

Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma In California

Non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL) has been ranked as one of the most common cancers in the United States and there are many different types of NHL. It is estimated that 2,930 women and 3,795 men will be diagnosed in California in 2014, and that 910 women and 1,195 men will die from the disease.

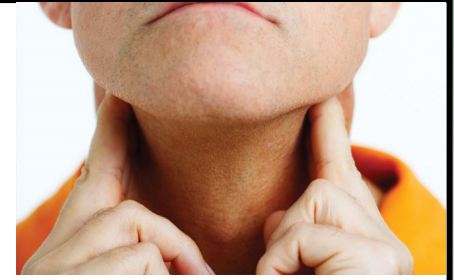
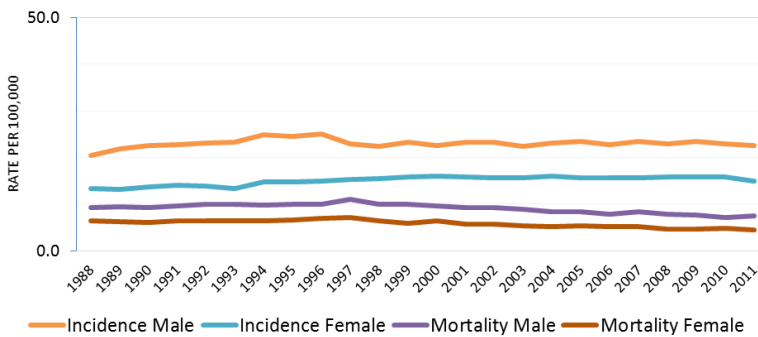


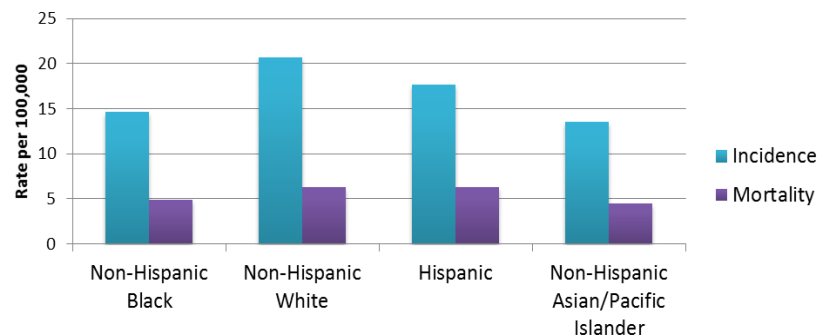
Figure 1. Age-adjusted Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma incidence and mortality rates in California, 1988-2011



Overall, incidence rates in California have been stable. In males, rates marginally increased from 1988-1995 and then remained relatively constant through 2011 with a slight decrease from 1995-1998. In females, there was a slight increase in incidence from 1988-2000 and from 2000-2011 there was a steady decrease in rates. Similar mortality rates trends were found in both males and females. There was an increase in mortality until 1997 when then the rates started decreasing (see Figure 1).

Racial/ethnic incidence rate patterns in California slightly vary from 2007-2011. The highest incidence is among non-Hispanic whites (20.7 per 100,000), followed by Hispanics (17.7 per 100,000), non-Hispanic blacks (14.6 per 100,000), and lastly non-Hispanic Asian/Pacific Islanders (13.5 per 100,000). Mortality rates follow similar patterns: rates were highest among non-Hispanic whites and Hispanics (6.3 per 100,000), followed by non-Hispanic blacks (4.9 per 100,000), and then non-Hispanic Asian/Pacific Islanders (4.5 per 100,000) (See Figure 2).

Figure 2. Five-year age-adjusted Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma incidence and mortality rates by race/ethnicity in California, 2007-2011



Approximately 25 percent of cases in California are diagnosed early. When diagnosed at a localized stage, five-year relative survival, a measure of the likelihood that a cancer patient will survive their cancer for at least five years after diagnosis, is high (81.3 percent). 14.7 percent of cases diagnosed between 2002 and 2011 were diagnosed at a regional stage – with a five-year relative survival of 71.2 percent. 48.1 percent of patients were diagnosed at the distant stage, and survival for this group is lower, at 57.8 percent (See Figure 3).

Figure 3. Stage distribution and five-year relative survival by stage at diagnosis for non-Hodgkin lymphoma, California, 2002-2011

Stage at Diagnosis	Stage Distribution	Five-Year Relative Survival
Localized (Confined to Primary Site)	25.4%	81.3%
Regional (Spread to Regional Lymph Nodes)	14.7%	71.2%
Distant (Metastasized to Other Organs)	48.1%	57.8%
Unknown Stage	11.8%	66.4%

