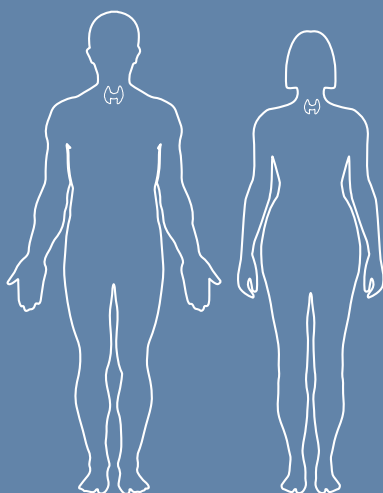




European Commission



## Thyroid cancer burden in EU-27

The thyroid is an endocrine gland located in the lower neck, producing important hormones for the regulation of heart rate, blood pressure, body weight and temperature. Thyroid cancer is a cancer that occurs when the DNA inside the thyroid changes, causing healthy cells in thyroid to grow uncontrollably and form a tumor.

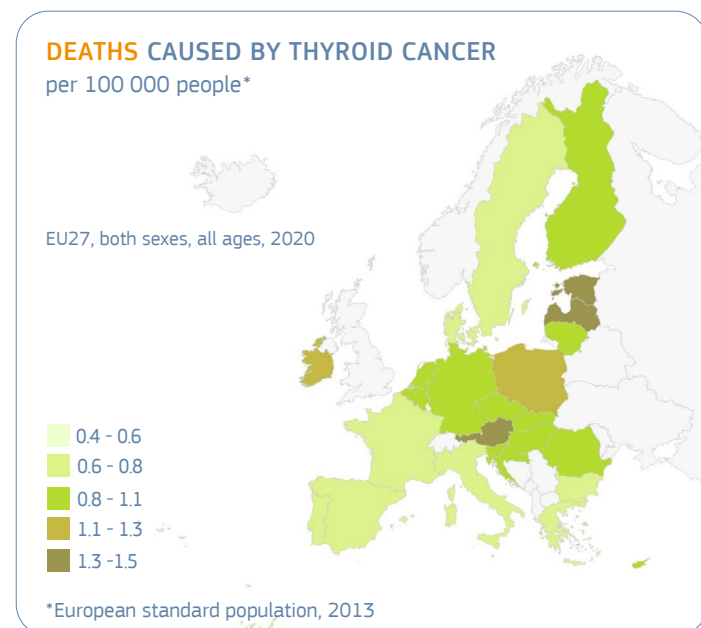
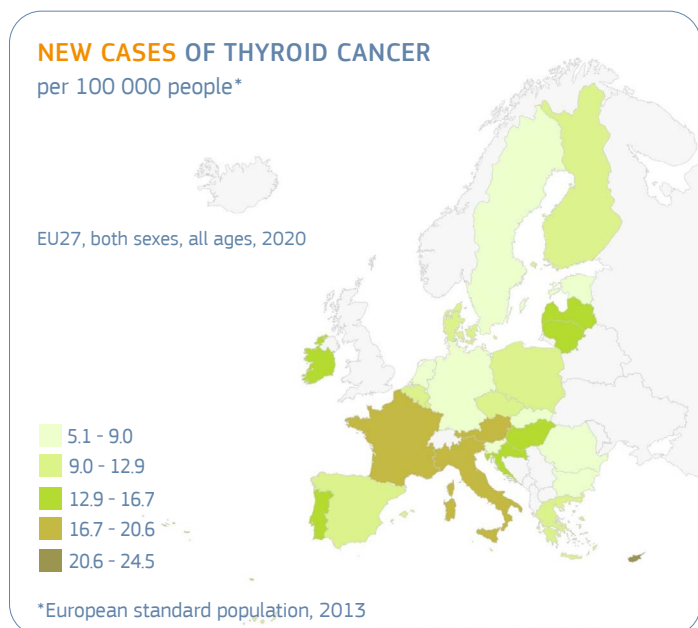
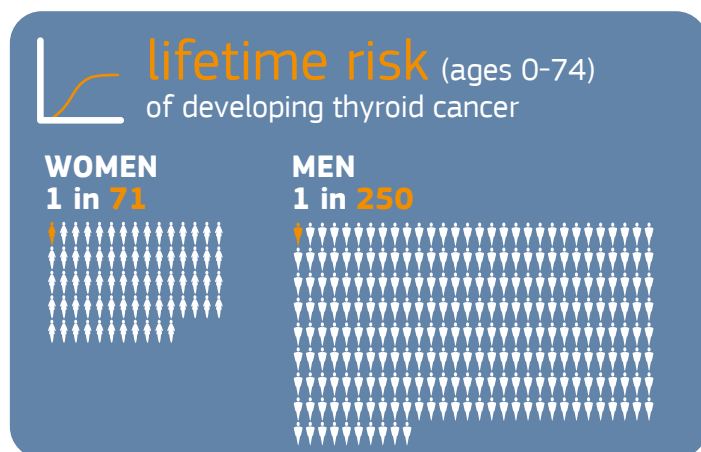
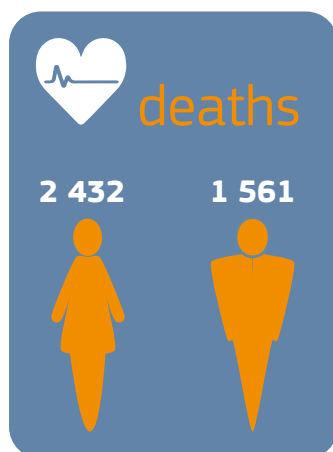
For EU-27 countries it is estimated that thyroid cancer accounted for **2.2%** of all new cancer diagnoses (excluding non-melanoma skin cancers) and **0.3%** of all deaths due to cancer in **2020**. That made it the 14<sup>th</sup> most frequently occurring cancer, and the 25<sup>th</sup> leading cause of cancer death.

Source: ECIS – European Cancer Information System

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

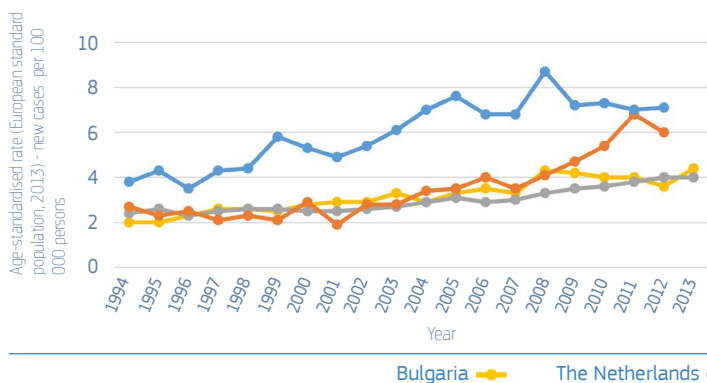
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## 2020 new cases (incidence) and deaths (mortality) estimates

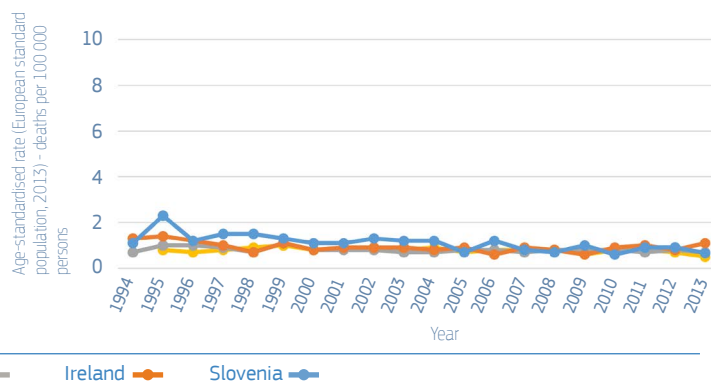


# TEMPORAL TRENDS IN SELECTED COUNTRIES<sup>1</sup>

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



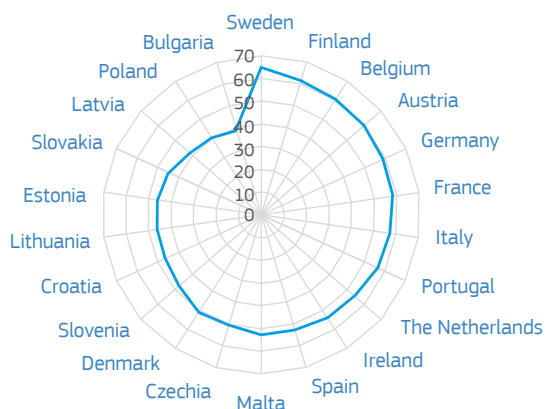
## DEATHS CAUSED BY THYROID CANCER – all ages, per 100 000 people



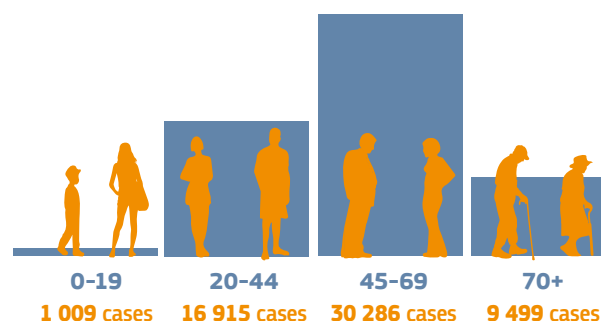
<sup>1</sup> The examples (one from each European region: Central and Eastern, Northern, Southern, Western) are selected from available incidence and mortality time series of at least 20 years, from the ECIS web application archive (<https://ecis.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>), complemented with the official mortality statistics from EUROSTAT ([https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/HLTH\\_CD\\_ASDR\\_custom\\_1394498/default/table?lang=en](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/HLTH_CD_ASDR_custom_1394498/default/table?lang=en)) for Slovenia

## THYROID 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 THYROID CANCER IN 2020 – BY AGE GROUP



## HIGHLIGHTS

- In EU-27, thyroid cancer is more common among women compared to men, being the number of new cases among women more than three times those among men.
- According to 2020 estimates, thyroid cancer incidence is higher in Central and Southern European countries, whereas thyroid cancer mortality is higher among Central and Eastern European countries.
- Thyroid cancer incidence vary between countries, but has generally increased in most EU-27 countries. However, thyroid cancer mortality is similar across most of EU-27, and has remained stable throughout time.
- The 5-year survival rate varies between EU-27 countries, with the highest survival rates found in Central and Southern European countries, and the lowest found in Eastern and Northern European countries. The variation in survival rates may be due to variation in the histological subtypes of thyroid cancer, as well as differences in stage distribution and treatment efficacy.
- According to 2020 estimates, more than half the new cases of thyroid cancer occurs within the 45-69 age group.

## 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>



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