

NUMBER OF CASES PER YEAR (2009-2013)			NUMBER OF DEATHS PER YEAR (2009-2013)		
Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
670	526	1,196	229	192	422
FIVE-YEAR SURVIVAL (2004-2008)			21-YEAR PREVALENCE (2013)		
Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
54.2%	55.8%	54.9%	4,163	3,601	7,764

INCIDENCE

In 2009-2013 there were 670 male and 526 female patients diagnosed with colorectal cancer each year. The lifetime risk of developing a colorectal cancer was 1 in 19 for men and 1 in 31 for women.

Incidence trends

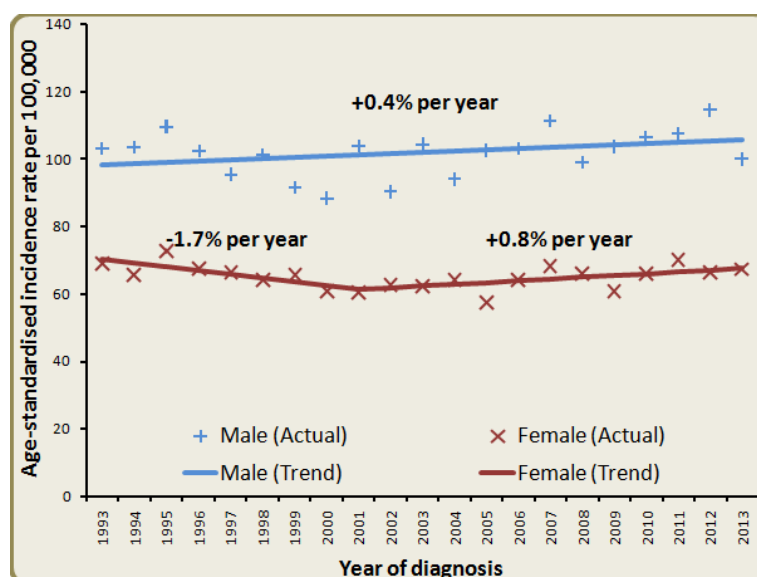
Table 1: Incidence of colorectal cancer by sex and year of diagnosis: 2004-2013

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Male	512	570	570	641	589	606	654	680	742	668
Female	457	414	471	511	502	469	513	552	538	558
Both sexes	969	984	1,041	1,152	1,091	1,075	1,167	1,232	1,280	1,226

Over a ten year period the number of colorectal cancer cases increased from 512 among men and 457 among women in 2004 to 668 among men and 558 among women in 2013.

After accounting for the increasing number of older people in the NI population, colorectal cancer incidence rates among males during 1993-2013 have remained constant. While female incidence rates decreased by -1.7% per year from 1993-2001, they have been increasing from 2001-2013 by +0.8% per year.

Figure 1: Trends in colorectal cancer incidence rates by sex: 1993-2013



Incidence and age

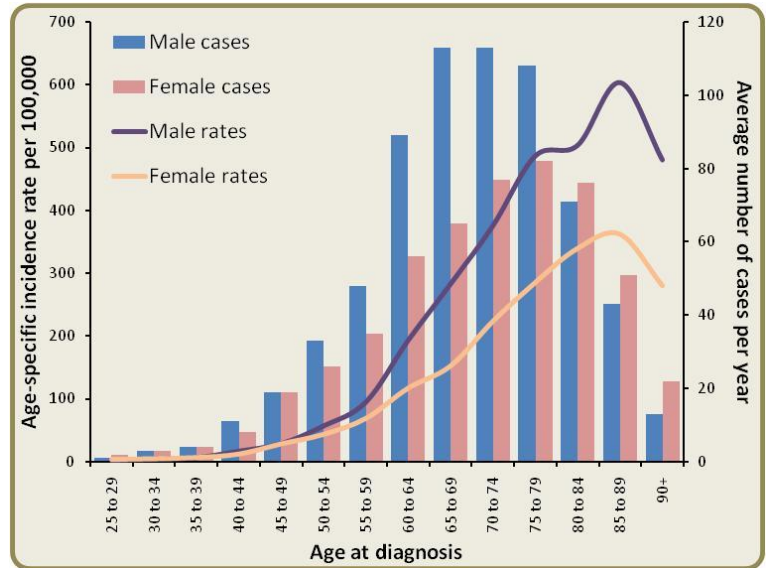
Colorectal cancer risk is strongly related to age with almost 70% of patients diagnosed over the age of 65 years. Incidence rates are highest among men and women aged 85-89.

Table 2: Average annual number of colorectal cancers diagnosed by sex and age: 2009-2013

Age	Male	Female	Total
0 to 49	39	37	74
50 to 64	170	117	286
65 to 74	226	142	368
75 and over	235	231	465
All ages	670	526	1,196

Due to rounding of yearly averages, 'All ages' may not equal the sum of age categories in tables.

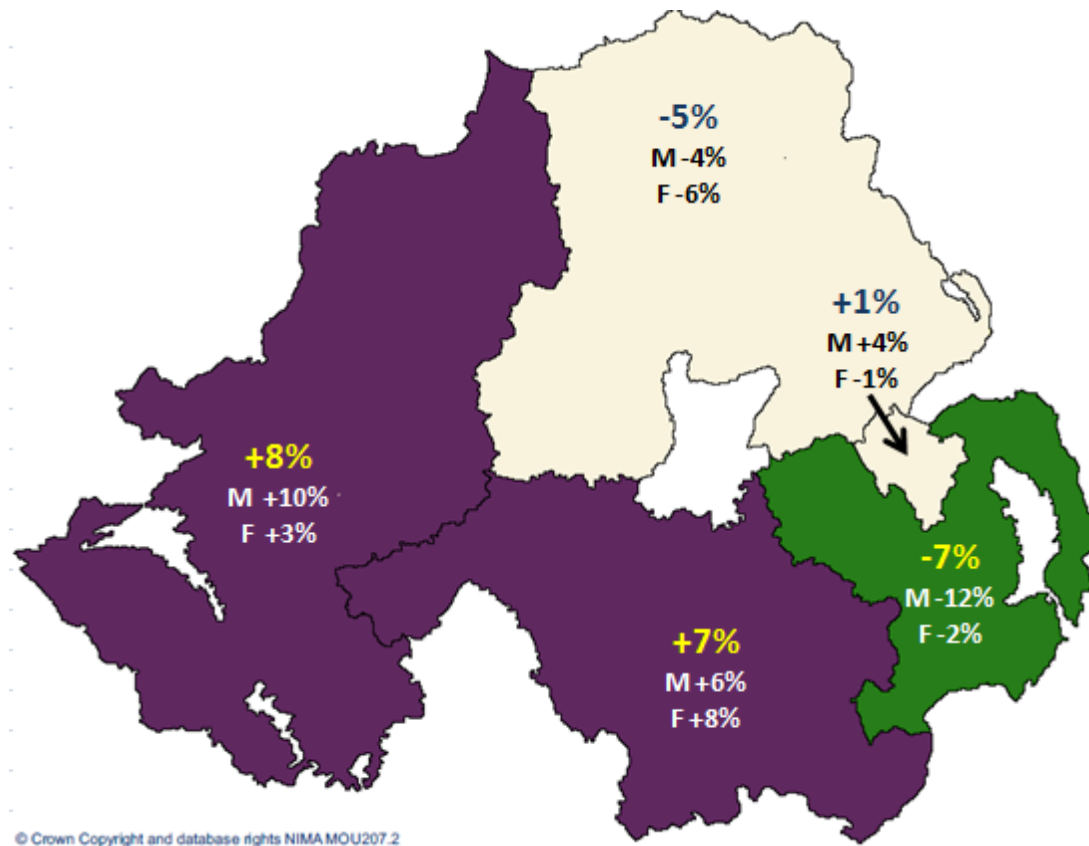
Figure 2: Incidence of colorectal cancer by age and sex: 2009-2013



Incidence by Trust area

Colorectal cancer incidence rates in 2009-2013 were 7% and 8% higher than the NI average among people living within the Southern and Western HSCT areas, respectively. Incidence rates were lower than the NI average in the South-Eastern Trust area, particularly for men.

Figure 3: Colorectal cancer incidence rates compared to the NI average by sex and HSC Trust of residence: 2009-2013

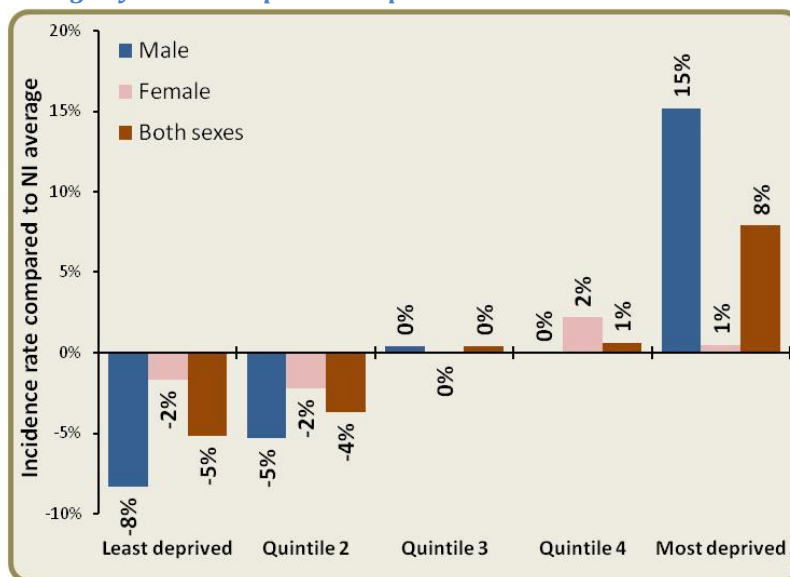


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Incidence by deprivation

Colorectal cancer incidence rates are associated with socio-economic deprivation with incidence rates increasing with levels of deprivation. This pattern is particularly marked for male colorectal cancer with incidence 15% higher in the most deprived communities than the NI average and 8% lower in the least deprived areas compared to NI as a whole.

Figure 4: Colorectal cancer incidence rates compared to the NI average by sex and deprivation quintile: 2009-2013

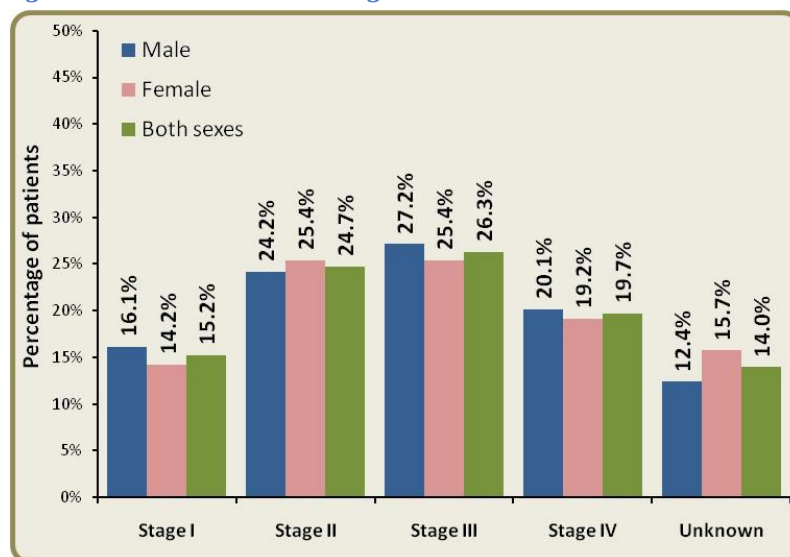


Incidence by stage

Cancer stage is a way of describing the size of a cancer and how far it has grown and spread. This information is important in helping decide what treatments are needed and stage of disease at diagnosis is strongly associated with cancer survival.

In 2009-2013 over four fifths (86.0%) of colorectal cancer patients in Northern Ireland were assigned a stage at diagnosis.

Figure 5: Colorectal cancer stage distribution: 2009-2013



A significant proportion of colorectal cancer patients were diagnosed at a later stages with 26.3% at stage III and 19.7% at stage IV, compared to 15.2% at stage I. There were no significant differences in stage distribution between males and females.

SURVIVAL

The net survival was 76.4% at one year, and 54.9% at five years for colorectal cancer patients diagnosed in 2004 to 2008.

Table 3: Five-year colorectal cancer survival by survival time and sex: patients diagnosed 2004-2008

Time since diagnosis	Diagnosed 2004-2008		
	Male	Female	Both sexes
6 months	83.7%	82.1%	82.9%
1 year	77.5%	74.9%	76.4%
5 years	54.2%	55.8%	54.9%

Survival by age

Colorectal cancer survival varies depending upon age at diagnosis with five-year survival ranging from 60.8% for those aged 15-54 to 47.6% for those aged 75 and over.

Table 4: Survival from colorectal cancer by age at diagnosis: patients diagnosed 2004-2008

Age (years)	6 months	One year	Five years
15 to 54	91.9%	86.4%	60.8%
55 to 64	89.3%	83.4%	57.6%
65 to 74	83.4%	77.2%	56.1%
75 and over	71.6%	63.4%	47.6%

Survival Trends

Five-year survival for colorectal cancer has improved from the 1993-1998 diagnosis period to the 2004-2008 diagnosis period; increasing from 49.4% to 54.9%.

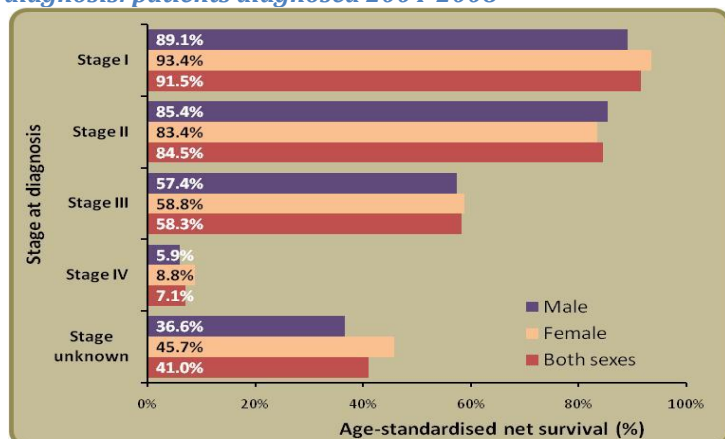
Table 5: Five-year colorectal cancer survival by period of diagnosis and sex

Period of	Male	Female	Both sexes
1993-1998	49.2%	49.9%	49.4%
1999-2003	50.6%	55.0%	52.9%
2004-2008	54.2%	55.8%	54.9%

Survival and stage

Stage at diagnosis is one of the most important factors in colorectal cancer survival with five year survival decreasing as stage increases. Five-year survival ranged from 91.5% for early (stage I) disease to 7.1% for late (stage IV) disease highlighting the importance of early diagnosis.

Figure 6: Five year survival from colorectal cancer by stage of diagnosis: patients diagnosed 2004-2008



MORTALITY

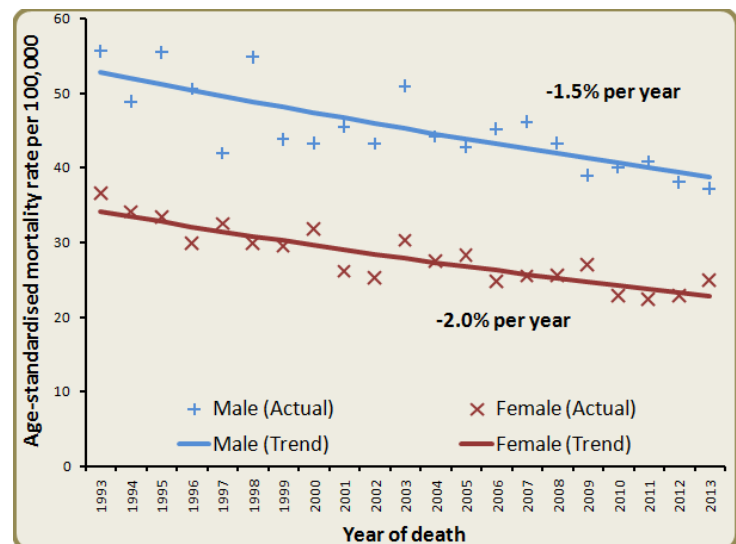
Mortality statistics are provided by the Northern Ireland General Registrar's Office. In 2009-2013 there were 229 male and 192 female deaths from colorectal cancer each year.

Mortality trends

Over the last ten years the number of colorectal cancer deaths has increased from 229 among men and 196 among women in 2004 to 230 among men and 207 among women in 2013.

When adjusted for age and population change, colorectal cancer mortality rates decreased for males by -1.5% per year during 1993-2013, and decreased by -2.0% per year for females.

Figure 7: Trends in colorectal cancer mortality rates by sex: 1993-2013



PREVALENCE

At the end of 2013 there were 7,764 people living in NI who had been diagnosed with colorectal cancer from 1993-2013 (Table 6). Of these, 53.6% were male, 63.1% were aged 70 and over and 12.8% had been diagnosed in the previous year.

Table 6: Number of people living with colorectal cancer at the end of 2013 who were diagnosed from 1993-2013 by time since diagnosis

Sex	Age	Time since diagnosis				21-year Prevalence
		0-1 year	1-5 years	5-10 years	10-21 years	
Male	0-69	276	705	390	234	1,605
	70+	276	833	655	794	2,558
	All ages	552	1,538	1,045	1,028	4,163
Female	0-69	201	508	286	264	1,259
	70+	245	680	589	828	2,342
	All ages	446	1,188	875	1,092	3,601
Both sexes	0-69	477	1,213	676	498	2,864
	70+	521	1,513	1,244	1,622	4,900
	All ages	998	2,726	1,920	2,120	7,764

OTHER INFORMATION

Further data is available from the Northern Ireland Cancer Registry web site: www.qub.ac.uk/nicr

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