Quick Facts
Colorectal Cancer (CRC) Screening in Puerto Rico
Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System - 2016

CRC screening test use* in Puerto Rico has increased since 2012.
In 2016, 57.1% of age-eligible residents had a current CRC screening test. While overall screening test use increased, it remained significantly below the national average. Screening occurred more frequently in men, people who were insured, and people aged 65 to 75, who were likely insured by Medicare.

CRC screening test use, by race/ethnicity:
- Hispanic/Latinos (57.2%)
- Data not available for African Americans or whites.

CRC screening test use, by insurance status:
- Insured (50.6%)
- Uninsured (24.5%)

CRC screening test use, by sex:
- 2012 – 53.1%
- 2014 – 52.6%
- 2016 – 55.6%

CRC screening test use, by age:
- 50 to 64 Years (49.1%)
- 65 to 75 Years (73.1%)

Men and women aged 65 to 75 years were eligible for Medicare insurance.

*Proportion of people who reported completing a screening test for CRC among all people who could be screened based on age (50 – 75 years).
People who were current with CRC screening in 2016 either received a home-based blood stool test within the past year; a colonoscopy within the past 10 years; or sigmoidoscopy within the past 5 years combined with a blood stool test within in the past 3 years (2008 US Preventive Services Task Force Recommendations).

Footnotes:
Prevalence of screening test use account for the differences in age among states; estimates based on small numbers not shown. The U.S. CRC screening test use prevalence estimate excludes Puerto Rico.
Population estimates for states and D.C. are from CDC’s National Center for Health Statistics (released 6/26/2017).
Available on CDC WONDER
Population estimates for Puerto Rico are from the U.S. Census Bureau. Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2016 (Release Date: June 2017).

Factors that affect CRC screening:
Data on factors—such as poverty, educational level, and insurance status—that affect who gets CRC screening tests are available at statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov

CRC Screening Info and Resources:
PR Comprehensive Cancer Control Center
www.cdc.gov/cancer/ncccp
www.cdc.gov/cancer/crccp

Learn more about CRC incidence and mortality at CDC’s Cancer Data Visualizations Tool.