MCRCSPP and received risk assessment, education about screening and an invitation to be screened. A combined total of 451 screening and diagnostic tests were completed using fecal occult blood testing (FOBT) and/or colonoscopy. Through relationships developed with MCRCSPP community partners, two clients were treated after cancerous polyps were detected and removed.

Source: ACS Facts & Figures 2008. Accessed online at:
<http://www.cancer.org/downloads/STT/2008CAFFfinalsecured.pdf>