

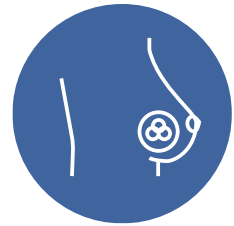


Belgian Cancer Registry

CANCER FACT SHEET 2022

BREAST CANCER

ICD-10 C50



CONCEPTS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Absolute numbers (N): The number of newly registered cancer diagnoses observed for a given period of time. All figures and numbers in this cancer fact sheet are based on diagnoses of Belgian residents.

Average Annual Percentage Change (AAPC): The average relative change in incidence risk from one year to the next. For example an AAPC of 1.05 (a 5% increase) applied to a cancer risk of 200/100,000 results in a risk of 210/100,000 one year later ($=200 \times 1.05$) and 255/100,000 over 5 years ($=200 \times (1.05)^5$).

Crude Rate (CR): The crude rate is obtained by dividing the absolute number of diagnoses (N) by the corresponding population size at risk (N/100,000).

ESR2013: Incidence rates standardised to the 2013 revised European Standard Population (ESP): Standardisation is necessary to accommodate for differences in population size and age distribution (over time or among regions). An important factor in interpreting trends in cancer incidence is population ageing, as cancer is an age-dependent disease. For a higher proportion of elderly people in the population, a higher total number of cancer diagnoses can be expected for the same cancer risk. When only absolute numbers (N) or Crude Rate (CR) results are used, a misleading picture of the actual changes in the risk of a cancer diagnosis could be obtained. Therefore, direct standardisation is necessary to evaluate the evolution of the risk of cancer diagnosis over time or among regions.

Net survival: Often also called the relative survival, is an estimate of the survival probability when other causes of death beside the cancer type(s) under study are excluded. As examples of other causes of death, patients with the cancer type(s) under study could also die because of an accident or unrelated cardiac conditions, etc. Net survival may exceed 100%, this occurs when the observed survival probability for patients with the cancer type(s) under study is higher than the one for the matched general population (no excess mortality due to cancer).

Stage: Cancers are reported with a stage, labelled with a Roman numeral with IV being the most advanced stage. Stage is based on the T-category (extent of the tumour), the N-category (absence or presence and extent of the regional lymph node metastasis) and the M-category (absence or presence of distant metastasis). Stage is reported as clinical and pathological stage and as a combination of both clinical and pathological stage with priority given to the pathological stage. Clinical information about distant metastases (cM) will always be taken into account, and in case of neo-adjuvant therapy, priority is given to the clinical stage. For breast cancer, stage IV means the cancer has spread to other organs. If stage is unknown, not applicable or not submitted to the Belgian Cancer Registry, the stage is reported as 'unregistered stage'. Stage is reported according to the TNM 8th edition: J.D. Brierley, M.K. Gospodarowicz, Ch. Wittekind. TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours, 8th edition: UICC, 2017.

- **Clinical stage:** Stage based on clinical examinations (e.g.: medical imaging, biopsies) to estimate the extent of the tumour. Clinical stage is established before the start of any treatment.
- **Pathological stage:** Stage based on pathological examinations of the tumour after surgery. **Pathological stage without neo-adjuvant therapy** is the pathological stage in the population that did not receive neo-adjuvant therapy prior to surgery. **Pathological stage after neo-adjuvant therapy** is the pathological stage in the population that did receive neo-adjuvant therapy prior to surgery.
- **Neo-adjuvant therapy (NAT):** Treatment (e.g.: chemotherapy) given prior to surgery, with the goal to shrink the tumour before operating.

95% CI: 95% Confidence Intervals are indicated with a shaded band or whiskers in the figures. The 95% CI is a range of values that has 95% chance to contain the true mean value.



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1. CANCER INCIDENCE (FEMALES)



1.1. Female breast cancer incidence: by region

1.1.1. Female breast cancer incidence by region: number of new diagnoses, age-specific, crude and age-standardised incidence rates, 2022

Region	N [CR]																				ESR2013 (95%CI)	
	0-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	30-	35-	40-	45-	50-	55-	60-	65-	70-	75-	80-	85-	90-	95-		All ages
Females																						
Belgium	0	0	0	0	11	47	145	293	605	923	1,078	1,181	1,383	1,338	1,328	1,164	808	582	259	47	11,192	184.5
	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[3.3]	[13.0]	[37.9]	[78.5]	[159.9]	[251.3]	[278.6]	[296.1]	[367.1]	[402.3]	[449.8]	[503.7]	[453.4]	[432.2]	[373.2]	[229.1]	[190.5]	(181.1; 188.0)
Brussels	0	0	0	0	3	6	16	37	61	82	89	103	104	83	94	87	54	53	27	4	903	172.8
	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[7.5]	[11.0]	[30.1]	[78.2]	[135.6]	[203.7]	[238.7]	[305.3]	[349.7]	[333.3]	[440.9]	[504.6]	[414.5]	[526.8]	[467.7]	[194.0]	[145.1]	(161.4; 184.2)
Flanders	0	0	0	0	5	27	77	173	356	554	638	711	821	809	765	695	519	364	153	28	6,695	185.8
	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[2.8]	[13.6]	[36.5]	[82.4]	[164.1]	[267.8]	[283.1]	[298.5]	[365.7]	[409.1]	[440.6]	[486.1]	[463.4]	[427.7]	[359.2]	[231.8]	[197.9]	(181.3; 190.3)
Wallonia	0	0	0	0	3	14	52	83	188	287	351	367	458	446	469	382	235	165	79	15	3,594	185.9
	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[2.7]	[13.0]	[43.8]	[71.6]	[161.6]	[238.9]	[282.3]	[289.2]	[374.0]	[405.6]	[467.8]	[538.9]	[441.9]	[417.7]	[375.6]	[235.3]	[192.1]	(179.8; 192.0)

1.2. Female breast cancer incidence: by tumour stage

1.2.1. Female breast cancer incidence by clinical stage (cStage) and age group: number of new diagnoses, crude and age-standardised incidence rates, 2022

cStage	N[CR]				ESR2013 (95%CI)
	15-49	50-69	70+	All ages	
I	804 [32.0]	2,589 [173.2]	1,590 [171.1]	4,983 [84.8]	83.4 (81.1; 85.8)
II	849 [33.8]	1,588 [106.2]	1,613 [173.6]	4,050 [68.9]	66.4 (64.3; 68.4)
III	167 [6.7]	278 [18.6]	353 [38.0]	798 [13.6]	12.8 (11.9; 13.7)
IV	107 [4.3]	312 [20.9]	431 [46.4]	850 [14.5]	13.7 (12.7; 14.6)
X/NA	97 [3.9]	213 [14.2]	201 [21.6]	511 [8.7]	8.3 (7.5; 9.0)

1.2.2. Female breast cancer incidence by pathological stage among patients who have undergone surgery without neo-adjuvant therapy (pStage), by age group: number of new diagnoses, crude and age-standardised incidence rates, 2022

pStage	N[CR]				ESR2013 (95%CI)
	15-49	50-69	70+	All ages	
I	678 [27.0]	2,289 [153.1]	1,302 [140.1]	4,269 [72.7]	71.8 (69.6; 73.9)
II	438 [17.4]	1,173 [78.5]	1,111 [119.6]	2,722 [46.3]	45.1 (43.4; 46.8)
III	82 [3.3]	208 [13.9]	258 [27.8]	548 [9.3]	8.8 (8.1; 9.6)
IV	15 [0.6]	36 [2.4]	30 [3.2]	81 [1.4]	1.3 (1.0; 1.6)
X/NA	147 [5.9]	424 [28.4]	1,130 [121.6]	1,701 [29.0]	25.2 (24.0; 26.4)

1.2.3. Female breast cancer incidence by pathological stage among patients who have undergone surgery with neo-adjuvant therapy (ypStage), by age group: number of new diagnoses, crude and age-standardised incidence rates, 2022

ypStage	N[CR]				ESR2013 (95%CI)
	15-49	50-69	70+	All ages	
I	163 [6.5]	220 [14.7]	104 [11.2]	487 [8.3]	8.4 (7.6; 9.1)
II	125 [5.0]	180 [12.0]	86 [9.3]	391 [6.7]	6.7 (6.0; 7.3)
III	35 [1.4]	77 [5.2]	58 [6.2]	170 [2.9]	2.9 (2.5; 3.3)
IV	2 [0.1]	5 [0.3]	3 [0.3]	10 [0.2]	0.2 (0.1; 0.3)
X/NA	339 [13.5]	368 [24.6]	106 [11.4]	813 [13.8]	14.2 (13.2; 15.2)

1.2.4. Female breast cancer incidence by stage and age group: number of new diagnoses, crude and age-standardised incidence rates, 2022

Stage	N[CR]				All ages	ESR2013 (95%CI)
	15-49	50-69	70+			
I	788 [31.4]	2,456 [164.3]	1,501 [161.6]		4,745 [80.8]	79.4 (77.1; 81.7)
II	868 [34.6]	1,714 [114.6]	1,629 [175.3]		4,211 [71.7]	69.3 (67.2; 71.4)
III	224 [8.9]	409 [27.4]	493 [53.1]		1,126 [19.2]	18.2 (17.1; 19.2)
IV	108 [4.3]	313 [20.9]	434 [46.7]		855 [14.6]	13.7 (12.8; 14.7)
X/NA	36 [1.4]	88 [5.9]	131 [14.1]		255 [4.3]	3.9 (3.4; 4.4)

2. CANCER INCIDENCE TRENDS (FEMALES)



2.1. Female breast cancer incidence trends: by region

2.1.1. Female breast cancer incidence trends by region: number of new diagnoses, crude and age-standardised incidence rates, including average annual percentage change, 2004-2022

Region	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	AAPC, % (95%CI)	Period		
Belgium	N	9,376	9,380	9,493	9,684	9,584	9,596	9,903	10,547	10,553	10,711	10,481	10,406	10,784	10,657	10,926	10,997	10,492	11,329	11,192			
	CR	176.6	175.8	176.9	179.2	176.1	175.0	179.2	189.0	187.7	189.5	184.6	182.4	188.2	185.2	189.1	189.5	179.9	193.9	190.5			
	ESR2013	183.7	180.8	181.6	182.6	178.6	177.0	181.0	190.7	188.1	189.8	184.8	181.4	186.4	182.4	185.6	185.5	175.8	188.5	184.5	0.1 (-0.1; 0.3)	2004-2022	
Brussels	N	929	865	933	923	863	900	920	926	924	955	965	899	943	902	963	959	921	955	903			
	CR	178.8	165.3	176.3	172.7	159.2	163.0	163.5	160.6	157.7	161.1	161.7	149.2	155.1	148.1	157.3	155.7	148.4	153.8	145.1			
	ESR2013	205.6	186.6	202.2	199.5	185.5	191.5	191.9	193.4	188.8	195.6	196.3	182.3	186.9	178.3	190.5	187.4	178.2	183.6	172.8	-0.6 (-0.8; -0.3)	2004-2022	
Flanders	N	5,272	5,463	5,491	5,670	5,487	5,542	5,720	6,116	6,087	6,200	6,031	6,139	6,307	6,287	6,345	6,492	6,300	6,863	6,695			
	CR	172.9	178.3	178.2	182.9	175.8	176.2	180.6	191.5	189.3	191.9	185.9	188.2	192.5	190.8	191.6	195.0	188.1	204.3	197.9			
	ESR2013	176.5	179.9	178.7	181.8	173.7	173.1	177.5	187.5	183.5	186.1	180.0	180.4	184.0	181.3	181.7	185.0	178.0	192.5	185.8	0.3 (0.1; 0.5)	2004-2022	
Wallonia	N	3,175	3,052	3,069	3,091	3,234	3,154	3,263	3,505	3,542	3,556	3,485	3,368	3,534	3,468	3,618	3,546	3,271	3,511	3,594			
	CR	182.4	174.6	174.6	174.8	181.9	176.5	181.5	193.5	194.5	194.5	190.0	183.0	191.5	187.4	195.1	190.8	175.5	188.4	192.1			
	ESR2013	191.3	181.5	182.0	180.0	186.1	180.5	184.7	196.6	196.5	195.6	191.4	183.6	191.1	186.1	191.9	186.6	171.4	183.0	185.9	0.0 (-0.3; 0.3)	2004-2022	
																					0.7 (0.0; 1.5)	2004-2012	
																						-0.6 (-1.1; 0.0)	2013-2022

Note: In case a change in trend is detected, an estimated APC per time segment is given as well as Average Annual Percentage Change (AAPC) for the full incidence period.

2.2. Female breast cancer incidence trends: by tumour stage

2.2.1. Female breast cancer incidence trends by stage: number of new diagnoses, crude and age-standardised incidence rates, 2018-2022, including average annual percentage change from 2004 onwards

Stage		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	AAPC, % (95%CI)	Period
I	N	4,574	4,722	4,318	4,986	4,745		
	CR	79.2	81.4	74.0	85.3	80.8		
	ESR2013	78.7	80.7	73.3	84.0	79.4	1.2 (0.8; 1.5)	2004-2022
							2.6 (1.7; 3.5)	2004-2012
							0.0 (-0.6; 0.7)	2013-2022
II	N	4,081	4,157	4,068	4,241	4,211		
	CR	70.6	71.6	69.7	72.6	71.7		
	ESR2013	69.1	69.8	67.9	70.5	69.3	0.6 (0.5; 0.7)	2004-2022
III	N	1,201	1,164	1,154	1,114	1,126		
	CR	20.8	20.1	19.8	19.1	19.2		
	ESR2013	20.1	19.5	19.2	18.2	18.2	-1.1 (-1.4; -0.7)	2004-2022
							1.0 (0.1; 1.9)	2004-2012
							-2.7 (-3.4; -2.1)	2013-2022
IV	N	847	765	769	814	855		
	CR	14.7	13.2	13.2	13.9	14.6		
	ESR2013	14.1	12.7	12.6	13.1	13.7	2.4 (1.8; 3.1)	2004-2022
X/NA	N	223	189	183	174	255		
	CR	3.9	3.3	3.1	3.0	4.3		
	ESR2013	3.5	2.9	2.8	2.7	3.9	-11.5 (-12.8; -10.2)	2004-2022

Note: In case a change in trend is detected, an estimated APC per time segment is given as well as Average Annual Percentage Change (AAPC) for the full incidence period.

2.3. Female breast cancer incidence trends: by age group

2.3.1. Female breast cancer incidence trends by age group: number of new diagnoses, crude and age-standardised incidence rates, including average annual percentage change, 2004-2022

Age	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	AAPC, %	(95%CI)	Period	
15-49	N	2,121	2,191	2,178	2,255	2,158	2,094	2,126	2,203	2,081	2,174	2,088	2,027	2,024	2,034	1,968	2,050	2,023	2,077	2,024			
	CR	85.9	88.6	87.9	90.7	86.5	83.7	84.8	87.6	82.6	86.4	83.2	81.0	81.0	81.5	78.9	82.2	80.9	83.1	80.6			
	ESR2013	85.5	87.5	86.6	89.5	85.3	82.8	84.1	87.0	82.3	86.4	84.0	82.3	82.6	83.6	80.9	84.3	83.3	85.8	83.8	-0.2	(-0.4; 0.0)	2004-2022
50-69	N	4,575	4,355	4,452	4,463	4,455	4,498	4,714	5,059	5,102	5,200	5,014	5,011	5,196	5,075	5,152	5,114	4,891	5,272	4,980			
	CR	388.5	365.1	367.6	362.7	356.4	354.2	364.5	382.9	376.8	376.4	357.1	351.2	359.3	348.8	352.4	348.1	331.0	354.8	333.1			
	ESR2013	390.3	366.5	370.0	365.0	358.5	356.1	366.7	385.4	379.2	378.2	358.3	352.2	360.0	349.3	352.6	348.2	330.4	353.8	331.6	-0.5	(-0.8; -0.2)	2004-2022
																					0.0	(-1.0; 0.9)	2004-2010

3. CANCER PREVALENCE (FEMALES)



3.1. Female breast cancer prevalence: by region

3.1.1. Female breast cancer prevalence by region: number of prevalent cases, crude and age-standardised prevalence rates on 31/12/2022

Region		Females			
		1-year	5-year	10-year	15-year
Belgium	N	10,865	49,461	88,815	119,651
	CR	183.0	833.2	1,496.2	2,016
	ESR2013	177.0	803.3	1,435.2	1,922.5
Brussels	N	873	4,179	7,506	10,070
	CR	137.9	660.3	1,185.9	1,591.1
	ESR2013	165.5	802.9	1,459.2	1,973.5
Flanders	N	6,518	29,691	52,943	71,066
	CR	190.4	867.5	1,546.9	2,076.4
	ESR2013	178.6	809.9	1,433.8	1,910.4
Wallonia	N	3,474	15,591	28,366	38,515
	CR	184.7	829.0	1,508.2	2,047.9
	ESR2013	177.8	794.0	1,437.0	1,939.6

4. CANCER SURVIVAL (FEMALES)



4.1. Female breast cancer survival: by region

4.1.1. Female breast cancer survival by region and age group: number at risk and net survival probabilities, 2013-2022

Net Survival Probability, 2013-2022						
Region	Age	N at risk	1-y (95%CI)	3-y (95%CI)	5-y (95%CI)	10-y (95%CI)
Females						
Belgium	All ages	107,793	97.6% (97.5%; 97.7%)	94.3% (94.1%; 94.6%)	91.5% (91.2%; 91.9%)	86.5% (85.4%; 87.6%)
	15-49	20,441	99.2% (99.1%; 99.3%)	96.6% (96.3%; 96.9%)	94.1% (93.7%; 94.4%)	90.5% (89.9%; 91.1%)
	50-69	50,810	98.6% (98.5%; 98.8%)	96.3% (96.1%; 96.5%)	94.2% (93.9%; 94.5%)	90.7% (90.2%; 91.3%)
	70+	36,543	95.3% (95.0%; 95.6%)	90.3% (89.7%; 90.9%)	86.4% (85.5%; 87.3%)	78.0% (74.8%; 81.4%)
Brussels	All ages	9,320	97.5% (97.0%; 97.9%)	94.1% (93.4%; 94.9%)	91.0% (89.9%; 92.2%)	86.1% (81.0%; 91.6%)
	15-49	2,121	99.2% (98.7%; 99.6%)	96.1% (95.3%; 97.0%)	93.2% (91.9%; 94.4%)	89.6% (87.6%; 91.7%)
	50-69	4,104	98.6% (98.1%; 99.0%)	96.0% (95.3%; 96.8%)	93.8% (92.8%; 94.8%)	90.1% (88.2%; 92.0%)
	70+	3,095	94.9% (93.7%; 96.0%)	90.3% (88.3%; 92.3%)	85.9% (82.8%; 89.0%)	78.4% (65.0%; 94.4%)
Flanders	All ages	63,586	98.0% (97.9%; 98.2%)	95.2% (95.0%; 95.5%)	92.8% (92.4%; 93.2%)	88.7% (87.3%; 90.2%)
	15-49	11,903	99.2% (99.0%; 99.4%)	96.8% (96.4%; 97.1%)	94.2% (93.7%; 94.7%)	90.9% (90.1%; 91.7%)
	50-69	30,054	99.0% (98.8%; 99.1%)	97.0% (96.7%; 97.3%)	95.2% (94.9%; 95.6%)	93.1% (92.4%; 93.8%)
	70+	21,630	96.1% (95.7%; 96.5%)	92.0% (91.2%; 92.7%)	88.6% (87.4%; 89.8%)	81.0% (76.9%; 85.4%)
Wallonia	All ages	34,887	96.9% (96.7%; 97.1%)	92.7% (92.3%; 93.1%)	89.4% (88.8%; 90.0%)	82.7% (81.0%; 84.4%)
	15-49	6,417	99.3% (99.0%; 99.5%)	96.5% (96.0%; 97.0%)	94.1% (93.4%; 94.8%)	90.0% (88.8%; 91.1%)

Net Survival Probability, 2013-2022						
Region	Age	N at risk	1-y (95%CI)	3-y (95%CI)	5-y (95%CI)	10-y (95%CI)
	50-69	16,652	98.1% (97.9%; 98.3%)	95.0% (94.6%; 95.4%)	92.4% (91.9%; 92.9%)	86.8% (85.8%; 87.8%)
	70+	11,818	93.9% (93.3%; 94.5%)	87.4% (86.3%; 88.4%)	82.5% (81.0%; 84.0%)	72.5% (67.6%; 77.7%)

4.2. Female breast cancer survival: by tumour stage

4.2.1. Female breast cancer survival by clinical stage (cStage): number at risk and net survival probabilities, 2013-2022

Net Survival Probability, 2013-2022							
cStage	N at risk	1-y (95%CI)	2-y (95%CI)	3-y (95%CI)	4-y (95%CI)	5-y (95%CI)	10-y (95%CI)
Total	107,793	97.6% (97.5%; 97.7%)	95.9% (95.7%; 96.1%)	94.3% (94.1%; 94.6%)	92.8% (92.5%; 93.1%)	91.5% (91.2%; 91.9%)	86.5% (85.4%; 87.6%)
I	44,738	100.3% (100.2%; 100.4%)	100.5% (100.4%; 100.7%)	100.7% (100.5%; 101.0%)	100.8% (100.5%; 101.1%)	100.9% (100.5%; 101.3%)	101.7% (100.3%; 103.2%)
II	37,080	99.3% (99.1%; 99.5%)	98.1% (97.8%; 98.4%)	96.6% (96.2%; 97.0%)	95.0% (94.5%; 95.5%)	93.5% (92.9%; 94.2%)	87.1% (85.0%; 89.2%)
III	7,180	94.9% (94.3%; 95.6%)	89.0% (88.1%; 90.0%)	83.9% (82.7%; 85.1%)	79.9% (78.5%; 81.4%)	76.7% (75.1%; 78.5%)	60.1% (53.6%; 67.5%)
IV	7,151	77.6% (76.6%; 78.7%)	66.3% (65.1%; 67.5%)	56.4% (55.1%; 57.8%)	47.4% (46.0%; 48.9%)	40.1% (38.7%; 41.7%)	17.7% (15.1%; 20.7%)
X/NA	11,664	95.8% (95.4%; 96.3%)	93.7% (93.1%; 94.3%)	92.0% (91.2%; 92.7%)	90.5% (89.7%; 91.4%)	89.4% (88.4%; 90.4%)	83.5% (81.2%; 86.0%)

4.2.2. Female breast cancer survival by pathological stage among patients who have undergone surgery without neo-adjuvant therapy (pStage): number at risk and net survival probabilities, 2013-2022

Net Survival Probability, 2013-2022							
pStage	N at risk	1-y (95%CI)	2-y (95%CI)	3-y (95%CI)	4-y (95%CI)	5-y (95%CI)	10-y (95%CI)
Total	92,519	97.3% (97.1%; 97.4%)	95.7% (95.5%; 95.9%)	94.2% (94.0%; 94.5%)	92.8% (92.5%; 93.1%)	91.6% (91.2%; 91.9%)	86.9% (85.7%; 88.1%)
I	41,899	100.8% (100.7%; 100.9%)	101.4% (101.2%; 101.5%)	101.8% (101.7%; 102.0%)	102.3% (102.1%; 102.5%)	102.8% (102.5%; 103.1%)	104.5% (103.2%; 105.9%)
II	27,991	100.7% (100.6%; 100.9%)	100.7% (100.5%; 101.0%)	100.4% (100.1%; 100.8%)	99.8% (99.3%; 100.3%)	99.0% (98.4%; 99.6%)	95.5% (93.4%; 97.6%)
III	7,222	97.9% (97.4%; 98.4%)	94.8% (94.0%; 95.5%)	92.0% (91.0%; 93.0%)	88.3% (87.1%; 89.5%)	84.6% (83.2%; 86.0%)	69.7% (64.6%; 75.3%)
IV	807	75.0% (72.0%; 78.2%)	65.7% (62.3%; 69.4%)	56.5% (52.8%; 60.5%)	48.1% (44.2%; 52.4%)	40.3% (36.2%; 44.8%)	22.9% (16.9%; 31.0%)
X/NA	14,619	81.4% (80.6%; 82.1%)	71.9% (71.0%; 72.8%)	63.6% (62.6%; 64.7%)	56.6% (55.4%; 57.9%)	51.2% (49.8%; 52.7%)	32.6% (29.2%; 36.3%)

4.2.3. Female breast cancer survival by pathological stage among patients who have undergone surgery with neo-adjuvant therapy (ypStage): number at risk and net survival probabilities, 2013-2022

Net Survival Probability, 2013-2022							
ypStage	N at risk	1-y (95%CI)	2-y (95%CI)	3-y (95%CI)	4-y (95%CI)	5-y (95%CI)	10-y (95%CI)
Total	15,277	99.7% (99.6%; 99.9%)	97.3% (96.9%; 97.6%)	94.8% (94.3%; 95.3%)	92.7% (92.1%; 93.3%)	91.1% (90.4%; 91.8%)	83.5% (81.6%; 85.5%)
I	3,974	100.4% (100.2%; 100.6%)	99.5% (99.1%; 100.0%)	98.6% (97.9%; 99.3%)	97.6% (96.7%; 98.5%)	97.0% (96.0%; 98.1%)	94.5% (91.5%; 97.5%)
II	3,776	99.9% (99.6%; 100.3%)	96.6% (95.8%; 97.3%)	93.6% (92.6%; 94.6%)	91.1% (89.9%; 92.4%)	89.6% (88.2%; 91.0%)	79.8% (76.3%; 83.5%)
III	2,121	98.1% (97.4%; 98.9%)	90.0% (88.6%; 91.5%)	83.0% (81.1%; 84.8%)	77.8% (75.7%; 79.9%)	72.8% (70.4%; 75.2%)	54.9% (50.5%; 59.8%)
IV	141	93.2% (88.9%; 97.8%)	80.3% (73.6%; 87.6%)	74.5% (67.1%; 82.8%)	67.5% (59.3%; 76.9%)	61.3% (52.4%; 71.8%)	36.1% (22.9%; 57.1%)
X/NA	5,265	99.9% (99.7%; 100.2%)	99.4% (99.0%; 99.8%)	98.3% (97.7%; 98.9%)	97.3% (96.6%; 98.1%)	96.8% (95.9%; 97.8%)	94.8% (90.7%; 99.0%)

4.2.4. Female breast cancer survival by stage: number at risk and net survival probabilities, 2013-2022

Net Survival Probability, 2013-2022							
Stage	N at risk	1-y (95%CI)	2-y (95%CI)	3-y (95%CI)	4-y (95%CI)	5-y (95%CI)	10-y (95%CI)
Total	107,793	97.6% (97.5%; 97.7%)	95.9% (95.7%; 96.1%)	94.3% (94.1%; 94.6%)	92.8% (92.5%; 93.1%)	91.5% (91.2%; 91.9%)	86.5% (85.4%; 87.6%)
I	45,754	100.3% (100.2%; 100.4%)	100.6% (100.5%; 100.8%)	100.8% (100.6%; 101.0%)	101.0% (100.7%; 101.3%)	101.3% (100.9%; 101.6%)	102.5% (101.1%; 103.8%)
II	39,964	99.5% (99.4%; 99.7%)	98.6% (98.3%; 98.8%)	97.4% (97.0%; 97.7%)	96.2% (95.7%; 96.7%)	95.1% (94.5%; 95.6%)	89.5% (87.6%; 91.4%)
III	12,159	96.6% (96.1%; 97.0%)	92.3% (91.6%; 92.9%)	88.3% (87.5%; 89.2%)	84.6% (83.7%; 85.6%)	81.4% (80.2%; 82.5%)	66.5% (62.7%; 70.5%)
IV	7,313	77.6% (76.6%; 78.6%)	66.2% (65.0%; 67.4%)	56.5% (55.2%; 57.9%)	47.6% (46.2%; 49.0%)	40.3% (38.9%; 41.9%)	18.6% (16.1%; 21.6%)
X/NA	2,626	81.9% (80.2%; 83.6%)	73.7% (71.6%; 75.8%)	66.9% (64.5%; 69.4%)	60.6% (57.8%; 63.5%)	56.5% (53.4%; 59.8%)	39.9% (32.5%; 49.0%)

5. CANCER SURVIVAL TRENDS (FEMALES)



5.1. Female breast cancer survival trends: by tumour stage

5.1.1. Female breast cancer survival trends by stage: number at risk and net survival probabilities, 2008-2022

Period	Stage	Net Survival Probability			
		N at risk	1-y (95%CI)	3-y (95%CI)	5-y (95%CI)
2008-2012	Total	50,100	97.2% (97.0%; 97.4%)	92.5% (92.2%; 92.8%)	88.7% (88.3%; 89.2%)
	I	19,960	100.3% (100.2%; 100.5%)	100.2% (99.9%; 100.5%)	100.1% (99.7%; 100.6%)
	II	17,861	99.3% (99.1%; 99.6%)	96.2% (95.7%; 96.7%)	93.3% (92.6%; 94.0%)
	III	6,371	96.6% (96.0%; 97.2%)	86.3% (85.2%; 87.4%)	77.0% (75.5%; 78.4%)
	IV	2,883	75.8% (74.2%; 77.5%)	50.0% (48.0%; 52.0%)	32.3% (30.4%; 34.3%)
	X/NA	3,027	85.0% (83.6%; 86.5%)	73.4% (71.4%; 75.4%)	64.9% (62.5%; 67.4%)
2013-2017	Total	52,949	97.5% (97.3%; 97.7%)	93.8% (93.5%; 94.1%)	90.7% (90.3%; 91.1%)
	I	22,422	100.4% (100.2%; 100.5%)	100.8% (100.5%; 101.1%)	101.1% (100.7%; 101.5%)
	II	19,216	99.4% (99.2%; 99.7%)	97.0% (96.5%; 97.5%)	94.3% (93.5%; 95.0%)
	III	6,405	96.5% (95.9%; 97.1%)	87.3% (86.2%; 88.4%)	80.2% (78.8%; 81.7%)
	IV	3,272	75.5% (74.0%; 77.1%)	52.8% (50.9%; 54.7%)	36.6% (34.7%; 38.5%)
	X/NA	1,640	82.4% (80.3%; 84.6%)	66.9% (64.0%; 70.0%)	56.4% (52.8%; 60.2%)
2018-2022	Total	54,860	97.7% (97.6%; 97.9%)	94.9% (94.6%; 95.3%)	92.7% (92.1%; 93.3%)
	I	23,332	100.2% (100.1%; 100.4%)	100.9% (100.5%; 101.2%)	101.5% (100.9%; 102.2%)
	II	20,748	99.6% (99.4%; 99.9%)	97.8% (97.2%; 98.3%)	96.4% (95.4%; 97.4%)
	III	5,754	96.6% (96.0%; 97.3%)	89.7% (88.5%; 91.0%)	82.9% (80.8%; 85.0%)

Period	Stage	Net Survival Probability			
		N at risk	1-y (95%CI)	3-y (95%CI)	5-y (95%CI)
	IV	4,041	79.2% (77.9%; 80.6%)	60.1% (58.3%; 61.9%)	45.1% (42.7%; 47.5%)
	X/NA	986	80.9% (78.1%; 83.8%)	66.8% (62.5%; 71.4%)	56.6% (50.3%; 63.8%)

6. CANCER MORTALITY (FEMALES)



6.1. Female breast cancer mortality: by region

6.1.1. Female breast cancer mortality* by region: number of cancer deaths, age-specific, crude and age-standardised mortality rates, 2021

Region	N [CR]																				ESR2013 (95%CI)	
	0-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	30-	35-	40-	45-	50-	55-	60-	65-	70-	75-	80-	85-	90-	95-		All ages
Belgium	0	0	0	0	0	6	9	15	37	62	98	118	165	199	235	238	280	324	184	78	2,048	30.9
	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[1.6]	[2.4]	[4.0]	[9.9]	[16.6]	[25.3]	[29.5]	[44.4]	[61.0]	[79.3]	[111.6]	[151.4]	[239.6]	[277.7]	[405.6]	[35.0]	(29.6; 32.3)
Brussels	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	7	4	9	11	13	11	17	16	26	25	19	8	168	30.8
	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[1.9]	[2.1]	[15.6]	[10.0]	[24.4]	[32.8]	[43.7]	[44.9]	[78.8]	[98.4]	[189.8]	[246.0]	[331.0]	[408.8]	[27.1]	(26.0; 35.5)
Flanders	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	8	17	34	58	69	104	116	135	136	158	194	101	48	1,186	29.7
	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[2.0]	[1.9]	[3.8]	[8.0]	[16.2]	[25.6]	[28.9]	[47.1]	[60.1]	[77.6]	[102.1]	[136.1]	[228.2]	[251.9]	[427.4]	[35.3]	(27.9; 31.4)
Wallonia	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	6	13	24	31	38	48	72	83	86	96	105	64	22	694	33.6
	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[1.8]	[3.4]	[5.2]	[11.3]	[19.6]	[25.0]	[29.8]	[39.7]	[66.3]	[82.4]	[134.9]	[174.0]	[262.2]	[313.4]	[364.2]	[37.2]	(31.1; 36.1)

7. CANCER MORTALITY TRENDS (FEMALES)



7.1. Female breast cancer mortality trends: by region

7.1.1. Female breast cancer mortality* trends by region: number of cancer deaths, crude and age-standardised mortality rates, including average annual percentage change, 2004-2021

Region		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	AAPC, % (95%CI)	Period	
Belgium	N	2,287	2,268	2,268	2,365	2,364	2,360	2,351	2,388	2,312	2,290	2,238	2,167	2,232	2,195	2,214	2,075	2,055	2,048			
	CR	43.1	42.5	42.3	43.8	43.4	43.0	42.5	42.8	41.1	40.5	39.4	38.0	39.0	38.1	38.3	35.8	35.2	35.0			
	ESR2013	44.0	43.3	42.5	43.5	42.8	42.3	41.4	41.5	39.2	38.9	37.3	35.2	36.0	34.8	34.7	31.8	31.5	30.9	-2.1 (-2.3; -1.9)	2004-2021	
																				-1.0 (-1.5; -0.5)	2004-2011	
																					-2.8 (-3.2; -2.5)	2012-2021
Brussels	N	229	200	200	212	212	235	194	253	191	204	207	186	193	178	192	175	159	168			
	CR	44.1	38.2	37.8	39.7	39.1	42.6	34.5	43.9	32.6	34.4	34.7	30.9	31.7	29.2	31.4	28.4	25.6	27.1			
	ESR2013	45.9	40.5	40.6	42.1	42.6	46.6	38.0	49.3	38.7	39.9	39.8	35.8	36.7	33.7	35.8	32.9	29.3	30.8	-1.6 (-2.0; -1.1)	2004-2021	
																					-0.3 (-1.9; 1.3)	2004-2012
																					-3.6 (-5.0; -2.3)	2013-2021
Flanders	N	1,359	1,326	1,355	1,409	1,364	1,379	1,467	1,351	1,366	1,318	1,329	1,251	1,289	1,269	1,313	1,238	1,223	1,186			
	CR	44.6	43.3	44.0	45.4	43.7	43.9	46.3	42.3	42.5	40.8	41.0	38.4	39.3	38.5	39.6	37.2	36.5	35.3			
	ESR2013	45.2	43.9	43.8	44.7	42.3	42.3	44.0	40.1	39.4	38.1	37.3	34.4	35.0	33.8	34.4	31.6	31.1	29.7	-2.1 (-2.8; -1.4)	2004-2021	
																					-1.1 (-1.8; -0.3)	2004-2010
																					-3.1 (-3.4; -2.7)	2011-2021

Region	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	AAPC, % (95%CI)	Period
Wallonia N	699	742	713	744	788	746	690	784	755	768	702	730	750	748	709	662	673	694		
CR	40.2	42.4	40.6	42.1	44.3	41.7	38.4	43.3	41.5	42.0	38.3	39.7	40.6	40.4	38.2	35.6	36.1	37.2		
ESR2013	41.3	42.9	40.7	41.6	43.8	41.4	37.5	41.9	39.2	40.1	36.5	36.7	37.9	36.9	35.1	31.9	32.6	33.6	-2.4 (-2.6; -2.1)	2004-2021

Note: In case a change in trend is detected, an estimated APC per time segment is given as well as Average Annual Percentage Change (AAPC) for the full incidence period.

8. CANCER INCIDENCE (MALES)



8.1. Male breast cancer incidence: by region

8.1.1. Male breast cancer incidence by region: number of new diagnoses, age-specific, crude and age-standardised incidence rates, 2022

Region	N [CR]																				ESR2013 (95%CI)	
	0-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	30-	35-	40-	45-	50-	55-	60-	65-	70-	75-	80-	85-	90-	95-		All ages
Males																						
Belgium	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	3	2	6	9	9	10	19	25	9	8	4	2	110	2.1
	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.3]	[0.3]	[0.3]	[0.3]	[0.8]	[0.5]	[1.5]	[2.2]	[2.4]	[3.2]	[7.2]	[13.1]	[7.1]	[10.2]	[13.3]	[34.2]	[1.9]	(1.7; 2.5)
Brussels	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.0
	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[2.5]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[4.7]	[12.1]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.7]	(0.0; 2.1)
Flanders	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	1	0	8	6	7	8	17	6	5	3	2	68	2.1
	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.5]	[0.5]	[0.0]	[0.5]	[0.9]	[0.5]	[0.0]	[3.3]	[2.7]	[3.6]	[4.9]	[13.8]	[7.2]	[9.5]	[15.1]	[52.9]	[2.1]	(1.6; 2.6)
Wallonia	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	5	1	3	2	9	8	3	3	1	0	38	2.4
	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.8]	[0.0]	[0.9]	[0.8]	[4.0]	[0.8]	[2.6]	[2.0]	[10.5]	[14.6]	[8.6]	[14.4]	[12.6]	[0.0]	[2.1]	(1.6; 3.2)

Region	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	AAPC, % (95%CI)	Period
ESR2013	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.6	2.2	2.9	2.1	1.4	2.1	1.9	1.5	2.3	1.9	2.0	2.3	1.6	1.2	2.8	2.4	0.1 (-2.0; 2.2)	2004-2022

Note: In case a change in trend is detected, an estimated APC per time segment is given as well as Average Annual Percentage Change (AAPC) for the full incidence period.

10. CANCER PREVALENCE (MALES)



10.1. Male breast cancer prevalence: by region

10.1.1. Male breast cancer prevalence by region: number of prevalent cases, crude and age-standardised prevalence rates on 31/12/2022

Region		Males			
		1-year	5-year	10-year	15-year
Belgium	N	105	434	719	878
	CR	1.8	7.5	12.5	15
	ESR2013	2.0	8.1	13.5	16.4
Brussels	N	4	31	43	60
	CR	0.7	5.1	7.1	9.9
	ESR2013	1.0	7.3	10.4	15.0
Flanders	N	67	282	478	568
	CR	2.0	8.4	14.3	16.9
	ESR2013	2.0	8.4	14.2	16.9
Wallonia	N	34	121	198	250
	CR	1.9	6.7	11.0	13.9
	ESR2013	2.1	7.5	12.4	15.6

11. CANCER SURVIVAL (MALES)



11.1. Male breast cancer survival: by region

11.1.1. Male breast cancer survival by region and age group: number at risk and net survival probabilities, 2013-2022

Net Survival Probability, 2013-2022						
Region	Age	N at risk	1-y (95%CI)	3-y (95%CI)	5-y (95%CI)	10-y (95%CI)
Males						
Belgium	All ages	994	96.3% (94.5%; 98.1%)	91.8% (88.6%; 95.2%)	87.8% (83.0%; 92.8%)	89.8% (78.1%; 103.2%)
	15-49	52	94.4% (88.3%; 100.9%)	92.7% (85.6%; 100.4%)	93.2% (86.1%; 101.0%)	79.6% (64.1%; 98.9%)
	50-69	411	97.6% (95.7%; 99.4%)	94.6% (91.7%; 97.6%)	89.9% (85.7%; 94.2%)	87.0% (78.6%; 96.2%)
	70+	531	95.5% (92.6%; 98.5%)	89.5% (84.0%; 95.4%)	85.7% (77.6%; 94.6%)	93.6% (72.3%; 121.1%)
Brussels	All ages	63	97.1% (91.1%; 103.5%)	97.0% (87.4%; 107.5%)	70.9% (54.0%; 93.1%)	73.5% (49.4%; 109.5%)
	15-49	6	N<50	N<50	N<50	N<50
	50-69	30	N<50	N<50	N<50	N<50
	70+	27	N<50	N<50	N<50	N<50
Flanders	All ages	635	98.1% (96.1%; 100.2%)	95.8% (92.0%; 99.7%)	95.9% (90.1%; 102.0%)	96.3% (80.9%; 114.7%)
	15-49	28	N<50	N<50	N<50	N<50
	50-69	256	99.8% (98.3%; 101.3%)	98.6% (95.6%; 101.7%)	95.8% (91.3%; 100.6%)	91.9% (81.0%; 104.2%)
	70+	351	97.3% (94.0%; 100.8%)	94.2% (87.8%; 101.0%)	96.4% (86.6%; 107.2%)	103.0% (76.0%; 139.7%)
Wallonia	All ages	296	92.2% (88.4%; 96.1%)	82.1% (75.5%; 89.3%)	73.8% (65.2%; 83.4%)	76.7% (60.2%; 97.7%)
	15-49	18	N<50	N<50	N<50	N<50

Net Survival Probability, 2013-2022						
Region	Age	N at risk	1-y (95%CI)	3-y (95%CI)	5-y (95%CI)	10-y (95%CI)
	50-69	125	93.8% (89.3%; 98.5%)	87.0% (80.5%; 94.1%)	77.9% (69.3%; 87.6%)	75.4% (62.8%; 90.7%)
	70+	153	90.7% (84.6%; 97.1%)	76.4% (65.4%; 89.2%)	68.0% (54.1%; 85.3%)	73.5% (46.2%; 116.9%)

Note: Survival results obtained on very small groups are considered to be too uncertain, therefore a minimum size threshold of 50 is applied in the reporting of the Net Survival estimation.

12. CANCER SURVIVAL TRENDS (MALES)



12.1. Male breast cancer survival trends

12.1.1. *Male breast cancer survival trends: number at risk and net survival probabilities, 2008-2022*

Period	Net Survival Probability			
	N at risk	1-y (95%CI)	3-y (95%CI)	5-y (95%CI)
2008-2012	422	94.4% (91.5%; 97.3%)	87.7% (83.0%; 92.7%)	82.0% (75.9%; 88.5%)
2013-2017	476	96.8% (94.3%; 99.3%)	93.7% (89.4%; 98.2%)	87.2% (81.1%; 93.7%)
2018-2022	518	95.9% (93.4%; 98.4%)	89.5% (84.6%; 94.8%)	91.8% (84.5%; 99.7%)

13. CANCER MORTALITY (MALES)



13.1. Male breast cancer mortality

13.1.1. Male breast cancer mortality*: number of cancer deaths, age-specific, crude and age-standardised mortality rates, 2021

Region	N [CR]																				ESR2013 (95%CI)	
	0-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	30-	35-	40-	45-	50-	55-	60-	65-	70-	75-	80-	85-	90-	95-		All ages
Belgium	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	3	5	3	3	2	0	21	0.4
	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.0]	[0.8]	[0.7]	[1.1]	[2.9]	[2.3]	[3.9]	[7.1]	[0.0]	[0.4]	(0.2; 0.6)

14. CANCER MORTALITY TRENDS (MALES)



14.1. Male breast cancer mortality trends

14.1.1. Male breast cancer mortality* trends: number of cancer deaths, crude and age-standardised mortality rates, including average annual percentage change, 2004-2021

Region	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	AAPC, % (95%CI)	Period
Belgium N	23	17	18	13	26	19	20	30	22	19	21	17	19	20	21	25	26	21		
CR	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4		
ESR2013	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	-1.2 (-2.8; 0.5)	2004-2021

Note: In case a change in trend is detected, an estimated APC per time segment is given as well as Average Annual Percentage Change (AAPC) for the full incidence period.

*Mortality statistics in Belgium are collected and managed by the three Regions (Flemish Region: Departement Zorg; Brussels-Capital Region: Observatorium voor Gezondheid en Welzijn van Brussel-Hoofdstad/ l'Observatoire de la Santé et du Social de Bruxelles-Capitale; Walloon Region: Agence Wallonne de la Santé, de la Protection sociale, du Handicap et des Familles (AVIQ)). The Directorate General Statistics Belgium is responsible for collecting and merging the data coming from the regional agencies. Mortality data used in this cancer fact sheet are collected from the Directorate General Statistics Belgium and encompasses the period 2004-2021.

Recommended reference: Cancer Fact Sheets 2022, Belgian Cancer Registry (BCR), 2024