

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE



NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR
COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Division of the National Health Laboratory Service

SOUTH AFRICA WEEK 12 2021

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 27 March 2021.

HIGHLIGHTS

- As of 27 March 2021, 250,455 COVID-19 admissions and 51,527 in-hospital deaths were reported from 644 facilities (393 public-sector and 251 private-sector) in all nine provinces of South Africa.
- Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 admissions remain low in all provinces but small increases in admissions in Northern Cape and Free State provinces have been observed.

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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 or a person who had a positive SARS-CoV-2 antigen test who was admitted to 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.

Achieving the end-of-wave threshold corresponds to having a time period (E.g. a week or two weeks) where the 7 day moving average of cases is sustained at or lower than a small fraction of recent peak incidence. We set the end-of-wave threshold as 15% of the peak incidence or case load, measured in terms of 7-day moving average of case incidence. We specifically use last 7-day average incidence per 1 million capita as reported in Our World in Data; for the purposes of this analysis, using the 7-day running average (either absolute or per capita) would be equivalent.

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 27 March 2021, a total of 644 facilities submitted data on hospitalised COVID-19 cases, 393 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 2020-27 March 2021

Name of province	Public Sector	Private Sector
Eastern Cape	85	18
Free State	35	20
Gauteng	39	91
KwaZulu-Natal	70	45
Limpopo	41	7
Mpumalanga	31	9
North West	16	12
Northern Cape	17	8
Western Cape	59	41
South Africa	393	251

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RESULTS

Epidemiological and geographic trends in admissions

From 5 March 2020 to 27 March 2021, a total of 250,455 COVID-19 admissions were reported from 644 facilities in all nine provinces of South Africa. 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, numbers of COVID-19 admissions have decreased in both public and private sector. Decreases in the most recent week may reflect delays in data submission.

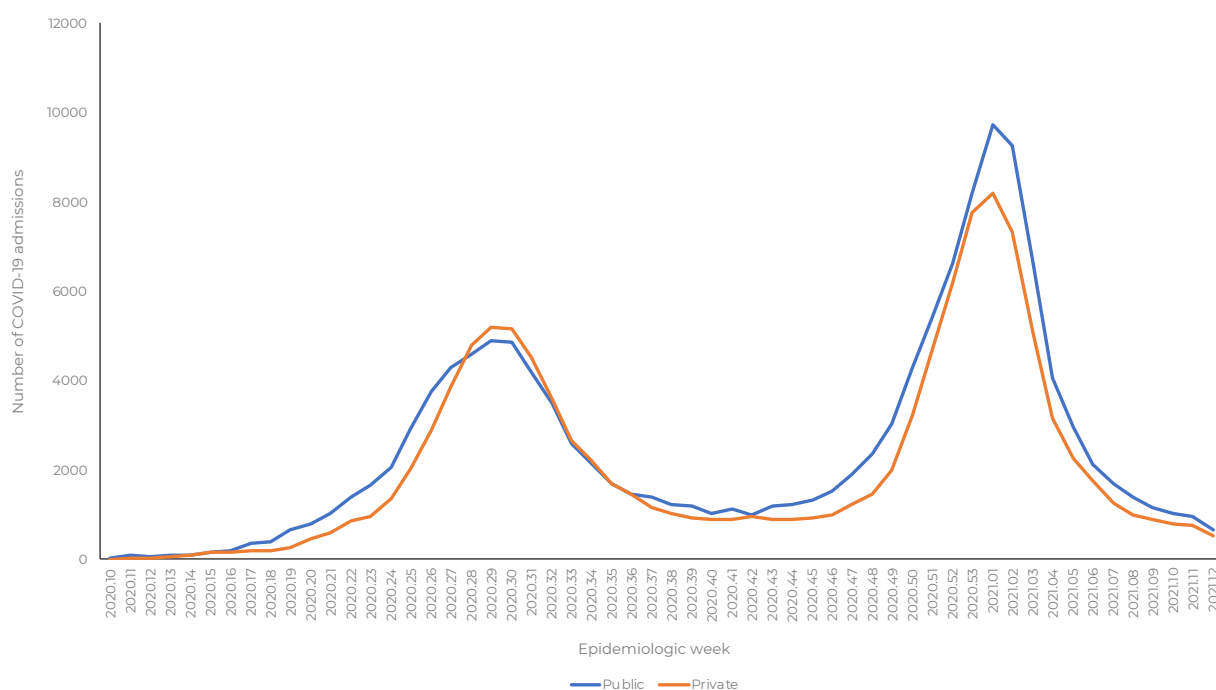


Figure 1. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n=250,455

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The majority of admissions were recorded in four provinces, Gauteng 64,525 (26%), Western Cape 57,418 (23%), Eastern Cape 31,498 (13%) and KwaZulu-Natal 47,500 (19%) provinces (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 of COVID-19 admissions have decreased in all provinces. Reductions in the most recent week may be as a result of delayed reporting.

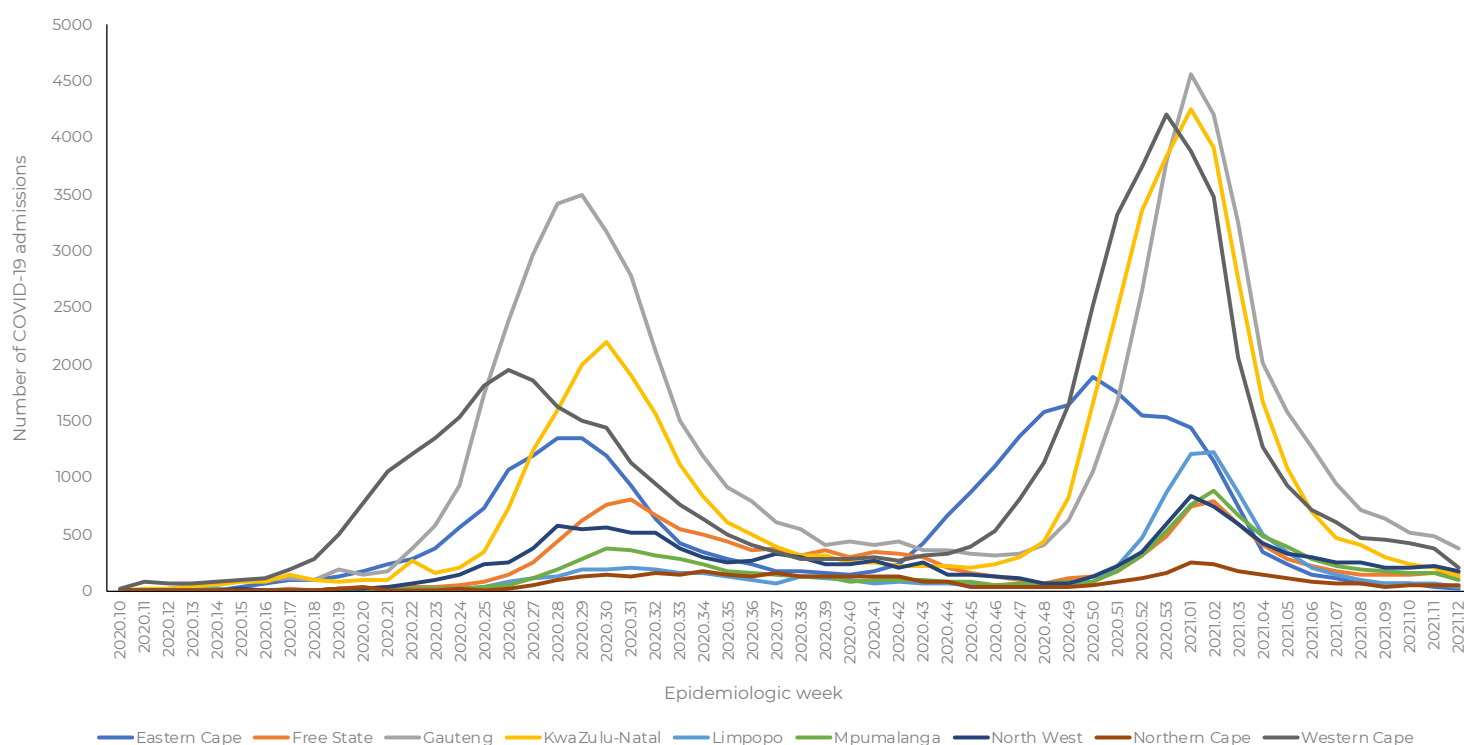


Figure 2. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by province and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n=250,455

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EPIDEMIOLOGICAL AND GEOGRAPHIC TRENDS IN IN-HOSPITAL MORTALITY

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). Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of deaths have decreased in both sectors.

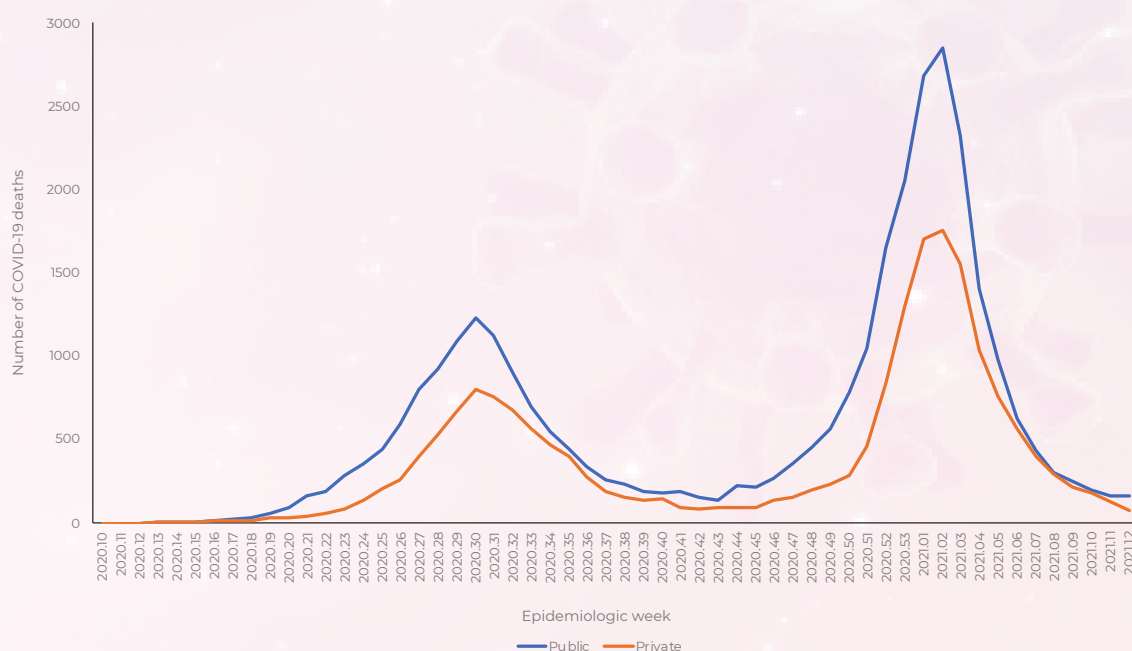


Figure 3. Number of in-hospital COVID-19 in-hospital deaths reported per week by health sector and epidemiologic week, South Africa, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n=51,527

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Most deaths were reported in Eastern Cape 9,410 (18%), Gauteng 11,987 (23%), Western Cape 9,858 (19%) and KwaZulu-Natal 10,519 (20%) (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. The numbers of COVID-19 deaths have decreased in all provinces.

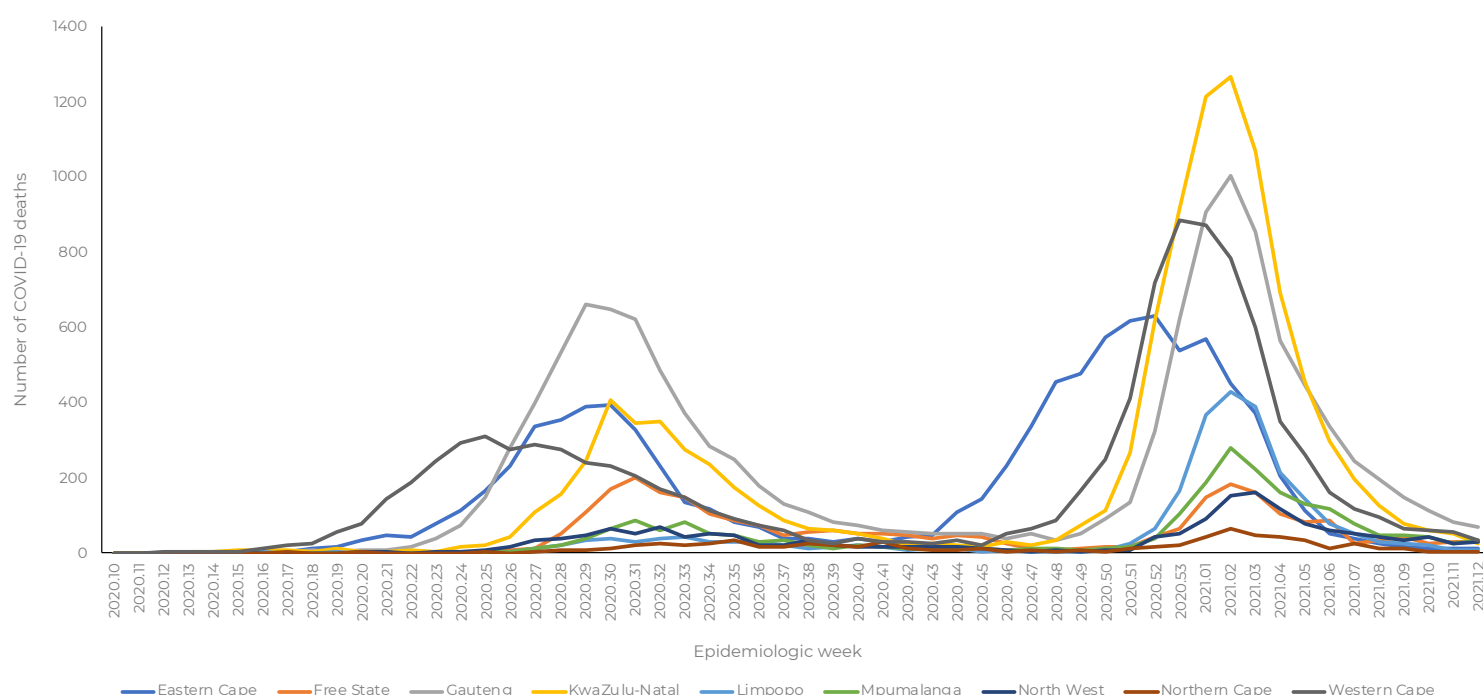


Figure 4. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by province and epidemiologic week of death, South Africa, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n=51,527

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The cumulative incidence risks of COVID-19 admissions and in-hospital 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 2020-27 March 2021

Province	Provincial Population mid 2020*	Cumulative admissions	Cumulative Admissions / 100,000	Cumulative deaths	Cumulative deaths / 100,000
Eastern Cape	6734001	31498	467.7	9410	139.7
Free State	2928903	13830	472.2	2700	92.2
Gauteng	15488137	64,525	416.6	11982	77.3
KwaZulu-Natal	11531628	47500	411.9	10519	91.2
Limpopo	5852553	9023	154.2	2463	42.1
Mpumalanga	4679786	9235	197.3	2224	47.5
North West	4108816	13,294	323.5	1672	40.7
Northern Cape	1292786	4,132	319.6	699	54.1
Western Cape	7005741	57,418	819.6	9858	140.7
South Africa	59622350	250,455	420.1	51,527	86.4

*StatsSA mid-year population estimates 2020

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PROVINCIAL TRENDS

The number of COVID-19 admissions decreased in all provinces from week 11 to week 12 of 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 9 of 52 (17%) districts across the country, Amathole and Chris Hani (Eastern Cape), Fezile Dabi, Mangaung Metro and Xhariep (Free State), Amajuba and Harry Gwala (KwaZulu-Natal) and John Taolo Gaetsewe and Pixley Ka Seme (Northern Cape) that reported increased admissions over the previous 14 days (Appendix 1).

Table 3. Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 11 to week 12 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 11	Week 12*			
Eastern Cape	32	20	-38	1.7	0.3
Free State	149	156	5	13.0	5.3
Gauteng	484	368	-24	30.7	2.4
KwaZulu-Natal	196	120	-39	10.0	1.0
Limpopo	61	30	-51	2.5	0.5
Mpumalanga	160	94	-41	7.8	2.0
North West	213	165	-23	13.8	4.0
Northern Cape	47	44	-6	3.7	3.4
Western Cape	371	201	-46	16.8	2.9
South Africa	1,713	1,198	-30	100.0	2.0

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

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EASTERN CAPE

In both waves there were higher numbers of admissions in the public sector. Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in both sectors. Since the end of the second wave the numbers of COVID-19 admissions have remained low in both sectors (Figure 5).

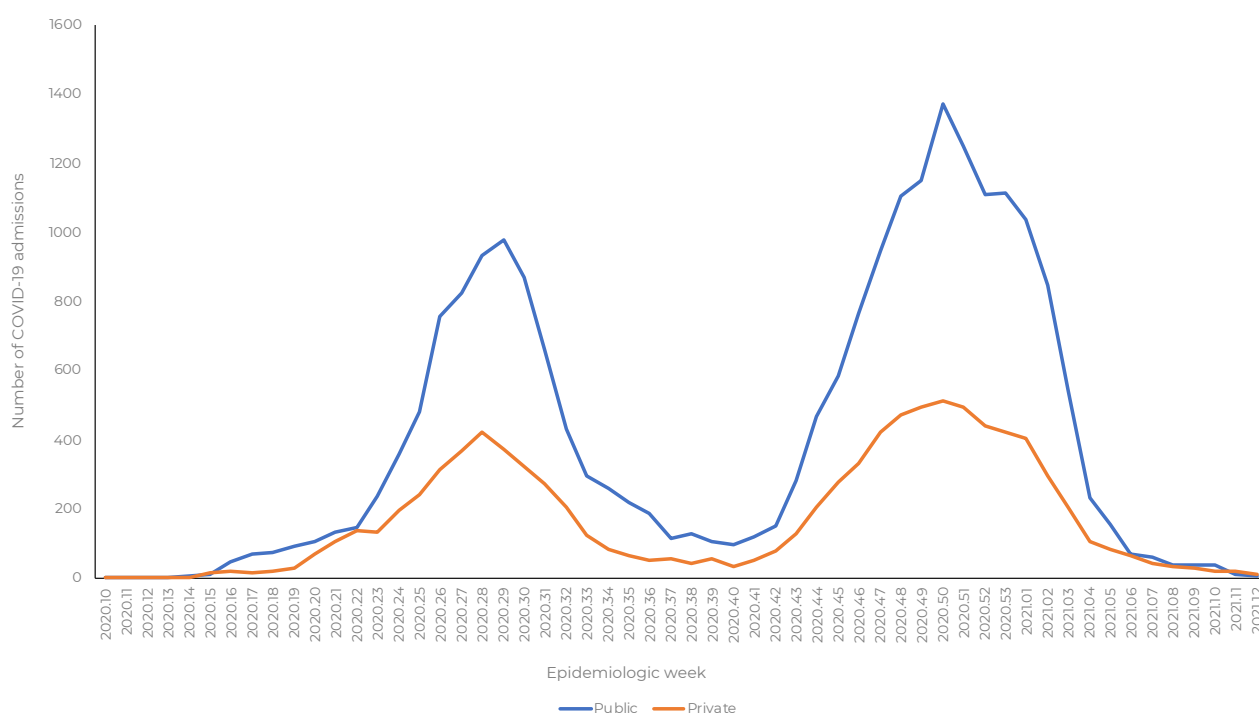


Figure 5: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n= 31,514

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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). Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 admissions have remained low in all districts.

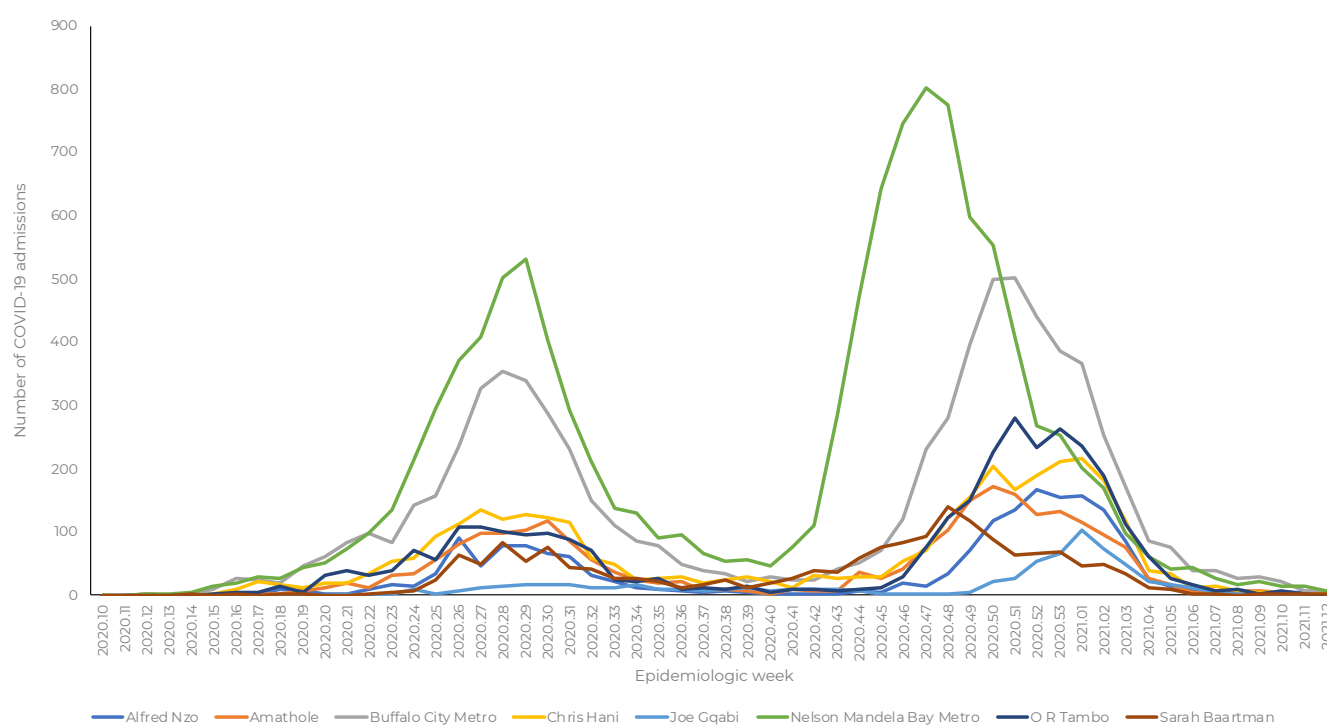


Figure 6. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n=31,514

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All districts showed a decrease in COVID-19 admission between week 11 and week 12 2021 except Amathole and Chris Hani. 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 11 to week 12 of 2021, by district, Eastern Cape

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 11	Admissions Week 12	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Alfred Nzo	1793	4	2	-50	10.0	1.2
Amathole	2357	1	3	200	15.0	1.9
Buffalo City Metro	7320	8	6	-25	30.0	3.7
Chris Hani	3293	1	2	100	10.0	1.4
Joe Gqabi	707	2	0	-100	0.0	0.0
Nelson Mandela Bay	11111	14	6	-57	30.0	2.5
O R Tambo	3180	1	0	-100	0.0	0.0
Sarah Baartman	1737	1	1	0	5.0	1.0

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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). Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 deaths have remained low in all districts.

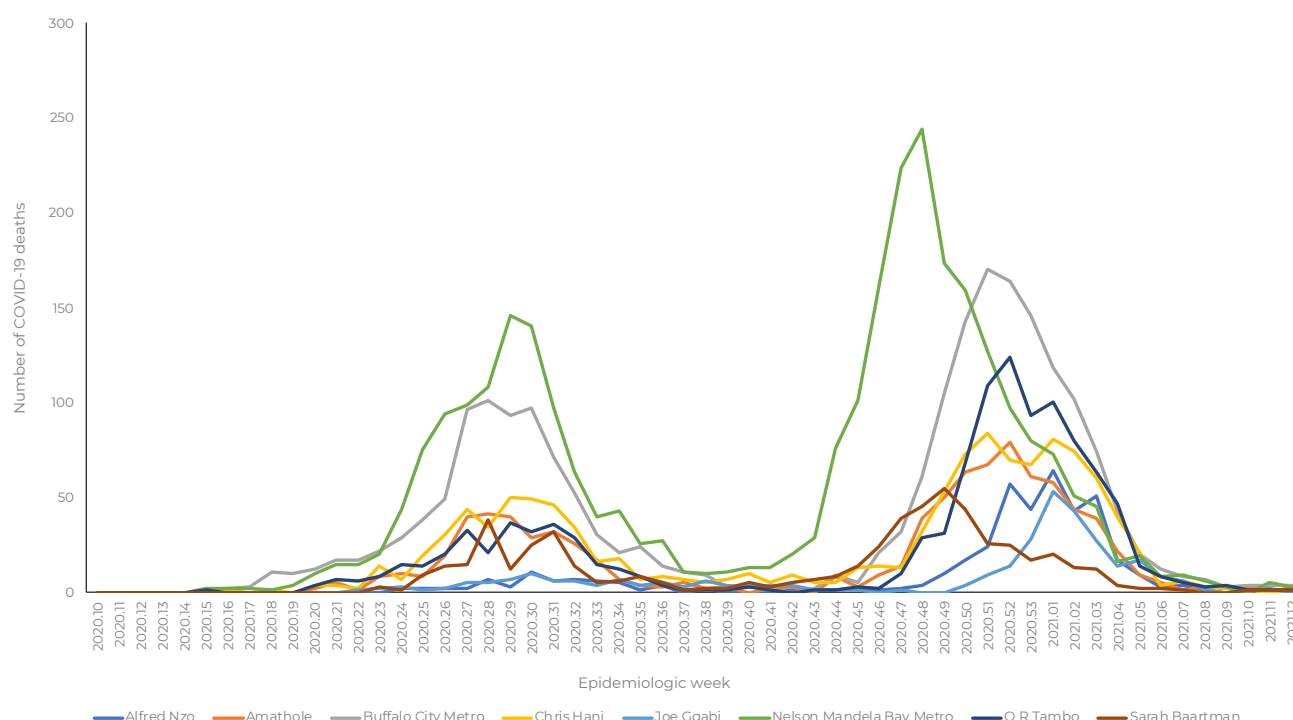


Figure 7. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n=9,410

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WESTERN CAPE

In both waves there were higher numbers of admissions in the public sector. Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in both sectors (Figure 8). Since the end of the second wave the numbers of COVID-19 admissions have remained low in both sectors.

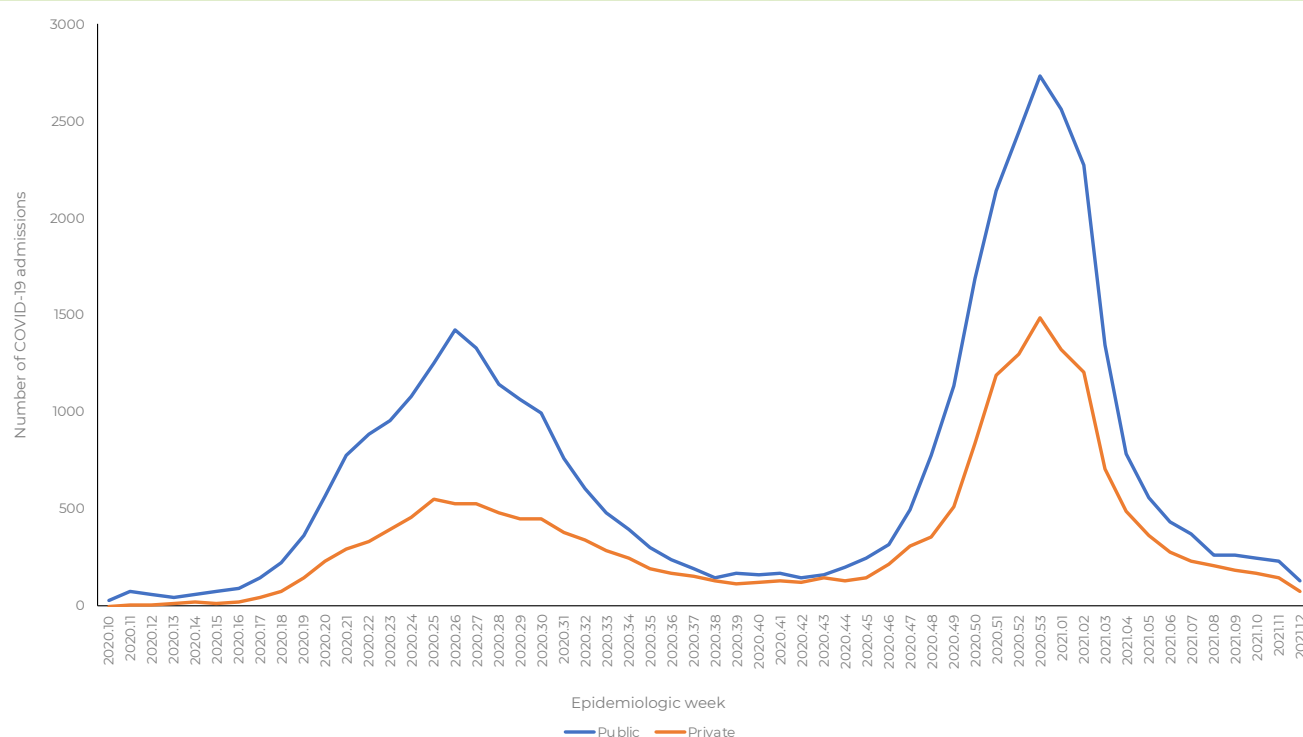


Figure 8: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Western Cape, 5 March 2020–30 January 202, n=57,418

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Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 9). Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 admissions have remained low in all districts.

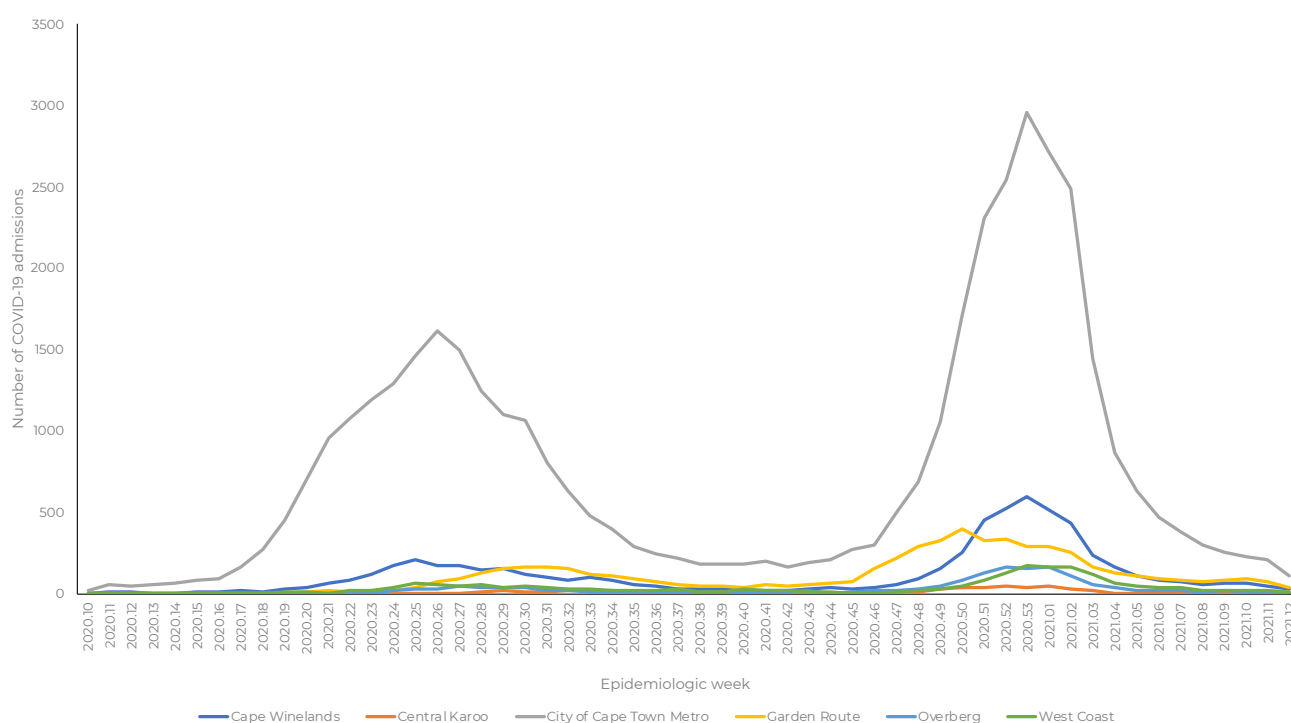


Figure 9: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n=57,418

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All districts showed a decrease in COVID-19 admission between week 11 and week 12 2021 except Central Karoo. 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 11 to week 12 of 2021, by district, Western Cape

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 11	Admissions Week 12	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Cape Winelands	6338	46	30	-35	14.9	1.6
Central Karoo	526	4	6	50	3.0	4.0
City of Cape Town Metro	41311	212	111	-48	55.2	1.2
Garden Route	5764	78	39	-50	19.4	3.1
Overberg	1557	10	4	-60	2.0	0.7
West Coast	1922	21	11	-48	5.5	1.2

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Weekly deaths at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 10). Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 deaths has remained low in all districts.

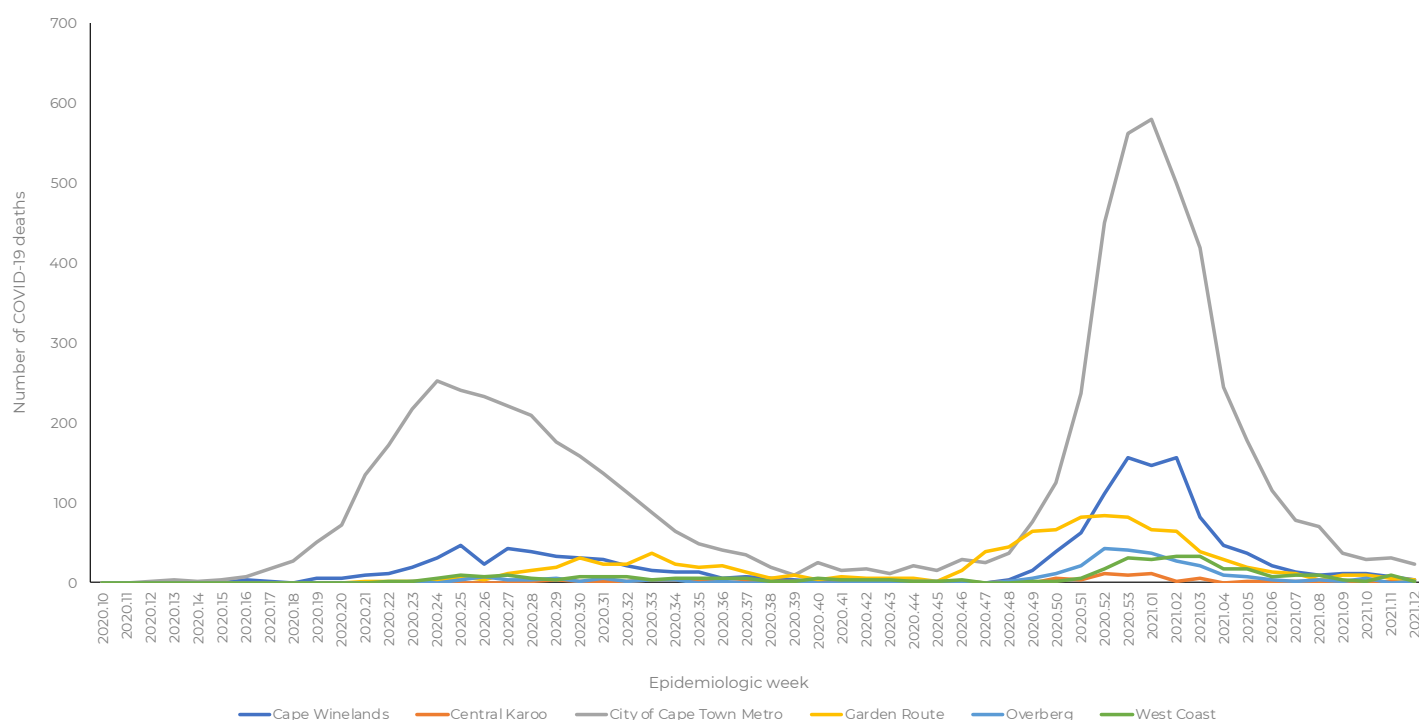


Figure 10: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n=9,858

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KWAZULU-NATAL

In both waves there were higher numbers of admissions in the private sector. Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in both sectors (Figure 11). Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 admissions have been low in both sectors.

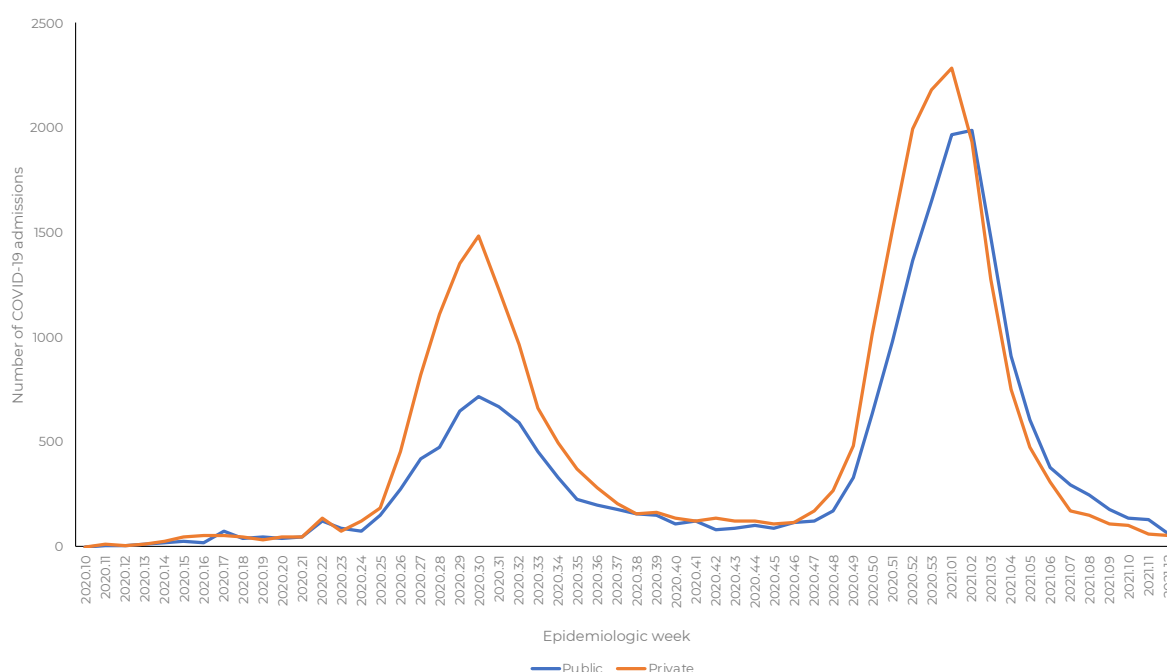


Figure 11: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n= 47,500

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Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in all districts except Amajuba (Figure 12). Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 admissions have remained low in all districts.

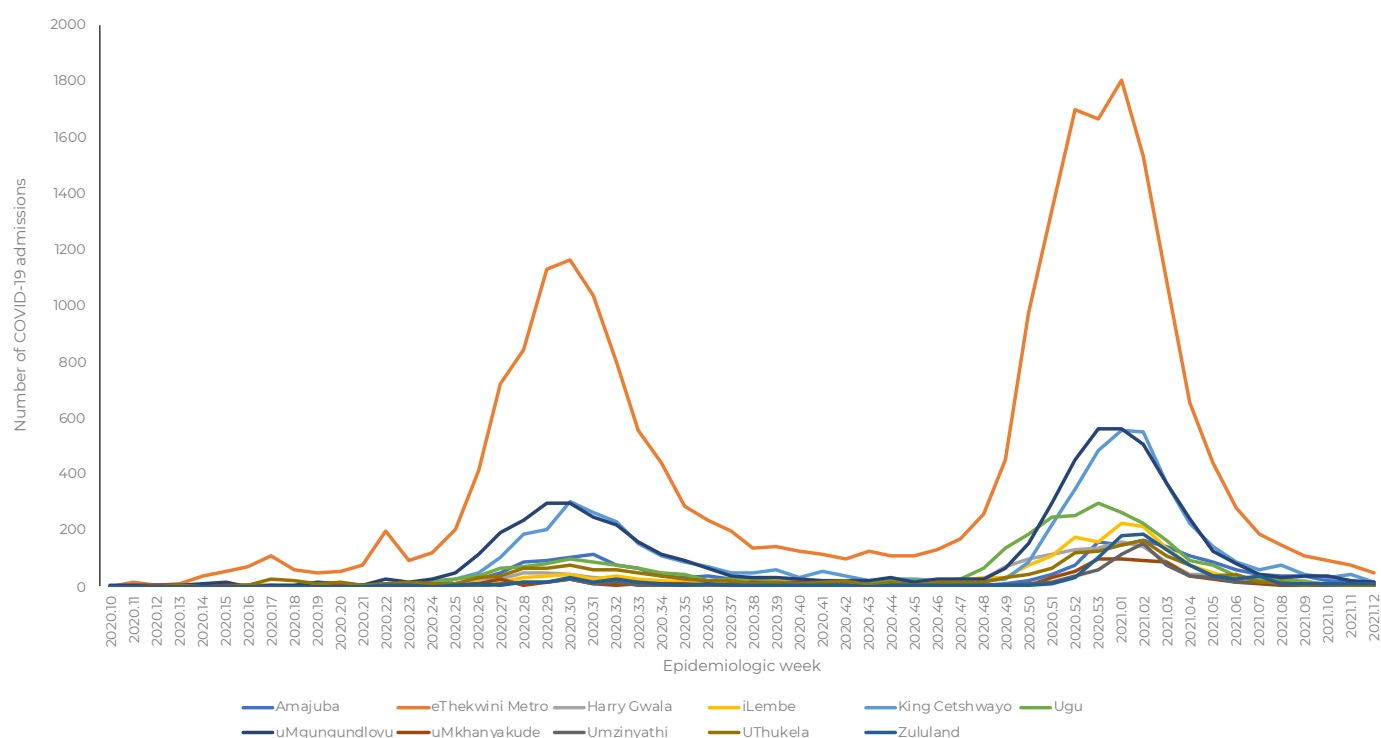


Figure 12: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n= 47,500

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All districts showed a decrease in COVID-19 admission between week 11 and week 12 2021 except Harry Gwala. The highest proportion of new admissions was in eThekwin Metro (Table 6).

Table 6: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 11 to week 12 of 2021, by district, KwaZulu-Natal

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 11	Admissions Week 12	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Amajuba	2044	15	15	0	12.5	2.2
eThekwin Metro	23034	74	48	-35	40.0	1.0
Harry Gwala	1511	3	6	100	5.0	1.0
iLembe	1842	4	3	-25	2.5	0.4
King Cetshwayo	5545	44	14	-68	11.7	1.2
Ugu	3114	10	4	-60	3.3	0.4
uMgungundlovu	6065	20	13	-35	10.8	0.9
uMkhanyakude	795	7	4	-43	3.3	0.5
Umzinyathi	717	4	3	-25	2.5	0.4
UThukela	1785	5	2	-60	1.7	0.2
Zululand	1048	10	8	-20	6.7	0.8

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Weekly deaths at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 13). Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 deaths has remained low in all districts.

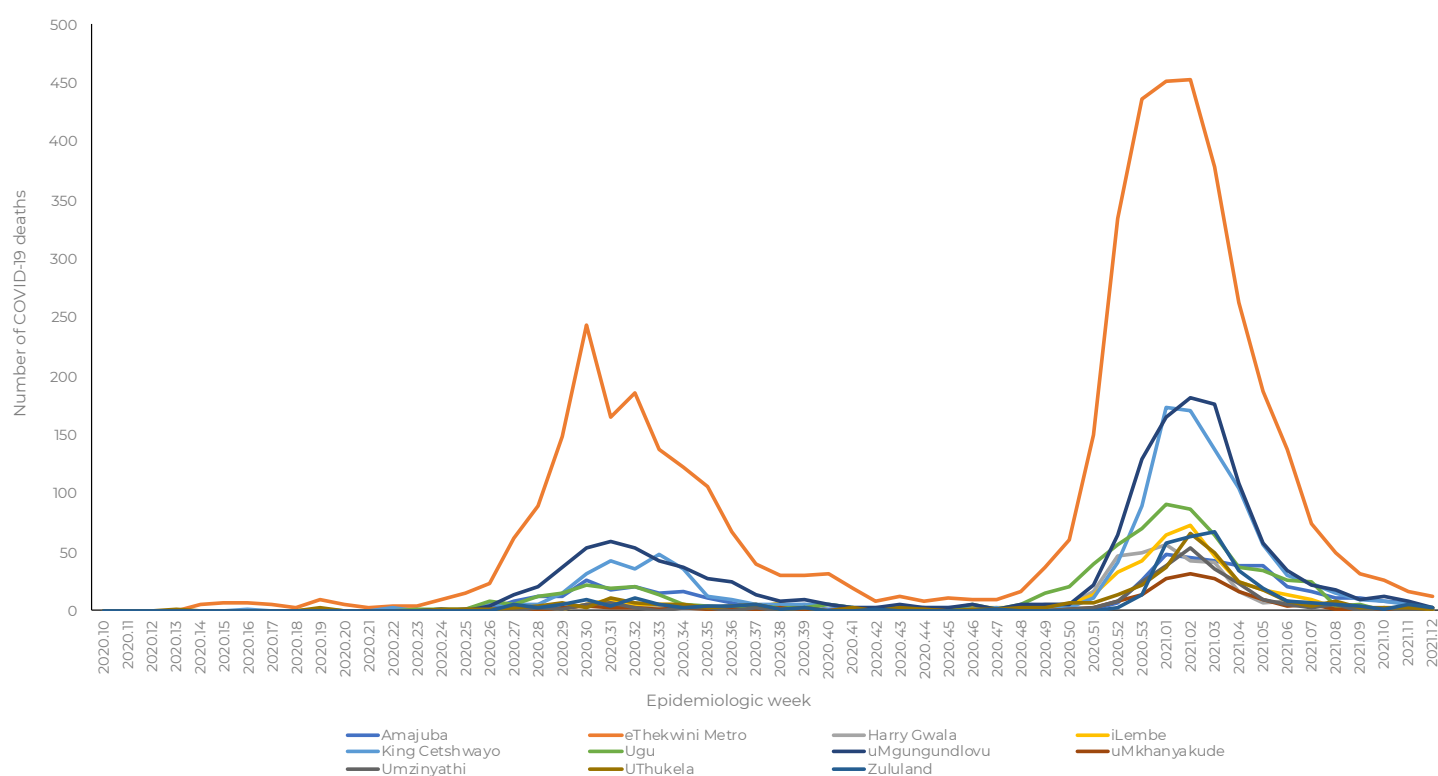


Figure 13: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n= 10,519

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GAUTENG

In both waves there were higher numbers of admissions in the private sector. Weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in the private and public sectors (Figure 14). Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 admissions have remained low.

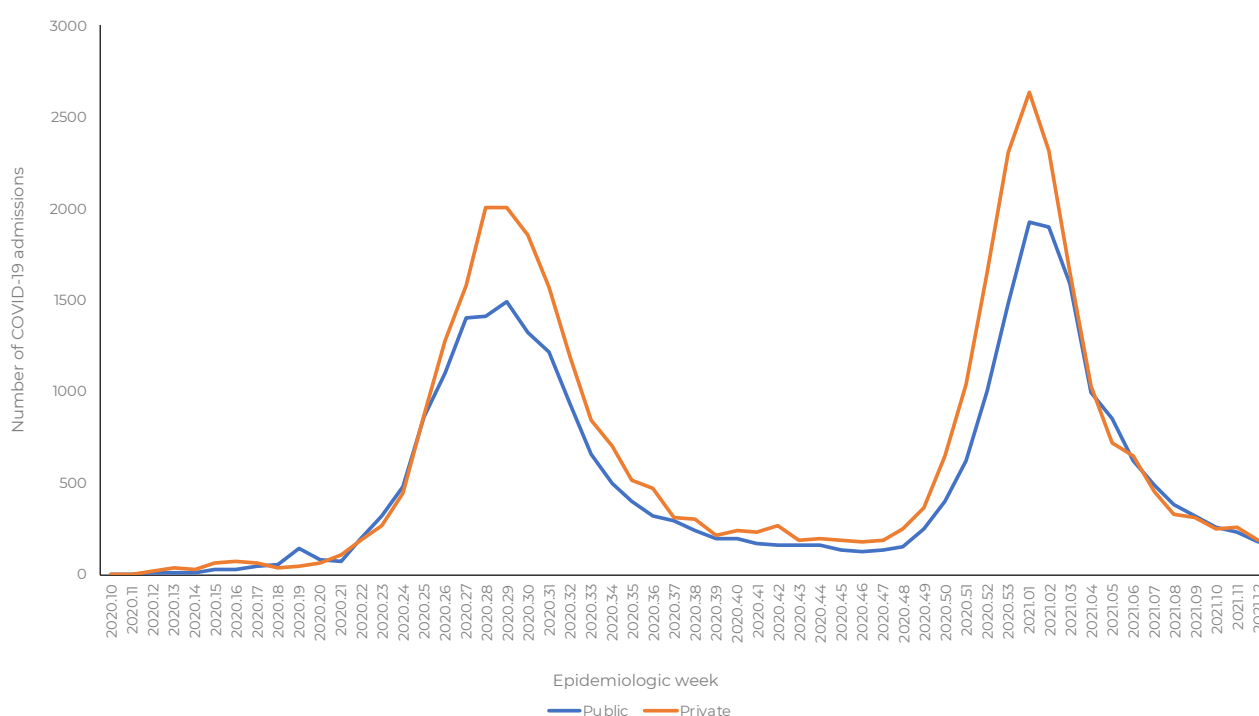


Figure 14: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n= 64,525

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Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave 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). Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 admissions have remained low in all districts.

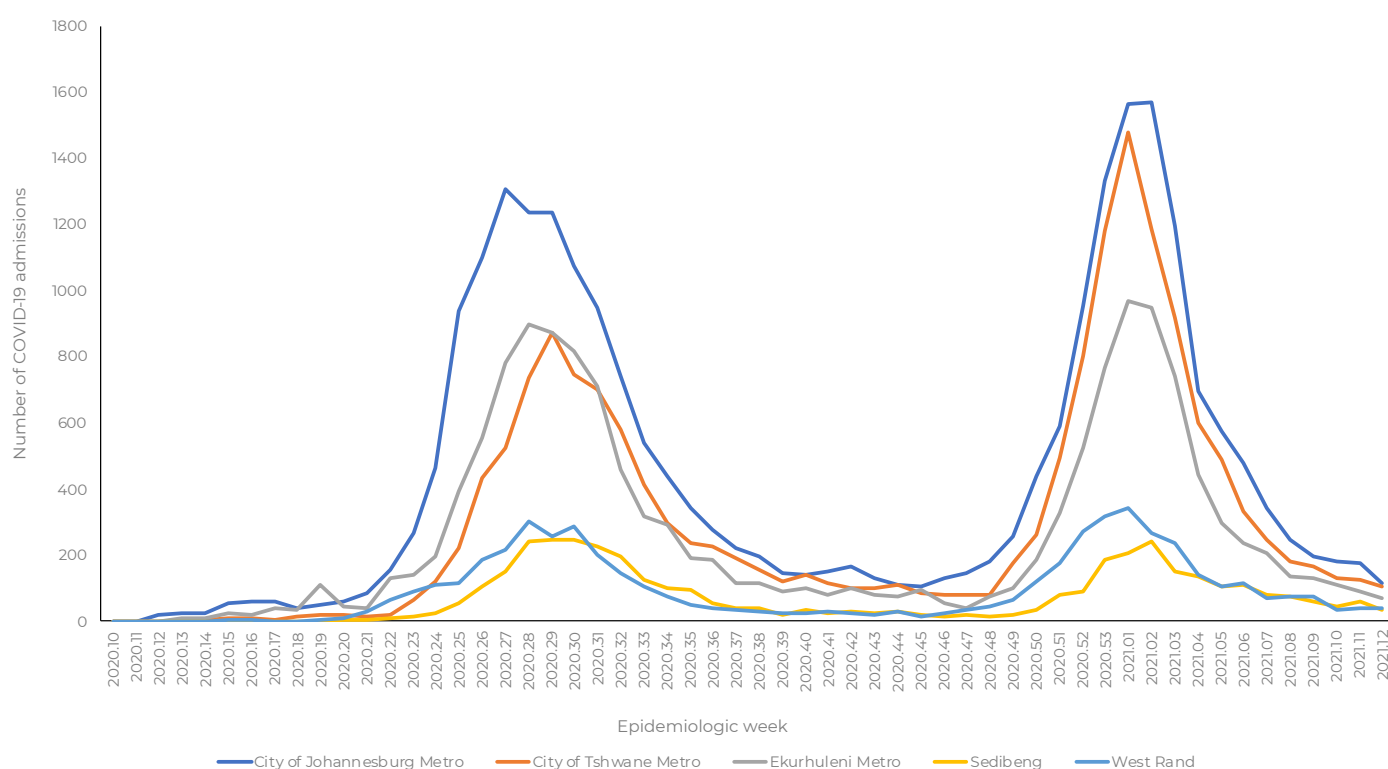


Figure 15: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n= 64,525

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All districts showed decrease in COVID-19 admission between week 11 and week 12 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 11 to week 12 of 2021, by district, Gauteng

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 11	Admissions Week 12	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
City of Johannesburg Metro	24270	174	118	-32	32.1	0.5
City of Tshwane Metro	16553	125	108	-14	29.3	0.8
Ekurhuleni Metro	14601	89	68	-24	18.5	0.5
Sedibeng	3960	58	36	-38	9.8	1.0
West Rand	5141	38	38	0	10.3	1.1

Weekly deaths at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the first wave in City of Tshwane Metro, Ekurhuleni Metro and West Rand (Figure 16). Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 deaths has remained low in all districts except City of Johannesburg which continues to report higher numbers of deaths in the past three weeks.

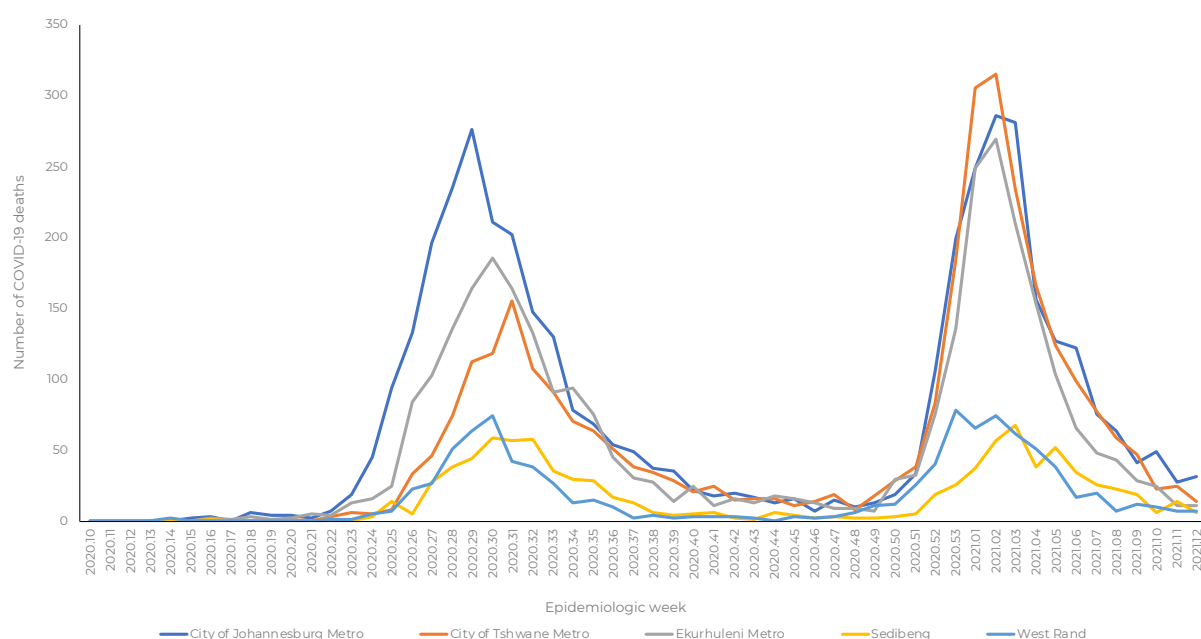


Figure 16: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n=11,982

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LIMPOPO

In the first wave there were roughly equal numbers of admissions in both sectors, but in the second wave there were higher numbers of admissions in the public sector. Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in both sectors (Figure 17). Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 admissions have remained low in both sectors.

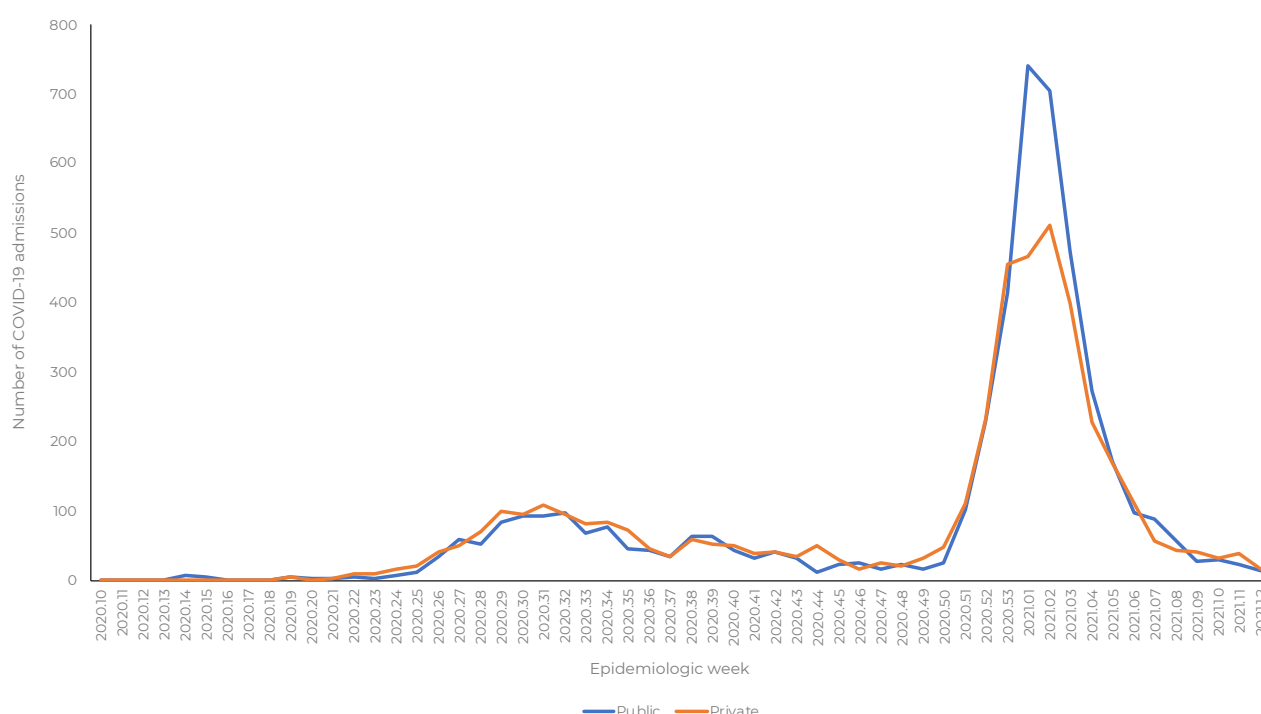


Figure 17: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n= 9,023

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Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 18). Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 admissions have remained low in all districts.

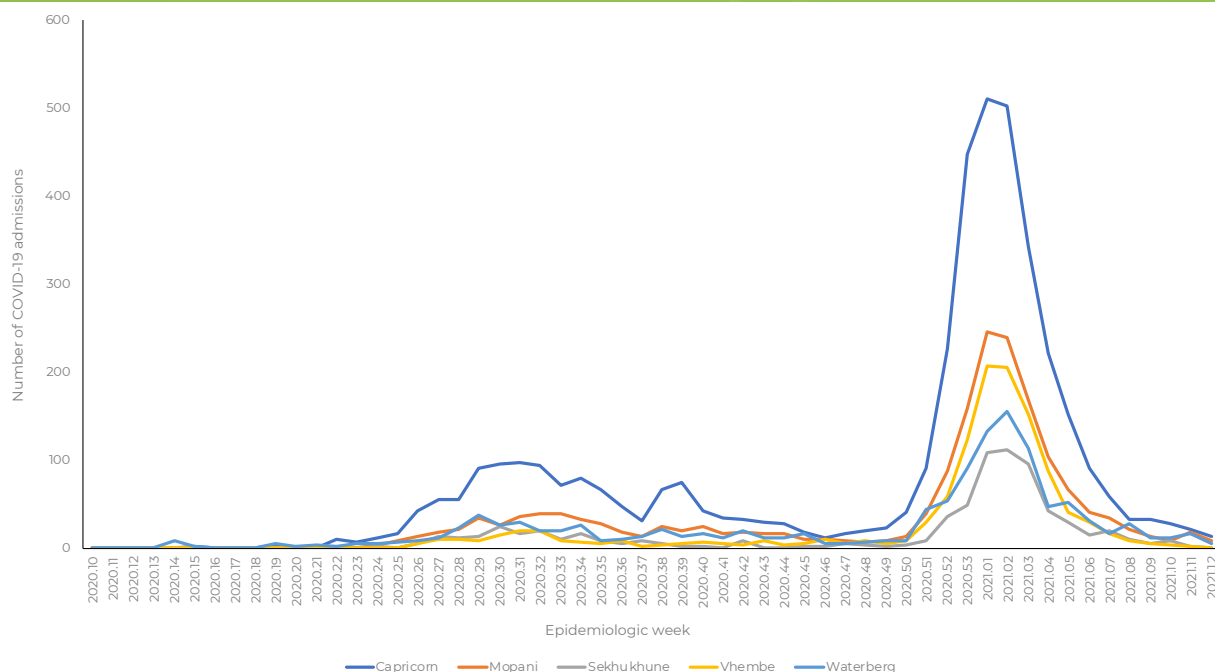


Figure 18: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n= 9,023

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All districts showed decreases in COVID-19 admission between week 11 and week 12 2021. The highest proportion of new admissions was in Capricorn (Table 8).

Table 8: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 11 to week 12 of 2021, by district, Limpopo

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 11	Admissions Week 12	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Capricorn	4088	22	14	-36	46.7	3.6
Mopani	1778	18	8	-56	26.7	2.3
Sekhukhune	736	2	1	-50	3.3	0.3
Vhembe	1173	2	1	-50	3.3	0.2
Waterberg	1248	17	6	-65	20.0	2.7

Weekly deaths at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 19). Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 deaths have remained low in all districts.

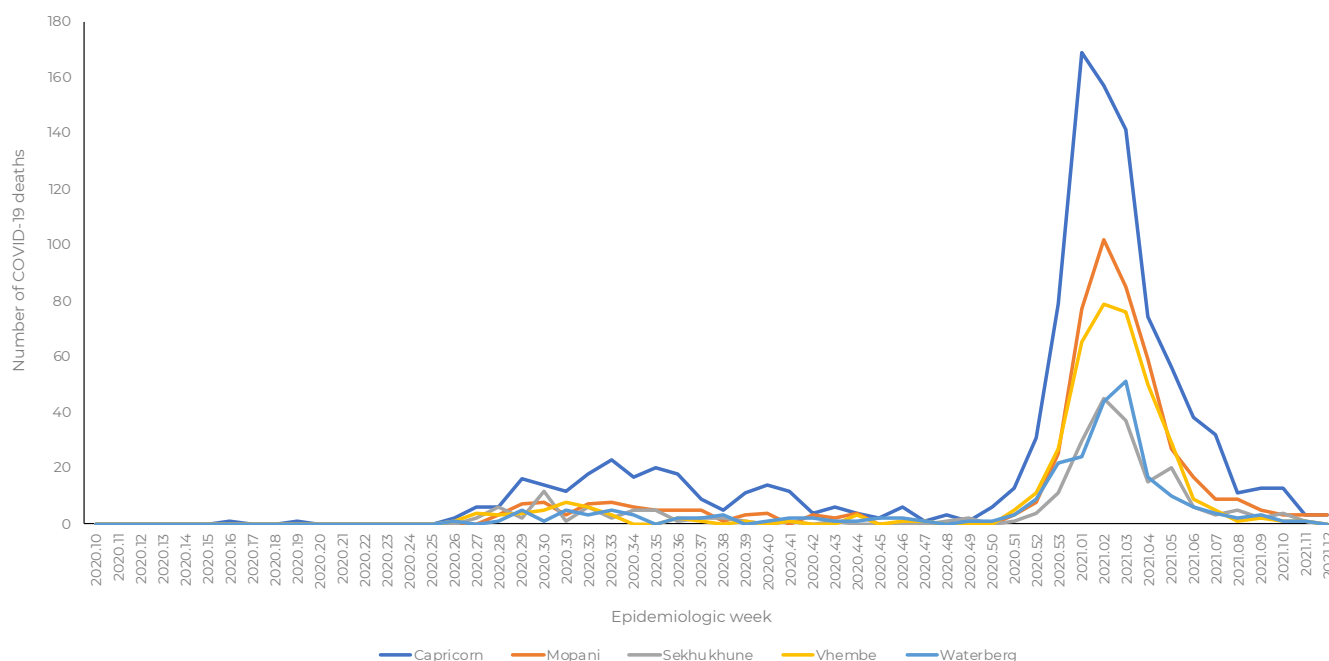


Figure 19: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n= 2,463

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FREE STATE

In the first wave there were roughly equal numbers of admissions in both sectors, but in the second wave there were higher numbers of admissions in the public sector (Figure 20). Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in the public sector. The numbers of COVID-19 admissions have increased in both sectors over the past two weeks.

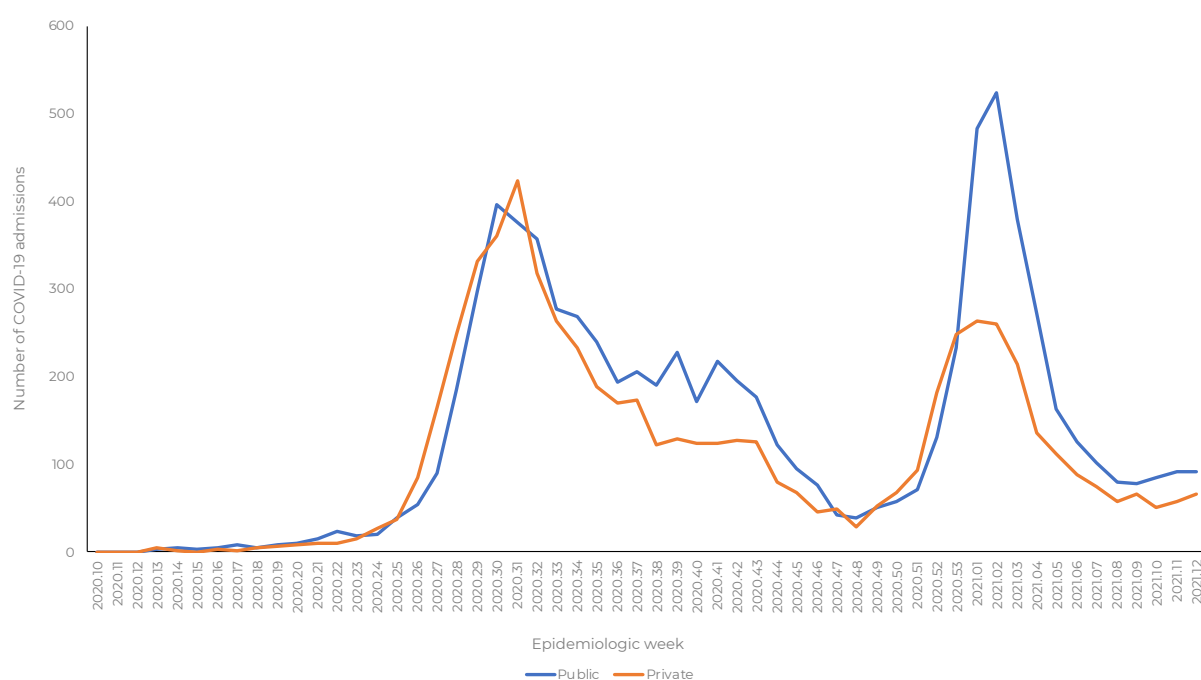


Figure 20: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Free State, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n= 13,830

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Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in Fezile Dabi, Thabo Mofutsanyane and Xhariep (Figure 21). Admissions have increased in three districts in the past week.

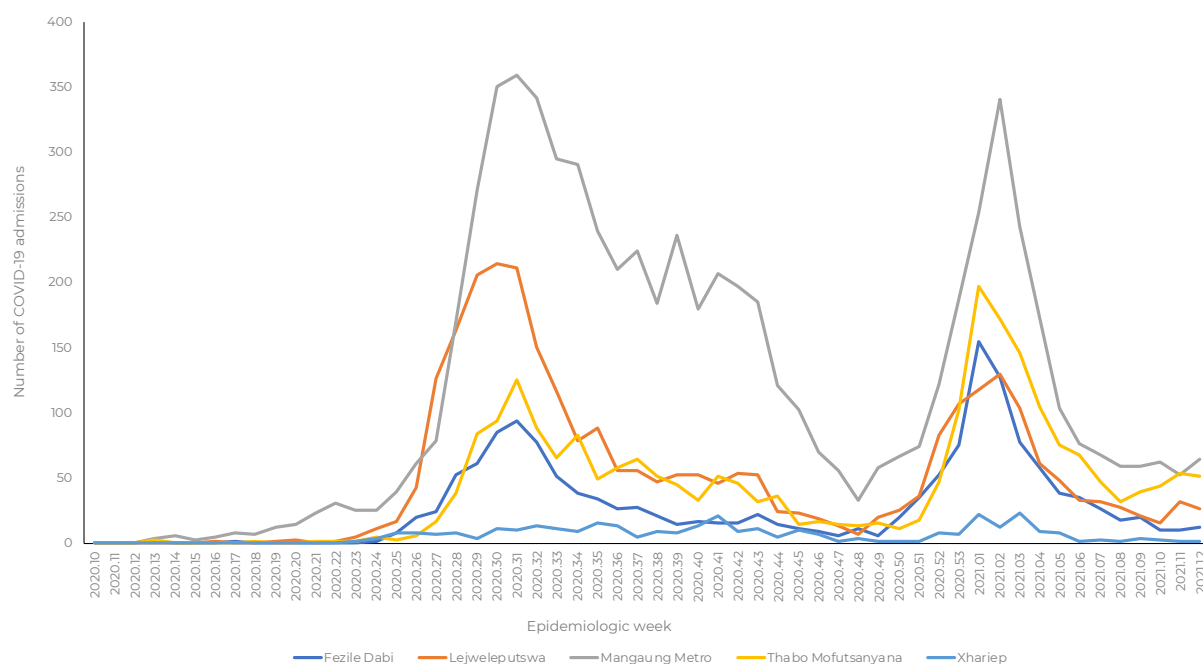


Figure 21: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Free State, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n= 13,830

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Three districts showed increases in COVID-19 admission between week 11 and week 12 2021, Fezile Dabi, Mangaung Metro and Xhariep. The highest proportion of new admissions were in Mangaung Metro and Thabo Mofutsanyana (Table 9).

Table 9: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 11 to week 12 of 2021, by district, Free State

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 11	Admissions Week 12	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Fezile Dabi	1537	10	12	20	7.7	1.5
Lejweleputswa	2860	32	27	-16	17.3	2.6
Mangaung Metro	6731	52	64	23	41.0	4.7
Thabo Mofutsanyana	2366	54	51	-6	32.7	4.3
Xhariep	336	1	2	100	1.3	1.0

Weekly deaths at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the first wave in Thabo Mofutsanyana, Fezile Dabi and Xhariep (Figure 22). The numbers of COVID-19 deaths have increased in three districts over the last two weeks, Thabo Mofutsanyane, Mangaung Metro and Fezile Dabi.

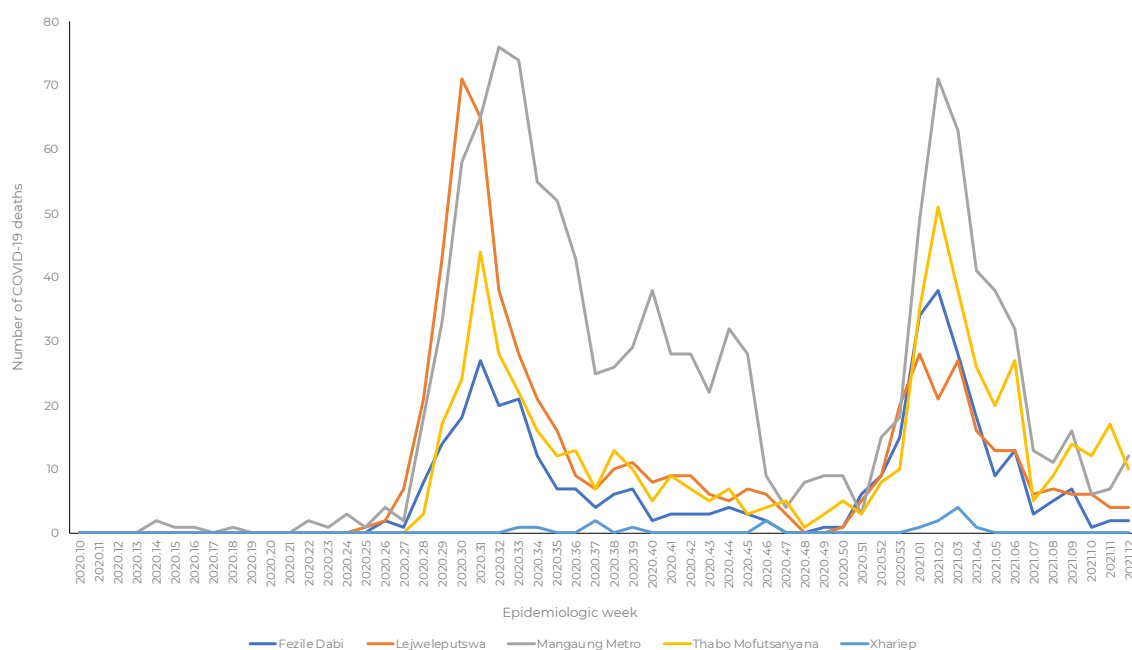


Figure 22: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Free State, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n=2,700

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MPUMALANGA

In the first wave there were higher numbers of admissions in the private sector, but in the second wave there were higher numbers of admissions in the public sector. Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in both sectors (Figure 23). Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 admissions have remained low in both sectors.

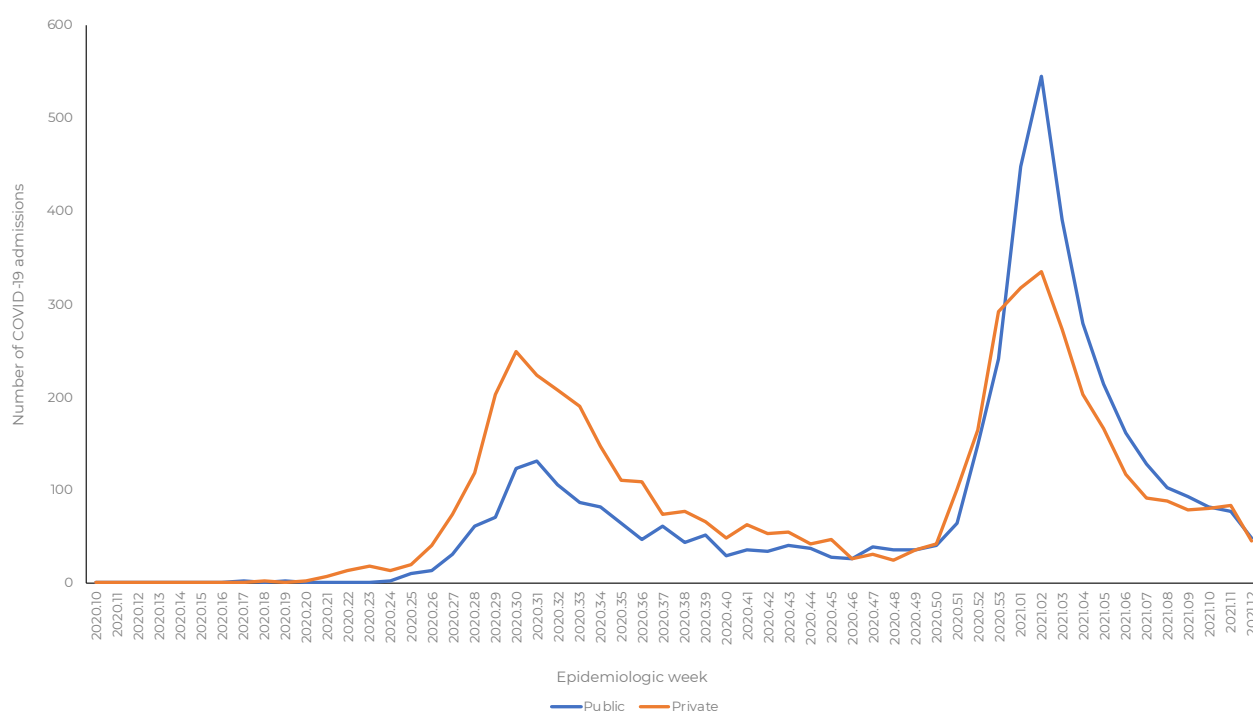


Figure 23: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n= 9,235

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 24). Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 admissions have remained low in all districts.

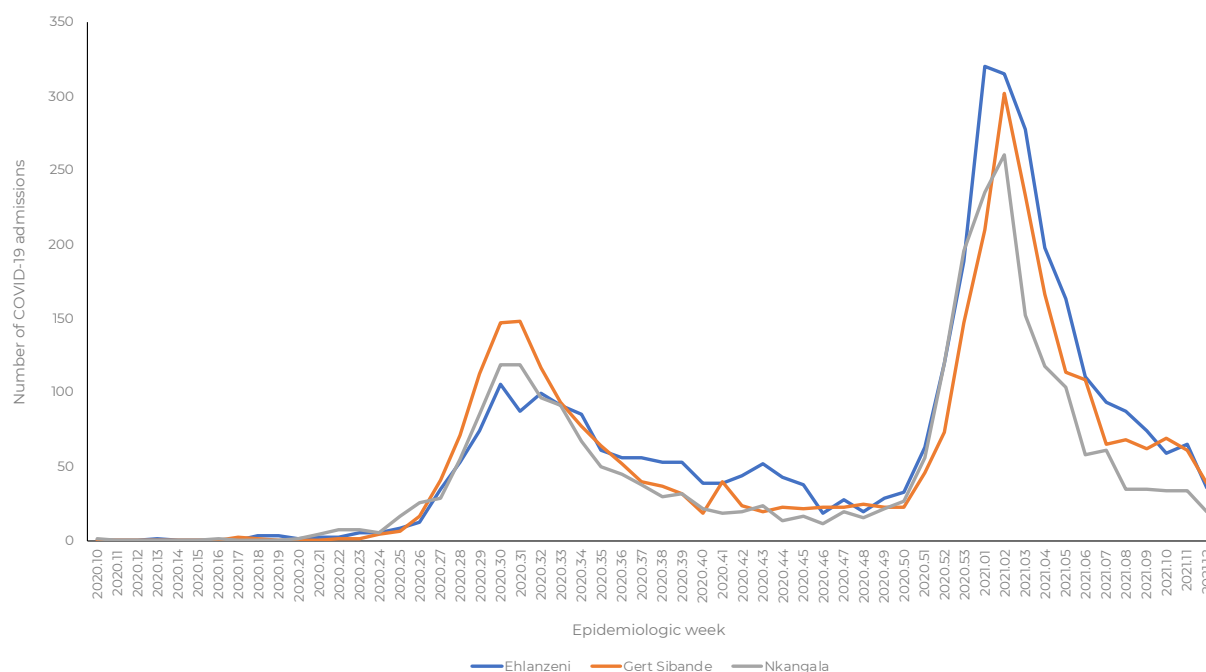


Figure 24: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n=9,235

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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All districts showed a decrease in COVID-19 admission between week 11 and week 12 2021. The highest proportion of new admissions were in Gert Sibande (Table 10).

Table 10: Percentage change in COVID-19 admissions, epidemiologic week 11 to week 12 of 2021, by district, Mpumalanga

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 11	Admissions Week 12	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Ehlanzeni	3504	65	36	-45	38.3	2.1
Gert Sibande	3087	61	39	-36	41.5	3.3
Nkangala	2644	34	19	-44	20.2	1.3

Weekly deaths at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the first wave in all districts with numbers now decreasing (Figure 25). The numbers of COVID-19 deaths have increased in two districts in the past week, Ehlanzeni and Nkangala.

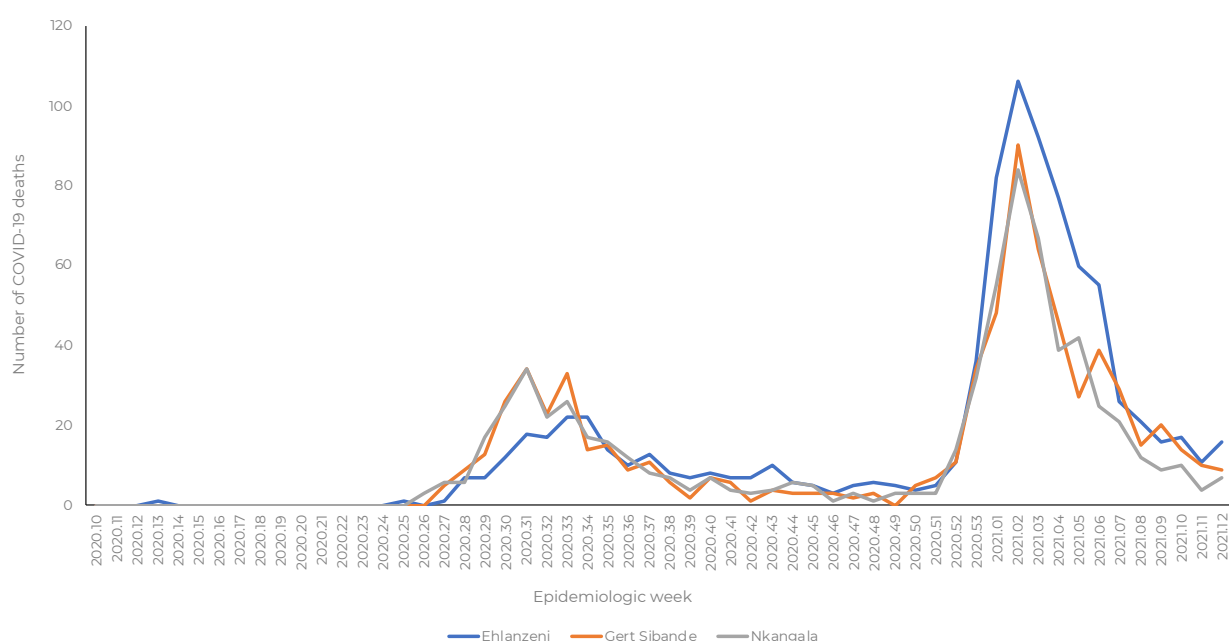


Figure 25: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n= 2,224

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NORTH WEST

In both waves there were higher numbers of admissions in the public sector. Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in both sectors (Figure 26). Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 admissions have remained low in the private sector but has taken some time to return to low numbers, similar to what was observed in the first wave.

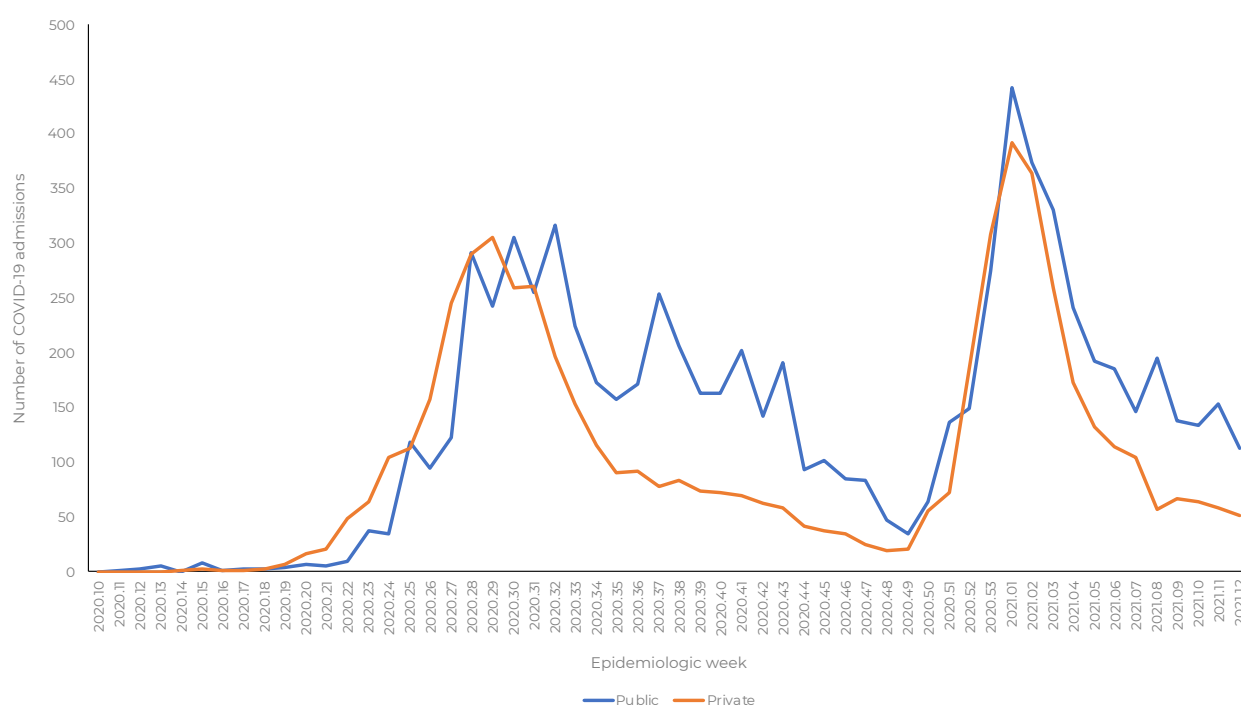


Figure 26: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, North West, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n= 13,294

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 12 2021

Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in all districts except Dr Kenneth Kaunda (Figure 27). Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 admissions have remained low in all districts but has taken some time to return to low numbers in Dr Kenneth Kaunda district, similar to what was observed in the first wave.

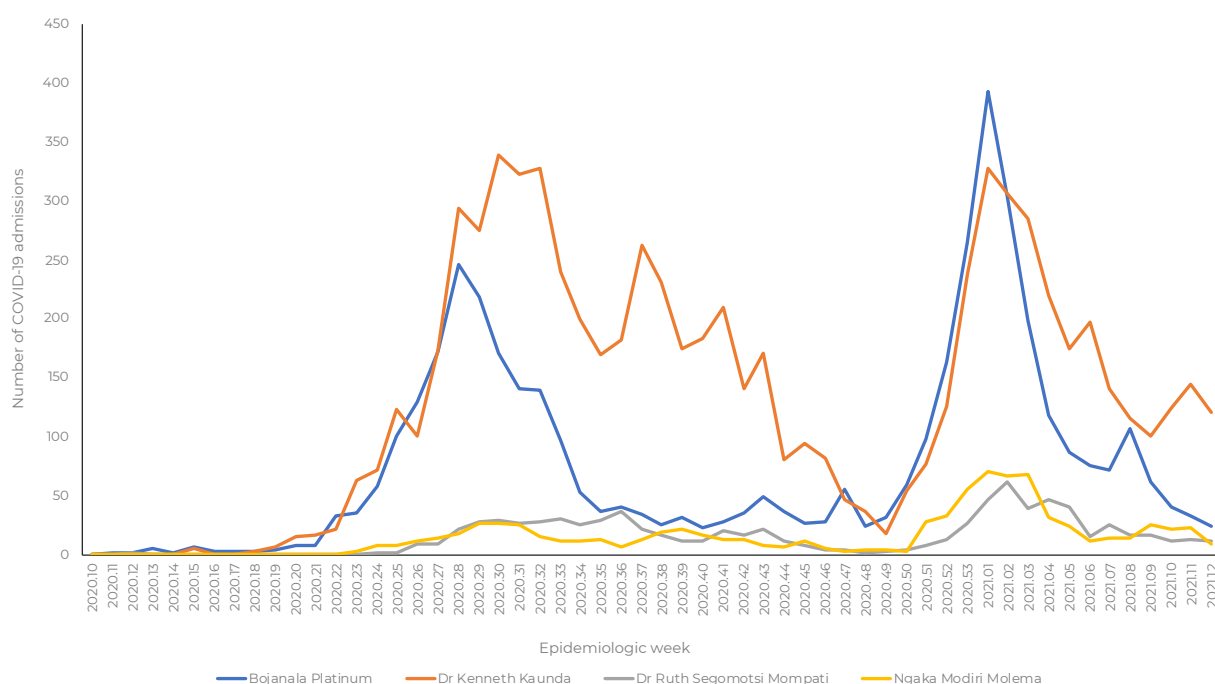


Figure 27: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n= 13,294

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 12 2021

All districts showed a decrease in COVID-19 admission between week 11 and week 12 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 11 to week 12 of 2021, by district, North West

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 11	Admissions Week 12	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Bojanala Platinum	4227	33	24	-27	14.5	0.8
Dr Kenneth Kaunda	7415	144	120	-17	72.7	9.1
Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti	817	13	12	-8	7.3	1.5
Ngaka Modiri Molema	835	23	9	-61	5.5	0.6

Weekly deaths at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 28). The numbers of COVID-19 deaths have increased in all districts except Bojanala in the past two weeks.

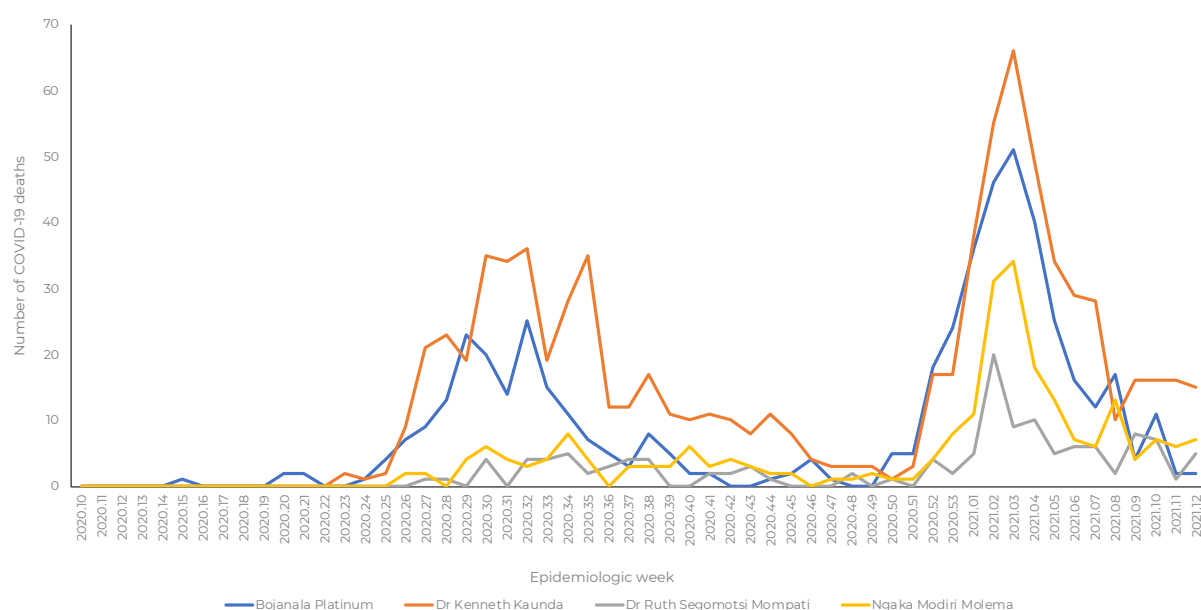


Figure 28: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n= 1,672

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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NORTHERN CAPE

In both waves there were roughly equal numbers of admissions in both sectors. 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 the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 admissions decreased but in the past three weeks have increased in the private sector.

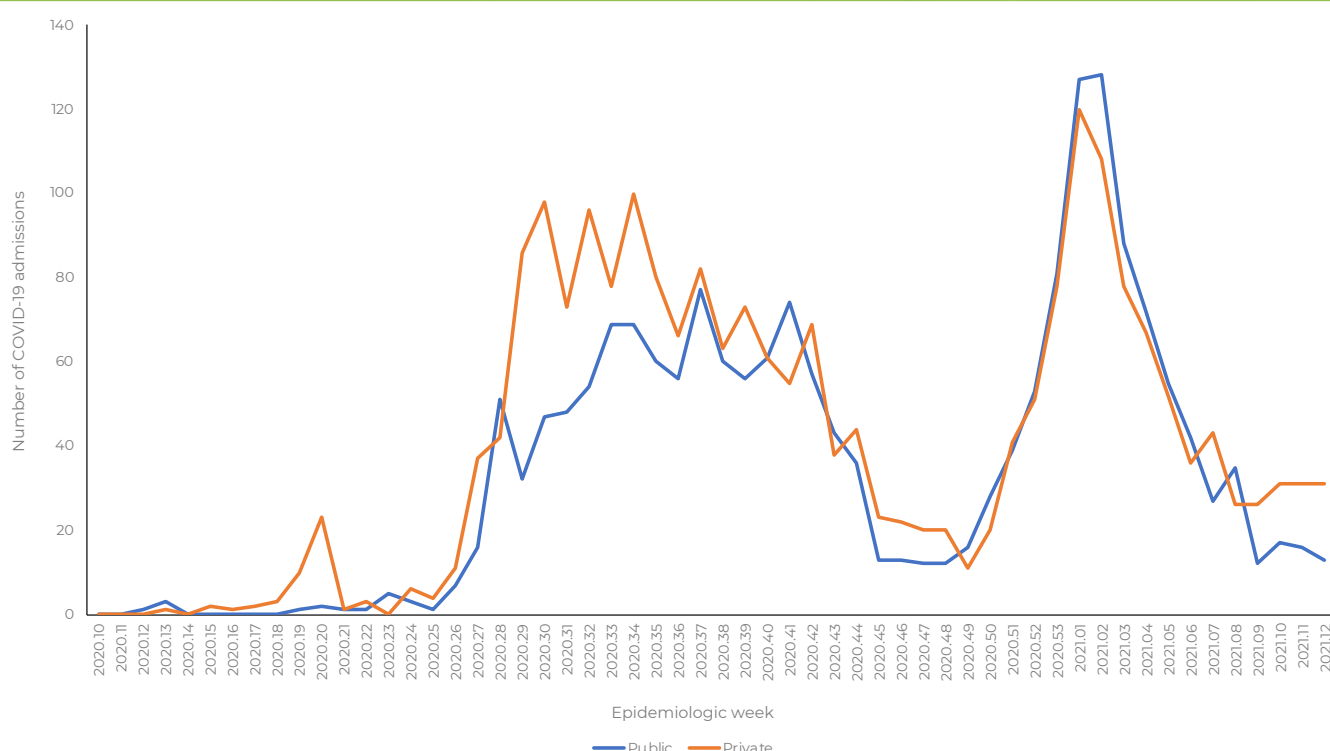


Figure 29: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n=4,132

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly number of admissions during the peak of the first wave in Pixley ka Seme, Namakwa and ZF Mgcawu districts (Figure 30). Since the end of the second wave, the numbers of COVID-19 admissions decreased but in the past three weeks have increased particularly in Frances Baard and John Taolo Gaetsewe districts.

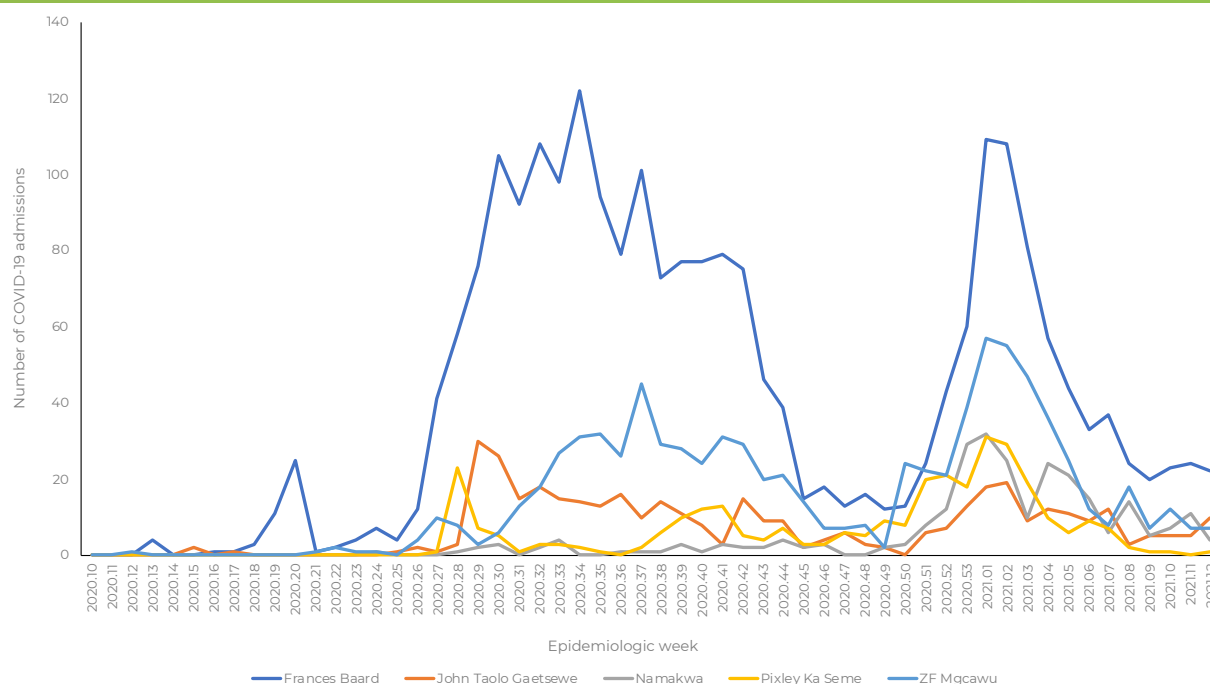


Figure 30: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n=4,132

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 12 2021

All districts showed a decrease in COVID-19 admission between week 11 and week 12 2021 except John Taolo Gaetsewe and 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 11 to week 12 of 2021, by district, Northern Cape

District	Cumulative hospital admissions	Admissions Week 11	Admissions Week 12	Percentage change in admissions	Percentage of total new admissions	Incidence risk of new admissions /100 000 persons
Frances Baard	2311	24	22	-8	50.0	12.1
John Taolo Gaetsewe	397	5	10	100	22.7	8.4
Namakwa	264	11	4	-64	9.1	7.9
Pixley Ka Seme	314	0	1	100	2.3	1.1
ZF Mgcawu	846	7	7	0	15.9	5.7

Weekly deaths at the peak of the second wave exceeded 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 COVID-19 deaths have not returned to low levels in Frances Baard district.

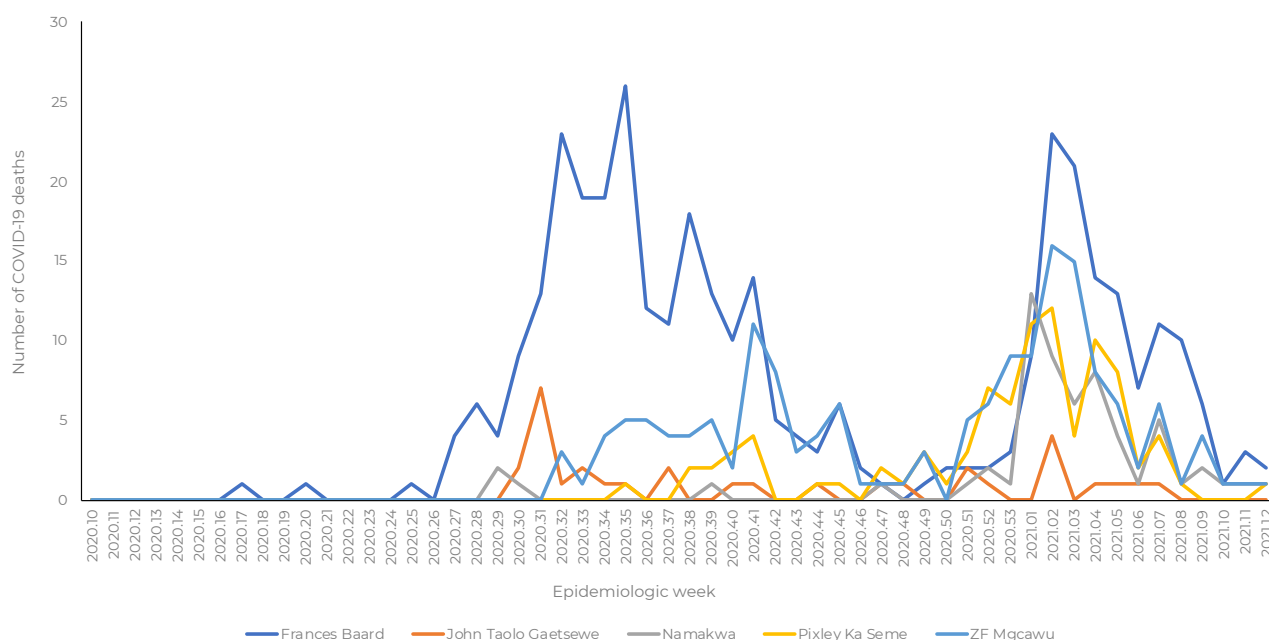


Figure 31: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021, n=699

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 12 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 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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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 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 12 2021

APPENDIX

Table 13: Percentage average change in hospital admissions over 14 days, by district, South Africa, 2 January 2020-27 March 2021

Province	District	Total admissions	Incidence (per 100k)	New admissions	New admissions incidence (per 100k)	% average change (14 days)
Eastern Cape	Alfred Nzo	1793	215.44	2	0.24	-50.00
	Amathole	2359	295.17	5	0.63	400.00
	Buffalo City Metro	7320	914.00	6	0.75	-25.00
	Chris Hani	3293	452.55	2	0.27	100.00
	Joe Gqabi	707	204.95	0	0.00	-100.00
	Nelson Mandela Bay Metro	11113	916.11	7	0.58	-53.33
	O R Tambo	3180	207.55	0	0.00	-100.00
	Sarah Baartman	1737	359.02	1	0.21	0.00
Free State	Fezile Dabi	1540	301.89	15	2.94	36.36
	Lejweleputswa	2864	438.19	29	4.44	-19.44
	Mangaung Metro	6736	773.43	67	7.69	19.64
	Thabo Mofutsanyana	2372	310.14	55	7.19	0.00
	Xhariep	336	259.57	2	1.55	100.00
Gauteng	City of Johannesburg Metro	24280	413.87	123	2.10	-34.22
	City of Tshwane Metro	16563	444.15	115	3.08	-19.58
	Ekurhuleni Metro	14602	366.68	73	1.83	-23.16
	Sedibeng	3963	414.75	37	3.87	-42.19
	West Rand	5143	538.68	39	4.08	-2.50
KwaZulu-Natal	Amajuba	2044	358.27	18	3.15	12.50
	eThekwin Metro	23046	578.87	49	1.23	-43.02
	Harry Gwala	1523	296.29	18	3.50	260.00
	iLembe	1842	265.21	3	0.43	-25.00
	King Cetshwayo	5548	571.56	14	1.44	-70.21
	Ugu	3114	388.41	4	0.50	-63.64
	uMgungundlovu	6069	528.00	13	1.13	-40.91

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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Province	District	Total admissions	Incidence (per 100k)	New admissions	New admissions incidence (per 100k)	% average change (14 days)
	uMkhanyakude	795	115.74	5	0.73	-44.44
	Umzinyathi	719	126.68	3	0.53	-50.00
	UThukela	1785	249.92	4	0.56	-42.86
	Zululand	1048	118.98	8	0.91	-20.00
Limpopo	Capricorn	4098	313.31	18	1.38	-35.71
	Mopani	1778	150.06	10	0.84	-56.52
	Sekhukhune	736	61.83	1	0.08	-50.00
	Vhembe	1173	82.19	1	0.07	-66.67
	Waterberg	1251	168.55	6	0.81	-70.00
Mpumalanga	Ehlanzeni	3507	191.77	41	2.24	-43.84
	Gert Sibande	3098	249.40	51	4.11	-33.77
	Nkangala	2650	164.71	20	1.24	-44.44
North West	Bojanala Platinum	4230	219.38	26	1.35	-23.53
	Dr Kenneth Kaunda	7432	931.66	130	16.30	-14.47
	Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti	818	172.91	12	2.54	-14.29
	Ngaka Modiri Molema	837	91.99	10	1.10	-56.52
Northern Cape	Frances Baard	2320	559.16	24	5.78	-7.69
	John Taolo Gaetsewe	400	147.34	10	3.68	66.67
	Namakwa	267	230.94	4	3.46	-77.78
	Pixley Ka Seme	314	148.90	1	0.47	100.00
	ZF Mgcawu	847	302.61	8	2.86	0.00
Western Cape	Cape Winelands	6429	683.02	36	3.82	-74.47
	Central Karoo	530	705.60	9	11.98	-10.00
	City of Cape Town Metro	41406	899.16	176	3.82	-50.28
	Garden Route	5800	930.00	64	10.26	-49.21
	Overberg	1562	520.83	5	1.67	-68.75
	West Coast	1927	418.17	11	2.39	-54.17

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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APPENDIX

Table 14: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions and in-hospital deaths by age and gender, South Africa, 5 March 2020-27 March 2021

Age (years)	ADMISSIONS				DEATHS			
	Female	Male	Unknown	Total	Female	Male	Unknown	Total
0-4	1680	2025	7	3712	56	56	1	113
5-9	449	589	3	1041	9	12	0	21
10-14	772	726	0	1498	21	23	0	44
15-19	2378	1272	3	3653	67	62	0	129
20-24	4187	2095	3	6285	165	119	0	284
25-29	7128	3224	6	10358	356	212	0	568
30-34	9776	5662	3	15441	622	464	0	1086
35-39	10899	7729	7	18635	863	752	1	1616
40-44	10528	9120	4	19652	1111	1142	1	2254
45-49	12079	11108	9	23196	1648	1703	3	3354
50-54	14122	12436	2	26560	2244	2261	1	4506
55-59	15471	13303	8	28782	3257	3088	1	6346
60-64	13745	12338	12	26095	3665	3764	1	7430
65-69	11337	9887	7	21231	3690	3408	2	7100
70-74	9076	7945	11	17032	3126	3009	4	6139
75-79	6466	5196	6	11668	2347	2123	1	4471
80-84	4693	3254	4	7951	1820	1374	1	3195
85-89	2439	1513	1	3953	983	709	0	1692
90-94	1095	506	1	1602	516	259	0	775
>=95	366	213	0	579	153	75	0	228
Unknown	805	635	91	1531	86	89	1	176
Total	139491	110776	188	250455	26805	24704	18	51527