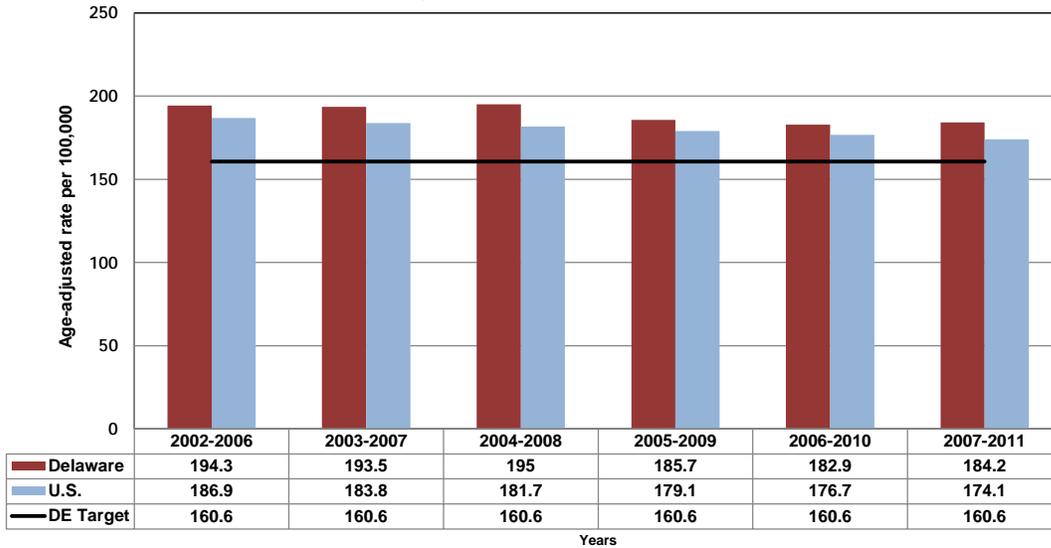




Cancer Mortality
Top Level Outcome Measure



Interpretation

Delaware's cancer mortality rate decreased during the past 10 years (2002-2011). Although Delaware's cancer mortality rate remained consistently higher than the U.S. rate for this time period, Delaware's rate decreased from 194.3 cancer deaths per 100,000 population in 2002-2006 to 184.2 cancer deaths per 100,000 population in 2007-2011. Delaware's 2006-2010 Incidence and Mortality in Delaware report describes decreases in Delaware's mortality rates of prostate, colon and rectum, and female breast cancer that are higher than those reported by the U.S.

Addressing the health issue

Cancer is the second-leading cause of death in Delaware. While the cancer mortality rate in Delaware continues to exceed the U.S. rate; rate declines in prostate, colon and rectum, and female breast cancer represent progress being made. The Comprehensive Cancer Control Branch of the Division of Public Health (DPH) provides information and resources about cancer, screening for cancer, and treatment options for the public and health care providers. The Delaware Cancer Registry collects data on new cancer cases, treatment, and deaths to monitor trends, advance research, and influence policy planning to reduce cancer mortality in Delaware.

¹ Cancer mortality rate= number of cancer deaths from all sites (i.e., all types of cancer grouped together) per 100,000 population.

² Rates are age-adjusted to the US Census 2000 standard population.

³ Delaware reports five-year moving averages to increase the stability of estimates resulting from small numbers of deaths.

⁴ The Delaware target was established in DPH's Strategic Plan to be met by 2020 to reach the Healthy People 2020 goal. The Delaware target spans prior years as an arbitrary comparison of previous years' rates with the current target.

⁵ Source: Delaware Comprehensive Cancer Program; National Center for Health Statistics.