



# Completeness

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Findings and Recommendations of the Statistical Expert Panel on Central Registry Completeness

# **Completeness Method**

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The completeness method will draw on the results of two independent methods of measuring completeness:

1. A modeling approach that is a more sophisticated version of the existing NAACCR/NPCR methods

2. An internal method that draws upon historic registry data that is similar to the method that SEER currently uses to assess completeness

For simplicity, we will refer to these as the “external” and “internal” methods

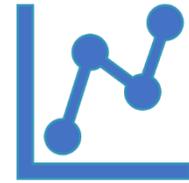
## External method

- Uses information external to the registry to predict the expected number of cases
- External information includes mortality rate, demographics, and cancer risk factors
- When the reported number of cases is well below the expected number of cases, data reporting is considered potentially incomplete



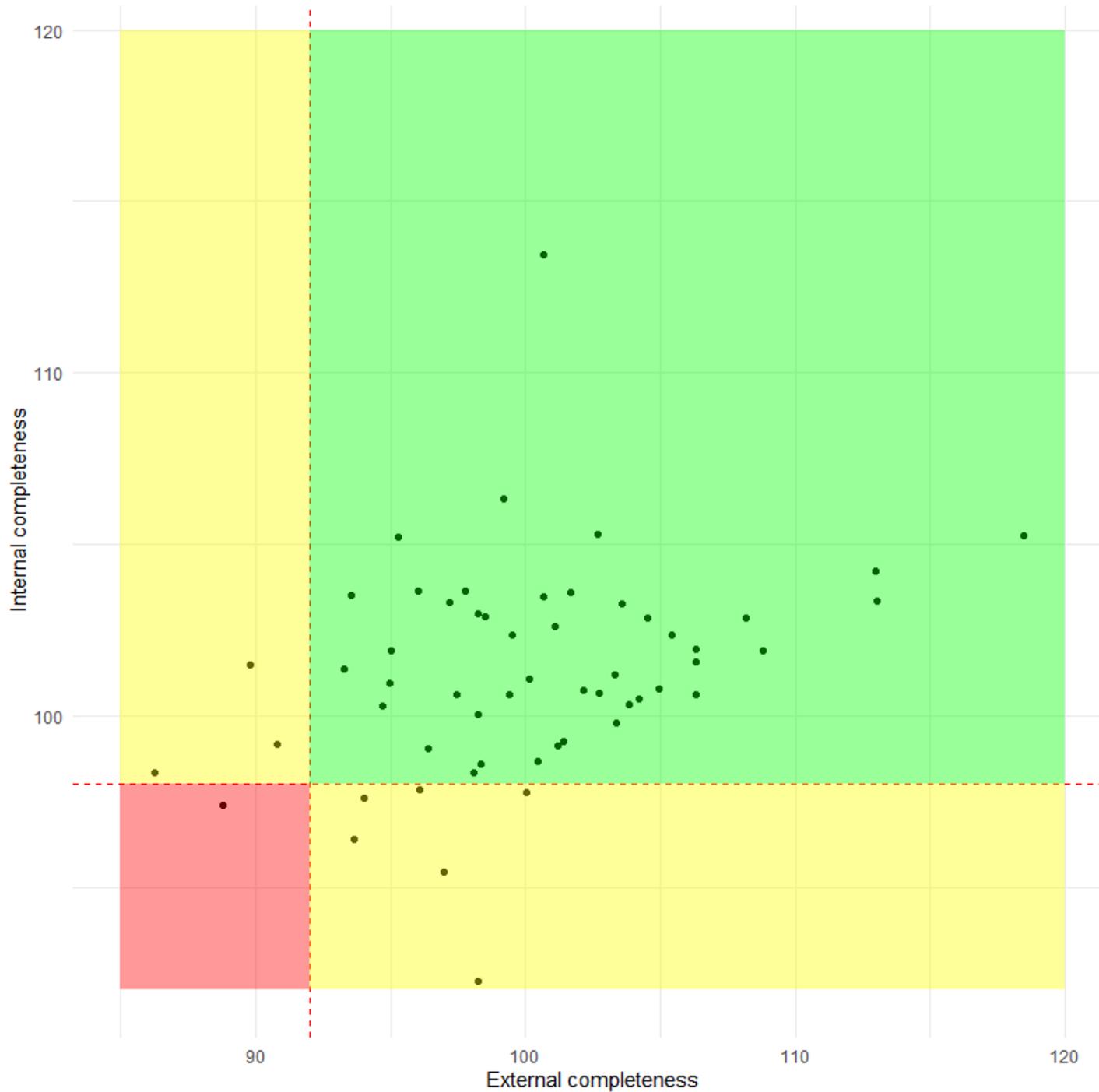
## Internal method

- Uses information internal to the registry to predict the expected number of cases
- Internal information consists of historical data submissions
- When the reported number of cases is well below the expected number of cases, data reporting is considered potentially incomplete



# Recommendations

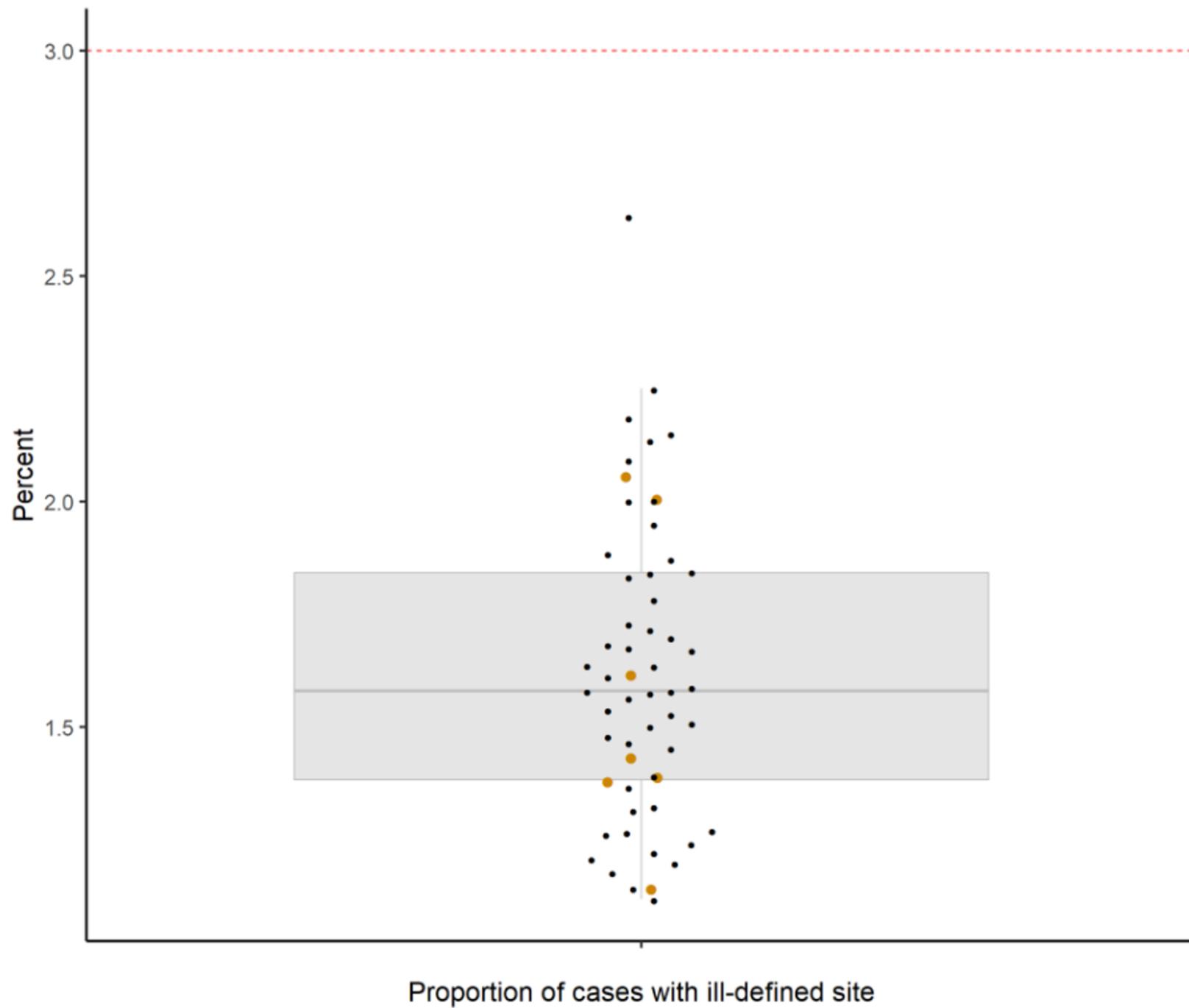
- For registries where the two methods agree that a defined threshold has been met, the data are considered fit for use
- For registries where the two methods agree that a defined threshold has not been met, the data are not considered fit for use
- For registries where the two methods disagree, additional criteria will be considered



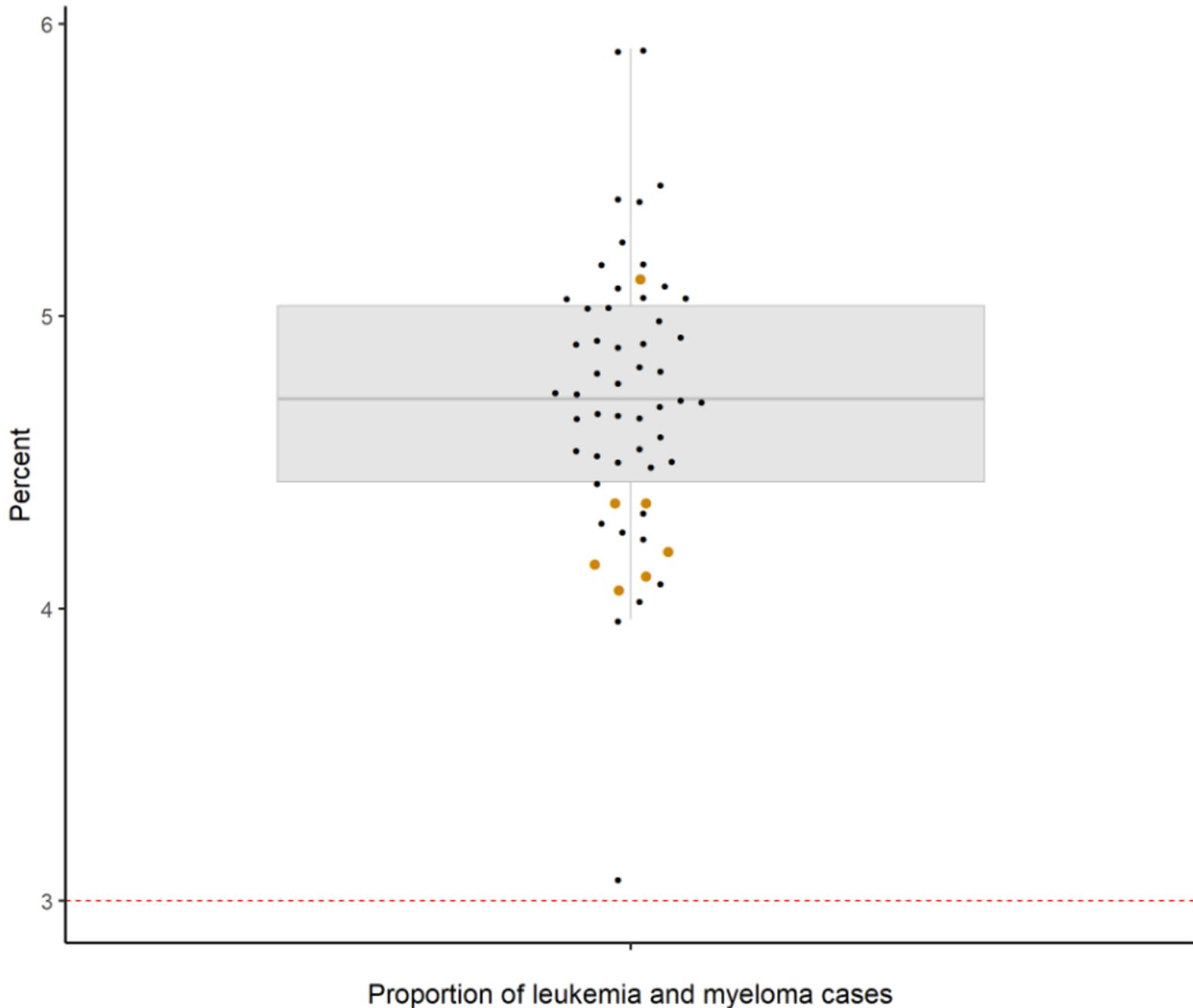
Green = both thresholds met (46)

Yellow = one threshold met (9)

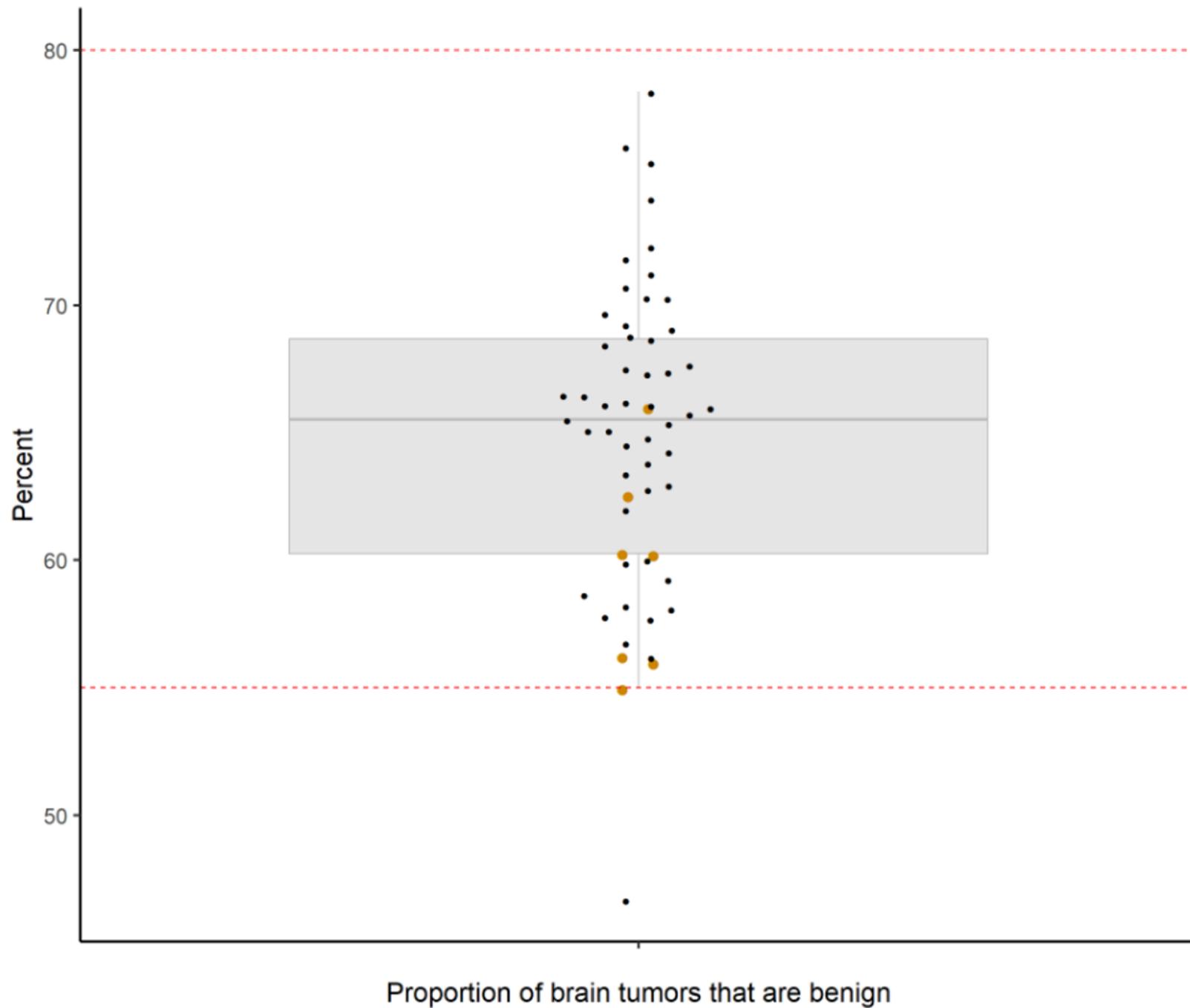
Red = neither standard met (1)



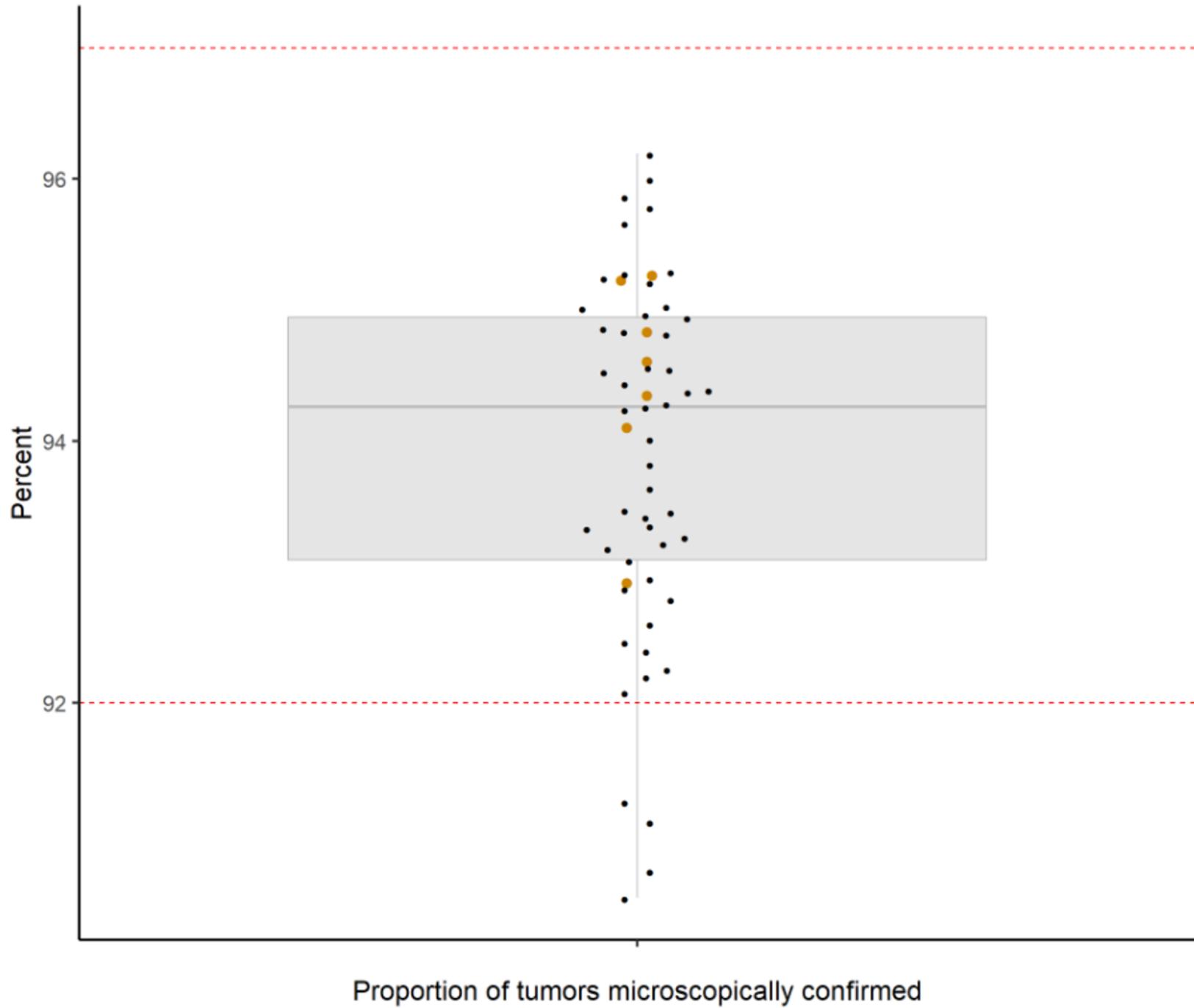
III-defined site



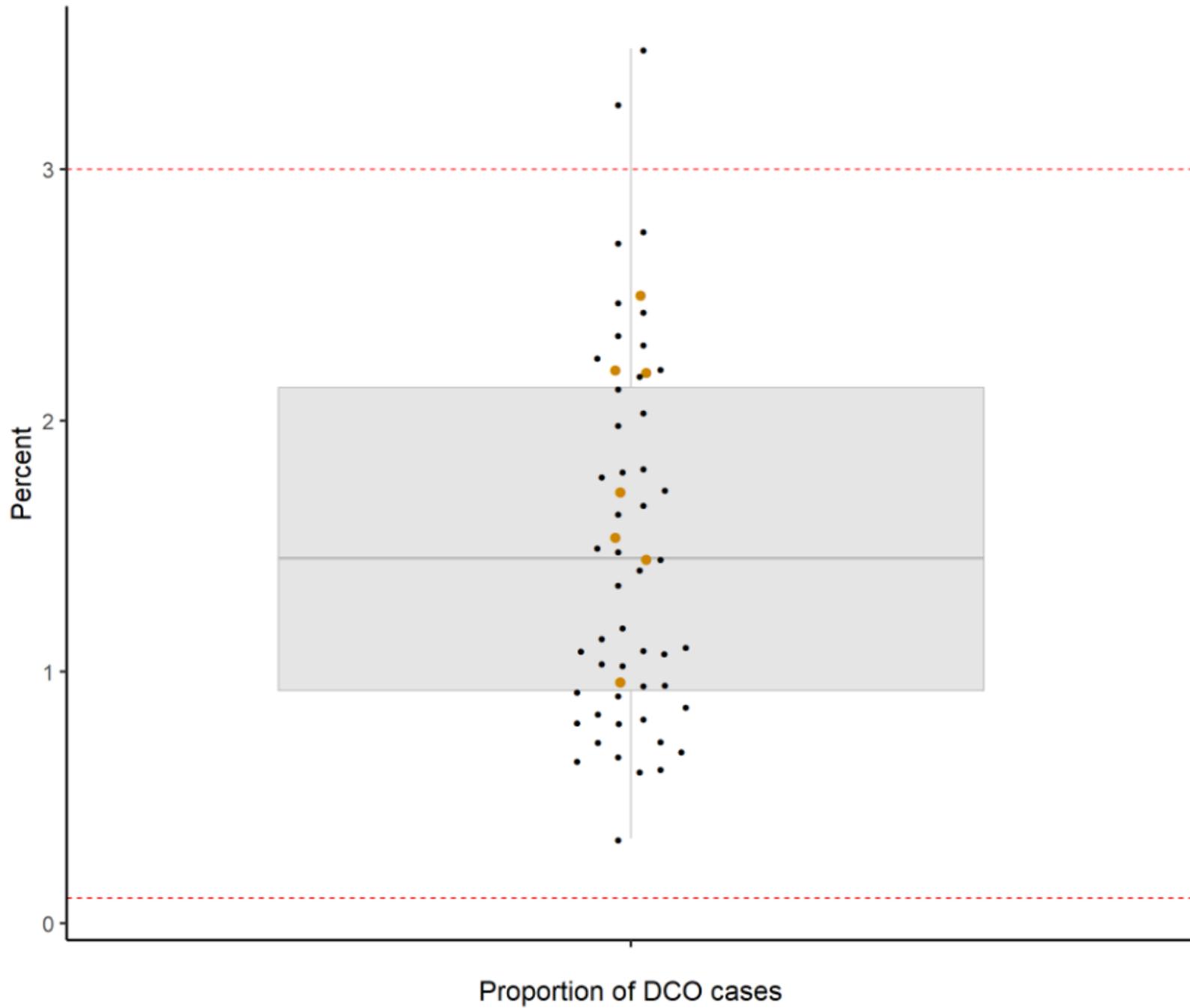
Myeloma and leukemia



Benign brain cancer



Microscopic confirmation



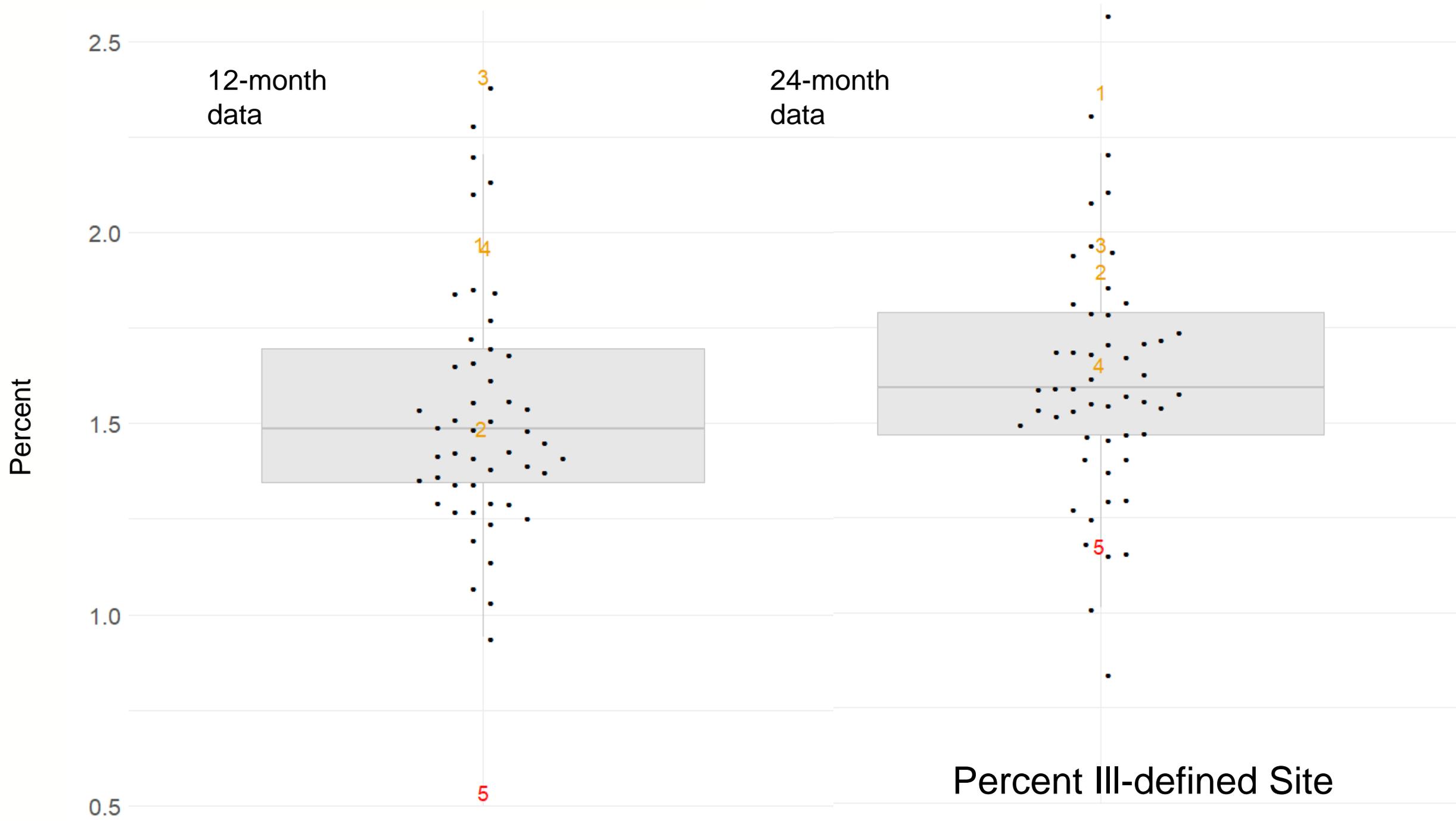
DCOs

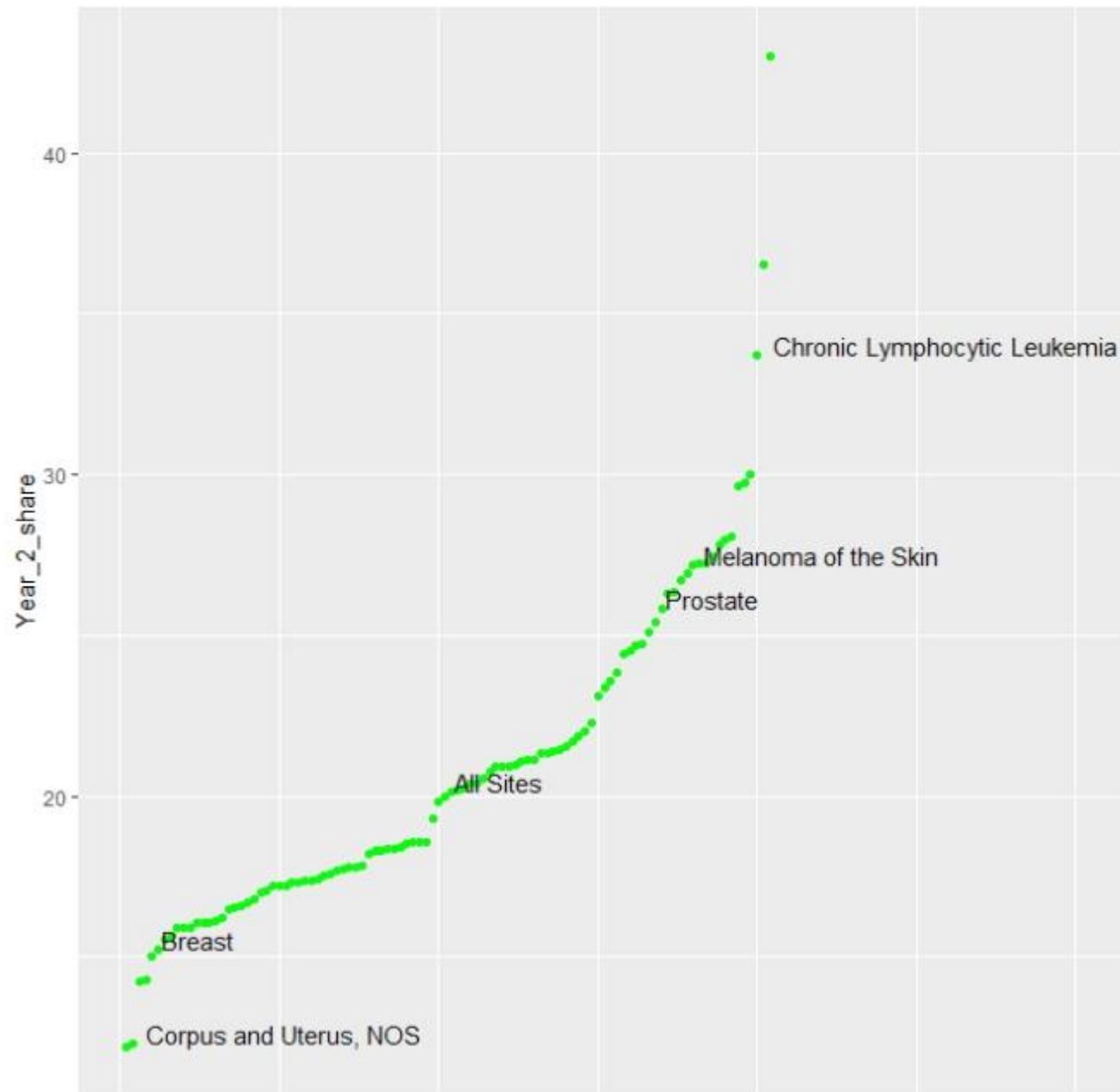
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**Based on these  
five indicators:**

**There are some  
registries of  
concern**

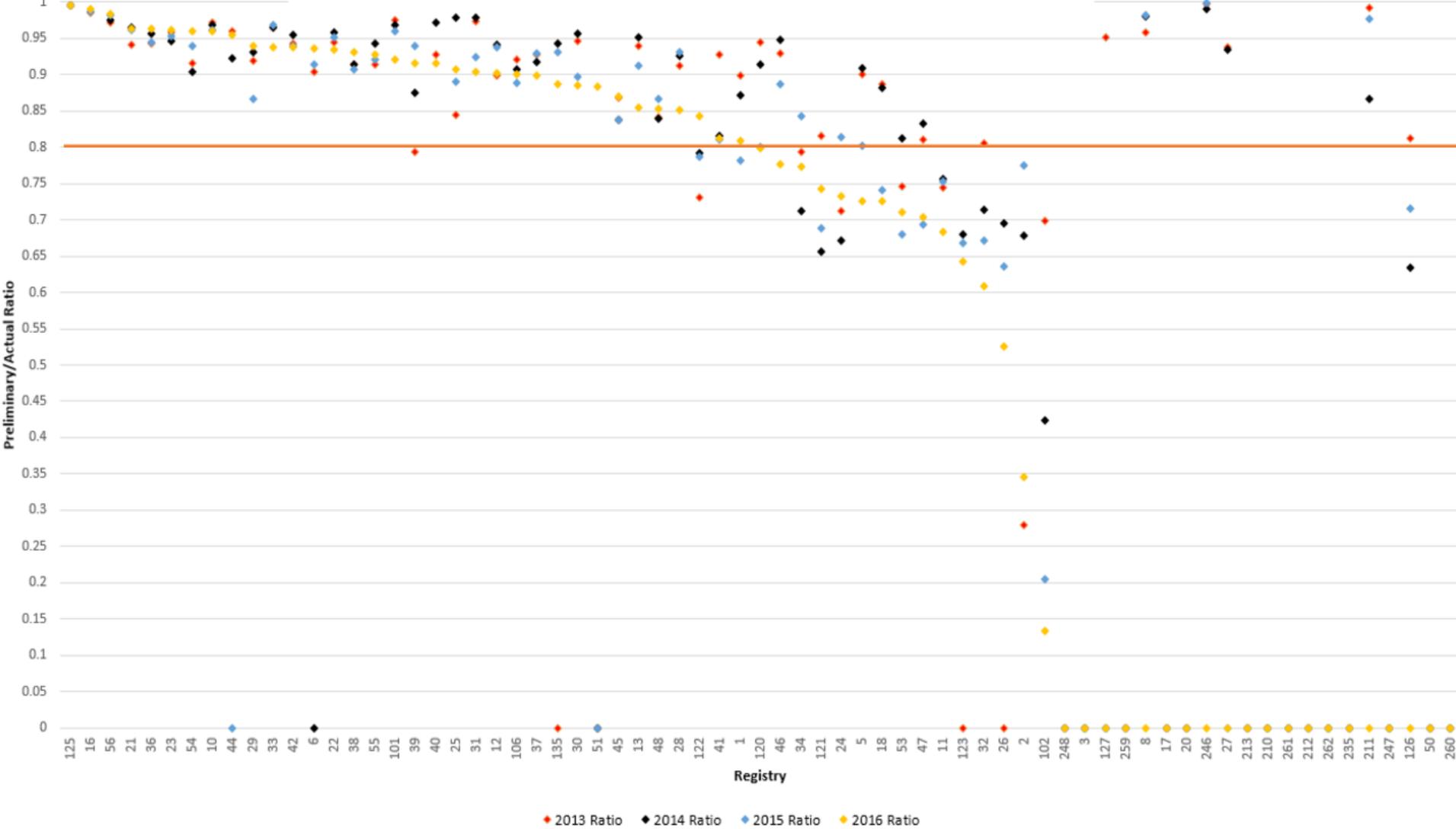
**But none are  
among the 7  
highlighted in  
yellow**





About 36 registries with 3 ratios > 0.8

Figure 3  
January/Subsequent December Case Counts by Registry  
Female Breast



# Overarching Recommendations from Completeness



The Statistical Working Group recommends a 3-pronged approach for states to evaluate completeness using external method(s) internal method(s) and secondary process methods



States should explore all methods and apply in their local context



The Statistical Expert Panel recommends that work continue of measuring completeness for central registries