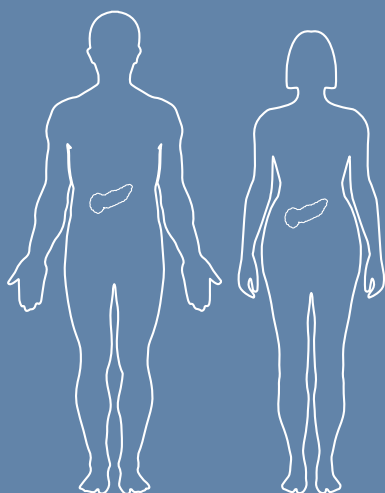




European Commission



## Pancreatic cancer burden in EU-27

The pancreas is a gland located within the abdomen, which produces pancreatic enzymes important for digestion and hormones such as insulin from its endocrine component. Although there are several types of pancreatic cancer, the vast majority of all diagnoses are for adenocarcinoma of the pancreas. The most common type of adenocarcinoma, ductal carcinoma, occurs when cancer cells form in the lining of the ducts in the pancreas.

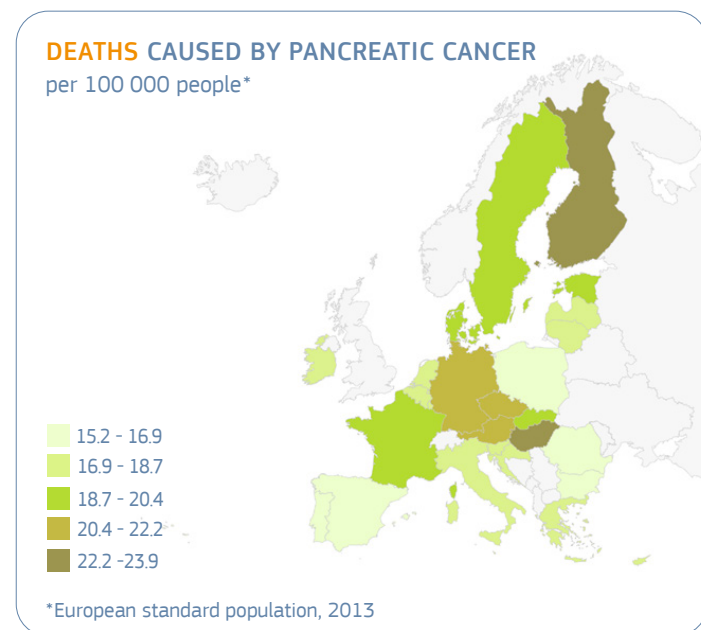
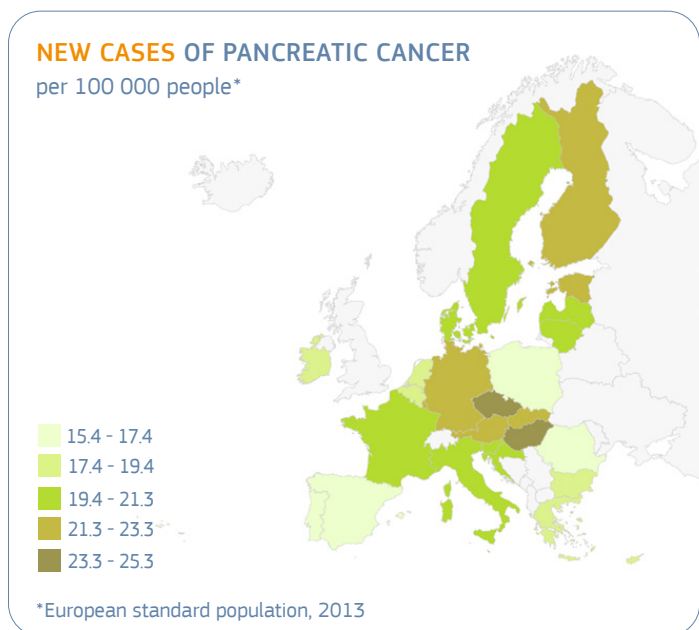
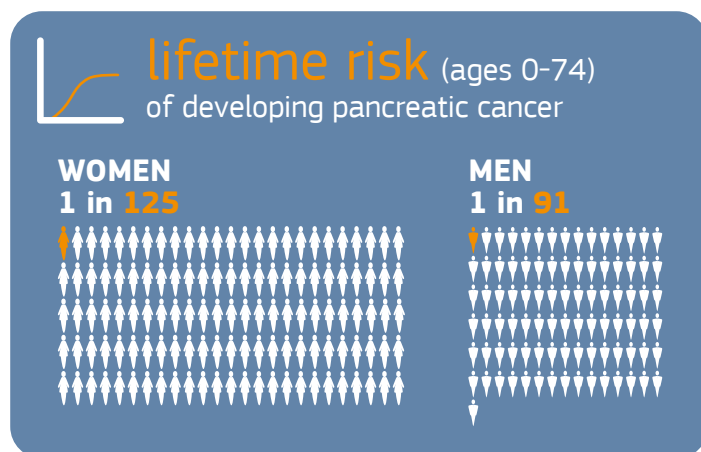
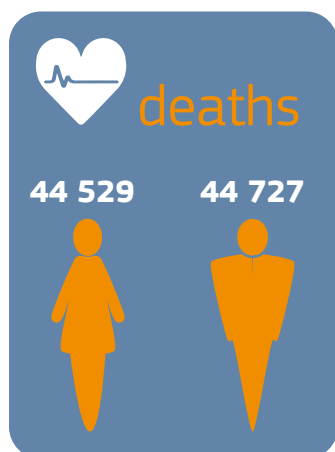
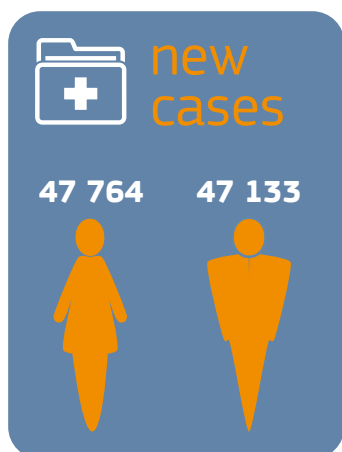
For EU-27 countries it is estimated that pancreatic cancer in 2020 accounted for 3.5% of all new cancer diagnoses (excluding non-melanoma skin cancers) and 7.1% of all deaths due to cancer. That made it the seventh most frequently occurring cancer, and the fourth leading cause of cancer death after lung, colorectal and breast cancer.

Source: ECIS – European Cancer Information System

<https://ecis.jrc.ec.europa.eu>, accessed 01/09/2022

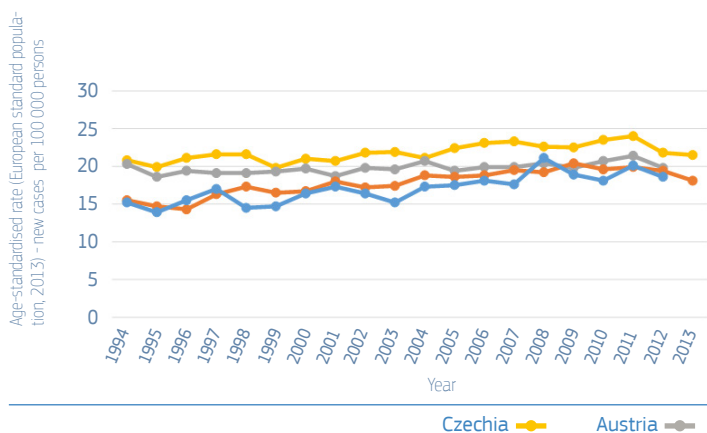
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## 2020 new cases (incidence) and deaths (mortality) estimates

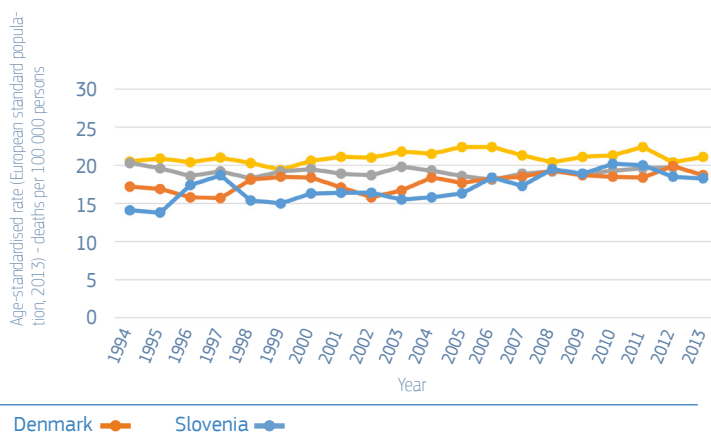


# TEMPORAL TRENDS IN SELECTED COUNTRIES<sup>1</sup>

## NEW CASES OF PANCREATIC CANCER – all ages, per 100 000 people



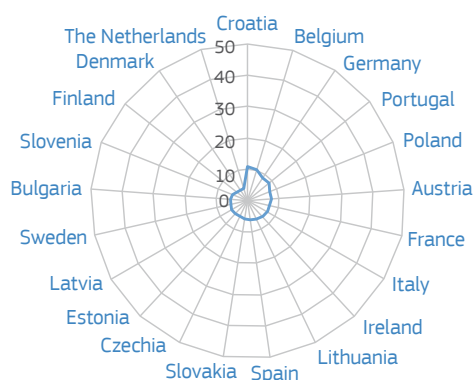
## DEATHS CAUSED BY PANCREATIC CANCER – all ages, per 100 000 people



<sup>1</sup> 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

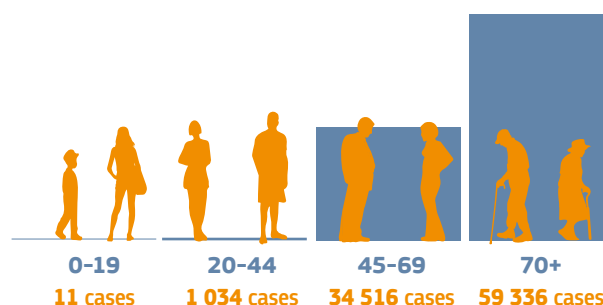
## PANCREATIC CANCER SURVIVAL\*

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)



\* Standardised survival rate is missing for Malta

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



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Pancreatic cancer is one of the leading causes of cancer death. For women pancreatic cancer is the fourth leading cause of cancer death, after breast, lung, and colorectal cancer. For men it is the fourth leading cause of cancer death after lung, colorectal, and prostate cancer.
- The 2020 estimates for pancreatic cancer incidence and mortality, as well as the lifetime risk of developing pancreatic cancer are generally higher for men than for women.
- Incidence and mortality levels are similar across EU countries.
- Temporal trends for pancreatic cancer incidence and mortality have remained steady, with a slight increase in both incidence and mortality in most EU countries.
- The five-year survival is generally low for pancreatic cancer, due to the late occurrence of symptoms and consequently a large proportion of patients with metastatic disease at diagnosis. The variation in the relative survival could be due to several factors, such as differences in treatment protocol and (in)completeness of follow-up.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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**:

<https://ecis.jrc.ec.europa.eu>



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

