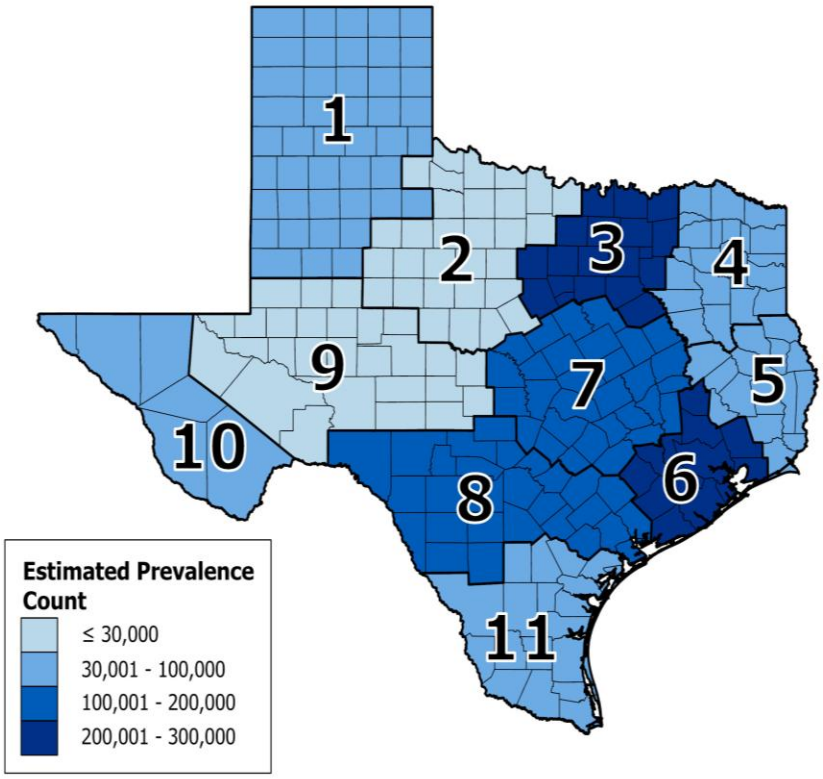
# Living With Cancer in Texas

## Texas Cancer Prevalence by Public Health Region




This figure shows the estimated number of cancer survivors by Public Health Region in Texas.

**1,098,713**

Cancer prevalence is the number of people alive on a given date who have ever been diagnosed with cancer. It is a commonly-used measure of the cancer survivor population. Prevalence is determined by both the number of new cases diagnosed (incidence) and how long people survive after diagnosis. As of January 1, 2023, an estimated 1,098,713 Texans were living with a prior cancer diagnosis (diagnosed between 1995-2022).

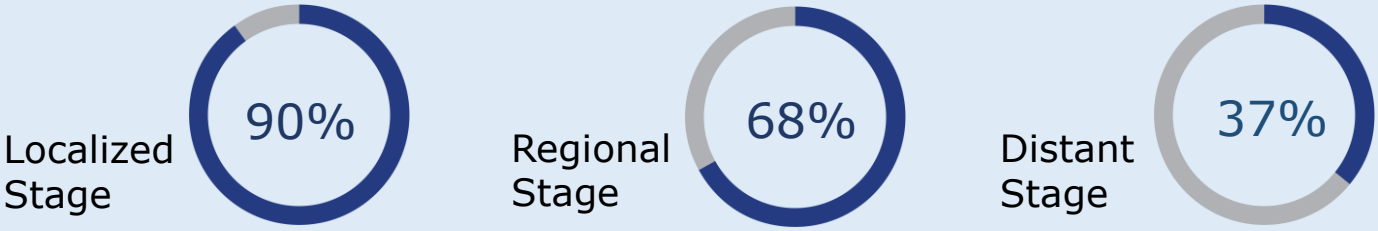
**Estimated Number of Cancer Survivors in Texas by the 10 Most Prevalent Cancer Types**

| Cancer | Count | % of Total | Cancer | Count | % of Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Female breast | 245,444 | 22.3 | Melanoma of the skin | 53,163 | 4.8 |
| Prostate | 206,276 | 18.8 | Non-Hodgkin lymphoma | 50,482 | 4.7 |
| Colon and rectum | 96,689 | 8.8 | Corpus and uterus | 45,475 | 4.1 |
| Kidney and renal pelvis | 57,944 | 5.3 | Lung and bronchus | 42,851 | 3.9 |
| Thyroid | 57,878 | 5.3 | Urinary bladder | 38,093 | 3.5 |
| **Total Count: 1,098,713** | | | | | |

- Cancer is a **multifactorial** disease caused by a combination of factors, including genetic predisposition, environmental exposures, and modifiable risk factors.
- **Modifiable risk factors** are behaviors or exposures that individuals can change or avoid to reduce their likelihood of developing cancer. These factors include smoking, alcohol consumption, and excessive exposure to UV radiation.
- **Screening** is available for certain cancers, including breast, cervical, lung, and colorectal cancers. These screenings have been shown to improve treatment outcomes and quality of life.
- **Early diagnosis** plays a critical role in determining the prognosis and long-term survival of individuals with cancer. Detecting cancer at an early stage when it is small and localized increases the chances of successful treatment and cure.
- The number of **cancer survivors in Texas is increasing** for many reasons. More people are being diagnosed with cancer, treatment is improving, and cancers are being caught earlier. Also, the number of people living with cancer increases as the population grows.

- **Five-year relative survival** is a commonly-used measure of cancer survival, representing the percentage of cancer patients who have survived for five years after diagnosis compared to the expected survival of people without cancer.
- **Relative survival rates** for Texans vary by cancer stage at diagnosis, as shown in the graphic below.

## Five-Year Relative Survival Percentage by Stage at Diagnosis in Texas




Localized cancer has invaded nearby tissue but is only in the tissue or organ where it first began. It has not spread to nearby lymph nodes or other parts of the body. The overall five-year relative survival rate for Texans diagnosed with localized cancer is 90%.

Regional cancer has spread beyond the original (primary) tumor to nearby tissues, organs, or lymph nodes. The overall five-year relative survival rate for Texans diagnosed with regional cancer is 68%.

Distant cancer has spread to distant parts of the body, other organs or structures and/or distant lymph nodes. The overall five-year relative survival rate for Texans diagnosed with distant-stage cancer is 37%.

*Relative survival was calculated using the first invasive tumor among individuals aged 0-99 diagnosed with cancer during 2016-2022 and followed through December 31, 2023.*

**Data sources:** Texas Cancer Registry SEER*Stat Database, 1995-2023 Incidence, 2025 Submission, cutoff 9/19/2025, created Jan. 2026.

Prepared by Texas Cancer Registry, Cancer Epidemiology and Surveillance Branch, Texas Department of State Health Services, July 2026.

If you have any questions, email us at cancerdata@dshs.texas.gov. For more information on cancer in Texas, visit the Texas Cancer Registry online at dshs.texas.gov/tcr.