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# About Thyroid Cancer

- Thyroid cancer is the most common endocrine cancer.
- It occurs in all age groups, mainly adults. It affects about three times as many women as men.
- Its incidence has increased in recent years—by about 3% per 100,000 people per year. It's the #1 cancer in incidence growth in women and #3 in men.
- There are several types—papillary, follicular, medullary, anaplastic, and variants.
- An estimated 23,600 people, including 17,640 women and 5,960 men will be diagnosed with thyroid cancer in 2004 in the United States, according to the American Cancer Society. About 840 women and 620 men (1,460 total) will die of thyroid cancer in 2004.

## Signs to discuss with your physician

- You feel a lump in your neck, or your doctor may notice a nodule in your neck during a routine checkup. Most of these thyroid nodules are benign (noncancerous).
- Some people first notice lymph node swellings, fullness in the neck, voice changes, or difficulty breathing or swallowing.

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### **ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, Inc.**<sup>SM</sup>

An all-volunteer, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization of thyroid cancer survivors, family members, and health care professionals

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