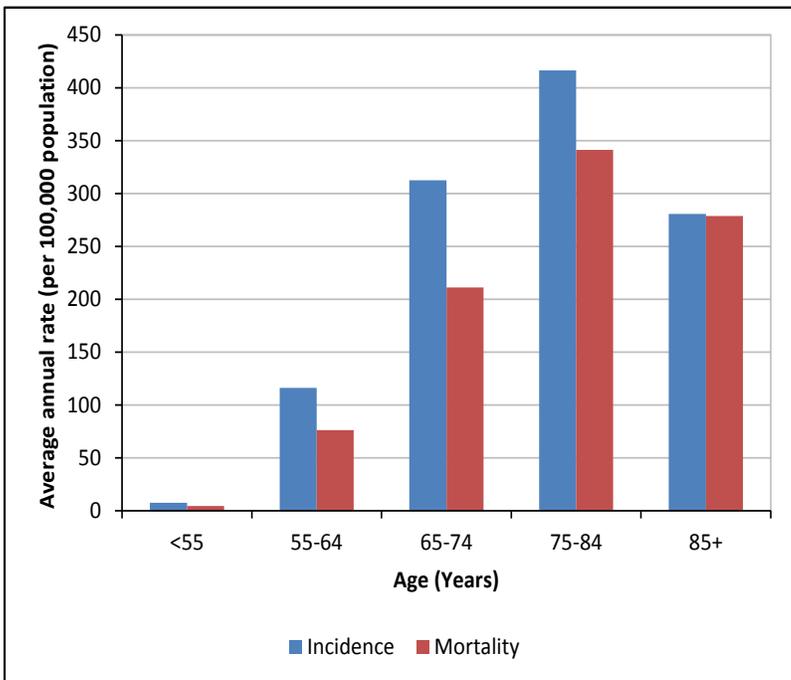




# Lung (Lung & Bronchus) Cancer in Nebraska

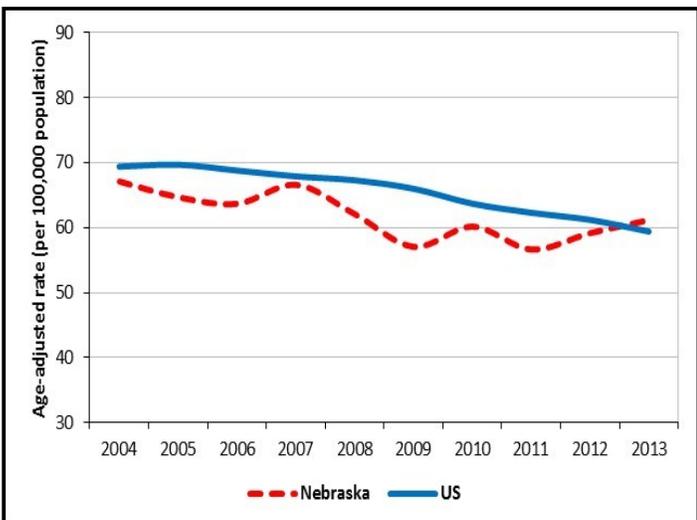
**Figure 1. Lung Cancer Incidence and Mortality, by Age, Nebraska (2009-2013)**



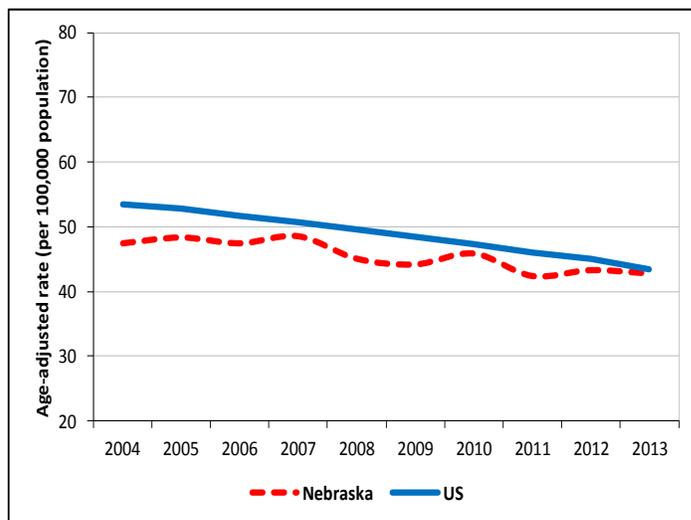
**Nebraska Lung Cancer Quick Facts:**

- Between 2009 and 2013, 6,113 Nebraska residents were diagnosed with lung cancer, while 4,491 Nebraskans died from it.
- The rate at which lung cancer occurs (incidence) and the rate at which people die from it (mortality) increase sharply after age 55 and peak at ages 75-84 (Figure 1).
- Lung cancer incidence and mortality in Nebraska and the US began to trend downward during the past decade (Figures 2 & 3).
- Lung cancer incidence and mortality rates in Nebraska were consistently lower than national rates during the past decade (Figures 2 & 3).

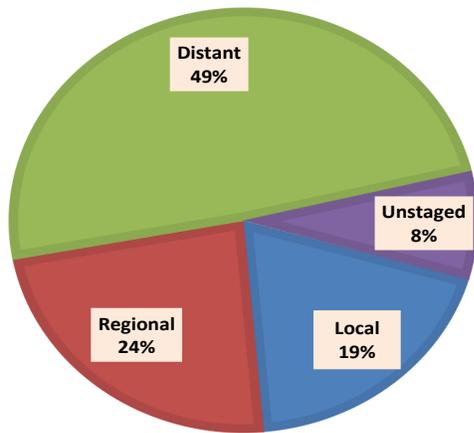
**Figure 2. Lung Cancer Incidence Rates, by Year of Diagnosis, Nebraska & US (2004-2013)**



**Figure 3. Lung Cancer Mortality Rates, by Year of Death, Nebraska & US (2004-2013)**



**Figure 4. Lung Cancer: Percentage of Cases by Stage of Disease at Diagnosis, Nebraska, 2009-2013**



- Between 2009 and 2013, the majority (50%) of lung cancer cases in Nebraska were diagnosed at a distant stage of disease (Figure 4).
- Stage of disease at diagnosis strongly affects the prognosis for lung cancer patients. The most recent national data show that the 5-year relative survival rate for lung cancers diagnosed at a local stage is 55% compared to only 4% for distant cases.

### Lung Cancer Risk Factors and Screening

- Cigarette smoking accounts for 80-90% of all lung cancer diagnoses. Other risk factors for lung cancer include exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke and exposure to radon and asbestos.
- According to data collected by the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System in 2014, 17.3% of Nebraska adults were current smokers.
- The US Preventive Services Task Force recommends annual screening for lung cancer with low-dose computed tomography in adults 55 to 80 years of age who have a 30 pack-year smoking history and currently smoke or have quit within the past 15 years. A “pack-year” is defined as smoking an average of 1 pack of cigarettes per day for 1 year. For example, a person could have a 30 pack-year history by smoking 1 pack a day for 30 years or 2 packs a day for 15 years.
- For more information on how to quit smoking, visit the Tobacco Free Nebraska webpage at <http://dhhs.ne.gov/tfn>; or call 1-800-QUIT-NOW for free access to counseling and support services.

### About the Nebraska Cancer Registry

The Nebraska Cancer Registry (NCR) was created by the Nebraska Unicameral in 1986 and began collecting data in 1987. The purpose of the registry is to document new cases of cancer among Nebraska residents, analyze geographic patterns and long-term trends, and plan and evaluate cancer control programs. The registry also provides statistical and other information about cancer in Nebraska in response to specific requests. The NCR collects information about cancer cases from hospitals, pathology laboratories, outpatient therapy sites, physician offices, death certificates, and cancer registries in other states. In recognition of the accuracy and completeness of the data it has collected, the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries has awarded the NCR its gold standard certificate of data quality for 19 consecutive years (1995-2013). The NCR is managed by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

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To learn more about the Nebraska Cancer Registry, or to view additional fact sheets and reports, visit:

[http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/ced\\_cancer\\_data.aspx](http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/ced_cancer_data.aspx).