

















Cancer screening programmes at a glance

October 2024

 Bowel	England 	Scotland 	Wales 	Northern Ireland 
Age	54–74 [a]	50–74	50–74 [b]	60–74
Frequency	2 yearly. On request from 75		2 yearly	
Threshold	120 µg/g	80 µg/g	80 µg/g	120 µg/g
Test	FIT			
Uptake [c]	70% (2022-23)	66% (2021-23)	67% (2021-22)	58% (2022-23)

 Breast	England 	Scotland 	Wales 	Northern Ireland 
Age	50–70			
Frequency	3 yearly. On request over 70			
Test	Mammography			
Uptake [c]	65% (2022-23)	76% (2022-23)	69% (2019-20)	74% (2022-23)

 Cervix	England 	Scotland 	Wales 	Northern Ireland 
Age	25–64			
Frequency [d]	25–49: 3 yearly 50–64: 5 yearly HPV +ve: yearly	5 yearly HPV +ve: yearly		25–49: 3 yearly 50–64: 5 yearly HPV +ve: yearly
Test	HPV primary testing LBC triage if HPV positive			
Coverage [c]	69% (2022-23)	69% (2021-22)	70% (2021-22)	66% (2022-23)

 Lung [e]
Targeted lung cancer screening will be rolled out in England with a focus on reaching 100% of the eligible population by 2030. Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have begun scoping the requirements of a programme.

[a] People aged 50–59 will be invited to participate, as a phased approach over the next few years. [b] Wales will invite people aged 50 to participate between October 2024 and July 2025. [c] Caution should be taken when making comparisons across countries due to differences in time periods of data, changes to age ranges and/or differences in the definitions of coverage and uptake of screening. [d] Local guidance will detail people who may request cervical screening outside the recommended age range. [e] The UK National Screening Committee recommended targeted lung cancer screening across the UK in September 2022 for people aged 55 to 74 with a GP record including a history of smoking. FIT: Faecal Immunochemical Test LBC: Liquid Based Cytology HPV: Human Papillomavirus LDCT: Low-dose Computerised Tomography
Data sources: England: Fingertips (bowel), NHS Digital (breast and cervical). Scotland: Public Health Scotland. Wales: Public Health Wales. Northern Ireland: Public Health Agency (bowel and cervical), Northern Ireland Breast Screening Programme (breast)