

Federal Investment in Cancer Prevention & Early Detection

CDC's Colorectal Cancer Control Program

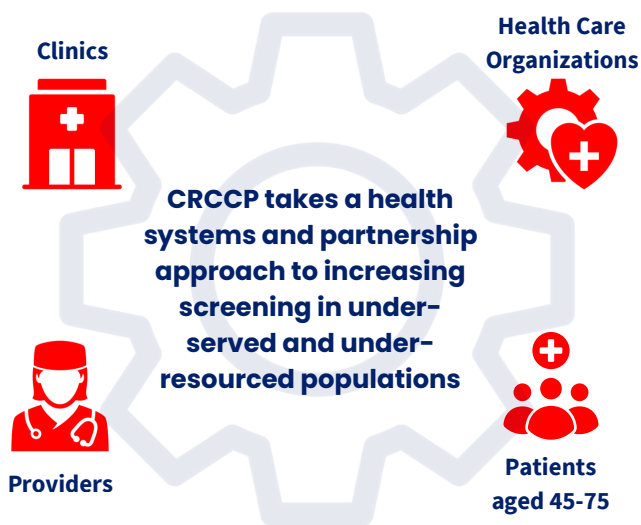


The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) calls on **Congress to fund the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) lifesaving Colorectal Cancer Control Program (CRCCP) at \$51 million in FY 2027.**

The Colorectal Cancer Control Program saves lives by preventing or detecting cancer sooner when it is easier and less expensive to treat.

The CRCCP takes a health systems approach by partnering with clinics and health systems to implement evidence-based strategies that increase colorectal cancer screening in high-need populations. CRCCP currently funds 38 recipients, including 21 state health departments, eight universities, three tribal organizations, and six other organizations such as primary care associations.¹

CRCCP Health Systems Approach



Among clinics participating in the CRCCP for at least two years, screening rates increased by an average of 5 percentage points, translating to 59,225 additional patients up to date with colorectal cancer screening in the most recent year. Each year, CRCCP partners reach an average of 542 clinics and nearly 718,114 screening-eligible patients.¹

Colorectal Cancer in the US

- **The CRC landscape in the United States is shifting:** Mortality and incidence are now rising among adults under age 65.²
- Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in the United States for men and women combined. Among people under age 50, it is now the leading cause of cancer-related death.³
- An estimated 158,850 men and women will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer in 2026, and approximately 55,230 people are expected to die from the disease, nearly one third of whom are under age 65.²
- Almost 80% of the 940,000 colorectal cancer deaths averted between 1975 and 2020 were due to prevention and/or screening efforts.⁴

Importance of CRC Screening

- **Many colorectal cancer cases and deaths are preventable** with timely screening, follow-up, and prompt diagnostic care.²
- CRC screening lowers mortality by removing precancerous lesions and detecting early-stage cancer; colonoscopy is associated with about 40% lower incidence and about 60% lower mortality.²
- Overall CRC screening rates are 65%, but rates drop considerably among uninsured individuals (25%) and those with incomes below the poverty line (51%).²
- Increasing colorectal cancer screening to 70% among adults 50-64 could reduce Medicare spending by \$14 billion by 2050.⁴