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

March 2023 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 patients with pathology samples indicating cancer: March 2023

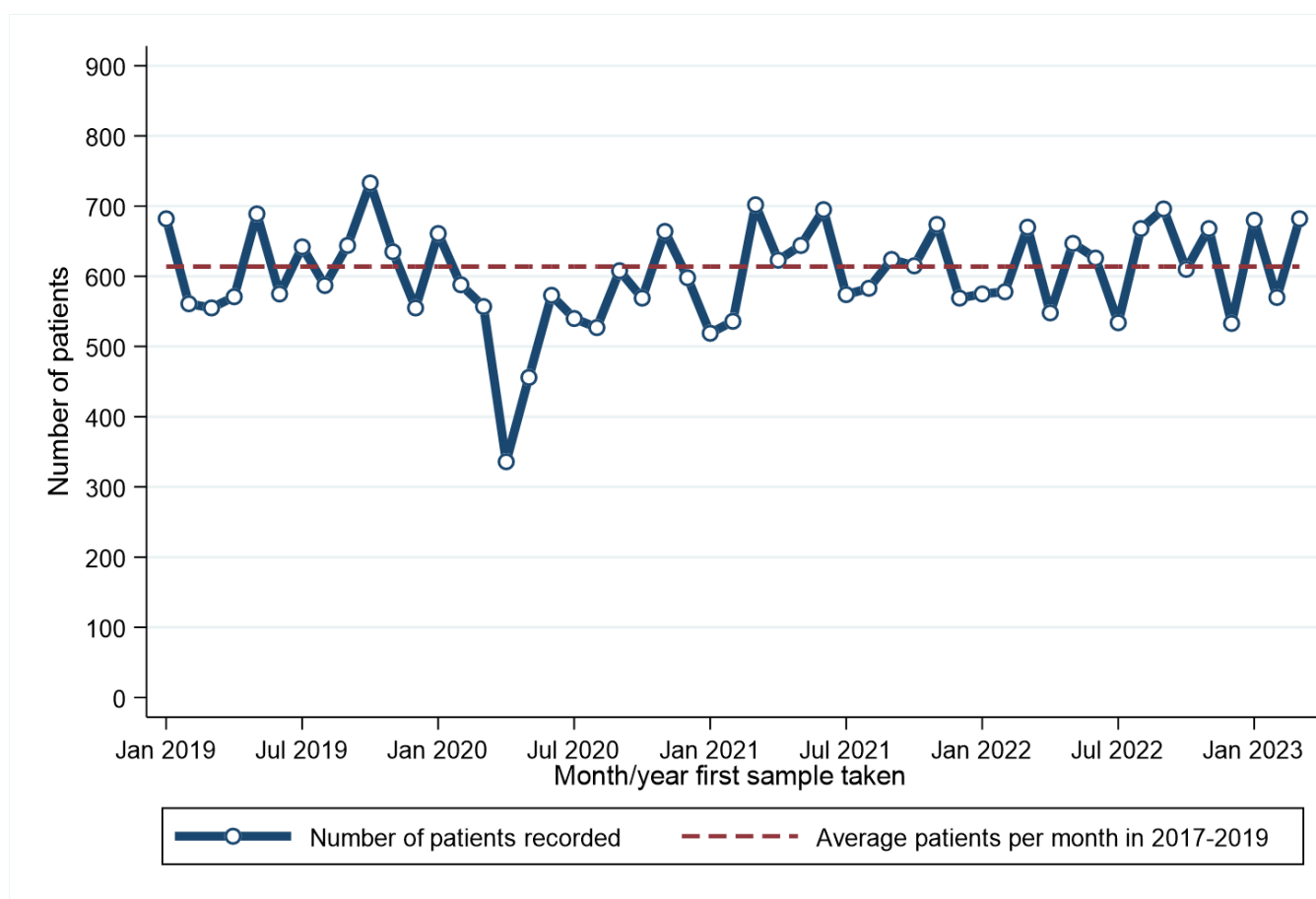
This summary provides an overview of recent trends in the number of patients with pathology samples indicating cancer (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer, NMSC) whose first sample was taken from March 2020 to March 2023 in Northern Ireland.

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.

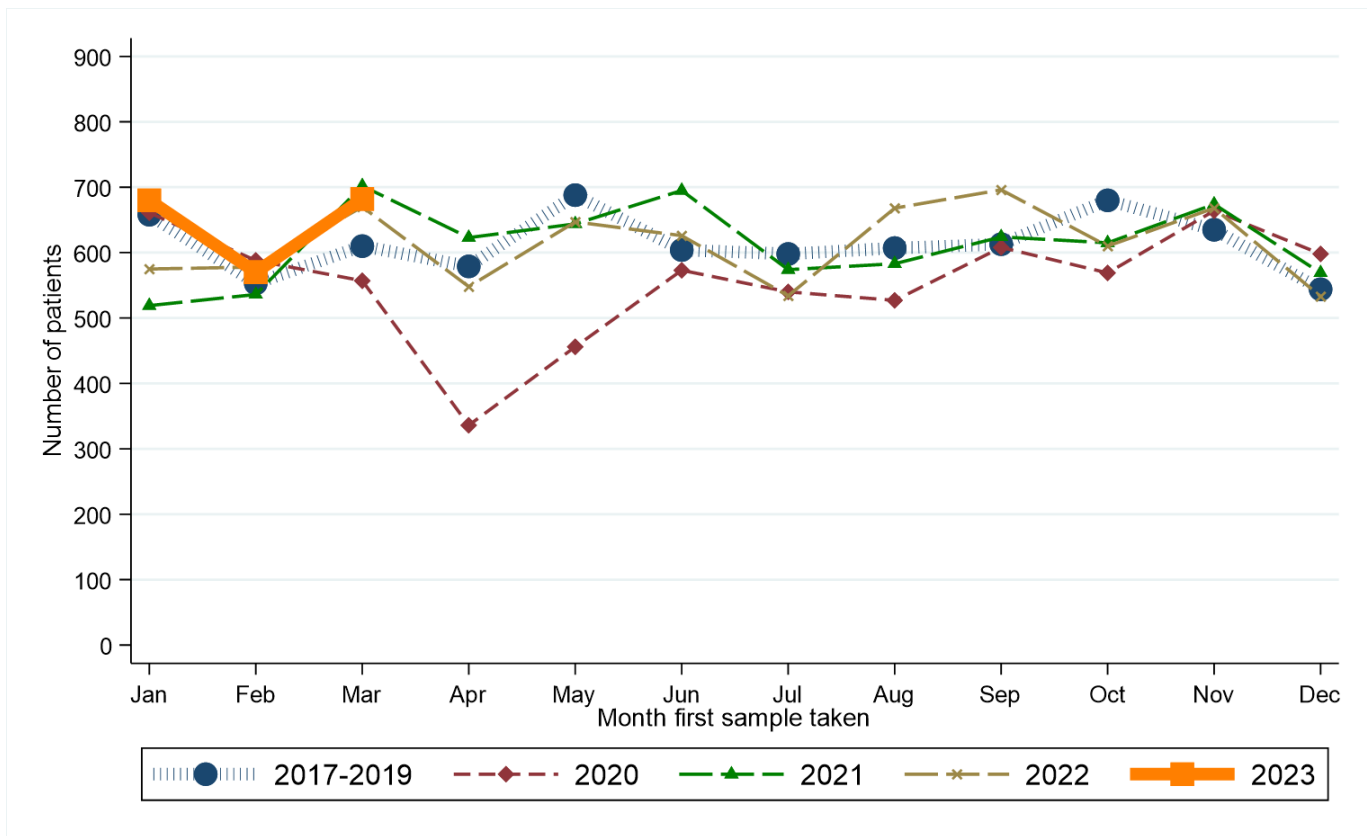
Data are sourced from the four NHS pathology laboratories in NI (Belfast, Altnagelvin, Antrim, Craigavon), which are usually provided to NICR on a monthly basis. **Altnagelvin laboratory is excluded from some analysis as a change in recording systems led to an undercount in the number of reported samples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

CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 (Excludes Altnagelvin)

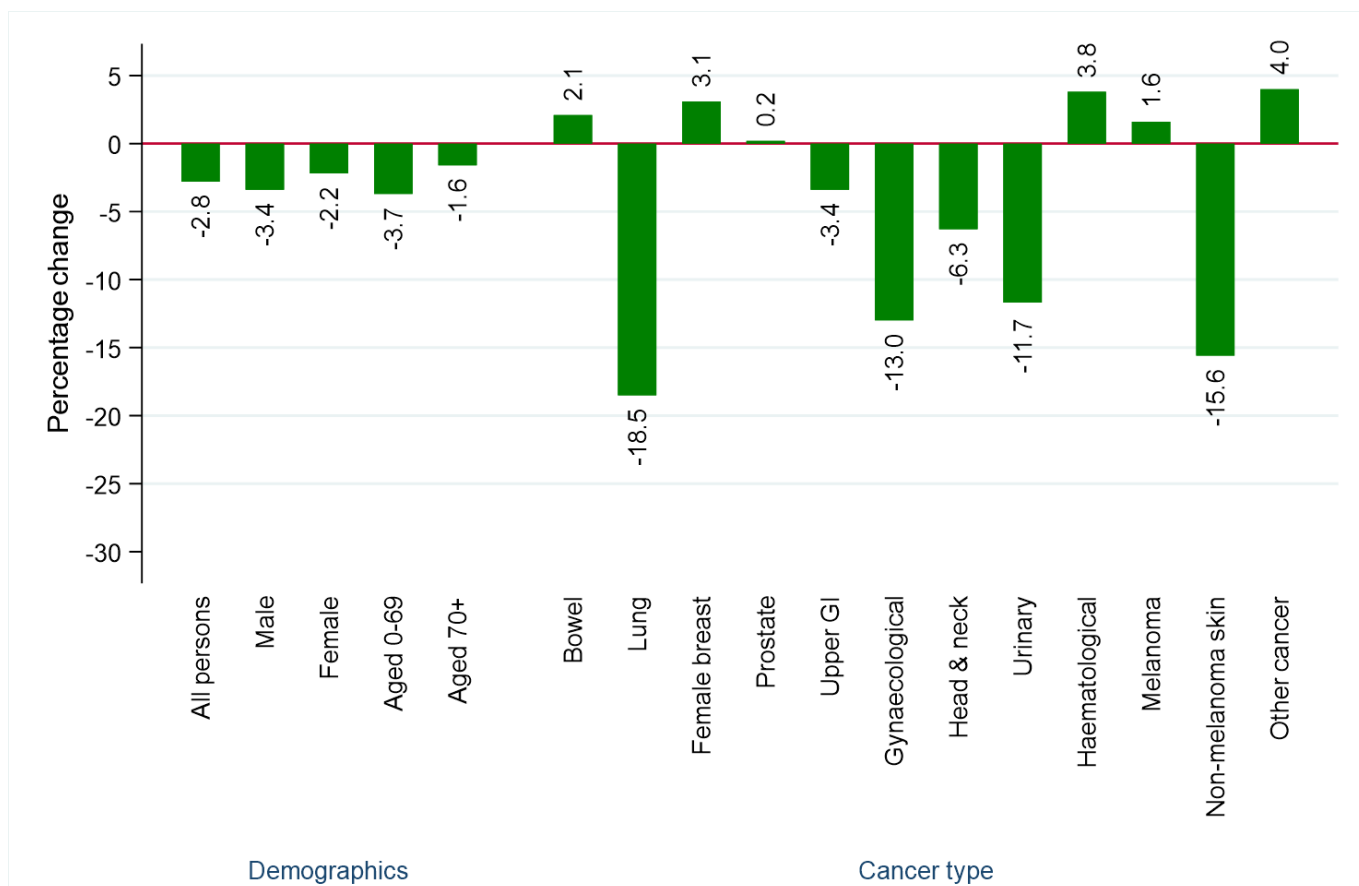
From March 2020 to March 2023 the number of patients with a pathological sample indicating cancer (ex NMSC) was 2.8% lower than the average number for the same time period in 2017-2019.



From March 2020 to March 2023 there was a 3.4% decrease among males and a 2.2% decrease among females compared to the same time period in 2017-2019. A decrease of 3.7% occurred in the number of patients aged 0-69 years, while there was a decrease of 1.6% among those aged 70 and older.

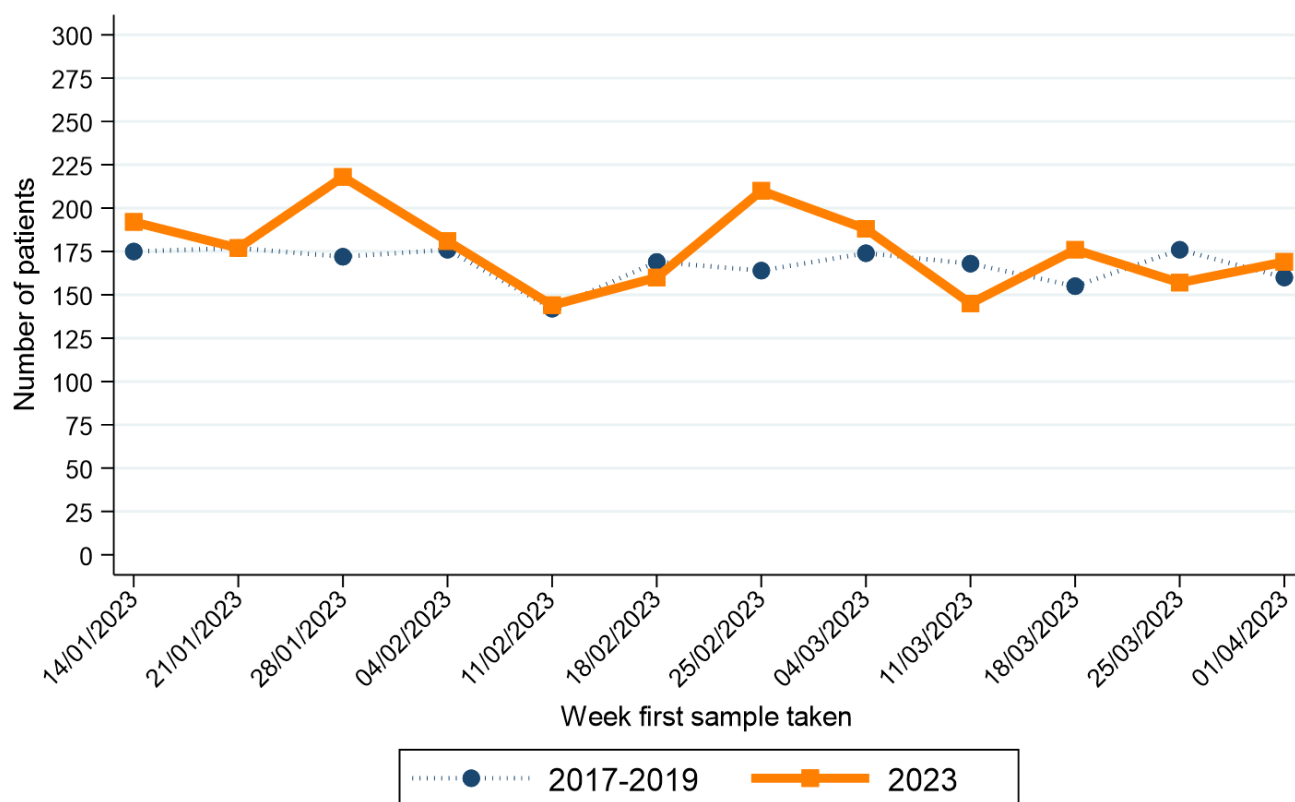


Compared to the annual average in 2017-2019, from March 2020 to March 2023 the number of patients with a pathology sample indicating lung cancer decreased by 18.5%. Increases were recorded for bowel cancer, female breast cancer, prostate cancer, haematological cancer and melanoma, while decreases of more than 10% were recorded for gynaecological cancer, urinary cancer and non-melanoma skin cancer.

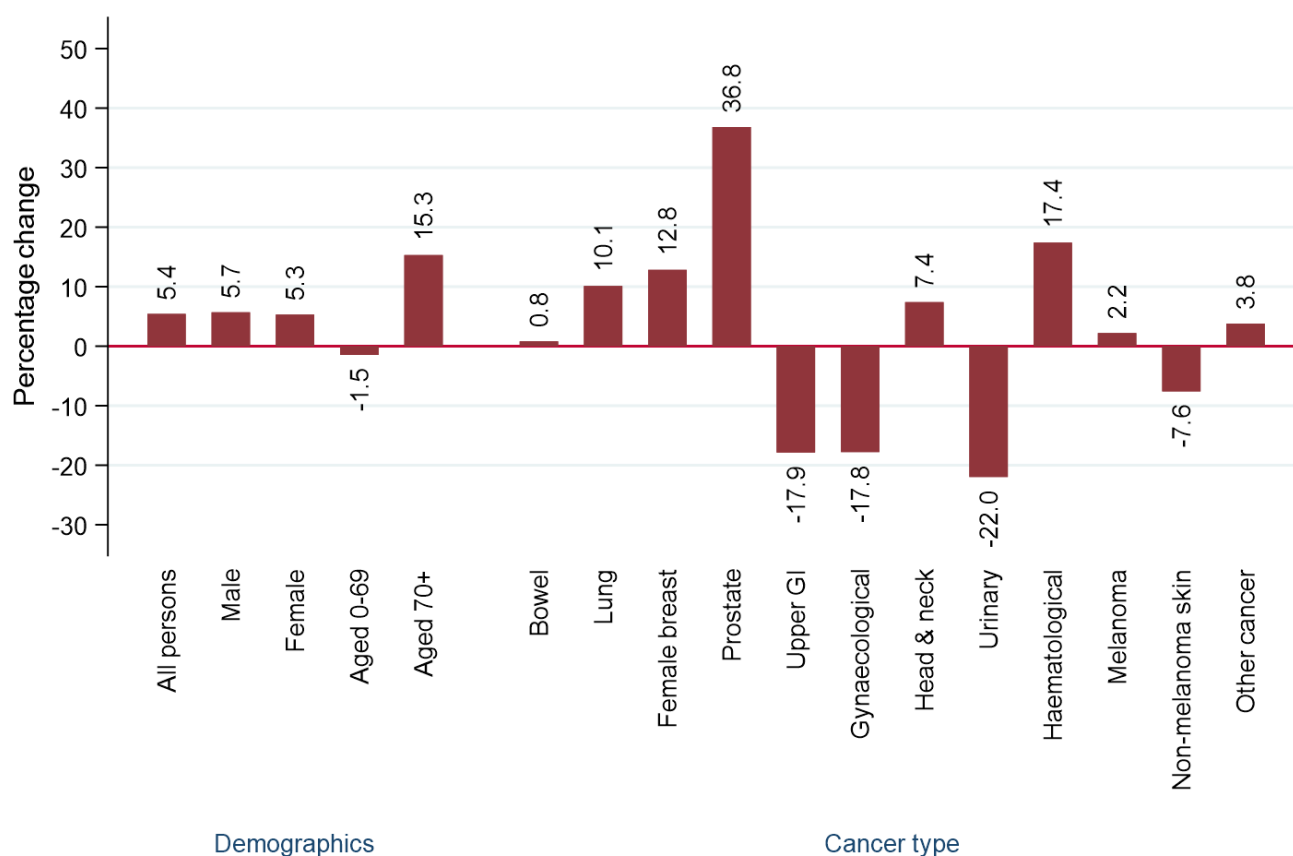


RECENT CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF PATIENTS (Includes Altnagelvin)

There was a 5.4% increase in the number of patients with a pathology sample indicating cancer in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 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 01/04/2023 there was a 5.7% increase among males and a 5.3% increase among females compared to the same time period in 2017-2019. A decrease of 1.5% occurred in the number of patients aged 0-69 years, while there was an increase of 15.3% among those aged 70 and older.

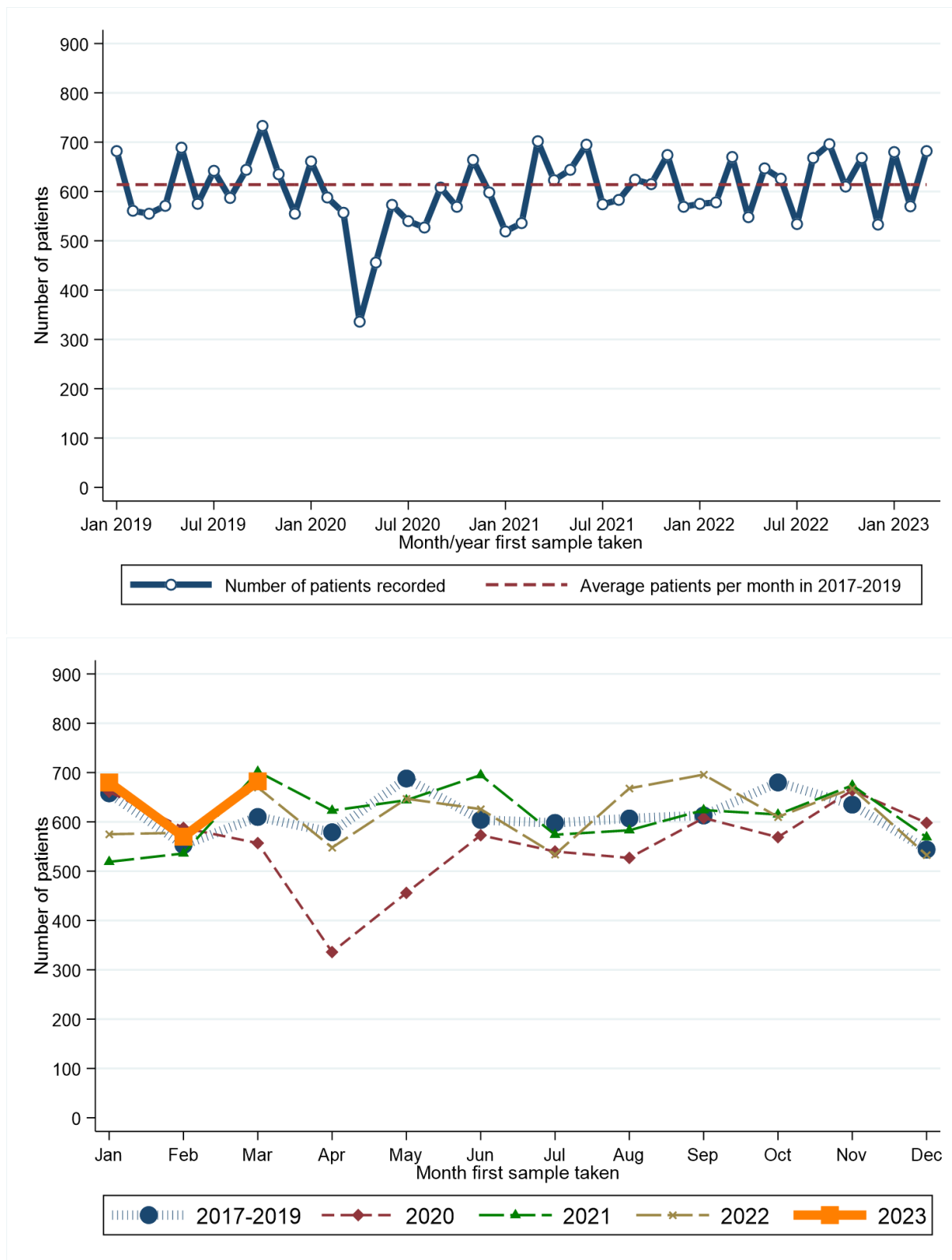
Compared to the annual average in 2017-2019, in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 the number of patients with a pathology sample indicating lung cancer increased by 10.1%. Increases were recorded for bowel cancer, female breast cancer, prostate cancer, head and neck cancer, haematological cancer and melanoma, while decreases of more than 10% were recorded for upper gastrointestinal cancer, gynaecological cancer and urinary cancer.

ALL PERSONS: CANCER (EX NMSC)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-2.8%



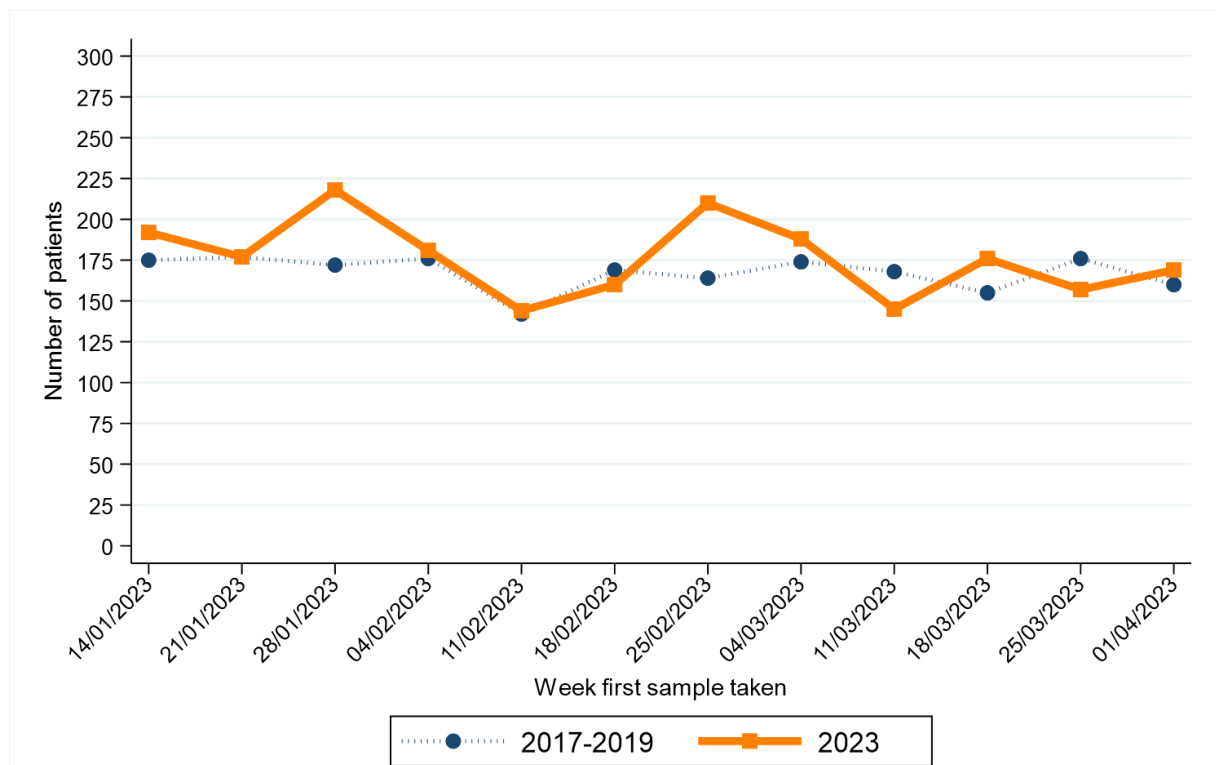
Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	658	661	519	575	680	Jul	598	540	574	534	.
Feb	553	588	536	578	570	Aug	607	527	583	668	.
Mar	610	557	702	670	682	Sep	613	608	624	696	.
Apr	579	336	623	548	.	Oct	680	569	615	610	.
May	688	456	644	647	.	Nov	635	664	674	668	.
Jun	604	573	695	626	.	Dec	544	598	569	533	.

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+5.4%



Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	175	192	25/02/2023	164	210
21/01/2023	177	177	04/03/2023	174	188
28/01/2023	172	218	11/03/2023	168	145
04/02/2023	176	181	18/03/2023	155	176
11/02/2023	142	144	25/03/2023	176	157
18/02/2023	169	160	01/04/2023	160	169

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

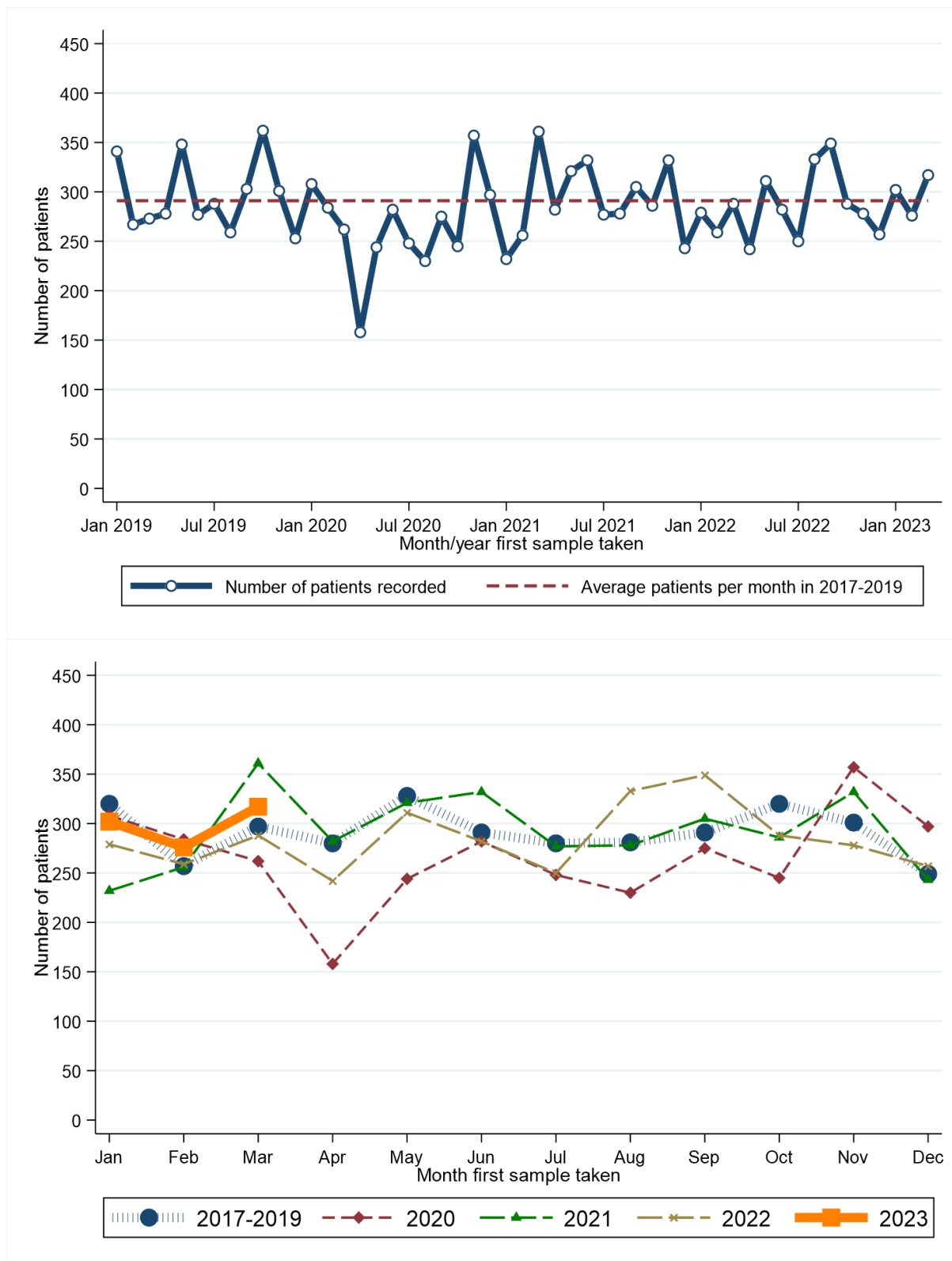
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

MALE: CANCER (EX NMSC)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-3.4%



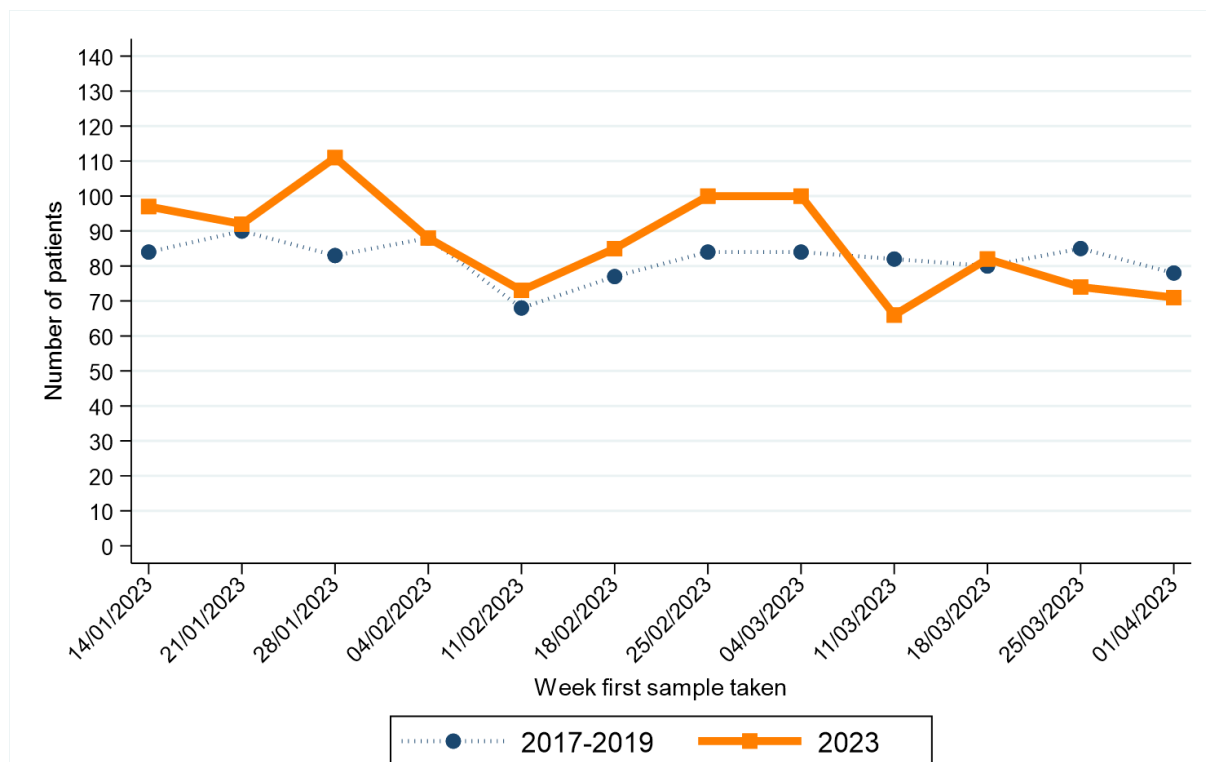
Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	320	308	232	279	302	Jul	280	248	277	250	.
Feb	257	284	256	259	276	Aug	281	230	278	333	.
Mar	297	262	361	288	317	Sep	291	275	305	349	.
Apr	280	158	282	242	.	Oct	320	245	286	288	.
May	328	244	321	311	.	Nov	301	357	332	278	.
Jun	291	282	332	282	.	Dec	249	297	243	257	.

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+5.7%



Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	84	97
21/01/2023	90	92
28/01/2023	83	111
04/02/2023	88	88
11/02/2023	68	73
18/02/2023	77	85

Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
25/02/2023	84	100
04/03/2023	84	100
11/03/2023	82	66
18/03/2023	80	82
25/03/2023	85	74
01/04/2023	78	71

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

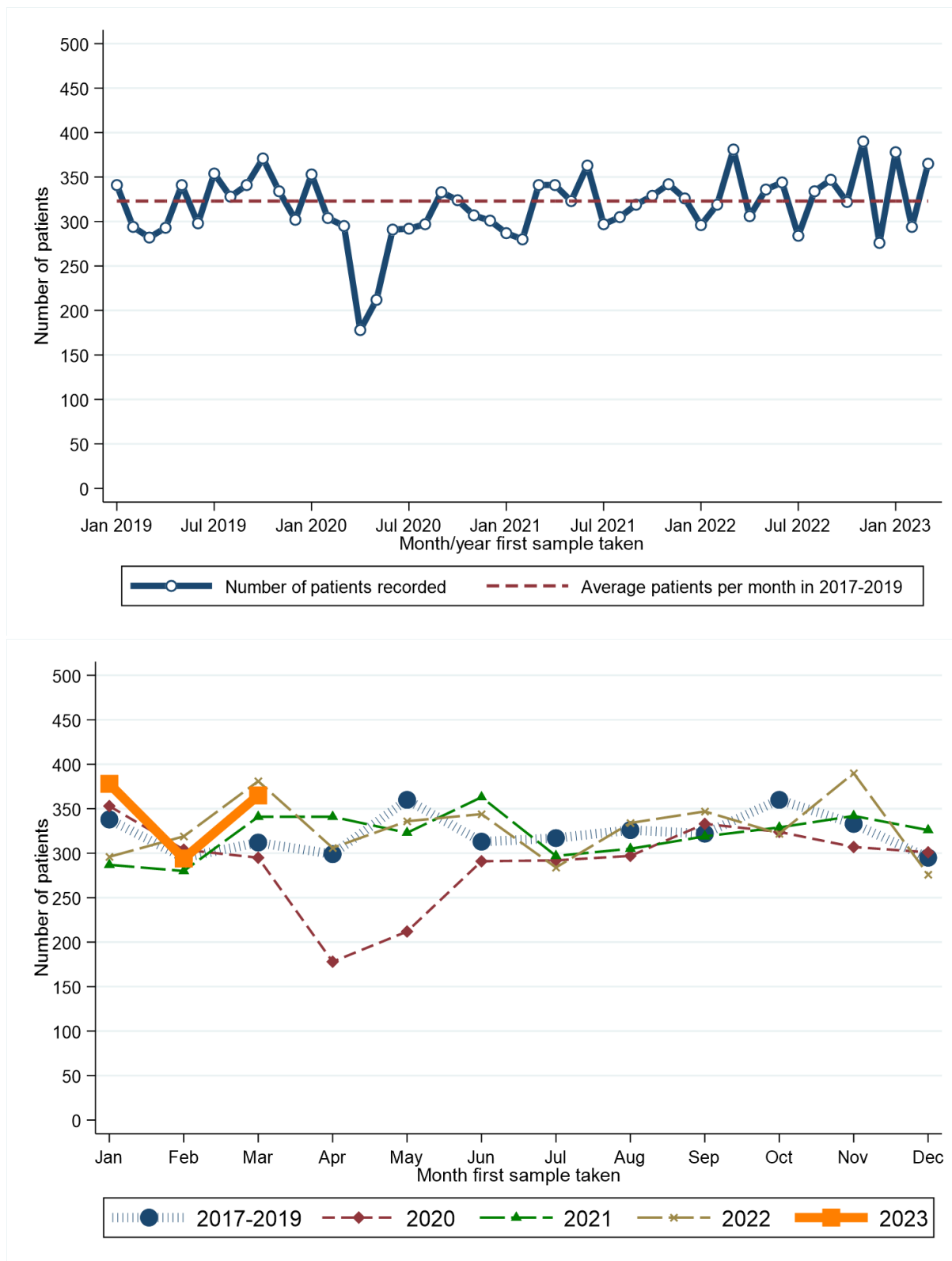
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

FEMALE: CANCER (EX NMSC)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-2.2%



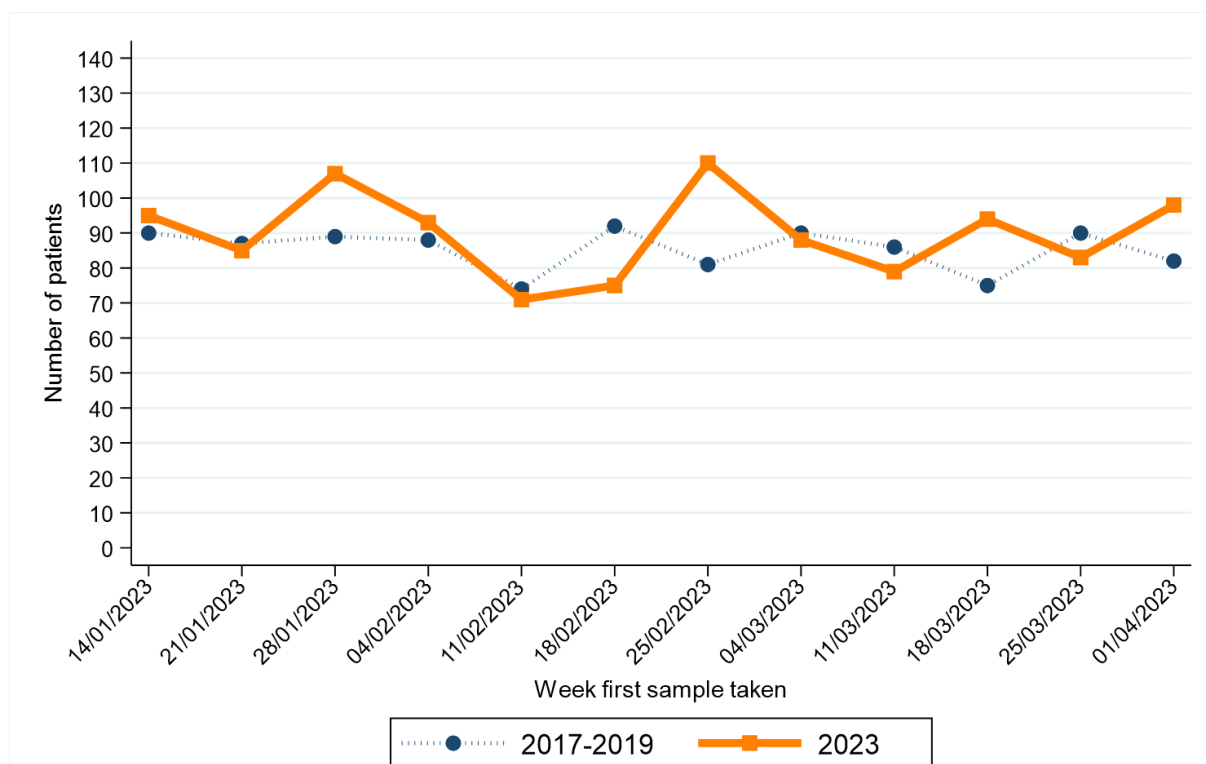
Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	338	353	287	296	378	Jul	317	292	297	284	.
Feb	295	304	280	319	294	Aug	326	297	305	334	.
Mar	312	295	341	381	365	Sep	322	333	319	347	.
Apr	299	178	341	306	.	Oct	360	324	329	322	.
May	360	212	323	336	.	Nov	333	307	342	390	.
Jun	313	291	363	344	.	Dec	295	301	326	276	.

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+5.3%



Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	90	95	25/02/2023	81	110
21/01/2023	87	85	04/03/2023	90	88
28/01/2023	89	107	11/03/2023	86	79
04/02/2023	88	93	18/03/2023	75	94
11/02/2023	74	71	25/03/2023	90	83
18/02/2023	92	75	01/04/2023	82	98

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

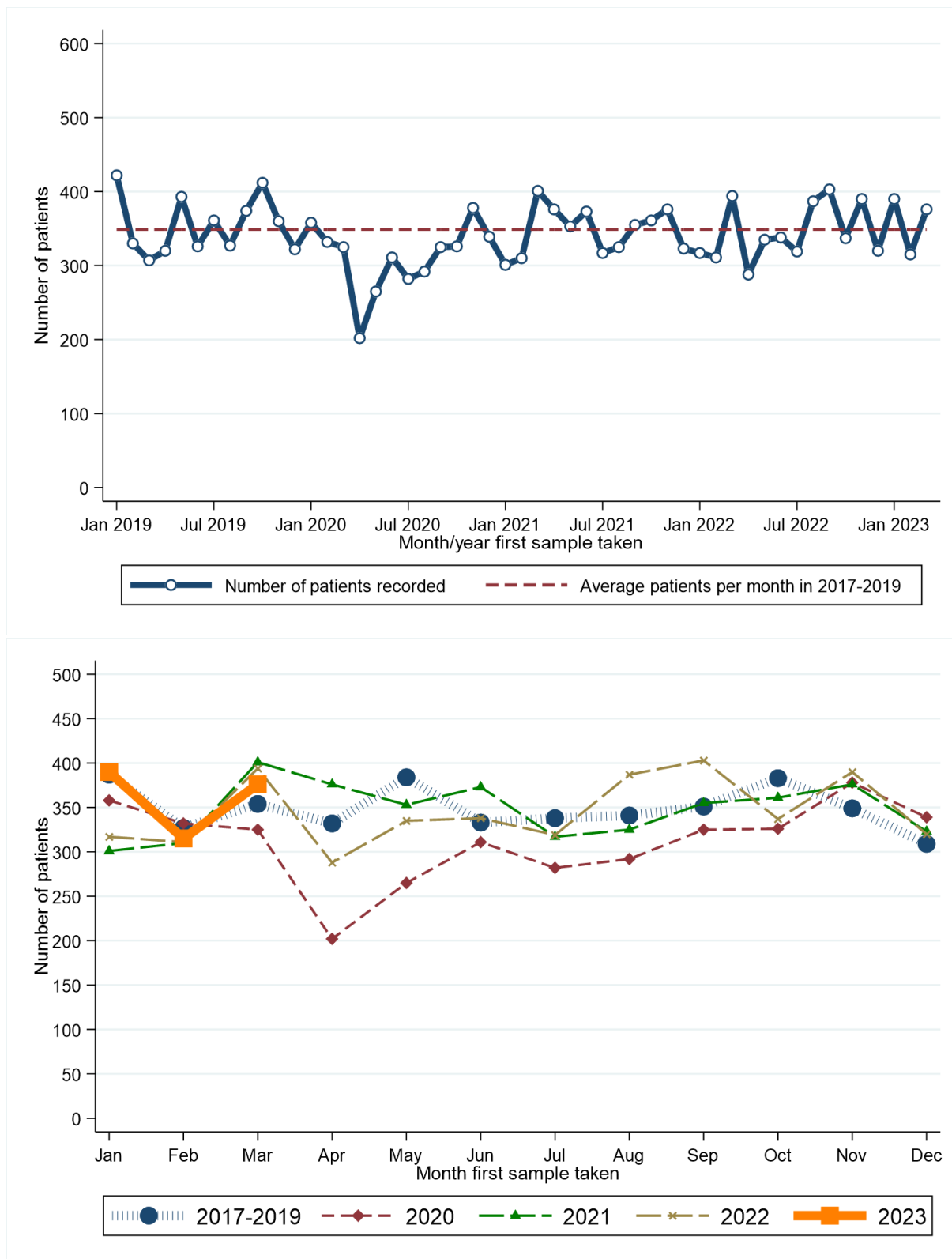
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

AGED 0-69: CANCER (EX NMSC)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-3.7%



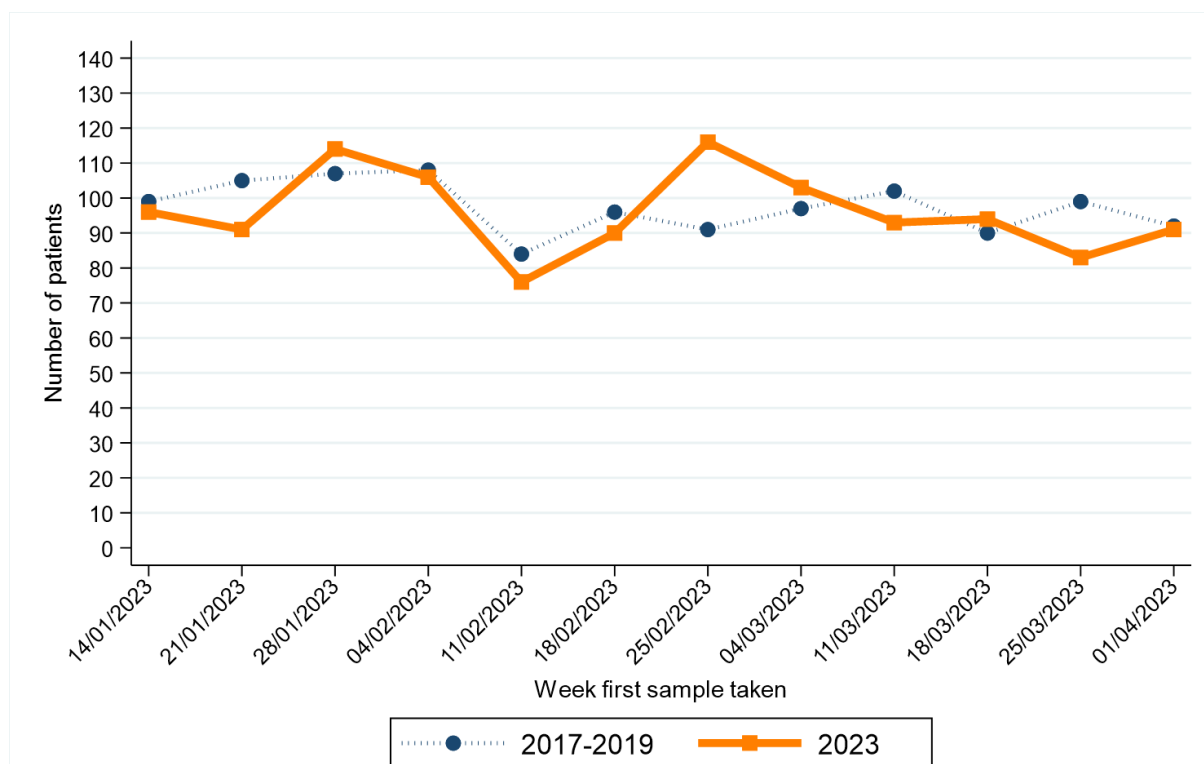
Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	387	358	301	317	390	Jul	338	282	317	319	.
Feb	327	332	310	311	315	Aug	341	292	325	387	.
Mar	354	325	401	394	376	Sep	351	325	355	403	.
Apr	332	202	376	288	.	Oct	383	326	361	337	.
May	384	265	353	335	.	Nov	349	378	376	390	.
Jun	333	311	373	338	.	Dec	309	339	323	320	.

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-1.5%



Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	99	96
21/01/2023	105	91
28/01/2023	107	114
04/02/2023	108	106
11/02/2023	84	76
18/02/2023	96	90

Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
25/02/2023	91	116
04/03/2023	97	103
11/03/2023	102	93
18/03/2023	90	94
25/03/2023	99	83
01/04/2023	92	91

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

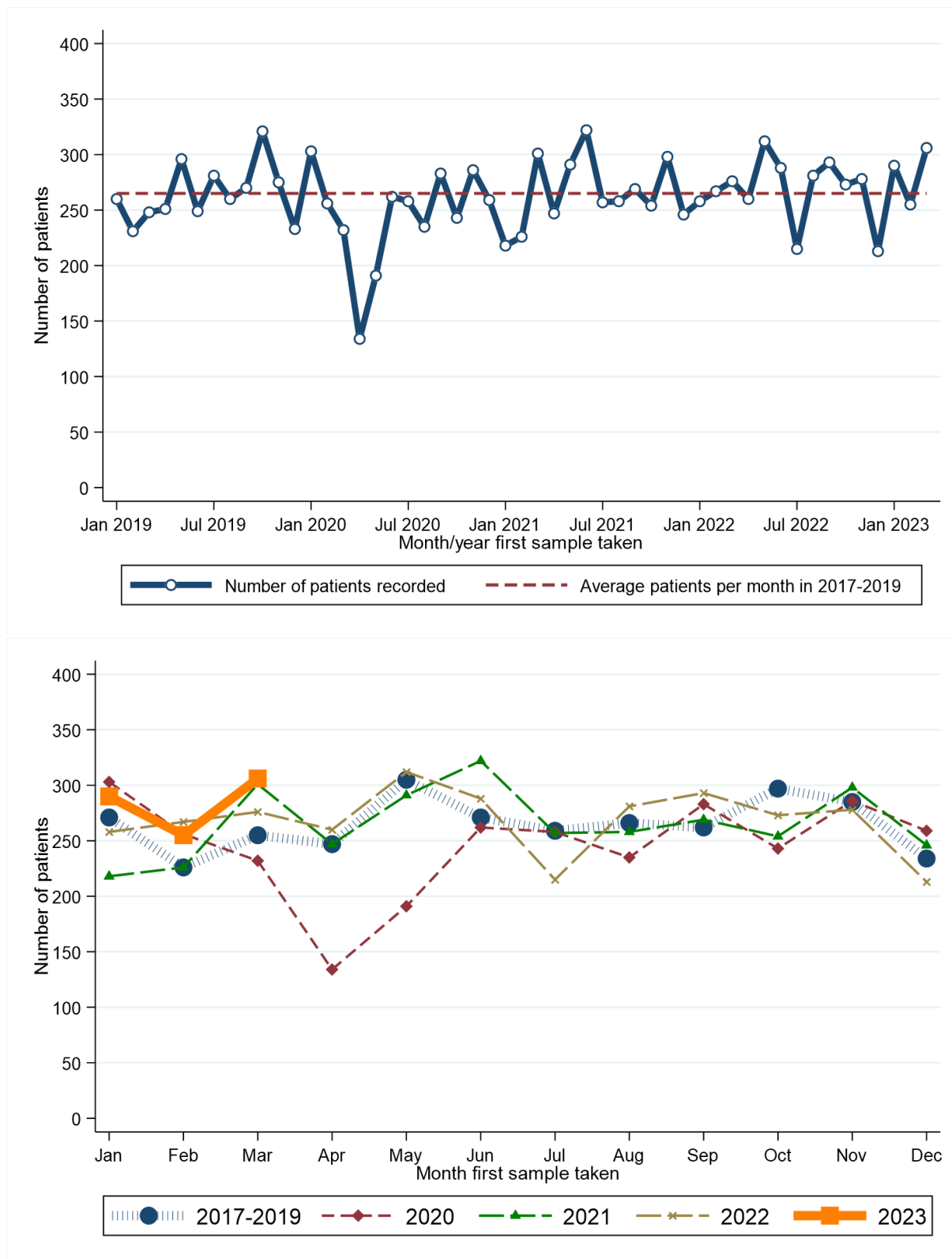
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

AGED 70+: CANCER (EX NMSC)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-1.6%



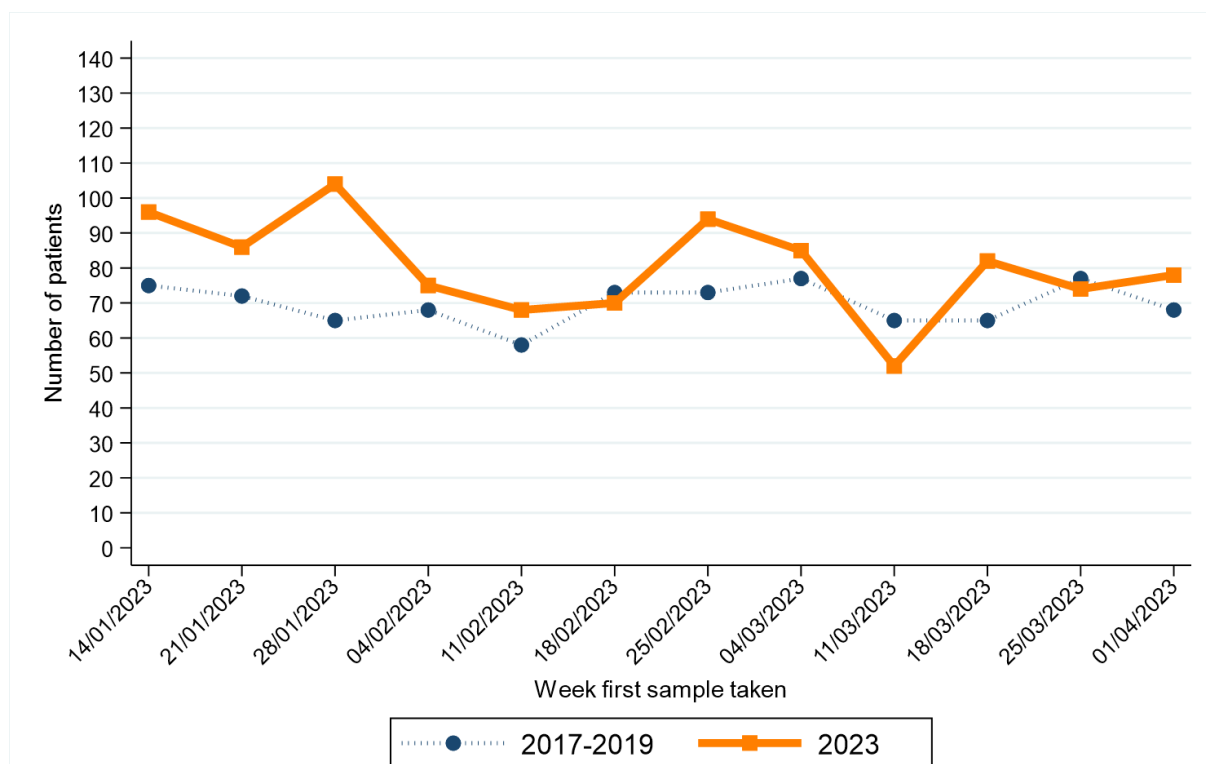
Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	271	303	218	258	290	Jul	259	258	257	215	.
Feb	226	256	226	267	255	Aug	266	235	258	281	.
Mar	255	232	301	276	306	Sep	262	283	269	293	.
Apr	247	134	247	260	.	Oct	297	243	254	273	.
May	305	191	291	312	.	Nov	285	286	298	278	.
Jun	271	262	322	288	.	Dec	234	259	246	213	.

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+15.3%



Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	75	96
21/01/2023	72	86
28/01/2023	65	104
04/02/2023	68	75
11/02/2023	58	68
18/02/2023	73	70

Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
25/02/2023	73	94
04/03/2023	77	85
11/03/2023	65	52
18/03/2023	65	82
25/03/2023	77	74
01/04/2023	68	78

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

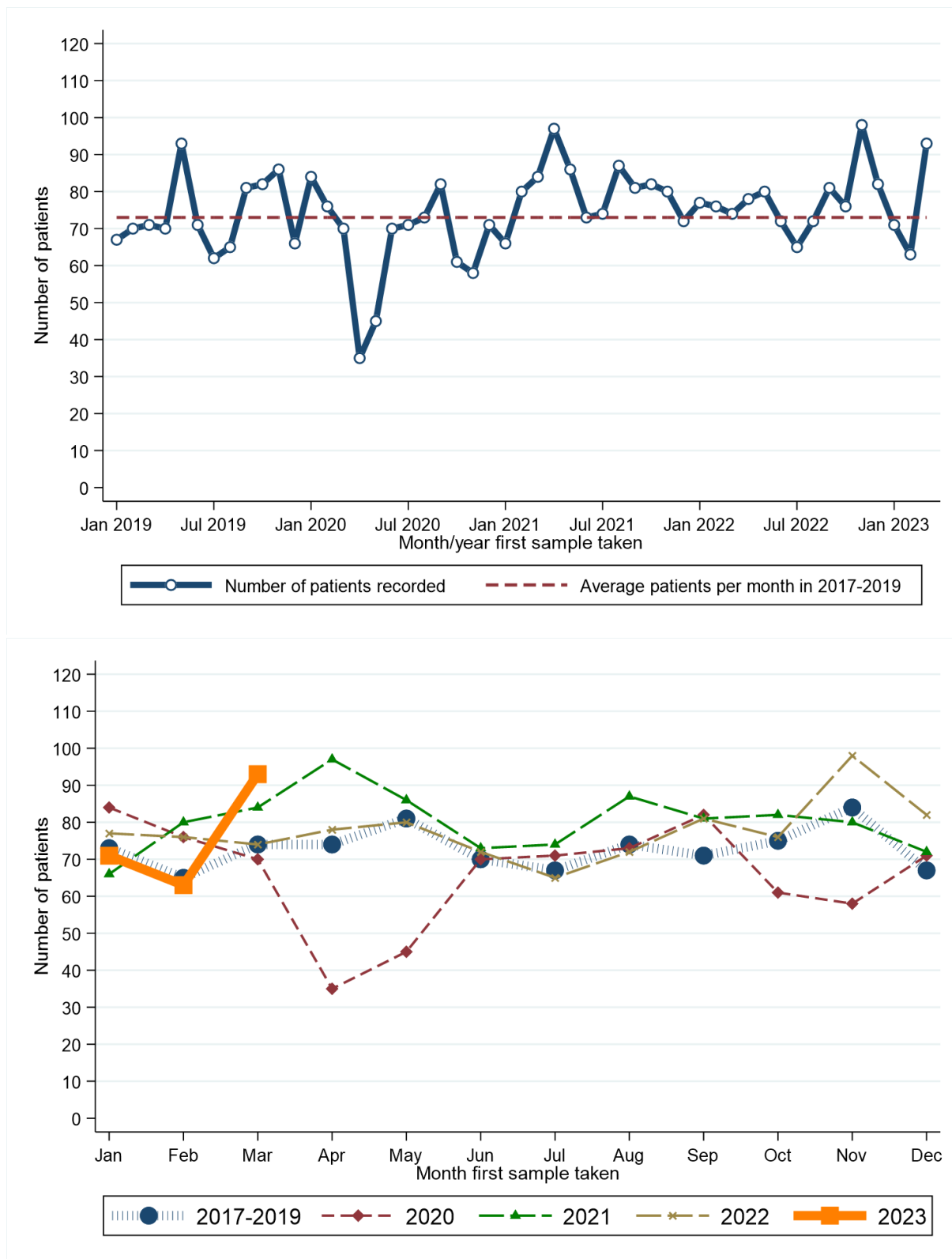
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

BOWEL CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+2.1%



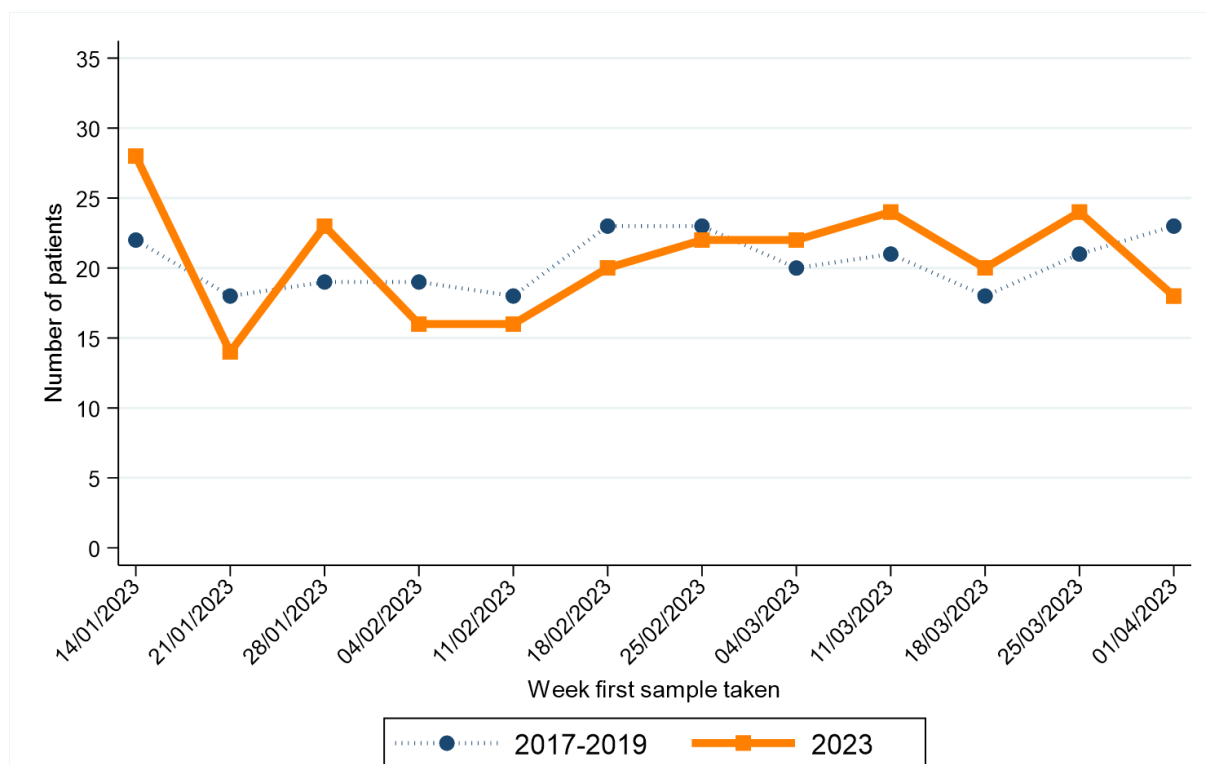
Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	73	84	66	77	71	Jul	67	71	74	65	.
Feb	65	76	80	76	63	Aug	74	73	87	72	.
Mar	74	70	84	74	93	Sep	71	82	81	81	.
Apr	74	35	97	78	.	Oct	75	61	82	76	.
May	81	45	86	80	.	Nov	84	58	80	98	.
Jun	70	70	73	72	.	Dec	67	71	72	82	.

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+0.8%



Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	22	28
21/01/2023	18	14
28/01/2023	19	23
04/02/2023	19	16
11/02/2023	18	16
18/02/2023	23	20

Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
25/02/2023	23	22
04/03/2023	20	22
11/03/2023	21	24
18/03/2023	18	20
25/03/2023	21	24
01/04/2023	23	18

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

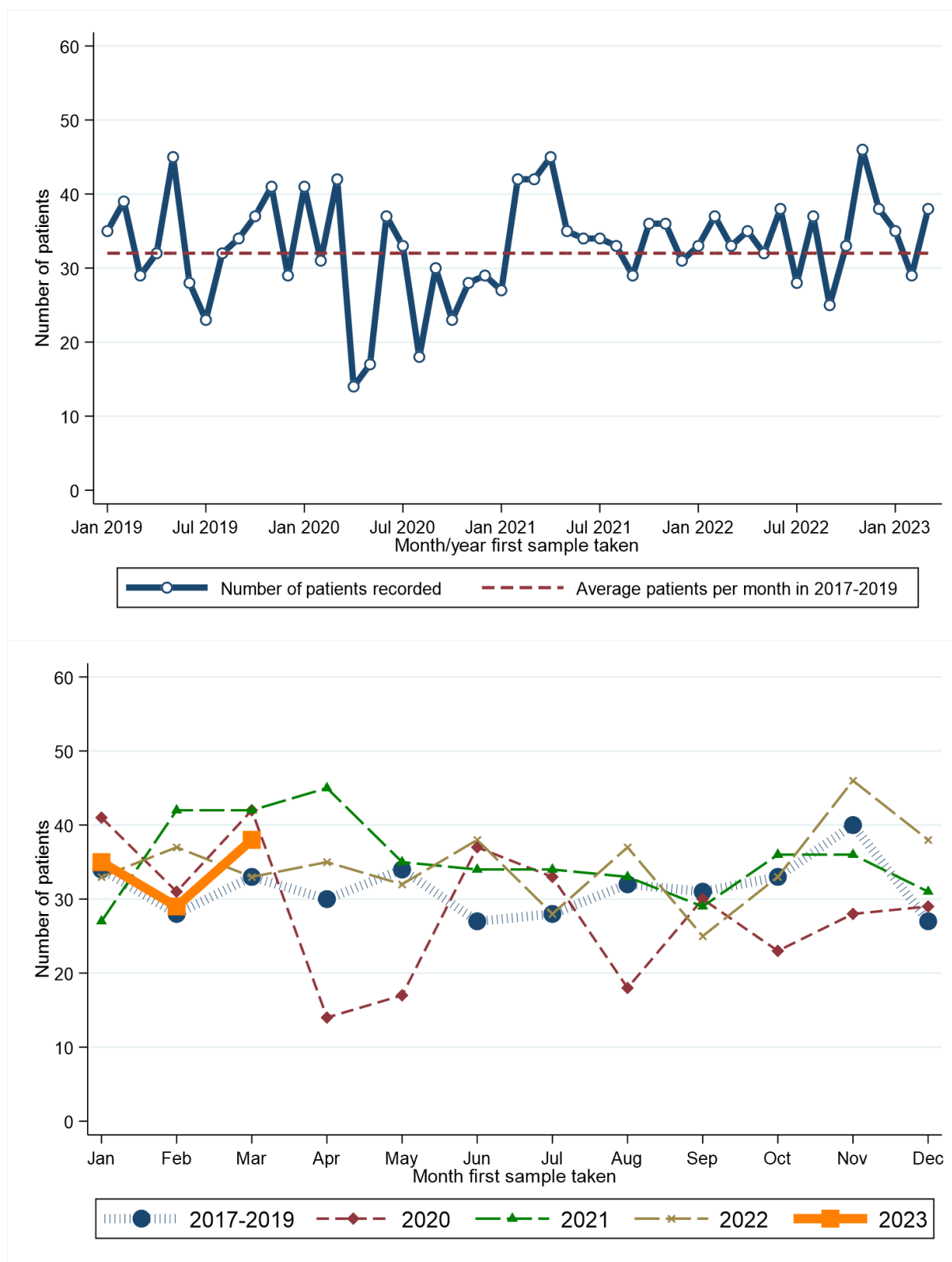
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

BOWEL CANCER (SCREENING AGE)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+4.1%



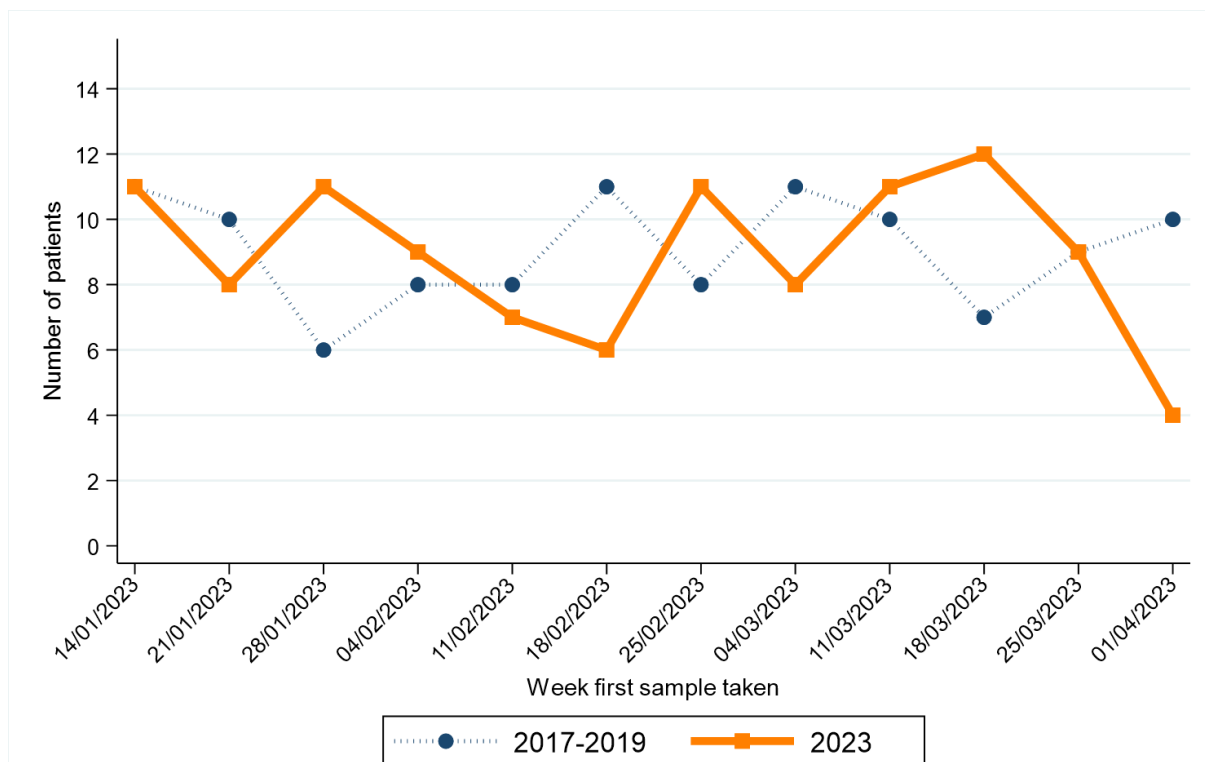
Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	34	41	27	33	35	Jul	28	33	34	28	.
Feb	28	31	42	37	29	Aug	32	18	33	37	.
Mar	33	42	42	33	38	Sep	31	30	29	25	.
Apr	30	14	45	35	.	Oct	33	23	36	33	.
May	34	17	35	32	.	Nov	40	28	36	46	.
Jun	27	37	34	38	.	Dec	27	29	31	38	.

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-1.8%



Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	11	11
21/01/2023	10	8
28/01/2023	6	11
04/02/2023	8	9
11/02/2023	8	7
18/02/2023	11	6

Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
25/02/2023	8	11
04/03/2023	11	8
11/03/2023	10	11
18/03/2023	7	12
25/03/2023	9	9
01/04/2023	10	4

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

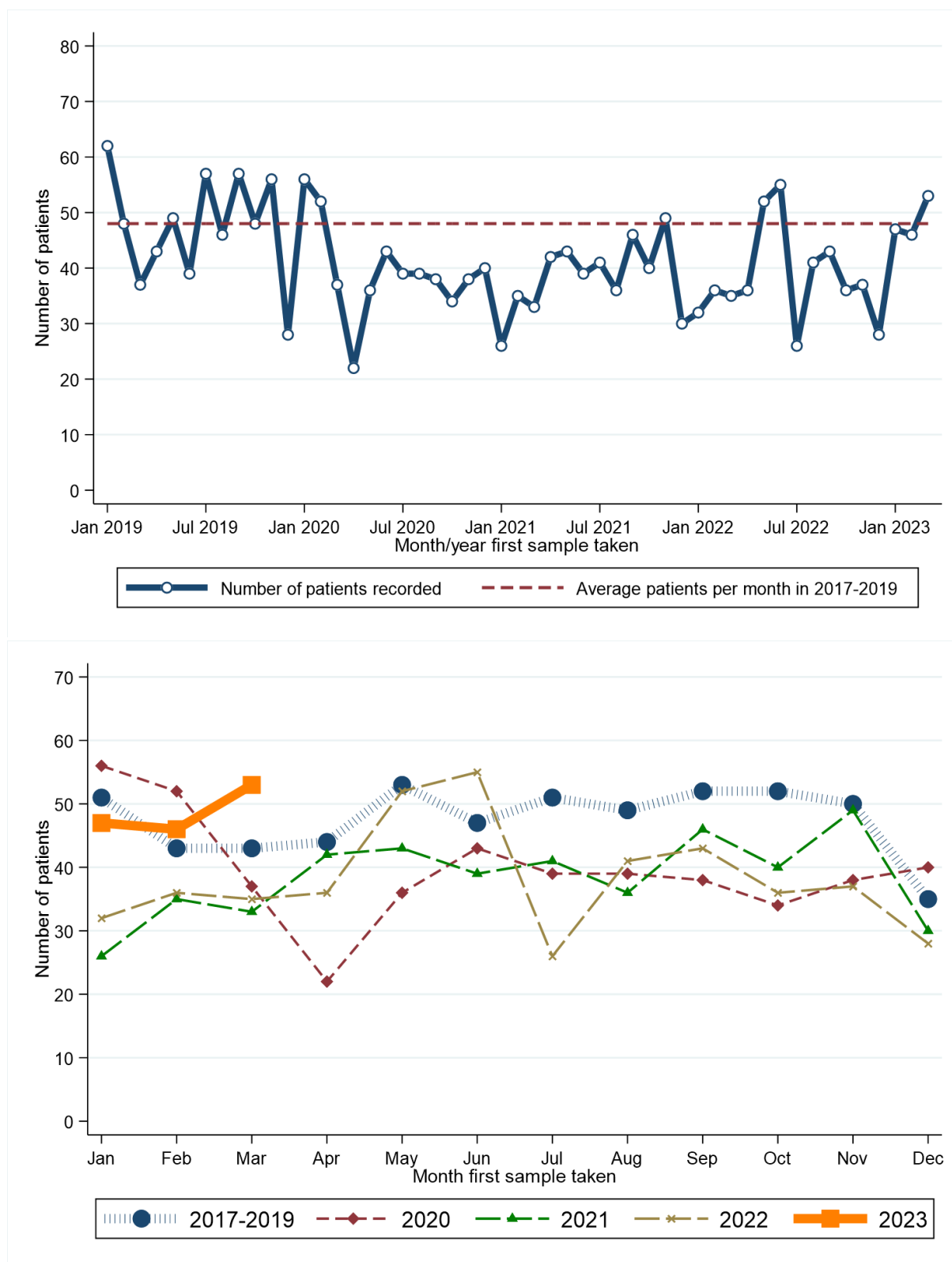
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

LUNG CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-18.5%



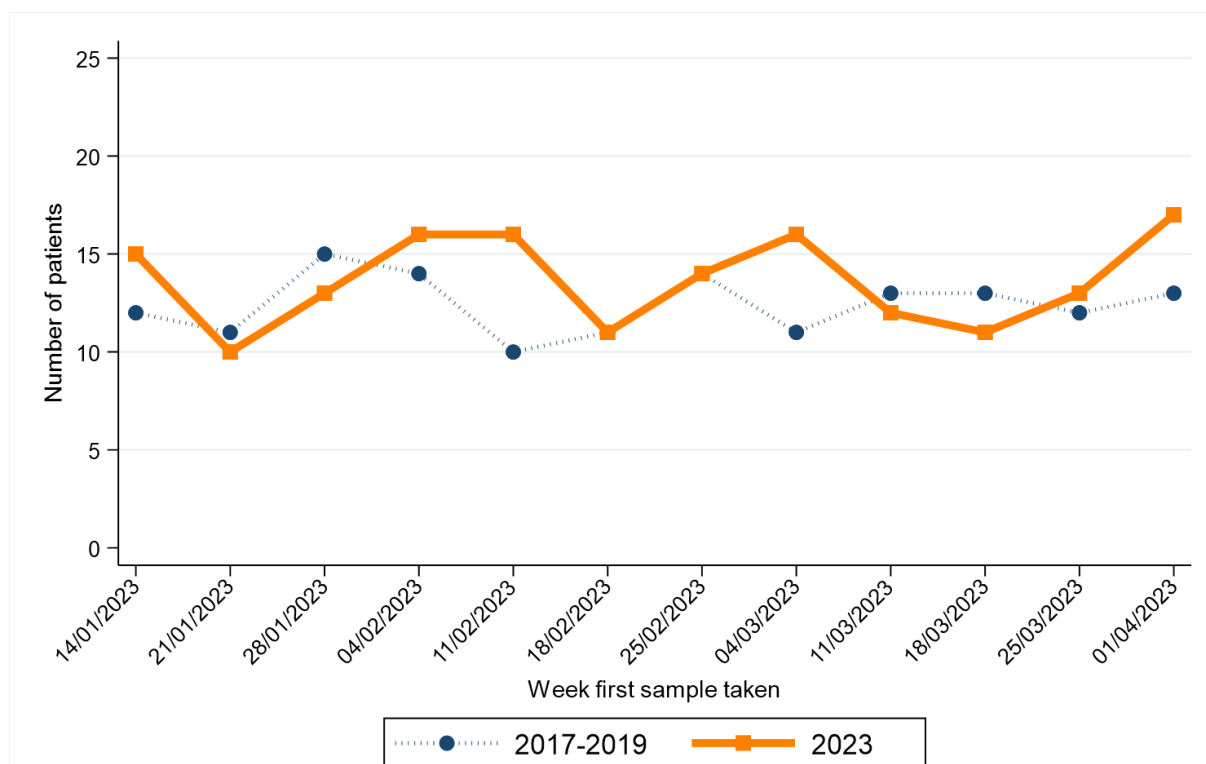
Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	51	56	26	32	47	Jul	51	39	41	26	.
Feb	43	52	35	36	46	Aug	49	39	36	41	.
Mar	43	37	33	35	53	Sep	52	38	46	43	.
Apr	44	22	42	36	.	Oct	52	34	40	36	.
May	53	36	43	52	.	Nov	50	38	49	37	.
Jun	47	43	39	55	.	Dec	35	40	30	28	.

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+10.1%



Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	12	15	25/02/2023	14	14
21/01/2023	11	10	04/03/2023	11	16
28/01/2023	15	13	11/03/2023	13	12
04/02/2023	14	16	18/03/2023	13	11
11/02/2023	10	16	25/03/2023	12	13
18/02/2023	11	11	01/04/2023	13	17

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

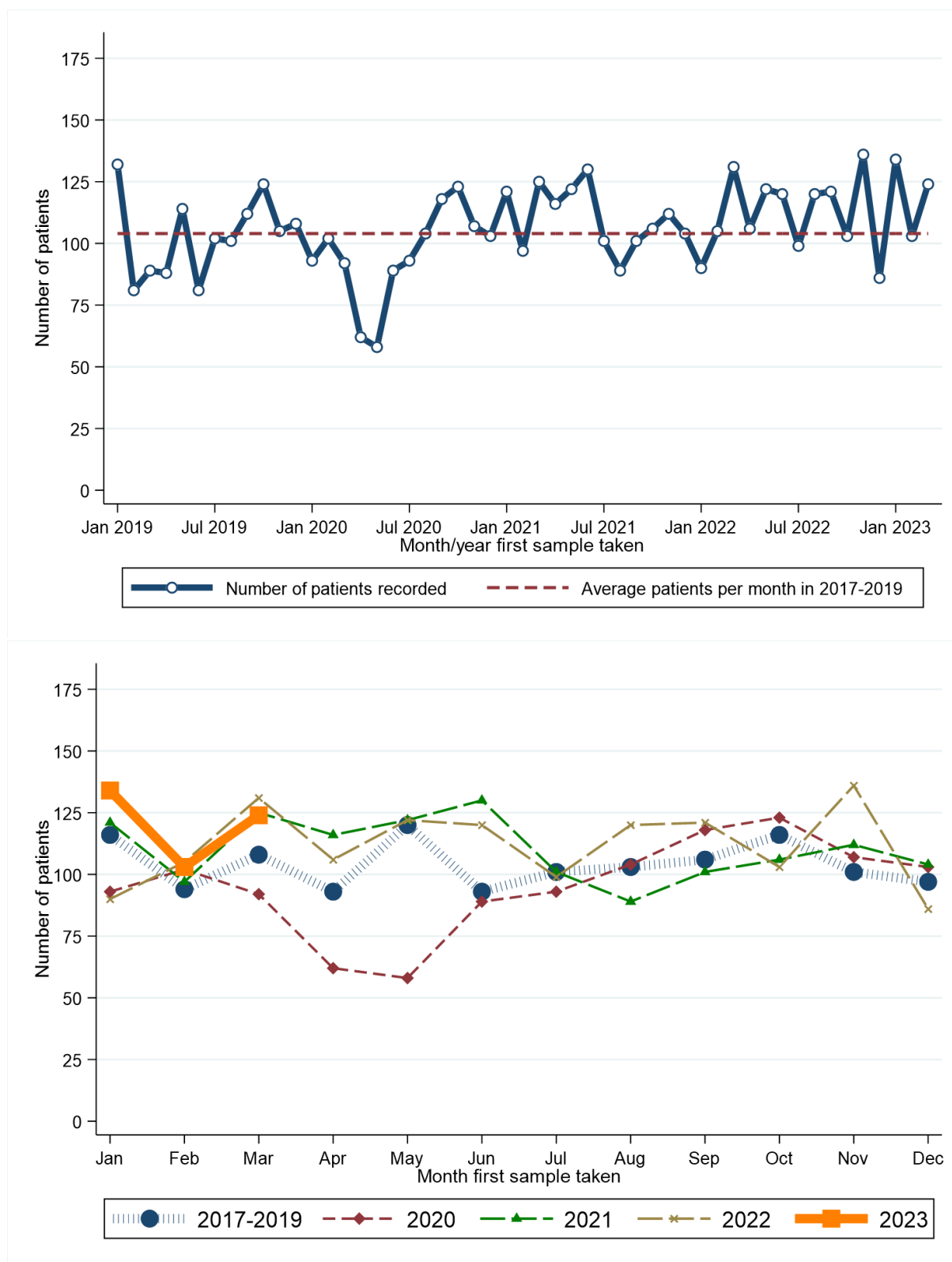
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

FEMALE BREAST CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+3.1%



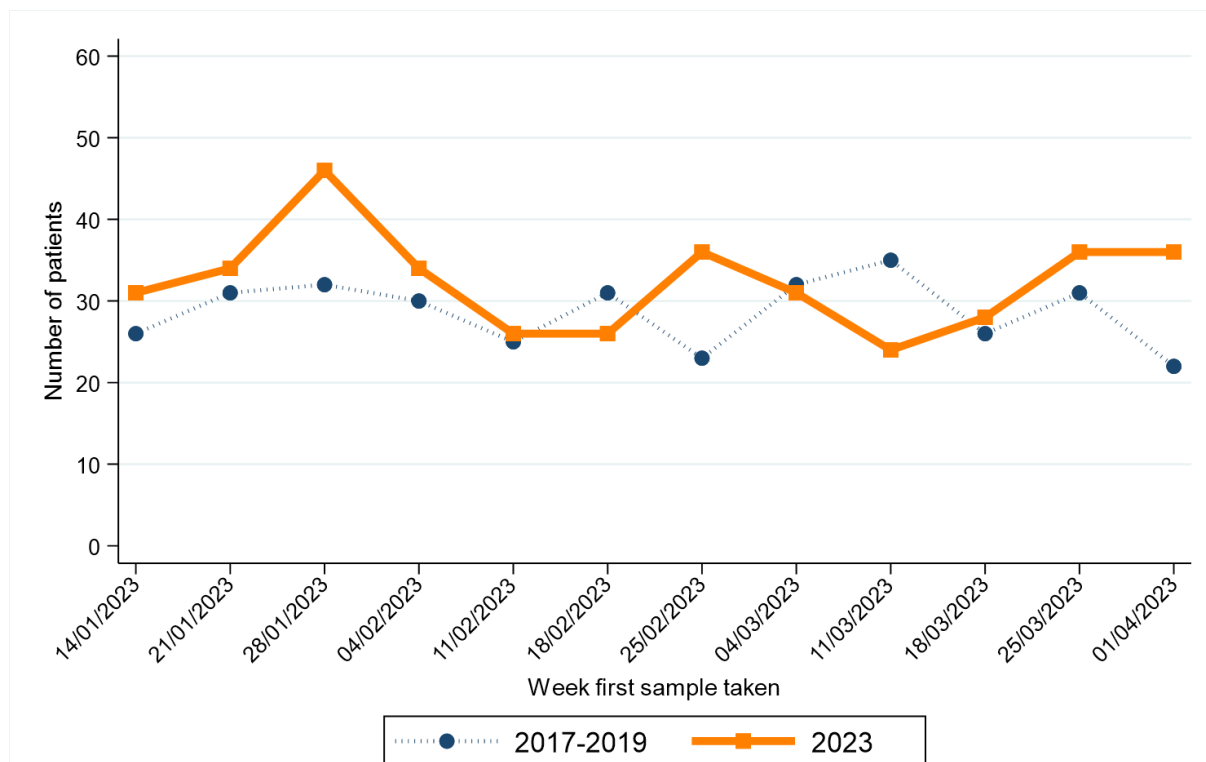
Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	116	93	121	90	134	Jul	101	93	101	99	.
Feb	94	102	97	105	103	Aug	103	104	89	120	.
Mar	108	92	125	131	124	Sep	106	118	101	121	.
Apr	93	62	116	106	.	Oct	116	123	106	103	.
May	120	58	122	122	.	Nov	101	107	112	136	.
Jun	93	89	130	120	.	Dec	97	103	104	86	.

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+12.8%



Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	26	31	25/02/2023	23	36
21/01/2023	31	34	04/03/2023	32	31
28/01/2023	32	46	11/03/2023	35	24
04/02/2023	30	34	18/03/2023	26	28
11/02/2023	25	26	25/03/2023	31	36
18/02/2023	31	26	01/04/2023	22	36

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

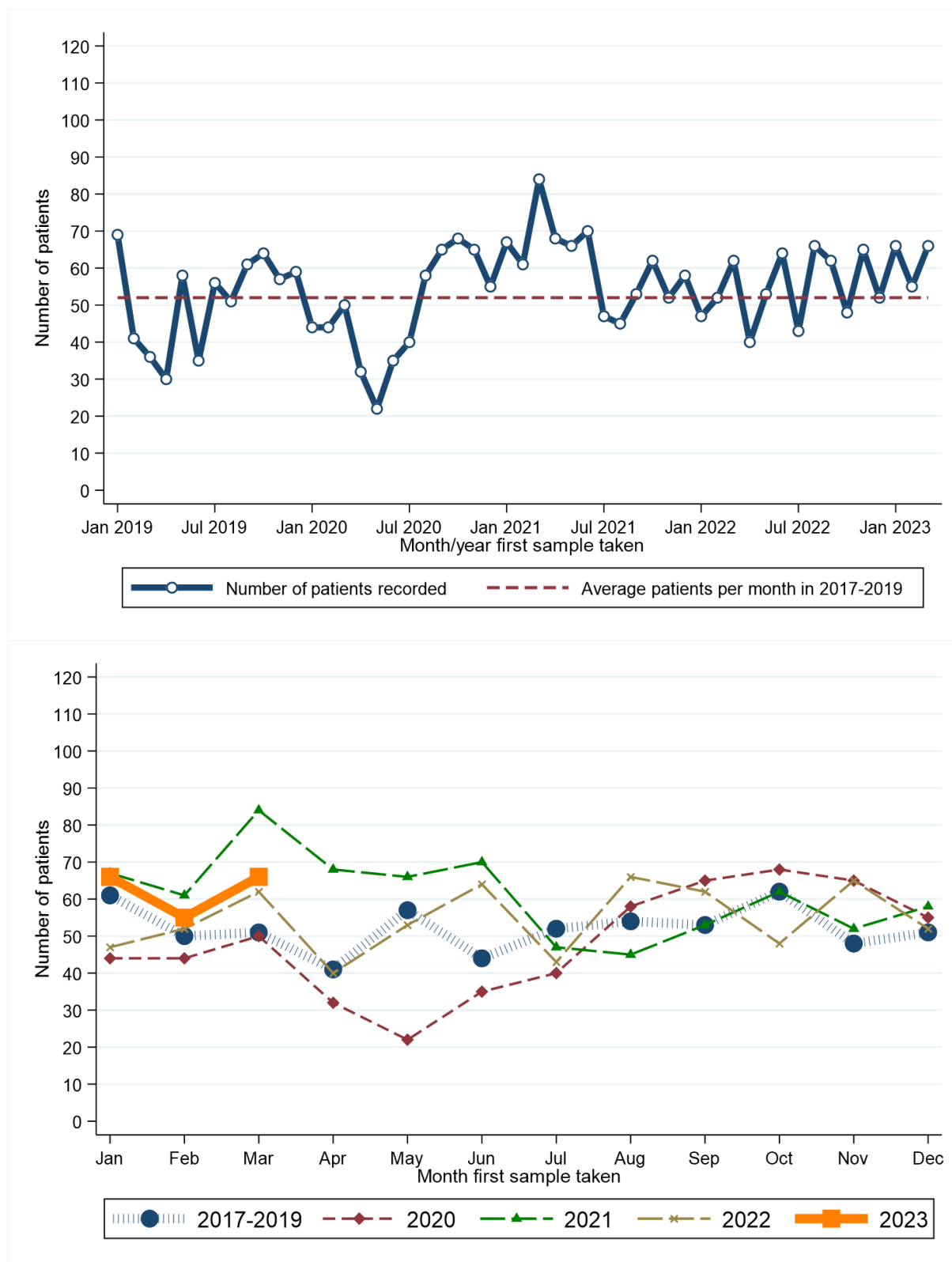
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

FEMALE BREAST CANCER (SCREENING AGE)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+7.3%



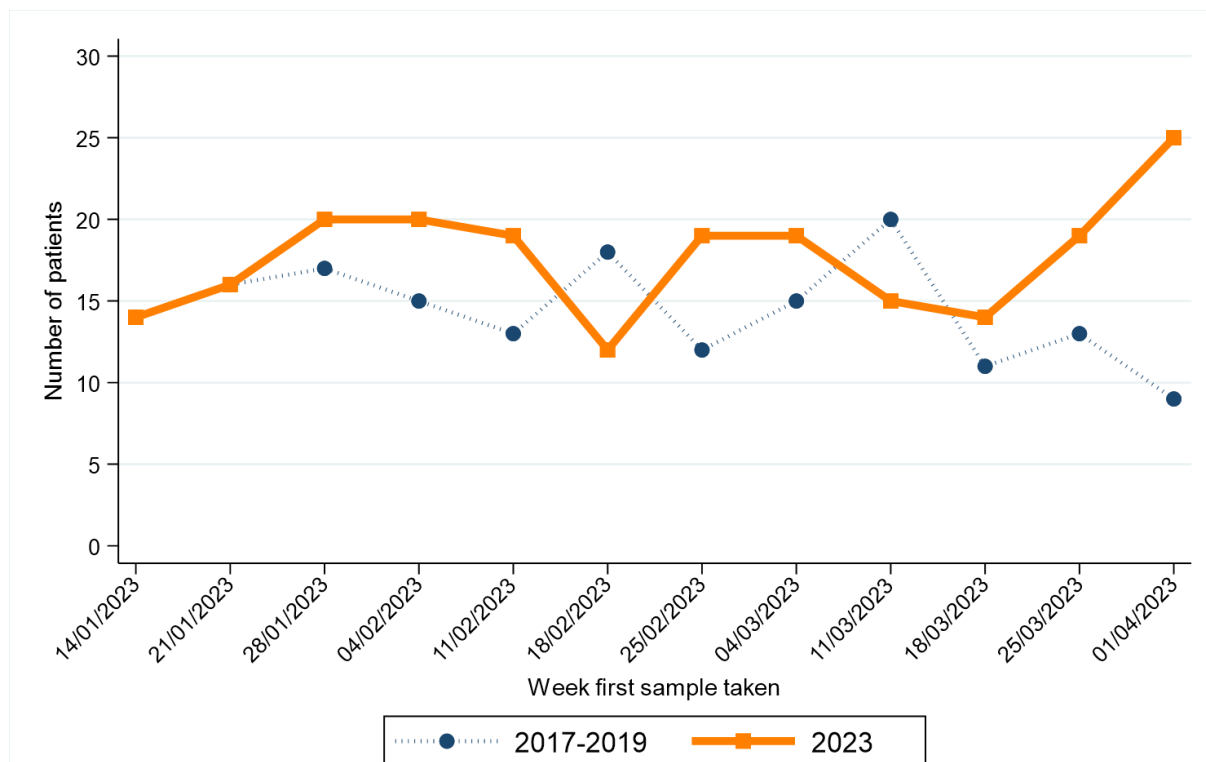
Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	61	44	67	47	66	Jul	52	40	47	43	.
Feb	50	44	61	52	55	Aug	54	58	45	66	.
Mar	51	50	84	62	66	Sep	53	65	53	62	.
Apr	41	32	68	40	.	Oct	62	68	62	48	.
May	57	22	66	53	.	Nov	48	65	52	65	.
Jun	44	35	70	64	.	Dec	51	55	58	52	.

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+22.5%



Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	14	14
21/01/2023	16	16
28/01/2023	17	20
04/02/2023	15	20
11/02/2023	13	19
18/02/2023	18	12

Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
25/02/2023	12	19
04/03/2023	15	19
11/03/2023	20	15
18/03/2023	11	14
25/03/2023	13	19
01/04/2023	9	25

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

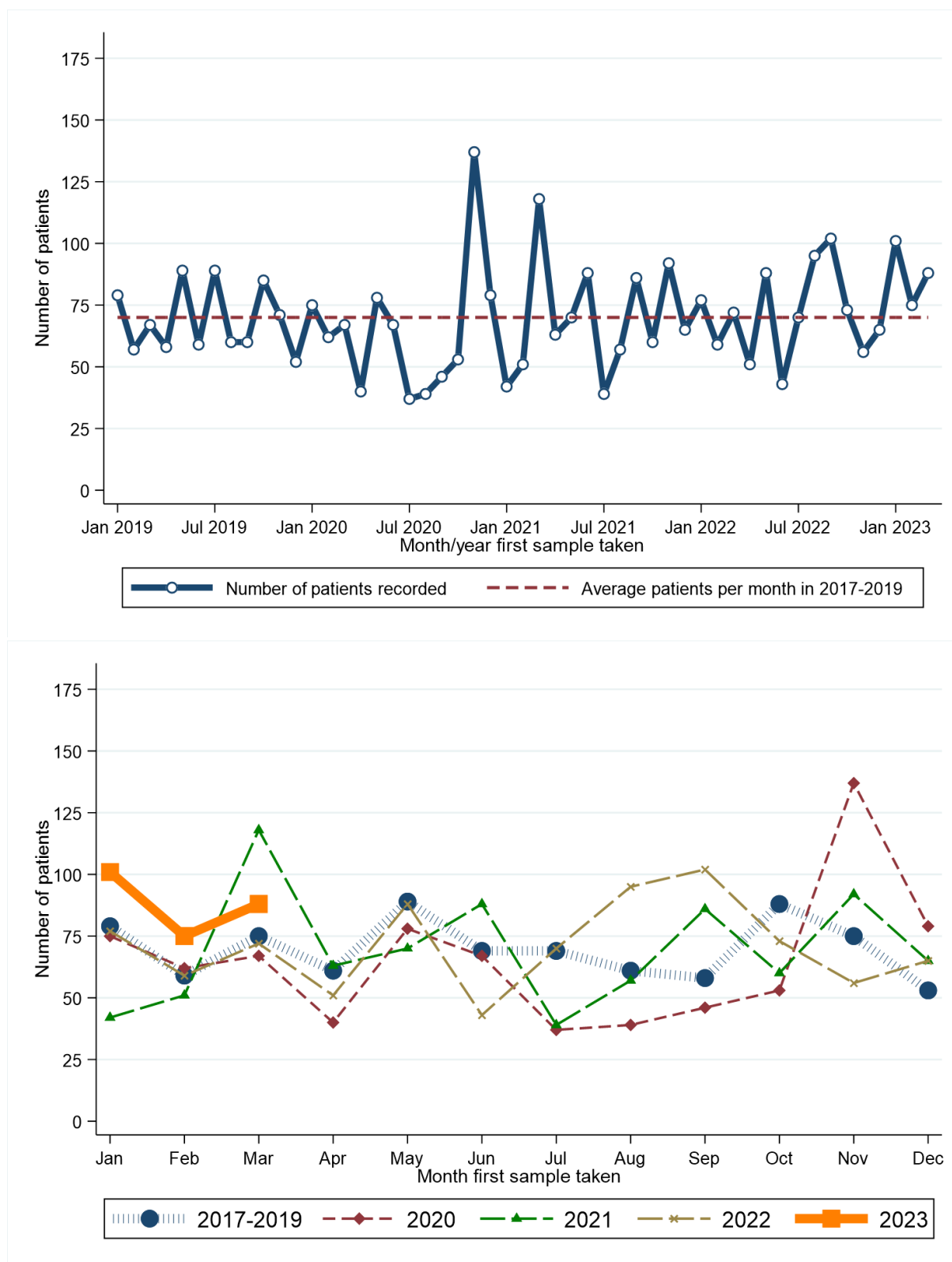
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

PROSTATE CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+0.2%



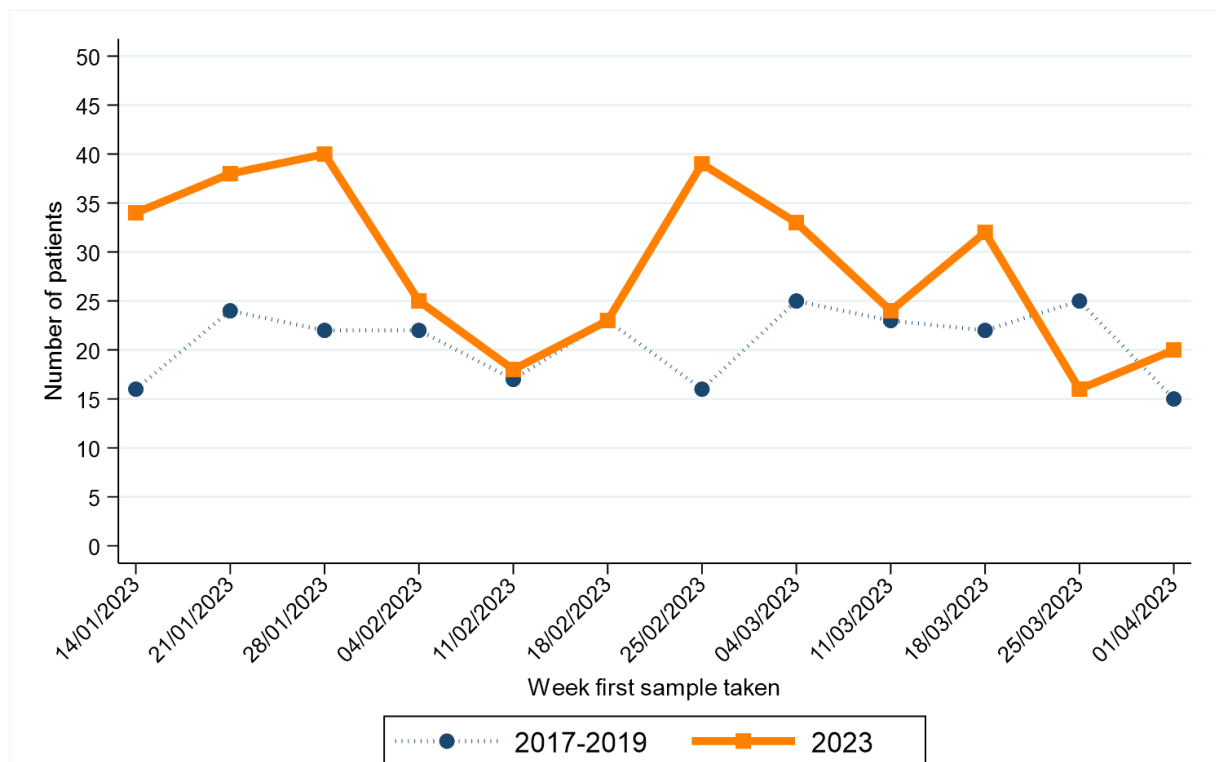
Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	79	75	42	77	101	Jul	69	37	39	70	.
Feb	59	62	51	59	75	Aug	61	39	57	95	.
Mar	75	67	118	72	88	Sep	58	46	86	102	.
Apr	61	40	63	51	.	Oct	88	53	60	73	.
May	89	78	70	88	.	Nov	75	137	92	56	.
Jun	69	67	88	43	.	Dec	53	79	65	65	.

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+36.8%



Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	16	34	25/02/2023	16	39
21/01/2023	24	38	04/03/2023	25	33
28/01/2023	22	40	11/03/2023	23	24
04/02/2023	22	25	18/03/2023	22	32
11/02/2023	17	18	25/03/2023	25	16
18/02/2023	23	23	01/04/2023	15	20

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

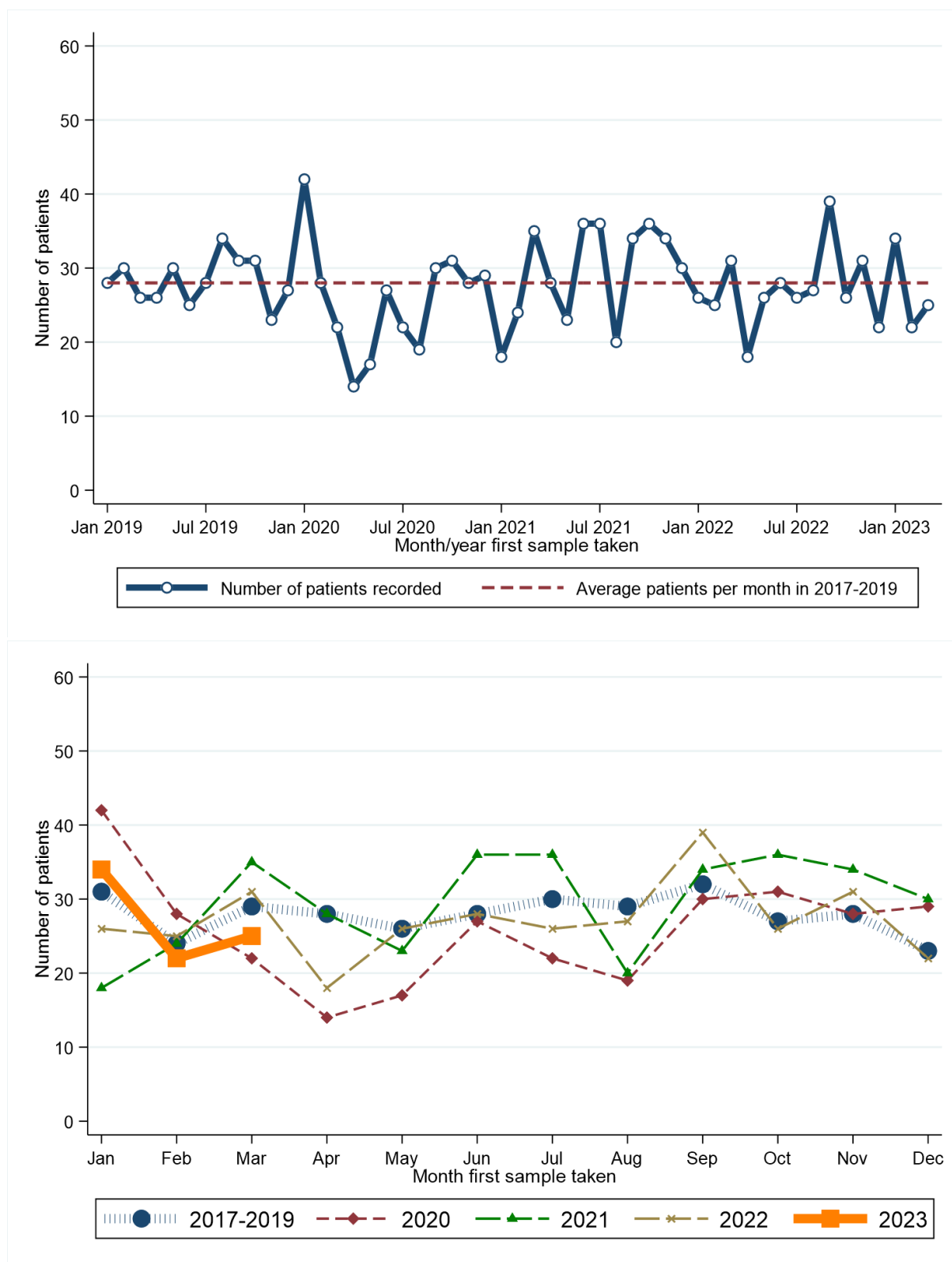
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

UPPER GASTROINTESTINAL CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-3.4%



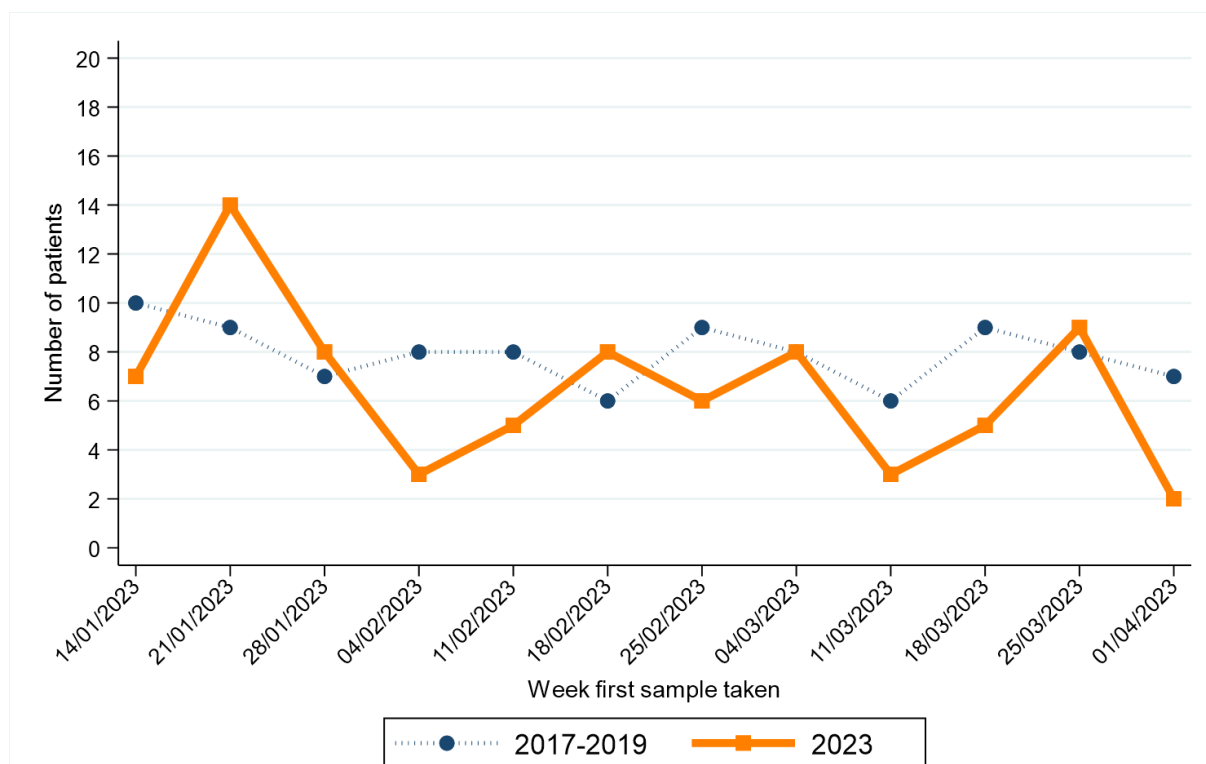
Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	31	42	18	26	34	Jul	30	22	36	26	.
Feb	24	28	24	25	22	Aug	29	19	20	27	.
Mar	29	22	35	31	25	Sep	32	30	34	39	.
Apr	28	14	28	18	.	Oct	27	31	36	26	.
May	26	17	23	26	.	Nov	28	28	34	31	.
Jun	28	27	36	28	.	Dec	23	29	30	22	.

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-17.9%



Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	10	7
21/01/2023	9	14
28/01/2023	7	8
04/02/2023	8	3
11/02/2023	8	5
18/02/2023	6	8

Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
25/02/2023	9	6
04/03/2023	8	8
11/03/2023	6	3
18/03/2023	9	5
25/03/2023	8	9
01/04/2023	7	2

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

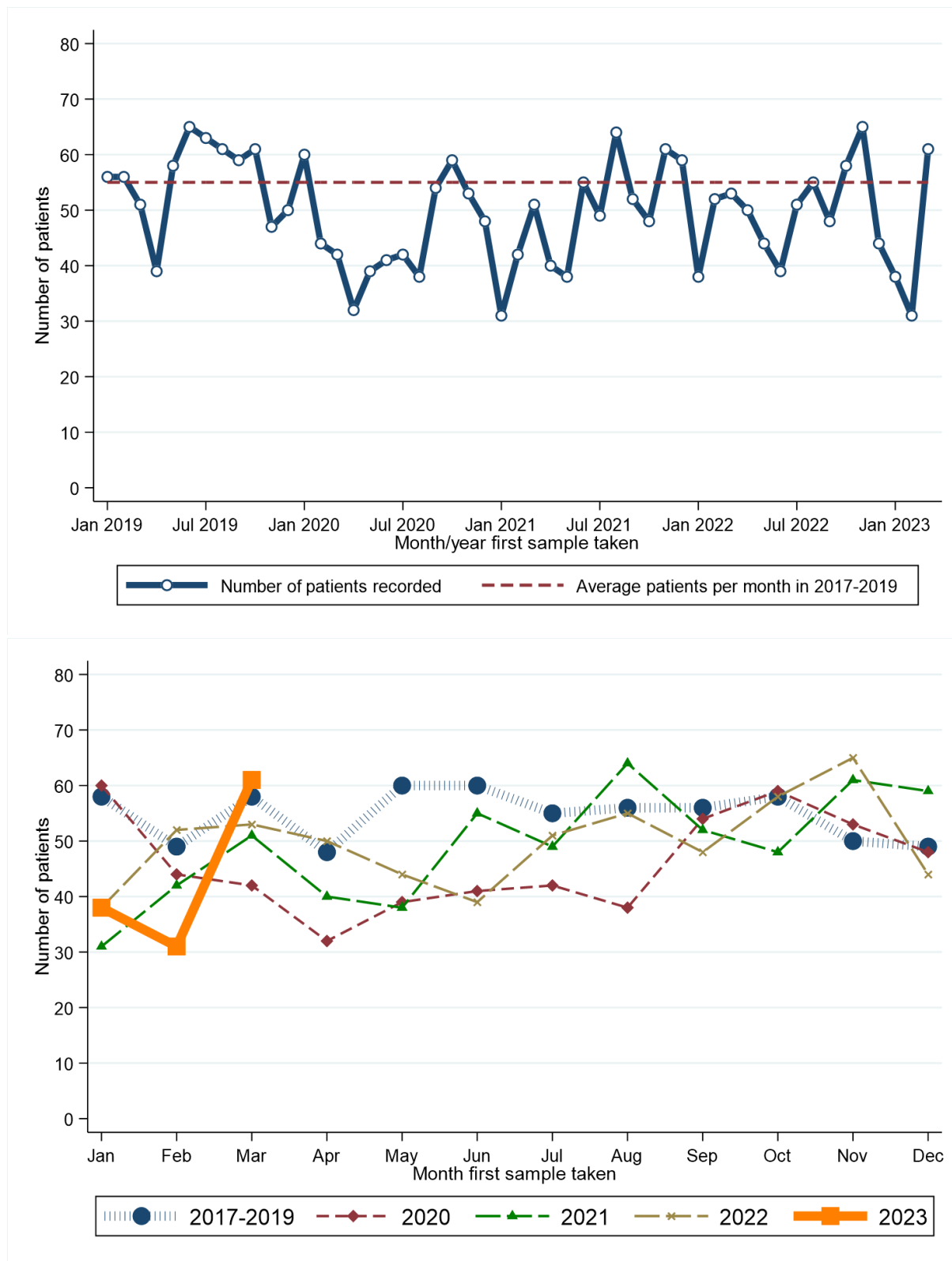
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

GYNAECOLOGICAL CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

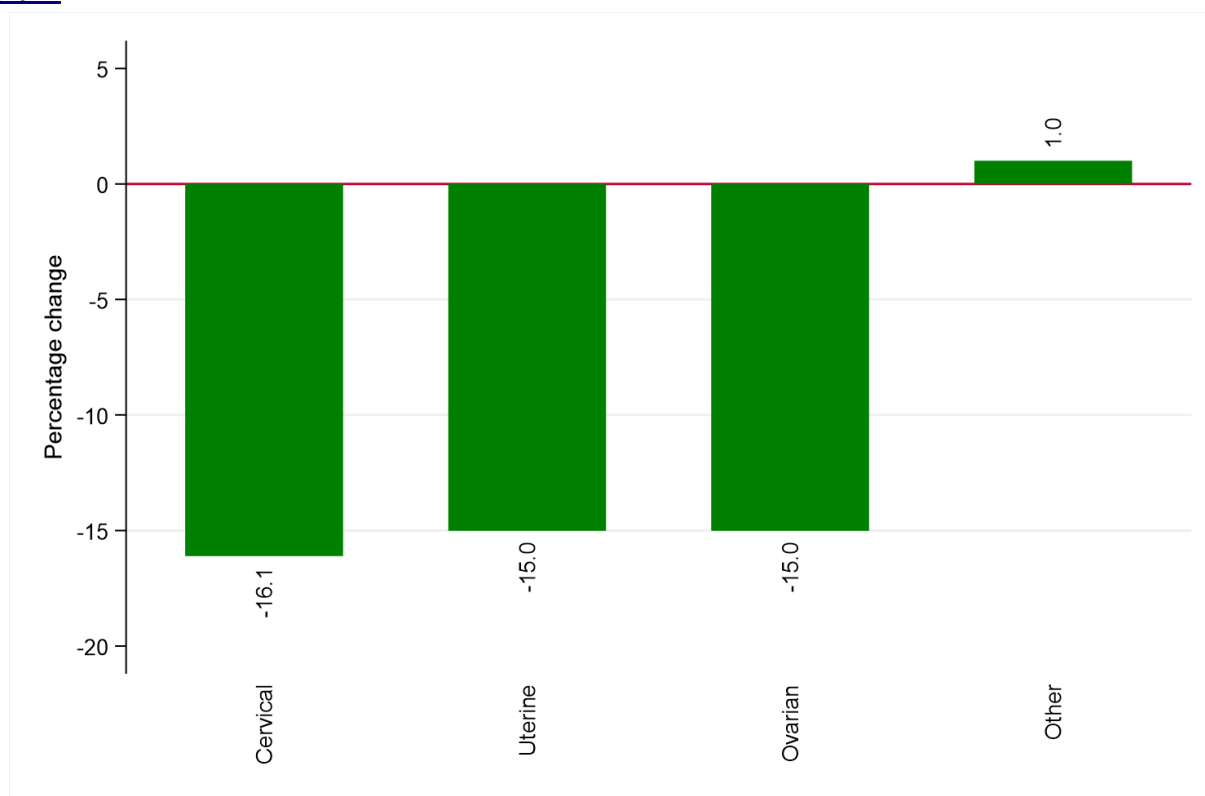
-13.0%



Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	58	60	31	38	38	Jul	55	42	49	51	.
Feb	49	44	42	52	31	Aug	56	38	64	55	.
Mar	58	42	51	53	61	Sep	56	54	52	48	.
Apr	48	32	40	50	.	Oct	58	59	48	58	.
May	60	39	38	44	.	Nov	50	53	61	65	.
Jun	60	41	55	39	.	Dec	49	48	59	44	.

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

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



Cancer type	Number of patients (March 2020 to March 2023)	
	Expected number*	Recorded number
Cervical cancer	404	339
Uterine cancer	985	837
Ovarian cancer	687	584
Other gynaecological cancer	210	212

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

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-17.8%



Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	16	6	25/02/2023	16	18
21/01/2023	12	8	04/03/2023	16	16
28/01/2023	15	12	11/03/2023	16	16
04/02/2023	16	9	18/03/2023	13	16
11/02/2023	10	9	25/03/2023	15	12
18/02/2023	11	4	01/04/2023	13	13

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

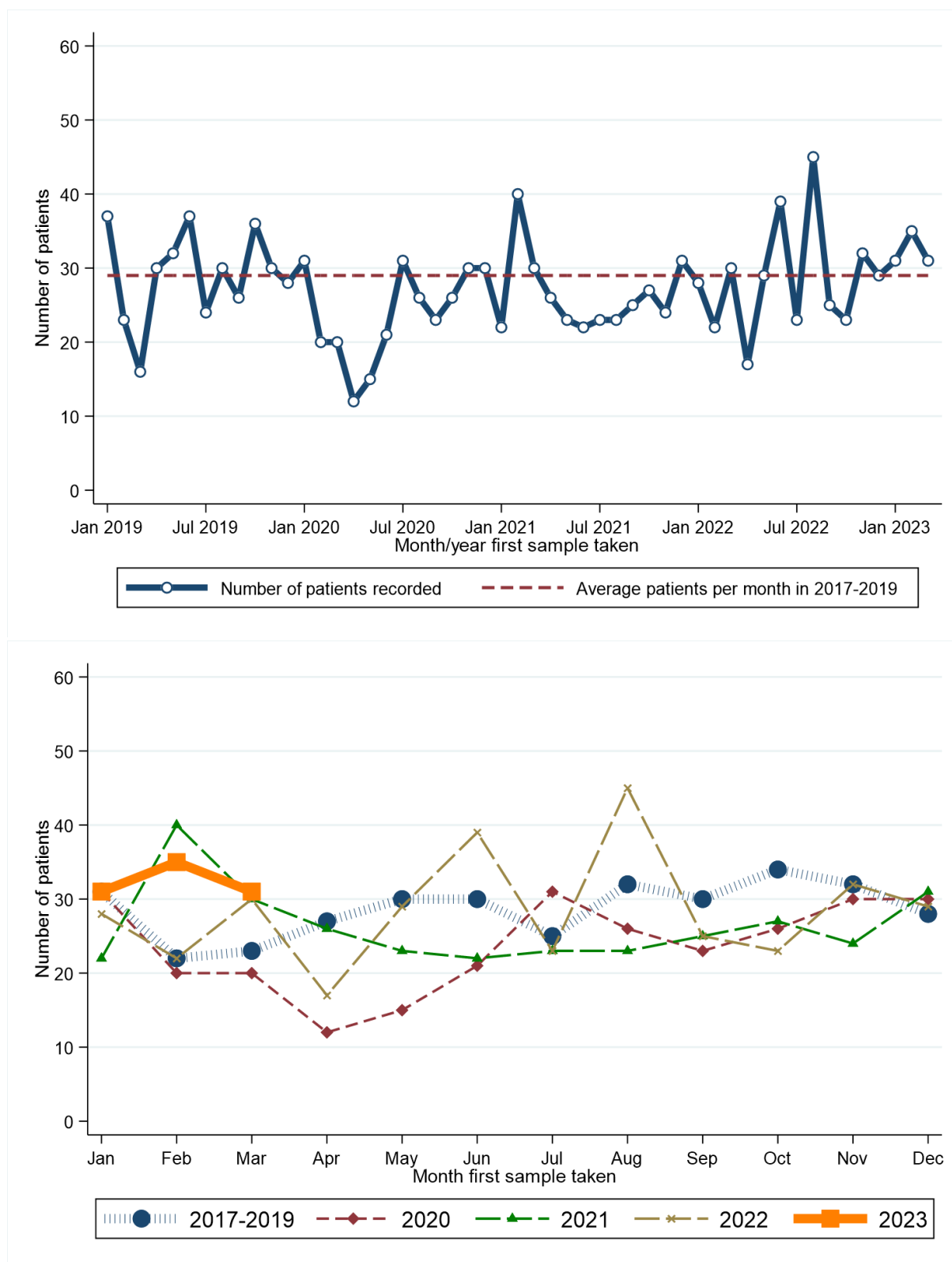
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

HEAD AND NECK CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-6.3%



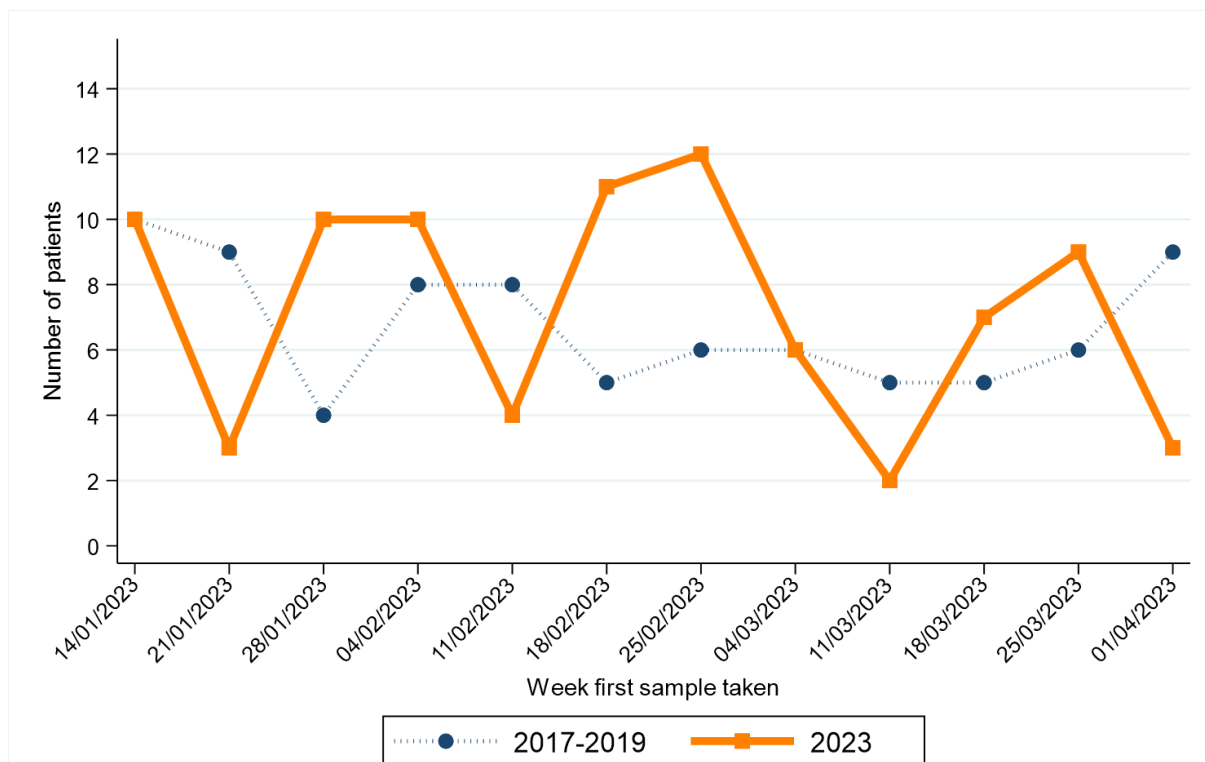
Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	31	31	22	28	31	Jul	25	31	23	23	.
Feb	22	20	40	22	35	Aug	32	26	23	45	.
Mar	23	20	30	30	31	Sep	30	23	25	25	.
Apr	27	12	26	17	.	Oct	34	26	27	23	.
May	30	15	23	29	.	Nov	32	30	24	32	.
Jun	30	21	22	39	.	Dec	28	30	31	29	.

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+7.4%



Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	10	10	25/02/2023	6	12
21/01/2023	9	3	04/03/2023	6	6
28/01/2023	4	10	11/03/2023	5	2
04/02/2023	8	10	18/03/2023	5	7
11/02/2023	8	4	25/03/2023	6	9
18/02/2023	5	11	01/04/2023	9	3

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

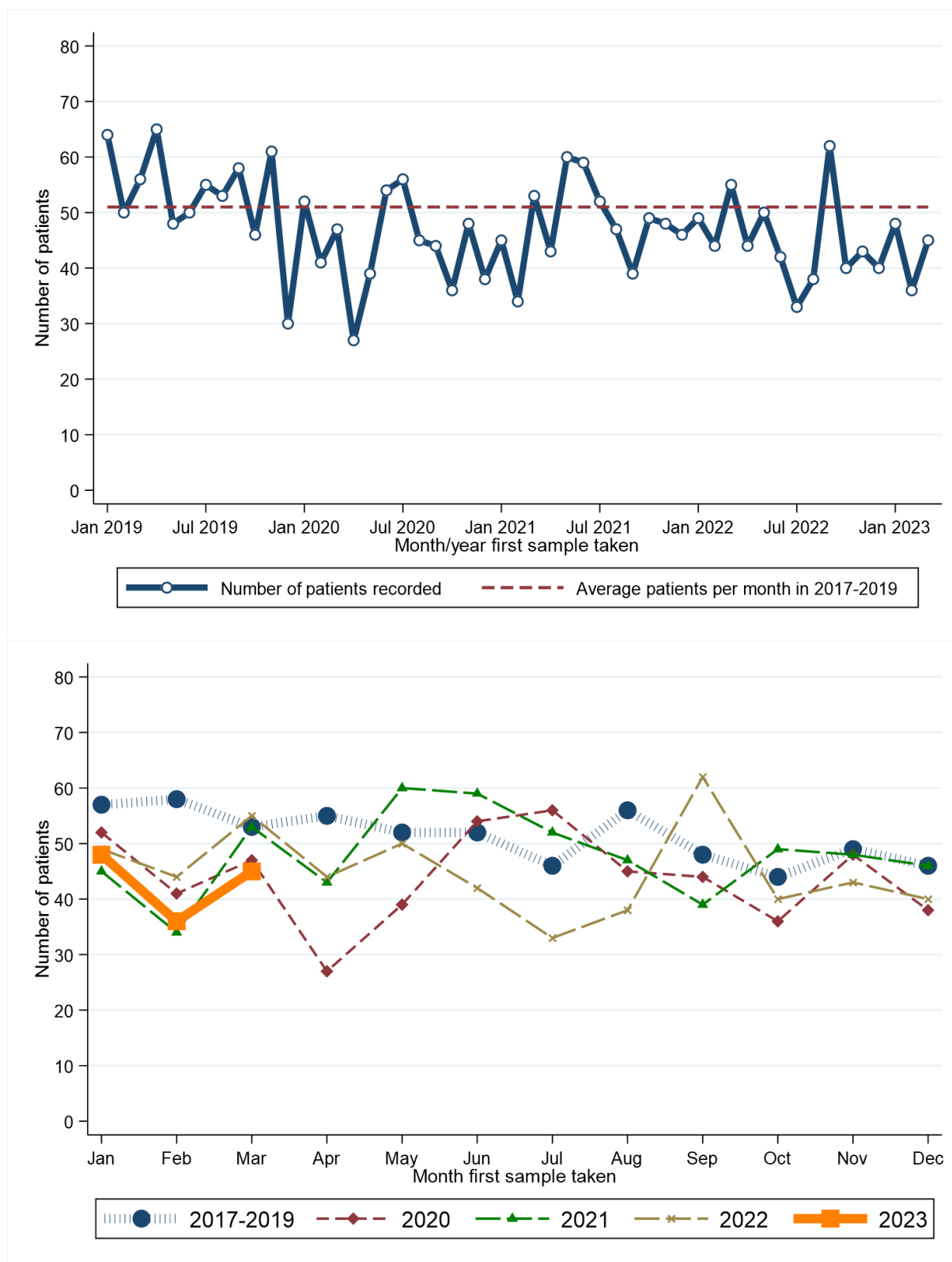
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

URINARY CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-11.7%



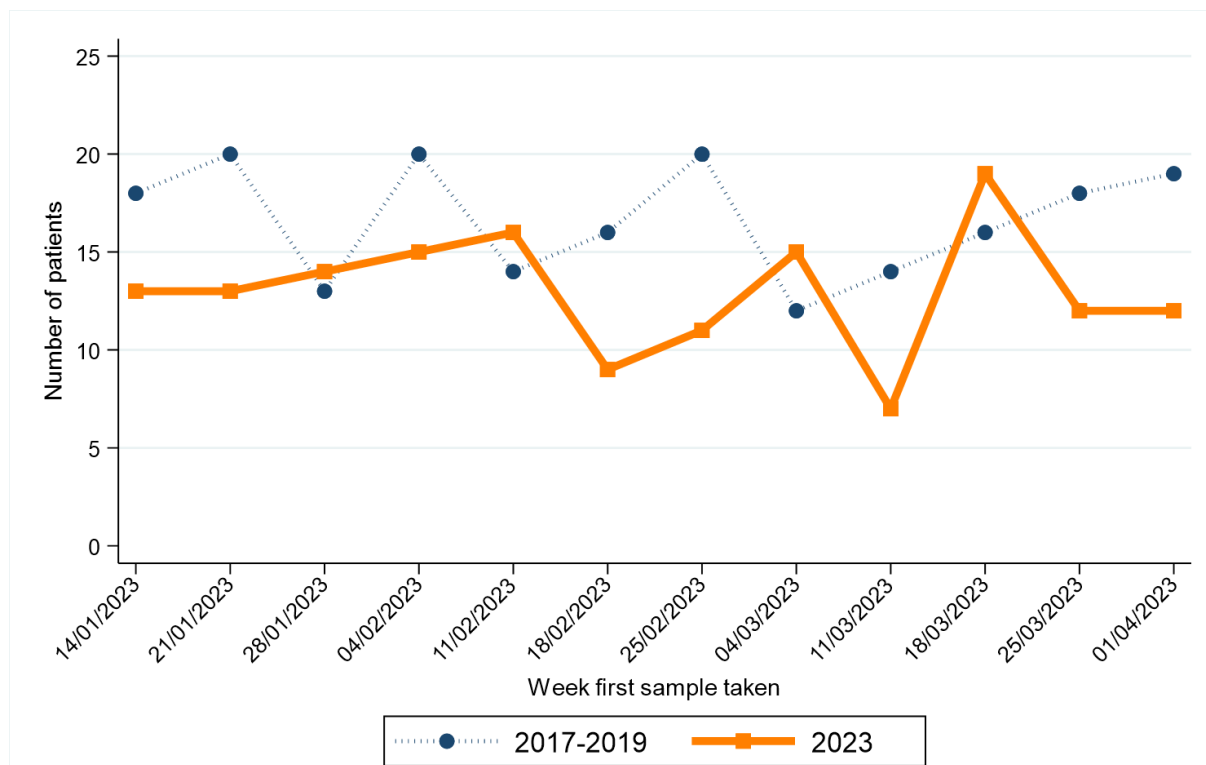
Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	57	52	45	49	48	Jul	46	56	52	33	.
Feb	58	41	34	44	36	Aug	56	45	47	38	.
Mar	53	47	53	55	45	Sep	48	44	39	62	.
Apr	55	27	43	44	.	Oct	44	36	49	40	.
May	52	39	60	50	.	Nov	49	48	48	43	.
Jun	52	54	59	42	.	Dec	46	38	46	40	.

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-22.0%



Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	18	13
21/01/2023	20	13
28/01/2023	13	14
04/02/2023	20	15
11/02/2023	14	16
18/02/2023	16	9

Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
25/02/2023	20	11
04/03/2023	12	15
11/03/2023	14	7
18/03/2023	16	19
25/03/2023	18	12
01/04/2023	19	12

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

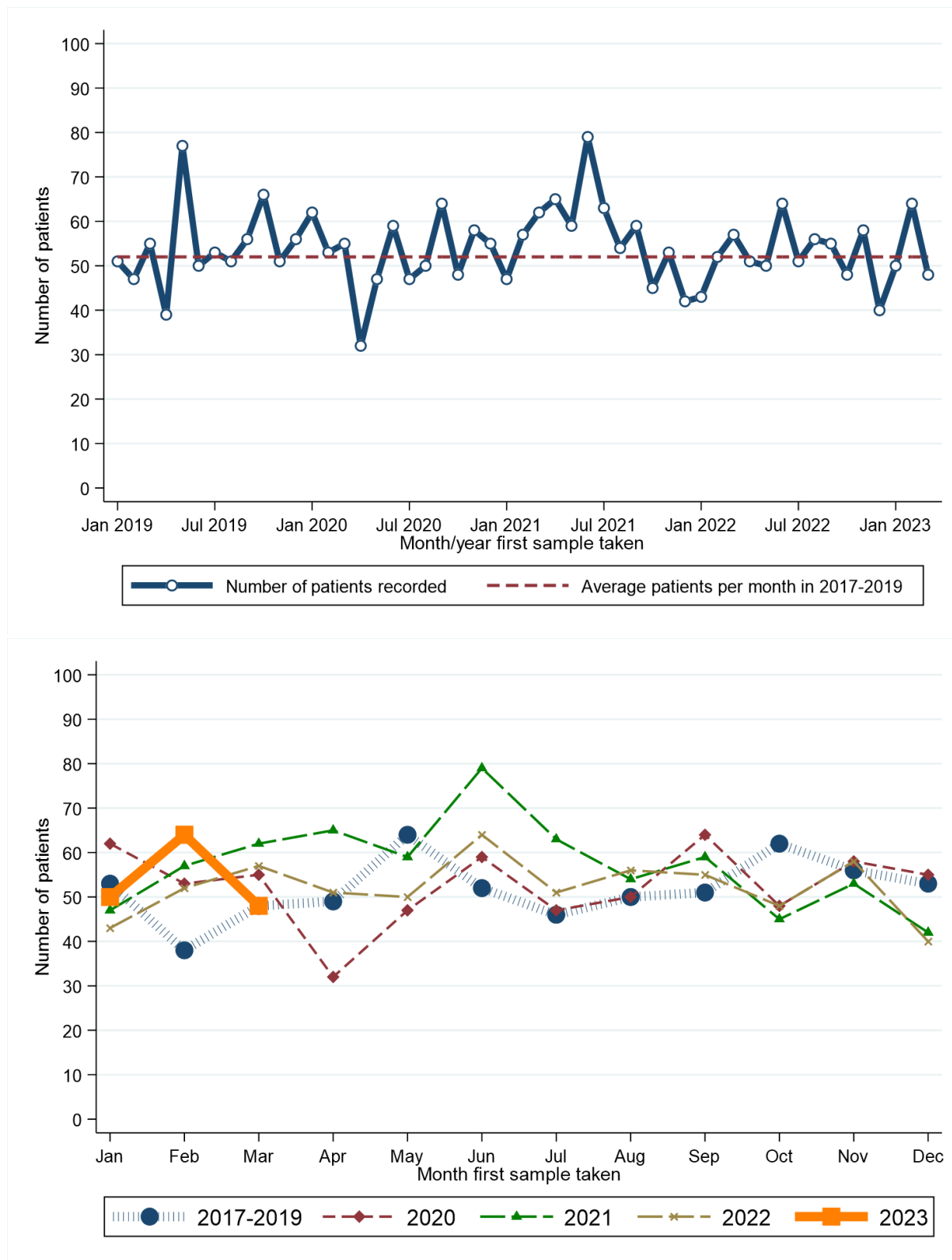
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

HAEMATOLOGICAL CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

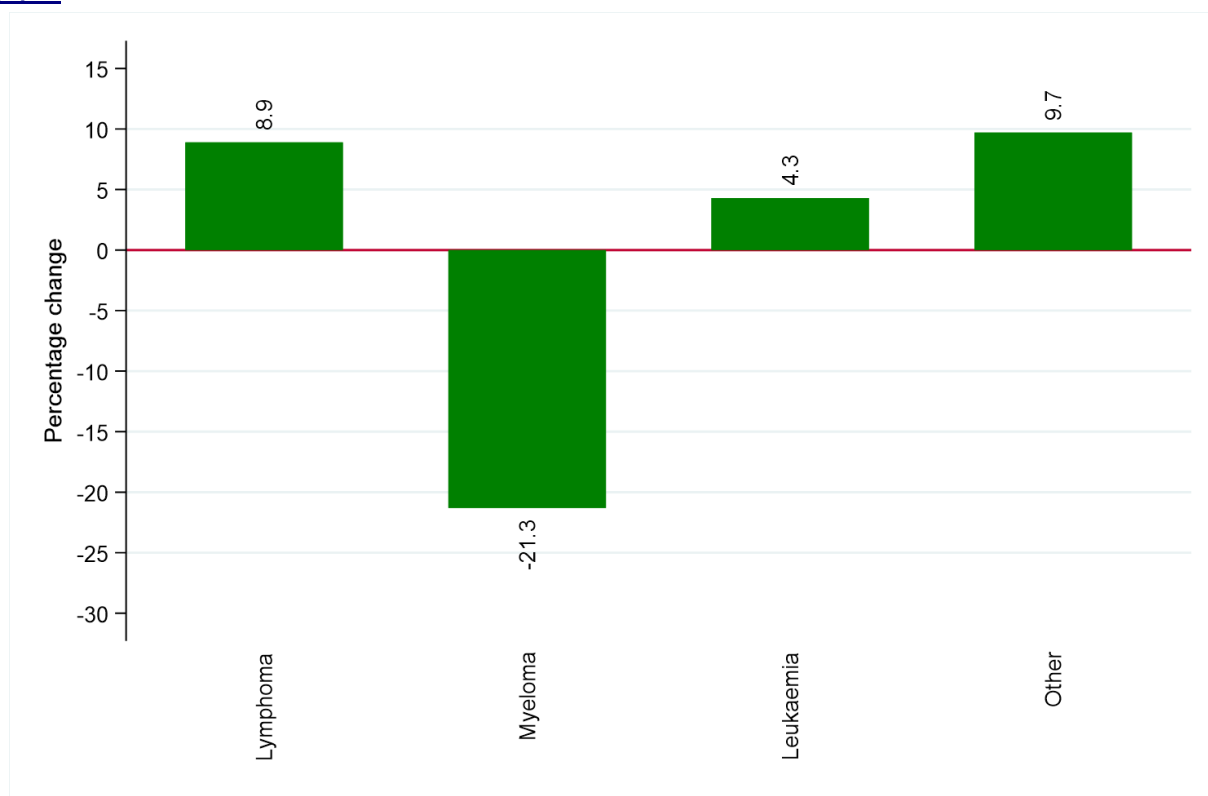
+3.8%



Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	53	62	47	43	50	Jul	46	47	63	51	.
Feb	38	53	57	52	64	Aug	50	50	54	56	.
Mar	48	55	62	57	48	Sep	51	64	59	55	.
Apr	49	32	65	51	.	Oct	62	48	45	48	.
May	64	47	59	50	.	Nov	56	58	53	58	.
Jun	52	59	79	64	.	Dec	53	55	42	40	.

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

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



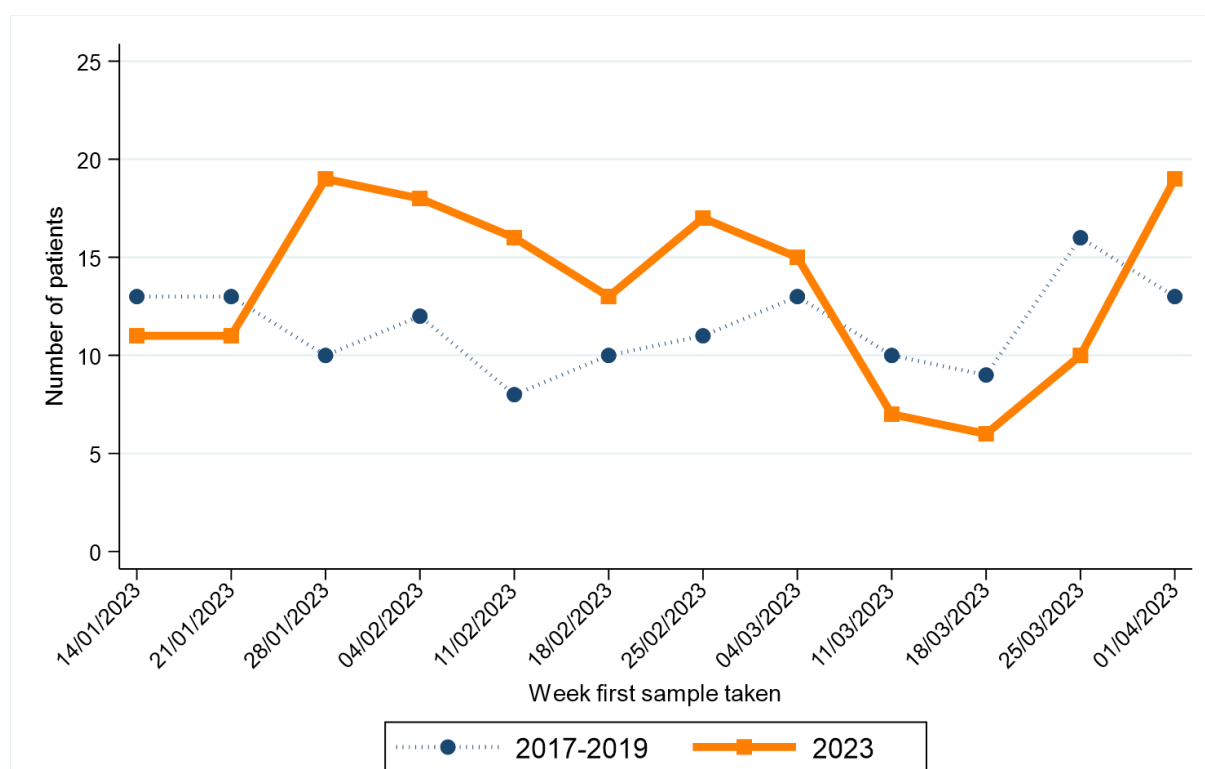
Cancer type	Number of patients (March 2020 to March 2023)	
	Expected number*	Recorded number
Lymphoma	1,454	1,584
Myeloma	287	226
Leukaemia	161	168
Other haematological cancer	31	34

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

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+17.4%



Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	13	11
21/01/2023	13	11
28/01/2023	10	19
04/02/2023	12	18
11/02/2023	8	16
18/02/2023	10	13

Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
25/02/2023	11	17
04/03/2023	13	15
11/03/2023	10	7
18/03/2023	9	6
25/03/2023	16	10
01/04/2023	13	19

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

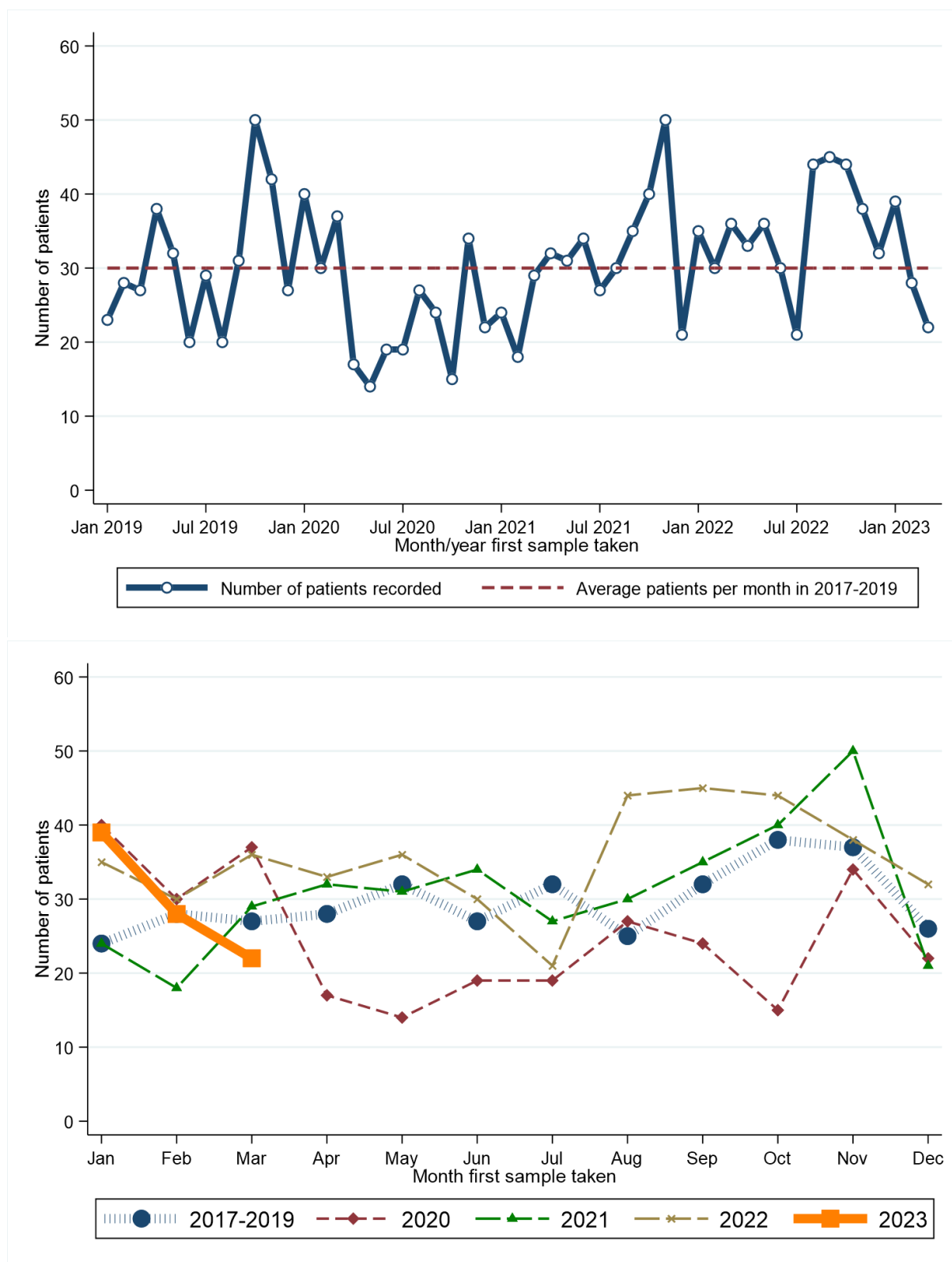
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

MELANOMA

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+1.6%



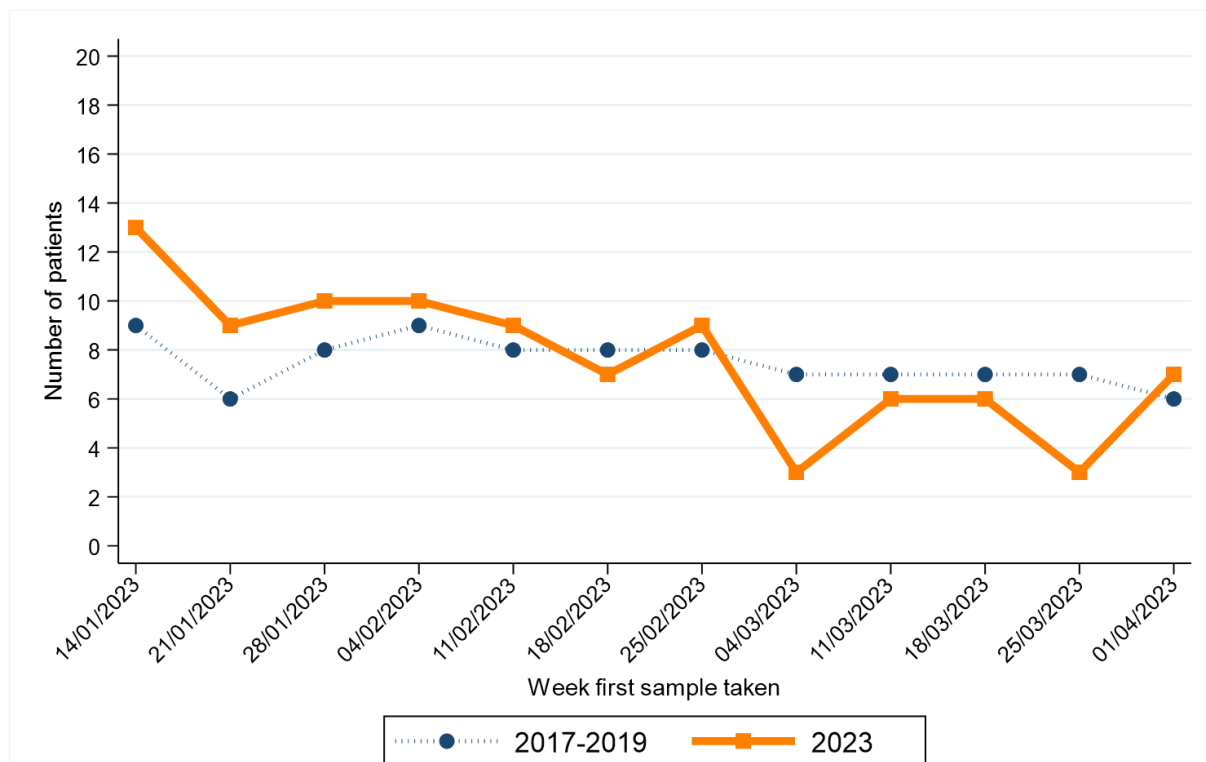
Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	24	40	24	35	39	Jul	32	19	27	21	.
Feb	28	30	18	30	28	Aug	25	27	30	44	.
Mar	27	37	29	36	22	Sep	32	24	35	45	.
Apr	28	17	32	33	.	Oct	38	15	40	44	.
May	32	14	31	36	.	Nov	37	34	50	38	.
Jun	27	19	34	30	.	Dec	26	22	21	32	.

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+2.2%



Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	9	13	25/02/2023	8	9
21/01/2023	6	9	04/03/2023	7	3
28/01/2023	8	10	11/03/2023	7	6
04/02/2023	9	10	18/03/2023	7	6
11/02/2023	8	9	25/03/2023	7	3
18/02/2023	8	7	01/04/2023	6	7

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

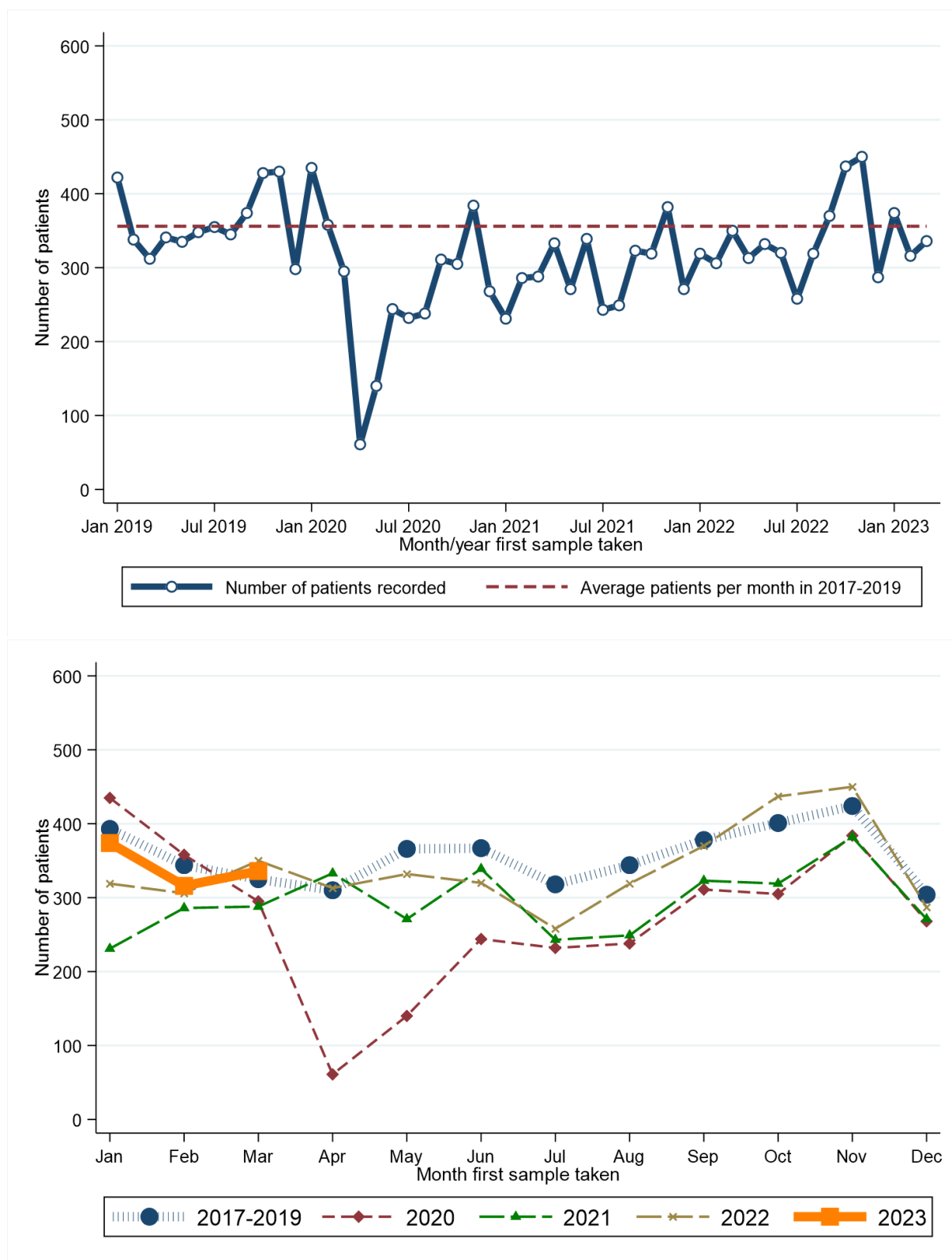
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

NON-MELANOMA SKIN CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-15.6%



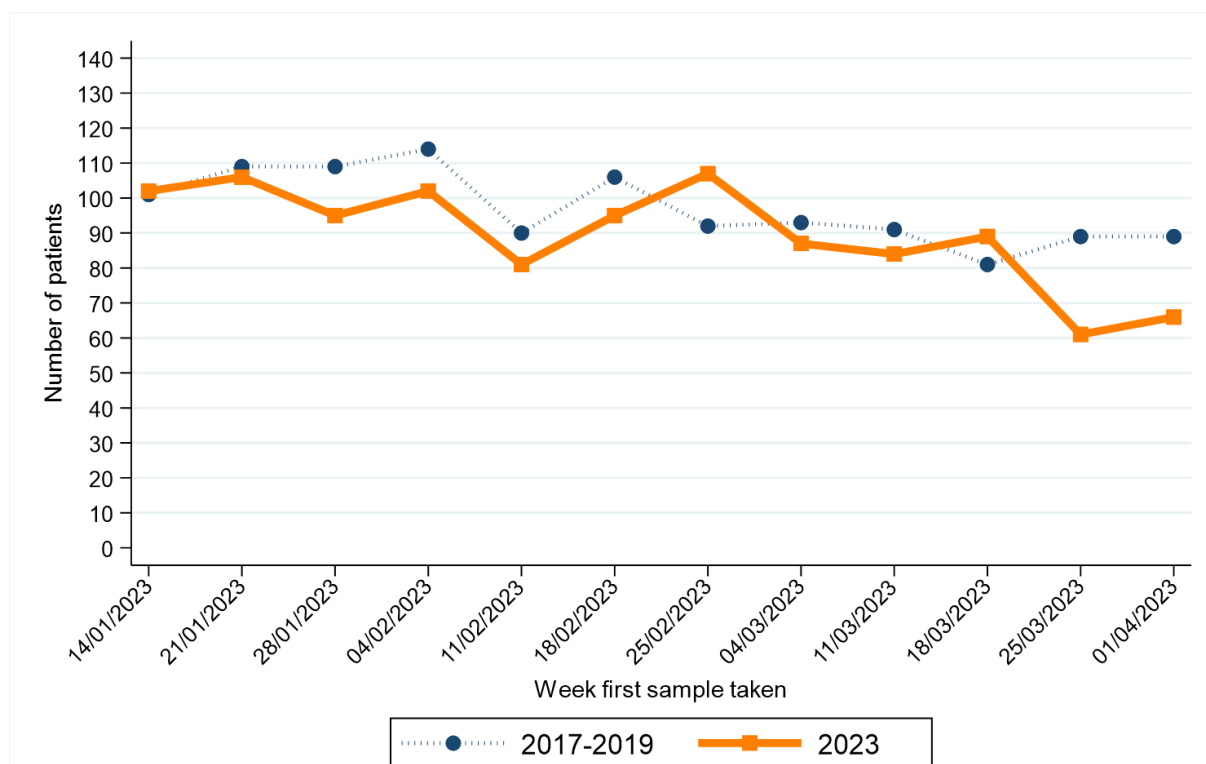
Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	393	435	231	319	374	Jul	318	232	243	258	.
Feb	344	358	286	306	316	Aug	344	238	249	319	.
Mar	325	295	288	350	336	Sep	378	311	323	370	.
Apr	310	61	333	313	.	Oct	401	305	319	437	.
May	366	140	271	332	.	Nov	424	384	382	450	.
Jun	367	244	339	320	.	Dec	304	268	271	287	.

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-7.6%



Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	101	102	25/02/2023	92	107
21/01/2023	109	106	04/03/2023	93	87
28/01/2023	109	95	11/03/2023	91	84
04/02/2023	114	102	18/03/2023	81	89
11/02/2023	90	81	25/03/2023	89	61
18/02/2023	106	95	01/04/2023	89	66

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

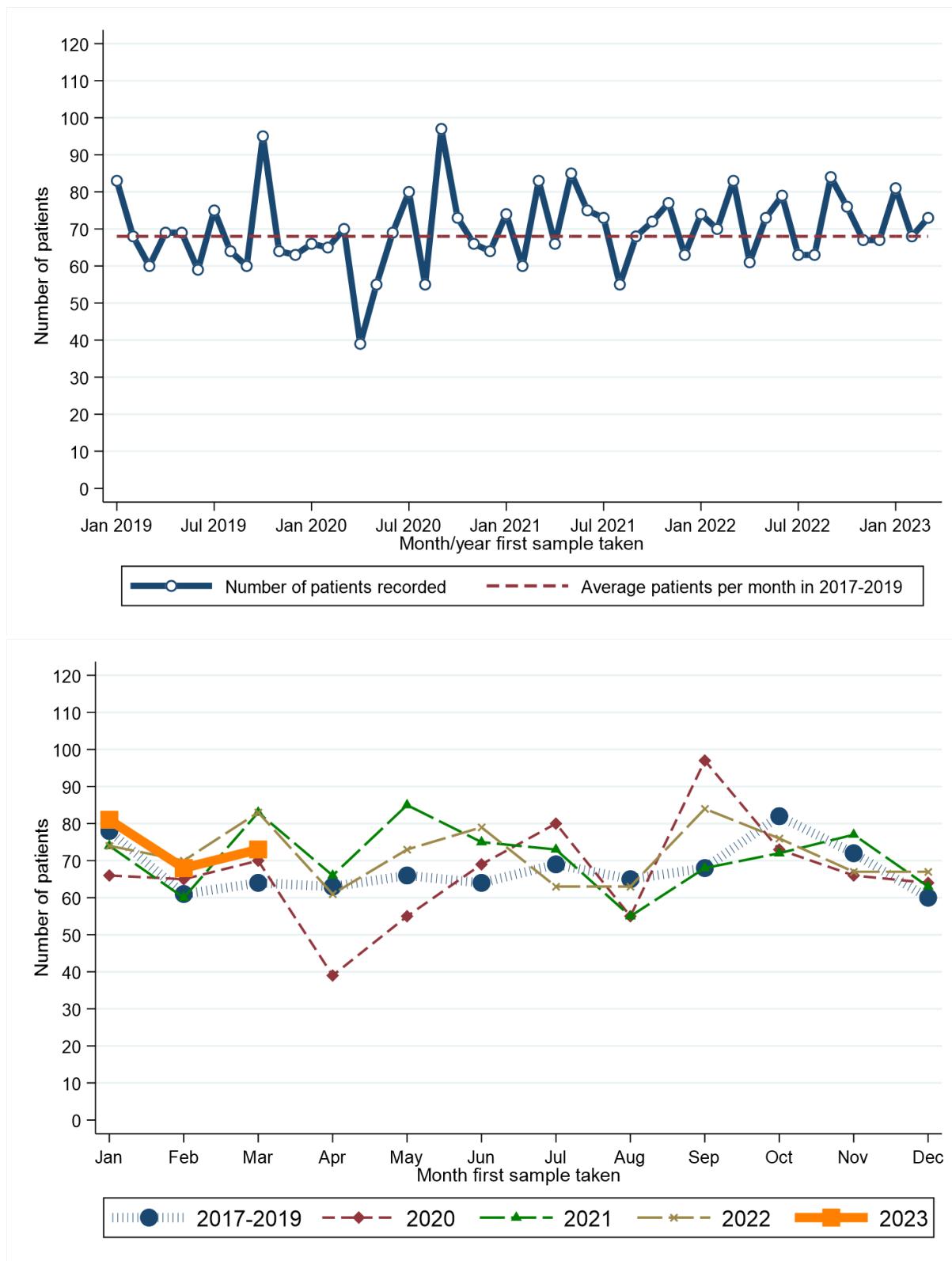
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

OTHER CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

Percentage change from March 2020 to March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+4.0%



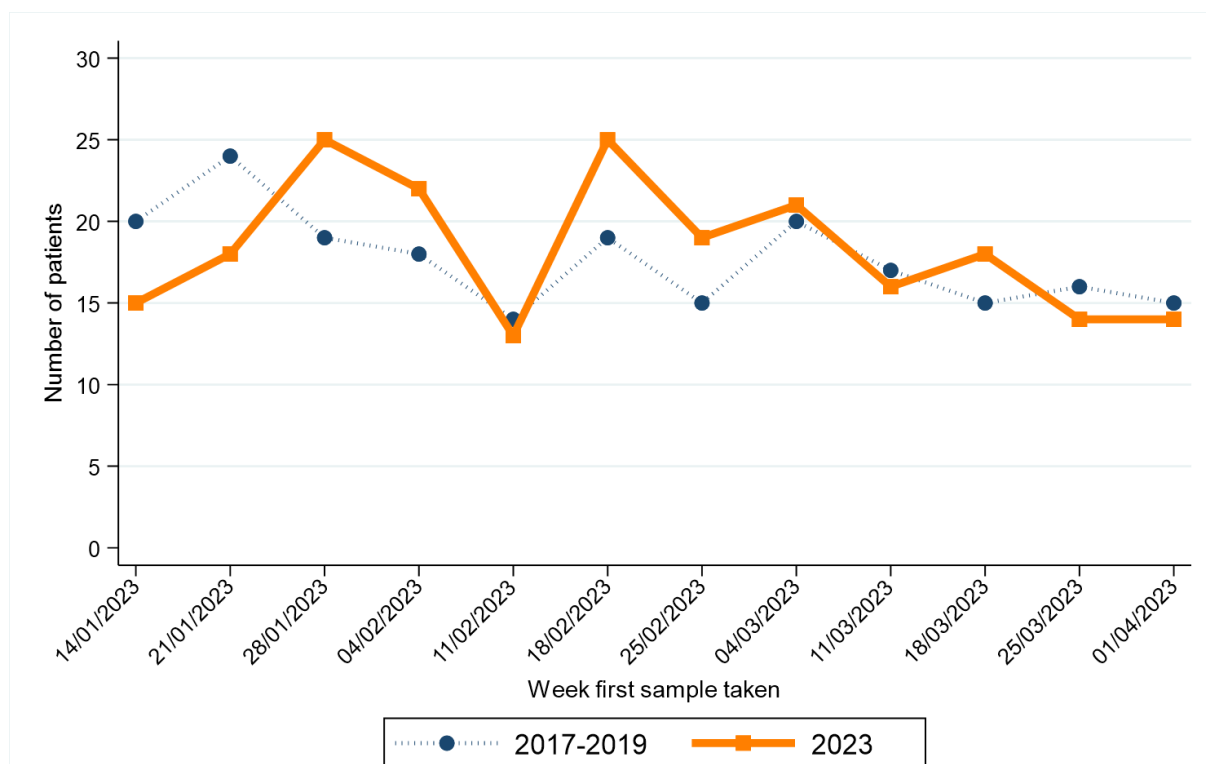
Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month first sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	78	66	74	74	81	Jul	69	80	73	63	.
Feb	61	65	60	70	68	Aug	65	55	55	63	.
Mar	64	70	83	83	73	Sep	68	97	68	84	.
Apr	63	39	66	61	.	Oct	82	73	72	76	.
May	66	55	85	73	.	Nov	72	66	77	67	.
Jun	64	69	75	79	.	Dec	60	64	63	67	.

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF PATIENTS - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+3.8%



Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week first sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	20	15	25/02/2023	15	19
21/01/2023	24	18	04/03/2023	20	21
28/01/2023	19	25	11/03/2023	17	16
04/02/2023	18	22	18/03/2023	15	18
11/02/2023	14	13	25/03/2023	16	14
18/02/2023	19	25	01/04/2023	15	14

* Average patients per year rounded to the nearest integer.

** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. 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 patients with pathology samples that indicated a malignant tumour and had this result coded and recorded by the end of March 2023. Due to potential reporting delays, pathology data from the month following March 2023 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 2023. 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, 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.