

North America Cancer Drugs Market Size and Forecast (2021 - 2031)

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Abstracts

The North America Cancer Drugs Market is projected to grow significantly, reaching an estimated US\$ 236,258.0 million by 2031, up from US\$ 104,234.6 million in 2024. This growth reflects a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 12.5% from 2025 to 2031.

Executive Summary and Market Analysis

The North America cancer drugs market is primarily divided into three regions: the United States, Canada, and Mexico. The United States, in particular, has a high incidence of cancer, largely due to its aging population, which is more susceptible to various forms of the disease. The increasing number of cancer diagnoses is driving the demand for advanced treatment options and innovative therapeutics. The focus on oncology innovation is evident, with significant breakthroughs presented at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) 2025 conference. Notable advancements included the drug Imfinzi (durvalumab), which demonstrated improved survival rates in early gastric cancer surgeries, and personalized exercise regimens that outperformed oxaliplatin in preventing colon cancer recurrence.

Leading pharmaceutical companies such as Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS), AstraZeneca, Merck (Keytruda), Pfizer, Roche, AbbVie, and Novartis are at the forefront of research and development in areas such as checkpoint inhibitors, antibody-drug conjugates (ADCs), CAR T-cell therapies, and radiopharmaceuticals. For instance, AbbVie's ADC TelisoV targets solid tumors like non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), reflecting the industry's shift towards ADC-driven growth.

Strategic Insights

Market Segmentation

The North America Cancer Drugs Market can be segmented based on therapy types, indications, and distribution channels:

By Therapy Types: The market is categorized into Chemotherapy, Targeted Therapy, Immunotherapy, Hormonal Therapy, and Other Therapy Types. In 2024, the Targeted Therapy segment was the market leader.

By Indications: The market is divided into Blood Cancer, Lung Cancer, Breast Cancer, Colorectal Cancer, Prostate Cancer, Stomach Cancer, Cervical Cancer, Liver and Intrahepatic Bile Ducts Cancer, Thyroid Cancer, and Other Indications. The Other Indications segment led the market in 2024.

By Distribution Channel: The market is segmented into Hospital Pharmacies, Retail Pharmacies, and Online Stores, with Hospital Pharmacies dominating in 2024.

Market Outlook

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), various types of cancer account for approximately one in every six deaths globally. In 2022, there were around 20 million new cancer cases and 9.7 million cancer-related deaths. This burden is expected to rise by about 77% by 2050, placing additional strain on healthcare systems and communities. The American Cancer Society notes that inherited genes account for 5-10% of all cancers, with the highest incidence rates found in Australia, North America, New Zealand, and Northern Europe. Mortality rates are disproportionately higher in low Human Development Index (HDI) countries due to limited access to screening and care.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women, with increasing prevalence worldwide. According to Breastcancer.org, approximately 1 in 8 women in the U.S. (around 13%) will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer in their lifetime. In 2022, there were 2.3 million women diagnosed with breast cancer globally, resulting in 670,000 deaths. The rapid advancements in the biopharmaceutical sector have led to the development of numerous innovative drugs that effectively target cancer cells while sparing normal cells. Additionally, there is growing public awareness regarding the availability of advanced cancer treatments, which is expected to further stimulate market growth.

The rising incidence of lung cancer is a significant driver of the cancer drugs market, particularly in 2023. Lung cancer is one of the most prevalent and lethal cancers, accounting for about 25% of all cancer deaths. The American Cancer Society estimated that in 2023, approximately 238,000 new lung cancer cases would be diagnosed in the U.S., with around 127,000 deaths attributed to the disease. Nearly half of these cases are diagnosed at advanced stages, where the five-year survival rate drops to 29%, highlighting the urgent need for more effective treatment options. While smoking remains the primary risk factor for about 85% of lung cancer cases, there is a growing incidence among non-smokers, driven by factors such as air pollution. This trend underscores the need for treatments that target adenocarcinoma and other subtypes not linked to tobacco exposure.

Advancements in early detection and precision medicine are crucial in addressing the challenges posed by lung cancer. The development of targeted therapies, immunotherapies, and combination treatments has improved survival rates and quality of life for patients. In 2023, new drugs like Tagrisso (osimertinib) for EGFR-mutant NSCLC and ongoing clinical trials of novel immune checkpoint inhibitors are reshaping the treatment landscape. Immunotherapy has shown promising results, with drugs such as Keytruda (pembrolizumab) and Opdivo (nivolumab) significantly enhancing patient outcomes by leveraging the body's immune system to combat cancer.

Country Insights

The North America Cancer Drugs Market is further segmented by country, with the United States holding the largest market share in 2024. According to the American Cancer Society, over 1.9 million new cancer cases were diagnosed in the U.S. in 2022, resulting in approximately 610,000 deaths. The number of cancer diagnoses is expected to reach around 2.0 million in 2024. Common cancers include breast, prostate, lung, colorectal, and melanoma. The rising cancer incidence is driving the demand for innovative treatments, including targeted therapies and immunotherapies. Major industry players such as Roche, Pfizer, Novartis, Merck, Bristol-Myers Squibb, AbbVie, Lilly, AstraZeneca, and Johnson & Johnson are leading the market through robust pipelines and strategic mergers and acquisitions.

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