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

(Excludes samples from Altnagelvin Laboratory)

## January 2022 update

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### Further information

Further information is available at: [www.qub.ac.uk/research-centres/nicr](http://www.qub.ac.uk/research-centres/nicr)

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### Acknowledgements

The Northern Ireland Cancer Registry (NICR) is funded by the Public Health Agency and is based in Queen's University, Belfast.

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 patients with pathology samples indicating cancer: January 2022

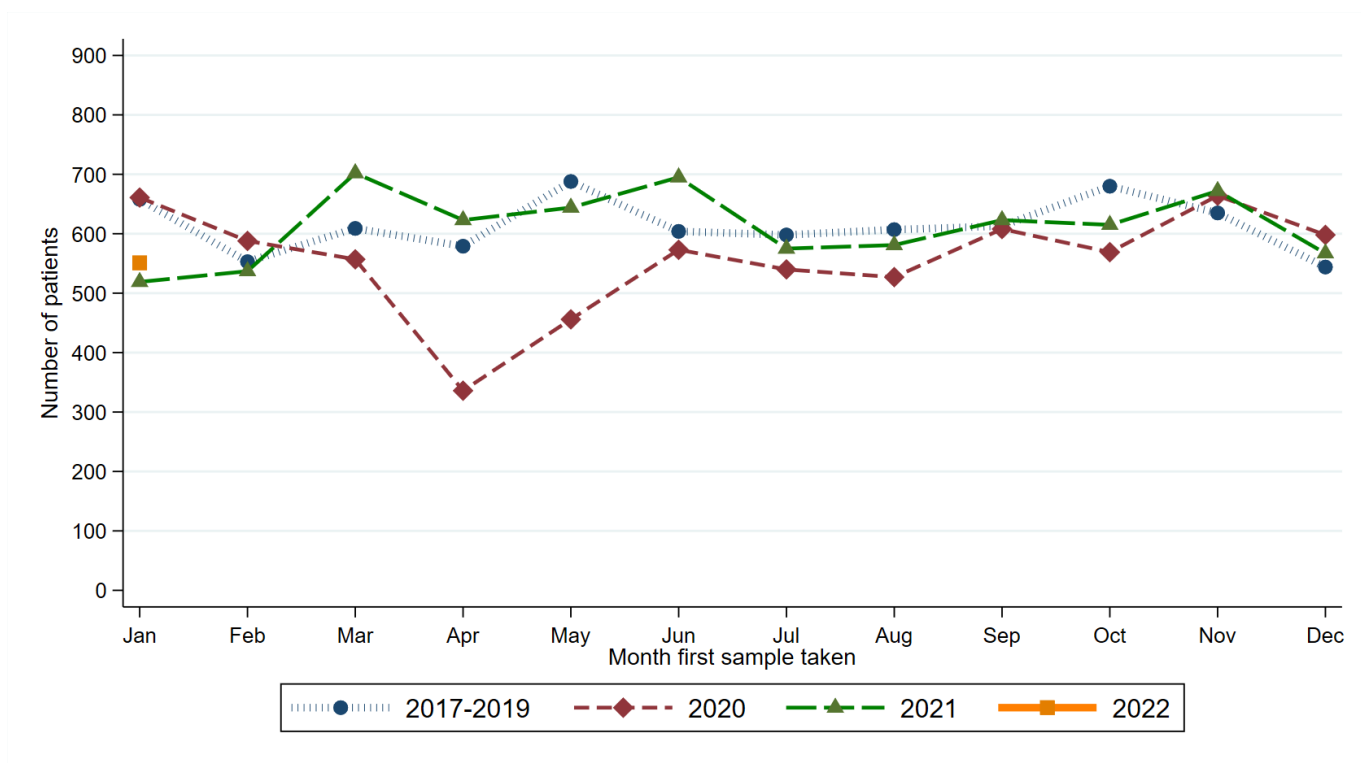
This summary provides an overview of recent trends in the number of patients with pathology samples indicating cancer (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer, NMSC) whose first sample was taken from January 2020 to January 2022 in Northern Ireland.

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.

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.**

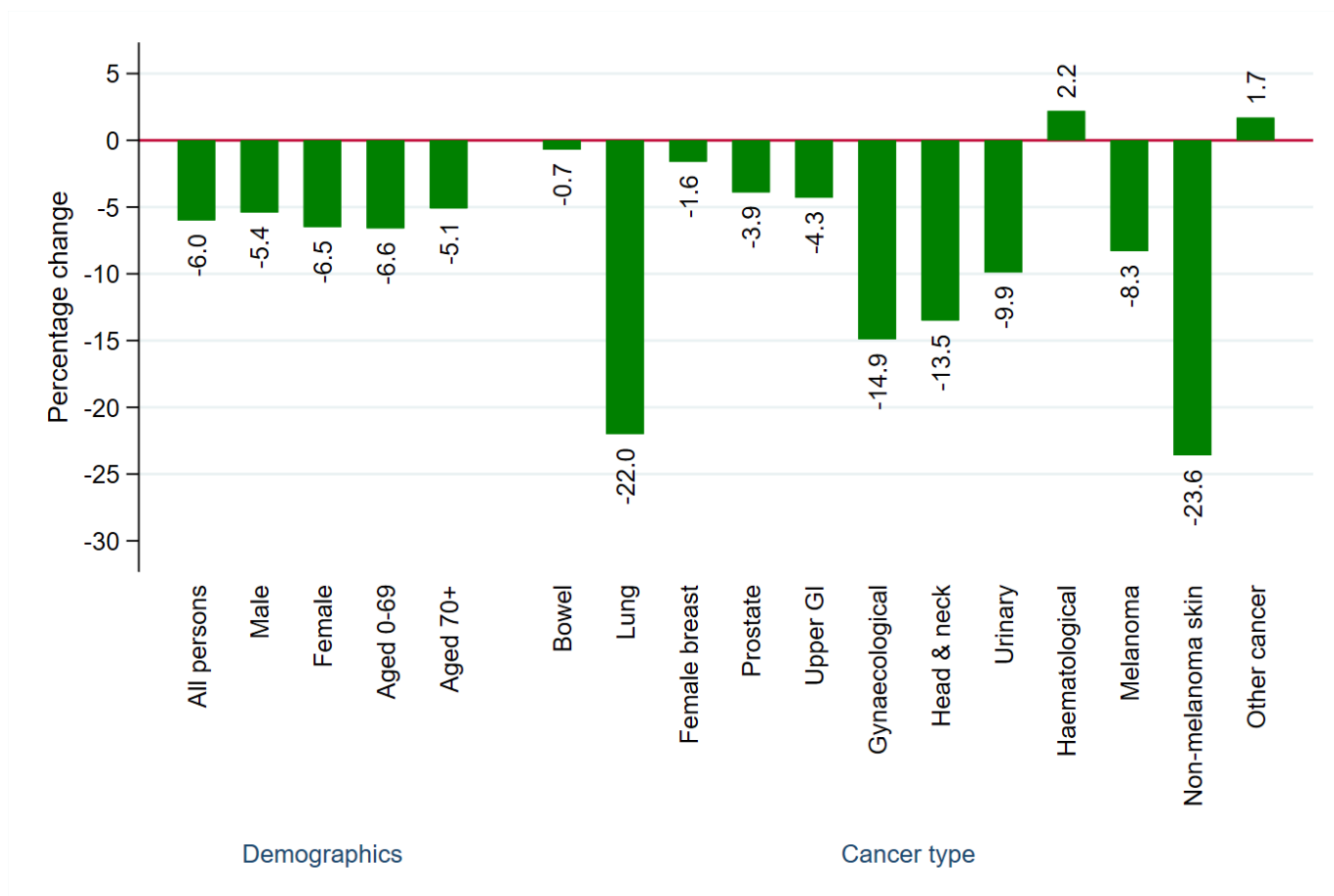
#### CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

From March 2020 to January 2022 the number of patients with a pathological sample indicating cancer (ex NMSC) was 6.0% lower than the average number for the same time period in 2017-2019.



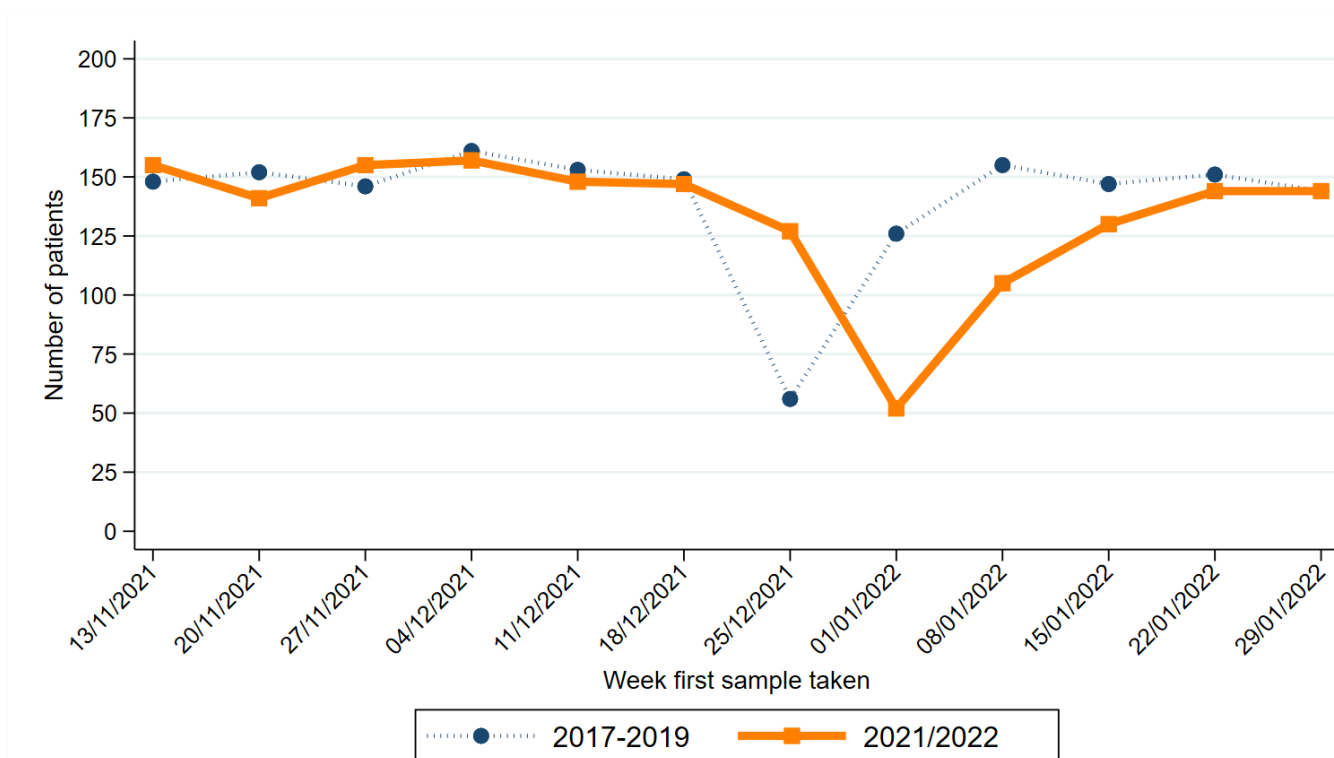
From March 2020 to January 2022 there was a 5.4% decrease among males and a 6.5% decrease among females compared to the same time period in 2017-2019. A decrease of 6.6% occurred in the number of patients aged 0-69 years, while there was a decrease of 5.1% among those aged 70 and older.

Compared to the annual average in 2017-2019, from March 2020 to January 2022 the number of patients with a pathology sample indicating lung cancer decreased by 22.0%. Increases were recorded for haematological cancer, while decreases of more than 10% were recorded for gynaecological cancer, head and neck cancer and non-melanoma skin cancer.



### RECENT CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF PATIENTS

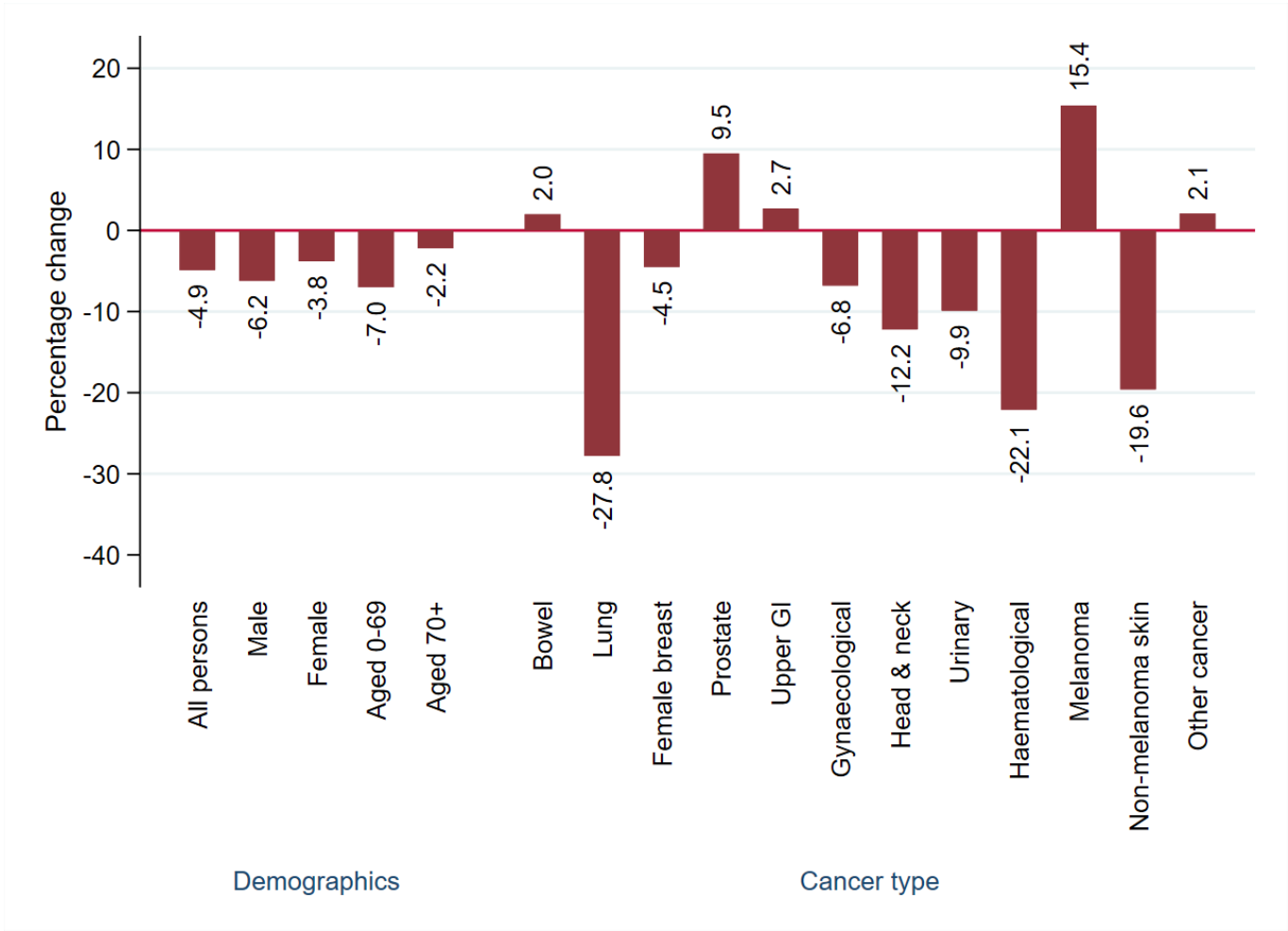
There was a 4.9% decrease in the number of patients with a pathology sample indicating cancer in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to the average value in the equivalent weeks in 2017-2019.



Note: Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years

In the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 there was a 6.2% decrease among males and a 3.8% decrease among females compared to the same time period in 2017-2019. A decrease of 7.0% occurred in the number of patients aged 0-69 years, while there was a decrease of 2.2% among those aged 70 and older.

Compared to the annual average in 2017-2019, in the twelve weeks up to January 2022 the number of patients with a pathology sample indicating lung cancer decreased by 27.8%. Increases were recorded for bowel cancer, prostate cancer, upper gastrointestinal cancer and melanoma, while decreases of more than 10% were recorded for head and neck cancer, haematological cancer and non-melanoma skin cancer.

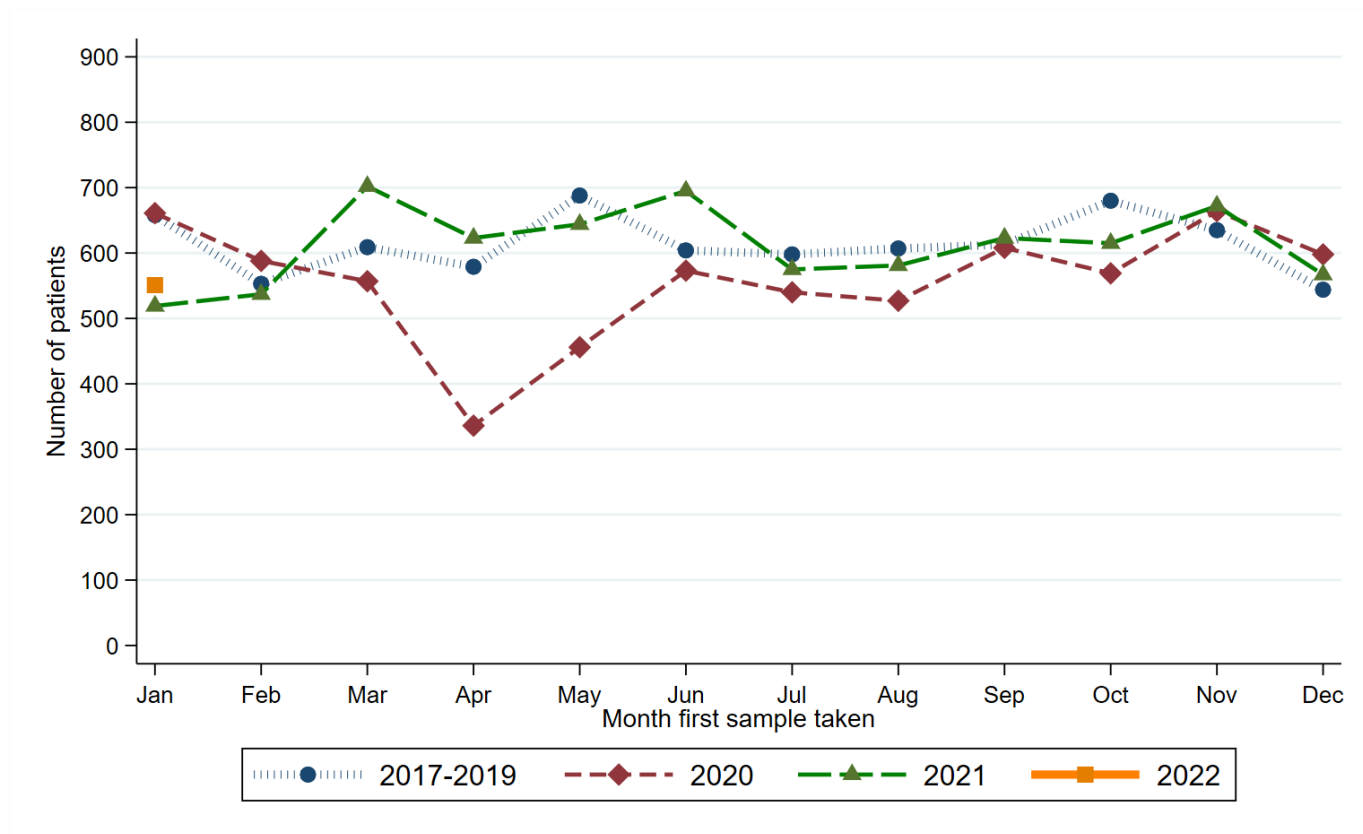


# ALL PERSONS: CANCER (EX NMSC)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

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

**-6.0%**



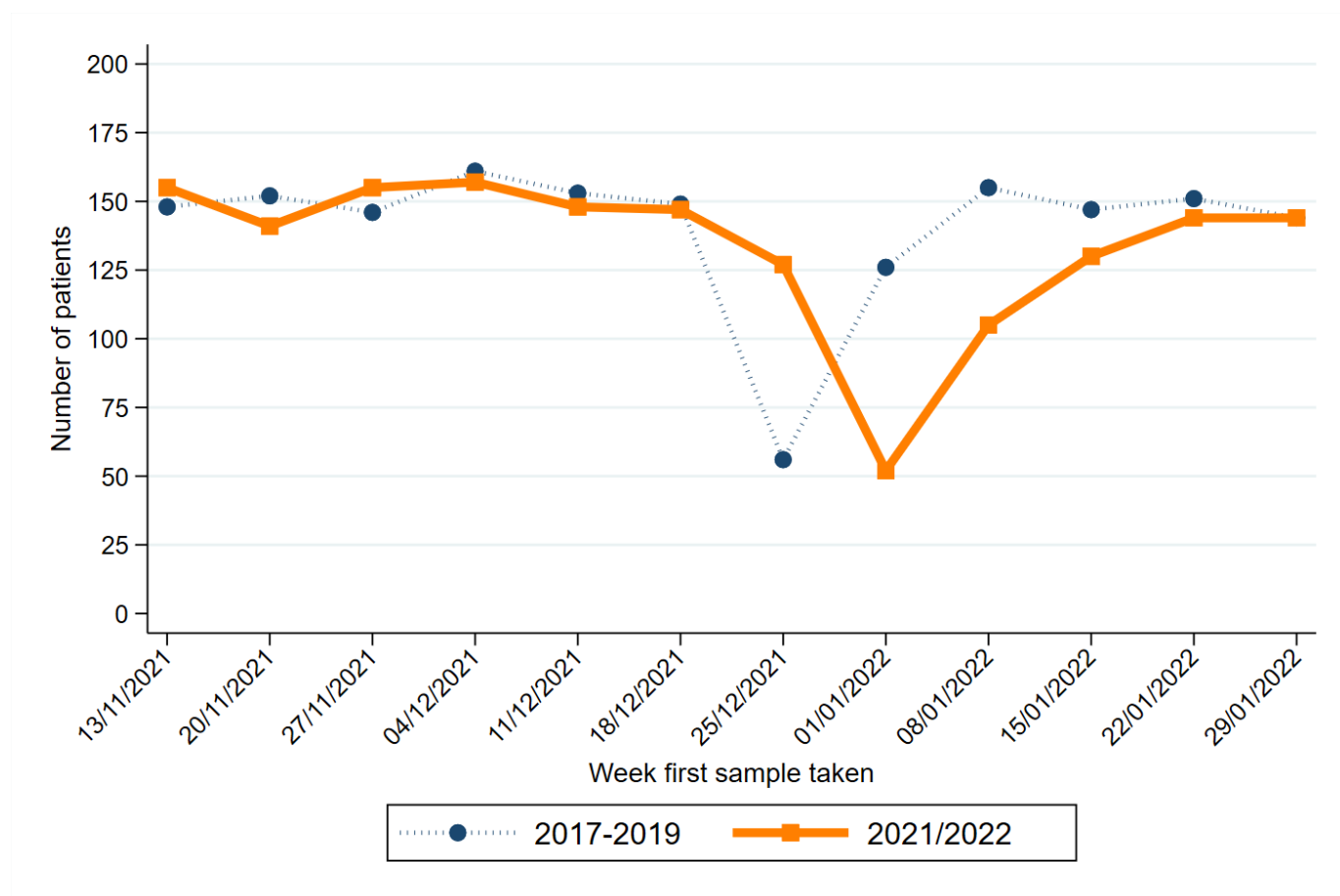
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	658	661	519	551
Feb	553	588	537	.
Mar	609	557	702	.
Apr	579	336	623	.
May	688	456	644	.
Jun	604	573	695	.
Jul	598	540	575	.
Aug	607	527	581	.
Sep	613	608	623	.
Oct	680	569	615	.
Nov	635	664	672	.
Dec	544	598	567	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-4.9%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2021/2022
13/11/2021	148	155
20/11/2021	152	141
27/11/2021	146	155
04/12/2021	161	157
11/12/2021	153	148
18/12/2021	149	147
25/12/2021	56	127
01/01/2022	126	52
08/01/2022	155	105
15/01/2022	147	130
22/01/2022	151	144
29/01/2022	144	144

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

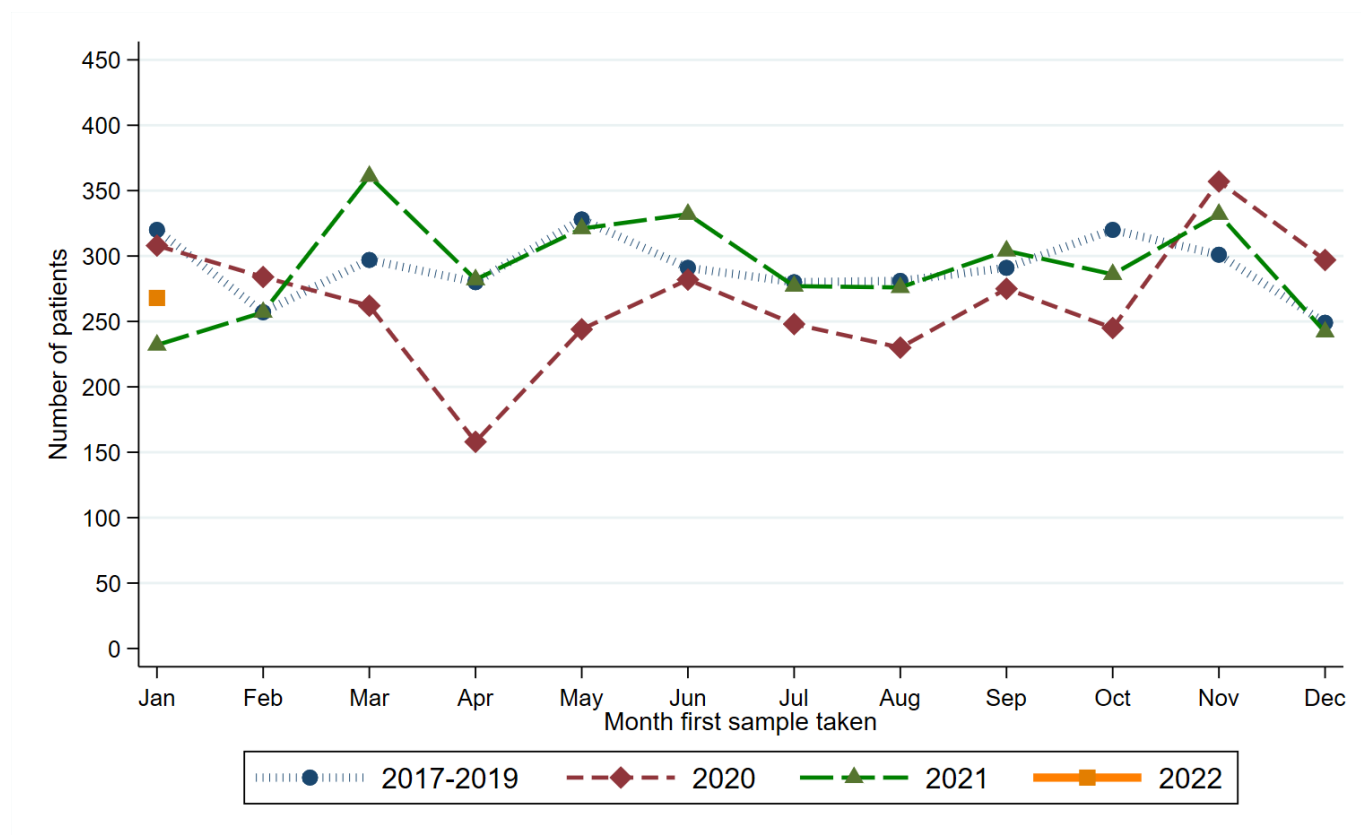
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# MALE: CANCER (EX NMSC)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

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

**-5.4%**



Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	320	308	232	268
Feb	257	284	257	.
Mar	297	262	361	.
Apr	280	158	282	.
May	328	244	321	.
Jun	291	282	332	.
Jul	280	248	277	.
Aug	281	230	276	.
Sep	291	275	304	.
Oct	320	245	286	.
Nov	301	357	332	.
Dec	249	297	242	.

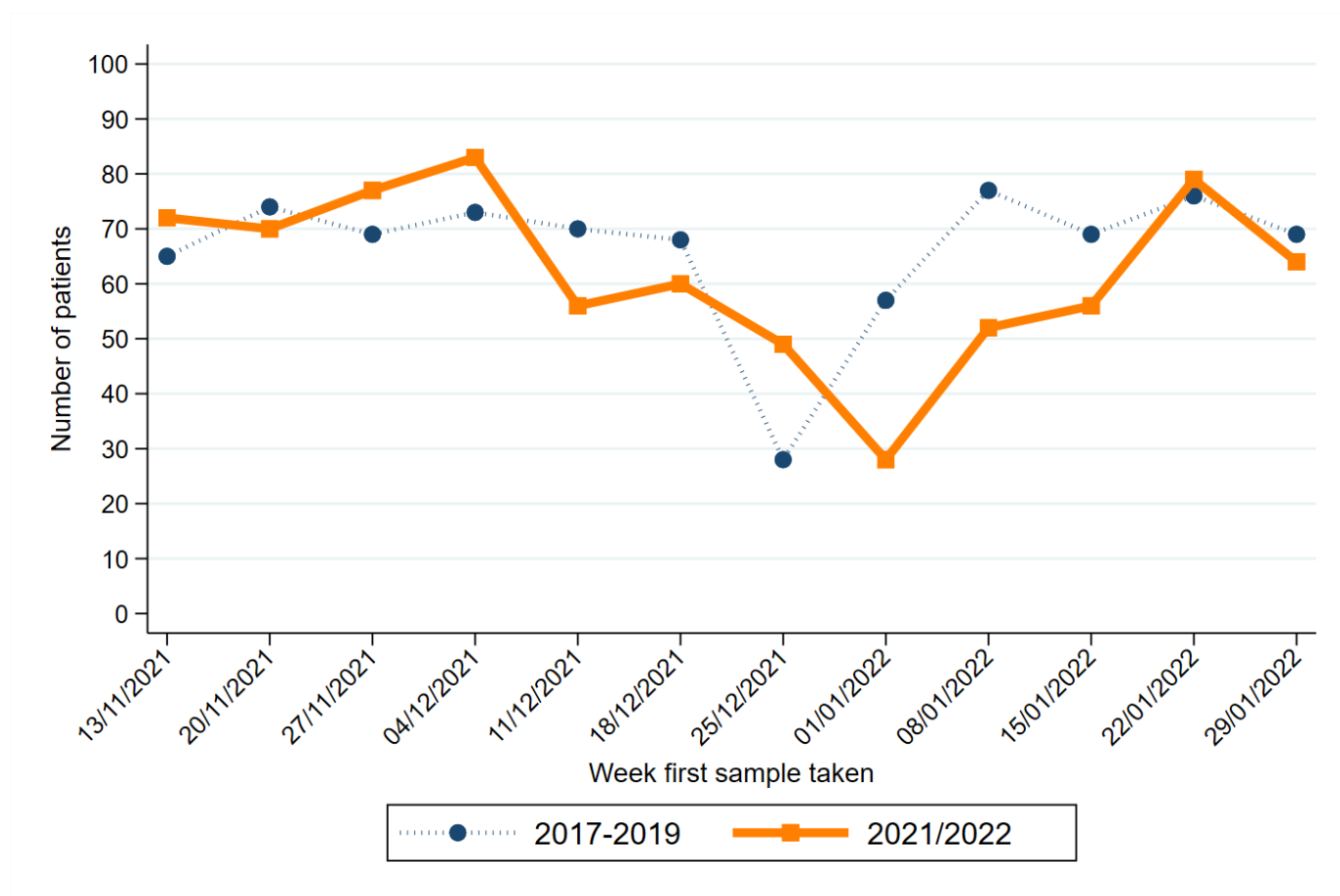
\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.



## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-6.2%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2021/2022
13/11/2021	65	72
20/11/2021	74	70
27/11/2021	69	77
04/12/2021	73	83
11/12/2021	70	56
18/12/2021	68	60
25/12/2021	28	49
01/01/2022	57	28
08/01/2022	77	52
15/01/2022	69	56
22/01/2022	76	79
29/01/2022	69	64

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

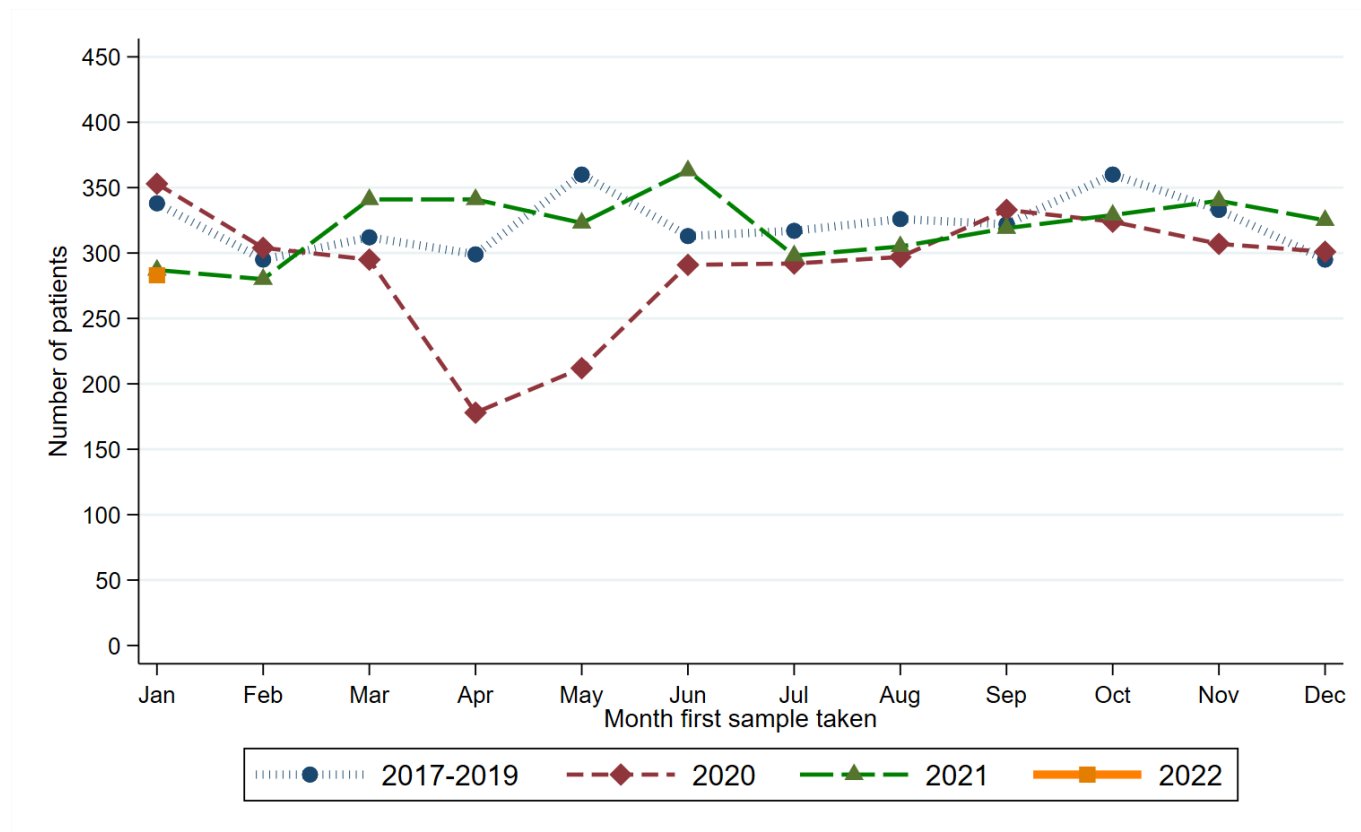
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# FEMALE: CANCER (EX NMSC)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

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

**-6.5%**



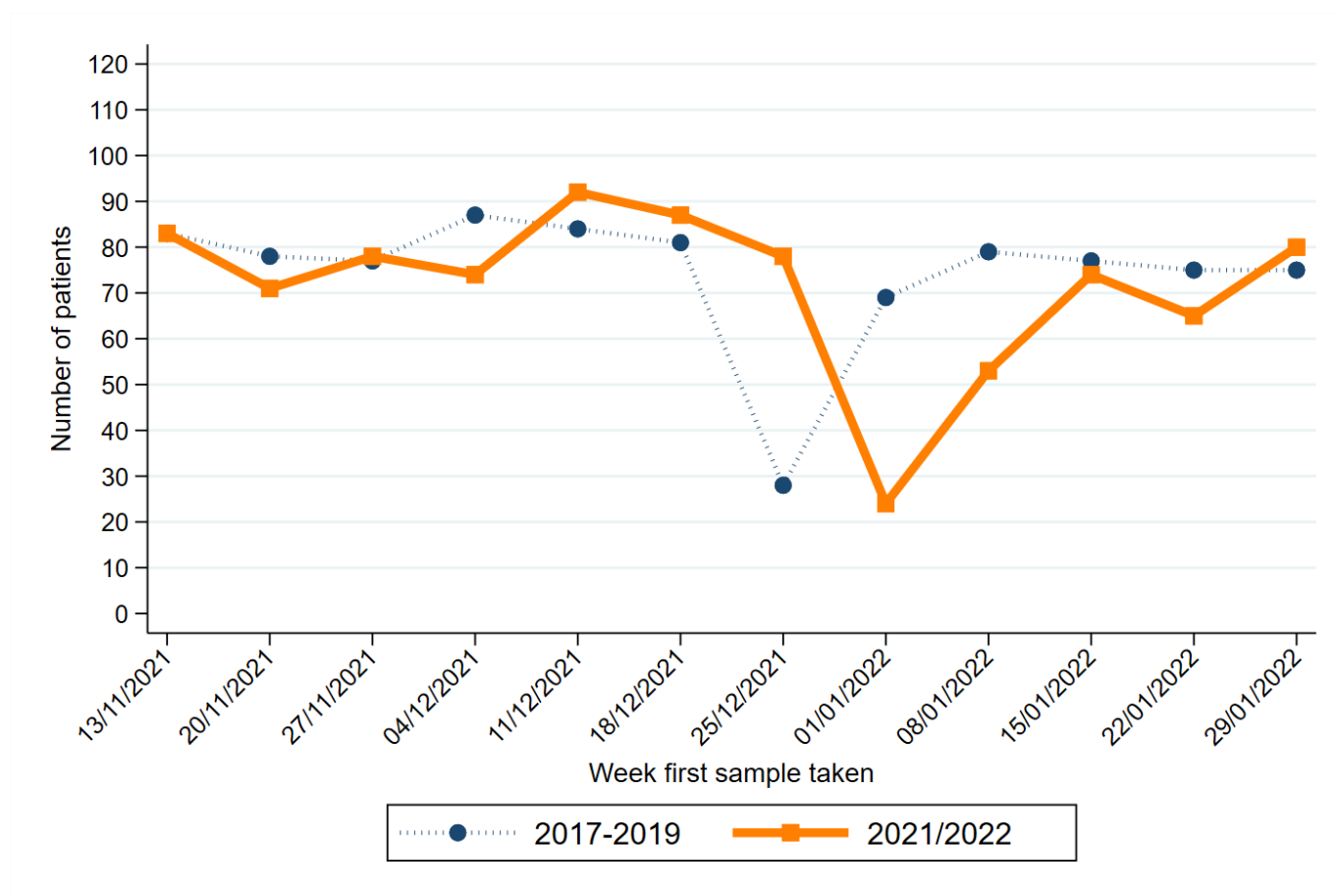
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	338	353	287	283
Feb	295	304	280	.
Mar	312	295	341	.
Apr	299	178	341	.
May	360	212	323	.
Jun	313	291	363	.
Jul	317	292	298	.
Aug	326	297	305	.
Sep	322	333	319	.
Oct	360	324	329	.
Nov	333	307	340	.
Dec	295	301	325	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-3.8%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2021/2022
13/11/2021	83	83
20/11/2021	78	71
27/11/2021	77	78
04/12/2021	87	74
11/12/2021	84	92
18/12/2021	81	87
25/12/2021	28	78
01/01/2022	69	24
08/01/2022	79	53
15/01/2022	77	74
22/01/2022	75	65
29/01/2022	75	80

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

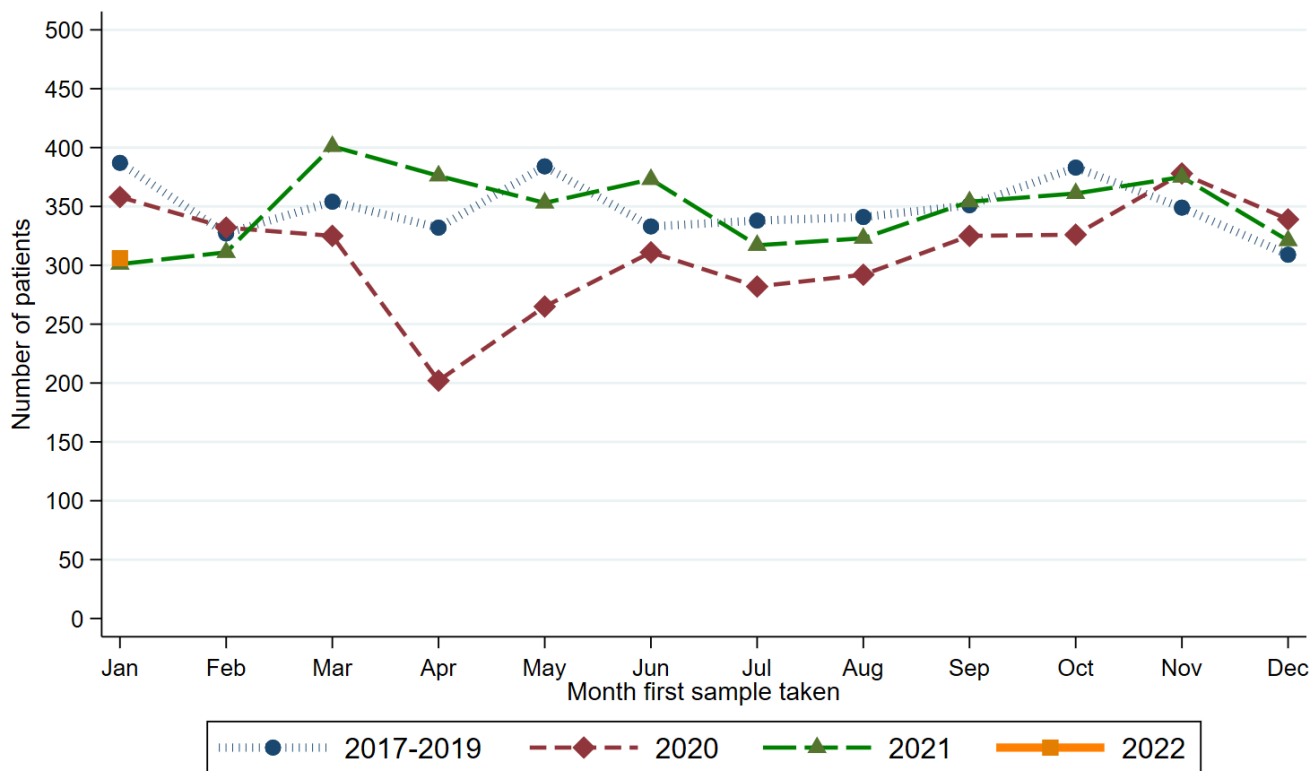
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# AGED 0-69: CANCER (EX NMSC)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

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

**-6.6%**



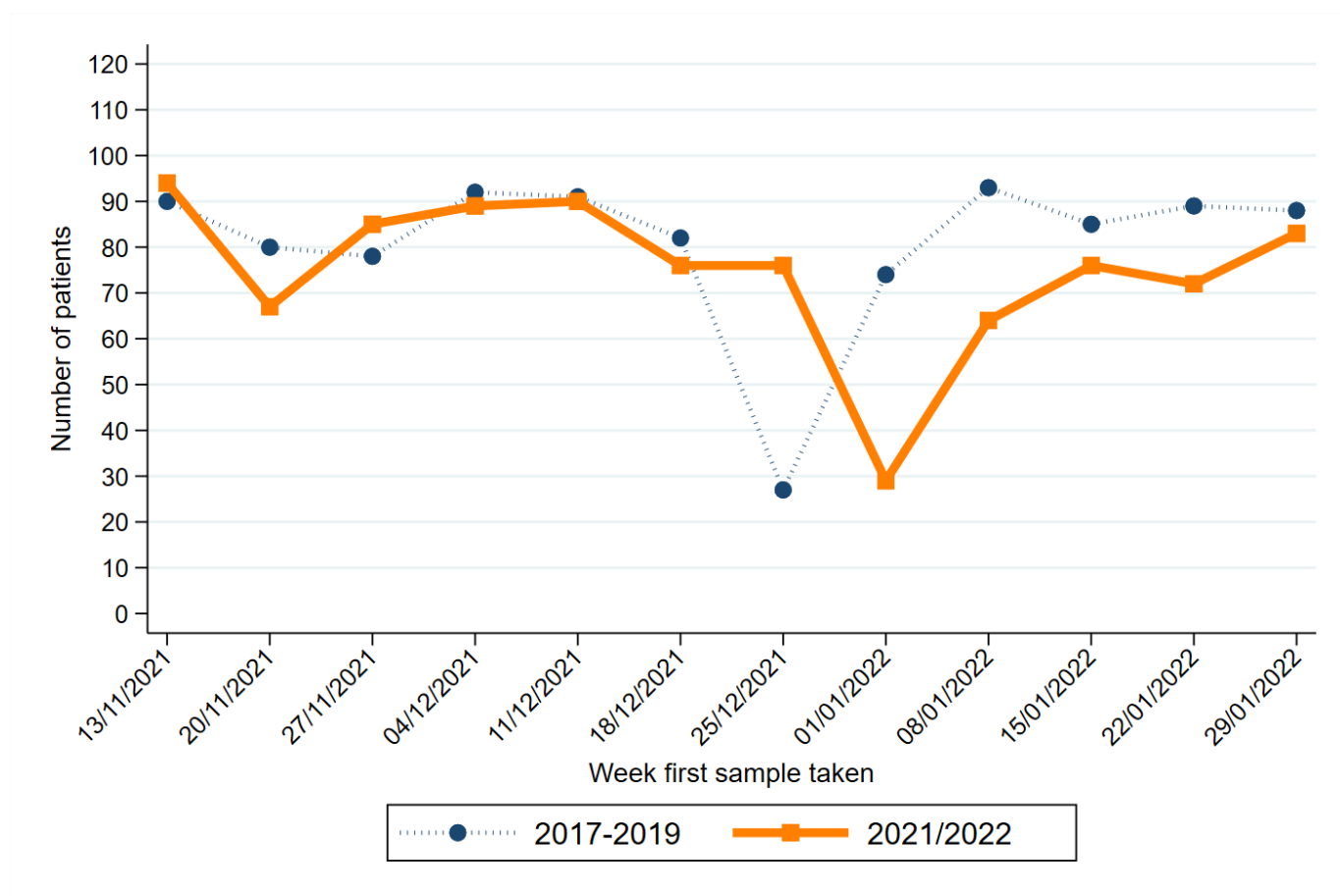
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	387	358	301	306
Feb	327	332	311	.
Mar	354	325	401	.
Apr	332	202	376	.
May	384	265	353	.
Jun	333	311	373	.
Jul	338	282	317	.
Aug	341	292	323	.
Sep	351	325	354	.
Oct	383	326	361	.
Nov	349	378	375	.
Dec	309	339	321	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-7.0%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2021/2022
13/11/2021	90	94
20/11/2021	80	67
27/11/2021	78	85
04/12/2021	92	89
11/12/2021	91	90
18/12/2021	82	76
25/12/2021	27	76
01/01/2022	74	29
08/01/2022	93	64
15/01/2022	85	76
22/01/2022	89	72
29/01/2022	88	83

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

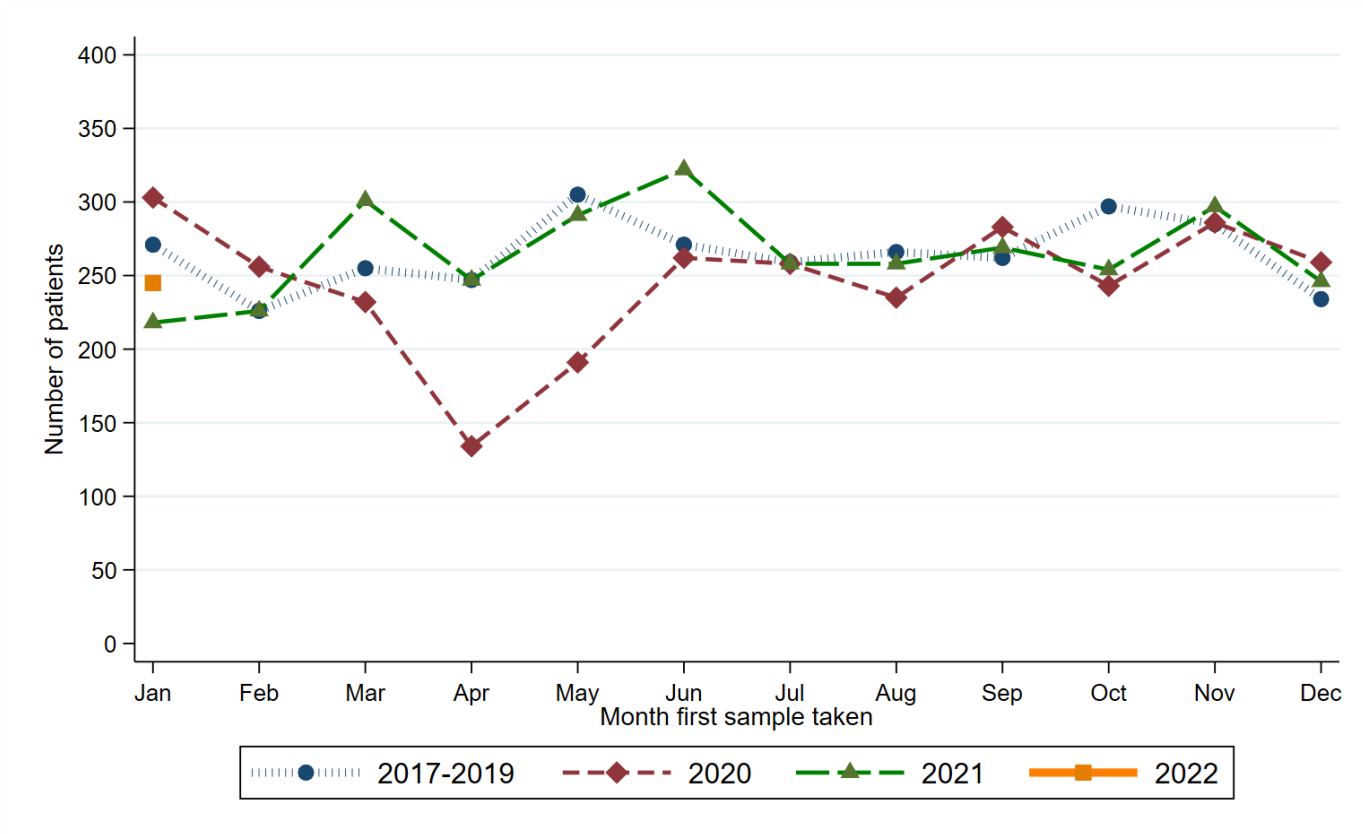
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# AGED 70+: CANCER (EX NMSC)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

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

**-5.1%**



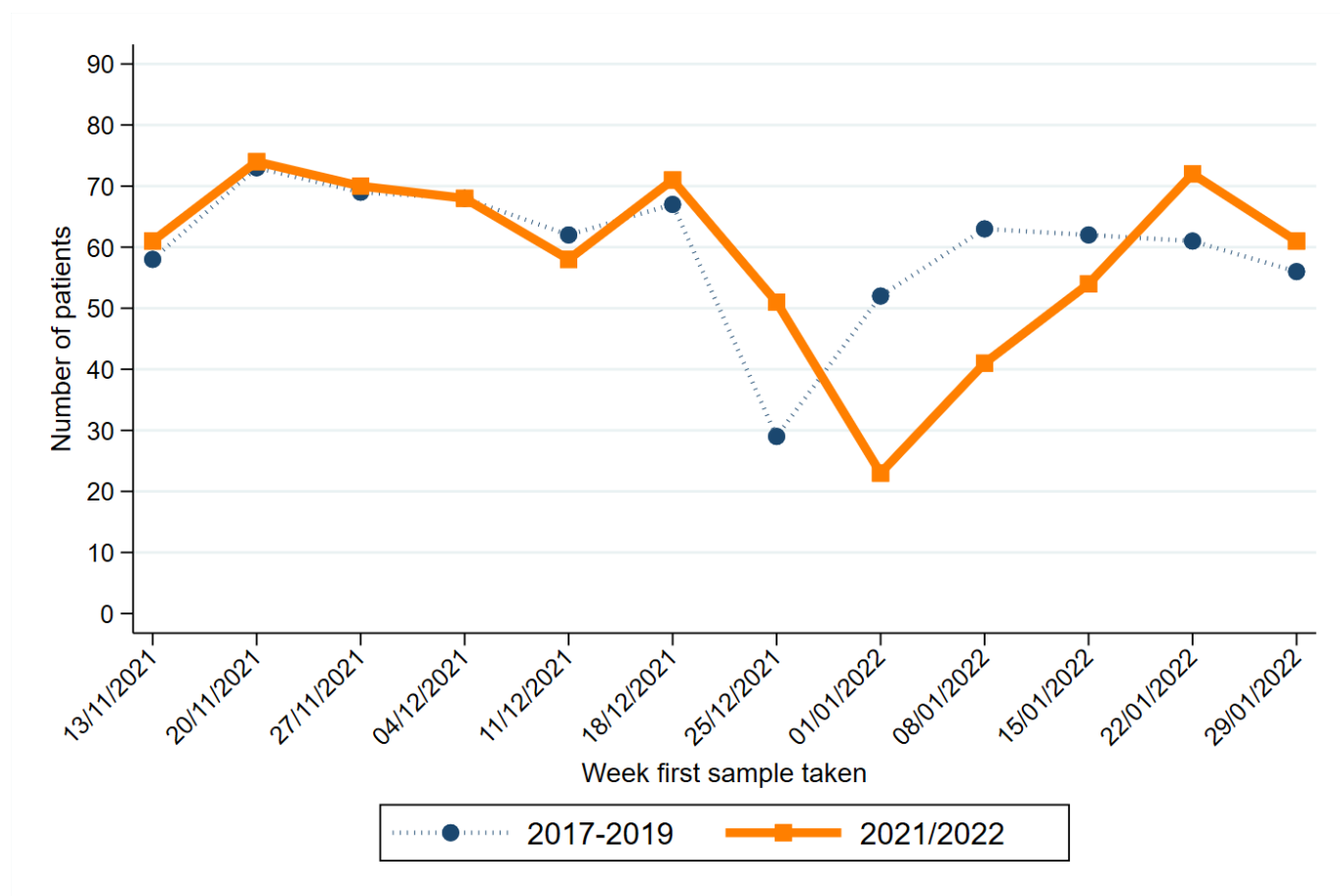
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	271	303	218	245
Feb	226	256	226	.
Mar	255	232	301	.
Apr	247	134	247	.
May	305	191	291	.
Jun	271	262	322	.
Jul	259	258	258	.
Aug	266	235	258	.
Sep	262	283	269	.
Oct	297	243	254	.
Nov	285	286	297	.
Dec	234	259	246	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-2.2%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2021/2022
13/11/2021	58	61
20/11/2021	73	74
27/11/2021	69	70
04/12/2021	68	68
11/12/2021	62	58
18/12/2021	67	71
25/12/2021	29	51
01/01/2022	52	23
08/01/2022	63	41
15/01/2022	62	54
22/01/2022	61	72
29/01/2022	56	61

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

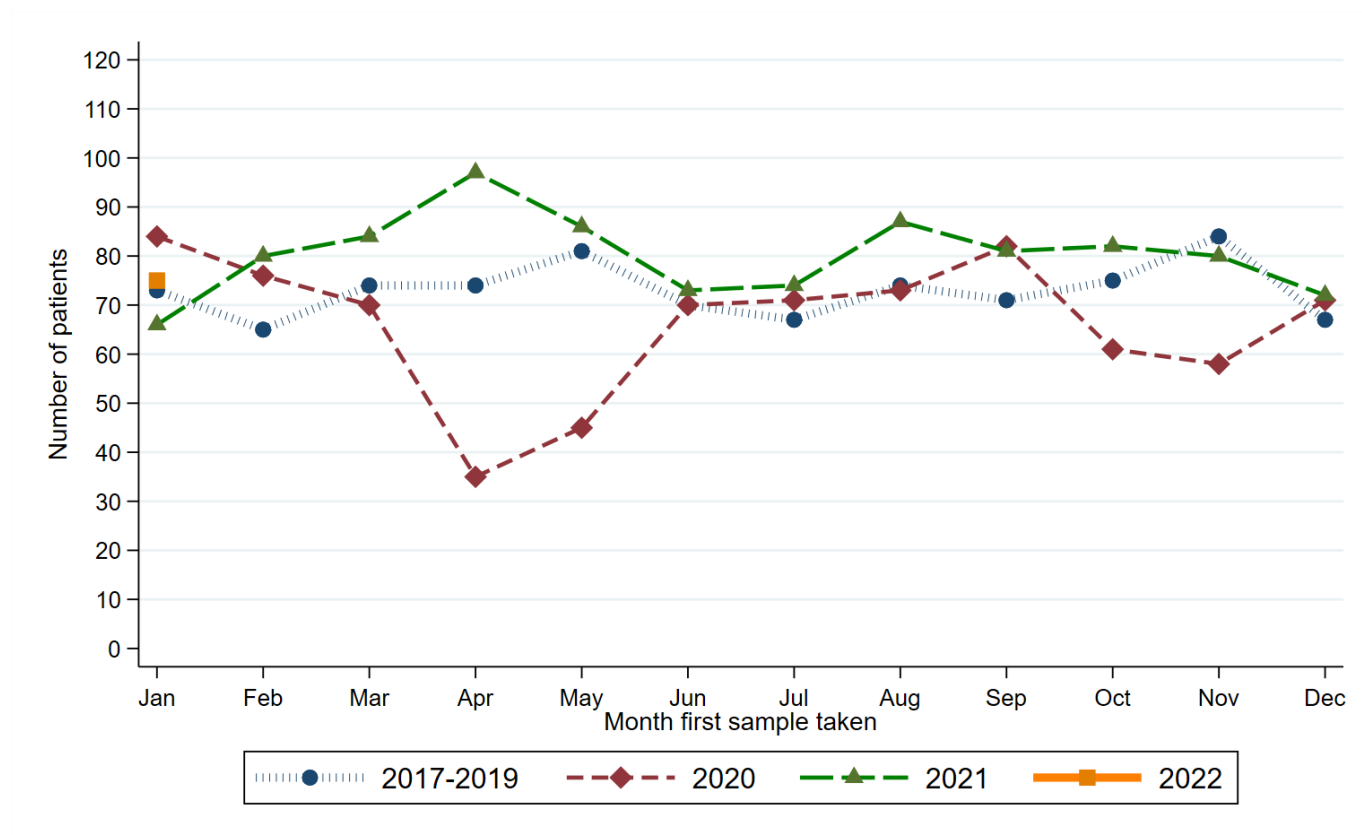
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# BOWEL CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

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

**-0.7%**



Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	73	84	66	75
Feb	65	76	80	.
Mar	74	70	84	.
Apr	74	35	97	.
May	81	45	86	.
Jun	70	70	73	.
Jul	67	71	74	.
Aug	74	73	87	.
Sep	71	82	81	.
Oct	75	61	82	.
Nov	84	58	80	.
Dec	67	71	72	.

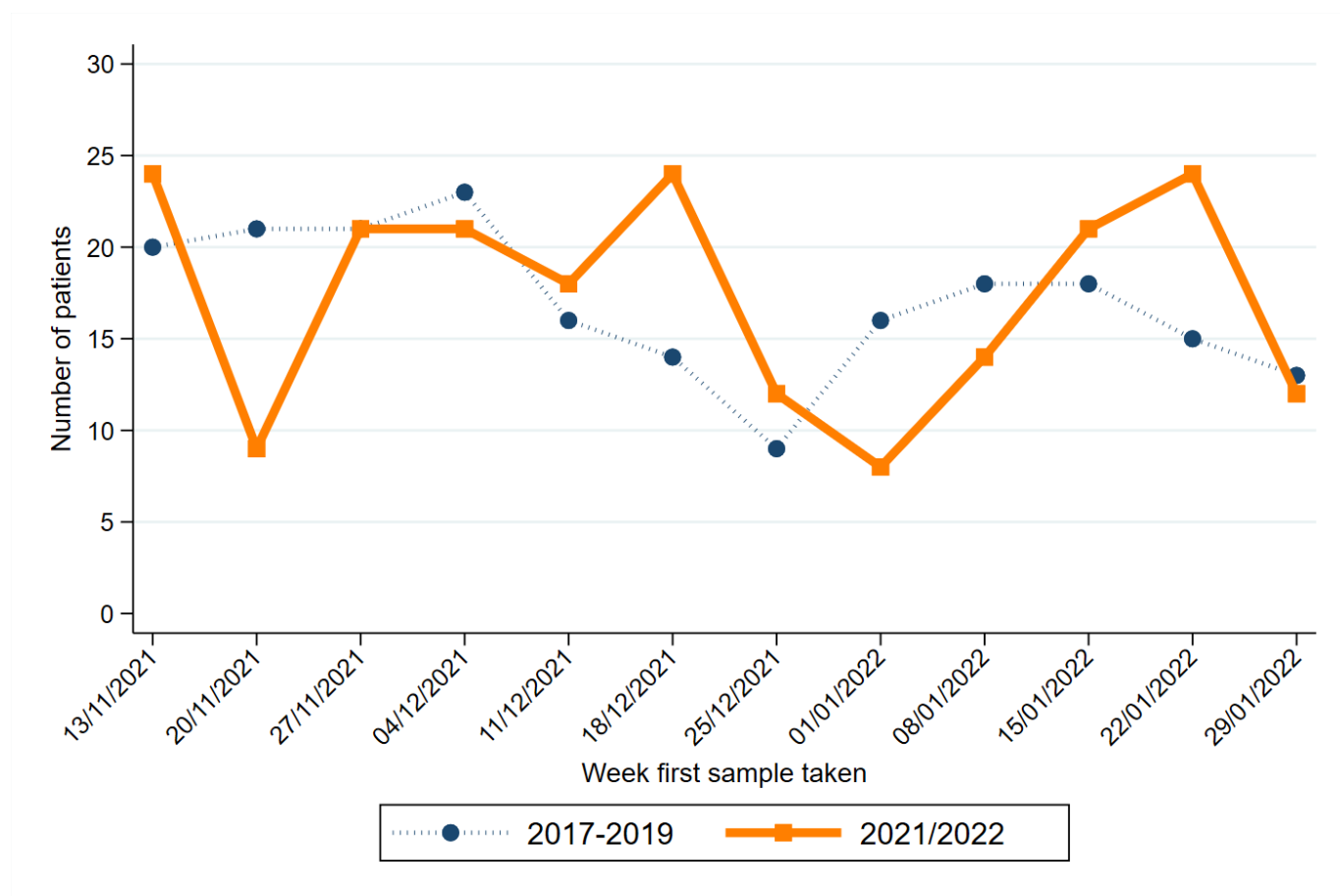
\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.



## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+2.0%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2021/2022
13/11/2021	20	24
20/11/2021	21	9
27/11/2021	21	21
04/12/2021	23	21
11/12/2021	16	18
18/12/2021	14	24
25/12/2021	9	12
01/01/2022	16	8
08/01/2022	18	14
15/01/2022	18	21
22/01/2022	15	24
29/01/2022	13	12

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

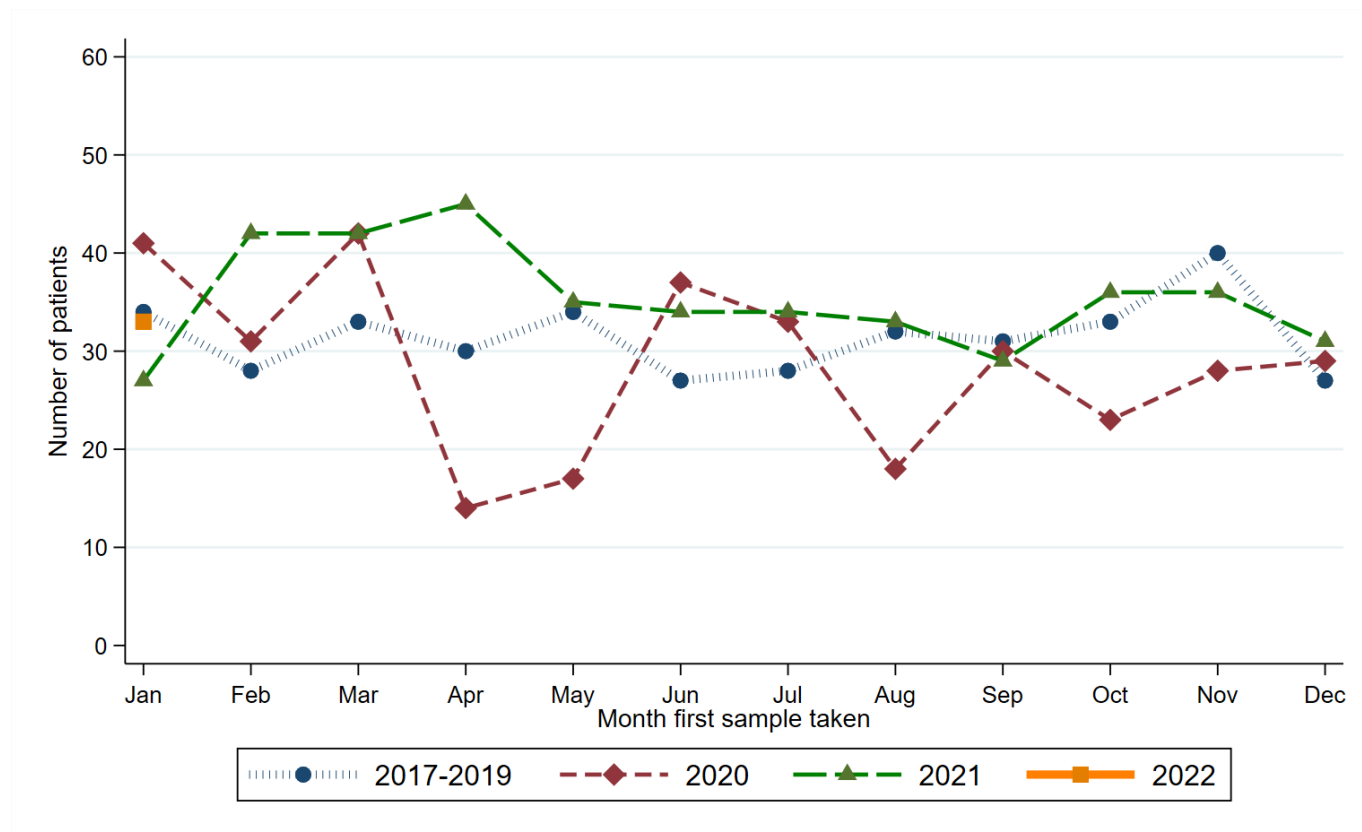
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# BOWEL CANCER (SCREENING AGE)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

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

**+0.3%**



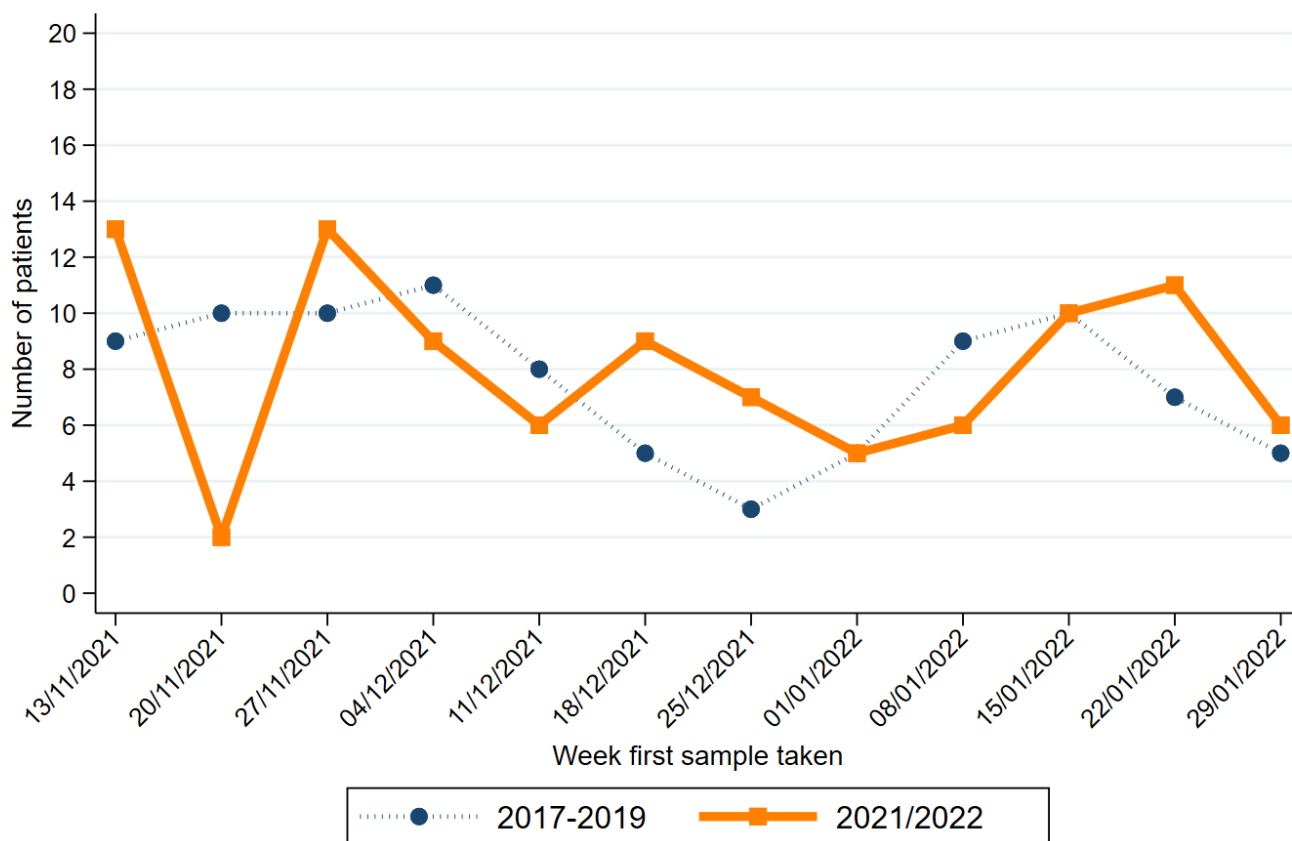
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	34	41	27	33
Feb	28	31	42	.
Mar	33	42	42	.
Apr	30	14	45	.
May	34	17	35	.
Jun	27	37	34	.
Jul	28	33	34	.
Aug	32	18	33	.
Sep	31	30	29	.
Oct	33	23	36	.
Nov	40	28	36	.
Dec	27	29	31	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+5.4%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2021/2022
13/11/2021	9	13
20/11/2021	10	2
27/11/2021	10	13
04/12/2021	11	9
11/12/2021	8	6
18/12/2021	5	9
25/12/2021	3	7
01/01/2022	5	5
08/01/2022	9	6
15/01/2022	10	10
22/01/2022	7	11
29/01/2022	5	6

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

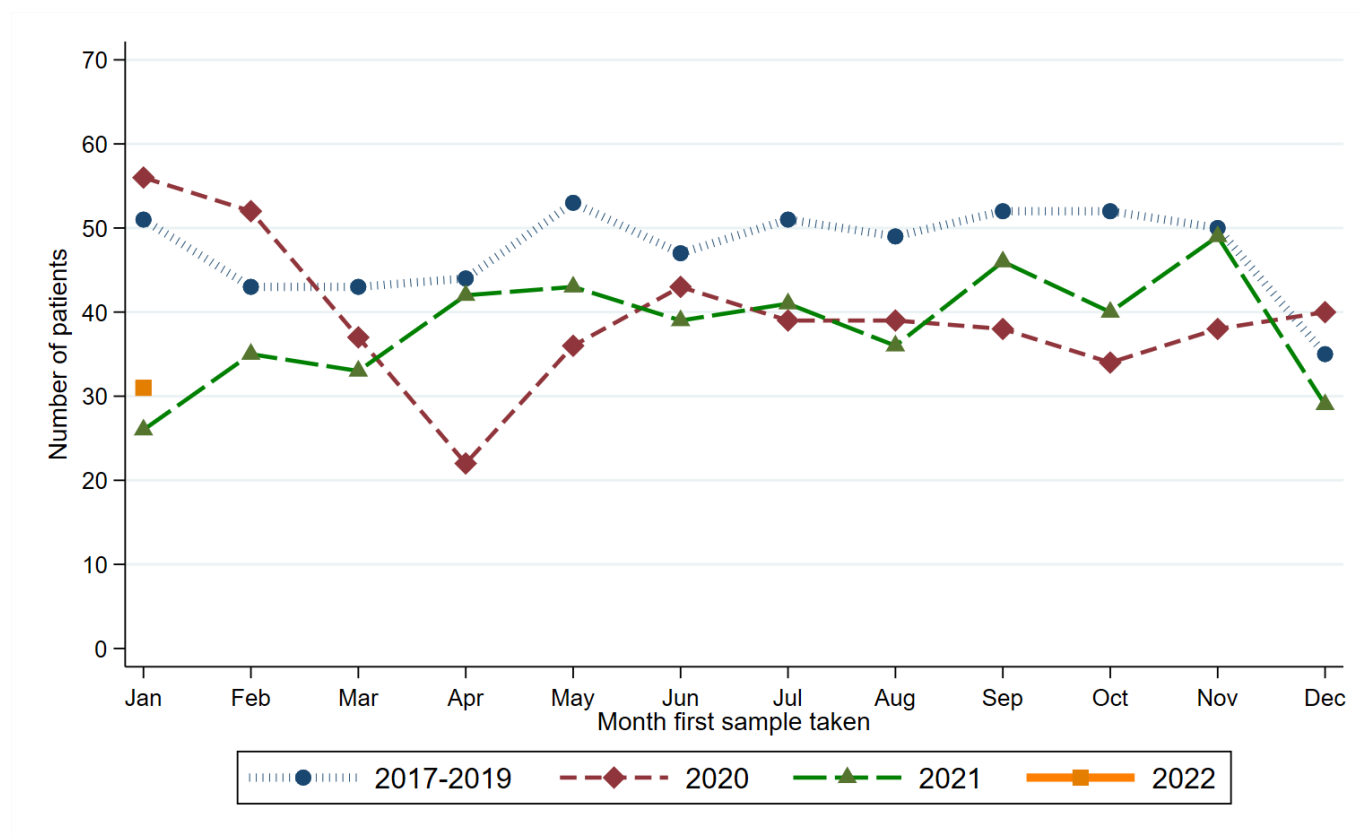
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# LUNG CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

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

**-22.0%**



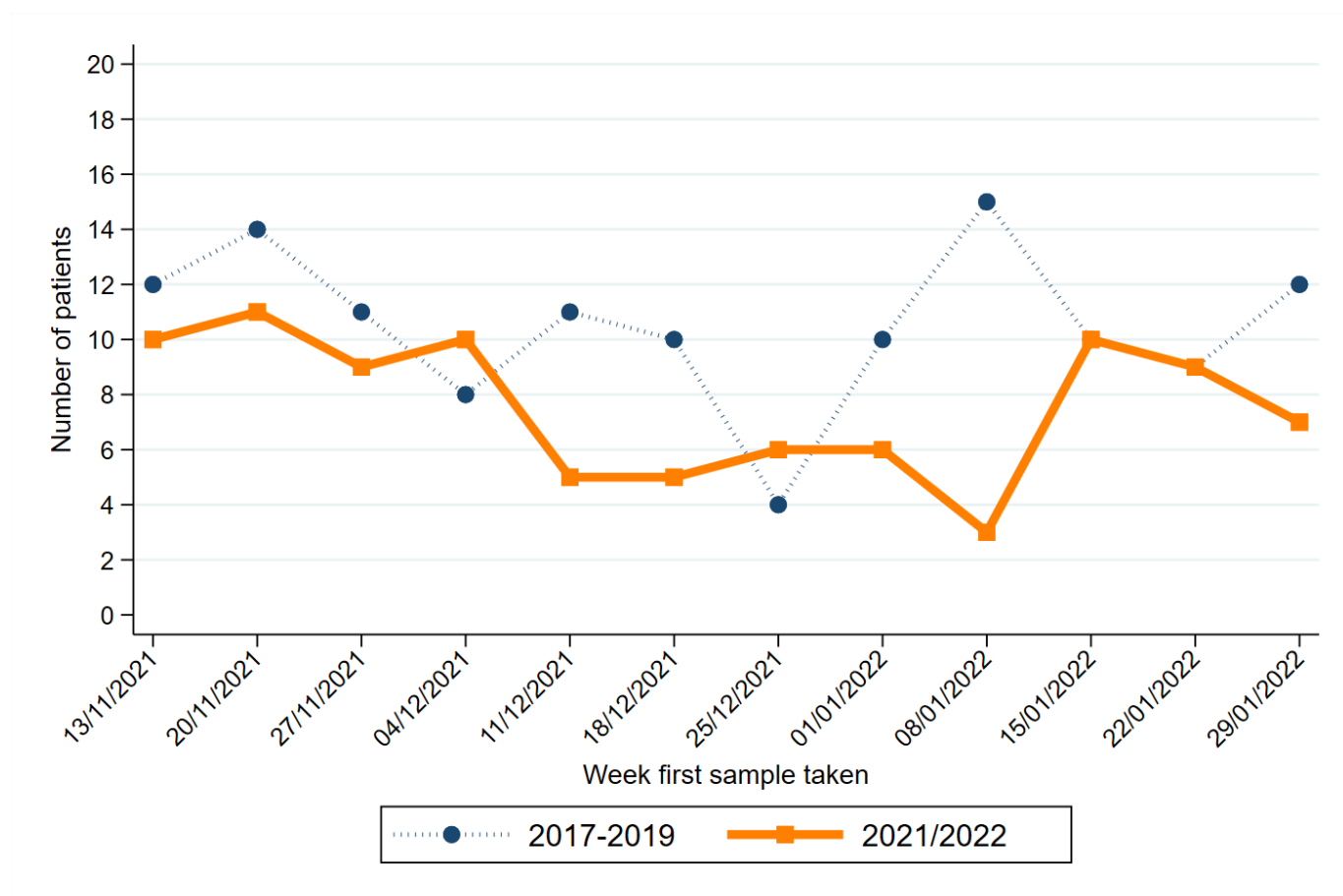
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	51	56	26	31
Feb	43	52	35	.
Mar	43	37	33	.
Apr	44	22	42	.
May	53	36	43	.
Jun	47	43	39	.
Jul	51	39	41	.
Aug	49	39	36	.
Sep	52	38	46	.
Oct	52	34	40	.
Nov	50	38	49	.
Dec	35	40	29	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-27.8%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2021/2022
13/11/2021	12	10
20/11/2021	14	11
27/11/2021	11	9
04/12/2021	8	10
11/12/2021	11	5
18/12/2021	10	5
25/12/2021	4	6
01/01/2022	10	6
08/01/2022	15	3
15/01/2022	10	10
22/01/2022	9	9
29/01/2022	12	7

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

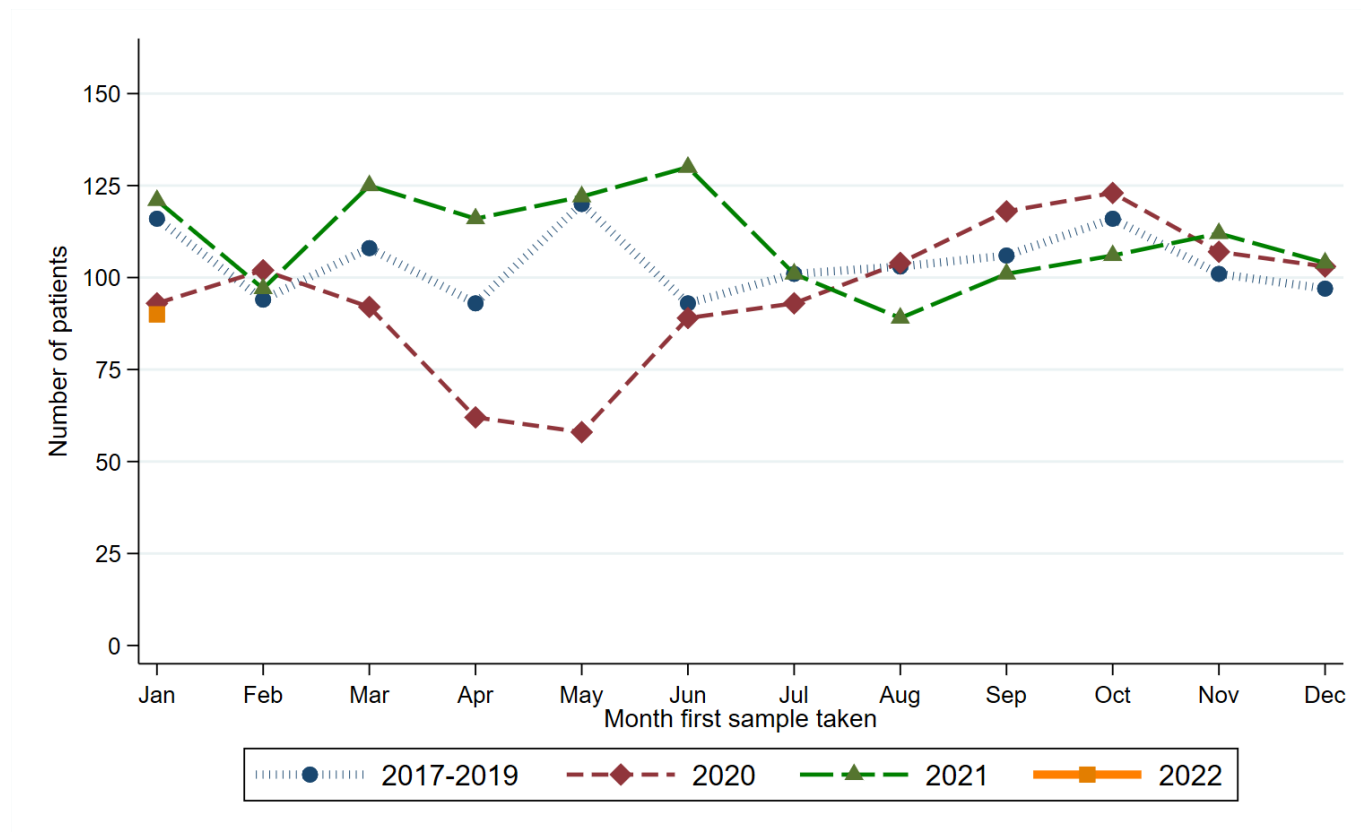
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# FEMALE BREAST CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

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

**-1.6%**



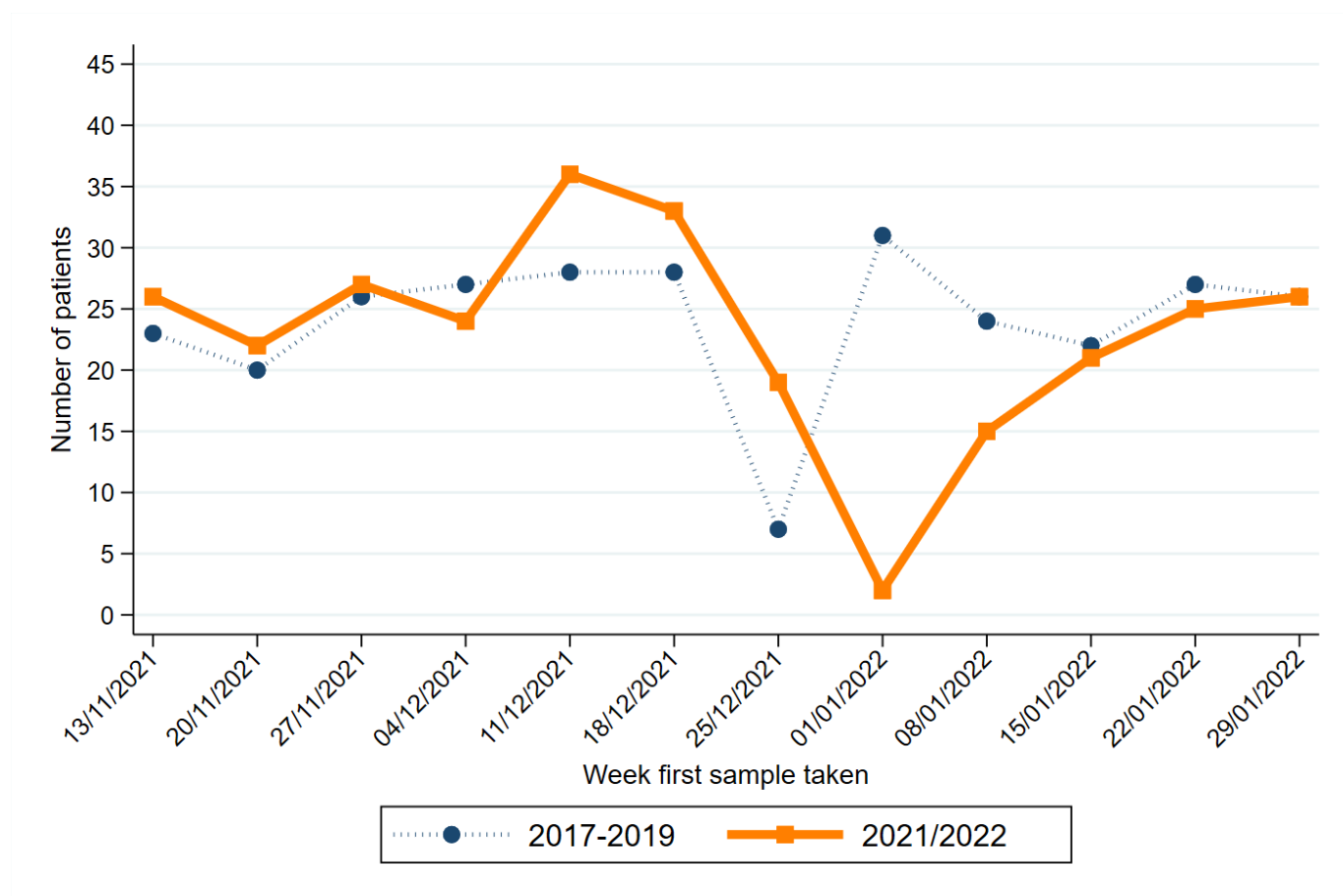
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	116	93	121	90
Feb	94	102	97	.
Mar	108	92	125	.
Apr	93	62	116	.
May	120	58	122	.
Jun	93	89	130	.
Jul	101	93	101	.
Aug	103	104	89	.
Sep	106	118	101	.
Oct	116	123	106	.
Nov	101	107	112	.
Dec	97	103	104	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-4.5%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2021/2022
13/11/2021	23	26
20/11/2021	20	22
27/11/2021	26	27
04/12/2021	27	24
11/12/2021	28	36
18/12/2021	28	33
25/12/2021	7	19
01/01/2022	31	2
08/01/2022	24	15
15/01/2022	22	21
22/01/2022	27	25
29/01/2022	26	26

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

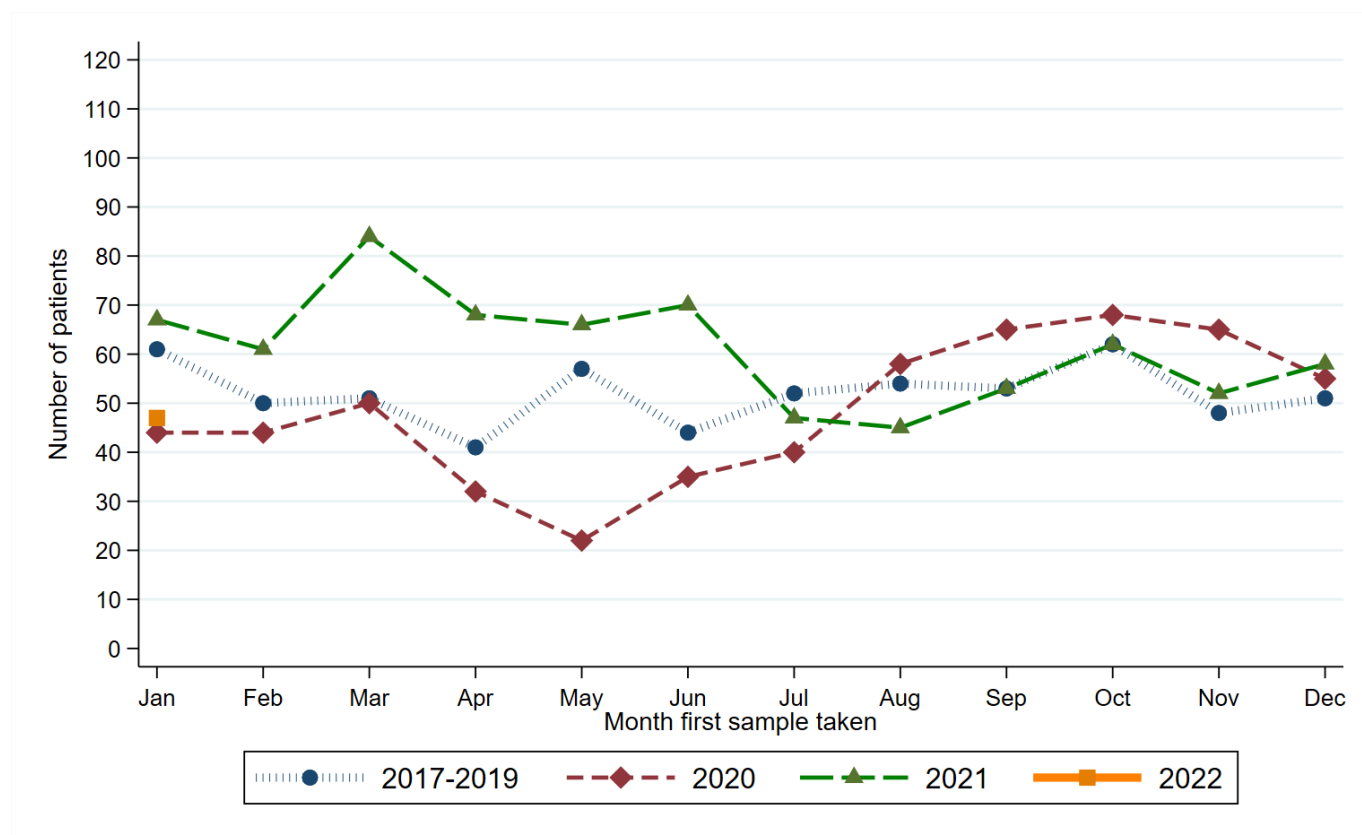
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# FEMALE BREAST CANCER (SCREENING AGE)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

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

**+6.0%**



Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	61	44	67	47
Feb	50	44	61	.
Mar	51	50	84	.
Apr	41	32	68	.
May	57	22	66	.
Jun	44	35	70	.
Jul	52	40	47	.
Aug	54	58	45	.
Sep	53	65	53	.
Oct	62	68	62	.
Nov	48	65	52	.
Dec	51	55	58	.

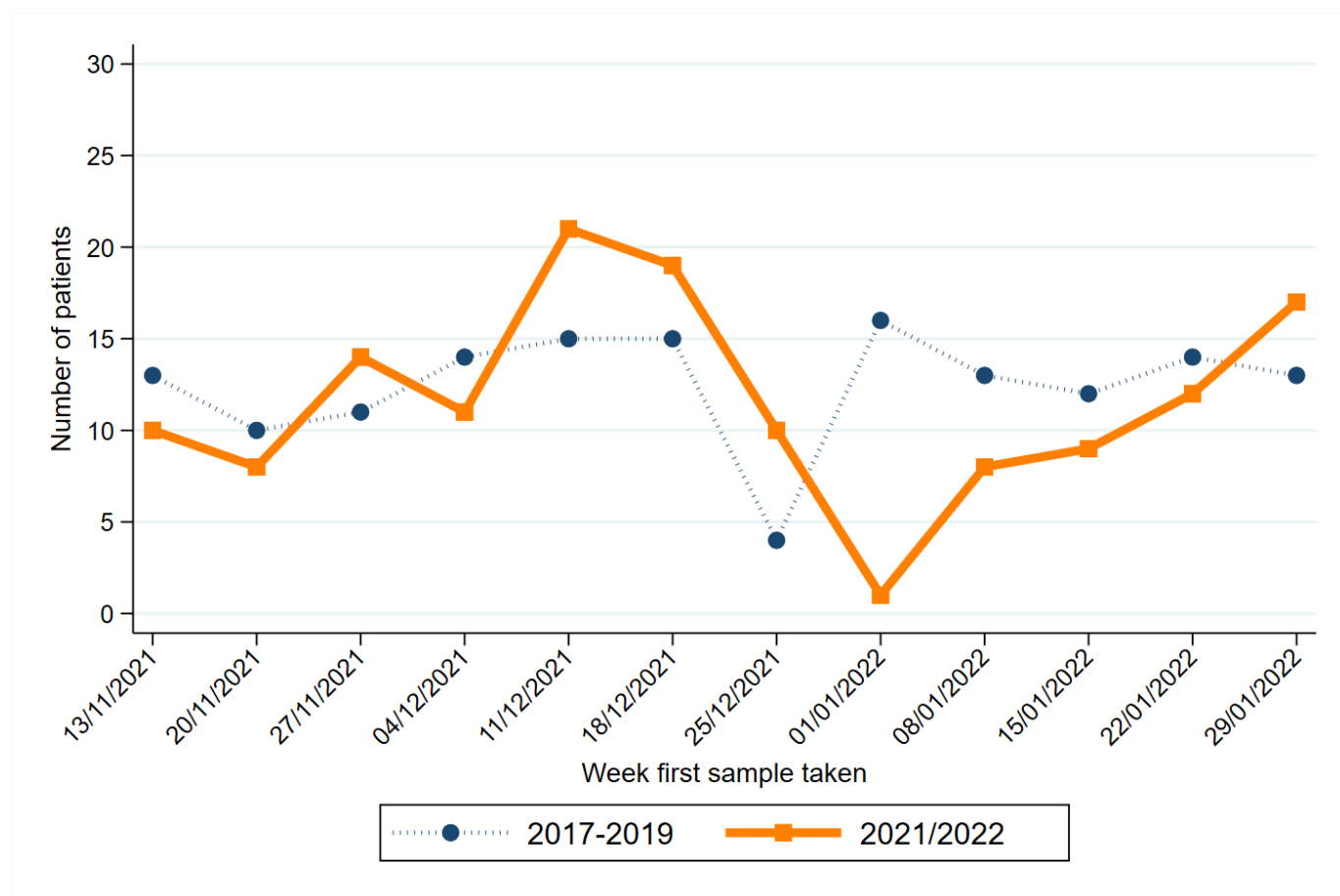
\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.



## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-6.7%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2021/2022
13/11/2021	13	10
20/11/2021	10	8
27/11/2021	11	14
04/12/2021	14	11
11/12/2021	15	21
18/12/2021	15	19
25/12/2021	4	10
01/01/2022	16	1
08/01/2022	13	8
15/01/2022	12	9
22/01/2022	14	12
29/01/2022	13	17

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

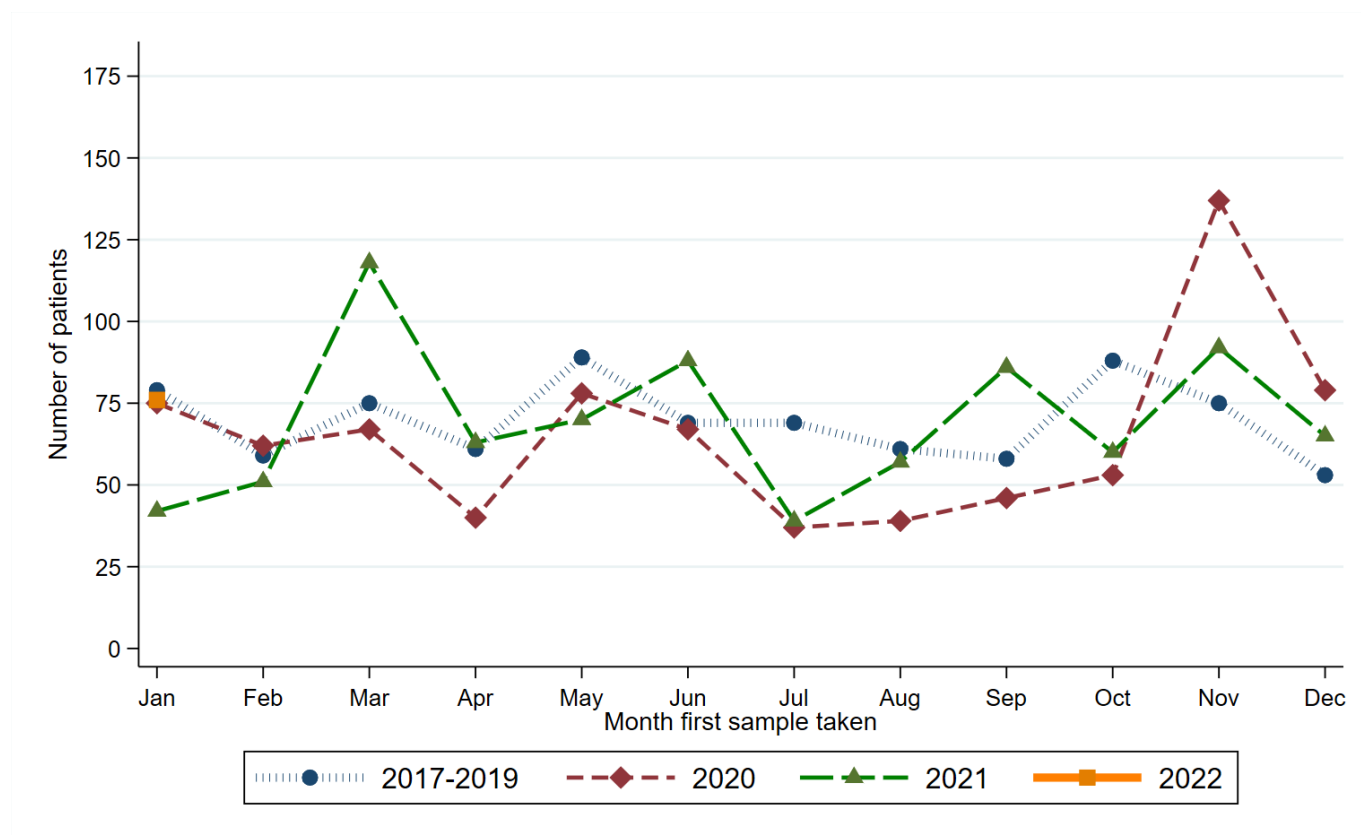
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# PROSTATE CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

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

**-3.9%**



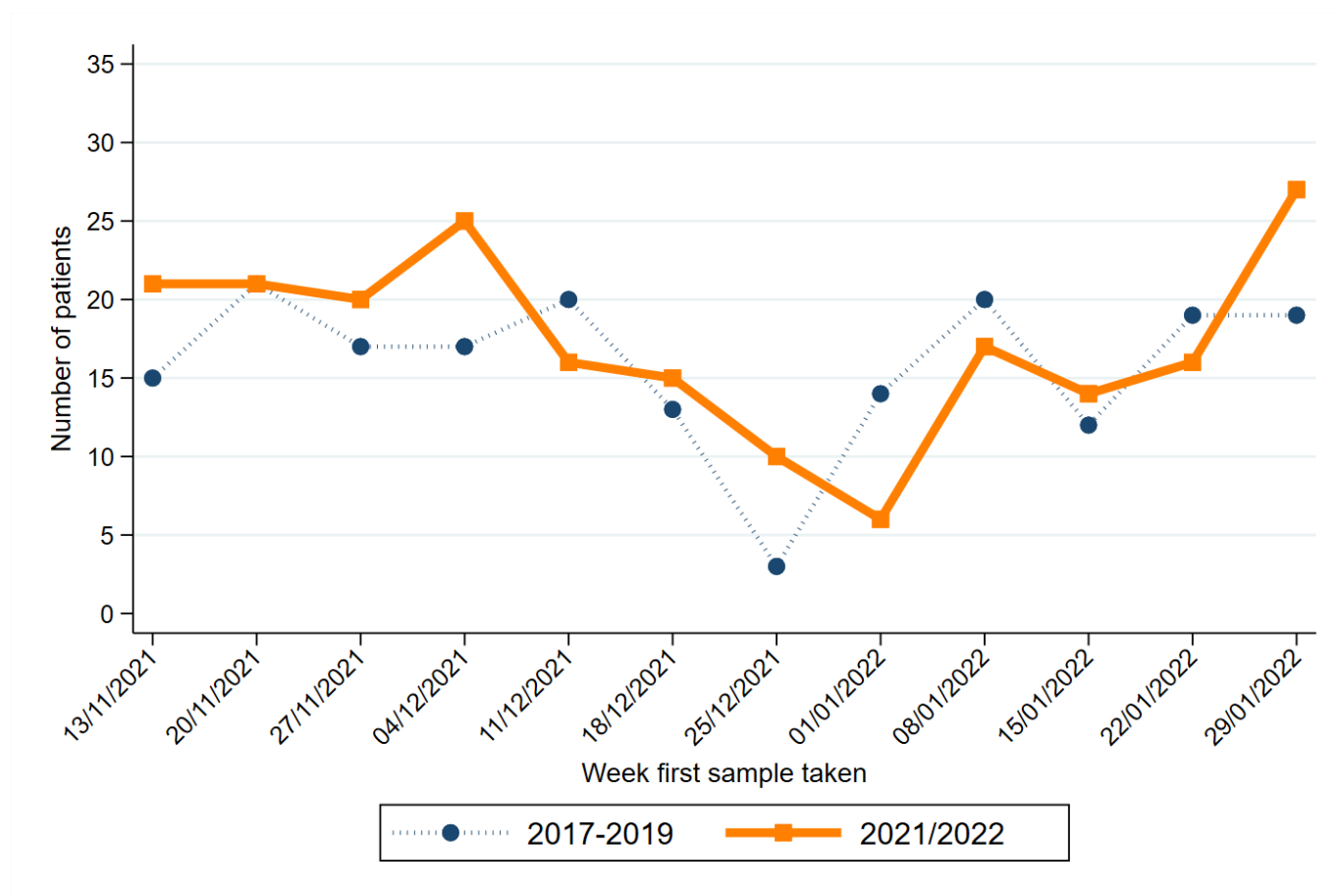
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	79	75	42	76
Feb	59	62	51	.
Mar	75	67	118	.
Apr	61	40	63	.
May	89	78	70	.
Jun	69	67	88	.
Jul	69	37	39	.
Aug	61	39	57	.
Sep	58	46	86	.
Oct	88	53	60	.
Nov	75	137	92	.
Dec	53	79	65	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+9.5%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2021/2022
13/11/2021	15	21
20/11/2021	21	21
27/11/2021	17	20
04/12/2021	17	25
11/12/2021	20	16
18/12/2021	13	15
25/12/2021	3	10
01/01/2022	14	6
08/01/2022	20	17
15/01/2022	12	14
22/01/2022	19	16
29/01/2022	19	27

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

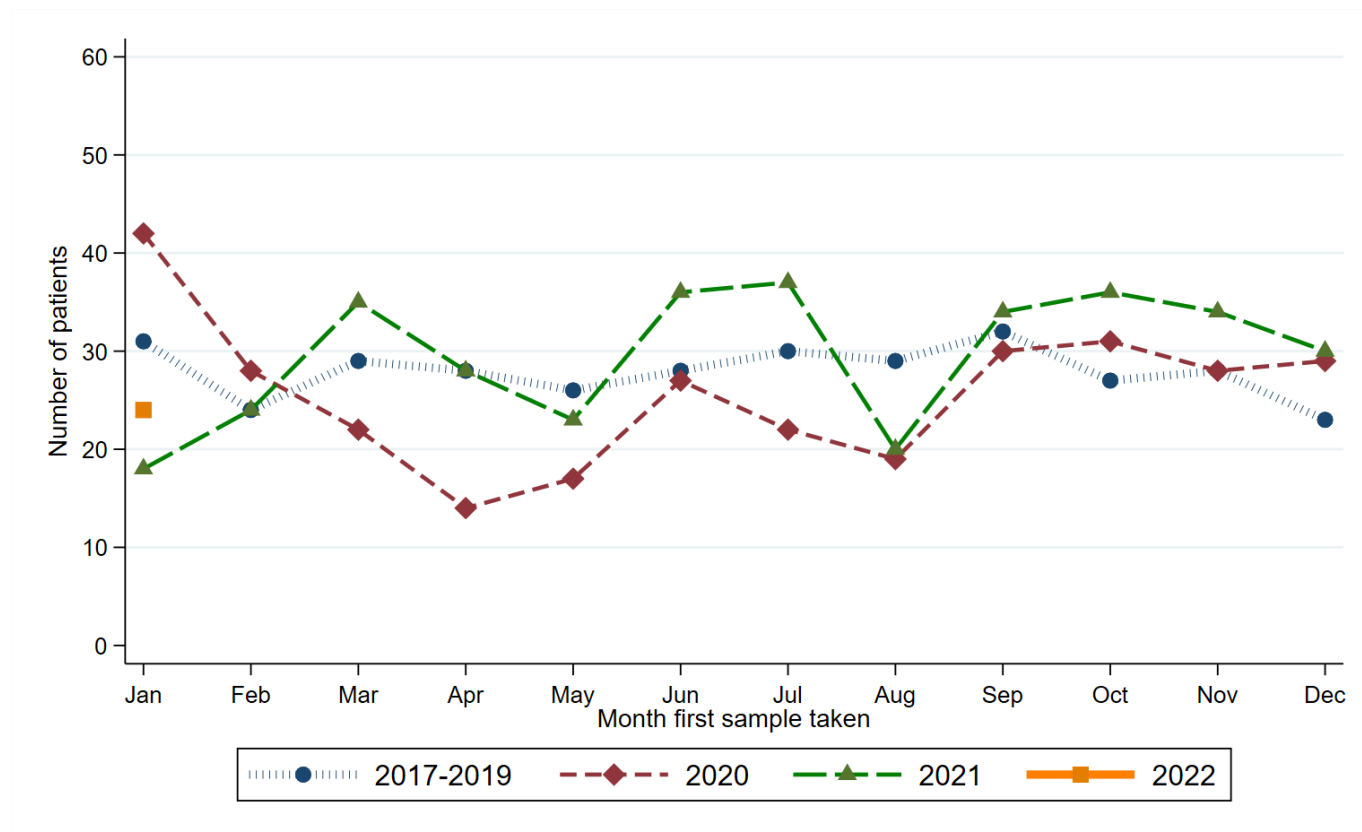
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# UPPER GASTROINTESTINAL CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

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

**-4.3%**



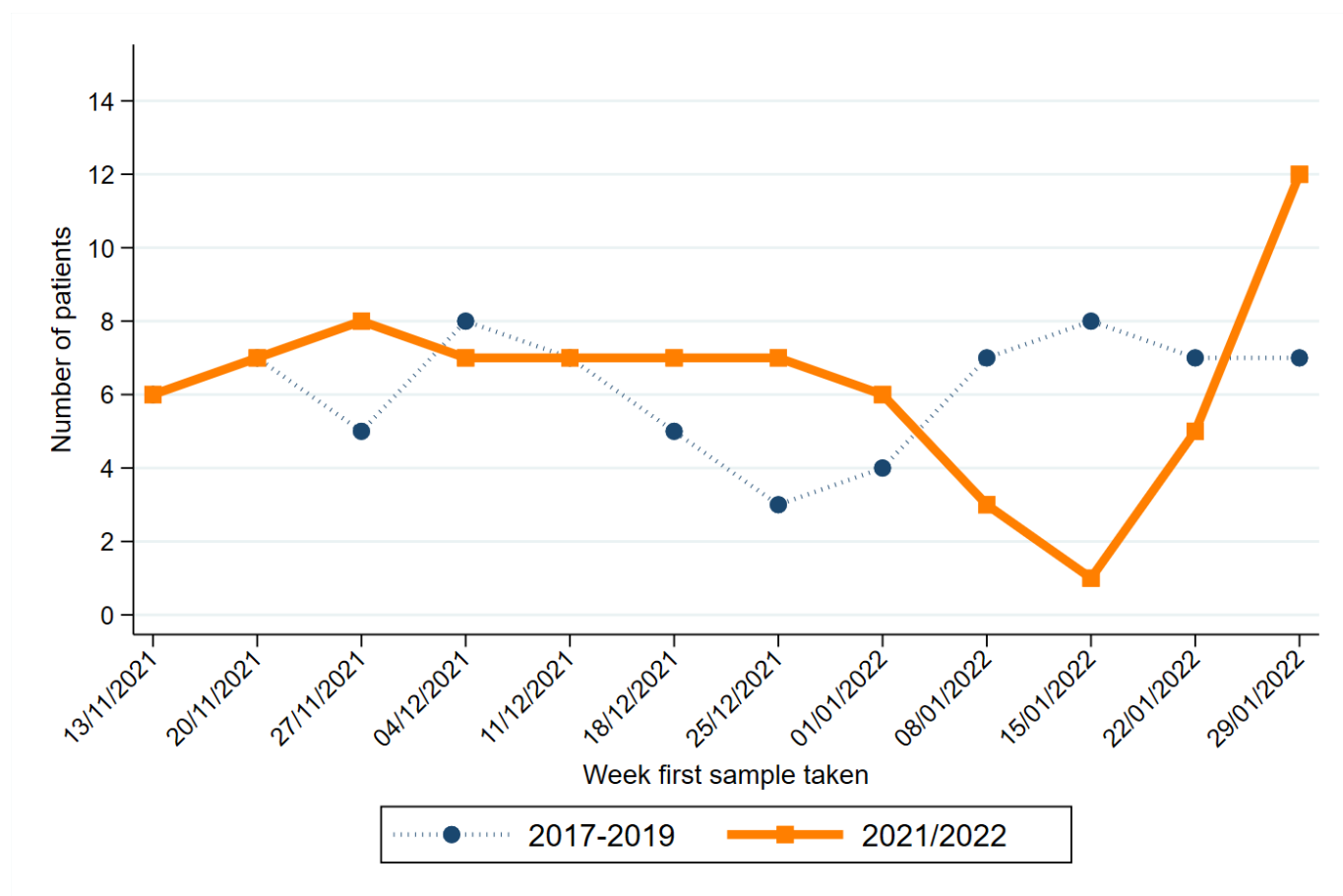
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	31	42	18	24
Feb	24	28	24	.
Mar	29	22	35	.
Apr	28	14	28	.
May	26	17	23	.
Jun	28	27	36	.
Jul	30	22	37	.
Aug	29	19	20	.
Sep	32	30	34	.
Oct	27	31	36	.
Nov	28	28	34	.
Dec	23	29	30	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+2.7%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2021/2022
13/11/2021	6	6
20/11/2021	7	7
27/11/2021	5	8
04/12/2021	8	7
11/12/2021	7	7
18/12/2021	5	7
25/12/2021	3	7
01/01/2022	4	6
08/01/2022	7	3
15/01/2022	8	1
22/01/2022	7	5
29/01/2022	7	12

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

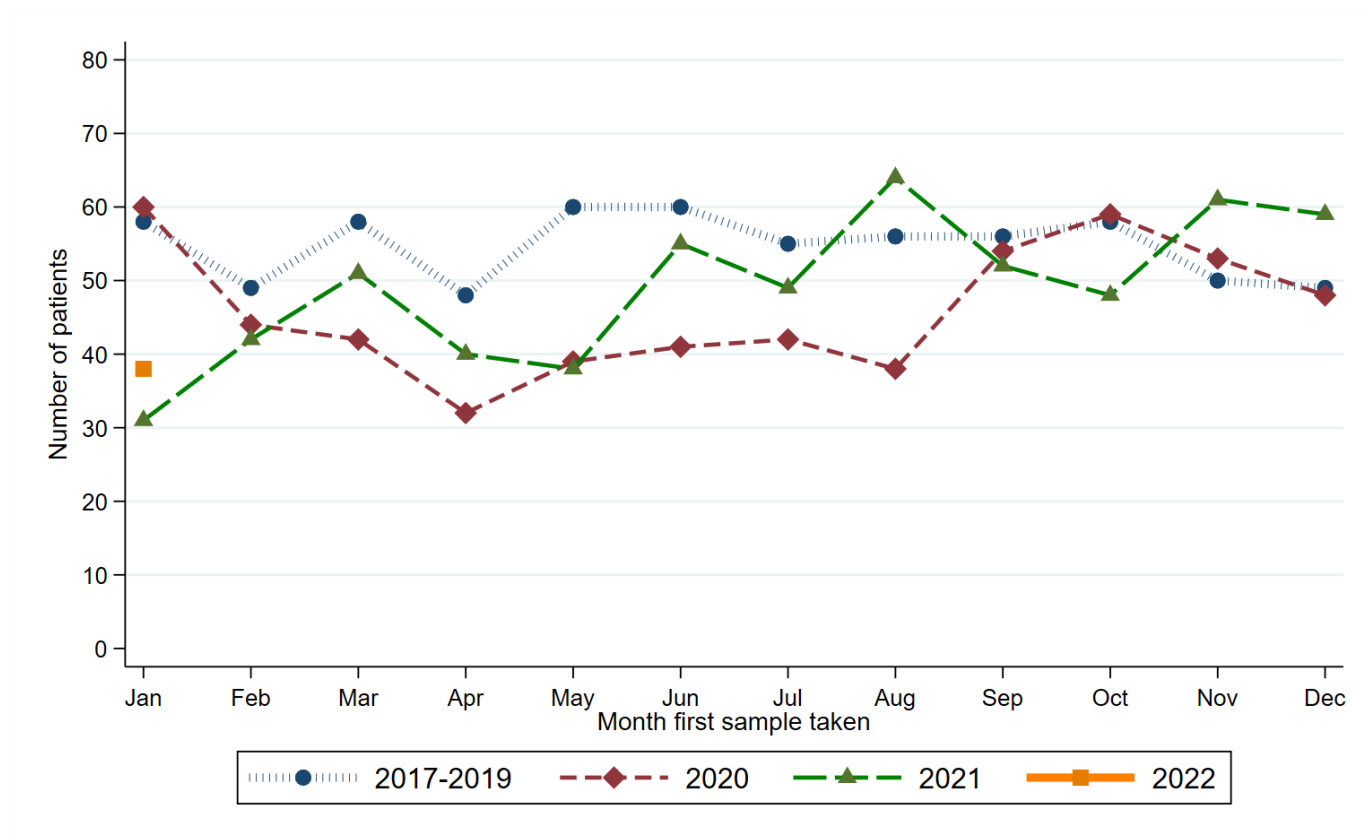
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# GYNAECOLOGICAL CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

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

**-14.9%**



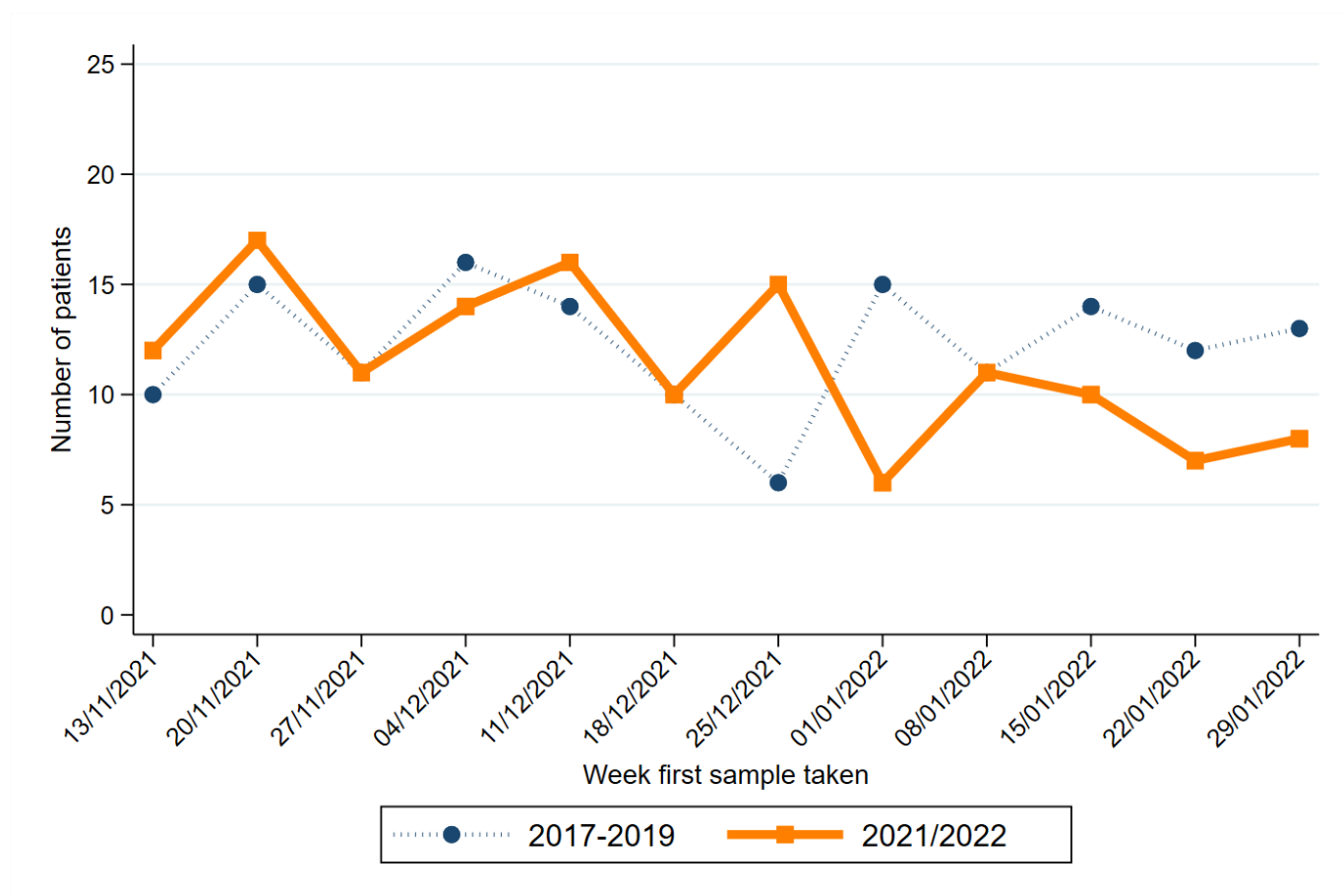
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	58	60	31	38
Feb	49	44	42	.
Mar	58	42	51	.
Apr	48	32	40	.
May	60	39	38	.
Jun	60	41	55	.
Jul	55	42	49	.
Aug	56	38	64	.
Sep	56	54	52	.
Oct	58	59	48	.
Nov	50	53	61	.
Dec	49	48	59	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-6.8%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2021/2022
13/11/2021	10	12
20/11/2021	15	17
27/11/2021	11	11
04/12/2021	16	14
11/12/2021	14	16
18/12/2021	10	10
25/12/2021	6	15
01/01/2022	15	6
08/01/2022	11	11
15/01/2022	14	10
22/01/2022	12	7
29/01/2022	13	8

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

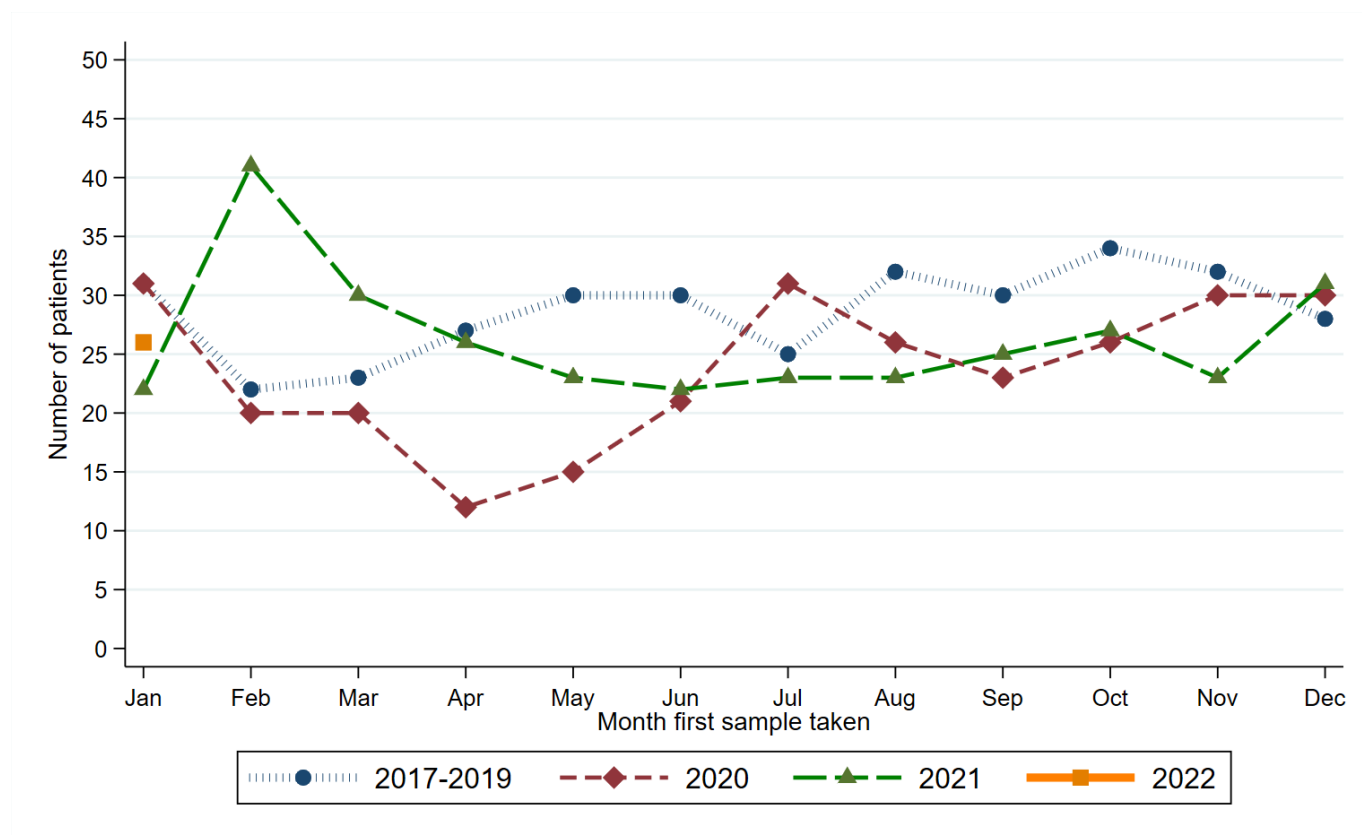
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# HEAD AND NECK CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

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

**-13.5%**



Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	31	31	22	26
Feb	22	20	41	.
Mar	23	20	30	.
Apr	27	12	26	.
May	30	15	23	.
Jun	30	21	22	.
Jul	25	31	23	.
Aug	32	26	23	.
Sep	30	23	25	.
Oct	34	26	27	.
Nov	32	30	23	.
Dec	28	30	31	.

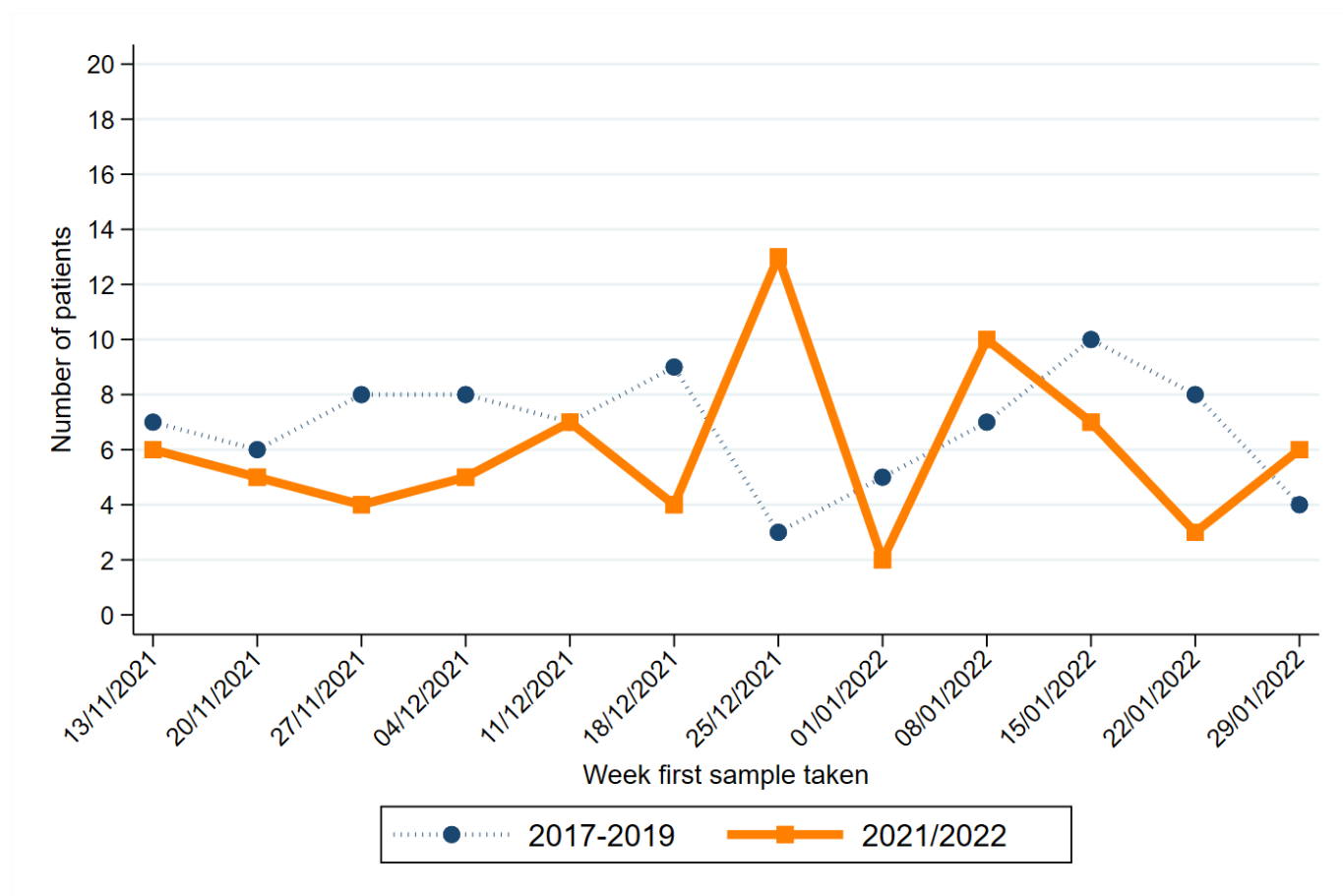
\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.



## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-12.2%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2021/2022
13/11/2021	7	6
20/11/2021	6	5
27/11/2021	8	4
04/12/2021	8	5
11/12/2021	7	7
18/12/2021	9	4
25/12/2021	3	13
01/01/2022	5	2
08/01/2022	7	10
15/01/2022	10	7
22/01/2022	8	3
29/01/2022	4	6

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

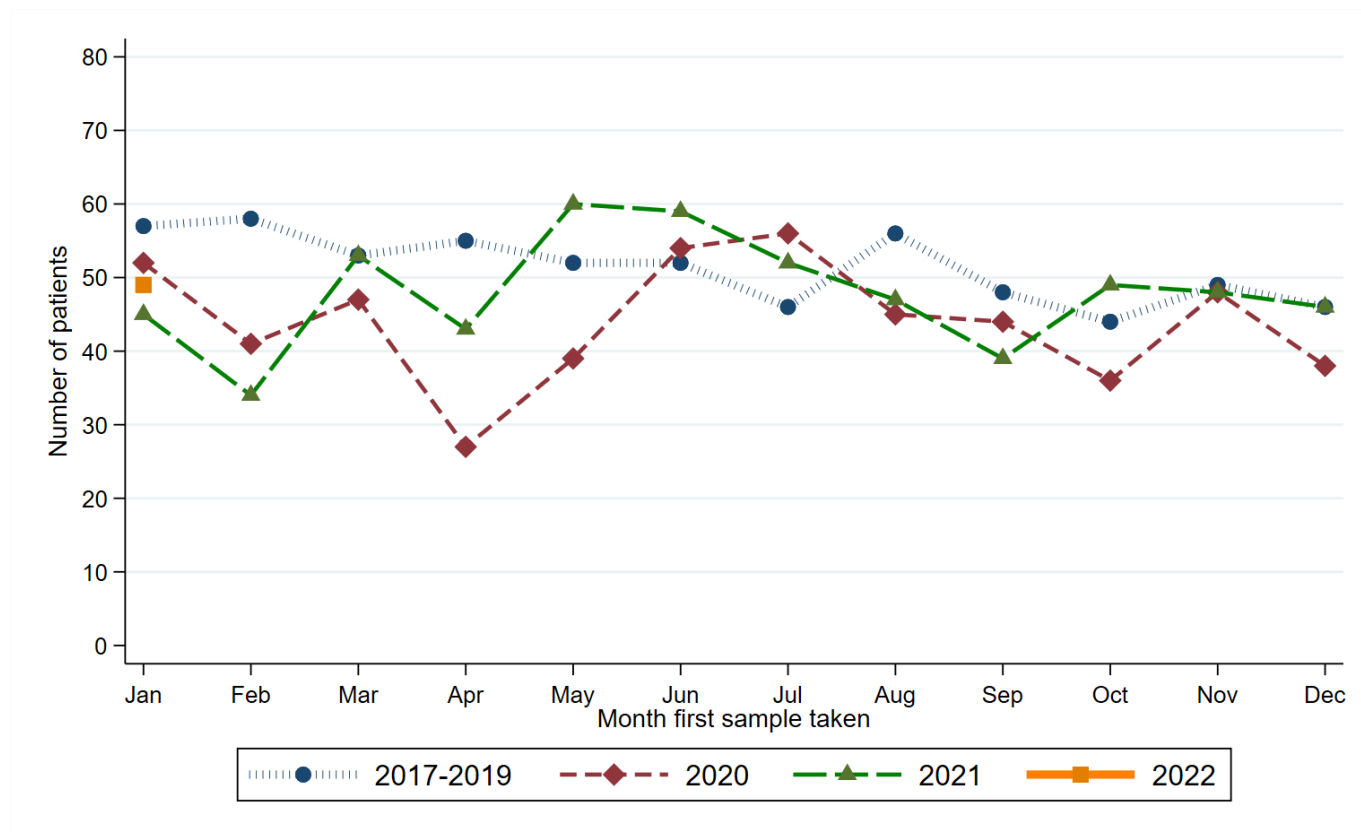
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# URINARY CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

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

**-9.9%**



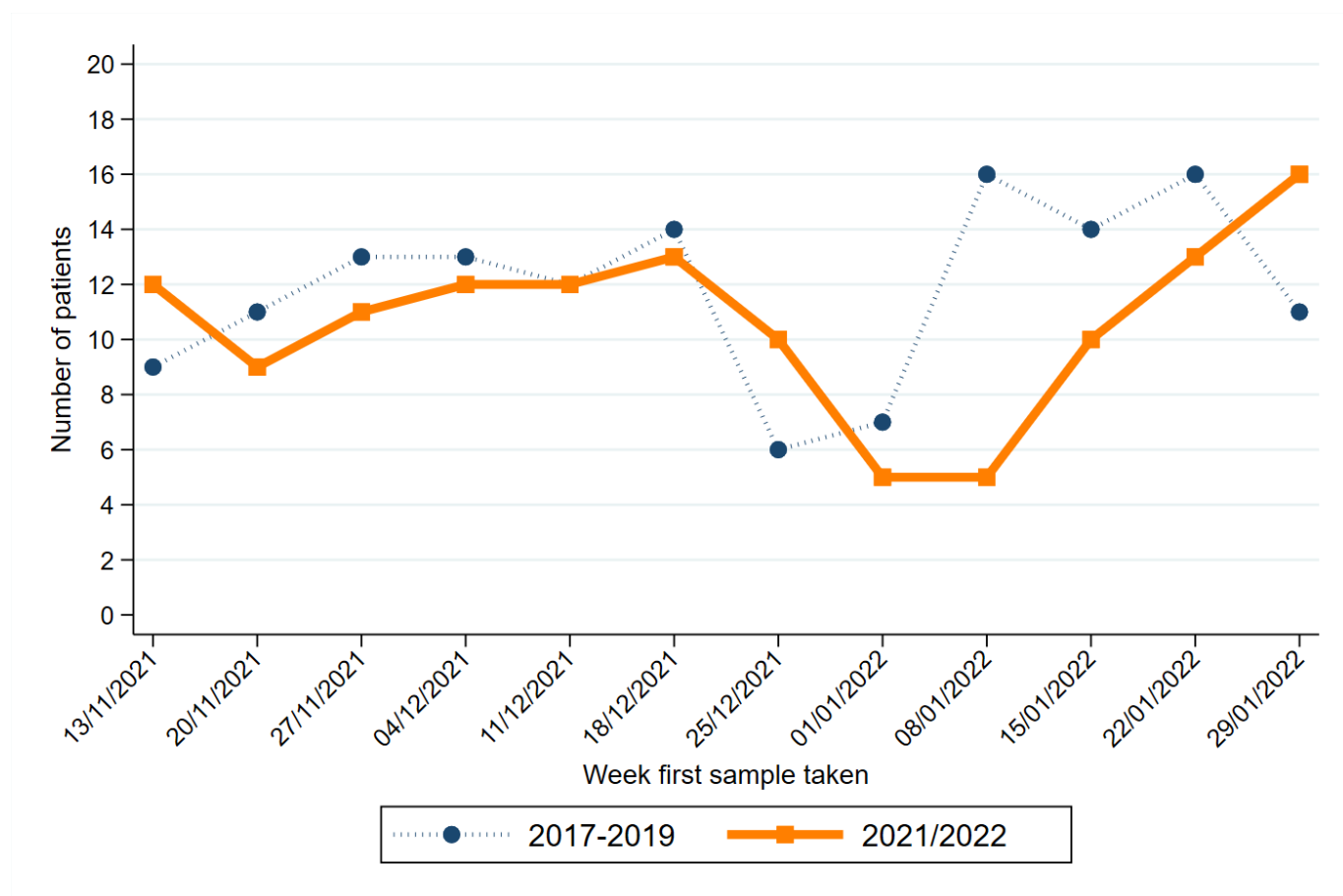
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	57	52	45	49
Feb	58	41	34	.
Mar	53	47	53	.
Apr	55	27	43	.
May	52	39	60	.
Jun	52	54	59	.
Jul	46	56	52	.
Aug	56	45	47	.
Sep	48	44	39	.
Oct	44	36	49	.
Nov	49	48	48	.
Dec	46	38	46	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-9.9%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2021/2022
13/11/2021	9	12
20/11/2021	11	9
27/11/2021	13	11
04/12/2021	13	12
11/12/2021	12	12
18/12/2021	14	13
25/12/2021	6	10
01/01/2022	7	5
08/01/2022	16	5
15/01/2022	14	10
22/01/2022	16	13
29/01/2022	11	16

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

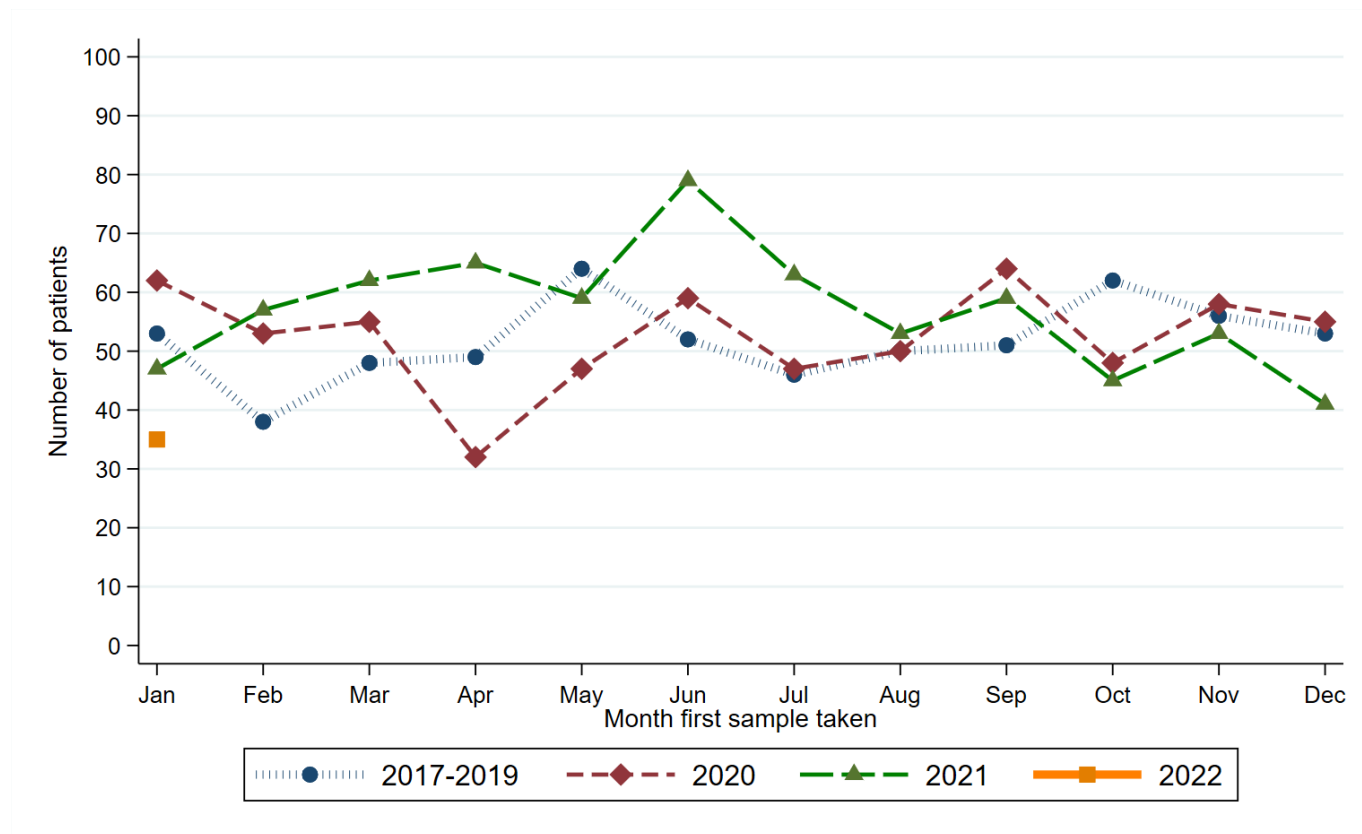
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# HAEMATOLOGICAL CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

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

**+2.2%**



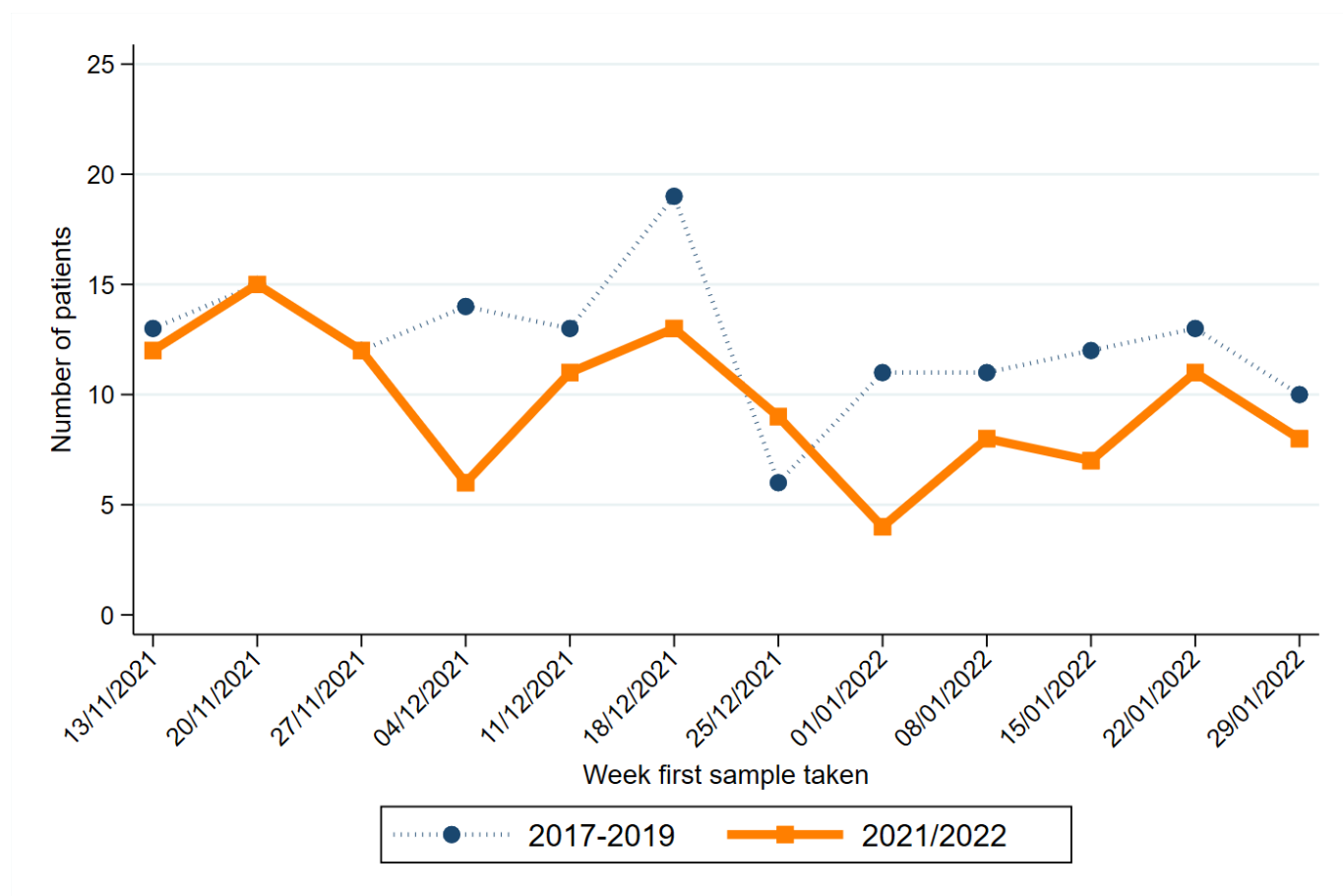
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	53	62	47	35
Feb	38	53	57	.
Mar	48	55	62	.
Apr	49	32	65	.
May	64	47	59	.
Jun	52	59	79	.
Jul	46	47	63	.
Aug	50	50	53	.
Sep	51	64	59	.
Oct	62	48	45	.
Nov	56	58	53	.
Dec	53	55	41	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-22.1%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2021/2022
13/11/2021	13	12
20/11/2021	15	15
27/11/2021	12	12
04/12/2021	14	6
11/12/2021	13	11
18/12/2021	19	13
25/12/2021	6	9
01/01/2022	11	4
08/01/2022	11	8
15/01/2022	12	7
22/01/2022	13	11
29/01/2022	10	8

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

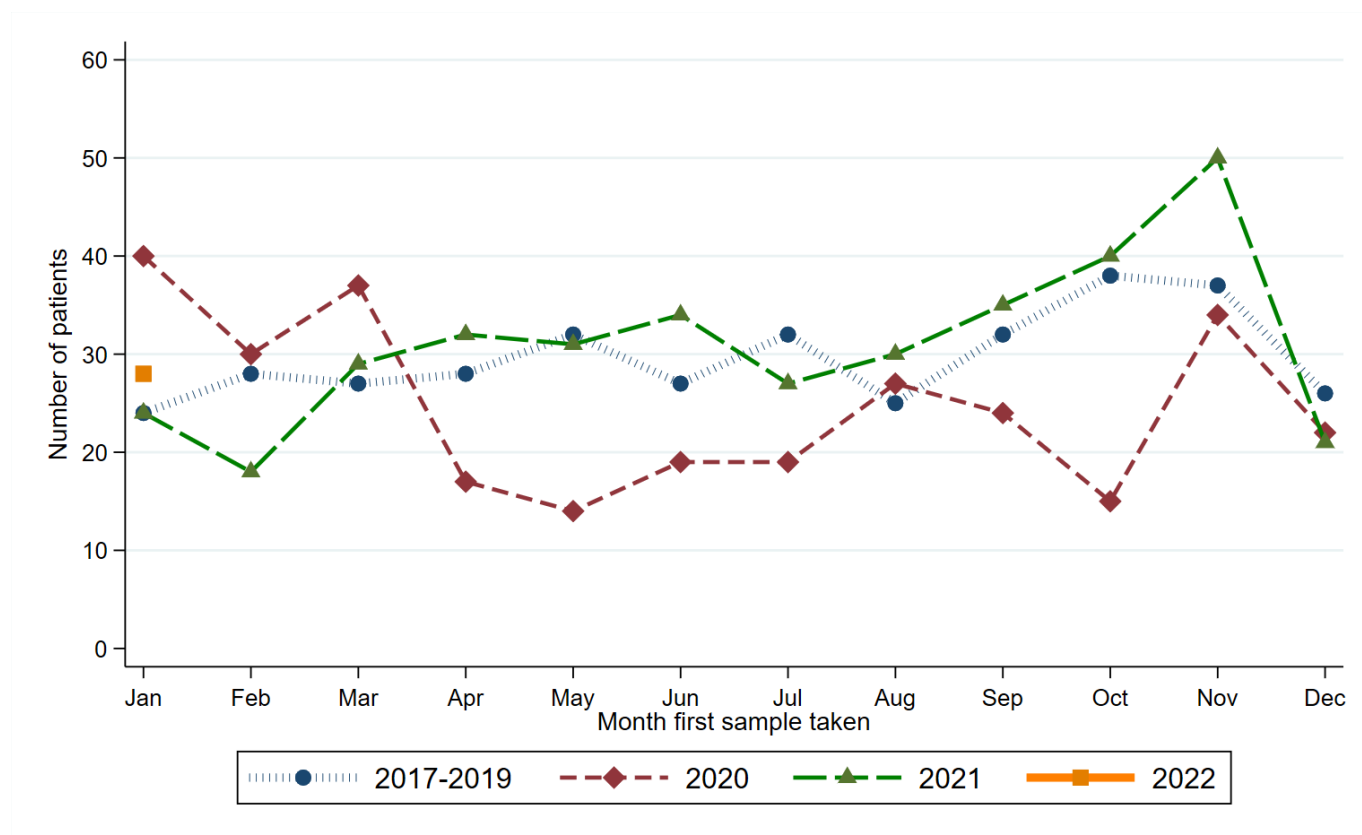
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# MELANOMA

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

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

**-8.3%**



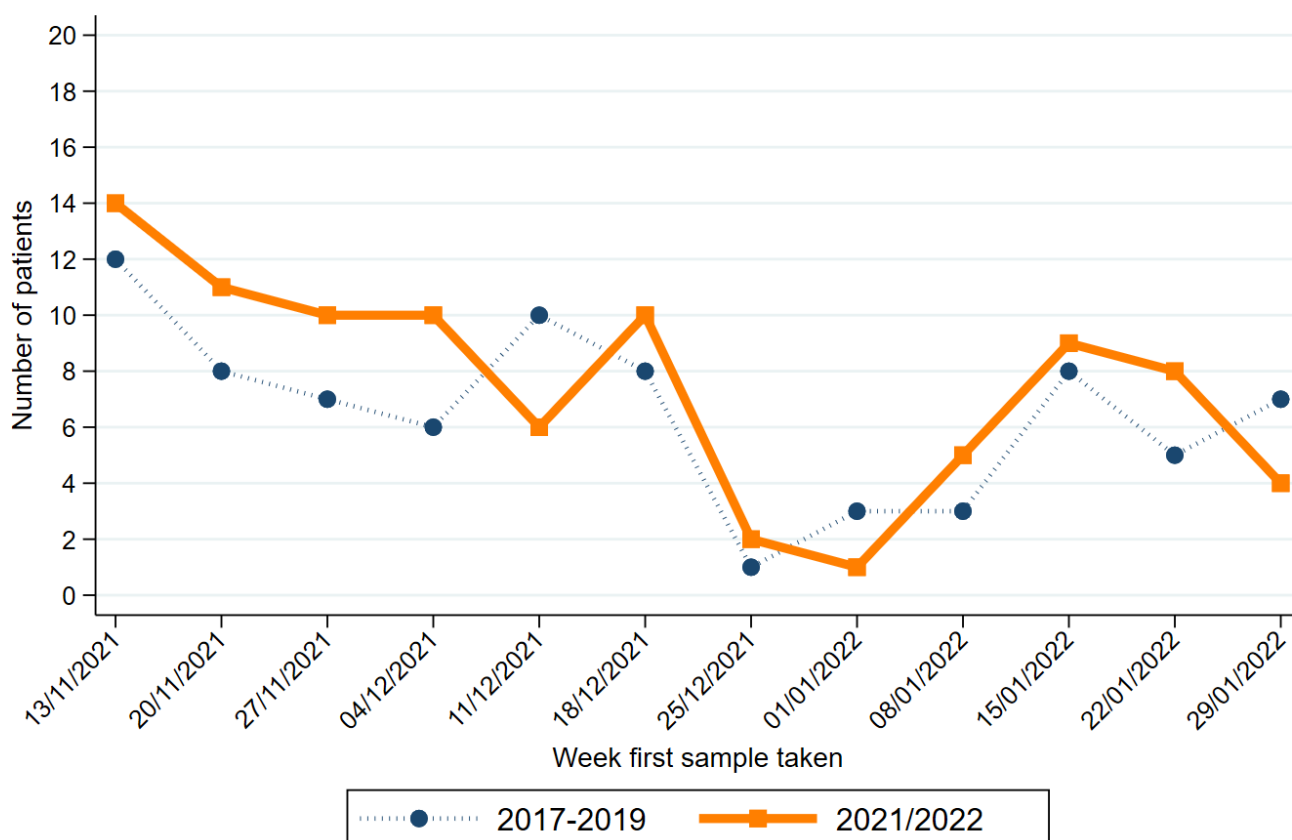
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	24	40	24	28
Feb	28	30	18	.
Mar	27	37	29	.
Apr	28	17	32	.
May	32	14	31	.
Jun	27	19	34	.
Jul	32	19	27	.
Aug	25	27	30	.
Sep	32	24	35	.
Oct	38	15	40	.
Nov	37	34	50	.
Dec	26	22	21	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+15.4%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2021/2022
13/11/2021	12	14
20/11/2021	8	11
27/11/2021	7	10
04/12/2021	6	10
11/12/2021	10	6
18/12/2021	8	10
25/12/2021	1	2
01/01/2022	3	1
08/01/2022	3	5
15/01/2022	8	9
22/01/2022	5	8
29/01/2022	7	4

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

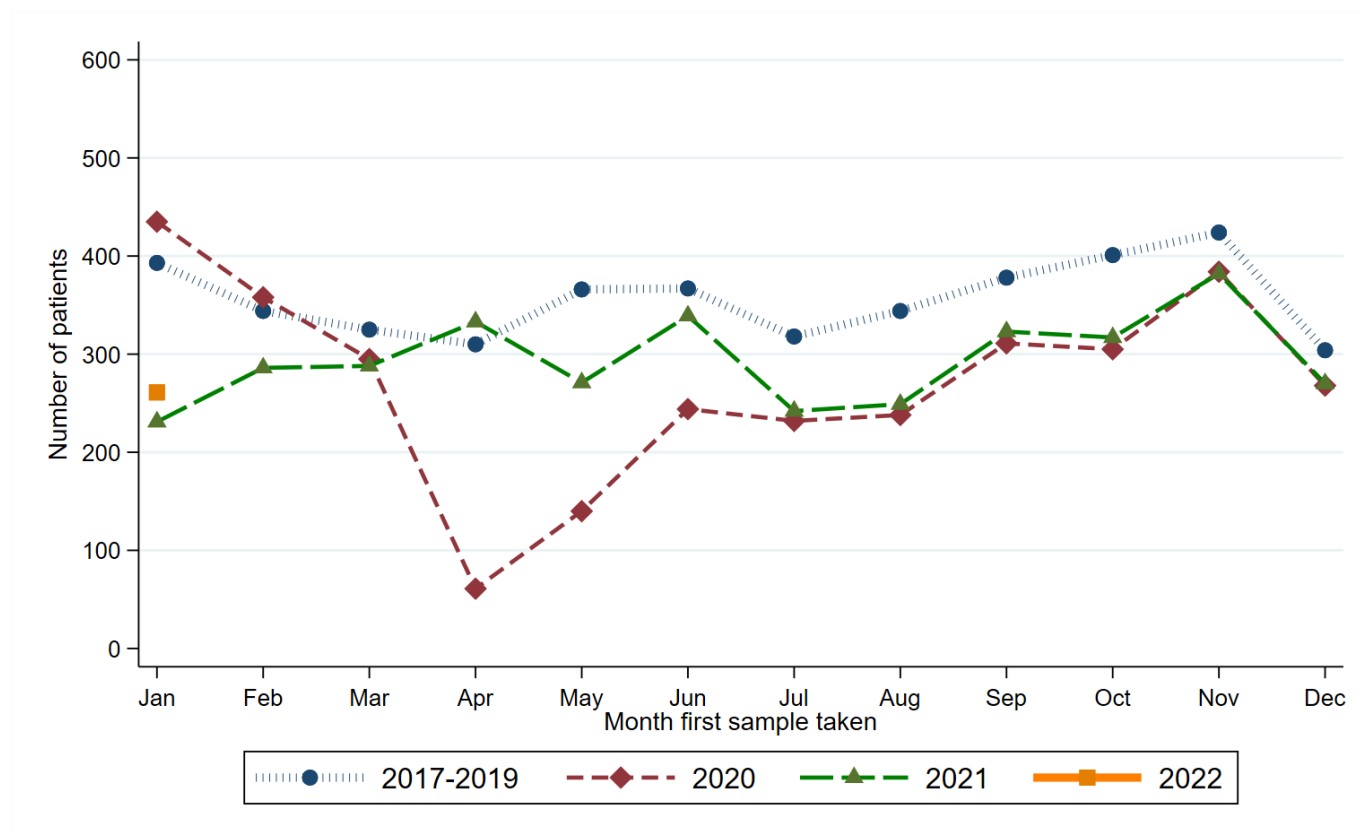
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# NON-MELANOMA SKIN CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

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

**-23.6%**



Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	393	435	231	261
Feb	344	358	286	.
Mar	325	295	288	.
Apr	310	61	333	.
May	366	140	271	.
Jun	367	244	339	.
Jul	318	232	242	.
Aug	344	238	249	.
Sep	378	311	323	.
Oct	401	305	317	.
Nov	424	384	382	.
Dec	304	268	270	.

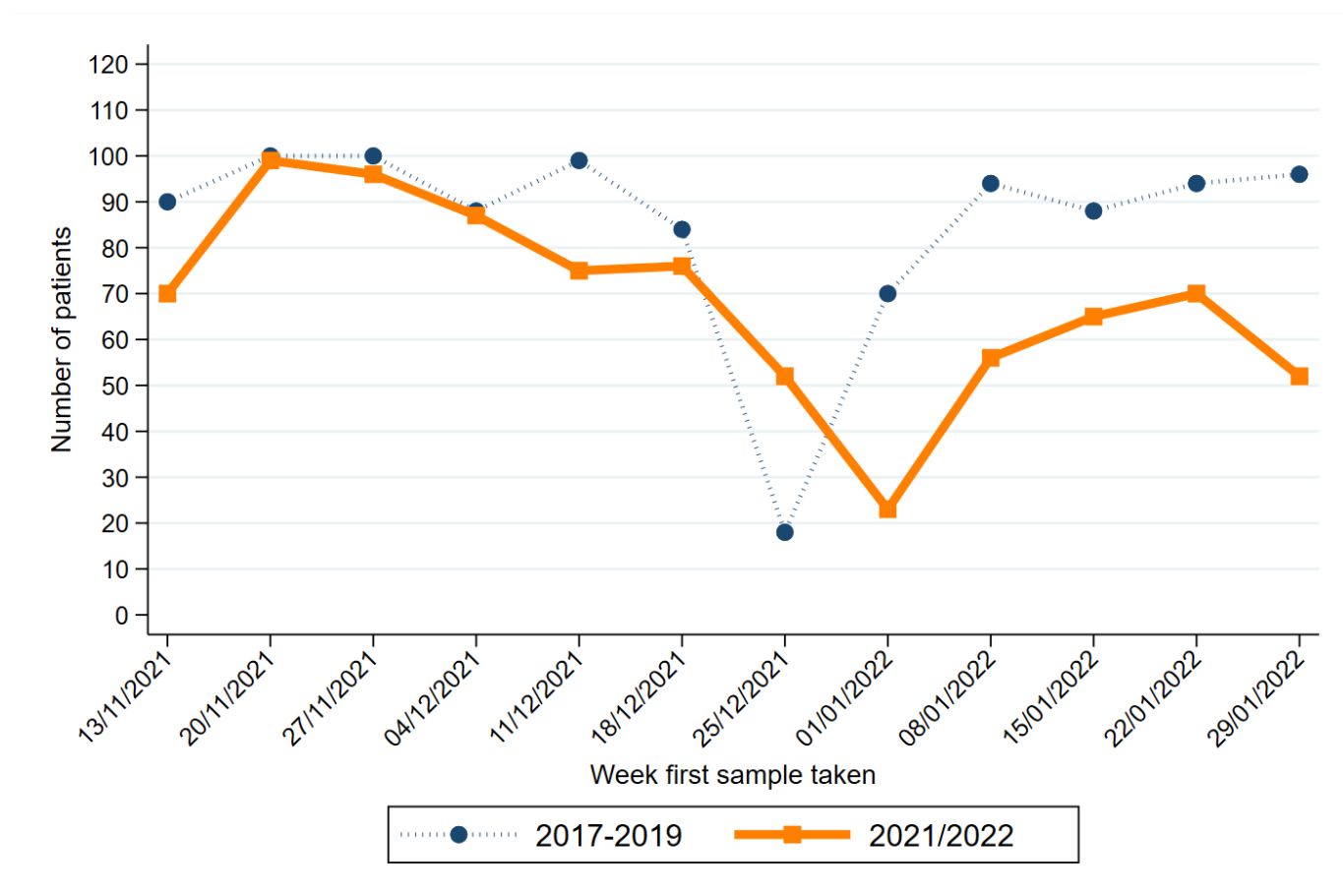
\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.



## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-19.6%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2021/2022
13/11/2021	90	70
20/11/2021	100	99
27/11/2021	100	96
04/12/2021	88	87
11/12/2021	99	75
18/12/2021	84	76
25/12/2021	18	52
01/01/2022	70	23
08/01/2022	94	56
15/01/2022	88	65
22/01/2022	94	70
29/01/2022	96	52

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

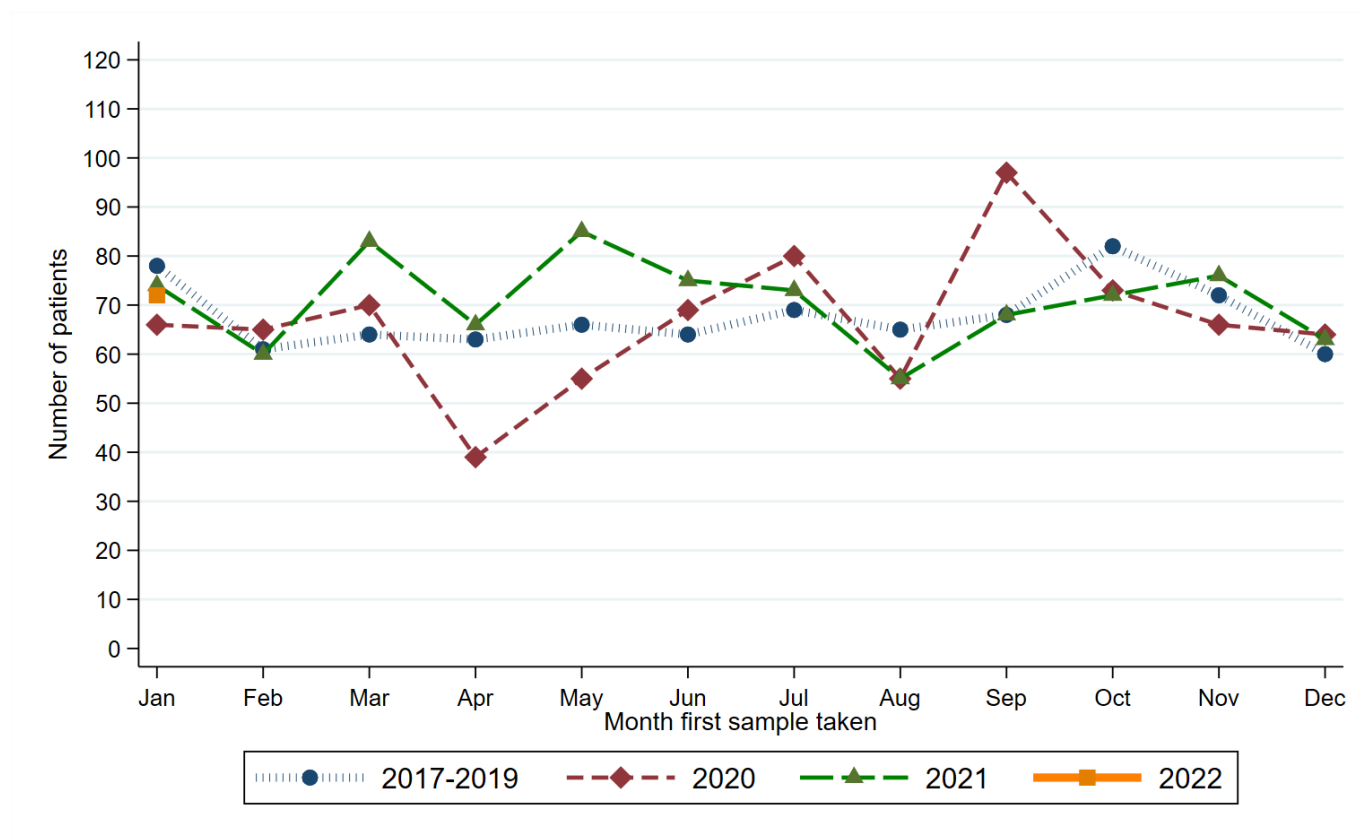
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

# OTHER CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020

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

**+1.7%**



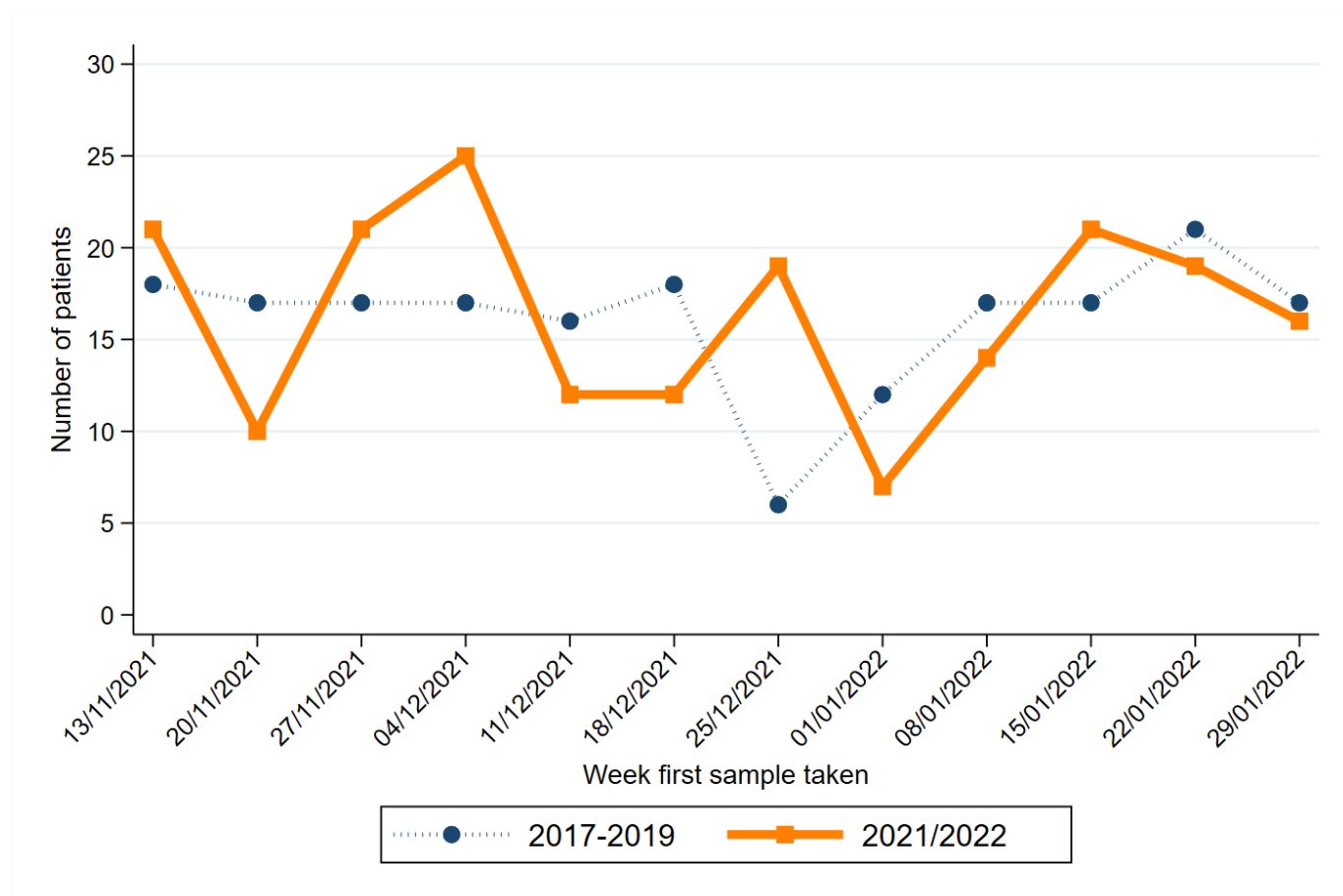
Month first sample taken	Year first sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	78	66	74	72
Feb	61	65	60	.
Mar	64	70	83	.
Apr	63	39	66	.
May	66	55	85	.
Jun	64	69	75	.
Jul	69	80	73	.
Aug	65	55	55	.
Sep	68	97	68	.
Oct	82	73	72	.
Nov	72	66	76	.
Dec	60	64	63	.

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 29/01/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+2.1%**



Week first sample taken**	Year first sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2021/2022
13/11/2021	18	21
20/11/2021	17	10
27/11/2021	17	21
04/12/2021	17	25
11/12/2021	16	12
18/12/2021	18	12
25/12/2021	6	19
01/01/2022	12	7
08/01/2022	17	14
15/01/2022	17	21
22/01/2022	21	19
29/01/2022	17	16

\* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2021-2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

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

4. Assignment of week number is based upon a Sunday to Saturday week. The week ending label used in graphs and tables is based upon the date of the end of the week (a Saturday) in 2021-2022. This is compared with the equivalent Sunday-Saturday week in 2017-2019, although the actual date ending this week in 2017-2019 will differ.

5. 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. 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.