

Incidence and Mortality Rate Trends

In the United States, pancreatic cancer is the fourth leading cause of cancer-related death in males and the fifth leading cause of cancer death in females. Because it is usually diagnosed at an advanced stage, the survival rate is poor compared to other types of cancer. Unfortunately, there has been little change in overall pancreatic cancer incidence or mortality rates throughout the past three decades.

Compared to other racial and ethnic groups, African Americans are the most vulnerable to pancreatic cancer, followed by Whites.

It is estimated that approximately \$709 million* is spent in the United States each year on treatment of pancreatic cancer.

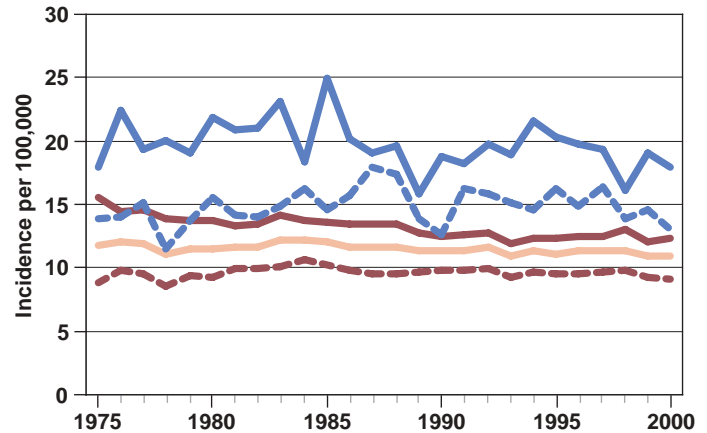
*In 1996 dollars, as determined by Brown, Riley, Schussler, and Etzioni and reported in the National Cancer Institute's *Cancer Progress Report - 2003 Update* at: <http://progressreport.cancer.gov>

Source for incidence and mortality data: Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program and the National Center for Health Statistics. Additional statistics and charts are available at:

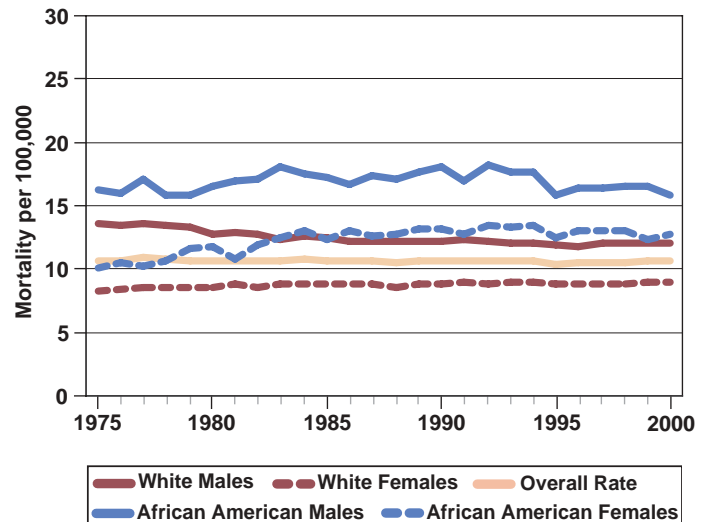
http://seer.cancer.gov/faststats/html/inc_pancreas.html

http://seer.cancer.gov/faststats/html/mor_pancreas.html

U.S. Pancreatic Cancer Incidence



U.S. Pancreatic Cancer Mortality

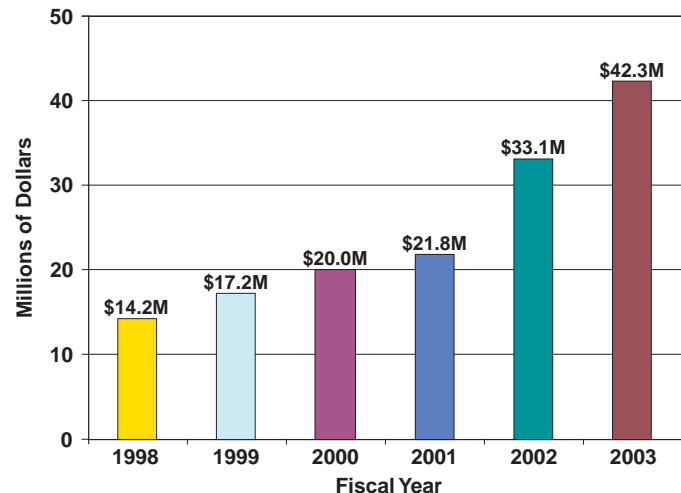


Trends in NCI Funding for Pancreatic Cancer Research

The National Cancer Institute's (NCI's) investment in pancreatic cancer research has increased from \$14.2 million in fiscal year 1998 to \$42.3 million in fiscal year 2003.

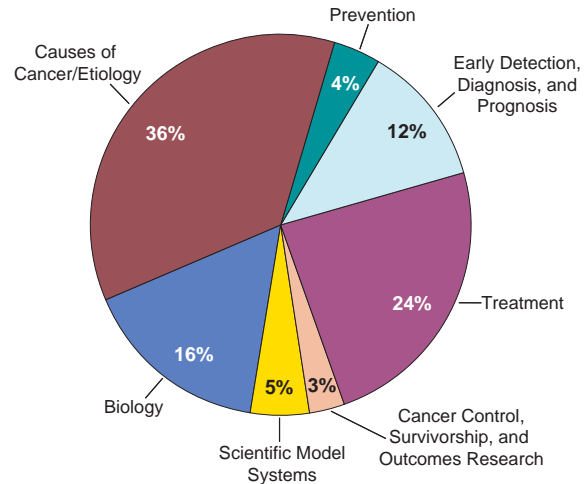
Source: NCI Financial Management Branch
<http://www3.cancer.gov/admin/fmb>

NCI Pancreatic Cancer Research Investment



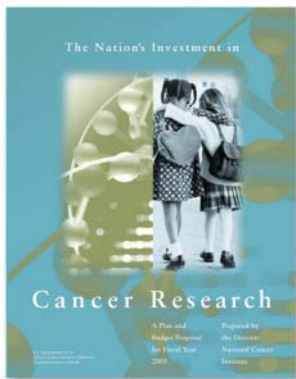
NCI Pancreatic Cancer Research Portfolio

The pie chart shows the distribution of NCI pancreatic cancer research dollars by scientific area for fiscal year 2002. Such portfolio analyses along with the recommendations of the Progress Review Groups (PRGs) are used to (1) identify research gaps, (2) develop strategic plans that will address future research needs, and (3) track and assess progress.



NCI Pancreatic Cancer Research Portfolio*
Percentage of Total Dollars by Scientific Area
Fiscal Year 2002

* A description of the relevant research projects can be found at the NCI Cancer Research Portfolio website at <http://researchportfolio.cancer.gov>.



Examples of NCI Research Initiatives Relevant to Pancreatic Cancer

- Four gastrointestinal cancer-specific **Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPOREs)** are moving results from the laboratory to the clinical setting. <http://spores.nci.nih.gov/gi/gi.html>
- The **Early Detection Research Network (EDRN)** is dedicated to identifying and testing new biomarkers for detection and risk assessment. Studies related to pancreatic cancer are under way in the biomarkers development laboratories and the clinical and epidemiologic centers within EDRN. <http://www3.cancer.gov/prevention/cbrg/edrn>
- The **Mouse Models of Human Cancers Consortium (MMHCC)** is developing techniques for studying the behavior of human pancreatic ductal carcinoma in a small animal model. http://emice.nci.nih.gov/emice/mouse_models
- The **Unconventional Innovations Program** spurs the development of radically new technologies in cancer detection, diagnosis, and treatment. This program funds a variety of novel research projects including those aiming to treat pancreatic, breast, colon, and prostate cancers and brain tumors. Another target of interest is the vasculature formed during the angiogenesis process. <http://otir.cancer.gov/tech/uip.html>
- The **Pancreatic Cancer PRG**, a panel of prominent scientists and patient advocates, assessed the state of the science and identified future research priorities. <http://prg.cancer.gov>
- NCI's intramural **Gastrointestinal Malignancies Faculty** facilitates interactions among basic, epidemiological, translational, and clinical researchers. The faculty has recruited multidisciplinary clinicians and is early in the process of developing a clinic for patients with malignant and benign pancreatic tumors. <http://ccr.cancer.gov/faculties/faculty.asp?facid=156>
- The **Pancreatic Cancer Home Page** provides up-to-date information on pancreatic cancer treatment, prevention, genetics, causes, screening, testing, and other topics. <http://www.cancer.gov/pancreas>