

Western Australian Cancer Statistics, 2014

Cancer is a leading cause of death in Western Australia. In 2014, 4011 people died from cancer, and 12,364 new cases of cancer were diagnosed. More men than women were diagnosed with cancer; 6816 cases (55%) occurred in men and 5548 (45%) in women.

Major cancer sites

The diagrams (see over) show the major cancer sites for males and females in WA (common skin cancers not shown). The top diagram shows new cases that were diagnosed in 2014, and the second diagram shows the number of deaths. Cancer of the breast was the most common cancer diagnosed in women, whereas cancer of the prostate was the leading cancer diagnosed in men.

In 2014 there were 4011 deaths from cancer. The most common causes of cancer-related death in men were from lung, bowel and prostate cancer; and for women were lung, breast and bowel cancer.

Risk

Risk is the chance of developing a disease. This is calculated as the risk, up to age 75 years, of developing cancer. The risk of developing any form of cancer is 1 in 4 women, and 1 in 3 men. The risks for the more common cancers are listed below (based on Western Australian cancer incidence data):

Prostate	1 man in 8
Breast	1 woman in 10
Bowel	1 man in 24 and 1 woman in 39
Melanoma	1 man in 23 and 1 woman in 33
Lung	1 man in 30 and 1 woman in 36

Cancer and age

Generally cancer rates increase with age. Common cancer sites for different age groups in Western Australia are shown below:

Age group	Total number	Common cancer types/sites
0 – 14	76	leukaemia, brain and kidney
15 – 39	675	breast, testis, melanoma, cervix, lymphoma and thyroid
40 – 64	4783	breast, prostate, melanoma, bowel, lung
65 plus	6830	prostate, breast, bowel, lung, melanoma

Trends

Cancer incidence projections are not presented due to limitations on available population data. However, 2005-2014 data presents a statistically significant, small decrease in the incidence of male cancer annually and a non-significant, small increase in cancer annually among women.

Skin cancer

- Skin cancer is the most common cancer in Australia. The two most common forms of non-melanoma skin cancer, Squamous Cell Carcinoma (SCC) and Basal Cell Carcinoma (BCC), are not reported to the WA Cancer Registry. The Registry only records melanomas and other rarer forms of skin cancers.
- An estimated 76,734 non-melanoma skin cancers (NMSC) were treated in WA in 2010 (based on 2010 national Medicare data).
- Higher rates of melanoma deaths among men are most likely due to the higher number of cases in men, late detection and poorer outcomes from more advanced disease.
- Death rates from melanoma are remaining constant at relatively low levels due to early detection.

Bowel (colorectal) cancer

- Death rates for bowel cancer have remained fairly stable for both men and women.
- Bowel cancer is the third most commonly diagnosed cancer in men and the second in women.

Lung cancer

- Smoking is still the major cause of lung cancer. Current patterns of lung cancer incidence (new cases) reflect smoking behaviour 20-30 years ago.
- There has been a steady decline in the age-standardised rates of deaths and new cases of lung cancer among men and a continuing increase in the rate of new cases among women.
- Overall the rates of lung cancer are still higher for men.
- In general lung cancer has a poor prognosis.

Prostate

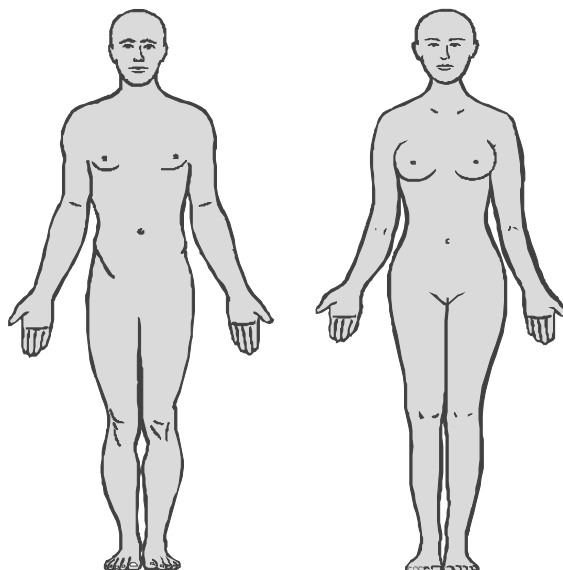
- Prostate cancer is the most common cancer for males and the third most common cause of male cancer deaths.

Breast cancer

- The increased number of cases is likely to be due to the increased population size and to an ageing population.
- The number of deaths has remained relatively constant showing better treatment outcomes when cancer is found earlier.

New cases of cancer in Western Australia, 2014

Rank	Site	%	Cases
1	Prostate	28.5	1945
2	Melanoma	11.4	744
3	Bowel	10.8	739
4	Lung	9.1	623
5	Lymphoma	4.8	325
6	Kidney	3.3	225
7	Bladder & urinary tract	3.1	209
8	Leukaemia	2.6	177
9	Pancreas	2.2	149
10	Other	24.2	1680
Total			6816



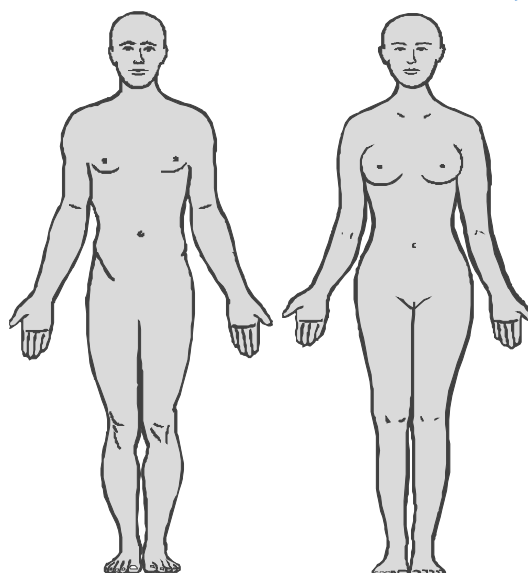
Males

Females

Rank	Site	%	Cases
1	Breast	31.3	1737
2	Bowel	10.1	560
3	Melanoma	9.6	530
4	Lung	8.7	484
5	Lymphoma	4.7	263
6	Uterus	3.6	198
7	Thyroid	3.5	195
8	Ovary	2.6	142
9	Pancreas	2.5	138
10	Other	23.4	1301
Total			5548

Deaths from cancer in Western Australia, 2014

Rank	Site	%	Deaths
1	Lung	21.9	491
2	Bowel	10.7	241
3	Prostate	10.3	231
4	Pancreas	4.9	111
5	Melanoma	4.5	102
6	Cancer of Unknown Primary (CUP)	4.1	91
7	Liver	3.9	87
8	Brain	3.7	84
9	Lymphoma	3.7	84
10	Other	32.3	722
Total			2244



Males

Females

Rank	Site	%	Deaths
1	Lung	18.1	319
2	Breast	14.1	249
3	Bowel	11.3	199
4	Pancreas	6.3	112
5	Ovary	5.8	102
6	Cancer of Unknown Primary (CUP)	5.6	99
7	Leukaemia	3.6	63
8	Lymphoma	3.4	60
9	Melanoma	2.9	51
10	Other	28.9	513
Total			1767

Number of cases Western Australia 2001-2014*

		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Incidence	Male	4308	4827	4911	5256	5245	5457	5545	5997	6291	6283	6671	6689	6649	6816
	Female	3650	3902	3925	4095	4033	4235	4027	4411	4514	4659	4965	5250	5094	5548
	Persons	7,958	8,729	8,836	9,351	9,278	9,692	9,572	10,408	10,805	10,942	11,636	11,939	11,743	12,364
Mortality	Males	1785	1883	1868	1869	2006	2047	2064	2082	2158	2260	2232	2273	2250	2244
	Female	1374	1425	1511	1477	1427	1523	1633	1573	1704	1540	1630	1729	1744	1767
	Persons	3,159	3,308	3,379	3,346	3,433	3,570	3,697	3,655	3,655	3,800	3,862	4,002	3,994	4,011

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

Age standardised rates (ASR) Western Australia 2001-2014*

		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Incidence	Male	338.2	367.3	361.7	374.6	361	362	356.9	372.1	378.2	365.1	379.9	353.2	351.2	348.9
	Female	263.5	276.7	270.8	276.2	263.5	270.3	250.9	262.7	264.5	269.1	270.9	274.1	263.7	279.3
Mortality	Males	132.5	133.6	127.7	122.8	127.1	123.3	121.9	117.4	117.1	117.2	113.7	105.4	106.6	101.7
	Female	84.7	86.4	88.3	84.2	78.1	82.5	84.4	77.4	84.3	72	72.2	72.7	74.3	72.7

*Number of cases per 100,000 persons, adjusted for age