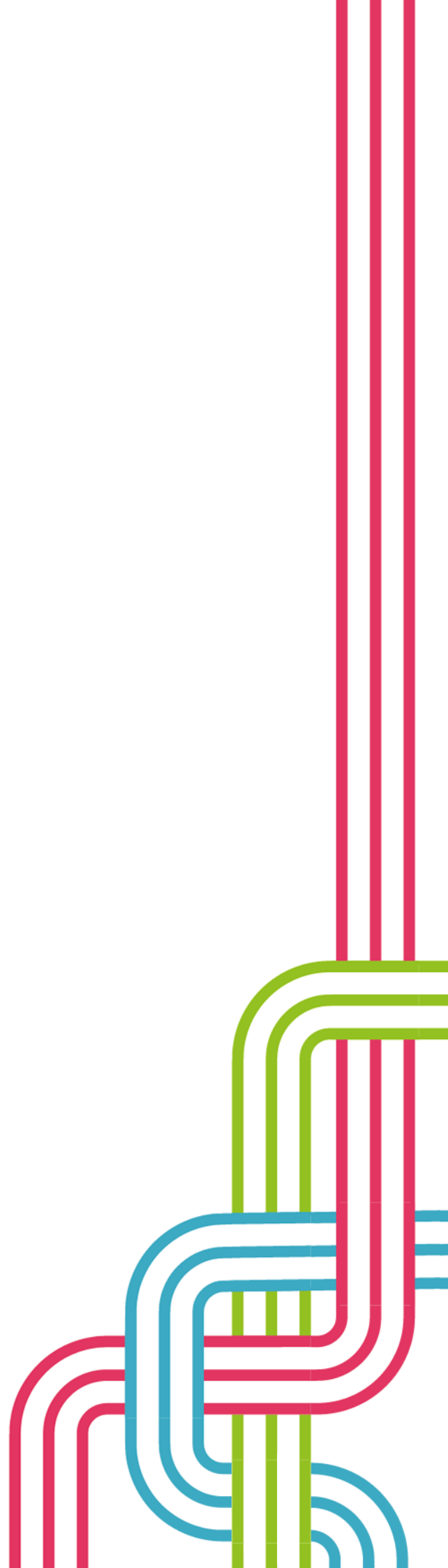


# Cancer Incidence Suffolk 2023



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## Key Points

1. For all cancer types between 2015-19, 24,599 cases of cancer were diagnosed in Suffolk.
2. Between 2015-19, Suffolk had a lower than expected cancer incidence ratio (number of new cases of cancer as a percentage of expected new cases) compared to the England average.
3. Suffolk has a higher incidence of prostate cancer compared to the England average. Between 2015-19, there were 4,015 cases of prostate cancer in Suffolk. The standardised incidence ratio of 106.8 was statistically significantly higher than the England average (100.0).
4. Breast cancer (3,457 new cases) and lung cancer (2,643 new cases) between 2015-19 were both statistically significantly lower than the England average during the same period.

- 5. Breast cancer, colorectal cancer, lung cancer and prostate cancer accounted for 53.4% of all cancers diagnosed between 2015-19 in Suffolk.

## Suffolk cancer incidence

Cancer incidence is defined as the number of new cases of cancer within a given period. An individual could be diagnosed with more than one tumour, which would count for multiple entries into incidence statistics.

Suffolk-specific incidence data derived from Fingertips is limited. Incidence data is only available for all cancers, breast, colorectal, lung and prostate cancers as a standardised incidence ratio, aggregated between 2015-19, as well as male, female, and all persons alcohol-related cancer incidence between 2017-19. This data will be presented first, before analysing CancerData for Norfolk and Waveney ICB, and Suffolk and North East Essex ICB and sub-locations providing greater granularity.

In Suffolk, between 2015-19, the standardised incidence ratios for all cancers; breast cancer, and lung cancer were statistically significantly lower than the national average. Colorectal cancer incidence was statistically similar to the England average, whereas prostate cancer incidence in Suffolk was statistically significantly higher/worse than the England average.

**Figure 1. Cancer incidence indicators for Suffolk from Fingertips.**

Indicator	Period	Recent Trend	Suffolk		Region England		England		Best
			Count	Value	Value	Value	Worst	Range	
Incidence of all cancers, standardised incidence ratio (Persons, All ages)	2015 - 19	-	24,599	96.0	-	100.0	116.6		72.6
Incidence of breast cancer, standardised incidence ratio (Female, All ages)	2015 - 19	-	3,457	95.7	-	100.0	152.2		73.9
Incidence of colorectal cancer, standardised incidence ratio (Persons, All ages)	2015 - 19	-	3,039	102.2	-	100.0	120.5		65.6
Incidence of lung cancer, standardised incidence ratio (Persons, All ages)	2015 - 19	-	2,643	79.9	-	100.0	206.2		45.1
Incidence of prostate cancer, standardised incidence ratio (Male, All ages)	2015 - 19	-	4,015	106.8	-	100.0	145.4		63.7
Incidence rate of alcohol-related cancer (Persons, 16+ yrs)	2017 - 19	-	915	36.17	36.48	38.00	48.11		29.15
Incidence rate of alcohol-related cancer (Male, 16+ yrs)	2017 - 19	-	445	36.93	36.57	39.36	57.89		28.05
Incidence rate of alcohol-related cancer (Female, 16+ yrs)	2017 - 19	-	470	35.73	36.64	37.09	42.33		28.73

**Compared to England:**

Statistically lower/worse

Statistically similar

Statistically higher/better

Source: [Fingertips Public Health Data](#)

Between 2015-19, these were the four most common cancers in Suffolk – totalling 53.4% of all cancers:

- **Prostate cancer** – 4,015 cases/16.3% of all cancers
- **Breast cancer** – 3,457 cases/14.0% of all cancers
- **Colorectal cancer** – 3,039 cases/12.4% of all cancers
- **Lung cancer** – 2,643 cases/10.7% of all cancers

Alcohol-related cancer incidence rates in Suffolk are also statistically similar to the national average. Between 2017-19 for all persons (16 and over) in Suffolk, 36.2 per 100,000 alcohol-related cancers were diagnosed.

## Suffolk lower-tier local authority cancer incidence

Table 1 shows:

- Suffolk and all local authorities have a statistically significantly higher incidence ratio of prostate cancer than the England average, apart from in West Suffolk (statistically lower).

- All Suffolk local authorities – apart from Ipswich (statistically similar) – have a statistically significant lower incidence of all cancers compared to England.
- Lung cancer is also statistically significantly lower in all Suffolk local authorities – again, apart from in Ipswich (statistically similar) – compared to the England average.

**Table 1. Suffolk, England, and local authority cancer incidence indicators.**

Indicator	Period	England	Suffolk	Babergh	East Suffolk	Ipswich	Mid Suffolk	West Suffolk
Incidence of all cancers, standardised incidence ratio (Persons, All ages)	2015-19	100.0	96.0	96.0	96.0	97.1	94.8	96.2
Incidence of breast cancer, standardised incidence ratio (Female, All ages)	2015-19	100.0	95.7	97.7	95.6	80.5	96.5	104.5
Incidence of colorectal cancer, standardised incidence ratio (Persons, All ages)	2015-19	100.0	102.2	106.9	103.6	101.3	99.4	99.4
Incidence of lung cancer, standardised incidence ratio (Persons, All ages)	2015-19	100.0	79.9	69.6	81.3	98.3	64.8	82.2
Incidence of prostate cancer, standardised incidence ratio (Male, All ages)	2015-19	100.0	106.8	111.3	110.7	112.3	110.9	90.9
Incidence rate per 100,000 of alcohol-related cancer (Persons, 16+ yrs)	2017-19	38.00	36.17	35.19	36.07	35.83	36.72	35.89
Incidence rate per 100,000 of alcohol-related cancer (Male, 16+ yrs)	2017-19	39.36	36.93	33.16	36.72	39.61	37.58	37.34
Incidence rate per 100,000 of alcohol-related cancer (Female, 16+ yrs)	2017-19	37.09	35.73	37.29	35.65	32.81	35.96	36.78

**Compared to England:**

Statistically lower/worse

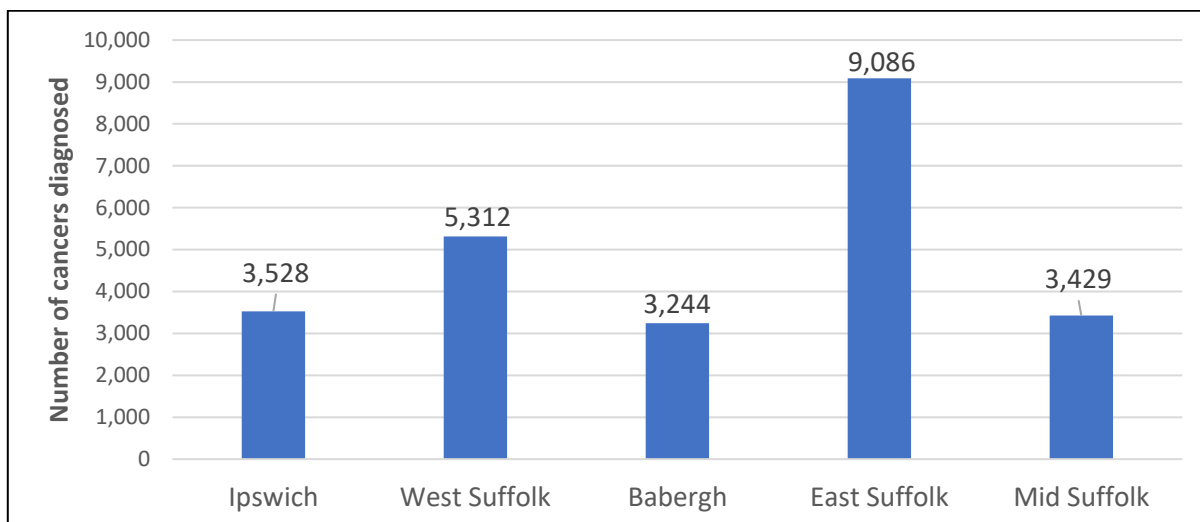
Statistically similar

Statistically higher/better

Source: [Fingertips Public Health Data](#)

Figure 2 shows the number of cancers diagnosed between 2015 and 2019 across Suffolk districts. Over 1 in 3 cancer diagnoses between 2015-19 in Suffolk were from East Suffolk residents. Of the 24,599 cancers diagnosed in Suffolk between 2015-19, 9,086 – or 36.9% - were from residents living in East Suffolk.

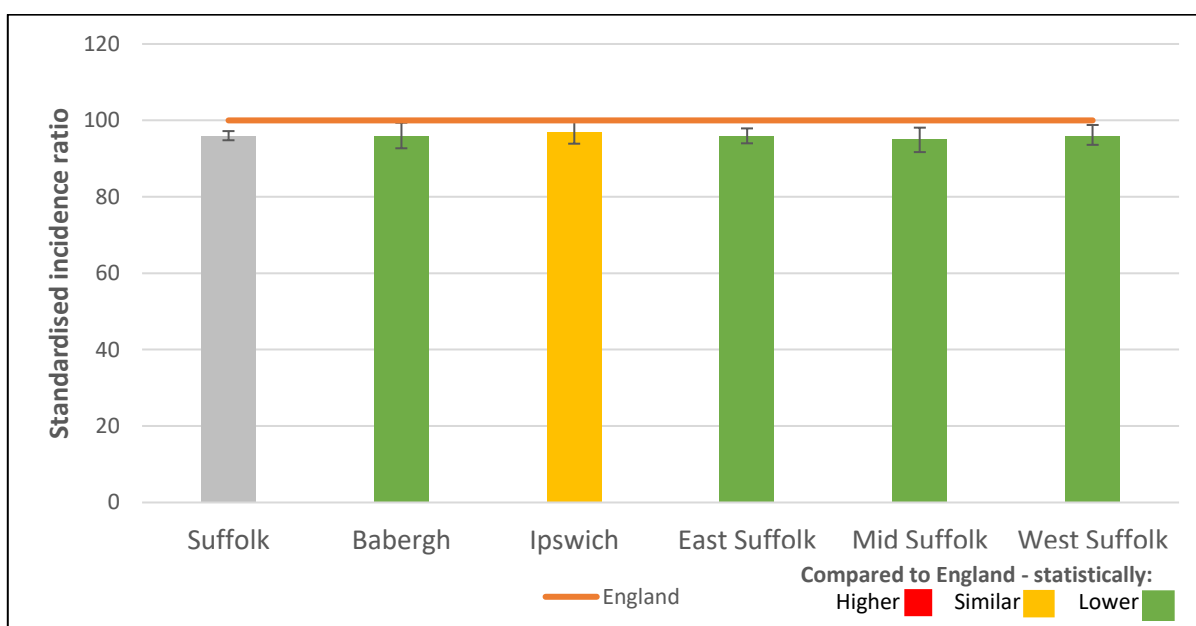
**Figure 2. Number of cancers diagnosed between 2015-19 by Suffolk district.**



Source: [Fingertips Public Health Data](#)

While East Suffolk accounts for a significant proportion of Suffolk's cancer cases, it has a statistically significantly lower incidence ratio of all cancers, compared to England, shown in Figure 3. The higher number of cancer cases in East Suffolk is explained by the larger and older East Suffolk population. The standardised incidence ratio calculates expected number of new cases of cancer by applying age-sex-year specific incidence rates for England in 2015-19 to each area's population. The ratio is then calculated by dividing the observed total number of new cases in the area, by the expected number, multiplied by 100. Ipswich is the only district within Suffolk with a statistically similar cancer incidence ratio to the England average between 2015-19. All other Suffolk districts have statistically significantly lower cancer incidence ratios.

**Figure 3. Incidence ratio of all cancers, standardised incidence ratio, for Suffolk and districts, compared to England, 2015-19.**

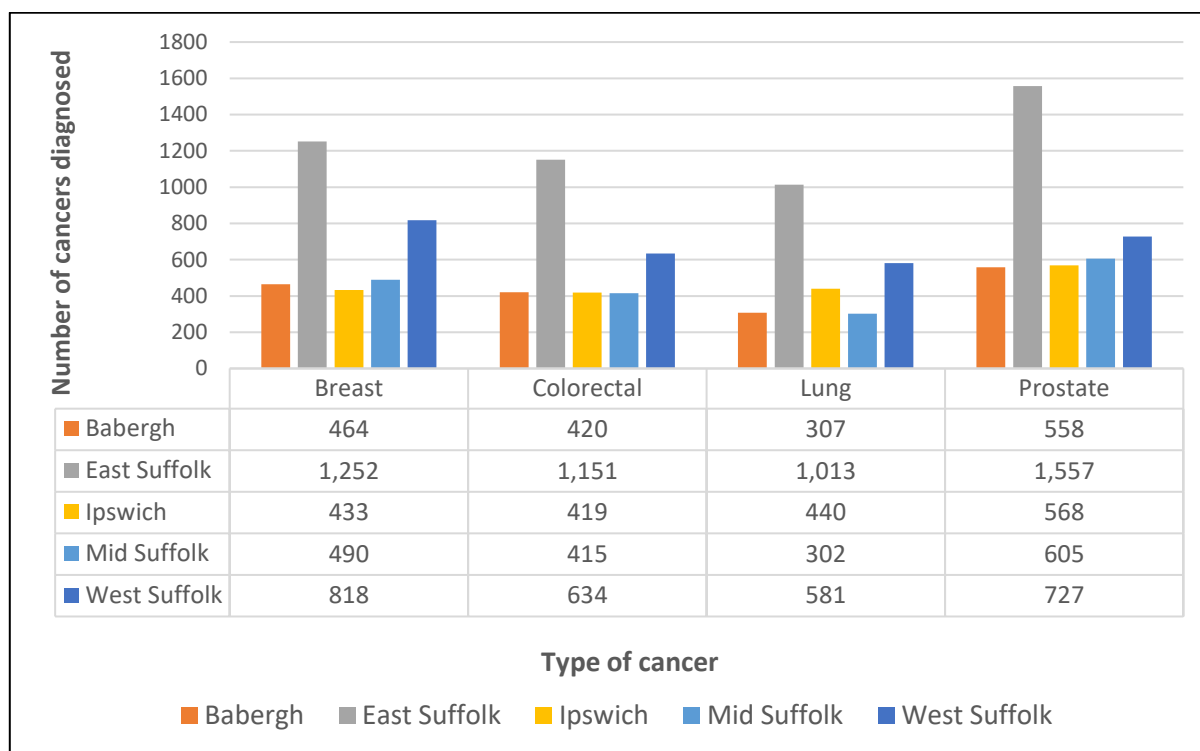


Source: [Fingertips Public Health Data](#)

Figure 4 compares cancer diagnoses between 2015-19 for the four most common cancer types, split by Suffolk local authority area.

- East Suffolk had the highest number of cancers diagnosed for each of the four most common cancer types (breast, colorectal, lung, prostate).

**Figure 4. Number of cancers diagnosed between 2015-19 for the four most common cancer types, by Suffolk local authority area.**



Source: [Fingertips Public Health Data](#)

## Suffolk cancer incidence- CancerData

As mentioned in previous sections, cancer data covering the entirety of Suffolk is only available from [Fingertips](#), and while the indicators are dated, they do cover the whole of the county. The data within this section provides greater granularity through the National Cancer Registration Service (NCRAS)/CancerData.

The main caveats of the data used in this section are:

- Geographic breakdowns of this data are available at integrated care board (ICB) or sub-ICB level (mirroring old clinical commissioning group/CCG boundaries). These boundaries do not match up exactly with Suffolk as an upper-tier local authority, so instead cover Suffolk and North East Essex ICB, and Norfolk and Waveney ICB.
- This data is much more current, last updated in October 2022 and covering 2001-2020.
- Rates per 100,000 are available either non-standardised or age-standardised (this accounts for the variation in age structures between different geographies).
- There are a far greater number of cancer types available through this tool – using International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10) codes.
- Age-specific rates are available with 5-year age bands, which can also be grouped further.

- Rates and counts are also available for all persons, males, and females to allow for gender comparison.
- Sub-ICB locations can be grouped (for instance, Ipswich and East Suffolk sub-ICB with West Suffolk sub-ICB) – however, Norfolk and Waveney is a single sub-ICB location and cannot be separated to group Lowestoft/the remaining northern part of East Suffolk with the other sub-ICB locations in order to cover Suffolk.

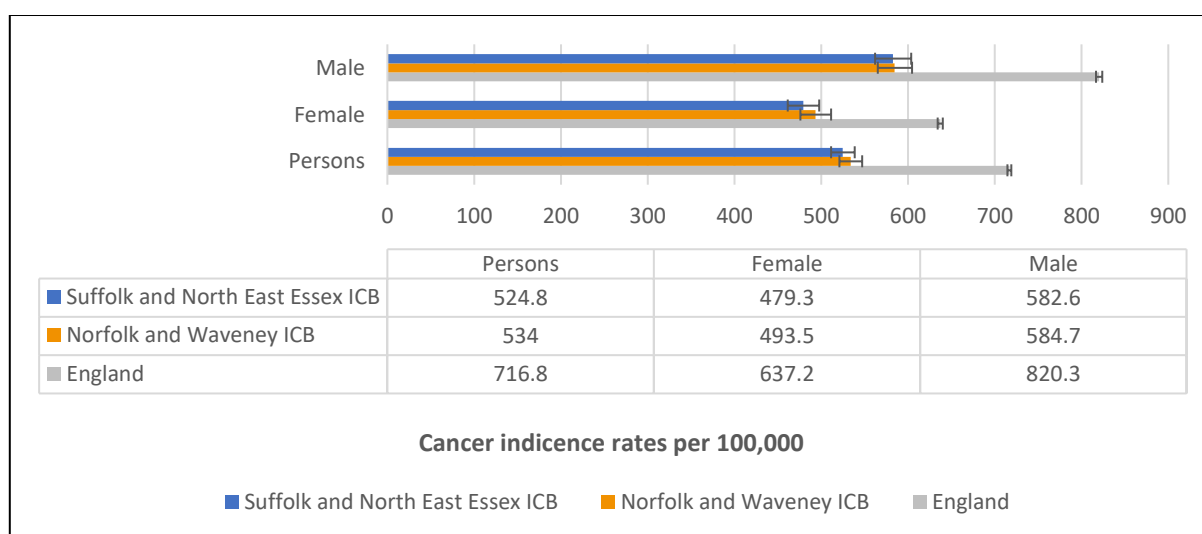
### Headline findings

- Cancer incidence in Suffolk and North East Essex (SNEE ICB) remains statistically similar between 2010 (589.2 per 100,000) to 2019 (598.1 per 100,000).
- Both male and female age-standardised cancer incidence rates in SNEE remain statistically similar when compared between 2010 to 2019 (also the same trend for Norfolk and Waveney ICB).
- However, males have had a statistically significant higher cancer incidence rate than females in SNEE and Norfolk and Waveney ICBs in both 2010 and 2019.
- The statistically significant reduction in SNEE all cancer incidence between 2019 to 2020 is likely due to the impact of the pandemic reducing screening and identification rates<sup>2,3</sup> – further monitoring will be required to confirm this trend.
- Due to the growing, and ageing population in Suffolk – while cancer incidence rates remain statistically similar between 2010 to 2019, the actual number of tumours is increasing. For SNEE ICB in 2010, there were 5,505 tumours – increasing by 19.0% to 6,553 tumours in 2019. Norfolk and Waveney had a 11.2% increase in the number of tumours from 2010 (6,411) to 2019 (7,129).

### Overall incidence for males, females, persons by ICB

52% of all new diagnoses for SNEE ICB and Norfolk and Waveney ICB occurred in men in 2020. Cancer incidence at all geographies is statistically significantly higher for males than females. Figure 5 shows the age-standardised rates for cancer incidence among males, females, and all persons in 2020 – all of which are statistically significantly lower for Norfolk and Waveney ICB and SNEE ICB than the England average.

**Figure 5. Age-standardised cancer incidence (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer) rates per 100,000 for males, females and all persons, Suffolk and North East Essex ICB, Norfolk and Waveney ICB and England, 2020.**



Source: [CancerData](#)

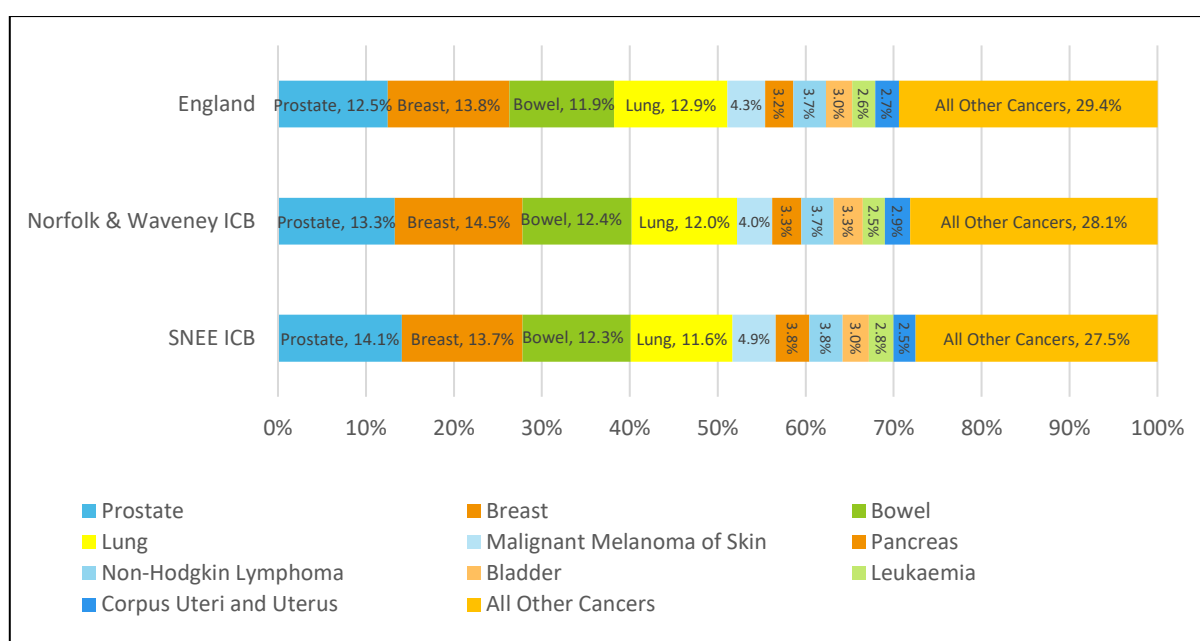
### Top 10 cancers diagnosed (2020) by ICB

Figure 6 shows the top 10 and other cancers for Suffolk and North East Essex ICB, Norfolk and Waveney ICB and England for all persons in 2020. For SNEE ICB, prostate cancer (14.1%) accounted for the highest number of new diagnoses in 2020, whereas breast cancer was the highest number of new diagnoses for Norfolk and Waveney (14.5%), and England overall (13.8%).

For SNEE ICB, after prostate cancer; breast, bowel, lung, melanoma of the skin, pancreas, Non-Hodgkin lymphoma, bladder, Leukaemia and corpus uteri (the body of the uterus) and uterus were within the top 10 most common cancers in 2020, contributing to 72.5% of all cancers.

For Norfolk and Waveney ICB after breast cancer, prostate, bowel, lung, and non-Hodgkin lymphoma were the most common cancer types in 2020, accounting for 56.2% of all cancers.

**Figure 6. All persons, top 10 and other cancers for Suffolk and North East Essex ICB, Norfolk and Waveney ICB and England; cancers diagnosed in 2020.**



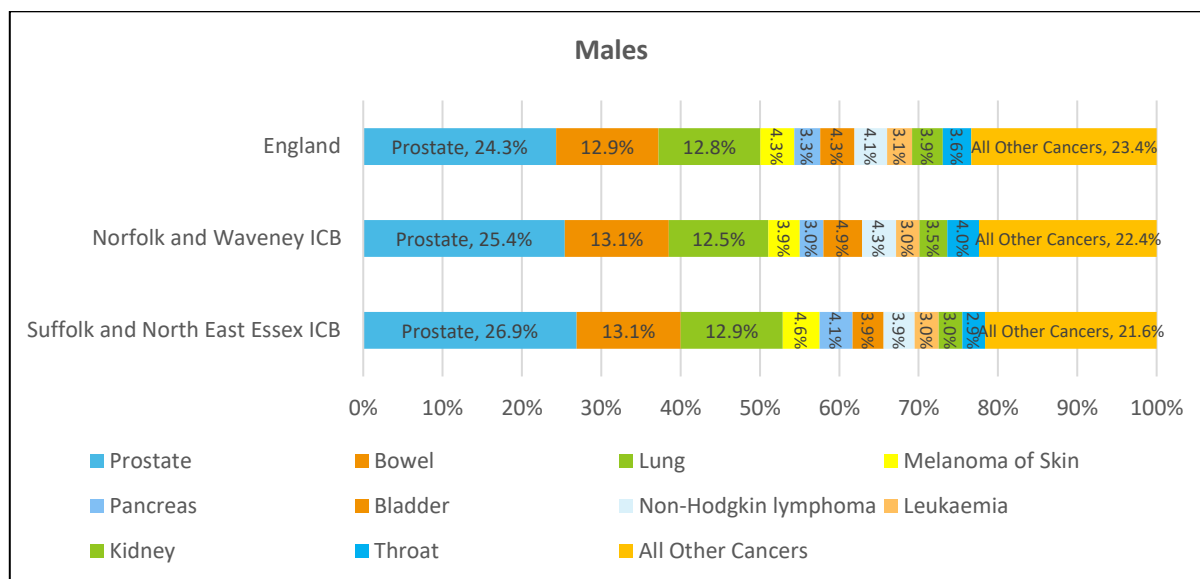
Source: [CancerData](#)

Figure 7 shows that for men within SNEE ICB, the top 3 cancers diagnosed in 2020 were prostate (26.9%/over 1 in 4), bowel (13.1%) and lung (12.9%).

For men in Norfolk and Waveney ICB, the top 3 cancers were also prostate (25.4%), bowel (13.1%) and lung (12.5%) in 2020.



**Figure 7. Male top 10 and all other cancers for Suffolk and North East Essex ICB, Norfolk and Waveney ICB and England; cancers diagnosed in 2020.**

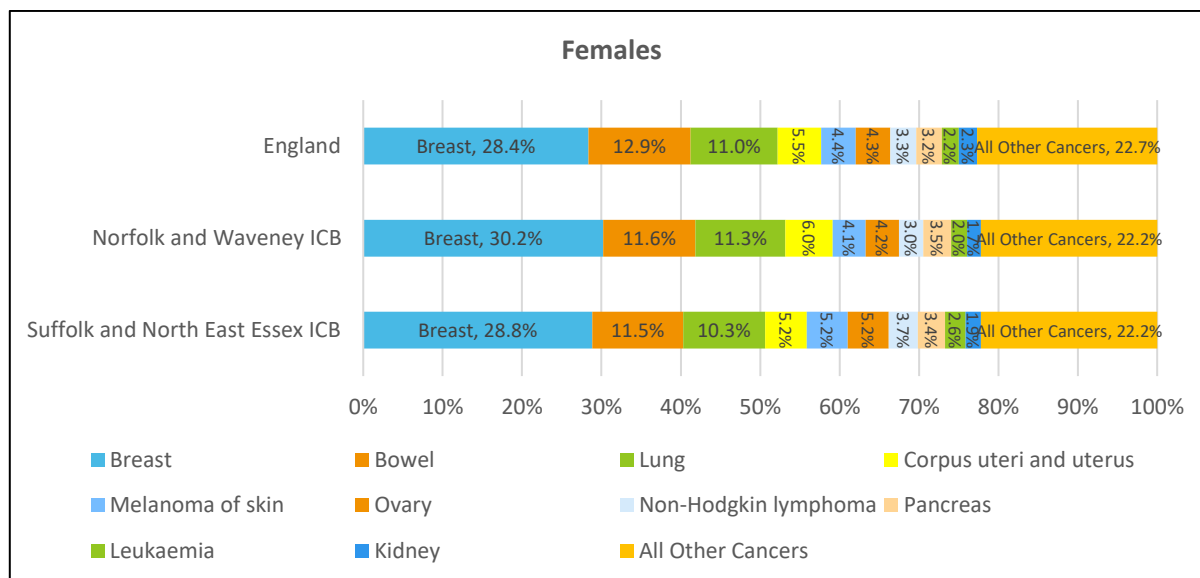


Source: [CancerData](#)

For females in 2020, breast cancer was the most common of all cancers within SNEE ICB (also over 1 in 4/28.8%), followed by bowel cancer (13.1%) and lung cancer (12.9%), shown in figure 8.

For Norfolk and Waveney females in 2020, breast cancer was also the most common of all cancers in 2020 at 30.2%, followed by bowel cancer (11.6%) and lung cancer (11.3%).

**Figure 8. Female top 10 and all other cancers for Suffolk and North East Essex ICB, Norfolk and Waveney ICB and England; cancers diagnosed in 2020.**



Source: [CancerData](#)

While the number of new cancers diagnosed within Suffolk and North East Essex ICB has increased by 19.0% from 5,505 in 2010 to 6,553 in 2019 (5,848 in 2020 but impacted by the pandemic), the age-standardised rate of 598.1 per 100,000 in 2019 is statistically similar to the rate of 589.2 per 100,000 in 2010.

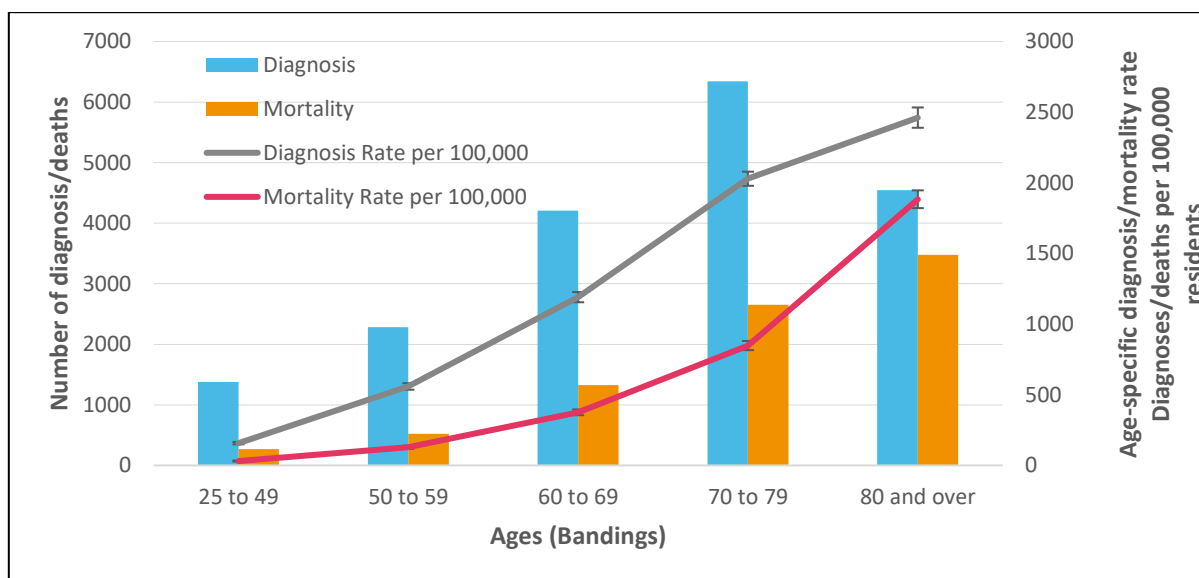
The same trend is seen for Norfolk and Waveney ICB, with an 11.2% increase in the number of tumours from 6,411 in 2010, to 7,129 in 2019 (6,584 in 2020) - however, the age standardised rate has remained statistically similar from 605.9 per 100,000 in 2010 to 588.5 per 100,000 in 2019.

### Incidence and mortality (all cancers), and rates per 100,000, by 5 age bands

Figure 9 shows cancer incidence and mortality for all cancers (excluding non-melanoma skin cancers), for SNEE ICB, all persons between 2018-20. Findings include:

- Rates for diagnosis and mortality increase with age, peaking in the 80 and over group.
- The actual number of new cases is highest in 70 to 79-year-olds, with the number of deaths peaking in the 80 and over group.
- Rates per 100,000 for both incidence and mortality are both highest in the 80 and over category.
- Cancer diagnoses for SNEE ICB between 2018-20 shows that 58.0% of all diagnoses were for individuals aged 70 or over.
- Almost 3 in 4 (74.3%) cancer deaths within SNEE ICB occurred in the age groups 70 to 79 and 80 and over.

**Figure 9. Number of cancer diagnoses (all malignant cancers excluding non-melanoma skin cancer) for Suffolk and North East Essex ICB (age-specific rate per 100,000) between 2018-2020 by age group.**



Source: [CancerData](#)

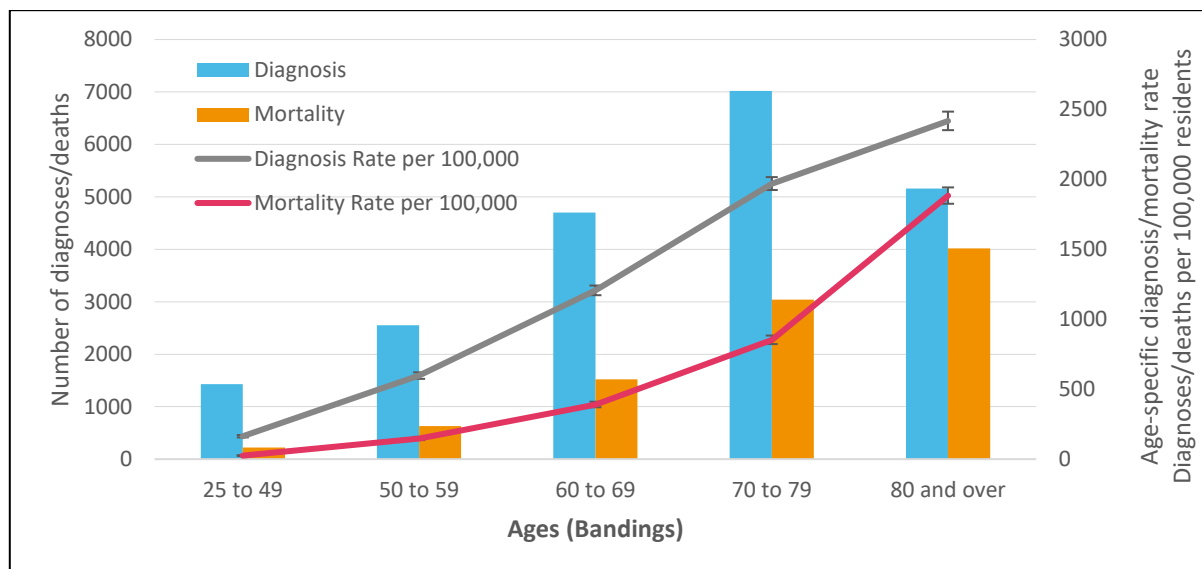
Figure 10 shows the number of cancer diagnoses (all malignant cancers excluding non-melanoma skin cancer) for Norfolk and Waveney ICB. Within Norfolk and Waveney ICB between 2018-20:

- There were 21,020 incidences of all malignant cancers excluding non-melanoma skin cancer (NMSC).
- The age-standardised incidence rate was 577.7 cases per 100,000 people.
- There were 9,451 deaths attributable to cancer.
- The age-standardised mortality rate was 259.2 deaths per 100,000.

Additionally, figure 10 shows cancer mortality and mortality rates for Norfolk and Waveney ICB for all persons between 2018-20. Akin to SNEE ICB, Norfolk and Waveney rates for diagnosis and

mortality increase with age, both highest in the 80 and over age groups. The number of new cases is highest in the 70 to 79 age group, while mortality is highest within the 80 and over group. Over 1 in 3 of all cancer diagnoses (33.4%) in Norfolk and Waveney ICB were among individuals aged 70 to 79, while mortality was highest in the 80 and over age group (42.5% of all cancer deaths).

**Figure 10. Number of cancer diagnoses (all malignant cancers excluding non-melanoma skin cancer) for Norfolk and Waveney ICB (age-specific rate per 100,000) between 2018-2020 by age group.**



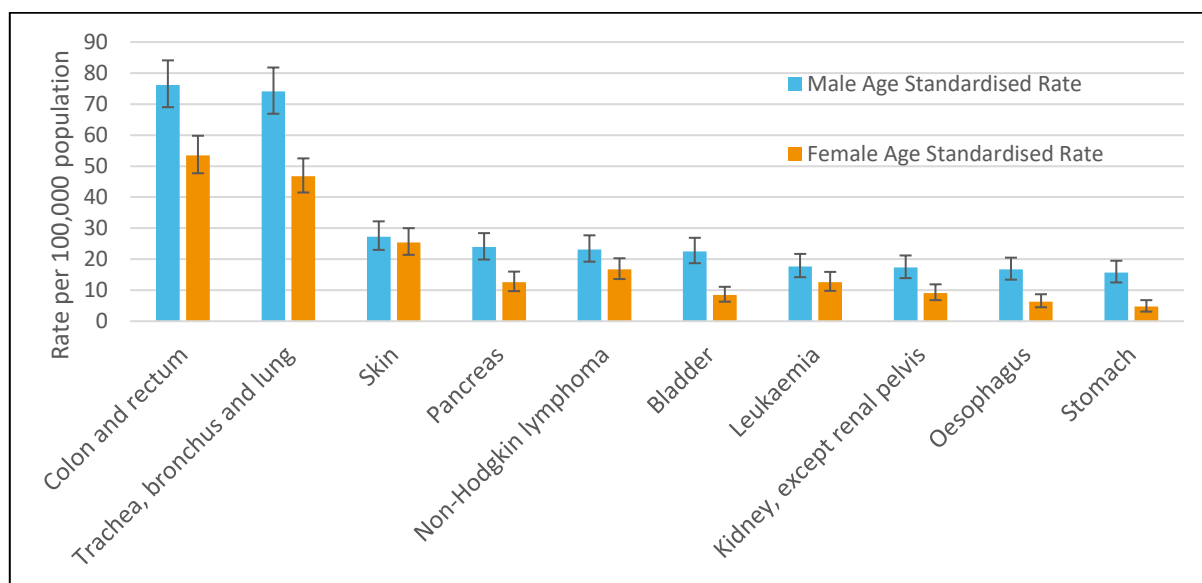
Source: [CancerData](#)

### Selected top 10 cancer incidence by ICB

Figure 11 shows the age standardised incidence rates for selected top 10 cancer for men and women across SNEE ICB. As some cancers are gender specific (breast and prostate cancer), from the top 10 cancers that affect both men and women within SNEE ICB in 2020, males in Suffolk and North Essex ICB had a statistically significant greater age standardised incidence of these cancers than females:

- Colon and rectum
- Trachea, bronchus, and lung
- Pancreas
- Bladder
- Kidney
- Oesophagus
- Stomach

**Figure 11. Age standardised incidence rates for selected top 10 cancers for men and women, Suffolk and North East Essex ICB, 2020.**

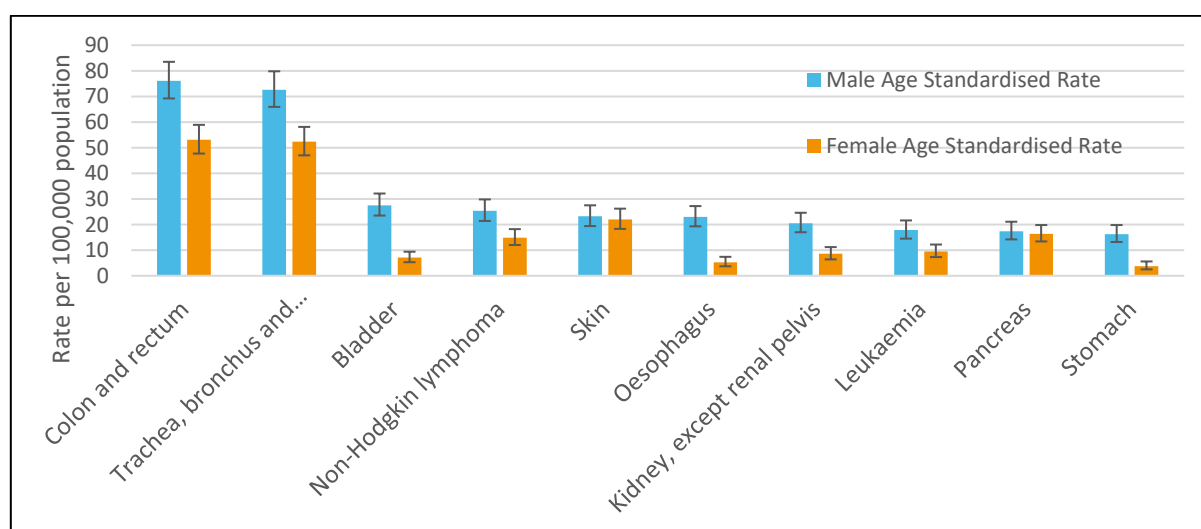


Source: [CancerData](#)

Figure 12 highlights that trends for Norfolk and Waveney ICB are similar to SNEE ICB – males have a statistically significant higher age standardised incidence than females for these types of cancers:

- Colon and rectum
- Trachea, bronchus, and lung
- Bladder
- Non-Hodgkin lymphoma
- Oesophagus
- Kidney
- Leukaemia
- Stomach

**Figure 12. Age standardised incidence rates for selected top 10 cancers for men and women, Norfolk and Waveney ICB, 2020.**



Source: [CancerData](#)

The higher male and female incidence rates for bowel and lung cancer are most likely due to a number of factors such as historic smoking rates in Suffolk, rates of being overweight or obese, physical inactivity, and alcohol consumption. It is estimated that for bowel cancer, being overweight or obese is the cause of 11% of bowel cancers, smoking is the cause of 7% of bowel cancers, and alcohol use is the cause of 6% of bowel cancers<sup>5</sup>. For lung cancers, smoking is responsible for 70% of lung cancers<sup>6</sup>.

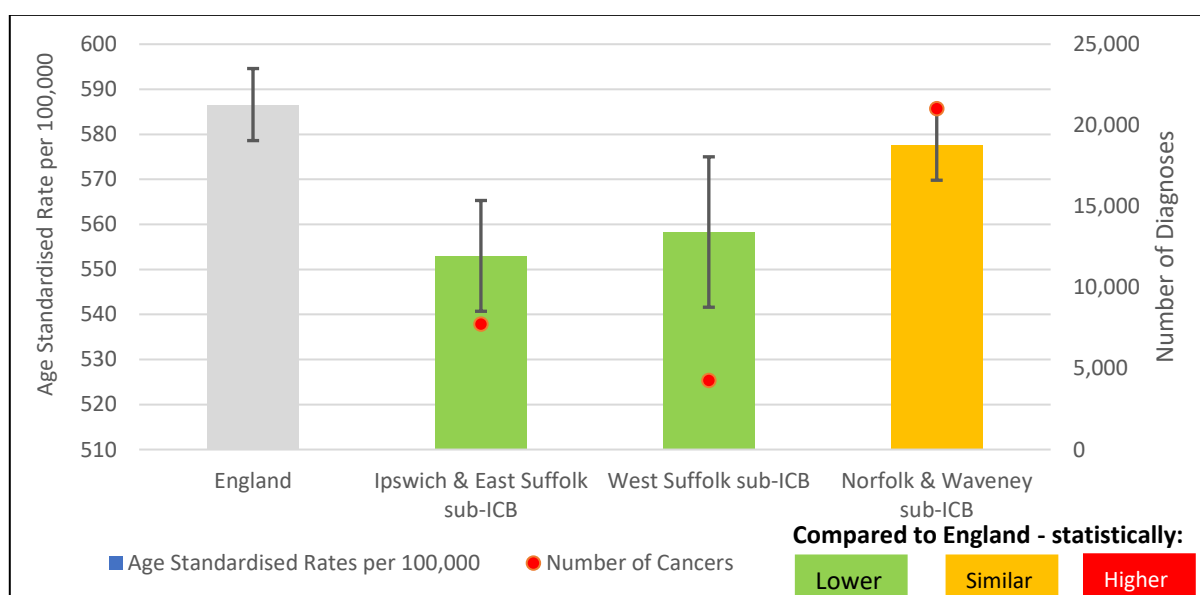
### By ICB sub-locations - age standardised incidence 2018-20

Figure 13 shows the age standardised rates for all cancers (excluding non-melanoma skin cancers) for all persons across ICB sub-locations in Suffolk. Between 2018-20, across Ipswich and East Suffolk sub-ICB, West Suffolk sub-ICB and Norfolk and Waveney sub-ICB, there were a total of 33,001 new cancer diagnoses, broken down as follows:

- Ipswich and East Suffolk sub-ICB – 7,725 tumours/553.0 per 100,000.
- West Suffolk sub-ICB – 4,256 tumours/558.3 per 100,000.
- Norfolk and Waveney sub-ICB – 21,020 tumours/577.7 per 100,000.

Age standardised rates for the three ICB sub-locations covering Suffolk were all statistically lower than the England average incidence. Ipswich and East Suffolk sub-ICB had a statistically significant lower incidence (553.0 per 100,000) than Norfolk and Waveney sub-ICB (577.7 per 100,000). West Suffolk sub-ICB (558.3 per 100,000) had a statistically similar incidence to the other Suffolk ICB sub-locations.

**Figure 13. Age standardised rates for all cancer incidence excluding non-melanoma skin cancers (NMSC), 2018-20 for all persons by ICB sub-location.**



Source: [National Disease Registration Service \(NDRS\) - NHS Digital](#)

### By cancer type and ICB sub-location - incidence rates 2018-20

#### Ipswich and East Suffolk sub-ICB

Table 2 shows cancer incidence for selected cancer types across Ipswich and East Suffolk sub-ICB compared to England averages.

- Ipswich and East Suffolk sub-ICB had statistically significantly lower age-standardised cancer rates for all cancers (excluding NMSC); lung; cervical; and breast cancers.
- Colorectal cancer shares a statistically similar rate to the national average.

- Prostate cancer (208.0 per 100,000/1,397 diagnoses) had a statistically significant higher rate than the England average.

**Table 2. Cancer incidence for selected cancer types, for Ipswich & East Suffolk sub-ICB compared to England averages, 2018-20.**

Cancer Type	Number of Diagnosis	Age Standardised Rate (per 100,000)	LCI	UCI	Compared to England average	
All excluding NMSC	7725	553.0	540.7	565.5	6.1% lower	●
Colorectal	953	67.3	63.1	71.7	0.03% lower	●
Lung	740	51.7	48.1	55.6	29.6% lower	●
Prostate	1397	208.0	197.3	219.3	14.8% higher	●
Cervical	37	6.2	4.3	8.5	33.3% lower	●
Breast	1052	150.6	141.5	160.1	6.6% lower	●

**Compared to England:**  
 ● Statistically lower      ● Statistically similar      ● Statistically higher

Source: [National Disease Registration Service \(NDRS\) - NHS Digital](#)

### West Suffolk sub-ICB

Table 3 shows cancer incidence for selected cancer types across West Suffolk sub-ICB, compared to England. West Suffolk sub-ICB compares positively to national age-standardised rates, with none of the selected cancer types statistically higher than national averages.

- Colorectal; cervical; and breast cancer rates were all statistically similar to the England average.
- All cancer (excluding NMSC); lung; and prostate cancer were statistically significantly lower than the England average.

**Table 3. Cancer incidence for selected cancer types, for West Suffolk sub-ICB compared to England averages, 2018-20.**

Cancer Type	Number of Diagnosis	Age Standardised Rate (per 100,000)	LCI	UCI	Compared to England average	
All excluding NMSC	4256	558.3	541.6	575.4	4.8% lower	●
Colorectal	519	66.6	60.9	72.6	1.3% lower	●
Lung	484	61.7	56.3	67.4	15.9% lower	●
Prostate	546	151.8	139.3	165.1	16.2% lower	●
Cervical	30	8.8	5.9	12.6	5.4% lower	●
Breast	628	164.5	151.8	178.1	2.0% higher	●

**Compared to England:**  
 ● Statistically lower      ● Statistically similar      ● Statistically higher

Source: [National Disease Registration Service \(NDRS\) - NHS Digital](#)

### Norfolk and Waveney sub-ICB

Table 4 shows cancer incidence for selected cancer types across Norfolk and Waveney sub-ICB compared to England averages For Norfolk and Waveney sub-ICB;

- All cancer (excluding NMSC); colorectal; and cervical cancer types were statistically similar to national averages.
- Lung and prostate cancer incidence was statistically significantly lower than England.
- Breast cancer had a statistically significant higher rate (169.5 per 100,000) than the England average during the same period.

**Table 4. Cancer incidence for selected cancer types, for Norfolk and Waveney sub-ICB compared to England averages, 2018-20.**

Cancer Type	Number of Diagnosis	Age Standardised Rate (per 100,000)	LCI	UCI	Compared to England average	
All excluding NMSC	21020	577.7	569.8	585.7	1.5% lower	●
Colorectal	2465	65.7	63.1	68.4	2.7% lower	●
Lung	2511	66.3	63.7	68.9	9.7% lower	●
Prostate	3049	173.9	167.8	180.2	4.0% lower	●
Cervical	149	10.0	8.4	11.8	7.5% higher	●
Breast	3043	169.5	163.5	175.8	5.1% higher	●

**Compared to England:**  
● Statistically lower      ● Statistically similar      ● Statistically higher

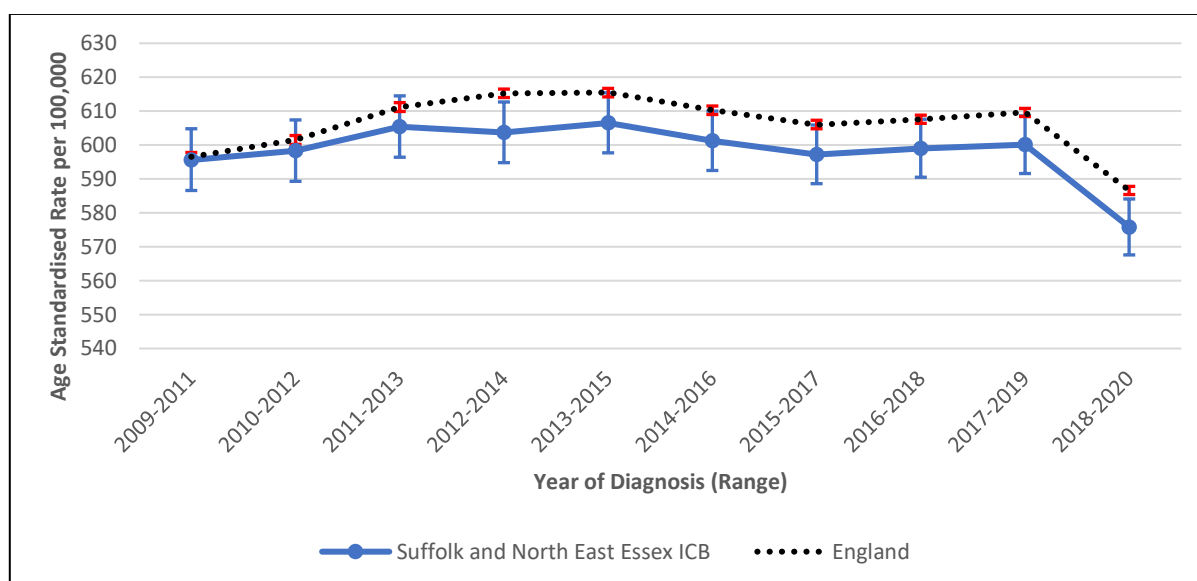
Source: [National Disease Registration Service \(NDRS\) - NHS Digital](#)

### Cancer incidence – trends (2009-11–2018-20) by ICB

Figure 14 and 15 explore the overall cancer incidence trends, for 3-year combined rates between 2009-11 to 2018-20 across Suffolk ICBs. Incidence for Suffolk and North East Essex ICB was statistically similar between 2009-11 and 2017-19, with a statistically significantly lower rate in 2018-20. This trend is also replicated for Norfolk and Waveney ICB, following a similar pattern to the national average.

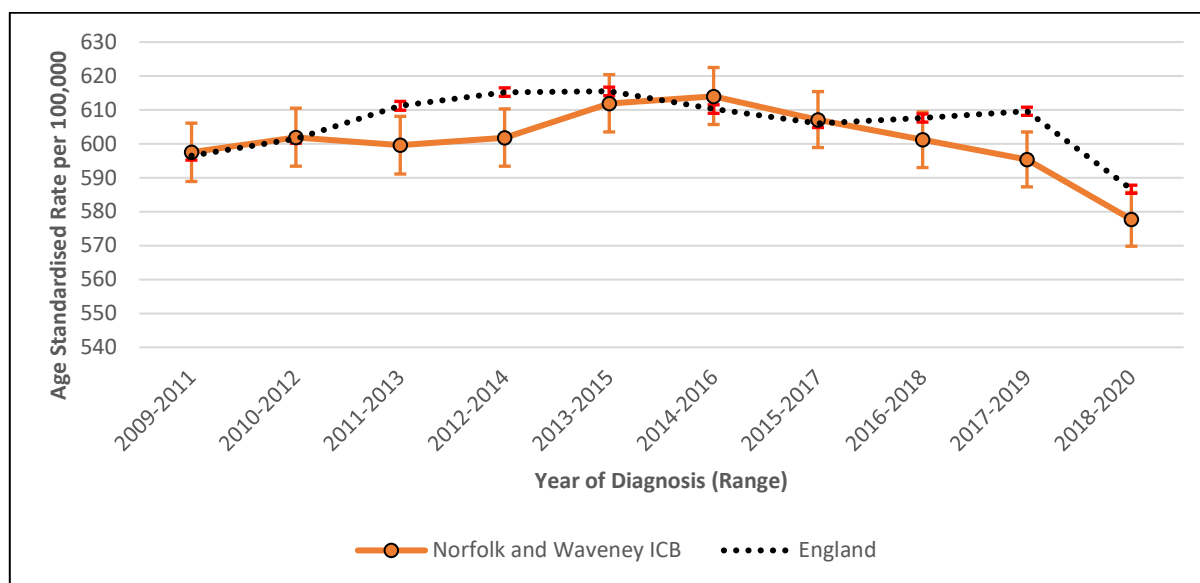
It is highly likely that this trend is due to the impact of the pandemic in 2020, with nationally 1 million fewer screening invitations sent and 380,000 fewer people seeing a specialist following an urgent suspected cancer referral<sup>8</sup>. Accessibility was a key driver as some patients could not access care (due to services stopping), and many chose not to seek medical care or partake in cancer screening programmes during the pandemic, due to various medical and non-medical reasons<sup>10</sup>.

**Figure 14. Trend in all cancer incidence age standardised rates (excluding non-melanoma skin cancers), 2009-11 to 2018-20, Suffolk and North East Essex ICB and England.**



Source: [National Disease Registration Service \(NDRS\) - NHS Digital](#)

**Figure 15. Trend in all cancer incidence age standardised rates (excluding non-melanoma skin cancers), 2009-11 to 2018-20, Norfolk and Waveney ICB and England.**



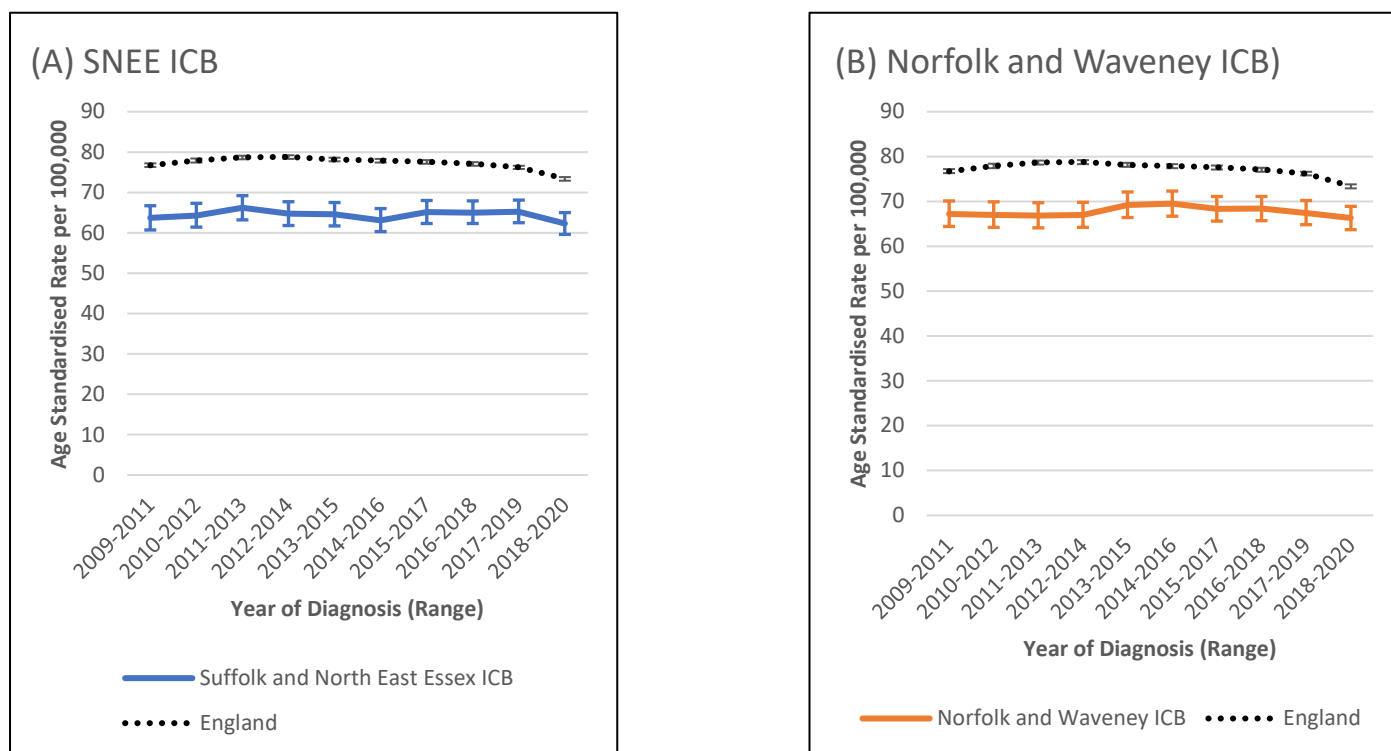
Source: [National Disease Registration Service \(NDRS\) - NHS Digital](#)

### Lung cancer

Figure 16 shows the lung cancer age-standardised incidence trend from 2009-11 to 2018-20 for ICBs across Suffolk. The trend for Suffolk and North East Essex and Norfolk and Waveney ICBs lung cancer incidence has remained statistically similar from 2009-11 to 2018-20. England has seen a statistically significant decrease across the same period from 76.7 per 100,000 to 73.4 per 100,000 – a reduction of 4.3%. However, this 4.3% reduction coincides with reduced CT scanning for other organs during the pandemic, which often picks up incidental early-stage lung cancers<sup>9</sup>. Incidence rates for lung cancer in England fell by 26% during the first national lockdown in 2020<sup>10</sup>.



Figure 16. Lung cancer age-standardised incidence trend from 2009-11 to 2018-20. (A) Suffolk and North East Essex ICB; (B) Norfolk and Waveney ICB.



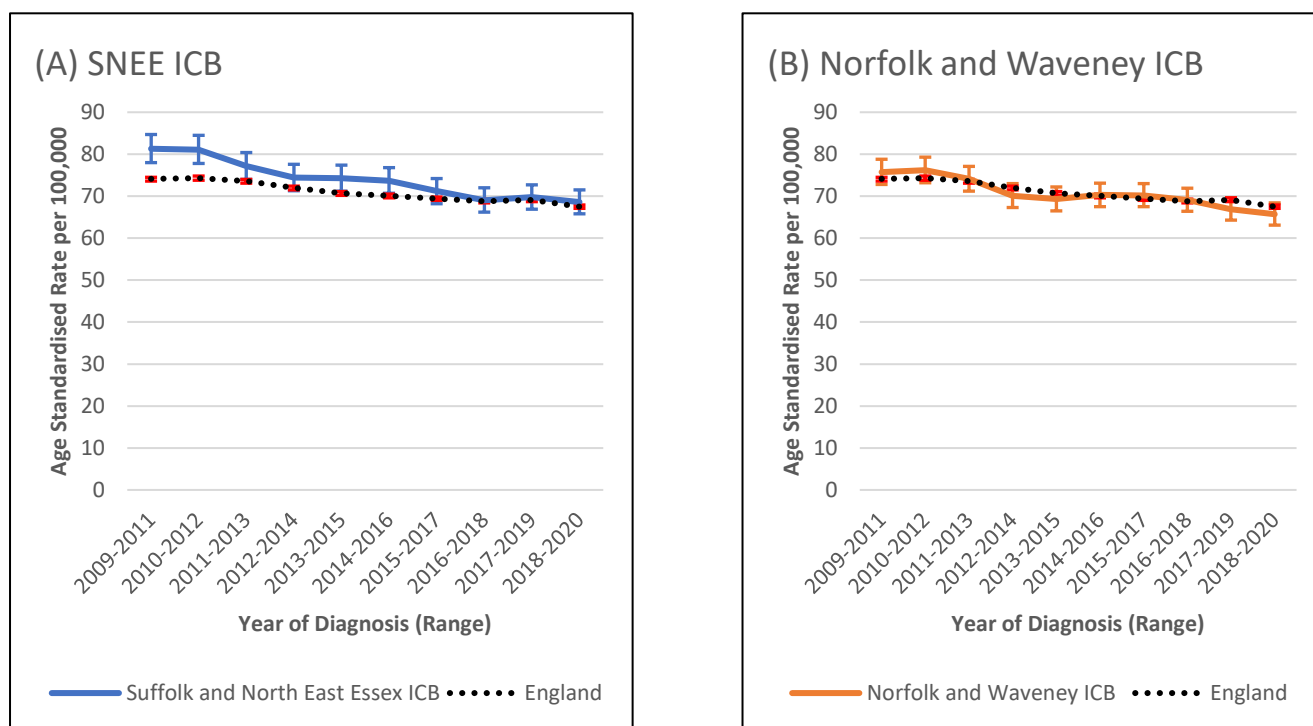
Source: [National Disease Registration Service \(NDRS\) - NHS Digital](#)

### Colorectal cancer

Figure 17 shows the colorectal cancer age-standardised incidence trend from 2009-11 to 2018-20 for ICBs across Suffolk. Since 2008-10, colorectal cancer rates in Suffolk and North East Essex ICB and Norfolk and Waveney ICB have statistically significantly decreased in 2018-20 (to 68.6 per 100,000 for SNEE ICB – a reduction of 15.6%, and 65.7 per 100,000 – a reduction of 13.2%, in Norfolk and Waveney ICB).

The 2018-20 incidence rates for both ICBs are statistically similar to the England average. SNEE ICB did have a statistically significant higher incidence of colorectal cancer between 2009-2011 (9.7% higher) and 2010-2012 (9.2%) than national averages, but this gap has now reduced with SNEE ICB colorectal incidence statistically similar to national incidence.

Figure 17. Colorectal cancer age-standardised incidence trend from 2009-11 to 2018-20. (A) Suffolk and North East Essex ICB; (B) Norfolk and Waveney ICB.



Source: [National Disease Registration Service \(NDRS\) - NHS Digital](#)

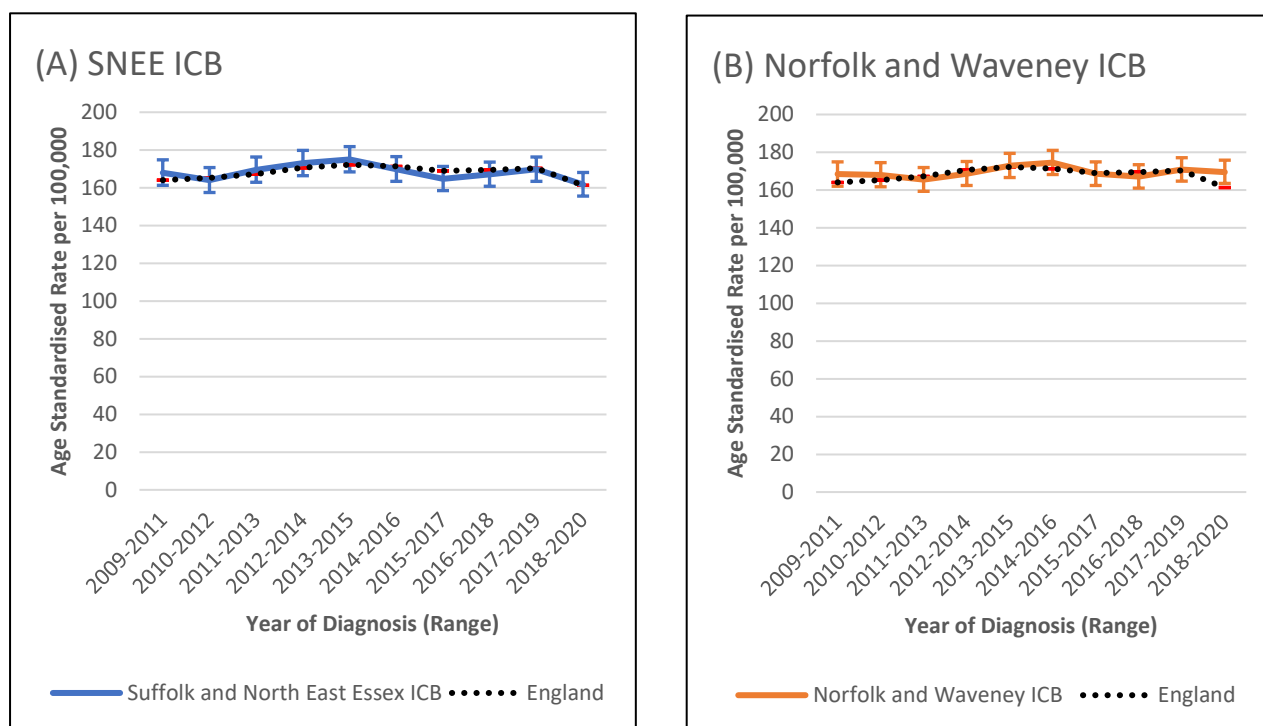
### Breast cancer

Figure 18 shows the breast cancer age-standardised incidence trend from 2009-11 to 2018-20 for ICBs across Suffolk. Female breast cancer incidence for Suffolk and North East Essex ICB remained statistically similar between 2009-11 (164.0 per 100,000) to 2018-20 (161.3 per 100,000), despite the likely impact of the pandemic.

For Norfolk and Waveney ICB, trends between 2009-11 (168.0 per 100,000) to 2017-19 (170.3 per 100,000) also remained statistically similar to the national average, however the incidence rate for 2019-20 (169.5 per 100,000) was statistically higher (5.1%) than the national average, but statistically similar to the SNEE ICB value.

National incidence had statistically significant increases between 2009-11 (164.0 per 100,000) to 2013-15 (172.2 per 100,000) before a statistically significant decrease to the 2018-20 figure of 161.3 per 100,000. Breast cancer diagnoses decreased in the first year of the pandemic in England but are now believed to have recovered to pre-pandemic levels. It is estimated that in England between 2019/20, there may be around 10,300 “missing” women with undiagnosed breast cancer since the start of the pandemic<sup>11</sup>. Longer-term analysis is required once the data is available, to understand if breast cancer incidence has returned to pre-pandemic levels.

Figure 18. Breast cancer age-standardised incidence trend from 2009-11 to 2018-20. (A) Suffolk and North East Essex ICB; (B) Norfolk and Waveney ICB.



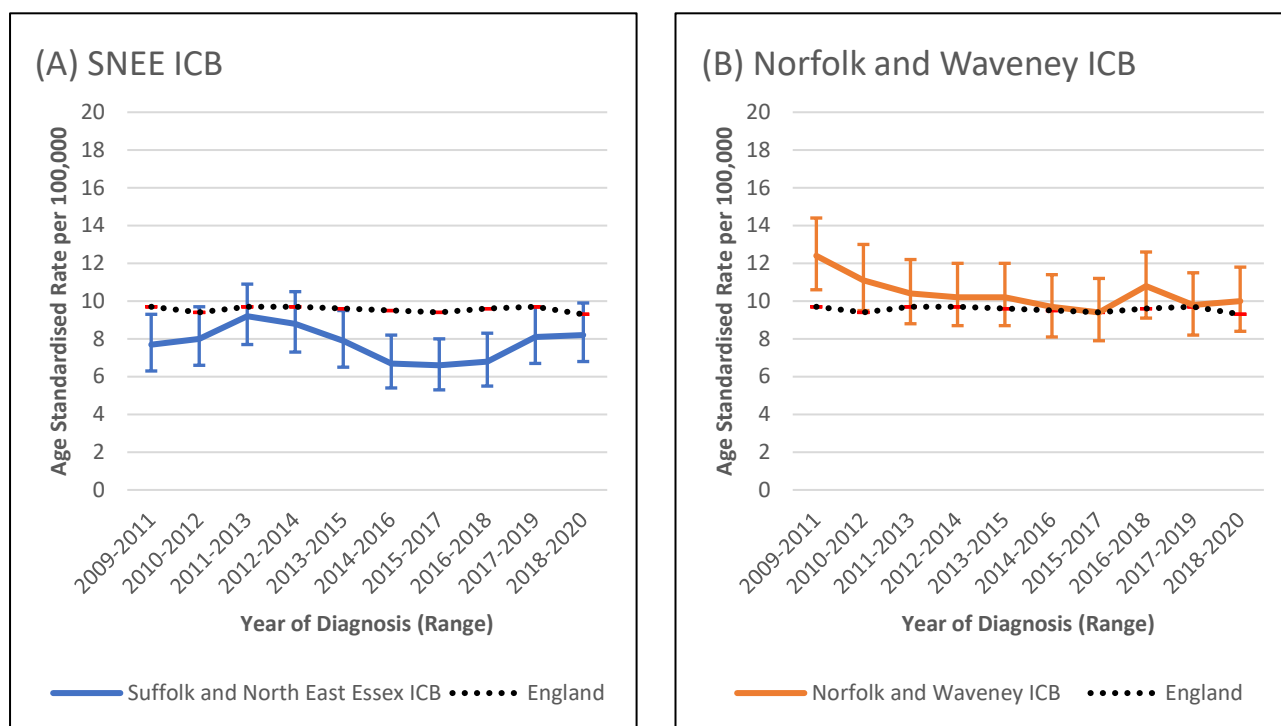
Source: [National Disease Registration Service \(NDRS\) - NHS Digital](#)

### Cervical cancer

Figure 19 shows the cervical cancer age-standardised incidence trend from 2009-11 to 2018-20 for ICBs across Suffolk.

- Cervical cancer rates for both Suffolk and North East Essex ICB and Norfolk and Waveney ICB remain statistically similar in 2018-20 to 2009-11 despite the impact of the pandemic.
  - Cervical cancer screening was restored promptly in England during the pandemic, which limited the impact on excess cervical cancer diagnoses. In 2020, there was a 6.4% shortfall of screening samples observed<sup>12</sup>.
- Incidence rates for cervical cancer in England have remained statistically similar between 2009-11 to 2018-20, despite the impact of the pandemic.
- Cervical cancer incidence was statistically significantly lower for Suffolk and North East Essex ICB than the England average between 2014-2018. To note, cervical cancer screening in Suffolk was statistically similar to the England average between 2012 to 2018 and has since been statistically significantly above the England average between 2019 to 2022. More information on cervical cancer incidence and screening can be seen in the supporting chapter.

Figure 19. Cervical cancer age-standardised incidence trend from 2009-11 to 2018-20. (A) Suffolk and North East Essex ICB; (B) Norfolk and Waveney ICB.



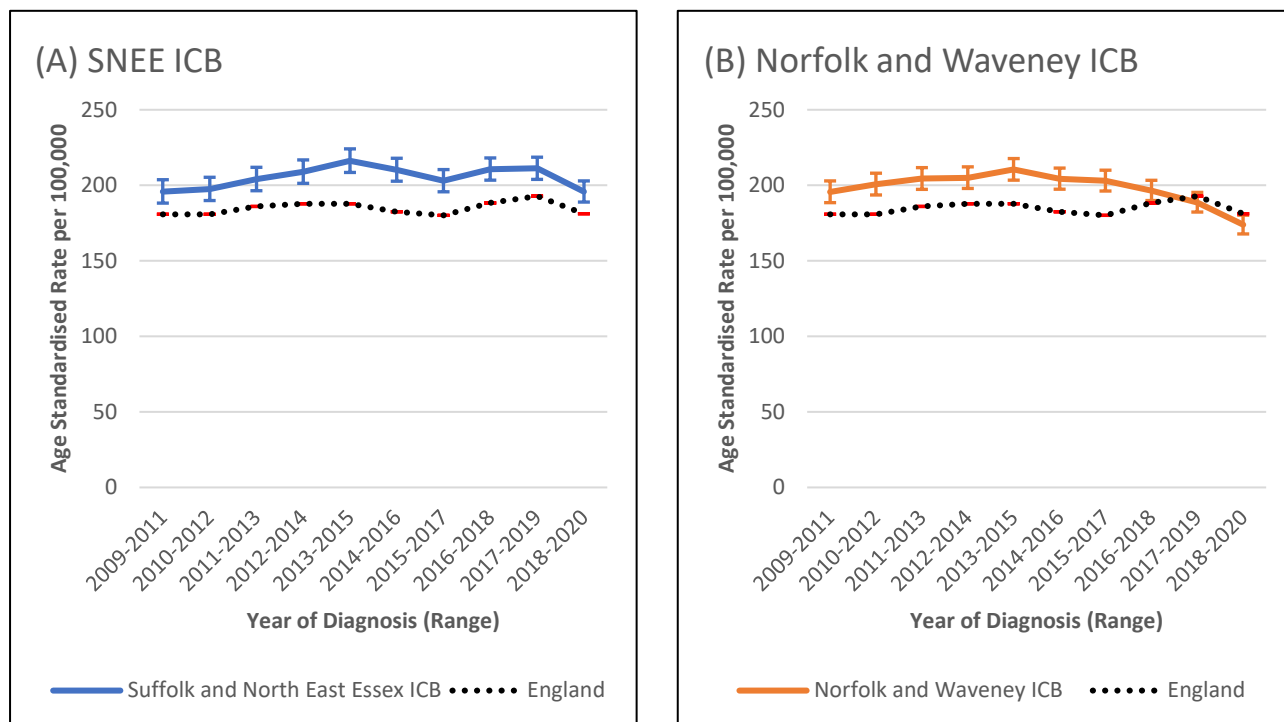
Source: [National Disease Registration Service \(NDRS\) - NHS Digital](#)

### Prostate cancer

Figure 20 shows the prostate cancer age-standardised incidence trend from 2009-11 to 2018-20 for ICBs across Suffolk.

- Prostate cancer for SNEE ICB is also statistically similar in 2018-20 to 2009-11, however there has been a statistically significant decrease in prostate cancer rates for Norfolk and Waveney ICB between 2009-11 and 2018-20. The Norfolk and Waveney ICB prostate cancer incidence rate between 2018-20 remains statistically similar to the England rate.
  - In England, prostate cancer accounted for over a third of all missed cancers caused by the Covid-19 pandemic<sup>13</sup>. Prostate Cancer UK estimate that because of the pandemic, 14,000 men in England have not started treatment for prostate cancer<sup>14,15</sup>.
- Prostate cancer incidence rates in England remained statistically similar between 2009-11 to 2018-20.

Figure 20. Prostate cancer age-standardised incidence trend from 2009-11 to 2018-20. (A) Suffolk and North East Essex ICB; (B) Norfolk and Waveney ICB.



Source: [National Disease Registration Service \(NDRS\) - NHS Digital](https://digital.nhs.uk/services/national-disease-registration-service)

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