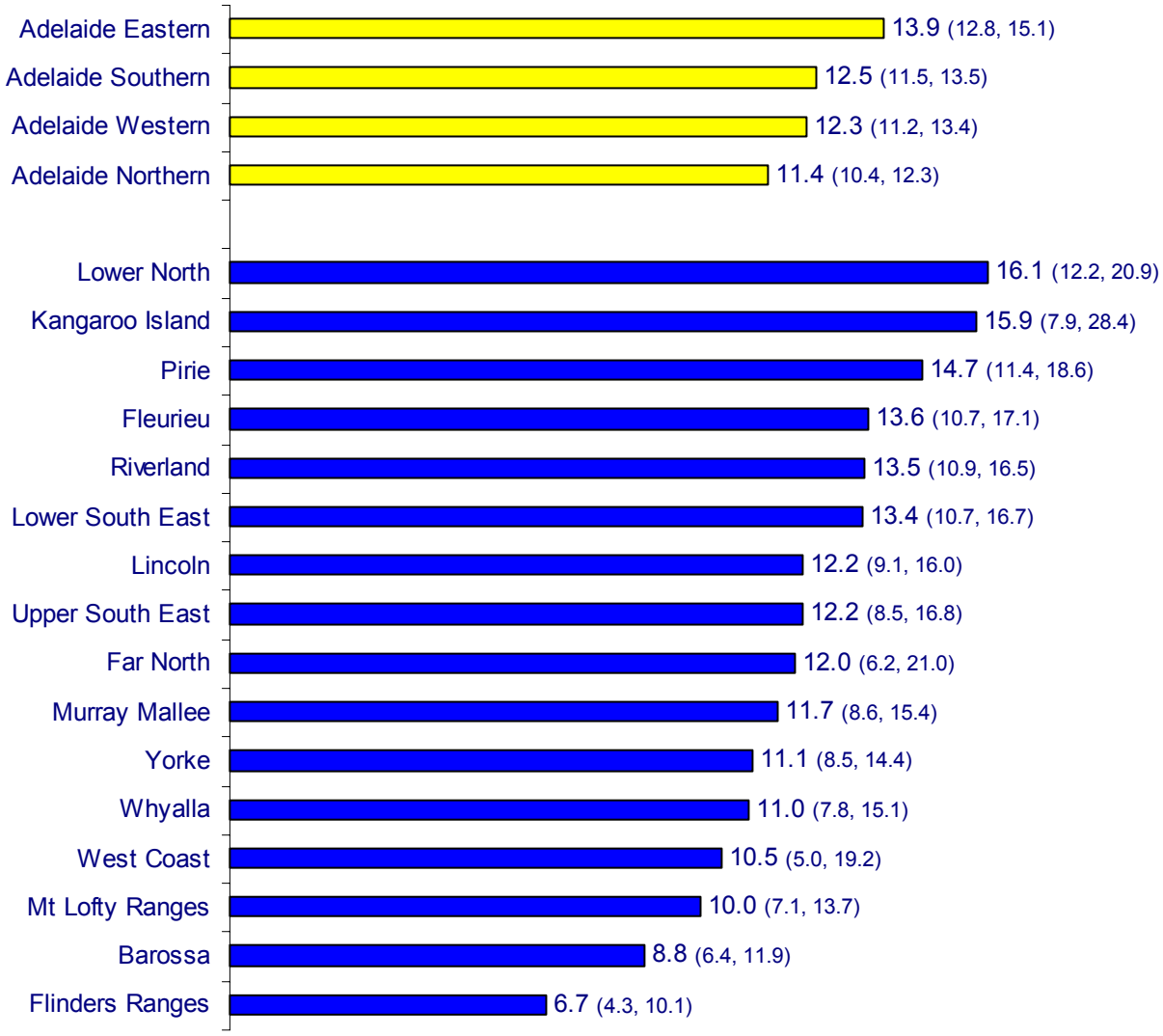
Annual incidence of cancer in South Australia in 1977-2001 by geographic region per 100,000 (age-standardized to World Population)

Cancer site: **Leukaemias**

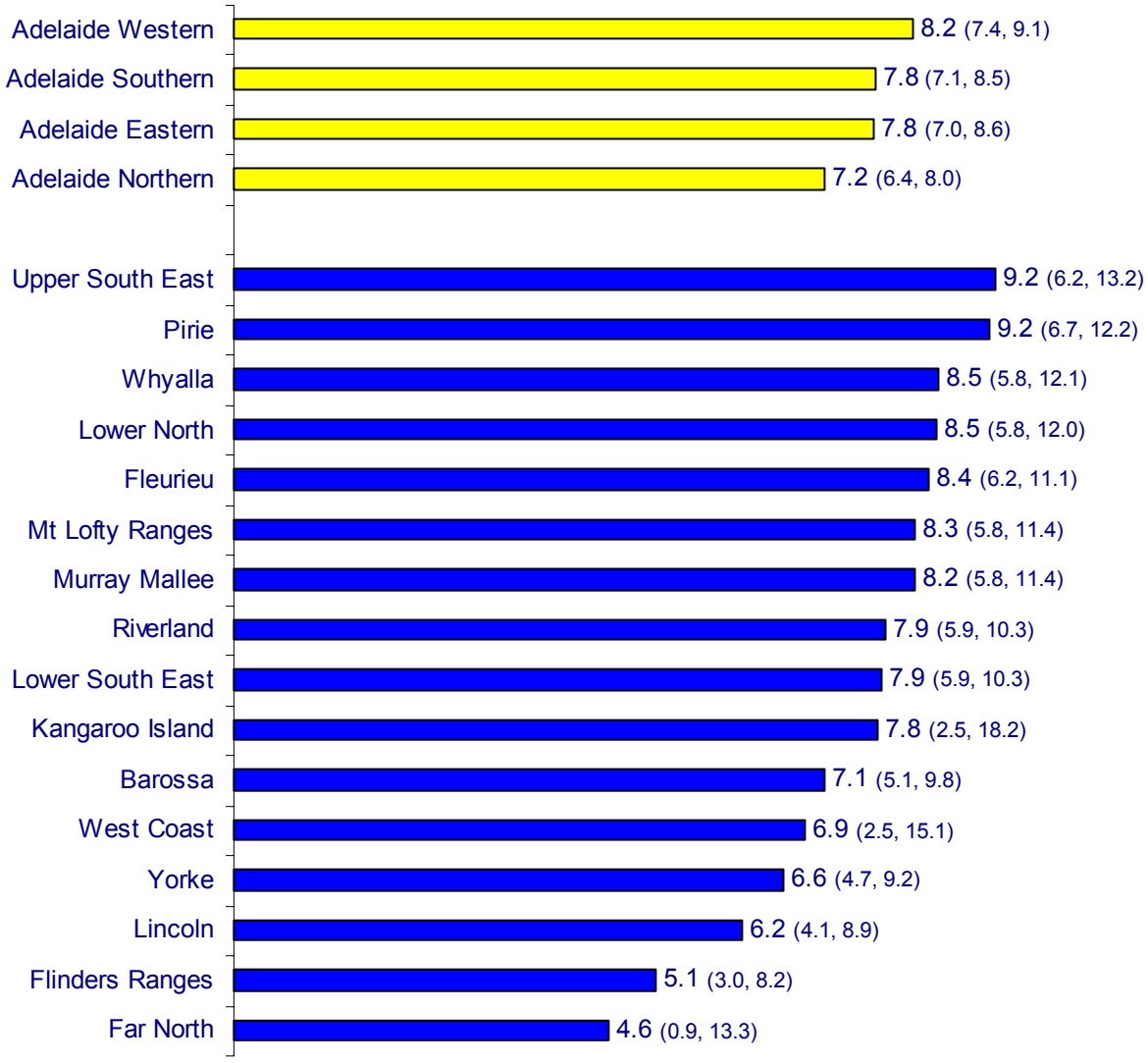
Males Incidence (95% confidence limits)



Annual incidence of cancer in South Australia in 1977-2001 by geographic region per 100,000 (age-standardized to World Population)

Cancer site: **Leukaemias**

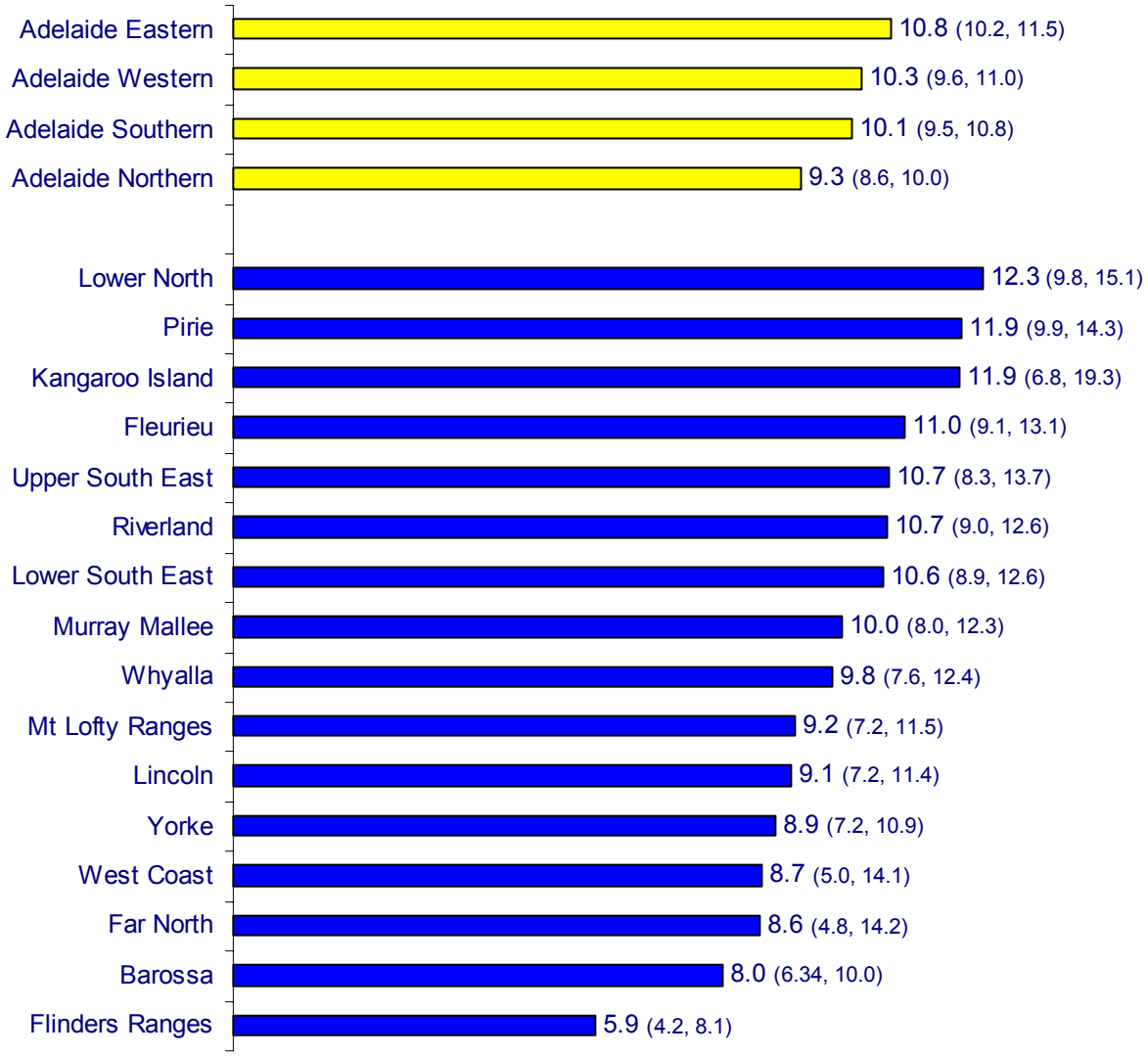
Females Incidence (95% confidence limits)



Annual incidence of cancer in South Australia in 1977-2001 by geographic region per 100,000 (age-standardized to World Population)

Cancer site: **Leukaemias**

Both Incidence (95% confidence limits)



LEUKAEMIAS

- South Australia had a high incidence of leukaemia by international standards during 1993-97, exceeding that reported for Africa, Asia, Central and South America, the United Kingdom/Ireland, Europe, North America, and Australia overall. The worldwide variation in incidence was approximately five fold during that period.

- Within South Australia during 1977-2000, there was the suggestion of a higher incidence in residents born in Southern Europe than among the Australian born.

- **A consistent socio-economic gradient in leukaemia incidence was not evident in South Australia in 1977-2001, although within Adelaide, the Eastern region presented a higher incidence than the Northern region. Also, in the country, the Lower North and Pirie recorded a higher incidence than the Flinders Ranges.**

- Between 1977-81 and 1997-2001, the incidence of diagnosed leukaemias rose by approximately 37%. Increases in diagnostic sensitivity are thought to have contributed. Meanwhile, there was little change in mortality.

- Environmental risk factors may include:
  - Exposures to large doses of ionising radiation.
  - Chemical exposures (eg, to benzene).
  - Viral exposures (eg, Human T-Cell Leukaemia Virus 1 is strongly suspected to cause a rare form of leukaemia found in Japan, the West Indies, and the USA).