

PANCREAS CANCER



NUMBER OF CASES PER YEAR (2009-2013)			NUMBER OF DEATHS PER YEAR (2009-2013)		
Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
105	116	220	100	115	215
FIVE-YEAR SURVIVAL (2004-2008)			21-YEAR PREVALENCE (2013)		
Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
5.1%	5.3%	5.0%	83	95	178

INCIDENCE

Between 2009 and 2013 there were an average of 105 males and 116 females diagnosed with pancreatic cancer each year in Northern Ireland. The probability that a male will develop pancreatic cancer before the age of 75 is approximately 1 in 120 whilst the probability that a female will develop pancreatic cancer before the age of 75 is 1 in 156.

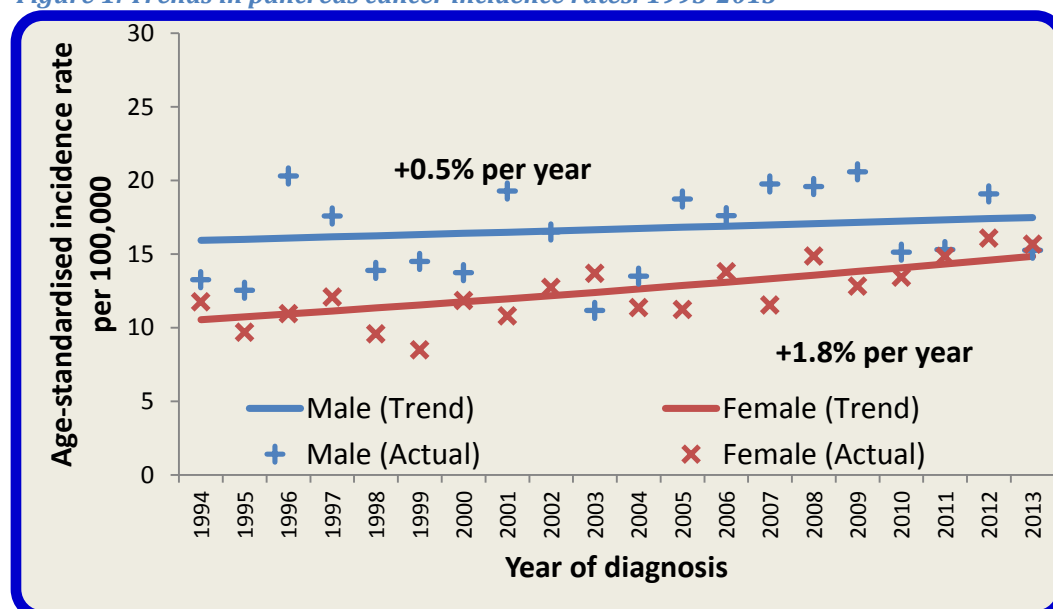
Incidence trends

Table 1: Incidence of pancreas cancer by gender and year of diagnosis: 2004-2013

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Males	77	100	104	108	112	113	91	95	124	101
Females	83	81	102	85	112	98	105	118	131	126
Both	160	181	206	193	224	211	196	213	255	227

Over a ten-year period the number of pancreatic cancer cases has increased in males and females from 158 in 2003 to 227 in 2013. After accounting for population changes, cancer incidence rates in males have remained stable during the previous twenty-year period whilst cancer incidence rates in females have increased by 1.8% each year.

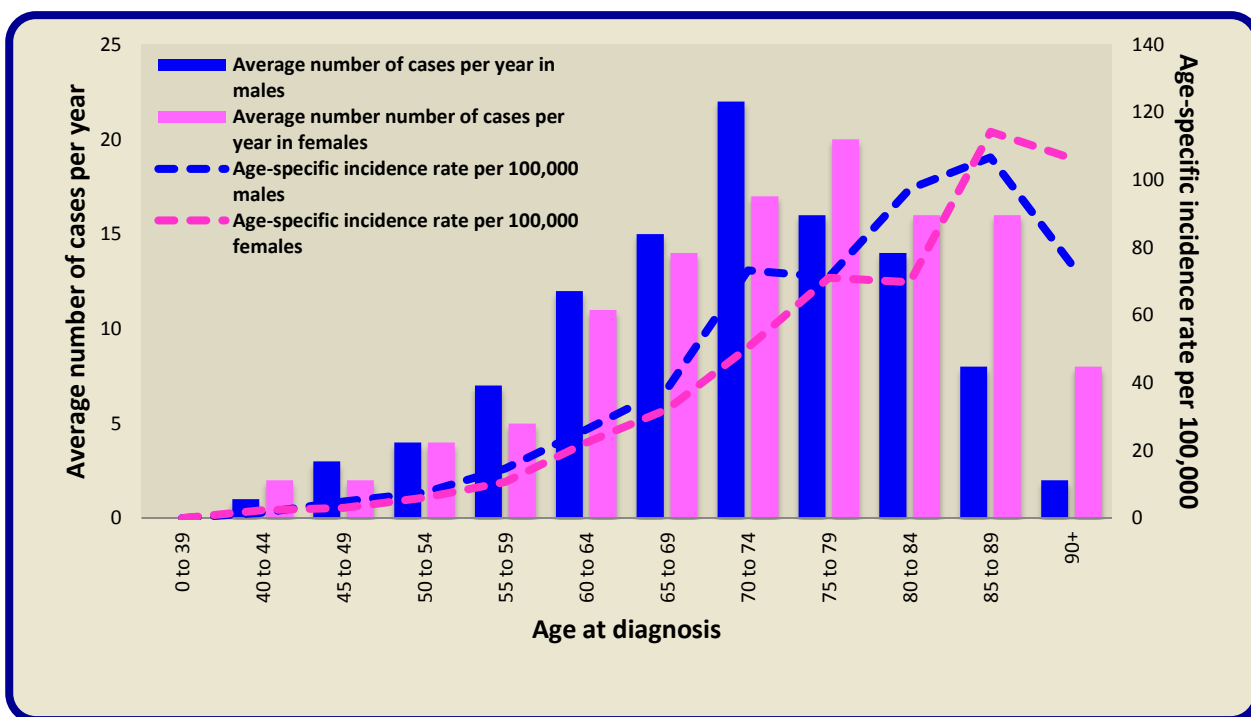
Figure 1: Trends in pancreas cancer incidence rates: 1993-2013



Incidence and age

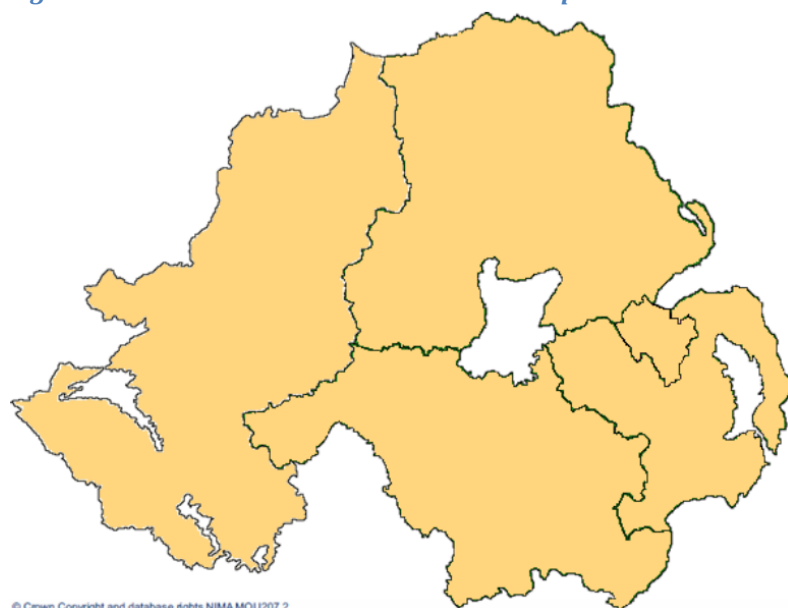
Pancreatic cancer incidence is associated with increasing age. More than 85% of patients diagnosed were over the age of 60. Incidence rates are highest among men and women aged 85-89. There is a sharp increase in the incidence of pancreatic cancer in men after the age of 70. Women experience a steady increase in incidence of pancreatic cancer slightly later (after the age of 80). There were no patients diagnosed under the age of 40.

Figure 2: Incidence of pancreas cancer by age and gender: 2009-2013



Incidence by Trust area

Figure 3: Pancreas cancer incidence rates compared with NI average by sex and HSC trust of residence 2009-2013



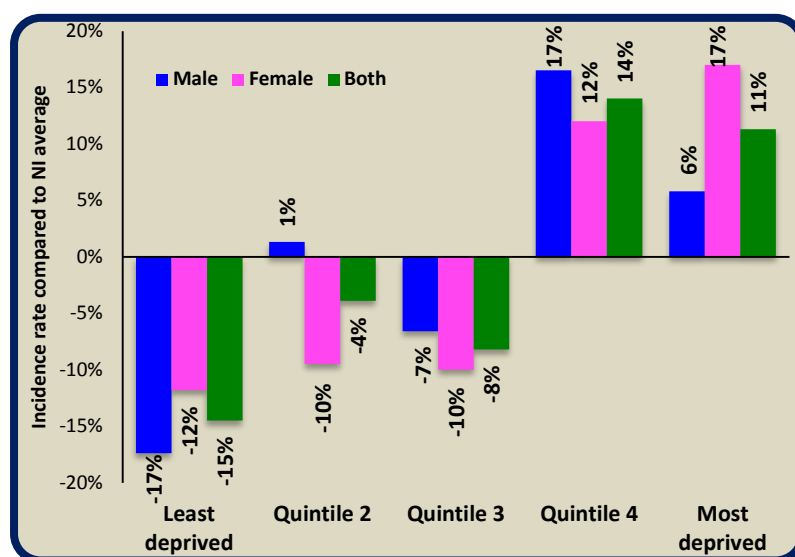
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Significantly higher than average

Significantly lower than average

There were no statistically significant differences in pancreatic cancer incidence rates between health and social care trusts between 2009 and 2013. Incidence of pancreatic cancer was higher than the NI average in females living within the area served by the Belfast HSCT but when both sets of gender data were combined it was no longer statistically significant.

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



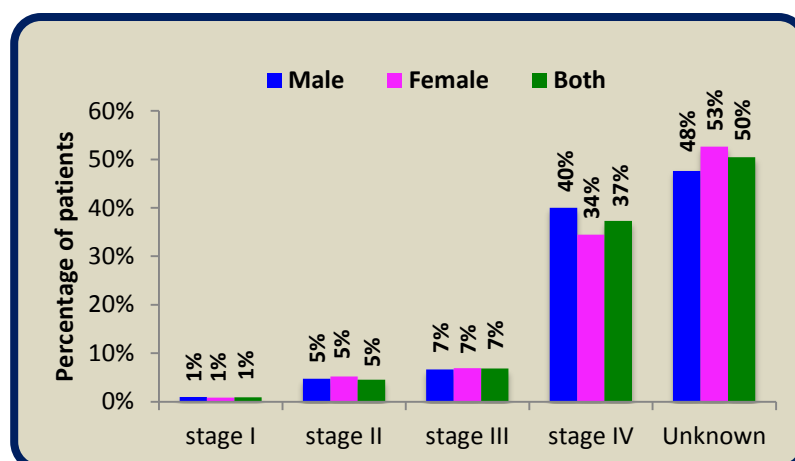
Incidence by deprivation

Incidence rates of pancreatic cancer are associated with socioeconomic deprivation. Cancer incidence rates are 11% higher than the NI average in the most deprived communities and 15% lower than the NI average amongst those living in the least deprived communities compared to NI as a whole.

Incidence by stage

Figure 5: Pancreas cancer stage distribution: 2009-2013

Less than half of patients were assigned a stage at diagnosis. The majority of patients who received a stage at diagnosis were diagnosed with stage IV pancreatic cancer (75% of staged cases or 37% of total cases diagnosed). Only 1% of all pancreatic cancer was diagnosed at stage I in Northern Ireland.



SURVIVAL

The age-standardised survival for men diagnosed with pancreatic cancer between 2004-2008 was 5.1% at five years. The age-standardised survival for women during the same time period was 5.3%. This makes pancreatic cancer the least survivable cancer in Northern Ireland.

Table 2: Five-year pancreas cancer survival by survival time and gender

Time since diagnosis	Diagnosed 2004-2008		
	Male	Female	Both sexes
6 months	32.4%	28.8%	30.5%
1 year	17.2%	16.2%	16.6%
5 years	5.1%	5.3%	5.0%

Survival Trends

Five-year survival for pancreatic cancer in Northern Ireland has improved slightly from the 1993-1998 diagnosis period to the 2004-2008 diagnosis period; increasing from 3.0% to 5.0%

Table 3: Five-year pancreas cancer survival by period of diagnosis and gender

Period of diagnosis	Male	Female	Both sexes
1993-1998	3.0%	3.1%	3.0%
1999-2003	1.5%	2.3%	1.9%
2004-2008	5.1%	5.3%	5.0%

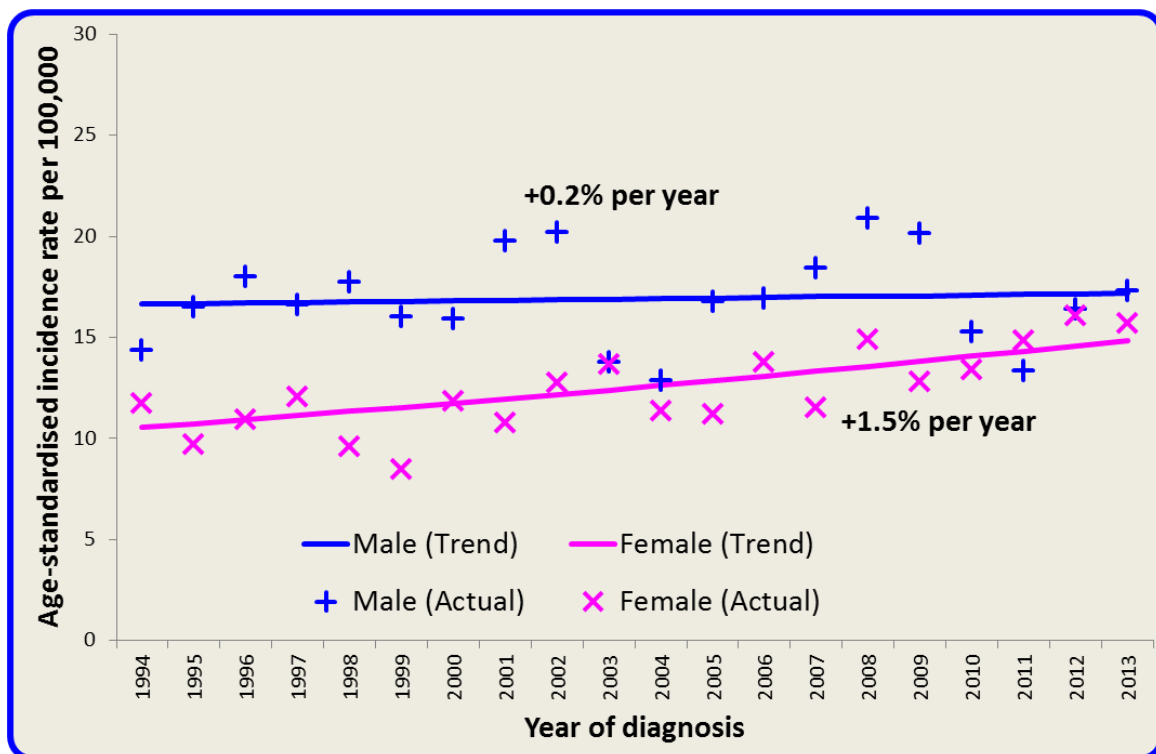
MORTALITY

In 2009-2013 there was an average of 215 deaths from pancreatic cancer each year.

Mortality trends

The male pancreatic cancer mortality rate has remained unchanged during the previous twenty-year period. In contrast, female mortality rates have steadily increased by approximately 1.5% during the previous twenty-year period. The reasons for differences in mortality rates between genders are not known.

Figure 6: Trends in pancreas cancer mortality rates: 1993-2013



PREVALENCE

At the end of 2013 there were a total of 178 people living with a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer of which 53% were female, 43% had been diagnosed in the previous year, and 51% were over the age of 70.

Table 4: Number of people living with pancreas cancer at the end of 2013 who were diagnosed from 1993-2013 by time since diagnosis and gender

Sex	Age	Time since diagnosis				21-year Prevalence
		0-1 year	1-5 years	5-10 years	10-21 years	
Male	0-69	18	17	7	4	46
	70+	14	10	10	3	37
	All ages	32	27	17	7	83
Female	0-69	16	16	6	3	41
	70+	28	16	7	3	54
	All ages	44	32	13	6	95
Both	0-69	34	33	13	7	87
	70+	42	26	17	6	91
	All ages	76	59	30	13	178

FURTHER INFORMATION

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

NI Cancer Registry

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