



Desert Sierra Cancer Surveillance Program Region 5 of the California Cancer Registry

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Dear Colleague:

It gives me great pleasure to announce the release of the Desert Sierra Cancer Surveillance Program's (DSCSP) 15th annual report of cancer incidence and 12th report on cancer mortality. The report is produced in collaboration with Loma Linda University Cancer Center and is titled: ***Cancer Incidence and Mortality in Inyo, Mono, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties, 1988-2008***. An electronic version of the report, which can be downloaded or printed, is currently available using the following link: <http://www.dscsp.com/>.

The body of the reports includes annual (1988-2008) counts of new and fatal cases and annual age-adjusted incidence and mortality rates for all cancer types combined, each of 26 cancer sites (types), childhood cancer, and three selected *in situ* cancer types. Other tables in the report present similar findings aggregated for the most recent five-year time period (2003-2008) that detail the cancer experience among the 4.1 million DSCSP inhabitants for each of four major race/ethnic groups. Additional table formats present similar findings, combining data for all race/ethnic groups, for Riverside County, San Bernardino County, and combined for Inyo and Mono Counties. The final table format used in the report presents race/ethnicity combined and specific age-adjusted incidence and mortality rates by sex in the DSCSP population, comparing these findings to similar statewide measures. Collectively, these data present the most comprehensive assessment of the cancer experience for the DSCSP population.

The purpose of this report on cancer incidence and mortality in the DSCSP population is the release of hundreds of findings regarding the cancer experience of this vital and growing segment of the California population and to encourage generation of hypotheses and strategies that maximize efficient utilization of finite cancer control and prevention resources. The authors of this report encourage health professionals, researchers, academics, administrators, political representatives, and other members of communities in the DSCSP and beyond to join us in collaborations that seek to identify and eliminate the causes of cancer and expedite discovery of cures.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Morgan".

John W. Morgan, DrPH, CPH
Epidemiologist

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca E. Cassady, RHIA, CDR".

Rebecca E. Cassady, RHIA, CTR
Director