

## BY THE NUMBERS

### Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma in California

**6,500**

The number of people who will be diagnosed with non-Hodgkin lymphoma in California in 2013.

**2,090**

The number of deaths from non-Hodgkin lymphoma expected in California in 2013.

**#6**

Non-Hodgkin lymphoma was the 6th-most commonly diagnosed cancer among men and women in California in 2010.

**#7**

Non-Hodgkin lymphoma was the 7th-most common cause of cancer deaths among men and women in California in 2010.

## CALIFORNIA CANCER REGISTRY FACT SHEET

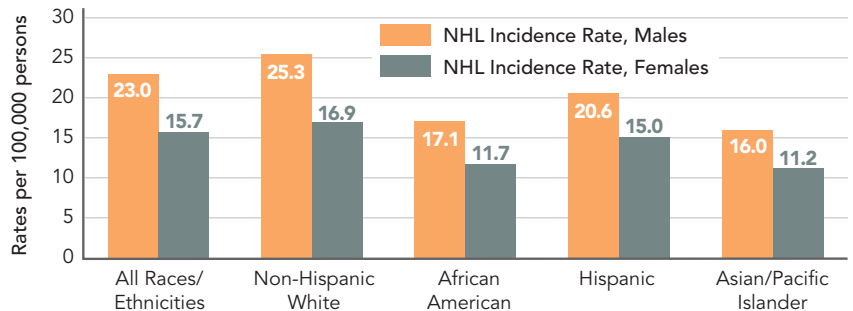
# NON-HODGKIN LYMPHOMA

Non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL) is cancer that begins in cells of the immune system. The immune system fights infections and other diseases. NHL begins when a lymphocyte,<sup>†</sup> usually a B cell, becomes abnormal. The abnormal cell divides to make copies of itself, making more and more abnormal cells. The abnormal cells neither die nor function as they should, and the buildup of extra cells often forms a mass of tissue called a growth or tumor.

### Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma Incidence and Mortality Rates, California, 2006–2010

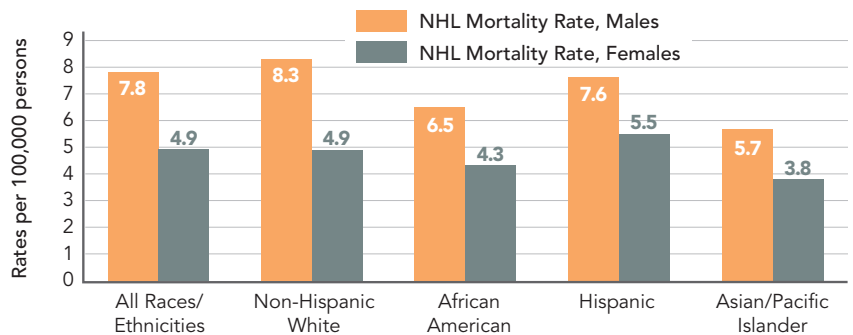
Between 2006 and 2010, the non-Hodgkin lymphoma incidence rate for males in California was 23.0 new cases per 100,000 males per year, and the mortality rate was 7.8 deaths per 100,000 males per year. For females, these rates were slightly lower, with an incidence rate of 15.7 new cases per 100,000 females per year, and a mortality rate of 4.9 deaths per 100,000 females per year.

#### Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma Incidence Rates, California 2006–2010\*



With respect to race/ethnicity, non-Hispanic white males and females had the highest incidence rates of non-Hodgkin lymphoma (25.3 new cases and 16.9 new cases per 100,000 persons, respectively). Non-Hispanic white males and Hispanic females had the highest mortality rates (8.3 deaths and 5.5 deaths per 100,000 persons, respectively) in the state.

#### Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma Mortality Rates, California 2006–2010\*



\* Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Population.

Source: California Cancer Registry, California Department of Public Health.

Prepared by the California Department of Public Health, California Cancer Registry.

<sup>†</sup> A lymphocyte is a type of white blood cell (immune cell) that is made in the bone marrow, and is found in blood and lymph tissue. There are two main types of lymphocytes: B lymphocytes, which make antibodies, and T lymphocytes, which help kill tumor cells and help control immune responses.

# CALIFORNIA CANCER REGISTRY FACT SHEET

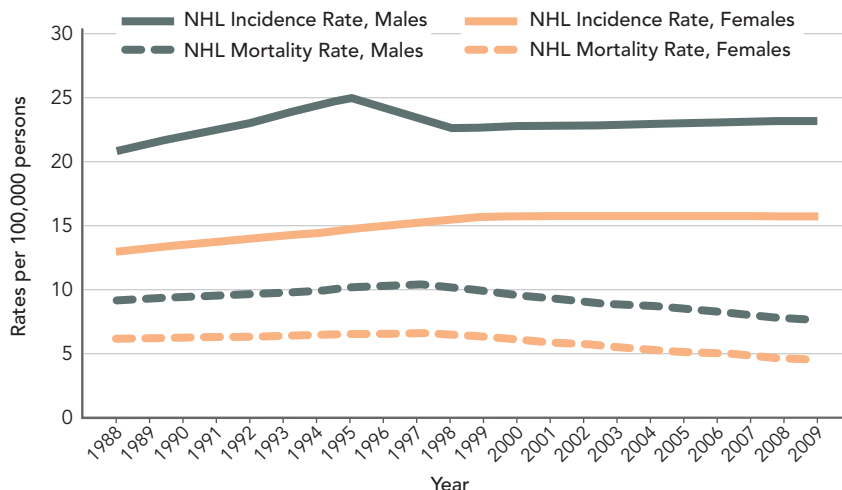
## NON-HODGKIN LYMPHOMA

### Trends in Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma Incidence and Mortality California, 1988–2009

The incidence rate of non-Hodgkin lymphoma increased significantly for males in California from 1988 until 1995, appeared to decrease from 1995 to 1998, and then remained relatively stable through 2009. Among females in California, the incidence rate increased significantly from 1988 until 1999, and then remained relatively stable from 1999 through 2009.

With respect to mortality, the non-Hodgkin lymphoma mortality rate for males in California increased at a statistically significant rate from 1988 to 1997, and then decreased at a statistically significant rate through 2009. A similar pattern is seen among females.

Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma Incidence and Mortality Trends,  
California 1988–2009\*



\* Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Population.  
Source: California Cancer Registry, California Department of Public Health.  
Prepared by the California Department of Public Health, California Cancer Registry.

## Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma in California

# Five-Year Relative Survival Rates

### CALIFORNIA, 2001–2010

If diagnosed when the lymphoma is:      The 5-Year Survival Rate\* is:

**Localized** **82%**  
The lymphoma is still confined to only one lymph node or lymphoid organ.

**Regional** **71%**  
The lymphoma has spread to other lymph nodes or adjacent tissues.

**Distant** **59%**  
The lymphoma has *metastasized*, or spread to other parts of the body.

Overall 5-Year Relative Survival Rate for non-Hodgkin lymphoma in California: **68%**

\* Follow-up is through December 2010. Cancers that were unstaged at time of diagnosis are excluded.

## Risk Factors

Certain factors have been shown to be associated with an increased risk of certain types of cancer. The majority of known cancer risk factors are related to individual characteristics (such as age, race/ethnicity, or family history/genetic susceptibility) and behaviors (such as smoking, diet, physical inactivity, unsafe sex, and sun exposure).

## For more information

on non-Hodgkin lymphoma risk factors, prevention, screening, symptoms, and treatment:

### ❖ National Cancer Institute

Check out the NCI's *What You Need to Know About™* Cancer Index at:  
[www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/wyntk](http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/wyntk)  
or call the NCI Cancer Information Service:  
**1-800-4-CANCER**

### ❖ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

### ❖ American Cancer Society (ACS)

[www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)  
**1-800-227-2345**

