

Colorectal Cancer in Switzerland

2017- 2021 (ICD-10 C18-20)

- Intestinal cancer is the third most common cancer in men and women in Switzerland. Every year, around 4,500 people are diagnosed with it and 1,600 die from it.
- Risk factors include age, genetics, lifestyle (e.g. lack of physical activity, unhealthy diet) and chronic inflammatory bowel disease.
- Intestinal cancer develops slowly. Affected people often do not notice anything for a long time. Screening tests are therefore important.
- Over the last 20 years, the risk of developing intestinal cancer and dying from it has steadily decreased.
- Intestinal cancer is a disease that mainly occurs in old age. Approximately 41% of those affected are over 75 at the time of diagnosis.
- Five years after diagnosis, 69% of cancer patients are still alive, compared to the general population. These relative chances of survival have improved significantly over the past decades.

New cases
per year

Women ~**1985**
Men ~**2510**

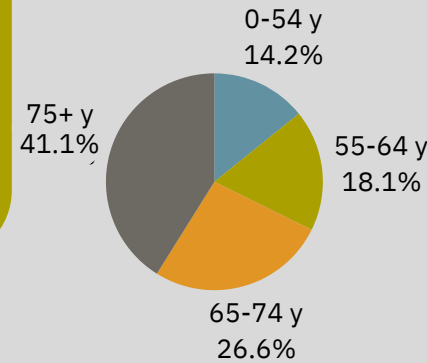
Median age
at diagnosis

Women **73**
Men **71**

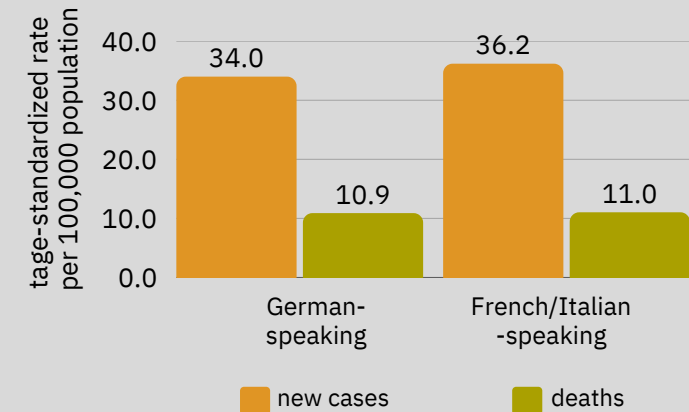
Deaths
per year

Women ~**725**
Men ~**905**

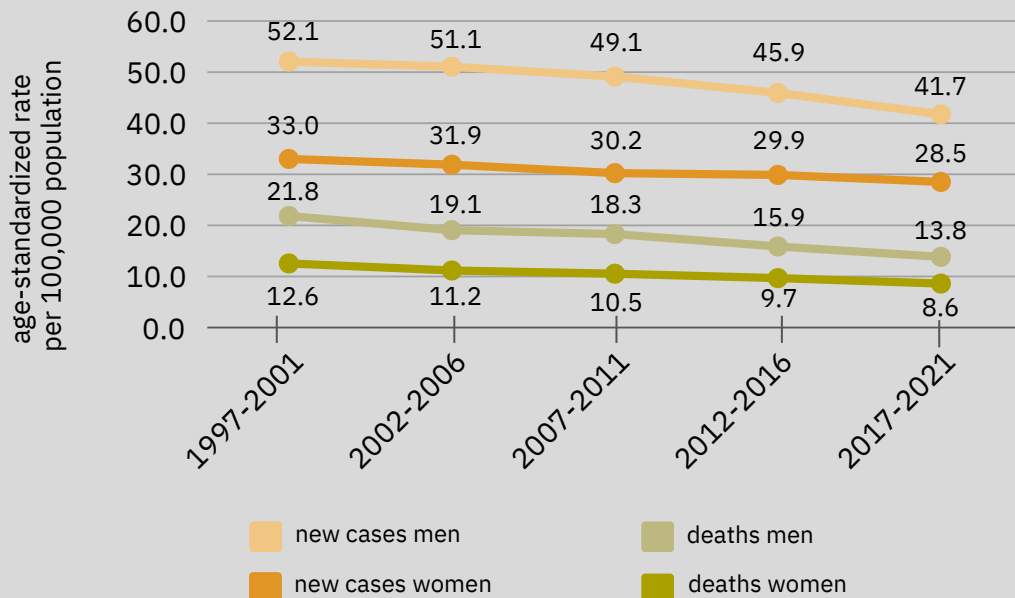
Age at diagnosis



Rates of new cases and deaths by region



Rates of new cases and deaths since 1997



Five year relative survival since 1996

