



## BACKGROUND

Cancer is the second leading cause of death in the United States. Cancer screening, prevention, treatment, and recovery can be a lengthy and difficult process for both patients and their support system.

In an effort to reduce the burden on people suffering from cancer, communities in Southwest Riverside County joined together to form a Regional Cancer Treatment Task force to address the issue. This includes the cities of Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Murrieta, Temecula, and Wildomar.

HARC, Inc., a nonprofit research organization, was hired in 2017 to assist with this work. This begun with a review of the existing data in order to learn about the state of cancer in the region.

This infographic summarizes the existing data about cancer in the region. For more detail, please read the complete report, available from the City of Temecula.

## PREVALENCE

Approximately

**6.1%**

of adults in SW Riverside County have been diagnosed with cancer (excluding skin cancer).

There are more than

**22,400**

cancer survivors/people living with cancer in SW Riverside County.

## INCIDENCE

Approximately

**1,994**

new cases of cancer are diagnosed each year in SW Riverside County.

The most common types (by age-adjusted incidence rate; cases per 100,000 people) are:

1. Prostate: 120.0
2. Breast: 115.3
3. Lung and bronchus: 47.2
4. Breast (in situ): 39.4
5. Uterus: 26.5

## MORTALITY

Approximately

**924**

people die of cancer in SW Riverside County every year.

About half of the local cancer deaths are due to cancers of the:



Respiratory and intrathoracic organs (e.g., lungs, bronchus, larynx, etc.).

Digestive organs (e.g., stomach, small intestine, colon, anus, liver, pancreas, etc.)

# ACCESS, PRIMARY CARE, & SCREENING

Approximately 9.1% of locals are uninsured (47,775 people). These people are less likely than people with insurance to get regular cancer screenings.



Most of Southwest Riverside County is officially designated a primary care shortage area, a registered nurse shortage area, and a medically underserved population--meaning the need is high and the number of providers is low. This can make it challenging to get regular cancer screenings.

On average, communities in SW Riverside County have 3,600 people per primary care physician. This lack of primary care providers likely makes it difficult to get regular cancer screenings.

Most people in SW Riverside County get recommended cancer screenings (e.g., mammograms, Pap smears, colonoscopies, etc.) regularly. In fact, cancer screening rates locally are significantly better than in the U.S. as a whole. However, thousands of people still aren't getting regular screening, and are at risk for identifying cancer at a late stage (which is often less treatable).

## SURGERY

Approximately **1,005** oncology surgeries are performed on locals each year.

About a third of people got their cancer surgery in SW Riverside County.

Another third got their cancer surgery elsewhere in Riverside County.

The final third left the County to get their surgery, indicating lengthy travel.



### County Where Oncology Surgery was Performed



- Riverside
- San Bernardino
- San Diego
- Orange
- Los Angeles



HEALTH ASSESSMENT AND RESEARCH FOR COMMUNITIES

[www.HARCdata.org](http://www.HARCdata.org)

Infographic by HARC, Inc., on behalf of the Southwest Riverside County Regional Cancer Treatment Task Force.

For more information, please read the full report, available from the City of Temecula.