

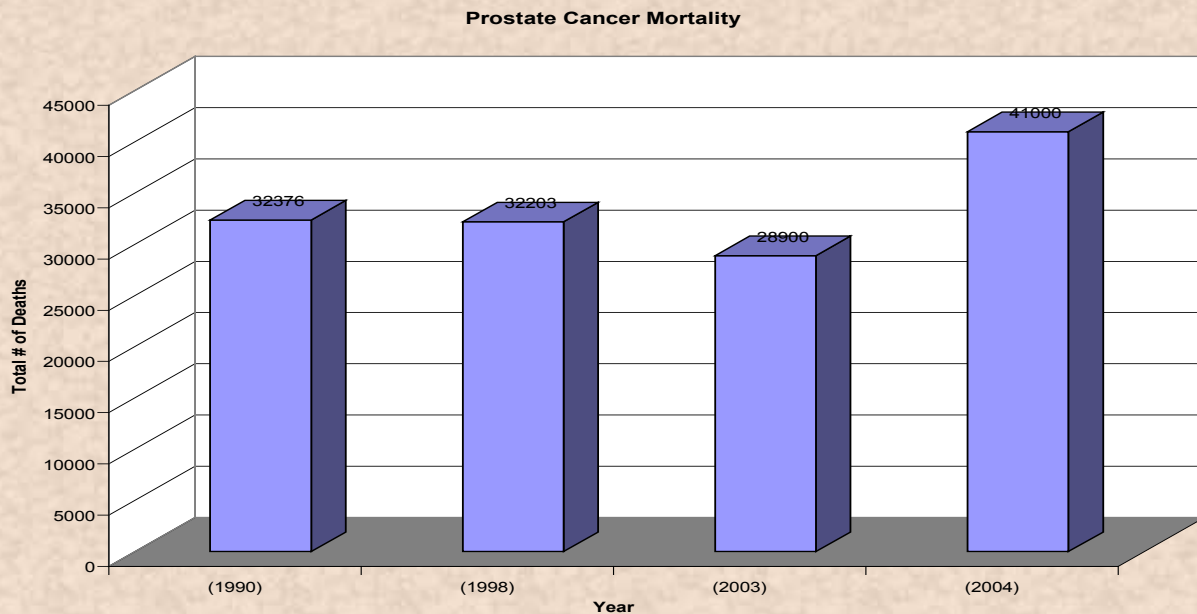
PROSTATE CANCER AND AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN: THE UNITED STATES MORTALITY RATES

Community Voices

By. Louis Graham, M.P.H.

FACT SHEET

Prostate cancer remains the most frequently diagnosed cancer in the United States (US)¹; in fact, the US has the highest incidence of prostate cancer in the world². Prostate cancer mortality disparities subsist among racial/ethnic groups in the US³; African Americans have the highest risk of prostate cancer in the world: 1 in 4 men⁴. One of the most broadly acknowledged hypothesis pertaining to a genetic causal factor is that African American men living in North America do not get the necessary exposure to ultraviolet (UV) light sufficient for synthesis of vitamin D; however, higher mortality rates linked to prostate cancer in African American men are more likely associated with unequal access to adequate healthcare⁵. African Americans are 2.5 times more likely to die from prostate cancer than white men⁶.

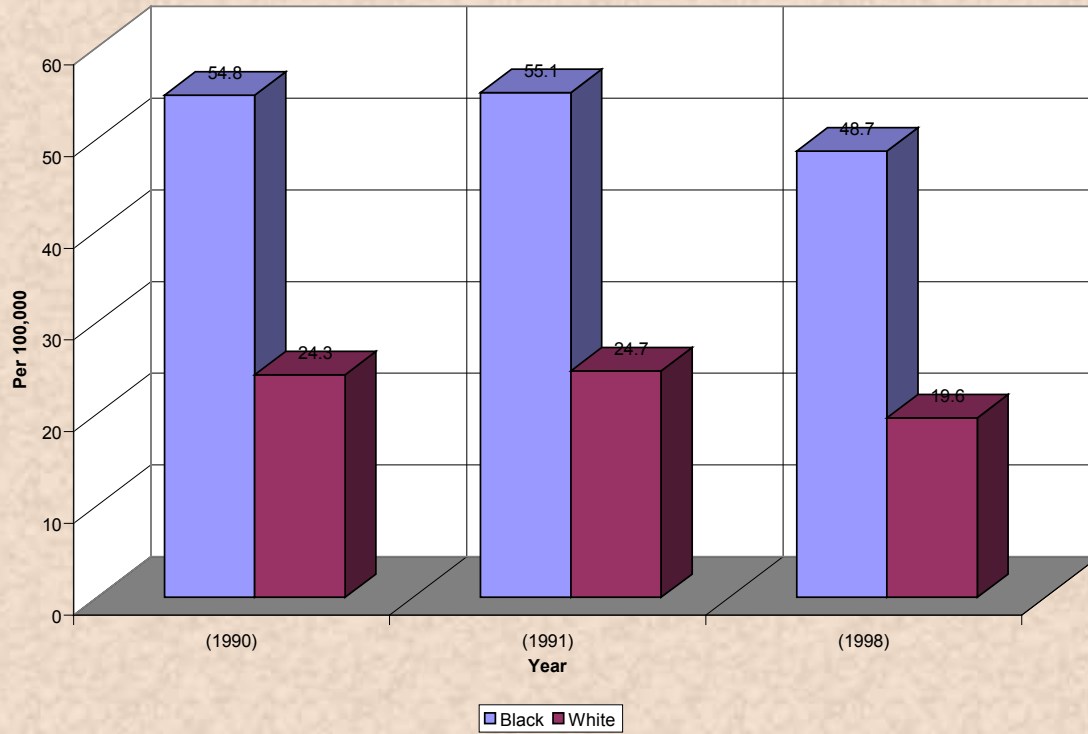


MMWR. Recent Trends in Mortality Rates for Four Major Cancers, by Sex and Race Ethnicity – United States, 1990-1998. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention. 2002; 51(3):49-53.

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Texas Department of Health. Prostate Cancer Quick Facts. www.tdh.state.tx.us/prostate/p_quick.htm.

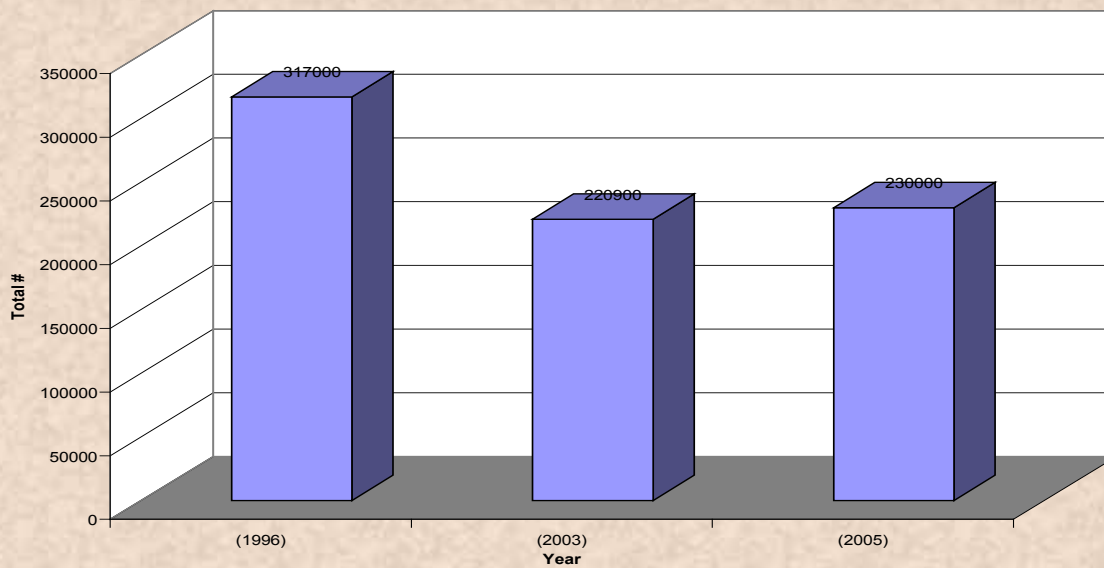
Prostate Cancer Mortality Rates by Race



MMWR. Recent Trends in Mortality Rates for Four Major Cancers, by Sex and Race Ethnicity – United States, 1990-1998. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention. 2002; 51(3):49-53.

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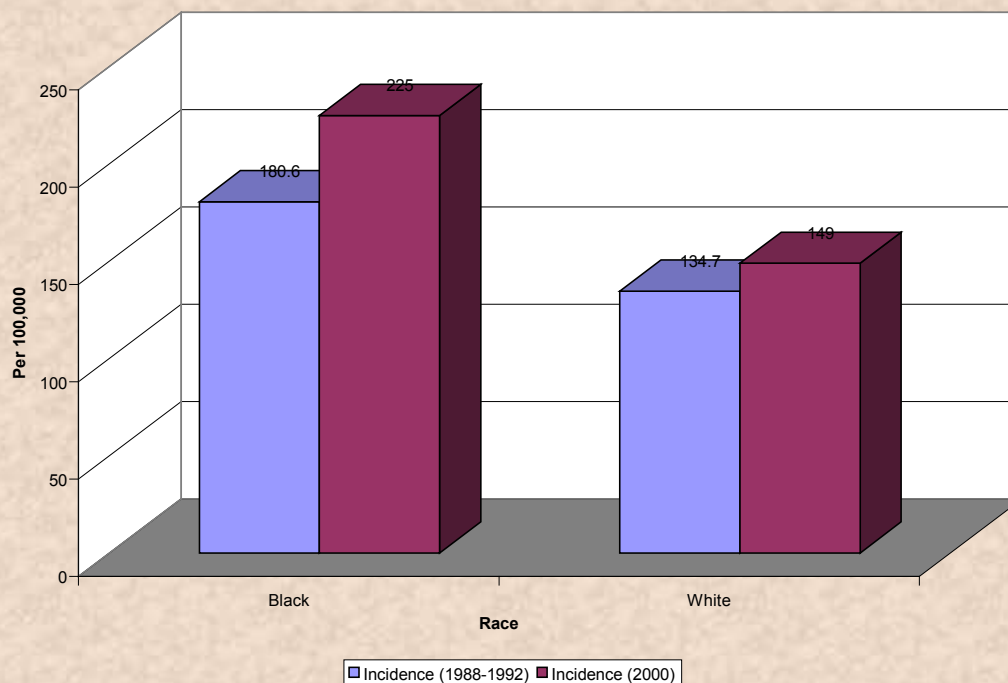
New Prostate Cancer Cases Diagnosed



Aging, RACE, & Ethnicity in Prostate Cancer. NIH Guide. 1996;25(44): PA-97-019. <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-97-019.html>. Accessed on July 23, 2007.

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Prostate Cancer Incidence Rates



Aging, RACE, & Ethnicity in Prostate Cancer. NIH Guide. 1996;25(44): PA-97-019. <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-97-019.html>. Accessed on July 23, 2007.

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- Prostate cancer is the 2nd leading cause of cancer death in the US⁷.
- Prostate cancer accounts for 33% of all cancer cases among men⁸.
- In comparison with whites, African Americans are diagnosed with prostate cancer much later, and the mortality rate is 2.4 times higher among African Americans than whites⁹.
- 5-year survival rates are lower for African Americans (66.4%) than for whites (81.3%)¹⁰.
- For African Americans, prostate cancer deaths are projected to drop 15.4% over two years, with an estimated 5,050 deaths in 2005 and an estimated 4,240 deaths in 2007.

(Endnotes)

- 1 Standor JL, Stephenson RA, Coyle LM, eds. Prostate Cancer Trends, 1973-1995. Bethesda, Md: SEER Program, National Cancer Institute; 1999. NIH publication 99-4543.
- 2 Prostate Cancer Risk and Race. Prostate Cancer Information: Race and Risk. Media-Clicks. (2005). <http://www.prostate-cancer.com/race-prostate-cancer.html>. Accessed on July 23, 2007.
- 3 Hsu CE, Mas SM, et al. A Spatial-Temporal Approach to Surveillance of Prostate Cancer Disparities in Population Subgroups. Journal of the National Medical Association. 2007; 99(1): 72-87.
- 4 American Cancer Society. Prostate Cancer and African American Men. National Prostate Cancer Coalition. 2007. http://www.fightprostatecancer.org/site/PageServer?pagename=detect_risk_african. Accessed on July 23, 2007.
- 5 Prostate Cancer Risk and Race. Prostate Cancer Information: Race and Risk. Media-Clicks. (2005). <http://www.prostate-cancer.com/race-prostate-cancer.html>. Accessed on July 23, 2007.
- 6 American Cancer Society. Prostate Cancer and African American Men. National Prostate Cancer Coalition. 2007. http://www.fightprostatecancer.org/site/PageServer?pagename=detect_risk_african. Accessed on July 23, 2007.
- 7 U.S. Cancer Statistics: 2000 Incidence Report, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Center for Disease Control and Prevention. November 13, 2003.
- 8 American Cancer Society. Facts and Figures. Atlanta: American Cancer Society. 2004.
- 9 American Cancer Society. Facts and Figures. Atlanta: American Cancer Society. 2004.
- 10 National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Cancer Information Service. Prostate Cancer in African American Men. University of Virginia. 2004. http://www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/uvahealth/adult_prostate/afroamer.cfm. Accessed on July 23, 2007.

