Cancers caused by smoking in Europe

Proportions of cancers and number of new cases each year that are attributable to tobacco smoking and could be prevented.

Europe summary

The 19.4% of cancer cases in Europe attributable to tobacco consists predominantly of cancer of the lung. Cancers of other sites account for 50% of cancers caused by smoking in Europe.

Preventable smoking related cancer cases

The charts below show, for each country in Europe, the overall percentage of all specified cancer sites attributable to smoking (the population attributable fraction or PAF). The PAF uses information on the risk of smoking, incidence of lung cancer which was used as a proxy for long-term smoking, and incidence of cancer in each country to calculate the proportion of cancers that could be avoided if no one smoked. Adjacent to each country name is the estimated number of new cases this represents for 2018.

Sources of information:

PAF range: Proportion of all cancers attributable to tobacco smoking
0 - 16.9% 17 - 18.9% 19 - 20.9% 21%+