COVID-19 SENTINEL HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

SOUTH AFRICA | WEEK **5** 2021

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
Division of the National Health Laboratory Service

OVERVIEW

This report summarises data of COVID-19 cases admitted to DATCOV hospital surveillance sites in all provinces. The report is based on data collected from 5 March 2020 to 06 February 2021.

HIGHLIGHTS

- As of 06 February 2021, 204,482 COVID-19 admissions and 43,019 in-hospital deaths were reported from 635 facilities (384 public-sector and 251 private-sector) in all nine provinces of South Africa.
- There was a resurgence in admissions in all provinces starting in week 40 in Eastern Cape and peaking in week 1 2021. The weekly admissions and deaths in the second wave exceeded the numbers at the peak of the first wave in all provinces except Free State and are now decreasing in all provinces.

METHODS

DATCOV, a hospital surveillance system for COVID-19 admissions, was initiated on the 1 April 2020. A COVID-19 case was defined as a person with a positive reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) assay for SARS-CoV-2 who was admitted to a DATCOV sentinel hospital. Case fatality ratio (CFR) was calculated for all closed cases, i.e. COVID-19 deaths divided by COVID-19 deaths plus COVID-19 discharges, excluding individuals who are still admitted in hospital. For the calculation of cumulative incidence risks, StatsSA mid-year population estimates for 2020 were utilised.

Data are submitted by public and private hospitals that have agreed to report COVID-19 admissions through DATCOV surveillance in all nine provinces of South Africa. On 15 July 2020, the National Health Council decided that all hospitals should report to DATCOV. As of 06 February 2021, a total of 635 facilities submitted data on hospitalised COVID-19 cases, 384 from public sector and 251 from private sector (Table 1). This reflects 100% coverage of all public and private hospitals that have had COVID-19 admissions. As new hospitals join the surveillance system, they have retrospectively captured all admissions recorded although there may be some backlogs in retrospective data capture.

Table 1. Number of hospitals reporting data on COVID-19 admissions by province and sector, South Africa, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021

Name of province	Public Sector	Private Sector
Eastern Cape	85	18
Free State	35	20
Gauteng	39	91
KwaZulu-Natal	65	45
Limpopo	41	7
Mpumalanga	30	9
North West	14	12
Northern Cape	16	8
Western Cape	59	41
South Africa	**384**	**251**

RESULTS

Epidemiological and geographic trends in admissions

From 5 March 2020 to 06 February 2021, a total of 204,482 COVID-19 admissions were reported from 635 facilities in all nine provinces of South Africa. There was a resurgence in both public and private sector from week 40 2020; the peak weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave surpassed the numbers during the peak of the first wave in both sectors (Figure 1). Since week 1 2021, there have been decreases in numbers of admissions in both public and private sector, decreases in the most recent week may reflect delays in data submission.

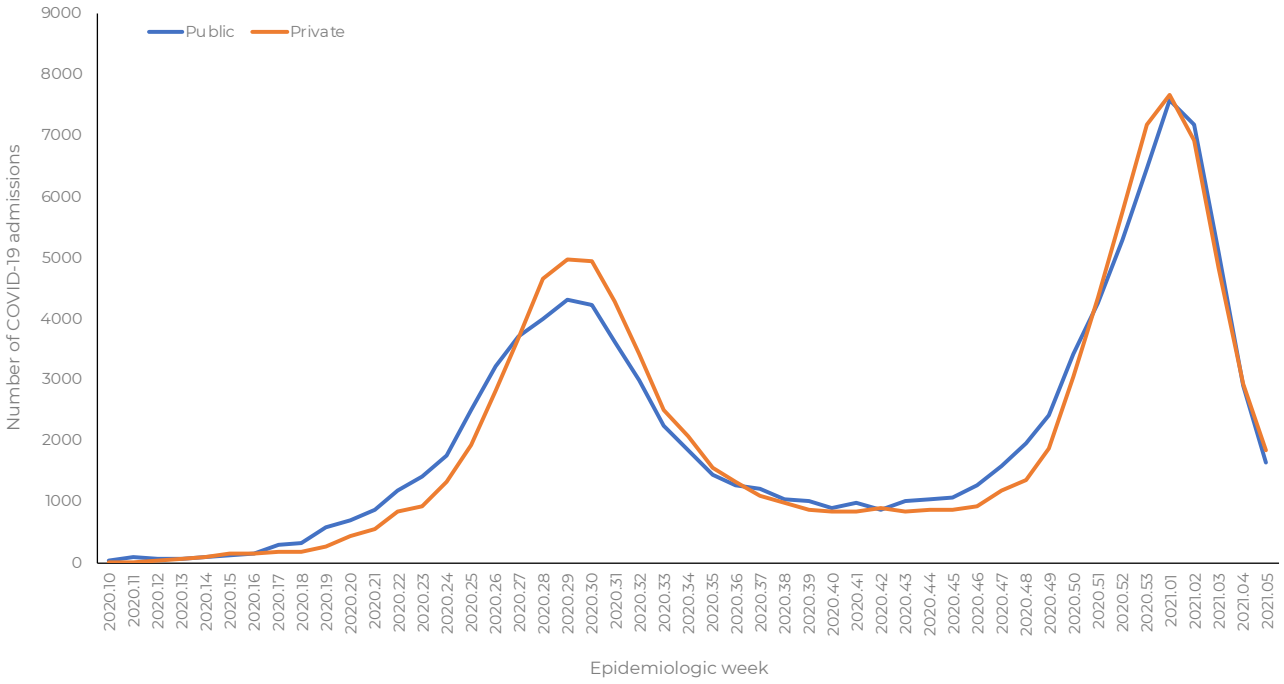

Figure 1. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n=204,482

The majority of admissions were recorded in four provinces, Gauteng, Western Cape, Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal provinces. Admissions increased in Eastern Cape since week 40 2020, Western Cape since week 43 2020, KwaZulu-Natal since week 46 2020, Gauteng since week 48 2020 and all other provinces since week 48 or 49 2020 (Figure 2). The weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave surpassed the numbers during the peak of the first wave in all provinces except Free State. Numbers are now decreasing in all provinces. Reductions in the most recent week may be as a result of delayed reporting.

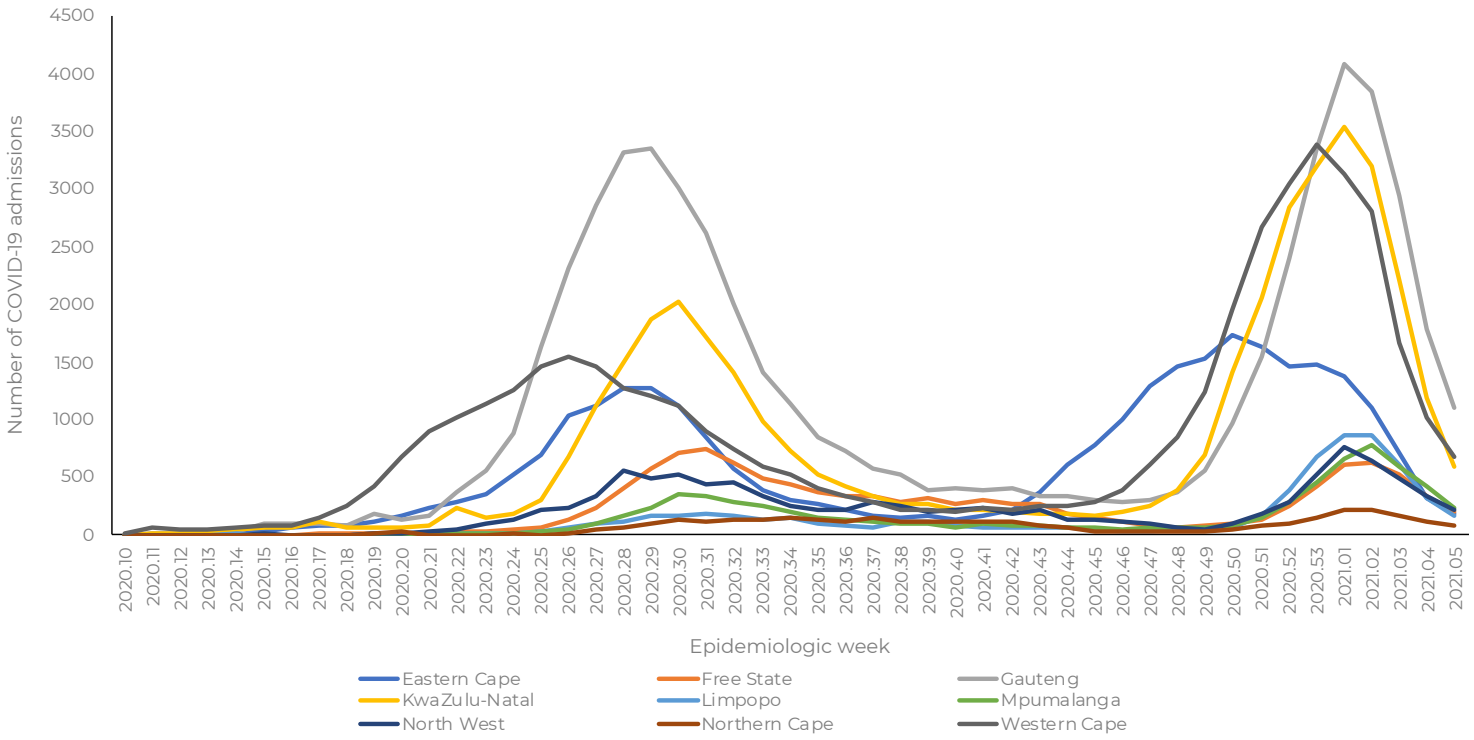

Figure 2. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by province and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n=204,482

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL AND GEOGRAPHIC TRENDS IN IN-HOSPITAL MORTALITY

There was an increase in deaths in both public and private sector since week 42 2020. Numbers of deaths are now decreasing in both sectors. The weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the second wave surpassed the numbers during the peak of the first wave in both sectors (Figure 3).

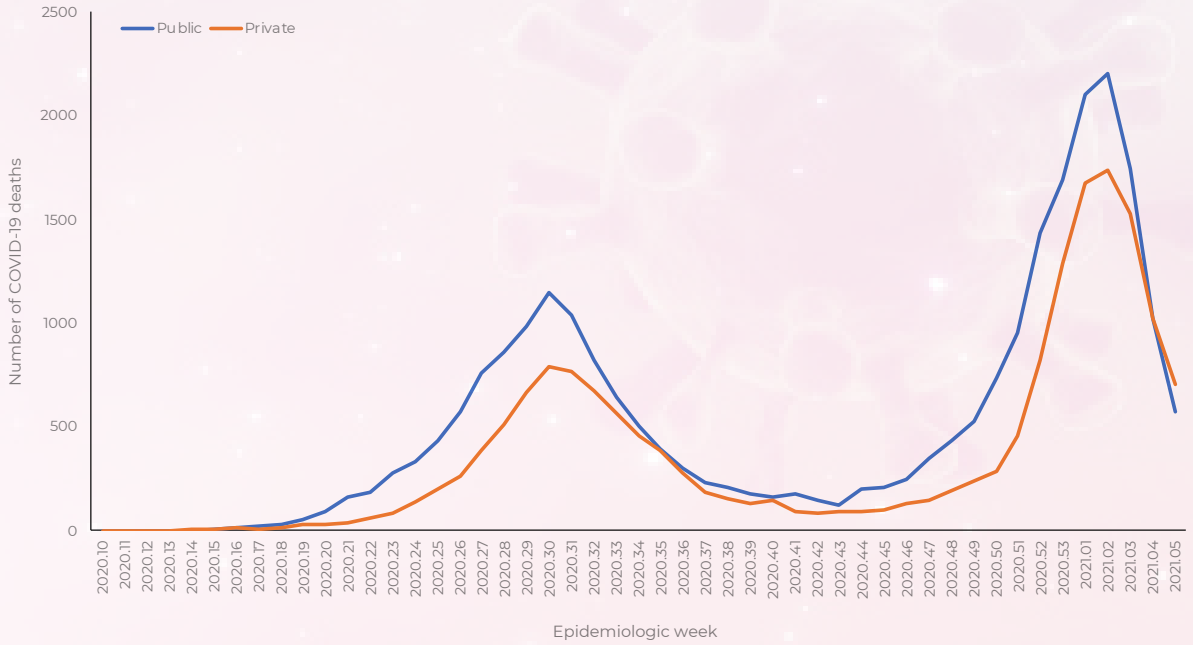

Figure 3. Number of in-hospital COVID-19 in-hospital deaths reported per week by health sector and epidemiologic week, South Africa, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n=43,019

Most deaths were reported in Eastern Cape, Gauteng, Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal (Figure 4). The weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the second wave surpassed the numbers during the peak of the first wave in all provinces except Free State.

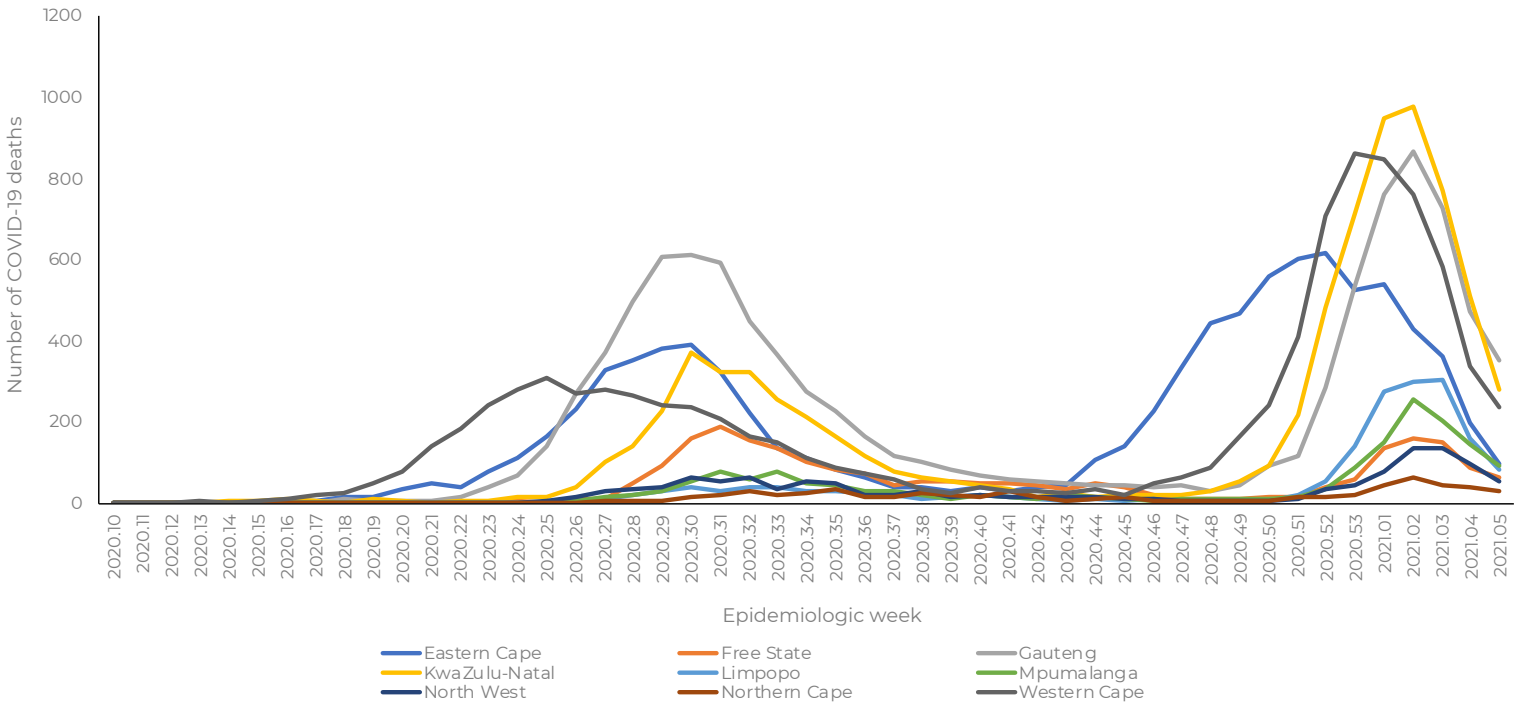

Figure 4. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by province and epidemiologic week of death, South Africa, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n=43,019

The cumulative incidence risks of COVID-19 admissions and deaths were highest in Western Cape and Eastern Cape provinces (Table 2).

Table 2. Number and cumulative incidence risk of COVID-19 hospitalisations and in-hospital deaths per 100,000 persons by province, South Africa, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021

Province	Provincial Population mid 2020*	Cumulative admissions	Cumulative Admissions / 100,000	Cumulative deaths	Cumulative deaths / 100,000
Eastern Cape	6734001	29098	432.1	9013	133.8
Free State	2928903	11273	384.9	2252	76.9
Gauteng	15488137	55,164	356.2	9691	62.6
KwaZulu-Natal	11531628	38283	332.0	7797	67.6
Limpopo	5852553	6460	110.4	1750	29.9
Mpumalanga	4679786	7031	150.2	1620	34.6
North West	4108816	10,342	251.7	1235	30.1
Northern Cape	1292786	3,416	264.2	608	47.0
Western Cape	7005741	43,415	619.7	9053	129.2
South Africa	**59622350**	**204,482**	**343.0**	**43,019**	**72.2**

*StatsSA mid-year population estimates 2020

PROVINCIAL TRENDS

The number of COVID-19 admissions decreased in all provinces from week 4 to week 5 2021. The highest proportion of new admissions were in Gauteng, Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal (Table 3). Decreases in the most recent week may in part reflect delays in data submission. There were 2 of 52 (4%) districts across the country, Xhariep (Free State) and John Taolo Gaetsewe (Northern Cape) that reported increased admissions change over the previous 14 days, although these increases were small (Appendix 1).

Table 3. Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 4 to week 5 of 2021, by province, South Africa

Province	Hospital admissions		Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100,000 persons
	Week 4	Week 5*			
Eastern Cape	319	192	-40	5.5	2.9
Free State	329	202	-39	5.8	6.9
Gauteng	1786	1101	-38	31.7	7.1
KwaZulu-Natal	1190	593	-50	17.1	5.1
Limpopo	317	175	-45	5.0	3.0
Mpumalanga	414	240	-42	6.9	5.1
North West	344	213	-38	6.1	5.2
Northern Cape	120	81	-33	2.3	6.3
Western Cape	1012	681	-33	19.6	9.7
South Africa	**5,831**	**3,478**	**-40**	**100.0**	**5.8**

* Reporting of new admissions in the most recent week may be delayed

EASTERN CAPE

The increase in admissions in the Eastern Cape started in week 40 2020, in public and private sectors, with weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in both sectors. Since week 50 2020, a decrease in admissions has been observed in both sectors (Figure 5).

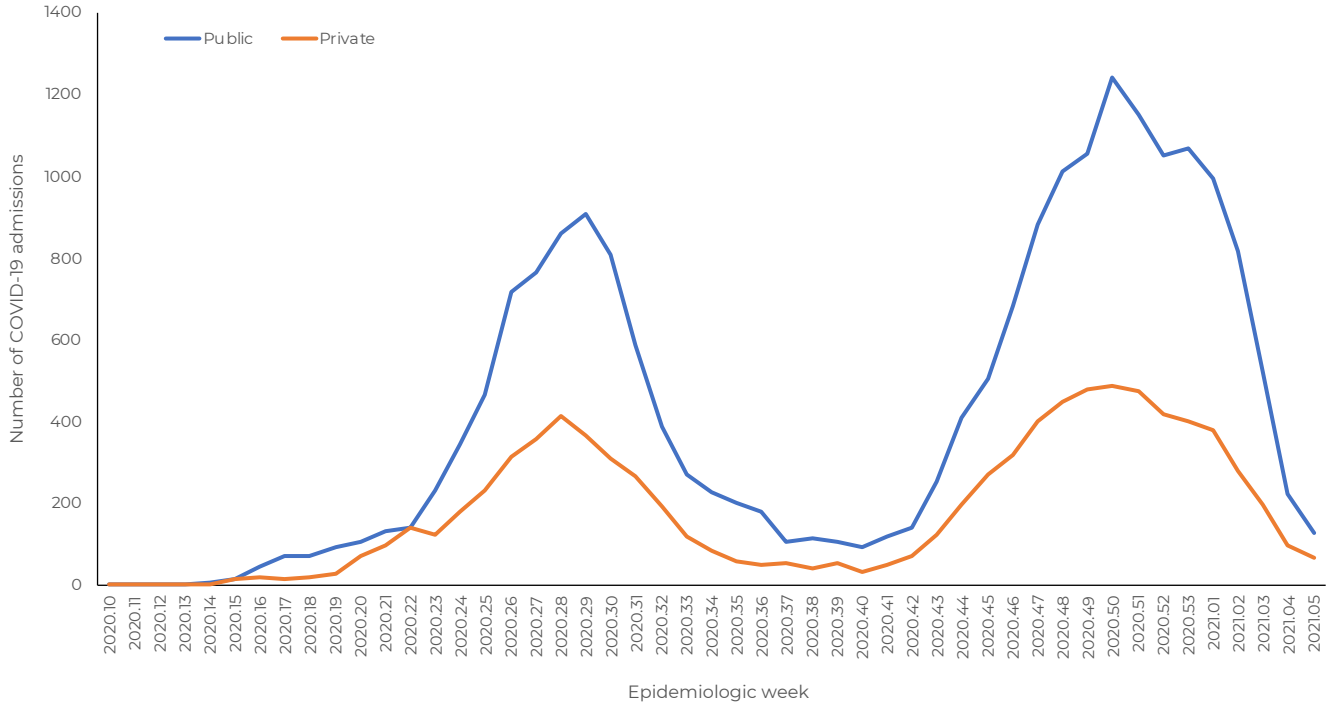

Figure 5: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n=29,098

The increase in admissions in Eastern Cape was predominantly in Nelson Mandela Bay Metro and Buffalo City Metro. The weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 6). Admissions have decreased in Nelson Mandela Bay Metro since week 47 2020, in Sarah Baartman since week 48 2020 and in Buffalo City since week 51 2020 and in all other districts in the past five weeks.

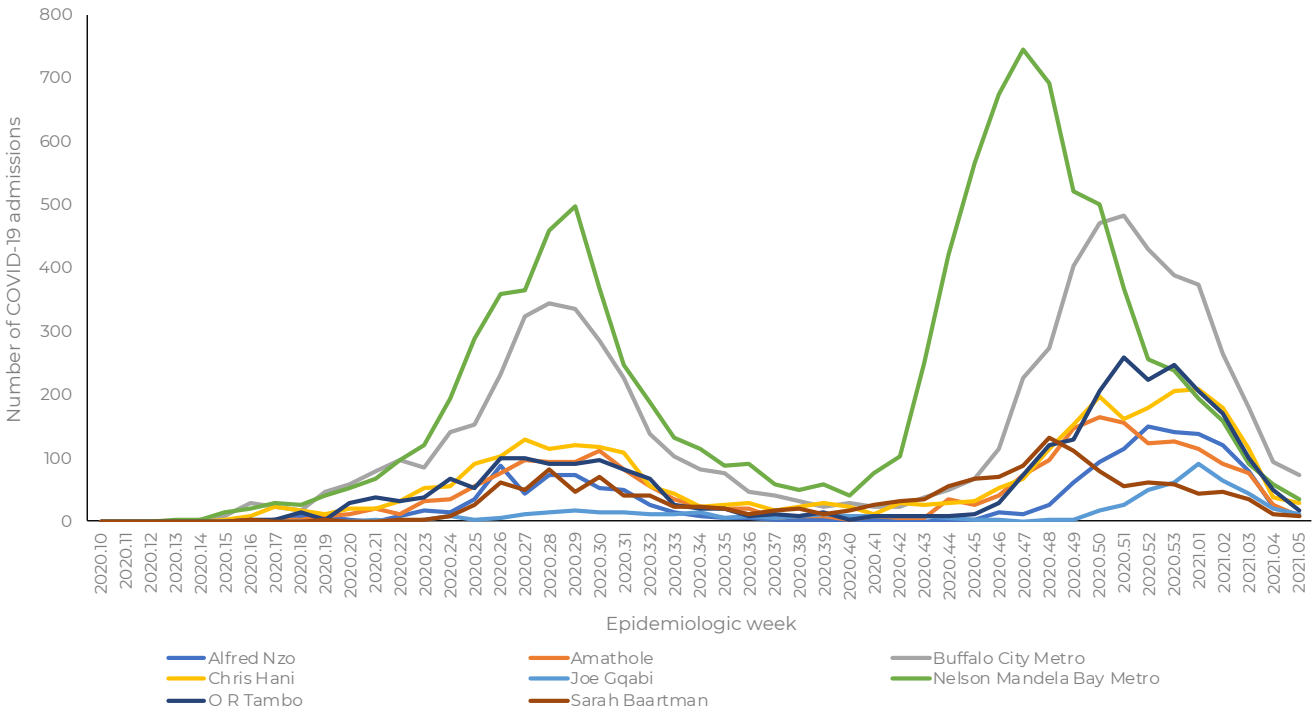

Figure 6. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n=29,098

All districts showed a decrease in COVID-19 admission in week 4 and week 5 2021. The highest proportion of new admissions and the highest incidence risk of new admissions was in Buffalo City Metro (Table 4).

Table 4: Number and percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 4 to week 5 2021, by district, Eastern Cape

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 4	Admissions Week 5	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Alfred Nzo	1548	22	10	-55	5.2	0.6
Amathole	2249	26	10	-62	5.2	0.7
Buffalo City Metro	7034	95	72	-24	37.5	4.7
Chris Hani	3117	37	28	-24	14.6	2.0
Joe Gqabi	623	19	12	-37	6.3	1.8
Nelson Mandela Bay Metro	10020	58	34	-41	17.7	1.5
O R Tambo	2907	51	17	-67	8.9	0.6
Sarah Baartman	1600	11	9	-18	4.7	1.0

The increase in deaths in Eastern Cape was predominantly in Nelson Mandela Bay Metro and Buffalo City Metro. The weekly deaths at the peak of the second wave exceeded the numbers of deaths at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 7). The numbers of deaths have decreased in Nelson Mandela Metro since week 47 2020, Sarah Baartman since week 48 2020 and in Buffalo City Metro since week 53 2020 and in all other districts in the first weeks of 2021.

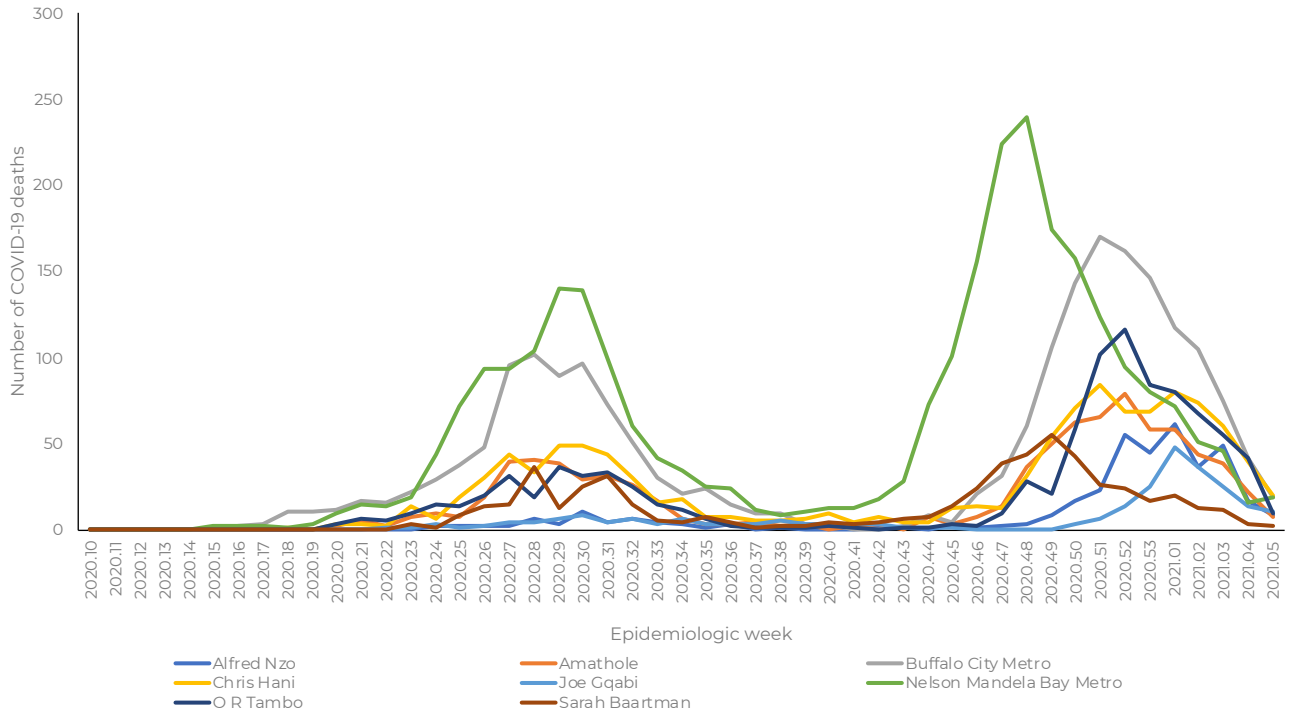

Figure 7. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n=9,013

WESTERN CAPE

Western Cape
There was an increase in admissions reported in the Western Cape in both public and private sectors since week 43 2020, with the weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in both sectors (Figure 8). Since week 1 2021, a decrease in admissions has been observed in both sectors.

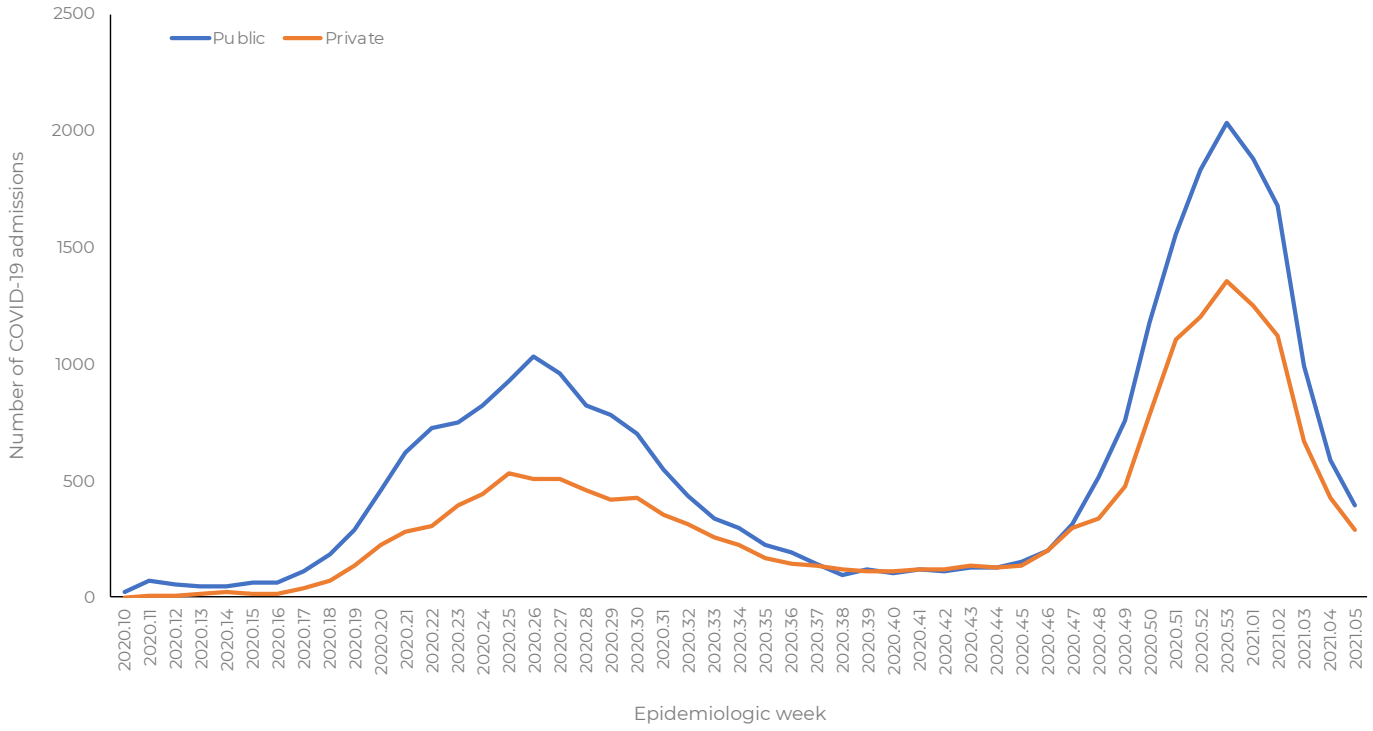

Figure 8: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-30 January 202, n=43,415

The increase in admissions in Western Cape began in Garden Route then City of Cape Town Metro and Cape Winelands, with the weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 9). Admissions have decreased in Garden Route since week 48 2020, in Cape Winelands and Overberg since week 52 2020, City of Cape Town and West Coast since week 53 2020 and all other districts in week 4 and week 5 of 2021.

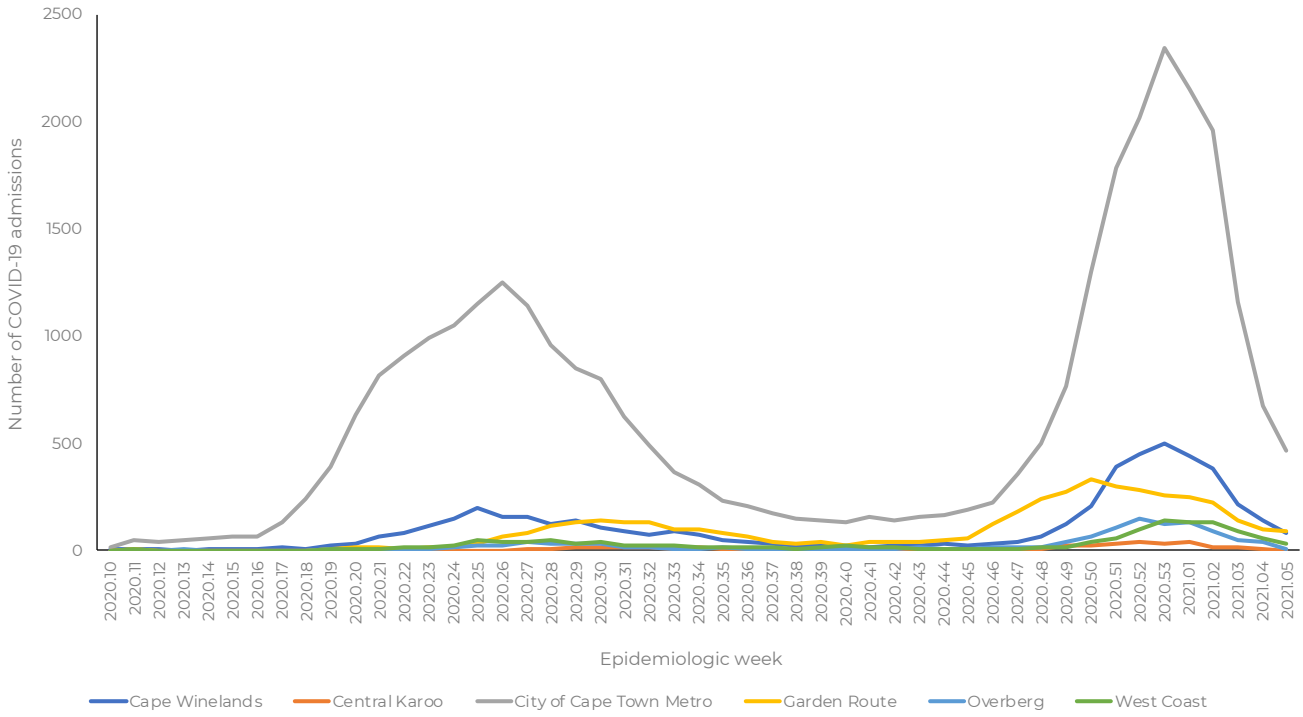

Figure 9: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n=43,415

The highest proportion of new admissions was in City of Cape Town Metro (Table 5).

Table 5: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 4 to week 5 2021, by district, Western Cape

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 4	Admissions Week 5	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Cape Winelands	5110	143	85	-41	12.5	1.3
Central Karoo	370	3	2	-33	0.3	0.4
City of Cape Town Metro	30949	673	463	-31	68.0	1.5
Garden Route	4392	98	87	-11	12.8	2.0
Overberg	1207	36	10	-72	1.5	0.5
West Coast	1387	59	34	-42	5.0	1.1

The increase in deaths in Western Cape was predominantly in City of Cape Town Metro, Garden Route and Cape Winelands, with the weekly deaths at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 10). The numbers of deaths in Garden Route has decreased since week 51 2020.

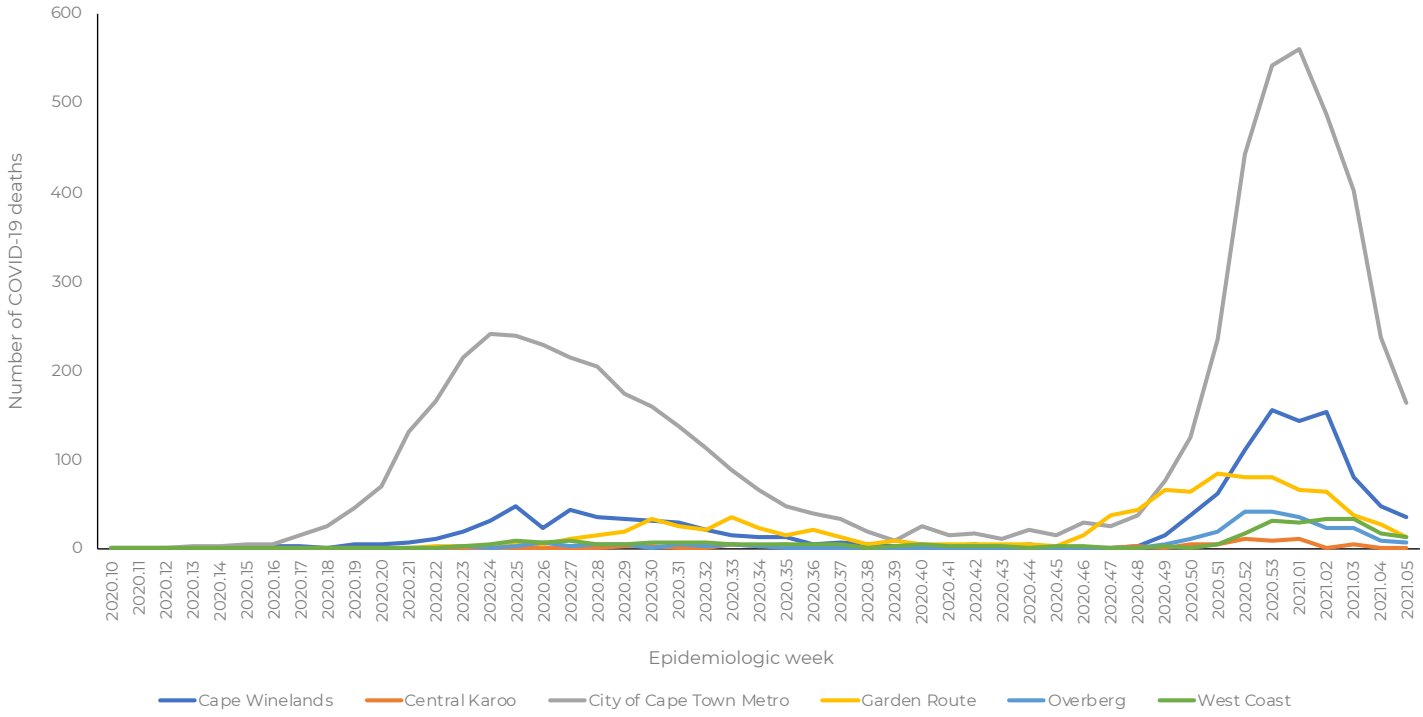

Figure 10: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n=9,053

KWAZULU-NATAL

There was an increase in admissions in KwaZulu-Natal in the private sector since week 46 2020 and in the public sector since week 47 2020, with the weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in both sectors (Figure 11). Numbers have been decreasing in the private and public sector since week 2 2021. Decreases in the most recent week may reflect delays in data submission.

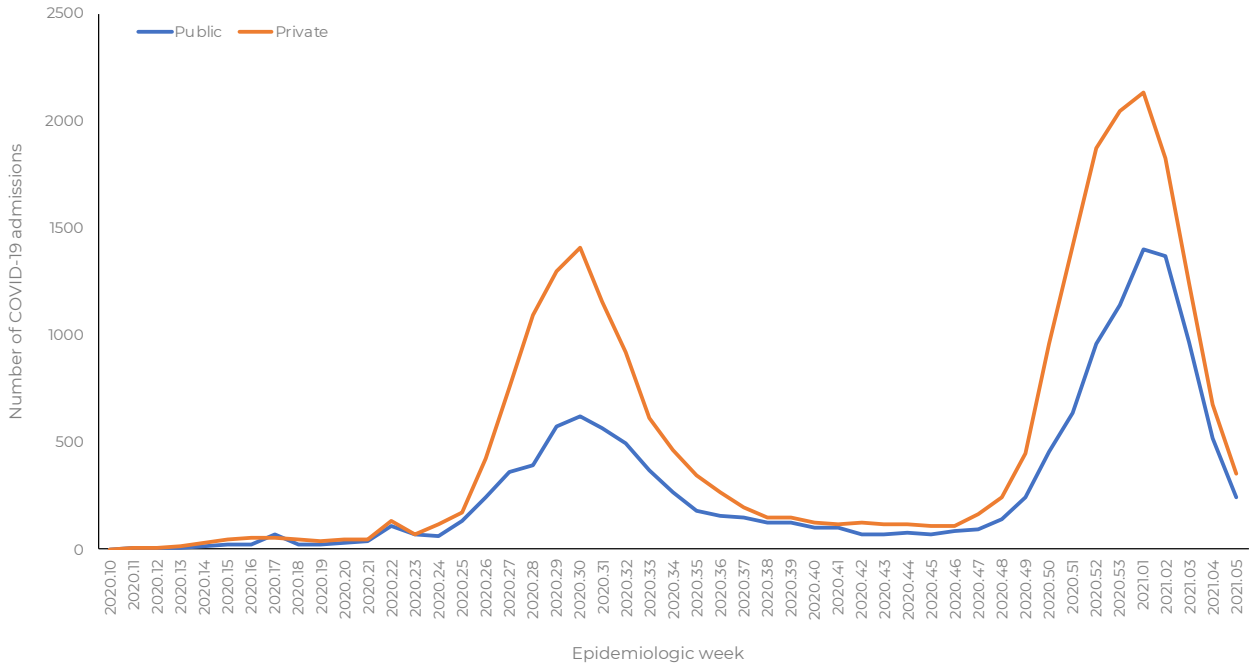

Figure 11: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n= 38,283

The increase in admissions in KwaZulu-Natal is predominantly in eThekwini Metro, uMgungundlovu and King Cetshwayo districts; with the weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in all districts except Amajuba (Figure 12). Admissions in eThekwini Metro have decreased since week 52 2020 and numbers appear to be decreasing in other districts since week 2 2021.

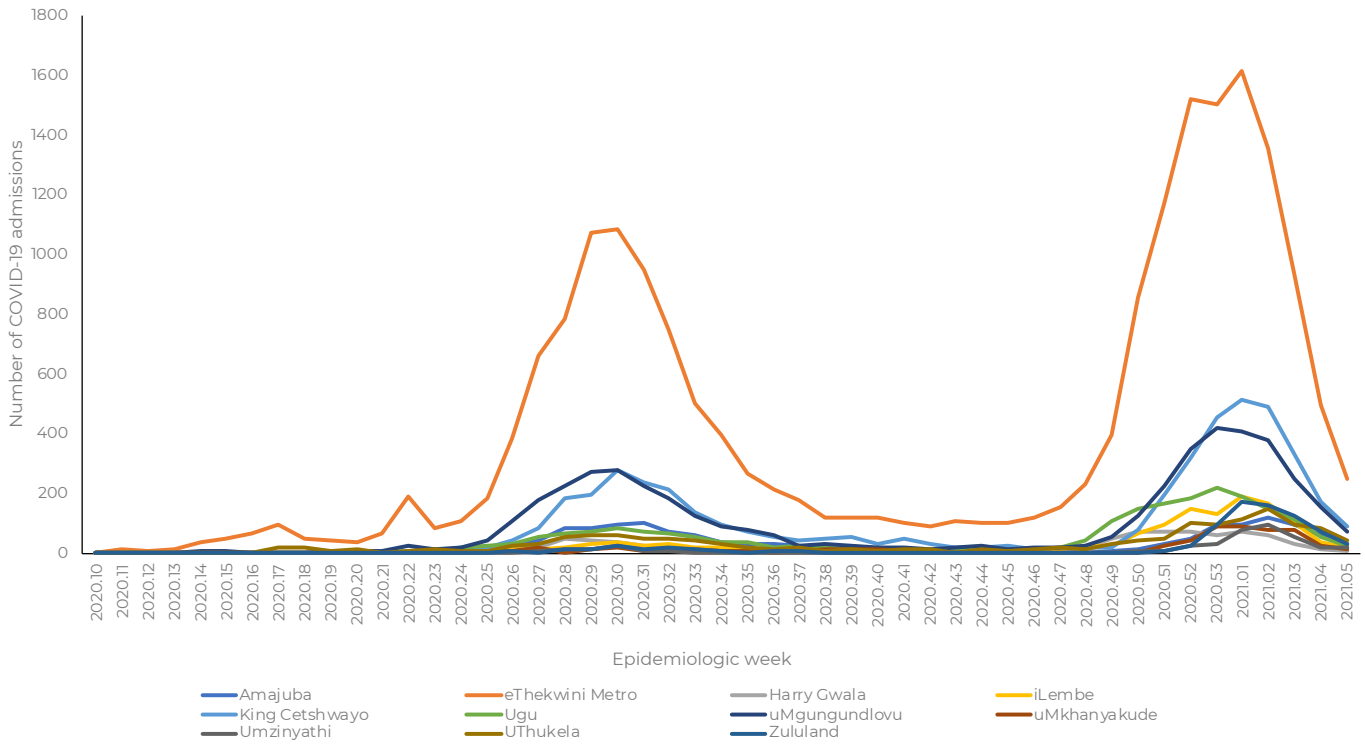

Figure 12: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n= 38,283

The highest proportion of new admissions was in eThekwini Metro (Table 6).

Table 6: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 4 to week 5 2021, by district, KwaZulu-Natal

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 4	Admissions Week 5	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Amajuba	1396	58	29	-50	4.9	0.9
eThekwini Metro	19723	498	247	-50	41.7	1.0
Harry Gwala	817	12	7	-42	1.2	0.2
iLembe	1366	39	18	-54	3.0	0.4
King Cetshwayo	4686	175	89	-49	15.0	1.5
Ugu	2217	53	27	-49	4.6	0.6
uMgungundlovu	4655	152	74	-51	12.5	1.1
uMkhanyakude	647	28	14	-50	2.4	0.3
Umzinyathi	444	20	18	-10	3.0	0.5
UThukela	1485	85	40	-53	6.7	0.9
Zululand	847	70	30	-57	5.1	0.6

The increase in deaths in KwaZulu-Natal was predominantly in eThekwini, with the weekly deaths at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 13).

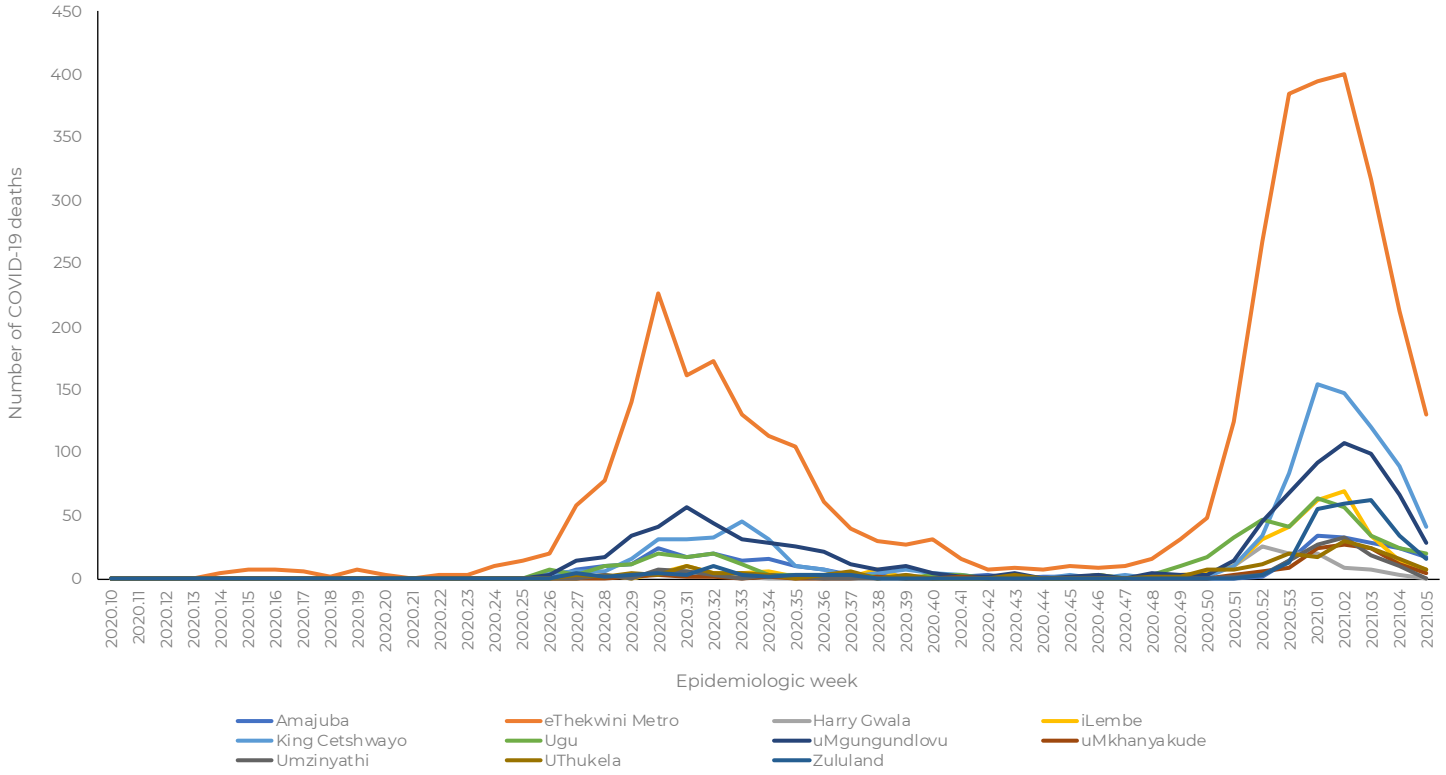

Figure 13: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n= 7,797

GAUTENG

There was an increase in admissions reported in Gauteng in the private and public sector since week 48 2020, with the weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in the private and public sectors (Figure 14). Weekly numbers of admissions have been decreasing since week 2 2021. Decreases in the most recent week may reflect delays in data submission.

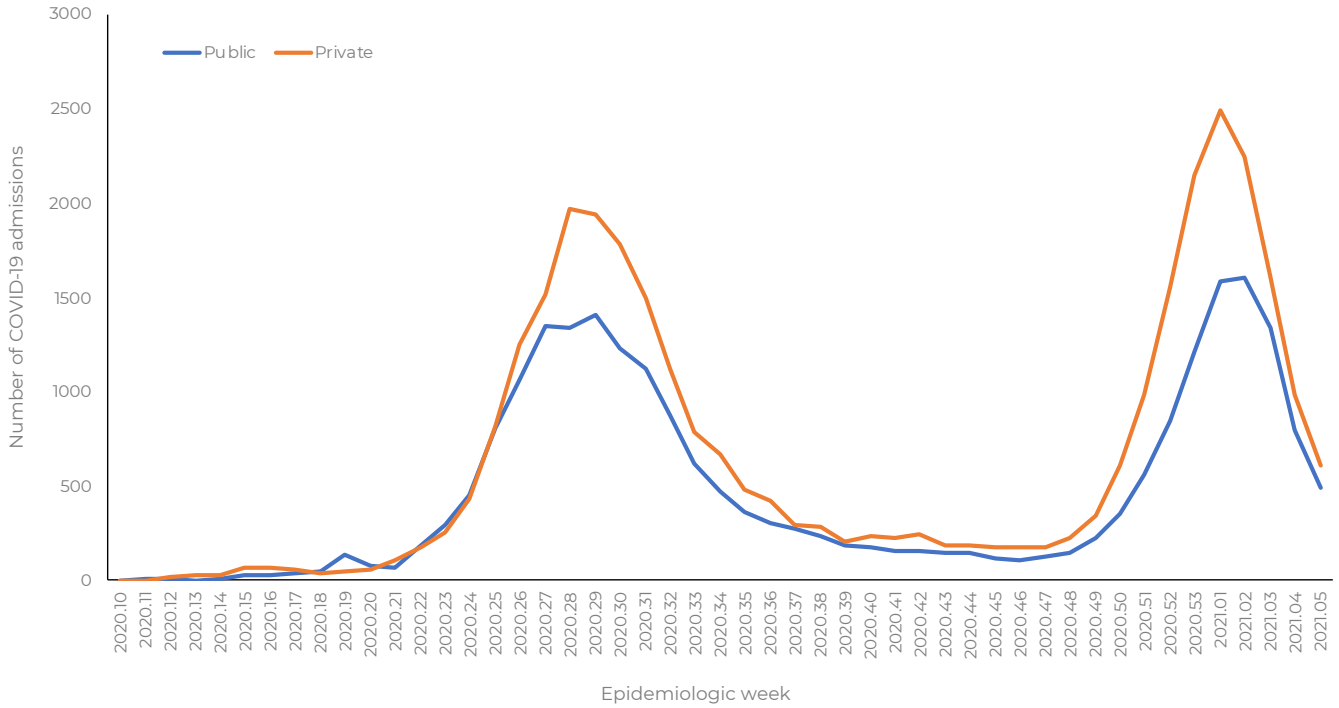

Figure 14: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n= 55,164

The increase in admissions in Gauteng is seen predominantly in City of Johannesburg and City of Tshwane; with the weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in City of Johannesburg Metro, City of Tshwane Metro and West Rand (Figure 15). Numbers are decreasing in all districts. Decreases in the most recent week may reflect delays in data submission.

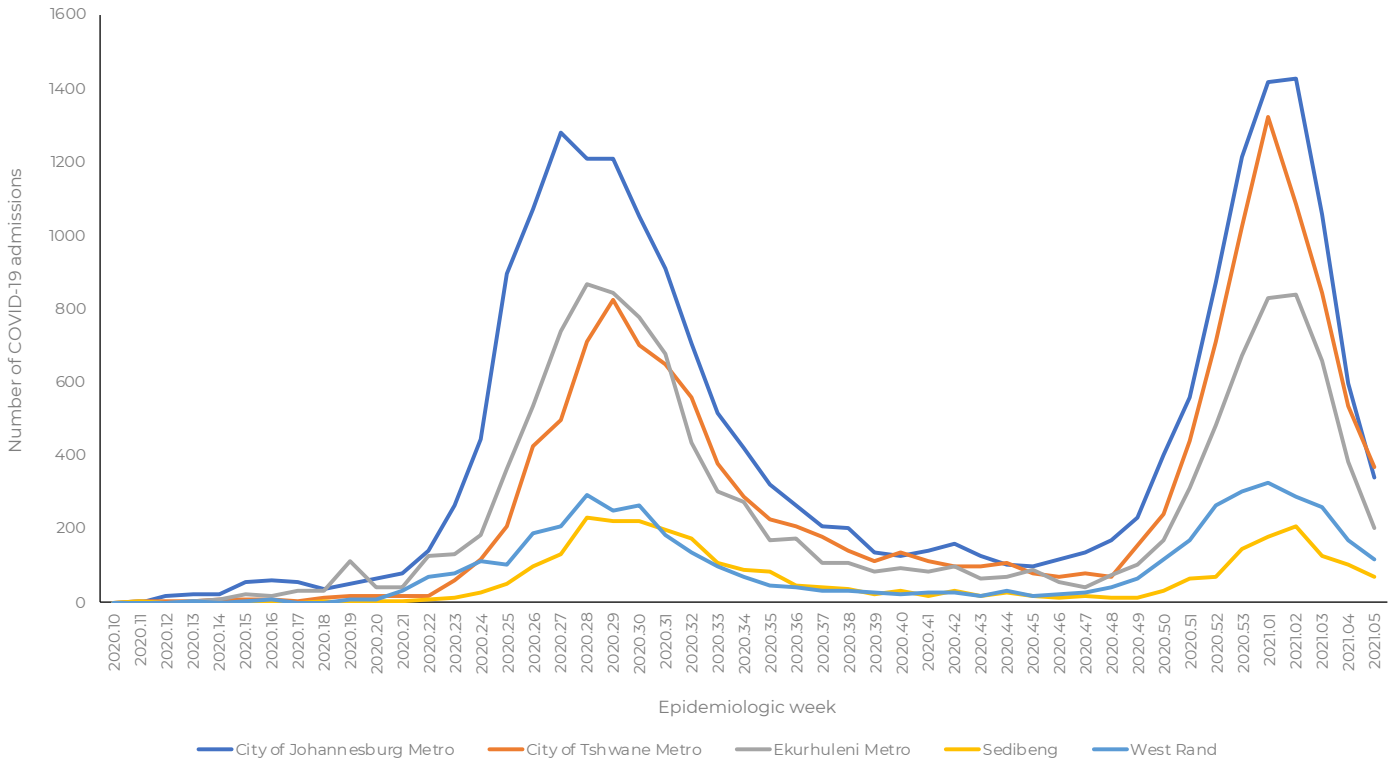

Figure 15: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n= 55,164

All districts showed decrease in COVID-19 admission in week 4 and week 5 2021. The highest proportion of new admissions were in City of Johannesburg and City of Tshwane Metros (Table 7).

Table 7: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 4 to week 5 2021, by district, Gauteng

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 4	Admissions Week 5	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
City of Johannesburg Metro	21021	595	342	-43	31.1	0.5
City of Tshwane Metro	13976	536	371	-31	33.7	0.9
Ekurhuleni Metro	12549	384	202	-47	18.3	0.5
Sedibeng	3014	102	68	-33	6.2	0.6
West Rand	4604	169	118	-30	10.7	1.1

The number of deaths has increased in all Gauteng districts, with the weekly deaths at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the first wave in City of Tshwane Metro, Ekurhuleni Metro and West Rand (Figure 16).

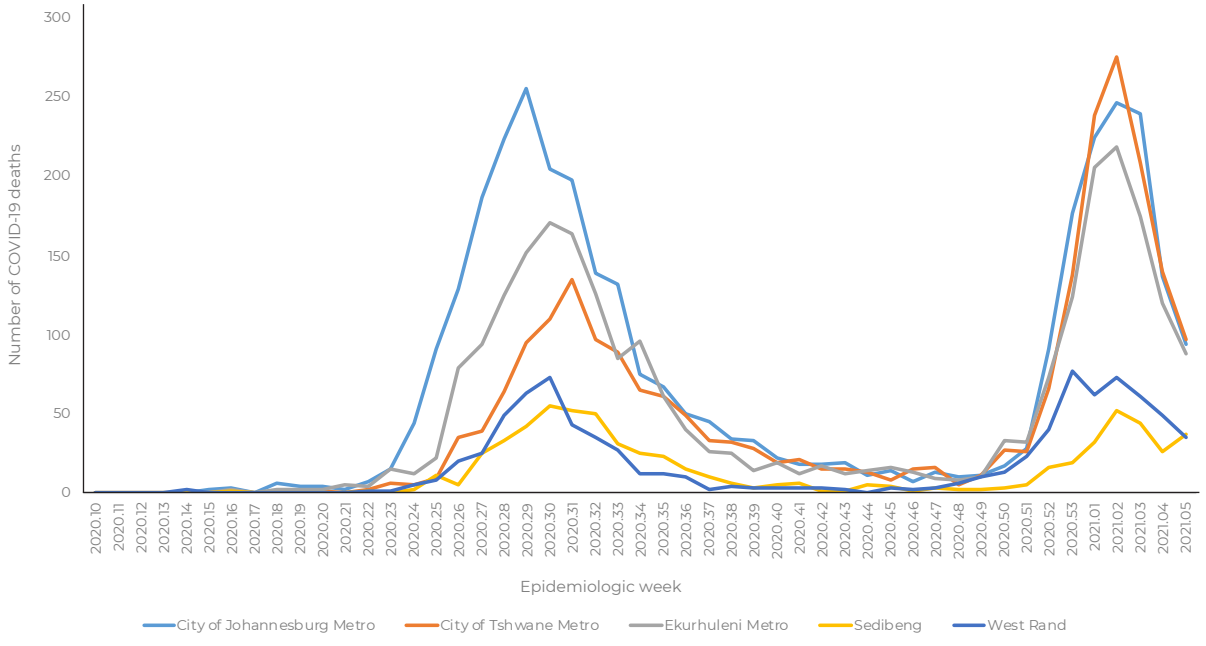

Figure 16: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n= 9,691

LIMPOPO

There was an increase in admissions reported in Limpopo in the private sector since week 48 2020 and in the public sector since week 50 2020, with the weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in both sectors (Figure 17). Numbers of admissions have been decreasing since week 2 2021 in the public sector. Decreases in the most recent week may reflect delays in data submission.

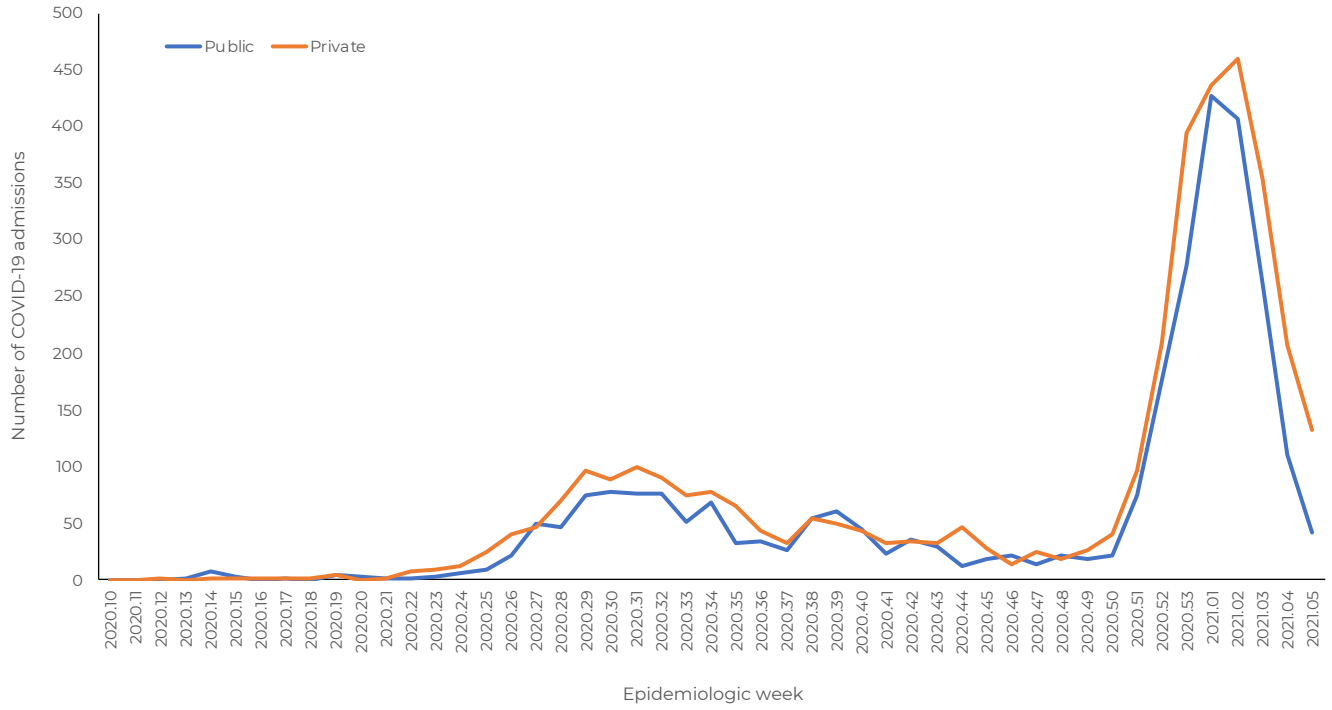

Figure 17: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n= 6,460

The increase in admissions in Limpopo was observed predominantly in Capricorn, with the weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 18). Decreases in the most recent week may reflect delays in data submission.

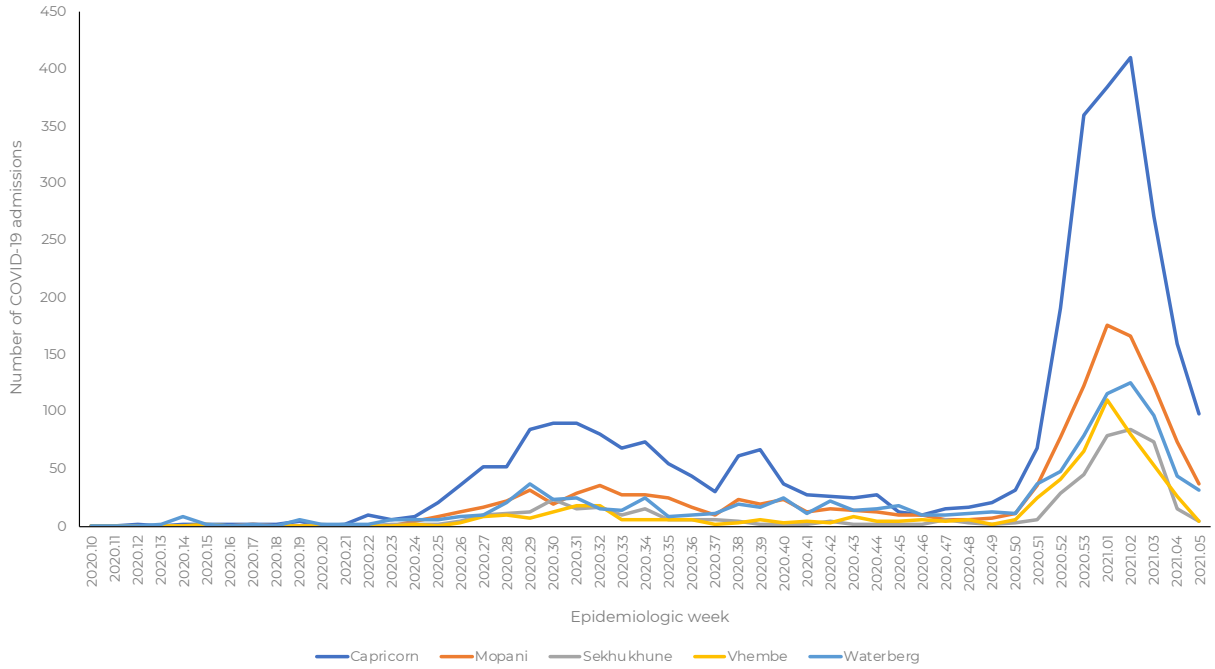

Figure 18: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n= 6,460

All districts showed decreases in COVID-19 admission in week 4 and week 5 2021. The highest proportion of new admissions was in Capricorn (Table 8).

Table 8: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 4 to week 5 2021, by district, Limpopo

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 4	Admissions Week 5	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Capricorn	3121	159	98	-38	56.0	4.3
Mopani	1260	74	37	-50	21.1	1.8
Sekhukhune	503	15	4	-73	2.3	0.2
Vhembe	564	26	4	-85	2.3	0.2
Waterberg	1012	43	32	-26	18.3	2.5

Increases in deaths occurred in all districts but predominantly in Capricorn, with the weekly deaths at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 19).

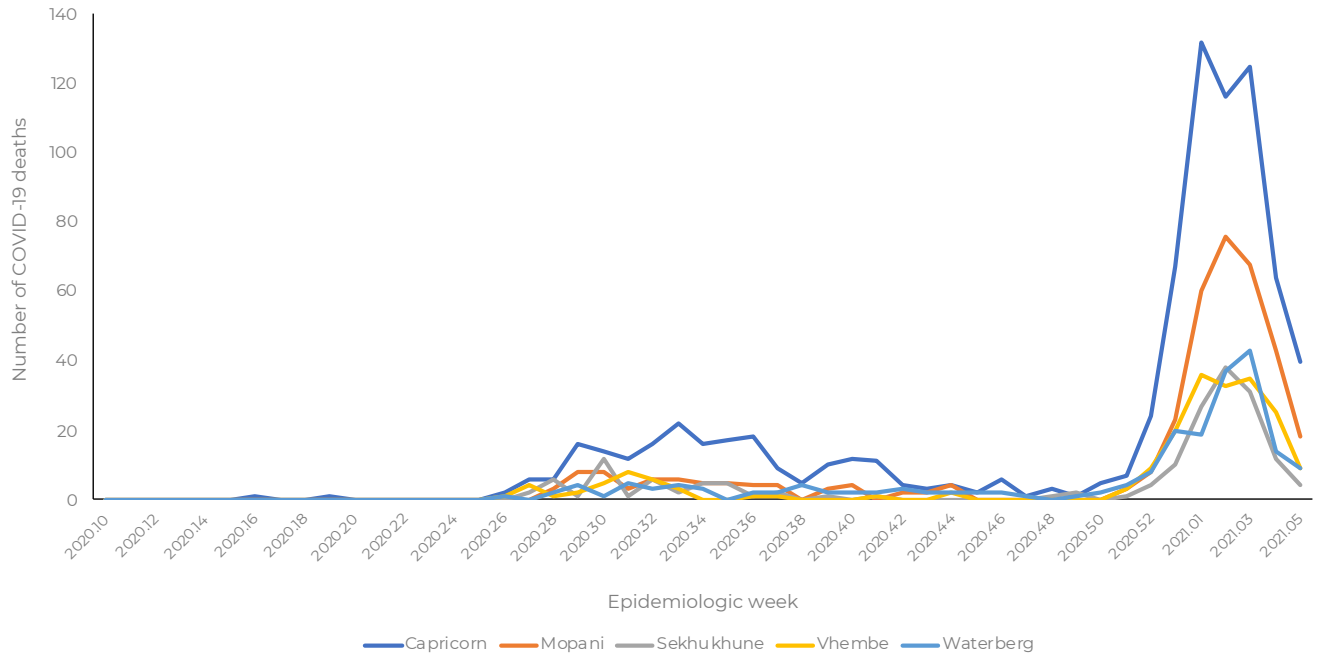

Figure 19: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n= 1,750

FREE STATE

There was an increase in admissions reported in Free State in the private sector since week 48 2020 and in the public sector since week 50 2020 (Figure 20), with the weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in the public sector Numbers of admissions are now decreasing in both sectors.

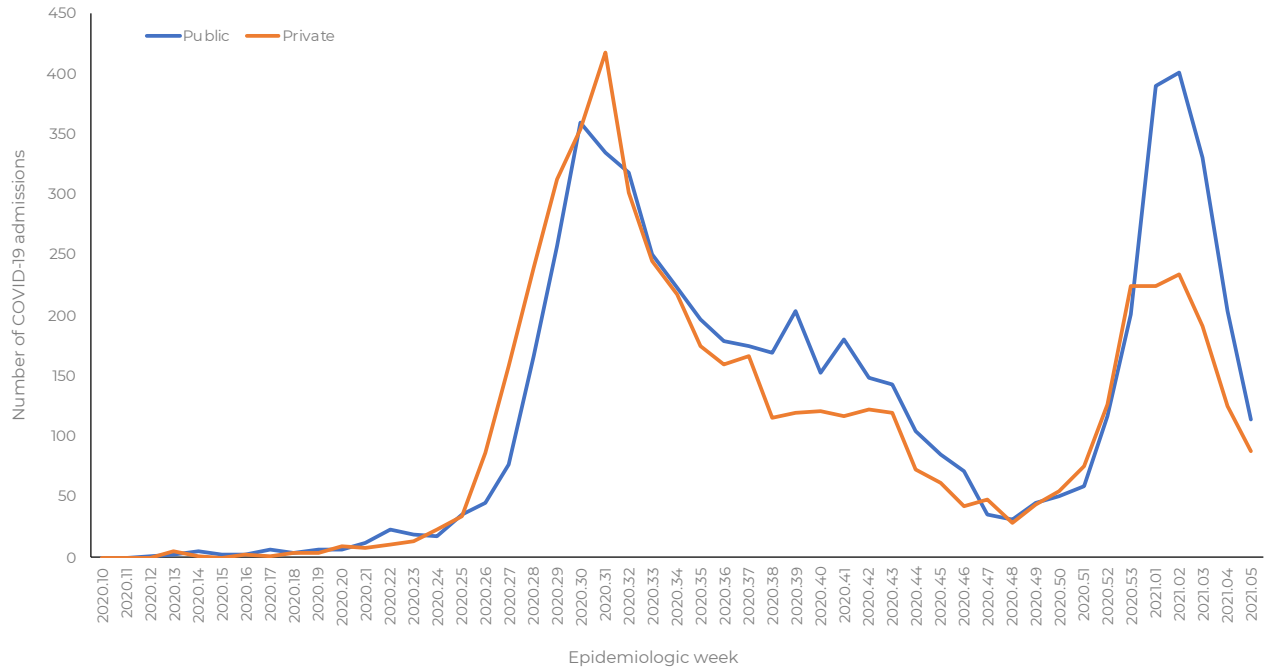

Figure 20: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Free State, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n= 11,273

The increase in admissions in Free State is seen in all districts, with the weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in Fezile Dabi, Thabo Mofutsanyane and Xhariep (Figure 21).

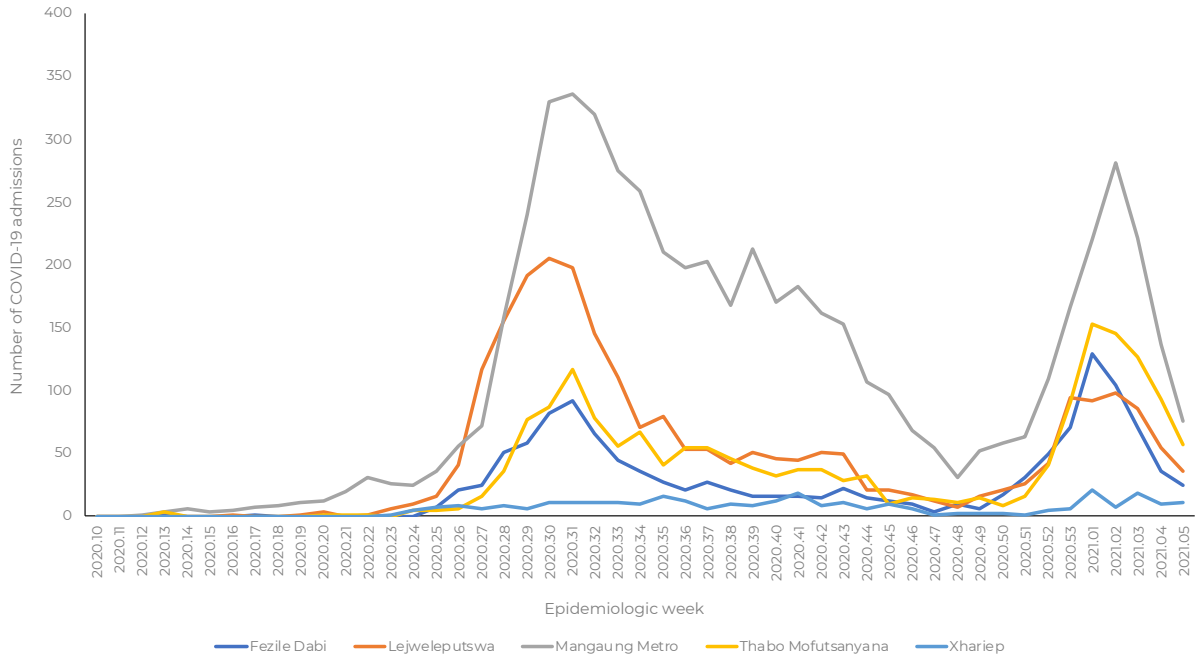

Figure 21: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Free State, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n= 11,273

The number of COVID-19 admissions increased in one of five districts from week 4 to week 5. The highest proportion of new admissions were in Mangaung Metro (Table 9).

Table 9: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 4 to week 52021, by district, Free State

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 4	Admissions Week 5	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Fezile Dabi	1240	36	24	-33	11.9	2.3
Lejweleputswa	2370	54	36	-33	17.8	2.7
Mangaung Metro	5631	137	75	-45	37.1	4.3
Thabo Mofutsanyana	1741	93	57	-39	28.2	3.7
Xhariep	291	9	10	11	5.0	3.8

The increases in deaths have occurred in all districts, with the weekly deaths at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the first wave in Thabo Mofutsanyana, Fezile Dabi and Xhariep (Figure 22).

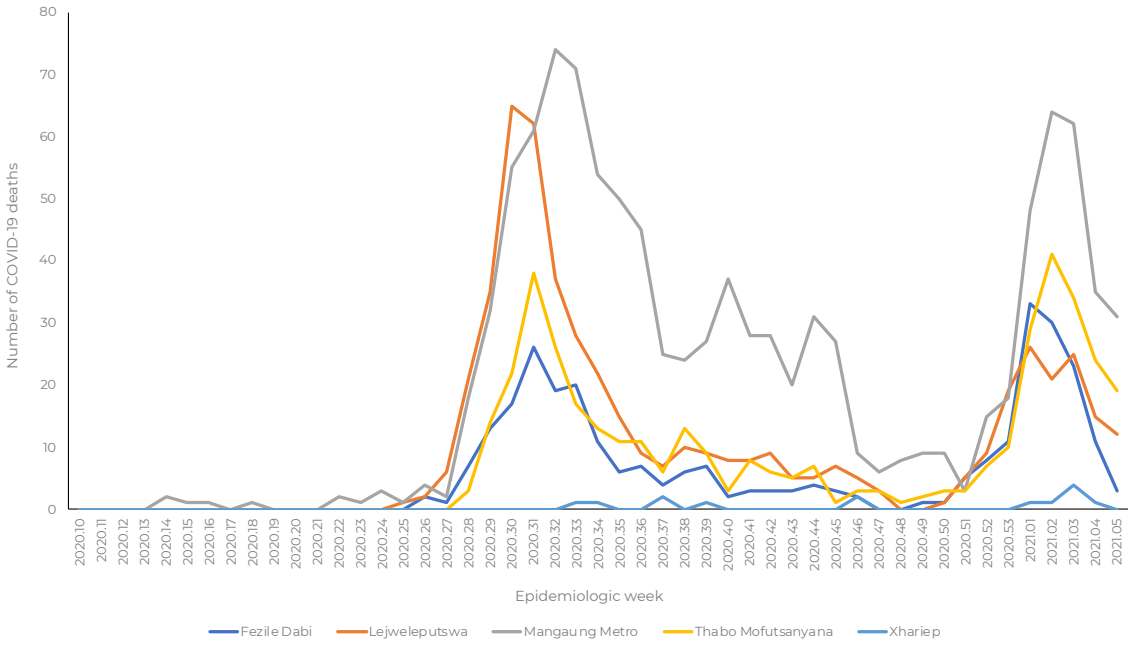

Figure 22: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Free State, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n= 2,252

MPUMALANGA

There was an increase in admissions reported in Mpumalanga in the private sector since week 48 2020 and the public sector since week 51 2020, with the weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in both sectors (Figure 23).

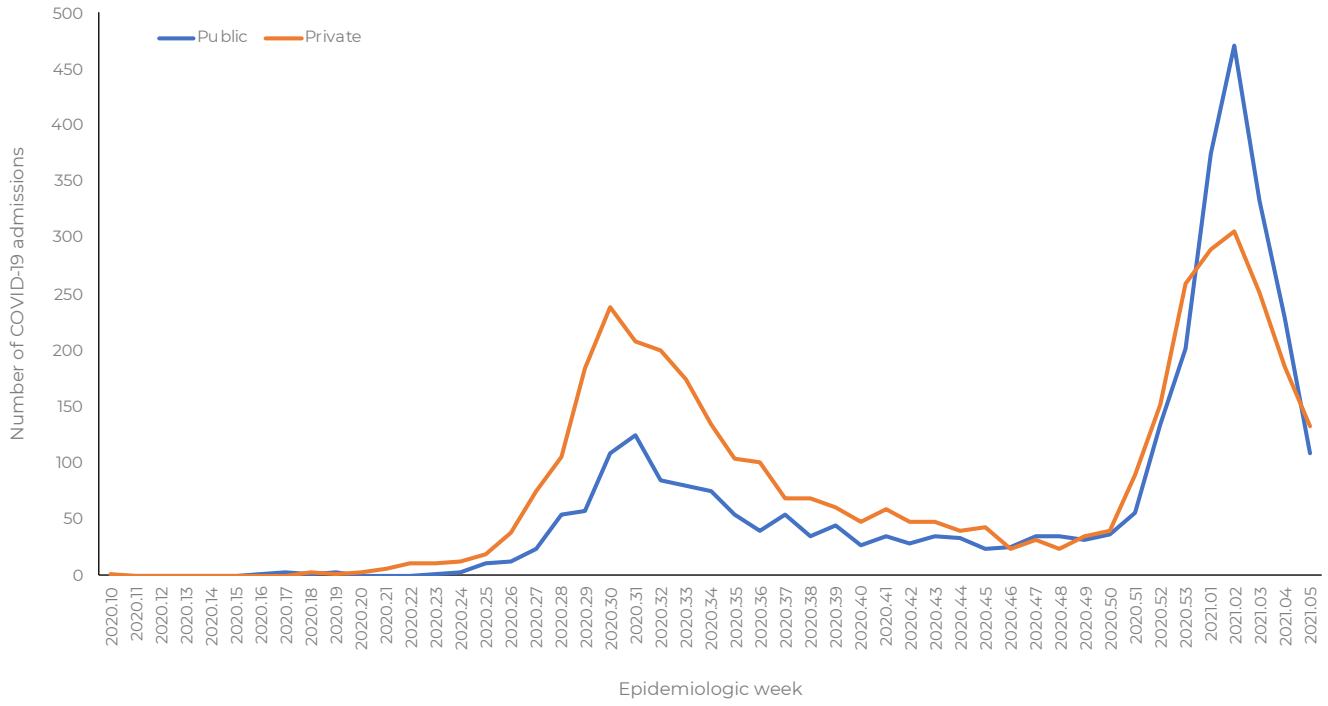

Figure 23: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n= 7,031

The increase in admissions in Mpumalanga was observed in all districts, with the weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 24).

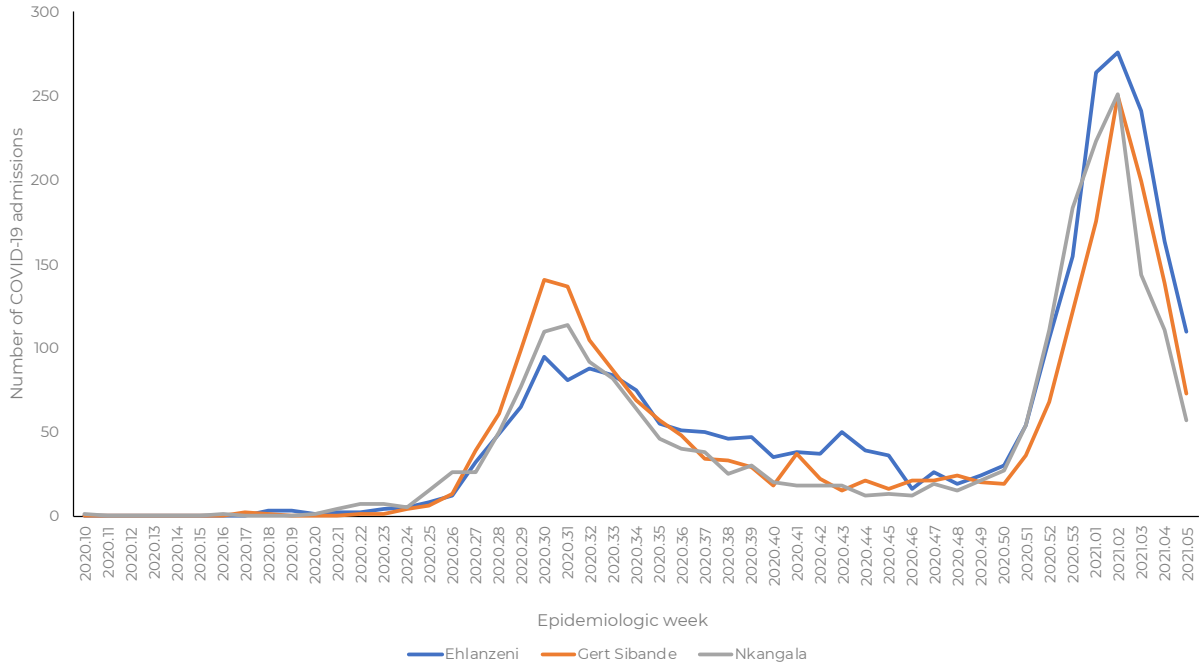

Figure 24: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n=7,031

All districts showed a decrease in COVID-19 admission in week 4 and week 5 2021. The highest proportion of new admissions were in Ehlanzeni (Table 10).

Table 10: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 4 to week 5 2021, by district, Mpumalanga

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 4	Admissions Week 5	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Ehlanzeni	2578	164	110	-33	45.8	2.5
Gert Sibande	2264	139	73	-47	30.4	2.4
Nkangala	2189	111	57	-49	23.8	1.5

The increases in deaths was observed in all districts, with the weekly deaths at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the first wave in all districts with numbers now decreasing (Figure 25).

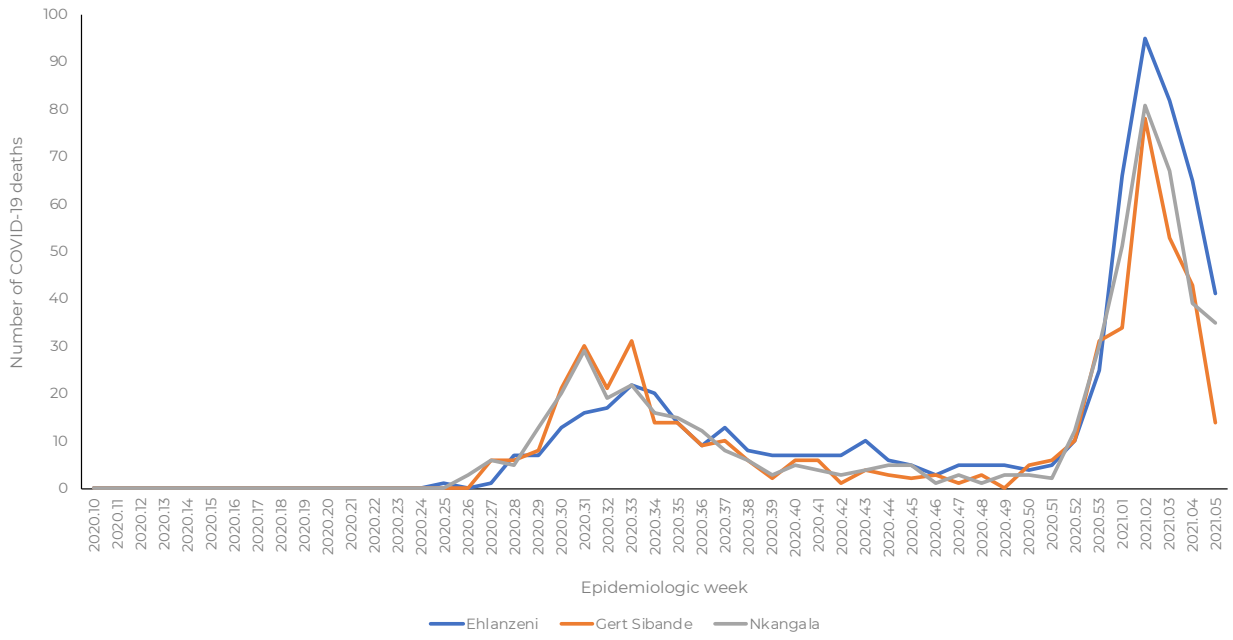

Figure 25: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n= 1,620

NORTH WEST

There was an increase in admissions reported in North West in the private sector since week 48 2020 and in the public sector since week 49 2020, with the weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in both sectors (Figure 26). Numbers of admissions are decreasing since week 2 2021.

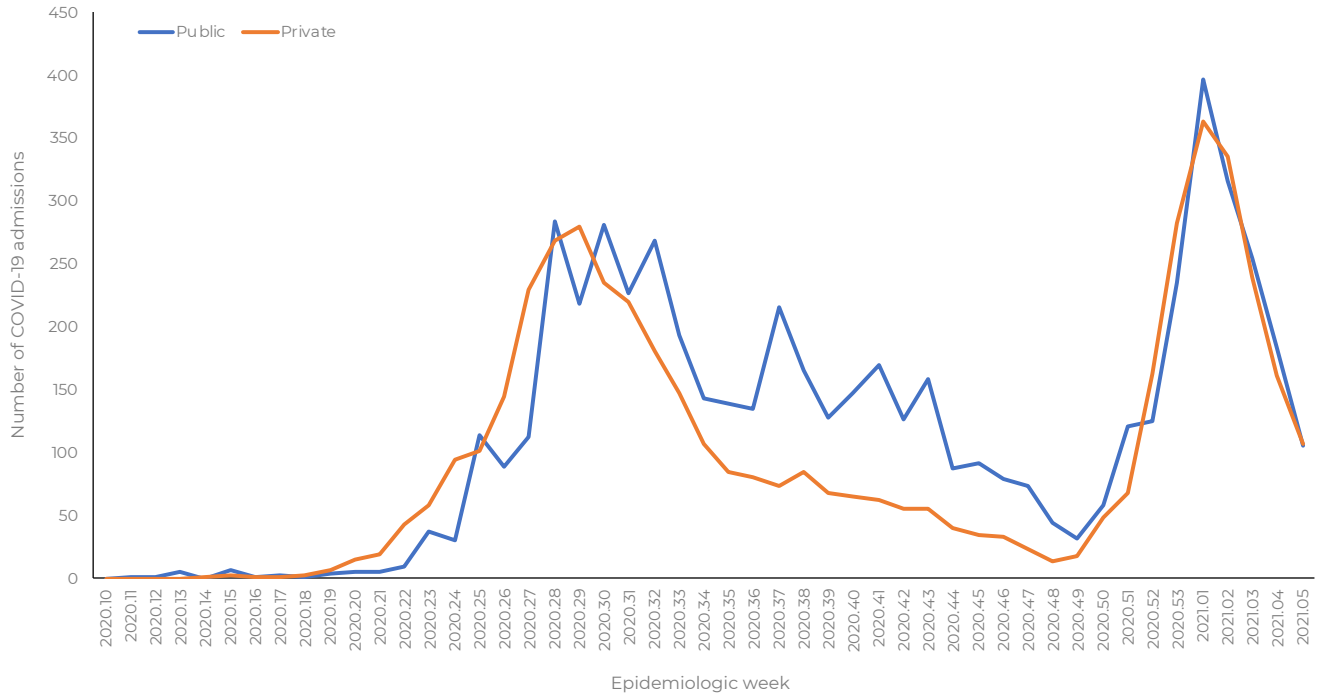

Figure 26: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, North West, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n= 10,342

The increase in admissions in North West was observed predominantly in Dr Kenneth Kaunda and Bojanala Platinum, with the weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in all districts except Dr Kenneth Kaunda (Figure 27).

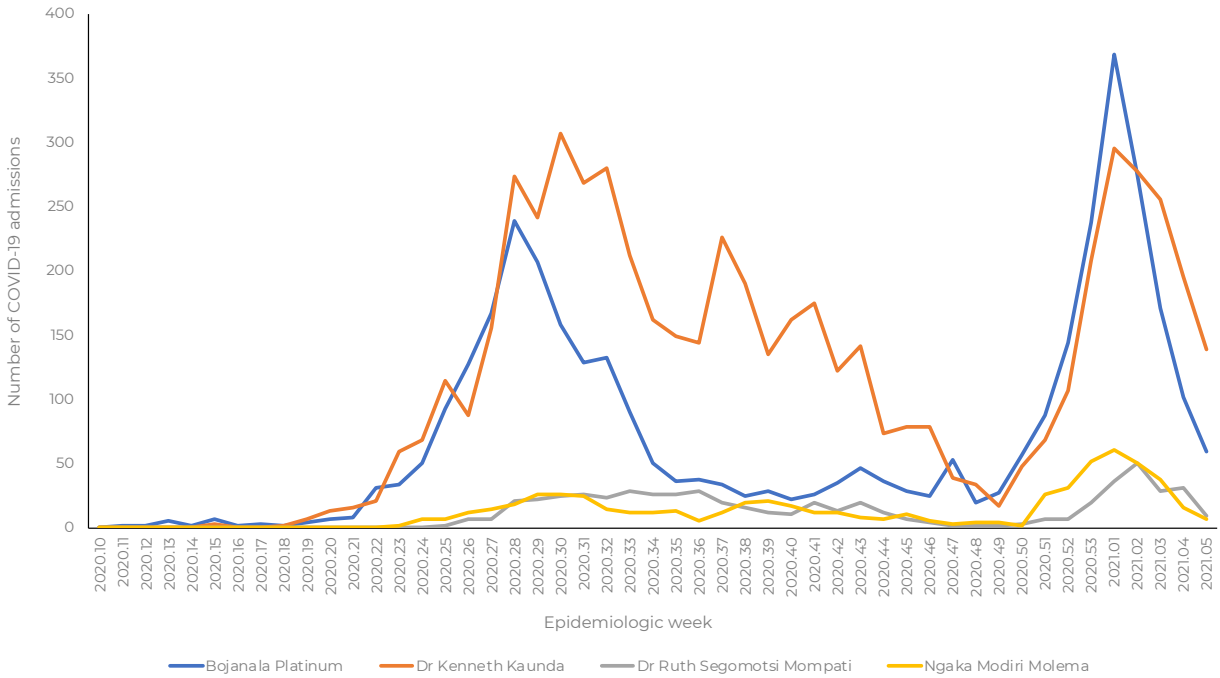

Figure 27: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n= 10,342

All districts showed a decrease in COVID-19 admission in week 4 and week 5 2021. The highest proportion of new admissions were in Dr Kenneth Kaunda and Bojanala Platinum (Table 11).

Table 11: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 4 to week 5 2021, by district, North West

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 4	Admissions Week 5	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Bojanala Platinum	3526	102	59	-42	27.7	1.4
Dr Kenneth Kaunda	5646	195	139	-29	65.3	8.2
Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	565	31	9	-71	4.2	0.9
Ngaka Modiri Molema	605	16	6	-63	2.8	0.3

The increases in deaths occurred in all districts, with the weekly deaths at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 28).

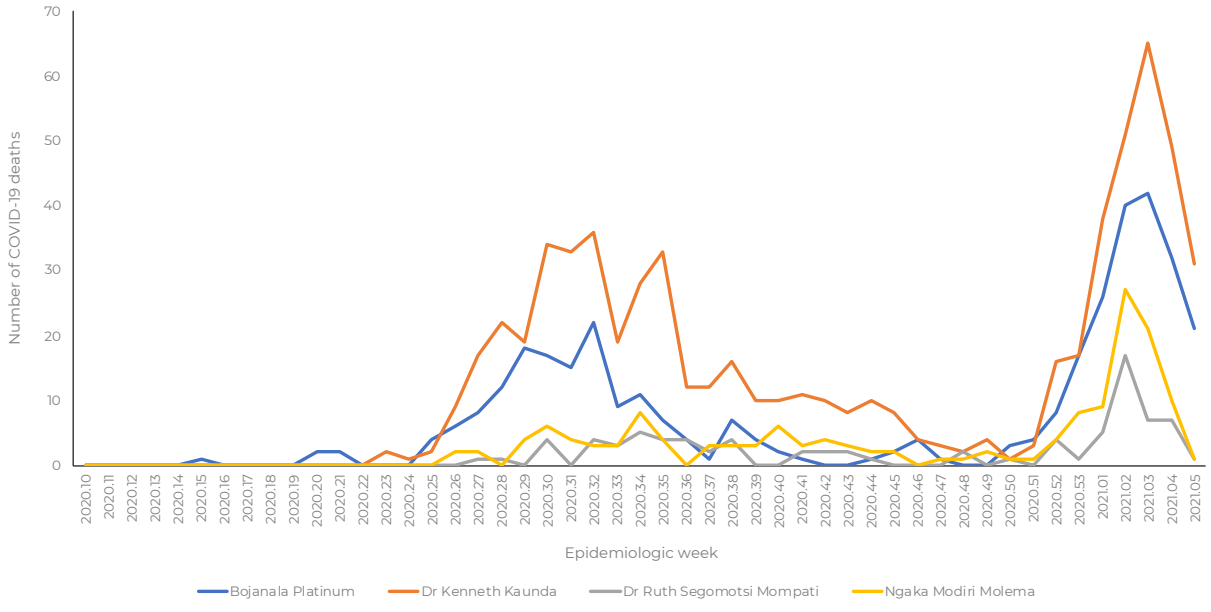

Figure 28: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n= 1,235

NORTHERN CAPE

There was an increase in admissions reported in Northern Cape in the public and private sector since week 49 2020, with the weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in both sectors (Figure 29). Numbers of admissions have been decreasing since week 2 2021 in both sectors. Decreases in the most recent week may reflect delays in data submission.

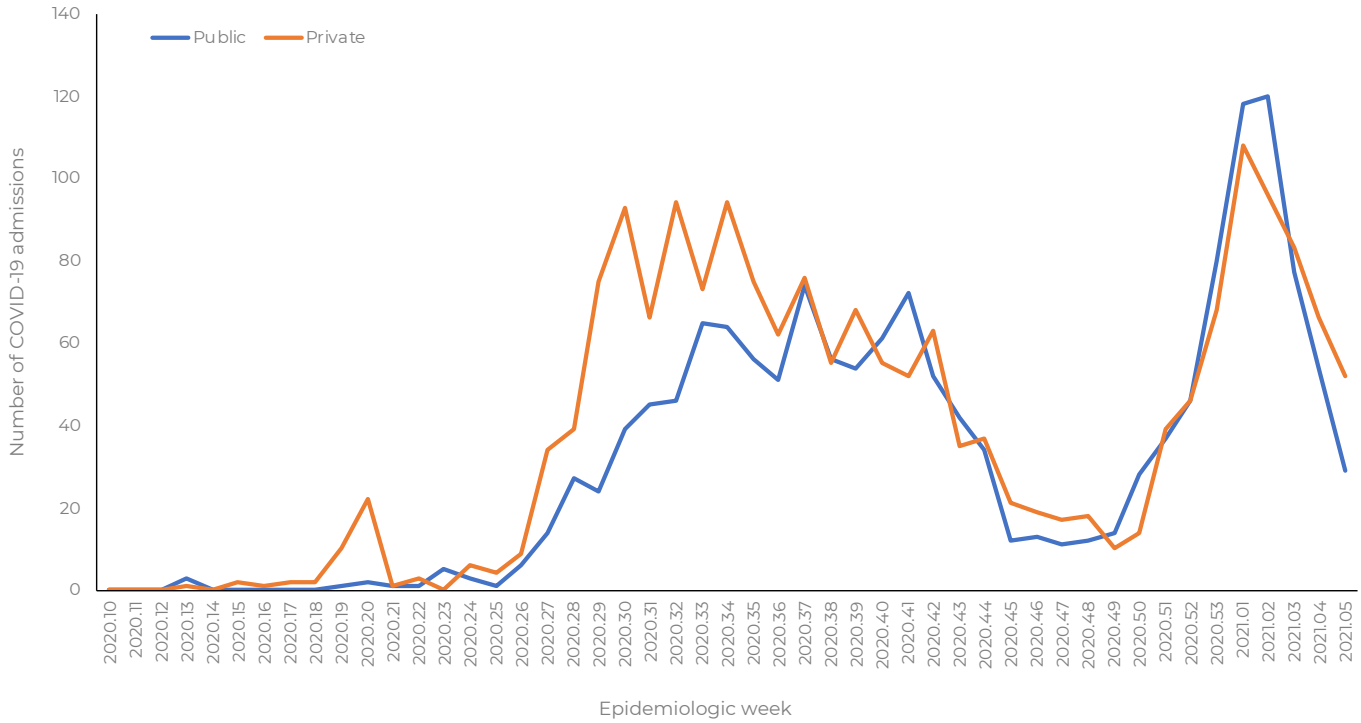

Figure 29: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n= 3,416

The increase in admissions in Northern Cape was observed across all districts; with the weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly number of admissions during the peak of the first wave in Pixley ka Seme, Namakwa and ZF Mgcawu districts (Figure 30). Decreases in the most recent week may reflect delays in data submission.

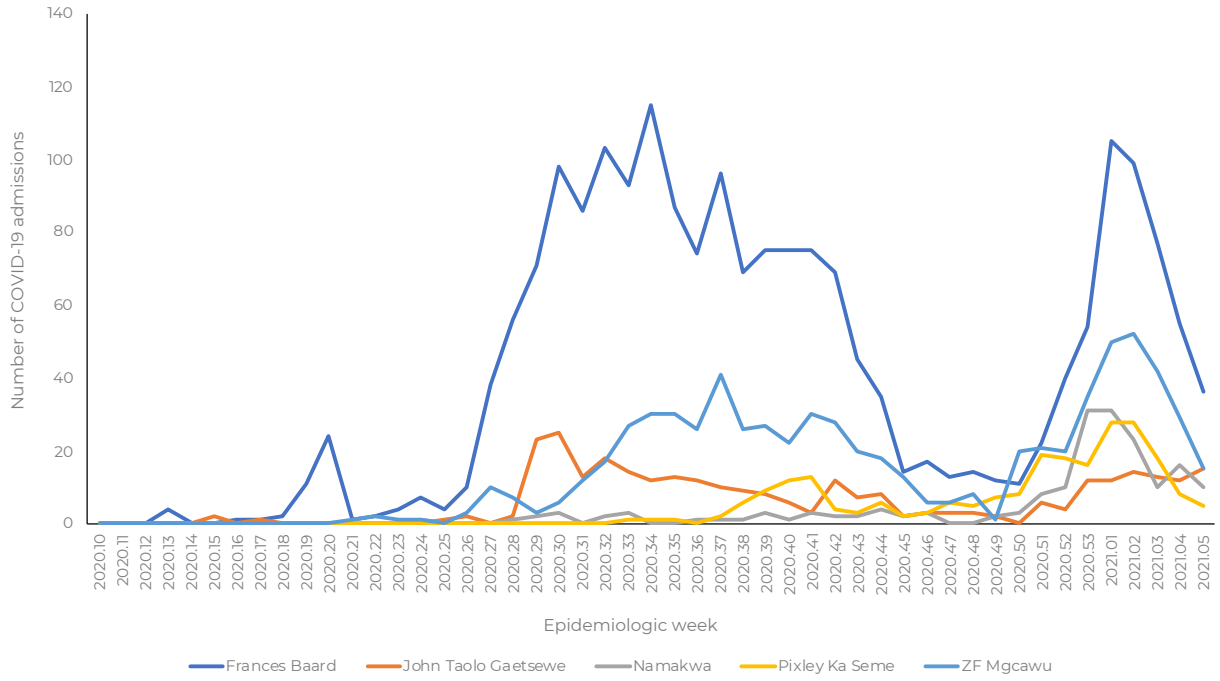

Figure 30: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n=3,416

The number of COVID-19 admissions increased in one of the five districts from week 4 to week 5, John Taolo Gaetsewe. The highest proportion of new admissions were in Frances Baard district (Table 12).

Table 12: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 4 to week 5 2021, by district, Northern Cape

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 4	Admissions Week 5	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Frances Baard	2000	55	36	-35	44.4	10.7
John Taolo Gaetsewe	302	12	15	25	18.5	6.8
Namakwa	179	16	10	-38	12.3	10.7
Pixley Ka Seme	229	8	5	-38	6.2	2.9
ZF Mgcawu	706	29	15	-48	18.5	6.6

The increases in deaths have occurred in all districts except John Taolo Gaetsewe, with the weekly deaths at the peak of the second wave exceeding the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the first wave in Pixley ka Seme, Namakwa and ZF Mgcawu districts (Figure 31).

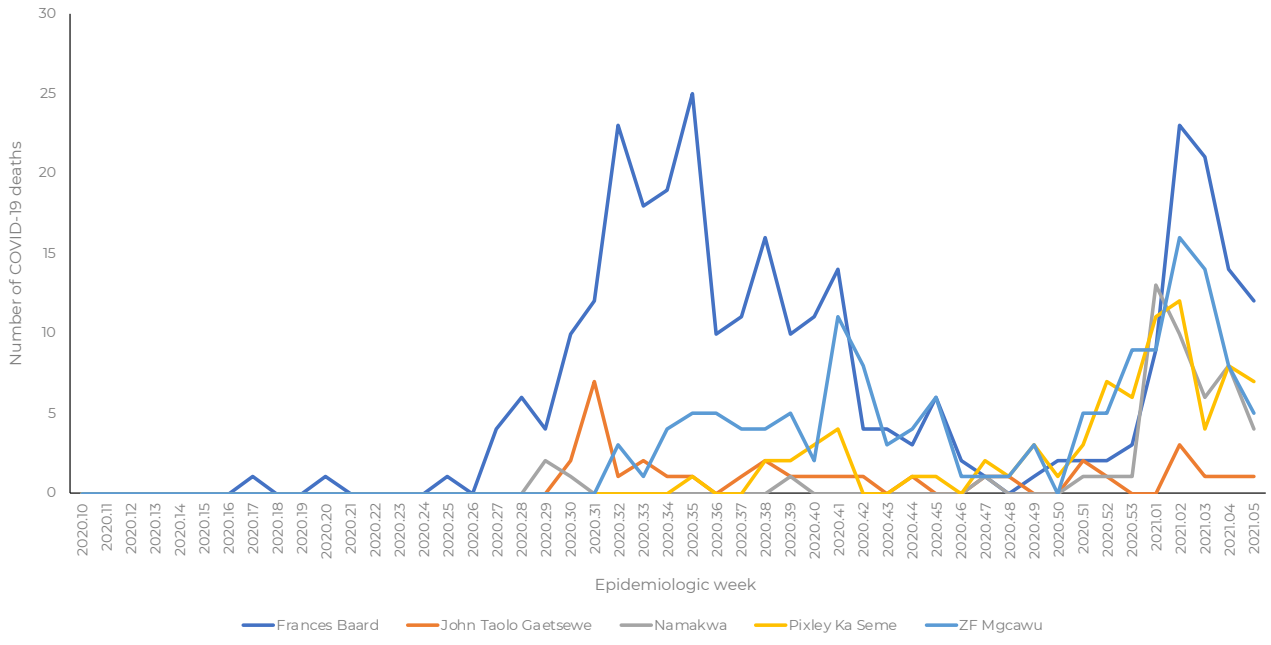

Figure 31: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021, n=608

LIMITATIONS

DATCOV now includes reporting from all hospitals with COVID-19 admissions but many hospitals are yet to reach complete submission of historic data. Data quality in a surveillance system is dependent on the information submitted by healthcare institutions. It is not possible for the NICD to verify or check the quality of all these data, however, the NICD has built-in data quality checks. Delays in reporting of admissions and deaths may affect the numbers reported in the most recent week. The National Department of Health are in the process of recruiting data capturers to support hospitals to improve data submission.

As hospitals reached capacity, admission criteria may change and therefore influence trends and inferences about the progression of the epidemic. DATCOV only reports hospital-based admissions and deaths and therefore does not include deaths occurring outside hospitals. DATCOV now has a module to record out-of-hospital deaths.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All public and private sector hospitals submitting data to DATCOV
Private hospital groups submitting data to DATCOV:

- Netcare
- Life Healthcare
- Mediclinic Southern Africa
- National Hospital Network (NHN)
- Clinix Health Group
- Lenmed
- Joint Medical Holdings (JMH)

APPENDIX

Table 13: Percentage average change in hospital admissions over 14 days, by district, South Africa, 2 January-06 February 2021

Province	District	Total admissions	Incidence (per 100k)	New admissions	New admissions incidence (per 100k)	% average change (14 days)
Eastern Cape	Alfred Nzo	1548	186.00	10	1.20	-54.55
	Amathole	2249	281.40	10	1.25	-61.54
	Buffalo City Metro	7034	878.29	72	8.99	-24.21
	Chris Hani	3117	428.36	28	3.85	-24.32
	Joe Gqabi	623	180.60	12	3.48	-36.84
	Nelson Mandela Bay Metro	10020	826.01	34	2.80	-41.38
	O R Tambo	2907	189.73	17	1.11	-66.67
	Sarah Baartman	1600	330.70	9	1.86	-18.18
Free State	Fezile Dabi	1240	243.08	24	4.70	-33.33
	Lejweleputswa	2370	362.61	36	5.51	-33.33
	Mangaung Metro	5631	646.56	75	8.61	-45.26
	Thabo Mofutsanyana	1741	227.64	57	7.45	-38.71
	Xhariep	291	224.81	10	7.73	11.11
Gauteng	City of Johannesburg Metro	21021	358.32	342	5.83	-42.52
	City of Tshwane Metro	13976	374.78	371	9.95	-30.78
	Ekurhuleni Metro	12549	315.13	202	5.07	-47.40
	Sedibeng	3014	315.43	68	7.12	-33.33
	West Rand	4604	482.23	118	12.36	-30.18
KwaZulu-Natal	Amajuba	1396	244.69	29	5.08	-50.00
	eThekwini Metro	19723	495.40	247	6.20	-50.40
	Harry Gwala	817	158.94	7	1.36	-41.67
	iLembe	1366	196.68	18	2.59	-53.85
	King Cetshwayo	4686	482.76	89	9.17	-49.14
	Ugu	2217	276.53	27	3.37	-49.06
	uMgungundlovu	4655	404.98	74	6.44	-51.32

COVID-19 SENTINEL HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK **5** 2021

Province	District	Total admissions	Incidence (per 100k)	New admissions	New admissions incidence (per 100k)	% average change (14 days)
	uMkhanyakude	647	94.19	14	2.04	-50.00
	Umzinyathi	444	78.23	18	3.17	-10.00
	UThukela	1485	207.92	40	5.60	-52.94
	Zululand	847	96.16	30	3.41	-57.14
Limpopo	Capricorn	3121	238.62	98	7.49	-38.36
	Mopani	1260	106.34	37	3.12	-50.00
	Sekhukhune	503	42.26	4	0.34	-73.33
	Vhembe	564	39.52	4	0.28	-84.62
	Waterberg	1012	136.35	32	4.31	-25.58
Mpumalanga	Ehlanzeni	2578	140.97	110	6.02	-32.93
	Gert Sibande	2264	182.26	73	5.88	-47.48
	Nkangala	2189	136.06	57	3.54	-48.65
North West	Bojanala Platinum	3526	182.87	59	3.06	-42.16
	Dr Kenneth Kaunda	5646	707.77	139	17.42	-28.72
	Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	565	119.43	9	1.90	-70.97
	Ngaka Modiri Molema	605	66.49	6	0.66	-62.50
Northern Cape	Frances Baard	2000	482.03	36	8.68	-34.55
	John Taolo Gaetsewe	302	111.24	15	5.53	25.00
	Namakwa	179	154.83	10	8.65	-37.50
	Pixley Ka Seme	229	108.59	5	2.37	-37.50
	ZF Mgcawu	706	252.23	15	5.36	-48.28
Western Cape	Cape Winelands	5110	542.89	85	9.03	-40.56
	Central Karoo	370	492.59	2	2.66	-33.33
	City of Cape Town Metro	30949	672.08	463	10.05	-31.20
	Garden Route	4392	704.23	87	13.95	-11.22
	Overberg	1207	402.46	10	3.33	-72.22
	West Coast	1387	300.99	34	7.38	-42.37

APPENDIX

Table 14: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions and in-hospital deaths by age and gender, South Africa, 5 March 2020-06 February 2021

	ADMISSIONS				DEATHS			
Age (years)	Female	Male	Unknown	Total	Female	Male	Unknown	Total
0-4	1322	1597	7	2926	51	51	1	103
5-9	337	459	3	799	8	12	0	20
10-14	594	541	0	1135	13	13	0	26
15-19	1793	970	3	2766	51	46	0	97
20-24	3240	1590	3	4833	113	84	0	197
25-29	5733	2617	4	8354	258	160	0	418
30-34	7971	4608	2	12581	488	368	0	856
35-39	8974	6387	5	15366	696	619	0	1315
40-44	8744	7631	4	16379	912	927	1	1840
45-49	10069	9269	7	19345	1381	1448	2	2831
50-54	11706	10406	1	22113	1890	1927	0	3817
55-59	12585	10981	8	23574	2697	2623	1	5321
60-64	11163	10059	7	21229	3024	3199	1	6224
65-69	9069	7927	6	17002	3024	2859	0	5883
70-74	7235	6379	12	13626	2550	2537	4	5091
75-79	5224	4210	3	9437	1966	1827	0	3793
80-84	3752	2634	4	6390	1484	1165	1	2650
85-89	2000	1245	1	3246	840	616	0	1456
90-94	876	420	1	1297	414	220	0	634
>=95	334	207	0	541	136	71	0	207
Unknown	811	629	103	1543	114	122	4	240
Total	**113532**	**90766**	**184**	**204482**	**22110**	**20894**	**15**	**43019**