

Oral Cancer

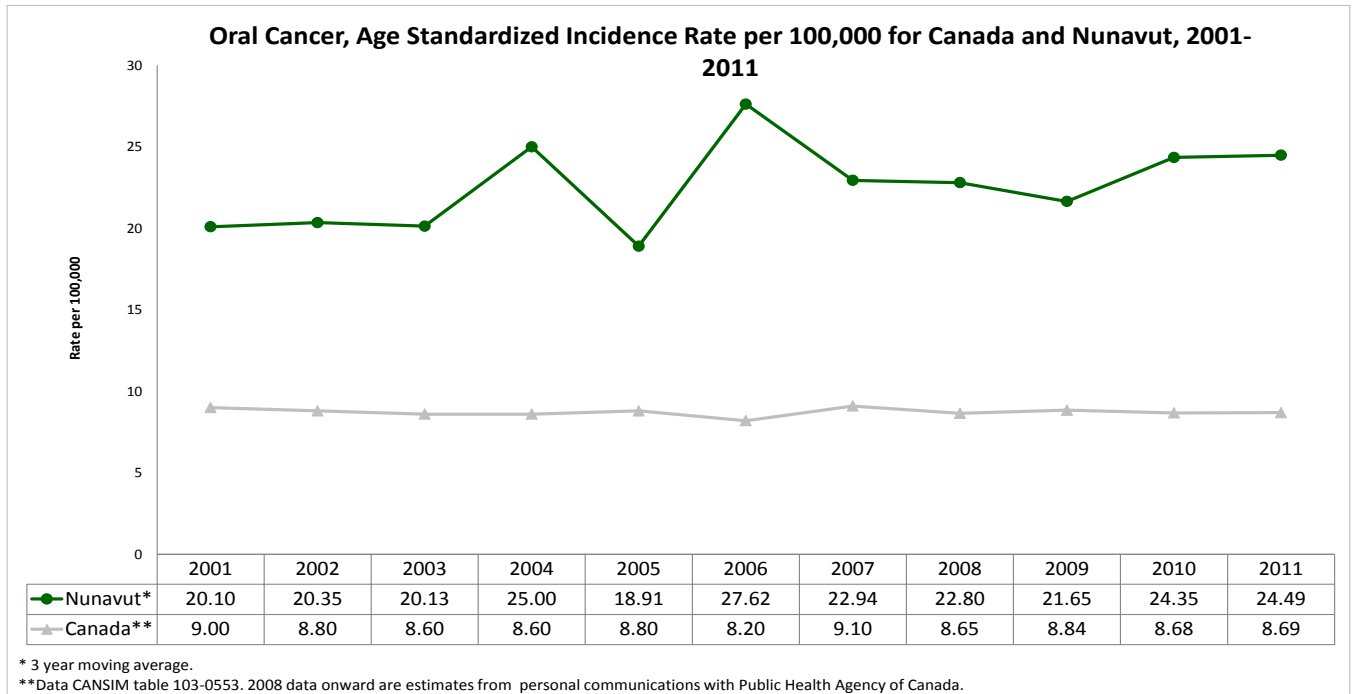
Nunavut, 1999-2011[†]

Quick facts

- Within top 4 cancers affecting Nunavummiut
- Average of 4 cases per year
- Average age at diagnosis 52 years
- 9% mortality within 1 year of diagnosis

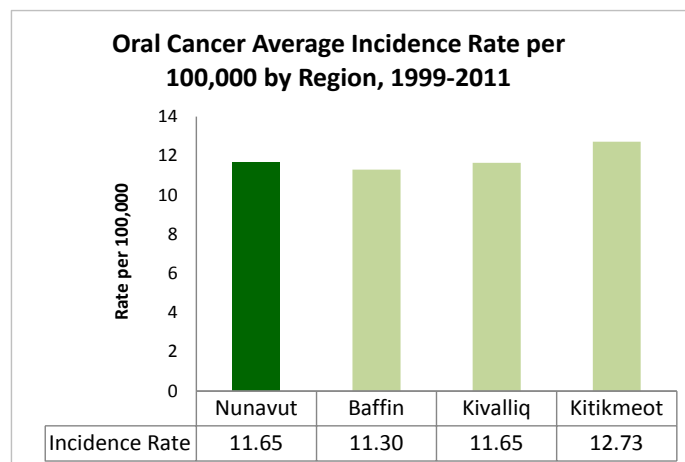
1. What are oral cancer rates in Nunavut and how do we compare to the rest of Canada?

- Oral Cancer accounted for 6% (41 cases) of all cancers affecting Nunavummiut between 1999 and 2011.
- Risk factors include: smoking and alcohol consumption, diet and viral infection.
- The Nunavut age-standardized rate has slightly increased over time and as of 2011 was triple that of the national rate.



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

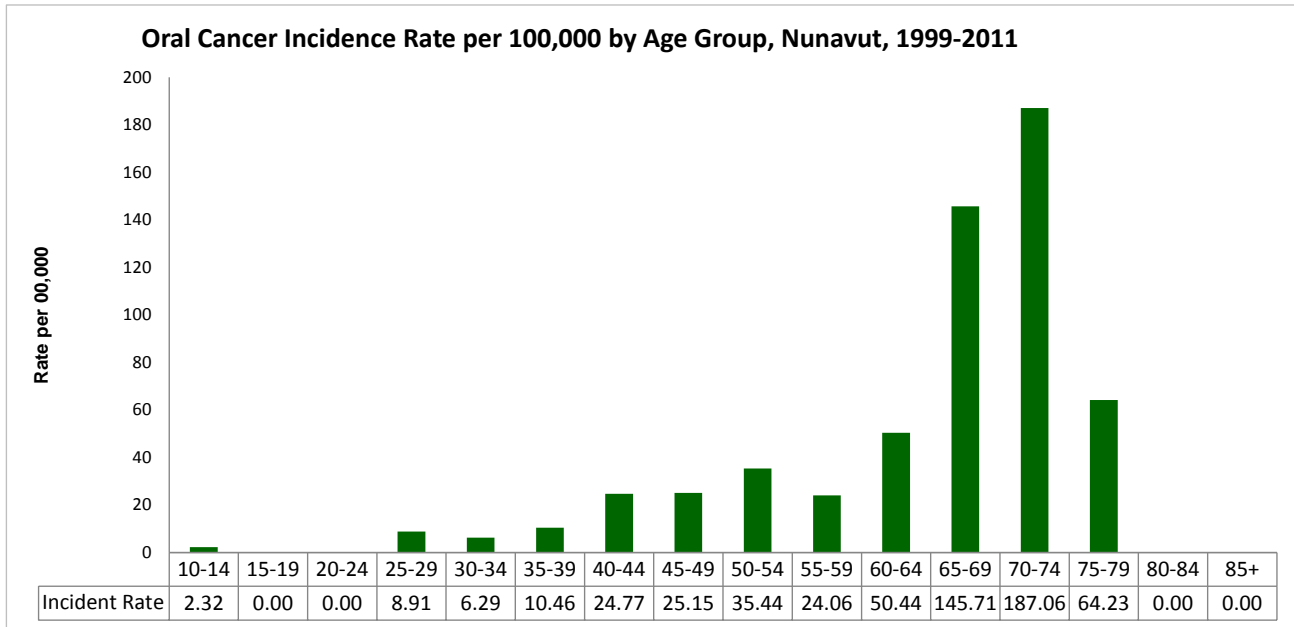
- Kitikmeot had the highest rate followed by Kivalliq.
- Baffin had the highest proportion of cases (52%) followed by Kivalliq (28%) and Kitikmeot (20%).



[†]2011 data are preliminary
[‡]Statistical Significance was determined by confidence interval overlap method, contact Population Health Information for more information.

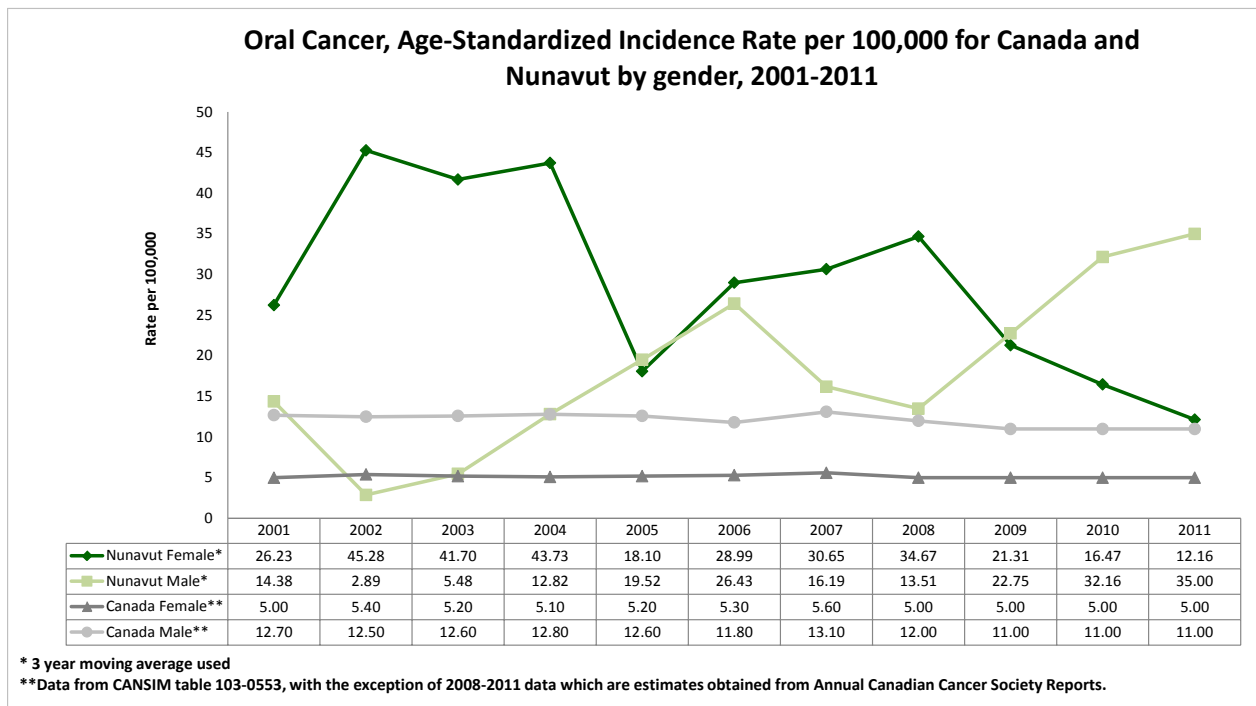
3. Are there age-related trends in oral cancer incidence in Nunavut?

- Average age at diagnosis was 51.13 years (range 12 to 75 years, standard deviation 15.00 years).



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

- While Nunavut rates by gender do not significantly¹ differ over time, the female rate generally exceeds the male rate.
- Nationally, the male rate is consistently higher than the female rate; this difference is statistically significant¹.



5. What mortality data is available for oral cancer?

- Death clearance data is obtained from Statistics Canada and is available for years 1999-2008. For Nunavummiut diagnosed with oral cancer, 9% died within one year of diagnosis.



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