

Lung & Bronchus Cancer

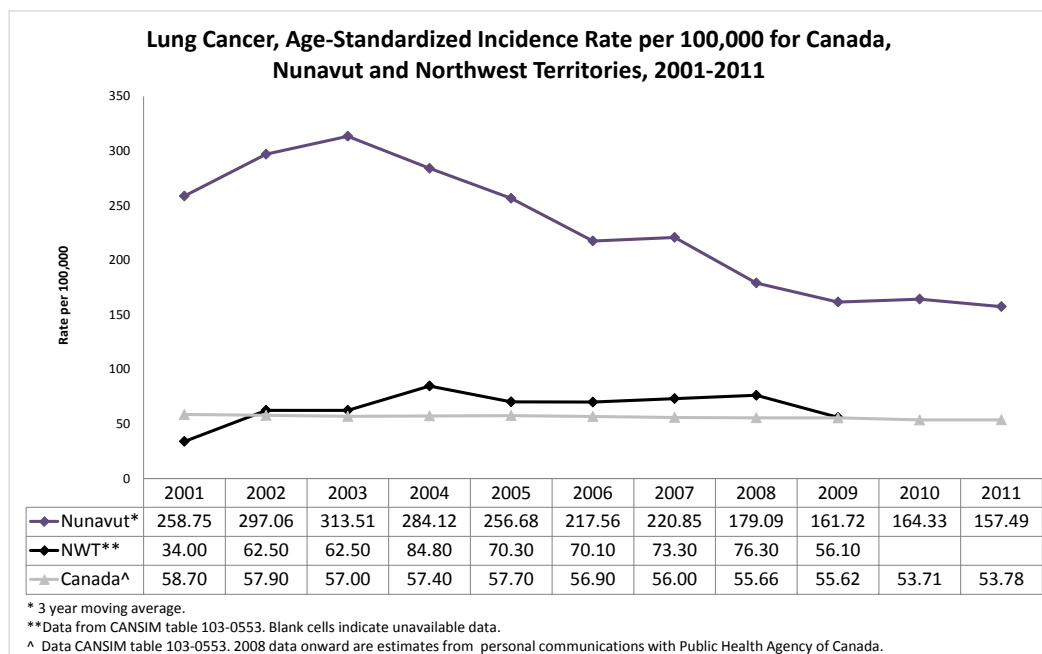
Nunavut, 1999-2011[†]

Quick facts

- Leading cancer site in Nunavut
- Average of 19 cases per year
- Average age at diagnosis 66 years
- 62% mortality within 1 year of diagnosis

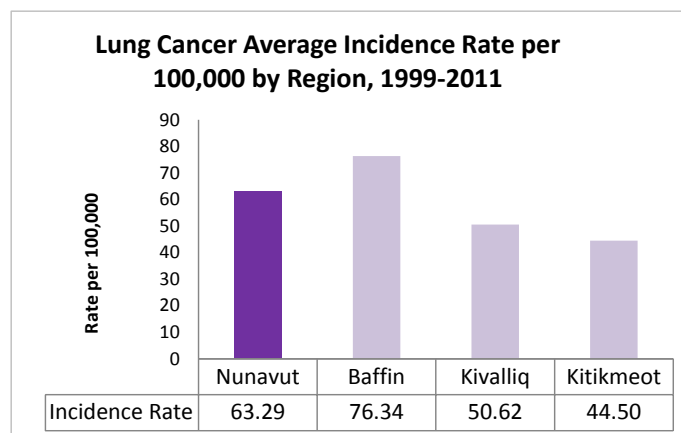
1. What are lung cancer rates in Nunavut and how do we compare to the rest of Canada?

- Lung cancer is the leading cancer amongst Nunavummiut, accounting for 32% (247 cases) of reported cancer cases diagnosed between 1999 and 2011.
- Top three histologies: Squamous cell, non-small cell, small cell not specified.
- Smoking is the primary risk factor for lung cancer; 60% of Nunavummiut 12 years or older report smoking, which is three times higher than the national average.
- The Nunavut age-standardized rate has generally trended down over time but still significantly¹ exceeds national and territorial rates by three fold.



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

- Baffin had the highest rate followed by Kivalliq.
- Baffin had the highest proportion of cases (65%) followed by Kivalliq (22%) and Kitikmeot (13%).

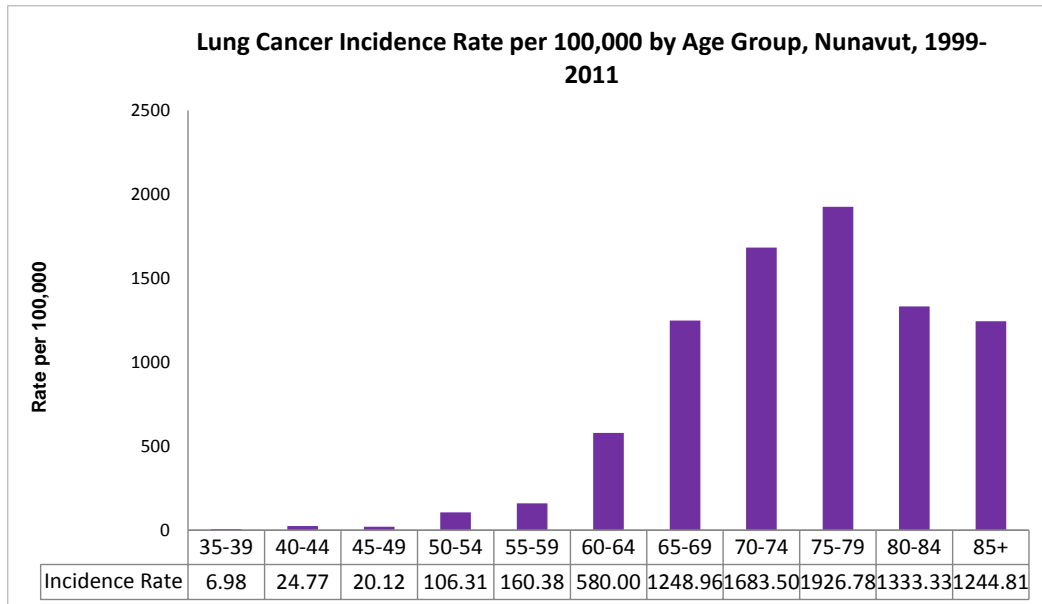


[†]2011 data are preliminary

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

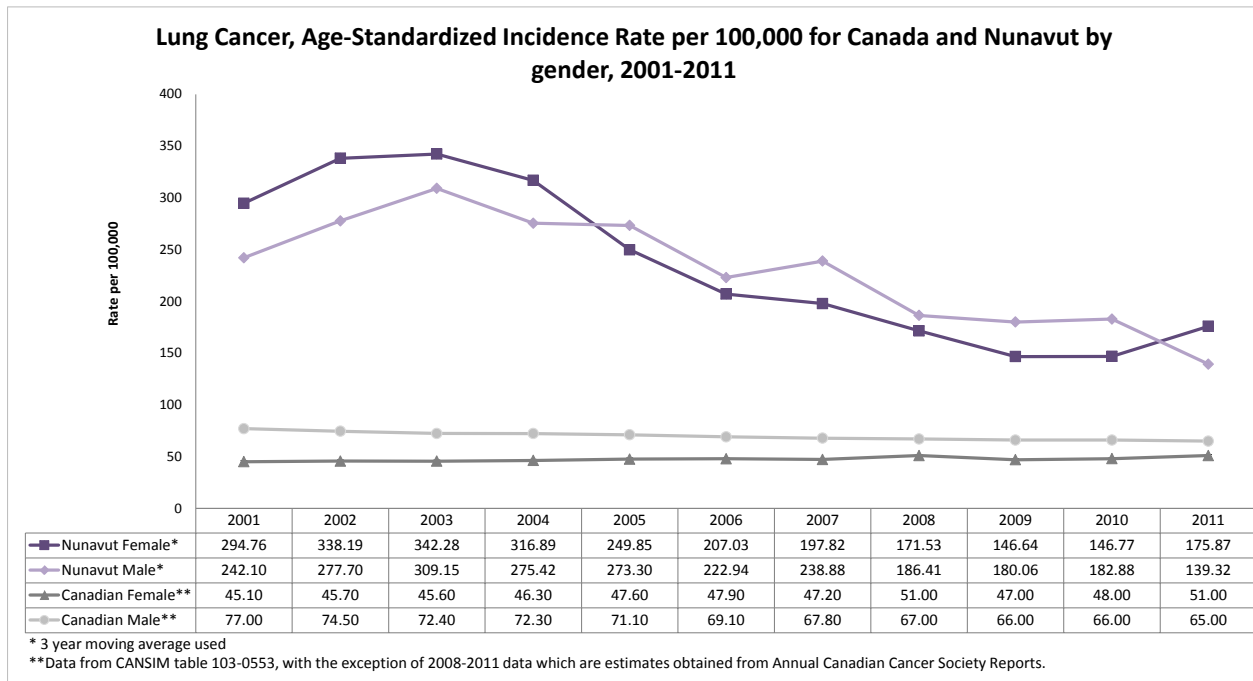
3. Are there age-related trends in lung cancer incidence in Nunavut?

- Average age at diagnosis was 66.15 years (range 36-92 years, standard deviation 9.73 years).



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

- Nationally, the male rate is consistently and significantly¹ higher than the female rate.
- In Nunavut, the male rate slightly exceeds the female rate between 2005 and 2010; this difference is not significant¹.
- The Nunavut rate for both genders significantly¹ exceeds the national rate.



5. What mortality data is available for lung cancer?

- Death clearance data is obtained from Statistics Canada and is available for years 1999-2008. For Nunavummiut diagnosed with lung cancer, 62% died within one year of diagnosis.



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