

# UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL & CLINICS

## COLORECTAL CANCER IN ACADIANA

### 2017 PHYSICIAN STUDY

**Overview:**

Colorectal cancer is the third leading type of cancer diagnosed in the U.S. There was an estimated 135,430 cases in 2017. Colorectal cancer rates in the Acadiana Region are among the highest in the nation. The Acadiana Region is comprised of the following parishes: Evangeline, St. Landry, Acadia, Lafayette, St. Martin, Vermillion, Iberia, and St. Mary. University Hospital & Clinics (Lafayette Parish) is within the center of this hotbed. This 8-parish subgroup has higher proportions of French speakers as compared with Louisiana and the United States. A health issue, possibly linked to the region’s Cajun heritage could be considered as well as some kind of environmental risk factors.



**Objective:** To determine if the rates of colorectal cancer are disproportionately higher in the Acadiana region than the national average.

**Timeline:** 2010 – 2017

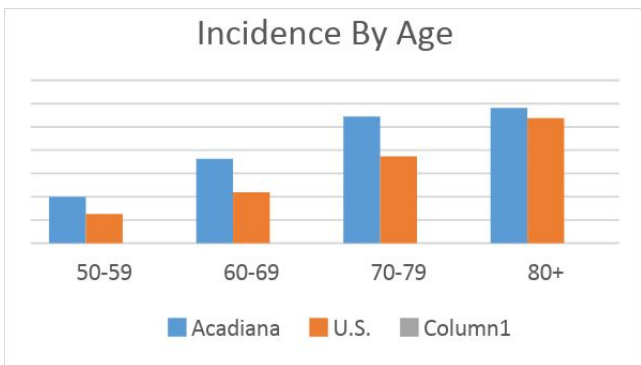
**Two Phases:**

- Describe Acadiana Region data & collect local statistics
- Compare to National Averages

**Findings:**

Incidence rates of colorectal cancer showed a significant increase in the Acadiana Region at 57% as compared to the U.S. at 40.1%.

Incidence by race also showed black / white ratios higher in Acadiana vs U.S. 74.5 to 48.7 (Black) & 52.4 to 39.3 (White)



Incidence by age was significantly higher from ages 50 to 80+ in the Acadiana Region

Cancer Staging at Diagnosis (%)				
Stage	1	2	3	4
Acadiana	13.9	13.2	14.3	11.9
U.S.	9.2	9.2	9.6	7.8

**Conclusion:** The data in this study demonstrates that the incidence rates of colorectal cancer, race, age and TNM Stage were higher in the Acadiana Region than the U.S. All data in the study was compiled by the Louisiana State Tumor Registry (New Orleans). Due to the high rates of colorectal cancer in the Acadiana region, future studies will need to be done “to explore the possibility of genetic predisposition or an as-yet unobserved risk factor or environmental exposure in the Cajun population of the Acadiana Region causing the high rate.