

Lung Cancer Survival Fact Sheet | Health PEI

Average Annual New Lung Cancer Cases between 2019-2023

152

Average Annual Lung Cancer Deaths between 2019-2023

95

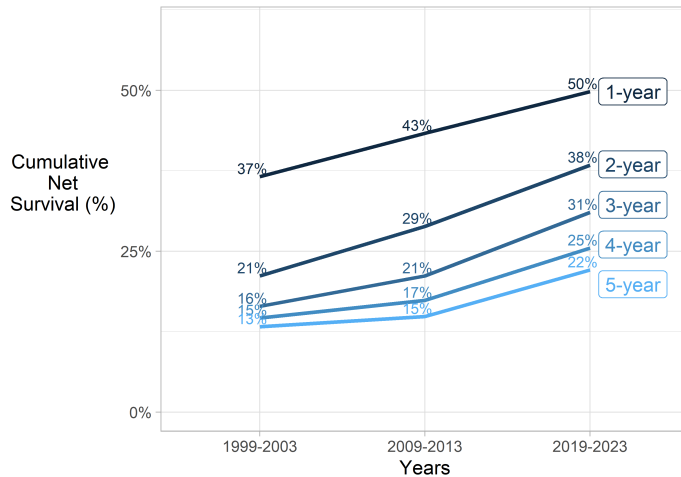
Overall 5-year Net Survival Rate between 2019-2023

22%

Percentage of Lung Cancer Patients Diagnosed at Stage IV between 2019-2023

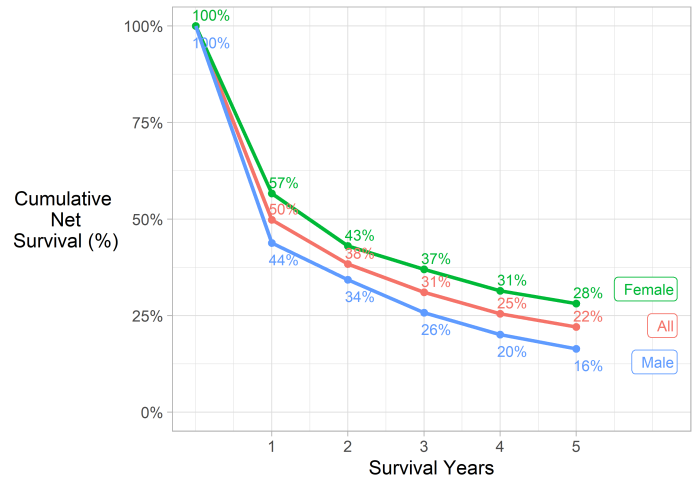
47%

Figure 1: Lung Cancer Net Survival over 20 years



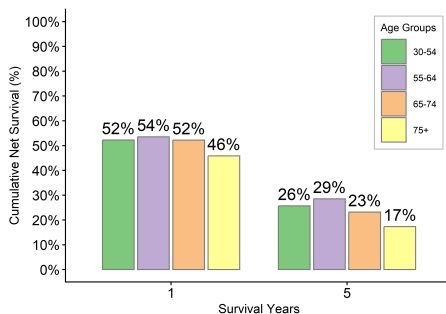
- Lung cancer survival has improved over the last 20 years.
- 1-year net survival increased from 37% in 1999–2003 to 50% in 2019–2023, showing better short-term outcomes.
- 5-year net survival rose from 13% to 22%, reflecting progress in early diagnosis, long-term care, and treatment.

Figure 2: Net Survival Rate by Sex between 2019-2023



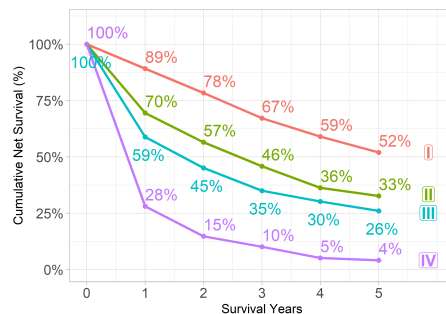
- Females had higher 5-year net survival rates than males (28% vs. 16%), likely due to biological differences, earlier stage at diagnosis, and better response to treatment.
- Survival rates drop most sharply during the first year after a lung cancer diagnosis, falling to 50%, and then decline more gradually to 38% in the second year, highlighting the need for early support and intervention.

Figure 3: 1-year and 5-year Net Survival Rate between 2019-2023 by Age Groups



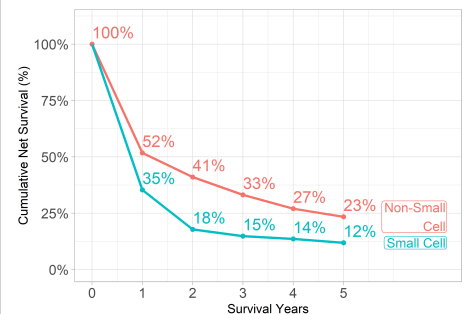
- Older adults generally have lower net survival rates after a lung cancer diagnosis.
- People aged 39–54 had unexpectedly lower survival rates compared to all age groups. This may be because younger individuals tend to visit healthcare providers less frequently, leading to later-stage diagnoses when symptoms become more noticeable.

Figure 4: Net Survival Rate by Stage at Diagnosis between 2019-2023



- Stage 4 lung cancer has a steep drop in survival: with net survival at 28% by Year 1 and only 4% by 5 years.
- Stage 1 cancer, by comparison, shows much better net survival: 89% in Year 1 and 52% at 5 years.
- Patients diagnosed at earlier stages have much better survival, showing the critical importance of detecting cancer before it progresses.

Figure 5: Net Survival Rate by Small Cell and Non Small Cell cancers between 2019-2023



- Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC) makes up about 90% of cases in PEI and has a higher survival rate than Small Cell Lung Cancer (SCLC).
- Five-year survival for NSCLC is 23%, while for SCLC it is 12% overall.