



Colorectal Cancer Health Profile

March 2026

In the US and Ohio, rates of new colorectal cancer cases and deaths have decreased since the early 2000s. Wood County incidence and mortality is on average higher than Ohio and the US. A trend seen locally, regionally, and nationally is increasing incidence and mortality among adults <50-years-old. Adopting healthy behaviors like exercising, eating fibrous foods, and having a healthy weight can reduce risk of colorectal cancer.

Data retrieved from CDC National Center for Health Statistics on CDC WONDER Online Database and Ohio Department of Health Ohio Cancer Surveillance System and Bureau of Vital Statistics.

For questions, please contact:

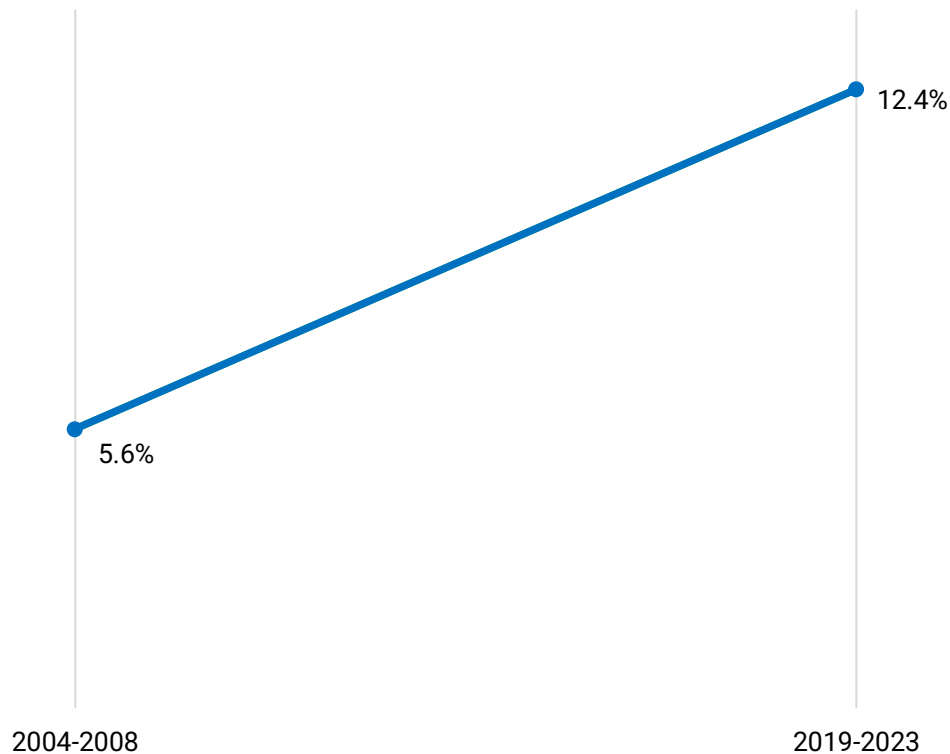
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Colorectal cancer incidence rates in the US are **decreasing** among all ages, dropping from 305 per 100,000 people in 2000 to 155 per 100,000 in 2022. However, rates of colorectal cancer are **rising among adults <50-years-old**. Nationally, the proportion of cases <55-years **doubled** from 11% in 1995 to 20% in 2019. Increasing rates among this age group is also seen in Wood County.

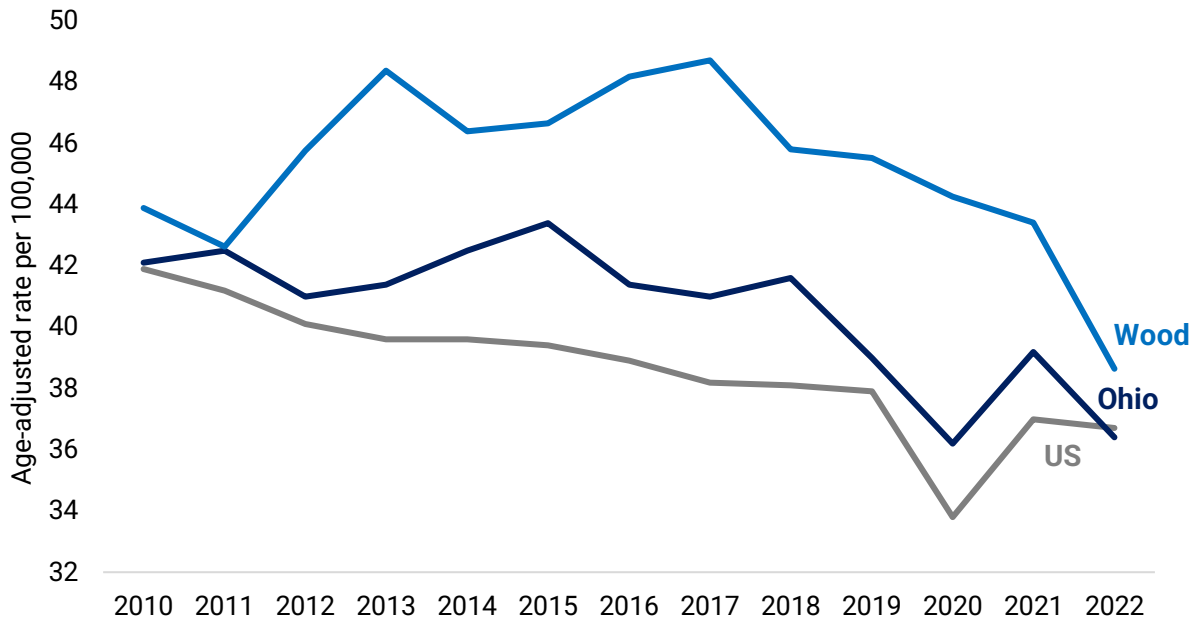
The proportion of colorectal cancer diagnoses among Wood County adults <50-years old **increased 7%** from 2004 to 2023.



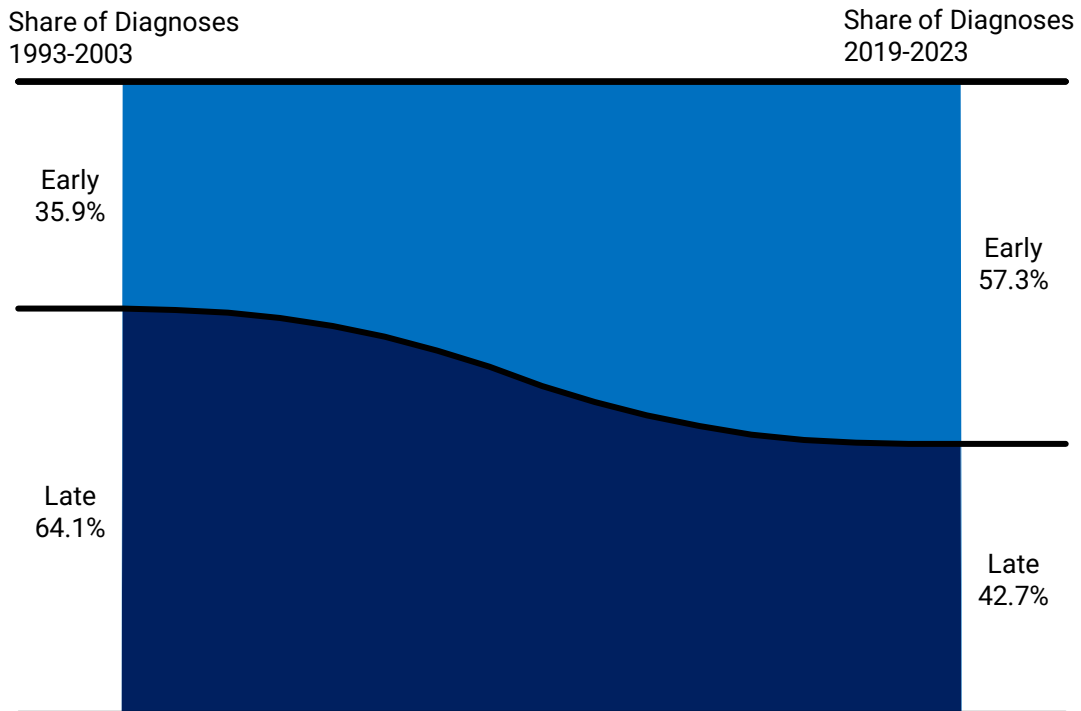
Although new cases are **higher** in Wood County, age-adjusted incidence rates are **decreasing** across the US, Ohio, and Wood County. This means there are **fewer** of new cases of colorectal cancer being diagnosed. Increases in screenings like colonoscopies has helped catch signs **before** they become cancerous.

Wood County data is presented as a five-year rolling average below to better represent the trend in new cases. Another positive trend: more cases are being **diagnosed earlier** in our community than in the early 2000s and early stages make up the majority of new diagnoses.

Wood County has **higher** incidence rates of colorectal cancer than **Ohio** and the **US**.

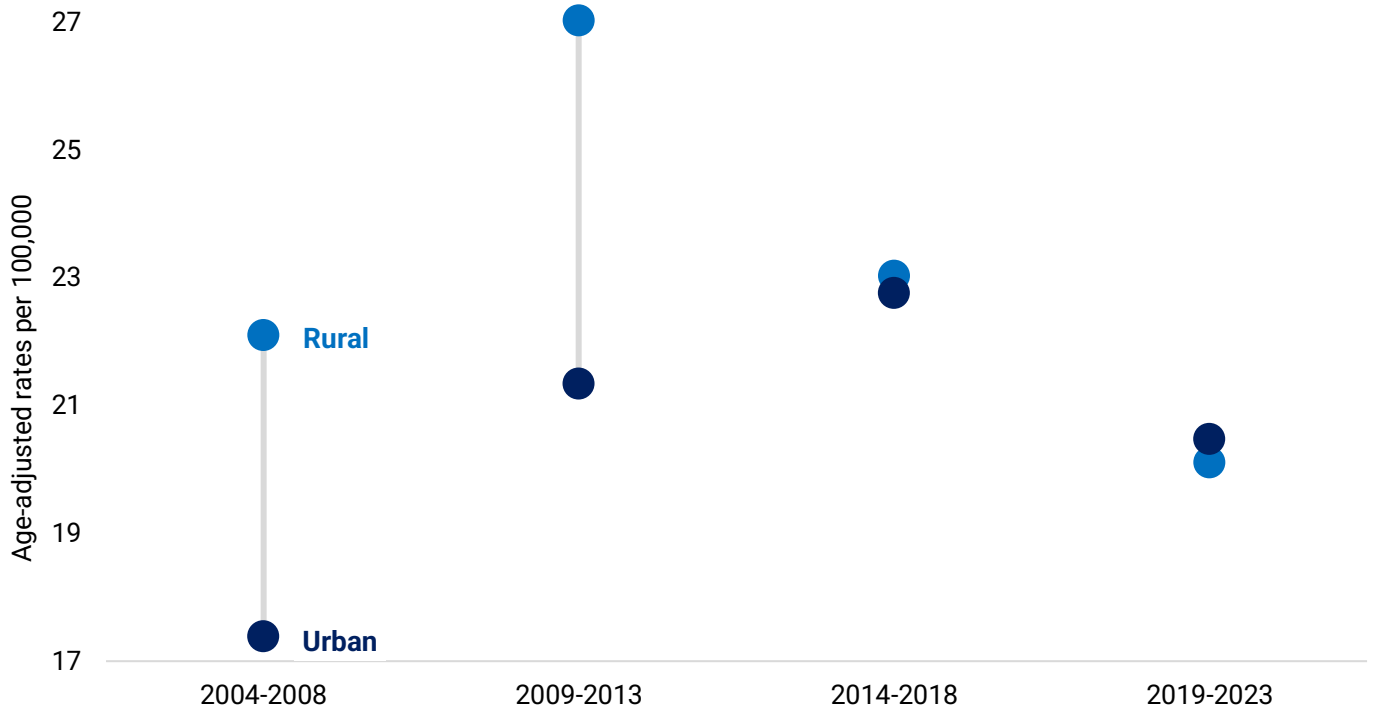


Early stage diagnoses of colorectal cancer **increased over 20%** since 1993 in Wood County.



Trends in incidence rates among our rural and urban populations are opposite each other. The gap between new cases of colorectal cancers in rural and urban residents has **decreased**. Incidence rates among rural residents have **decreased** since 2009-2013, but new cases among urban residents have caught up to the rates in rural populations and are **higher** than in 2004-2008.

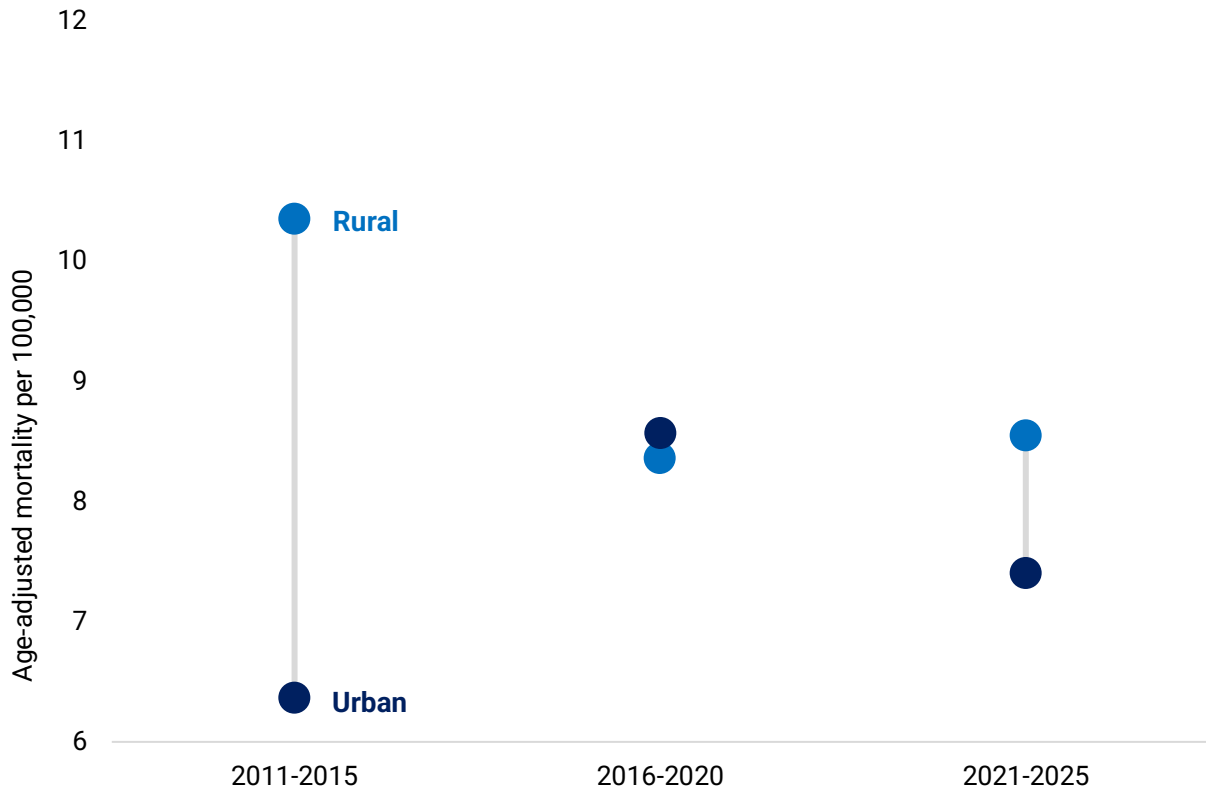
New cases of colorectal cancer among rural residents are **decreasing** but rates among urban residents are **increasing**.





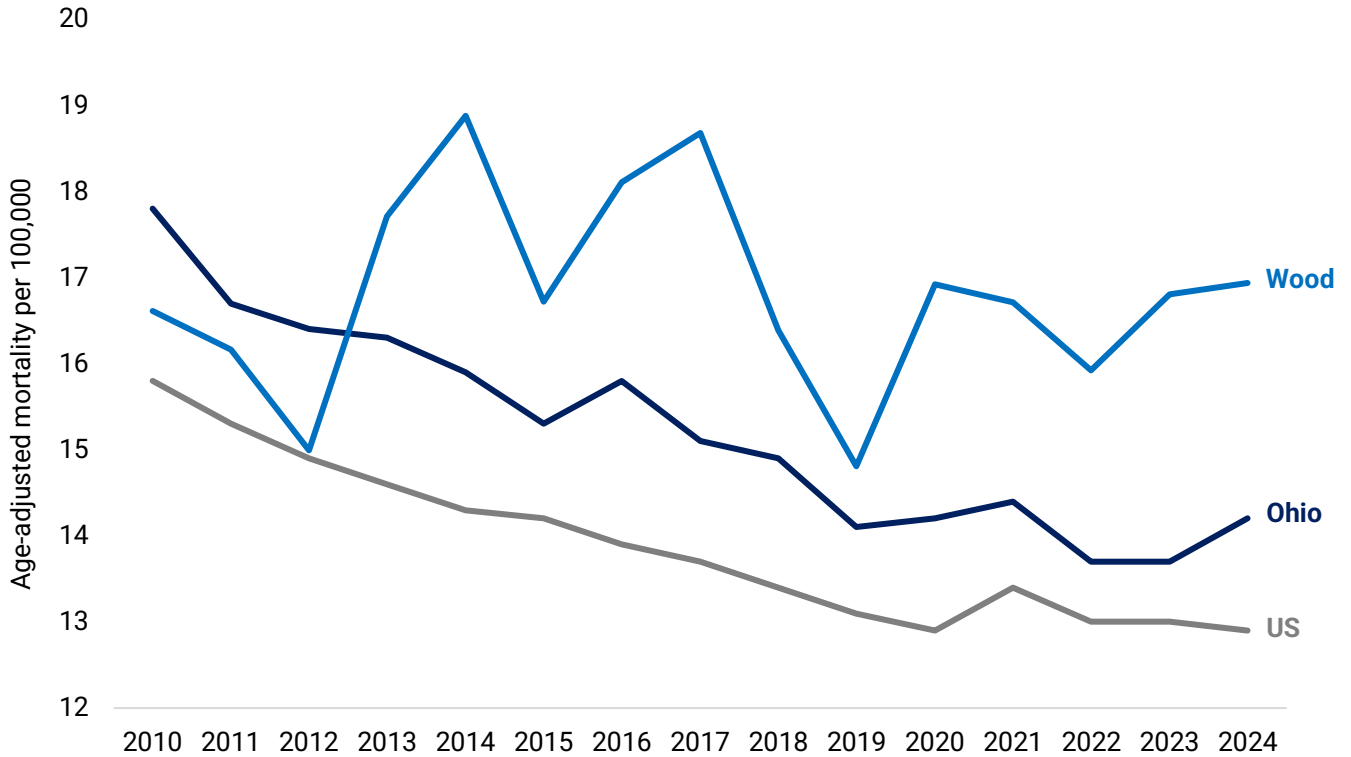
Deaths from colorectal cancer are **higher** in rural residents in Wood County, but like trends in new cases, mortality rates are also **increasing** among urban residents. It is important for **both** populations to be mindful of their risk factors and talk to their provider about screenings and prevention.

Rural residents of Wood County have **higher** mortality rates of colorectal cancer compared to **urban** residents.



While mortality rates have decreased since 2010 in Ohio and the US, Wood County deaths from colorectal cancer vary and are **higher** than state and national counterparts. Our mortality rate has **increased** since 2019. Wood County data is presented as a five-year rolling average below to better represent the trend in mortality.

The Wood County 5-year average for colorectal cancer mortality is **higher** than Ohio and the US.





You can take **simple steps** to improve **your health** and **reduce your risk** of colorectal cancer like quitting smoking, getting your daily amount of fiber, maintaining a healthy weight, and staying active.



**Keep a
healthy
weight**



**Exercise
regularly**



**Eat fruits
and
vegetables**

If you're over the age of 45, have sign and symptoms of colorectal cancer (such as blood in your stool, changes in your bowel habits, losing weight without trying), or have family history of colorectal cancer, **talk to your provider** about **colorectal cancer screenings** and your personal risk.

Need a provider?

Call or visit the [Wood County Community Health Center](https://woodcountyhealth.org/health-center/) to schedule a primary care visit!

<https://woodcountyhealth.org/health-center/>

419-354-9049