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

May 2022 update

Further information

Further information is available at: www.qub.ac.uk/research-centres/nicr

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SUMMARY

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

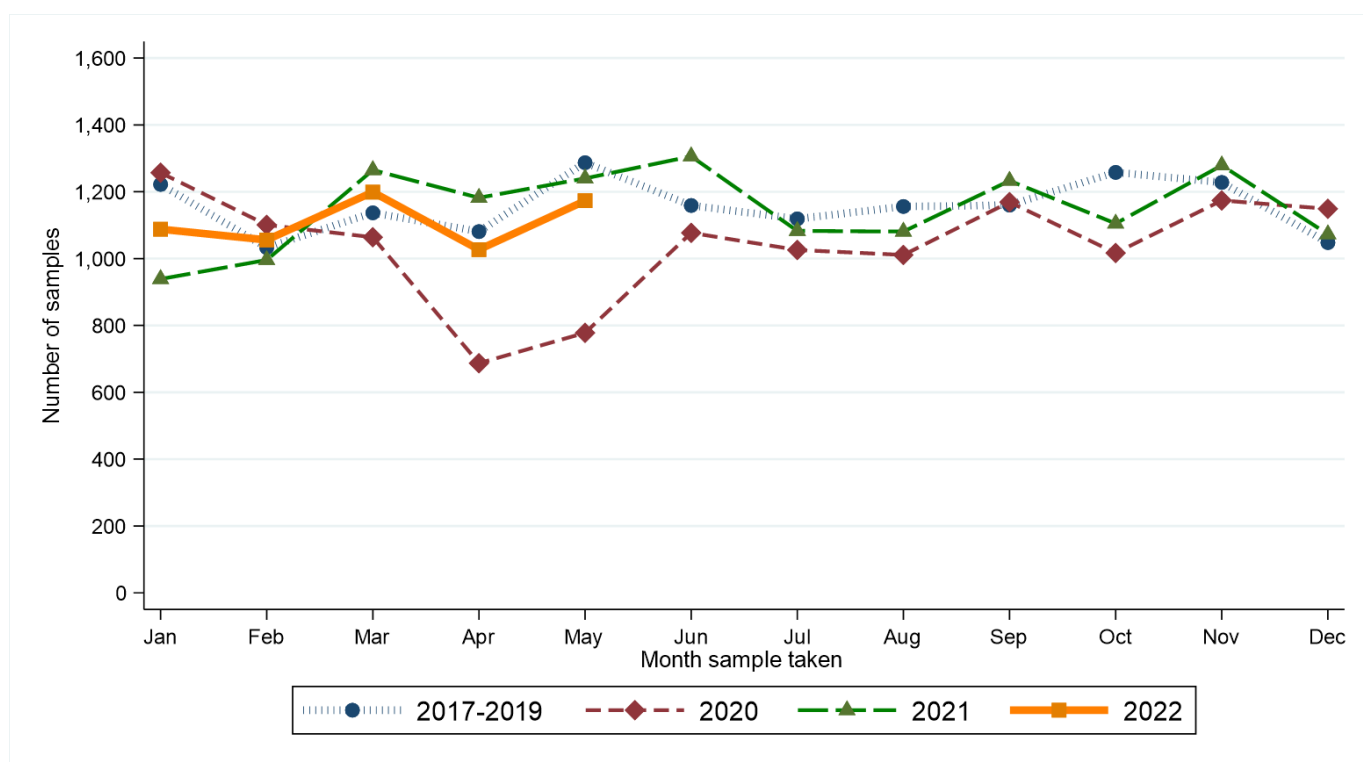
This summary provides an overview of recent trends in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer, NMSC) taken from January 2020 to May 2022 in Northern Ireland.

These trends are contrasted with the annual average number of pathology samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC) during 2017-2019 in order to provide an indication of the potential impact of the Covid-19 restrictions on diagnostic cancer services.

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

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

From March 2020 to May 2022 the number of pathological samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC) was 5.8% lower than the average number for the same time period in 2017-2019.



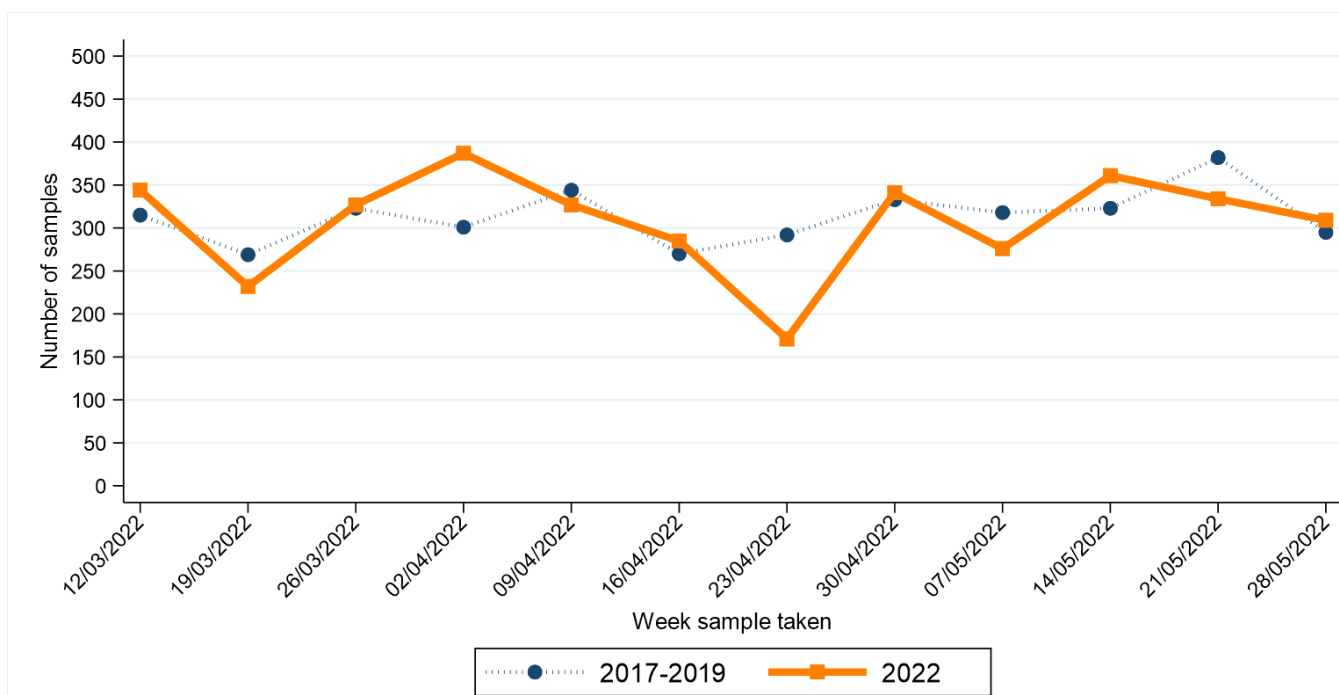
From March 2020 to May 2022 there was a 5.7% decrease in the number of samples among males and a 5.8% decrease among females compared to the same time period in 2017-2019. A decrease of 7.0% occurred in the number of samples among those aged 0-69 years, while there was a decrease of 4.1% in the number of samples among those aged 70 and older.

Compared to the annual average in 2017-2019, from March 2020 to May 2022 the number of pathology samples indicating lung cancer decreased by 25.1%. No cancer types had an increase in the number of samples between the two periods, while decreases of more than 10% were recorded for gynaecological cancer, head and neck cancer and non-melanoma skin cancer.



RECENT CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF SAMPLES (Includes Altnagelvin)

There was a 1.9% decrease in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to the average value in the equivalent weeks in 2017-2019.

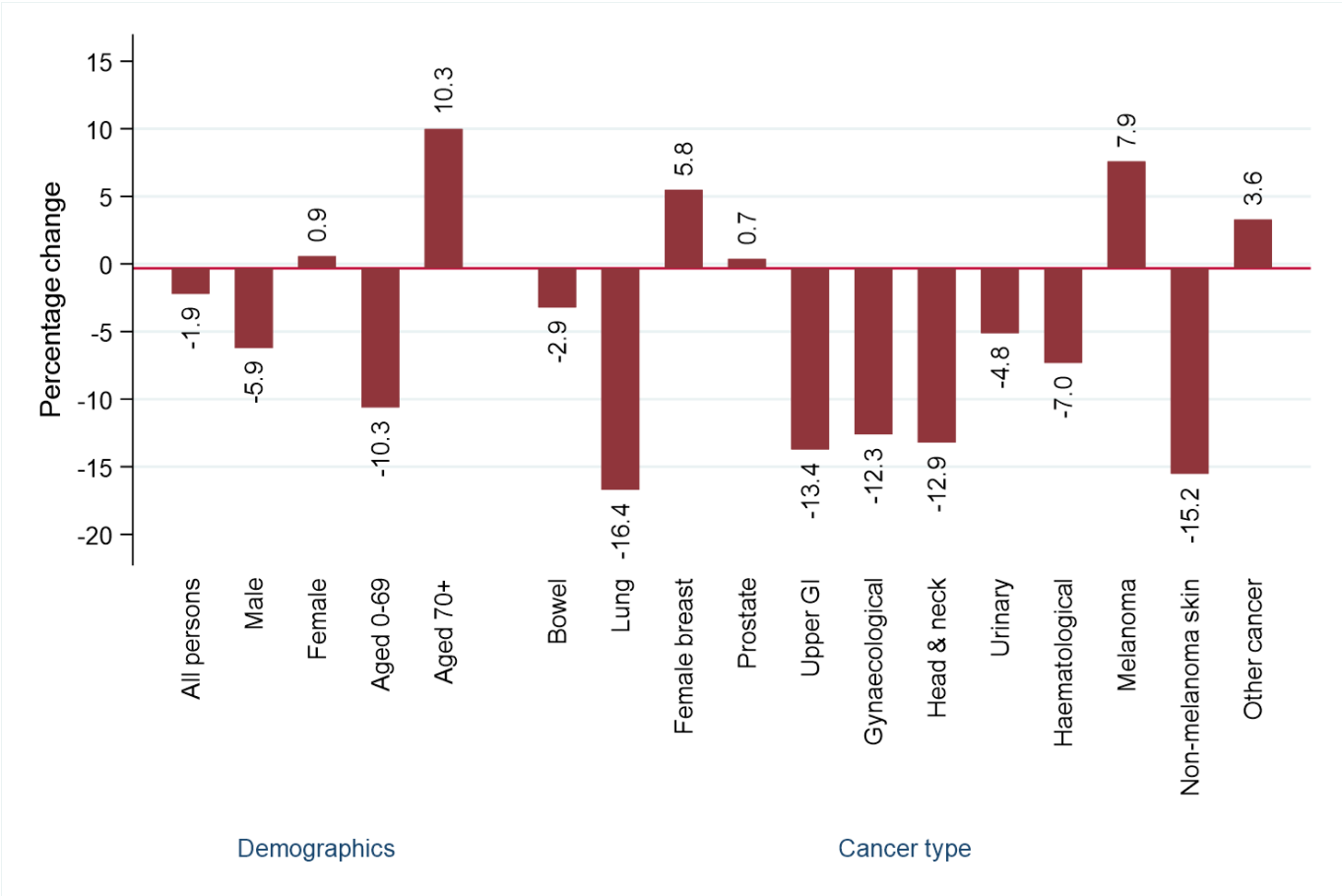


Note: Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years

In the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 there was a 5.9% decrease in the number of samples among males and a 0.9% increase among females compared to the same time period in 2017-2019. A decrease of 10.3% occurred in

the number of samples among those aged 0-69 years, while there was an increase of 10.3% in the number of samples among those aged 70 and older.

Compared to the annual average in 2017-2019, in the twelve weeks up to May 2022 the number of pathology samples indicating lung cancer decreased by 16.4%. Increases were recorded for female breast cancer, prostate cancer and melanoma, while decreases of more than 10% were recorded for upper gastrointestinal cancer, gynaecological cancer, head and neck cancer and non-melanoma skin cancer.

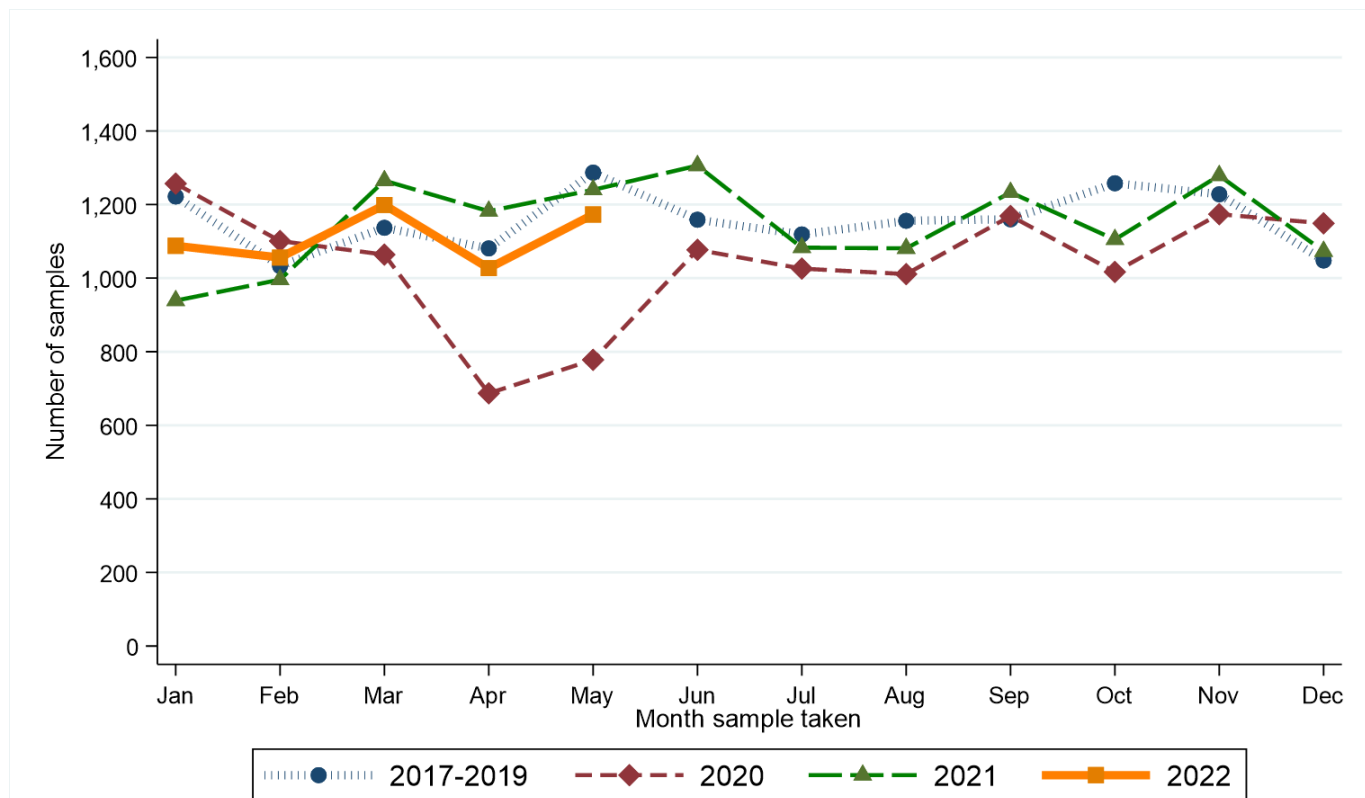


ALL PERSONS: CANCER (EX NMSC)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-5.8%



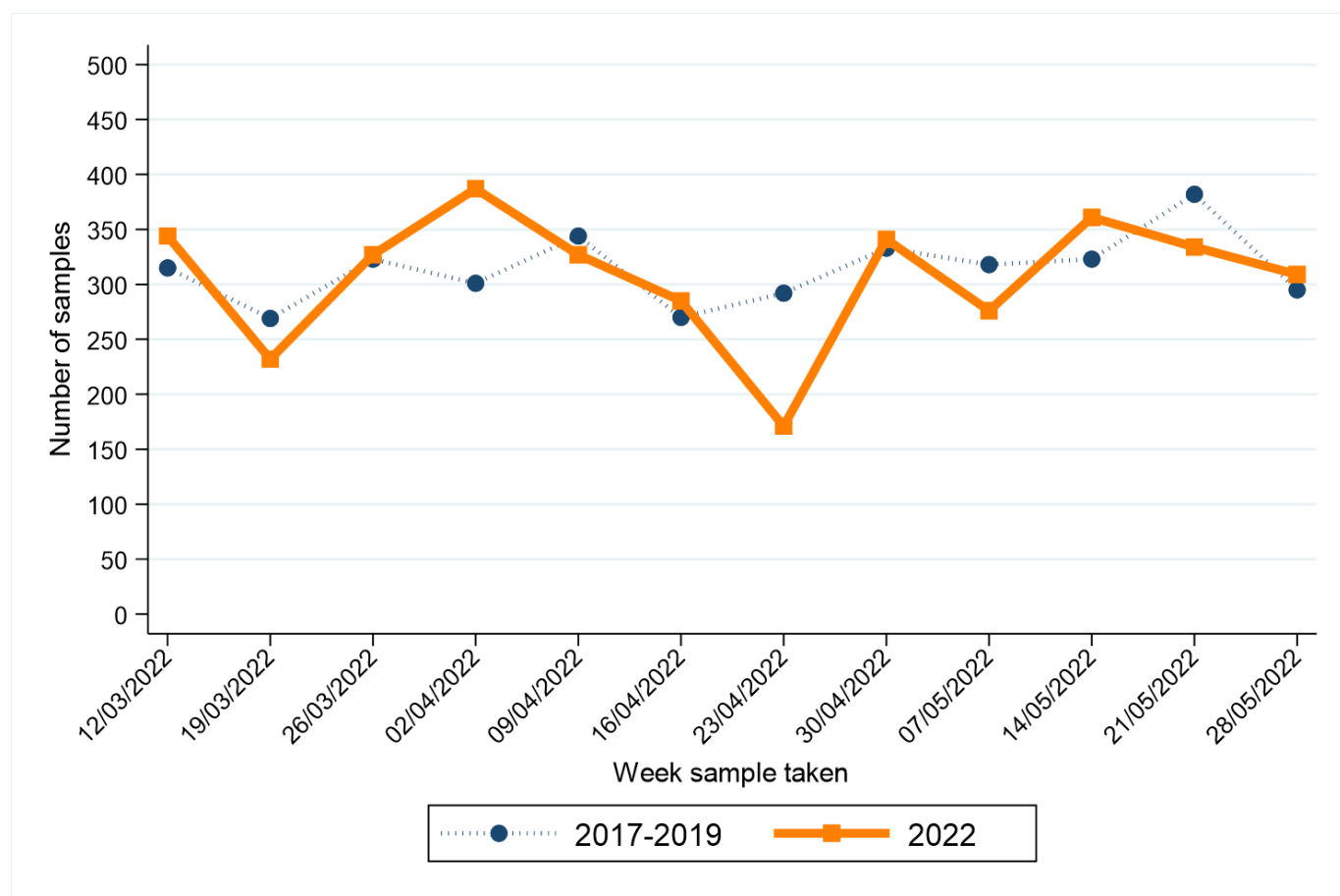
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	1,222	1,257	939	1,088
Feb	1,033	1,101	996	1,056
Mar	1,137	1,064	1,265	1,199
Apr	1,081	687	1,182	1,027
May	1,287	778	1,240	1,173
Jun	1,159	1,077	1,306	.
Jul	1,119	1,026	1,083	.
Aug	1,156	1,011	1,081	.
Sep	1,160	1,169	1,233	.
Oct	1,258	1,017	1,105	.
Nov	1,228	1,174	1,279	.
Dec	1,048	1,149	1,073	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-1.9%



Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
12/03/2022	315	344
19/03/2022	269	232
26/03/2022	323	327
02/04/2022	301	387
09/04/2022	344	327
16/04/2022	270	285
23/04/2022	292	171
30/04/2022	333	341
07/05/2022	318	276
14/05/2022	323	361
21/05/2022	382	334
28/05/2022	295	309

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

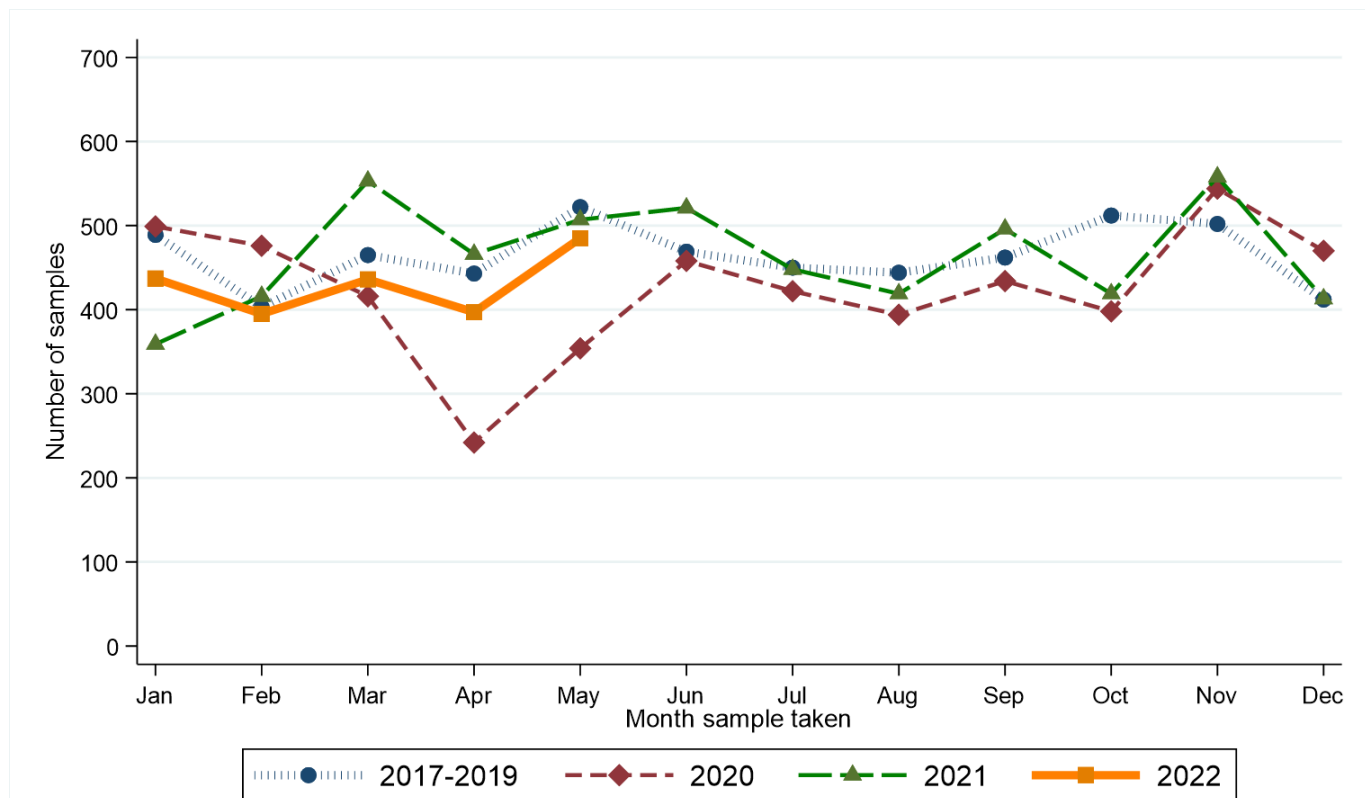
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

MALE: CANCER (EX NMSC)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-5.7%



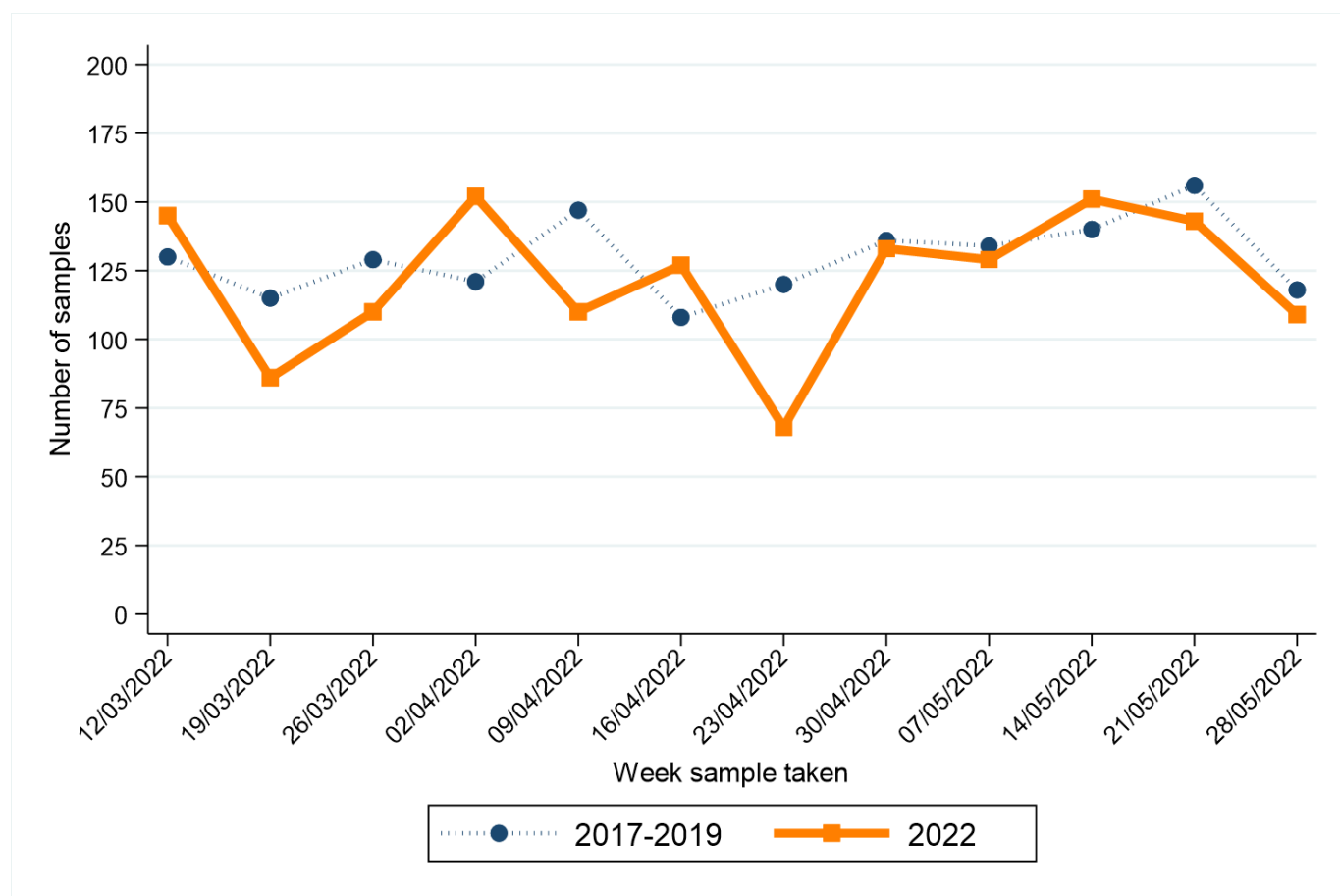
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	489	499	359	437
Feb	403	476	416	395
Mar	465	416	553	436
Apr	443	242	466	397
May	522	354	507	485
Jun	469	458	521	.
Jul	450	422	448	.
Aug	444	394	419	.
Sep	462	434	496	.
Oct	512	398	419	.
Nov	502	544	558	.
Dec	412	470	413	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-5.9%



Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
12/03/2022	130	145
19/03/2022	115	86
26/03/2022	129	110
02/04/2022	121	152
09/04/2022	147	110
16/04/2022	108	127
23/04/2022	120	68
30/04/2022	136	133
07/05/2022	134	129
14/05/2022	140	151
21/05/2022	156	143
28/05/2022	118	109

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

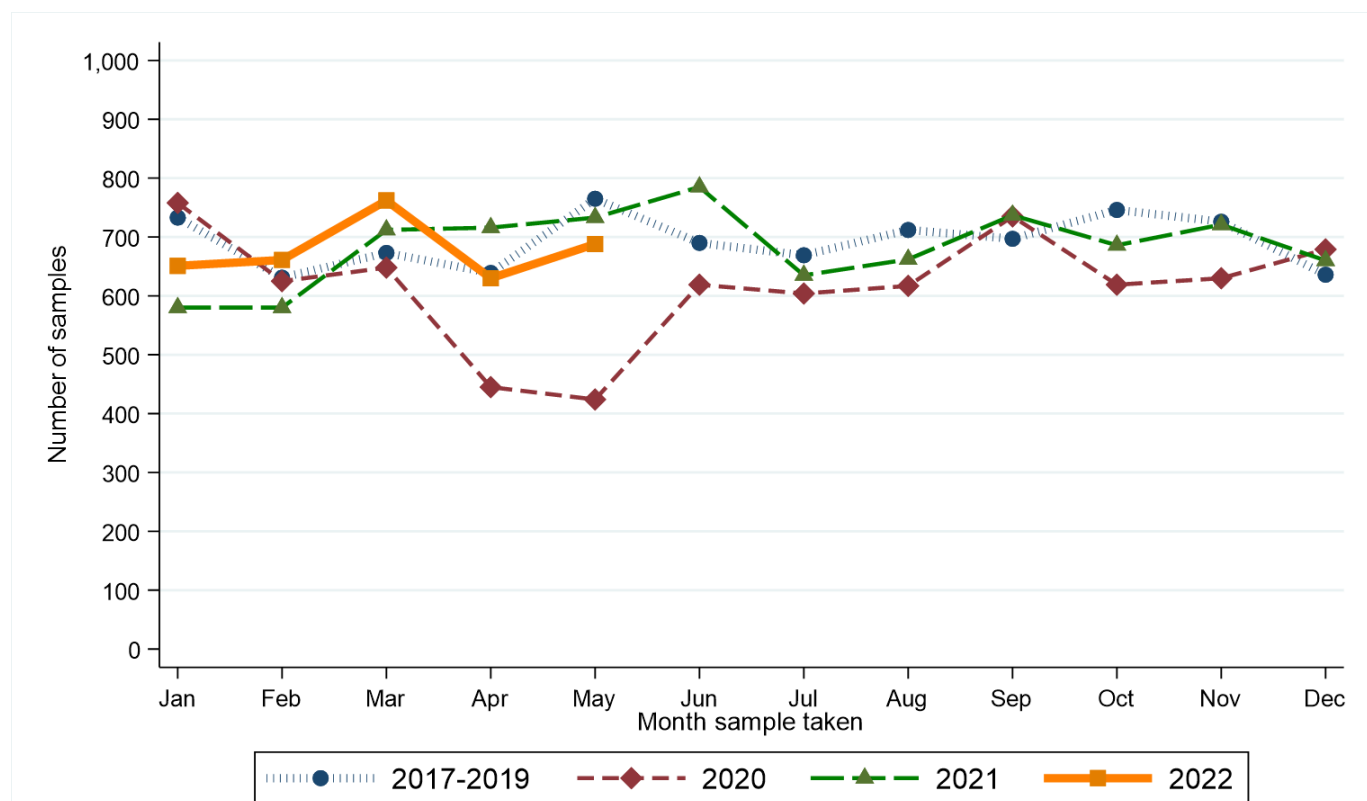
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

FEMALE: CANCER (EX NMSC)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-5.8%



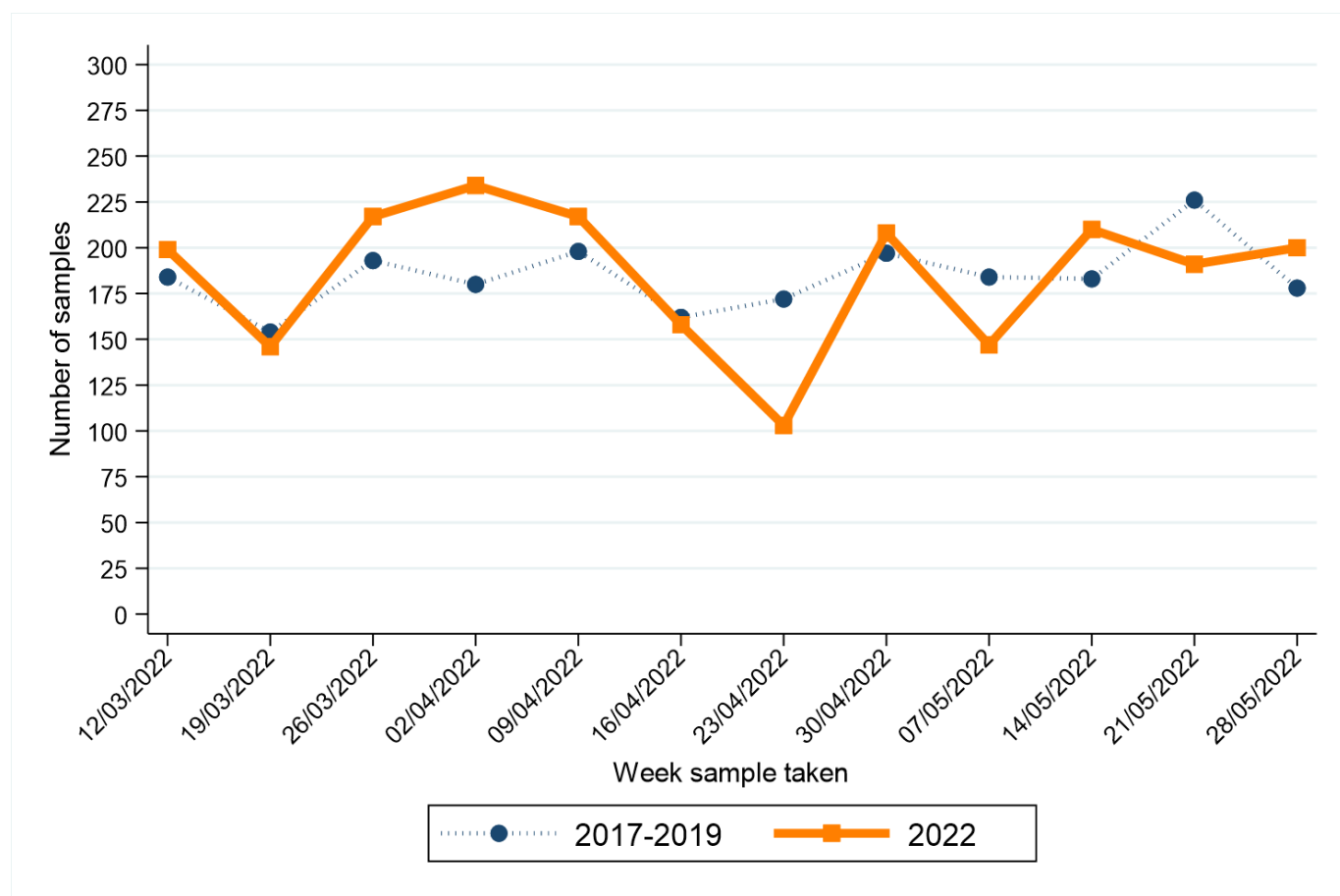
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	733	758	580	651
Feb	631	625	580	661
Mar	673	648	712	762
Apr	639	445	716	630
May	765	424	733	688
Jun	690	619	785	.
Jul	669	604	635	.
Aug	712	617	662	.
Sep	697	735	737	.
Oct	746	619	686	.
Nov	726	630	721	.
Dec	636	679	660	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+0.9%



Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
12/03/2022	184	199
19/03/2022	154	146
26/03/2022	193	217
02/04/2022	180	234
09/04/2022	198	217
16/04/2022	162	158
23/04/2022	172	103
30/04/2022	197	208
07/05/2022	184	147
14/05/2022	183	210
21/05/2022	226	191
28/05/2022	178	200

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

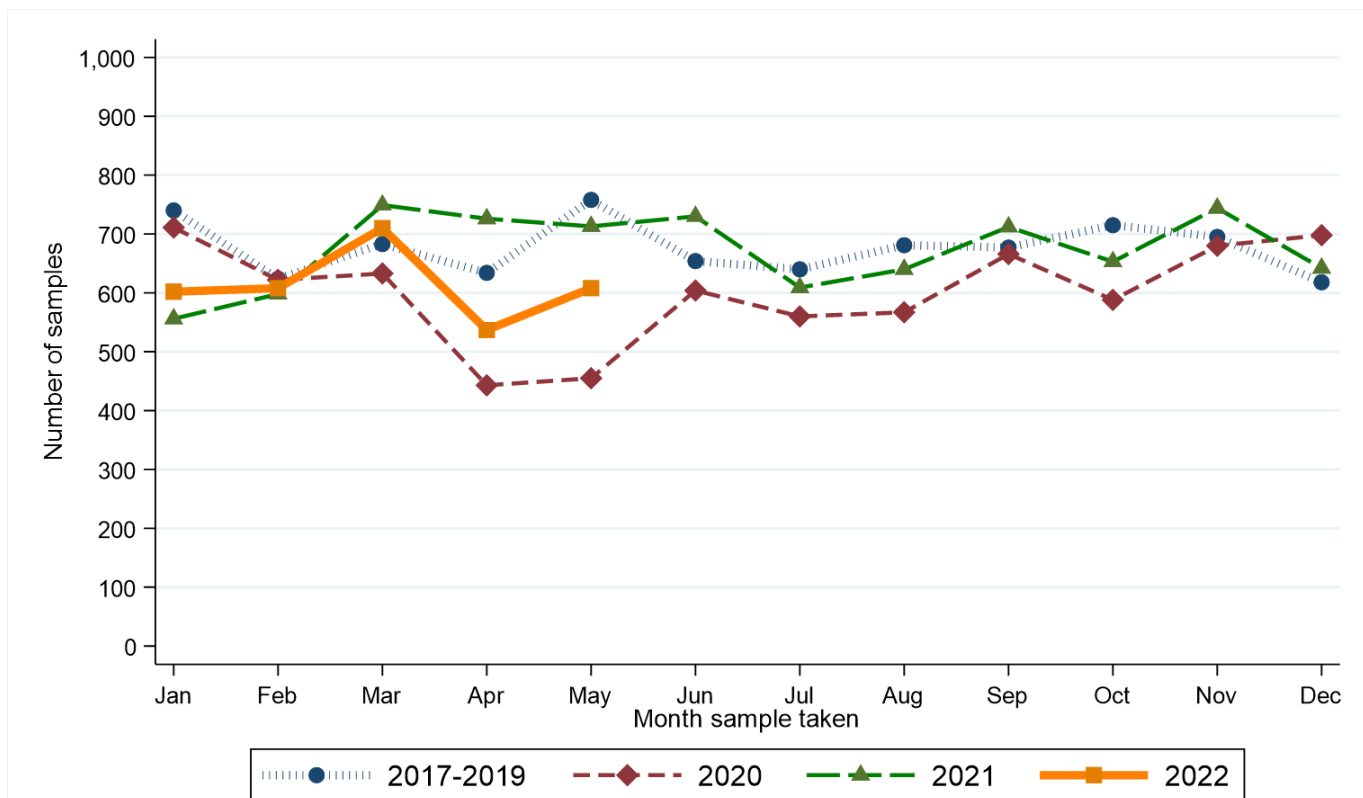
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

AGED 0-69: CANCER (EX NMSC)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-7.0%



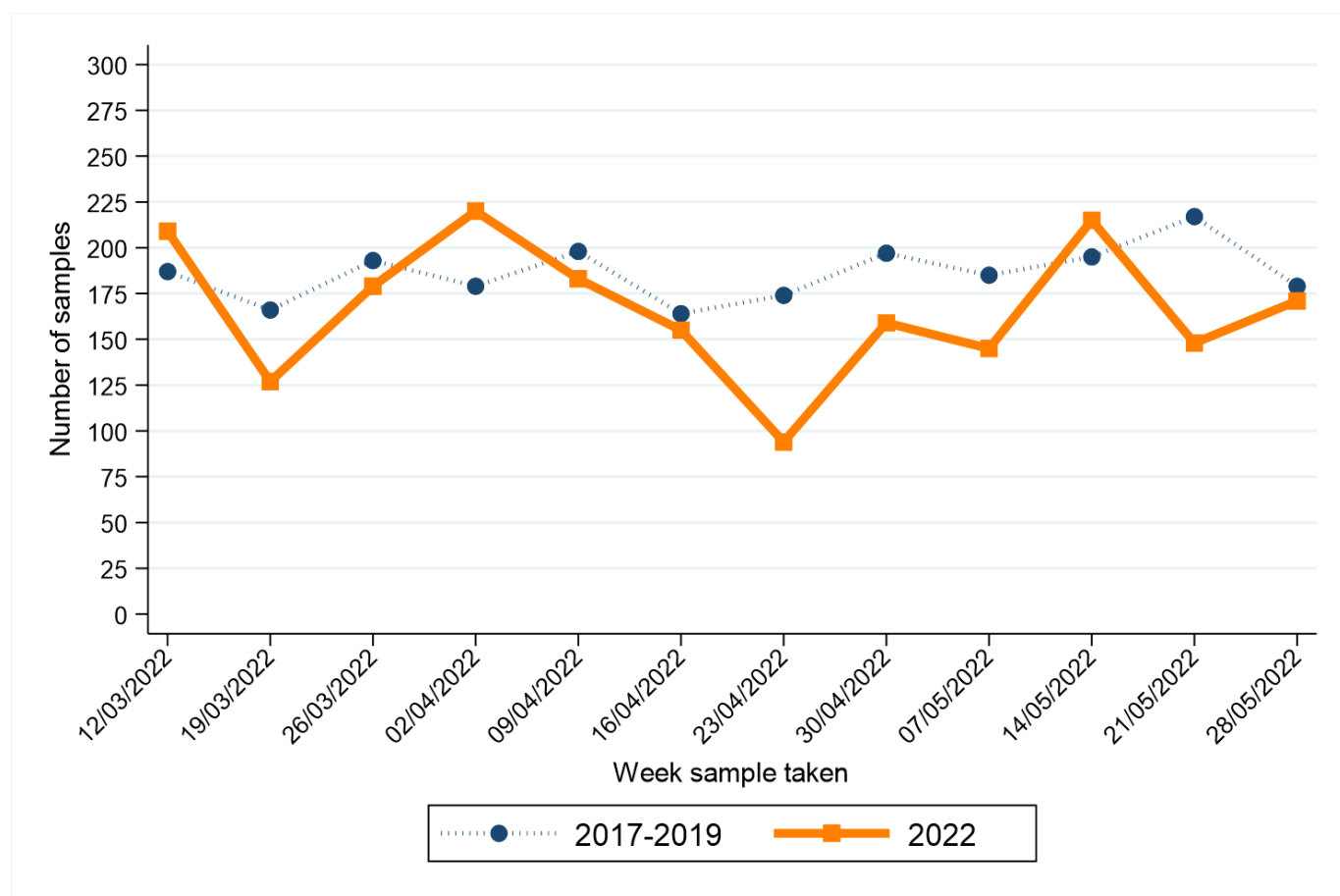
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	740	711	556	602
Feb	624	622	598	608
Mar	683	633	749	710
Apr	634	443	726	537
May	758	455	713	608
Jun	654	604	730	.
Jul	640	560	609	.
Aug	681	567	640	.
Sep	677	666	712	.
Oct	715	588	653	.
Nov	695	680	744	.
Dec	618	698	642	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-10.3%



Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
12/03/2022	187	209
19/03/2022	166	127
26/03/2022	193	179
02/04/2022	179	220
09/04/2022	198	183
16/04/2022	164	155
23/04/2022	174	94
30/04/2022	197	159
07/05/2022	185	145
14/05/2022	195	215
21/05/2022	217	148
28/05/2022	179	171

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

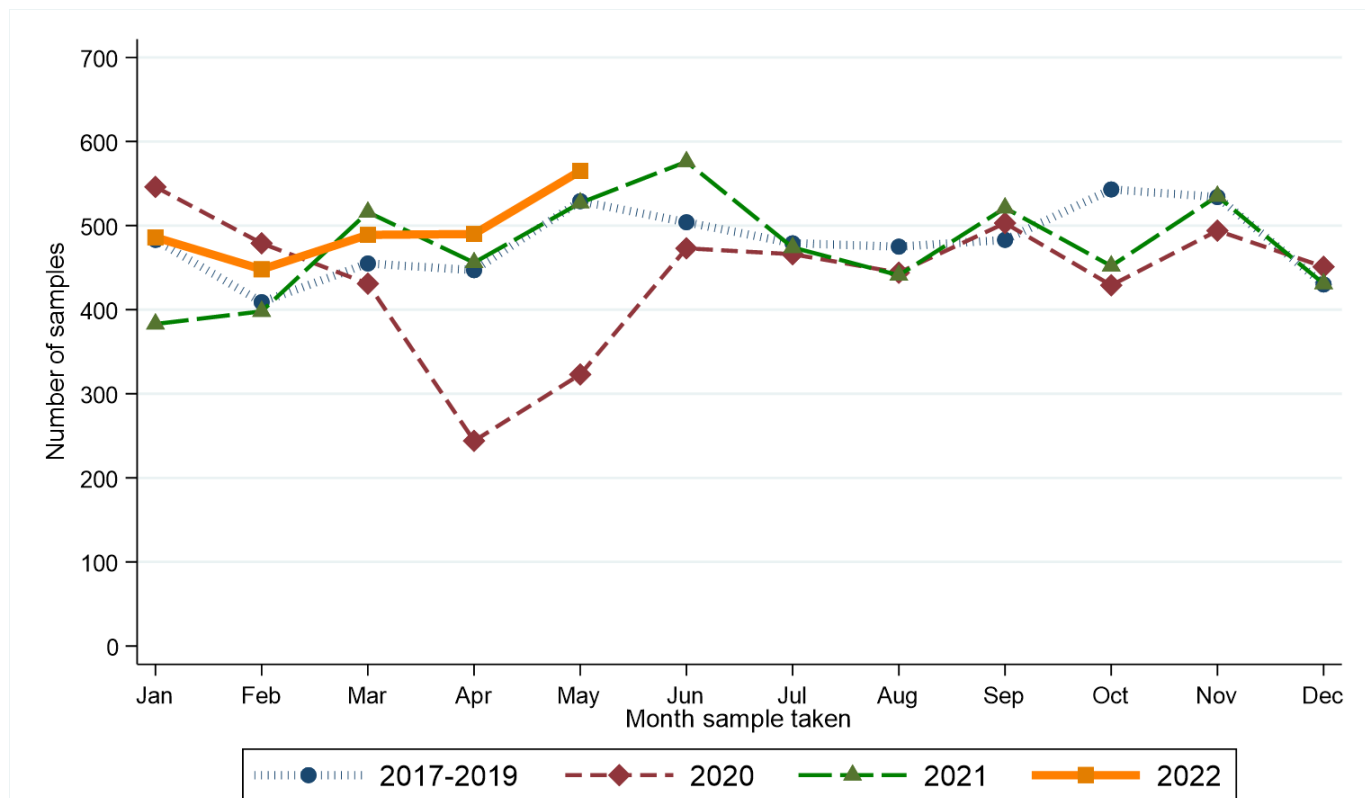
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

AGED 70+: CANCER (EX NMSC)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-4.1%



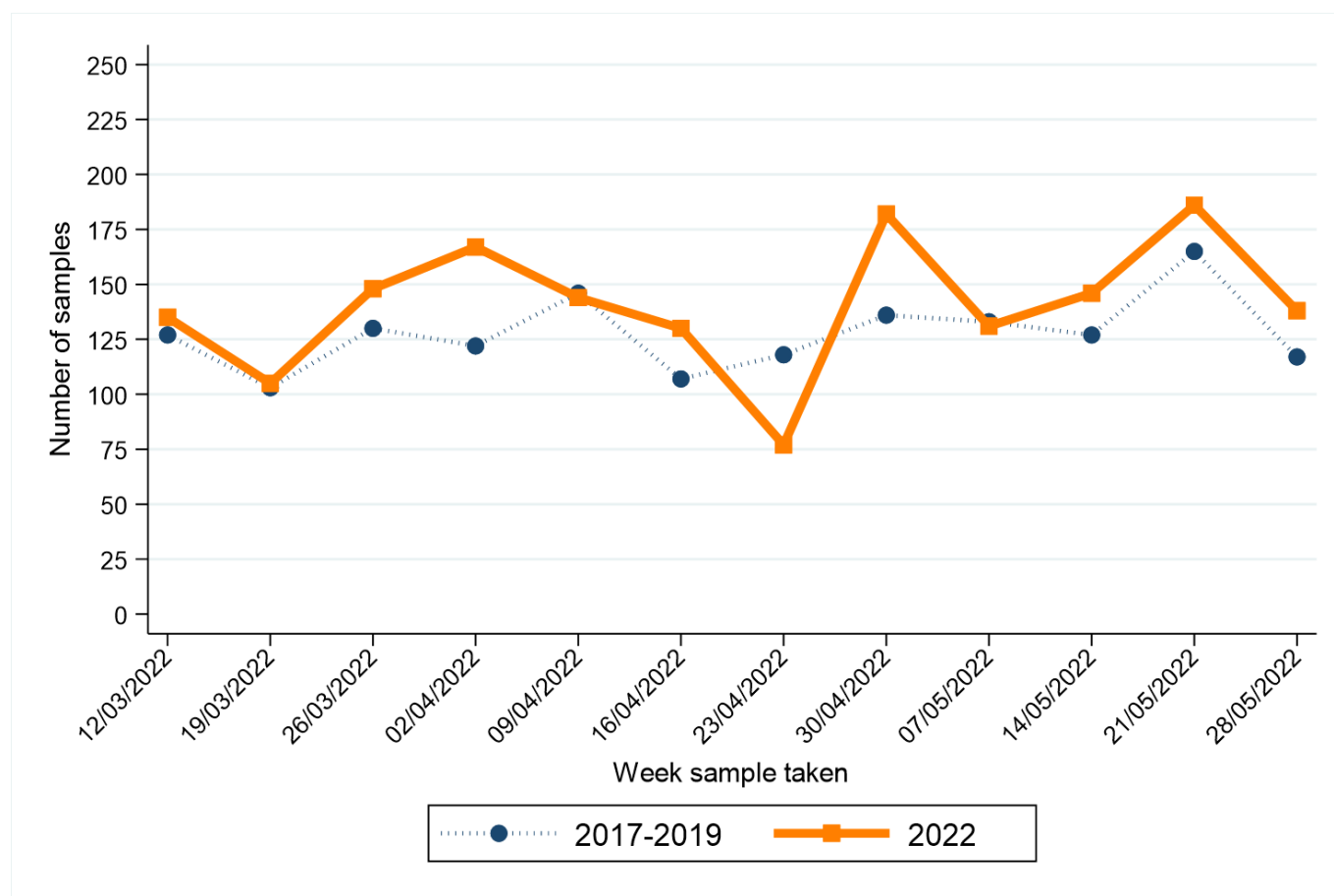
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	483	546	383	486
Feb	409	479	398	448
Mar	455	431	516	489
Apr	447	244	456	490
May	529	323	527	565
Jun	504	473	576	.
Jul	479	466	474	.
Aug	475	444	441	.
Sep	483	503	521	.
Oct	543	429	452	.
Nov	534	494	535	.
Dec	430	451	431	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+10.3%



Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
12/03/2022	127	135
19/03/2022	103	105
26/03/2022	130	148
02/04/2022	122	167
09/04/2022	146	144
16/04/2022	107	130
23/04/2022	118	77
30/04/2022	136	182
07/05/2022	133	131
14/05/2022	127	146
21/05/2022	165	186
28/05/2022	117	138

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

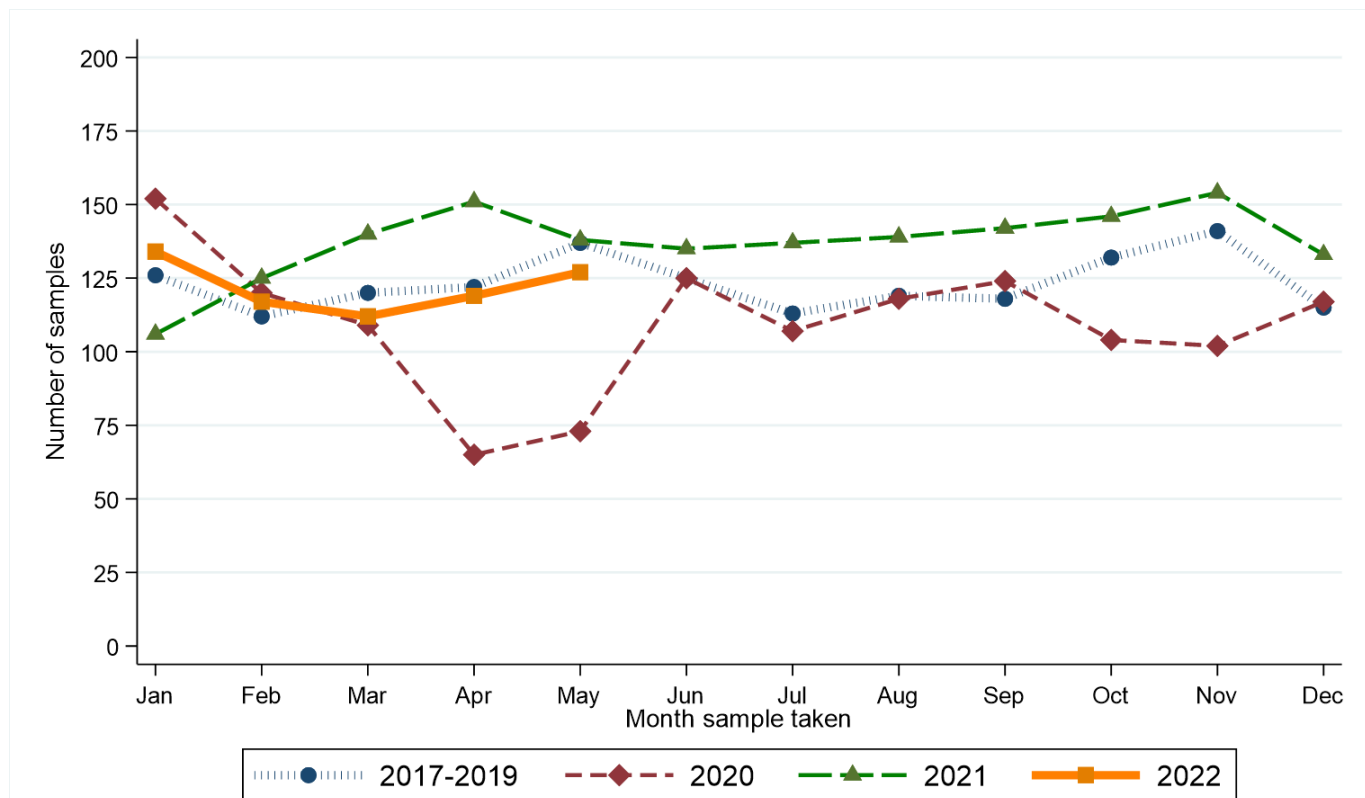
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

BOWEL CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-1.2%



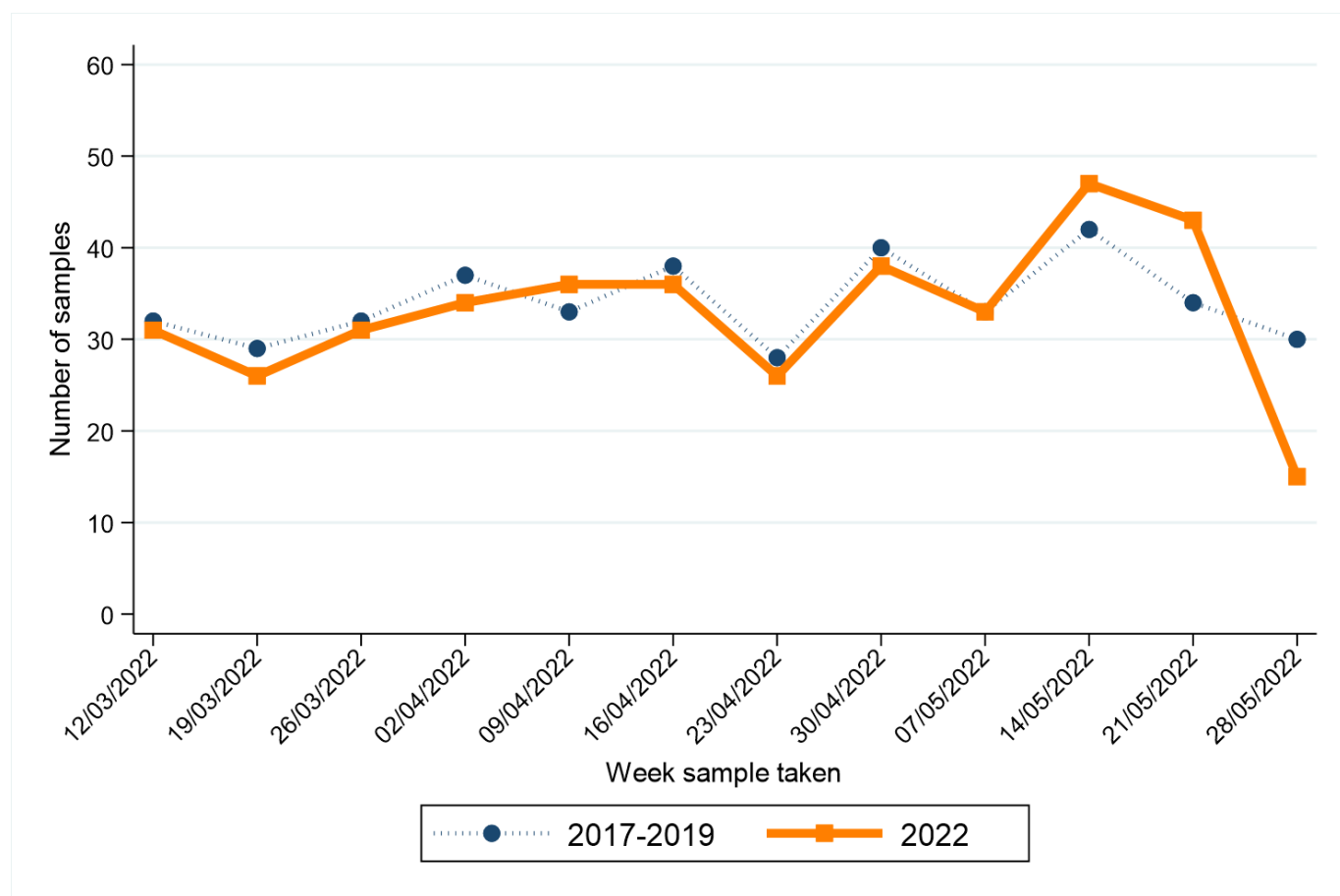
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	126	152	106	134
Feb	112	120	125	117
Mar	120	109	140	112
Apr	122	65	151	119
May	137	73	138	127
Jun	125	125	135	.
Jul	113	107	137	.
Aug	119	118	139	.
Sep	118	124	142	.
Oct	132	104	146	.
Nov	141	102	154	.
Dec	115	117	133	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-2.9%



Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
12/03/2022	32	31
19/03/2022	29	26
26/03/2022	32	31
02/04/2022	37	34
09/04/2022	33	36
16/04/2022	38	36
23/04/2022	28	26
30/04/2022	40	38
07/05/2022	33	33
14/05/2022	42	47
21/05/2022	34	43
28/05/2022	30	15

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

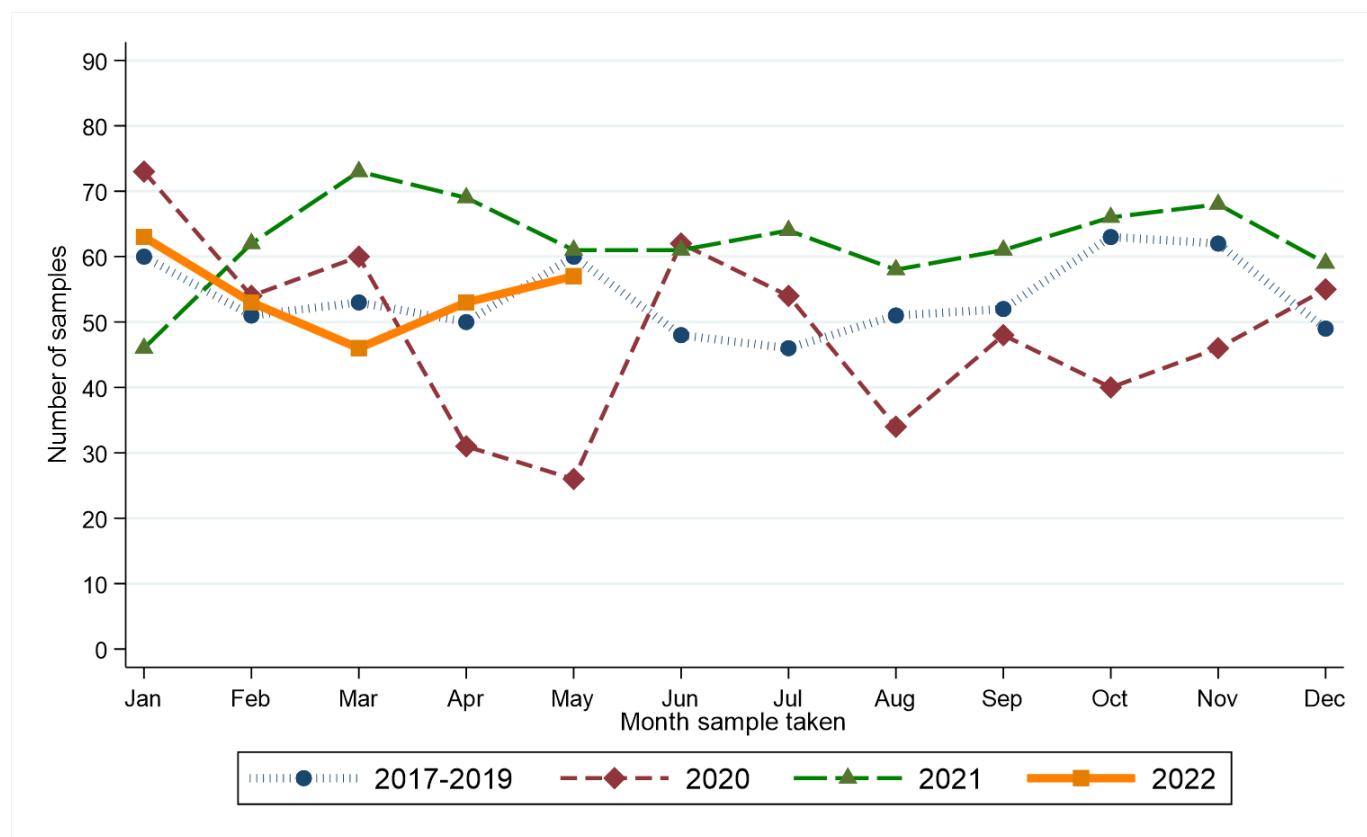
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

BOWEL CANCER (SCREENING AGE)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

+1.6%



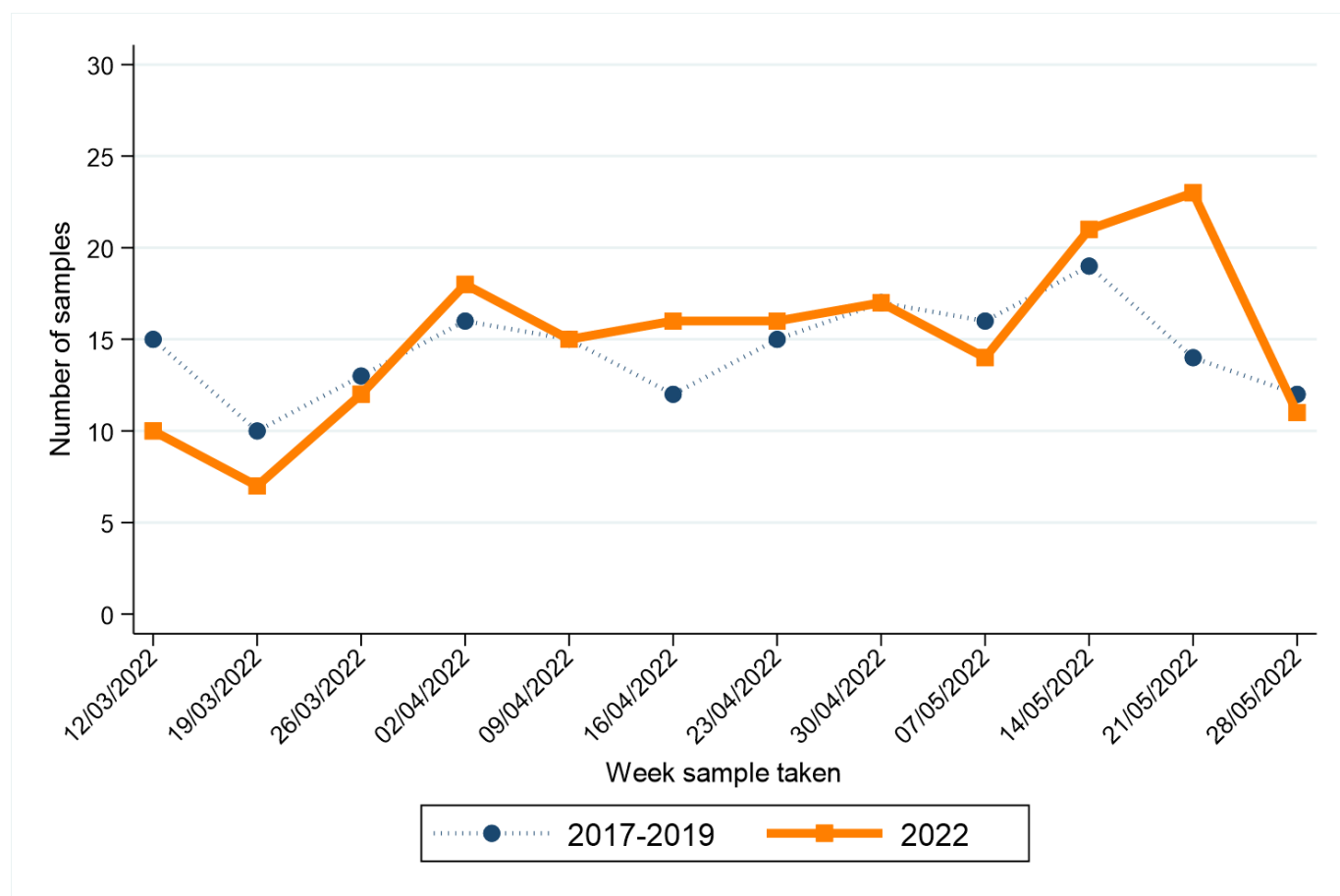
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	60	73	46	63
Feb	51	54	62	53
Mar	53	60	73	46
Apr	50	31	69	53
May	60	26	61	57
Jun	48	62	61	.
Jul	46	54	64	.
Aug	51	34	58	.
Sep	52	48	61	.
Oct	63	40	66	.
Nov	62	46	68	.
Dec	49	55	59	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+3.4%



Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
12/03/2022	15	10
19/03/2022	10	7
26/03/2022	13	12
02/04/2022	16	18
09/04/2022	15	15
16/04/2022	12	16
23/04/2022	15	16
30/04/2022	17	17
07/05/2022	16	14
14/05/2022	19	21
21/05/2022	14	23
28/05/2022	12	11

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

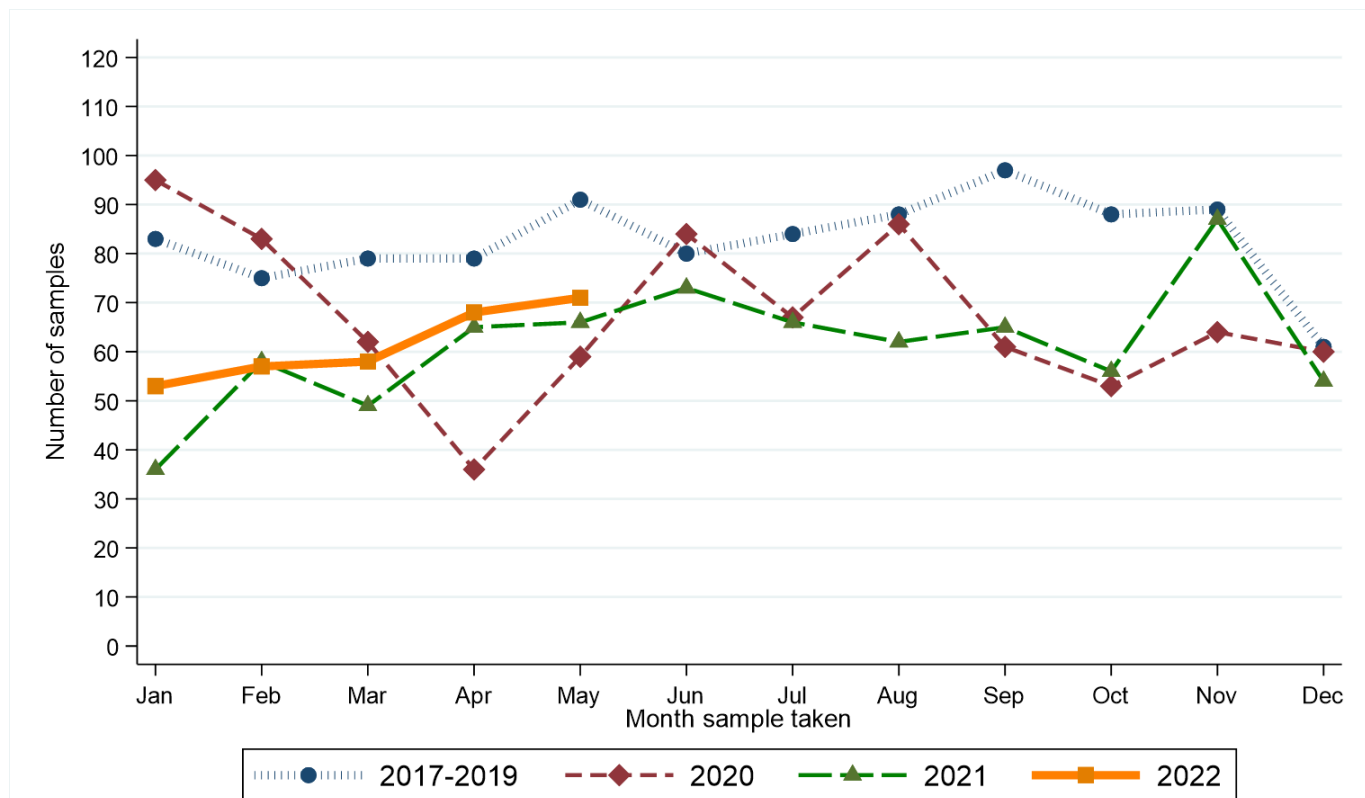
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

LUNG CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-25.1%



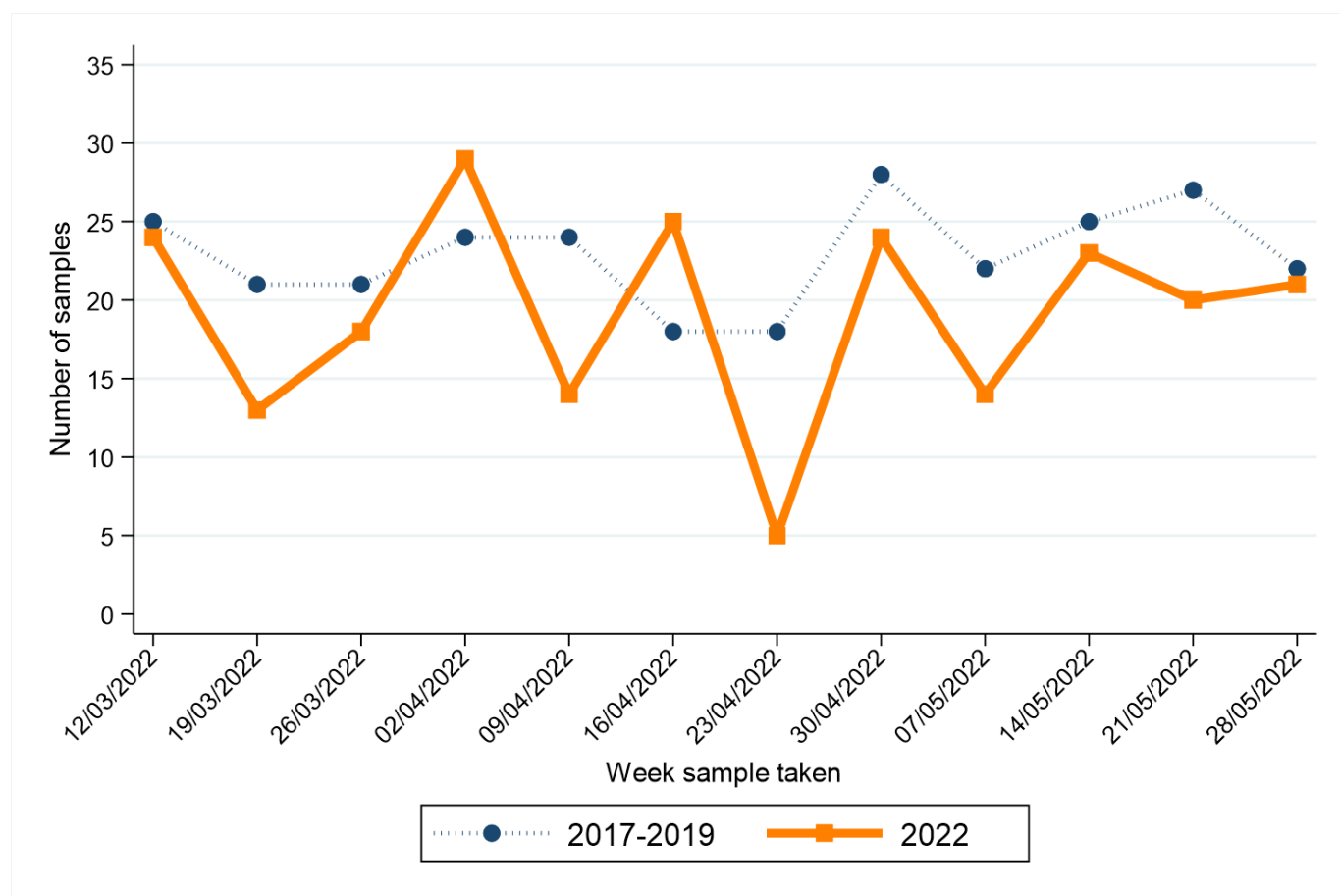
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	83	95	36	53
Feb	75	83	58	57
Mar	79	62	49	58
Apr	79	36	65	68
May	91	59	66	71
Jun	80	84	73	.
Jul	84	67	66	.
Aug	88	86	62	.
Sep	97	61	65	.
Oct	88	53	56	.
Nov	89	64	87	.
Dec	61	60	54	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-16.4%



Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
12/03/2022	25	24
19/03/2022	21	13
26/03/2022	21	18
02/04/2022	24	29
09/04/2022	24	14
16/04/2022	18	25
23/04/2022	18	5
30/04/2022	28	24
07/05/2022	22	14
14/05/2022	25	23
21/05/2022	27	20
28/05/2022	22	21

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

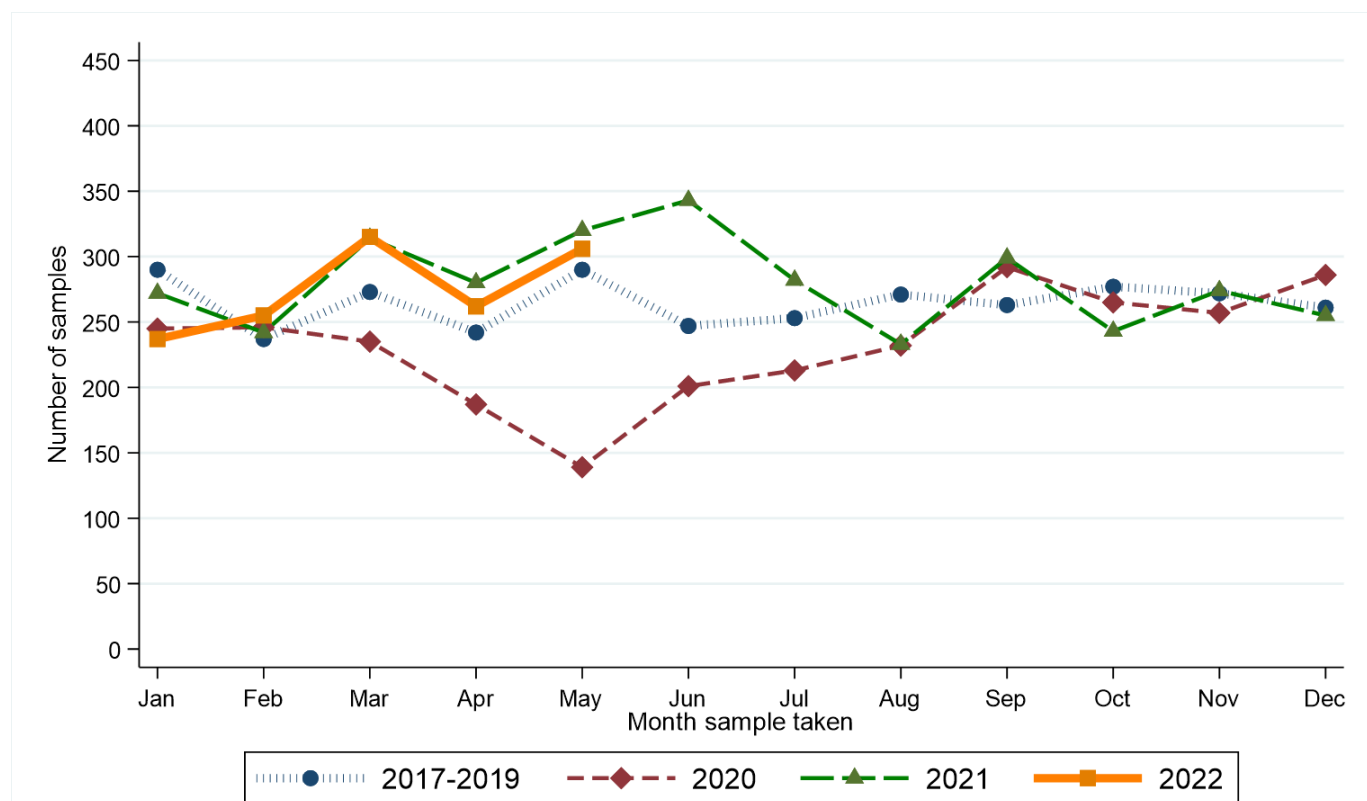
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

FEMALE BREAST CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-1.6%



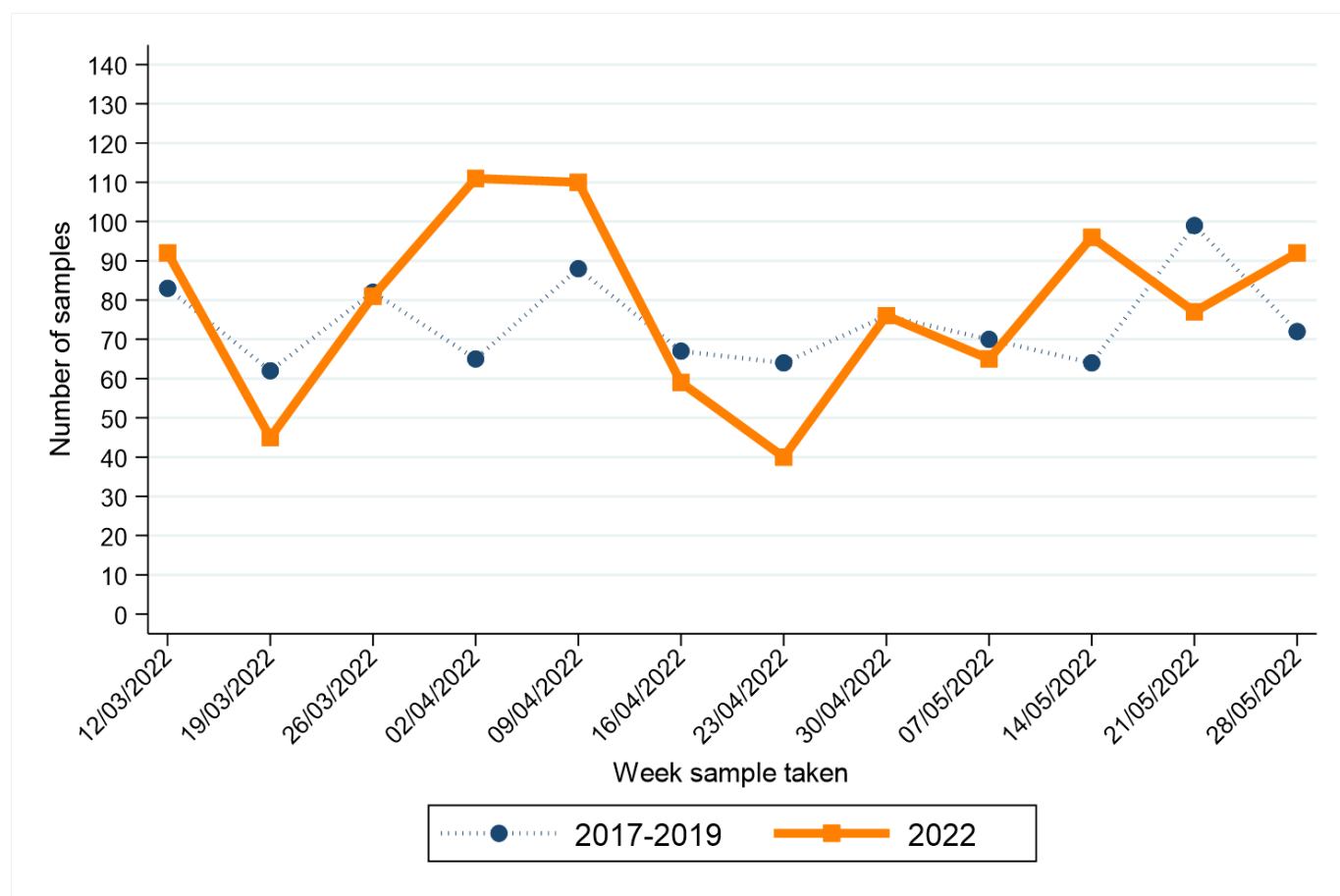
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	290	245	272	237
Feb	237	246	242	255
Mar	273	235	314	315
Apr	242	187	280	262
May	290	139	320	306
Jun	247	201	343	.
Jul	253	213	282	.
Aug	271	232	233	.
Sep	263	292	299	.
Oct	277	265	243	.
Nov	272	257	274	.
Dec	261	286	255	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+5.8%



Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
12/03/2022	83	92
19/03/2022	62	45
26/03/2022	82	81
02/04/2022	65	111
09/04/2022	88	110
16/04/2022	67	59
23/04/2022	64	40
30/04/2022	76	76
07/05/2022	70	65
14/05/2022	64	96
21/05/2022	99	77
28/05/2022	72	92

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

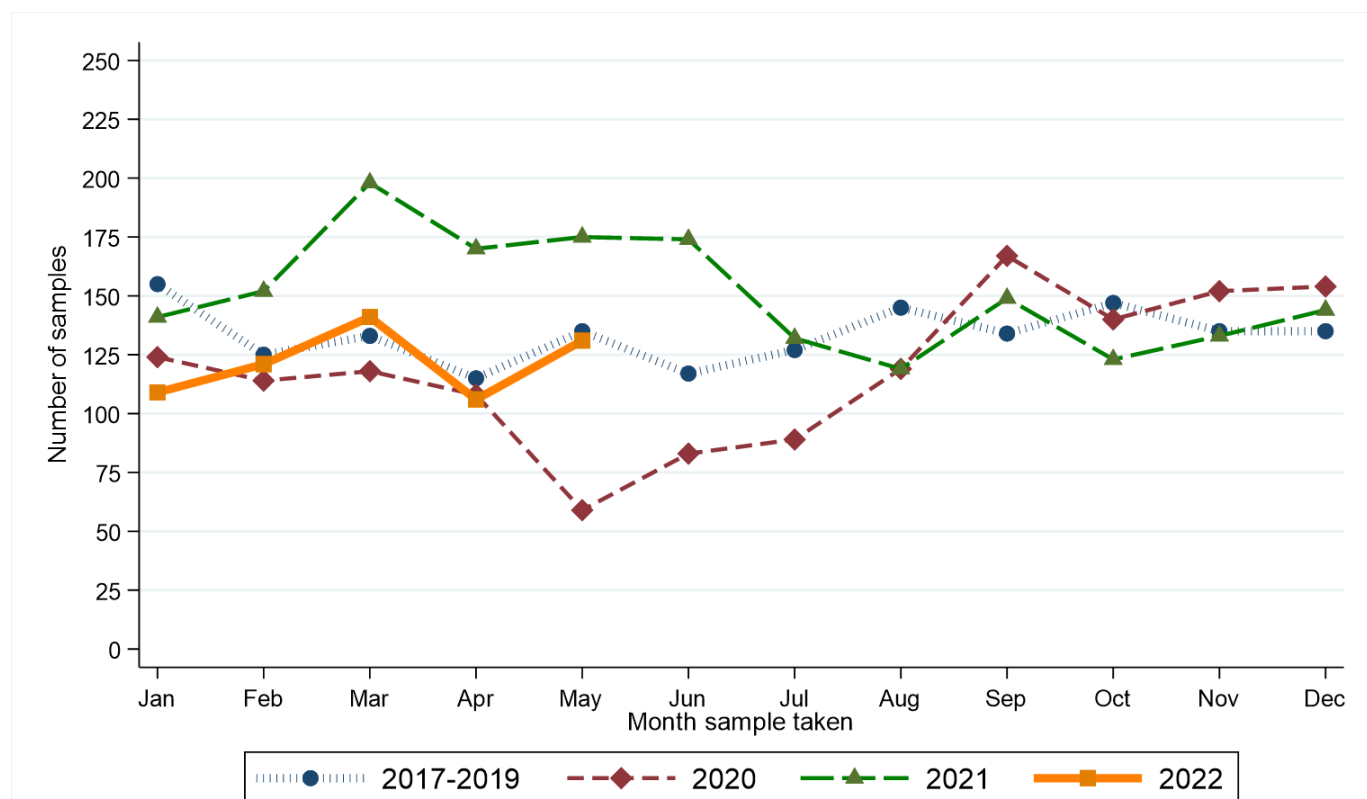
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

FEMALE BREAST CANCER (SCREENING AGE)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

+0.5%



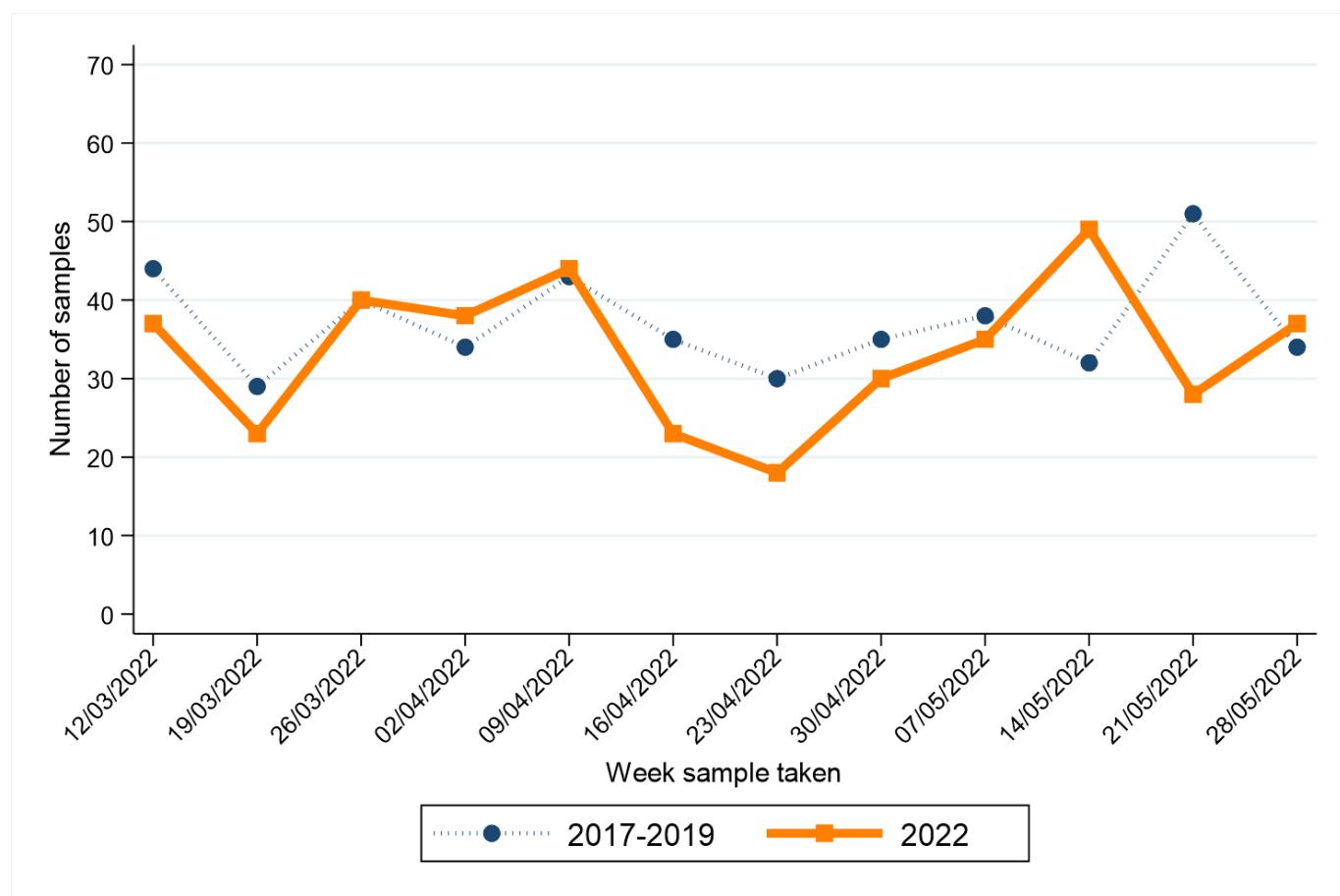
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	155	124	141	109
Feb	125	114	152	121
Mar	133	118	198	141
Apr	115	108	170	106
May	135	59	175	131
Jun	117	83	174	.
Jul	127	89	132	.
Aug	145	119	119	.
Sep	134	167	149	.
Oct	147	140	123	.
Nov	135	152	133	.
Dec	135	154	144	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-9.7%



Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
12/03/2022	44	37
19/03/2022	29	23
26/03/2022	40	40
02/04/2022	34	38
09/04/2022	43	44
16/04/2022	35	23
23/04/2022	30	18
30/04/2022	35	30
07/05/2022	38	35
14/05/2022	32	49
21/05/2022	51	28
28/05/2022	34	37

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

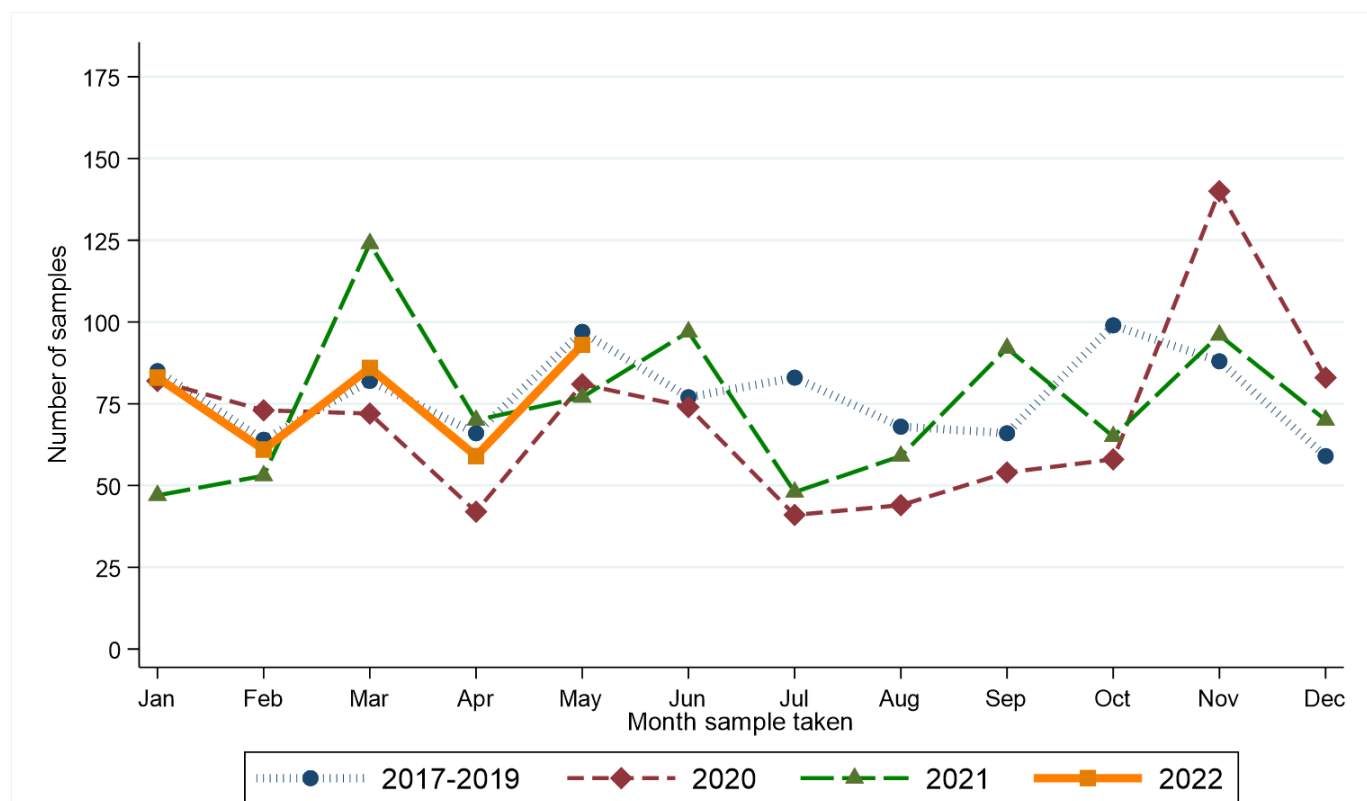
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

PROSTATE CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-6.8%



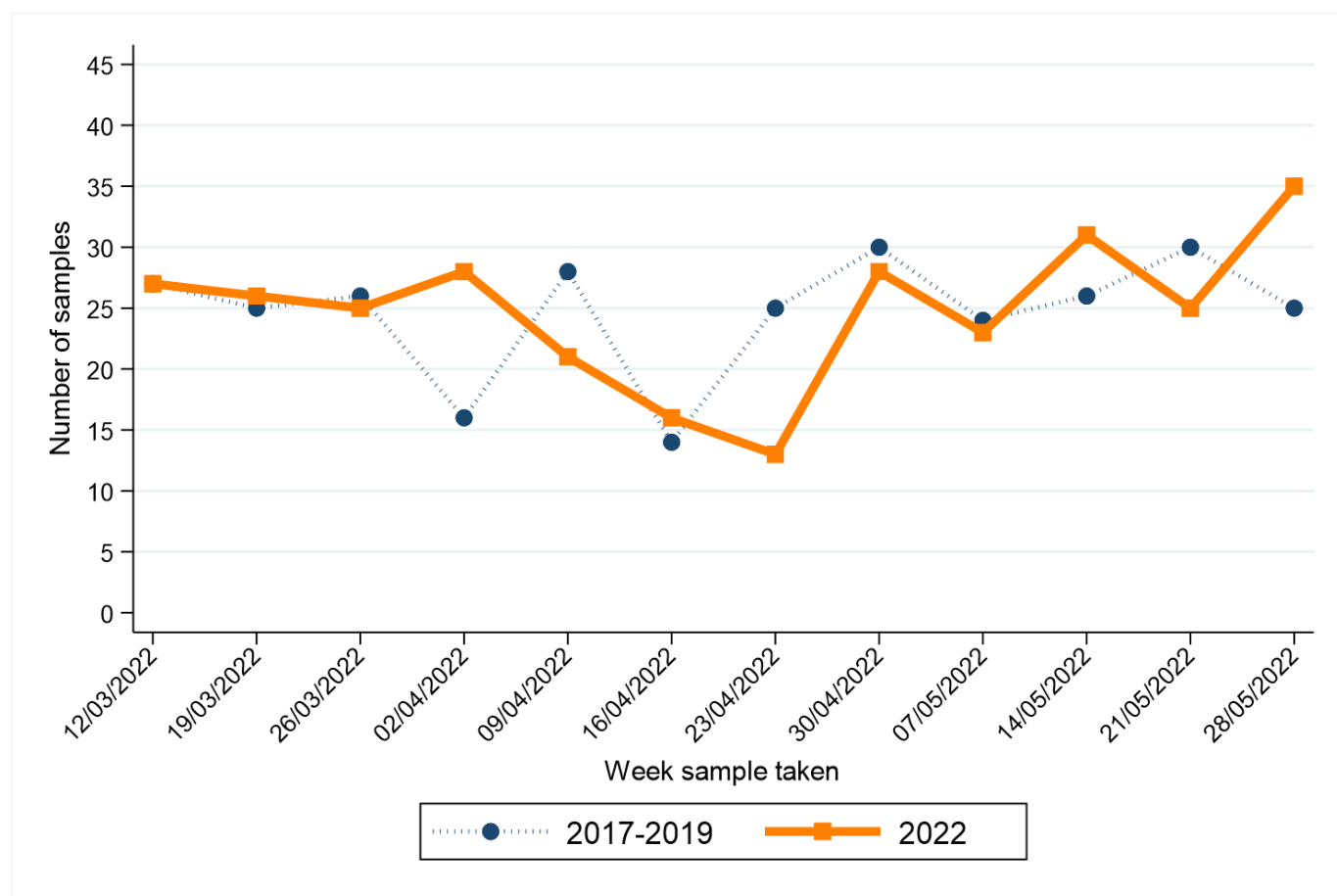
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	85	82	47	83
Feb	64	73	53	61
Mar	82	72	124	86
Apr	66	42	70	59
May	97	81	77	93
Jun	77	74	97	.
Jul	83	41	48	.
Aug	68	44	59	.
Sep	66	54	92	.
Oct	99	58	65	.
Nov	88	140	96	.
Dec	59	83	70	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+0.7%



Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
12/03/2022	27	27
19/03/2022	25	26
26/03/2022	26	25
02/04/2022	16	28
09/04/2022	28	21
16/04/2022	14	16
23/04/2022	25	13
30/04/2022	30	28
07/05/2022	24	23
14/05/2022	26	31
21/05/2022	30	25
28/05/2022	25	35

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

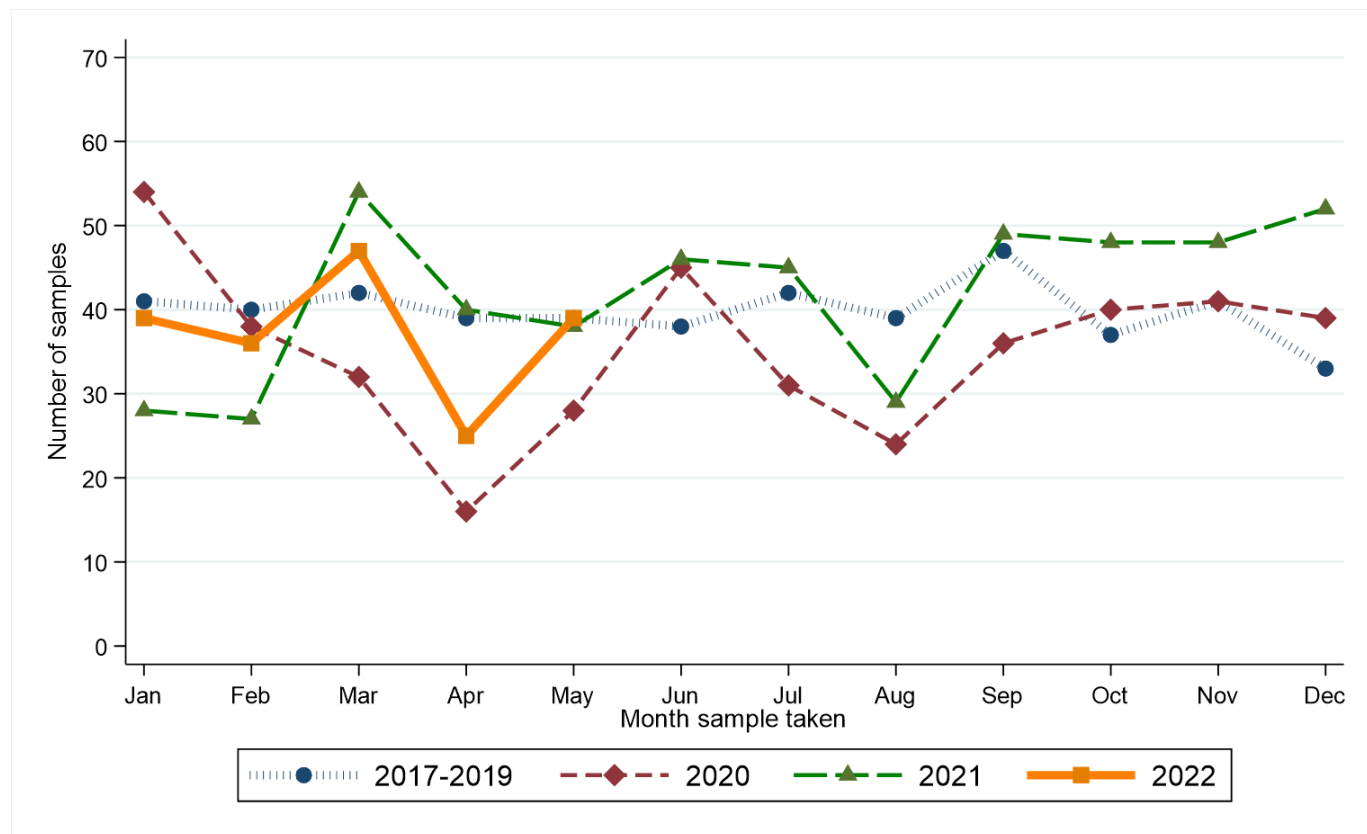
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

UPPER GASTROINTESTINAL CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-5.0%



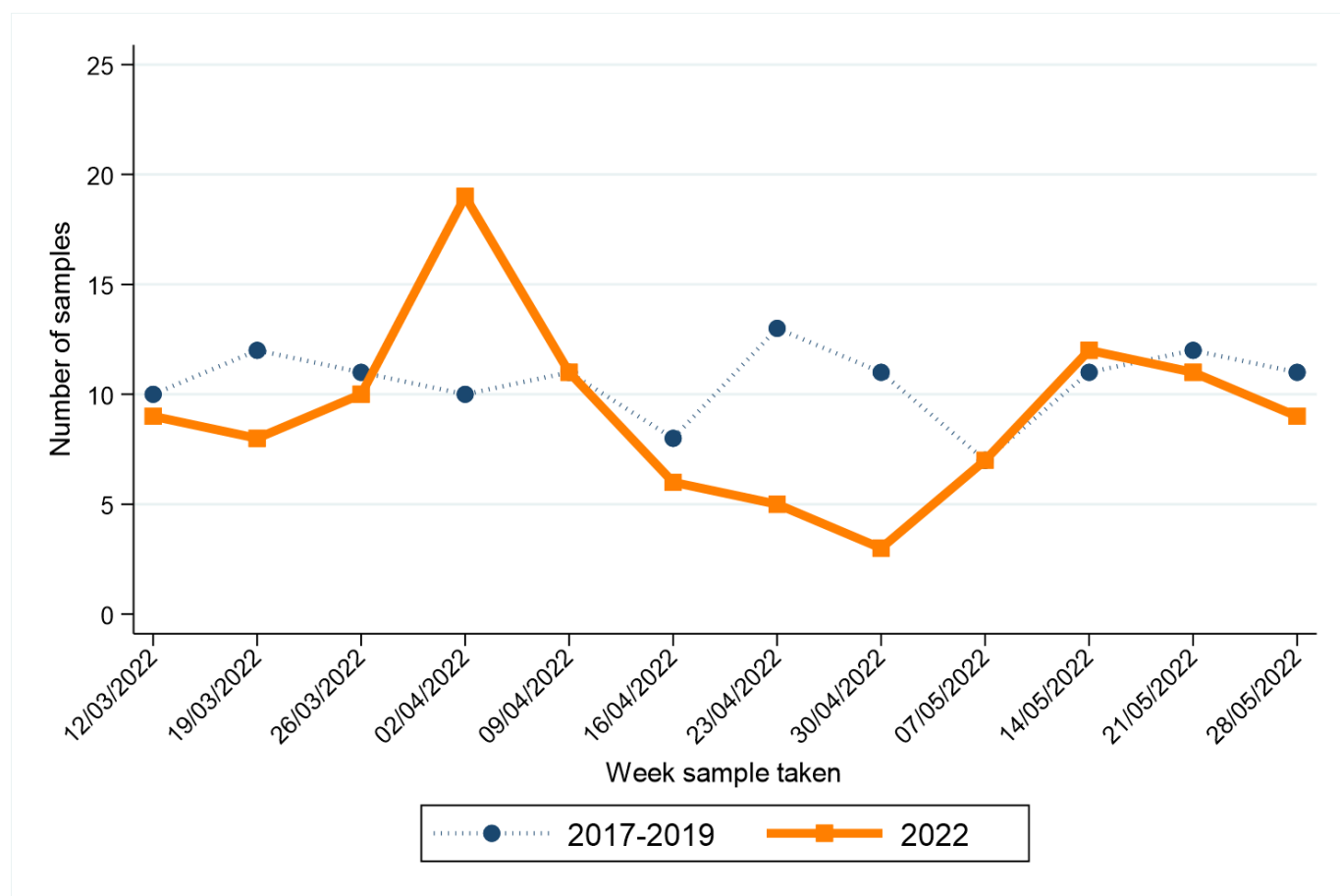
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	41	54	28	39
Feb	40	38	27	36
Mar	42	32	54	47
Apr	39	16	40	25
May	39	28	38	39
Jun	38	45	46	.
Jul	42	31	45	.
Aug	39	24	29	.
Sep	47	36	49	.
Oct	37	40	48	.
Nov	41	41	48	.
Dec	33	39	52	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-13.4%



Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
12/03/2022	10	9
19/03/2022	12	8
26/03/2022	11	10
02/04/2022	10	19
09/04/2022	11	11
16/04/2022	8	6
23/04/2022	13	5
30/04/2022	11	3
07/05/2022	7	7
14/05/2022	11	12
21/05/2022	12	11
28/05/2022	11	9

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

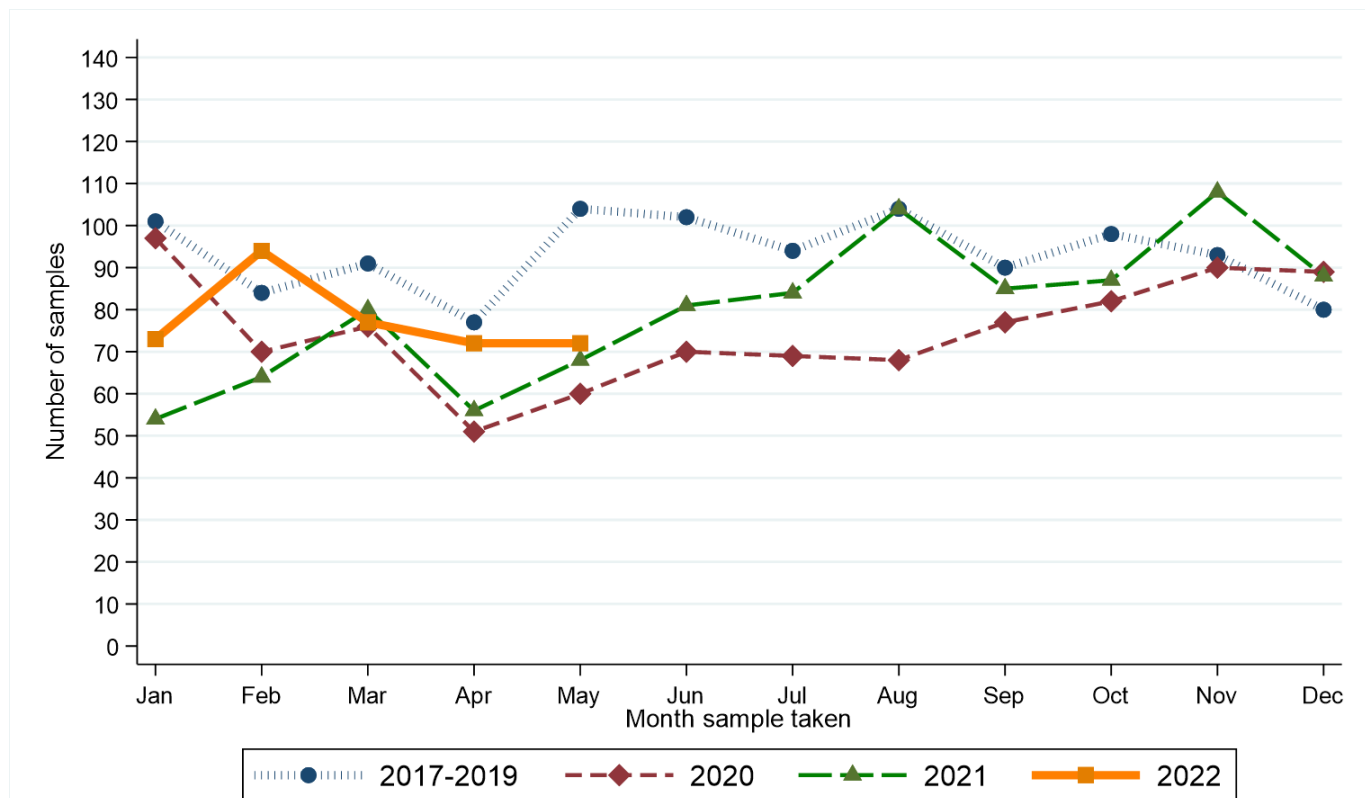
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

GYNAECOLOGICAL CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-17.1%



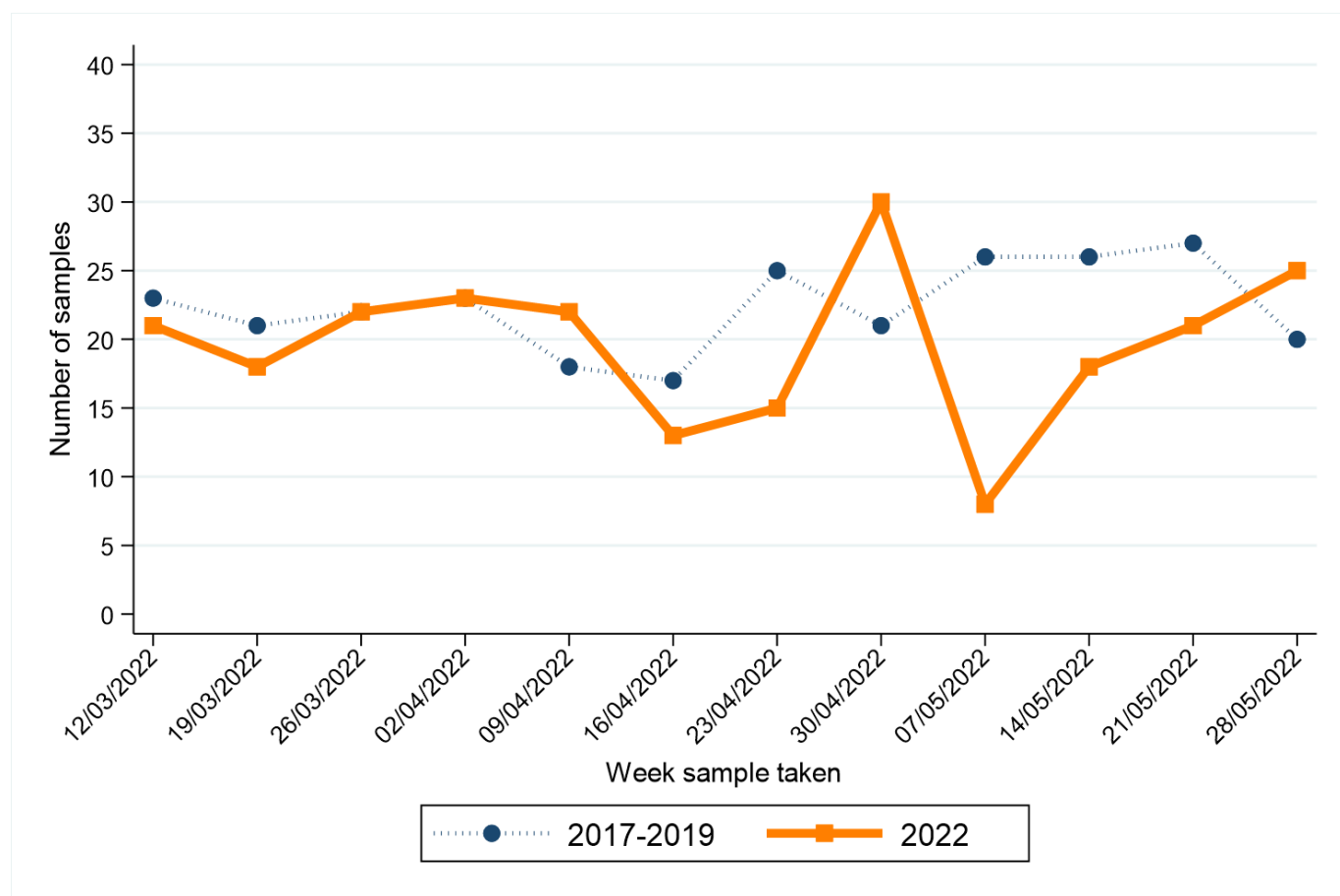
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	101	97	54	73
Feb	84	70	64	94
Mar	91	76	80	77
Apr	77	51	56	72
May	104	60	68	72
Jun	102	70	81	.
Jul	94	69	84	.
Aug	104	68	104	.
Sep	90	77	85	.
Oct	98	82	87	.
Nov	93	90	108	.
Dec	80	89	88	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-12.3%



Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
12/03/2022	23	21
19/03/2022	21	18
26/03/2022	22	22
02/04/2022	23	23
09/04/2022	18	22
16/04/2022	17	13
23/04/2022	25	15
30/04/2022	21	30
07/05/2022	26	8
14/05/2022	26	18
21/05/2022	27	21
28/05/2022	20	25

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

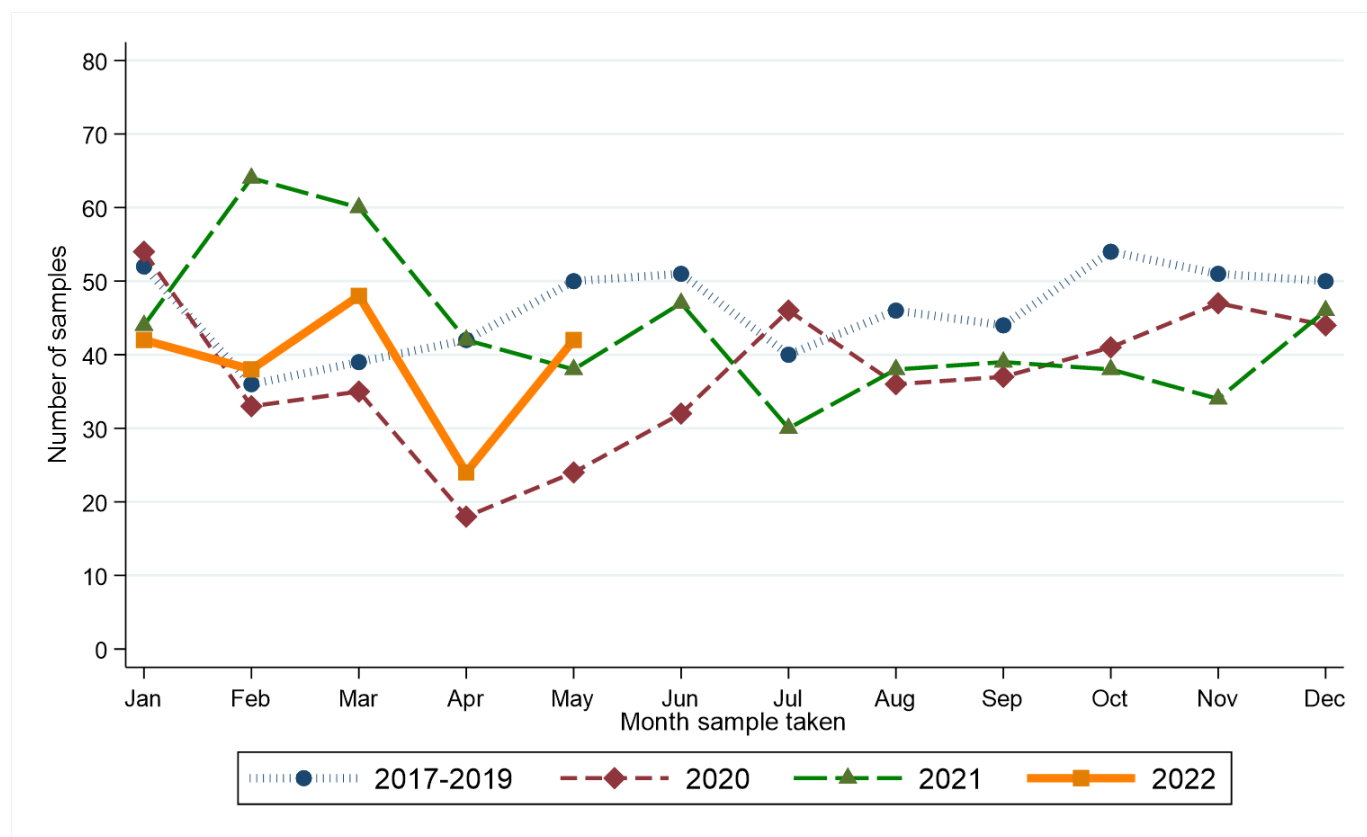
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

HEAD AND NECK CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-13.5%



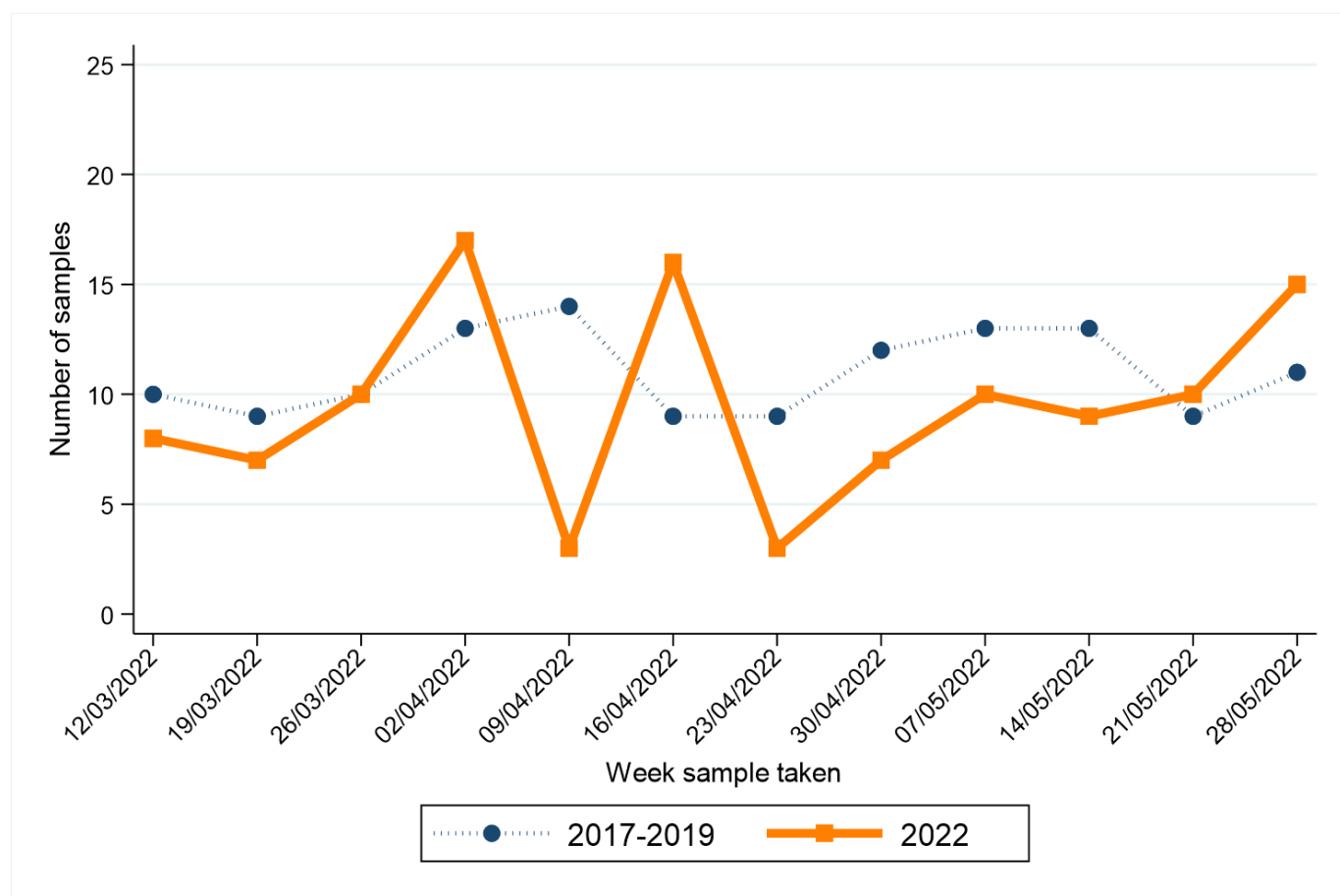
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	52	54	44	42
Feb	36	33	64	38
Mar	39	35	60	48
Apr	42	18	42	24
May	50	24	38	42
Jun	51	32	47	.
Jul	40	46	30	.
Aug	46	36	38	.
Sep	44	37	39	.
Oct	54	41	38	.
Nov	51	47	34	.
Dec	50	44	46	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-12.9%



Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
12/03/2022	10	8
19/03/2022	9	7
26/03/2022	10	10
02/04/2022	13	17
09/04/2022	14	3
16/04/2022	9	16
23/04/2022	9	3
30/04/2022	12	7
07/05/2022	13	10
14/05/2022	13	9
21/05/2022	9	10
28/05/2022	11	15

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

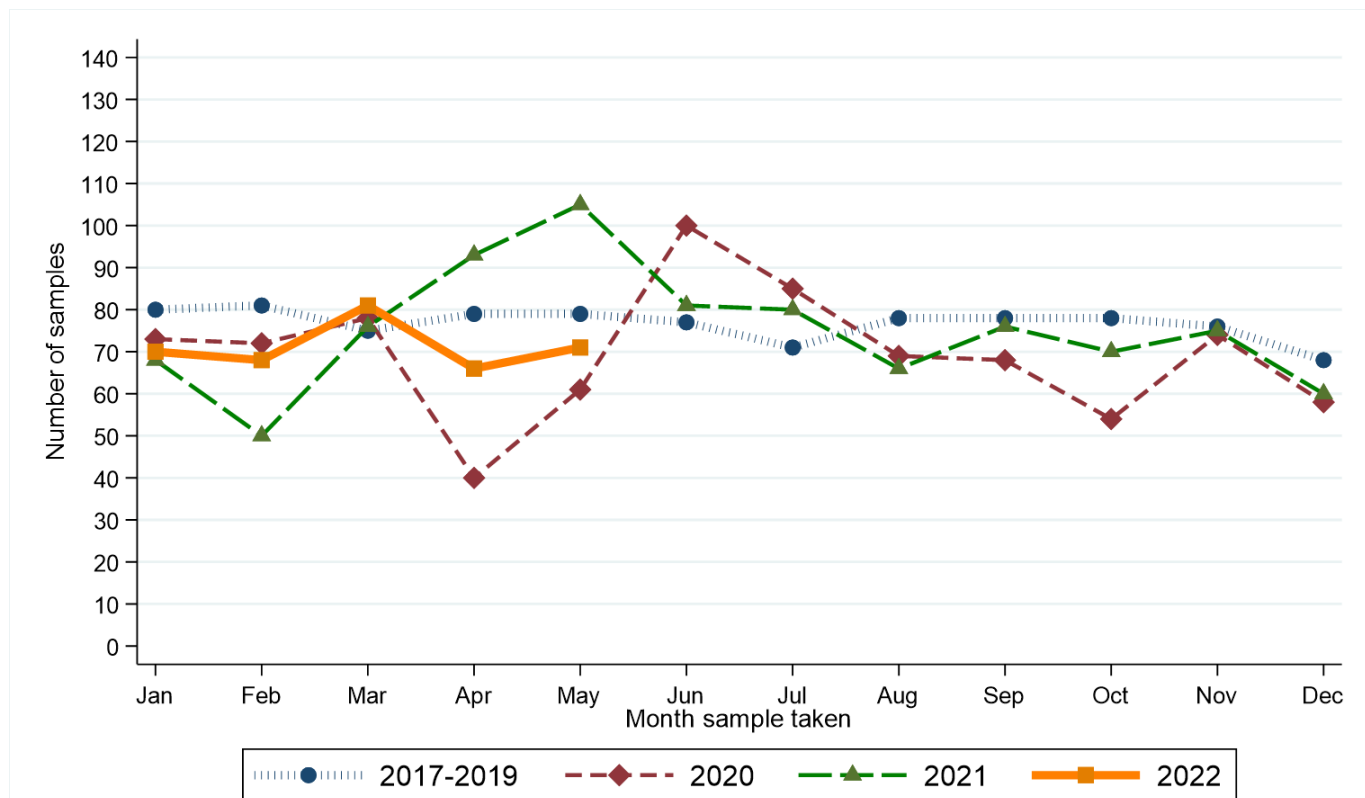
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

URINARY CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-6.3%



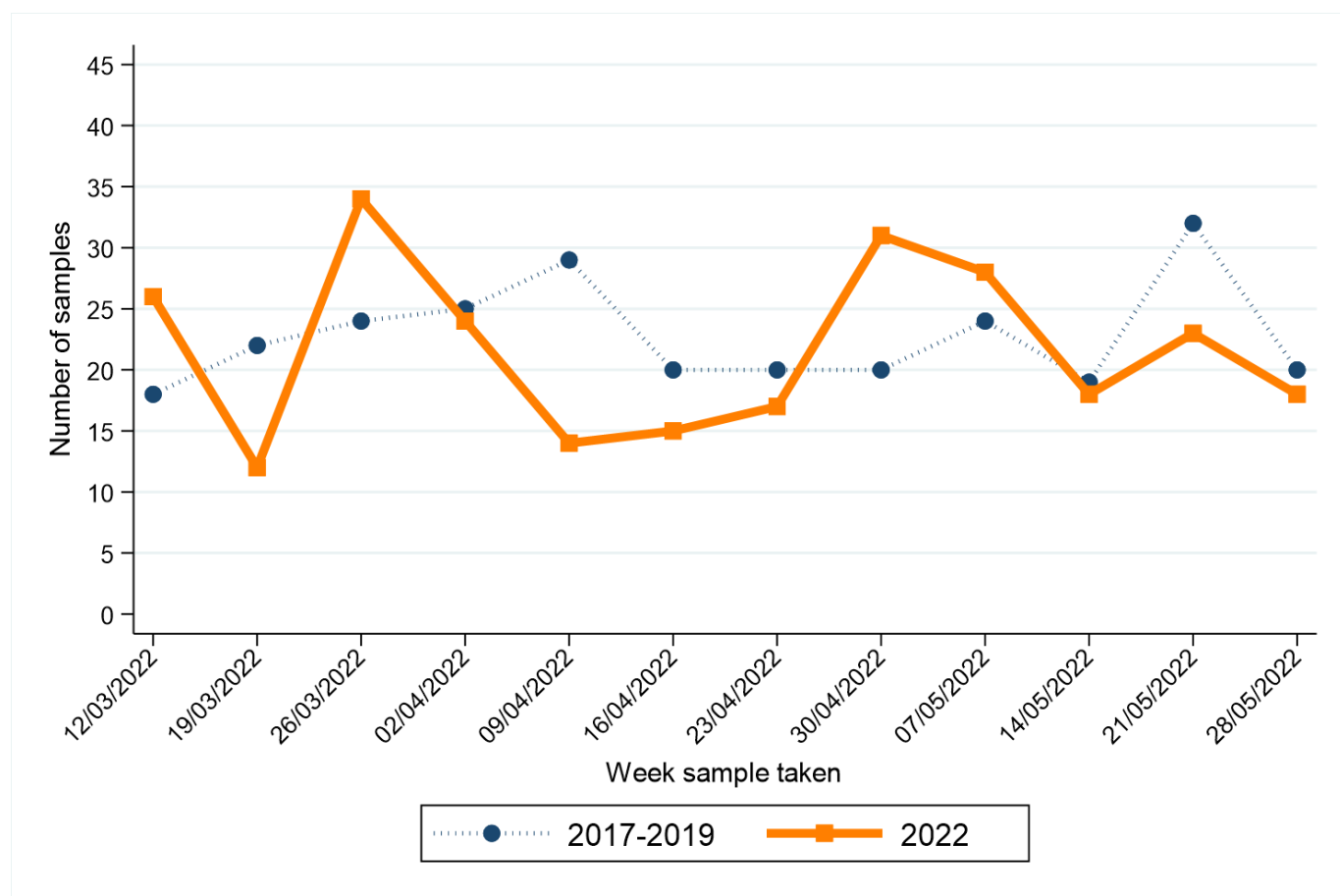
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	80	73	68	70
Feb	81	72	50	68
Mar	75	78	76	81
Apr	79	40	93	66
May	79	61	105	71
Jun	77	100	81	.
Jul	71	85	80	.
Aug	78	69	66	.
Sep	78	68	76	.
Oct	78	54	70	.
Nov	76	74	75	.
Dec	68	58	60	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-4.8%



Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
12/03/2022	18	26
19/03/2022	22	12
26/03/2022	24	34
02/04/2022	25	24
09/04/2022	29	14
16/04/2022	20	15
23/04/2022	20	17
30/04/2022	20	31
07/05/2022	24	28
14/05/2022	19	18
21/05/2022	32	23
28/05/2022	20	18

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

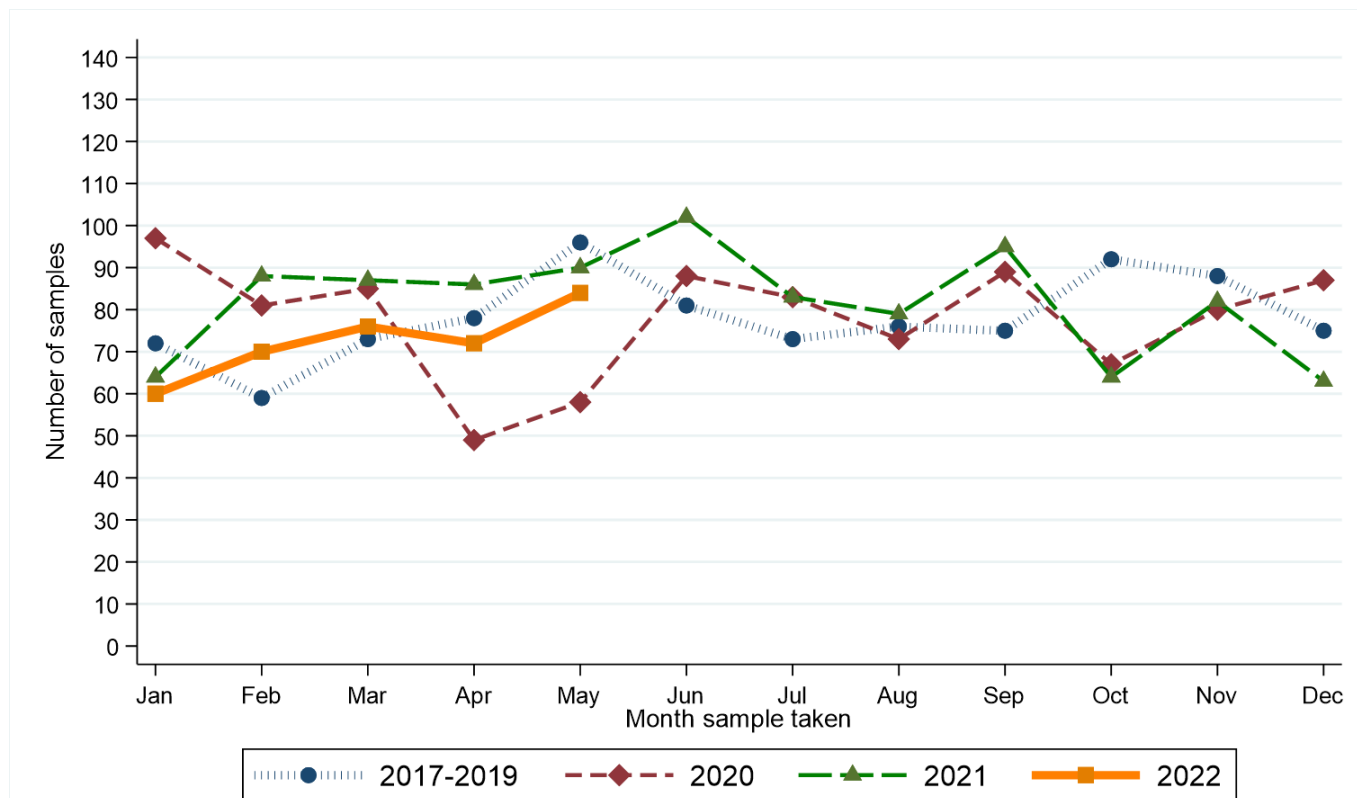
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

HAEMATOLOGICAL CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-0.9%



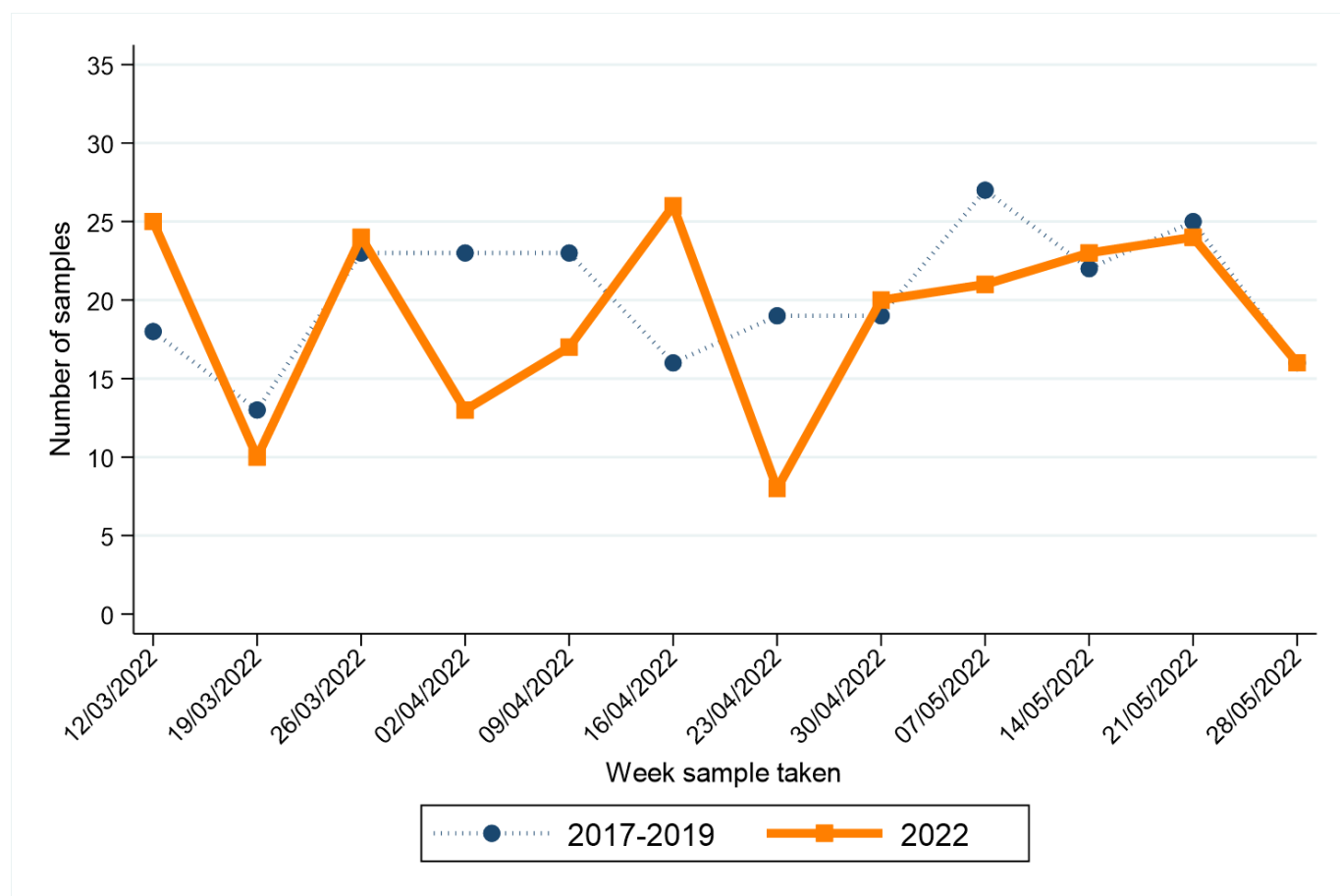
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	72	97	64	60
Feb	59	81	88	70
Mar	73	85	87	76
Apr	78	49	86	72
May	96	58	90	84
Jun	81	88	102	.
Jul	73	83	83	.
Aug	76	73	79	.
Sep	75	89	95	.
Oct	92	67	64	.
Nov	88	80	82	.
Dec	75	87	63	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-7.0%



Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
12/03/2022	18	25
19/03/2022	13	10
26/03/2022	23	24
02/04/2022	23	13
09/04/2022	23	17
16/04/2022	16	26
23/04/2022	19	8
30/04/2022	19	20
07/05/2022	27	21
14/05/2022	22	23
21/05/2022	25	24
28/05/2022	16	16

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

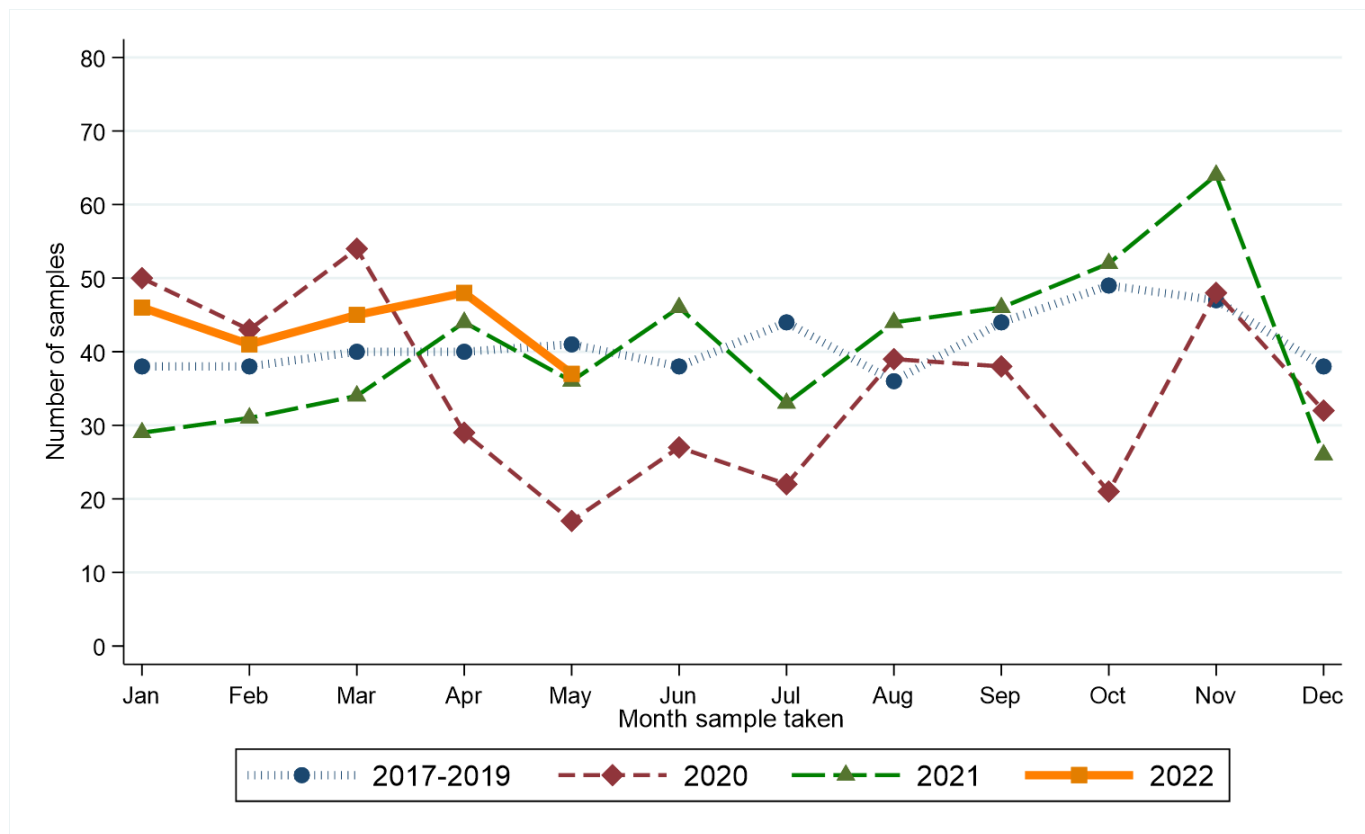
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

MELANOMA

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-7.0%



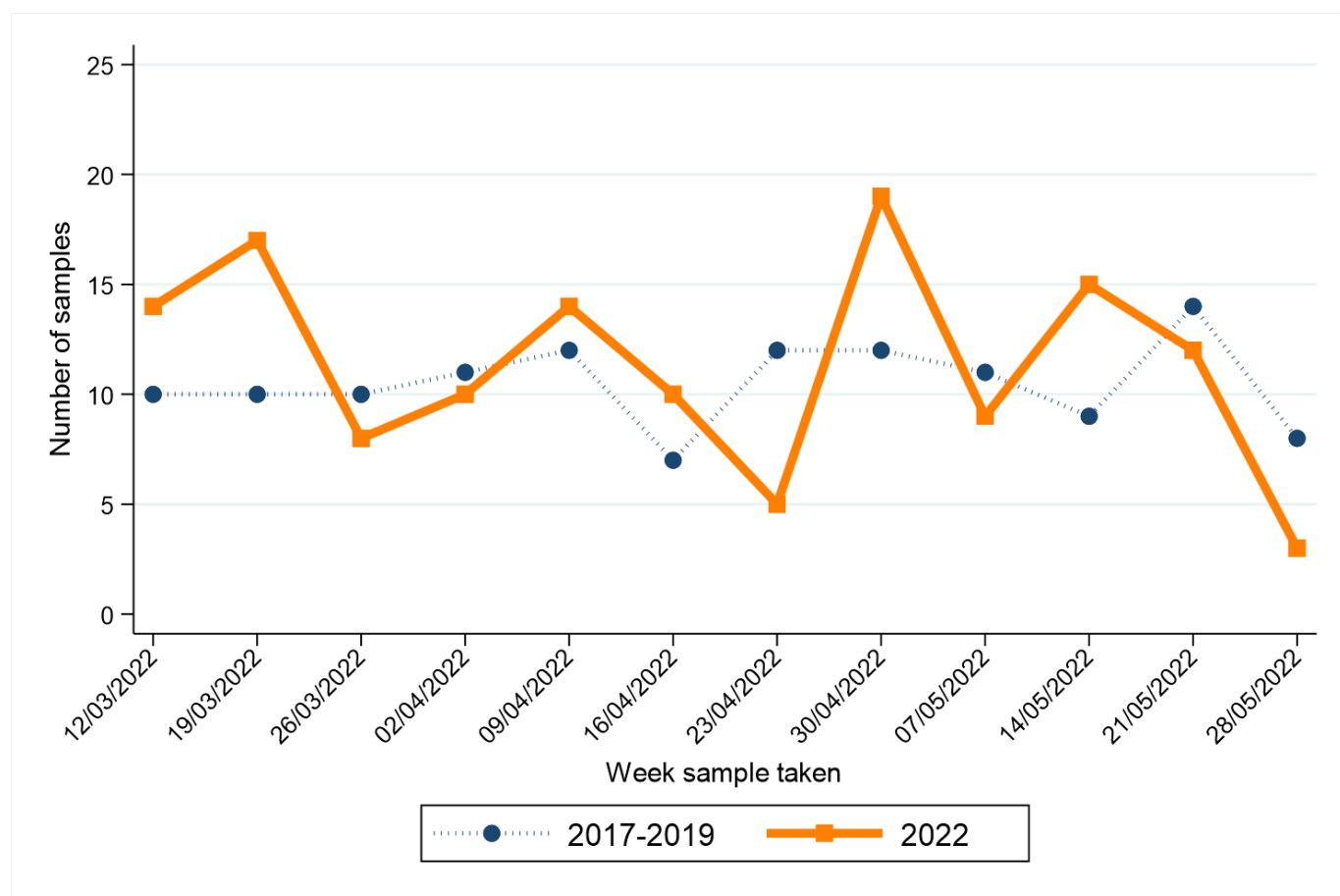
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	38	50	29	46
Feb	38	43	31	41
Mar	40	54	34	45
Apr	40	29	44	48
May	41	17	36	37
Jun	38	27	46	.
Jul	44	22	33	.
Aug	36	39	44	.
Sep	44	38	46	.
Oct	49	21	52	.
Nov	47	48	64	.
Dec	38	32	26	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+7.9%



Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
12/03/2022	10	14
19/03/2022	10	17
26/03/2022	10	8
02/04/2022	11	10
09/04/2022	12	14
16/04/2022	7	10
23/04/2022	12	5
30/04/2022	12	19
07/05/2022	11	9
14/05/2022	9	15
21/05/2022	14	12
28/05/2022	8	3

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

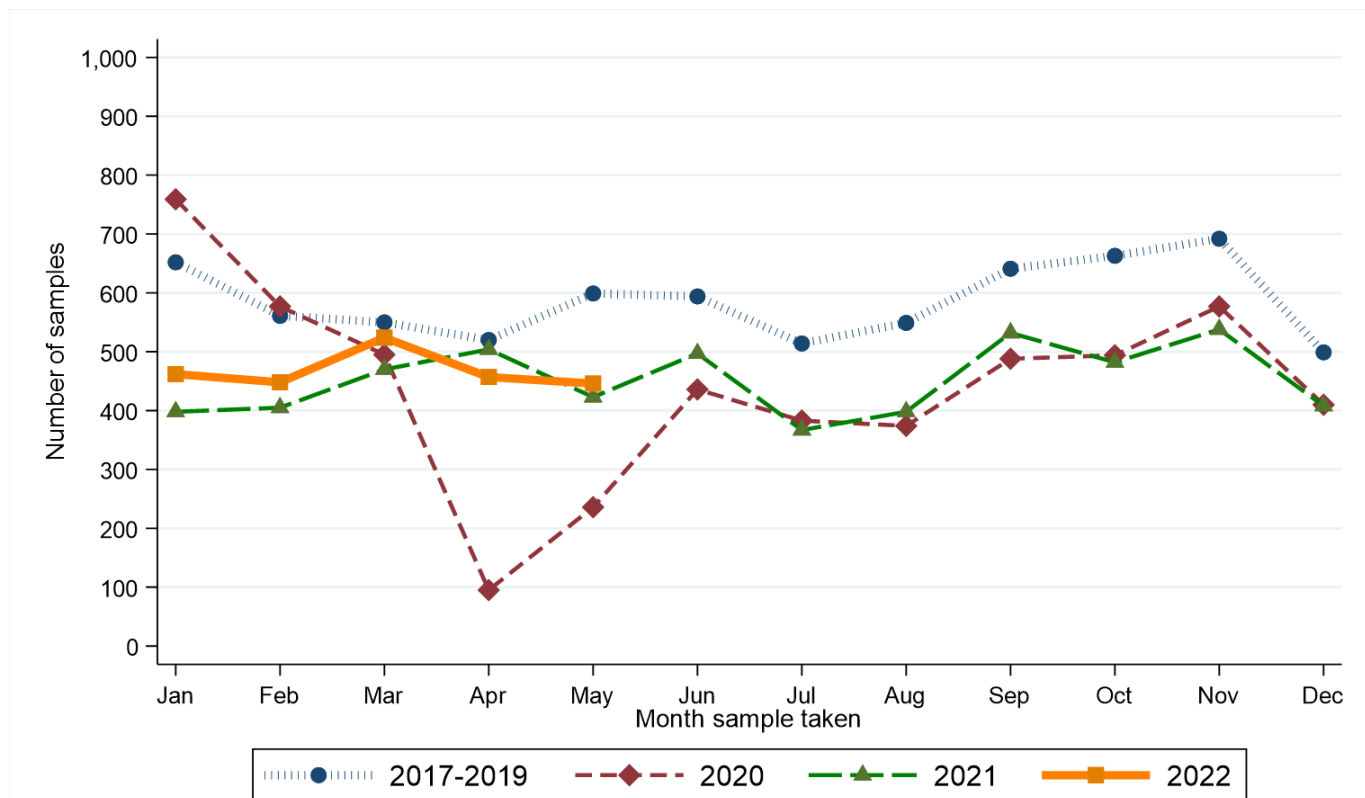
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

NON-MELANOMA SKIN CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-25.4%



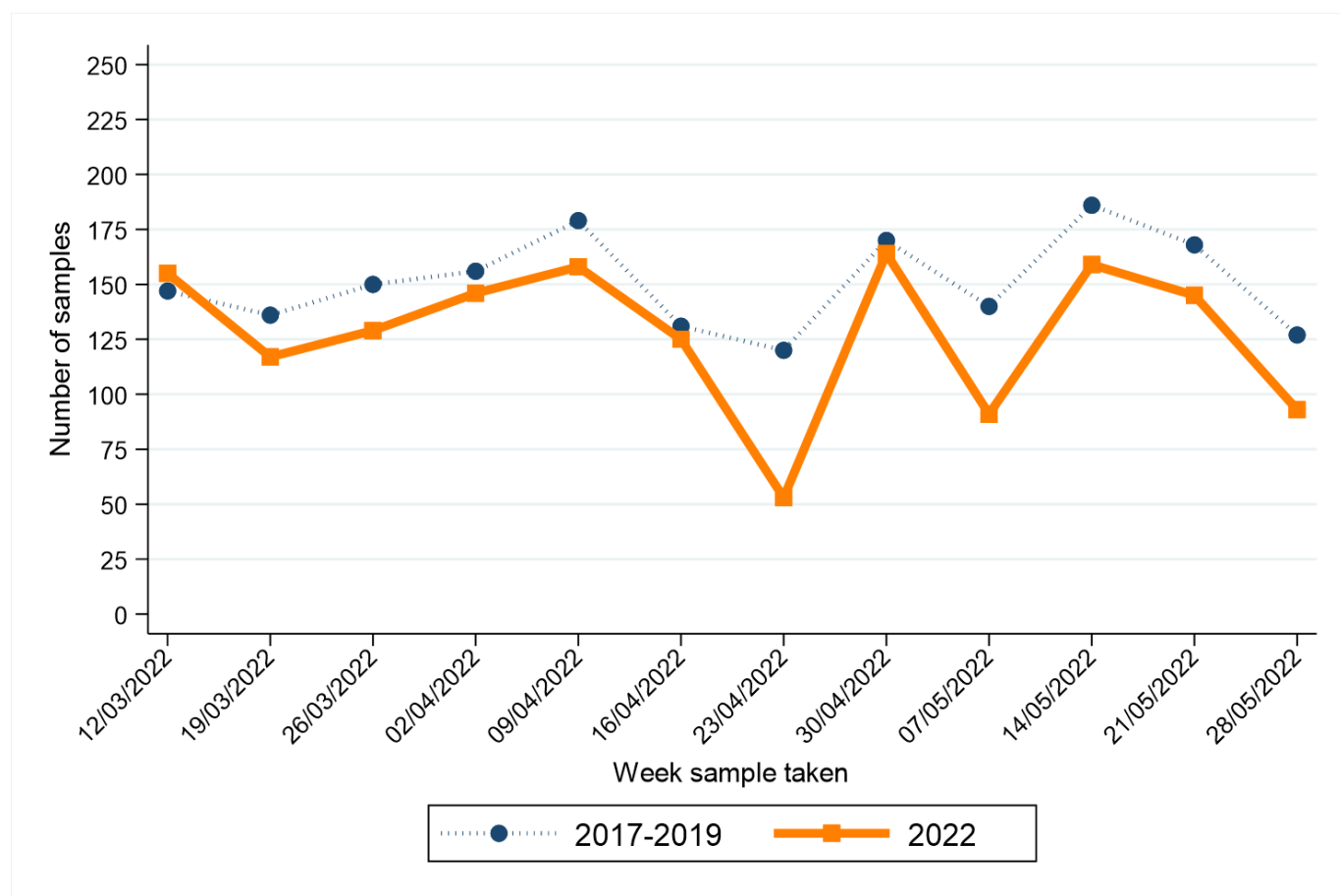
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	652	759	398	462
Feb	561	577	405	448
Mar	550	495	470	524
Apr	520	95	504	457
May	599	236	423	446
Jun	594	436	497	.
Jul	514	383	367	.
Aug	549	374	398	.
Sep	641	488	532	.
Oct	663	494	482	.
Nov	692	577	538	.
Dec	499	410	408	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-15.2%



Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
12/03/2022	147	155
19/03/2022	136	117
26/03/2022	150	129
02/04/2022	156	146
09/04/2022	179	158
16/04/2022	131	125
23/04/2022	120	53
30/04/2022	170	164
07/05/2022	140	91
14/05/2022	186	159
21/05/2022	168	145
28/05/2022	127	93

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

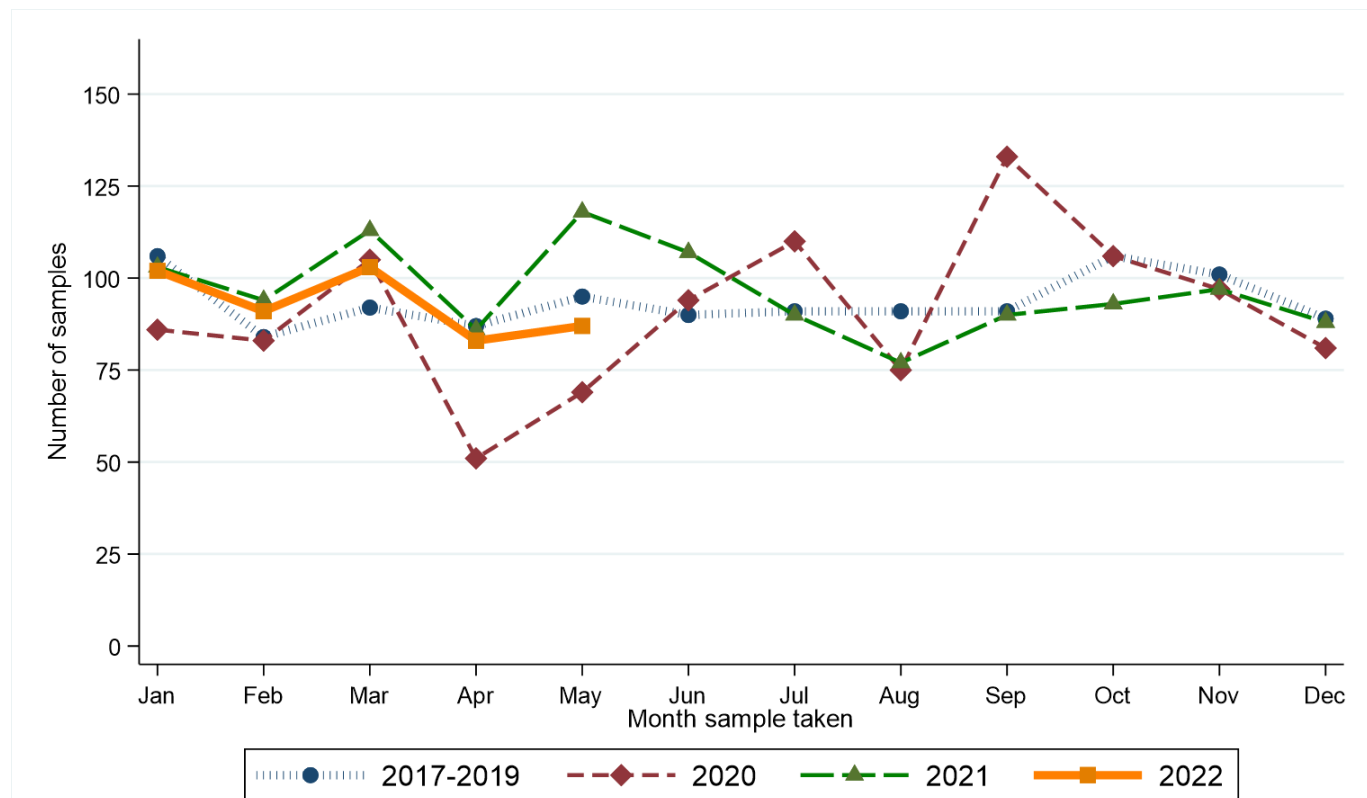
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sat-Sun week in those years.

OTHER CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

+0.9%



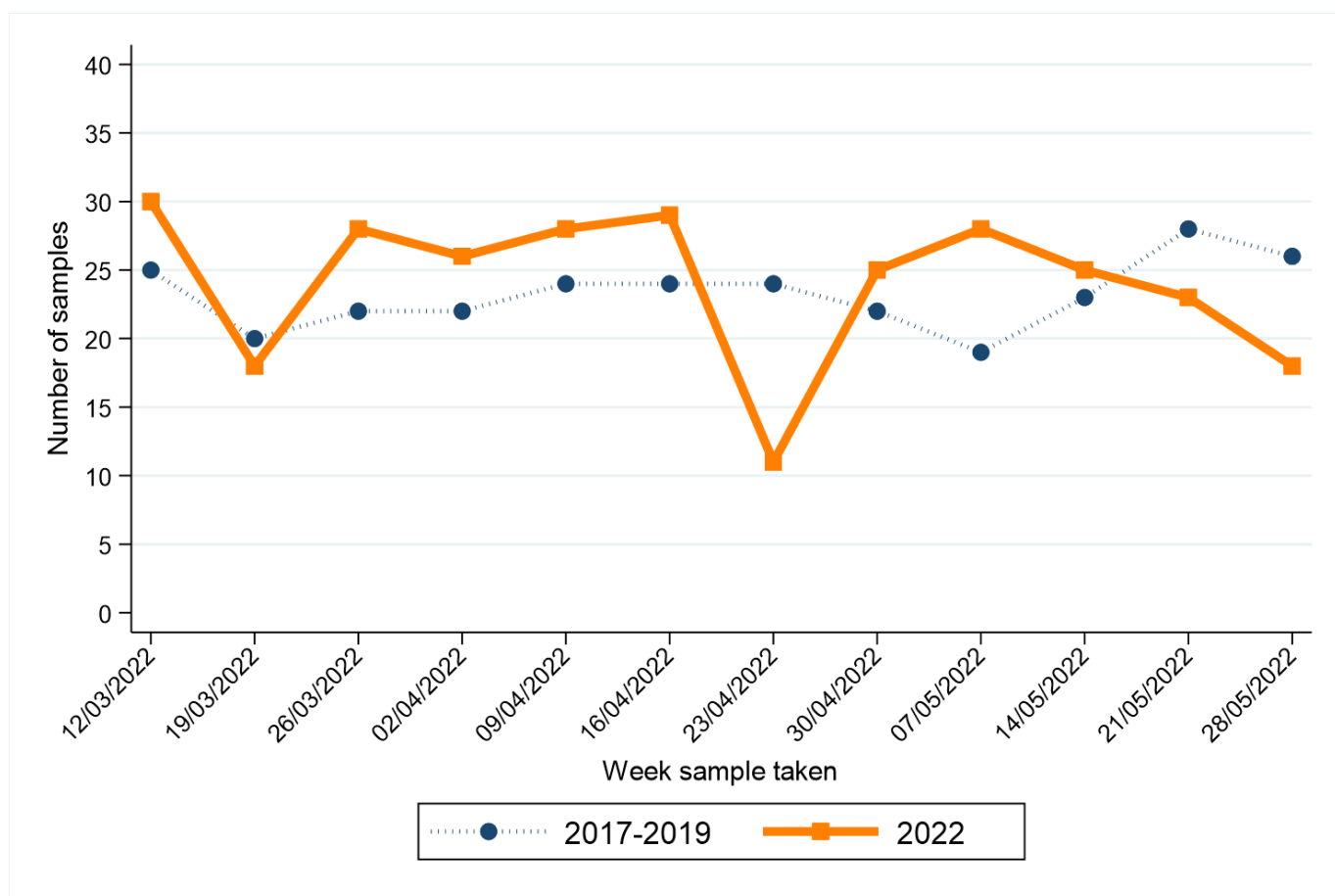
Month sample taken	Year sample taken			
	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	106	86	103	102
Feb	84	83	94	91
Mar	92	105	113	103
Apr	87	51	86	83
May	95	69	118	87
Jun	90	94	107	.
Jul	91	110	90	.
Aug	91	75	77	.
Sep	91	133	90	.
Oct	106	106	93	.
Nov	101	97	97	.
Dec	89	81	88	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 28/05/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+3.6%



Week sample taken**	Year sample taken	
	2017-2019*	2022
12/03/2022	25	30
19/03/2022	20	18
26/03/2022	22	28
02/04/2022	22	26
09/04/2022	24	28
16/04/2022	24	29
23/04/2022	24	11
30/04/2022	22	25
07/05/2022	19	28
14/05/2022	23	25
21/05/2022	28	23
28/05/2022	26	18

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

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

1. NMSC: Non-melanoma skin cancer

2. Data is sourced from the four NHS pathology laboratories in Northern Ireland (Altnagelvin, Antrim, Belfast, Craigavon), which is provided to the NI Cancer Registry on a monthly basis. It does not include information on pathology samples processed by private laboratories.

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

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

5. Cancer types are defined as follows:

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

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

Breast cancer: Includes female breast only (ICD10 codes: C50).

Prostate cancer: (ICD10 codes: C61).

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

Upper GI cancer: Includes oesophagus and stomach (ICD10 codes: C15, C16).

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

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

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

Melanoma: (ICD10 code: C43).

Non-melanoma skin cancer (NMSC): (ICD10 code: C44).

Other cancer: Includes cancers of small intestine, anus, liver, gallbladder, thymus, bone, mesothelioma, soft tissue, penis, testis, eye, brain, endocrine system and thyroid (ICD10 codes: C16, C21-C26, C37-C41, C45-C49, C60, C62, C63, C69-C75). Excludes cancer of unknown primary.