

State of the Nation Report 2026

Summary of results for people (women and men) diagnosed with primary breast cancer (Stage 0 to 3) in England and Wales between 1st January 2021 and 31st December 2023.

Key: E England W Wales

Total: 145,735 women and 1,060 men (2021-2023)

E **England: 138,524**

W **Wales: 8,271**

Triple diagnostic assessment (TDA)

On average, 68% of people on non-screening pathway in England* were diagnosed through a triple diagnostic assessment (TDA) clinic, with rates ranging from 5%-89% according to organisation of diagnosis. In Wales**, the estimated TDA rate was 73%.



Neo-adjuvant chemotherapy (NACT)

Among people with stage 2 to 3A HER2+ or triple negative breast cancer who underwent surgery within 12 months of diagnosis, 57% in England and 26% in Wales received NACT (chemotherapy before surgery).



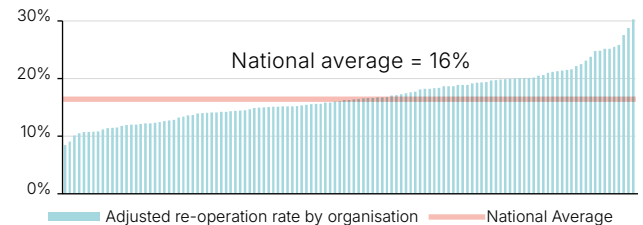
Breast-conserving surgery (BCS)

Among those who had surgery within 12 months of diagnosis, 74% of women in England and 71% in Wales had BCS as their first surgery. The remainder had a mastectomy as their first surgery.



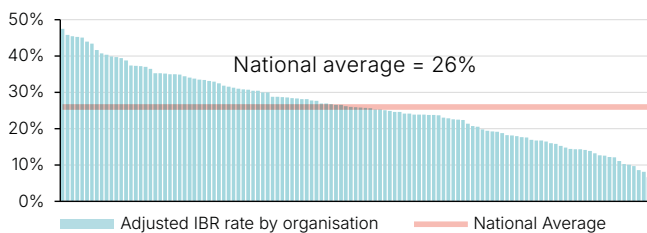
Re-operation following BCS

Within 12 months of initial BCS, 16% of individuals in England and 19% in Wales required at least one re-operation. Marked variation was observed between different English and Welsh NHS organisations.



Immediate Breast Reconstruction (IBR)

Among women who had a mastectomy, 27% in England and 15% in Wales underwent immediate breast reconstruction at the time of their mastectomy, with marked variation observed between different NHS organisations.



Adjuvant radiotherapy after BCS

Among women who had BCS for early invasive breast cancer, 86% in England and 47% in Wales underwent adjuvant radiotherapy (radiotherapy after surgery).



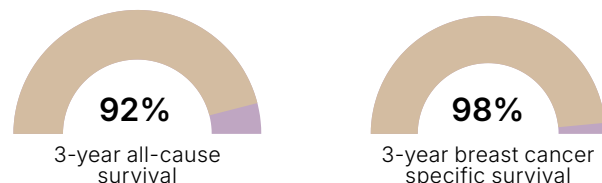
Post-mastectomy radiotherapy (PMRT)

Among women who had mastectomy for early invasive breast cancer, 48% in England and 18% in Wales underwent PMRT (radiotherapy to the chest wall after mastectomy).



Survival

Among individuals diagnosed with primary breast cancer (Stage 1 to 3A) in England and Wales***, 3-year all-cause survival was 92% and 3-year breast cancer-specific survival was 98%.



* Data field for triple diagnostic assessment for England was not available for use in this report. An algorithm was applied to estimate this for England. Details can be found in the methodology supplement.

** The Wales figure is based on the specific TDA data item, available from the second half of 2023.

*** Follow-up time was slightly shorter for Wales; therefore, the 3-year estimate was extrapolated using a flexible parametric approach and should be interpreted with caution. For separate figures for England and Wales please see the supplementary data tables that accompany this report.