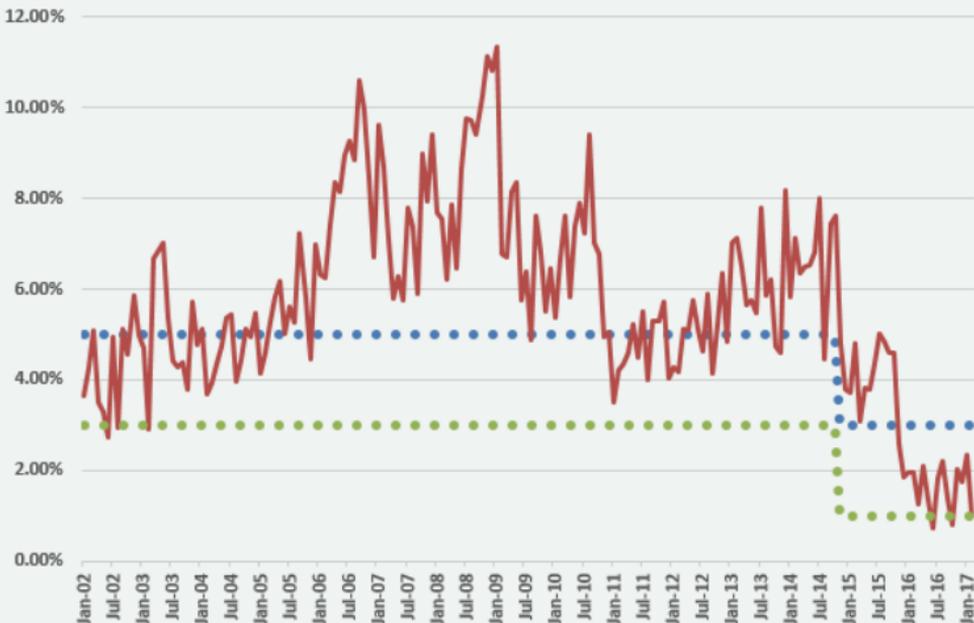


FIGURE 2

Tracking the data

Navicent Health had tracked emergency department (ED) blood culture contamination rates for more than 20 years. Periods of improvement had not been sustained until initiating a Six Sigma black belt project.

ED blood culture contamination rate



● ● ● Upper control limit

— Blood culture contamination (ED)

● ● ● Lower control limit

Project started in November 2014

Threshold limits readjusted in November 2014

Full-time phlebotomy added in November 2015