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

Sept 2023 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: Sept 2023

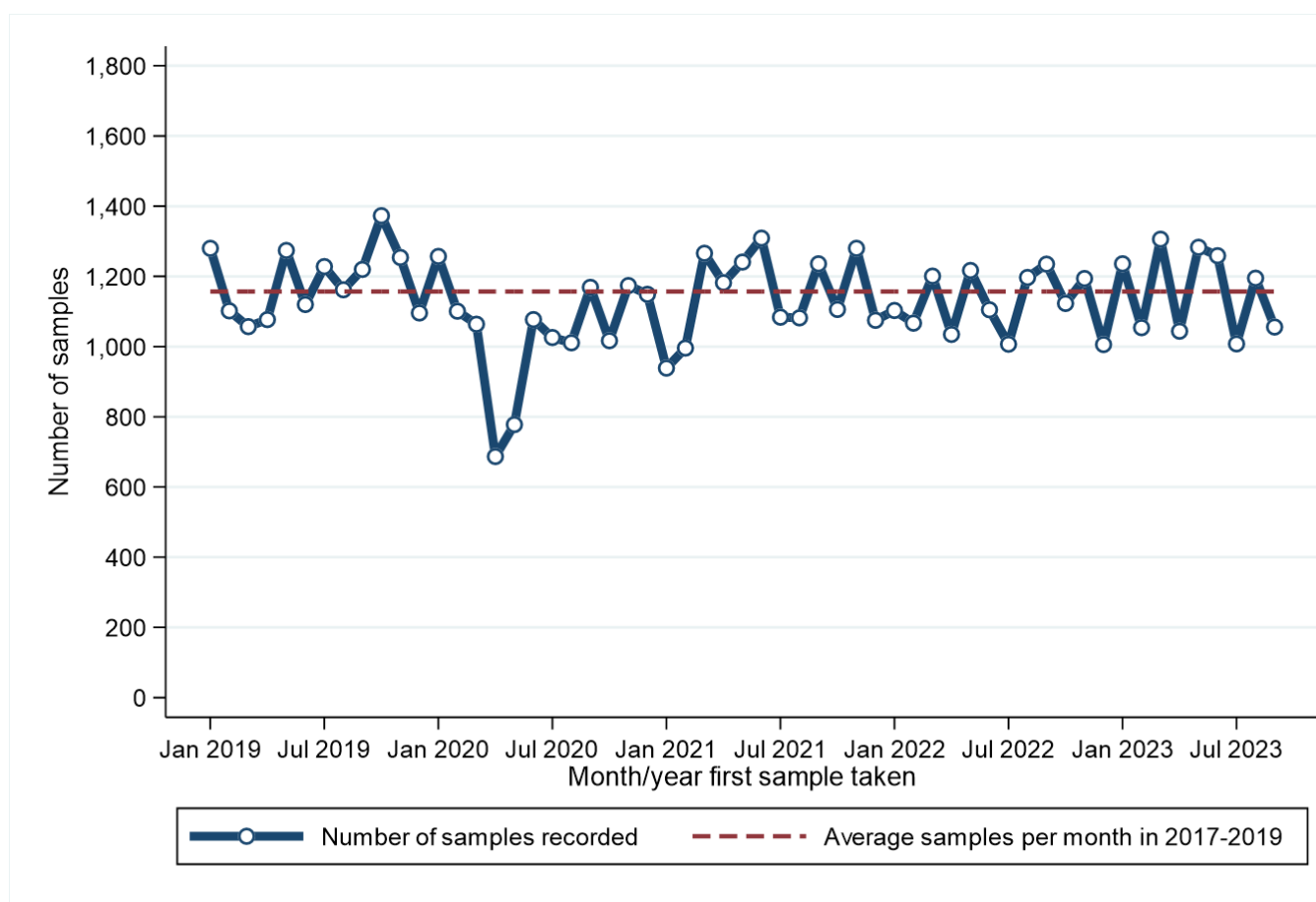
This summary provides an overview of recent trends in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer, NMSC) taken from March 2020 to Sept 2023 in Northern Ireland.

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.

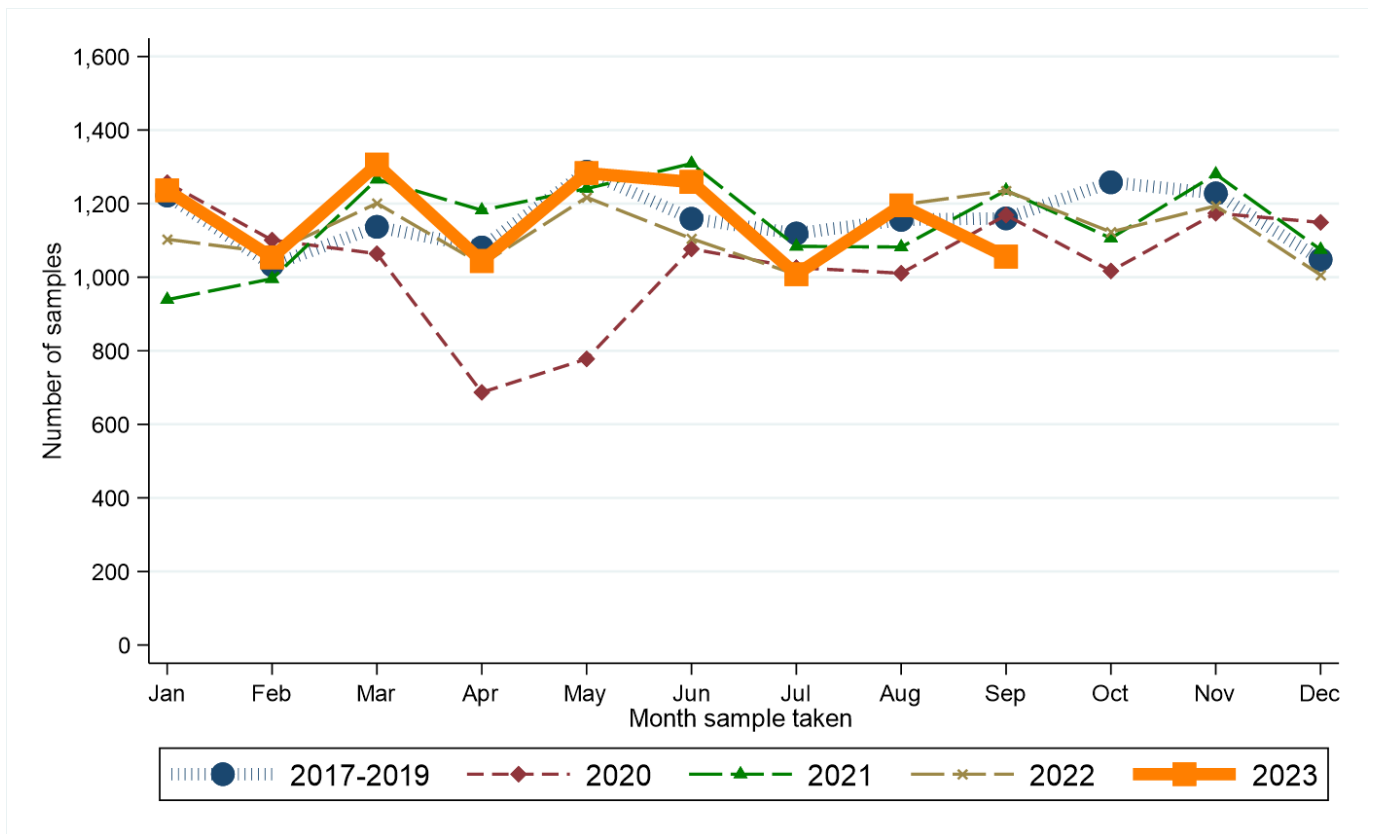
Data are sourced from the four NHS pathology laboratories in NI (Belfast, Altnagelvin, Antrim, Craigavon), which are usually provided to NICR on a monthly basis. **Altnagelvin laboratory is excluded from some analysis as a change in recording systems led to an undercount in the number of reported samples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

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

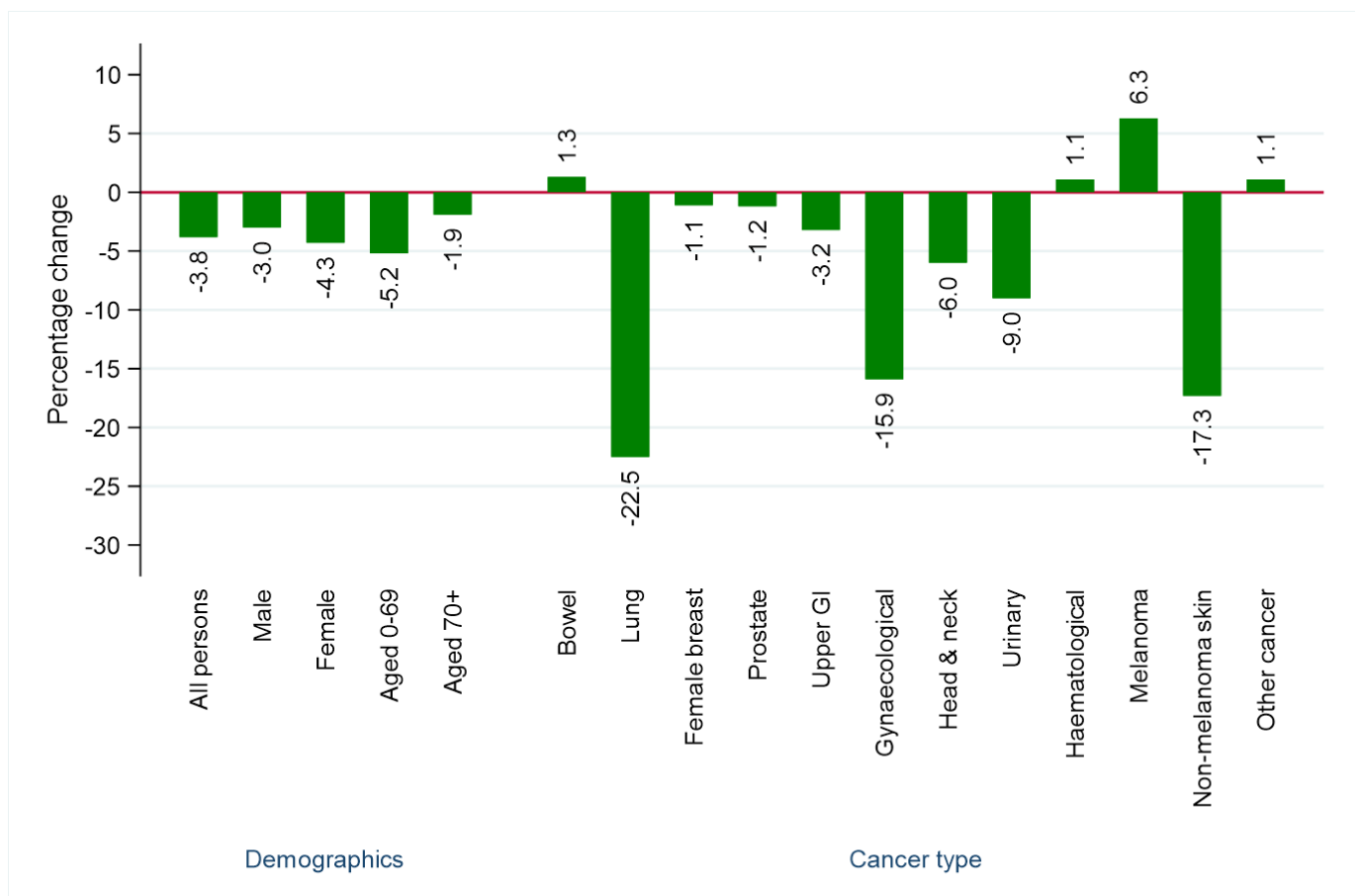
From March 2020 to Sept 2023 the number of pathological samples indicating cancer (ex NMSC) was 3.8% lower than the average number for the same time period in 2017-2019.



From March 2020 to Sept 2023 there was a 3.0% decrease in the number of samples among males and a 4.3% decrease among females compared to the same time period in 2017-2019. A decrease of 5.2% occurred in the number of samples among those aged 0-69 years, while there was a decrease of 1.9% in the number of samples among those aged 70 and older.

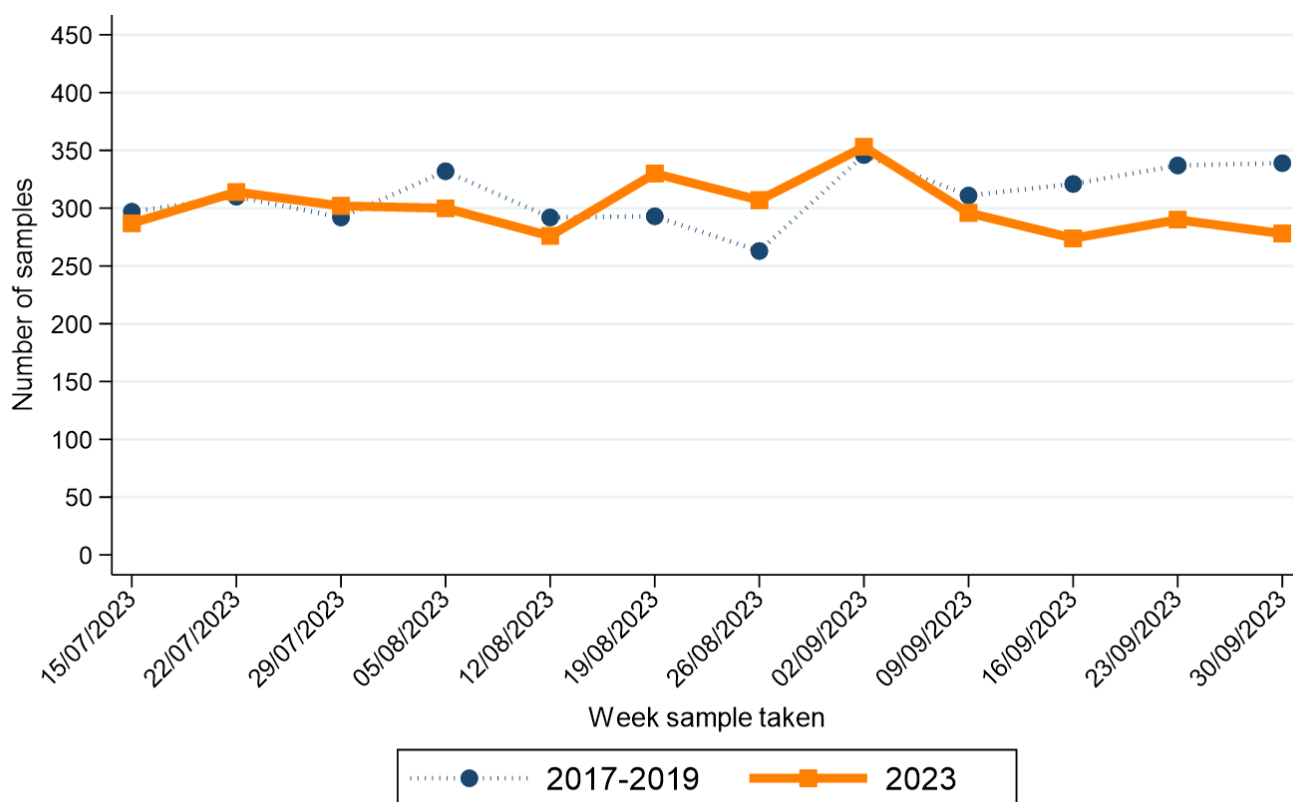


Compared to the annual average in 2017-2019, from March 2020 to Sept 2023 the number of pathology samples indicating lung cancer decreased by 22.5%. Increases were recorded for bowel cancer, haematological cancer and melanoma, while decreases of more than 10% were recorded for gynaecological cancer and non-melanoma skin cancer.

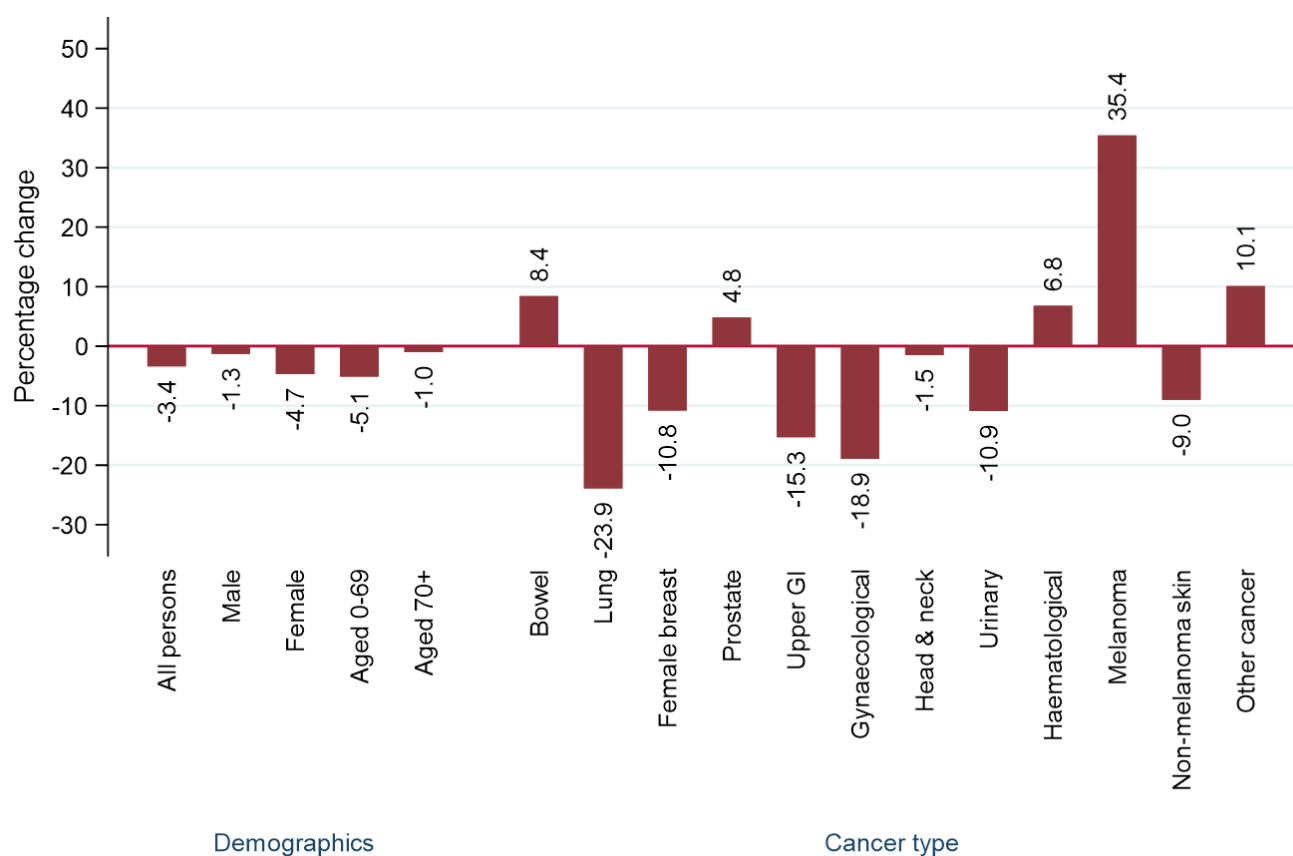


### RECENT CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF SAMPLES (Includes Altnagelvin)

There was a 3.4% decrease in the number of pathology samples indicating cancer in the twelve weeks up to 30/09/2023 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 30/09/2023 there was a 1.3% 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 5.1% occurred in the number of samples among those aged 0-69 years, while there was a decrease of 1.0% in the number of samples among those aged 70 and older.

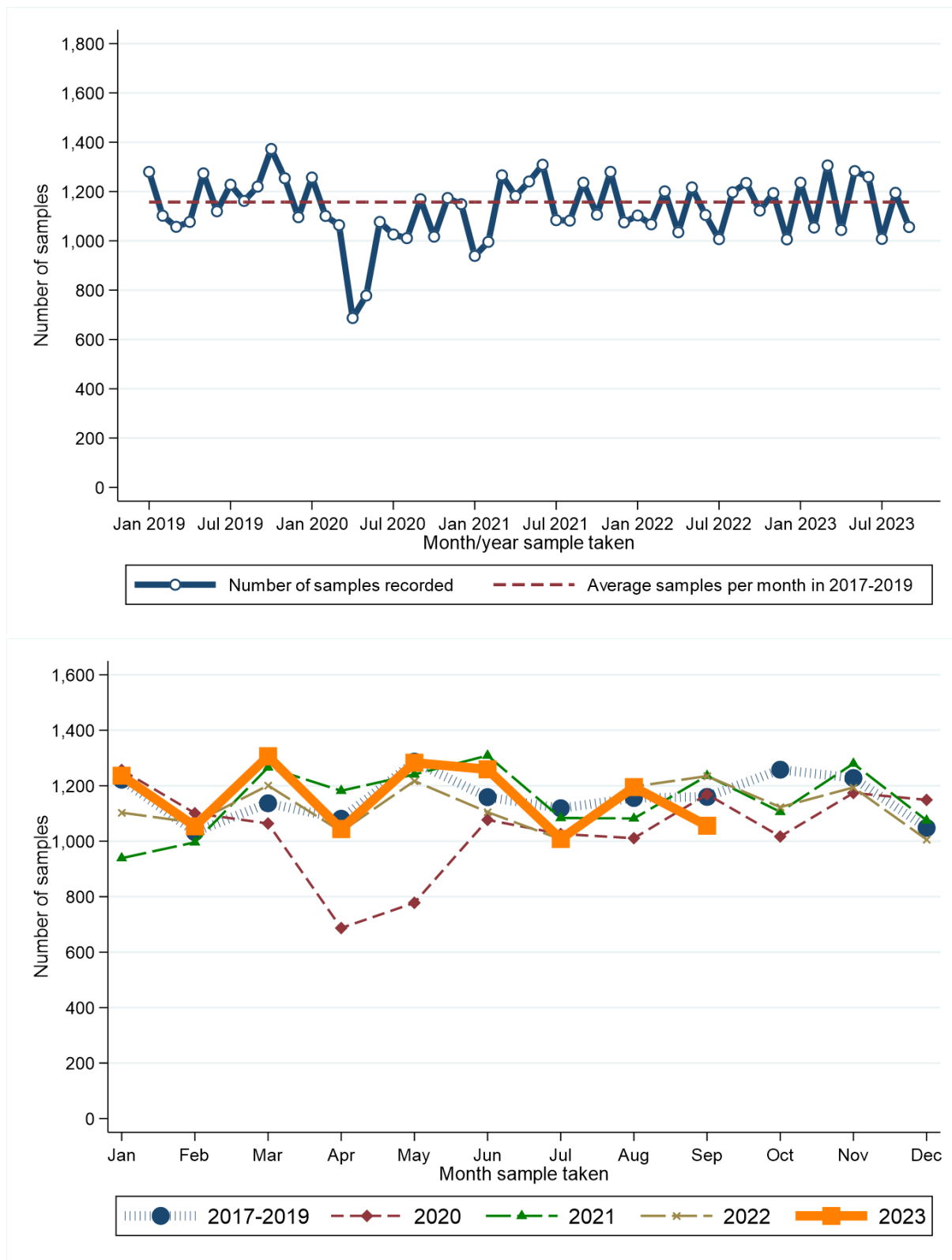
Compared to the annual average in 2017-2019, in the twelve weeks up to 30/09/2023 the number of pathology samples indicating lung cancer decreased by 23.9%. Increases were recorded for bowel cancer, prostate cancer, haematological cancer and melanoma, while decreases of more than 10% were recorded for female breast cancer, upper gastrointestinal cancer, gynaecological cancer and urinary cancer.

# ALL PERSONS: CANCER (EX NMSC)

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

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

**-3.8%**



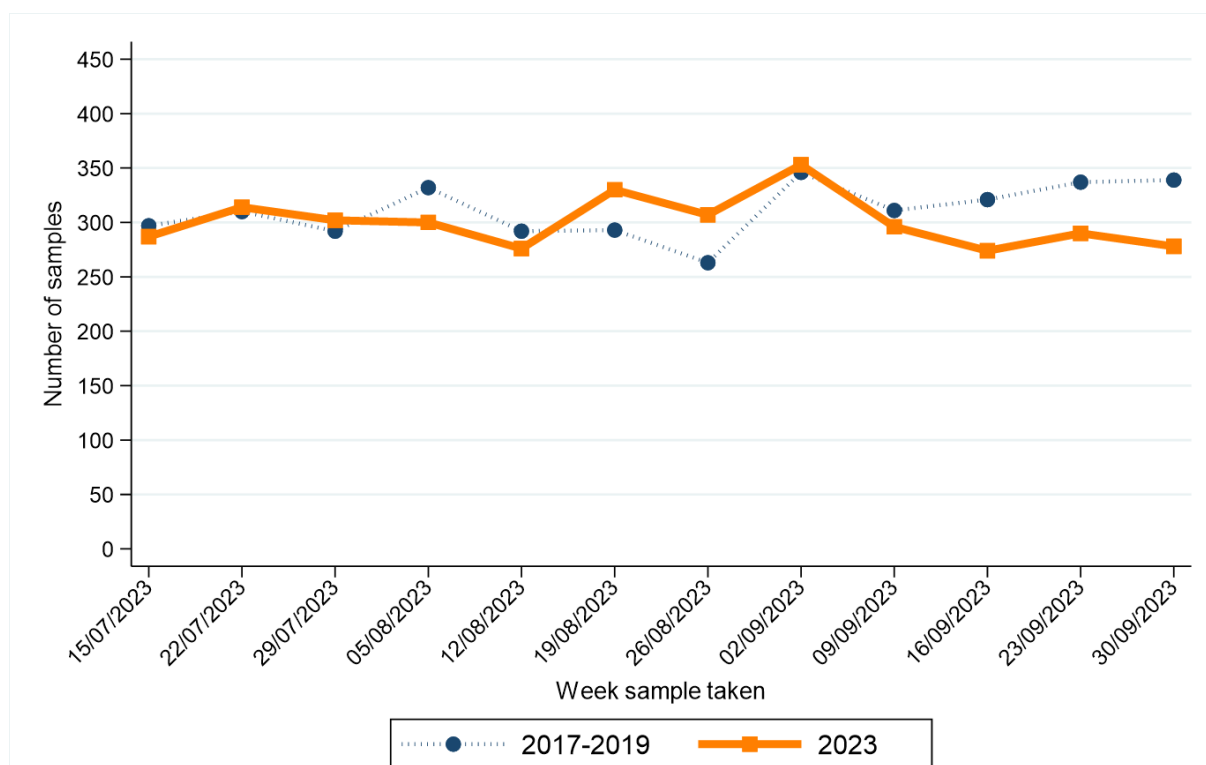
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	1,222	1,257	939	1,103	1,236	Jul	1,119	1,026	1,084	1,007	1,008
Feb	1,033	1,101	996	1,067	1,054	Aug	1,156	1,011	1,082	1,197	1,195
Mar	1,137	1,064	1,266	1,201	1,306	Sep	1,160	1,169	1,236	1,235	1,056
Apr	1,081	687	1,182	1,035	1,044	Oct	1,258	1,017	1,106	1,123	.
May	1,287	778	1,241	1,217	1,283	Nov	1,228	1,174	1,280	1,194	.
Jun	1,159	1,077	1,309	1,105	1,259	Dec	1,048	1,149	1,075	1,006	.

\* 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 30/09/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-3.4%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
15/07/2023	297	287	26/08/2023	263	307
22/07/2023	310	314	02/09/2023	346	353
29/07/2023	292	302	09/09/2023	311	296
05/08/2023	332	300	16/09/2023	321	274
12/08/2023	292	276	23/09/2023	337	290
19/08/2023	293	330	30/09/2023	339	278

\* 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.

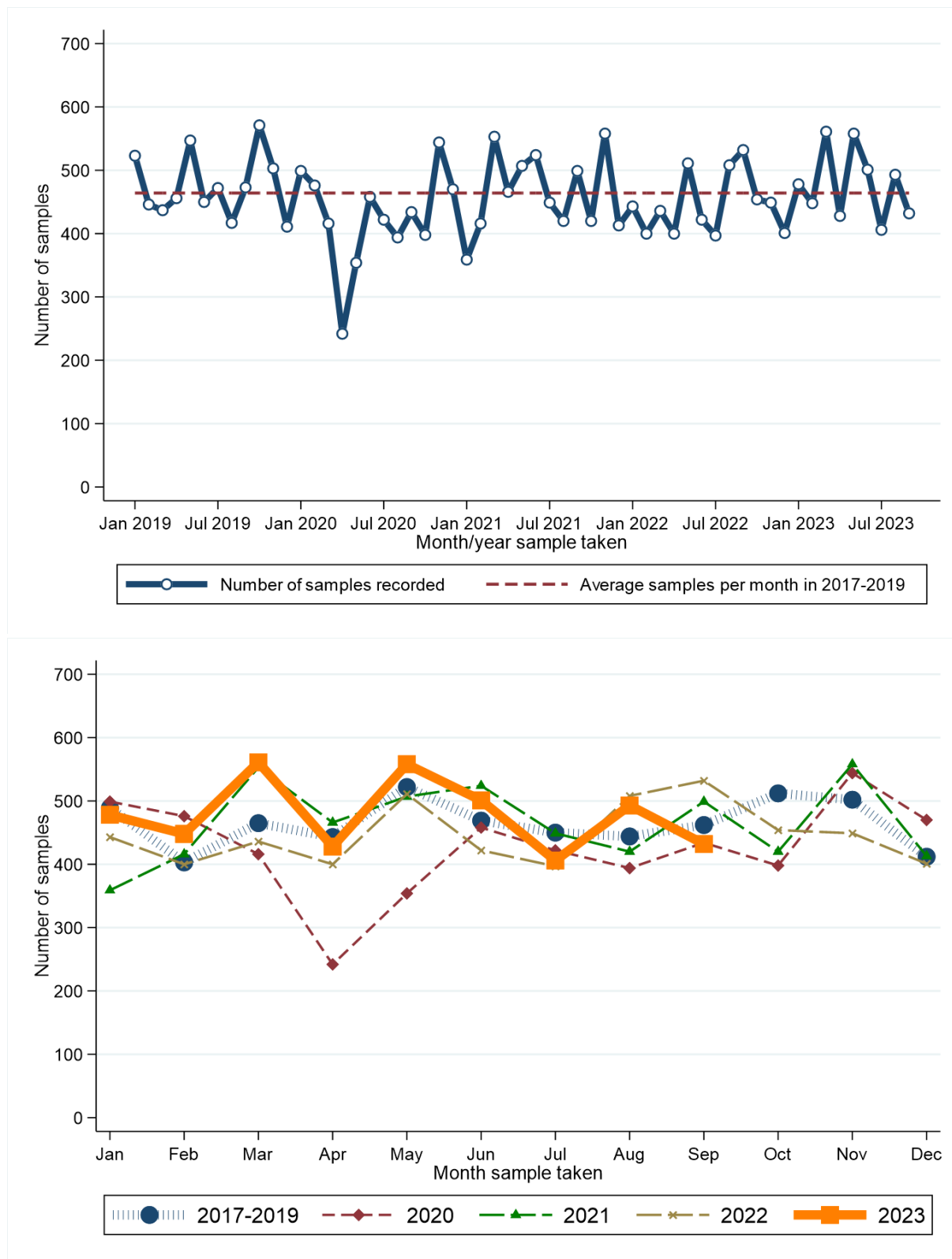


# MALE: CANCER (EX NMSC)

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

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

**-3.0%**



Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	489	499	359	443	478	Jul	450	422	449	397	406
Feb	403	476	416	400	448	Aug	444	394	420	508	493
Mar	465	416	553	436	561	Sep	462	434	499	532	432
Apr	443	242	466	400	428	Oct	512	398	420	454	.
May	522	354	507	511	558	Nov	502	544	558	449	.
Jun	469	458	524	422	501	Dec	412	470	413	401	.

\* 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 30/09/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-1.3%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
15/07/2023	124	126	26/08/2023	104	126
22/07/2023	135	117	02/09/2023	132	156
29/07/2023	108	129	09/09/2023	125	126
05/08/2023	131	140	16/09/2023	135	100
12/08/2023	118	102	23/09/2023	134	121
19/08/2023	115	135	30/09/2023	133	96

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

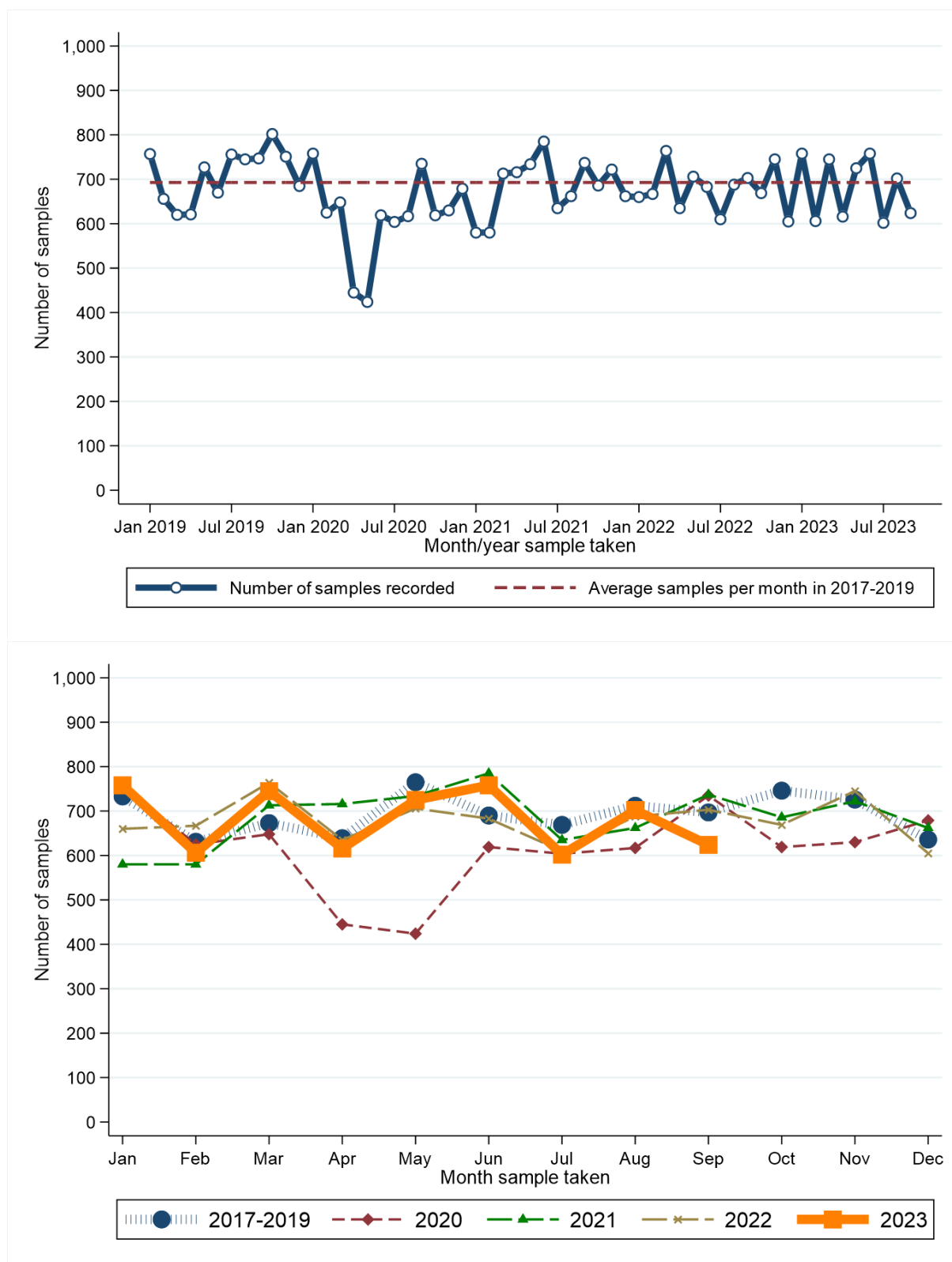
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# FEMALE: CANCER (EX NMSC)

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

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

**-4.3%**



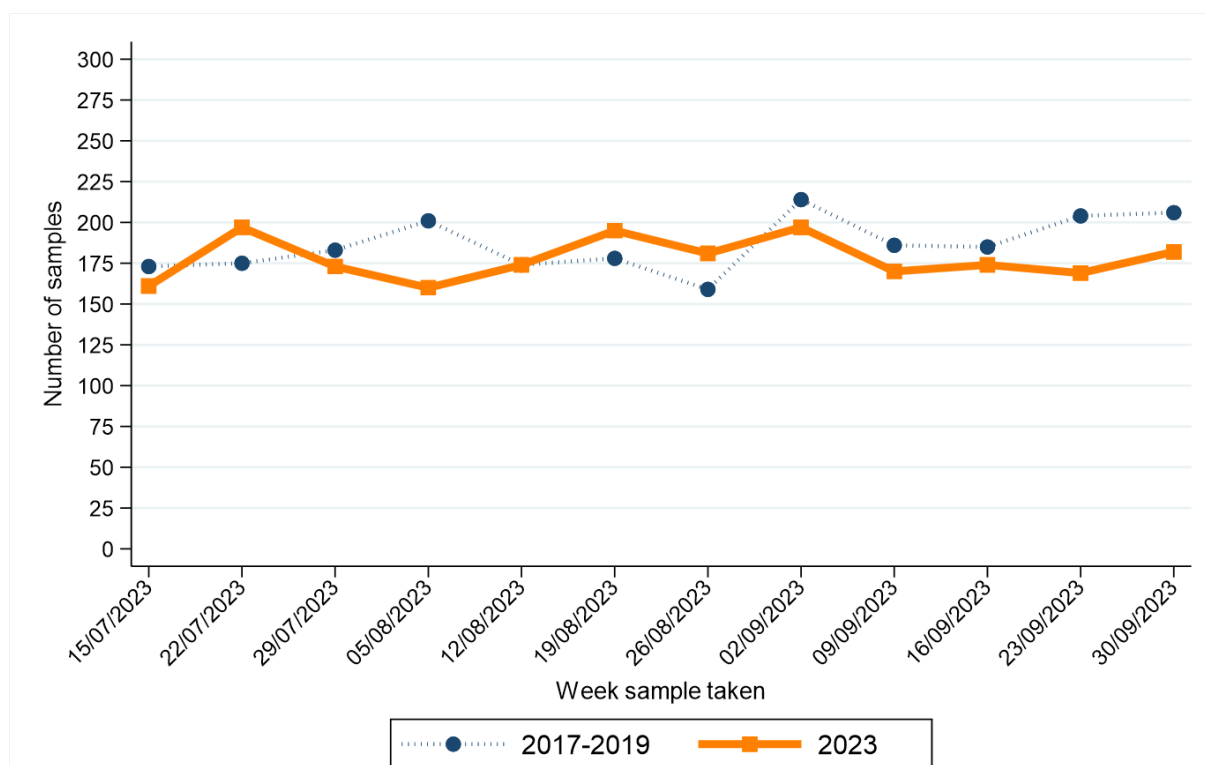
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	733	758	580	660	758	Jul	669	604	635	610	602
Feb	631	625	580	667	606	Aug	712	617	662	688	702
Mar	673	648	713	764	745	Sep	697	735	737	703	624
Apr	639	445	716	635	616	Oct	746	619	686	669	.
May	765	424	734	706	725	Nov	726	630	722	745	.
Jun	690	619	785	683	758	Dec	636	679	662	605	.

\* 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 30/09/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-4.7%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
15/07/2023	173	161	26/08/2023	159	181
22/07/2023	175	197	02/09/2023	214	197
29/07/2023	183	173	09/09/2023	186	170
05/08/2023	201	160	16/09/2023	185	174
12/08/2023	174	174	23/09/2023	204	169
19/08/2023	178	195	30/09/2023	206	182

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

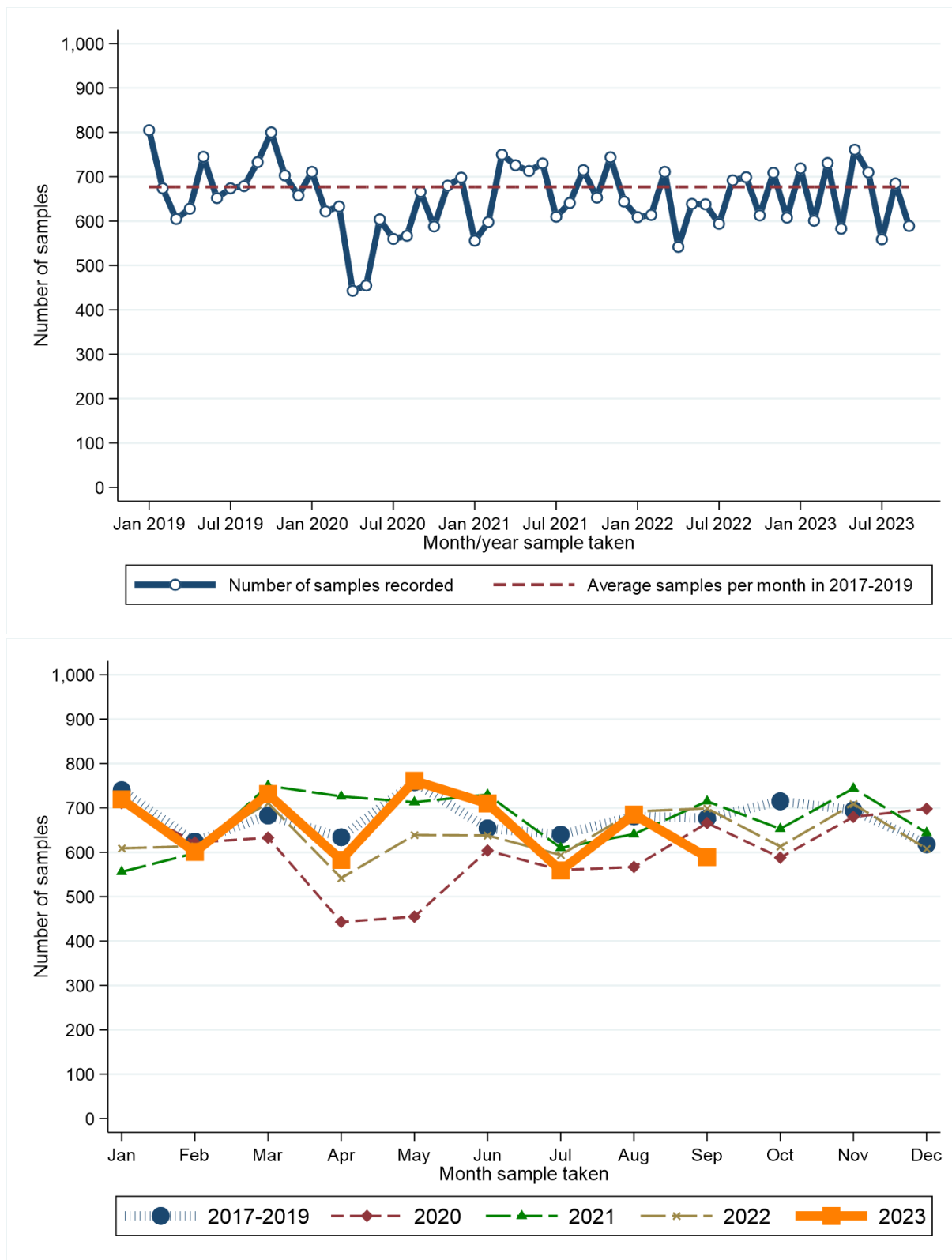
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# AGED 0-69: CANCER (EX NMSC)

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

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

**-5.2%**



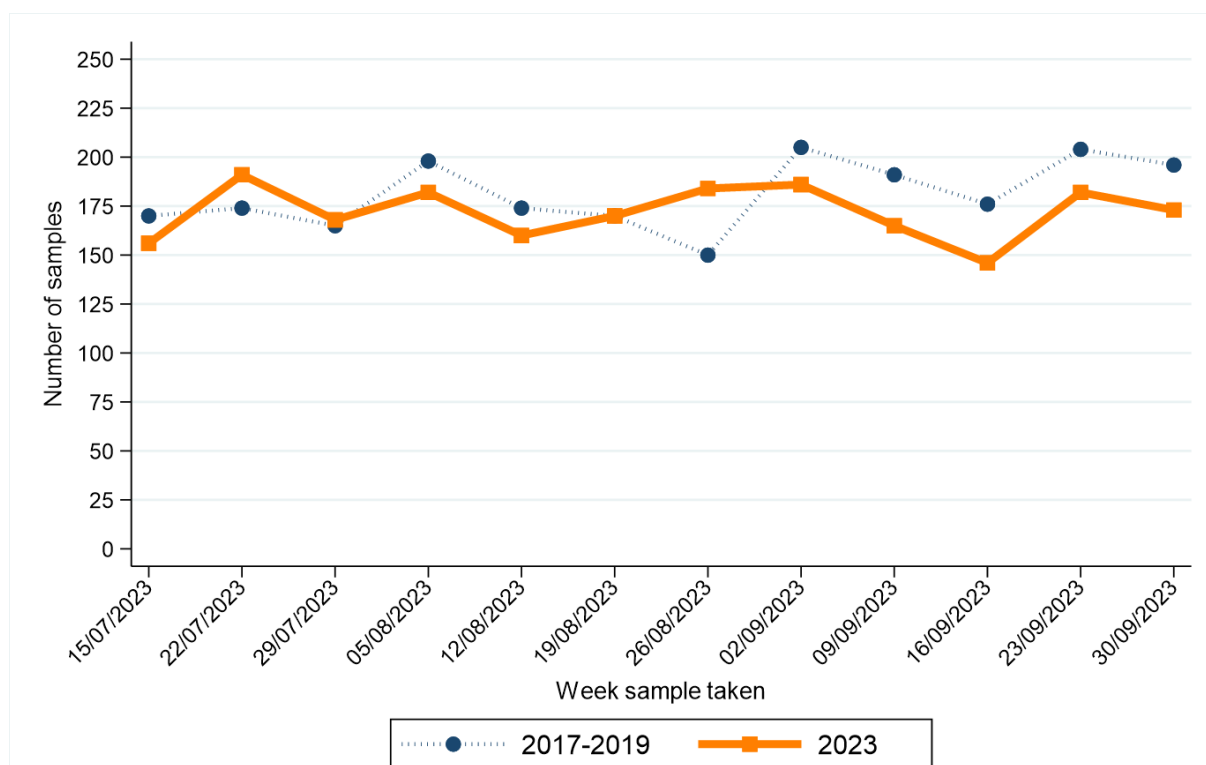
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	740	711	556	609	719	Jul	640	560	610	594	559
Feb	624	622	598	614	601	Aug	681	567	641	692	685
Mar	683	633	750	711	731	Sep	677	666	715	699	589
Apr	634	443	726	542	583	Oct	715	588	653	613	.
May	758	455	713	639	761	Nov	695	680	744	709	.
Jun	654	604	730	638	710	Dec	618	698	644	608	.

\* 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 30/09/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-5.1%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
15/07/2023	170	156	26/08/2023	150	184
22/07/2023	174	191	02/09/2023	205	186
29/07/2023	165	168	09/09/2023	191	165
05/08/2023	198	182	16/09/2023	176	146
12/08/2023	174	160	23/09/2023	204	182
19/08/2023	170	170	30/09/2023	196	173

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

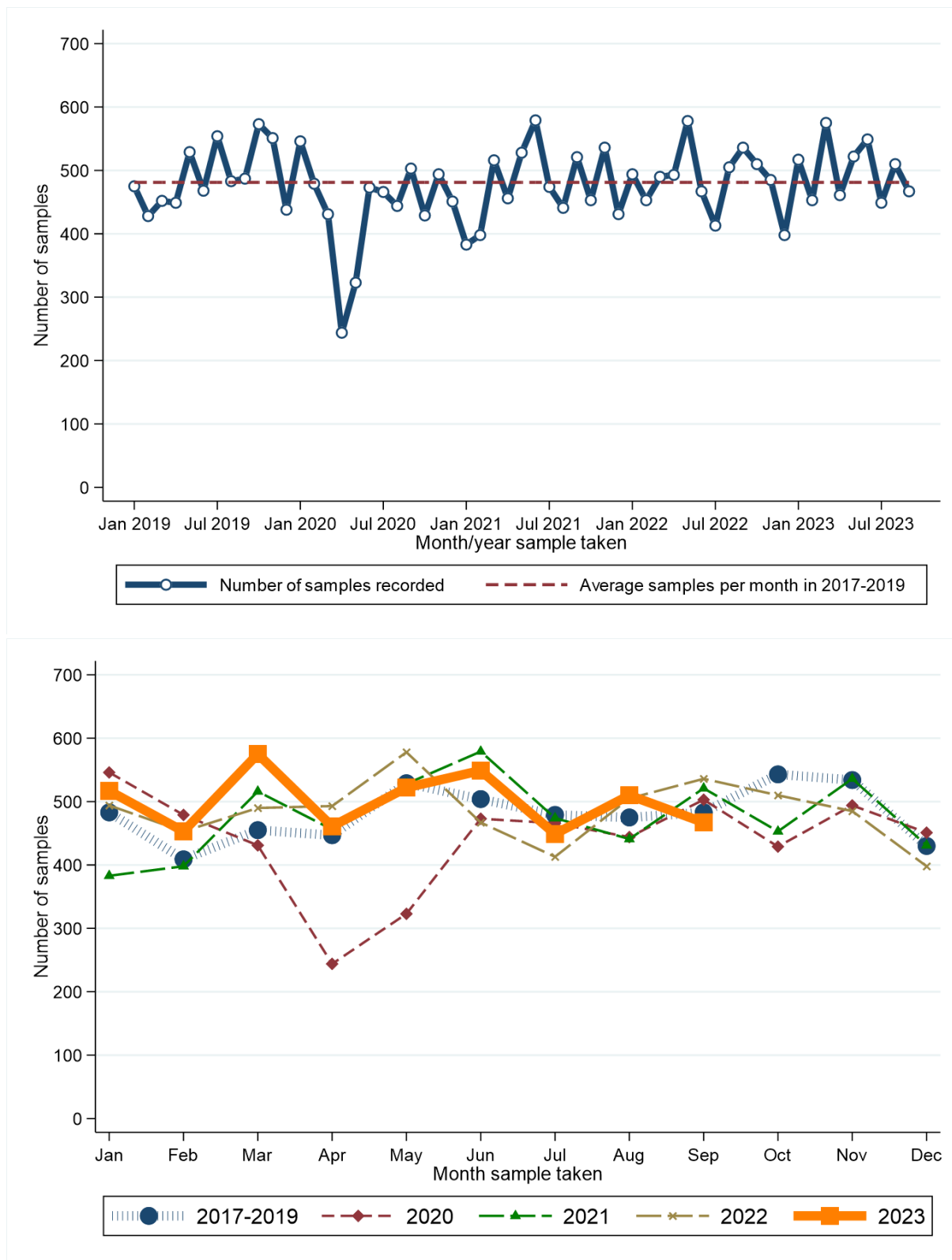
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# AGED 70+: CANCER (EX NMSC)

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

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

**-1.9%**



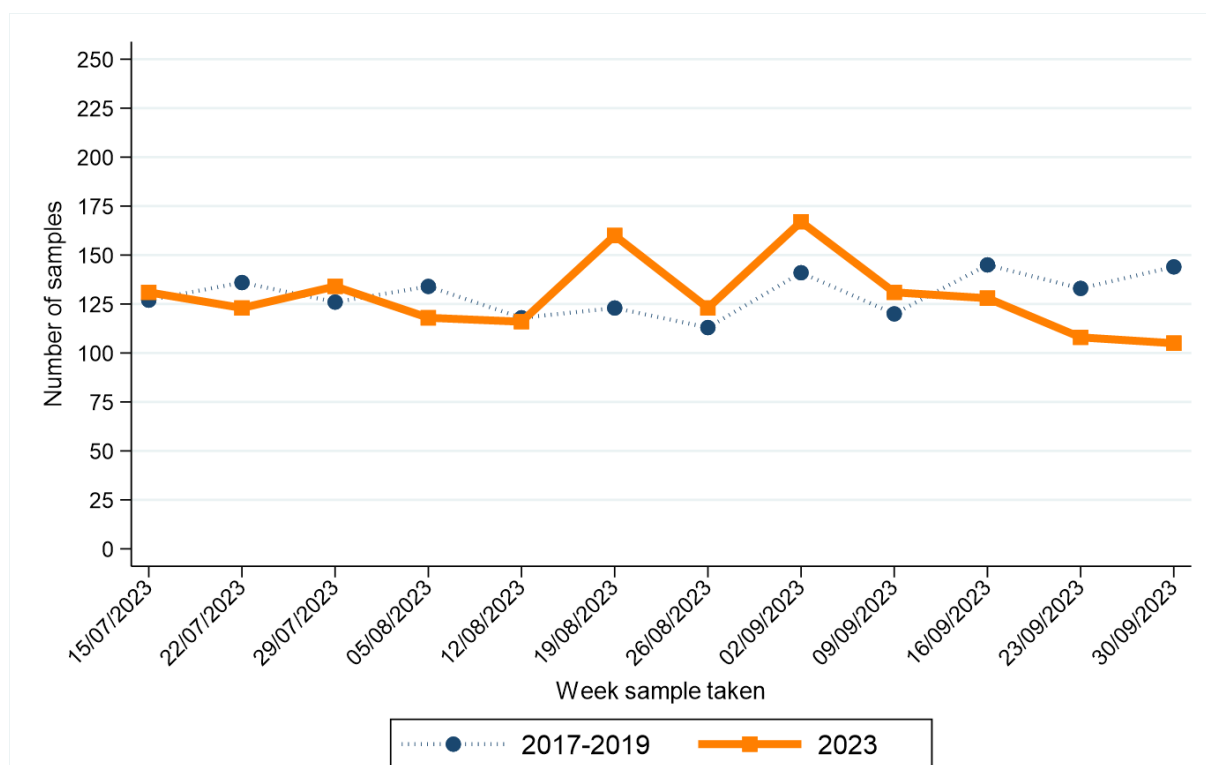
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	483	546	383	494	517	Jul	479	466	474	413	449
Feb	409	479	398	453	453	Aug	475	444	441	505	510
Mar	455	431	516	490	575	Sep	483	503	521	536	467
Apr	447	244	456	493	461	Oct	543	429	453	510	.
May	529	323	528	578	522	Nov	534	494	536	485	.
Jun	504	473	579	467	549	Dec	430	451	431	398	.

\* 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 30/09/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-1.0%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
15/07/2023	127	131	26/08/2023	113	123
22/07/2023	136	123	02/09/2023	141	167
29/07/2023	126	134	09/09/2023	120	131
05/08/2023	134	118	16/09/2023	145	128
12/08/2023	118	116	23/09/2023	133	108
19/08/2023	123	160	30/09/2023	144	105

\* 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.

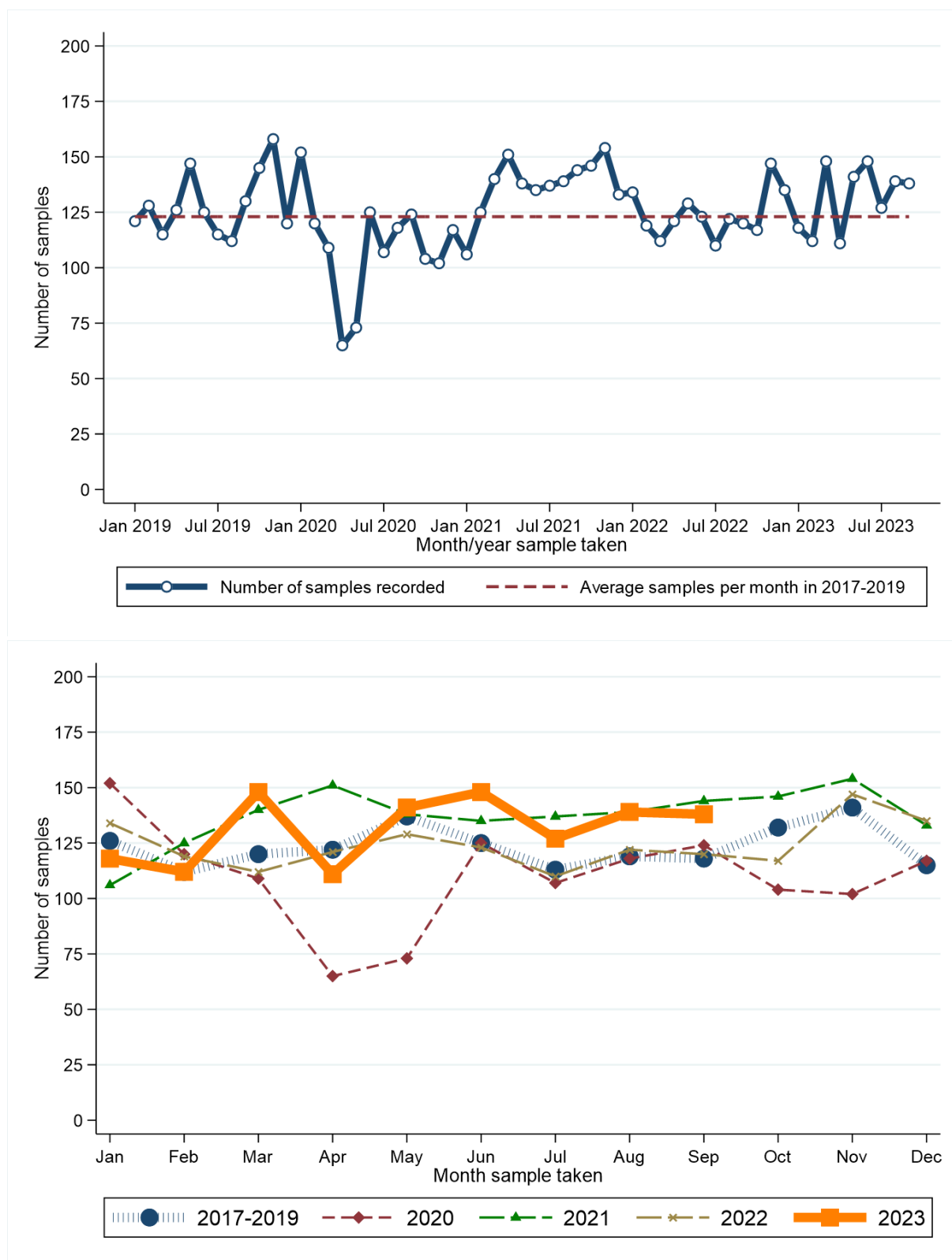


# BOWEL CANCER

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

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

**+1.3%**



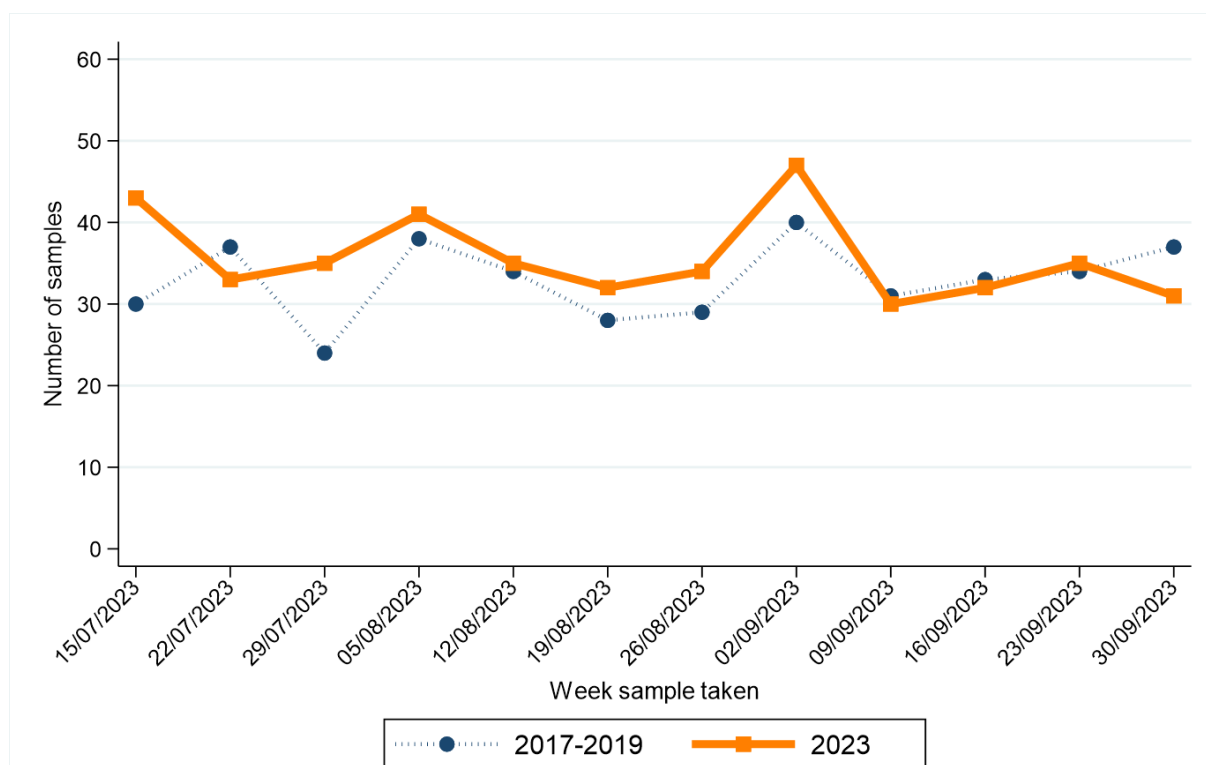
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	126	152	106	134	118	Jul	113	107	137	110	127
Feb	112	120	125	119	112	Aug	119	118	139	122	139
Mar	120	109	140	112	148	Sep	118	124	144	120	138
Apr	122	65	151	121	111	Oct	132	104	146	117	.
May	137	73	138	129	141	Nov	141	102	154	147	.
Jun	125	125	135	123	148	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 30/09/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+8.4%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
15/07/2023	30	43	26/08/2023	29	34
22/07/2023	37	33	02/09/2023	40	47
29/07/2023	24	35	09/09/2023	31	30
05/08/2023	38	41	16/09/2023	33	32
12/08/2023	34	35	23/09/2023	34	35
19/08/2023	28	32	30/09/2023	37	31

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

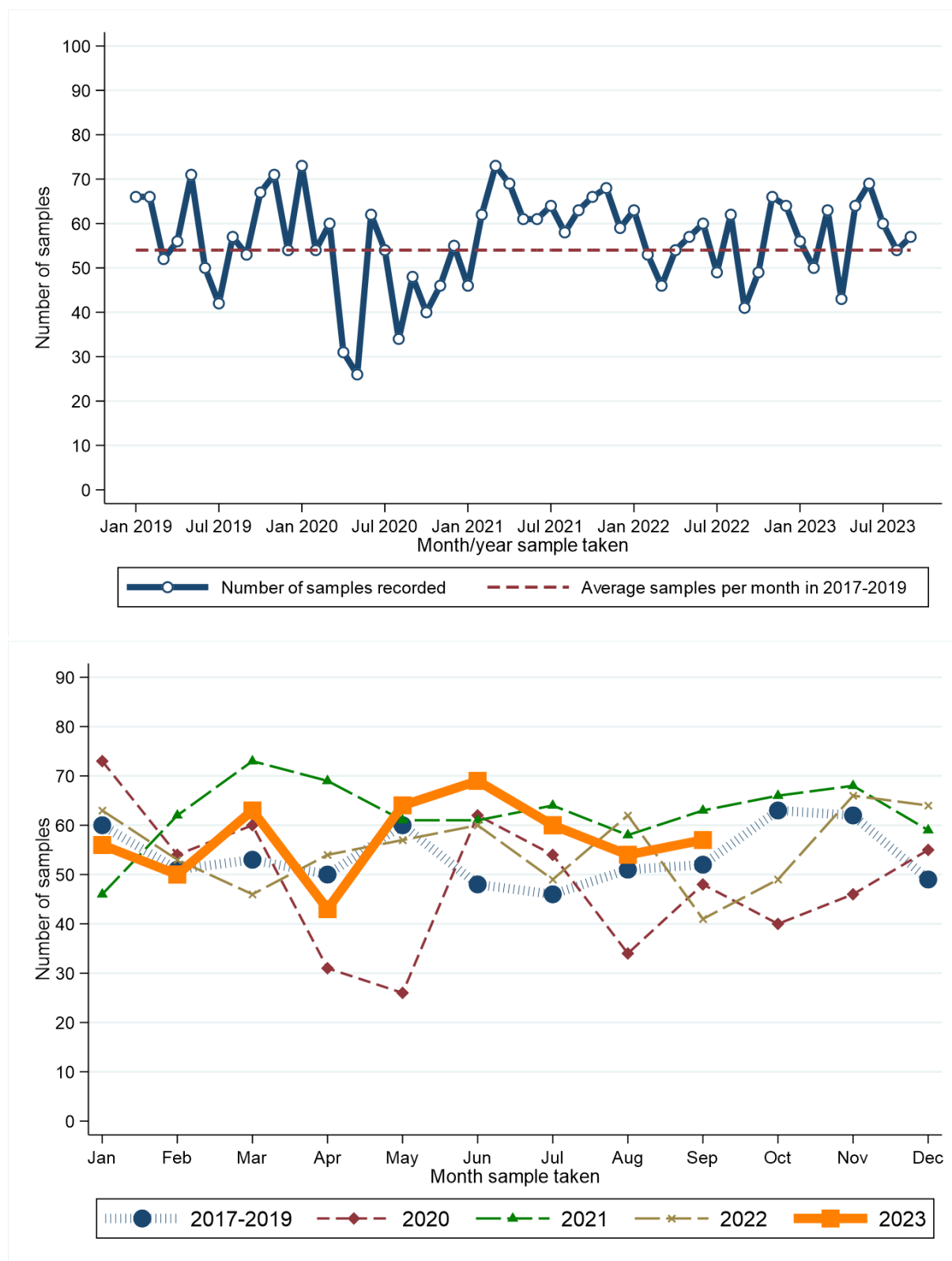
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# BOWEL CANCER (SCREENING AGE)

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

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

**+4.0%**



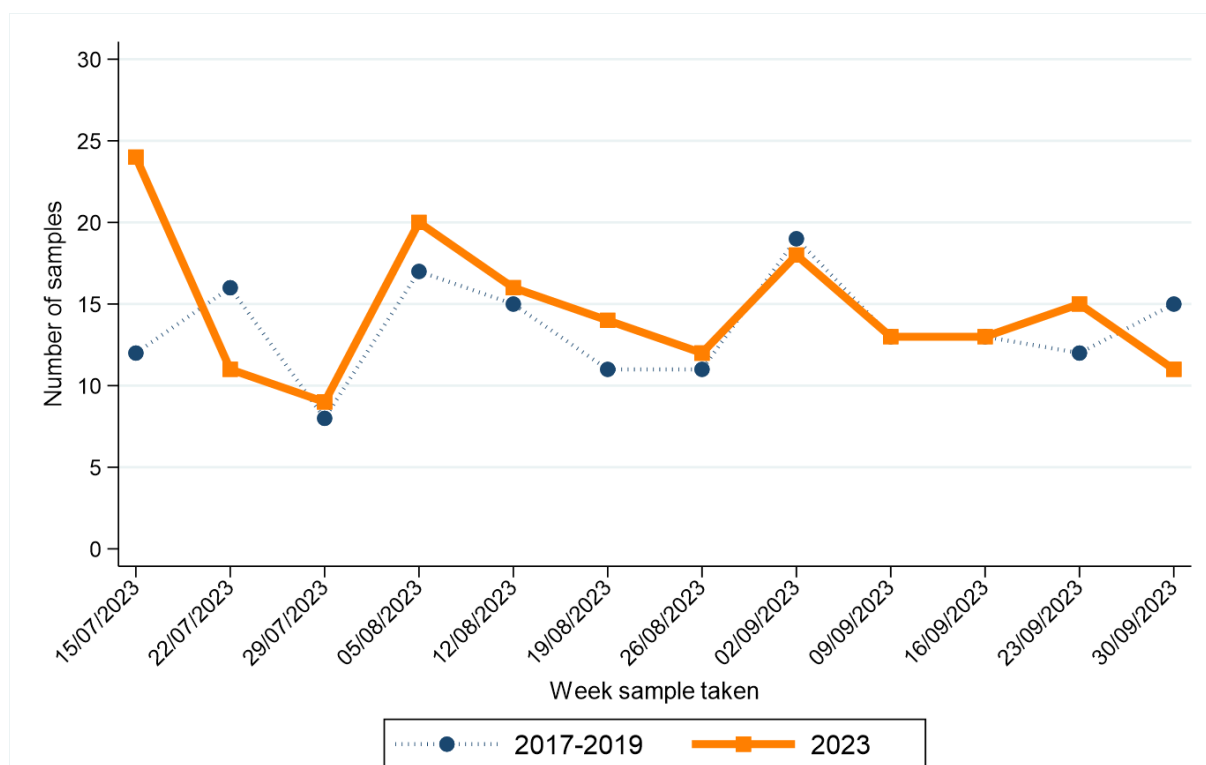
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	60	73	46	63	56	Jul	46	54	64	49	60
Feb	51	54	62	53	50	Aug	51	34	58	62	54
Mar	53	60	73	46	63	Sep	52	48	63	41	57
Apr	50	31	69	54	43	Oct	63	40	66	49	.
May	60	26	61	57	64	Nov	62	46	68	66	.
Jun	48	62	61	60	69	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 30/09/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+8.6%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
15/07/2023	12	24	26/08/2023	11	12
22/07/2023	16	11	02/09/2023	19	18
29/07/2023	8	9	09/09/2023	13	13
05/08/2023	17	20	16/09/2023	13	13
12/08/2023	15	16	23/09/2023	12	15
19/08/2023	11	14	30/09/2023	15	11

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

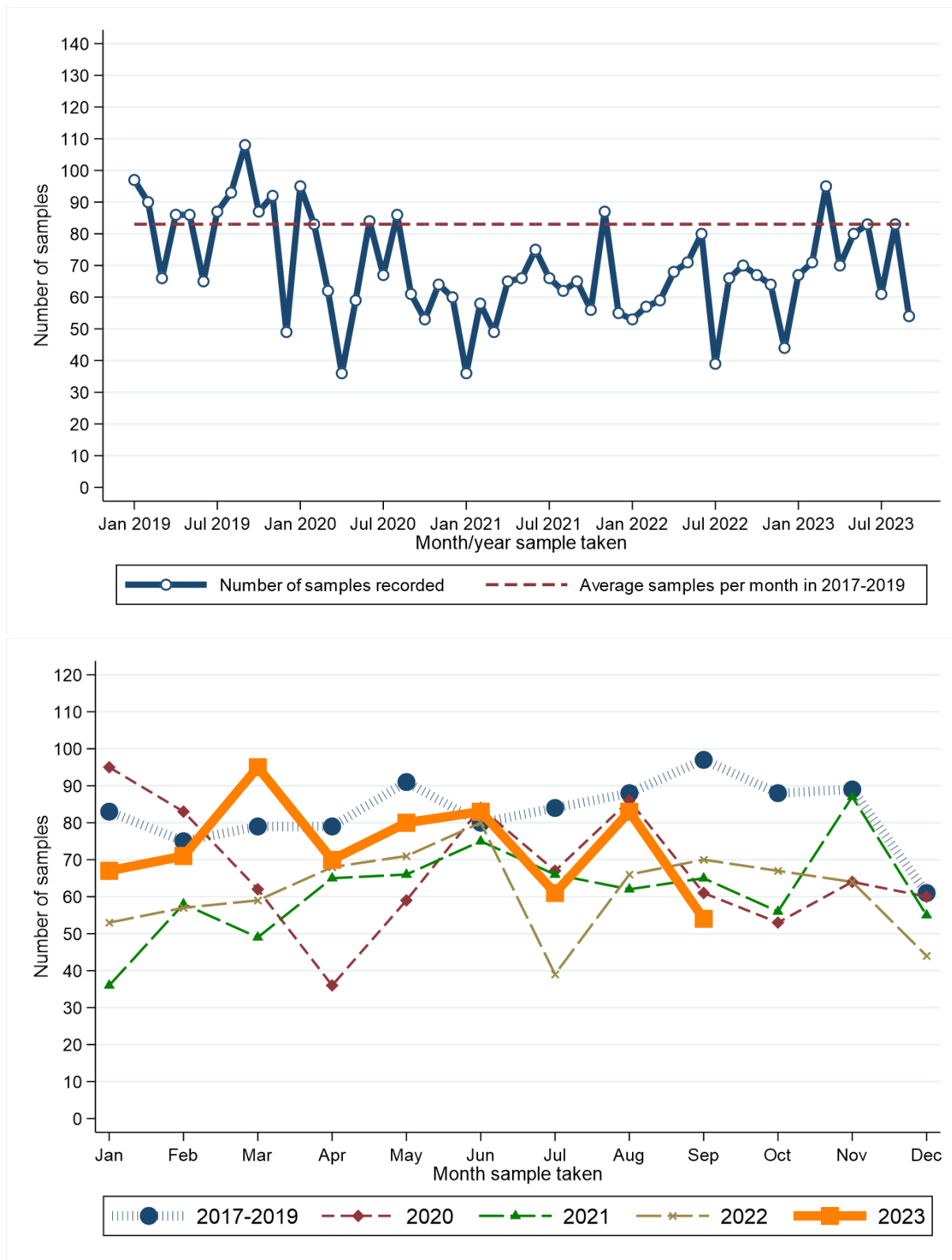
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# LUNG CANCER

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

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

**-22.5%**



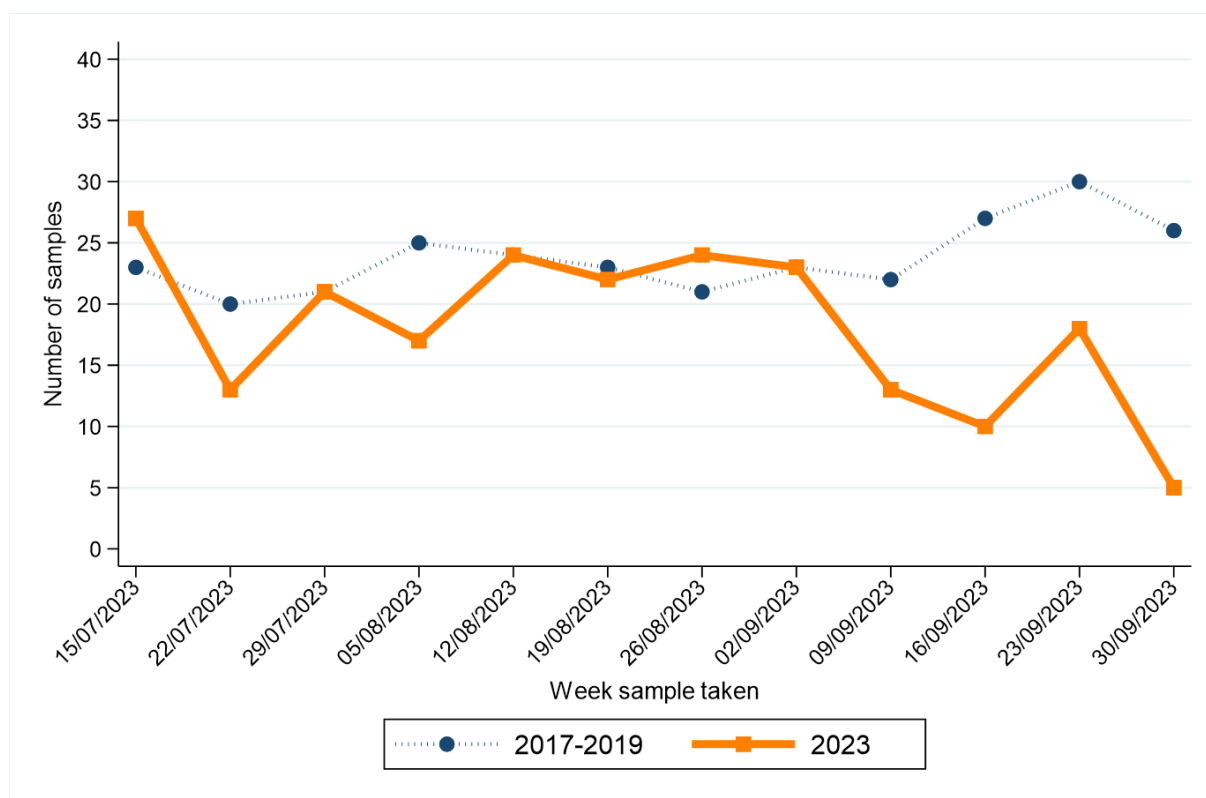
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	83	95	36	53	67	Jul	84	67	66	39	61
Feb	75	83	58	57	71	Aug	88	86	62	66	83
Mar	79	62	49	59	95	Sep	97	61	65	70	54
Apr	79	36	65	68	70	Oct	88	53	56	67	.
May	91	59	66	71	80	Nov	89	64	87	64	.
Jun	80	84	75	80	83	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 30/09/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-23.9%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
15/07/2023	23	27	26/08/2023	21	24
22/07/2023	20	13	02/09/2023	23	23
29/07/2023	21	21	09/09/2023	22	13
05/08/2023	25	17	16/09/2023	27	10
12/08/2023	24	24	23/09/2023	30	18
19/08/2023	23	22	30/09/2023	26	5

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

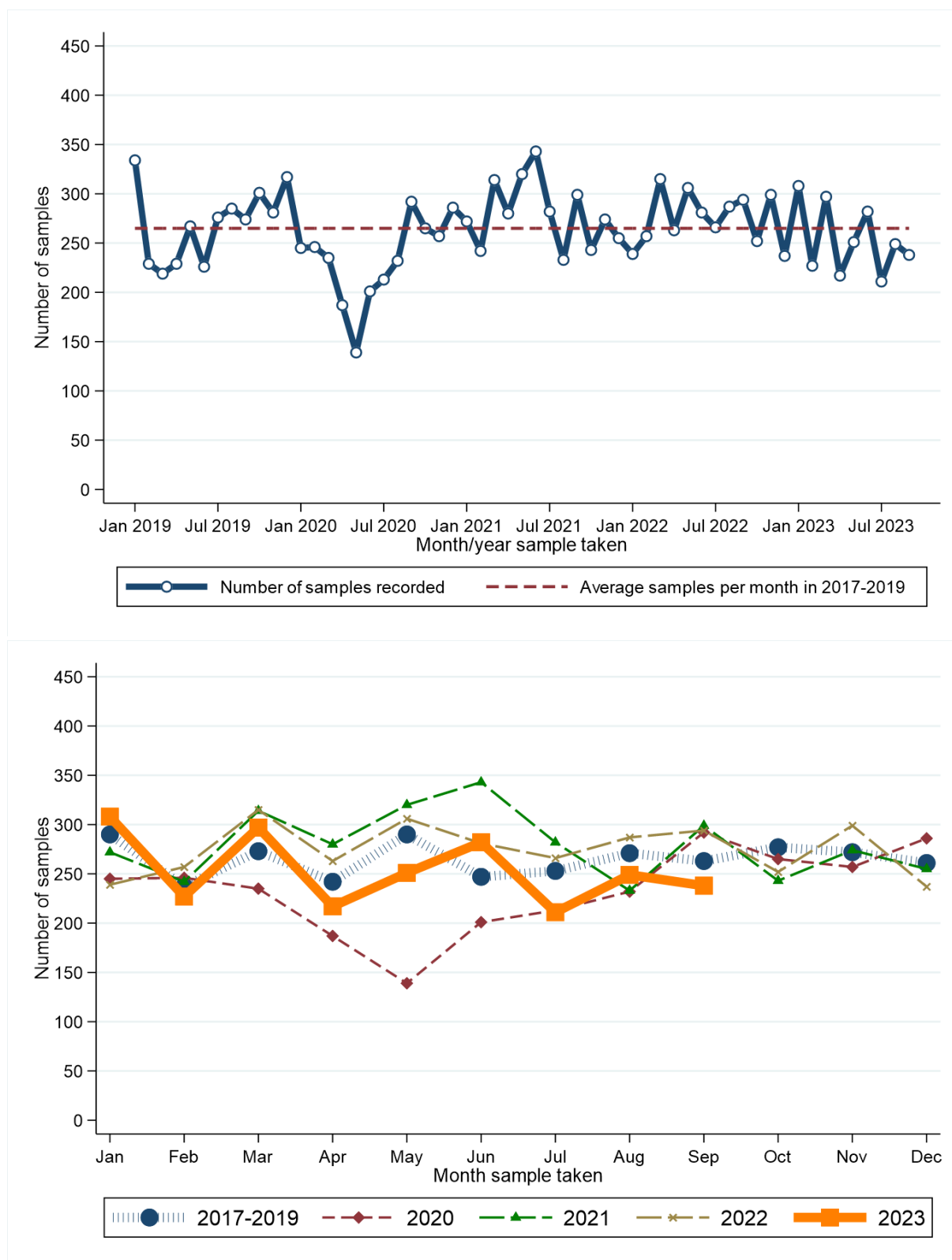
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# FEMALE BREAST CANCER

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

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

**-1.1%**



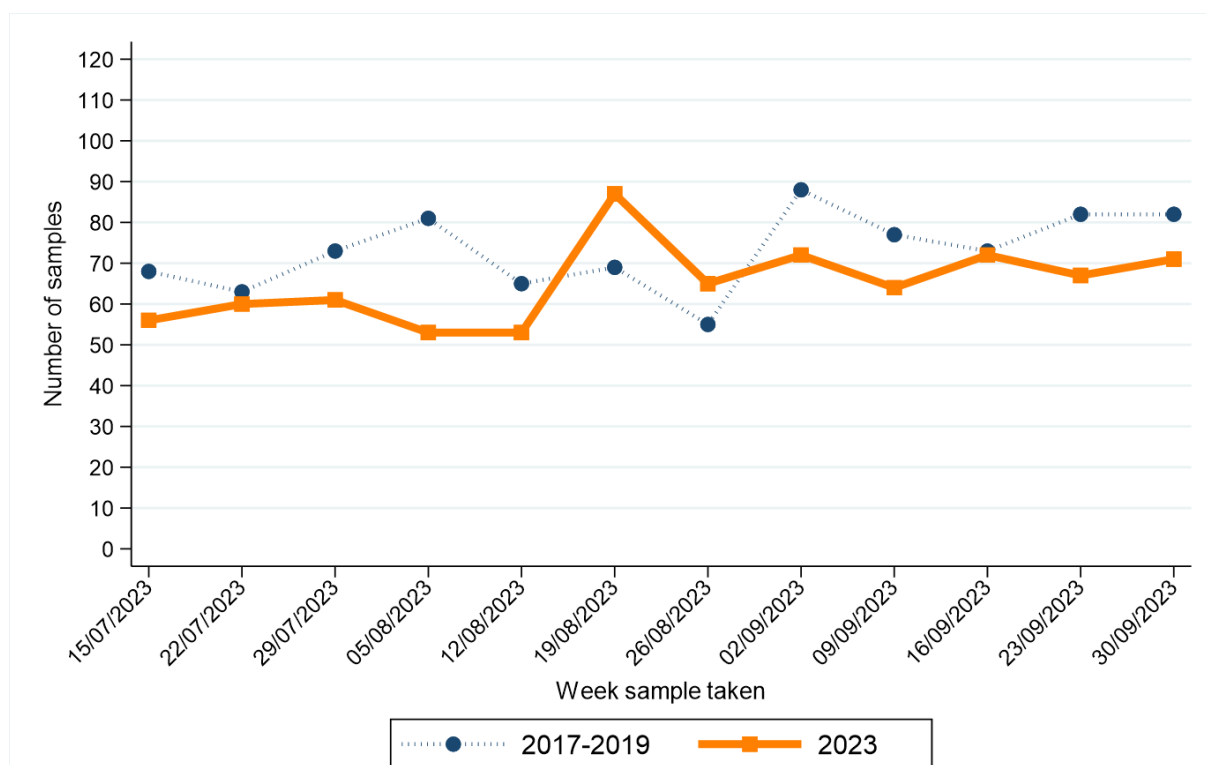
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	290	245	272	239	308	Jul	253	213	282	266	211
Feb	237	246	242	257	227	Aug	271	232	233	287	249
Mar	273	235	314	315	297	Sep	263	292	299	294	238
Apr	242	187	280	263	217	Oct	277	265	243	252	.
May	290	139	320	306	251	Nov	272	257	274	299	.
Jun	247	201	343	281	282	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 30/09/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-10.8%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
15/07/2023	68	56	26/08/2023	55	65
22/07/2023	63	60	02/09/2023	88	72
29/07/2023	73	61	09/09/2023	77	64
05/08/2023	81	53	16/09/2023	73	72
12/08/2023	65	53	23/09/2023	82	67
19/08/2023	69	87	30/09/2023	82	71

\* 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.

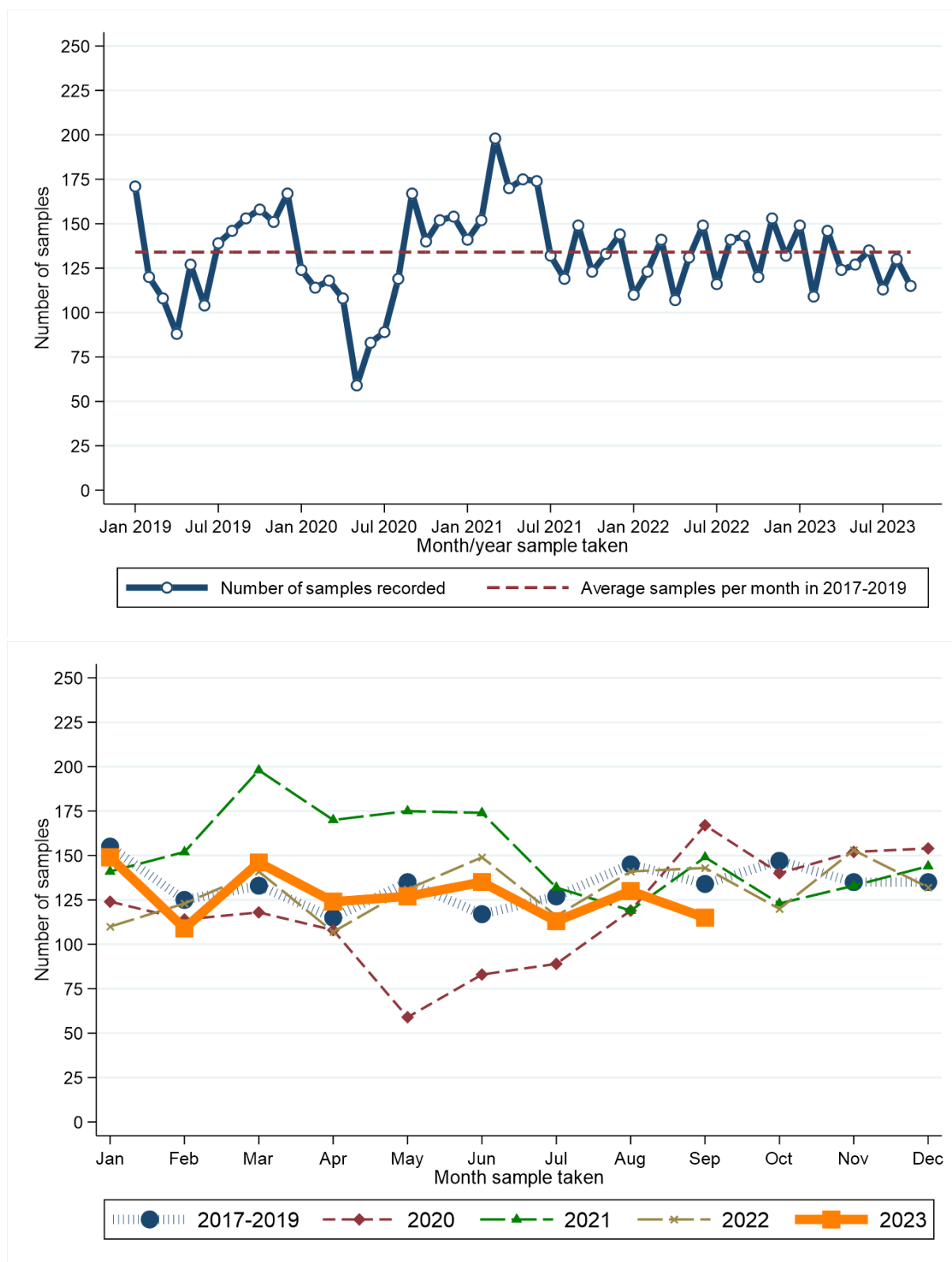


# FEMALE BREAST CANCER (SCREENING AGE)

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

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

**0.0%**



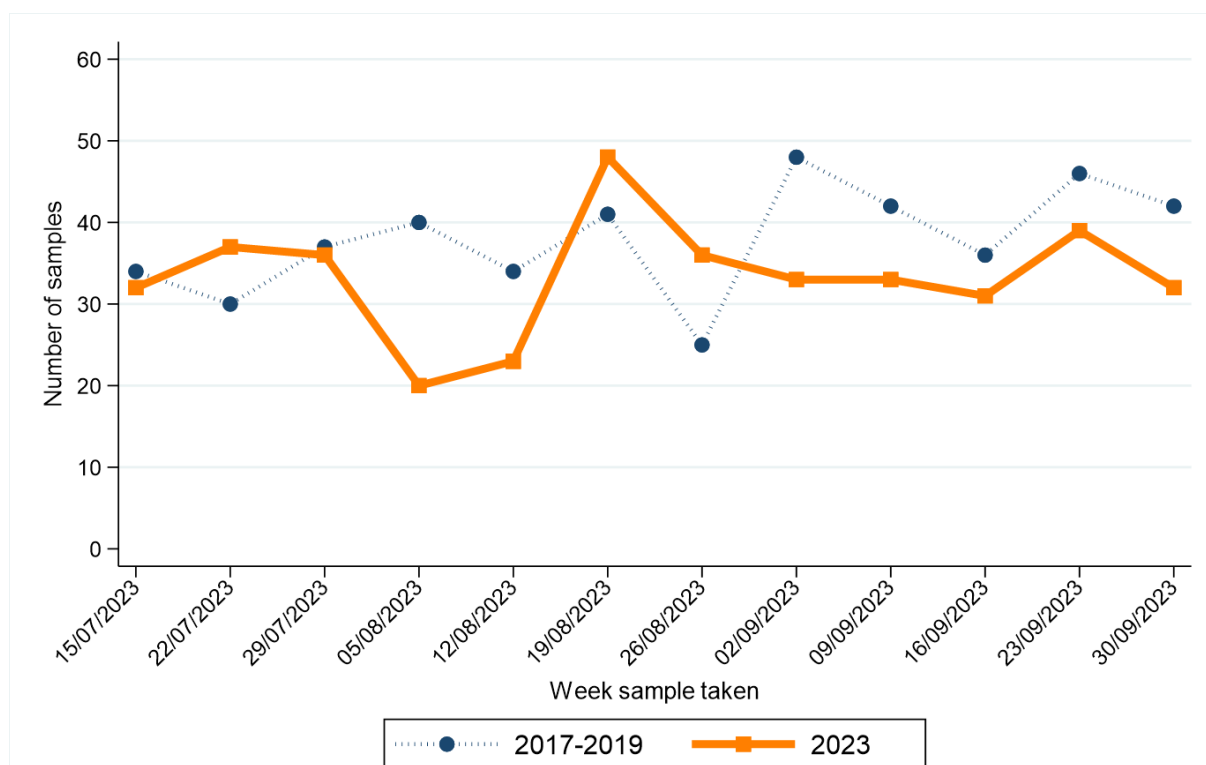
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	155	124	141	110	149	Jul	127	89	132	116	113
Feb	125	114	152	123	109	Aug	145	119	119	141	130
Mar	133	118	198	141	146	Sep	134	167	149	143	115
Apr	115	108	170	107	124	Oct	147	140	123	120	.
May	135	59	175	131	127	Nov	135	152	133	153	.
Jun	117	83	174	149	135	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 30/09/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-12.1%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
15/07/2023	34	32	26/08/2023	25	36
22/07/2023	30	37	02/09/2023	48	33
29/07/2023	37	36	09/09/2023	42	33
05/08/2023	40	20	16/09/2023	36	31
12/08/2023	34	23	23/09/2023	46	39
19/08/2023	41	48	30/09/2023	42	32

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

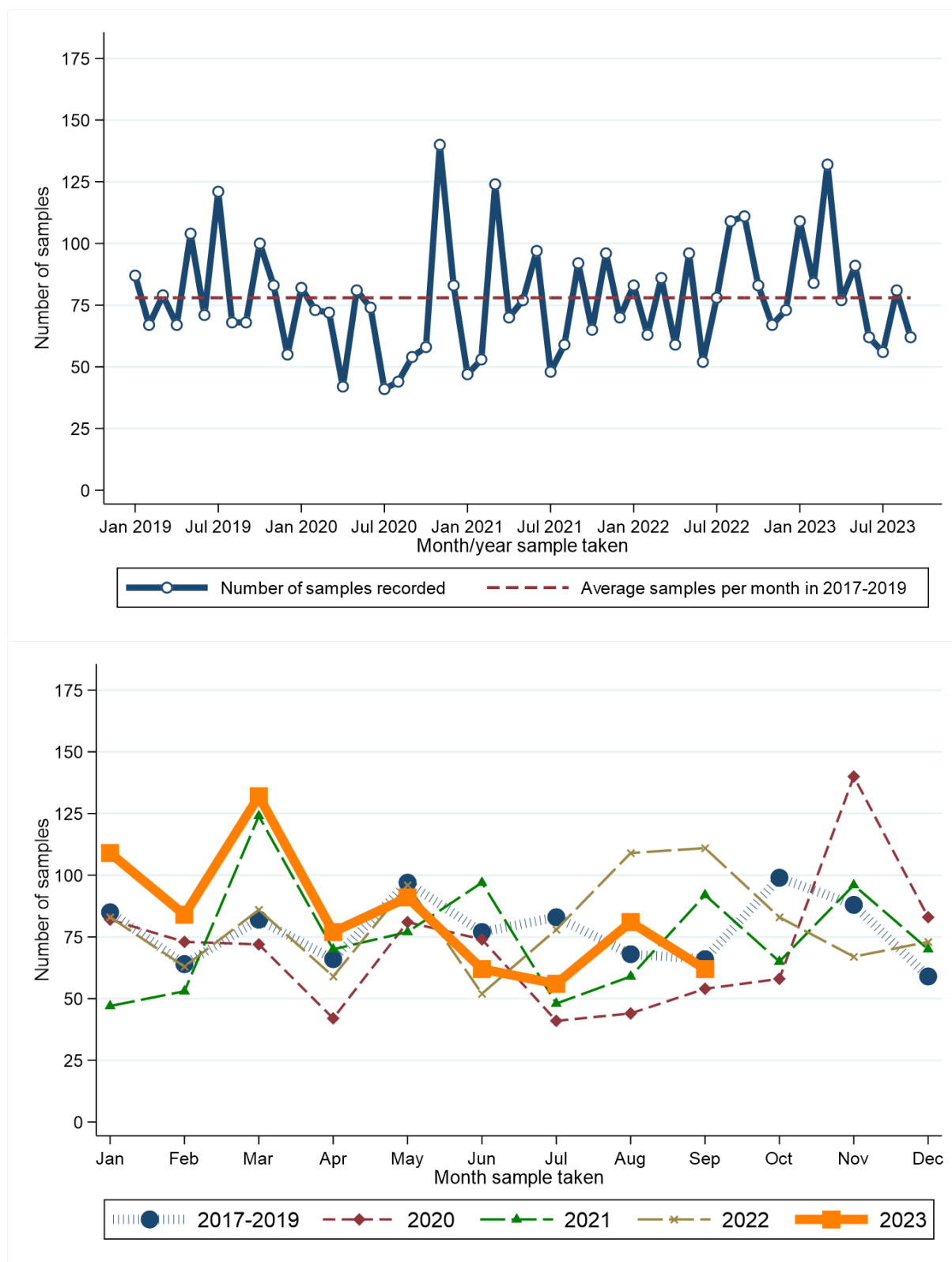
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# PROSTATE CANCER

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

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

**-1.2%**



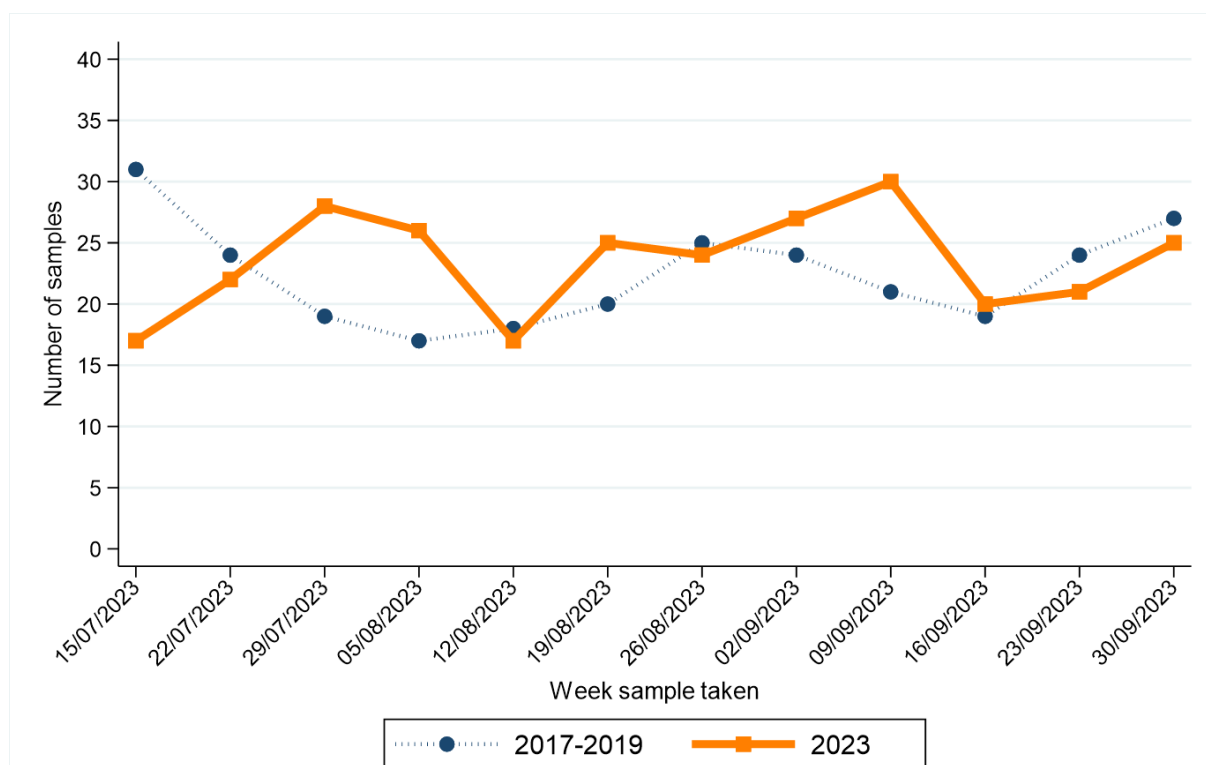
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	85	82	47	83	109	Jul	83	41	48	78	56
Feb	64	73	53	63	84	Aug	68	44	59	109	81
Mar	82	72	124	86	132	Sep	66	54	92	111	62
Apr	66	42	70	59	77	Oct	99	58	65	83	.
May	97	81	77	96	91	Nov	88	140	96	67	.
Jun	77	74	97	52	62	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 30/09/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+4.8%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
15/07/2023	31	17
22/07/2023	24	22
29/07/2023	19	28
05/08/2023	17	26
12/08/2023	18	17
19/08/2023	20	25

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
26/08/2023	25	24
02/09/2023	24	27
09/09/2023	21	30
16/09/2023	19	20
23/09/2023	24	21
30/09/2023	27	25

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

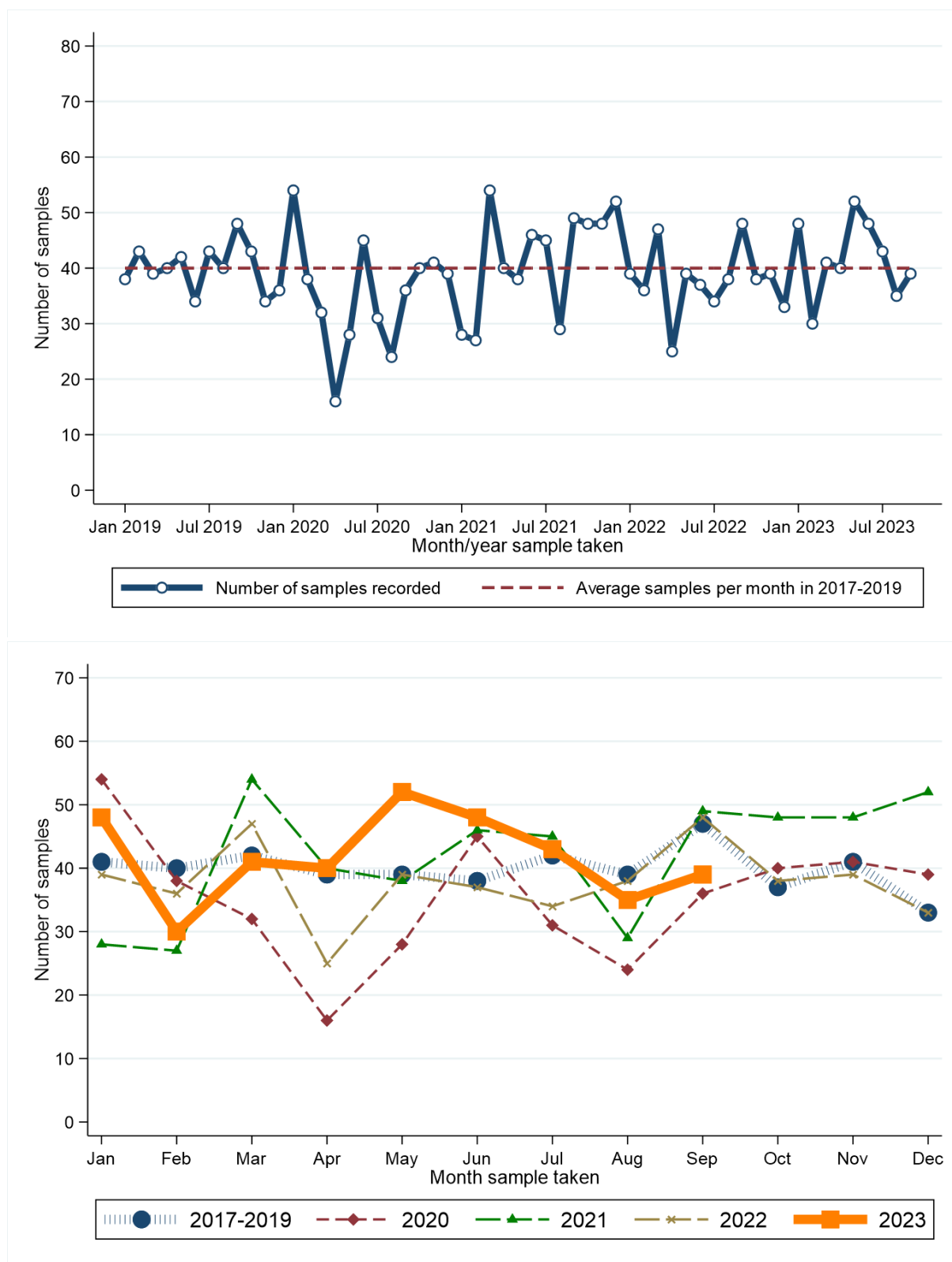
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# UPPER GASTROINTESTINAL CANCER

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

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

**-3.2%**



Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	41	54	28	39	48
Feb	40	38	27	36	30
Mar	42	32	54	47	41
Apr	39	16	40	25	40
May	39	28	38	39	52
Jun	38	45	46	37	48

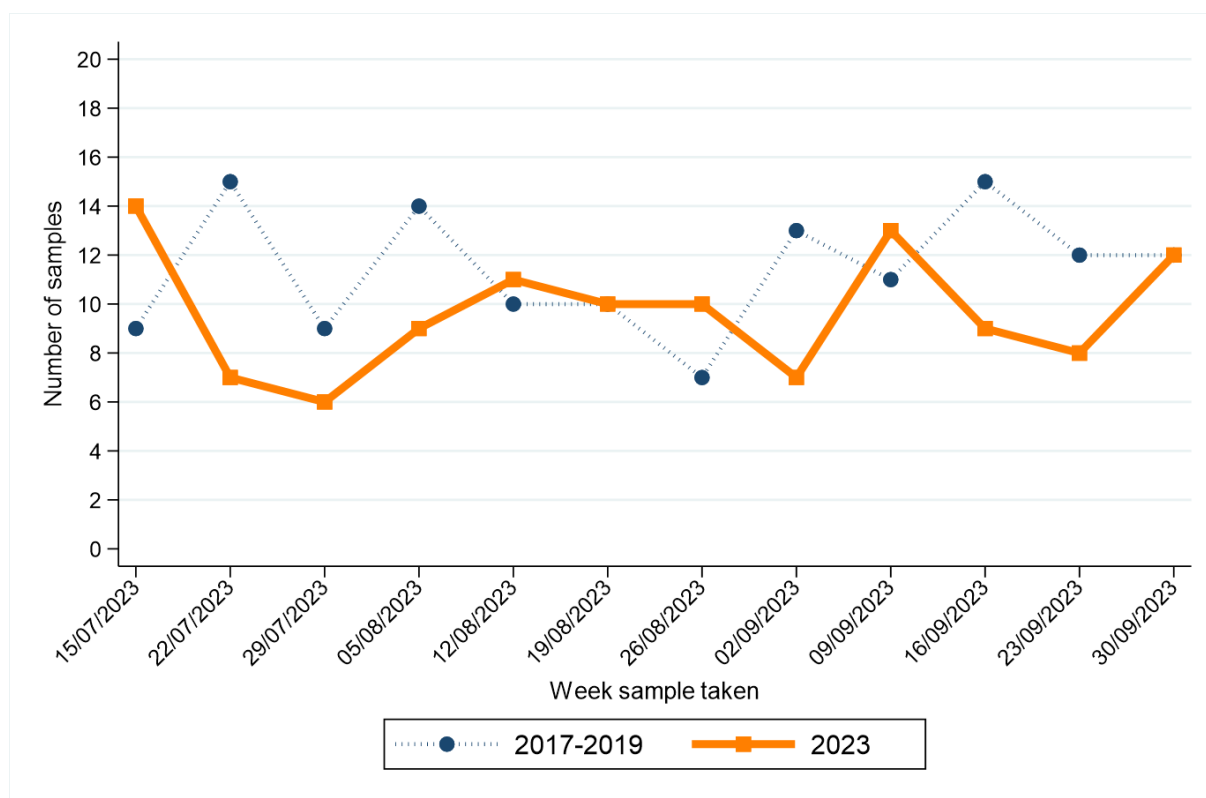
\* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jul	42	31	45	34	43
Aug	39	24	29	38	35
Sep	47	36	49	48	39
Oct	37	40	48	38	.
Nov	41	41	48	39	.
Dec	33	39	52	33	.

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

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 30/09/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-15.3%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
15/07/2023	9	14
22/07/2023	15	7
29/07/2023	9	6
05/08/2023	14	9
12/08/2023	10	11
19/08/2023	10	10

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
26/08/2023	7	10
02/09/2023	13	7
09/09/2023	11	13
16/09/2023	15	9
23/09/2023	12	8
30/09/2023	12	12

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

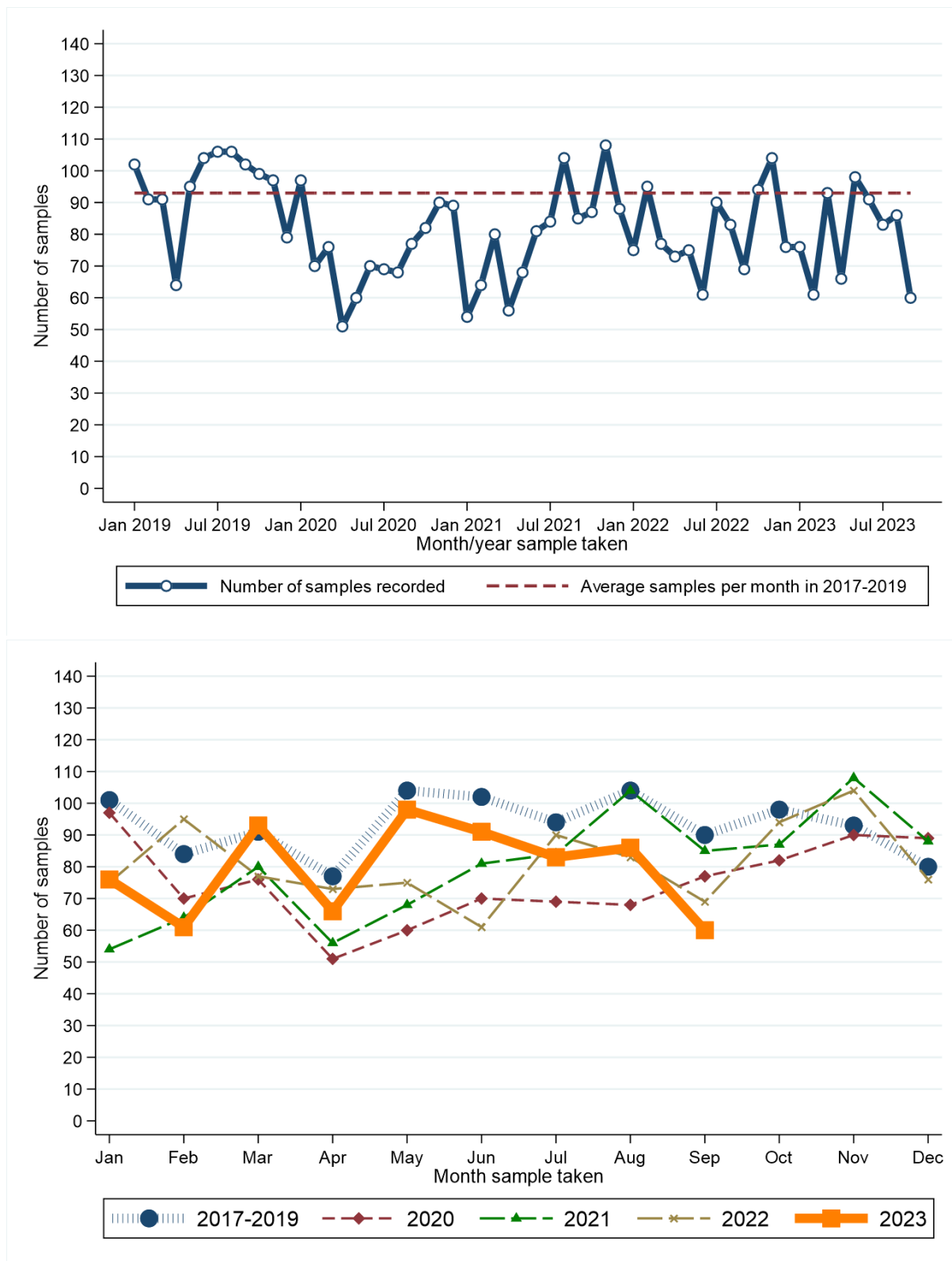
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# GYNAECOLOGICAL CANCER

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

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

**-15.9%**



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	83
Feb	84	70	64	95	61	Aug	104	68	104	83	86
Mar	91	76	80	77	93	Sep	90	77	85	69	60
Apr	77	51	56	73	66	Oct	98	82	87	94	.
May	104	60	68	75	98	Nov	93	90	108	104	.
Jun	102	70	81	61	91	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 Sept 2023)	
	Expected number*	Recorded number
Cervical cancer	595	525
Uterine cancer	1,897	1,570
Ovarian cancer	1,150	932
Other gynaecological cancer	360	350

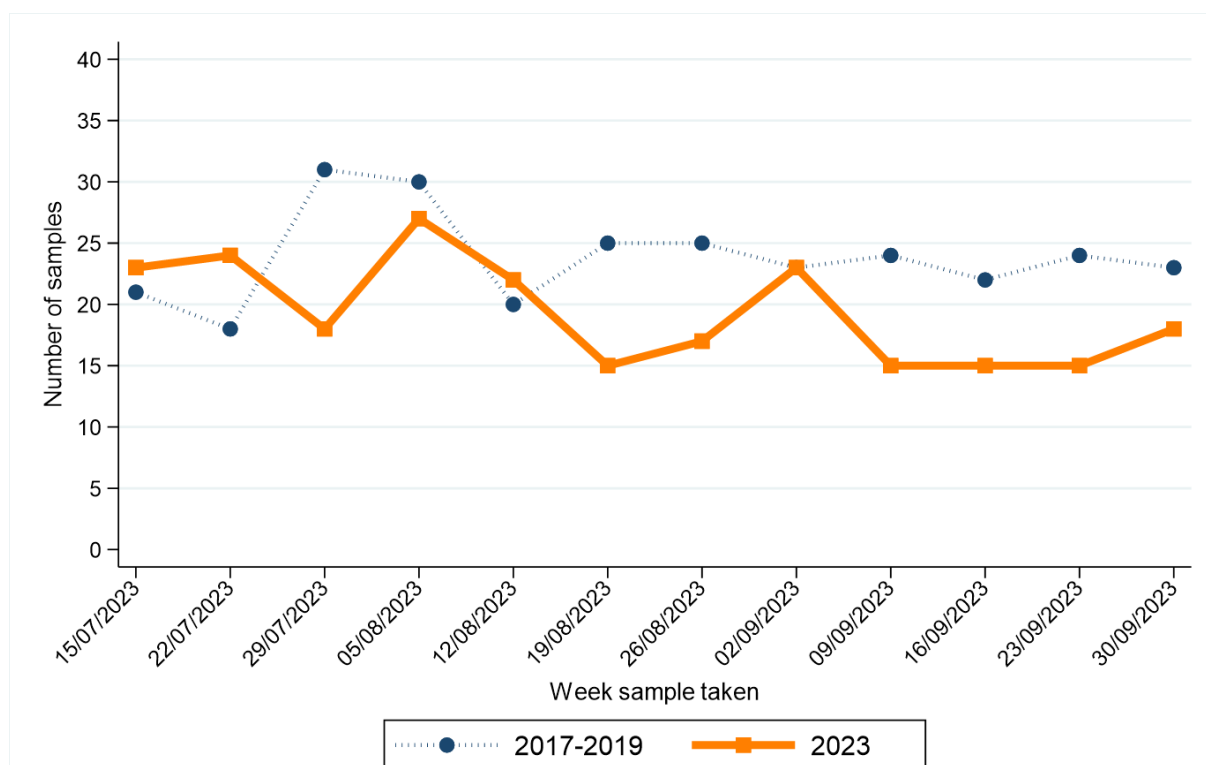
\* Based upon average monthly number of samples from 2017-2019.



## RECENT CHANGES IN NUMBER OF SAMPLES - Including Altnagelvin

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 30/09/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-18.9%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
15/07/2023	21	23	26/08/2023	25	17
22/07/2023	18	24	02/09/2023	23	23
29/07/2023	31	18	09/09/2023	24	15
05/08/2023	30	27	16/09/2023	22	15
12/08/2023	20	22	23/09/2023	24	15
19/08/2023	25	15	30/09/2023	23	18

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

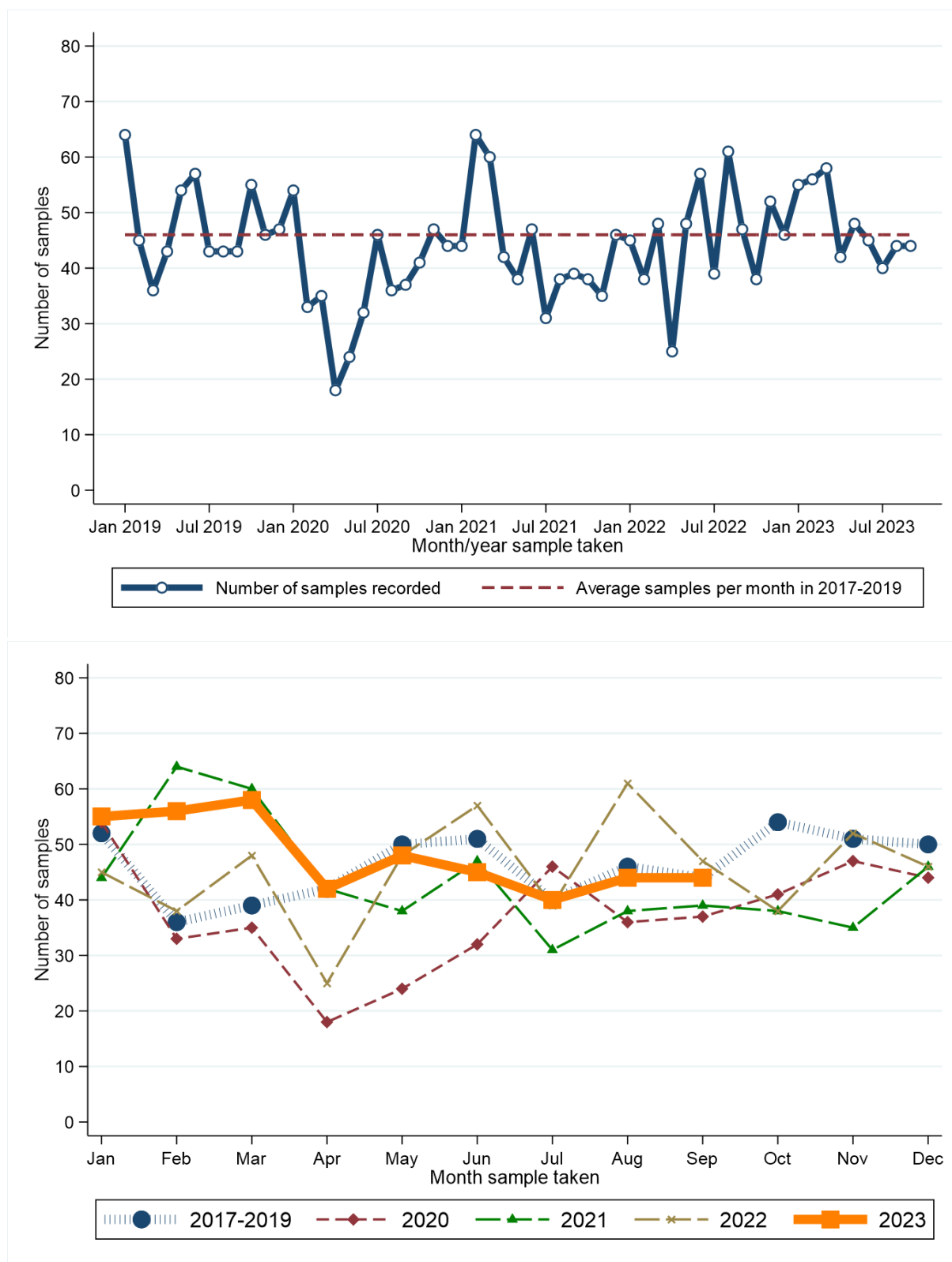
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# HEAD AND NECK CANCER

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

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

**-6.0%**



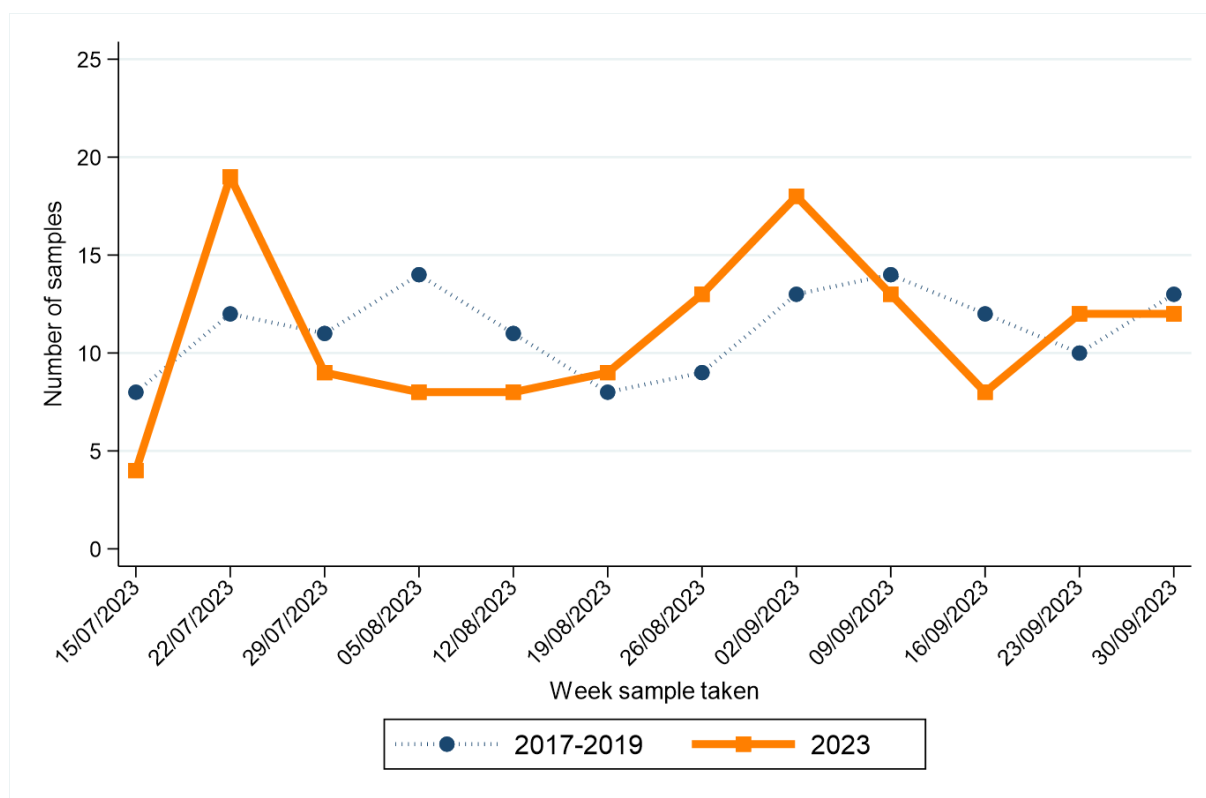
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	52	54	44	45	55	Jul	40	46	31	39	40
Feb	36	33	64	38	56	Aug	46	36	38	61	44
Mar	39	35	60	48	58	Sep	44	37	39	47	44
Apr	42	18	42	25	42	Oct	54	41	38	38	.
May	50	24	38	48	48	Nov	51	47	35	52	.
Jun	51	32	47	57	45	Dec	50	44	46	46	.

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

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

Percentage change in the twelve weeks up to 30/09/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-1.5%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
15/07/2023	8	4	26/08/2023	9	13
22/07/2023	12	19	02/09/2023	13	18
29/07/2023	11	9	09/09/2023	14	13
05/08/2023	14	8	16/09/2023	12	8
12/08/2023	11	8	23/09/2023	10	12
19/08/2023	8	9	30/09/2023	13	12

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

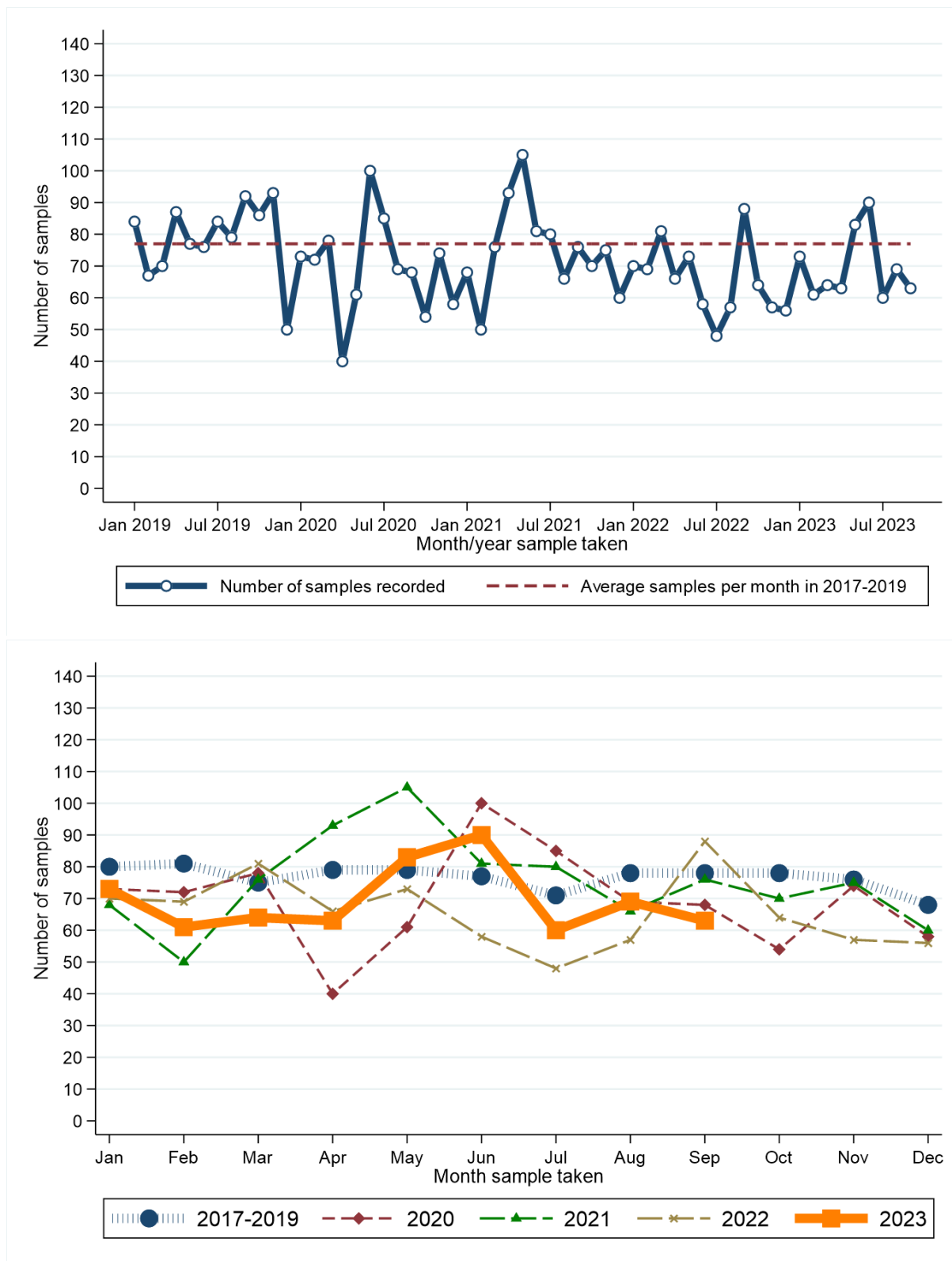
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# URINARY CANCER

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

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

**-9.0%**



Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	80	73	68	70	73
Feb	81	72	50	69	61
Mar	75	78	76	81	64
Apr	79	40	93	66	63
May	79	61	105	73	83
Jun	77	100	81	58	90

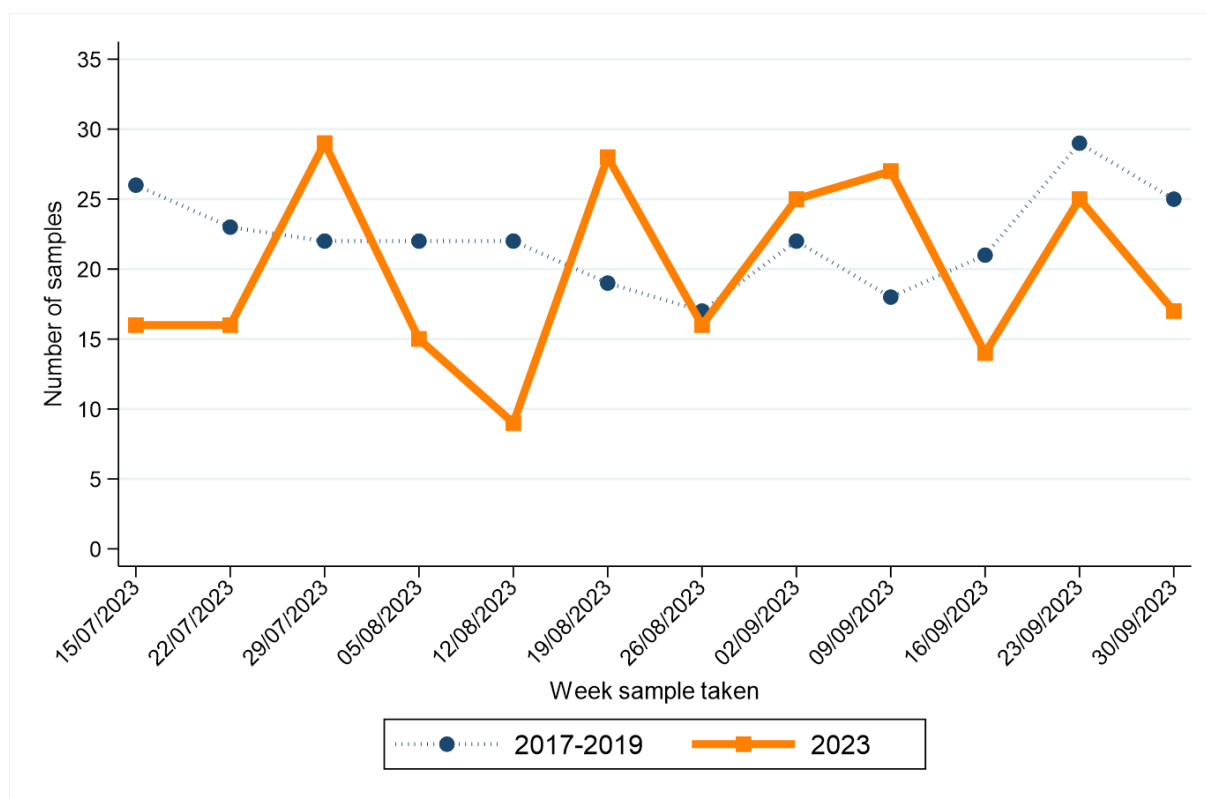
\* Average samples per year rounded to the nearest integer.

Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jul	71	85	80	48	60
Aug	78	69	66	57	69
Sep	78	68	76	88	63
Oct	78	54	70	64	.
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 30/09/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-10.9%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
15/07/2023	26	16
22/07/2023	23	16
29/07/2023	22	29
05/08/2023	22	15
12/08/2023	22	9
19/08/2023	19	28

\* 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.

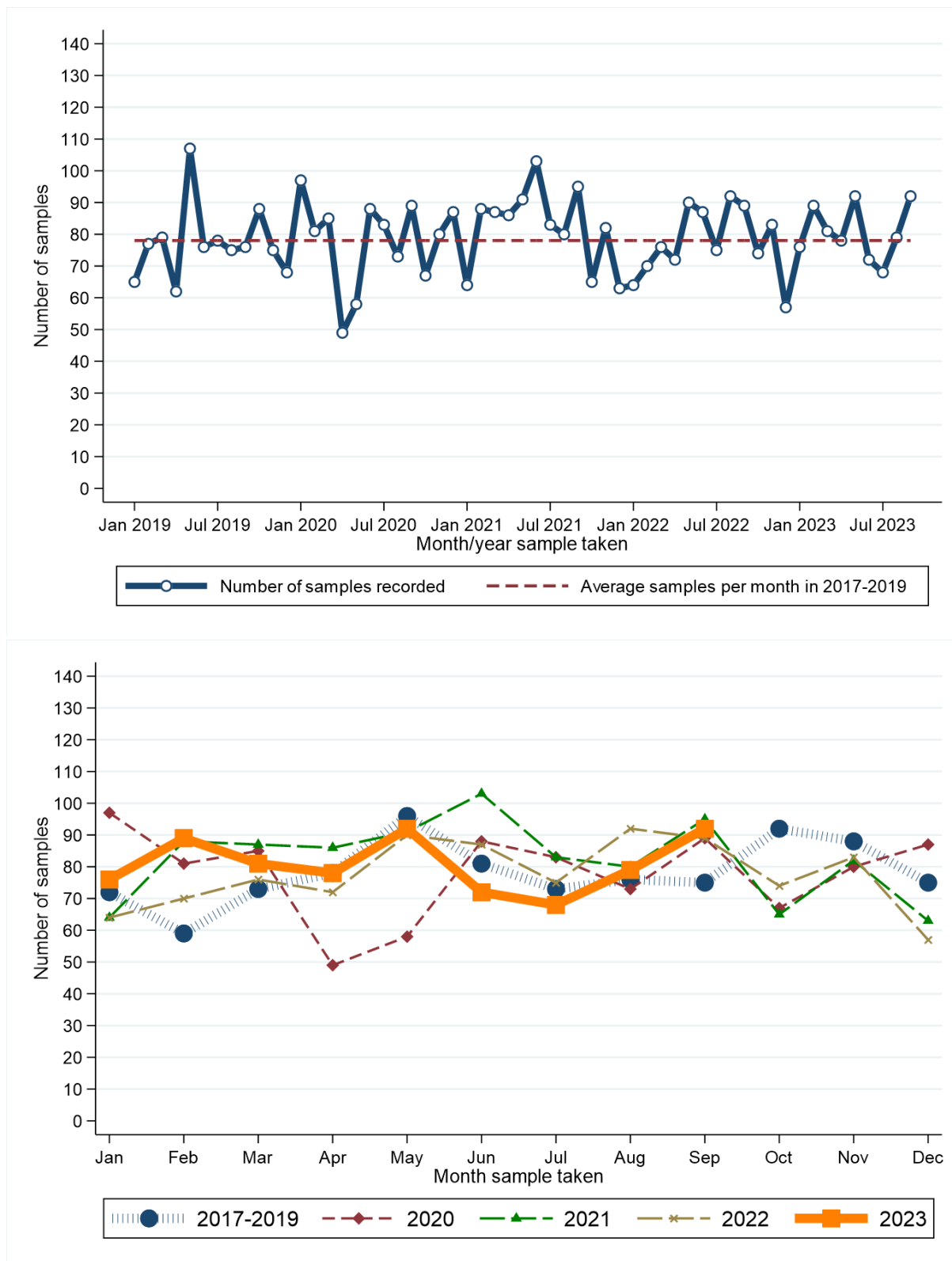
Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
26/08/2023	17	16
02/09/2023	22	25
09/09/2023	18	27
16/09/2023	21	14
23/09/2023	29	25
30/09/2023	25	17

# HAEMATOLOGICAL CANCER

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

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

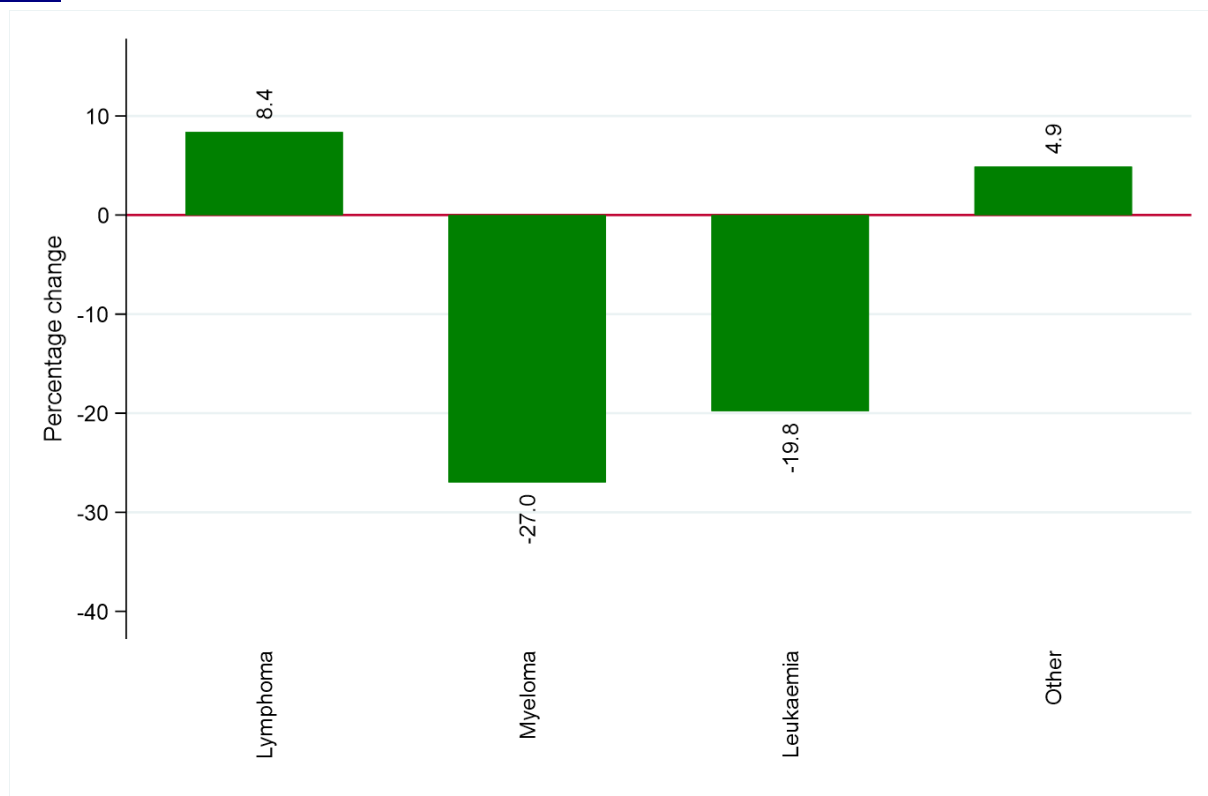
**+1.1%**



Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	72	97	64	64	76	Jul	73	83	83	75	68
Feb	59	81	88	70	89	Aug	76	73	80	92	79
Mar	73	85	87	76	81	Sep	75	89	95	89	92
Apr	78	49	86	72	78	Oct	92	67	65	74	.
May	96	58	91	90	92	Nov	88	80	82	83	.
Jun	81	88	103	87	72	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



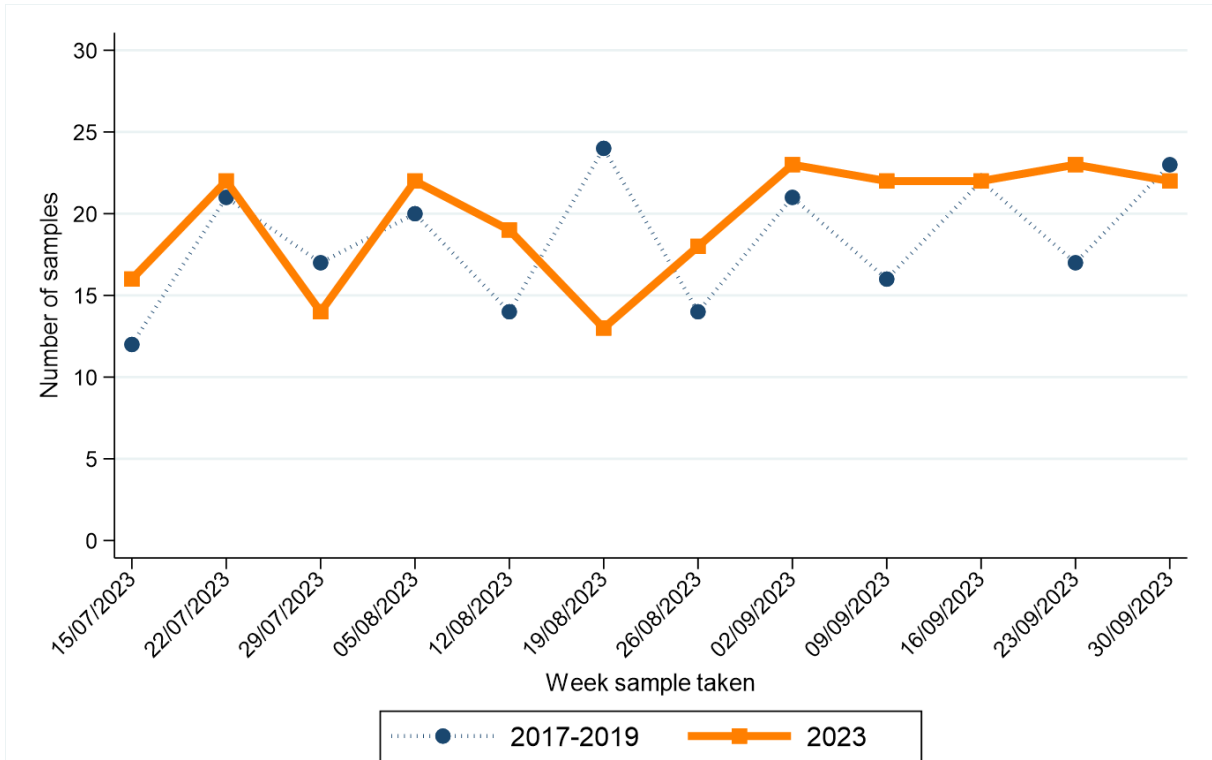
Cancer type	Number of samples (March 2020 to Sept 2023)	
	Expected number*	Recorded number
Lymphoma	2,600	2,819
Myeloma	440	321
Leukaemia	273	219
Other haematological cancer	41	43

\* 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 30/09/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

+6.8%



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
15/07/2023	12	16	26/08/2023	14	18
22/07/2023	21	22	02/09/2023	21	23
29/07/2023	17	14	09/09/2023	16	22
05/08/2023	20	22	16/09/2023	22	22
12/08/2023	14	19	23/09/2023	17	23
19/08/2023	24	13	30/09/2023	23	22

\* 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.

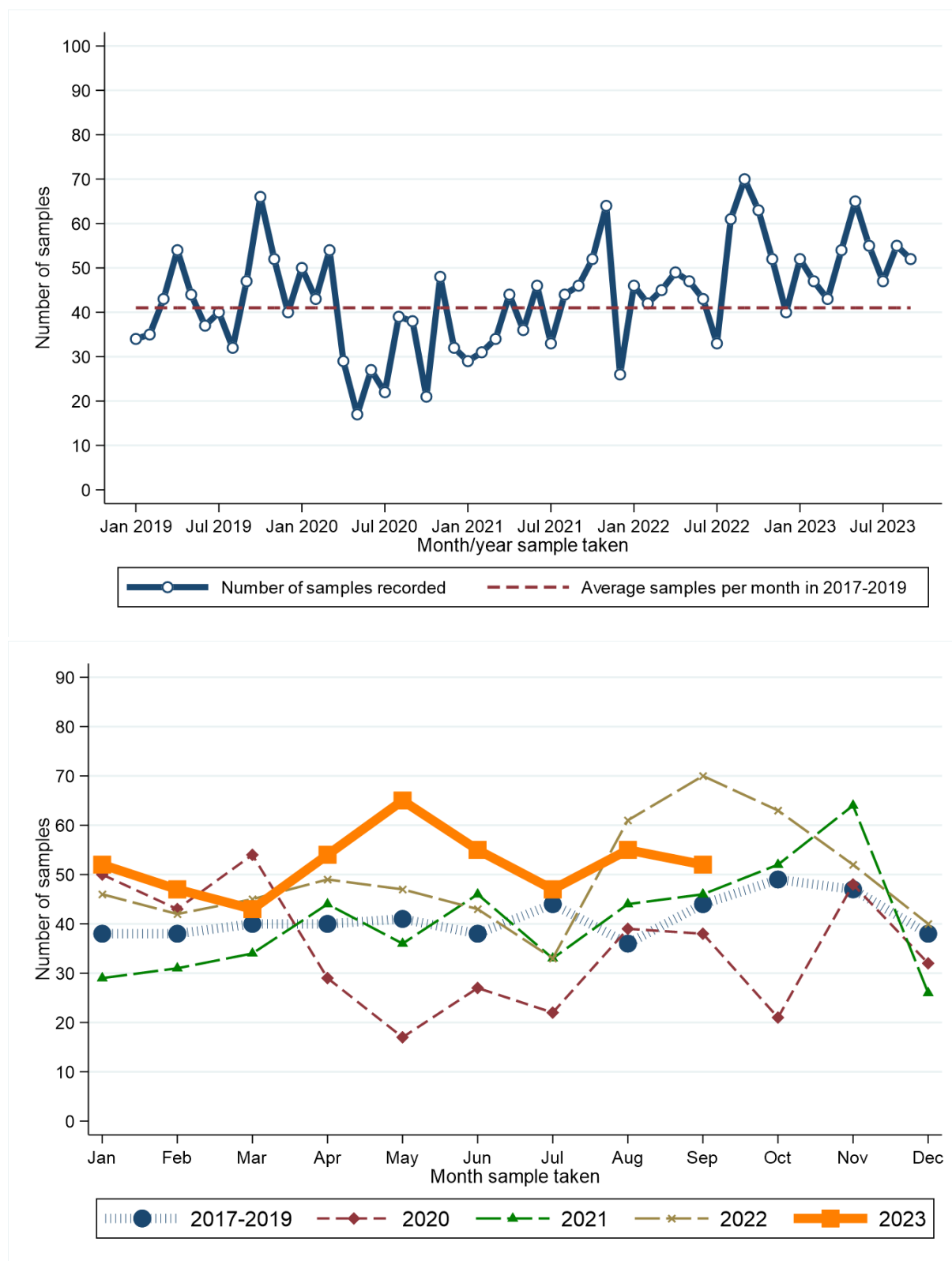


# MELANOMA

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

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

**+6.3%**



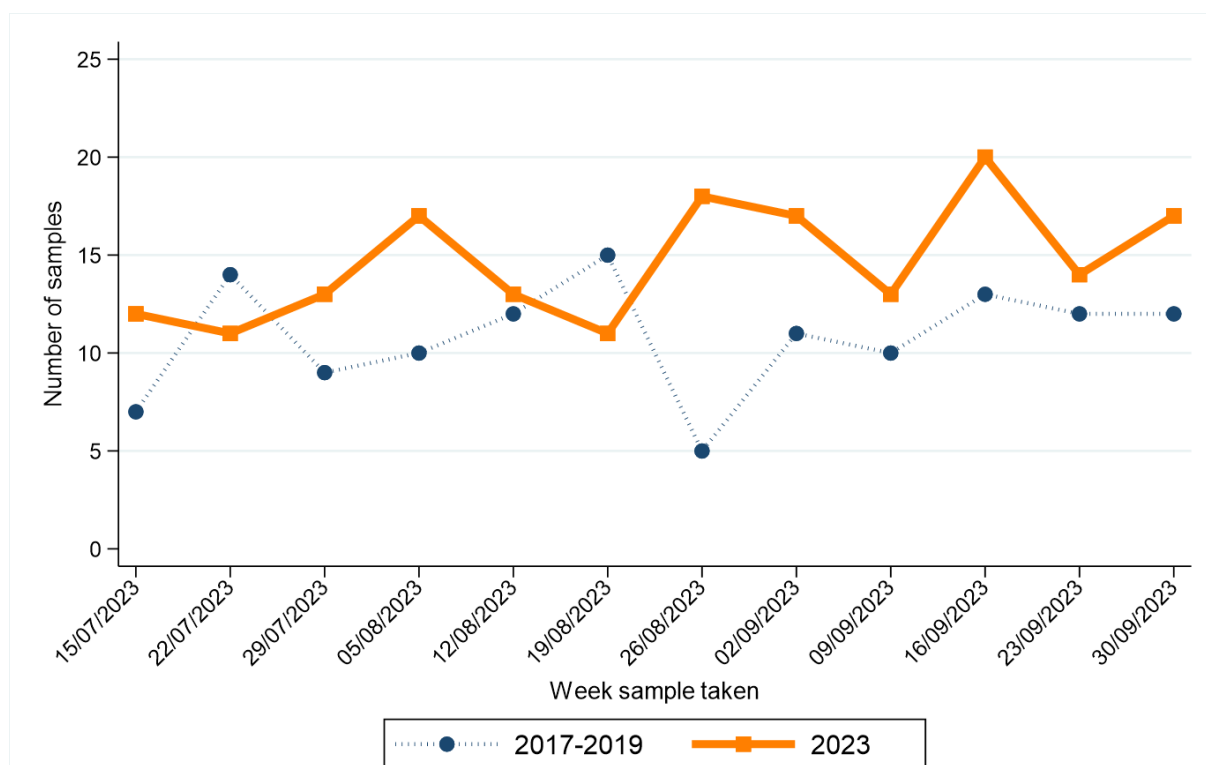
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	38	50	29	46	52	Jul	44	22	33	33	47
Feb	38	43	31	42	47	Aug	36	39	44	61	55
Mar	40	54	34	45	43	Sep	44	38	46	70	52
Apr	40	29	44	49	54	Oct	49	21	52	63	.
May	41	17	36	47	65	Nov	47	48	64	52	.
Jun	38	27	46	43	55	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 30/09/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+35.4%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
15/07/2023	7	12	26/08/2023	5	18
22/07/2023	14	11	02/09/2023	11	17
29/07/2023	9	13	09/09/2023	10	13
05/08/2023	10	17	16/09/2023	13	20
12/08/2023	12	13	23/09/2023	12	14
19/08/2023	15	11	30/09/2023	12	17

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

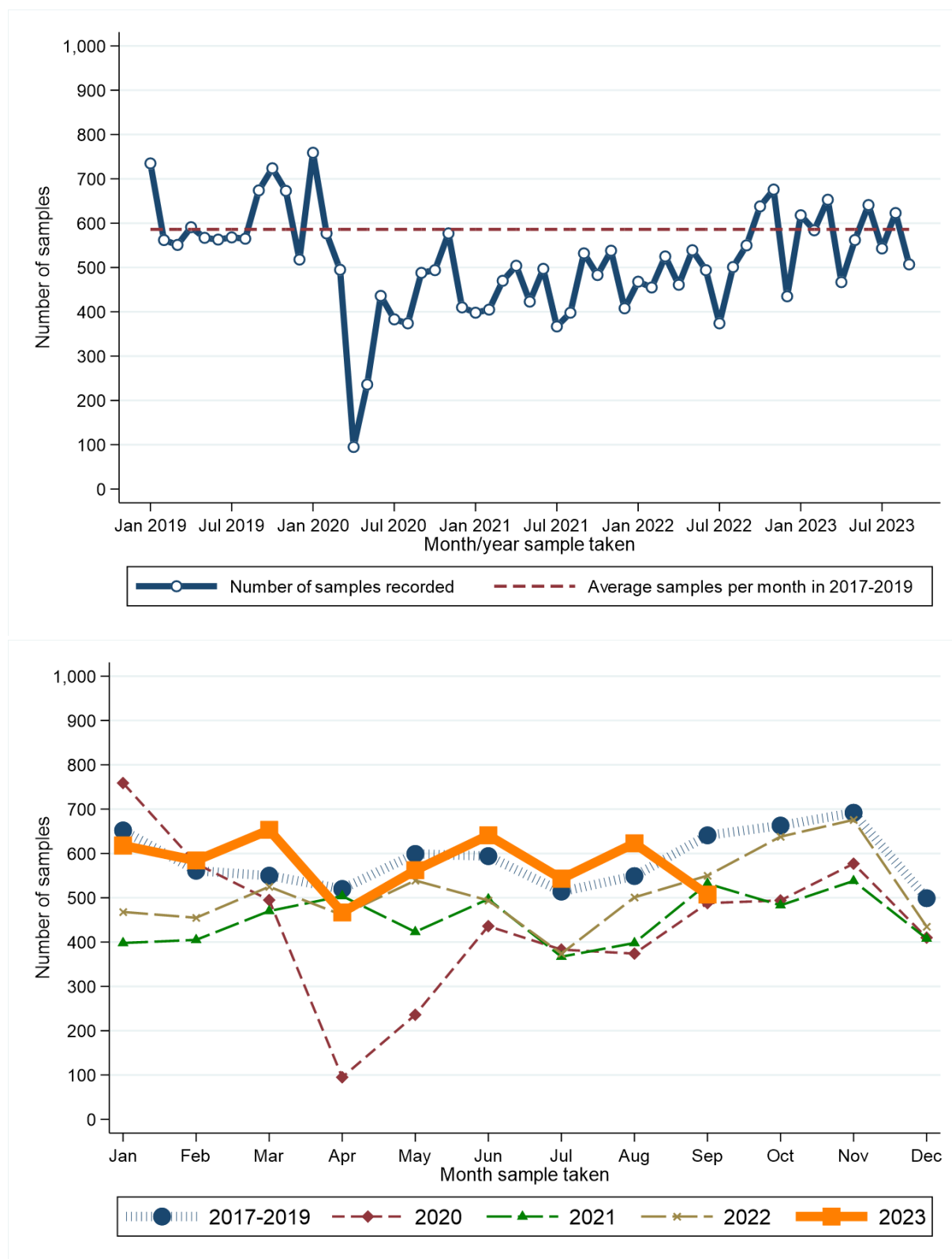
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# NON-MELANOMA SKIN CANCER

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

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

**-17.3%**



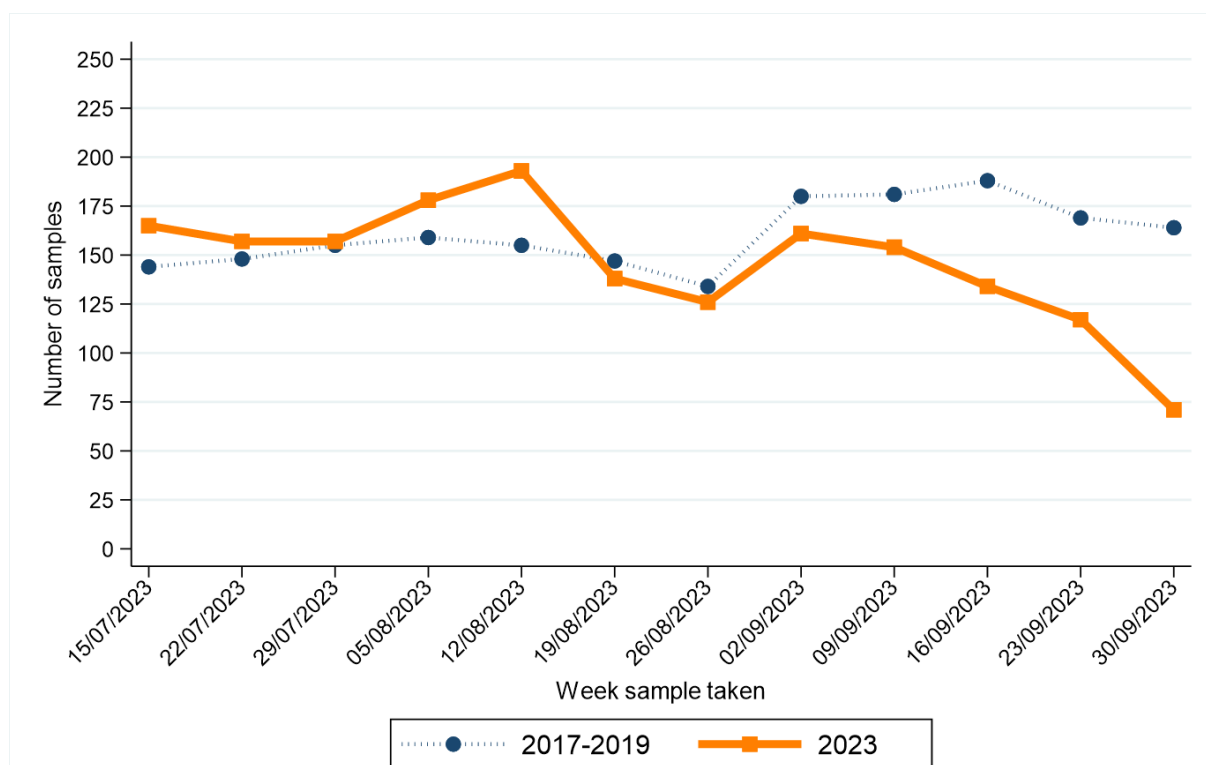
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	652	759	398	468	618	Jul	514	383	367	374	543
Feb	561	577	405	455	584	Aug	549	374	398	501	623
Mar	550	495	470	525	653	Sep	641	488	532	550	507
Apr	520	95	504	461	467	Oct	663	494	483	638	.
May	599	236	423	539	562	Nov	692	577	538	676	.
Jun	594	436	497	494	641	Dec	499	410	408	435	.

\* 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 30/09/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**-9.0%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023	Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
15/07/2023	144	165	26/08/2023	134	126
22/07/2023	148	157	02/09/2023	180	161
29/07/2023	155	157	09/09/2023	181	154
05/08/2023	159	178	16/09/2023	188	134
12/08/2023	155	193	23/09/2023	169	117
19/08/2023	147	138	30/09/2023	164	71

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

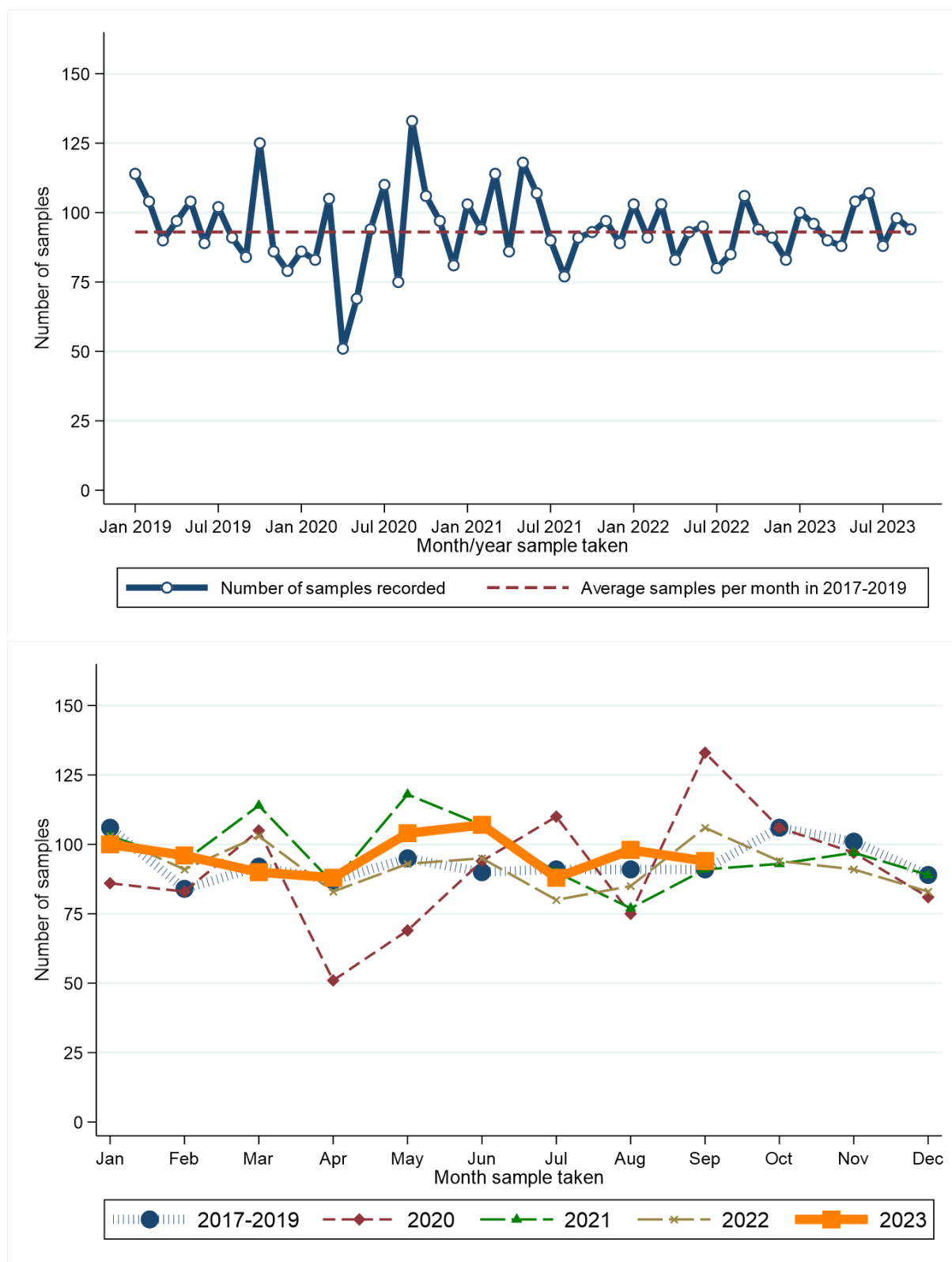
\*\* Date shown refers to the end date of the week in 2023. Data for previous years refers to the equivalent Sun-Sat week in those years.

# OTHER CANCER

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

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

**+1.1%**



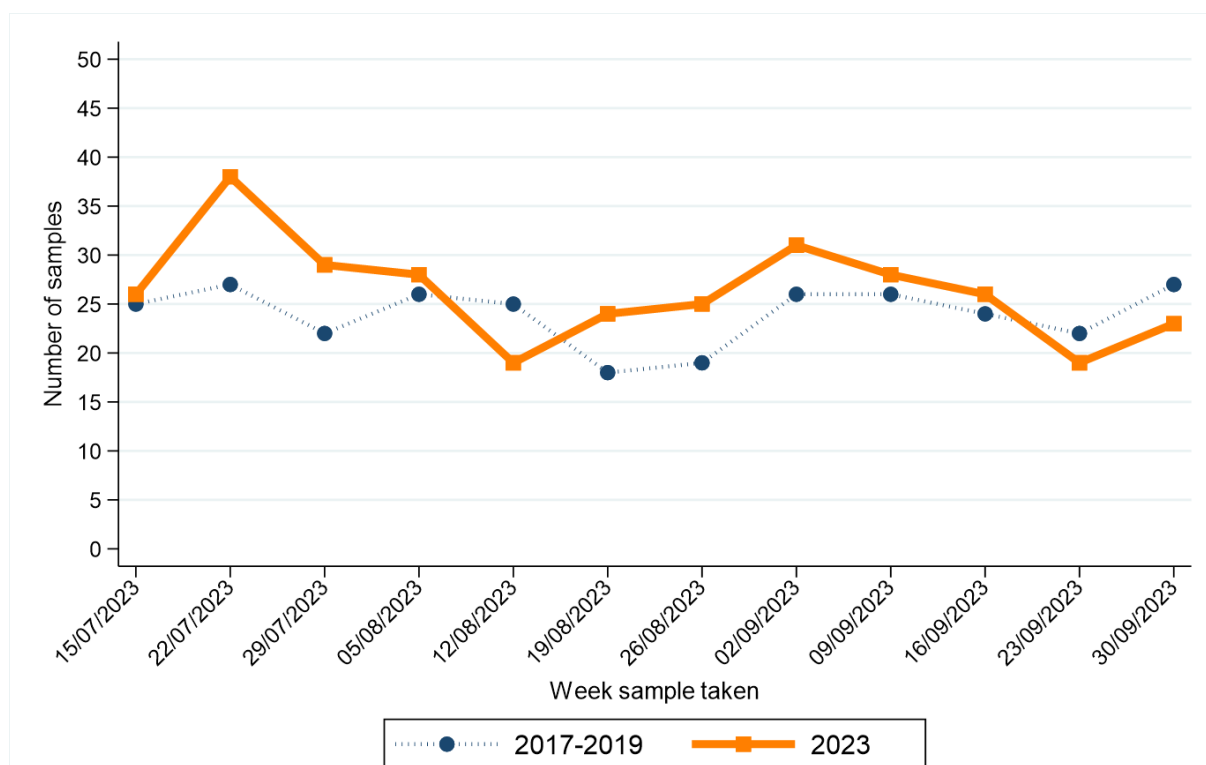
Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023	Month sample taken	2017-2019*	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	106	86	103	103	100	Jul	91	110	90	80	88
Feb	84	83	94	91	96	Aug	91	75	77	85	98
Mar	92	105	114	103	90	Sep	91	133	91	106	94
Apr	87	51	86	83	88	Oct	106	106	93	94	.
May	95	69	118	93	104	Nov	101	97	97	91	.
Jun	90	94	107	95	107	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 30/09/2023 compared to expected number based on 2017-2019 average

**+10.1%**



Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
15/07/2023	25	26
22/07/2023	27	38
29/07/2023	22	29
05/08/2023	26	28
12/08/2023	25	19
19/08/2023	18	24

Week sample taken**	2017-2019*	2023
26/08/2023	19	25
02/09/2023	26	31
09/09/2023	26	28
16/09/2023	24	26
23/09/2023	22	19
30/09/2023	27	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.

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 Sept 2023. Due to potential reporting delays, pathology data from the month following Sept 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.