

















Cancer screening programmes at a glance

July 2025

| | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|
|  Bowel | England  | Scotland  | Wales  | Northern Ireland  |
| Age | 50–74 [a] | 50–74 | | 60–74 |
| Frequency | 2 yearly. On request from 75 | | 2 yearly | |
| Threshold | 120 µg/g | 80 µg/g | | 120 µg/g |
| Test | FIT | | | |
| Uptake [b] | 71% (2023–24) | 66% (2023–24) | | 67% (2023–24) |

|  Breast | England  | Scotland  | Wales  | Northern Ireland  |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| Age | 50–70 | | | |
| Frequency | 3 yearly. On request over 70 | | | |
| Test | Mammography | | | |
| Uptake [b] | 70% (2023–24) | 76% (2022–23) | 70% (2021–22) | 74% (2023–24) |

|  Cervical | England  | Scotland  | Wales  | Northern Ireland  |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| Age | 25–64 [c] | | | |
| Frequency | 5 yearly HPV +ve: yearly | | | 25–49: 3 yearly 50–64: 5 yearly HPV +ve: yearly |
| Test | HPV primary testing Cytology triage if HPV positive | | | |
| Coverage [b] | 69% (2023–24) | 69% (2021–22) | 70% (2021–22) | 68% (2023–24) |

|  Lung [d] | Lung cancer screening is being 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 are gradually being invited using a phased approach, due to be completed in 2025. [b] Caution should be taken when making comparisons across countries due to differences in time periods of data, changes to age ranges, test sensitivity and/or differences in the definitions of coverage and uptake of screening. [c] Some people aged 65 or over may request a test, or may be invited for cervical screening if a recent test was abnormal. Find more information [here](#). [d] 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 HPV: Human Papillomavirus

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).