

Young male adults have lower cancer burden than women

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(HealthDay)—For young adults, there have been some notable findings for overall cancer incidence rates and death rates, according to a study published online May 30 in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*.

Elizabeth Ward, Ph.D., from the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries in Springfield, Illinois, and colleagues describe the [cancer](#) burden among men and women and highlight trends in those aged 20 to 49 years.

The researchers found that during 2011 to 2015, for all ages, overall cancer [incidence](#) rates were 494.3 and 420.5 per 100,000 among men and women, respectively; incidence rates decreased 2.1 percent (95 percent confidence interval [CI], –2.6 to –1.6 percent) per year in men and were stable in women. Overall cancer [death rates](#) decreased from 2012 to 2016 by 1.8 percent (95 percent CI, –1.8 to –1.8 percent) and 1.4 percent (95 percent CI, –1.4 to –1.4 percent) per year in men and women, respectively. Among adults aged 20 to 49 years, men had substantially lower overall cancer incidence rates than women (115.3 versus 203.3 per 100,000). The incidence of all invasive cancers decreased among men (–0.7 percent per year; 95 percent CI, –1.0 to –0.4 percent) and increased among women (1.3 percent per year; 95 percent CI, 0.7 to 1.9 percent) during 2011 to 2015 for those aged 20 to 49 years. For all cancer sites combined, the death rate was 22.8 and 27.1 per 100,000, respectively, among men and women aged 20 to 49 years during 2012 to 2016, with decreases of 2.3 percent (95 percent CI, –2.4 to –2.2 percent) among men and 1.7 percent (95 percent CI, –1.8 to –1.6 percent) among women per year.

"The greater cancer burden among [women](#) than men ages 20 to 49 was a striking finding of this study," Ward said in a statement.

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