Short-term survival of children with cancer in Great Britain

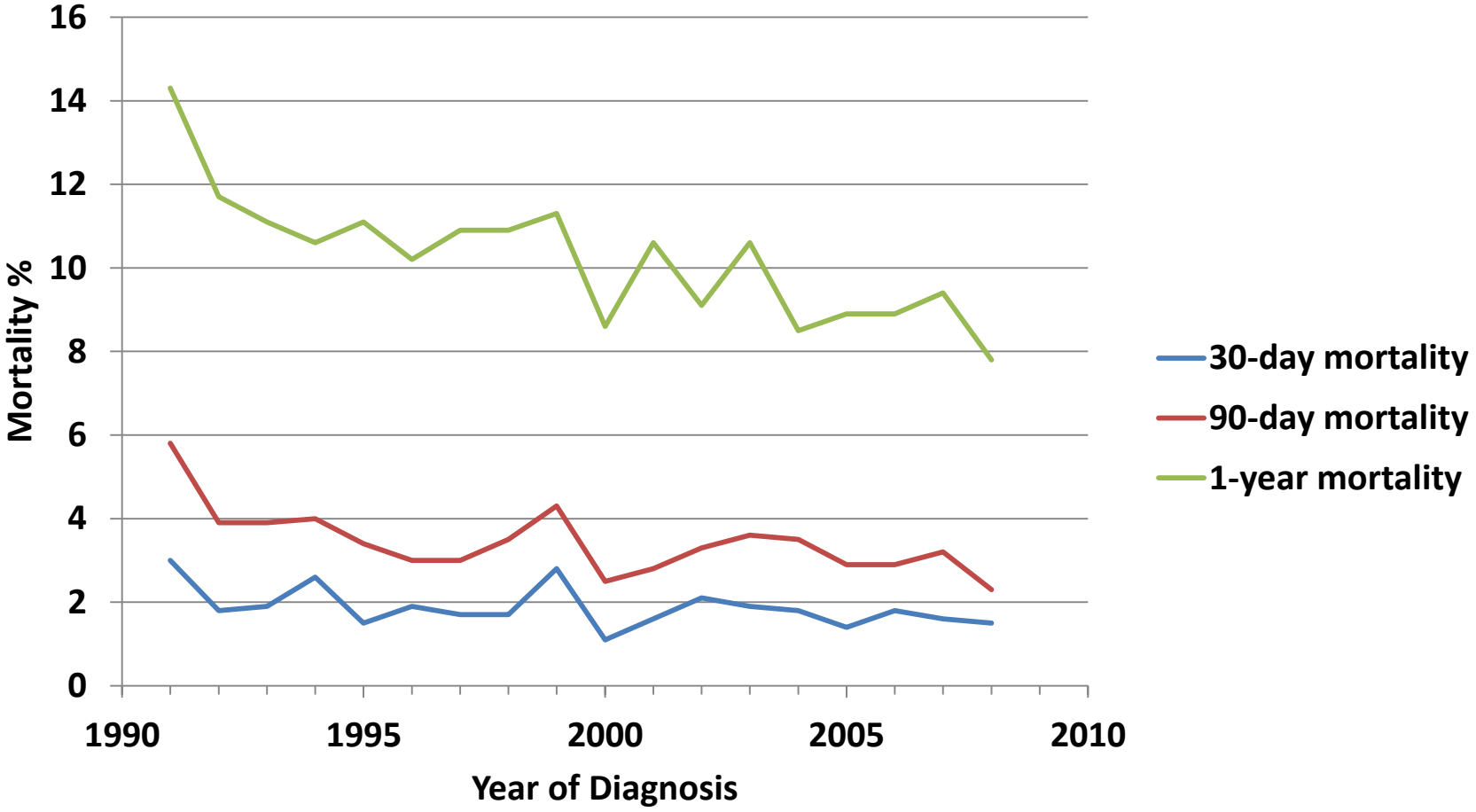
NCIN Children, Teenagers & Young Adults Workshop

31 October 2012

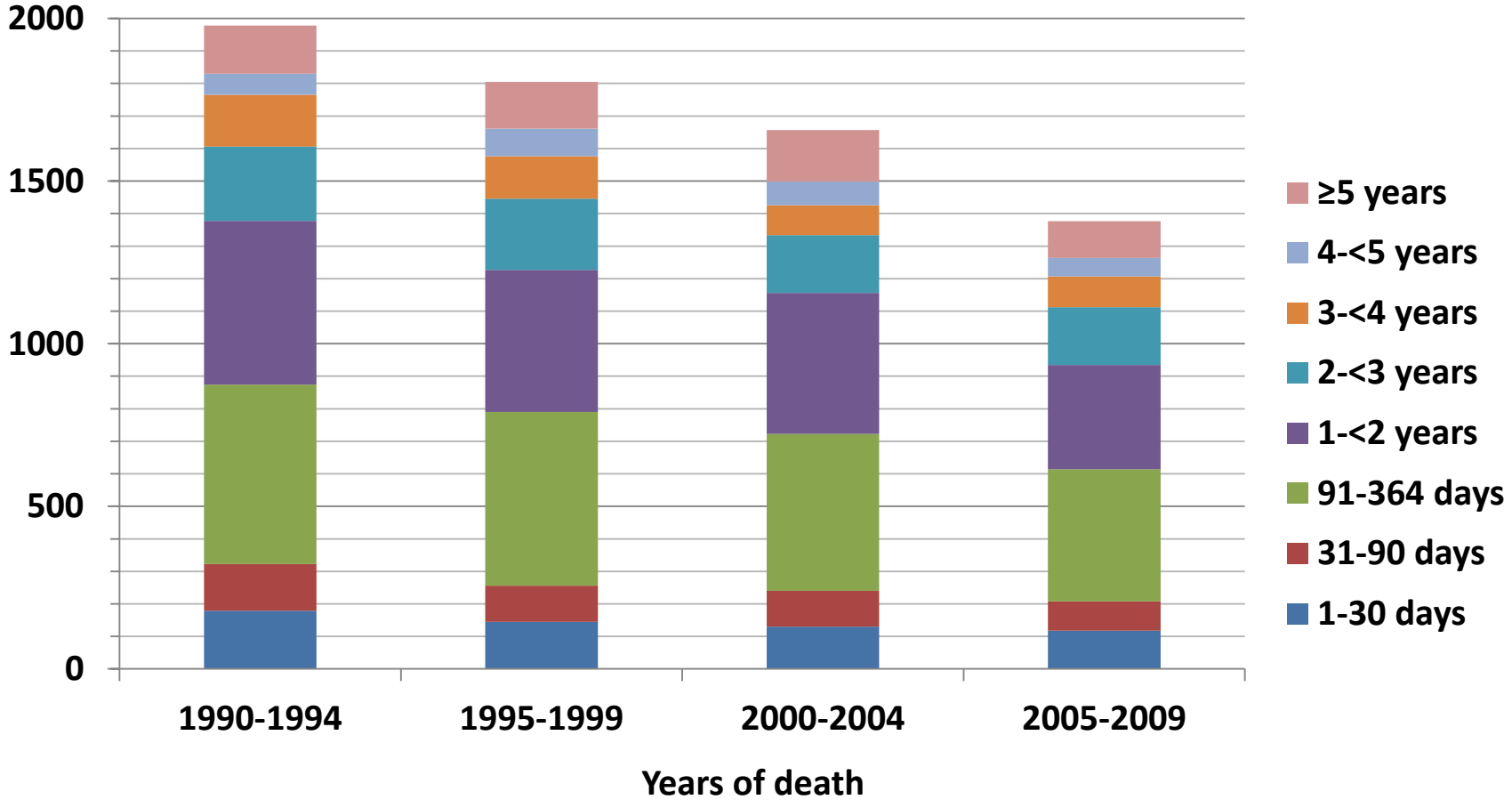
Background

- Survival rates are high for childhood cancer overall and for most types of childhood cancer
- Greatest risk of dying is in first year after diagnosis
- It is commonly believed that low short-term survival represents impact of delayed diagnosis as well as treatment-related mortality
- Reductions in short-term mortality could make important contribution to increasing long-term survival

Early Mortality by Year of Diagnosis
All Childhood Cancers, Great Britain,1991-2008



Children with previous cancer diagnosis dying at age <15, Great Britain, 1990-2009
Interval from diagnosis to death, by year of death



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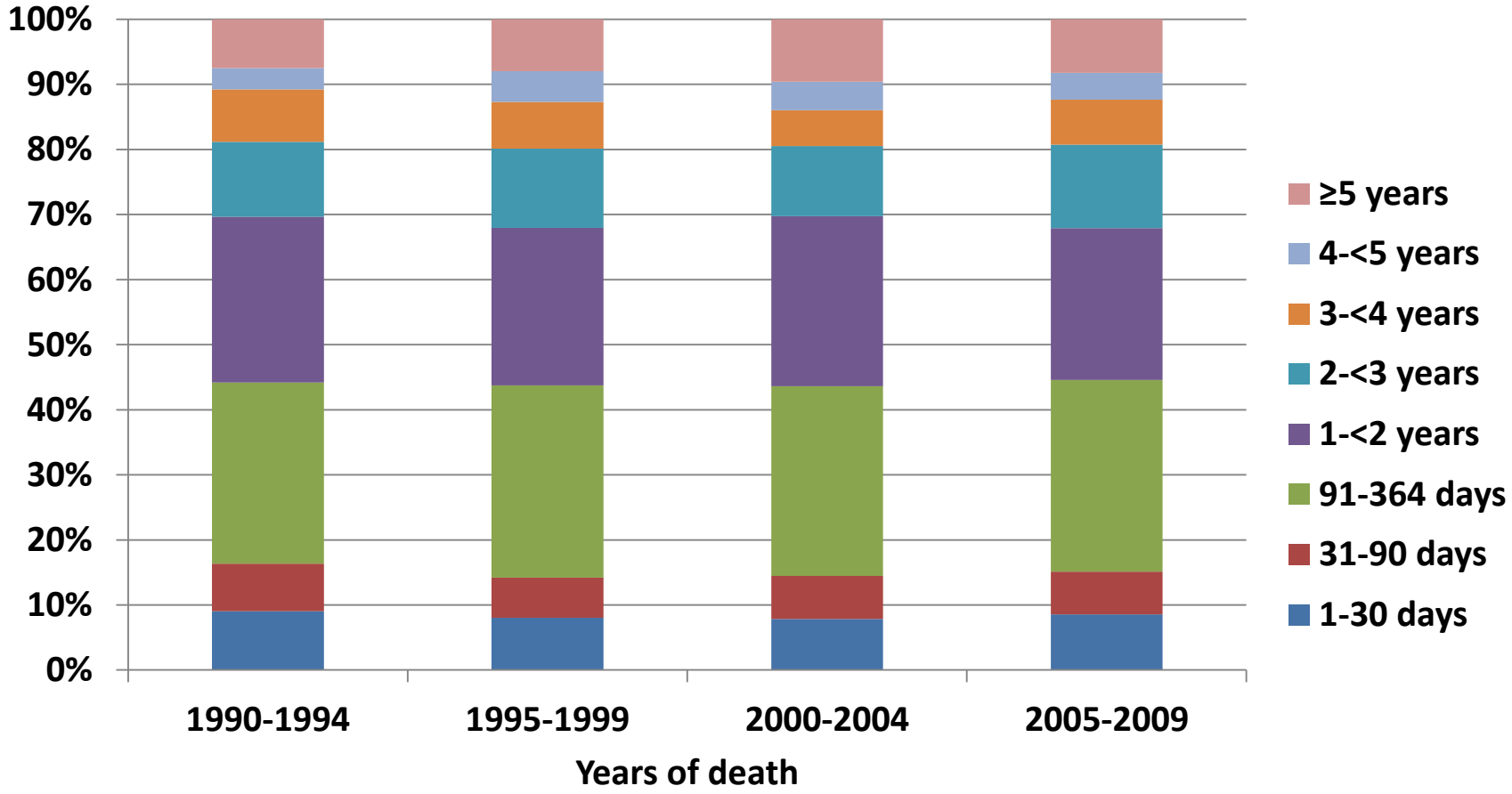
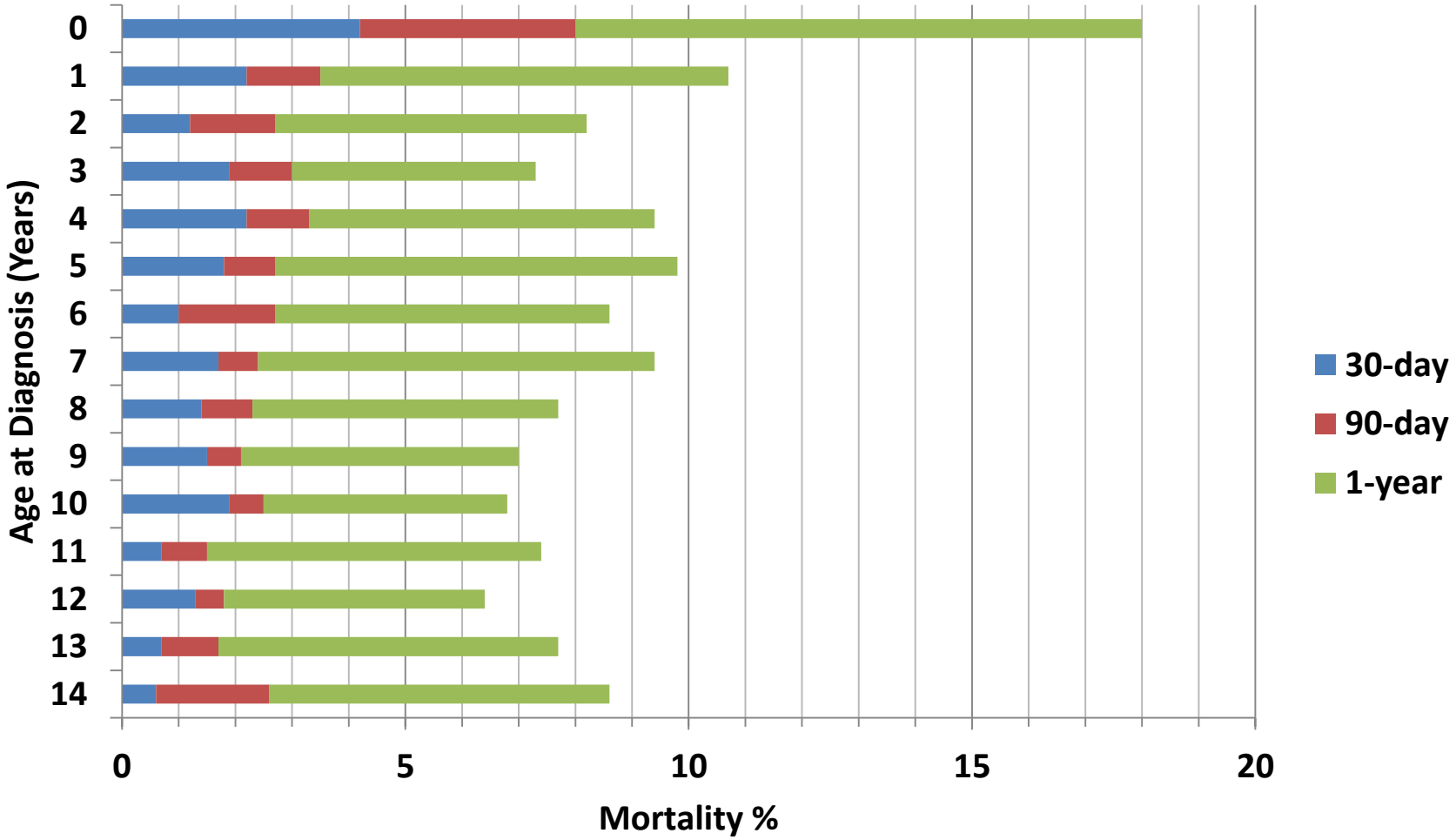
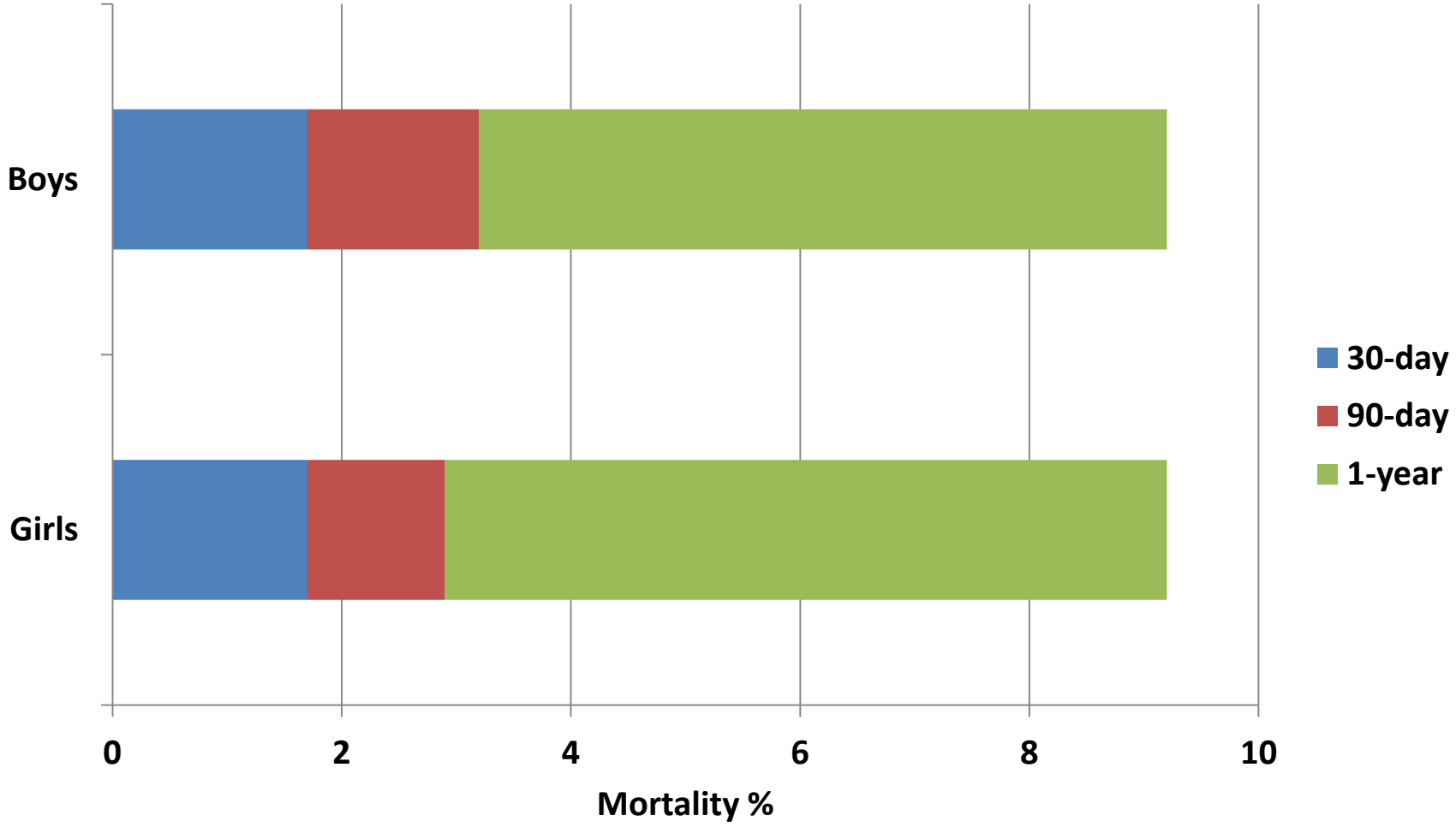


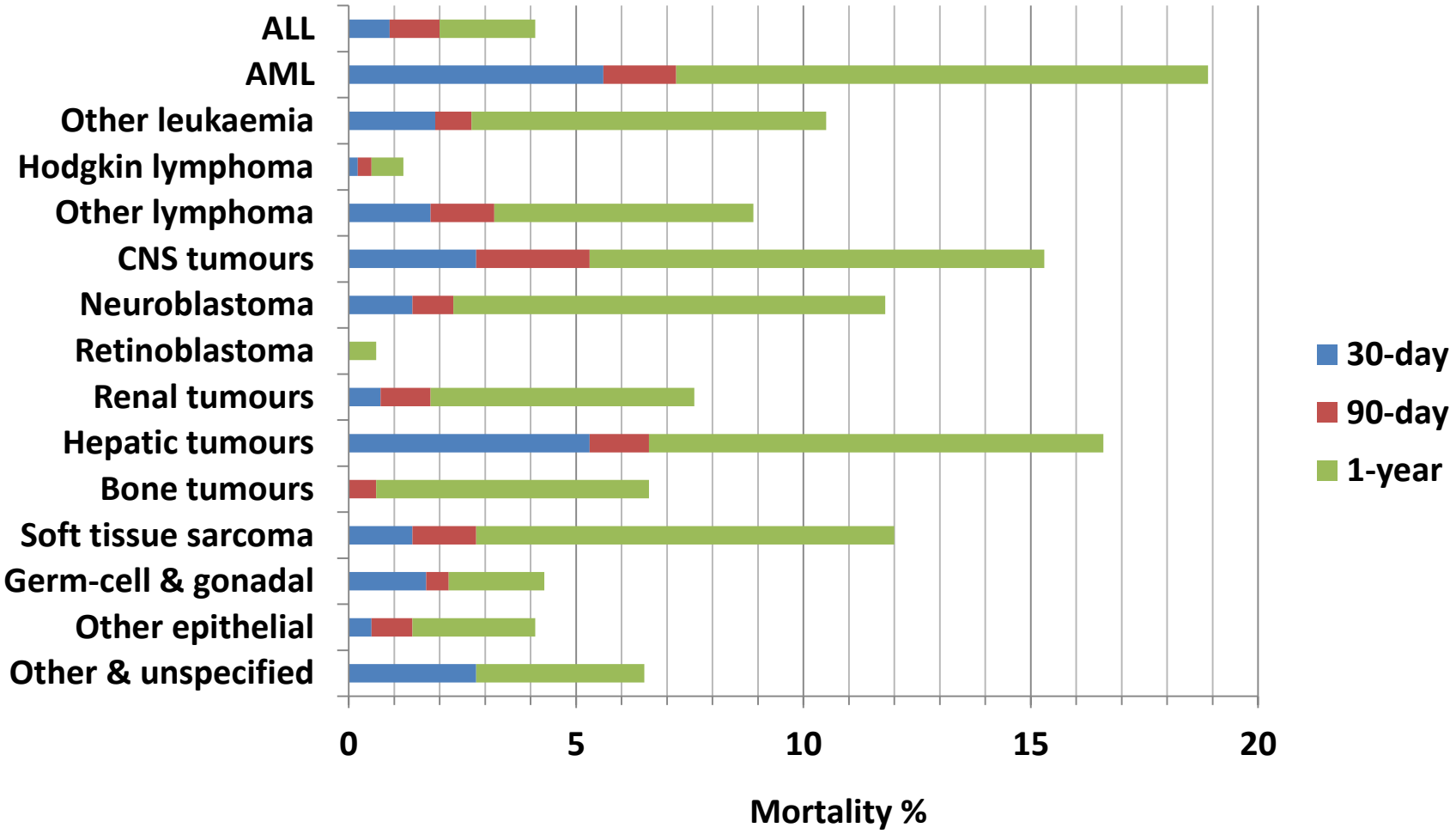
Early Mortality by Age Group
All Childhood Cancers, Great Britain, 2001-2008



Early Mortality by Sex
All Childhood Cancers, Great Britain, 2001-2008



Early Mortality by Diagnostic Group
All Childhood Cancers, Great Britain, 2001-2008



Conclusions

Short-term survival of children with cancer is very high

- **<2% die within 30 days from diagnosis**
- **<10% die within 1 year from diagnosis**

Conclusions

Groups of patients with highest early mortality and correspondingly greatest scope for improving short-term survival are:

- **Infants under 1 year of age at diagnosis**
- **Children with acute myeloid leukaemia**
- **Children with CNS tumours**
- **Children with hepatic tumours**

Further Work

For Data Briefing to be published soon

- Include 2009 diagnoses
- Extend analyses of 2001-2009 to be UK-wide by including N Ireland data

For report

- Describe causes of death
- Is there any geographical variation?