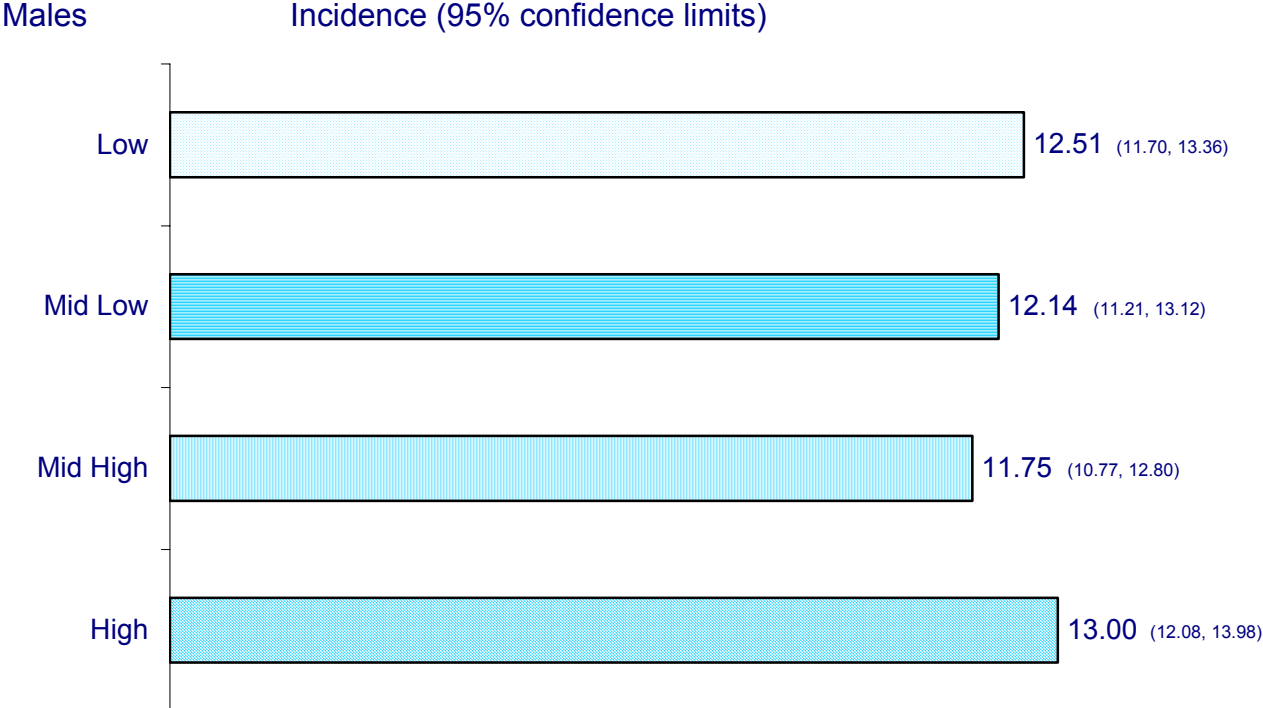


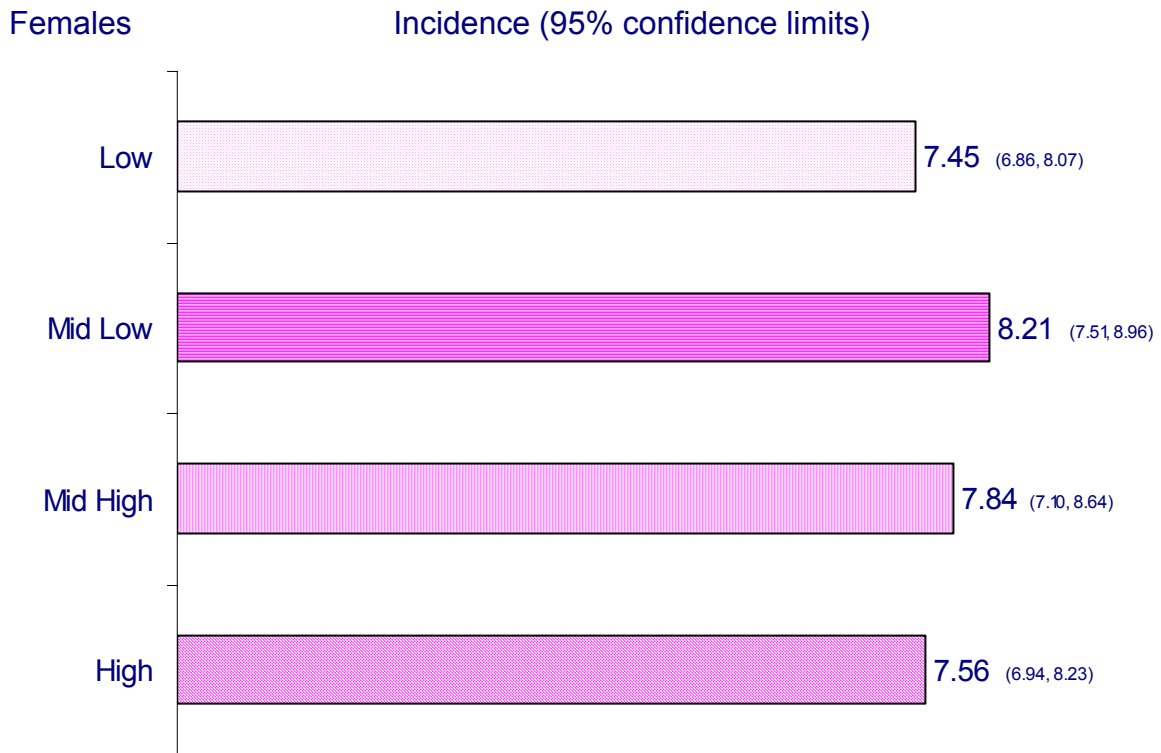
Annual incidence of cancer in South Australia in 1977-2001 by socio-economic status of place of residence per 100,000 (age-standardized to World Population)

Cancer site: **Leukaemias**



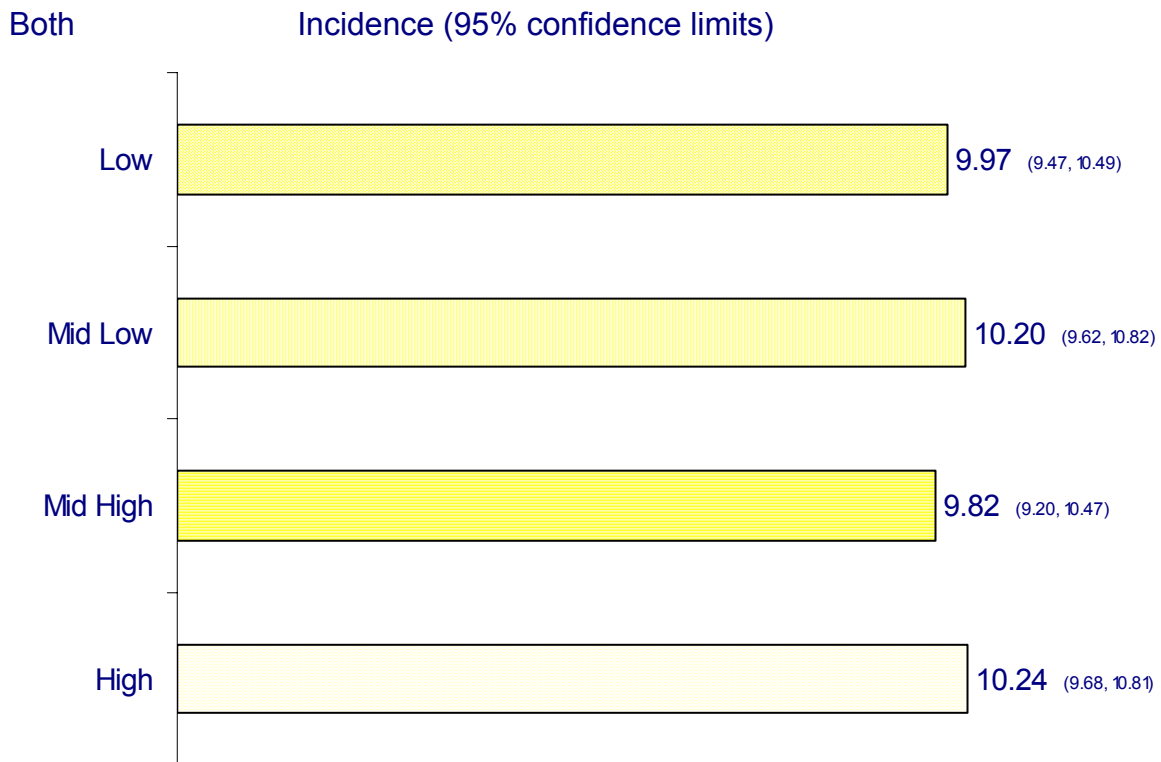
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Annual incidence of cancer in South Australia in 1977-2001 by socio-economic status of place of residence per 100,000 (age-standardized to World Population)

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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).