



Cancer InFocus™

Ohio

Presented by



CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY
Case Comprehensive
Cancer Center

Overview and Instructions

Cancer InFocus Ohio is an interactive, web-based tool intended to make data about communities' cancer burden, socioeconomic and physical environments, cancer risk factors, cancer screening uptake, and access to cancer-related healthcare services more accessible. It is free, easy-to-use, and available for anyone who wants to better understand cancer in our region or state.

The application pulls data from multiple public sources including the National Cancer Institute, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Environmental Protection Agency, Health Resources and Services Administration, and others. Cancer InFocus Ohio allows users to search cancer-relevant data from all of these sources using a single dashboard that displays results in map form.

To create a map, first select a geo graphic level: Ohio county or Ohio census tract. Census tracts are small subdivisions of counties usually containing between 1200 and 8000 residents; there are nearly 3000 census tracts in Ohio.

Next select the category of variable, then, the specific variable you'd like to map. Categories include Sociodemographics, Economics & Insurance, Environment, Housing and Transportation, Disparities, Social Vulnerability Index, Screening & Risk Factors, Other Health Factors, Cancer Incidence, and Cancer Mortality.

Under "Add ", you can choose to add special map features, including county borders, interstate highways, or the outlines of food deserts.

Under "Add locations", you can choose to include markers in your map indicating locations of various medical services or environmental concerns.

Some important notes about cancer incidence and mortality: cancer incidence is the rate at which new cases develop in a population. Mortality is the rate at which members of a population die from a given cancer. These data are only available in Cancer InFocus at the county level. If you select Incidence or Mortality as a category, you will be able to map a combined incidence or mortality rate for all cancer types; or, you can select a single cancer type. You will notice that two new menus appear if you choose incidence or mortality, allowing you to restrict your search to a single racial/ethnic group or sex.

Your search will return results in the form of numbers of cases or deaths per hundred-thousand people per year. The populations for sex-specific cancers like cervical or prostate cancers only include members of the corresponding sex at risk. Incidence or mortality rates are age-adjusted. This means that age groups in each county are essentially reweighted to achieve a standardized age structure—as if every county had the identical proportion of residents in each age group. This is important because the risk of cancer diagnosis and death tends to increase with age. A county with a large percentage of older residents is expected to have more cancer cases and deaths naturally. So, age adjustment allows an apples-to-apples comparison of risk that takes differences in county age distribution into account.

Maps will populate as you make your selection on the menus to the left. The legend in the upper left of the map area describes the units in which measures are reported and the range of values. By hovering over or clicking on an individual county or census tract, you can see the name of that geography and the numeric value of its data point.

Maps can be zoomed using the scroll button on your mouse or pinch on your mobile device. Desktop users can also zoom in on a specific area by holding the Shift key and drawing a box with your mouse. To pan the map, click, hold and drag the mouse, or use the arrow keys. If you like, you can download an image file of your map or even download the data in table form in a csv file using the buttons in the lower-right corner of the map area.

Cancer InFocus was originally developed at University of Kentucky's Markey Cancer Center. Cancer InFocus Ohio is hosted by the Population Cancer Analytics Shared Resource of Case Comprehensive Cancer Center. Any questions regarding this application or the data being used can be directed to johnie.rose@case.edu.