Time Trends in Stomach Cancer Mortality (1950–2008) in Japan, the USA and Europe Based on the WHO Mortality Database

Mortality data, abstracted from the World Health Organization (WHO) database, are available for various countries. We used stomach cancer mortality in Japan, the USA, the UK, Italy and France during the period 1950–2008. For the USA and the

![Trends in age-specific stomach cancer mortality rates during 1950–2008 for men.](image)

![Trends in age-specific stomach cancer mortality rates during 1950–2008 for women.](image)

Note: Mortality data, abstracted from the World Health Organization mortality database, were downloaded from the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) CANCER Mondial Statistical Information System (http://www-dep.iarc.fr/). Data were tabulated by the authors of this article. Responsibility for this presentation and interpretation lies with the authors of this article.

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UK, data were available for 1950–2005 and 1950–2007, respectively. And for Italy, data were available for 1951–2003 and 2006–2007, and for France, the data in 1951 and 2008 were not available.

Age-specific mortality rates for over-40-year-olds due to stomach cancer in the five countries between 1950 and 2008 are shown for men (Fig. 1) and for women (Fig. 2).

For men, high stomach cancer mortality rates in all age groups were observed throughout the surveillance period in Japan compared with the other countries. A downward trend after 2000 was common in all selected countries; however, increases were observed until its peak in the middle of 1960s to the 1990s in the age groups over 70 years in Japan and the 85+ age group in Italy and France. In the USA, mortality rates in all age groups were lower all through the observation period and decreased sharply from the 1950s.

For women, the mortality rates were slightly lower than that of men in all the selected countries. A similar downward trend for men after 2000 in all the selected countries was observed. Increases in the older age groups in Japan, Italy and France were also observed in women. In the USA, mortality rates in all age groups decreased sharply from the 1950s through the 2000s in comparison with the other countries.

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