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

June 2022 update

CONTENTS

SUMMARY

Recent trends in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer: June 2022

This summary provides an overview of recent trends in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer, NMSC) taken from January 2020 to June 2022 in Northern Ireland.

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.

Data are sourced from the four NHS pathology laboratories in NI (Belfast, Altnagelvin, Antrim, Craigavon), which are usually provided to NICR on a monthly basis. **Altnagelvin laboratory is excluded from some analysis as a change in recording systems led to an undercount in the number of reported samples in Jan-Apr 2021.**

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 (Excludes Altnagelvin)

From March 2020 to June 2022 the number of pathological samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC) was 5.8% lower than the average number for the same time period in 2017-2019.
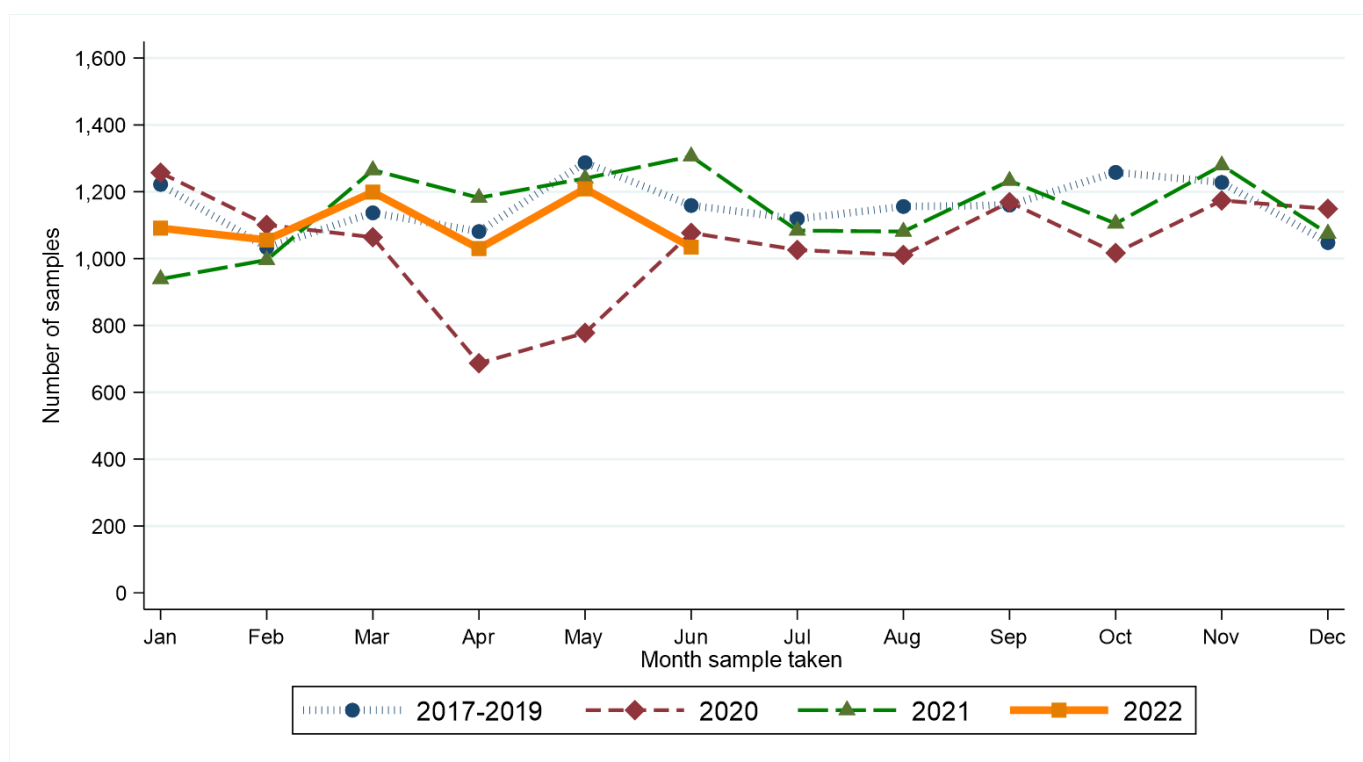
From March 2020 to June 2022 there was a 6.0% decrease in the number of samples among males and a 5.7% decrease among females compared to the same time period in 2017-2019. A decrease of 6.9% occurred in the number of samples among those aged 0-69 years, while there was a decrease of 4.3% in the number of samples among those aged 70 and older.

Compared to the annual average in 2017-2019, from March 2020 to June 2022 the number of pathology samples indicating lung cancer decreased by 24.3%. No cancer types had an increase in the number of samples between the two periods, while decreases of more than 10% were recorded for gynaecological cancer, head and neck cancer and non-melanoma skin cancer.

The bar chart shows percentage change values. Demographics: All persons -5.8, Male -6.0, Female -5.7, Aged 0-69 -6.9, Aged 70+ -4.3. Cancer type: Bowel -1.4, Lung -24.3, Female breast -1.2, Prostate -7.8, Upper GI -5.0, Gynaecological -18.2, Head & neck -12.5, Urinary -6.9, Haematological -0.5, Melanoma -6.5, Non-melanoma skin -25.5, Other cancer 1.0.

RECENT CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF SAMPLES *(Includes Altnagelvin)*

There was a 6.1% decrease in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to the average value in the equivalent weeks in 2017-2019.

Note: Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years

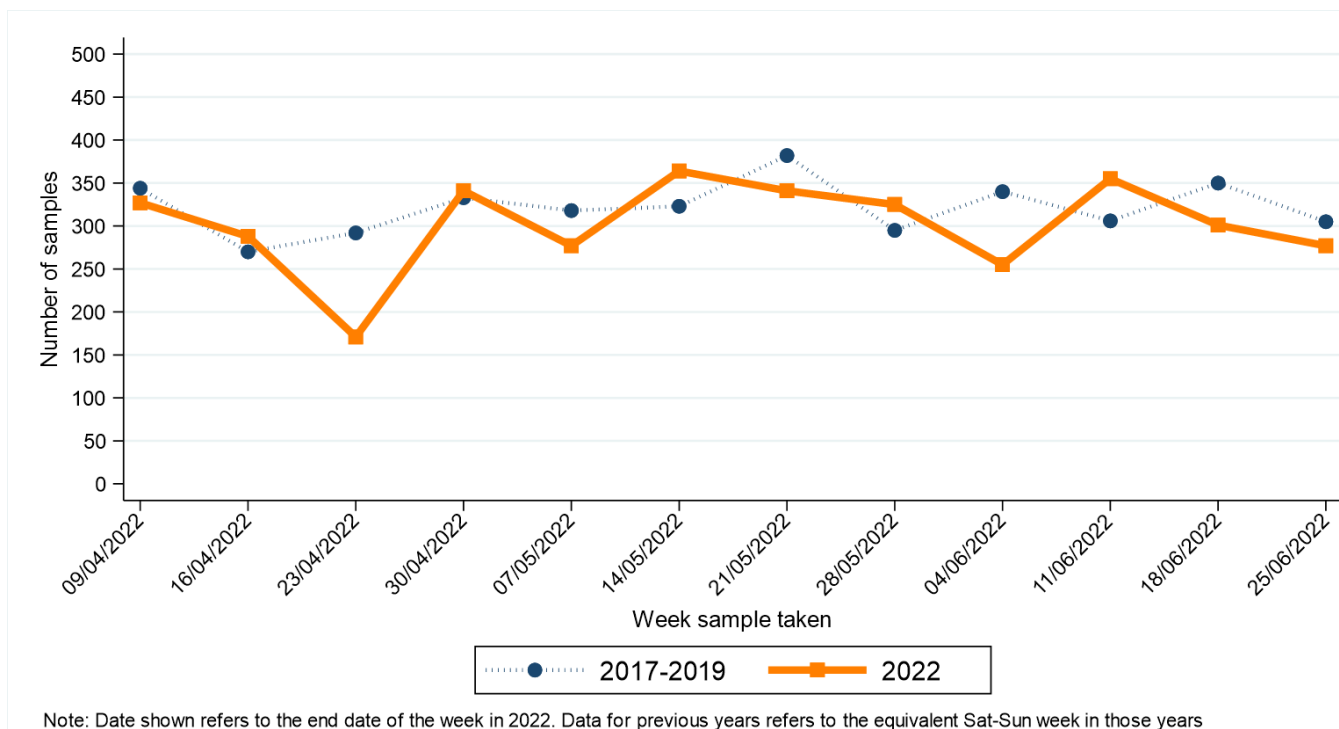In the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 there was an 8.4% decrease in the number of samples among males and a 4.6% decrease among females compared to the same time period in 2017-2019. A decrease of 11.8% occurred in

the number of samples among those aged 0-69 years, while there was an increase of 1.7% in the number of samples among those aged 70 and older.

Compared to the annual average in 2017-2019, in the twelve weeks up to June 2022 the number of pathology samples indicating lung cancer decreased by 16.8%. Increases were recorded for female breast cancer and melanoma, while decreases of more than 10% were recorded for prostate cancer, upper gastrointestinal cancer, gynaecological cancer, head and neck cancer and non-melanoma skin cancer.
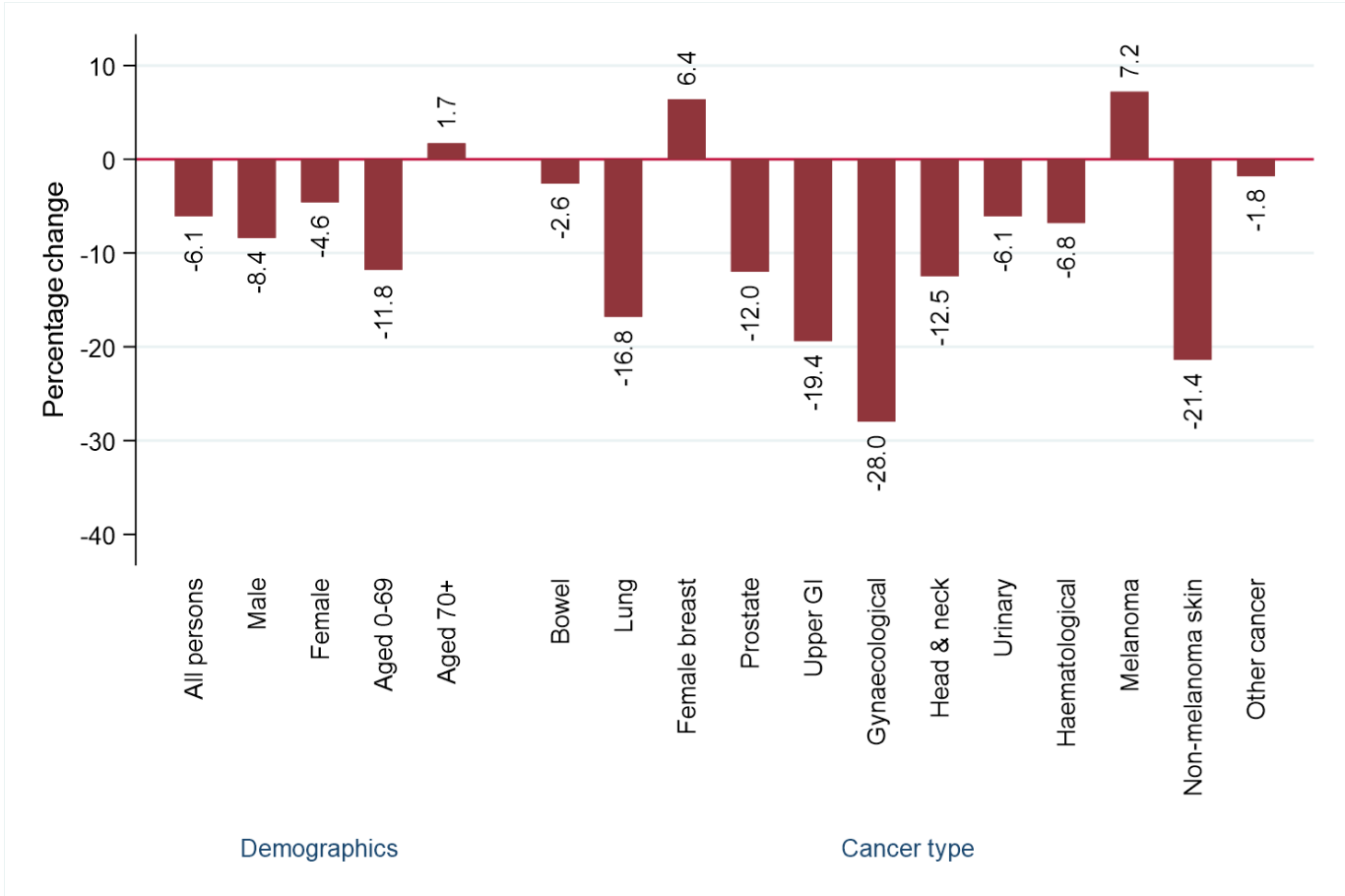
ALL PERSONS: CANCER (EX NMSC)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to June 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-5.8%
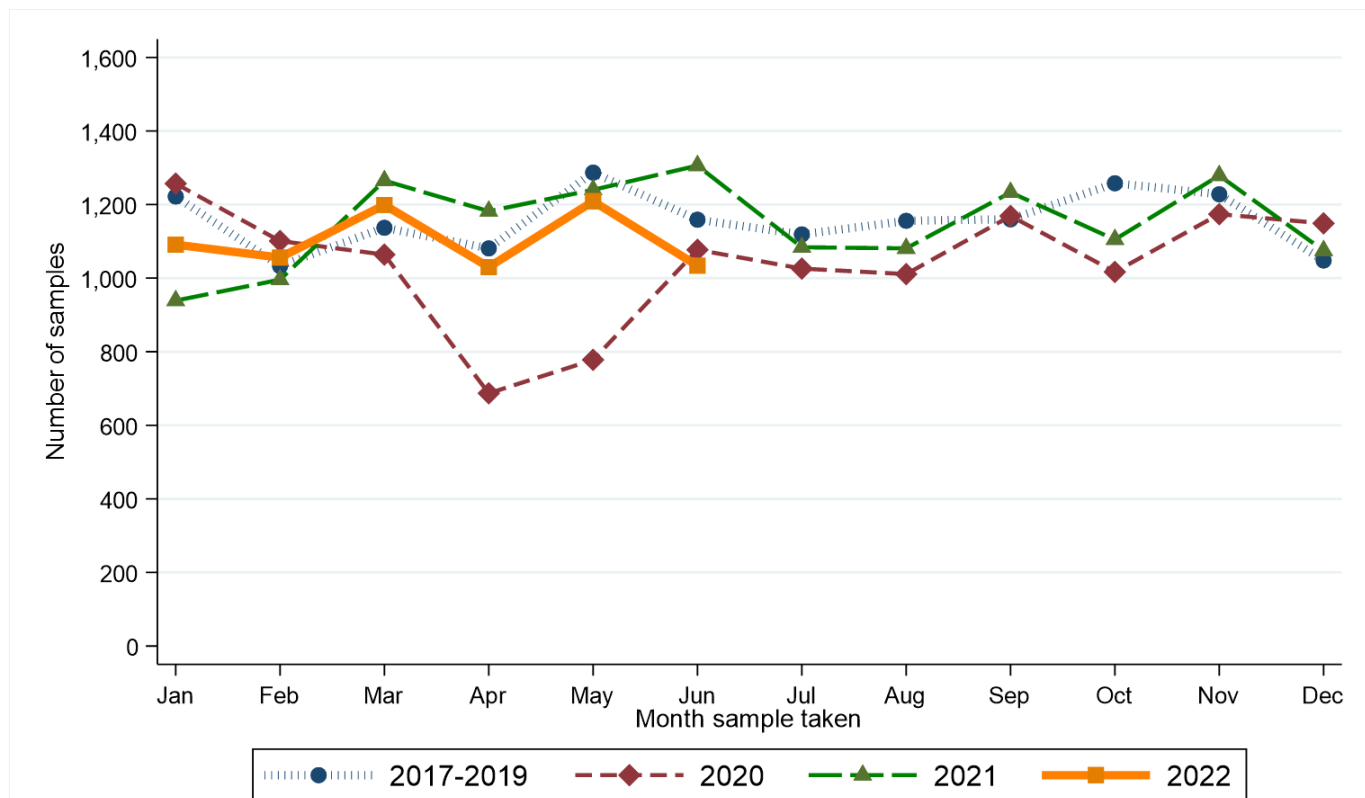
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**
Jan	1,222	1,257	939	1,091
Feb	1,033	1,101	996	1,056
Mar	1,137	1,064	1,265	1,199
Apr	1,081	687	1,182	1,030
May	1,287	778	1,240	1,209
Jun	1,159	1,077	1,306	1,034
Jul	1,119	1,026	1,084	.
Aug	1,156	1,011	1,081	.
Sep	1,160	1,169	1,233	.
Oct	1,258	1,017	1,105	.
Nov	1,228	1,174	1,279	.
Dec	1,048	1,149	1,075	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-6.1%
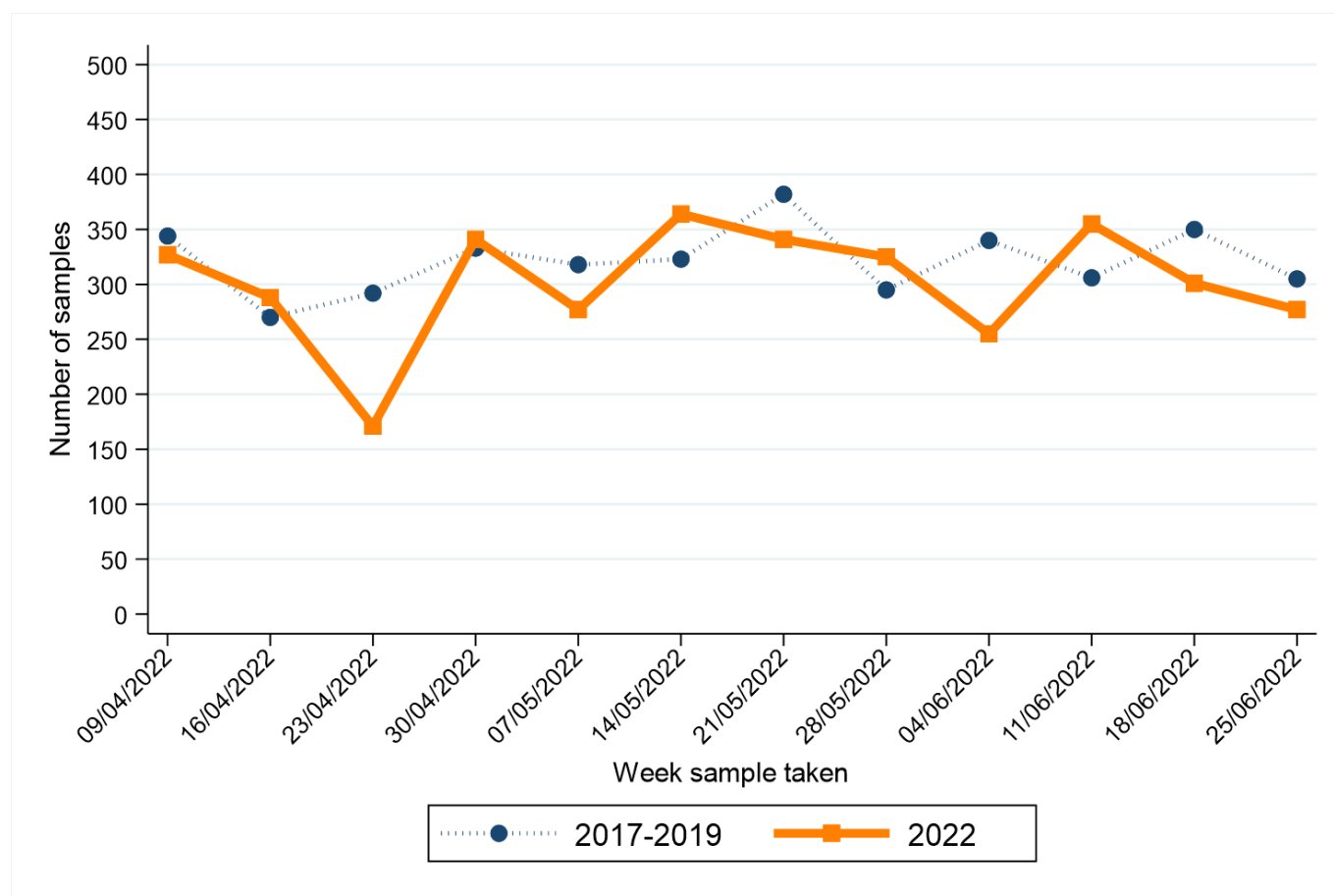
Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
09/04/2022	344	327
16/04/2022	270	288
23/04/2022	292	171
30/04/2022	333	341
07/05/2022	318	277
14/05/2022	323	364
21/05/2022	382	341
28/05/2022	295	325
04/06/2022	340	255
11/06/2022	306	355
18/06/2022	350	301
25/06/2022	305	277

Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

*** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.*

MALE: CANCER (EX NMSC)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

**Percentage change from March 2020 to June 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average**

-6.0%
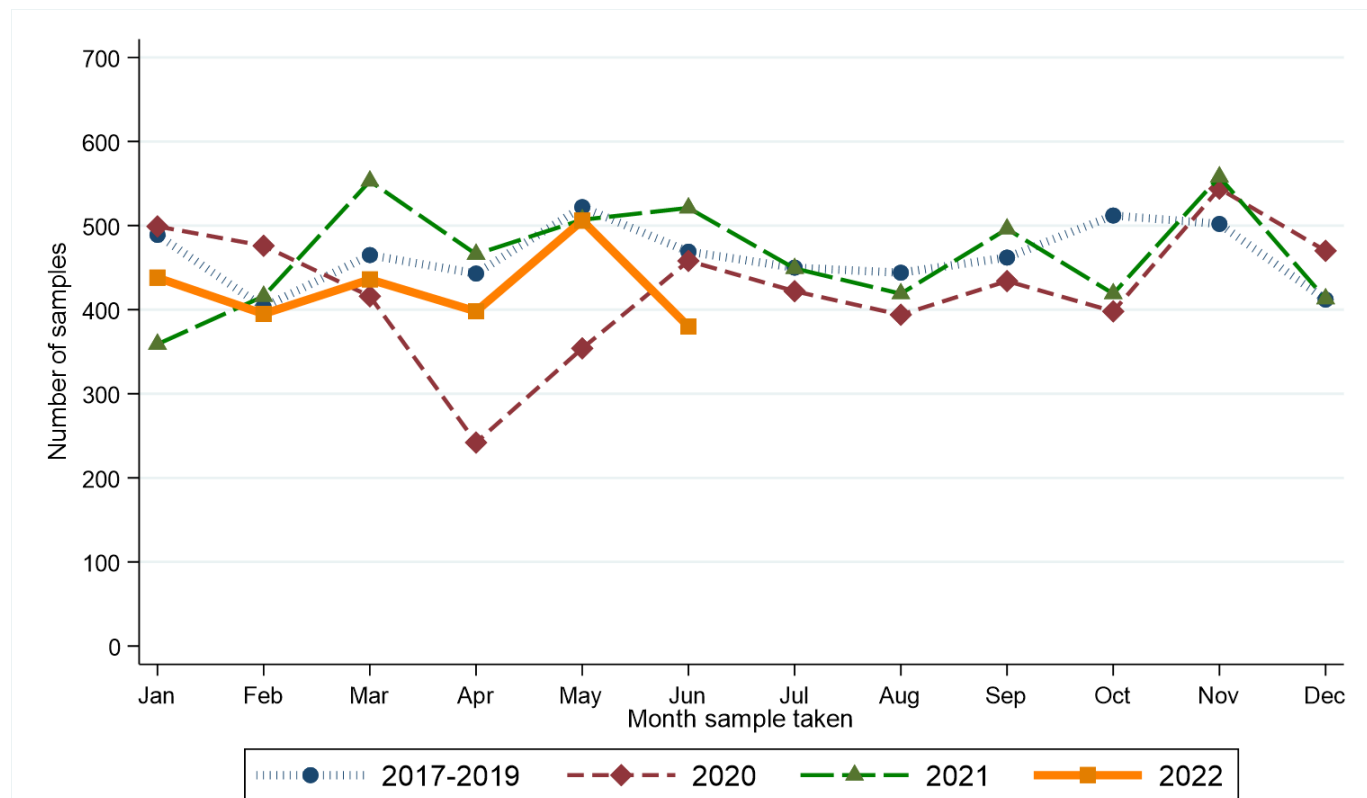
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**
Jan	489	499	359	438
Feb	403	476	416	395
Mar	465	416	553	436
Apr	443	242	466	398
May	522	354	507	506
Jun	469	458	521	380
Jul	450	422	449	.
Aug	444	394	419	.
Sep	462	434	496	.
Oct	512	398	419	.
Nov	502	544	558	.
Dec	412	470	413	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-8.4%
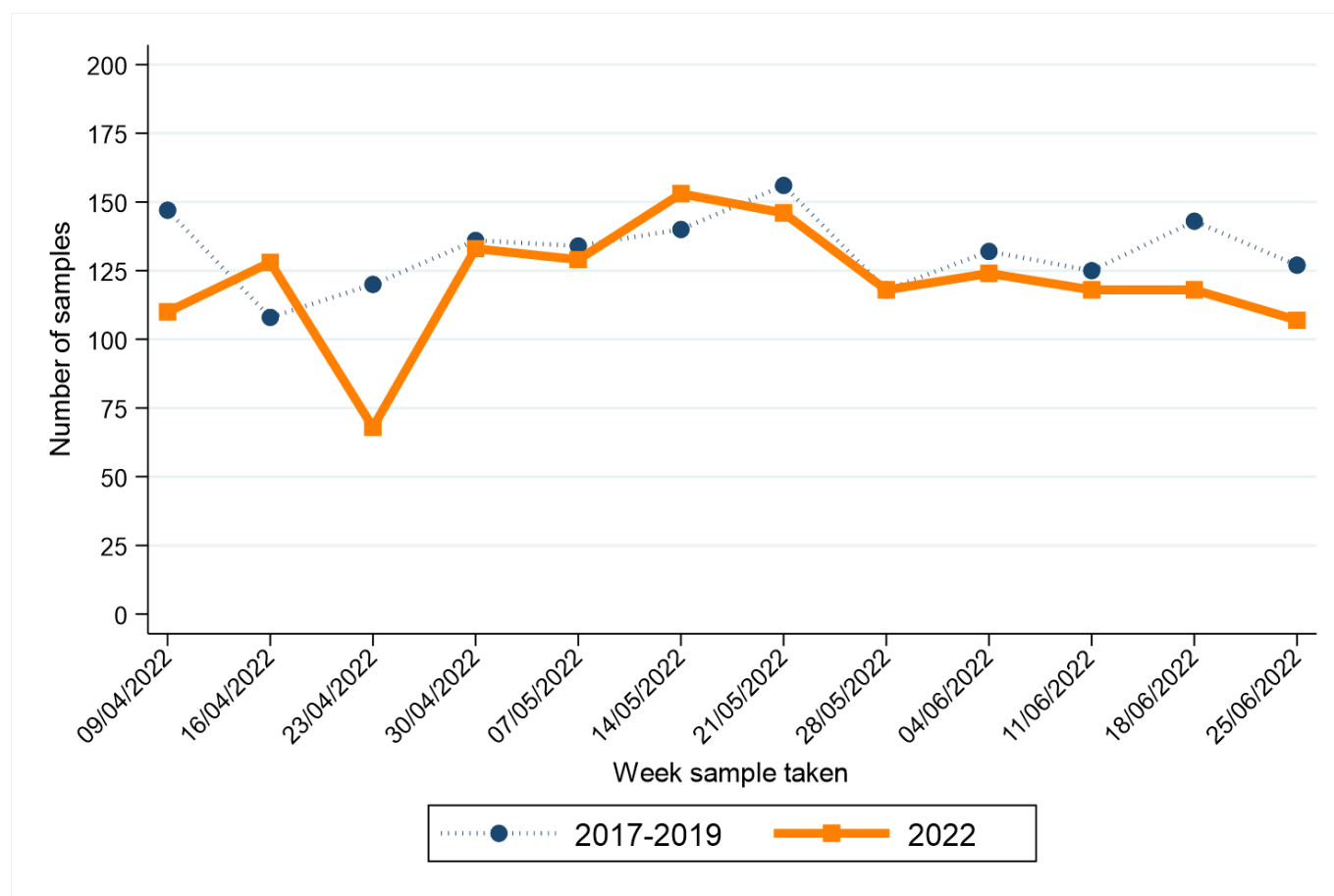
Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
09/04/2022	147	110
16/04/2022	108	128
23/04/2022	120	68
30/04/2022	136	133
07/05/2022	134	129
14/05/2022	140	153
21/05/2022	156	146
28/05/2022	118	118
04/06/2022	132	124
11/06/2022	125	118
18/06/2022	143	118
25/06/2022	127	107

*Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.*

*** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.*

FEMALE: CANCER (EX NMSC)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to June 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-5.7%
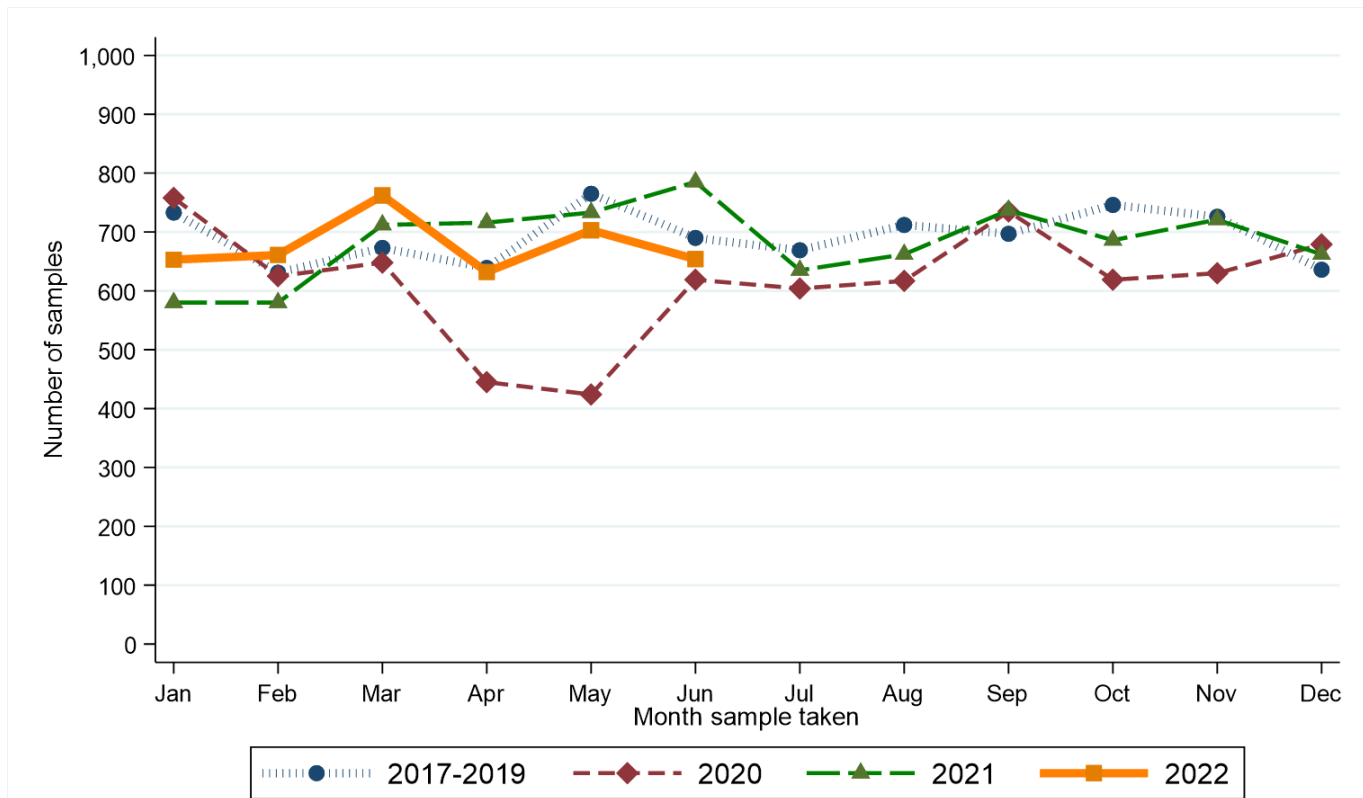
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	733	758	580	653
Feb	631	625	580	661
Mar	673	648	712	762
Apr	639	445	716	632
May	765	424	733	703
Jun	690	619	785	654
Jul	669	604	635	.
Aug	712	617	662	.
Sep	697	735	737	.
Oct	746	619	686	.
Nov	726	630	721	.
Dec	636	679	662	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-4.6%
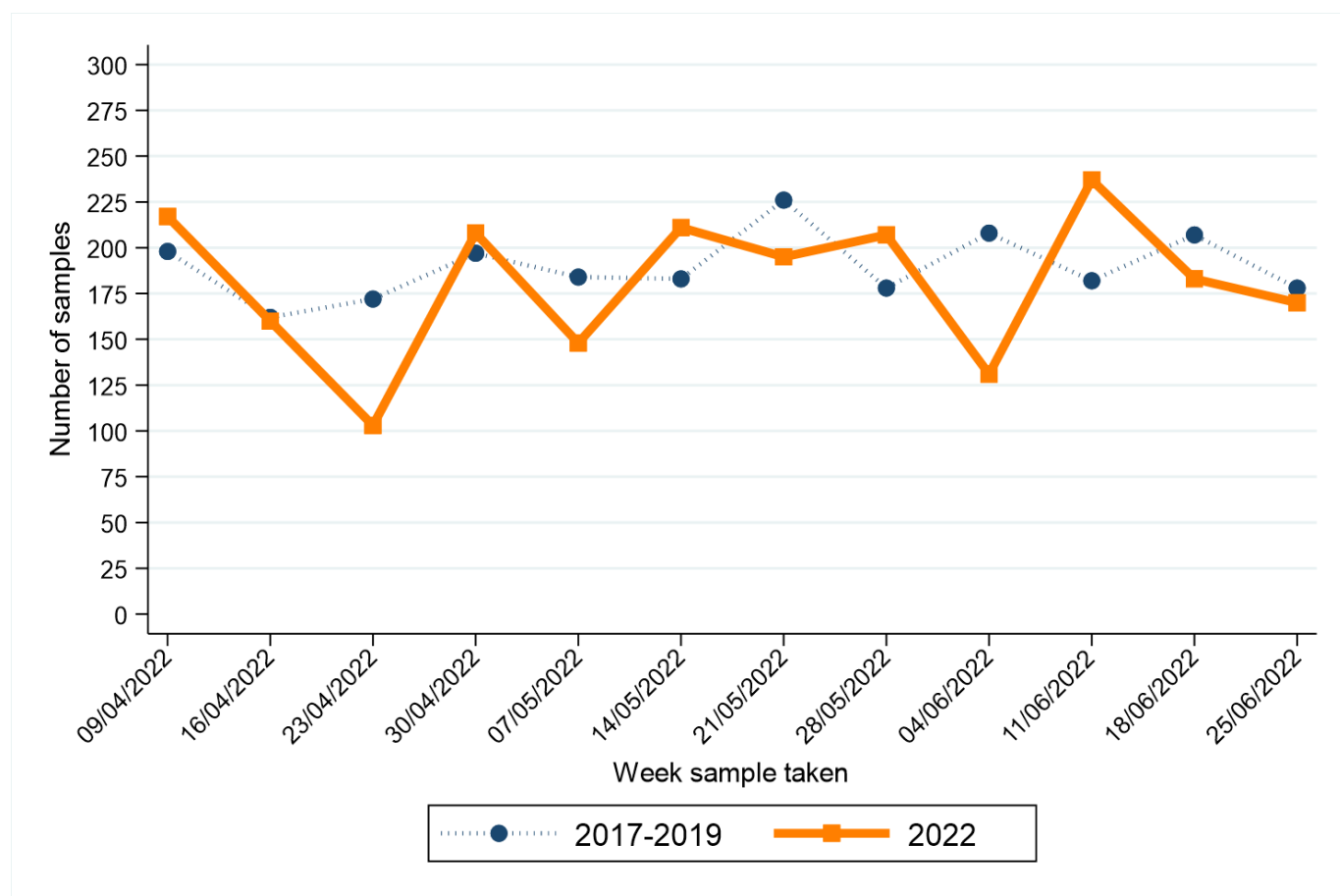
Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
09/04/2022	198	217
16/04/2022	162	160
23/04/2022	172	103
30/04/2022	197	208
07/05/2022	184	148
14/05/2022	183	211
21/05/2022	226	195
28/05/2022	178	207
04/06/2022	208	131
11/06/2022	182	237
18/06/2022	207	183
25/06/2022	178	170

** Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.*

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

AGED 0-69: CANCER (EX NMSC)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

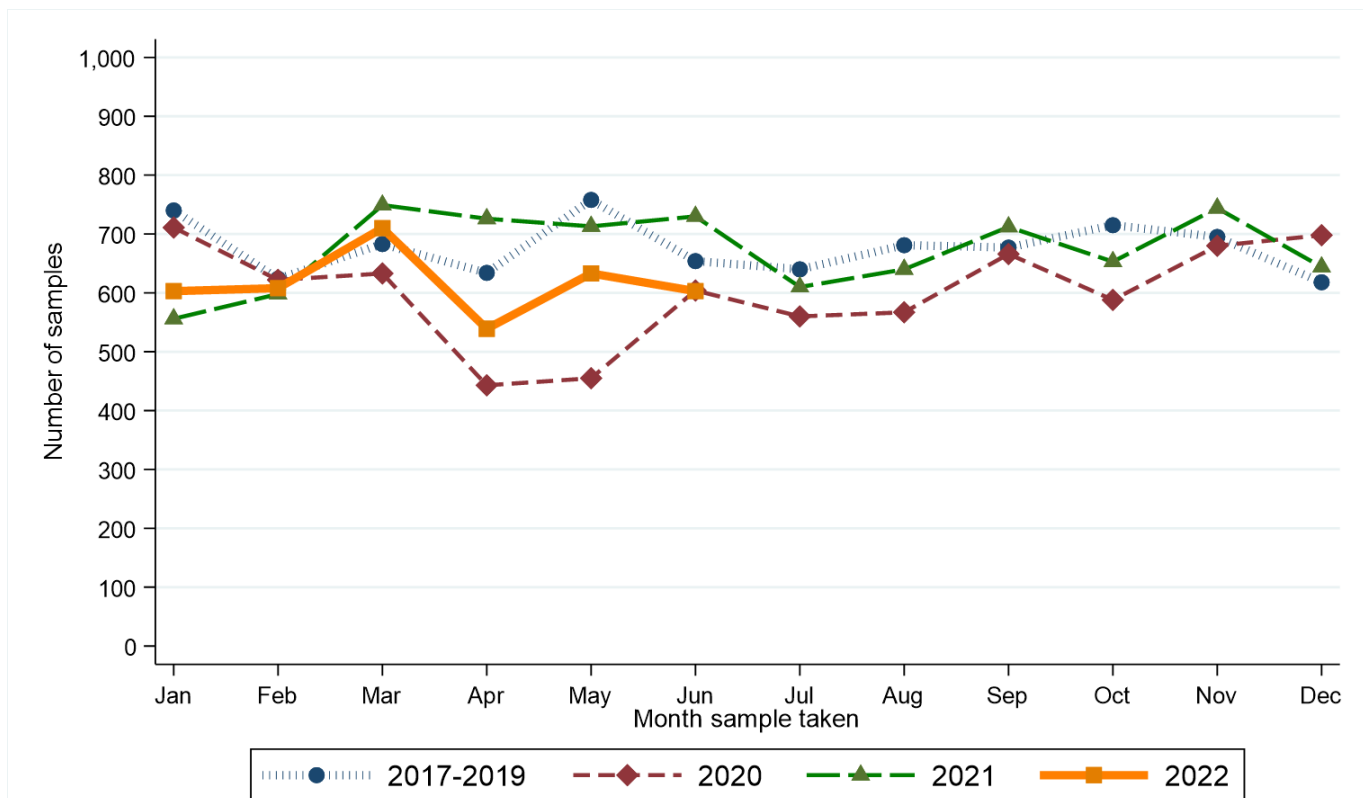### Percentage change from March 2020 to June 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-6.9%

Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**
Jan	740	711	556	603
Feb	624	622	598	608
Mar	683	633	749	710
Apr	634	443	726	539
May	758	455	713	633
Jun	654	604	730	603
Jul	640	560	610	.
Aug	681	567	640	.
Sep	677	666	712	.
Oct	715	588	653	.
Nov	695	680	744	.
Dec	618	698	644	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-11.8%
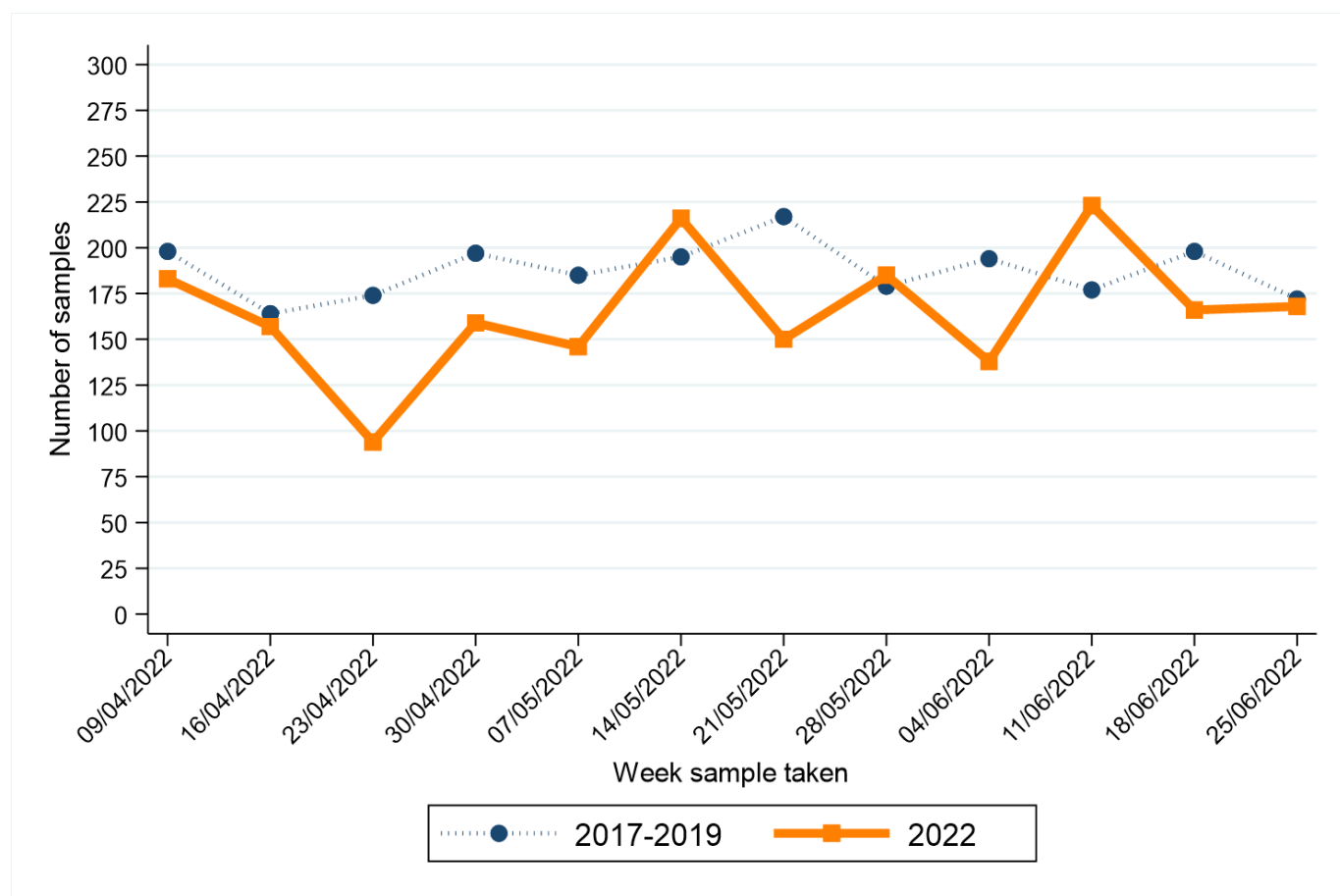
Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
09/04/2022	198	183
16/04/2022	164	157
23/04/2022	174	94
30/04/2022	197	159
07/05/2022	185	146
14/05/2022	195	216
21/05/2022	217	150
28/05/2022	179	185
04/06/2022	194	138
11/06/2022	177	223
18/06/2022	198	166
25/06/2022	172	168

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

AGED 70+: CANCER (EX NMSC)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

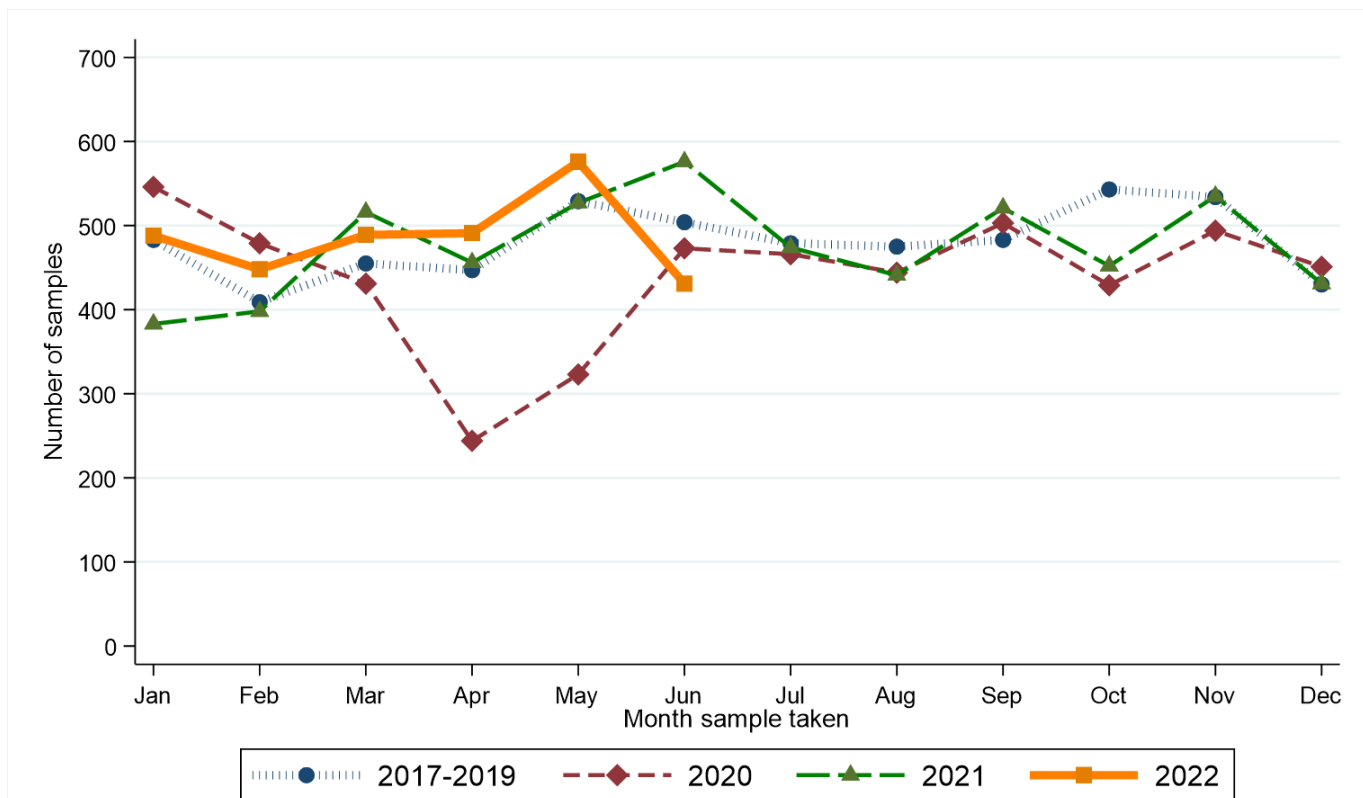### Percentage change from March 2020 to June 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-4.3%

Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	483	546	383	488
Feb	409	479	398	448
Mar	455	431	516	489
Apr	447	244	456	491
May	529	323	527	576
Jun	504	473	576	431
Jul	479	466	474	.
Aug	475	444	441	.
Sep	483	503	521	.
Oct	543	429	452	.
Nov	534	494	535	.
Dec	430	451	431	.

Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+1.7%
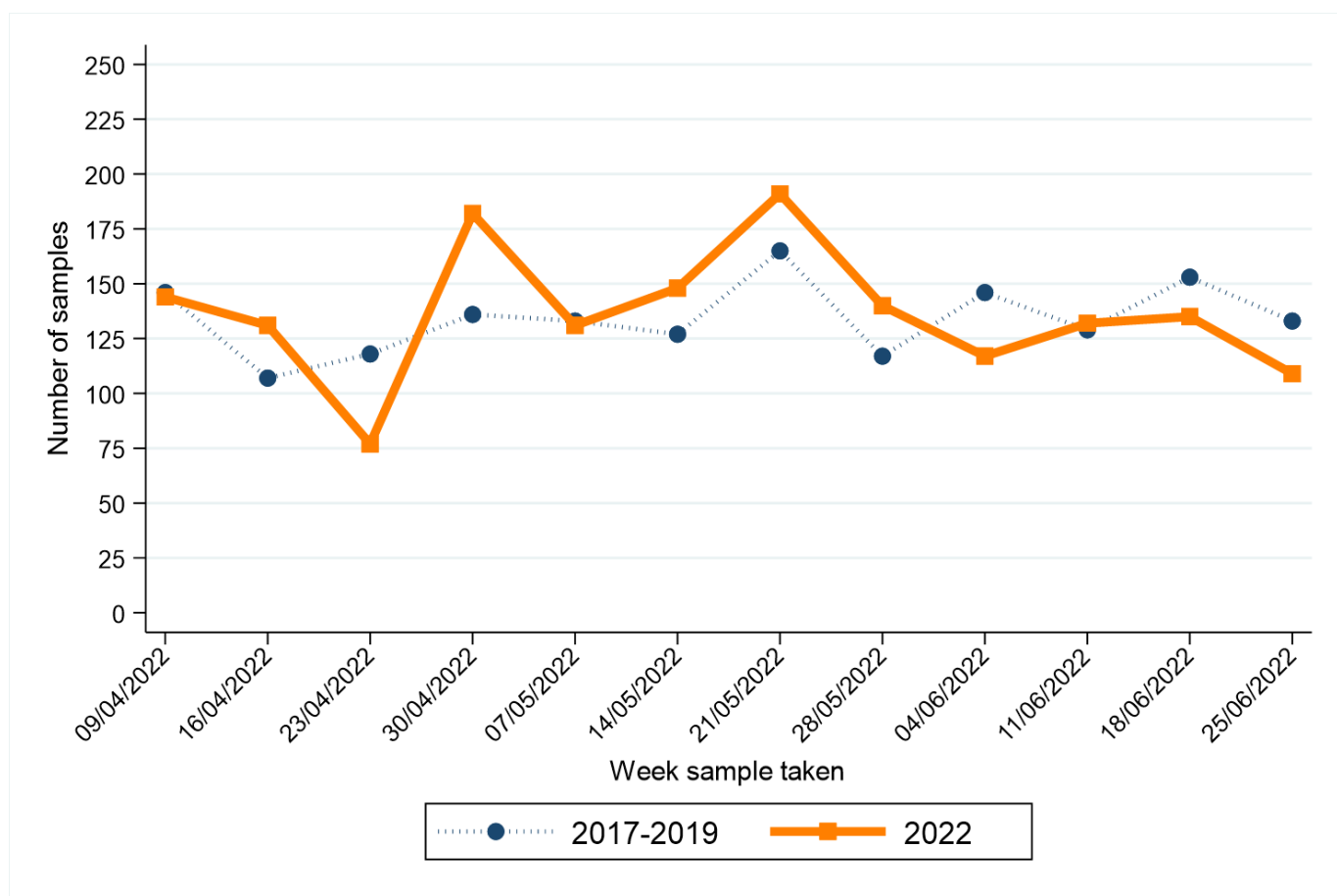
Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
09/04/2022	146	144
16/04/2022	107	131
23/04/2022	118	77
30/04/2022	136	182
07/05/2022	133	131
14/05/2022	127	148
21/05/2022	165	191
28/05/2022	117	140
04/06/2022	146	117
11/06/2022	129	132
18/06/2022	153	135
25/06/2022	133	109

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

BOWEL CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

**Percentage change from March 2020 to June 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average**

-1.4%
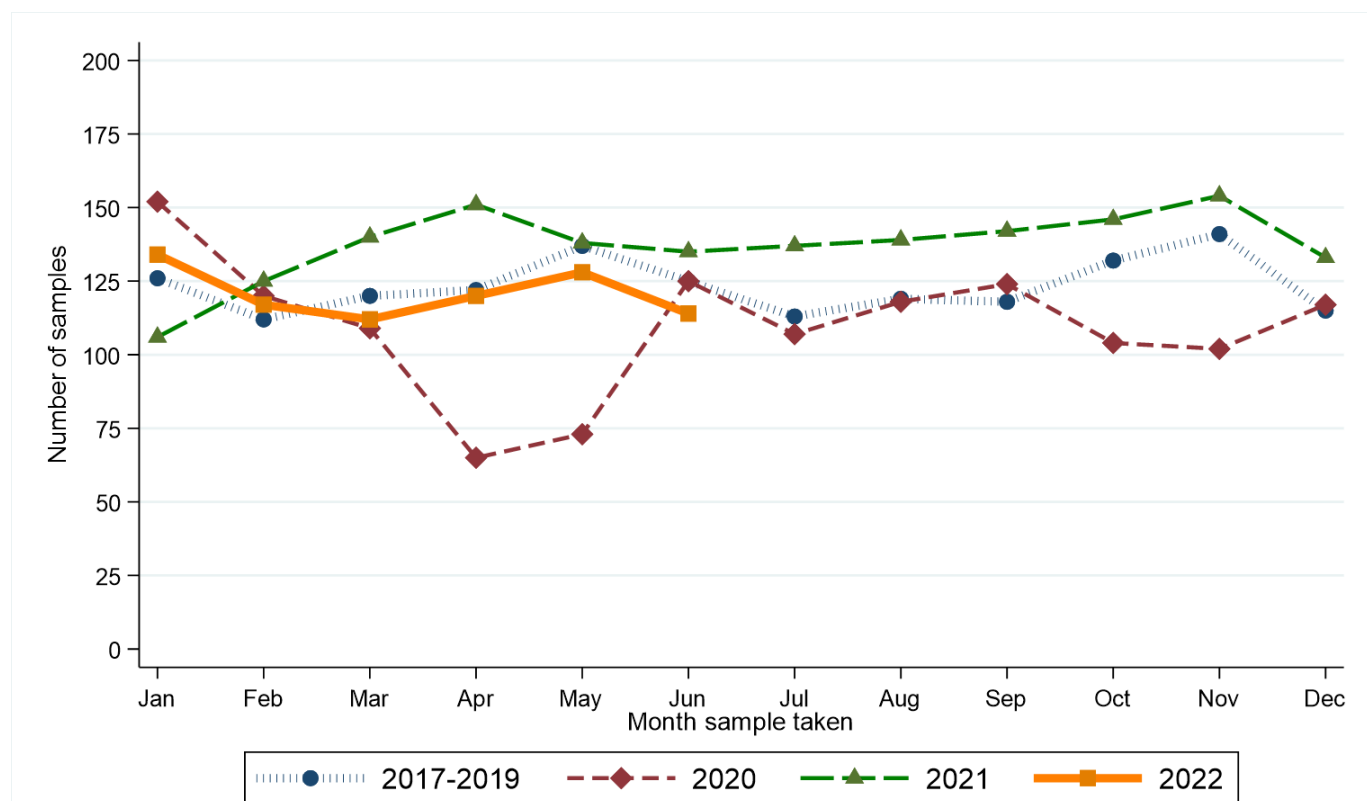
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	126	152	106	134
Feb	112	120	125	117
Mar	120	109	140	112
Apr	122	65	151	120
May	137	73	138	128
Jun	125	125	135	114
Jul	113	107	137	.
Aug	119	118	139	.
Sep	118	124	142	.
Oct	132	104	146	.
Nov	141	102	154	.
Dec	115	117	133	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-2.6%

Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
09/04/2022	33	36
16/04/2022	38	37
23/04/2022	28	26
30/04/2022	40	38
07/05/2022	33	34
14/05/2022	42	47
21/05/2022	34	43
28/05/2022	30	15
04/06/2022	32	26
11/06/2022	33	39
18/06/2022	38	41
25/06/2022	40	28

*Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.*

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

BOWEL CANCER (SCREENING AGE)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to June 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+2.1%
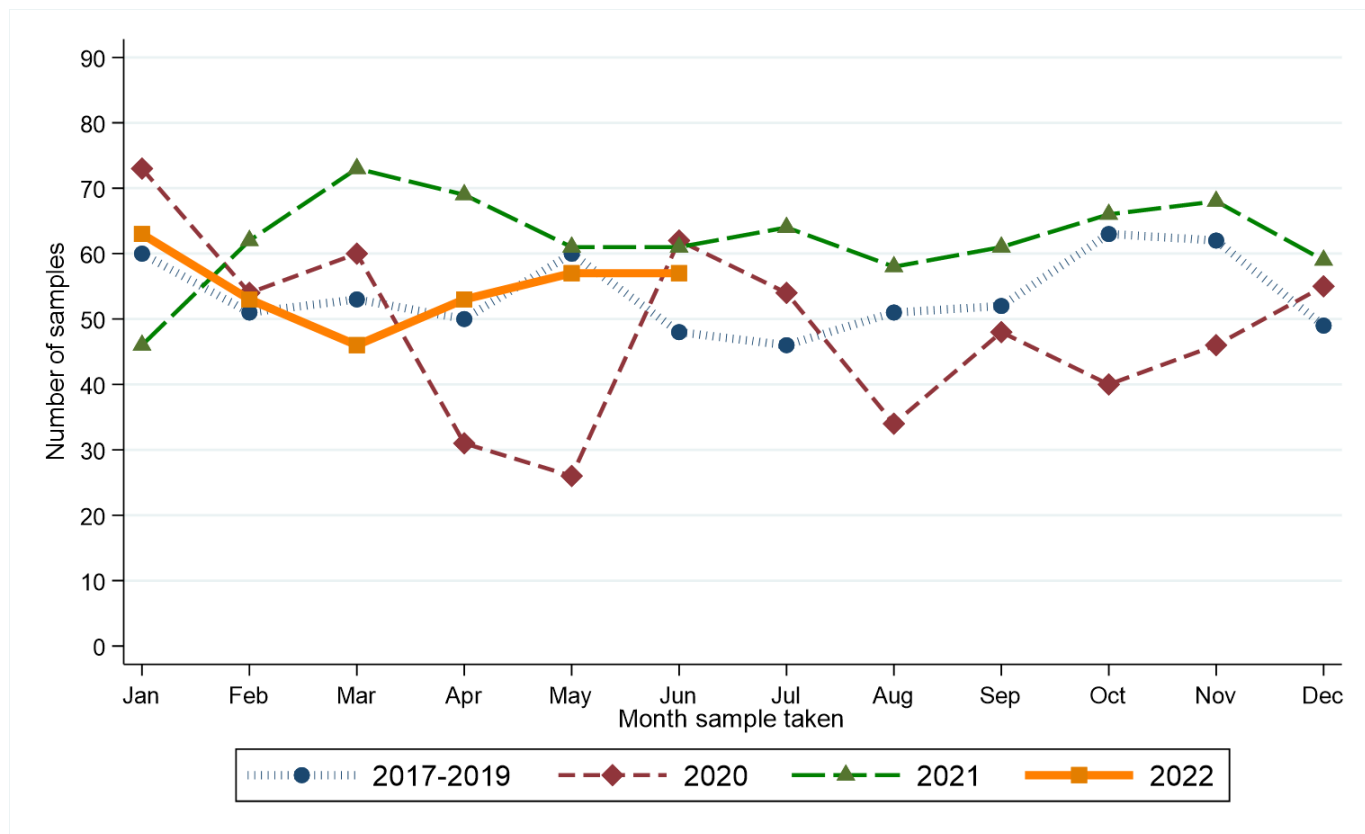
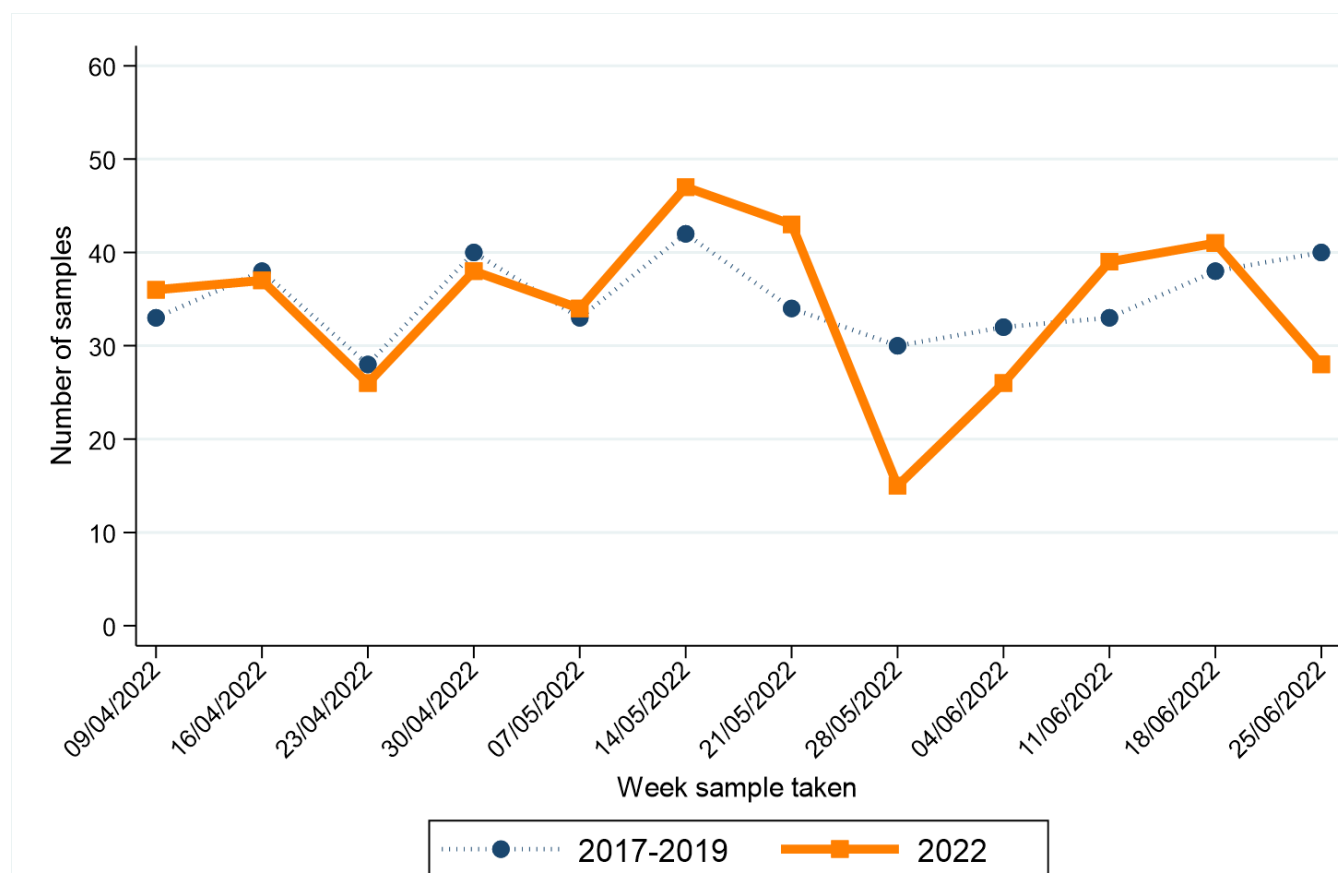| Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	60	73	46	63
Feb	51	54	62	53
Mar	53	60	73	46
Apr	50	31	69	53
May	60	26	61	57
Jun	48	62	61	57
Jul	46	54	64	.
Aug	51	34	58	.
Sep	52	48	61	.
Oct	63	40	66	.
Nov	62	46	68	.
Dec	49	55	59	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+5.6%
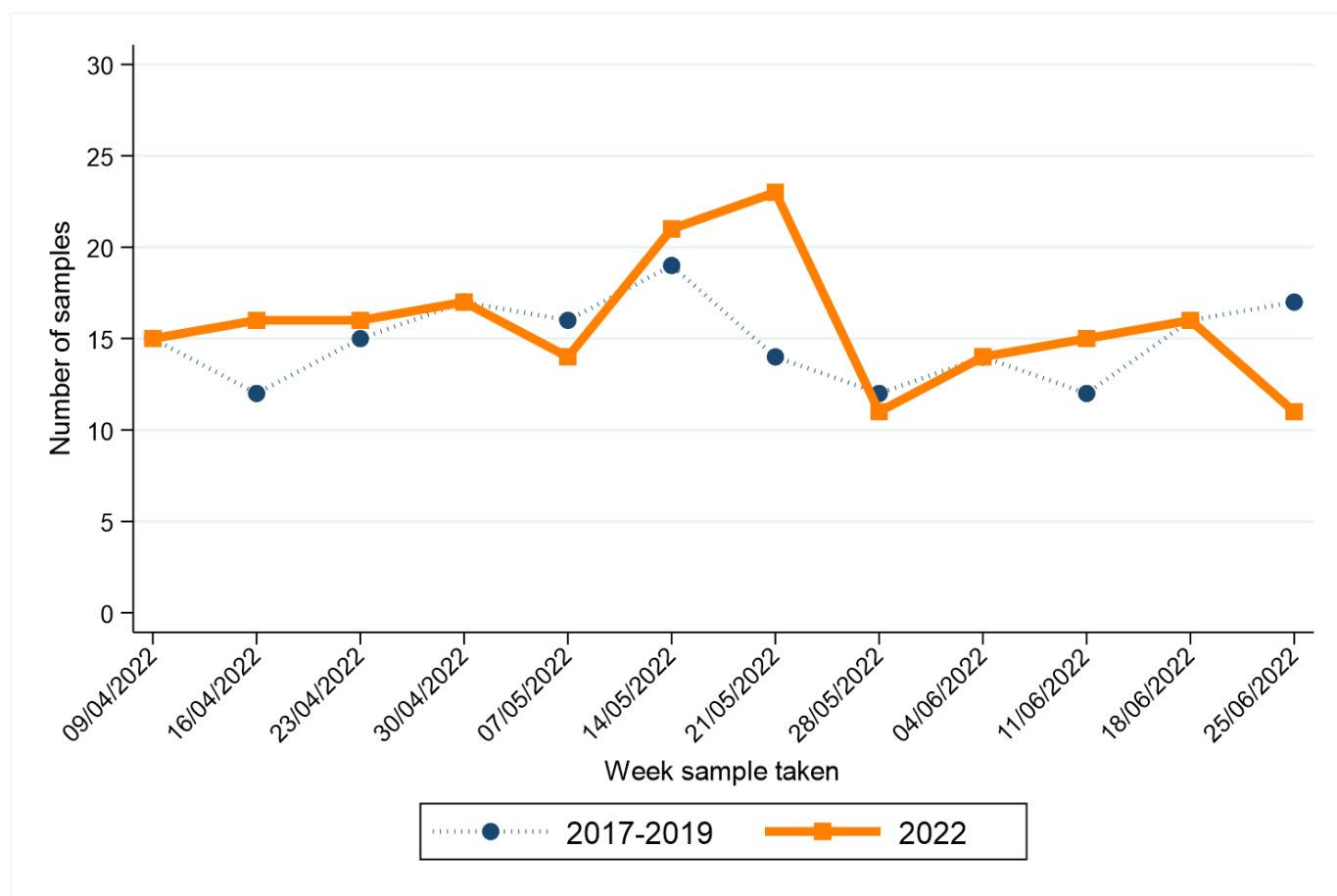
Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
09/04/2022	15	15
16/04/2022	12	16
23/04/2022	15	16
30/04/2022	17	17
07/05/2022	16	14
14/05/2022	19	21
21/05/2022	14	23
28/05/2022	12	11
04/06/2022	14	14
11/06/2022	12	15
18/06/2022	16	16
25/06/2022	17	11

*Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.*

*** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.*

LUNG CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to June 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

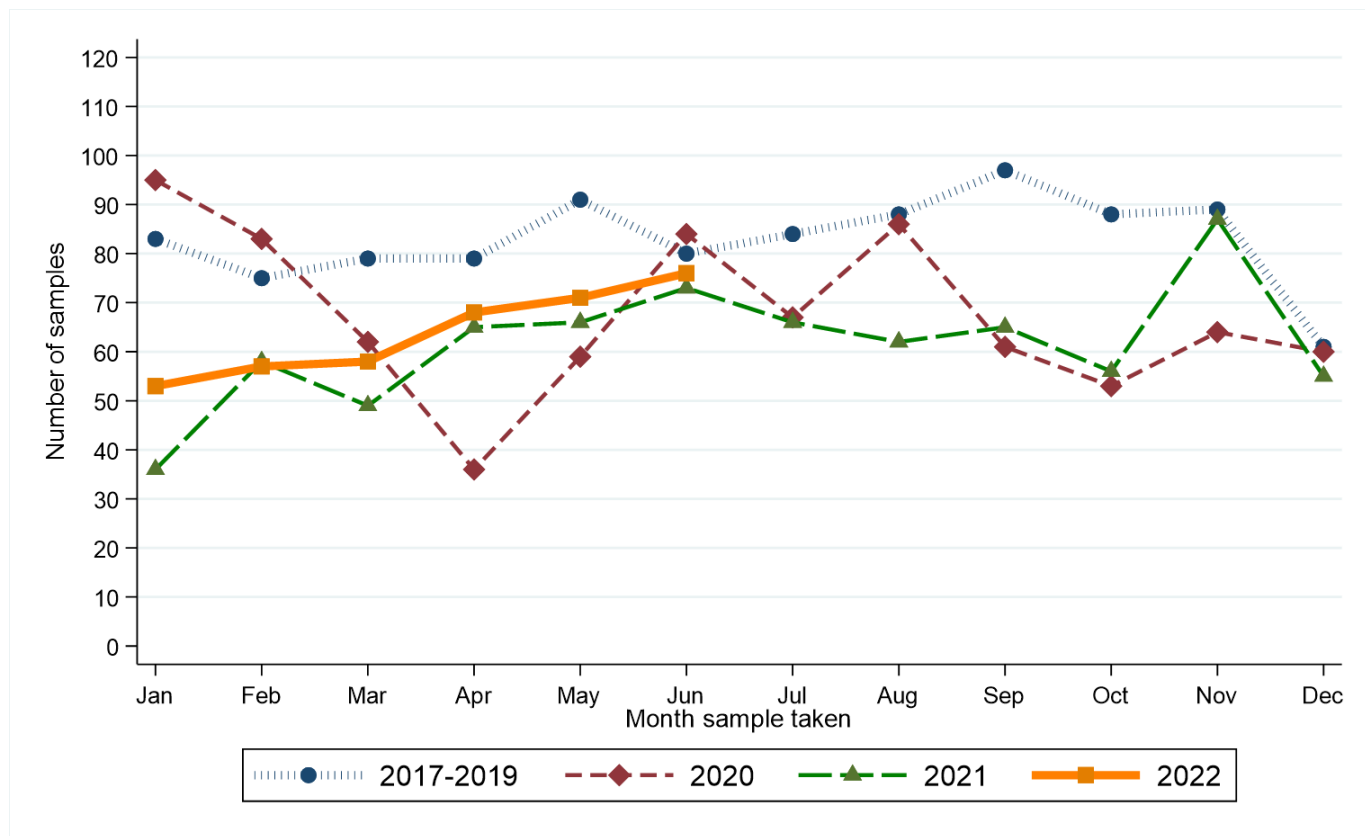## -24.3%

Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**
Jan	83	95	36	53
Feb	75	83	58	57
Mar	79	62	49	58
Apr	79	36	65	68
May	91	59	66	71
Jun	80	84	73	76
Jul	84	67	66	.
Aug	88	86	62	.
Sep	97	61	65	.
Oct	88	53	56	.
Nov	89	64	87	.
Dec	61	60	55	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-16.8%
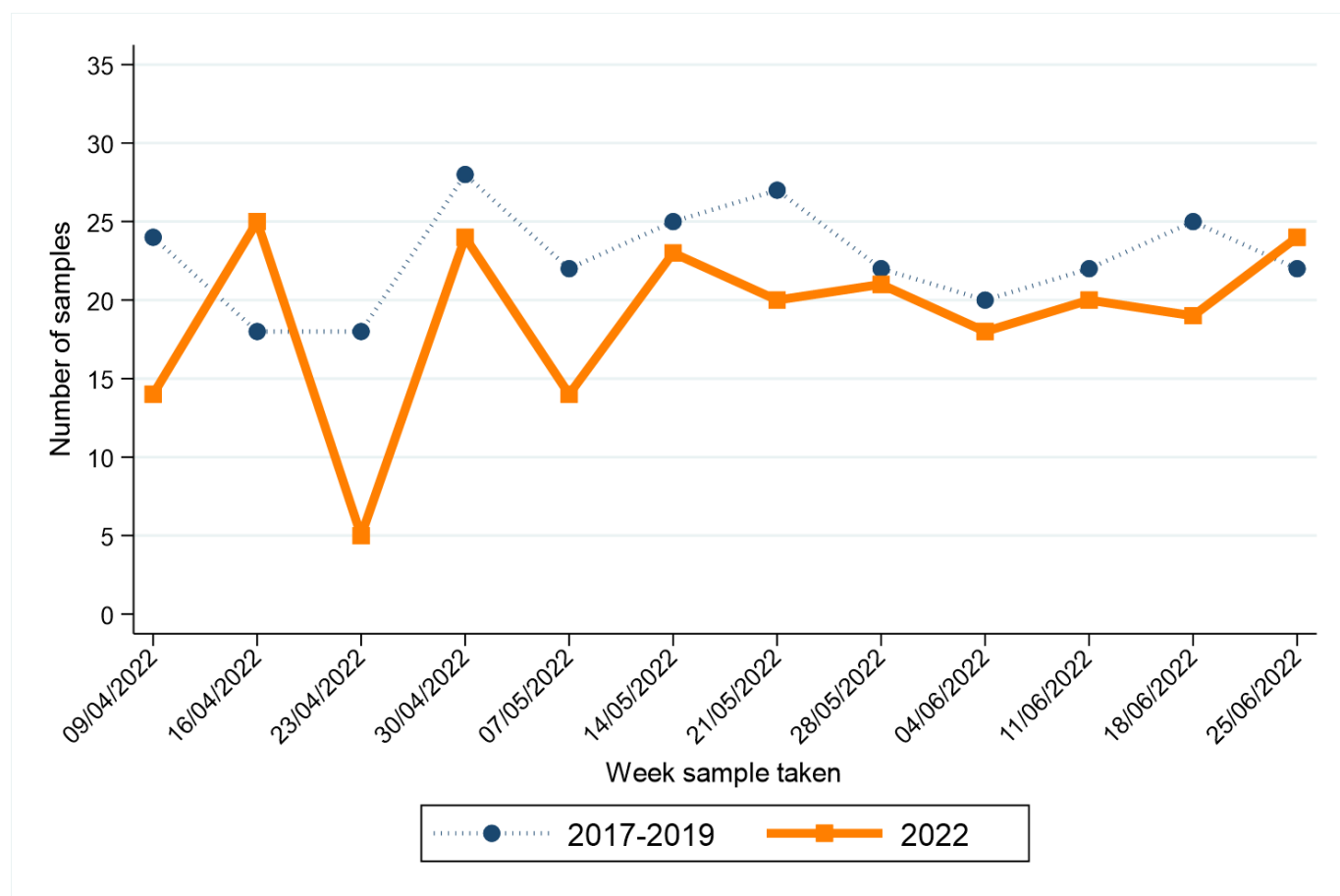
Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
09/04/2022	24	14
16/04/2022	18	25
23/04/2022	18	5
30/04/2022	28	24
07/05/2022	22	14
14/05/2022	25	23
21/05/2022	27	20
28/05/2022	22	21
04/06/2022	20	18
11/06/2022	22	20
18/06/2022	25	19
25/06/2022	22	24

Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

*** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.*

FEMALE BREAST CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

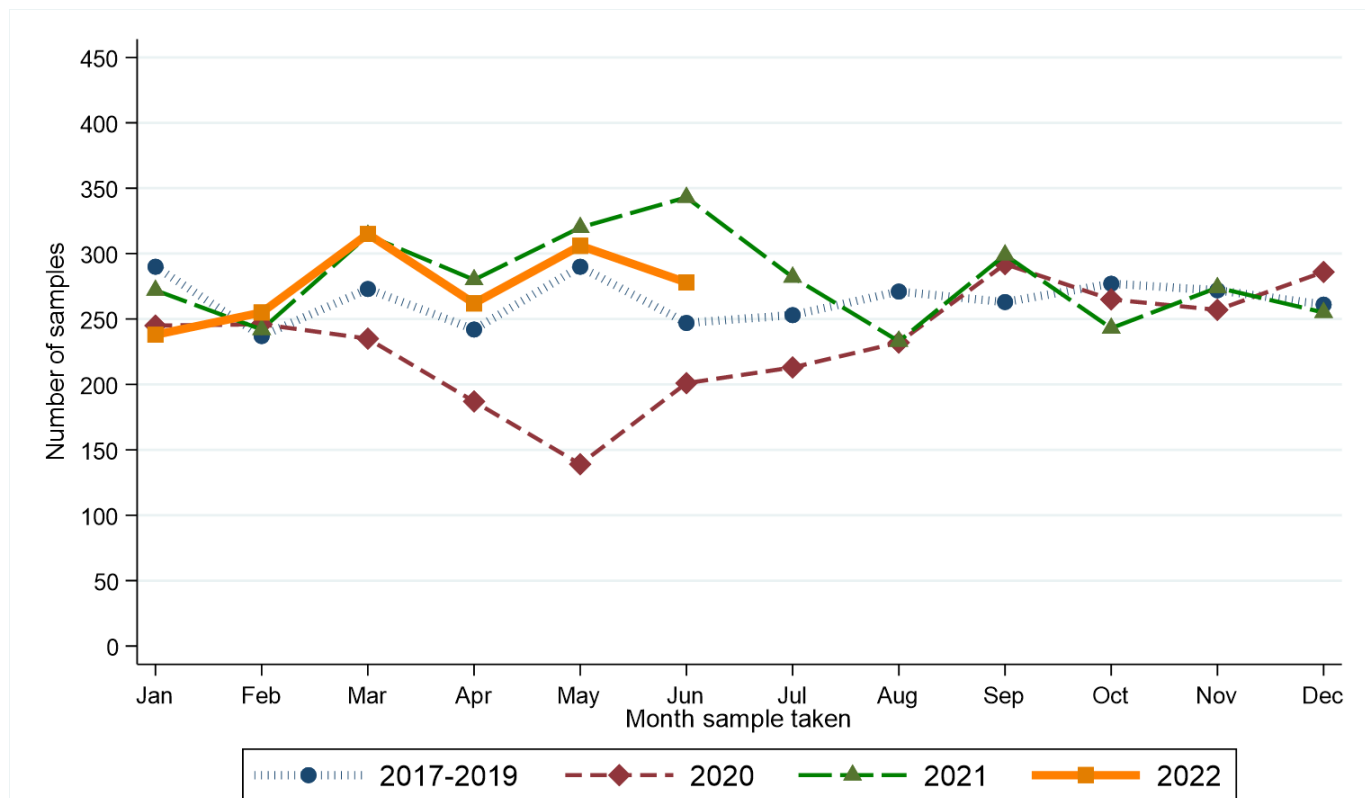**Percentage change from March 2020 to June 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average**

-1.2%

Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**
Jan	290	245	272	238
Feb	237	246	242	255
Mar	273	235	314	315
Apr	242	187	280	262
May	290	139	320	306
Jun	247	201	343	278
Jul	253	213	282	.
Aug	271	232	233	.
Sep	263	292	299	.
Oct	277	265	243	.
Nov	272	257	274	.
Dec	261	286	255	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+6.4%
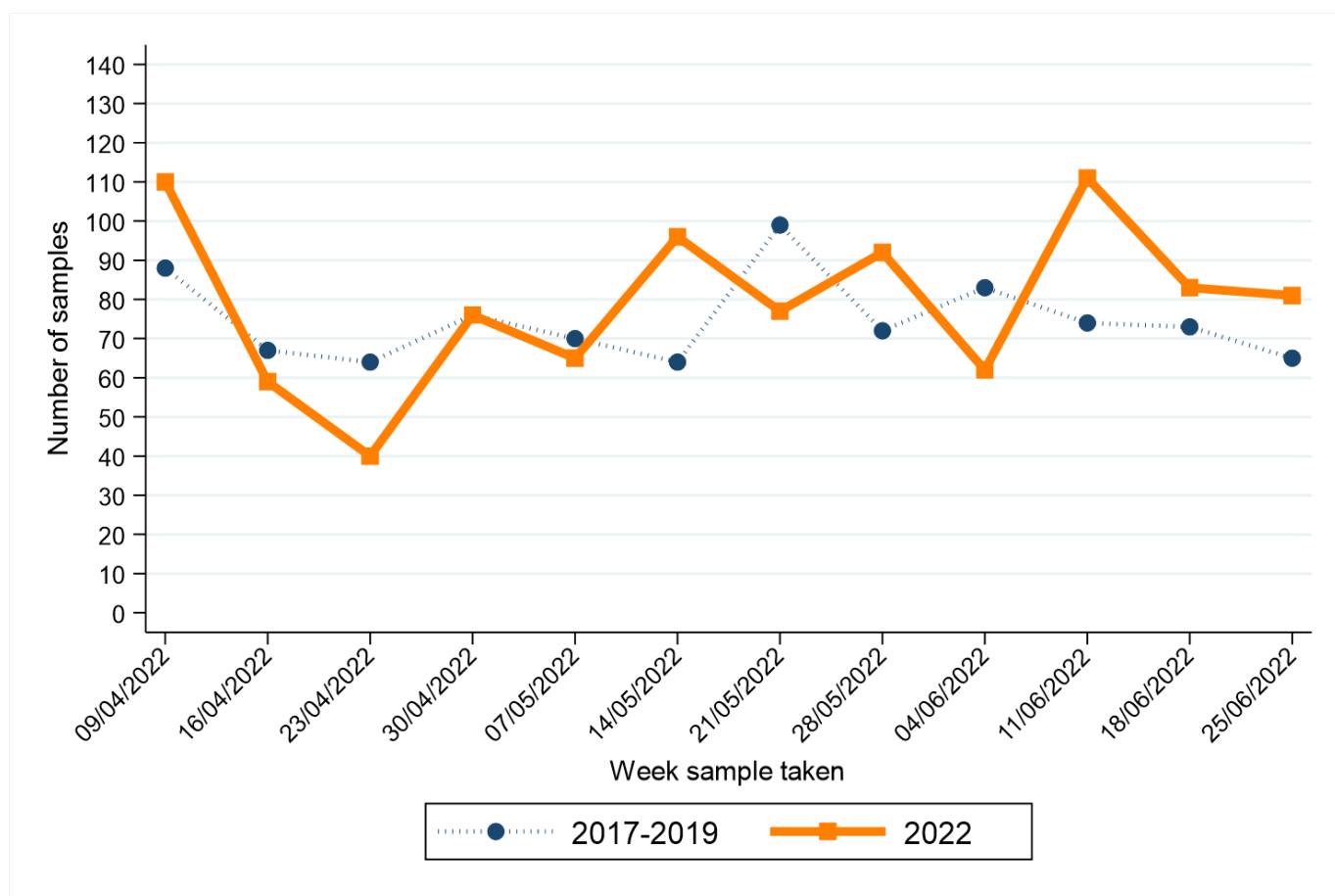
Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
09/04/2022	88	110
16/04/2022	67	59
23/04/2022	64	40
30/04/2022	76	76
07/05/2022	70	65
14/05/2022	64	96
21/05/2022	99	77
28/05/2022	72	92
04/06/2022	83	62
11/06/2022	74	111
18/06/2022	73	83
25/06/2022	65	81

Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

*** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.*

FEMALE BREAST CANCER (SCREENING AGE)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

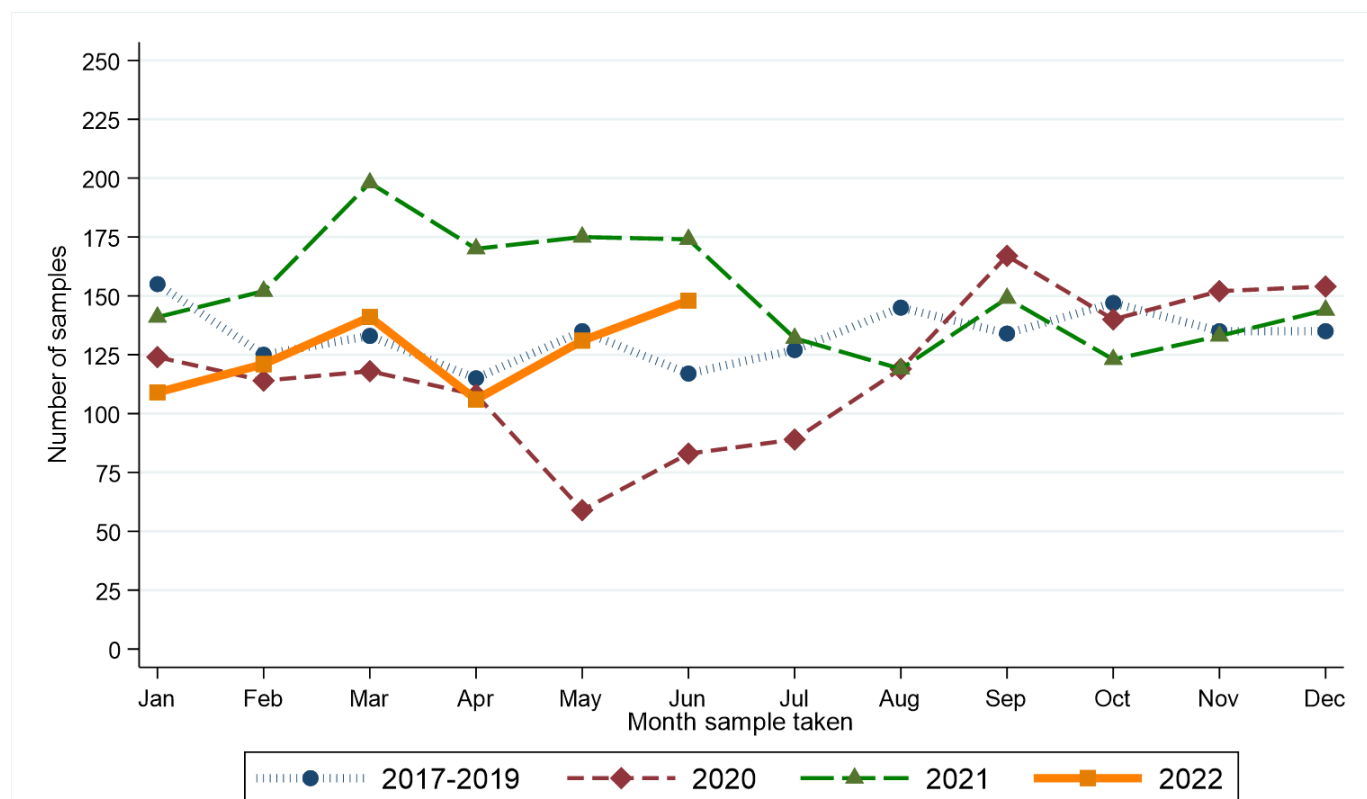**Percentage change from March 2020 to June 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average**

+1.3%

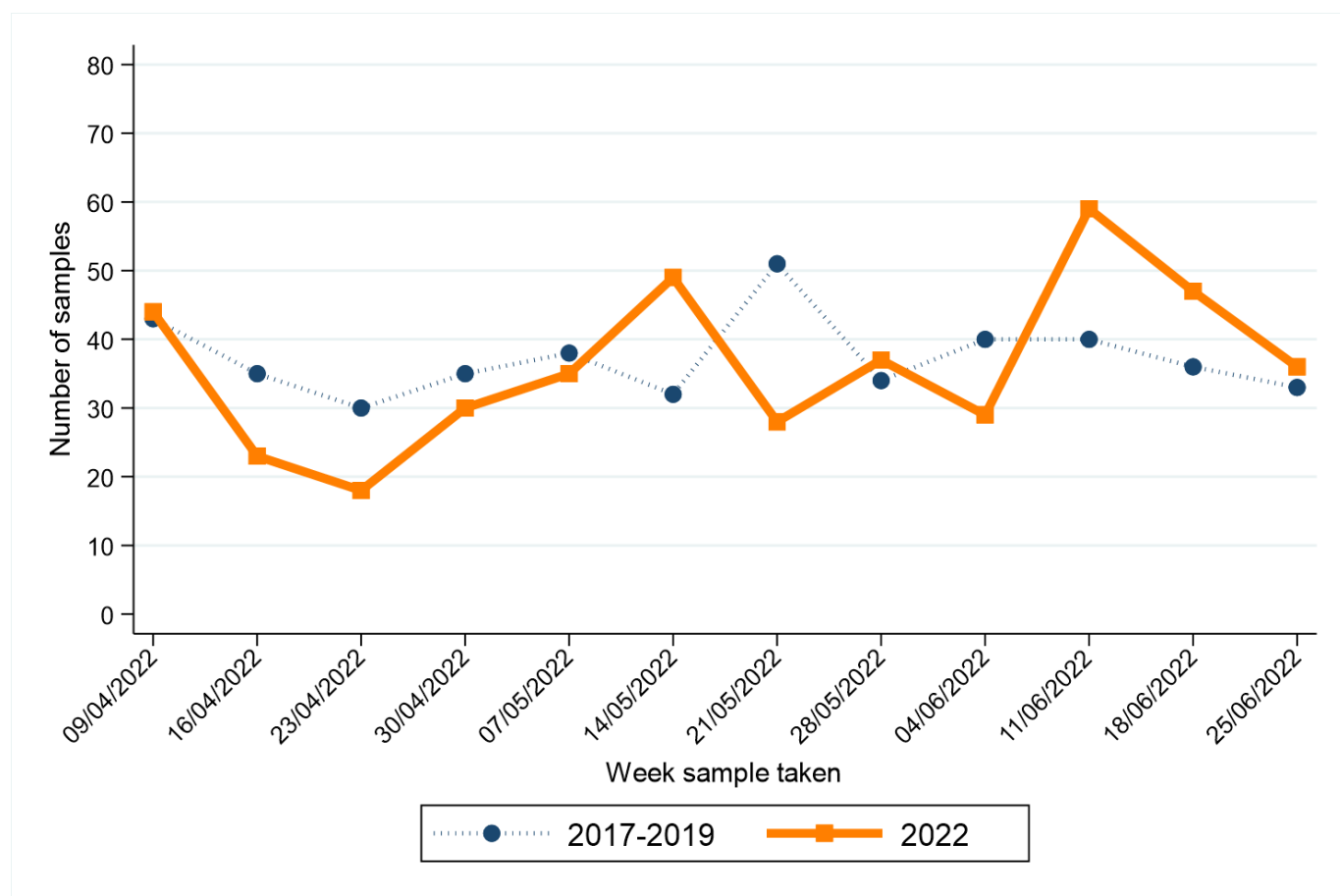| Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	155	124	141	109
Feb	125	114	152	121
Mar	133	118	198	141
Apr	115	108	170	106
May	135	59	175	131
Jun	117	83	174	148
Jul	127	89	132	.
Aug	145	119	119	.
Sep	134	167	149	.
Oct	147	140	123	.
Nov	135	152	133	.
Dec	135	154	144	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-2.7%

Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
09/04/2022	43	44
16/04/2022	35	23
23/04/2022	30	18
30/04/2022	35	30
07/05/2022	38	35
14/05/2022	32	49
21/05/2022	51	28
28/05/2022	34	37
04/06/2022	40	29
11/06/2022	40	59
18/06/2022	36	47
25/06/2022	33	36

*Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.*

*** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.*

PROSTATE CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to June 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-7.8%
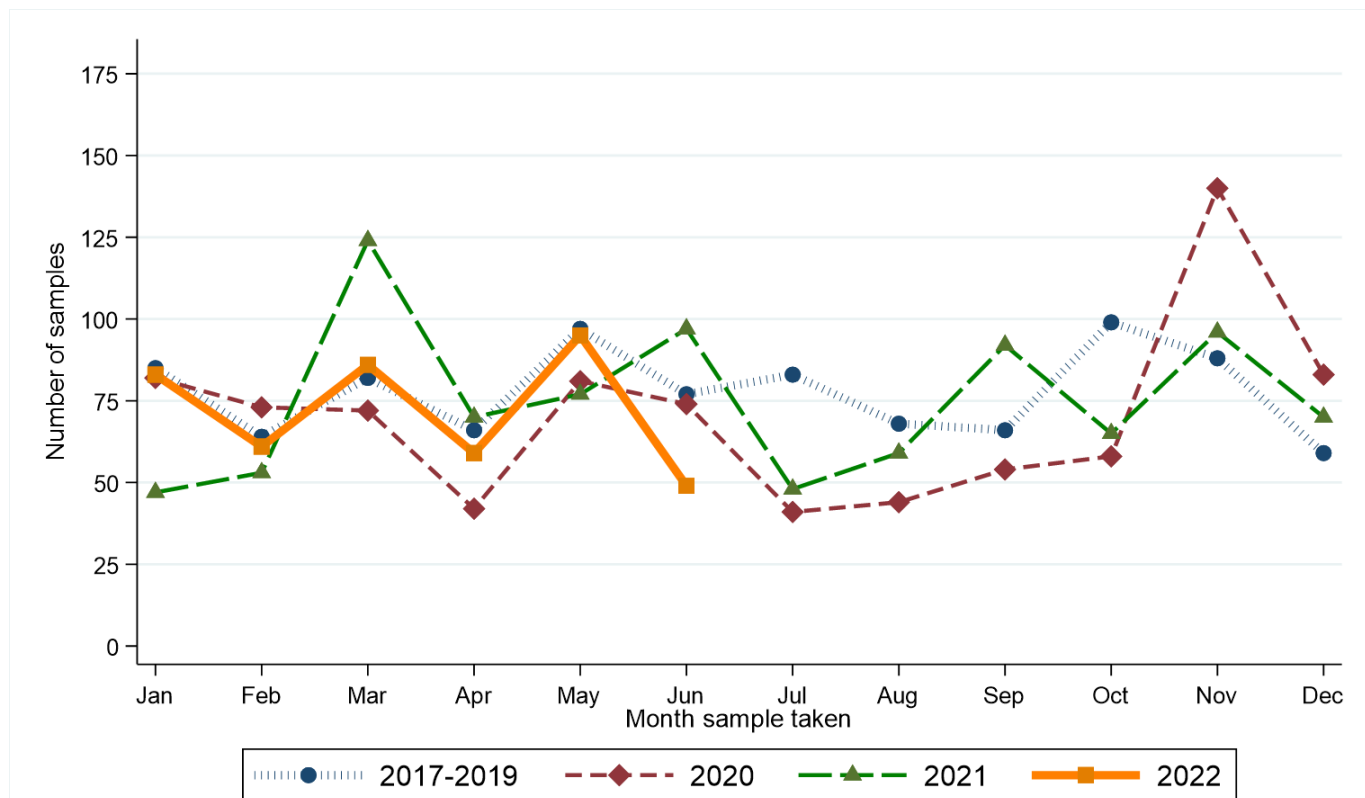
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	85	82	47	83
Feb	64	73	53	61
Mar	82	72	124	86
Apr	66	42	70	59
May	97	81	77	95
Jun	77	74	97	49
Jul	83	41	48	.
Aug	68	44	59	.
Sep	66	54	92	.
Oct	99	58	65	.
Nov	88	140	96	.
Dec	59	83	70	.

Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-12.0%
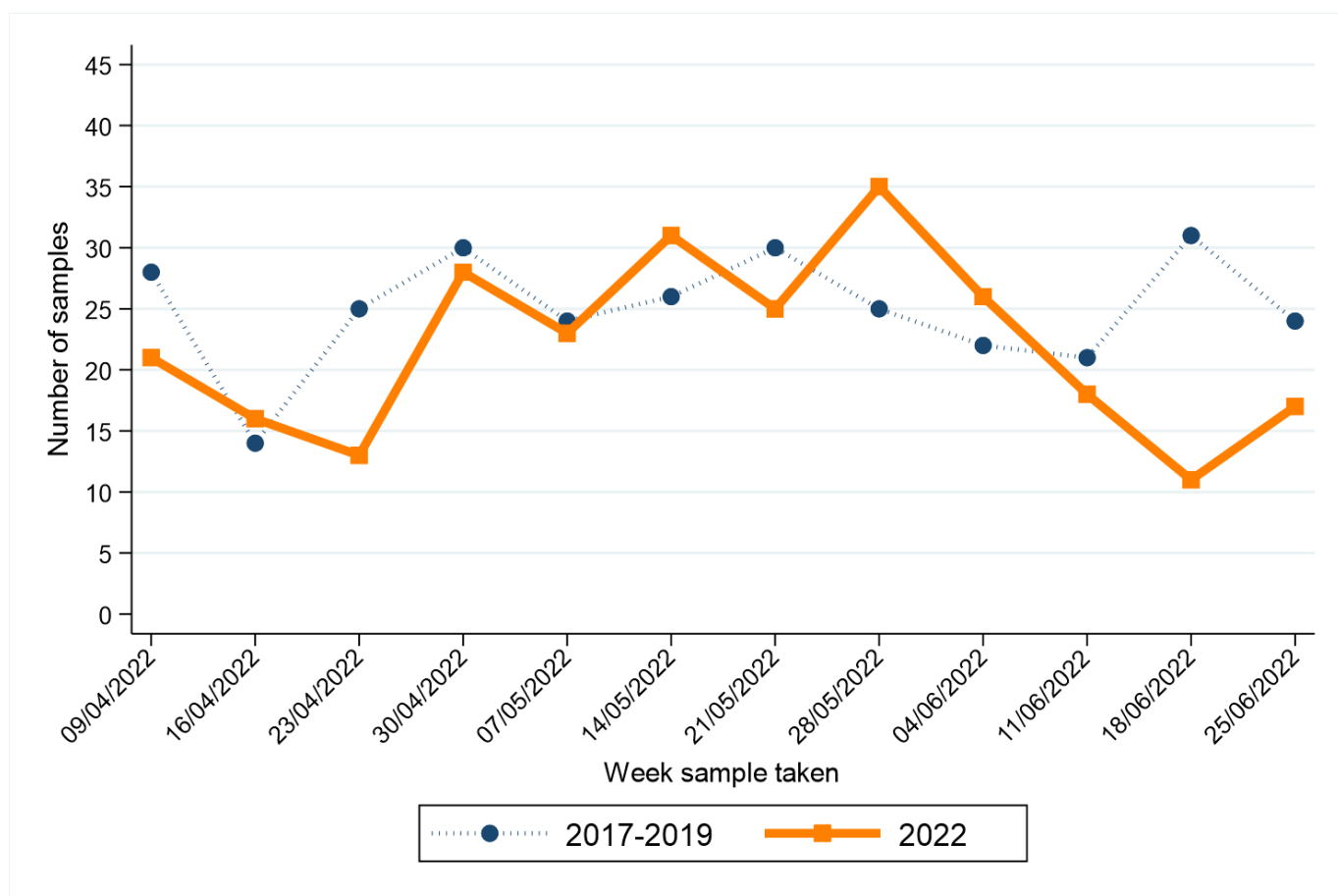
Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
09/04/2022	28	21
16/04/2022	14	16
23/04/2022	25	13
30/04/2022	30	28
07/05/2022	24	23
14/05/2022	26	31
21/05/2022	30	25
28/05/2022	25	35
04/06/2022	22	26
11/06/2022	21	18
18/06/2022	31	11
25/06/2022	24	17

Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

*** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.*

UPPER GASTROINTESTINAL CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

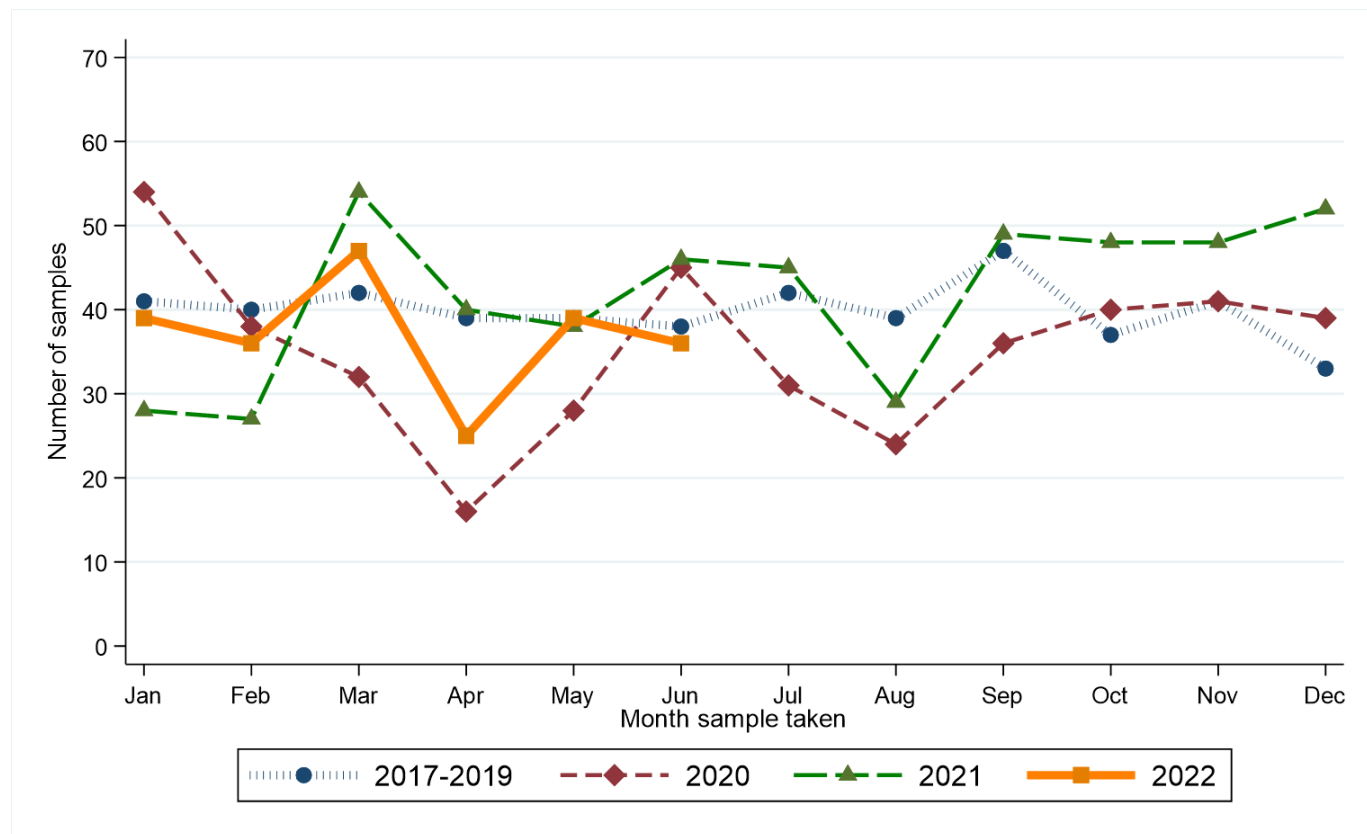**Percentage change from March 2020 to June 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average**

-5.0%

Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**
Jan	41	54	28	39
Feb	40	38	27	36
Mar	42	32	54	47
Apr	39	16	40	25
May	39	28	38	39
Jun	38	45	46	36
Jul	42	31	45	.
Aug	39	24	29	.
Sep	47	36	49	.
Oct	37	40	48	.
Nov	41	41	48	.
Dec	33	39	52	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-19.4%
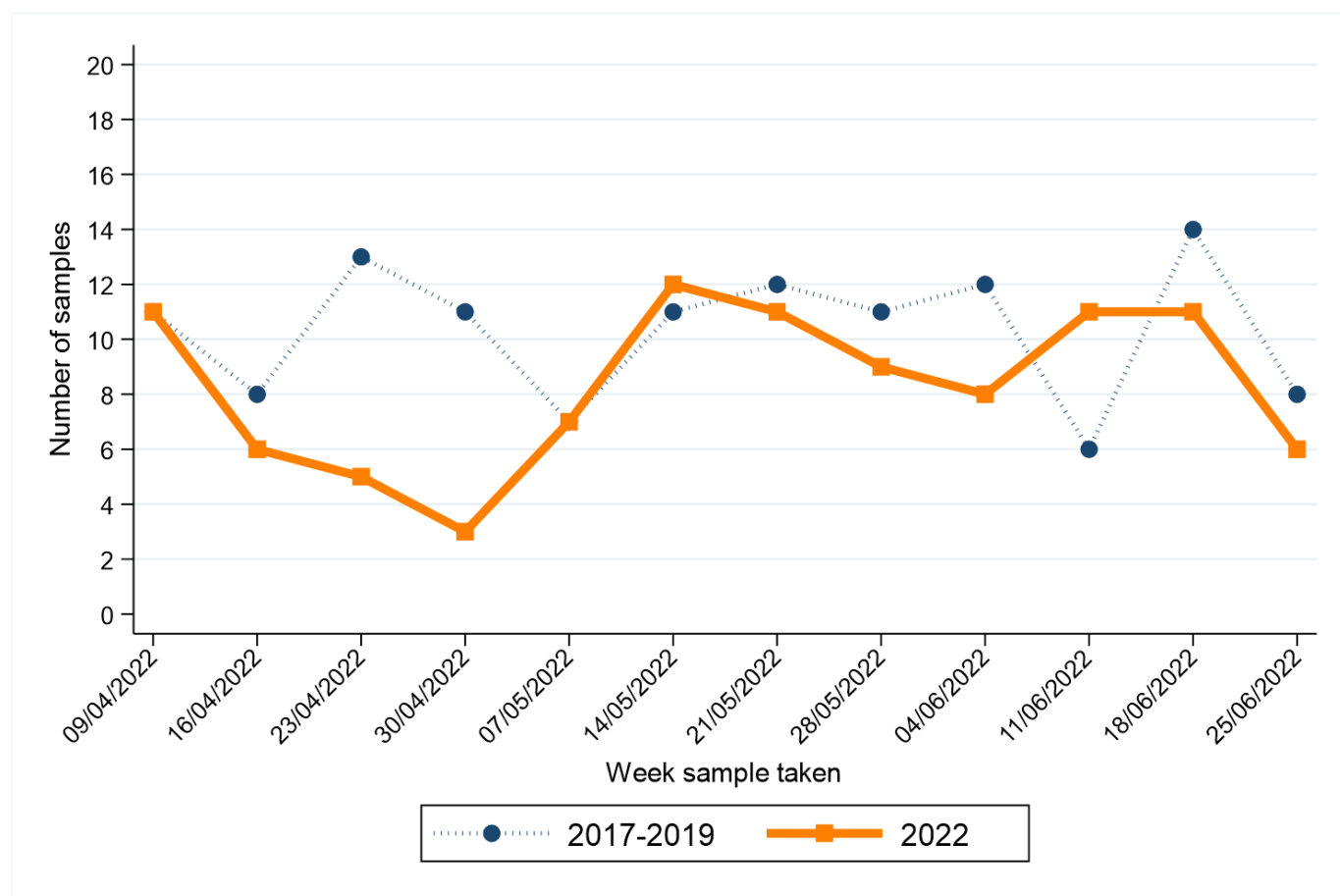
Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
09/04/2022	11	11
16/04/2022	8	6
23/04/2022	13	5
30/04/2022	11	3
07/05/2022	7	7
14/05/2022	11	12
21/05/2022	12	11
28/05/2022	11	9
04/06/2022	12	8
11/06/2022	6	11
18/06/2022	14	11
25/06/2022	8	6

Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

*** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.*

GYNAECOLOGICAL CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

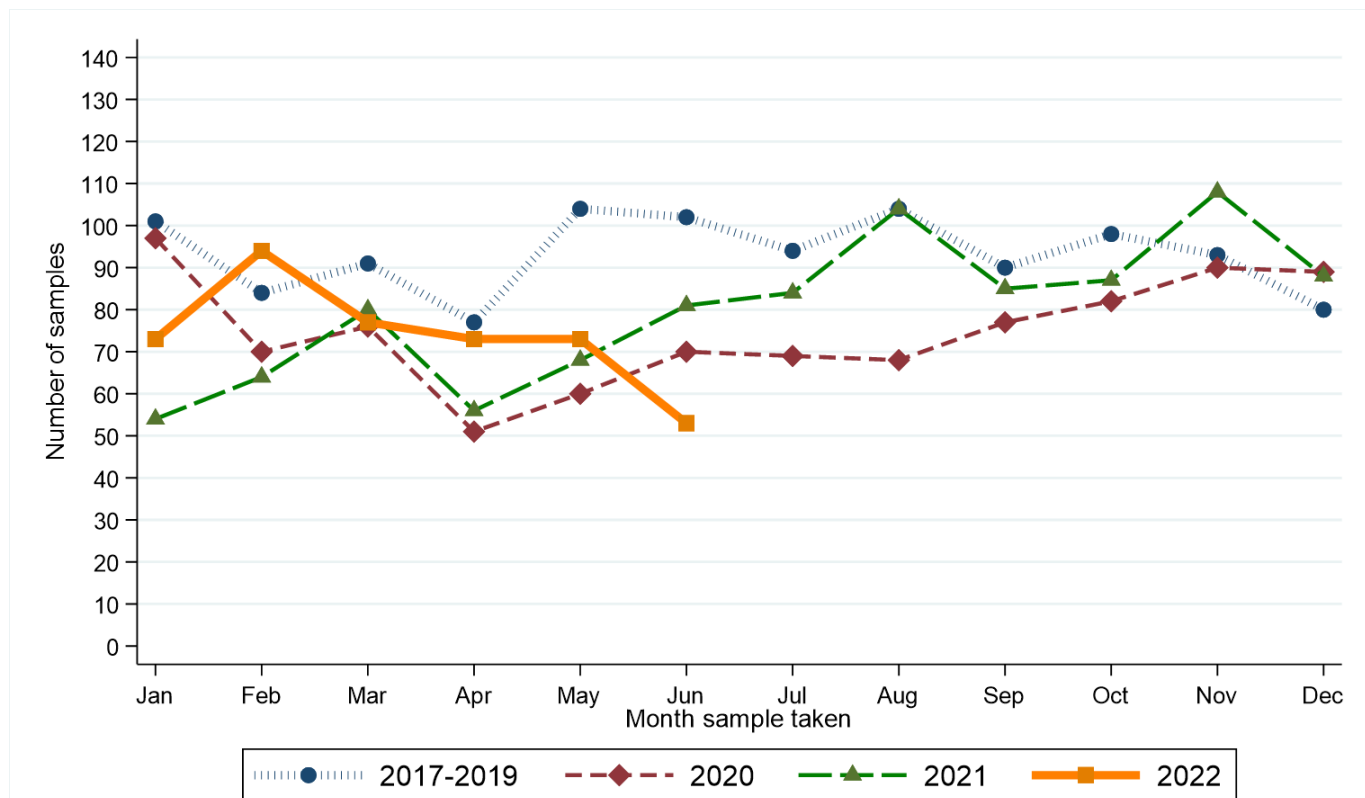### Percentage change from March 2020 to June 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-18.2%

Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	101	97	54	73
Feb	84	70	64	94
Mar	91	76	80	77
Apr	77	51	56	73
May	104	60	68	73
Jun	102	70	81	53
Jul	94	69	84	.
Aug	104	68	104	.
Sep	90	77	85	.
Oct	98	82	87	.
Nov	93	90	108	.
Dec	80	89	88	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-28.0%
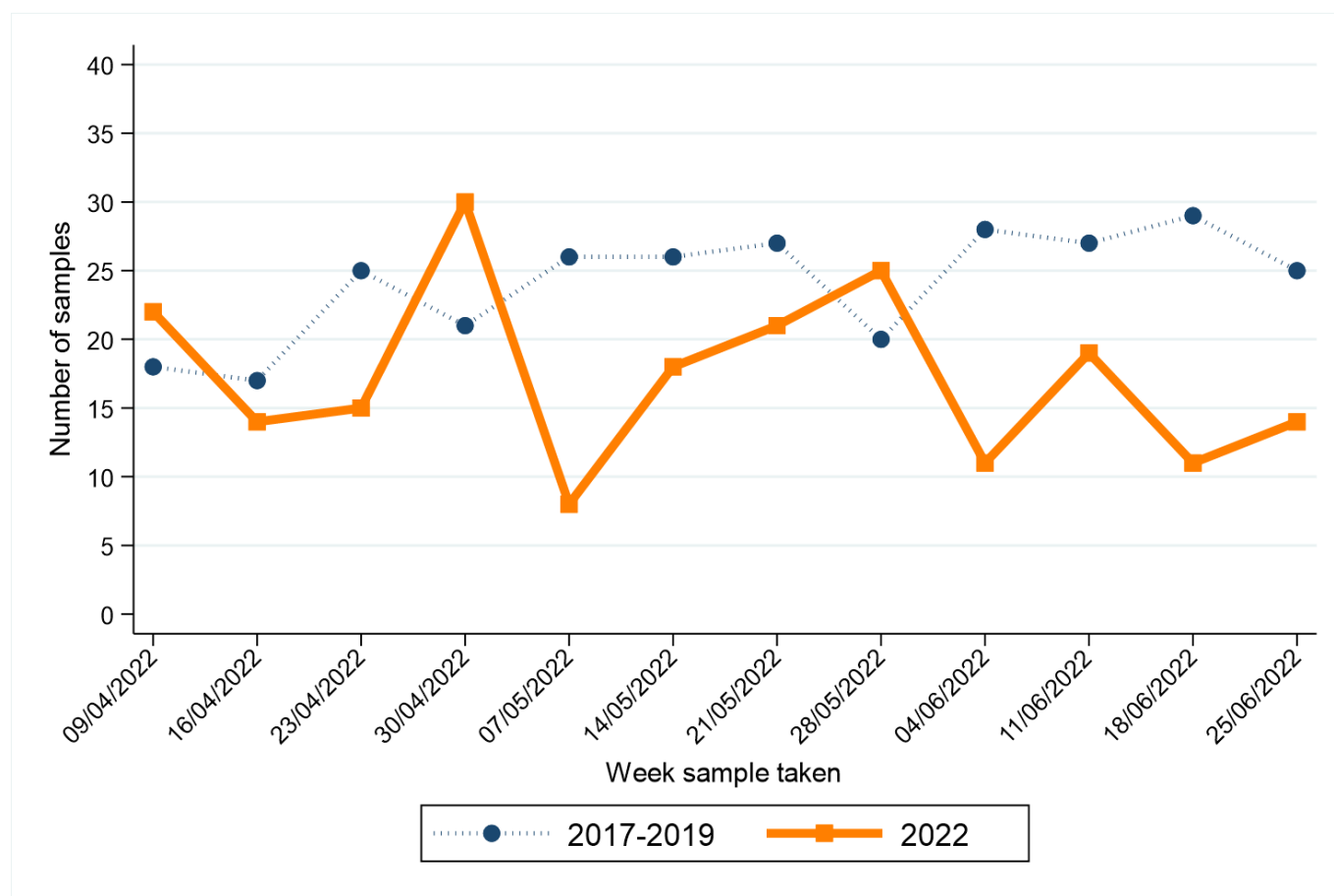
Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
09/04/2022	18	22
16/04/2022	17	14
23/04/2022	25	15
30/04/2022	21	30
07/05/2022	26	8
14/05/2022	26	18
21/05/2022	27	21
28/05/2022	20	25
04/06/2022	28	11
11/06/2022	27	19
18/06/2022	29	11
25/06/2022	25	14

Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

*** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.*

HEAD AND NECK CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

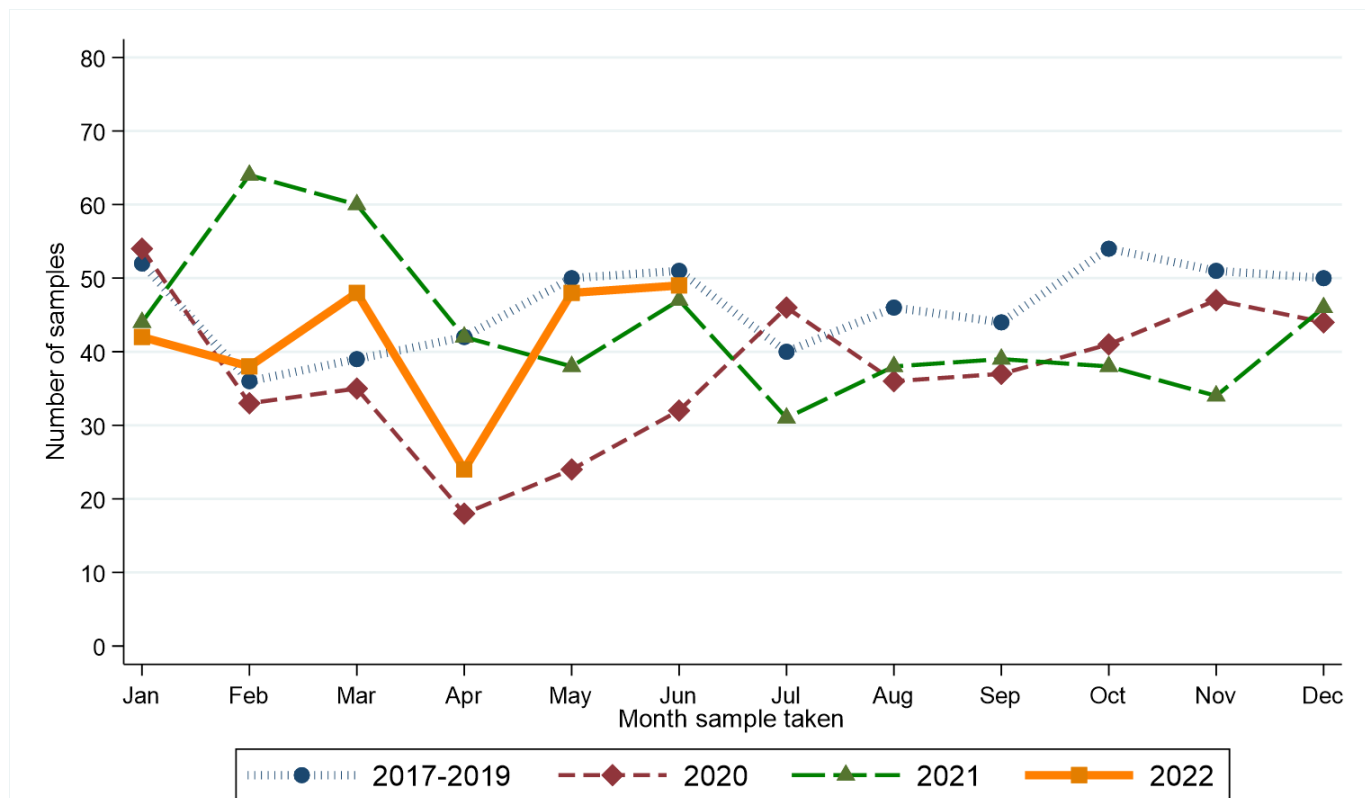**Percentage change from March 2020 to June 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average**

-12.5%

Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	52	54	44	42
Feb	36	33	64	38
Mar	39	35	60	48
Apr	42	18	42	24
May	50	24	38	48
Jun	51	32	47	49
Jul	40	46	31	.
Aug	46	36	38	.
Sep	44	37	39	.
Oct	54	41	38	.
Nov	51	47	34	.
Dec	50	44	46	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-12.5%
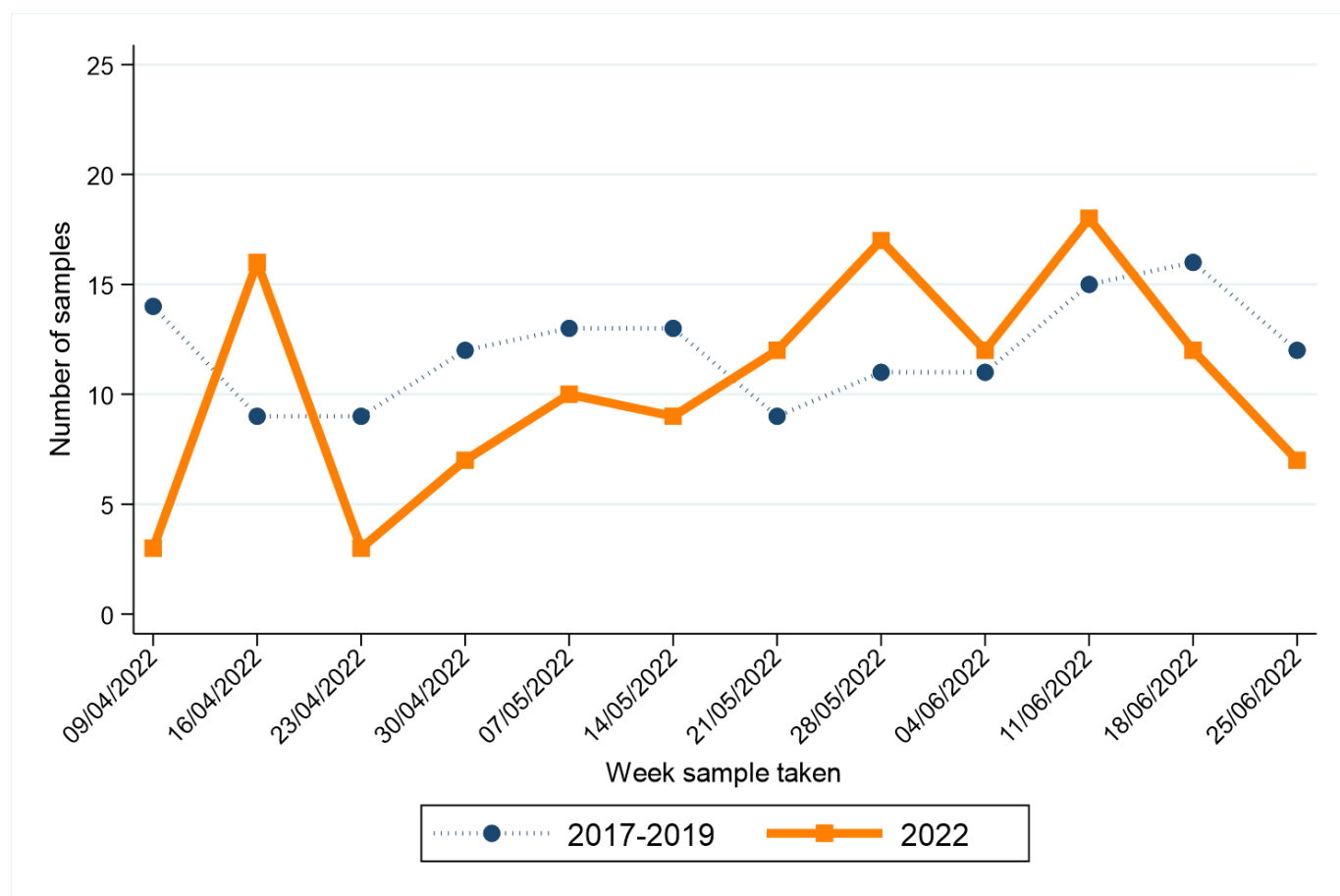
Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
09/04/2022	14	3
16/04/2022	9	16
23/04/2022	9	3
30/04/2022	12	7
07/05/2022	13	10
14/05/2022	13	9
21/05/2022	9	12
28/05/2022	11	17
04/06/2022	11	12
11/06/2022	15	18
18/06/2022	16	12
25/06/2022	12	7

** Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.*

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

URINARY CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to June 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-6.9%
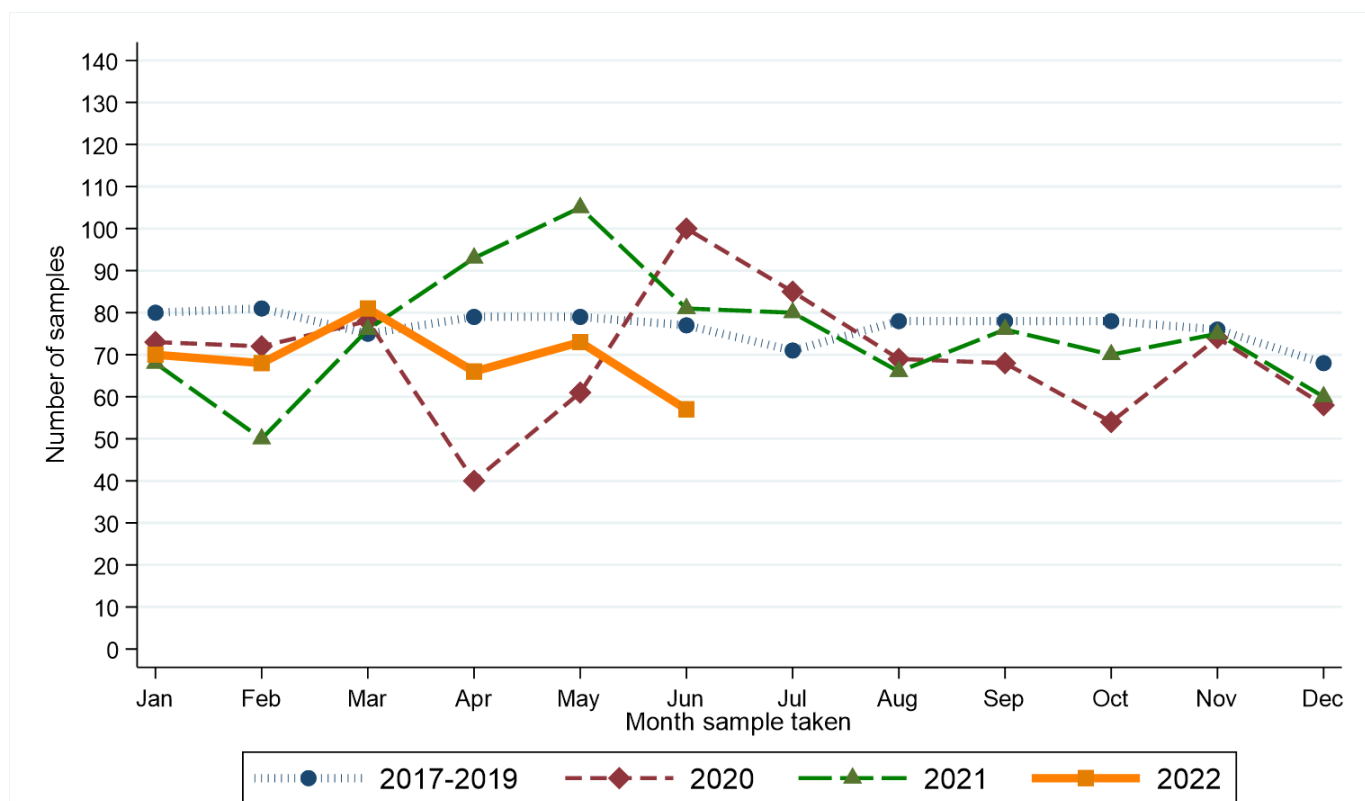
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**
Jan	80	73	68	70
Feb	81	72	50	68
Mar	75	78	76	81
Apr	79	40	93	66
May	79	61	105	73
Jun	77	100	81	57
Jul	71	85	80	.
Aug	78	69	66	.
Sep	78	68	76	.
Oct	78	54	70	.
Nov	76	74	75	.
Dec	68	58	60	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-6.1%
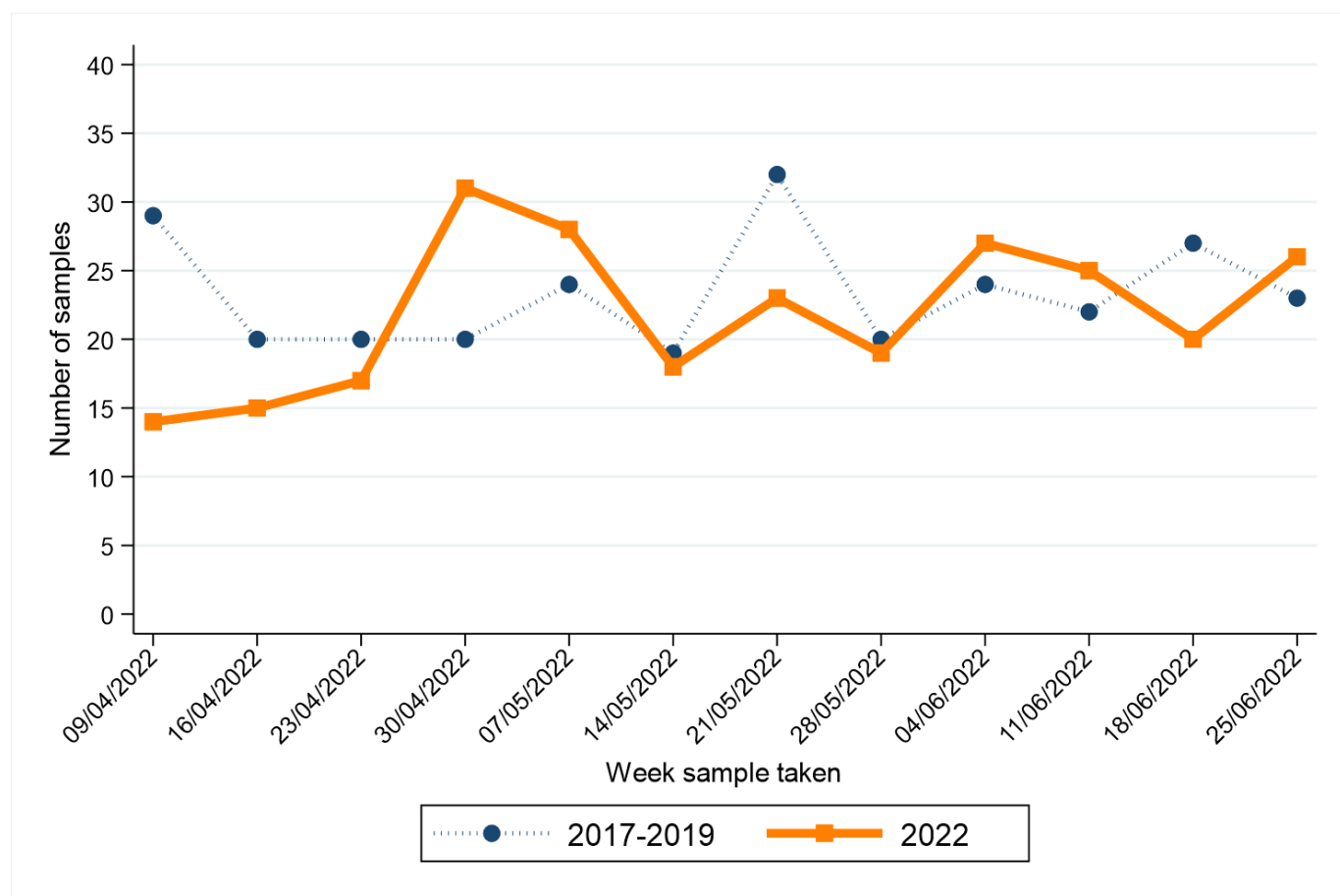
Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
09/04/2022	29	14
16/04/2022	20	15
23/04/2022	20	17
30/04/2022	20	31
07/05/2022	24	28
14/05/2022	19	18
21/05/2022	32	23
28/05/2022	20	19
04/06/2022	24	27
11/06/2022	22	25
18/06/2022	27	20
25/06/2022	23	26

Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

HAEMATOLOGICAL CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

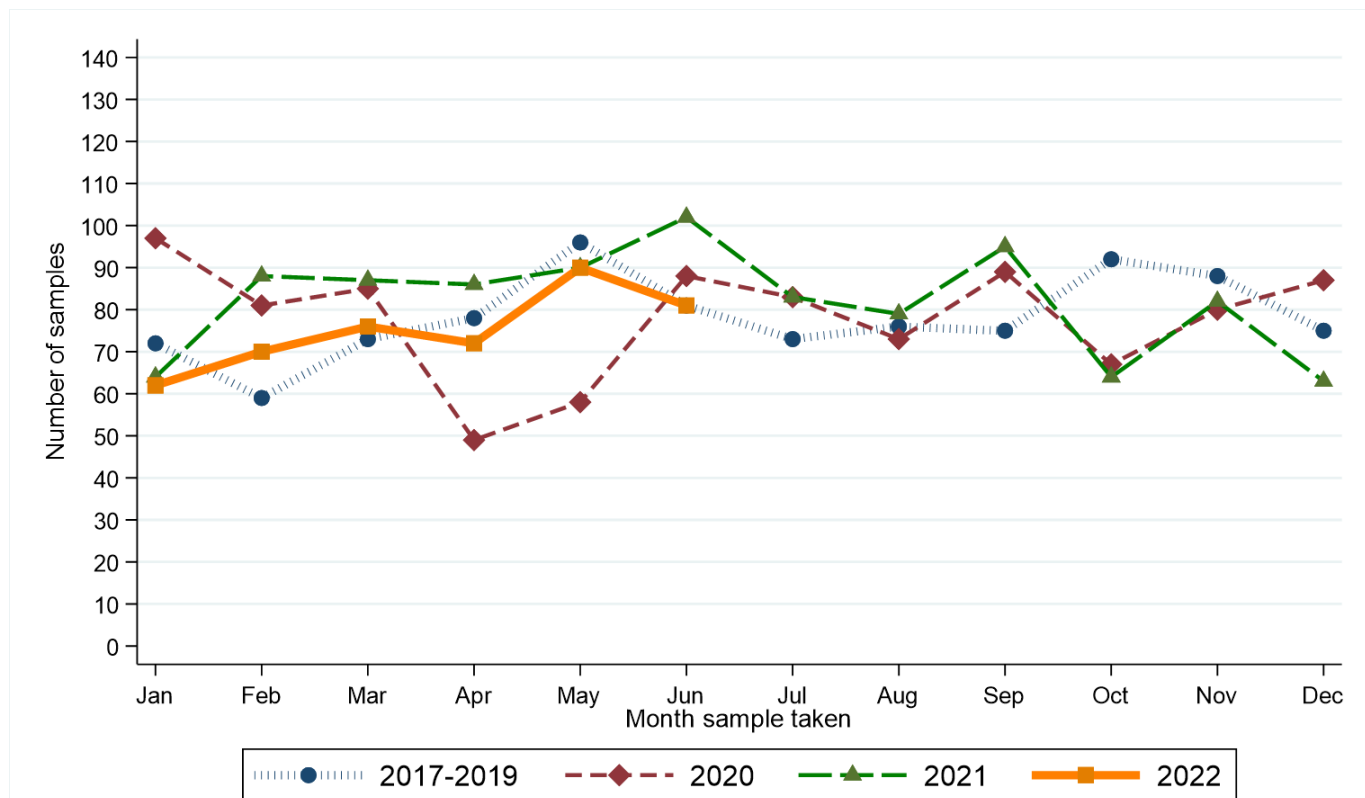### Percentage change from March 2020 to June 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-0.5%

Month sample	Year sample taken			
taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	72	97	64	62
Feb	59	81	88	70
Mar	73	85	87	76
Apr	78	49	86	72
May	96	58	90	90
Jun	81	88	102	81
Jul	73	83	83	.
Aug	76	73	79	.
Sep	75	89	95	.
Oct	92	67	64	.
Nov	88	80	82	.
Dec	75	87	63	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-6.8%
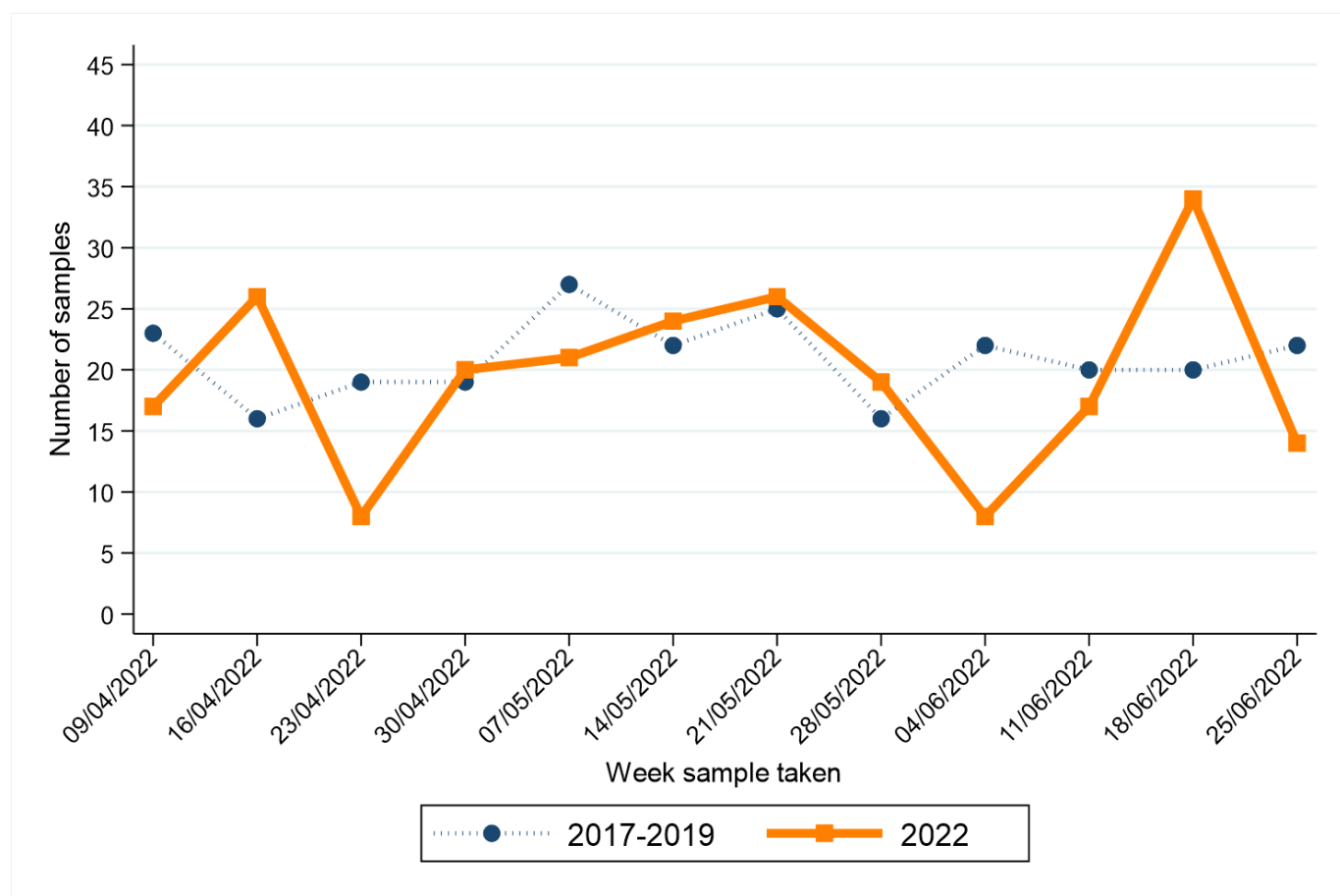
Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
09/04/2022	23	17
16/04/2022	16	26
23/04/2022	19	8
30/04/2022	19	20
07/05/2022	27	21
14/05/2022	22	24
21/05/2022	25	26
28/05/2022	16	19
04/06/2022	22	8
11/06/2022	20	17
18/06/2022	20	34
25/06/2022	22	14

Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

*** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.*

MELANOMA

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

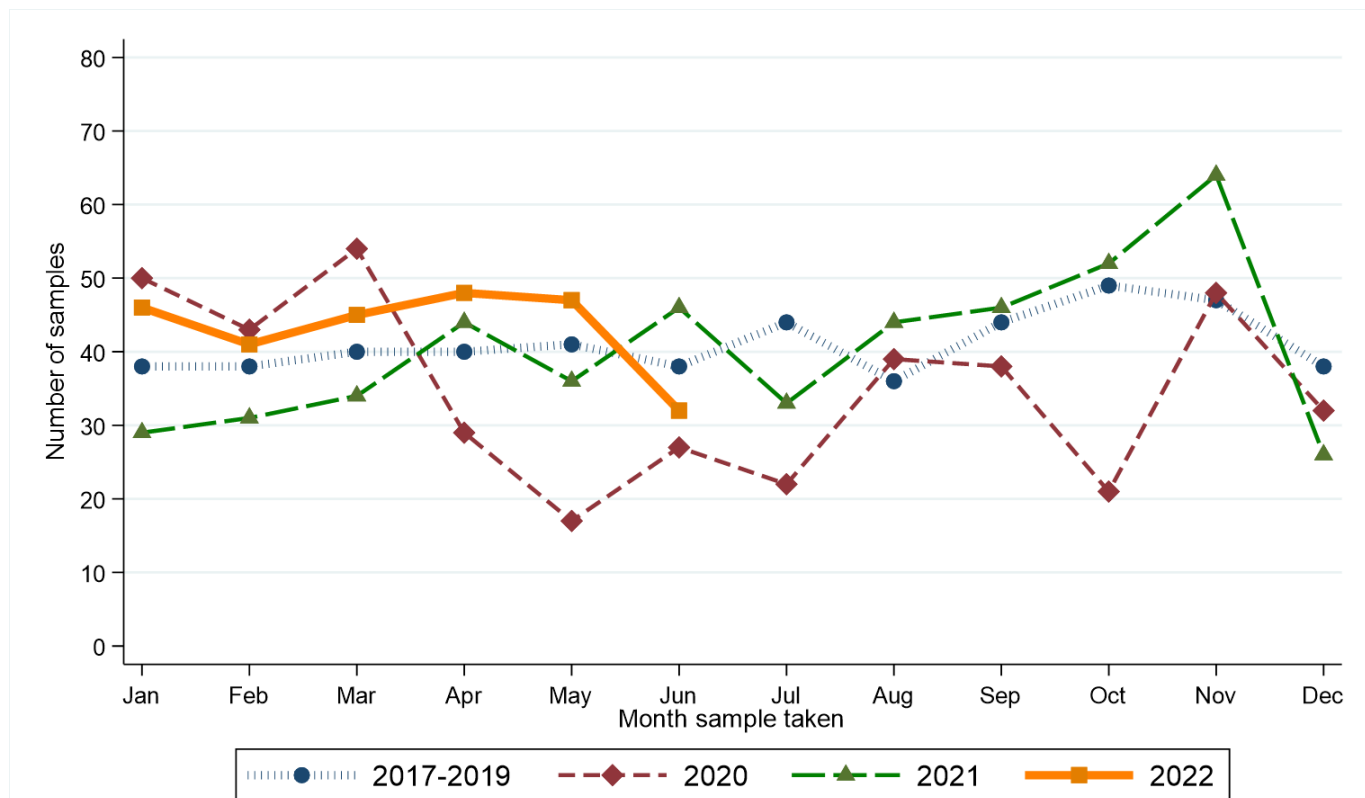**Percentage change from March 2020 to June 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average**

-6.5%

Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**
Jan	38	50	29	46
Feb	38	43	31	41
Mar	40	54	34	45
Apr	40	29	44	48
May	41	17	36	47
Jun	38	27	46	32
Jul	44	22	33	.
Aug	36	39	44	.
Sep	44	38	46	.
Oct	49	21	52	.
Nov	47	48	64	.
Dec	38	32	26	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+7.2%
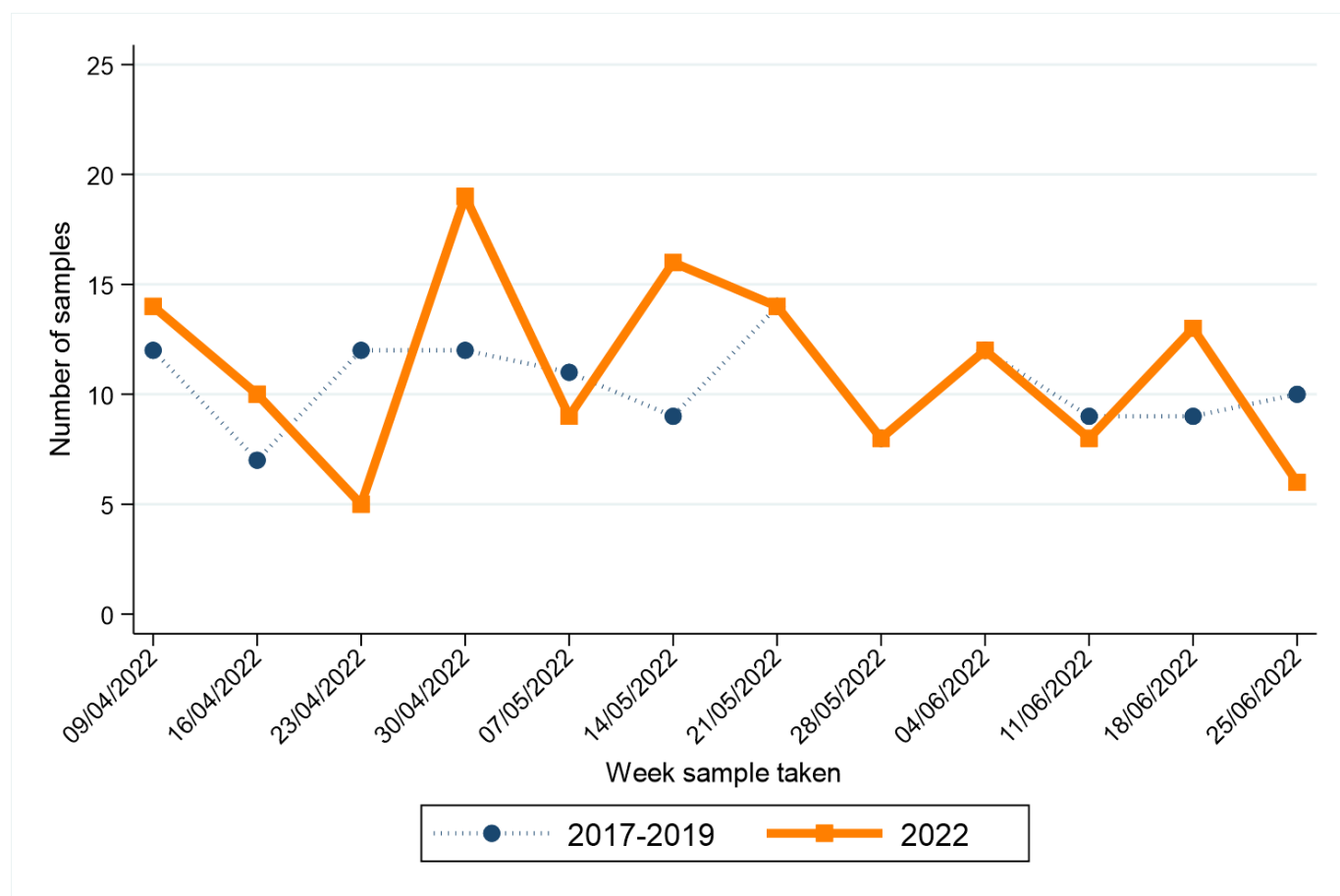
Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
09/04/2022	12	14
16/04/2022	7	10
23/04/2022	12	5
30/04/2022	12	19
07/05/2022	11	9
14/05/2022	9	16
21/05/2022	14	14
28/05/2022	8	8
04/06/2022	12	12
11/06/2022	9	8
18/06/2022	9	13
25/06/2022	10	6

*Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.*

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

NON-MELANOMA SKIN CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to June 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-25.5%
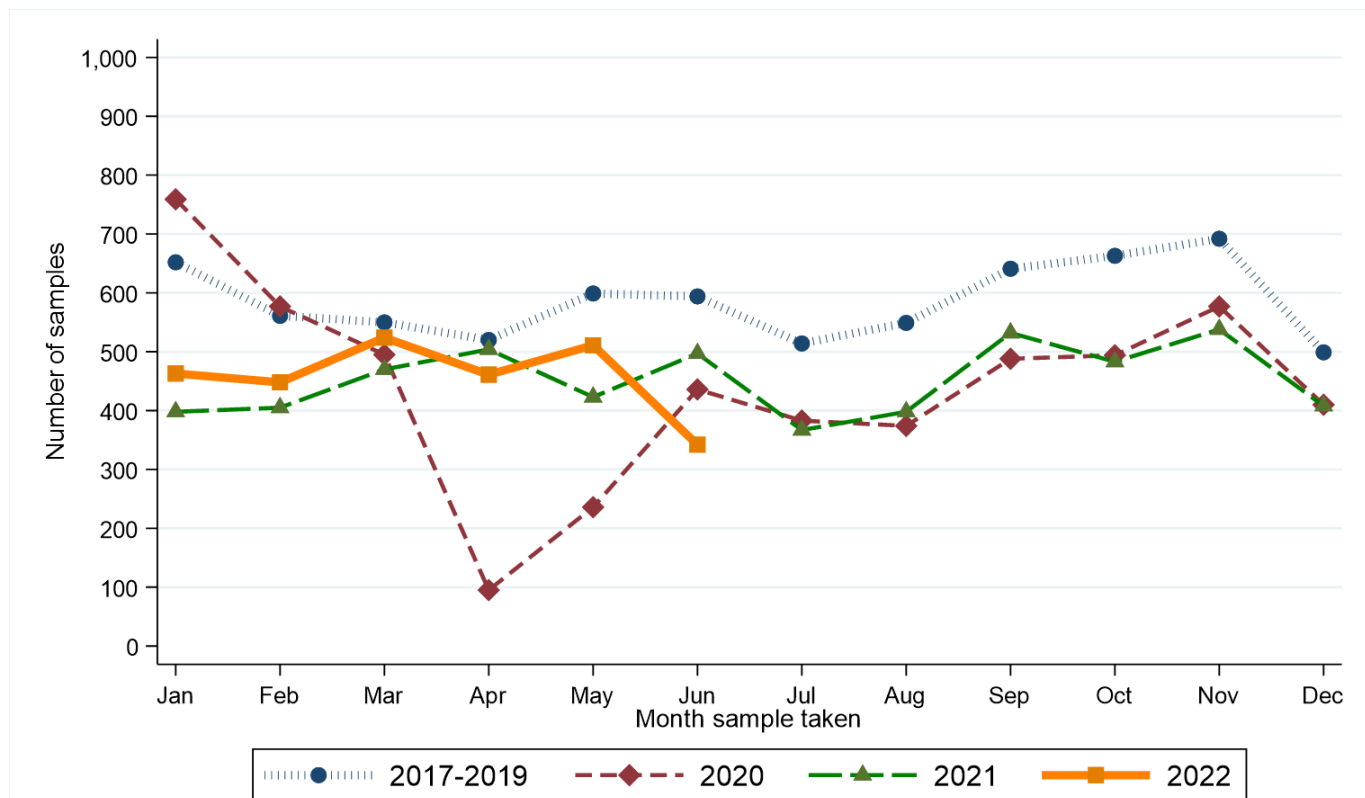
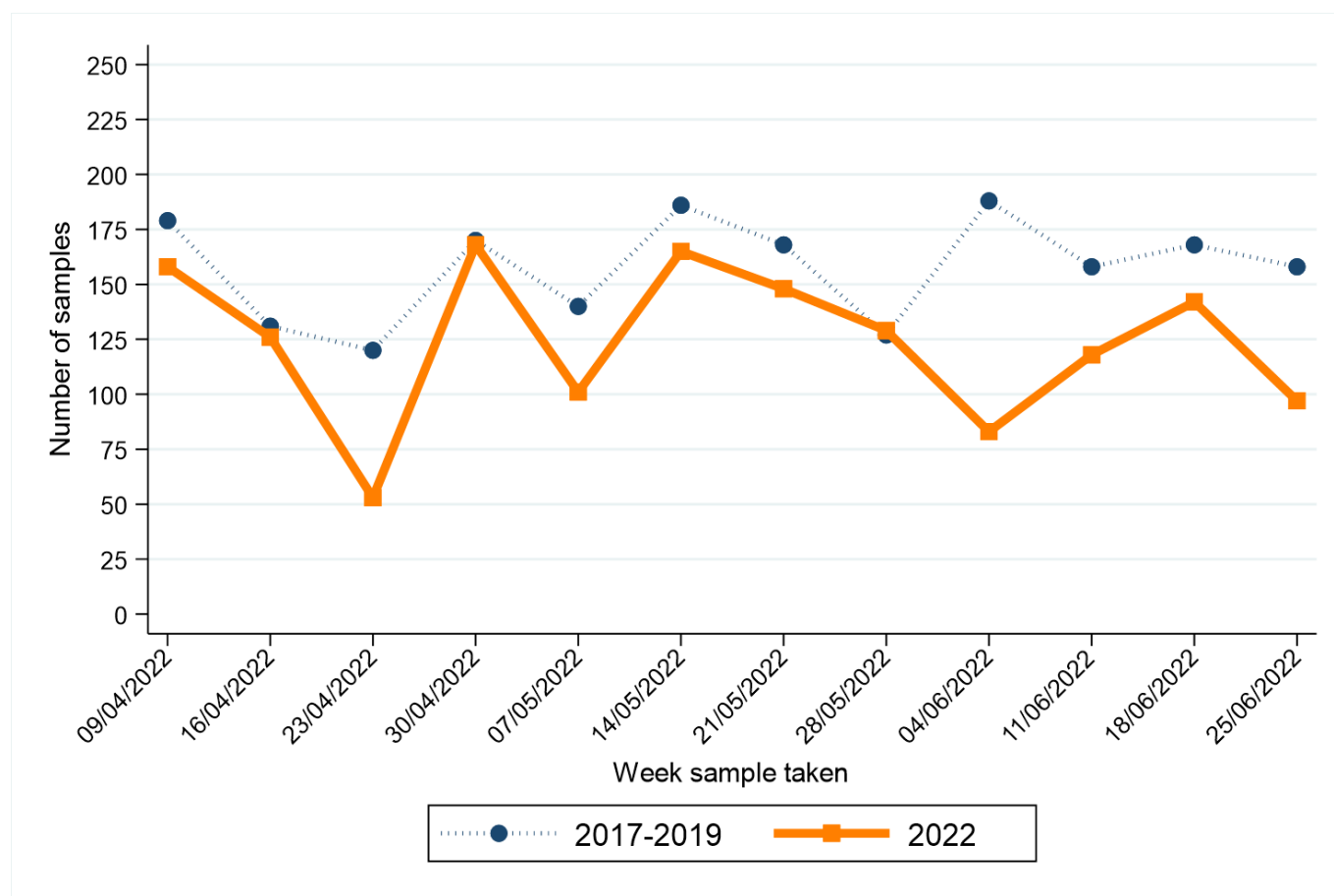| Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**
Jan	652	759	398	463
Feb	561	577	405	448
Mar	550	495	470	524
Apr	520	95	504	461
May	599	236	423	511
Jun	594	436	497	342
Jul	514	383	367	.
Aug	549	374	398	.
Sep	641	488	532	.
Oct	663	494	483	.
Nov	692	577	538	.
Dec	499	410	408	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-21.4%

Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
09/04/2022	179	158
16/04/2022	131	126
23/04/2022	120	53
30/04/2022	170	168
07/05/2022	140	101
14/05/2022	186	165
21/05/2022	168	148
28/05/2022	127	129
04/06/2022	188	83
11/06/2022	158	118
18/06/2022	168	142
25/06/2022	158	97

*Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.*

*** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.*

OTHER CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to June 2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

## +1.0%
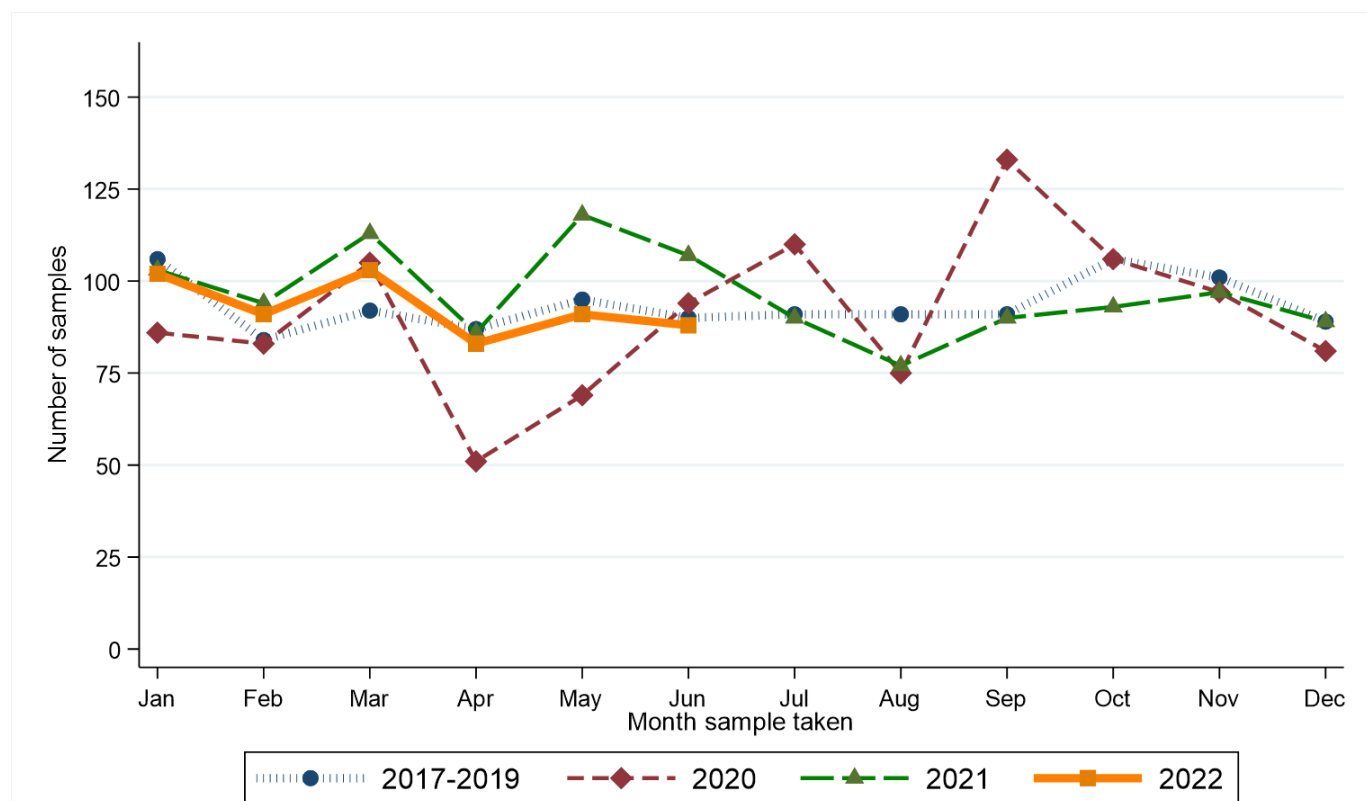
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**
Jan	106	86	103	102
Feb	84	83	94	91
Mar	92	105	113	103
Apr	87	51	86	83
May	95	69	118	91
Jun	90	94	107	88
Jul	91	110	90	.
Aug	91	75	77	.
Sep	91	133	90	.
Oct	106	106	93	.
Nov	101	97	97	.
Dec	89	81	89	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 25/06/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-1.8%
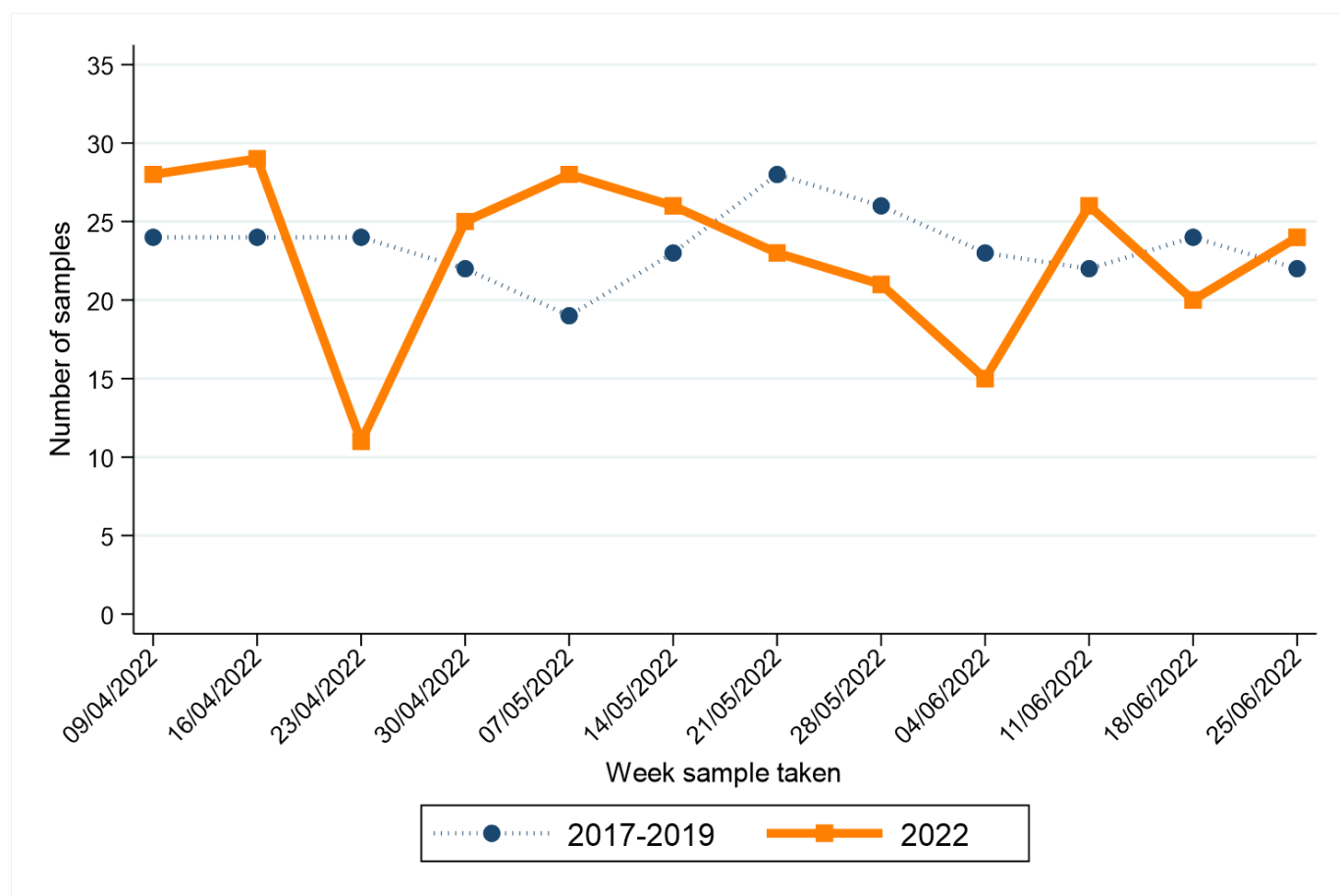
Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
09/04/2022	24	28
16/04/2022	24	29
23/04/2022	24	11
30/04/2022	22	25
07/05/2022	19	28
14/05/2022	23	26
21/05/2022	28	23
28/05/2022	26	21
04/06/2022	23	15
11/06/2022	22	26
18/06/2022	24	20
25/06/2022	22	24

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

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 that indicated a malignant tumour and had this result coded and recorded by the end of June 2022. Due to potential reporting delays, pathology data from the month following June 2022 are used in compiling the presented results.

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 (a Saturday) in 2021-2022. This is compared with the equivalent Sunday-Saturday week in 2017-2019, although the actual date ending this week in 2017-2019 will differ.

5. Cancer types are defined as follows:

> **Bowel cancer:** Includes colon, rectum and rectosigmoid junction (ICD10 codes: C18-C20).
> **Lung cancer:** Includes lung and trachea (ICD10 codes: C33-C34).
> **Breast cancer:** Includes female breast only (ICD10 codes: C50).
> **Prostate cancer:** (ICD10 codes: C61).
> **Gynaecological cancer:** Includes uterus, ovary, cervix, vulva, vagina, placenta and other female genital (ICD10 codes: C51-C58).
> **Upper GI cancer:** Includes oesophagus and stomach (ICD10 codes: C15, C16).
> **Head and neck cancer:** 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).
> **Urinary cancer:** Includes kidney, renal pelvis, ureter, bladder and other urinary (ICD10 codes: C64-C68).
> **Haematological cancer:** Includes lymphoma (all types), leukaemia (all types), myeloma, malignant immunoproliferative disease and other lymphoid and haematopoietic (ICD10 codes: C81-C96).
> **Melanoma:** (ICD10 code: C43).
> **Non-melanoma skin cancer (NMSC):** (ICD10 code: C44).
> **Other cancer:** 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.