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# Impact of Covid-19 on incidence of breast insitu tumours in Northern Ireland

(A comparison between April-December of 2020 and 2018-2019)

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## Further information

Further information is available at: [www.qub.ac.uk/research-centres/nicr](http://www.qub.ac.uk/research-centres/nicr)

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## Acknowledgements

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NICR uses data provided by patients and collected by the health service as part of their care and support.

The incidence, prevalence and survival statistics in this publication are designated as official statistics signifying that they comply with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.



# INCIDENCE

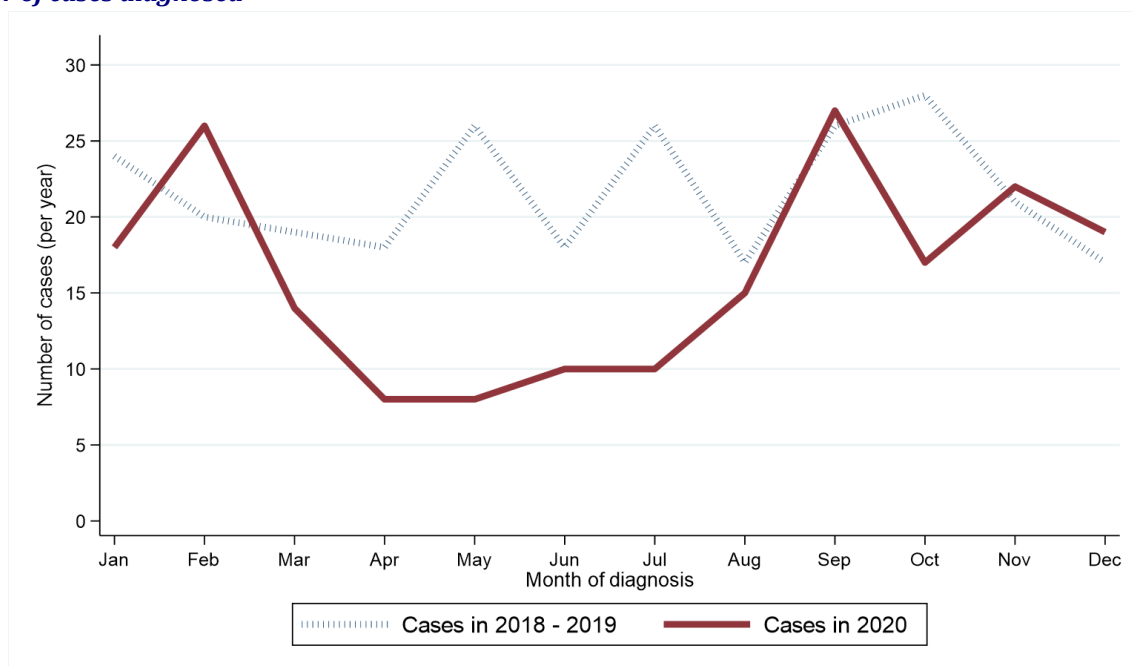
During the April-December period when Covid-19 was present the number of cases of breast insitu tumours diagnosed among females decreased by 30.3% (59 patients) from 195 per year in 2018 - 2019 to 136 in 2020.

**Table 1: Number of breast insitu tumour cases diagnosed in 2018-2020 by month and year of diagnosis**

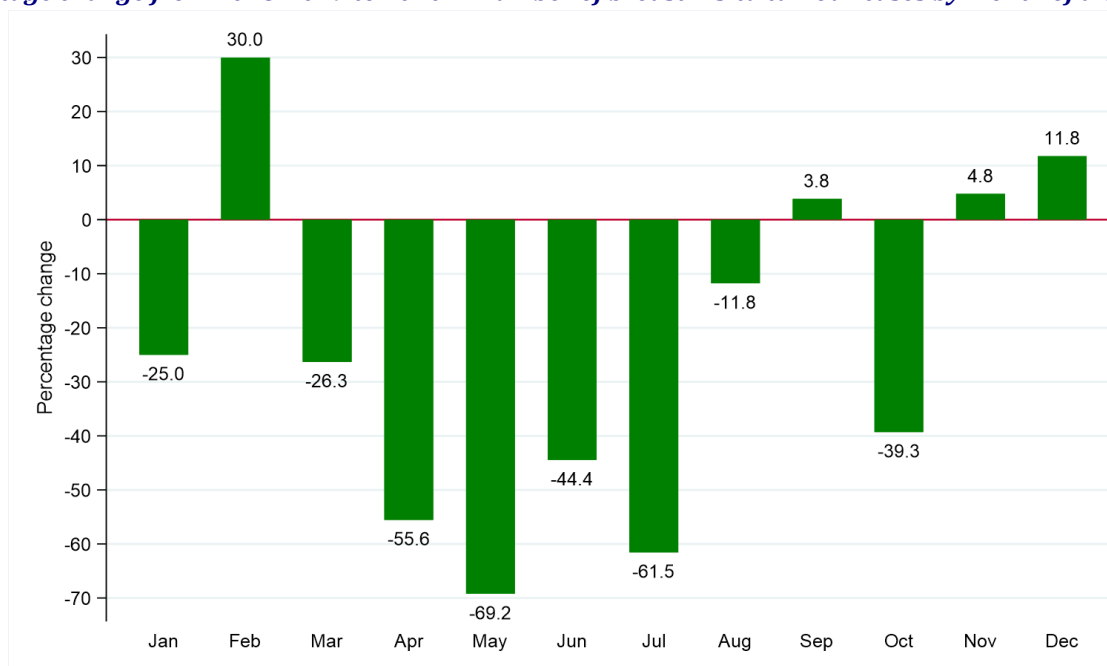
Period of diagnosis	Annual total	Month diagnosed											
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
2018-2019*	257	24	20	19	18	26	18	26	17	26	28	21	17
2020	194	18	26	14	8	8	10	10	15	27	17	22	19

\* Average cases per year rounded to the nearest integer. Row sums may thus differ slightly from the total.

**Figure 1: Number of breast insitu tumour cases diagnosed in 2018-2020 by month and year of diagnosis**  
**(a) Number of cases diagnosed**



**(b) Percentage change from 2018-2019 to 2020 in number of breast insitu tumour cases by month of diagnosis**



## AGE

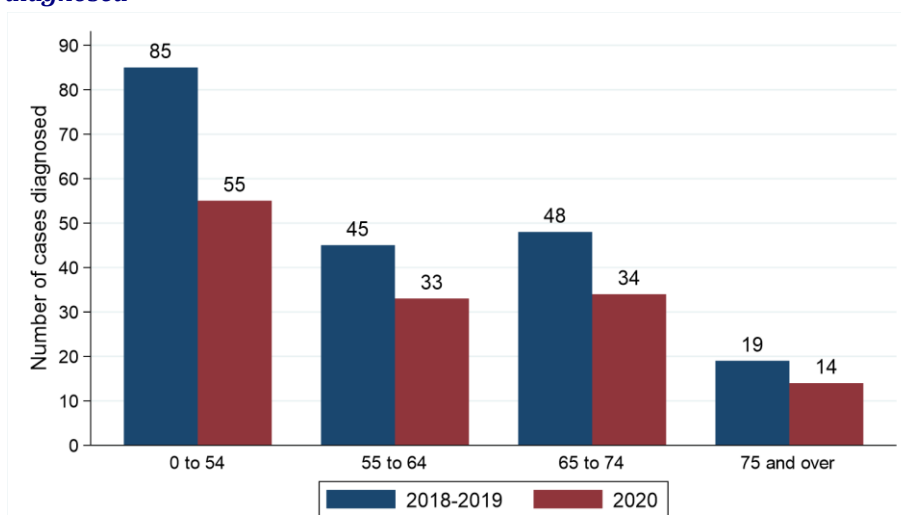
Excluding the first quarter of each year among people aged 0 to 54 the number of cases of breast insitu tumours diagnosed decreased by 35.3% from 85 per year in 2018 - 2019 to 55 in 2020. Between the same two time periods, the number of cases among people aged 75 and over decreased by 26.3% from 19 per year to 14. The change in case distribution by age between 2018 - 2019 and 2020 was not statistically significant.

**Table 2: Number and proportion of breast insitu tumour cases diagnosed in April-December of 2018-2020 by age and period of diagnosis**

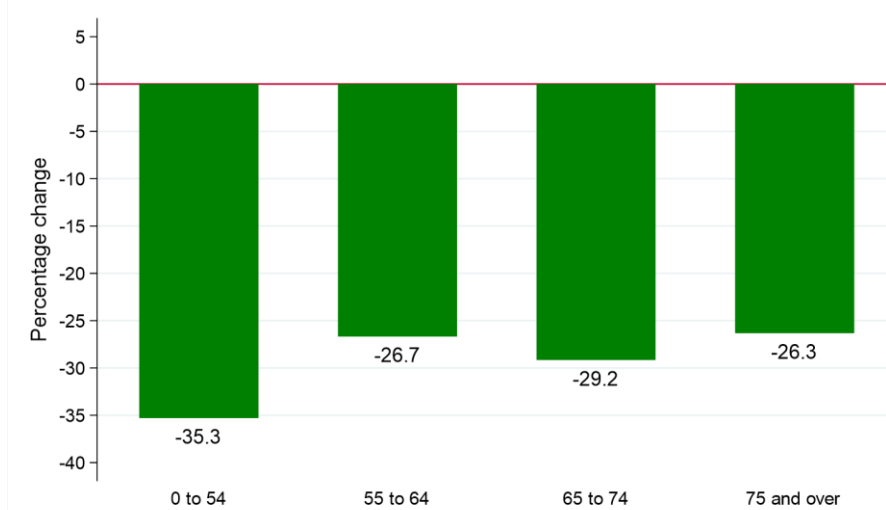
Age group	Period of diagnosis (Apr-Dec)		Percentage change
	2018-2019*	2020	
0 to 54	85 (43.6%)	55 (40.4%)	-35.3% (30 patients)
55 to 64	45 (23.1%)	33 (24.3%)	-26.7% (12 patients)
65 to 74	48 (24.6%)	34 (25.0%)	-29.2% (14 patients)
75 and over	19 (9.7%)	14 (10.3%)	-26.3% (5 patients)
All ages	195	136	-30.3% (59 patients)

\* Average cases per year rounded to the nearest integer. Column sums may thus differ slightly from the total.

**Figure 2: Breast insitu tumour cases diagnosed in April-December of 2018-2020 by age and period of diagnosis**  
(a) Number of cases diagnosed



(b) Percentage change from 2018-2019 to 2020 in number of breast insitu tumour cases by age at diagnosis



## HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE TRUST

Excluding the first quarter of each year among residents of Northern HSCT the number of cases of breast insitu tumours diagnosed decreased by 58.7% from 63 per year in 2018 - 2019 to 26 in 2020. Between the same two time periods the number of cases among residents of Western HSCT increased by 33.3% from 27 per year to 36. The change in case distribution by HSCT between 2018 - 2019 and 2020 was statistically significant ( $p = 0.002$ ).

**Table 3: Number and proportion of breast insitu tumour cases diagnosed in April-December of 2018-2020 by Health and Social Care Trust and period of diagnosis**

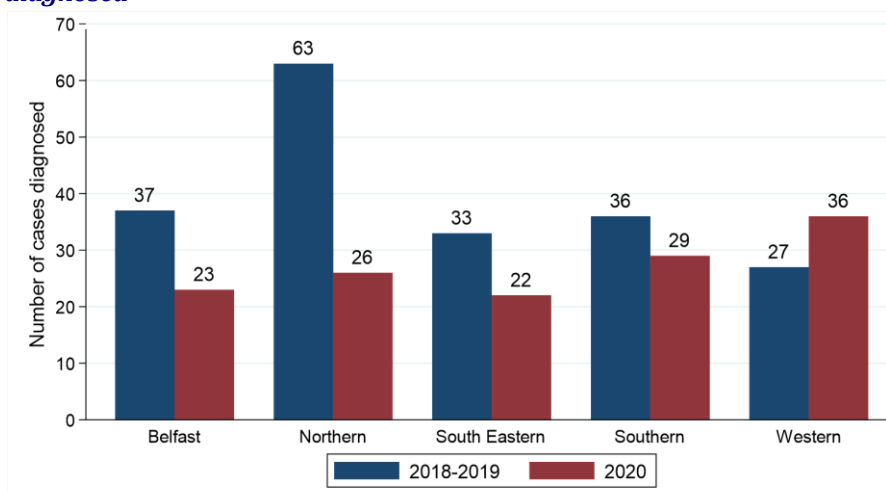
Health and Social Care Trust	Period of diagnosis (Apr-Dec)		Percentage change
	2018-2019*	2020	
Belfast HSCT	37 (19.0%)	23 (16.9%)	-37.8% (14 patients)
Northern HSCT	63 (32.3%)	26 (19.1%)	-58.7% (37 patients)
South Eastern HSCT	33 (16.9%)	22 (16.2%)	-33.3% (11 patients)
Southern HSCT	36 (18.5%)	29 (21.3%)	-19.4% (7 patients)
Western HSCT	27 (13.8%)	36 (26.5%)	+33.3% (9 patients)
Northern Ireland	195	136	-30.3% (59 patients)

\* Average cases per year rounded to the nearest integer. Column sums may thus differ slightly from the total.

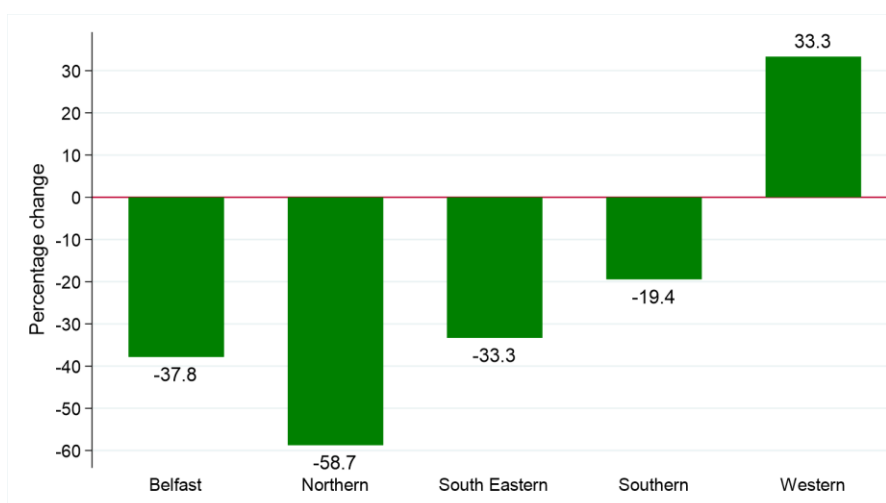
Note: Cases with unknown Health and Social Care Trust are included in totals

**Figure 3: Breast insitu tumour cases diagnosed in April-December of 2018-2020 by Health and Social Care Trust and period of diagnosis**

(a) Number of cases diagnosed



(b) Percentage change from 2018-2019 to 2020 in number of breast insitu tumour cases by Health and Social Care Trust



## DEPRIVATION

Excluding the first quarter of each year among residents of the most deprived areas the number of cases of breast insitu tumours diagnosed increased by 7.7% from 26 per year in 2018 - 2019 to 28 in 2020. Between the same two time periods the number of cases among residents of the least deprived areas decreased by 47.3% from 55 per year to 29. The change in case distribution by deprivation quintile between 2018 - 2019 and 2020 was not statistically significant.

**Table 4: Number and proportion of breast insitu tumour cases diagnosed in April-December of 2018-2020 by deprivation quintile and period of diagnosis**

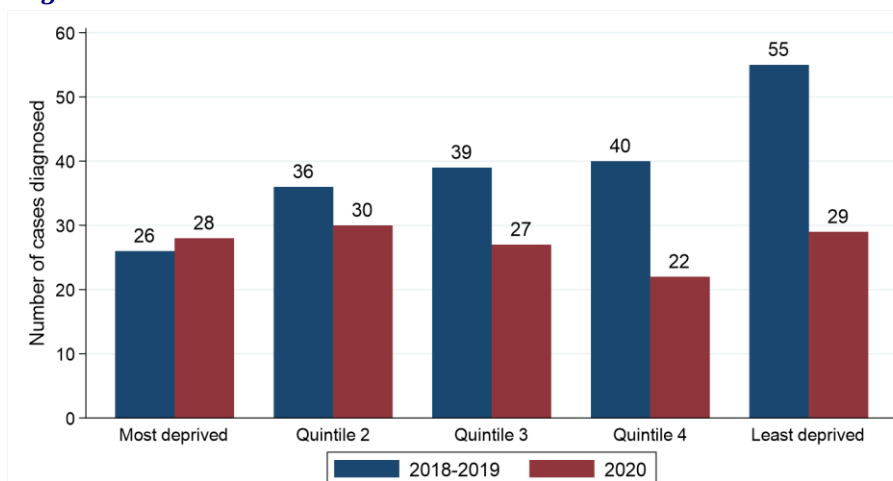
Deprivation quintile	Period of diagnosis (Apr-Dec)		Percentage change
	2018-2019*	2020	
Most deprived	26 (13.3%)	28 (20.6%)	+7.7% (2 patients)
Quintile 2	36 (18.5%)	30 (22.1%)	-16.7% (6 patients)
Quintile 3	39 (20.0%)	27 (19.9%)	-30.8% (12 patients)
Quintile 4	40 (20.5%)	22 (16.2%)	-45.0% (18 patients)
Least deprived	55 (28.2%)	29 (21.3%)	-47.3% (26 patients)
Northern Ireland	195	136	-30.3% (59 patients)

\* Average cases per year rounded to the nearest integer. Column sums may thus differ slightly from the total.

Note: Cases with unknown deprivation quintile are included in totals

**Figure 4: Breast insitu tumour cases diagnosed in April-December of 2018-2020 by deprivation quintile and period of diagnosis**

(a) Number of cases diagnosed



(b) Percentage change from 2018-2019 to 2020 in number of breast insitu tumour cases by deprivation quintile

