

Cancer Mortality Rates

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Issue:

Patients with lung and bronchus cancer have a higher mortality rate than breast cancer.

Analysis:

Each year, many people get diagnosed with cancer and often fear it will be the cause of their death.

Visualization 1:

To begin our analysis of cancer patients in the United States, we looked at new cancer cases reported each year from 1999 to 2015. From examining this data, we found a trend that the number of diagnoses of new cancer cases increased each year with 2010 and 2012 being the outliers. However, there was still an increased number of new cancer cases between the years 2010 and 2012 individually.

Visualization 2:

Considering the consistent increased number of new cancer cases between 1999 and 2015, we decided to compare cancer mortality rates to see if they also increased each year. By expanding our analysis to include mortality rates, we found that the mortality rates of cancer patients generally remained constant over the years.

Visualization 3:

After constructing visualization number two, we decided to narrow our analysis to only include America's two most common types of cancer. These two types of cancer include breast cancer, along with lung and bronchus cancer. We then compared the new cancer patients each year to the incidences of mortality of these two types of cancer. This comparison showed us results that were consistent with our prior analysis, along with some more interesting results. Although both types of cancer were increasing in new cancer patients, breast cancer was increasing at a higher rate. Moreover, the two types of cancer both had consistent mortality rates, but lung and bronchus cancer had a much higher rate (almost triple) than breast cancer.

Conclusion:

Our findings support our issue: Patients with lung and bronchus cancer have a higher mortality rate than breast cancer.