



COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH MARCH 2023 | QUICK FACTS

- The American Cancer Society estimates 1,490 Nevadans will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer in 2023 and 470 will die of the disease.
- Colorectal cancer is the #2 cancer killer in Nevada by total numbers, only behind lung cancer.
- Black Nevadans are more likely to be diagnosed with and die from colorectal cancer than other Nevadans. Black men bear the greatest risk, with twice as many colon cancer deaths as Black women.

SCREENING / EARLY DETECTION

- The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommends adults ages 45-75 screen for colorectal cancer screening regularly based on selected method--every year with blood/DNA stool test or every 10 years with colonoscopy. This recommendation was updated in 2021.
- In 2020, 71.9% of Nevadans ages 50-75 said they had been screened for colorectal cancer within the recommendations. (Colonoscopy within the past 10 years or blood stool test within the past year.)
- In 2020, 20.7% of Nevadans ages 50-75 said they had never been screened for colorectal cancer.
- In November 2022, [Medicare changed its rules](#) to cover necessary colonoscopy with no out-of-pocket costs following a positive noninvasive screening test, such as FIT or Stool DNA. The agency also adopted 45 as the minimum age for colorectal cancer screening following USPSTF guidelines.
- In [January 2022 guidance](#) from the Department of Labor, Department of Health & Human Services and U.S. Treasury announced that private insurance plans must cover follow-up colonoscopies as part of preventive screening after a positive blood stool test. This change expanded coverage of colonoscopies and eliminated the cost-sharing required when the procedure had previously been billed as a diagnostic exam.