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 07 August 2021.

HIGHLIGHTS

- As of 07 August 2021, 377,128 COVID-19 admissions and 80,010 in-hospital deaths were reported from 668 facilities (411 public-sector and 257 private-sector) in all nine provinces of South Africa.
- Increased admissions were observed in all provinces during the third wave, which peaked in week 27. Since then, decreases in admissions have been observed across all provinces except Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal.
- 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.

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 07 August 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 2020-07 August 2021.

Name of province	Public Sector	Private Sector
Eastern Cape	86	18
Free State	35	20
Gauteng	40	94
KwaZulu-Natal	70	46
Limpopo	41	7
Mpumalanga	31	9
North West	18	13
Northern Cape	31	8
Western Cape	59	42
South Africa	**411**	**257**

RESULTS

Epidemiological and geographic trends in admissions

From 5 March 2020 to 07 August 2021, a total of 377,128 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 until the peak in week 27, with admissions decreasing in both sectors for the past four 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.

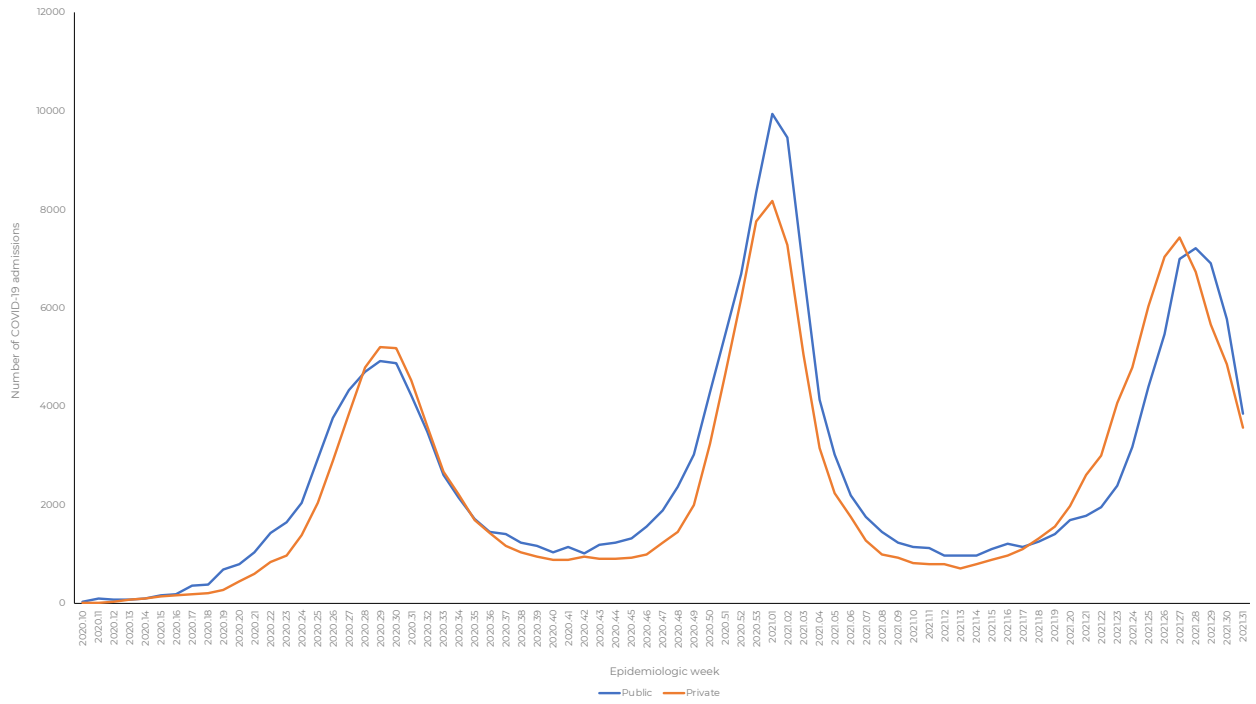

Figure 1. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=377,128

The majority of admissions were recorded in four provinces, Gauteng 116,698 (31%), Western Cape 80,849 (21%), KwaZulu-Natal 58,063 (15%) and Eastern Cape 35,928 (10%) provinces. Weekly numbers of COVID-19 admissions have peaked in all provinces except Western Cape (Figures 2a and 2b), and a decrease in admissions has been observed for the past four weeks.

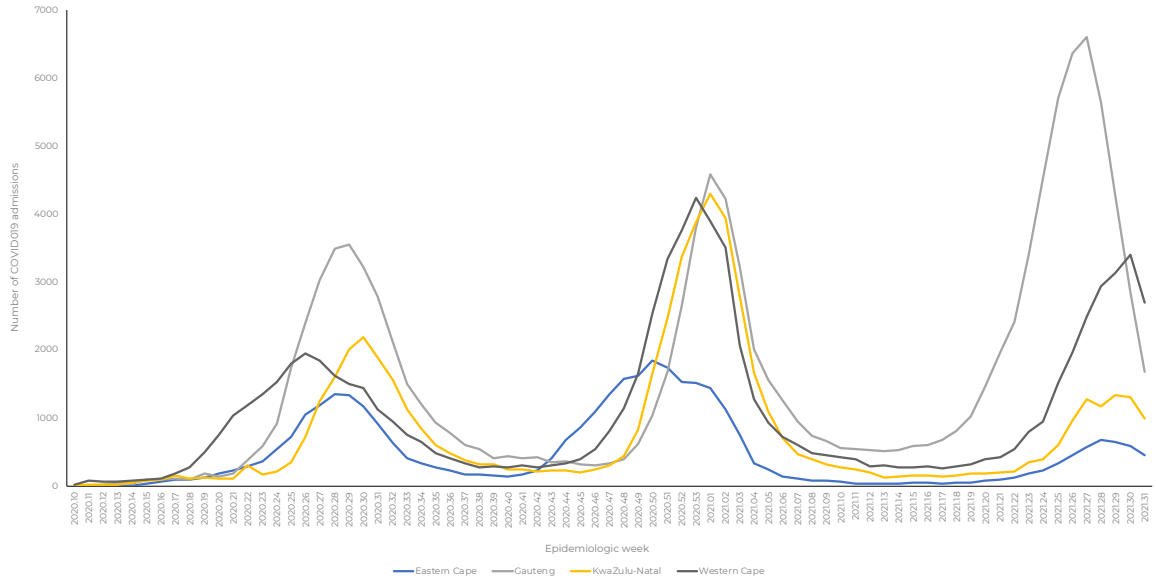

Figure 2a. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by provinces with highest admissions and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=377,128

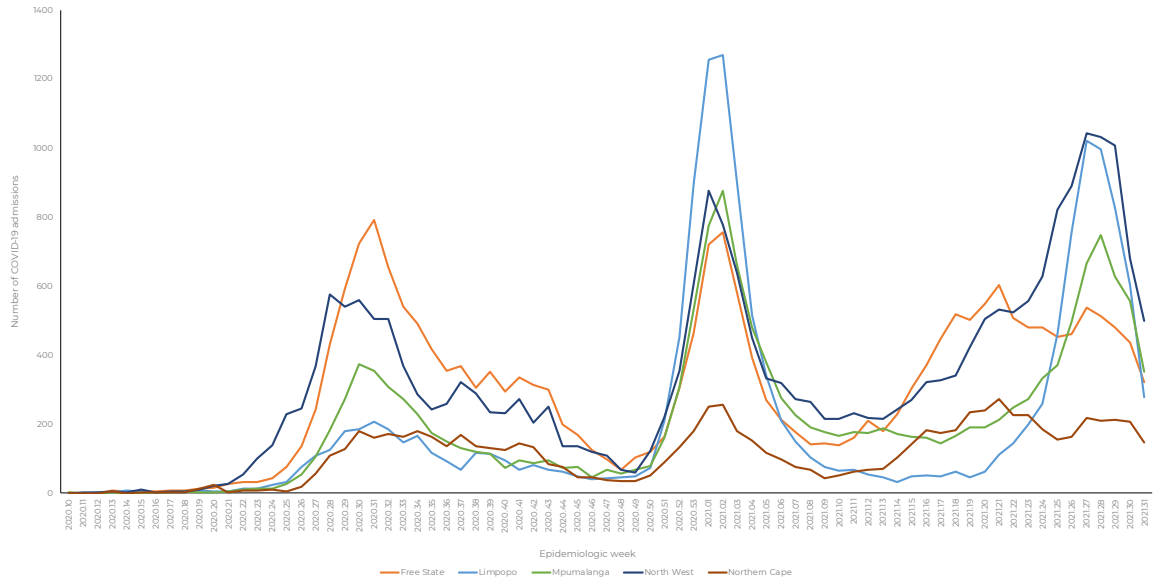

Figure 2b. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by provinces with lowest admissions and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=377,128

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL AND GEOGRAPHIC TRENDS IN IN-HOSPITAL MORTALITY

The number of deaths increased in both sectors since week 15 until the peak in week 28 (Figure 3). Decreases in deaths in both sectors have been observed in the past three weeks.

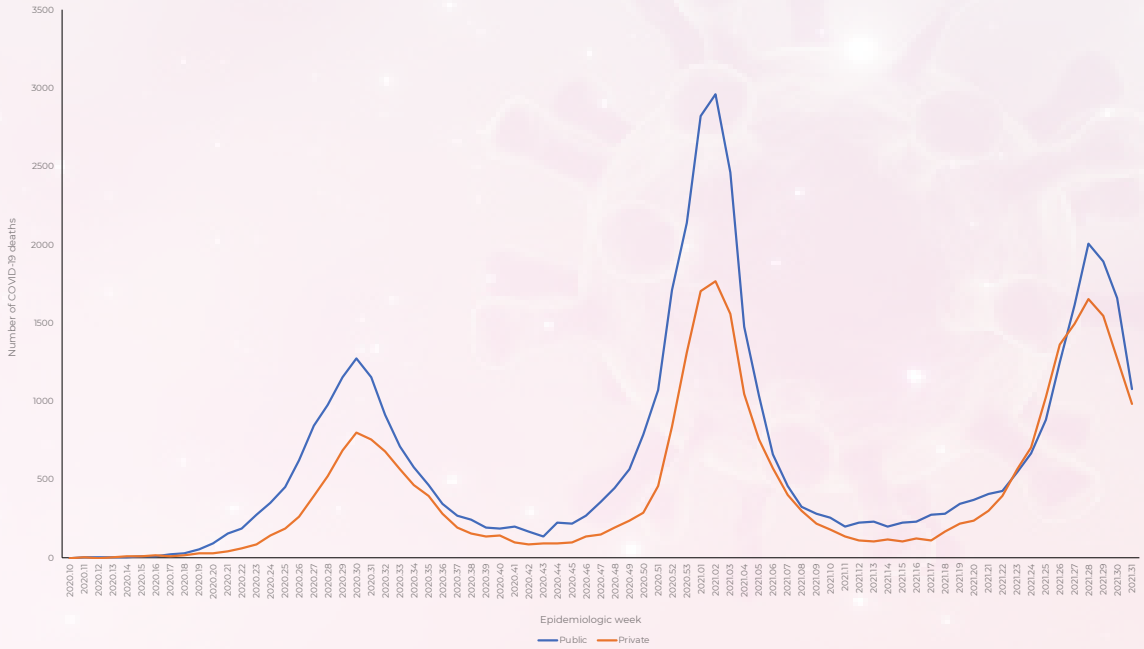

Figure 3. Number of in-hospital COVID-19 in-hospital deaths reported per week by health sector and epidemiologic week, South Africa, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=80,010

Most deaths were reported in Gauteng 24,862 (31%), Western Cape 13,841 (17%), KwaZulu-Natal 12,739 (16%), and Eastern Cape 10,530 (13%). The numbers of COVID-19 deaths have decreases in most districts over the past three weeks (Figures 4a and 4b).

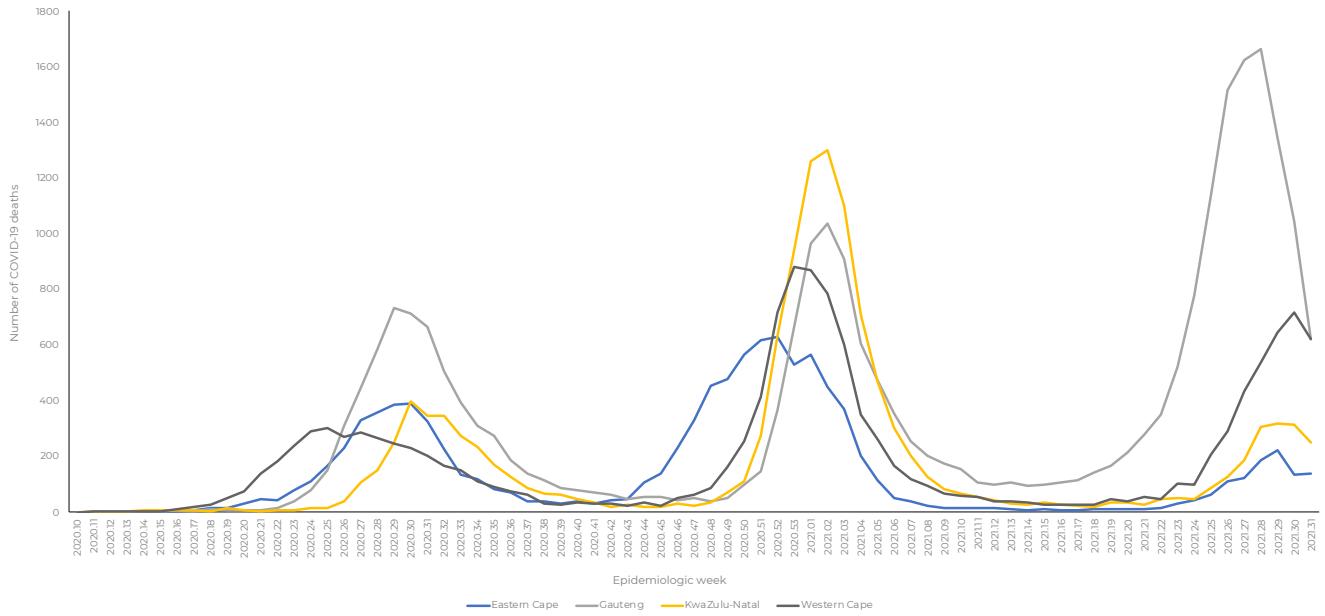

Figure 4a. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by province with highest deaths and epidemiologic week of death, South Africa, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=80,010

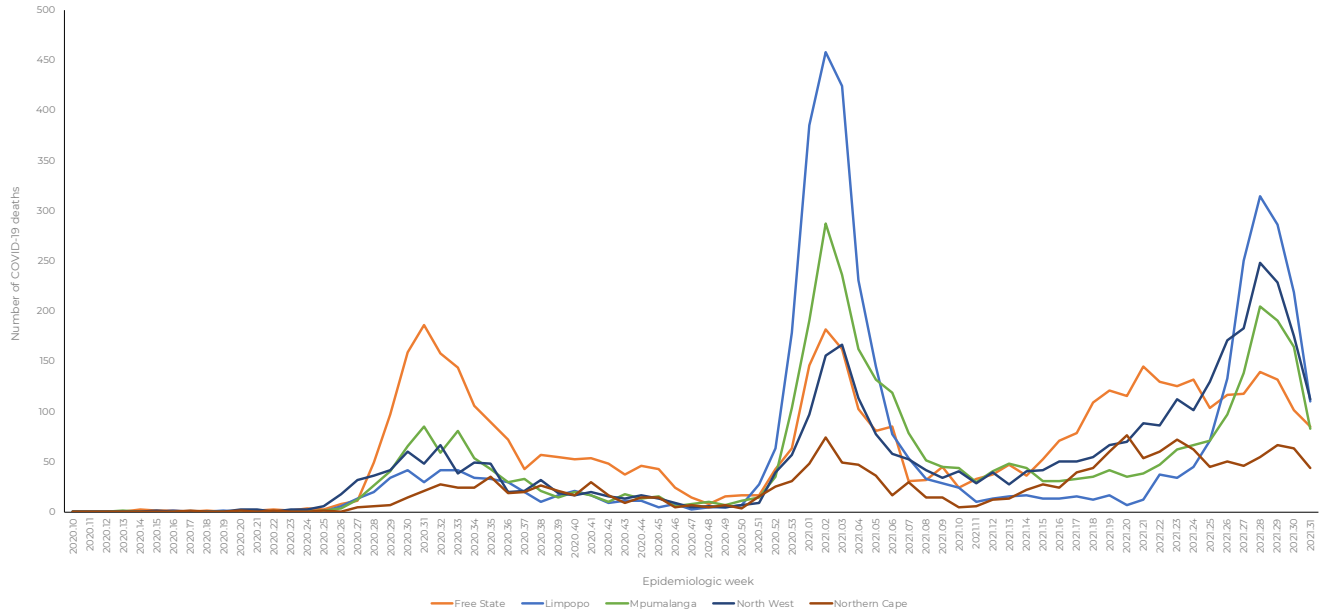

Figure 4b. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by province with lowest deaths and epidemiologic week of death, South Africa, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=80,010

The cumulative incidence risks of COVID-19 admissions and in-hospital deaths were highest in Western Cape, Gauteng and Free State 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 2020-07 August 2021.

Province	Provincial Population mid 2020*	Cumulative admissions	Cumulative Admissions / 100,000	Cumulative deaths	Cumulative deaths / 100,000
Eastern Cape	6734001	35928	533.5	10530	156.4
Free State	2928903	22032	752.2	4644	158.6
Gauteng	15488137	116,698	753.5	24862	160.5
KwaZulu-Natal	11531628	58063	503.5	12737	110.5
Limpopo	5852553	15311	261.6	4238	72.4
Mpumalanga	4679786	15554	332.4	3727	79.6
North West	4108816	24,506	596.4	3709	90.3
Northern Cape	1292786	8,187	633.3	1720	133.0
Western Cape	7005741	80,849	1154.0	13840	197.6
South Africa	**59622350**	**377,128**	**632.5**	**80,007**	**134.2**

*StatsSA mid-year population estimates 2020

PROVINCIAL TRENDS

There was a decrease in the average daily COVID-19 admissions and deaths comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in all provinces except Western Cape (Table 3). Decreases in the most recent week may in part reflect delays in data submission. There was only 1 of 52 (2%) districts across the country that reported increased change in incidence risk of admissions, Pixley Ka Seme (Northern Cape) (Appendix 1).

Table 3. Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, South Africa, 10 July-07 August 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	94.93	73.79	-22.27	29.29	19.64	-32.93
Free State	70.86	54.07	-23.69	19.36	13.29	-31.37
Gauteng	708.43	322.93	-54.42	214.79	118.93	-44.63
KwaZulu-Natal	179.29	163.71	-8.69	44.57	40.50	-9.13
Limpopo	130.21	63.00	-51.62	42.86	23.50	-45.17
Mpumalanga	98.14	64.86	-33.92	28.21	17.64	-37.47
North West	145.57	84.14	-42.20	34.00	20.43	-39.92
Northern Cape	30.29	25.29	-16.51	8.64	7.64	-11.57
Western Cape	433.57	435.64	0.48	84.57	95.64	13.09
South Africa	**94.93**	**73.79**	**-22.27**	**29.29**	**19.64**	**-32.93**

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

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 two weeks (Figure 5).

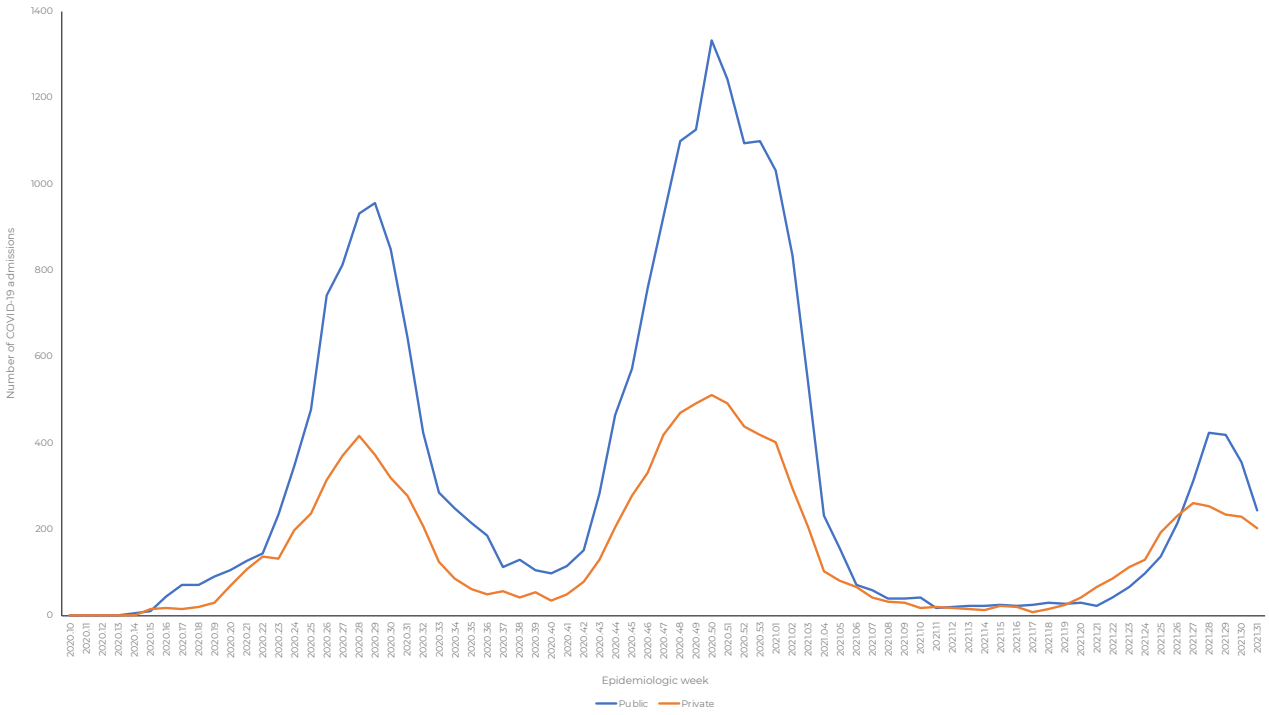

Figure 5: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=35,928

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 increases in admissions in most districts since week 19, with highest increase in Nelson Mandela Metro, although admissions have decreased in most districts in the past three weeks.

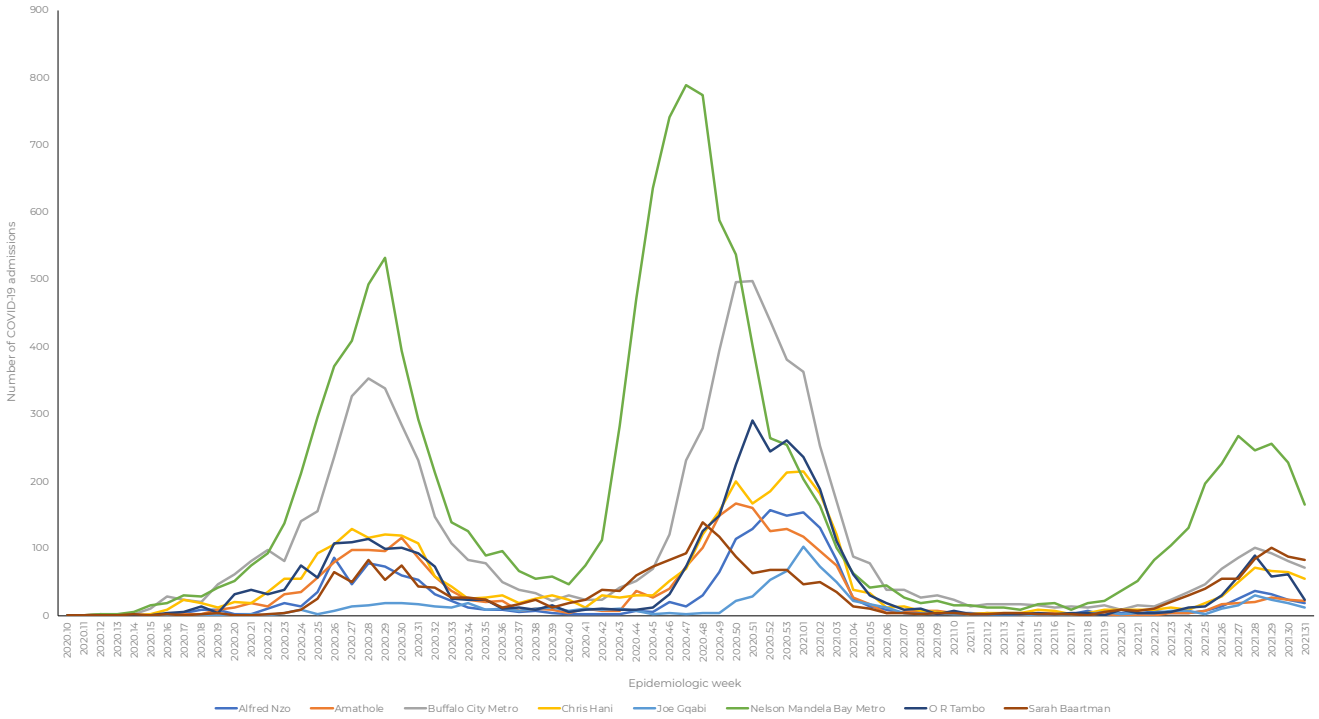

Figure 6. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=35,928

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 decreases in deaths in all districts in the past two weeks although some districts have shown increases in the past week.

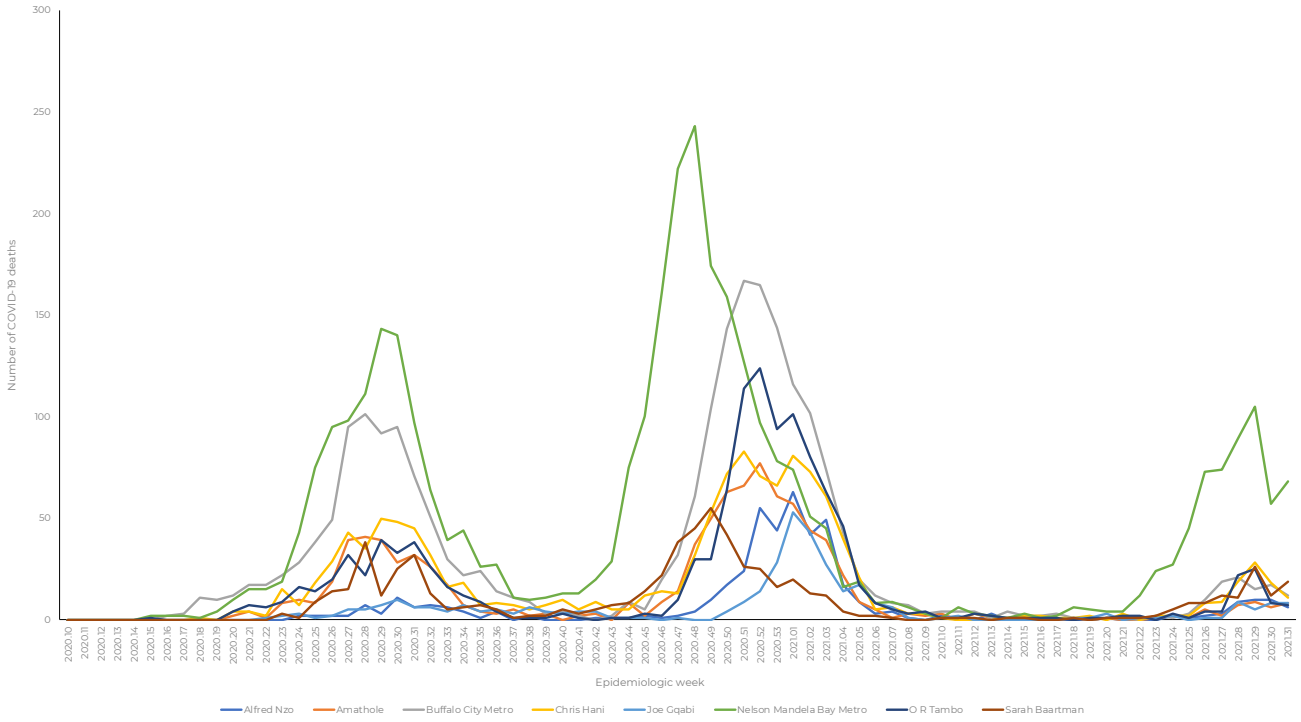

Figure 7. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=10,530

There has been a decrease in the average COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in all the districts (Table 4).

Table 4: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Eastern Cape, 10 July-07 August 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	4.86	3.07	-36.76	1.36	1.14	-15.79
Amathole	3.36	3.14	-6.38	1.14	1.00	-12.50
Buffalo City Metro	13.71	10.79	-21.35	2.57	2.07	-19.44
Chris Hani	9.79	8.57	-12.41	3.36	2.07	-38.30
Joe Gqabi	3.79	2.07	-45.28	1.00	1.14	14.29
Nelson Mandela Bay	35.79	28.07	-21.56	13.86	8.93	-35.57
O R Tambo	10.43	6.00	-42.47	3.36	1.07	-68.09
Sarah Baartman	13.21	12.07	-8.65	2.64	2.21	-16.22

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 nine weeks. Weekly admissions at the peak of third wave have exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave in the private sector.

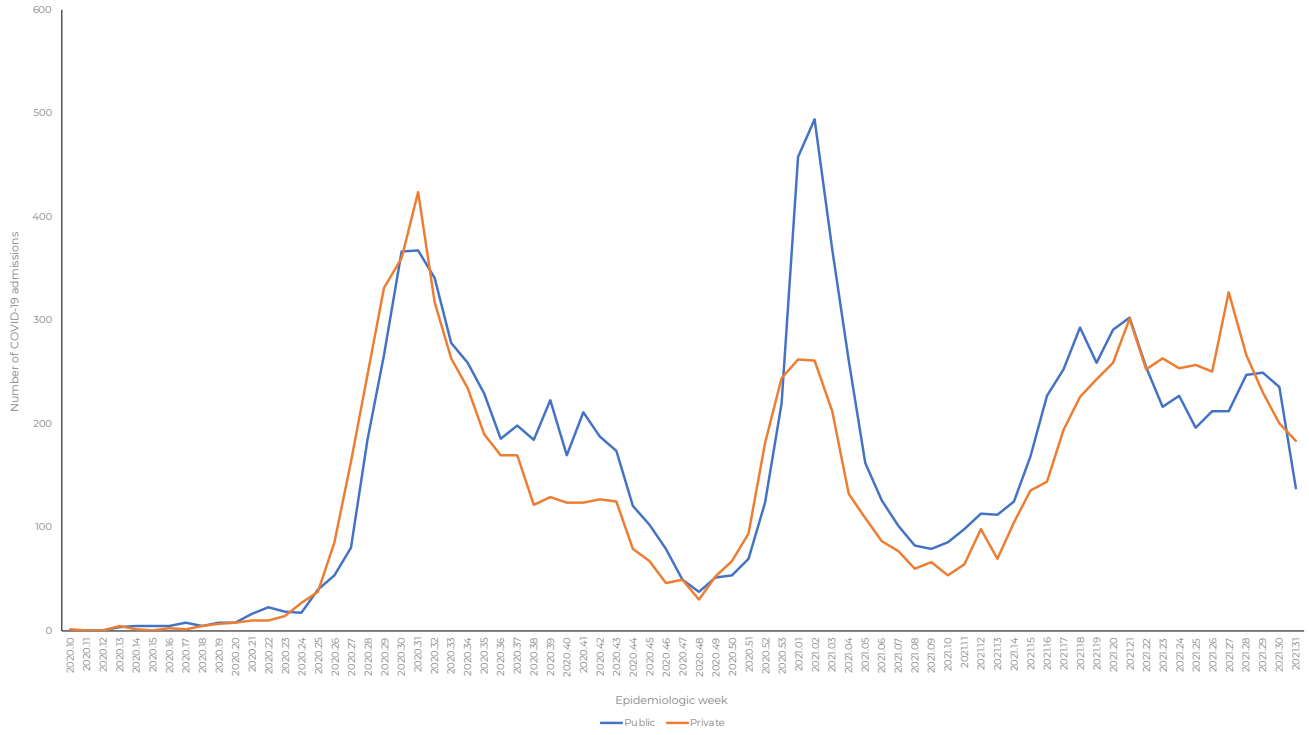

Figure 8: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Free State, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=22,032

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 nine weeks in most districts except Thabo Mofutsanyane. Weekly admissions at the peak of the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave in Mangaung Metro.

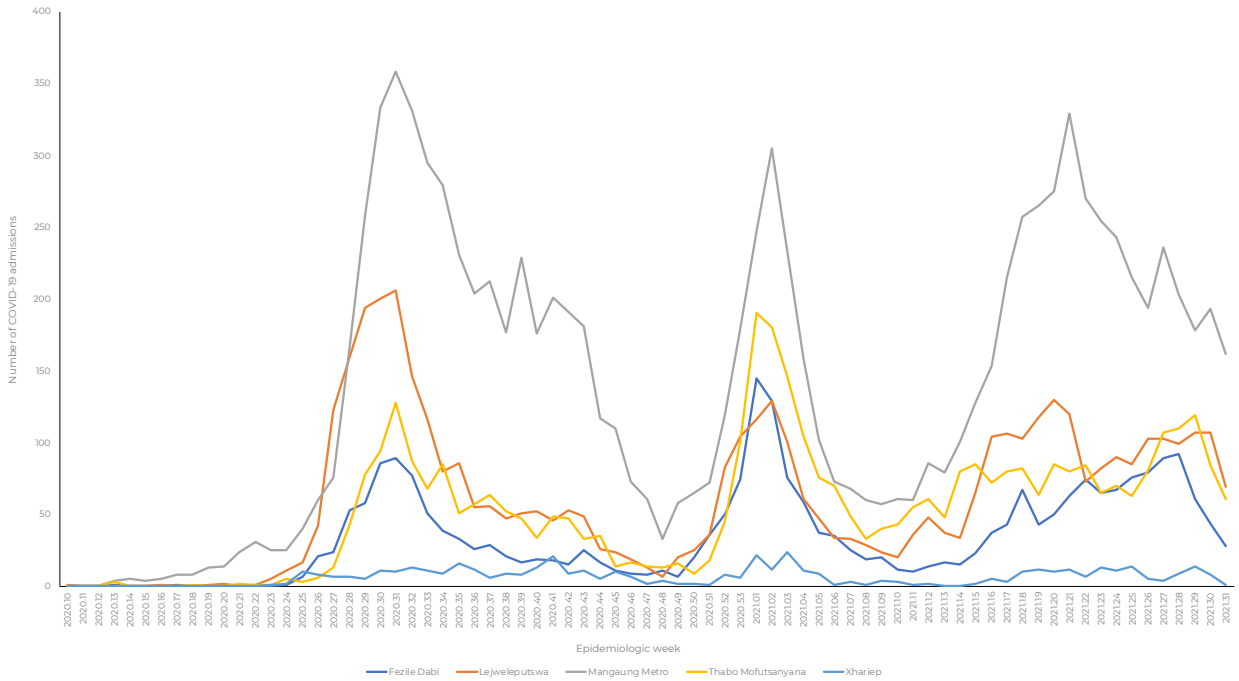

Figure 9: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Free State, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=22,032

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 nine weeks in most districts. However, there was increased deaths in Mangaung Metro, Thabo Mofutsanyane and Lejweleputswa in the past two weeks. Weekly deaths at the peak of the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave in Mangaung Metro and Lejweleputswa.

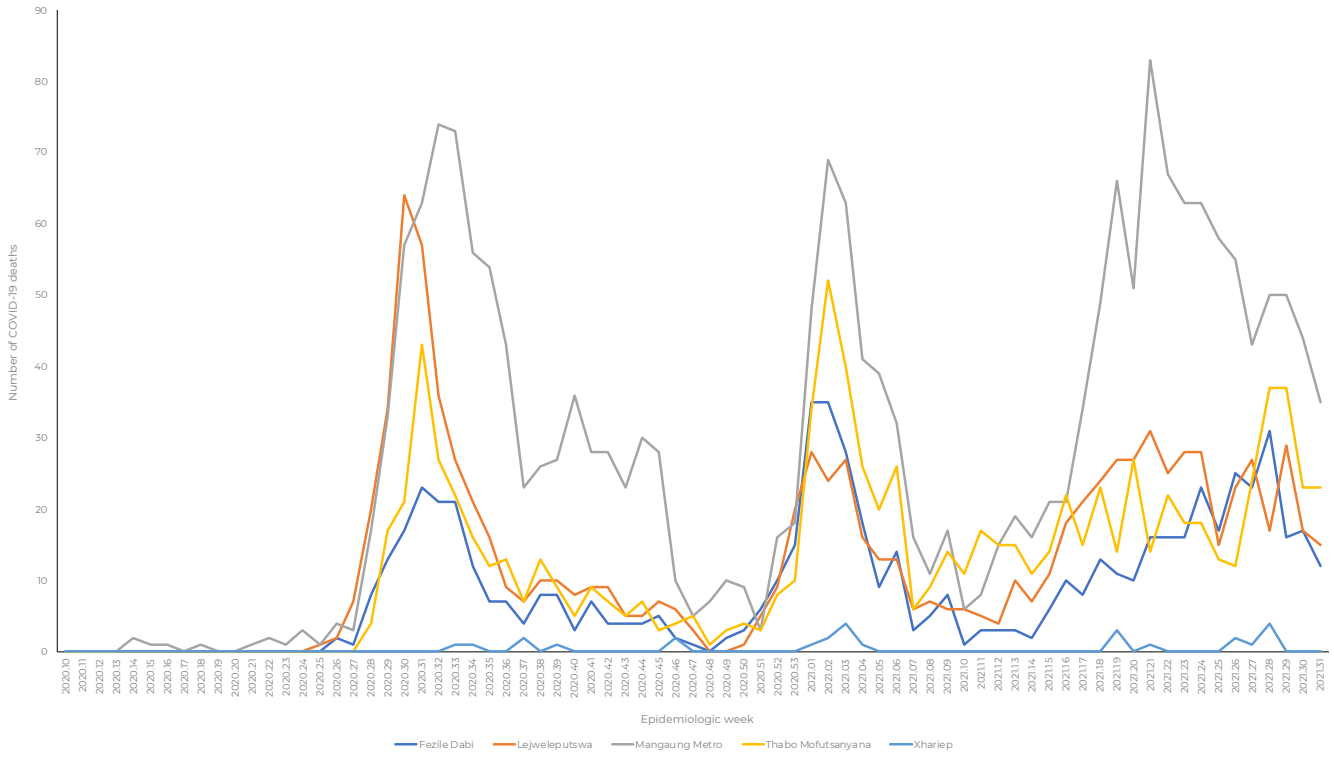

Figure 10: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Free State, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=4,644

There has been a decrease in average COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in all the districts (Table 5).

Table 5: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Free State, 10 July-07 August 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	10.93	5.14	-52.94	3.36	2.07	-38.30
Lejweleputswa	14.71	12.57	-14.56	3.29	2.29	-30.43
Mangaung Metro	27.21	25.36	-6.82	7.14	5.64	-21.00
Thabo Mofutsanyana	16.36	10.36	-36.68	5.29	3.29	-37.84
Xhariep	1.64	0.64	-60.87	0.29	0.00	-100.00

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 which peaked in week 26. However, a decrease in admissions has been observed in both sectors for the past five weeks. Weekly admissions at the peak of the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave in both sectors.

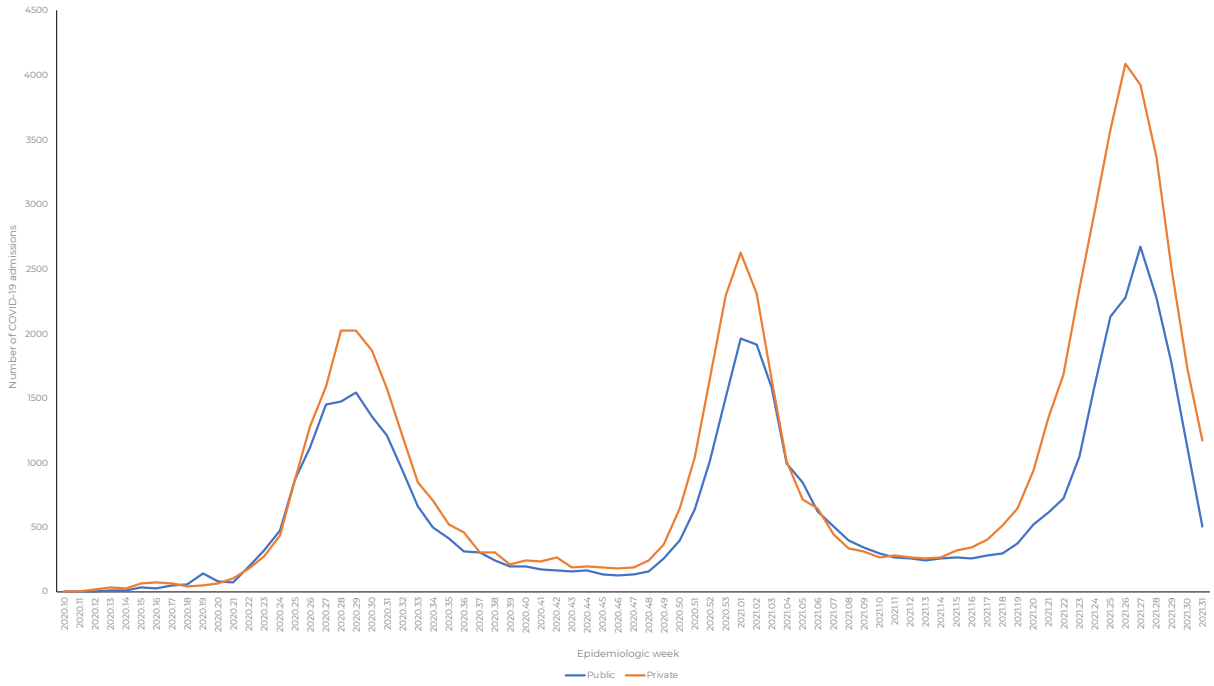

Figure 11: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=116,698

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 four weeks. Weekly admissions at the peak of the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave in all districts.

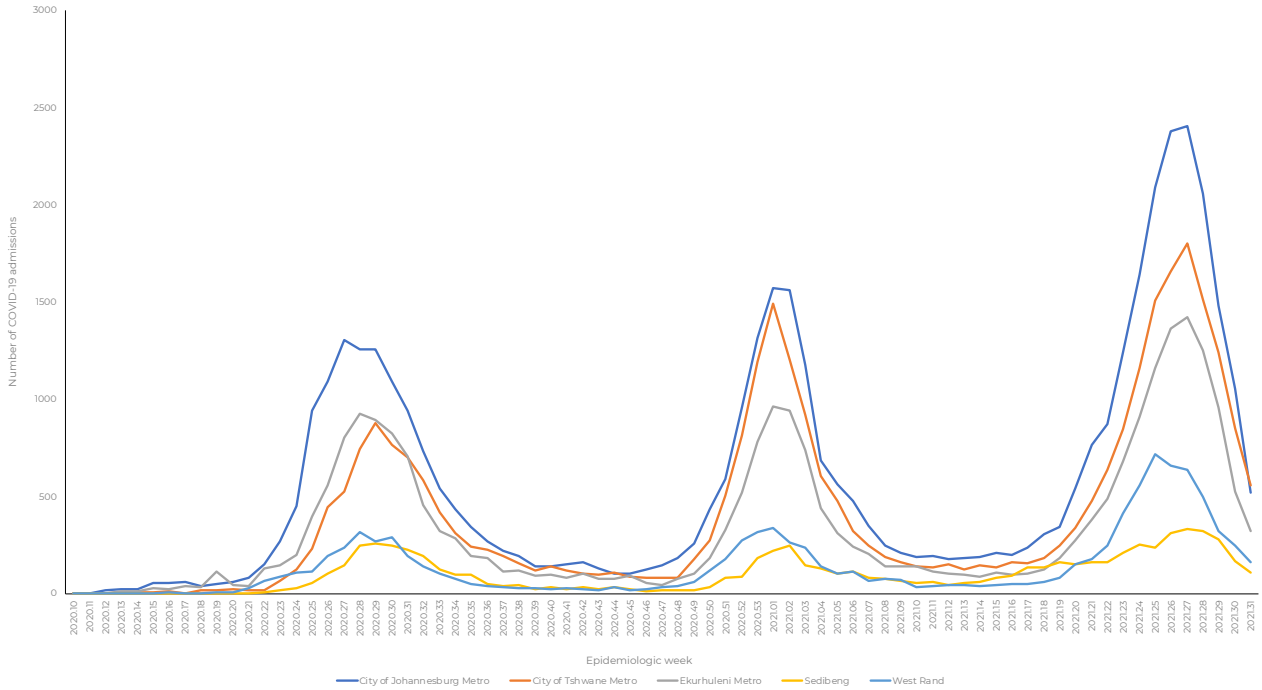

Figure 12: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=116,698

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 three weeks. Weekly admissions at the peak of the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave in all districts.

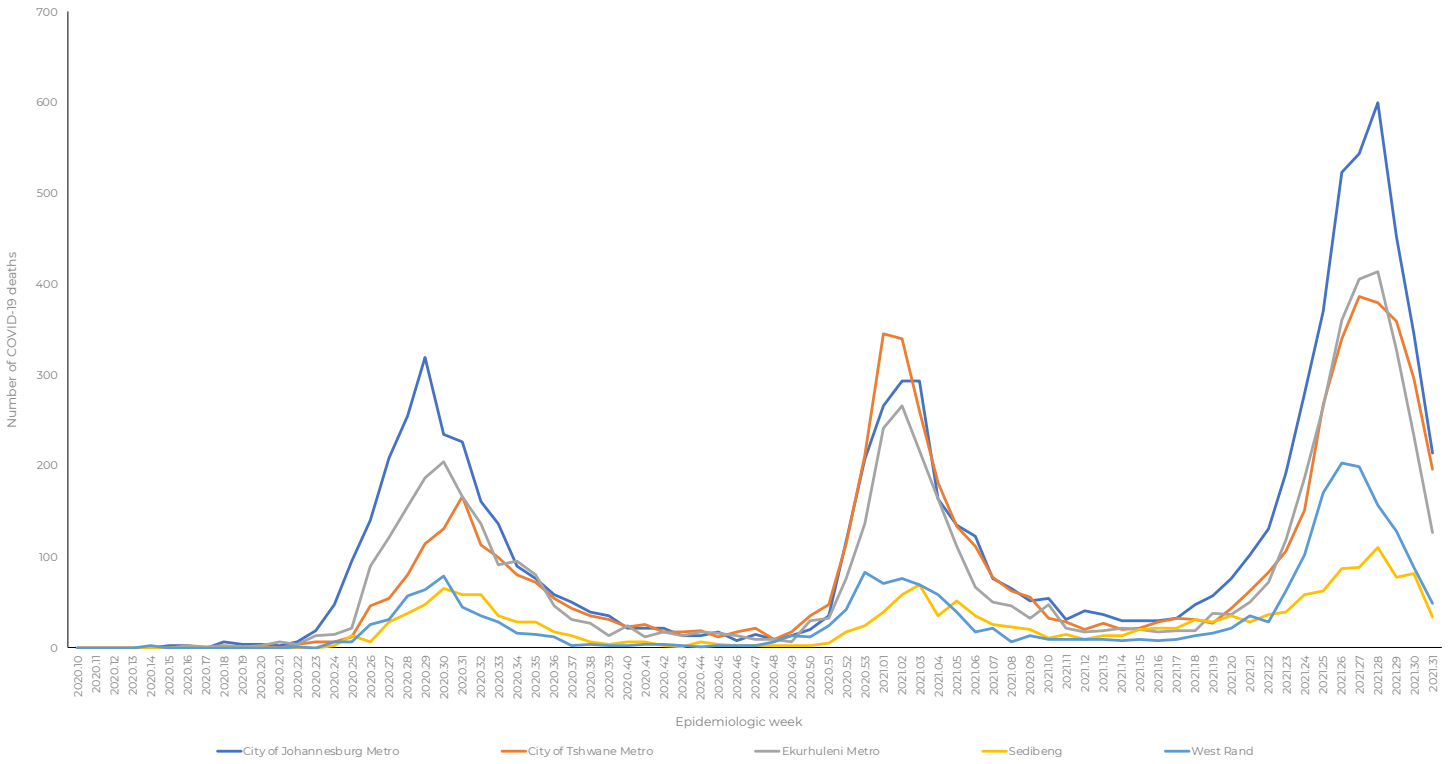

Figure 13: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=24,862

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, 10 July-07 August 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	252.36	112.36	-55.48	75.14	39.86	-46.96
City of Tshwane Metro	196.71	100.71	-48.80	52.86	35.14	-33.51
Ekurhuleni Metro	157.79	60.86	-61.43	52.93	25.79	-51.28
Sedibeng	43.00	19.64	-54.32	13.50	8.29	-38.62
West Rand	58.57	29.36	-49.88	20.36	9.86	-51.58

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.

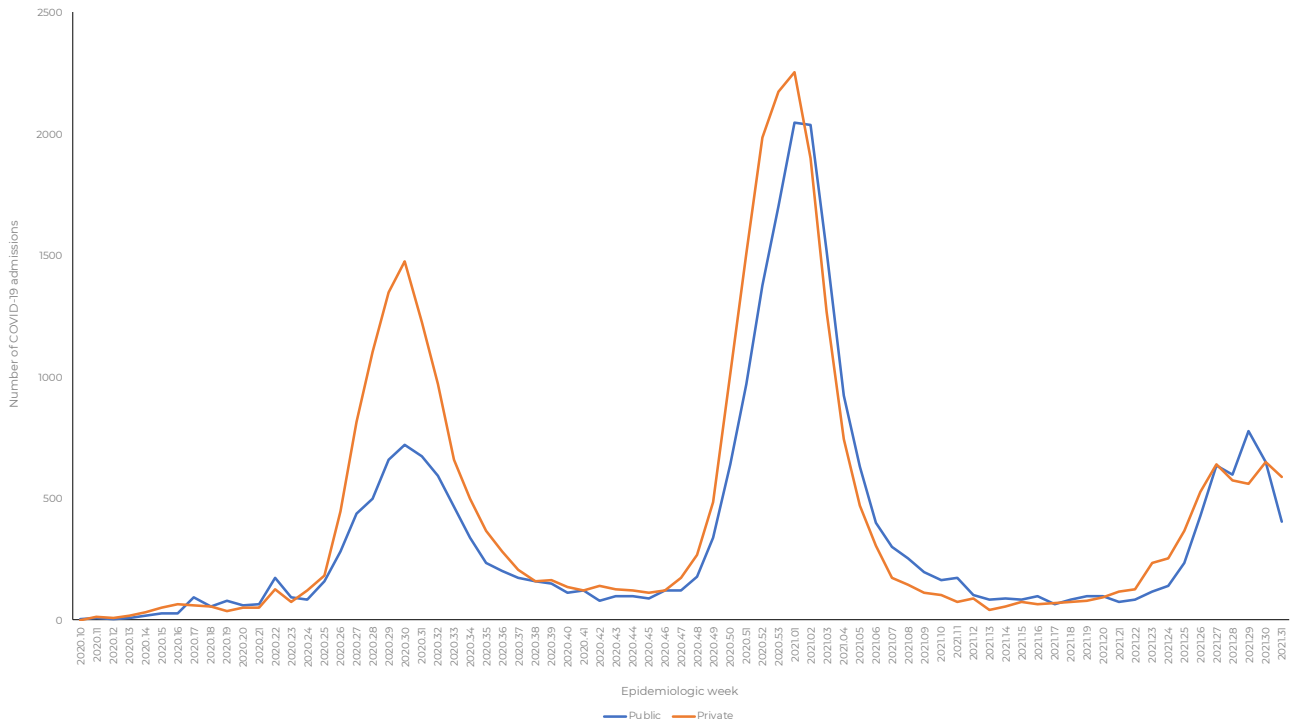

Figure 14: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=58,063

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 eThekwini Metro. However, a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in all districts in the past two weeks.

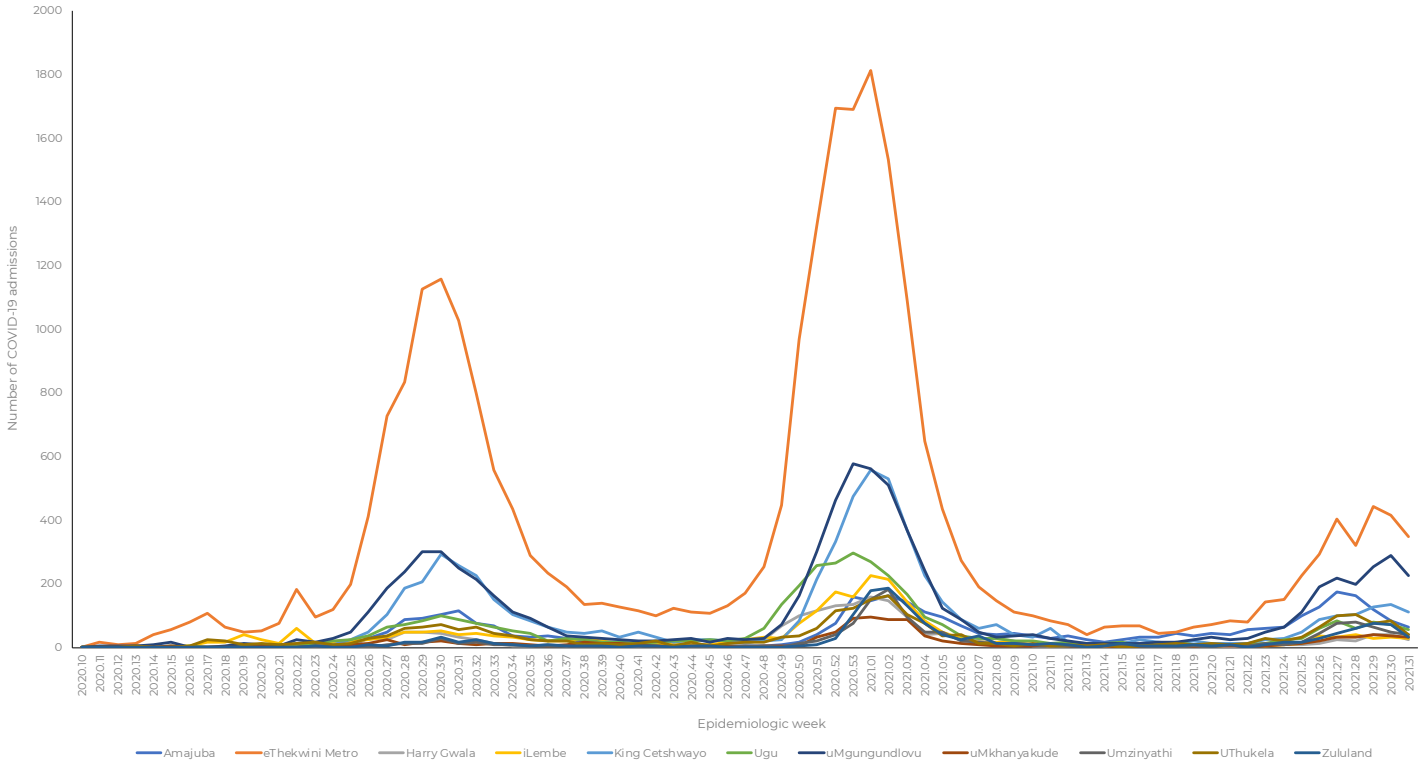

Figure 15: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=58,063

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.

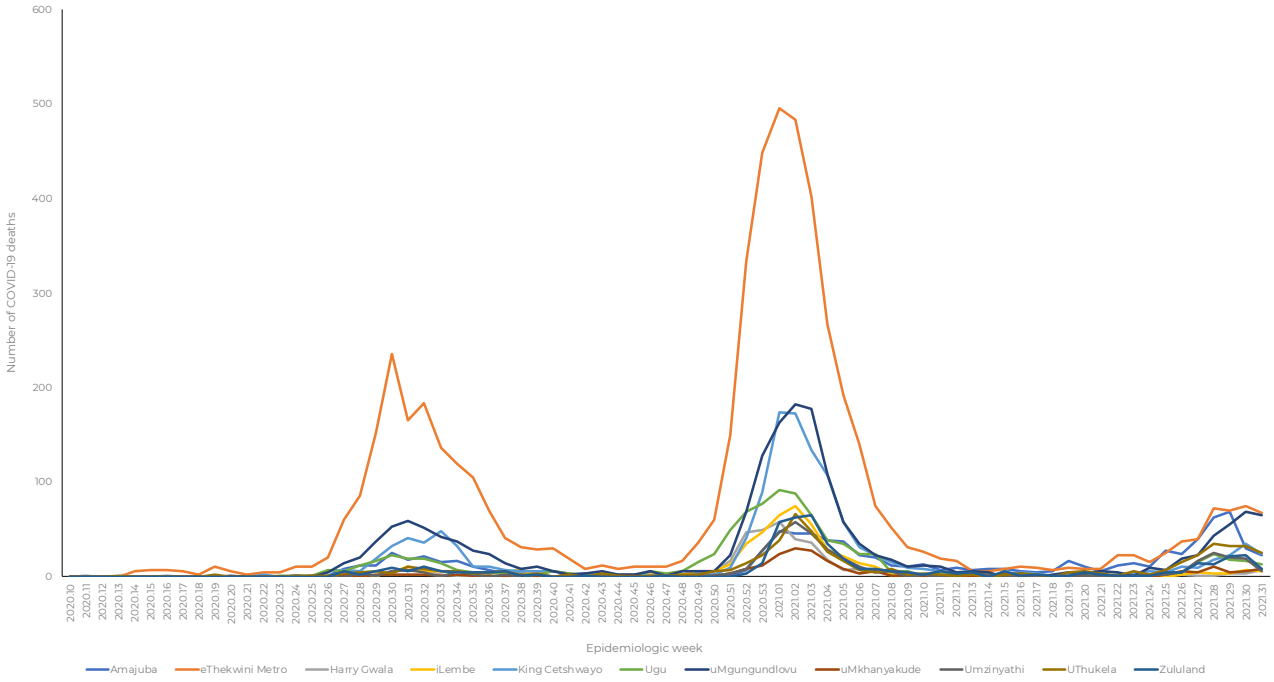

Figure 16: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=12,739

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

Table 7: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, KwaZulu-Natal, 10 July-07 August 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	20.00	10.36	-48.21	9.36	3.79	-59.54
eThekwini Metro	54.43	54.57	0.26	10.14	10.14	0.00
Harry Gwala	4.07	4.29	5.26	0.29	0.71	150.00
iLembe	4.64	4.07	-12.31	0.43	0.93	116.67
King Cetshwayo	16.29	17.71	8.77	2.93	4.21	43.90
Ugu	10.07	9.21	-8.51	3.00	2.14	-28.57
uMgungundlovu	32.00	36.64	14.51	7.00	9.57	36.73
uMkhanyakude	5.14	4.79	-6.94	1.00	1.00	0.00
Umzinyathi	10.21	6.14	-39.86	3.21	1.71	-46.67
UThukela	12.79	8.71	-31.84	4.79	4.07	-14.93
Zululand	9.64	7.21	-25.19	2.43	2.21	-8.82

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, peaking in week 28. However, a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in both sectors over the past three weeks.

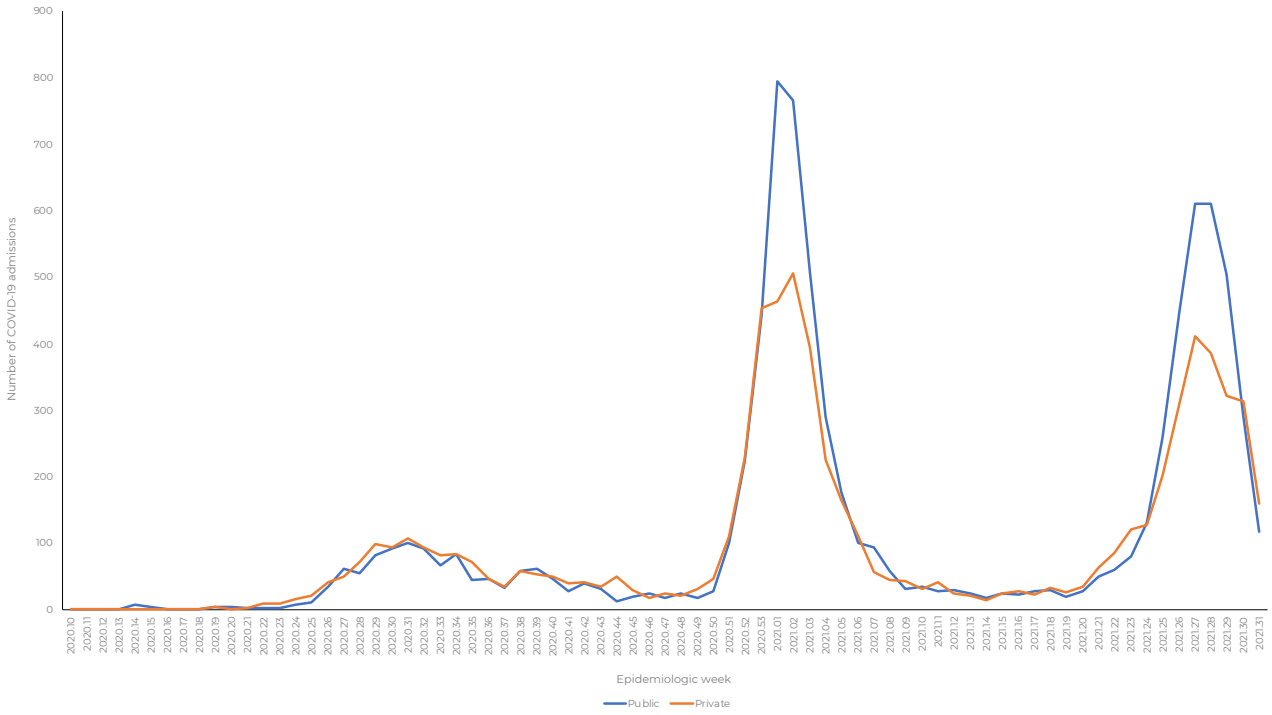

Figure 17: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=15,311

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, however a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in all districts over the past three weeks. Weekly admissions at the peak of the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave in Sekhukhune and Waterberg.

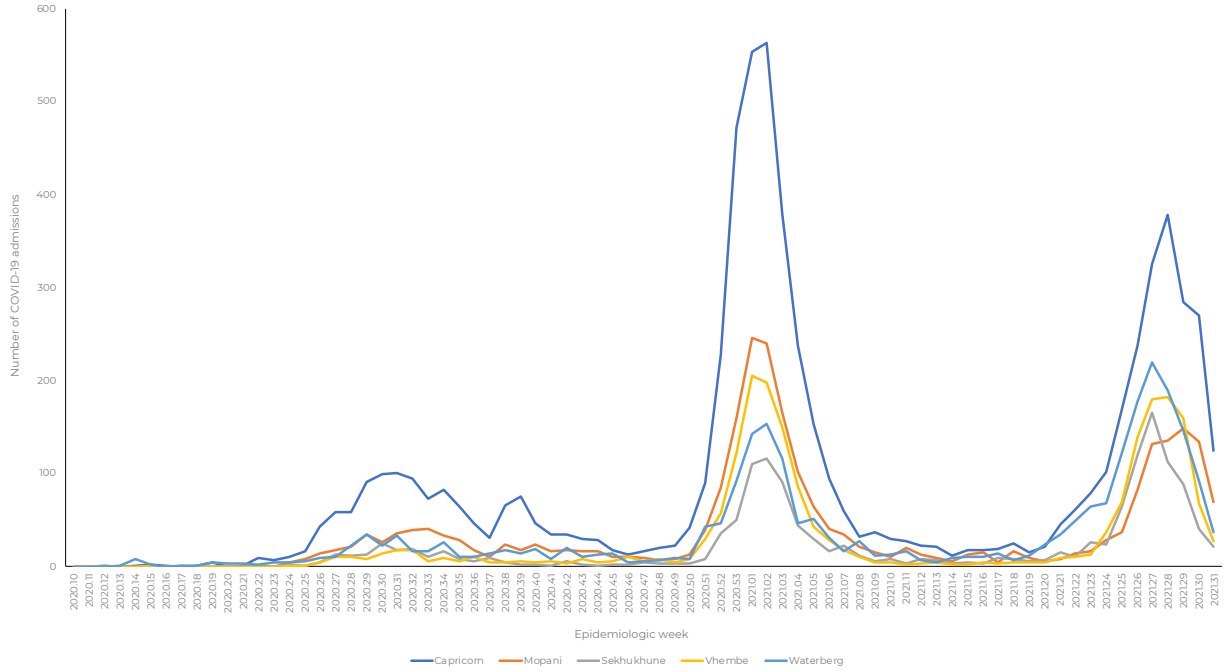

Figure 18: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=15,311

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, however, a decrease in the number of deaths has been observed in all districts over the past three weeks.

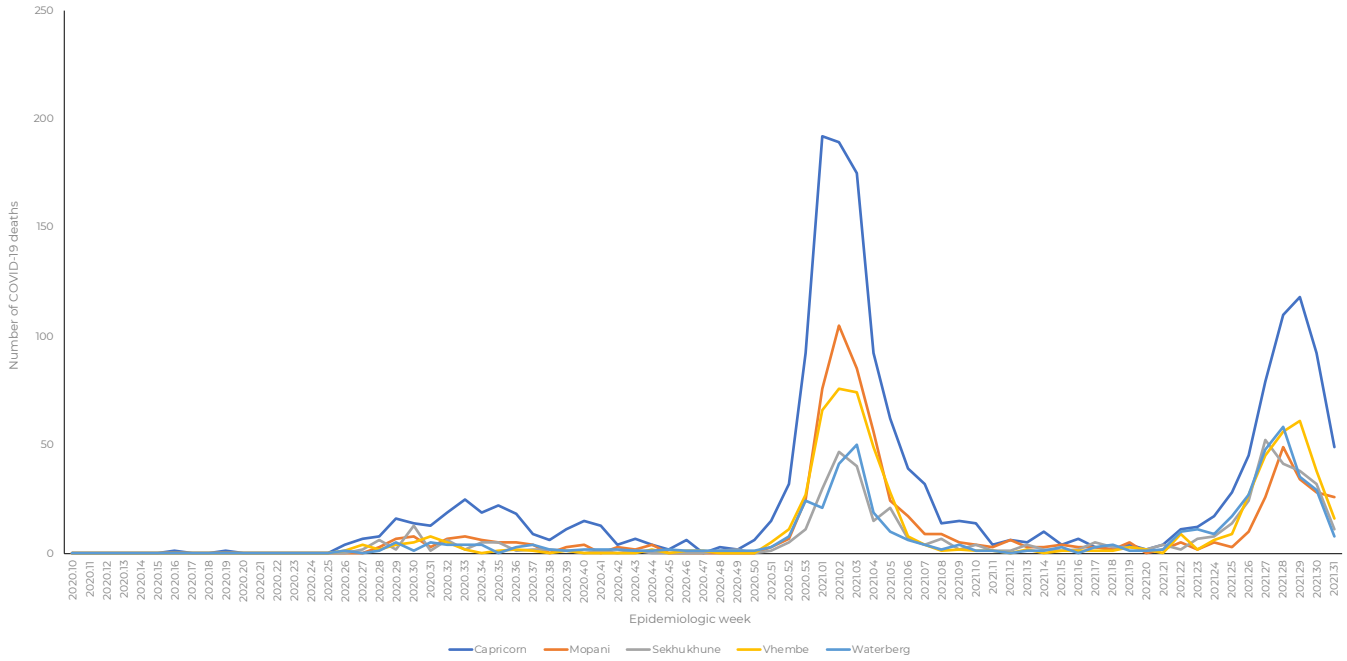

Figure 19: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=4,238

There has been a decrease in average COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in all districts (Table 8).

Table 8: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Limpopo, 10 July-07 August 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	47.29	28.14	-40.48	16.29	10.07	-38.16
Mopani	20.36	14.50	-28.77	5.93	3.86	-34.94
Sekhukhune	14.29	4.36	-69.50	5.64	3.07	-45.57
Vhembe	24.36	6.79	-72.14	8.36	3.86	-53.85
Waterberg	23.93	9.21	-61.49	6.64	2.64	-60.22

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, peaking in week 28. However, a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in both sectors over the past three weeks. Weekly admissions at the peak of the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave in the private sector.

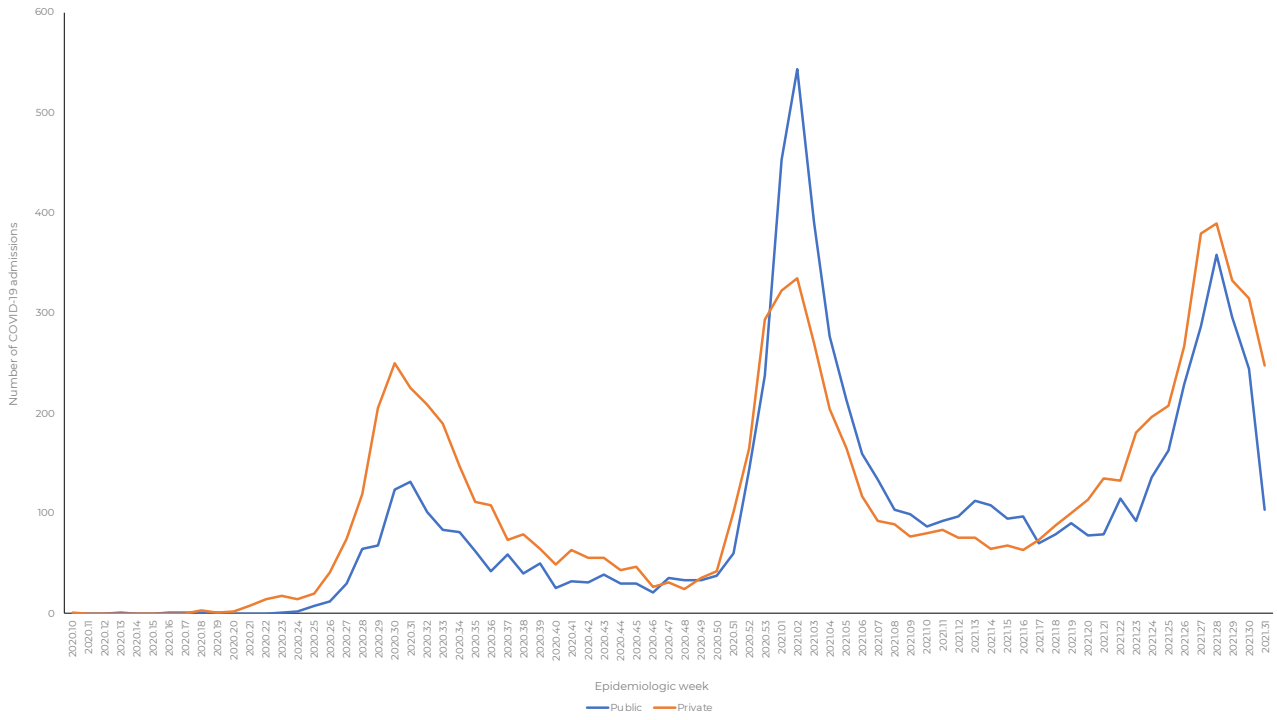

Figure 20: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=15,554

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 four weeks.

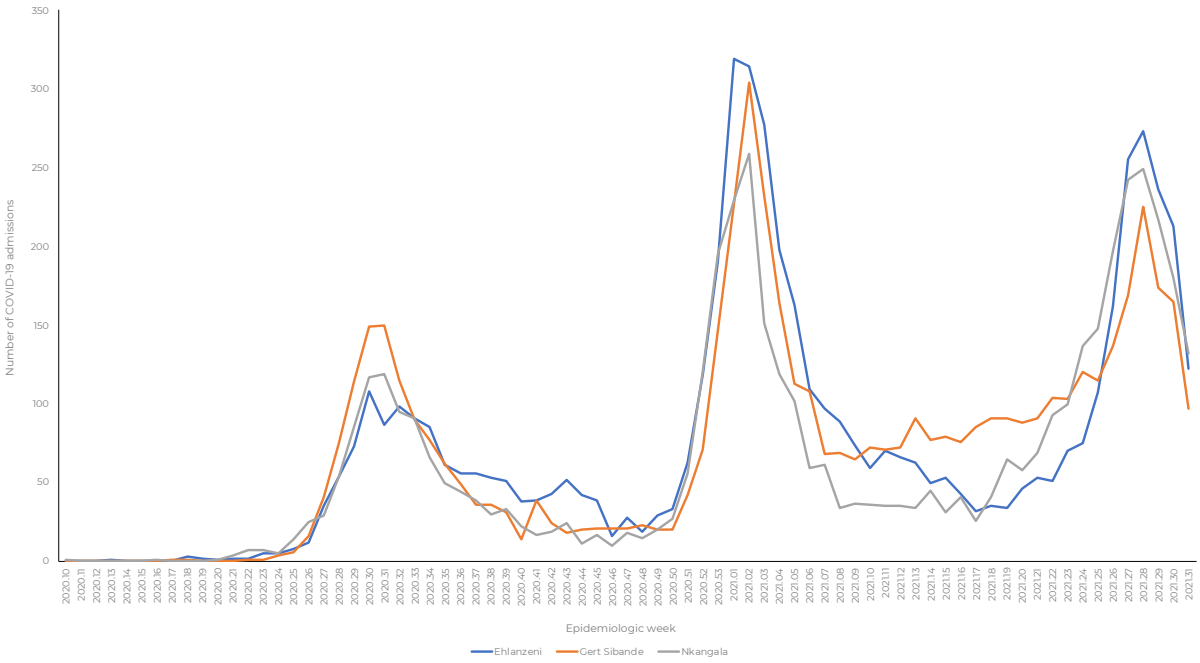

Figure 21: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=15,554

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, however a decrease in the number of deaths has been observed in all districts over the past three weeks.

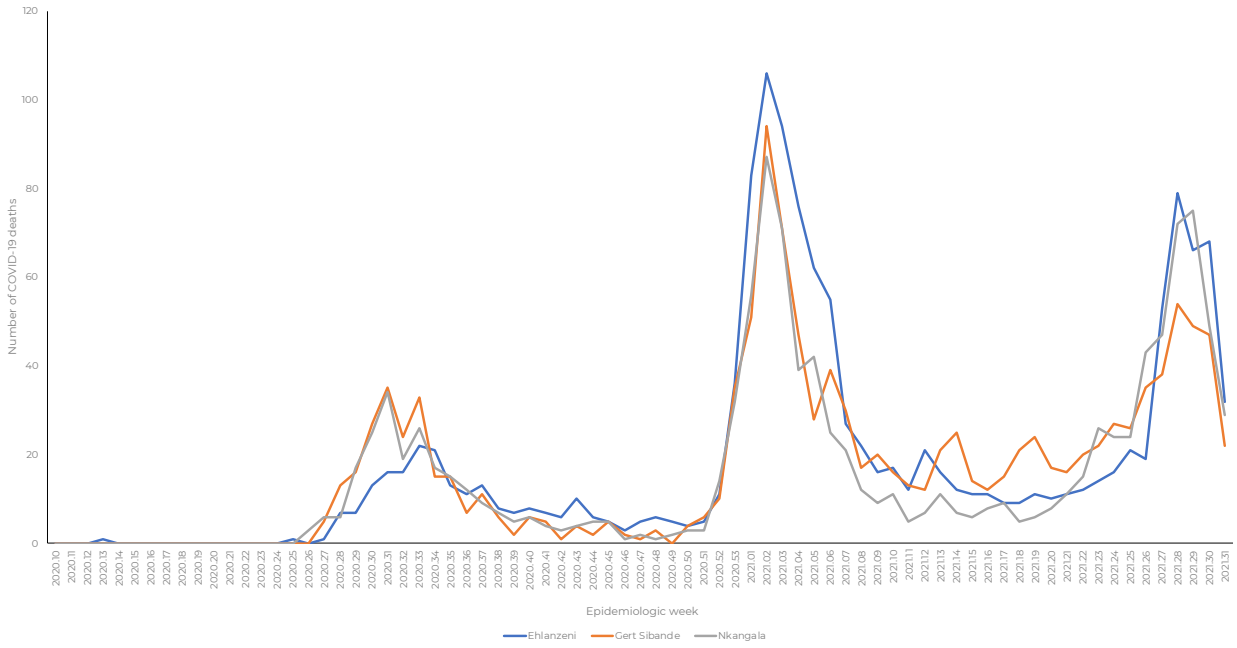

Figure 22: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=3,727

There has been a decrease in average COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in all districts (Table 9).

Table 9: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Mpumalanga, 10 July-07 August 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	36.36	23.86	-34.38	10.36	7.14	-31.03
Gert Sibande	28.50	18.71	-34.34	7.36	4.93	-33.01
Nkangala	33.29	22.29	-33.05	10.50	5.57	-46.94

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, peaking in week 29. However, a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in both sectors over the past two to three weeks. Weekly admissions at the peak of the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave in both sectors.

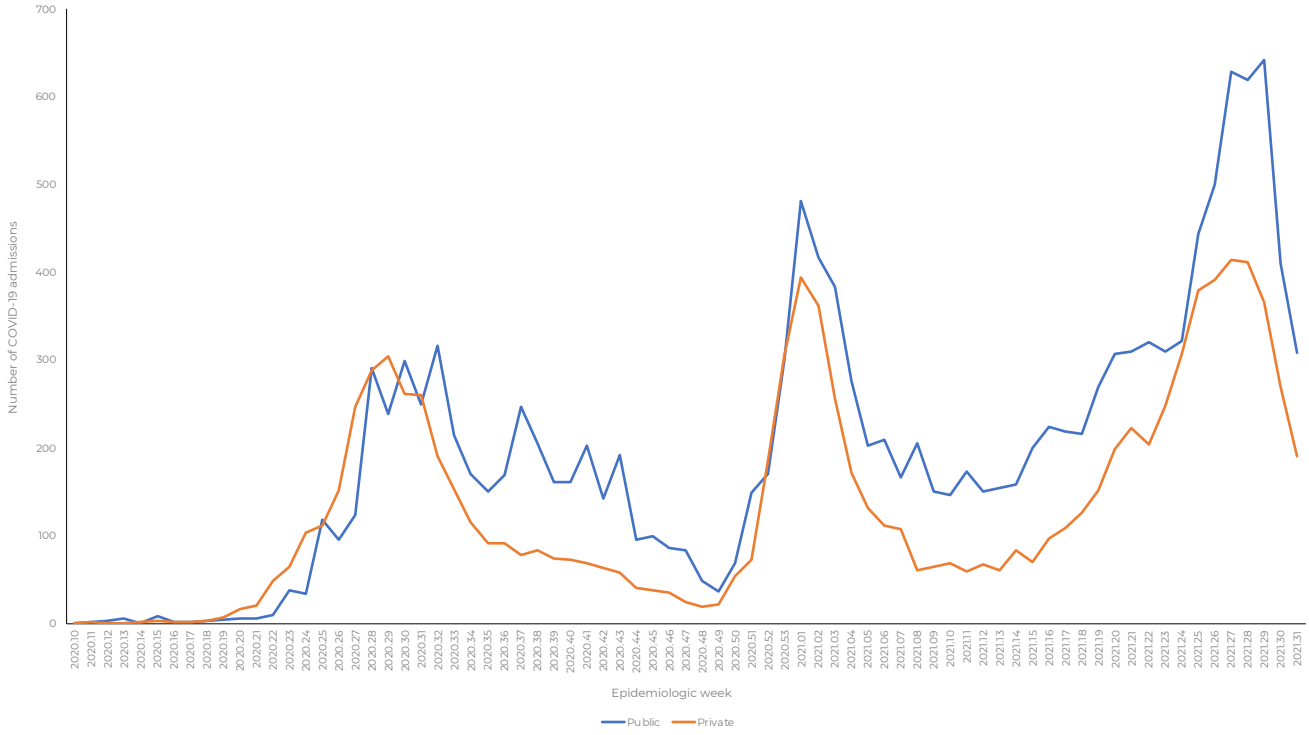

Figure 23: Number oof reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, North West, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=24,506

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 over the past two weeks. Weekly admissions at the peak of the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave in Bojanala Platinum and Dr Kenneth Kaunda.

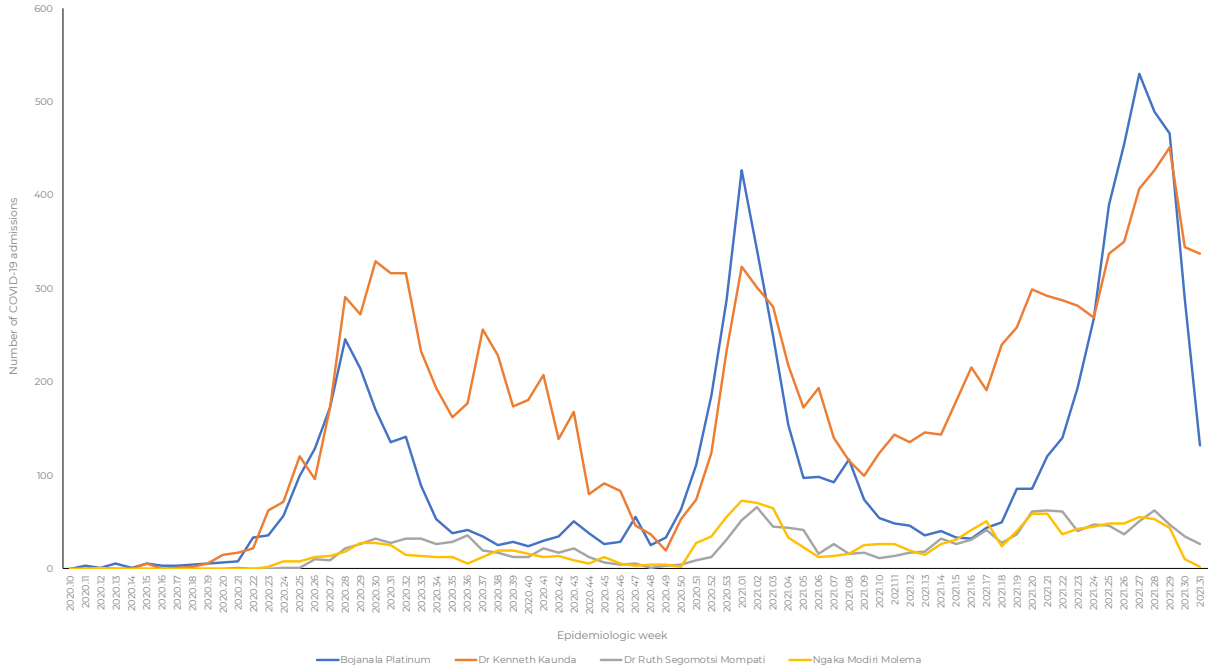

Figure 24: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=24,506

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 three weeks. Weekly deaths at the peak of the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave in Bojanala Platinum and Dr Kenneth Kaunda.

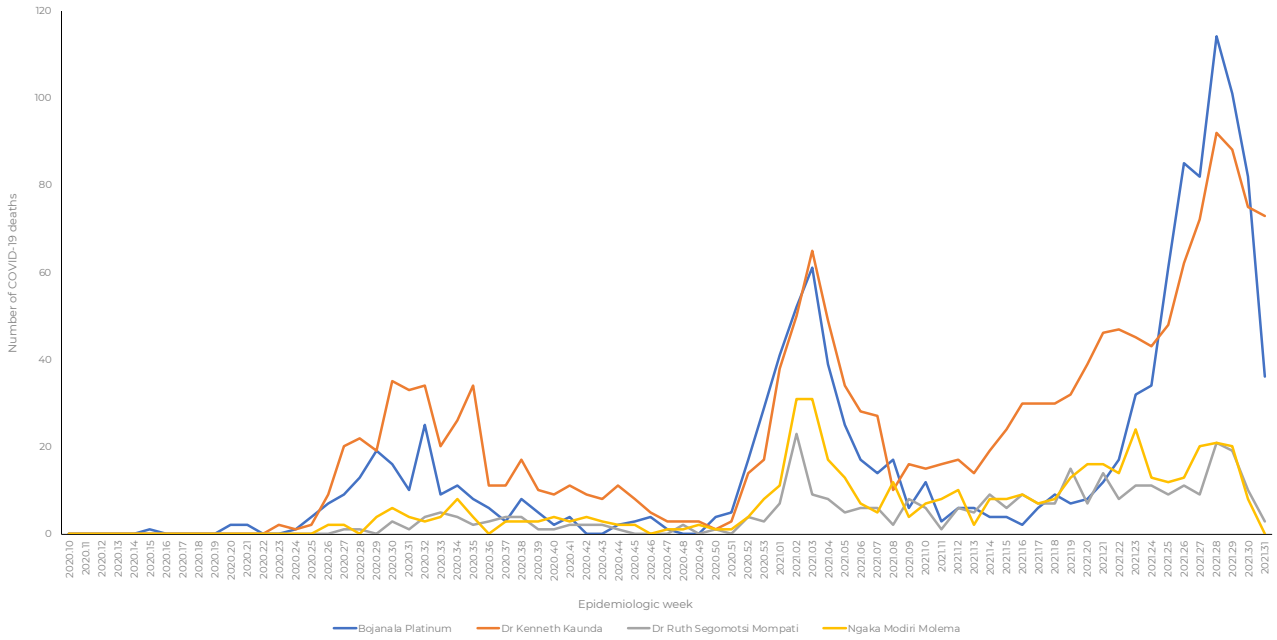

Figure 25: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=3,709

There has been a decrease in average COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in all districts (Table 10).

Table 10: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, North West, 10 July-07 August 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	68.21	30.07	-55.92	15.36	8.43	-45.12
Dr Kenneth Kaunda	62.64	48.79	-22.12	12.86	10.50	-18.33
Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	7.79	4.43	-43.12	2.86	0.93	-67.50
Ngaka Modiri Molema	6.93	0.86	-87.63	2.93	0.57	-80.49

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. A decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in both sectors over the past nine weeks, however there have been some increases in recent weeks. Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave in the private sector.

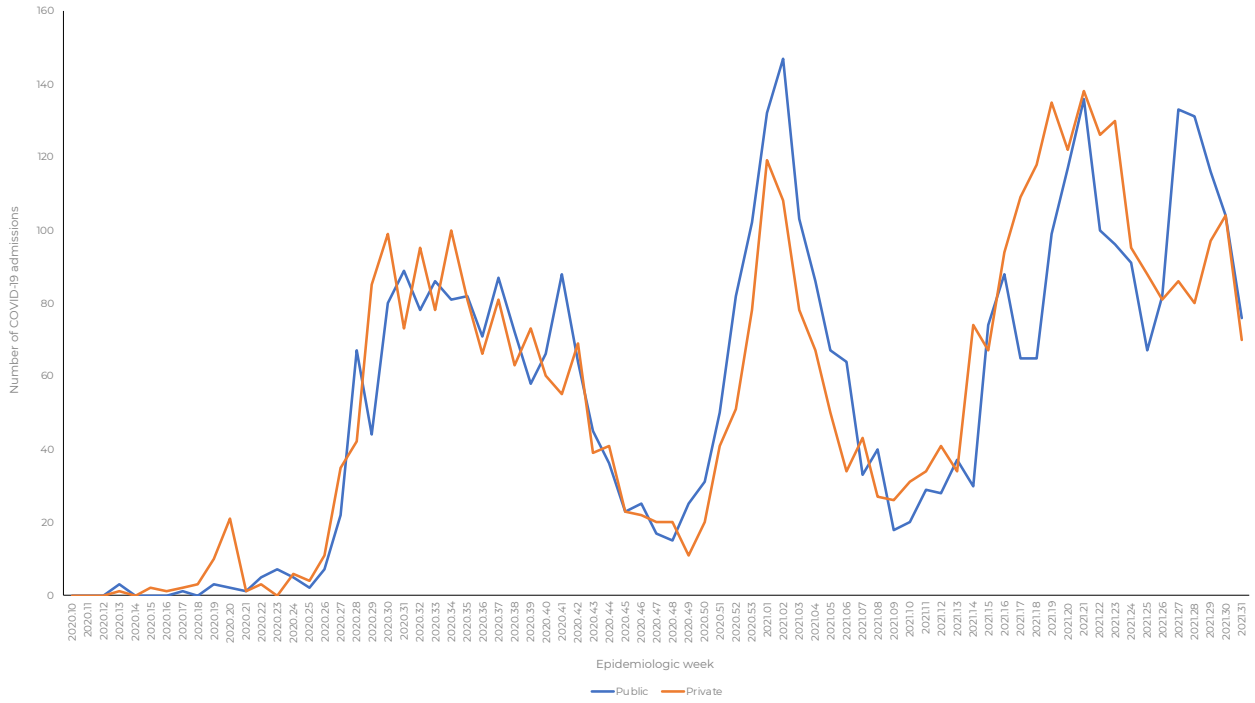

Figure 26: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=8,187

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 nine weeks, however some increases in admissions have been observed in the past week in Pixley Ka Seme. Weekly admissions at the peak of the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave in Frances Baard, ZF Mgcawu and John Taolo Gaetsewe districts.

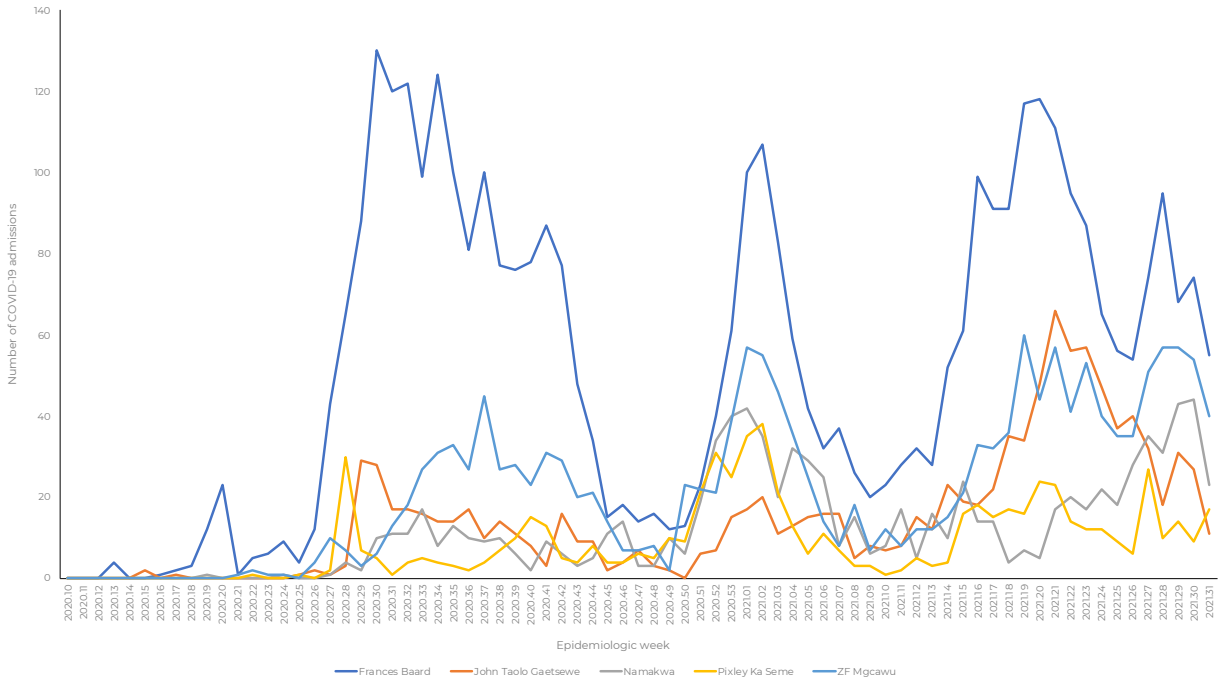

Figure 27: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=8,187

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 three weeks. Weekly deaths at the peak of the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the second wave in Frances Baard, John Taolo Gaetsewe and ZF Mgcawu district.

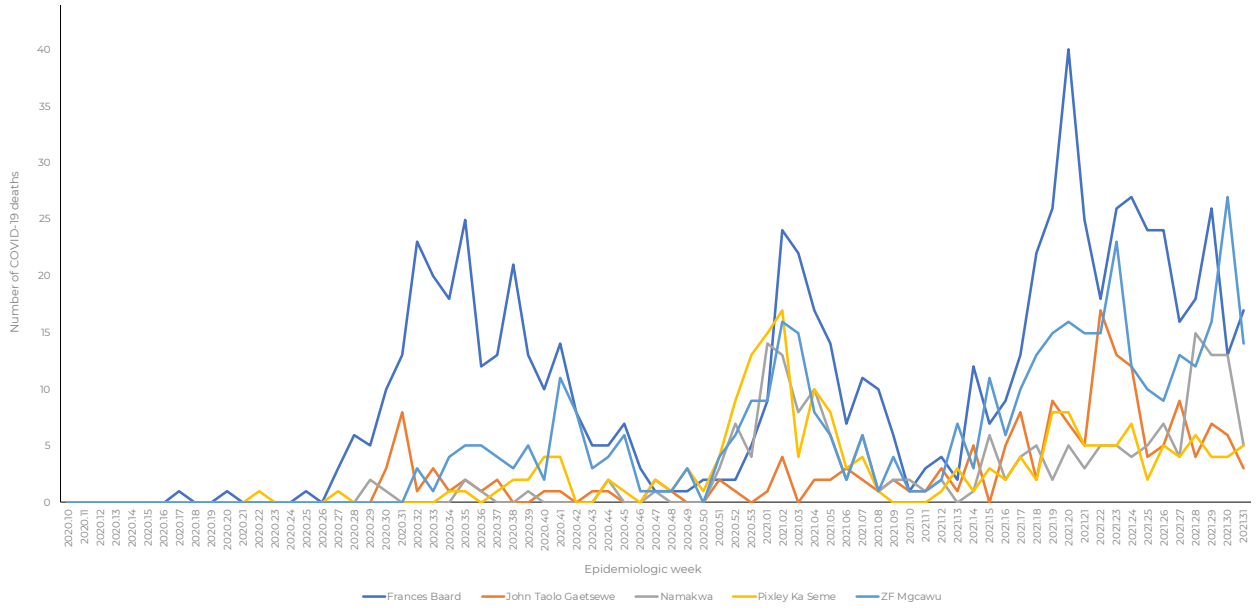

Figure 28: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=1,720

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 Pixley Ka Seme. (Table 11).

Table 11: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Northern Cape, 10 July-07 August 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	11.64	9.21	-20.86	3.14	2.14	-31.82
John Taolo Gaetsewe	3.50	2.71	-22.45	0.79	0.64	-18.18
Namakwa	5.29	4.79	-9.46	2.00	1.29	-35.71
Pixley Ka Seme	1.71	1.86	8.33	0.71	0.64	-10.00
Siyanda	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ZF Mgcawu	8.14	6.71	-17.54	2.00	2.93	46.43

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 in the past week.

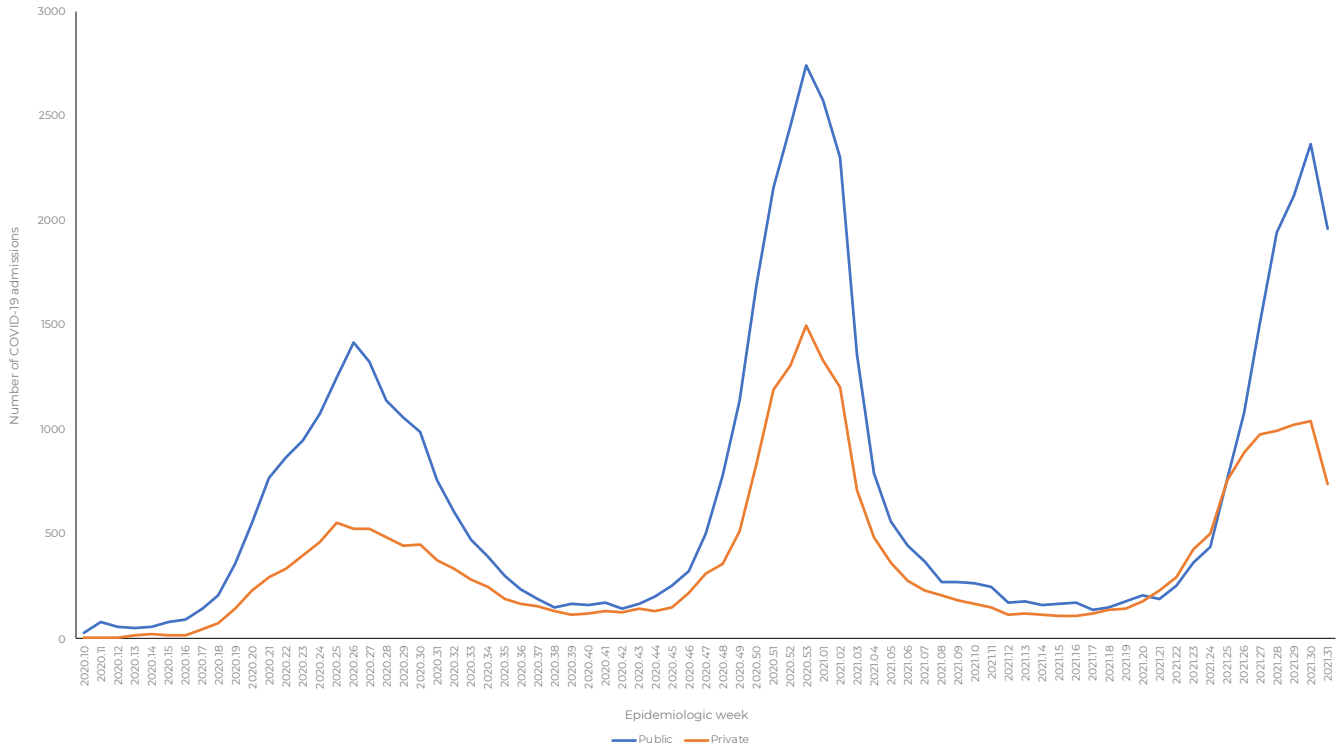

Figure 29: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=80,849

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 in the past week. Weekly number of admissions in the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave in Garden Route.

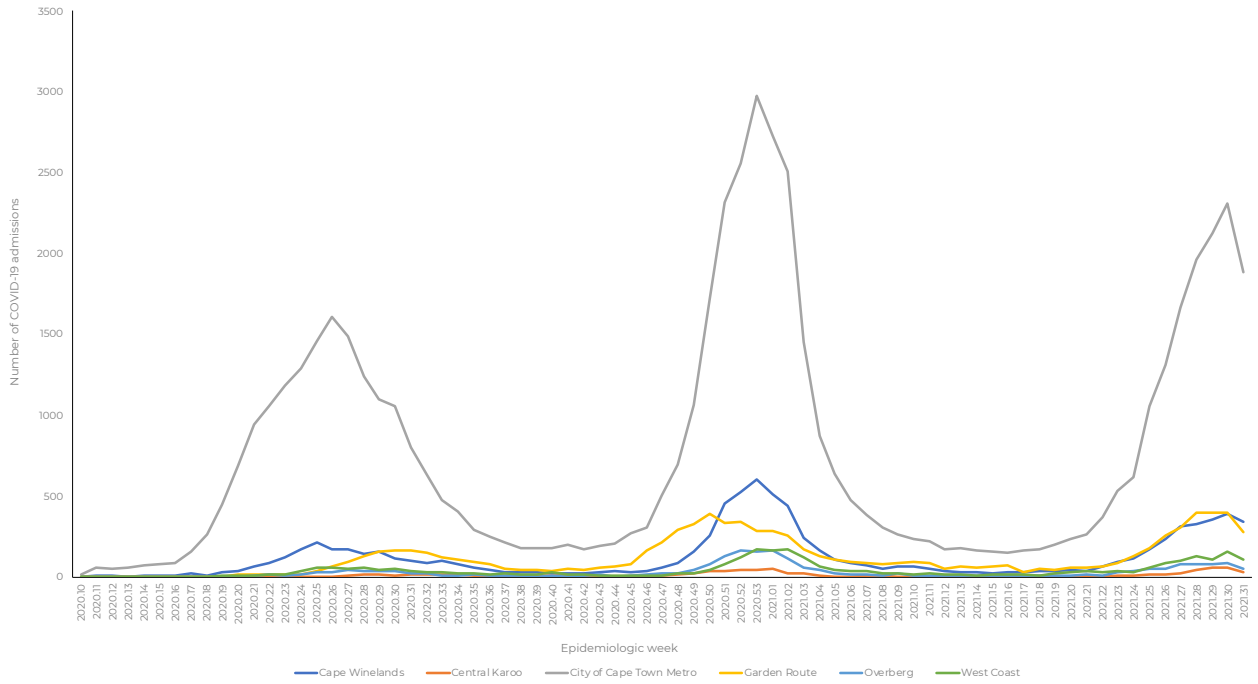

Figure 30: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=80,849

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 decreases in deaths in all districts in the past week. Weekly number of deaths in the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the second wave in Garden Route.

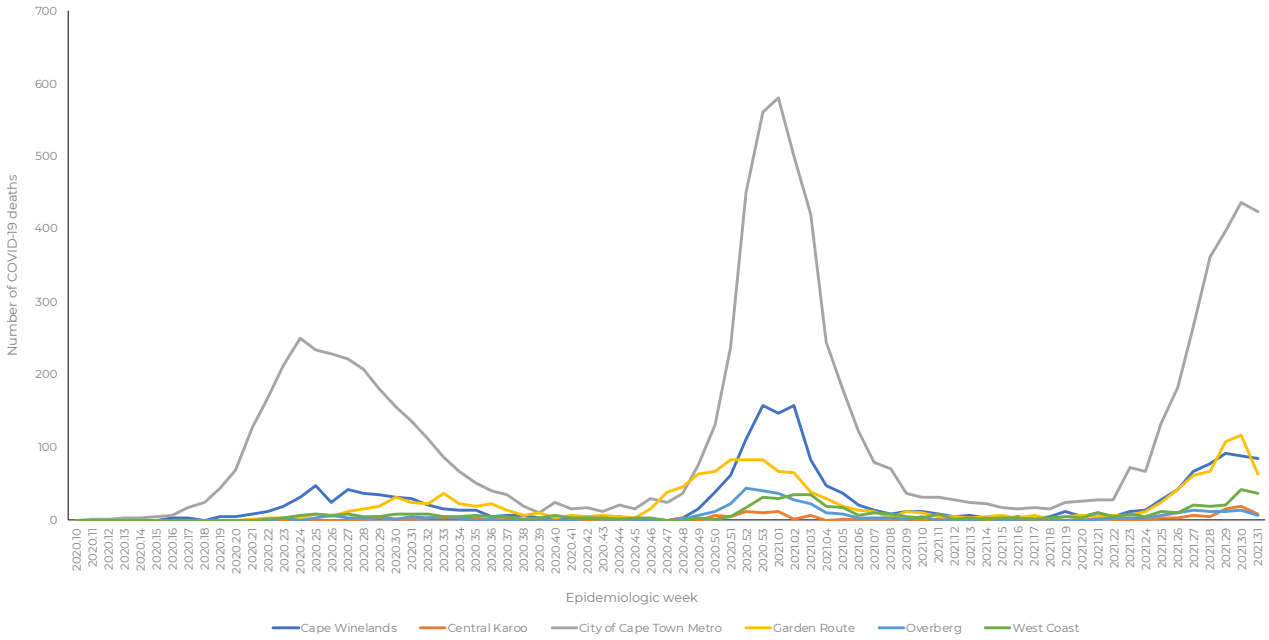

Figure 31: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021, n=13,841

There have been increases in average COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in Cape Winelands, City of Cape Town Metro and West Coast. The highest percentage change in admissions was in West Coast (Table 12).

Table 12: Previous 14 a days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Western Cape, 10 July-07 August 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	48.79	52.64	7.91	12.07	12.36	2.37
Central Karoo	7.21	6.36	-11.88	1.50	1.93	28.57
City of Cape Town Metro	292.36	299.43	2.42	54.21	61.50	13.44
Garden Route	57.07	48.21	-15.52	12.43	12.79	2.87
Overberg	11.21	10.00	-10.83	1.64	1.50	-8.70
West Coast	16.93	19.00	12.24	2.71	5.57	105.26

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)

APPENDIX

Table 13: Percentage average change in hospital admissions over 14 days, by district, South Africa, 24 July-07 August 2021.

Province	District	Total admissions	Incidence (per 100k)	New admissions	New admissions incidence (per 100k)	% average change (14 days)
Eastern Cape	Alfred Nzo	1911	229.62	22	2.64	-35.29
	Amathole	2473	309.43	21	2.63	-16.00
	Buffalo City Metro	8019	1001.28	75	9.36	-14.77
	Chris Hani	3670	504.36	56	7.70	-16.42
	Joe Gqabi	847	245.53	11	3.19	-45.00
	Nelson Mandela Bay Metro	13134	1082.72	174	14.34	-33.84
	O R Tambo	3607	235.42	24	1.57	-62.50
	Sarah Baartman	2361	487.99	91	18.81	-20.87
Free State	Fezile Dabi	2569	503.60	28	5.49	-39.13
	Lejweleputswa	4583	701.19	79	12.09	-34.17
	Mangaung Metro	10553	1211.71	168	19.29	-26.32
	Thabo Mofutsanyana	3912	511.50	62	8.11	-30.34
	Xhariep	482	372.36	1	0.77	-88.89
Gauteng	City of Johannesburg Metro	43097	734.62	570	9.72	-50.26
	City of Tshwane Metro	30662	822.24	605	16.22	-36.05
	Ekurhuleni Metro	25359	636.81	342	8.59	-39.04
	Sedibeng	7449	779.57	124	12.98	-34.74
	West Rand	10368	1085.95	184	19.27	-31.85
KwaZulu-Natal	Amajuba	3412	598.05	67	11.74	-26.37
	eThekwini Metro	26469	664.85	371	9.32	-19.17
	Harry Gwala	1744	339.28	30	5.84	-38.78
	iLembe	2420	348.43	26	3.74	-29.73
	King Cetshwayo	6356	654.80	114	11.74	-17.39
	Ugu	3763	469.36	59	7.36	-25.32
	uMgungundlovu	7938	690.60	236	20.53	-23.38

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK **31** 2021

Province	District	Total admissions	Incidence (per 100k)	New admissions	New admissions incidence (per 100k)	% average change (14 days)
	uMkhanyakude	995	144.85	33	4.80	-13.16
	Umzinyathi	1283	226.05	38	6.70	-22.45
	UThukela	2357	330.01	44	6.16	-46.34
	Zululand	1435	162.92	32	3.63	-57.89
Limpopo	Capricorn	6571	502.39	131	10.02	-57.47
	Mopani	2678	226.02	75	6.33	-47.18
	Sekhukhune	1494	125.52	23	1.93	-42.50
	Vhembe	2091	146.51	29	2.03	-61.84
	Waterberg	2537	341.81	43	5.79	-59.43
Mpumalanga	Ehlanzeni	5517	301.68	126	6.89	-44.00
	Gert Sibande	5316	427.97	109	8.78	-41.71
	Nkangala	4759	295.79	138	8.58	-28.87
North West	Bojanala Platinum	8478	439.69	139	7.21	-54.72
	Dr Kenneth Kaunda	12823	1607.46	353	44.25	-9.02
	Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	1664	351.74	28	5.92	-28.21
	Ngaka Modiri Molema	1597	175.52	2	0.22	-80.00
Northern Cape	Frances Baard	3936	948.64	62	14.94	-25.30
	John Taolo Gaetsewe	1080	397.82	15	5.53	-51.61
	Namakwa	930	804.41	25	21.62	-60.32
	Pixley Ka Seme	657	311.54	17	8.06	70.00
	ZF Mgcawu	1629	581.99	47	16.79	-25.40
Western Cape	Cape Winelands	9316	989.74	542	57.58	-8.14
	Central Karoo	844	1123.64	42	55.92	-41.67
	City of Cape Town Metro	58803	1276.94	2927	63.56	-20.96
	Garden Route	8980	1439.89	361	57.88	-34.72
	Overberg	2250	750.23	86	28.68	-32.28
	West Coast	3004	651.89	136	29.51	-34.93

APPENDIX

Table 14: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions and in-hospital deaths by age and gender, South Africa, 5 March 2020-07 August 2021.

	ADMISSIONS				DEATHS			
Age (years)	Female	Male	Unknown	Total	Female	Male	Unknown	Total
0-4	2900	3411	15	6326	115	116	2	233
5-9	773	928	5	1706	16	16	0	32
10-14	1243	1189	0	2432	44	35	0	79
15-19	3748	1957	3	5708	95	90	0	185
20-24	6133	3054	5	9192	221	167	0	388
25-29	10501	4692	9	15202	512	315	0	827
30-34	14010	8104	5	22119	876	714	0	1590
35-39	15488	11442	16	26946	1295	1191	3	2489
40-44	14882	13384	14	28280	1634	1721	1	3356
45-49	17217	16806	11	34034	2470	2568	1	5039
50-54	20584	19074	7	39665	3432	3574	2	7008
55-59	22809	20599	19	43427	4965	4946	9	9920
60-64	20191	18467	19	38677	5435	5628	5	11068
65-69	17086	15385	19	32490	5557	5223	6	10786
70-74	14087	12715	21	26823	4812	4803	7	9622
75-79	10383	8649	9	19041	3761	3557	3	7321
80-84	7786	5419	10	13215	3062	2384	4	5450
85-89	4019	2551	2	6572	1637	1204	0	2841
90-94	1746	851	1	2598	812	449	0	1261
>=95	529	289	2	820	240	120	0	360
Unknown	931	881	43	1855	63	92	0	155
Total	**207046**	**169847**	**235**	**377128**	**41054**	**38913**	**43**	**80010**