

Locally:

- In South Dakota alone, 19.3 people pass away each day, 4.3 of whom die from cancer – that's over 22% (South Dakota Department of Health –Facts at a Glance, 2006).
- Prostate, breast and lung are the top three cancers, followed closely by colorectal cancer.

Nationally:

- More than 1.4 million Americans develop cancer each year. Less serious (non-melanoma) types of skin cancers account for an additional 1 million cases.
- Within this decade (2000-2010), the number of cancer cases is increasing by a projected 23 percent, to reach 1.6 million new cases per year by 2010.
- A new cancer is diagnosed every 30 seconds.
- One in two men will be diagnosed with cancer at some point in his lifetime.
- One in three women will be diagnosed with cancer at some point in her lifetime.
- Cancer is the second leading cause of death after heart disease in the US.
- Every three minutes, two people in the US die from cancer.
- Primary cause of death in women between the ages of 35-74.
- Chief cause of death in children between the ages of 1-14.

Survivorship/Improvements in Treatment

- Since the mid-1990s the cancer death rate has been steadily decreasing because of incredible advances in cancer detection, prevention and treatment.
- Today more than half of all cancer patients can expect to live for five or more years after diagnosis. The overall national five-year survival rate has increased from 51 percent in 1975 to 66 percent.
- Avera McKennan's overall survival rate is comparable to the national average.

(Sources: American Cancer Society; National Cancer Institute's SEER (Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results))