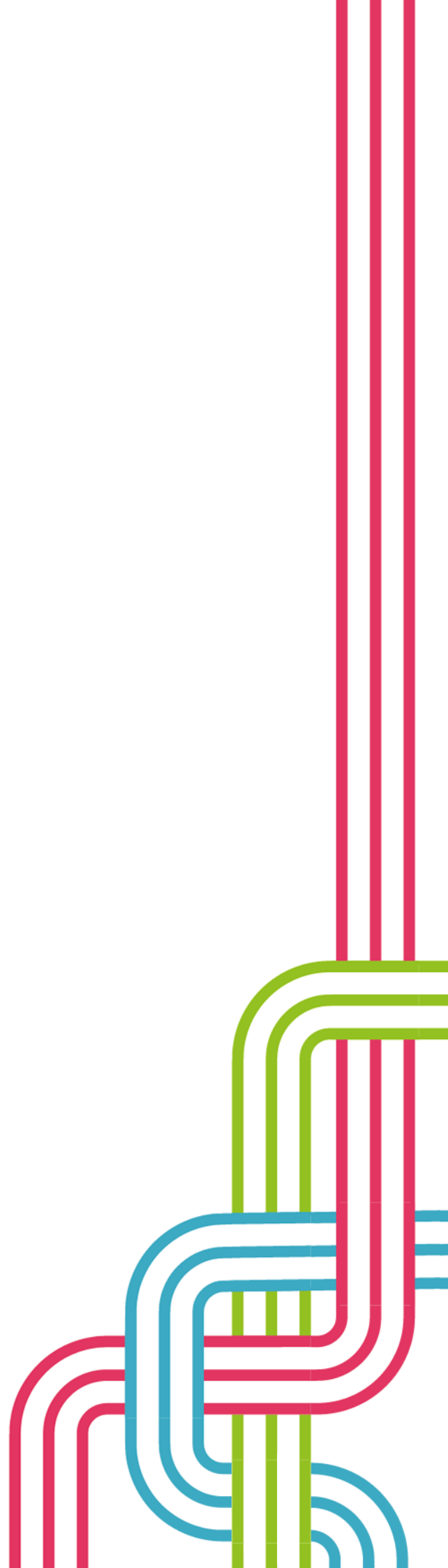


Cancer Mortality

Suffolk

2023



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Key points

1. Overall cancer mortality in Suffolk is statistically significantly lower than the England average. In 2021, 2,172 people in Suffolk (all ages) died from cancer. The age-standardised mortality rate of 235.1 per 100,000 was statistically significantly lower (5.3%) than the England average.
2. Over 8 in 10 (86.0%) of deaths from cancer in Suffolk in 2021 were individuals aged 65 and over (1,867 deaths).
3. 392 people died from lung cancer in 2021, however the age-standardised rate of 42.7 per 100,000 meant that lung cancer mortality in Suffolk is statistically significantly lower than the national average (England 48.5 per 100,000).
4. Breast cancer mortality rates for Suffolk and all lower-tier local authorities in the county are statistically similar to the national average. However, while colorectal cancer mortality rates for Suffolk (28.1 per 100,000) are statistically similar to the England rate, Babergh's rate is 32.3% higher than England (40.1 per 100,000), and West Suffolk is statistically significantly lower at 18.1 per 100,000.

- Under 75 cancer mortality for Suffolk is statistically significantly lower from 2010 (137.4 per 100,000) to 2021 (110.6 per 100,000). Since 2015, each year Suffolk's under 75 cancer mortality has been statistically significantly lower than the England rate.

About the Data

The Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) [Fingertips](#) tool provides many indicators for cancer mortality at a Suffolk level – most of these indicators are current, publishing 2021 data. The only caveat is that for most of these indicators, trend data is not available. As a result, to analyse cancer mortality trends, CancerData from the NCRAS dataset is used. However, as previously mentioned – CancerData is published at sub-ICB level and does not cover the entirety of Suffolk.

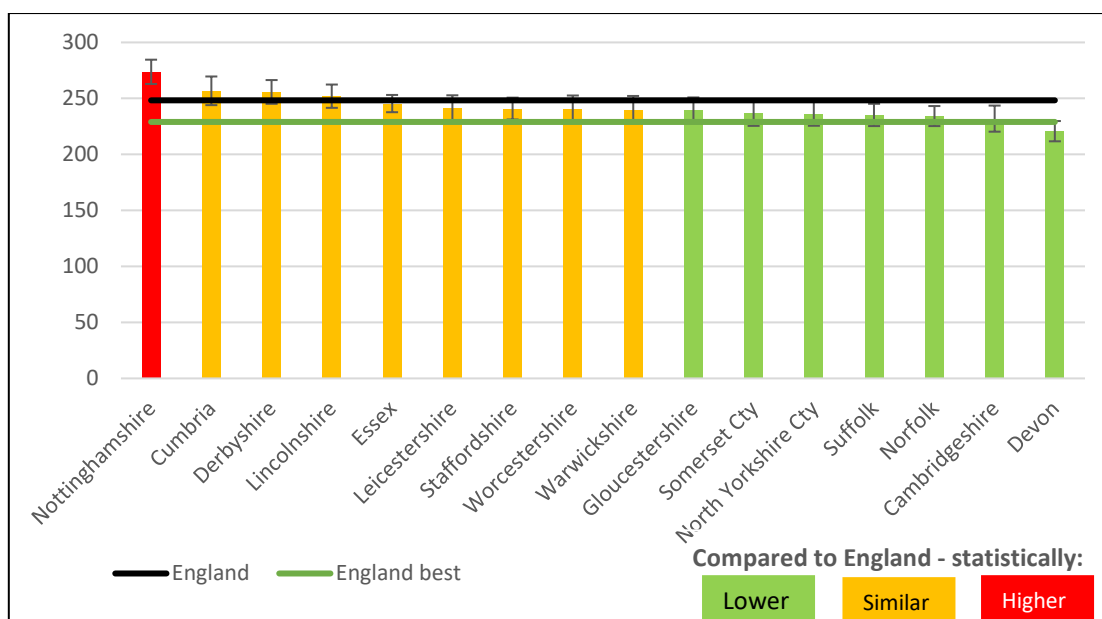
Suffolk overall cancer mortality

Cancer mortality estimates show the numbers of people who died from cancer. It does not include people who were diagnosed with cancer but died from an unrelated cause of death. Figure 1 shows the age-standardised mortality rate from cancer, all ages, all person for Suffolk and CIPFA nearest neighbours, 2021 (The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) nearest neighbours model measures similarities between local authorities to compare areas with similar traits¹).

For all persons, all ages, in 2021 – 2,172 Suffolk residents died from cancer, an age standardised rate of 235.1 per 100,000.

Suffolk has a below average rate of cancer mortality compared to similar areas in the country, and the national average. This rate is statistically significantly lower than the national average (248.3 per 100,000), as well as statistically significantly lower than several of Suffolk's CIPFA nearest neighbours, as seen in the figure below.

Figure 1. Age-standardised mortality rate from cancer, all ages, all persons, Suffolk and CIPFA nearest neighbours, 2021.

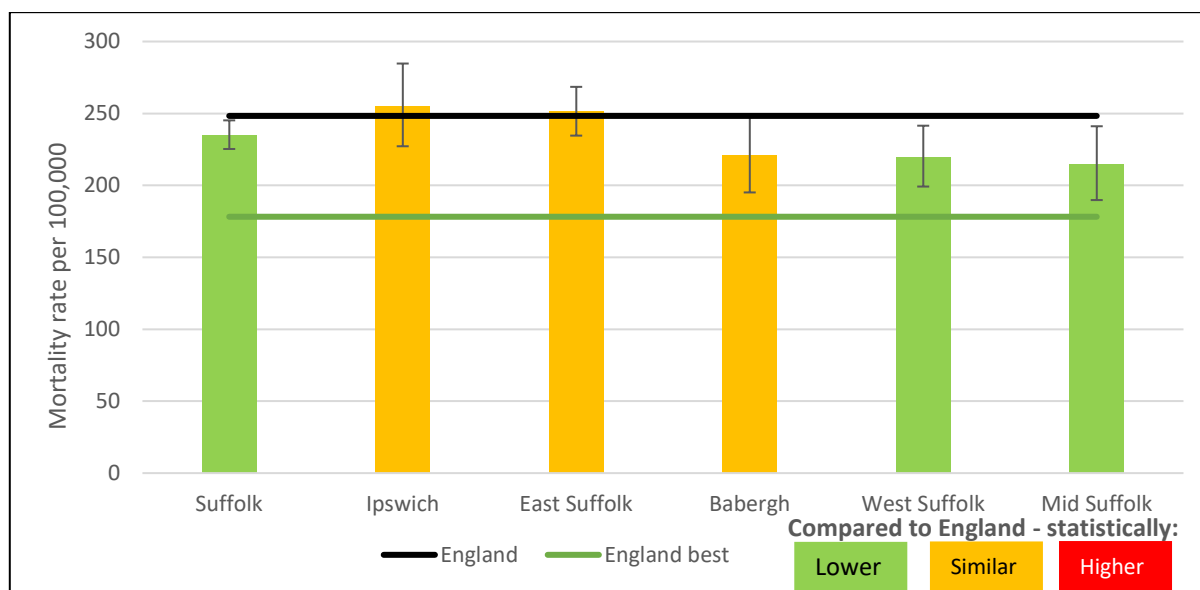


Source: [Fingertips Public Health Data](#)

Figure 2 shows the age-standardised mortality rate from cancer, all ages, all persons for Suffolk and across Suffolk’s districts, compared to England, 2021. Cancer mortality within Suffolk’s lower-tier local authorities:

- Both West Suffolk (219.6 per 100,000) and Mid Suffolk (214.3 per 100,000) have statistically significantly lower mortality rates from cancer than the England average.
- Ipswich (254.7 per 100,000), East Suffolk (251.1 per 100,000), and Babergh (220.7 per 100,000) all have statistically similar mortality rates from cancer to the England average.

Figure 2. Age-standardised mortality rate from cancer, all ages, all persons, Suffolk and districts, 2021.



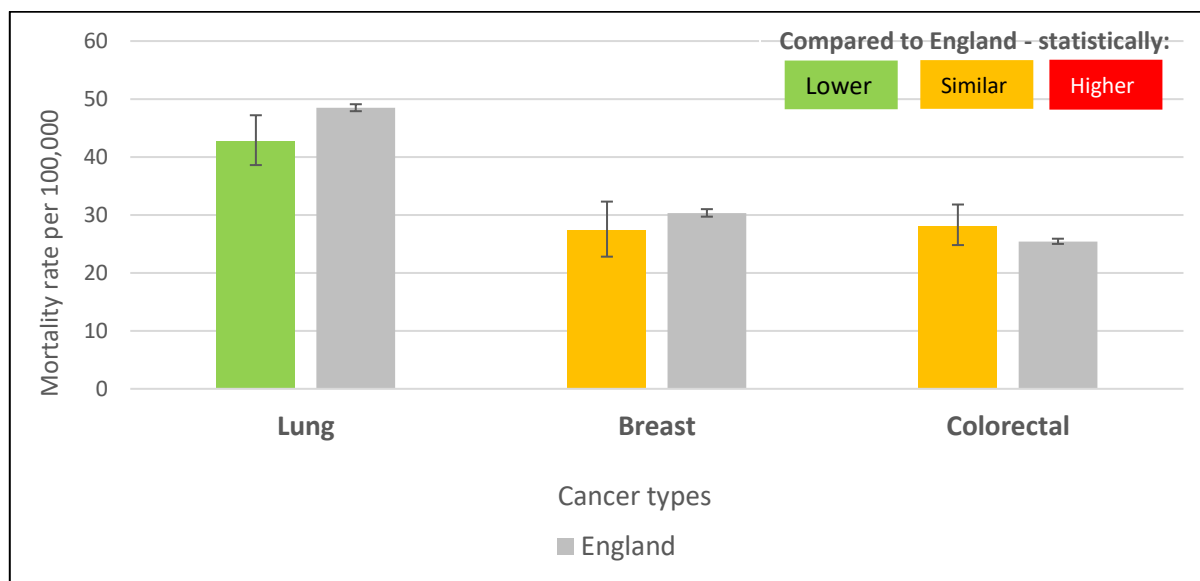
Source: [Fingertips Public Health Data](#)

Suffolk – mortality rates by cancer type

Data used within this section is based on the underlying cause of deaths, and the recorded ICD-10/diagnosis codes registered in the respective calendar year.

Figure 3 shows Suffolk’s directly standardised mortality rates for lung, breast, and colorectal cancers compared to England estimates. Suffolk’s cancer mortality rates in 2021 are statistically similar to the national average for breast, and colorectal cancer. Lung cancer is statistically significantly lower in Suffolk at 42.7 deaths per 100,000 compared to the national average of 48.5 per 100,000.

Figure 3. Suffolk directly standardised mortality rates for lung, breast, and colorectal cancers, compared to England average, 2021.

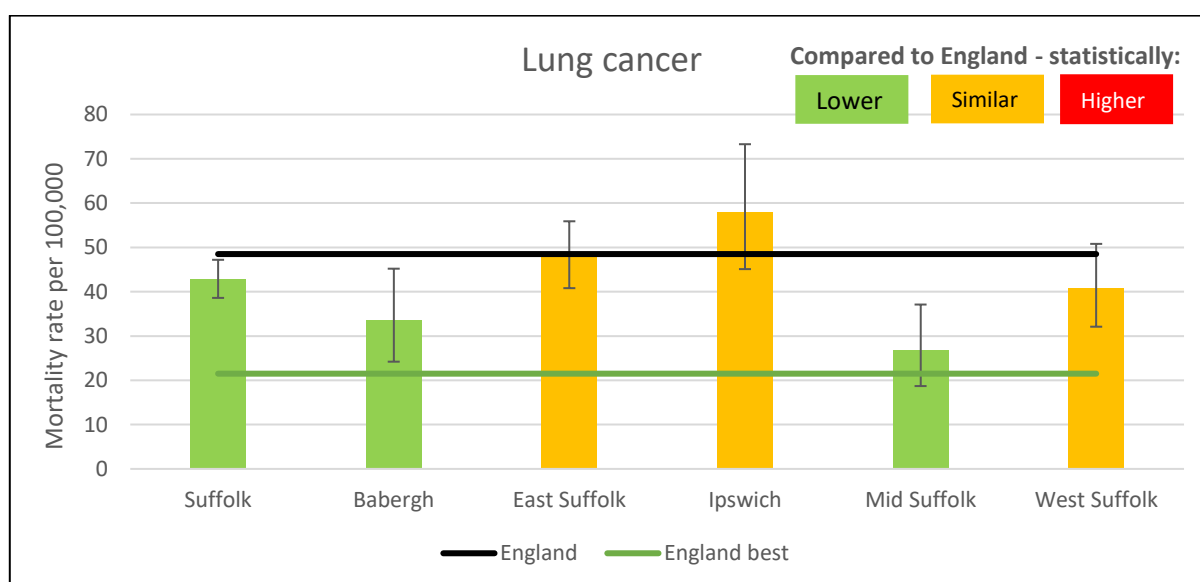


Source: [Fingertips Public Health Data](#)

Figure 4 shows lung cancer mortality rates for Suffolk and Suffolk districts compared to England. For Suffolk's lower-tier local authorities, mortality rates for lung cancer in 2021:

- Are statistically significantly lower in Babergh (33.5 per 100,000) and Mid Suffolk (26.8 per 100,000) than the England average.
- Are statistically similar for East Suffolk (47.9 per 100,000), Ipswich (58.0 per 100,000) and West Suffolk (40.7 per 100,000) to the England average.

Figure 4. Lung cancer mortality rates in 2021 for Suffolk's lower-tier local authorities, compared to England.

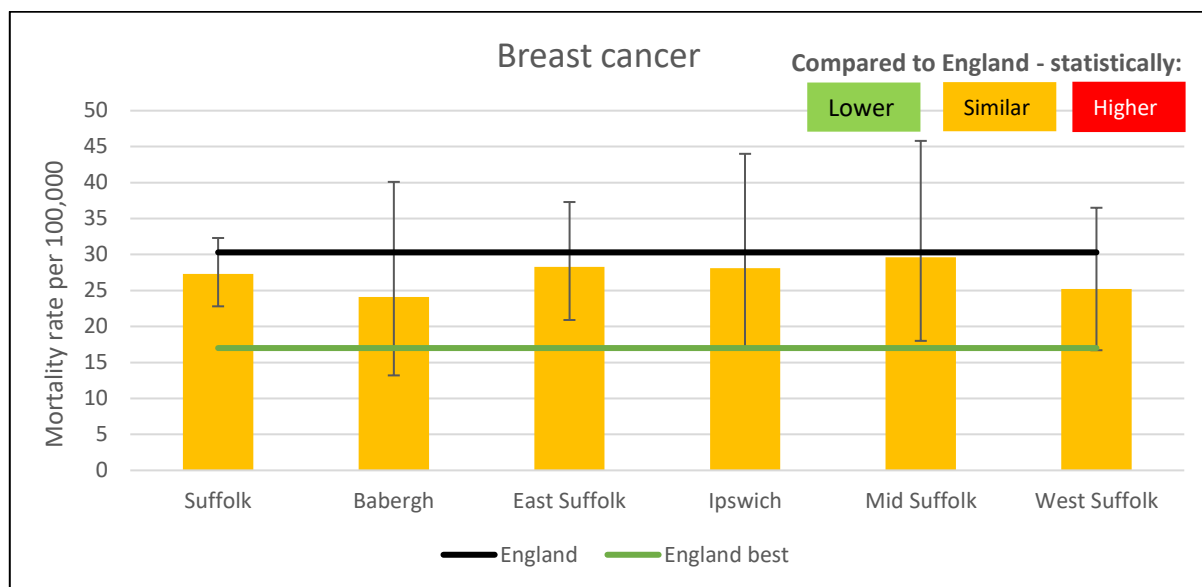


Source: [Fingertips Public Health Data](#)

Figure 5 shows breast cancer mortality rates for Suffolk and Suffolk districts compared to England.

- All Suffolk local authorities have statistically similar breast cancer mortality rates to the England average.

Figure 5. Breast cancer mortality rates in 2021 for Suffolk’s lower-tier local authorities, compared to England.

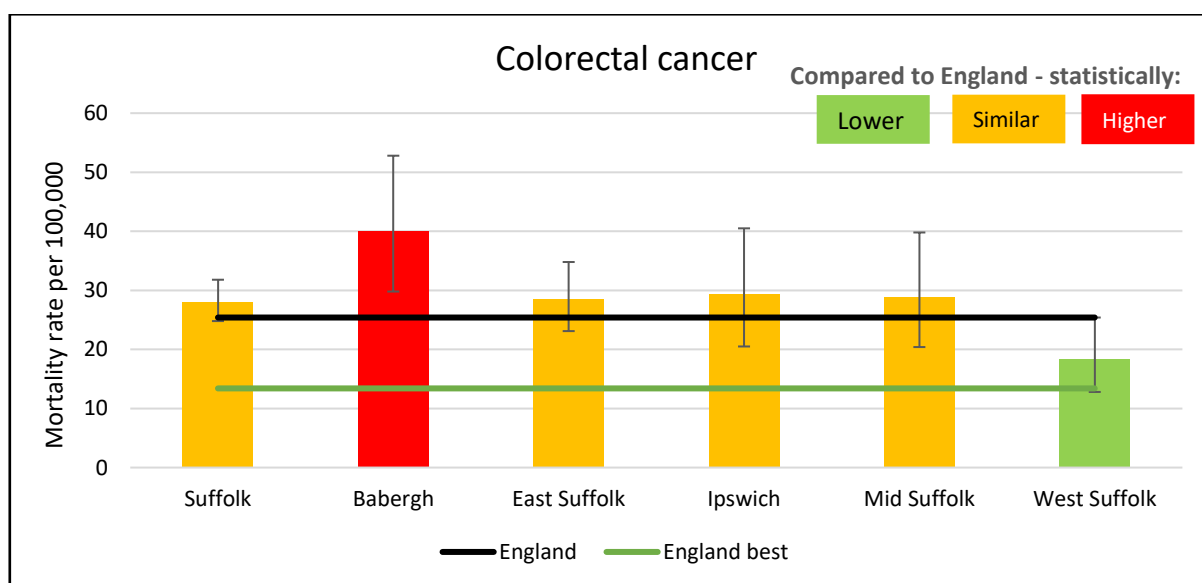


Source: [Fingertips Public Health Data](#)

Figure 6 shows colorectal cancer mortality rates for Suffolk and Suffolk districts compared to England.

- At 57.9% higher, Babergh had a statistically significantly higher colorectal cancer mortality rate (40.1 per 100,000) than the England average.
- West Suffolk (18.3 per 100,000) had a statistically significantly lower colorectal cancer mortality rate than the England average.
- East Suffolk (28.5 per 100,000), Ipswich (29.3 per 100,000) and Mid Suffolk (28.9 per 100,000), all had statistically similar colorectal cancer mortality rates to the England average.

Figure 6. Colorectal cancer mortality rates in 2021 for Suffolk’s lower-tier local authorities, compared to England.



Source: [Fingertips Public Health Data](#)

Suffolk – under 75 cancer mortality

Under 75 cancer mortality rates trend 2010-20 (1 year range PHOF)

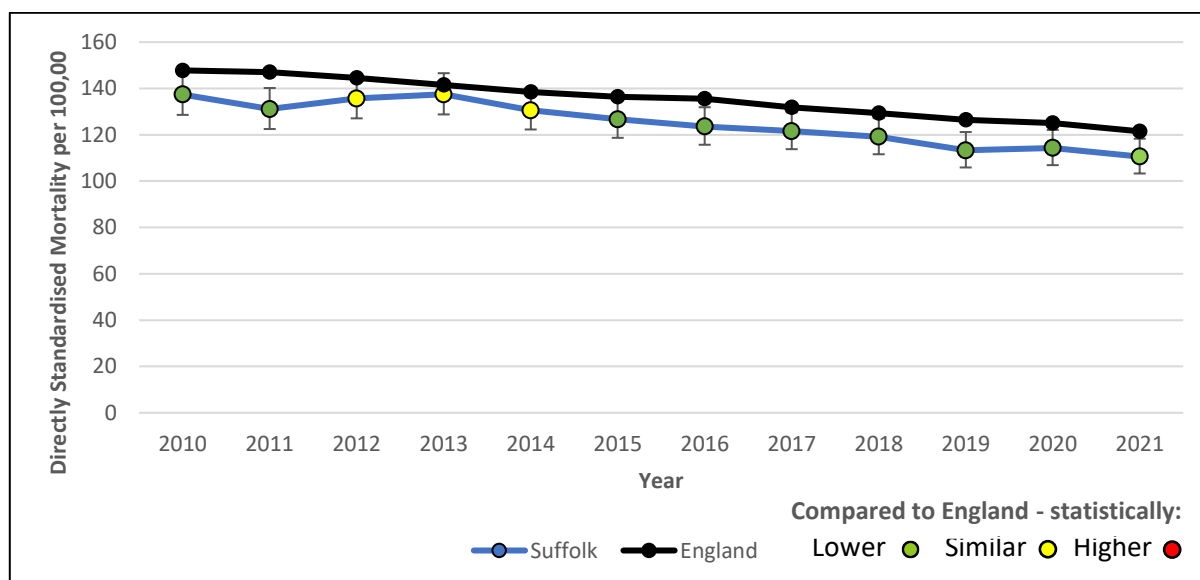
Cancer is the highest cause of death in England in under 75s. To ensure that there continues to be a reduction in the rate of premature mortality from cancer, there needs to be concerted action in both prevention and treatment. The data in the figure below is the number of deaths from all cancers (classified by underlying cause of death recorded as ICD codes C00-C97) registered in the respective calendar years, in people aged under 75, aggregated into quinary age bands (0-4, 5-9, ..., 70-74).

The latest data point for this indicator covers the period from March 2021, including any effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. At a national level, Cancer Research UK estimates that in the first year of the pandemic, nationally 1 million fewer screening invitations were sent, 380,000 fewer people saw a specialist following an urgent suspected cancer referral, and 10 times more people were waiting 6 or more weeks for diagnostic tests resulting in an estimated 37,000 fewer patients starting cancer treatment².

Figure 7 shows under 75 mortality rates from cancer between 2010 to 2021 for Suffolk, compared to England. Suffolk figures have been statistically significantly lower than the national average, apart from between 2012 to 2014 where mortality rates were statistically similar to the national average.

Suffolk's 2021 cancer mortality rate for people aged 75 and under is statistically significantly lower than the England average at 110.6 per 100,000 compared to the national value of 121.5 per 100,000. Since 2001, under 75 mortality from cancer has been decreasing at both a national and Suffolk level, however the gap between Suffolk's score and the national average has fluctuated. Since 2015 Suffolk has reported statistically significant fewer deaths per 100,000 compared to the national average. Under 75 cancer mortality has decreased by 19.5% from 2010 (137.4 per 100,000) to 110.6 per 100,000 in 2021.

Figure 7. Under 75 mortality from cancer, all persons (1 year range) for Suffolk and England from 2010 to 2021.

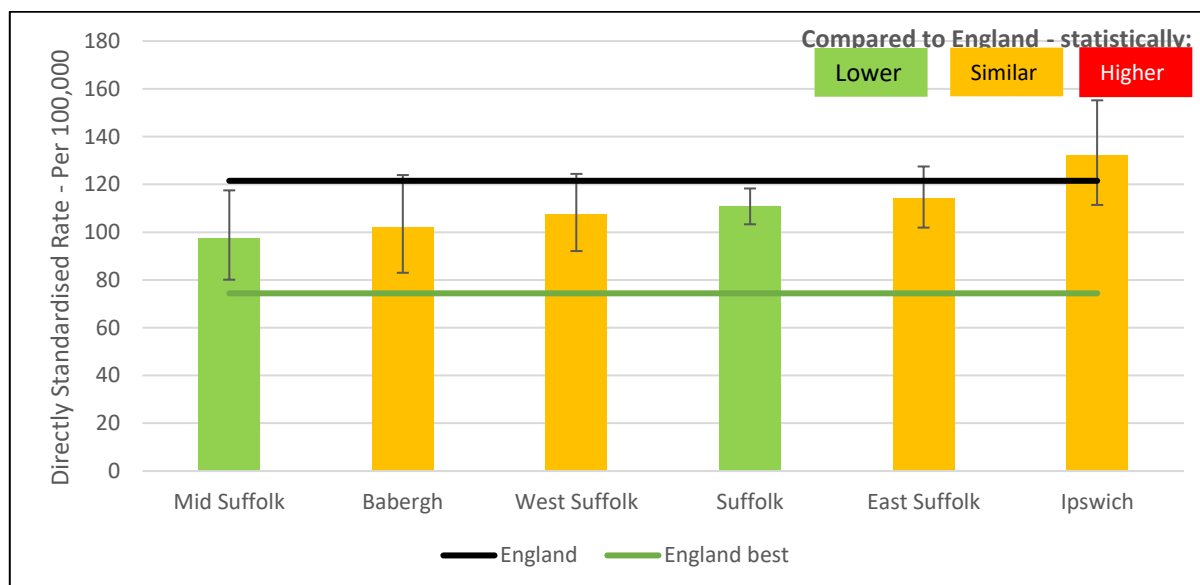


Source: [Fingertips Public Health Data](#)

Under 75 cancer mortality rates by local authority and sex

Local authority health profiles include under 75 mortality rates by local authority area, rather than ICB sub-locations, providing greater granularity of detail on cancer mortality across the county, shown in Figure 8. Within Suffolk, West Suffolk, Ipswich, East Suffolk and Babergh all have statistically similar rates for under 75 cancer mortality to the national average. Suffolk as a county, however, has a statistically significant lower mortality rate (110.6 per 100,000), with Mid Suffolk the only local authority to also have a statistically significant lower cancer mortality rate (97.5 per 100,000) than the national average.

Figure 8. Under 75 mortality rate from cancer (1 year range) 2021, directly standardised rate per 100,000 by Suffolk local authority, compared to England.

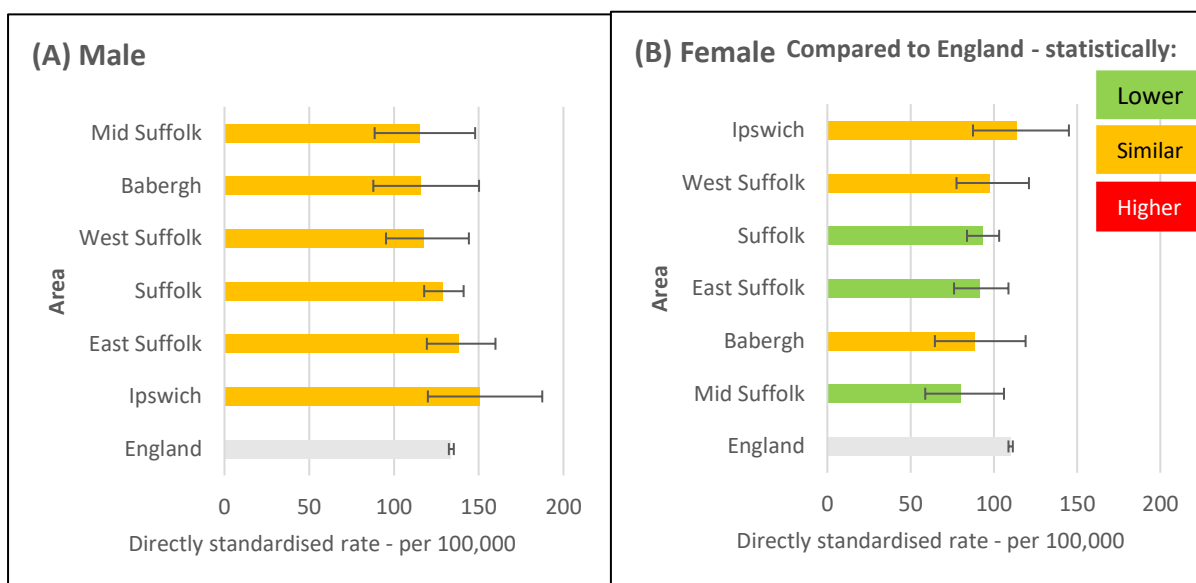


Source: [Fingertips Public Health Data](#)

Figure 9 shows the under 75 cancer mortality for Suffolk males and females, and lower-tier local authority area.

- Under 75 mortality from cancer in males is statistically similar to the national average across all Suffolk local authorities.
- Mid Suffolk (79.9 per 100,000), East Suffolk (91.4 per 100,000) and Suffolk (93.2 per 100,000) have statistically significant lower mortality rates than the national average among females.
- All other Suffolk local authorities report statistically similar mortality rates to the national average.

Figure 9. Under 75 mortality rate from cancer (1 year range) 2021, directly standardised rate per 100,000 by local authority (A) male, (B) female.



Source: [Fingertips Public Health Data](#)

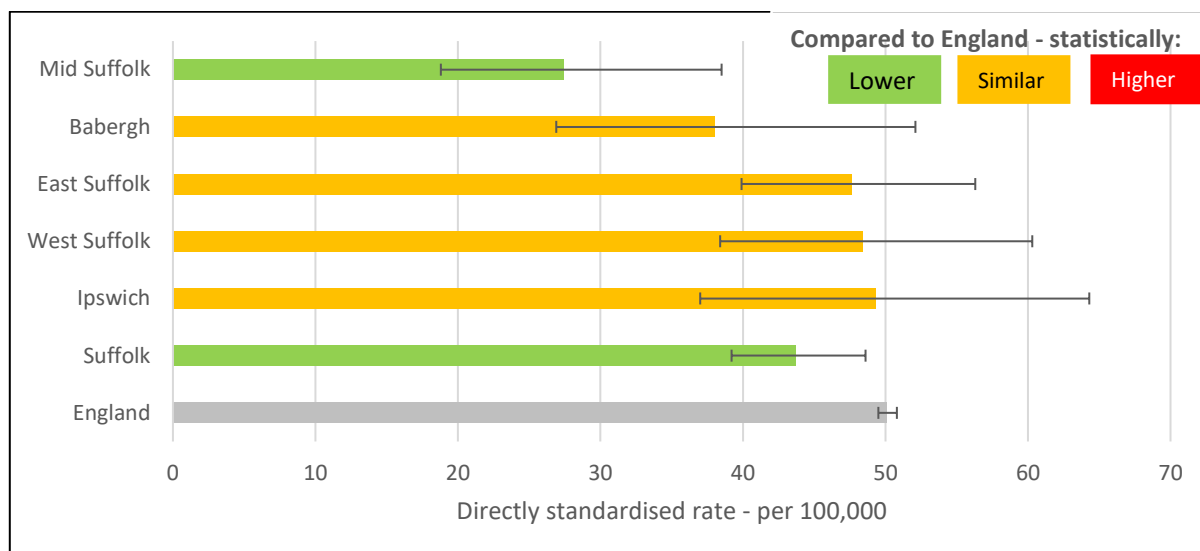
Under 75 mortality – considered preventable

Preventable mortality considers most or all deaths from a specific underlying cause, and whether those deaths could potentially be avoided through effective public health and primary prevention interventions.

Figure 10 displays Suffolk and lower-tier local authorities, under 75 cancer mortality considered preventable in 202.

- Suffolk (43.7 per 100,000) had a statistically significantly lower under 75 mortality rate for cancers considered preventable than the England average (50.1 per 100,000).
- Mid Suffolk (27.4 per 100,000) also had a statistically significantly lower under 75 mortality rate for cancers considered preventable – all other Suffolk local authorities were statistically similar to the England average.

Figure 10. Suffolk and lower-tier local authorities, under 75 mortality rate from cancer considered preventable, all persons, 2021.



Source: [Fingertips Public Health Data](#)

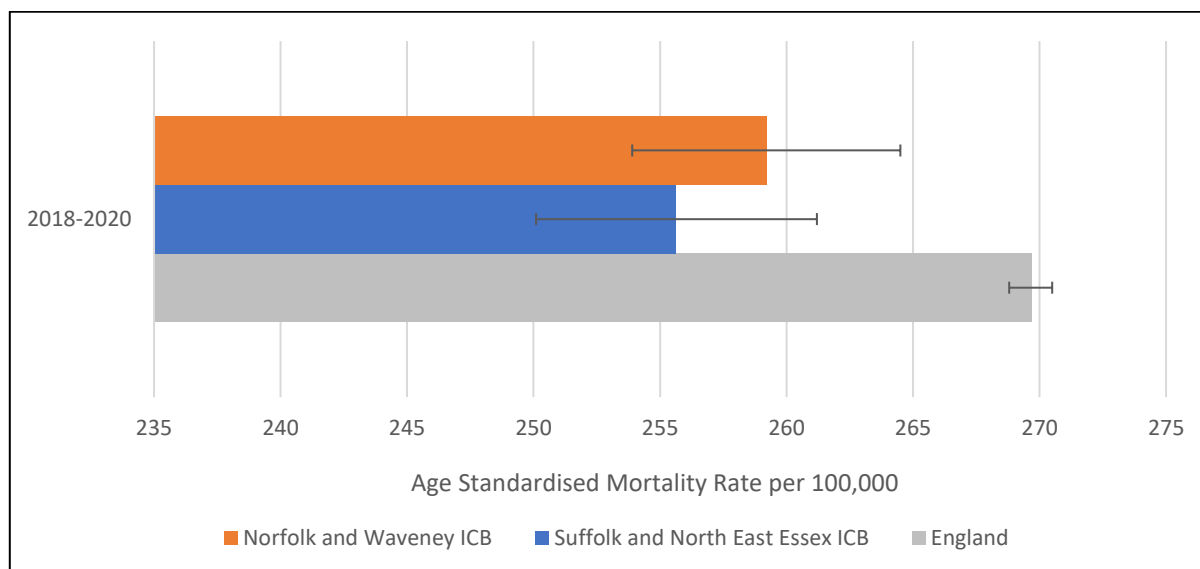
CancerData – ICB and sub-ICB level

From this section onwards within this chapter, CancerData is used as the data source. While CancerData provides greater granularity, it does not provide mortality statistics for the entirety of Suffolk as an upper-tier local authority. However, the data is still worthwhile and is presented at ICB and sub-ICB area.

Figure 11 shows the age-standardised mortality rate for all cancers for SNEE and Norfolk and Waveney ICB, compared to England. Both Norfolk and Waveney ICB and Suffolk and North East Essex ICB have statistically significantly lower age standardised cancer mortality rates than the England average.

- Between 2018-20, mortality for all cancer types in England was 269.7 per 100,000.
- Suffolk and North East Essex ICB (255.6 per 100,000) and Norfolk and Waveney ICB (259.2 per 100,000) were statistically similar to one another, but both statistically significantly lower than the national average.

Figure 11. Age standardised mortality rate for all cancers, Norfolk and Waveney ICB, Suffolk and North East Essex ICB, England, 2018-20.



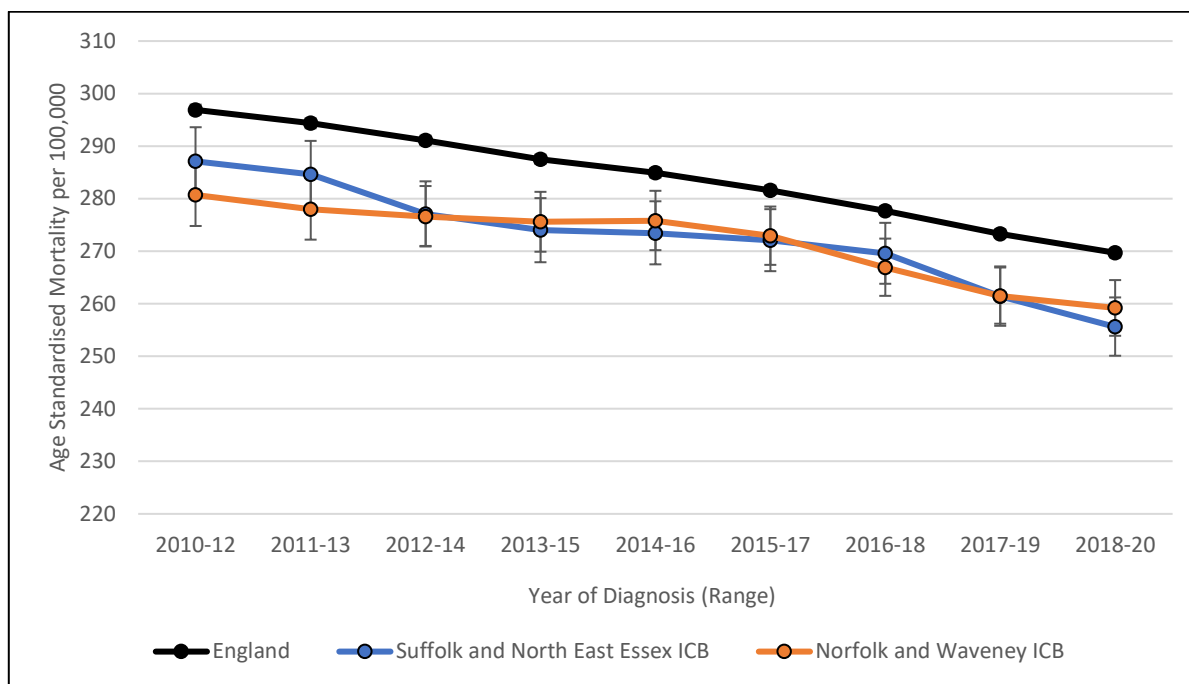
Source: [National Disease Registration Service](#)

Mortality trend for all cancers by ICB – 2010-12 to 2018-20

Figure 12 shows mortality for all cancers (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer) for all ICBs across Suffolk from 2010-12 to 2018-20, compared to England. Overall cancer mortality for all cancers have been decreasing nationally and for both ICBs covering Suffolk. Between 2010-12 and 2018-20;

- Over the entire period – Suffolk and North East Essex and Norfolk and Waveney ICBs have both had statistically significant lower mortality rates for all cancers compared to the national average.
- Between 2010-12 to 2018-20, all cancer mortality for Suffolk and North East Essex ICB has decreased by 12.3% from 287.1 per 100,000 to 255.6 per 100,000.
- Norfolk and Waveney ICB's all cancer mortality rate has decreased by 8.3% from 280.7 per 100,000 in 2010-12 to 259.2 per 100,000 in 2018-20.

Figure 12. Mortality for all cancers (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer) by ICB between 2010-12 to 2018-20.



Source: [National Disease Registration Service](https://nhs.uk/national-disease-registration-service)

Mortality by cancer types

Mortality rates by cancer type 2018-20

Mortality rates differ significantly depending on cancer type. Nationally, lung cancer has the statistically significant highest mortality rate of 54.3 per 100,000 ahead of prostate cancer (48.1 per 100,000), breast cancer (34.4 per 100,000) and colorectal cancer (27.2 per 100,000).

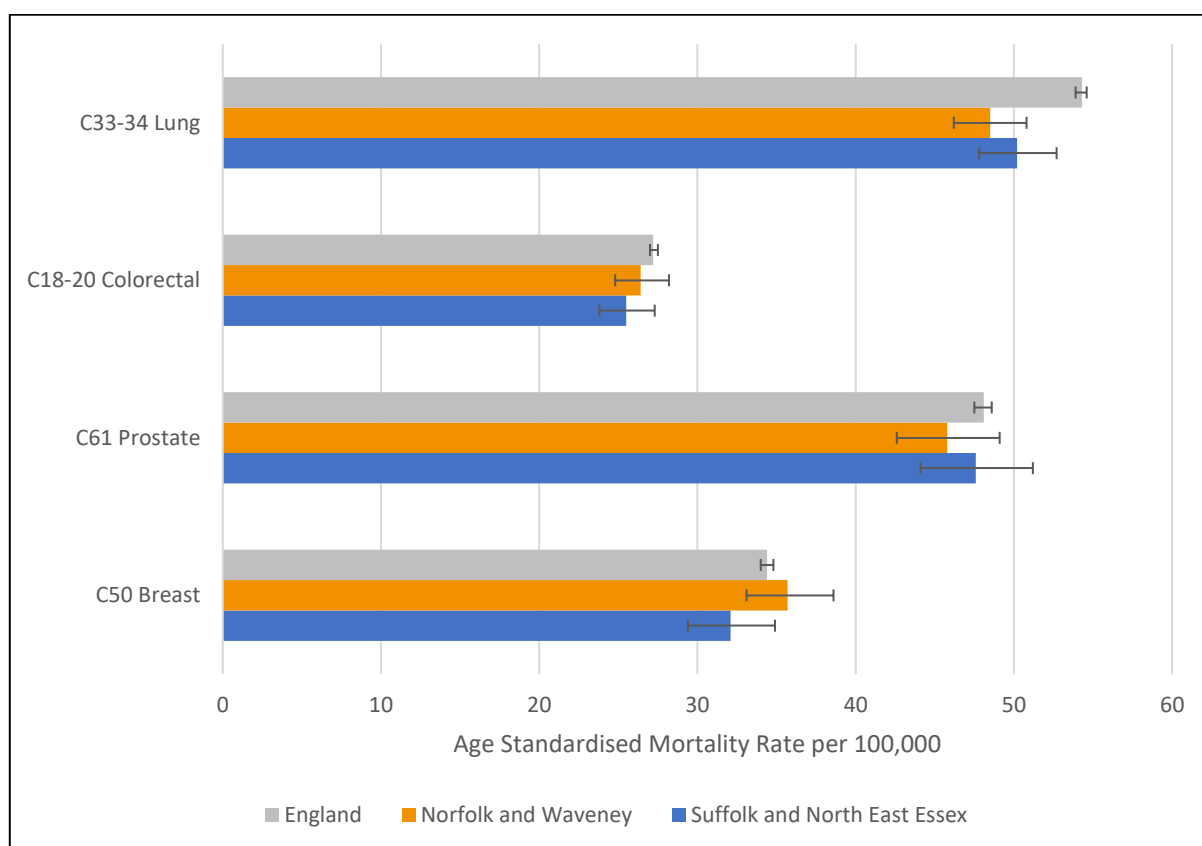
Figure 13 shows the age standardised mortality rate by cancer type for SNEE and Norfolk and Waveney ICB, compared to England, in 2018-20.

For SNEE ICB:

- Lung cancer and prostate cancer have statistically similar mortality rates per 100,000. They are also the highest mortality rates of all tumour types.
- Breast cancer has the third highest cancer mortality rate.
- Bowel cancer has the fourth highest cancer mortality rate.
- This trend is also the same for Norfolk and Waveney ICB.

It is expected that the pandemic will have impacted survival times, as longer waiting times for cancer diagnosis and treatment contribute to higher mortality and lower survival³. This correlates with a more advanced stage of disease among cancer patients, with research showing five-year survival of patients for breast cancer was lower by between 5-7% for those waiting longer from the first symptoms (up to 3 months, compared to 3-6 months)⁴.

Figure 13. Age standardised mortality rate by cancer type, Norfolk and Waveney ICB, Suffolk and North East Essex ICB, England, 2018-20.



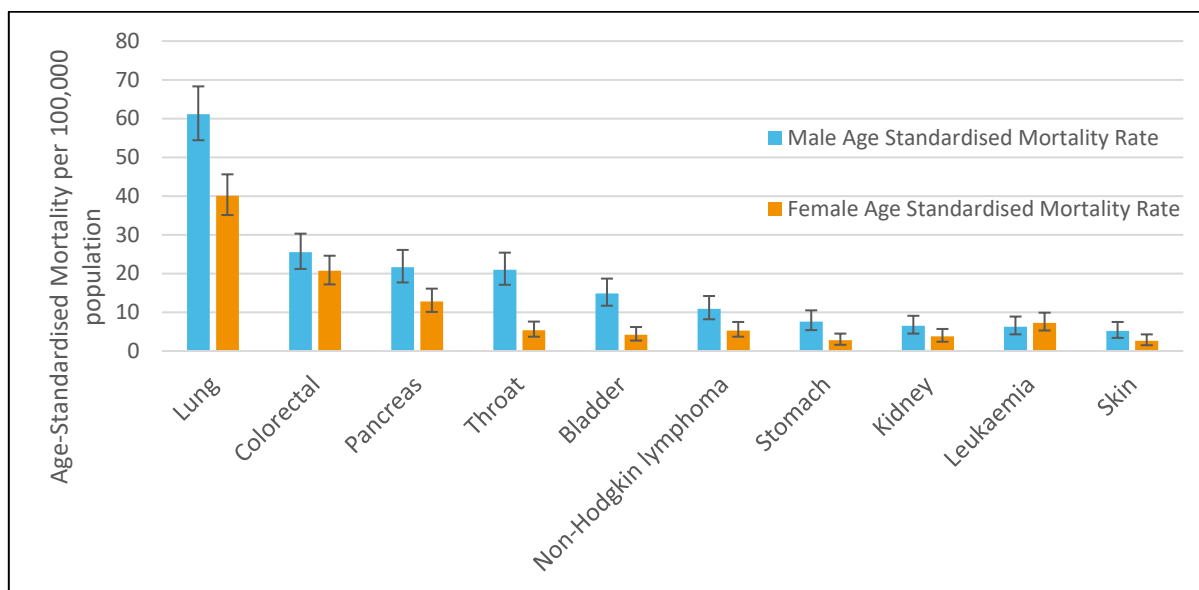
Source: [National Disease Registration Service](https://nhs.uk/ncdr)

Mortality – selected 10 cancer types all persons

Similar to the top 10 cancers for incidence, some cancers are gender specific or affect one gender more than another (such as breast and prostate cancer). Figures 14 and 15 present age standardised mortality rate per 100,000 for selected cancers by gender, for SNEE ICB and Norfolk and Waveney ICB respectively, compared to England. Males have a statistically significant higher mortality rate than females within Suffolk and North East Essex ICB for these cancers:

- Lung
- Pancreas
- Throat
- Bladder
- Stomach

Figure 14. Age standardised mortality rate per 100,000 for selected cancers by gender, Suffolk and North East Essex ICB, 2020.

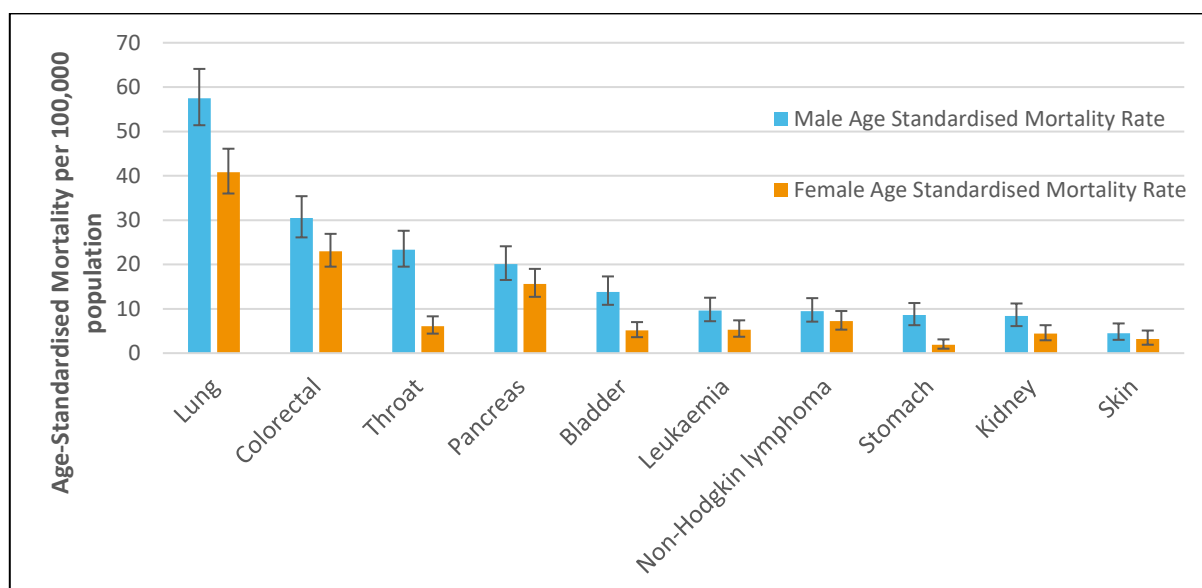


Source: [National Disease Registration Service](#)

For Norfolk and Waveney ICB, mortality rates per 100,000 are similar to Suffolk and North East Essex – with males experiencing statistically significant higher mortality rates than females for these cancer types:

- Lung
- Throat
- Bladder
- Stomach

Figure 15. Age standardised mortality rate per 100,000 for selected cancers by gender, Norfolk and Waveney ICB, 2020.



Source: [National Disease Registration Service](#)

Mortality trend by cancer type and age

Further analysis of trends in Suffolk cancer mortality rates compared to the national average have been explored for specific cancer types and all age groups, and those under the age of 70.

While incidence over recent years has been statistically similar apart from the statistically significant lower rate in 2018-20 (possibly attributed to undiagnosed cancers during the pandemic), mortality continues to decrease over time.

- For all ages in Suffolk and North East Essex ICB, mortality rates for all cancer significantly decreased between 2008-10 to 2018-20 by 8.5% to 255.6 per 100,000.
- For Norfolk and Waveney ICB during the same period, all cancer mortality also statistically significantly decreased by 9.4% to 259.2 per 100,000.
- Both percentage reductions were lower than the national average, where mortality rates decreased by 10.5% between 2008-10 to 2018-20 to 269.7 per 100,000.

Tables 1 and 2 present findings for lung, colorectal, breast (female only) and prostate (men only) at Norfolk and Waveney ICB and Suffolk and North East Essex ICB levels:

Table 1. Suffolk and North East Essex ICB cancer mortality trend between 2008-10 to 2018-20.

	Suffolk and North East Essex 2008-10 per 100,000	Suffolk and North East Essex 2018-20 per 100,000	SNEE increase/decrease between 2008-10 to 2018-20
Lung (all ages)	51.4	50.2	2.4% decrease
Lung (under 70)	28.9	26.9	7.4% decrease
Colorectal (all ages)	30.0	25.5	17.6% decrease
Colorectal (under 70)	13.3	12.3	8.1% decrease
Breast (all ages)	42.0	32.1	30.8% decrease
Breast (under 70)	33.7	24.4	38.1% decrease
Prostate (all ages)	52.2	47.6	9.7% decrease
Prostate (under 70)	8.3	9.1	8.8% increase

Source: [National Disease Registration Service](#)

Table 2. Norfolk and Waveney ICB cancer mortality trend between 2008-10 to 2018-20.

	Norfolk and Waveney 2008-10 per 100,000	Norfolk and Waveney 2018-20 per 100,000	Norfolk and Waveney increase/decrease between 2008-10 to 2018-20
Lung (all ages)	55.0	48.5	13.4% decrease
Lung (under 70)	34.5	29.3	17.7% decrease
Colorectal (all ages)	30.0	26.4	13.6% decrease
Colorectal (under 70)	26.4	13.5	95.5% decrease
Breast (all ages)	42.9	35.7	20.2% decrease
Breast (under 70)	33.6	25.7	30.7% decrease
Prostate (all ages)	54.6	45.8	19.2% decrease
Prostate (under 70)	11.5	9.9	16.2% decrease

Source: [National Disease Registration Service](#)

Mortality rates by ICB sub-location

Age standardised mortality rates by ICB sub-location and cancer type

Table 3 provides details of the latest 3-year combined cancer mortality data for Suffolk ICB sub-locations (previously CCGs) and England.

For all cancers excluding non-melanoma skin cancer, each of the ICB sub-locations have statistically significant lower mortality rates than the England average. Colorectal, breast and prostate cancers are all statistically similar within Suffolk sub-ICB locations to the national averages. Lung cancer mortality rates are statistically significantly lower than national averages in the former Ipswich & East Suffolk and Norfolk and Waveney CCG areas.

Table 3. Age standardised mortality rates by Suffolk ICB sub-locations and England for selected cancer mortality per 100,000 population, 2018-20.

Type of Cancer	England	SNEE 06L (Ipswich & East Suffolk CCG)	SNEE 07K (West Suffolk CCG)	Norfolk and Waveney 26A
All Cancers (excluding NMSC)	269.7	243.9	248.2	259.2
Lung	54.3	41.5	50.0	48.5
Colorectal	27.2	25.2	23.7	26.4
Breast (Female)	34.4	32.6	28.9	35.7
Prostate (Male)	48.1	46.9	49.7	45.8

Key:
Statistically higher than England Statistically similar to England Statistically lower than England

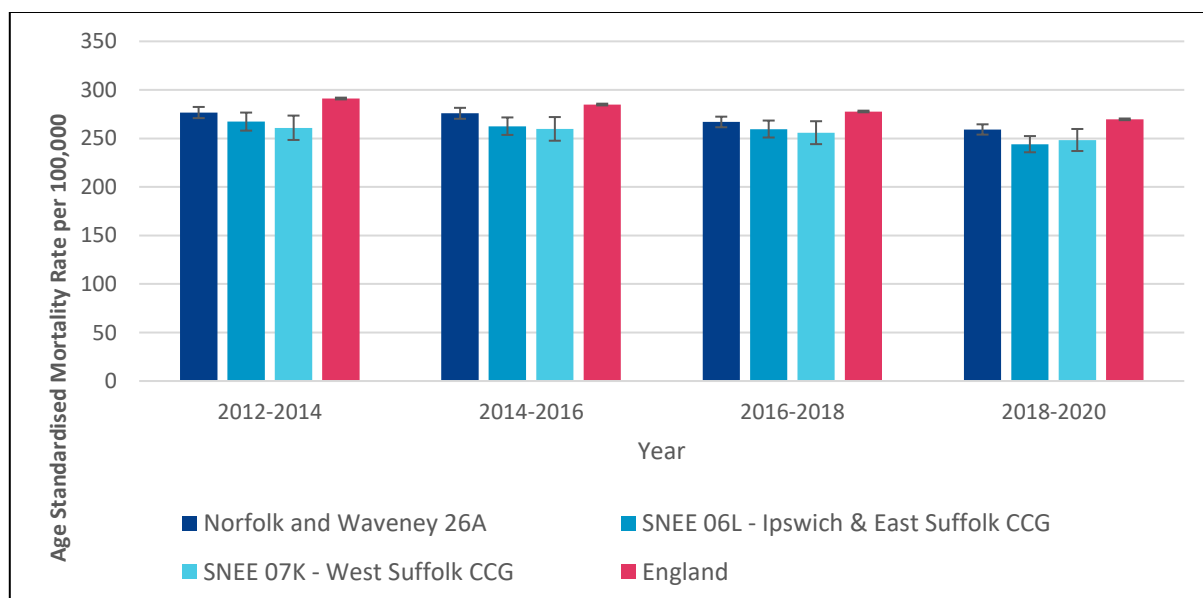
Source: [National Disease Registration Service](#)

National cancer mortality rates are decreasing over time. Norfolk and Waveney ICB and Ipswich and East Suffolk CCG have statistically significant lower cancer mortality rates between 2012-14 to 2018-20, while West Suffolk CCG reports a statistically similar rate over the same period.

Age standardised mortality rates by ICB sub-location – trend 2012-14 to 2018-20

Figure 16 displays the age standardised mortality rates for all cancer mortality per 100,000 population for Suffolk ICB sub-locations and England.

Figure 16. Age standardised mortality rates for all cancer mortality per 100,000 population for Suffolk ICB sub-locations and England.



Source: [National Disease Registration Service](#)

Mortality – trends by age groups

This section explores how cancer mortality rates have changed for specific age groupings, between 2010-12 to 2018-20.

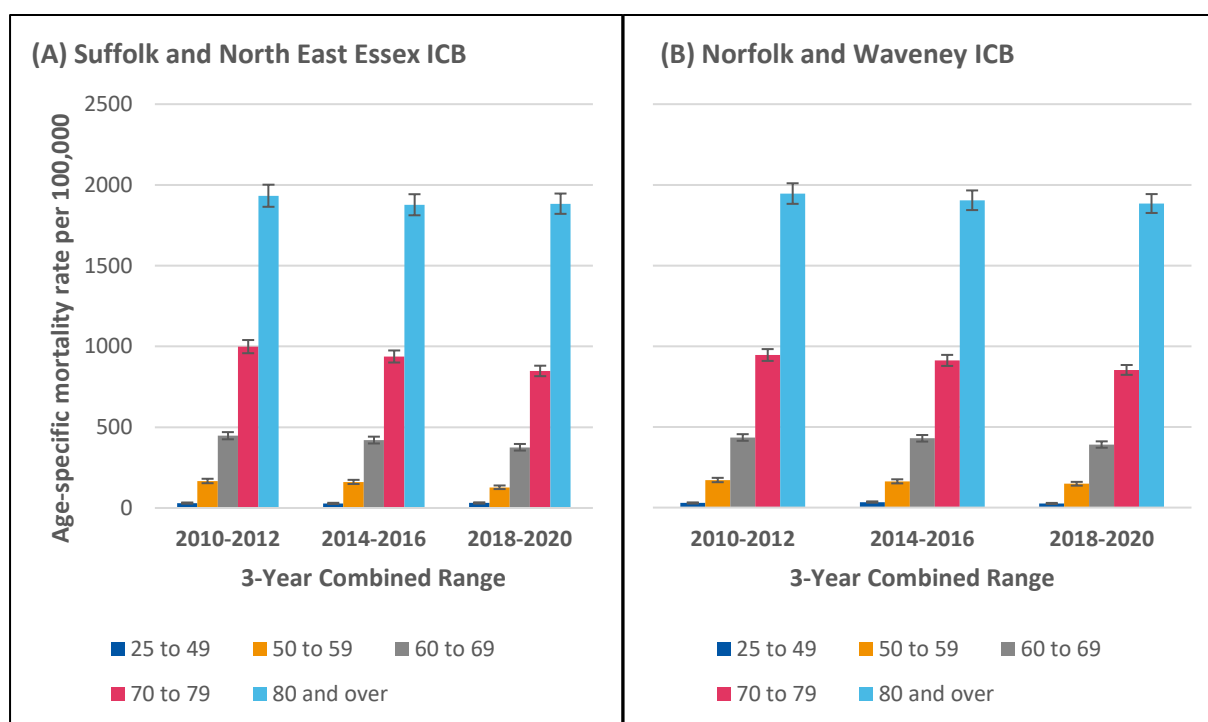
Figure 17 shows the SNEE (A) and Norfolk and Waveney (B) mortality trends per 100,000 for all persons, by 3-year age bandings from 2010-12 to 2018-20. All cause cancer mortality (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer) within Suffolk and North East Essex ICB has statistically significantly decreased between 2010-12 to 2018-20 for these age groups:

- 50-59 year olds (23.3% decrease)
- 60-69 year olds (16.0% decrease)
- 70-79 year olds (15.1% decrease)

There have also been statistically significant decreases in all malignant cancer mortality (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer) between 2010-12 to 2018-20 for Norfolk and Waveney ICB for these age groups:

- 60-69 year olds (10.1% decrease)
- 70-79 year olds (9.8% decrease)

Figure 17. Suffolk and North East Essex ICB (A) and Norfolk and Waveney ICB (B) mortality trends per 100,000 for all persons, by age bandings within 3-year groupings 2010-12 to 2018-20.



Source: [National Disease Registration Service](https://www.nhs.uk/national-disease-registration-service/)

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