

## Cancers, males

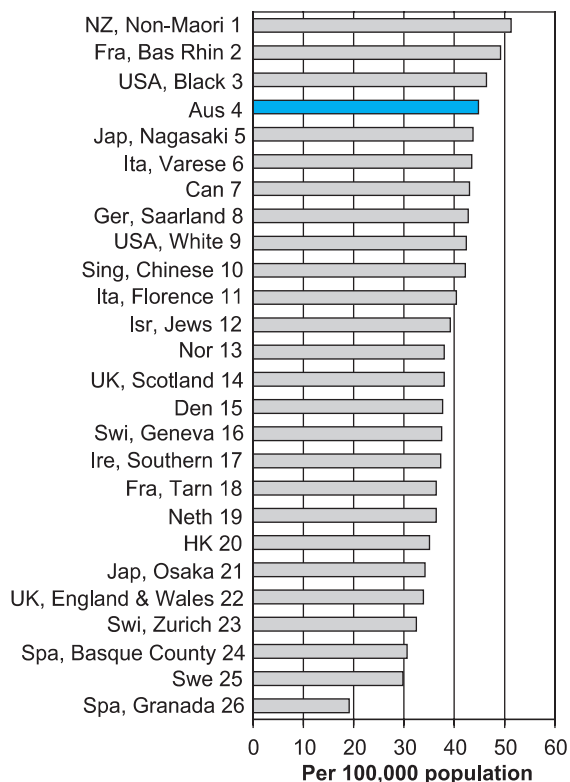


Figure 1: Colorectal cancer incidence, males, 1988-1992

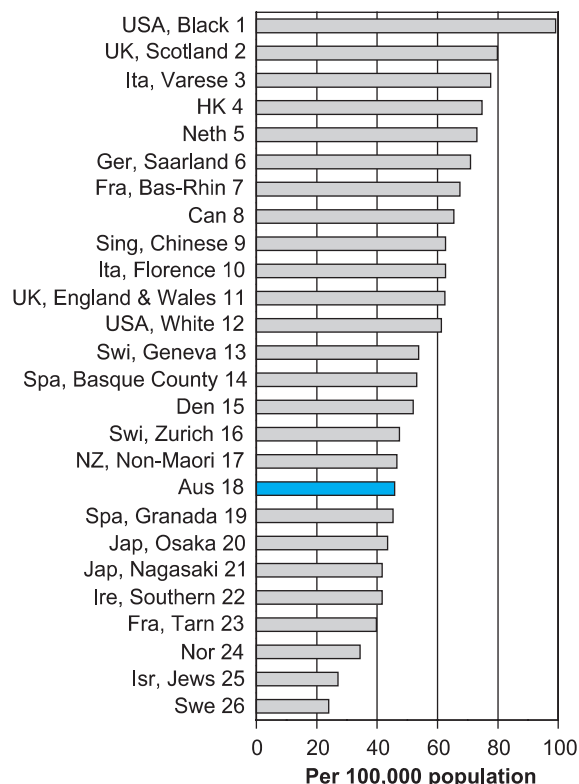


Figure 2: Lung cancer incidence, males, 1988-1992

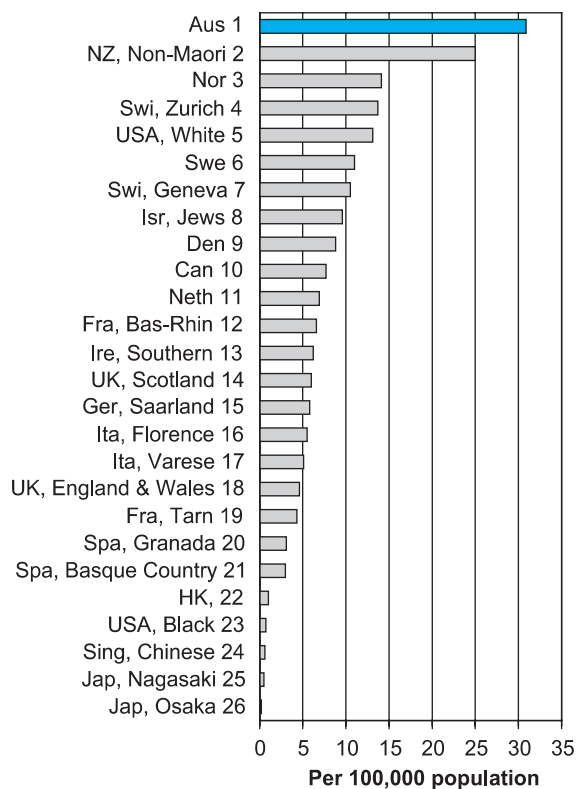


Figure 3: Melanoma incidence, males, 1988-1992

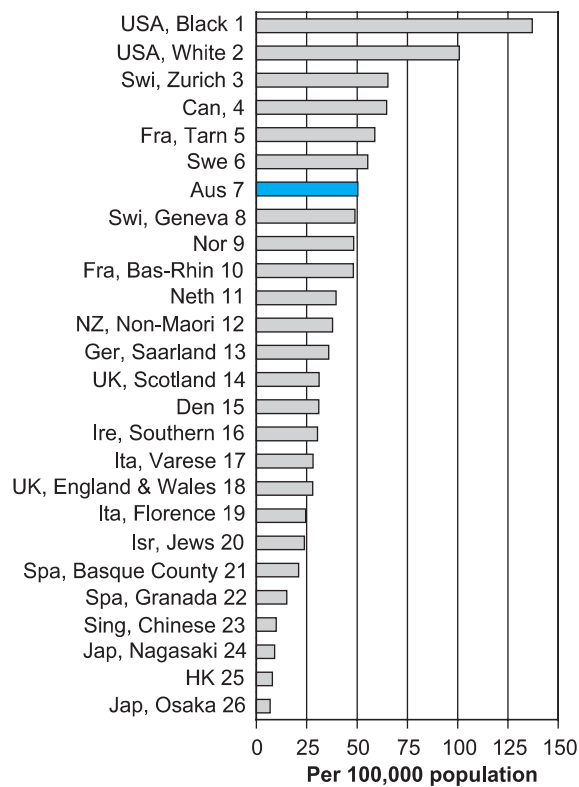


Figure 4: Prostate cancer incidence, males, 1988-1992

## Cancers, males

## Cancer incidence, males (per 100,000 population)

Country/region	Year	Colorectal ICD 153–54	Lung ICD 162	Melanoma ICD 172	Prostate ICD 185	Bladder ICD 188	NHL <sup>(a)</sup> ICD 200, 202
Australia	1990	44.8	45.8	30.9	50.4	14.1	12.6
Canada	1988–92	43.0	65.4	7.7	64.7	18.7	13.1
Denmark	1988–92	37.7	51.9	8.8	31.0	27.9	9.8
France, Bas-Rhin	1988–92	49.2	67.4	6.6	48.1	23.1	12.1
France, Tarn	1988–92	36.4	39.7	4.3	58.8	24.7	6.8
Germany, Saarland	1988–92	42.8	70.9	5.8	35.9	23.1	9.4
Hong Kong	1988–92	35.1	74.7	1.0	7.9	14.5	8.7
Ireland, Southern	1988–92	37.3	41.6	6.2	30.4	12.2	8.9
Israel, Jews	1988–92	39.2	27.0	9.6	23.9	25.2	12.6
Italy, Florence	1988–91	40.4	62.6	5.5	24.4	35.2	9.8
Italy, Varese	1988–92	43.5	77.6	5.1	28.2	35.0	13.9
Japan, Nagasaki	1988–92	43.7	41.7	0.5	9.1	11.2	13.5
Japan, Osaka	1988–92	34.2	43.5	0.2	6.8	7.4	6.1
Netherlands	1989–92	36.4	73.0	6.9	39.6	15.2	10.6
New Zealand, Non-Maori	1988–92	51.3	46.5	25.0	37.8	14.0	10.3
Norway	1988–92	38.0	34.3	14.1	48.4	16.6	10.1
Singapore, Chinese	1988–92	42.2	62.7	0.6	9.8	7.7	6.1
Spain, Basque County	1988–91	30.6	53.1	3.0	21.0	27.1	8.1
Spain, Granada	1988–92	19.1	45.3	3.1	15.1	23.5	5.6
Sweden	1988–92	29.8	23.9	11.0	55.3	17.3	10.8
Switzerland, Geneva	1988–92	37.5	53.7	10.5	49.0	32.5	13.5
Switzerland, Zurich	1988–92	32.5	47.4	13.7	65.4	22.4	12.9
UK, England & Wales	1988–90	33.9	62.4	4.6	28.0	20.3	9.6
UK, Scotland	1988–92	38.0	79.8	6.0	31.2	22.9	9.4
USA, White	1988–92	42.4	61.3	13.1	100.8	24.0	16.3
USA, Black	1988–92	46.4	99.1	0.7	137.0	11.1	12.3

(a) Non-Hodgkin's lymphomas.

Sources: Parkin et al. 1997; Jelfs et al. 1996.

- Cancer describes a range of diseases in which abnormal cells proliferate and spread out of control. Many cancers can be serious and even fatal. Each year, about 345,000 new cancer cases are diagnosed in Australia, most of which are non-melanocytic skin cancers which are less life-threatening than other cancers. Cancer occurs more commonly in males than females, with the most common registerable cancers among males being prostate, colorectal, lung and melanoma. About 30% of male deaths in Australia are caused by cancers.
- National information about people with newly diagnosed cancers is only available for a limited number of countries; however, many developed countries have regional cancer registries. Latest regional incidence data for males position Australia in the top half of developed countries for a number of major cancers. Australian males had a colorectal cancer incidence rate of 44.8 per 100,000 population in 1990, fourth highest among comparison groups (Figure 1) Colorectal cancer is considered a disease of economically developed countries. Prostate cancer, one of the most common cancers among males, was also high; a rate of 50.4 in 1990 ranking Australian males seventh amongst comparison groups (Figure 4).
- The Australian male lung cancer rate of 45.8 per 100,000 population in 1990 was moderate compared to other developed countries (Figure 2). However, the melanoma rate of 30.9 in 1990 was the highest in the world. Melanoma rates for the Asian comparison groups were especially low (Figure 3). Incidence of non-Hodgkin's lymphomas is also high among Australian males, ranking equal seventh among comparison groups. Australian males ranked 20th for bladder cancer incidence.

**For more information, see:**

Parkin DM, Whelan SL, Ferlay J et al. 1997. Cancer incidence in five continents, Volume VII. IARC Scientific Publications No. 143. Lyon: International Agency for Research on Cancer.

## Cancers, females

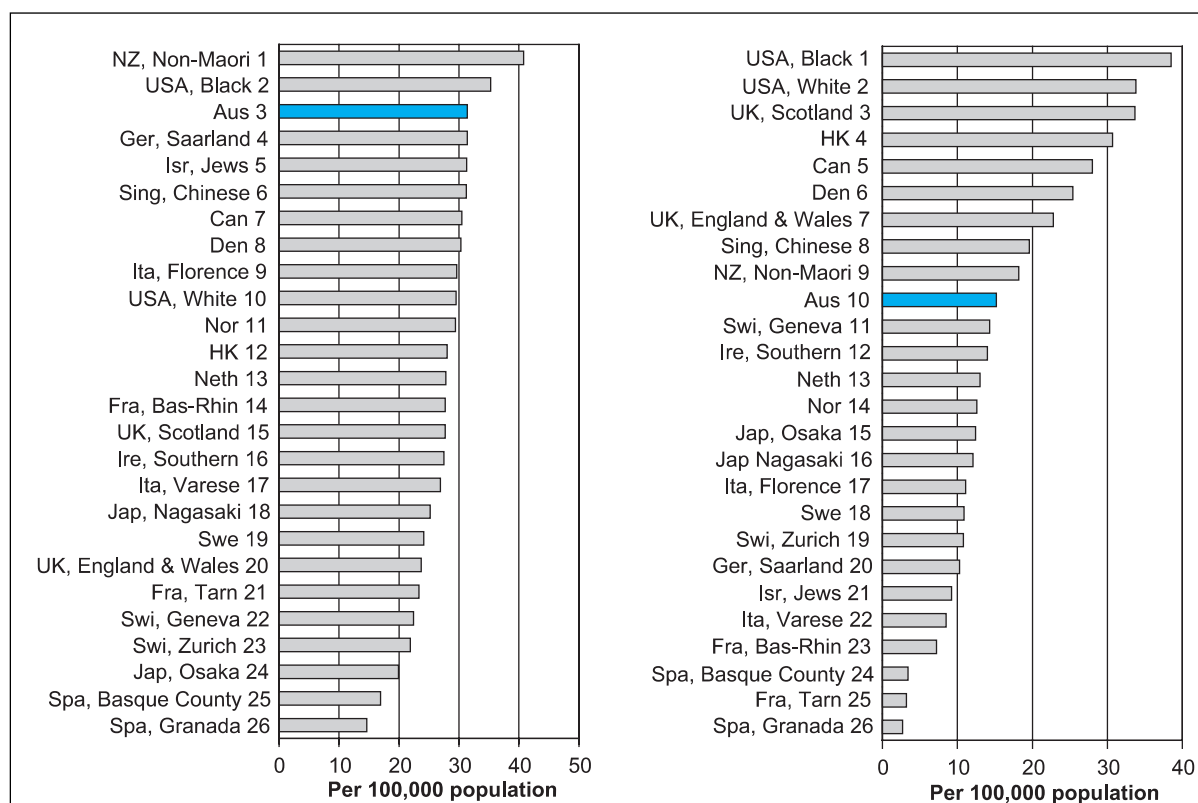


Figure 1: Colorectal cancer incidence, females, 1988-1992

Figure 2: Lung cancer incidence, females, 1988-1992

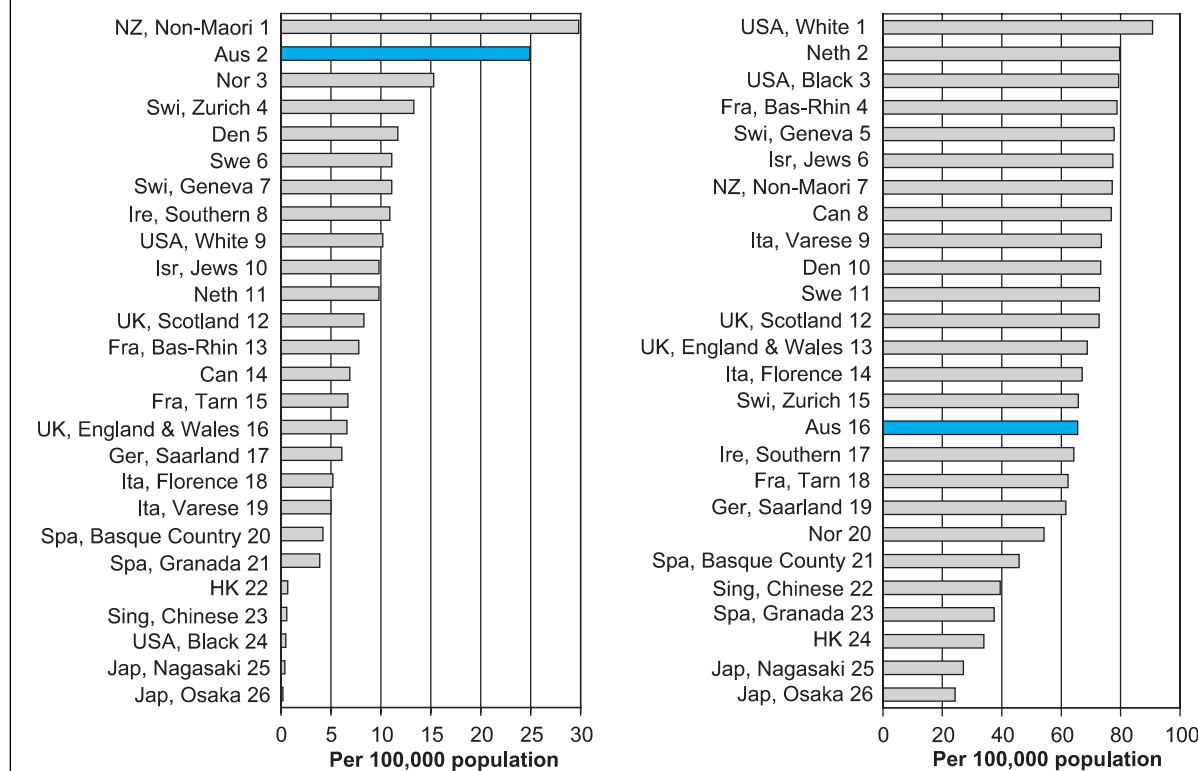


Figure 3: Melanoma incidence, females, 1988-1992

Figure 4: Breast cancer incidence, females, 1988-1992

## Cancers, females

## Cancer incidence, females (per 100,000 population)

Country/region	Year	Colorectal ICD 153–54	Lung ICD 162	Melanoma ICD 172	Breast ICD 174	Uterus ICD 179, 182	Cervix ICD 180
Australia	1990	31.4	15.2	24.9	65.5	9.5	10.2
Canada	1988–92	30.5	28.0	6.9	76.8	14.8	7.8
Denmark	1988–92	30.3	25.4	11.7	73.3	15.2	15.2
France, Bas-Rhin	1988–92	27.7	7.2	7.8	78.8	16.7	10.0
France, Tarn	1988–92	23.3	3.2	6.7	62.3	10.2	7.7
Germany, Saarland	1988–92	31.4	10.3	6.1	61.5	13.9	11.4
Hong Kong	1988–92	28.0	30.7	0.7	34.0	7.2	15.3
Ireland, Southern	1988–92	27.5	14.0	10.9	64.2	8.6	6.5
Israel, Jews	1988–92	31.3	9.2	9.8	77.4	11.4	5.3
Italy, Florence	1988–91	29.6	11.1	5.2	67.0	12.9	6.2
Italy, Varese	1988–92	26.9	8.5	5.0	73.5	12.8	6.4
Japan, Nagasaki	1988–92	25.2	12.1	0.4	27.1	4.9	11.3
Japan, Osaka	1988–92	19.9	12.4	0.2	24.3	4.2	9.2
Netherlands	1989–92	27.8	13.0	9.8	79.6	10.8	7.1
New Zealand, Non-Maori	1988–92	40.8	18.2	29.8	77.2	9.5	11.9
Norway	1988–92	29.4	12.6	15.3	54.2	12.6	12.7
Singapore, Chinese	1988–92	31.2	19.6	0.6	39.5	7.0	16.3
Spain, Basque County	1988–91	16.9	3.4	4.2	45.8	9.7	6.0
Spain, Granada	1988–92	14.6	2.7	3.9	37.4	9.2	5.6
Sweden	1988–92	24.1	10.9	11.1	72.9	14.7	8.0
Switzerland, Geneva	1988–92	22.4	14.3	11.1	77.8	12.9	6.1
Switzerland, Zurich	1988–92	21.9	10.8	13.3	65.7	15.2	6.8
UK, England & Wales	1988–90	23.7	22.8	6.6	68.8	9.4	12.5
UK, Scotland	1988–92	27.7	33.7	8.3	72.7	8.3	12.7
USA, White	1988–92	29.5	33.8	10.2	90.7	18.4	7.5
USA, Black	1988–92	35.3	38.5	0.5	79.3	12.0	12.0

Sources: Parkin et al. 1997; Jelfs et al. 1996.

- Cancer is generally less common among females than males. In the late 1980s and early 1990s however, Australian females exhibited a high incidence of several different cancers compared to other developed countries. Colorectal cancer is one of these—a rate of 31.4 new cases per 100,000 population ranking equal third among the comparison regions, exceeded only by white New Zealand and Afro-American females (Figure 1). The Basque County and Granada regions of Spain and Osaka in Japan had the lowest rates among the comparison regions.
- Australian females rated better for lung cancer—a rate of 15.2 new cases per 100,000 population in 1990, ranking 10th (Figure 2). Females from Hong Kong, Scotland and the United States recorded comparatively high rates, females from France and Spain low rates.
- As for Australian males, Australian females also had an extremely high incidence of melanoma—24.9 cases per 100,000 population in 1990 (Figure 3). This was exceeded only by the rate for white New Zealand females. Females in Asian countries such as Hong Kong, Japan and Singapore, and Afro-American females exhibited the lowest rates.
- Australian females ranked in the lower half of the comparison regions for breast cancer incidence, at 65.5 new cases per 100,000 population in 1990 (Figure 4). United States and Dutch females recorded the highest rates, and Japanese and Hong Kong females the lowest.
- For uterine cancer, Australia ranked relatively low at equal 17th, and for cancer of the cervix ranked 11th. Japanese females had low rates of uterine cancer, but higher rates of cervical cancer, exceeded by females from Singapore, Hong Kong and Denmark. Jewish and Spanish females also exhibited low incidence rates of cervical cancer in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

**For more information, see:**

Parkin DM, Whelan SL, Ferlay J et al. 1997. Cancer incidence in five continents, Volume VII. IARC Scientific Publications No. 143. Lyon: International Agency for Research on Cancer.