

**Recent trends in the number of
pathology samples indicating cancer in
Northern Ireland
(excludes samples from Altnagelvin Laboratory)**

December 2021 Update

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.



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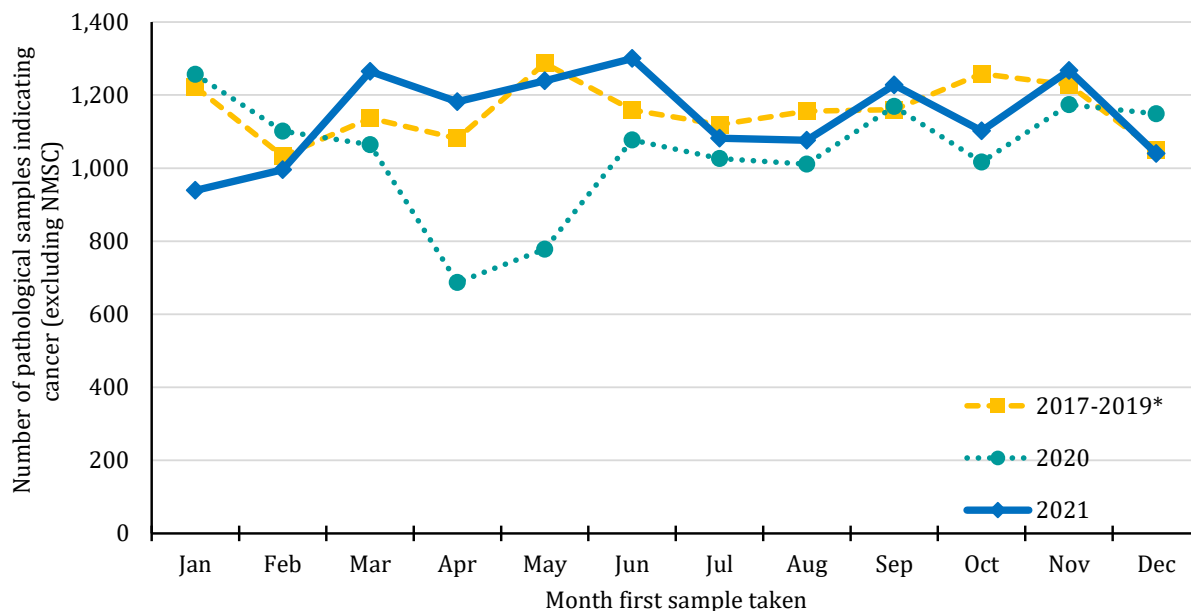
SUMMARY

Recent trends in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer: Dec-21

- 1) This summary provides an overview of recent trends in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer, NMSC) whose first sample was taken from Jan-20 to Dec-21 in Northern Ireland.
- 2) These trends are contrasted with the annual average number of pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC) during 2017-2019 in order to provide an indication of the potential impact of the Covid-19 restrictions on diagnostic cancer services.
- 3) Data are sourced from three of the four NHS pathology laboratories in NI (Belfast, Antrim, Craigavon), which are usually provided to NICR on a monthly basis. **Altnagelvin laboratory is excluded as a change in recording systems led to an undercount in the number of reported samples in Jan-Apr 2021.**

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

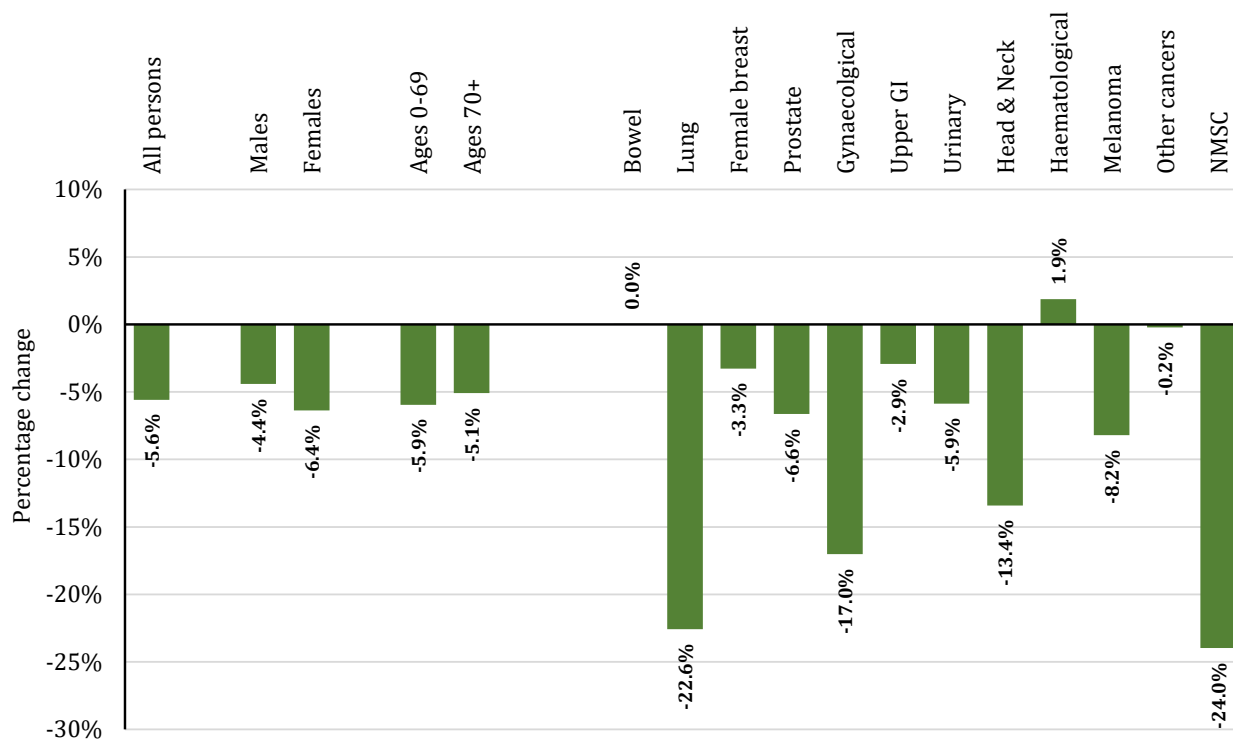
- 4) From Mar-20 to Dec-21 the number of pathological samples indicating cancer was 5.6% lower than the average number for the same time period in 2017-2019.



| Year sample taken | Month sample taken | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| 2017-2019* | 1,222 | 1,033 | 1,137 | 1,081 | 1,287 | 1,159 | 1,119 | 1,156 | 1,160 | 1,258 | 1,228 | 1,048 |
| 2020 | 1,257 | 1,101 | 1,064 | 687 | 778 | 1,077 | 1,026 | 1,011 | 1,169 | 1,017 | 1,174 | 1,149 |
| 2021 | 939 | 996 | 1,265 | 1,182 | 1,239 | 1,300 | 1,082 | 1,076 | 1,228 | 1,102 | 1,267 | 1,040 |

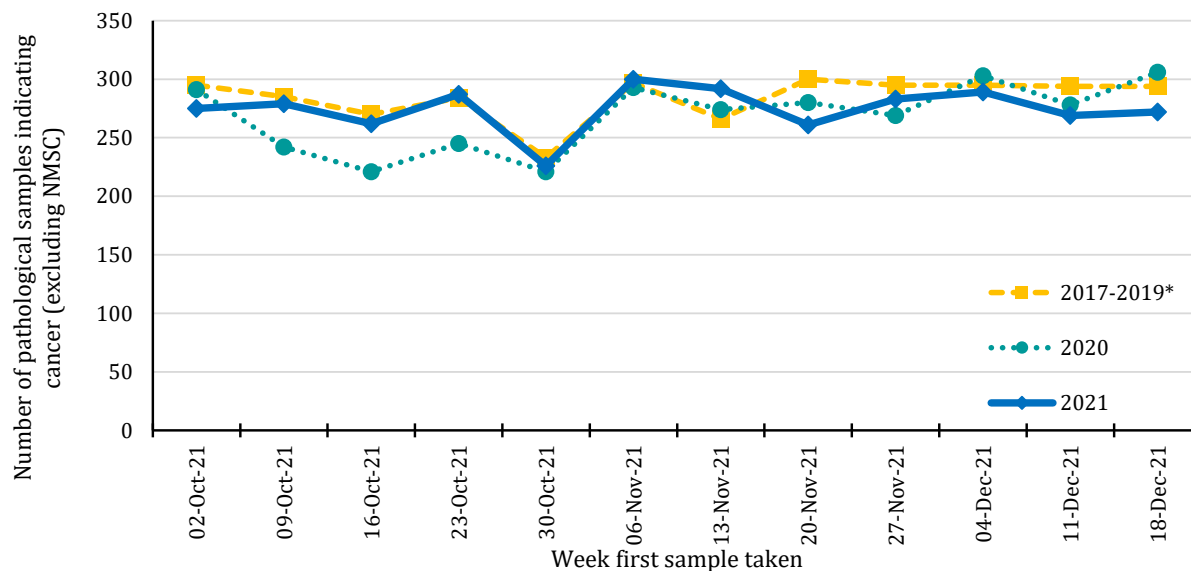
*Annual average

- 5) From Mar-20 to Dec-21 there was a 4.4% decrease in the number of samples among males and a 6.4% decrease among females compared to 2017-2019. A decrease of 5.9% occurred among those aged 0-69 years, while there was a decrease of 5.1% among those aged 70 and older.
- 6) Compared to the annual average in 2017-2019, from Mar-20 to Dec-21 the number of pathology samples indicating lung cancer decreased by 22.6%, while those indicating prostate cancer decreased by 6.6%. Increases were recorded for haematological cancer, while decreases of more than 10% occurred for gynaecological cancer, head and neck cancer and non-melanoma skin cancer.



Trends in pathology samples indicating cancer by week first sample taken

7) There was an 3.3% decrease in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer in the twelve weeks up to 18-Dec-21 compared to the average value in the equivalent weeks in 2017-2019.

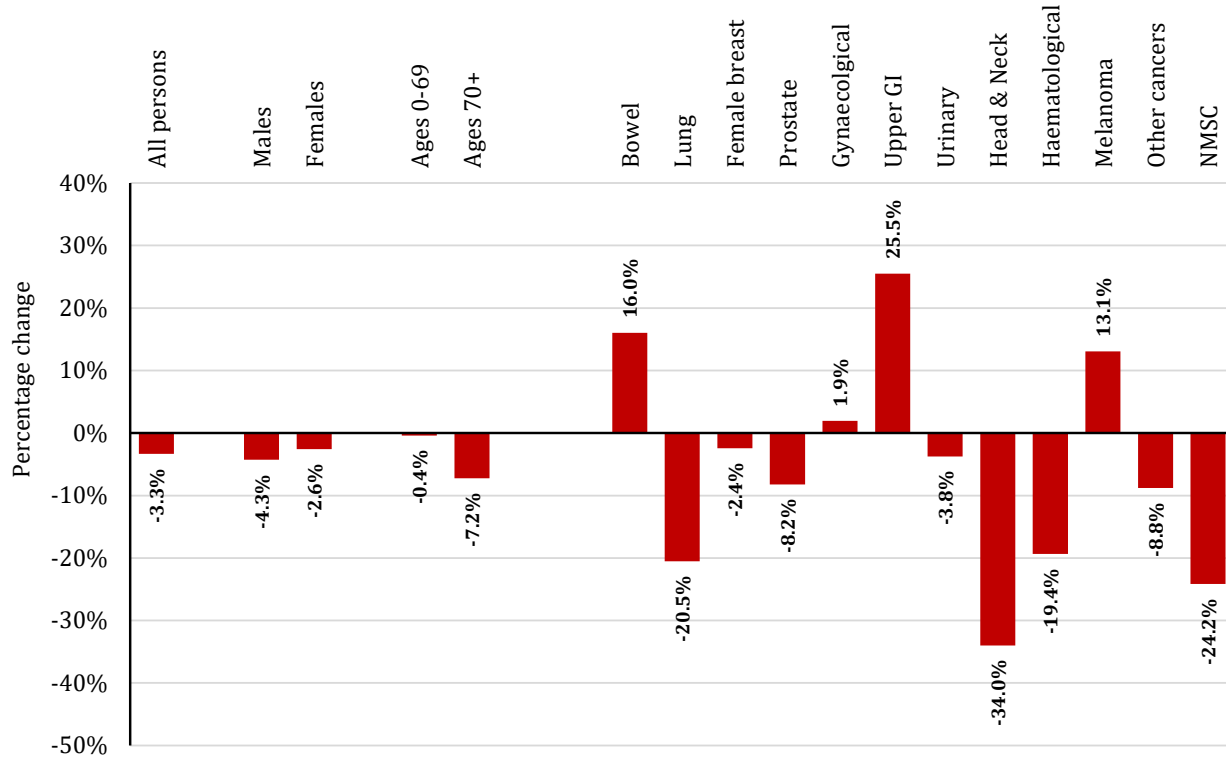


| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 295 | 285 | 270 | 284 | 233 | 297 | 266 | 300 | 295 | 295 | 294 | 294 |
| 2020 | 291 | 242 | 221 | 245 | 221 | 293 | 274 | 280 | 269 | 303 | 278 | 306 |
| 2021 | 275 | 279 | 262 | 287 | 226 | 300 | 292 | 261 | 283 | 289 | 269 | 272 |

*Annual average

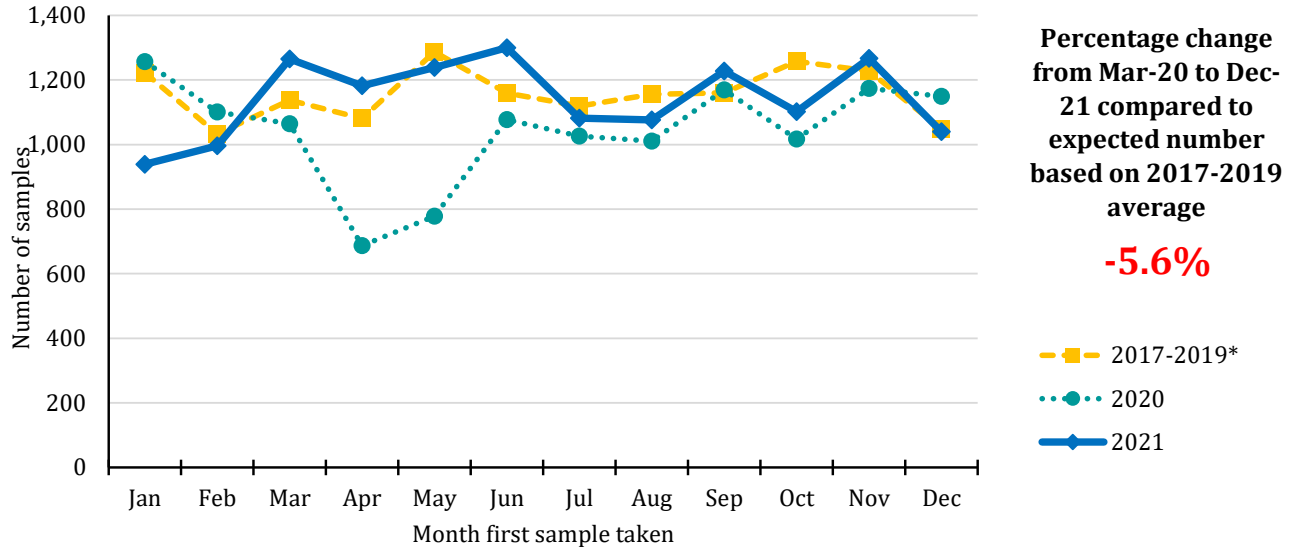
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

- 8) In the twelve weeks up to 18-Dec-21 there was a 4.3% decrease in samples among males and a 2.6% decrease among females compared to the same time period in 2017-2019. A decrease of 0.4% occurred among those aged 0-69 years and a decrease of 7.2% occurred among those aged 70 and older.
- 9) Compared to the annual average in 2017-2019, in the twelve weeks up to 18-Dec-21 the number of pathology samples indicating lung cancer decreased by 20.5%, while those indicating prostate cancer decreased by 8.2%. Increases were recorded for bowel cancer, upper GI cancer, gynaecological cancer and melanoma, while decreases of more than 10% occurred for head and neck cancer, haematological cancer and non-melanoma skin cancer.



Pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): All persons

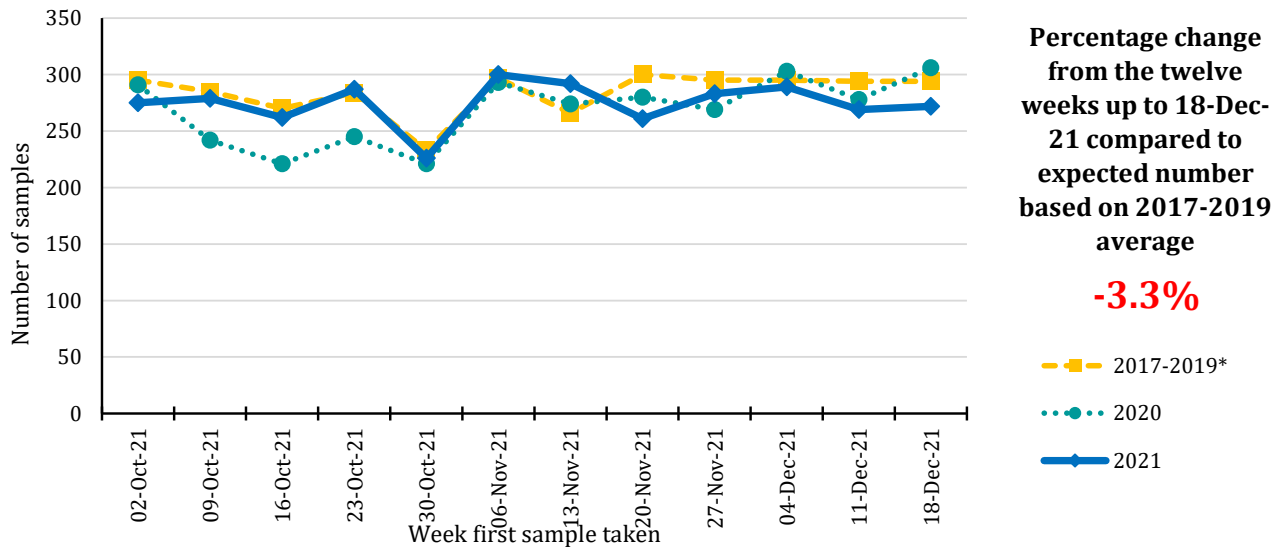
Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



| Year sample taken | Month sample taken | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| 2017-2019* | 1,222 | 1,033 | 1,137 | 1,081 | 1,287 | 1,159 | 1,119 | 1,156 | 1,160 | 1,258 | 1,228 | 1,048 |
| 2020 | 1,257 | 1,101 | 1,064 | 687 | 778 | 1,077 | 1,026 | 1,011 | 1,169 | 1,017 | 1,174 | 1,149 |
| 2021 | 939 | 996 | 1,265 | 1,182 | 1,239 | 1,300 | 1,082 | 1,076 | 1,228 | 1,102 | 1,267 | 1,040 |

*Annual average

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



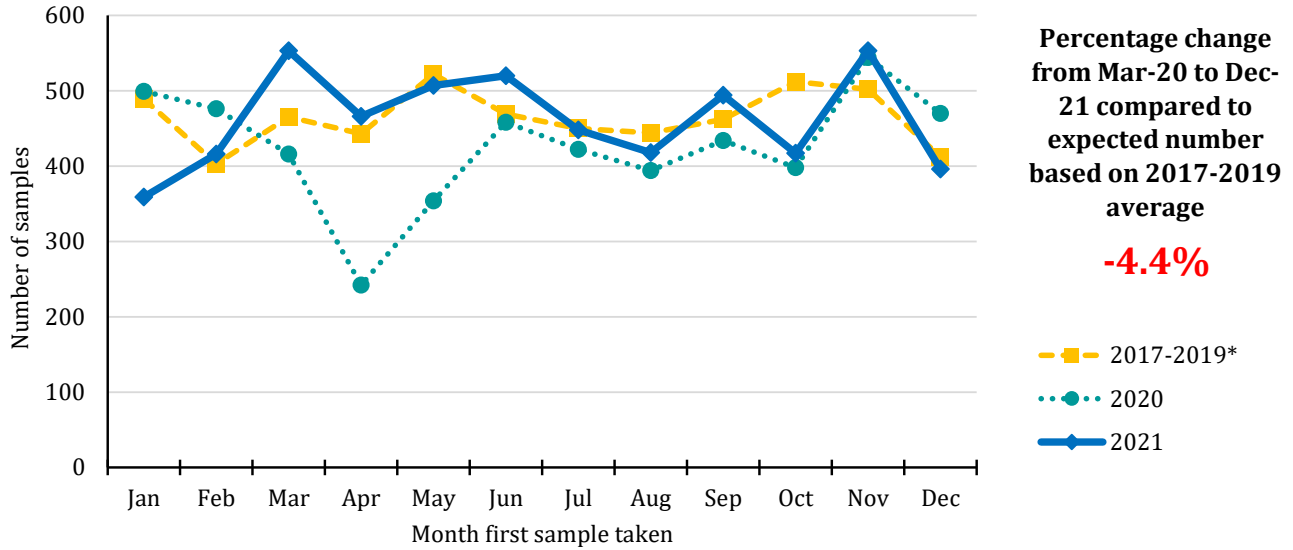
| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 295 | 285 | 270 | 284 | 233 | 297 | 266 | 300 | 295 | 295 | 294 | 294 |
| 2020 | 291 | 242 | 221 | 245 | 221 | 293 | 274 | 280 | 269 | 303 | 278 | 306 |
| 2021 | 275 | 279 | 262 | 287 | 226 | 300 | 292 | 261 | 283 | 289 | 269 | 272 |

*Annual average

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

Pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Males

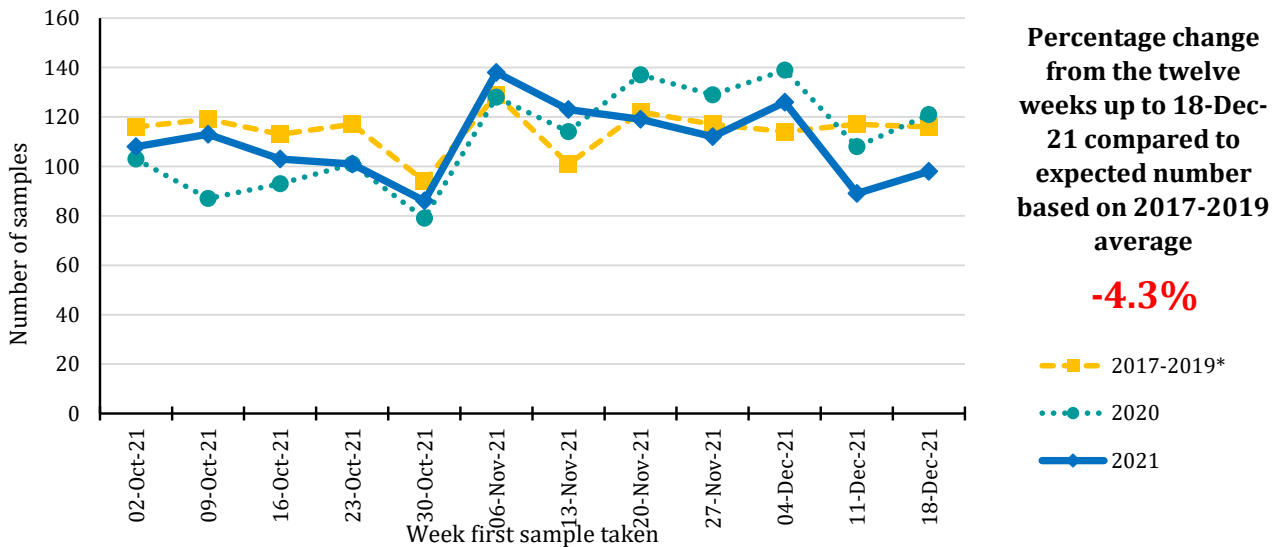
Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



| Year sample taken | Month sample taken | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| 2017-2019* | 489 | 403 | 465 | 443 | 522 | 469 | 450 | 444 | 462 | 512 | 502 | 412 |
| 2020 | 499 | 476 | 416 | 242 | 354 | 458 | 422 | 394 | 434 | 398 | 544 | 470 |
| 2021 | 359 | 416 | 553 | 466 | 507 | 520 | 448 | 418 | 494 | 417 | 553 | 396 |

*Annual average

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



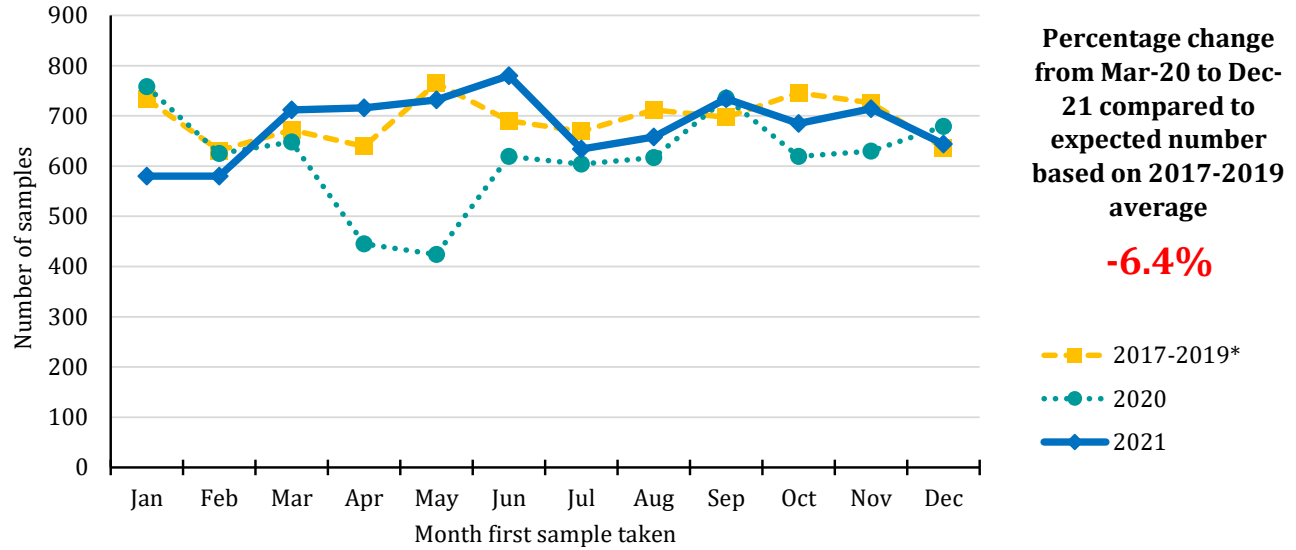
| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 116 | 119 | 113 | 117 | 94 | 129 | 101 | 122 | 117 | 114 | 117 | 116 |
| 2020 | 103 | 87 | 93 | 101 | 79 | 128 | 114 | 137 | 129 | 139 | 108 | 121 |
| 2021 | 108 | 113 | 103 | 101 | 86 | 138 | 123 | 119 | 112 | 126 | 89 | 98 |

*Annual average

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

Pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Females

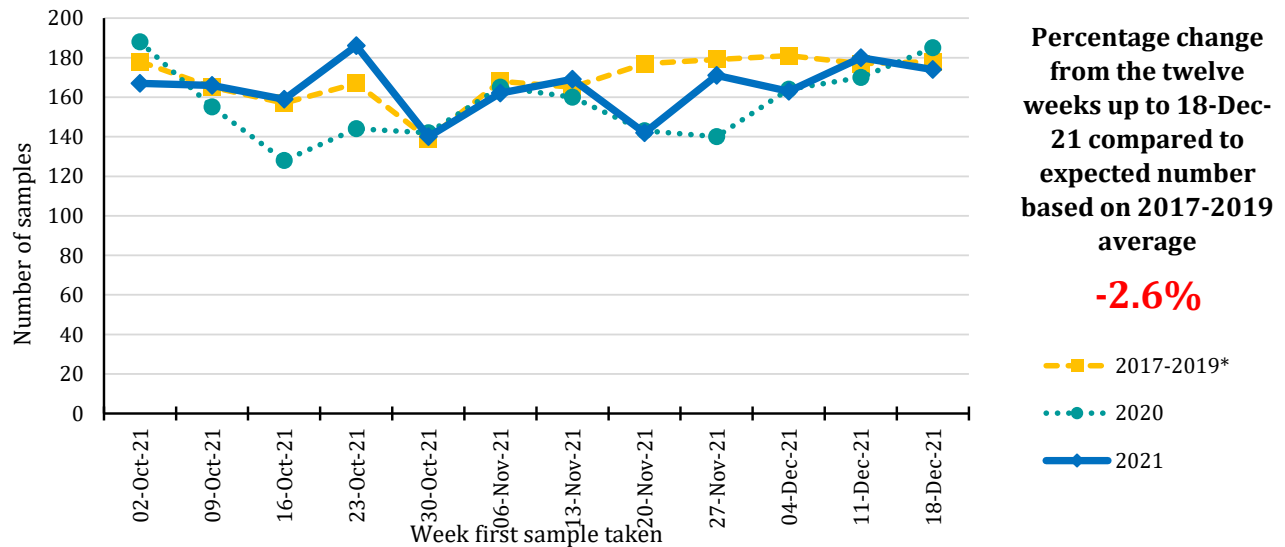
Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



| Year sample taken | Month sample taken | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| 2017-2019* | 733 | 631 | 672 | 639 | 765 | 690 | 669 | 712 | 697 | 746 | 726 | 636 |
| 2020 | 758 | 625 | 648 | 445 | 424 | 619 | 604 | 617 | 735 | 619 | 630 | 679 |
| 2021 | 580 | 580 | 712 | 716 | 732 | 780 | 634 | 658 | 734 | 685 | 714 | 644 |

*Annual average

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



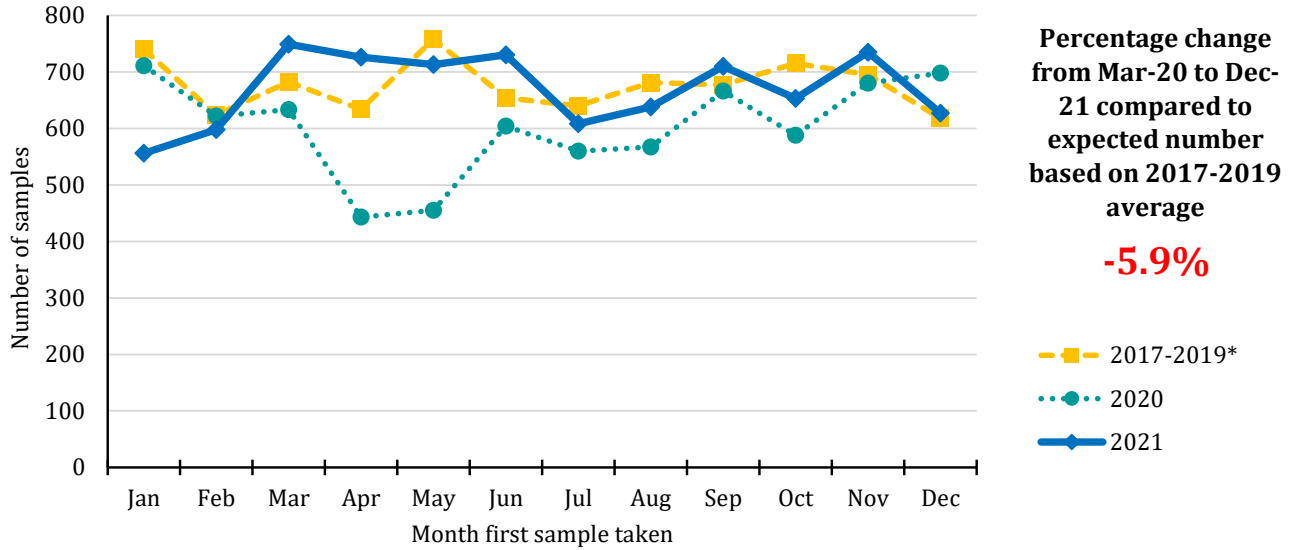
| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 178 | 165 | 157 | 167 | 139 | 168 | 165 | 177 | 179 | 181 | 177 | 178 |
| 2020 | 188 | 155 | 128 | 144 | 142 | 165 | 160 | 143 | 140 | 164 | 170 | 185 |
| 2021 | 167 | 166 | 159 | 186 | 140 | 162 | 169 | 142 | 171 | 163 | 180 | 174 |

*Annual average

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

Pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Ages 0 to 69

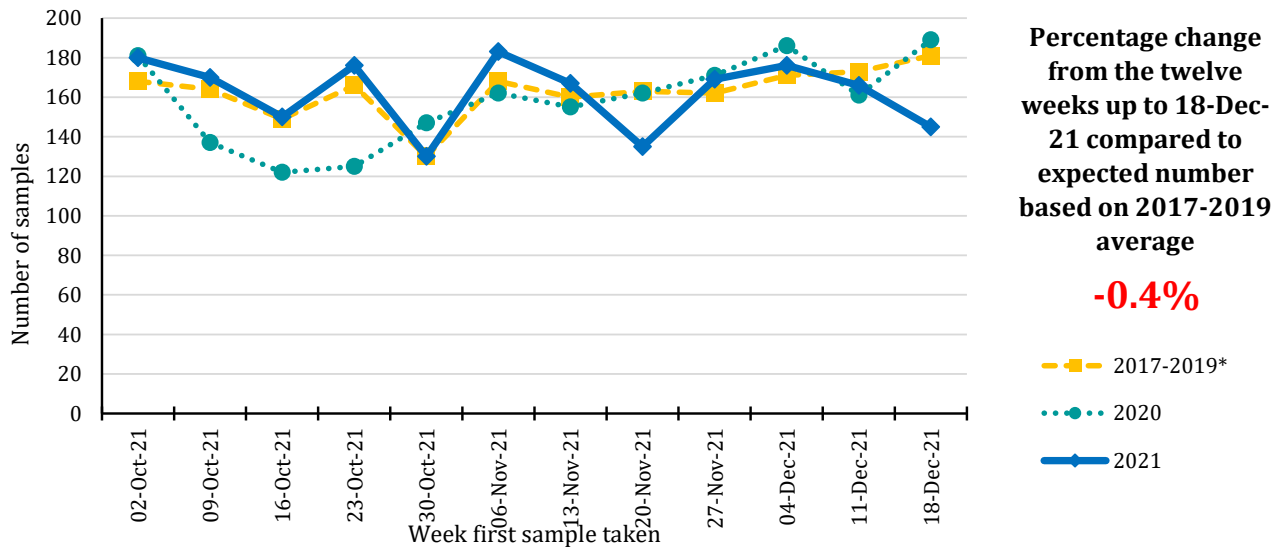
Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



| Year sample taken | Month sample taken | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| 2017-2019* | 740 | 624 | 682 | 634 | 758 | 654 | 640 | 681 | 677 | 715 | 695 | 618 |
| 2020 | 711 | 622 | 633 | 443 | 455 | 604 | 560 | 567 | 666 | 588 | 680 | 698 |
| 2021 | 556 | 598 | 749 | 726 | 713 | 730 | 608 | 638 | 710 | 653 | 735 | 627 |

*Annual average

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



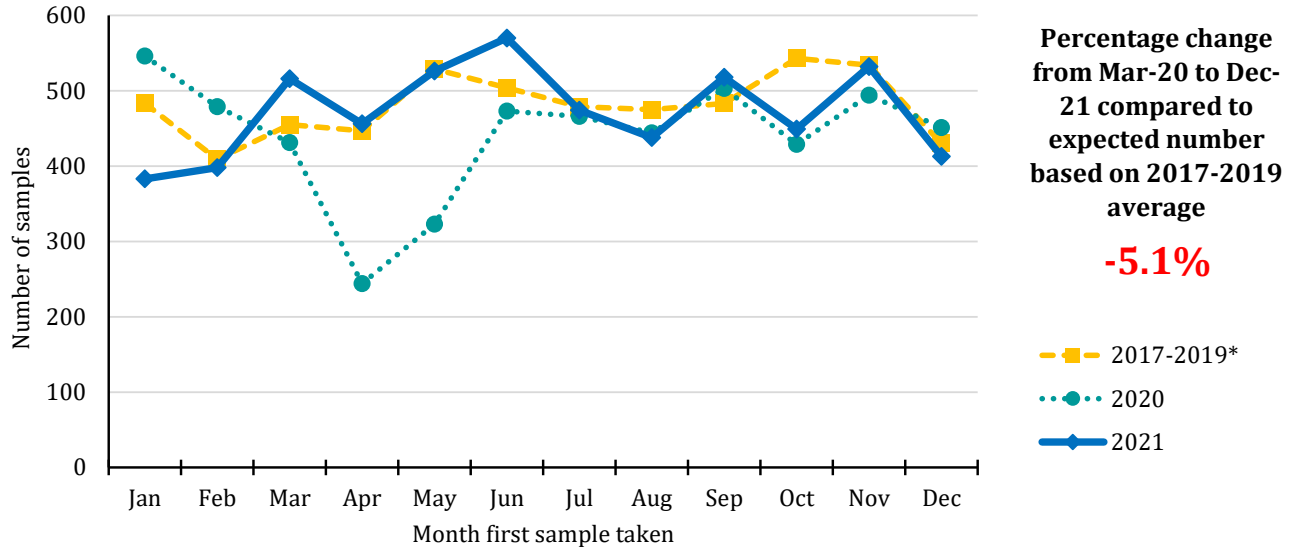
| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 168 | 164 | 149 | 166 | 130 | 168 | 160 | 163 | 162 | 171 | 173 | 181 |
| 2020 | 181 | 137 | 122 | 125 | 147 | 162 | 155 | 162 | 171 | 186 | 161 | 189 |
| 2021 | 180 | 170 | 150 | 176 | 130 | 183 | 167 | 135 | 169 | 176 | 166 | 145 |

*Annual average

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Pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC): Ages 70 and over

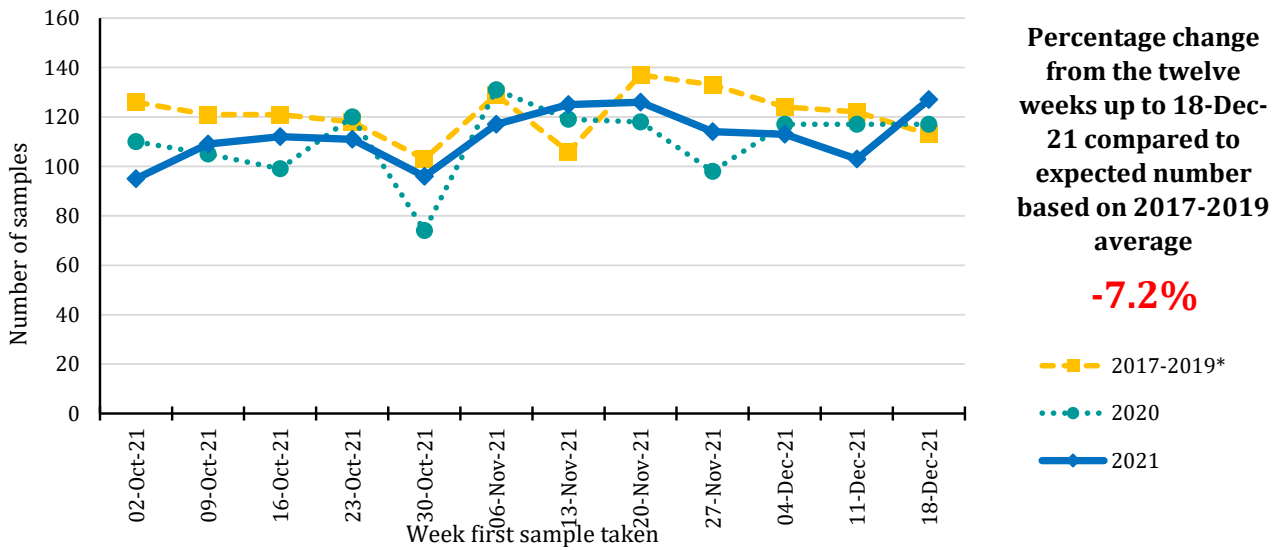
Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



| Year sample taken | Month sample taken | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| 2017-2019* | 483 | 409 | 455 | 447 | 529 | 504 | 479 | 475 | 483 | 543 | 534 | 430 |
| 2020 | 546 | 479 | 431 | 244 | 323 | 473 | 466 | 444 | 503 | 429 | 494 | 451 |
| 2021 | 383 | 398 | 516 | 456 | 526 | 570 | 474 | 438 | 518 | 449 | 532 | 413 |

*Annual average

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



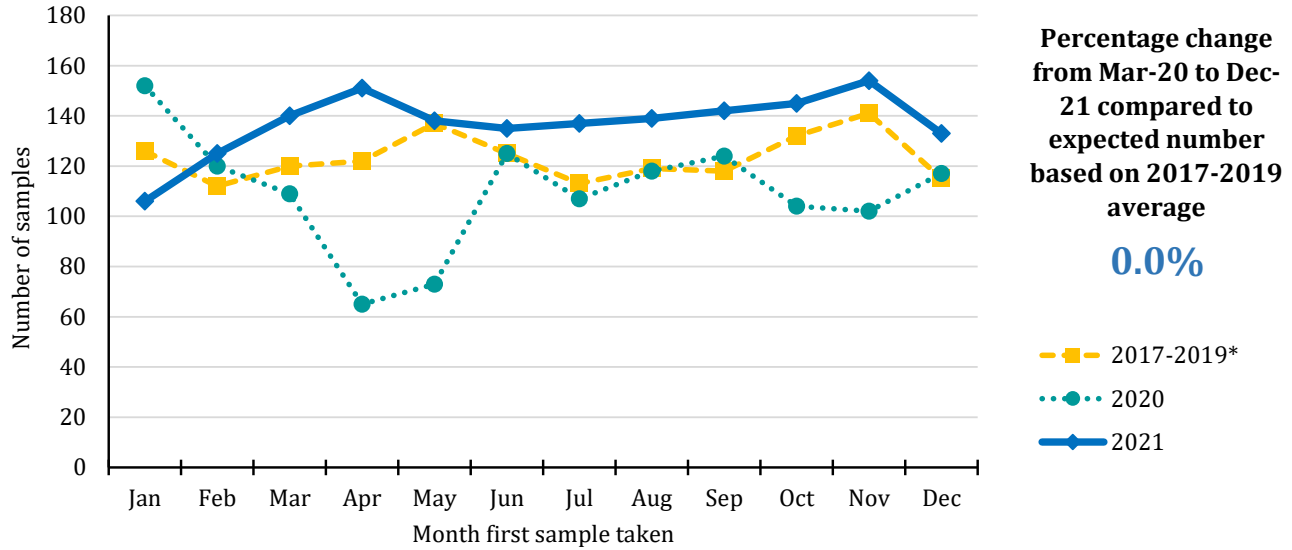
| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 126 | 121 | 121 | 118 | 103 | 129 | 106 | 137 | 133 | 124 | 122 | 113 |
| 2020 | 110 | 105 | 99 | 120 | 74 | 131 | 119 | 118 | 98 | 117 | 117 | 117 |
| 2021 | 95 | 109 | 112 | 111 | 96 | 117 | 125 | 126 | 114 | 113 | 103 | 127 |

*Annual average

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

Pathology samples indicating bowel cancer: All persons

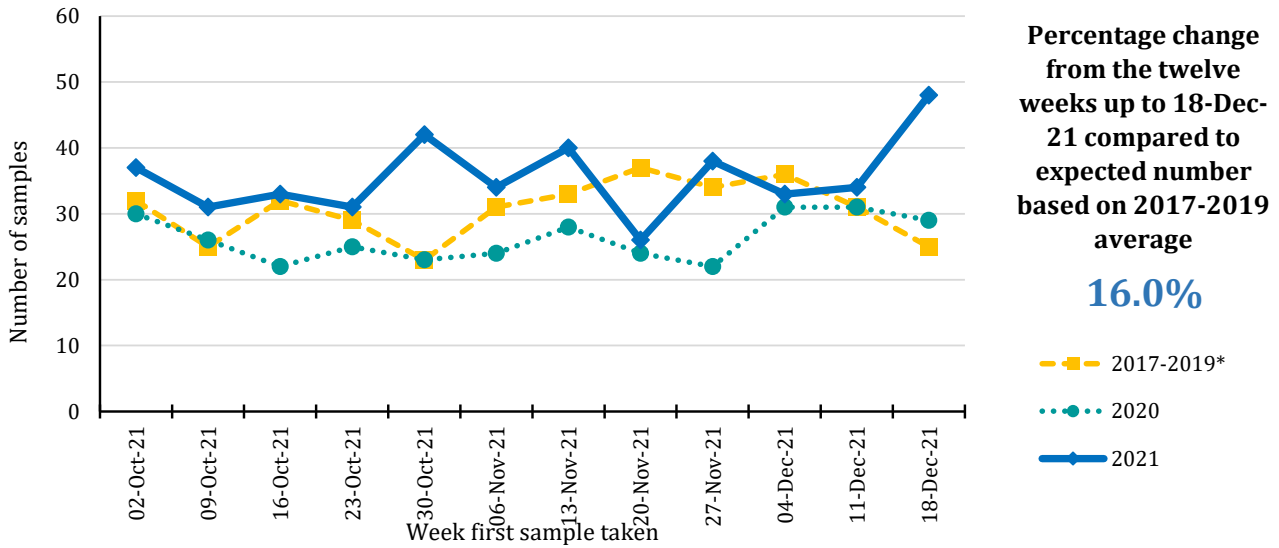
Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



| Year sample taken | Month sample taken | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| 2017-2019* | 126 | 112 | 120 | 122 | 137 | 125 | 113 | 119 | 118 | 132 | 141 | 115 |
| 2020 | 152 | 120 | 109 | 65 | 73 | 125 | 107 | 118 | 124 | 104 | 102 | 117 |
| 2021 | 106 | 125 | 140 | 151 | 138 | 135 | 137 | 139 | 142 | 145 | 154 | 133 |

*Annual average

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



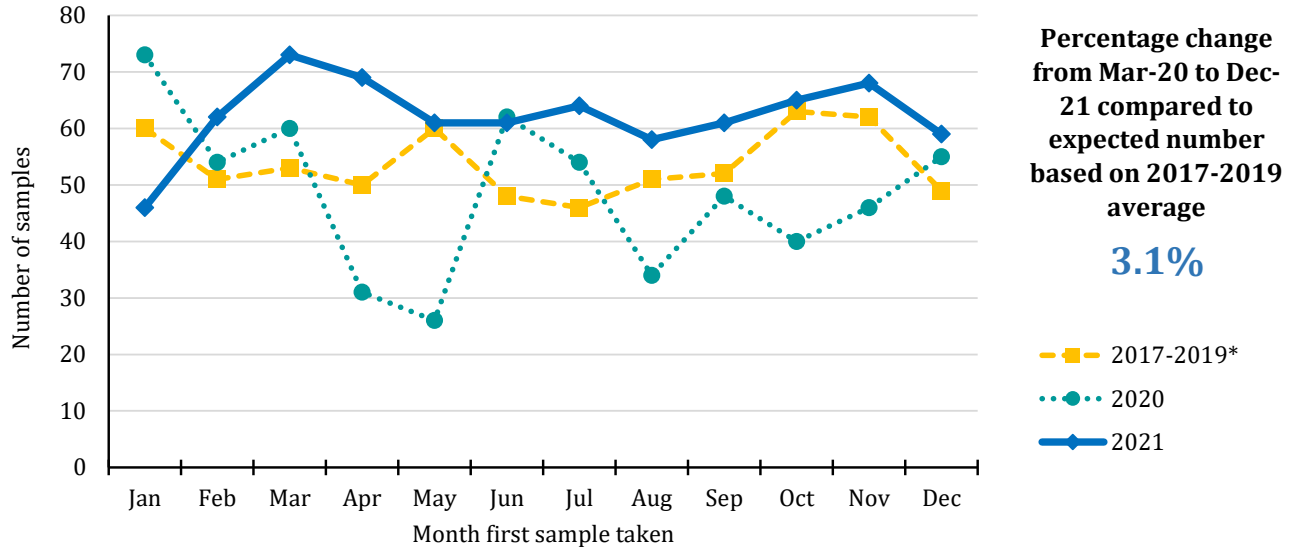
| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 32 | 25 | 32 | 29 | 23 | 31 | 33 | 37 | 34 | 36 | 31 | 25 |
| 2020 | 30 | 26 | 22 | 25 | 23 | 24 | 28 | 24 | 22 | 31 | 31 | 29 |
| 2021 | 37 | 31 | 33 | 31 | 42 | 34 | 40 | 26 | 38 | 33 | 34 | 48 |

*Annual average

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

Pathology samples indicating bowel cancer: All persons, screening age (60-74)

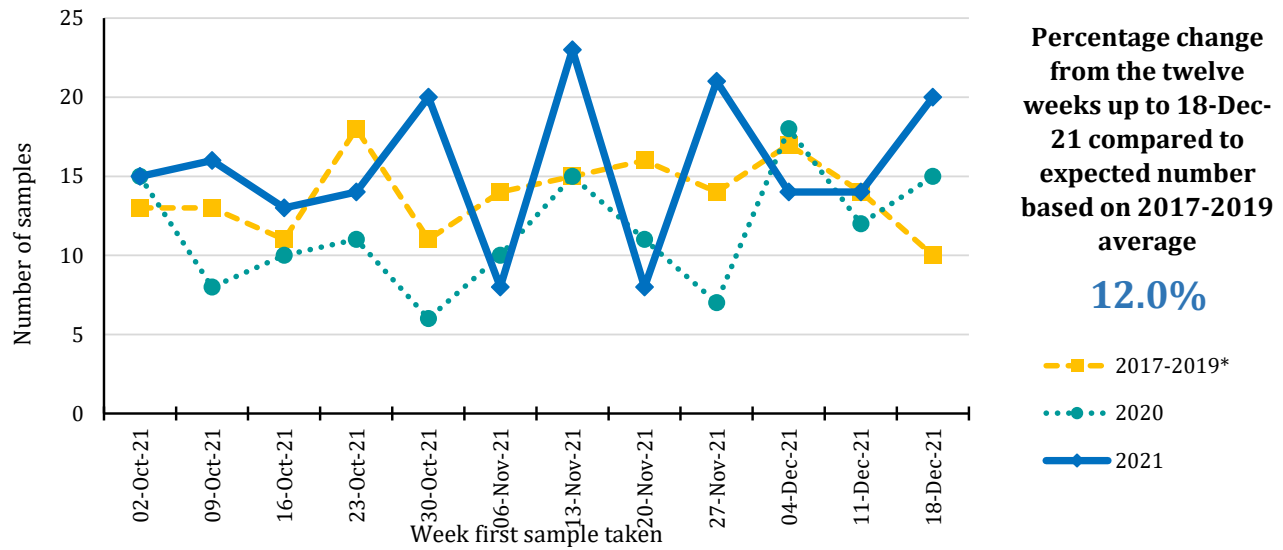
Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



| Year sample taken | Month sample taken | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| 2017-2019* | 60 | 51 | 53 | 50 | 60 | 48 | 46 | 51 | 52 | 63 | 62 | 49 |
| 2020 | 73 | 54 | 60 | 31 | 26 | 62 | 54 | 34 | 48 | 40 | 46 | 55 |
| 2021 | 46 | 62 | 73 | 69 | 61 | 61 | 64 | 58 | 61 | 65 | 68 | 59 |

*Annual average

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



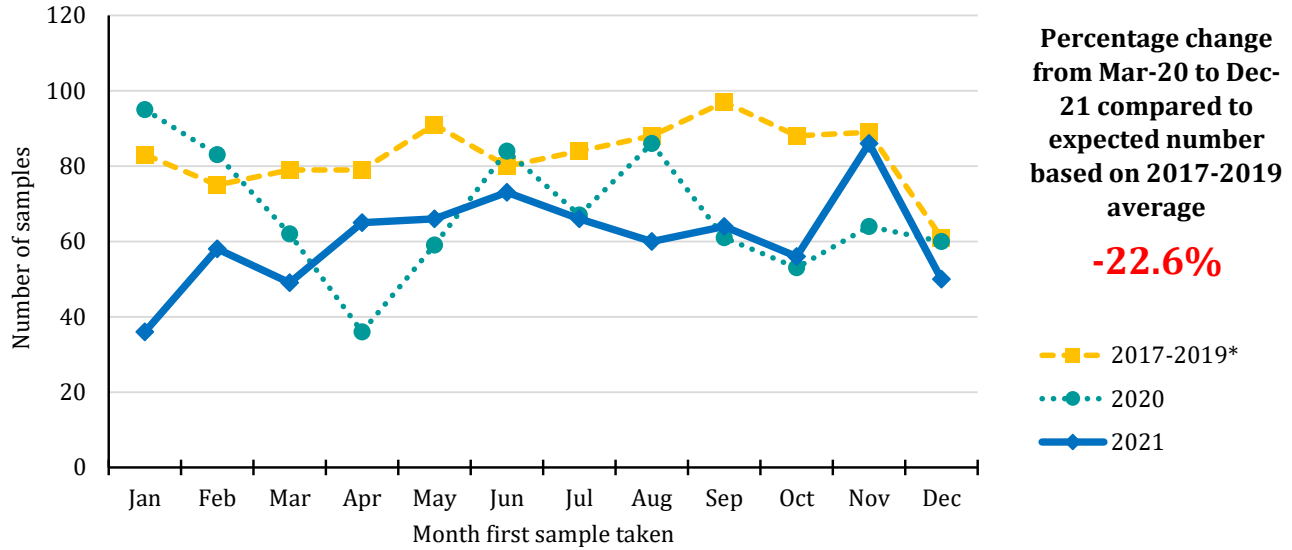
| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 13 | 13 | 11 | 18 | 11 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 14 | 17 | 14 | 10 |
| 2020 | 15 | 8 | 10 | 11 | 6 | 10 | 15 | 11 | 7 | 18 | 12 | 15 |
| 2021 | 15 | 16 | 13 | 14 | 20 | 8 | 23 | 8 | 21 | 14 | 14 | 20 |

*Annual average

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

Pathology samples indicating lung cancer: All persons

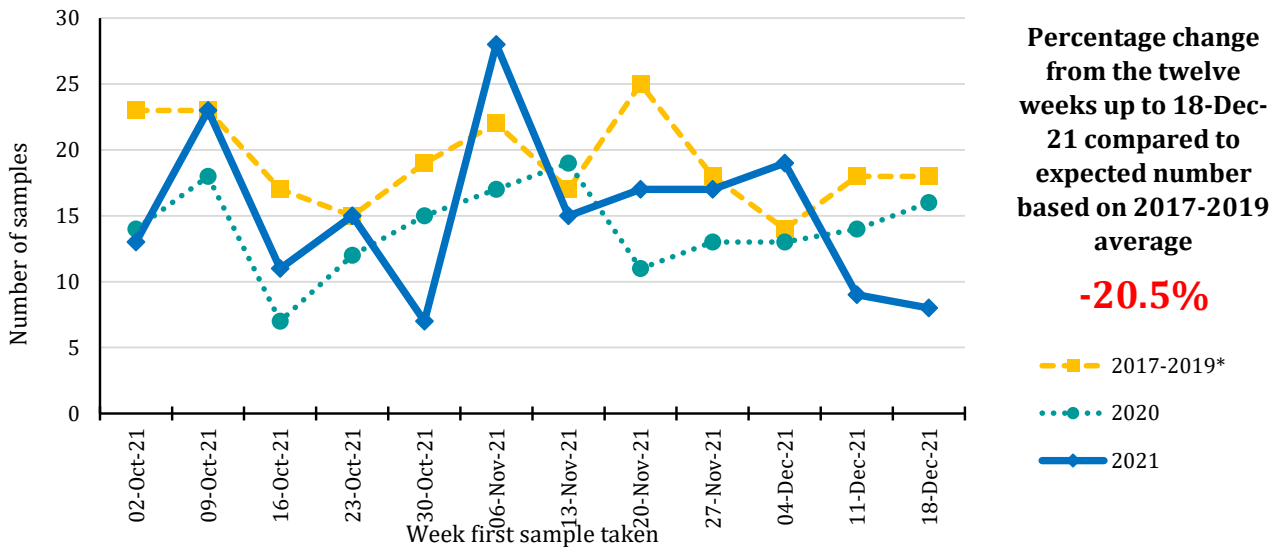
Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



| Year sample taken | Month sample taken | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| 2017-2019* | 83 | 75 | 79 | 79 | 91 | 80 | 84 | 88 | 97 | 88 | 89 | 61 |
| 2020 | 95 | 83 | 62 | 36 | 59 | 84 | 67 | 86 | 61 | 53 | 64 | 60 |
| 2021 | 36 | 58 | 49 | 65 | 66 | 73 | 66 | 60 | 64 | 56 | 86 | 50 |

*Annual average

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



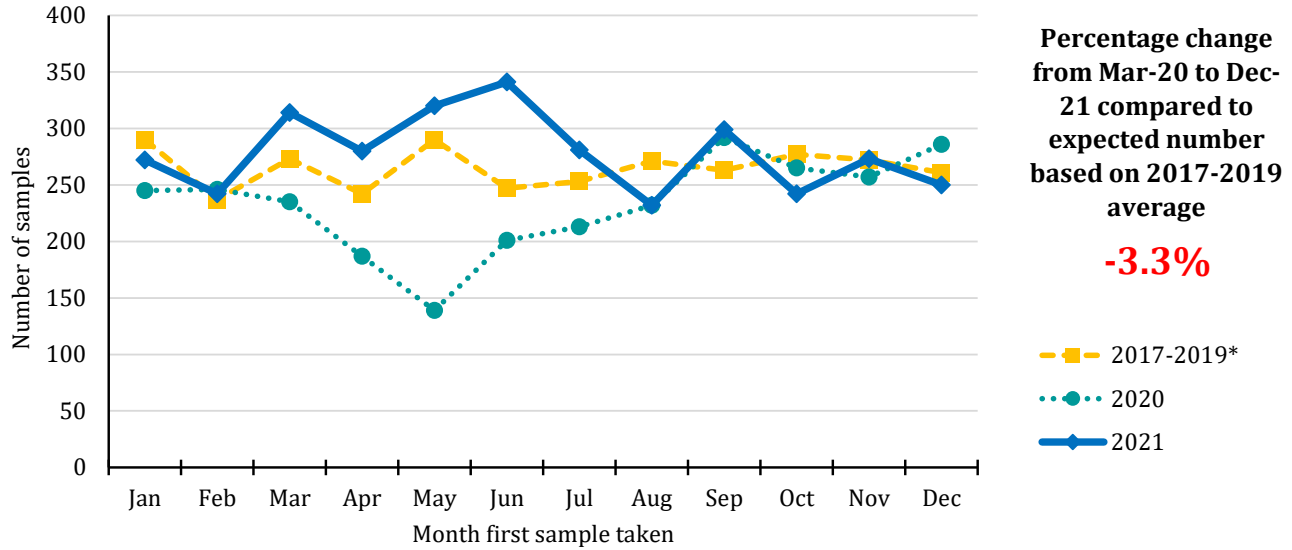
| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 23 | 23 | 17 | 15 | 19 | 22 | 17 | 25 | 18 | 14 | 18 | 18 |
| 2020 | 14 | 18 | 7 | 12 | 15 | 17 | 19 | 11 | 13 | 13 | 14 | 16 |
| 2021 | 13 | 23 | 11 | 15 | 7 | 28 | 15 | 17 | 17 | 19 | 9 | 8 |

*Annual average

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

Pathology samples indicating breast cancer: Females

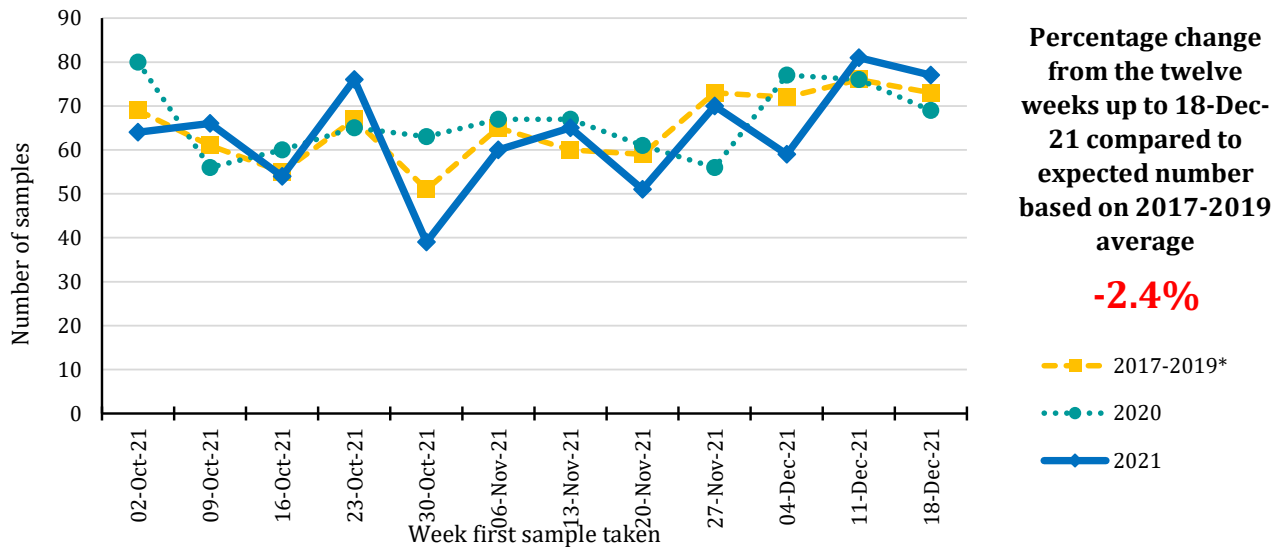
Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



| Year sample taken | Month sample taken | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| 2017-2019* | 290 | 237 | 273 | 242 | 290 | 247 | 253 | 271 | 263 | 277 | 272 | 261 |
| 2020 | 245 | 246 | 235 | 187 | 139 | 201 | 213 | 232 | 292 | 265 | 257 | 286 |
| 2021 | 272 | 242 | 314 | 280 | 320 | 341 | 281 | 232 | 299 | 242 | 273 | 250 |

*Annual average

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



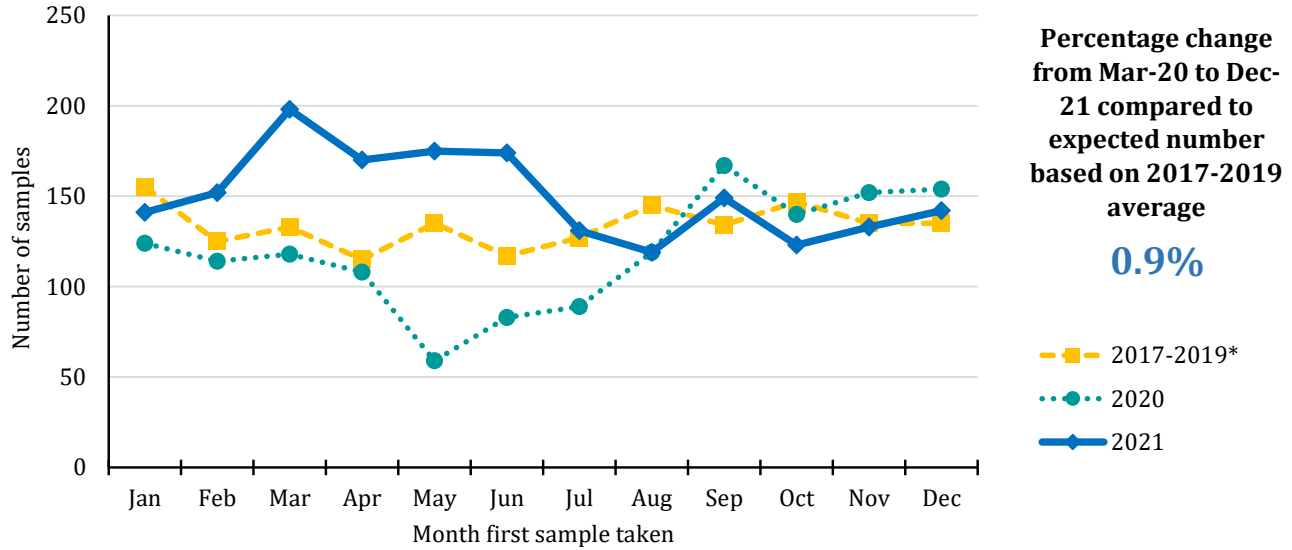
| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 69 | 61 | 55 | 67 | 51 | 65 | 60 | 59 | 73 | 72 | 76 | 73 |
| 2020 | 80 | 56 | 60 | 65 | 63 | 67 | 67 | 61 | 56 | 77 | 76 | 69 |
| 2021 | 64 | 66 | 54 | 76 | 39 | 60 | 65 | 51 | 70 | 59 | 81 | 77 |

*Annual average

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Pathology samples indicating breast cancer: Females, screening age (50-70)

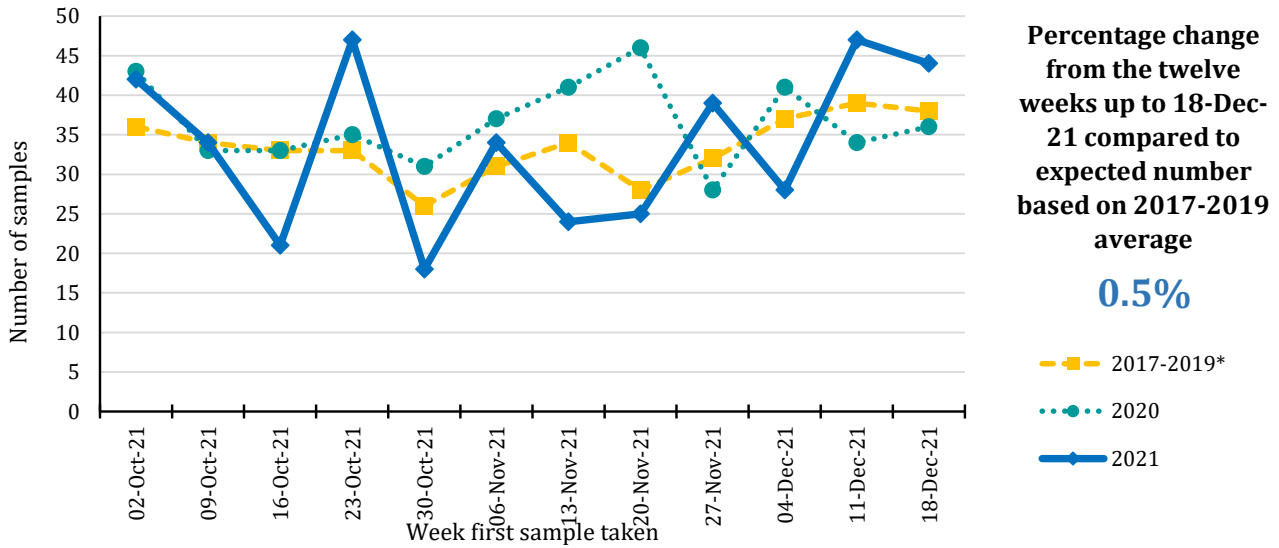
Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



| Year sample taken | Month sample taken | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| 2017-2019* | 155 | 125 | 133 | 115 | 135 | 117 | 127 | 145 | 134 | 147 | 135 | 135 |
| 2020 | 124 | 114 | 118 | 108 | 59 | 83 | 89 | 119 | 167 | 140 | 152 | 154 |
| 2021 | 141 | 152 | 198 | 170 | 175 | 174 | 131 | 119 | 149 | 123 | 133 | 142 |

*Annual average

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



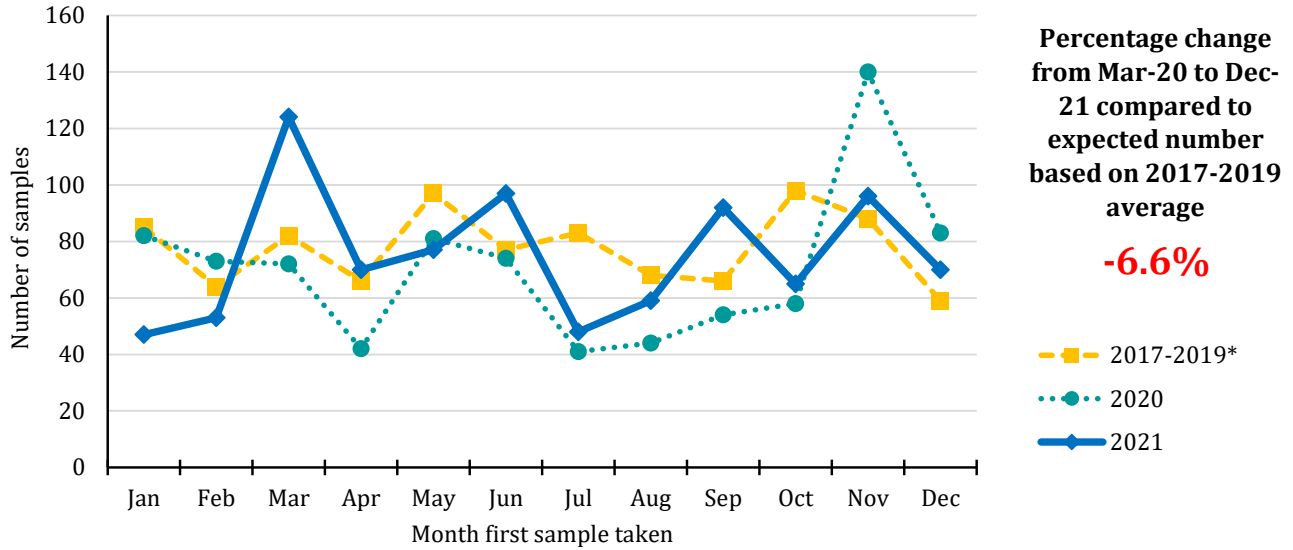
| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 36 | 34 | 33 | 33 | 26 | 31 | 34 | 28 | 32 | 37 | 39 | 38 |
| 2020 | 43 | 33 | 33 | 35 | 31 | 37 | 41 | 46 | 28 | 41 | 34 | 36 |
| 2021 | 42 | 34 | 21 | 47 | 18 | 34 | 24 | 25 | 39 | 28 | 47 | 44 |

*Annual average

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

Pathology samples indicating prostate cancer: Males

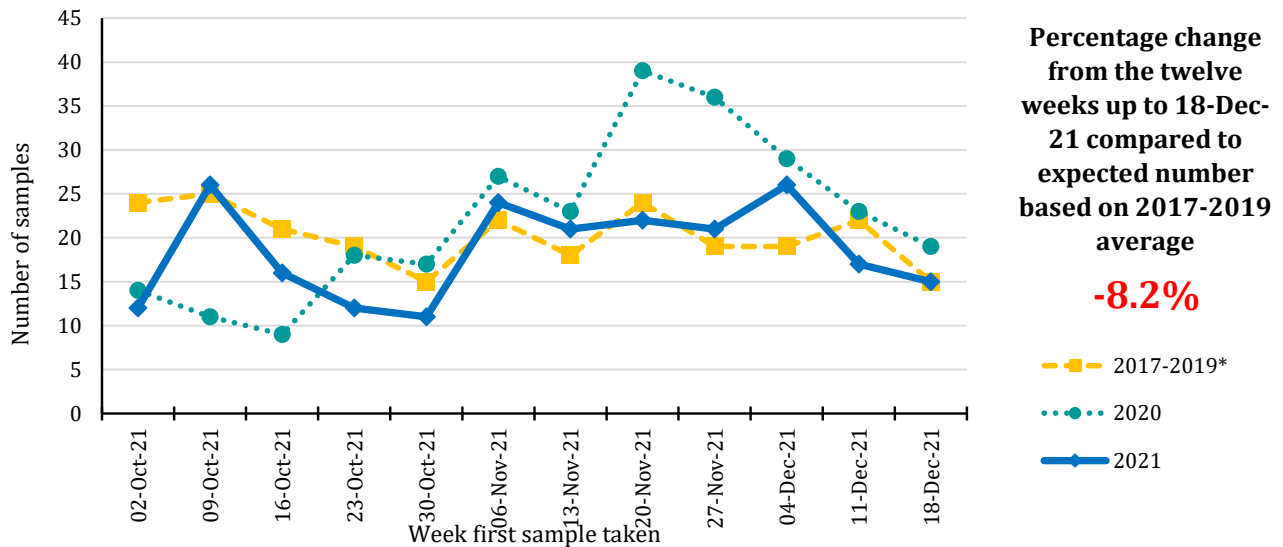
Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



| Year sample taken | Month sample taken | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| 2017-2019* | 85 | 64 | 82 | 66 | 97 | 77 | 83 | 68 | 66 | 98 | 88 | 59 |
| 2020 | 82 | 73 | 72 | 42 | 81 | 74 | 41 | 44 | 54 | 58 | 140 | 83 |
| 2021 | 47 | 53 | 124 | 70 | 77 | 97 | 48 | 59 | 92 | 65 | 96 | 70 |

*Annual average

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



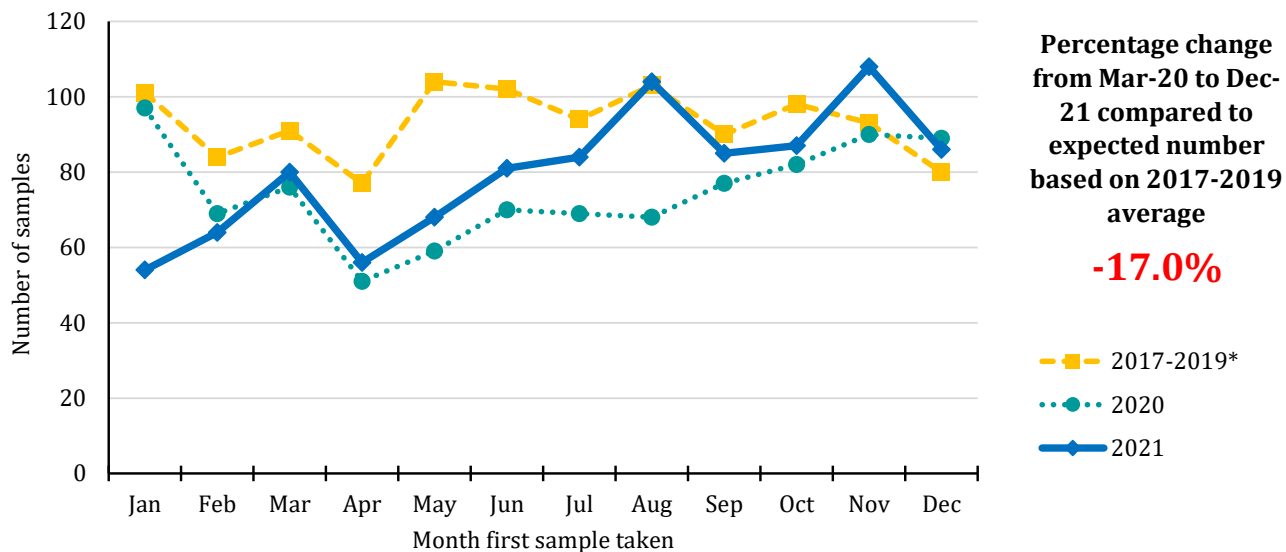
| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 24 | 25 | 21 | 19 | 15 | 22 | 18 | 24 | 19 | 19 | 22 | 15 |
| 2020 | 14 | 11 | 9 | 18 | 17 | 27 | 23 | 39 | 36 | 29 | 23 | 19 |
| 2021 | 12 | 26 | 16 | 12 | 11 | 24 | 21 | 22 | 21 | 26 | 17 | 15 |

*Annual average

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

Pathology samples indicating gynaecological cancer: Females

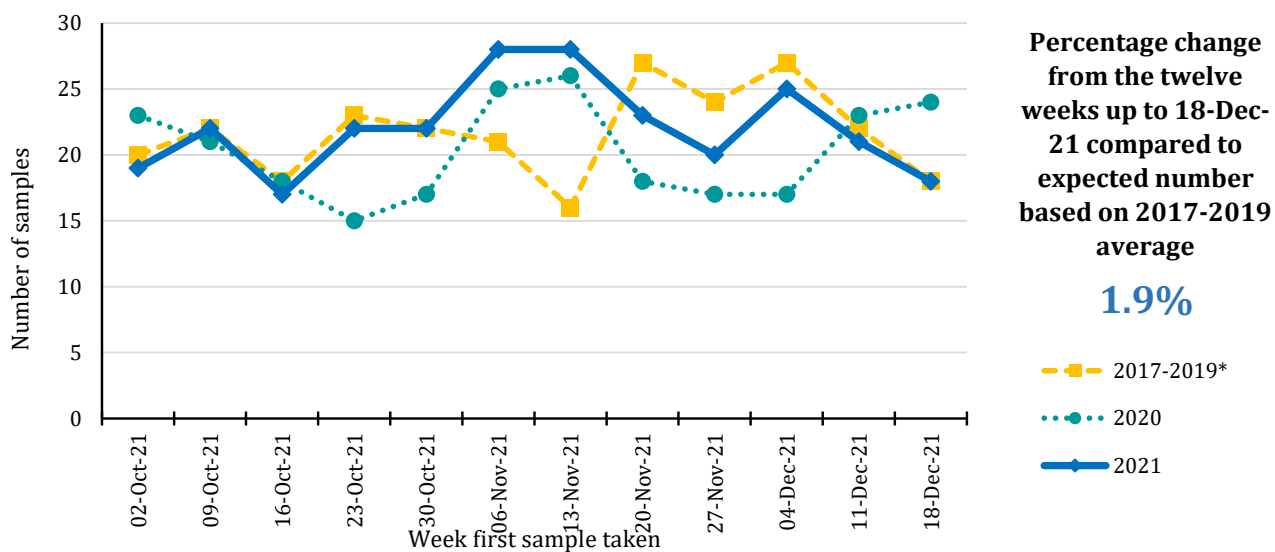
Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



| Year sample taken | Month sample taken | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| 2017-2019* | 101 | 84 | 91 | 77 | 104 | 102 | 94 | 103 | 90 | 98 | 93 | 80 |
| 2020 | 97 | 69 | 76 | 51 | 59 | 70 | 69 | 68 | 77 | 82 | 90 | 89 |
| 2021 | 54 | 64 | 80 | 56 | 68 | 81 | 84 | 104 | 85 | 87 | 108 | 86 |

*Annual average

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



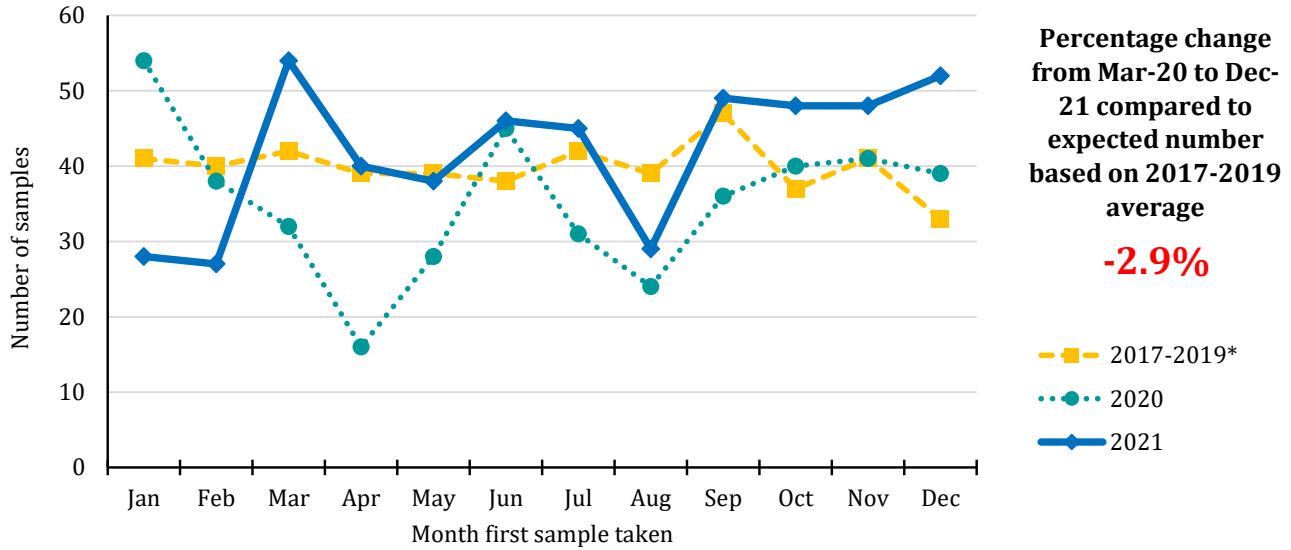
| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 20 | 22 | 18 | 23 | 22 | 21 | 16 | 27 | 24 | 27 | 22 | 18 |
| 2020 | 23 | 21 | 18 | 15 | 17 | 25 | 26 | 18 | 17 | 17 | 23 | 24 |
| 2021 | 19 | 22 | 17 | 22 | 22 | 28 | 28 | 23 | 20 | 25 | 21 | 18 |

*Annual average

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

Pathology samples indicating upper gastrointestinal cancer: All persons

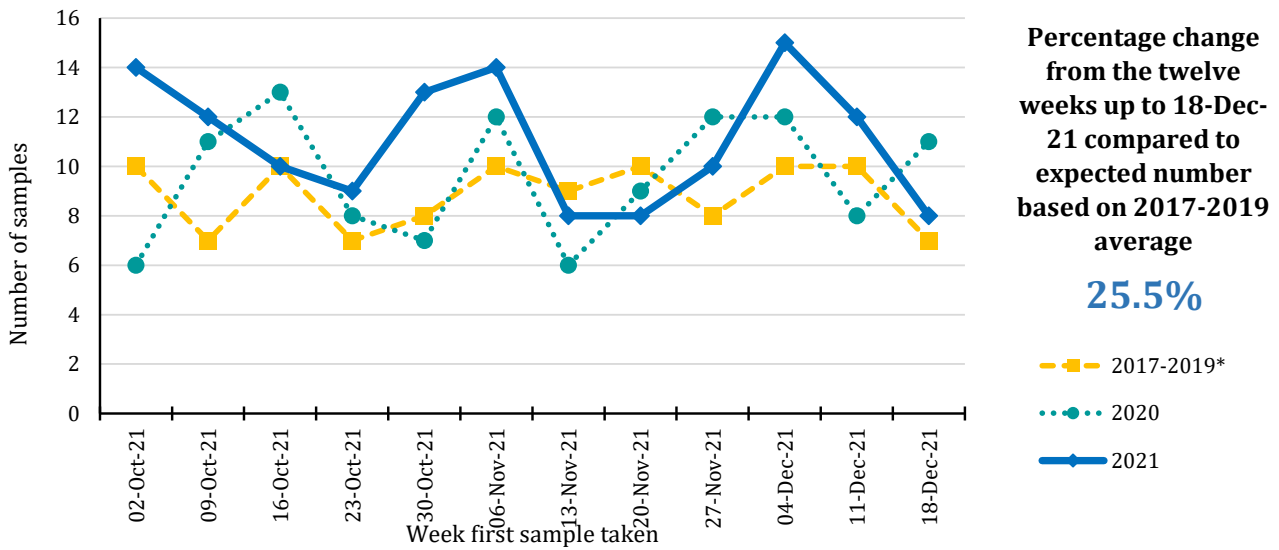
Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



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

*Annual average

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



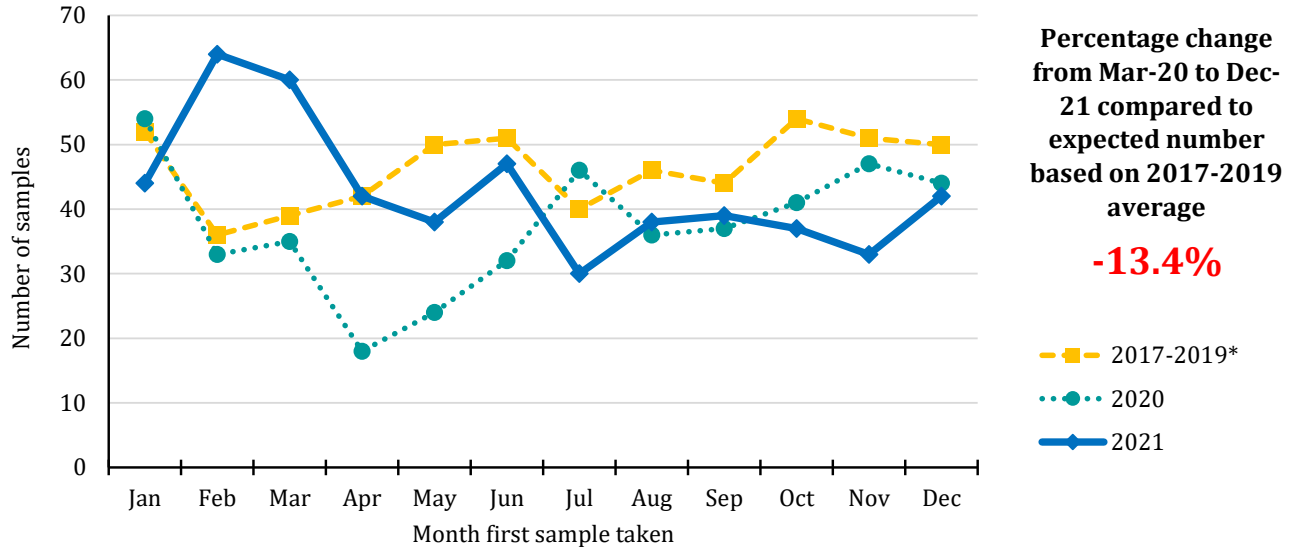
| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 10 | 7 | 10 | 7 | 8 | 10 | 9 | 10 | 8 | 10 | 10 | 7 |
| 2020 | 6 | 11 | 13 | 8 | 7 | 12 | 6 | 9 | 12 | 12 | 8 | 11 |
| 2021 | 14 | 12 | 10 | 9 | 13 | 14 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 15 | 12 | 8 |

*Annual average

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

Pathology samples indicating head & neck cancer: All persons

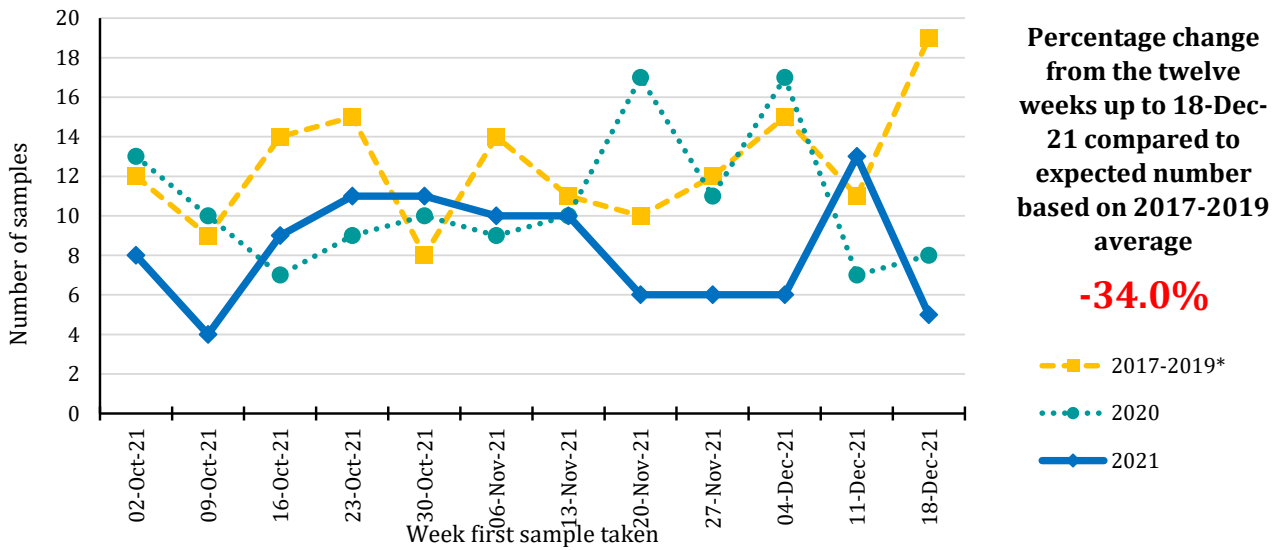
Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



| Year sample taken | Month sample taken | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| 2017-2019* | 52 | 36 | 39 | 42 | 50 | 51 | 40 | 46 | 44 | 54 | 51 | 50 |
| 2020 | 54 | 33 | 35 | 18 | 24 | 32 | 46 | 36 | 37 | 41 | 47 | 44 |
| 2021 | 44 | 64 | 60 | 42 | 38 | 47 | 30 | 38 | 39 | 37 | 33 | 42 |

*Annual average

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



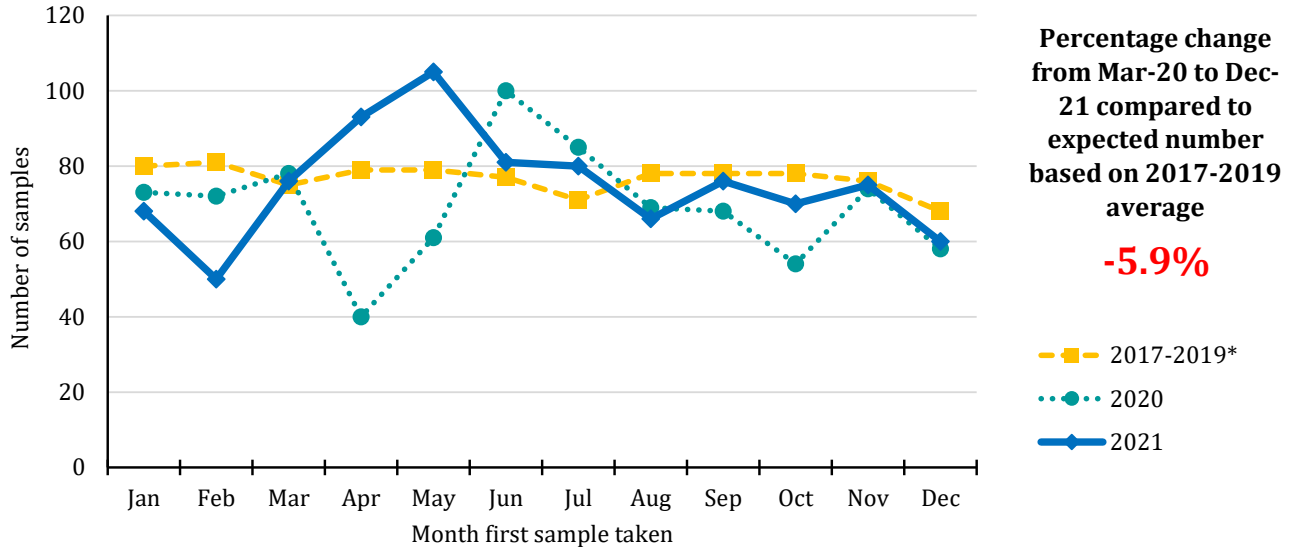
| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 12 | 9 | 14 | 15 | 8 | 14 | 11 | 10 | 12 | 15 | 11 | 19 |
| 2020 | 13 | 10 | 7 | 9 | 10 | 9 | 10 | 17 | 11 | 17 | 7 | 8 |
| 2021 | 8 | 4 | 9 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 13 | 5 |

*Annual average

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

Pathology samples indicating urinary cancer: All persons

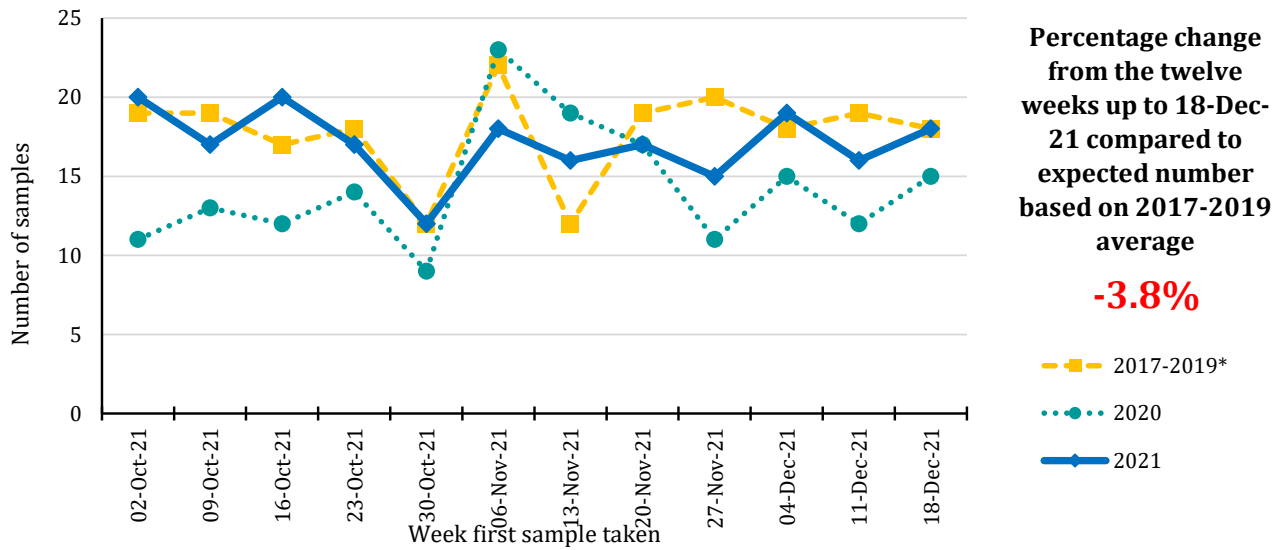
Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



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

*Annual average

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



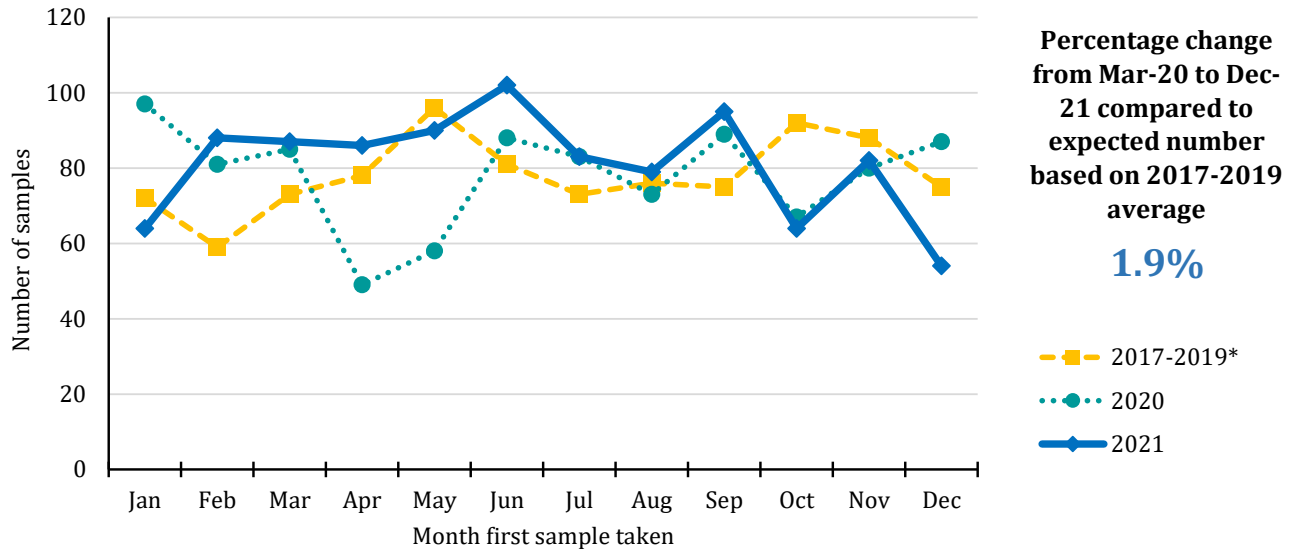
| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 19 | 19 | 17 | 18 | 12 | 22 | 12 | 19 | 20 | 18 | 19 | 18 |
| 2020 | 11 | 13 | 12 | 14 | 9 | 23 | 19 | 17 | 11 | 15 | 12 | 15 |
| 2021 | 20 | 17 | 20 | 17 | 12 | 18 | 16 | 17 | 15 | 19 | 16 | 18 |

*Annual average

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

Pathology samples indicating haematological cancer: All persons

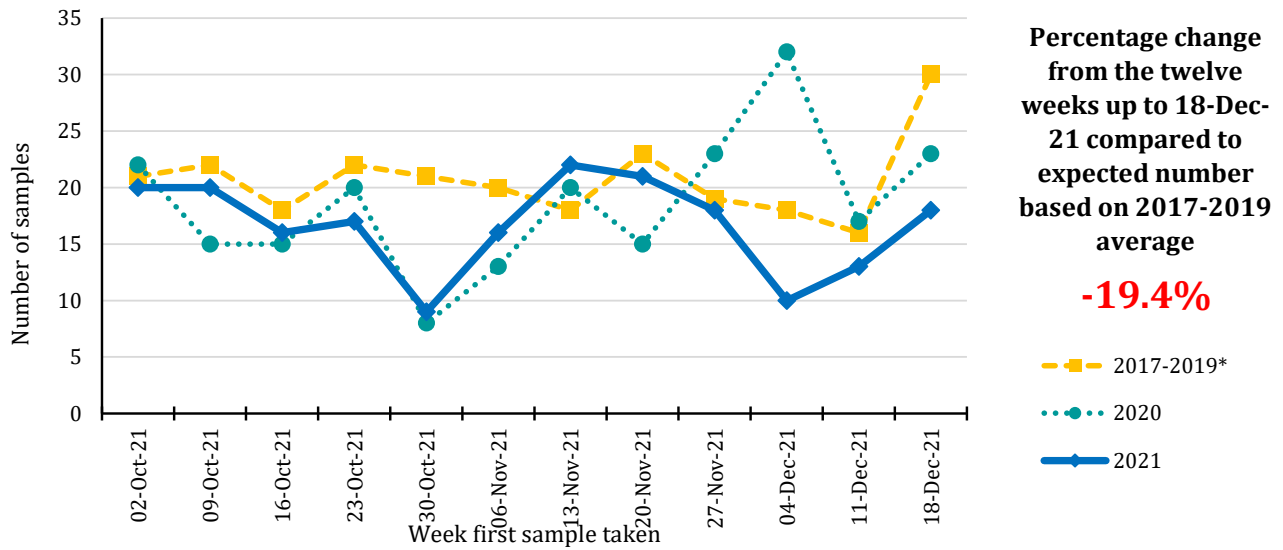
Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



| Year sample taken | Month sample taken | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| 2017-2019* | 72 | 59 | 73 | 78 | 96 | 81 | 73 | 76 | 75 | 92 | 88 | 75 |
| 2020 | 97 | 81 | 85 | 49 | 58 | 88 | 83 | 73 | 89 | 67 | 80 | 87 |
| 2021 | 64 | 88 | 87 | 86 | 90 | 102 | 83 | 79 | 95 | 64 | 82 | 54 |

*Annual average

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



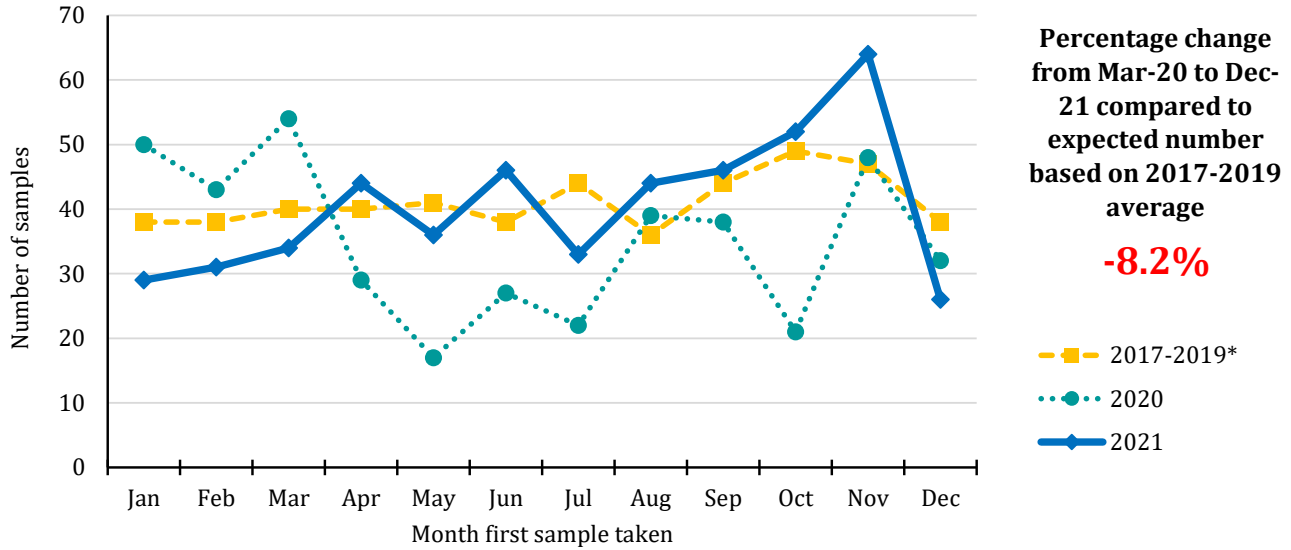
| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 21 | 22 | 18 | 22 | 21 | 20 | 18 | 23 | 19 | 18 | 16 | 30 |
| 2020 | 22 | 15 | 15 | 20 | 8 | 13 | 20 | 15 | 23 | 32 | 17 | 23 |
| 2021 | 20 | 20 | 16 | 17 | 9 | 16 | 22 | 21 | 18 | 10 | 13 | 18 |

*Annual average

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

Pathology samples indicating malignant melanoma: All persons

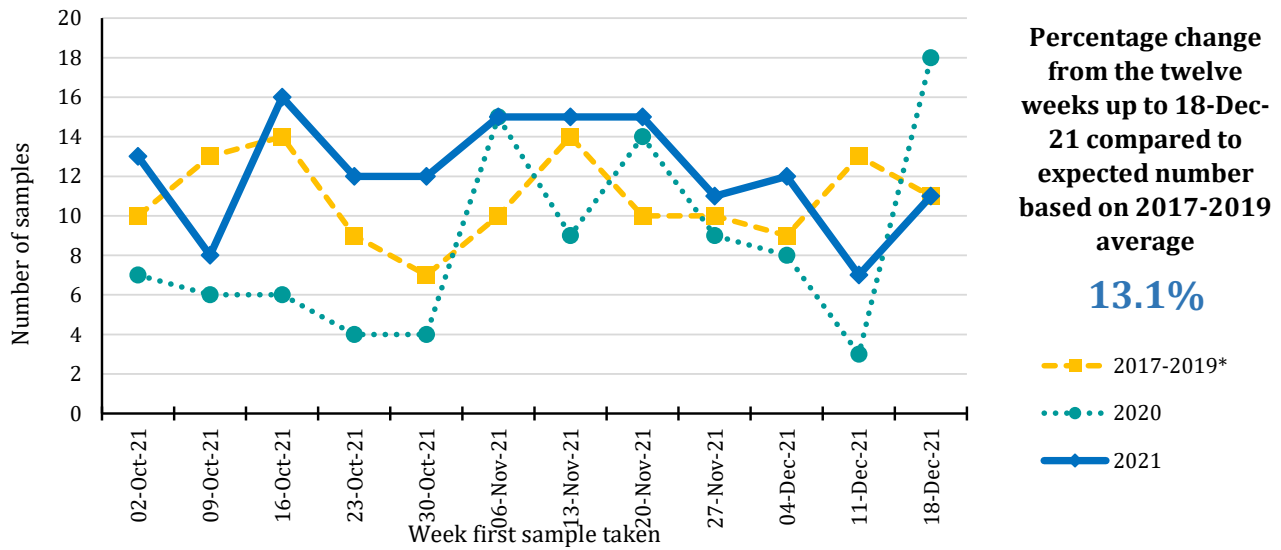
Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



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

*Annual average

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



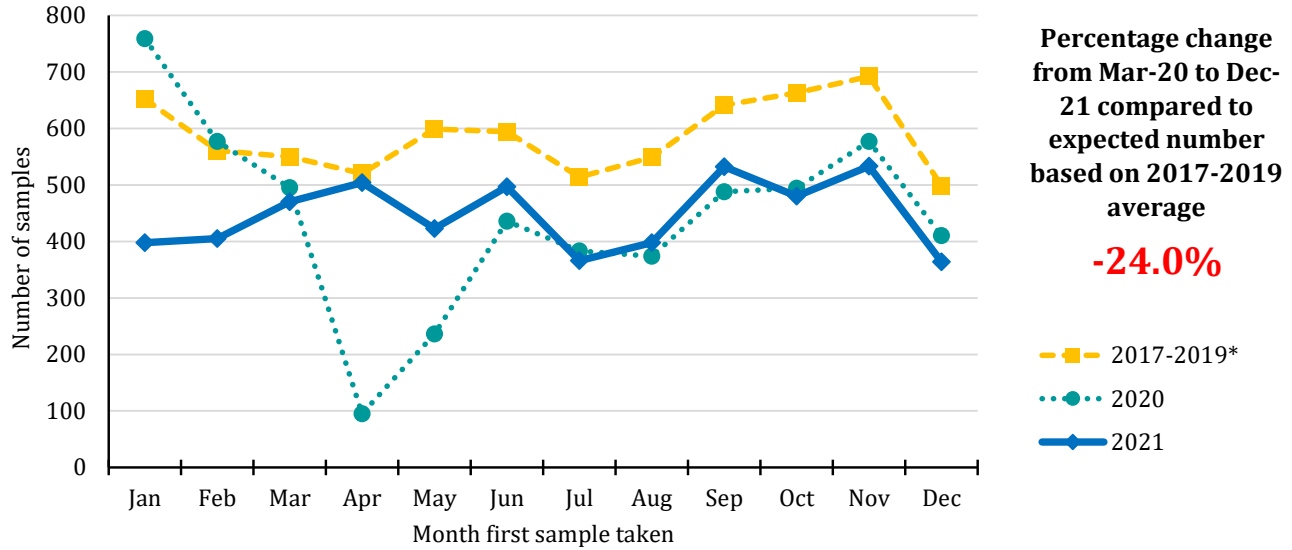
| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 10 | 13 | 14 | 9 | 7 | 10 | 14 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 13 | 11 |
| 2020 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 15 | 9 | 14 | 9 | 8 | 3 | 18 |
| 2021 | 13 | 8 | 16 | 12 | 12 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 11 | 12 | 7 | 11 |

*Annual average

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

Pathology samples indicating non-melanoma skin cancer: All persons

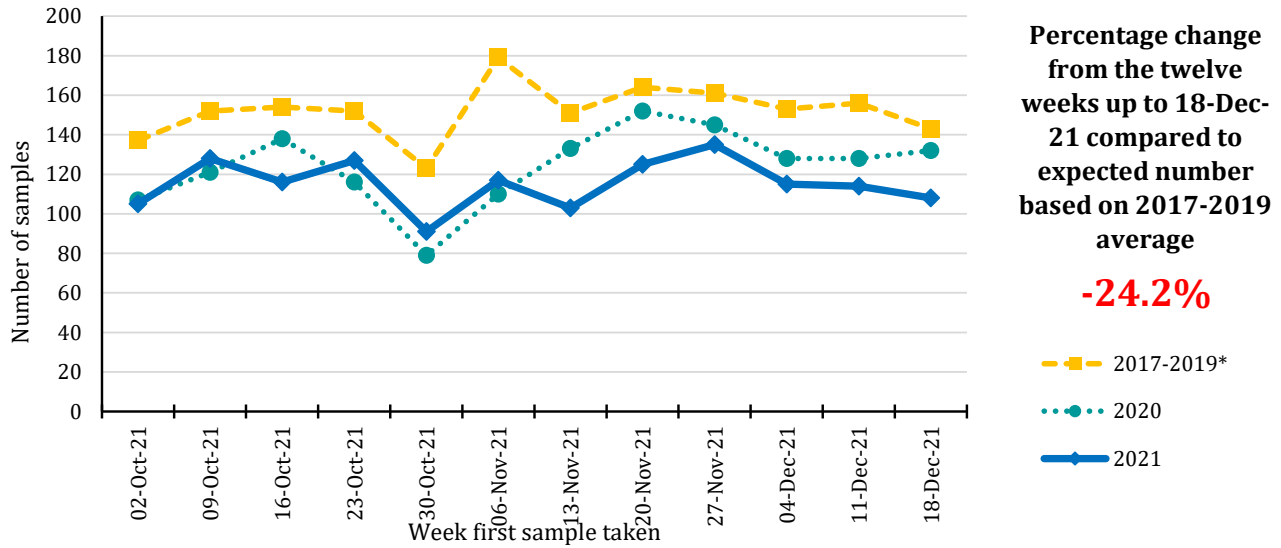
Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



| Year sample taken | Month sample taken | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| 2017-2019* | 652 | 561 | 550 | 520 | 599 | 594 | 514 | 549 | 641 | 663 | 692 | 499 |
| 2020 | 759 | 577 | 495 | 95 | 236 | 436 | 383 | 374 | 488 | 494 | 577 | 410 |
| 2021 | 398 | 405 | 470 | 504 | 423 | 497 | 366 | 398 | 532 | 480 | 533 | 364 |

*Annual average

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



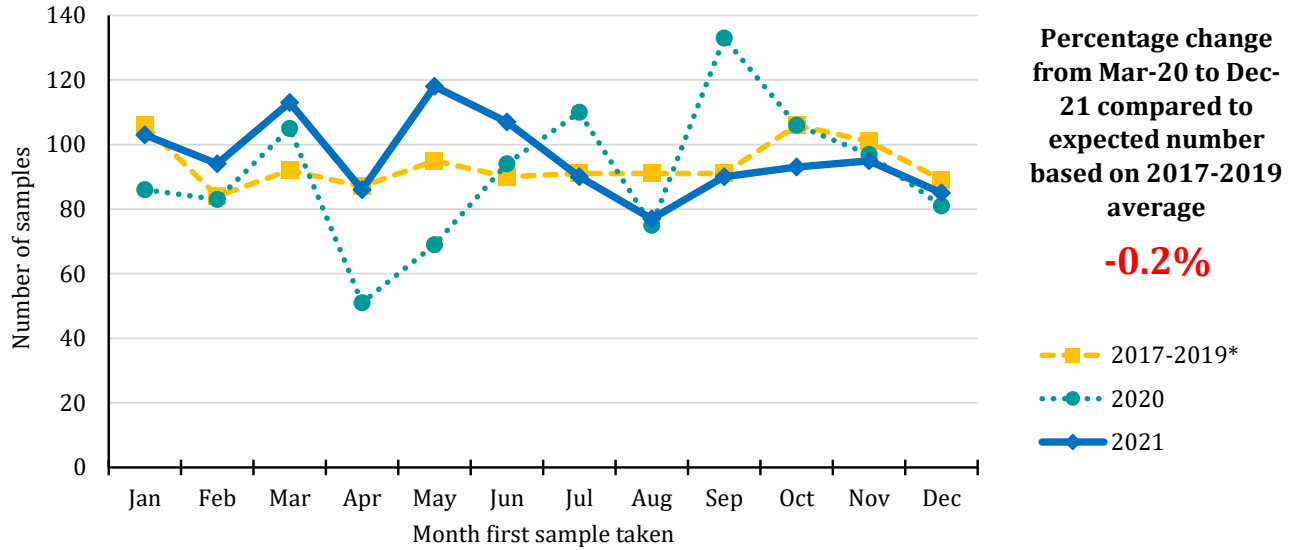
| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 137 | 152 | 154 | 152 | 123 | 179 | 151 | 164 | 161 | 153 | 156 | 143 |
| 2020 | 107 | 121 | 138 | 116 | 79 | 110 | 133 | 152 | 145 | 128 | 128 | 132 |
| 2021 | 105 | 128 | 116 | 127 | 91 | 117 | 103 | 125 | 135 | 115 | 114 | 108 |

*Annual average

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

Pathology samples indicating other cancer: All persons

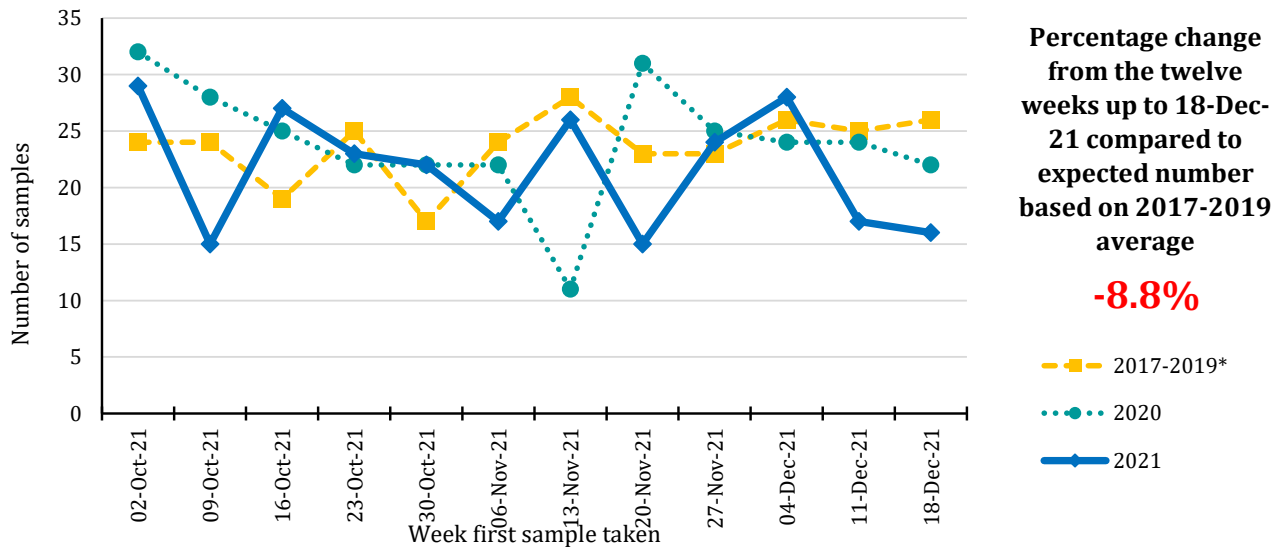
Trends in number of pathology samples indicating cancer by month and year first sample taken



| Year sample taken | Month sample taken | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| 2017-2019* | 106 | 84 | 92 | 87 | 95 | 90 | 91 | 91 | 91 | 106 | 101 | 89 |
| 2020 | 86 | 83 | 105 | 51 | 69 | 94 | 110 | 75 | 133 | 106 | 97 | 81 |
| 2021 | 103 | 94 | 113 | 86 | 118 | 107 | 90 | 77 | 90 | 93 | 95 | 85 |

*Annual average

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



| Year sample taken | Week sample taken** | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 02-Oct-21 | 09-Oct-21 | 16-Oct-21 | 23-Oct-21 | 30-Oct-21 | 06-Nov-21 | 13-Nov-21 | 20-Nov-21 | 27-Nov-21 | 04-Dec-21 | 11-Dec-21 | 18-Dec-21 |
| 2017-2019* | 24 | 24 | 19 | 25 | 17 | 24 | 28 | 23 | 23 | 26 | 25 | 26 |
| 2020 | 32 | 28 | 25 | 22 | 22 | 22 | 11 | 31 | 25 | 24 | 24 | 22 |
| 2021 | 29 | 15 | 27 | 23 | 22 | 17 | 26 | 15 | 24 | 28 | 17 | 16 |

*Annual average

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021. 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 three of the four NHS pathology laboratories in Northern Ireland (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 . Due to potential reporting delays, pathology data from the month following 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 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. 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."

Acknowledgements

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Further Information

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

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