

Skin Cancer Facts and Statistics

- Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the United States and worldwide.
- 1 in 5 Americans will develop skin cancer by the age of 70, and more than 2 people die of skin cancer in the U.S. every hour.
- Having 5 or more sunburns doubles your risk for melanoma, but just 1 blistering sunburn in childhood or adolescence more than doubles a person's chances of developing melanoma later in life.
- When detected early, the 5-year survival rate for melanoma is 99%.
- About 90% of non-melanoma skin cancers are associated with exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun.
- Basal cell carcinoma (BCC) is the most common form of skin cancer, followed by squamous cell carcinoma (SCC).
- Regular daily use of an SPF 15 or higher sunscreen reduces the risk of developing squamous cell carcinoma by about 40% and melanoma by 50%.
- Indoor tanning devices can emit UV radiation in amounts 10 to 15 times higher than the sun at its peak intensity.
- Those who have ever tanned indoors have an 83% increased risk of developing squamous cell carcinoma and a 29% increased risk of developing basal cell carcinoma.
- People who first use a tanning bed before age 35 increase their risk for melanoma by 75%.



Source: Skin Cancer Foundation (skincancer.org)