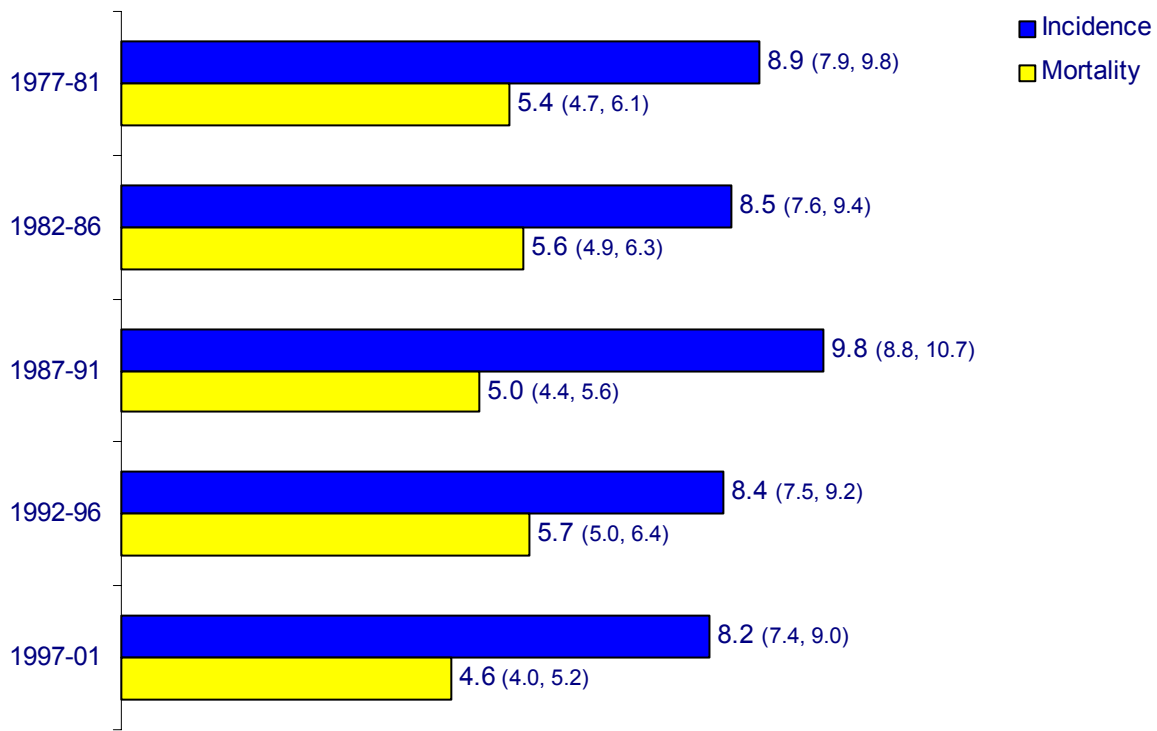


Annual incidence and mortality rates for cancer in South Australia in 1977-2001 for calendar-year groupings per 100,000 (age-standardized to World Population)

Cancer site: **Ovary**

Females Incidence (95% confidence limits)



OVARY

- South Australia and Australia in general had a low incidence of this cancer in 1993-97 compared with other economically developed countries of predominantly European extraction. Only Asia and Africa appeared to have a lower incidence.
- Within South Australia, there was little variation in incidence by country of birth during 1977-2000, although women born in Southern Europe had a rate about three quarters that of the Australian born.
- Socio-economic differences were not evident by residential location in South Australia during 1977-2001, in that they were within the range attributable to chance.
- **Incidence and mortality rates were not found to vary between 1977-81 and 1997-2001.**
- Risk factors include:
 - A history of no or few pregnancies.
 - A long duration from commencement of menstruation to menopause.
 - A familial disposition.
- By comparison, protective factors include the use of contraceptive steroids, tubal ligation, and a hysterectomy.