

Belgian Cancer Registry



# Cancer Fact Sheet **Oesophagus Cancer**

ICD10 : C15-16.0

**Belgium 2021**

# 1. Cancer Incidence

## 1.1. Number of new diagnoses and incidence rates

**Table 1:** Oesophageal cancer: Average age at diagnosis, number of new cancer diagnoses (N), crude rate (CR), age-standardised incidence rates (ESR and WSR) and cumulative risk by sex and region, 2021

Males	Age (years)	N	CR	ESR	WSR	CRi
<b>Belgium</b>	<b>69.3</b>	<b>1,207</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>1.25</b>
Brussels-Capital Region	68.6	69	11.5	11.6	7.6	0.90
Flemish Region	70.0	768	23.3	15.2	10.2	1.27
Walloon Region	68.0	370	20.7	15.2	10.4	1.29

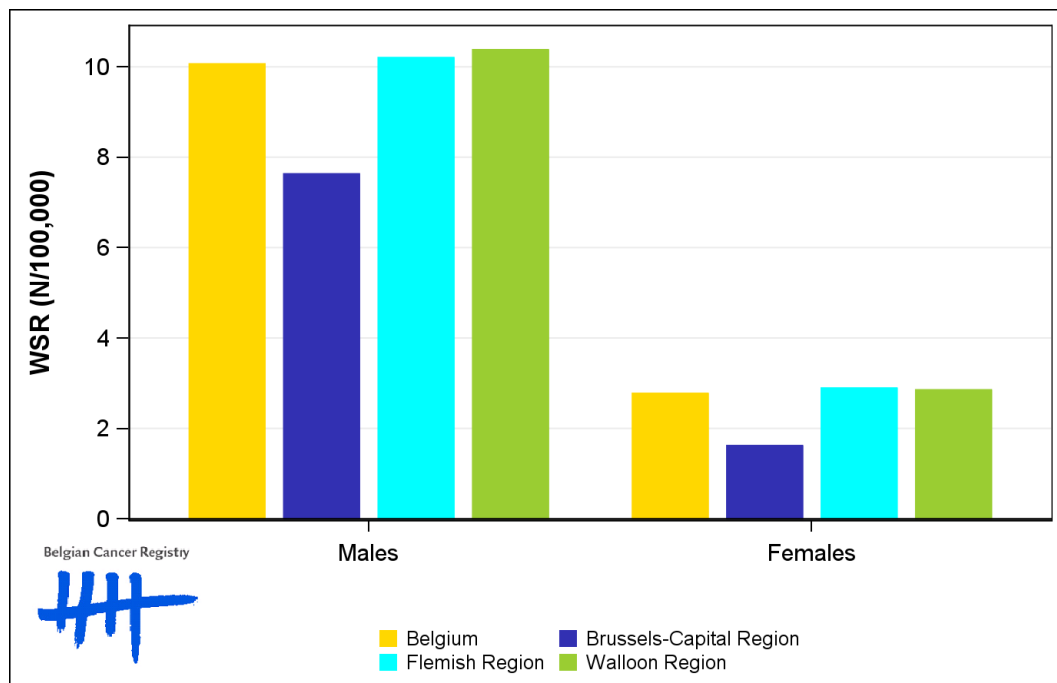
Females	Age (years)	N	CR	ESR	WSR	CRi
<b>Belgium</b>	<b>71.4</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>0.34</b>
Brussels-Capital Region	70.6	17	2.7	2.3	1.6	0.23
Flemish Region	71.6	250	7.4	4.3	2.9	0.36
Walloon Region	71.2	128	6.9	4.2	2.9	0.34

CR=Crude (all ages) Rate (N/100,000 person-years)  
 ESR (1976)=Age-Standardised Rate, using the European Standard Population (N/100,000 person-years)  
 WSR=Age-Standardised Rate, using the World Standard Population (N/100,000 person-years)  
 CRi=Cumulative Risk for 0-74 years (%)

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**Figure 1:** Oesophageal cancer: Age-standardised incidence rates by sex and region, 2021



## 1.2. Age-specific incidence rates

**Table 2:** Oesophageal cancer: Age-specific incidence rates, crude rate (CR) and age-standardised incidence rates (ESR and WSR) by sex, Belgium 2021

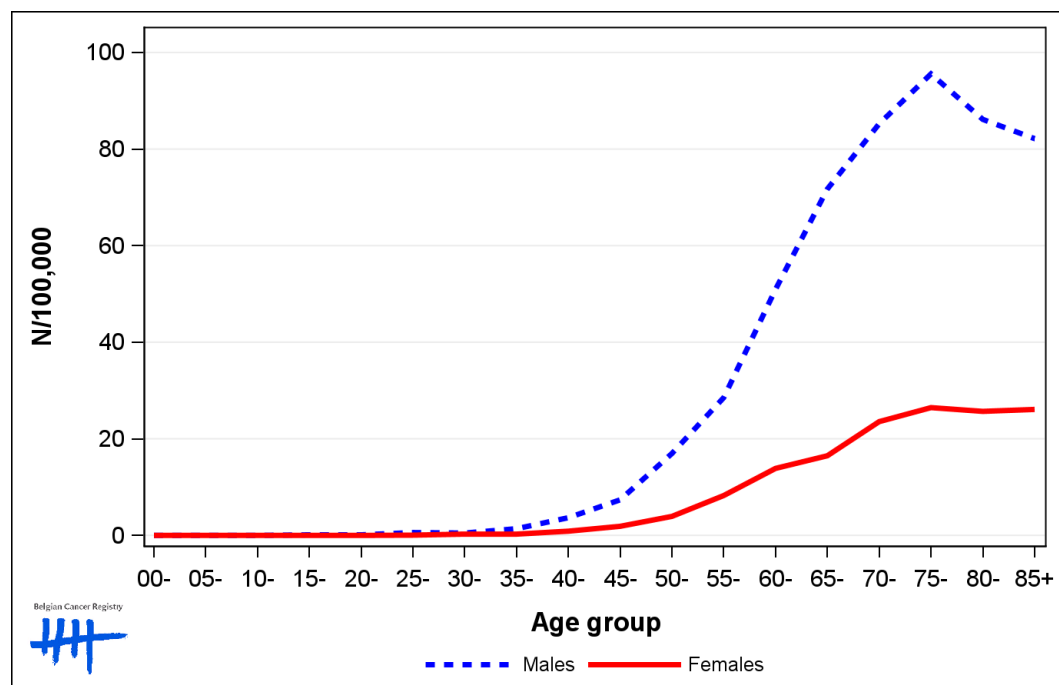
	00-	05-	10-	15-	20-	25-	30-	35-	40-	45-	50-	55-	60-	65-	70-	75-	80-	85+	CR	ESR	WSR
Males	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	1.1	1.3	2.9	6.6	15.3	26.3	46.8	65.3	85.3	111.4	87.3	80.0	21.3	14.9	10.1
Females	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.5	1.3	2.7	3.4	8.5	12.4	15.9	23.6	28.6	21.1	28.1	6.8	4.1	2.8

CR=Crude (all ages) Rate (N/100,000 person-years)

ESR (1976)=Age-Standardised Rate, using the European Standard Population (N/100,000 person-years)

WSR=Age-Standardised Rate, using the World Standard Population (N/100,000 person-years)

**Figure 2:** Oesophageal cancer: Age-specific incidence rates by sex, 2017-2021



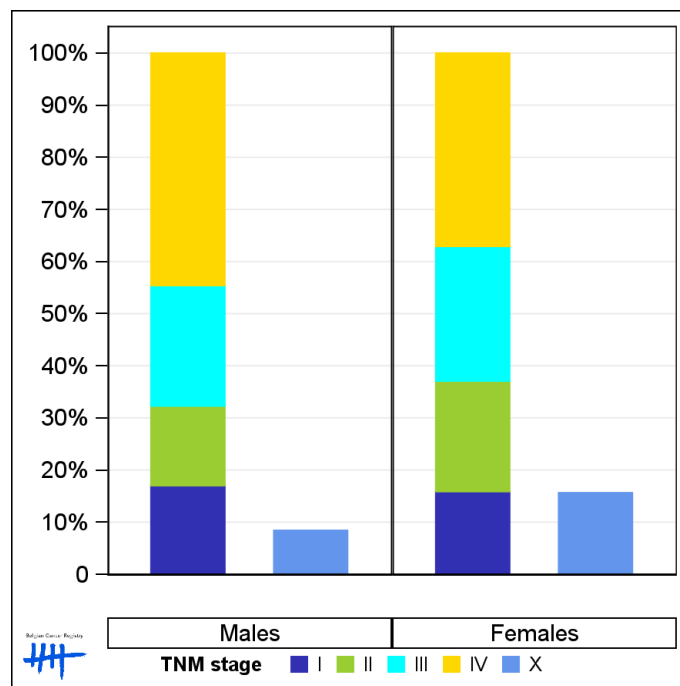
### 1.3. Combined stage

**Table 3:** Oesophageal cancer: Distribution of combined stage by sex, Belgium 2021

	Stage I	Stage II	Stage III	Stage IV	Stage X	Stage NA	Total
<b>Males</b>							
N	176	158	239	461	95	78	1,207
%	14.6	13.1	19.8	38.2	7.9	6.5	100
<b>Females</b>							
N	48	64	78	112	56	37	395
%	12.2	16.2	19.7	28.4	14.2	9.4	100

Staging according to the TNM 8th edition (Ref: Brierley JD, Gospodarowicz MK, Wittekind Ch. TNM classification of malignant tumours, UICC 8th edition)  
 Combined TNM stage : compilation of pathological (pTNM) and clinical (cTNM) stage. pTNM prevails over cTNM, except when cTNM stage is IV  
 Stage X: diagnoses with an unknown stage  
 Stage NA: diagnoses with a histological diagnosis where no stage can be evaluated (Not Applicable)

**Figure 3:** Oesophageal cancer: Bar chart of known combined stage by sex, Belgium 2021



## 1.4. Trends in incidence

**Table 4:** Oesophageal cancer: Age-standardised incidence rates (WSR) and average annual percentage change (AAPC) by incidence year, sex and region

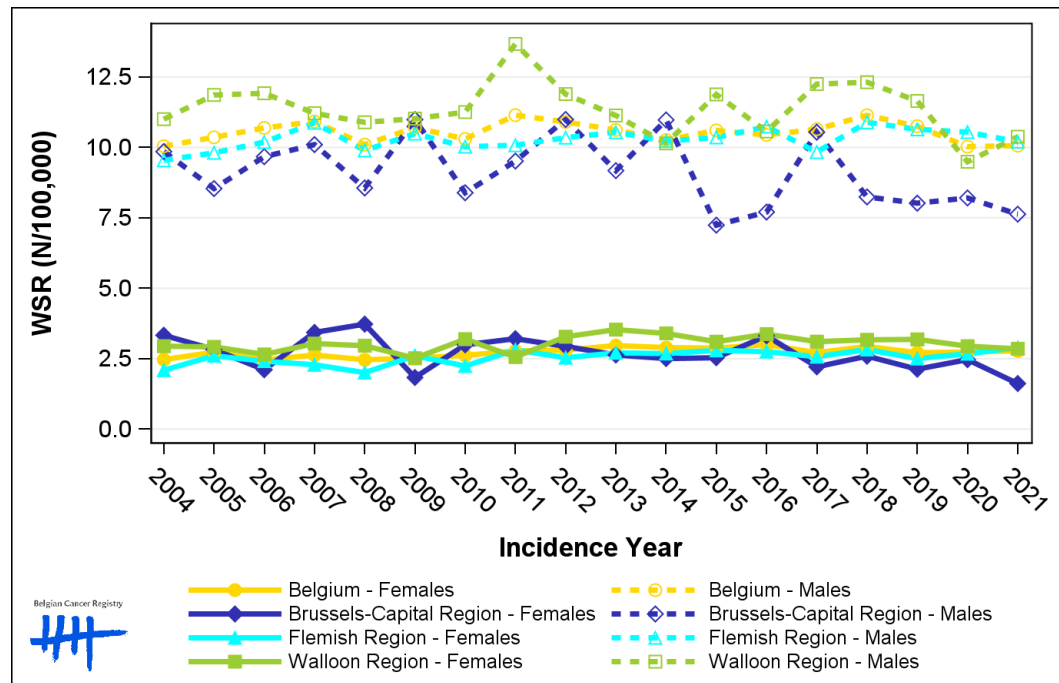
Males	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	AAPC	95% CI
<b>Belgium</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>[-0.6; 0.3]</b>
Brussels-Capital Region	10.1	8.6	11.0	8.4	9.5	11.0	9.2	11.0	7.2	7.7	10.5	8.2	8.0	8.2	7.6	-1.6	[-3.2; 0.1]
Flemish Region	10.9	9.9	10.5	10.0	10.1	10.3	10.5	10.2	10.4	10.7	9.8	10.9	10.6	10.5	10.2	0.1	[-0.3; 0.5]
Walloon Region	11.2	10.9	11.0	11.3	13.7	11.9	11.1	10.1	11.9	10.6	12.2	12.3	11.6	9.5	10.4	-0.4	[-1.6; 0.7]

Females	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	AAPC	95% CI
<b>Belgium</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>[0.2; 1.1]</b>
Brussels-Capital Region	3.4	3.7	1.8	3.0	3.2	2.9	2.6	2.5	2.5	3.3	2.2	2.6	2.1	2.5	1.6	-3.0	[-5.4; -0.5]
Flemish Region	2.3	2.0	2.6	2.2	2.8	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.6	2.8	2.5	2.7	2.9	1.7	[0.7; 2.7]
Walloon Region	3.0	3.0	2.5	3.2	2.6	3.3	3.5	3.4	3.1	3.4	3.1	3.2	3.2	2.9	2.9	0.4	[-0.7; 1.5]

WSR=Age-Standardised Rate, using the World Standard Population (N/100,000 person-years)  
 AAPC = Average Annual Percentage Change over the 2007-2021 period

**Figure 4:** Oesophageal cancer: Age-standardised incidence rates (WSR) by incidence year, sex and region



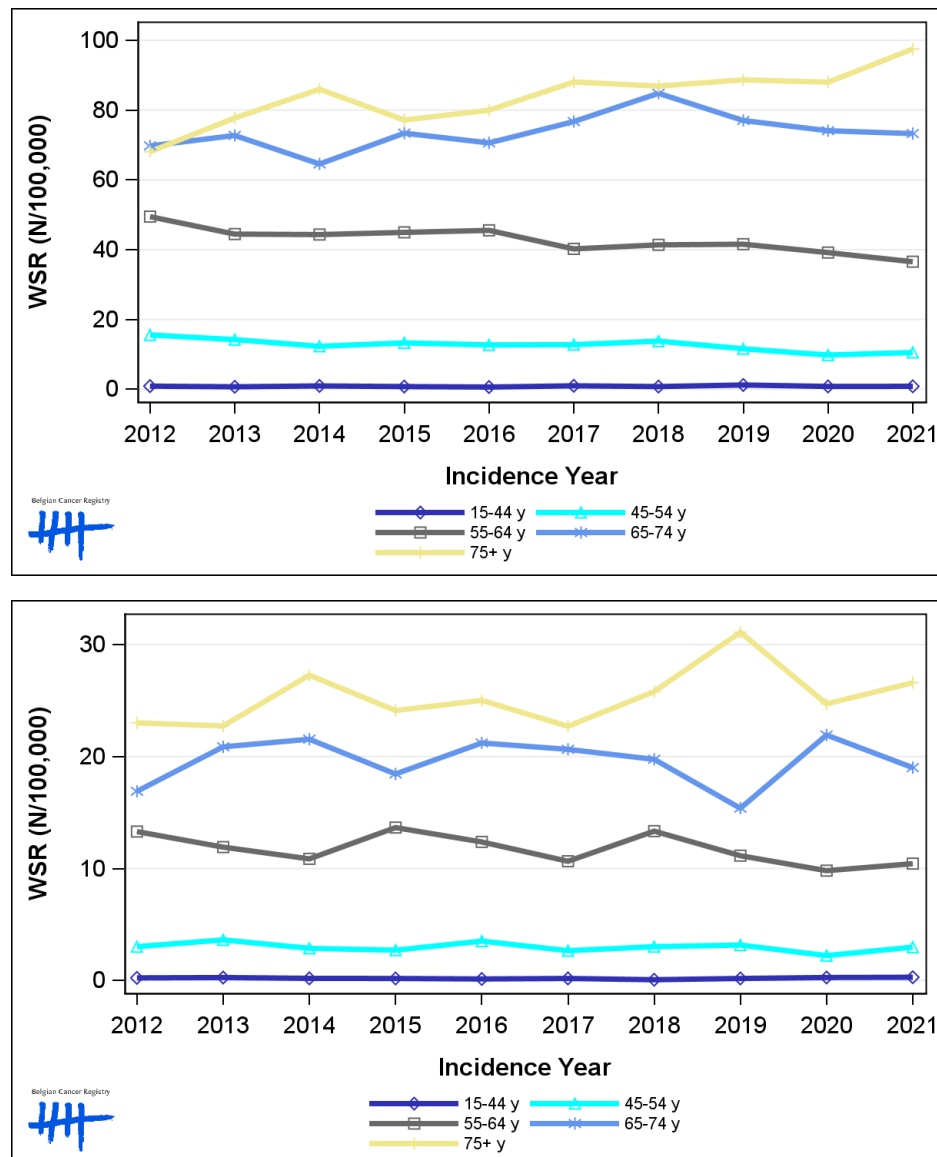
## 1.5. Incidence by broad age groups

**Table 5:** Oesophageal cancer: Number of new diagnoses and age-standardised incidence rates (WSR) by broad age groups and incidence year by sex, Belgium

	N										WSR									
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Males</b>																				
All ages	1,051	1,074	1,070	1,100	1,116	1,161	1,237	1,216	1,173	1,207	10.9	10.6	10.3	10.6	10.4	10.6	11.1	10.8	10.0	10.1
0-14 y	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
15-44 y	25	19	25	21	17	25	20	31	20	22	0.9	0.7	1.0	0.8	0.6	1.0	0.8	1.2	0.8	0.9
45-54 y	130	120	105	111	109	108	117	96	81	86	15.6	14.2	12.3	13.3	12.7	12.8	13.8	11.6	9.8	10.5
55-64 y	330	301	302	310	319	285	298	304	293	276	49.5	44.5	44.3	45.0	45.5	40.2	41.4	41.6	39.2	36.5
65-74 y	313	337	306	357	354	400	458	425	420	426	69.7	72.7	64.6	73.4	70.6	76.7	84.8	77.0	74.1	73.3
75+ y	253	297	332	301	317	343	344	360	359	397	68.1	77.7	86.0	77.2	80.0	88.1	86.9	88.7	88.0	97.5
<b>Females</b>																				
All ages	359	371	388	377	396	368	405	391	389	395	2.8	3.0	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.7	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.8
0-14 y	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
15-44 y	6	7	5	5	3	5	2	5	7	8	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	<0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3
45-54 y	25	30	24	23	29	22	25	26	18	23	3.0	3.6	2.9	2.7	3.5	2.7	3.0	3.2	2.2	3.0
55-64 y	92	82	75	96	89	78	98	83	74	80	13.3	11.9	10.9	13.7	12.4	10.7	13.3	11.1	9.8	10.4
65-74 y	85	107	114	99	116	120	119	95	135	122	16.9	20.9	21.5	18.4	21.2	20.6	19.8	15.4	21.9	19.0
75+ y	151	145	170	154	159	143	161	182	155	162	23.0	22.7	27.3	24.1	25.0	22.7	25.8	31.1	24.7	26.6

N=Number of invasive tumours  
WSR=Age-Standardised Rate, using the World Standard Population (N/100,000 person-years)

**Figure 5:** Oesophageal cancer: Age-standardised incidence rates (WSR) versus incidence year by broad age groups for males (top) and females (bottom), Belgium



## 2. Relative survival

**Table 6:** Oesophageal cancer: 5-year relative survival proportion by sex, age group and region, Belgium 2017-2021

	5-year relative survival 2017-2021 (%)					
	Males			Females		
	N at risk	estimate	95% CI	N at risk	estimate	95% CI
<b>Overall</b>	5,948	26.4	[24.9, 27.9]	1,932	30.2	[27.5, 32.9]
<b>Age group</b>						
15-59 years	1,158	31.3	[28.0, 34.6]	301	42.8	[36.2, 49.3]
60-74 years	2,996	29.0	[26.9, 31.1]	836	32.6	[28.5, 36.7]
75+ years	1,794	17.9	[15.1, 21.0]	796	22.2	[18.3, 26.5]
<b>Region</b>						
Brussels-Capital Region	352	20.7	[15.1, 27.0]	125	27.1	[17.9, 37.4]
Flemish Region	3,686	24.8	[22.9, 26.7]	1,155	30.9	[27.5, 34.4]
Walloon Region	1,910	30.3	[27.6, 33.1]	652	29.6	[25.1, 34.3]

**Figure 6:** Oesophageal cancer: relative survival proportion by sex, Belgium 2017-2021

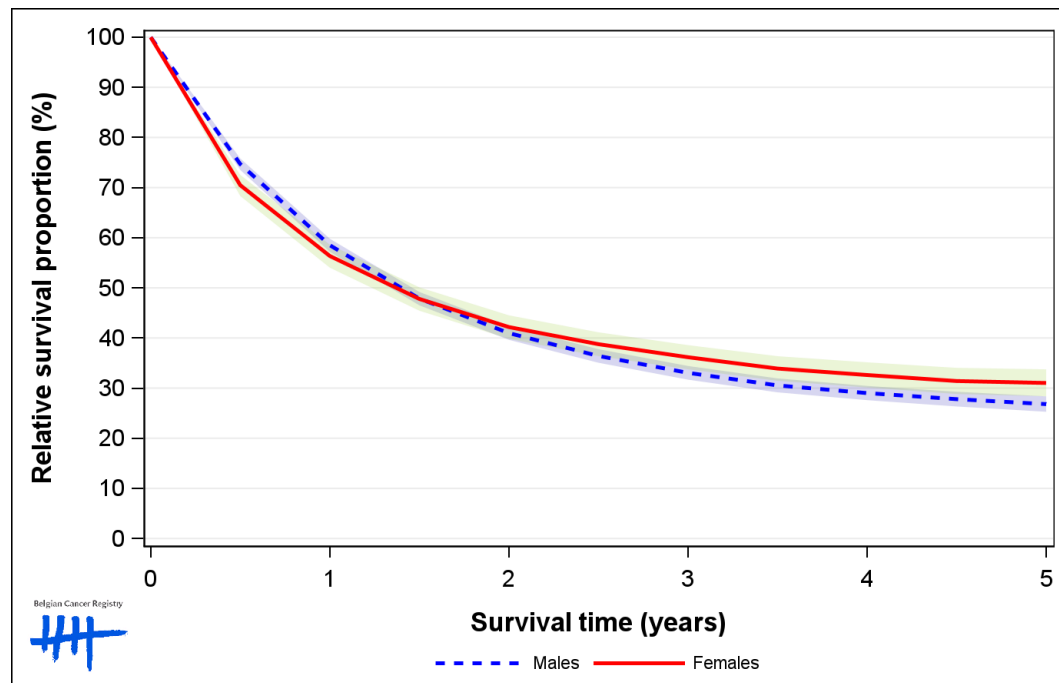


Figure 7: Oesophageal cancer: relative survival proportion by age group in males, Belgium 2017-2021

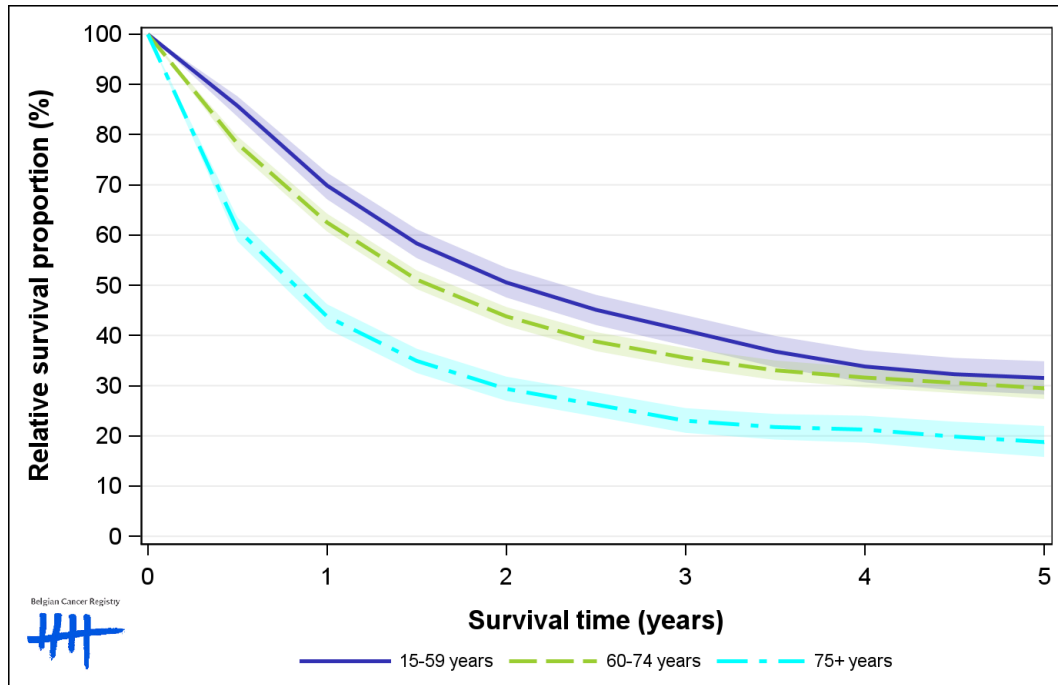


Figure 8: Oesophageal cancer: relative survival proportion by age group in females, Belgium 2017-2021

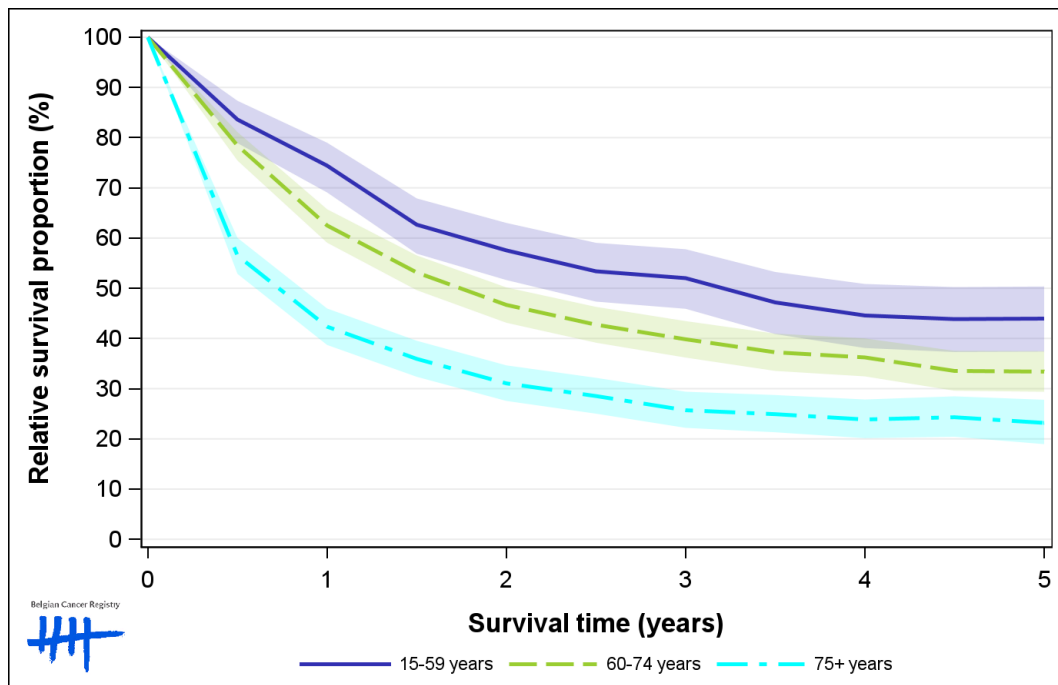




Figure 9: Oesophageal cancer: relative survival proportion by region in males, Belgium 2017-2021

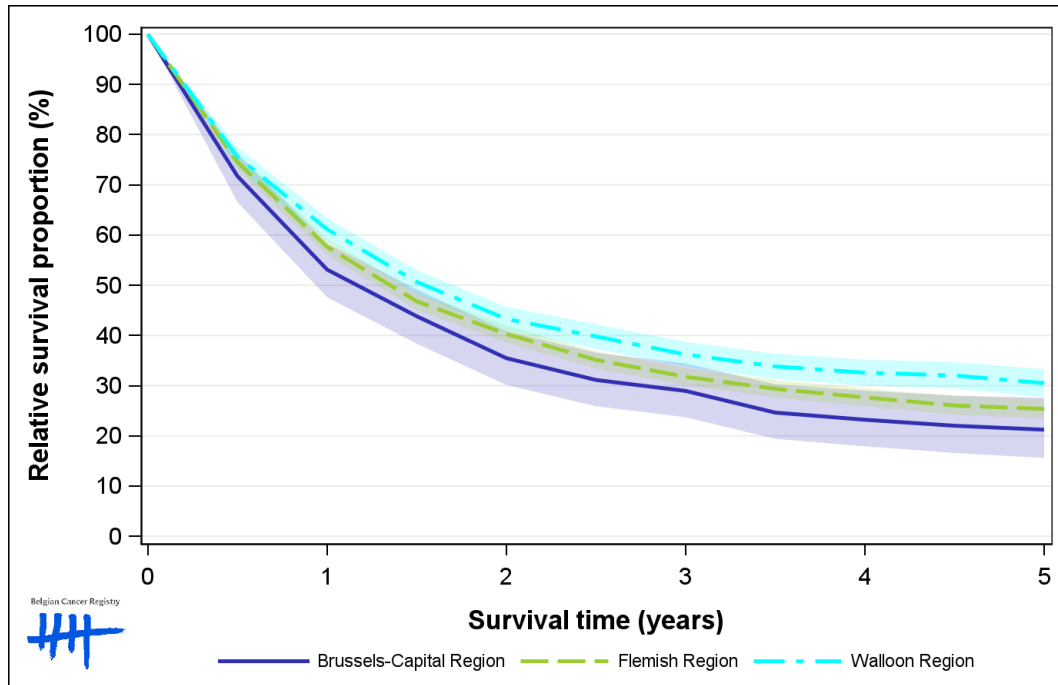


Figure 10: Oesophageal cancer: relative survival proportion by region in females, Belgium 2017-2021

