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Epidemiological analysis of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on breast cancer screening in the north of Brazil

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Objective: This study aimed to discuss Brazilian statistical data after the end of the COVID-19 pandemic in the diagnosis of breast cancer in the screening age range recommended by the Ministry of Health 50–69 years, served in the states of the north of Brazil. **Methodology:** An epidemiological, descriptive, quantitative, and comparative study carried out between January 2018 and December 2021 using data collected in the Cancer Information System (SISCAN) as a basis. The options that were chosen were as follows: "mammogram by patients," "Brazil by region"; "women"; "mography screening"; "target population"; and "mammography report all categories." The history of mammograms performed in the period 2018 and 2019 (pre-pandemic years) and in the period 2020 and 2021 (pandemic years) was compared, analyzing the states: Rondônia, Acre, Roraima, Pará, Amazonas, Amapá, and Tocantins. **Results:** The total number of mammograms performed for breast cancer screening performed in the 4 years and 7 selected states was 375,170. Comparing the period between 2018 and 2019, all states showed an increase in the number of screenings. When comparing 2019 and 2020, only the states of Amapá (+55%) and Acre (+52%) increased the tracking rate. Finally, all states increased the number of screenings comparing 2020 and 2021, with the exception of Amapá (-92%). **Conclusion:** Therefore, a bimodal pattern of breast cancer screening is noted, as the number of mammograms decreased in 2020, compared with the years 2018, 2019, and 2021. To sum up, it is assumed that the result presented due to the period of Lockdown and social distancing present during the pandemic.

Keywords: COVID-19; pandemics; mammogram; breast neoplasms.