

# Cancer Incidence in Belgium 2008

**10 years** in Flanders

**5 years** in Belgium, Brussels  
and Wallonia

## years

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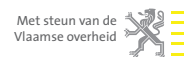
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## Trends

**Table 8 Invasive tumours (excl. non-melanoma): incidence and mortality by sex and region, 1999-2008**

Invasive tumours (excl. non-melanoma): number of invasive tumours by sex and region, 1999-2008										
Males	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Belgium						32,417	32,269	31,844	32,354	32,508
Flemish Region	15,975	17,099	17,769	17,151	18,287	19,394	19,530	19,767	20,066	20,185
Brussels Capital Region						2,424	2,525	2,328	2,437	2,500
Walloon Region						10,599	10,214	9,749	9,851	9,823
Females	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Belgium						26,208	26,161	26,244	27,126	27,488
Flemish Region	12,838	13,766	14,263	14,112	14,728	14,957	15,253	15,230	15,832	15,906
Brussels Capital Region						2,518	2,435	2,526	2,541	2,567
Walloon Region						8,733	8,473	8,488	8,753	9,015
Invasive tumours (excl. non-melanoma): age-standardised incidence (WSR) by sex and region, 1999-2008										
Males	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Belgium						368.8	362.9	354.3	355.6	350.3
Flemish Region	322.9	339.8	346.6	329.9	347.2	359.6	358.3	356.7	355.9	350.6
Brussels Capital Region						338.2	348.2	321.1	340.0	341.9
Walloon Region						394.0	374.7	357.1	357.9	350.9
Females	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Belgium						277.7	275.6	274.1	278.5	276.5
Flemish Region	245.5	260.1	268.2	259.8	268.7	268.4	271.7	269.9	274.6	269.3
Brussels Capital Region						294.7	283.8	298.2	292.8	289.8
Walloon Region						290.4	281.2	276.2	282.2	286.0

WSR: age-standardised rate, using the World Standard Population (n/100,000 person years)

Invasive tumours (excl. non-melanoma): number of deaths by sex and region, 1999-2008										
Males	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Belgium						14,659	14,788			15,095
Flemish Region	8,906	8,886	8,755	8,782	8,749	8,570	8,782	8,828	8,806	8,998
Brussels Capital Region	1,314	1,281	1,252	1,265	1,185	1,167	1,198	1,159	1,123	1,170
Walloon Region						4,922	4,808			4,927
Females	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Belgium						11,034	10,912			11,552
Flemish Region	6,382	6,227	6,218	6,366	6,263	6,112	6,338	6,401	6,527	6,656
Brussels Capital Region	1,180	1,157	1,193	1,141	1,174	1,162	1,035	1,129	1,090	1,083
Walloon Region						3,760	3,539			3,813
Invasive tumours (excl. non-melanoma): age-standardised mortality (WSR) by sex and region, 1999-2008										
Males	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Belgium						153.0	151.0			144.6
Flemish Region	169.0	164.9	159.3	156.5	152.4	146.4	146.1	143.3	139.4	139.4
Brussels Capital Region	171.8	164.7	160.0	160.1	154.7	150.5	151.8	142.9	138.3	141.2
Walloon Region						166.6	160.9			155.8
Females	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Belgium						87.4	85.8			85.8
Flemish Region	93.8	90.7	89.7	90.1	86.1	83.7	85.6	84.5	85.1	84.3
Brussels Capital Region	96.4	98.7	100.9	95.5	102.3	94.1	88.8	96.7	91.8	90.3
Walloon Region						92.3	85.3			87.7

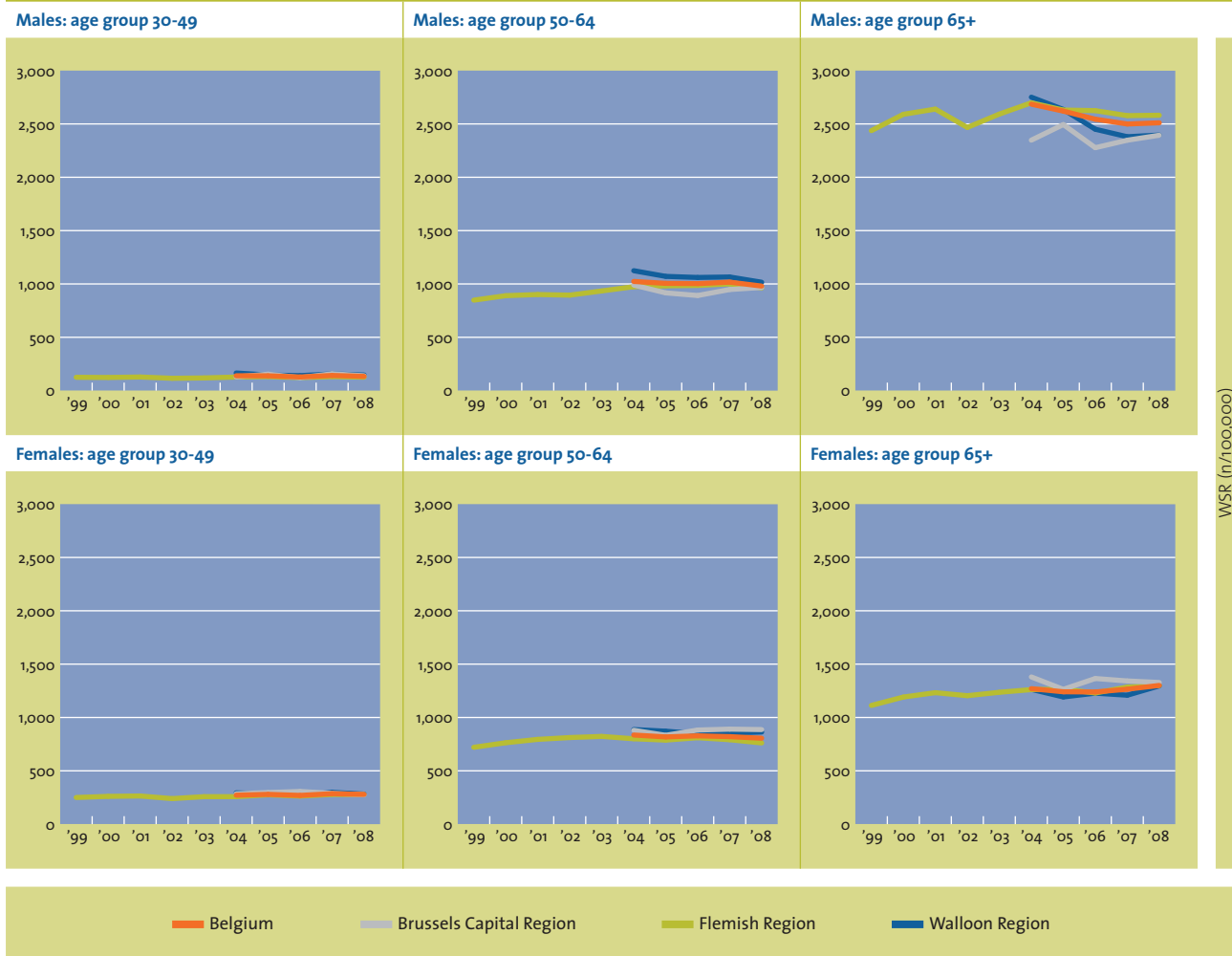
WSR: age-standardised rate, using the World Standard Population (n/100,000 person years)

Figure 9 Invasive tumours (excl. non-melanoma): incidence and mortality by sex and region, 1999-2008



- In the Flemish Region, a yearly increase of about 1% in age-standardised incidence rates in males and females is observed between 1999 and 2008 (males: EAPC = 0.9% [p = 0.01], females: EAPC = 0.8% [p = 0.01]).
- In the same period, mortality in the Flemish Region decreases in males (EAPC = -2.2% [p = 0.00]) and females (EAPC = -1.1% [p = 0.00]).
- A similar trend is observed for mortality in the Brussels Capital Region (males: EAPC = 2.2% [p = 0.00], females: EAPC = -1.0% [p = 0.05]).
- The decrease in incidence in the Walloon Region is partly explained by the inclusion of prevalent cases in the first registration years. This is a known and common phenomenon in the start-up phase of a cancer registry<sup>(37)</sup>.

Figure 10 Invasive tumours (excl. non-melanoma): incidence by age group, sex and region, 1999-2008



- Under the age of 30 years (data not shown), the incidence rates between males and females are comparable (male/female ratio is 1.1).
- In the age group 30-49 years, the incidence rate in females is 2 times higher than the incidence rate in males.
  - No regional differences are observed.
  - In the Flemish Region, a significant increase is observed in females (EAPC = 1.1% [p = 0.02]), while the rate in males remains more stable (EAPC = 0.5% [p = 0.31]).
- In the age group 50-64 years, the male/female incidence ratio is 1.2.
  - No regional differences are observed.
  - In the Flemish Region, an increasing trend is observed in males (EAPC = 1.7% [p = 0.00]). No significant trend is observed in females (EAPC = 0.4% [p = 0.34]).
  - The incidence is 7 times higher than in the age group 30-49 years in males and 3 times higher in females.
- In the age group 65 years and older, the incidence rates in males is 2 times higher than in females.
  - The incidence rate in males is higher in the Flemish Region when compared to the other regions.
  - In the Flemish Region, a significant increase is observed in females (EAPC = 1.3% [p = 0.00]). In males, no significant trend is observed (EAPC = 0.4% [p = 0.24]).
  - The incidence is 2.6 times higher than in the age group 50-64 years in males and 1.6 times higher in females.
  - When compared to the age group 30-49 years, the incidence rate in males in the age group 65 years and older is 19 times higher, in females the incidence rate is 5 times higher.