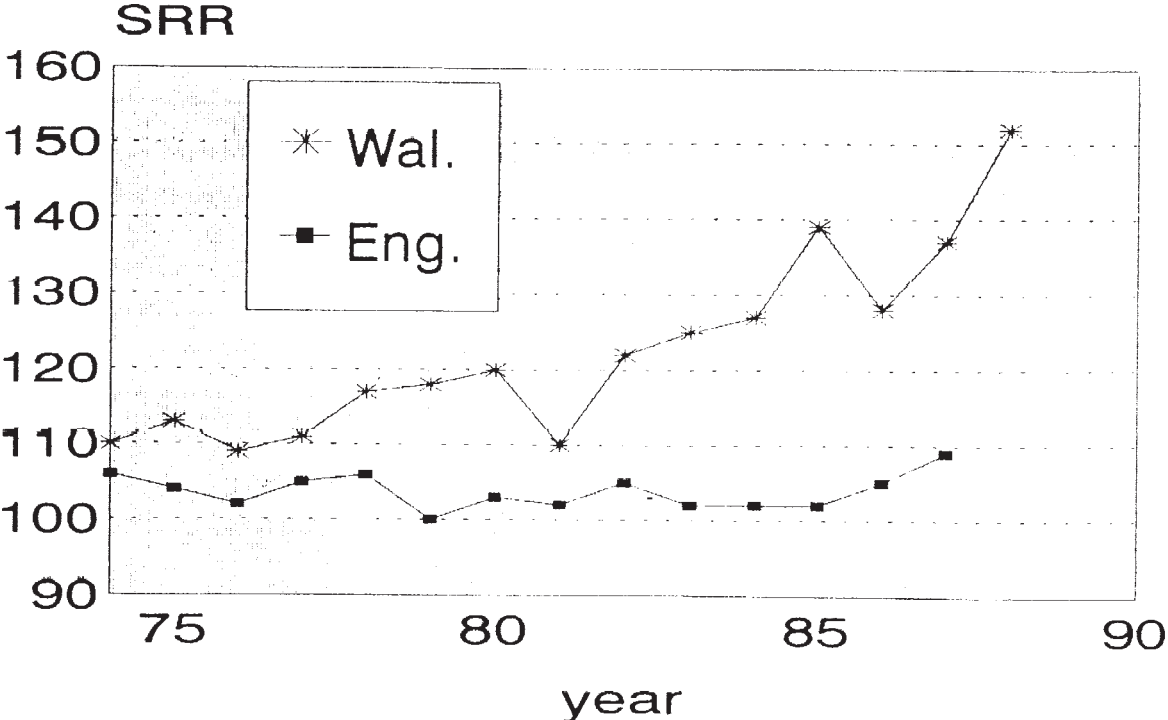


Cancer of the female breast is now the most prevalent cause of premature death in women. Incidence trends in Wales and in England and Wales are compared in the figure. The Wales incidence began to diverge upwards from the average for England and Wales in the mid-1970s and continued to increase. The England and Wales combined rate appears to have begun increasing somewhat later.



Female breast cancer SRR in Wales (upper line) and in England and Wales combined (1979 = 100)
 Source: OPCS, MBI; Wales Cancer Registry