



European Commission

LIVER CANCER IN THE EU

OCTOBER 2024

SEX DIFFERENCES

20,064 ◀

number of women estimated to be **diagnosed** with liver cancer in 2022

17,759 ◀

number of women estimated to **die** of liver cancer in 2022



EU COUNTRIES

▶ 42,060

number of men estimated to be **diagnosed** with liver cancer in 2022

▶ 36,406

number of men estimated to **die** of liver cancer in 2022

MOST COMMONLY DIAGNOSED CANCERS FOR WOMEN IN THE EU



MOST COMMONLY DIAGNOSED CANCERS FOR MEN IN THE EU

29.4 %
BREAST



1°

22.6 %
PROSTATE



1°

12.4 %
COLORECTUM



2°

13.8 %
TRACHEA, BRONCHUS AND LUNG



2°

9.1 %
TRACHEA, BRONCHUS AND LUNG



3°

13.5 %
COLORECTUM



3°

1.6 %
LIVER



15°

2.9 %
LIVER



10°

In 2022, liver cancer in women ranks as the 15th most frequently diagnosed cancer (accounting for 1.6% of all new cancer diagnoses) and as the 8th cause of deaths due to cancer (accounting for 3.1% of all cancer deaths). In men, liver cancer is approximately two-fold more common than in women; it ranks as the 10th most frequently diagnosed cancer (accounting for 2.9% of all new cancer diagnoses) and as the 6th cause of deaths due to cancer (accounting for 5.1% of all cancer deaths).

THE LIFETIME RISK (AGES 0-74) OF DEVELOPING LIVER CANCER

1 in 333

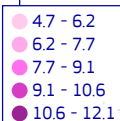


1 in 91

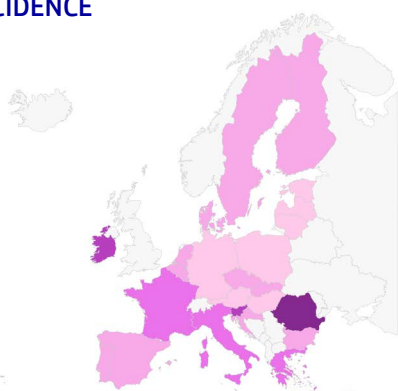
EU COUNTRIES

GEOGRAPHICAL VARIATION

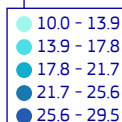
ESTIMATED INCIDENCE - WOMEN



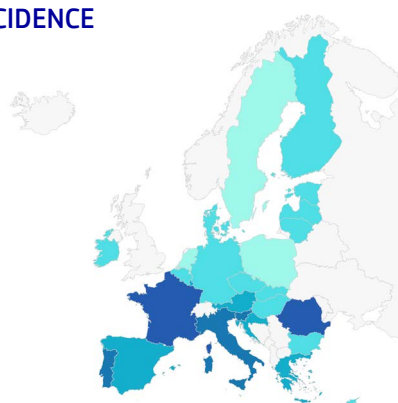
EU27, Women, Liver, All ages, 2022
Age standardised rate (European standard population) per 100,000



ESTIMATED INCIDENCE - MEN

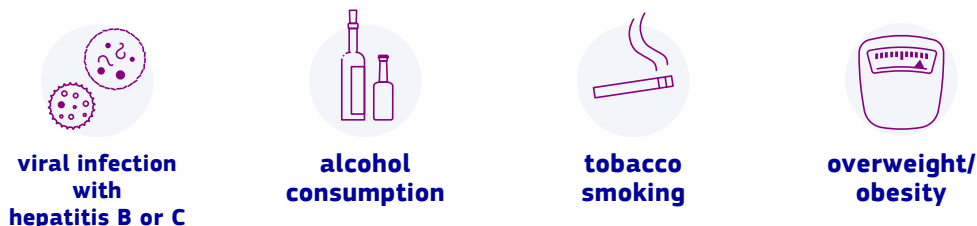


EU27, Men, Liver, All ages, 2022
Age standardised rate (European standard population) per 100,000



The estimated incidence rates of liver cancer for 2022 vary significantly across EU27 countries. For women, rates range from 4.7 new cases per 100,000 in Malta to 12.1 in Romania, nearly doubling between countries. For men, the rates vary even more, from 10.0 new cases per 100,000 in Poland to 29.5 in Romania, a nearly threefold difference. Patterns are similar for liver cancer mortality.

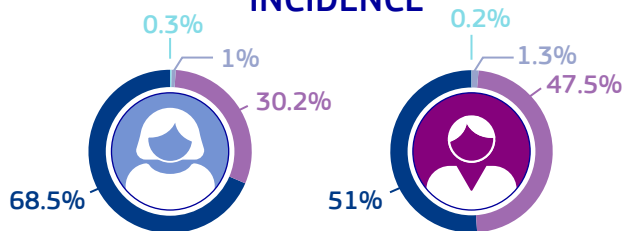
Factors contributing to the observed geographical variations include the different prevalence of the **major modifiable risk factors** across European countries:



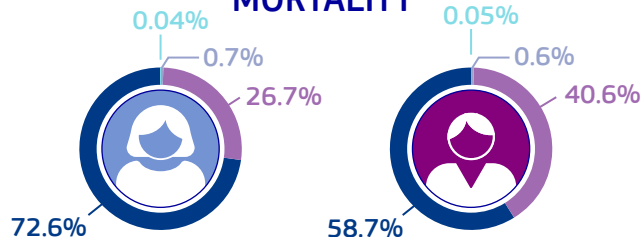
Variations in hepatitis B vaccination coverage, as well as in the management and treatment of liver cancer also play a role.

AGE DIFFERENCES

INCIDENCE



MORTALITY



AGE GROUPS: 0-19 20-44 45-69 70+

In women, about two-third of all estimated liver cancer cases occurred over 70 years, while in men, almost half of all estimated new cases occurred between 45 and 69 years and the other half over 70 years. Similar patterns are observed for mortality in both sexes.



European Cancer Information System (ECIS)

The 2022 cancer incidence and mortality estimates are the outcome of a collaborative project between the European Commission's [Joint Research Centre \(JRC\)](#) and the [International Agency for Research on Cancer \(IARC\)](#), the specialised cancer agency of the [World Health Organization](#), in collaboration with the [European Network of Cancer Registries \(ENCR\)](#).