

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

January 2021 Update

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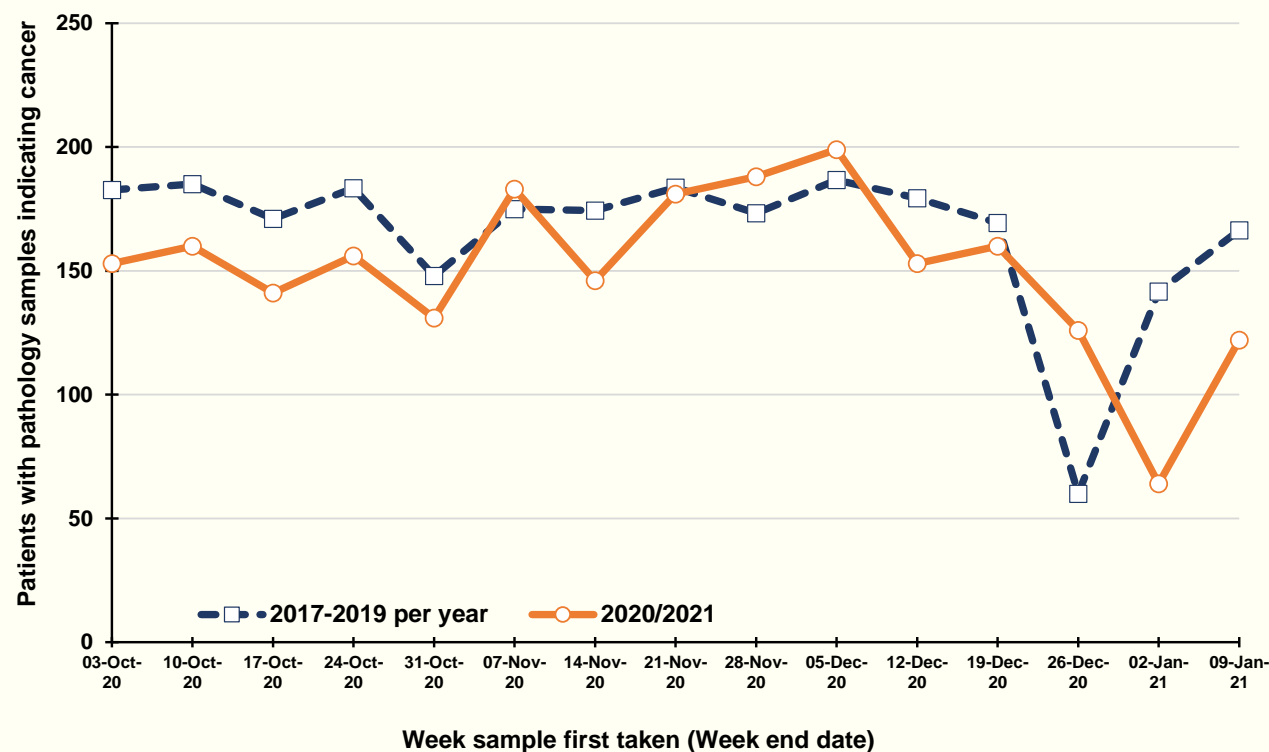
## SUMMARY

### Recent trends in the number of patients with pathology samples indicating cancer: Jan-21

- 1) This summary provides an overview of recent trends in the number of patients with pathology samples indicating cancer (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer, NMSC) whose first sample was taken from 01-Jan-20 to the week ending 09-Jan-21 in Northern Ireland.
- 2) These trends are contrasted with the annual average number of patients with 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 patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

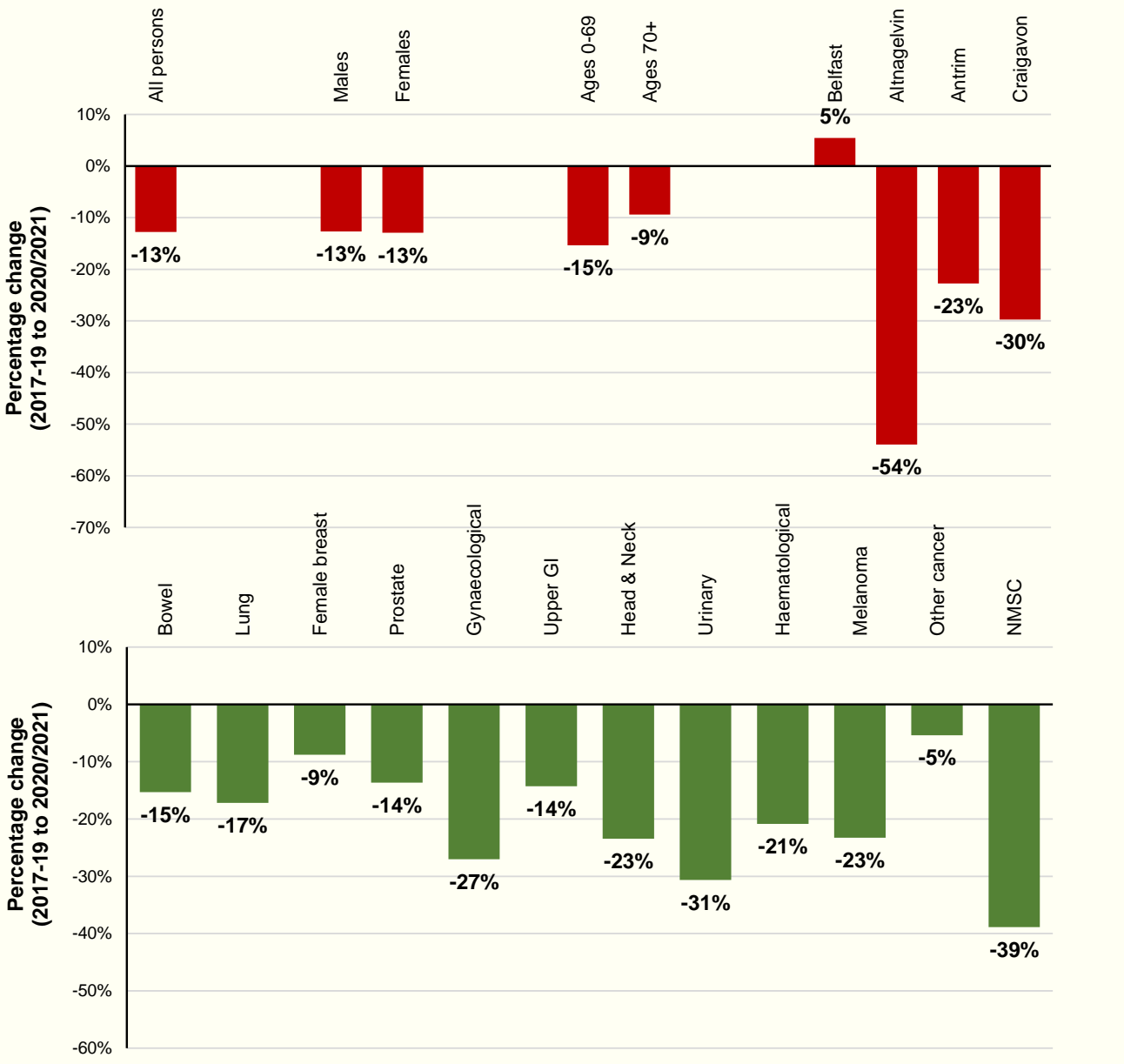
- 4) From 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21 the number of patients with a pathological sample indicating cancer was 16% lower than the average number for the same time period in 2017-2019.
- 5) Based upon the monthly trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, there was an estimated shortfall of 1,280 patients during Mar-20 to Dec-20 compared to the expected number. Some of these "missing" patients may have a clinical only diagnosis (e.g. as a result of an emergency hospital admission).



**Percentage change from 2017-2019 to 2020/2021 in the number of patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, first taken in the weeks ending 12-Dec-20 to 09-Jan-21**

**6) Patient demographics**

There was a 13% reduction in the number of patients with a pathology sample indicating cancer in the weeks ending 12-Dec-20 to 09-Jan-21 compared to the average value in the equivalent weeks in 2017-2019. There was a 13% decrease among males and a 13% decrease among females. A decrease of 15% was recorded in the number of patients aged 0-69 years, while a decrease of 9% occurred in the number aged 70 and older. Reductions were greatest in Altnagelvin (54%), with decreases also apparent in Craigavon (30%) and Antrim (23%).



**7) Cancer type**

Compared to the annual average in 2017-2019, the number of patients with a pathology sample indicating bowel cancer in the weeks ending 12-Dec-20 to 09-Jan-21 decreased by 15%, while those indicating lung cancer decreased by 17%, those indicating prostate cancer decreased by 14% and those indicating breast cancer decreased by 9%. Decreases of more than 20% occurred for gynaecological cancer, head & neck cancer, urinary cancer, haematological cancer and melanoma.

**Percentage change from 2017-2019 to 2020/2021 in the number of patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, and estimates of the number of "missed" patients in 2020/2021: Patient demographics**

Patient demographics	Percentage change from 2017-2019 to 2020/2021 in the number of patients with pathology samples indicating cancer		Estimated number of "missed" patients
	Weeks ending 12-Dec-20 to 09-Jan-21	Weeks ending 07-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21	At the end of Dec-20
All persons	-13%	-16%	1,280
<b><u>Gender</u></b>			
Males	-13%	-16%	600
Females	-13%	-17%	680
<b><u>Age</u></b>			
Ages 0-69	-15%	-16%	710
Ages 70+	-9%	-16%	560
<b><u>Pathology Lab</u></b>			
Belfast	5%	-9%	340
Altnagelvin	-54%	-24%	330
Antrim	-23%	-17%	130
Craigavon	-30%	-32%	460

**Notes:**  
 "Missed" patients may have a clinical only diagnosis (e.g. as a result of an emergency hospital admission).  
 "Missed" patients were calculated based upon the difference between the actual and expected number of patients recorded. The latter is determined using the trend in patients diagnosed pathologically from Jan 2017 to Feb 2020, and thus includes any expected increases (or decreases) as a result in annual changes in the number of cases diagnosed (e.g. as a result of population growth and/or ageing).

**Percentage change from 2017-2019 to 2020/2021 in the number of patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, and estimates of the number of "missed" patients in 2020/2021: Cancer type**

Cancer type	Percentage change from 2017-2019 to 2020/2021 in the number of patients with pathology samples indicating cancer		Estimated number of "missed" patients
	Weeks ending 12-Dec-20 to 09-Jan-21	Weeks ending 07-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21	At the end of Dec-20
All cancers (ex NMSC)	-13%	-16%	1,280
NMSC	-39%	-31%	1,510
Bowel	-15%	-16%	160
Lung	-17%	-26%	160
Female breast	-9%	-11%	120
Prostate	-14%	-12%	140
Gynaecological	-27%	-19%	100
Upper GI	-14%	-20%	70
Head & Neck	-23%	-21%	70
Urinary	-31%	-15%	50
Haematological	-21%	-8%	70
Melanoma	-23%	-25%	150
Other cancer	-5%	-1%	30
<u>Screening age</u>			
Bowel cancer (Ages 60-74)	-27%	-17%	120
Breast cancer (Ages 50-70)	-5%	-8%	30

**Notes:**

NMSC: Non-melanoma skin cancer; GI: Gastrointestinal

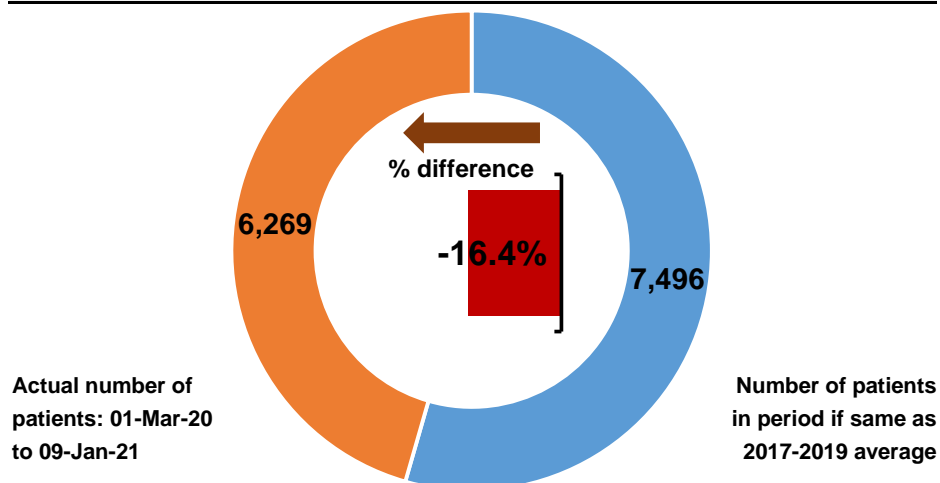
"Missed" patients may have a clinical only diagnosis (e.g. as a result of an emergency hospital admission).

"Missed" patients were calculated based upon the difference between the actual and expected number of patients recorded. The latter is determined using the trend in patients diagnosed pathologically from Jan 2017 to Feb 2020, and thus includes any expected increases (or decreases) as a result in annual changes in the number of cases diagnosed (e.g. as a result of population growth and/or ageing).

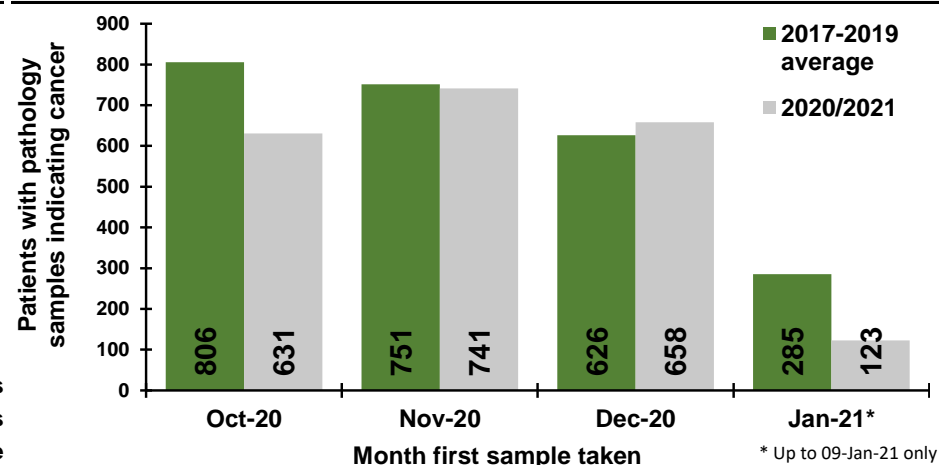
Other cancers excludes cancer of unknown primary.

## Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): All persons

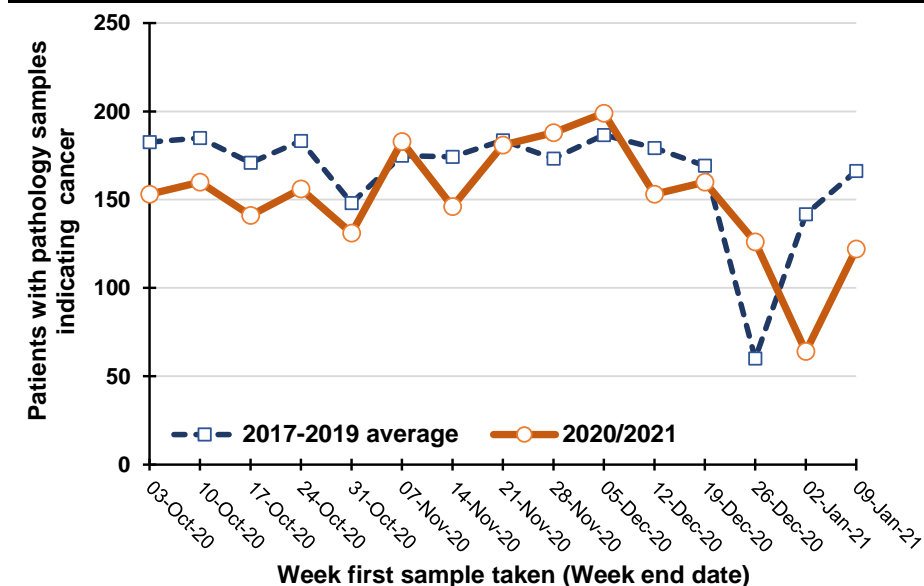
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



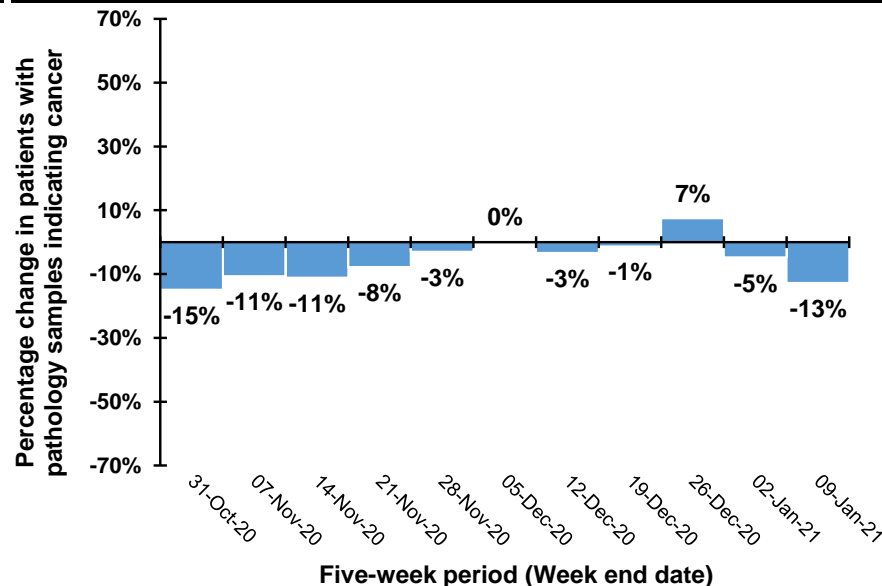
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

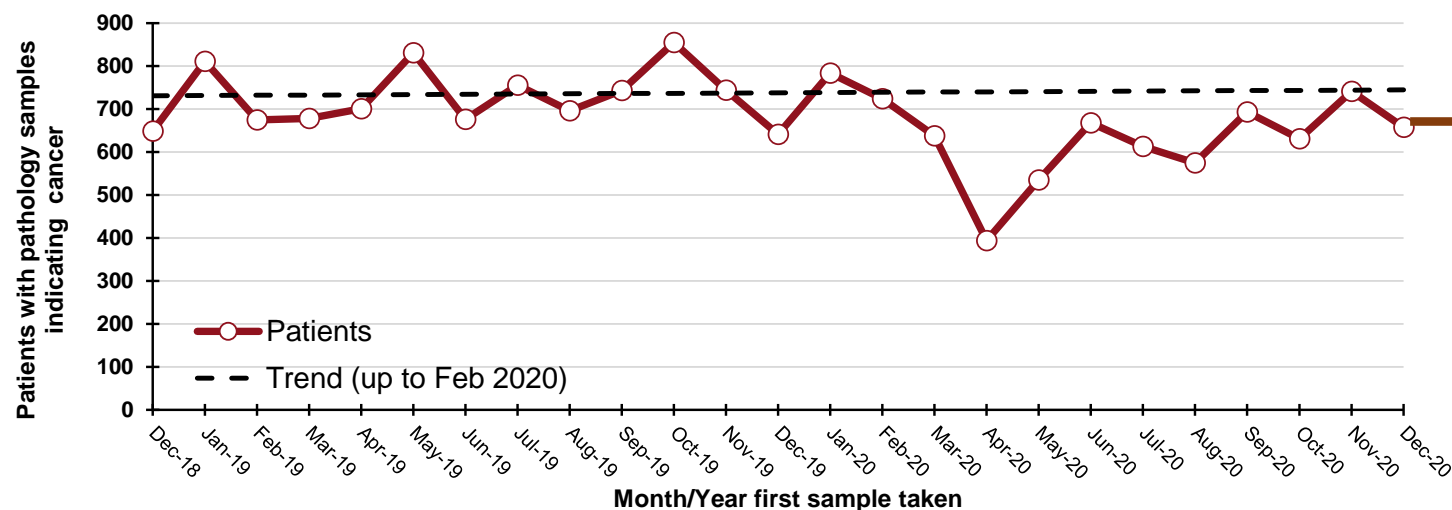


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



**1,280**  
"missed" patients  
from start of Mar-20 to  
the end of Dec-20

## By month and year first sample taken

Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	649
Jan-19	811
Feb-19	675
Mar-19	678
Apr-19	701
May-19	831
Jun-19	676
Jul-19	756
Aug-19	696
Sep-19	743
Oct-19	855
Nov-19	744
Dec-19	641
Jan-20	784
Feb-20	724
Mar-20	638
Apr-20	394
May-20	535
Jun-20	668
Jul-20	613
Aug-20	575
Sep-20	693
Oct-20	631
Nov-20	741
Dec-20	658

## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	806	631	-22%
Nov-20	751	741	-1%
Dec-20	626	658	5%
Jan-21*	285	123	-57%

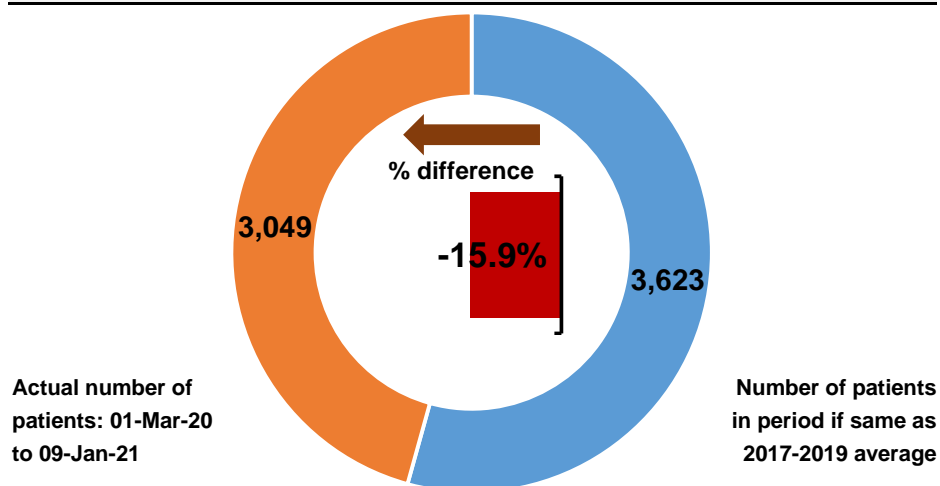
\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

### By week first sample taken

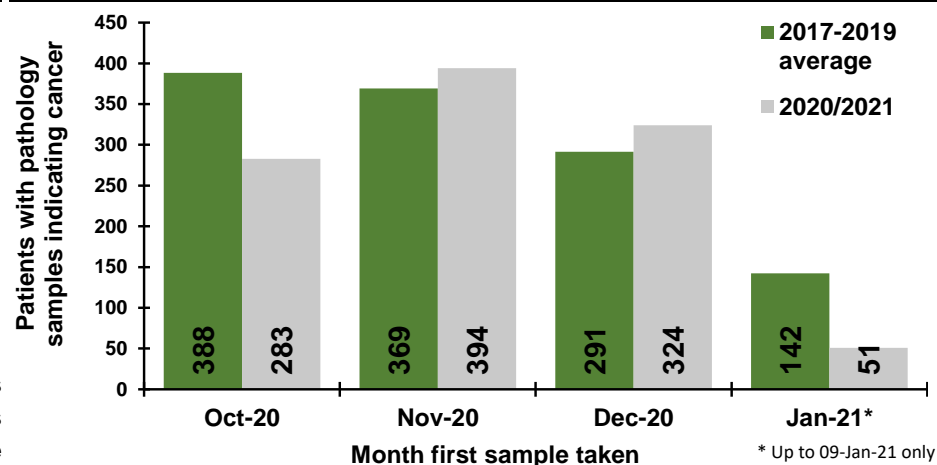
Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	183	153			
10-Oct-20	185	160			
17-Oct-20	171	141			
24-Oct-20	183	156			
31-Oct-20	148	131	870	741	-15%
07-Nov-20	175	183	862	771	-11%
14-Nov-20	174	146	852	757	-11%
21-Nov-20	184	181	864	797	-8%
28-Nov-20	173	188	854	829	-3%
05-Dec-20	187	199	893	897	0%
12-Dec-20	179	153	897	867	-3%
19-Dec-20	169	160	892	881	-1%
26-Dec-20	60	126	769	826	7%
02-Jan-21	142	64	737	702	-5%
09-Jan-21	166	122	717	625	-13%

## Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Males

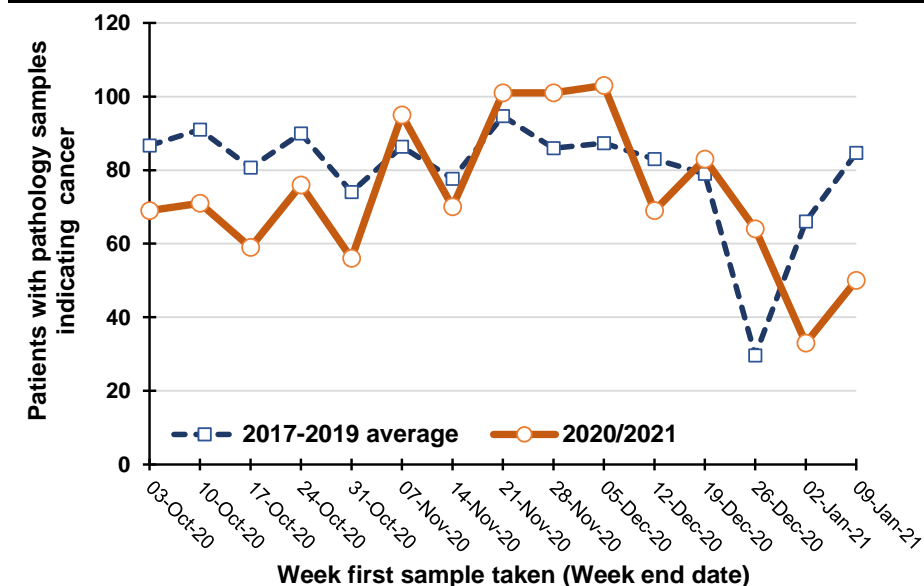
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



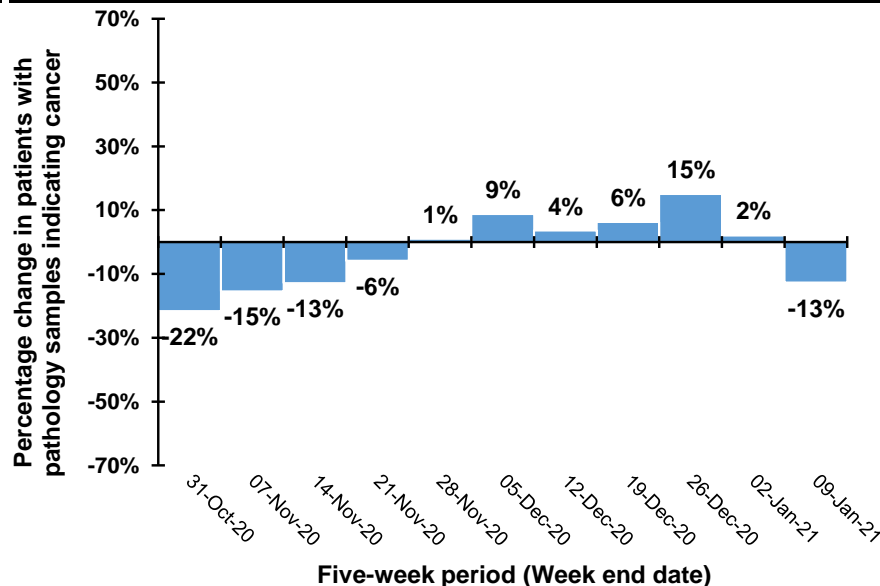
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

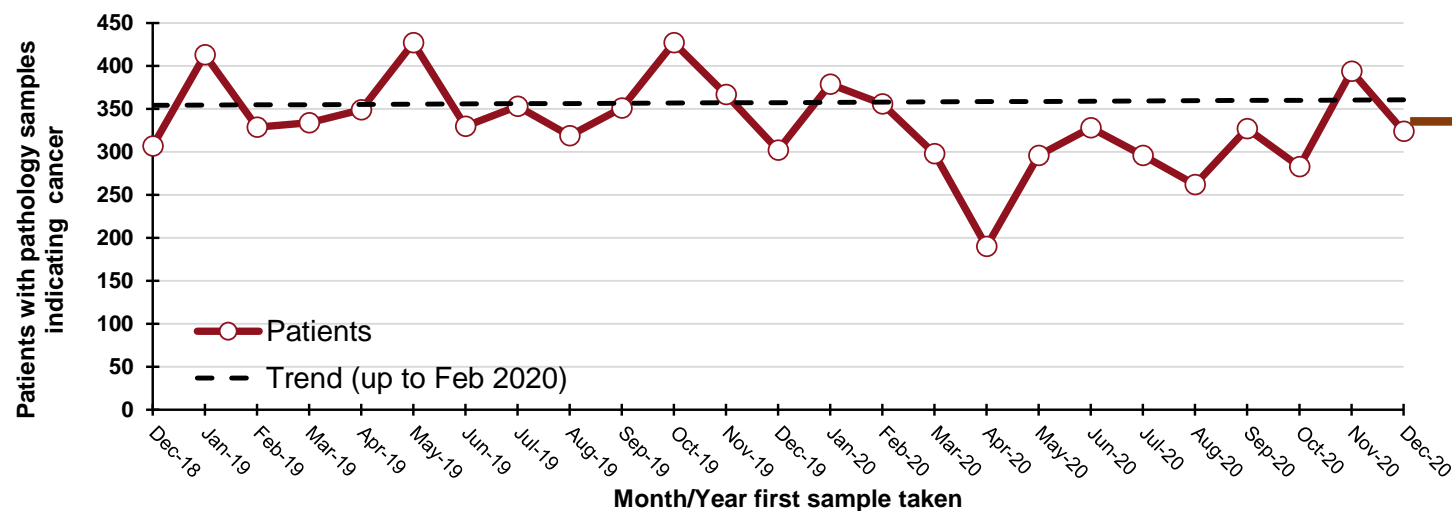


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



**600**  
"missed" patients  
from start of Mar-20 to  
the end of Dec-20

### By month and year first sample taken

Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	307
Jan-19	413
Feb-19	329
Mar-19	334
Apr-19	349
May-19	427
Jun-19	330
Jul-19	353
Aug-19	319
Sep-19	351
Oct-19	427
Nov-19	367
Dec-19	302
Jan-20	379
Feb-20	356
Mar-20	298
Apr-20	190
May-20	296
Jun-20	328
Jul-20	296
Aug-20	262
Sep-20	327
Oct-20	283
Nov-20	394
Dec-20	324

## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	388	283	-27%
Nov-20	369	394	7%
Dec-20	291	324	11%
Jan-21*	142	51	-64%

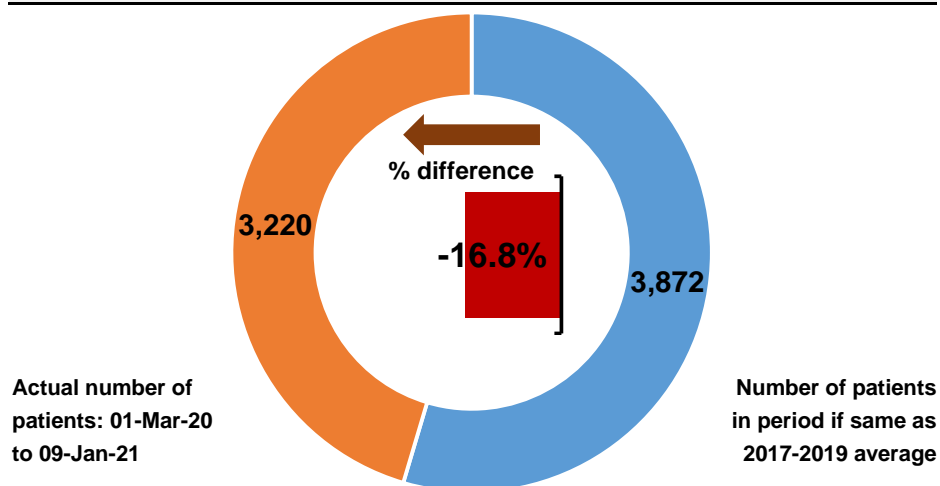
\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

### By week first sample taken

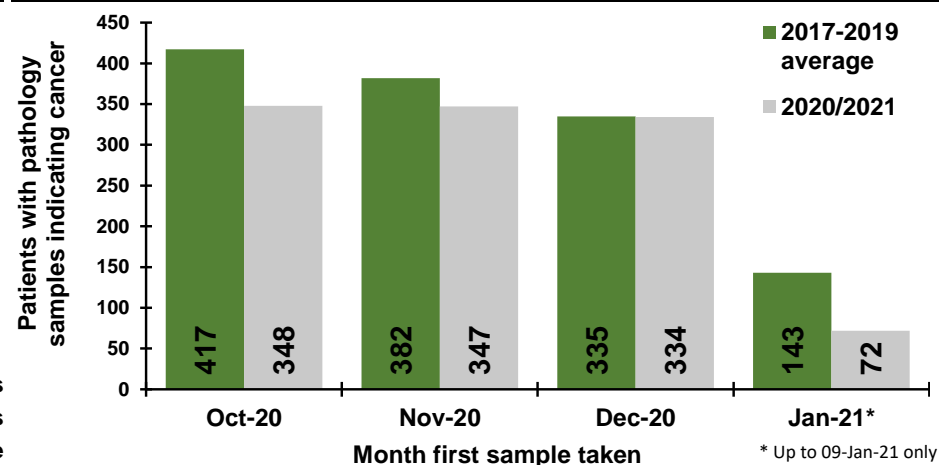
Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	87	69			
10-Oct-20	91	71			
17-Oct-20	81	59			
24-Oct-20	90	76			
31-Oct-20	74	56	422	331	-22%
07-Nov-20	86	95	422	357	-15%
14-Nov-20	78	70	409	356	-13%
21-Nov-20	95	101	423	398	-6%
28-Nov-20	86	101	419	423	1%
05-Dec-20	87	103	432	470	9%
12-Dec-20	83	69	429	444	4%
19-Dec-20	79	83	430	457	6%
26-Dec-20	30	64	365	420	15%
02-Jan-21	66	33	345	352	2%
09-Jan-21	85	50	342	299	-13%

## Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Females

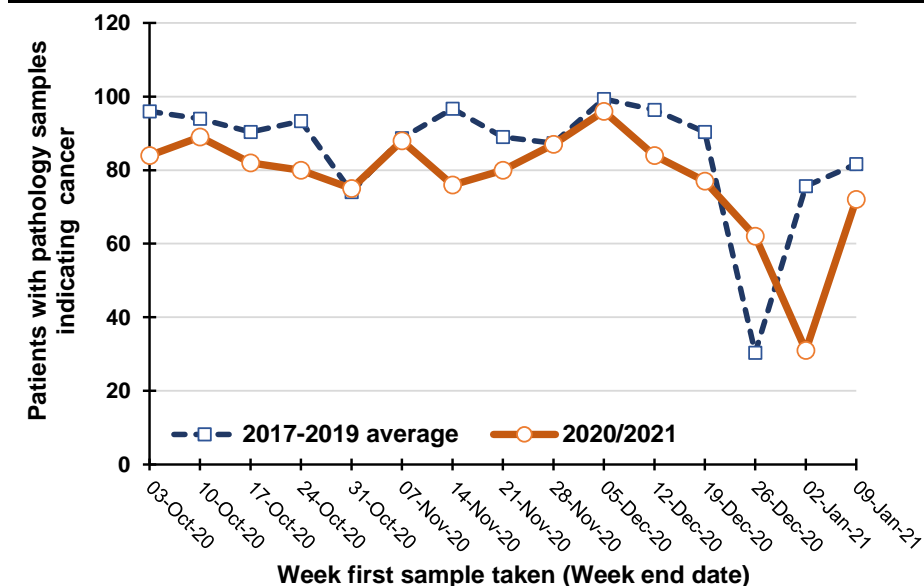
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



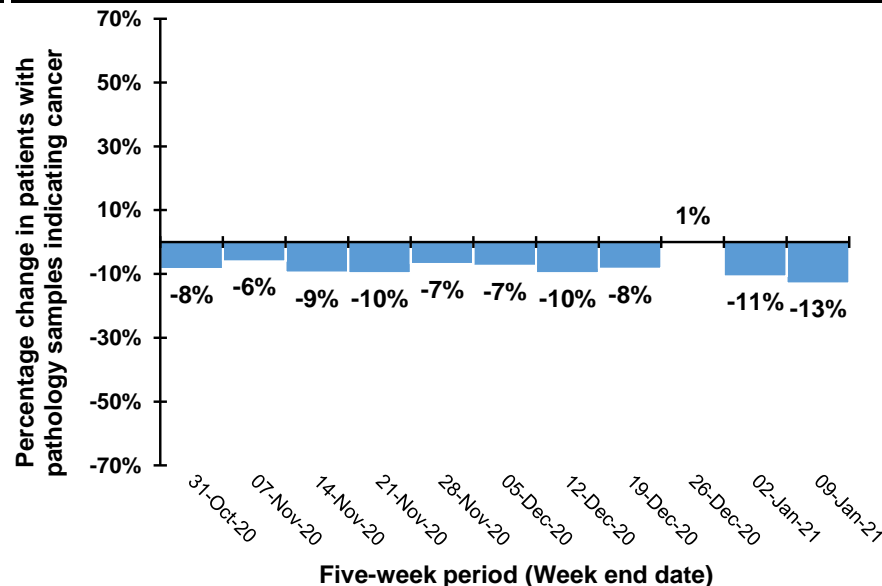
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

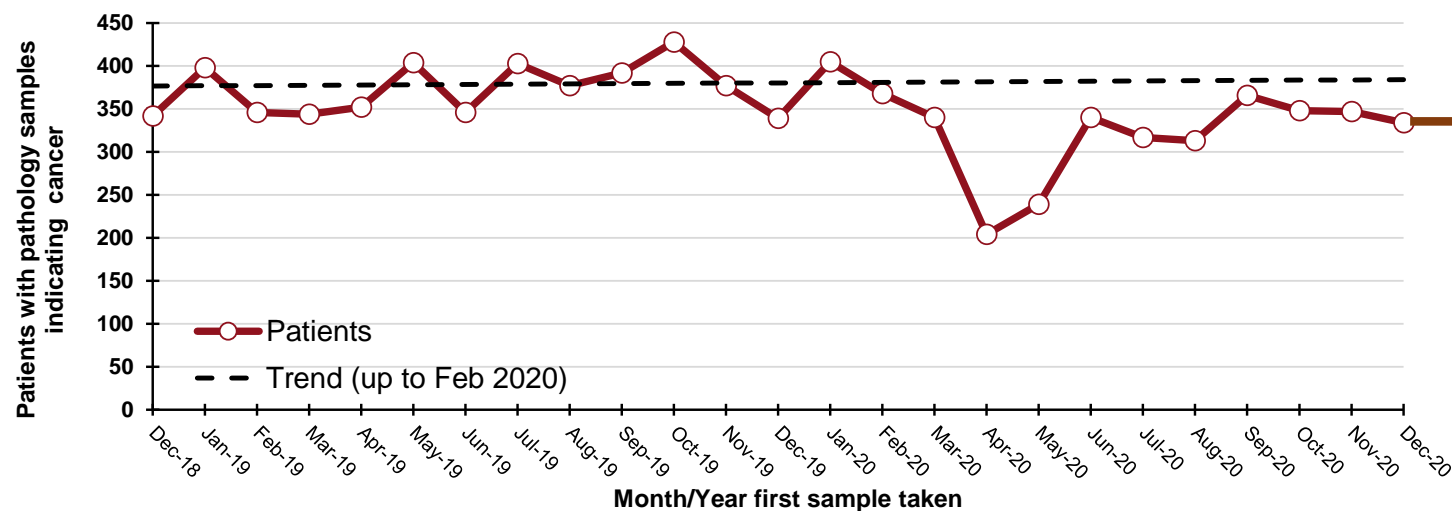


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	417	348	-17%
Nov-20	382	347	-9%
Dec-20	335	334	0%
Jan-21*	143	72	-50%

\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

### By week first sample taken

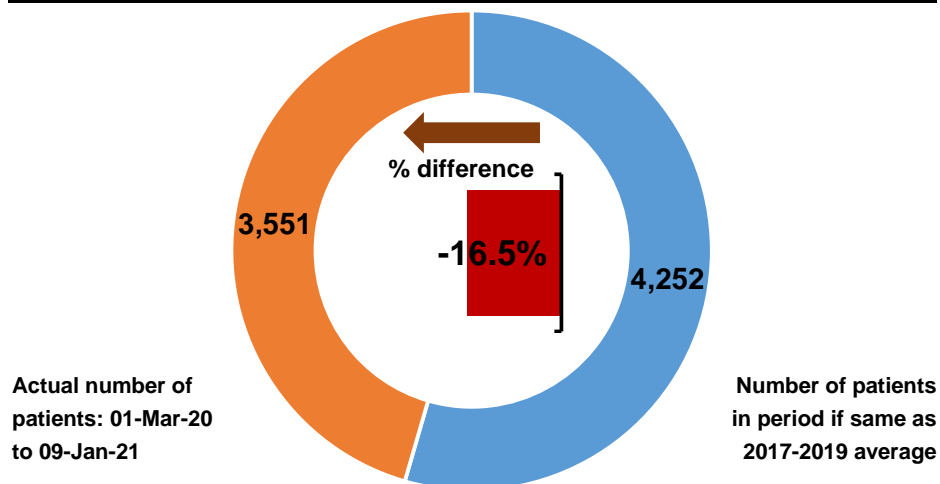
Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	96	84			
10-Oct-20	94	89			
17-Oct-20	90	82			
24-Oct-20	93	80			
31-Oct-20	74	75	448	410	-8%
07-Nov-20	89	88	440	414	-6%
14-Nov-20	97	76	443	401	-9%
21-Nov-20	89	80	442	399	-10%
28-Nov-20	87	87	436	406	-7%
05-Dec-20	99	96	461	427	-7%
12-Dec-20	96	84	469	423	-10%
19-Dec-20	90	77	462	424	-8%
26-Dec-20	30	62	404	406	1%
02-Jan-21	76	31	392	350	-11%
09-Jan-21	82	72	374	326	-13%

### By month and year first sample taken

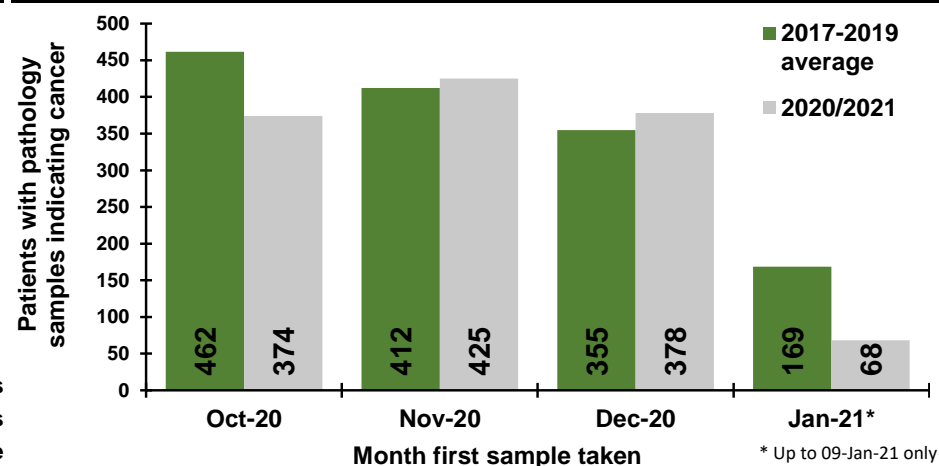
Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	342
Jan-19	398
Feb-19	346
Mar-19	344
Apr-19	352
May-19	404
Jun-19	346
Jul-19	403
Aug-19	377
Sep-19	392
Oct-19	428
Nov-19	377
Dec-19	339
Jan-20	405
Feb-20	368
Mar-20	340
Apr-20	204
May-20	239
Jun-20	340
Jul-20	317
Aug-20	313
Sep-20	366
Oct-20	348
Nov-20	347
Dec-20	334

## Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Ages 0 to 69

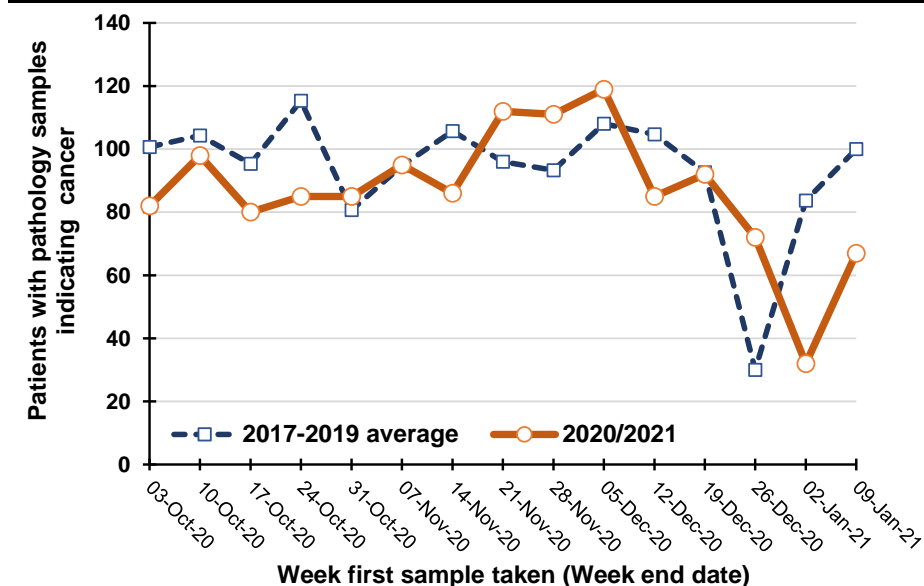
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



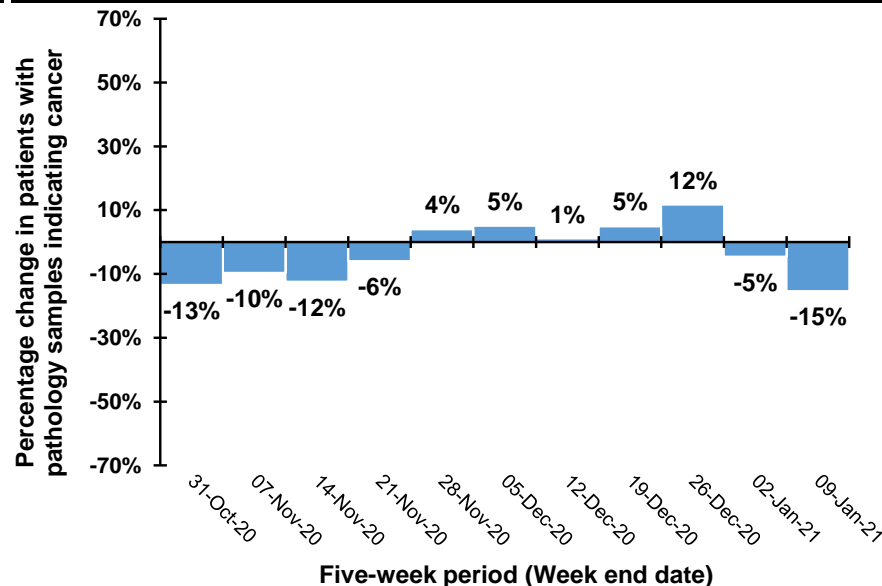
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

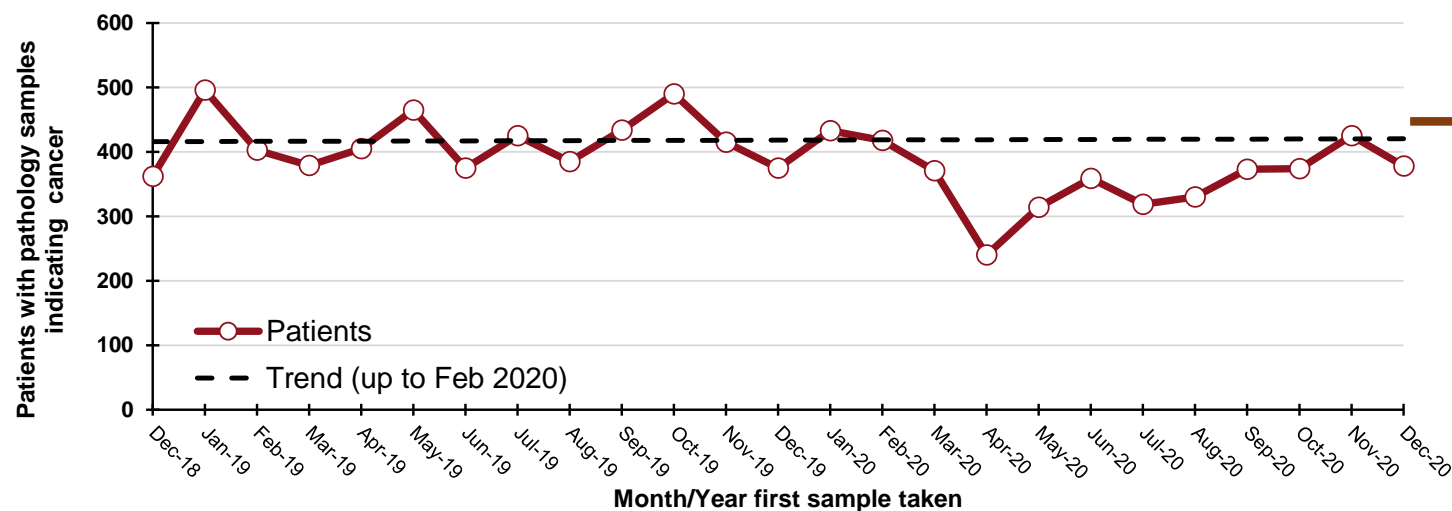


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



**710**  
"missed" patients  
from start of Mar-20 to  
the end of Dec-20

## By month and year first sample taken

Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	362
Jan-19	496
Feb-19	403
Mar-19	379
Apr-19	405
May-19	465
Jun-19	375
Jul-19	425
Aug-19	385
Sep-19	434
Oct-19	490
Nov-19	415
Dec-19	375
Jan-20	433
Feb-20	418
Mar-20	371
Apr-20	240
May-20	314
Jun-20	359
Jul-20	319
Aug-20	330
Sep-20	373
Oct-20	374
Nov-20	425
Dec-20	378

## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	462	374	-19%
Nov-20	412	425	3%
Dec-20	355	378	6%
Jan-21*	169	68	-60%

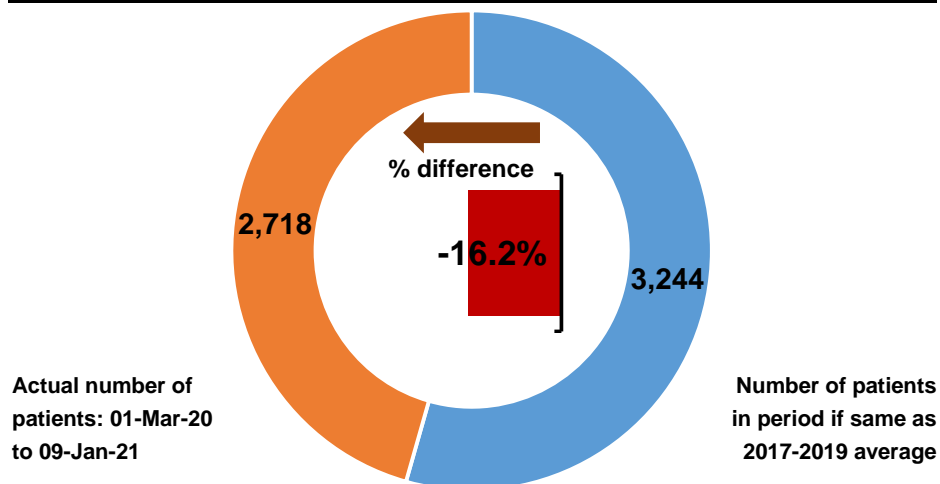
\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

### By week first sample taken

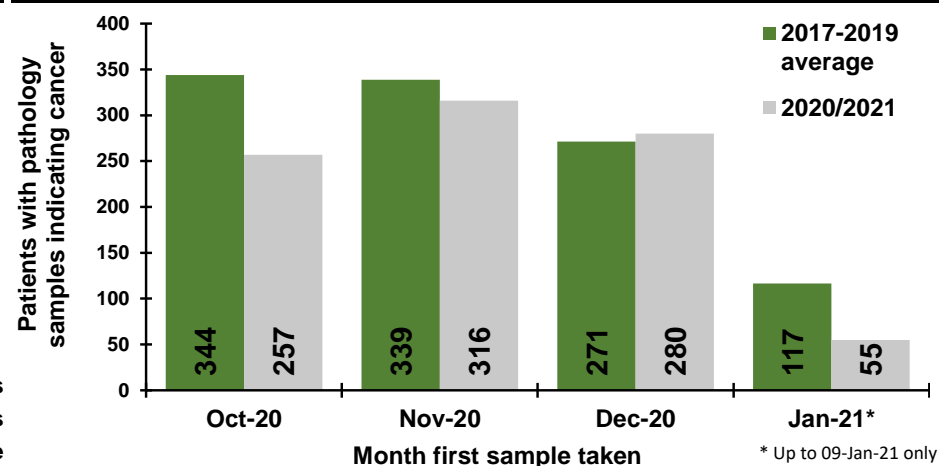
Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	101	82			
10-Oct-20	104	98			
17-Oct-20	95	80			
24-Oct-20	115	85			
31-Oct-20	81	85	496	430	-13%
07-Nov-20	95	95	490	443	-10%
14-Nov-20	106	86	492	431	-12%
21-Nov-20	96	112	492	463	-6%
28-Nov-20	93	111	470	489	4%
05-Dec-20	108	119	498	523	5%
12-Dec-20	105	85	508	513	1%
19-Dec-20	93	92	495	519	5%
26-Dec-20	30	72	429	479	12%
02-Jan-21	84	32	419	400	-5%
09-Jan-21	100	67	411	348	-15%

## Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Ages 70 and over

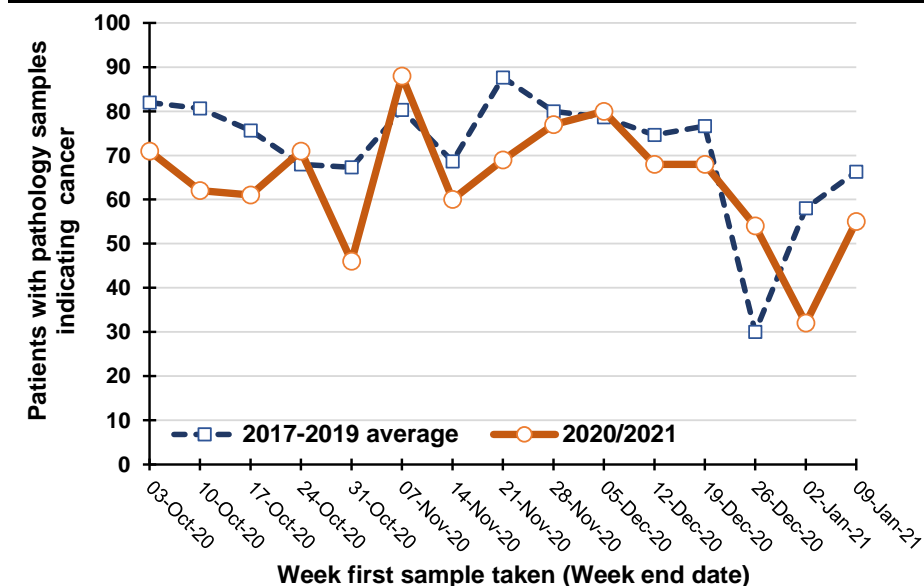
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



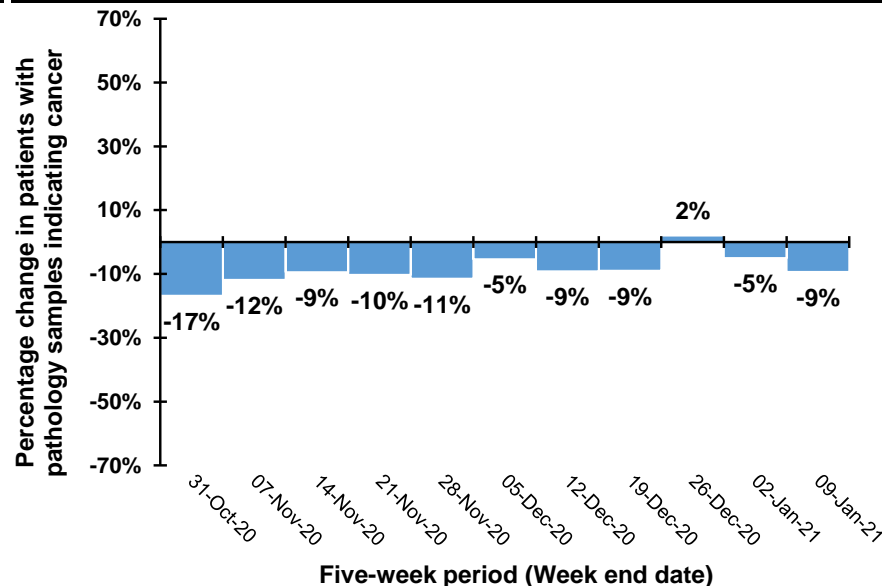
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

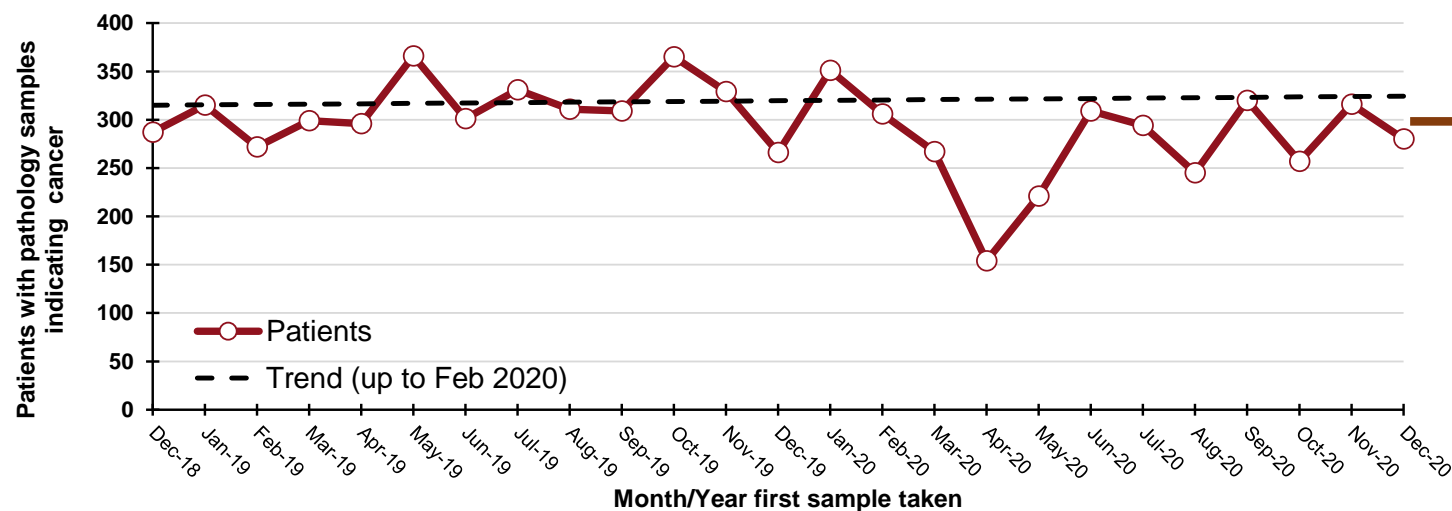


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	344	257	-25%
Nov-20	339	316	-7%
Dec-20	271	280	3%
Jan-21*	117	55	-53%

\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

### By week first sample taken

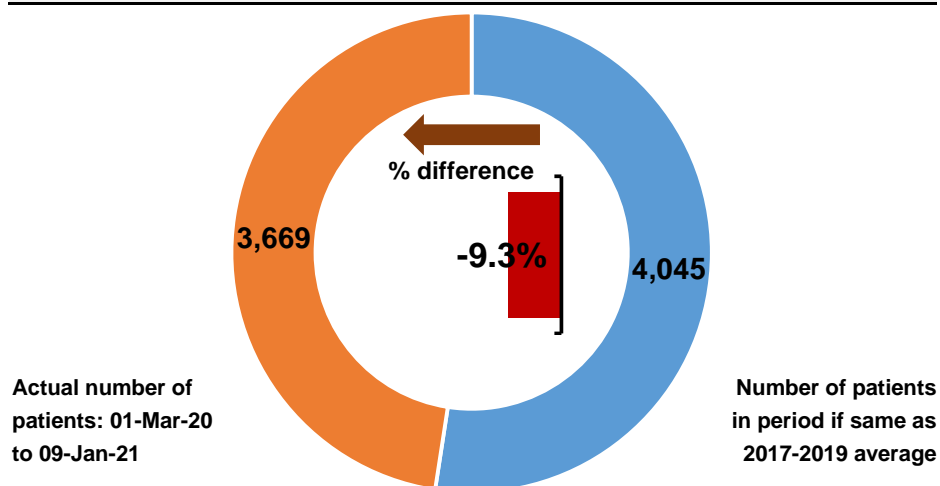
Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	82	71			
10-Oct-20	81	62			
17-Oct-20	76	61			
24-Oct-20	68	71			
31-Oct-20	67	46	374	311	-17%
07-Nov-20	80	88	372	328	-12%
14-Nov-20	69	60	360	326	-9%
21-Nov-20	88	69	372	334	-10%
28-Nov-20	80	77	384	340	-11%
05-Dec-20	79	80	395	374	-5%
12-Dec-20	75	68	390	354	-9%
19-Dec-20	77	68	398	362	-9%
26-Dec-20	30	54	340	347	2%
02-Jan-21	58	32	318	302	-5%
09-Jan-21	66	55	306	277	-9%

### By month and year first sample taken

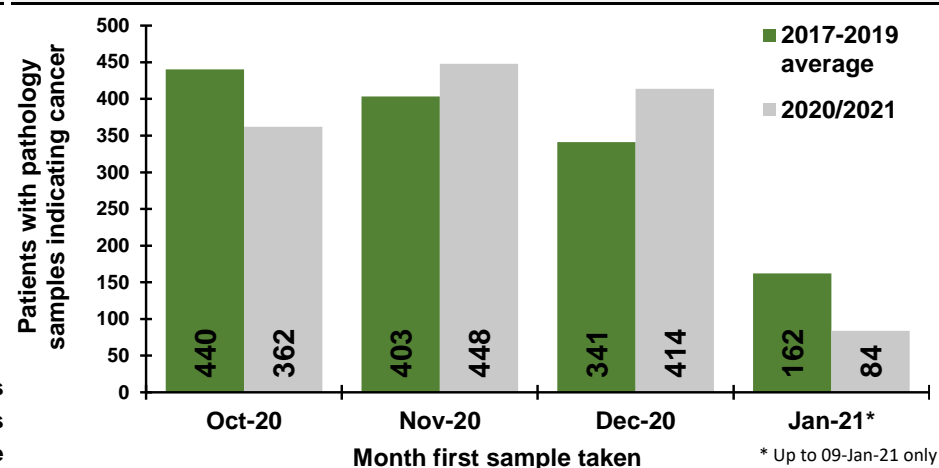
Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	287
Jan-19	315
Feb-19	272
Mar-19	299
Apr-19	296
May-19	366
Jun-19	301
Jul-19	331
Aug-19	311
Sep-19	309
Oct-19	365
Nov-19	329
Dec-19	266
Jan-20	351
Feb-20	306
Mar-20	267
Apr-20	154
May-20	221
Jun-20	309
Jul-20	294
Aug-20	245
Sep-20	320
Oct-20	257
Nov-20	316
Dec-20	280

## Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Belfast laboratory

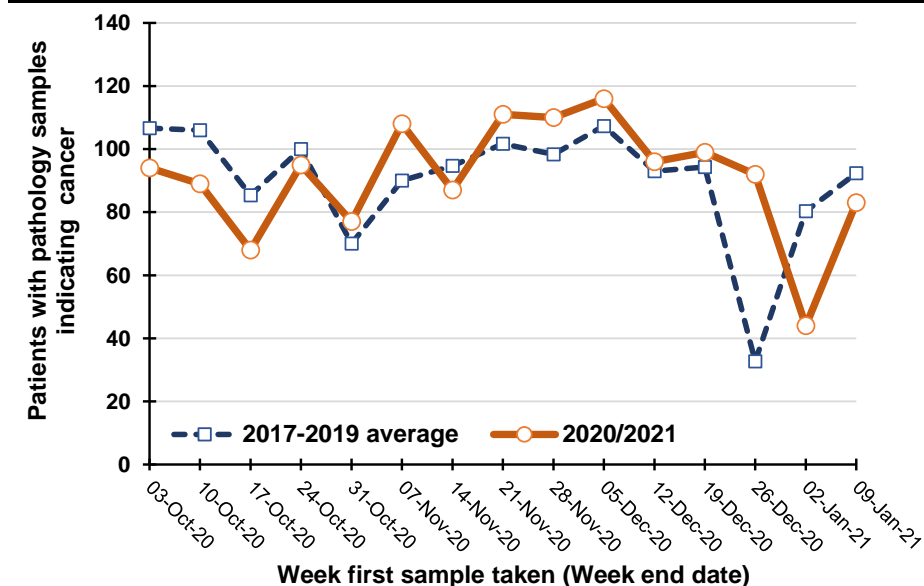
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



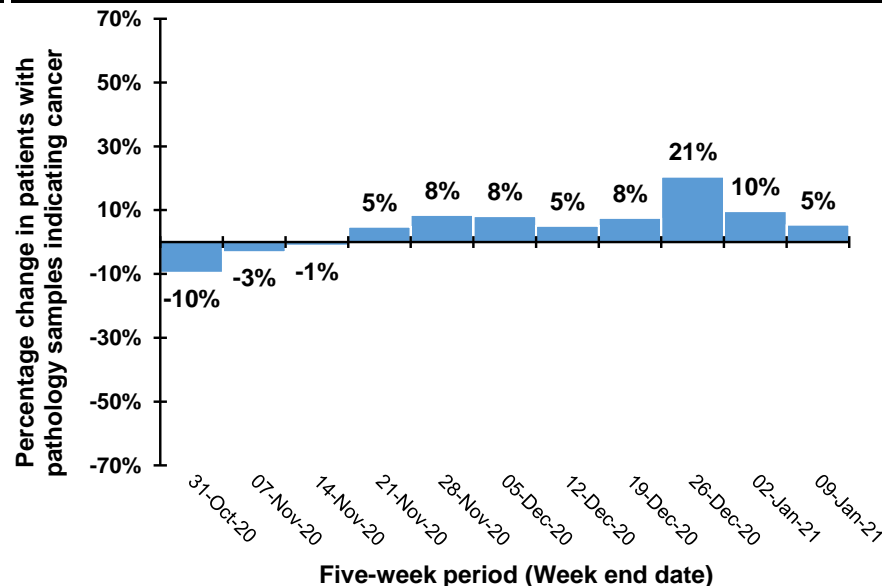
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

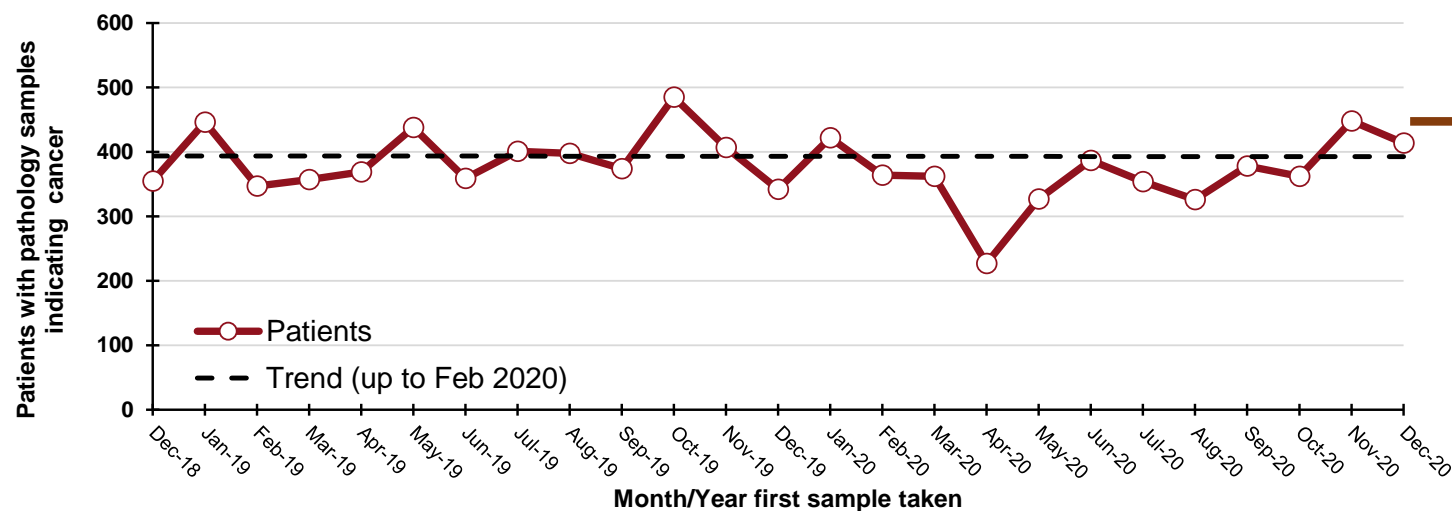


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



**340**  
"missed" patients  
from start of Mar-20 to  
the end of Dec-20

### By month and year first sample taken

Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	355
Jan-19	446
Feb-19	347
Mar-19	357
Apr-19	369
May-19	438
Jun-19	359
Jul-19	401
Aug-19	398
Sep-19	374
Oct-19	485
Nov-19	407
Dec-19	342
Jan-20	422
Feb-20	364
Mar-20	362
Apr-20	227
May-20	327
Jun-20	387
Jul-20	354
Aug-20	326
Sep-20	378
Oct-20	362
Nov-20	448
Dec-20	414

## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	440	362	-18%
Nov-20	403	448	11%
Dec-20	341	414	21%
Jan-21*	162	84	-48%

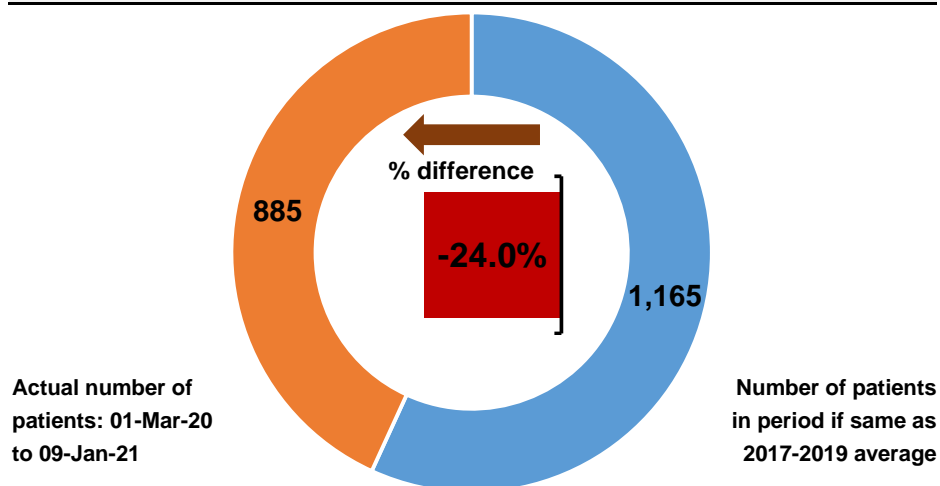
\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

### By week first sample taken

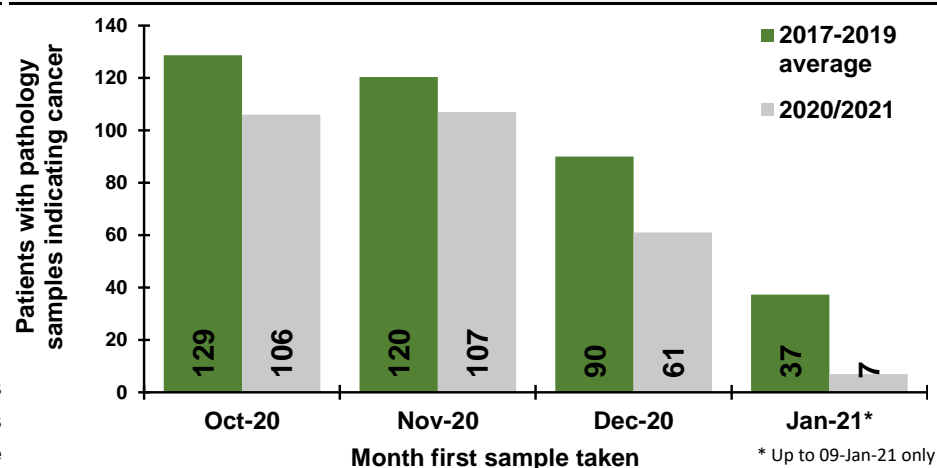
Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	107	94			
10-Oct-20	106	89			
17-Oct-20	85	68			
24-Oct-20	100	95			
31-Oct-20	70	77	468	423	-10%
07-Nov-20	90	108	451	437	-3%
14-Nov-20	95	87	440	435	-1%
21-Nov-20	102	111	456	478	5%
28-Nov-20	98	110	455	493	8%
05-Dec-20	107	116	492	532	8%
12-Dec-20	93	96	495	520	5%
19-Dec-20	94	99	495	532	8%
26-Dec-20	33	92	426	513	21%
02-Jan-21	80	44	408	447	10%
09-Jan-21	92	83	393	414	5%

## Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Altnagelvin laboratory

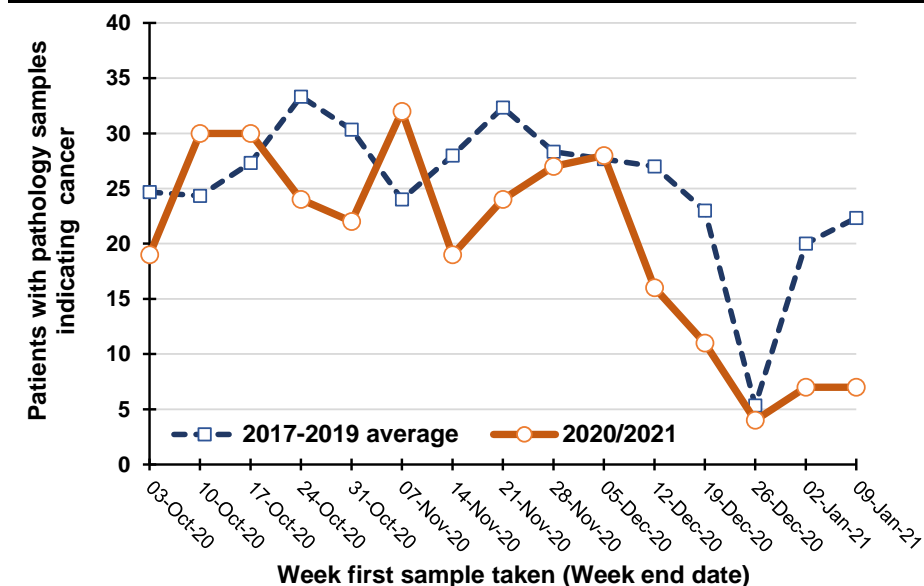
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



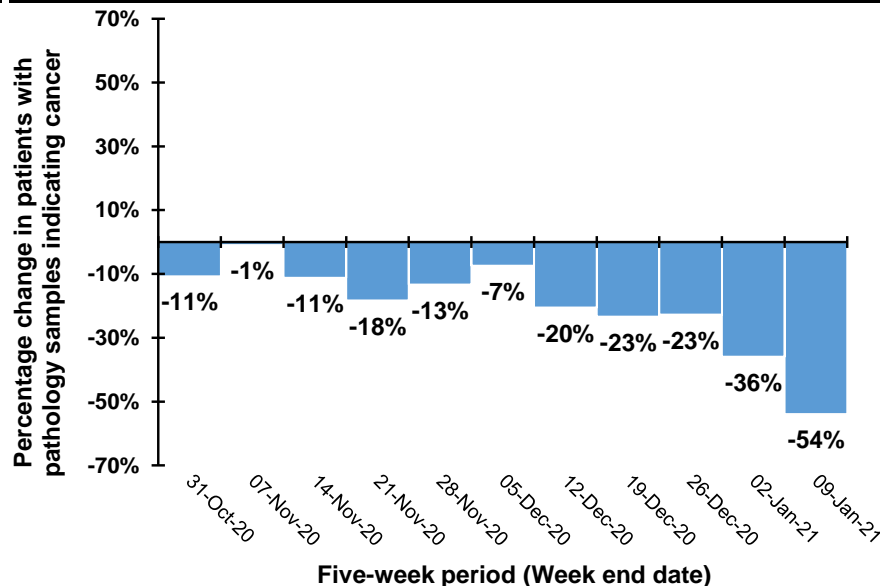
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

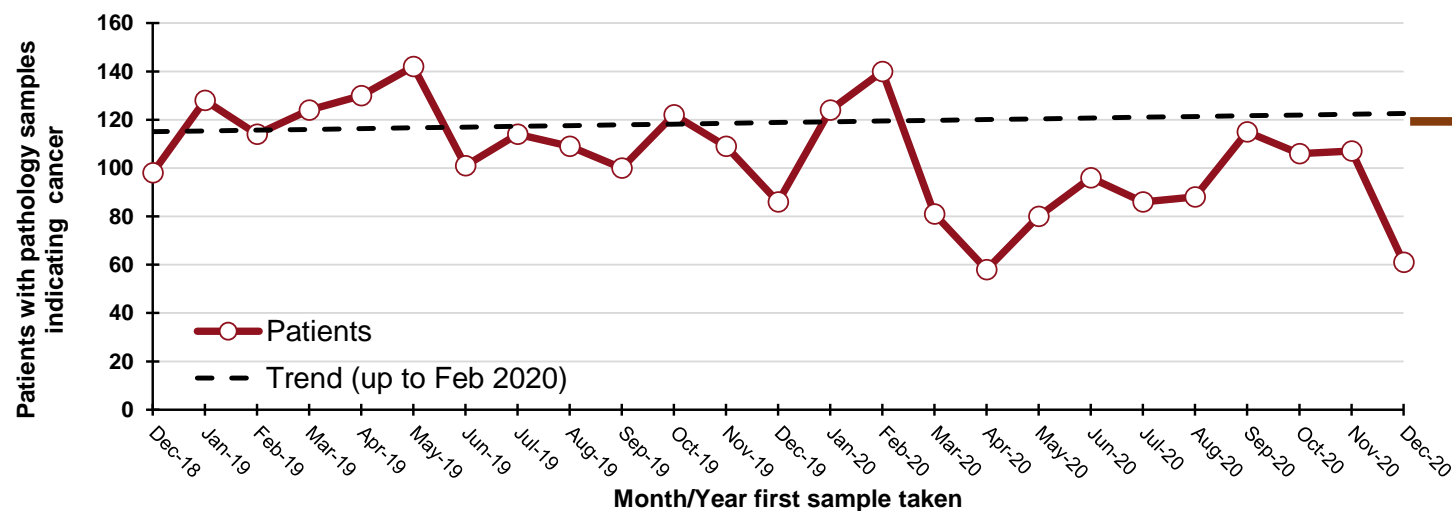


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



**330**  
"missed" patients  
from start of Mar-20 to  
the end of Dec-20

### By month and year first sample taken

Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	98
Jan-19	128
Feb-19	114
Mar-19	124
Apr-19	130
May-19	142
Jun-19	101
Jul-19	114
Aug-19	109
Sep-19	100
Oct-19	122
Nov-19	109
Dec-19	86
Jan-20	124
Feb-20	140
Mar-20	81
Apr-20	58
May-20	80
Jun-20	96
Jul-20	86
Aug-20	88
Sep-20	115
Oct-20	106
Nov-20	107
Dec-20	61

## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	129	106	-18%
Nov-20	120	107	-11%
Dec-20	90	61	-32%
Jan-21*	37	7	-81%

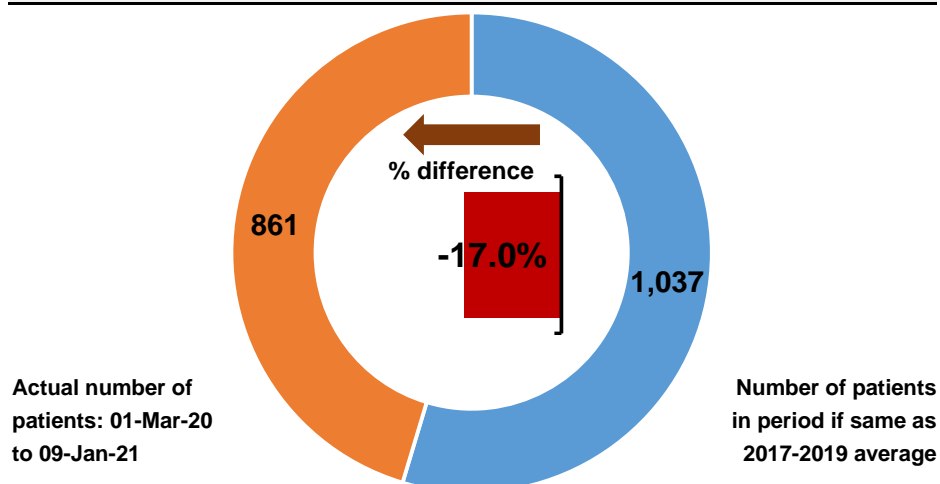
\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

### By week first sample taken

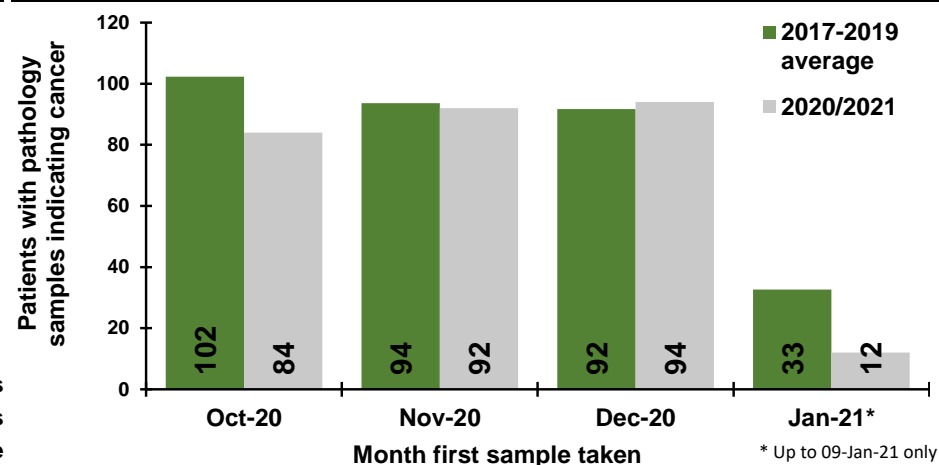
Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	25	19			
10-Oct-20	24	30			
17-Oct-20	27	30			
24-Oct-20	33	24			
31-Oct-20	30	22	140	125	-11%
07-Nov-20	24	32	139	138	-1%
14-Nov-20	28	19	143	127	-11%
21-Nov-20	32	24	148	121	-18%
28-Nov-20	28	27	143	124	-13%
05-Dec-20	28	28	140	130	-7%
12-Dec-20	27	16	143	114	-20%
19-Dec-20	23	11	138	106	-23%
26-Dec-20	5	4	111	86	-23%
02-Jan-21	20	7	103	66	-36%
09-Jan-21	22	7	98	45	-54%

## Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Antrim laboratory

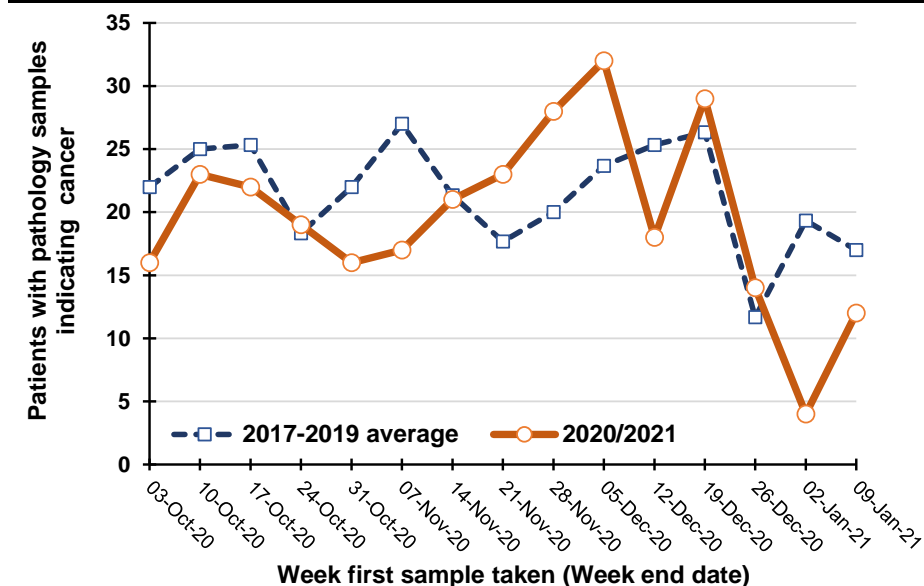
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



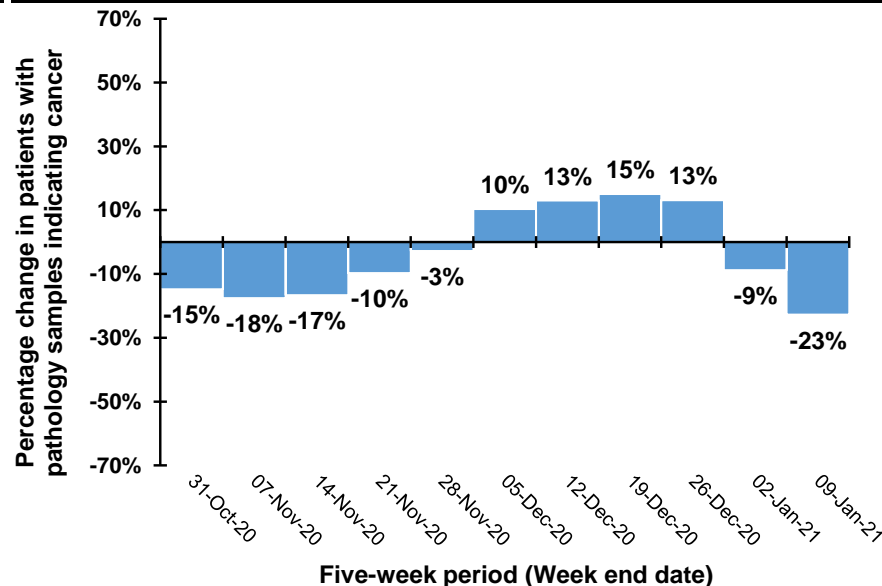
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

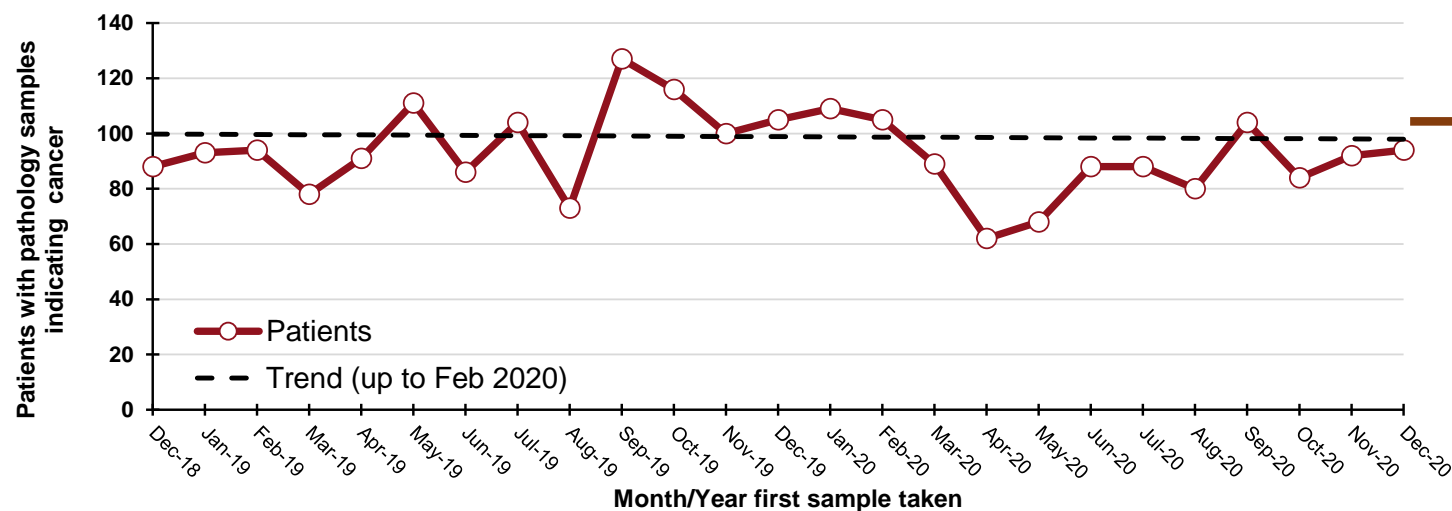


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



**130**  
"missed" patients  
from start of Mar-20 to  
the end of Dec-20

## By month and year first sample taken

Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	88
Jan-19	93
Feb-19	94
Mar-19	78
Apr-19	91
May-19	111
Jun-19	86
Jul-19	104
Aug-19	73
Sep-19	127
Oct-19	116
Nov-19	100
Dec-19	105
Jan-20	109
Feb-20	105
Mar-20	89
Apr-20	62
May-20	68
Jun-20	88
Jul-20	88
Aug-20	80
Sep-20	104
Oct-20	84
Nov-20	92
Dec-20	94

## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	102	84	-18%
Nov-20	94	92	-2%
Dec-20	92	94	3%
Jan-21*	33	12	-63%

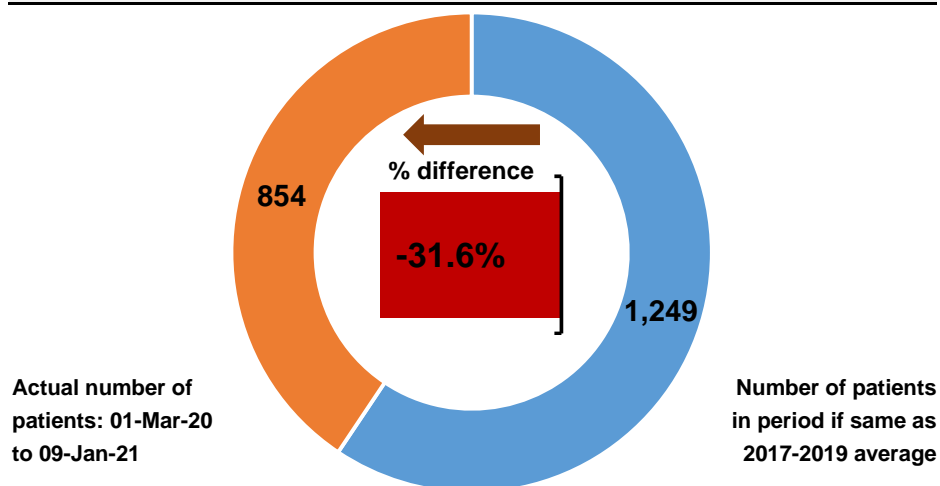
\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

### By week first sample taken

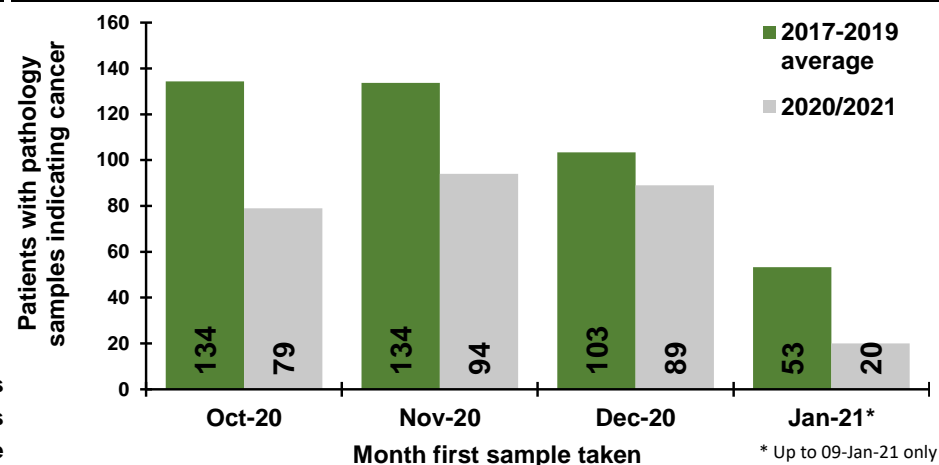
Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	22	16			
10-Oct-20	25	23			
17-Oct-20	25	22			
24-Oct-20	18	19			
31-Oct-20	22	16	113	96	-15%
07-Nov-20	27	17	118	97	-18%
14-Nov-20	21	21	114	95	-17%
21-Nov-20	18	23	106	96	-10%
28-Nov-20	20	28	108	105	-3%
05-Dec-20	24	32	110	121	10%
12-Dec-20	25	18	108	122	13%
19-Dec-20	26	29	113	130	15%
26-Dec-20	12	14	107	121	13%
02-Jan-21	19	4	106	97	-9%
09-Jan-21	17	12	100	77	-23%

## Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Craigavon laboratory

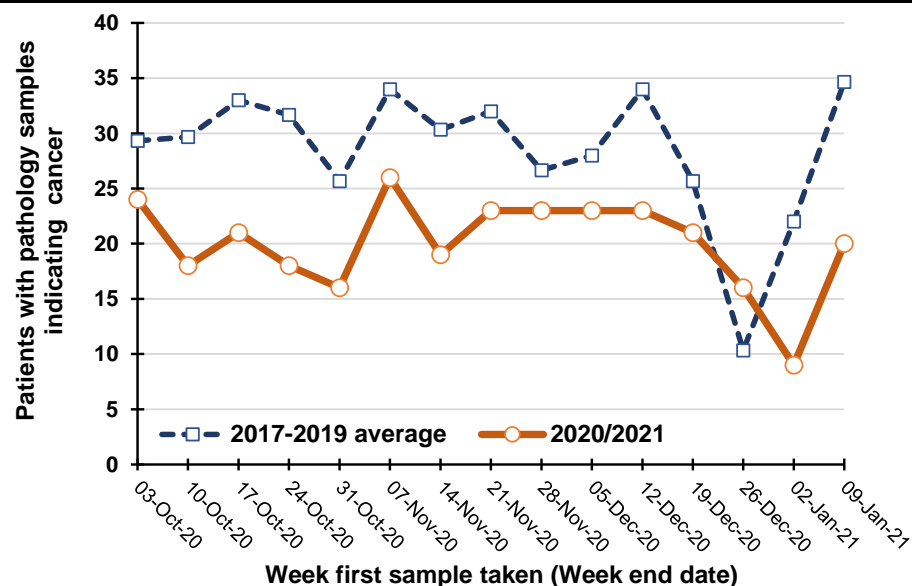
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



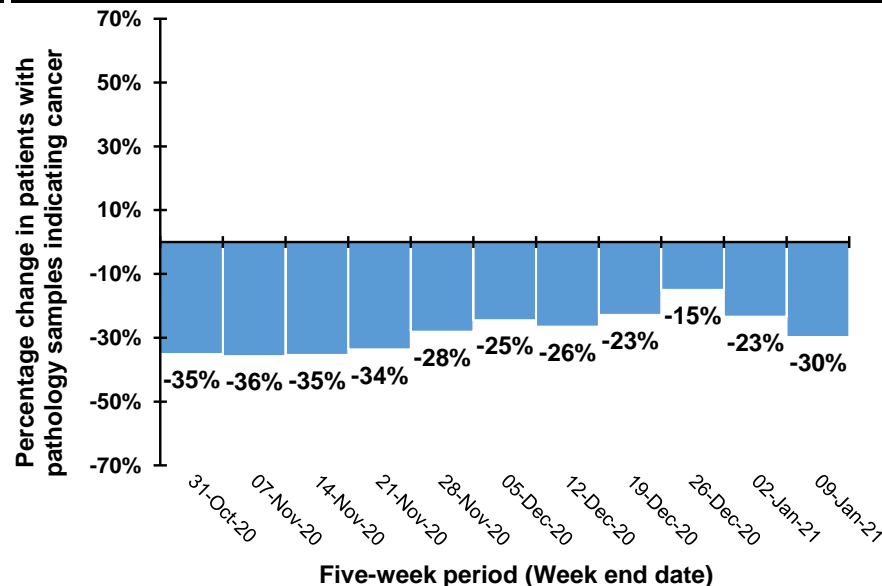
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

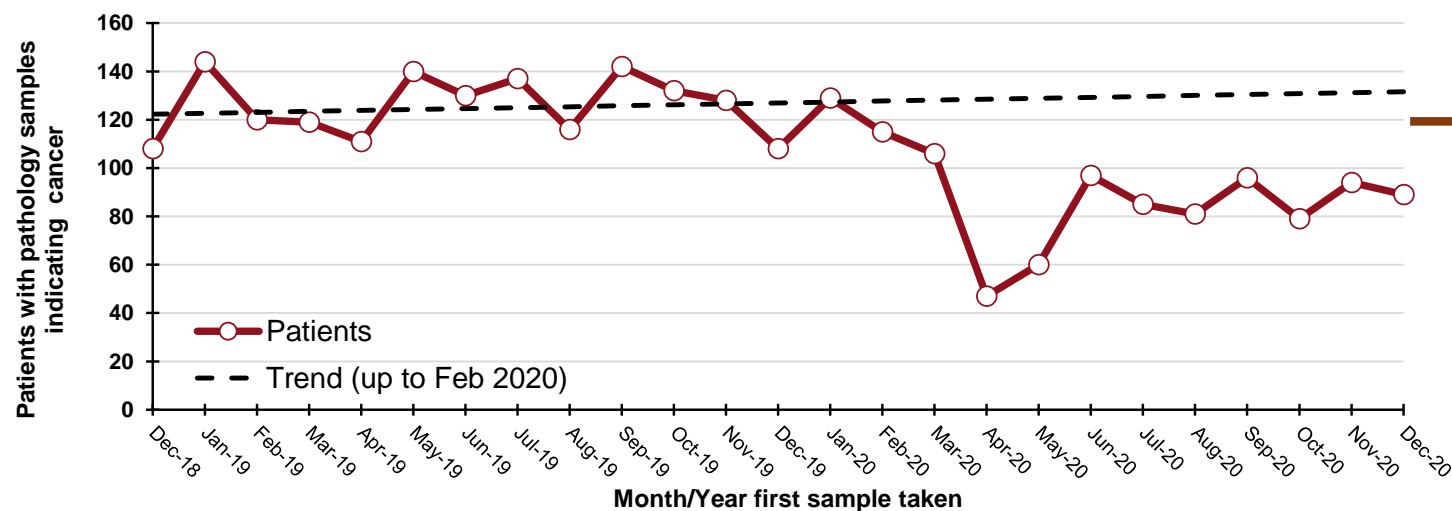


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



**460**  
"missed" patients  
from start of Mar-20 to  
the end of Dec-20

### By month and year first sample taken

Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	108
Jan-19	144
Feb-19	120
Mar-19	119
Apr-19	111
May-19	140
Jun-19	130
Jul-19	137
Aug-19	116
Sep-19	142
Oct-19	132
Nov-19	128
Dec-19	108
Jan-20	129
Feb-20	115
Mar-20	106
Apr-20	47
May-20	60
Jun-20	97
Jul-20	85
Aug-20	81
Sep-20	96
Oct-20	79
Nov-20	94
Dec-20	89

## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	134	79	-41%
Nov-20	134	94	-30%
Dec-20	103	89	-14%
Jan-21*	53	20	-63%

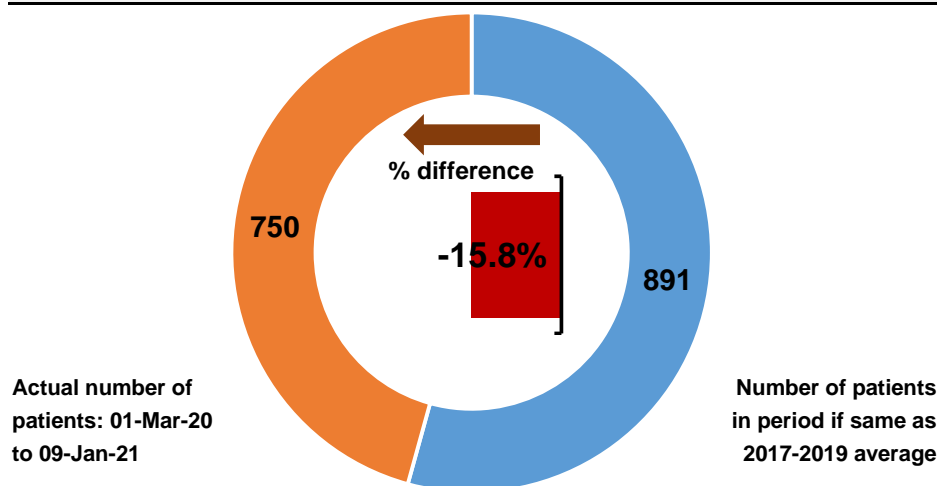
\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

### By week first sample taken

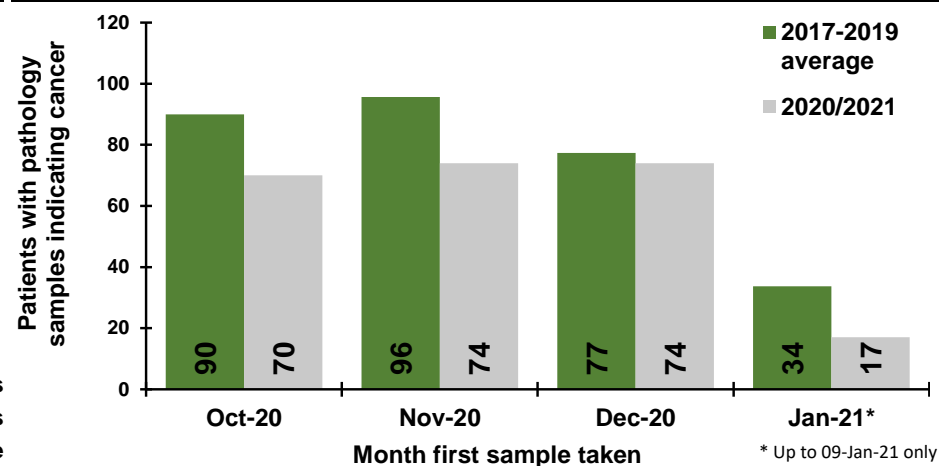
Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	29	24			
10-Oct-20	30	18			
17-Oct-20	33	21			
24-Oct-20	32	18			
31-Oct-20	26	16	149	97	-35%
07-Nov-20	34	26	154	99	-36%
14-Nov-20	30	19	155	100	-35%
21-Nov-20	32	23	154	102	-34%
28-Nov-20	27	23	149	107	-28%
05-Dec-20	28	23	151	114	-25%
12-Dec-20	34	23	151	111	-26%
19-Dec-20	26	21	146	113	-23%
26-Dec-20	10	16	125	106	-15%
02-Jan-21	22	9	120	92	-23%
09-Jan-21	35	20	127	89	-30%

## Patients with pathology samples indicating bowel cancer: All persons

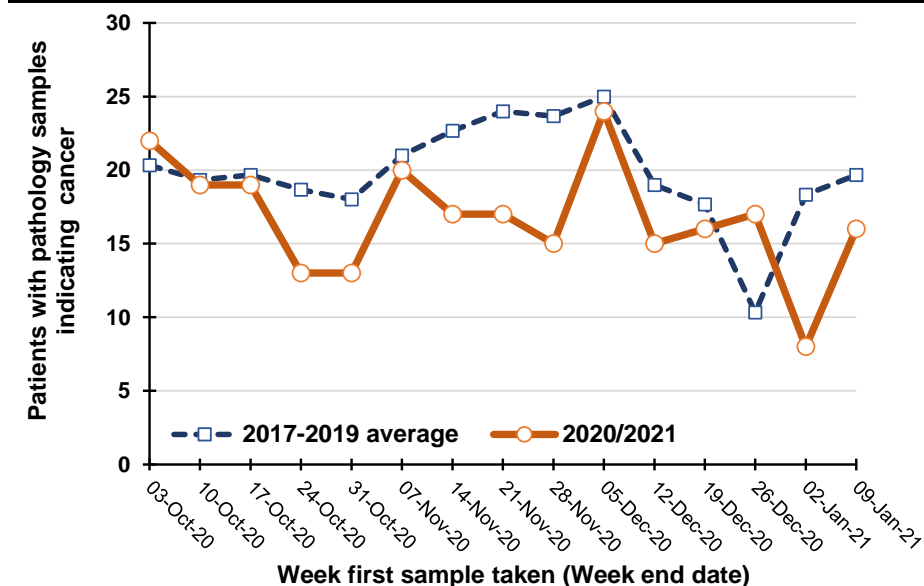
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



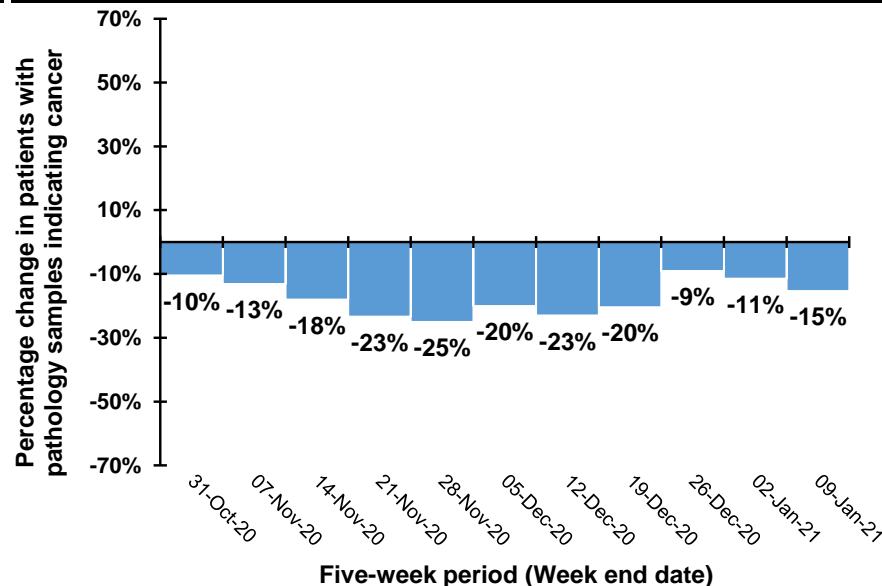
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

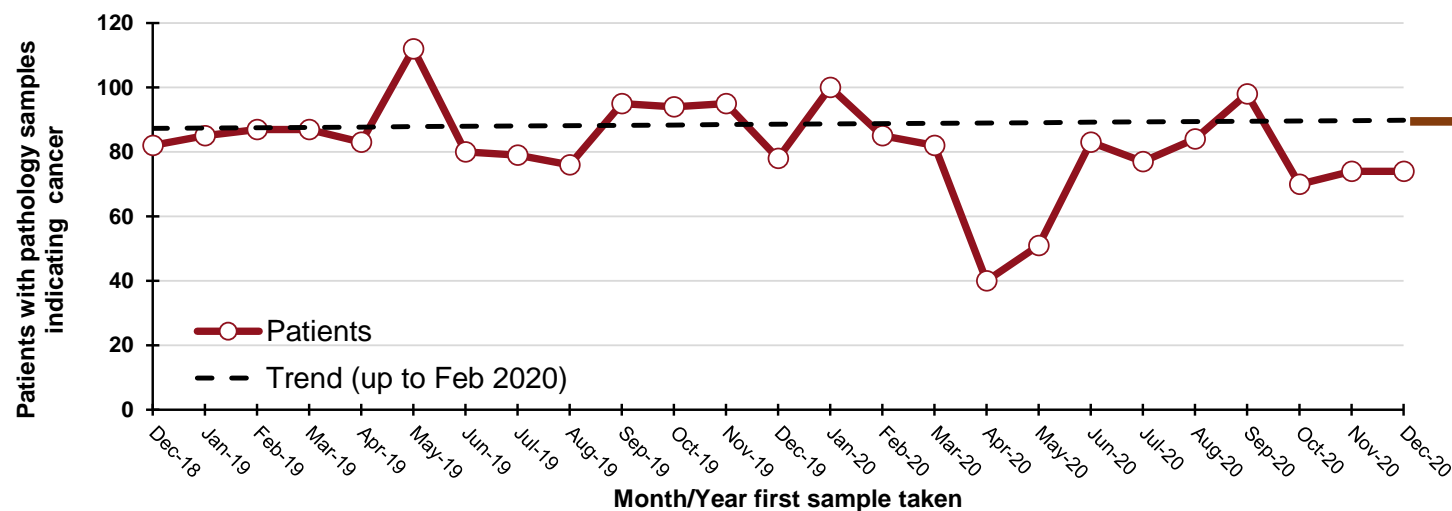


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	90	70	-22%
Nov-20	96	74	-23%
Dec-20	77	74	-4%
Jan-21*	34	17	-50%

\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

### By week first sample taken

Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	20	22			
10-Oct-20	19	19			
17-Oct-20	20	19			
24-Oct-20	19	13			
31-Oct-20	18	13	96	86	-10%
07-Nov-20	21	20	97	84	-13%
14-Nov-20	23	17	100	82	-18%
21-Nov-20	24	17	104	80	-23%
28-Nov-20	24	15	109	82	-25%
05-Dec-20	25	24	116	93	-20%
12-Dec-20	19	15	114	88	-23%
19-Dec-20	18	16	109	87	-20%
26-Dec-20	10	17	96	87	-9%
02-Jan-21	18	8	90	80	-11%
09-Jan-21	20	16	85	72	-15%

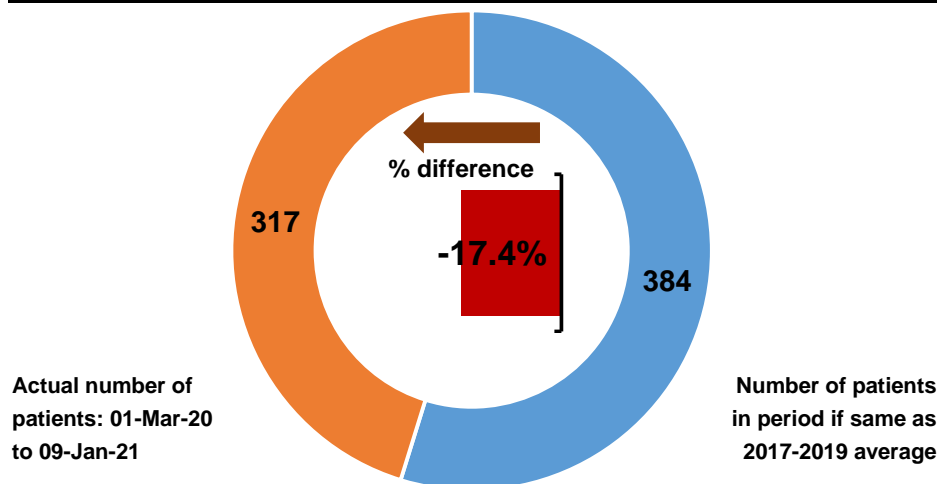
Note: Includes colon, rectum and rectosigmoid junction (ICD10 codes: C18-C20).

### By month and year first sample taken

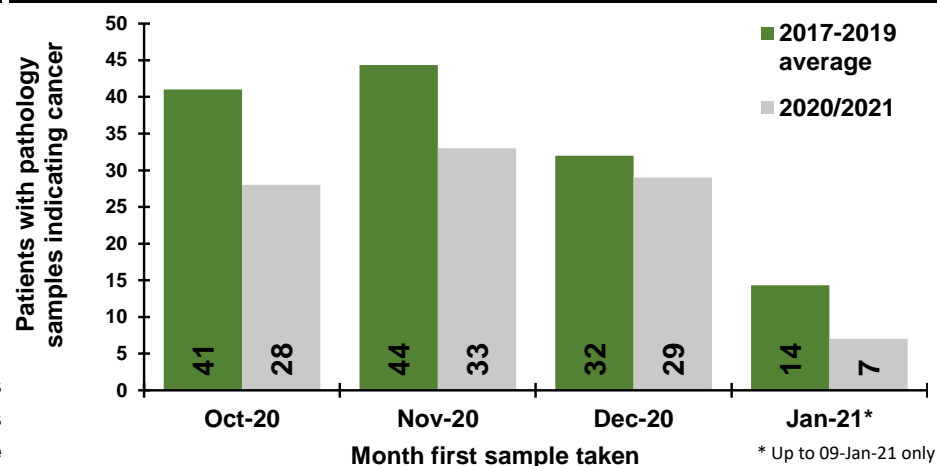
Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	82
Jan-19	85
Feb-19	87
Mar-19	87
Apr-19	83
May-19	112
Jun-19	80
Jul-19	79
Aug-19	76
Sep-19	95
Oct-19	94
Nov-19	95
Dec-19	78
Jan-20	100
Feb-20	85
Mar-20	82
Apr-20	40
May-20	51
Jun-20	83
Jul-20	77
Aug-20	84
Sep-20	98
Oct-20	70
Nov-20	74
Dec-20	74

## Patients with pathology samples indicating bowel cancer: All persons, screening age (60-74)

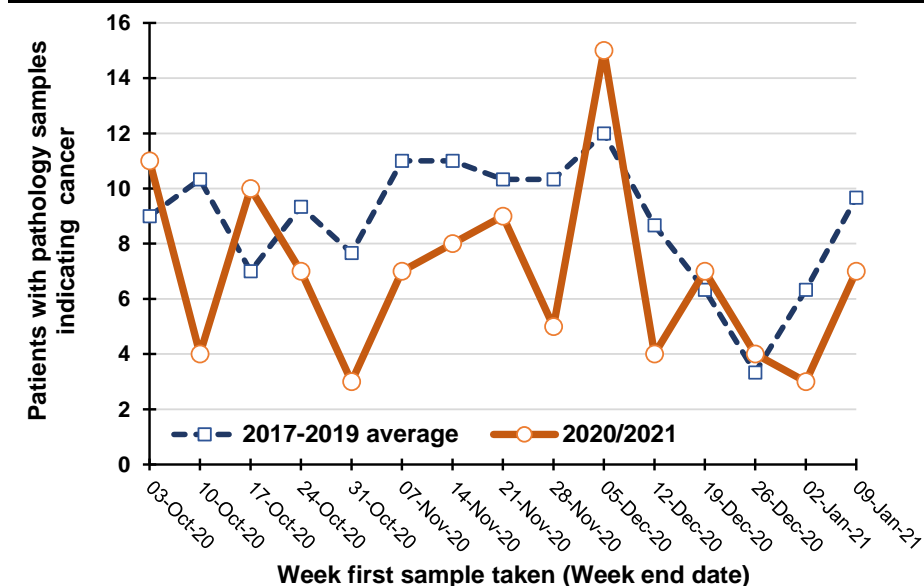
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



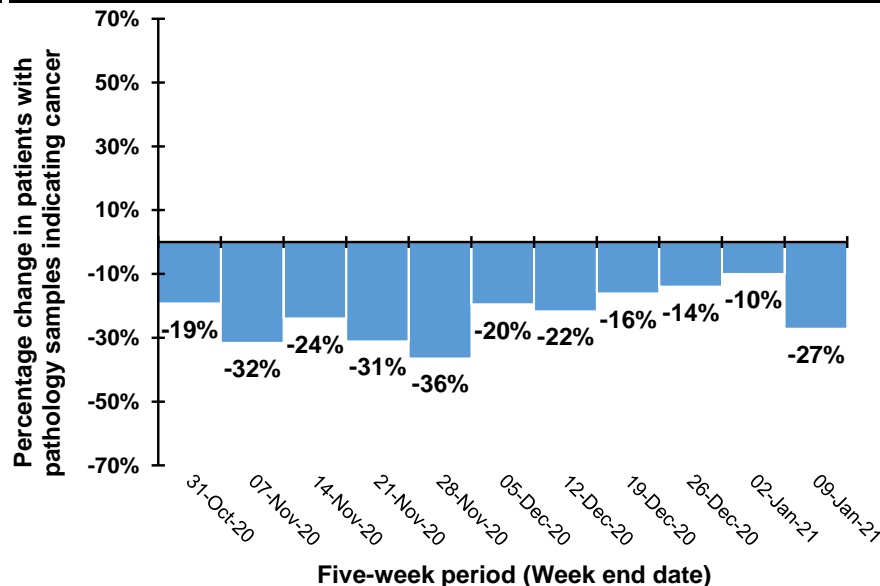
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

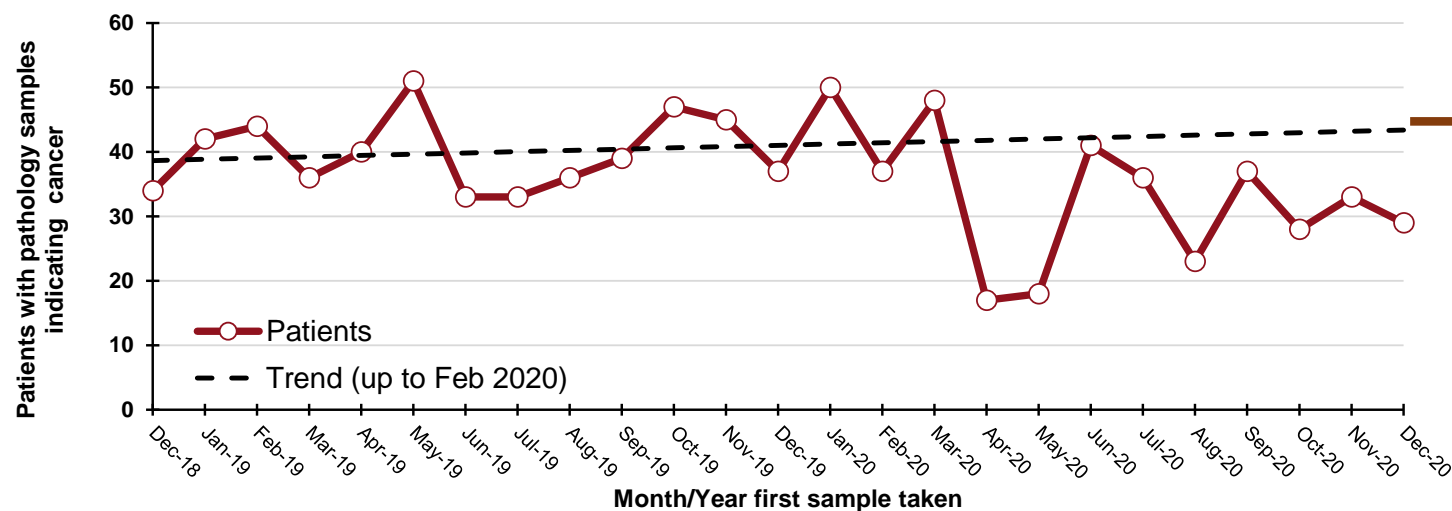


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



**120**  
"missed" patients  
from start of Mar-20 to  
the end of Dec-20

### By month and year first sample taken

Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	34
Jan-19	42
Feb-19	44
Mar-19	36
Apr-19	40
May-19	51
Jun-19	33
Jul-19	33
Aug-19	36
Sep-19	39
Oct-19	47
Nov-19	45
Dec-19	37
Jan-20	50
Feb-20	37
Mar-20	48
Apr-20	17
May-20	18
Jun-20	41
Jul-20	36
Aug-20	23
Sep-20	37
Oct-20	28
Nov-20	33
Dec-20	29

## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	41	28	-32%
Nov-20	44	33	-26%
Dec-20	32	29	-9%
Jan-21*	14	7	-51%

\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

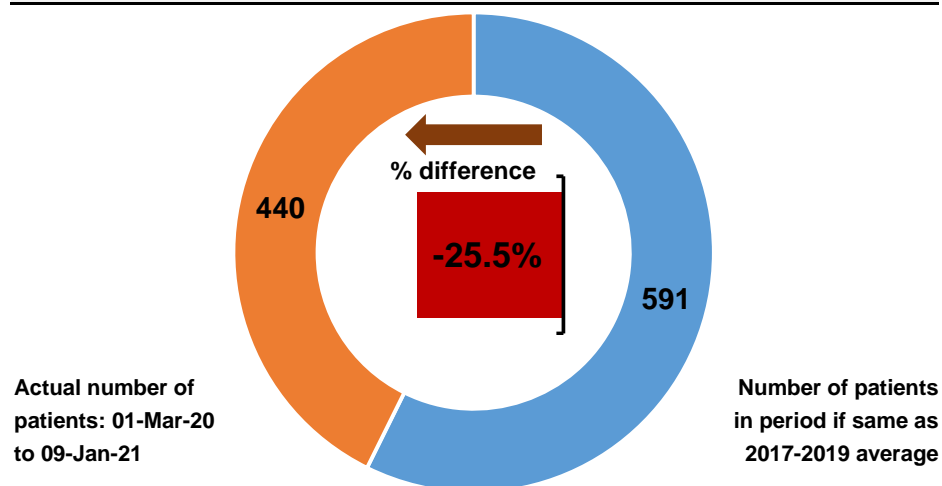
### By week first sample taken

Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	9	11			
10-Oct-20	10	4			
17-Oct-20	7	10			
24-Oct-20	9	7			
31-Oct-20	8	3	43	35	-19%
07-Nov-20	11	7	45	31	-32%
14-Nov-20	11	8	46	35	-24%
21-Nov-20	10	9	49	34	-31%
28-Nov-20	10	5	50	32	-36%
05-Dec-20	12	15	55	44	-20%
12-Dec-20	9	4	52	41	-22%
19-Dec-20	6	7	48	40	-16%
26-Dec-20	3	4	41	35	-14%
02-Jan-21	6	3	37	33	-10%
09-Jan-21	10	7	34	25	-27%

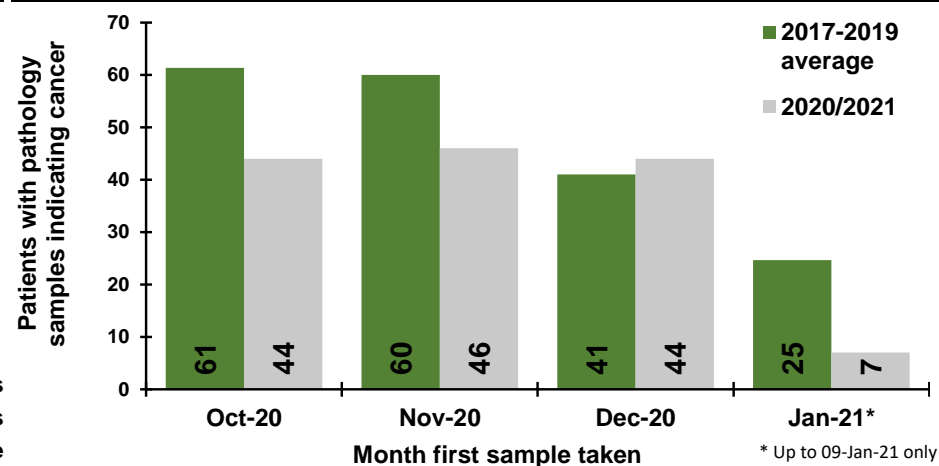
Note: Includes colon, rectum and rectosigmoid junction (ICD10 codes: C18-C20).

## Patients with pathology samples indicating lung cancer: All persons

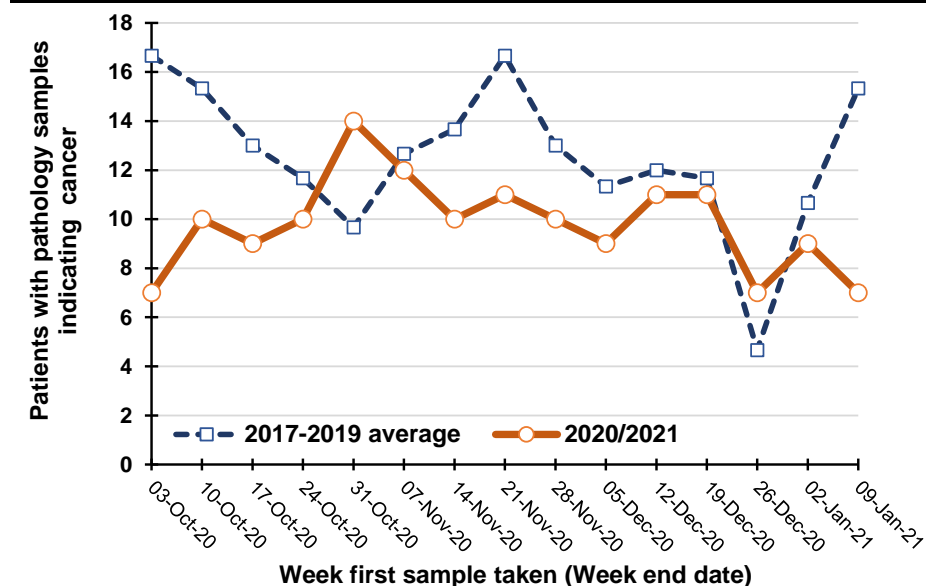
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



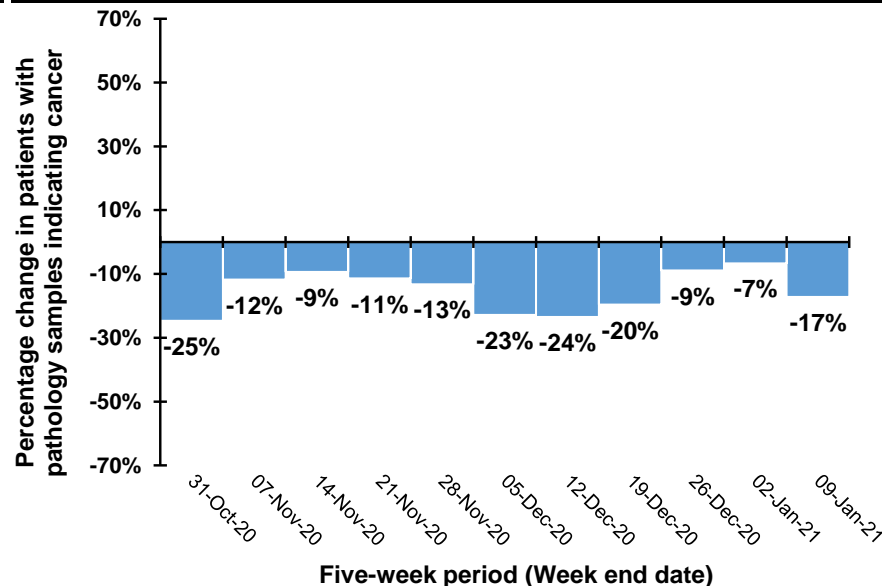
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

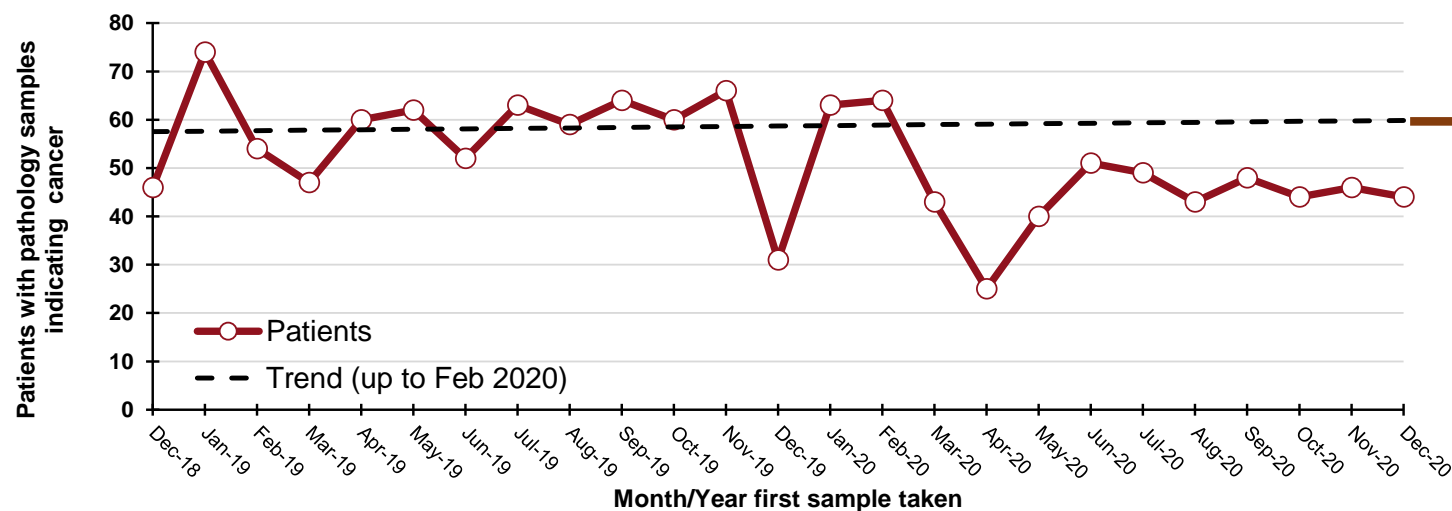


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	61	44	-28%
Nov-20	60	46	-23%
Dec-20	41	44	7%
Jan-21*	25	7	-72%

\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

### By week first sample taken

Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	17	7			
10-Oct-20	15	10			
17-Oct-20	13	9			
24-Oct-20	12	10			
31-Oct-20	10	14	66	50	-25%
07-Nov-20	13	12	62	55	-12%
14-Nov-20	14	10	61	55	-9%
21-Nov-20	17	11	64	57	-11%
28-Nov-20	13	10	66	57	-13%
05-Dec-20	11	9	67	52	-23%
12-Dec-20	12	11	67	51	-24%
19-Dec-20	12	11	65	52	-20%
26-Dec-20	5	7	53	48	-9%
02-Jan-21	11	9	50	47	-7%
09-Jan-21	15	7	54	45	-17%

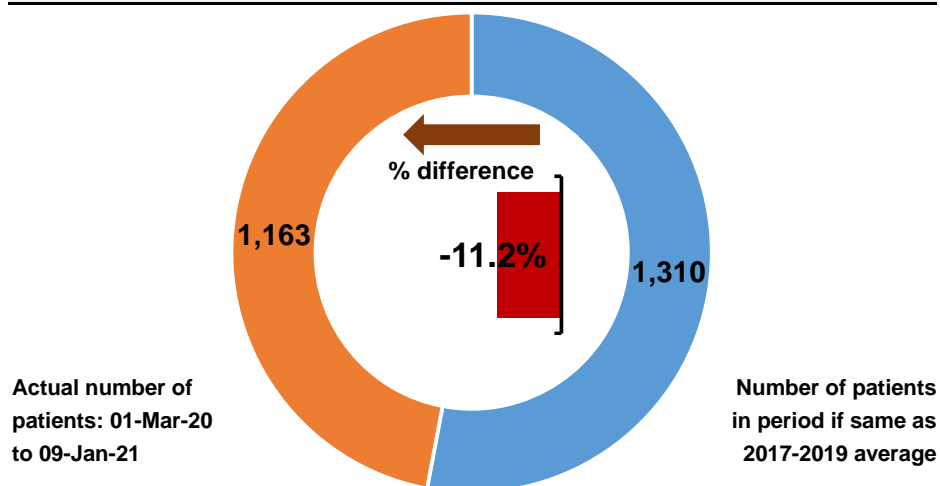
Note: Includes lung and trachea (ICD10 codes: C33-C34).

### By month and year first sample taken

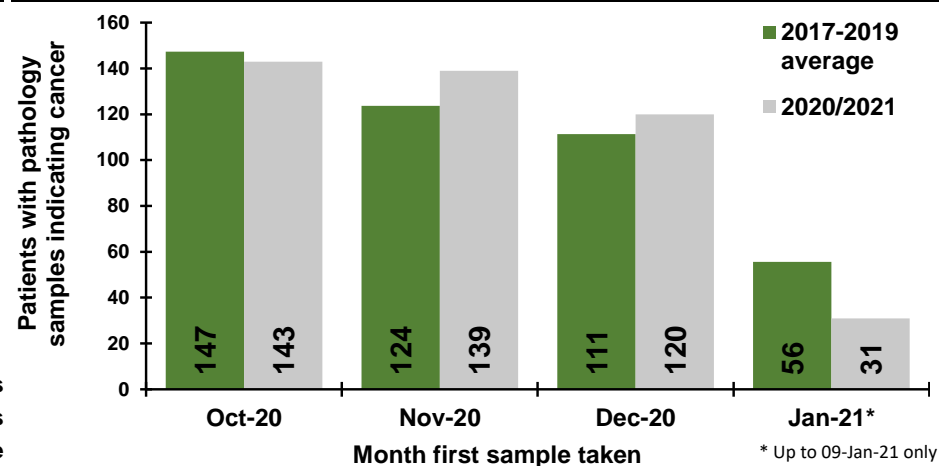
Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	46
Jan-19	74
Feb-19	54
Mar-19	47
Apr-19	60
May-19	62
Jun-19	52
Jul-19	63
Aug-19	59
Sep-19	64
Oct-19	60
Nov-19	66
Dec-19	31
Jan-20	63
Feb-20	64
Mar-20	43
Apr-20	25
May-20	40
Jun-20	51
Jul-20	49
Aug-20	43
Sep-20	48
Oct-20	44
Nov-20	46
Dec-20	44

## Patients with pathology samples indicating breast cancer: Females

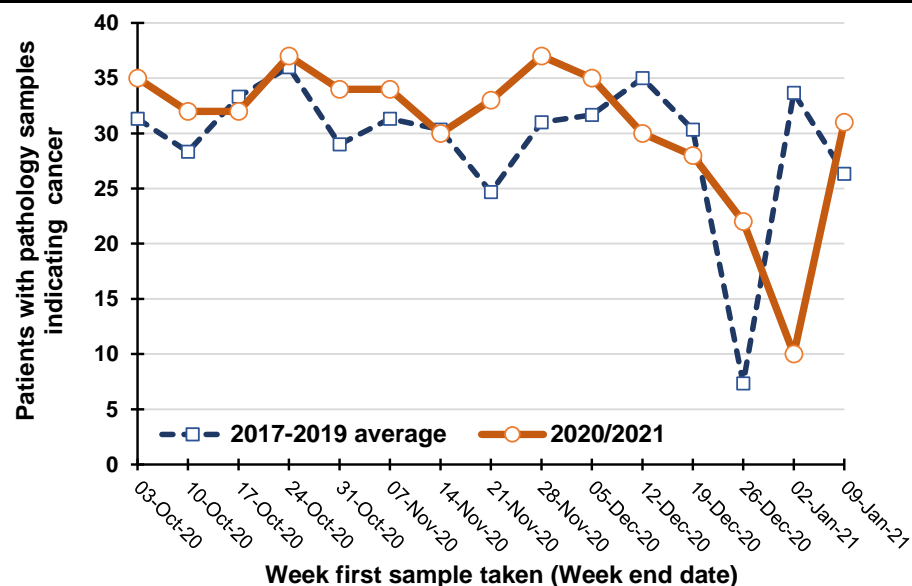
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



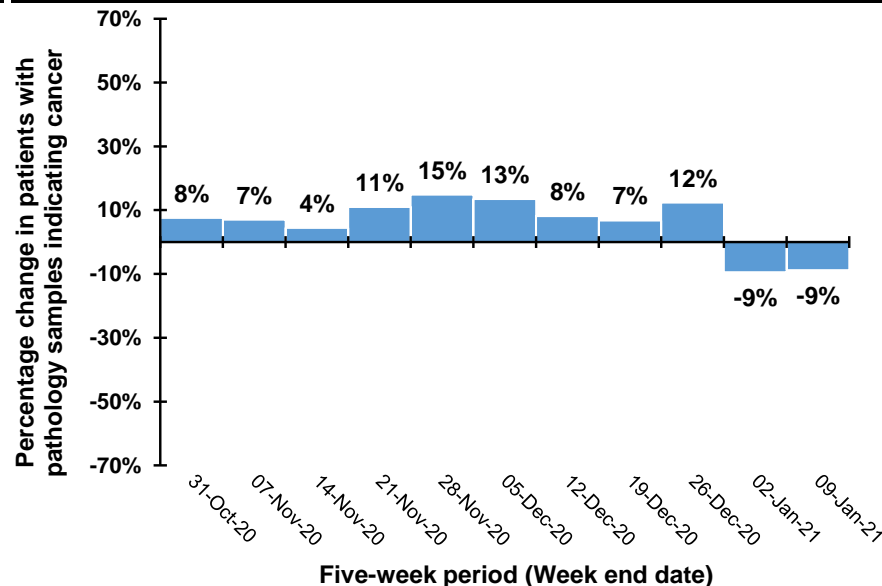
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

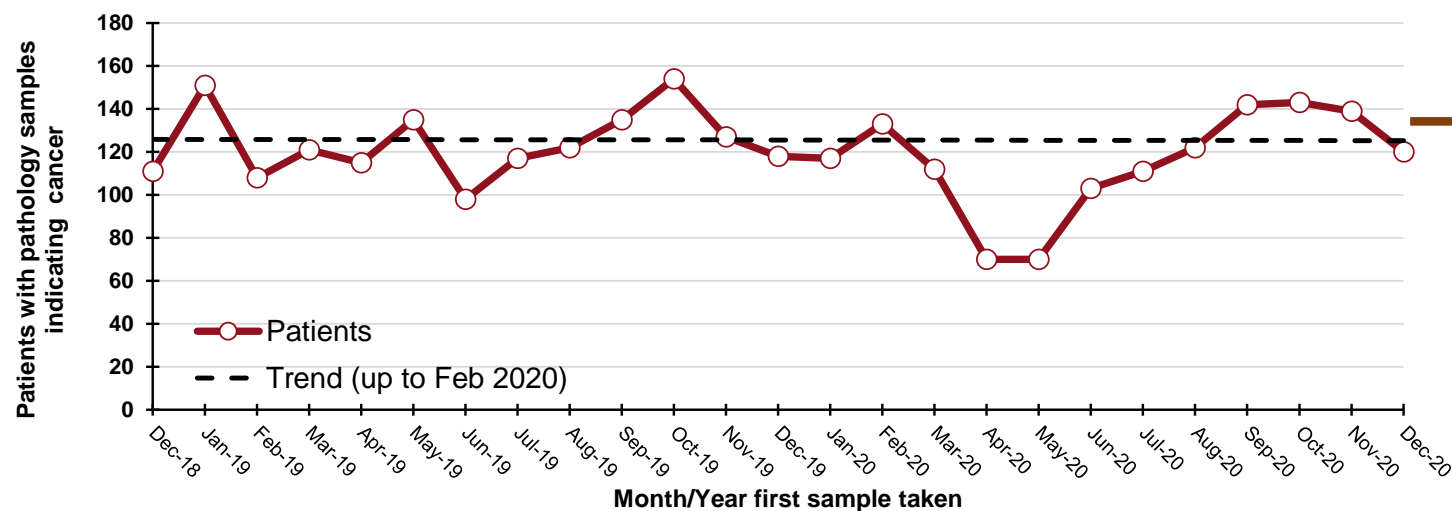


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



**120**  
"missed" patients  
from start of Mar-20 to  
the end of Dec-20

### By month and year first sample taken

Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	111
Jan-19	151
Feb-19	108
Mar-19	121
Apr-19	115
May-19	135
Jun-19	98
Jul-19	117
Aug-19	122
Sep-19	135
Oct-19	154
Nov-19	127
Dec-19	118
Jan-20	117
Feb-20	133
Mar-20	112
Apr-20	70
May-20	70
Jun-20	103
Jul-20	111
Aug-20	122
Sep-20	142
Oct-20	143
Nov-20	139
Dec-20	120

## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	147	143	-3%
Nov-20	124	139	12%
Dec-20	111	120	8%
Jan-21*	56	31	-44%

\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

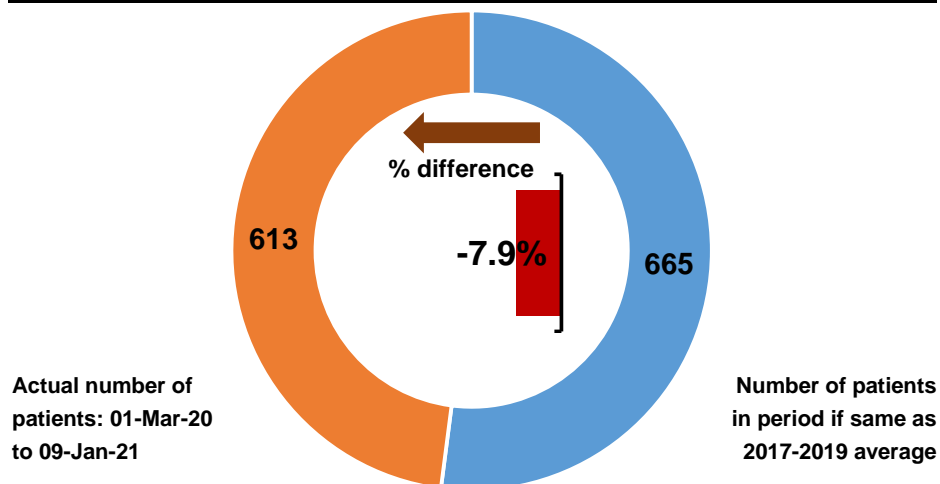
### By week first sample taken

Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	31	35			
10-Oct-20	28	32			
17-Oct-20	33	32			
24-Oct-20	36	37			
31-Oct-20	29	34	158	170	8%
07-Nov-20	31	34	158	169	7%
14-Nov-20	30	30	160	167	4%
21-Nov-20	25	33	151	168	11%
28-Nov-20	31	37	146	168	15%
05-Dec-20	32	35	149	169	13%
12-Dec-20	35	30	153	165	8%
19-Dec-20	30	28	153	163	7%
26-Dec-20	7	22	135	152	12%
02-Jan-21	34	10	138	125	-9%
09-Jan-21	26	31	133	121	-9%

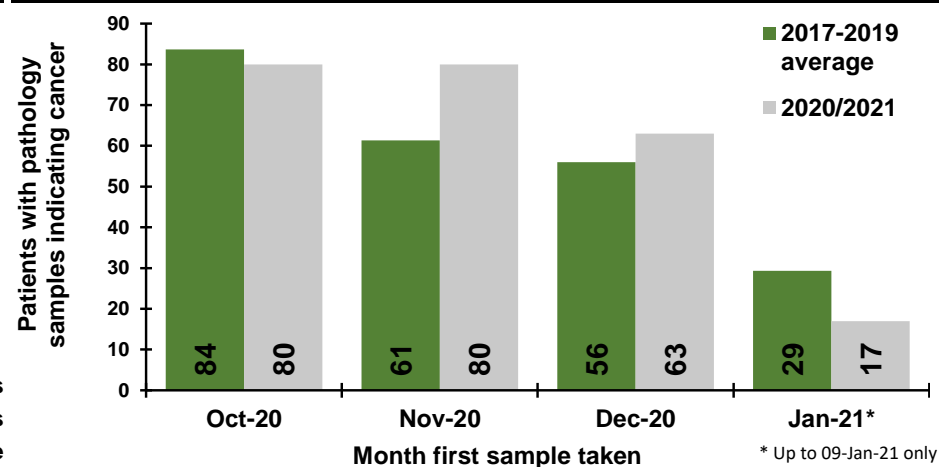
Note: Includes female breast only (ICD10 codes: C50).

## Patients with pathology samples indicating breast cancer: Females, screening age (50-70)

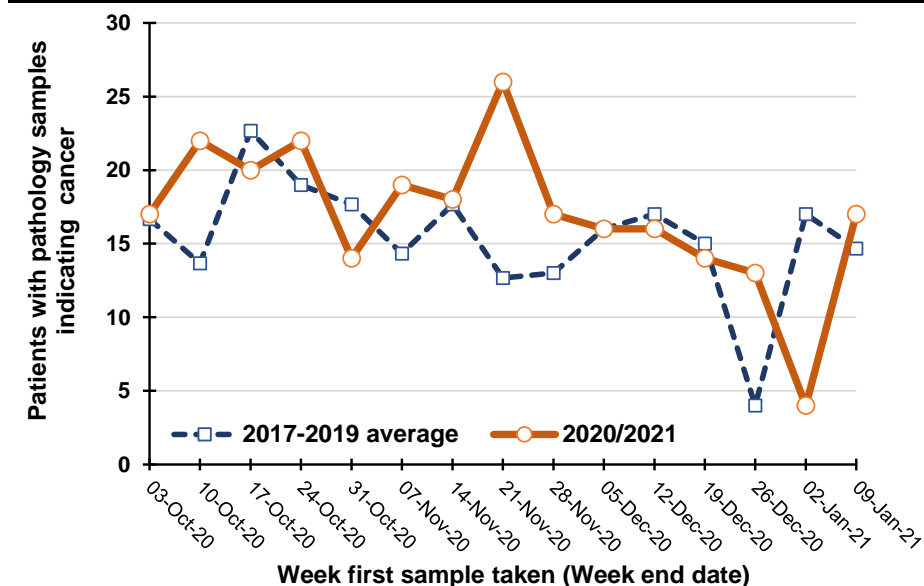
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



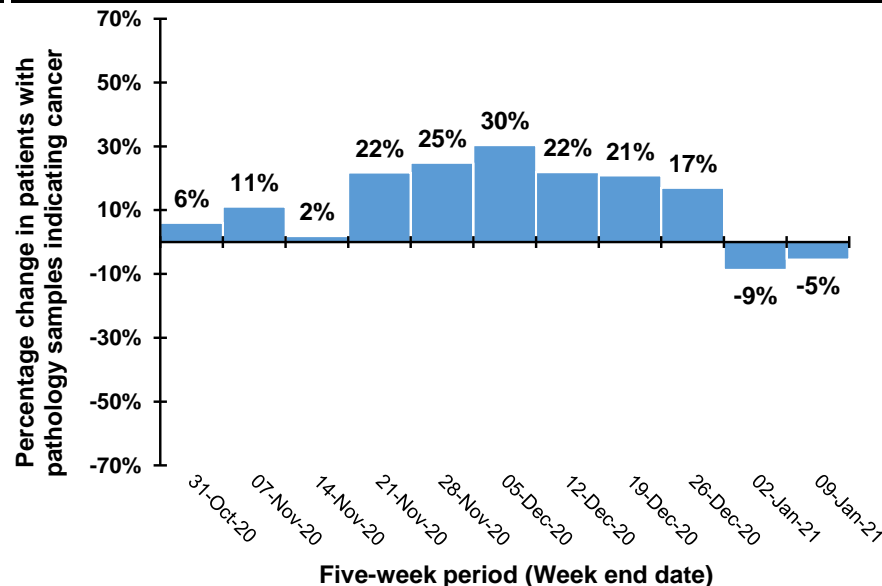
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

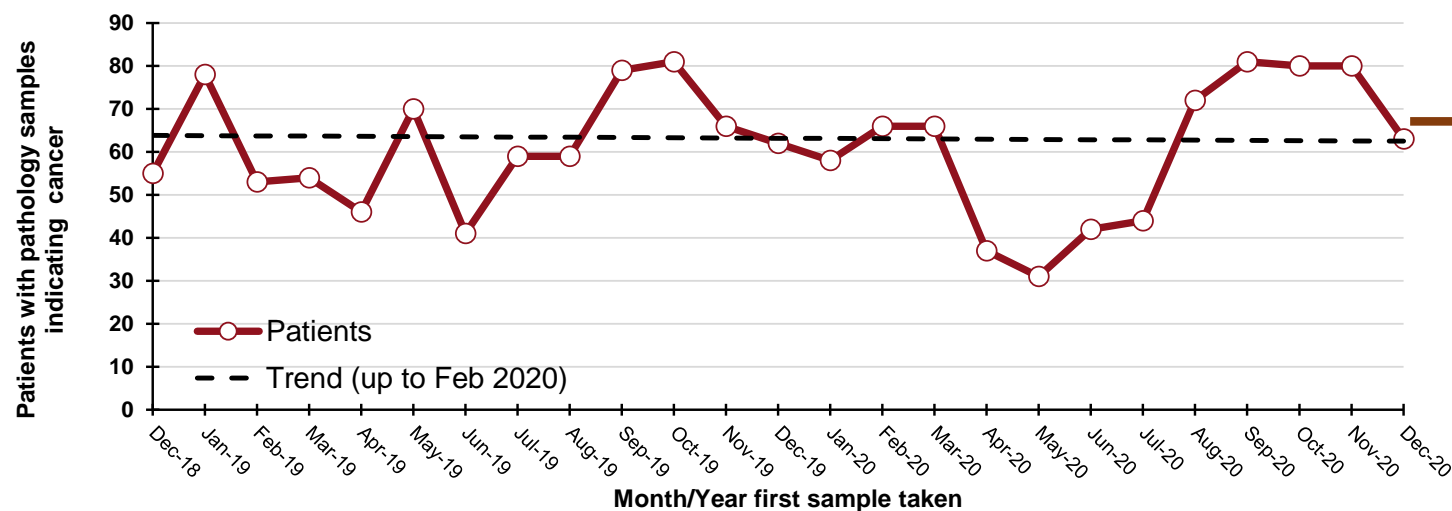


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



**30**  
"missed" patients  
from start of Mar-20 to  
the end of Dec-20

### By month and year first sample taken

Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	55
Jan-19	78
Feb-19	53
Mar-19	54
Apr-19	46
May-19	70
Jun-19	41
Jul-19	59
Aug-19	59
Sep-19	79
Oct-19	81
Nov-19	66
Dec-19	62
Jan-20	58
Feb-20	66
Mar-20	66
Apr-20	37
May-20	31
Jun-20	42
Jul-20	44
Aug-20	72
Sep-20	81
Oct-20	80
Nov-20	80
Dec-20	63

## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	84	80	-4%
Nov-20	61	80	30%
Dec-20	56	63	12%
Jan-21*	29	17	-42%

\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

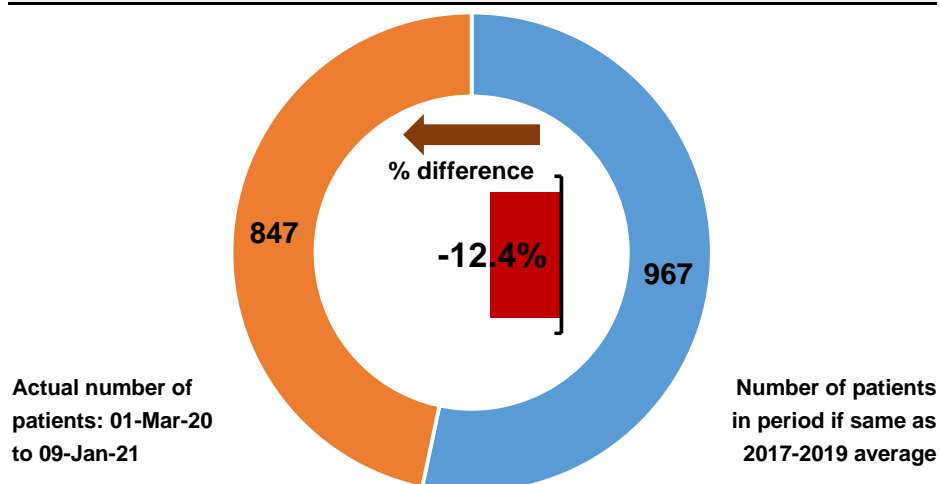
### By week first sample taken

Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	17	17			
10-Oct-20	14	22			
17-Oct-20	23	20			
24-Oct-20	19	22			
31-Oct-20	18	14	90	95	6%
07-Nov-20	14	19	87	97	11%
14-Nov-20	18	18	91	93	2%
21-Nov-20	13	26	81	99	22%
28-Nov-20	13	17	75	94	25%
05-Dec-20	16	16	74	96	30%
12-Dec-20	17	16	76	93	22%
19-Dec-20	15	14	74	89	21%
26-Dec-20	4	13	65	76	17%
02-Jan-21	17	4	69	63	-9%
09-Jan-21	15	17	68	64	-5%

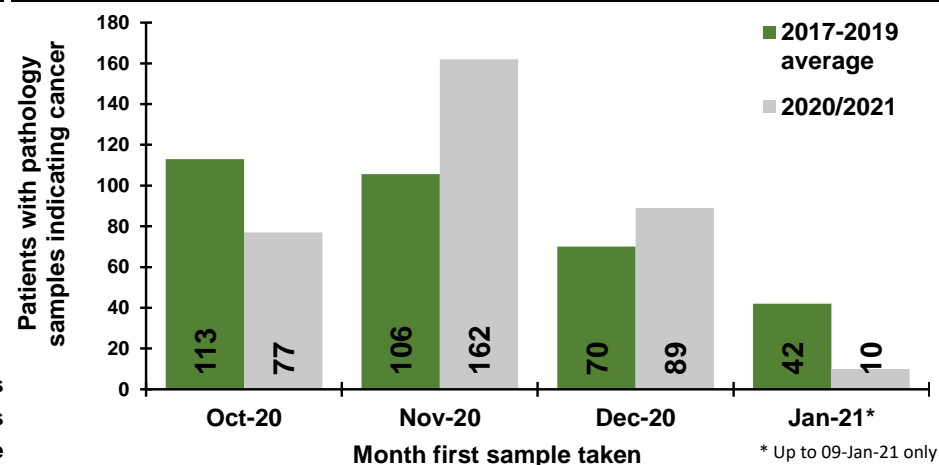
Note: Includes female breast only (ICD10 codes: C50).

## Patients with pathology samples indicating prostate cancer: Males

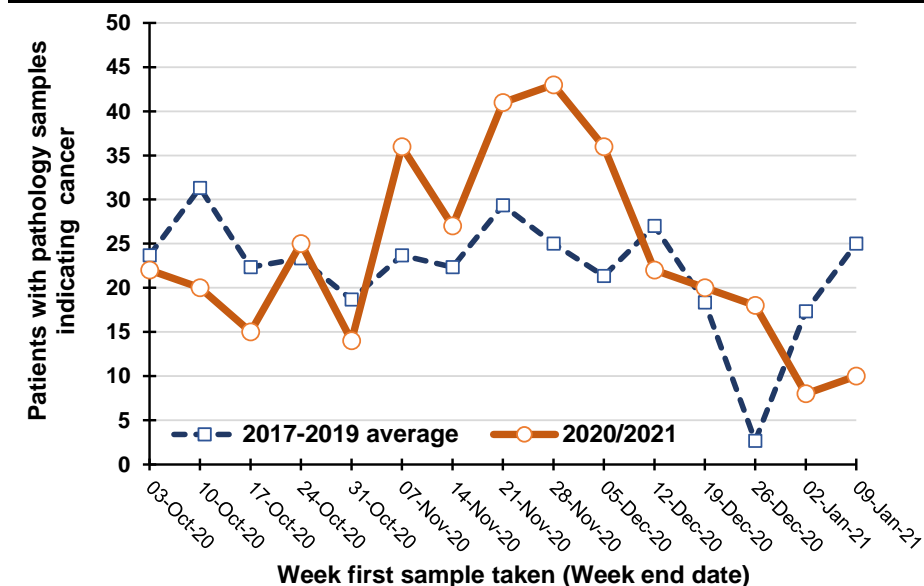
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



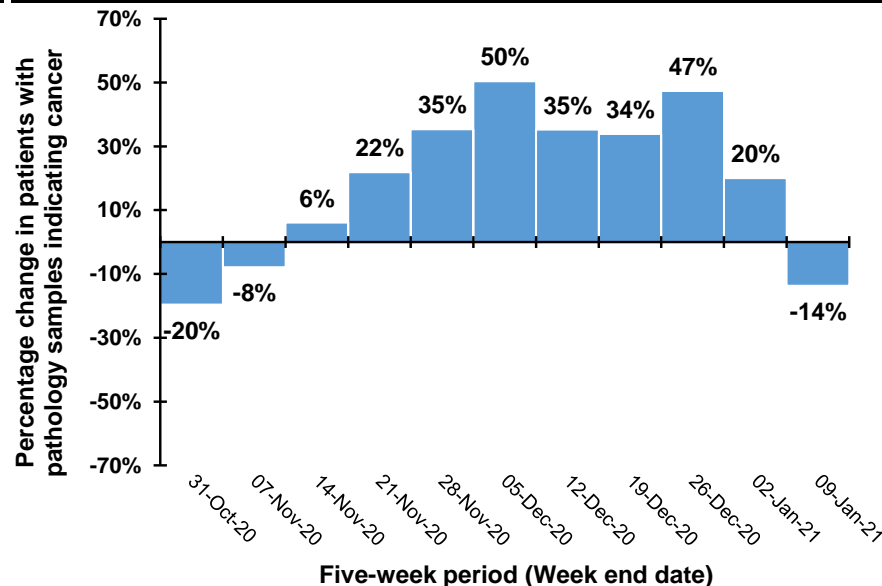
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

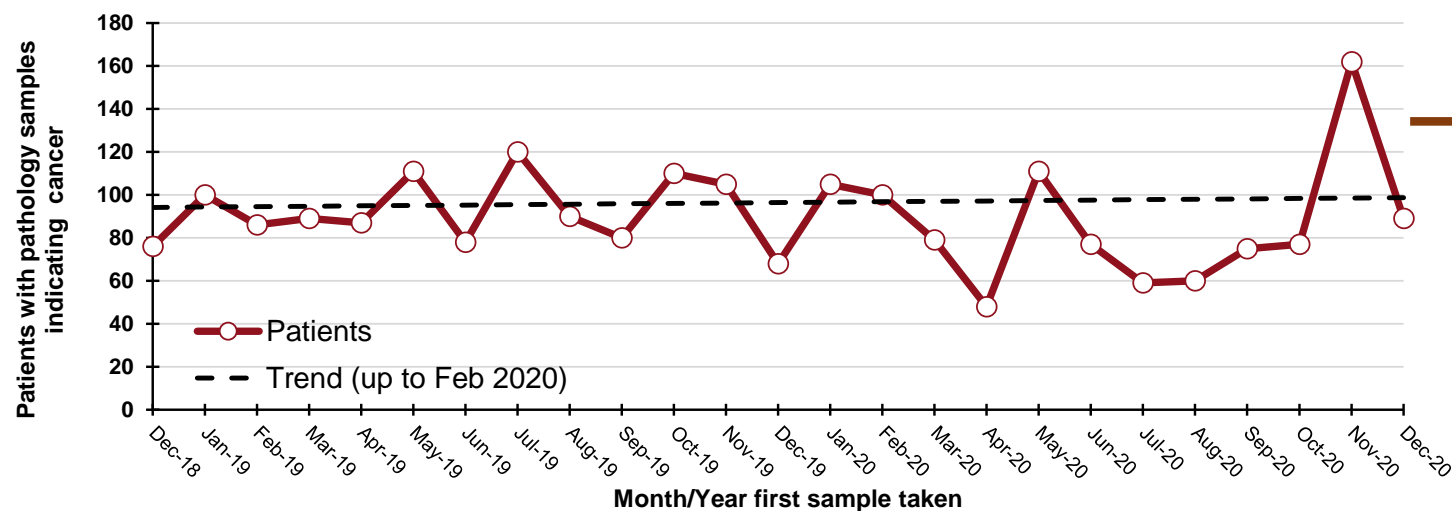


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	113	77	-32%
Nov-20	106	162	53%
Dec-20	70	89	27%
Jan-21*	42	10	-76%

\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

### By week first sample taken

Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	24	22			
10-Oct-20	31	20			
17-Oct-20	22	15			
24-Oct-20	23	25			
31-Oct-20	19	14	119	96	-20%
07-Nov-20	24	36	119	110	-8%
14-Nov-20	22	27	110	117	6%
21-Nov-20	29	41	117	143	22%
28-Nov-20	25	43	119	161	35%
05-Dec-20	21	36	122	183	50%
12-Dec-20	27	22	125	169	35%
19-Dec-20	18	20	121	162	34%
26-Dec-20	3	18	94	139	47%
02-Jan-21	17	8	87	104	20%
09-Jan-21	25	10	90	78	-14%

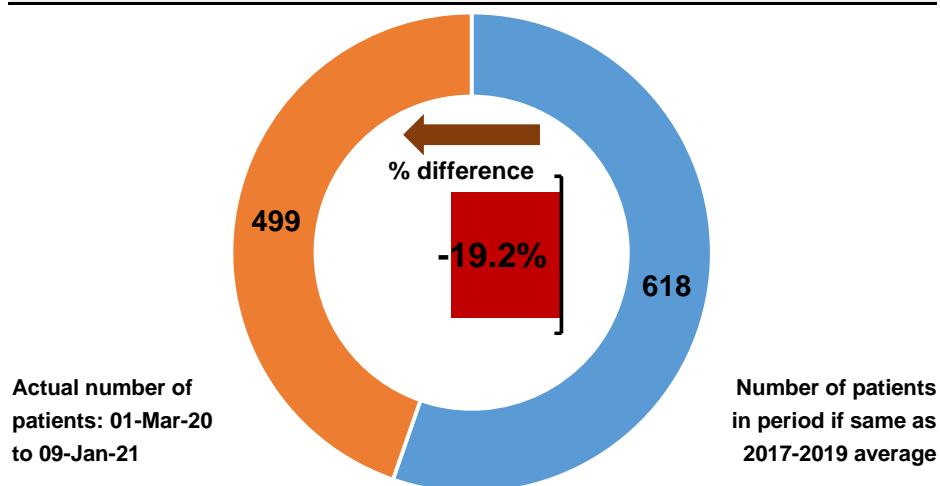
### By month and year first sample taken

Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	76
Jan-19	100
Feb-19	86
Mar-19	89
Apr-19	87
May-19	111
Jun-19	78
Jul-19	120
Aug-19	90
Sep-19	80
Oct-19	110
Nov-19	105
Dec-19	68
Jan-20	105
Feb-20	100
Mar-20	79
Apr-20	48
May-20	111
Jun-20	77
Jul-20	59
Aug-20	60
Sep-20	75
Oct-20	77
Nov-20	162
Dec-20	89

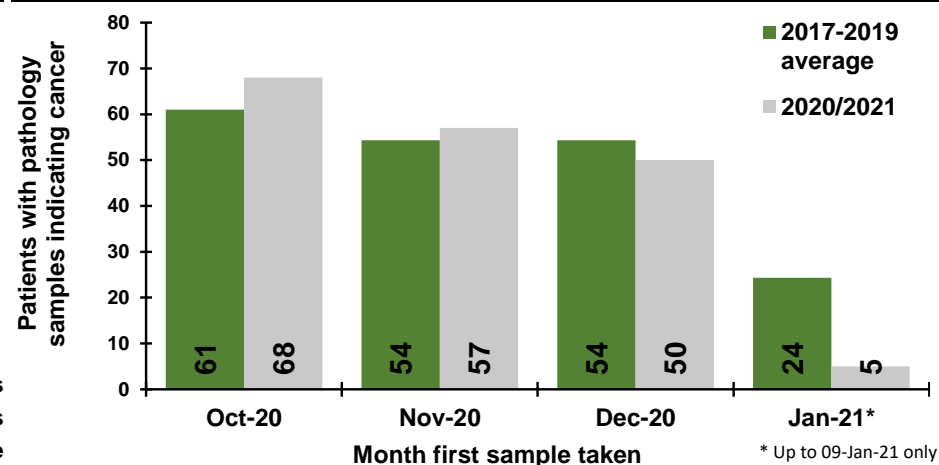
Note: (ICD10 codes: C61).

## Patients with pathology samples indicating gynaecological cancer: Females

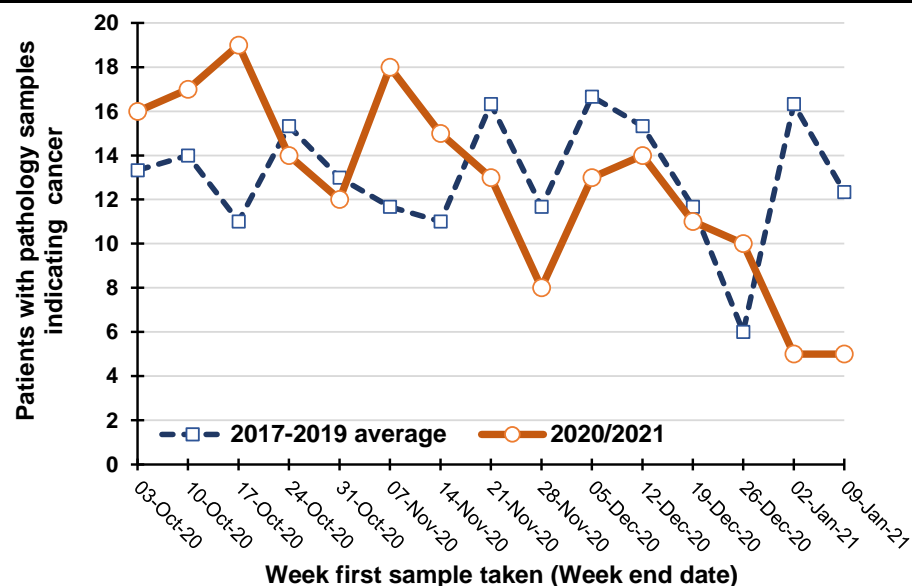
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



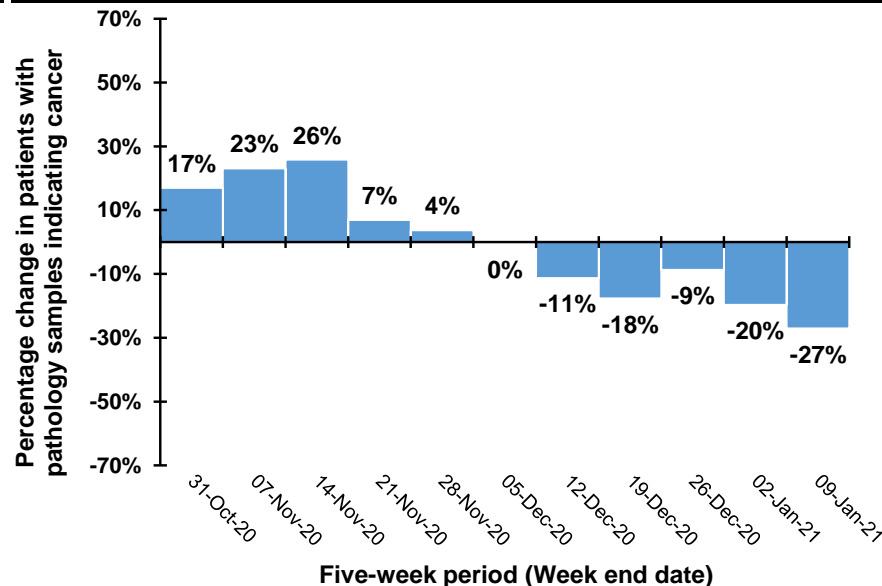
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

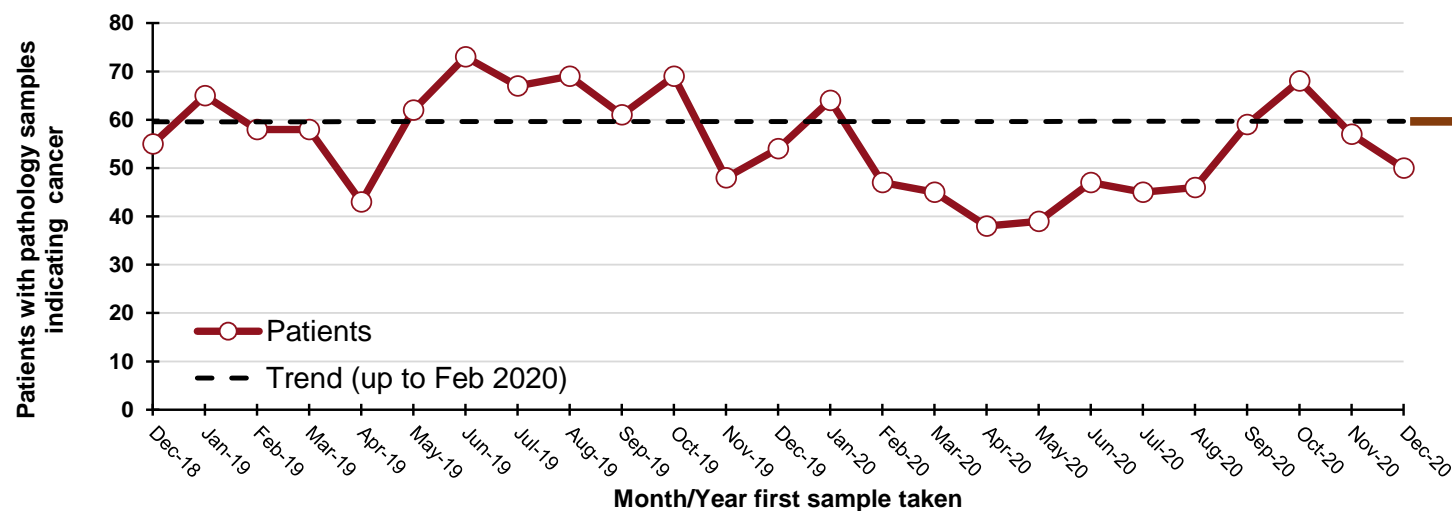


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



**100**  
"missed" patients  
from start of Mar-20 to  
the end of Dec-20

## By month and year first sample taken

Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	55
Jan-19	65
Feb-19	58
Mar-19	58
Apr-19	43
May-19	62
Jun-19	73
Jul-19	67
Aug-19	69
Sep-19	61
Oct-19	69
Nov-19	48
Dec-19	54
Jan-20	64
Feb-20	47
Mar-20	45
Apr-20	38
May-20	39
Jun-20	47
Jul-20	45
Aug-20	46
Sep-20	59
Oct-20	68
Nov-20	57
Dec-20	50

## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	61	68	11%
Nov-20	54	57	5%
Dec-20	54	50	-8%
Jan-21*	24	5	-79%

\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

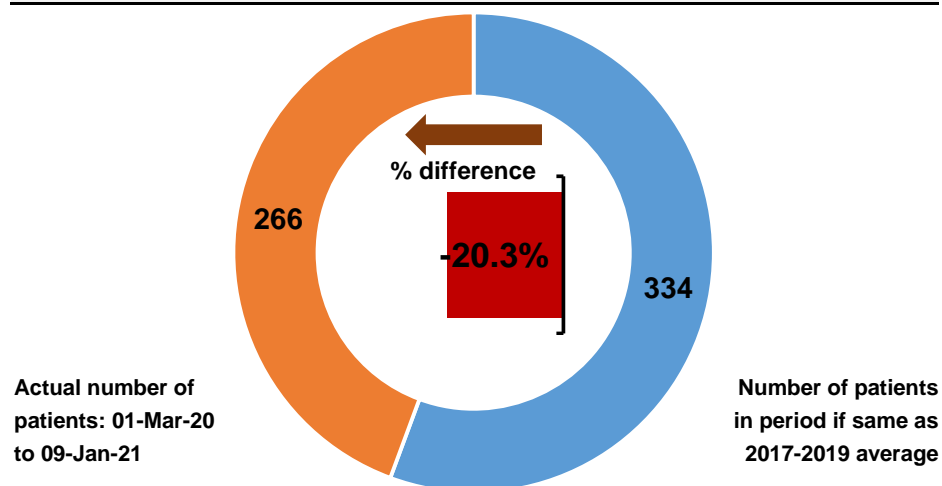
### By week first sample taken

Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	13	16			
10-Oct-20	14	17			
17-Oct-20	11	19			
24-Oct-20	15	14			
31-Oct-20	13	12	67	78	17%
07-Nov-20	12	18	65	80	23%
14-Nov-20	11	15	62	78	26%
21-Nov-20	16	13	67	72	7%
28-Nov-20	12	8	64	66	4%
05-Dec-20	17	13	67	67	0%
12-Dec-20	15	14	71	63	-11%
19-Dec-20	12	11	72	59	-18%
26-Dec-20	6	10	61	56	-9%
02-Jan-21	16	5	66	53	-20%
09-Jan-21	12	5	62	45	-27%

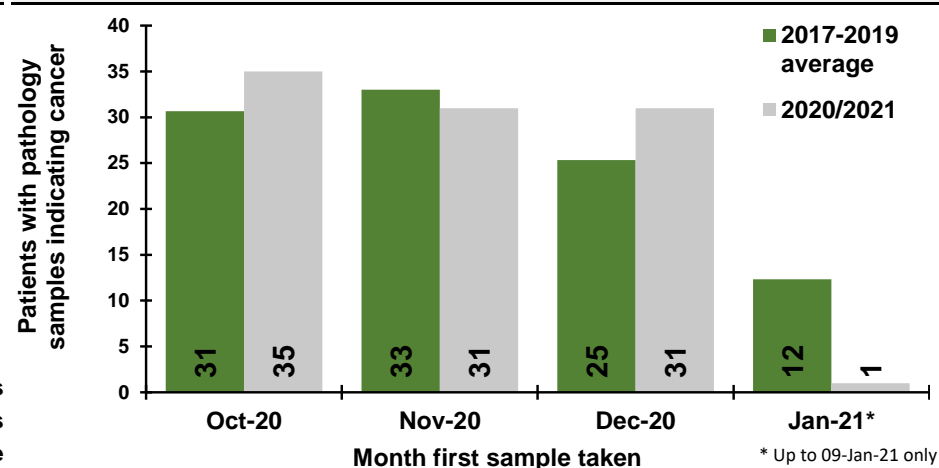
Note: Includes uterus, ovary, cervix, vulva, vagina, placenta and other female genital (ICD10 codes: C51-C58).

## Patients with pathology samples indicating upper gastrointestinal cancer: All persons

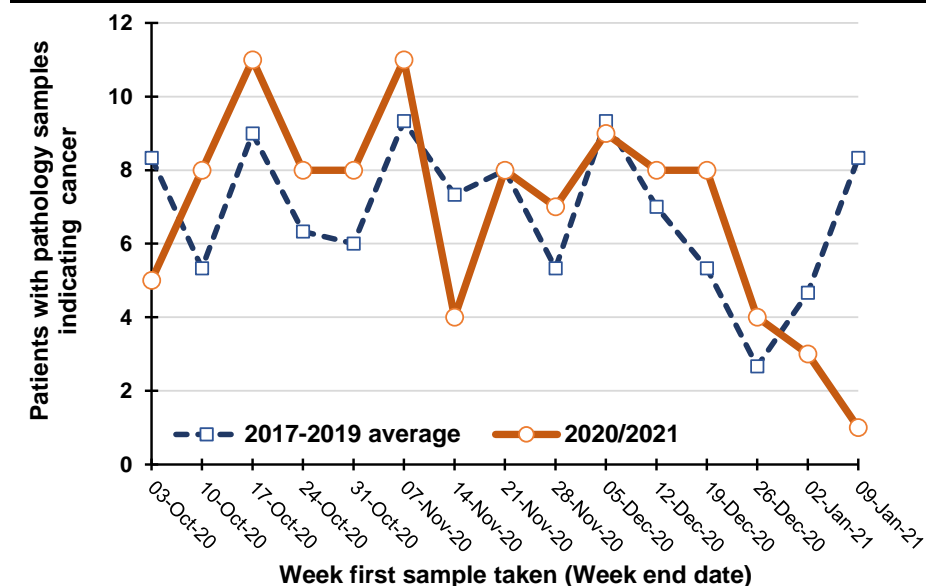
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



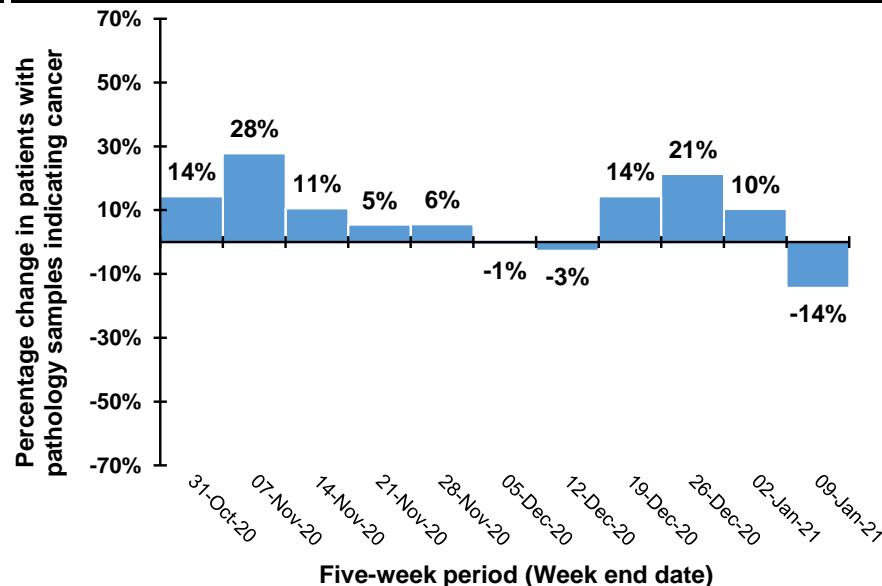
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

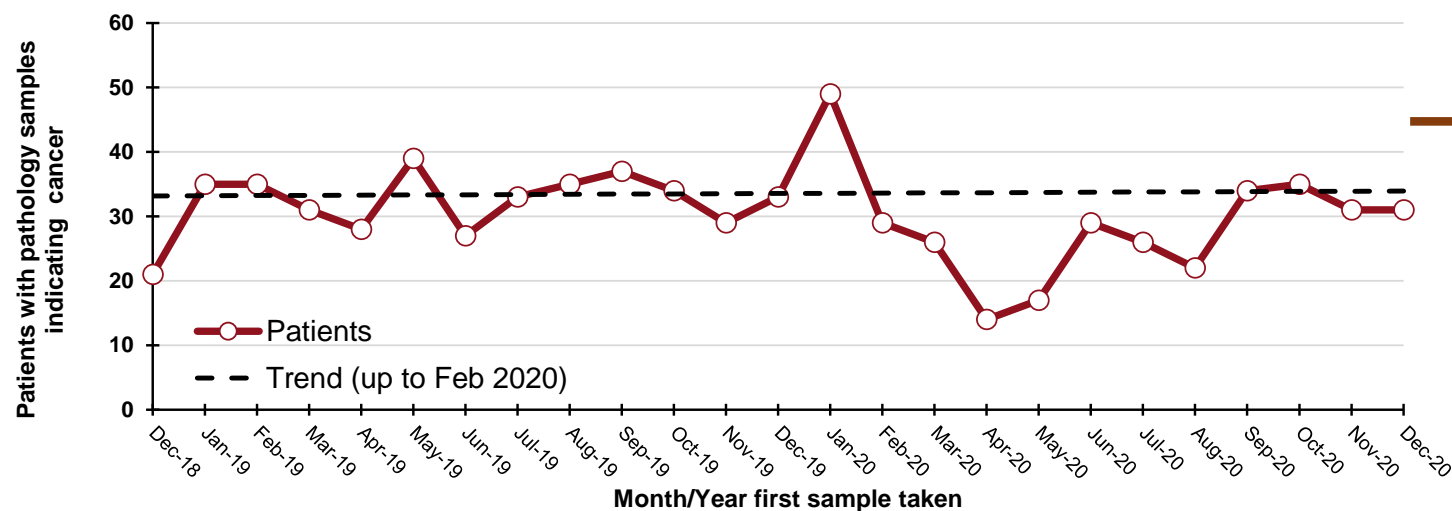


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



**70**  
"missed" patients  
from start of Mar-20 to  
the end of Dec-20

### By month and year first sample taken

Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	21
Jan-19	35
Feb-19	35
Mar-19	31
Apr-19	28
May-19	39
Jun-19	27
Jul-19	33
Aug-19	35
Sep-19	37
Oct-19	34
Nov-19	29
Dec-19	33
Jan-20	49
Feb-20	29
Mar-20	26
Apr-20	14
May-20	17
Jun-20	29
Jul-20	26
Aug-20	22
Sep-20	34
Oct-20	35
Nov-20	31
Dec-20	31

## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	31	35	14%
Nov-20	33	31	-6%
Dec-20	25	31	22%
Jan-21*	12	1	-92%

\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

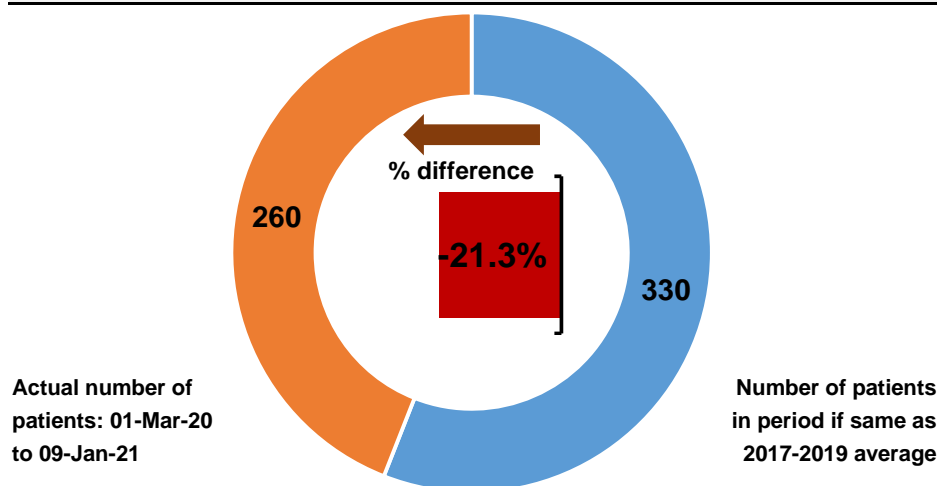
### By week first sample taken

Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	8	5			
10-Oct-20	5	8			
17-Oct-20	9	11			
24-Oct-20	6	8			
31-Oct-20	6	8	35	40	14%
07-Nov-20	9	11	36	46	28%
14-Nov-20	7	4	38	42	11%
21-Nov-20	8	8	37	39	5%
28-Nov-20	5	7	36	38	6%
05-Dec-20	9	9	39	39	-1%
12-Dec-20	7	8	37	36	-3%
19-Dec-20	5	8	35	40	14%
26-Dec-20	3	4	30	36	21%
02-Jan-21	5	3	29	32	10%
09-Jan-21	8	1	28	24	-14%

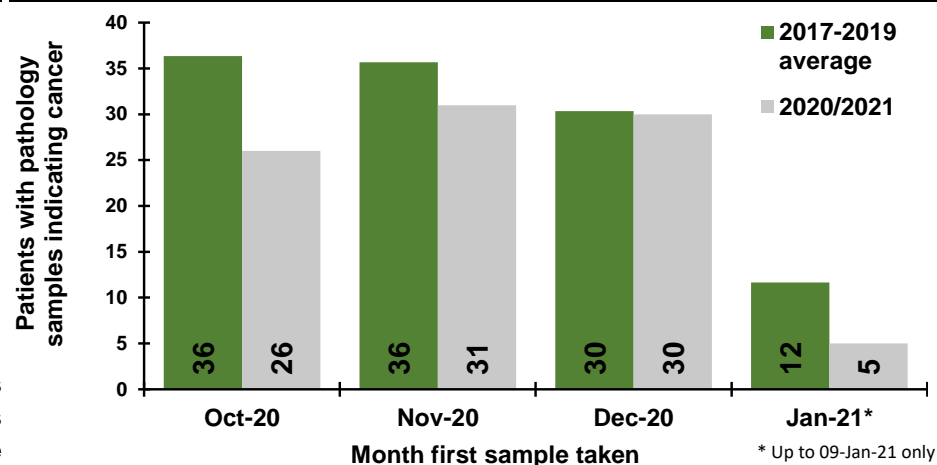
Note: Includes oesophagus and stomach (ICD10 codes: C15, C16).

## Patients with pathology samples indicating head & neck cancer: All persons

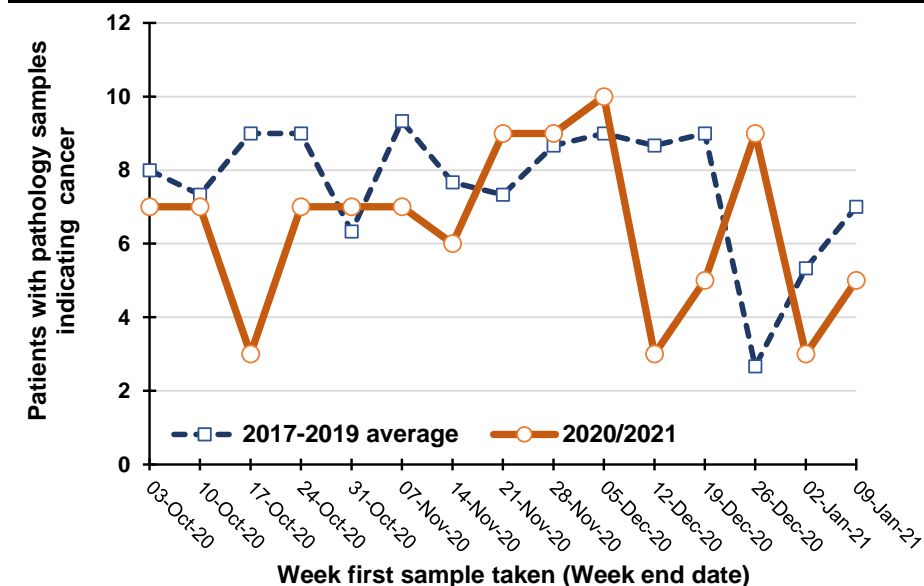
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



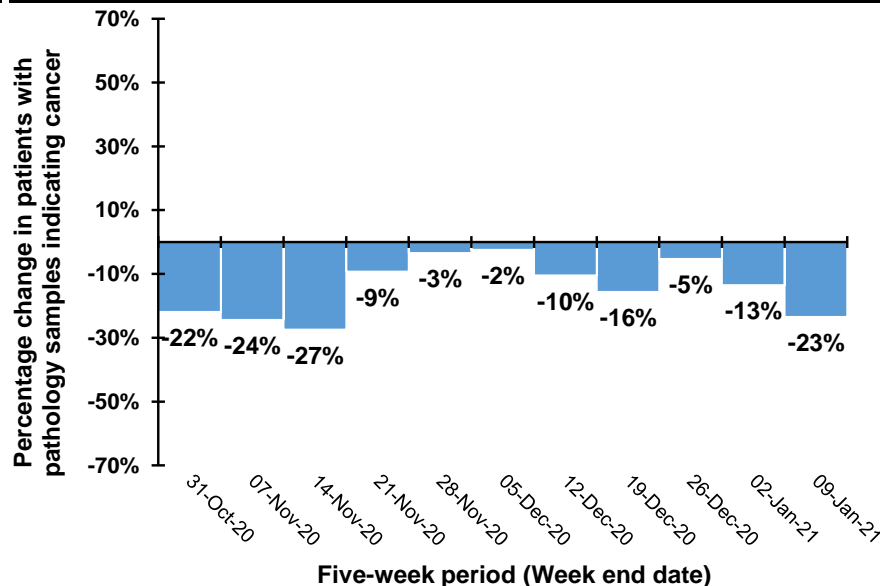
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

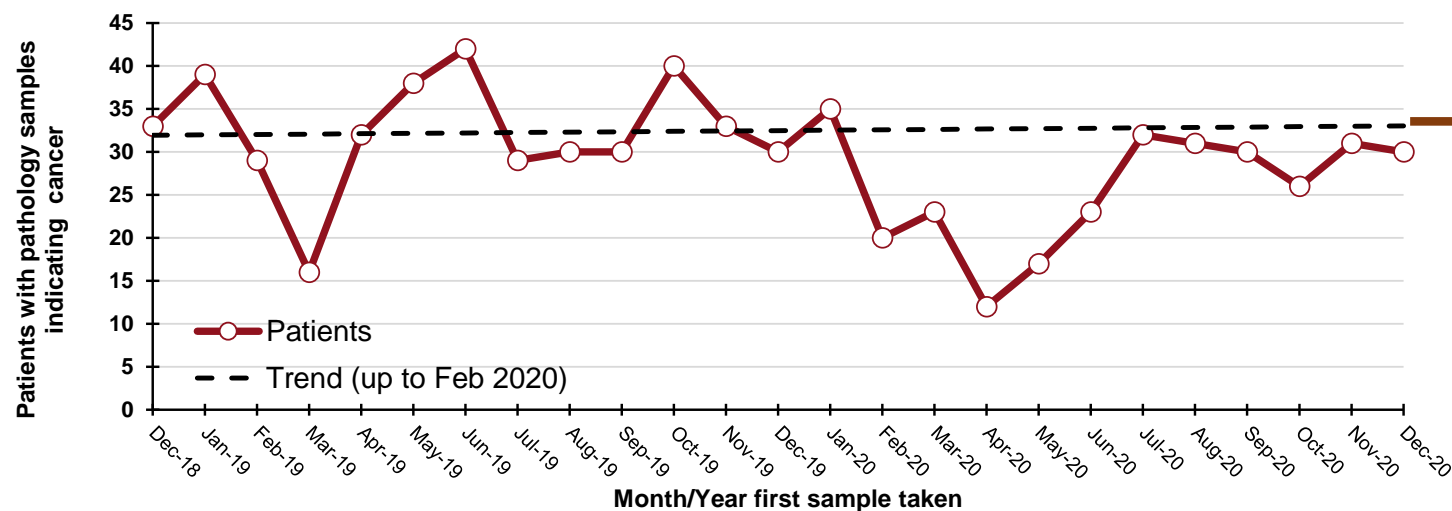


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



**70**  
"missed" patients  
from start of Mar-20 to  
the end of Dec-20

## By month and year first sample taken

Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	33
Jan-19	39
Feb-19	29
Mar-19	16
Apr-19	32
May-19	38
Jun-19	42
Jul-19	29
Aug-19	30
Sep-19	30
Oct-19	40
Nov-19	33
Dec-19	30
Jan-20	35
Feb-20	20
Mar-20	23
Apr-20	12
May-20	17
Jun-20	23
Jul-20	32
Aug-20	31
Sep-20	30
Oct-20	26
Nov-20	31
Dec-20	30

## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	36	26	-28%
Nov-20	36	31	-13%
Dec-20	30	30	-1%
Jan-21*	12	5	-57%

\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

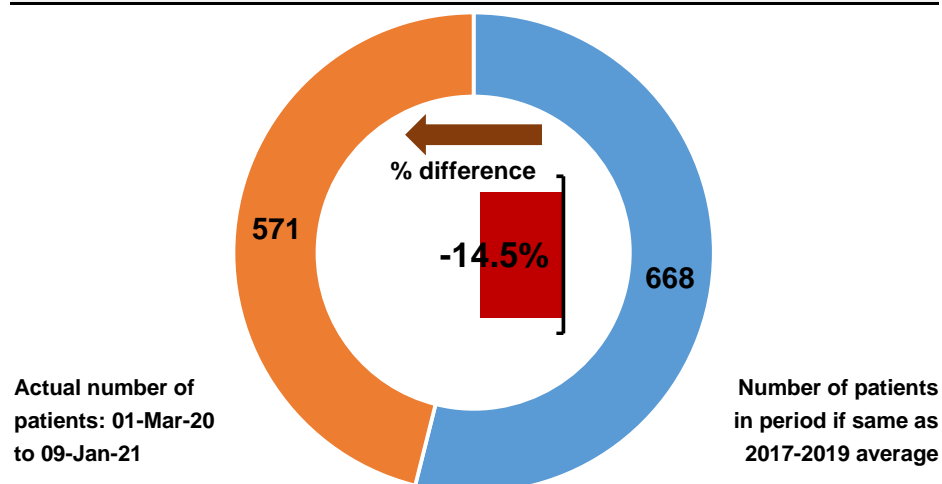
### By week first sample taken

Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	8	7			
10-Oct-20	7	7			
17-Oct-20	9	3			
24-Oct-20	9	7			
31-Oct-20	6	7	40	31	-22%
07-Nov-20	9	7	41	31	-24%
14-Nov-20	8	6	41	30	-27%
21-Nov-20	7	9	40	36	-9%
28-Nov-20	9	9	39	38	-3%
05-Dec-20	9	10	42	41	-2%
12-Dec-20	9	3	41	37	-10%
19-Dec-20	9	5	43	36	-16%
26-Dec-20	3	9	38	36	-5%
02-Jan-21	5	3	35	30	-13%
09-Jan-21	7	5	33	25	-23%

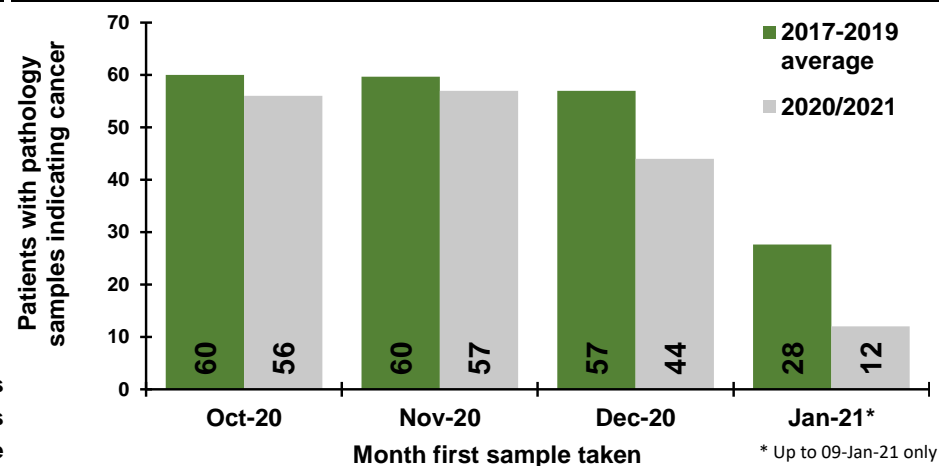
Note: Includes lip, tongue, mouth, parotid & salivary glands, tonsil, oropharynx, nasopharynx, pyriform sinus, hypopharynx, nasal cavity, middle ear, sinuses and larynx (ICD10 codes: C00-C14, C30-C32).

## Patients with pathology samples indicating urinary cancer: All persons

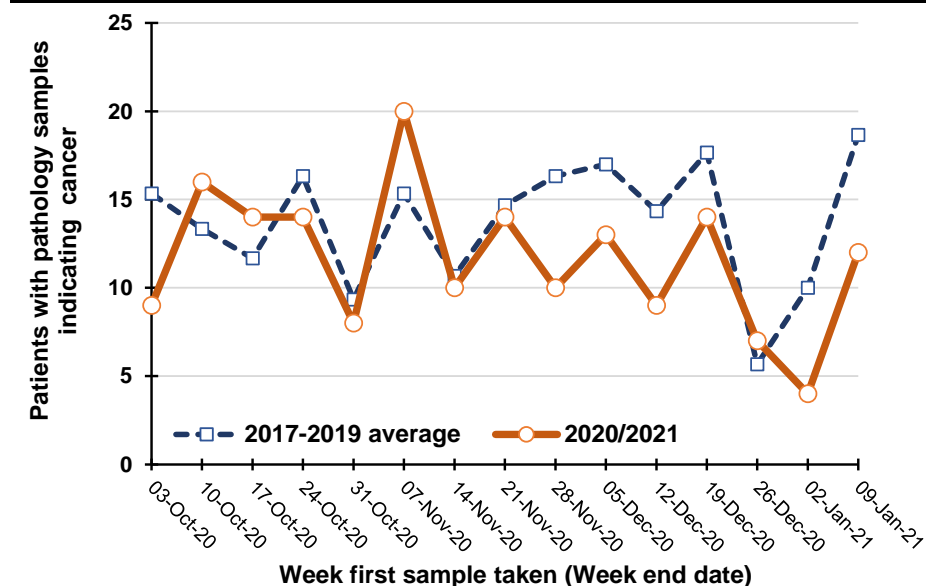
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



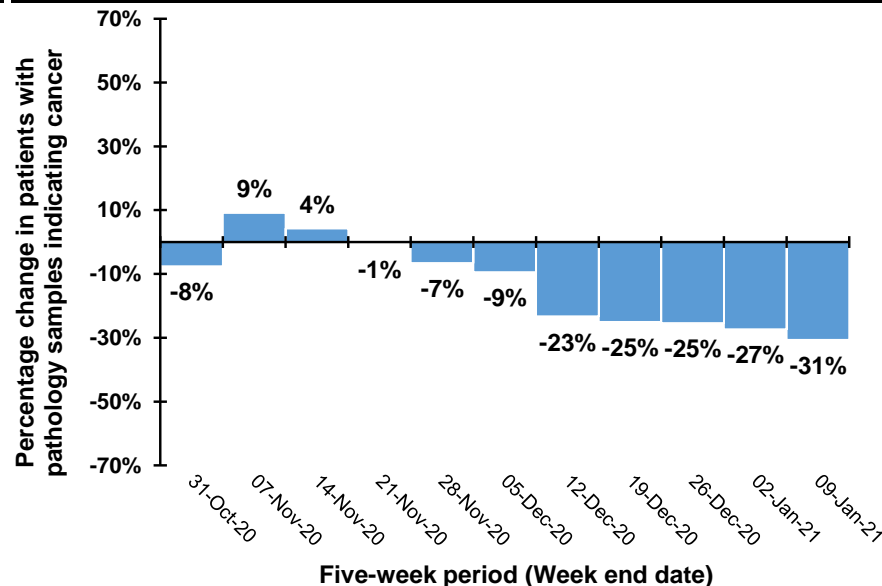
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

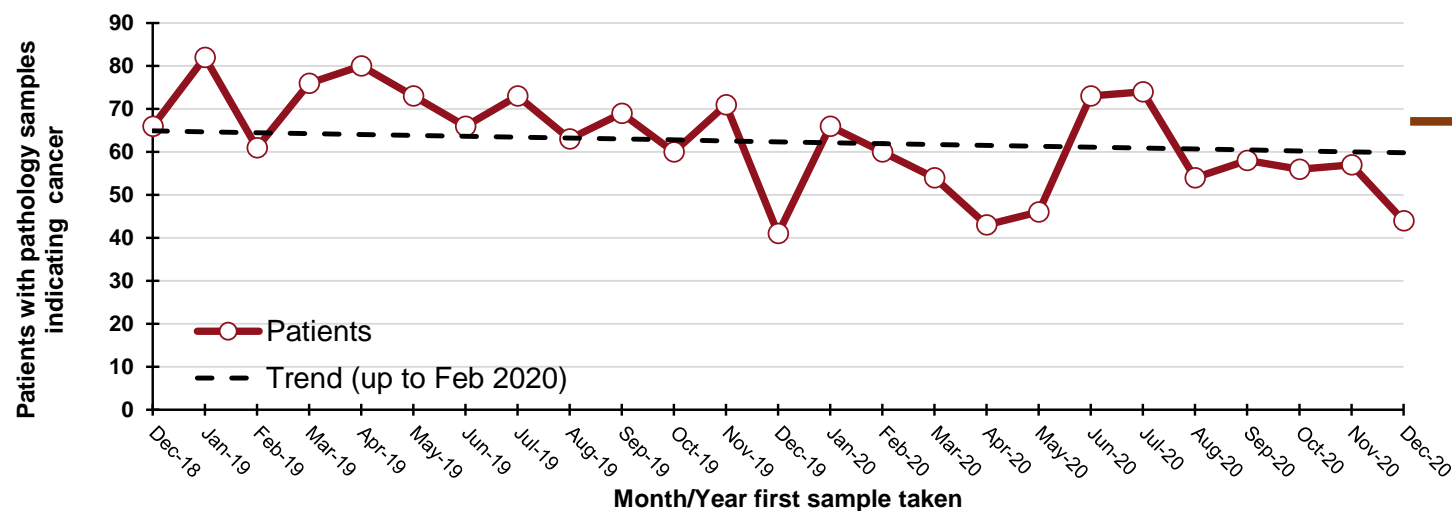


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



**50**  
"missed" patients  
from start of Mar-20 to  
the end of Dec-20

## By month and year first sample taken

Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	66
Jan-19	82
Feb-19	61
Mar-19	76
Apr-19	80
May-19	73
Jun-19	66
Jul-19	73
Aug-19	63
Sep-19	69
Oct-19	60
Nov-19	71
Dec-19	41
Jan-20	66
Feb-20	60
Mar-20	54
Apr-20	43
May-20	46
Jun-20	73
Jul-20	74
Aug-20	54
Sep-20	58
Oct-20	56
Nov-20	57
Dec-20	44

## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	60	56	-7%
Nov-20	60	57	-4%
Dec-20	57	44	-23%
Jan-21*	28	12	-57%

\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

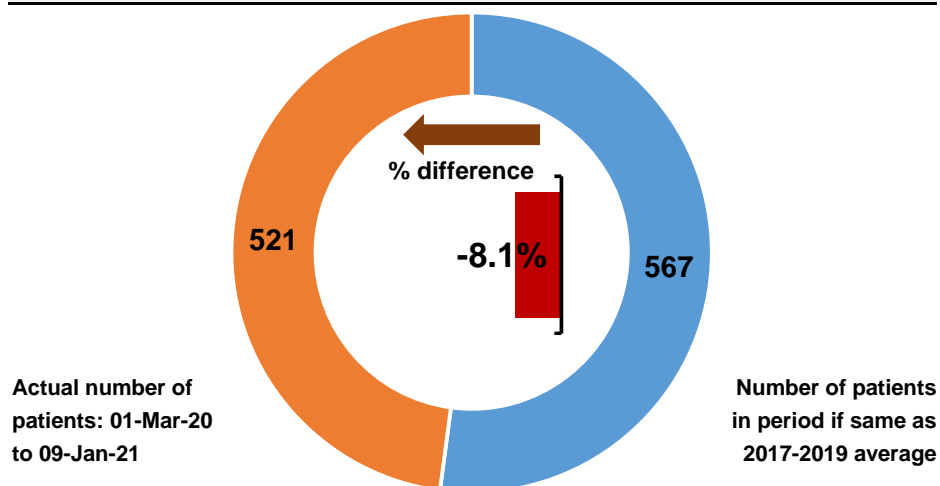
### By week first sample taken

Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	15	9			
10-Oct-20	13	16			
17-Oct-20	12	14			
24-Oct-20	16	14			
31-Oct-20	9	8	66	61	-8%
07-Nov-20	15	20	66	72	9%
14-Nov-20	11	10	63	66	4%
21-Nov-20	15	14	66	66	-1%
28-Nov-20	16	10	66	62	-7%
05-Dec-20	17	13	74	67	-9%
12-Dec-20	14	9	73	56	-23%
19-Dec-20	18	14	80	60	-25%
26-Dec-20	6	7	71	53	-25%
02-Jan-21	10	4	65	47	-27%
09-Jan-21	19	12	66	46	-31%

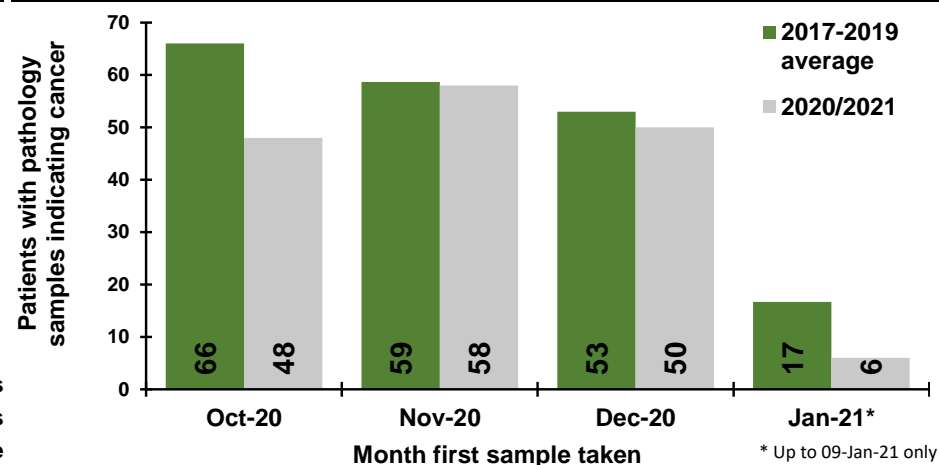
Note: Includes kidney, renal pelvis, ureter, bladder and other urinary (ICD10 codes: C64-C68).

## Patients with pathology samples indicating haematological cancer: All persons

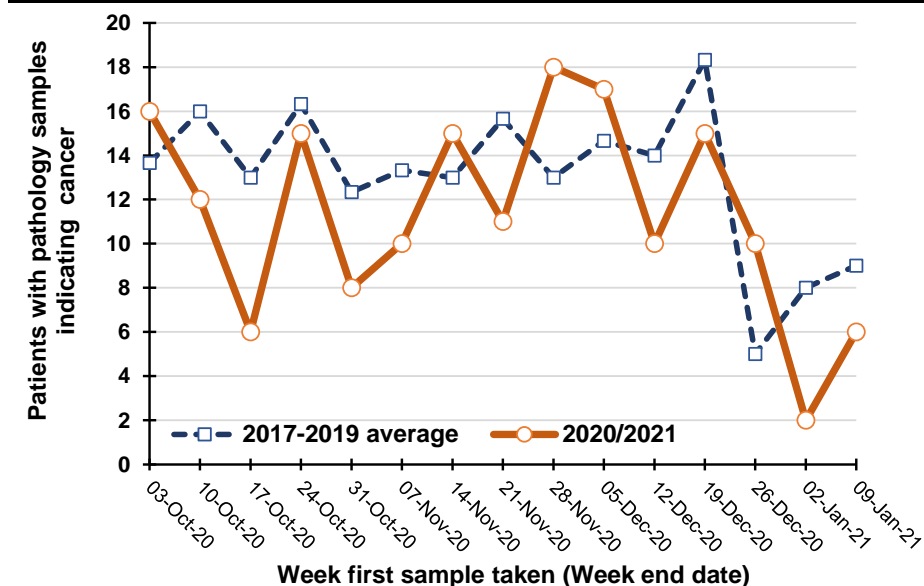
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



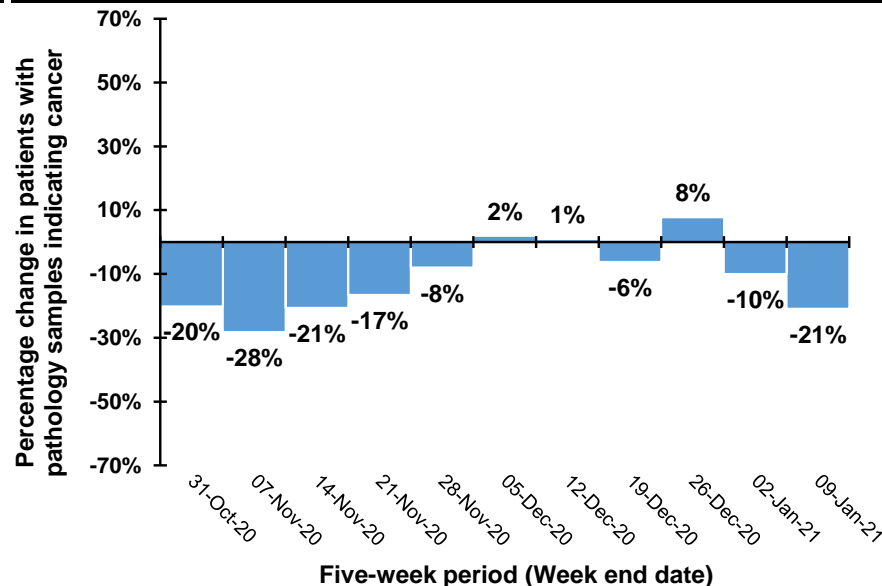
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

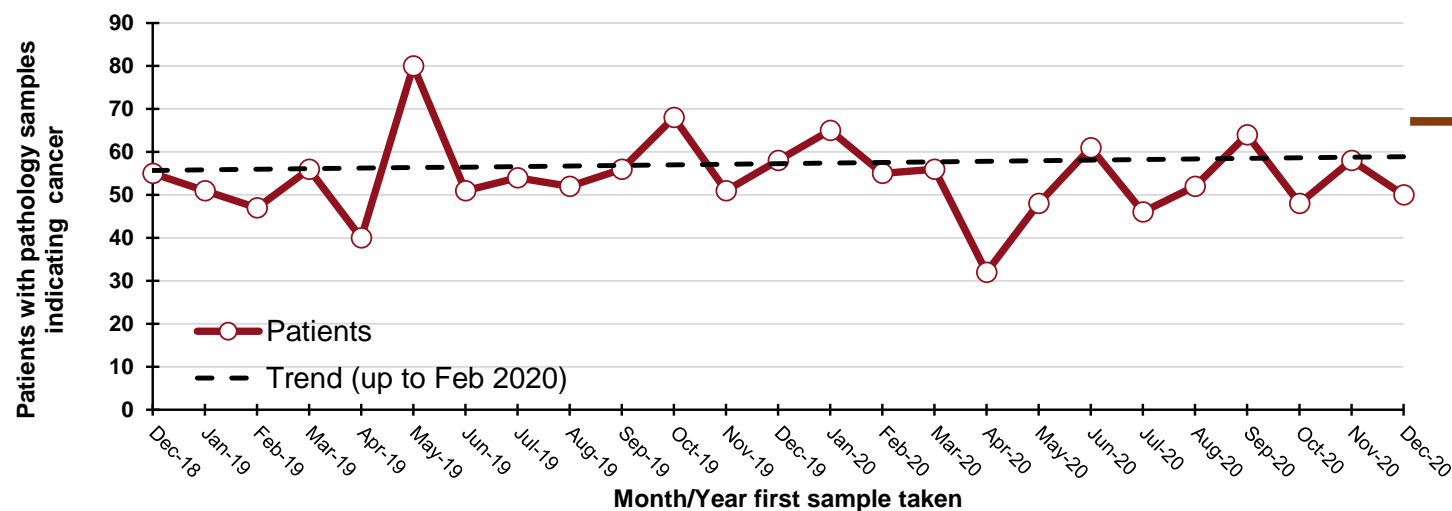


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



**70**  
"missed" patients  
from start of Mar-20 to  
the end of Dec-20

## By month and year first sample taken

Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	55
Jan-19	51
Feb-19	47
Mar-19	56
Apr-19	40
May-19	80
Jun-19	51
Jul-19	54
Aug-19	52
Sep-19	56
Oct-19	68
Nov-19	51
Dec-19	58
Jan-20	65
Feb-20	55
Mar-20	56
Apr-20	32
May-20	48
Jun-20	61
Jul-20	46
Aug-20	52
Sep-20	64
Oct-20	48
Nov-20	58
Dec-20	50

## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	66	48	-27%
Nov-20	59	58	-1%
Dec-20	53	50	-6%
Jan-21*	17	6	-64%

\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

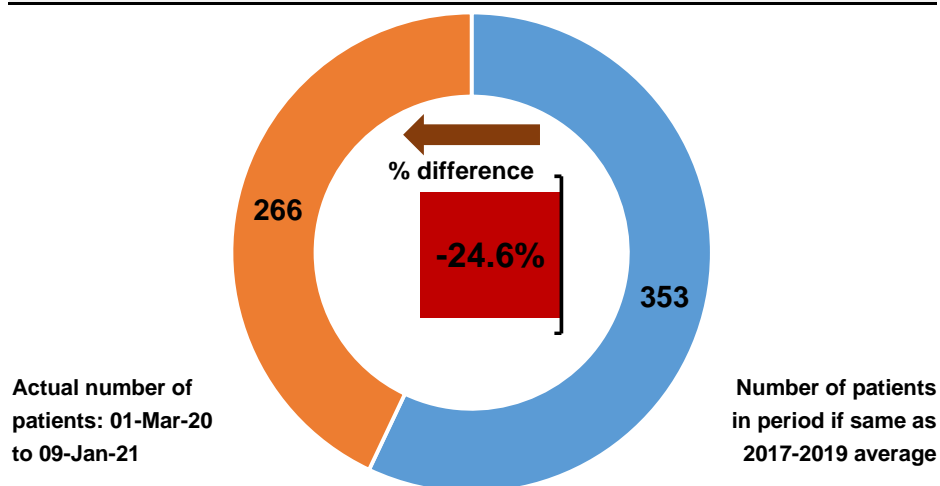
### By week first sample taken

Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	14	16			
10-Oct-20	16	12			
17-Oct-20	13	6			
24-Oct-20	16	15			
31-Oct-20	12	8	71	57	-20%
07-Nov-20	13	10	71	51	-28%
14-Nov-20	13	15	68	54	-21%
21-Nov-20	16	11	71	59	-17%
28-Nov-20	13	18	67	62	-8%
05-Dec-20	15	17	70	71	2%
12-Dec-20	14	10	70	71	1%
19-Dec-20	18	15	76	71	-6%
26-Dec-20	5	10	65	70	8%
02-Jan-21	8	2	60	54	-10%
09-Jan-21	9	6	54	43	-21%

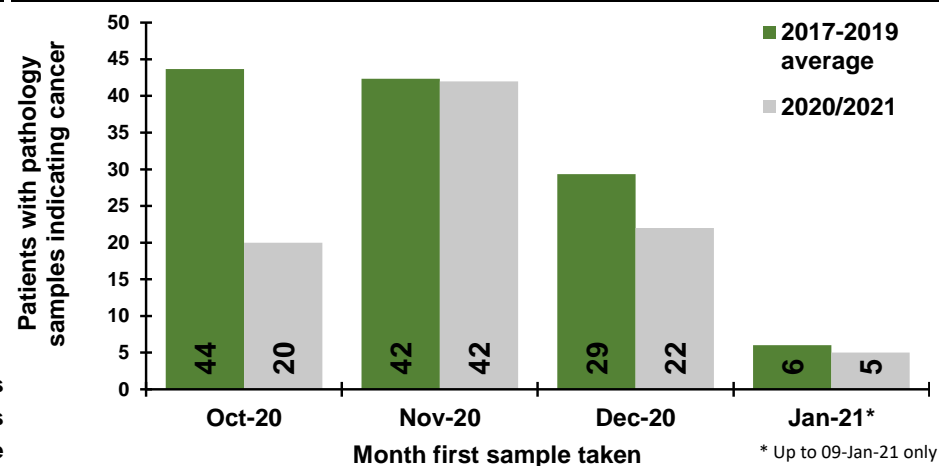
Note: Includes lymphoma (all types), leukaemia (all types), myeloma, malignant immunoproliferative disease and other lymphoid and haematopoietic (ICD10 codes: C81-C96).

## Patients with pathology samples indicating malignant melanoma: All persons

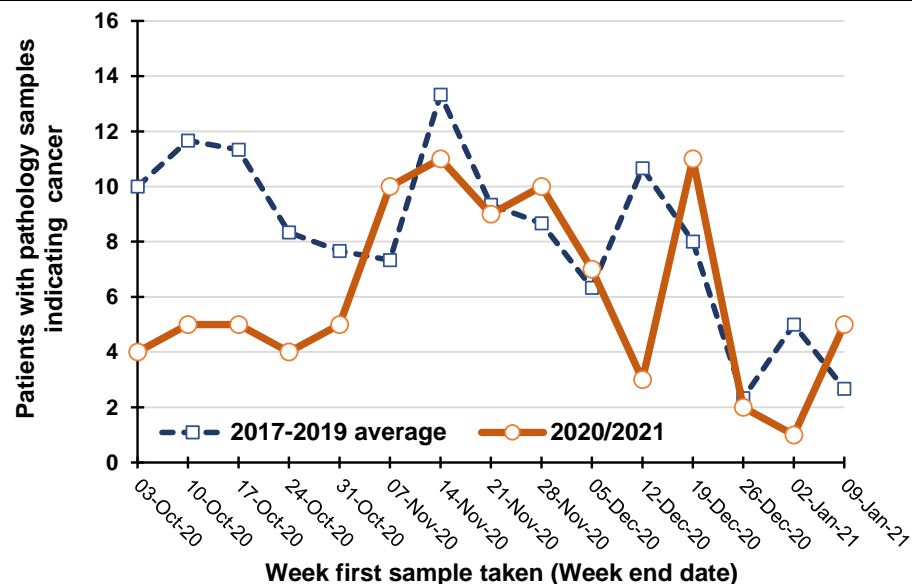
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



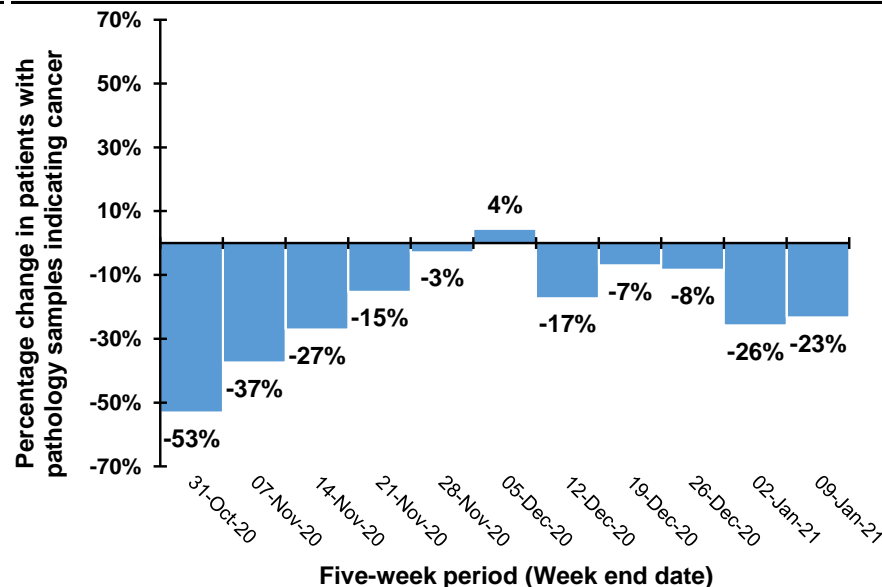
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

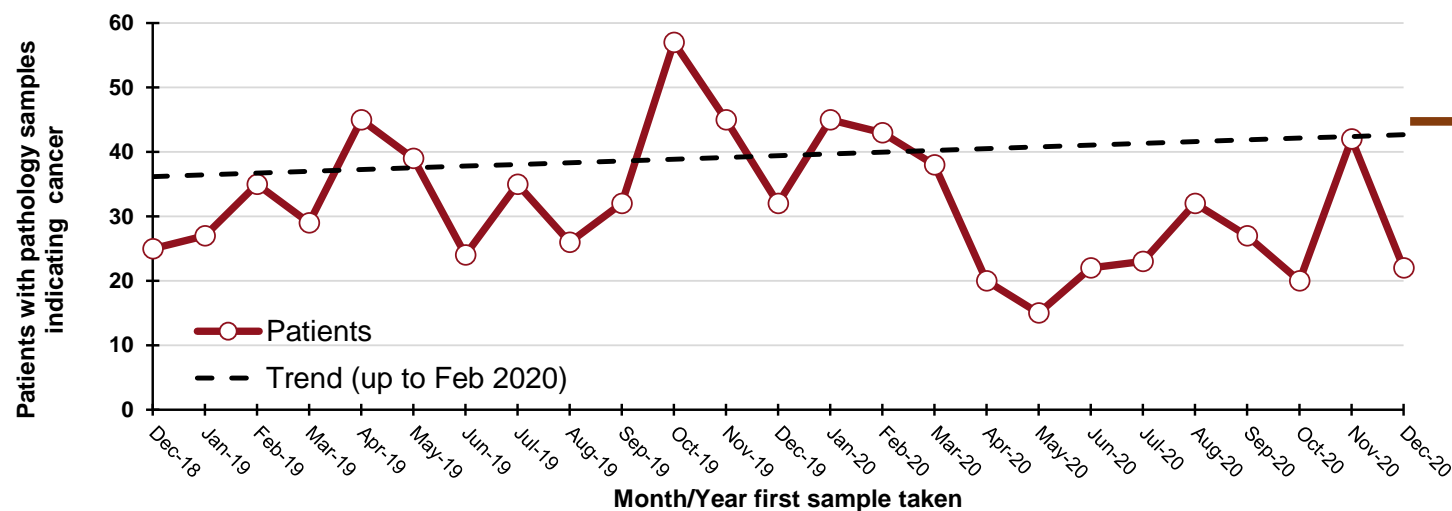


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



**150**  
"missed" patients  
from start of Mar-20 to  
the end of Dec-20

### By month and year first sample taken

Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	25
Jan-19	27
Feb-19	35
Mar-19	29
Apr-19	45
May-19	39
Jun-19	24
Jul-19	35
Aug-19	26
Sep-19	32
Oct-19	57
Nov-19	45
Dec-19	32
Jan-20	45
Feb-20	43
Mar-20	38
Apr-20	20
May-20	15
Jun-20	22
Jul-20	23
Aug-20	32
Sep-20	27
Oct-20	20
Nov-20	42
Dec-20	22

## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	44	20	-54%
Nov-20	42	42	-1%
Dec-20	29	22	-25%
Jan-21*	6	5	-17%

\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

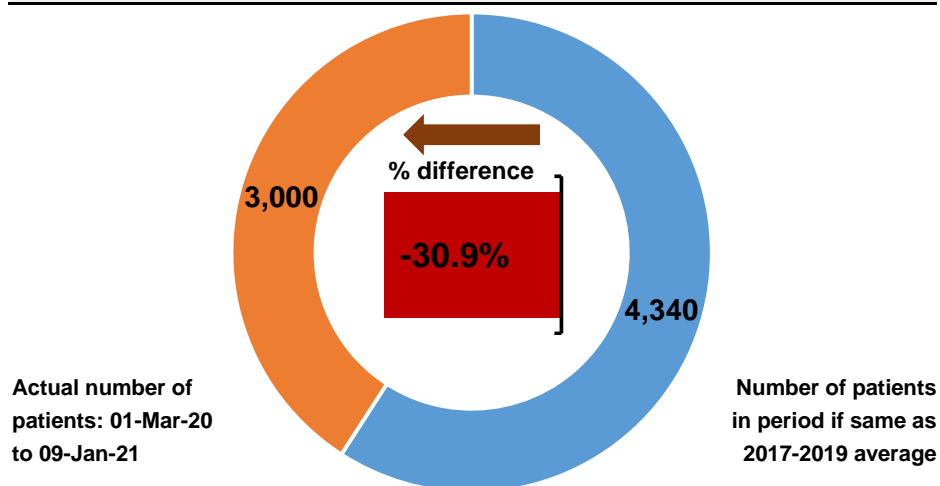
### By week first sample taken

Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	10	4			
10-Oct-20	12	5			
17-Oct-20	11	5			
24-Oct-20	8	4			
31-Oct-20	8	5	49	23	-53%
07-Nov-20	7	10	46	29	-37%
14-Nov-20	13	11	48	35	-27%
21-Nov-20	9	9	46	39	-15%
28-Nov-20	9	10	46	45	-3%
05-Dec-20	6	7	45	47	4%
12-Dec-20	11	3	48	40	-17%
19-Dec-20	8	11	43	40	-7%
26-Dec-20	2	2	36	33	-8%
02-Jan-21	5	1	32	24	-26%
09-Jan-21	3	5	29	22	-23%

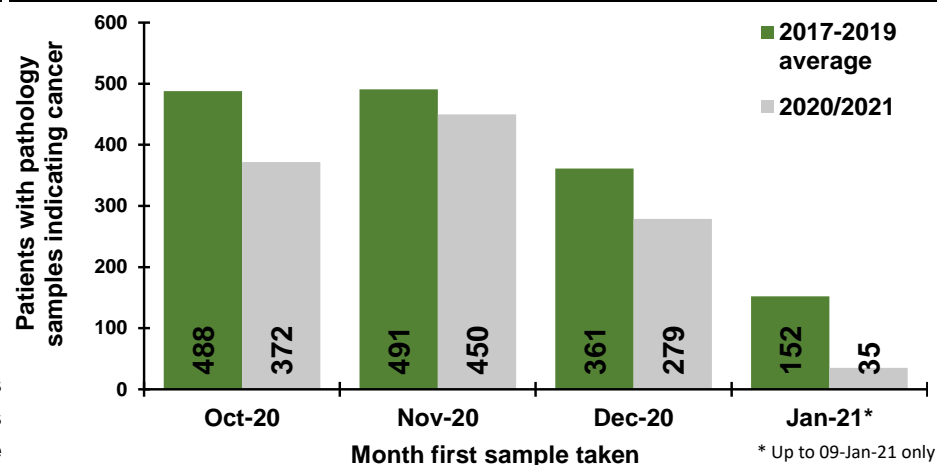
Note: (ICD10 code: C43).

## Patients with pathology samples indicating non-melanoma skin cancer: All persons

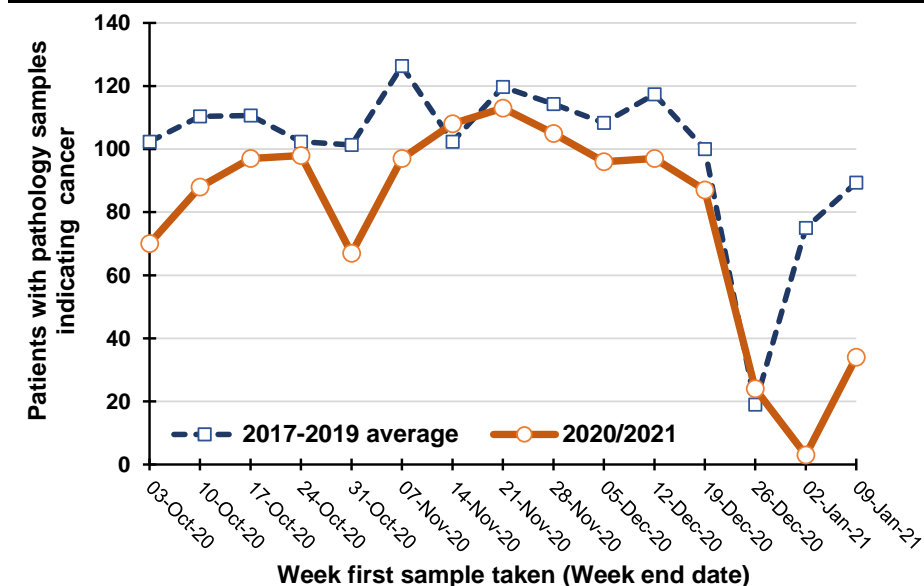
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



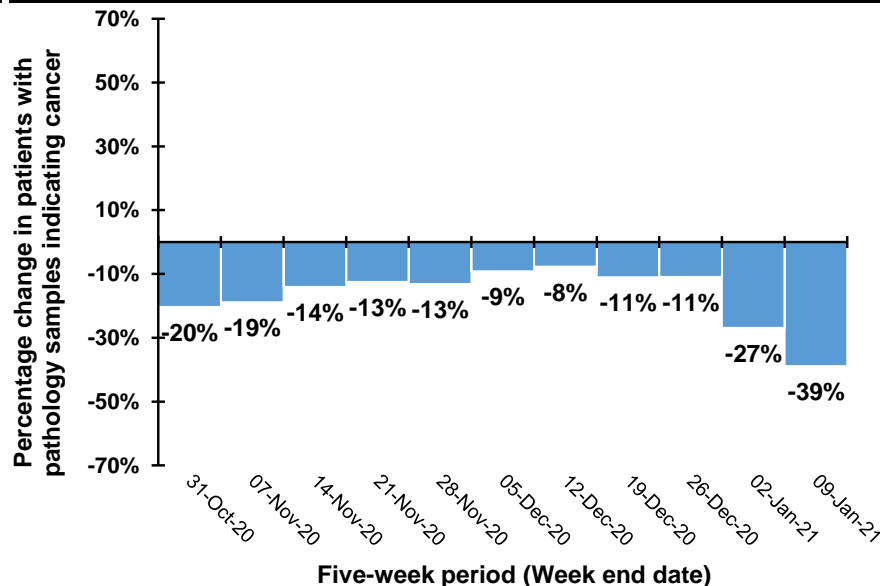
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

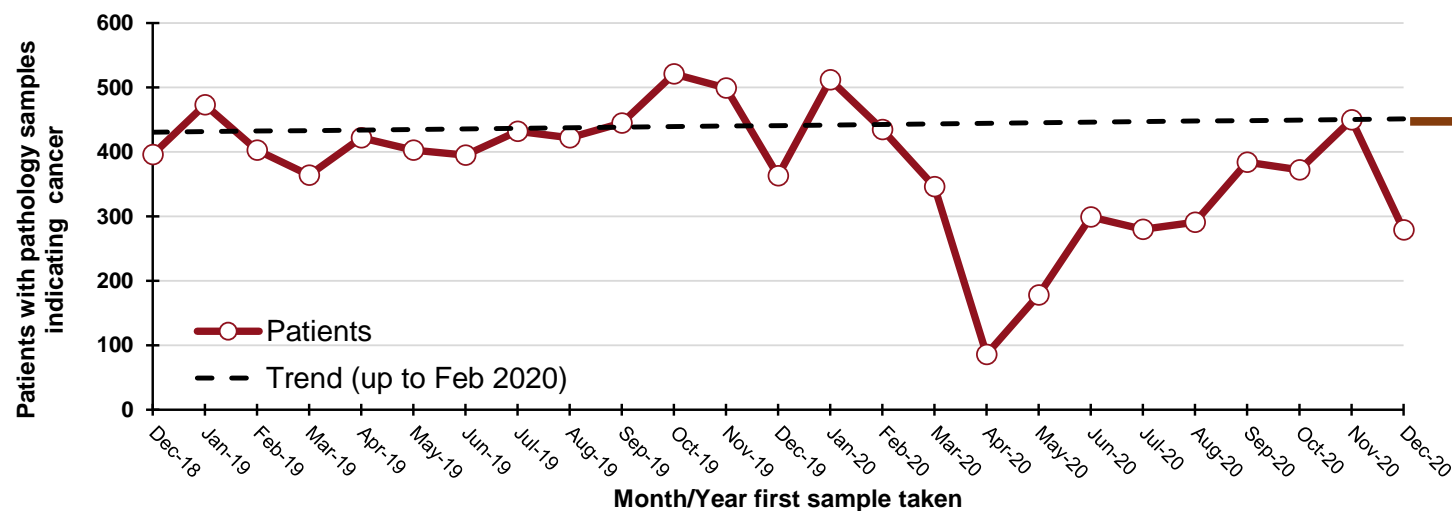


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



**1,510**  
"missed" patients  
from start of Mar-20 to  
the end of Dec-20

### By month and year first sample taken

Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	396
Jan-19	473
Feb-19	403
Mar-19	364
Apr-19	422
May-19	403
Jun-19	395
Jul-19	432
Aug-19	422
Sep-19	445
Oct-19	521
Nov-19	499
Dec-19	363
Jan-20	512
Feb-20	435
Mar-20	346
Apr-20	86
May-20	178
Jun-20	299
Jul-20	280
Aug-20	291
Sep-20	384
Oct-20	372
Nov-20	450
Dec-20	279

## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	488	372	-24%
Nov-20	491	450	-8%
Dec-20	361	279	-23%
Jan-21*	152	35	-77%

\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

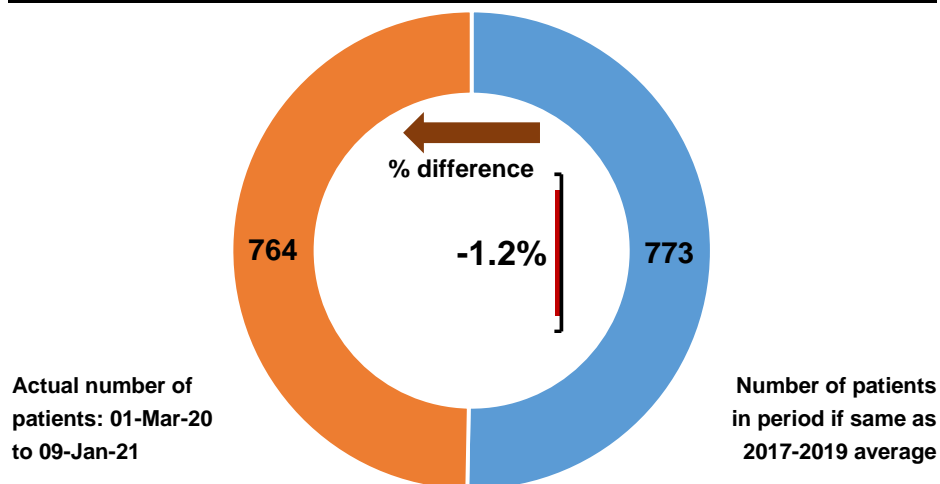
### By week first sample taken

Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	102	70			
10-Oct-20	110	88			
17-Oct-20	111	97			
24-Oct-20	102	98			
31-Oct-20	101	67	527	420	-20%
07-Nov-20	126	97	551	447	-19%
14-Nov-20	102	108	543	467	-14%
21-Nov-20	120	113	552	483	-13%
28-Nov-20	114	105	564	490	-13%
05-Dec-20	108	96	571	519	-9%
12-Dec-20	117	97	562	519	-8%
19-Dec-20	100	87	560	498	-11%
26-Dec-20	19	24	459	409	-11%
02-Jan-21	75	3	420	307	-27%
09-Jan-21	89	34	401	245	-39%

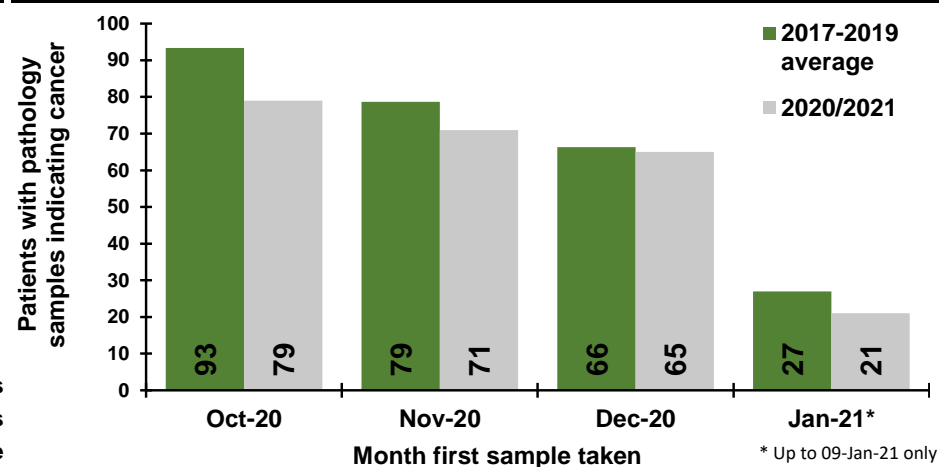
Note: (ICD10 code: C44).

## Patients with pathology samples indicating other cancer: All persons

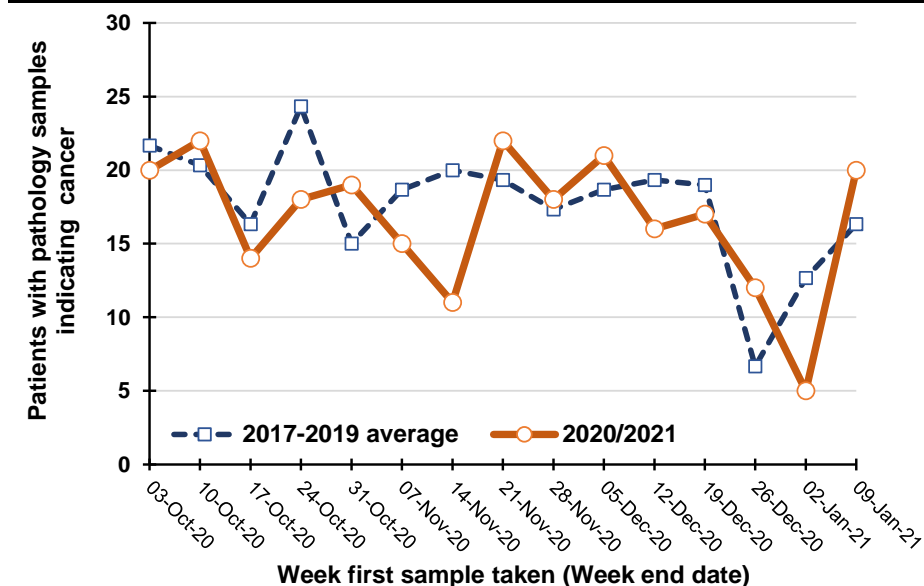
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer, with first sample taken from 01-Mar-20 to 09-Jan-21



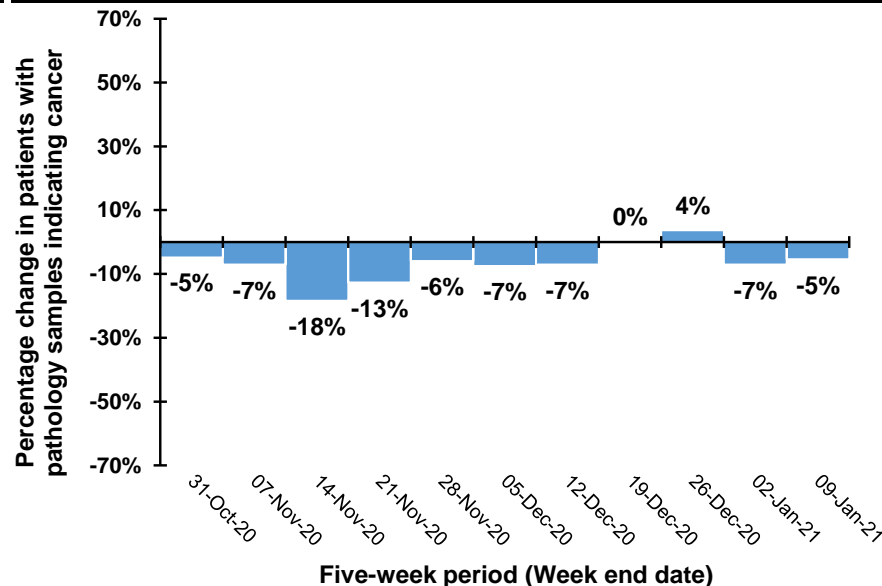
Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month first sample taken



Patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

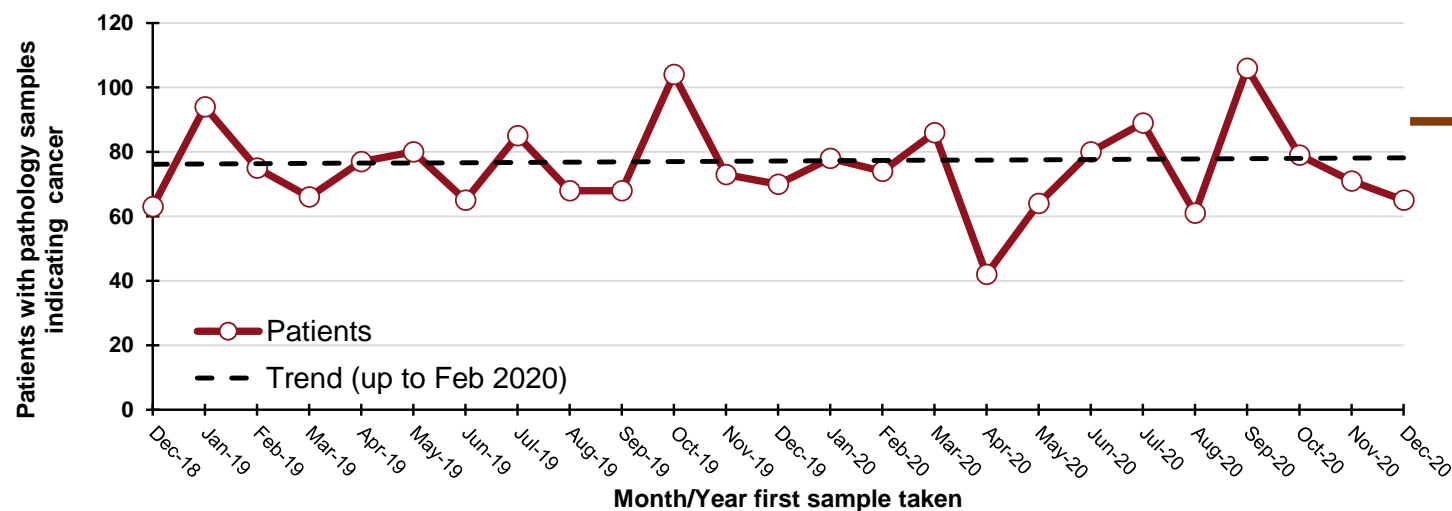


Percentage change between 2017-19 and 2020/2021 in patients whose first pathology sample indicating cancer was taken in the previous five weeks



Note: Caution should be exercised in comparisons for the weeks ending 26/12/20 and 2/1/21 as Christmas occurs on different days in previous years. For example, in 2020 Christmas was on a Friday meaning holidays may have been taken in the following week, while in 2019 Christmas was on a Wednesday meaning that holidays may have been taken in the same week.

## Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



**30**  
"missed" patients  
from start of Mar-20 to  
the end of Dec-20

### By month and year first sample taken

Month/Year	Patients
Dec-18	63
Jan-19	94
Feb-19	75
Mar-19	66
Apr-19	77
May-19	80
Jun-19	65
Jul-19	85
Aug-19	68
Sep-19	68
Oct-19	104
Nov-19	73
Dec-19	70
Jan-20	78
Feb-20	74
Mar-20	86
Apr-20	42
May-20	64
Jun-20	80
Jul-20	89
Aug-20	61
Sep-20	106
Oct-20	79
Nov-20	71
Dec-20	65

## DATA TABLES - Trend in patients with pathology samples indicating cancer

### By month first sample taken

Month	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
Oct-20	93	79	-15%
Nov-20	79	71	-10%
Dec-20	66	65	-2%
Jan-21*	27	21	-22%

\* Up to 09-Jan-21 only

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 first sample taken

Week ending	2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Five-week rolling total		
			2017-2019 average	2020/ 2021	Percentage change
03-Oct-20	22	20			
10-Oct-20	20	22			
17-Oct-20	16	14			
24-Oct-20	24	18			
31-Oct-20	15	19	98	93	-5%
07-Nov-20	19	15	95	88	-7%
14-Nov-20	20	11	94	77	-18%
21-Nov-20	19	22	97	85	-13%
28-Nov-20	17	18	90	85	-6%
05-Dec-20	19	21	94	87	-7%
12-Dec-20	19	16	95	88	-7%
19-Dec-20	19	17	94	94	0%
26-Dec-20	7	12	81	84	4%
02-Jan-21	13	5	76	71	-7%
09-Jan-21	16	20	74	70	-5%

## 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 patients with pathology samples that indicated a malignant tumour and had this result coded and recorded by the end of Jan-21. Further samples taken up to Jan-21 may not yet have been recorded as a result was not available by the end of Jan-21. 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 (a Saturday) in 2020/2021. 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. 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. Patients are thus only included once per cancer type unless they have had pathology samples separated by more than two years, thus a patient with samples in March and April of 2019 will be counted once (in the March 2019 count), while a patient with samples in April 2017 and May 2020 will be counted in both the April 2017 and May 2020 counts.
6. "Missed" patients are calculated based upon the difference between the actual number of patients recorded compared to the number expected, which is based upon the trend in patients diagnosed pathologically from Jan 2017 to Feb 2020. It should be noted that these "missed" patients may be diagnosed clinically instead of pathologically (e.g. as a result of an emergency admission to hospital).

## Acknowledgements

The Northern Ireland Cancer Registry (NICR) is funded by the Public Health Agency. NICR uses data provided by patients and collected by the health service as part of their care and support.

## Further Information

Further data is available at: [www.qub.ac.uk/nicr](http://www.qub.ac.uk/nicr)  
Phone: +44 (0)28 9097 6028  
e-mail: [nicr@qub.ac.uk](mailto:nicr@qub.ac.uk)

