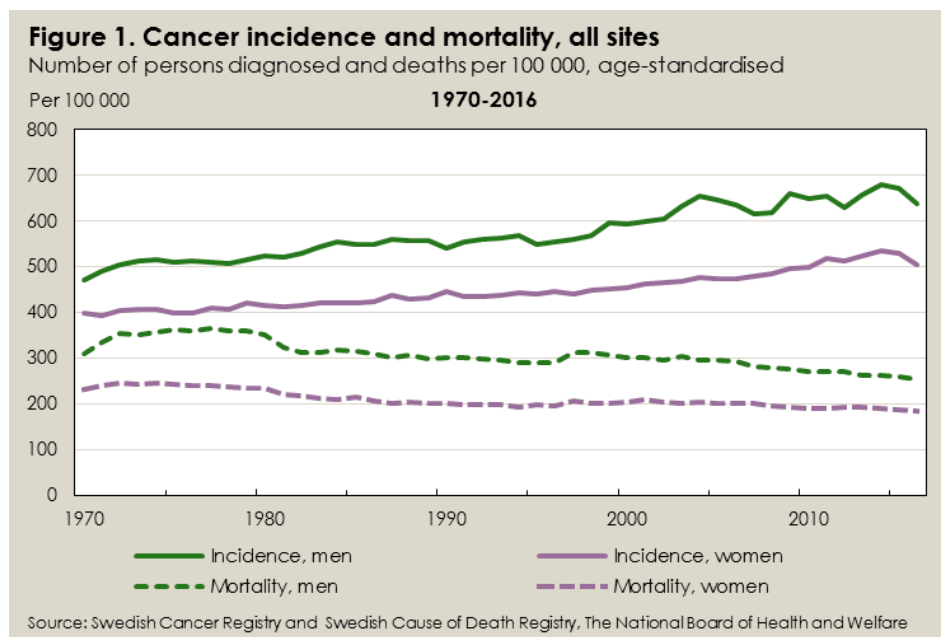


Statistics on Cancer Incidence 2016

In 2016, about 65,000 malignant tumors for just over 60,000 persons were reported to the Cancer Registry. In addition, approximately 51,000 tumors for about 38,000 persons were reported to the Basal Cell Cancer registry. The number of people who receive a cancer diagnosis is considerably higher than the number of deaths in cancer. For women, breast cancer is the most common type of cancer, and for men, prostate cancer is the most common.

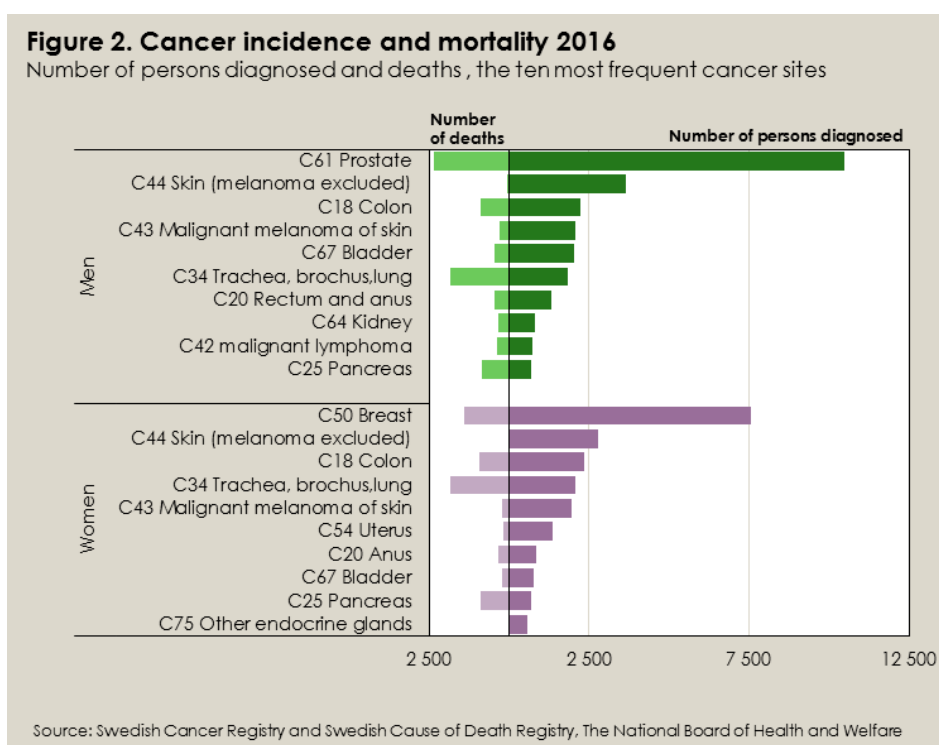
The number of new cancer cases is increasing while mortality slowly decreases

The number of people diagnosed with cancer (incidence) has increased while deaths in cancer (mortality) have decreased during the period 1970–2016, age adjusted for the population 2000 (Figure 1). The decrease in mortality has been slightly lower among women, which can be explained completely by an increase in lung cancer mortality among women. This can in turn be explained by a large increase in smoking among women during the second half of the 20th century. The decrease in the incidence of newly diagnosed cases over the last two years can be ascribed to random variation over time and to a delay in reporting to the Cancer Registry. The incidence for the past year, 2016, will probably increase up to next year’s publication. When estimating incidence trends analyses should cover a wider range of years. The risk of getting cancer increases with age for most types of cancer. Age-adjusted incidence and mortality takes the age structure of the population into account and can be used for comparing over time and between regions.



The most common types of cancer

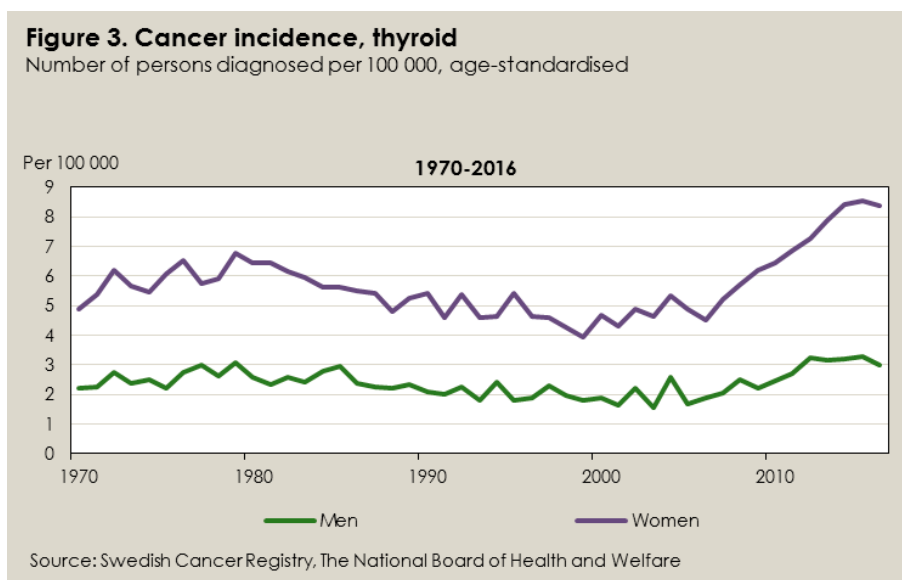
Figure 2 shows the number of people diagnosed with cancer during 2016 for the 10 most common types of cancer, as well as the number of deaths during 2016 with the cancer type as the underlying cause of death. Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women. In 2016, over 7,500 women were diagnosed with breast cancer and almost 1,400 women died with breast cancer as the underlying cause of death. Prostate cancer is the most common cancer among men. In 2016, about 10,500 men were diagnosed with prostate cancer and over 2,300 men died. Lung cancer was the largest cause of cancer deaths among women, with over 1,800 deaths in 2016. About the same number of men died in lung cancer. Note that the persons who died in 2016 could have had their cancer diagnosed years earlier. Comparing the incidence for one year with the mortality for the same year when the cancer had been diagnosed earlier, still gives a general idea of mortality in relation to the incidence of various types of cancer.



Cancer of the thyroid, tongue and base of tongue has increased

Cancer in thyroid, tongue and base of tongue are some smaller cancer forms, but where a significant increase in incidence has been seen in recent years. The incidence of thyroid cancer for women (Figure 3) has for almost two decades been around 5 women per 100,000 but has over the last decade increased to over 8 per 100,000 in 2016. Also among men, the incidence of thyroid cancer has increased

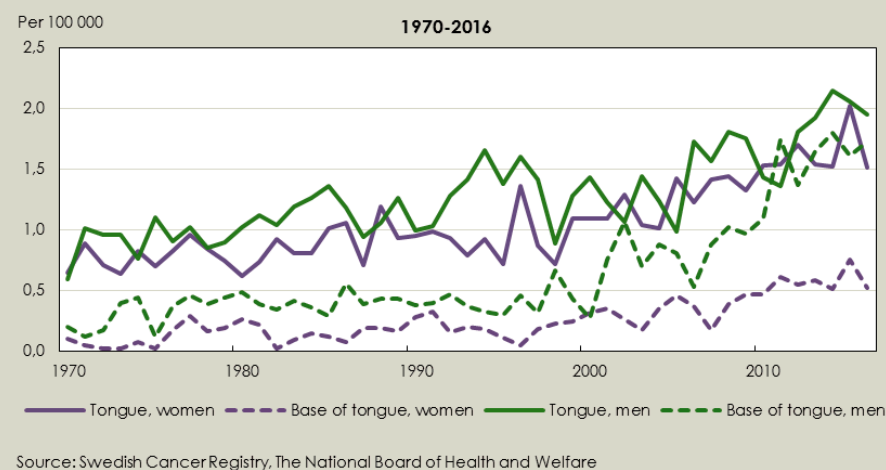
slightly during the same period. In number of individuals, the increase corresponds to approximately 70 more men and 200 more women diagnosed yearly with thyroid cancer.



Cancer of the tongue and base of tongue has increased for both men and women over the last decades (Figure 4). The incidence of cancer in the base of tongue among men has increased more than fourfold over the last 20 years, from less than 0.5 to almost 2 men per 100,000. Cancer in tongue has increased both among men and women although less than cancer in the base of tongue. Another type of cancer that has increased is cancer of the tonsils. Also here the increase has been highest among men. Research has identified human papillomavirus (HPV) infection as a cause, among other possible causes, to the increase in cancer of the base of tongue and tonsils [1]. Other cancers that have increased are malignant melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancer.

Figure 4. Cancer incidence, tongue and base of tongue

Number of persons diagnosed per 100 000, age-standardised



Basal cell carcinoma

Since 2004, The National Board of Health and Welfare has collected data to the Basal Cell Cancer Registry. Basal cell carcinoma (BCC) is the most common type of skin cancer. The most important predisposing factor in the development of BCC is the exposure to ultraviolet radiation in sunlight. In 2016, about 51,000 cases for about 38,000 persons were reported to the Basal Cell Cancer Registry.

References

1. Nationellt vårdprogram för Huvud-och halscancer, 2015, Regionalt cancercentrum i samverkan.

More information

More tables, graphs and other information are available in the Excel file:

<http://www.socialstyrelsen.se/publikationer2017/2017-12-31>

You can access the data and produce your own tables and graphs with the Statistical Database:

<http://www.socialstyrelsen.se/statistics/statisticaldatabase/cancer>

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