

Thanks to investments in medical research, the U.S. continues to make significant progress in cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment. But much more remains to be done in the fight to prevent new cancers and support affected individuals and communities.

41%

Approximately 41% of men & women will be diagnosed with cancer at some point during their lifetime.

2M

More than 2 million new cancer cases are expected to be diagnosed in 2024.

600k+

More than 600,000 Americans die of cancer each year.

\$208 B

Cancer costs more than \$208 billion annually for medical care and lost productivity.

Between 1991 and 2021, the U.S. cancer death rate decreased by 33%.

Decades of investments in cancer research have led to improvements in treatment and prevention of cancer as well as declines in overall cancer death rates.



Research is the best defense against the devastating human and economic toll cancer takes on American lives.

- NIH supported years of basic and clinical studies which produced a cancer therapy breakthrough - immunotherapy - a type of treatment that **unleashes the body's immune system to fight cancer**. To date, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved 35 different immunotherapies for patients with a variety of cancers.
- Researchers supported by the NIH helped **create the first vaccines for human papilloma virus (HPV)**, a major cause of cervical cancer.
- NIH's genetic screening breast cancer trials have **spared thousands of women from chemo side effects** and saved our health care system resources.
- NIH's TARGET initiative developed new genetic tests allowing clinicians to **identify children with a fast-growing type of blood cancer who are at a high risk of relapse** and treat them earlier.
- NIH funds and oversees both early- and late-phase pancreatic cancer clinical trials to **develop new treatments and improve patient care**.

Sources: 1. American Cancer Society. (2024). Retrieved from <https://www.cancer.org/content/dam/cancer-org/research/cancer-facts-and-statistics/annual-cancer-facts-and-figures/2024/2024-cancer-facts-and-figures-acf.pdf>; 2. National Cancer Institute. (2022). Retrieved from https://seer.cancer.gov/report_to_nation/; 3. National Cancer Institute. (2022). Retrieved from <https://www.cancer.gov/ccg/research/genome-sequencing/target>; 4. National Library of Medicine. (2022). Retrieved from <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9167882/>

Steady, reliable NIH funding is crucial as researchers make progress in combating the spectrum of cancers that affect the American public.