

INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

232. Cancer Registration Statistics, England - 2015



Wednesday 24th May 2017

Source: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/cancerregistrationstatisticsengland2015> (published 24 May 2017)

Summary

Cancer Registration statistics present the number of new cancer registrations in England overall and in the different English regions. Incidence rates by sex and age, standardised registration ratios and incidence to mortality ratios for all cancers are also included.

Key Messages – England

The number of new cancer registrations in England was 299,923 in 2015; an increase of 3,060 registrations from the same point in 2014.

More cancers were registered in males (153,061) than females (146,862). Across the majority of cancer sites more males are diagnosed with cancer than females. This is a persistent feature of the data, reported in previous registration years. Cancer is a disease of the elderly, as adults aged 65 and over accounted for 65.2% of the total cancers registered in 2015.

Generally, the cancer incidence rates increase over time, while mortality rates decrease, reflecting the general increase in cancer survival as reported in the latest cancer survival estimates.

The most common cancers registered were breast, prostate, lung, and colorectal cancers. By most common we mean the 4 cancers with the greatest number of cases registered in England in 2015.

Breast - the most common cancer diagnosed in females with 46,083 cases registered in 2015, which accounted for 31.2% of total female cancer registrations. The age-standardised incidence rate for breast cancer has increased from 163.6 per 100,000 in 2005 to 170.2 per 100,000 in 2015.

Prostate - the most common cancer diagnosed in males in 2015 with 40,331 cases registered, which accounted for 26.3% of total male cancer registrations. The age-standardised rate for prostate cancer has increased from 166.5 per 100,000 in 2005 to 176.4 per 100,000 in 2015.

Lung - the second most common cancer for both males and females was lung cancer. In 2015, there were 37,637 (20,017 males and 17,620 females) cases of lung cancer registered in England. Lung cancer accounted for 13.1% (males) and 12.0% (females) of the total cancer registrations. The age-standardised lung cancer incidence rate has decreased in males in the last 20 years from 127.9 per 100,000 males in 1995 to 89.4 per 100,000 males in 2015, but has increased in females from 51.4 per 100,000 females in 1995 to 65.6 per 100,000 females in 2015.

Colorectal - there were 19,178 and 15,551 cases (total: 34,729) of colorectal cancer registered in 2015 for males and females respectively within England. In 2015, there were 84.6 cases per 100,000 males diagnosed with colorectal cancer, and 56.8 per 100,000 females. The rates were similar to those of 20 years ago, where there were 84.5 cases per 100,000 males diagnosed with colorectal cancer, and 55.3 per 100,000 females.