

CHILDHOOD CANCER FACTS

PRESENTED BY THE SWIFTY FOUNDATION & GIFT FROM A CHILD



In the U.S., Cancer is the **leading cause of death** by disease in children.

<http://www.cancer.gov/types/childhood-cancers/child-adolescent-cancers-fact-sheet>

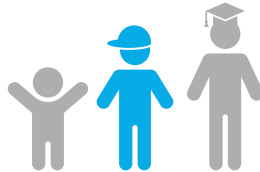
Worldwide, a child is diagnosed **every 3 minutes** with cancer.

<http://www.acco.org/us-childhood-cancer-statistics/>



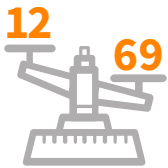
1 in 257 children in the U.S. will be diagnosed with cancer before they are 20 years old.

Cancer Facts and Figures 2024, American Cancer Society



Around the world, **250** kids daily and **91,250** kids yearly lose their life to cancer.

The Lancet Oncology. 2013; 14 (3): e125-e135



There are **69** potential life years lost on average when a child dies of cancer compared to **12** potential life years lost for adults.

National Center for Health Statistics, 2023

Median age of **death** for children with brain or central nervous system cancers is **9** years old.

Howlader N, et al. (eds.) based on Nov. 2019 SEER data submission posted to the SEER website, April 2020.



WHY DOES LIVING TO 13 YEARS OLD DEFINE SURVIVING CANCER?



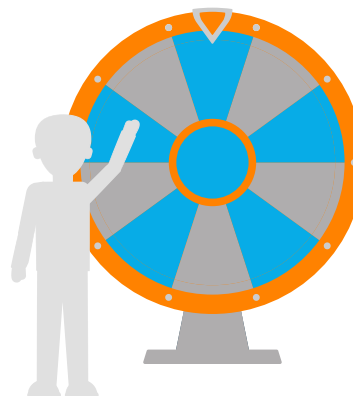
Adult and childhood cancer survival rates are based on living five years from diagnosis. The average age of an adult diagnosis is **65**, while the average age of a child's diagnosis is just **8** years old.

seer.cancer.gov and stbaldricks.org

Childhood Cancer isn't rare



- **1** child diagnosed **every three minutes**
- **20** children diagnosed **every hour**
- **480** children diagnosed **every day**
- **3,360** children diagnosed **every week**
- **14,600** children diagnosed **every month**
- **175,200** children diagnosed **every year**



Compare "RARE"

Odds of getting a Hole in One
1 in 5,000.

Odds of a child getting cancer
1 in 257.

National Center for Health Statistics, 2023

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Children that survive cancer are 15 times more likely to develop **Congestive Heart Failure** and 8 times more likely to suffer **premature death** due to increased risk of:

- Liver disease
- Heart disease
- Secondary cancers/recurrent cancers

AND

Approximately **1 in 530** young adults between the ages of 20 and 39 is a childhood cancer survivor.



Of every dollar the National Cancer Institute (NCI) spends for cancer research, they only spend **8 pennies** on pediatric cancer research.

NIH RePORTER, 2023

Children and AYA cancer survivors (**ages 0-19**) were **57%** more likely to develop depression, **29%** more likely to develop anxiety, and **56%** more likely to develop psychotic disorders in the years following treatment compared to their siblings or healthy members of a control group.

STAT News, Health, June 28, 2023



GROSS DISPARITY IN FUNDING = GROSS DISPARITY IN TREATMENT OPTIONS



Prostate cancer (average age at diagnosis: 66 years) receives more research funding from NCI than **all childhood cancers combined**. Survival rate for prostate cancer is 98%.

<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/prostate-cancer/detection-diagnosis-staging/survival-rates.html>
http://seer.cancer.gov/csr/1975_2012/results_single/sect_28_table.13_2pgs.pdf

In 2024, the first and **ONLY** drug was developed and approved specifically for malignant pediatric brain tumors. Is it any wonder that brain cancer represents **25% of total childhood cancer deaths**?

Cancer Facts and Figures 2024, American Cancer Society



As of 2024, **more than 200** adult cancer drugs have been developed and **only 8** drugs that were approved in the first instance for use in cancer treatment for children (one of which has now been discontinued by the NIH).

www.cancer.gov/research/areas/childhood, February 8, 2024

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