

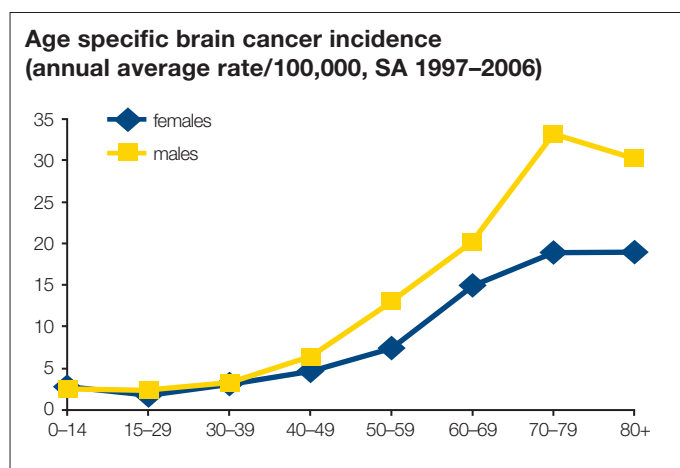
South Australia 2006 figures	males	females	total
number of cases	71	46	117
number of deaths	58	41	99
incidence/100,000 (ASR* Aust 2001 population)	8.6	5.1	6.8
mortality/100,000 (ASR* Aust 2001 population)	7.0	4.1	5.5
risk of developing brain cancer (by age 75 years)	1 in 133	1 in 257	1 in 177

*ASR – Age Standardised Rate

Patterns in incidence and mortality

Age

The incidence of brain cancer increases with increasing age. While the incidence is relatively low among those under 30 years of age, brain cancer is one of the leading cancers in young people.



Gender

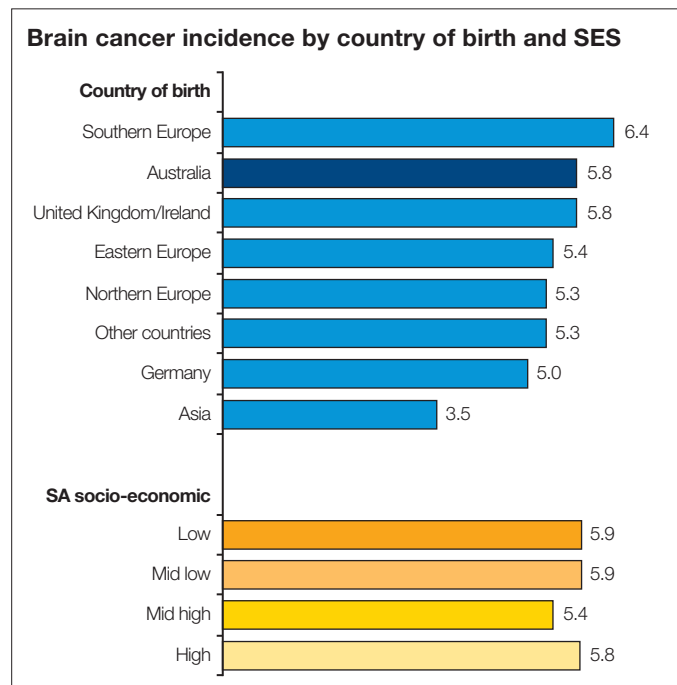
The incidence of brain cancer is higher among males than females across all age groups. The predominance of brain cancer in males has been observed nationally and internationally.

Country of birth

Within South Australia, residents born in Asia had an incidence about 40% lower than the Australian born during 1977–2000.

SES/region

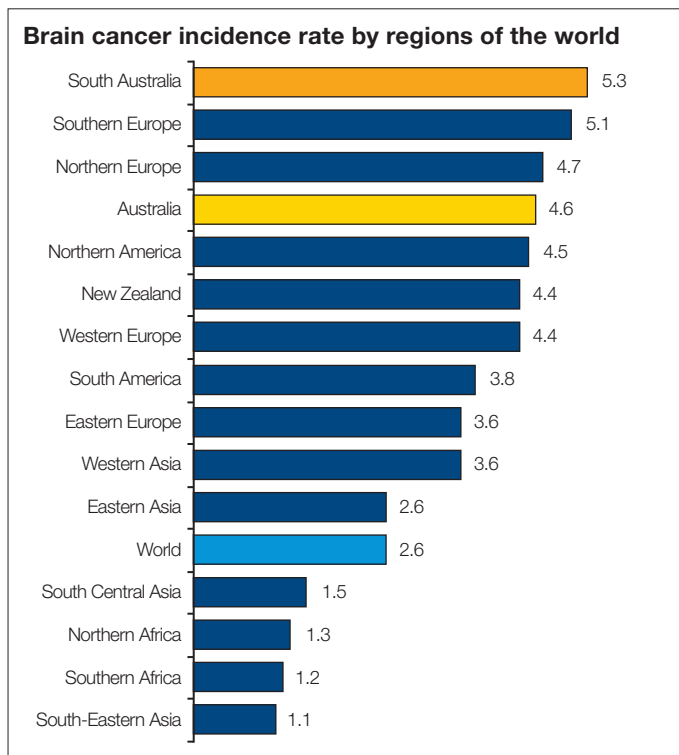
There is no evidence of any socio-economic gradient in incidence of brain cancer in South Australia for the period 1977–2001. The incidence of brain cancer appeared to be about 13% higher in Adelaide than in country regions generally, where the Far North showed a particularly low incidence. By contrast Kangaroo Island appears to have a particularly high incidence of brain cancer. However differences by region may reflect chance events.



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

Global comparisons

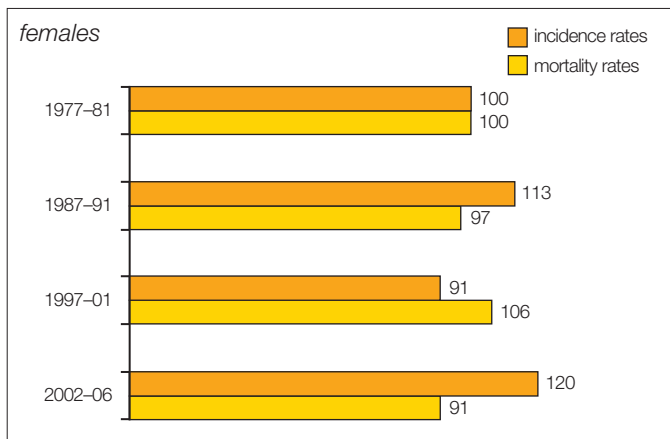
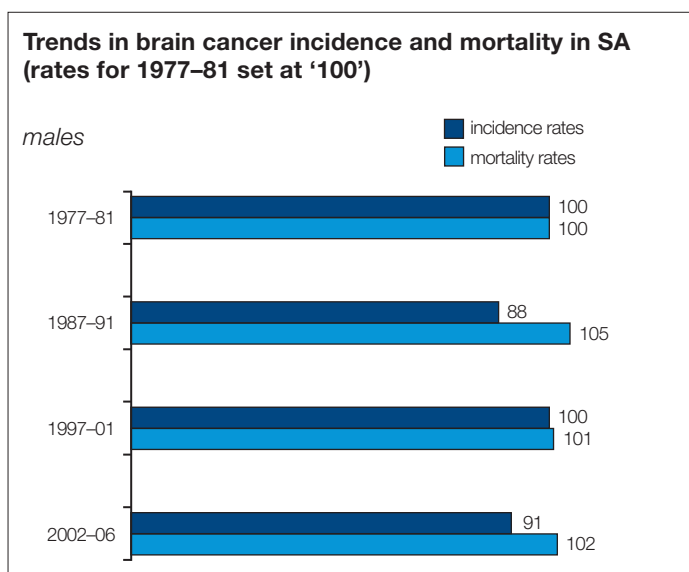
Brain cancer presents an almost fourfold variation in incidence around the world, with South Australia having the highest incidence rates in the world. Other regions that have high incidence of brain cancer include Southern and Northern Europe. The lowest incidence rates were observed in Africa, Asia, Central and South America. Reasons for the variation are unknown.



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

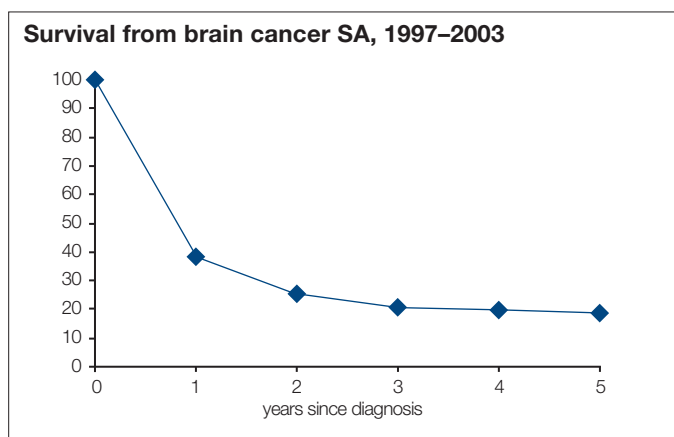
Trends

Little change in incidence or mortality was evident between 1977-81 and 2002-2006.



Survival

Survival outcomes from brain cancer are relatively poor. Only 19% survive their disease for five years or more. There has been no improvement in survival in the period since cancer registration began.



Risk factors

Risk factors include:

- high-dose exposure to ionising radiation, as occurring from atomic explosions
- possibly occupational exposures to oil refining, rubber manufacturing and the production of medical drugs. There is some evidence that health professionals and agricultural workers may be at increased risk.

Updated March 2009 based on latest SA data (2006)

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