

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE



NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR
COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Division of the National Health Laboratory Service

SOUTH AFRICA WEEK 29 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 24 July 2021.

HIGHLIGHTS

- As of 24 July 2021, 355,052 COVID-19 admissions and 73,929 in-hospital deaths were reported from 668 facilities (411 public-sector and 257 private-sector) in all nine provinces of South Africa.
- Increases in admissions in Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, North West, Northern Cape, and Western Cape provinces have been observed and these provinces have reached the case threshold for the third wave. Increased admissions have also been observed in the past six weeks in KwaZulu-Natal. In Free State and Northern Cape, sustained decreases in admissions have been observed for five weeks.
- The weekly numbers of admissions in the third wave have surpassed the peak of admissions in the second wave in Gauteng and North West in both sectors, and in Free State, Mpumalanga and Northern Cape in the private sector.

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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.

We used 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. For comparisons of the last period and previous period, we used 14-day average admissions for both periods.

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 24 July 2021, a total of 668 facilities submitted data on hospitalised COVID-19 cases, 411 from public sector and 257 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 2020-24 July 2021.

Name of province	Public Sector	Private Sector
Eastern Cape	85	18
Free State	35	20
Gauteng	40	94
KwaZulu-Natal	70	46
Limpopo	41	7
Mpumalanga	31	9
North West	18	13
Northern Cape	32	8
Western Cape	59	42
South Africa	411	257

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RESULTS

Epidemiological and geographic trends in admissions

From 5 March 2020 to 24 July 2021, a total of 355,052 COVID-19 admissions were reported from 668 facilities in all nine provinces of South Africa. South Africa has entered the third wave. Since week 14 2021, numbers of COVID-19 admissions increased in both sectors, but admissions have decreased in both sectors for the past two weeks (Figure 1). Decreases in the most recent week may reflect delays in data submission in the public sector, however private sector data submission is up to date.

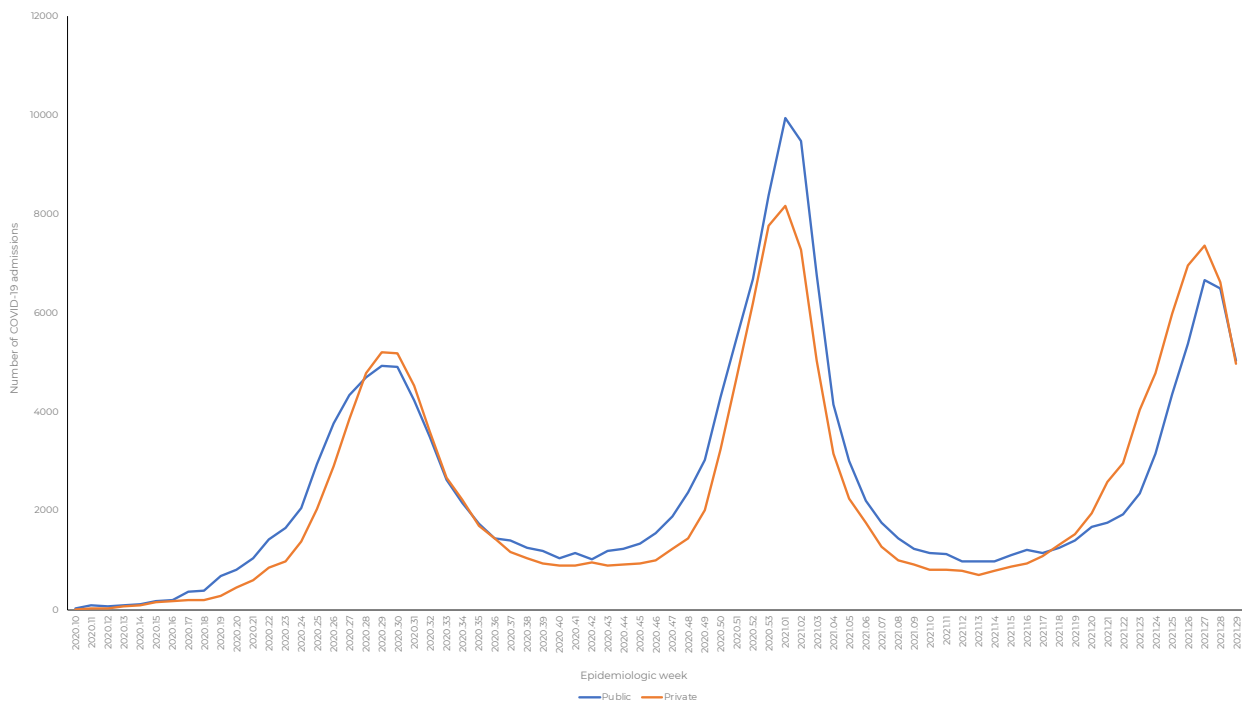


Figure 1. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020–24 July 2021, n=355,052

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The majority of admissions were recorded in four provinces, Gauteng 110,545 (31%), Western Cape 74,105 (21%), Eastern Cape 34,810 (10%) and KwaZulu-Natal 55,267 (16%) provinces. Numbers of COVID-19 admissions have increased in all provinces (Figures 2a and 2b), but a decrease in admissions has been observed in Free State, Gauteng and Northern Cape for six weeks and decrease in admissions in all other provinces for the past two weeks. Decreases across all provinces in the most recent week may be as a result of delayed reporting.

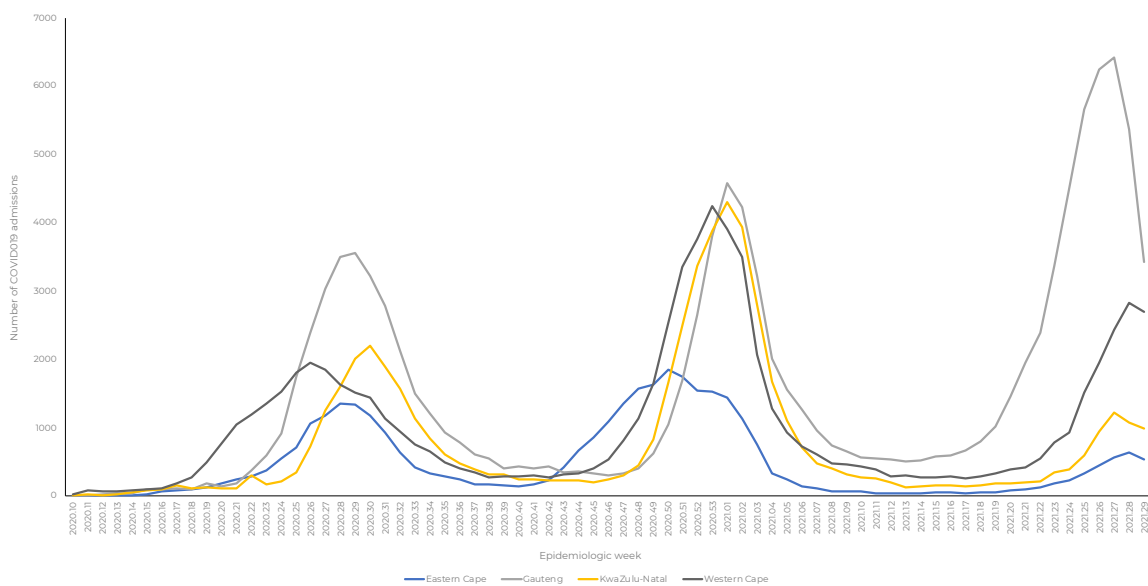


Figure 2a. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by provinces with highest admissions and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=355,052

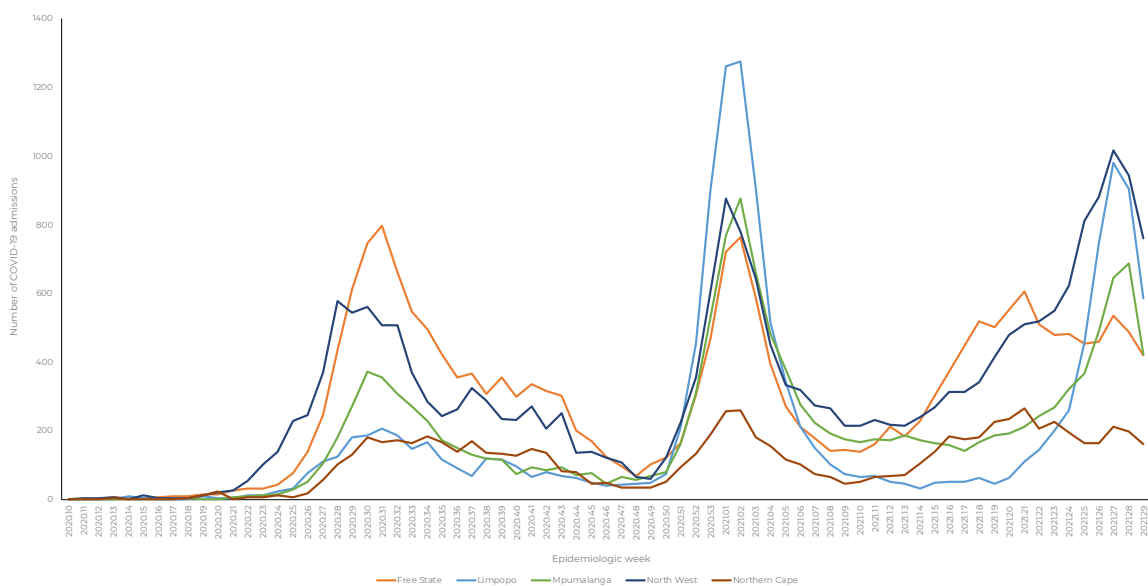


Figure 2b. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by provinces with lowest admissions and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=355,052

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EPIDEMIOLOGICAL AND GEOGRAPHIC TRENDS IN IN-HOSPITAL MORTALITY

The number of deaths has increased in both sectors since week 15 (Figure 3).

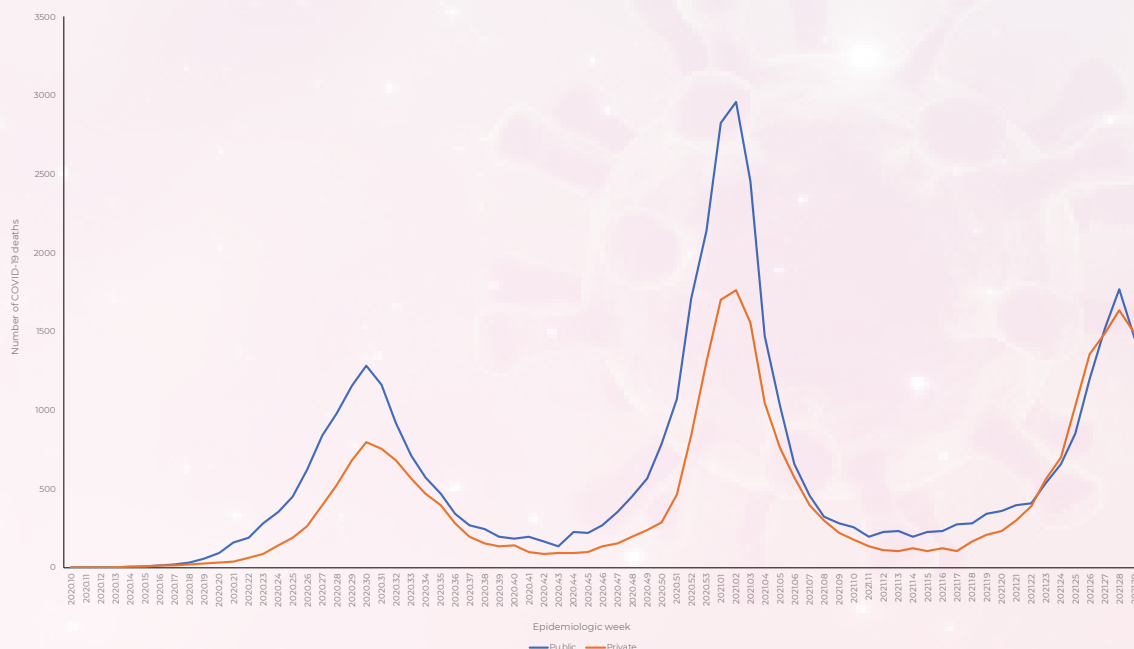


Figure 3. Number of in-hospital COVID-19 in-hospital deaths reported per week by health sector and epidemiologic week, South Africa, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=73,929

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Most deaths were reported in Gauteng 22,656 (31%), KwaZulu-Natal 12,010 (16%), Western Cape 12,467 (17%) and Eastern Cape 10,233 (14%). The numbers of COVID-19 deaths have increased in all provinces although decreases in deaths have been observed in Free State, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo and North West provinces (Figures 4a and 4b).

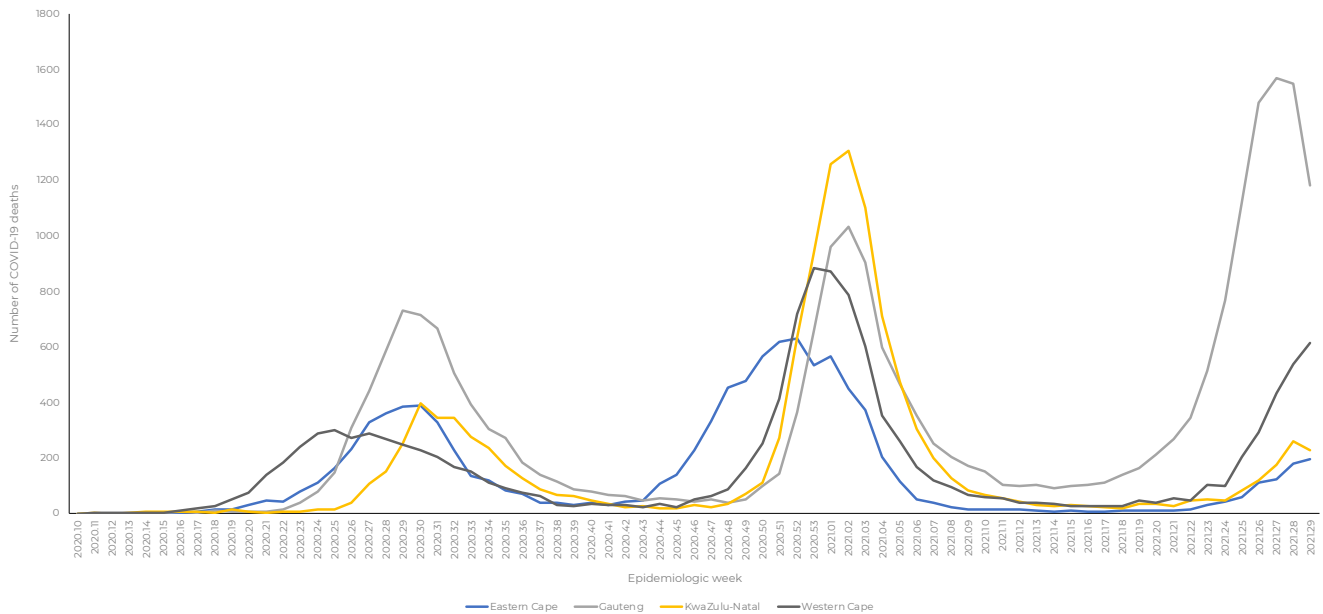


Figure 4a. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by province with highest deaths and epidemiologic week of death, South Africa, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=73,929

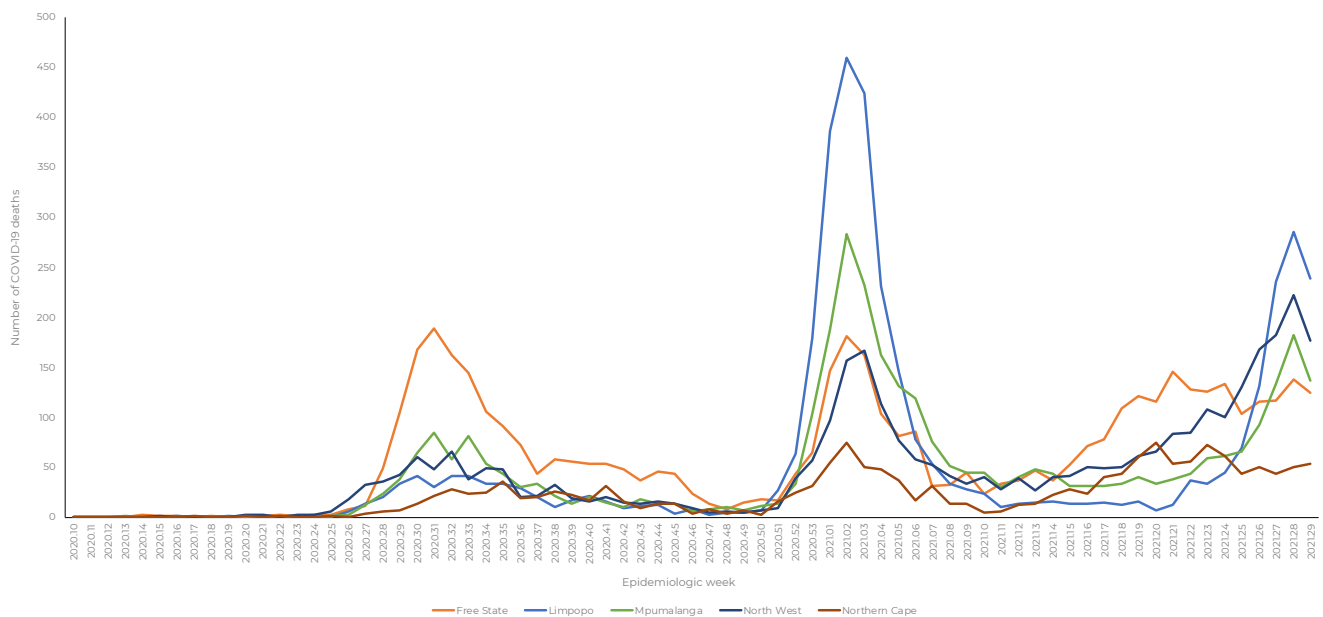


Figure 4b. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by province with lowest deaths and epidemiologic week of death, South Africa, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=73,929

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The cumulative incidence risks of COVID-19 admissions and in-hospital deaths were highest in Western Cape, Free State and Gauteng 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 2020-24 July 2021.

Province	Provincial Population mid 2020*	Cumulative admissions	Cumulative Admissions / 100,000	Cumulative deaths	Cumulative deaths / 100,000
Eastern Cape	6734001	34810	516.9	10233	152.0
Free State	2928903	21304	727.4	4478	152.9
Gauteng	15488137	110,545	713.7	22656	146.3
KwaZulu-Natal	11531628	55267	479.3	12008	104.1
Limpopo	5852553	14066	240.3	3817	65.2
Mpumalanga	4679786	14305	305.7	3350	71.6
North West	4108816	22,852	556.2	3313	80.6
Northern Cape	1292786	7,798	603.2	1605	124.2
Western Cape	7005741	74,105	1057.8	12466	177.9
South Africa	59622350	355,052	595.5	73,926	124.0

*StatsSA mid-year population estimates 2020

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PROVINCIAL TRENDS

There was a decrease in the average COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in all the districts except Eastern Cape and Western Cape (Table 3). Decreases in the most recent week may in part reflect delays in data submission. There were 11 of 52 (21%) districts across the country that reported increased admissions over the previous 14 days, Sarah Baartman (Eastern Cape), Xhariep (Free State), Harry Gwala, King Cetshwayo, Ugu, uMgungundlovu, uMkhanyakude and Zululand (KwaZulu-Natal), John Taolo Gaetsewe and Namakwa (Northern Cape) and Central Karoo (Western Cape) (Appendix 1).

Table 3. Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, South Africa, 19 June-17 July 2021.

Province	Hospital admissions		Percentage change in admissions	Hospital deaths		Percentage change in deaths
	Previous 14 days average admissions	Current 14 days average admissions		Previous 14 days average deaths	Current 14 days average deaths	
Eastern Cape	72.21	83.21	15.23	16.79	26.93	60.43
Free State	70.93	64.93	-8.46	16.64	18.71	12.45
Gauteng	904.07	627.21	-30.62	217.36	194.71	-10.42
KwaZulu-Natal	153.86	146.79	-4.60	20.93	34.64	65.53
Limpopo	123.07	106.36	-13.58	26.14	37.43	43.17
Mpumalanga	81.07	79.29	-2.20	16.07	22.79	41.78
North West	135.43	121.71	-10.13	25.00	28.43	13.71
Northern Cape	26.93	25.79	-4.24	6.64	7.36	10.75
Western Cape	312.64	393.79	25.95	51.57	82.00	59.00
South Africa	72.21	83.21	15.23	16.79	26.93	60.43

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

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EASTERN CAPE

In the first and second 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. There has been increase in admissions in both sectors since week 20, however a decrease in admissions has been observed in both sectors in the past week (Figure 5).

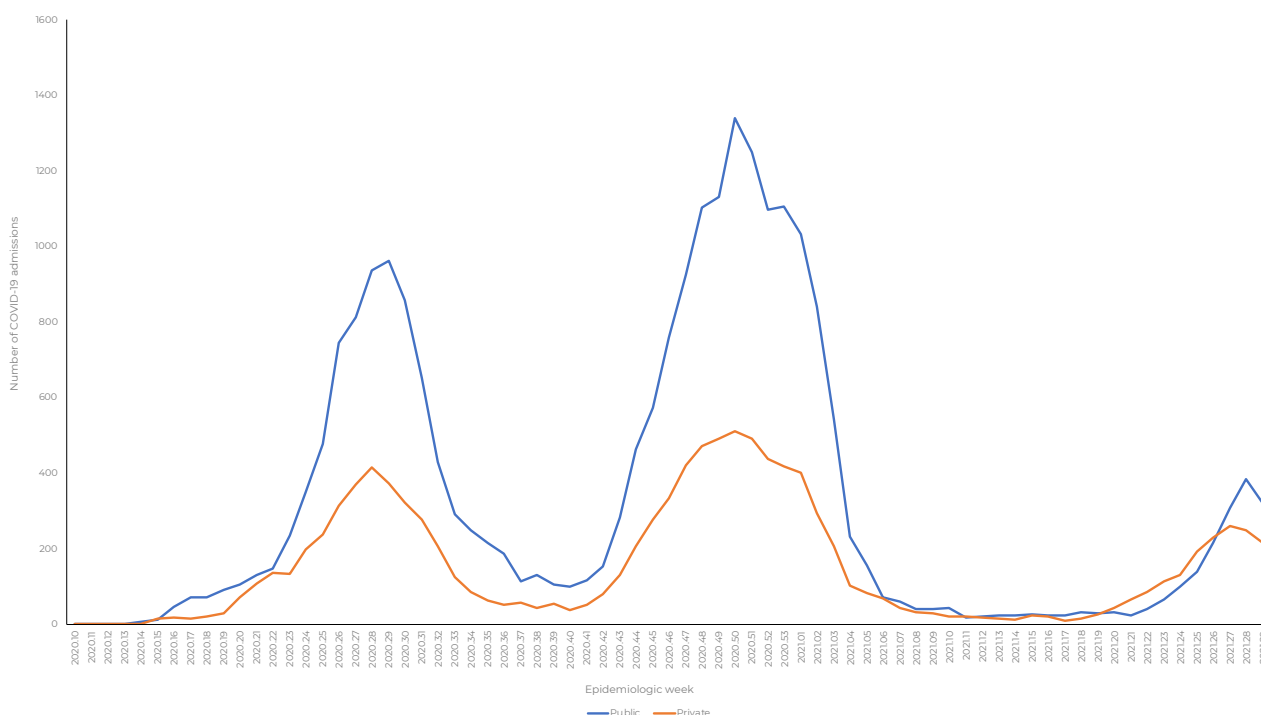


Figure 5: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=34,810

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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). There have been small increases in admissions in most districts since week 19, with highest increase in Nelson Mandela Metro, although admissions have decreased in Nelson Mandela Metro in the past two weeks.

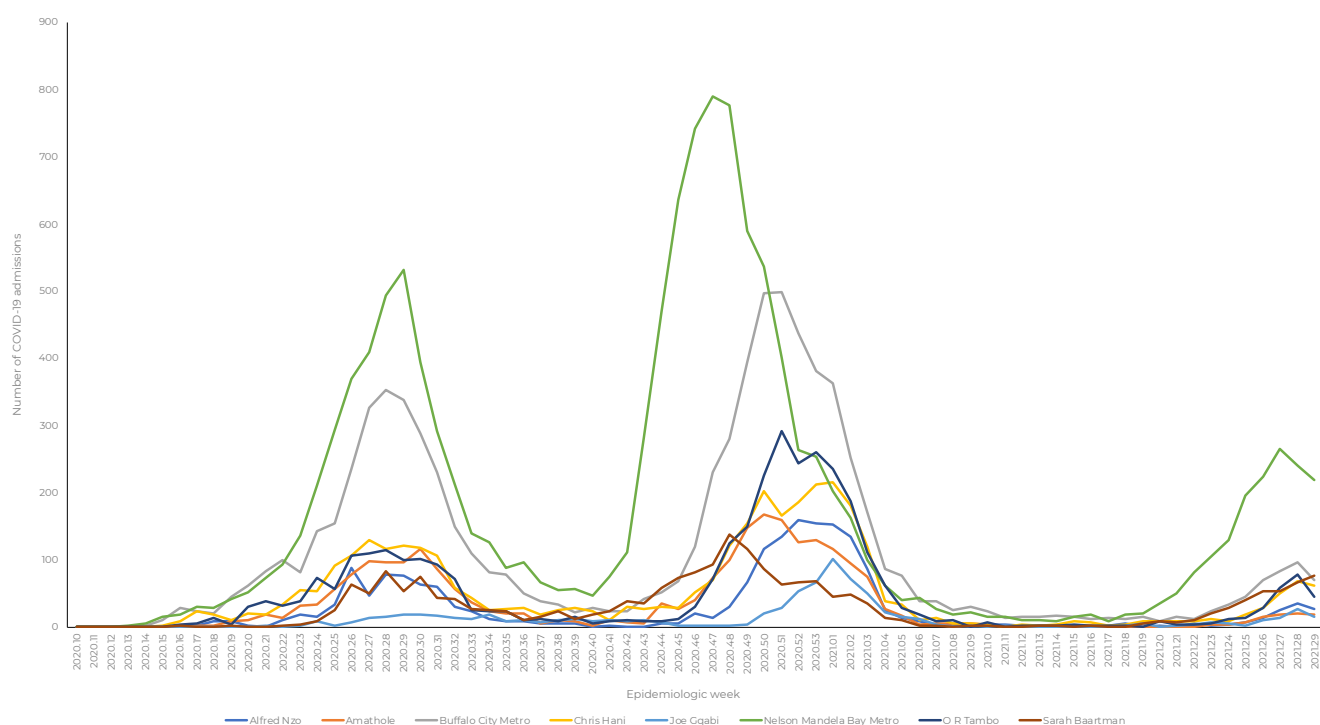


Figure 6. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=34,810

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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). There have been increases in deaths particularly in Nelson Mandela Metro.

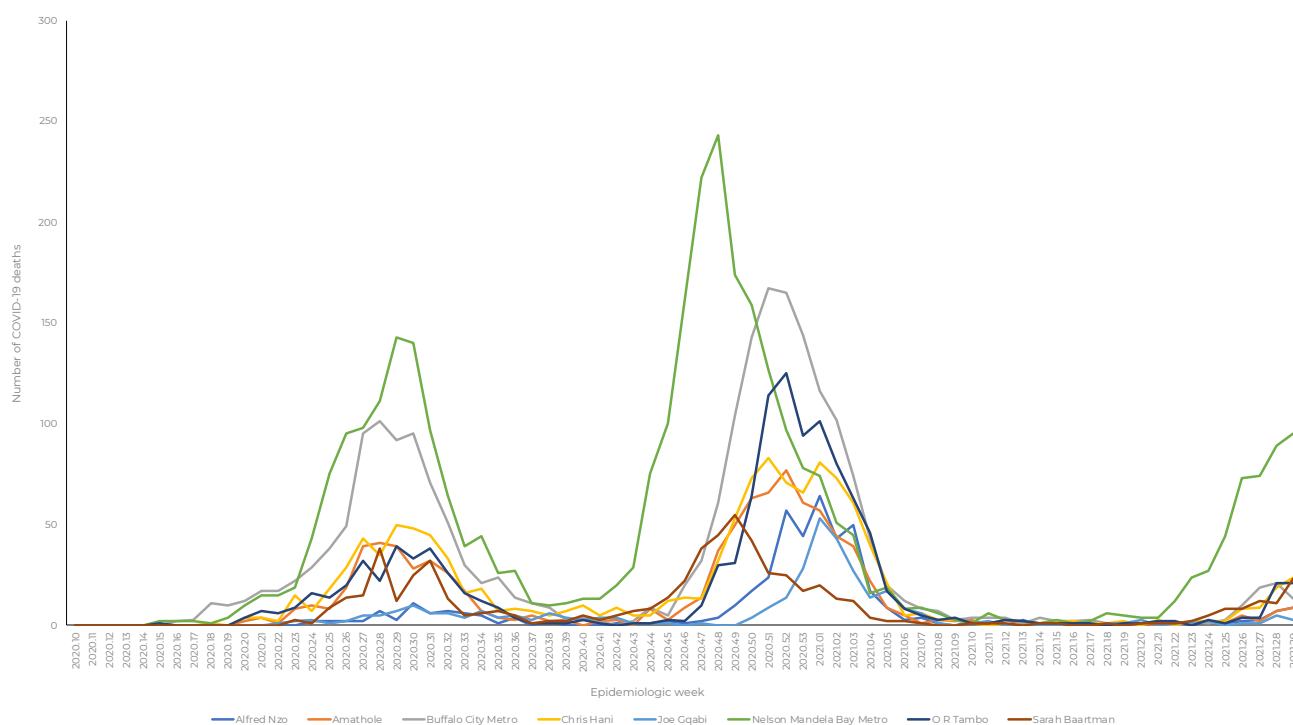


Figure 7. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=10,233

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There has been an increase in the average COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in all the districts except Nelson Mandela Bay (Table 4). The highest percentage change in admissions was in Joe Gqabi.

Table 4: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Eastern Cape, 26 June-24 July 2021.

District	Previous 14 days admissions average	Current 14 days admissions average	Percentage change in admissions	Previous 14 days deaths average	Current 14 days deaths average	Percentage change in deaths
Alfred Nzo	2.79	4.43	58.97	0.36	1.14	220.00
Amathole	2.43	2.79	14.71	0.50	1.14	128.57
Buffalo City Metro	10.93	11.93	9.15	2.07	2.43	17.24
Chris Hani	5.57	9.29	66.67	1.21	3.07	152.94
Joe Gqabi	1.64	3.07	86.96	0.14	0.57	300.00
Nelson Mandela Bay	35.00	32.71	-6.53	10.50	13.14	25.17
O R Tambo	6.21	8.79	41.38	0.57	3.00	425.00
Sarah Baartman	7.64	10.21	33.64	1.43	2.43	70.00

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FREE STATE

In the first and third waves 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 8). 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 increased in both sectors since week 9 and have shown decreases in the public sector for the past seven weeks. The weekly numbers of admissions in the private sector in the third wave have surpassed the peak of the second wave.

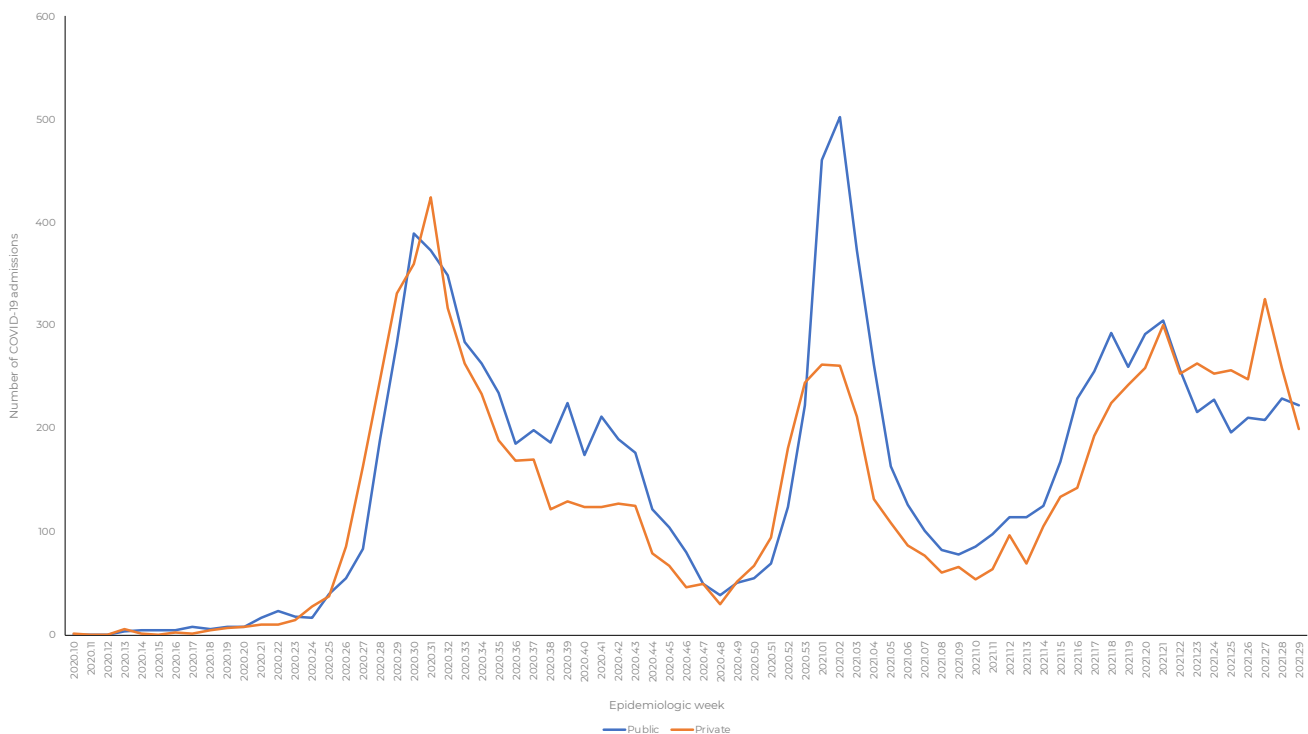
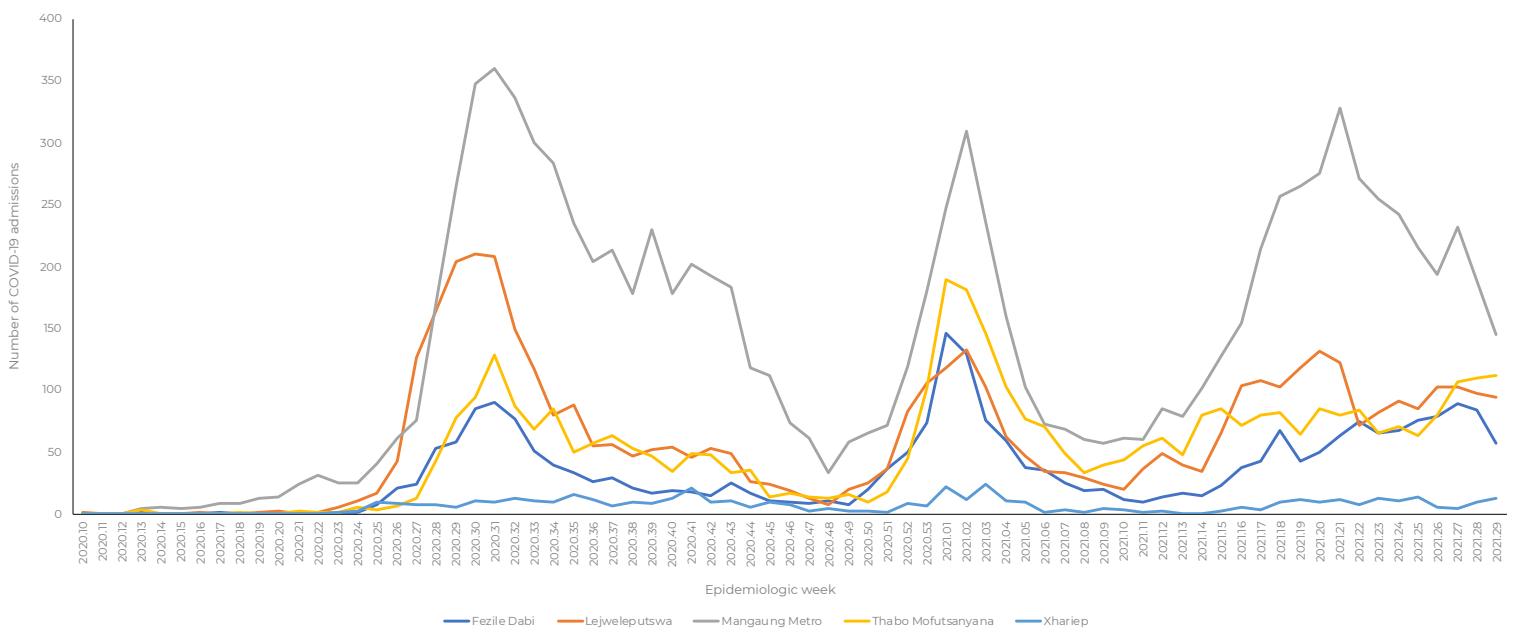


Figure 8: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Free State, 5 March 2020–24 July 2021, n=21,304

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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 9). Admissions increased in all districts, with highest increase in Mangaung Metro, but have shown sustained decreases for the past five weeks in most districts except Thabo Mofutsanyane. The weekly number of admissions have surpassed the peak of the second wave in Mangaung Metro.



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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 Thabo Mofutsanyana, Fezile Dabi and Xhariep (Figure 10). The numbers of COVID-19 deaths have increased in all districts, but have shown sustained decreases for the past six weeks in most districts. However, there have been increased admissions in Mangaung Metro, Thabo Mofutsanyane and Lejweleputswa in the past week. The weekly number of deaths have surpassed the peak of the second wave in Mangaung Metro and Lejweleputswa.

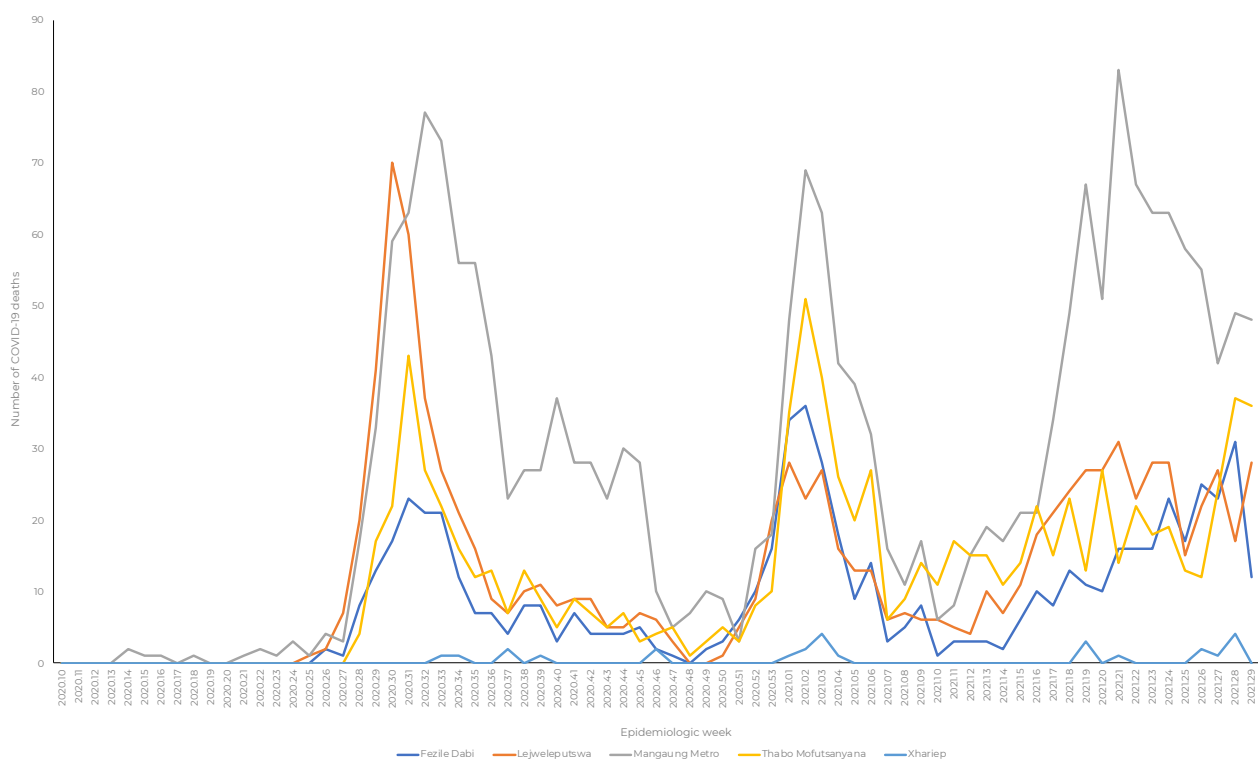


Figure 10: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Free State, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=4,478

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There has been a decrease in average COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in all the districts except Thabo Mofutsanyana and Xhariep (Table 5). The highest percentage change in admissions was in Xhariep.

Table 5: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Free State, 26 June-24 July 2021.

District	Previous 14 days admissions average	Current 14 days admissions average	Percentage change in admissions	Previous 14 days deaths average	Current 14 days deaths average	Percentage change in deaths
Fezile Dabi	12.00	10.07	-16.07	3.43	3.07	-10.42
Lejweleputswa	14.57	13.64	-6.37	3.50	3.21	-8.16
Mangaung Metro	30.36	23.79	-21.65	6.93	6.93	0.00
Thabo Mofutsanyana	13.36	15.86	18.72	2.57	5.21	102.78
Xhariep	0.64	1.57	144.44	0.21	0.29	33.33

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GAUTENG

In all three 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). There has been an increase in admission in both sectors, more marked in the private sector, since week 14. However, a decrease in admissions has been observed in both sectors for the past three weeks. The weekly numbers of admissions in both sectors in the third wave have surpassed the peak of the second wave.

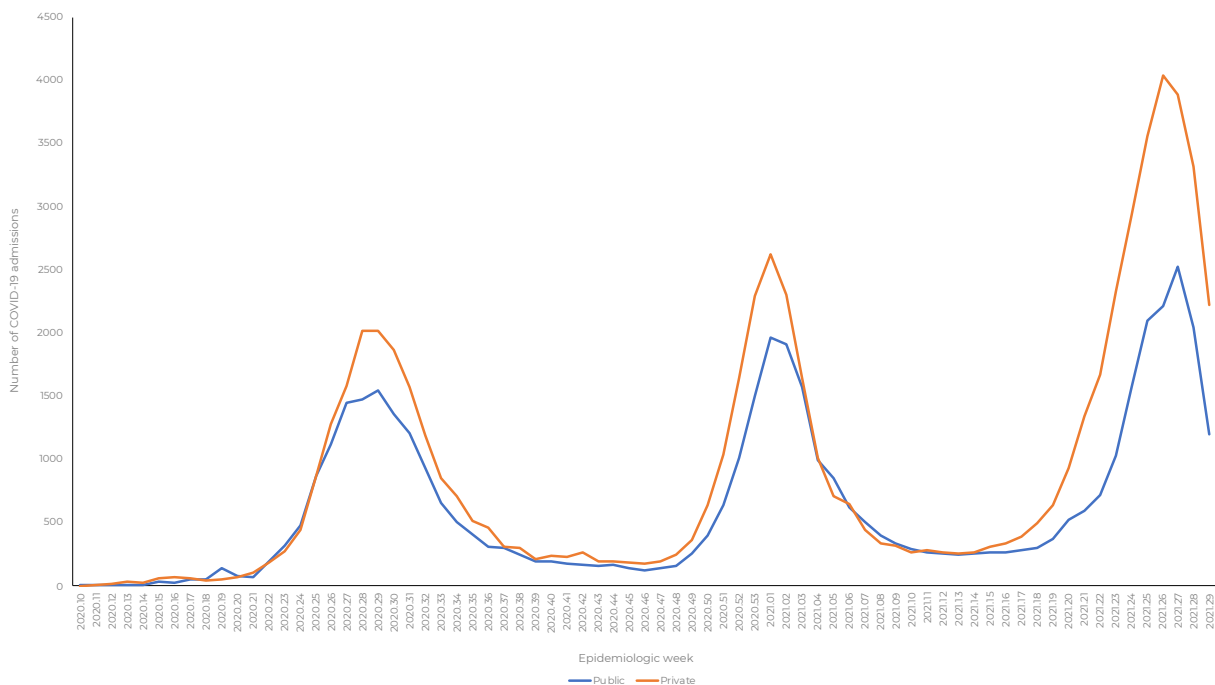


Figure 11: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=110,545

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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, Ekurhuleni Metro and West Rand (Figure 12). There have been increases in admissions in all districts, however a decrease in admissions has been observed in all districts over the past three weeks. The weekly numbers of admissions in the third wave have surpassed the peak of the second wave in all districts.

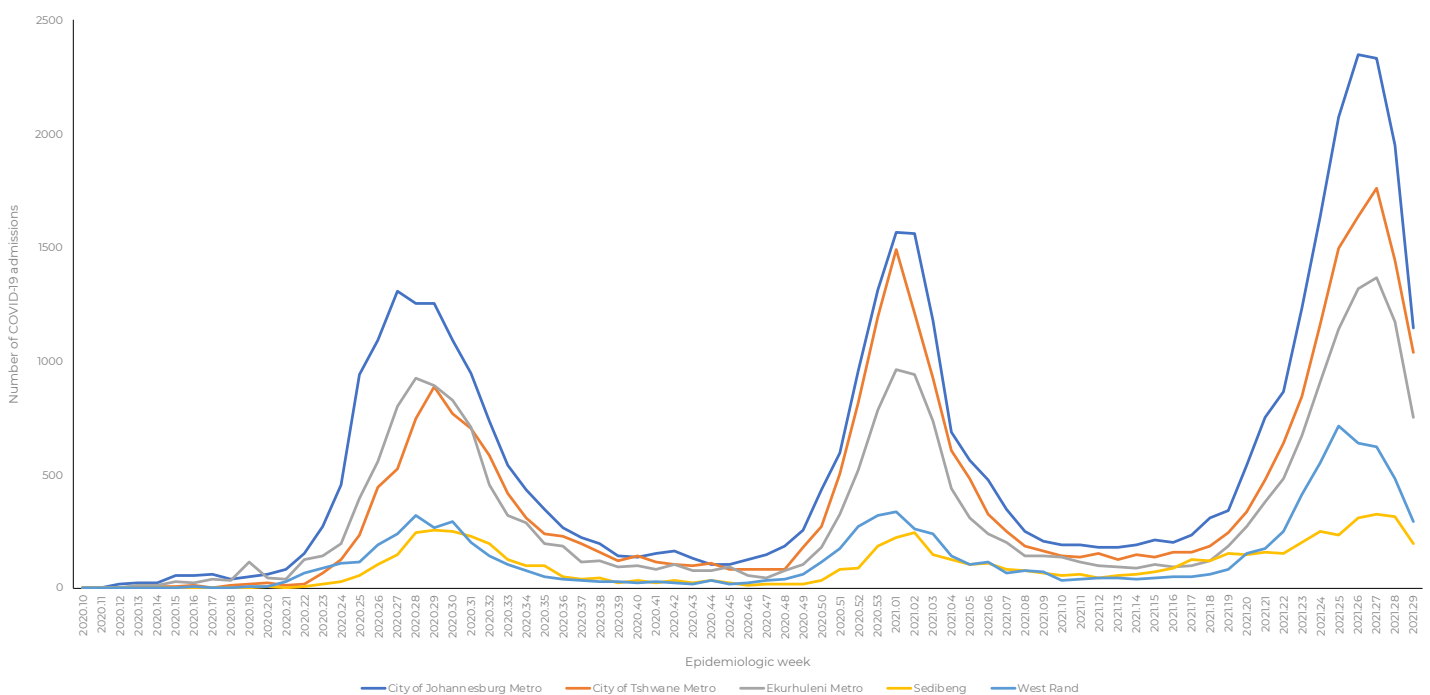


Figure 12: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=110,545

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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 City of Tshwane Metro, Ekurhuleni Metro and West Rand (Figure 13). The numbers of COVID-19 deaths increased in all districts, however a decrease in the number of deaths has been observed in all districts over the past two weeks. The weekly numbers of deaths in the third wave have surpassed the peak of the second wave in all districts.

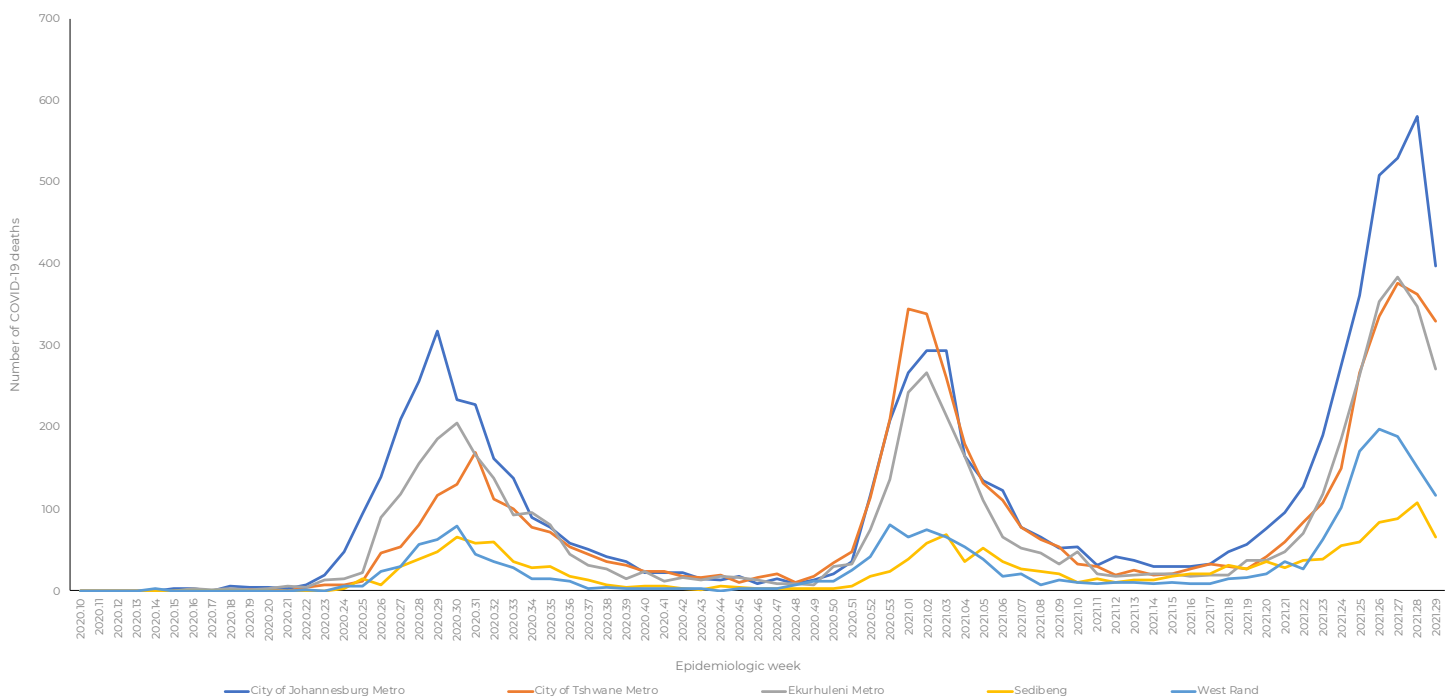


Figure 13: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=22,656

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There has been a decrease in average COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in all districts (Table 6).

Table 6: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Gauteng, 26 June-24 July 2021.

District	Previous 14 days admissions average	Current 14 days admissions average	Percentage change in admissions	Previous 14 days deaths average	Current 14 days deaths average	Percentage change in deaths
City of Johannesburg Metro	334.50	221.07	-33.91	74.07	69.86	-5.69
City of Tshwane Metro	242.79	177.14	-27.04	50.86	49.36	-2.95
Ekurhuleni Metro	191.43	137.14	-28.36	52.57	44.07	-16.17
Sedibeng	45.43	36.43	-19.81	12.21	12.36	1.17
West Rand	89.93	55.43	-38.36	27.64	19.07	-31.01

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KWAZULU-NATAL

In both first and second 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 14). There has been an increase in admissions in both sectors since week 22 however a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in both sectors over the past two weeks.

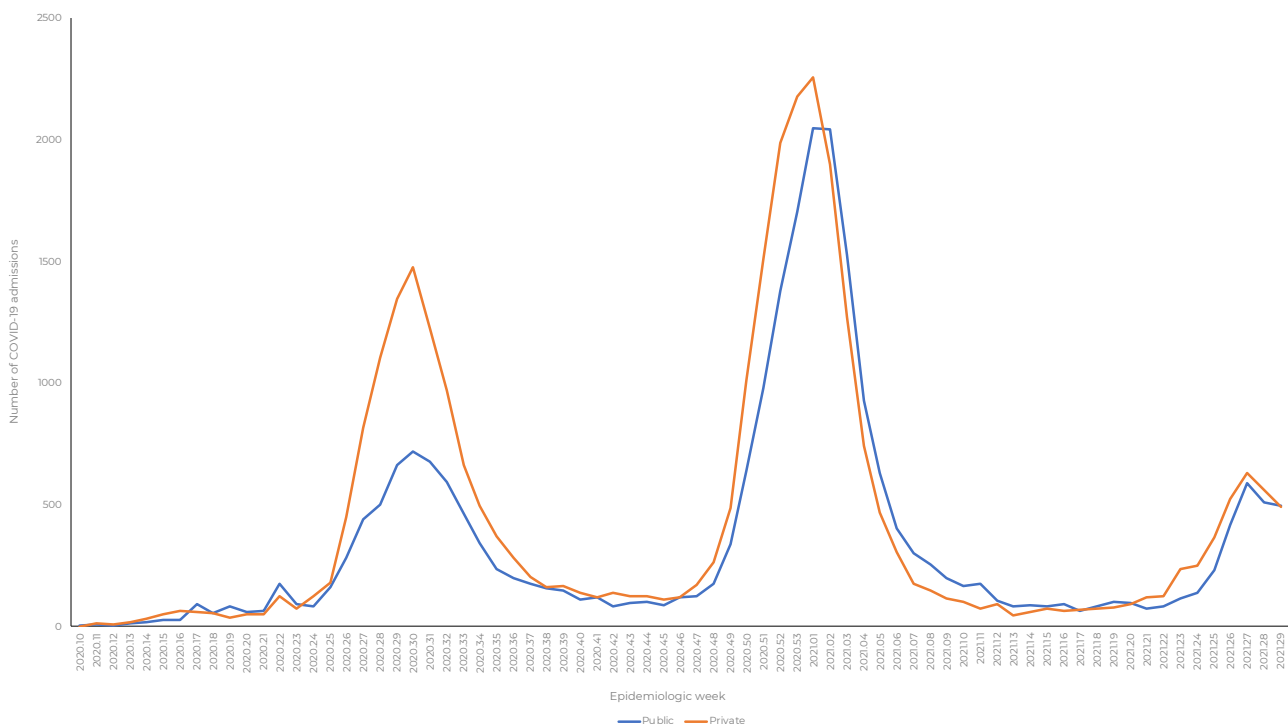


Figure 14: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=55,267

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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 15). There has been an increase in admissions in a few districts, particularly in eThekweni Metro.

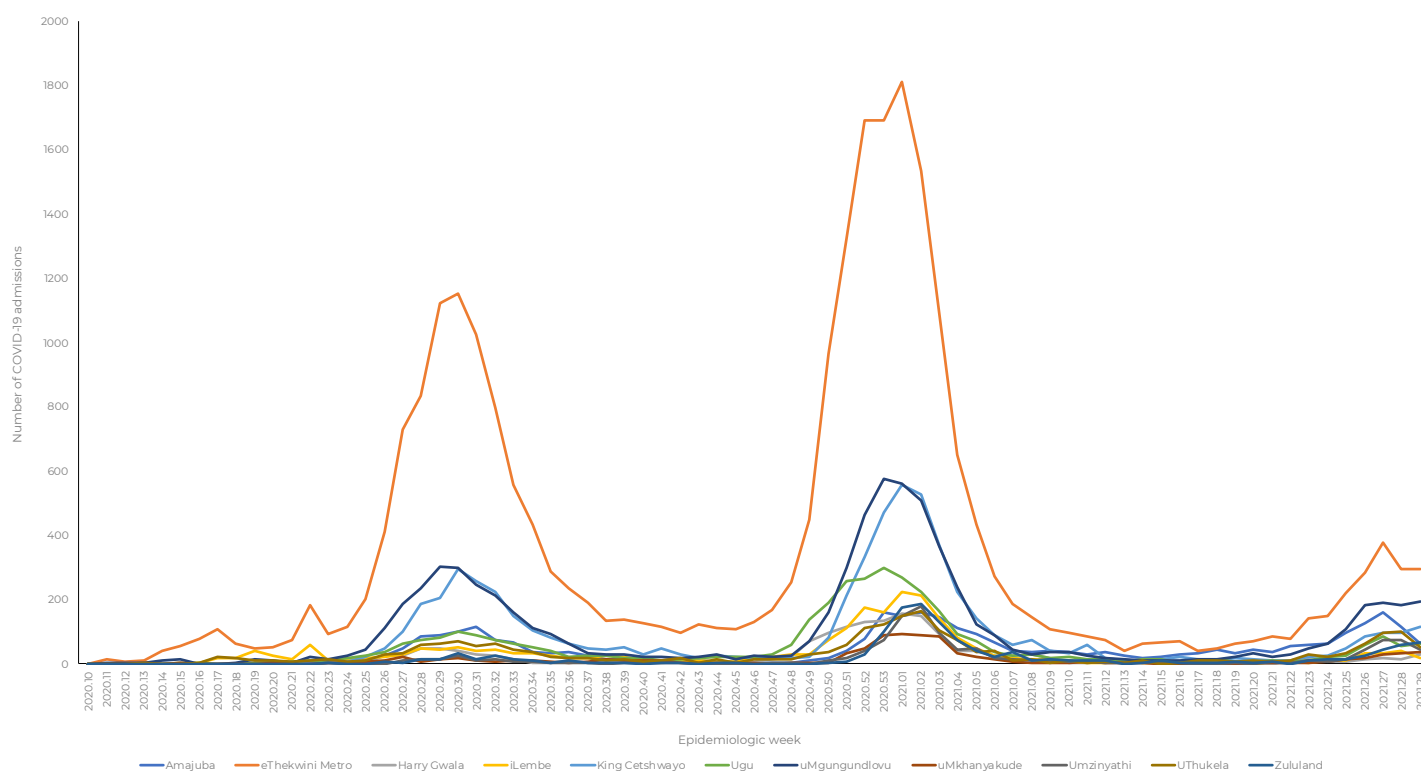


Figure 15: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=55,267

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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 16). Since the end of the second wave, there have been small increases in COVID-19 deaths in most districts.

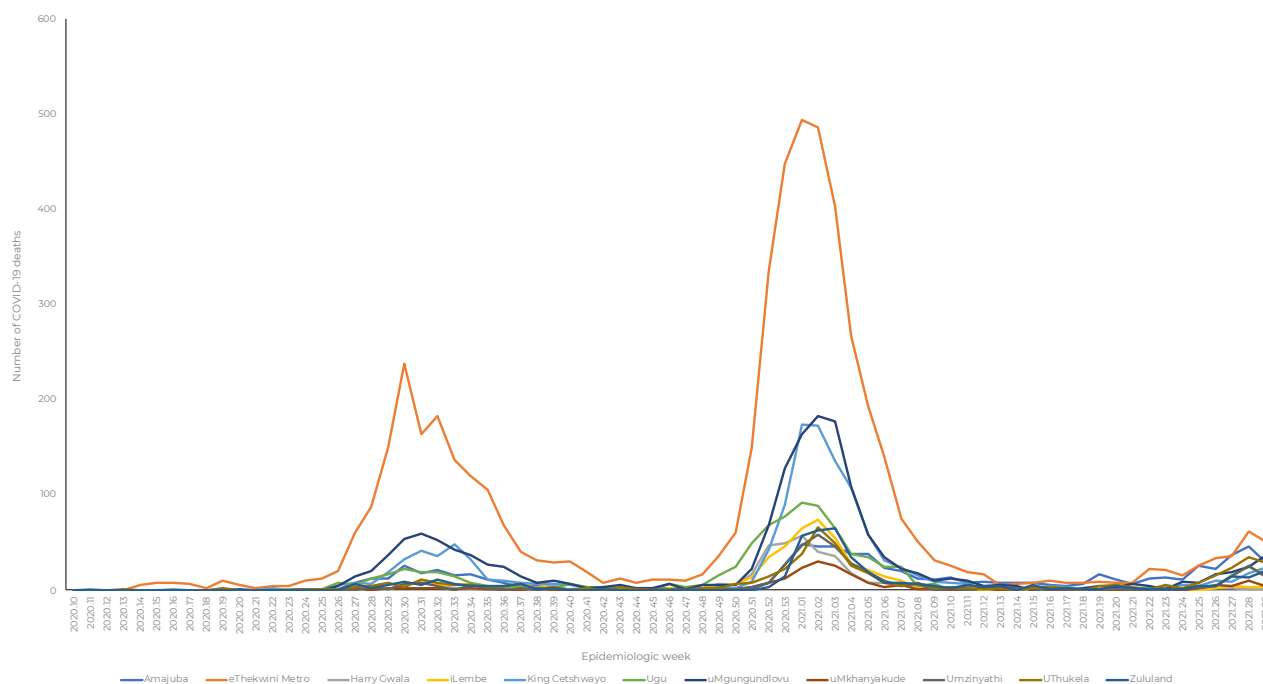


Figure 16: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=12,010

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There has been an increase in average COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in except Harry Gwala, King Cetshwayo, uMgungundlovu, uMkhanyakude, Umzinyathi and Zululand. The highest percentage change in admissions was in Zululand (Table 7).

Table 7: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, KwaZulu-Natal, 26 June-24 July 2021.

District	Previous 14 days admissions average	Current 14 days admissions average	Percentage change in admissions	Previous 14 days deaths average	Current 14 days deaths average	Percentage change in deaths
Amajuba	20.50	13.00	-36.59	4.21	5.43	28.81
eThekweni Metro	47.36	42.07	-11.16	4.86	8.00	64.71
Harry Gwala	2.36	3.36	42.42	0.29	0.14	-50.00
iLembe	4.86	4.21	-13.24	0.43	0.43	0.00
King Cetshwayo	13.14	15.21	15.76	1.36	2.93	115.79
Ugu	10.21	8.57	-16.08	1.36	2.86	110.53
uMgungundlovu	26.79	27.00	0.80	2.50	4.21	68.57
uMkhanyakude	3.50	4.86	38.78	0.64	1.00	55.56
Umzinyathi	8.64	8.71	0.83	1.29	2.79	116.67
UThukela	11.43	10.71	-6.25	2.71	4.50	65.79
Zululand	5.07	9.07	78.87	1.29	2.36	83.33

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LIMPOPO

In the first wave there were roughly equal numbers of admissions in both sectors, but in the second and third 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 17). There have been increased admissions in both sectors since week 19, however a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in both sectors over the past two weeks.

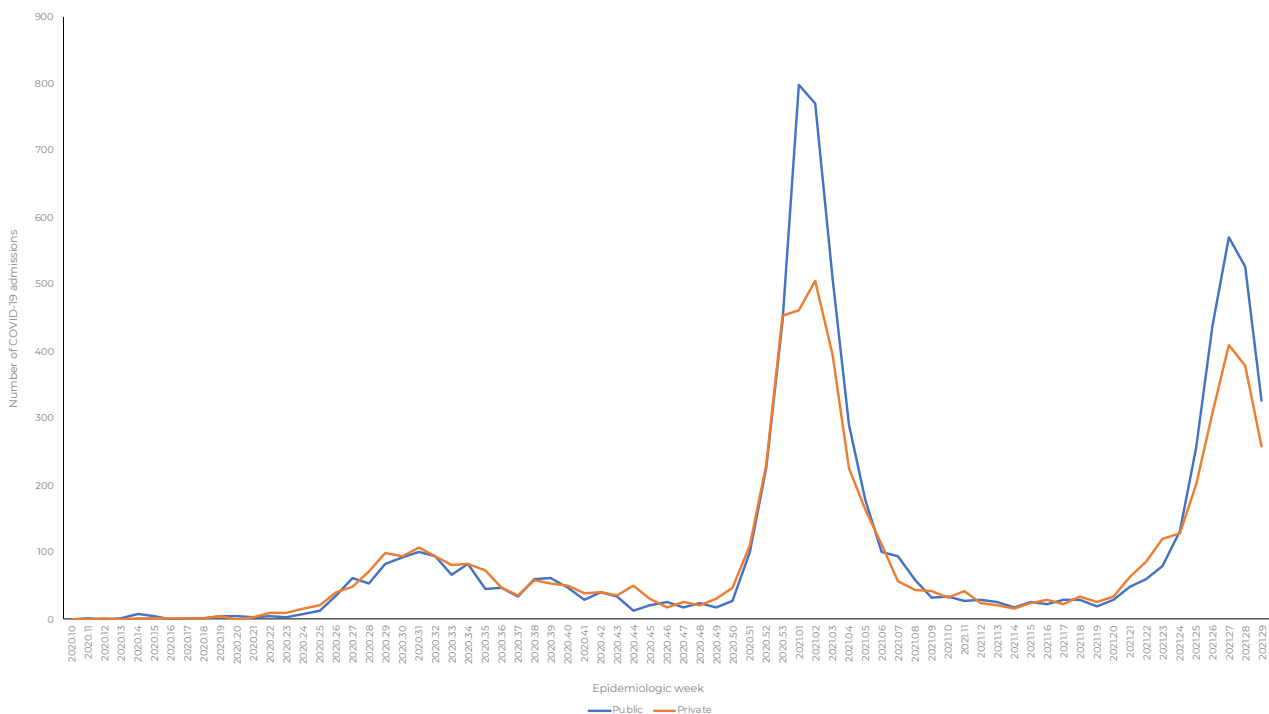


Figure 17: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=14,066

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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). There have been increases in admissions in all districts, particularly Capricorn, however a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in all districts over the past week. The weekly numbers of admissions in the third wave have surpassed the peak of the second wave in Sekhukhune and Waterberg.

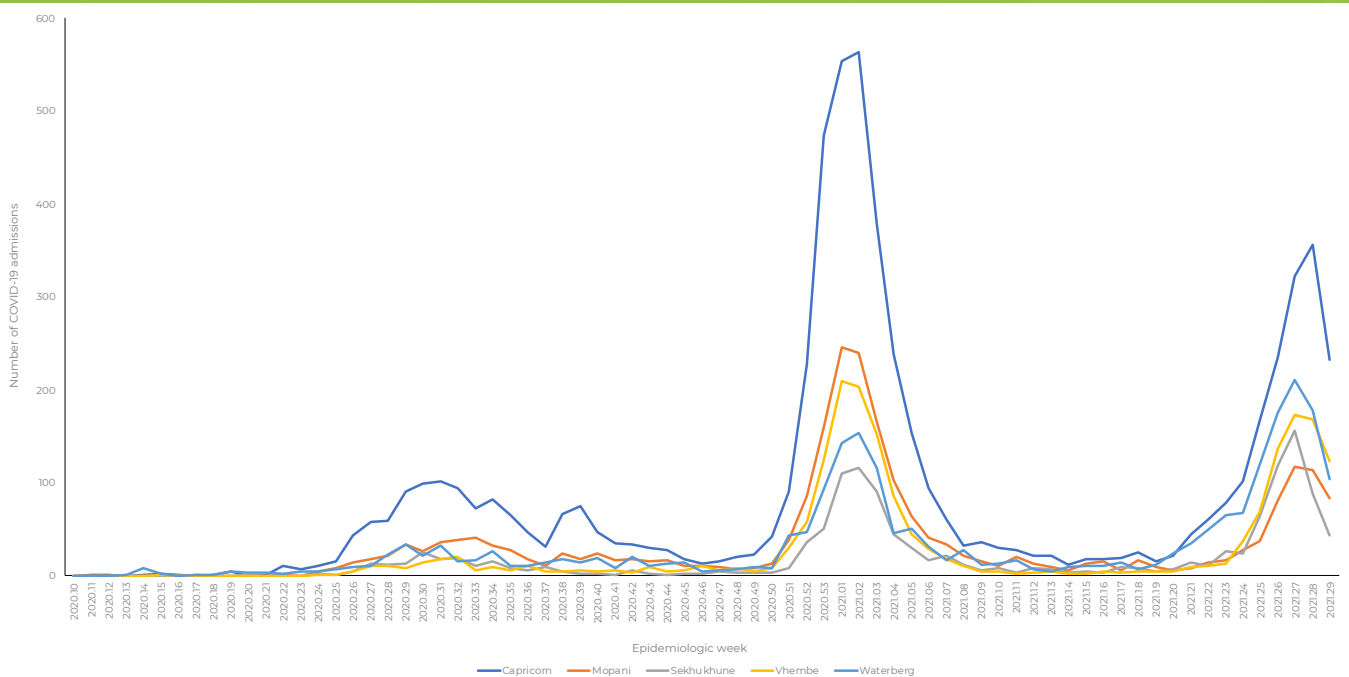


Figure 18: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=14,066

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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 19). The numbers of COVID-19 deaths have increased in most districts, particularly Capricorn however a decrease in the number of deaths has been observed in all districts over the past week.

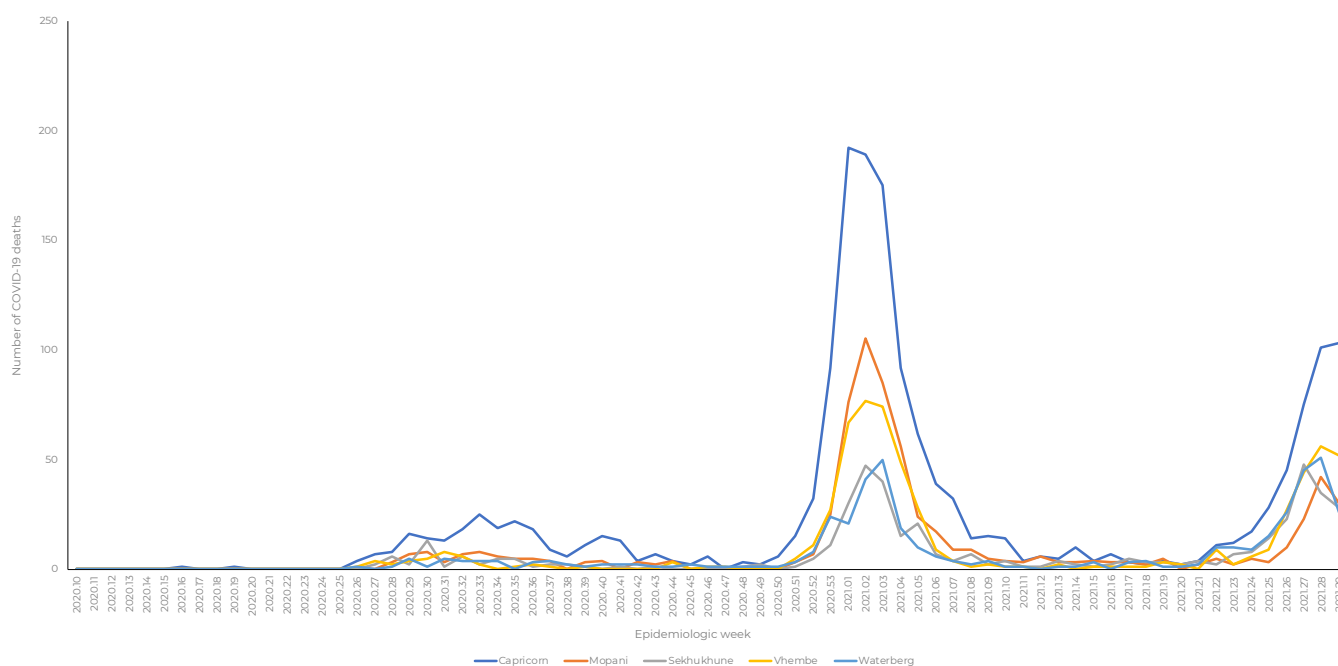


Figure 19: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=3,817

There has been a decrease in average COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in all districts except Capricorn. The highest percentage change in admissions was in Capricorn (Table 8).

Table 8: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Limpopo, 26 June-24 July 2021.

District	Previous 14 days admissions average	Current 14 days admissions average	Percentage change in admissions	Previous 14 days deaths average	Current 14 days deaths average	Percentage change in deaths
Capricorn	39.79	42.00	5.57	8.57	14.57	70.00
Mopani	14.14	14.07	-0.51	2.36	5.14	118.18
Sekhukhune	19.57	9.36	-52.19	5.07	4.50	-11.27
Vhembe	22.00	20.79	-5.52	5.07	7.71	52.11
Waterberg	27.57	20.14	-26.94	5.07	5.50	8.45

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 29 2021

MPUMALANGA

In the first and third waves 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 20). An increase in admission in both sectors has been observed since week 16 however a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in both sectors over the past week. The weekly numbers of admissions in private sector in the third wave have surpassed the peak of the second wave.

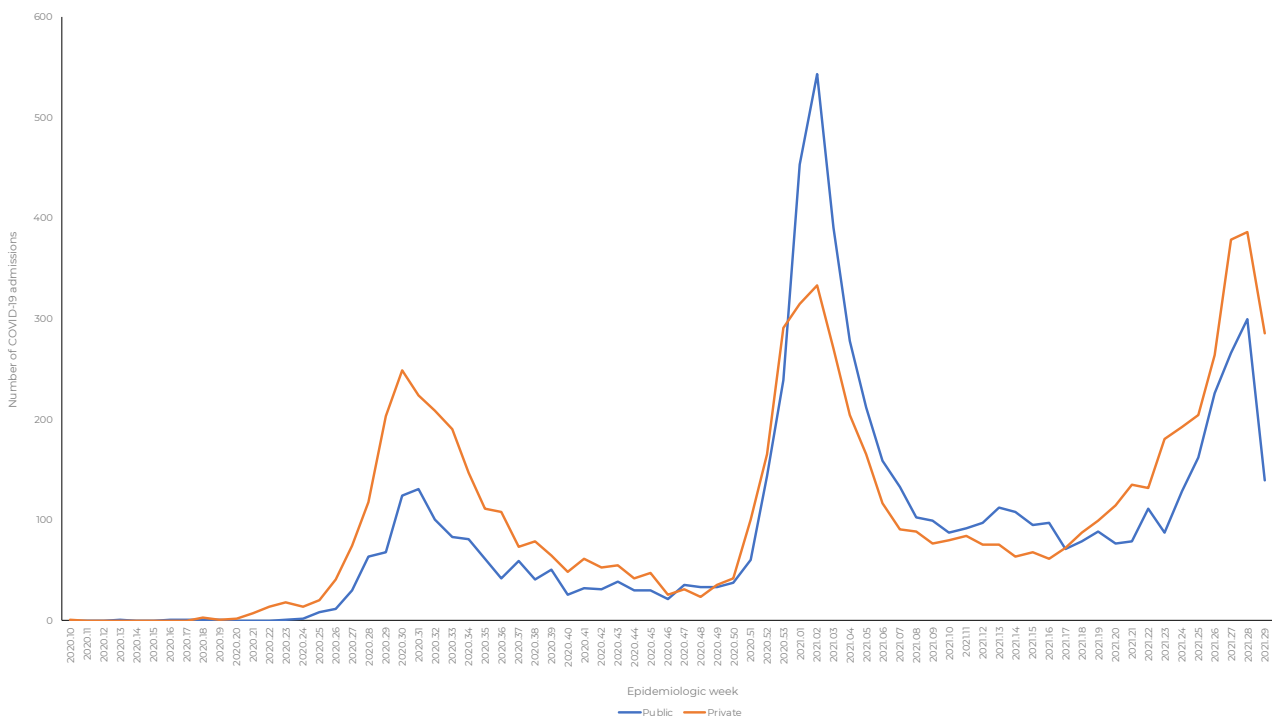


Figure 20: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=14,305

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 29 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 (Figure 21). There have been increases in admissions in all districts since week 17 however a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in all districts over the past two weeks.

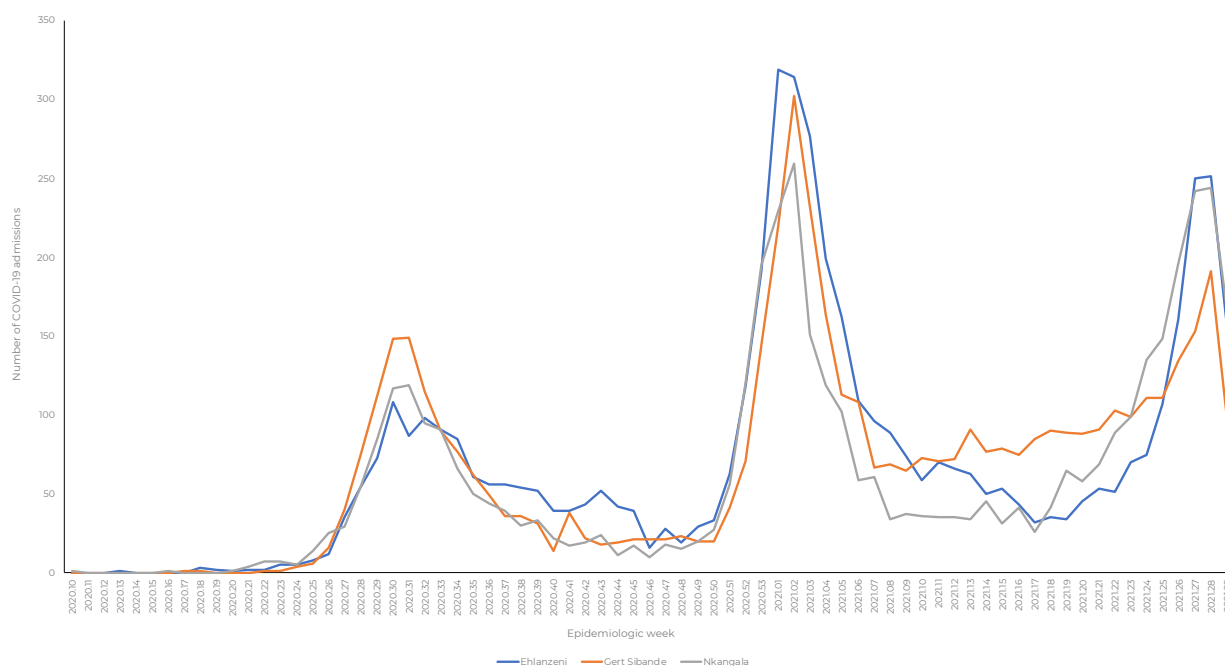


Figure 21: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=14,305

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 29 2021

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 22). The numbers of COVID-19 deaths have increased in all districts, particularly Nkangala and Ehlanzeni however a decrease in the number of deaths has been observed in all districts over the past week.

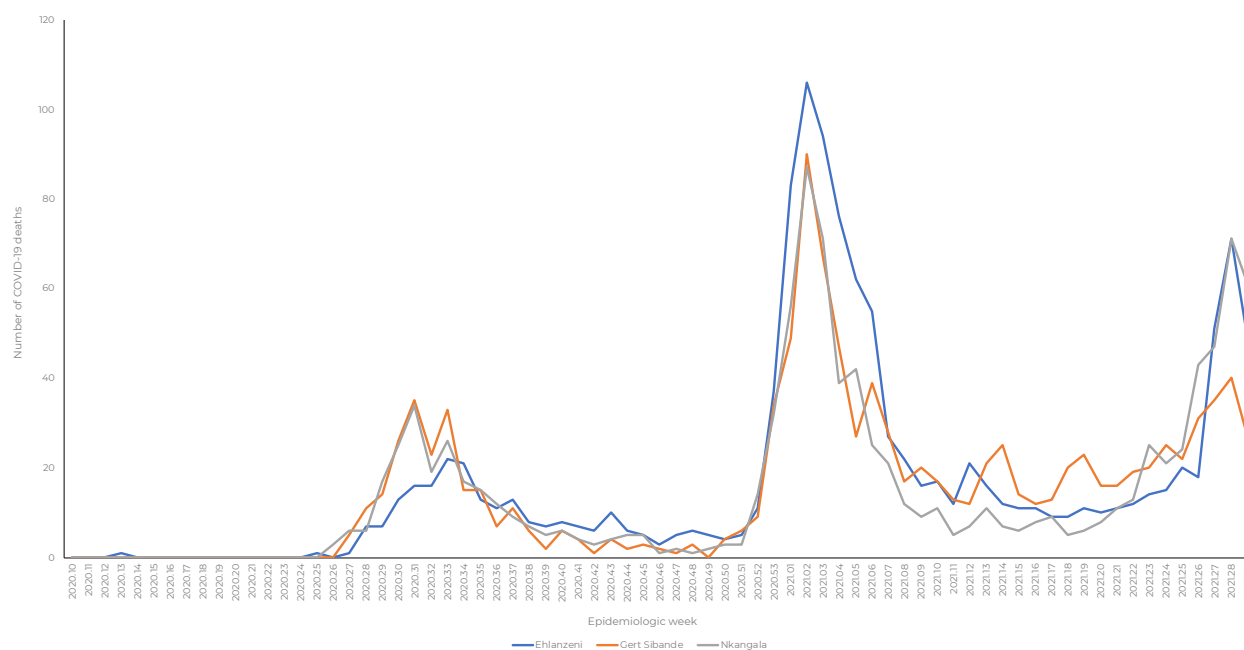


Figure 22: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=3,350

There has been an increase in average COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in Gert Sibande. The highest percentage change in admissions was in Gert Sibande (Table 9).

Table 9: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Mpumalanga, 26 June-24 July 2021.

District	Previous 14 days admissions average	Current 14 days admissions average	Percentage change in admissions	Previous 14 days deaths average	Current 14 days deaths average	Percentage change in deaths
Ehlanzeni	29.29	29.14	-0.49	4.93	8.57	73.91
Gert Sibande	20.50	20.71	1.05	4.71	4.79	1.52
Nkangala	31.29	29.43	-5.94	6.43	9.43	46.67

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 29 2021

NORTH WEST

In all three 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 23). The numbers of COVID-19 admissions have increased in both sectors since week 10, however a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in both sectors over the past two weeks. The weekly numbers of admissions in the third wave have surpassed the peak of the second wave in both sectors.

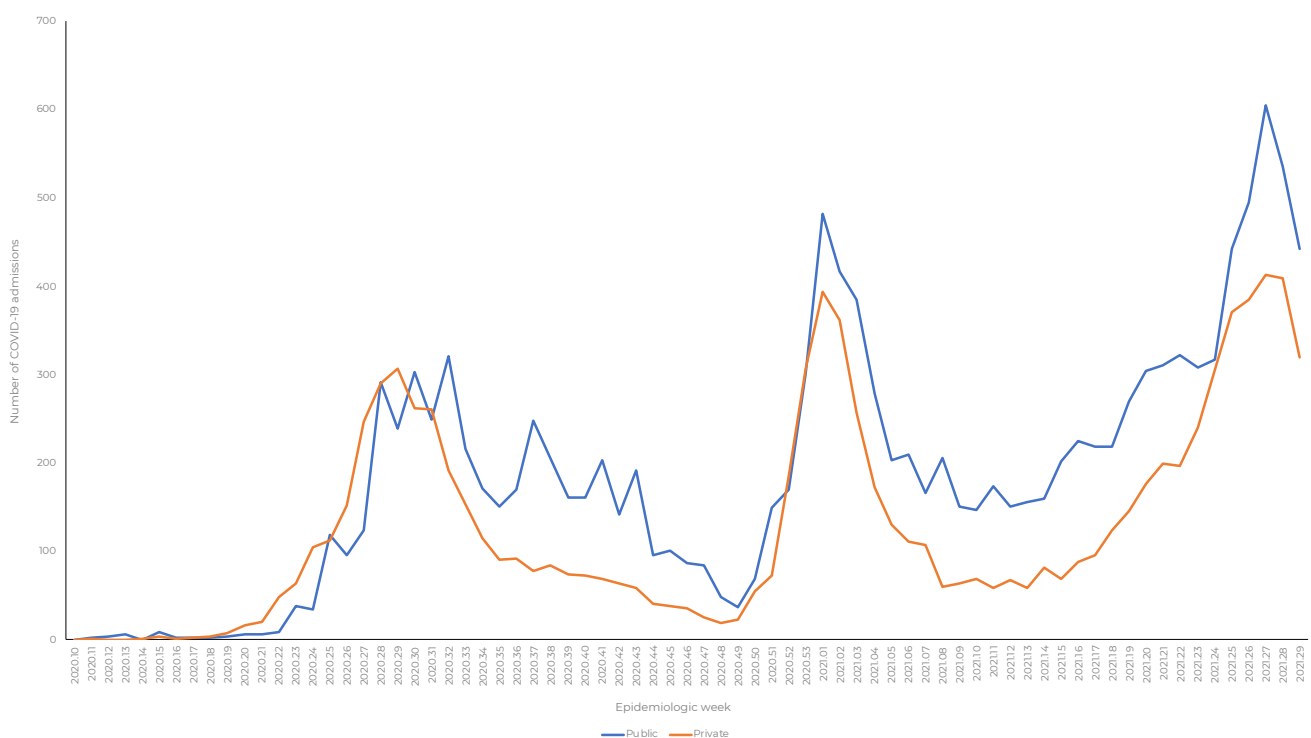


Figure 23: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, North West, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=22,852

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 29 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 24). The numbers of COVID-19 admissions have increased in Dr Kenneth Kaunda district since week 9 and in Bojanala Platinum since week 14, however a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in all districts except Dr Kenneth Kaunda over the past two weeks. The weekly numbers of admissions in Bojanala Platinum and Dr Kenneth Kaunda in the third wave have surpassed the peak of the second wave.

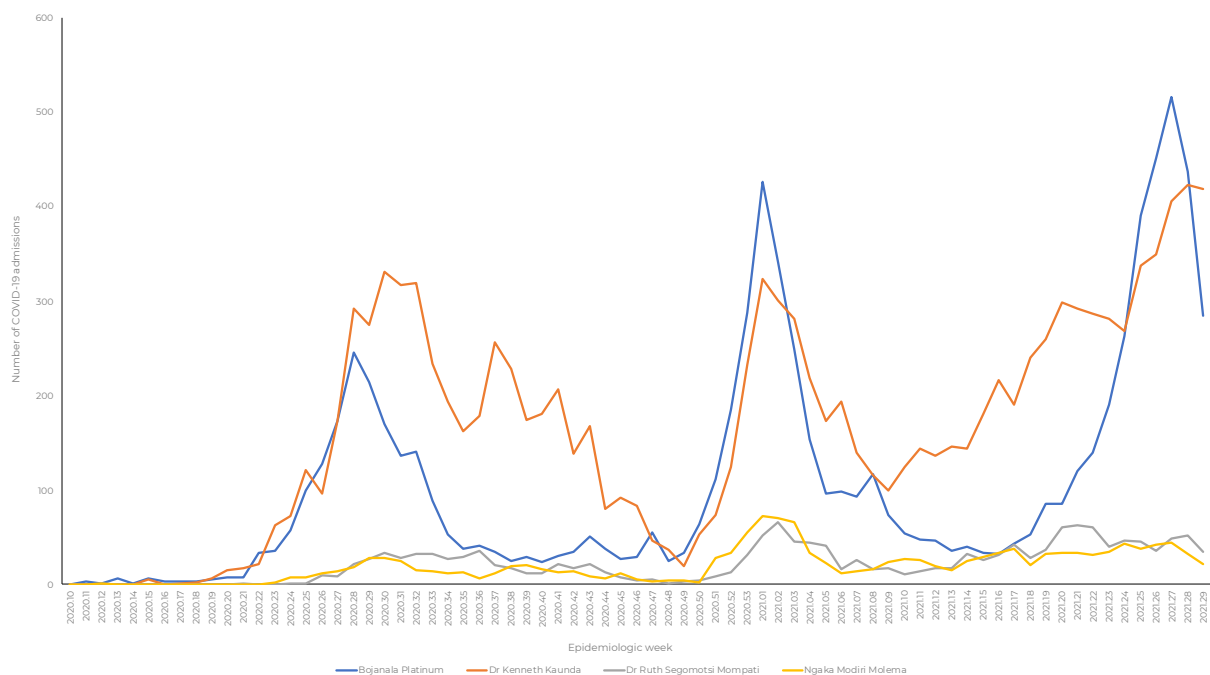


Figure 24: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=22,852

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 29 2021

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 25). The numbers of COVID-19 deaths have increased in all districts, particularly Dr Kenneth Kaunda district and Bojanala Platinum, however a decrease in the number of deaths has been observed in all districts over the past week. The weekly numbers of deaths in the third wave have surpassed the peak of the second wave in Bojanala Platinum and Dr Kenneth Kaunda.

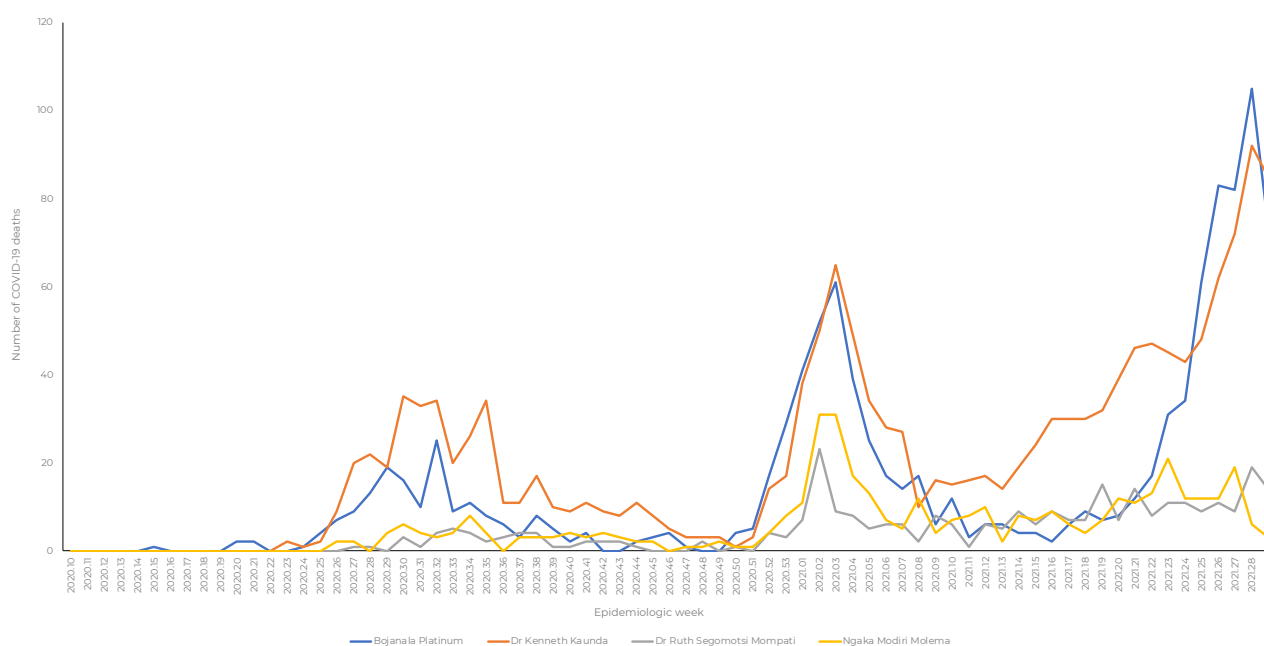


Figure 25: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=3,313

There has been an increase in average COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in Dr Kenneth Kaunda and Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti. The highest percentage change in admissions was in Dr Kenneth Kaunda (Table 10).

Table 10: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, North West, 26 June-24 July 2021.

District	Previous 14 days admissions average	Current 14 days admissions average	Percentage change in admissions	Previous 14 days deaths average	Current 14 days deaths average	Percentage change in deaths
Bojanala Platinum	69.21	51.50	-25.59	11.79	12.79	8.48
Dr Kenneth Kaunda	54.00	60.14	11.38	9.57	12.64	32.09
Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti	6.07	6.21	2.35	1.43	2.36	65.00
Ngaka Modiri Molema	6.14	3.86	-37.21	2.21	0.64	-70.97

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 29 2021

NORTHERN CAPE

In both first and second waves there were roughly equal numbers of admissions in both sectors, but in the third wave 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 26). The numbers of COVID-19 admissions have increased in both sectors since week 9 and have decreased in the past eight weeks in the private sector while continuing to increase in the public sector. The weekly numbers of admissions in the private sector in the third wave have surpassed the numbers during the peak of the second wave.

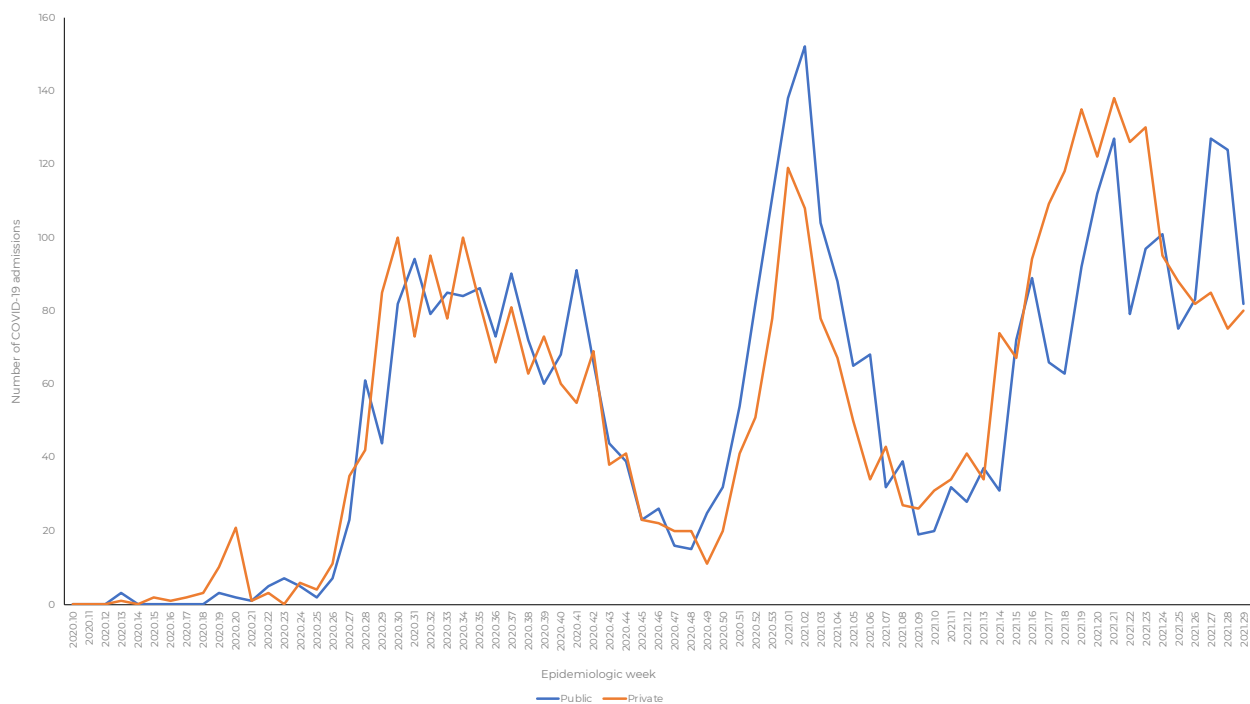


Figure 26: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=7,798

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 29 2021

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 27). The numbers of admissions have decreased in all districts over the past seven weeks, however there have been some increases in all districts in the past three weeks. The weekly number of admissions in the third wave has surpassed the peak of the second wave in Frances Baard, ZF Mgcawu and John Taolo Gaetsewe districts.

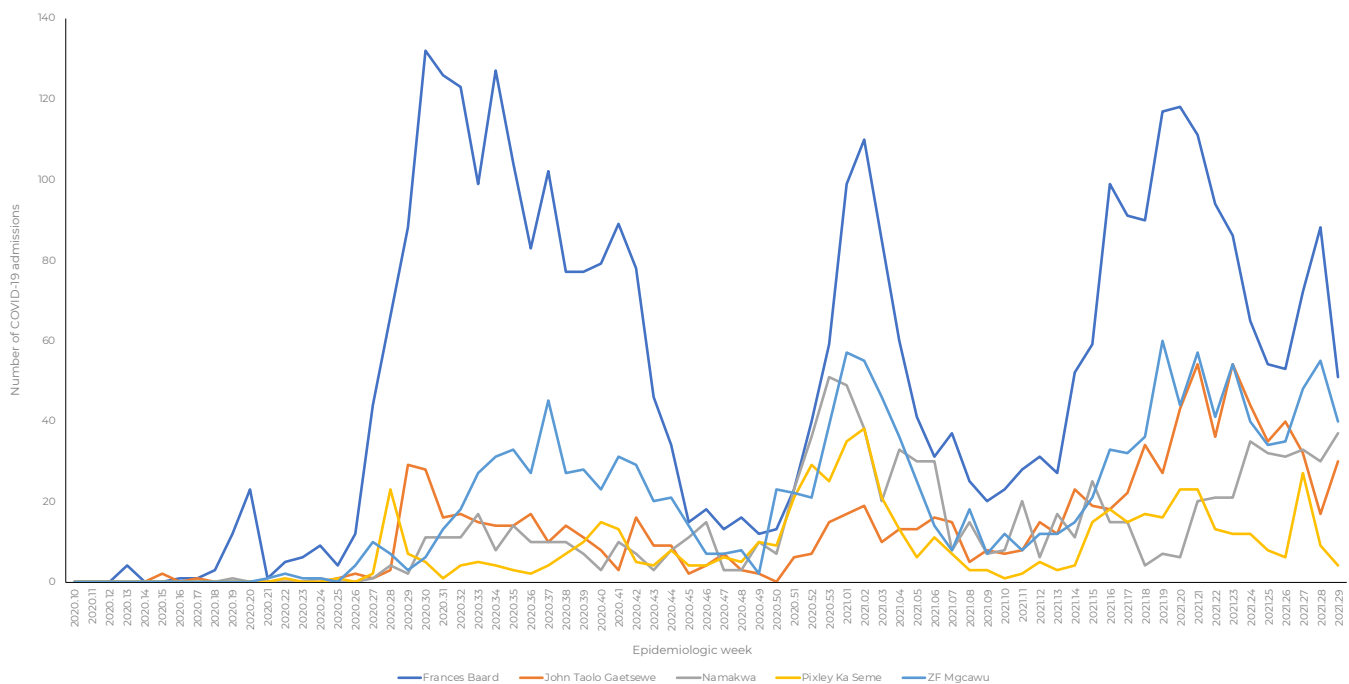


Figure 27: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=7,798

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 29 2021

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 28). The numbers of COVID-19 deaths have increased in all districts, and while there has been some decrease in deaths earlier on, an increase in the number of deaths has been observed in all districts over the past two weeks. The weekly number of COVID-19 deaths in the third wave has surpassed the peak of second wave in Frances Baard, John Taolo Gaetsewe and ZF Mgcawu district.

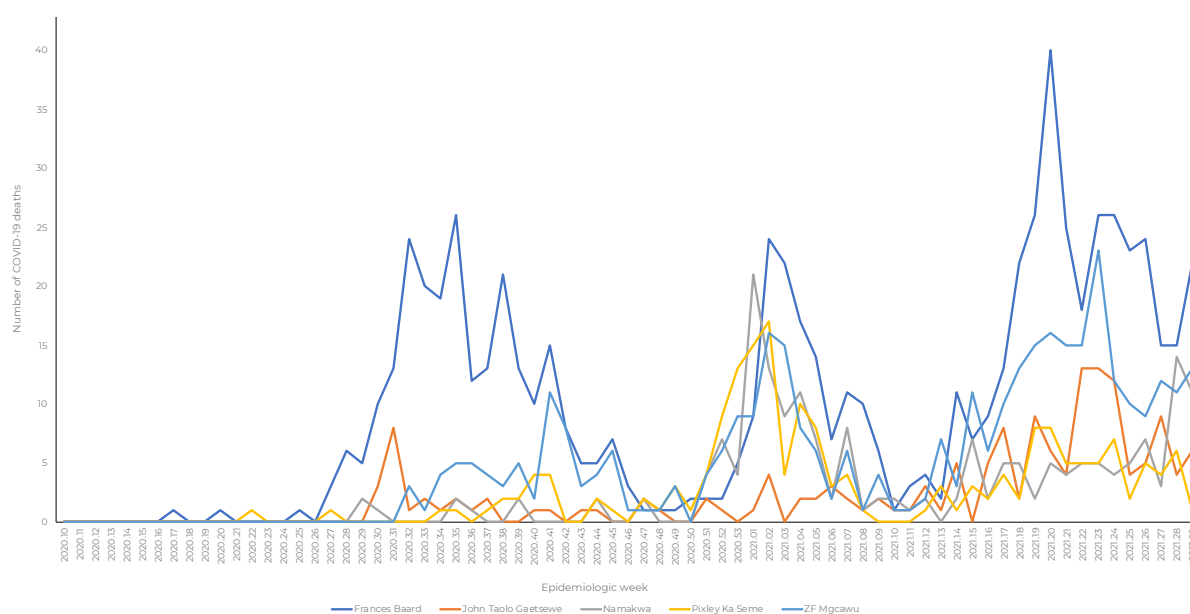


Figure 28: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=1,605

There has been an increase in average COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in Frances Baard, Namakwa and ZF Mgcawu. The highest percentage change in admissions was in ZF Mgcawu (Table 11).

Table 11: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Northern Cape, 26 June-24 July 2021.

District	Previous 14 days admissions average	Current 14 days admissions average	Percentage change in admissions	Previous 14 days deaths average	Current 14 days deaths average	Percentage change in deaths
Frances Baard	8.93	9.93	11.20	2.79	2.64	-5.13
John Taolo Gaetsewe	5.14	3.36	-34.72	1.00	0.71	-28.57
Namakwa	4.57	4.79	4.69	0.71	1.79	150.00
Pixley Ka Seme	2.36	0.93	-60.61	0.64	0.50	-22.22
Siyanda	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ZF Mgcawu	5.93	6.79	14.46	1.50	1.71	14.29

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 29 2021

WESTERN CAPE

In all three 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 29). There has been an increase in admissions in both sectors since week 17, however a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in both sectors over the past week.

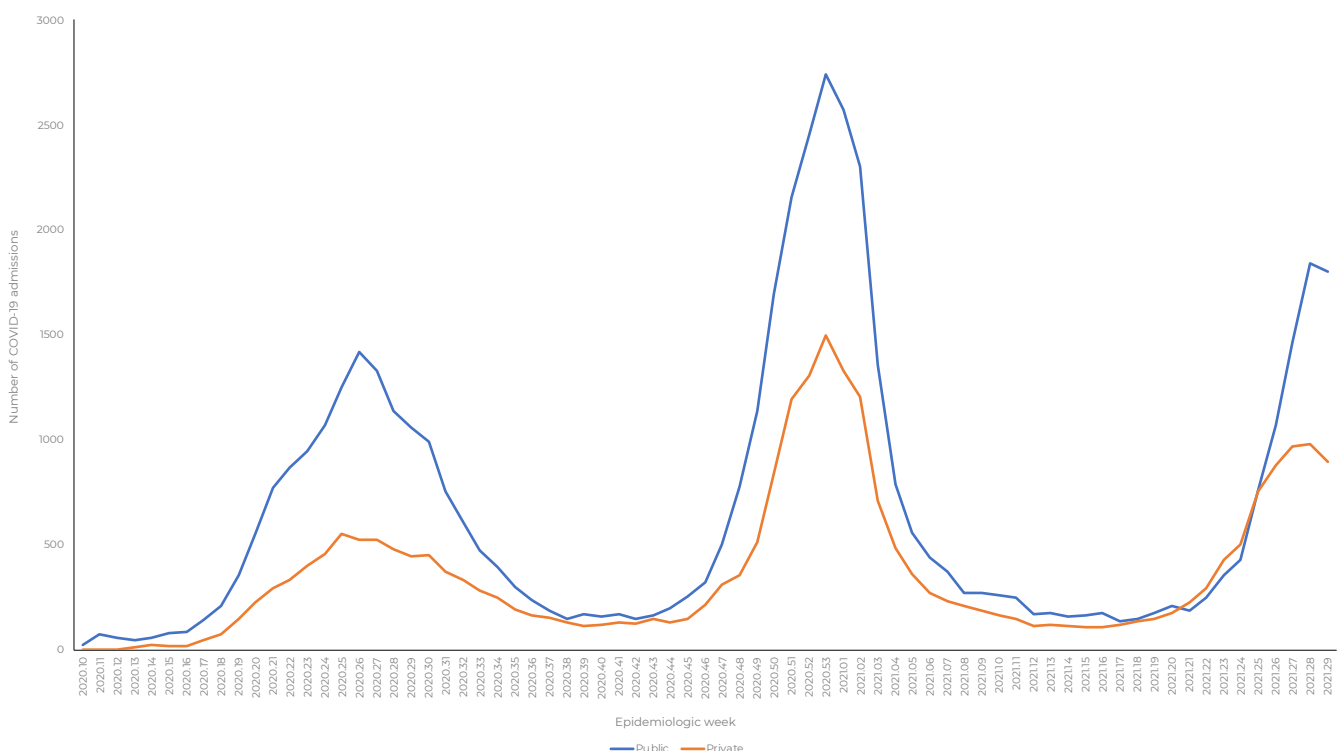


Figure 29: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=74,105

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 29 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 (Figure 30). There have been increases in admissions in all districts, particularly City of Cape Town, however a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in all districts over the past week.

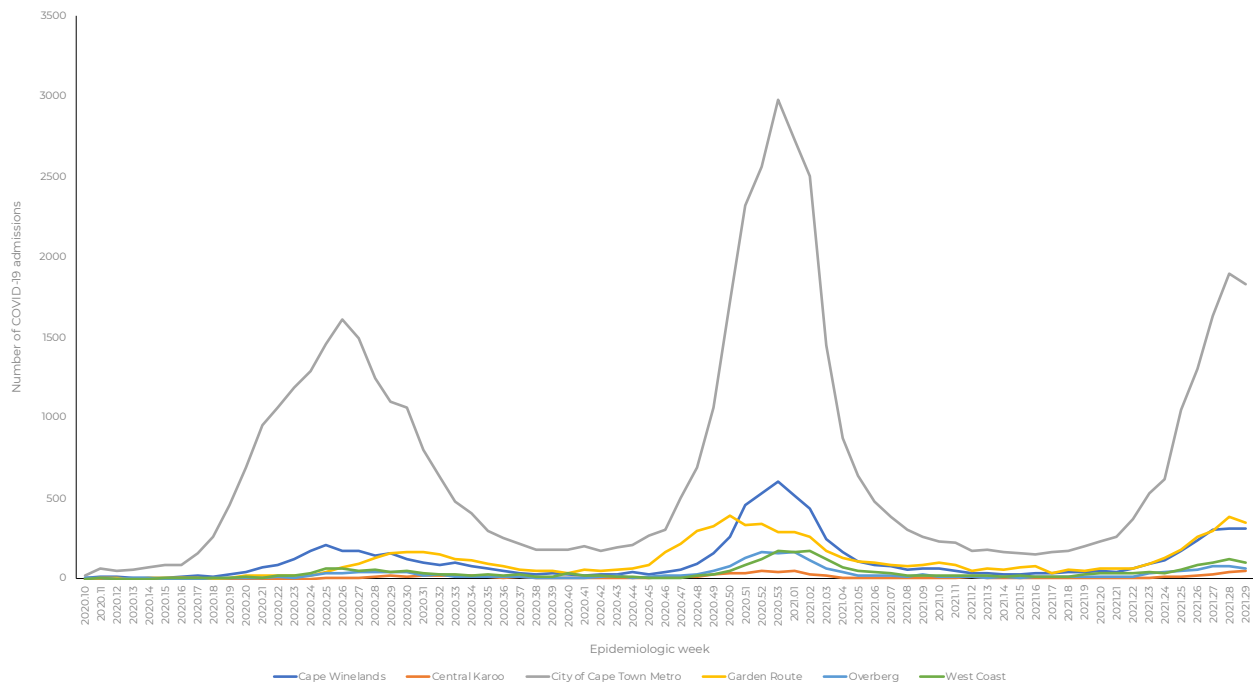


Figure 30: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021, n=74,105

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 29 2021

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 31). There have been increases in deaths particularly in City of Cape Town Metro.

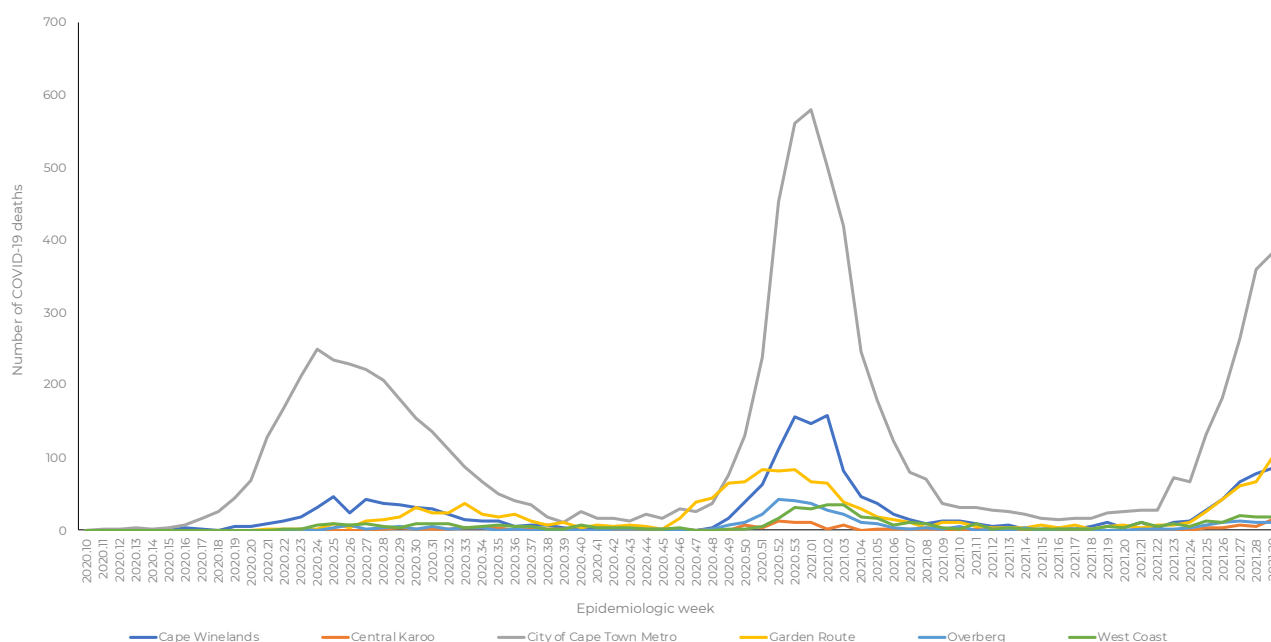


Figure 31: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020–24 July 2021, n=12,467

There have been increases in average COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in all districts. The highest percentage change in admissions was in Central Karoo (Table 12).

Table 12: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Western Cape, 26 June–24 July 2021.

District	Previous 14 days admissions average	Current 14 days admissions average	Percentage change in admissions	Previous 14 days deaths average	Current 14 days deaths average	Percentage change in deaths
Cape Winelands	38.64	44.36	14.79	7.79	11.64	49.54
Central Karoo	3.14	6.50	106.82	0.71	1.43	100.00
City of Cape Town Metro	209.21	265.86	27.07	31.93	52.86	65.55
Garden Route	39.50	51.79	31.10	7.36	11.86	61.17
Overberg	9.14	9.71	6.25	1.64	1.57	-4.35
West Coast	13.00	15.57	19.78	2.14	2.64	23.33

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 have recruited 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)

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 29 2021

APPENDIX

Table 13: Percentage average change in hospital admissions over 14 days, by district, South Africa, 10 July-24 July 2021.

Province	District	Total admissions	Incidence (per 100k)	New admissions	New admissions incidence (per 100k)	% average change (14 days)
Eastern Cape	Alfred Nzo	1903	228.66	30	3.60	-25.00
	Amathole	2422	303.05	20	2.50	-4.76
	Buffalo City Metro	7861	981.55	75	9.36	-27.18
	Chris Hani	3558	488.97	64	8.80	-14.67
	Joe Gqabi	804	233.07	16	4.64	-40.74
	Nelson Mandela Bay Metro	12681	1045.37	222	18.30	-10.84
	O R Tambo	3504	228.69	49	3.20	-40.24
	Sarah Baartman	2128	439.83	86	17.78	7.50
Free State	Fezile Dabi	2491	488.31	61	11.96	-30.68
	Lejweleputswa	4446	680.23	103	15.76	-5.50
	Mangaung Metro	10211	1172.44	156	17.91	-27.10
	Thabo Mofutsanyana	3774	493.45	127	16.61	-2.31
	Xhariep	470	363.09	13	10.04	30.00
Gauteng	City of Johannesburg Metro	41022	699.25	1212	20.66	-42.07
	City of Tshwane Metro	28964	776.70	1115	29.90	-29.39
	Ekurhuleni Metro	24108	605.39	801	20.11	-35.92
	Sedibeng	7003	732.90	209	21.87	-38.89
	West Rand	9878	1034.63	320	33.52	-38.10
KwaZulu-Natal	Amajuba	3182	557.73	71	12.44	-45.38
	eThekweni Metro	25472	639.81	310	7.79	-0.96
	Harry Gwala	1668	324.50	34	6.61	100.00
	iLembe	2358	339.51	19	2.74	-52.50
	King Cetshwayo	6101	628.53	116	11.95	17.17
	Ugu	3623	451.90	67	8.36	15.52
	uMgungundlovu	7319	636.75	197	17.14	0.51

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 29 2021

Province	District	Total admissions	Incidence (per 100k)	New admissions	New admissions incidence (per 100k)	% average change (14 days)
	uMkhanyakude	930	135.39	37	5.39	5.71
	Umzinyathi	1181	208.08	47	8.28	-45.35
	UThukela	2212	309.71	52	7.28	-48.51
	Zululand	1322	150.09	67	7.61	6.35
Limpopo	Capricorn	6101	466.45	251	19.19	-35.14
	Mopani	2376	200.53	93	7.85	-22.50
	Sekhukhune	1360	114.26	44	3.70	-54.17
	Vhembe	1966	137.75	128	8.97	-27.68
	Waterberg	2363	318.37	121	16.30	-39.50
Mpumalanga	Ehlanzeni	5071	277.29	163	8.91	-37.07
	Gert Sibande	4877	392.62	106	8.53	-48.79
	Nkangala	4388	272.73	173	10.75	-32.68
North West	Bojanala Platinum	7814	405.26	295	15.30	-35.02
	Dr Kenneth Kaunda	12128	1520.34	448	56.16	-4.48
	Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti	1575	332.93	39	8.24	-36.07
	Ngaka Modiri Molema	1410	154.97	22	2.42	-31.25
Northern Cape	Frances Baard	3801	916.10	55	13.26	-47.62
	John Taolo Gaetsewe	984	362.46	37	13.63	48.00
	Namakwa	942	814.79	40	34.60	8.11
	Pixley Ka Seme	611	289.73	4	1.90	-63.64
	ZF Mgcawu	1511	539.83	46	16.43	-29.23
Western Cape	Cape Winelands	8468	899.64	429	45.58	-8.53
	Central Karoo	744	990.51	65	86.54	12.07
	City of Cape Town Metro	53765	1167.54	2710	58.85	-6.97
	Garden Route	8230	1319.63	436	69.91	-16.79
	Overberg	2076	692.21	89	29.68	-17.59
	West Coast	2701	586.14	133	28.86	-13.64

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 29 2021

APPENDIX

Table 14: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions and in-hospital deaths by age and gender, South Africa, 5 March 2020-24 July 2021.

Age (years)	ADMISSIONS				DEATHS			
	Female	Male	Unknown	Total	Female	Male	Unknown	Total
0-4	2666	3121	15	5802	107	106	2	215
5-9	717	860	4	1581	14	14	0	28
10-14	1163	1105	0	2268	37	31	0	68
15-19	3505	1840	3	5348	90	86	0	176
20-24	5765	2869	5	8639	207	158	0	365
25-29	9853	4415	9	14277	476	289	0	765
30-34	13236	7626	5	20867	828	645	0	1473
35-39	14635	10725	13	25373	1187	1078	2	2267
40-44	14041	12540	12	26593	1497	1559	1	3057
45-49	16309	15763	11	32083	2261	2361	1	4623
50-54	19462	17973	7	37442	3149	3286	2	6437
55-59	21515	19347	18	40880	4568	4495	8	9071
60-64	19172	17545	18	36735	5077	5273	4	10354
65-69	16143	14533	14	30690	5201	4884	3	10088
70-74	13217	11968	15	25200	4451	4478	5	8934
75-79	9728	8152	7	17887	3464	3303	3	6770
80-84	7260	5055	5	12320	2803	2197	2	5002
85-89	3720	2386	2	6108	1495	1116	0	2611
90-94	1625	794	1	2420	744	411	0	1155
>=95	493	269	2	764	221	106	0	327
Unknown	897	839	39	1775	58	85	0	143
Total	195122	159725	205	355052	37935	35961	33	73929