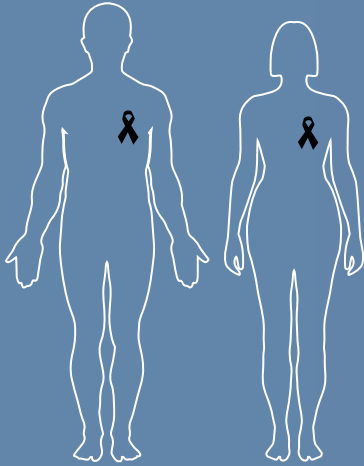




European Commission



Skin melanoma burden in EU-27

Skin melanoma is a type of skin cancer that develops when melanocytes (the cells that give the skin its tan or brown colour) start to grow out of control.

Exposure to ultraviolet radiation emitted naturally from the sun or from artificial sources such as tanning devices is the main cause of skin melanoma. The skin phenotype also plays an important role, with higher risk for fair-skinned persons.

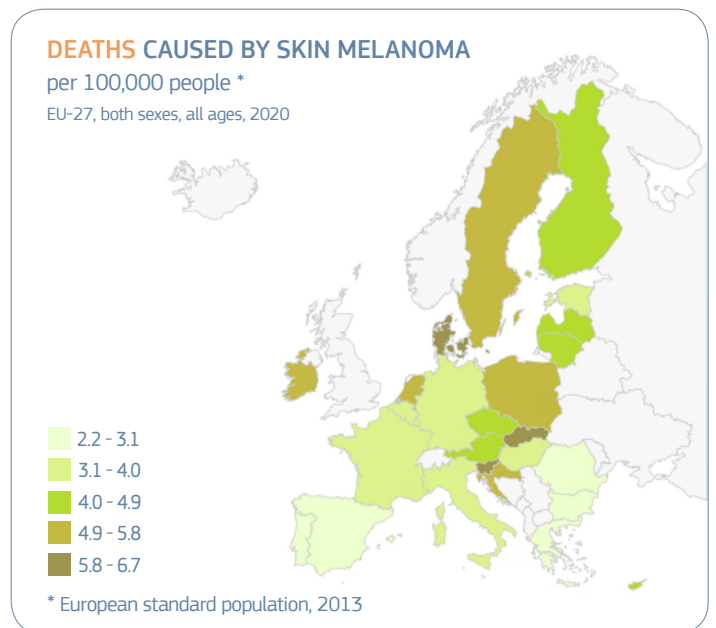
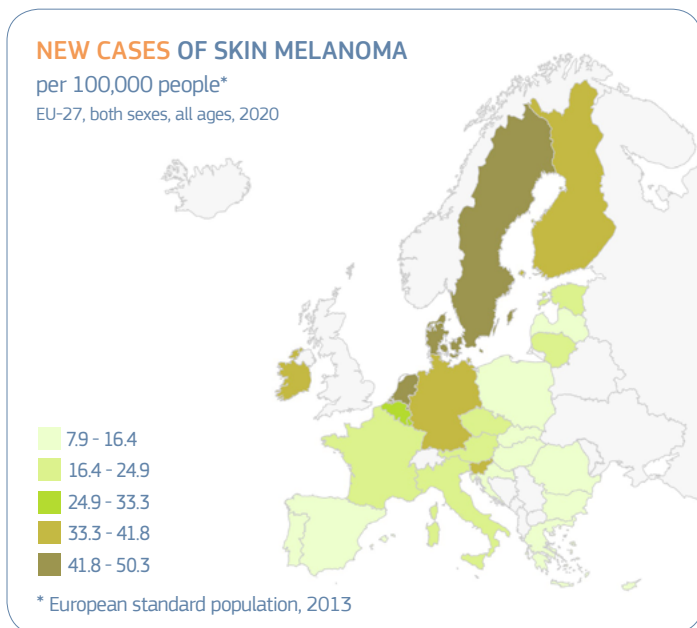
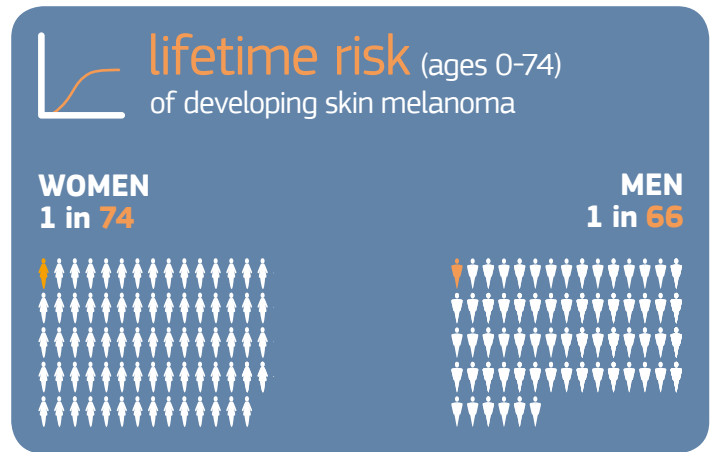
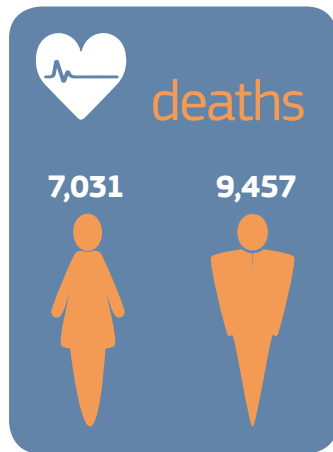
It is estimated that skin melanoma accounted for **4%** of all new cancer diagnoses in EU-27 countries in 2020 (all cancers, excluding non-melanoma skin cancers) and for **1.3%** of all deaths due to cancer. This made it the sixth most frequently occurring cancer (after breast, colorectal, prostate, lung, and bladder cancers) and one of the 20 most frequent causes of cancer death.

Source: ECIS – European Cancer Information System

<https://ecis.jrc.ec.europa.eu>, accessed 15/05/2021

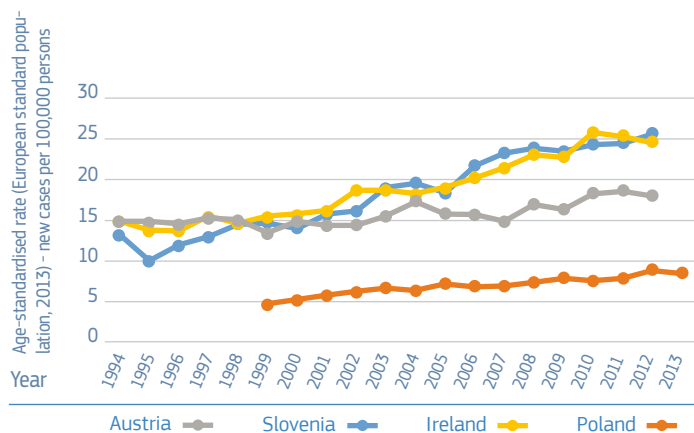
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2020 new cases (incidence) and deaths (mortality) estimates

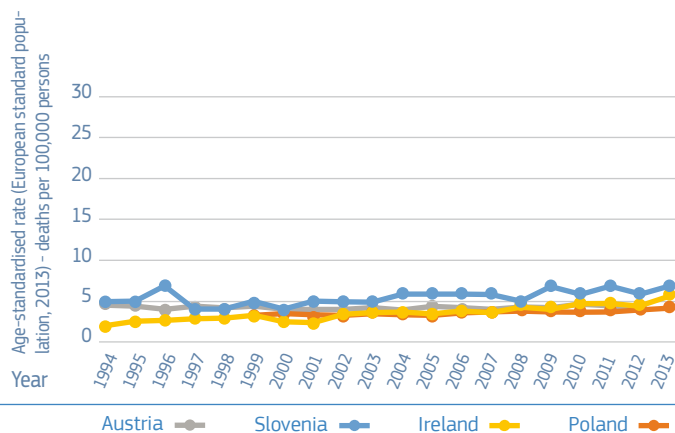


TEMPORAL TRENDS – SELECTED EXAMPLES FROM EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

NEW CASES OF SKIN MELANOMA – all ages, per 100,000 persons



DEATHS CAUSED BY SKIN MELANOMA – all ages, per 100,000 persons

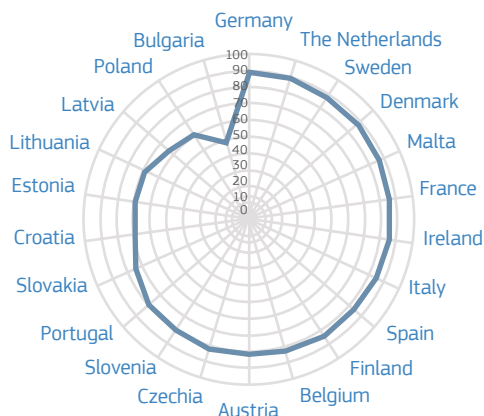


The examples (one from each European region: Central and Eastern, Northern, Southern, Western) are selected from available incidence and mortality time series of at least 20 years, from the ECIS web application archive (<https://ecis.jrc.ec.europa.eu>), complemented with the official mortality statistics from EUROSTAT (HLTH_CD_ASDR, HLTH_CD_ASDR2) for Slovenia.

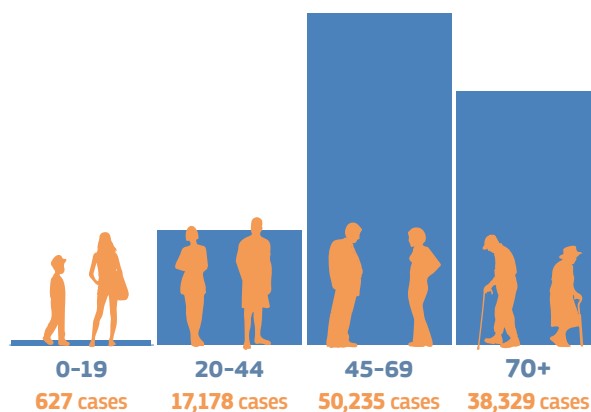
SKIN MELANOMA SURVIVAL

Ages >15, cancers diagnosed in 2000-2007

Percentage of people who survived at least 5 years after diagnosis (in absence of other causes of death except cancer)



ESTIMATED DISTRIBUTION OF NEW CASES OF SKIN MELANOMA IN 2020 – BY AGE GROUP



HIGHLIGHTS

- Skin melanoma is the fifth most diagnosed cancer in both men (after prostate, lung, colorectal and bladder cancers) and women (after breast, colorectal, lung and corpus uteri cancers). It is one of 15 most frequent causes of cancer death, in both sexes.
- Estimated skin melanoma incidence rates in 2020 vary six-fold across EU-27, while mortality rates vary three-fold.
- The overall skin melanoma trends are increasing for both incidence and mortality, but there are national and regional exceptions and large variability among EU-27 countries.
- The five-year survival of skin melanoma patients diagnosed in 2000-2007 is highest in Western Europe and lowest in some Eastern European countries. This in part reflects variations in cancer management 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 EUROCARE