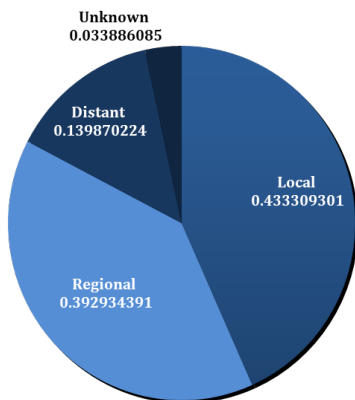


Cervical Cancer

Cervical cancer starts in the cells lining the cervix -- the lower part of the uterus (womb).¹ Cervical cancer is almost 100 percent preventable through regular routine screening, avoidance of controllable risk factors, and vaccination against the human papillomavirus (HPV).¹ According to the American Cancer Society (ACS), there were an estimated 13,240 cases of invasive cervical cancer diagnosed in the United States during 2018, and over 4,170 deaths occurred nationally as a result of cervical cancer.²

During 2013-2017, of the 1,387 Indiana females who received a diagnosis of invasive cervical cancer, 601 (43.3%) were diagnosed at the local stage, 739 (53.3%) were diagnosed in the regional or distant stages combined, and 47 (3.4%) had unknown staging.

[Figure 1].² The five-year survival rate drops to 57 percent for regional stage and 17 percent for cases diagnosed in the distant stage.²



*Only includes invasive cases; in situ cases are not reportable.

Source: Indiana State Cancer Registry

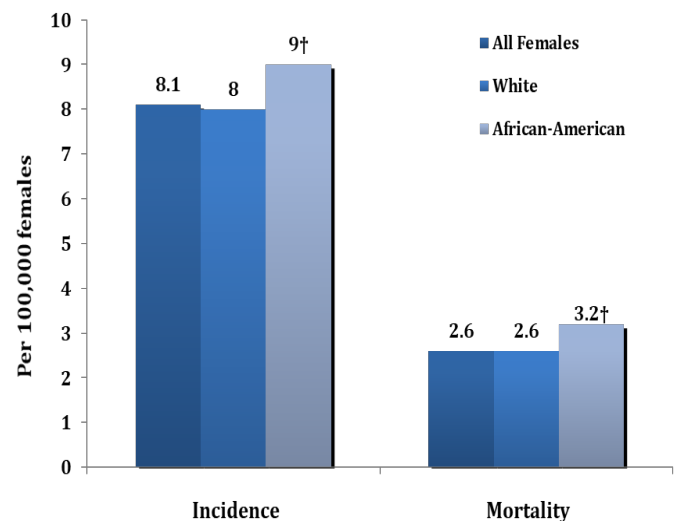
Can Cervical Cancer Be Detected Early?

In the United States, the cervical cancer death rate declined by almost 50 percent in the last 30 years, mainly because of the effectiveness of Pap smear screening.⁵ There are two screening tests that can help prevent cervical cancer or find it early. The Pap test (or Pap smear) looks for precancers, which are cell changes on the cervix that might become cervical cancer if they are not treated appropriately. The HPV test looks for the virus that can cause these cell changes.

Fast Facts

- HPV infection is the single greatest risk factor for cervical cancer.³
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that HPV vaccination begin at age 11 or 12 years for both boys and girls; however, the vaccine can be administered through age 26, and can be started as early as 9 years of age. In Indiana, only 48.4% of females and 33.5% of males aged 13 – 17 were considered up to date on their HPV vaccine in 2017, according to the CDC.⁴
- During 2008 to 2017, African-American females in Indiana, compared to white females, had a 12 percent higher cervical cancer incidence rate (9.0 versus 8.0 cases per 100,000 females, respectively) and a 21 percent higher mortality rate (3.2 versus 2.6 deaths per 100,000 females, respectively) (Figure 2).

Figure 2 Cervical Cancer Incidence and Mortality Rates by



What Can You Do to Help Prevent Cervical Cancer?

- Get vaccinated! Protecting yourself from HPV decreases your risk for cervical and other cancers.
- Practice safe sex.
- Limit your number of sexual partners.
- Be smoke free. Visit <https://www.quitnowindiana.com> for free smoking cessation assistance.
- See your doctor regularly for a Pap test that can find cervical pre-cancers.
- Follow up with your doctor, if your Pap test results are not normal.
- Ask for an HPV test with your Pap test if you are 30 years-old or older.

Get Involved: Join the Indiana Cancer Consortium (ICC)

- The ICC is a statewide network of over 100 agencies including the Indiana State Department of Health.
- The ICC seeks to reduce the cancer burden in Indiana through the development, implementation and evaluation of a comprehensive plan that addresses cancer across the continuum from prevention through end-of-life.
- Become a member at www.indianacancer.org.

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For additional information on cervical cancer: <http://www.in.gov/health>

