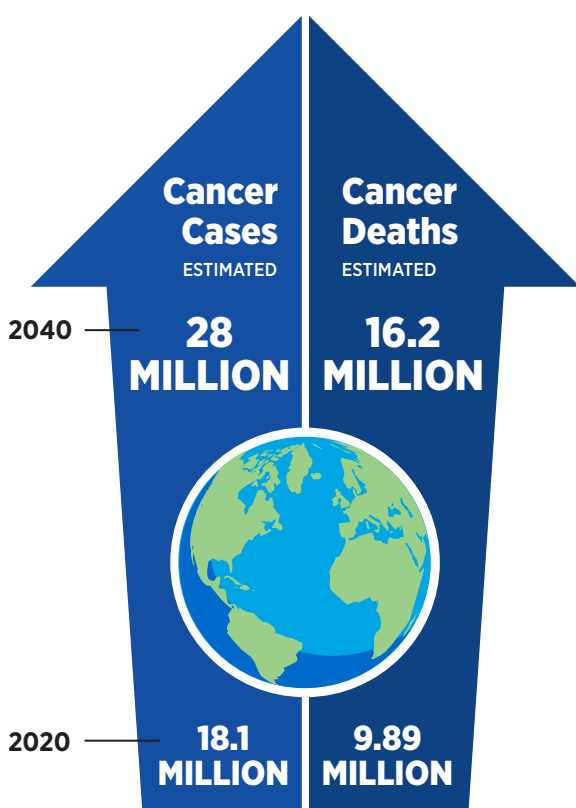


Global Burden of Cancer

Cancer poses a major challenge to public health across the globe, as reflected by the rising number of new cancer diagnoses and cancer deaths around the world. The disparate burden of cancer based on the sociodemographic index (SDI) of a country (a composite measure of social and economic development that accounts for income per capita, average years of education, and total fertility rate for people younger than 25) highlights key barriers to achieving global health equity. The following examples offer a broad view of the global burden of cancer.



Data from <https://gco.iarc.fr/>.



Tracheal, bronchus, and lung cancers are the leading causes of cancer deaths worldwide.

There were 2.04 million deaths from tracheal, bronchus, and lung cancers in 2019. Smoking contributed to more than 64 percent of these deaths.



Breast cancer was the leading cause of cancer-related deaths among women in 2019 (30).

There are stark disparities based on the socioeconomic status of a country, prompting researchers worldwide to provide strategies to influence global policy and improve lives of patients irrespective of where they live.



Diagnoses and deaths from colorectal cancer more than doubled over the past three decades.

A substantial rise in new cases has been observed in adults younger than 50, particularly in countries with a high SDI. Poor diet, smoking, and alcohol were the main risk factors.



There were 1.19 million cancer cases and 396,000 cancer deaths among adolescents and young adults (people ages 15 to 39) in 2019.

The highest incidence was observed in countries with higher SDI while the highest deaths occurred in countries with a lower SDI.