



CRS Report for Congress

Cancer Research: Selected Federal Spending and Morbidity and Mortality Statistics

Judith A. Johnson
Domestic Social Policy Division

Janet Kinzer
Knowledge Services Group

Table 1 shows federal spending at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for research on selected cancer sites (i.e., the part of the body in which the cancer presents itself). Most cancer research at NIH is conducted by the National Cancer Institute (NCI); NCI amounts are indicated in parentheses (which are a subset of the number above it). The estimate for FY2009 is based on the President's request.

Table 1. NIH Research Funding for Selected Cancer Sites
(\$ in millions; NCI portion of NIH total is shown in parentheses)

Cancer	FY2004 Actual	FY2005 Actual	FY2006 Actual	FY2007 Actual	FY2008 Estimate	FY2009 Estimate
Breast	\$708 (566)	\$700 (560)	\$718 (585)	\$707 (572)	\$705 (572)	\$703 (572)
Cervical	94 (79)	96 (82)	97 (83)	96 (82)	96 (82)	96 (82)
Colorectal	297 (262)	284 (253)	269 (244)	282 (258)	282 (258)	282 (258)
Lung	297 (273)	289 (266)	266 (243)	249 (227)	249 (227)	249 (227)
Ovarian	112 (100)	106 (98)	102 (95)	103 (97)	103 (97)	103 (97)
Prostate	378 (309)	373 (309)	348 (293)	345 (296)	344 (296)	344 (296)
Uterine	35 (27)	39 (31)	28 (19)	22 (17)	22 (17)	22 (17)
NIH total (NCI total)	\$5,547 (\$4,723)	\$5,639 (\$4,795)	\$5,575 (\$4,747)	\$5,643 (\$4,795)	\$5,652 (\$4,805)	\$5,654 (\$4,810)

Source: NIH budget office, February 5, 2008, and NCI budget office, April 24, 2008.

Note: Amounts for the cancer sites do not add up to the totals. In addition to funding research on many other cancer sites, NIH supports basic cancer research on prevention, epidemiology, carcinogenesis, tumor biology, immunology, as well as research on diagnosis and treatment of cancer patients.

In the past, federal cancer research was conducted solely by NIH. In FY1992, Congress appropriated \$25 million for breast cancer research to the Department of Defense (DOD). In FY1997, Congress began providing for research on ovarian and prostate cancer as well. **Table 2** shows appropriations for these cancers for the past seven years. Funding for DOD cancer research does not appear in the Administration's budget, but rather originates with Congress as part of the appropriations process. On November 13, 2007, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2008 was signed into law (P.L. 110-116). A total of \$228 million was made available in FY2008 for peer-reviewed cancer research on breast (\$138 million), ovarian (\$10 million), and prostate cancer (\$80 million).

Table 2. Congressional Appropriations to DOD for Cancer Research
(\$ in millions)

Cancer	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008
Breast	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$127.5	\$127.5	\$138
Ovarian	10.2	10	10	10	10	10	10
Prostate	85	85	85	85	80	80	80

Source: DOD Appropriation documents and H.Rept. 110-434.

Note: More about the DOD Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program is at [<http://cdmrp.army.mil/>].

Table 3 gives estimates for the number of new cancer cases and deaths expected in 2008 for selected sites. Annual estimates of cancer cases and deaths are published by the American Cancer Society based on incidence rates obtained from NCI's Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) program, which collects data from cancer registries in various parts of the country, representing about 10% of the U.S. population.

Table 3. Estimated U.S. Cancer Cases and Deaths — Selected Sites, 2008

Cancer	Cases	Deaths
Breast (female)	182,460	40,480
Cervical	11,070	3,870
Colorectal	148,810	49,960
Lung	215,020	161,840
Ovarian	21,650	15,520
Prostate	186,320	28,660
Uterine	40,100	7,470
All cancer sites ^a	1,437,180	565,650

Source: A. Jemal, et al., Cancer Statistics, 2008. *CA — A Cancer Journal for Clinicians*, vol. 58, March/April 2008, at [<http://caonline.amcancersoc.org/cgi/reprint/58/2/71>].

a. Totals for all cancer sites include those listed in Table 3 and other cancer sites not listed here.