



**COLON CANCER IN IDAHO**  
Preventable, Treatable, Beatable.

## Colorectal Cancer in Idaho and the U.S. Key Facts

### What is the Impact of Colorectal Cancer in the U.S. and Idaho?

- Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in the U.S. and Idaho behind lung cancer.
- Colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer for men and women.
- From 2000-2005, 3,440 Idahoans were diagnosed with colorectal cancer and there were 1,185 deaths from colorectal cancer.
- The *American Cancer Society Cancer Facts and Figures, 2007* projected that in 2007, approximately 53,000 Americans would die from colorectal cancer accounting for nearly 10 percent of all cancer deaths, and nearly 154,000 people would be newly diagnosed.
- Cancer stage at diagnosis is the strongest predictor of survival. When found at localized stage, the five year survival rate is about 85 percent. For regional and distant stage cases, the five year survival rates are about 67 percent and 10 percent respectively.

### What are the Costs of Colorectal Cancer?

- When detected early, treatment cost for colorectal cancer is about \$30,000 per patient. Treatment cost for a patient with late stage colorectal cancer is estimated at \$120,000.
- The National Cancer Institute estimates that treatment expenditures in the U.S. in 2004 reached \$8.4 billion.

### Who Gets Colorectal Cancer?

- The risk of colorectal cancer increases with age and 90 percent of cases occur in men and women aged 50 and over.
- In 2005 more men were diagnosed with colorectal cancer than women (322 cases vs. 279) but more women died from the disease (115 women vs. 92 men).
- Genetic conditions account for only about 15 percent of colorectal cancer cases.

### What Else Contributes to Increased Risk for Colorectal Cancer?

- Strong evidence shows that high calorie diets and diets high in fat and low in fiber contribute to increased risk.
- Physical inactivity, obesity, and tobacco use are known risk factors for colorectal cancer.
- Inflammatory bowel disease increases the risk for colorectal cancer.

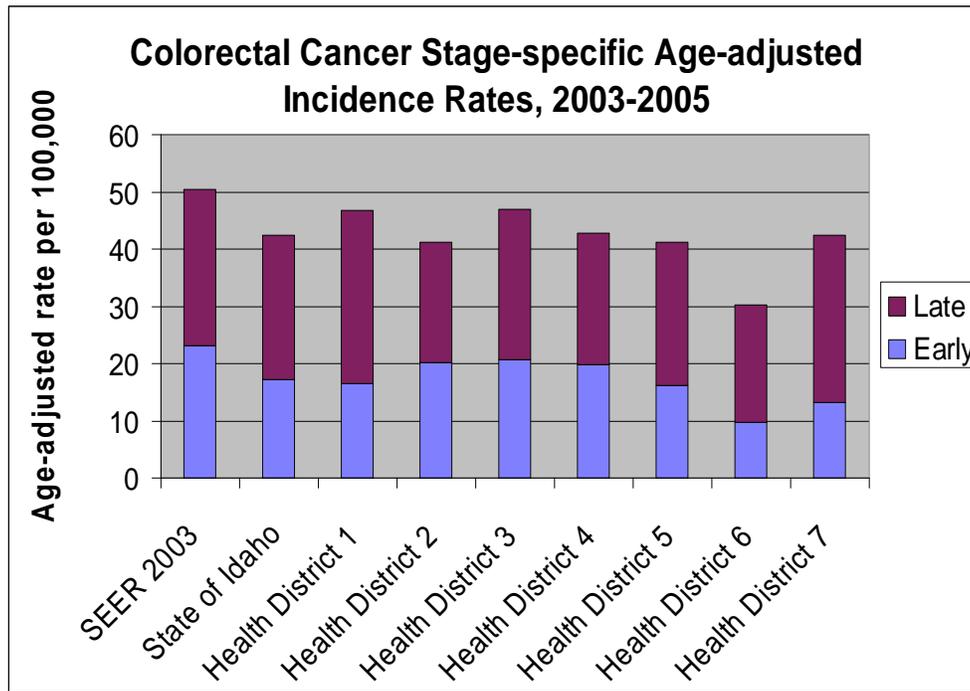
### Are People in Idaho Getting the Recommended Screenings? (BRFSS 2006 Data)

- Idaho ranks 45<sup>th</sup> among all 50 states in the U.S. for those aged 50 and older having had a fecal occult blood test (FOBT) in the past two years (20.5 percent).
- Idaho ranked 46<sup>th</sup> among all 50 states in the U.S. for having had a colonoscopy or sigmoidoscopy in the past 5 years (41.7 percent) among persons aged 50 and older.
- Those aged 65 and older are significantly more likely to have been screened compared with those aged 50-64.

#### Colorectal Cancer Screening by Health District

Idaho adults aged 50 and older who had never had a sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy, BRFSS 2006

	Statewide	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7
TOTAL %	45.8	45.6	39.6	50.5	40.0	48.1	53.8	46.4
Male %	46.0	42.6	37.9	50.9	41.3	48.5	57.8	46.3
Female %	45.6	48.4	41.2	50.2	38.9	47.8	50.0	46.5



### Colorectal Cancer in Idaho, 2003-2005, Mortality Numbers of Deaths, Age-adjusted and Crude Rates

Geography	Rates		Deaths	Person-Years
	Adjusted	Crude		
Health District 1	17.2	18.8	110	585,085
Health District 2	14.7	17.3	52	301,139
Health District 3	14.1	16.8	48	286,501
Health District 4	15.1	12.3	140	1,134,976
Health District 5	15.8	17.0	86	506,534
Health District 6	14.1	12.4	60	483,703
Health District 7	17.4	14.1	73	519,393
State of Idaho	15.6	14.7	617	4,192,347
US Whites 2004	17.4	19.2	45,662	238,209,873
US All Races 2004	17.9	18.2	53,580	293,656,842

Rates are per 100,000 person-years.

Age-adjusted rates use the 2000 U.S. standard.

Note: Person-years a measure of the size of a population over time, used as the denominator in cancer incidence and mortality rates. Person-years are calculated as the sum of the population across the number of years over which cases/deaths are counted.

#### Sources for Data

American Cancer Society; *Cancer Facts and Figures*; 2007.

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National Cancer Institute, *Cancer Trends and Progress Report, 2007: Cost of Cancer Care*. Accessed January 31, 2008 at [http://progressreport.cancer.gov/doc\\_detail.asp?pid=1&did=2007&chid=75&coid=726&mid=](http://progressreport.cancer.gov/doc_detail.asp?pid=1&did=2007&chid=75&coid=726&mid=)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Council of State Governments' Health State Initiative, *Preventing Colorectal Cancer: Legislator Policy Brief*, May 2007.