

Overview of key statistics concerning child cancer diagnoses in New Zealand in 2023. More detail on the New Zealand Child Cancer Registry and snapshots from previous years can be found at childcancernetwork.org.nz/nzccr-overview

In 2023,

145 children were newly diagnosed with cancer

27 children had a cancer relapse

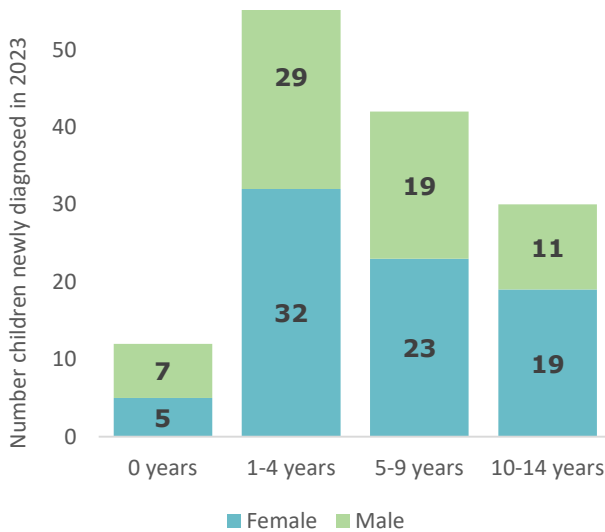
32 children on the registry died

An additional

26

patients aged 15 years or older were diagnosed and commenced treatment at a paediatric oncology centre

Age & Gender



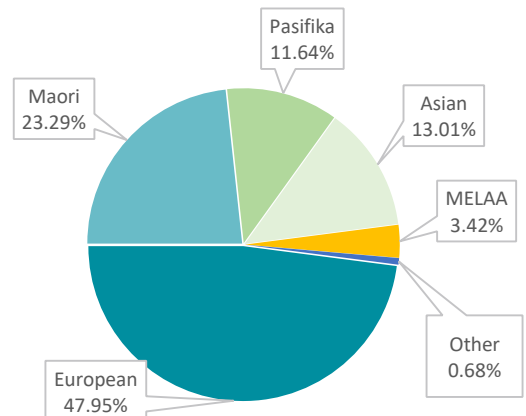
Unlike previous years, **more female children (54.8%)** were newly diagnosed with cancer than male children (45.2%) in 2023.

Almost 80% of new diagnoses were in children under 10 years of age.

Approximately **1 in 4** children newly diagnosed with cancer in 2023 identified as Māori*, and **1 in 8** identified as Pasifika*.

A higher proportion of children identified as Middle Eastern, Latin American, African (MELAA) were diagnosed with cancer in 2023 compared to previous years.

*Ethnicity is reported using Prioritised Ethnicity Output.



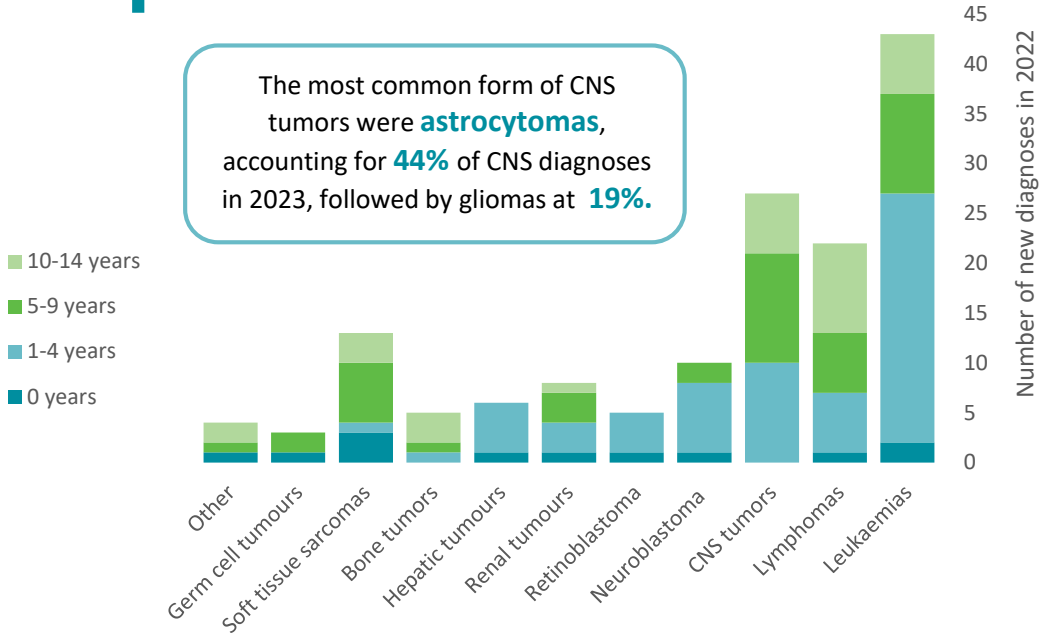
About this dataset

The NZCCR captures data on children aged 0-14 years *diagnosed with cancer* in New Zealand. This snapshot report does not include patients referred to paediatric oncology centres from overseas, those who are aged 15 years and over, or children who are diagnosed with a non-malignant/other haematological condition. As many childhood cancers require several years of treatment, the number of patients *undergoing treatment* each year is substantially higher.

Annual Cases by Diagnostic Group

Acute Lymphoid Leukaemia was the most common subgroup of childhood cancers diagnosed in 2023. **84%** of leukaemia diagnoses belonged to this subgroup, making up **25%** of all childhood cancer diagnoses in 2023.

The most common form of CNS tumors were **astrocytomas**, accounting for **44%** of CNS diagnoses in 2023, followed by gliomas at **19%**.



MOST COMMON CANCER TYPE BY AGE GROUP

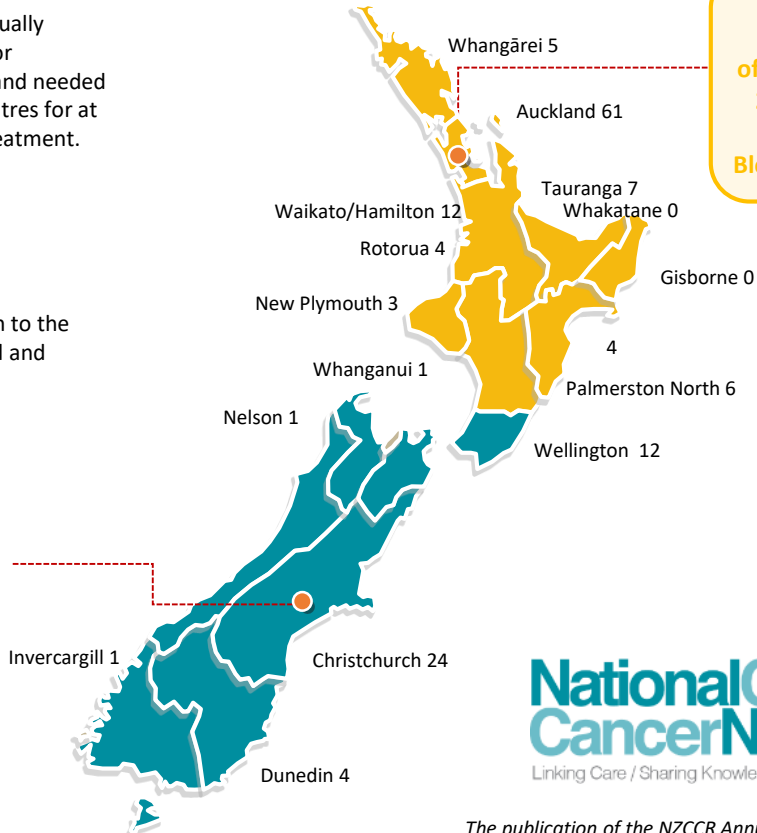
Less than 1: Soft Tissue Sarcoma (25%), Leukaemia (17%)
 1-4 years: Leukaemia (41%), CNS Tumours (16%)
 5-9 years: Leukaemia (24%), CNS Tumours (14%) Soft Tissue Sarcoma (14%),
 10-14 years : Lymphoma (30%), Leukaemia (20%), CNS Tumours (20%)

49% of families did not usually live in the Auckland or Christchurch region and needed to travel to the specialist cancer centres for at least some of their child's cancer treatment.

>100 km
 These families travelled over 100km to the specialist cancer centres in Auckland and Christchurch.

73%
 of children diagnosed in 2023 lived in regions covered by Starship Blood and Cancer Centre

27%
 of children diagnosed in 2023 lived in regions covered by the Children's Haematology Oncology Centre in Christchurch



National Child Cancer Network NZ
 Linking Care / Sharing Knowledge / Advancing Best Practice