

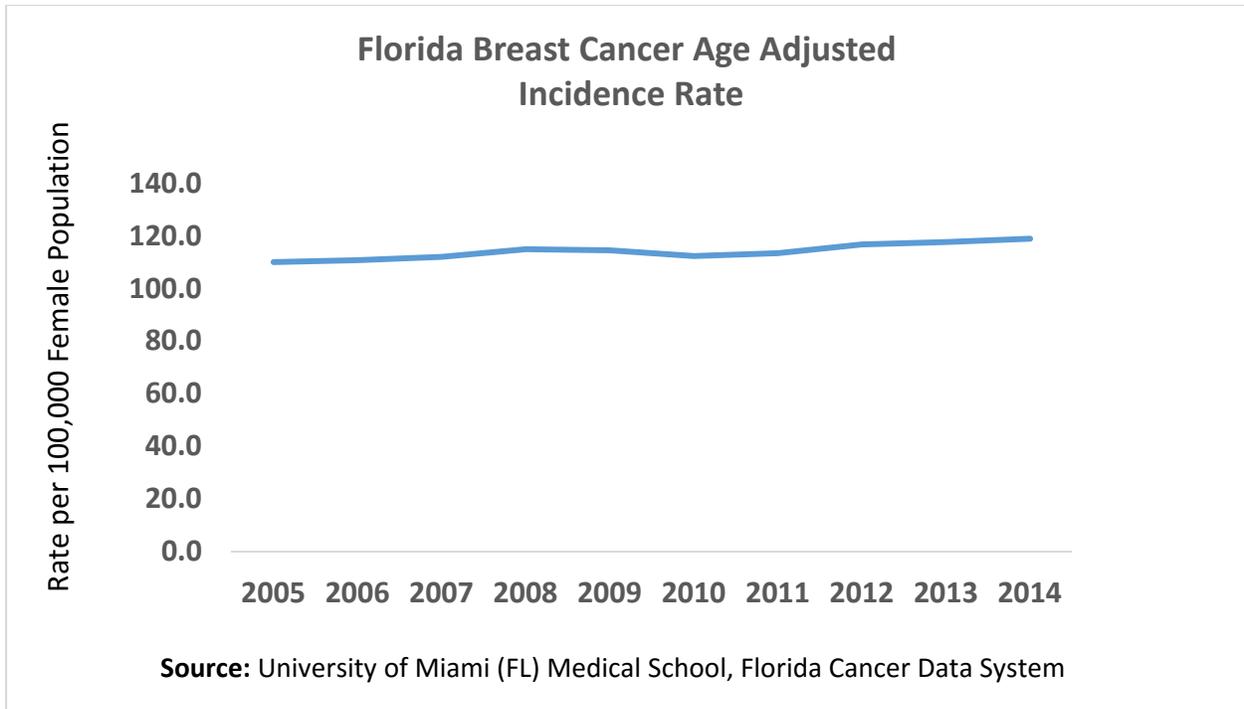


FLHealthCHARTS.com Statistical Brief

Breast Cancer Trends in Florida 2005 - 2014

In 2014 there were 54,138 new female cancer cases reported to the Florida Cancer Registry; 15,570 (29%) of these were breast cancer cases. Graph 1 below shows the age adjusted female Breast cancer rates for the years 2005 through 2014.

Graph 1

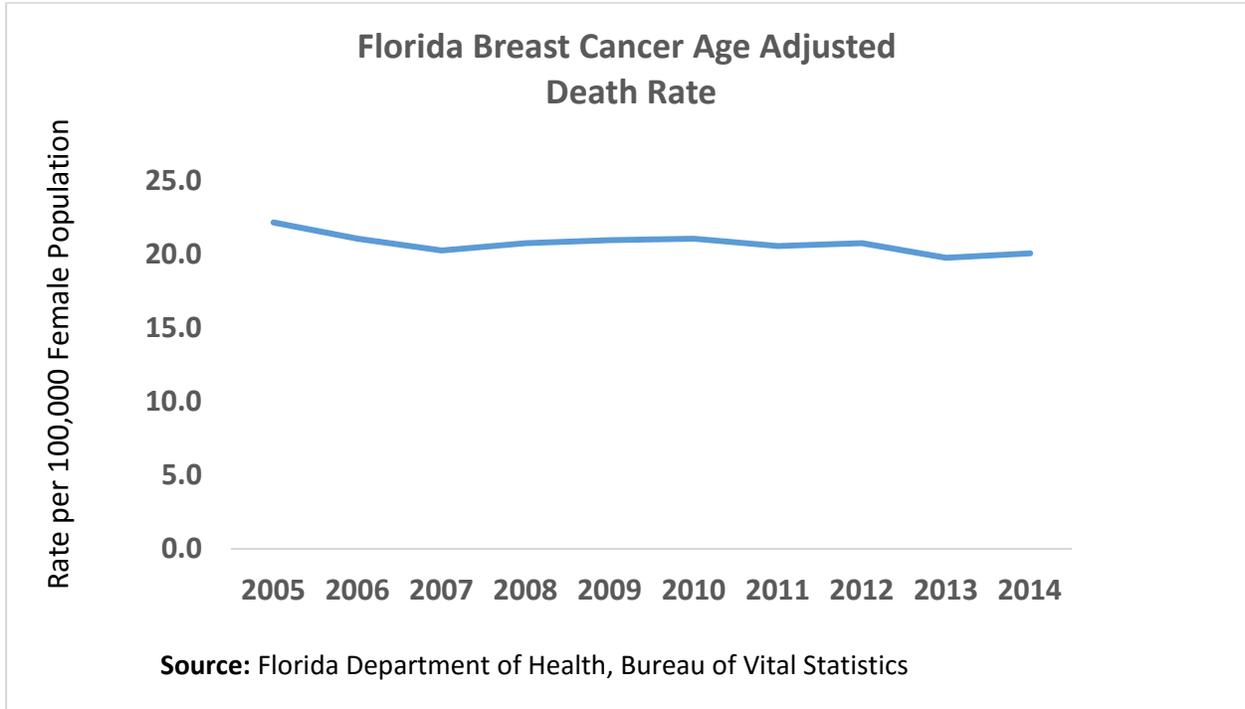


For the 10-year period shown in Graph 1 there is a statistically significant increasing trend with an average annual percent change of 0.77% (95% CI: 0.47% to 1.08%).

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Also in 2014 2,862 females died from breast cancer. Graph 2 below shows the age adjusted female breast cancer death rates for the years 2005 through 2014.

Graph 2



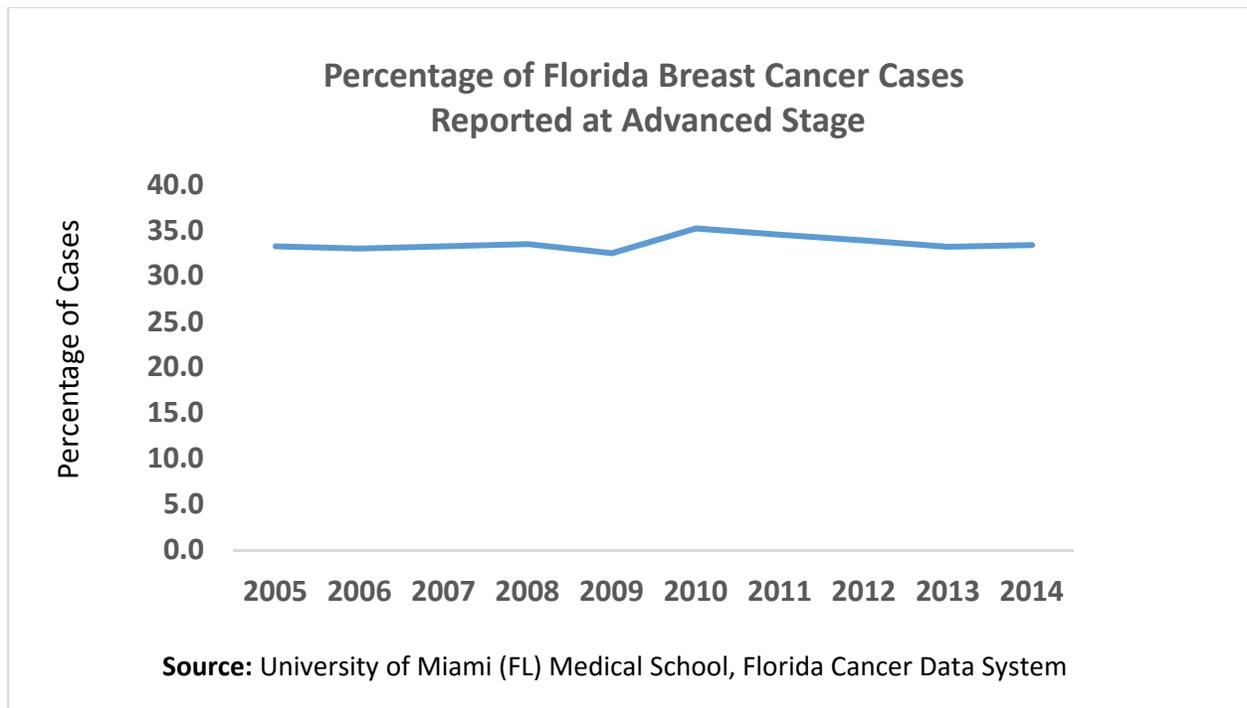
For the 10-year period shown in Graph 2 there is a statistically significant decreasing trend with an average annual percent change of -0.75% (95% CI: -0.132% to -0.17%).

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The percentage of female breast cancer cases diagnosed at an advanced stage was 33.3% in 2005 and 33.4% in 2014. According to the Florida Cancer Data System: “Advanced-stage cancer is categorized as regional stage cancer or distant stage cancer. Regional stage cancer is defined as cancer that has spread beyond the primary (original) site to nearby lymph nodes, organs, or tissues. Distant stage cancer refers to cancer that has spread from the primary site to distant organs or distant lymph nodes. “

Graph 3 below shows the percentage of breast cancer cases diagnosed at an advanced stage for the years 2005 through 2014.

Graph 3

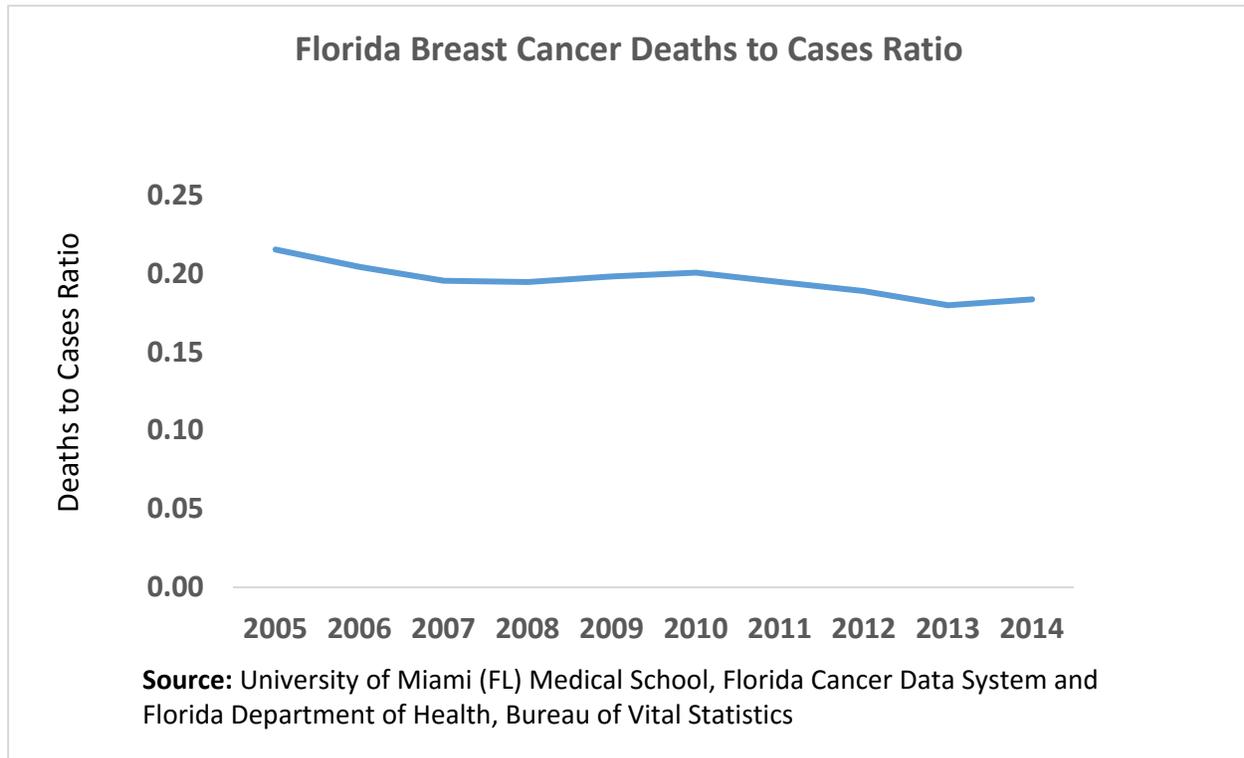


There was some variation in these years but there was no consistent trend up or down for the 10-year period.

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The deaths to cases ratio has declined from 0.216 in 2005 to 0.184 in 2014. Graph 4 below shows the deaths to cases ratio for breast cancer for the years 2005 through 2014.

Graph 4



For the 10-year period shown in Graph 4 there is a statistically significant decreasing trend with an average annual percent change of -1.50% (95% CI: -2.14% to -0.85%).

Discussion

These graphs and statistics indicate that breast cancer incidence rates are increasing while breast cancer death rates are decreasing. These trends are not due to the increasing population in the older age groups because the rates are adjusted for age. Changes in the age-adjusted rates across the years are not influenced by changes in the age distribution. One conclusion supported by the data is treatment for breast cancer is improving. This would explain why the death rates are decreasing while the incidence rates are increasing. This can also be seen in the statistically significant decreasing trend for the deaths to cases ratio.

Another conclusion supported by the data is early detection of breast cancer is not improving. This can be seen in the graph of the percentage of breast cancers reported at an advanced stage. This percentage fluctuated up and down over the 2005 to 2014 time period but the overall trend was flat. The percentage in 2005 was 33.3% and in 2014 it was 33.4%.