Liver cancer is the fifth most common cancer in men and the ninth most common cancer in women, and it is largely a problem of the less developed regions. In 2012, worldwide, there are estimated to have been 782 000 new cases, with 83% of these cases occurring in less developed regions (50% in China alone). Of this total number of incident cases, 554 000 occurred in men (accounting for 7.5% of all incident cancer cases in men) and 228 000 occurred in women (accounting for 3.4% of all incident cancer cases in women). In men, the highest estimated 2012 age-standardized incidence rates (per 100 000 population) are in eastern and south-eastern Asia (with 31.9 and 22.2 cases, respectively). Intermediate rates are estimated in southern Europe (9.5 cases) and North America (9.3 cases), and the lowest estimated rates are in northern Europe (4.6 cases) and south-central Asia (3.7 cases). In women, the incidence is generally much lower, with the highest estimated 2012 rates in eastern Asia and western Africa (10.2 and 8.1 cases, respectively) and the lowest in northern Europe (1.9 cases) and Micronesia (1.6 cases).

Liver cancer is the second most common cause of death from cancer worldwide, estimated to have been responsible for nearly 746 000 deaths in 2012 (9.1% of all cancer deaths that year). The prognosis for liver cancer is very poor (with an overall ratio of mortality to incidence of 0.95), so the geographical patterns in incidence and mortality are very similar.
Estimated incidence, mortality and prevalence (5 years) worldwide in 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated numbers</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>5-year-prev</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
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Estimated age-standardized rates (World) of incidence cases, males, liver cancer, worldwide in 2012

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

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Estimated age-standardized rates (World) of incidence cases, males, liver cancer, worldwide in 2012

* 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 incidence cases, females, liver cancer, worldwide in 2012

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

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Estimated age-standardized rates (World) of incidence cases, females, liver cancer, worldwide in 2012

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

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