



Cancer prevalence in the Central region of Portugal in some selected topographies

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OBJECTIVES

Cancer prevalence data is vital to quantify the demand of health care services and to identify where resources, funding and personnel should be allocated. We aimed to compute cancer prevalence in the Central region of Portugal for some selected topographies.

METHODS

Data on 5285 individuals (aged > 14 years) with a diagnosis of an invasive cancer of the breast, cervix, prostate, stomach, colon/rectum and lung between 2005 and 2010 were collected from the *Registo Oncológico Regional do Centro* and followed until 31/07/2017. The limited duration prevalence (P), number of cases, was estimated considering incidence and survival, assuming that until 31/12/2014 there were no alive patients with a cancer diagnosis and that all cases diagnosed after 31/12/2014 were alive and with the disease at the date of prevalence. Survival was considered constant along the period. The ratio between prevalence and incidence (IPR) was also computed in order to estimate the relative change, liver and lung were collected from the *Registo Oncológico Regional do Centro* and followed until 31/07/2015.

RESULTS

Figure 1: Prevalent cases (%)

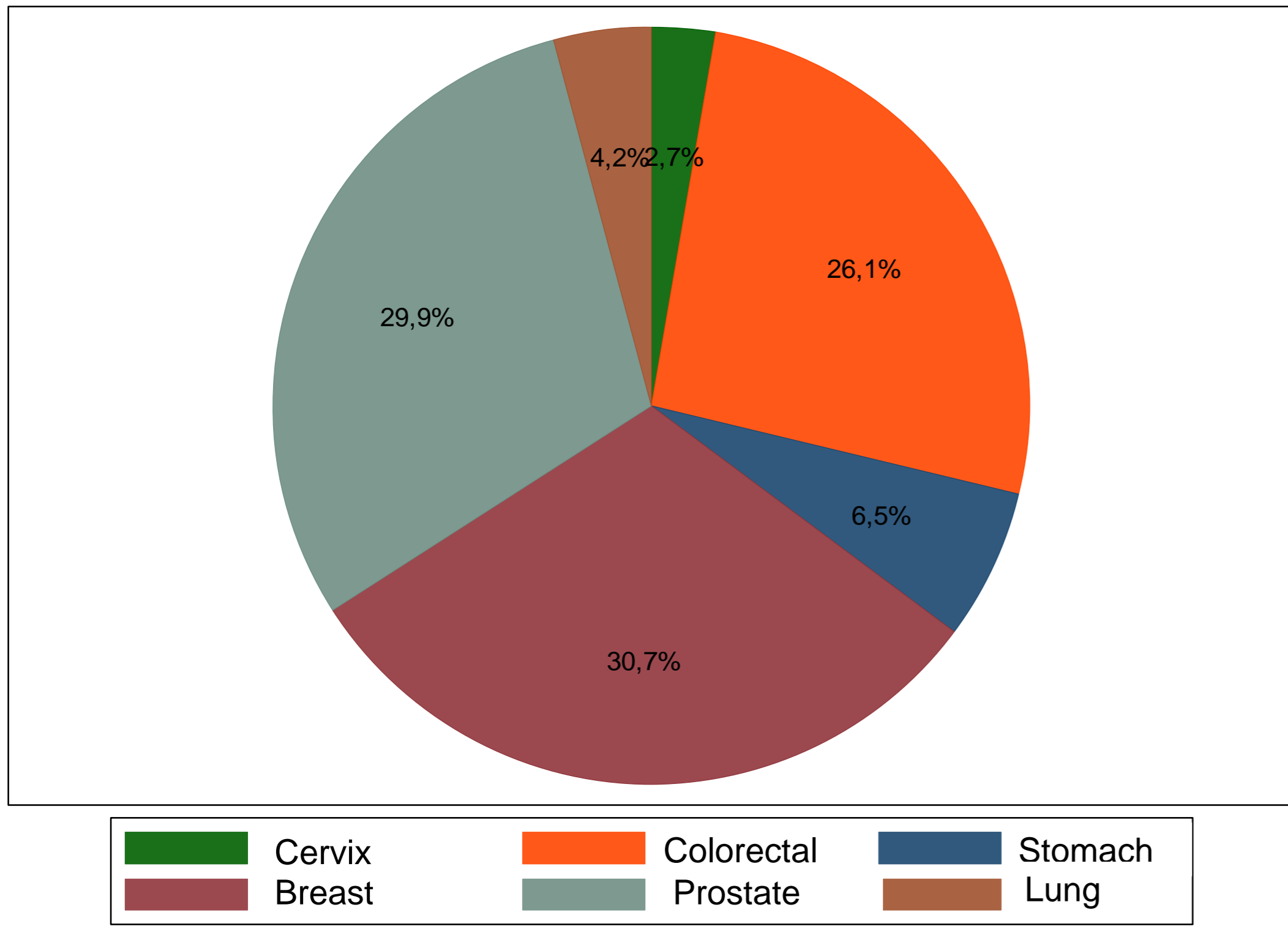
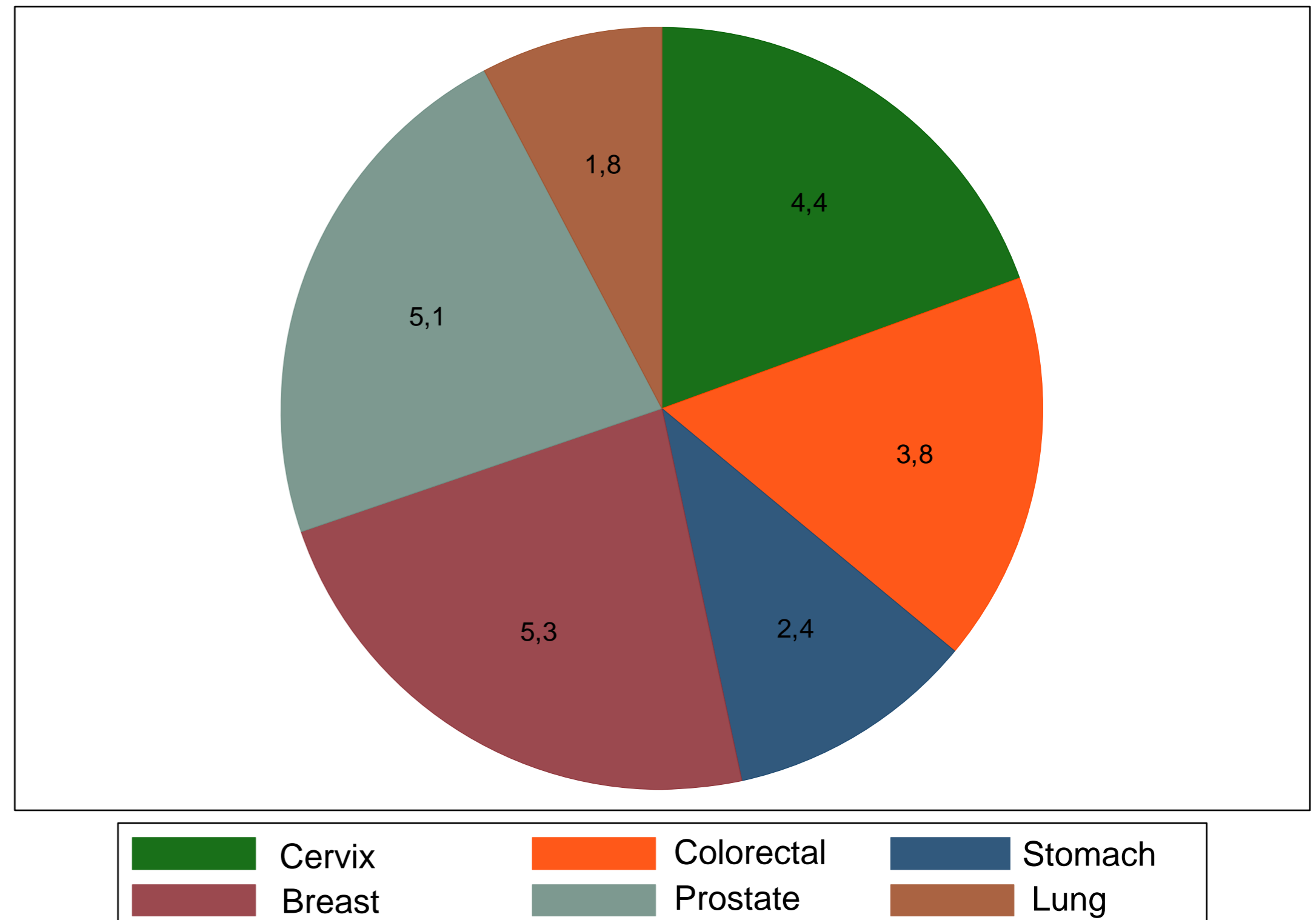


Figure 2: Prevalent cases/incident cases



A total of 21867 prevalent cases was estimated; 11400 in men and 10467 in women. Age variation was not homogeneous across all cancers. The more prevalent cases were breast, prostate and colorectal cancer, but those with a higher variation were those of the breast (IPR=5.3), prostate (IPR=5.1) and cervix (IPR=4.4).

Figure 3: Gender distribution (%)

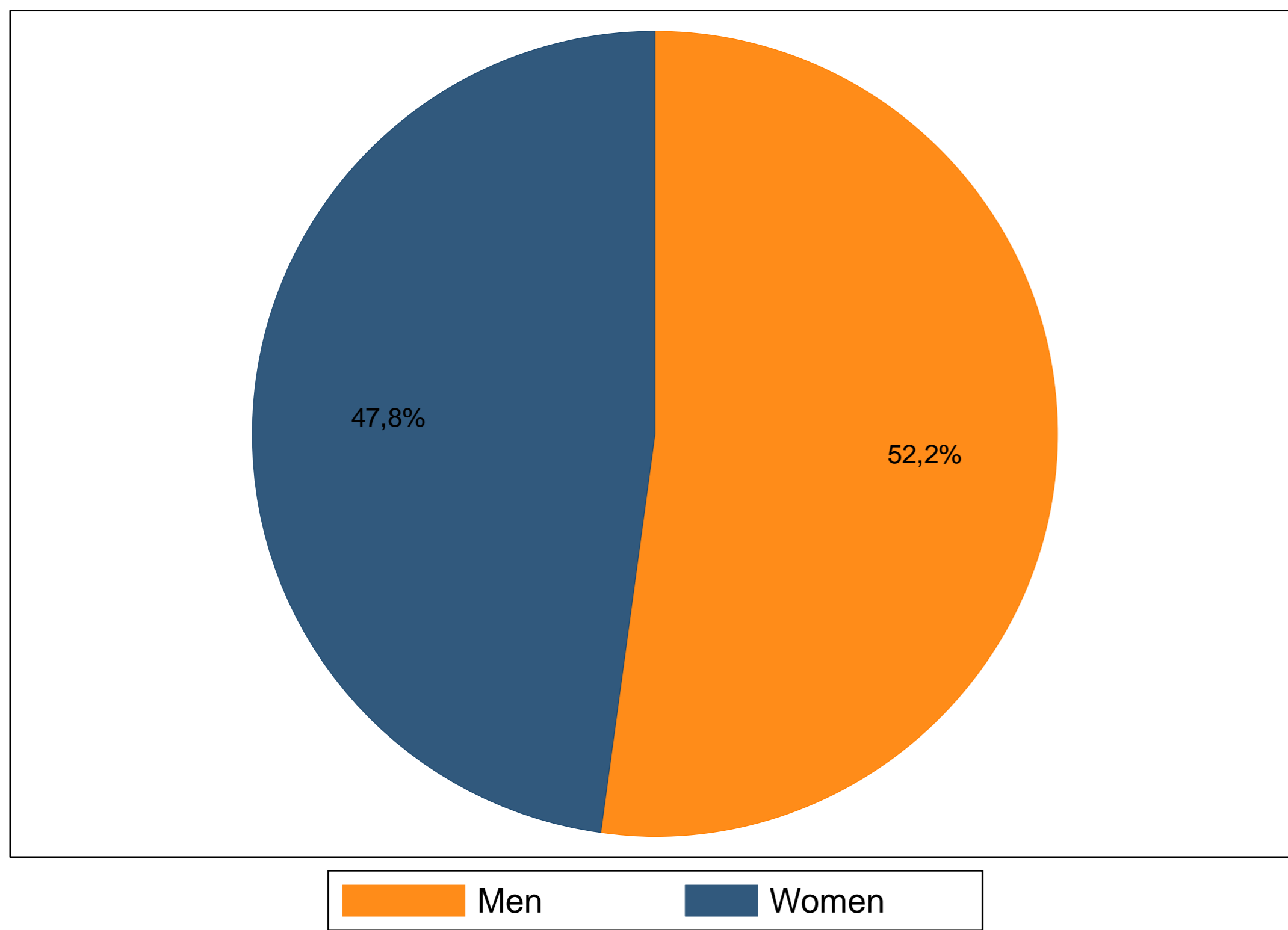
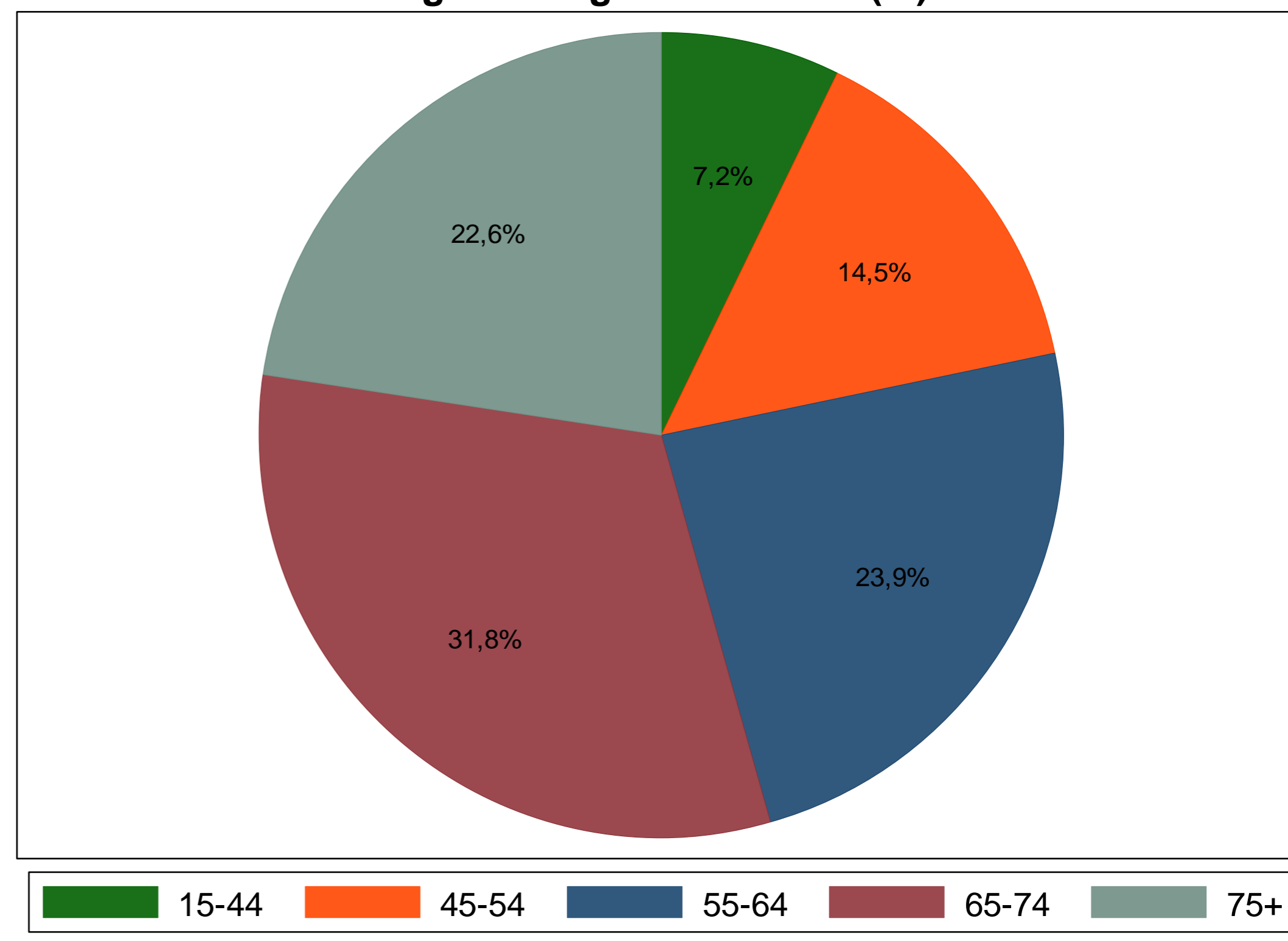


Figure 4: Age distribution (%)



Prevalence in women: breast, P=6731; stomach, P=611; colorectal, P=2252; cervix, P=588 and lung, P=285. Prevalence in men: prostate, P=6529; colorectal, P=3441; stomach, P=800 and lung, P=630.

Figure 5: Prevalent cases (%) in women

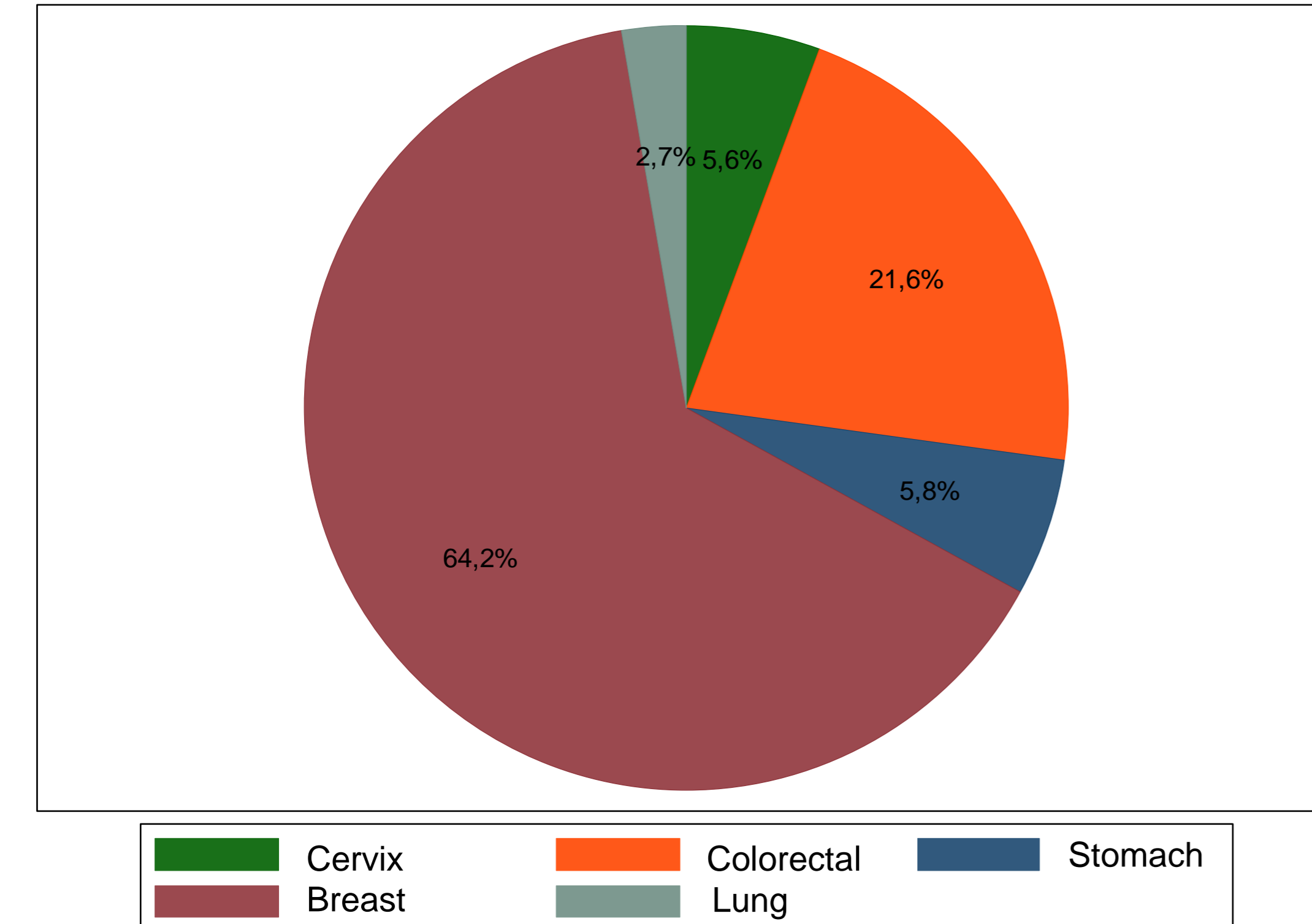
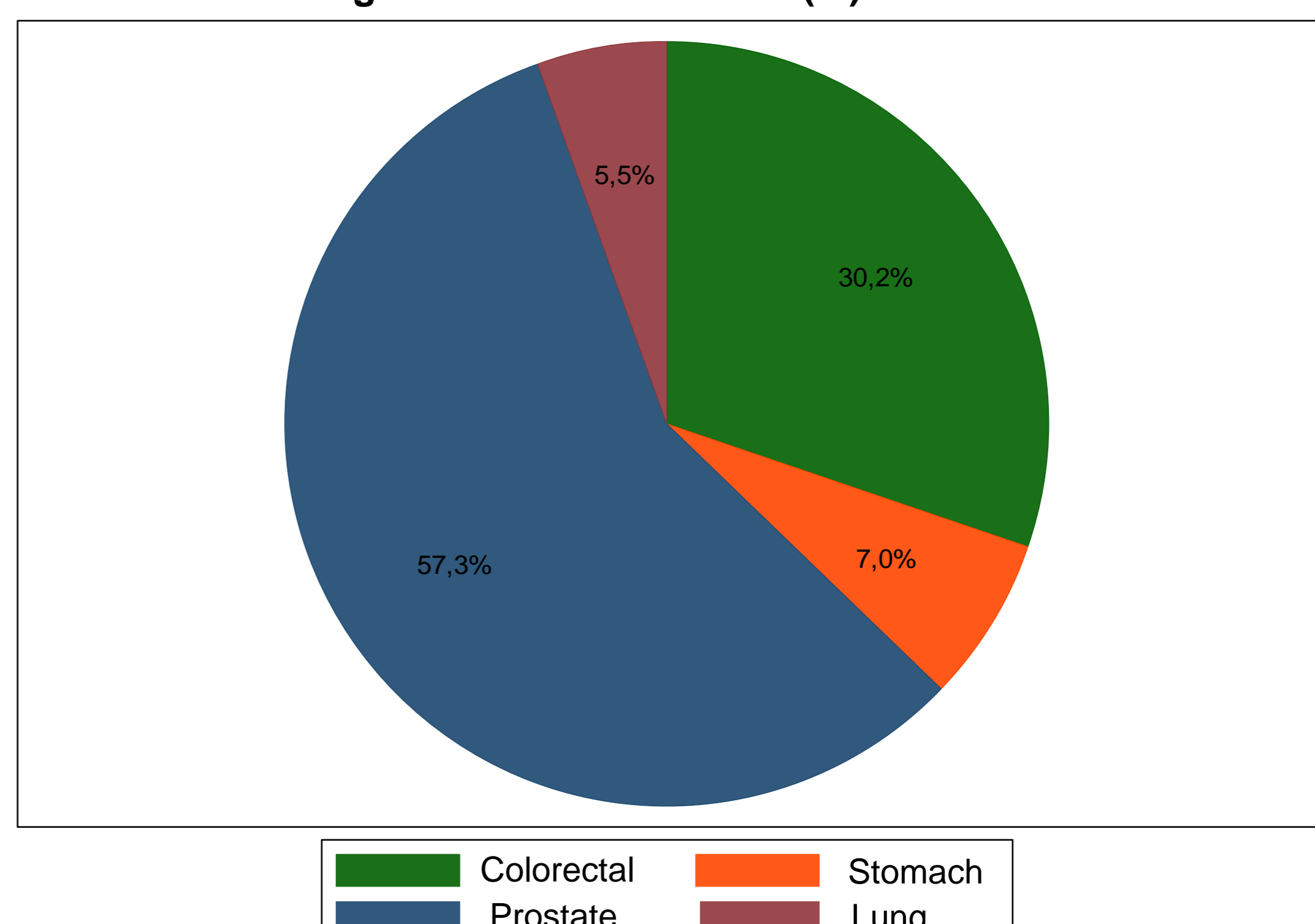


Figure 6: Prevalent cases (%) in men



DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS

The more frequent cancers in the Central Region of Portugal are those of the breast, prostate and colorectal cancer, but these are not necessarily the ones with a higher variation. Extrapolating our results to the entire country we expect to have approximately 153 339 cases for these main 5 topographic locations. Our data shows the importance of cancer burden in Portugal.