

Early Detection of Cancer

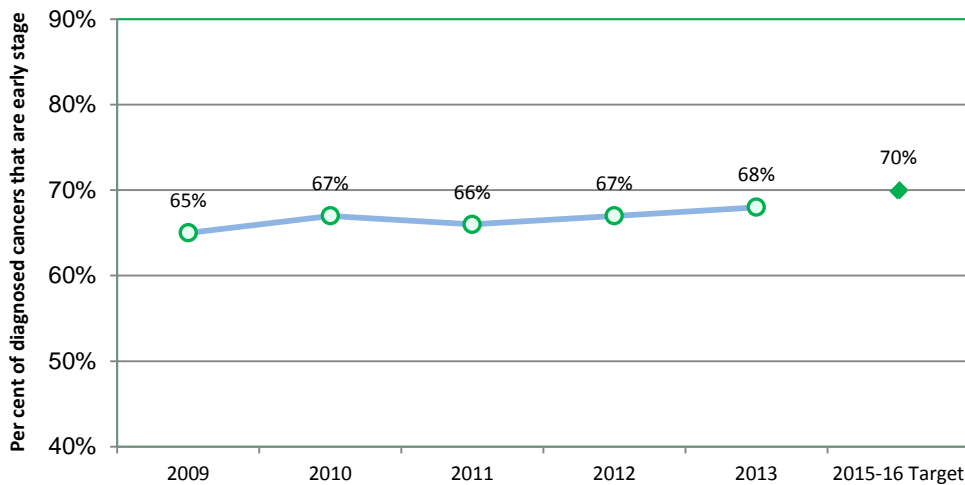
Measure Definition

The percentage of patients with breast, cervical and colorectal cancers who were diagnosed at early stages 1 or 2. This measure covers the three most common cancers; breast, cervical and colorectal. It represents the percentage of invasive cancer cases diagnosed in the stages (Stage I, and II (and stage 0 for breast cancer)) in relation to all patients diagnosed with these diseases in all stages.

Understanding this Measure

Patients whose cancers are captured at early stages have higher survival rates than those who were diagnosed at later stages. Provincial cancer screening programs aim to diagnose cancers at the earliest stage possible in the target population. This measure is developed to reflect both screening effectiveness and efficiency of clinical diagnosis pathways. Data is published annually. Note: 2013 most recent data available. Source: Alberta Cancer Registry.

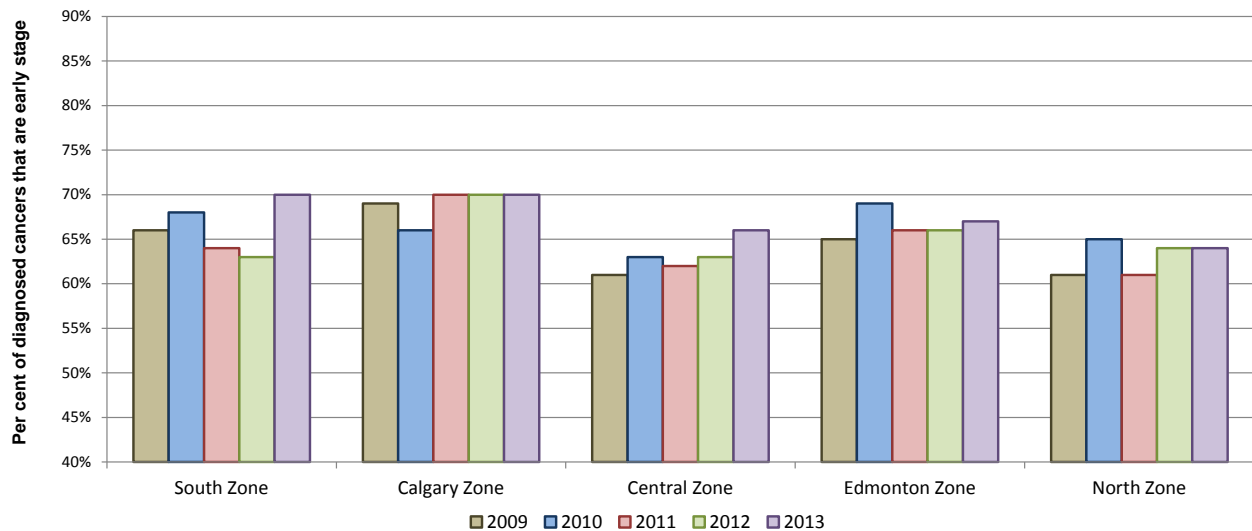
Early Detection of Cancer - Annual



How Do We Compare?

Alberta ranked 2nd best nationally for breast cancers and 2nd last nationally for colorectal cancers diagnosed in early stages out of nine provinces. AHS' improvement activity is focused on colorectal cancer.

Early Detection of Cancer - By Zone



Early Detection of Cancer – Actions

Provincial/ Strategic Clinical Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work to incorporate a full spectrum of screening program activities within the Alberta Breast Cancer Screening Program. Work is underway within the zones to offer cervical cancer screening to clients during clinic visits as per provincial screening guidelines. Between April 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015, the volume of fecal immunochemical tests (FIT) is 200,710 compared to 205,703 during the same period last year.
South	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor and evaluate FIT implementation, targeting clinics with low FIT test return rates through Central Intake clinic, and following up with primary physician offices. Develop and implement clear follow-up processes for patients with positive FIT results. Implementation of Alberta Colorectal Cancer Screening Program (ACRCSP) guidelines for positive FIT results. Site-based scorecards for physicians are shared quarterly. Continue to promote Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening in collaboration with Primary Care Networks (PCNs).
Calgary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Colon Cancer Screening Center has significantly reduced routine referrals for colonoscopy, decreasing wait times as a direct result of the uptake in FIT testing. The ABCSP offers a mobile breast screening mammography program at a fixed site at the Holy Cross in Calgary. A “Man Van” for PSA (Prostate-specific antigen) testing is completed at the Prostate Cancer Center/ Southern Alberta Institute of Urology. Expanded Hereditary Cancer group sessions – 25% increase in capacity. Integration of Ovarian Cancer Genetic Testing at the Oncology Bedside is under development.
Central	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued reviewing and targeting compliance with quality reporting for colon cancer screening colonoscopies. Continuing to collaborate with physicians to use new data collection form to meet ACRCSP reporting requirements as well as reconciliation of pathology results.
Edmonton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary Care, GI (gastrointestinal) and SCOPE have partnered to address overall GI access and develop a centralized intake system for FIT positive referrals.
North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement Year 2 of the Enhanced Access to Cancer (EAC) Screening Pilot Project. The newly developed EAC Screening Planning Kit will support project sustainability and assist in planning and delivery of cancer screening clinics. Work underway to reach 50 rural and remote communities through the delivery of 17 integrated cancer screening clinics. Two contracts for cervical screening with First Nations communities have been renewed - one in partnership with a PCN. Updating standards of practice for role of Public Health Promotion in cancer screening; developing standards of practice and training materials for role of Aboriginal Health staff in cancer screening education and awareness.

IN SUMMARY

Early detection of cancer through regular screening following clinical practice guidelines can identify unsuspected cancers at a stage when early intervention can positively affect the outcome for colorectal, breast, cervical or prostate cancers.

The changes to colorectal cancer screening participation are gradual and may be affected by many factors, including an individual’s knowledge and attitude toward colorectal cancer screening, access to services, as well as seasonal variation and service interruptions.

DID YOU KNOW

Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) is the primary screening test for colorectal cancer for people at average risk of the disease.

Early Detection of Cancer – Zone Details

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Early Detection of Cancer	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Trend *	2015-16 Target
Provincial	65%	67%	66%	67%	68%	↑	70%
South Zone	66%	68%	64%	63%	70%	↑	70%
Calgary Zone	69%	66%	70%	70%	70%	→	71%
Central Zone	61%	63%	62%	63%	66%	↑	69%
Edmonton Zone	65%	69%	66%	66%	67%	↑	70%
North Zone	61%	65%	61%	64%	64%	→	69%

*Trend: ↑ Improvement → Stability ↓ Area requires additional focus