

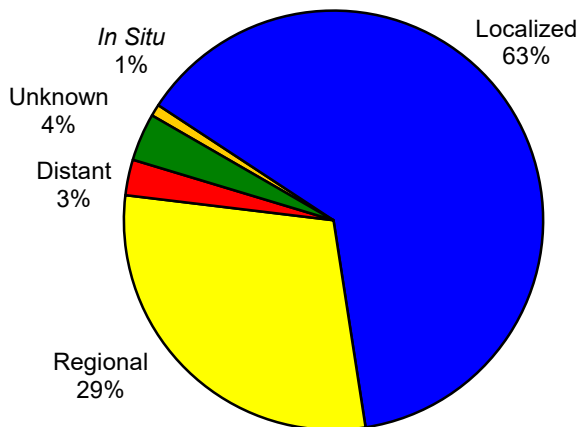
## THYROID

**Table 27: Thyroid Incidence and Mortality Summary, 2017**

Thyroid Cancer			Incidence			Mortality		
			Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
South Dakota	<b>Total</b>	# Cases / Deaths Age-Adjusted Rate	<b>108</b> <b>12.6</b>	36 7.4	72 18.1	<b>4</b> <b>0.3</b>	1 0.2	3 0.5
	<b>White</b>	# Cases / Deaths Age-Adjusted Rate	<b>95</b> <b>12.4</b>	33 7.5	62 17.5	<b>3</b> <b>0.3</b>	1 0.2	2 0.3
	<b>American Indian</b>	# Cases / Deaths Age-Adjusted Rate	<b>5</b> <b>8.4</b>	0 0.0	5 16.0	<b>1</b> <b>2.4</b>	0 0.0	1 4.1
United States	<b>Total</b>	Age-Adjusted Rate	<b>14.6</b>	7.8	21.3	<b>0.5</b>	0.5	0.5
	<b>White</b>	Age-Adjusted Rate	<b>15.3</b>	8.3	22.3	<b>0.5</b>	0.5	0.5
	<b>American Indian</b>	Age-Adjusted Rate	<b>9.5</b>	3.8	14.8	*	*	*

Rates per 100,000 age-adjusted to 2000 US standard population and 2017 SD estimated population.  
US rates [www.seer.cancer.gov](http://www.seer.cancer.gov) \*=rate suppressed. Source: South Dakota Department of Health

**Figure 73: Thyroid Cancer Stage at Diagnosis, South Dakota, 2017**



Source: South Dakota Department of Health

### Descriptive Epidemiology

**Stage at Diagnosis:** In 2017, data demonstrates that 69 (63%) of cases were diagnosed at a localized stage. When a patient is diagnosed at an early stage, the prognosis is much better for a cure. There were 32 (29%) cases diagnosed at a regional stage. Three cases (3%) were diagnosed at a distant stage.

**Incidence:** The American Cancer Society estimated 56,870 thyroid cancer cases would be diagnosed in the United States in 2017. Thyroid cancer continues to account for approximately 2.3% of all cancers in South Dakota. Of the 108 cases diagnosed in 2017, 36 were male and 72 were female. The median age at diagnosis was 51.5 for South Dakota and 51 for the United States. Thyroid cancer is

found more commonly in people between the ages of 45 and 70 years of age, with 79% diagnosed before age 65. It is predominately a disease of females as the statistics for South Dakota confirm.

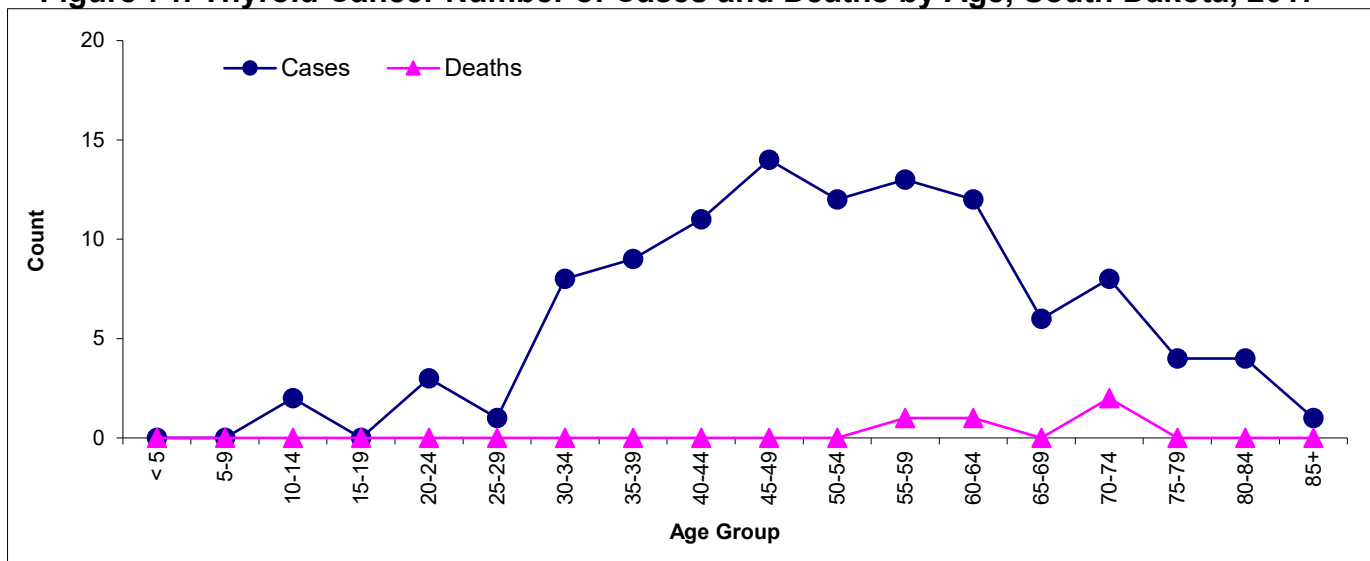
**Mortality:** South Dakota had only four deaths attributed to thyroid cancer in 2017. Nationally, the five-year relative survival rates were 99.9% for localized, 98.3% for regional, and 88.5% for the unknown stage.

**Risk and Associated Factors:** Thyroid cancer accounted for only 2.8% of the cancer cases in South Dakota in 2017. Risk factors include being exposed to radiation to the head and neck in childhood. Other risk factors for the development of thyroid cancer include a history of goiter, family history of thyroid disease, and Asian race.

**Early Detection and Prevention:** Early detection of cancer of the thyroid is extremely important. There are currently no tests or screenings for early detection of thyroid cancer. Physical examinations may reveal a lump on the side of neck, hoarseness of the voice, and difficulty swallowing. Most cancerous thyroid tumors are slow growing and curable. Prompt attention to signs and symptoms is the best approach to early diagnosis of most thyroid cancers. Signs or symptoms include:

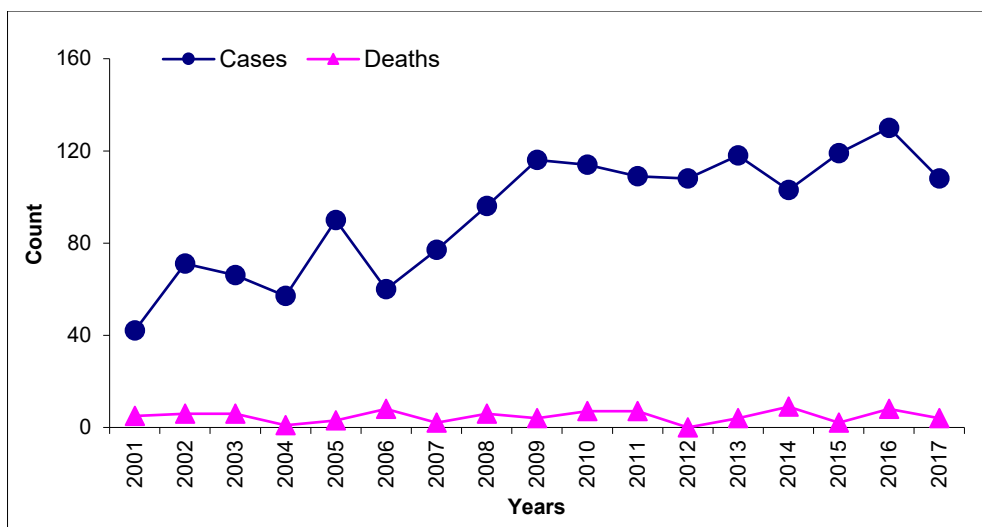
- A lump in the neck, sometimes growing rapidly
- Pain in the neck, sometimes going up to the ears
- Hoarseness
- Trouble swallowing
- Breathing problems (feeling as if one were breathing through a straw)
- A cough that persists and is not due to a cold

**Figure 74: Thyroid Cancer Number of Cases and Deaths by Age, South Dakota, 2017**



Source: South Dakota Department of Health

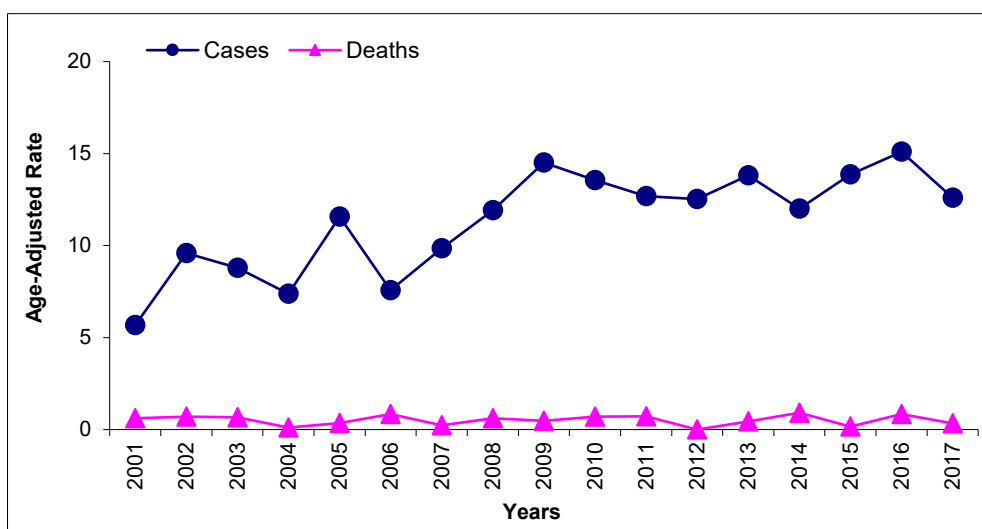
**Figure 75: Thyroid Cancer Cases and Deaths by Year, South Dakota, 2001 - 2017**



Source: South Dakota Department of Health

The incidence count for thyroid cancers peaked in 2016.

**Figure 76: Thyroid Cancer Age-Adjusted Rates, Cases, and Deaths by Year, South Dakota, 2001 - 2017**



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