COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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 13 February 2021.

HIGHLIGHTS

- As of 13 February 2021, 209,870 COVID-19 admissions and 44,831 in-hospital deaths were reported from 638 facilities (387 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. The numbers of COVID-19 admissions and in-hospital deaths have decreased 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 13 February 2021, a total of 638 facilities submitted data on hospitalised COVID-19 cases, 387 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 to date. 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 2020-13 February 2021

Name of province	Public Sector	Private Sector
Eastern Cape	85	18
Free State	35	20
Gauteng	38	91
KwaZulu-Natal	65	45
Limpopo	41	7
Mpumalanga	31	9
North West	16	12
Northern Cape	17	8
Western Cape	59	41
South Africa	**387**	**251**

RESULTS

Epidemiological and geographic trends in admissions

From 5 March 2020 to 13 February 2021, a total of 209,870 COVID-19 admissions were reported from 638 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.

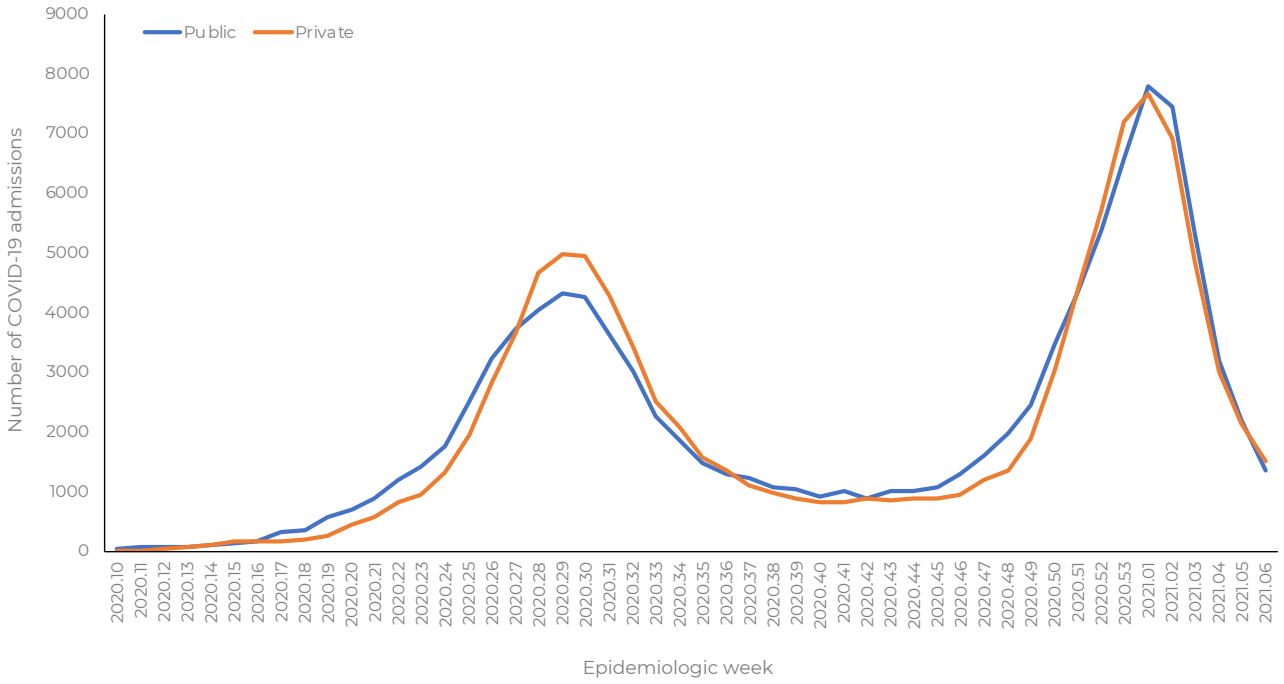

Figure 1. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n=209,870

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.

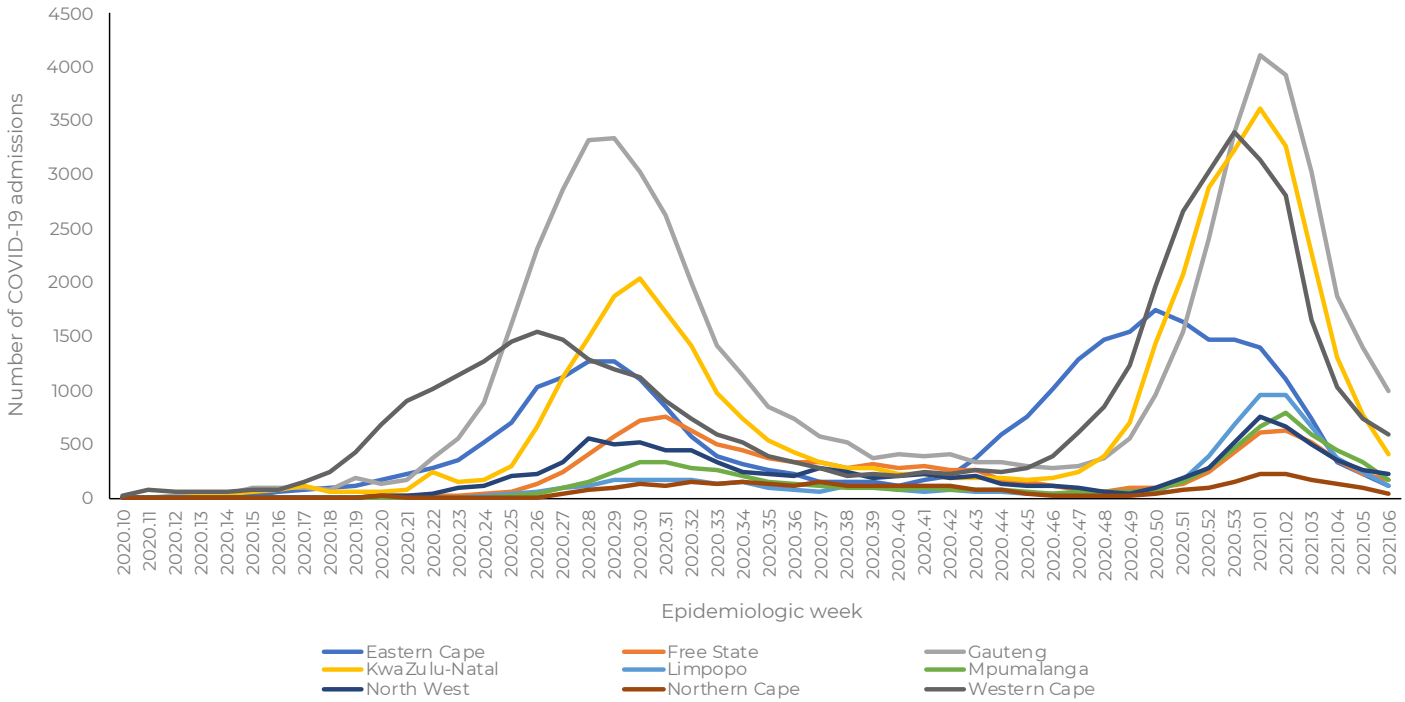

Figure 2. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by province and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n=209,870

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).

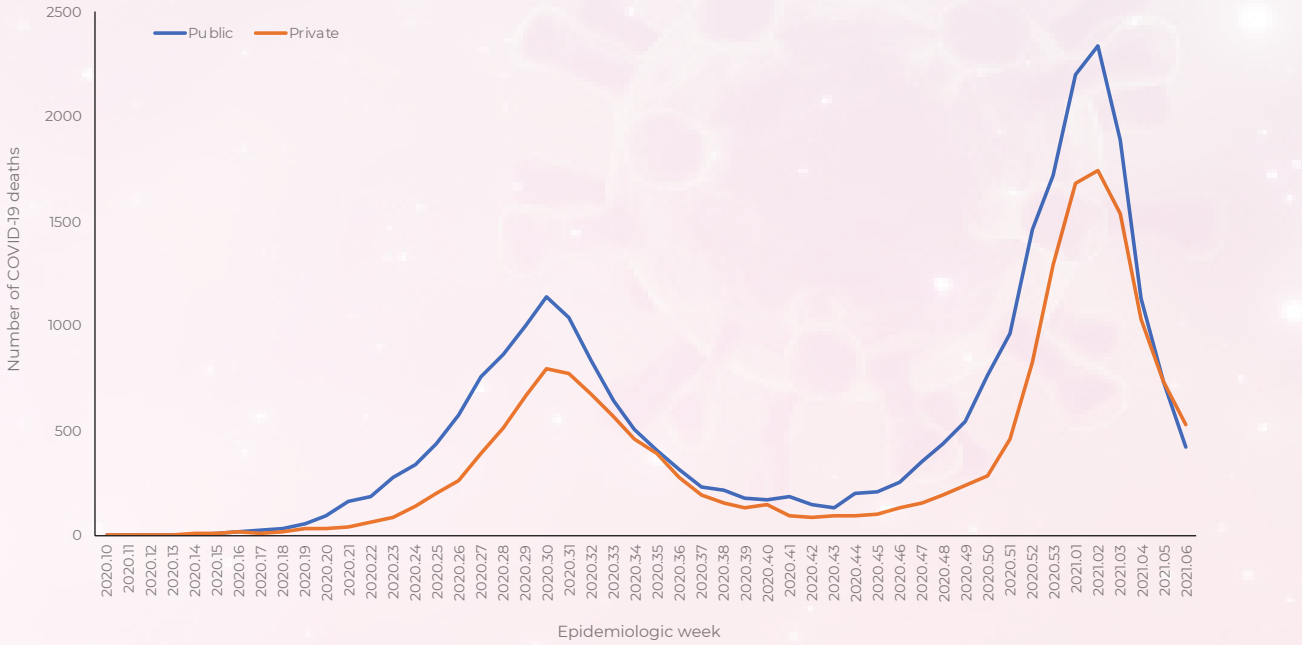

Figure 3. Number of in-hospital COVID-19 in-hospital deaths reported per week by health sector and epidemiologic week, South Africa, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n=44,831

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.

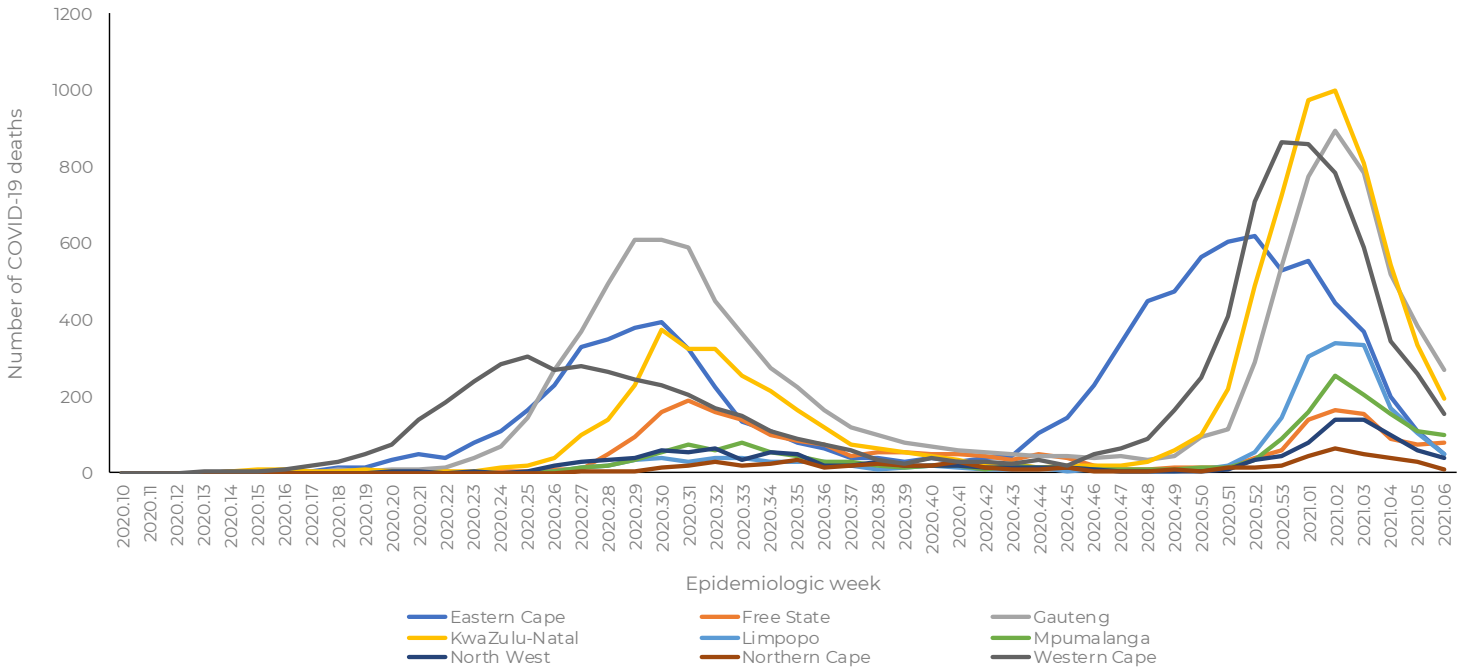

Figure 4. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by province and epidemiologic week of death, South Africa, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n=44,831

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 2020-13 February 2021

Province	Provincial Population mid 2020*	Cumulative admissions	Cumulative Admissions / 100,000	Cumulative deaths	Cumulative deaths / 100,000
Eastern Cape	6734001	29384	436.4	9156	136.0
Free State	2928903	11529	393.6	2354	80.4
Gauteng	15488137	56,788	366.7	10174	65.7
KwaZulu-Natal	11531628	39428	341.9	8218	71.3
Limpopo	5852553	6990	119.4	1953	33.4
Mpumalanga	4679786	7388	157.9	1775	37.9
North West	4108816	10,656	259.3	1293	31.5
Northern Cape	1292786	3,562	275.5	622	48.1
Western Cape	7005741	44,145	630.1	9286	132.5
South Africa	**59622350**	**209,870**	**352.0**	**44,831**	**75.2**

*StatsSA mid-year population estimates 2020

PROVINCIAL TRENDS

The number of COVID-19 admissions decreased in all provinces from week 5 to week 6 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 4 of 52 (8%) districts across the country, Nelson Mandela Bay Metro (Eastern Cape), West Rand (Gauteng), Dr. Kenneth Kaunda (North West) and Pixley Ka Seme (Northern Cape) that reported increased admissions change over the previous 14 days (Appendix 1).

Table 3. Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 5 to week 6 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 5	Week 6*			
Eastern Cape	234	116	-50	4.1	1.7
Free State	235	172	-27	6.0	5.9
Gauteng	1394	995	-29	34.9	6.4
KwaZulu-Natal	784	405	-48	14.2	3.5
Limpopo	246	121	-51	4.2	2.1
Mpumalanga	338	179	-47	6.3	3.8
North West	256	227	-11	8.0	5.5
Northern Cape	100	46	-54	1.6	3.6
Western Cape	746	592	-21	20.8	8.5
South Africa	**4,333**	**2,853**	**-34**	**100.0**	**4.8**

* 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).

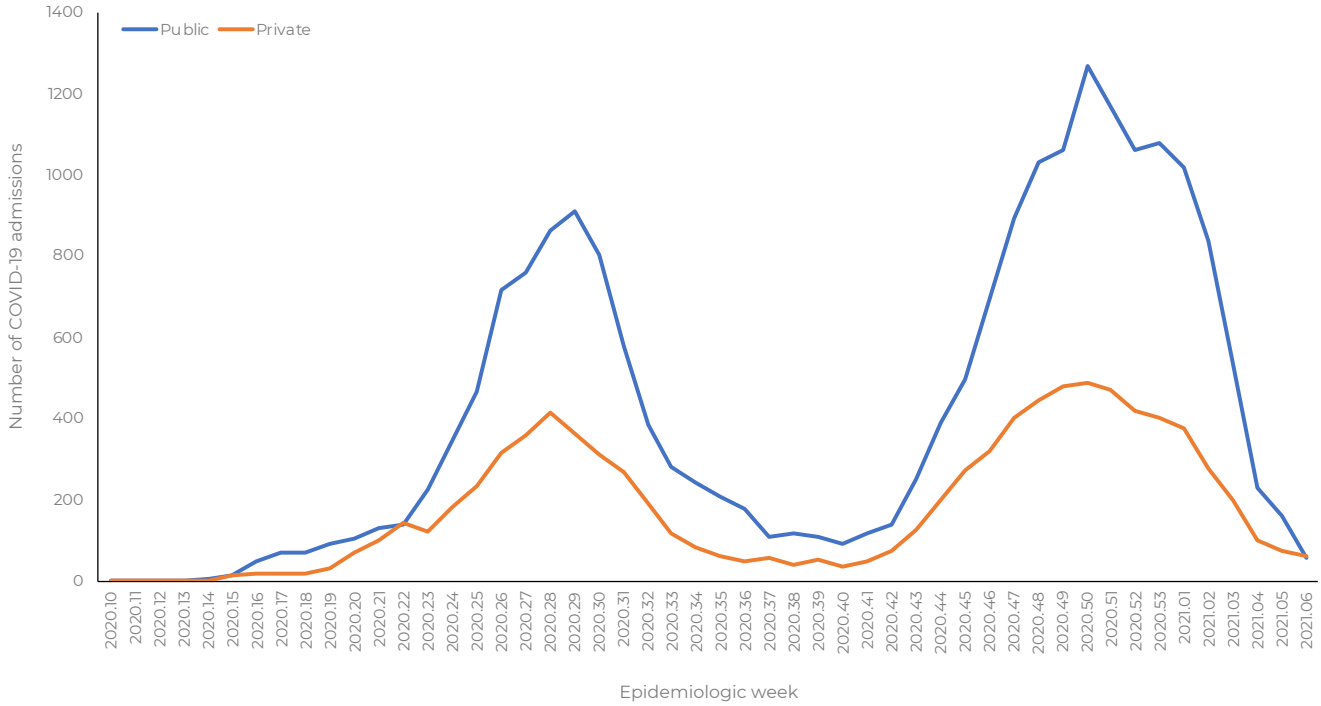

Figure 5: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n= 29,384

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 all districts.

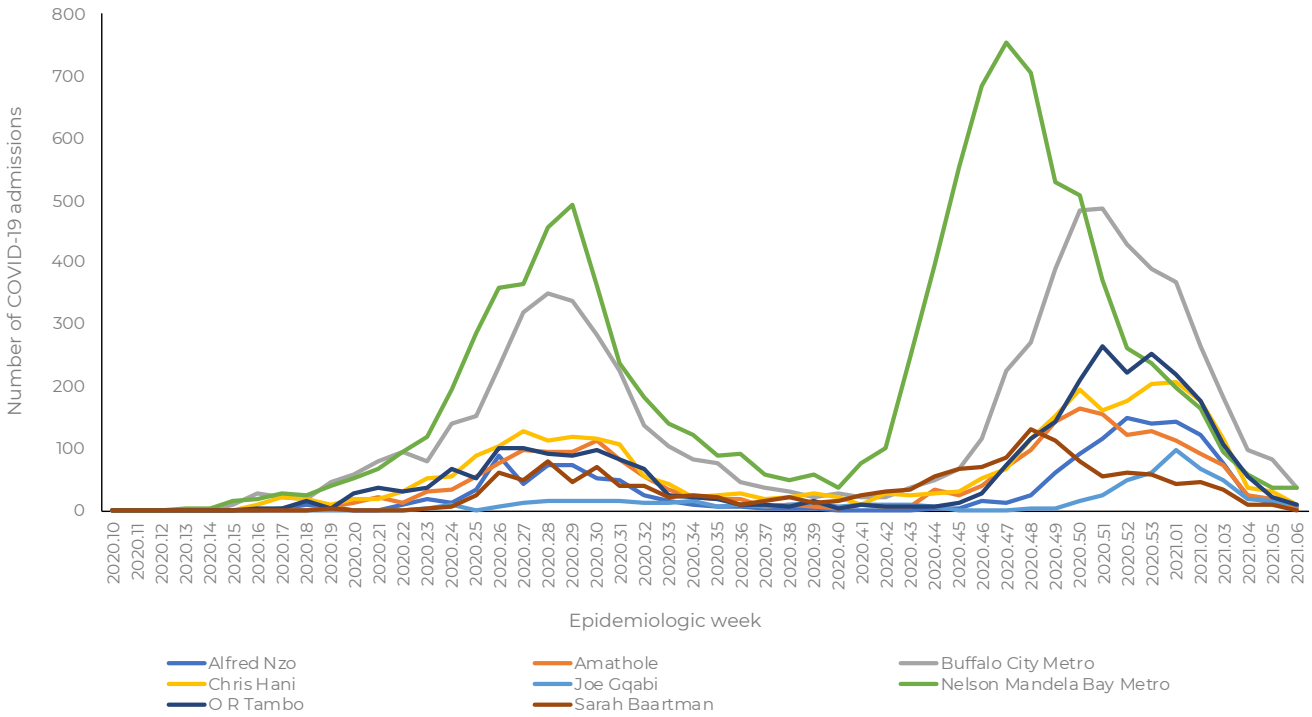

Figure 6. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n=29,384

All districts showed a decrease in COVID-19 admission in week 5 and week 6 2021 except Nelson Mandela Bay Metro. 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 5 to week 6 2021, by district, Eastern Cape

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 5	Admissions Week 6	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Alfred Nzo	1570	12	7	-42	6.0	0.7
Amathole	2259	19	3	-84	2.6	0.3
Buffalo City Metro	7087	84	38	-55	32.8	4.1
Chris Hani	3130	33	9	-73	7.8	1.1
Joe Gqabi	656	15	9	-40	7.8	2.2
Nelson Mandela Bay	10092	38	39	3	33.6	2.8
O R Tambo	2987	23	9	-61	7.8	0.5
Sarah Baartman	1603	10	2	-80	1.7	0.4

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 all districts.

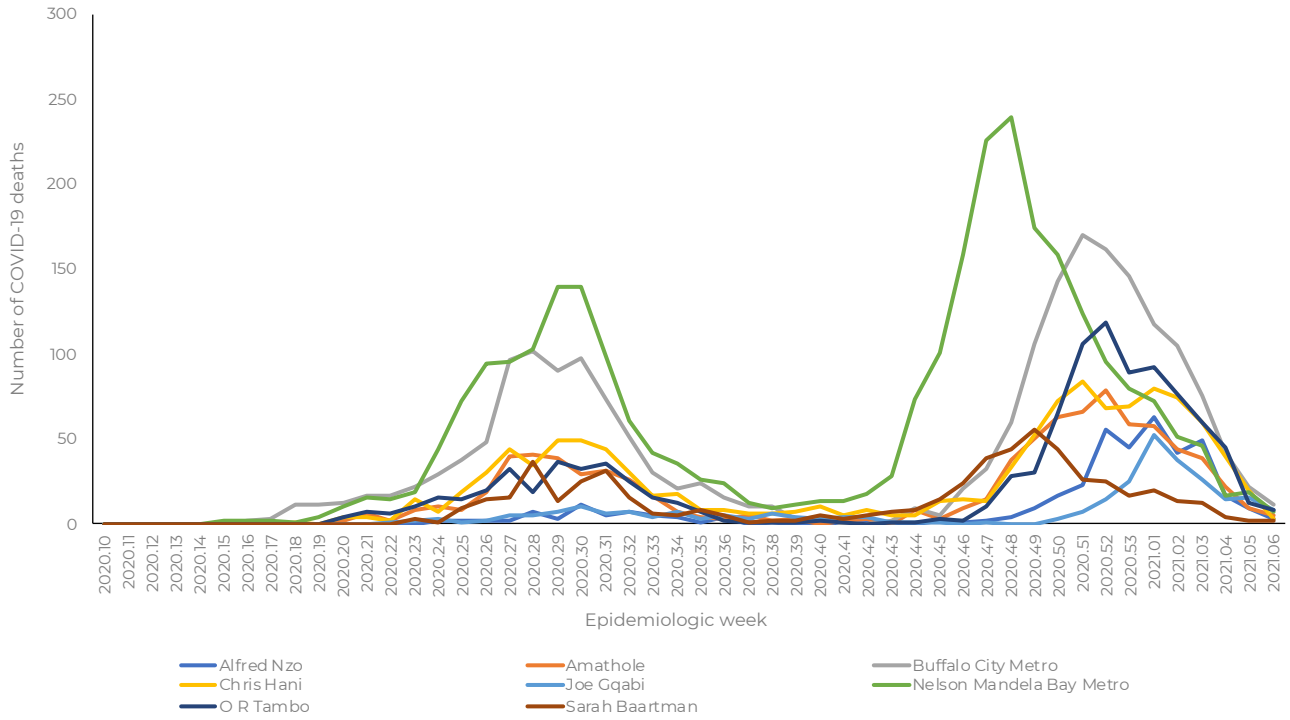

Figure 7. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n=9,156

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.

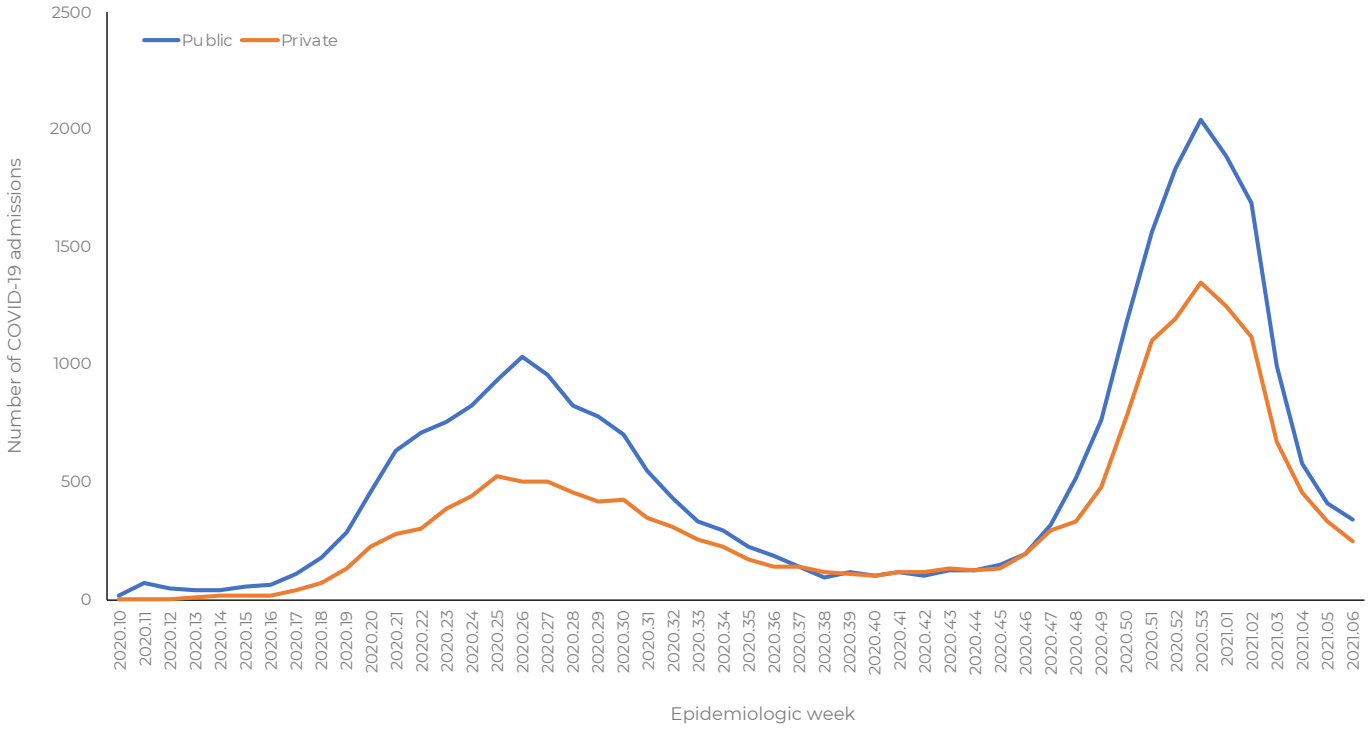

Figure 8: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Western Cape,5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n=44,145

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 all districts.

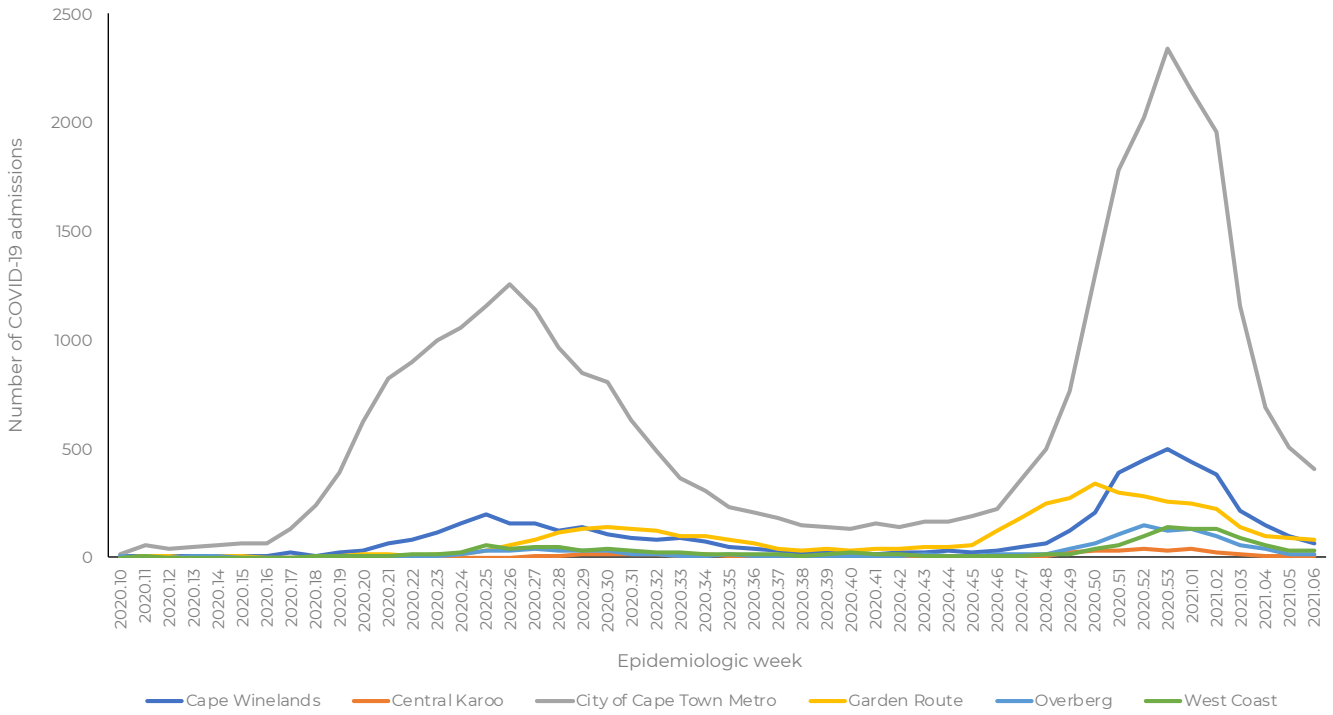

Figure 9: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n=44,145

All districts showed a decrease in COVID-19 admission in week 5 and week 6 2021. 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 5 to week 6 2021, by district, Western Cape

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 5	Admissions Week 6	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Cape Winelands	5186	96	66	-31	11.1	1.2
Central Karoo	376	3	2	-33	0.3	0.4
City of Cape Town Metro	31453	503	404	-20	68.2	1.5
Garden Route	4482	93	78	-16	13.2	2.1
Overberg	1230	16	13	-19	2.2	0.7
West Coast	1418	35	29	-17	4.9	1.1

The increase in deaths in Western Cape was predominantly in City of Cape Town Metro 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 have decreased in all districts.

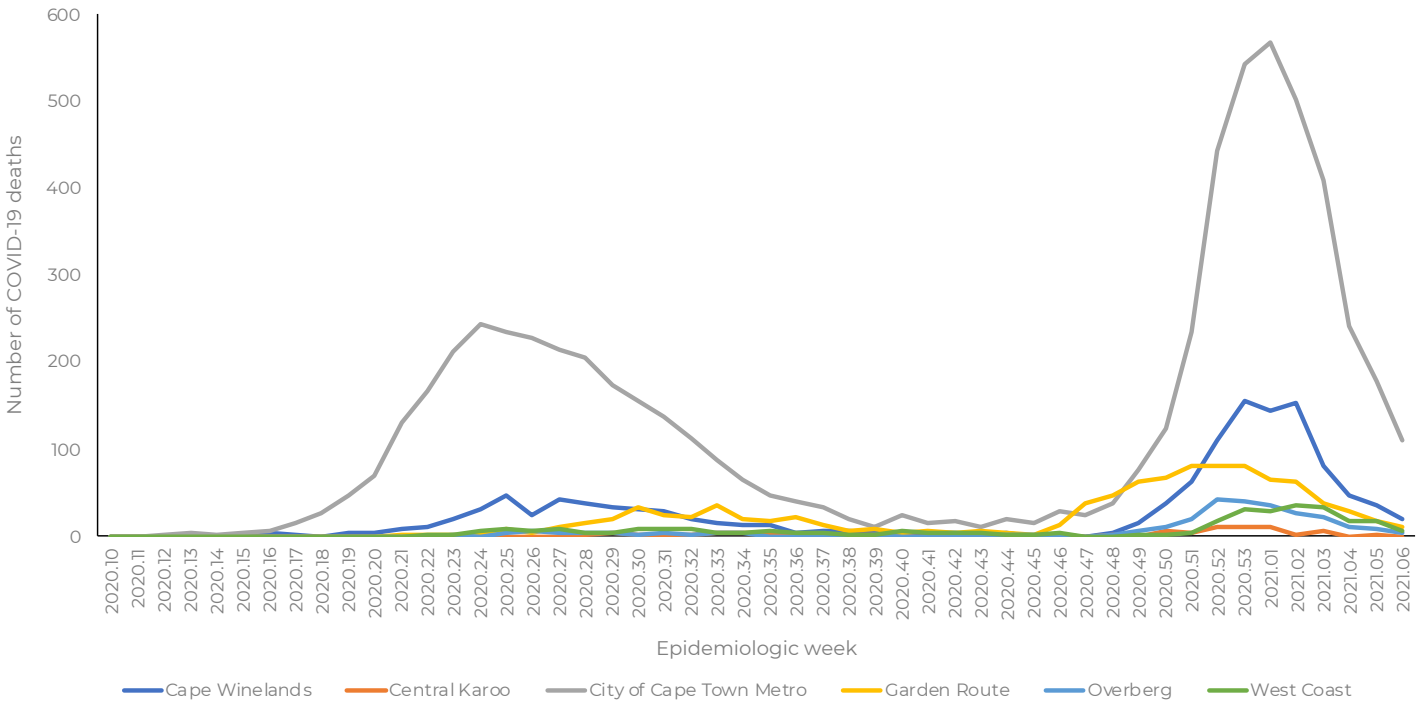

Figure 10: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n=9,286

KWAZULU-NATAL

There was an increase in admissions in KwaZulu-Natal reported in both sectors since week 46 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). Since week 1 2021, a decrease in admissions has been observed in both sectors.

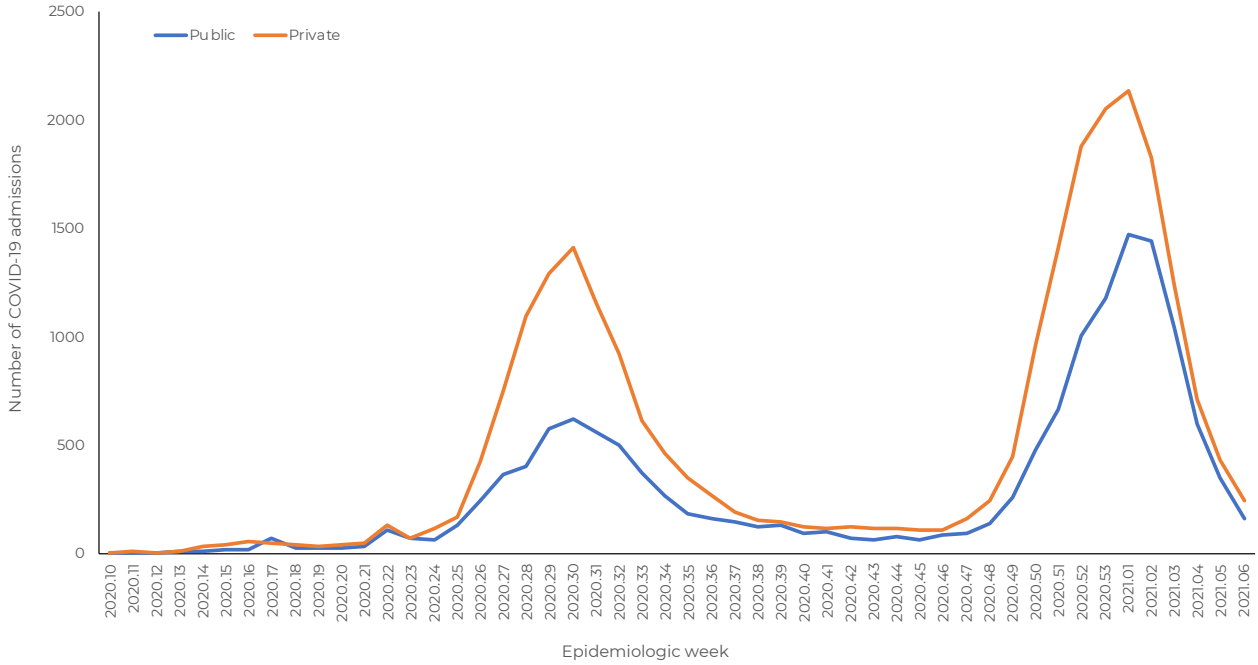

Figure 11: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n= 39,428

The increase in admissions in KwaZulu-Natal was 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 have decreased in all districts.

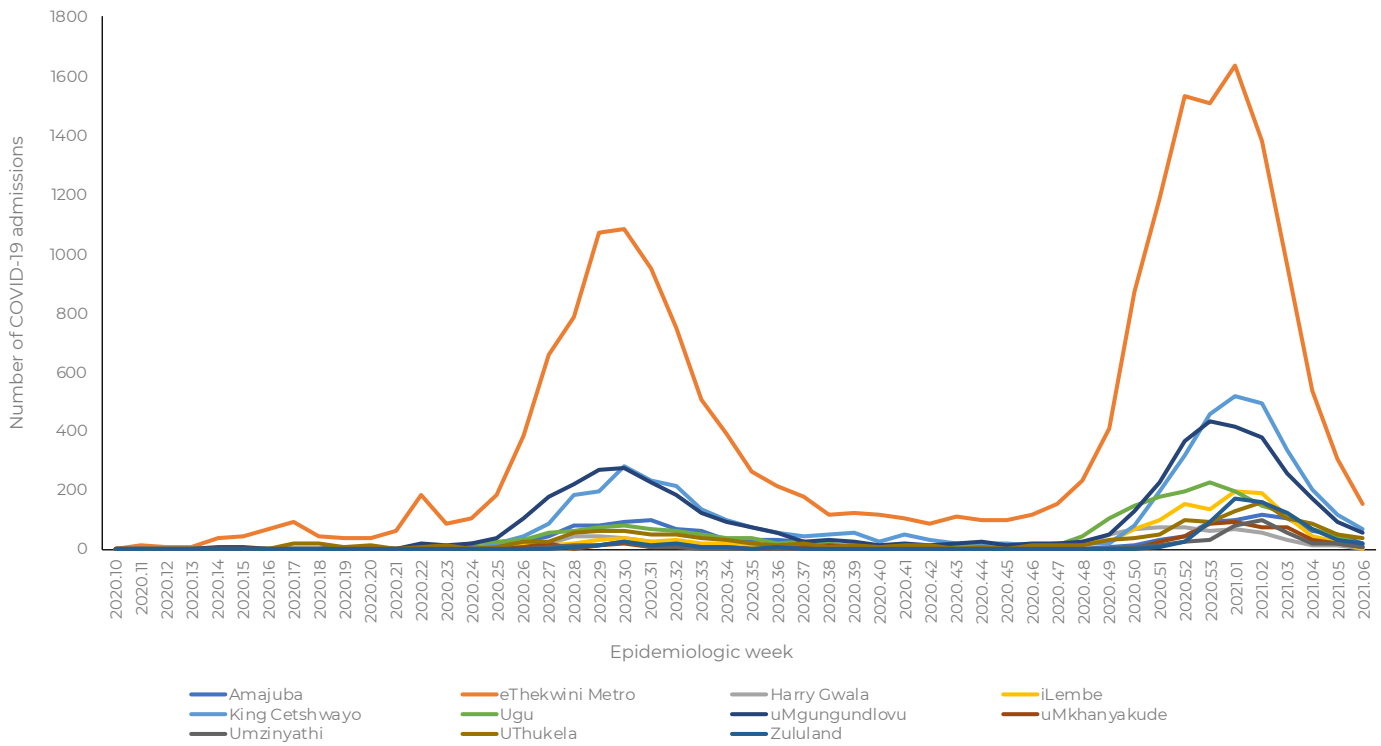

Figure 12: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n= 39,428

All districts showed a decrease in COVID-19 admission in week 5 and week 6 2021. The highest proportion of new admissions was in eThekwini Metro (Table 6).

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

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 5	Admissions Week 6	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Amajuba	1447	51	23	-55	5.7	1.0
eThekwini Metro	20115	309	154	-50	38.0	1.0
Harry Gwala	831	14	4	-71	1.0	0.2
iLembe	1467	25	4	-84	1.0	0.1
King Cetshwayo	4852	119	72	-39	17.8	1.8
Ugu	2314	43	17	-60	4.2	0.5
uMgungundlovu	4814	96	56	-42	13.8	1.2
uMkhanyakude	667	19	7	-63	1.7	0.3
Umzinyathi	479	22	11	-50	2.7	0.5
UThukela	1576	54	38	-30	9.4	1.3
Zululand	866	32	19	-41	4.7	0.5

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). The numbers of deaths have decreased in all districts.

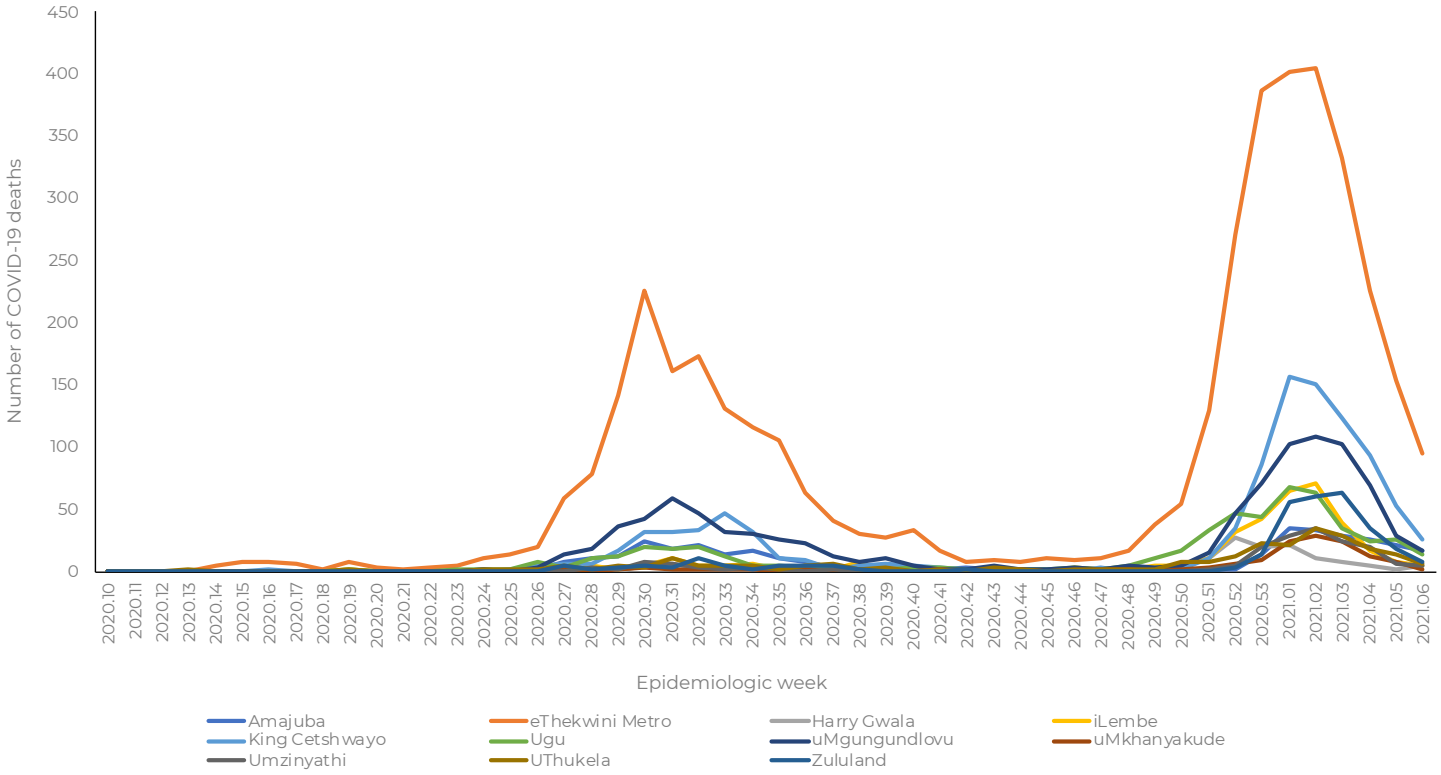

Figure 13: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n= 8,218

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). Since week 2 2021, weekly numbers of admissions have decreased in both sectors.

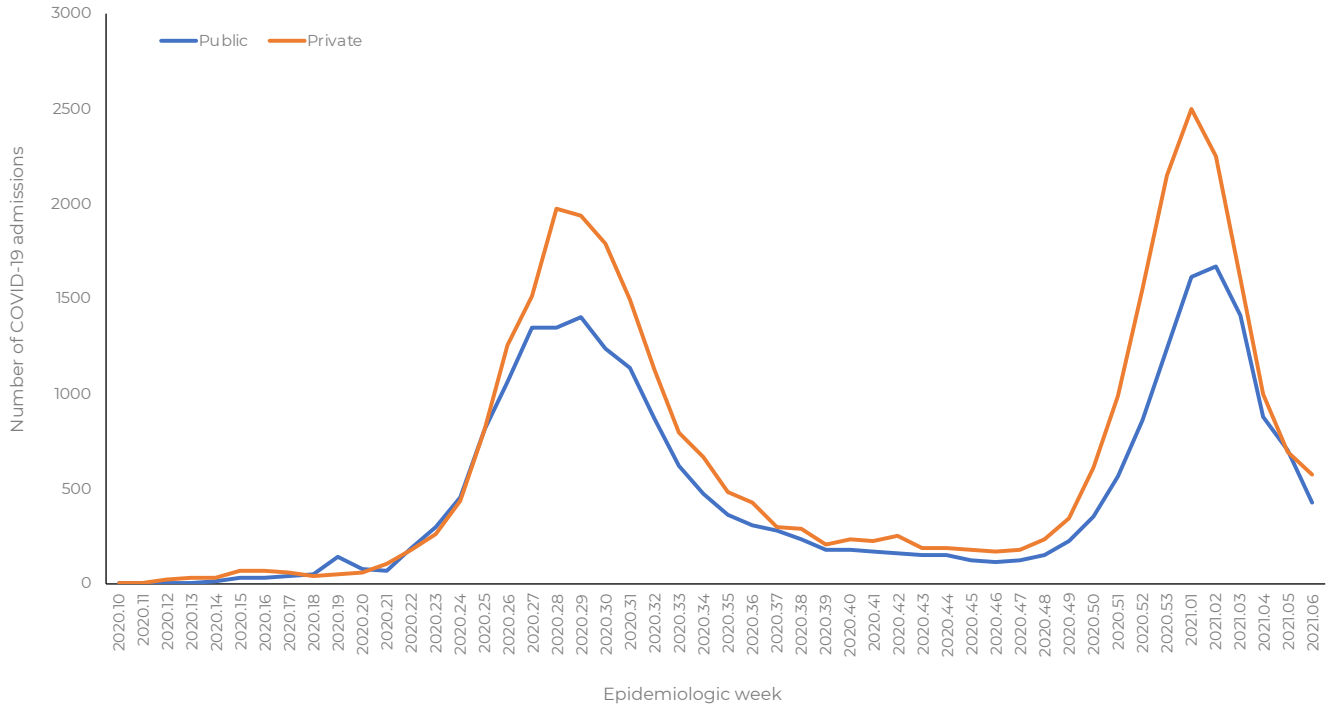

Figure 14: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n= 56,788

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 all districts except Ekurhuleni (Figure 15). Admissions have decreased in all districts.

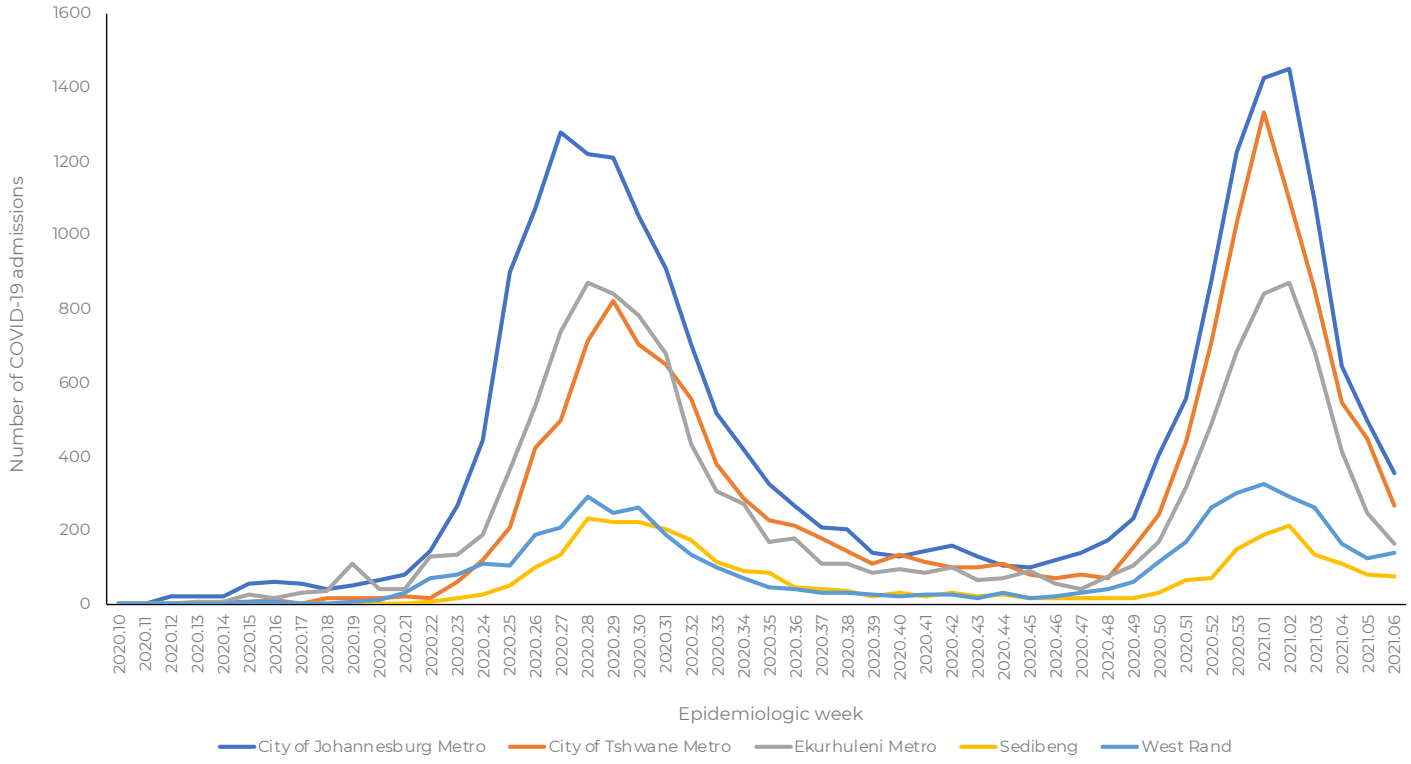

Figure 15: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n= 56,788

All districts showed decrease in COVID-19 admission in week 5 and week 6 2021 except West Rand. 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 5 to week 6 2021, by district, Gauteng

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 5	Admissions Week 6	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
City of Johannesburg Metro	21666	497	353	-29	35.5	0.6
City of Tshwane Metro	14365	446	266	-40	26.7	0.7
Ekurhuleni Metro	12869	245	162	-34	16.3	0.4
Sedibeng	3151	82	76	-7	7.6	0.8
West Rand	4737	124	138	11	13.9	1.5

The increase in deaths in Guateng was predominantly in City of Johannesburg, City of Tshwane Metro and Ekurhuleni Metro; 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 and Ekurhuleni Metro (Figure 13). The numbers of deaths have decreased in all districts. (Figure 16).

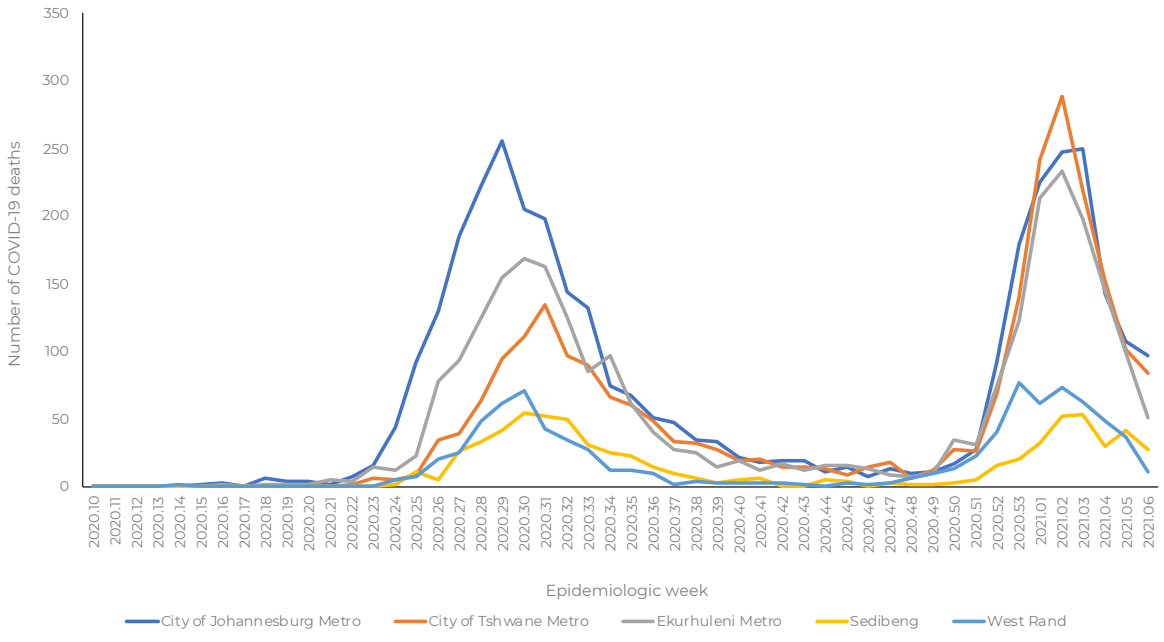

Figure 16: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n= 10,174

LIMPOPO

There was an increase in admissions reported in Limpopo 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 both sectors (Figure 17). Since week 2 2021, weekly numbers of admissions have decreased in both sectors.

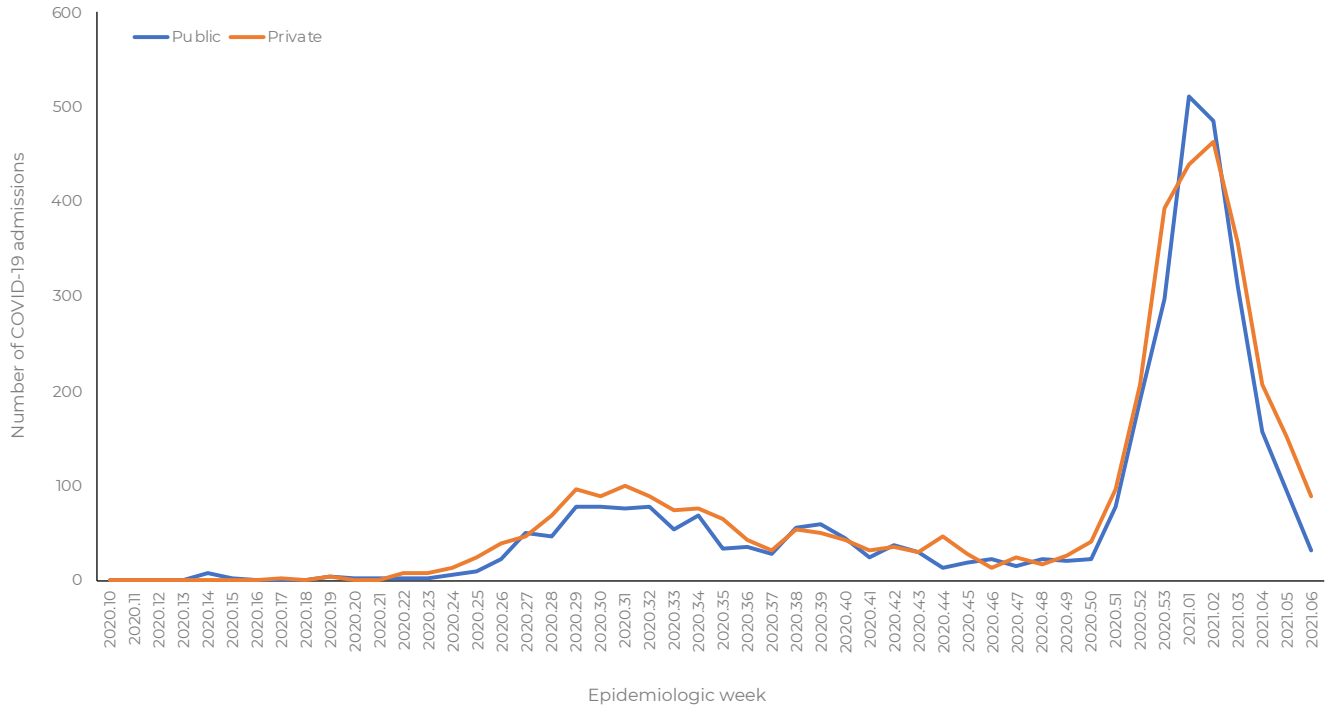

Figure 17: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n= 6,990

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). Admissions have decreased in all districts.

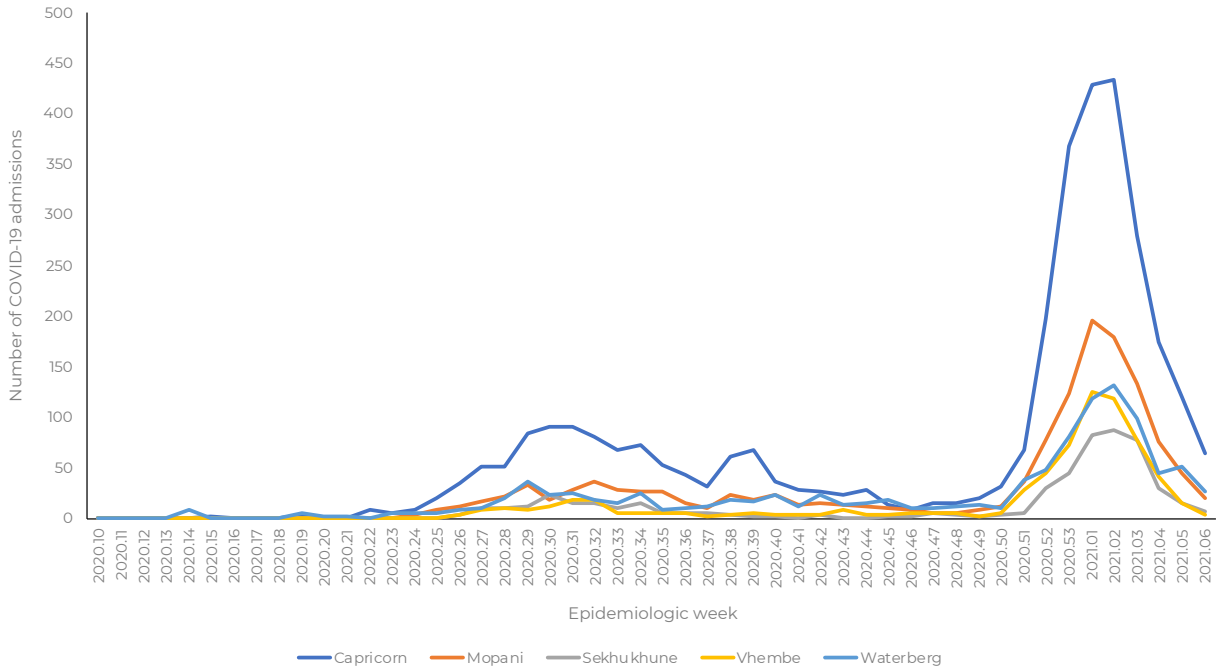

Figure 18: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n= 6,990

All districts showed decreases in COVID-19 admission in week 5 and week 6 2021. The highest proportion of new admissions was in Capricorn (Table 8).

Table 8: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 5 to week 6 2021, by district, Limpopo

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 5	Admissions Week 6	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Capricorn	3318	120	64	-47	52.9	4.0
Mopani	1345	45	20	-56	16.5	1.4
Sekhukhune	550	15	7	-53	5.8	0.5
Vhembe	690	15	3	-80	2.5	0.2
Waterberg	1087	51	27	-47	22.3	3.0

The increases in deaths was 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). The numbers of deaths have decreased in all districts.

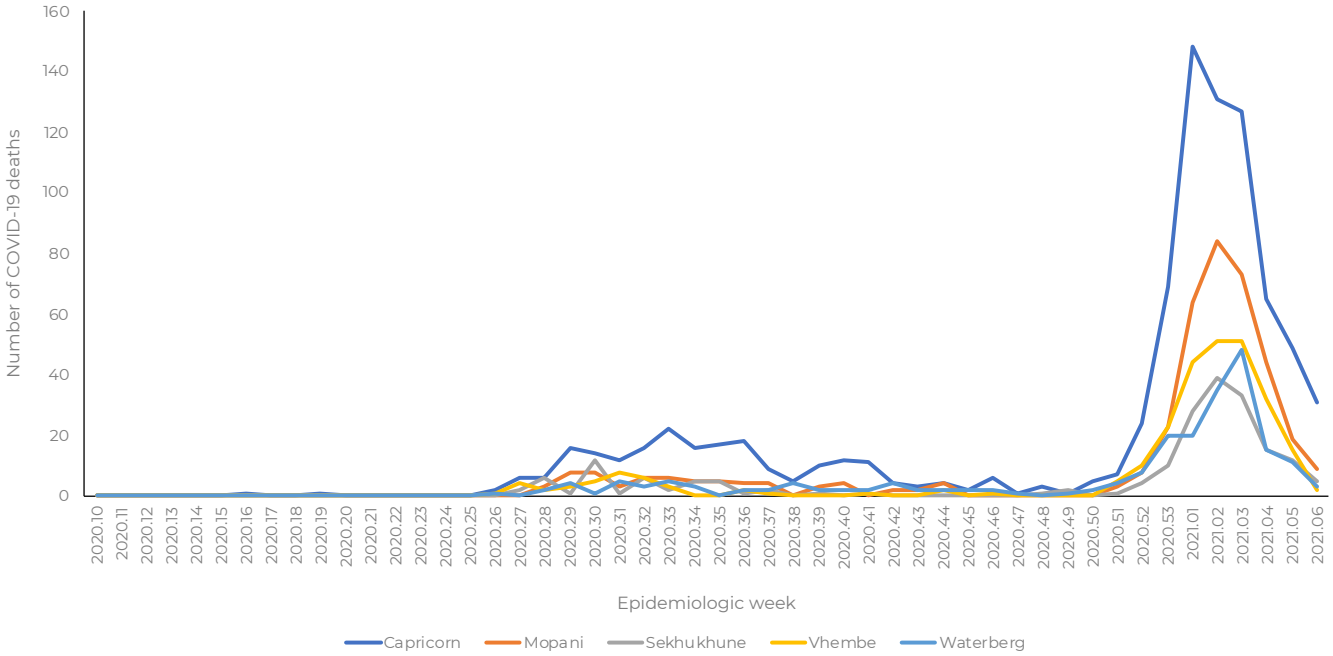

Figure 19: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n= 1,953

FREE STATE

There was an increase in admissions reported in Free State in the public and private sector since week 48 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. Since week 3 2021, numbers of admissions have decreased in both sectors.

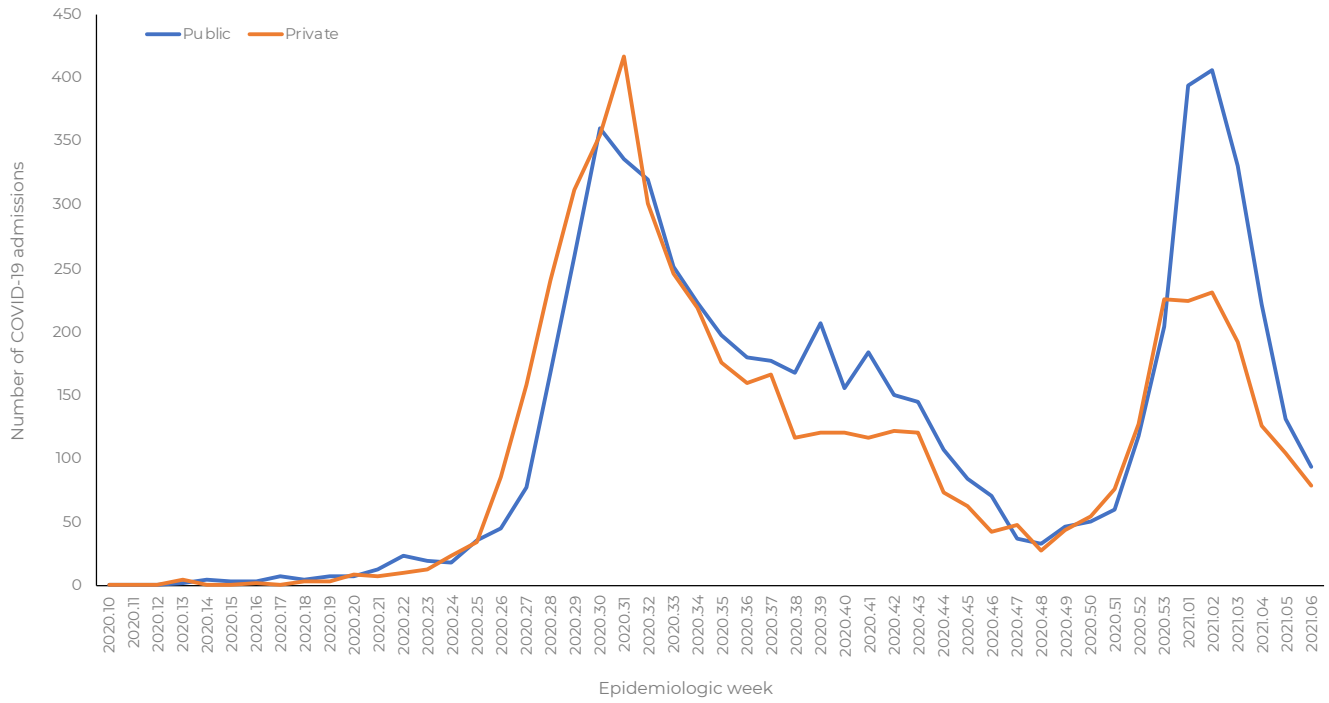

Figure 20: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Free State, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n= 11,529

The increase in admissions in Free State was predominantly in Mangaung Metro, 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). Admissions have decreased in all districts.

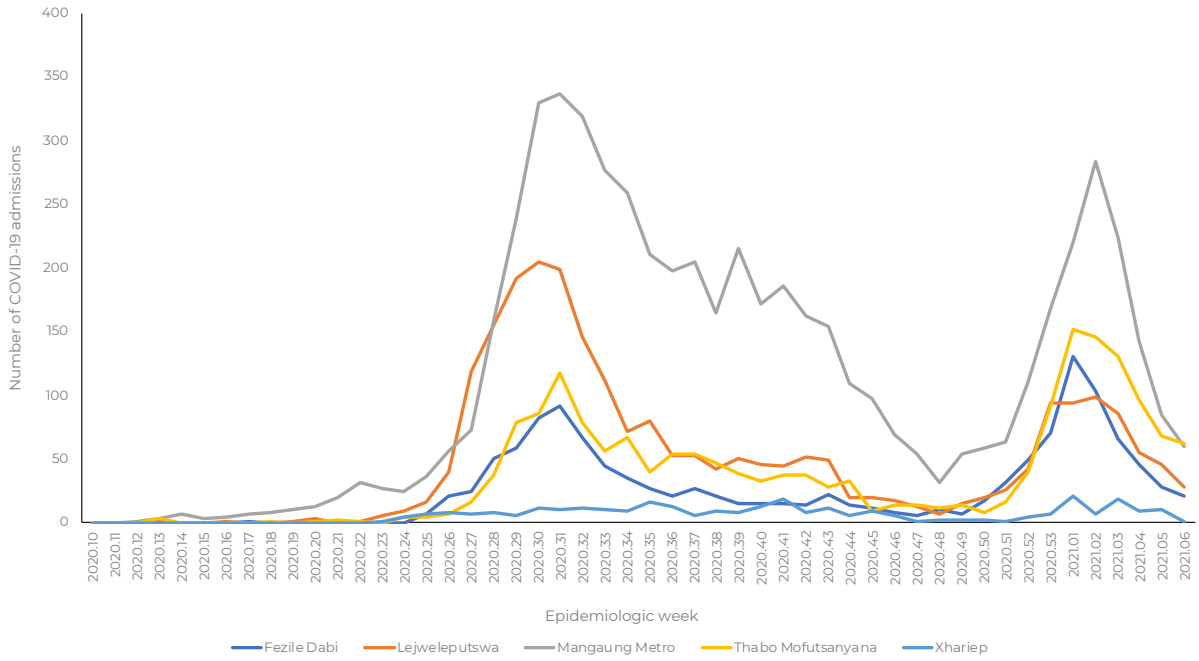

Figure 21: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Free State, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n= 11,529

All districts showed decreases in COVID-19 admission in week 5 and week 6 2021. The highest proportion of new admissions were in Thabo Mofutsanyana and Mangaung Metro (Table 9).

Table 9: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 5 to week 6 2021, by district, Free State

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 5	Admissions Week 6	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Fezile Dabi	1272	28	21	-25	12.2	2.4
Lejweleputswa	2415	45	28	-38	16.3	2.5
Mangaung Metro	5726	84	60	-29	34.9	4.0
Thabo Mofutsanyana	1824	68	62	-9	36.0	4.7
Xhariep	292	10	1	-90	0.6	0.4

The increase in deaths was predominantly in Mangaung Metro, 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).

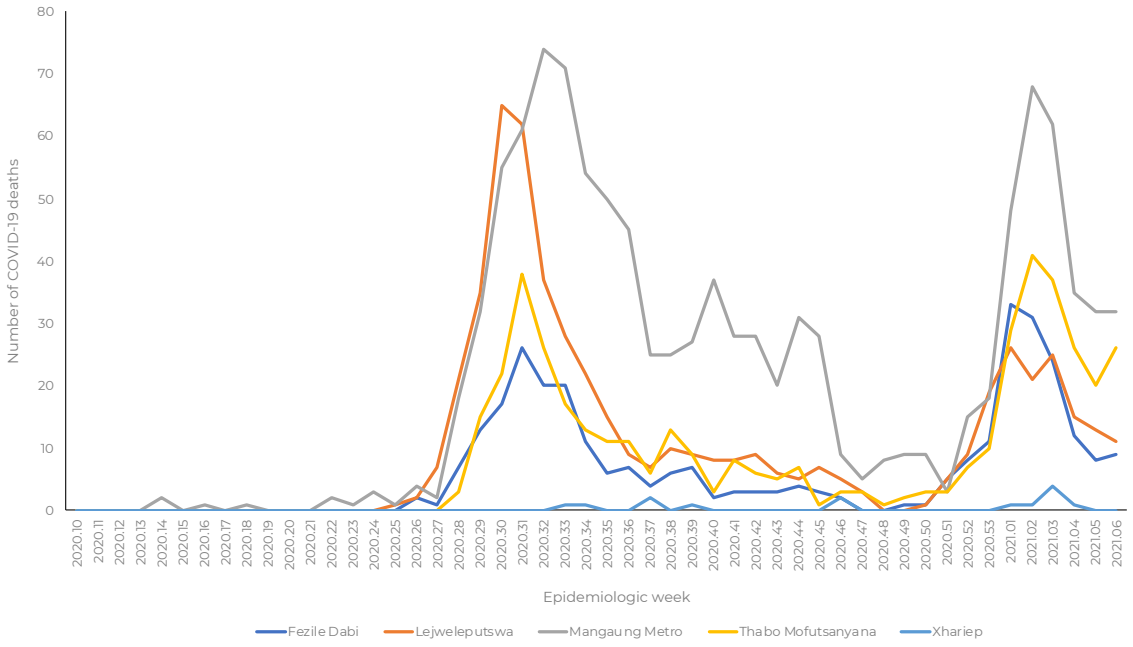

Figure 22: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Free State, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n= 2,354

MPUMALANGA

There was an increase in admissions reported in Mpumalanga in the public and private 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 both sectors (Figure 23). Since week 3 2021, numbers of admissions have decreased in both sectors.

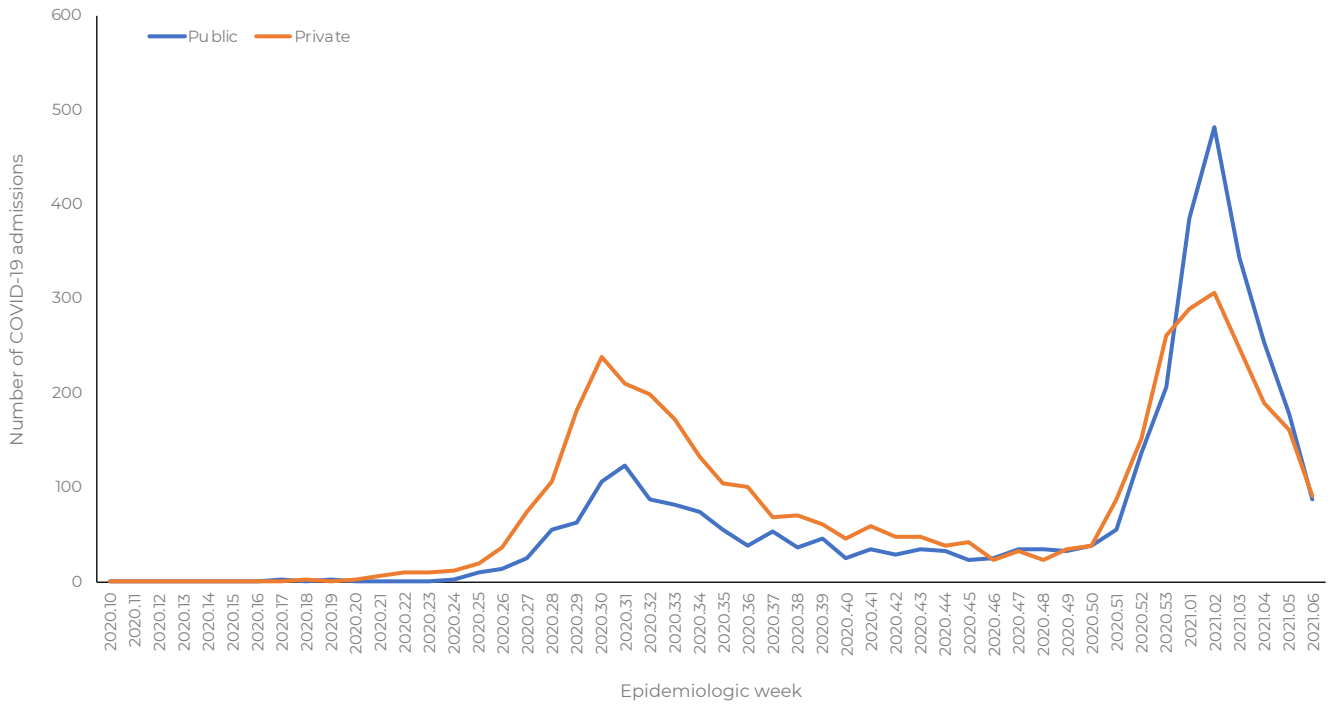

Figure 23: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n= 7,388

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). Admissions have decreased in all districts.

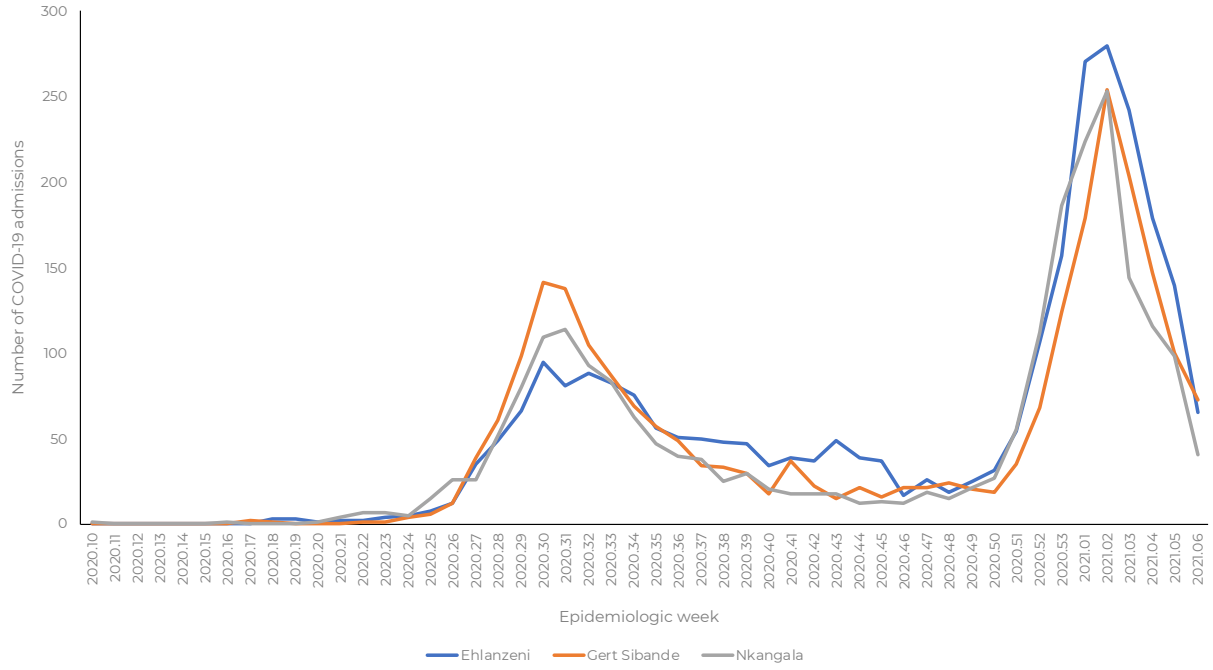

Figure 24: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n=7,388

All districts showed a decrease in COVID-19 admission in week 5 and week 6 2021. The highest proportion of new admissions were in Gert Sibande (Table 10).

Table 10: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 5 to week 6 2021, by district, Mpumalanga

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 5	Admissions Week 6	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Ehlanzeni	2712	140	65	-54	36.3	2.0
Gert Sibande	2386	100	73	-27	40.8	3.3
Nkangala	2290	98	41	-58	22.9	1.4

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 (Figure 25). The numbers of deaths have decreased in all districts.

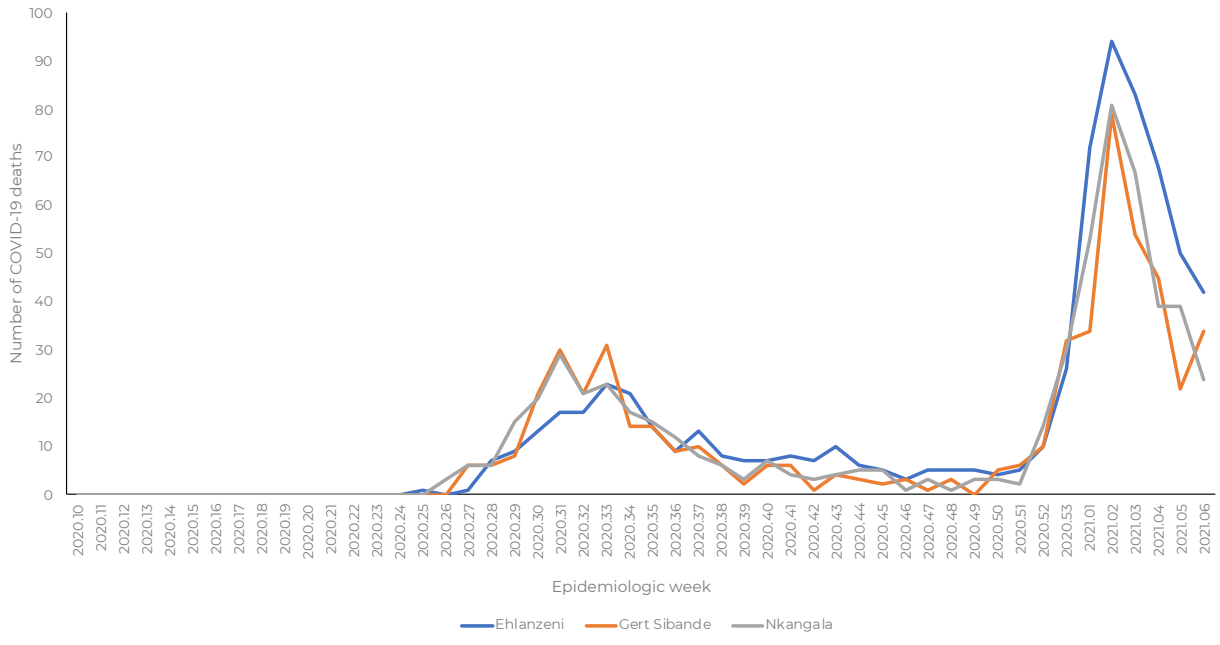

Figure 25: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n= 1,775

NORTH WEST

There was an increase in admissions reported in North West in the public and private 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 both sectors (Figure 26). Since week 2 2021, numbers of admissions have decreased in both sectors.

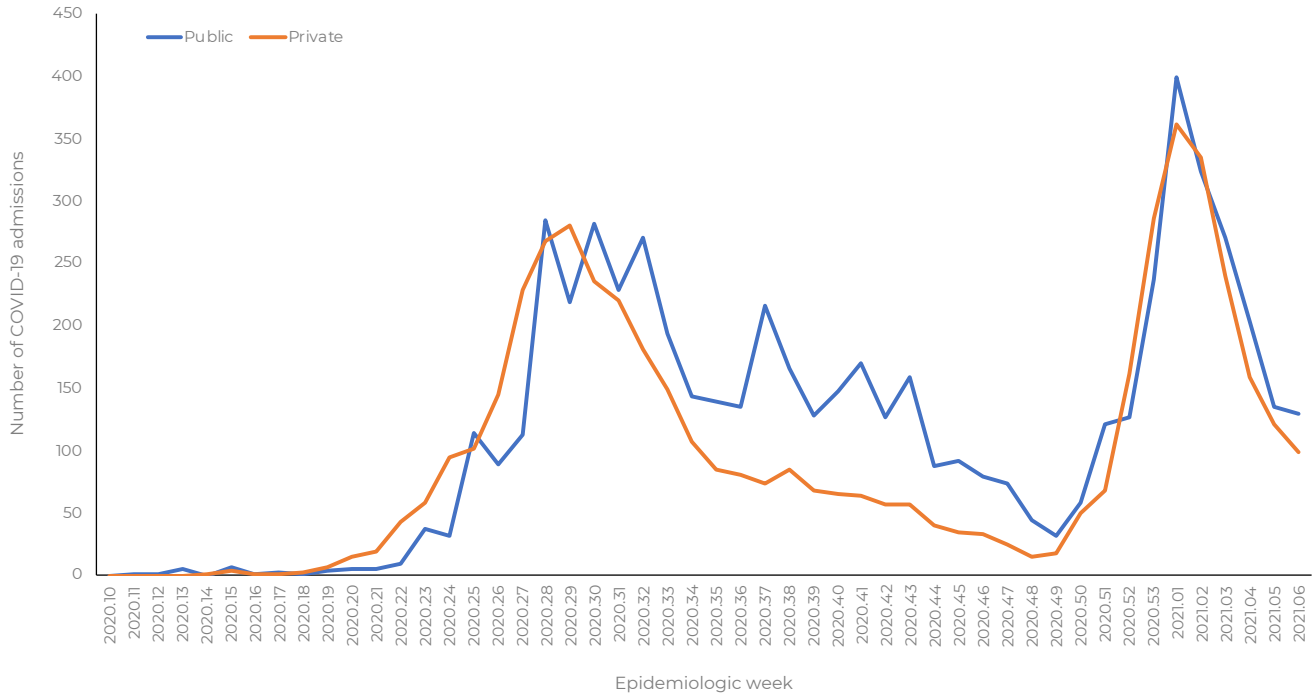

Figure 26: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, North West, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n= 10,656

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). Admissions have decreased in all districts although Dr Kenneth Kaunda shows a slower decrease in admissions as was observed in the first wave.

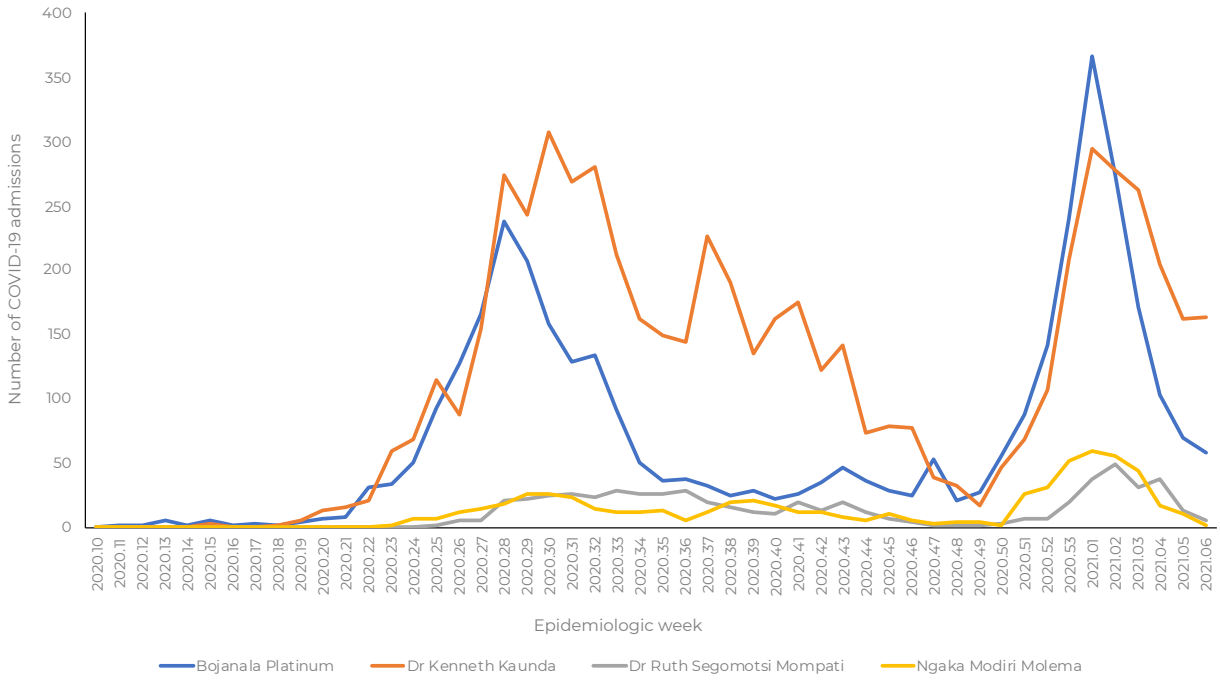

Figure 27: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n= 10,656

All districts showed a decrease in COVID-19 admission in week 5 and week 6 2021 except Dr. Kenneth Kaunda. 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 5 to week 6 2021, by district, North West

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 5	Admissions Week 6	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Bojanala Platinum	3597	70	58	-17	25.6	1.3
Dr Kenneth Kaunda	5849	162	163	1	71.8	9.0
Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	585	13	5	-62	2.2	0.5
Ngaka Modiri Molema	625	11	1	-91	0.4	0.0

The increases in deaths was predominantly in Dr Kenneth Kaunda and Bojanala, 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). The numbers of deaths have decreased in all districts.

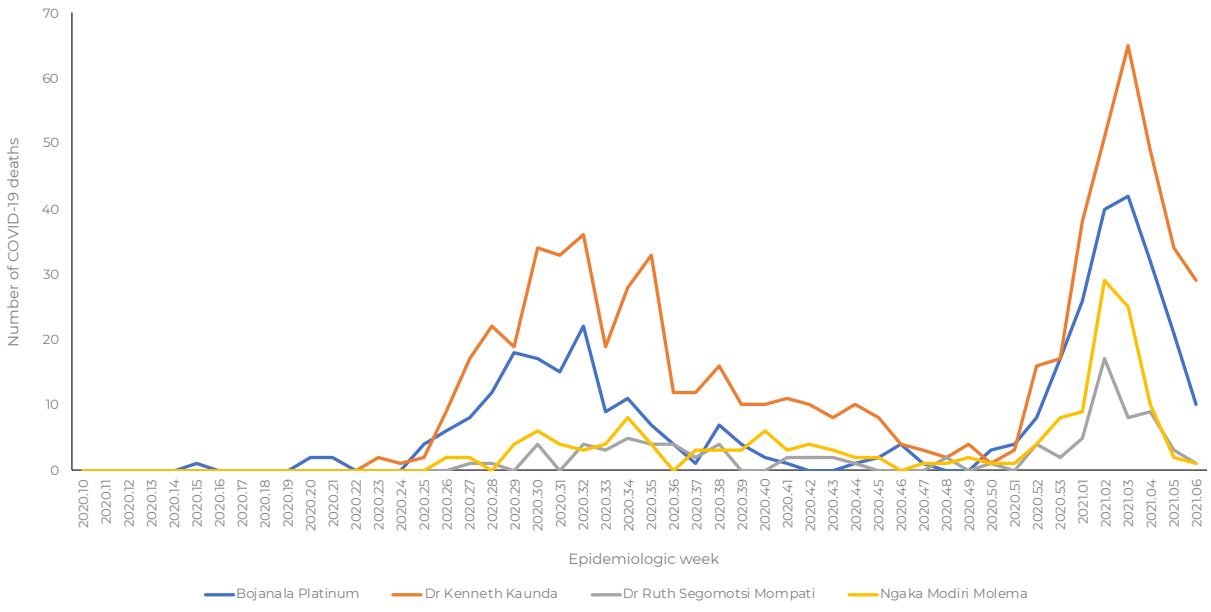

Figure 28: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n= 1,293

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). Since week 2 2021, numbers of admissions have decreased in both sectors.

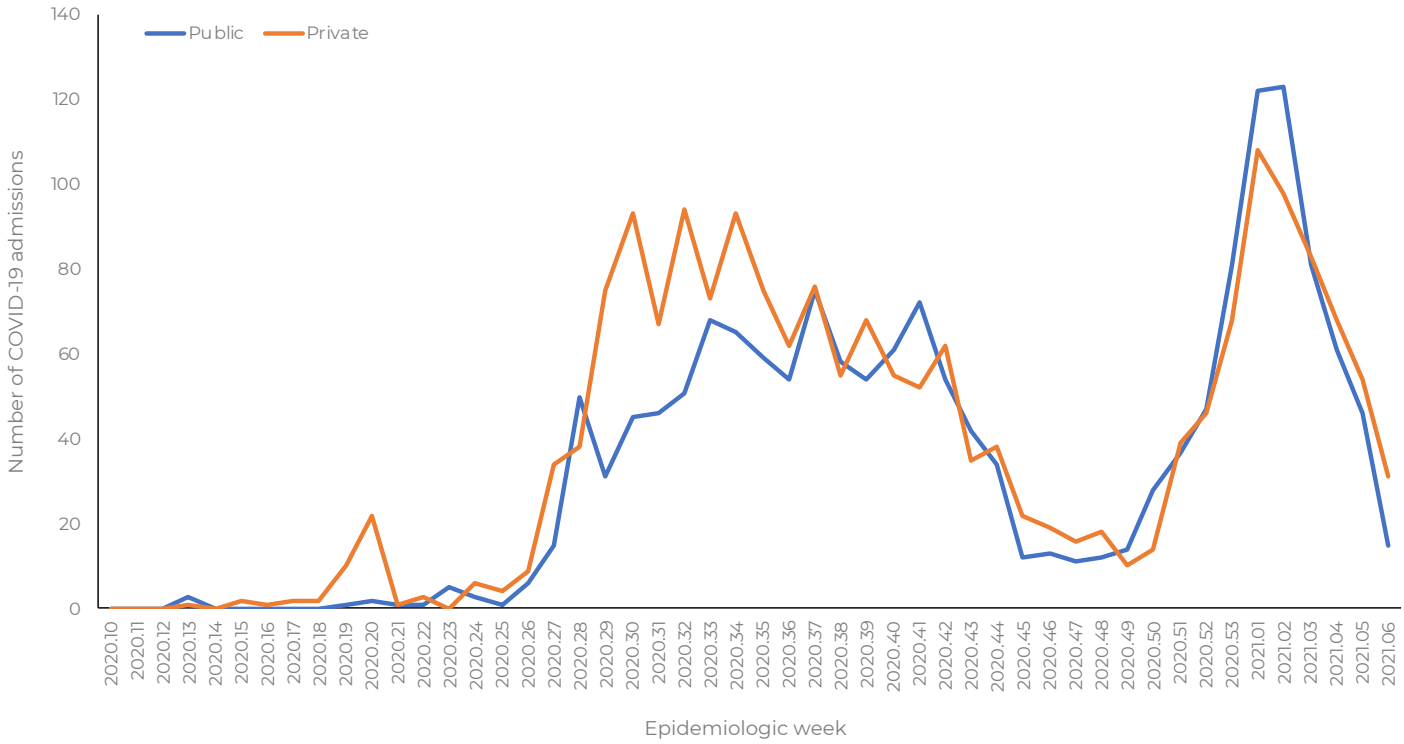

Figure 29: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n= 3,562

The increase in admissions in Northern Cape was observed predominantly in Frances Baard; 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). Admissions have decreased in all districts.

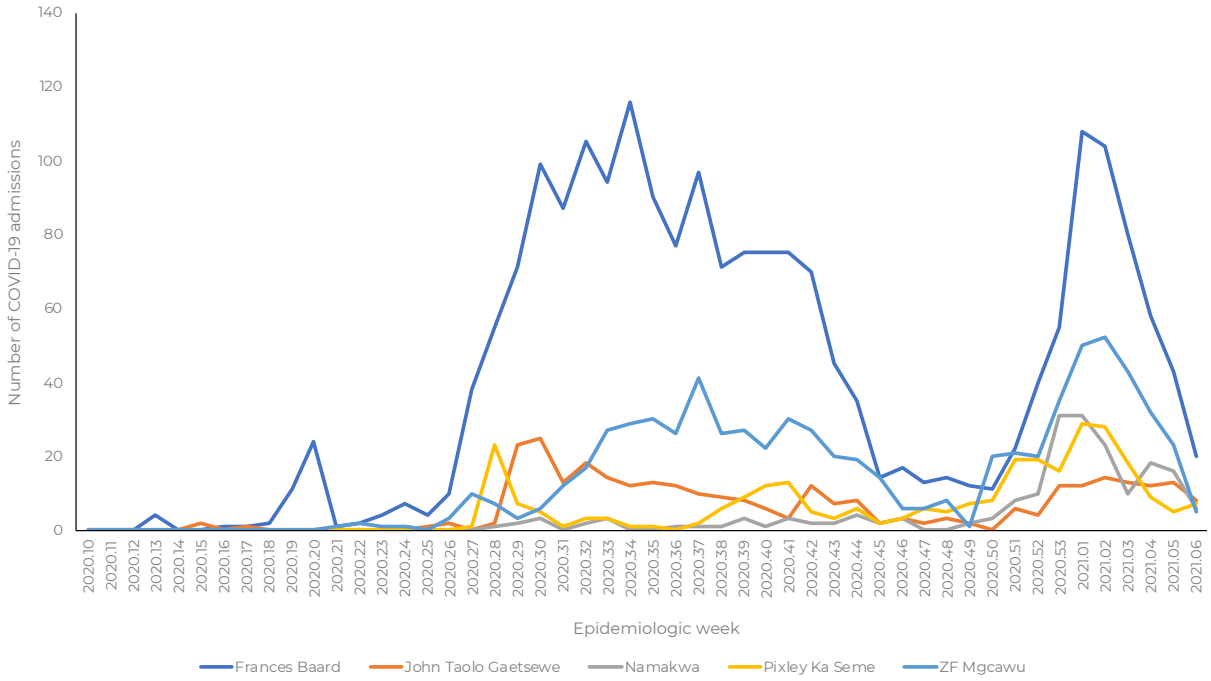

Figure 30: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n=3,562

All districts showed a decrease in COVID-19 admission between week 5 and week 6 2021 except, Pixley Ka Seme. The highest proportion of new admissions were in Frances Baard district (Table 12).

Table 12: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 5 to week 6 2021, by district, Northern Cape

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 5	Admissions Week 6	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Frances Baard	2057	43	20	-53	43.5	10.5
John Taolo Gaetsewe	307	13	8	-38	17.4	6.4
Namakwa	193	16	6	-63	13.0	11.3
Pixley Ka Seme	282	5	7	40	15.2	7.2
ZF Mgcawu	723	23	5	-78	10.9	3.9

The increases in deaths was predominantly in Frances Baard and ZF Mgcawu, 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). The numbers of deaths have decreased in all districts.

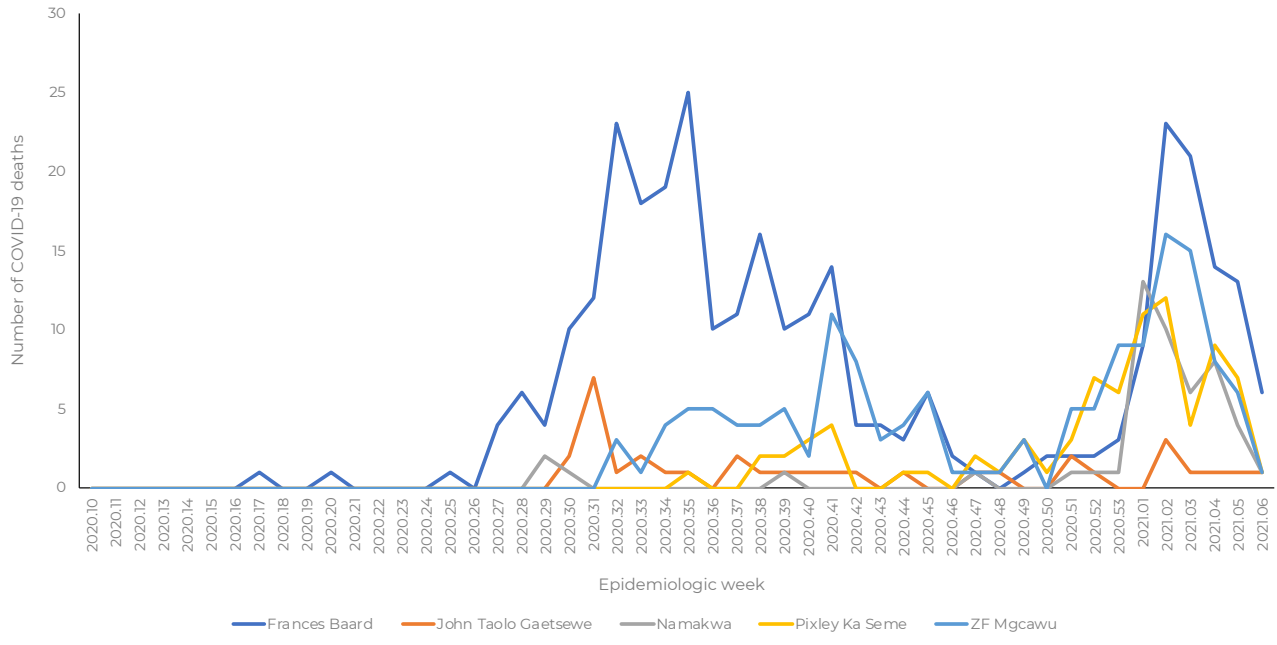

Figure 31: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021, n=622

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

Province	District	Total admissions	Incidence (per 100k)	New admissions	New admissions incidence (per 100k)	% average change (14 days)
Eastern Cape	Alfred Nzo	1570	188.65	7	0.84	-41.67
	Amathole	2259	282.66	3	0.38	-84.21
	Buffalo City Metro	7087	884.91	38	4.74	-54.76
	Chris Hani	3130	430.15	9	1.24	-72.73
	Joe Gqabi	656	190.16	9	2.61	-40.00
	Nelson Mandela Bay Metro	10092	831.95	39	3.22	2.63
	O R Tambo	2987	194.95	9	0.59	-60.87
	Sarah Baartman	1603	331.32	2	0.41	-80.00
Free State	Fezile Dabi	1272	249.35	21	4.12	-25.00
	Lejweleputswa	2415	369.49	28	4.28	-37.78
	Mangaung Metro	5726	657.47	60	6.89	-28.57
	Thabo Mofutsanyana	1824	238.49	62	8.11	-8.82
	Xhariep	292	225.58	1	0.77	-90.00
Gauteng	City of Johannesburg Metro	21666	369.31	353	6.02	-28.97
	City of Tshwane Metro	14365	385.21	266	7.13	-40.36
	Ekurhuleni Metro	12869	323.16	162	4.07	-33.88
	Sedibeng	3151	329.77	76	7.95	-7.32
	West Rand	4737	496.16	138	14.45	11.29
KwaZulu-Natal	Amajuba	1447	253.63	23	4.03	-54.90
	eThekwini Metro	20115	505.25	154	3.87	-50.16
	Harry Gwala	831	161.66	4	0.78	-71.43
	iLembe	1467	211.22	4	0.58	-84.00
	King Cetshwayo	4852	499.86	72	7.42	-39.50
	Ugu	2314	288.63	17	2.12	-60.47
	uMgungundlovu	4814	418.81	56	4.87	-41.67

Province	District	Total admissions	Incidence (per 100k)	New admissions	New admissions incidence (per 100k)	% average change (14 days)
	uMkhanyakude	667	97.10	7	1.02	-63.16
	Umzinyathi	479	84.40	11	1.94	-50.00
	UThukela	1576	220.66	38	5.32	-29.63
	Zululand	866	98.32	19	2.16	-40.63
Limpopo	Capricorn	3318	253.68	64	4.89	-46.67
	Mopani	1345	113.51	20	1.69	-55.56
	Sekhukhune	550	46.21	7	0.59	-53.33
	Vhembe	690	48.35	3	0.21	-80.00
	Waterberg	1087	146.45	27	3.64	-47.06
Mpumalanga	Ehlanzeni	2712	148.30	65	3.55	-53.57
	Gert Sibande	2386	192.09	73	5.88	-27.00
	Nkangala	2290	142.33	41	2.55	-58.16
North West	Bojanala Platinum	3597	186.55	58	3.01	-17.14
	Dr Kenneth Kaunda	5849	733.22	163	20.43	0.62
	Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	585	123.66	5	1.06	-61.54
	Ngaka Modiri Molema	625	68.69	1	0.11	-90.91
Northern Cape	Frances Baard	2057	495.77	20	4.82	-53.49
	John Taolo Gaetsewe	307	113.09	8	2.95	-38.46
	Namakwa	193	166.94	6	5.19	-62.50
	Pixley Ka Seme	282	133.72	7	3.32	40.00
	ZF Mgcawu	723	258.31	5	1.79	-78.26
Western Cape	Cape Winelands	5186	550.96	66	7.01	-31.25
	Central Karoo	376	500.58	2	2.66	-33.33
	City of Cape Town Metro	31453	683.02	404	8.77	-19.68
	Garden Route	4482	718.66	78	12.51	-16.13
	Overberg	1230	410.13	13	4.33	-18.75
	West Coast	1418	307.72	29	6.29	-17.14

APPENDIX

Table 14: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions and in-hospital deaths by age and gender, South Africa, 5 March 2020-13 February 2021

	ADMISSIONS				DEATHS			
Age (years)	**Female**	**Male**	**Unknown**	**Total**	**Female**	**Male**	**Unknown**	**Total**
0-4	1389	1651	7	3047	50	46	1	97
5-9	350	484	3	837	8	12	0	20
10-14	616	561	0	1177	13	14	0	27
15-19	1860	1003	3	2866	55	48	0	103
20-24	3353	1652	3	5008	123	90	0	213
25-29	5917	2709	4	8630	273	168	0	441
30-34	8192	4725	3	12920	513	386	0	899
35-39	9204	6561	5	15770	727	643	0	1370
40-44	8949	7794	5	16748	950	962	1	1913
45-49	10292	9448	7	19747	1441	1498	2	2941
50-54	11967	10628	2	22597	1957	2006	0	3963
55-59	12902	11217	8	24127	2815	2739	1	5555
60-64	11464	10297	8	21769	3163	3316	1	6480
65-69	9326	8164	6	17496	3155	3003	0	6158
70-74	7436	6577	12	14025	2673	2648	4	5325
75-79	5353	4332	3	9688	2030	1896	0	3926
80-84	3866	2715	4	6585	1553	1214	1	2768
85-89	2063	1274	1	3338	867	641	0	1508
90-94	903	440	1	1344	436	227	0	663
>=95	334	211	0	545	137	73	0	210
Unknown	840	658	108	1606	121	125	5	251
Total	**116576**	**93101**	**193**	**209870**	**23060**	**21755**	**16**	**44831**