

September 2016

Aim: To provide a summary of cancer mortality in Cumbria and districts compared to England. The data presented is drawn from various sources including: Public Health England; NHS England; Health & Social Care Information Centre; Office for National Statistics; and Cancer Research UK.

Key facts

- 14,863 patients are on GP Registers with a diagnosis of cancer, 2.86% of all patients
- Around 3,000 people in Cumbria are diagnosed with cancer each year
- Incidence rates (registrations for all cancers excluding skin cancers other than malignant melanoma) in Cumbria is greater than the England average, meaning more new cases are being diagnosed
- Around half (51.3%) of newly diagnosed cancer cases in Cumbria are diagnosed at an early stage
- Cancer screening in Cumbria (and districts) is good and better than England averages
- More than 12,000 eligible women in Cumbria have not had a breast cancer screen
- The cancer mortality rate (all cancers) in Cumbria is below the England average; despite this, breast cancer mortality rates and stomach cancer mortality rates are above the England average
- Rates of premature cancer deaths (people aged under 75 years) in Cumbria are similar to the national average; despite this, rates are above the national average in Copeland
- Incidence rates of lung cancer in Cumbria are below (better) the England average; however, one year survival rates are lower (worse) than England, suggesting that it is not being diagnosed early
- Incidence rates and mortality rates of breast cancer in Cumbria are above (worse) the England average; in addition, premature breast cancer deaths are worse than average in Cumbria (across all local authorities in England)
- Bowel cancer survival rates (one year) are greater (better) in Cumbria than England
- Two week cancer waiting times, and diagnostic waiting times in Cumbria are below the England average

Introduction

Cancer is a major cause of death, accounting for around a quarter of deaths in England. More than 1 in 3 people will develop cancer at some point in their life. Diagnosis at an early stage of cancer can significantly improve survival chances therefore interventions such as screening programmes can help to diagnose cancer at an early stage.

Nationally, the most common cancers registered in 2014, were breast, prostate, lung and colorectal. There were 46,417 registered breast cancer cases, accounting for 31.6% of all female cancer registrations. Prostate cancer was the most common cancer diagnosed in males with 39,741 cases registered, 26.3% of all male cancers. The second most common cancer for both males and females was lung cancer; in 2014, there were 37,453 registered cases of lung cancer in England, accounting for 13.3% of males cancers; and 11.9% of female cancers. There were 34,025 colorectal cancer registered cases, accounting for 12.5% of male cancers; and 10.4% of female cancers.

In 2014, there were 3,352 newly diagnosed cases of cancer in Cumbria (NHS Cumbria CCG). The most common cancer in Cumbria is breast cancer with 521 newly diagnosed cases. The second most common cancer in Cumbria is prostate cancer, with 447 newly diagnosed cases.

GP Registers with a diagnosis of cancer (excluding non-melanotic skin cancers)

In 2014/15, 14,863 patients were on GP Registers with a diagnosis of cancer (excluding non-melanotic skin cancers), accounting for 2.86% of all patients (518,919). Compared to the previous year, this was an increase of 8.31% from 13,755 people, 2.64% of all patients. Across all GP practices, rates vary from 1.84% in areas in Allerdale to 5.56% in areas in South Lakeland.

Cancer incidence for all cancers combined (3 year average, 2011-2013)

Cancer incidence rates are measured by the number of registrations for all cancers (excluding skin cancers other than malignant melanoma) over the 3 year period (2011-2013) expressed as the number per 100,000 of the population. Throughout the period, 9,867 observed new cases of cancer were registered in Cumbria. The cancer incidence rate (all cancers) in Cumbria (NHS Cumbria CCG) is greater than the national average at 604.7 per 100,000 compared to 598.2 in England, meaning more new cases are being diagnosed. Across the districts, rates are above the national average in Barrow-in-Furness (671.6); Carlisle (614.5); Copeland (644.5); and Eden (605.0); rates are below the national average in Allerdale (570.5); and South Lakeland (570.7). Cancer incidence rates are greater in males than females, both nationally and locally.

Key: in comparison to England	Better	Similar	Worse
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Table 1: Incidence of all cancers: directly standardised rate, all ages, 3-year average, 2011-13

	Male	Female	All
Cumbria	676.9	554.2	604.7
Allerdale	672.9	495.4	570.5
Barrow-in-Furness	770.0	604.2	671.6
Carlisle	668.5	579.3	614.5
Copeland	696.8	618.8	644.5
Eden	677.9	550.2	605.0
South Lakeland	637.8	520.8	570.7

England	680.7	539.7	598.2
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Source: NHS Digital

Cancer diagnosed at early stage

This indicator reports the proportion of invasive malignancies of breast, prostate, colorectal, lung, bladder, kidney, ovary and uterus, non-Hodgkin lymphomas, and melanomas of skin, which have been diagnosed at stage 1 or 2. The statistics are experimental because of the variation in data quality. Around half of newly diagnosed cancer cases (51.3%) in Cumbria are diagnosed at an early stage; similar to the national picture - the proportion in England is 50.7%. Across the districts, Barrow-in-Furness has the lowest proportion of early diagnosis at 45.0%; while South Lakeland has the greatest proportion of early diagnosis at 57.1%.

Table 3: Proportion of cancer diagnosed at early stage, all ages, 2014 (experimental statistics)

	Count	Value
Cumbria	1,244	51.3%
Allerdale	242	48.9%
Barrow-in-Furness	134	45.0%
Carlisle	265	53.1%
Copeland	185	51.4%
Eden	115	47.9%
South Lakeland	303	57.1%
England	303	50.7%

Source: National Cancer Registry, Public Health Outcomes Framework

Cancer screening coverage

Cancer screening programmes support early detection of cancer, if identified early they can be more treatable and can significantly improve survival rates. There are various screening programmes in place throughout England.

Levels of breast cancer screening (women aged 53–70 years with a screening test result recorded in the previous three years) are better in Cumbria than England at 80.8% compared to 75.4%. Levels are above the national average across all of Cumbria's districts. The district with the lowest levels of breast screening coverage is Barrow-in-Furness at 77.3%. As at 31 March 2015, 62,960 women (aged 53-70 years) were eligible to receive a breast cancer screen, of those 50,878 had been screened, leaving 12,082 eligible women who hadn't been screened.

In 2015, 93,952 females in Cumbria were screened for cervical cancer. Levels of cervical cancer screening (% of eligible women who were screened adequately within the previous 3.5 years or 5.5 years, according to age (3.5 years for women aged 25-49 and 5.5 years for women aged 50-64) in Cumbria are better than the national average at 76.9% compared to 73.5%. Levels are above the national average across all of Cumbria's

districts with the exception of Barrow-in-Furness where they are similar. In 2014-15, there were 133,157 females aged 25-64 years on GP Practice Registers, while 93,952 were screened, this would leave around 39,000 potentially eligible women who were not screened.

In 2015, 57,428 people in Cumbria were screened for bowel cancer accounting for 64.1% of the eligible population (aged 60-74 years). Levels of bowel cancer screening (% of the eligible population aged (60-74) who were screened adequately within the previous 2½ years) in Cumbria are better than the national average at 64.1% compared to 57.1% in England. Levels are above the national average across all of Cumbria’s districts. The district with the lowest levels of bowel screening coverage is Copeland at 60.1%. Numbers of those who have not been screened is not available, however, the total population of people aged 60-74 years in Cumbria is around 96,700 leaving approximately 39,000 people who potentially haven’t been screened.

Table 4: Cancer screening coverage, % of eligible population, 2015

	Breast cancer	Cervical cancer	Bowel cancer
Cumbria	80.8%	76.9%	64.1%
Allerdale	82.1%	78.0%	64.2%
Barrow-in-Furness	77.3%	73.5%	60.3%
Carlisle	81.5%	77.0%	63.1%
Copeland	81.7%	76.2%	60.1%
Eden	82.5%	79.6%	66.5%
South Lakeland	79.7%	77.0%	67.9%
England	75.4%	73.5%	57.1%

Source: HSCIC, Public Health Outcomes Framework

Unfortunately we are unable to include cancer screening data by GP Practice level.

Cancer waiting times

Two-week wait

In order to support early diagnosis, there is a two week wait standard for those being referred to a specialist helps to support early diagnosis 92.1% of patients in Cumbria CCG see a specialist within two weeks of being urgently referred by their GP (or dentist) with suspected cancer; this is below the England average of 94.1% and below the operational standard of 93.0%. In 2014/15, 15,708 people were referred for suspected cancer within two weeks by a GP Practice in Cumbria, equating to a rate of 3,037 per 100,000, higher than the England average of 2,708. 1,512 cases referred within two weeks resulted in a diagnosis of cancer, a conversion rate of 9.6% of all cases referred compared to 8.2% in England (*please note that this indicator should be used with caution*).

Diagnostic Waiting Times

Quick access to diagnostic tests is crucial for early diagnosis of cancer. GPs should have access to four key diagnostic tests and should be using it appropriately. 95.0% of patients in NHS Cumbria CCG wait no more than 6 weeks for a diagnostic test for cancer, this is lower than the average for England of 98.2%.

Mortality for all cancers combined (2012-2014)

The cancer mortality rate in Cumbria is below/similar to the national average at 273.6 per 100,000, compared to 276.8 in England. Across the districts, the rate is greatest in Copeland at 317.7 compared to 238.2 in South Lakeland; rates are above the England average in Allerdale; Barrow-in-Furness; Carlisle; and Copeland.

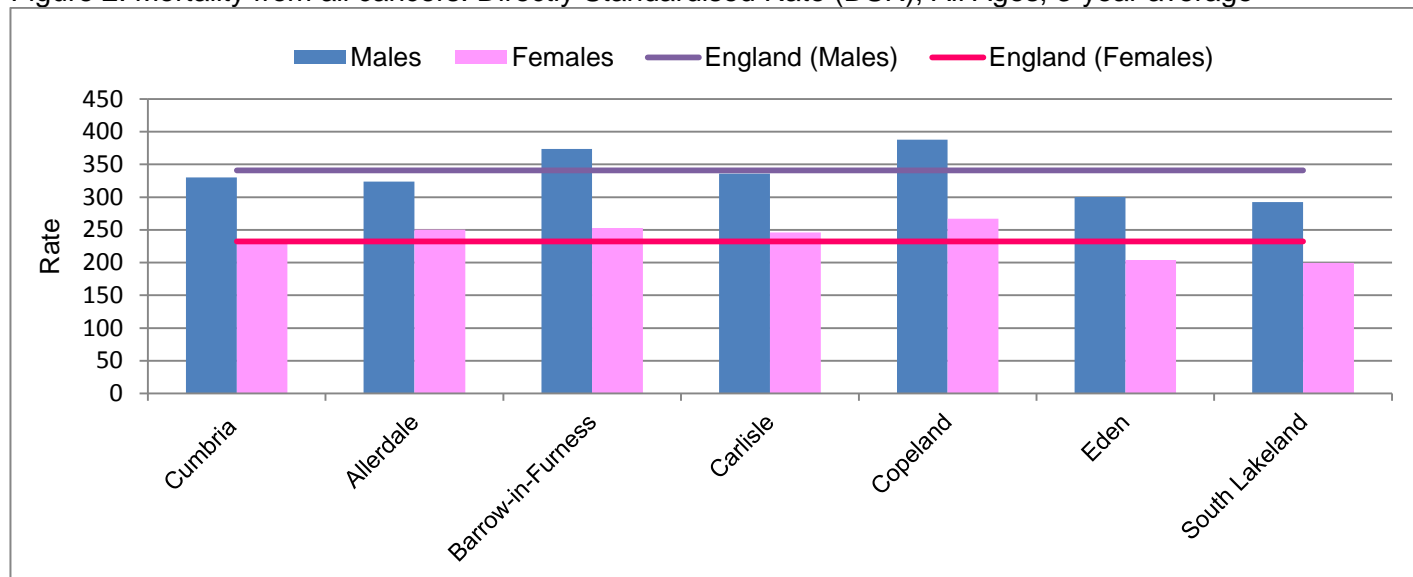
Table 5: Mortality from all cancers: directly standardised rate, all ages, 3-year average

	Male	Female	All
Cumbria	330.2	234.5	273.6
Allerdale	323.8	250.6	279.3
Barrow-in-Furness	373.7	252.9	304.7
Carlisle	336.1	245.8	280.4
Copeland	388.0	267.3	317.7
Eden	300.2	203.8	244.5
South Lakeland	292.6	199.7	238.2
England	340.9	232.2	276.8

Source: NHS Digital, 2012-2014

Mortality rates from all cancers are higher in males than females, both nationally and locally. Compared to England, mortality rates for both males and females are below national averages. However, across the districts, mortality rates for males are above the England average in Barrow-in-Furness and Copeland. Female mortality rates are above the England average in Allerdale; Barrow-in-Furness; Carlisle; and Copeland.

Figure 2: Mortality from all cancers: Directly Standardised Rate (DSR), All Ages, 3-year average



Source: NHS Digital, 2012-2014

Cancer mortality by type

Lung cancer mortality rates in Cumbria are below national levels at 56.48 per 100,000 compared to 59.54 in England; despite this, they are above national levels in the districts of Barrow-in-Furness (66.11); Carlisle (64.63) and Copeland (73.07); smoking prevalence in these areas is above national levels. Breast cancer mortality rates in Cumbria are above national levels at 37.41 per 100,000 compared to 35.39 in England; across the districts, rates are greatest in Copeland (49.21) and Allerdale (45.20); despite this, breast cancer screening levels are above the national average.

Table 2: Cancer mortality by type, all ages, directly age-standardised rates (DSR) per 100,000, 2012-2014

	Lung DSR per 100,000 (2012-14)	Breast DSR per 100,000 (2012-14)	Prostate DSR per 100,000 (2012-14)	Cervical DSR per 100,000 (2012-14)	Oesophageal DSR per 100,000 (2012-14)	Stomach DSR per 100,000 (2012-14)
Cumbria	56.48	37.41	49.27	2.76	13.80	9.64
Allerdale	57.04	45.20	41.81	1.86	12.99	11.53
Barrow-in-Furness	66.11	33.30	40.85	2.30	23.05	8.52
Carlisle	64.63	33.93	67.40	2.28	11.55	10.15
Copeland	73.07	49.21	44.83	3.04	11.44	12.70
Eden	41.73	28.14	59.59	0.87	11.21	6.39
South Lakeland	42.56	34.34	40.36	4.78	14.42	8.44
England	59.54	35.39	49.50	2.92	13.22	7.77

Source: NHS Digital

Premature cancer deaths – under 75 mortality rate (2012-2014)

Throughout the period 2012-2014, there were 5,110 premature cancer deaths (people aged under 75 years) in Cumbria. Rates of premature cancer deaths in Cumbria are similar to the national average at 139.6 per 100,000 compared to 141.5 in England. Across the districts, the rate of premature cancer deaths is the greatest in Copeland (163.0) where they are worse than the national average. Rates are below the national average in South Lakeland (118.6). Following national trends, rates of premature cancer deaths are falling.

Considering life expectancy, the life expectancy for males in Cumbria is below the England average at 79.1 years compared to 79.5 years. Across the districts, the picture reflects a similar picture to that of premature cancer deaths as life expectancy for both males and females is lower than the England average in Allerdale; Barrow-in-Furness; Carlisle; and Copeland.

Table 6: Premature cancer deaths – under 75 years: directly standardised rate, 3-year average

	Male	Female	All
Cumbria	152.6	126.9	139.6
Allerdale	155.6	137.6	146.4
Barrow-in-Furness	175.6	124.1	149.8
Carlisle	152.3	138.8	145.0
Copeland	175.1	150.7	163.0
Eden	143.6	105.4	124.5
South Lakeland	131.5	106.0	118.6
England	157.7	126.6	141.5

Source: Public Health Outcomes Framework, 2012-2014

The Longer Lives health profiles produced by Public Health England helps to identify premature mortality across every local authority in England. Table 7 below provides premature cancer deaths numbers and rates by cancer type for Cumbria which are then colour coded in comparison to other local authorities. Rates of premature breast cancer deaths are worse than average in Cumbria, Allerdale, Carlisle, Copeland and South Lakeland. Rates of premature lung cancer deaths are amongst the worst in Copeland, while they are worse than average in Barrow-in-Furness and Carlisle. Rates of premature colorectal cancer deaths are worse than average in Barrow-in-Furness.

Key: Cumbria out of 150 county/unitary authorities; Districts out of 324 district/unitary authorities.

Worse than average	Better than average	Worst	Best	Data unavailable
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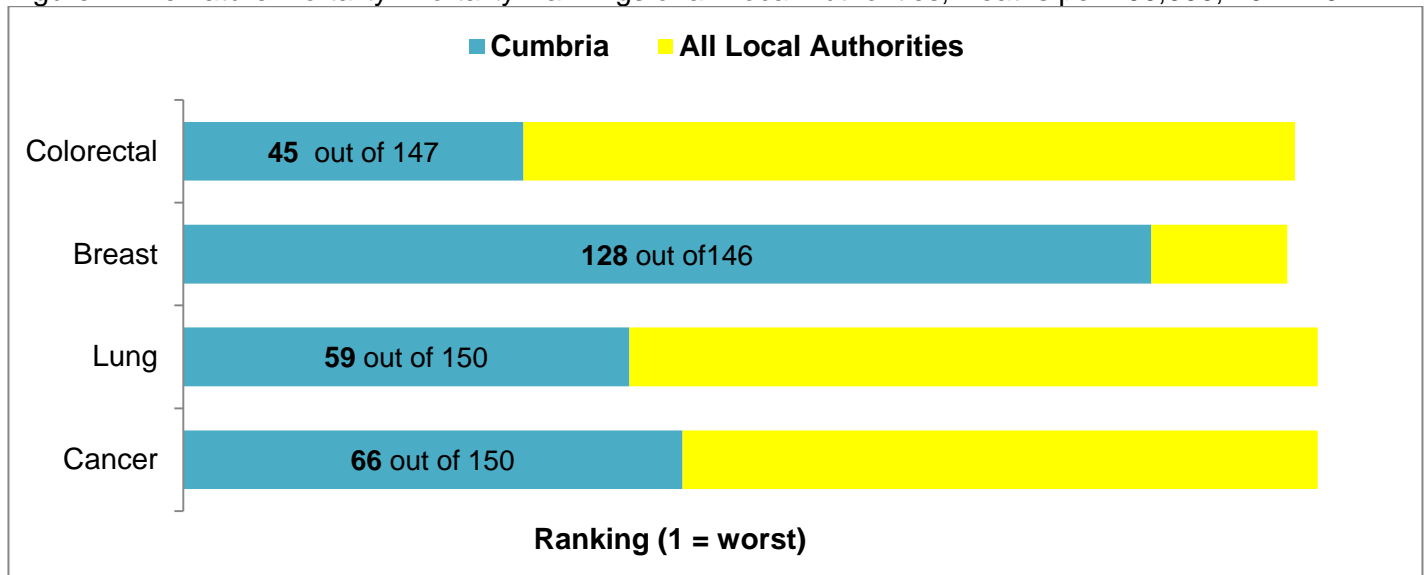
Table 7: Premature cancer deaths (under 75 years) by cancer type: directly standardised rate, 3-year average

	Breast		Lung		Colorectal	
	Number	Rate (per 100,000)	Number	Rate (per100,000)	Number	Rate (per100,000)
Cumbria	190	25	951	56	176	12
Allerdale	44	30	187	57	36	12
Barrow-in-Furness			137	66	25	13
Carlisle	38	25	214	65	32	11
Copeland	32	31	160	73		
Eden			80	42		
South Lakeland	39	23	173	43	37	11

Source: Longer Lives, Public Health Outcomes Framework, 2012-2014

Figure 1 below presents premature mortality rankings for Cumbria against all other county/unitary authorities in England, 1 being the worst.

Figure 1: Premature mortality: Mortality Rankings of all Local Authorities, Deaths per 100,000, 2012-2014



Source: Longer Lives, Public Health England

Cancer by type

Lung cancer

The incidence of lung cancer in Cumbria (NHS Cumbria CCG) is below the England average at 73.3 per 100,000 compared to 79.3. One year survival rates are a good indicator of whether cancer is being diagnosed early: lung cancer survival rates (one year) are lower in Cumbria than the England average at 31.7% compared to 35.4%, suggesting that cases aren't being diagnosed early. In the UK, 7 in 10 patients will survive lung cancer for at least one year if diagnosed early.

During the period 2012-2014, there were 951 deaths due to lung cancer in Cumbria, a rate of 56.48 per 100,000, lower than the England average of 59.54. Across the districts, rates are above the national average in Barrow-in-Furness (66.11); Carlisle (64.63); and Copeland (73.07).

Oesophageal cancer

Smoking causes around 7 out of 10 oesophageal cancers in women and more than 6 out of 10 in men. The incidence of oesophageal cancer in Cumbria is similar to the England average at a rate of 17.1 per 100,000 compared to 15.7.

During the period 2012-2014, there were 230 deaths due to oesophageal cancer in Cumbria, a rate of 13.80 per 100,000, similar to the England average of 13.22. Across the districts, rates are much greater than the national average in Barrow-in-Furness (23.05).

Smoking prevalence

Smoking is a main cause of preventable ill health and premature mortality. It is a major risk factor for lung cancer as well as other cancers and diseases. It is also associated with cancers in other organs, including lip, mouth, throat, bladder, kidney, stomach, liver and cervix.

15.6% of adults in Cumbria smoke, similar to the England average of 16.9%. Across the districts, Barrow-in-Furness has the greatest smoking prevalence at 20.2%, followed by Copeland at 19.7%; South Lakeland has the lowest smoking prevalence at 10.5%.

Breast cancer

The incidence of breast cancer in Cumbria is greater than the England average at a rate of 179.3 per 100,000 compared to 165.9 in England. One year survival is a good indicator of whether cancer is being diagnosed early and if the best treatment is being accessed. Breast cancer survival rates (one year) in Cumbria are similar to the national average at 96.9% compared to 96.7%.

During the period 2012-2014, there were 336 deaths of females due to breast cancer in Cumbria, a rate of 37.41 per 100,000, above the England average of 35.39. Across the districts, rates are the above national levels in Allerdale (45.20); and Copeland (49.21).

Bowel cancer

Around 1 in 20 people in the UK will develop bowel cancer. It is the third most common cancer in the UK, and the second leading cause of cancer deaths with over 16,000 people dying from bowel cancer each year. The incidence of bowel cancer in Cumbria is similar to the England average at a rate of 75.2 per 100,000 compared to 74.1. When diagnosed early, around 9 out of 10 bowel cancer patients in the UK will survive for

more than five years; this falls to 1 in 10 if it is diagnosed at the latest stages. Bowel cancer survival rates in Cumbria (one year) are greater than England at 79.8% compared to 77.7%.

Prostate cancer

The incidence of prostate cancer in Cumbria is similar the England average at a rate of 185.5 per 100,000 compared to 177.7.

During the period 2012-2014, there were 327 deaths of males due to prostate cancer in Cumbria, a rate of 49.27 per 100,000, similar to the England average of 49.50. Across the districts, rates are above national levels in Carlisle (67.40); and Eden (59.59).

Cervical cancer

Cervical cancer is the most common cancer in women under 35 years. The incidence of cervical cancer in Cumbria is similar to the England average at a rate of 11.1 per 100,000 compared to 9.6.

During the period 2012-2014, there were 22 deaths of females due to cervical cancer in Cumbria, a rate of 2.76 per 100,000, similar to the England average of 2.92. Across the districts, rates are above national levels in Copeland (3.04); and South Lakeland (4.78).

Ovarian cancer

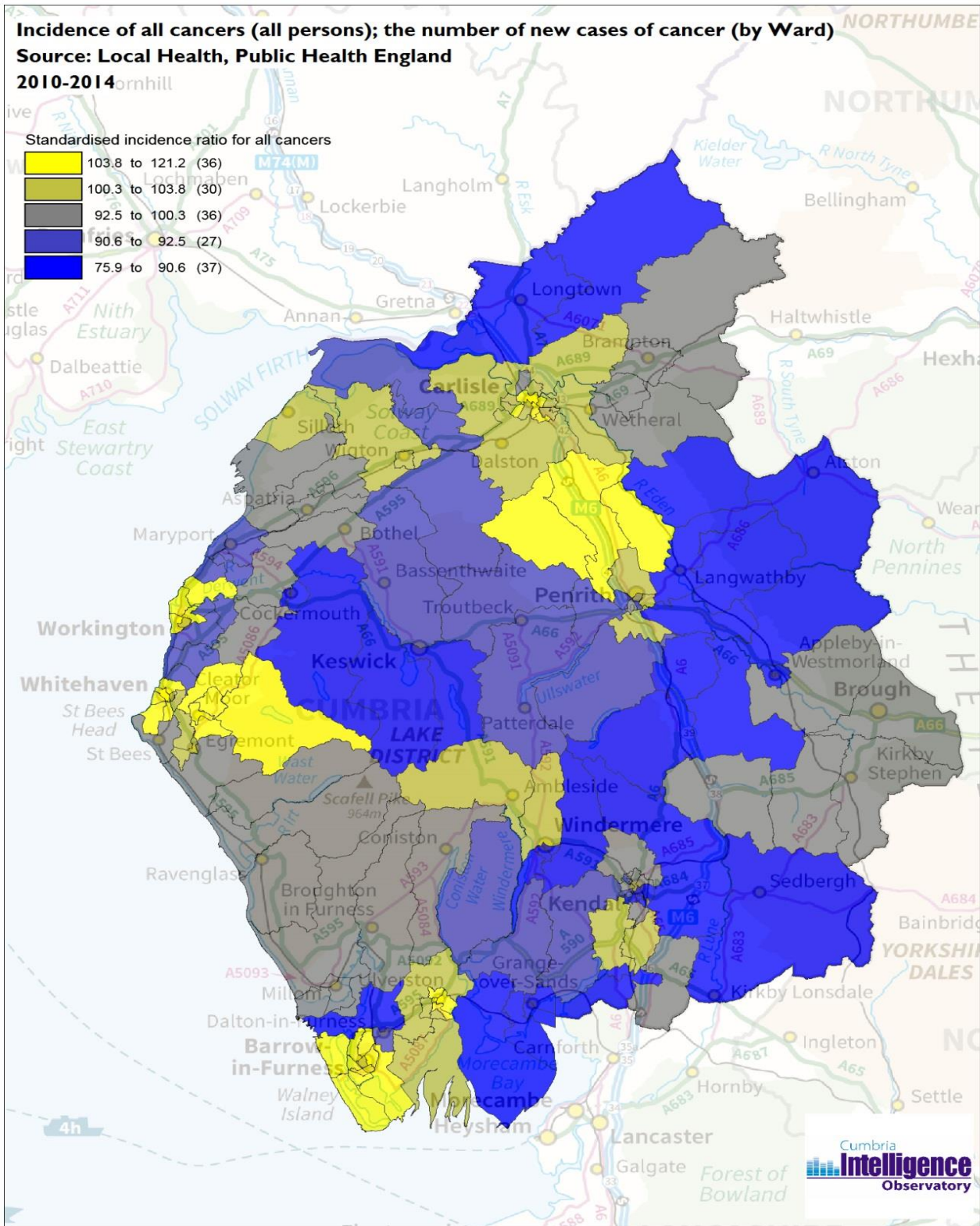
The risk of ovarian cancer is affected by family history, reproductive history, and smoking. The incidence of ovarian cancer in Cumbria is similar to the England average at a rate of 24.7 per 100,000 compared to 23.9.

Stomach cancer

The risk of stomach cancer is increased by smoking, high salt intake, and the H.pylori infection. The incidence of stomach cancer in Cumbria is similar to the England average at 14.8 per 100,000 compared to 12.7.

During the period 2012-2014, there were 161 deaths due to stomach cancer in Cumbria, a rate of 9.64 per 100,000, above the England average of 7.77. Across the districts, rates are above the national average in Allerdale (11.53); Carlisle (10.15); and Copeland (12.70).

Map 1: Cumbria: Incidence of all cancers, all persons, 2010-2014, by ward



Further Information

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NHS Indicator Portal
<https://indicators.hscic.gov.uk/webview/>

Public Health Outcomes Framework
<http://fingertips.phe.org.uk/>

Quality Outcomes Framework
<http://digital.nhs.uk/gof>

Office for National Statistics
<http://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases>

Cancer Research UK
<http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/cancer-info/cancerstats/local-cancer-statistics/>