The number of cancer survivors in the United States is increasing, and is expected to grow to about 20.3 million by 2026 according to Cancer Treatment & Survivorship Facts & Figures 2016-2017. Even though cancer incidence rates are declining in men and stable in women, the number of cancer survivors is rising due to a growing and aging population, as well as earlier detection and better treatments. As this population continues to increase, it will be more important than ever to address this group’s unique needs.

As of January 1, 2016, there are more than 15.5 million cancer survivors in the US. By 2026, there will be about 20.3 million.

Who are cancer survivors?

Survivors by sex and cancer site

**FEMALES**

- Breast: 3,560,570
- Uterine corpus: 757,190
- Colon & rectum: 727,350
- Thyroid: 630,660
- Melanoma: 612,790
- Non-Hodgkin lymphoma: 324,890
- Lung & bronchus: 288,210
- Uterine cervix: 282,780
- Ovary: 235,200
- Kidney & renal pelvis: 204,040
- Total survivors: 8,156,120

**MALES**

- Prostate: 3,306,760
- Colon & rectum: 724,690
- Melanoma: 614,460
- Urinary bladder: 574,250
- Non-Hodgkin lymphoma: 361,480
- Kidney & renal pelvis: 305,340
- Testis: 266,550
- Lung & bronchus: 238,300
- Leukemia: 230,920
- Oral cavity & pharynx: 229,880
- Total survivors: 7,377,100

Survivors by age at prevalence*

**FEMALES**

- 0 - 19: 1%
- 20 - 49: 12%
- 50 - 59: 17%
- 60 - 69: 26%
- 70 - 79: 23%
- 80+: 21%

**MALES**

- 0 - 19: 1%
- 20 - 49: 8%
- 50 - 59: 13%
- 60 - 69: 27%
- 70 - 79: 29%

SURVIVORS BY YEARS SINCE DIAGNOSIS

STAGE AT DIAGNOSIS AND SURVIVAL

The earlier a diagnosis, the better the chances of survival

FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE CANCER SURVIVAL

EARLY DETECTION
Screening allows doctors to find some cancers earlier, when they are easier to treat. In some cases, screening can prevent cancer altogether.

IMPROVED TREATMENTS
More effective treatment options and improved clinical follow-up after treatment help people with cancer live longer.

ACCESS TO CARE
Having access to high-quality cancer care can significantly improve survival.

A UNITED FORCE AGAINST CANCER
The American Cancer Society is an organization of 2 million strong. Our mission is to save lives, celebrate lives, and lead the fight for a world without cancer.