

COVID-19 SENTINEL HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

SOUTH AFRICA WEEK 4 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 30 January 2021.

HIGHLIGHTS

- As of 30 January 2021, 197,689 COVID-19 admissions and 40,534 in-hospital deaths were reported from 635 facilities (384 public-sector and 251 private-sector) in all nine provinces of South Africa.
- There has been a resurgence in admissions in all provinces. 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.

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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 30 January 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 2020-30 January 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

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RESULTS

Epidemiological and geographic trends in admissions

From 5 March 2020 to 30 January 2021, a total of 197,689 COVID-19 admissions were reported from 635 facilities in all nine provinces of South Africa. There has been a resurgence in both public and private sector since week 40 2020; the peak weekly numbers of admissions 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.

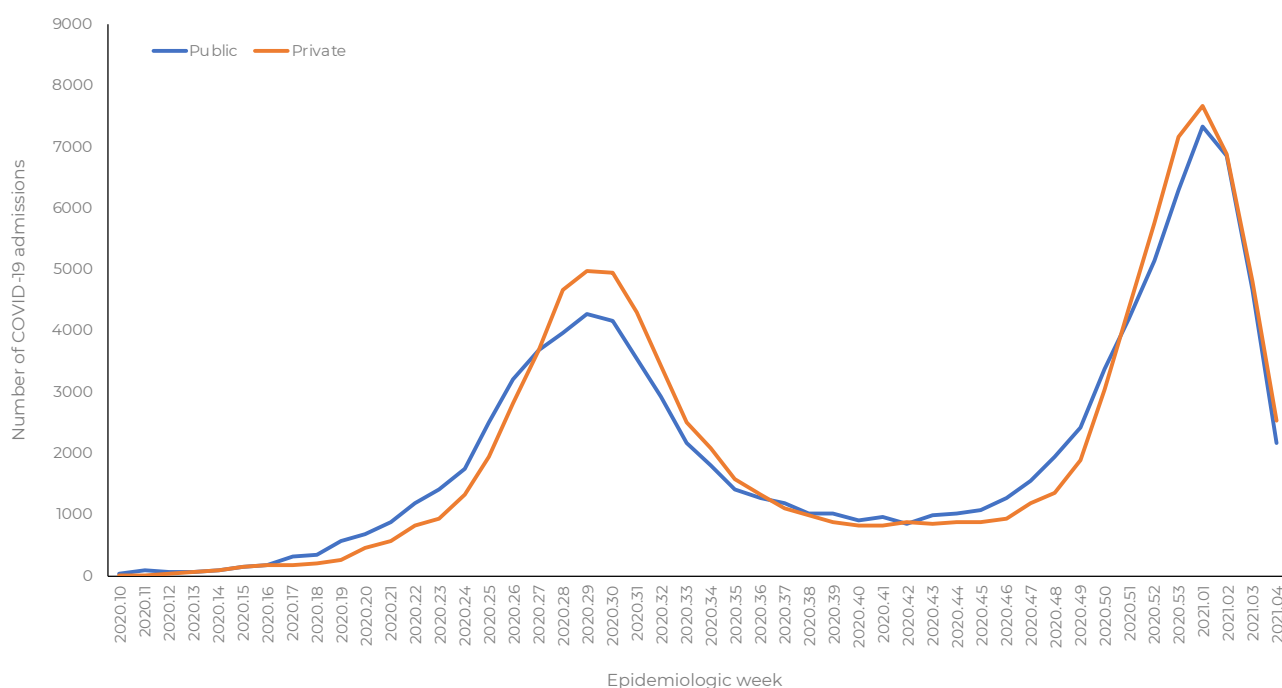


Figure 1. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=197,689

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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 in all provinces except Free State surpassed the numbers during the peak of the first wave. Numbers are now decreasing in all provinces. Reductions in the most recent week may be as a result of delayed reporting.

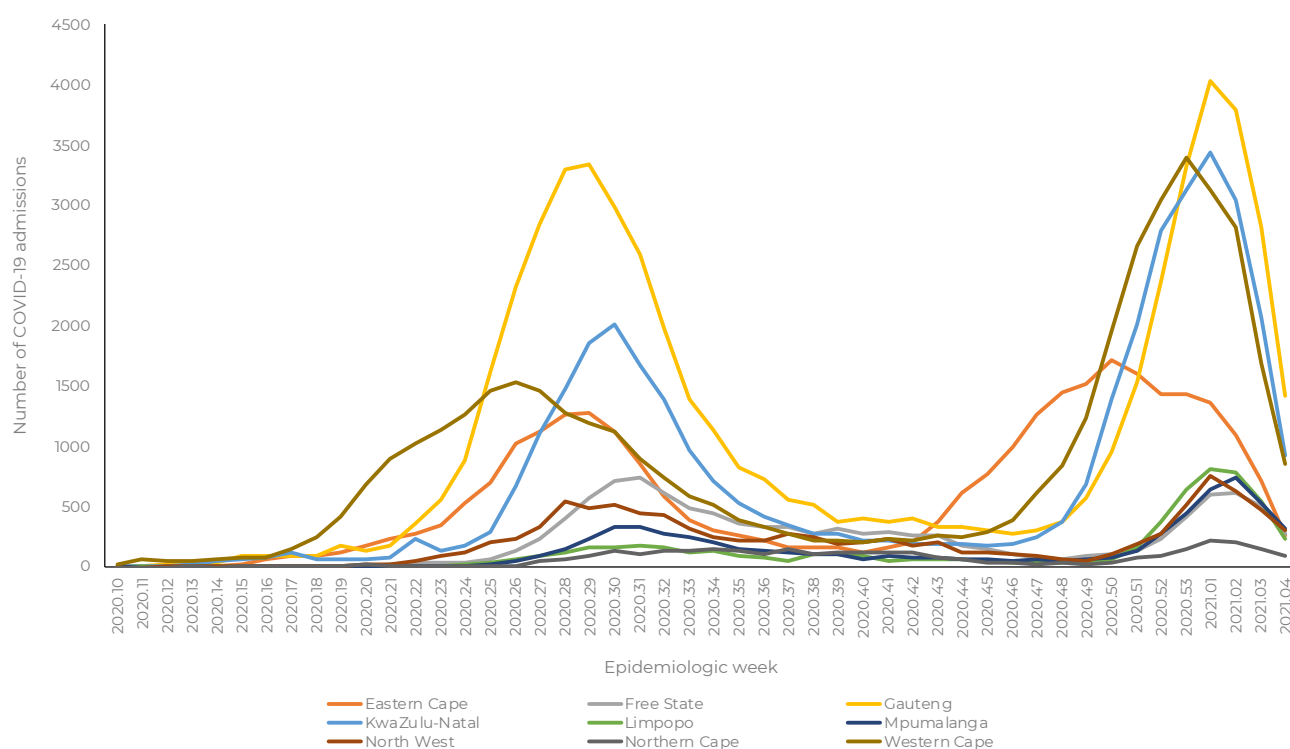


Figure 2. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by province and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=197,689

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EPIDEMIOLOGICAL AND GEOGRAPHIC TRENDS IN IN-HOSPITAL MORTALITY

There has been 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 surpassed the numbers during the peak of the first wave in both sectors (Figure 3). In the first wave there were more deaths in the public sector compared to the private sector whereas in the second wave the proportion of deaths in the private sector was higher.

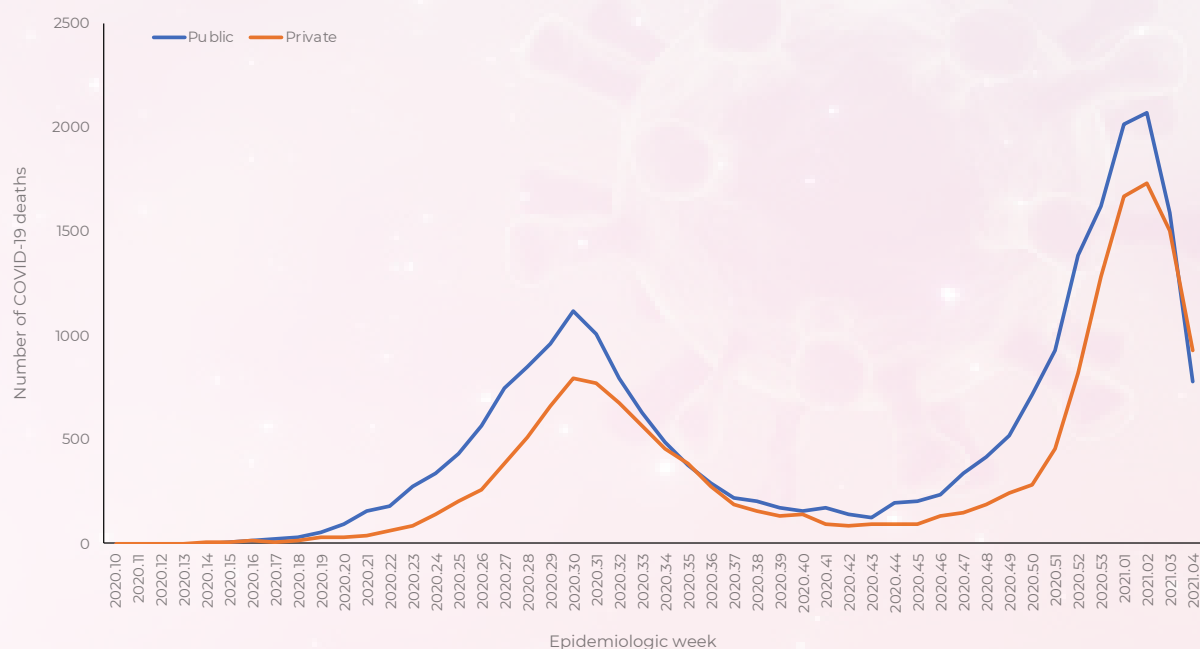


Figure 3. Number of in-hospital COVID-19 in-hospital deaths reported per week by health sector and epidemiologic week, South Africa, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=40,534

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

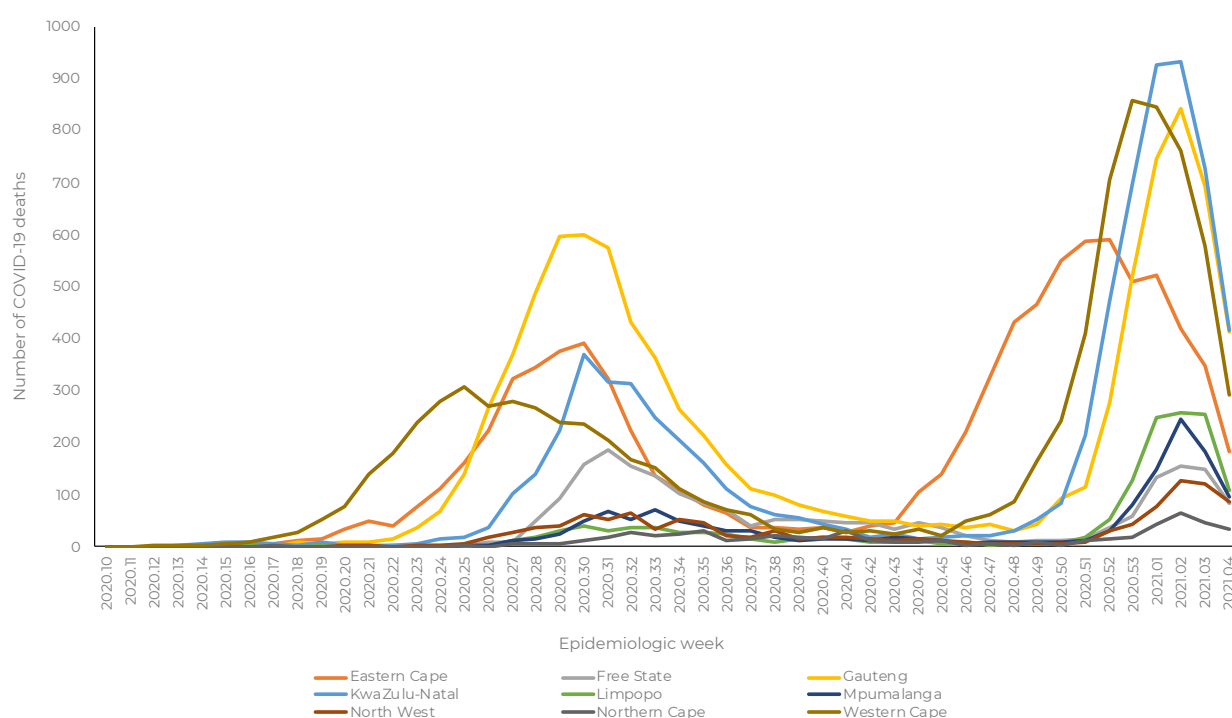


Figure 4. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by province and epidemiologic week of death, South Africa, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=40,534

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The cumulative incidence risks of COVID-19 admissions were highest in Western Cape and Eastern Cape provinces; and for deaths were highest in Eastern Cape and Western 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 2020-30 January 2021

Province	Provincial Population mid 2020*	Cumulative admissions	Cumulative Admissions / 100,000	Cumulative deaths	Cumulative deaths / 100,000
Eastern Cape	6734001	28673	425.8	8752	130.0
Free State	2928903	10879	371.4	2162	73.8
Gauteng	15488137	53,203	343.5	9066	58.5
KwaZulu-Natal	11531628	36728	318.5	7235	62.7
Limpopo	5852553	5898	100.8	1473	25.2
Mpumalanga	4679786	6485	138.6	1386	29.6
North West	4108816	9,943	242.0	1134	27.6
Northern Cape	1292786	3,263	252.4	564	43.6
Western Cape	7005741	42,617	608.3	8762	125.1
South Africa	59622350	197,689	331.6	40,534	68.0

*StatsSA mid-year population estimates 2020

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PROVINCIAL TRENDS

The number of COVID-19 admissions decreased in all provinces from week 3 to week 4 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 no districts across the country that reported increased admissions change over the previous 14 days (Appendix 1).

Table 3. Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 3 to week 4 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 3	Week 4*			
Eastern Cape	709	266	-62	5.7	4.0
Free State	499	282	-43	6.0	9.6
Gauteng	2822	1414	-50	30.2	9.1
KwaZulu-Natal	2073	930	-55	19.9	8.1
Limpopo	544	229	-58	4.9	3.9
Mpumalanga	531	312	-41	6.7	6.7
North West	474	305	-36	6.5	7.4
Northern Cape	147	90	-39	1.9	7.0
Western Cape	1687	856	-49	18.3	12.2
South Africa	9,486	4,684	-51	100.0	7.9

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

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EASTERN CAPE

The increase in admissions in the Eastern Cape started in week 40 2020, in public and private sectors, 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).

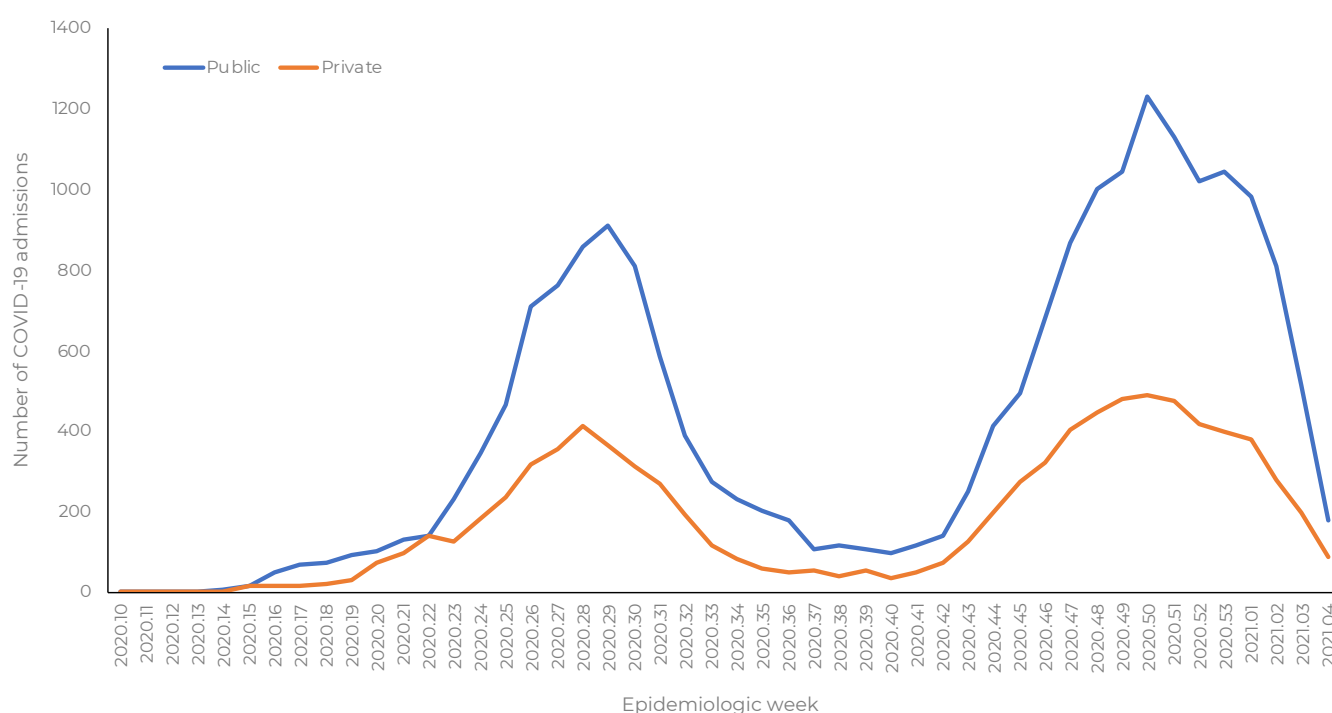


Figure 5: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=28,673

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The increase in admissions in Eastern Cape was predominantly in Nelson Mandela Bay Metro and Buffalo City Metro. The weekly admissions 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 four weeks.

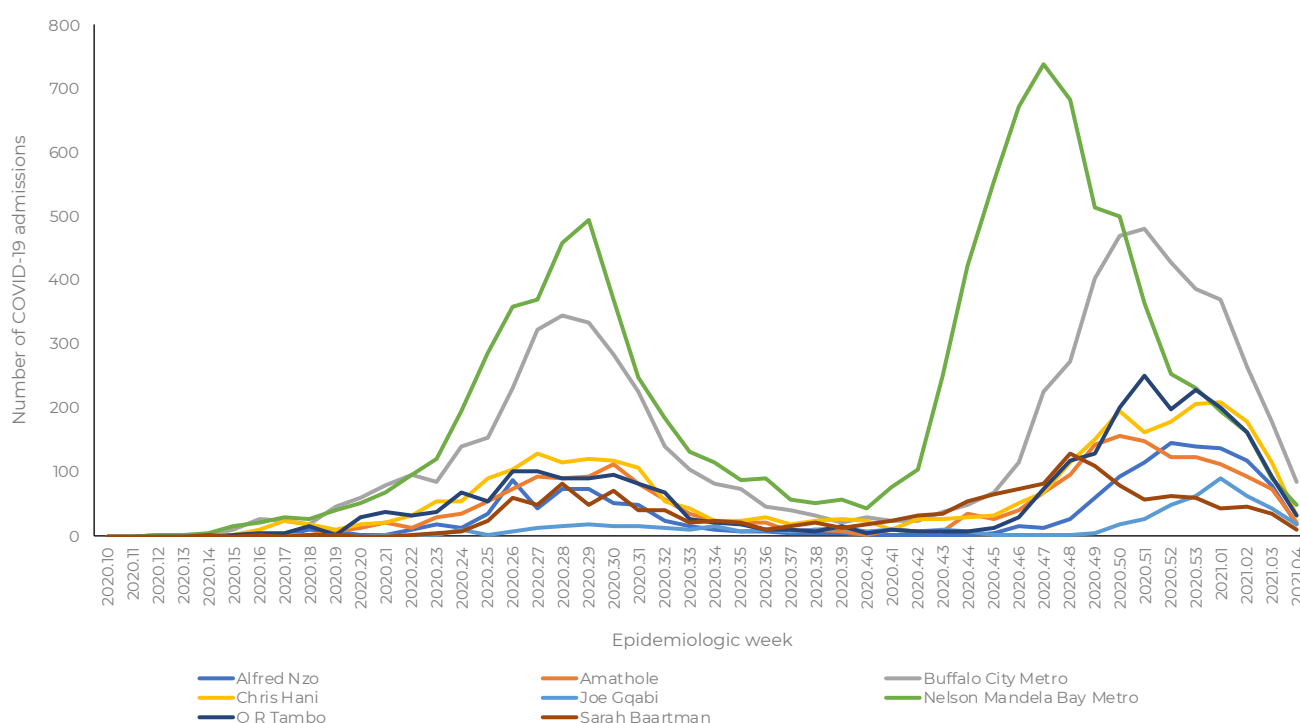


Figure 6. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=28,673

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All districts showed a decrease in COVID-19 admission in week 3 and week 4 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 3 to week 4 2021, by district, Eastern Cape

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 3	Admissions Week 4	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Alfred Nzo	1529	79	18	-77	6.8	0.8
Amathole	2196	75	21	-72	7.9	1.0
Buffalo City Metro	6944	178	85	-52	32.0	4.0
Chris Hani	3085	115	33	-71	12.4	1.7
Joe Gqabi	606	44	17	-61	6.4	1.9
Nelson Mandela Bay Metro	9942	91	48	-47	18.0	1.5
O R Tambo	2796	93	33	-65	12.4	0.8
Sarah Baartman	1575	34	11	-68	4.1	0.9

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The increase in deaths in Eastern Cape was predominantly in Nelson Mandela Bay Metro and Buffalo City Metro. The weekly deaths 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 Bay 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.

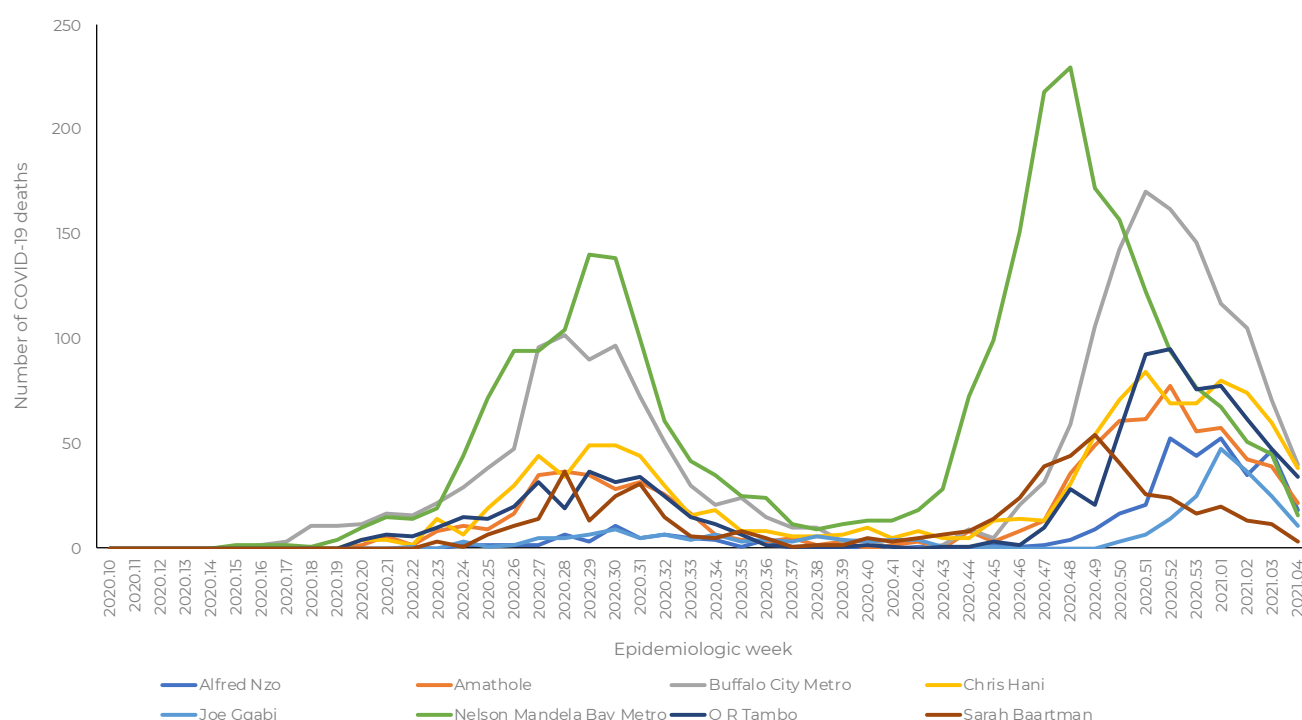


Figure 7. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=8,752

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WESTERN CAPE

There was an increase in admissions reported in the Western Cape in both public and private sectors since week 43 2020, 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

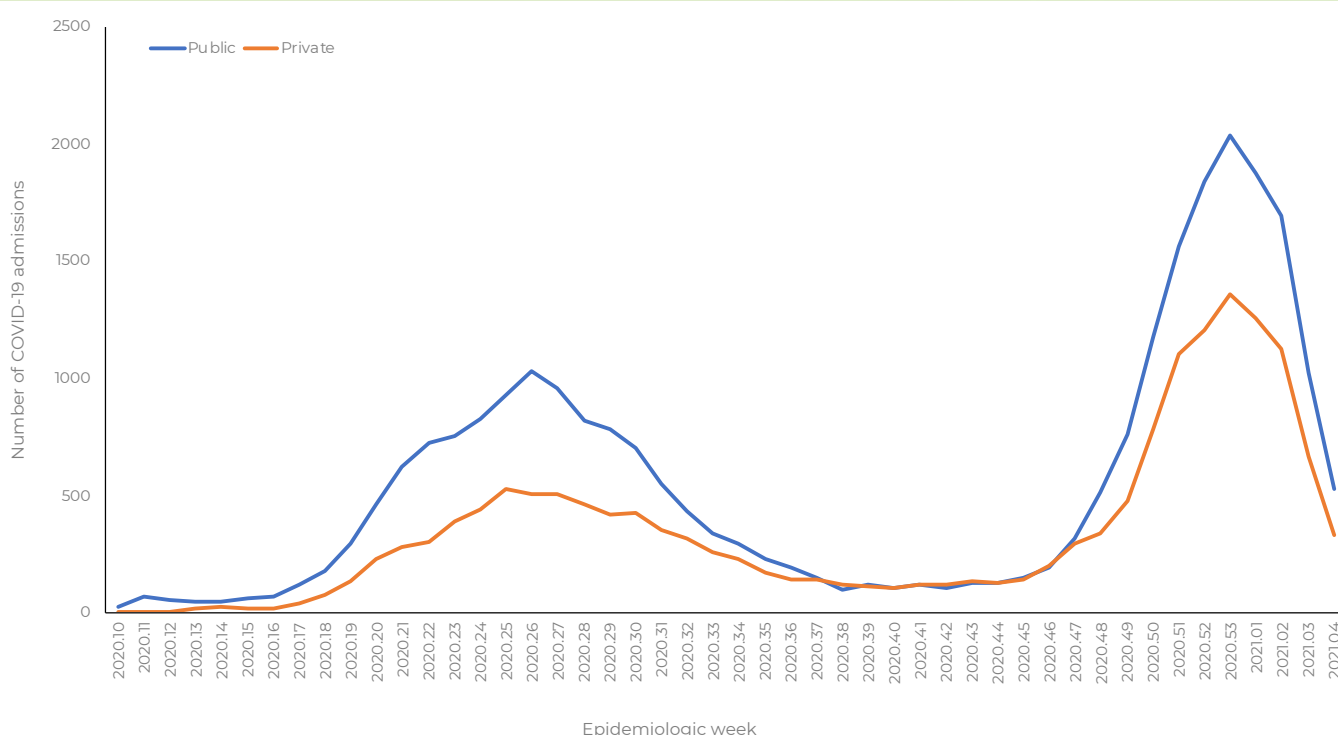


Figure 8: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=42,617

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The increase in admissions in Western Cape began in Garden Route then City of Cape Town Metro and Cape Winelands, 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 3 and week 4 of 2021.

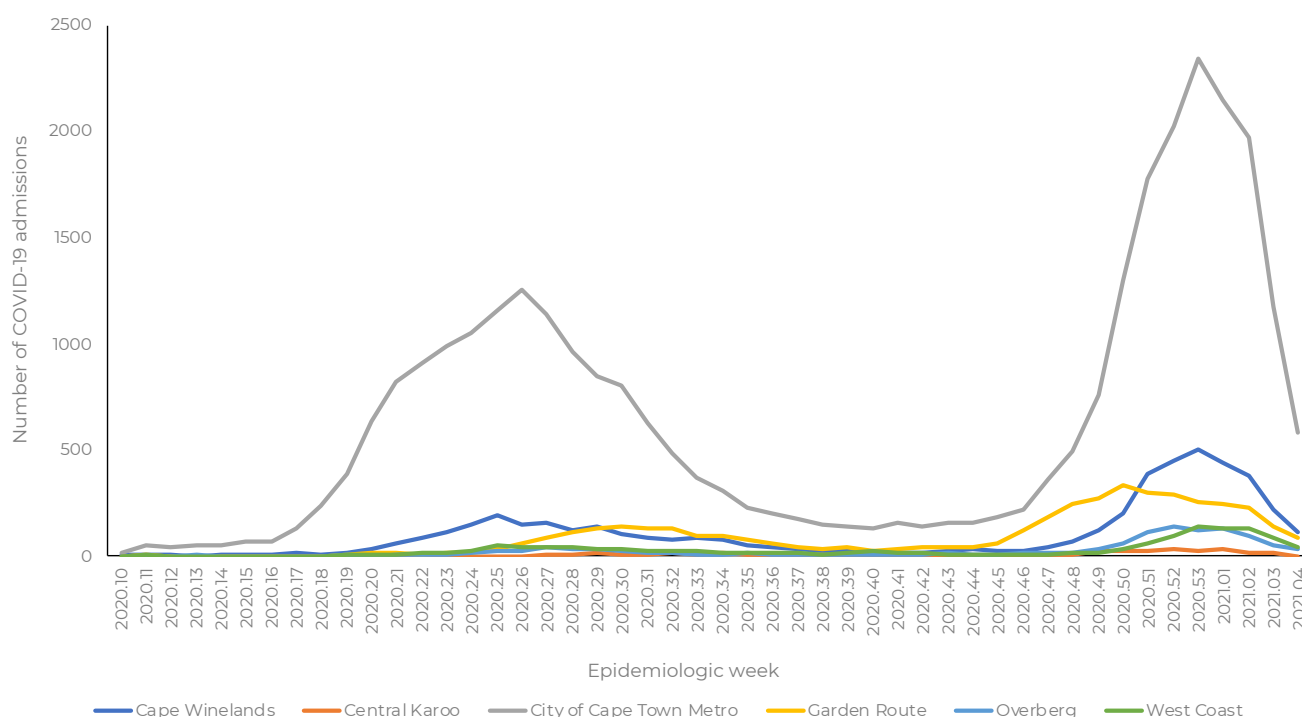


Figure 9: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=42,617

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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 3 to week 4 2021, by district, Western Cape

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 3	Admissions Week 4	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Cape Winelands	5001	218	110	-50	12.9	1.4
Central Karoo	367	16	2	-88	0.2	0.3
City of Cape Town Metro	30410	1172	582	-50	68.0	1.5
Garden Route	4304	141	85	-40	9.9	1.6
Overberg	1192	50	32	-36	3.7	1.2
West Coast	1343	90	45	-50	5.3	1.1

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The increase in deaths in Western Cape was predominantly in City of Cape Town Metro, Garden Route and Cape Winelands, 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.

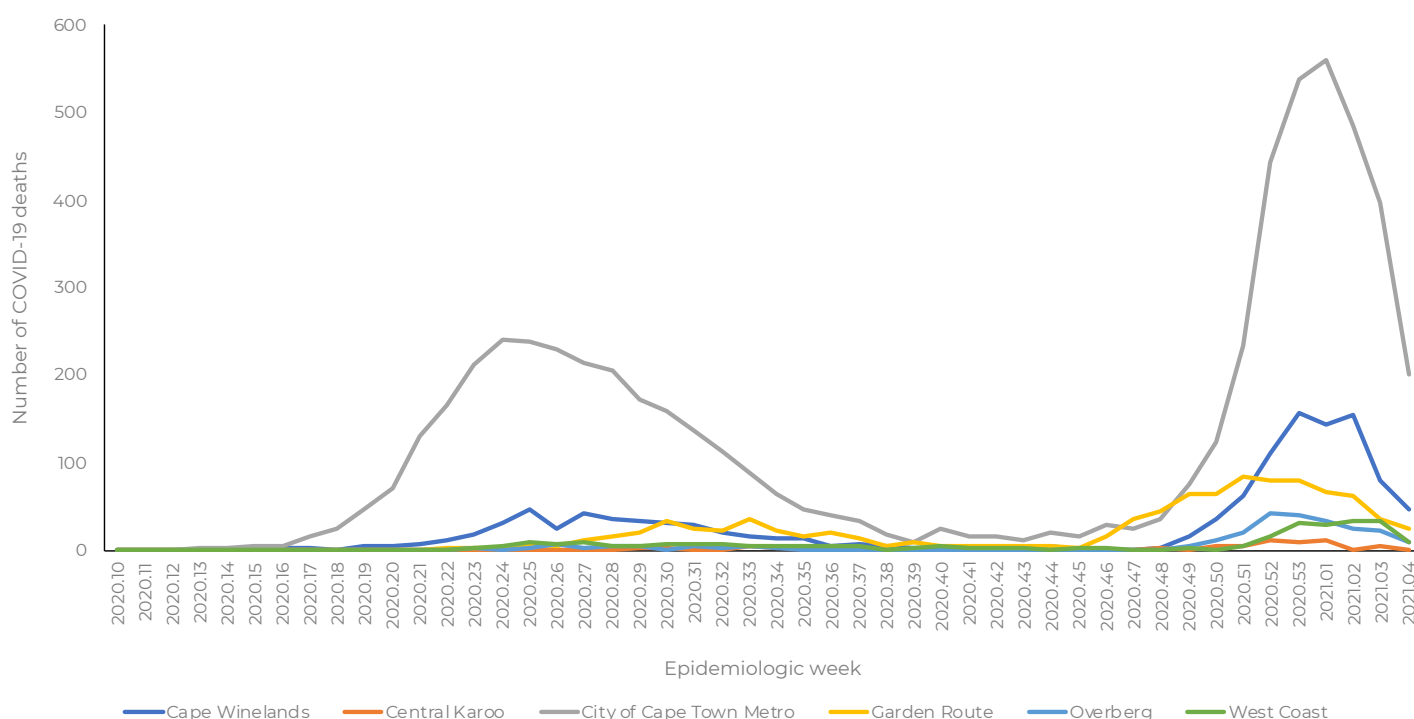


Figure 10: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=8,762

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KWAZULU-NATAL

There has been an increase in admissions in KwaZulu-Natal in the private sector since week 46 2020 and in the public sector since week 47 2020, 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.

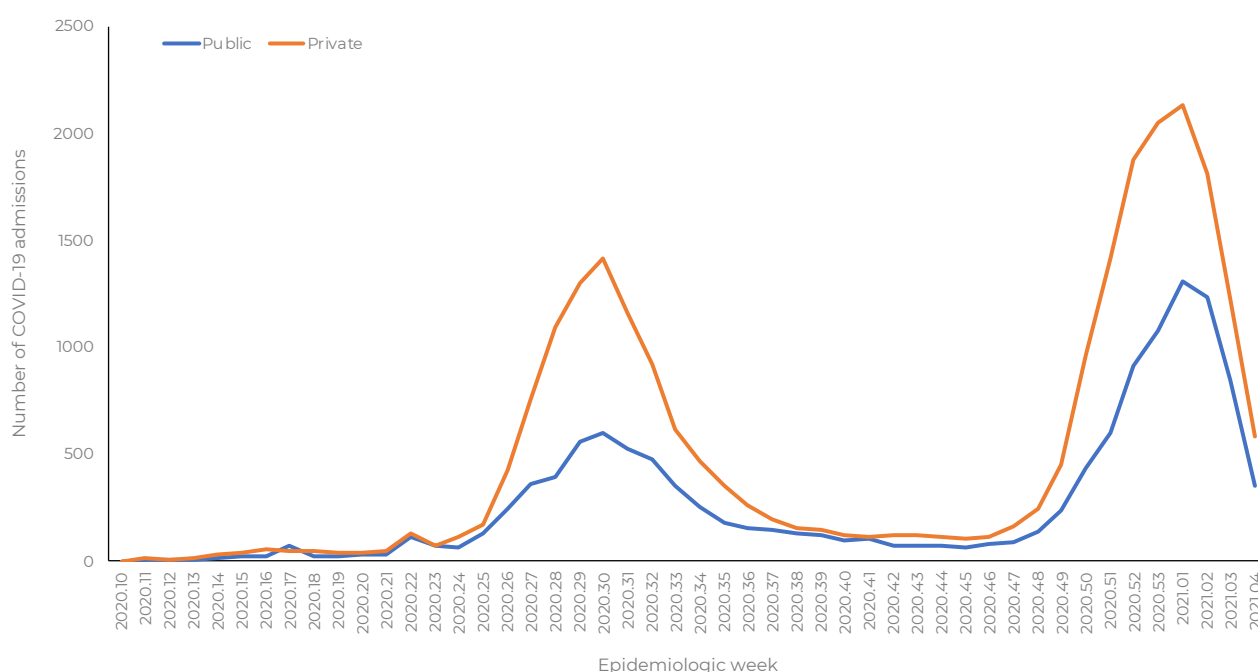


Figure 11: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=36,728

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

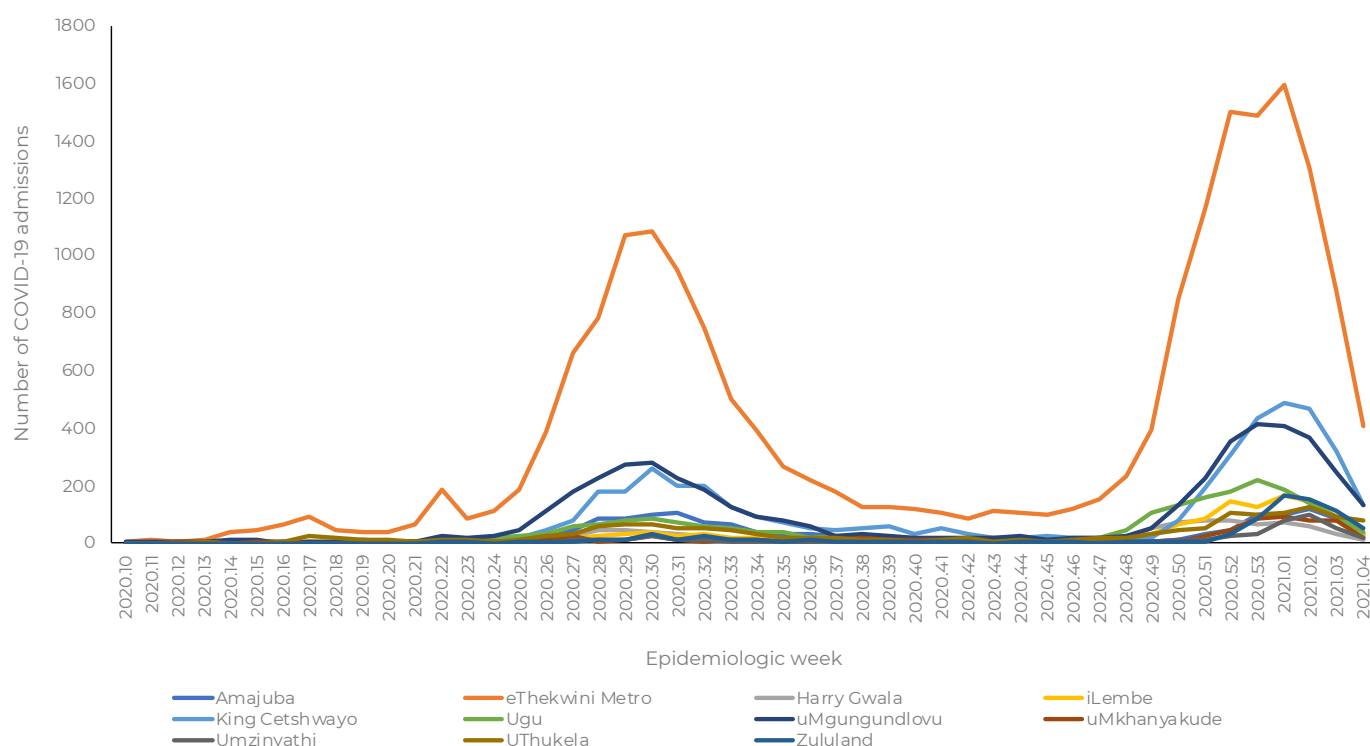


Figure 12: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=36,728

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

Table 6: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 3 to week 4 2021, by district, KwaZulu-Natal

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 3	Admissions Week 4	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Amajuba	1320	81	30	-63	3.2	0.6
eThekwin Metro	19207	877	404	-54	43.4	1.1
Harry Gwala	812	31	13	-58	1.4	0.3
iLembe	1246	94	22	-77	2.4	0.3
King Cetshwayo	4307	320	130	-59	14.0	1.4
Ugu	2099	92	38	-59	4.1	0.5
uMgungundlovu	4537	244	131	-46	14.1	1.2
uMkhanyakude	621	76	17	-78	1.8	0.3
Umzinyathi	421	52	15	-71	1.6	0.3
UThukela	1408	93	80	-14	8.6	1.2
Zululand	750	113	50	-56	5.4	0.6

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The increase in deaths in KwaZulu-Natal was predominantly in eThekweni, and has exceeded the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 13).

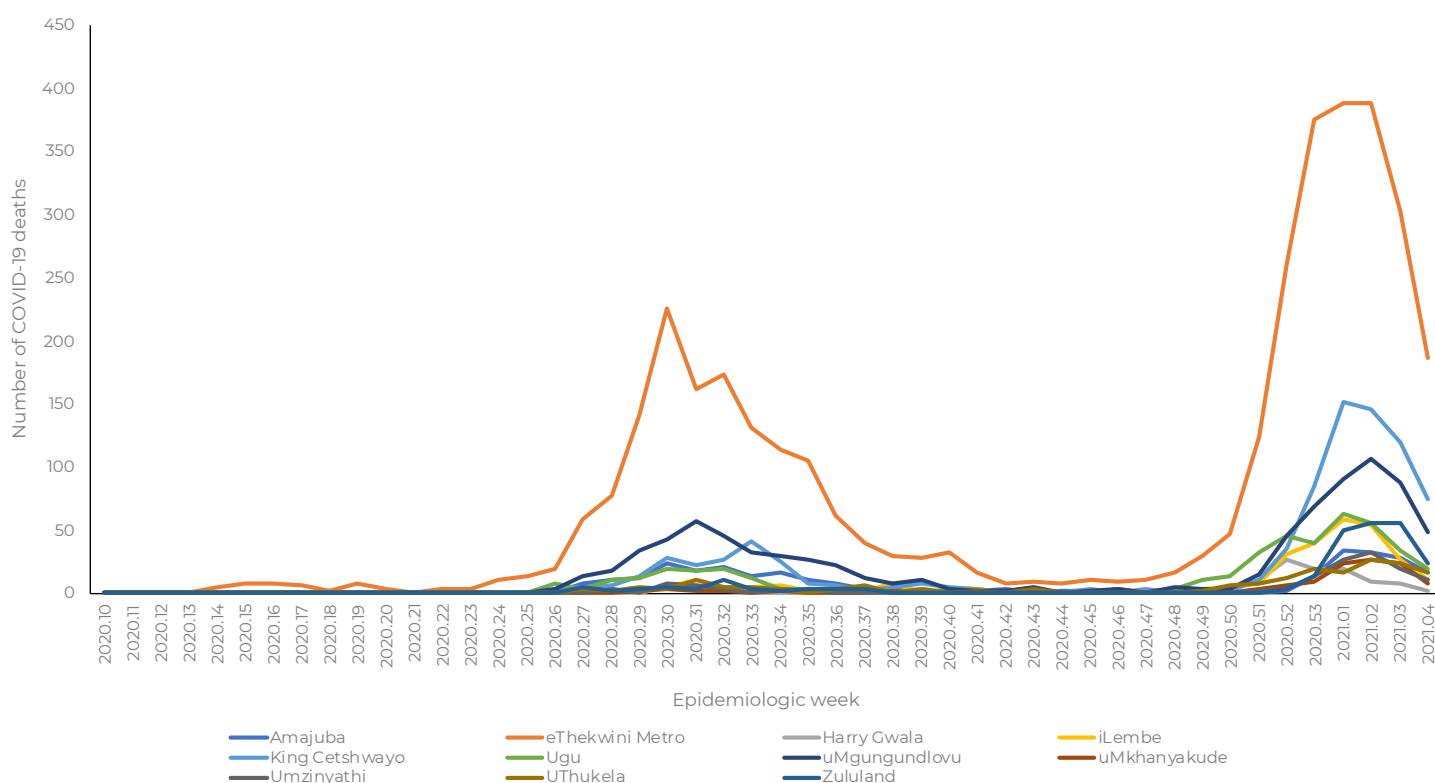


Figure 13: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n= 7,235

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GAUTENG

There has been an increase in admissions reported in Gauteng in the private and public sector since week 48 2020, 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.

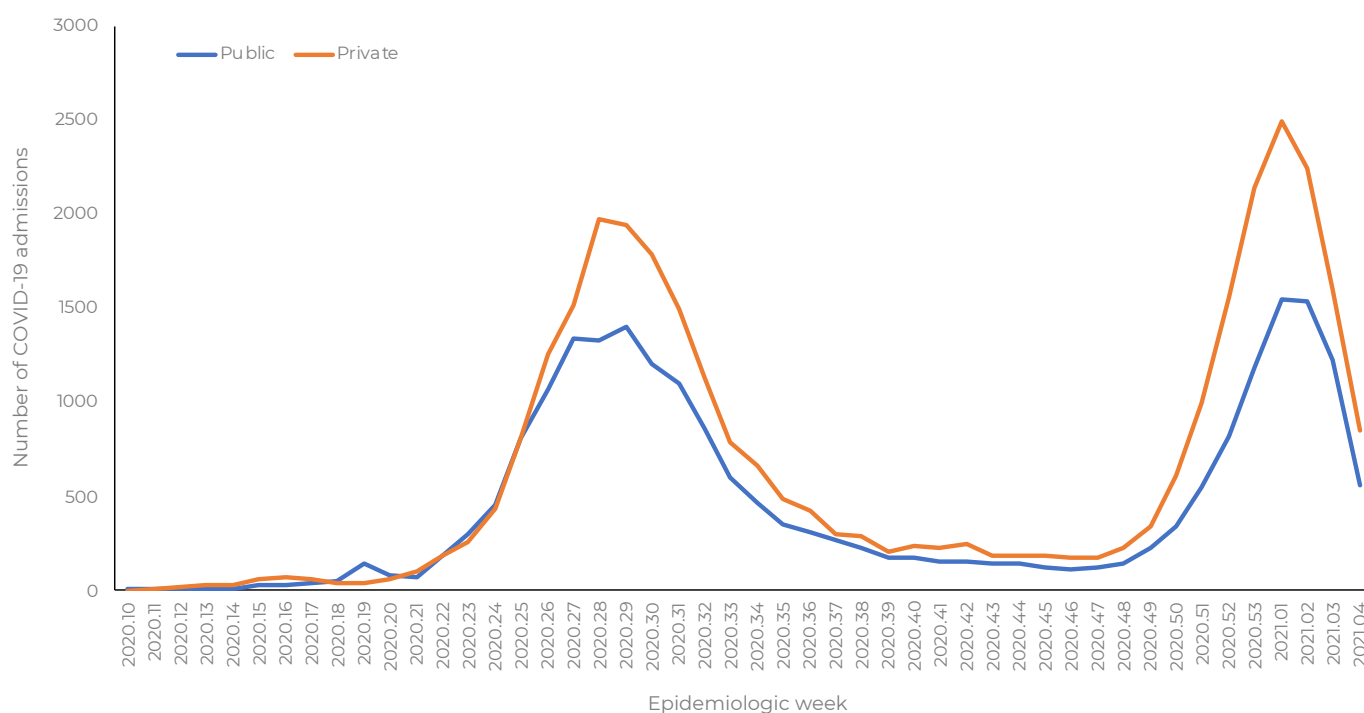


Figure 14: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n= 53,203

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The increase in admissions in Gauteng is seen predominantly in City of Johannesburg and City of Tshwane; and has exceeded 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.

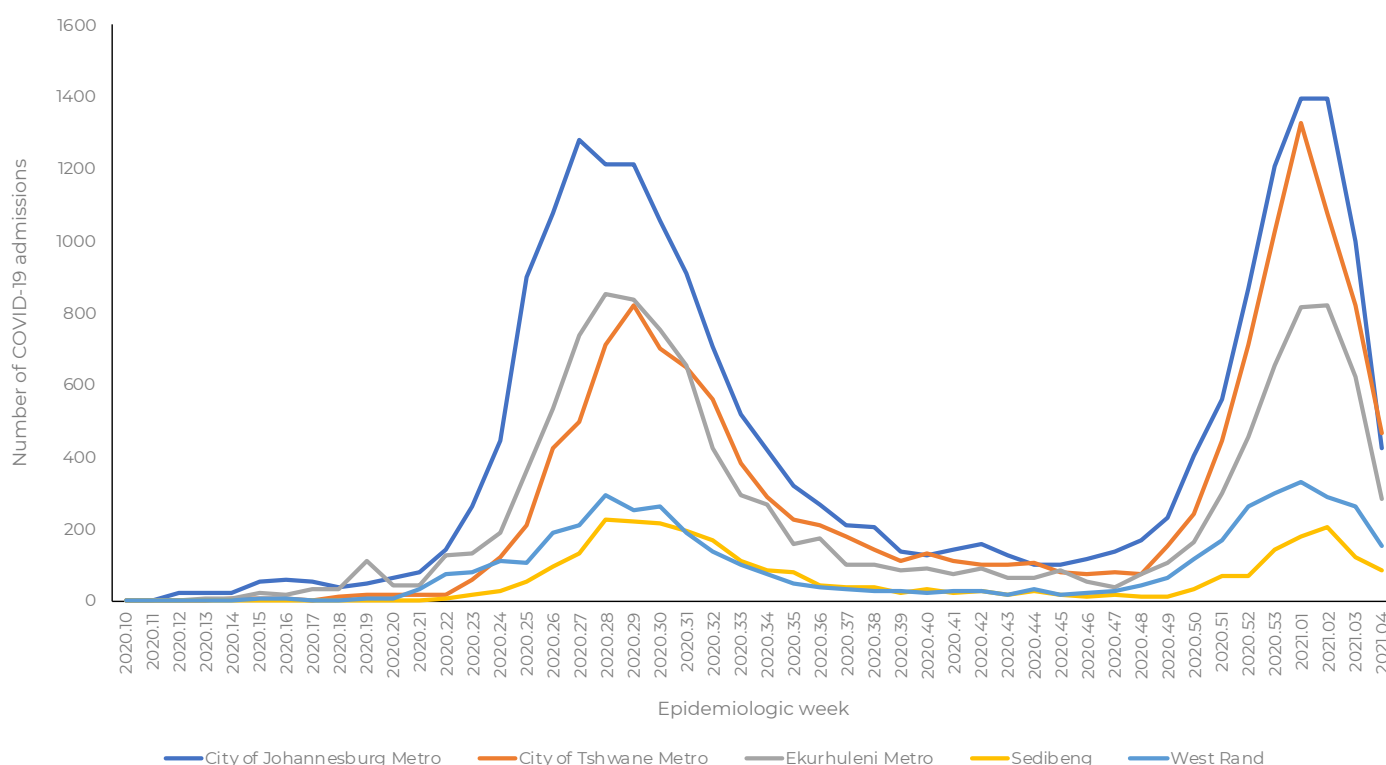


Figure 15: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=53,203

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All districts showed decrease in COVID-19 admission in week 3 and week 4 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 3 to week 4 2021, by district, Gauteng

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 3	Admissions Week 4	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
City of Johannesburg Metro	20383	997	425	-57	30.1	0.5
City of Tshwane Metro	13530	823	468	-43	33.1	0.9
Ekurhuleni Metro	11934	621	281	-55	19.9	0.5
Sedibeng	2881	121	86	-29	6.1	0.6
West Rand	4475	260	154	-41	10.9	1.1

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

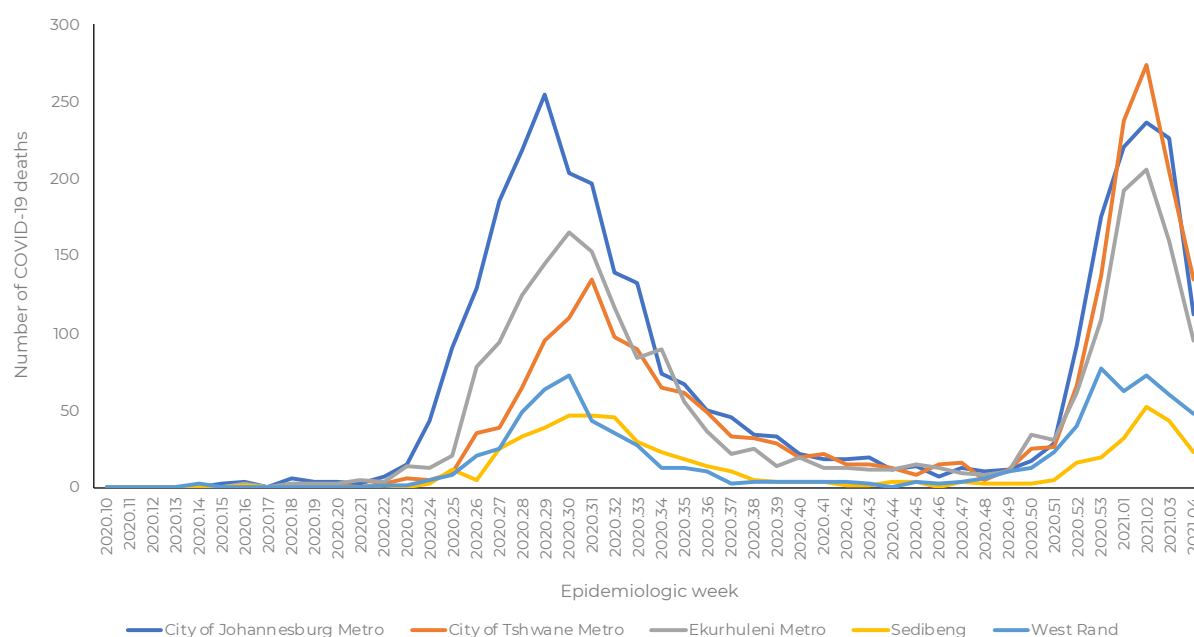


Figure 16: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=9,066

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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, 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.

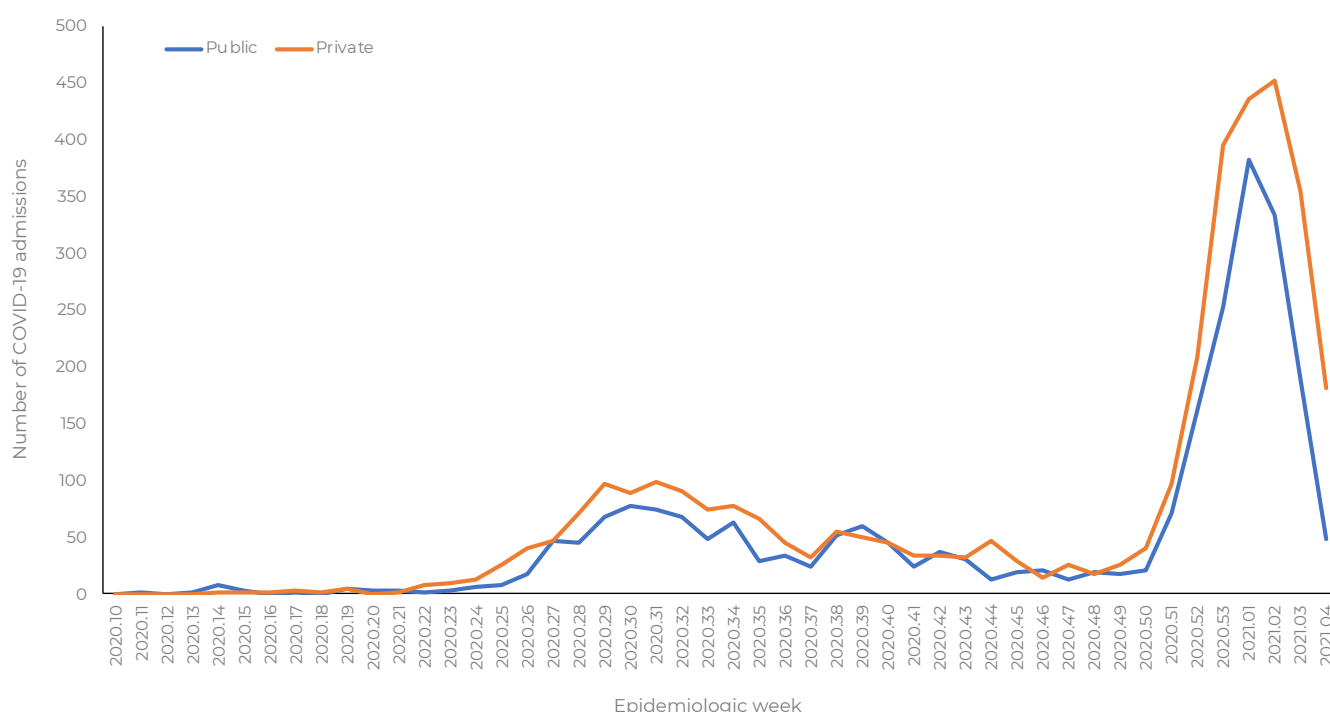


Figure 17: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=5,898

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The increase in admissions in Limpopo was observed predominantly in Capricorn, 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.

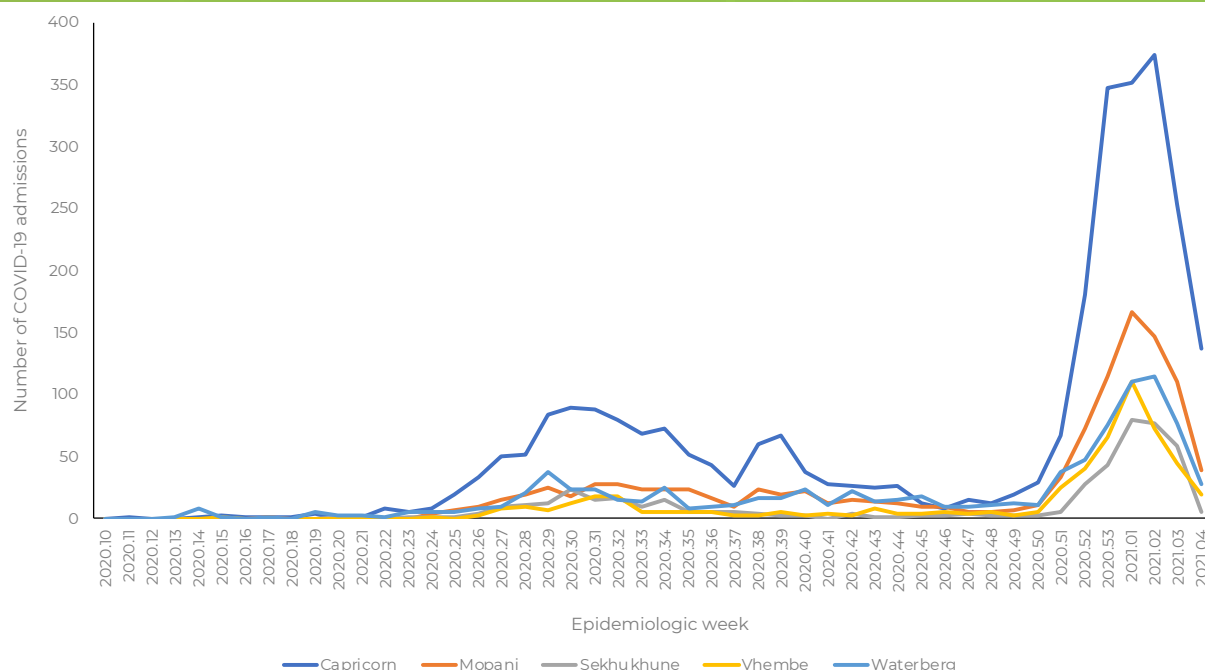


Figure 18: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=5,898

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All districts showed decreases in COVID-19 admission in week 3 and week 4 2021. The highest proportion of new admissions was in Capricorn (Table 8).

Table 8: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 3 to week 4 2021, by district, Limpopo

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 3	Admissions Week 4	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Capricorn	2870	253	137	-46	59.8	4.6
Mopani	1103	111	39	-65	17.0	1.4
Sekhukhune	463	59	5	-92	2.2	0.2
Vhembe	537	44	20	-55	8.7	0.6
Waterberg	925	77	28	-64	12.2	1.6

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

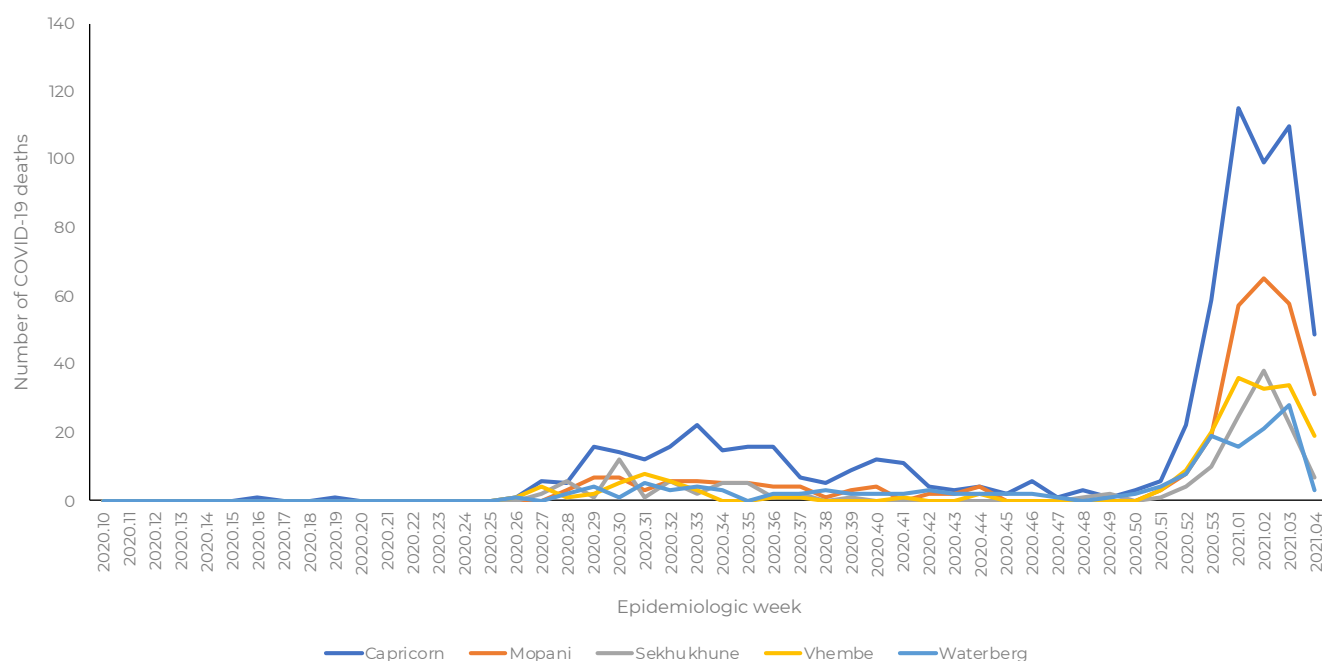


Figure 19: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=1,473

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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). Numbers of admissions are now decreasing in both sectors.

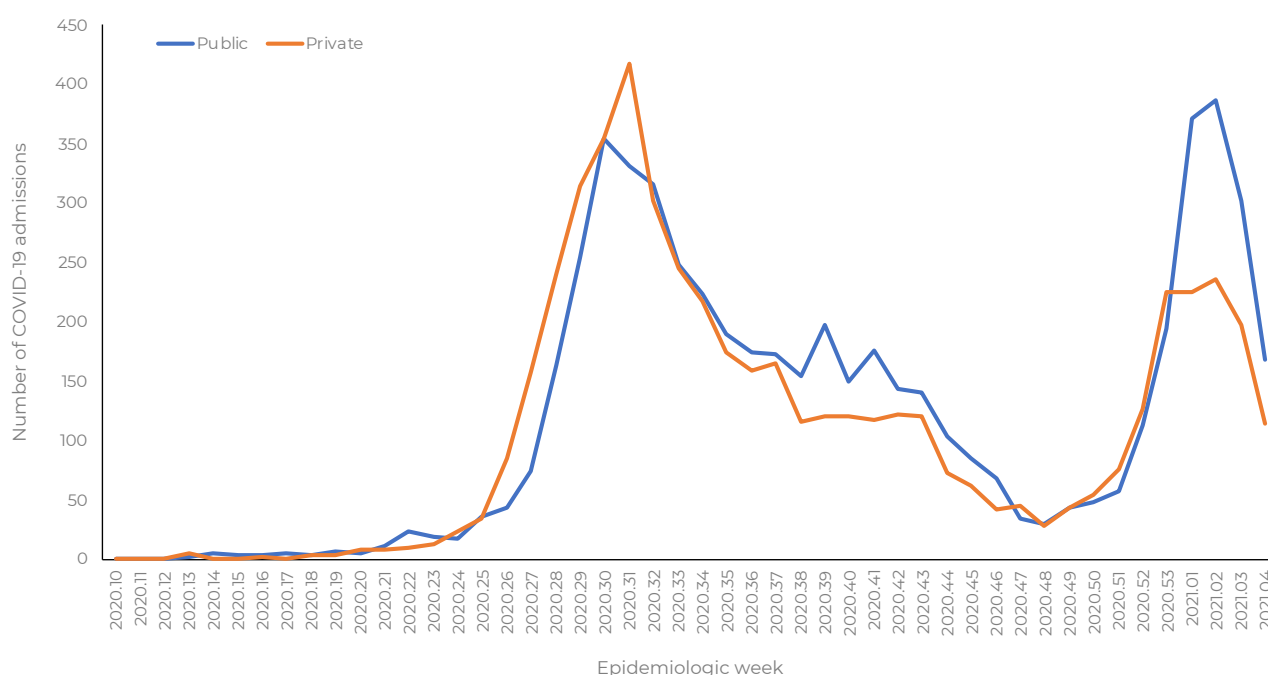


Figure 20: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Free State, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=10,879

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

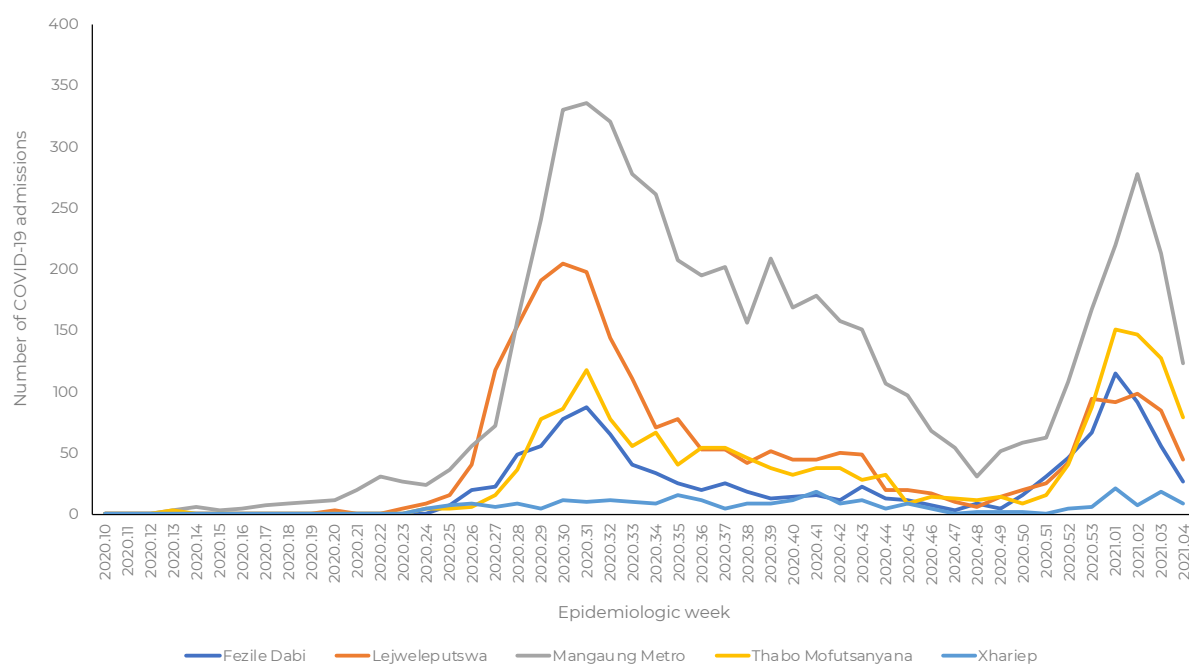


Figure 21: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Free State, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=10,879

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All districts showed decrease in COVID-19 admission in week 3 and week 4 2021. The highest proportion of new admissions were in Mangaung Metro (Table 9).

Table 9: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 3 to week 4 2021, by district, Free State

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 3	Admissions Week 4	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Fezile Dabi	1115	56	26	-54	9.2	1.8
Lejweleputswa	2316	85	45	-47	16.0	2.4
Mangaung Metro	5499	213	123	-42	43.6	5.0
Thabo Mofutsanyana	1668	127	79	-38	28.0	3.7
Xhariep	281	18	9	-50	3.2	2.5

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

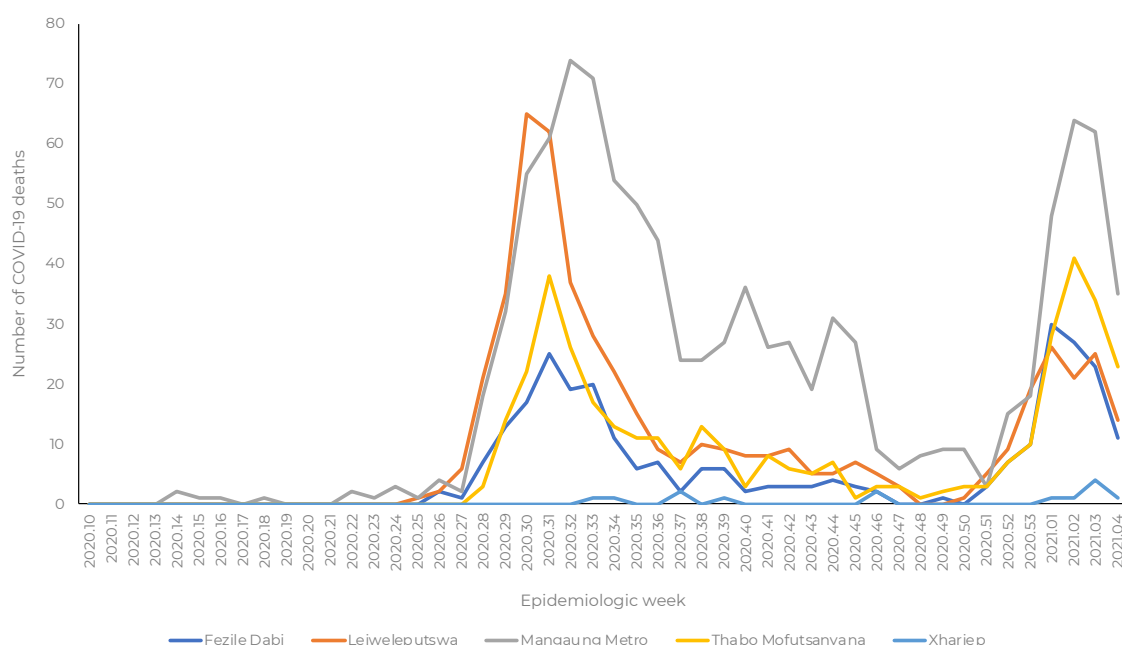


Figure 22: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Free State, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=2,162

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MPUMALANGA

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

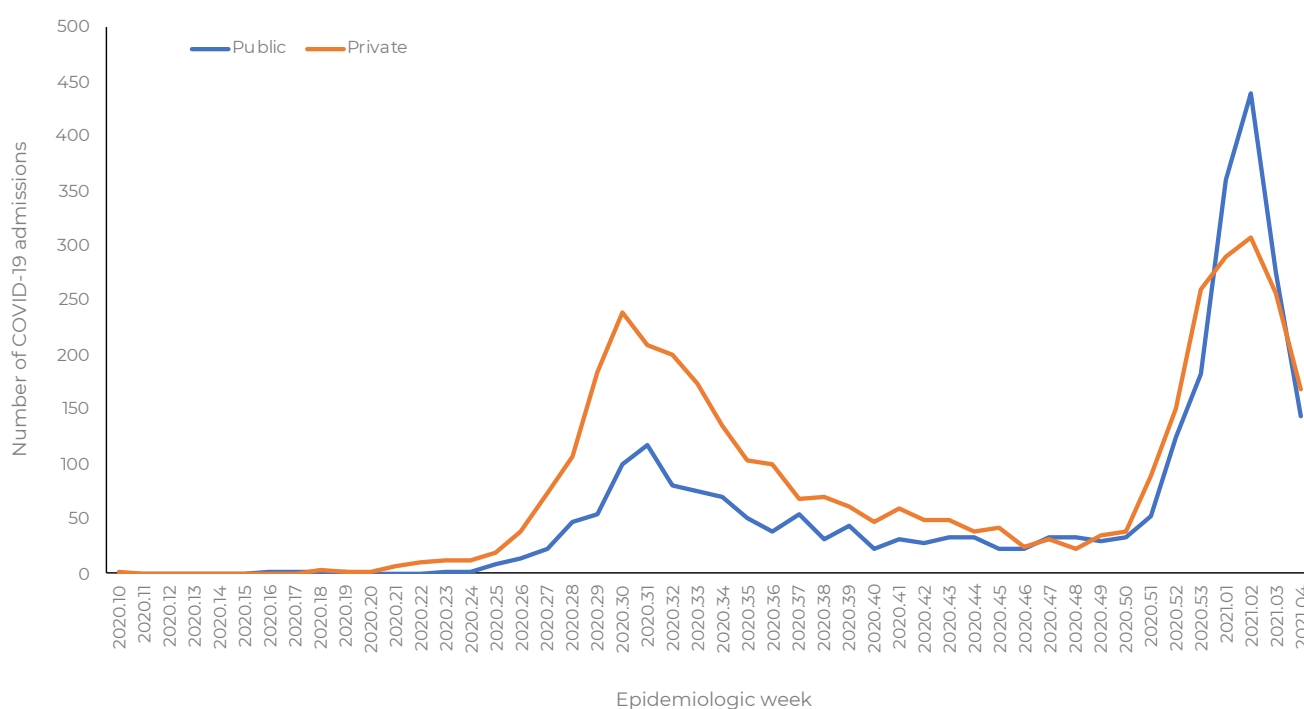


Figure 23: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=6,485

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

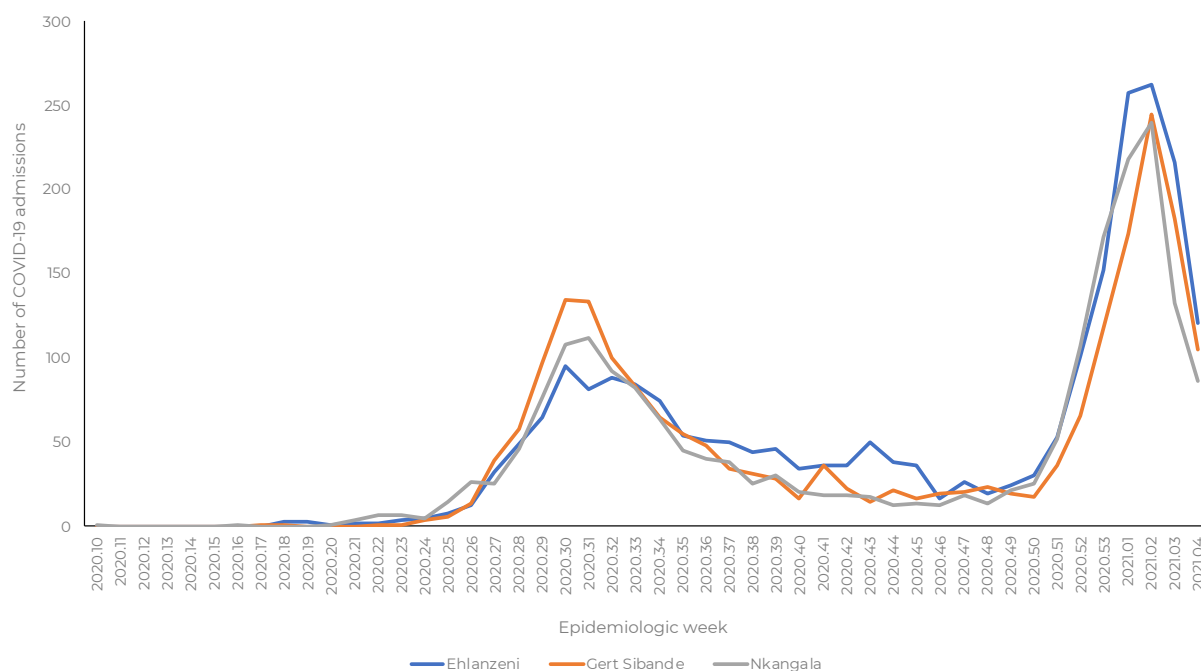


Figure 24: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=6,485

COVID-19 SENTINEL HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 4 2021

All districts showed a decrease in COVID-19 admission in week 3 and week 4 2021. The highest proportion of new admissions were in Ehlanzeni (Table 10).

Table 10: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 3 to week 4 2021, by district, Mpumalanga

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 3	Admissions Week 4	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Ehlanzeni	2360	216	121	-44	38.8	2.1
Gert Sibande	2082	183	105	-43	33.7	2.7
Nkangala	2043	132	86	-35	27.6	1.7

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

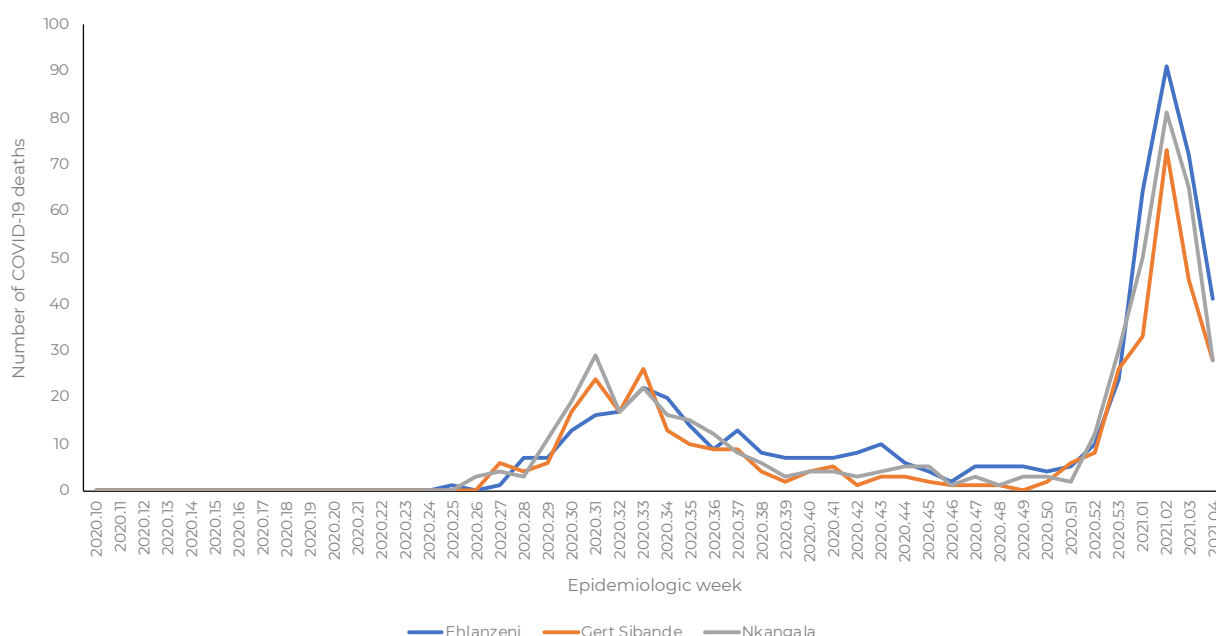


Figure 25: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n= 1,386

COVID-19 SENTINEL HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 4 2021

NORTH WEST

There has been 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, 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.

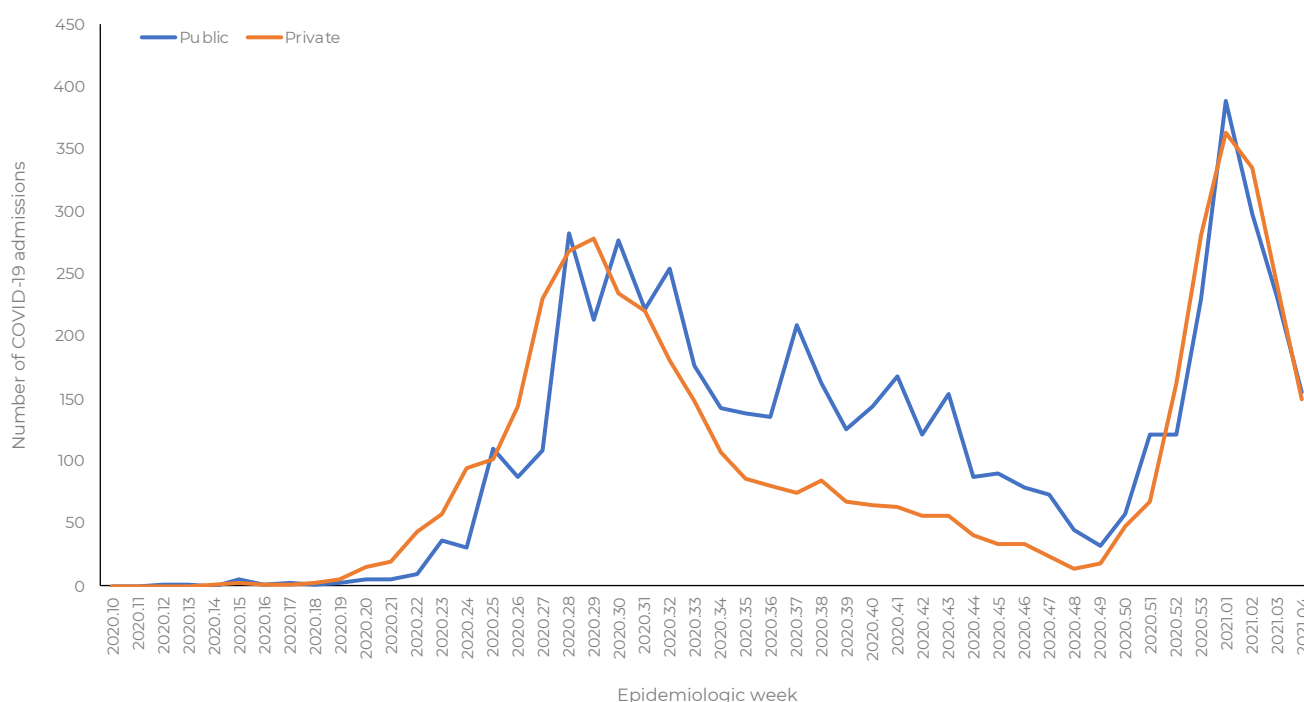


Figure 26: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, North West, 5 March 2020–30 January 2021, n= 9,943

COVID-19 SENTINEL HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 4 2021

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

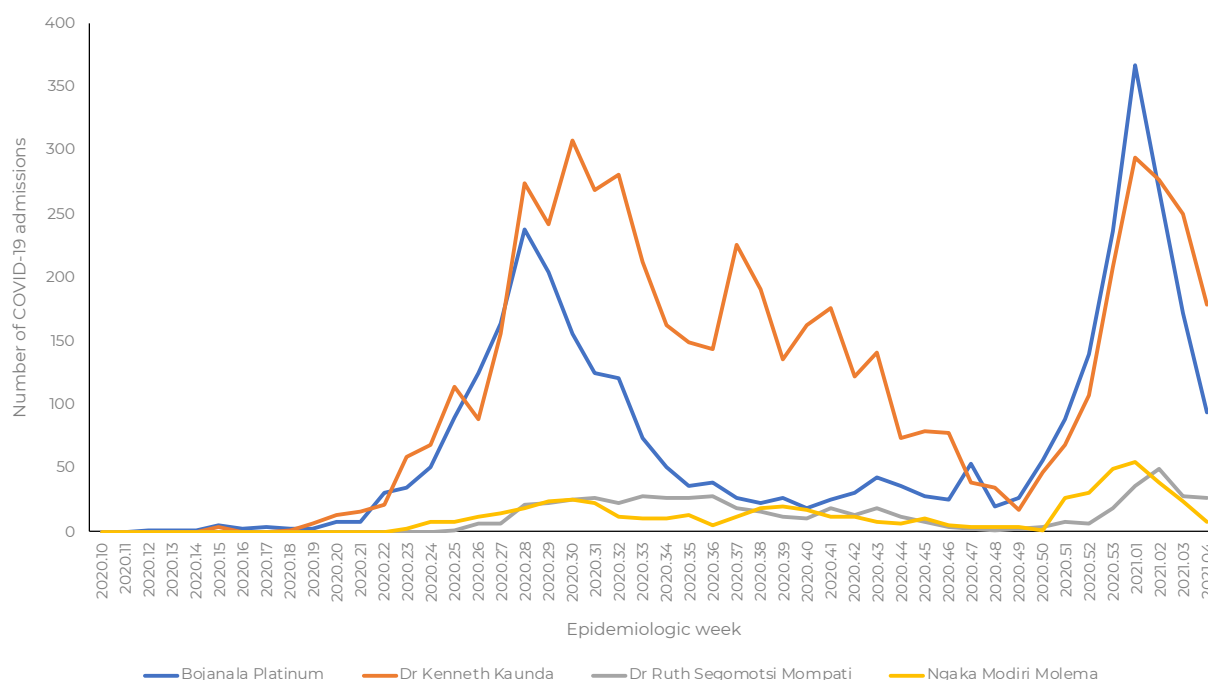


Figure 27: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n= 9,943

COVID-19 SENTINEL HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 4 2021

All districts showed a decrease in COVID-19 admission in week 3 and week 4 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 3 to week 4 2021, by district, North West

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 3	Admissions Week 4	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Bojanala Platinum	3365	172	93	-46	30.5	1.6
Dr Kenneth Kaunda	5483	250	179	-28	58.7	7.4
Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti	549	28	26	-7	8.5	1.8
Ngaka Modiri Molema	546	24	7	-71	2.3	0.3

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

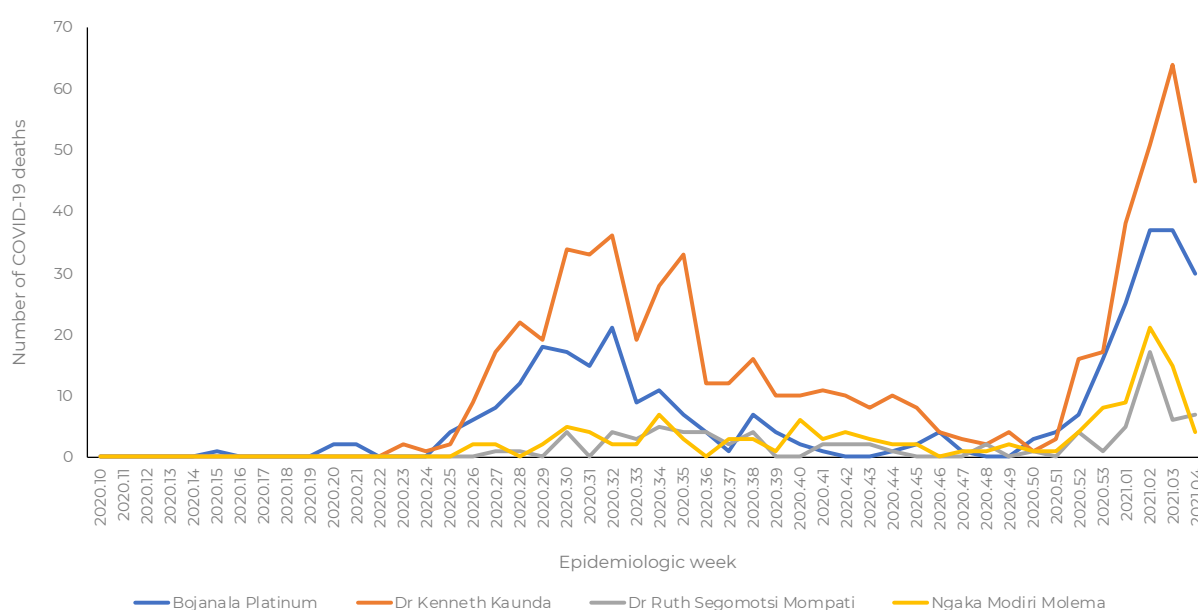


Figure 28: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n= 1,134

COVID-19 SENTINEL HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 4 2021

NORTHERN CAPE

There has been an increase in admissions reported in Northern Cape in the public and private sector since week 49 2020, 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.

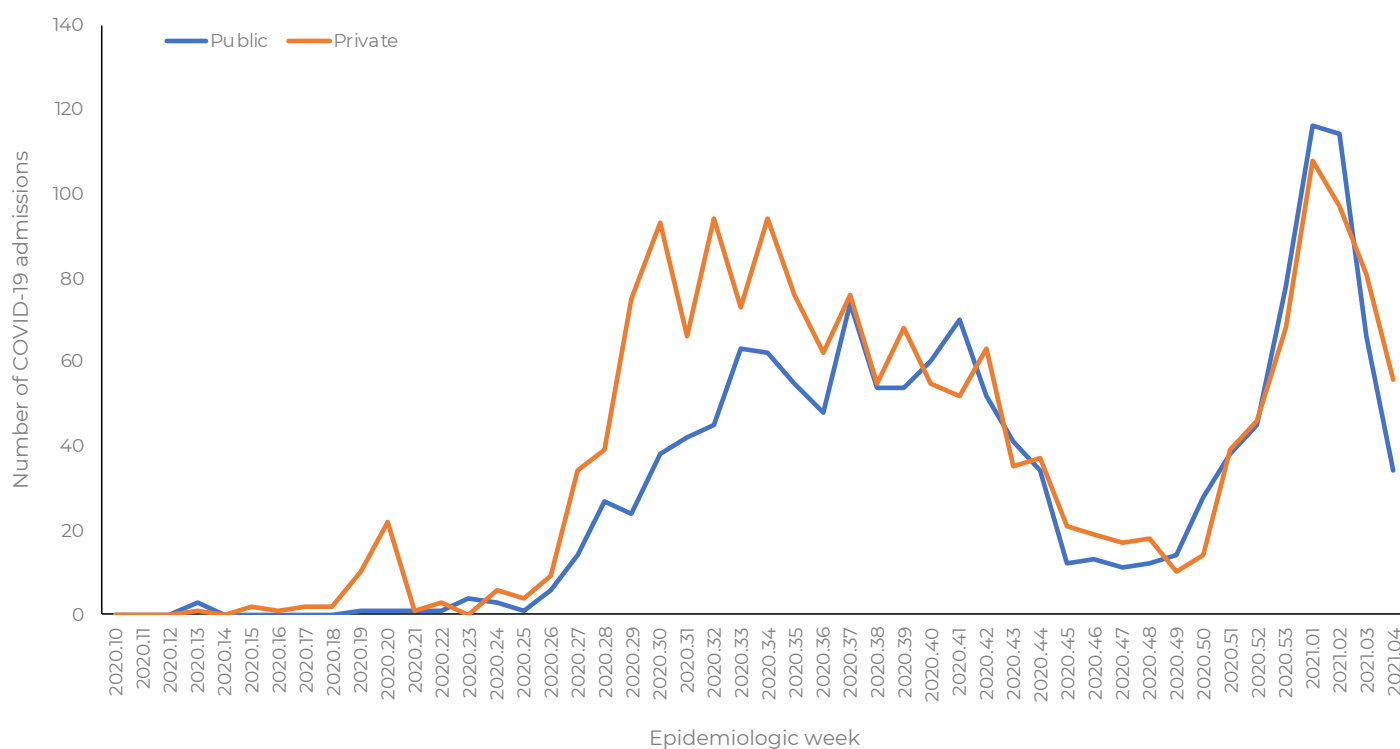


Figure 29: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n= 3,263

COVID-19 SENTINEL HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 4 2021

The increase in admissions in Northern Cape was observed across all districts; and exceeded 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.

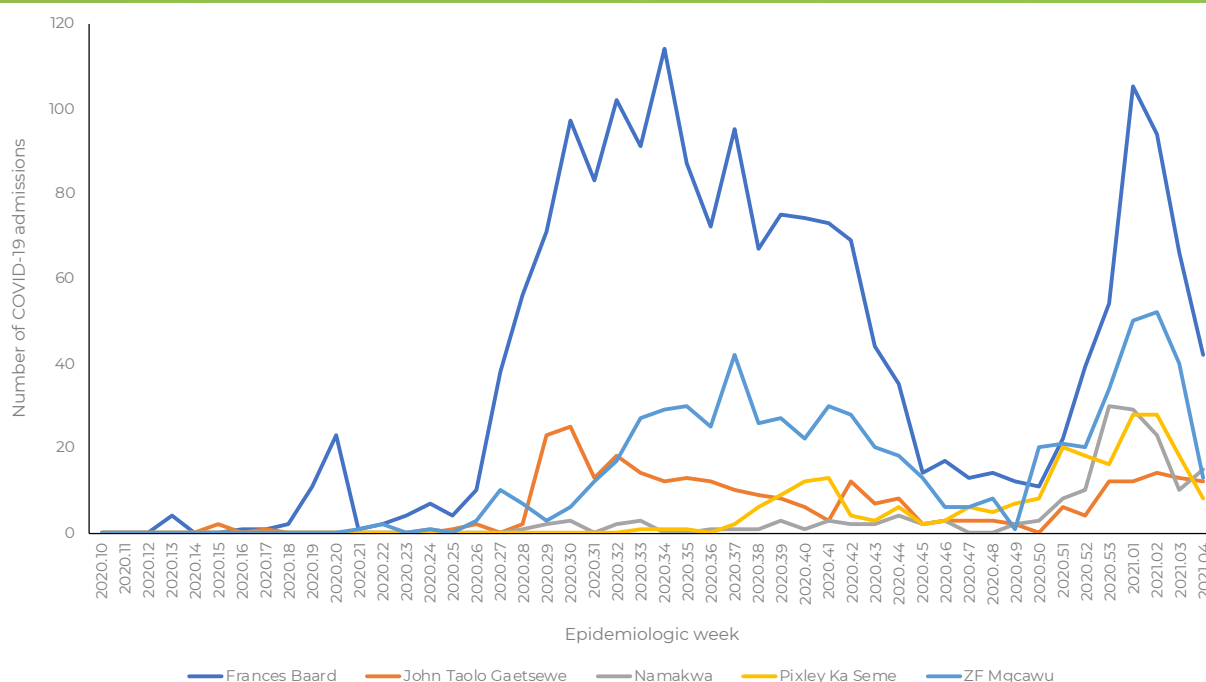


Figure 30: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=3,263

COVID-19 SENTINEL HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 4 2021

All districts showed a decrease in COVID-19 admission in week 3 and week 4 2021. The highest proportion of new admissions were in Frances Baard district (Table 12).

Table 12: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 3 to week 4 2021, by district, Northern Cape

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 3	Admissions Week 4	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Frances Baard	1916	66	42	-36	46.7	11.2
John Taolo Gaetsewe	287	13	12	-8	13.3	4.9
Namakwa	165	10	15	50	16.7	14.4
Pixley Ka Seme	225	18	8	-56	8.9	4.2
ZF Mgcawu	670	40	13	-68	14.4	5.2

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

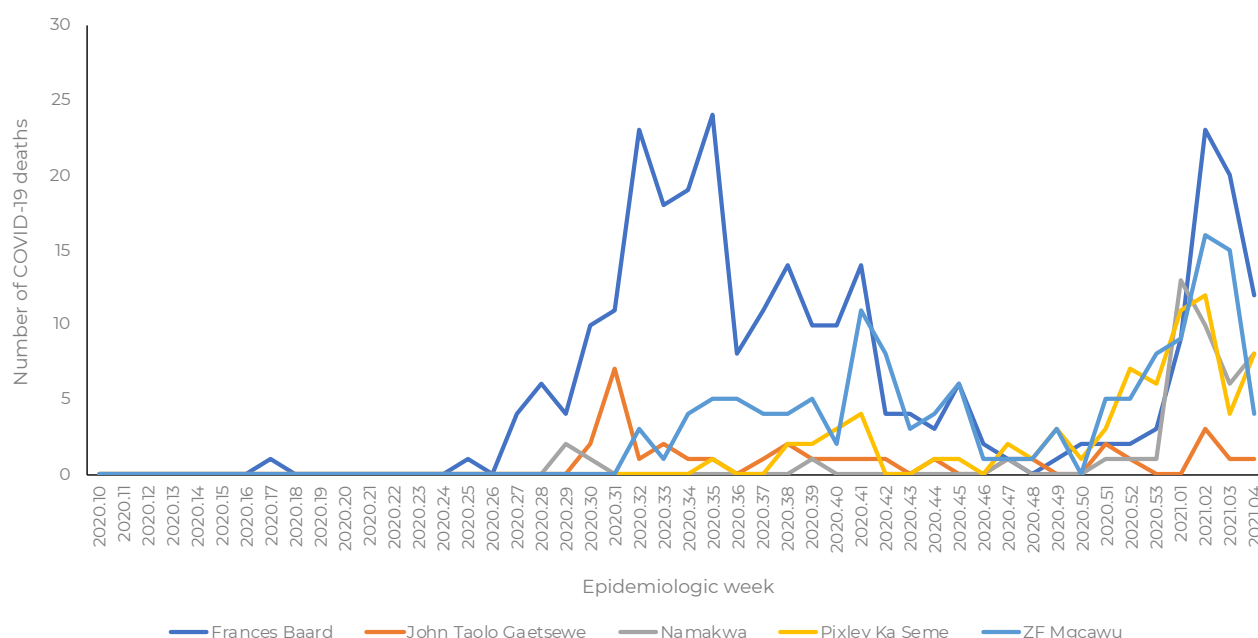


Figure 31: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-30 January 2021, n=564

COVID-19 SENTINEL HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 4 2021

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.

COVID-19 SENTINEL HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 4 2021

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)

COVID-19 SENTINEL HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 4 2021

APPENDIX

Table 13: Percentage average change in hospital admissions over 14 days, by district, South Africa, 2 January-30 January 2021

Province	District	Total admissions	Incidence (per 100k)	New admissions	New admissions incidence (per 100k)	% average change (14 days)
Eastern Cape	Alfred Nzo	1529	183.72	18	2.16	-77.22
	Amathole	2196	274.77	21	2.63	-72.00
	Buffalo City Metro	6944	867.05	85	10.61	-52.25
	Chris Hani	3085	423.97	33	4.54	-71.30
	Joe Gqabi	606	175.67	17	4.93	-61.36
	Nelson Mandela Bay Metro	9942	819.58	48	3.96	-47.25
	O R Tambo	2796	182.49	33	2.15	-64.52
	Sarah Baartman	1575	325.53	11	2.27	-67.65
Free State	Fezile Dabi	1115	218.57	26	5.10	-53.57
	Lejweleputswa	2316	354.34	45	6.88	-47.06
	Mangaung Metro	5499	631.40	123	14.12	-42.25
	Thabo Mofutsanyana	1668	218.09	79	10.33	-37.80
	Xhariep	281	217.08	9	6.95	-50.00
Gauteng	City of Johannesburg Metro	20383	347.44	425	7.24	-57.37
	City of Tshwane Metro	13530	362.82	468	12.55	-43.13
	Ekurhuleni Metro	11934	299.68	281	7.06	-54.75
	Sedibeng	2881	301.51	86	9.00	-28.93
	West Rand	4475	468.72	154	16.13	-40.77
KwaZulu-Natal	Amajuba	1320	231.37	30	5.26	-62.96
	eThekweni Metro	19207	482.44	404	10.15	-53.93
	Harry Gwala	812	157.97	13	2.53	-58.06
	iLembe	1246	179.40	22	3.17	-76.60
	King Cetshwayo	4307	443.71	130	13.39	-59.38
	Ugu	2099	261.81	38	4.74	-58.70
	uMgungundlovu	4537	394.71	131	11.40	-46.31

COVID-19 SENTINEL HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 4 2021

Province	District	Total admissions	Incidence (per 100k)	New admissions	New admissions incidence (per 100k)	% average change (14 days)
	uMkhanyakude	621	90.41	17	2.47	-77.63
	Umzinyathi	421	74.18	15	2.64	-71.15
	UThukela	1408	197.14	80	11.20	-13.98
	Zululand	750	85.15	50	5.68	-55.75
Limpopo	Capricorn	2870	219.43	137	10.47	-45.85
	Mopani	1103	93.09	39	3.29	-64.86
	Sekhukhune	463	38.90	5	0.42	-91.53
	Vhembe	537	37.63	20	1.40	-54.55
	Waterberg	925	124.63	28	3.77	-63.64
Mpumalanga	Ehlanzeni	2360	129.05	121	6.62	-43.98
	Gert Sibande	2082	167.61	105	8.45	-42.62
	Nkangala	2043	126.98	86	5.35	-34.85
North West	Bojanala Platinum	3365	174.52	93	4.82	-45.93
	Dr Kenneth Kaunda	5483	687.34	179	22.44	-28.40
	Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti	549	116.05	26	5.50	-7.14
	Ngaka Modiri Molema	546	60.01	7	0.77	-70.83
Northern Cape	Frances Baard	1916	461.79	42	10.12	-36.36
	John Taolo Gaetsewe	287	105.72	12	4.42	-7.69
	Namakwa	165	142.72	15	12.97	50.00
	Pixley Ka Seme	225	106.69	8	3.79	-55.56
	ZF Mgcawu	670	239.37	13	4.64	-67.50
Western Cape	Cape Winelands	5001	531.31	110	11.69	-49.54
	Central Karoo	367	488.60	2	2.66	-87.50
	City of Cape Town Metro	30410	660.37	582	12.64	-50.34
	Garden Route	4304	690.12	85	13.63	-39.72
	Overberg	1192	397.46	32	10.67	-36.00
	West Coast	1343	291.44	45	9.77	-50.00

COVID-19 SENTINEL HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 4 2021

APPENDIX

Table 14: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions and in-hospital deaths by age and gender, South Africa, 5 March 2020-23 January 2021

Age (years)	ADMISSIONS				DEATHS			
	Female	Male	Unknown	Total	Female	Male	Unknown	Total
0-4	1258	1520	7	2785	47	42	1	90
5-9	326	440	3	769	8	11	0	19
10-14	571	521	0	1092	13	12	0	25
15-19	1726	934	3	2663	44	43	0	87
20-24	3116	1533	2	4651	105	77	0	182
25-29	5546	2542	4	8092	237	148	0	385
30-34	7730	4468	2	12200	457	344	0	801
35-39	8733	6184	4	14921	664	576	0	1240
40-44	8514	7413	4	15931	857	883	1	1741
45-49	9781	8992	6	18779	1307	1358	1	2666
50-54	11351	10115	1	21467	1786	1834	0	3620
55-59	12215	10632	8	22855	2556	2482	1	5039
60-64	10749	9725	7	20481	2843	3008	2	5853
65-69	8748	7615	5	16368	2853	2692	0	5545
70-74	6927	6110	13	13050	2389	2393	5	4787
75-79	4988	4075	2	9065	1847	1720	0	3567
80-84	3573	2536	4	6113	1389	1094	1	2484
85-89	1923	1204	1	3128	790	578	0	1368
90-94	843	406	1	1250	391	216	0	607
>=95	320	202	0	522	125	66	0	191
Unknown	792	613	102	1507	113	120	4	237
Total	109730	87780	179	197689	20821	19697	16	40534