

Statistics

bladder cancer



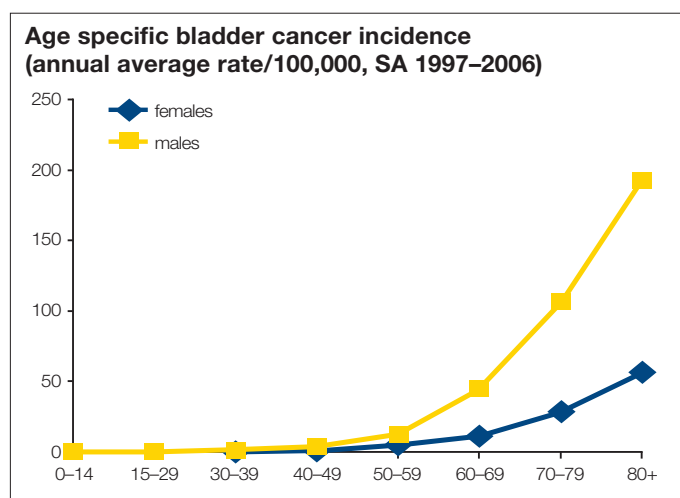
South Australia 2006 figures	males	females	total
number of cases	143	59	202
number of deaths	57	40	97
incidence/100,000 (ASR* Aust 2001 population)	17.0	5.0	10.3
mortality/100,000 (ASR* Aust 2001 population)	7.0	3.3	4.8
risk of developing bladder cancer (by age 75 years)	1 in 108	1 in 420	1 in 175

*ASR – Age Standardised Rate

Patterns in incidence and mortality

Age

Bladder cancer incidence is extremely low before the age of 60 years. From 60 years of age onwards incidence rates increase with the highest rates among those aged 80 years and over for both males and females.



Gender

The incidence of bladder cancer is nearly four times higher among males than females in South Australia.

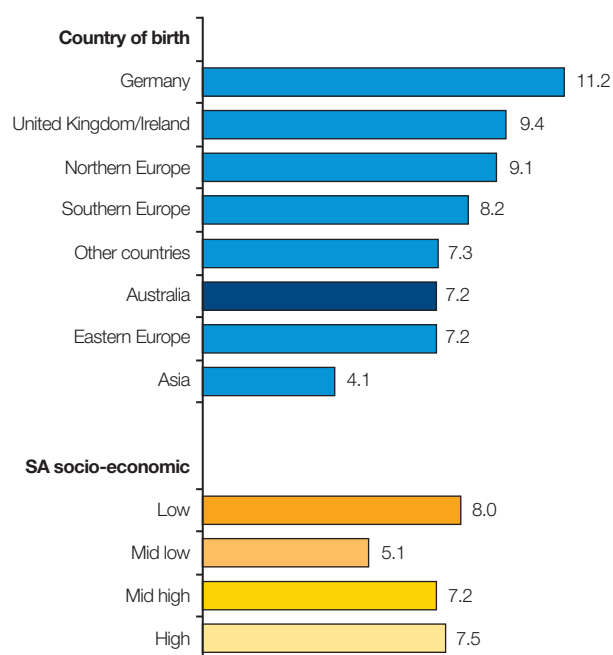
Country of birth

The incidence of bladder cancer was almost 20% higher within South Australia during 1977-2000 in residents born overseas than the Australian born. This was partly due to high rates in those born in Germany and the United Kingdom/Ireland. By comparison, residents born in Asia had a comparatively low rate.

SES/region

This cancer did not show a consistent socio-economic gradient by place of residence in South Australia in 1977-2001. In general the incidence was about 18% higher in Adelaide than country regions. In particular, a low incidence applied in the country to the Flinders Ranges, Mount Lofty Ranges and Lower North.

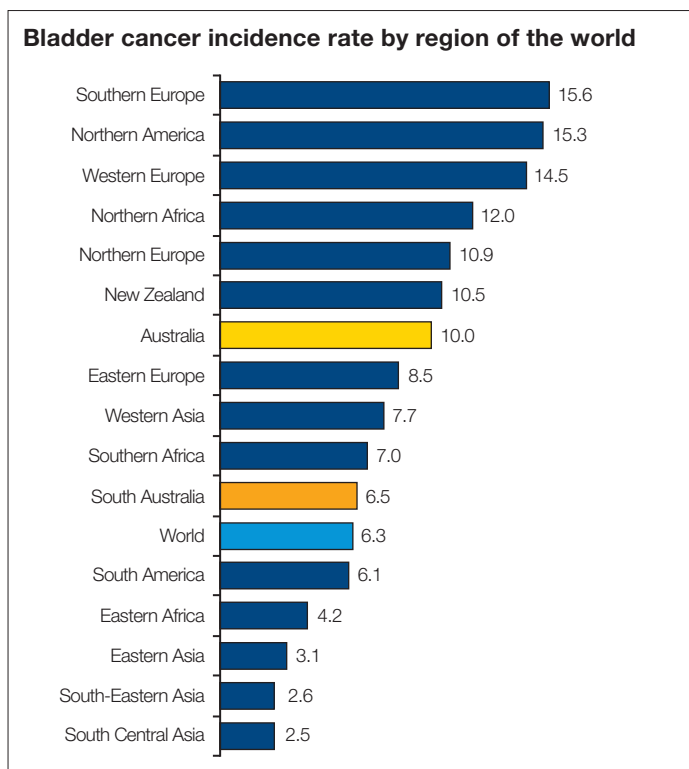
Bladder cancer incidence by country of birth and SES



(annual rate/100,000 – SA 1977-2001 – ASR (World Pop.))

Global comparisons

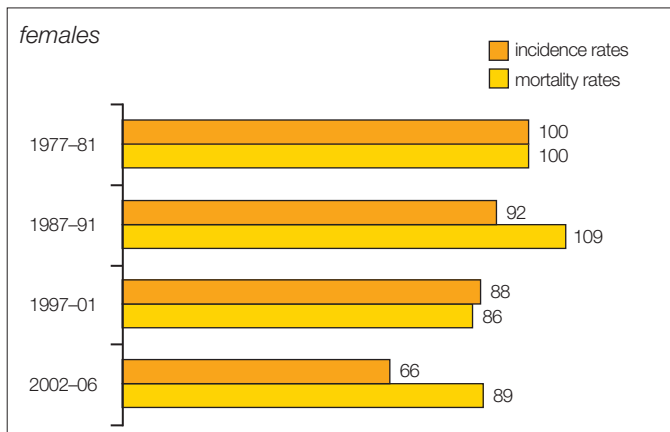
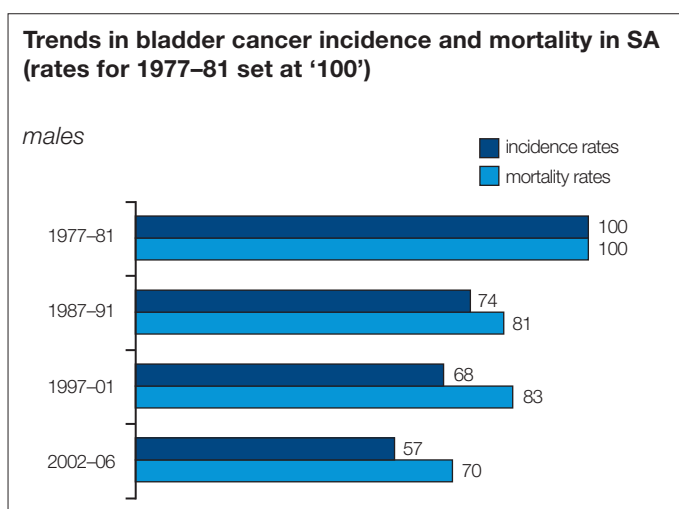
International comparisons are complicated by variations in the definition of bladder cancer. However it appears that South Australians have a middle ranking incidence. Most western countries have higher incidence estimates while most (but not all) developing countries have lower incidence rates.



(rate/100,000 ASR World Pop., Globocan 2002)

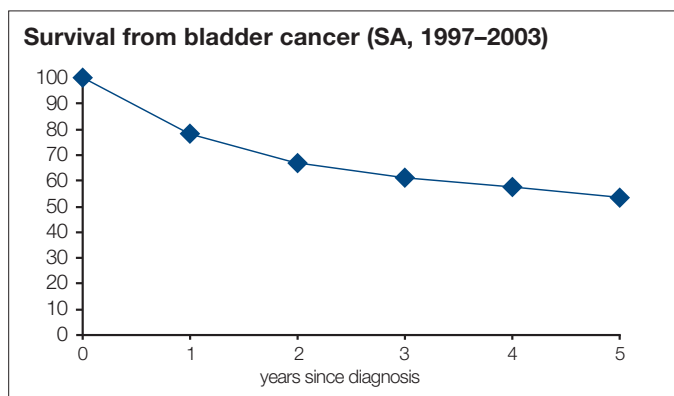
Trends

Incidence rates were artificially high for 1977–81 due to differences in disease definition and classification. There is some indication of a decline in incidence since the early 1980s, especially among males. Mortality rates also appear to have declined slightly for both males and females.



Survival

Survival from bladder cancer varies considerably with the stage of the disease at diagnosis. Three quarters of those with early stage diagnosis (stage 1) survive their disease for five years or more whereas only 20% with stage 4 disease (where the tumour has spread to other parts of the body) survive for five years or more. Excluding pre-invasive cancers, the five year survival for those diagnosed between 1997 and 2003 was 54%.



Risk factors

Risk factors include:

- tobacco smoking
- exposures in past decades to phenacetin analgesics, although these painkillers were discontinued long enough ago to be an unlikely cause of future cancers in South Australia
- large exposures to ionising radiation at an early age
- exposures to certain workplace contaminants, such as aromatic amines (e.g. as in dyestuff manufacturing) and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons
- infections with *Schistosoma haematobium*, as can occur in Eastern Africa and Middle Eastern countries.

Updated March 2009 based on latest SA data (2006)

Data source:
Cancer Registry Reports, SA Dept Health
Globocan 2002, IARC