Recent trends in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer in Northern Ireland

November 2020 Update

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N. Ireland Cancer Registry

Queen's University Belfast

HSC Public Health Agency

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SUMMARY	Recent trends in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer: Nov 2020

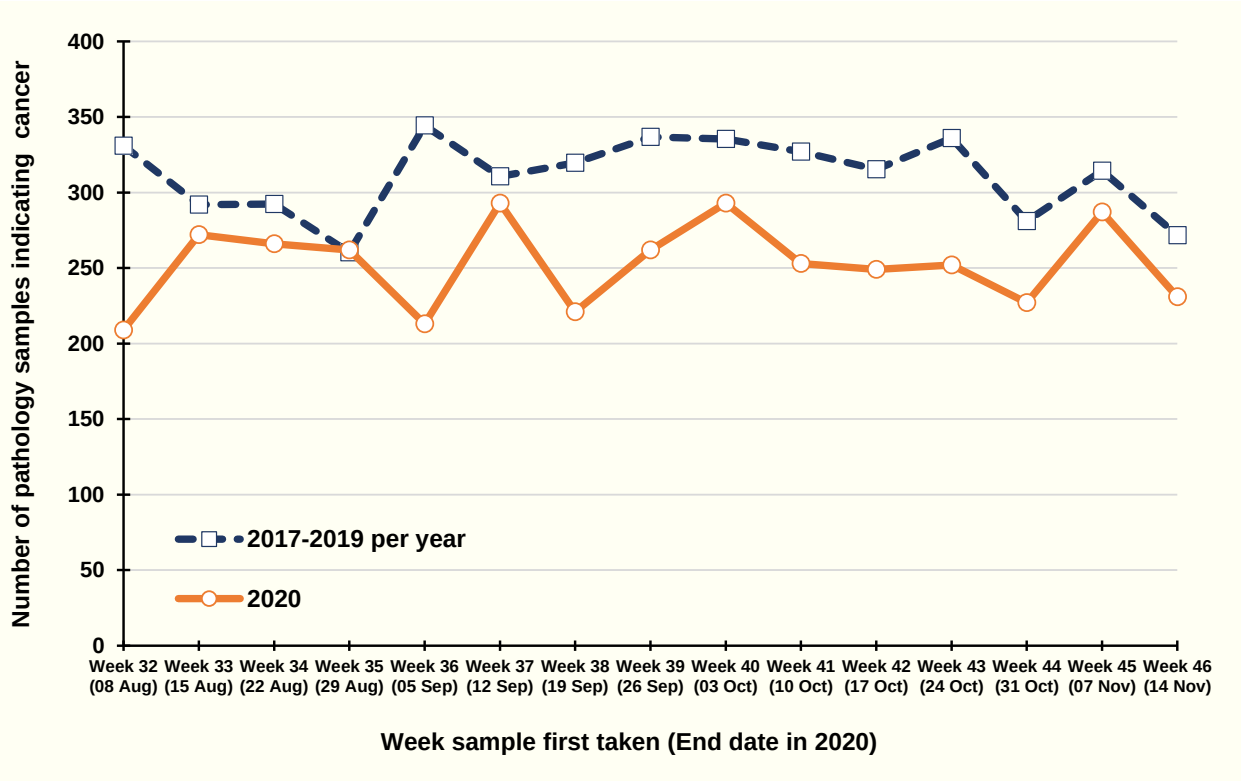
1) This summary provides an overview of recent trends in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer, NMSC) which were taken from 1st January 2020 to the week ending 14th November 2020 in Northern Ireland.

2) These trends are contrasted with the annual average number of pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC) during 2017-2019 in order to provide an indication of the potential impact of the Covid-19 restrictions on diagnostic cancer services.

3) Data are sourced from the four NHS pathology laboratories in Northern Ireland (Belfast, Altnagelvin, Antrim, Craigavon), which are usually provided to the NI Cancer Registry on a monthly basis.

Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

4) From 1st March to 14th November 2020, the number of pathological samples indicating cancer was 25% lower than the average number for the same time period in 2017-2019.



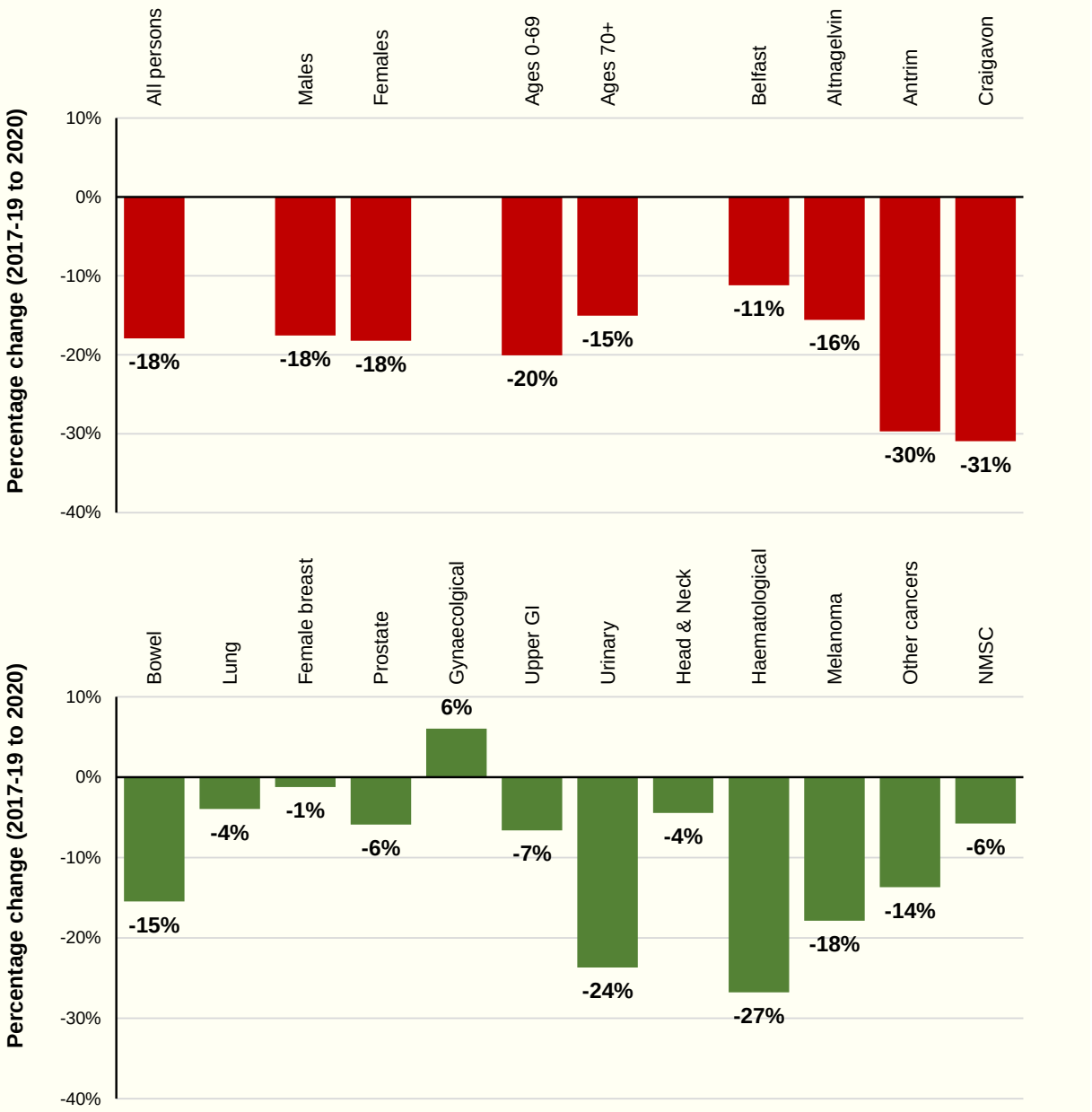
Percentage change between 2017-2019 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer, taken in weeks 42-46 of each year (11 October to 14 November in 2020)

5) **Patient demographics**

There was an 18% reduction in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer in weeks 42-46 of 2020, compared to the average value for weeks 42-46 in 2017-2019. In particular, there was an 18% decrease among males and females. A decrease of 20% occurred in the number of samples among patients aged 0-69 years, while a decrease of 15% occurred among those aged 70 and older. Reductions were greatest in Antrim (30%) and Craigavon (31%), but decreases were also recorded in Belfast (11%) and Altnagelvin (16%).

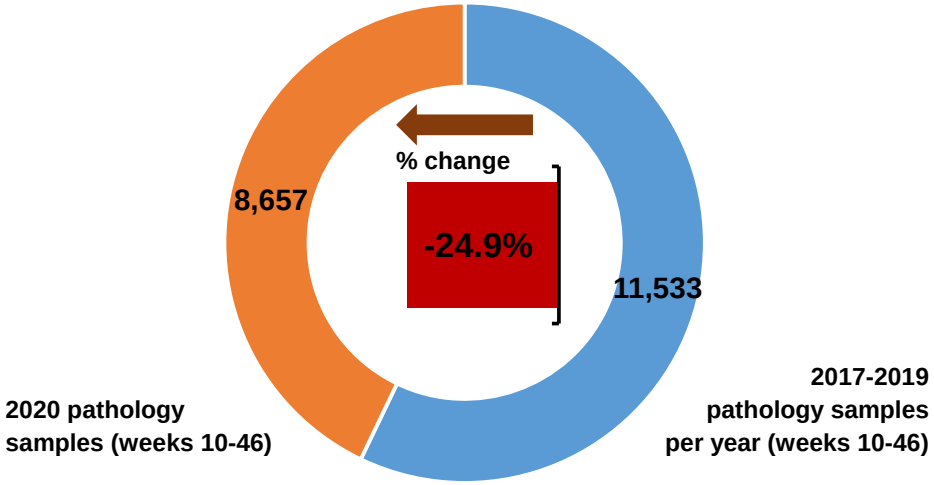
6) **Cancer type**

Compared to the annual average for weeks 42-46 in 2017-2019, the number of pathology samples indicating bowel cancer in 2020 decreased by 15%, while those indicating prostate cancer decreased by 6%. Reductions were greatest for haematological and urinary cancers. Only, the number of pathology samples indicating gynacological cancer increased between 2017-2019 and 2020.

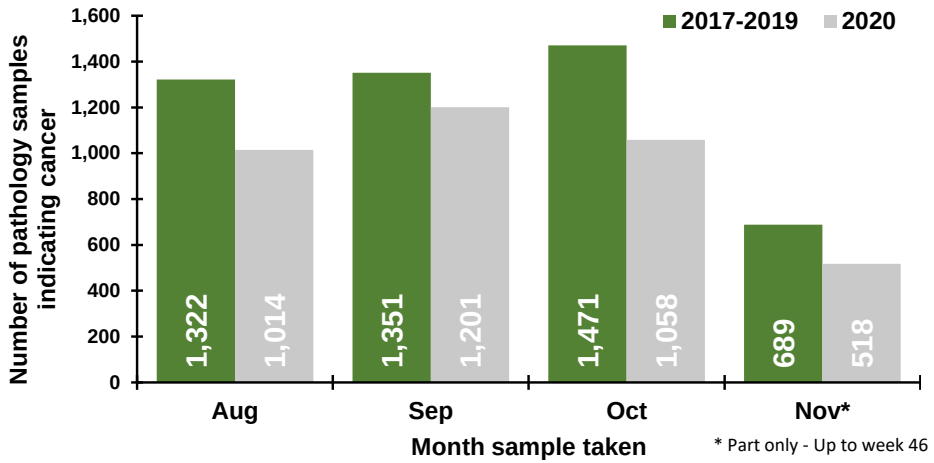


Number of pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): All persons

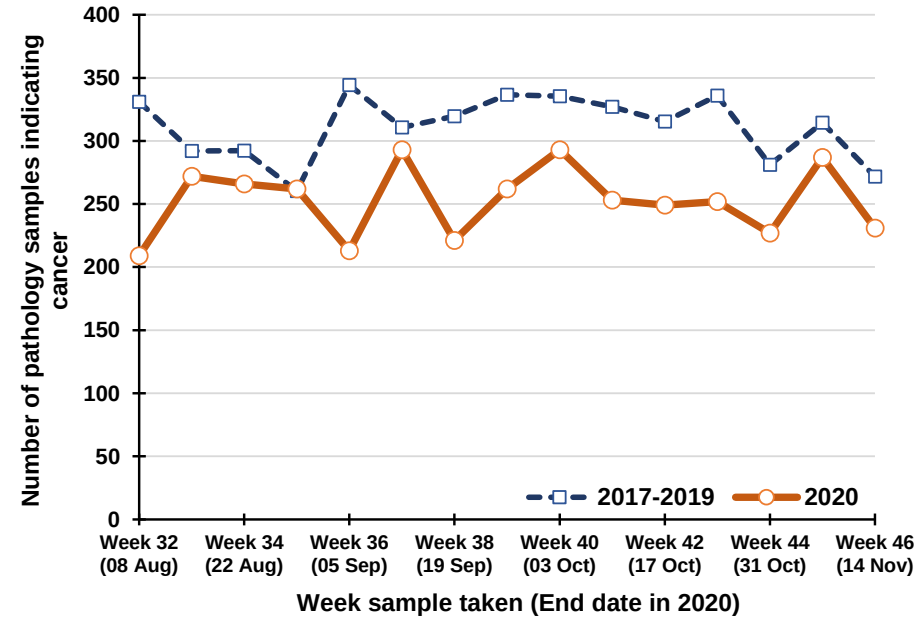
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



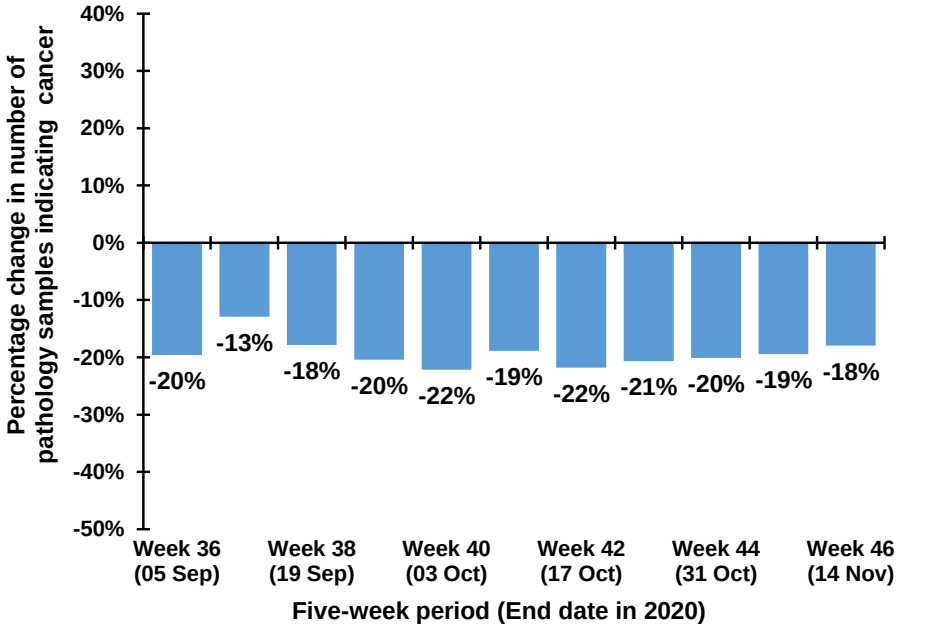
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



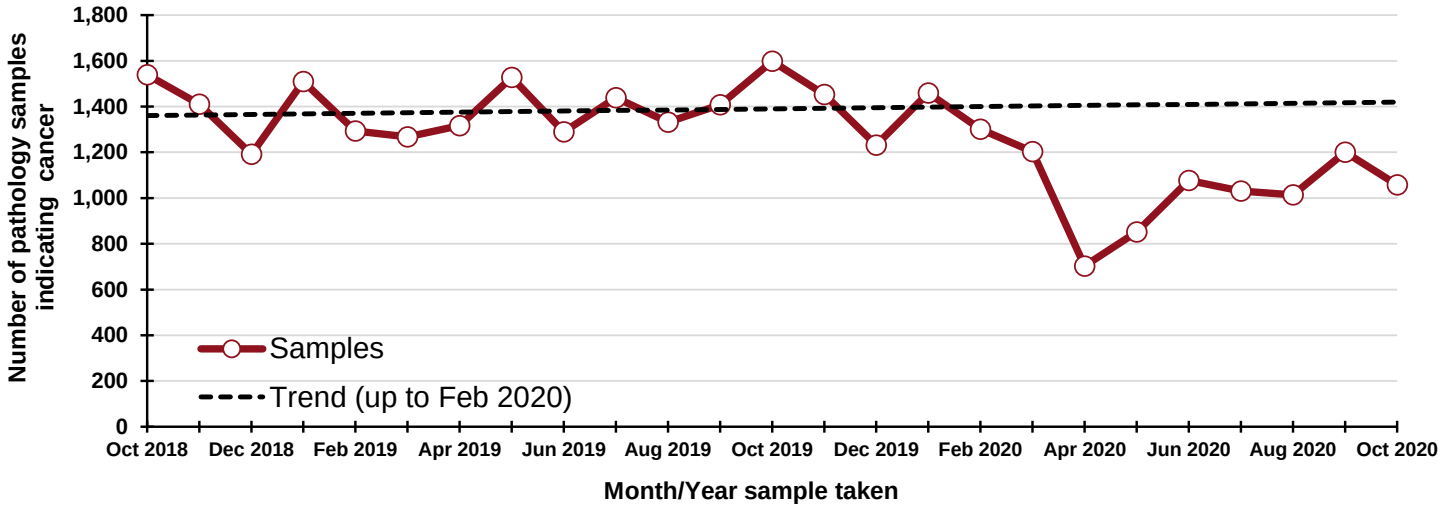
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	1,322	1,014	-23%
Sep	1,351	1,201	-11%
Oct	1,471	1,058	-28%
Nov*	689	518	-25%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

By week sample taken

			Five-week rolling total		
Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	331	209			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	292	272			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	292	266			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	260	262			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	344	213	1,520	1,222	-20%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	311	293	1,500	1,306	-13%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	320	221	1,527	1,255	-18%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	337	262	1,572	1,251	-20%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	335	293	1,647	1,282	-22%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	327	253	1,629	1,322	-19%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	315	249	1,634	1,278	-22%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	336	252	1,650	1,309	-21%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	281	227	1,595	1,274	-20%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	314	287	1,574	1,268	-19%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	272	231	1,518	1,246	-18%

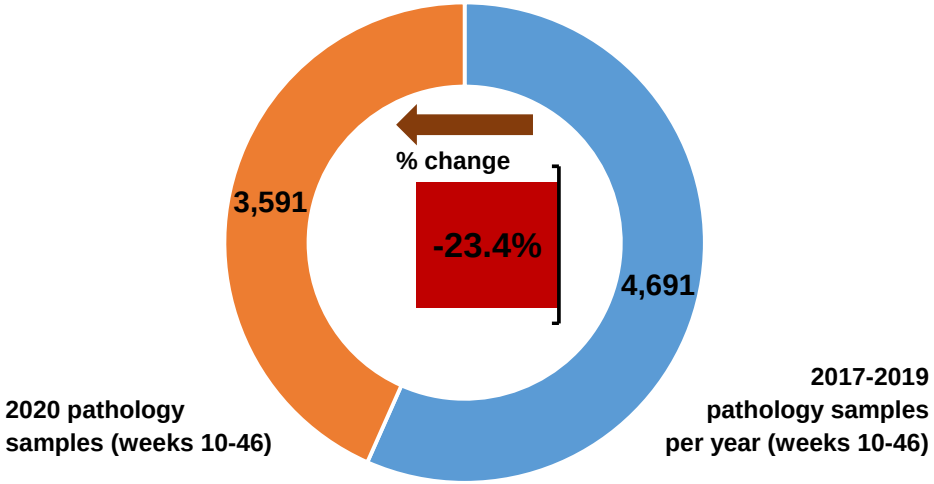
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

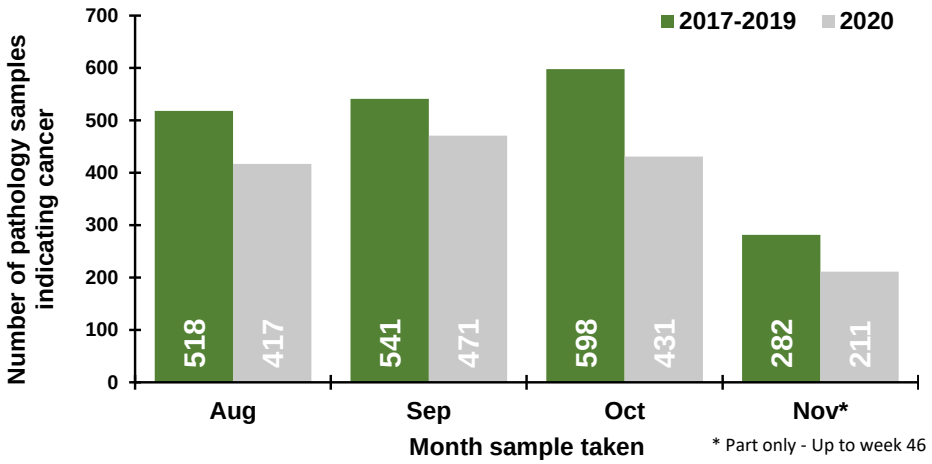
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	1,539
Nov 2018	1,410
Dec 2018	1,192
Jan 2019	1,509
Feb 2019	1,293
Mar 2019	1,267
Apr 2019	1,317
May 2019	1,527
Jun 2019	1,290
Jul 2019	1,439
Aug 2019	1,332
Sep 2019	1,408
Oct 2019	1,598
Nov 2019	1,453
Dec 2019	1,232
Jan 2020	1,459
Feb 2020	1,301
Mar 2020	1,203
Apr 2020	703
May 2020	852
Jun 2020	1,077
Jul 2020	1,031
Aug 2020	1,014
Sep 2020	1,201
Oct 2020	1,058

Number of pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Males

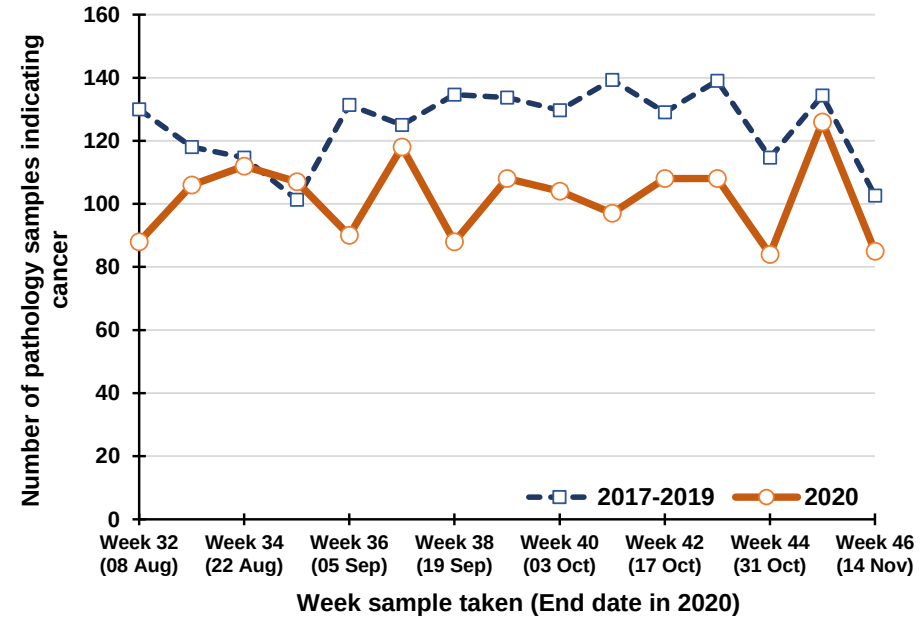
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



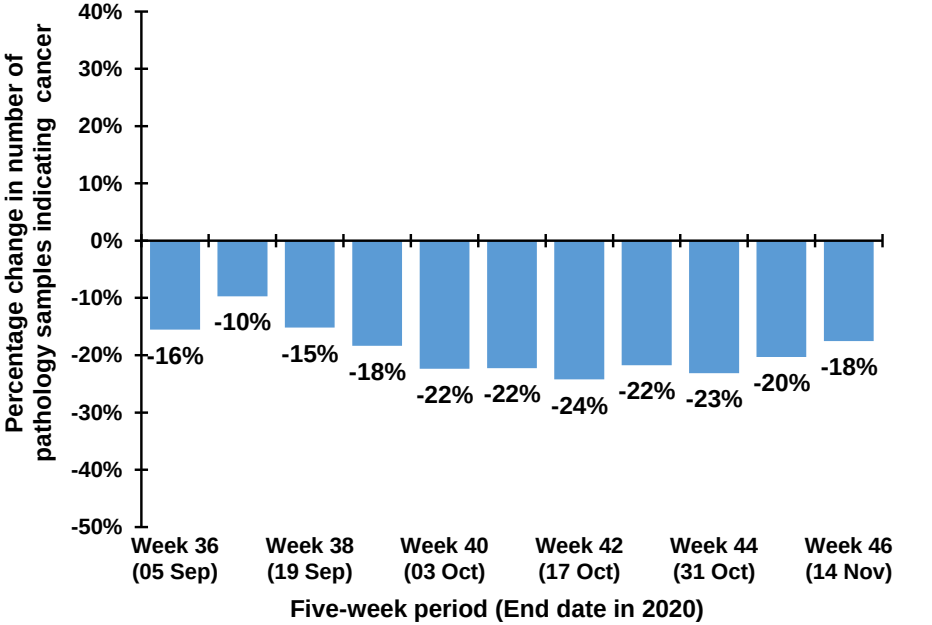
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



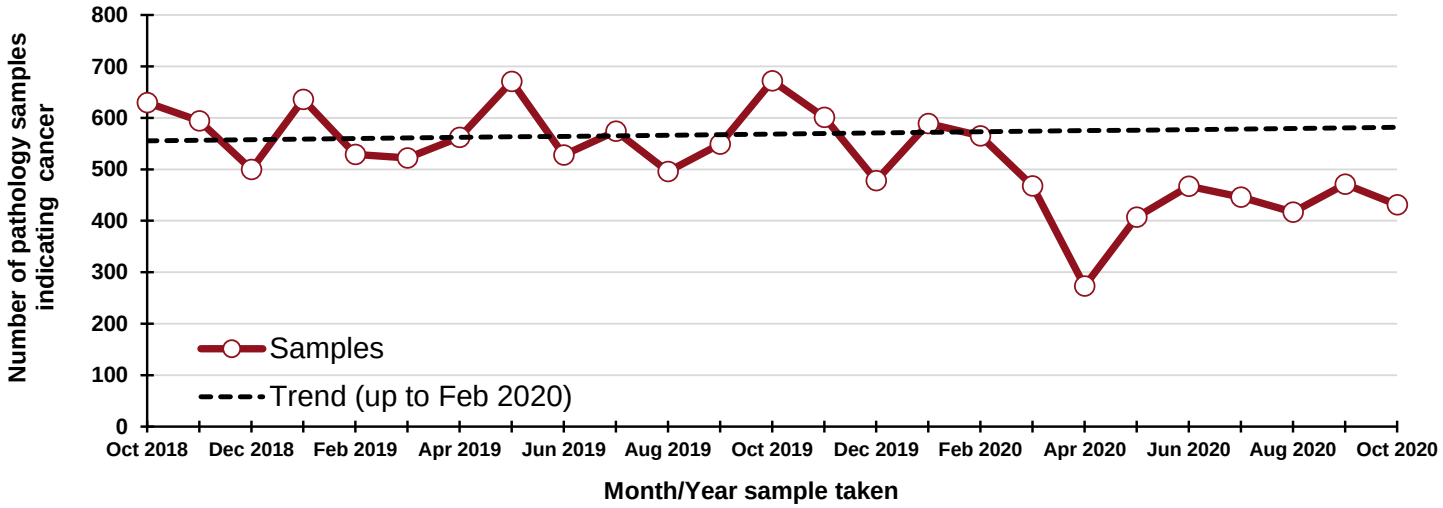
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	518	417	-20%
Sep	541	471	-13%
Oct	598	431	-28%
Nov*	282	211	-25%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

By week sample taken

Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	Five-week rolling total 2017-2019 average	Five-week rolling total 2020	Five-week rolling total Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	130	88			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	118	106			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	115	112			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	101	107			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	131	90	595	503	-16%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	125	118	590	533	-10%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	135	88	607	515	-15%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	134	108	626	511	-18%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	130	104	654	508	-22%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	139	97	662	515	-22%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	129	108	666	505	-24%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	139	108	671	525	-22%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	115	84	652	501	-23%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	134	126	656	523	-20%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	103	85	620	511	-18%

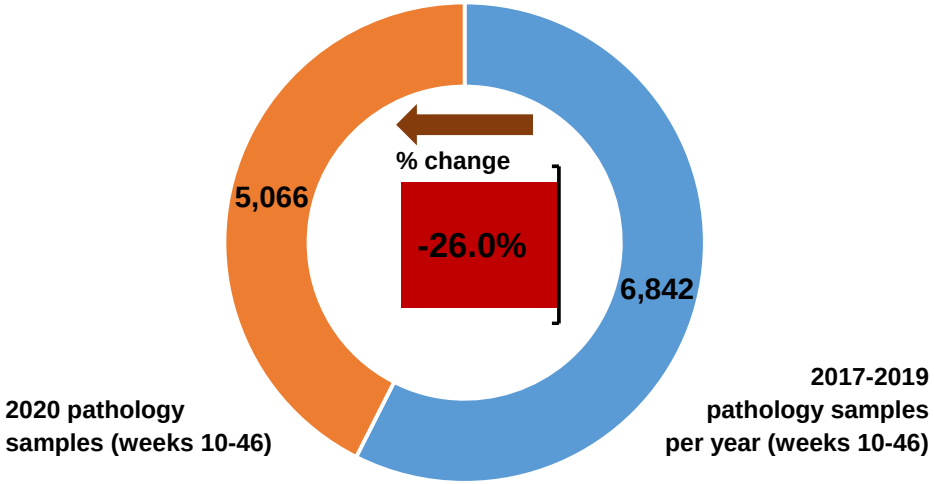
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

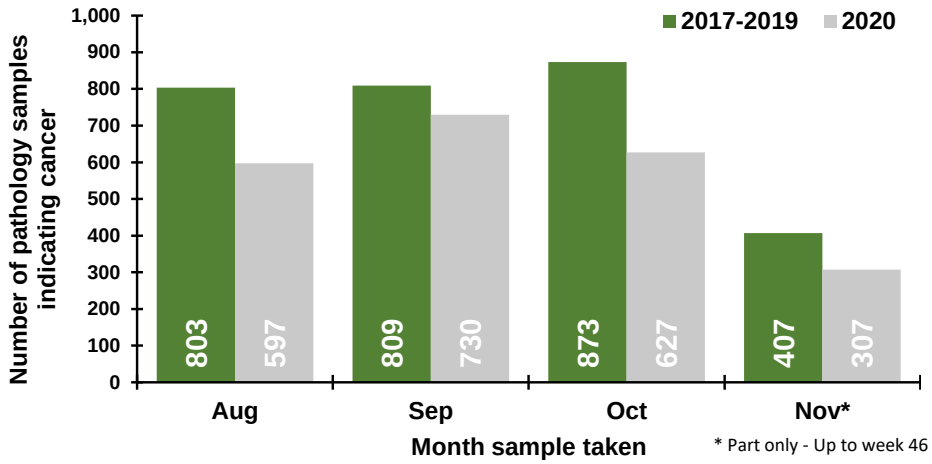
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	630
Nov 2018	594
Dec 2018	500
Jan 2019	636
Feb 2019	529
Mar 2019	522
Apr 2019	562
May 2019	671
Jun 2019	528
Jul 2019	574
Aug 2019	496
Sep 2019	549
Oct 2019	672
Nov 2019	601
Dec 2019	478
Jan 2020	589
Feb 2020	565
Mar 2020	468
Apr 2020	273
May 2020	407
Jun 2020	467
Jul 2020	446
Aug 2020	417
Sep 2020	471
Oct 2020	431

Number of pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Females

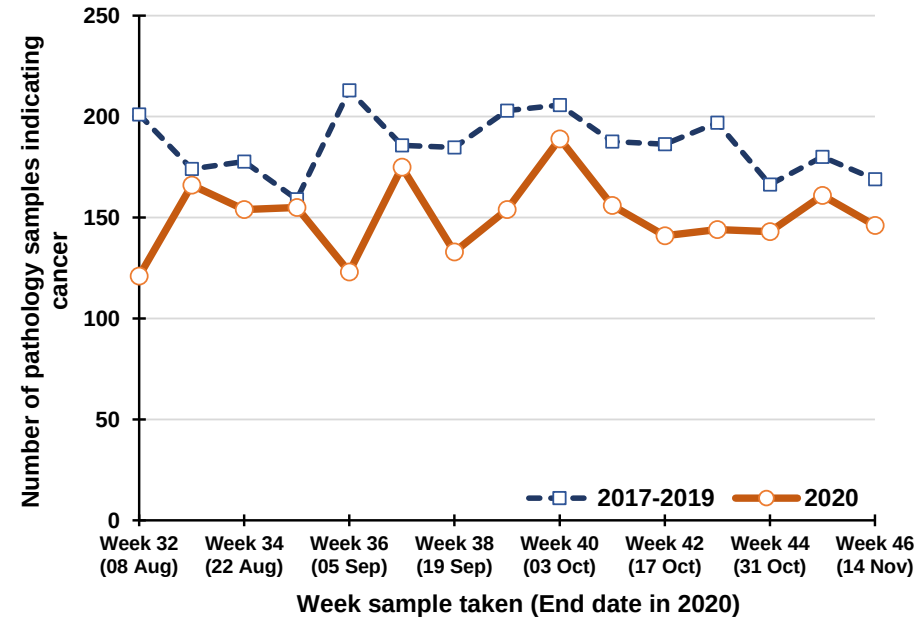
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



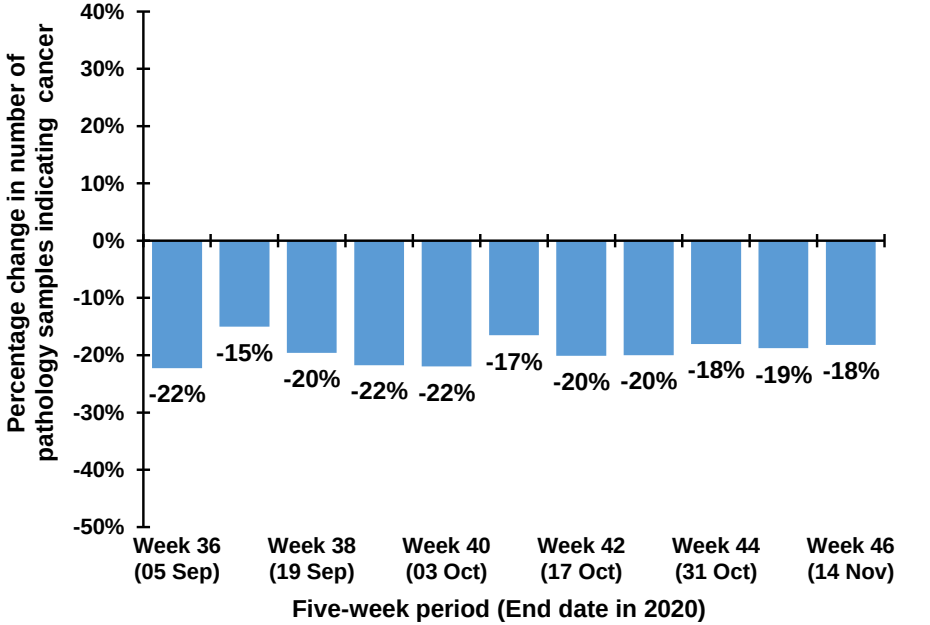
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



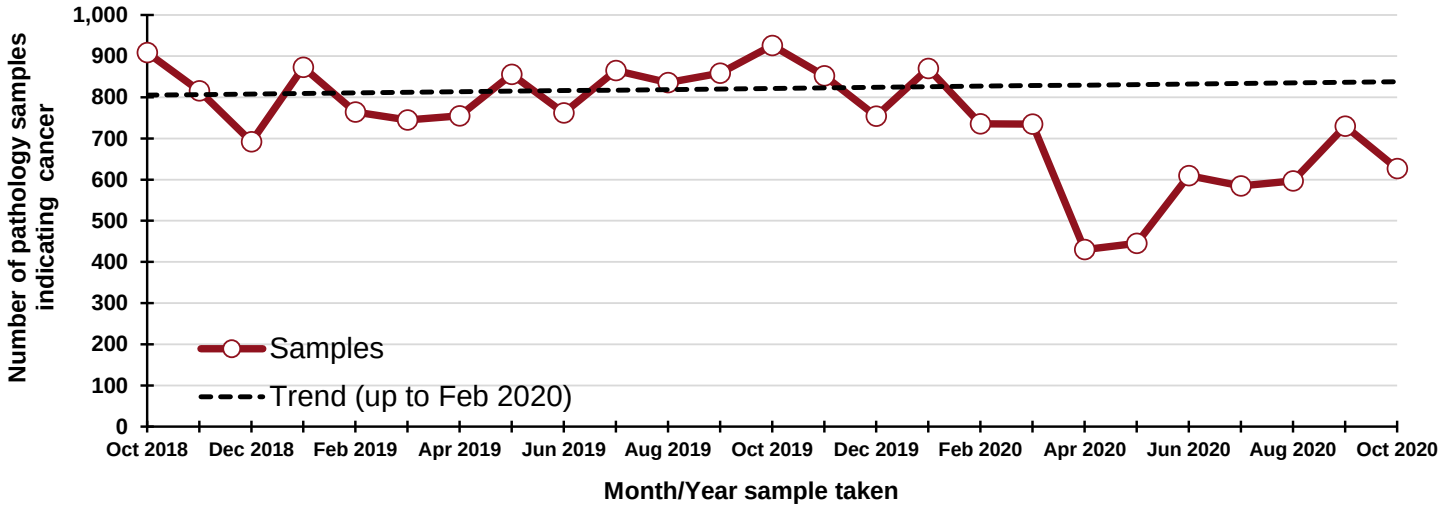
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	803	597	-26%
Sep	809	730	-10%
Oct	873	627	-28%
Nov*	407	307	-25%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

By week sample taken

Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	Five-week rolling total 2017-2019 average	Five-week rolling total 2020	Five-week rolling total Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	201	121			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	174	166			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	178	154			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	159	155			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	213	123	925	719	-22%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	186	175	909	773	-15%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	185	133	920	740	-20%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	203	154	945	740	-22%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	206	189	992	774	-22%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	188	156	967	807	-17%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	186	141	967	773	-20%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	197	144	980	784	-20%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	166	143	943	773	-18%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	180	161	917	745	-19%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	169	146	899	735	-18%

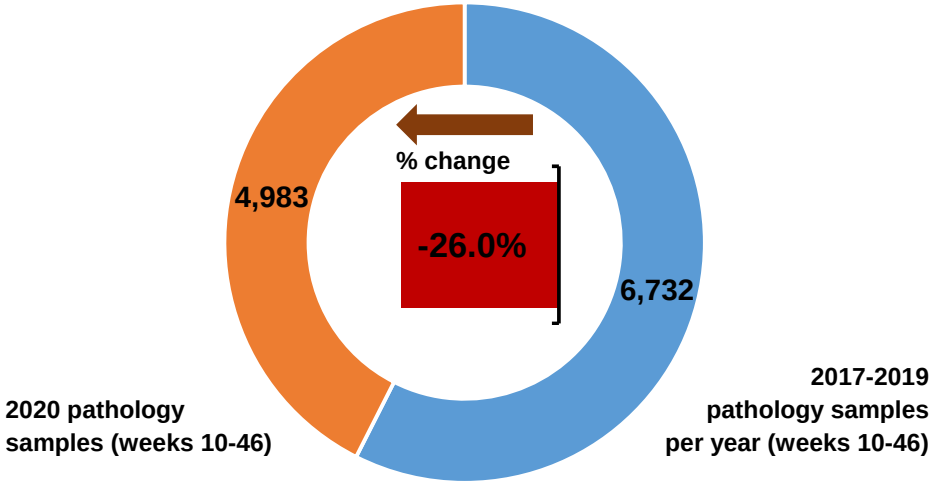
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

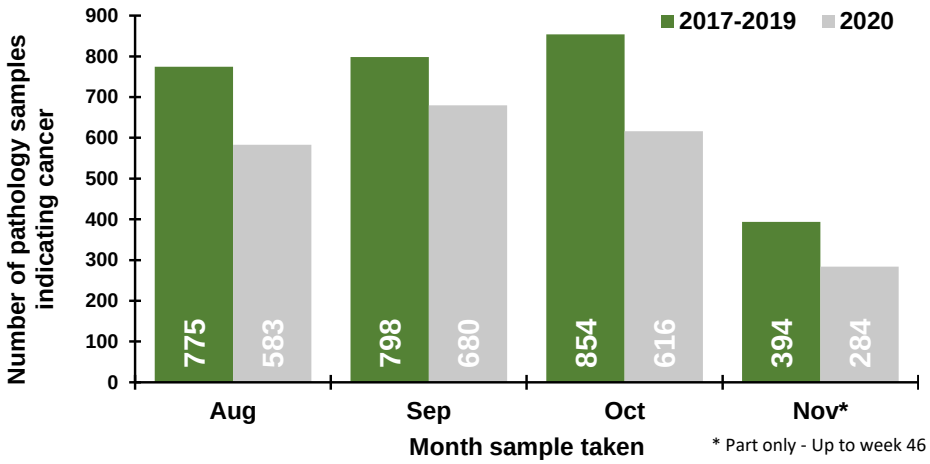
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	909
Nov 2018	816
Dec 2018	692
Jan 2019	873
Feb 2019	764
Mar 2019	745
Apr 2019	755
May 2019	856
Jun 2019	762
Jul 2019	865
Aug 2019	836
Sep 2019	859
Oct 2019	926
Nov 2019	852
Dec 2019	754
Jan 2020	870
Feb 2020	736
Mar 2020	735
Apr 2020	430
May 2020	445
Jun 2020	610
Jul 2020	585
Aug 2020	597
Sep 2020	730
Oct 2020	627

Number of pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Ages 0 to 69

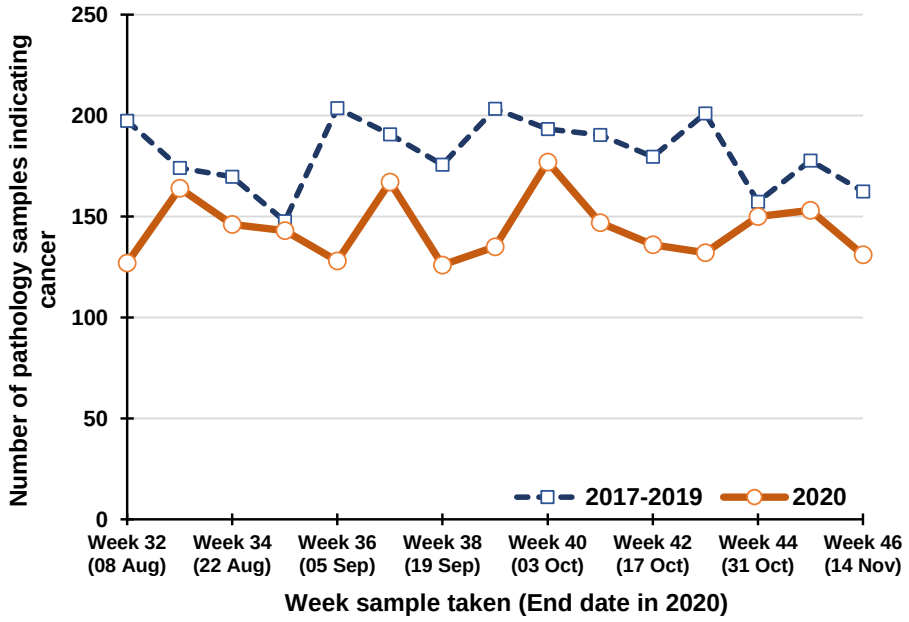
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



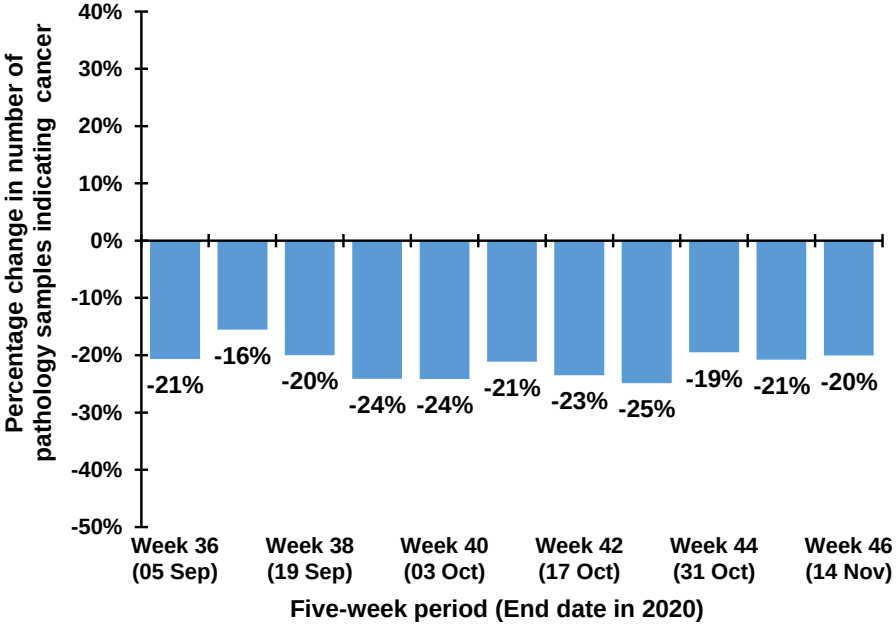
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



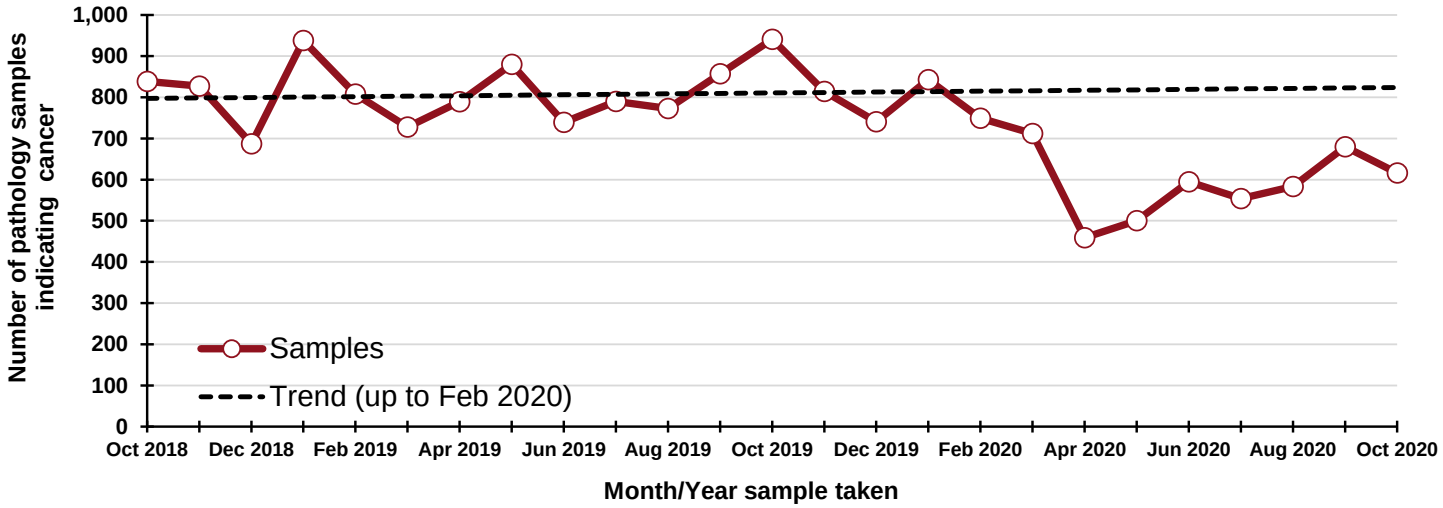
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	775	583	-25%
Sep	798	680	-15%
Oct	854	616	-28%
Nov*	394	284	-28%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

By week sample taken

			Five-week rolling total		
Week number*	**2017-2019 average**	**2020**	**2017-2019 average**	**2020**	**Percentage change**
Week 32 (08 Aug)	197	127			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	174	164			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	170	146			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	148	143			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	204	128	892	708	-21%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	191	167	886	748	-16%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	176	126	887	710	-20%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	203	135	921	699	-24%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	193	177	967	733	-24%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	190	147	953	752	-21%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	180	136	942	721	-23%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	201	132	968	727	-25%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	157	150	922	742	-19%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	178	153	906	718	-21%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	162	131	878	702	-20%

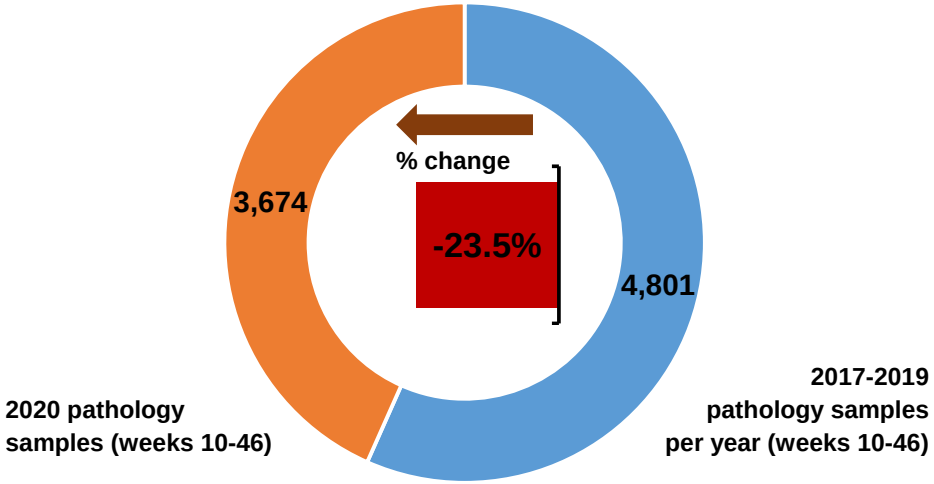
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

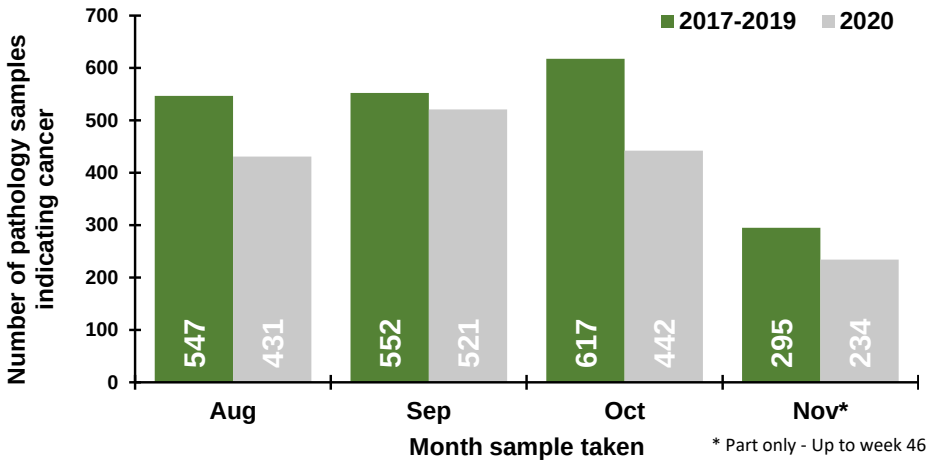
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	839
Nov 2018	827
Dec 2018	687
Jan 2019	938
Feb 2019	808
Mar 2019	728
Apr 2019	789
May 2019	880
Jun 2019	739
Jul 2019	790
Aug 2019	773
Sep 2019	857
Oct 2019	941
Nov 2019	814
Dec 2019	741
Jan 2020	843
Feb 2020	749
Mar 2020	712
Apr 2020	459
May 2020	500
Jun 2020	595
Jul 2020	554
Aug 2020	583
Sep 2020	680
Oct 2020	616

Number of pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Ages 70 and over

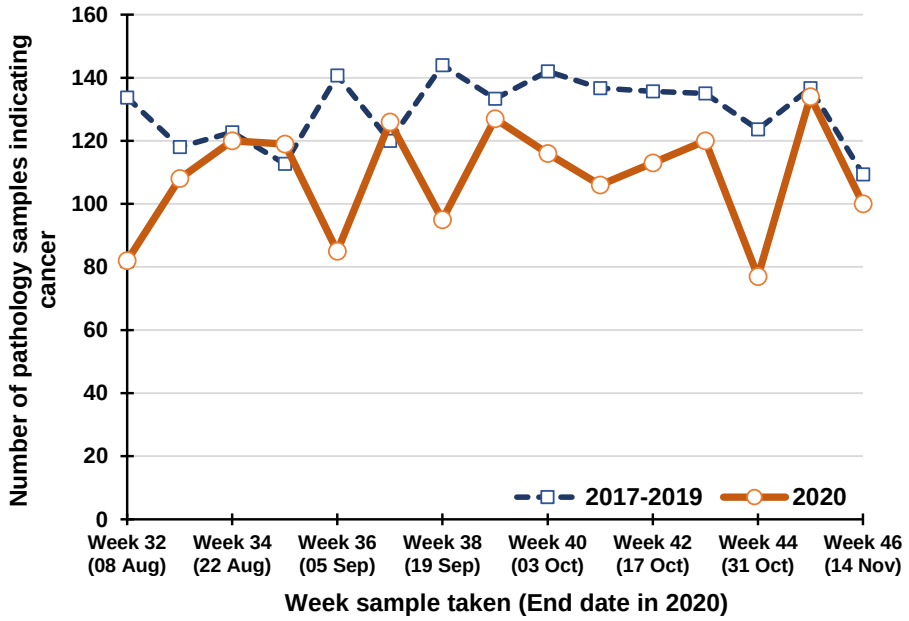
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



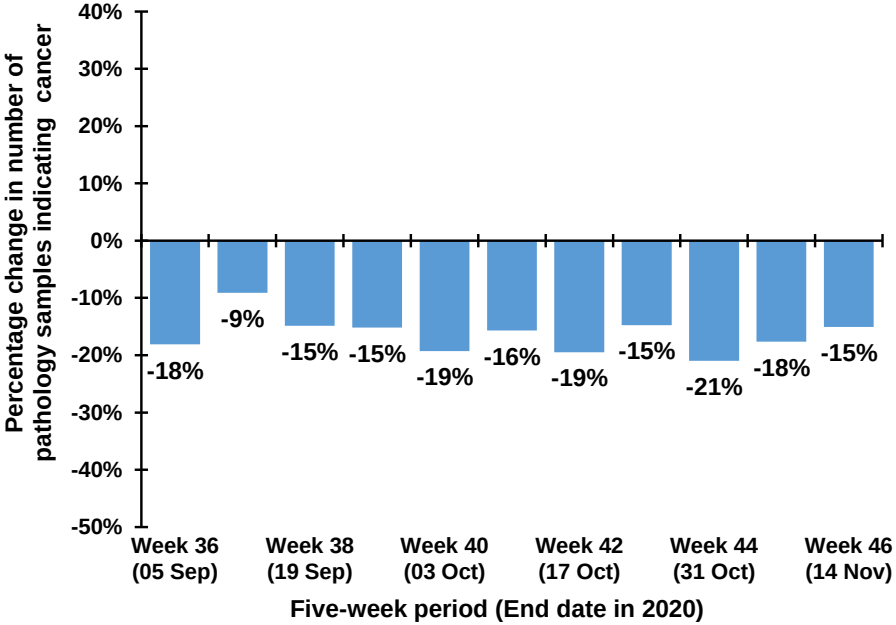
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



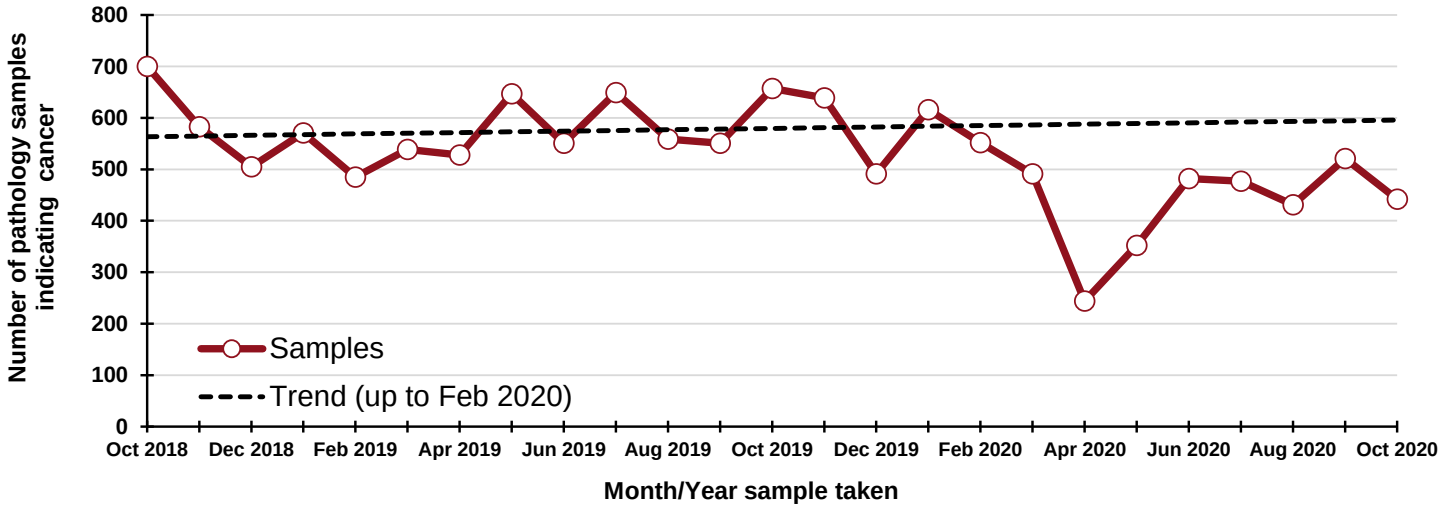
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	547	431	-21%
Sep	552	521	-6%
Oct	617	442	-28%
Nov*	295	234	-21%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

By week sample taken

Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	Five-week rolling total: 2017-2019 average	Five-week rolling total: 2020	Five-week rolling total: Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	134	82			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	118	108			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	123	120			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	113	119			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	141	85	628	514	-18%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	120	126	614	558	-9%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	144	95	640	545	-15%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	133	127	651	552	-15%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	142	116	680	549	-19%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	137	106	676	570	-16%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	136	113	692	557	-19%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	135	120	683	582	-15%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	124	77	673	532	-21%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	137	134	668	550	-18%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	109	100	640	544	-15%

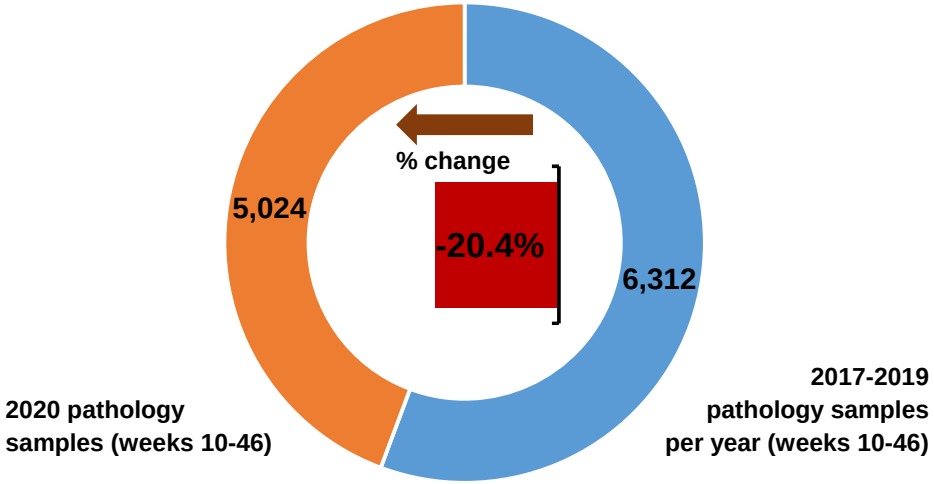
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

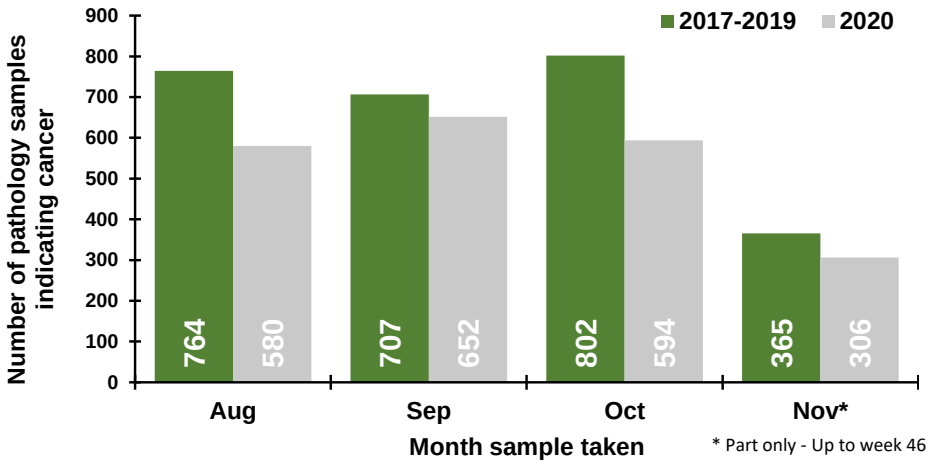
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	700
Nov 2018	583
Dec 2018	505
Jan 2019	571
Feb 2019	485
Mar 2019	539
Apr 2019	528
May 2019	647
Jun 2019	551
Jul 2019	649
Aug 2019	559
Sep 2019	551
Oct 2019	657
Nov 2019	639
Dec 2019	491
Jan 2020	616
Feb 2020	552
Mar 2020	491
Apr 2020	244
May 2020	352
Jun 2020	482
Jul 2020	477
Aug 2020	431
Sep 2020	521
Oct 2020	442

Number of pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Belfast laboratory

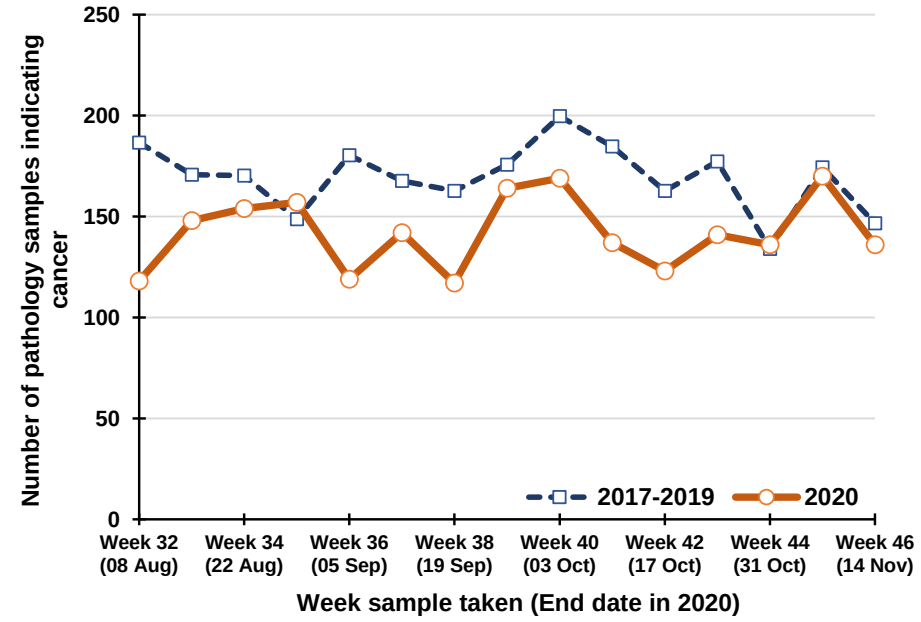
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



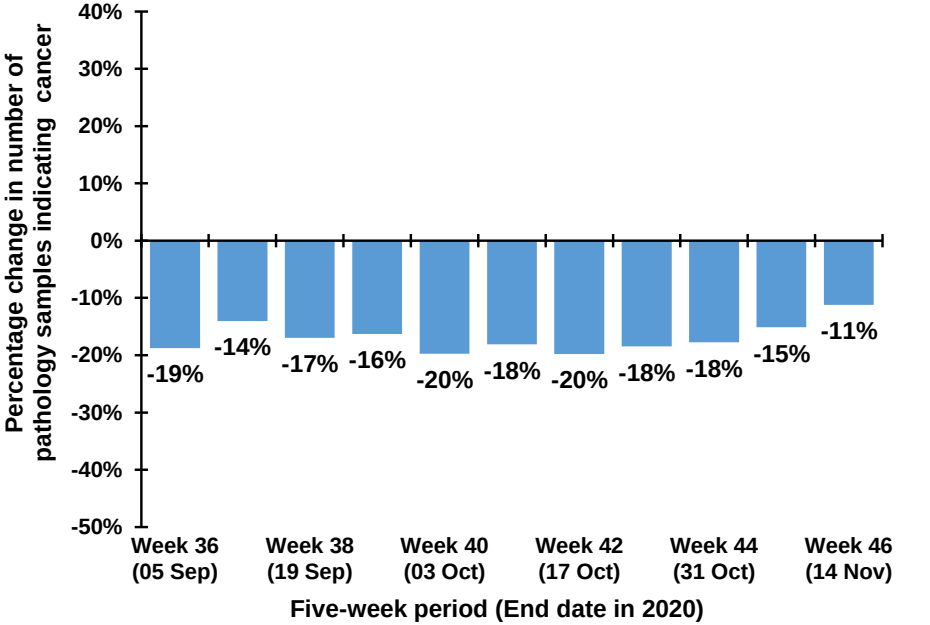
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



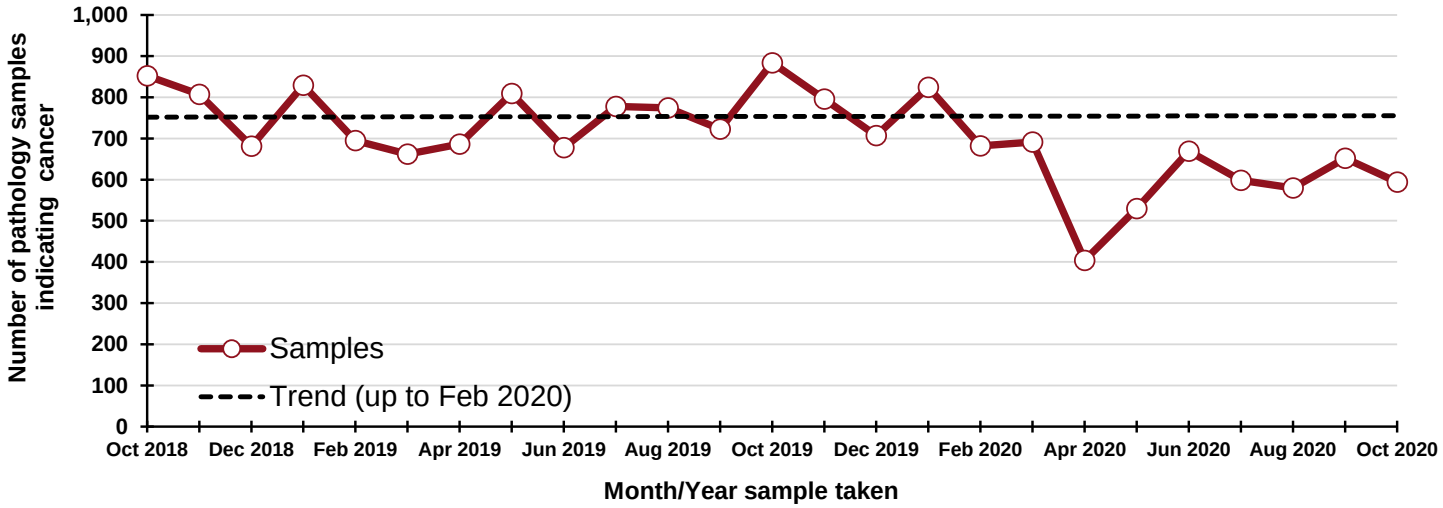
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	764	580	-24%
Sep	707	652	-8%
Oct	802	594	-26%
Nov*	365	306	-16%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

By week sample taken

			Five-week rolling total		
Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	187	118			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	171	148			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	170	154			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	149	157			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	180	119	857	696	-19%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	168	142	838	720	-14%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	163	117	830	689	-17%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	176	164	835	699	-16%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	200	169	886	711	-20%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	185	137	890	729	-18%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	163	123	885	710	-20%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	177	141	900	734	-18%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	134	136	858	706	-18%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	174	170	833	707	-15%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	147	136	795	706	-11%

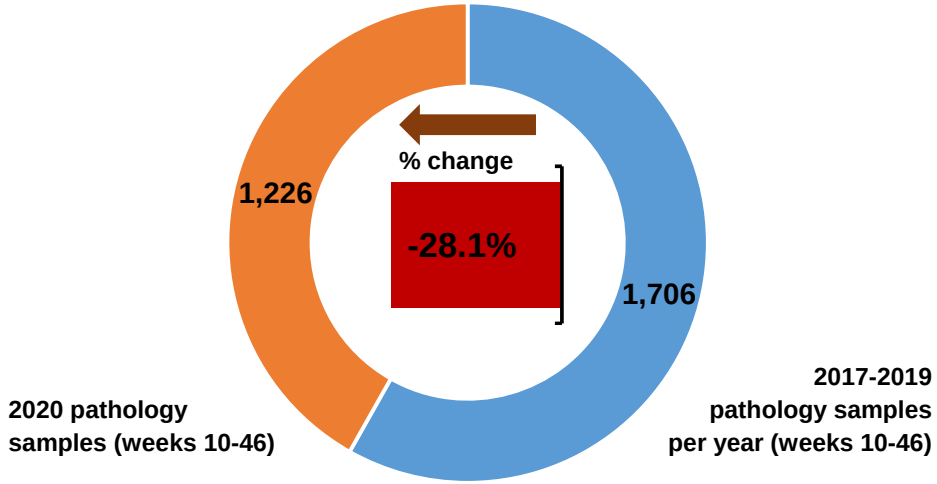
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

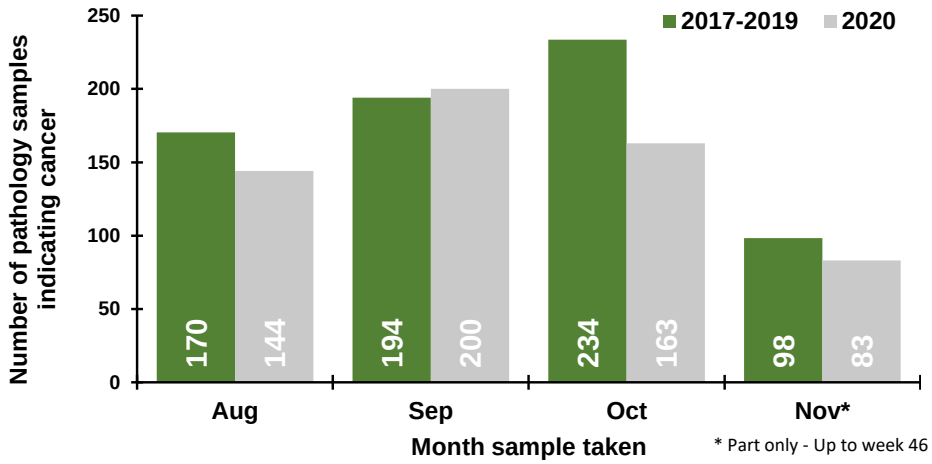
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	852
Nov 2018	807
Dec 2018	681
Jan 2019	829
Feb 2019	695
Mar 2019	662
Apr 2019	686
May 2019	809
Jun 2019	678
Jul 2019	778
Aug 2019	774
Sep 2019	723
Oct 2019	884
Nov 2019	796
Dec 2019	707
Jan 2020	824
Feb 2020	682
Mar 2020	691
Apr 2020	404
May 2020	530
Jun 2020	669
Jul 2020	598
Aug 2020	580
Sep 2020	652
Oct 2020	594

Number of pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Altnagelvin laboratory

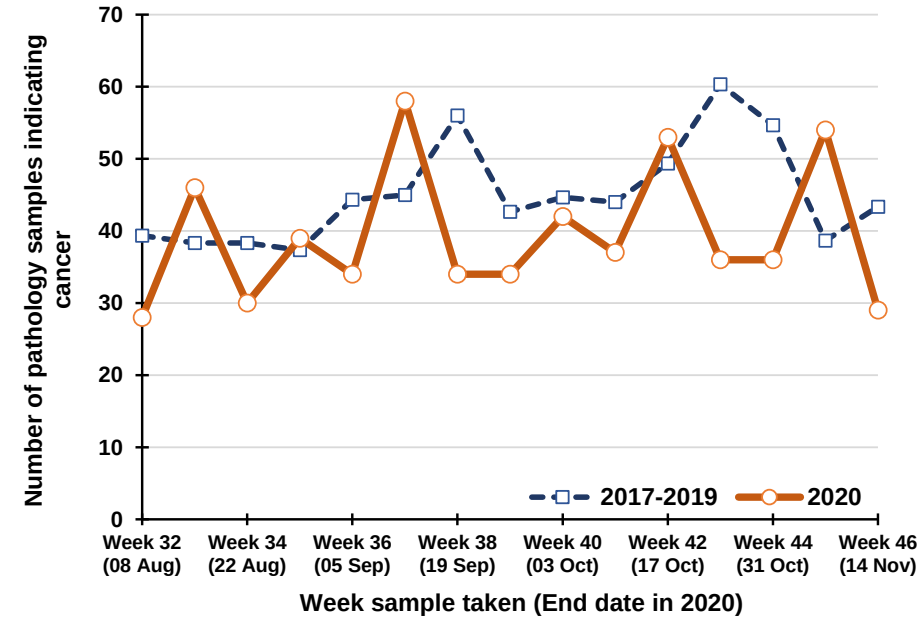
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



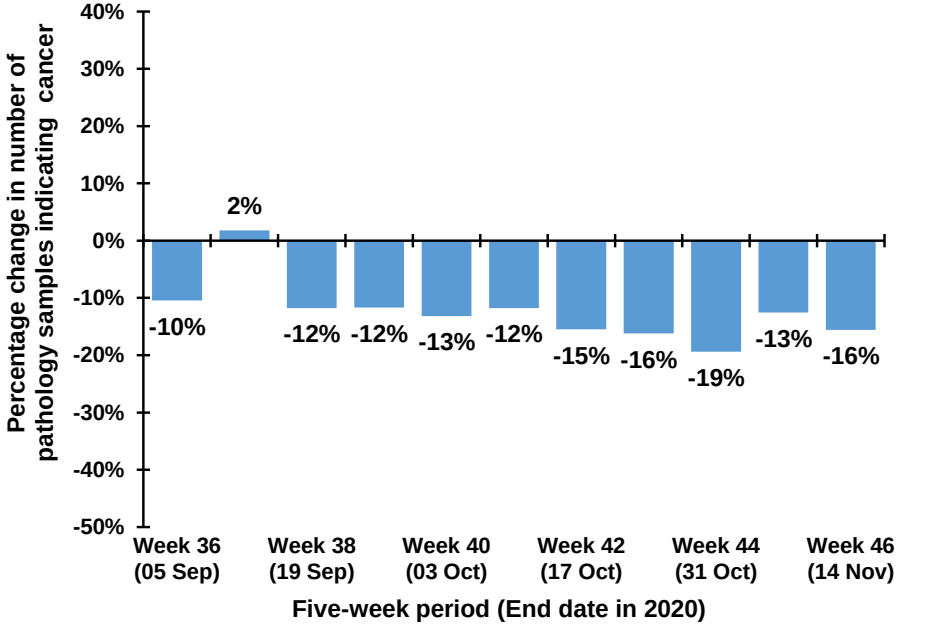
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



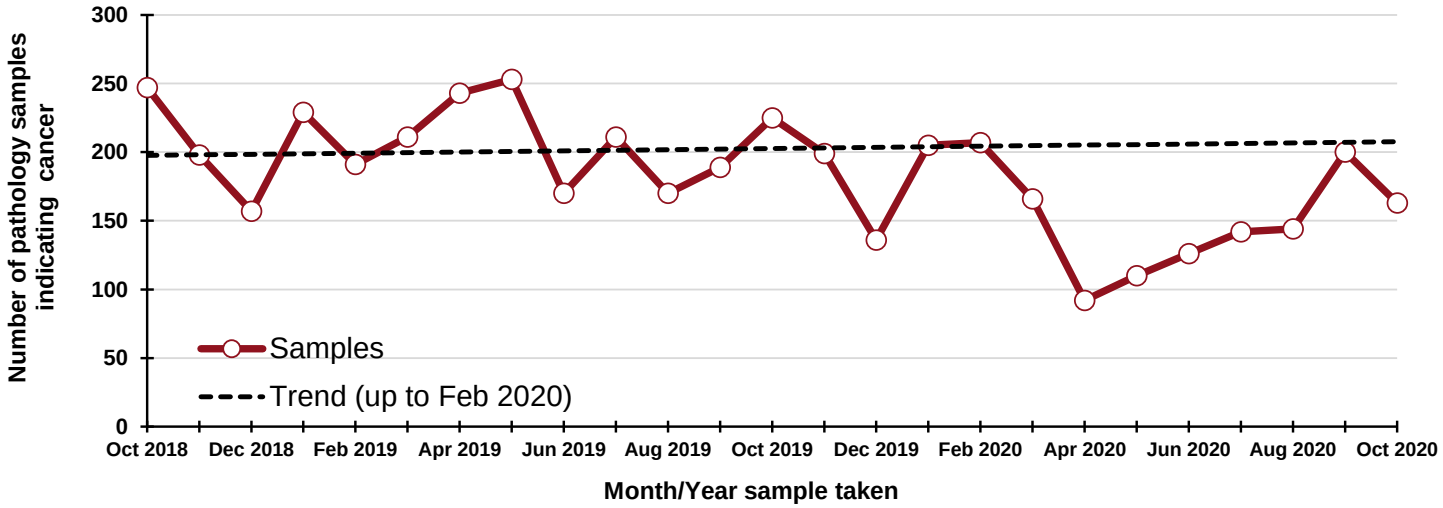
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	170	144	-15%
Sep	194	200	3%
Oct	234	163	-30%
Nov*	98	83	-16%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

By week sample taken

Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	Five-week rolling total 2017-2019 average	Five-week rolling total 2020	Five-week rolling total Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	39	28			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	38	46			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	38	30			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	37	39			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	44	34	198	177	-10%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	45	58	203	207	2%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	56	34	221	195	-12%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	43	34	225	199	-12%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	45	42	233	202	-13%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	44	37	232	205	-12%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	49	53	237	200	-15%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	60	36	241	202	-16%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	55	36	253	204	-19%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	39	54	247	216	-13%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	43	29	246	208	-16%

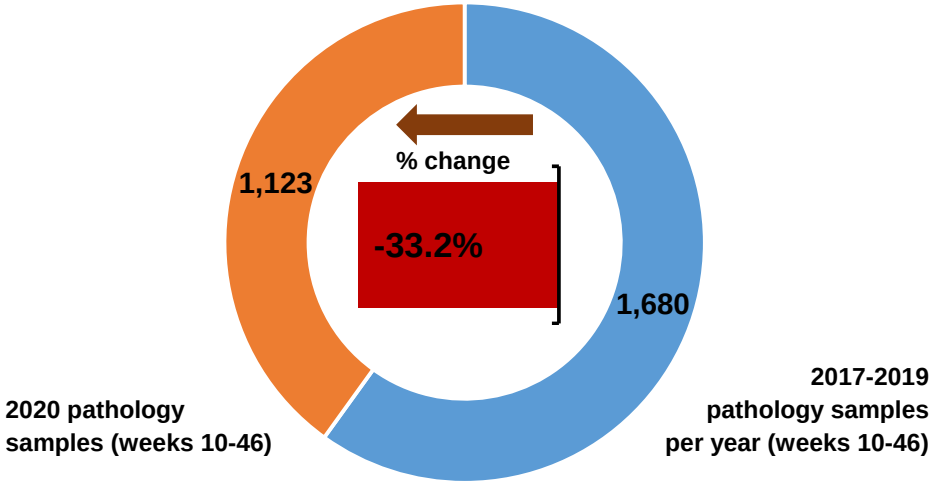
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

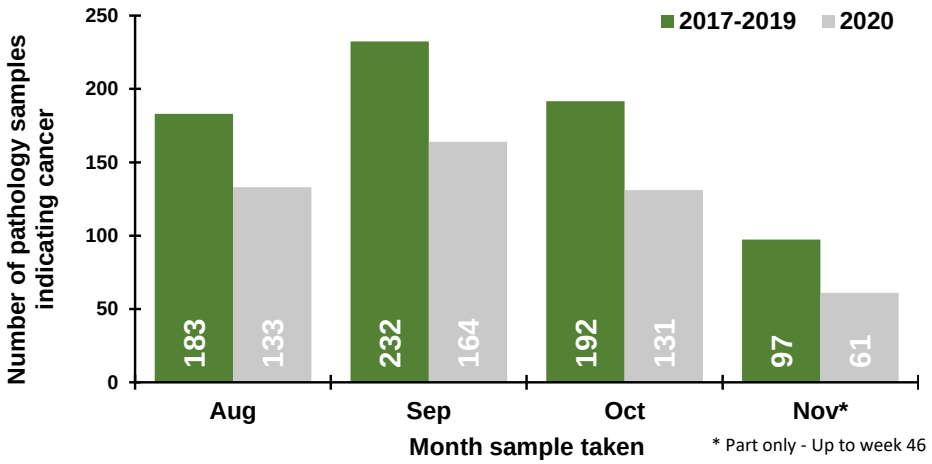
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	247
Nov 2018	198
Dec 2018	157
Jan 2019	229
Feb 2019	191
Mar 2019	211
Apr 2019	243
May 2019	253
Jun 2019	170
Jul 2019	211
Aug 2019	170
Sep 2019	189
Oct 2019	225
Nov 2019	199
Dec 2019	136
Jan 2020	205
Feb 2020	207
Mar 2020	166
Apr 2020	92
May 2020	110
Jun 2020	126
Jul 2020	142
Aug 2020	144
Sep 2020	200
Oct 2020	163

Number of pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Antrim laboratory

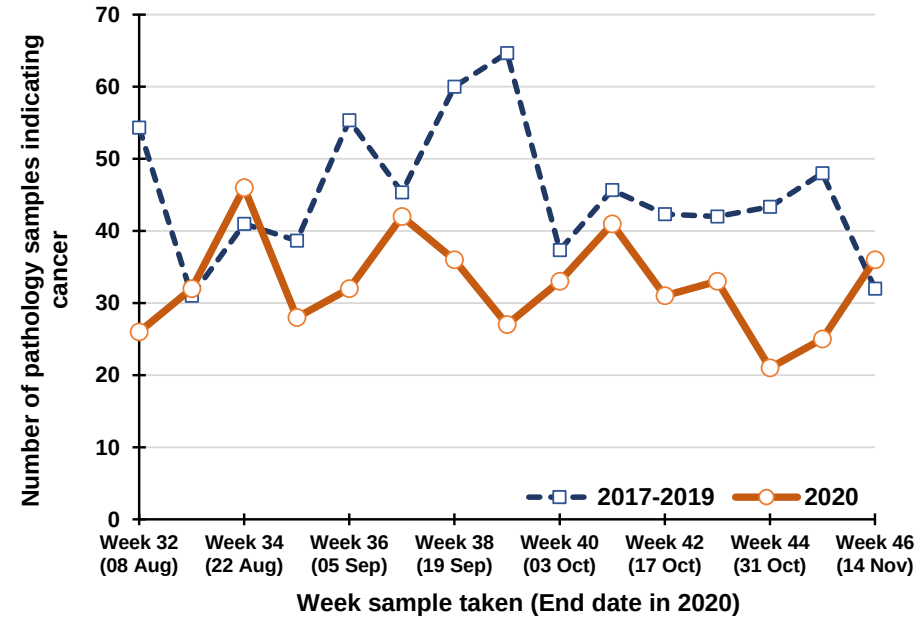
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



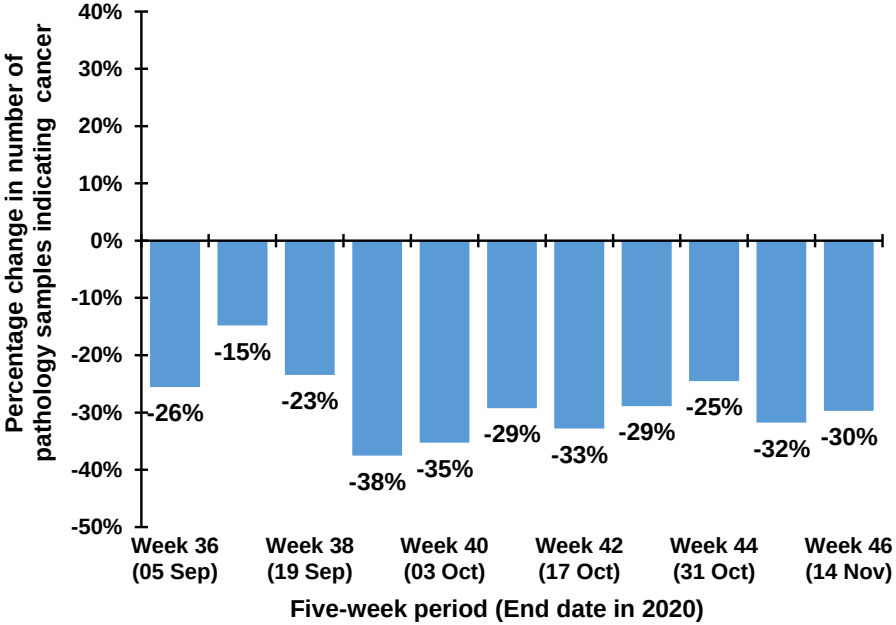
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



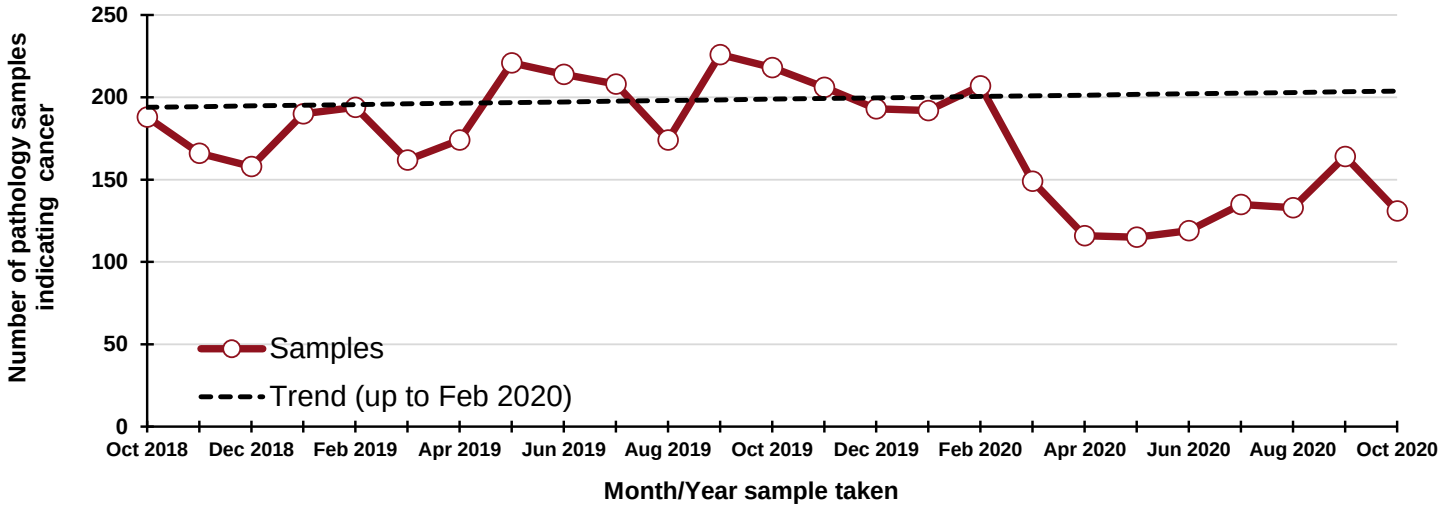
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	183	133	-27%
Sep	232	164	-29%
Oct	192	131	-32%
Nov*	97	61	-37%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

By week sample taken

Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	Five-week rolling total 2017-2019 average	Five-week rolling total 2020	Five-week rolling total Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	54	26			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	31	32			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	41	46			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	39	28			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	55	32	220	164	-26%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	45	42	211	180	-15%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	60	36	240	184	-23%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	65	27	264	165	-38%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	37	33	263	170	-35%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	46	41	253	179	-29%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	42	31	250	168	-33%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	42	33	232	165	-29%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	43	21	211	159	-25%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	48	25	221	151	-32%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	32	36	208	146	-30%

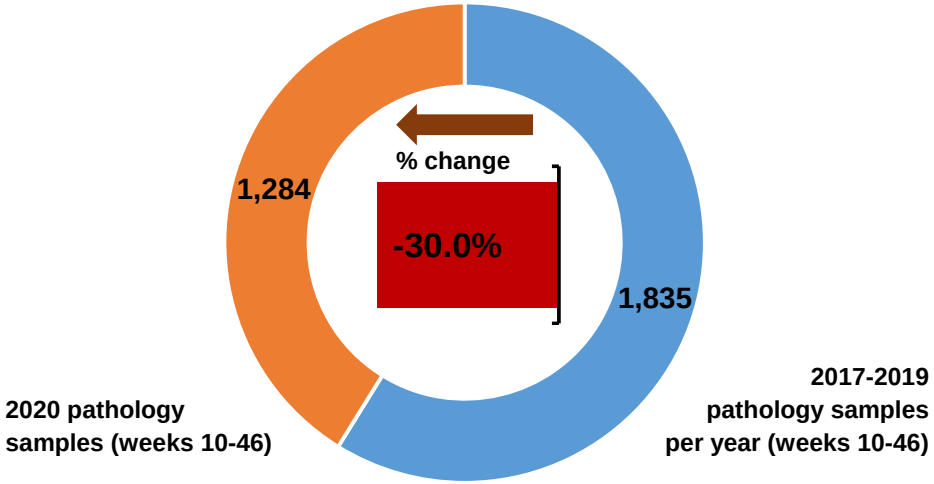
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

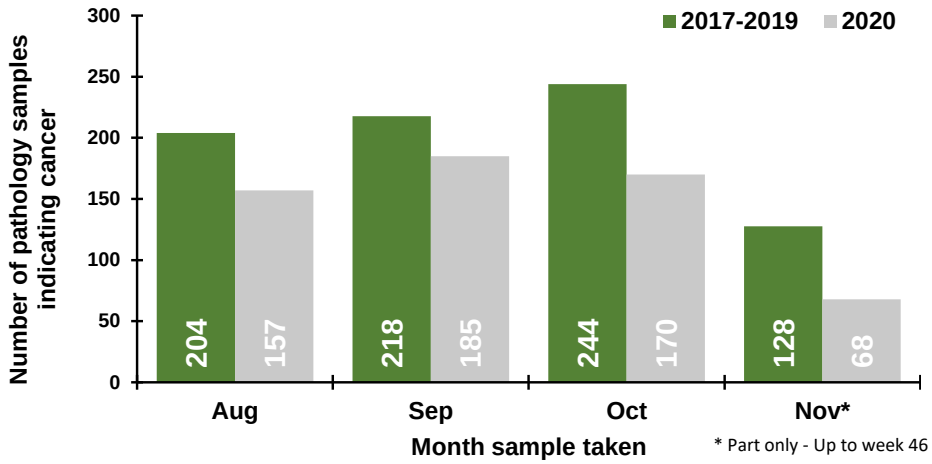
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	188
Nov 2018	166
Dec 2018	158
Jan 2019	190
Feb 2019	194
Mar 2019	162
Apr 2019	174
May 2019	221
Jun 2019	214
Jul 2019	208
Aug 2019	174
Sep 2019	226
Oct 2019	218
Nov 2019	206
Dec 2019	193
Jan 2020	192
Feb 2020	207
Mar 2020	149
Apr 2020	116
May 2020	115
Jun 2020	119
Jul 2020	135
Aug 2020	133
Sep 2020	164
Oct 2020	131

Number of pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Craigavon laboratory

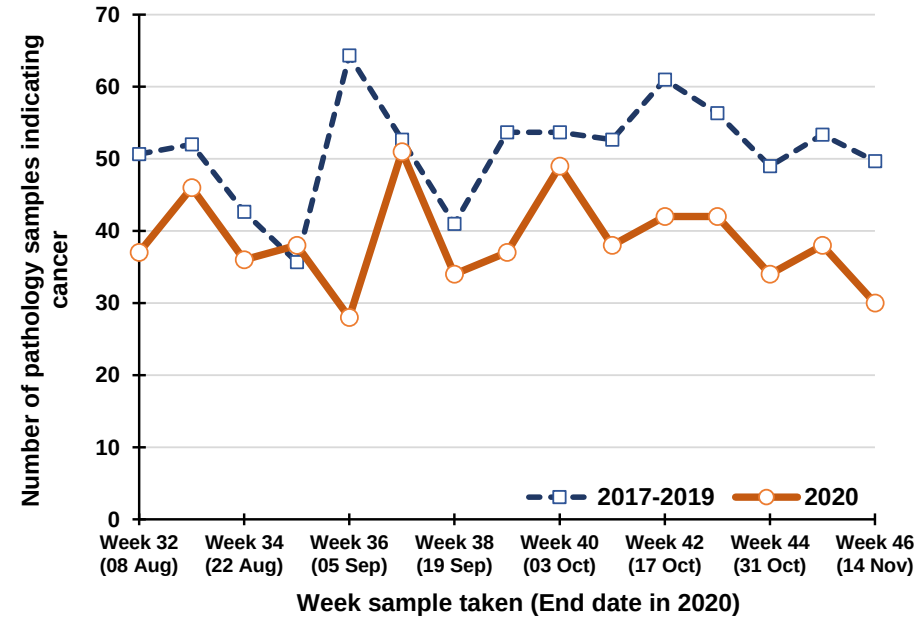
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



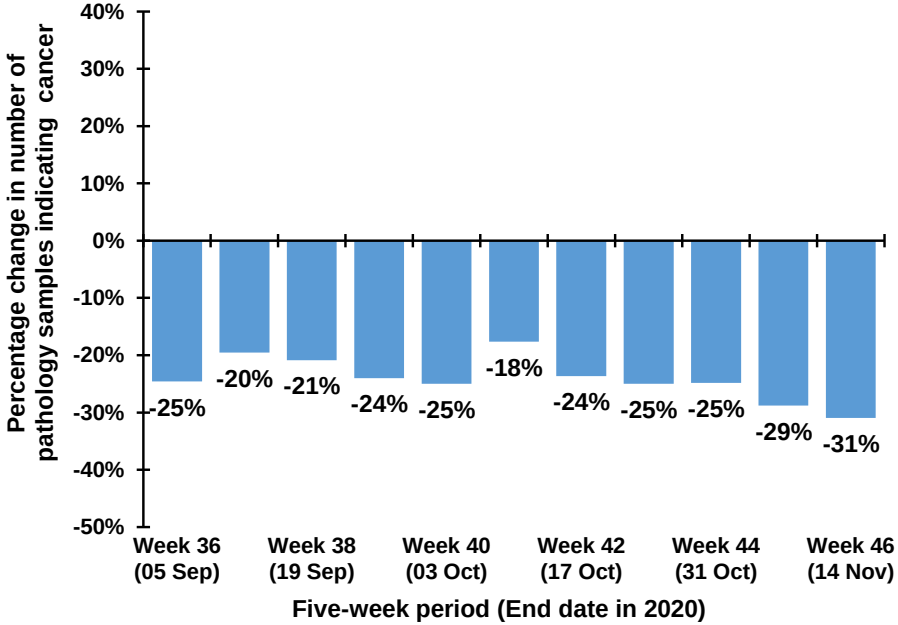
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



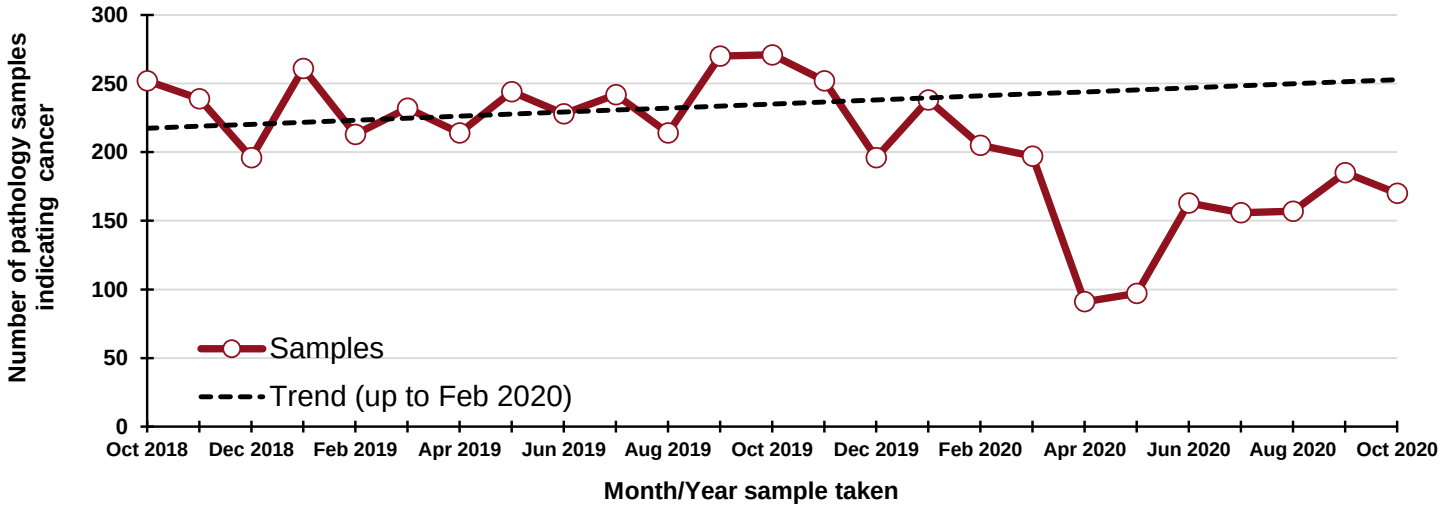
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	204	157	-23%
Sep	218	185	-15%
Oct	244	170	-30%
Nov*	128	68	-47%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

By week sample taken

			Five-week rolling total		
Week number*	**2017-2019 average**	**2020**	**2017-2019 average**	**2020**	**Percentage change**
Week 32 (08 Aug)	51	37			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	52	46			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	43	36			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	36	38			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	64	28	245	185	-25%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	53	51	247	199	-20%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	41	34	236	187	-21%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	54	37	247	188	-24%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	54	49	265	199	-25%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	53	38	254	209	-18%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	61	42	262	200	-24%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	56	42	277	208	-25%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	49	34	273	205	-25%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	53	38	272	194	-29%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	50	30	269	186	-31%

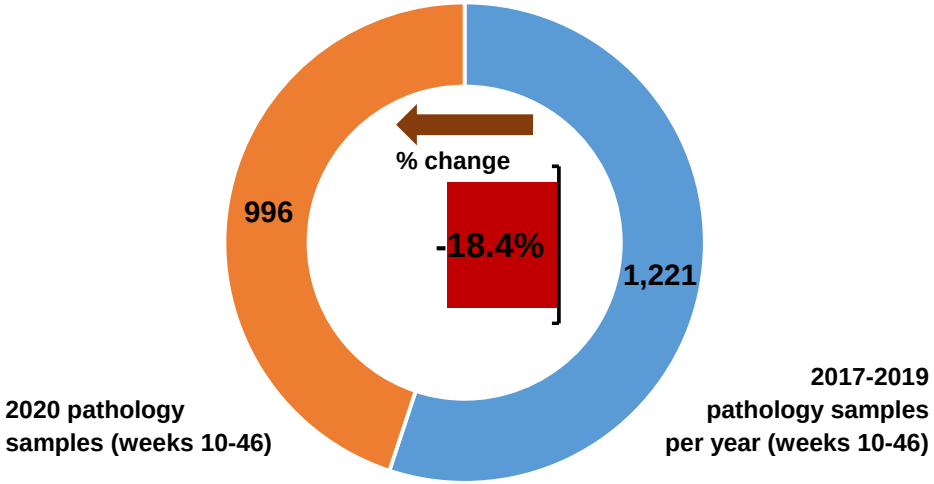
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

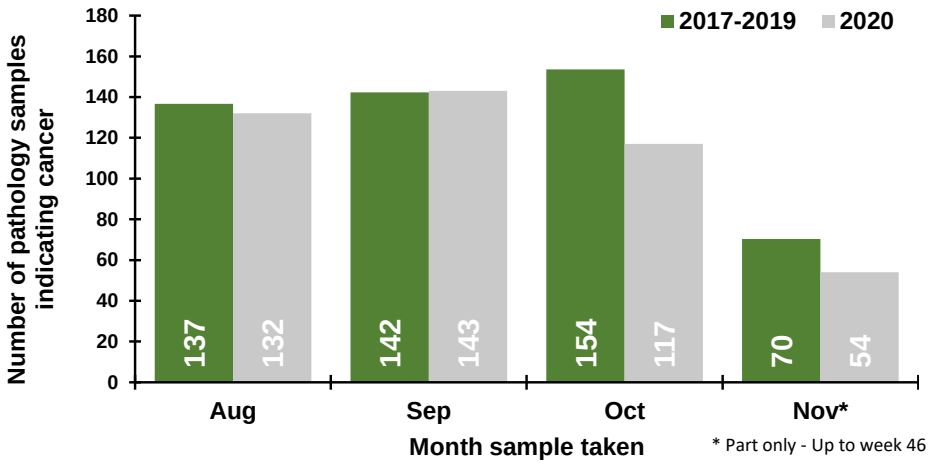
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	252
Nov 2018	239
Dec 2018	196
Jan 2019	261
Feb 2019	213
Mar 2019	232
Apr 2019	214
May 2019	244
Jun 2019	228
Jul 2019	242
Aug 2019	214
Sep 2019	270
Oct 2019	271
Nov 2019	252
Dec 2019	196
Jan 2020	238
Feb 2020	205
Mar 2020	197
Apr 2020	91
May 2020	97
Jun 2020	163
Jul 2020	156
Aug 2020	157
Sep 2020	185
Oct 2020	170

Number of pathology samples indicating bowel cancer: All persons

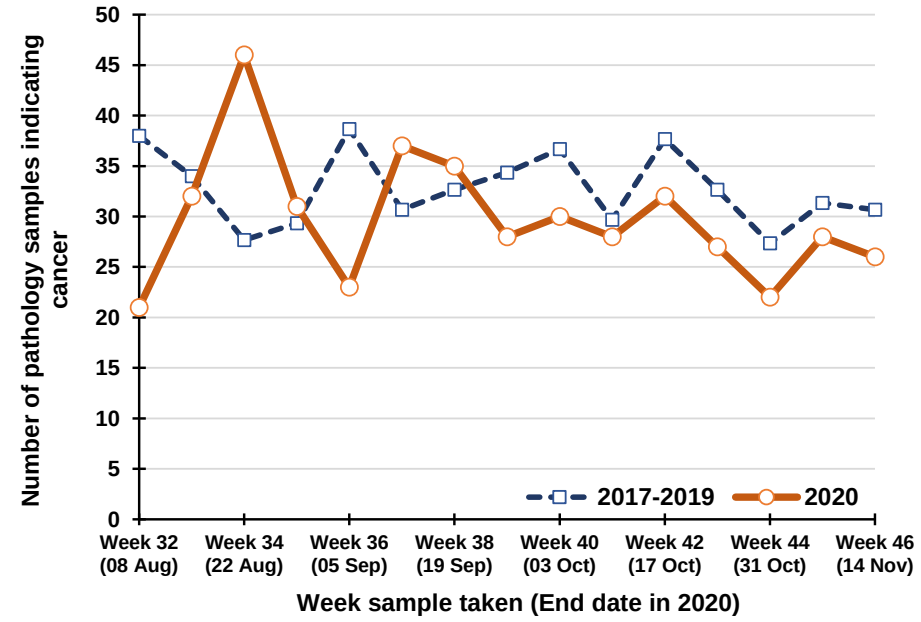
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



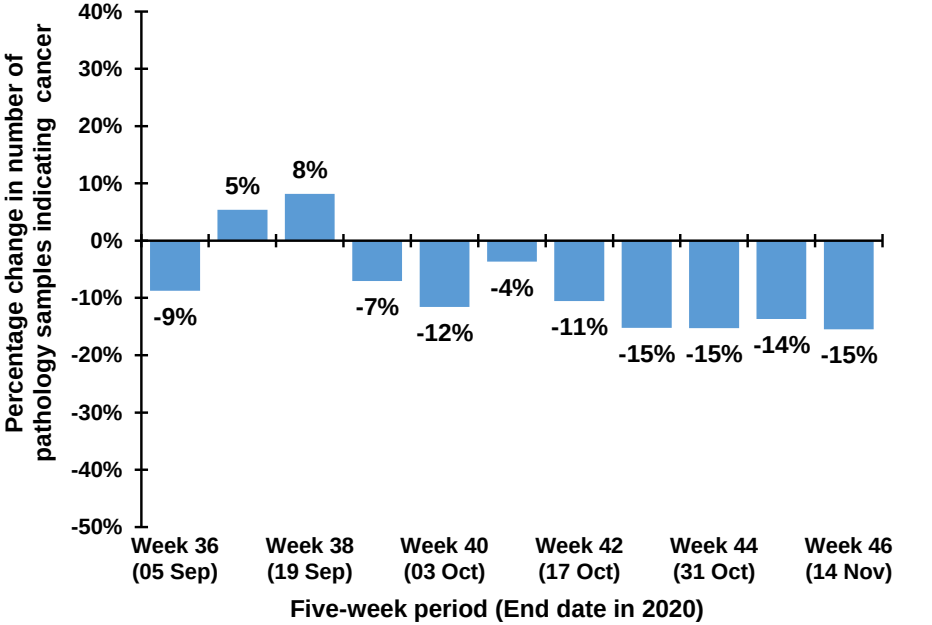
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



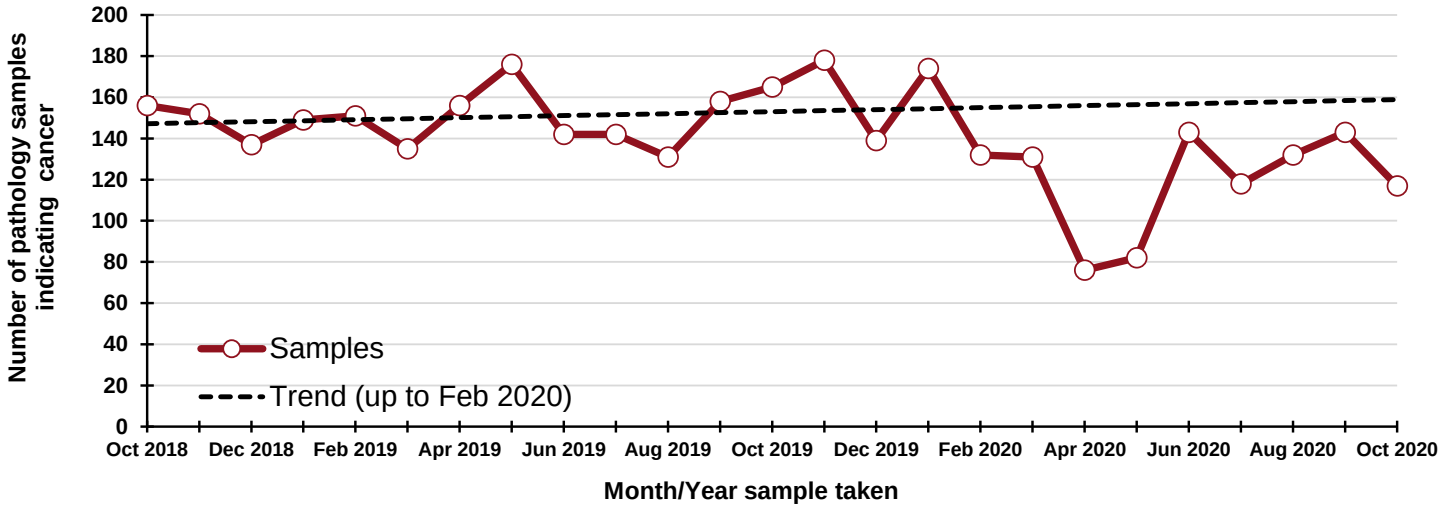
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	137	132	-3%
Sep	142	143	0%
Oct	154	117	-24%
Nov*	70	54	-23%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

Note: Includes colon, rectum and rectosigmoid junction (ICD10 codes: C18-C20).

By week sample taken

Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	Five-week rolling total 2017-2019 average	Five-week rolling total 2020	Five-week rolling total Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	38	21			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	34	32			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	28	46			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	29	31			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	39	23	168	153	-9%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	31	37	160	169	5%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	33	35	159	172	8%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	34	28	166	154	-7%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	37	30	173	153	-12%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	30	28	164	158	-4%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	38	32	171	153	-11%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	33	27	171	145	-15%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	27	22	164	139	-15%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	31	28	159	137	-14%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	31	26	160	135	-15%

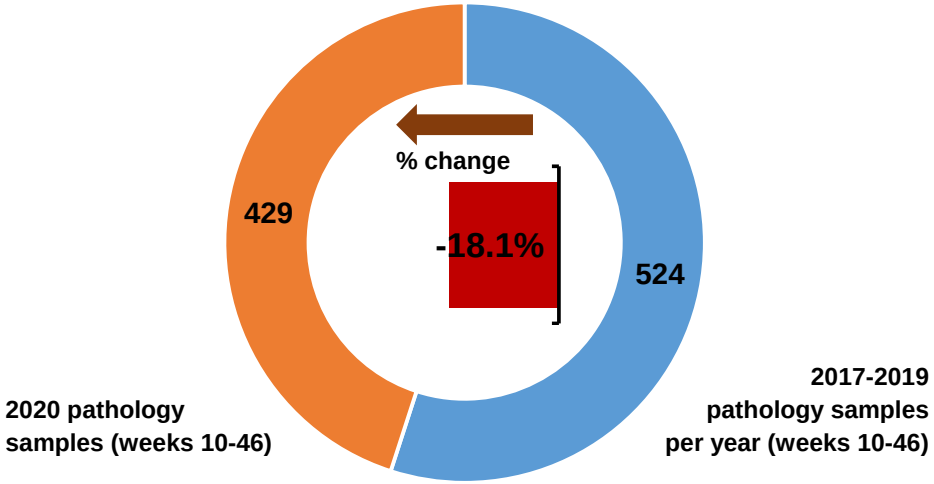
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

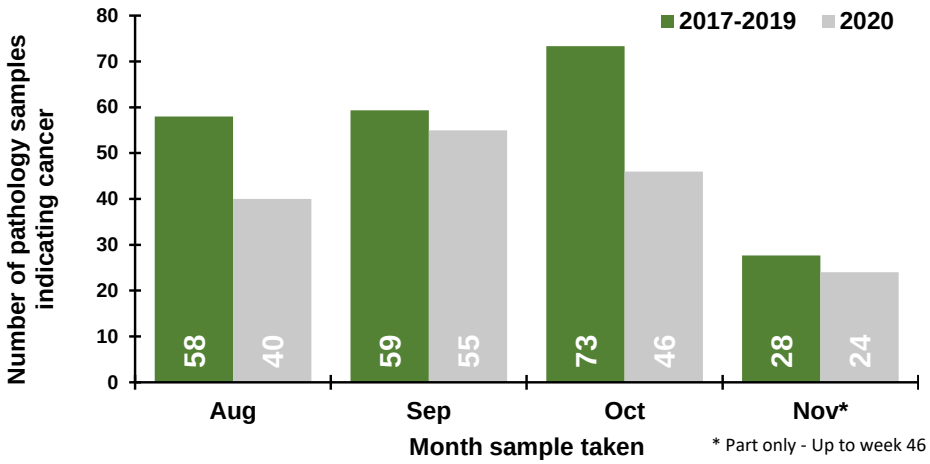
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	156
Nov 2018	152
Dec 2018	137
Jan 2019	149
Feb 2019	151
Mar 2019	135
Apr 2019	156
May 2019	176
Jun 2019	142
Jul 2019	142
Aug 2019	131
Sep 2019	158
Oct 2019	165
Nov 2019	178
Dec 2019	139
Jan 2020	174
Feb 2020	132
Mar 2020	131
Apr 2020	76
May 2020	82
Jun 2020	143
Jul 2020	118
Aug 2020	132
Sep 2020	143
Oct 2020	117

Number of pathology samples indicating bowel cancer: All persons, screening age (60-74)

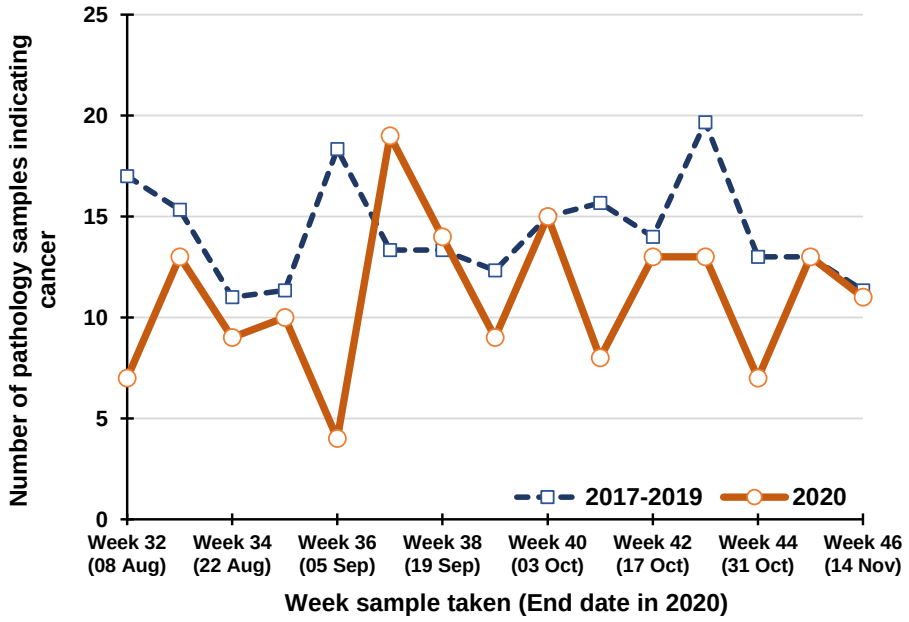
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



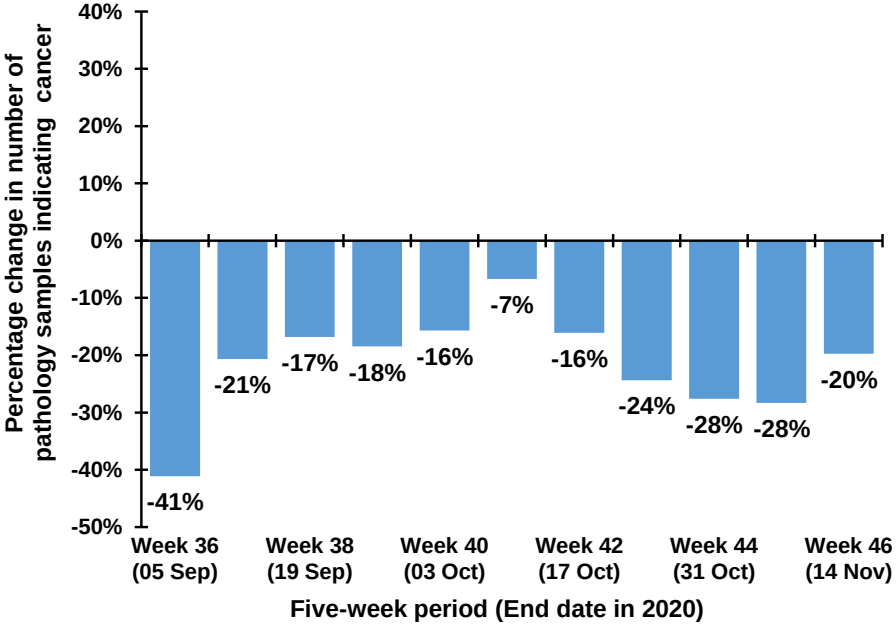
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



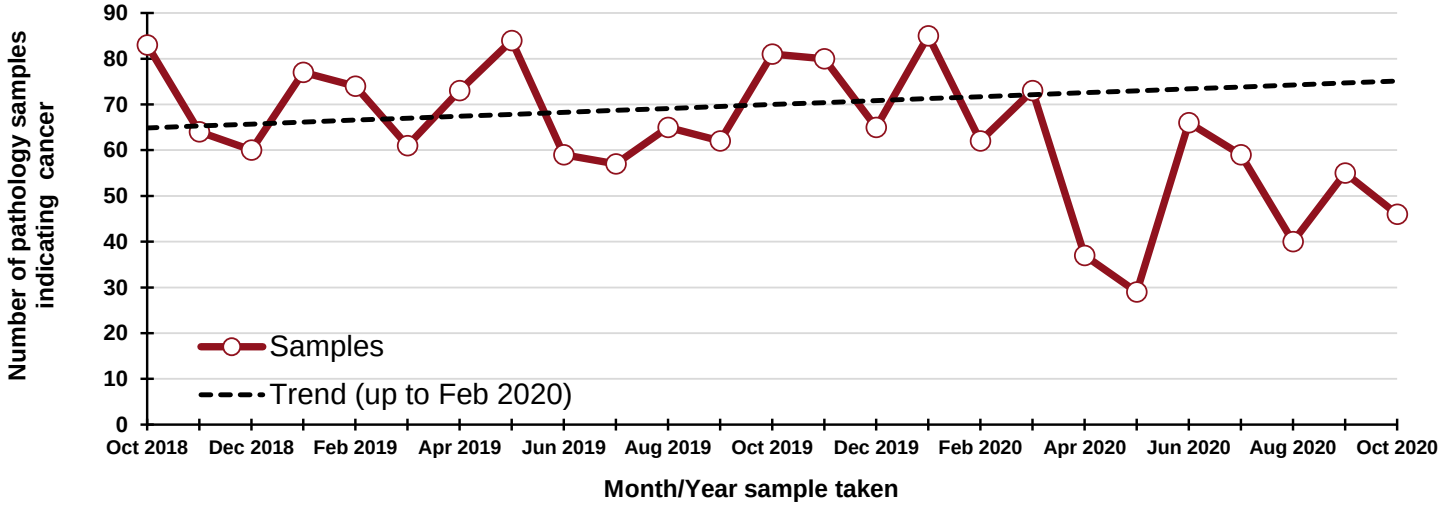
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	58	40	-31%
Sep	59	55	-7%
Oct	73	46	-37%
Nov*	28	24	-13%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

Note: Includes colon, rectum and rectosigmoid junction (ICD10 codes: C18-C20).

By week sample taken

			Five-week rolling total		
Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	17	7			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	15	13			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	11	9			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	11	10			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	18	4	73	43	-41%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	13	19	69	55	-21%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	13	14	67	56	-17%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	12	9	69	56	-18%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	15	15	72	61	-16%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	16	8	70	65	-7%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	14	13	70	59	-16%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	20	13	77	58	-24%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	13	7	77	56	-28%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	13	13	75	54	-28%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	11	11	71	57	-20%

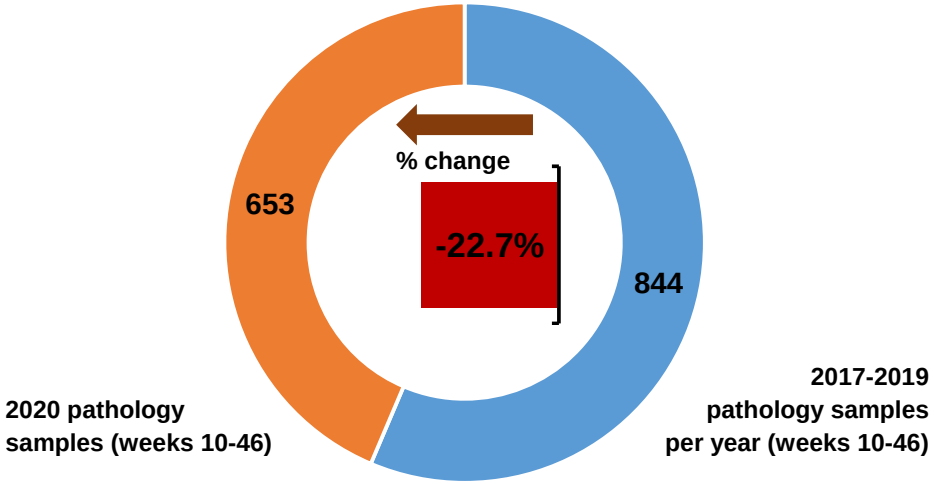
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

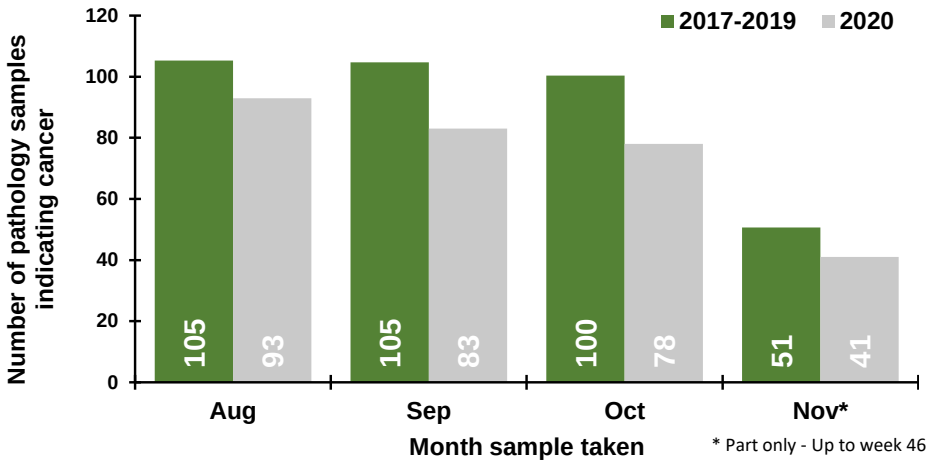
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	83
Nov 2018	64
Dec 2018	60
Jan 2019	77
Feb 2019	74
Mar 2019	61
Apr 2019	73
May 2019	84
Jun 2019	59
Jul 2019	57
Aug 2019	65
Sep 2019	62
Oct 2019	81
Nov 2019	80
Dec 2019	65
Jan 2020	85
Feb 2020	62
Mar 2020	73
Apr 2020	37
May 2020	29
Jun 2020	66
Jul 2020	59
Aug 2020	40
Sep 2020	55
Oct 2020	46

Number of pathology samples indicating lung cancer: All persons

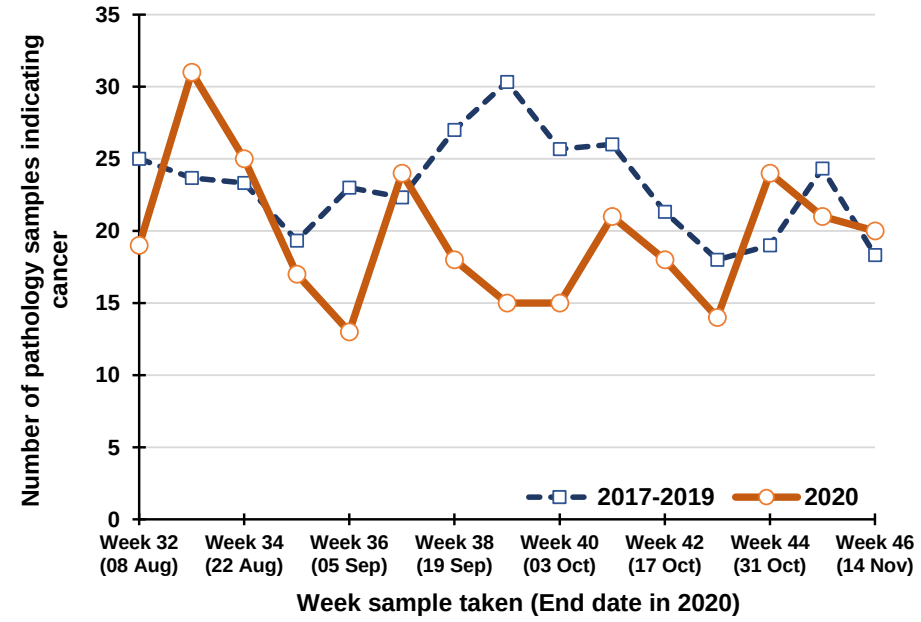
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



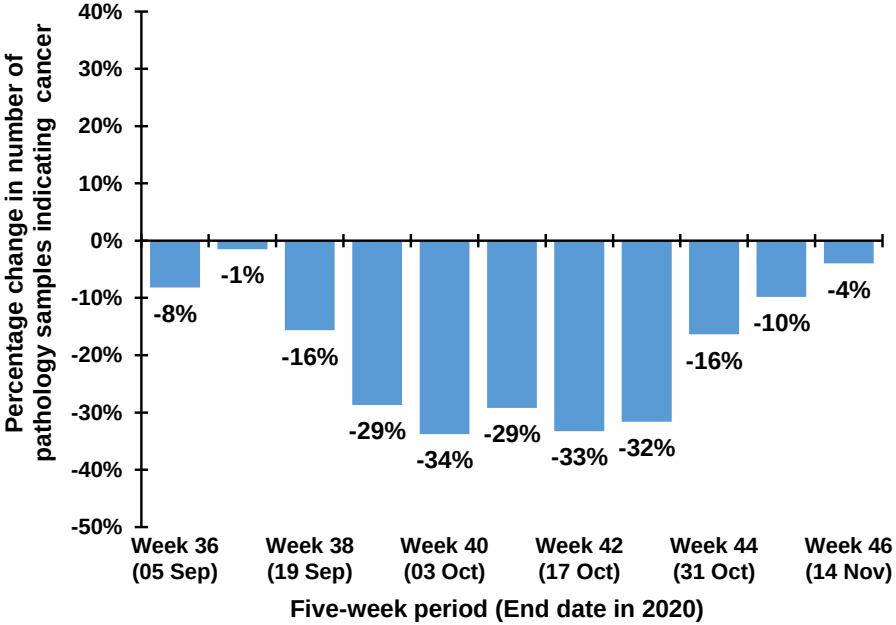
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



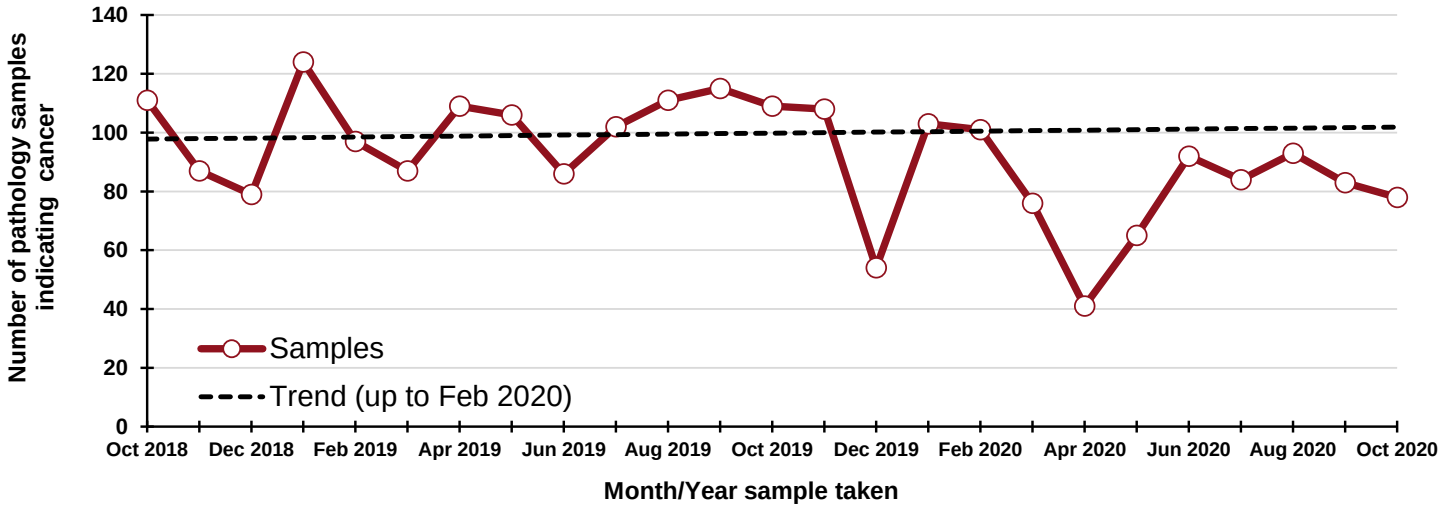
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	105	93	-12%
Sep	105	83	-21%
Oct	100	78	-22%
Nov*	51	41	-19%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

Note: Includes lung and trachea (ICD10 codes: C33-C34).

By week sample taken

Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	Five-week rolling total: 2017-2019 average	Five-week rolling total: 2020	Five-week rolling total: Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	25	19			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	24	31			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	23	25			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	19	17			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	23	13	114	105	-8%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	22	24	112	110	-1%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	27	18	115	97	-16%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	30	15	122	87	-29%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	26	15	128	85	-34%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	26	21	131	93	-29%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	21	18	130	87	-33%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	18	14	121	83	-32%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	19	24	110	92	-16%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	24	21	109	98	-10%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	18	20	101	97	-4%

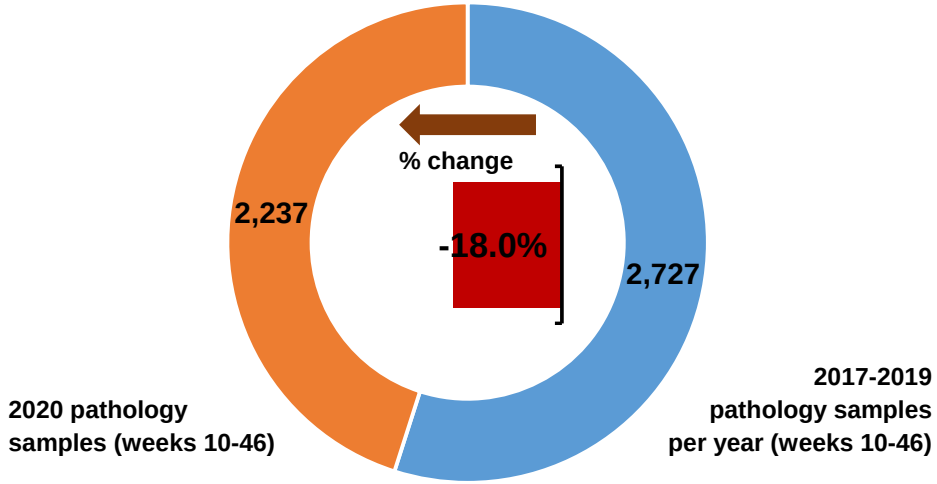
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

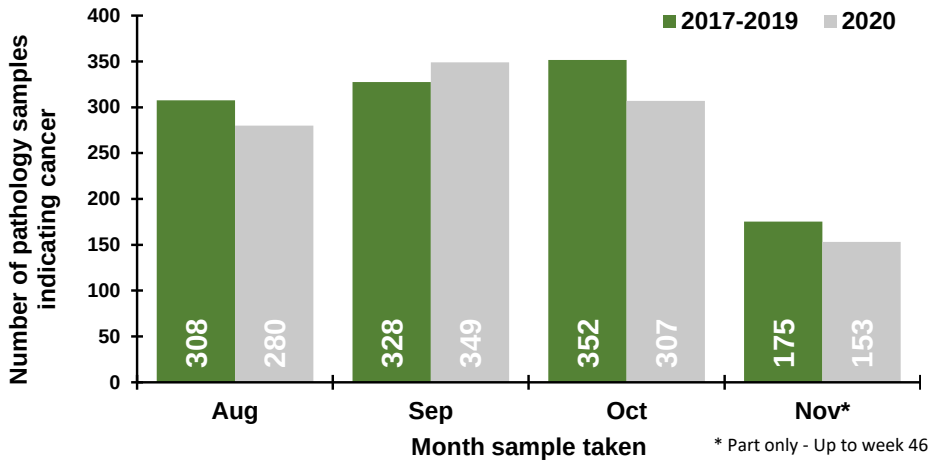
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	111
Nov 2018	87
Dec 2018	79
Jan 2019	124
Feb 2019	97
Mar 2019	87
Apr 2019	109
May 2019	106
Jun 2019	86
Jul 2019	102
Aug 2019	111
Sep 2019	115
Oct 2019	109
Nov 2019	108
Dec 2019	54
Jan 2020	103
Feb 2020	101
Mar 2020	76
Apr 2020	41
May 2020	65
Jun 2020	92
Jul 2020	84
Aug 2020	93
Sep 2020	83
Oct 2020	78

Number of pathology samples indicating breast cancer: Females

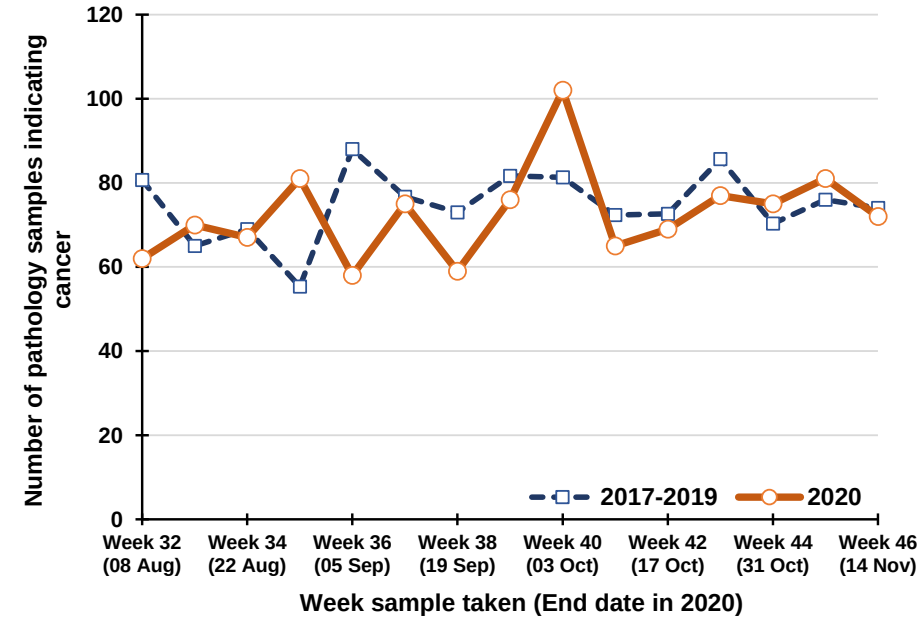
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



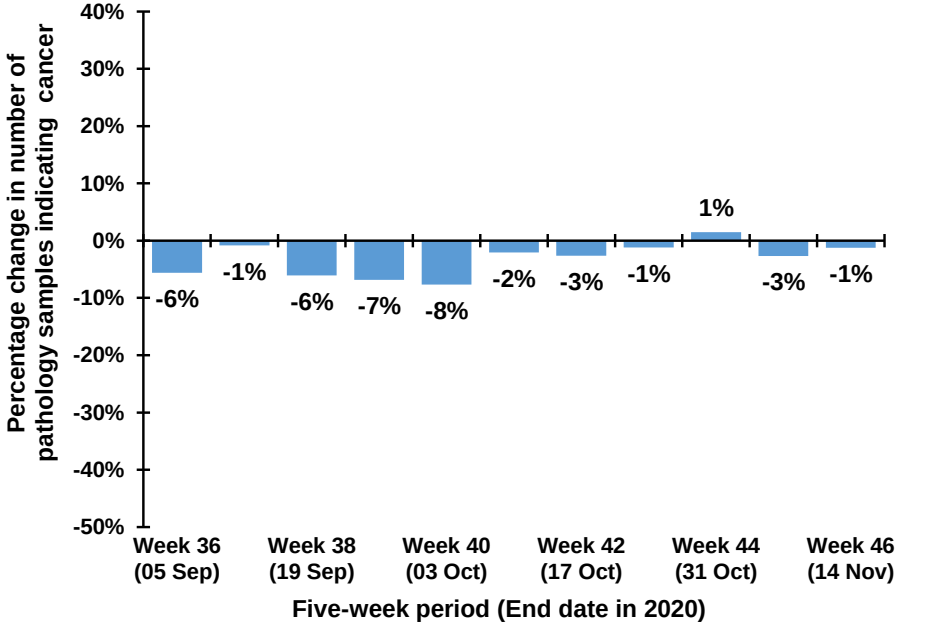
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



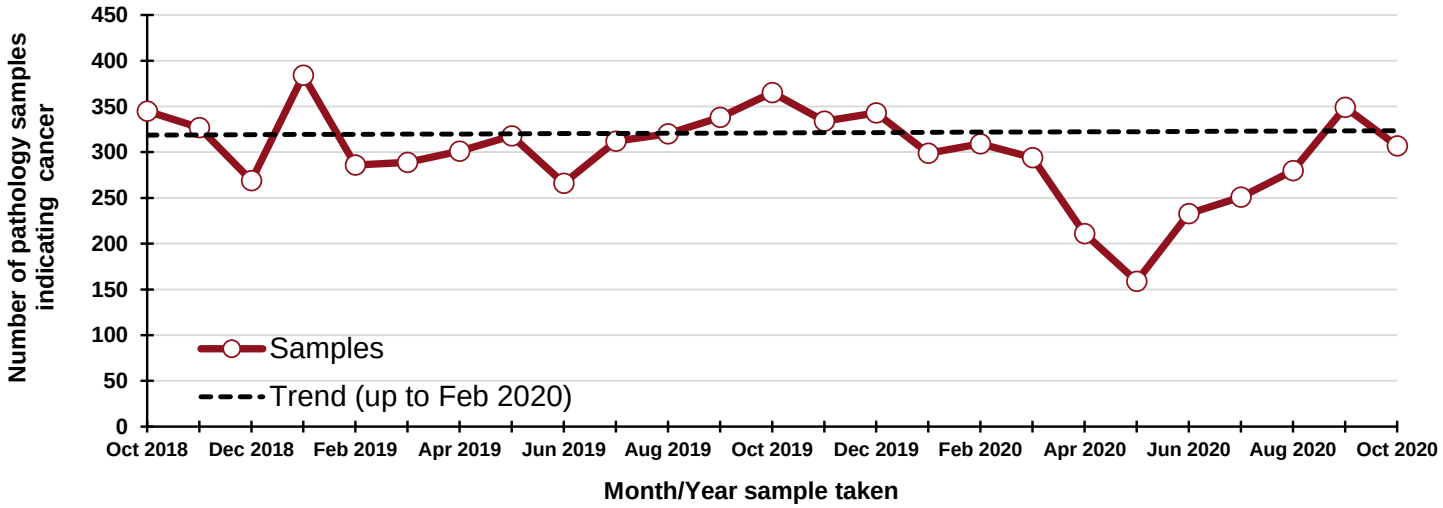
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	308	280	-9%
Sep	328	349	7%
Oct	352	307	-13%
Nov*	175	153	-13%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

Note: Includes female breast only (ICD10 codes: C50).

By week sample taken

			Five-week rolling total		
Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	81	62			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	65	70			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	69	67			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	55	81			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	88	58	358	338	-6%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	77	75	354	351	-1%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	73	59	362	340	-6%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	82	76	375	349	-7%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	81	102	401	370	-8%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	72	65	385	377	-2%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	73	69	381	371	-3%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	86	77	394	389	-1%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	70	75	382	388	1%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	76	81	377	367	-3%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	74	72	379	374	-1%

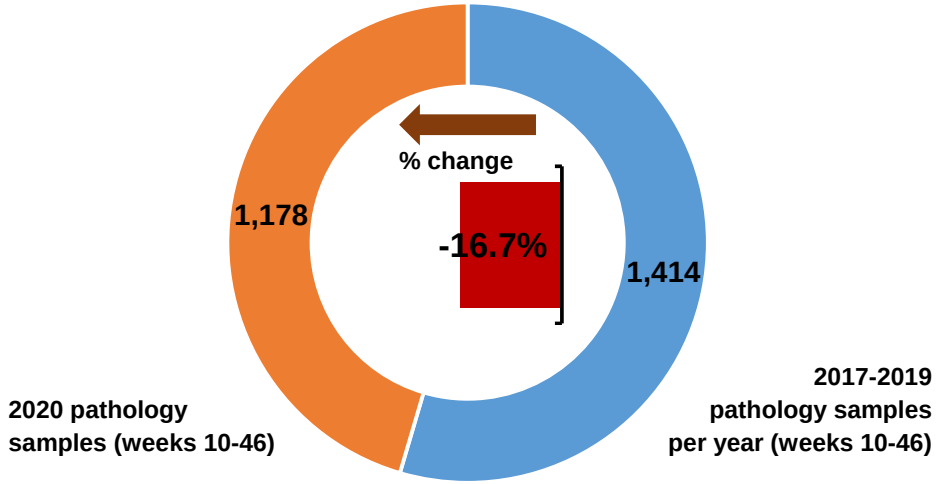
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

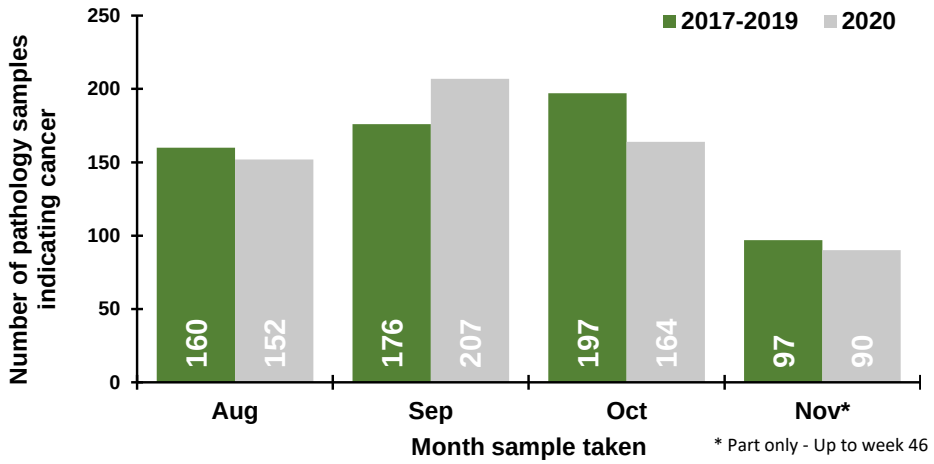
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	345
Nov 2018	327
Dec 2018	269
Jan 2019	384
Feb 2019	286
Mar 2019	289
Apr 2019	301
May 2019	318
Jun 2019	266
Jul 2019	312
Aug 2019	320
Sep 2019	338
Oct 2019	365
Nov 2019	334
Dec 2019	343
Jan 2020	299
Feb 2020	309
Mar 2020	294
Apr 2020	211
May 2020	159
Jun 2020	233
Jul 2020	251
Aug 2020	280
Sep 2020	349
Oct 2020	307

Number of pathology samples indicating breast cancer: Females, screening age (50-70)

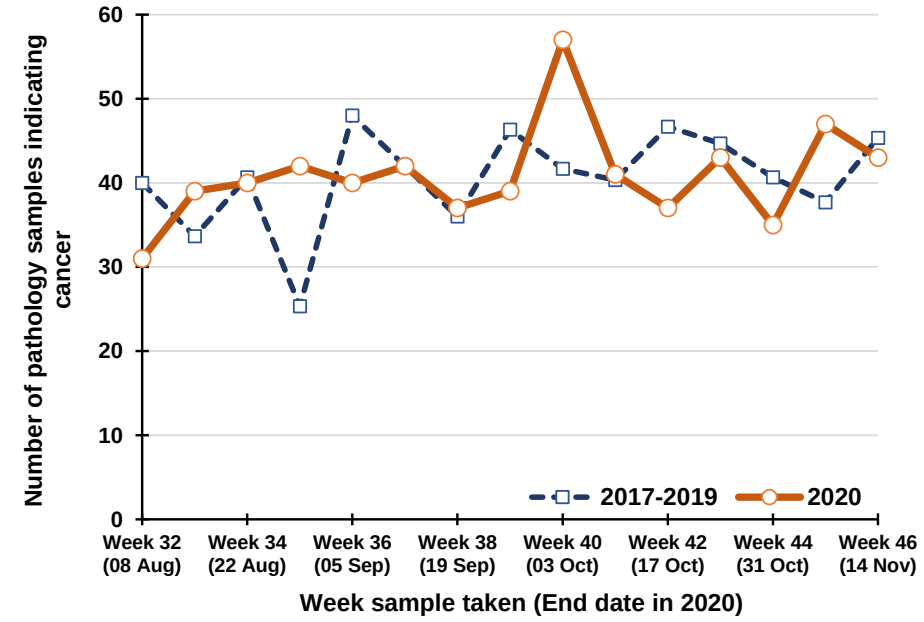
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



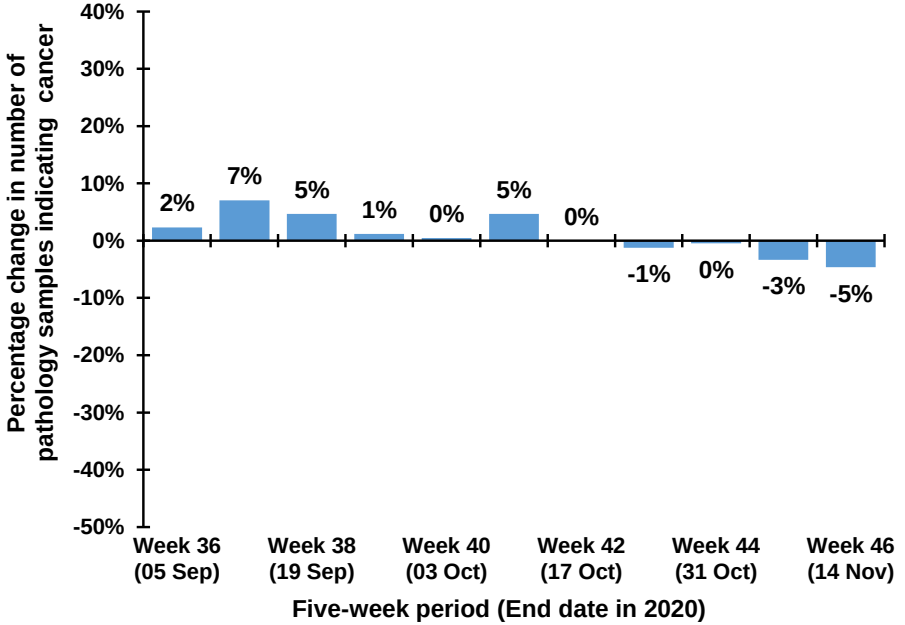
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



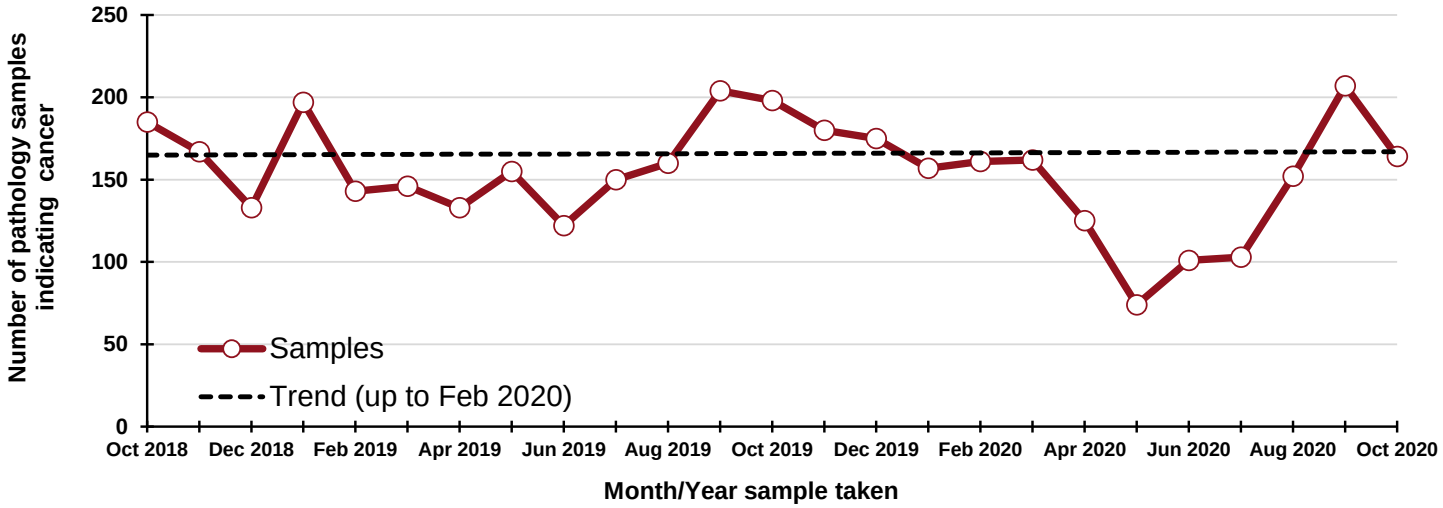
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	160	152	-5%
Sep	176	207	18%
Oct	197	164	-17%
Nov*	97	90	-7%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

Note: Includes female breast only (ICD10 codes: C50).

By week sample taken

Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	Five-week rolling total: 2017-2019 average	Five-week rolling total: 2020	Five-week rolling total: Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	40	31			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	34	39			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	41	40			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	25	42			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	48	40	188	192	2%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	42	42	190	203	7%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	36	37	192	201	5%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	46	39	198	200	1%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	42	57	214	215	0%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	40	41	206	216	5%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	47	37	211	211	0%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	45	43	220	217	-1%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	41	35	214	213	0%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	38	47	210	203	-3%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	45	43	215	205	-5%

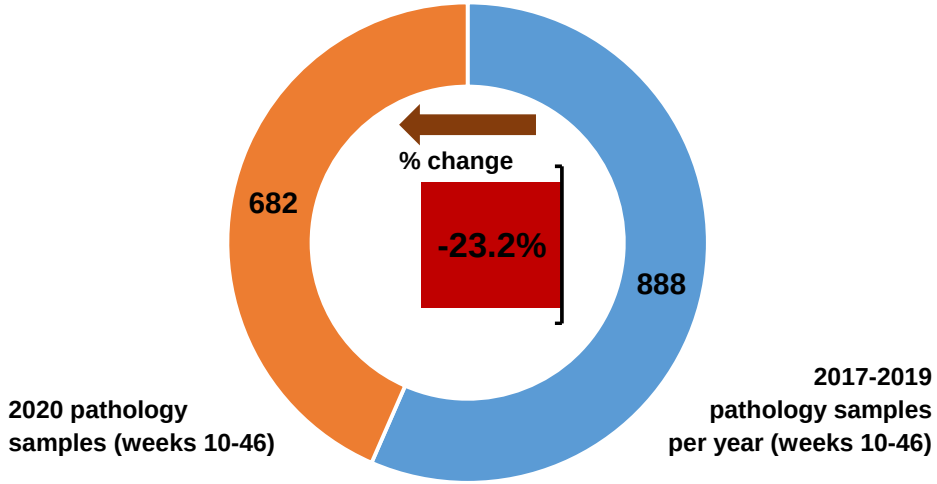
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

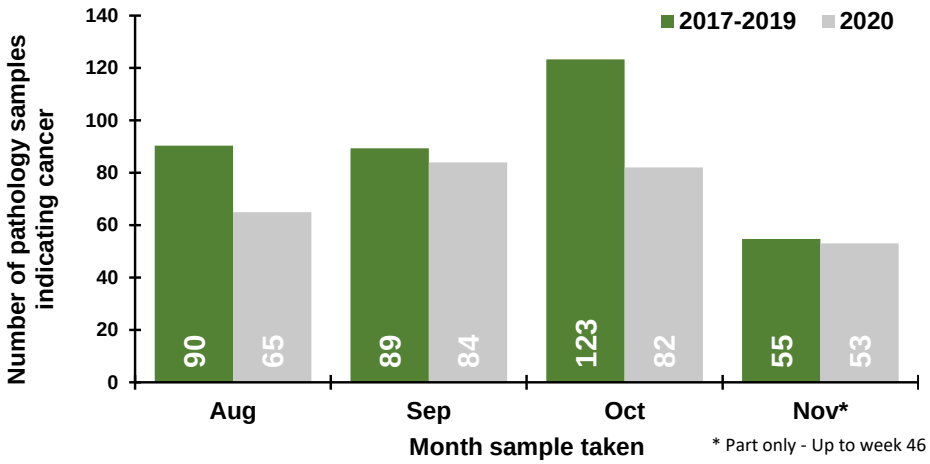
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	185
Nov 2018	167
Dec 2018	133
Jan 2019	197
Feb 2019	143
Mar 2019	146
Apr 2019	133
May 2019	155
Jun 2019	122
Jul 2019	150
Aug 2019	160
Sep 2019	204
Oct 2019	198
Nov 2019	180
Dec 2019	175
Jan 2020	157
Feb 2020	161
Mar 2020	162
Apr 2020	125
May 2020	74
Jun 2020	101
Jul 2020	103
Aug 2020	152
Sep 2020	207
Oct 2020	164

Number of pathology samples indicating prostate cancer: Males

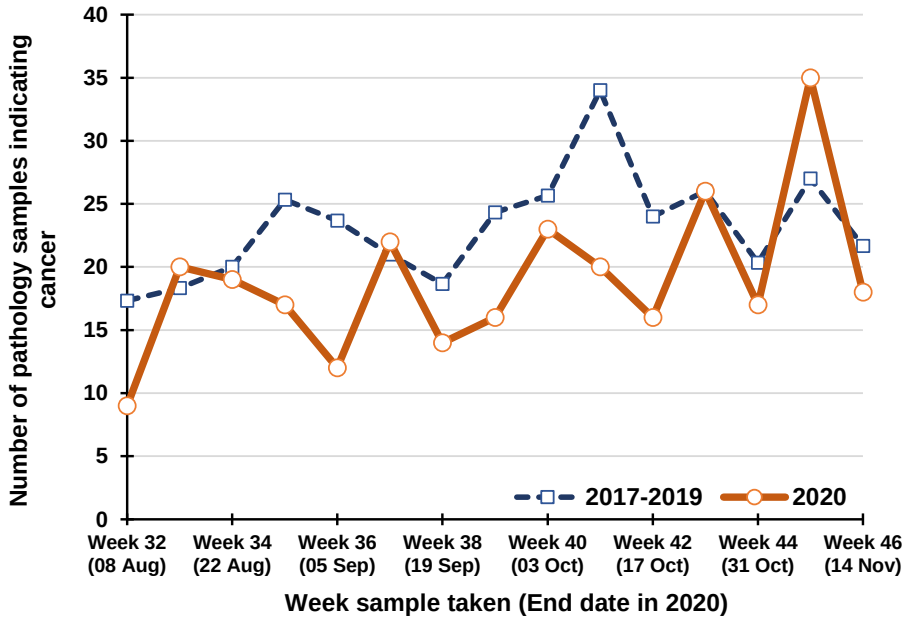
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



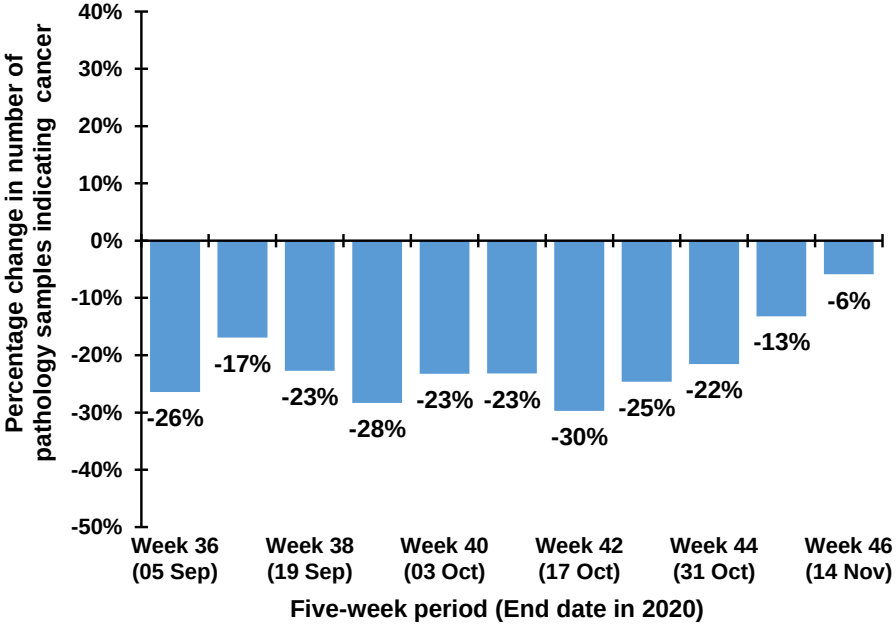
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



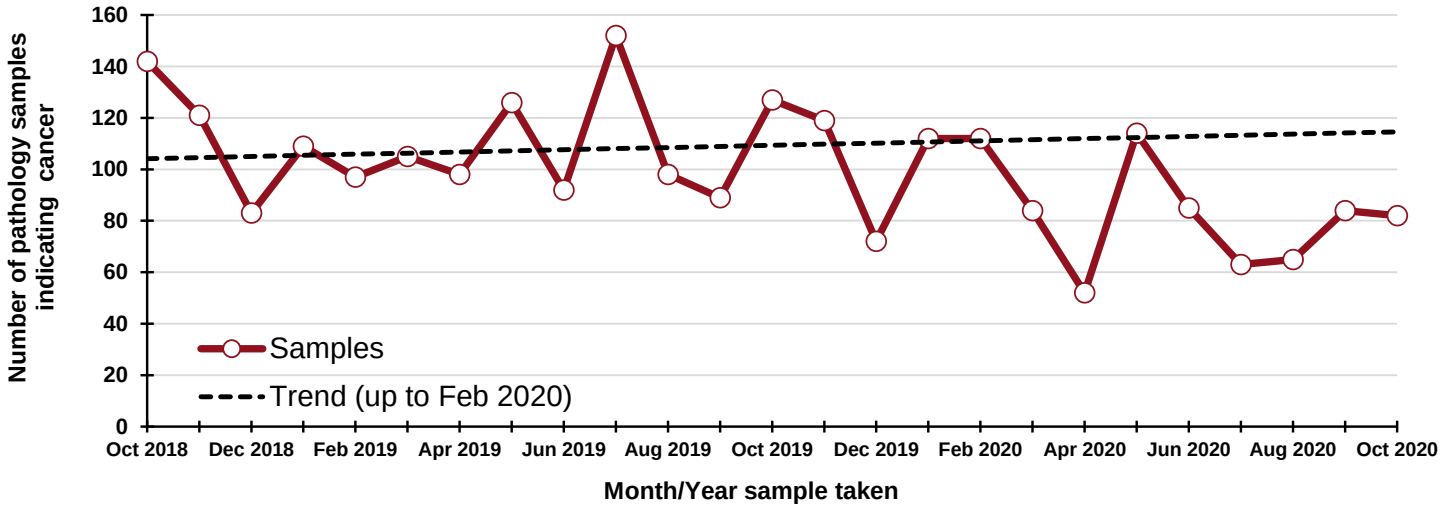
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	90	65	-28%
Sep	89	84	-6%
Oct	123	82	-34%
Nov*	55	53	-3%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

Note: (ICD10 codes: C61).

By week sample taken

			Five-week rolling total		
Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	17	9			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	18	20			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	20	19			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	25	17			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	24	12	105	77	-26%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	21	22	108	90	-17%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	19	14	109	84	-23%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	24	16	113	81	-28%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	26	23	113	87	-23%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	34	20	124	95	-23%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	24	16	127	89	-30%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	26	26	134	101	-25%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	20	17	130	102	-22%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	27	35	131	114	-13%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	22	18	119	112	-6%

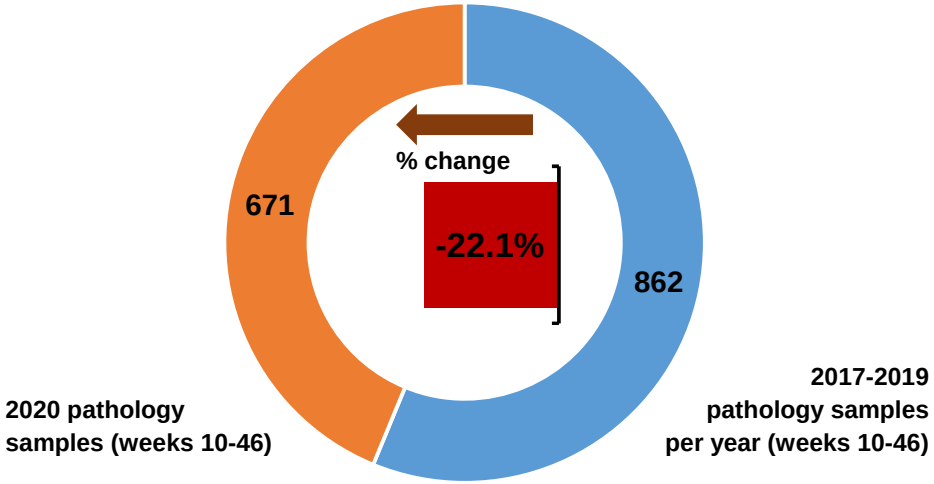
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

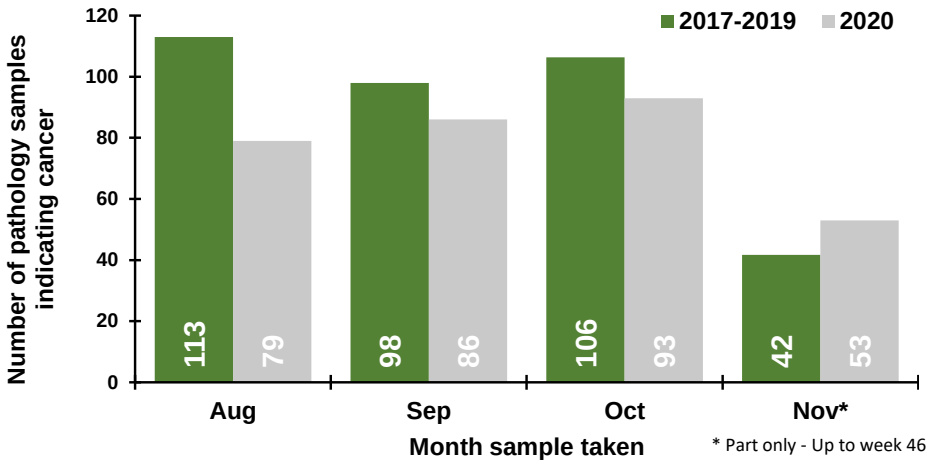
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	142
Nov 2018	121
Dec 2018	83
Jan 2019	109
Feb 2019	97
Mar 2019	105
Apr 2019	98
May 2019	126
Jun 2019	92
Jul 2019	152
Aug 2019	98
Sep 2019	89
Oct 2019	127
Nov 2019	119
Dec 2019	72
Jan 2020	112
Feb 2020	112
Mar 2020	84
Apr 2020	52
May 2020	114
Jun 2020	85
Jul 2020	63
Aug 2020	65
Sep 2020	84
Oct 2020	82

Number of pathology samples indicating gynaecological cancer: Females

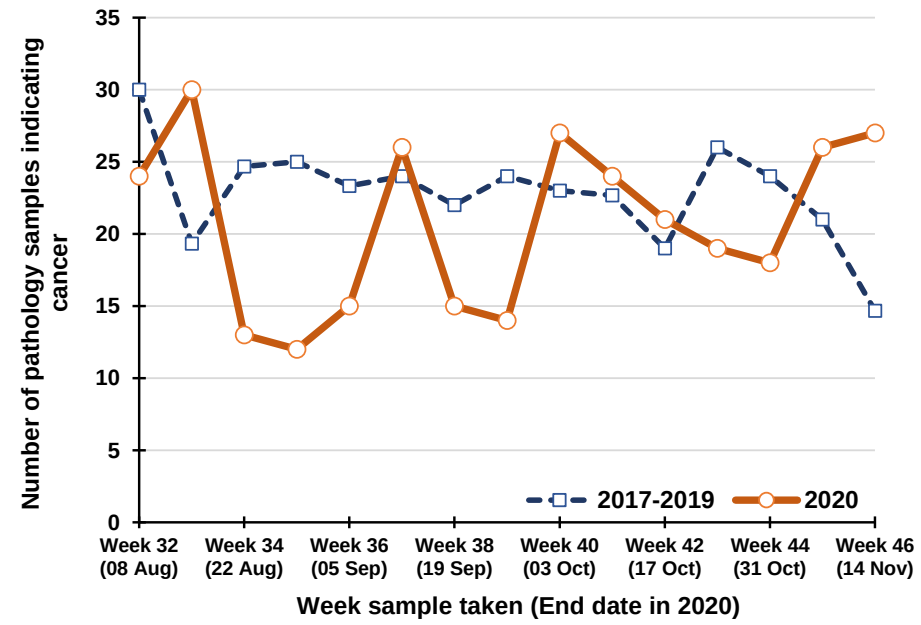
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



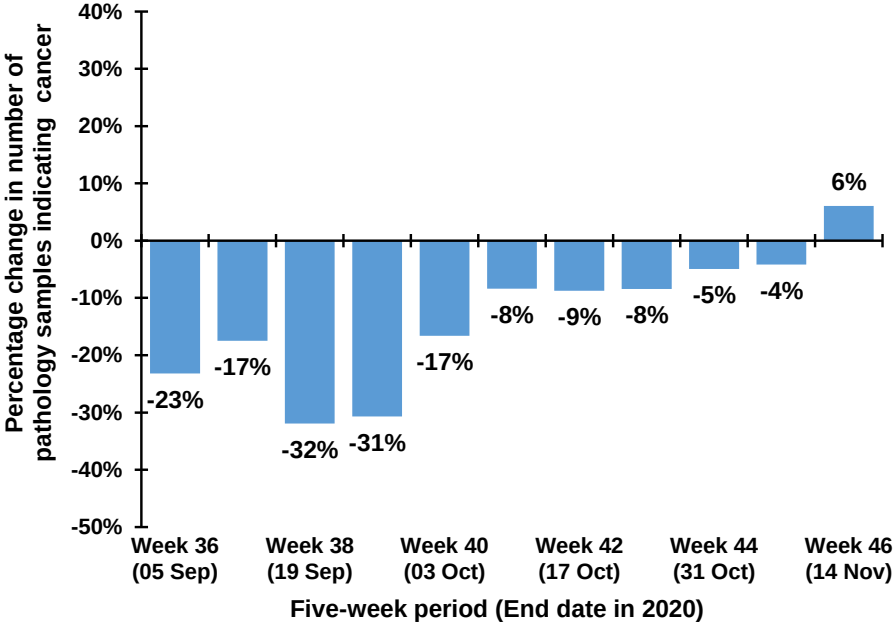
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



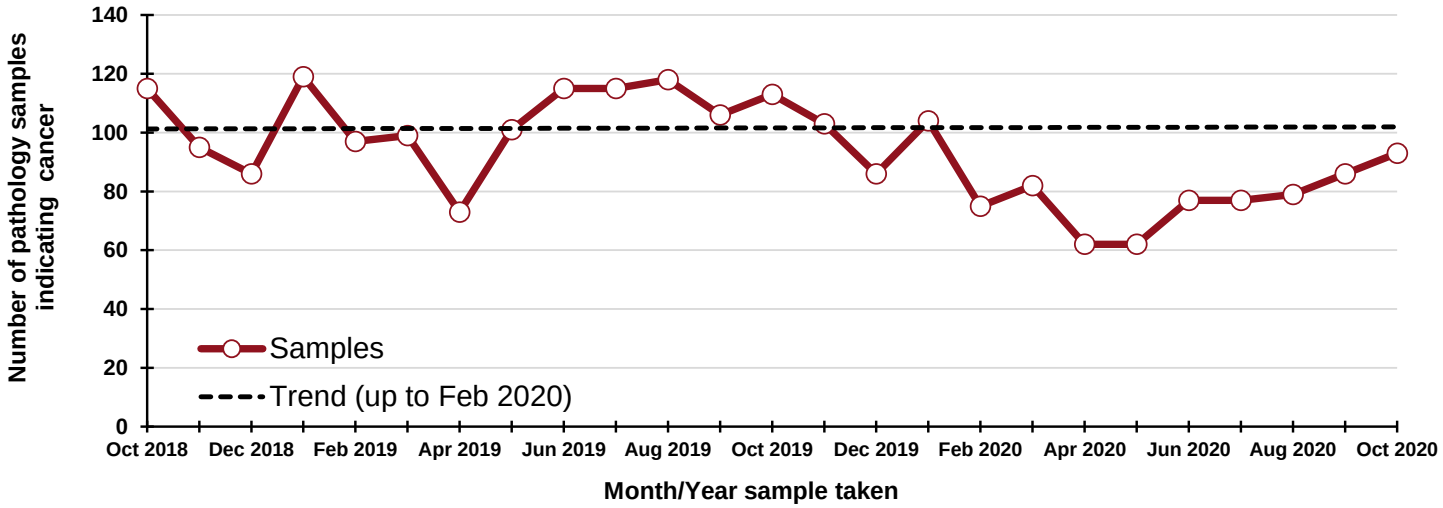
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	113	79	-30%
Sep	98	86	-12%
Oct	106	93	-13%
Nov*	42	53	27%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

Note: Includes uterus, ovary, cervix, vulva, vagina, placenta and other female genital (ICD10 codes: C51-C58).

By week sample taken

Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	Five-week rolling total 2017-2019 average	Five-week rolling total 2020	Five-week rolling total Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	30	24			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	19	30			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	25	13			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	25	12			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	23	15	122	94	-23%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	24	26	116	96	-17%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	22	15	119	81	-32%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	24	14	118	82	-31%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	23	27	116	97	-17%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	23	24	116	106	-8%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	19	21	111	101	-9%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	26	19	115	105	-8%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	24	18	115	109	-5%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	21	26	113	108	-4%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	15	27	105	111	6%

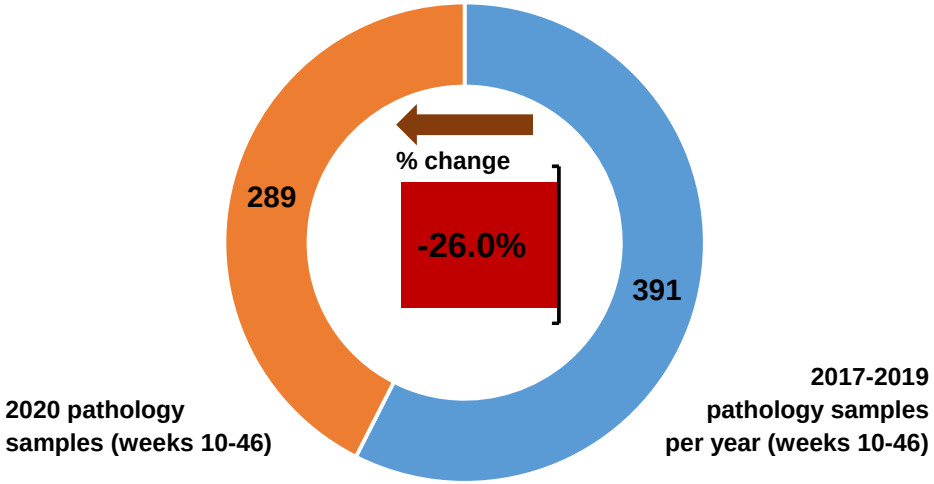
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

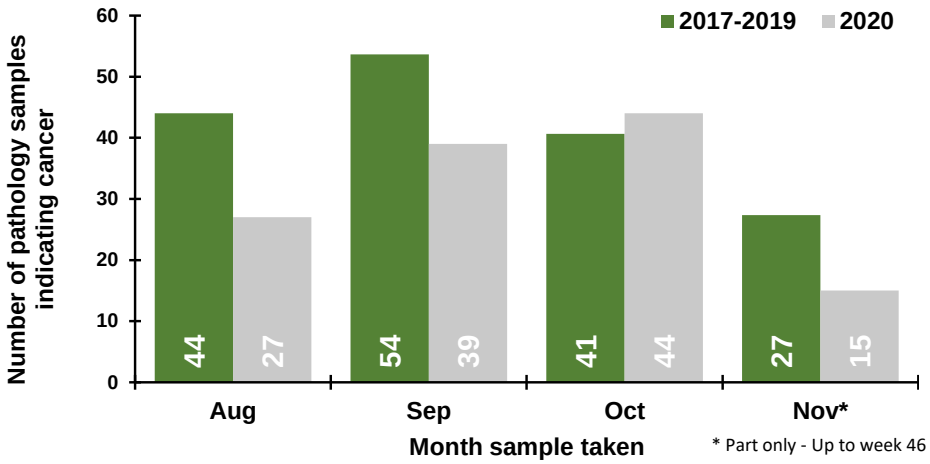
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	115
Nov 2018	95
Dec 2018	86
Jan 2019	119
Feb 2019	97
Mar 2019	99
Apr 2019	73
May 2019	101
Jun 2019	115
Jul 2019	115
Aug 2019	118
Sep 2019	106
Oct 2019	113
Nov 2019	103
Dec 2019	86
Jan 2020	104
Feb 2020	75
Mar 2020	82
Apr 2020	62
May 2020	62
Jun 2020	77
Jul 2020	77
Aug 2020	79
Sep 2020	86
Oct 2020	93

Number of pathology samples indicating upper gastrointestinal cancer: All persons

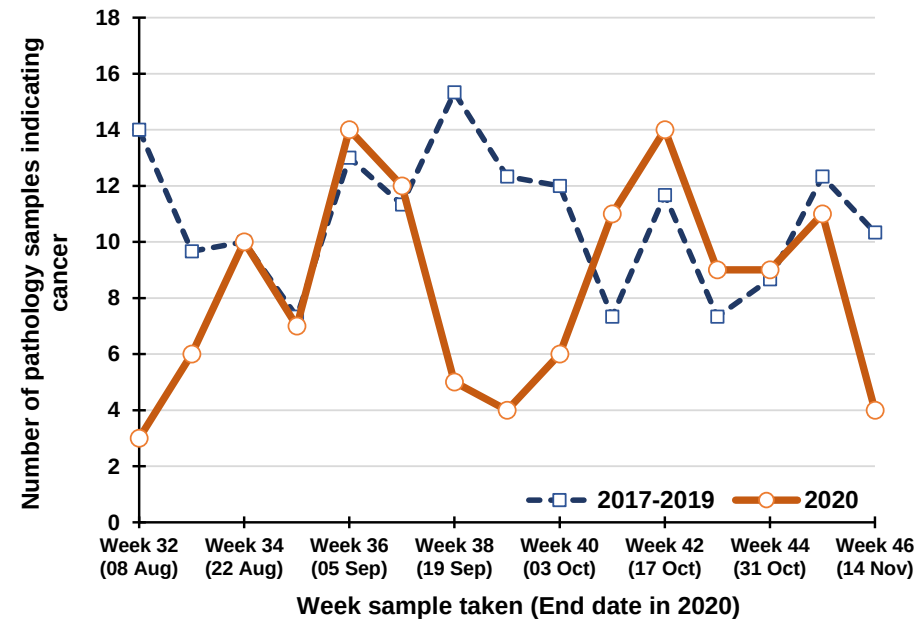
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



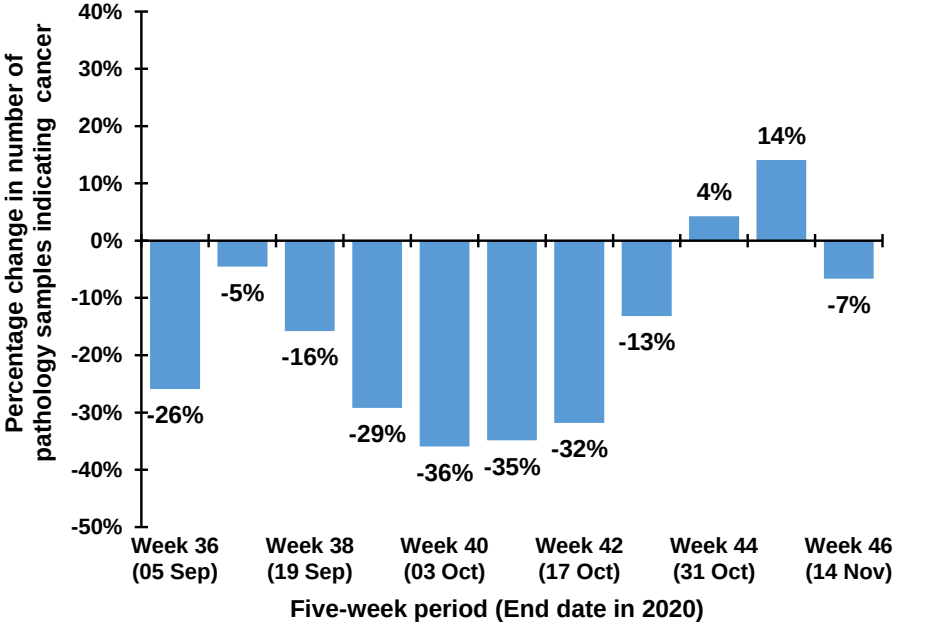
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



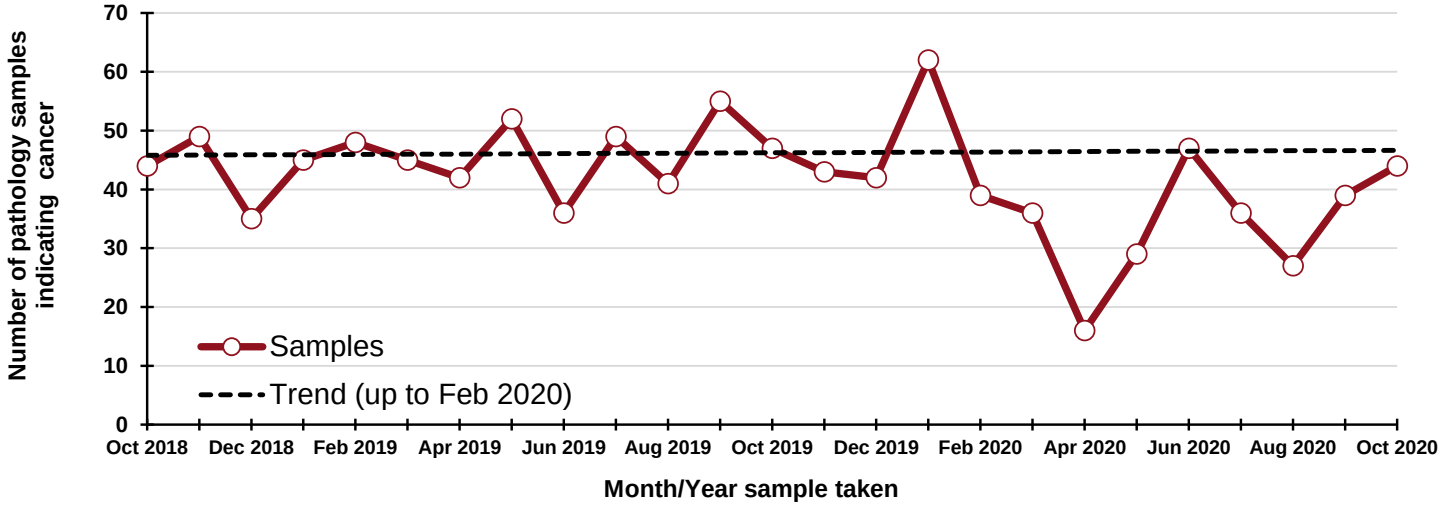
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	44	27	-39%
Sep	54	39	-27%
Oct	41	44	8%
Nov*	27	15	-45%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

Note: Includes oesophagus and stomach (ICD10 codes: C15, C16).

By week sample taken

			Five-week rolling total		
Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	14	3			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	10	6			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	10	10			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	7	7			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	13	14	54	40	-26%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	11	12	51	49	-5%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	15	5	57	48	-16%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	12	4	59	42	-29%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	12	6	64	41	-36%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	7	11	58	38	-35%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	12	14	59	40	-32%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	7	9	51	44	-13%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	9	9	47	49	4%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	12	11	47	54	14%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	10	4	50	47	-7%

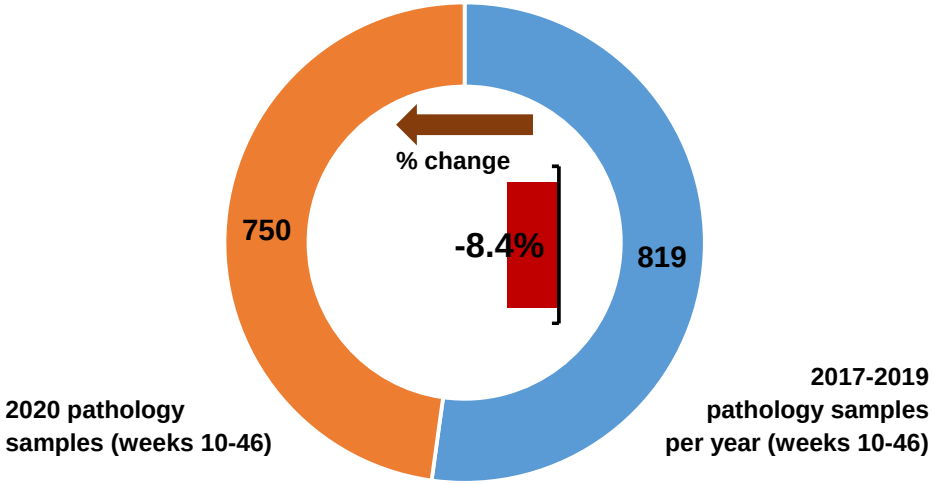
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

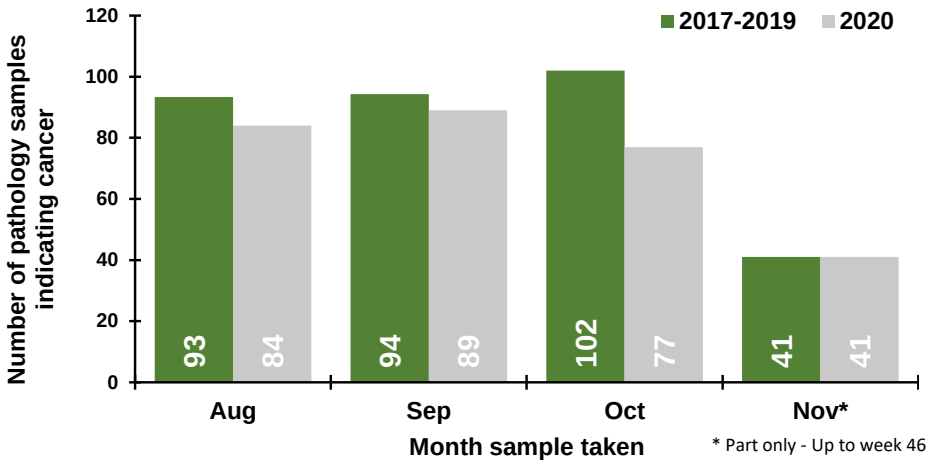
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	44
Nov 2018	49
Dec 2018	35
Jan 2019	45
Feb 2019	48
Mar 2019	45
Apr 2019	42
May 2019	52
Jun 2019	36
Jul 2019	49
Aug 2019	41
Sep 2019	55
Oct 2019	47
Nov 2019	43
Dec 2019	42
Jan 2020	62
Feb 2020	39
Mar 2020	36
Apr 2020	16
May 2020	29
Jun 2020	47
Jul 2020	36
Aug 2020	27
Sep 2020	39
Oct 2020	44

Number of pathology samples indicating head & neck cancer: All persons

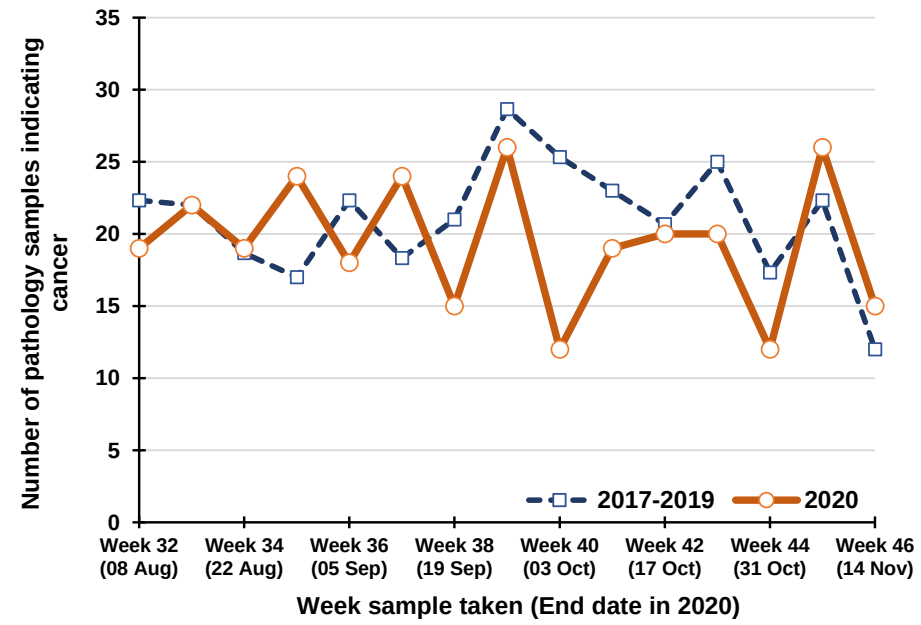
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



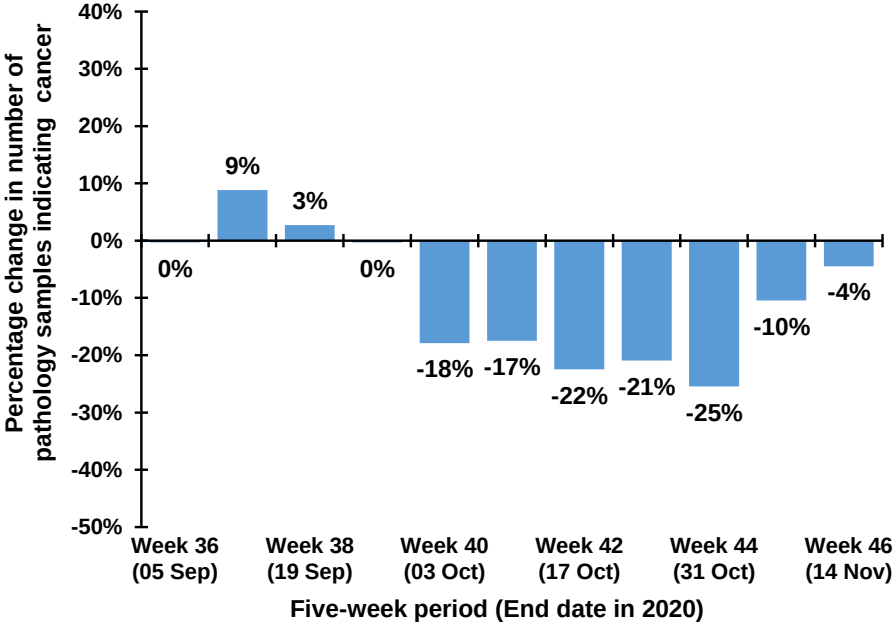
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



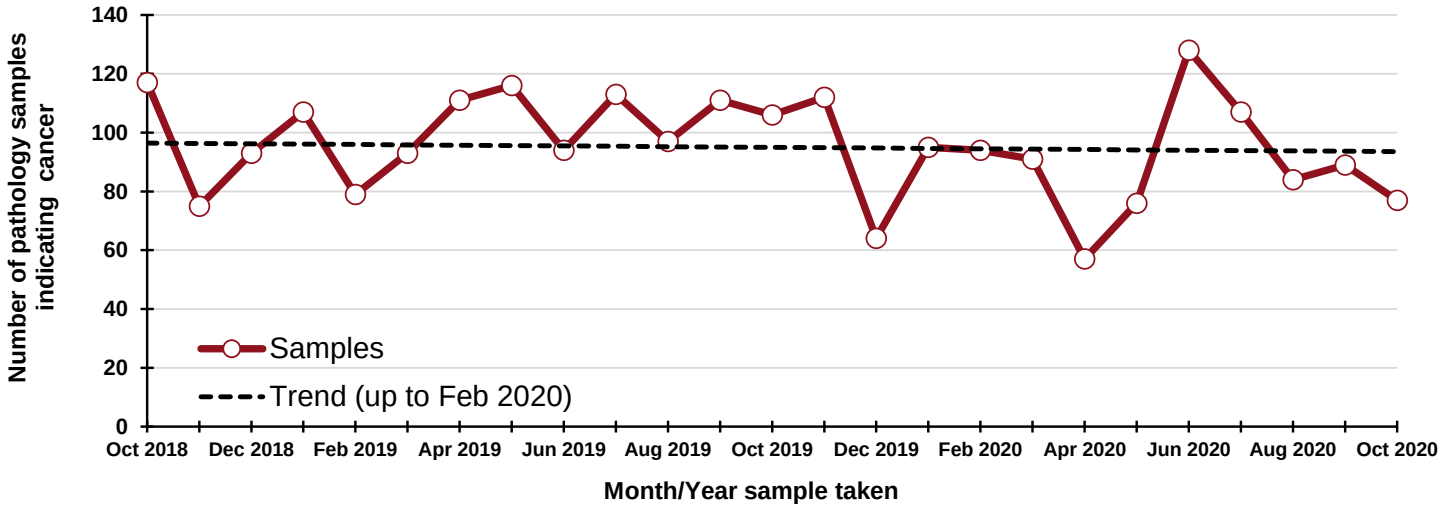
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	93	84	-10%
Sep	94	89	-6%
Oct	102	77	-25%
Nov*	41	41	0%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

Note: Includes lip, tongue, mouth, parotid & salivary glands, tonsil, oropharynx, nasopharynx, pyriform sinus, hypopharynx, nasal cavity, middle ear, sinuses and larynx (ICD10 codes: C00-C14, C30-C32).

By week sample taken

Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	Five-week rolling total: 2017-2019 average	Five-week rolling total: 2020	Five-week rolling total: Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	22	19			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	22	22			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	19	19			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	17	24			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	22	18	102	102	0%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	18	24	98	107	9%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	21	15	97	100	3%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	29	26	107	107	0%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	25	12	116	95	-18%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	23	19	116	96	-17%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	21	20	119	92	-22%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	25	20	123	97	-21%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	17	12	111	83	-25%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	22	26	108	97	-10%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	12	15	97	93	-4%

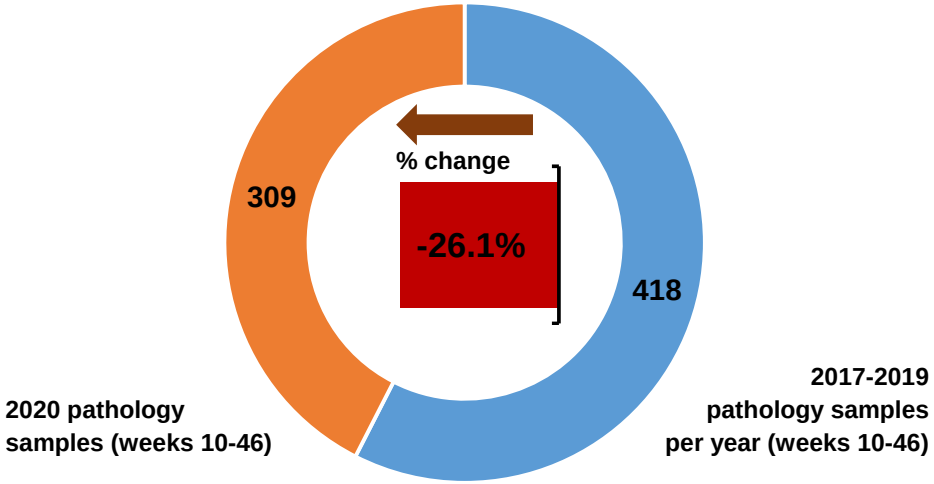
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

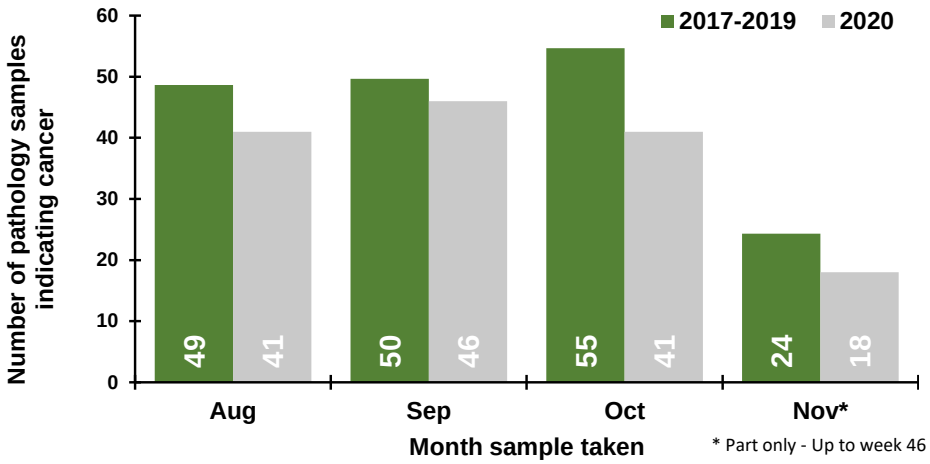
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	117
Nov 2018	75
Dec 2018	93
Jan 2019	107
Feb 2019	79
Mar 2019	93
Apr 2019	111
May 2019	116
Jun 2019	94
Jul 2019	113
Aug 2019	97
Sep 2019	111
Oct 2019	106
Nov 2019	112
Dec 2019	64
Jan 2020	95
Feb 2020	94
Mar 2020	91
Apr 2020	57
May 2020	76
Jun 2020	128
Jul 2020	107
Aug 2020	84
Sep 2020	89
Oct 2020	77

Number of pathology samples indicating urinary cancer: All persons

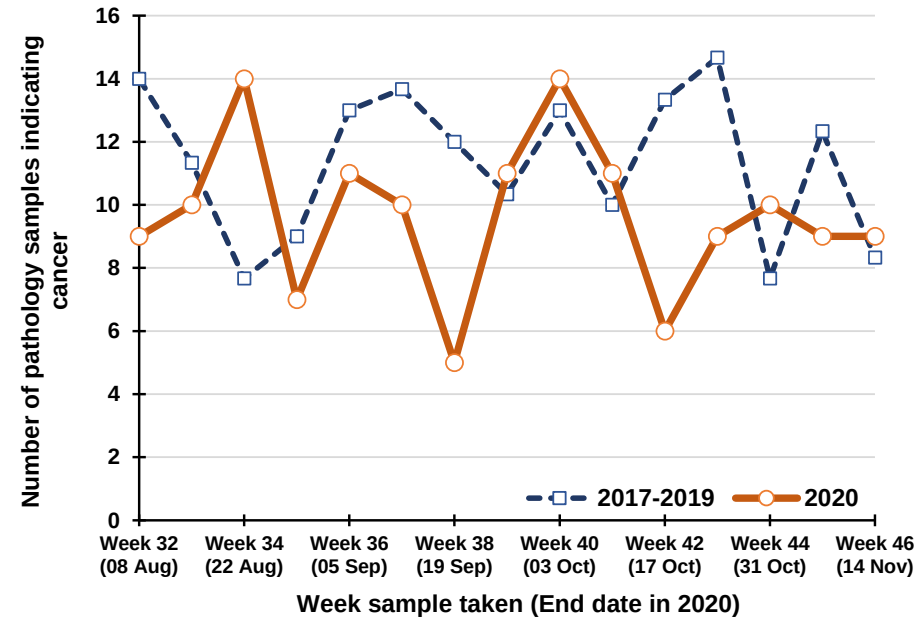
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



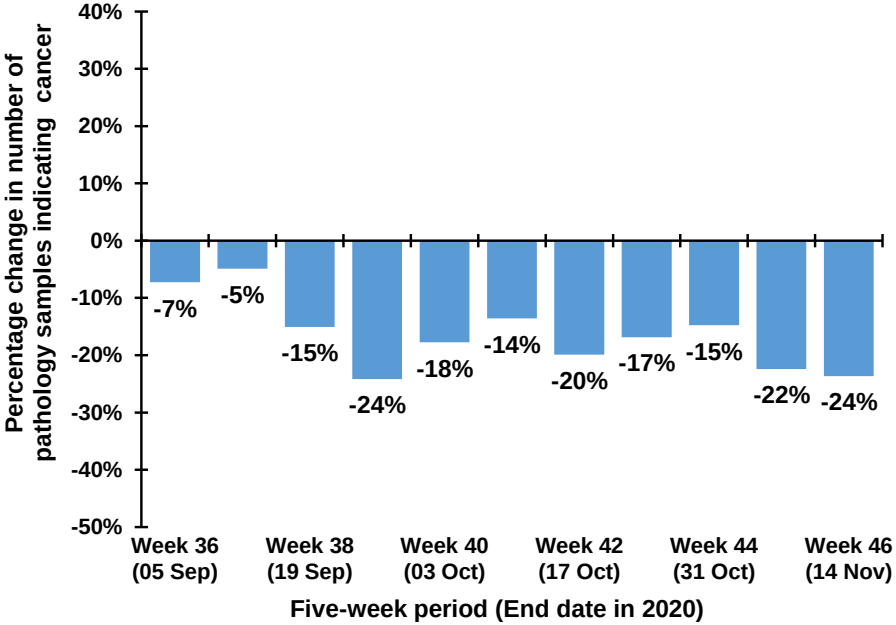
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



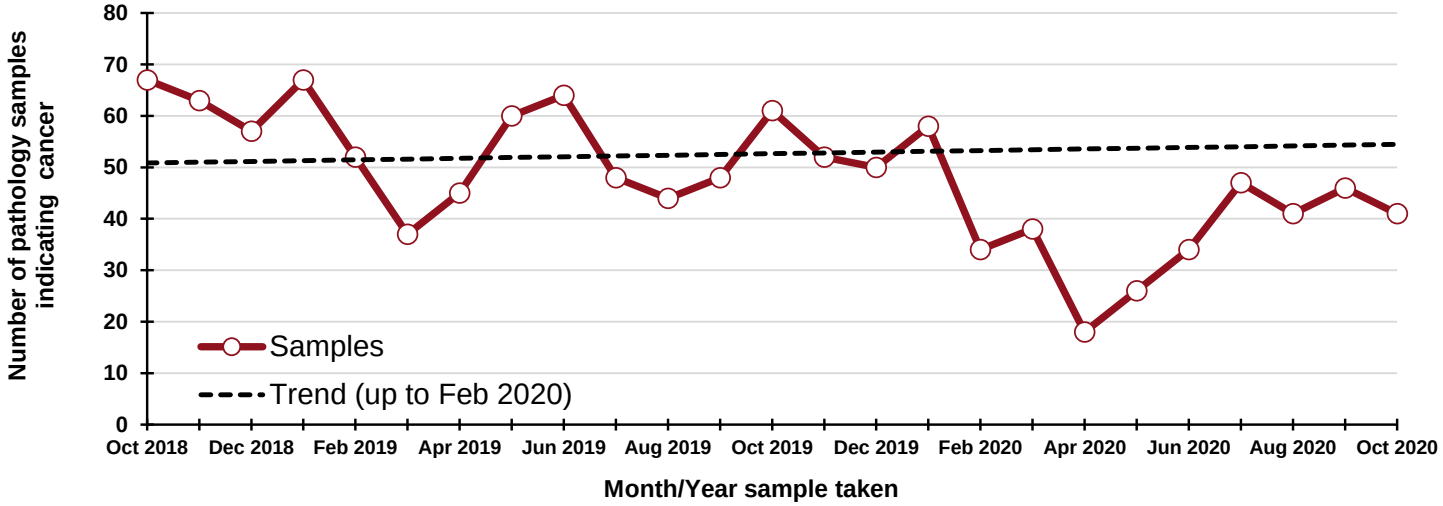
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	49	41	-16%
Sep	50	46	-7%
Oct	55	41	-25%
Nov*	24	18	-26%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

Note: Includes kidney, renal pelvis, ureter, bladder and other urinary (ICD10 codes: C64-C68).

By week sample taken

Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	Five-week rolling total: 2017-2019 average	Five-week rolling total: 2020	Five-week rolling total: Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	14	9			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	11	10			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	8	14			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	9	7			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	13	11	55	51	-7%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	14	10	55	52	-5%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	12	5	55	47	-15%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	10	11	58	44	-24%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	13	14	62	51	-18%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	10	11	59	51	-14%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	13	6	59	47	-20%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	15	9	61	51	-17%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	8	10	59	50	-15%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	12	9	58	45	-22%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	8	9	56	43	-24%

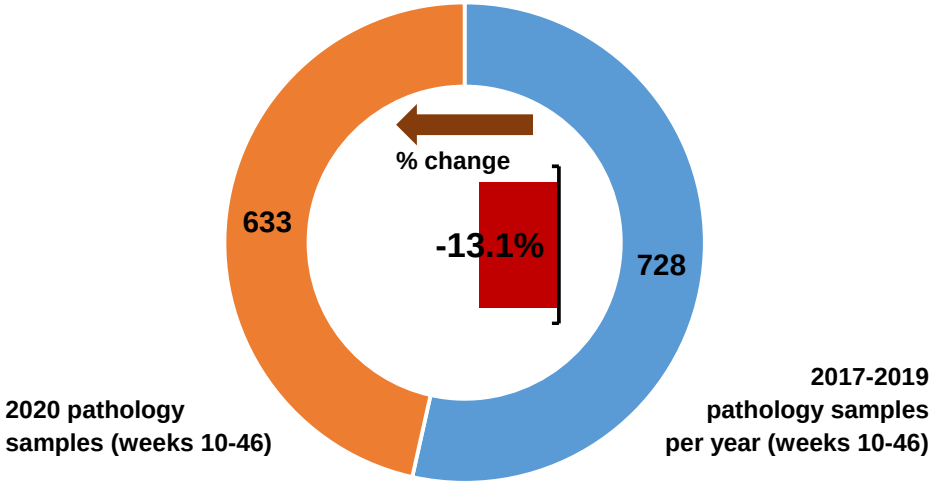
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

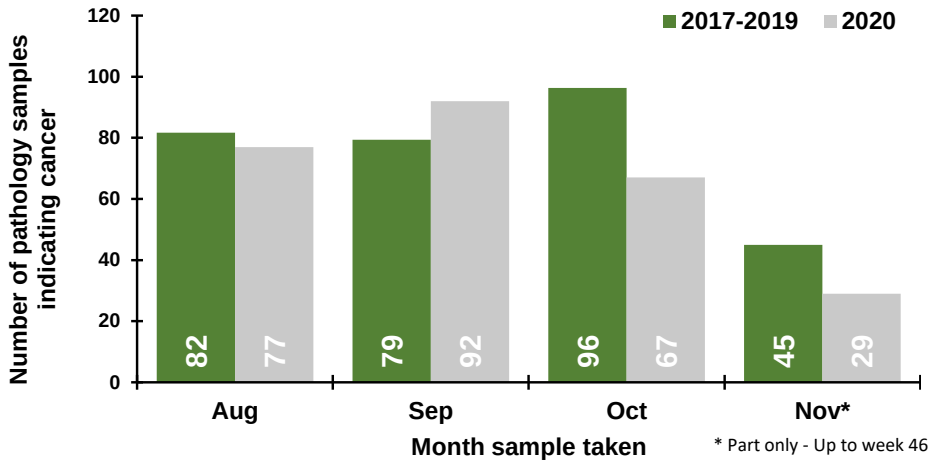
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	67
Nov 2018	63
Dec 2018	57
Jan 2019	67
Feb 2019	52
Mar 2019	37
Apr 2019	45
May 2019	60
Jun 2019	64
Jul 2019	48
Aug 2019	44
Sep 2019	48
Oct 2019	61
Nov 2019	52
Dec 2019	50
Jan 2020	58
Feb 2020	34
Mar 2020	38
Apr 2020	18
May 2020	26
Jun 2020	34
Jul 2020	47
Aug 2020	41
Sep 2020	46
Oct 2020	41

Number of pathology samples indicating haematological cancer: All persons

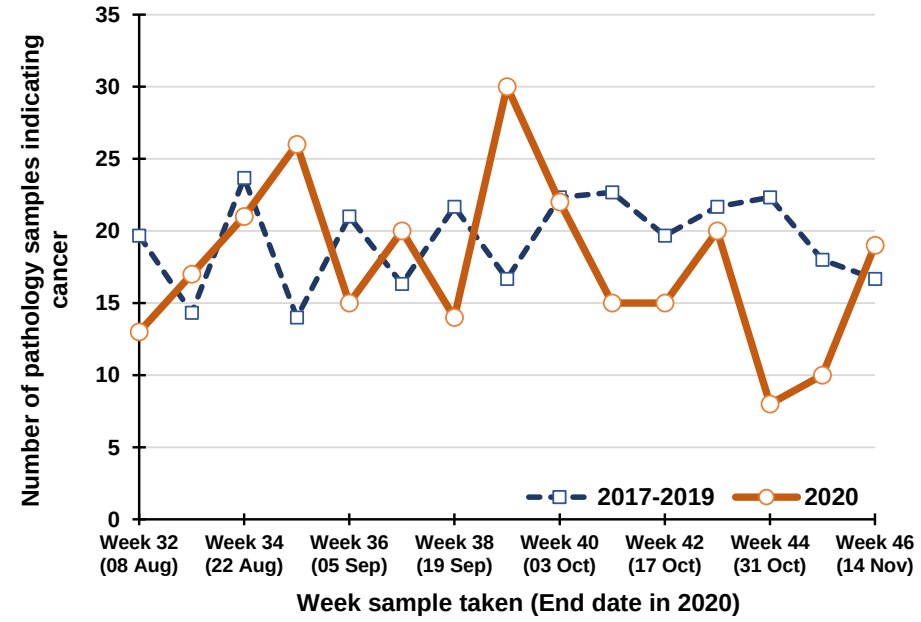
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



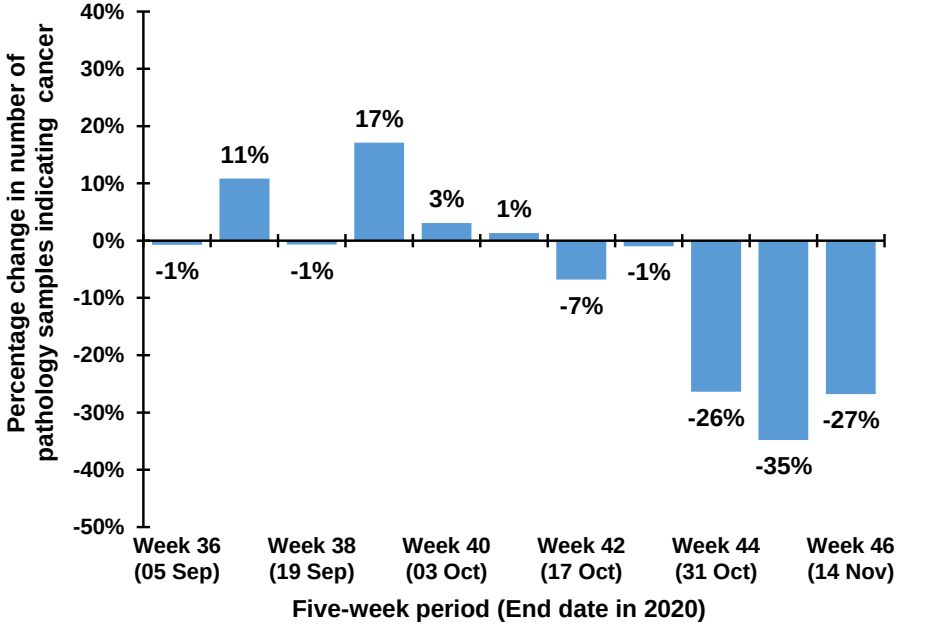
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



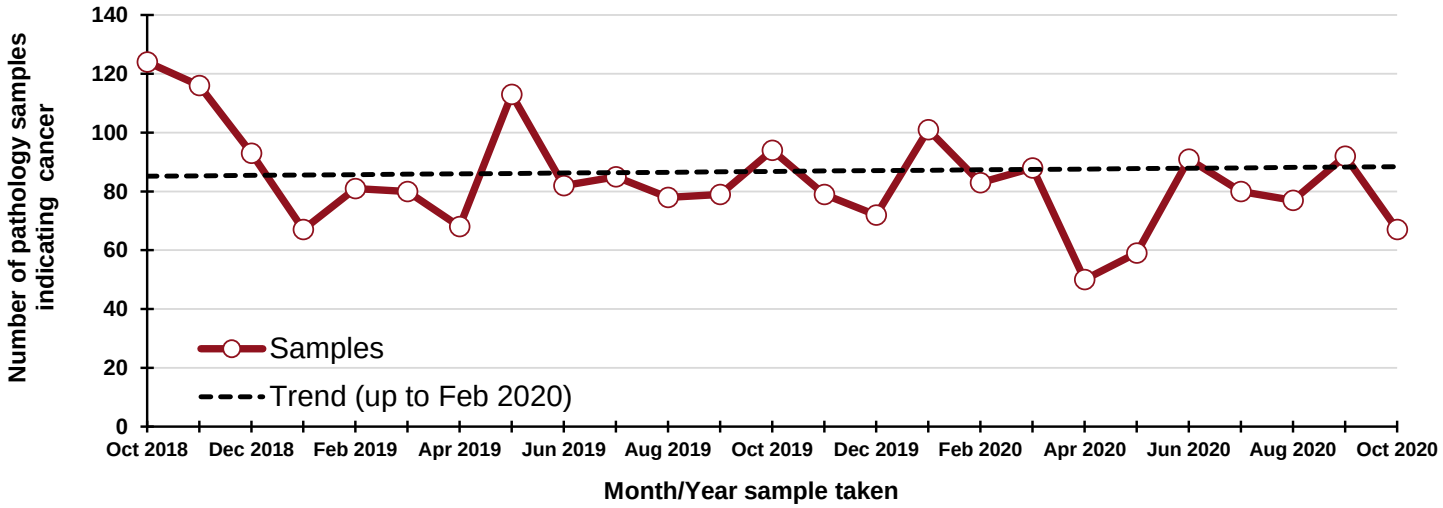
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	82	77	-6%
Sep	79	92	16%
Oct	96	67	-30%
Nov*	45	29	-36%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

Note: Includes lymphoma (all types), leukaemia (all types), myeloma, malignant immunoproliferative disease and other lymphoid and haematopoietic (ICD10 codes: C81-C96).

By week sample taken

Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	Five-week rolling total: 2017-2019 average	Five-week rolling total: 2020	Five-week rolling total: Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	20	13			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	14	17			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	24	21			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	14	26			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	21	15	93	92	-1%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	16	20	89	99	11%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	22	14	97	96	-1%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	17	30	90	105	17%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	22	22	98	101	3%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	23	15	100	101	1%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	20	15	103	96	-7%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	22	20	103	102	-1%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	22	8	109	80	-26%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	18	10	104	68	-35%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	17	19	98	72	-27%

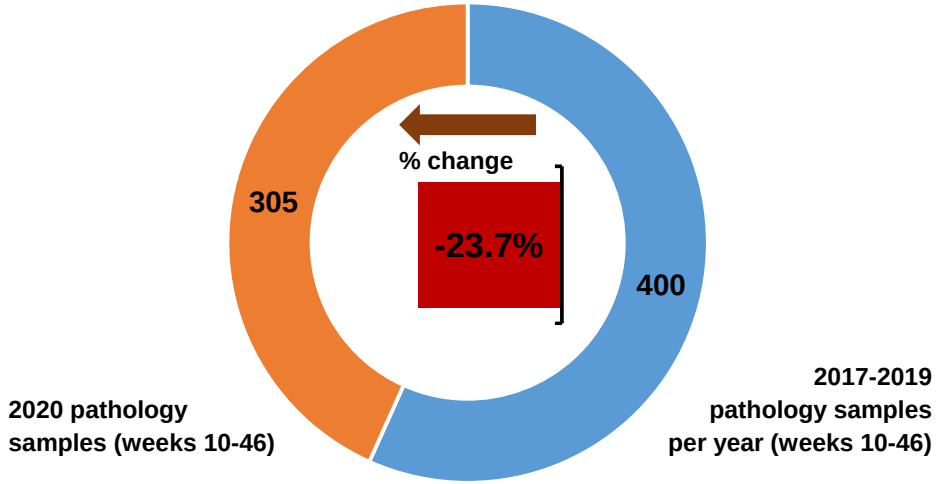
**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

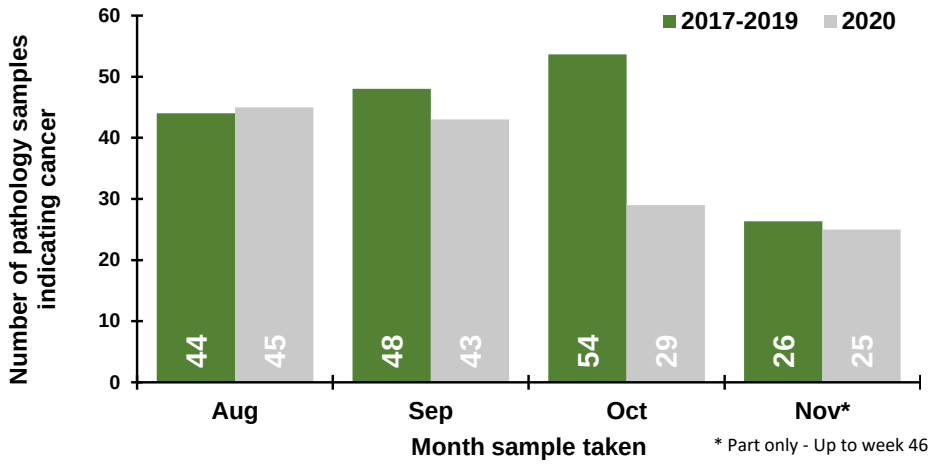
Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	124
Nov 2018	116
Dec 2018	93
Jan 2019	67
Feb 2019	81
Mar 2019	80
Apr 2019	68
May 2019	113
Jun 2019	82
Jul 2019	85
Aug 2019	78
Sep 2019	79
Oct 2019	94
Nov 2019	79
Dec 2019	72
Jan 2020	101
Feb 2020	83
Mar 2020	88
Apr 2020	50
May 2020	59
Jun 2020	91
Jul 2020	80
Aug 2020	77
Sep 2020	92
Oct 2020	67

Number of pathology samples indicating malignant melanoma: All persons

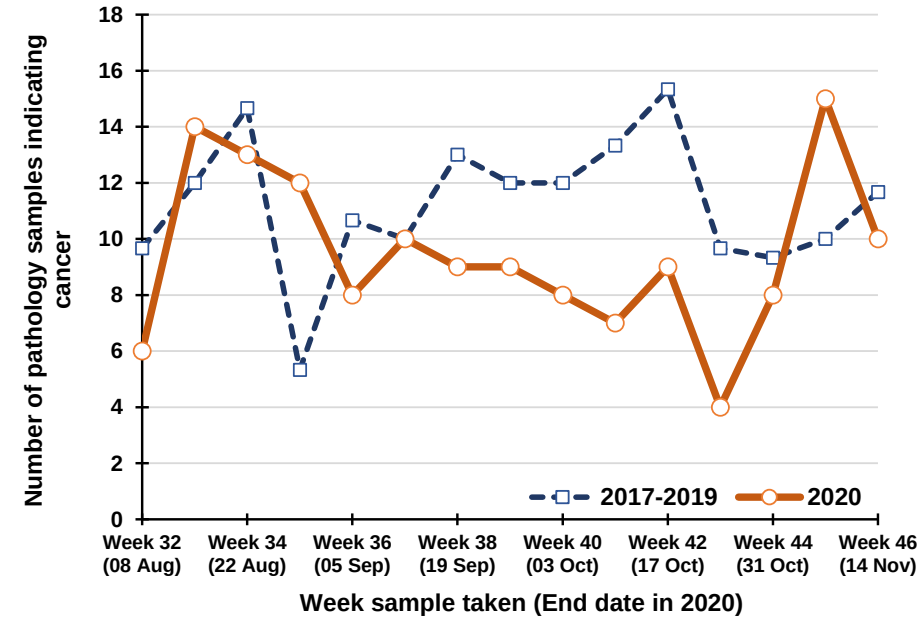
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



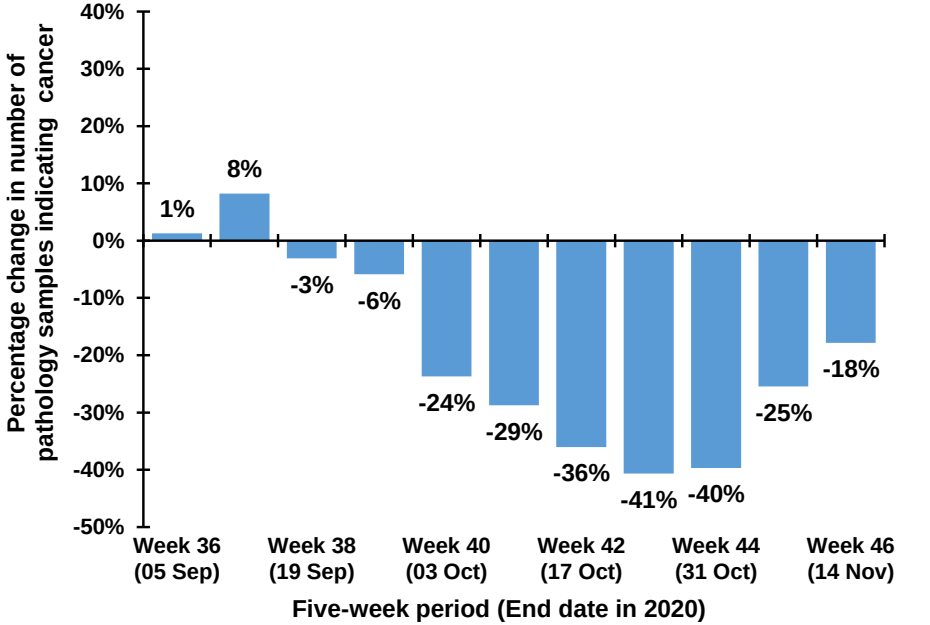
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



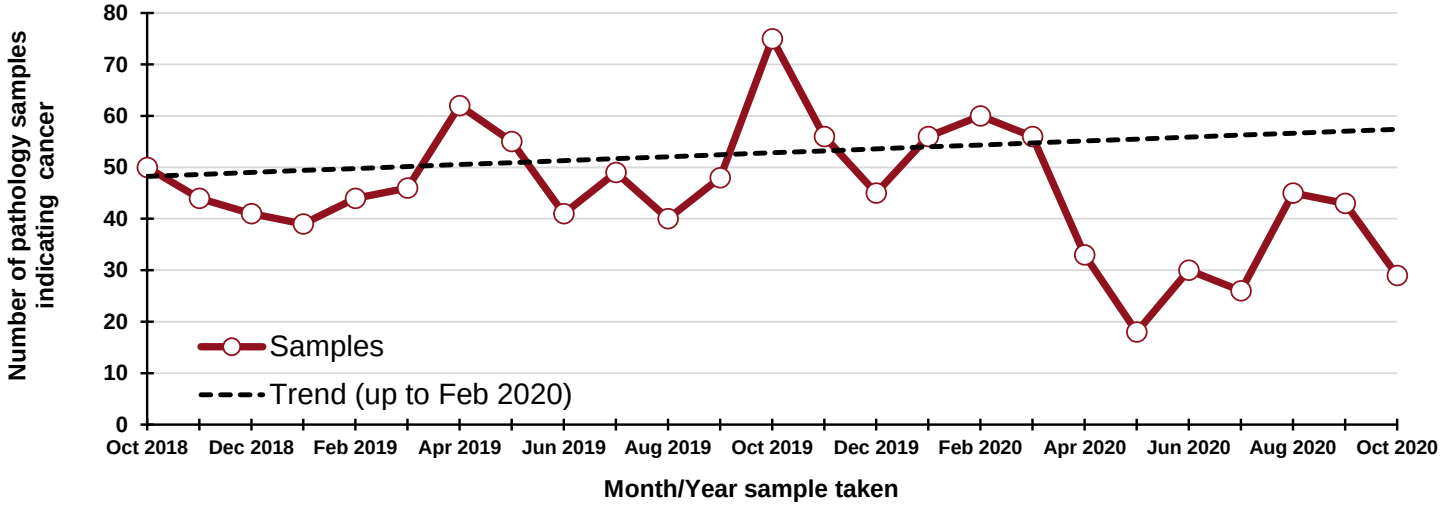
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	44	45	2%
Sep	48	43	-10%
Oct	54	29	-46%
Nov*	26	25	-5%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

By week sample taken

Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	Five-week rolling total 2017-2019 average	Five-week rolling total 2020	Five-week rolling total Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	10	6			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	12	14			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	15	13			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	5	12			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	11	8	52	53	1%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	10	10	53	57	8%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	13	9	54	52	-3%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	12	9	51	48	-6%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	12	8	58	44	-24%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	13	7	60	43	-29%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	15	9	66	42	-36%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	10	4	62	37	-41%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	9	8	60	36	-40%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	10	15	58	43	-25%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	12	10	56	46	-18%

**Date week ended in 2020*

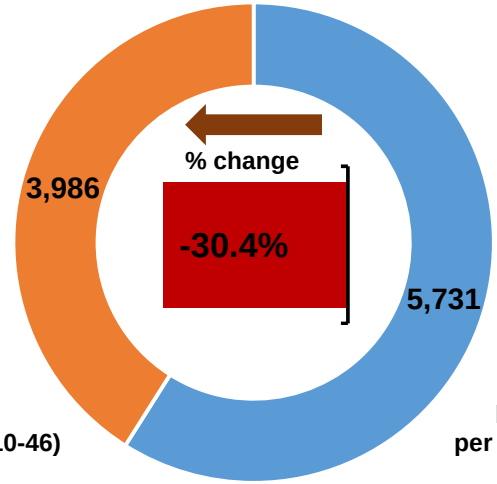
By month and year sample taken

Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	50
Nov 2018	44
Dec 2018	41
Jan 2019	39
Feb 2019	44
Mar 2019	46
Apr 2019	62
May 2019	55
Jun 2019	41
Jul 2019	49
Aug 2019	40
Sep 2019	48
Oct 2019	75
Nov 2019	56
Dec 2019	45
Jan 2020	56
Feb 2020	60
Mar 2020	56
Apr 2020	33
May 2020	18
Jun 2020	30
Jul 2020	26
Aug 2020	45
Sep 2020	43
Oct 2020	29

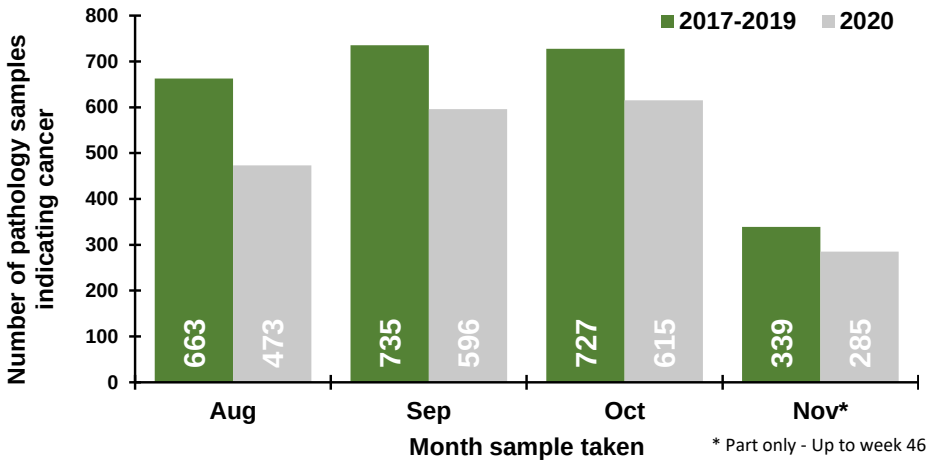
Note: (ICD10 code: C43).

Number of pathology samples indicating non-melanoma skin cancer: All persons

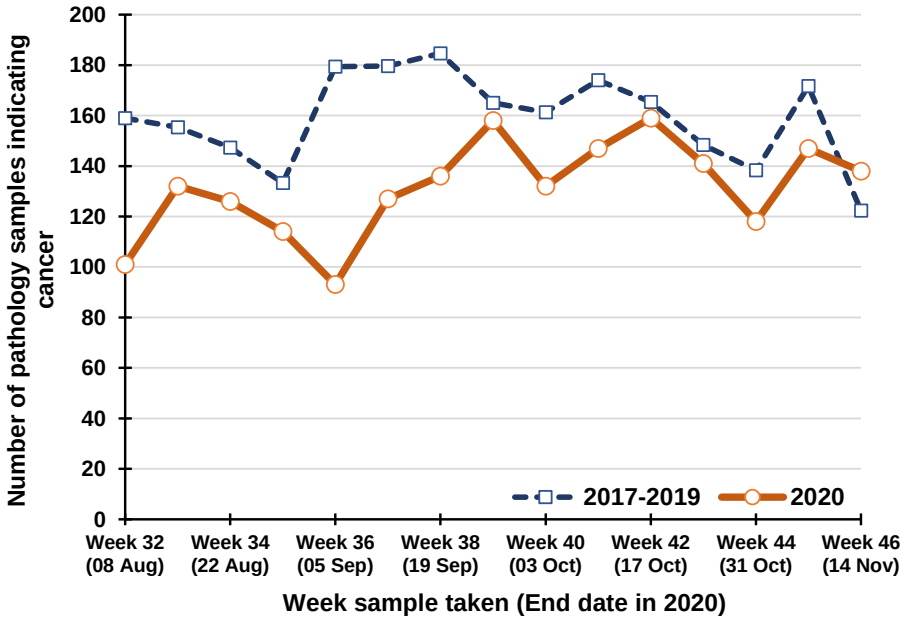
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



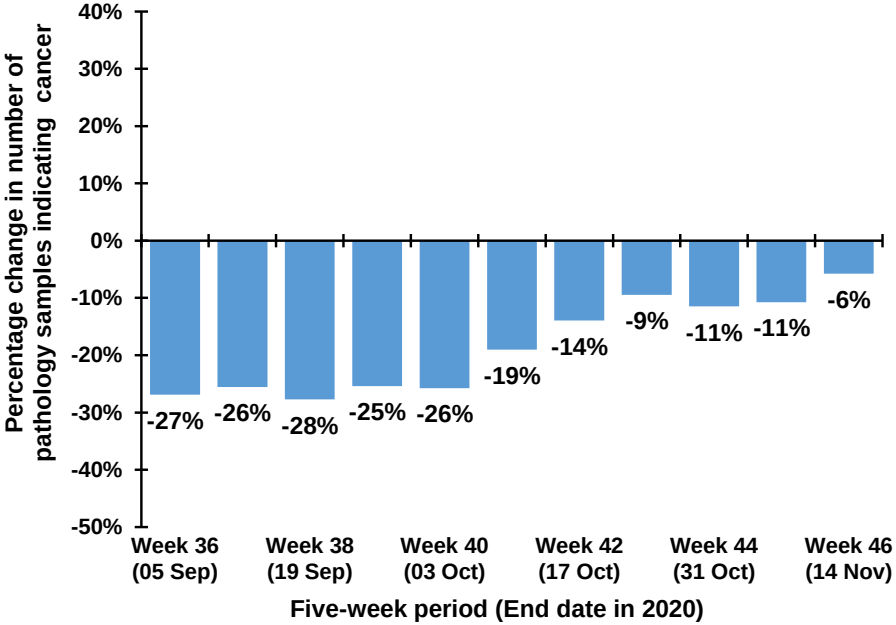
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



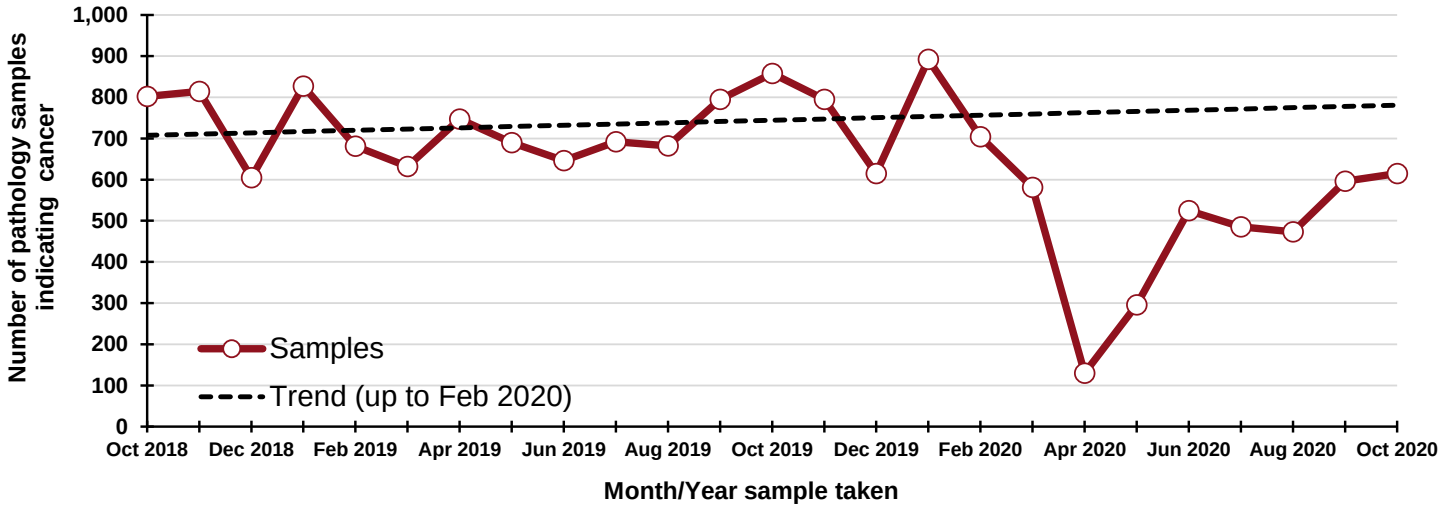
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	663	473	-29%
Sep	735	596	-19%
Oct	727	615	-15%
Nov*	339	285	-16%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

By week sample taken

Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	Five-week rolling total 2017-2019 average	Five-week rolling total 2020	Five-week rolling total Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	159	101			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	155	132			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	147	126			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	133	114			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	179	93	774	566	-27%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	180	127	795	592	-26%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	185	136	824	596	-28%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	165	158	842	628	-25%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	161	132	870	646	-26%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	174	147	865	700	-19%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	165	159	850	732	-14%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	148	141	814	737	-9%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	138	118	787	697	-11%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	172	147	798	712	-11%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	122	138	746	703	-6%

**Date week ended in 2020*

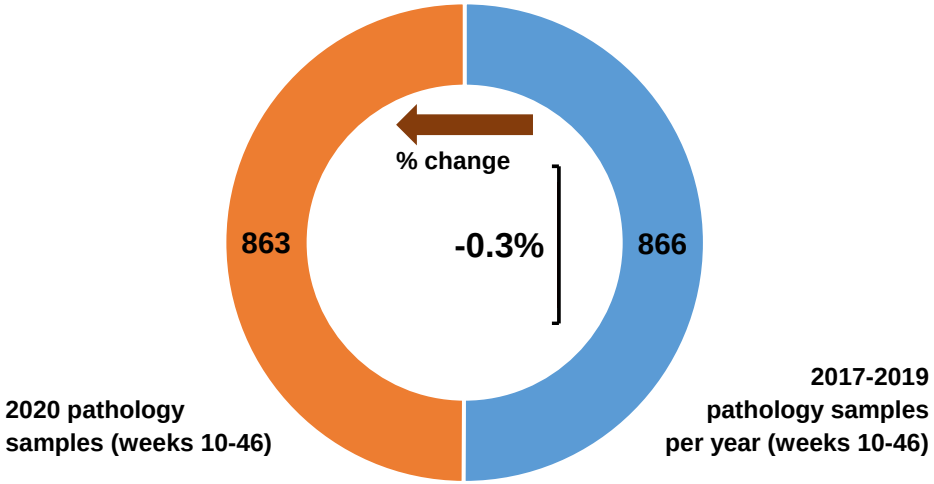
By month and year sample taken

Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	802
Nov 2018	814
Dec 2018	605
Jan 2019	827
Feb 2019	681
Mar 2019	632
Apr 2019	747
May 2019	690
Jun 2019	646
Jul 2019	692
Aug 2019	682
Sep 2019	795
Oct 2019	858
Nov 2019	795
Dec 2019	615
Jan 2020	892
Feb 2020	704
Mar 2020	581
Apr 2020	130
May 2020	296
Jun 2020	525
Jul 2020	485
Aug 2020	473
Sep 2020	596
Oct 2020	615

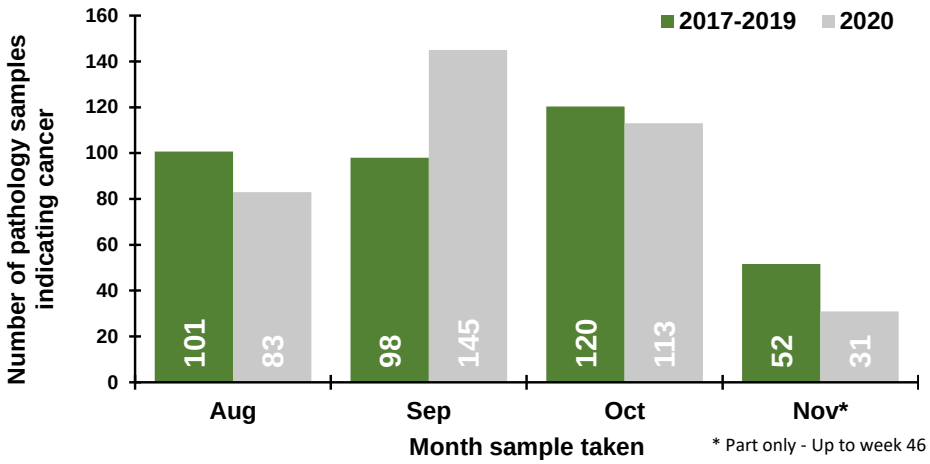
Note: (ICD10 code: C44).

Number of pathology samples indicating other cancer: All persons

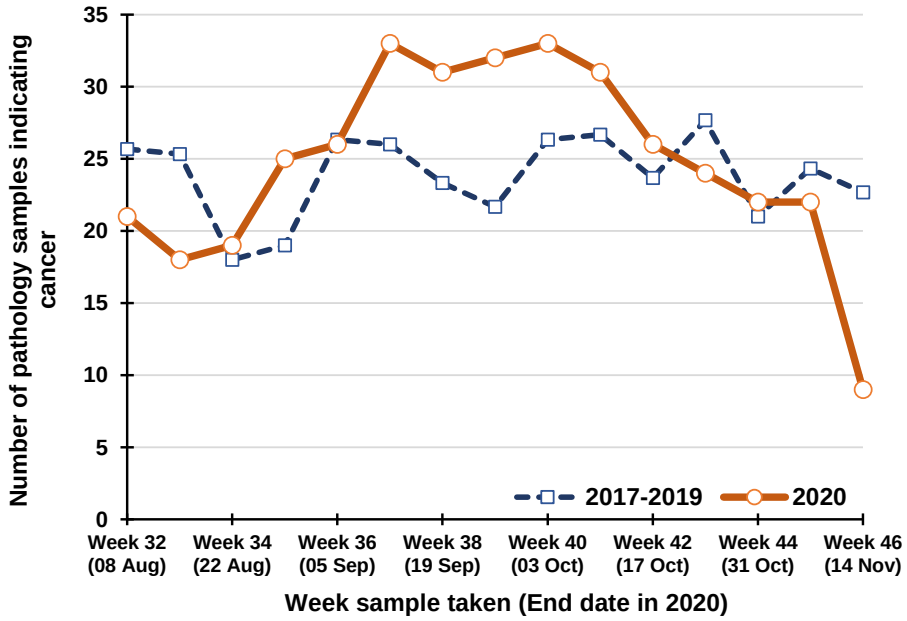
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken from 1 Mar 2020 to 14 Nov 2020



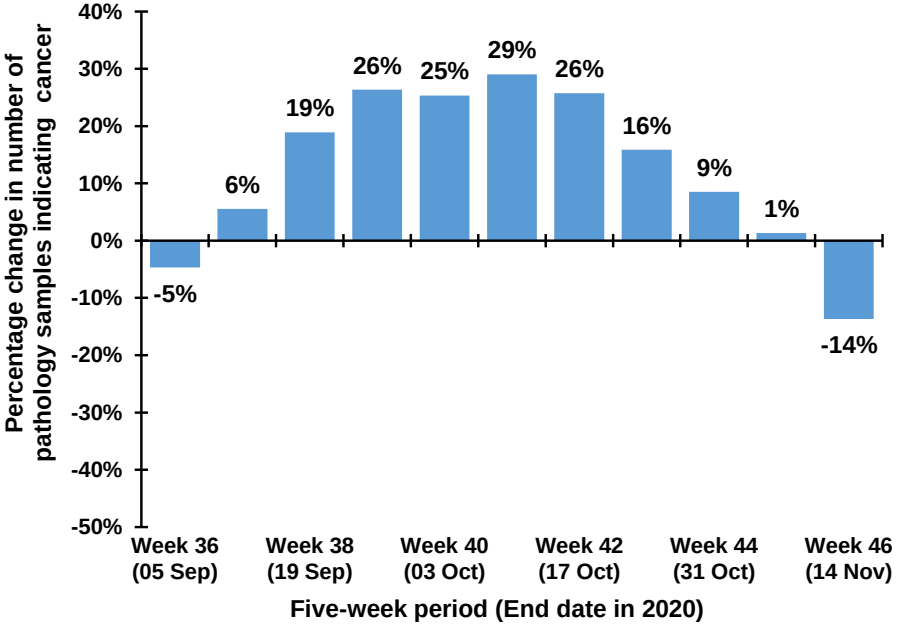
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month sample taken



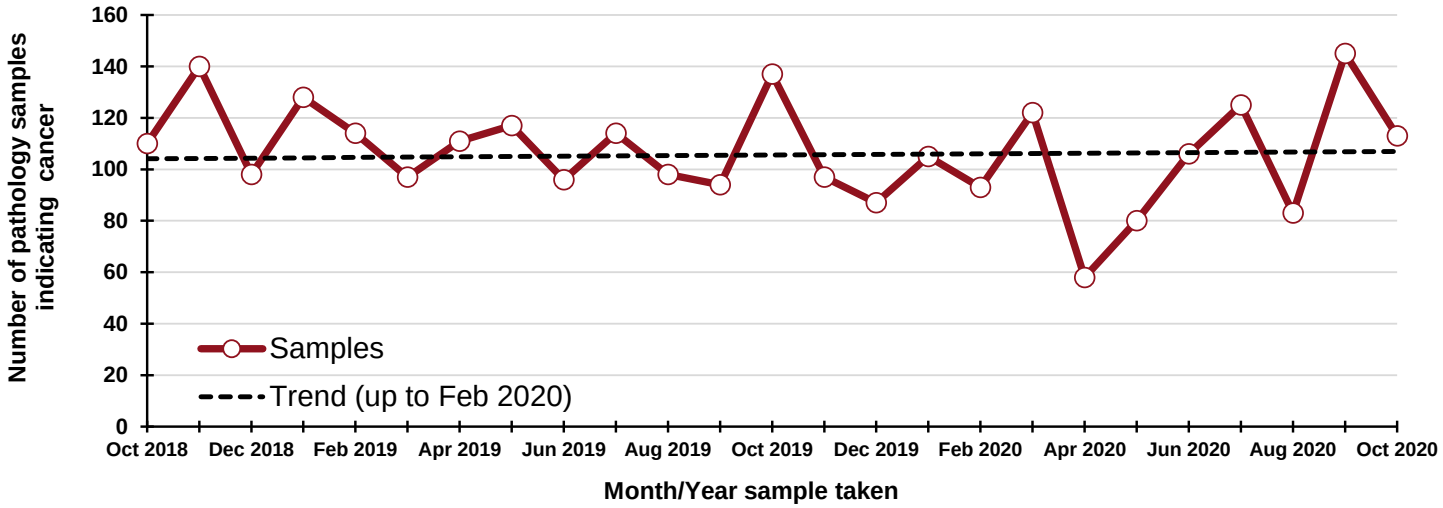
Number of pathology samples indicating cancer by week sample taken



Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020 in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer taken in the previous five weeks



Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year sample taken



DATA TABLES - Trend in number of pathology samples indicating cancer

By month sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020	Percentage change
Aug	101	83	-18%
Sep	98	145	48%
Oct	120	113	-6%
Nov*	52	31	-40%

** Part only - Up to week 46*

Note: Includes cancers of small intestine, anus, liver, gallbladder, thymus, bone, mesothelioma, soft tissue, penis, testis, eye, brain, endocrine system and thyroid (ICD10 codes: C16, C21-C26, C37-C41, C45-C49, C60, C62, C63, C69-C75). Excludes cancer of unknown primary.

By week sample taken

Week number*	2017-2019 average	2020	Five-week rolling total: 2017-2019 average	Five-week rolling total: 2020	Five-week rolling total: Percentage change
Week 32 (08 Aug)	26	21			
Week 33 (15 Aug)	25	18			
Week 34 (22 Aug)	18	19			
Week 35 (29 Aug)	19	25			
Week 36 (05 Sep)	26	26	114	109	-5%
Week 37 (12 Sep)	26	33	115	121	6%
Week 38 (19 Sep)	23	31	113	134	19%
Week 39 (26 Sep)	22	32	116	147	26%
Week 40 (03 Oct)	26	33	124	155	25%
Week 41 (10 Oct)	27	31	124	160	29%
Week 42 (17 Oct)	24	26	122	153	26%
Week 43 (24 Oct)	28	24	126	146	16%
Week 44 (31 Oct)	21	22	125	136	9%
Week 45 (07 Nov)	24	22	123	125	1%
Week 46 (14 Nov)	23	9	119	103	-14%

**Date week ended in 2020*

By month and year sample taken

Month/Year	Samples
Oct 2018	110
Nov 2018	140
Dec 2018	98
Jan 2019	128
Feb 2019	114
Mar 2019	97
Apr 2019	111
May 2019	117
Jun 2019	96
Jul 2019	114
Aug 2019	98
Sep 2019	94
Oct 2019	137
Nov 2019	97
Dec 2019	87
Jan 2020	105
Feb 2020	93
Mar 2020	122
Apr 2020	58
May 2020	80
Jun 2020	106
Jul 2020	125
Aug 2020	83
Sep 2020	145
Oct 2020	113

Notes:

1. NMSC: Non-melanoma skin cancer

2. Data is sourced from the four NHS pathology laboratories in Northern Ireland (Altnagelvin, Antrim, Belfast, Craigavon), which is provided to the NI Cancer Registry on a monthly basis. It does not include information on pathology samples processed by private laboratories.

3. Figures represent the number of pathology samples taken in the given week/month which indicated a malignant tumour and had this result coded and recorded by the end of November 2020. Further samples taken during Jan-Nov may not yet have been recorded as a result was not available by the end of November 2020. The presented figures may thus represent an undercount, particularly for later weeks. However, when comparisons are made with 2017-2019 the same limitation has been applied to all years in order to maintain comparability.

4. Assignment of week number is based upon a Sunday to Saturday week. The week ending label used in graphs and tables is based upon the date of the end of the week in 2020. This is compared with the equivalent Sunday-Saturday week in previous years, although the actual date ending this week in previous years will differ.

5. Individual patients with cancer may have more than one pathology sample. A diagnosis of cancer may be a result of more than one procedure indicating cancer, for example a breast cancer diagnosis may be based upon a positive biopsy of the breast and then a separate positive dissection of a lymph node. The presented number of cancer samples does not therefore represent the number of people with pathologically diagnosed cancer, but does indicate the processing workload of Northern Ireland's NHS pathology laboratories for new cancer cases.

Acknowledgements

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Further Information

Further data is available at: **www.qub.ac.uk/nicr**
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