

## b Measles outbreak declared in KwaZulu-Natal Province

KwaZulu-Natal Province has declared an outbreak with 19 confirmed or probable cases in three districts: Ethekwini (n=12), Umgungundlovu (n=5), Ilembe (n=2). The majority of measles cases have been reported in children over the age of 5 years (Figure 2) and within communities that are hesitant to accept vaccination for religious reasons.

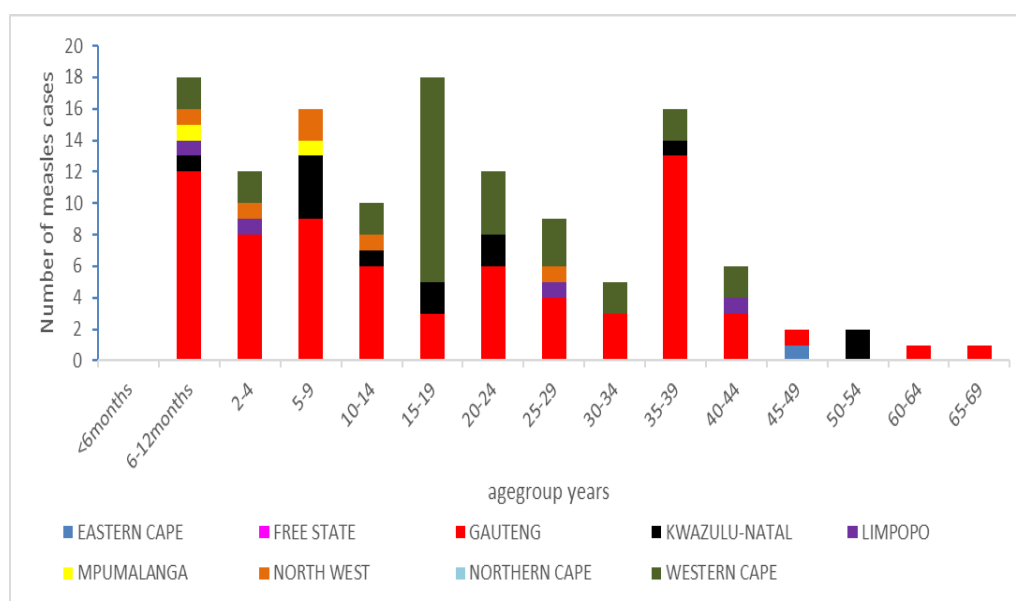
Provincial and district outbreak response teams have met, and interventions are being planned, including targeted vaccination campaigns. Community engagement meetings are being held, and information, education and communication material are being disseminated.

Health care workers should notify all suspected cases to district and provincial authorities, and should confirm each measles case through submission of a blood specimen and a completed case investigation form to the NICD, which provides testing free of charge.

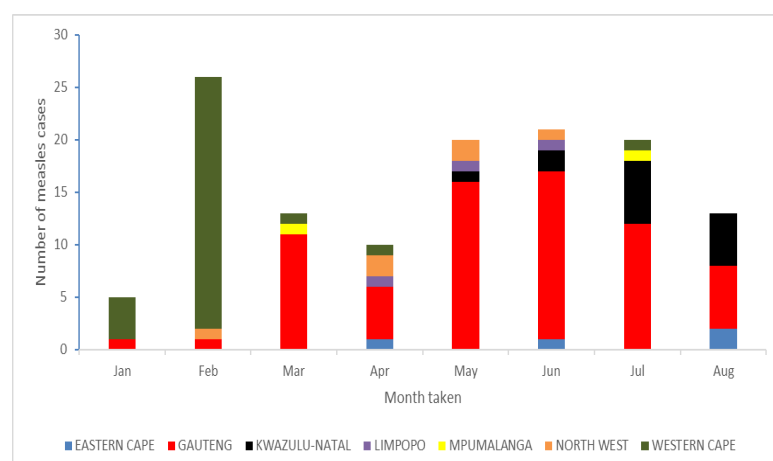
Material on vaccination, including statements from the Jaimatul Ulama, and the Islamic Medical association in support of vaccination may be found on the NICD website.

To date, 133 laboratory-confirmed measles cases have been reported in South Africa. Laboratory confirmed measles cases were detected in seven provinces; Eastern Cape (n=4), Gauteng (n=68), KwaZulu-Natal (n=19), Limpopo (n=3), Mpumalanga (n=2), North West (n=6) and Western Cape (n=31) (Figure 3). Measles cases in Gauteng Province are continuing to increase with cases detected in various age groups.

**Source:** Centre for Vaccines and Immunology, NICD-NHLS; Division of Public Health Surveillance and Response, NICD-NHLS; ([melindas@nicd.ac.za](mailto:melindas@nicd.ac.za))



**Figure 2.** Laboratory-confirmed measles cases in South Africa by age group, 1 January – 18 August 2017



**Figure 3.** Laboratory-confirmed measles cases in South Africa by province, 1 January - 18 August 2017