
Recent trends in the number of 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 pathology samples indicating cancer: March 2023

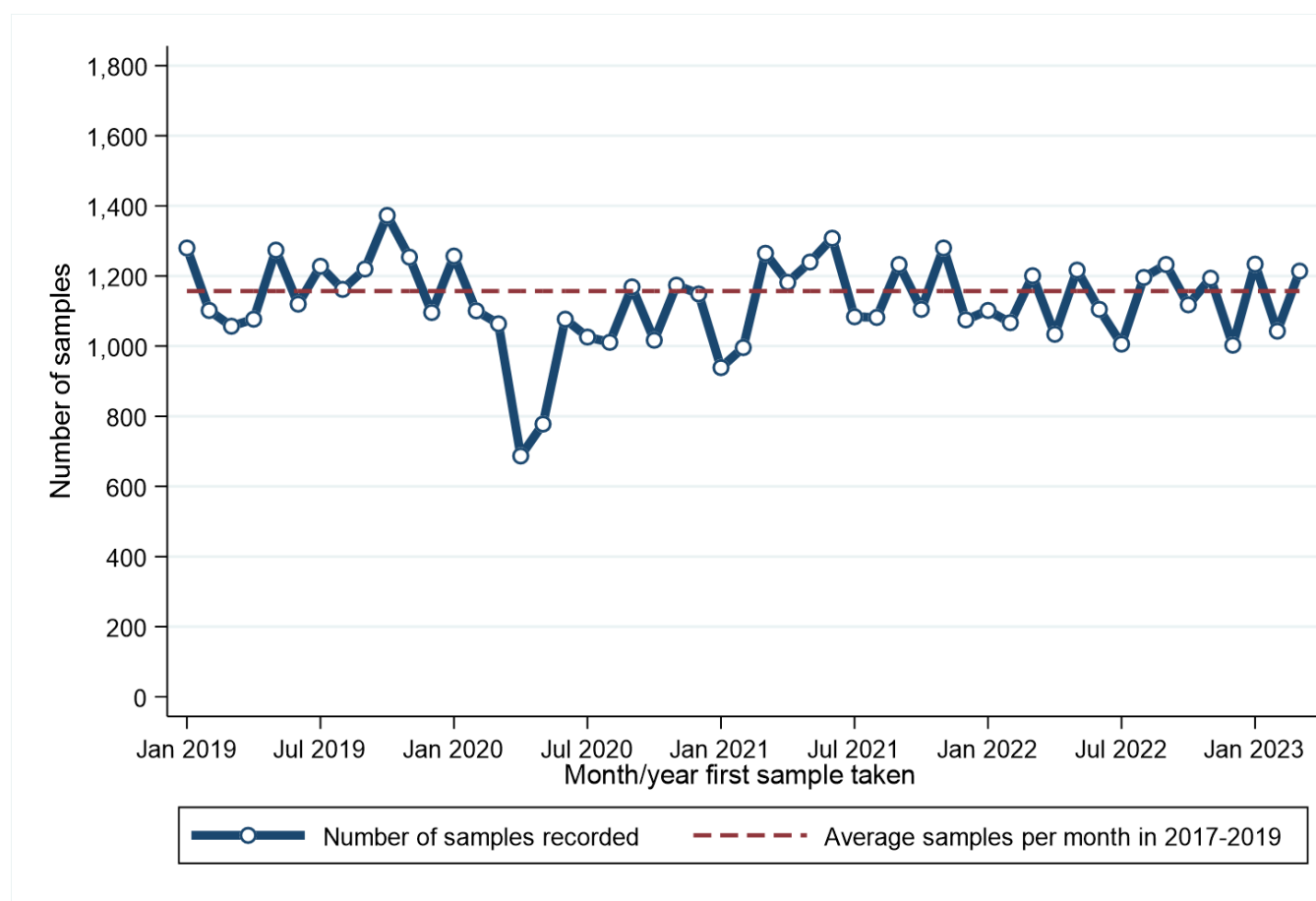
This summary provides an overview of recent trends in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer, NMSC) taken from March 2020 to March 2023 in Northern Ireland.

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.

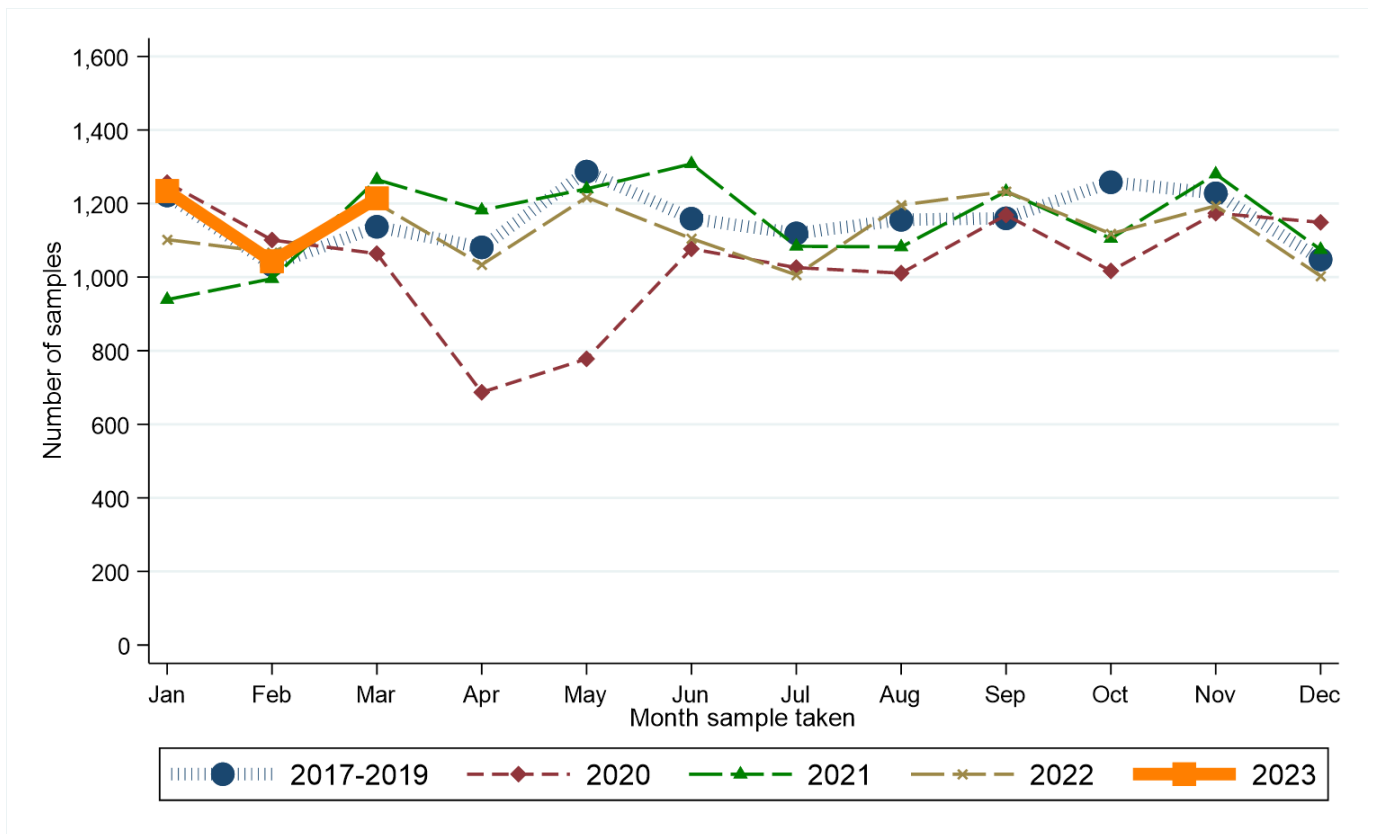
Data are sourced from the four NHS pathology laboratories in NI (Belfast, Altnagelvin, Antrim, Craigavon), which are usually provided to NICR on a monthly basis. **Altnagelvin laboratory is excluded from some analysis as a change in recording systems led to an undercount in the number of reported samples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

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

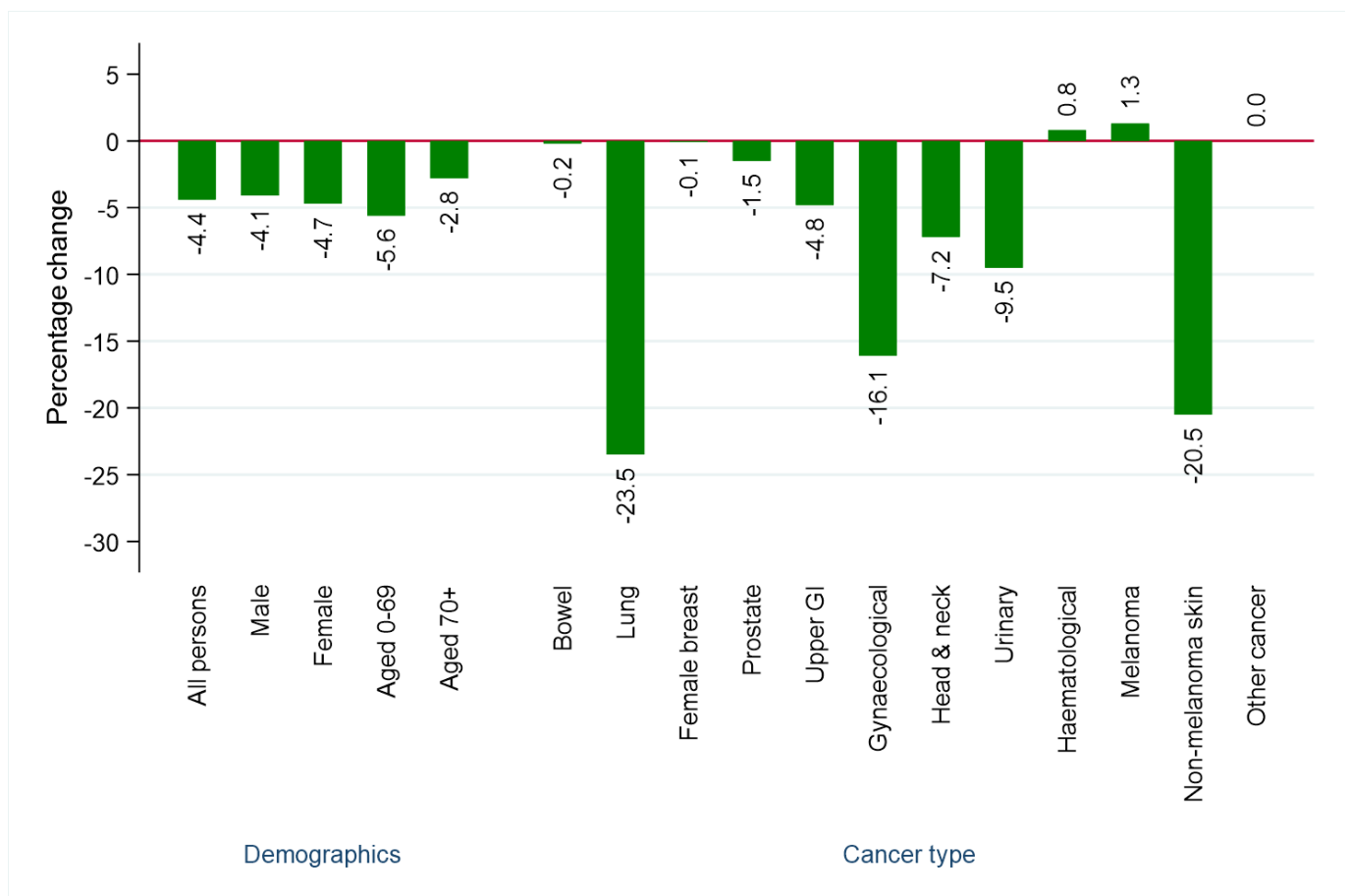
From March 2020 to March 2023 the number of pathological samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC) was 4.4% lower than the average number for the same time period in 2017-2019.



From March 2020 to March 2023 there was a 4.1% decrease in the number of samples among males and a 4.7% decrease among females compared to the same time period in 2017-2019. A decrease of 5.6% occurred in the number of samples among those aged 0-69 years, while there was a decrease of 2.8% in the number of samples among those aged 70 and older.

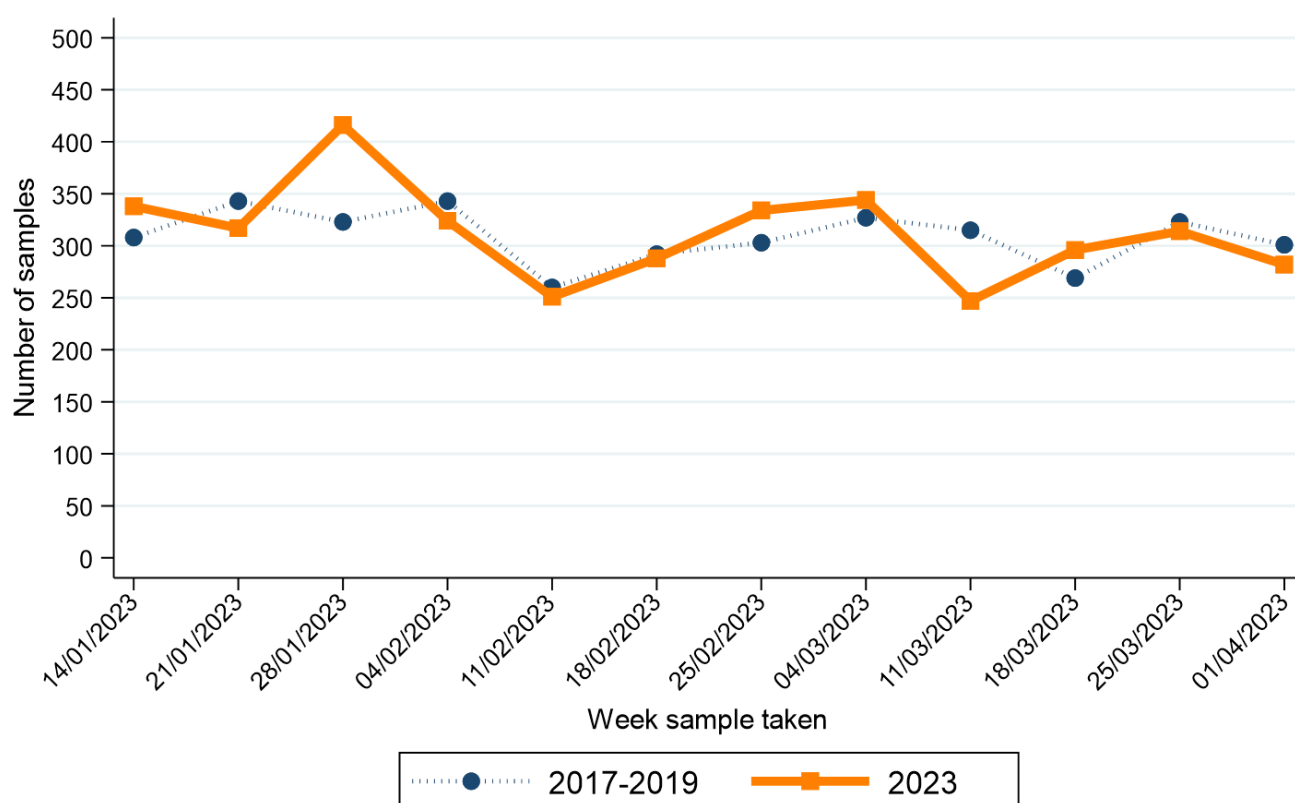


Compared to the annual average in 2017-2019, from March 2020 to March 2023 the number of pathology samples indicating lung cancer decreased by 23.5%. Increases were recorded for haematological cancer and melanoma, while decreases of more than 10% were recorded for gynaecological cancer and non-melanoma skin cancer.

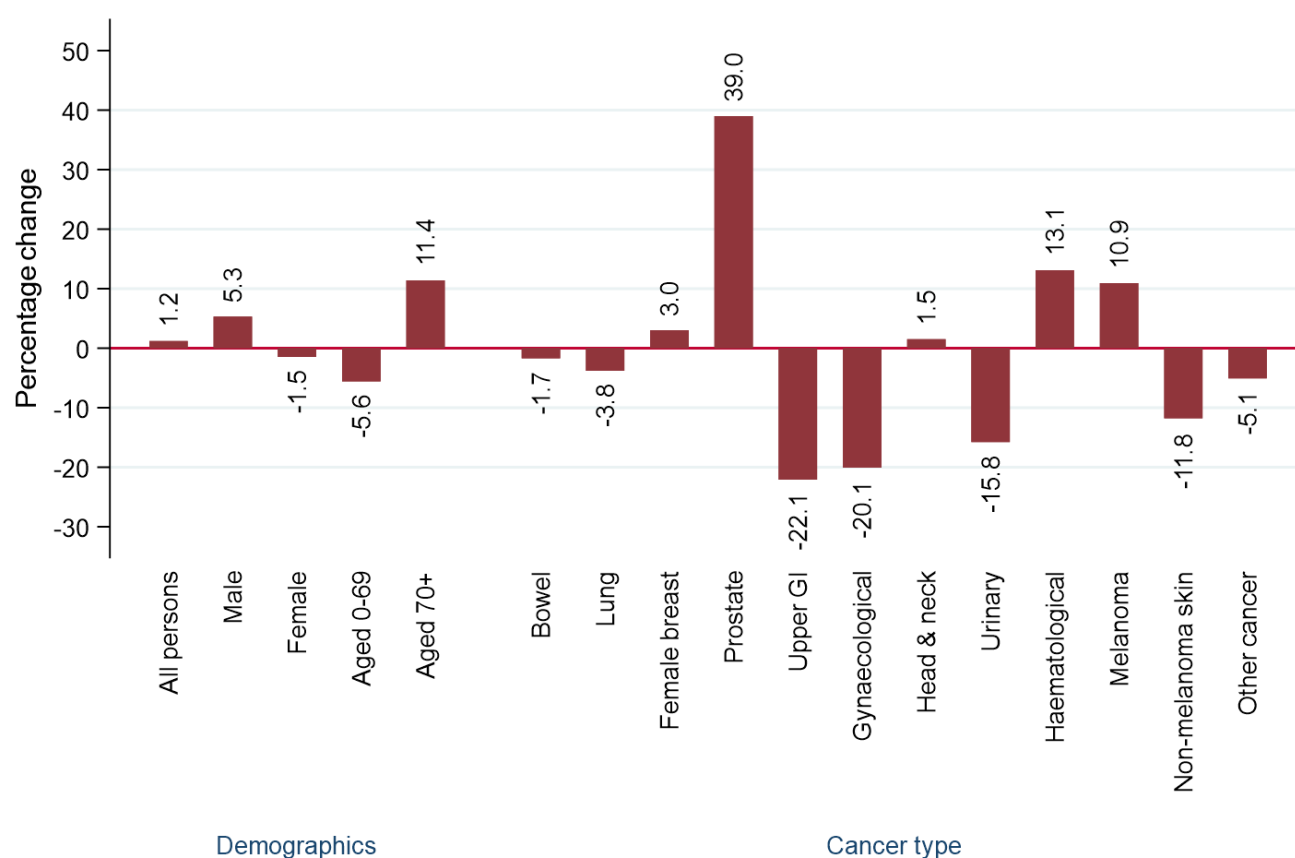


RECENT CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF SAMPLES (Includes Altnagelvin)

There was a 1.2% increase in the number of pathology samples 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 2023. 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 5.3% increase in the number of samples among males and a 1.5% decrease among females compared to the same time period in 2017-2019. A decrease of 5.6% occurred in the number of samples among those aged 0-69 years, while there was an increase of 11.4% in the number of samples among those aged 70 and older.

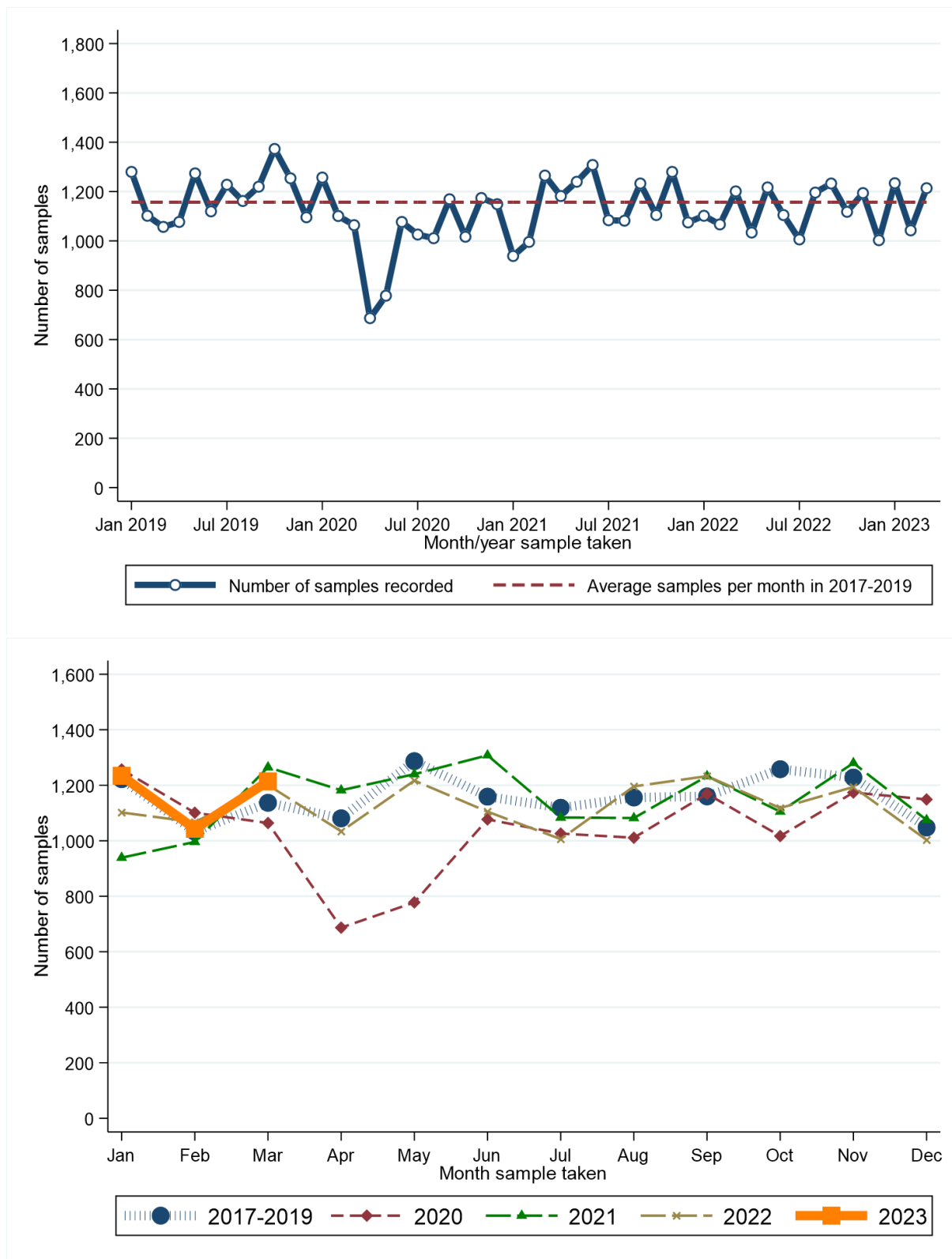
Compared to the annual average in 2017-2019, in the twelve weeks up to 01/04/2023 the number of pathology samples indicating lung cancer decreased by 3.8%. Increases were recorded for female breast cancer, prostate cancer, head and neck cancer, haematological cancer and melanoma, while decreases of more than 10% were recorded for upper gastrointestinal cancer, gynaecological cancer, urinary 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 March 2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-4.4%



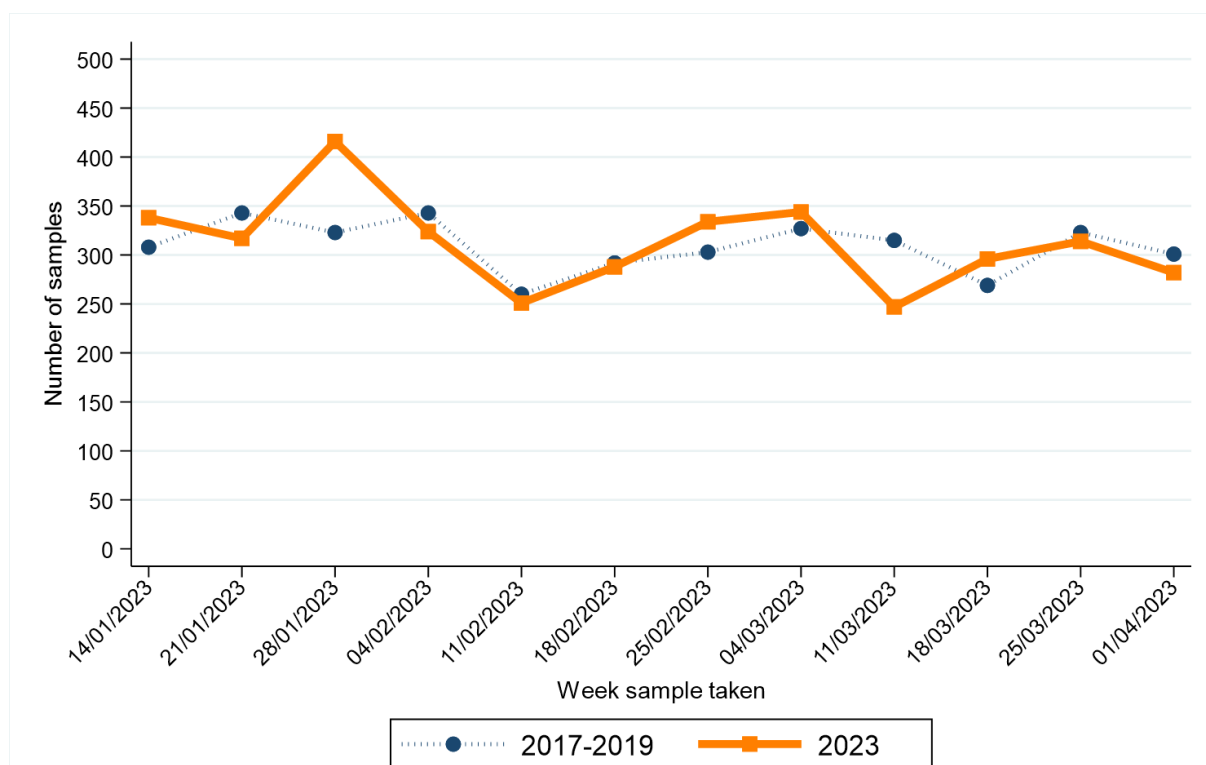
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	1,222	1,257	939	1,102	1,234	Jul	1,119	1,026	1,084	1,006	.
Feb	1,033	1,101	996	1,067	1,043	Aug	1,156	1,011	1,082	1,196	.
Mar	1,137	1,064	1,265	1,201	1,214	Sep	1,160	1,169	1,233	1,233	.
Apr	1,081	687	1,182	1,034	.	Oct	1,258	1,017	1,105	1,118	.
May	1,287	778	1,240	1,217	.	Nov	1,228	1,174	1,280	1,194	.
Jun	1,159	1,077	1,308	1,105	.	Dec	1,048	1,149	1,075	1,003	.

* 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 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+1.2%



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	308	338	25/02/2023	303	334
21/01/2023	343	317	04/03/2023	327	344
28/01/2023	323	416	11/03/2023	315	247
04/02/2023	343	324	18/03/2023	269	296
11/02/2023	260	251	25/03/2023	323	314
18/02/2023	292	288	01/04/2023	301	282

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

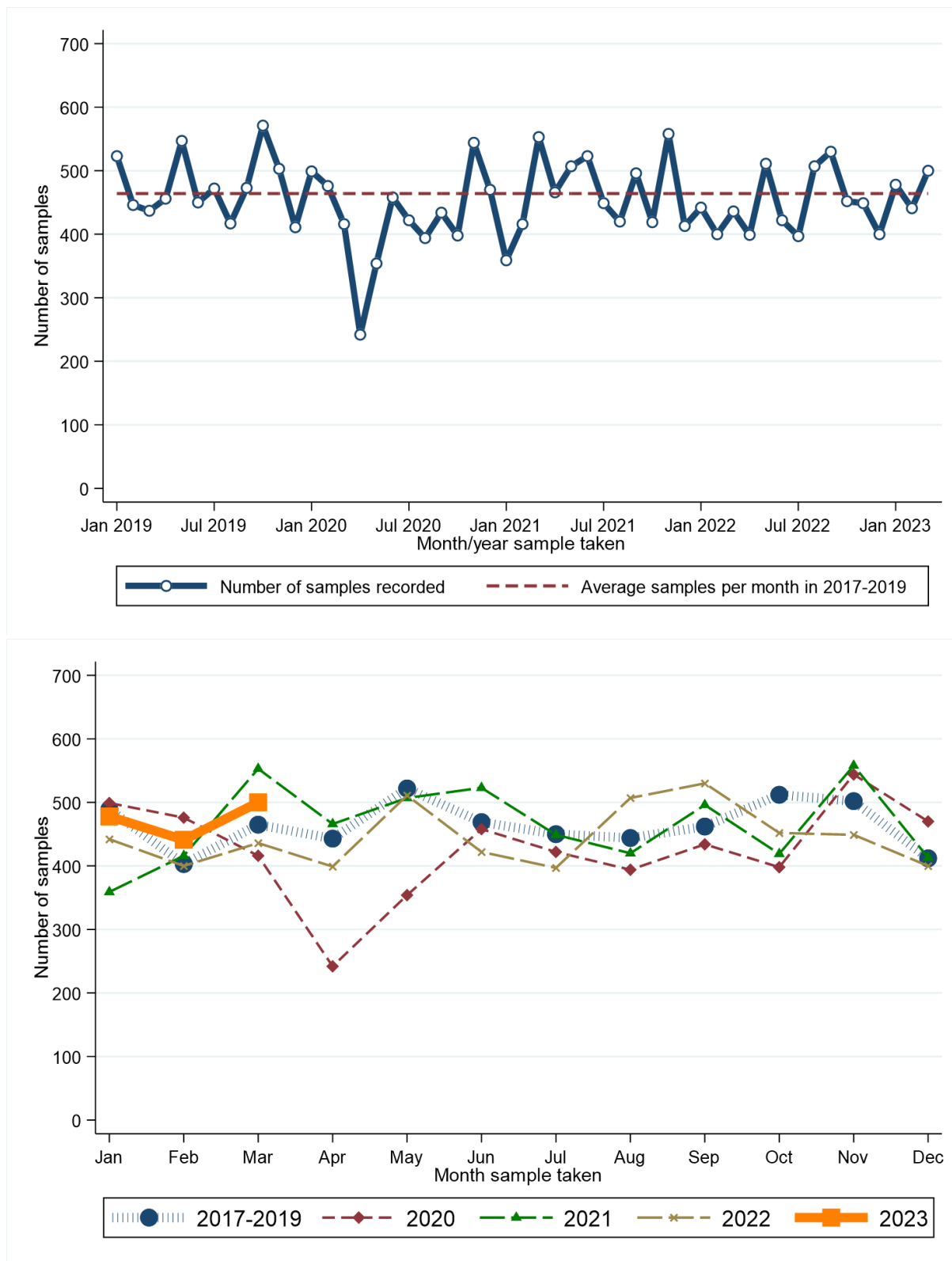
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

MALE: CANCER (EX NMSC)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-4.1%



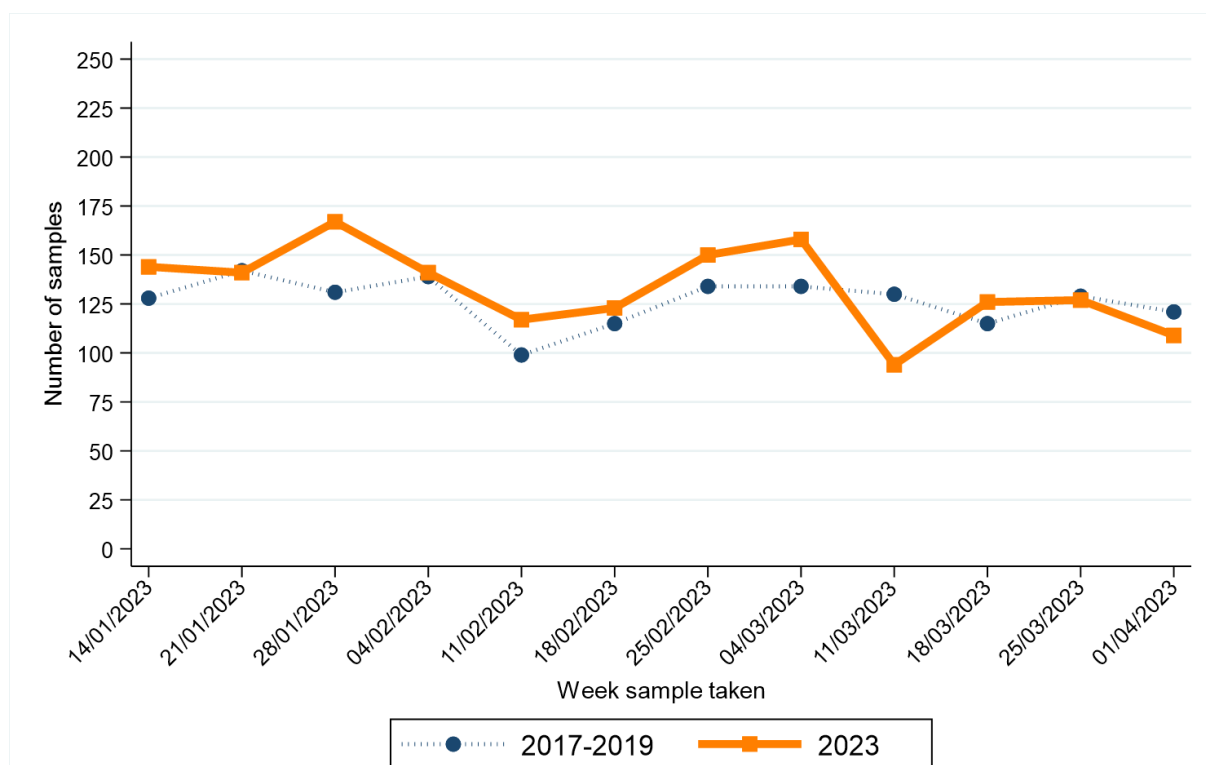
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	489	499	359	442	478	Jul	450	422	449	397	.
Feb	403	476	416	400	441	Aug	444	394	420	507	.
Mar	465	416	553	436	500	Sep	462	434	496	530	.
Apr	443	242	466	399	.	Oct	512	398	419	452	.
May	522	354	507	511	.	Nov	502	544	558	449	.
Jun	469	458	523	422	.	Dec	412	470	413	400	.

* 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 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+5.3%



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	128	144	25/02/2023	134	150
21/01/2023	142	141	04/03/2023	134	158
28/01/2023	131	167	11/03/2023	130	94
04/02/2023	139	141	18/03/2023	115	126
11/02/2023	99	117	25/03/2023	129	127
18/02/2023	115	123	01/04/2023	121	109

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

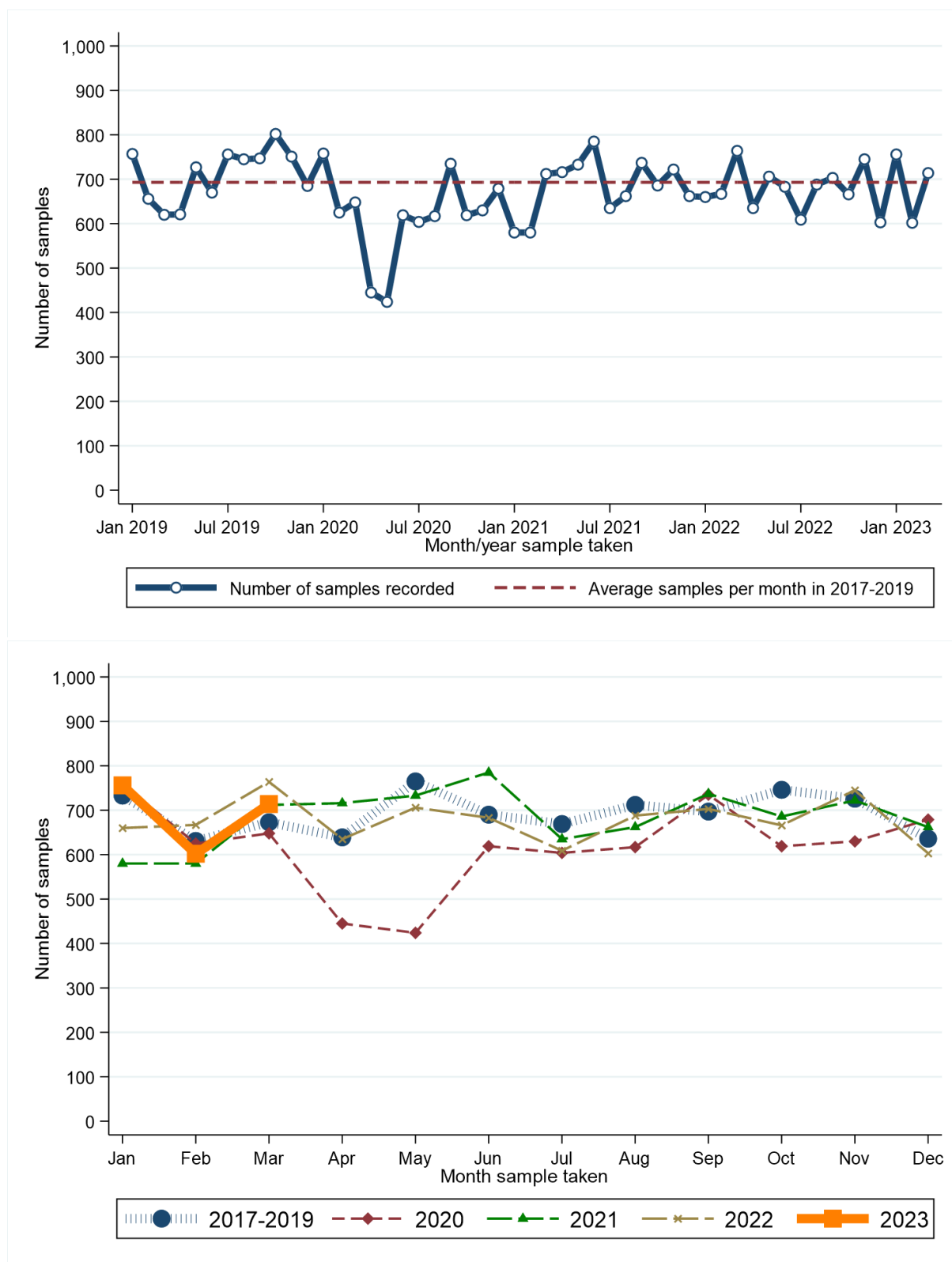
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

FEMALE: CANCER (EX NMSC)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-4.7%



Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	733	758	580	660	756
Feb	631	625	580	667	602
Mar	673	648	712	764	714
Apr	639	445	716	635	.
May	765	424	733	706	.
Jun	690	619	785	683	.

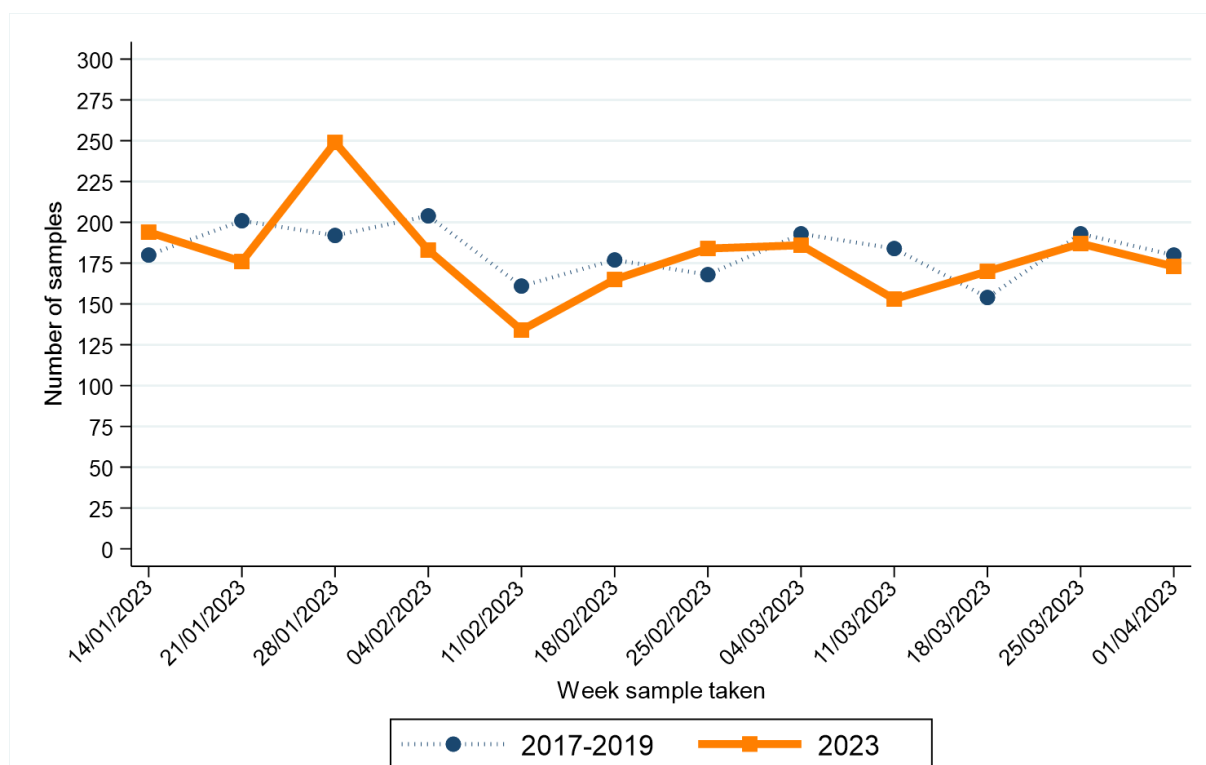
* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jul	669	604	635	609	.
Aug	712	617	662	688	.
Sep	697	735	737	703	.
Oct	746	619	686	666	.
Nov	726	630	722	745	.
Dec	636	679	662	603	.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - 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 sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	180	194
21/01/2023	201	176
28/01/2023	192	249
04/02/2023	204	183
11/02/2023	161	134
18/02/2023	177	165

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
25/02/2023	168	184
04/03/2023	193	186
11/03/2023	184	153
18/03/2023	154	170
25/03/2023	193	187
01/04/2023	180	173

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

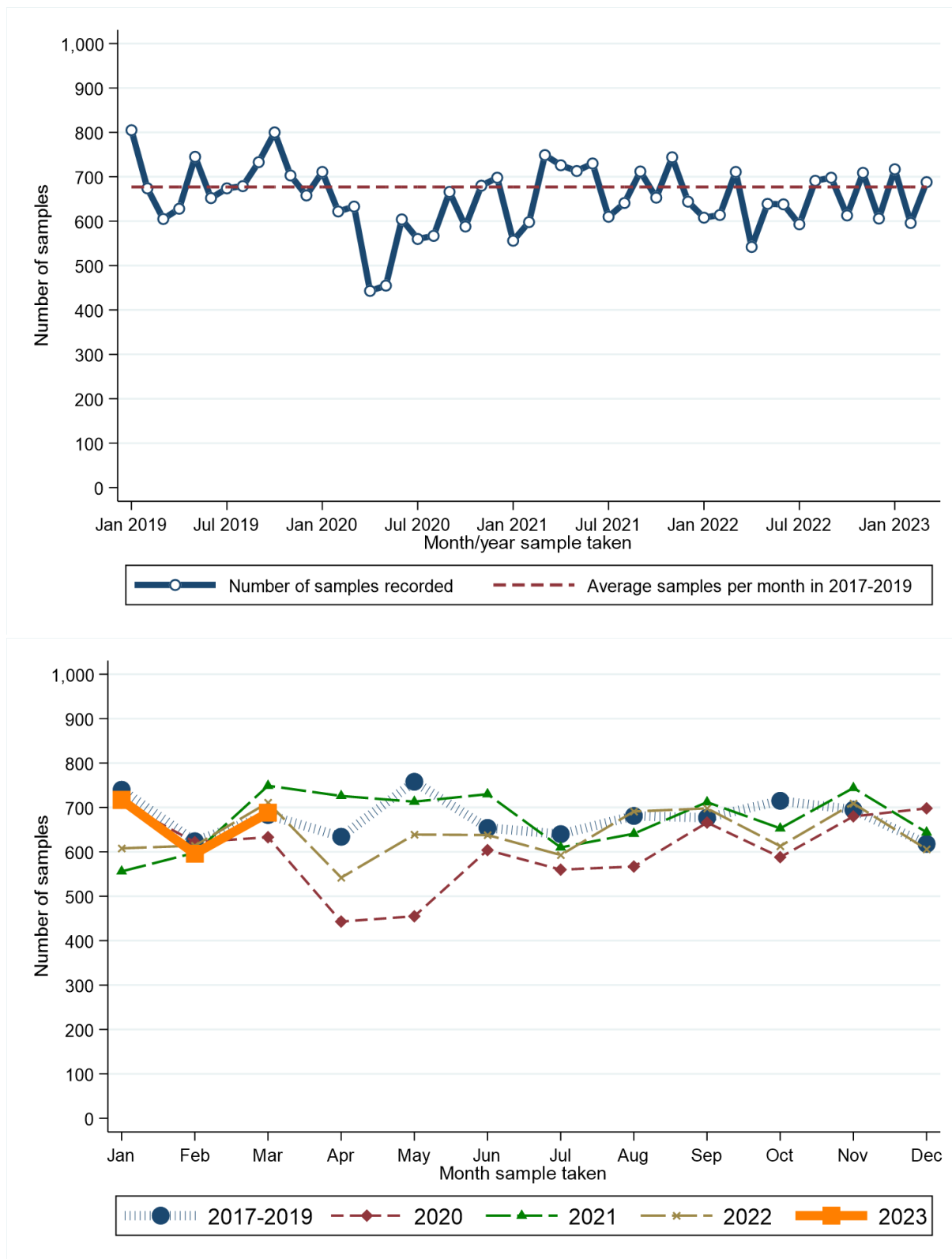
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

AGED 0-69: CANCER (EX NMSC)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-5.6%



Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	740	711	556	608	717
Feb	624	622	598	614	596
Mar	683	633	749	711	688
Apr	634	443	726	542	.
May	758	455	713	639	.
Jun	654	604	730	638	.

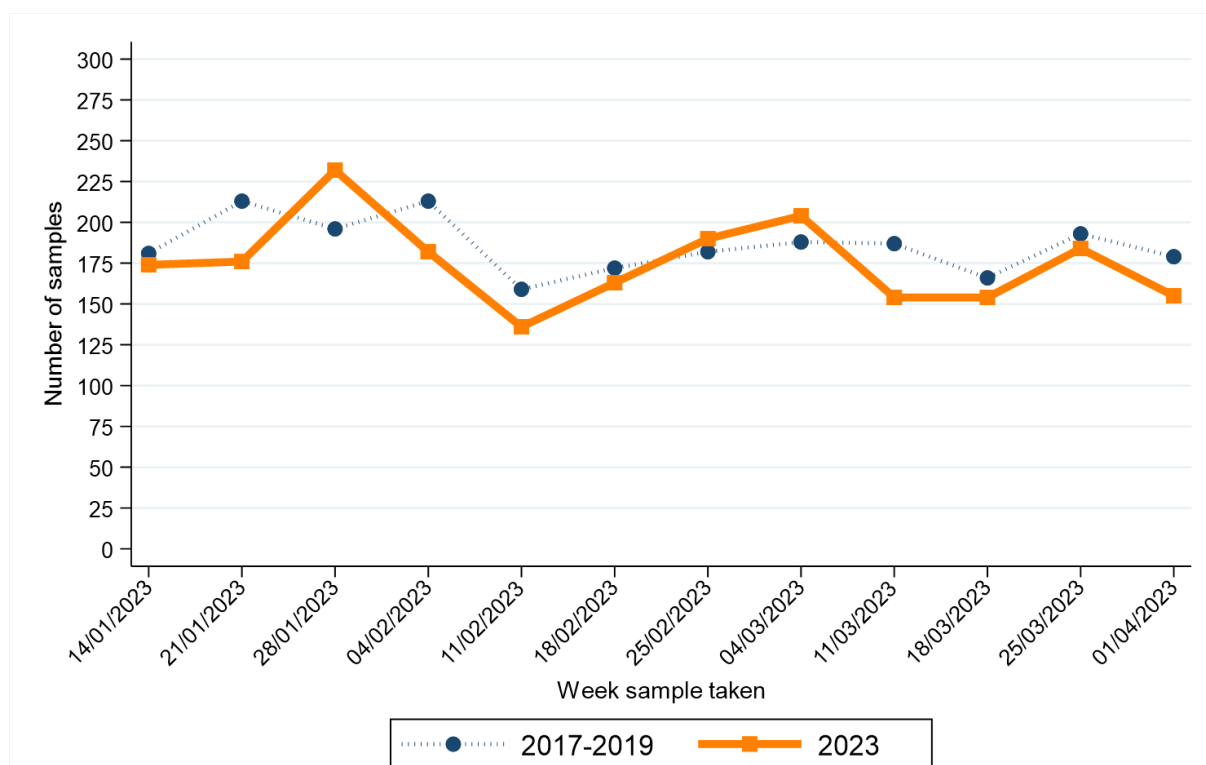
* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jul	640	560	610	593	.
Aug	681	567	641	691	.
Sep	677	666	712	698	.
Oct	715	588	653	613	.
Nov	695	680	744	709	.
Dec	618	698	644	606	.

RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

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

-5.6%



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	181	174
21/01/2023	213	176
28/01/2023	196	232
04/02/2023	213	182
11/02/2023	159	136
18/02/2023	172	163

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
25/02/2023	182	190
04/03/2023	188	204
11/03/2023	187	154
18/03/2023	166	154
25/03/2023	193	184
01/04/2023	179	155

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

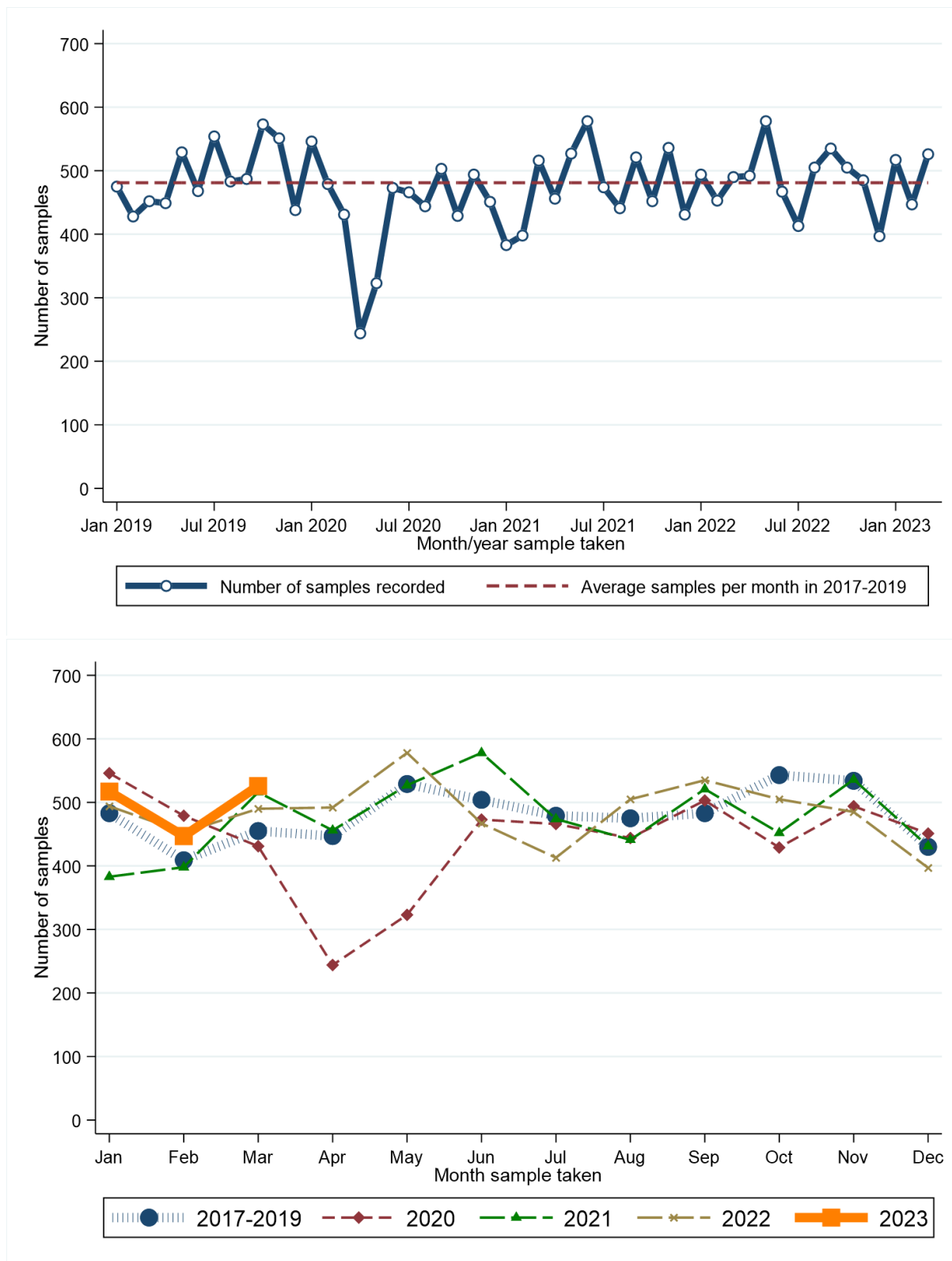
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

AGED 70+: CANCER (EX NMSC)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-2.8%



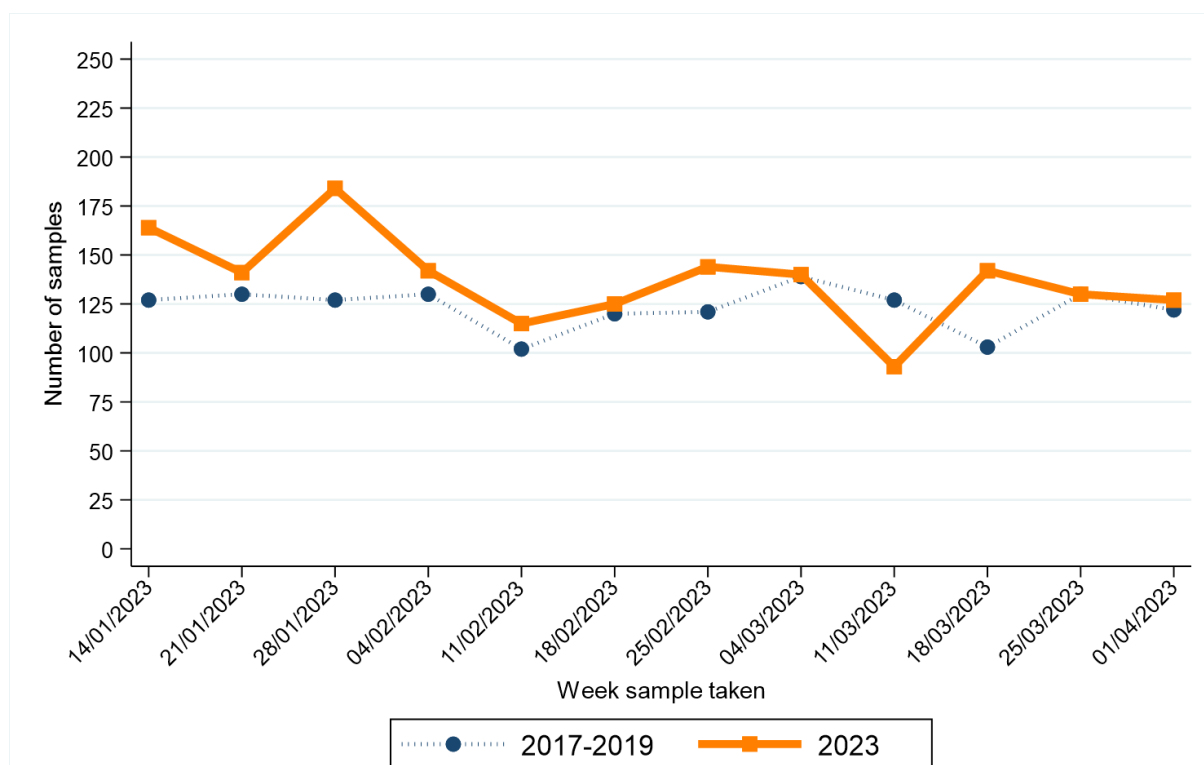
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	483	546	383	494	517	Jul	479	466	474	413	.
Feb	409	479	398	453	447	Aug	475	444	441	505	.
Mar	455	431	516	490	526	Sep	483	503	521	535	.
Apr	447	244	456	492	.	Oct	543	429	452	505	.
May	529	323	527	578	.	Nov	534	494	536	485	.
Jun	504	473	578	467	.	Dec	430	451	431	397	.

* 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 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+11.4%



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	127	164	25/02/2023	121	144
21/01/2023	130	141	04/03/2023	139	140
28/01/2023	127	184	11/03/2023	127	93
04/02/2023	130	142	18/03/2023	103	142
11/02/2023	102	115	25/03/2023	130	130
18/02/2023	120	125	01/04/2023	122	127

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

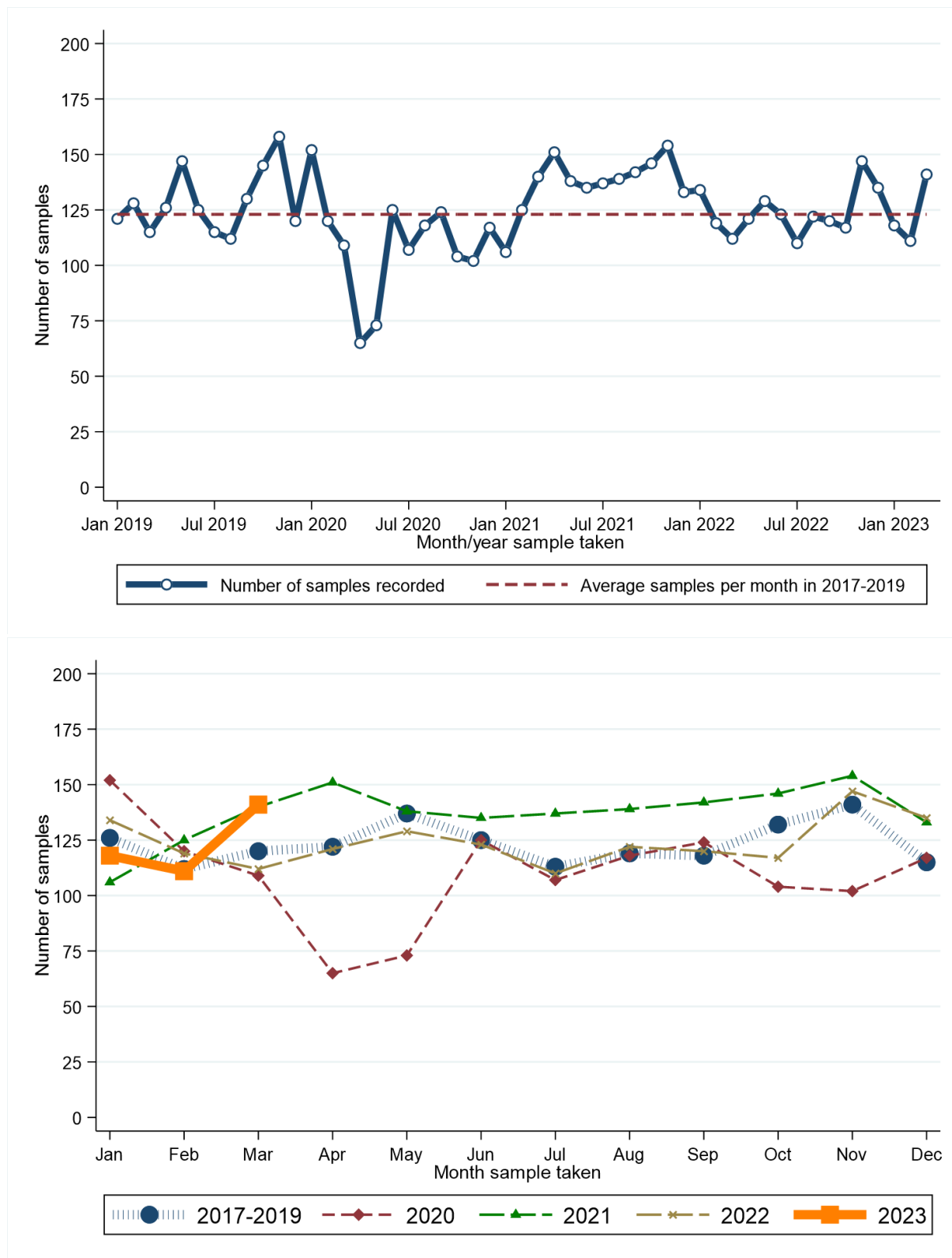
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

BOWEL CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-0.2%



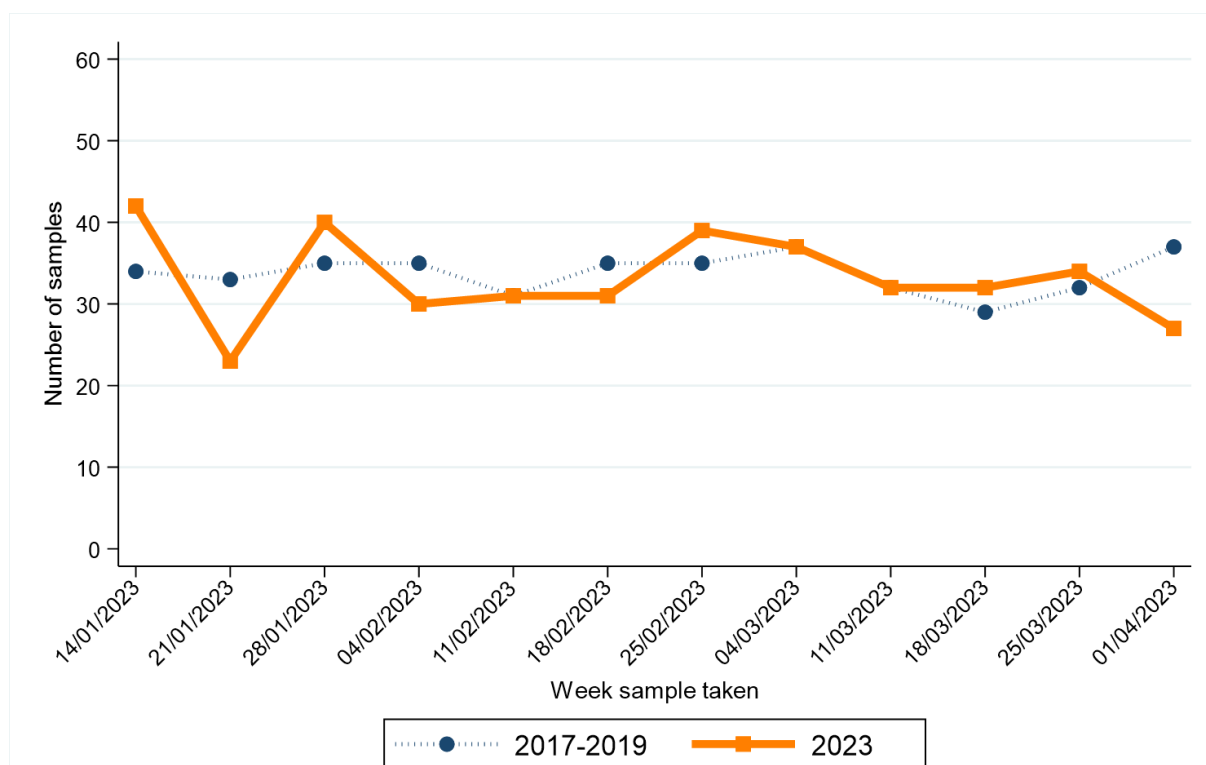
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	126	152	106	134	118	Jul	113	107	137	110	.
Feb	112	120	125	119	111	Aug	119	118	139	122	.
Mar	120	109	140	112	141	Sep	118	124	142	120	.
Apr	122	65	151	121	.	Oct	132	104	146	117	.
May	137	73	138	129	.	Nov	141	102	154	147	.
Jun	125	125	135	123	.	Dec	115	117	133	135	.

* 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 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-1.7%



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	34	42	25/02/2023	35	39
21/01/2023	33	23	04/03/2023	37	37
28/01/2023	35	40	11/03/2023	32	32
04/02/2023	35	30	18/03/2023	29	32
11/02/2023	31	31	25/03/2023	32	34
18/02/2023	35	31	01/04/2023	37	27

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

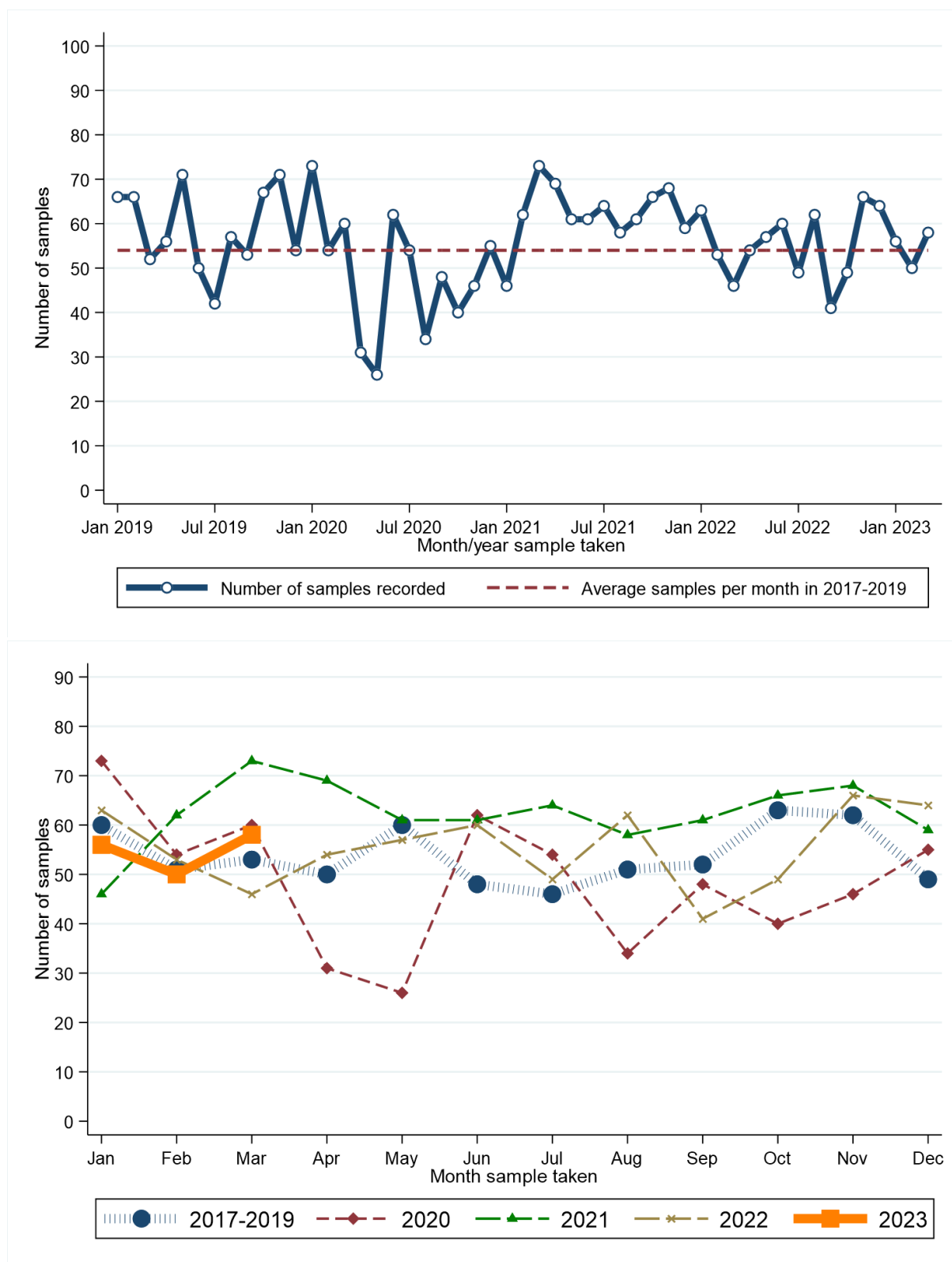
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

BOWEL CANCER (SCREENING AGE)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

+2.2%



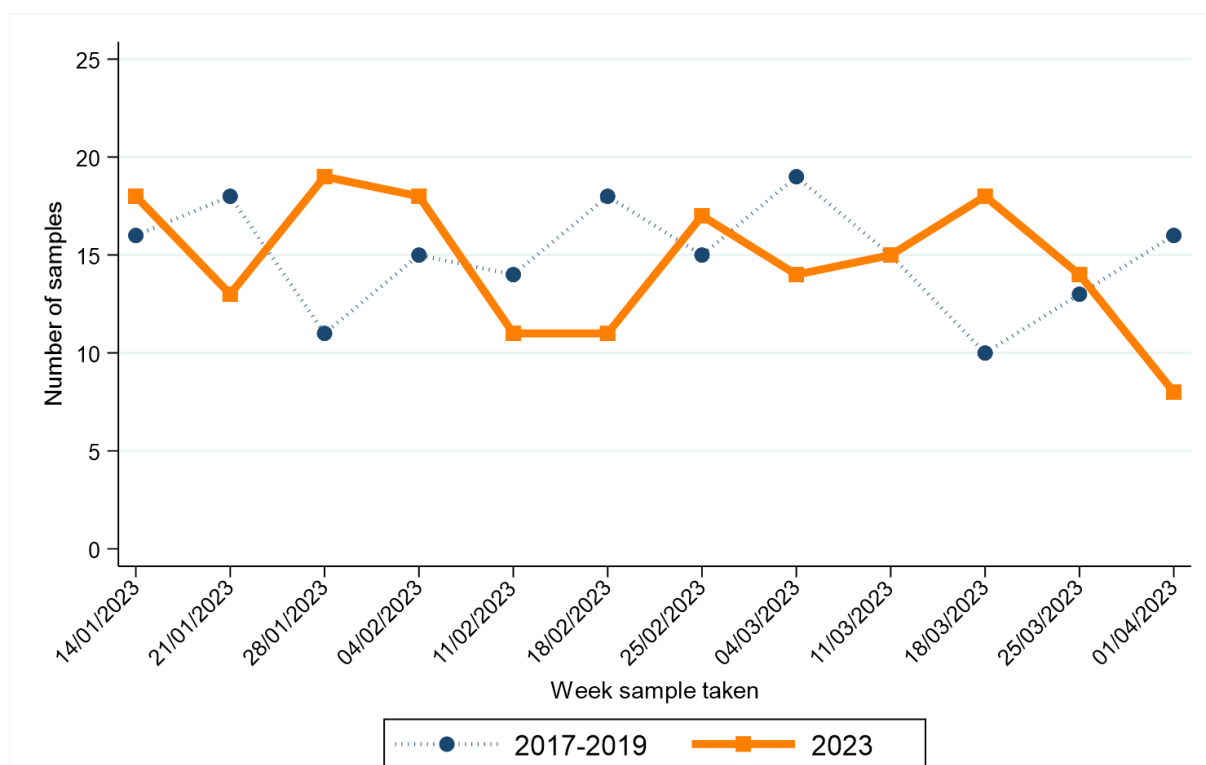
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	60	73	46	63	56	Jul	46	54	64	49	.
Feb	51	54	62	53	50	Aug	51	34	58	62	.
Mar	53	60	73	46	58	Sep	52	48	61	41	.
Apr	50	31	69	54	.	Oct	63	40	66	49	.
May	60	26	61	57	.	Nov	62	46	68	66	.
Jun	48	62	61	60	.	Dec	49	55	59	64	.

* 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 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-2.2%



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	16	18	25/02/2023	15	17
21/01/2023	18	13	04/03/2023	19	14
28/01/2023	11	19	11/03/2023	15	15
04/02/2023	15	18	18/03/2023	10	18
11/02/2023	14	11	25/03/2023	13	14
18/02/2023	18	11	01/04/2023	16	8

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

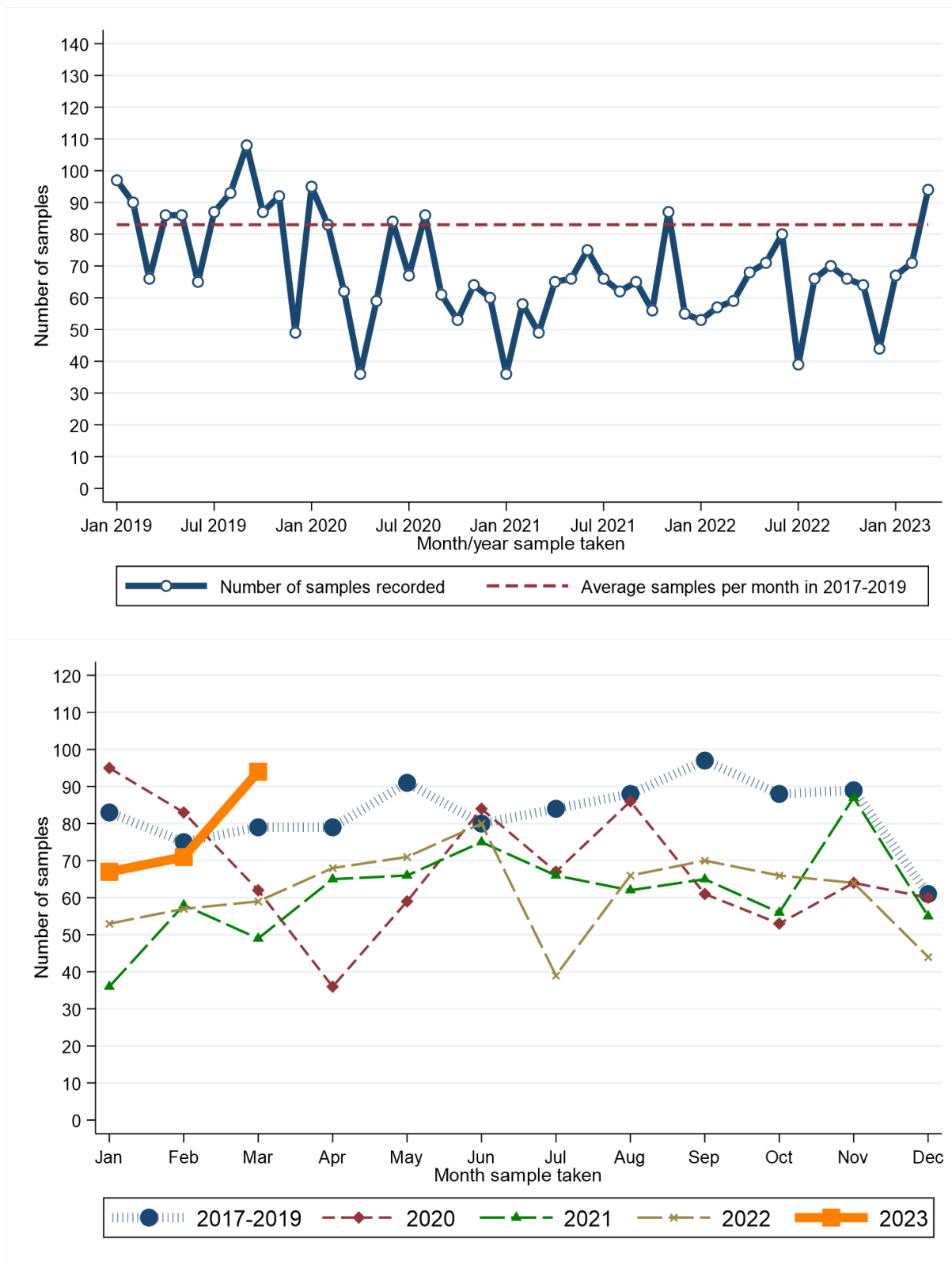
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

LUNG CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-23.5%



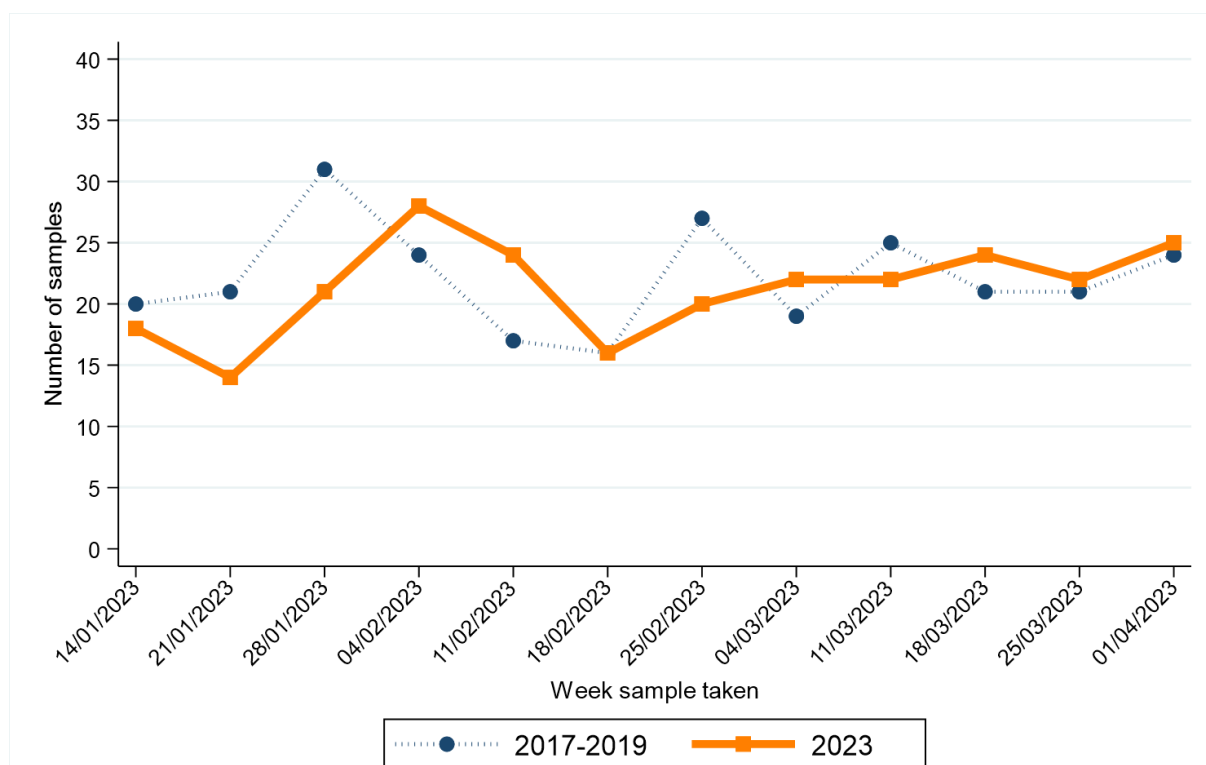
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	83	95	36	53	67	Jul	84	67	66	39	.
Feb	75	83	58	57	71	Aug	88	86	62	66	.
Mar	79	62	49	59	94	Sep	97	61	65	70	.
Apr	79	36	65	68	.	Oct	88	53	56	66	.
May	91	59	66	71	.	Nov	89	64	87	64	.
Jun	80	84	75	80	.	Dec	61	60	55	44	.

* 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 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-3.8%



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	20	18	25/02/2023	27	20
21/01/2023	21	14	04/03/2023	19	22
28/01/2023	31	21	11/03/2023	25	22
04/02/2023	24	28	18/03/2023	21	24
11/02/2023	17	24	25/03/2023	21	22
18/02/2023	16	16	01/04/2023	24	25

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

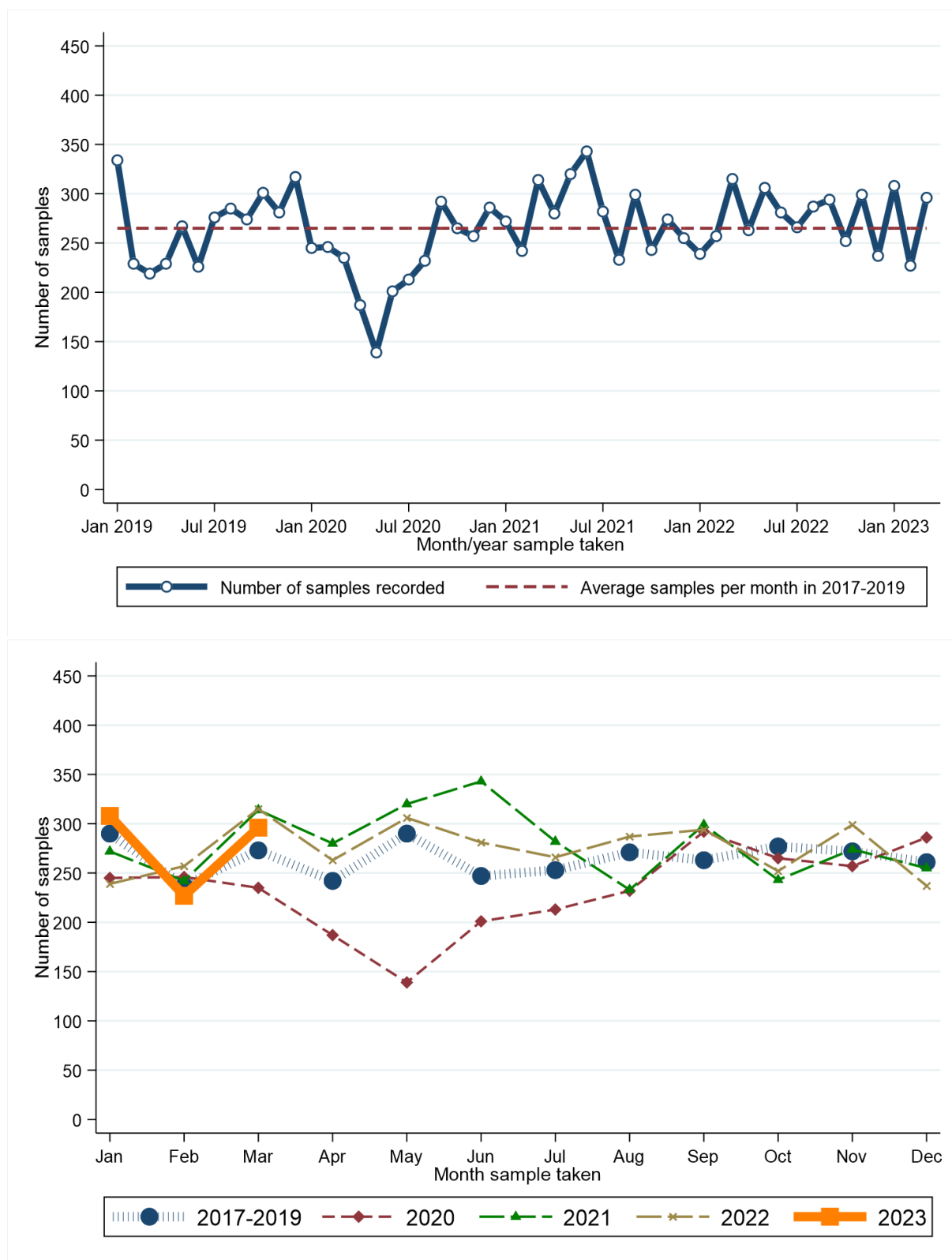
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

FEMALE BREAST CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-0.1%



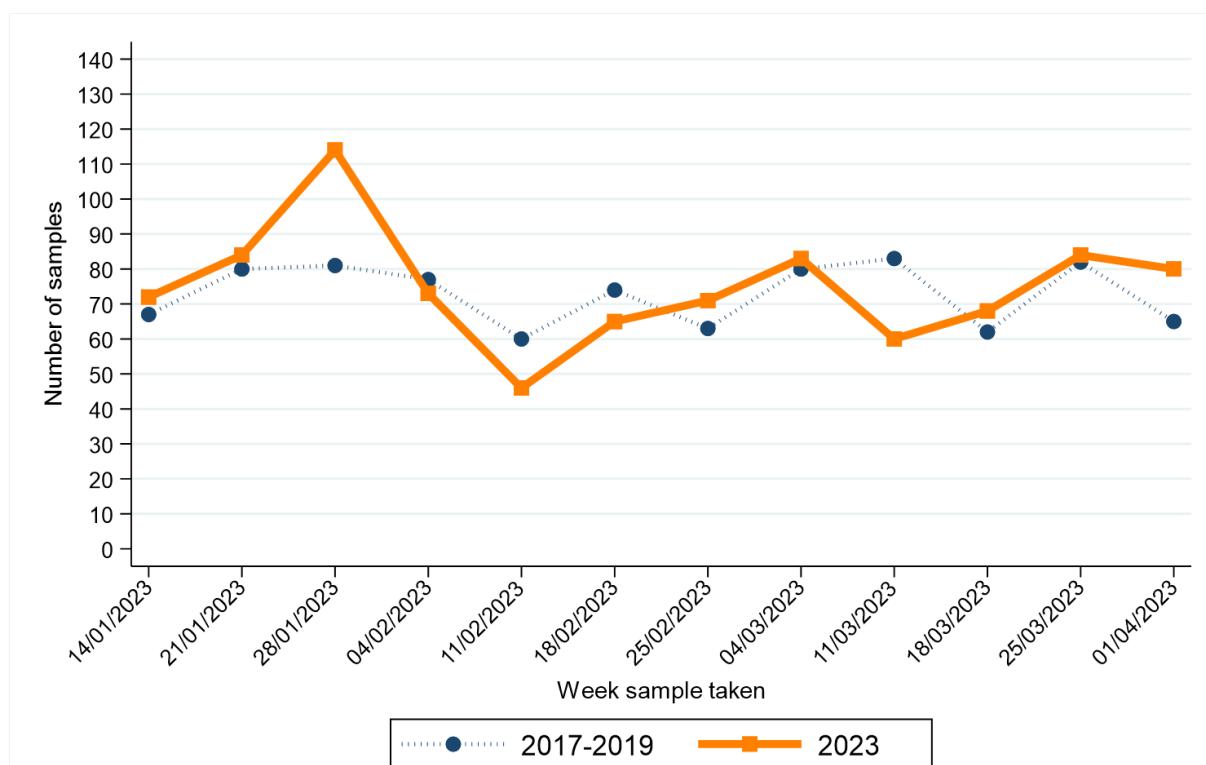
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	290	245	272	239	308	Jul	253	213	282	266	.
Feb	237	246	242	257	227	Aug	271	232	233	287	.
Mar	273	235	314	315	296	Sep	263	292	299	294	.
Apr	242	187	280	263	.	Oct	277	265	243	252	.
May	290	139	320	306	.	Nov	272	257	274	299	.
Jun	247	201	343	281	.	Dec	261	286	255	237	.

* 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 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+3.0%



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	67	72	25/02/2023	63	71
21/01/2023	80	84	04/03/2023	80	83
28/01/2023	81	114	11/03/2023	83	60
04/02/2023	77	73	18/03/2023	62	68
11/02/2023	60	46	25/03/2023	82	84
18/02/2023	74	65	01/04/2023	65	80

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

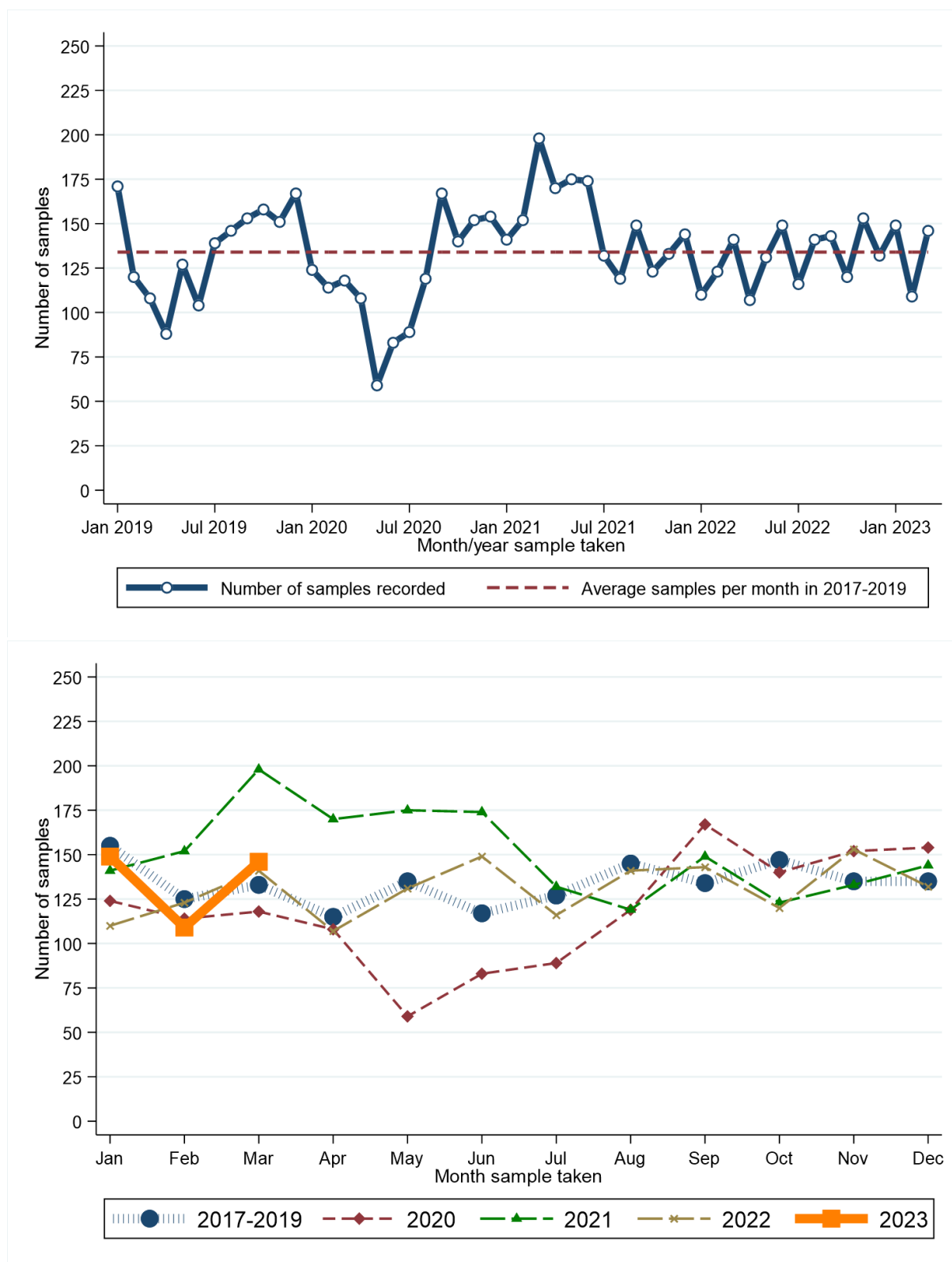
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

FEMALE BREAST CANCER (SCREENING AGE)

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

+0.5%



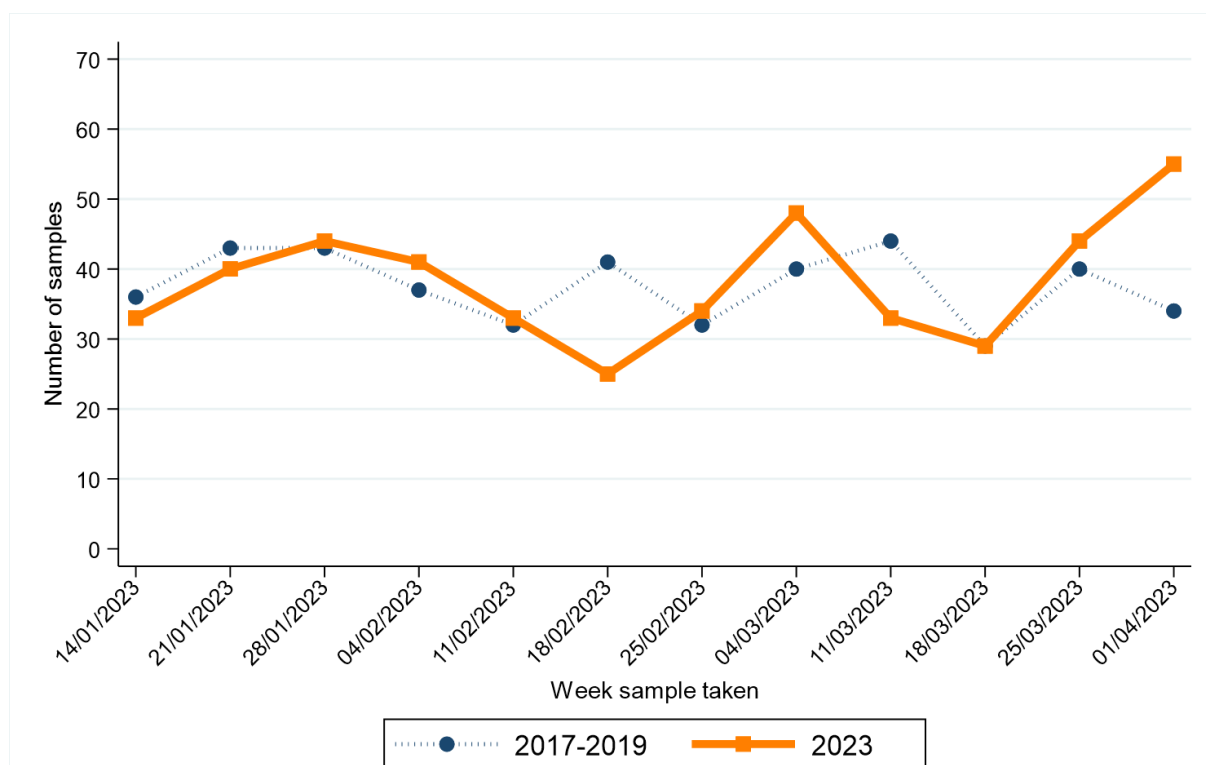
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	155	124	141	110	149	Jul	127	89	132	116	.
Feb	125	114	152	123	109	Aug	145	119	119	141	.
Mar	133	118	198	141	146	Sep	134	167	149	143	.
Apr	115	108	170	107	.	Oct	147	140	123	120	.
May	135	59	175	131	.	Nov	135	152	133	153	.
Jun	117	83	174	149	.	Dec	135	154	144	132	.

* 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 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+1.8%



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	36	33	25/02/2023	32	34
21/01/2023	43	40	04/03/2023	40	48
28/01/2023	43	44	11/03/2023	44	33
04/02/2023	37	41	18/03/2023	29	29
11/02/2023	32	33	25/03/2023	40	44
18/02/2023	41	25	01/04/2023	34	55

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

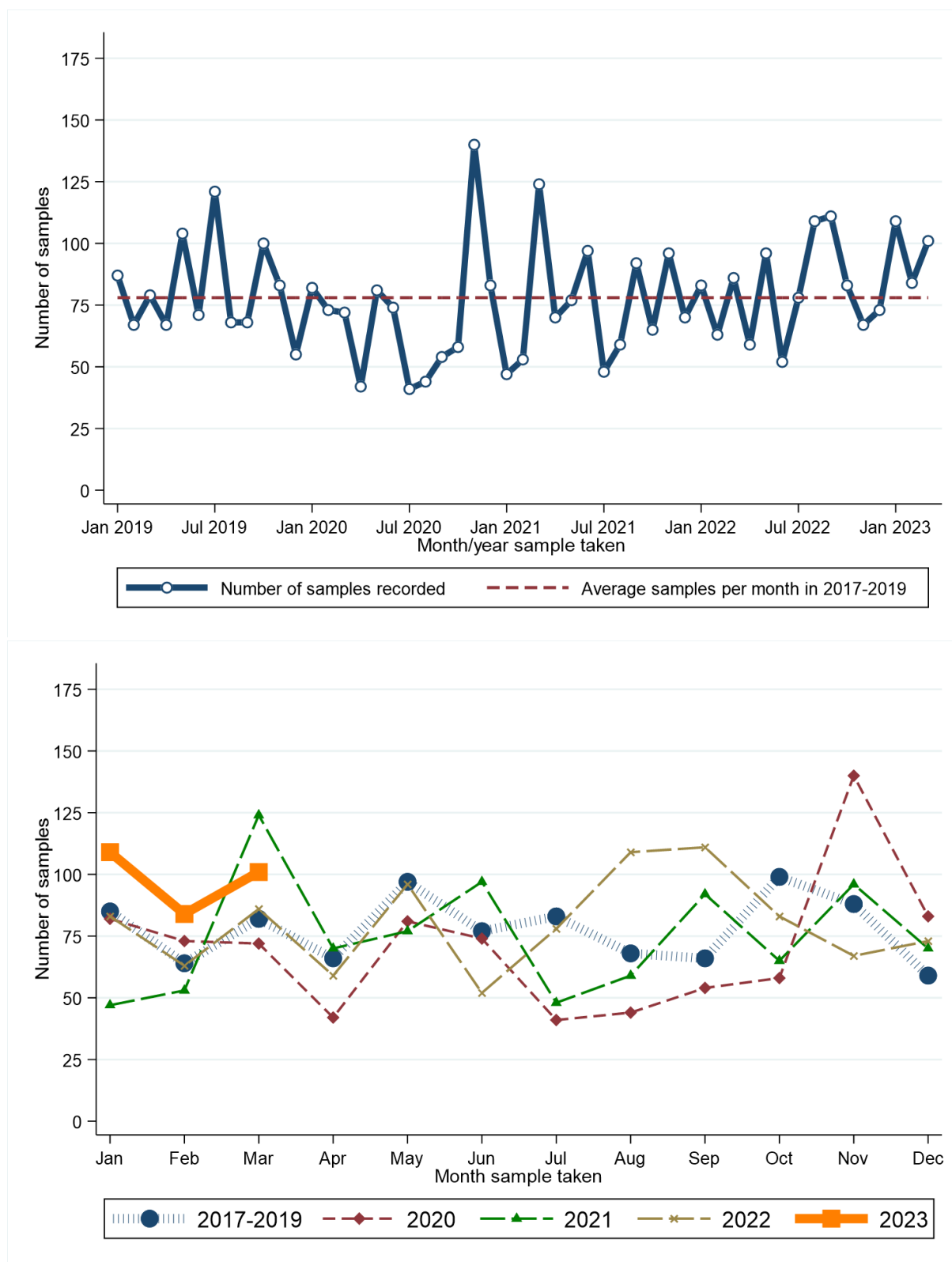
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

PROSTATE CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-1.5%



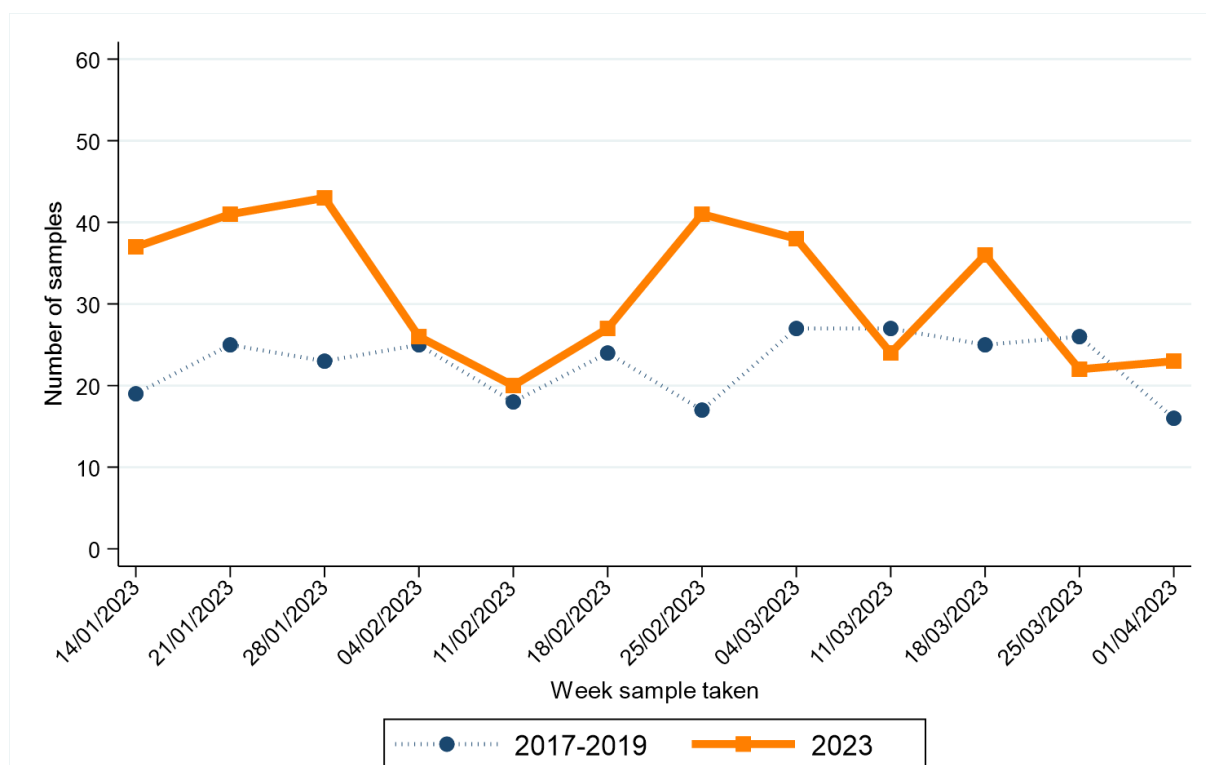
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	85	82	47	83	109	Jul	83	41	48	78	.
Feb	64	73	53	63	84	Aug	68	44	59	109	.
Mar	82	72	124	86	101	Sep	66	54	92	111	.
Apr	66	42	70	59	.	Oct	99	58	65	83	.
May	97	81	77	96	.	Nov	88	140	96	67	.
Jun	77	74	97	52	.	Dec	59	83	70	73	.

* 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 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+39.0%



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	19	37	25/02/2023	17	41
21/01/2023	25	41	04/03/2023	27	38
28/01/2023	23	43	11/03/2023	27	24
04/02/2023	25	26	18/03/2023	25	36
11/02/2023	18	20	25/03/2023	26	22
18/02/2023	24	27	01/04/2023	16	23

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

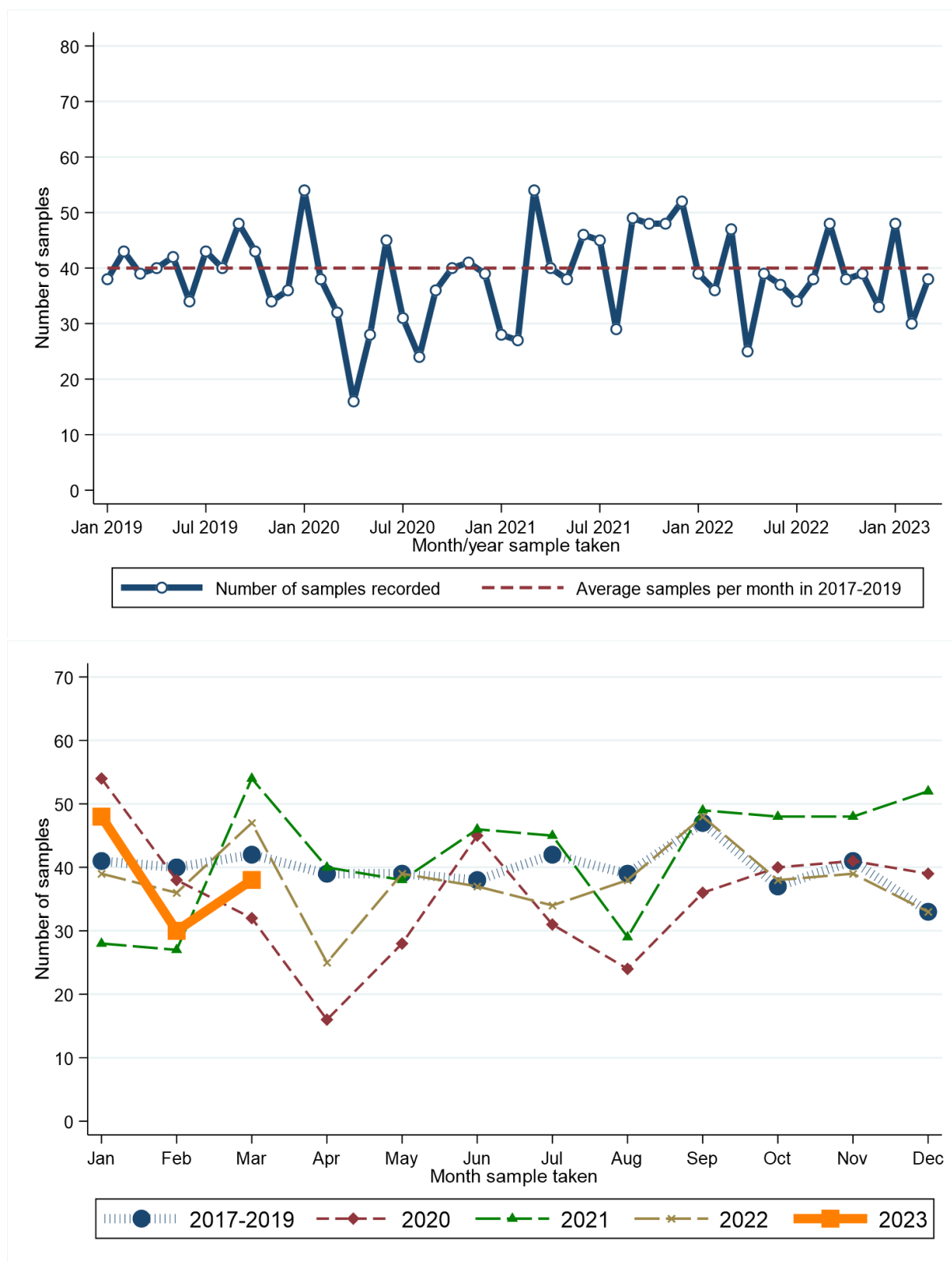
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

UPPER GASTROINTESTINAL CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-4.8%



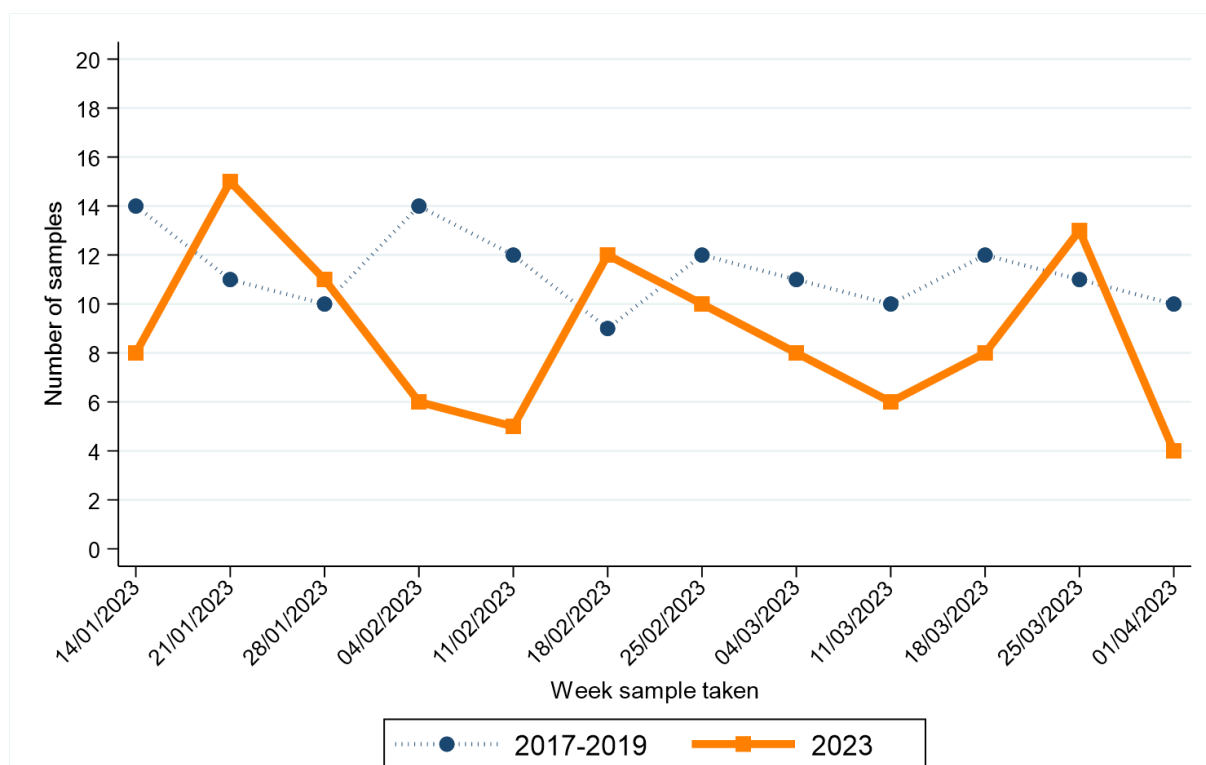
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	41	54	28	39	48	Jul	42	31	45	34	.
Feb	40	38	27	36	30	Aug	39	24	29	38	.
Mar	42	32	54	47	38	Sep	47	36	49	48	.
Apr	39	16	40	25	.	Oct	37	40	48	38	.
May	39	28	38	39	.	Nov	41	41	48	39	.
Jun	38	45	46	37	.	Dec	33	39	52	33	.

* 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 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-22.1%



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	14	8	25/02/2023	12	10
21/01/2023	11	15	04/03/2023	11	8
28/01/2023	10	11	11/03/2023	10	6
04/02/2023	14	6	18/03/2023	12	8
11/02/2023	12	5	25/03/2023	11	13
18/02/2023	9	12	01/04/2023	10	4

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

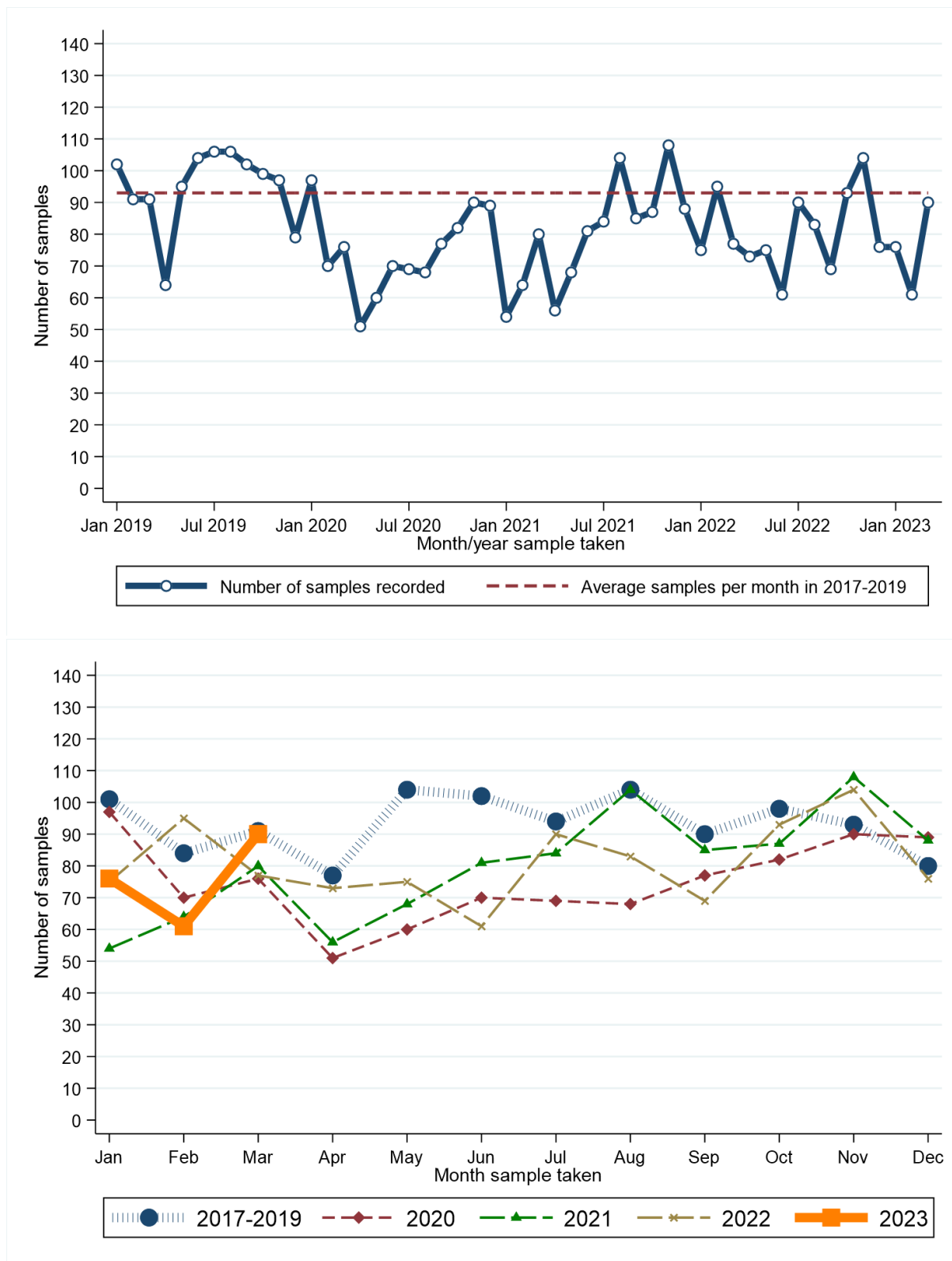
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

GYNAECOLOGICAL CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

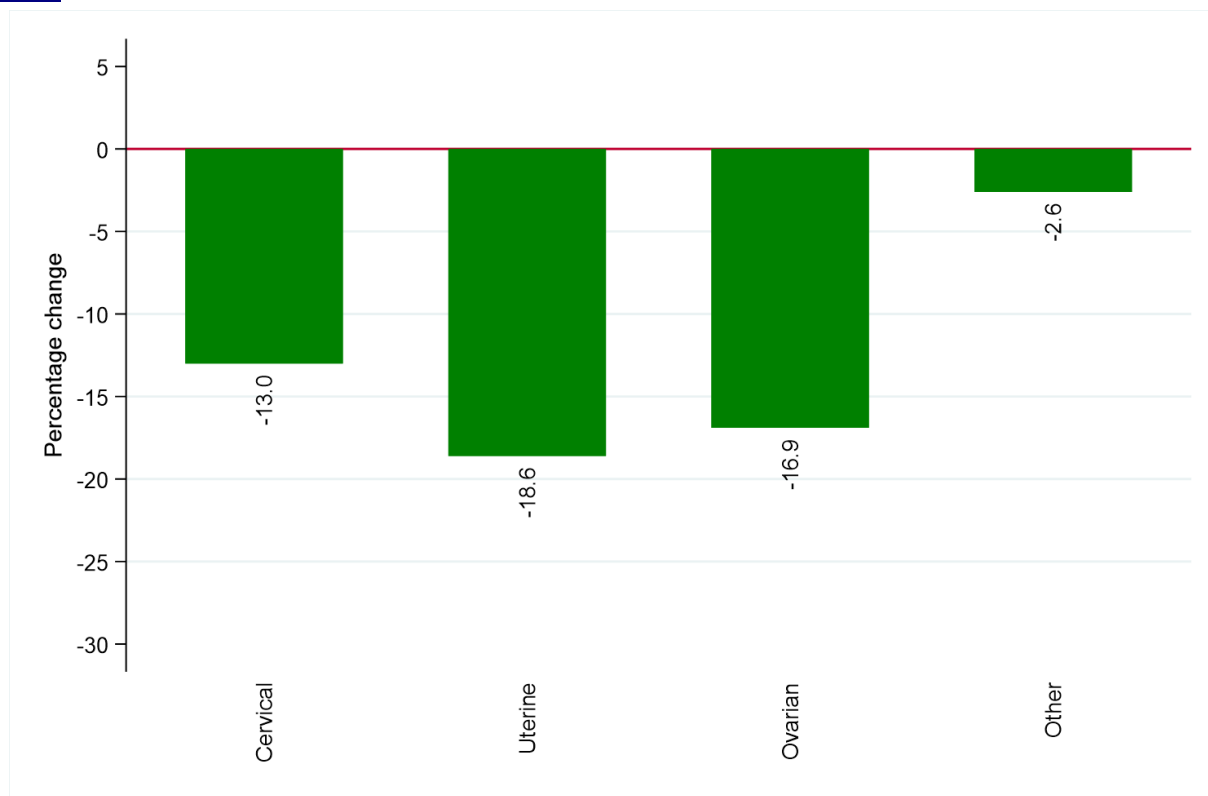
-16.1%



Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	101	97	54	75	76	Jul	94	69	84	90	.
Feb	84	70	64	95	61	Aug	104	68	104	83	.
Mar	91	76	80	77	90	Sep	90	77	85	69	.
Apr	77	51	56	73	.	Oct	98	82	87	93	.
May	104	60	68	75	.	Nov	93	90	108	104	.
Jun	102	70	81	61	.	Dec	80	89	88	76	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

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



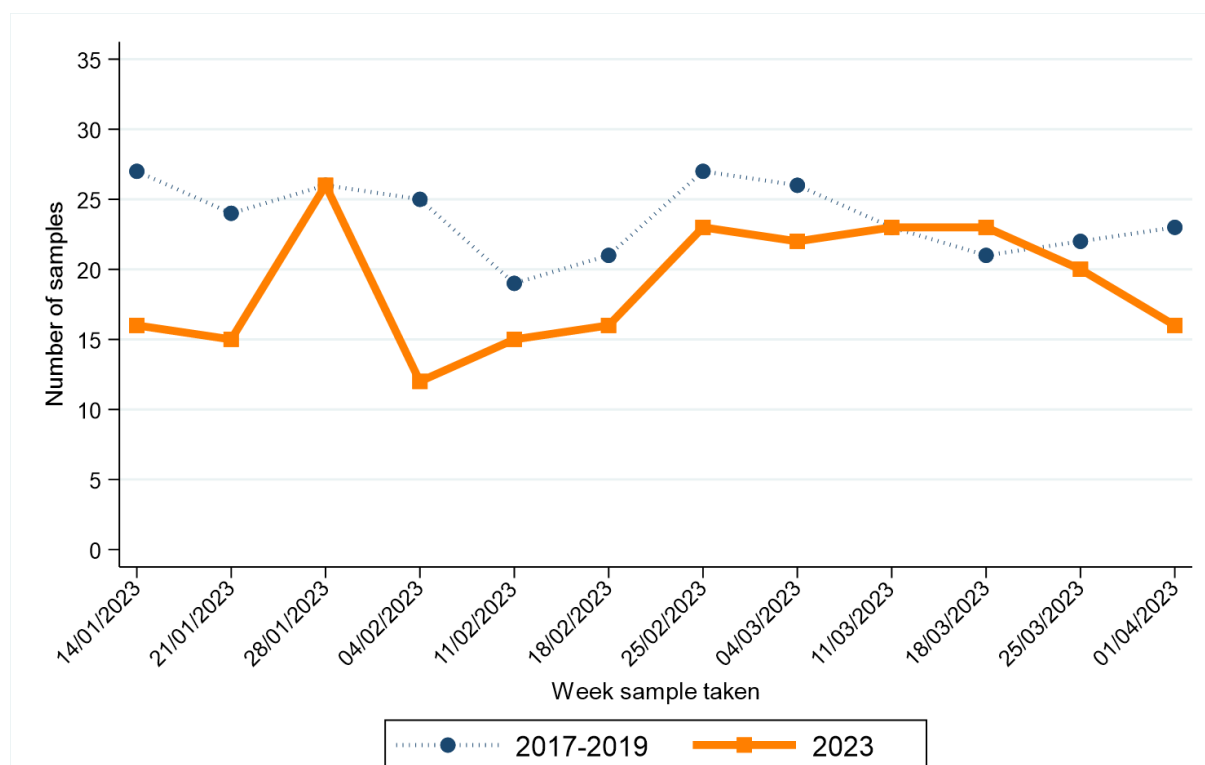
Cancer type	Number of samples (March 2020 to March 2023)	
	Expected number*	Recorded number
Cervical cancer	508	442
Uterine cancer	1,638	1,333
Ovarian cancer	976	811
Other gynaecological cancer	311	303

* 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 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-20.1%



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	27	16	25/02/2023	27	23
21/01/2023	24	15	04/03/2023	26	22
28/01/2023	26	26	11/03/2023	23	23
04/02/2023	25	12	18/03/2023	21	23
11/02/2023	19	15	25/03/2023	22	20
18/02/2023	21	16	01/04/2023	23	16

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

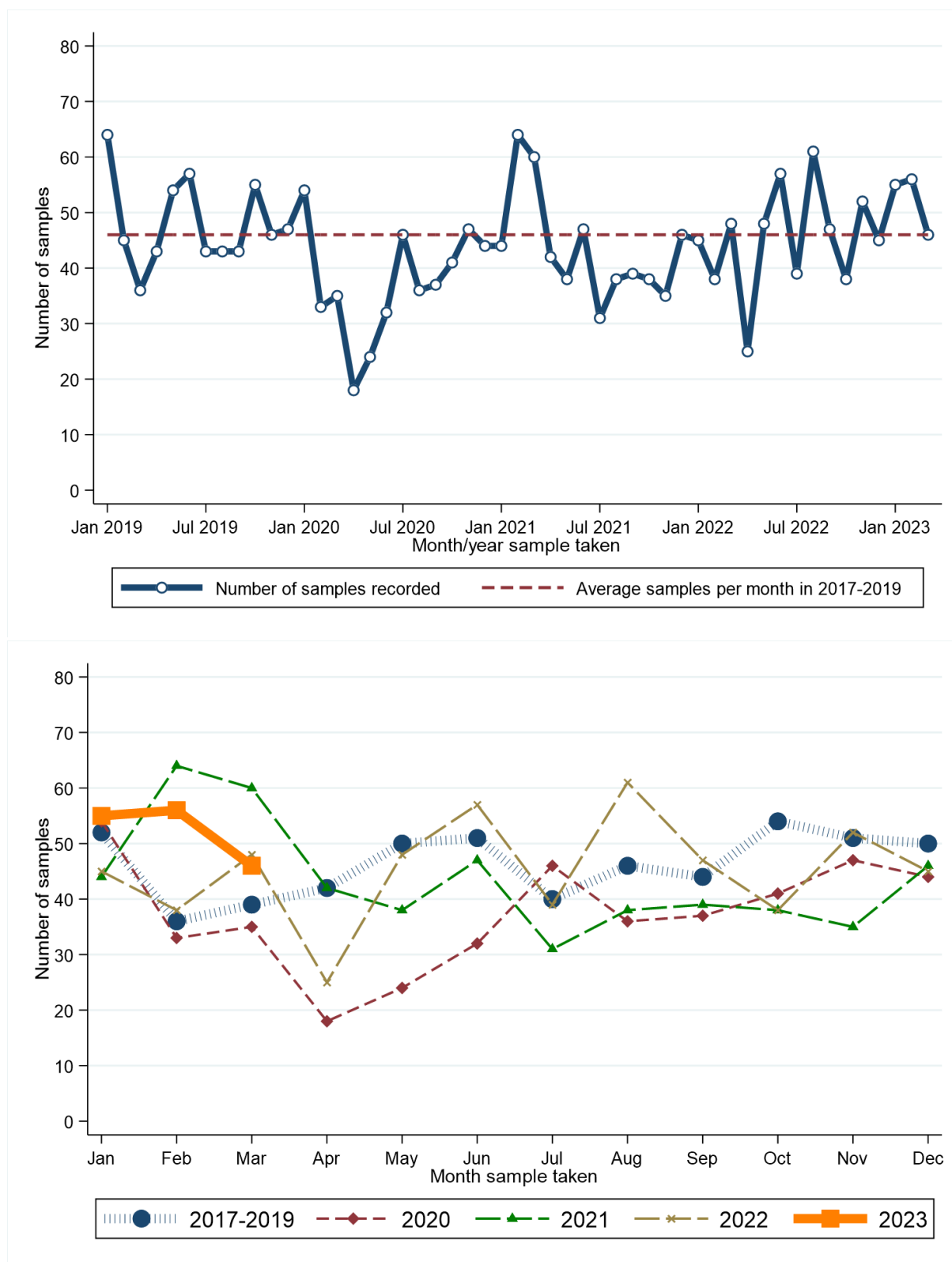
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

HEAD AND NECK CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-7.2%



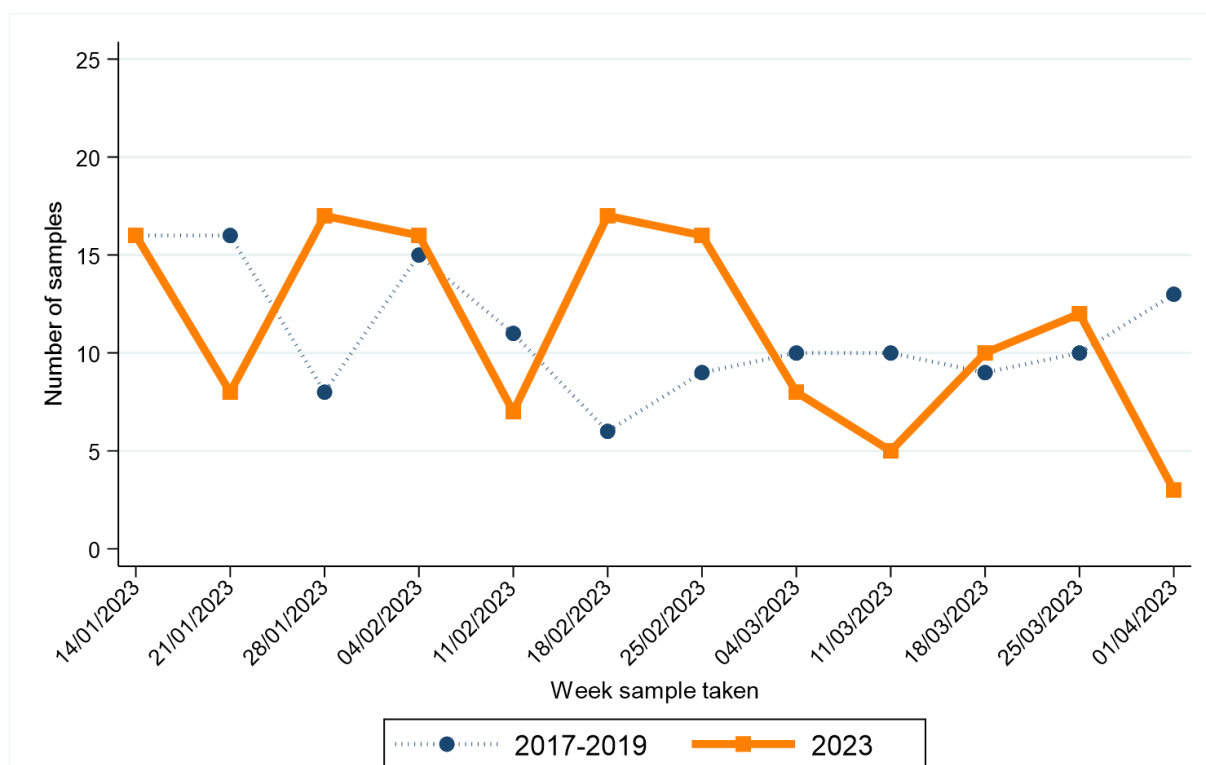
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	52	54	44	45	55	Jul	40	46	31	39	.
Feb	36	33	64	38	56	Aug	46	36	38	61	.
Mar	39	35	60	48	46	Sep	44	37	39	47	.
Apr	42	18	42	25	.	Oct	54	41	38	38	.
May	50	24	38	48	.	Nov	51	47	35	52	.
Jun	51	32	47	57	.	Dec	50	44	46	45	.

* 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 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+1.5%



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	16	16	25/02/2023	9	16
21/01/2023	16	8	04/03/2023	10	8
28/01/2023	8	17	11/03/2023	10	5
04/02/2023	15	16	18/03/2023	9	10
11/02/2023	11	7	25/03/2023	10	12
18/02/2023	6	17	01/04/2023	13	3

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

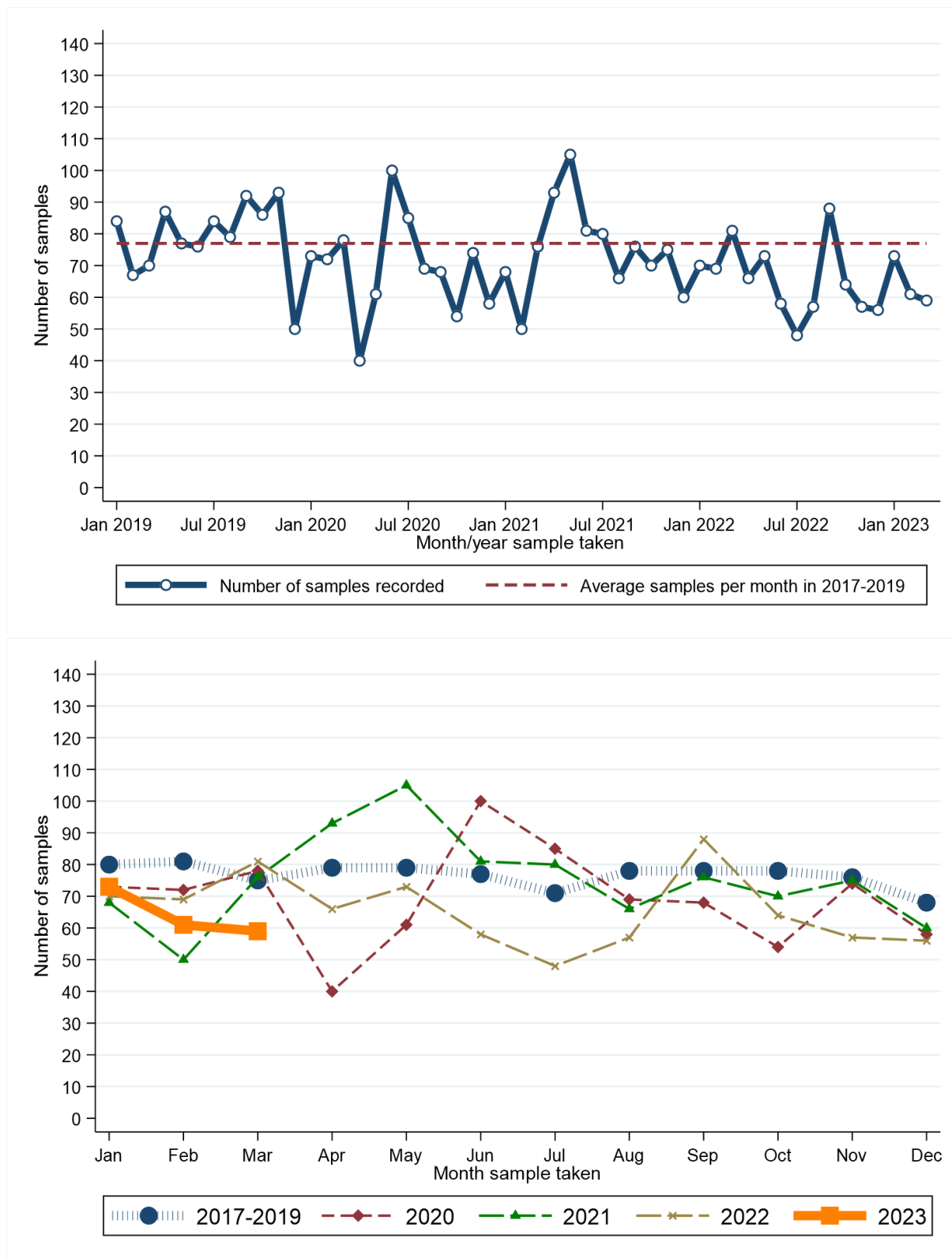
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

URINARY CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-9.5%



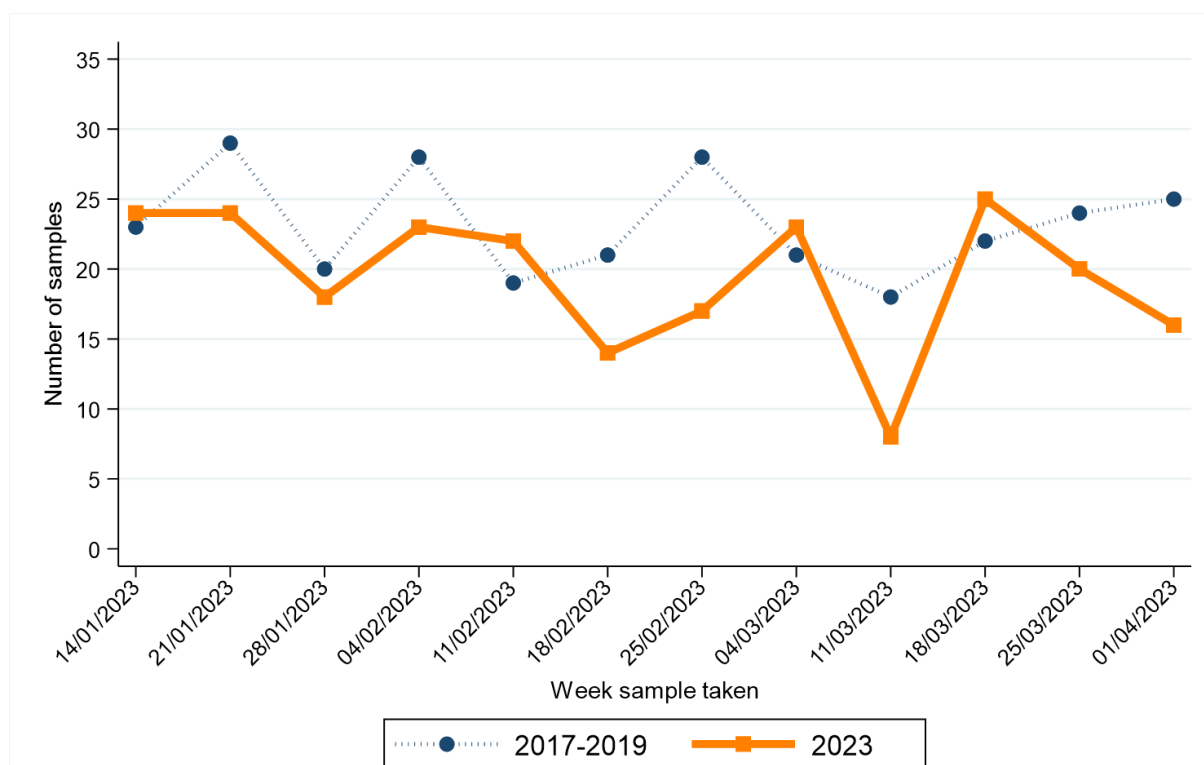
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	80	73	68	70	73	Jul	71	85	80	48	.
Feb	81	72	50	69	61	Aug	78	69	66	57	.
Mar	75	78	76	81	59	Sep	78	68	76	88	.
Apr	79	40	93	66	.	Oct	78	54	70	64	.
May	79	61	105	73	.	Nov	76	74	75	57	.
Jun	77	100	81	58	.	Dec	68	58	60	56	.

* 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 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-15.8%



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	23	24	25/02/2023	28	17
21/01/2023	29	24	04/03/2023	21	23
28/01/2023	20	18	11/03/2023	18	8
04/02/2023	28	23	18/03/2023	22	25
11/02/2023	19	22	25/03/2023	24	20
18/02/2023	21	14	01/04/2023	25	16

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

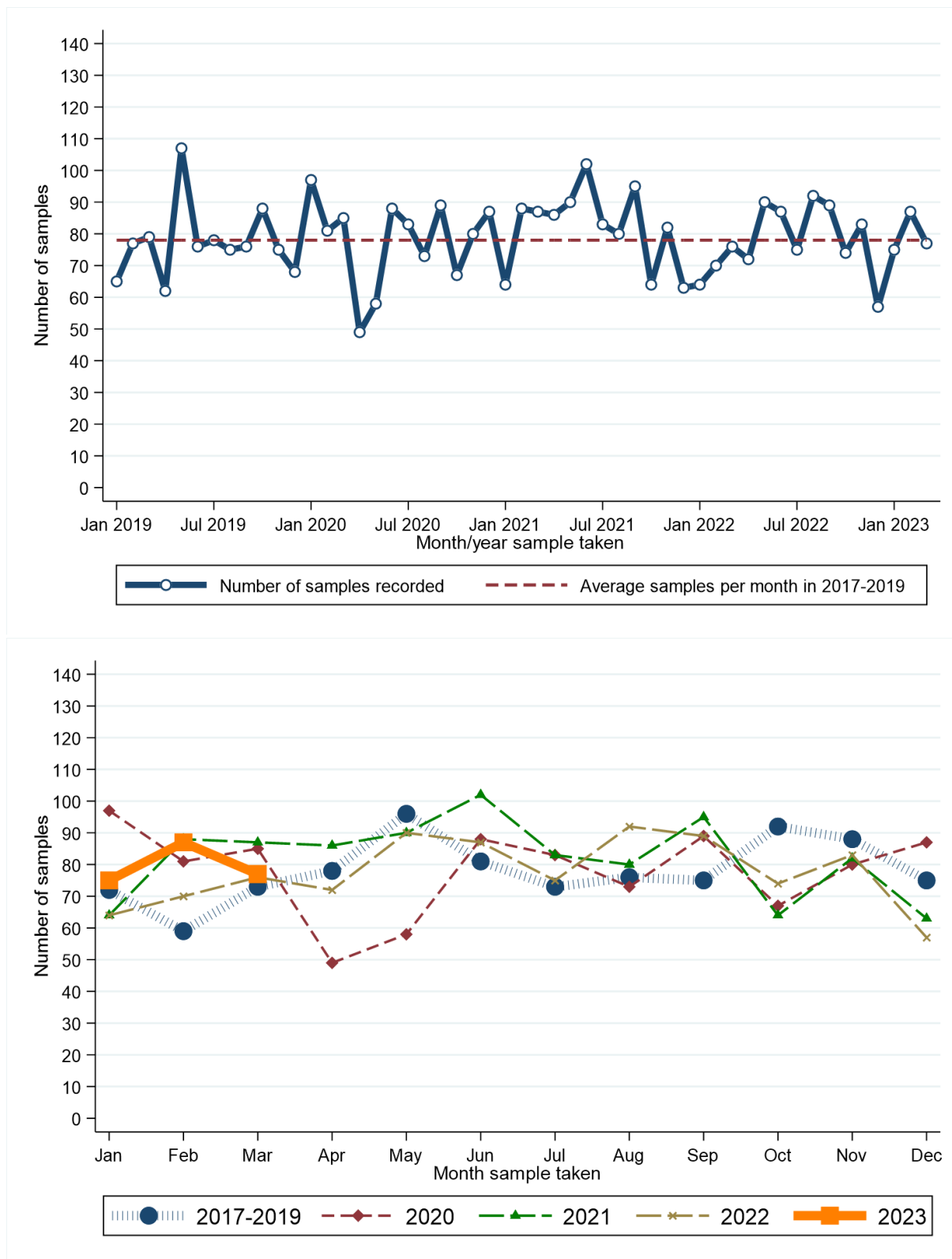
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

HAEMATOLOGICAL CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

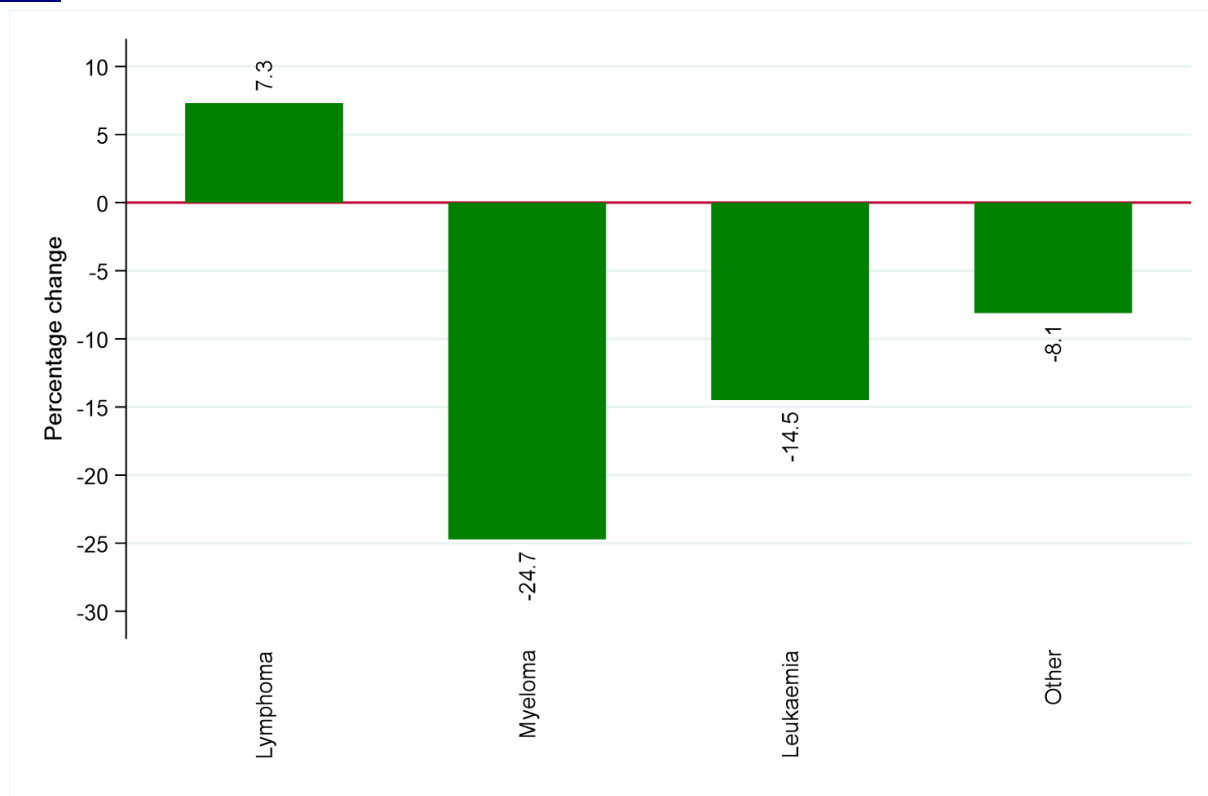
+0.8%



Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	72	97	64	64	75	Jul	73	83	83	75	.
Feb	59	81	88	70	87	Aug	76	73	80	92	.
Mar	73	85	87	76	77	Sep	75	89	95	89	.
Apr	78	49	86	72	.	Oct	92	67	64	74	.
May	96	58	90	90	.	Nov	88	80	82	83	.
Jun	81	88	102	87	.	Dec	75	87	63	57	.

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

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



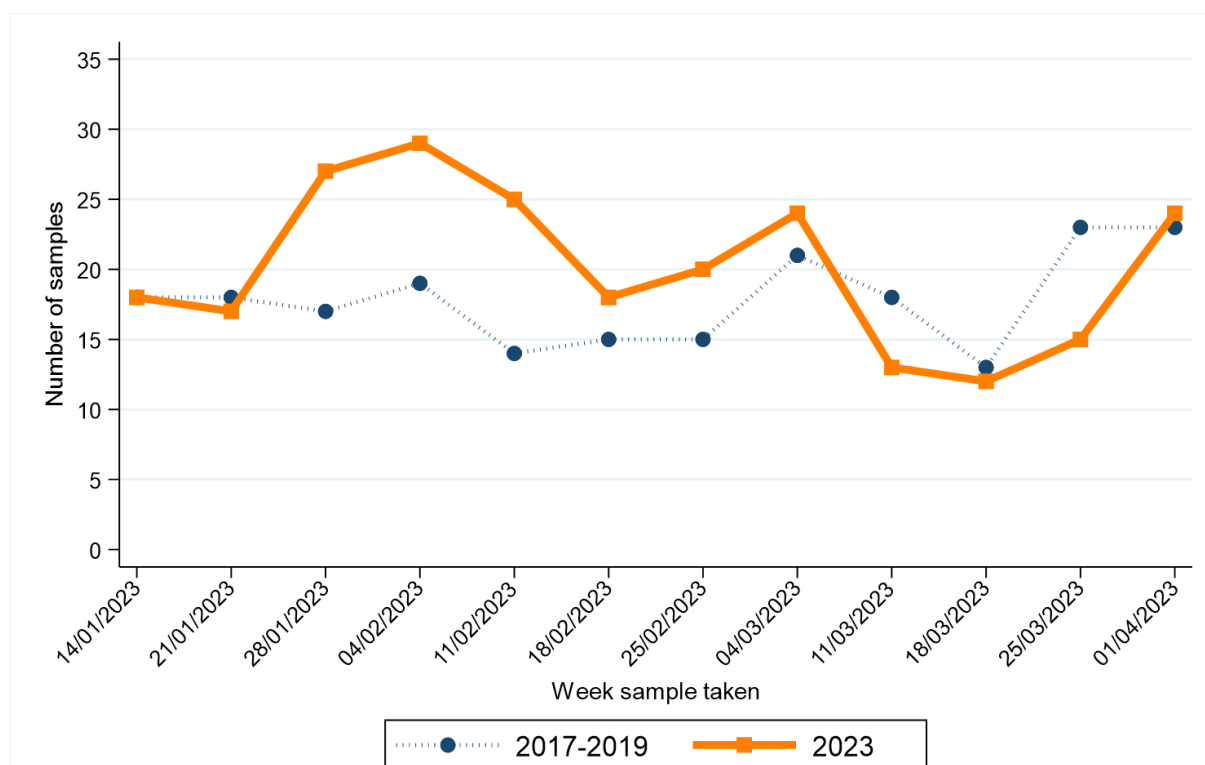
Cancer type	Number of samples (March 2020 to March 2023)	
	Expected number*	Recorded number
Lymphoma	2,233	2,396
Myeloma	380	286
Leukaemia	228	195
Other haematological cancer	37	34

* 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 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+13.1%



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	18	18	25/02/2023	15	20
21/01/2023	18	17	04/03/2023	21	24
28/01/2023	17	27	11/03/2023	18	13
04/02/2023	19	29	18/03/2023	13	12
11/02/2023	14	25	25/03/2023	23	15
18/02/2023	15	18	01/04/2023	23	24

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

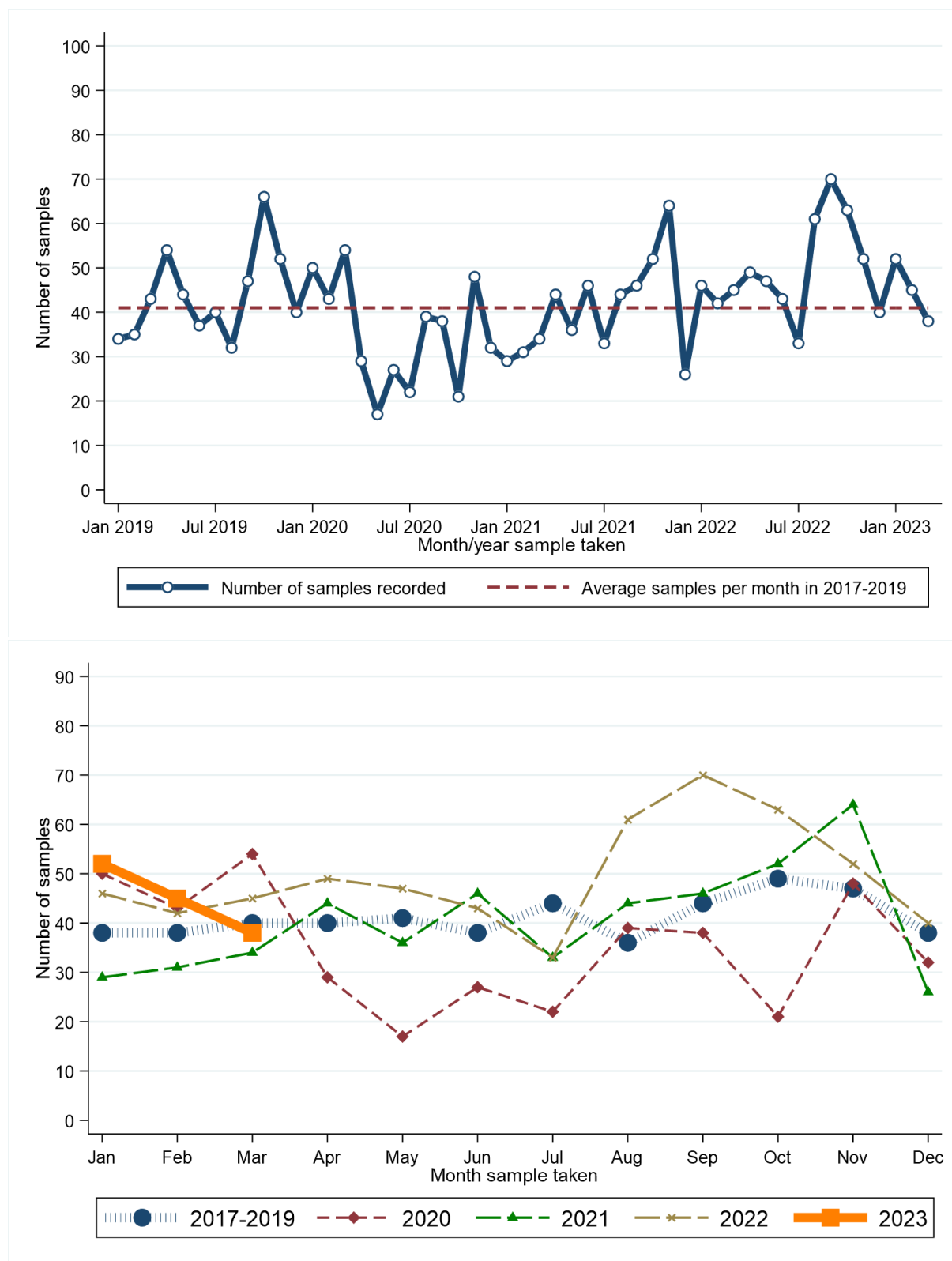
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

MELANOMA

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

+1.3%



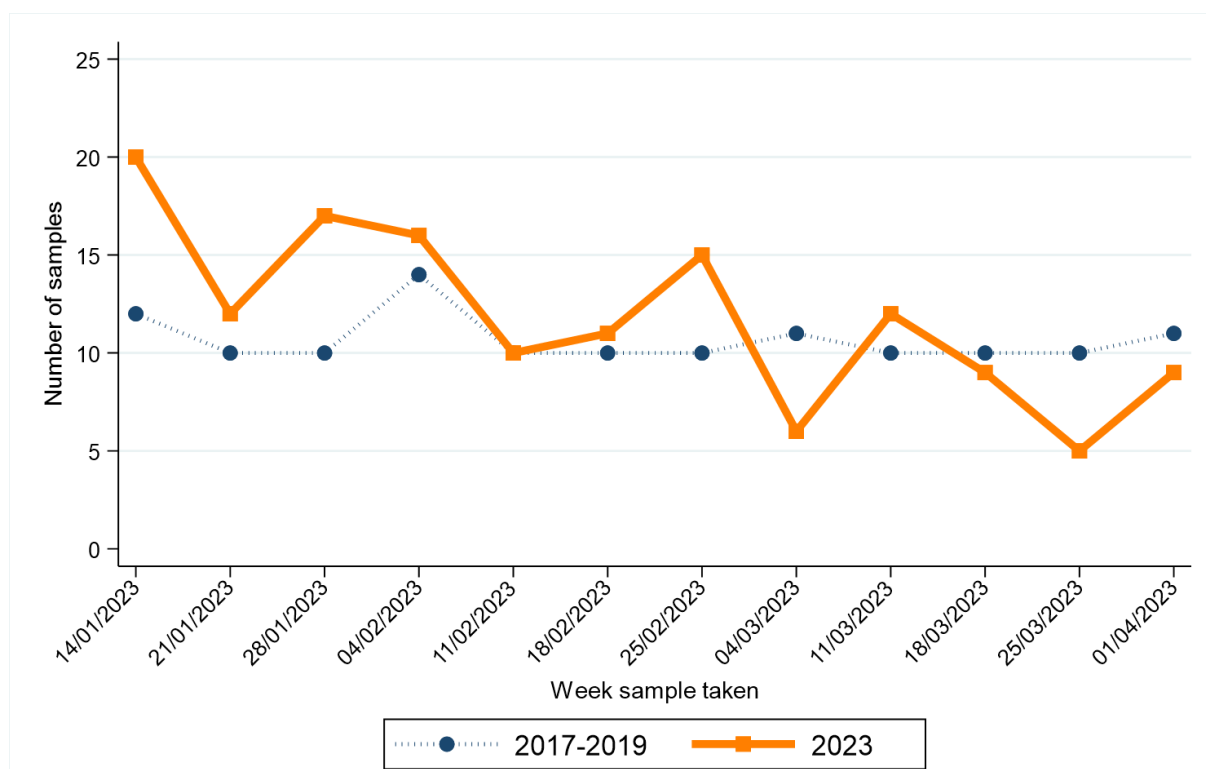
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	38	50	29	46	52	Jul	44	22	33	33	.
Feb	38	43	31	42	45	Aug	36	39	44	61	.
Mar	40	54	34	45	38	Sep	44	38	46	70	.
Apr	40	29	44	49	.	Oct	49	21	52	63	.
May	41	17	36	47	.	Nov	47	48	64	52	.
Jun	38	27	46	43	.	Dec	38	32	26	40	.

* 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 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+10.9%



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	12	20	25/02/2023	10	15
21/01/2023	10	12	04/03/2023	11	6
28/01/2023	10	17	11/03/2023	10	12
04/02/2023	14	16	18/03/2023	10	9
11/02/2023	10	10	25/03/2023	10	5
18/02/2023	10	11	01/04/2023	11	9

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

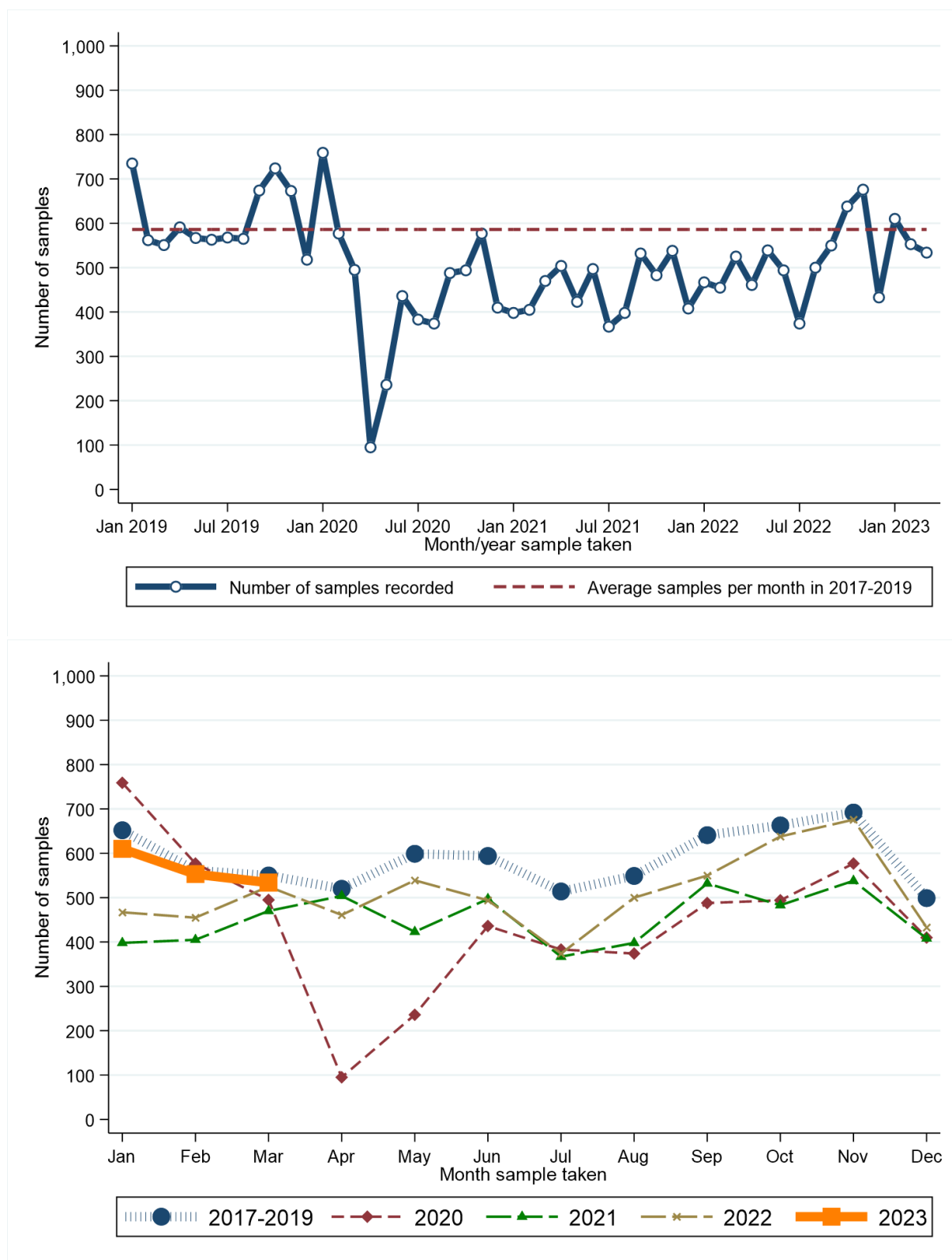
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

NON-MELANOMA SKIN CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

-20.5%



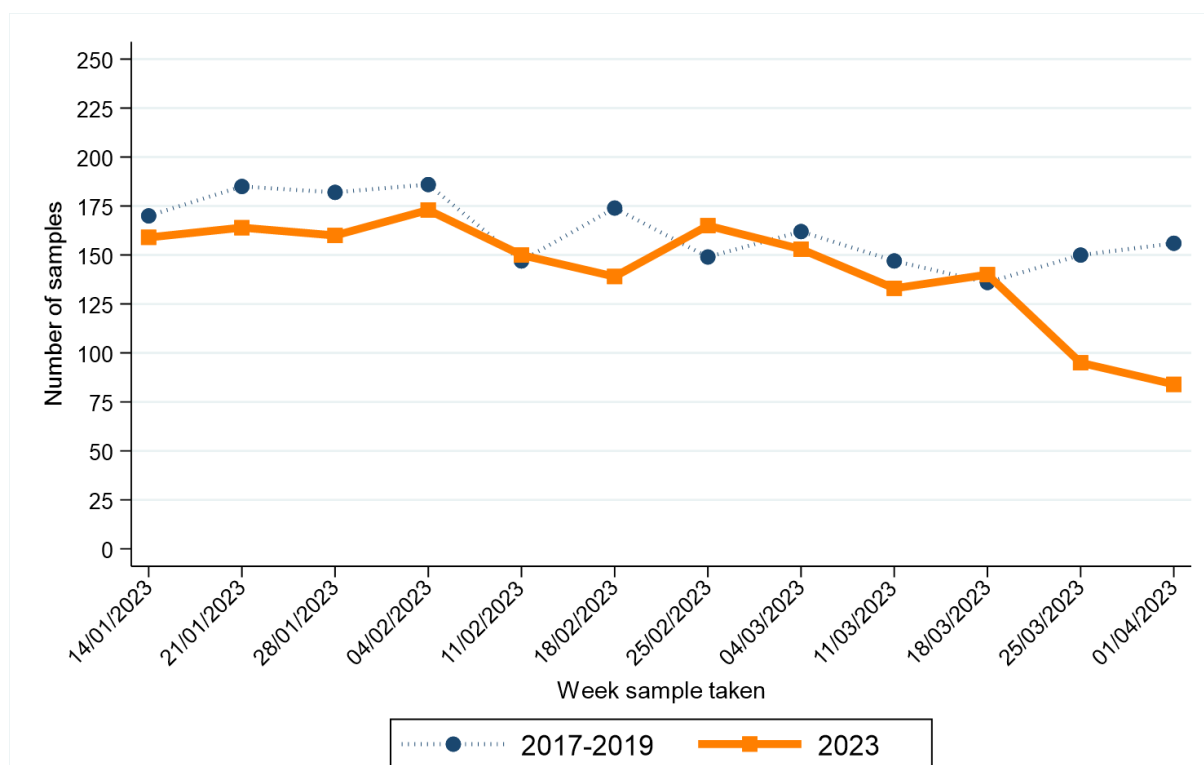
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	652	759	398	467	610	Jul	514	383	367	374	.
Feb	561	577	405	455	553	Aug	549	374	398	500	.
Mar	550	495	470	525	534	Sep	641	488	532	550	.
Apr	520	95	504	461	.	Oct	663	494	483	638	.
May	599	236	423	539	.	Nov	692	577	538	676	.
Jun	594	436	497	494	.	Dec	499	410	408	433	.

* 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 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-11.8%



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	170	159	25/02/2023	149	165
21/01/2023	185	164	04/03/2023	162	153
28/01/2023	182	160	11/03/2023	147	133
04/02/2023	186	173	18/03/2023	136	140
11/02/2023	147	150	25/03/2023	150	95
18/02/2023	174	139	01/04/2023	156	84

* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

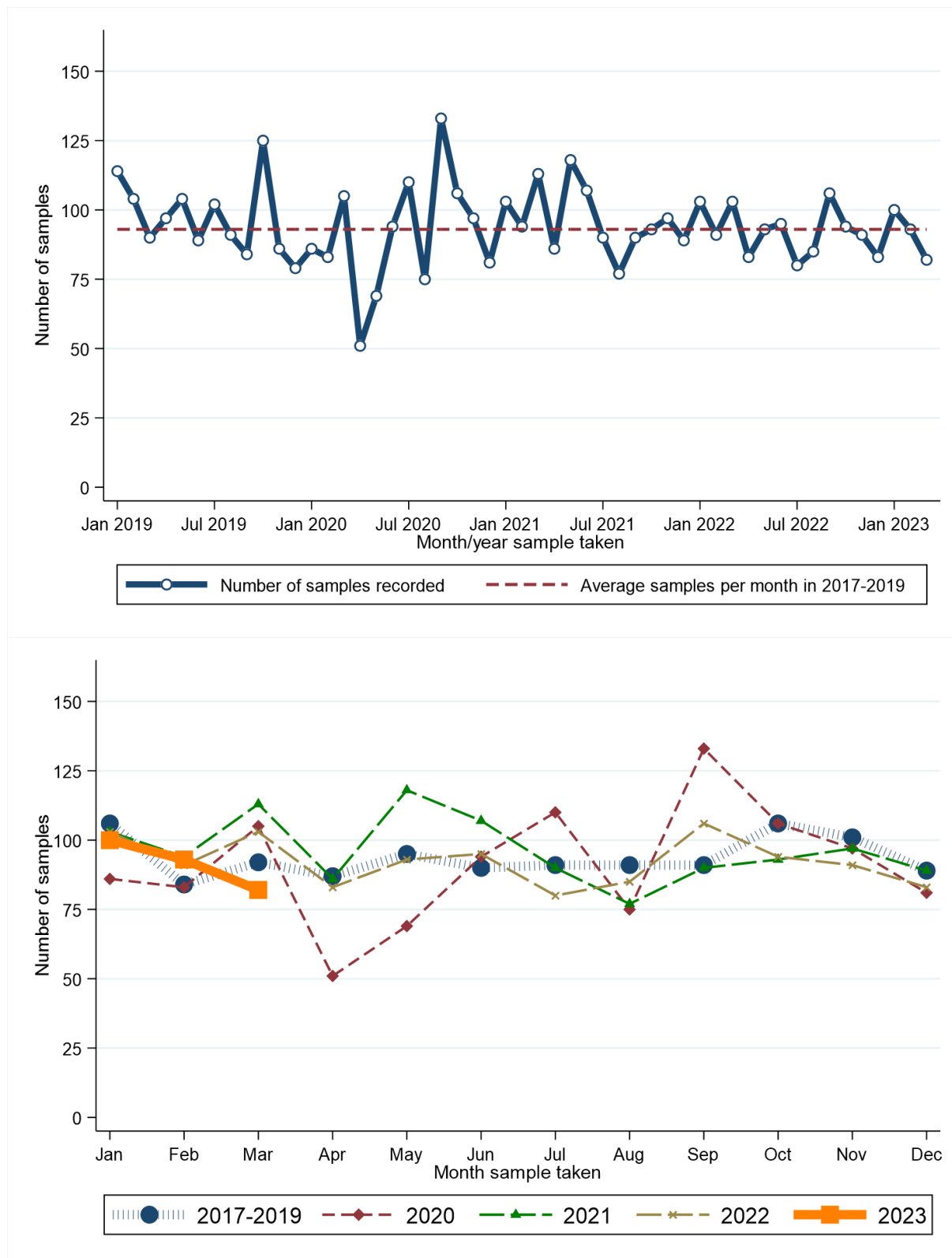
** Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

OTHER CANCER

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES SINCE MARCH 2020 - Excluding Altnagelvin

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

0.0%



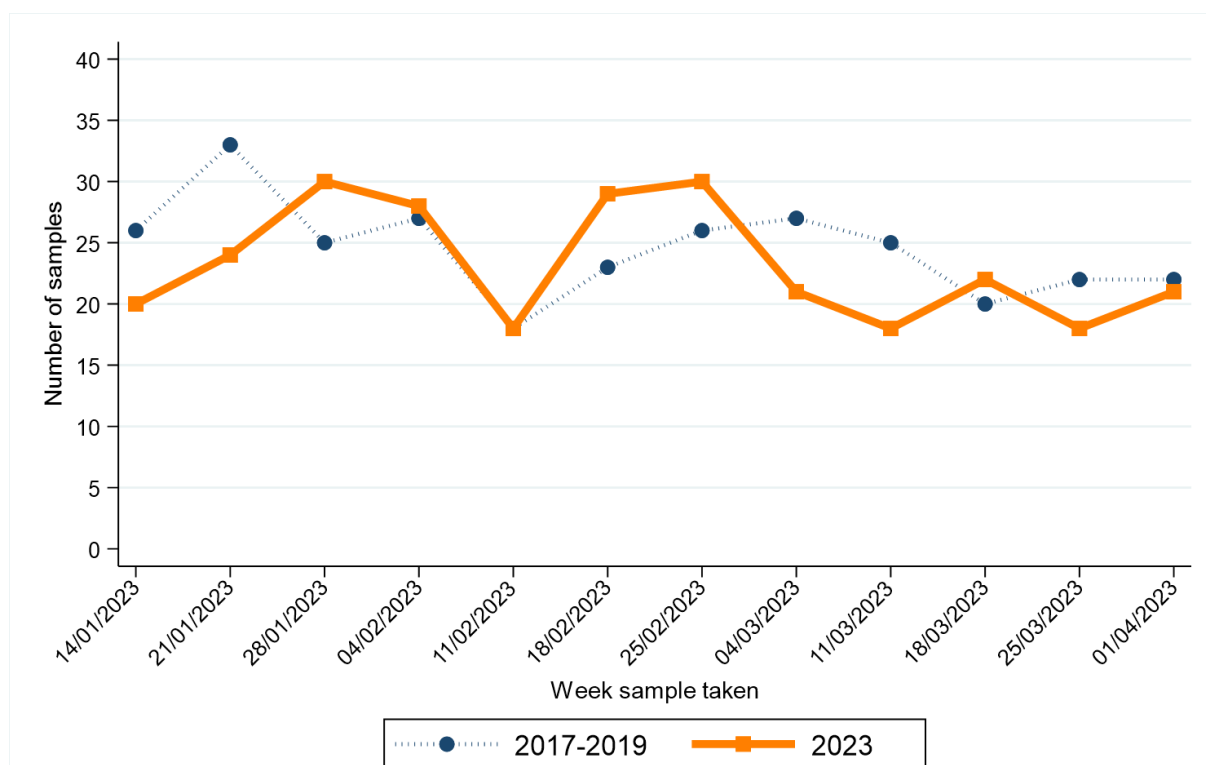
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	106	86	103	103	100	Jul	91	110	90	80	.
Feb	84	83	94	91	93	Aug	91	75	77	85	.
Mar	92	105	113	103	82	Sep	91	133	90	106	.
Apr	87	51	86	83	.	Oct	106	106	93	94	.
May	95	69	118	93	.	Nov	101	97	97	91	.
Jun	90	94	107	95	.	Dec	89	81	89	83	.

* 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 01/04/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

-5.1%



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
14/01/2023	26	20
21/01/2023	33	24
28/01/2023	25	30
04/02/2023	27	28
11/02/2023	18	18
18/02/2023	23	29

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
25/02/2023	26	30
04/03/2023	27	21
11/03/2023	25	18
18/03/2023	20	22
25/03/2023	22	18
01/04/2023	22	21

* Average samples 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 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. 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.