

# Colorectal Cancer

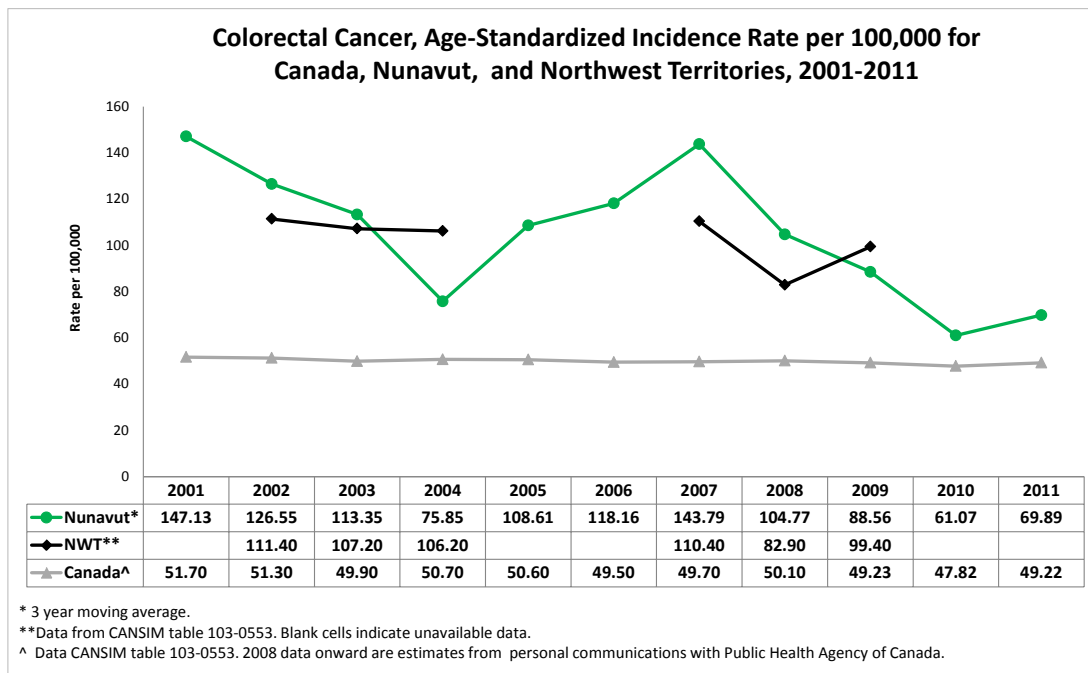
Nunavut, 1999-2011<sup>†</sup>

## Quick facts

- Second leading cancer site in Nunavut
- Average of 11 cases per year
- Average age at diagnosis 60 years
- 26% mortality within 1 year of diagnosis

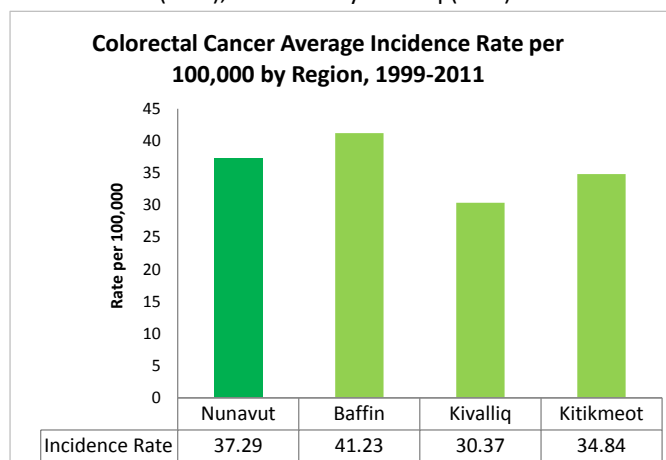
### 1. What are colorectal cancer rates in Nunavut and how do we compare to the rest of Canada?

- Colorectal Cancer is the second leading cancer in Nunavut, accounting for 19% (136 cases) of reported cancer cases diagnosed between 1999 and 2011.
- The predominant histological type is adenocarcinoma (91%).
- Risk factors include: alcohol and tobacco use, diet and obesity.
- Protective factors include: physical activity, fruit and vegetable intake and fish consumption.
- Historically, the Nunavut age-standardized rate significantly<sup>1</sup> exceeds the national rate.



### 2. Are there regional differences in colorectal cancer rates across Nunavut?

- Baffin had the highest rate followed by Kivalliq.
- Baffin had the highest proportion of cases (59%), followed by Kivalliq (24%) and Kitikmeot (17%).

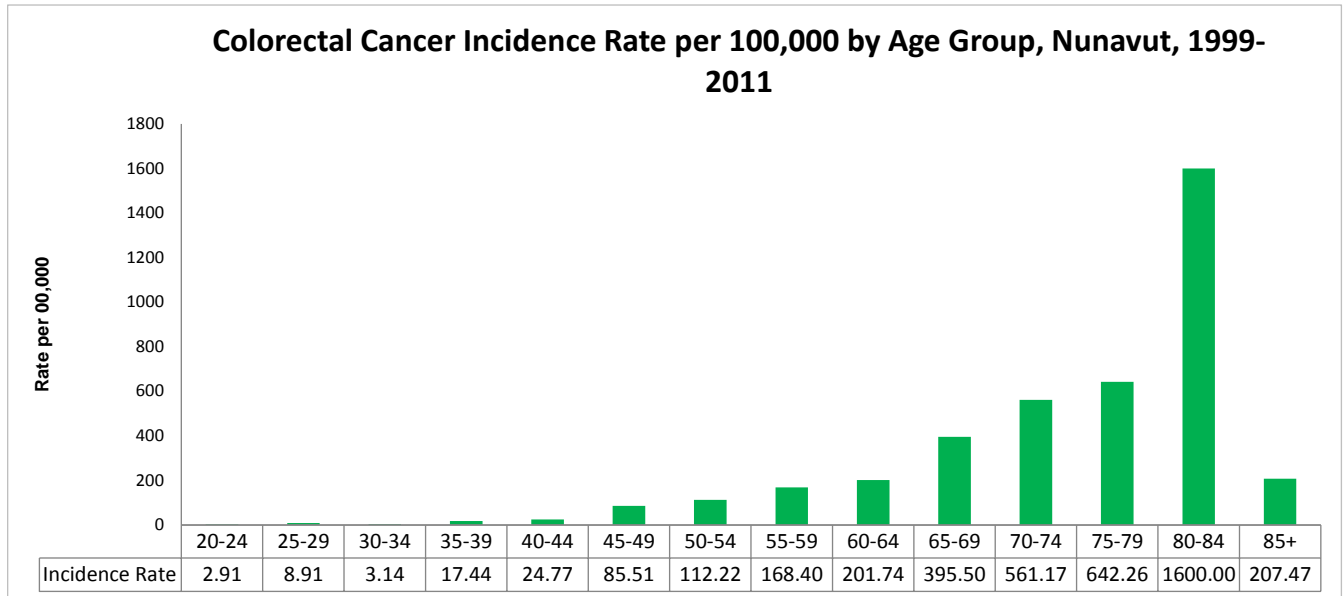


<sup>†</sup> 2011 data are preliminary

<sup>1</sup> Statistical Significance was determined by confidence interval overlap method, contact Population Health Information for more information.

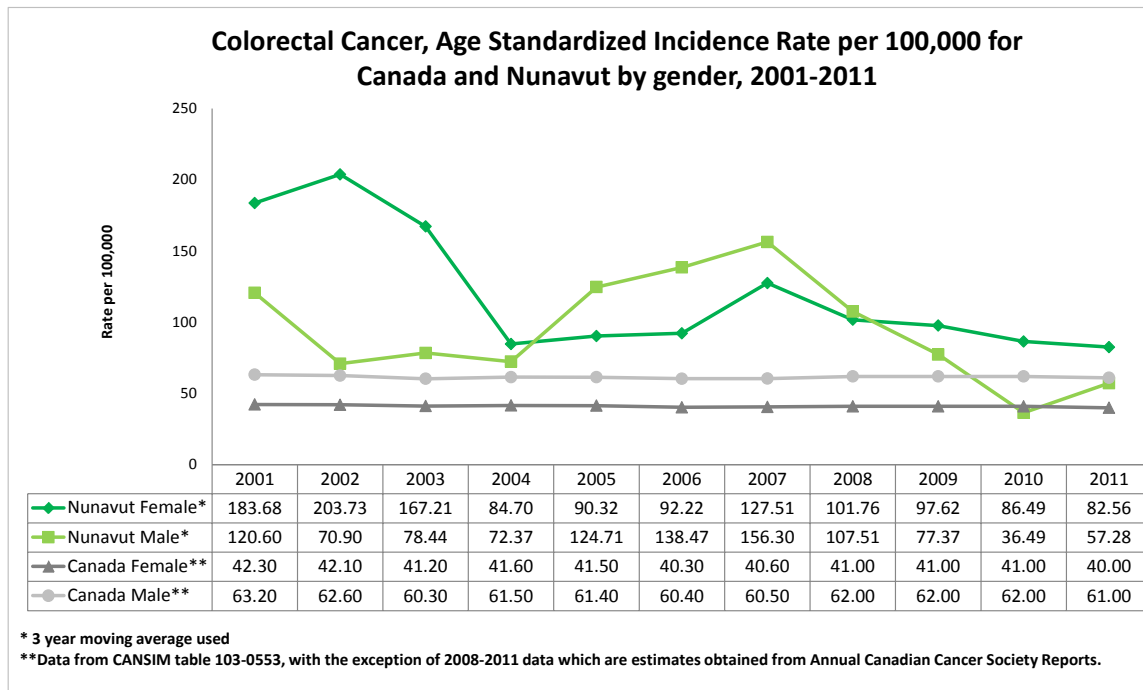
### 3. Are there age-related trends in colorectal cancer incidence in Nunavut?

- Average age at time of diagnosis 59.86 years (range 23-90 years, standard deviation 13.65 years).



### 4. Are there gender-related trends or differences in colorectal cancer rates in Nunavut?

- With the exception of 2002, colorectal cancer rates do not significantly<sup>1</sup> differ between men and women. While the female rate generally exceeds the male rate, this is not always the case.
- Nationally, the male rate significantly<sup>1</sup> and consistently exceeds the female rate.



### 5. What mortality data is available for colorectal cancer?

- Death clearance data is obtained from Statistics Canada and is available for years 1999-2008. For Nunavummiut who were diagnosed with colorectal cancer, 26% died within one year of diagnosis.



<sup>†</sup> 2011 data are preliminary

<sup>1</sup> Statistical Significance was determined by confidence interval overlap method, contact Population Health Information for more information.