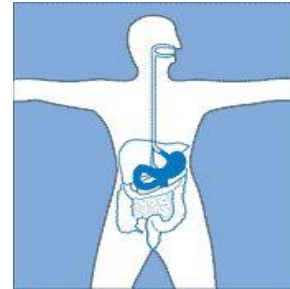




### *How common is stomach cancer?*

- About 7,780 people were diagnosed with stomach cancer in 2007 in the UK.
- Stomach cancer is the eighth most common cancer in men in the UK with around 4,990 new cases in 2007.
- Stomach cancer is the thirteenth most common cancer in women in the UK with about 2,800 new cases each in 2007.
- 95% of new cases of stomach cancer are in people aged 50 and over.
- Stomach cancer incidence rates in Britain have more than halved since the 1970s.
- Worldwide, around 990,000 people were diagnosed with stomach cancer in 2008.
- The highest rates of stomach cancer in the world are in Eastern Asia, and the lowest are in Western and Northern Africa.
- In 2006 there were around 86,000 new cases of stomach cancer diagnosed in the European Union.



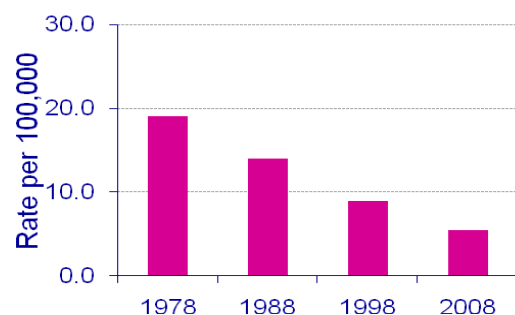
### *How many people survive stomach cancer?*

- Over the last 25 years five-year relative survival rates for stomach cancer have tripled in Britain, but are still low at around 15%.

### *How many people die from stomach cancer?*

- About 5,180 people died from stomach cancer in the UK in 2008.
- Stomach cancer is the seventh most common cause of cancer death and accounts for around 4% of all cancer deaths.
- Stomach cancer mortality rates in the UK have fallen by around 70% over the last 30 years.
- Worldwide, around 738,000 people died from stomach cancer in 2008.

**Stomach cancer death rates in the UK**



## What causes *stomach cancer*?

- Helicobacter pylori, a bacterial infection of the lining of the stomach, is the major cause of stomach cancer. Most cases of stomach cancer are associated with the presence of H. pylori in the stomach.
- Better living conditions with less overcrowding have led to a decrease in the prevalence of H. pylori infection.
- It has been estimated that about 1 in 5 stomach cancers in Europe are caused by smoking, with a higher proportion in men (22%) than women (14%).
- Fruit and vegetables have a protective effect against stomach cancer.
- People consuming high amounts of salt have an increased risk of stomach cancer.
- Having a parent or sibling diagnosed with a stomach cancer increases risk of stomach cancer.

Stomach cancer - UK	Males	Females	Persons
Number of new cases (2007)	4,988	2,796	7,784
Rate per 100,000 population*	13.1	5.5	8.9
Number of deaths (2008)	3,186	1,992	5,178
Rate per 100,000 population*	7.9	3.6	5.5
Five-year survival rate (for patients 2000-2001, England & Wales)	15%	18%	-

*\*age-standardised to the European population*

Cancer Research UK's 'CancerStats – Key Facts' series provides accessible, top line statistics and facts on cancer. The charity's Statistical Information Team also produces evidence-based reports, charts and tabulations. All of this information can be accessed on our CancerStats website: <http://info.cancerresearchuk.org/cancerstats> or by emailing [stats.team@cancer.org.uk](mailto:stats.team@cancer.org.uk).