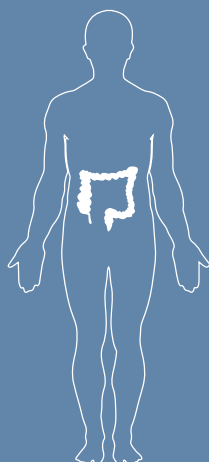




European Commission



Colorectal cancer burden in EU-27

Colorectal cancer is a malignant tumour that forms in the tissues of the colon (the longest part of the large intestine) or of the rectum (the final part of the digestive tract). Colon cancer and rectal cancer are often grouped together because they have many features in common.

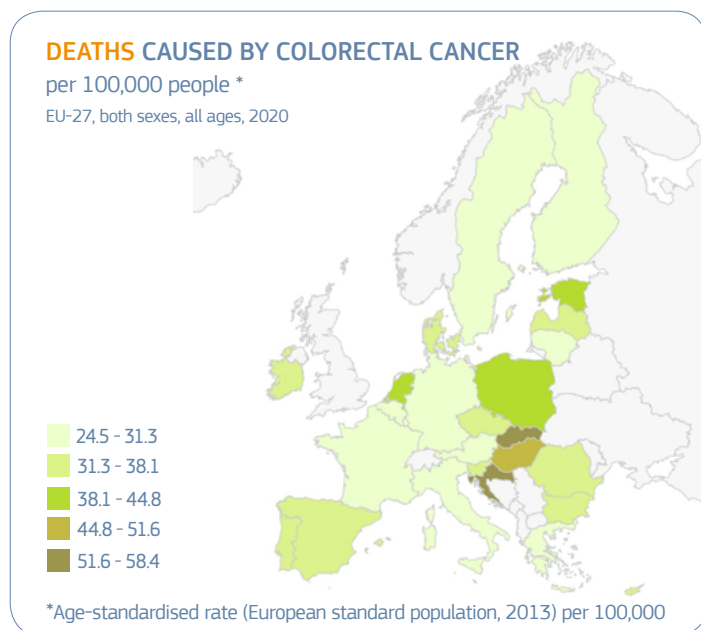
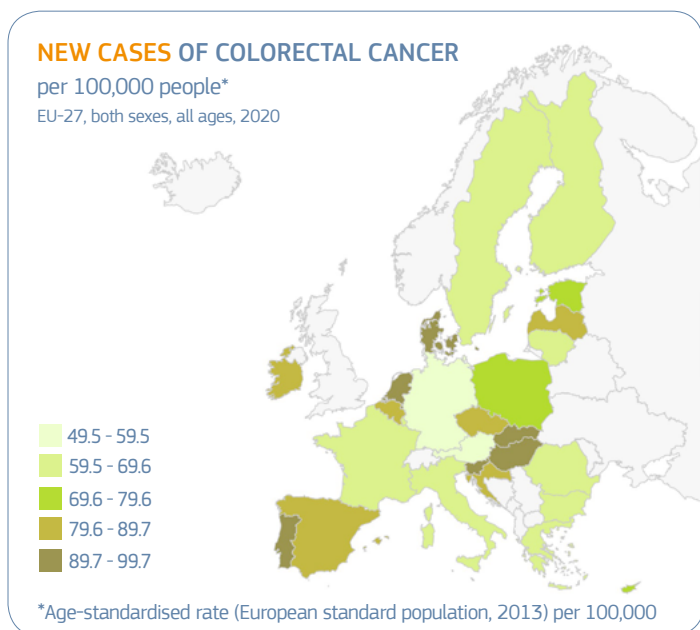
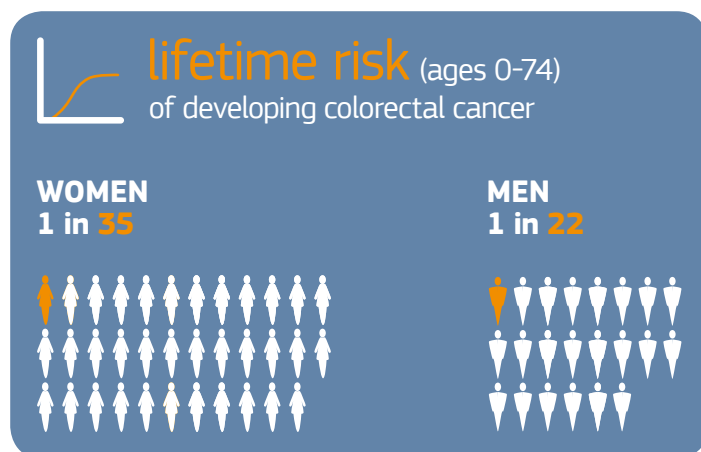
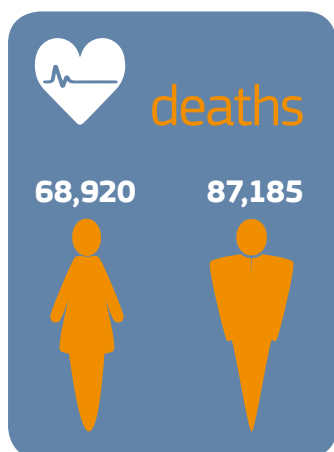
It is estimated that, in EU-27 countries in **2020**, colorectal cancer accounted for **12.7%** of all new cancer diagnoses and **12.4%** of all deaths due to cancer. That made it the second most frequently occurring cancer (after breast cancer) and the second cause of cancer death (after lung cancer).

Source: ECIS – European Cancer Information System

<https://ecis.jrc.ec.europa.eu>, accessed 15/01/2021

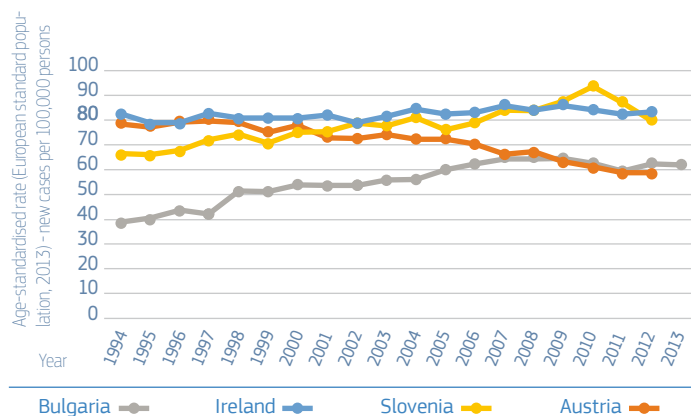
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2020 new cases (incidence) and deaths (mortality) estimates

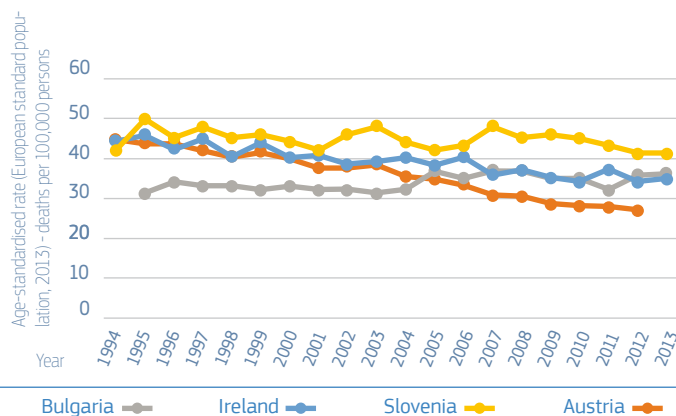


TEMPORAL TRENDS IN SELECTED COUNTRIES

NEW CASES OF COLORECTAL CANCER (all ages, per 100,000 persons)



DEATHS CAUSED BY COLORECTAL CANCER (all ages, per 100,000 persons)

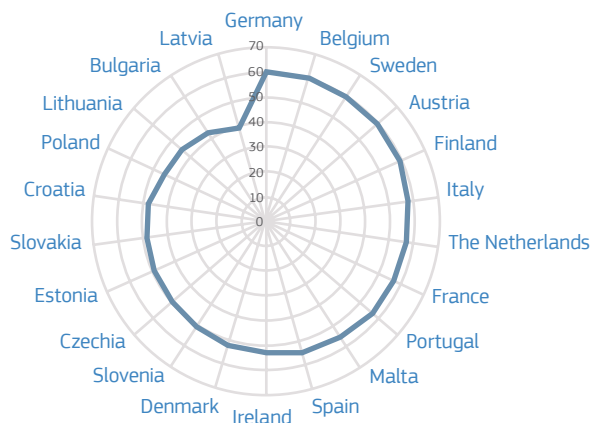


The examples (one from each European region: Central and Eastern, Northern, Southern, Western) are selected from available incidence and mortality time series of at least 20 years, from the ECIS web application archive, complemented with official mortality statistics from EUROSTAT (HLTH_CD_ASDR, HLTH_CD_ASDR2) for Slovenia and Bulgaria, for the same period.

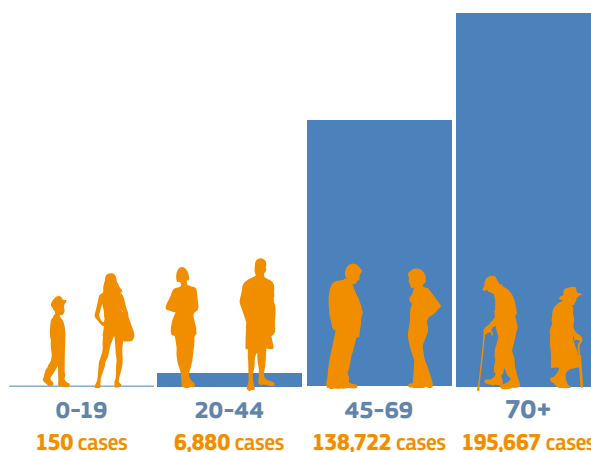
COLORECTAL CANCER SURVIVAL

Ages >15, cancers diagnosed in 2000-2007

Percentage of people who survived at least 5 years after diagnosis



ESTIMATED DISTRIBUTION OF NEW CASES OF COLORECTAL CANCER IN 2020 – BY AGE GROUP



HIGHLIGHTS

- Colorectal cancer is the third most diagnosed cancer in men (after prostate and lung cancers) and the second one in women (after breast cancer). It is the second cause of cancer death in men (after lung cancer) and the third one in women (after breast and lung cancers).
- Estimated colorectal cancer incidence and mortality rates in 2020 vary two-fold across EU-27.
- The overall colorectal cancer trends are increasing for incidence and decreasing for mortality, but there are national and regional exceptions and large variability among EU-27 countries.
- The five-year survival of colorectal cancer patients diagnosed in 2000-2007 is highest in Western Europe and lowest in some countries of Eastern Europe.
- National differences can in part be explained by differing levels of healthcare expenditure and the resulting quality of screening, diagnosis, and treatment.

Grateful acknowledgement is given to the European cancer registries as the data source for the indicators reported in the **European Cancer Information System (ECIS)**.

This factsheet is part of a series that reports information from ECIS for all cancer sites.

For details, or to find other cancer factsheets, please visit: <https://ecis.jrc.ec.europa.eu> or scan this QR code:



<https://cancer-code-europe.iarc.fr>



In collaboration with IARC, IACR, and EUROCORE