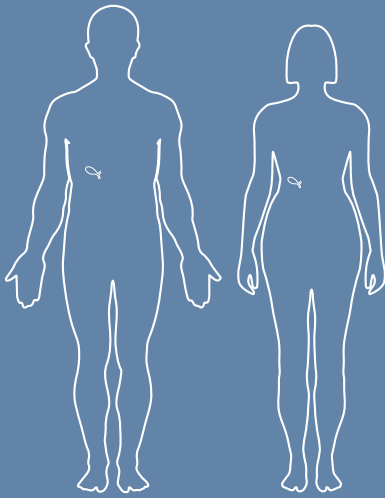




European Commission



## Gallbladder cancer burden in EU-27

The gallbladder is a small organ storing and releasing bile, a fluid important for the digestion of fats, located beneath the liver. Gallbladder cancer is a rare cancer that occurs when cancer cells form in the tissues of the gallbladder, often beginning in the inner layers of tissue and spreading throughout the outer layers of tissue in the gallbladder.

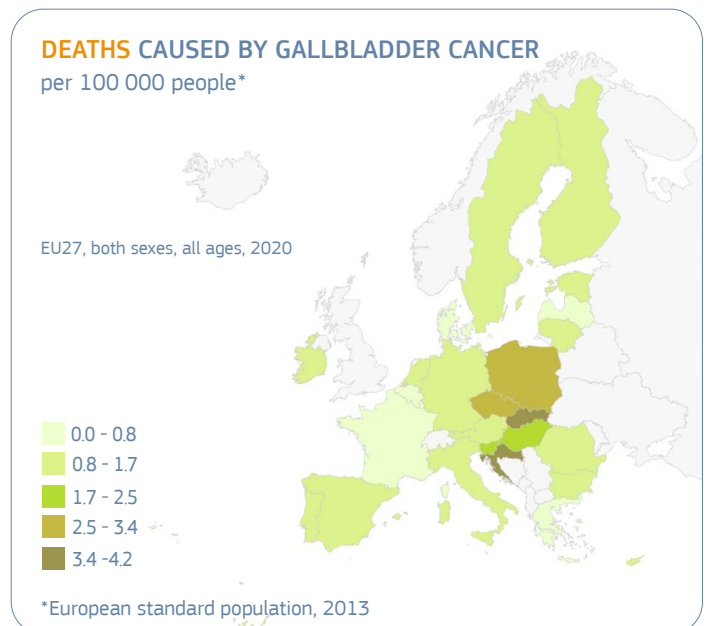
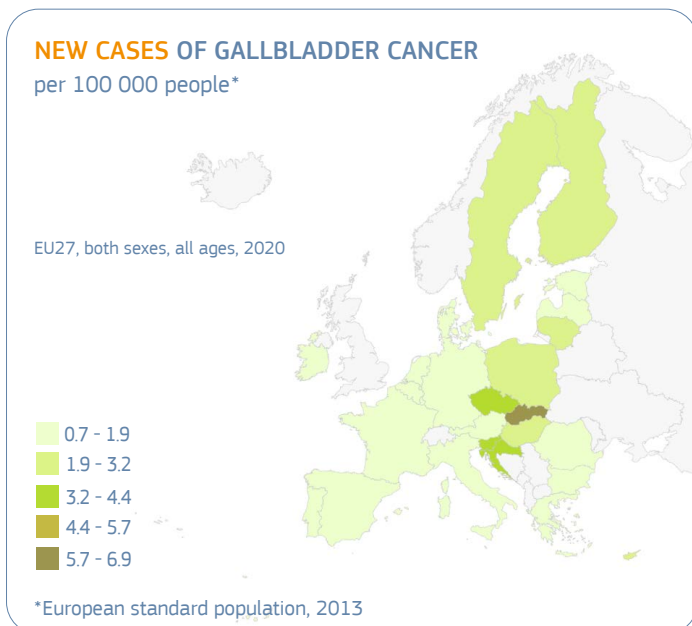
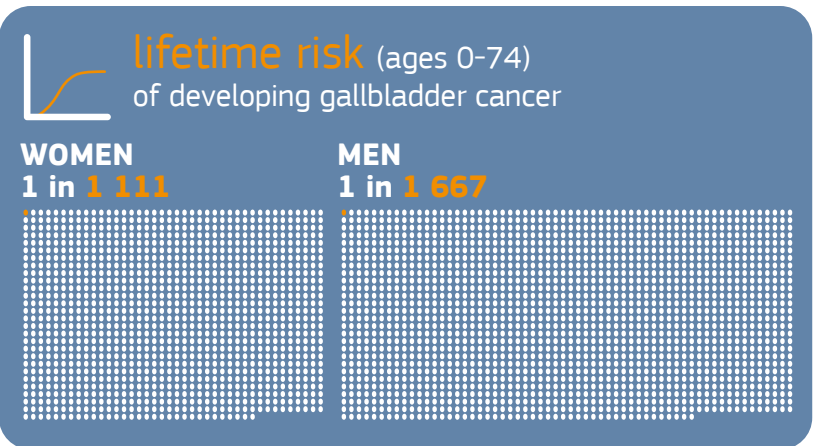
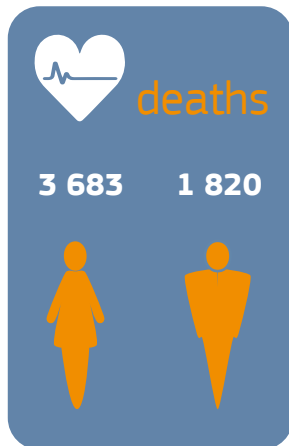
For EU-27 countries, it is estimated that gallbladder cancer accounted in **2020** for **0.3%** of all new cancer diagnoses (excluding non-melanoma skin cancers) and **0.4%** of all deaths due to cancer. That made it the 27<sup>th</sup> most frequently occurring cancer, and the 22<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of cancer death.

Source: ECIS – European Cancer Information System

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

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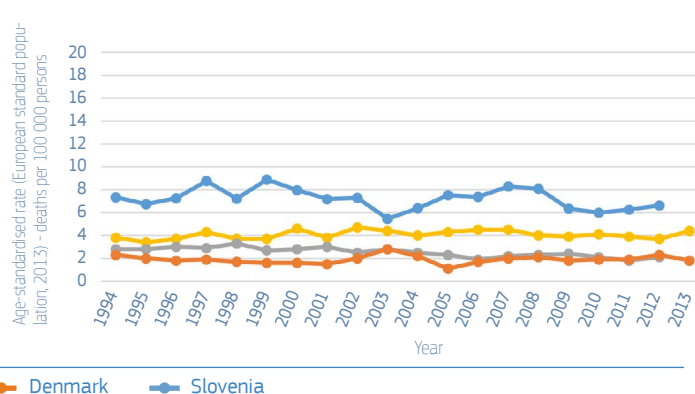
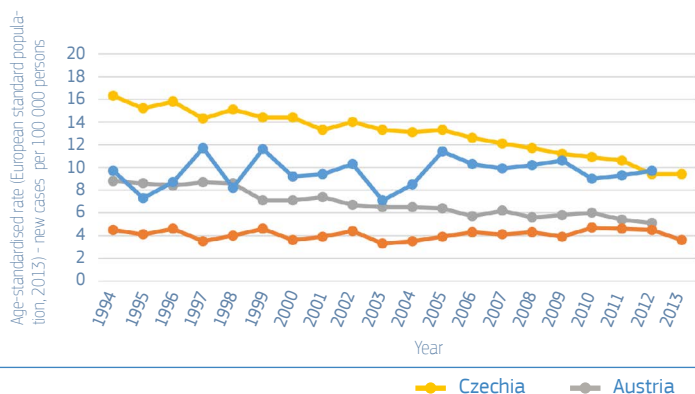
## 2020 new cases (incidence) and deaths (mortality) estimates



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

**NEW CASES OF GALLBLADDER CANCER** –all ages, per 100 000 people

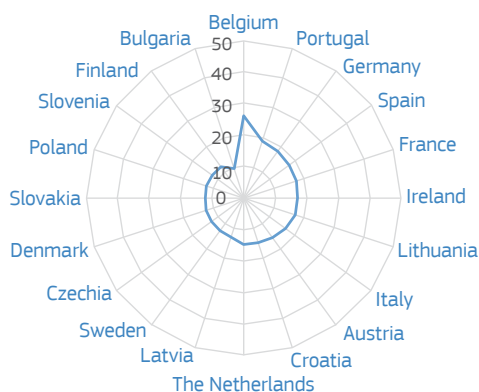
**DEATHS CAUSED BY GALLBLADDER CANCER** –all ages, per 100 000 people



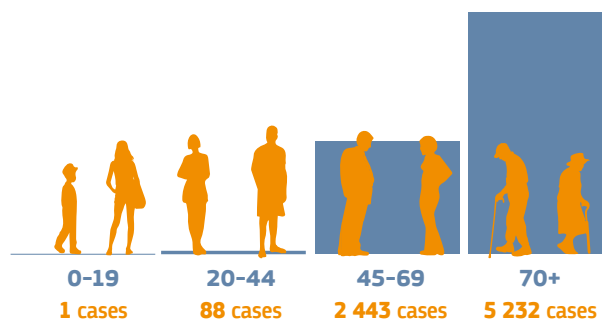
<sup>1</sup> The examples (one from each European region: Central and Eastern, Northern, Southern, Western) are selected from available incidence and mortality time series of at least 20 years, from the ECIS web application archive (<https://ecis.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>), complemented with the official mortality statistics source for Slovenia mortality rate: Cancer Registry, Register Raka, Slovenija (<http://www.slora.si/en/stevilo-umrljih>)

## GALLBLADDER 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)



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



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Gallbladder cancer is a rare type of cancer. Incidence and mortality numbers are twice as high for women compared to men in EU-27.
- Gallbladder cancer incidence and mortality are typically higher in Eastern European countries.
- Gallbladder cancer incidence and mortality trends vary between countries, however, gallbladder incidence has generally decreased in most European countries, while gallbladder mortality has generally remained stable.
- The five-year survival of gallbladder cancer slightly varied between EU-27 countries, with the highest survival found in countries of Central and Southern Europe, and the lowest survival found in countries of Eastern and Northern Europe. The slight variation in gallbladder cancer survival between countries may be due to stage variability at diagnosis, as well as differences in treatment protocols.

## 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 **factsheets**:

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



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



**ENCR**  
European Network  
of Cancer Registries

In collaboration with IARC, IACR, and EUROCARE