Estimated age-standardised rates (World) in the world (per 100 000)

At a glance

Lung cancer has been the most common cancer overall for several decades. In 2012, worldwide, there are estimated to have been 1.8 million new cases (12.9% of all incident cancer cases), 58% of which occurred in the less developed regions. The disease remains the most common cancer in men worldwide, with 1.2 million cases estimated to have occurred in men in 2012 (16.7% of the total number of all incident cancer cases in men). The highest estimated 2012 age-standardized incidence rates in men (per 100 000 men) were in central and eastern Europe (53.5 cases) and eastern Asia (50.4 cases). Notably low incidence rates in men are estimated in central and western Africa (2.0 cases and 1.7 cases, respectively). In women, the incidence rates are generally lower, and the geographical pattern is slightly different, mainly reflecting different historical exposure to tobacco smoking. The highest estimated 2012 incidence rates in women (per 100 000 women) are in North America (33.8 cases) and northern Europe (23.7 cases), with a relatively high rate in eastern Asia (19.2 cases) and the lowest rates in western and central Africa (1.1 cases and 0.8 cases, respectively).

Lung cancer is also the most common cause of death from cancer worldwide, estimated to be responsible for nearly 1 in 5 cancer deaths (1.59 million deaths, 19.4% of the total number of cancer deaths in 2012). Because of lung cancer’s high rate of fatality (the overall ratio of mortality to incidence is 0.87) and the relative lack of variability in survival in different world regions, the geographical patterns in lung cancer mortality closely follow those in lung cancer incidence.
<table>
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Estimated age-standardized rates (World) of incidence cases, males, lung cancer, worldwide in 2012

Data source: GLOBOCAN 2012
Graph production: IARC
(http://gco.iarc.fr/today)
World Health Organization

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* Regional data
NORDCAN (www.ancr.nu)
ECO (eco.iarc.fr)
England: www.ons.gov.uk

* Regional data
CI5.iarc.fr

* Regional data
Australia: www.aih.gov.au
New Zealand: www.health.govt.nz
USA: seer.cancer.gov
Estimated age-standardized rates (World) of deaths, males, lung cancer, worldwide in 2012

Data source: GLOBOCAN 2012
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WHO (www.who.int/healthinfo/en/)
Estimated age-standardized rates (World) of incidence cases, females, lung cancer, worldwide in 2012

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