

Briefing on 2015 cancer registration statistics for the East of England

From the National Cancer Registration and Analysis Service (NCRAS) at Public Health England (PHE)

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On 24 May 2017 the Office for National Statistics (ONS) published cancer registrations statistics to include cancers diagnosed up to 2015 in England. The publication presents statistics for England, region of residence, cancer site, sex, age and year of diagnosis.

Presented here is a summary of the data from all malignant cancers (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer; ICD10 C00-C97 excl. C44) for the East of England (ONS code E12000006). The full publication and associated data tables are available here:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/datasets/cancerregistrationstatisticscancerregistrationstatisticsengland>

Key points for the East of England region:

- The total number of cancer registrations in the East of England for 2015 was 34,805, of which 17,811 (51%) were diagnosed in males and 16,994 (49%) in females. This reflects the national distribution of diagnoses by sex for England.
- The overall number of cancer diagnoses in the East of England has increased by 2% since 2014, when there were 34,053¹ cases of cancer diagnosed in the region, compared with 34,805 in 2015.
- Cancer diagnoses in the East of England comprised 12% of all cancer diagnoses made in England in 2015, which broadly reflects the proportion of the national population resident in the East.
- The East of England age-standardised cancer incidence rates for all cancers (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer) were 656.1 per 100,000 males and 538.6 per 100,000 females. Overall, cancer incidence rates in the region were lower² for both males and females in England, with national rates of 667.4 and 542.8 per 100,000, respectively.
- The three most common cancers diagnosed in females resident in the East of England accounted for 54.3% of all female diagnoses. The most common female cancers were breast cancer with 5,440 cases (32.0%), colorectal cancer³ with 1,930 (11.4%) and lung cancer⁴ with 1,859 (10.9%).
- The age-standardised incidence rates were 174.1 per 100,000 females for breast cancer and 59.8 for colorectal cancer, both of which were higher than the national rates of 170.2 and 56.8 per 100,000 females, respectively. The age-standardised rate for lung cancer was 58.6 per 100,000 females, which was lower than the national rate of 65.6 per 100,000 females.

¹Figure: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/datasets/cancerregistrationstatisticscancerregistrationstatisticsengland>

² Any rate comparisons have *not* been tested for significance, so it is not known whether stated differences are statistically or clinically meaningful

³ Colon and rectum cancer ICD10 C18-C20

⁴ Trachea, bronchus and lung cancer ICD10 C33-C34

- The three most common cancers in males resident in the East of England accounted for 53.5% of all male diagnoses. The most common male cancers were prostate cancer with 5,174 cases (29.0%), colorectal cancer with 2,214 (12.4%) and lung cancer with 2,149 (12.1%).
- The age-standardised incidence rate for prostate cancer was 190.7 per 100,000 in males, higher than the national rate of 176.4 per 100,000 males. The age-standardised rate for colorectal cancer was 82.3 per 100,000 males and 80.6 per 100,000 males for lung cancer; both of which were lower than the national rates of 84.6 and 89.4 per 100,000 males, respectively.

About the Data

The cancer statistics presented here are the latest in the series of annual data releases by ONS known as the MB1 series.

The cancer registrations reported here are considered complete for the diagnosis year 2015. Cancer registration is a dynamic process, as records held by the National Cancer Registration and Analysis Service and ONS may be updated should more accurate information become available at a later stage.

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