

# Statistics on Cancer Incidence 2019

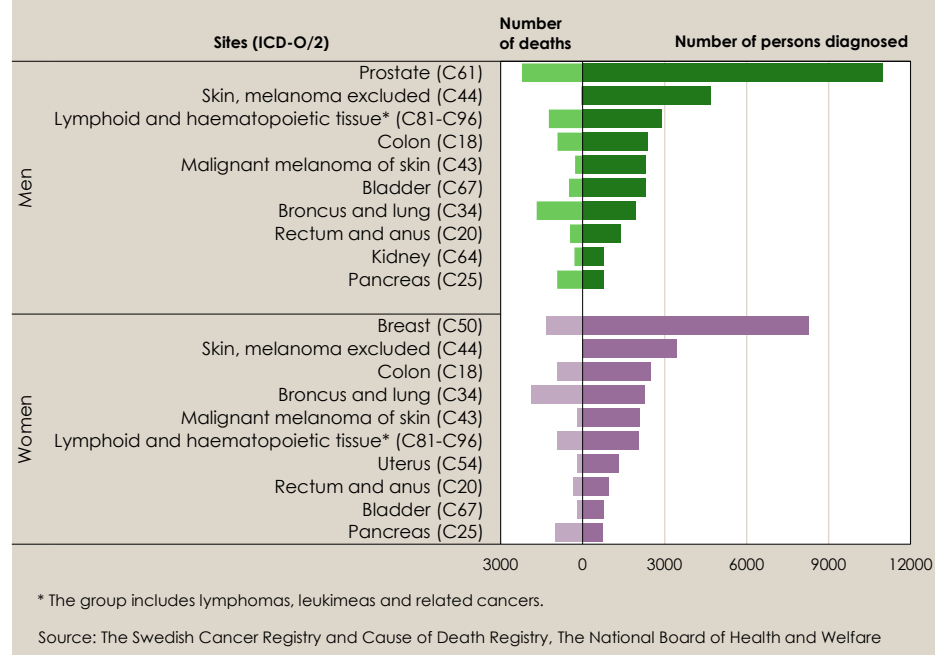
**In 2019, 71,743 malignant tumours for 65,956 persons were reported to the Cancer Registry. The number of people who receive a cancer diagnosis is considerably higher than the number of deaths in cancer. For women, breast cancer is the most common type of cancer, for men, prostate cancer is the most common. This document addresses a selection of the most common cancers along with some specific comments.**

## The most common types of cancer

Figure 1 shows the number of people diagnosed with cancer during 2019 for the 10 most common types of cancer, as well as the number of deaths where the different type of cancer are the underlying cause of death. Breast cancer is the most common type of cancer among women. In 2019, 8,288 women were diagnosed with breast cancer and 1,353 women died with breast cancer as the underlying cause of death. Prostate cancer is the most common cancer among men. During the year, 10,984 men were diagnosed with prostate cancer and 2,200 men died from it. Lung cancer was the largest cause of cancer deaths among women, with 1,879 deaths in 2019. Lung cancer caused 1,677 deaths among men in 2019. Note that the persons who died from cancer in a certain year could have had their cancer diagnosed several years earlier. Comparing the incidence for one year with the mortality for the same year still gives a general idea of mortality in relation to the incidence of various types of cancer.

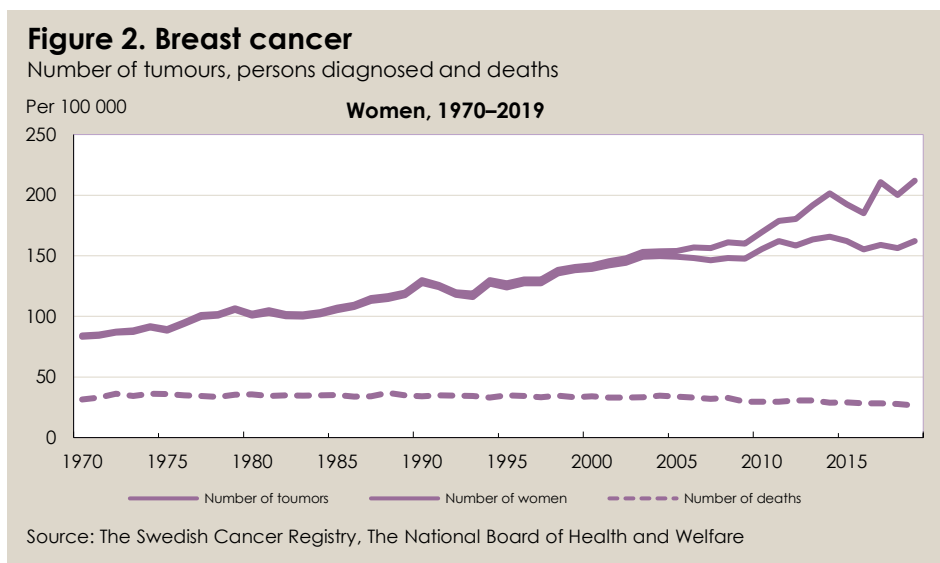
**Figure 1. The ten most common cancer sites, 2019**

Number of persons diagnosed and number of deaths

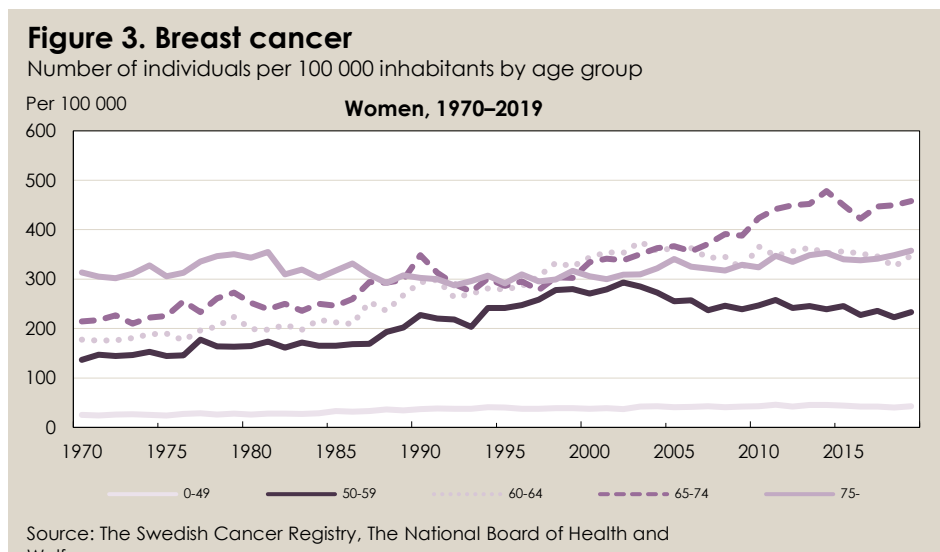


## Breast cancer

Breast cancer among women has increased while mortality has slowly declined. The number of women diagnosed annually with a breast cancer diagnosis has increased from about 90 women per 100 000 in 1970 to over 150 women per 100 000 per year in 2019. In recent years, however, the incidence for individuals has remained stable. Because of the cancer incidence fluctuation, there is uncertainty about whether future development of breast cancer incidence will remain stable. The trend estimate based on the last 20 years still shows an increased breast cancer incidence.



Breast cancer incidence over time differs between age groups (figure 3). For women in the age group 50–59 years the incidence declined since the beginning of 2000s while the incidence among women in the age groups 65–74 increased steadily. Since the mid-2010s there has been a slight decrease in this age group.

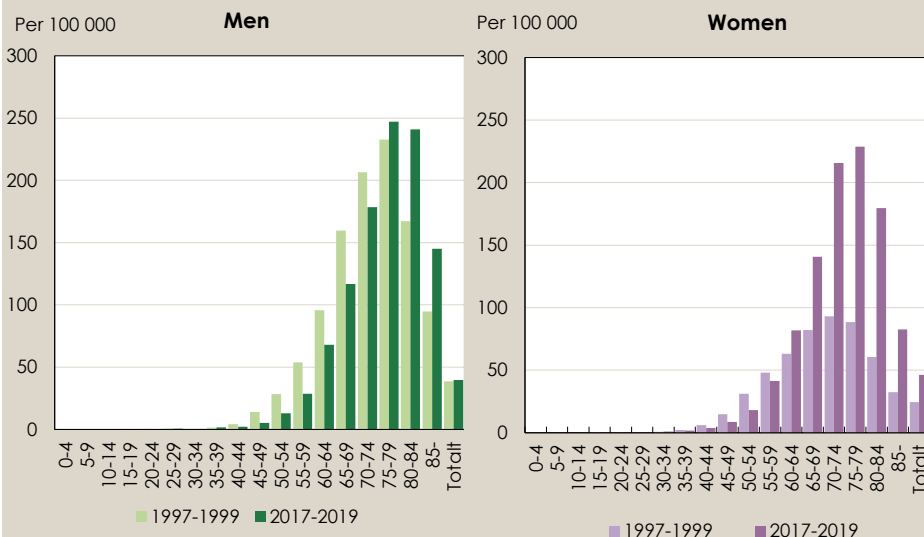


# Lung cancer

In recent years, the incidence of lung cancer among women has increased. For persons over 70 years old, the incidence has more than doubled. There is a decrease, however, for women in the age groups 25–59 years. Among men, the incidence of lung cancer has, during a 20 year period of time, decreased for men in the age groups of 40–74 years while it has increased among men over 75 years. The total incidence of lung cancer for men has slightly decreasing. The different pattern in lung cancer incidence for men and women is probably related to different smoking habits over time.

**Figure 4. Lung cancer, age specific incidence, 1997–1999 and 2017–2019**

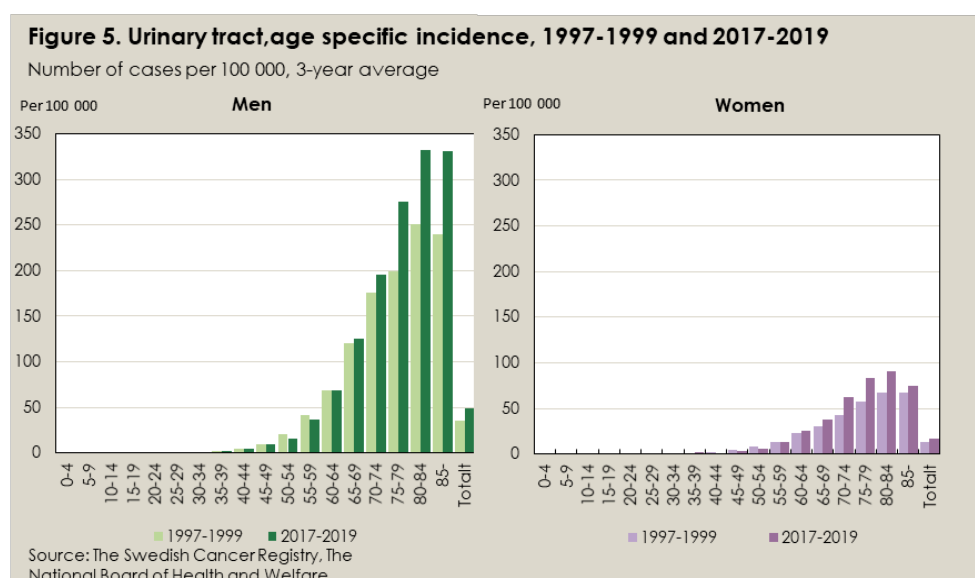
Number of cases per 100 000, 3-year



Source: The Swedish Cancer Registry, The National Board of Health and Welfare

## Cancer in the urinary tract

Cancer in the urinary tract has increased for both women and men over the past 20 years. Figure 5 shows 3-year mean values for the cancer incidence per 5-year age group for the period 2017–2019 compared with the period 1997–1999. The total cancer incidence among men is 49 cases per 100,000. Among women the incidence is 17 cases per 100,000. The increased incidence was mainly observed for persons over the age of 70. In particular, men above 75 years of age, the increased cancer incidence was over 30 percent compared to men in the same age group 20 years ago. Among women, the incidence of urinary tract cancer is not as high as that for men. However, it has increased for the elderly. There is a clear increased incidence in age groups over 65 years. For women in the age groups 70–74 and 75–79 years, the incidence has increased by almost 50 percent.



### Further information

More tables, graphs and other information are available in the Excel file:  
[www.socialstyrelsen.se/statistik-och-data/statistik/statistikammen/cancer](http://www.socialstyrelsen.se/statistik-och-data/statistik/statistikammen/cancer)

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

[www.socialstyrelsen.se/statistik-och-data/statistik/statistikdatabasen](http://www.socialstyrelsen.se/statistik-och-data/statistik/statistikdatabasen)

### Contact:

Staffan Khan

Telephone: +46 (0)75 247 38 40

Email: [staffan.khan@socialstyrelsen.se](mailto:staffan.khan@socialstyrelsen.se)

Sasha Pejicic

Telephone: +46 (0)75 247 43 13

Email: [sasha.pejicic@socialstyrelsen.se](mailto:sasha.pejicic@socialstyrelsen.se)

Lars Holmberg (expert, MD, PhD)

Email: [lars.holmberg@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:lars.holmberg@kcl.ac.uk)