

# HEAD & NECK CANCERS in IDAHO

# 2023

## 1,576 cases

of malignant head and neck cancers diagnosed among Idahoans during 2016-2020

Male Idahoans are diagnosed with head and neck cancer at **3 times** the rate of female Idahoans.

**7 in 10** deaths from head and neck cancers were among male Idahoans during 2016-2020.

## 359 deaths

from head and neck cancer during 2017-2021

## Over 1,900

Idahoans alive as of July 1, 2020 had received a diagnosis of head or neck cancer diagnosis in the past 10 years

### Prevent head and neck cancers!

- Get vaccinated for human papillomavirus (HPV)
- Limit alcohol intake (< 1 drink per day)
- Quit using tobacco products. Scan the QR code for free resources on quitting tobacco at [ProjectFilter.org](http://ProjectFilter.org)
- Get bi-annual dental check-ups that include cancer screenings



### Idahoans living with head and neck cancer...

- Should be referred for speech pathology evaluation prior to radiation.
- Can talk to their doctor about quality of life, diet, and physical activity during and after therapy.

### Health Behavior

- HPV vaccination in Idaho has increased 59% in girls and 189% in boys since 2014, but less than half of Idaho's youth aged 13-17 are vaccinated against cancer-causing HPV strains.
  - As of 2021, 49.4% of girls and 45.7% of boys had completed the HPV vaccination series.
- Tobacco products and heavy alcohol use are head and neck cancer risk factors.
  - 8.2% of male and 6% of female Idahoans report drinking heavily\* (2020 BRFSS).
  - Nearly 2 in 5 Idahoans are current or former smokers (36.9%; 2020 BRFSS).

Rates of new larynx cancers have decreased **3.5%** per year among males since 2000.

Idahoans living in areas with higher poverty are **25%** more likely to die of their head or neck cancer than Idahoans living in more affluent areas.

Deaths from head and neck cancers have been decreasing **1.5%** per year since 2000.



Cancer Data Registry of Idaho



COMPREHENSIVE  
CANCER CONTROL  
OF IDAHO



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH & WELFARE  
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

\*Drinking heavily is defined as more than 14 drinks per week for men and more than 7 drinks per week for women.

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