



Virgin Islands Central Cancer Registry

The Virgin Islands Central Cancer Registry (VICCR) is an epidemiologic surveillance system designed to collect information regarding incidence, distribution, risk factors and mortality of cancer. This information is essential to public health professionals, researchers, the medical community, and policymakers to understand and address the cancer burden. In an ideal setting, this information is acquired through active reporting of data for cancer cases and central nervous system neoplasms at places where patients are diagnosed or treated. The VICCR is part of the Department of Health – Division of Chronic Disease and Prevention.

The VICCR currently collects information from diverse sources: hospitals on St. Thomas and St. Croix, pathology laboratories (on- and off-island), free-standing chemotherapy clinics and physicians. The VICCR also has agreements with other states' central cancer registries to obtain information on USVI residents who are diagnosed with or receive treatment for cancer in these states.

The information that we collect includes, but is not limited to:

- Information about the person diagnosed with cancer (e.g., age, sex, race, place of residence and occupation), and
- Information on the cancer diagnosed (e.g., type of cancer, date of diagnosis and stage at which the cancer was diagnosed)

The VICCR started the collection of cancer data for cases diagnosed on January 1, 2016, onward. Reportable cancer cases diagnosed and/or first course of treatment at any facility where health care is provided must be submitted to the VICCR. The collaboration of each healthcare provider in the USVI is of vital importance to achieving the successful collection of accurate and timely cancer data by the Central Cancer Registry, which will benefit our community.¹

¹ According to the Virgin Islands Central Cancer Registry Act (Act No. 7939 of 2016), "a health care provider means a person, corporation, facility or institution licensed in the Territory to provide health care or professional medical services including a medical, osteopathic, chiropractic or naturopathic physician; hospital; dentist; registered nurse, including an advanced practice registered nurse; optometrist; podiatrist; physical therapist, psychologist; pharmacist and laboratory technician. Health care providers are expected to report each new case of a reportable neoplasm to the VICCR not later than 180 days after the date of diagnosis or date of first contact with the already diagnosed patient."



U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF CHRONIC DISEASE & PREVENTION
VIRGIN ISLANDS CENTRAL CANCER REGISTRY

Page | 2
Last updated: 06.18.2024

*****Disclaimers*****

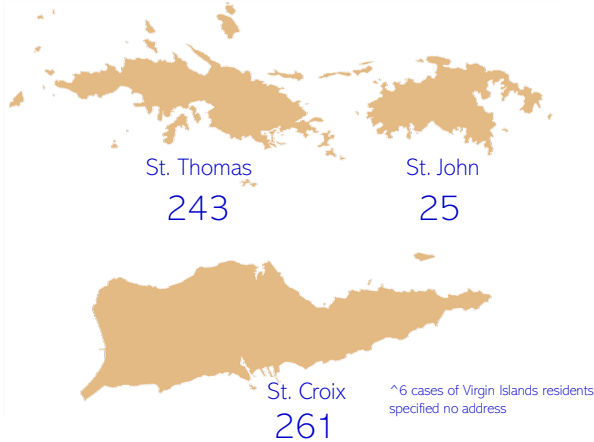
1. The information contained in the following report and tables have been created using the data available in the VICCR Database as of May 20, 2024. Please keep in mind that data will change as more data/tumors are reported and included in the database.
2. Currently, mid-year census data has not been accurately estimated for the Virgin Islands, and we are unable to complete an analysis of incidence rates. Guidance from CDC has been requested.



2016 CANCER INCIDENCE¹ IN THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS²

535

New Cancer Cases Diagnosed in 2016²



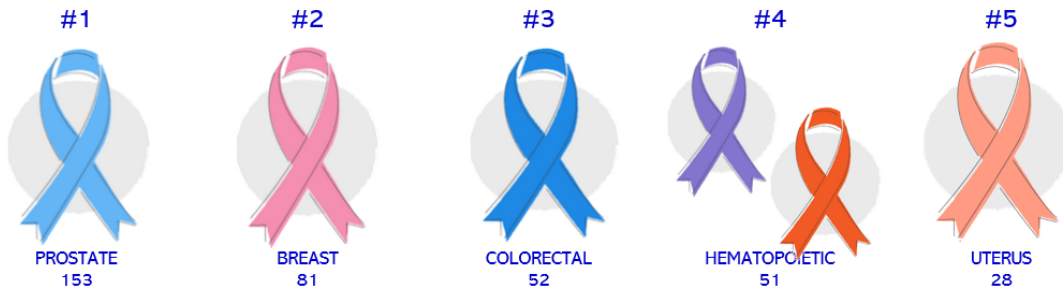
TOP 3 – MALE – ALL ISLANDS

Site	Frequency	%
Prostate	153	49.4
Hematopoietic	35	11.3
Colorectal	30	9.7
Total Male Incidence: 310		

TOP 3 – FEMALE – ALL ISLANDS

Site	Frequency	%
Breast	81	36.0
Uterus	28	12.4
Colorectal	22	9.7
Total Female Incidence: 225		

TOP FIVE TYPES OF CANCER DIAGNOSED IN 2016



IN 2016, CANCER WAS THE SECOND LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH IN THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WITH 131 DEATHS.***

REDUCE YOUR RISK FOR CANCER

- QUIT TOBACCO USE
- REDUCE SUN EXPOSURE
- REDUCE ALCOHOL INTAKE
- REDUCE STRESS
- EXERCISE REGULARLY
- HEALTHY FOOD CHOICES
- MAINTAIN A HEALTHY WEIGHT
- REGULAR MEDICAL CHECKUPS

¹Incidence is the rate of new cases or events over a specified period for the population at risk for the event. In medicine, the incidence is commonly the newly identified cases of a disease or condition per population at risk over a specified timeframe. ²Only Virgin Islands residents. ³Source: Xu JQ, et al., Deaths: Final data for 2016. National Vital Statistics Reports; vol 67 no 5. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2018.

Disclaimer: incidence can change as more data/tumors are reported.



U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF CHRONIC DISEASE & PREVENTION
VIRGIN ISLANDS CENTRAL CANCER REGISTRY

Diagnosis Year: 2016

Table 1. Number of New Cancer Cases by Sex and Race
Virgin Islands Residents (2016)

Virgin Islands - All Cancers – 2016	535
Female	225
Male	310
Black	399
White	121
Other Races	^
Race Unknown	10
Black Female	167
White Female	54
Black Male	232
White Male	67
Hispanic Female	22
Hispanic Male	22
Other Races Female	^
Other Races Male	^
Unknown Race Female	^
Unknown Race Male	9

Source of Data: Virgin Islands Central Cancer Registry

^ Statistics for cells with fewer than six (6) cases are not displayed.



Diagnosis Year: 2016

Table 2. Number of New Cancer by Sex & Age Group (2016)

Virgin Islands - All Cancers - 2016	Total Incidence: 525	
Age Group	Male	Female
0-9	^	^
10-19	^	^
15-24	^	^
25-34	^	^
35-44	7	18
45-54	22	31
55-64	80	48
65-74	134	75
75-84	55	37
85+	6	10

Source of Data: Virgin Islands Central Cancer Registry

^ Statistics for cells with fewer than six cases are not displayed.



Diagnosis Year: 2016

Table 3. Top Three Primary Sites by Age Group - Female (2016)

Virgin Islands - All Islands - 2016		Female Incidence: 225		
Age Group	Breast	Uterus	Colorectal	
25-34	^	^	^	
35-44	10	^	^	
45-54	10	^	6	
55-64	20	10	^	
65-74	23	10	^	
75-84	14	^	6	
85+	^	^	^	

Source of Data: Virgin Islands Central Cancer Registry

^ Statistics for cells with fewer than six (6) cases are not displayed.

Table 4. Top Three Primary Sites by Age Group - Male (2016)

Virgin Islands - All Islands - 2016		Male Incidence: 310		
Age Group	Prostate	Hema*	Colorectal	
25-34	^	^	^	
35-44	^	^	^	
45-54	11	^	^	
55-64	37	7	11	
65-74	76	9	13	
75-84	26	^	^	
85+	^	^	^	

Source of Data: Virgin Islands Central Cancer Registry

^ Statistics for cells with fewer than six (6) cases are not displayed.

*Hema: refers to hematopoietic primaries, tumors that originated in the Bone Marrow and in the Lymphatic System



Diagnosis Year: 2016

Table 5. Top Three Primary Sites by Race - Female (2016)

Virgin Islands - All Islands - 2016		Female Population: 225		
Race	Breast	Uterus	Colorectal	
Black	60	24	16	
White	21	^	^	
Other Races	^	^	^	
Unknown	^	^	^	

Source of Data: Virgin Islands Central Cancer Registry

^ Statistics for cells with fewer than six (6) cases are not displayed.

Table 6. Top Three Primary Sites by Race - Male (2016)

Virgin Islands - All Islands - 2016		Male Population: 310		
Race	Prostate	Hema*	Colorectal	
Black	131	23	22	
White	15	^	9	
Other Races	^	^	^	
Unknown	7	^	^	

Source of Data: Virgin Islands Central Cancer Registry

^ Statistics for cells with fewer than six (6) cases are not displayed.

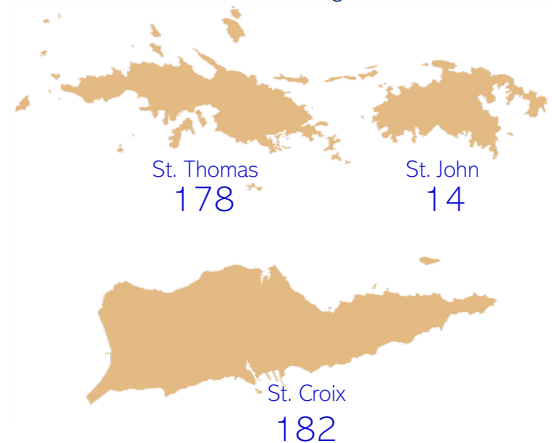
*Hema: refers to Hematopoietic primaries, tumor that originated in the Bone Marrow and Lymphatic System



2017 CANCER INCIDENCE¹ IN THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

374

New Cancer Cases Diagnosed in 2017²



TOP 3 – MALE – ALL ISLANDS

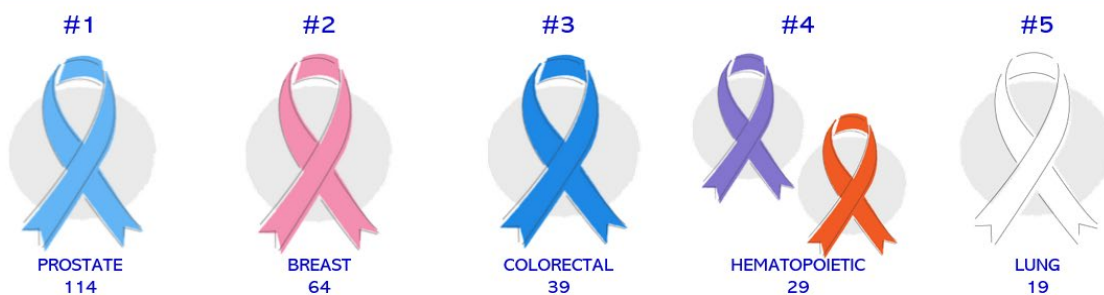
Site	Frequency	%
Prostate	114	51.6
Colorectal	23	10.4
Hematopoietic	17	7.69
Total Male Incidence: 221		

TOP 3 – FEMALE – ALL ISLANDS

Site	Frequency	%
Breast	64	64.0
Colorectal	16	10.5
Uterus	11	7.2
Total Female Incidence: 153		

The 2017 cancer incidence decreased in comparison to the 2016 cancer incidence. Whereas more statistical analysis is needed, a decrease in numbers was expected due to the impact of Hurricanes Irma and Maria on the Health Care System in the Virgin Islands.

TOP FIVE TYPES OF CANCER DIAGNOSED IN 2017



IN 2017, CANCER WAS THE SECOND LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH IN THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WITH 115 DEATHS.***

EARLY DETECTION SAVES LIVES

Screening tests can help find cancer before symptoms appear, making it easier to treat or cure. Talk to your doctor about which tests you might need and the screening schedule that is right for you.

¹Incidence is the rate of new cases or events over a specified period for the population at risk for the event. In medicine, the incidence is commonly the newly identified cases of a disease or condition per population at risk over a specified timeframe. ²Only Virgin Islands residents. ³Source: Xu JQ, et. al., Deaths: Final data for 2016. National Vital Statistics Reports; vol 67 no 5. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2018.



U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF CHRONIC DISEASE & PREVENTION
VIRGIN ISLANDS CENTRAL CANCER REGISTRY

Diagnosis Year: 2017

Table 1. Number of New Cancer Cases by Sex and Race
Virgin Islands Residents (2017)

Virgin Islands - All Cancers - 2017	374
Female	153
Male	221
Black	277
White	79
Other Races	13
Race Unknown	5
Black Female	105
White Female	39
Black Male	172
White Male	40
Hispanic Female	11
Hispanic Male	13
Other Races Female	8
Other Races Male	^
Unknown Race Female	^
Unknown Race Male	^

Source of Data: Virgin Islands Central Cancer Registry

^ Statistics for cells with fewer than six (6) cases are not displayed.



U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF CHRONIC DISEASE & PREVENTION
VIRGIN ISLANDS CENTRAL CANCER REGISTRY

Diagnosis Year: 2017

Table 2. Number of New Cancer Cases by Sex & Age Group
(2017)

Virgin Islands - All Cancers - 2017		Total Incidence: 356	
Age Group	Male	Female	
0- 4	^	^	
5-14	^	^	
15-24	^	^	
25-34	^	^	
35-44	8	^	
45-54	9	31	
55-64	54	34	
65-74	99	40	
75-84	38	29	
85+	10	6	

Source of Data: Virgin Islands Central Cancer Registry

^ Statistics for cells with fewer than six (6) cases are not displayed.



Diagnosis Year: 2017

Table 3. Top Three Primary Sites by Age Group - Female (2017)

Virgin Islands - All Islands - 2017		Female Incidence: 153		
Age Group	Breast	Colorectal	Uterus	
25-34	^	^	^	
35-44	^	^	^	
45-54	17	^	^	
55-64	17	^	^	
65-74	14	^	^	
75-84	8	^	^	
85+	^	^	^	

Source of Data: Virgin Islands Central Cancer Registry

^ Statistics for cells with fewer than six (6) cases are not displayed.

Table 4. Top Three Primary Sites by Age Group - Male (2017)

Virgin Islands - All Islands - 2017		Male Incidence: 221		
Age Group	Prostate	Colorectal	Hema*	
25-34	^	^	^	
35-44	^	^	^	
45-54	^	^	^	
55-64	29	8	^	
65-74	60	8	7	
75-84	20	^	^	
85+	^	^	^	

Source of Data: Virgin Islands Central Cancer Registry

^ Statistics for cells with fewer than six (6) cases are not displayed.

*Hema: refers to hematopoietic primaries, tumors that originated in the Bone Marrow and in the Lymphatic System



Diagnosis Year: 2017

Table 5. Top Three Primary Sites by Race - Female (2017)

Virgin Islands - All Islands - 2017		Female Incidence: 153		
Race	Breast	Colorectal	Uterus	
Black	41	13	10	
White	17	^	^	
Other Races	^	^	^	
Unknown	^	^	^	

Source of Data: Virgin Islands Central Cancer Registry

^ Statistics for cells with fewer than six (6) cases are not displayed.

Table 6. Top Three Primary Sites by Race - Male (2017)

Virgin Islands - All Islands - 2017		Male Incidence: 221		
Race	Prostate	Colorectal	Hema*	
Black	97	20	9	
White	11	^	7	
Other Races	^	^	^	
Unknown	^	^	^	

Source of Data: Virgin Islands Central Cancer Registry

^ Statistics for cells with fewer than six (6) cases are not displayed.

*Hema: refers to hematopoietic primaries, tumors that originated in the Bone Marrow and in the Lymphatic System



Frequently Asked Questions

1. I was diagnosed with cancer, who should I contact to report my tumor?

Your healthcare provider/institution will report your case to the VICCR. As a patient, you should not contact the VICCR to report your case. Act No. 7939 of 2016 states, "each health care facility diagnosing or providing treatment to cancer patients shall report in an electronic format or any other format requested by the Registry each new case of a reportable neoplasm to the Registry not later than 180 days after the date of diagnoses or date of first contact with the already diagnosed patient."

2. I had to go off-island to receive cancer treatment, will my case be included in the VICCR Database?

The VICCR has an Inter-State Data Exchange agreement in place, where other state registries report to us the cancer cases from Virgin Islands residents. To ensure that your case will be sent to us, *just make sure that you include your Virgin Islands address when completing any demographic information form.* Unfortunately, if a patient includes a temporary address in the states, the case will not be sent to the VICCR.

3. I am a healthcare provider and I have not reported any cases to the VICCR. How do I report the tumors that I have diagnosed or treated?

Healthcare providers can contact the VICCR for further guidance regarding the reporting of cancer cases. You can also review our Physician's Cancer Reporting Guidelines by visiting the DOH Webpage. A fillable reporting form with instructions is also available on the webpage at <https://doh.vi.gov/programs/chronic-disease-and-prevention/virgin-islands-central-cancer-registry>.

4. How long should it take to complete an Incidence Report?

National cancer registry standards anticipate and allow a standard delay of 23 months between the end of the diagnosis year and the time the cancer data are submitted to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) each November. This delay is, in part, due to the time required for completion of cancer treatment for the patient, time for the hospital or treatment facility to record and submit the case to the central cancer registry and time required for case ascertainment, quality control and assurance procedures. For example, cancer cases diagnosed in 2016 were submitted in the Call for Data in November of 2018.

5. What services does the VICCR provide to patients?

The VICCR does not provide direct patient care or services. For more information on patient resources, please visit: The USVI Cancer Coalition's webpage at <https://www.usvicancercoalition.org/>.



U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF CHRONIC DISEASE & PREVENTION
VIRGIN ISLANDS CENTRAL CANCER REGISTRY

Page | 14
Last updated: 06.18.2024

Contact Us

VI Department of Health - Virgin Islands Central Cancer Registry

EMAIL:

veronica.rivera-lopez@doh.vi.gov

john.orr@doh.vi.gov

sandra.charles@doh.vi.gov

lyna.fredericks@doh.vi.gov

PHONE:

340-774-7477 ext. 5675

WEBPAGE:

<https://doh.vi.gov/programs/chronic-disease-and-prevention/virgin-islands-central-cancer-registry>