



COLORECTAL CANCER IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Approximately **2,166*** people are diagnosed with colorectal cancer and **829** die from the disease each year.

Colorectal cancer is one of the most commonly diagnosed cancers in both men and women, and even though it is one of the more deadly of the leading cancers, it is also the most preventable. Colorectal cancer starts in the colon or rectum, and are often noticed as a growth called a polyp. Polyps become cancer over time, and finding and removing polyps can prevent colorectal cancer altogether.

*This statistic **excludes** in situ cancers.

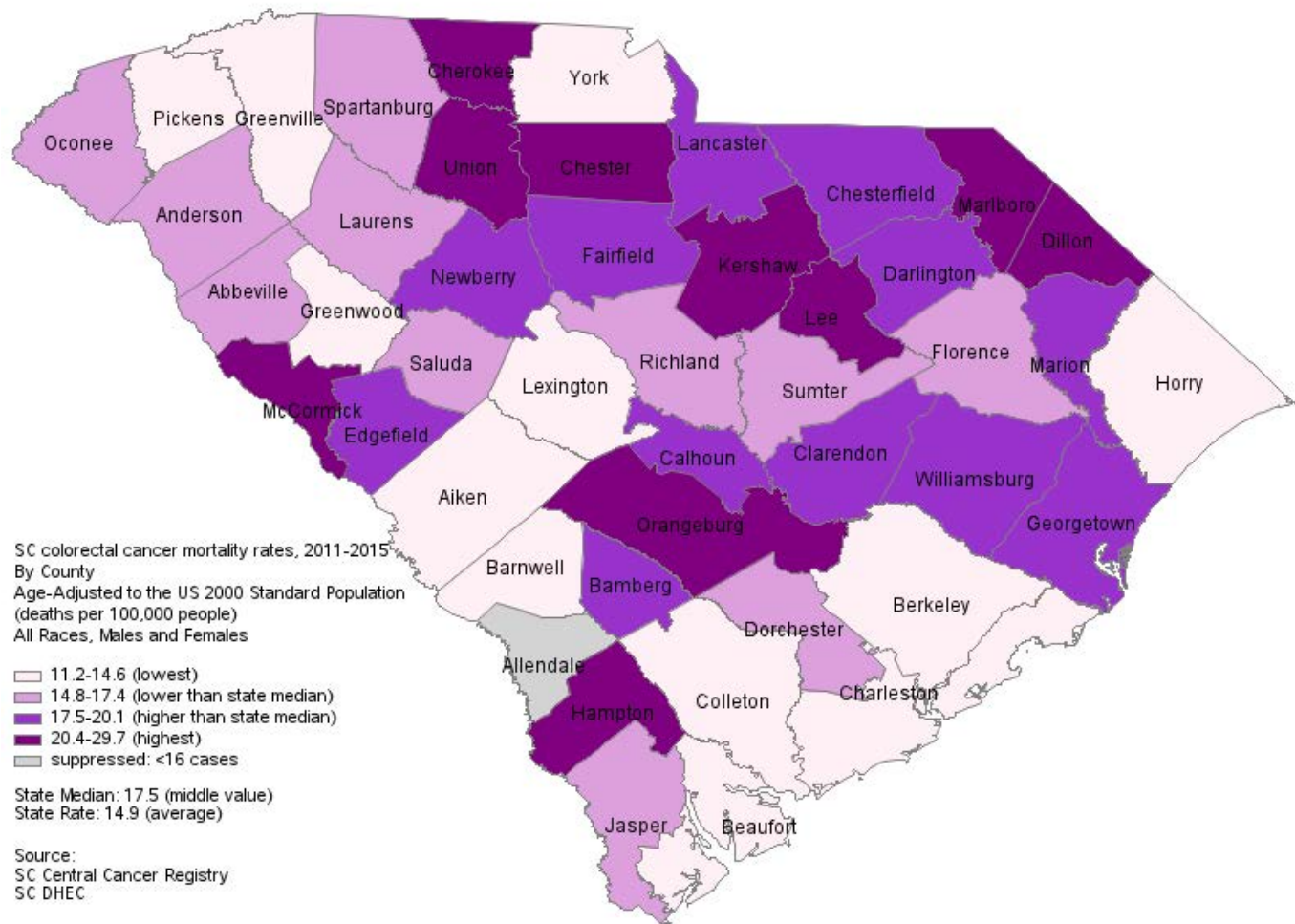
SCREENING

Colorectal cancer is recommended for adults who are between the ages of **50-75 years old**.

The decision to screen for colorectal cancer in adults aged **76 to 85** should be an individual one made with the provider, considering the patient's overall health and prior screening history.

Source: The screening recommendations on this fact sheet were adapted from the U.S. Preventative Services Task Force.

South Carolina Colorectal Cancer Mortality Map



Talk with your health care provider about when to begin screening for colorectal cancer, what test(s) to have, the advantages and disadvantages of each test, and how often to undergo screening, and when to stop.

The decision about which test to have usually takes into account several factors, including:

- The person's age, medical history, family history, and general health
- The potential harms of the test
- The preparation required for the test
- Whether sedation may be needed for the test
- The follow-up care needed after the test
- The convenience of the test
- The cost of the test and the availability of insurance coverage

For more information about colorectal cancer screening and the different types of testing, visit www.sccancer.org/colon