



**Key Persisting Barriers to Cancer Screening & Treatment**

- ❖ Lack of Medical Insurance
- ❖ Inability to Buy Medications
- ❖ Language & Cultural Barriers
- ❖ Fragmented Medical Care

**The Essex County Cancer Coalition was formed as a partnership of diverse volunteers to:**

*Increase cancer awareness & reduce the impact of cancer on all Essex residents through improved screening, access to treatment & follow-up*

*Promote awareness of and participation in cancer clinical trials and support investigations that seek to find the causes of cancer, improve care, reduce health disparities, or increase access*

*Increase collaboration & communication among all stakeholders to maximize utilization/identification of resources*

*Examine and prioritize an expansion of cancer control efforts throughout the county.*

**For more information, please contact:**

**David Landry MS, or Daniel Rosenblum, PhD**  
**Essex County Cancer Coalition Co-Coordinators, or**  
**Stanley H. Weiss, MD – Director and PI**  
**ADMC 16, Suite 1614, 30 Bergen St., Newark, NJ 07107**  
**Tel: 973-972-4623**

**E-mail: [landrydj@umdnj.edu](mailto:landrydj@umdnj.edu), [rosenbdl@umdnj.edu](mailto:rosenbdl@umdnj.edu)**  
**Visit our website: [www.umdnj.edu/EssCaWeb](http://www.umdnj.edu/EssCaWeb)**

“The Essex County Cancer Coalition (ECCC) is made possible by a grant from the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services’ Office of Cancer Control and Prevention. The mission of the ECCC is to implement the *New Jersey Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan* in Essex County. For more information on Comprehensive Cancer Control in NJ, please visit: [www.njcancer.gov](http://www.njcancer.gov).”

The ECCC also receives in-kind support from UMDNJ and other organizations.

**CANCER BURDEN IN ESSEX COUNTY**

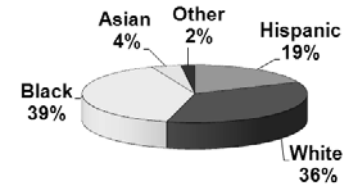
In 2002, the Governor commissioned the first New Jersey Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan (NJ-CCCP). As part of this initiative, a Cancer Capacity and Needs Assessment (C/NA) was conducted in each county, supported by the Office of Cancer Control and Prevention in the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services and overseen by Dr. Stanley H. Weiss. The Essex County C/NA Report can be accessed at [www.umdnj.edu/EssCaWeb](http://www.umdnj.edu/EssCaWeb). An updated summary of key findings is presented here; in general, the most recent cancer statistics available as of January 2011 are for the time period 2002-2006. Single year cancer statistics can be misleading due to random variation when dealing with small geographic regions such as counties.

**Essex County Demographics**

**2006-2008 Population Estimate: 772,663**

**2006-2008 Racial Profile:**

- **64% of Essex County residents belong to a minority group**
- **Over one-quarter of NJ's total Black population lives in Essex County**



**Most Common Foreign Languages Spoken:**  
**Spanish, Portuguese, French-Creole**

	<b>Essex County</b>	<b>New Jersey</b>
<b>Population Density (people per square mile)</b>	6,098	1,184
<b>Median Age (Years)</b>	36.3	38.5
<b>% Adults ≥25 years without high school diploma</b>	19.2	13.1
<b>% Linguistically Isolated Households</b>	7.5	6.3
<b>% Unemployed (as of 2010)</b>	11.0	9.2
<b>% Estimated Uninsured</b>	19.2	16.4
<b>% Population Below Poverty Level</b>		
<b>Individuals (all ages)</b>	14.2	8.7
<b>Children (&lt;18 years)</b>	19.1	12.0
<b>Single, female householders</b>	24.8	19.2
<b>Elderly (65 years and older)</b>	12.1	8.3
<b>Median Household Income</b>		
<b>1989</b>	\$34,518	\$40,927
<b>1999</b>	\$44,944	\$55,146
<b>2008</b>	\$55,407	\$69,674

U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000. Available at: <http://factfinder.census.gov/>, 2010, and Bureau of Labor Statistics. Available at [www.bls.gov/home.htm](http://www.bls.gov/home.htm)

**Prevalence** is a measure of the burden of disease at a **given point in time**. It estimates the number of persons still living who were ever diagnosed with that type of cancer.

**Incidence** is the number of **new** cancer cases in **any given timeframe**.

\*Cancer prevalence figures given here are estimates we have calculated for Essex County as of January 2007. We determined national prevalence-to-crude incidence ratios from SEER data and applied it to the mean annual crude incidence count for Essex County from 2002-2006 (the time interval corresponding to the most recent mortality data – see facing page). As these cancers mainly occur in those over 20, county population estimates for ≥20 years old were used to determine approximate counts; contact the ECCC for details and references.

**Estimated Prevalence in 2007 by Cancer Site,\* in Essex County**

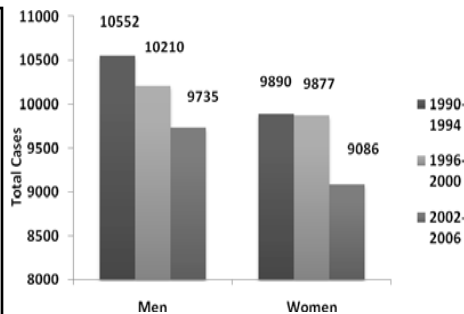
Cancer Site, By Gender	Number of Persons**
Breast, female	6,530
Cervical, female	1,160
Colorectal, male	1,460
Colorectal, female	1,730
Lung, male	410
Lung, female	460
Melanoma, male	550
Melanoma, female	680
Oral, male	360
Oral, female	190
Prostate, male	7,180

All other data on this page from: NJ Cancer Registry, [www.cancer-rates.info/nj/index.php](http://www.cancer-rates.info/nj/index.php) (Accessed 11/30/2010).

\*\* Rounded to nearest 10. These should be taken as estimates, and are method dependant.

**From 2002 through 2006, an average\*\* of about 3,760 new cases of cancer (incidence) AND 2,450 deaths due to cancer (mortality) were reported in Essex County each year.**

While the number of new (incident) cancer cases in Essex County has been falling over the years (5-year periods are compared in the figure to the right), cancer remains a serious burden to the county and to the public.



**Racial Disparities in Cancer Incidence & Mortality Rates:**

**Among WOMEN in Essex County:**

- Cervical cancer mortality rates: **over 2 times higher** in Blacks than whites.
- Oral and breast cancer mortality: **higher** in Blacks than whites **despite similar** incidence rates.

**Among MEN in Essex County:**

- Oral cancer incidence: **about 40% higher** in Blacks than whites.
- Prostate cancer incidence: **about 50% higher** in Blacks than whites.
- Oral and prostate cancer mortality: **over 2–3 times higher** in Blacks than whites.

**Essex rates were over 10% higher than NJ rates for:**

**Oral cancer mortality, for both men and women**

**Among Women:**

- Breast cancer mortality
- Cervical cancer incidence
- Cervical cancer mortality

**Among Men:**

- Prostate cancer incidence
- Prostate cancer mortality

**Average Annual Age-Adjusted Incidence & Mortality Rates (per 100,000 persons)**

FEMALES			MALES		
Essex County		New Jersey	Essex County		New Jersey
5.4	ORAL Incidence	6.0	14.9	ORAL Incidence	14.6
1.6	ORAL Mortality	1.4	4.4	ORAL Mortality	3.6
120.7	BREAST Incidence	128.7		BREAST Incidence	
28.7	BREAST Mortality	27.4		BREAST Mortality	
46.9	LUNG Incidence	56.3	72.5	LUNG Incidence	80.0
36.6	LUNG Mortality	40.1	57.5	LUNG Mortality	62.7
12.2	CERVICAL Incidence	9.2	218.0	PROSTATE Incidence	178.7
4.6	CERVICAL Mortality	2.6	31.6	PROSTATE Mortality	24.5
49.9	COLORECTAL Incidence	48.2	66.0	COLORECTAL Incidence	65.6
18.6	COLORECTAL Mortality	17.2	23.2	COLORECTAL Mortality	24.1
11.2	MELANOMA Incidence	16.9	16.8	MELANOMA Incidence	26.3
1.2	MELANOMA Mortality	1.7	2.7	MELANOMA Mortality	4.0
13.2	OVARIAN Incidence	14.6		OVARIAN Incidence	
8.5	OVARIAN Mortality	9.2		OVARIAN Mortality	
	TOTAL			TOTAL	
(All* sites, not just those listed above)			(All* sites, not just those listed above)		
412.2	Incidence	446.9	609.0	Incidence	598.5
170.5	Mortality	166.3	228.1	Mortality	228.6

\*Excluding skin cancers other than melanoma