

Cancer Registry in the Middle East Cancer Consortium

SEMCO, Cairo - April 6, 2007

Joe Harford, Ph.D.

Director, Office of International Affairs

Office of the Director

National Cancer Institute

harfordj@nih.gov

Impressions or Evidence-Based? True or False?C

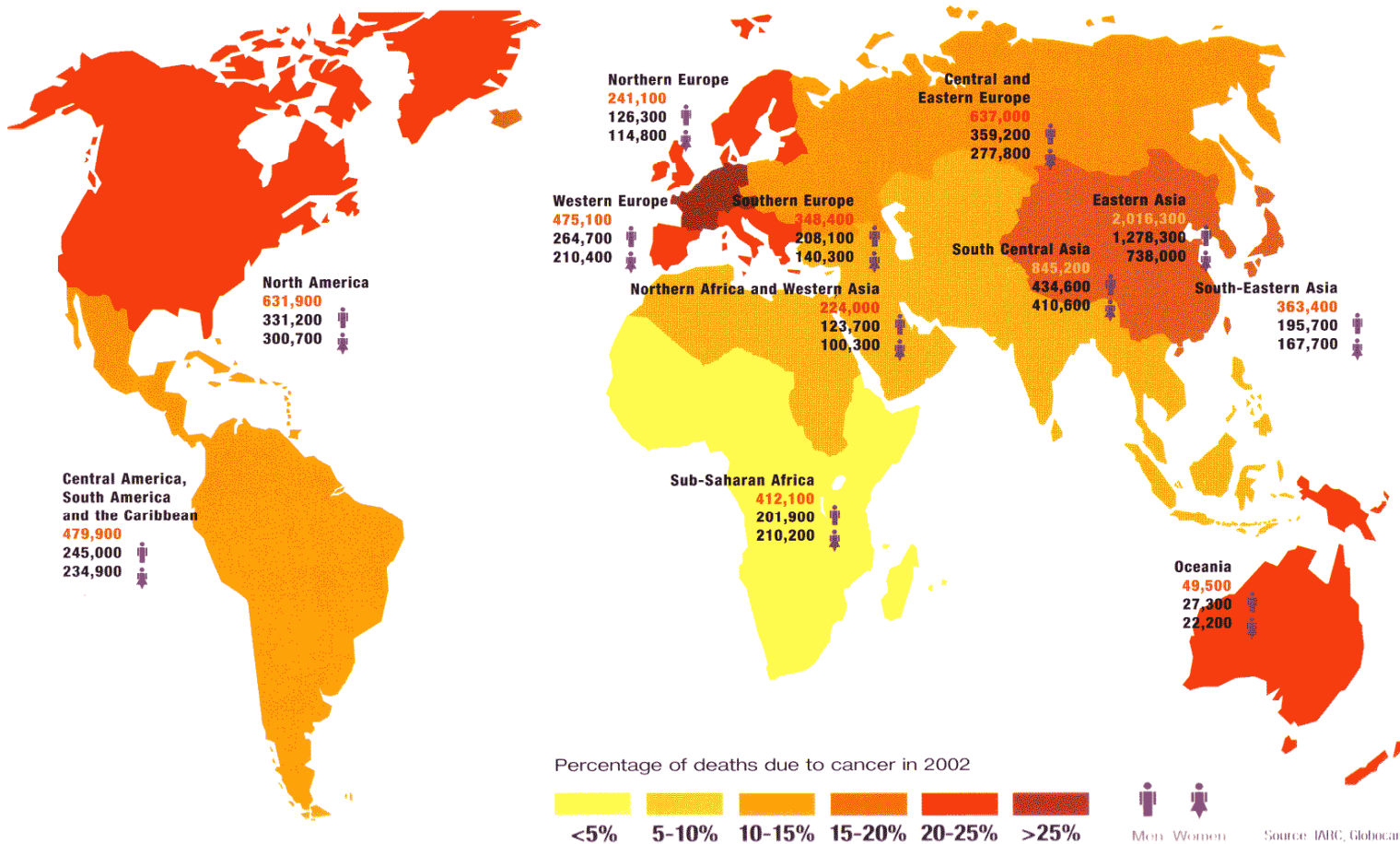


- Younger Arab women (under 40) have higher rates of breast cancer than do their counterparts in “western” countries.
- Younger Arab women (under 40) have higher rates of breast cancer than do older Arab women.
- Younger Arab women (under 40) make up a larger percentage of total breast cancer cases in their countries than do their counterparts in “western” countries.

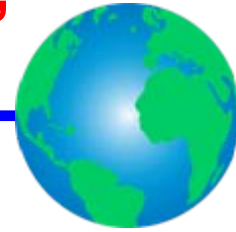
Death from Cancer as % of Total Deaths



Year 2002: **6.7 million**
Cancer killed more than people around the world

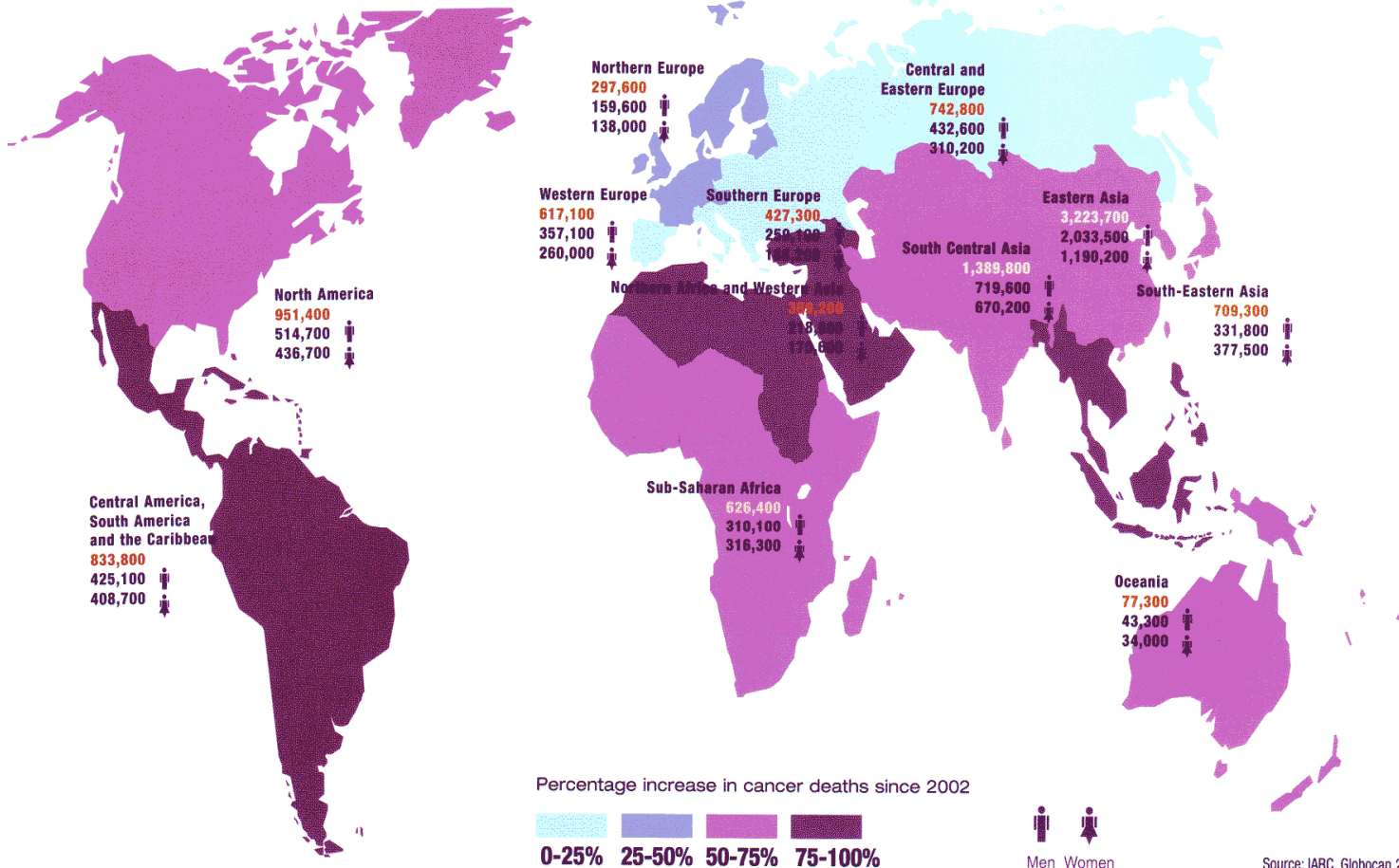


Death from Cancer is a “Growth Industry”



By **2020**,
cancer **could kill**

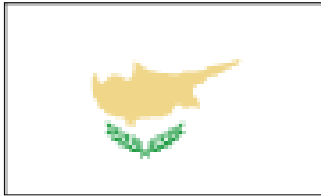
10.3 million
people per year unless we act



Source: IARC, Globocan 2002



Middle East Cancer Consortium Formed in 1996 by MoH Agreement



Cyprus



Jordan



Egypt



Palestinian Authority



Israel

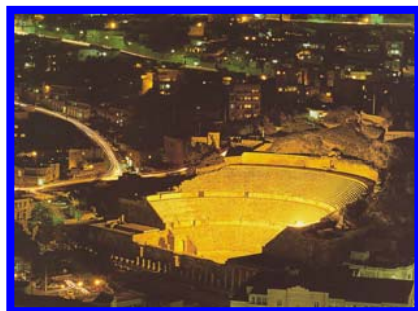


Turkey
(2003)



● = MECC-affiliated cancer registry

MECC-Affiliated Cancer Registries



Amman



Bethlehem



Gaza City



Nicosia



Izmir



Jerusalem



Tanta



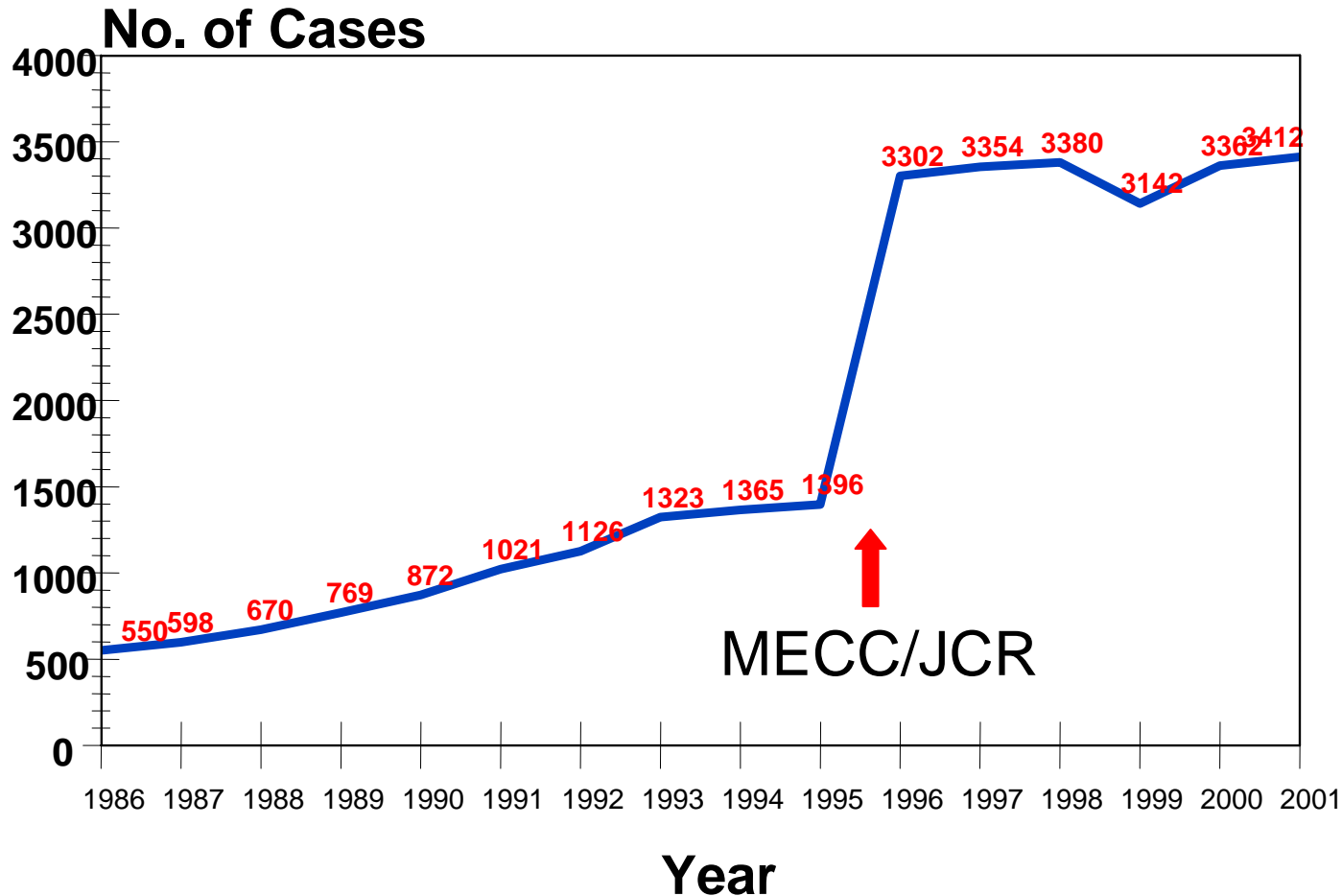
NCI Has Supported 7 Population-Based Registries *via* MECC



Country	Designated Region	Approximate Population
Cyprus	Cypriot government-controlled Cyprus	700,000
Egypt	Gharbia	3,400,000
Israel	All Israel	6,200,000
Jordan	All Jordan	5,000,000
Palestinian Authority	Gaza and the West Bank	Gaza 1,000,000
		West Bank 1,500,000
Turkey	Izmir	3,400,000

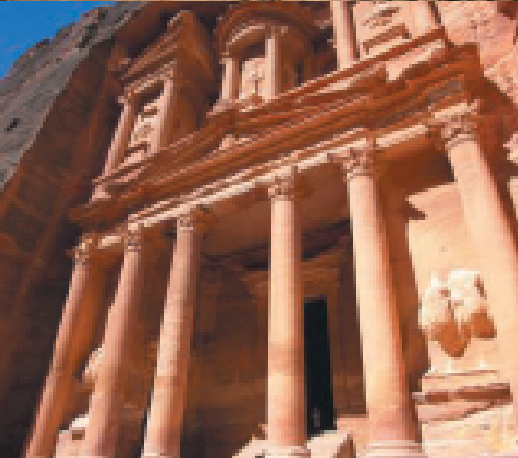


Cancer in Jordan After MECC and the Jordan Cancer Registry



Conclusion: Few events are more carcinogenic than eliminating underestimation by starting a cancer registry.

Cancer Incidence in
Four Member Countries
(Cyprus, Egypt,
Israel, and Jordan)
of the
Middle East Cancer
Consortium (MECC)
Compared with
US SEER





Cancer Incidence in Four Member Countries (Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, and Jordan) of the Middle East Cancer Consortium (MECC) Compared with US SEER

EDITED BY
LAURENCE S. FREEDMAN
BRENDA K. EDWARDS
LYNN A. G. RIES
JOHN L. YOUNG

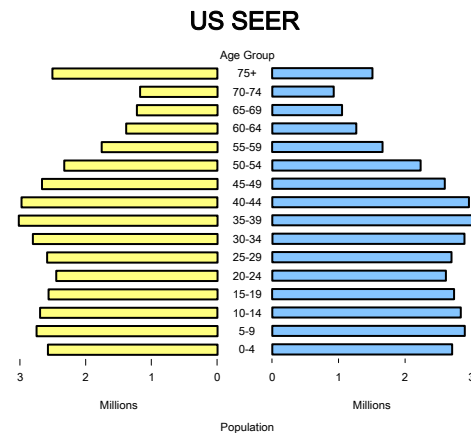
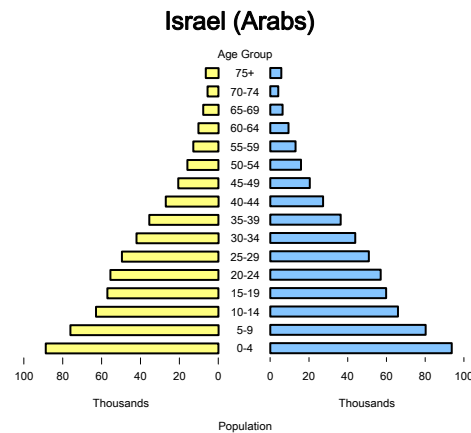
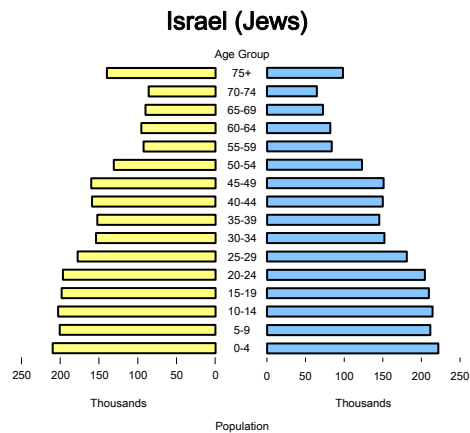
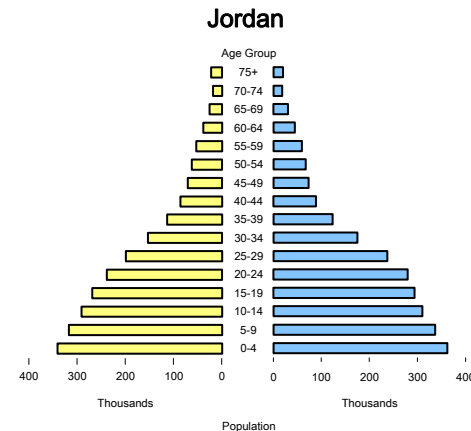
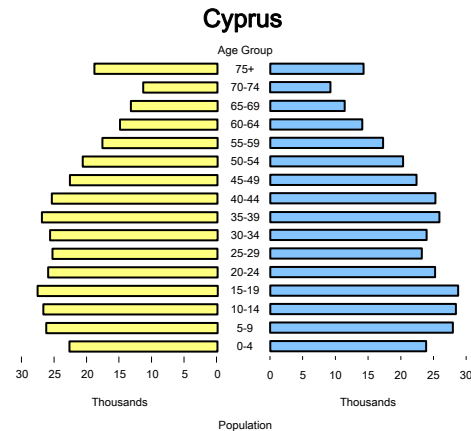
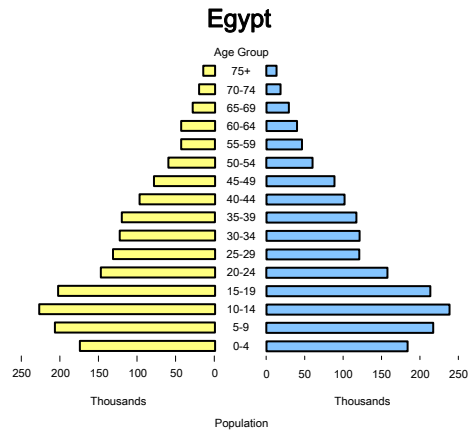


MECC Monograph Chapters



- **Overview and Summary Data**
- **Esophageal Cancer**
- **Stomach Cancer**
- **Colorectal Cancer**
- **Liver and Intrahepatic Bile Duct Cancer**
- **Lung Cancer**
- **Laryngeal Cancer**
- **Breast Cancer**
- **Cervix and Corpus Uterine Cancer**
- **Ovarian Cancer**
- **Urinary Bladder Cancer**
- **Brain and Other Central Nervous System Cancer**
- **Thyroid Cancer**
- **Lymphoma and Leukemia**
- **Childhood Cancer**

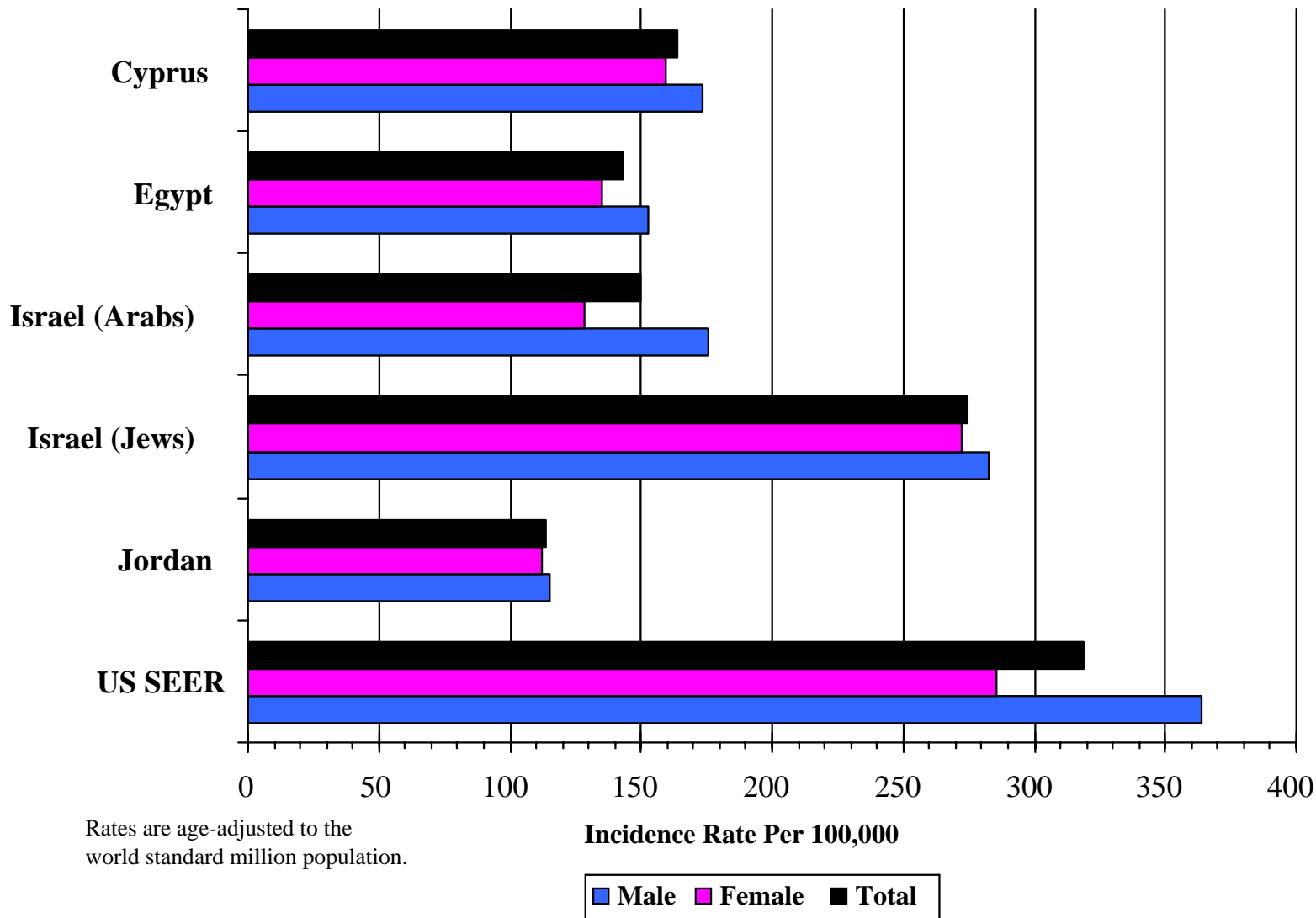
Age Distribution Pyramids in MECC Populations



Females
 Males

All Sites Cancer Incidence

Israel & Jordan 1996-2001; Cyprus 1998-2001; Egypt & US 1999-2001



Most Common Cancers in Men In the Monograph Populations



Schwartz et al.

Cyprus	Israel Jews	Egypt	Israel Arabs	Jordan	USA- SEER
Prostate	Prostate	Bladder	Lung	Lung	Prostate
Bladder	Colorect	NHL	Colorect	Bladder	Lung
Lung	Bladder	Liver	Prostate	Colorect	Colorect
Colorect	Lung	Lung	Bladder	Leukemia	Bladder
NHL	NHL	Leukemia	NHL	Prostate	NHL

Prostate

Lung

Colorect

Bladder

Leukemia

*Schwartz et al. used a list of Arab/Chaldean names to interrogate the Detroit SEER database (1973-2002) and found high Proportional Incidence Ratios for Liver, Myelomma, Kidney, Leuk,& Bladder compared to non-Arab white men.

Most Common Cancers in Women In the Monograph Populations



Schwartz et al.*

Cyprus	Israel Jews	Egypt	Israel Arabs	Jordan	USA- SEER
Breast	Breast	Breast	Breast	Breast	Breast
Colorect	Colorect	NHL	Colorect	Colorect	Lung
Corpus	NHL	Leukemia	NHL	Leukemia	Colorect
Ovary	Corpus	Ovary	Thyroid	Thyroid	Corpus
Thyroid	Lung	Bladder	Corpus	NHL	NHL

Breast

Cervix

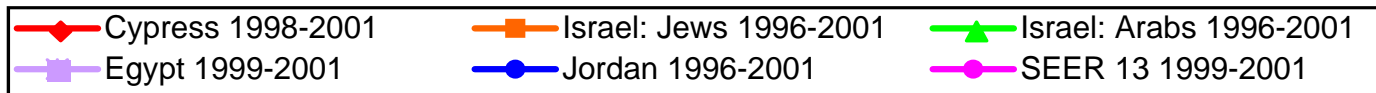
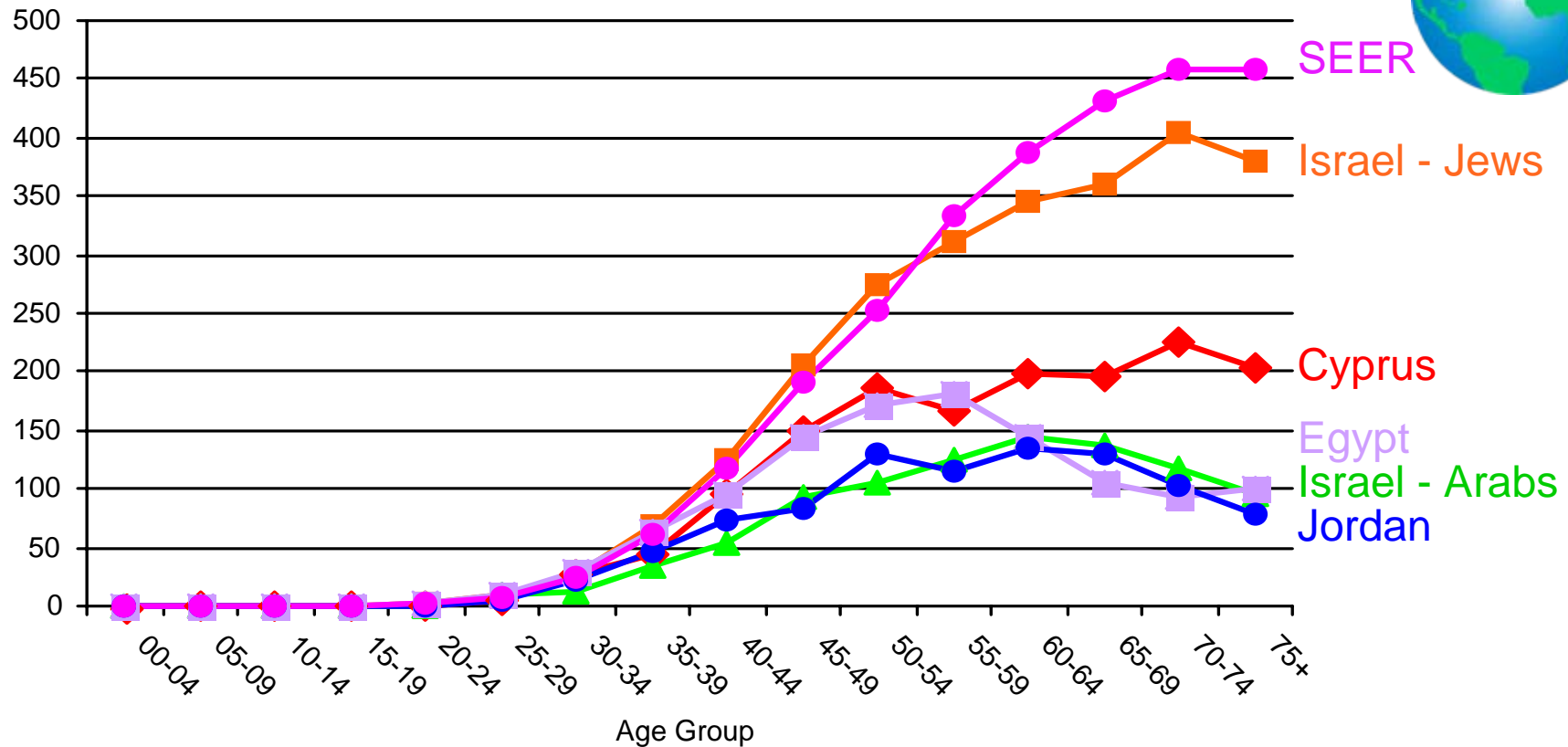
Lung

Colorect

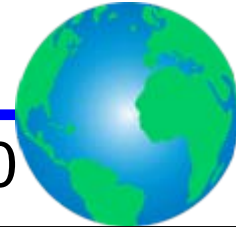
Corpus

*Schwartz et al. used a list of Arab/Chaldean names to interrogate the Detroit SEER database (1973-2002) and found high Proportional Incidence Ratios for Thyroid, Brain, and Leukemia compared to non-Arab white women.

Breast Cancer Incidence Rates



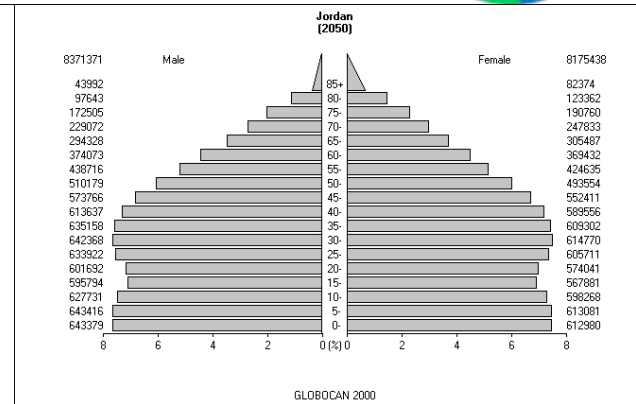
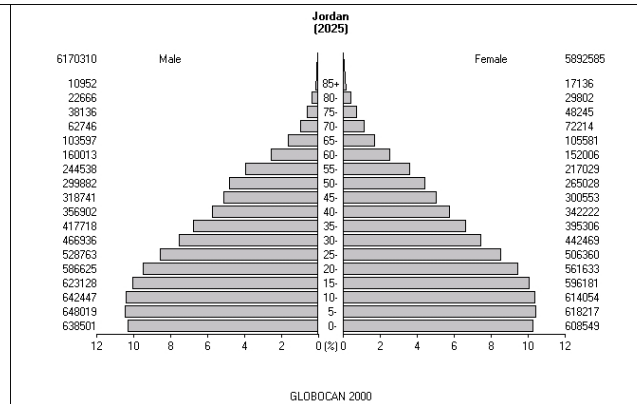
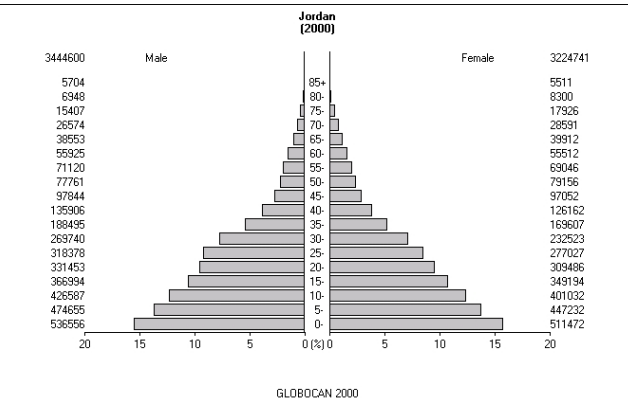
Jordanian Population Pyramids & Projections re. Breast Cancer



2000

2025

2050



Projected Jordanian Population:

3.2M (100%)

5.9M (183%)

8.2M (254%)

Projected Breast Cancer Cases Per Year:

641 (100%)

1672 (261%)

3352 (523%)

Projected Breast Cancer Deaths Per Year:

288 (100%)

758 (263%)

1530 (531%)





National Cancer Institute

U.S. National Institutes of Health | www.cancer.gov

Search

GO

- [NCI Home](#)
- [Cancer Topics](#)
- [Clinical Trials](#)
- [Cancer Statistics](#)
- [Research & Funding](#)
- [News](#)
- [About NCI](#)

Office of International Affairs



Page Options

- [Print This Page](#)
- [E-Mail This Document](#)

Quick Links

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [Dictionary of Cancer Terms](#)
- [NCI Drug Dictionary](#)
- [Funding Opportunities](#)
- [NCI Publications](#)
- [Advisory Boards and Groups](#)
- [NIH Calendar of Events](#)
- [Español](#)

Questions about cancer?

- 1-800-4-CAICER
- [LiveHelp@online chat](#)
- [E-mail](#)

NCI Highlights

- [Data on Genetic Risk for Prostate Cancer Released](#)

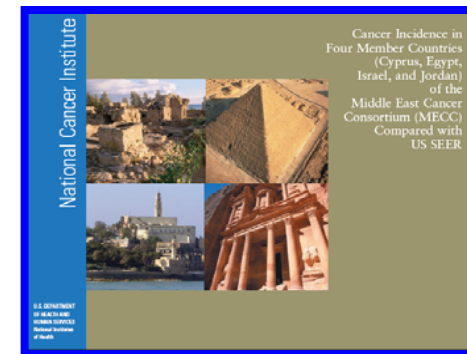
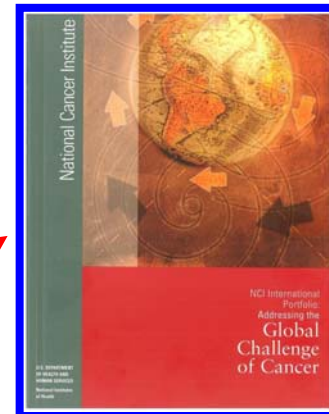
The Office of International Affairs (OIA) of the National Cancer Institute coordinates the Institute's worldwide activities in a number of arenas, including: Liaison with foreign and international agencies; coordination of cancer research activities under agreements between the US and other countries; planning and implementation of international scientist exchange programs; sponsorship of international workshops; and dissemination of cancer information.

Calling Attention To...

- [NCI International Portfolio](#): an overview of the breadth and depth of NCI's international cancer control and research programs, as well as brief descriptions of NCI's international collaborations and research efforts.
- [MECC Monograph](#): Cancer Incidence in Four Member Countries (Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, and Jordan) of the Middle East Cancer Consortium (MECC) Compared with US SEER. March 2006.
- [NCI Cancer Bulletin](#): Special International Issue

Scientist Exchange Program: OIA sponsors an international scientist exchange program for applicants from developing countries with at least three years postdoctoral cancer research experience. For traditional postdoctoral fellowships, please see information on the [NIH Visiting Program](#).

- [Identifying a Sponsor for OIA Scientist Exchanges](#)
- [Short-Term Scientist Exchange Program](#)



NATIONAL
CANCER
INSTITUTE



Impressions or Evidence-Based? True or False?



- Younger Arab women (under 40) have higher rates of breast cancer than do their counterparts in “western” countries. **FALSE - At no age are Arab breast cancer rates higher than U.S. rates.**
- Younger Arab women (under 40) have higher rates of breast cancer than do older Arab women. **FALSE – Breast cancer rates continue to rise after age 40.**
- Younger Arab women (under 40) make up a larger percentage of total breast cancer cases in their countries than do their counterparts in “western” countries. **TRUE - The age structure of Arab countries are skewed toward younger ages with younger women being relatively abundant and older women relatively scarce.**