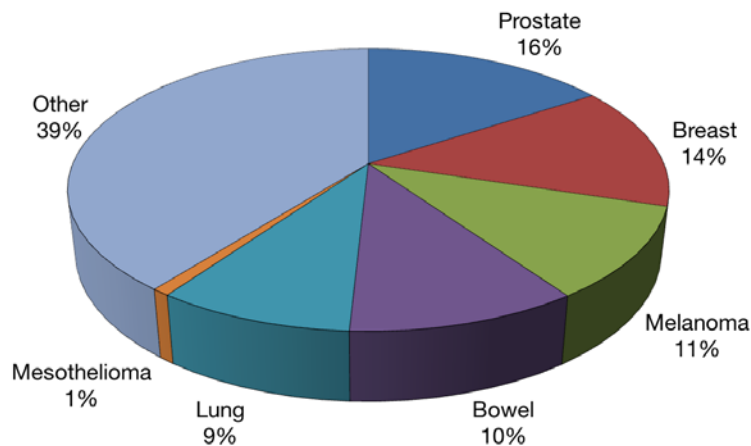


Western Australian Cancer Statistics, 2014

Mesothelioma

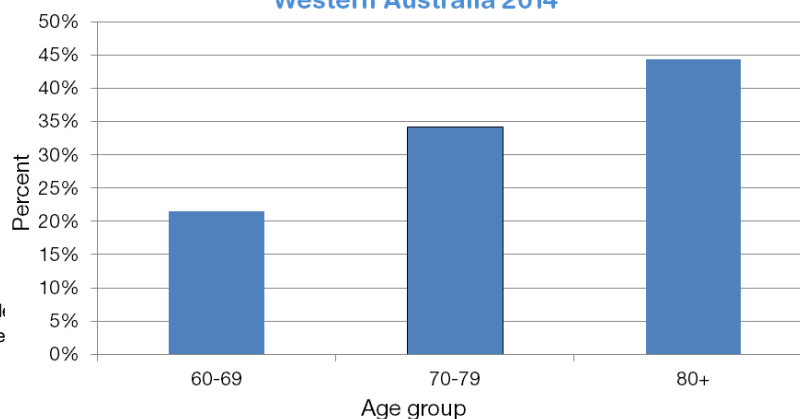
- Mesothelioma is a rare cancer that develops in the lining of the lungs, abdomen, heart and testicles.
- It is most commonly caused by exposure to asbestos fibres (about 90 per cent of cases).
- Asbestos is a natural mineral fibre that was mined extensively in Australia and used in a very wide variety of building and consumer products.
- Asbestos fibres are very thin (microscopic) and can be inhaled easily, deep into the lungs where they can cause damage over a long period of time.
- All forms of asbestos were banned in Australia from December 2003, but the legacy of asbestos remains in the built environment.

Cancer incidence in Western Australians, 2014
(excluding non-melanoma skin cancer)



- Australia has one of the highest incidence rates of malignant mesothelioma in the world.
- Five-year survival rates for mesothelioma are very poor (approximately 3 per cent of men diagnosed are alive five years after and 12 per cent of women).¹
- About 80 per cent of mesothelioma cases are diagnosed in people aged over 65. In Australia, the chance of being diagnosed with mesothelioma before the age of 75 is 1 in 212 for men and 1 in 1300 for women.
- Mesothelioma is more common in men than women. This is due mostly to the occupations men were likely to work, e.g. mining and milling asbestos and working in the building industry. Since 1982, 14,866 new cases of mesothelioma have been diagnosed in Australia. The rate of mesothelioma has been steadily increasing in both males and females since data on this cancer started being collected in 1982.

Mesothelioma incidence rate by age:
Western Australia 2014*



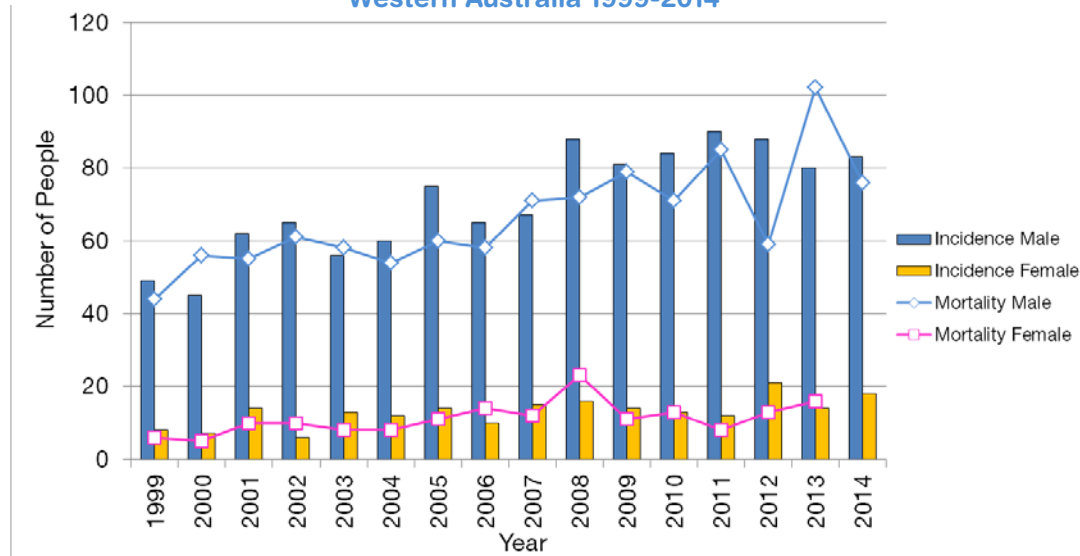
*This graph does not include incidence data for values less than 5%.

Number of mesothelioma cases Western Australia 2011-2014*

		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Incidence	Male	45	62	65	56	60	75	65	67	88	81	84	90	88	80	83
	Female	7	14	6	13	12	14	10	15	16	14	13	12	21	14	18
	Persons	52	76	71	69	72	89	75	82	104	95	97	102	109	94	101
Mortality	Male	56	55	61	58	54	60	58	71	72	79	71	85	59	102	76
	Female	5	10	10	8	8	11	14	12	23	11	13	8	13	16	16
	Persons	61	65	71	66	62	71	72	83	95	90	84	93	72	118	92

*Total number of cases recorded by the Cancer Registry in one year

Mesothelioma incidence and mortality Western Australia 1999-2014



Mesothelioma age standardised rates (ASR) Western Australia 2000-2014*

		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
ASR Incidence	Male	3.6	4.7	4.8	3.7	4	4.9	3.9	4.2	5.2	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.3	3.8	3.7
	Female	0.6	1.1	0.3	1.9	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
ASR Mortality	Male	4.5	4.1	4.4	4	3.6	3.8	3.6	4.2	4.2	4.6	3.7	4.2	2.7	4.9	3.3
	Female	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.9	0.7	1.1	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.7

*Number of cases per 100,000 persons, adjusted for age (World 1960 population standard)

Mesothelioma age standardised (ASR) incidence and mortality: Western Australia 1999-2014

