

## MELANOMA OF THE SKIN

**Table 20: Melanoma of the Skin Incidence and Mortality Summary, 2011**

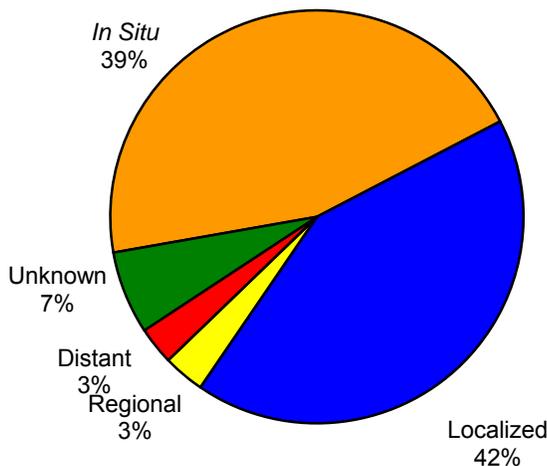
Melanoma of the Skin			Incidence			Mortality		
			Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
South Dakota	Total	# Cases / Deaths	186	95	91	25	13	12
		Age Adjusted Rate	20.1	21.8	19.6	2.7	2.9	2.4
	White	# Cases / Deaths	185	95	90	25	13	12
		Age Adjusted Rate	21.7	23.2	21.4	2.9	3.1	2.6
	American Indian	# Cases / Deaths	1	0	1	0	0	0
		Age Adjusted Rate	1.5	0.0	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
United States	Total	Age Adjusted Rate	21.1	27.7	16.2	* 2.7	* 4.1	* 1.7
	White	Age Adjusted Rate	24.8	32.1	19.3	* 3.2	* 4.7	* 2.0
	American Indian	Age Adjusted Rate	3.9	3.2	4.7	* 1.0	*	*

Rates per 100,000 age-adjusted to 2000 US standard population and 2011 SD estimated population.

\* US Mortality rates are from 2010, the 2011 rate is not available at this time. US rates [www.seer.cancer.gov](http://www.seer.cancer.gov)

Source: South Dakota Department of Health

**Figure 46: Melanoma of the Skin Stage at Diagnosis, South Dakota, 2011**



Source: South Dakota Department of Health

### Descriptive Epidemiology

**Stage at Diagnosis:** Melanoma is staged by the depth of invasion and the extension of the lesion. In 2011, there were 186 cases of melanoma of the skin reported for South Dakota. Of this number, 143 were staged as localized disease. The survival rate for localized melanoma is 98.1%. For distant disease, the survival rate is 16.1% at 5 years.

**Incidence:** In the United States in 2011, the American Cancer Society estimated that there would be 70,230 new cases of melanoma of the skin. There are three forms of skin cancer: basal cell, squamous cell, and melanoma. Melanoma is by far the most dangerous form of skin cancer. Melanoma is primarily a cancer of the white

populations. In South Dakota, the incidence rate is 20.1 and the United States has an incidence rate of 21.1.

**Mortality:** There were 25 deaths attributed to melanoma of the skin in South Dakota in 2011 with a mortality rate of 2.7. The last reported mortality rate for the United States (2010) was 2.7. The median age for death in South Dakota for this cancer was 67 in 2011. Nationwide, the median age at death was 69 for melanoma of the skin.

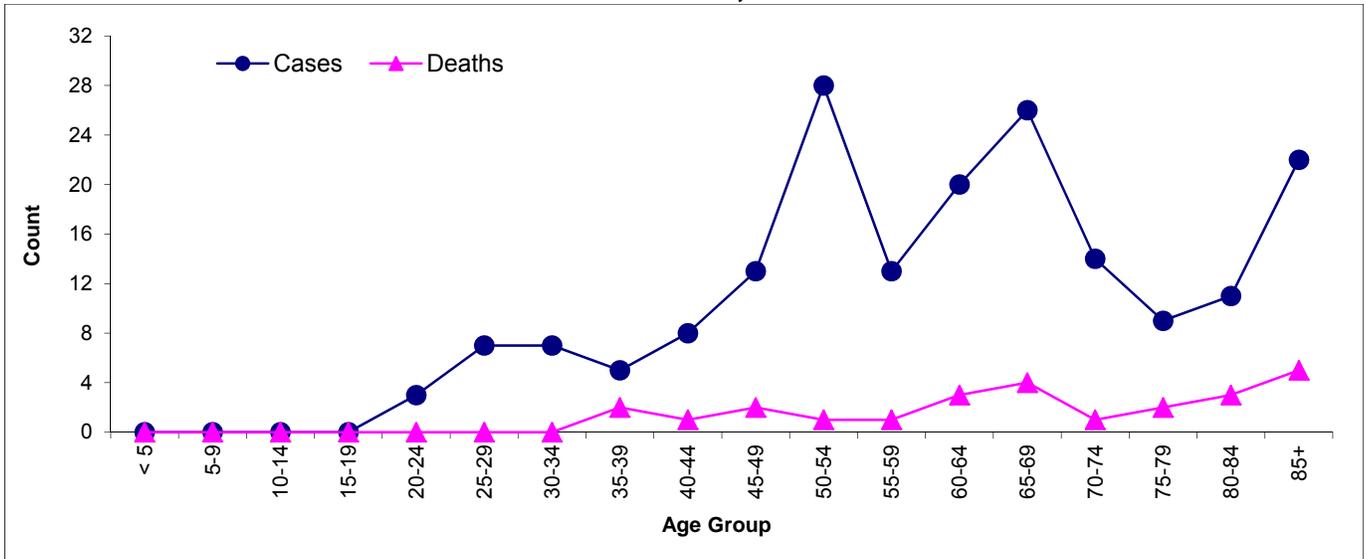
**Risk and Associated Factors:** Certain factors are more likely to contribute to a higher risk. These are:

- Lighter natural skin color
- Family history of skin cancer
- Personal history of skin cancer
- Exposure to the sun
- History of sunburns early in life
- Skin that burns, freckles, reddens easily
- Blue or green eyes, blond or red hair
- Large number of moles

**Early Detection and Prevention:** The best way to prevent skin cancer is to protect the skin from the sun. The CDC recommends five easy options for protection from sunburn:

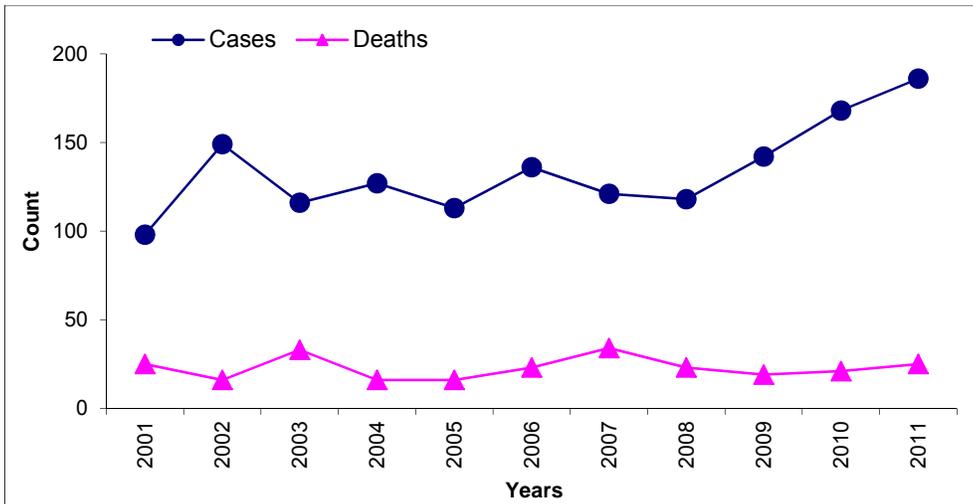
- use sun glasses
- use sunscreen regularly
- stay in the shade
- cover skin
- wear a hat

**Figure 47: Melanoma of the Skin Number of Cases and Deaths by Age, South Dakota, 2011**



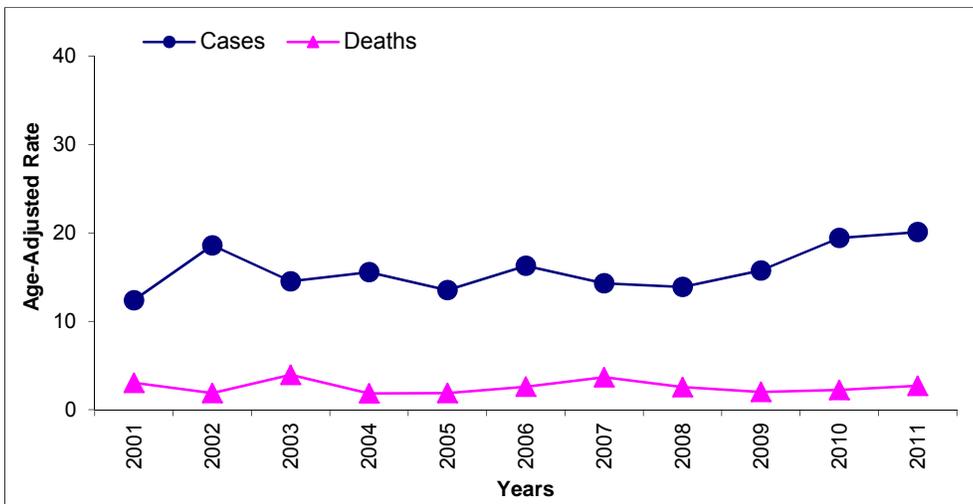
Source: South Dakota Department of Health

**Figure 48: Melanoma of the Skin Cases and Deaths by Year, South Dakota, 2001 - 2011**



Source: South Dakota Department of Health

**Figure 49: Melanoma of the Skin Age-Adjusted Rates, Cases, and Deaths by Year, South Dakota, 2001 - 2011**



Rates per 100,000 age-adjusted to 2000 US standard population and SD estimated populations.  
Source: South Dakota Department of Health