

Epidemiology Note

Cancer Incidence and Incidence Rates in Japan in 1999: Estimates Based on Data from 11 Population-based Cancer Registries

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The Research Group for Population-based Cancer Registration in Japan estimated the cancer incidence in Japan in 1999 on the basis of data collected from 11 population-based cancer registries: Miyagi, Yamagata, Chiba, Kanagawa, Niigata, Fukui, Aichi, Shiga, Osaka, Hiroshima City and Nagasaki. The methods of estimation and their limitations have been explained in previous papers (1–3). The number of incidences, crude rates, age-standardized rates and completeness of registration in 1999 are shown in Table 1, and the age-specific number of incidences and crude rates according to sex and primary site are shown in Tables 2 and 3. The number of incidence for 1999 was estimated as 530 000. The time trends of age-standardized incidence rates for the major sites in 1975–99 standardized to the world population are shown in Fig. 1 and those standardized to the 1985 Japanese model population are shown in Fig. 2. The leading site according to the age-standardized incidence rate was stomach for males and breast for females, as shown in Figures 1 and 2.

The estimated cancer incidence data in Japan by sex, site, 5-year age group and calendar year during the period of 1975–99 are available on a Website (<http://www.mc.pref.osaka.jp/ocr/>) or by correspondence with the principal investigator of the Research Group (Dr H. Tsukuma).

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Abbreviations: ICD-10th, International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision; DCO/I, proportion of cases with the death certificate only to incident cases; I/D, number of incidence/number of deaths; HV/I, proportion of histologically verified cases to incident cases; CIS/carcinoma *in situ*

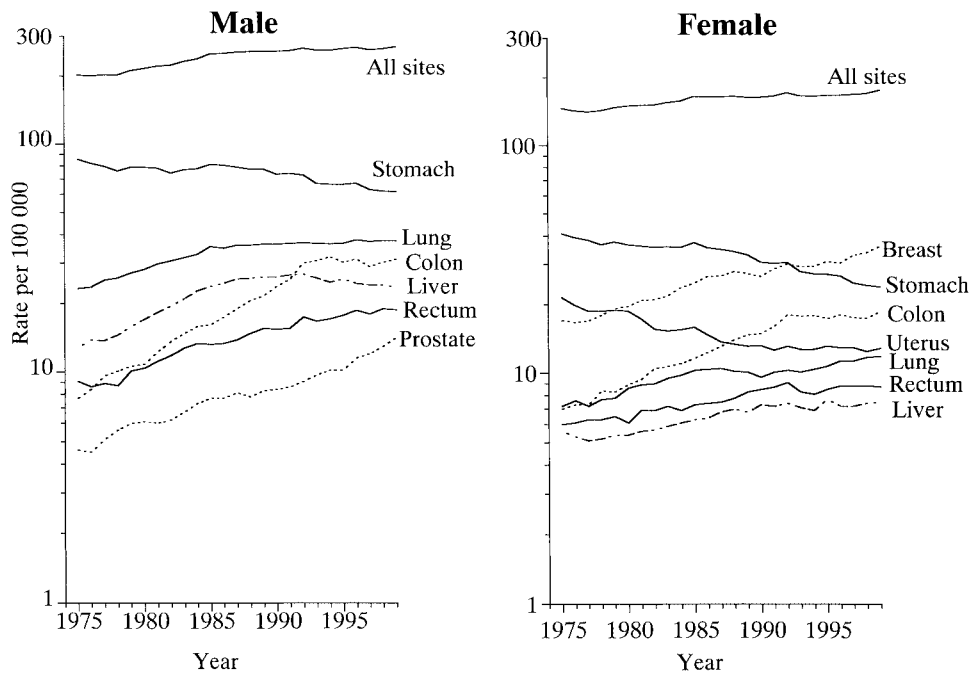


Figure 1. Trends of age-standardized cancer incidence rates for major sites (standard population: world population).

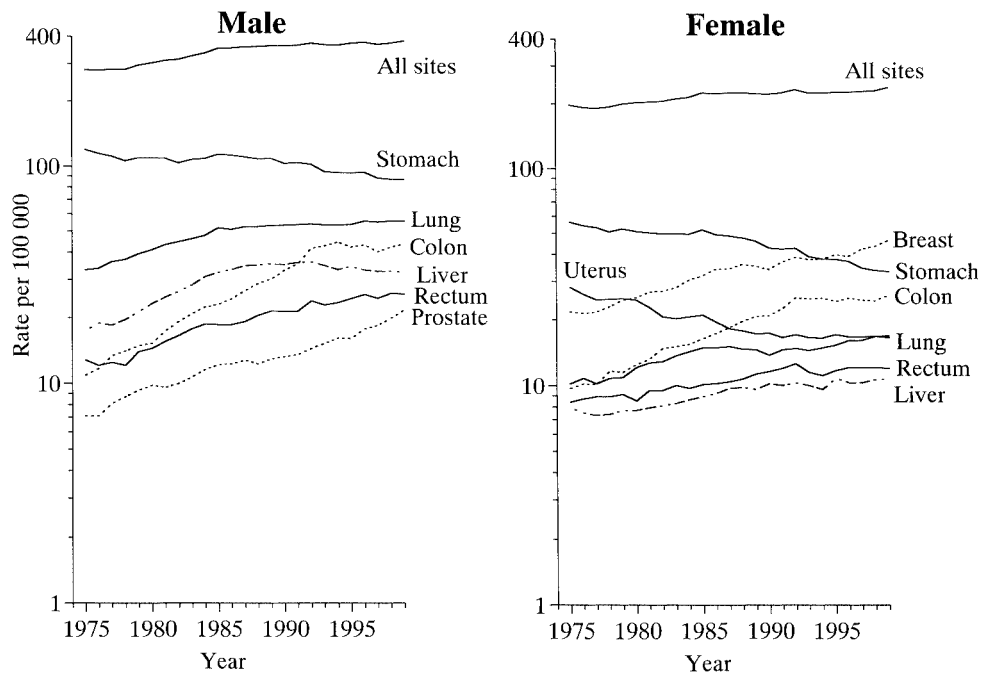


Figure 2. Trends of age-standardized cancer incidence rates for major sites (standard population: 1985 Japanese model population).

Table 1. Incidence, completeness of reporting and accuracy of diagnosis in Japan according to sex and primary site, 1999

Sex	Primary sites	ICD-10th	No. of incidence	Crude rate*	Age-standardized rate*		Completeness of reporting		Accuracy of diagnosis HV/I (%)
					World population	Japanese 1985 model population	DCO/I (%)	I/D	
Male	All sites	C00-C96	304 527	491.4	271.1	381.7	17.3	1.73	71.4
	Lip, oral cavity and pharynx	C00-C14	6563	10.6	6.2	8.4	10.4	1.88	83.2
	Esophagus	C15	12 402	20.0	11.0	15.3	14.2	1.47	78.0
	Stomach	C16	69 627	112.4	61.8	87.1	13.6	2.12	81.5
	Colon	C18	35 092	56.6	31.2	43.8	10.5	2.96	83.3
	Rectum	C19-C21	20 461	33.0	18.7	25.7	9.4	2.66	84.5
	Liver	C22	26 174	42.2	23.5	32.4	30.1	1.11	28.6
	Gallbladder	C23-C24	8024	12.9	6.7	9.9	28.4	1.19	45.0
	Pancreas	C25	10 490	16.9	9.0	13.0	32.2	1.03	30.5
	Larynx	C32	3196	5.2	2.8	4.0	5.6	3.52	88.1
	Lung	C33-C34	45 091	72.8	37.6	55.7	25.4	1.19	65.7
	Skin	C43-C44	3834	6.2	3.4	4.8	5.3	7.95	92.2
	Prostate	C61	17 865	28.8	14.1	21.7	13.6	2.55	78.0
	Kidney	C64-C66 C68	6872	11.1	6.4	8.8	13.7	2.22	74.5
	Bladder	C67	11 418	18.4	9.7	14.2	9.8	3.46	84.0
	Brain and nervous system	C70-C72	2222	3.6	2.7	3.2	23.3	2.53	69.3
	Thyroid	C73	1520	2.5	1.6	2.1	7.0	3.72	87.6
	Malignant lymphoma	C81-C85 C96	7121	11.5	7.0	9.3	16.0	1.58	80.7
	Multiple myeloma	C88-C90	1812	2.9	1.5	2.2	32.5	1.09	64.3
	Hematopoietic tissue	C91-C95	4499	7.3	5.3	6.2	25.9	1.16	71.4
Female	All sites (incl. CIS)	C00-C96 D05-D06	224 996	347.7	176.0	237.4	17.1	1.96	71.9
	All sites	C00-C96	219 163	338.7	168.6	228.2	17.5	1.91	71.2
	Lip, oral cavity and pharynx	C00-C14	2638	4.1	2.0	2.7	11.7	1.94	81.6
	Esophagus	C15	2428	3.8	1.6	2.2	22.0	1.57	70.1
	Stomach	C16	34 058	52.6	23.8	33.3	17.5	1.90	77.2
	Colon	C18	27 105	41.9	18.5	25.9	14.9	2.38	78.0
	Rectum	C19-C21	11 834	18.3	8.7	12.0	11.4	2.52	82.5
	Liver	C22	11 794	18.2	7.5	10.7	33.9	1.14	25.1
	Gallbladder	C23-C24	9027	13.9	5.0	7.5	32.8	1.11	35.8
	Pancreas	C25	8744	13.5	5.2	7.6	36.2	1.03	25.5
	Larynx	C32	224	0.3	0.2	0.2	16.9	2.60	80.0
	Lung	C33-C34	18 226	28.2	11.8	16.9	28.0	1.28	62.0
	Skin	C43-C44	3490	5.4	2.2	3.1	6.6	7.93	90.8
	Breast	C50 D05	36 139	55.8	36.0	46.4	5.1	4.07	89.0
	Uterus (incl. CIS)	C53-C55 D06	18 364	28.4	19.3	24.7	7.8	3.57	86.3
	Uterus (only invasive)	C53-C55	13 450	20.8	12.8	16.6	10.2	2.62	83.0
	Cervix uteri	C53	6488	10.0	6.6	8.5	7.5	2.87	85.4
	Corpus uteri	C54	5715	8.8	5.4	6.9	5.3	5.04	89.4
	Ovary	C56	7314	11.3	7.0	8.9	17.3	1.79	73.5
	Kidney	C64-C66 C68	3452	5.3	2.5	3.4	17.4	2.10	67.0
Bladder	C67	3638	5.6	2.2	3.2	16.1	2.45	77.3	
Brain and nervous system	C70-C72	1946	3.0	2.0	2.3	26.1	2.90	65.9	
Thyroid	C73	6464	10.0	6.6	8.3	4.1	7.25	89.8	
Malignant lymphoma	C81-C85 C96	5312	8.2	4.2	5.6	18.0	1.68	78.8	
Multiple myeloma	C88-C90	1843	2.8	1.1	1.7	33.0	1.13	64.4	
Hematopoietic tissue	C91-C95	3338	5.2	3.5	4.0	26.8	1.19	70.9	

*Per 100 000 population.

ICD-10th, International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision; DCO/I, proportion of cases with the death certificate only; I/D, number of incidence/number of deaths; HV/I, proportion of histologically verified cases to incident cases.

Table 2. Age-specific incidence in Japan according to sex and primary site, 1999

Sex	Primary sites	ICD-10th	All ages	Age group (years)																	
				0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+
Male	All sites	C00-C96	304 527	492	267	286	497	658	1008	1361	2319	4484	10556	18147	28418	37290	53519	58757	39143	26768	20557
	Lip, oral cavity and pharynx	C00-C14	6563	0	0	6	16	39	65	64	86	134	388	558	875	978	1111	1037	583	340	283
	Esophagus	C15	12 402	0	0	0	0	2	0	6	15	122	353	903	1791	1962	2376	2248	1299	800	525
	Stomach	C16	69 627	0	0	0	5	33	113	190	545	1188	2906	4610	7096	9169	12303	13268	8391	5595	4215
	Colon	C18	35 092	0	0	0	7	16	60	125	235	575	1275	2336	3627	4849	6482	6521	4310	2632	2042
	Rectum	C19-C21	20 461	0	0	0	7	8	24	82	195	390	1006	1678	2705	3054	3662	3652	1898	1229	871
	Liver	C22	26 174	29	13	0	1	14	16	33	91	237	951	1696	2705	3990	6166	4768	2767	1605	1092
	Gallbladder	C23-C24	8024	0	2	0	0	0	6	11	41	62	133	333	503	859	1217	1571	1244	1054	988
	Pancreas	C25	10 490	3	0	5	3	0	13	7	34	103	349	640	1015	1106	1711	2085	1465	1125	826
	Larynx	C32	3196	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	9	34	84	248	403	497	586	621	328	240	144
	Lung	C33-C34	45 091	0	0	0	3	8	14	60	158	417	923	1829	2998	4360	7711	10261	7570	5131	3648
	Skin	C43-C44	3834	3	5	5	7	9	22	47	35	77	141	159	284	396	540	643	541	456	464
	Prostate	C61	17 865	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	5	23	159	576	1401	2964	4363	3356	2742	2270
	Kidney	C64-C66 C68	6872	29	0	11	0	13	18	50	88	171	357	606	680	902	1127	1242	771	465	342
	Bladder	C67	11 418	5	0	0	0	0	22	42	81	101	301	625	874	1133	1944	2317	1731	1224	1018
	Brain and nervous system	C70-C72	2222	55	44	44	47	34	103	66	107	96	145	177	222	191	270	239	159	134	89
	Thyroid	C73	1520	0	1	8	15	26	45	38	56	86	132	145	153	184	202	204	121	62	42
	Malignant lymphoma	C81-C85 C96	7121	29	29	39	110	90	89	106	145	202	336	501	703	737	1122	1210	741	514	418
	Multiple myeloma	C88-C90	1812	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	11	18	42	103	135	193	259	373	293	193	188
	Hematopoietic tissue	C91-C95	4499	141	98	78	123	137	93	107	90	115	299	281	343	447	596	600	421	251	279
Female	All sites (incl. CIS)	C00-C96 D05-D06	224 996	330	181	201	343	732	1663	3390	5407	8188	15 050	16 634	19 761	22 315	26 846	29 250	27 695	22 004	25 006
	All sites	C00-C96	219 163	330	181	201	339	658	1332	2460	4493	7362	14 072	16 128	19 417	22 001	26 623	29 033	27 607	21 952	24 974
	Lip, oral cavity and pharynx	C00-C14	2638	0	0	0	2	11	31	30	56	84	128	152	235	286	350	324	336	284	329
	Esophagus	C15	2428	0	0	2	0	4	0	2	7	24	66	158	197	274	293	347	349	292	413
	Stomach	C16	34 058	0	0	3	18	52	103	213	481	924	1604	1924	2457	3275	4238	5064	5137	4007	4558
	Colon	C18	27 105	0	0	3	9	11	30	100	183	348	948	1469	2415	2938	3780	4416	3974	3059	3422
	Rectum	C19-C21	11 834	0	0	0	3	7	28	50	113	236	592	866	1321	1489	1597	1655	1543	1180	1154
	Liver	C22	11 794	14	3	0	2	5	16	15	22	74	156	281	590	1249	2097	2317	1954	1541	1458
	Gallbladder	C23-C24	9027	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	21	45	124	203	422	664	965	1308	1679	1567	2023
	Pancreas	C25	8744	0	0	1	0	2	7	16	20	82	151	311	604	716	1054	1220	1576	1281	1703
	Larynx	C32	224	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	12	38	25	29	31	40	22	21
	Lung	C33-C34	18 226	0	2	0	3	7	15	61	87	183	570	919	1463	1695	2351	2853	2927	2407	2683
	Skin	C43-C44	3490	2	0	5	3	21	25	33	51	69	109	147	187	257	333	369	522	518	839
	Breast	C50 D05	36 139	3	0	4	5	22	209	733	1735	3147	6070	5008	4467	3967	3454	3021	1987	1216	1091
	Uterus (incl. CIS)	C53-C55 D06	18 364	0	0	0	7	98	553	1512	1724	1624	2169	2103	1756	1597	1502	1293	915	690	821
	Uterus (only invasive)	C53-C55	13 450	0	0	0	2	22	212	566	823	884	1405	1740	1506	1421	1350	1171	878	665	805
	Cervix uteri	C53	6488	0	0	0	0	10	146	449	591	594	742	675	548	564	528	555	436	316	334
	Corpus uteri	C54	5715	0	0	0	2	5	50	74	164	227	599	999	895	807	766	522	322	164	119
	Ovary	C56	7314	1	3	15	72	112	218	160	215	413	777	978	948	758	775	585	447	421	416
	Kidney	C64-C66 C68	3452	14	4	3	5	9	12	23	31	68	150	188	260	325	513	535	532	383	397
Bladder	C67	3638	0	0	0	0	7	2	18	31	34	44	131	225	259	417	567	614	584	705	
Brain and nervous system	C70-C72	1946	54	51	25	24	42	45	48	66	63	119	131	175	171	209	228	194	164	137	
Thyroid	C73	6464	0	3	9	32	113	171	254	348	476	704	779	793	755	689	536	375	243	184	
Malignant lymphoma	C81-C85 C96	5312	13	10	17	34	77	50	54	125	165	259	313	419	507	688	756	723	566	536	
Multiple myeloma	C88-C90	1843	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	15	34	74	107	169	243	357	353	239	250	
Hematopoietic tissue	C91-C95	3338	97	64	62	73	55	79	84	75	109	147	220	261	339	353	430	385	225	280	

ICD-10th, International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision.

Table 3. Age-specific incidence rate per 100 000 population in Japan according to sex and primary site, 1999

Sex	Primary sites	ICD-10th	Age group (years)																	
			0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+
Male	All sites	C00-C96	16.1	8.6	8.3	12.7	14.5	20.0	31.0	58.0	113.0	223.4	369.5	650.4	1010.6	1633.2	2283.6	2625.3	3094.6	3369.9
	Lip, oral cavity and pharynx	C00-C14	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.9	1.3	1.5	2.2	3.4	8.2	11.4	20.0	26.5	33.9	40.3	39.1	39.3	46.4
	Esophagus	C15	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4	3.1	7.5	18.4	41.0	53.2	72.5	87.4	87.1	92.5	86.1
	Stomach	C16	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.7	2.2	4.3	13.6	29.9	61.5	93.9	162.4	248.5	375.4	515.7	562.8	646.8	691.0
	Colon	C18	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.4	1.2	2.8	5.9	14.5	27.0	47.6	83.0	131.4	197.8	253.4	289.1	304.3	334.7
	Rectum	C19-C21	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.5	1.9	4.9	9.8	21.3	34.2	61.9	82.8	111.7	141.9	127.3	142.0	142.8
	Liver	C22	1.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.8	2.3	6.0	20.1	34.5	61.9	108.1	188.2	185.3	185.6	185.6	179.0
	Gallbladder	C23-C24	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	1.0	1.6	2.8	6.8	11.5	23.3	37.1	61.1	83.5	121.8	161.9
	Pancreas	C25	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.8	2.6	7.4	13.0	23.2	30.0	52.2	81.0	98.2	130.0	135.4
	Larynx	C32	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.9	1.8	5.1	9.2	13.5	17.9	24.2	22.0	27.7	23.7
	Lung	C33-C34	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	1.4	4.0	10.5	19.5	37.2	68.6	118.1	235.3	398.8	507.7	593.1	598.0
	Skin	C43-C44	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	1.1	0.9	2.0	3.0	3.2	6.5	10.7	16.5	25.0	36.3	52.8	76.1
	Prostate	C61	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.5	3.2	13.2	38.0	90.4	169.6	225.1	317.0	372.1
	Kidney	C64-C66 C68	1.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.4	1.1	2.2	4.3	7.6	12.3	15.6	24.4	34.4	48.3	51.7	53.8	56.1
	Bladder	C67	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	1.0	2.0	2.6	6.4	12.7	20.0	30.7	59.3	90.1	116.1	141.5	166.8
	Brain and nervous system	C70-C72	1.8	1.4	1.3	1.2	0.8	2.0	1.5	2.7	2.4	3.1	3.6	5.1	5.2	8.3	9.3	10.7	15.4	14.5
	Thyroid	C73	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.9	0.9	1.4	2.2	2.8	3.0	3.5	5.0	6.2	7.9	8.1	7.2	6.8
	Malignant lymphoma	C81-C85 C96	1.0	0.9	1.1	2.8	2.0	1.8	2.4	3.6	5.1	7.1	10.2	16.1	20.0	34.2	47.0	49.7	59.4	68.5
	Multiple myeloma	C88-C90	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.5	0.9	2.1	3.1	5.2	7.9	14.5	19.7	22.4	30.9
	Hematopoietic tissue	C91-C95	4.6	3.2	2.2	3.1	3.0	1.8	2.4	2.3	2.9	6.3	5.7	7.9	12.1	18.2	23.3	28.3	29.0	45.7
Female	All sites (incl. CIS)	C00-C96 D05-D06	11.4	6.2	6.1	9.2	16.9	34.2	79.0	137.9	208.5	319.0	336.4	436.3	566.4	730.7	924.8	1137.4	1372.7	1673.7
	All sites	C00-C96	11.4	6.2	6.1	9.1	15.2	27.4	57.3	114.6	187.4	298.3	326.1	428.7	558.4	724.6	917.9	1133.8	1369.4	1671.6
	Lip, oral cavity and pharynx	C00-C14	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.6	0.7	1.4	2.1	2.7	3.1	5.2	7.3	9.5	10.2	13.8	17.7	22.0
	Esophagus	C15	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.6	1.4	3.2	4.3	6.9	8.0	11.0	14.4	18.2	27.6
	Stomach	C16	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.5	1.2	2.1	5.0	12.3	23.5	34.0	38.9	54.3	83.1	115.3	160.1	210.9	249.9	305.1
	Colon	C18	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.6	2.3	4.7	8.9	20.1	29.7	53.3	74.6	102.9	139.6	163.2	190.8	229.1
	Rectum	C19-C21	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.6	1.2	2.9	6.0	12.5	17.5	29.2	37.8	43.5	52.3	63.4	73.6	77.2
	Liver	C22	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.5	1.9	3.3	5.7	13.0	31.7	57.1	73.3	80.3	96.2	97.6
	Gallbladder	C23-C24	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.5	1.1	2.6	4.1	9.3	16.9	26.3	41.3	69.0	97.8	135.4
	Pancreas	C25	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.5	2.1	3.2	6.3	13.3	18.2	28.7	38.6	64.7	79.9	114.0
	Larynx	C32	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.6	1.4	1.4
	Lung	C33-C34	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	1.4	2.2	4.7	12.1	18.6	32.3	43.0	64.0	90.2	120.2	150.1	179.6
	Skin	C43-C44	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.8	1.3	1.7	2.3	3.0	4.1	6.5	9.1	11.7	21.4	32.3	56.1
	Breast	C50 D05	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.5	4.3	17.1	44.2	80.1	128.7	101.3	98.6	100.7	94.0	95.5	81.6	75.9	73.0
	Uterus (incl. CIS)	C53-C55 D06	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	2.3	11.4	35.2	44.0	41.3	46.0	42.5	38.8	40.5	40.9	40.9	37.6	43.1	55.0
	Uterus (only invasive)	C53-C55	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.5	4.4	13.2	21.0	22.5	29.8	35.2	33.3	36.1	36.7	37.0	36.1	41.5	53.9
	Cervix uteri	C53	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	3.0	10.5	15.1	15.1	15.7	13.6	12.1	14.3	14.4	17.6	17.9	19.7	22.4
	Corpus uteri	C54	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.0	1.7	4.2	5.8	12.7	20.2	19.8	20.5	20.8	16.5	13.2	10.2	8.0
	Ovary	C56	0.0	0.1	0.5	1.9	2.6	4.5	3.7	5.5	10.5	16.5	19.8	20.9	19.2	21.1	18.5	18.4	26.3	27.9
	Kidney	C64-C66 C68	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.8	1.7	3.2	3.8	5.7	8.3	14.0	16.9	21.8	23.9	26.6
Bladder	C67	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.8	0.9	0.9	2.6	5.0	6.6	11.4	17.9	25.2	36.4	47.2	
Brain and nervous system	C70-C72	1.9	1.7	0.8	0.6	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.7	1.6	2.5	2.7	3.9	4.4	5.7	7.2	8.0	10.2	9.2	
Thyroid	C73	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.9	2.6	3.5	5.9	8.9	12.1	14.9	15.7	17.5	19.2	18.8	16.9	15.4	15.1	12.3	
Malignant lymphoma	C81-C85 C96	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.9	1.8	1.0	1.3	3.2	4.2	5.5	6.3	9.3	12.9	18.7	23.9	29.7	35.3	35.9	
Multiple myeloma	C88-C90	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.7	1.5	2.4	4.3	6.6	11.3	14.5	14.9	16.7	
Hematopoietic tissue	C91-C95	3.4	2.2	1.9	1.9	1.3	1.6	2.0	1.9	2.8	3.1	4.5	5.8	8.6	9.6	13.6	15.8	14.1	18.7	

ICD-10th, International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision.