

Brain Stem Glioma - Childhood - Statistics [1]

This section has been reviewed and approved by the [Cancer.Net Editorial Board \[2\]](#), 05/2016

ON THIS PAGE: You will find information about how many children are diagnosed with brain stem glioma each year. You will also learn some general information on surviving the disease. Remember, survival rates depend on several factors. To see other pages, use the menu.

Approximately 4,000 CNS tumors are diagnosed each year in children younger than 20. After leukemia, CNS tumors are the second most common childhood cancer, accounting for about 26% of cancer in children younger than 15. Between 10% to 20% of all childhood brain tumors are brain stem gliomas.

The survival rate tells you what percent of people live a certain number of years after the cancer is found. Percent means how many out of 100. The survival rate for children with brain stem glioma varies depending on the location of the tumor. Long-term survival rates for children with a tumor in the midbrain or the medulla oblongata range from 65% to 90%. However, a pontine glioma, which is a tumor located in the pons, is more difficult to treat and often worsens quickly. The survival rates are low for this type of tumor, around less than 5%.

It is important to remember that statistics on how many children survive this type of cancer are an estimate. The estimate comes from data based on children with this cancer in the United States each year. So, your own child's risk may be different. Doctors cannot say for sure how long any child will live with brain stem glioma. Also, experts measure the survival statistics in multi-year intervals. This means that the estimate may not show the results of better diagnosis or recent available treatments. Learn more about [understanding statistics \[3\]](#).

Statistics adapted from the American Cancer Society and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

The [next section in this guide is Medical Illustrations \[4\]](#). It offers drawings of body parts often

affected by this disease. Or, use the menu to choose another section to continue reading this guide.

Links

[1] <http://www.cancer.net/cancer-types/brain-stem-glioma-childhood/statistics>

[2] <http://www.cancer.net/about-us>

[3] <http://www.cancer.net/node/24961>

[4] <http://www.cancer.net/node/18550>