



# THE RAPIDES FOUNDATION

## Cancer Screening Project

Most cancers are easier to treat when they are found in their earlier stages. Doctors find cancers when they are small and normally undetectable by using screening tests such as mammography, blood tests, CT scans and other tests. Doctors recommend screening tests when a person shows no sign of cancer because these tests can detect cancer before symptoms develop.

**Cancer screening rates in TRF service area are below the national screening targets. The Rapides Foundation's goal is to promote the early detection of cancer among adults in TRF service area.**

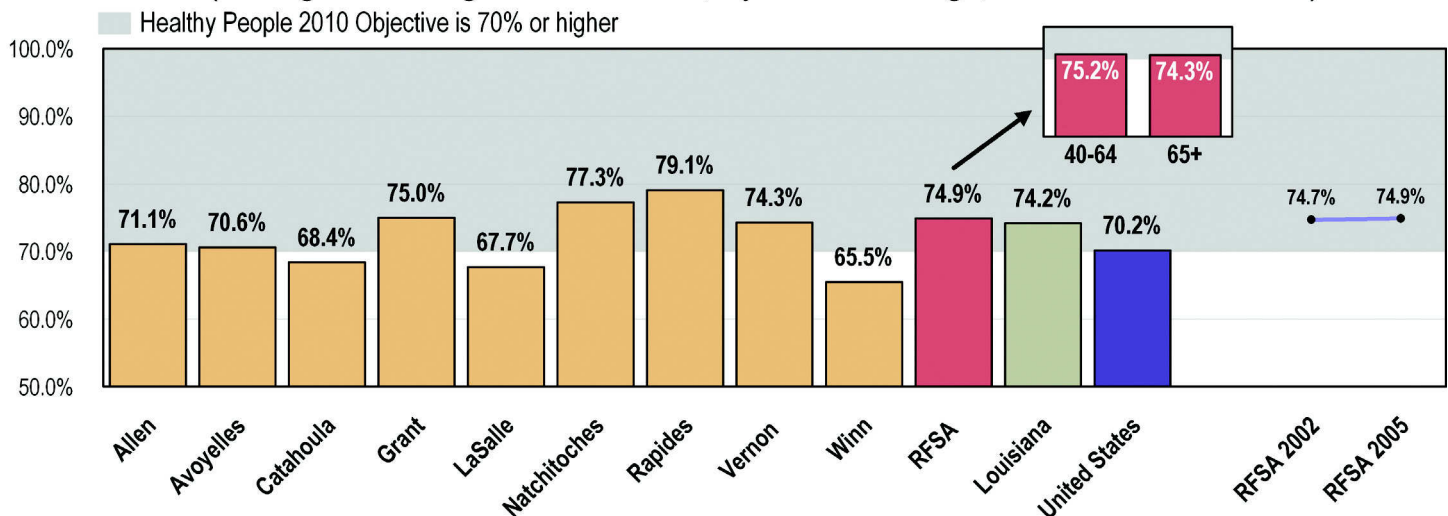
A cancer screening project is now under way to foster more widespread adoption of screening practices and reach underserved and uninsured populations. To create and sustain long-term change, the project is focusing on parish-by-parish needs and priorities, community partnerships and evidence-based approaches to increased screening. Key components include community leadership, partnering with health care providers, community education, media outreach, low/no cost screening and a lay health advisor program.

**Less than 75% of women age 40 and older have had a mammogram within the past two years.**

- Similar to the national prevalence of 70.2%
- **TREND:** This year's proportion is not statistically different from 2002 data

### Have Had A Mammogram In The Past Two Years

(Among Women Aged 40 And Older; By Parish And Age; 2002-2005 Trend Data)



Source for all charts: The Rapides Foundation 2005 Community Health Assessment, which can be found at [www.rapidesfoundation.org](http://www.rapidesfoundation.org).



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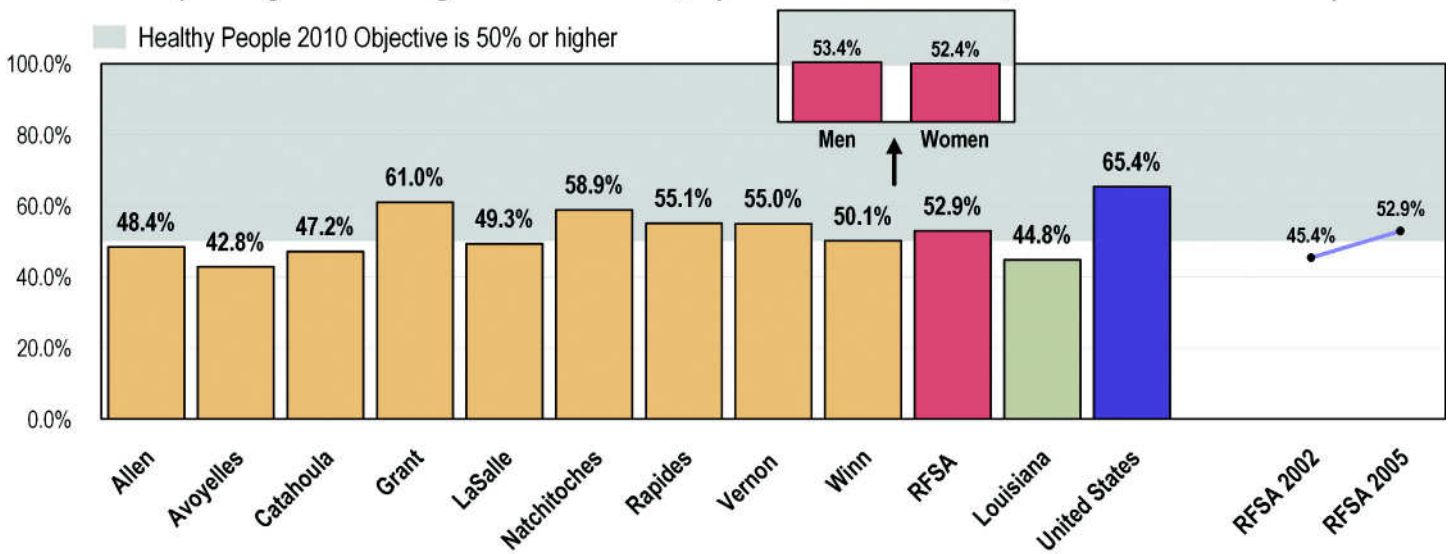
## Cancer Screening Project

Less than 53% of adults age 50 and older have had a colonoscopy at some point in their lives.

- **TREND:** Marks a statistically significant increase from 45.5% reported in 2002

### Have Ever Had A Sigmoidoscopy/Colonoscopy Examination

(Among Persons Aged 50 And Older; By Parish And Gender; 2002-2005 Trend Data)



Less than 79% of women age 18 and older have had a Pap smear within in the past three years.

- **TREND:** The current proportion marks a statistically significant decrease from 2002

### Have Had A Pap Smear Within The Past Three Years

(Among Women Aged 18 And Older; By Parish And Age; 2002-2005 Trend Data)

