US cancer death rates fall for 26th year in a row. 2.2% marks largest single-year drop

The rate of people dying from cancer in the United States continued to decline for the 26th year in a row, according to a new American Cancer Society report.

From 2016 to 2017, the United States saw its largest-ever single-year drop in overall cancer deaths, a 2.2% plunge spurred in part by a sharp decline in lung cancer deaths, according to the report, published [January 8] in [CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians.](#)

…

An analysis of the data showed that, since its peak of about 215 cancer deaths for every 100,000 people in 1991, the cancer death rate in the United States has continued to fall.
The report found an overall drop of 29% as of 2017, which translates into an estimated 2.9 million fewer cancer deaths than what would have occurred if death rates had remained at their peak, according to the report.

…

Heart disease remains the leading cause of death in the United States, and cancer ranks as the second leading cause of death in the United States. The report noted that declines in death due to four major cancers — lung, breast, prostate and colorectal — reflect the progress that has been made against the disease.

Read full, original post: [US cancer death rate sees largest-ever single-year drop, report says](#)