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

## December 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 pathology samples indicating cancer: December 2022

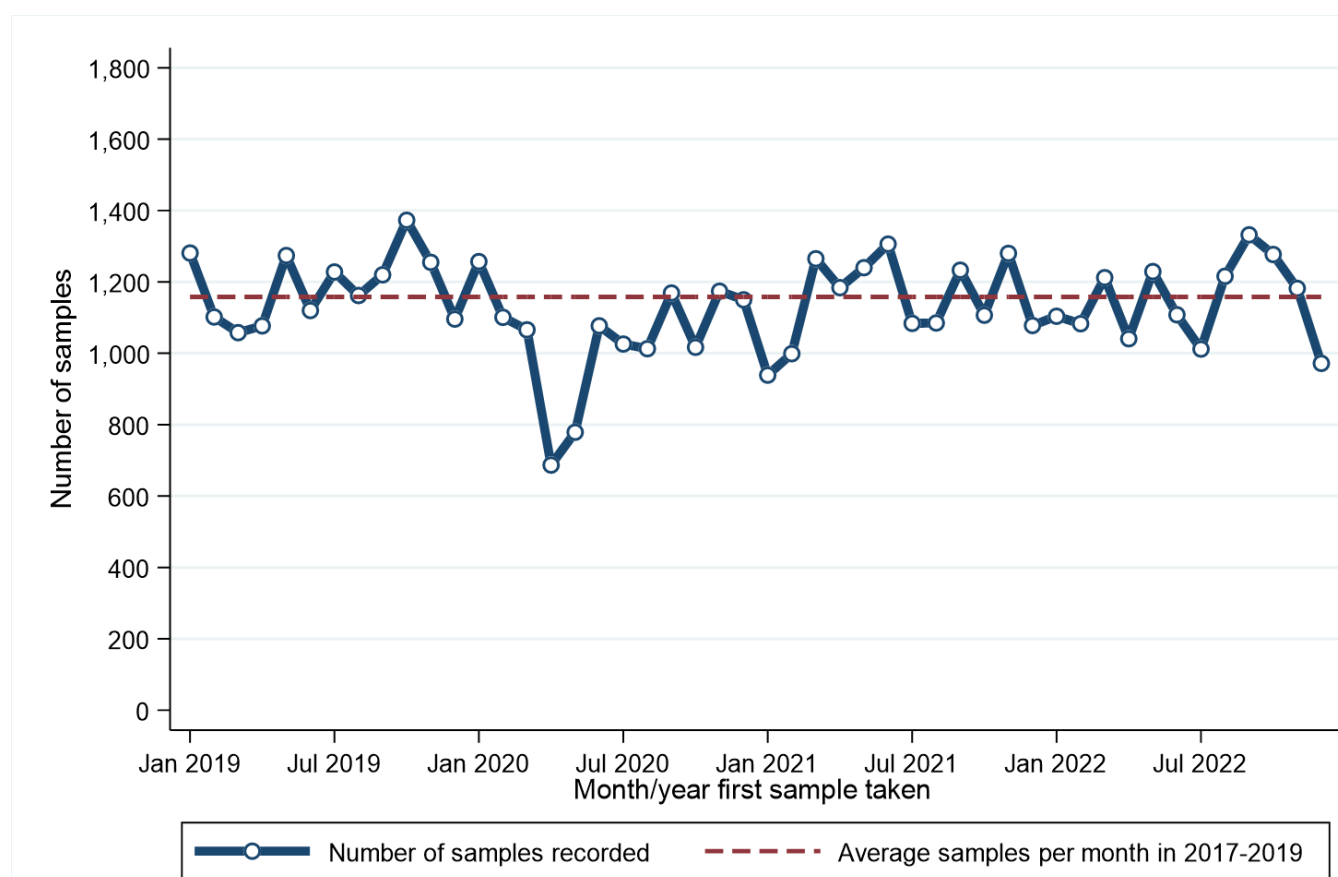
This summary provides an overview of recent trends in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer, NMSC) taken from January 2020 to December 2022 in Northern Ireland.

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.

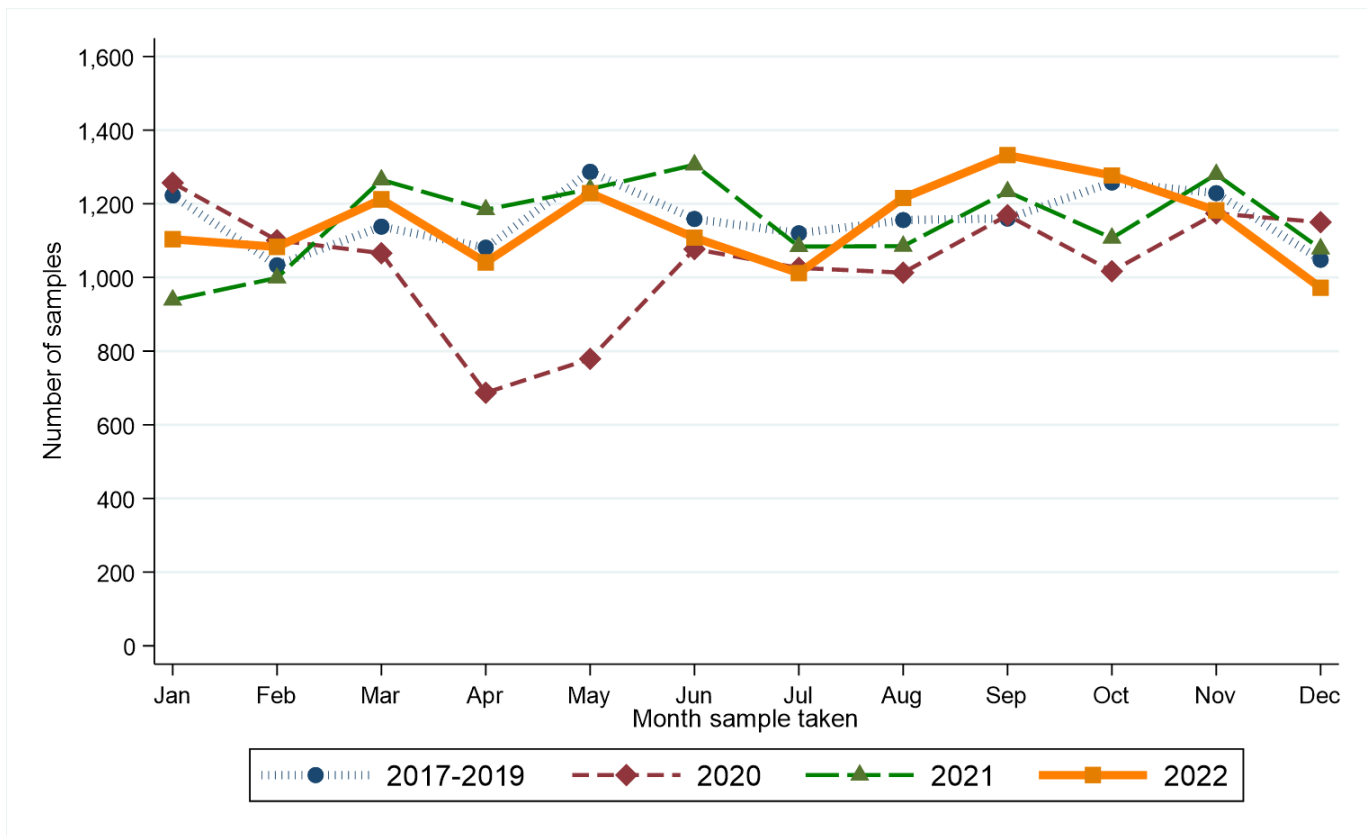
Data are sourced from the four NHS pathology laboratories in NI (Belfast, Altnagelvin, Antrim, Craigavon), which are usually provided to NICR on a monthly basis. **Altnagelvin laboratory is excluded from some analysis as a change in recording systems led to an undercount in the number of reported samples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

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

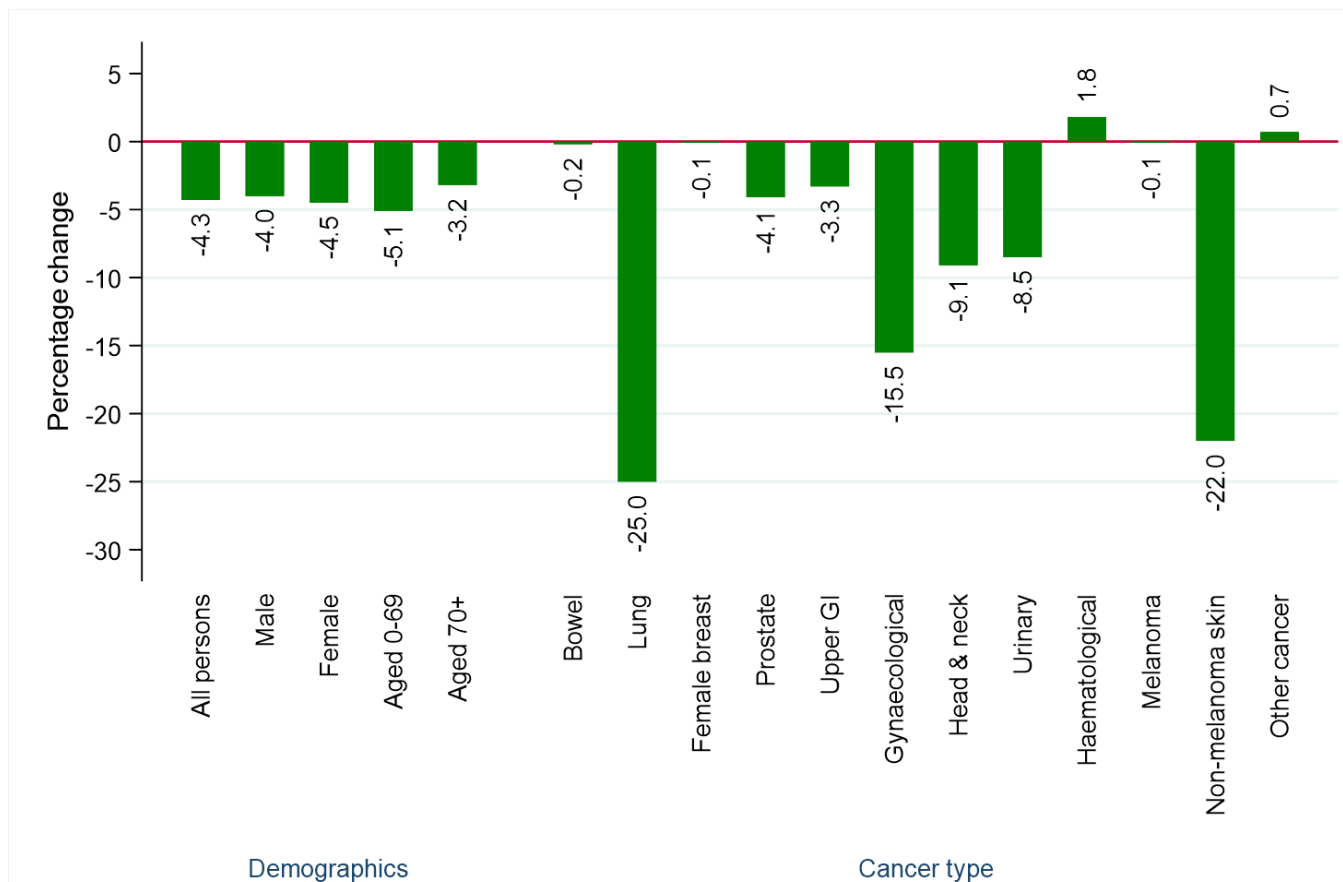
From March 2020 to December 2022 the number of pathological samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC) was 4.3% lower than the average number for the same time period in 2017-2019.



From March 2020 to December 2022 there was a 4.0% decrease in the number of samples among males and a 4.5% decrease among females compared to the same time period in 2017-2019. A decrease of 5.1% occurred in the number of samples among those aged 0-69 years, while there was a decrease of 3.2% in the number of samples among those aged 70 and older.

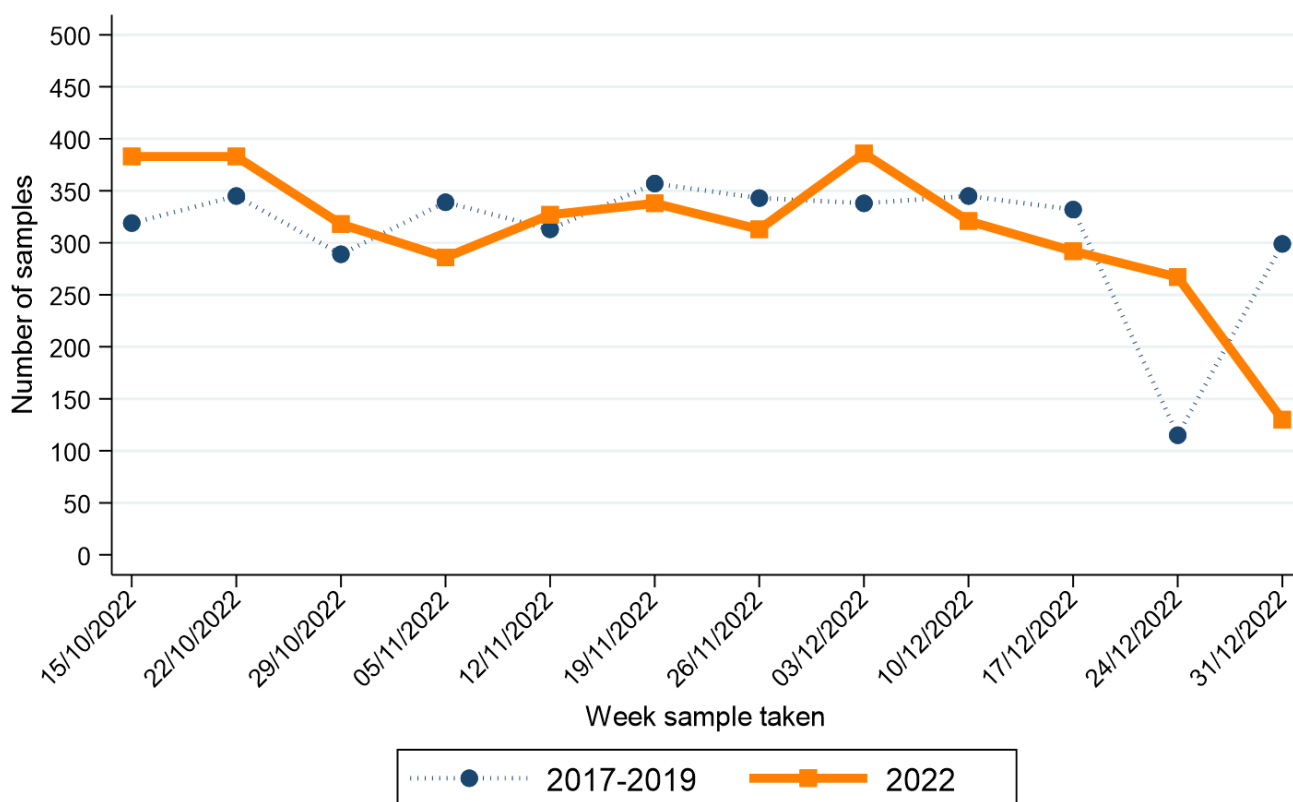


Compared to the annual average in 2017-2019, from March 2020 to December 2022 the number of pathology samples indicating lung cancer decreased by 25.0%. Increases were recorded for haematological cancer, while decreases of more than 10% were recorded for gynaecological cancer and non-melanoma skin cancer.

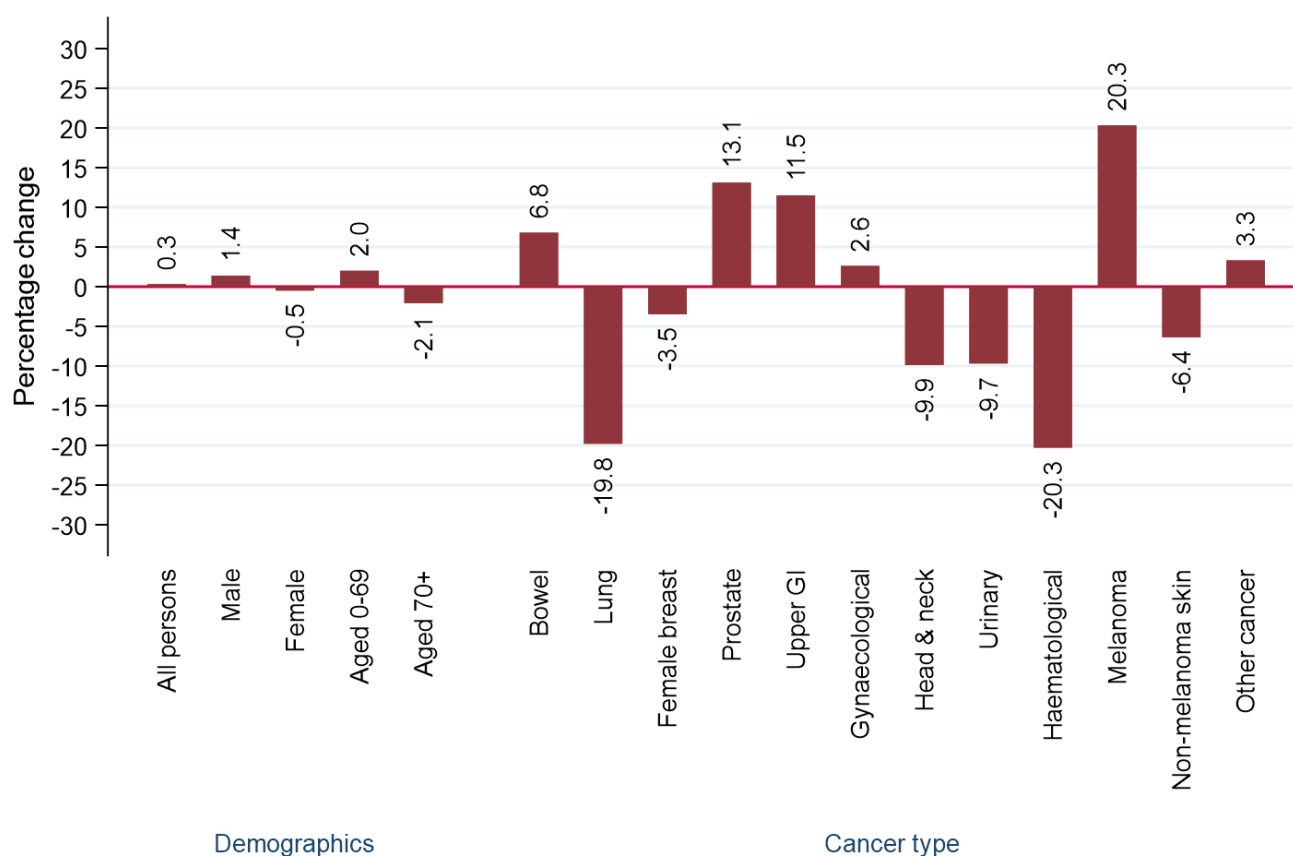


### RECENT CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF SAMPLES (Includes Altnagelvin)

There was a 0.3% increase in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer in the twelve weeks up to 31/12/2022 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 Sun-Sat week in those years



In the twelve weeks up to 31/12/2022 there was a 1.4% increase in the number of samples among males and a 0.5% decrease among females compared to the same time period in 2017-2019. An increase of 2.0% occurred in the number of samples among those aged 0-69 years, while there was a decrease of 2.1% in the number of samples among those aged 70 and older.

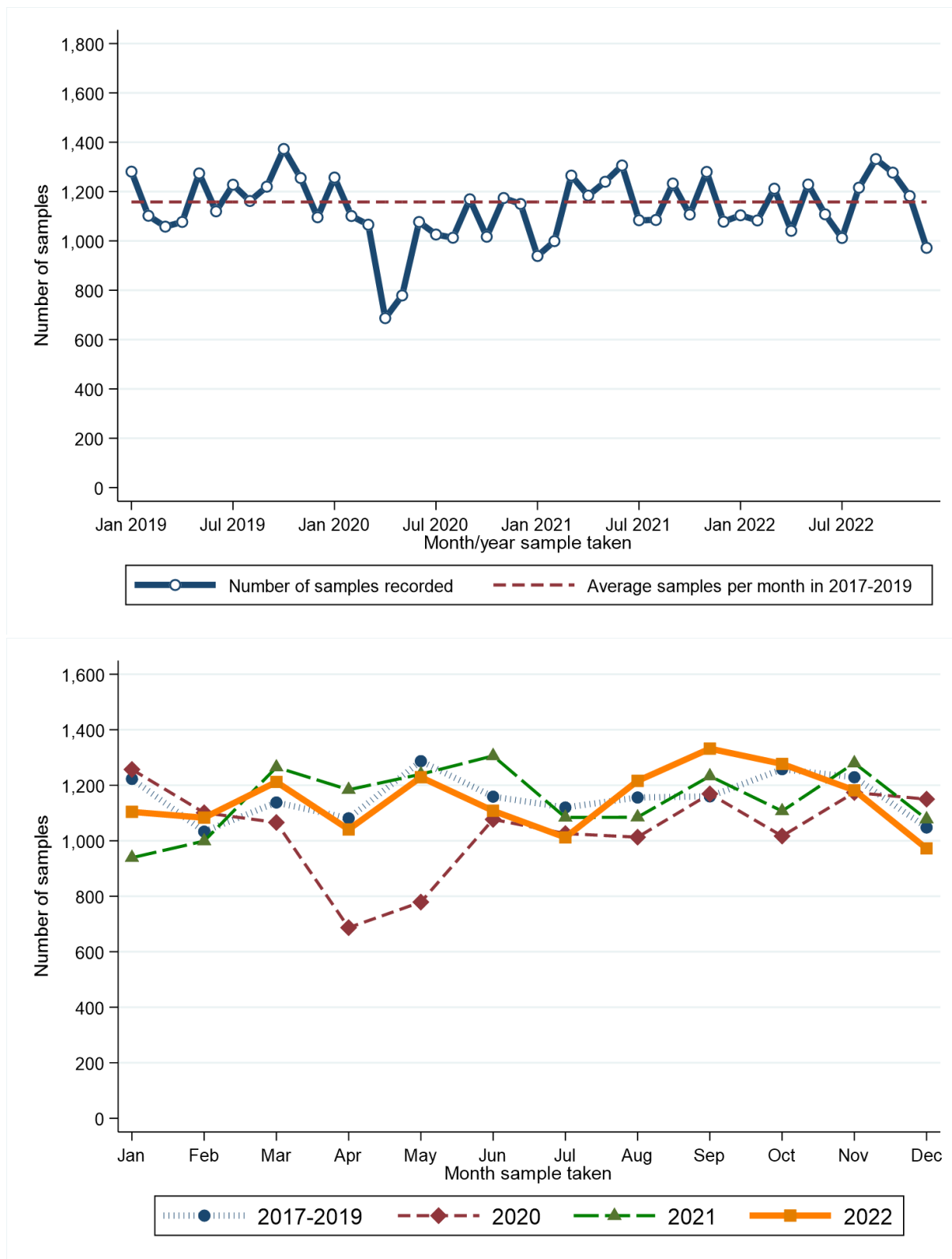
Compared to the annual average in 2017-2019, in the twelve weeks up to 31/12/2022 the number of pathology samples indicating lung cancer decreased by 19.8%. Increases were recorded for bowel cancer, prostate cancer, upper gastrointestinal cancer, gynaecological cancer and melanoma, while decreases of more than 10% were recorded for haematological cancer.

# ALL PERSONS: CANCER (EX NMSC)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

**-4.3%**



Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	1,223	1,257	939	1,104
Feb	1,033	1,101	999	1,083
Mar	1,138	1,066	1,265	1,212
Apr	1,081	687	1,184	1,041
May	1,287	779	1,240	1,229
Jun	1,159	1,077	1,306	1,108

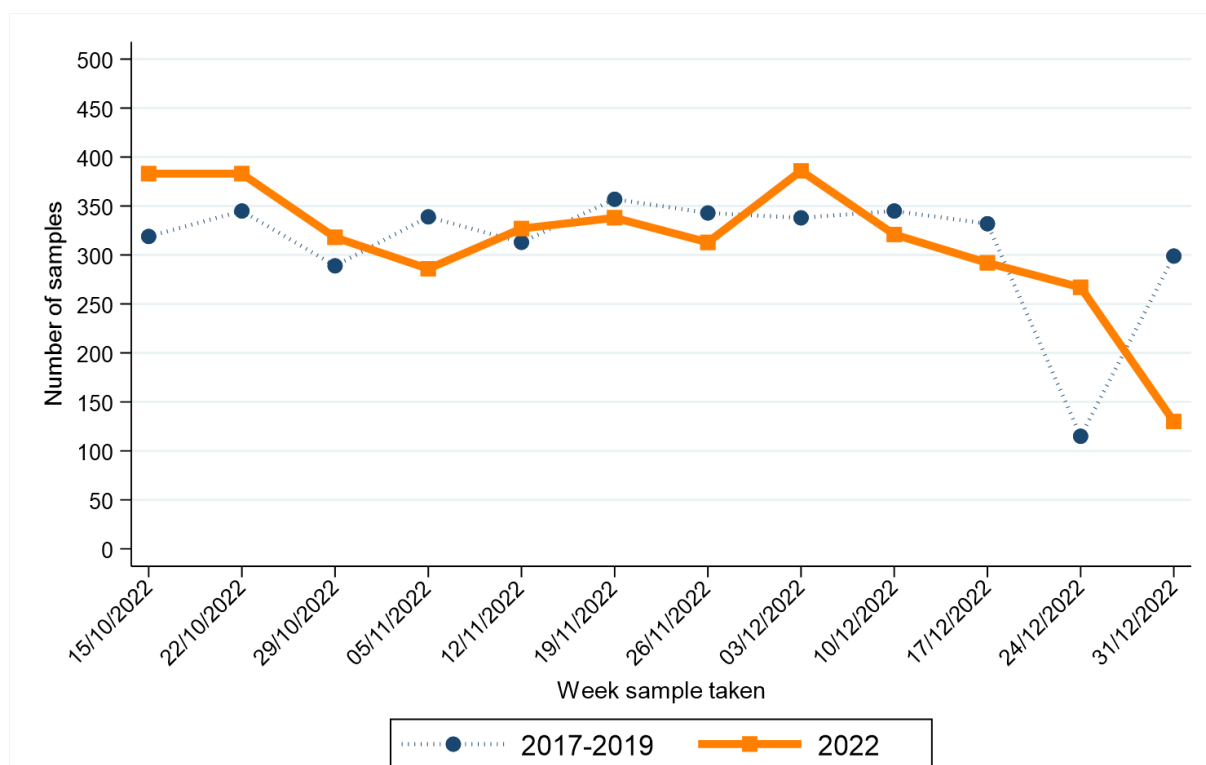
\* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jul	1,120	1,026	1,084	1,012
Aug	1,156	1,013	1,085	1,216
Sep	1,160	1,169	1,233	1,332
Oct	1,258	1,017	1,107	1,277
Nov	1,229	1,174	1,280	1,182
Dec	1,048	1,150	1,078	972

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 31/12/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+0.3%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
15/10/2022	319	383
22/10/2022	345	383
29/10/2022	289	318
05/11/2022	339	286
12/11/2022	313	327
19/11/2022	357	338

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
26/11/2022	343	313
03/12/2022	338	386
10/12/2022	345	321
17/12/2022	332	292
24/12/2022	115	267
31/12/2022	299	130

\* 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 Sun-Sat week in those years.

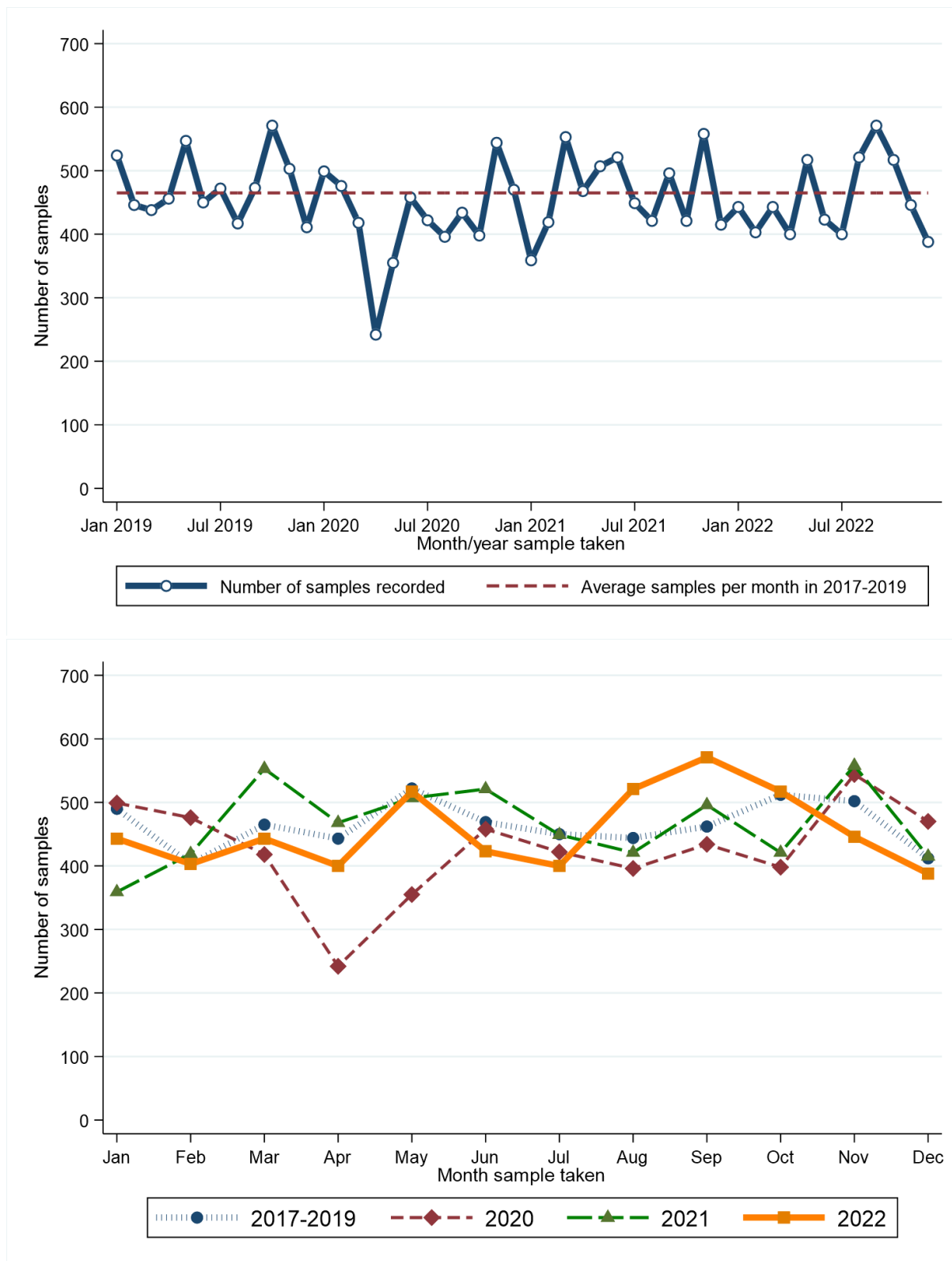


# MALE: CANCER (EX NMSC)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

**-4.0%**



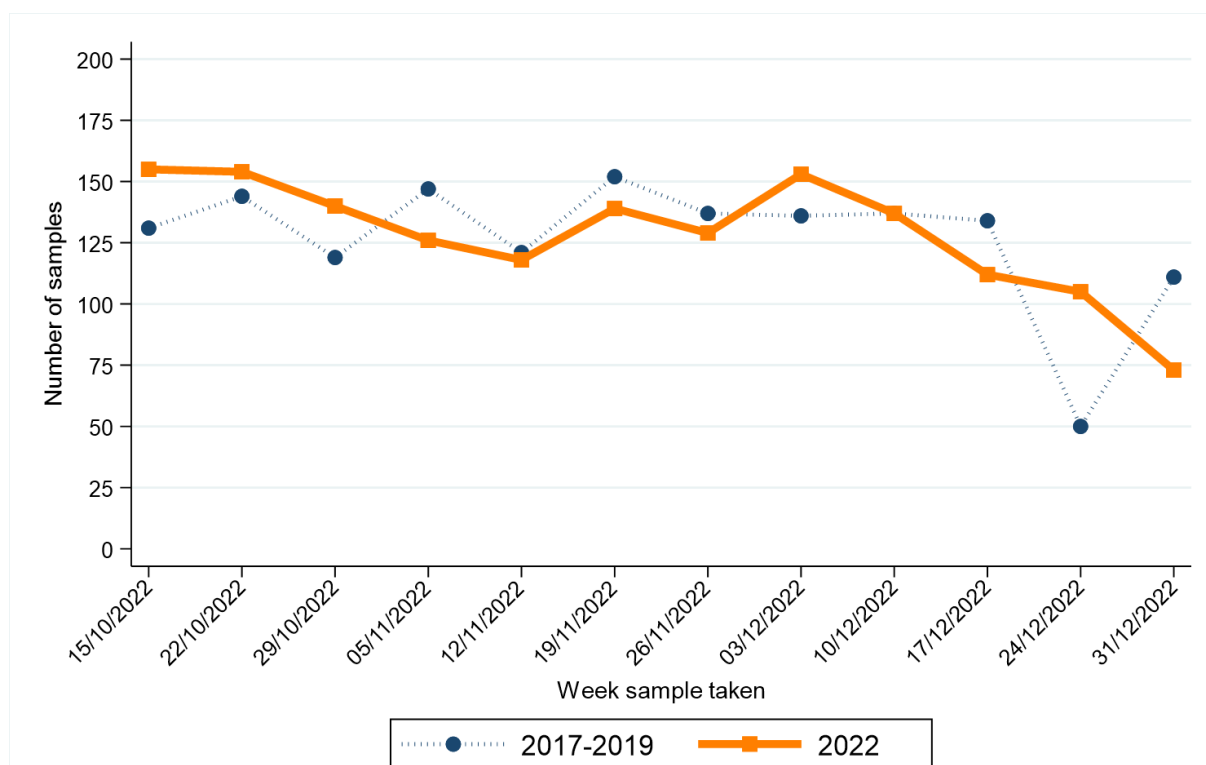
Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	490	499	359	443	Jul	450	422	449	400
Feb	403	476	419	403	Aug	444	396	421	521
Mar	465	418	553	443	Sep	462	434	496	571
Apr	443	242	468	400	Oct	512	398	421	517
May	522	355	507	517	Nov	502	544	558	446
Jun	469	458	521	423	Dec	412	470	415	388

\* 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 31/12/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+1.4%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
15/10/2022	319	383	26/11/2022	343	313
22/10/2022	345	383	03/12/2022	338	386
29/10/2022	289	318	10/12/2022	345	321
05/11/2022	339	286	17/12/2022	332	292
12/11/2022	313	327	24/12/2022	115	267
19/11/2022	357	338	31/12/2022	299	130

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

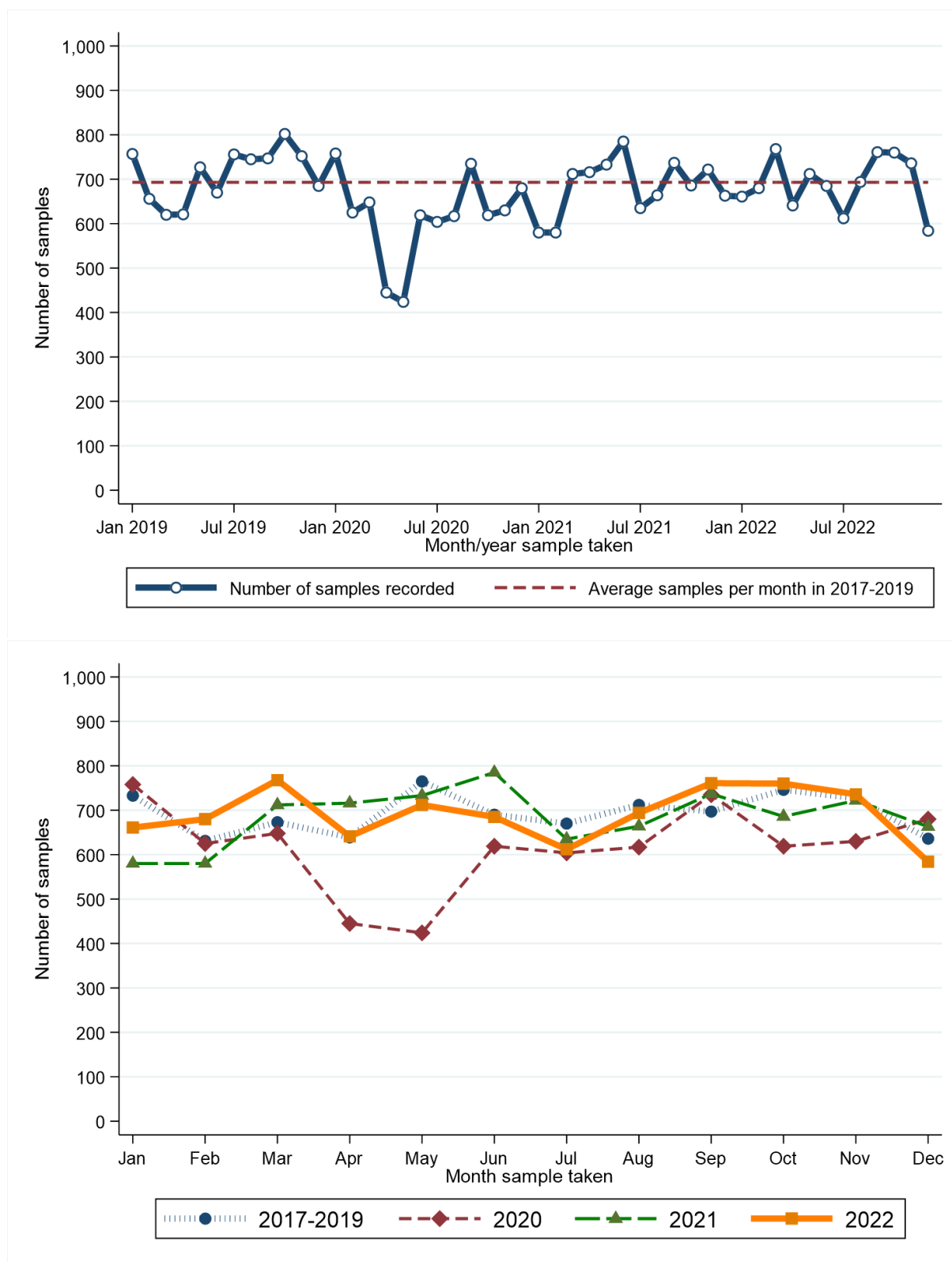
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# FEMALE: CANCER (EX NMSC)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

**-4.5%**



Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	733	758	580	661
Feb	631	625	580	680
Mar	673	648	712	768
Apr	639	445	716	641
May	765	424	733	712
Jun	690	619	785	685

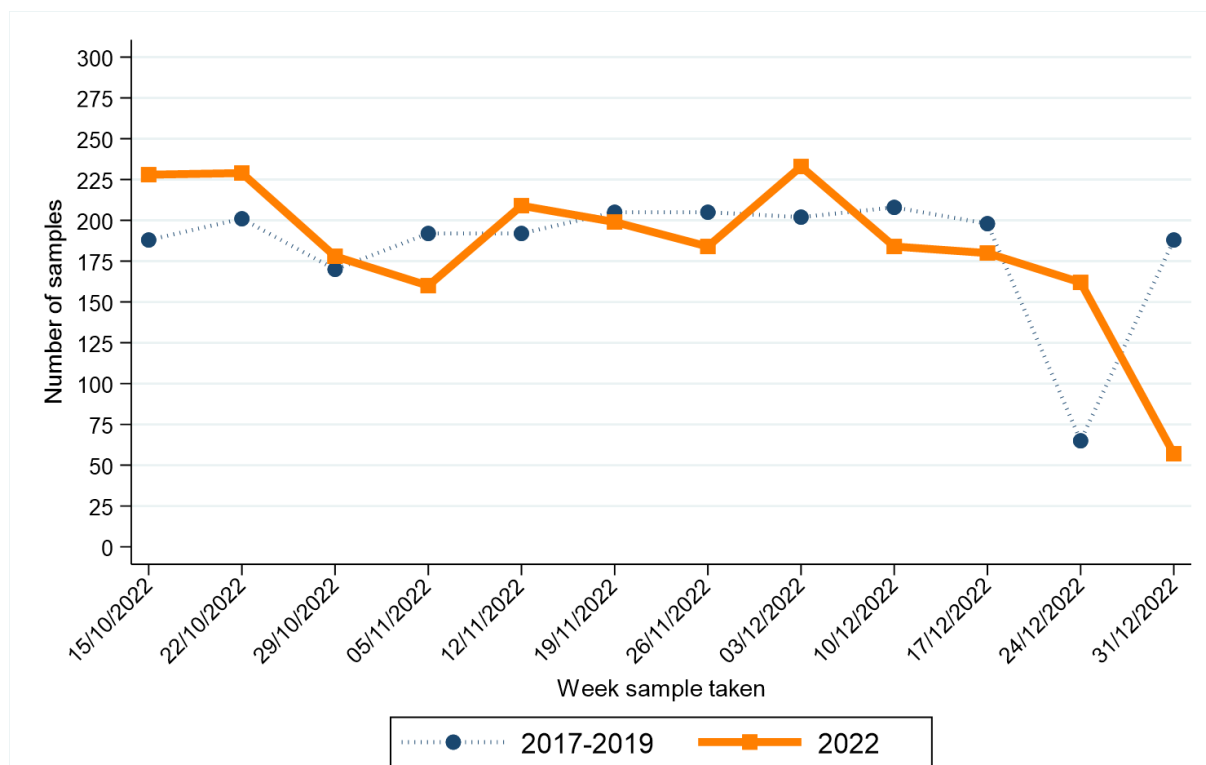
\* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jul	670	604	635	612
Aug	712	617	664	694
Sep	697	735	737	761
Oct	746	619	686	760
Nov	727	630	722	736
Dec	636	680	663	584

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 31/12/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-0.5%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
15/10/2022	319	383
22/10/2022	345	383
29/10/2022	289	318
05/11/2022	339	286
12/11/2022	313	327
19/11/2022	357	338

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
26/11/2022	343	313
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31/12/2022	299	130

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

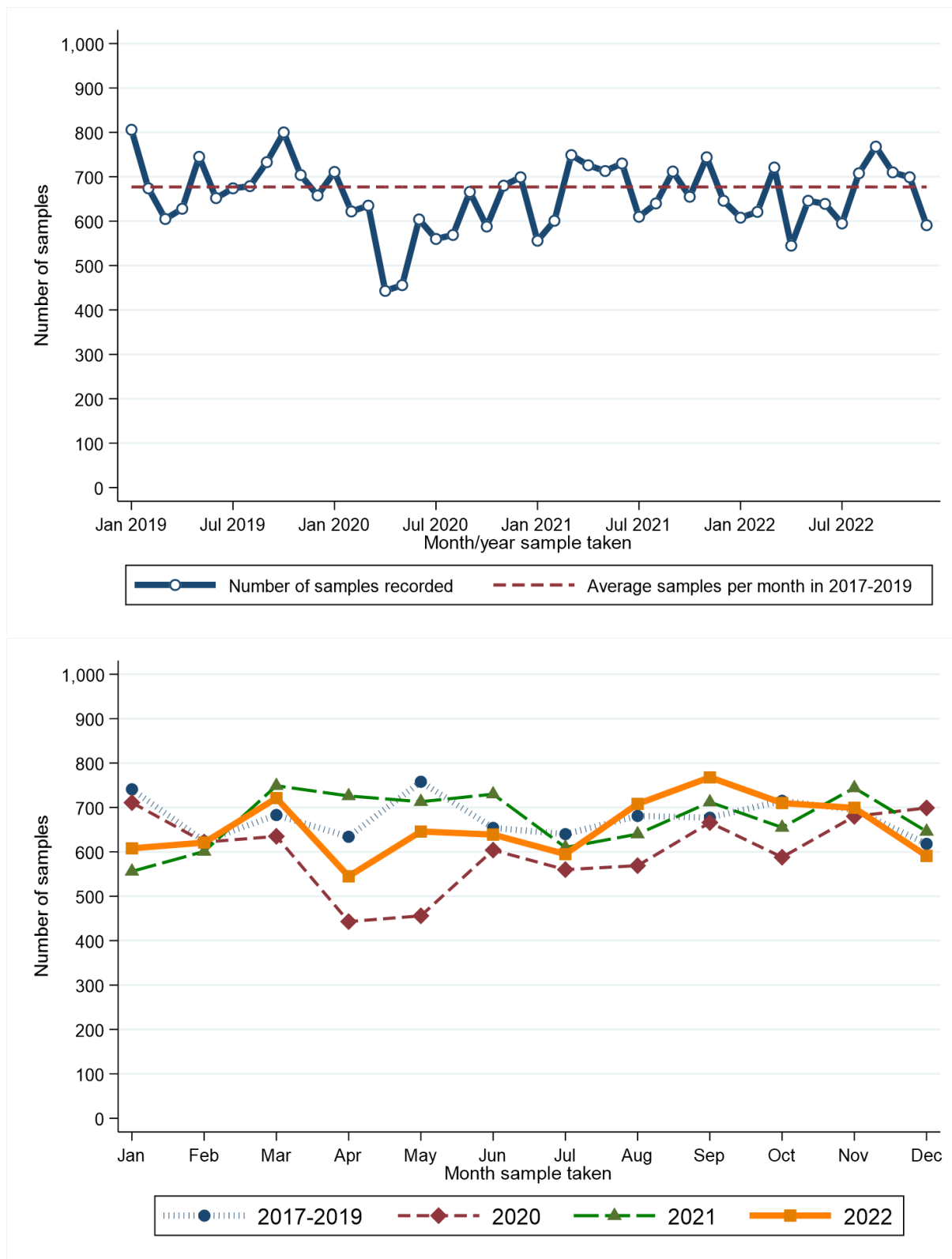
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# AGED 0-69: CANCER (EX NMSC)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

**-5.1%**



Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	741	711	556	608
Feb	624	622	601	621
Mar	683	635	749	721
Apr	634	443	726	545
May	758	456	713	646
Jun	654	604	730	639

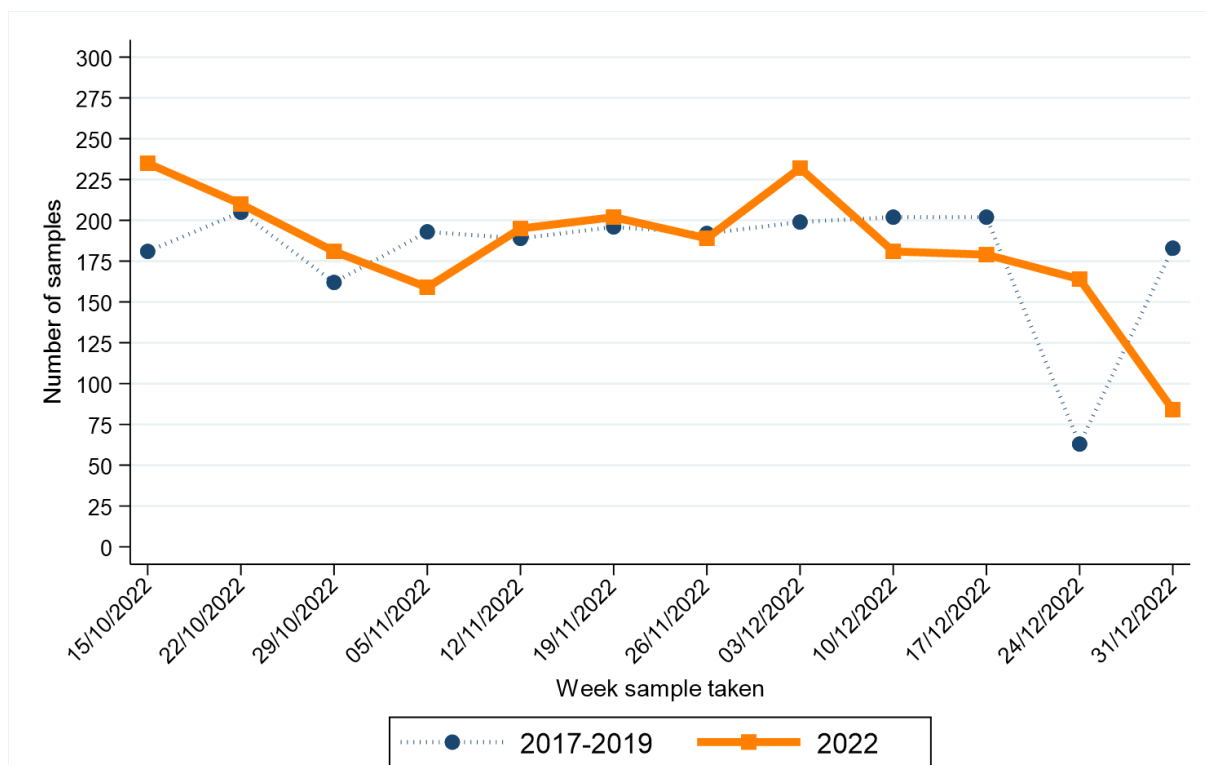
\* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jul	640	560	610	595
Aug	681	569	640	708
Sep	677	666	712	768
Oct	715	588	655	710
Nov	695	680	744	699
Dec	618	699	646	591

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 31/12/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+2.0%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
15/10/2022	319	383
22/10/2022	345	383
29/10/2022	289	318
05/11/2022	339	286
12/11/2022	313	327
19/11/2022	357	338

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
26/11/2022	343	313
03/12/2022	338	386
10/12/2022	345	321
17/12/2022	332	292
24/12/2022	115	267
31/12/2022	299	130

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

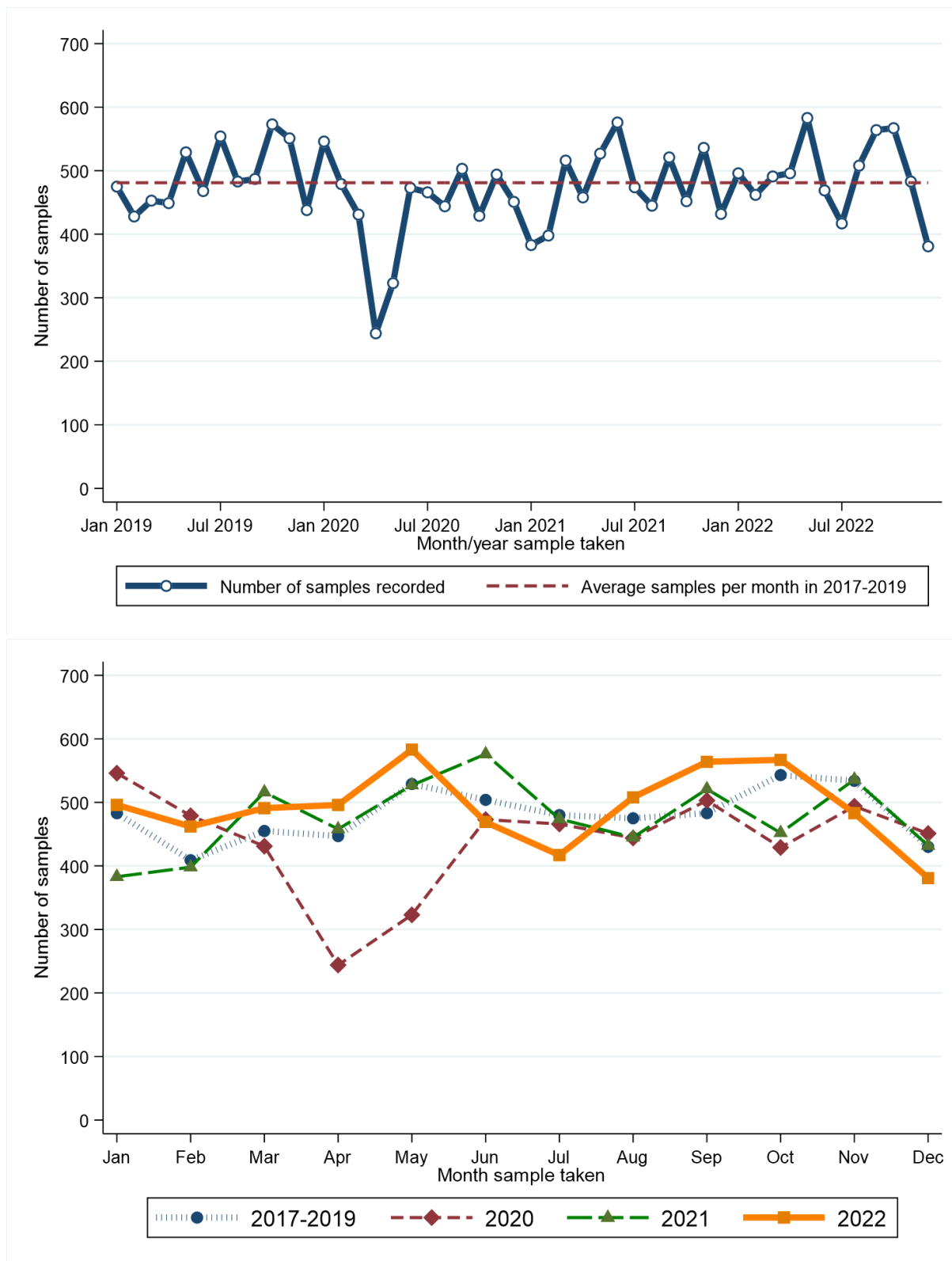
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# AGED 70+: CANCER (EX NMSC)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

**-3.2%**



Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	483	546	383	496
Feb	409	479	398	462
Mar	455	431	516	491
Apr	447	244	458	496
May	529	323	527	583
Jun	504	473	576	469

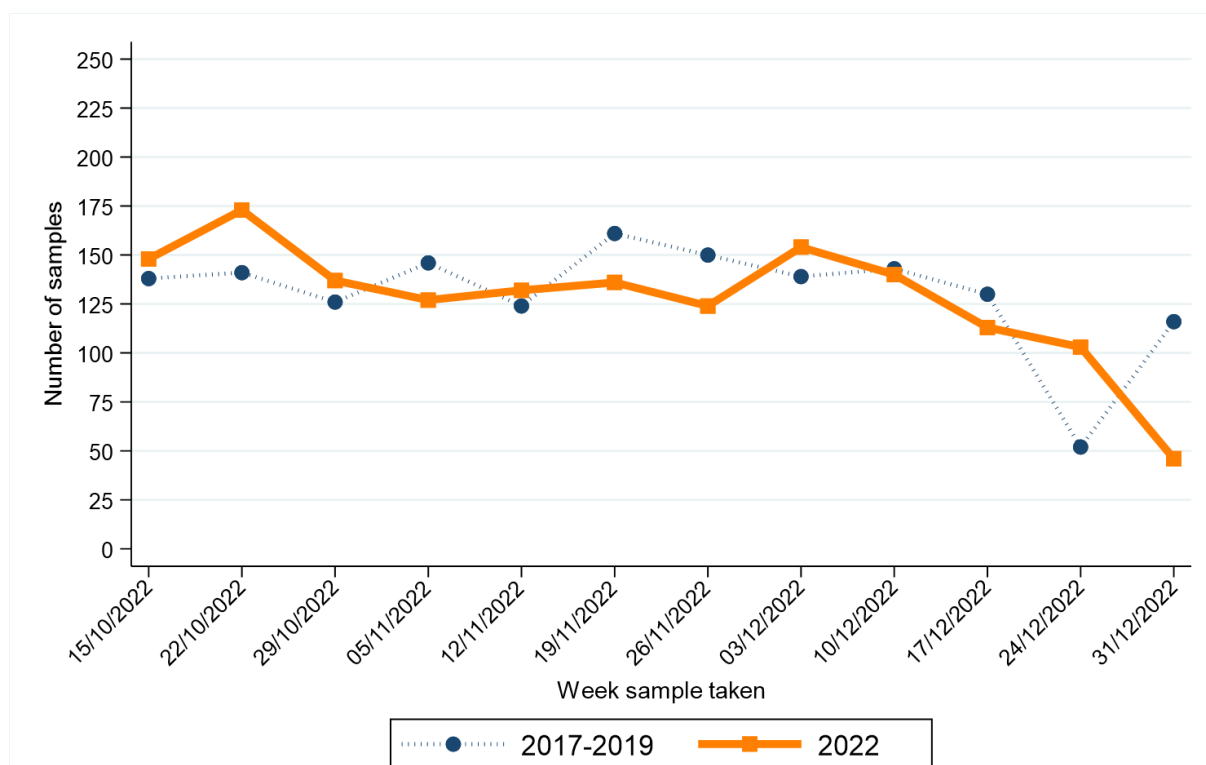
\* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jul	480	466	474	417
Aug	475	444	445	508
Sep	483	503	521	564
Oct	543	429	452	567
Nov	534	494	536	483
Dec	430	451	432	381

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 31/12/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-2.1%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
15/10/2022	319	383
22/10/2022	345	383
29/10/2022	289	318
05/11/2022	339	286
12/11/2022	313	327
19/11/2022	357	338

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
26/11/2022	343	313
03/12/2022	338	386
10/12/2022	345	321
17/12/2022	332	292
24/12/2022	115	267
31/12/2022	299	130

\* 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 Sun-Sat week in those years.

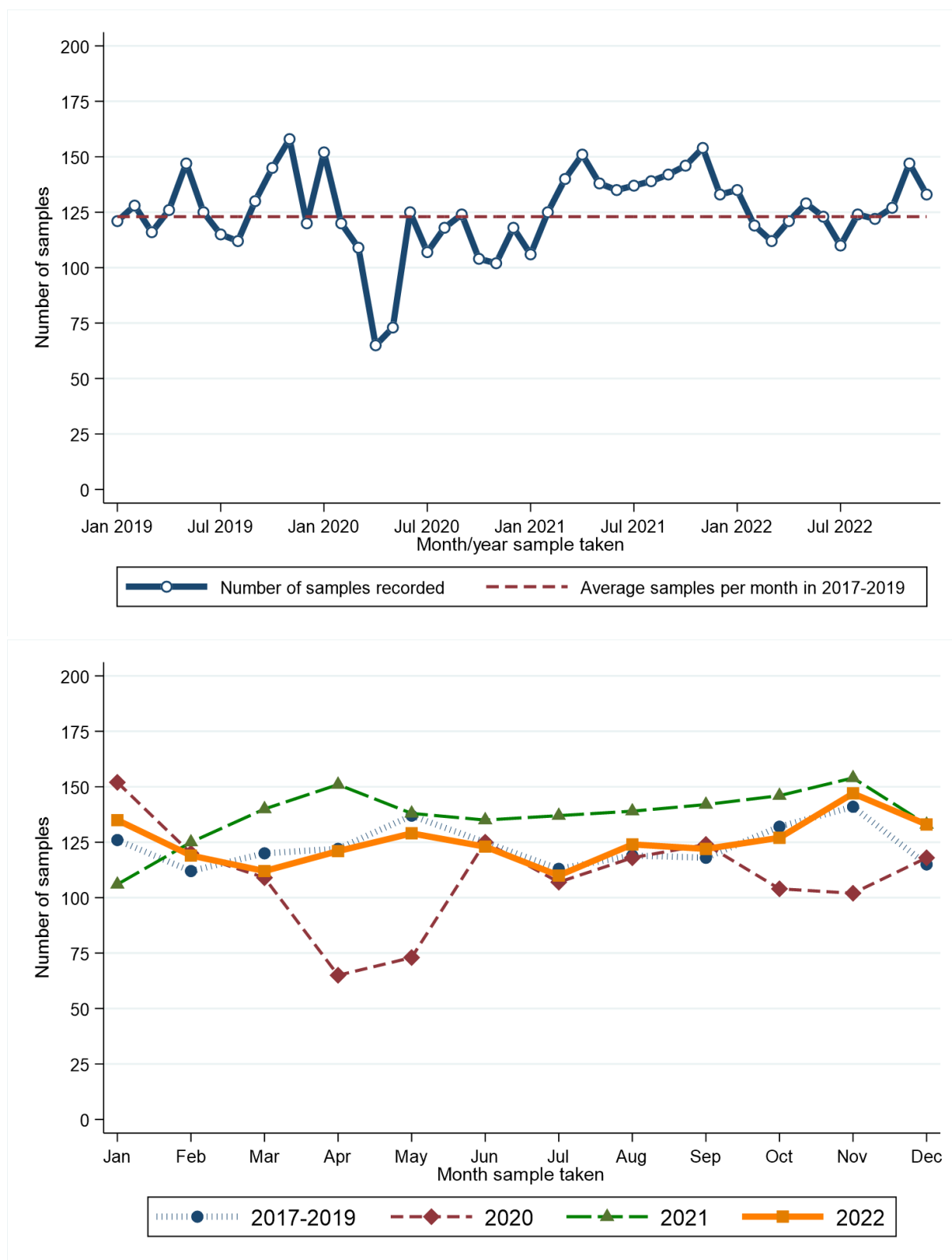


# BOWEL CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

**-0.2%**



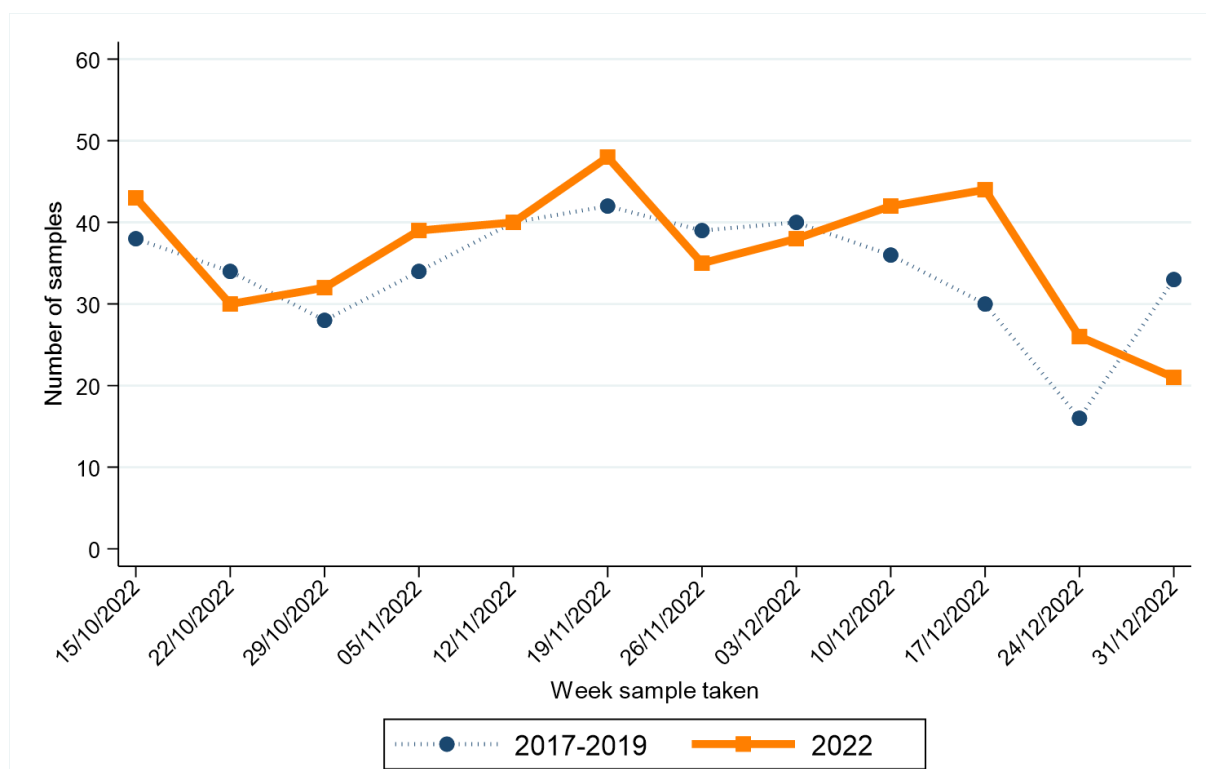
Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	126	152	106	135	Jul	113	107	137	110
Feb	112	120	125	119	Aug	119	118	139	124
Mar	120	109	140	112	Sep	118	124	142	122
Apr	122	65	151	121	Oct	132	104	146	127
May	137	73	138	129	Nov	141	102	154	147
Jun	125	125	135	123	Dec	115	118	133	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 31/12/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+6.8%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
15/10/2022	319	383	26/11/2022	343	313
22/10/2022	345	383	03/12/2022	338	386
29/10/2022	289	318	10/12/2022	345	321
05/11/2022	339	286	17/12/2022	332	292
12/11/2022	313	327	24/12/2022	115	267
19/11/2022	357	338	31/12/2022	299	130

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

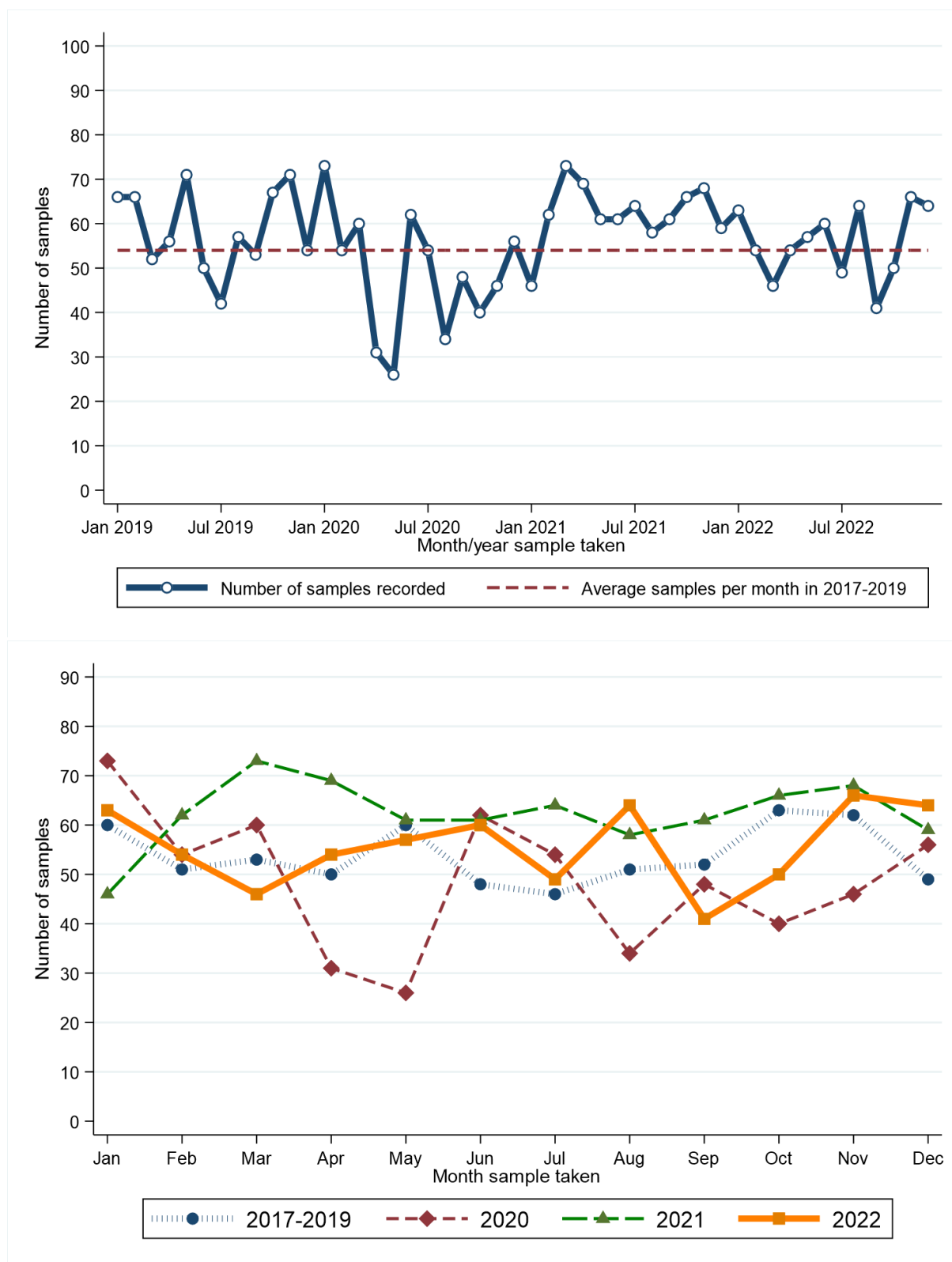
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# BOWEL CANCER (SCREENING AGE)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

**+2.7%**



Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	60	73	46	63
Feb	51	54	62	54
Mar	53	60	73	46
Apr	50	31	69	54
May	60	26	61	57
Jun	48	62	61	60

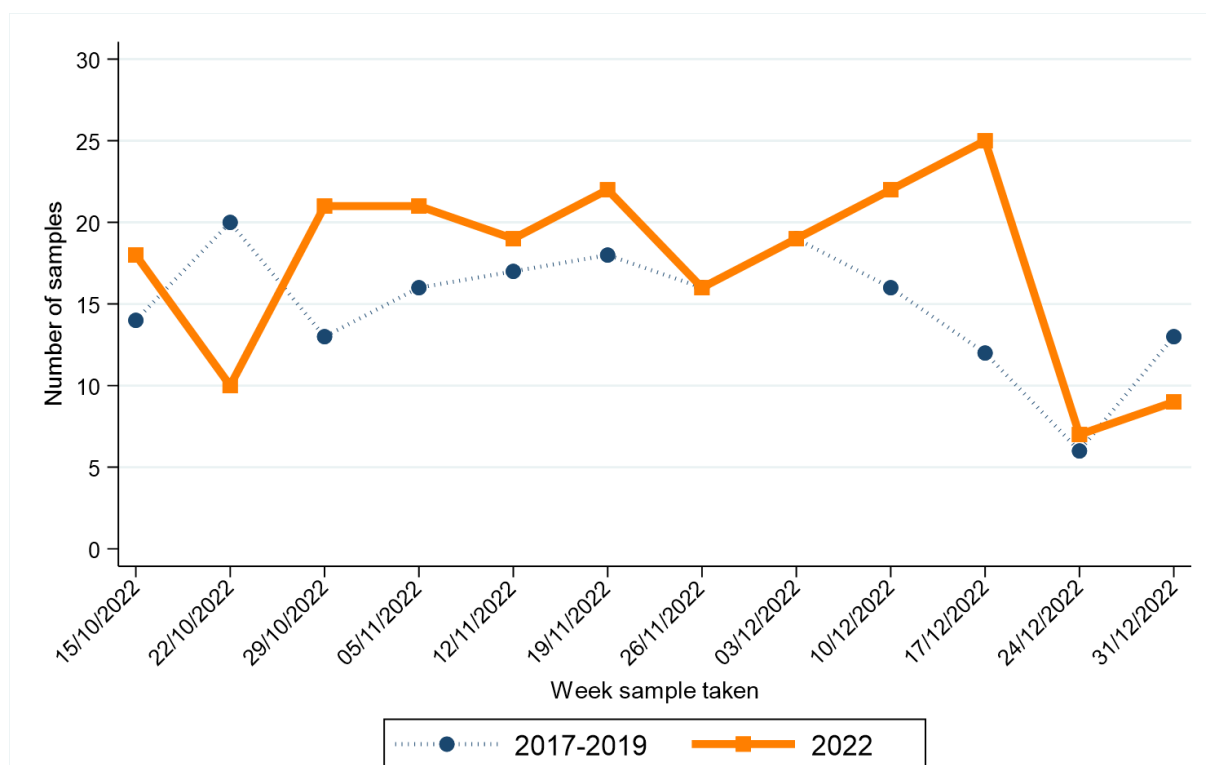
\* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jul	46	54	64	49
Aug	51	34	58	64
Sep	52	48	61	41
Oct	63	40	66	50
Nov	62	46	68	66
Dec	49	56	59	64

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 31/12/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+16.1%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
15/10/2022	319	383
22/10/2022	345	383
29/10/2022	289	318
05/11/2022	339	286
12/11/2022	313	327
19/11/2022	357	338

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
26/11/2022	343	313
03/12/2022	338	386
10/12/2022	345	321
17/12/2022	332	292
24/12/2022	115	267
31/12/2022	299	130

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

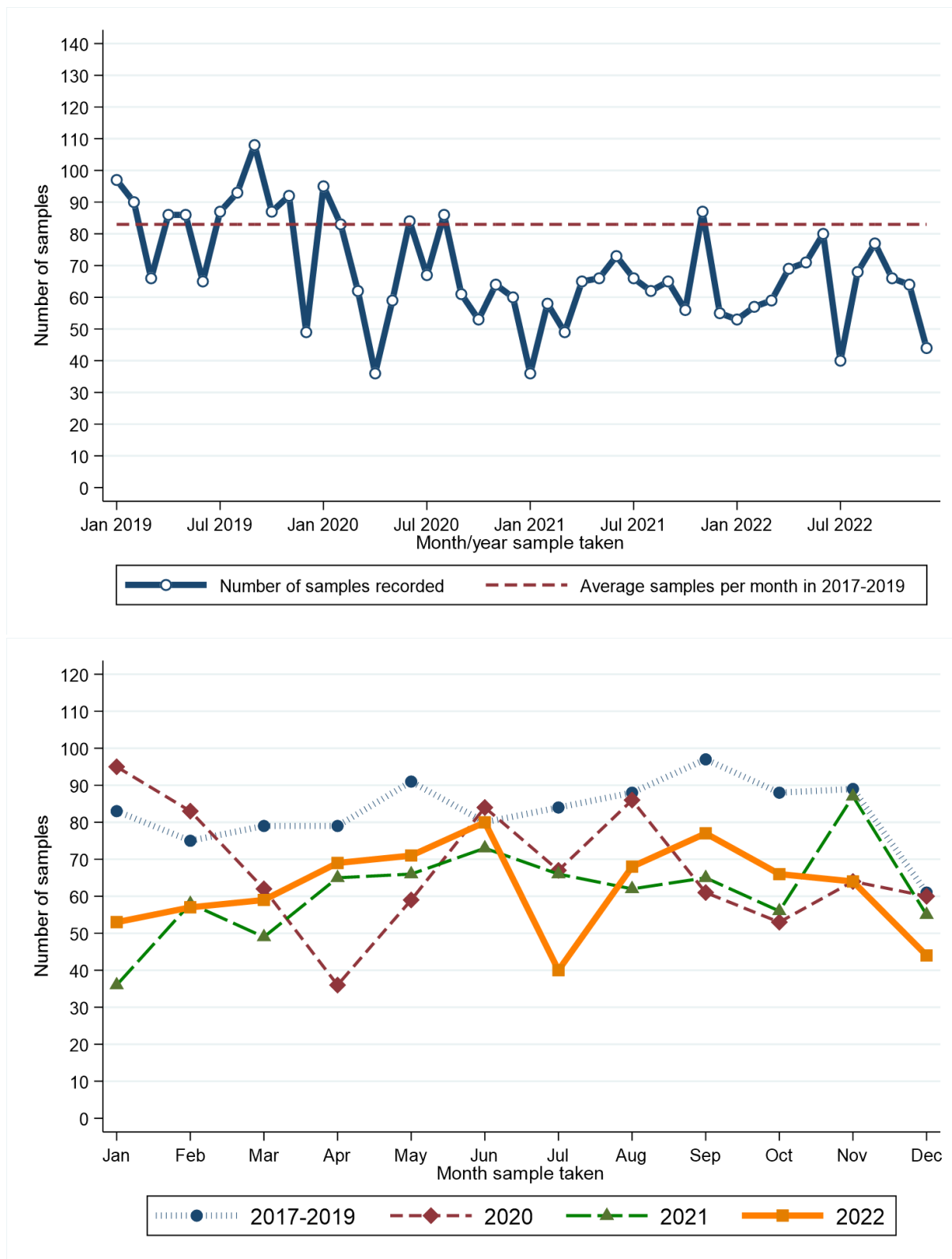
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# LUNG CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

**-25.0%**



Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	83	95	36	53
Feb	75	83	58	57
Mar	79	62	49	59
Apr	79	36	65	69
May	91	59	66	71
Jun	80	84	73	80

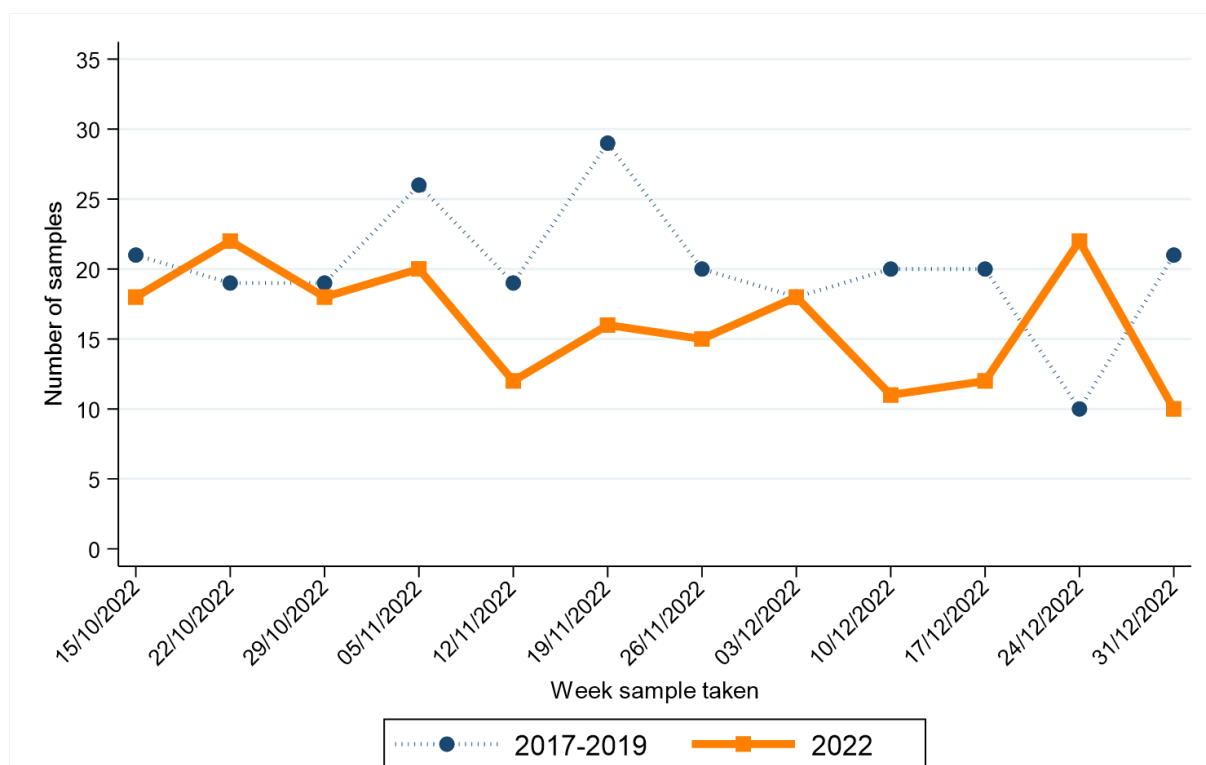
\* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jul	84	67	66	40
Aug	88	86	62	68
Sep	97	61	65	77
Oct	88	53	56	66
Nov	89	64	87	64
Dec	61	60	55	44

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 31/12/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-19.8%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
15/10/2022	319	383
22/10/2022	345	383
29/10/2022	289	318
05/11/2022	339	286
12/11/2022	313	327
19/11/2022	357	338

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
26/11/2022	343	313
03/12/2022	338	386
10/12/2022	345	321
17/12/2022	332	292
24/12/2022	115	267
31/12/2022	299	130

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

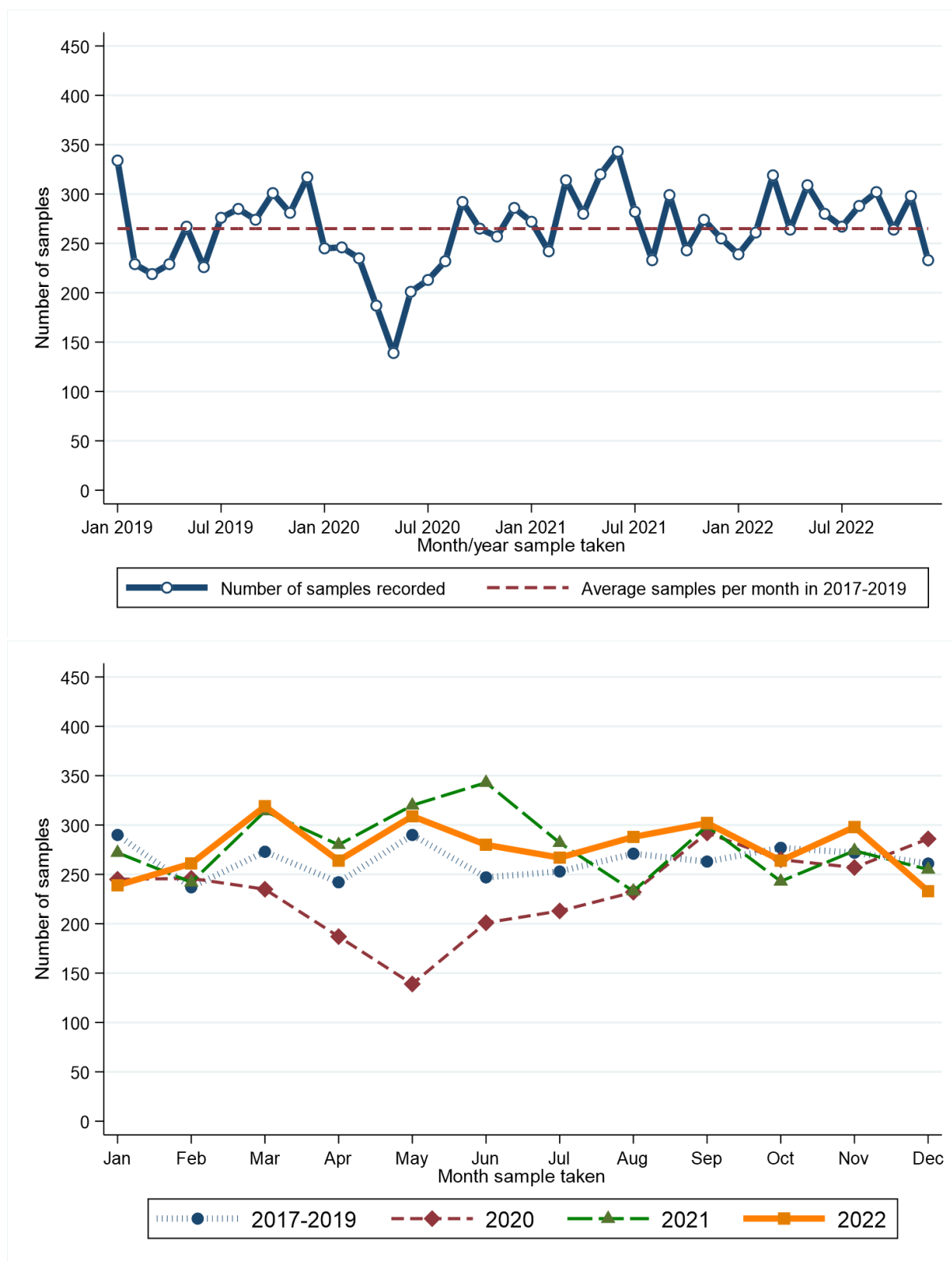
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# FEMALE BREAST CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

**-0.1%**



Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	290	245	272	239
Feb	237	246	242	261
Mar	273	235	314	319
Apr	242	187	280	264
May	290	139	320	309
Jun	247	201	343	280

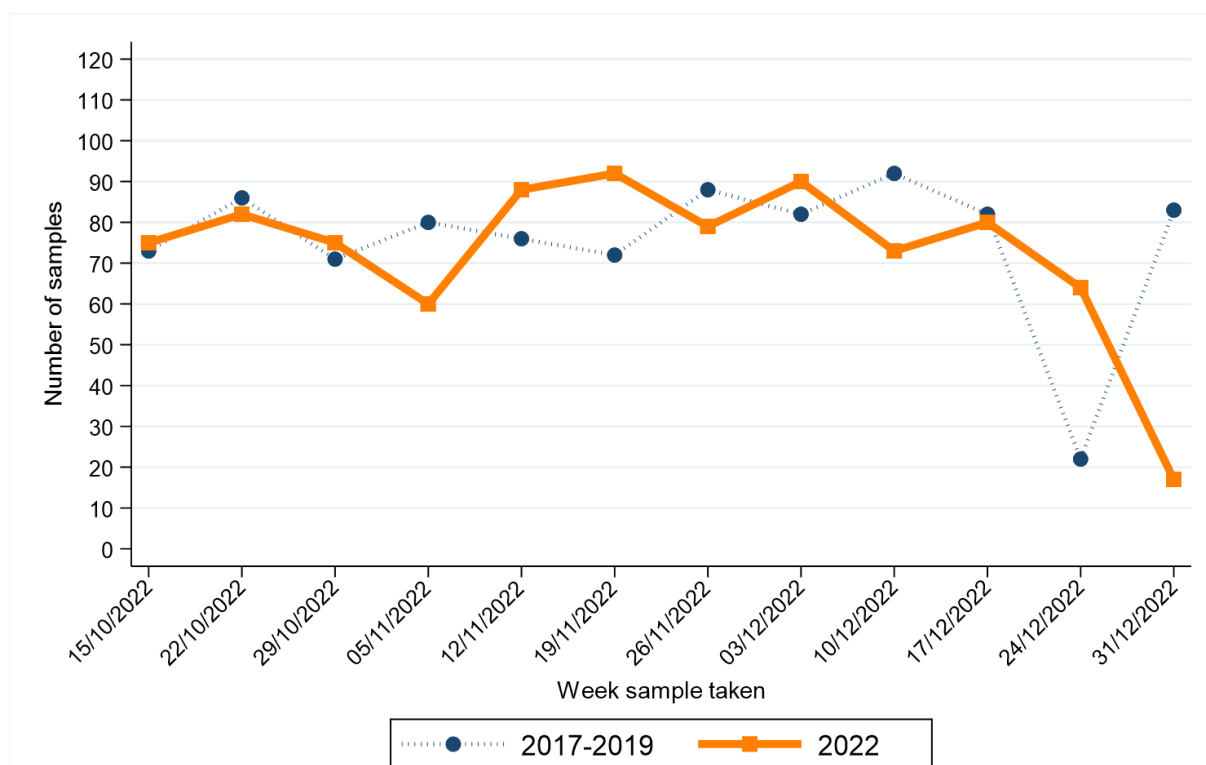
\* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jul	253	213	282	267
Aug	271	232	233	288
Sep	263	292	299	302
Oct	277	265	243	264
Nov	272	257	274	298
Dec	261	286	255	233

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 31/12/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-3.5%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
15/10/2022	319	383
22/10/2022	345	383
29/10/2022	289	318
05/11/2022	339	286
12/11/2022	313	327
19/11/2022	357	338

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
26/11/2022	343	313
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31/12/2022	299	130

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

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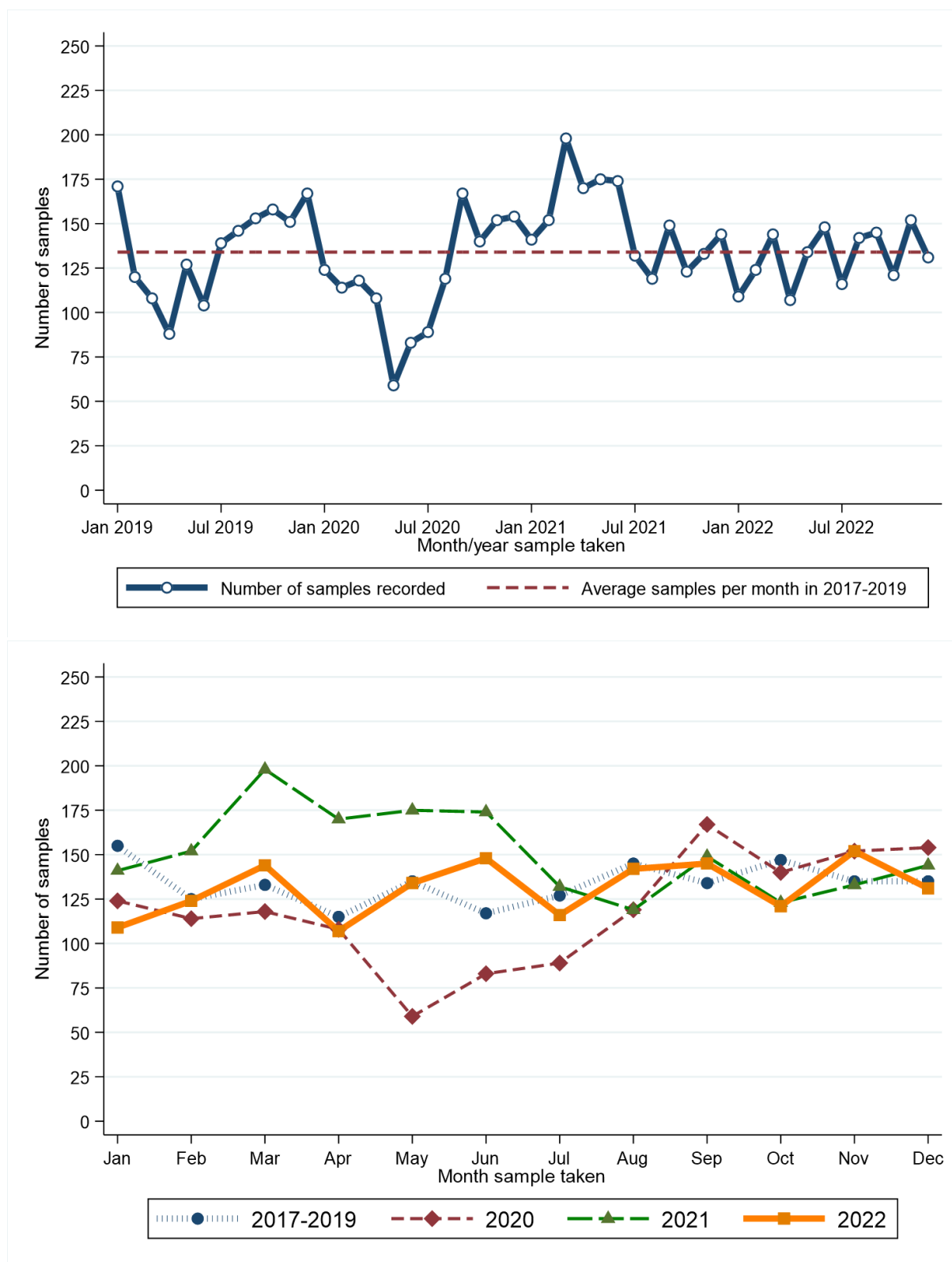


# FEMALE BREAST CANCER (SCREENING AGE)

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

**+0.9%**



Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	155	124	141	109
Feb	125	114	152	124
Mar	133	118	198	144
Apr	115	108	170	107
May	135	59	175	134
Jun	117	83	174	148

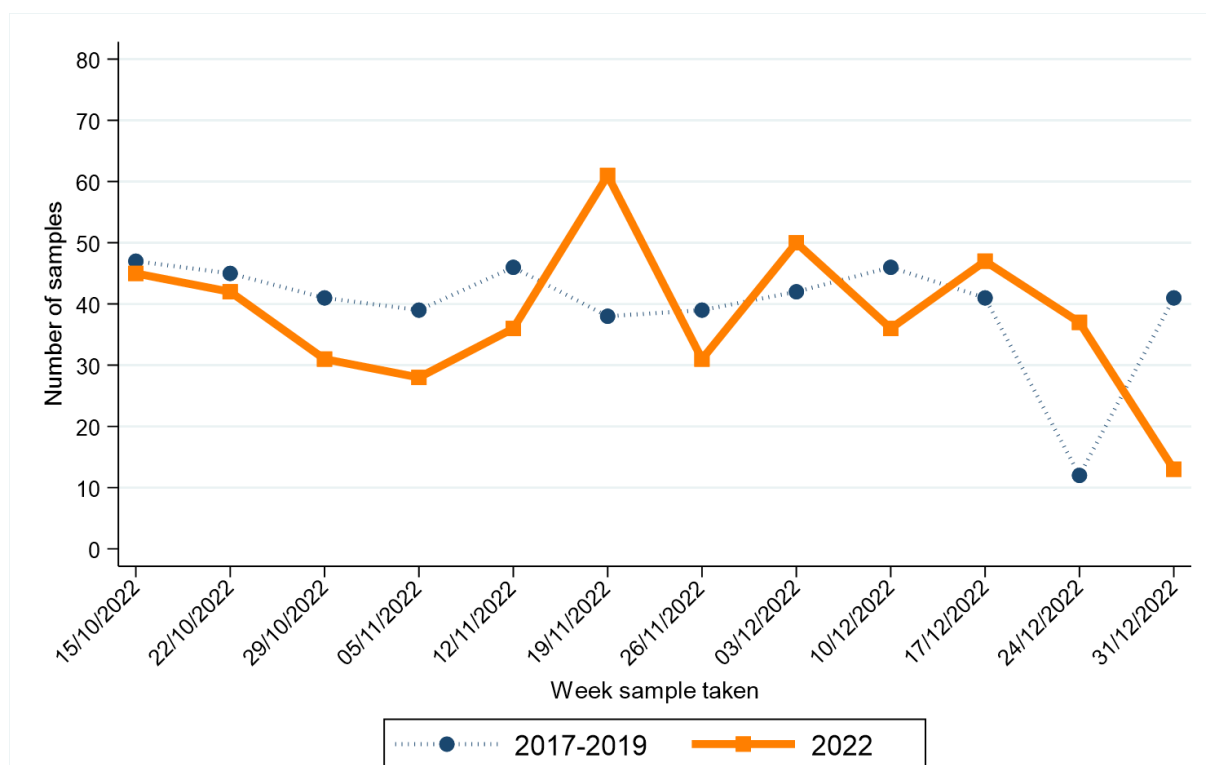
\* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jul	127	89	132	116
Aug	145	119	119	142
Sep	134	167	149	145
Oct	147	140	123	121
Nov	135	152	133	152
Dec	135	154	144	131

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 31/12/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-4.2%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
15/10/2022	319	383
22/10/2022	345	383
29/10/2022	289	318
05/11/2022	339	286
12/11/2022	313	327
19/11/2022	357	338

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
26/11/2022	343	313
03/12/2022	338	386
10/12/2022	345	321
17/12/2022	332	292
24/12/2022	115	267
31/12/2022	299	130

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

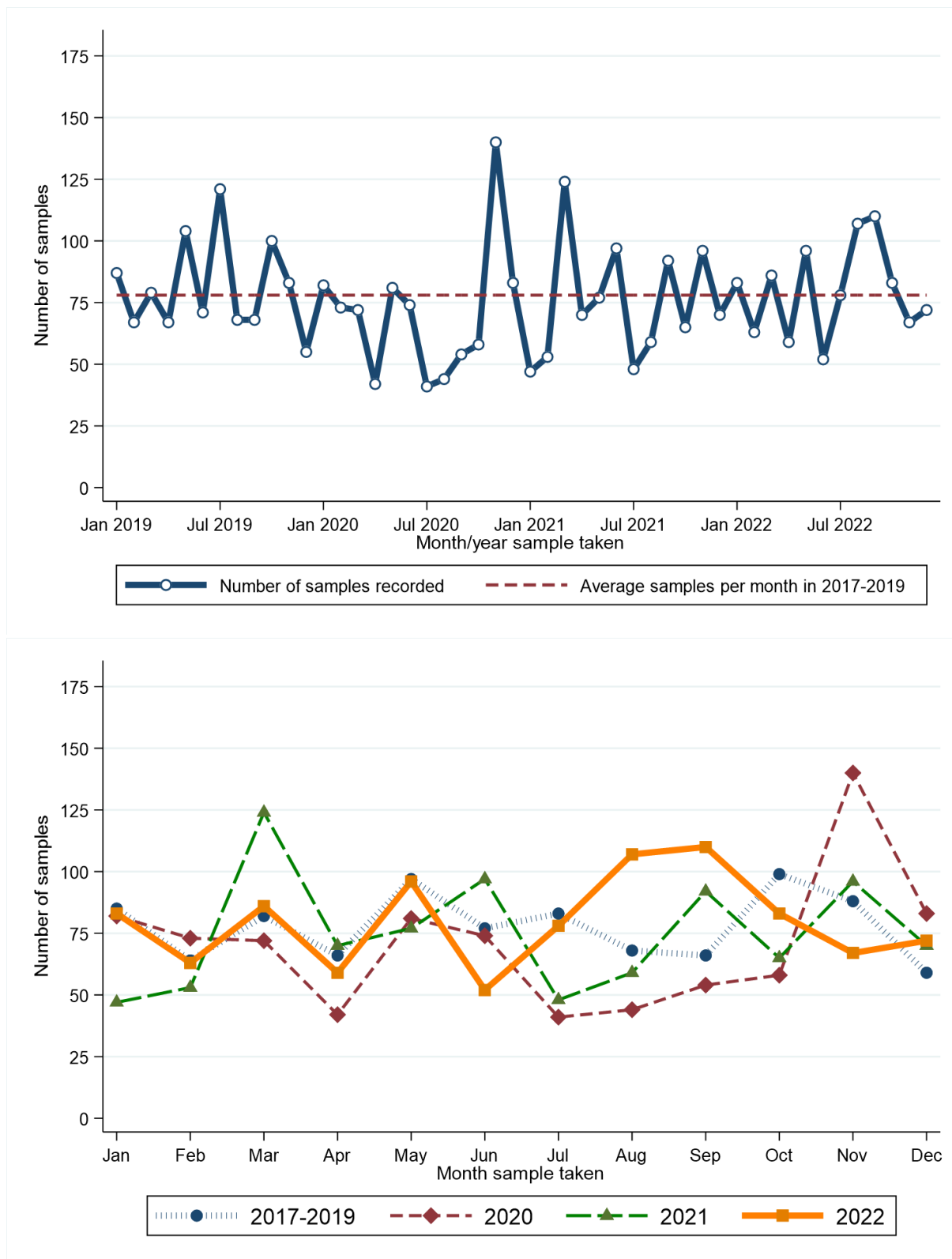
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# PROSTATE CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

**-4.1%**



Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	85	82	47	83
Feb	64	73	53	63
Mar	82	72	124	86
Apr	66	42	70	59
May	97	81	77	96
Jun	77	74	97	52

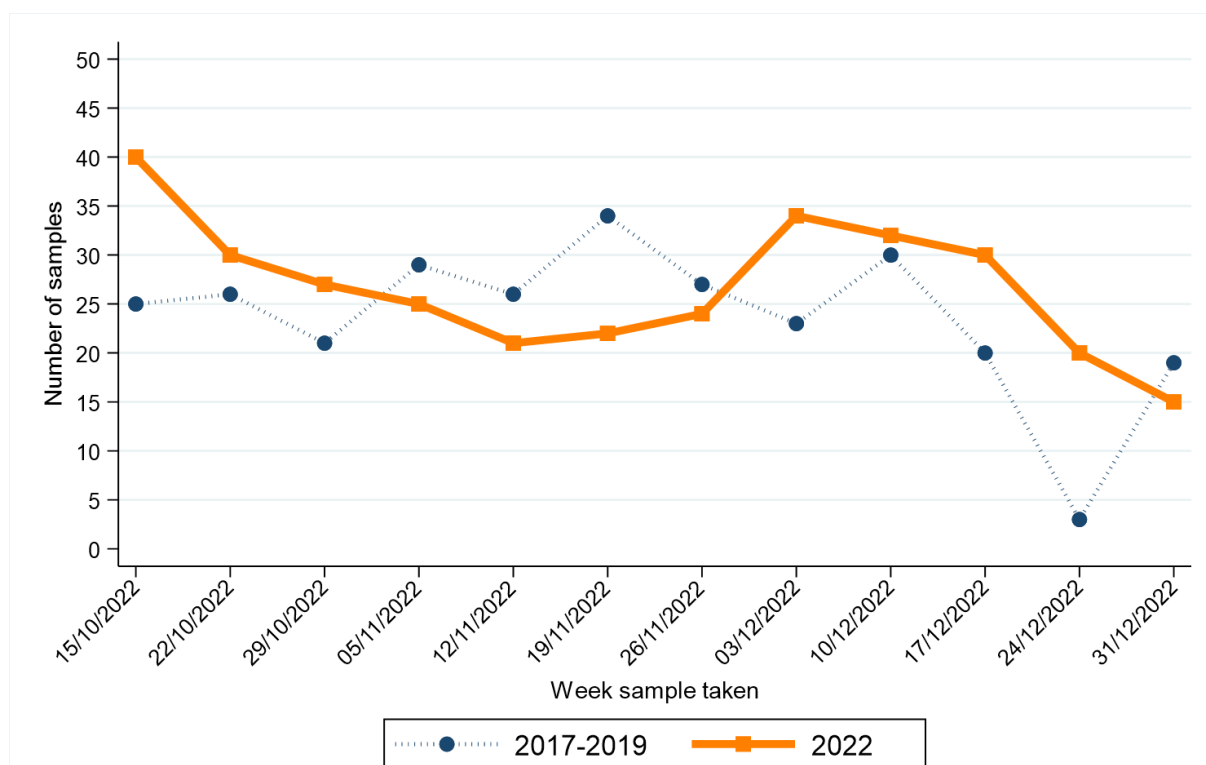
\* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jul	83	41	48	78
Aug	68	44	59	107
Sep	66	54	92	110
Oct	99	58	65	83
Nov	88	140	96	67
Dec	59	83	70	72

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 31/12/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+13.1%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
15/10/2022	319	383
22/10/2022	345	383
29/10/2022	289	318
05/11/2022	339	286
12/11/2022	313	327
19/11/2022	357	338

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
26/11/2022	343	313
03/12/2022	338	386
10/12/2022	345	321
17/12/2022	332	292
24/12/2022	115	267
31/12/2022	299	130

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

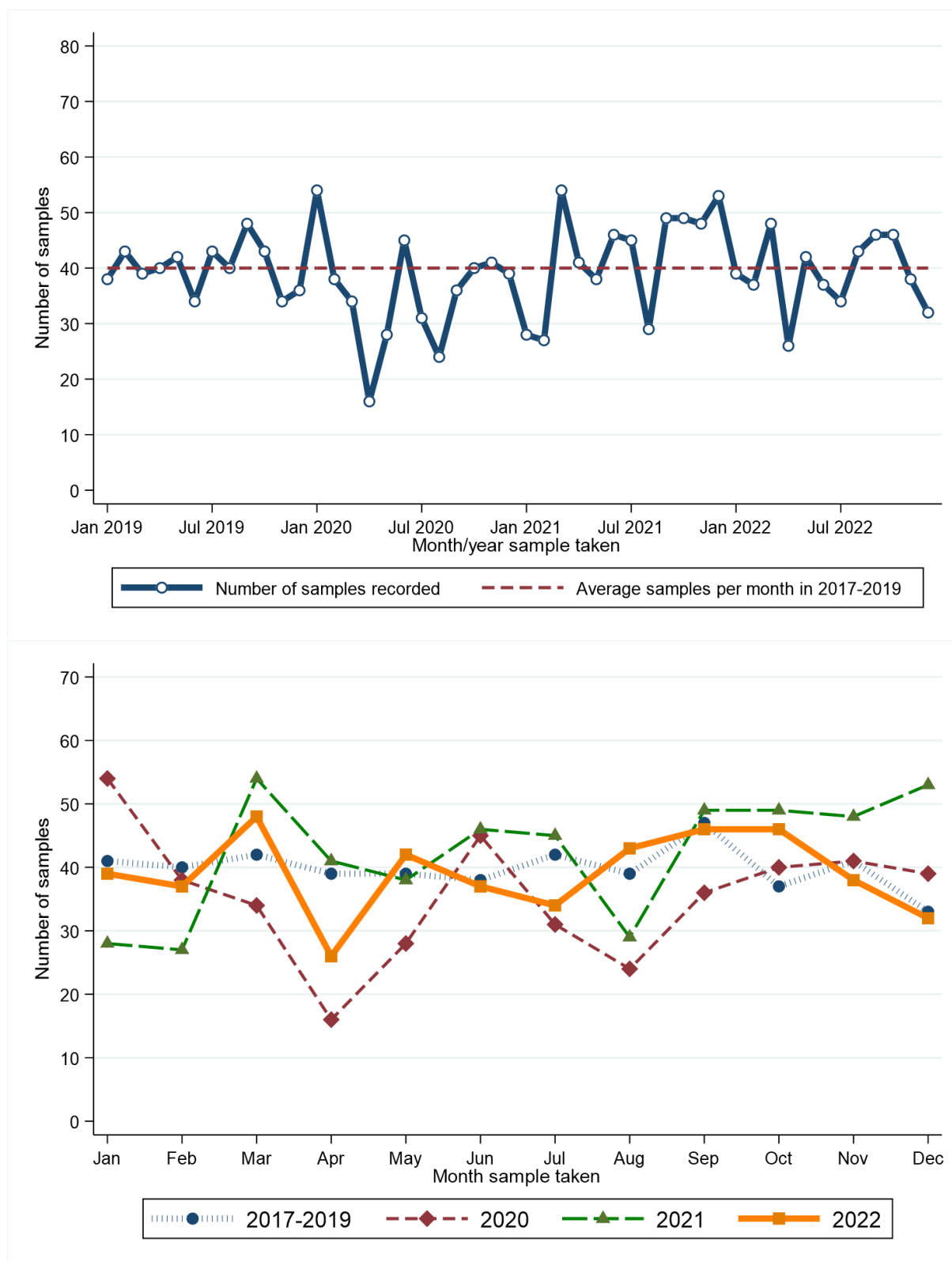
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# UPPER GASTROINTESTINAL CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

**-3.3%**



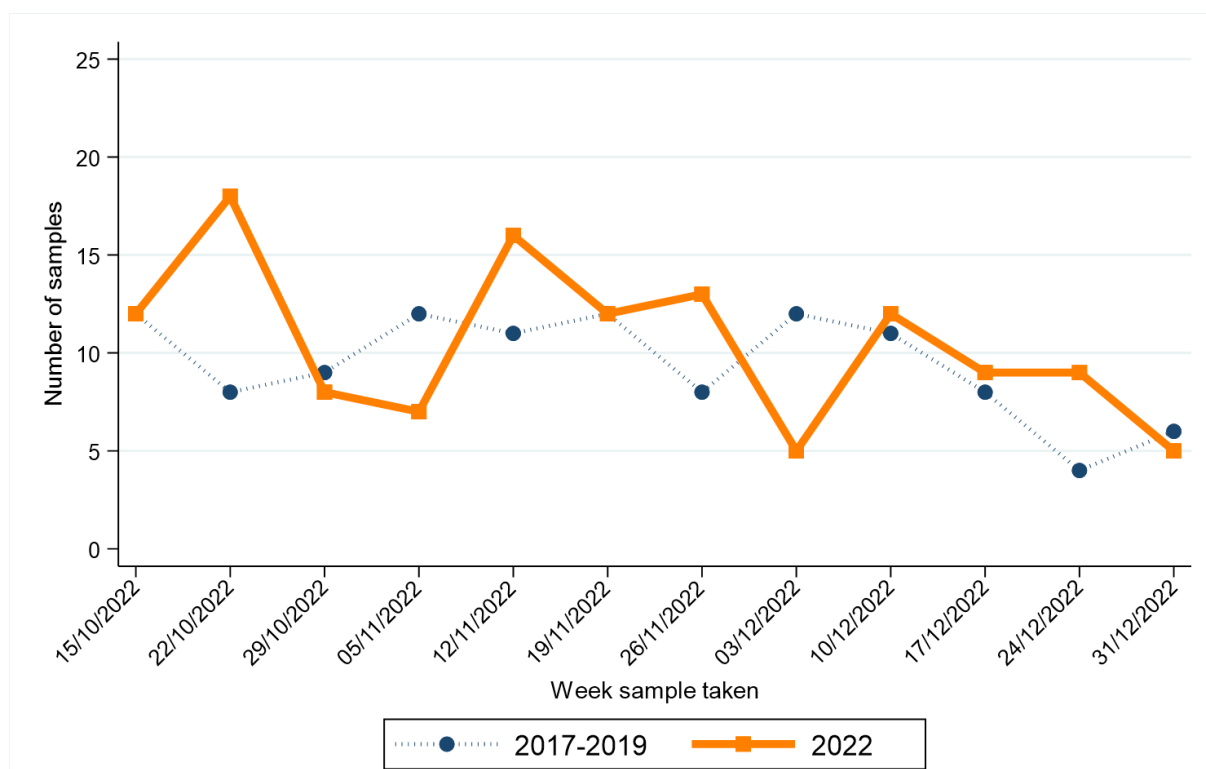
Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	41	54	28	39	Jul	42	31	45	34
Feb	40	38	27	37	Aug	39	24	29	43
Mar	42	34	54	48	Sep	47	36	49	46
Apr	39	16	41	26	Oct	37	40	49	46
May	39	28	38	42	Nov	41	41	48	38
Jun	38	45	46	37	Dec	33	39	53	32

\* 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 31/12/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+11.5%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
15/10/2022	319	383
22/10/2022	345	383
29/10/2022	289	318
05/11/2022	339	286
12/11/2022	313	327
19/11/2022	357	338

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
26/11/2022	343	313
03/12/2022	338	386
10/12/2022	345	321
17/12/2022	332	292
24/12/2022	115	267
31/12/2022	299	130

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

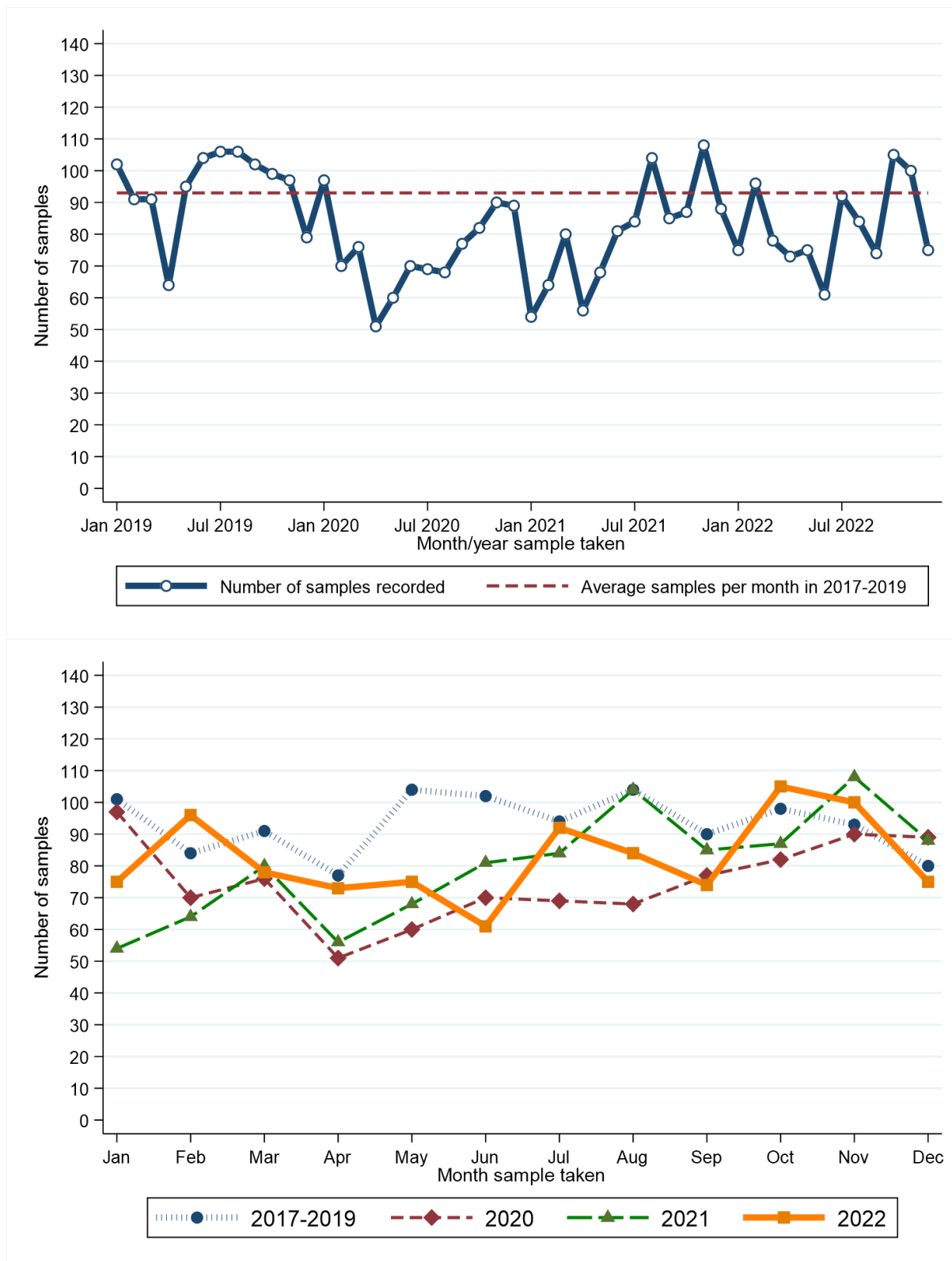
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# GYNAECOLOGICAL CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

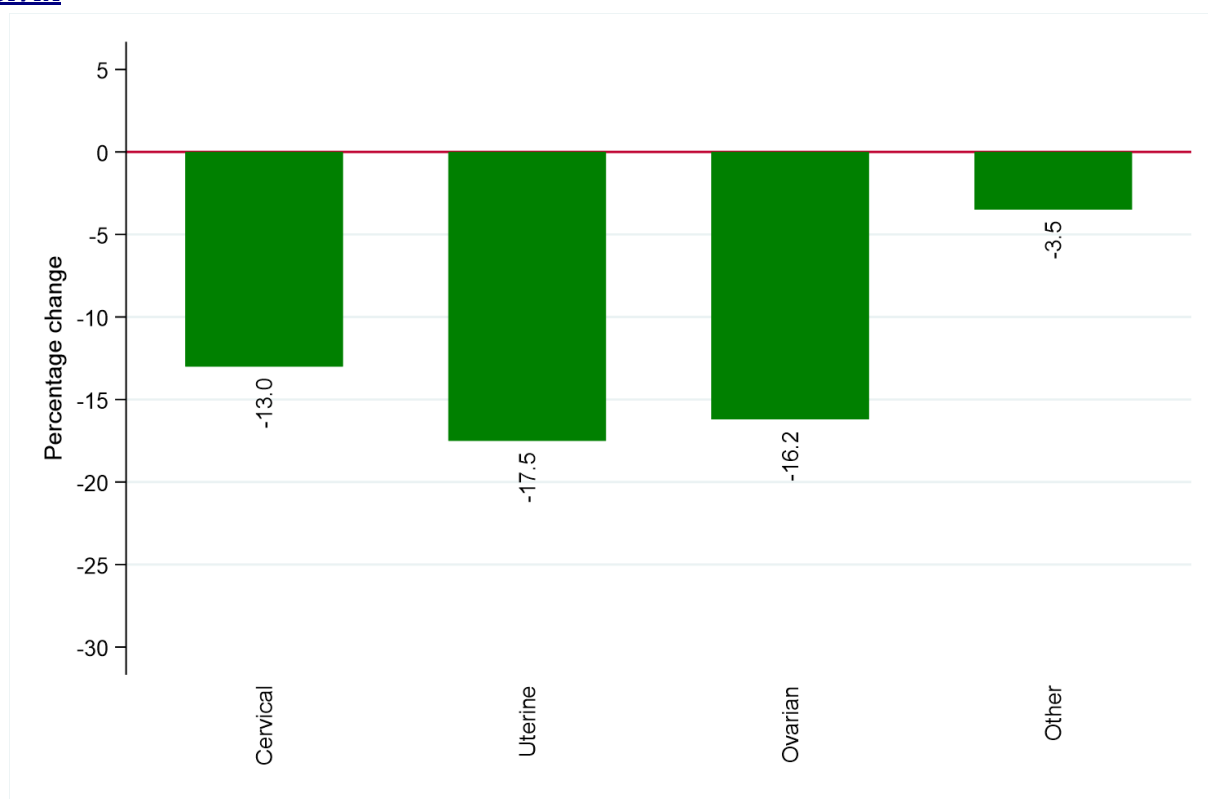
**-15.5%**



Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	101	97	54	75	Jul	94	69	84	92
Feb	84	70	64	96	Aug	104	68	104	84
Mar	91	76	80	78	Sep	90	77	85	74
Apr	77	51	56	73	Oct	98	82	87	105
May	104	60	68	75	Nov	93	90	108	100
Jun	102	70	81	61	Dec	80	89	88	75

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

### CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 BY DETAILED CANCER TYPE - Excluding Altnagelvin



Cancer type	Number of samples (March 2020 to December 2022)	
	Expected number*	Recorded number
Cervical cancer	469	408
Uterine cancer	1,505	1,242
Ovarian cancer	903	757
Other gynaecological cancer	282	272

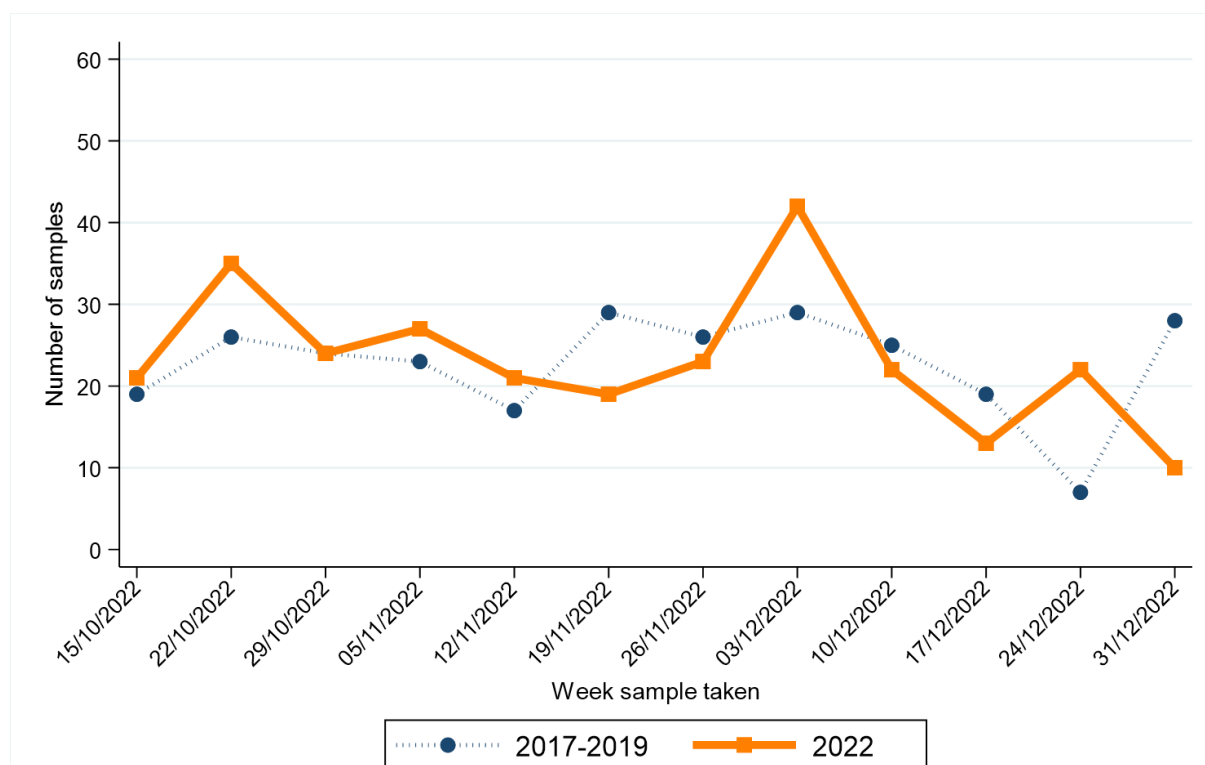
\* Based upon average monthly number of samples from 2017-2019.



## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 31/12/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+2.6%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
15/10/2022	319	383	26/11/2022	343	313
22/10/2022	345	383	03/12/2022	338	386
29/10/2022	289	318	10/12/2022	345	321
05/11/2022	339	286	17/12/2022	332	292
12/11/2022	313	327	24/12/2022	115	267
19/11/2022	357	338	31/12/2022	299	130

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

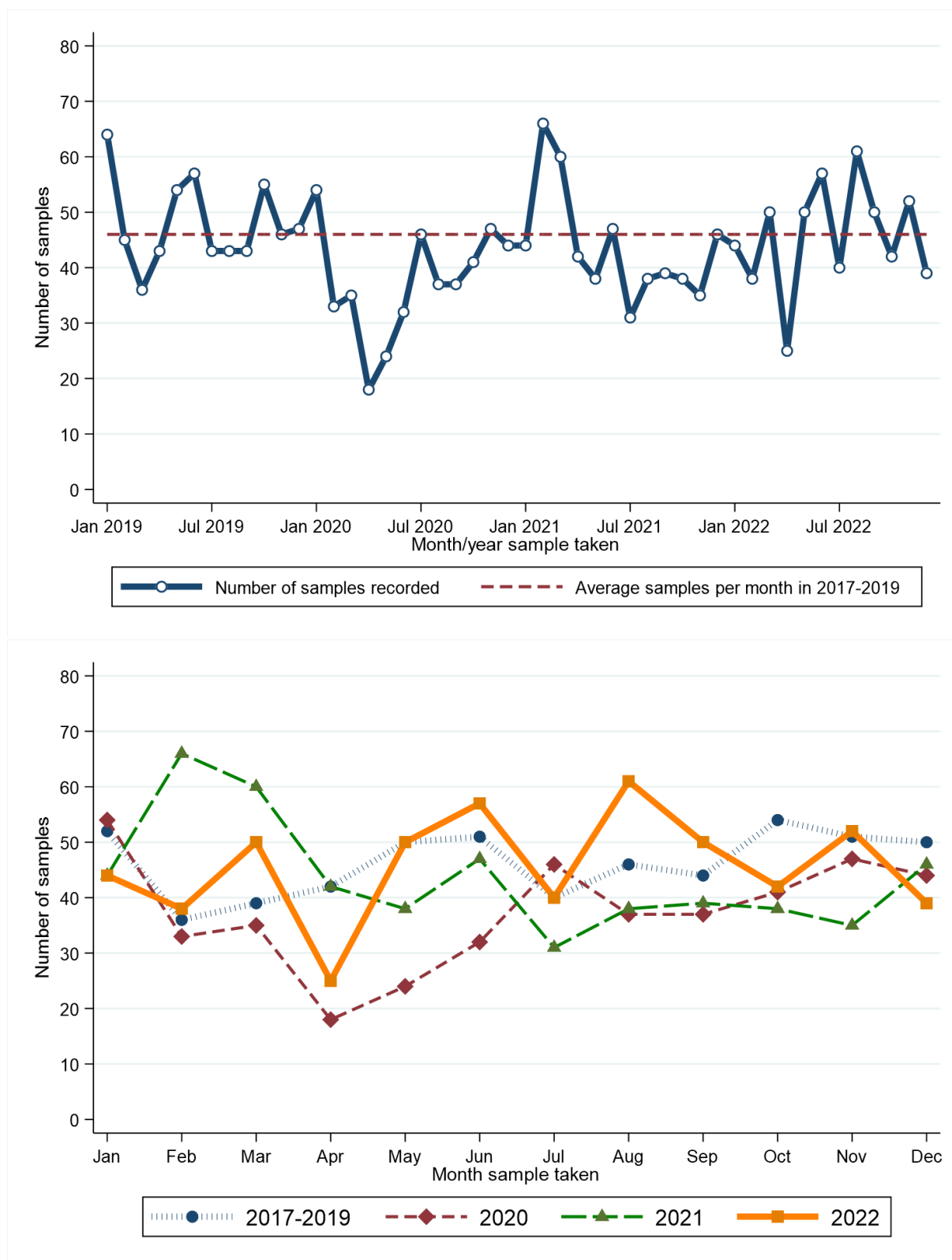
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# HEAD AND NECK CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

**-9.1%**



Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	52	54	44	44
Feb	36	33	66	38
Mar	39	35	60	50
Apr	42	18	42	25
May	50	24	38	50
Jun	51	32	47	57

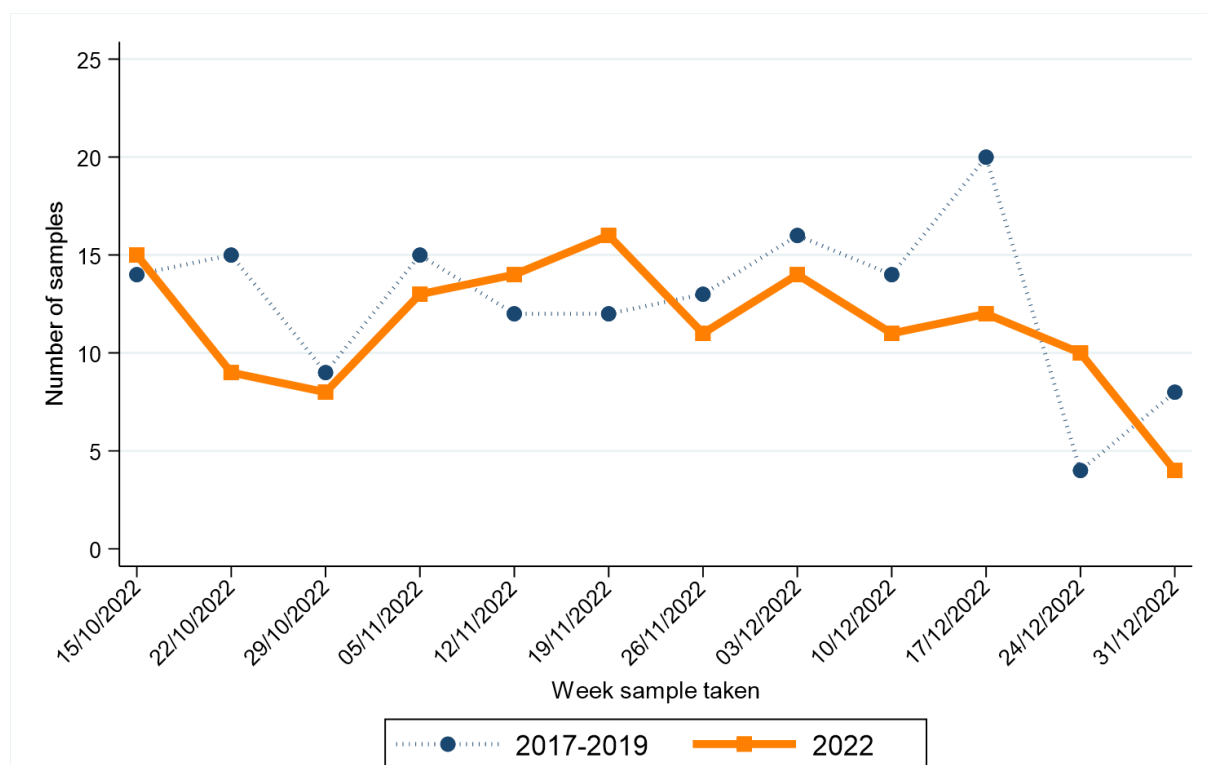
\* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jul	40	46	31	40
Aug	46	37	38	61
Sep	44	37	39	50
Oct	54	41	38	42
Nov	51	47	35	52
Dec	50	44	46	39

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 31/12/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-9.9%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
15/10/2022	319	383
22/10/2022	345	383
29/10/2022	289	318
05/11/2022	339	286
12/11/2022	313	327
19/11/2022	357	338

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
26/11/2022	343	313
03/12/2022	338	386
10/12/2022	345	321
17/12/2022	332	292
24/12/2022	115	267
31/12/2022	299	130

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

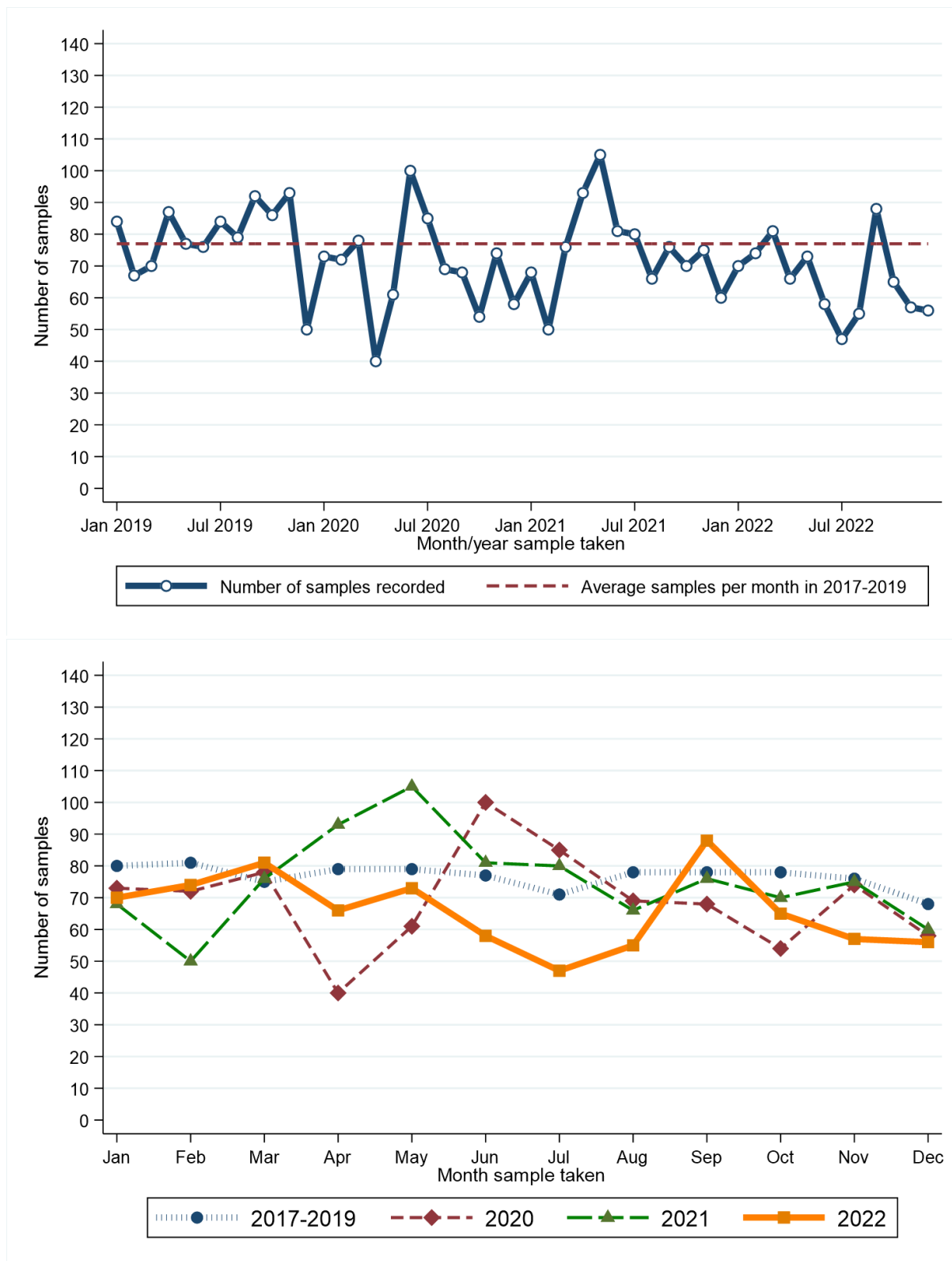
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# URINARY CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

**-8.5%**



Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	80	73	68	70
Feb	81	72	50	74
Mar	75	78	76	81
Apr	79	40	93	66
May	79	61	105	73
Jun	77	100	81	58

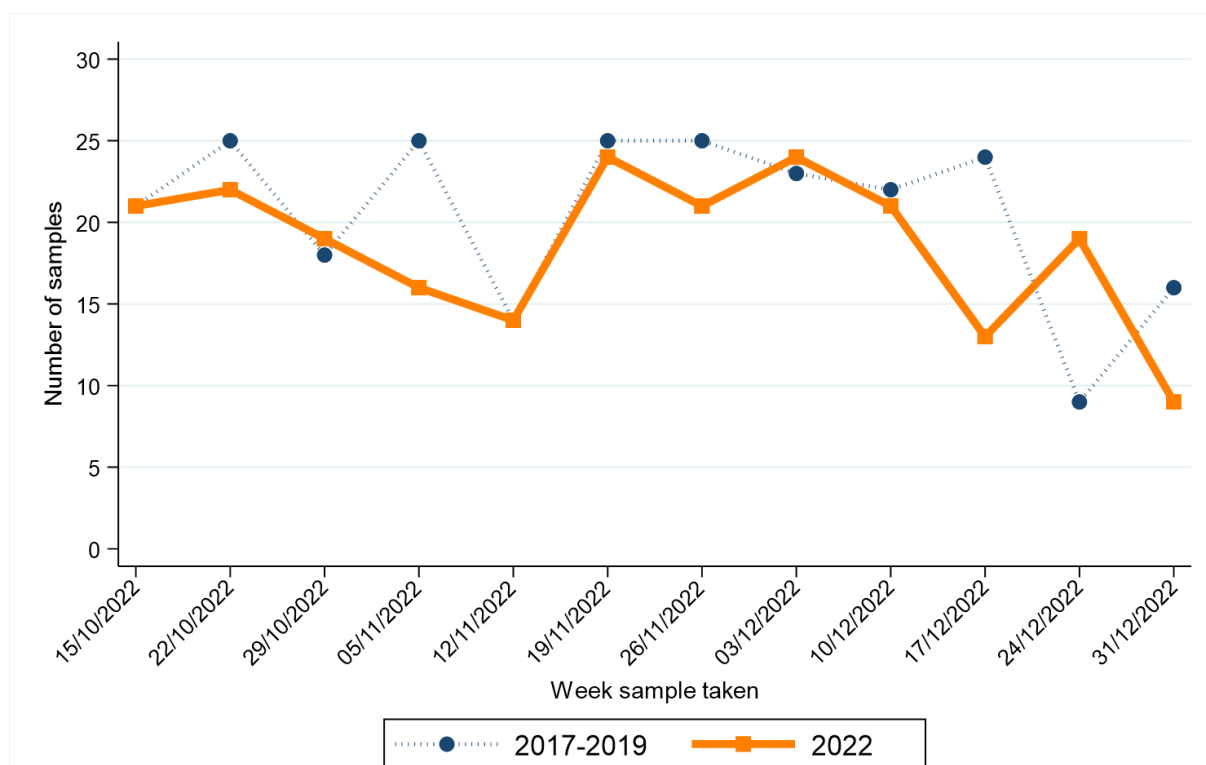
\* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jul	71	85	80	47
Aug	78	69	66	55
Sep	78	68	76	88
Oct	78	54	70	65
Nov	76	74	75	57
Dec	68	58	60	56

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 31/12/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-9.7%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
15/10/2022	319	383
22/10/2022	345	383
29/10/2022	289	318
05/11/2022	339	286
12/11/2022	313	327
19/11/2022	357	338

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
26/11/2022	343	313
03/12/2022	338	386
10/12/2022	345	321
17/12/2022	332	292
24/12/2022	115	267
31/12/2022	299	130

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

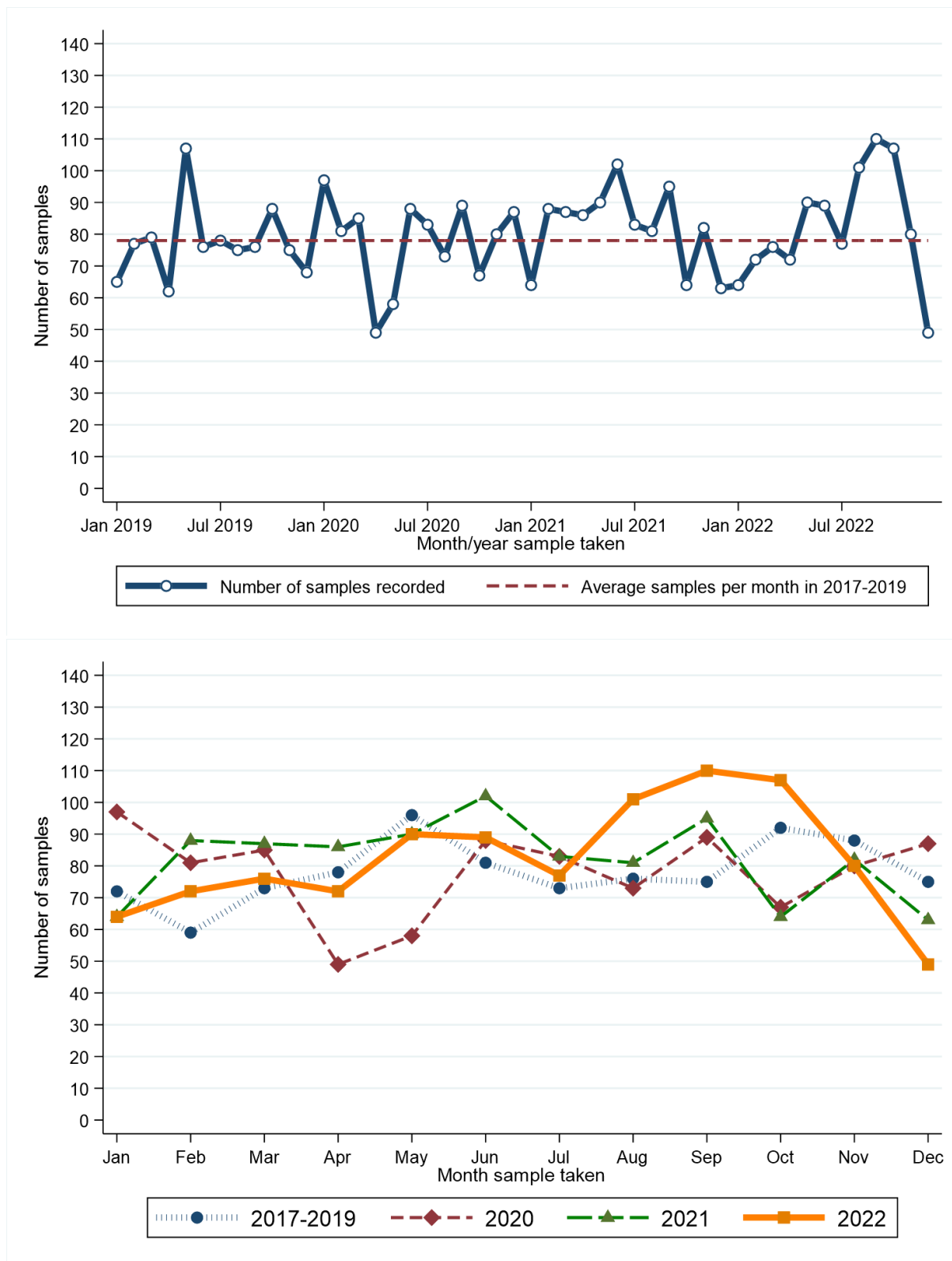
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# HAEMATOLOGICAL CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

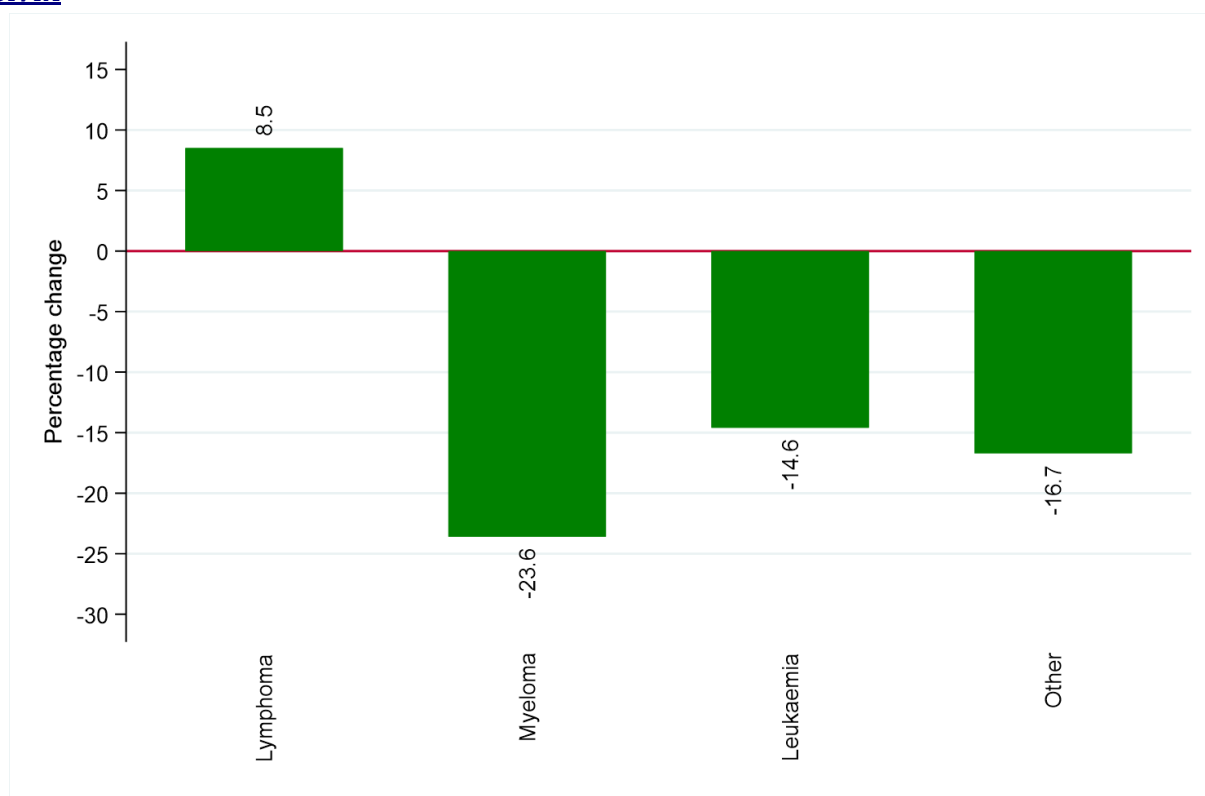
**+1.8%**



Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	72	97	64	64	Jul	73	83	83	77
Feb	59	81	88	72	Aug	76	73	81	101
Mar	73	85	87	76	Sep	75	89	95	110
Apr	78	49	86	72	Oct	92	67	64	107
May	96	58	90	90	Nov	88	80	82	80
Jun	81	88	102	89	Dec	75	87	63	49

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

### CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 BY DETAILED CANCER TYPE - Excluding Altnagelvin



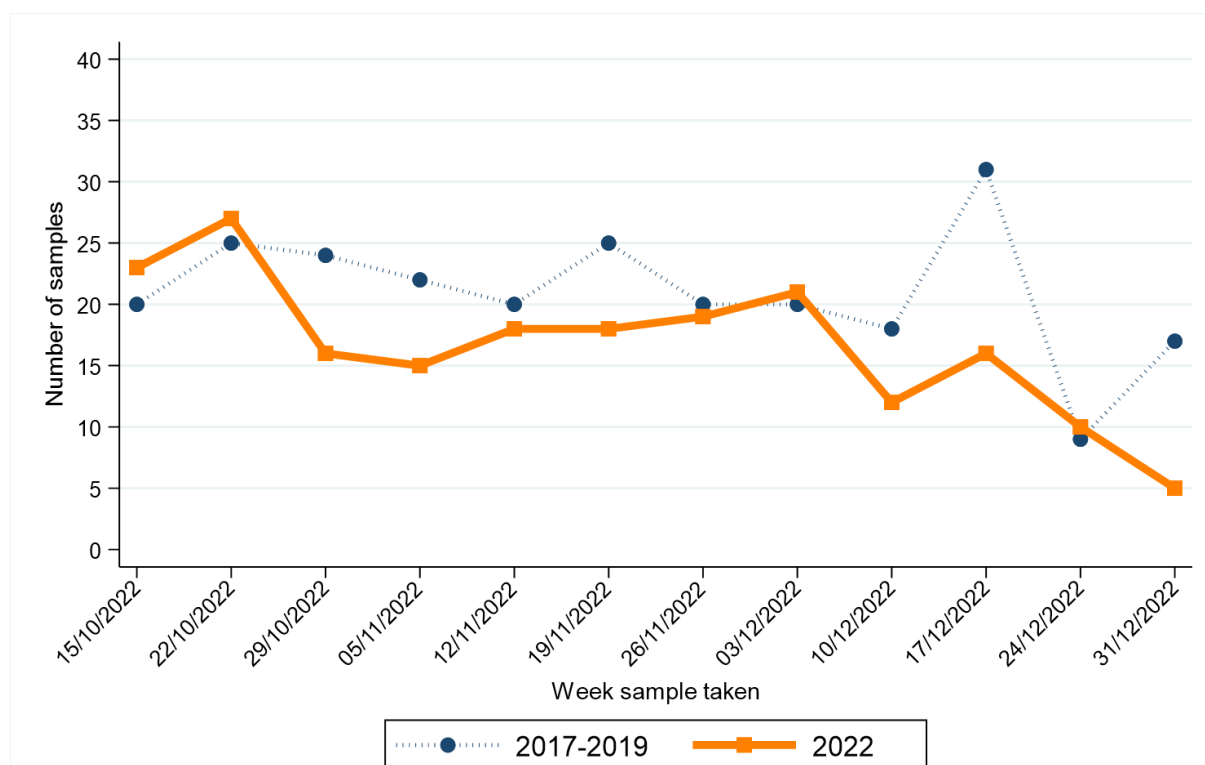
Cancer type	Number of samples (March 2020 to December 2022)	
	Expected number*	Recorded number
Lymphoma	2,074	2,250
Myeloma	352	269
Leukaemia	213	182
Other haematological cancer	36	30

\* Based upon average monthly number of samples from 2017-2019.

## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 31/12/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-20.3%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
15/10/2022	319	383	26/11/2022	343	313
22/10/2022	345	383	03/12/2022	338	386
29/10/2022	289	318	10/12/2022	345	321
05/11/2022	339	286	17/12/2022	332	292
12/11/2022	313	327	24/12/2022	115	267
19/11/2022	357	338	31/12/2022	299	130

\* 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 Sun-Sat week in those years.

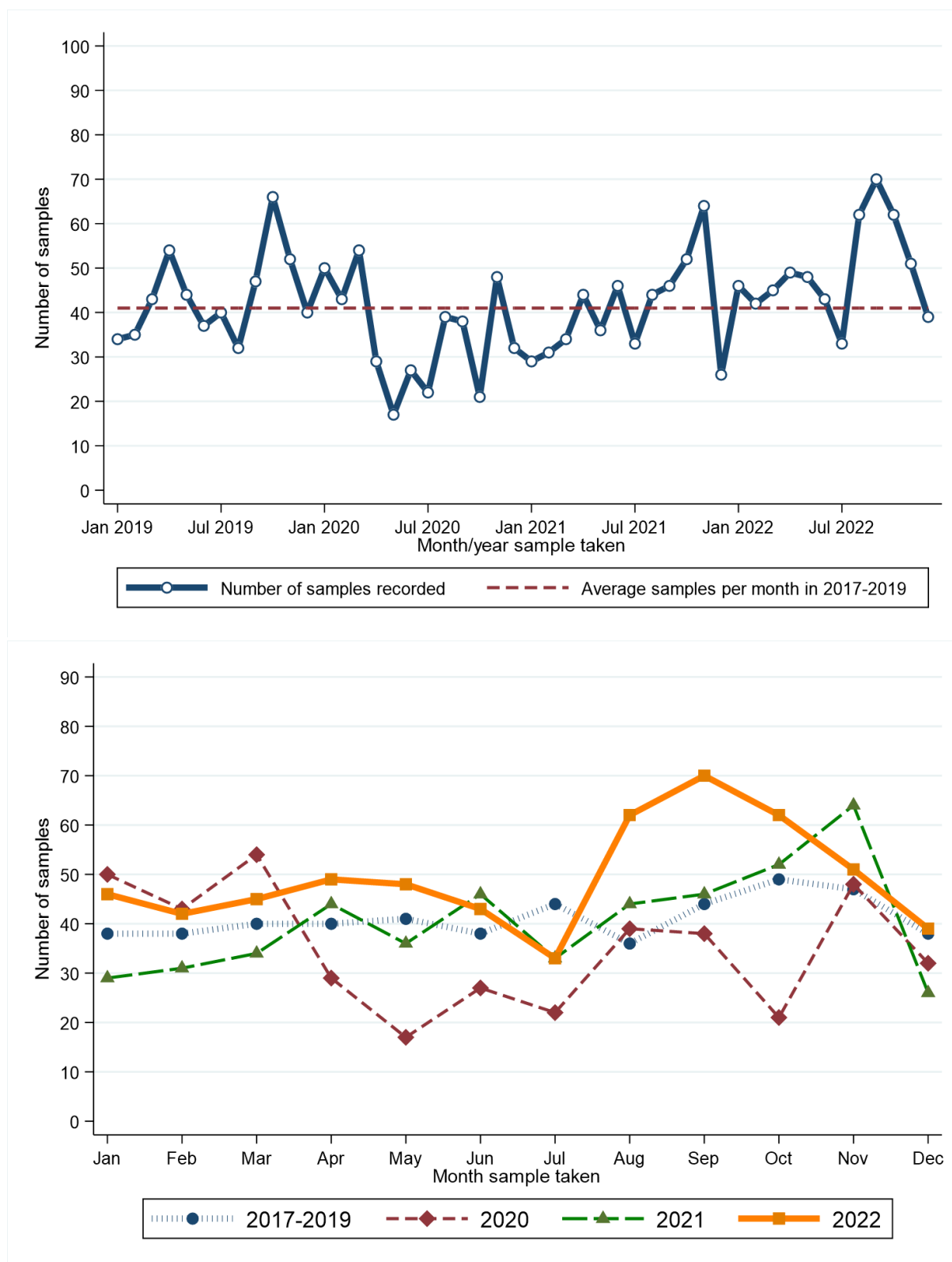


# MELANOMA

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

**-0.1%**



Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	38	50	29	46
Feb	38	43	31	42
Mar	40	54	34	45
Apr	40	29	44	49
May	41	17	36	48
Jun	38	27	46	43

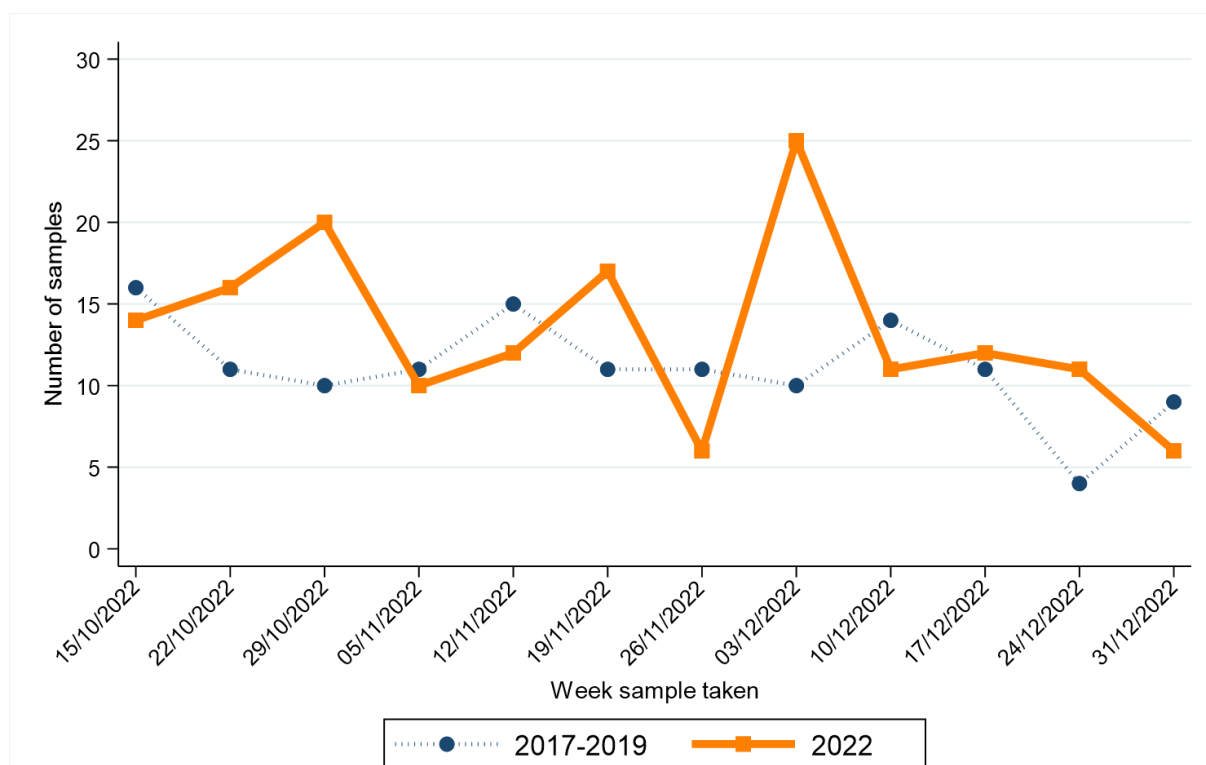
\* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jul	44	22	33	33
Aug	36	39	44	62
Sep	44	38	46	70
Oct	49	21	52	62
Nov	47	48	64	51
Dec	38	32	26	39

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 31/12/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+20.3%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
15/10/2022	319	383
22/10/2022	345	383
29/10/2022	289	318
05/11/2022	339	286
12/11/2022	313	327
19/11/2022	357	338

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
26/11/2022	343	313
03/12/2022	338	386
10/12/2022	345	321
17/12/2022	332	292
24/12/2022	115	267
31/12/2022	299	130

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

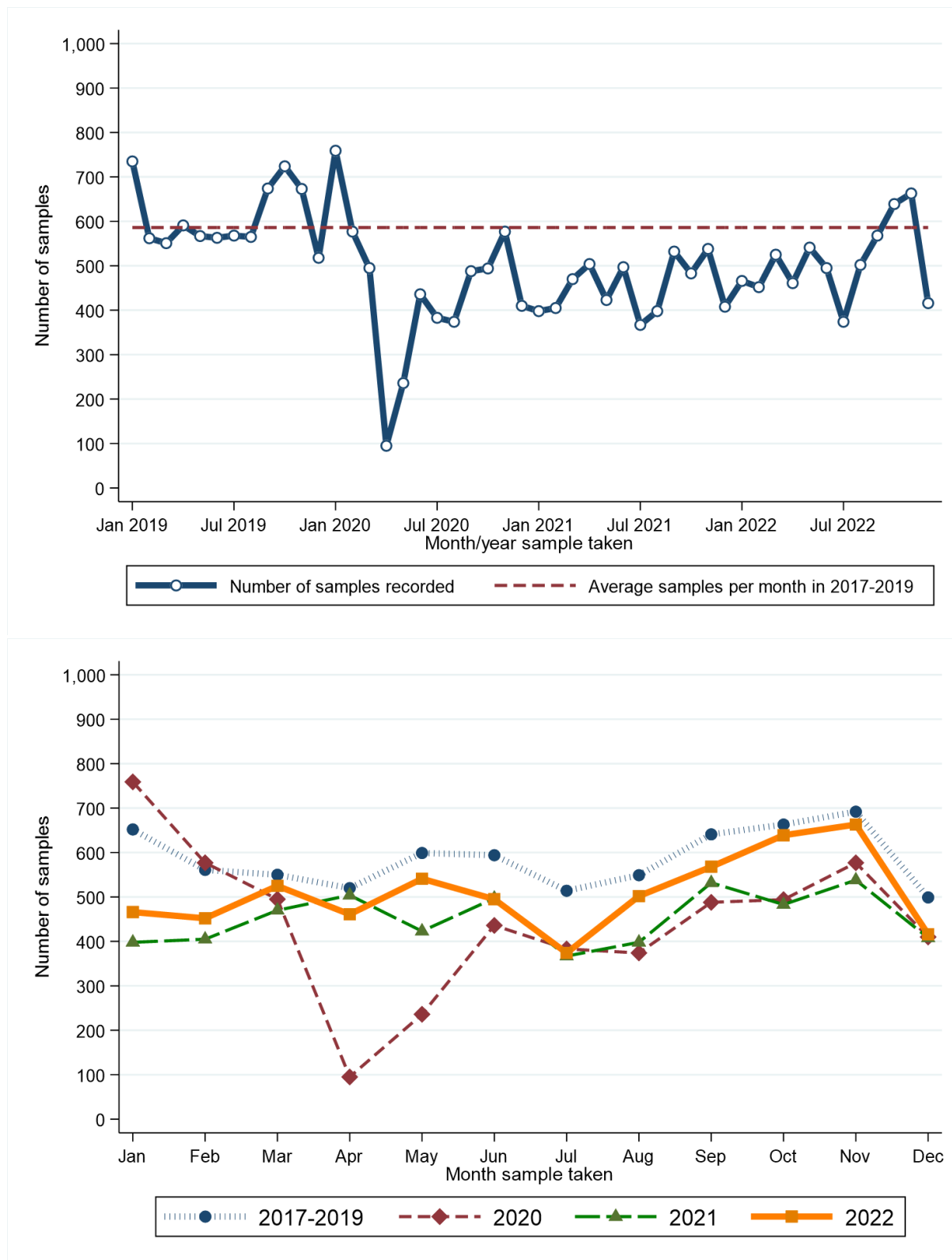
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# NON-MELANOMA SKIN CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

**-22.0%**



Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	652	759	398	466
Feb	561	577	405	452
Mar	550	495	470	525
Apr	520	95	504	461
May	599	236	423	541
Jun	594	436	497	495

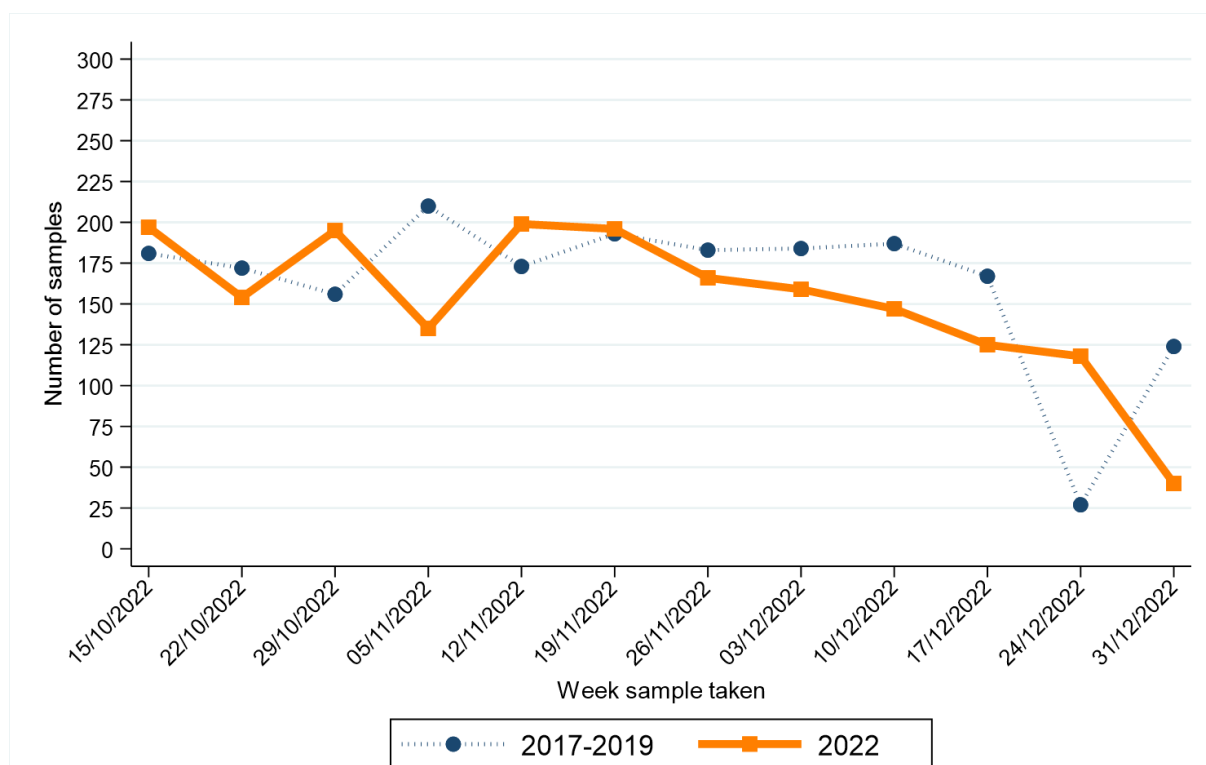
\* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jul	514	383	367	374
Aug	549	374	398	502
Sep	641	488	532	568
Oct	663	494	483	639
Nov	692	577	538	663
Dec	499	410	408	416

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 31/12/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-6.4%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
15/10/2022	319	383
22/10/2022	345	383
29/10/2022	289	318
05/11/2022	339	286
12/11/2022	313	327
19/11/2022	357	338

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
26/11/2022	343	313
03/12/2022	338	386
10/12/2022	345	321
17/12/2022	332	292
24/12/2022	115	267
31/12/2022	299	130

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

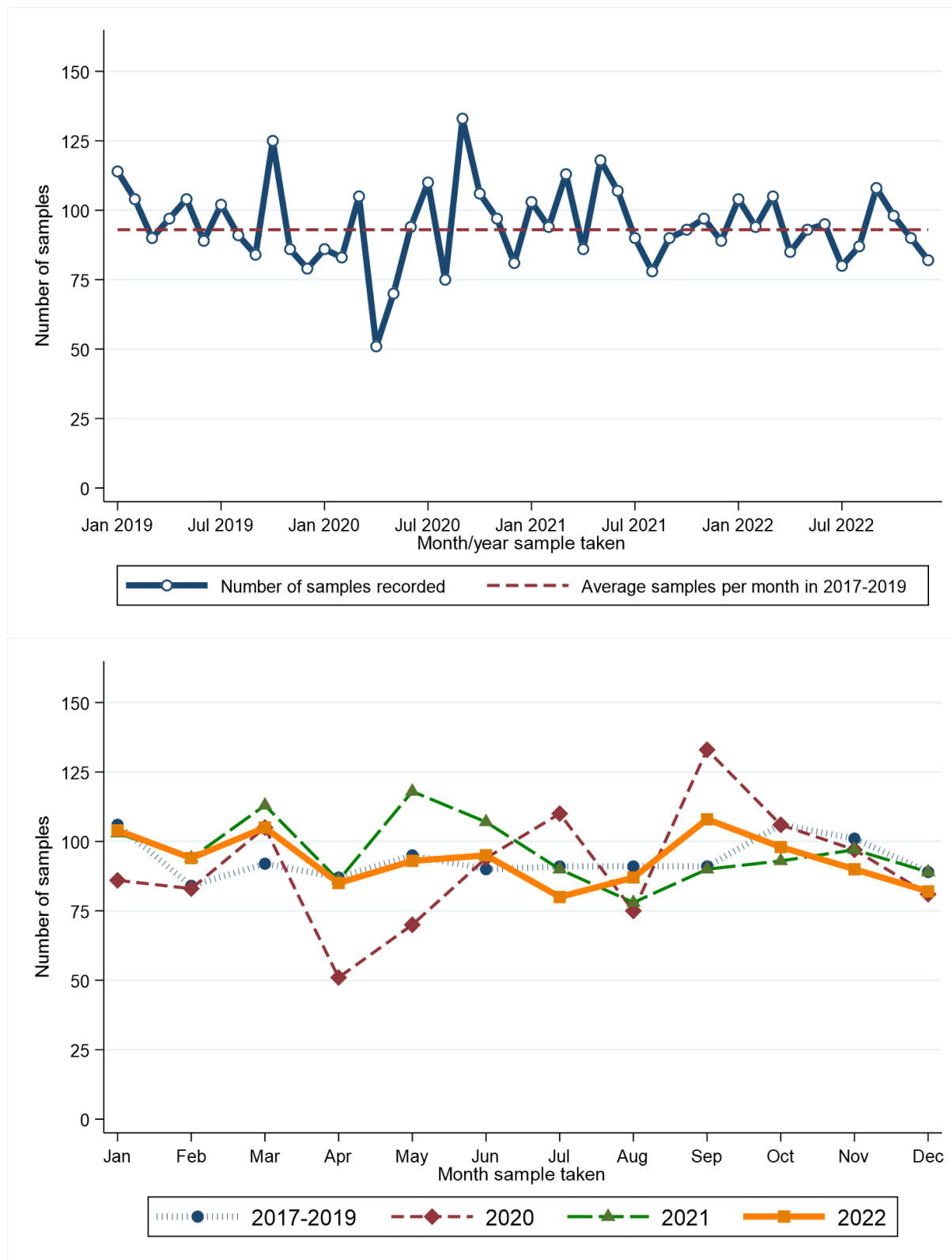
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2022. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# OTHER CANCER

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

**+0.7%**



Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jan	106	86	103	104
Feb	84	83	94	94
Mar	92	105	113	105
Apr	87	51	86	85
May	95	70	118	93
Jun	90	94	107	95

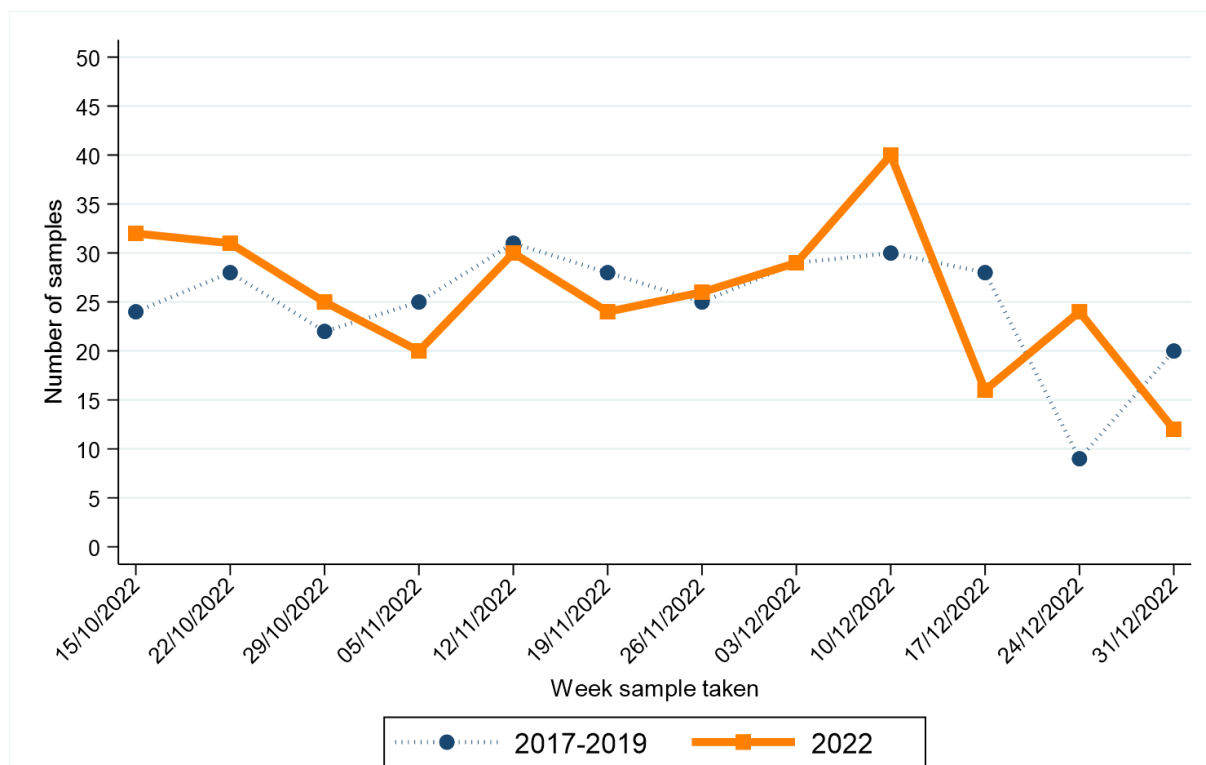
\* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Month sample taken**	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022
Jul	91	110	90	80
Aug	91	75	78	87
Sep	91	133	90	108
Oct	106	106	93	98
Nov	101	97	97	90
Dec	89	81	89	82

### RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 31/12/2022 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+3.3%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
15/10/2022	319	383
22/10/2022	345	383
29/10/2022	289	318
05/11/2022	339	286
12/11/2022	313	327
19/11/2022	357	338

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2022
26/11/2022	343	313
03/12/2022	338	386
10/12/2022	345	321
17/12/2022	332	292
24/12/2022	115	267
31/12/2022	299	130

\* 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 Sun-Sat 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 December 2022. Due to potential reporting delays, pathology data from the month following December 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, pancreas, 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.