



South Australia 2007 figures

number of cases

number of deaths

incidence/100,000 (ASR* Aust 2001 population)

mortality/100,000 (ASR* Aust 2001 population)

risk of developing cancer (by age 75 years)

	males	females	persons
number of cases	170	62	232
number of deaths	66	32	98
incidence/100,000 (ASR* Aust 2001 population)	19.7	5.4	11.7
mortality/100,000 (ASR* Aust 2001 population)	7.7	2.7	4.7
risk of developing cancer (by age 75 years)	1 in 80	1 in 306	1 in 129

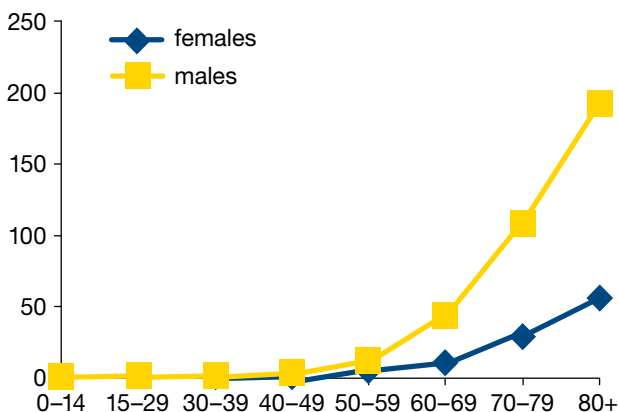
*ASR – Age Standardised Rate

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.

Age specific bladder cancer incidence (annual average rate/100,000, SA 1998–2007)



Gender

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

Country of birth

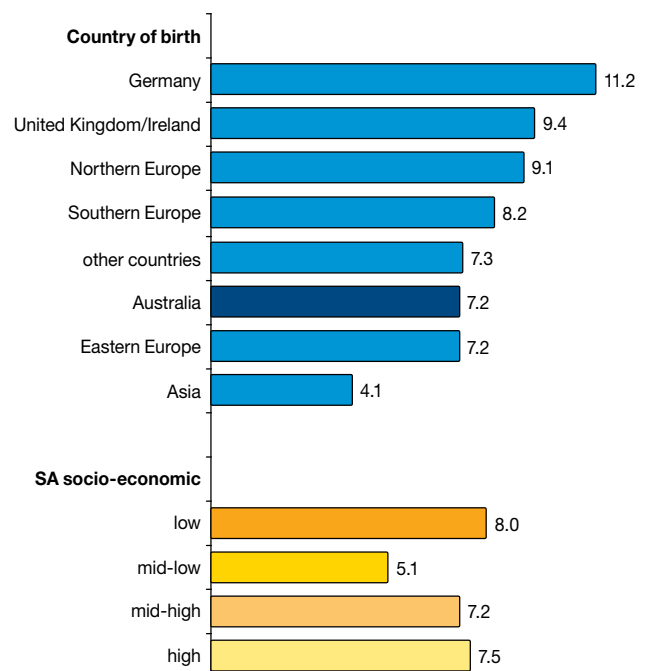
The incidence of bladder cancer was almost 20% higher within South Australia during 1977–2000 in residents born overseas than the Australian

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.

Socio-economic status (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.

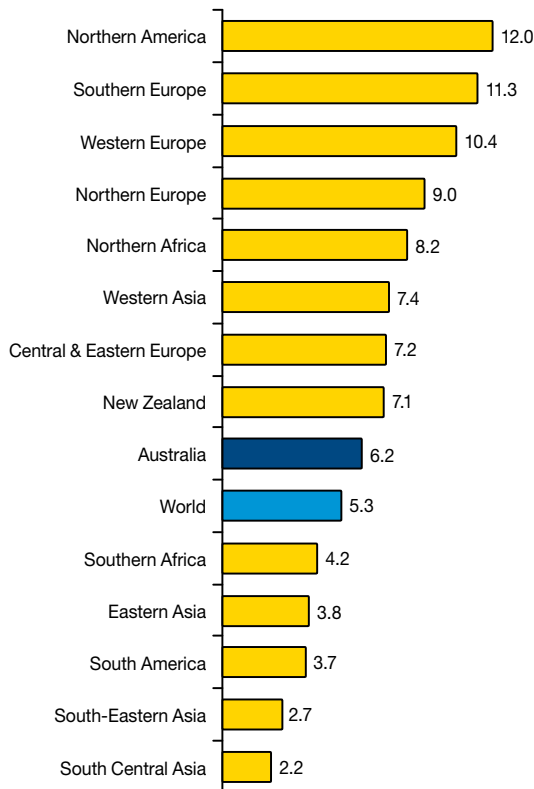
Bladder cancer incidence by country of birth and SES (annual rate/100,000—SA 1977–2001—ASR (World population))



Global comparisons

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

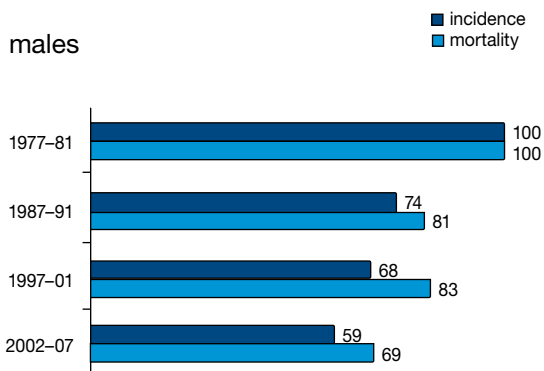
Bladder cancer incidence rate by region of the world (rate/100,000 ASR World population, Globocan 2008)



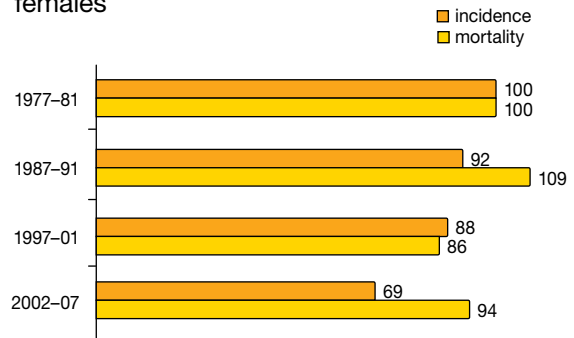
Trends

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 1980's. Mortality rates also appear to have declined slightly especially among males.

Trends in bladder cancer incidence and mortality in SA (rates for 1977–81 set at '100')



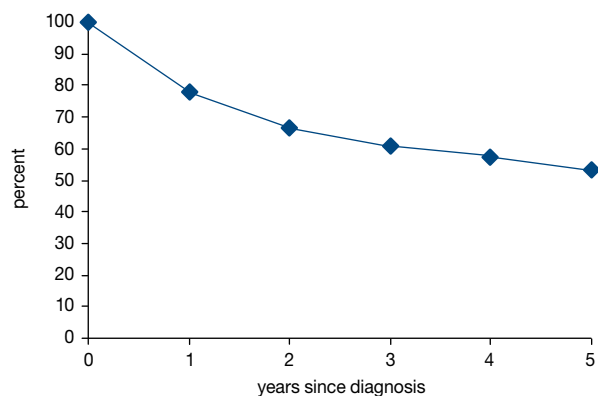
females



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 of 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%.

Survival from bladder cancer (SA 1997–2003)



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.

Data sources:

- Cancer Registry reports, South Australian Department of Health
- Globocan 2008, IARC.

September 2010
next review due September 2011