Population Mortality and Morbidity in Ireland

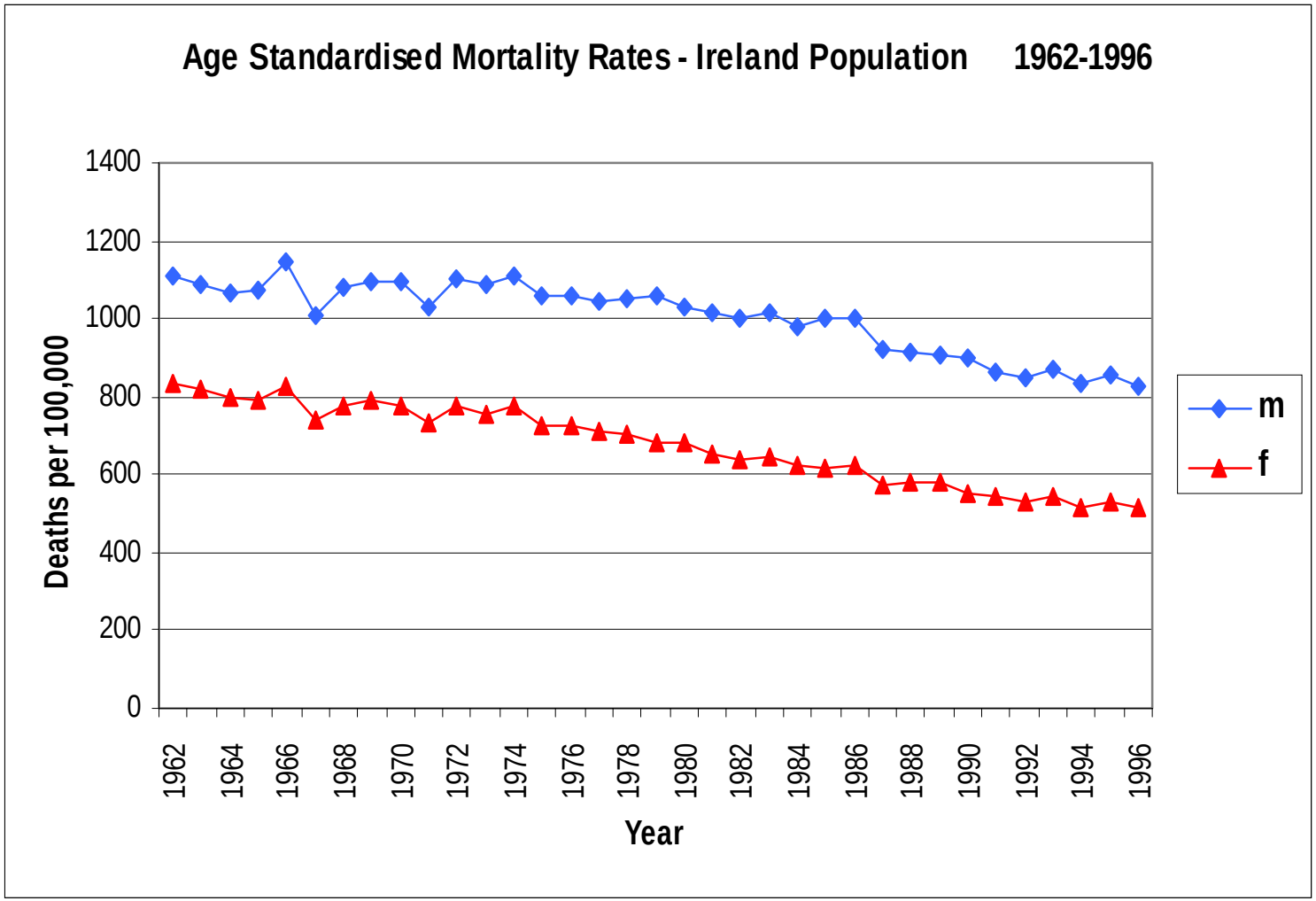
Agenda

- Mostly good news
- But some bad news
- Cohort analysis
- Years lost analysis
- Lessons from study

Part 1

The good news

Irish Population Mortality 1962-1996



Mortality Improvement by Age Group

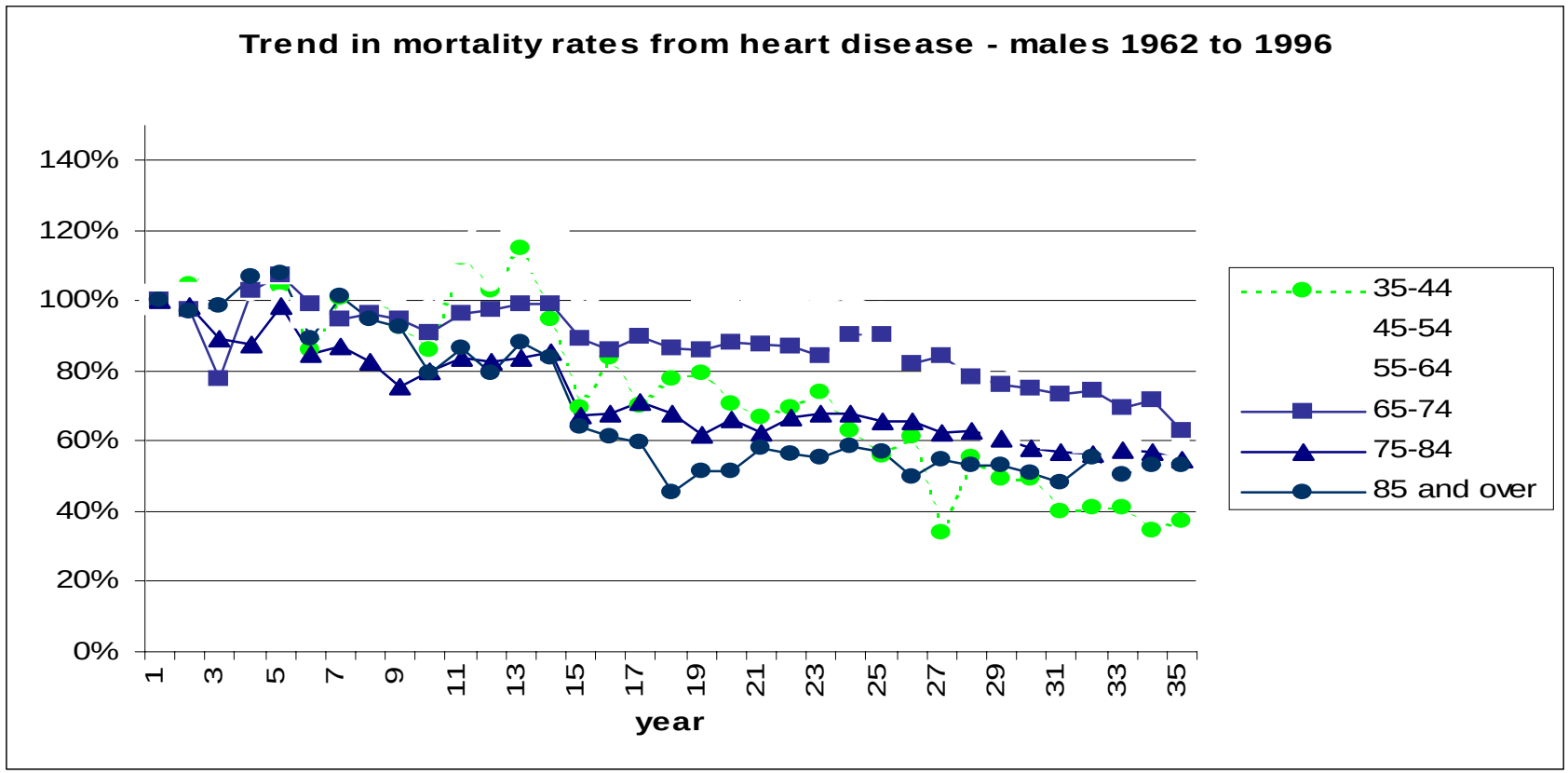
	Males	Females
Age-band	%Reduction	%Reduction
0-4	80%	77%
5-14	51%	73%
15-24	-13%	37%
25-34	3%	47%
35-44	38%	57%
45-54	42%	52%
55-64	34%	42%
65-74	19%	36%
75-84	15%	32%
85+	18%	23%

Cardiovascular diseases

- 43% of all deaths are due to such conditions

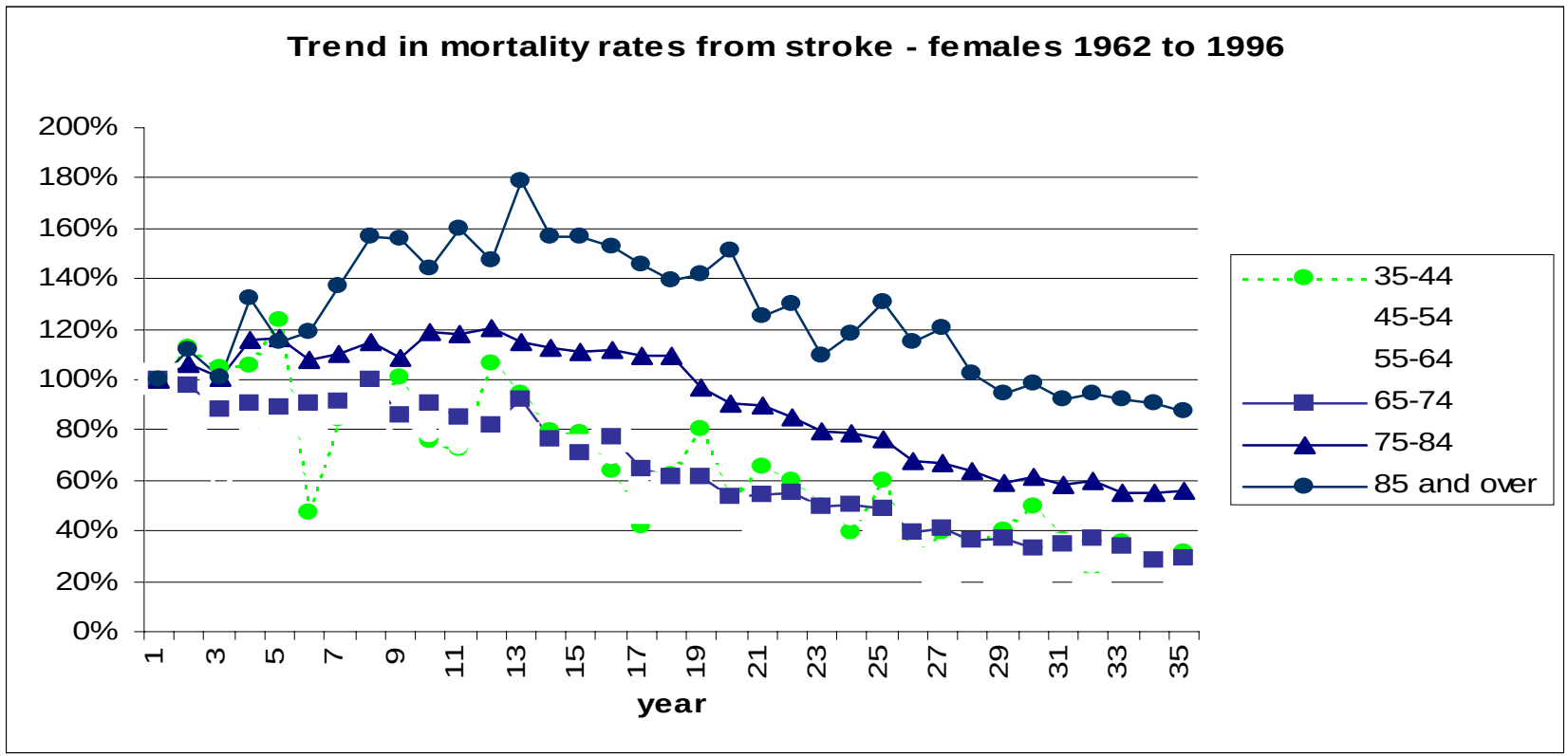
Cardiovascular - Heart disease

- For heart disease, trend is downwards for both males and females
- Mirrors international experience, though fall is at a faster rate than EU average
- However, is still higher than EU average



Cardiovascular - Stroke

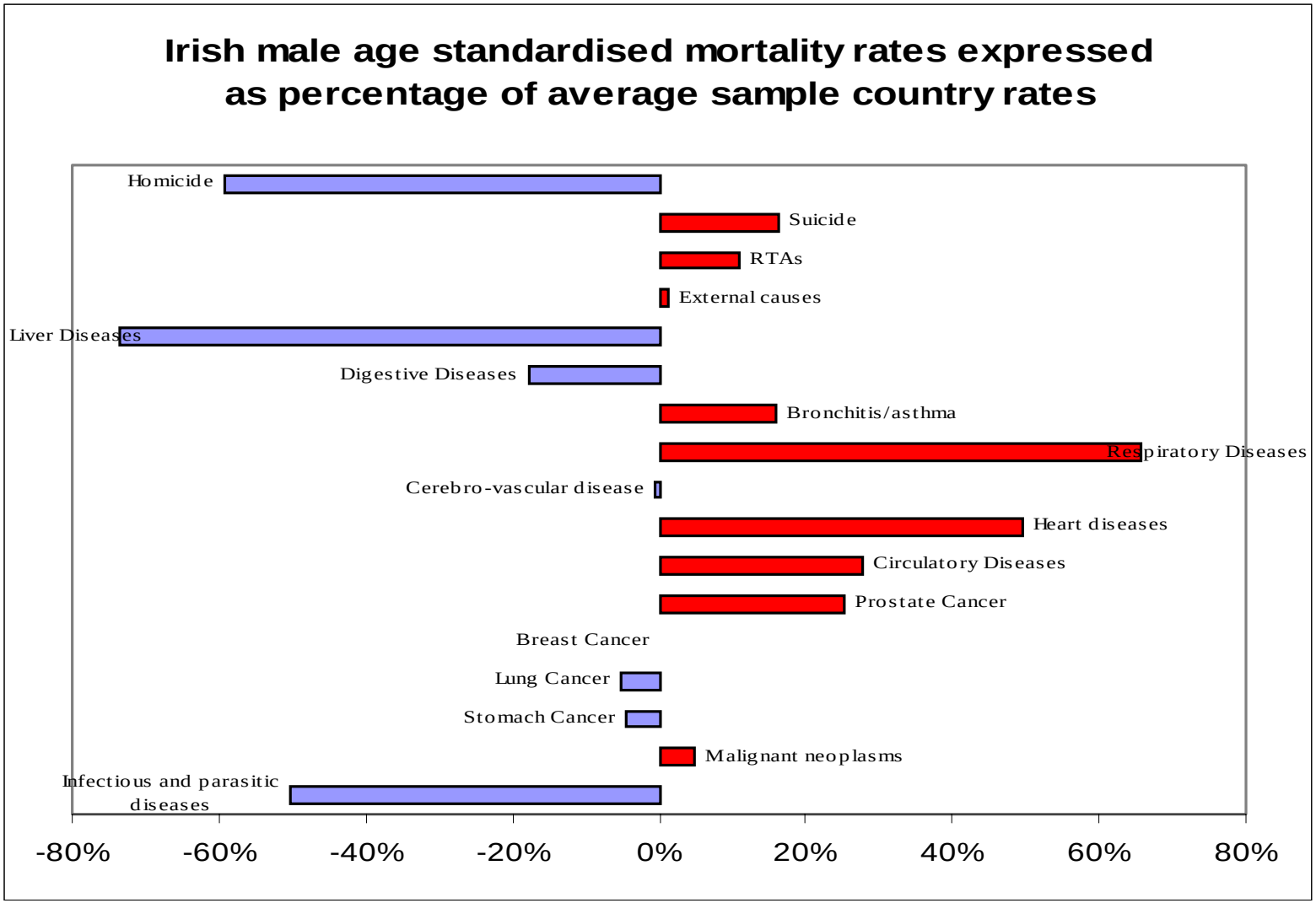
- Trend is downwards for incidence of death due to a stroke for both males and females
- Fall again is at a faster rate than EU average
- So, much so that there is no statistical difference between Ireland and EU average experience



Part 2

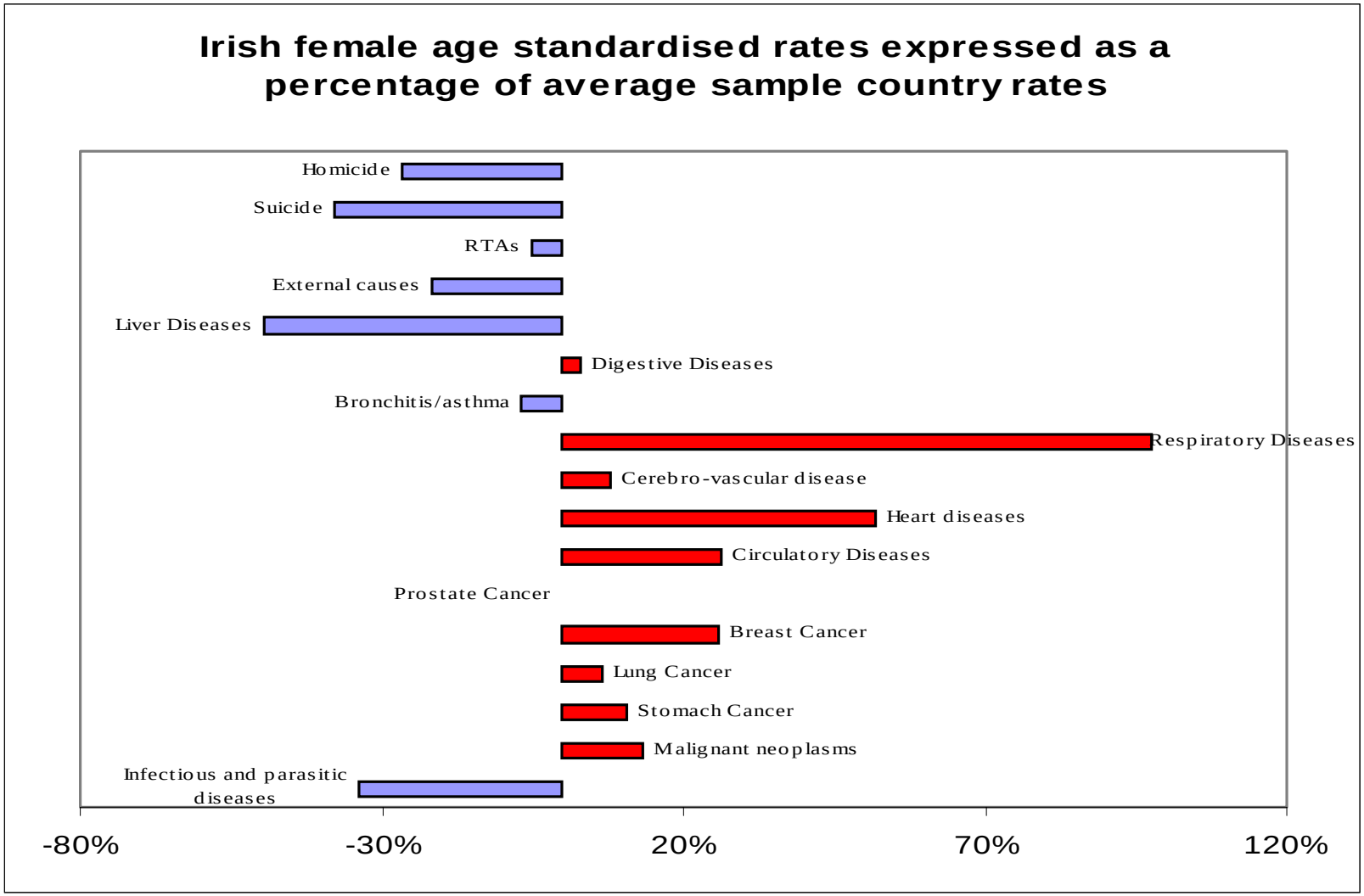
The bad news

International Experience Comparisons



Source – Calculated from WHO Statistical Information System Mortality Data. Countries: Ireland, Scotland, Denmark, Germany, US, England & Wales, Australia, France, Greece, Sweden, Japan. 1996 for all except Australia 1995.

International Experience Comparisons

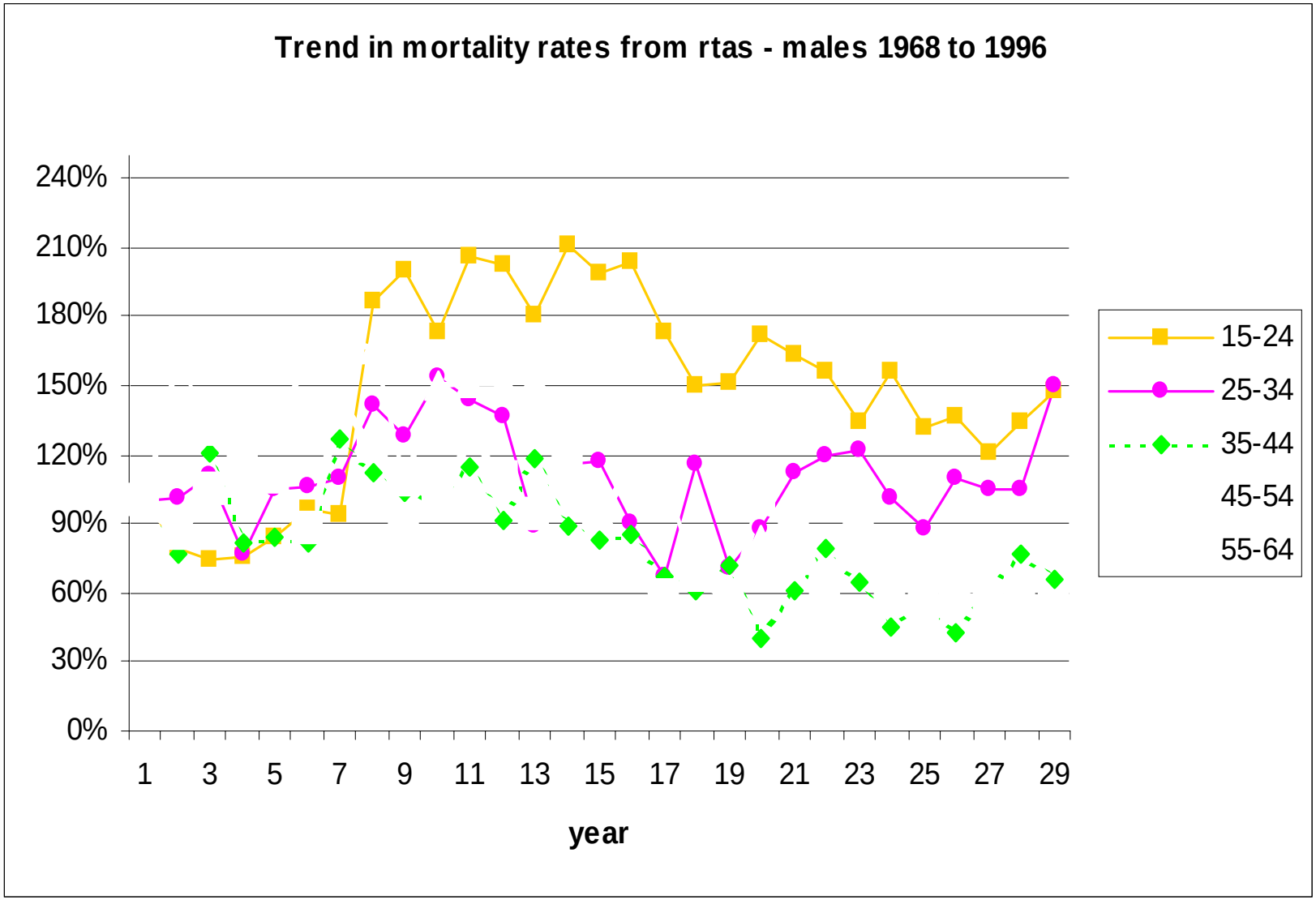


Source – Calculated from WHO Statistical Information System Mortality Data. Countries: Ireland, Scotland, Denmark, Germany, US, England & Wales, Australia, France, Greece, Sweden, Japan. 1996 for all except Australia 1995.

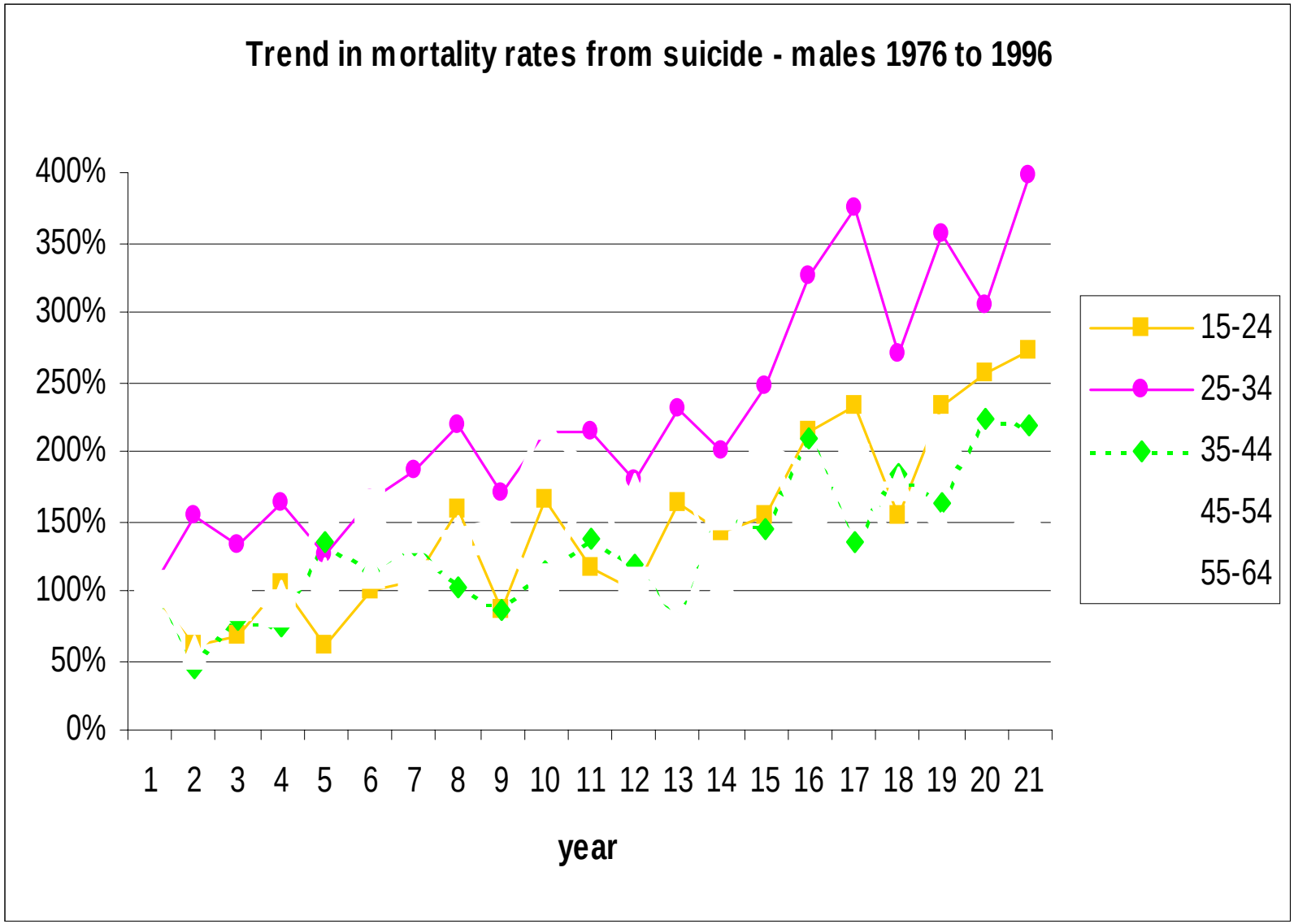
Mortality rates by cause for 15-34 year olds

	Males	Males	Females	Females
Cause	**15-24**	**25-34**	**15-24**	**25-34**
Infectious and Parasitic Diseases	**2%**	**1%**	**7%**	**1%**
Malignant Neoplasms	**7%**	**9%**	**10%**	**23%**
All Circulatory Diseases	**3%**	**7%**	**11%**	**10%**
Injury and Poisoning	**75%**	**66%**	**44%**	**40%**
Road Traffic Accidents	33%	24%	16%	18%
Suicide	25%	26%	15%	12%
Homicide	1%	1%	0%	3%
Other	16%	15%	12%	7%
All Other Diseases	**13%**	**19%**	**28%**	**26%**

Mortality Rates from Road Traffic Accidents 1962 - 1996



Mortality Rates from Suicide 1962 - 1996



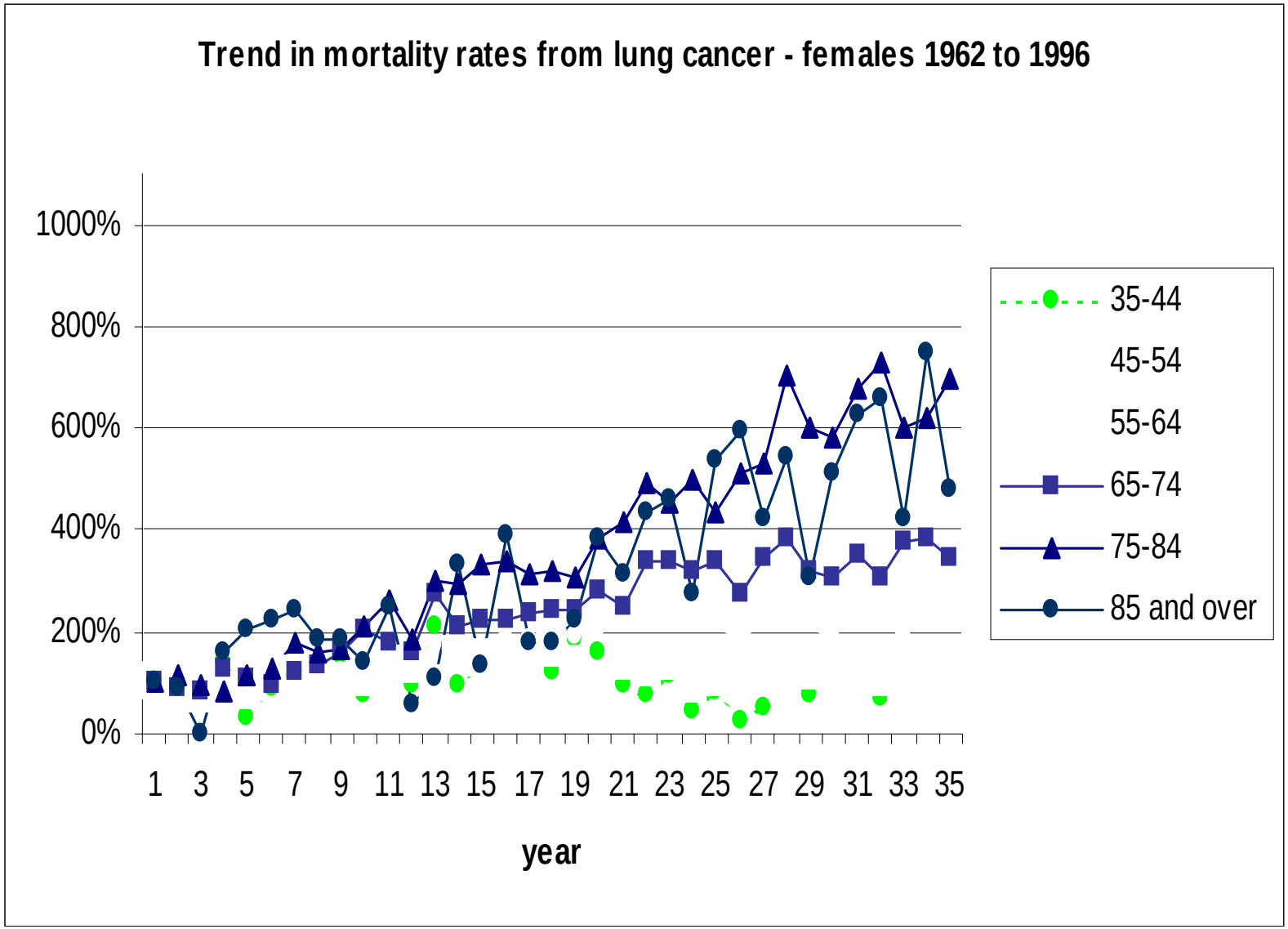
Suicide

- Rate of suicide has risen sharply over the last 20 years
- Possible reasons for the increase include:
  - Underlying rate has increased significantly
  - Reporting may have increased
  - Coding may be more accurate
- One of main cause of deaths within 15-34 age group
- Significantly higher incidence among males than females
- Particularly high incidence rate among young males

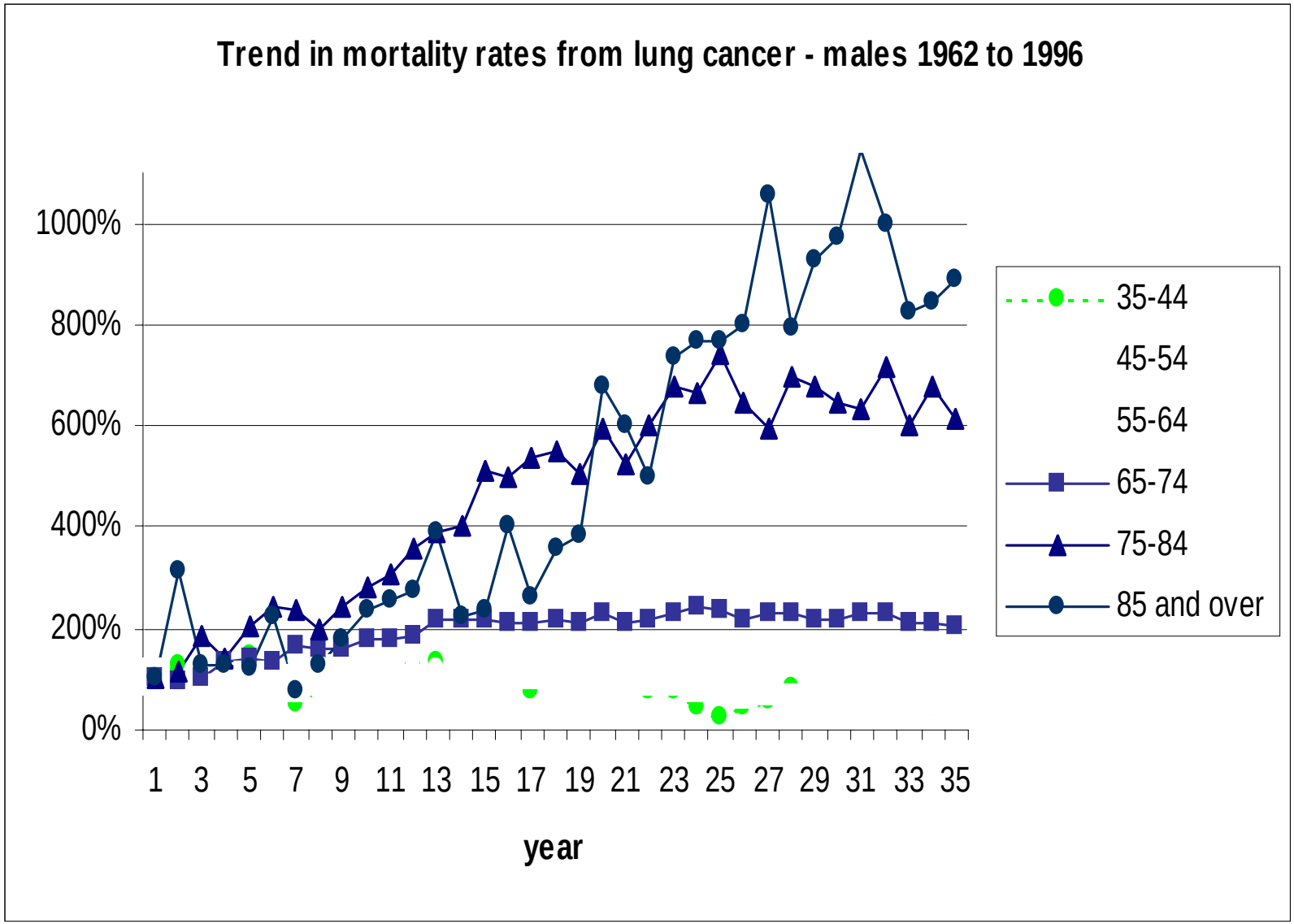
Cancer

- Second largest cause of death in Ireland

Mortality Rates from Lung Cancer 1962 - 1996

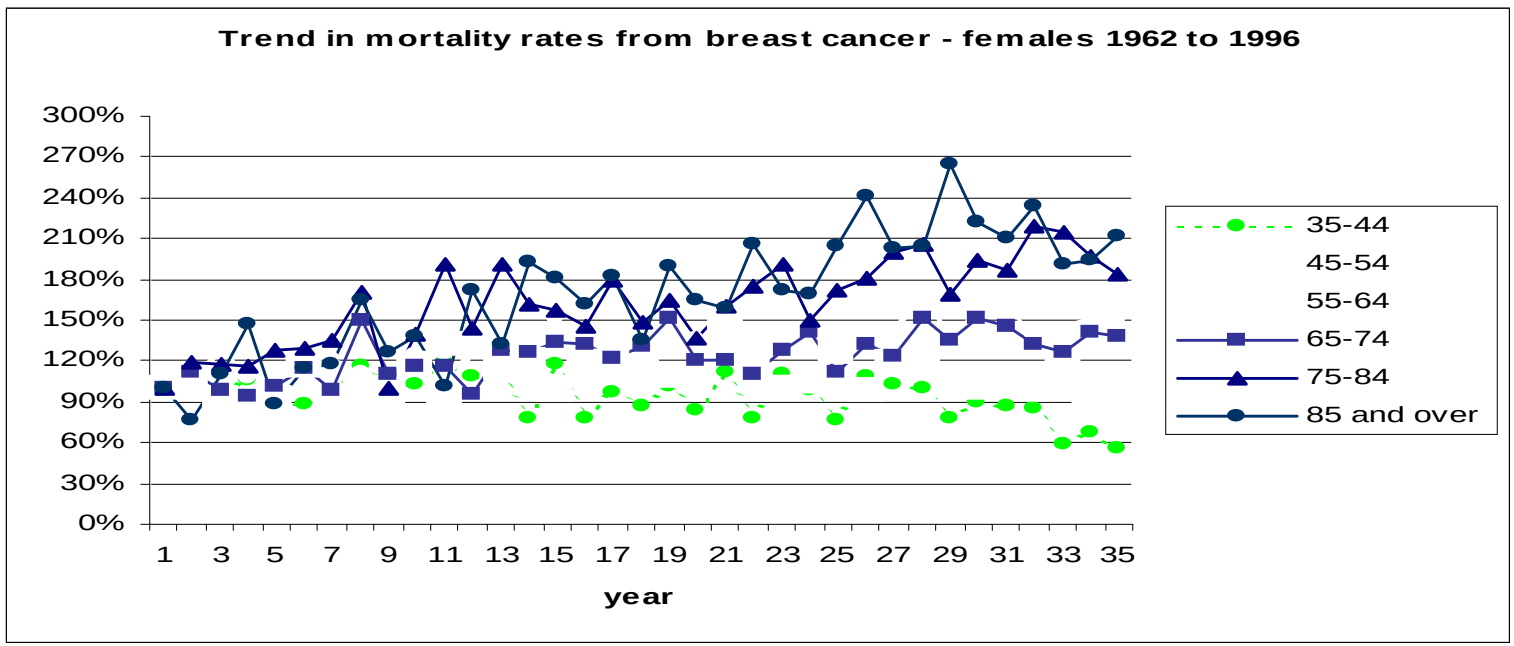


Mortality Rates from Lung Cancer 1962 - 1996



Cancer – Breast cancer

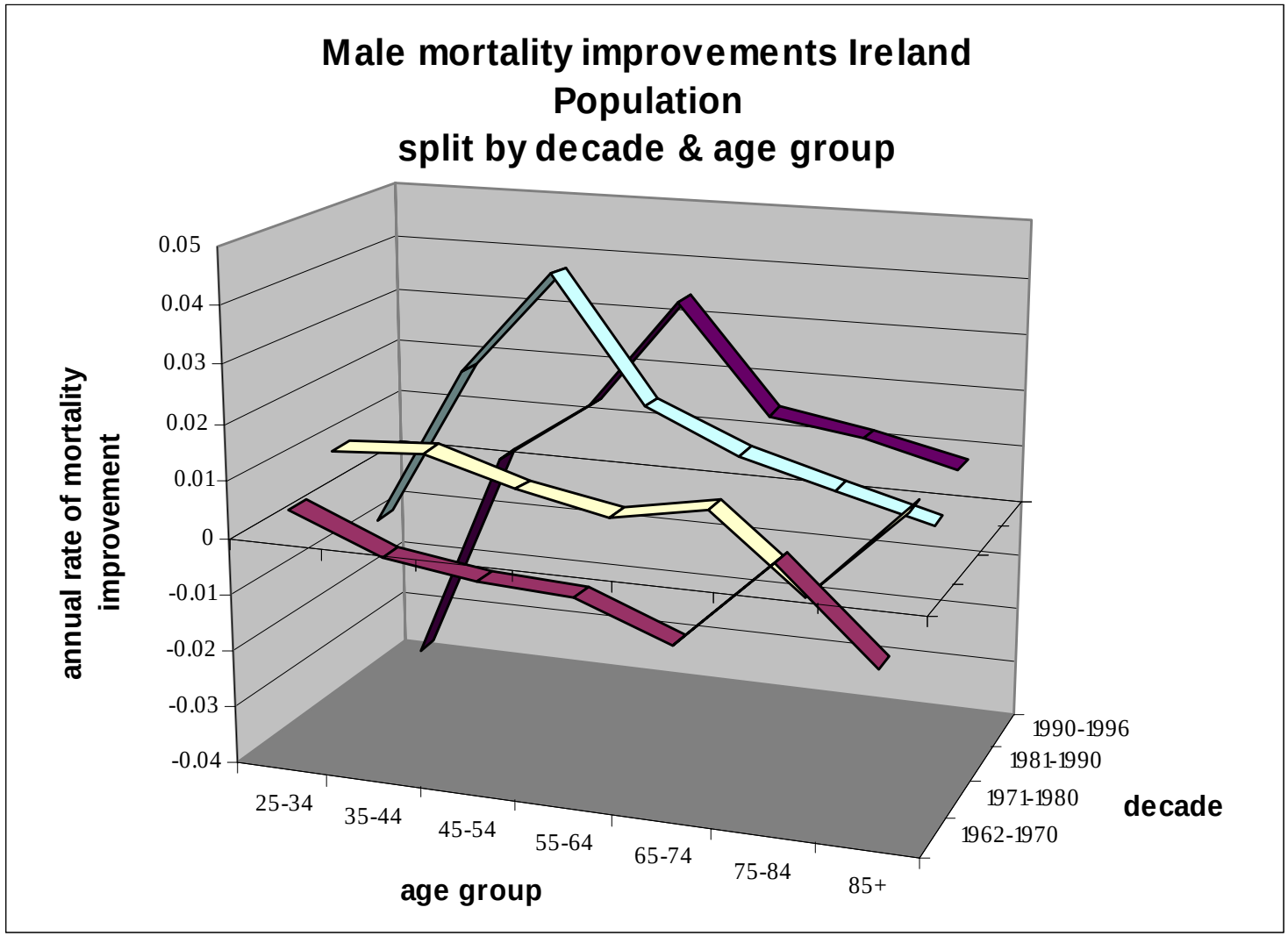
- Ireland has one of the highest rates of breast cancer in the EU
- Trend for incidence at younger ages is downwards
- For older lives, trends appears to be upward
- Could be explained by differences in screening programmes
- Western world has significantly higher incidence of breast cancer than developing world



Part 3

Cohort analysis

Male mortality improvements by decade & age group

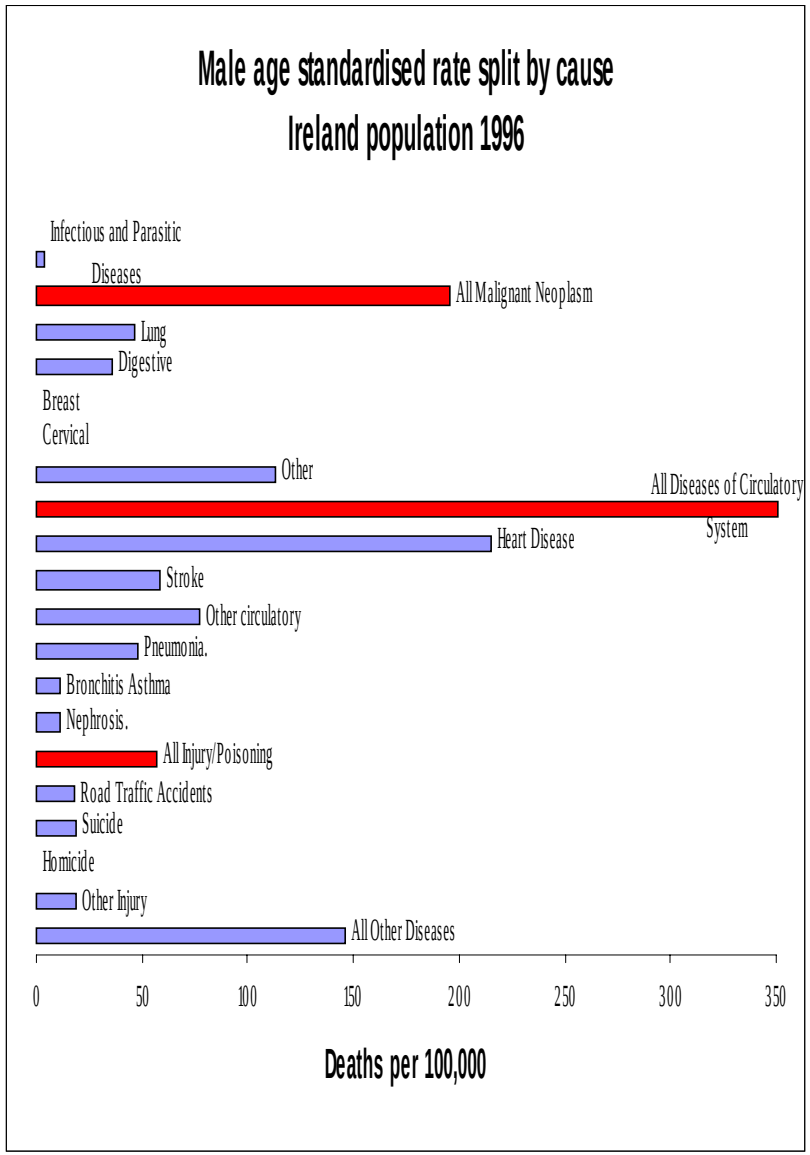


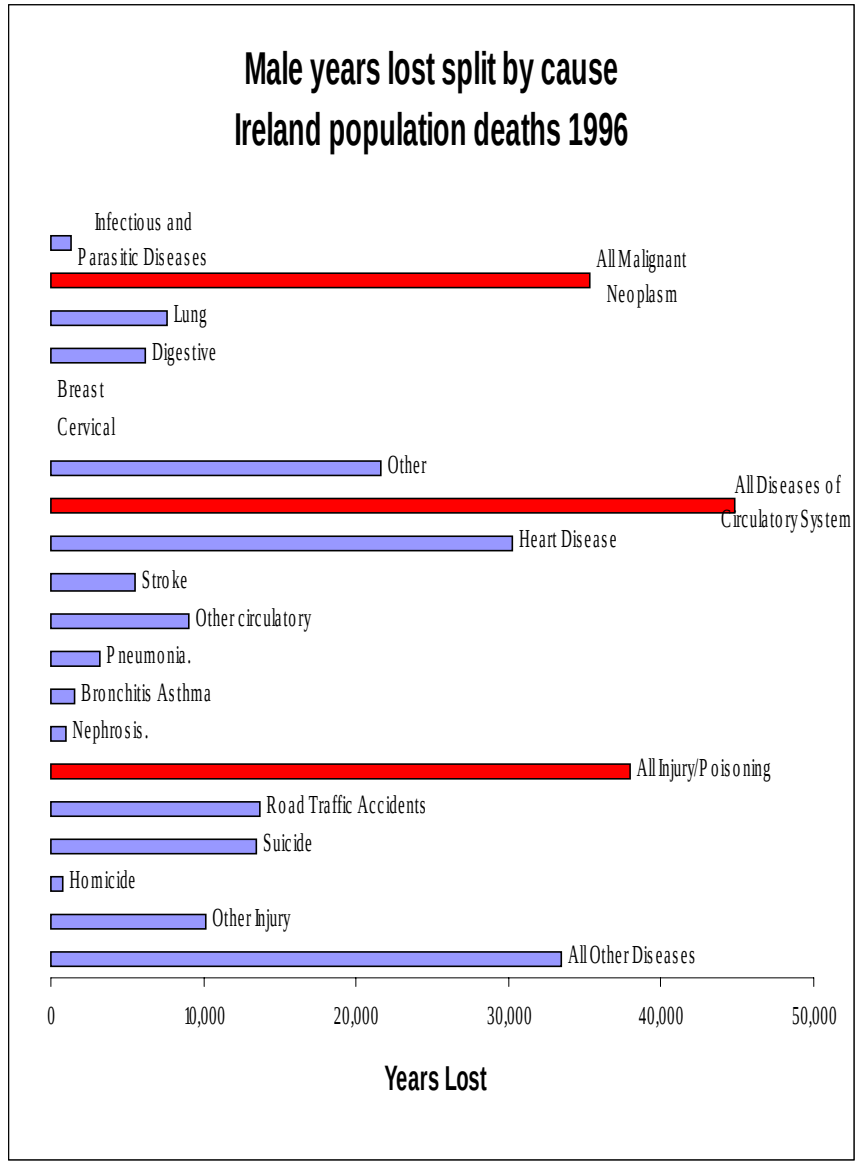
Female mortality improvements by decade & age group

Part 4

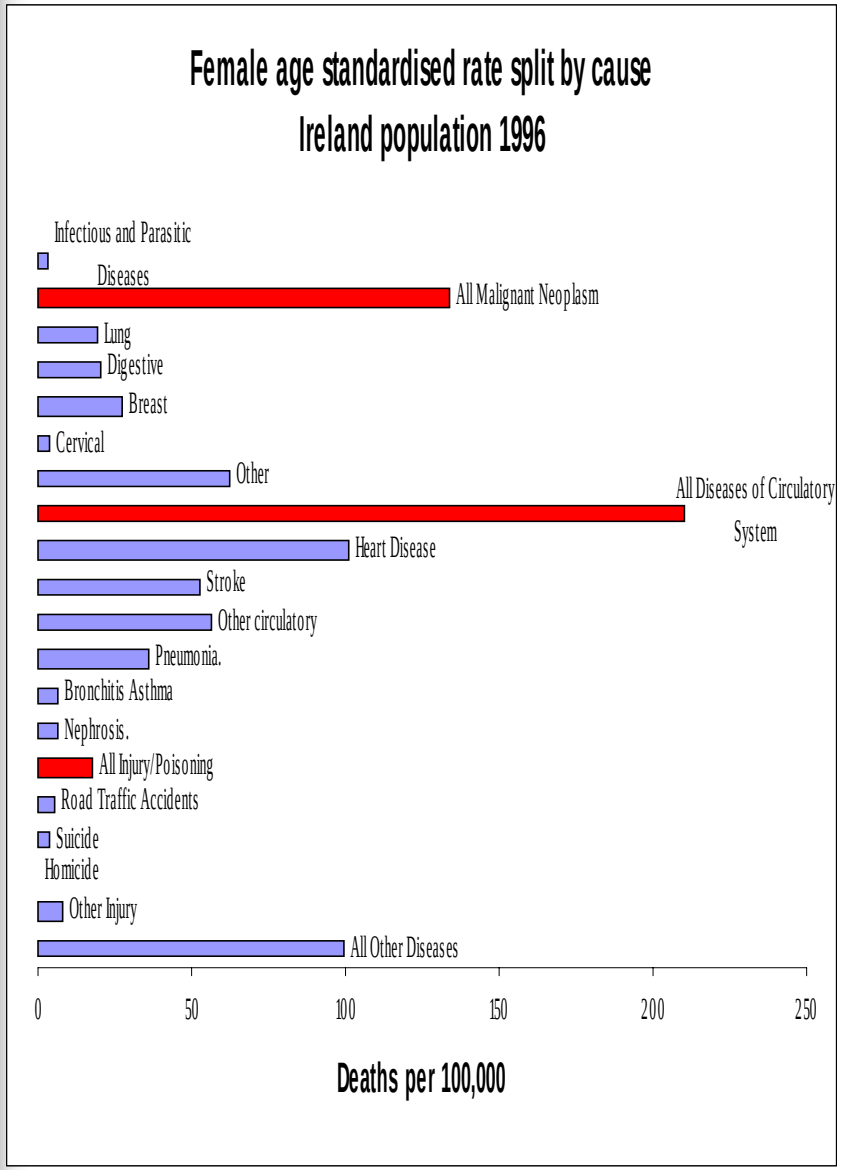
Assessing impact of diseases on population health

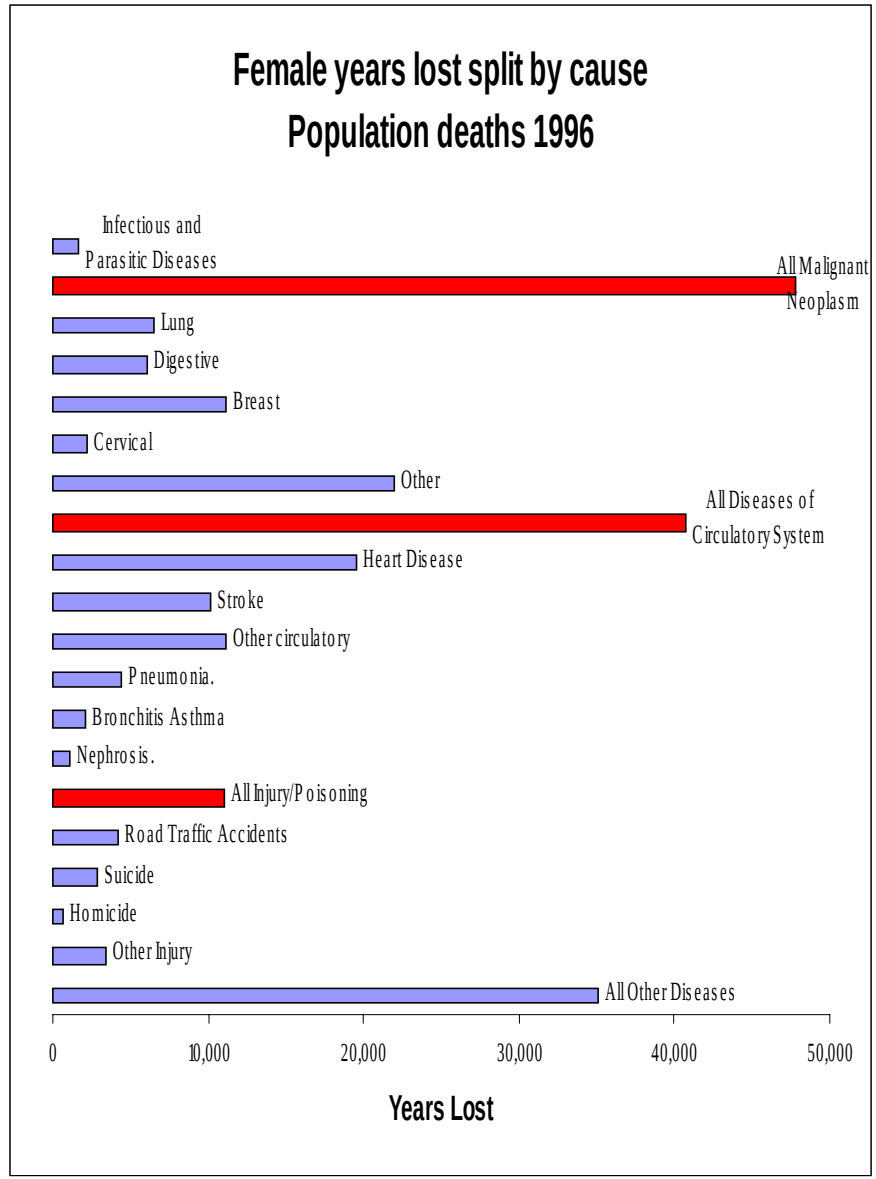
Males
Cause of Death versus Years' Lost





Females
Cause of Death versus Years' Lost





Part 5: Lessons from study

- 1. Media attention
- 2. Years' lost concept
- 3. Importance of non-illness mortality
- 4. Complexity
- 5. Can we fix it – Yes we can!