Cancer Disparities in Illinois
An opportunity to improve health equity.

Top 5 causes of cancer deaths

24,000
Almost 24,000 people died of cancer in Illinois in 2019.

Over half
These 5 sites account for more than half of all cancer deaths.

1. Lung
2. Breast
3. Prostate
4. Colorectal
5. Pancreas

For 4 of the top 5, Black individuals have a significantly higher death rate than non-Hispanic White individuals.

Mortality rates

Pancreatic cancer 1.4x higher for Black individuals than White individuals
Breast cancer 1.7x higher for Black women than White women
Prostate cancer 2.4x higher for Black men than White men
Colon cancer 1.6x higher for Black individuals than White individuals

These health disparities can be reduced.

- Equity is when everyone has an equal opportunity to prevent cancer, find it early, and get proper treatment and follow-up, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Address social determinants of health impacting cancer equity.
- Ensure equitable access to screening, treatment, and care.

Sources:

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