

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE



NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR
COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Division of the National Health Laboratory Service

SOUTH AFRICA WEEK 33 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 21 August 2021.

HIGHLIGHTS

- As of 21 August 2021, 397,437 COVID-19 admissions and 84,954 in-hospital deaths were reported from 664 facilities (409 public-sector and 255 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 Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal, Free State and Northern Cape also showing some increases again.
- 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 21 August 2021, a total of 664 facilities submitted data on hospitalised COVID-19 cases, 409 from public sector and 255 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 2020-21 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	29	6
Western Cape	59	42
South Africa	409	255

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RESULTS

Epidemiological and geographic trends in admissions

From 5 March 2020 to 21 August 2021, a total of 397,437 COVID-19 admissions were reported from 664 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 six 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.

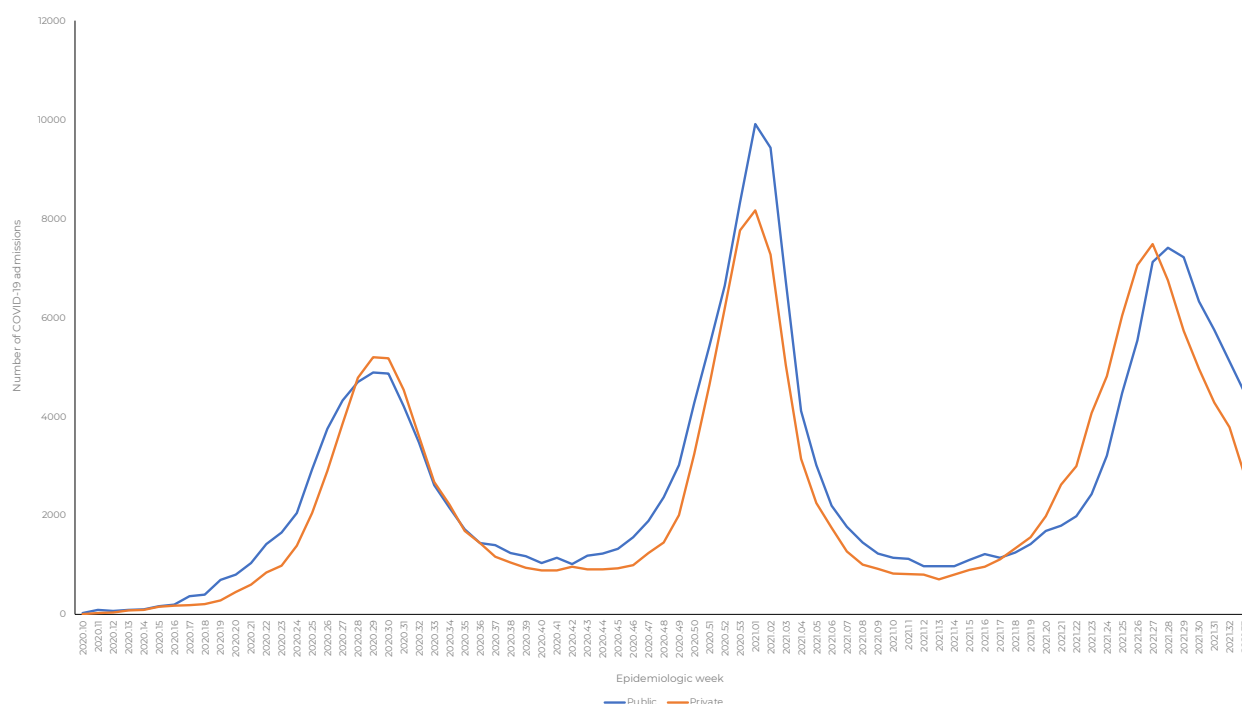


Figure 1. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020–21 August 2021, n=397,437

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The majority of admissions were recorded in four provinces, Gauteng 120,719 (30%), Western Cape 86,954 (22%), KwaZulu-Natal 61,807 (16%) and Eastern Cape 37,490 (9%) provinces. Weekly numbers of COVID-19 admissions have peaked in all provinces except Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal (Figures 2a and 2b) and increased admissions have been observed in Free State and Northern Cape in the past two weeks.

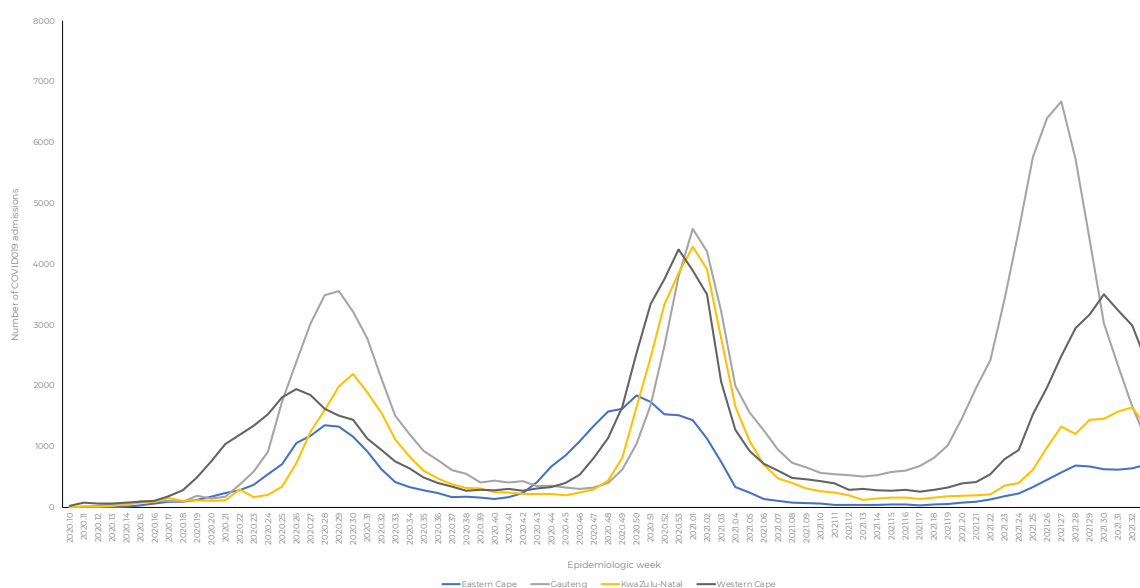


Figure 2a. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by provinces with highest admissions and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=397,437

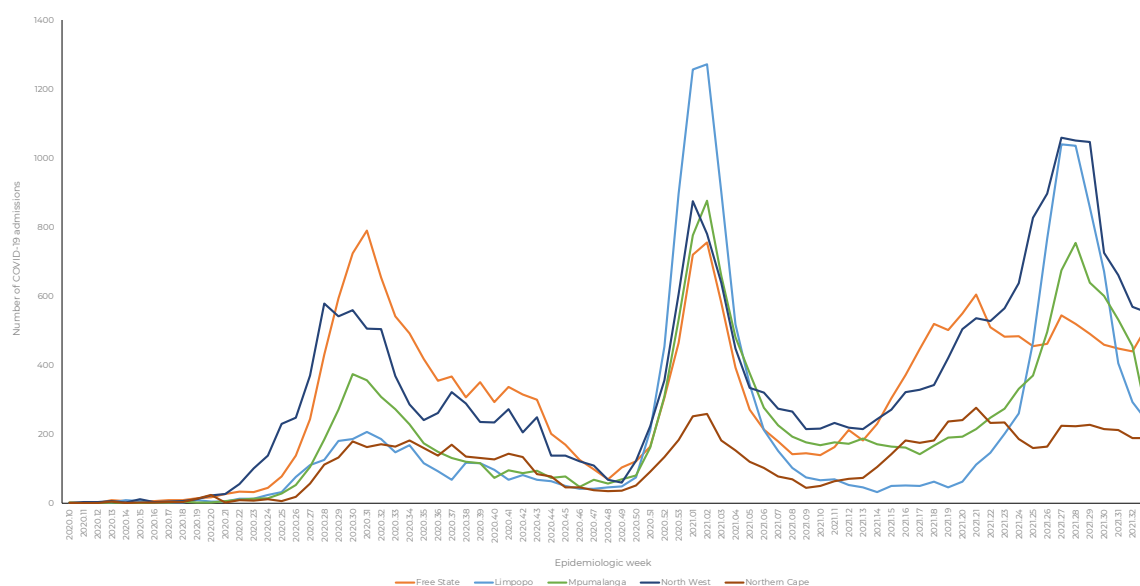


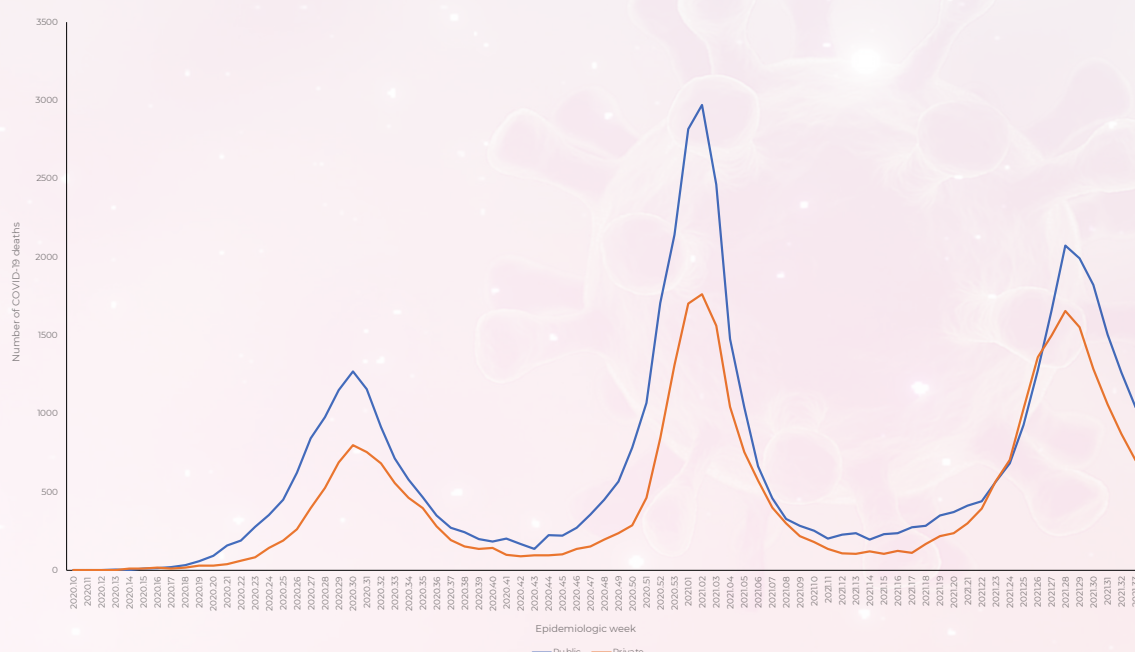
Figure 2b. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by provinces with lowest admissions and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=397,437

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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 five weeks.



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Most deaths were reported in Gauteng 26,163 (31%), Western Cape 15,079 (18%), KwaZulu-Natal 13,561 (16%), and Eastern Cape 10,910 (13%). The numbers of COVID-19 deaths have decreased in most provinces over the past five weeks (Figures 4a and 4b).

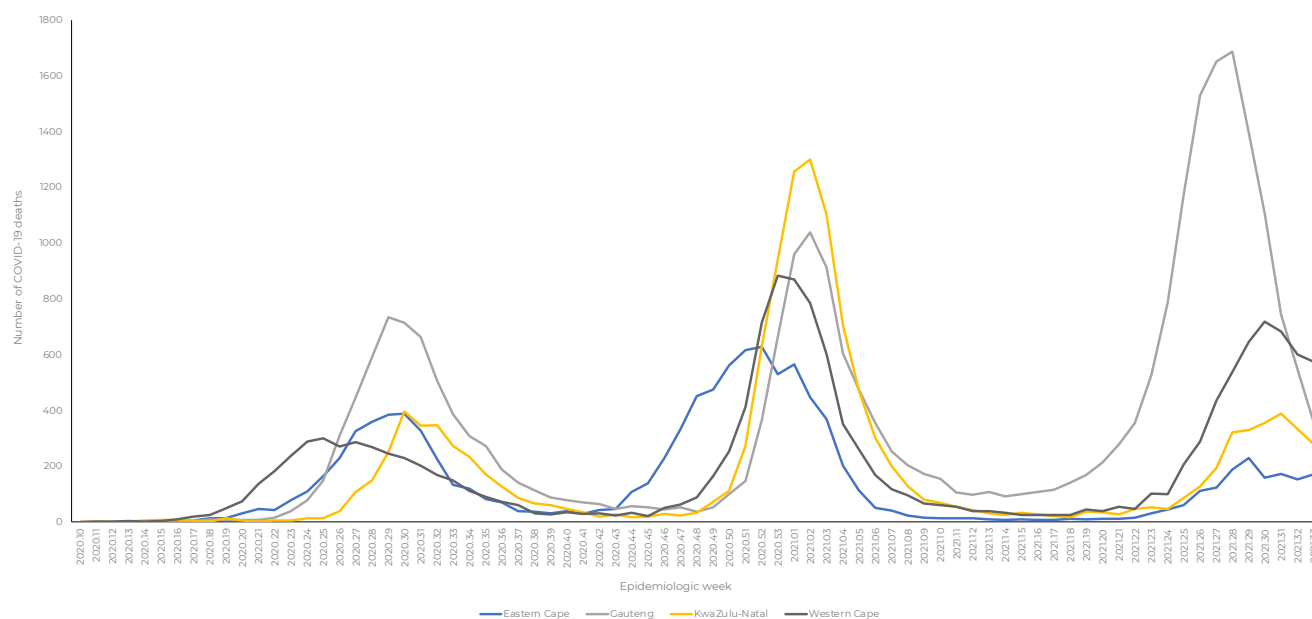


Figure 4a. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by province with highest deaths and epidemiologic week of death, South Africa, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=84,954

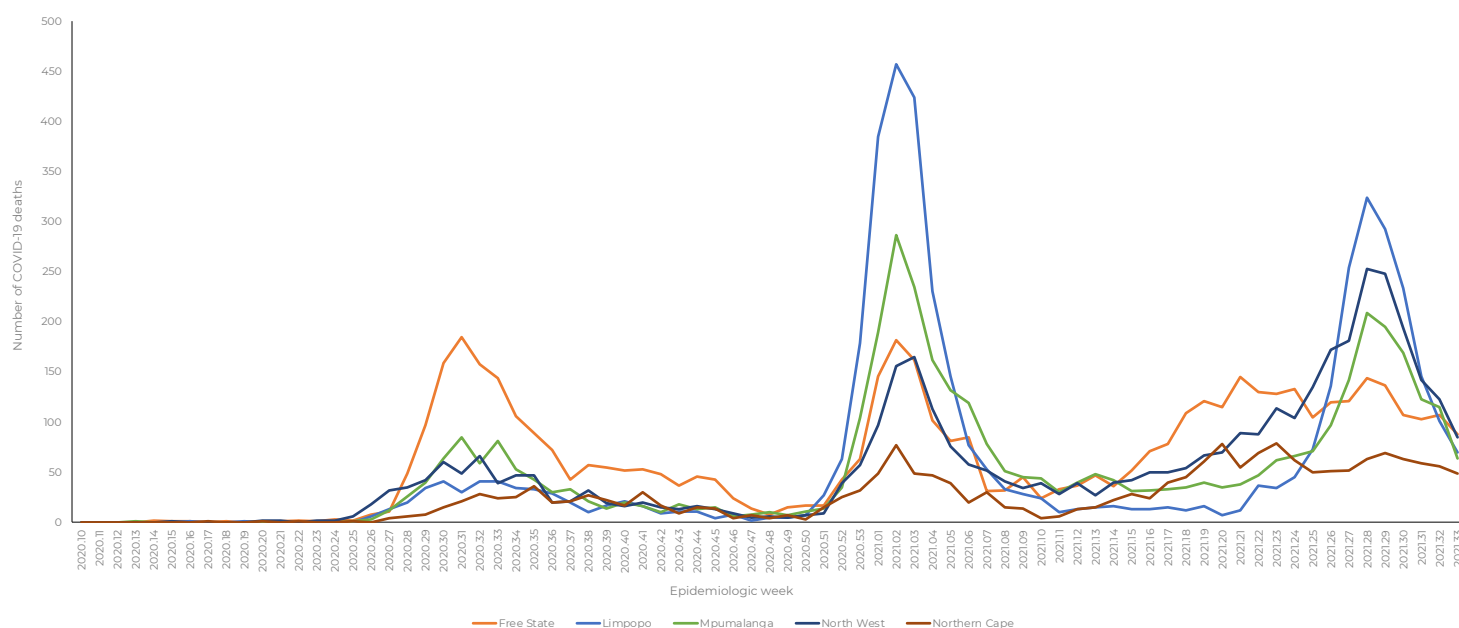


Figure 4b. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by province with lowest deaths and epidemiologic week of death, South Africa, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=84,954

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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 2020-21 August 2021.

Province	Provincial Population mid 2020*	Cumulative admissions	Cumulative Admissions / 100,000	Cumulative deaths	Cumulative deaths / 100,000
Eastern Cape	6734001	37490	556.7	10910	162.0
Free State	2928903	23162	790.8	4884	166.8
Gauteng	15488137	120,719	779.4	26163	168.9
KwaZulu-Natal	11531628	61807	536.0	13559	117.6
Limpopo	5852553	16151	276.0	4486	76.7
Mpumalanga	4679786	16514	352.9	3960	84.6
North West	4108816	25,930	631.1	3998	97.3
Northern Cape	1292786	8,710	673.7	1913	148.0
Western Cape	7005741	86,954	1241.2	15078	215.2
South Africa	59622350	397,437	666.6	84,951	142.5

*StatsSA mid-year population estimates 2020

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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 Eastern Cape and Free State (Table 3). Decreases in the most recent week may in part reflect delays in data submission. There were 19 of 52 (37%) districts across the country that reported increased change in incidence risk of admissions, Alfred Nzo, Amathole, Buffalo City Metro, Chris Hani, Joe Gqabi and Sarah Baartman (Eastern Cape), Lejweleputswa, Mangaung Metro, Thabo Mofutsanyana and Xhariep (Free State), Harry Gwala, Ugu, uMkhanyakude and Zululand (KwaZulu-Natal), Dr Kenneth Kaunda (North West), John Taolo Gaetsewe, Namakwa and Pixley Ka Seme (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, 24 July-21 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	89.14	95.86	7.53	23.64	23.00	-2.72
Free State	64.79	67.71	4.52	15.00	13.93	-7.14
Gauteng	382.29	197.71	-48.28	132.29	64.93	-50.92
KwaZulu-Natal	216.79	211.57	-2.41	53.14	43.79	-17.61
Limpopo	76.93	38.00	-50.60	27.14	12.21	-55.00
Mpumalanga	80.79	51.29	-36.52	20.86	12.79	-38.70
North West	98.93	80.07	-19.06	23.93	14.86	-37.91
Northern Cape	30.36	26.86	-11.53	8.71	7.50	-13.93
Western Cape	481.07	384.14	-20.15	100.21	83.86	-16.32
South Africa	89.14	95.86	7.53	23.64	23.00	-2.72

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

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EASTERN 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. There has been increase in admissions in both sectors since week 20 (Figure 5).

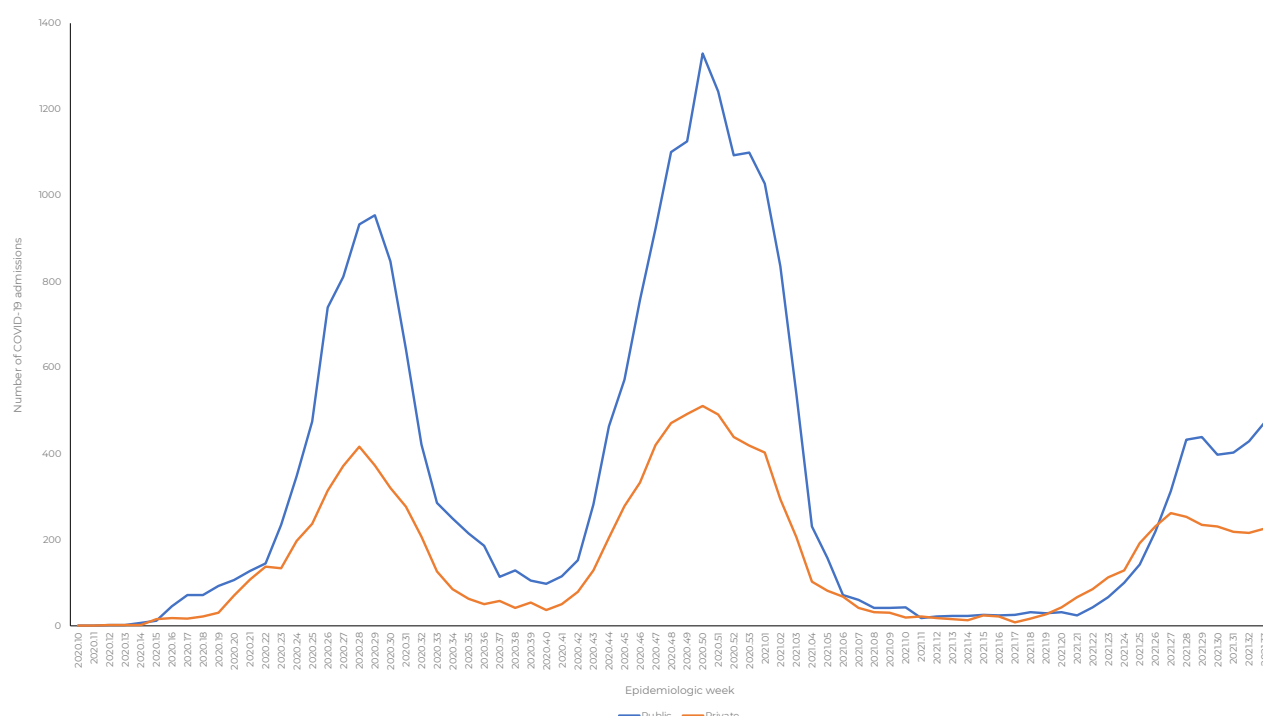


Figure 5: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=37,490

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

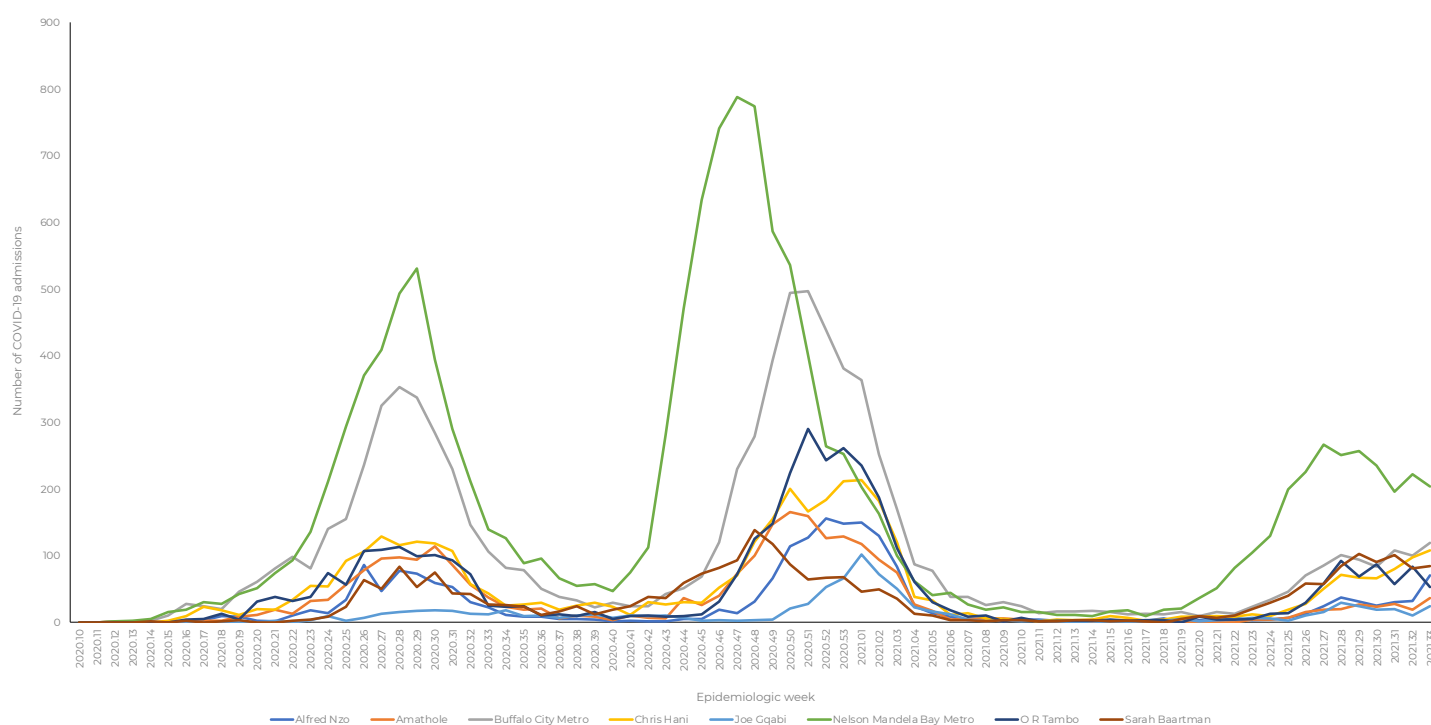


Figure 6. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=37,490

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

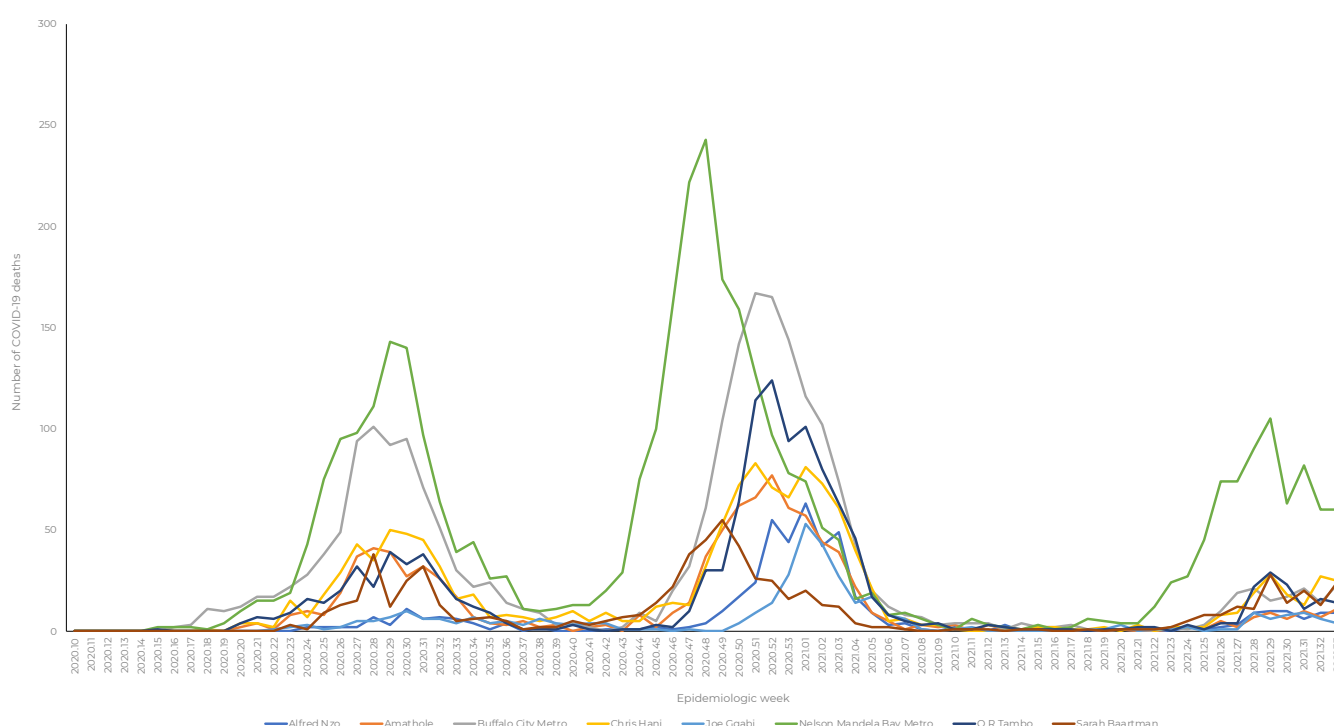


Figure 7. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=10,910

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There has been an increase in the average daily COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in Alfred Nzo, Amathole, Buffalo City Metro and Chris Hani (Table 4). The highest percentage change in admission was in Chris Hani.

Table 4: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Eastern Cape, 24 July-21 August 2021.

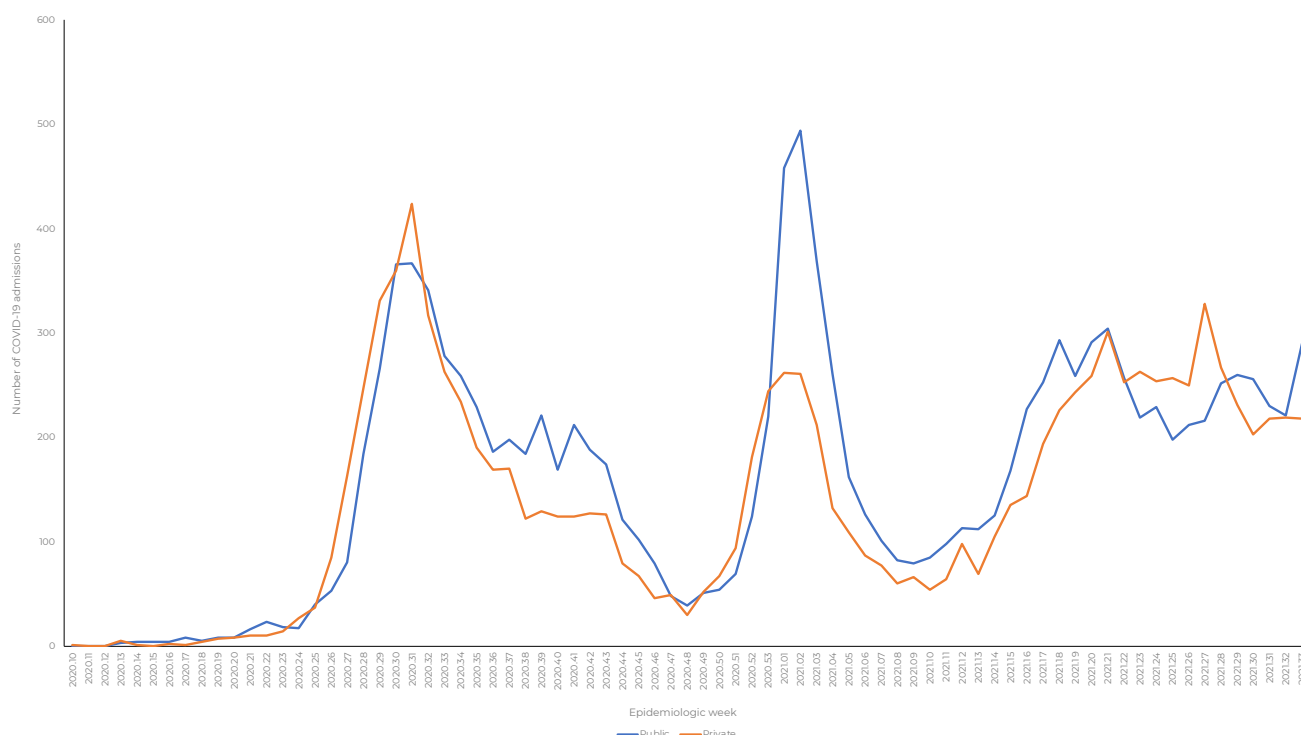
District	Previous 14 days admissions average	Current 14 days admissions average	Percentage change in admissions	Previous 14 days deaths average	Current 14 days deaths average	Percentage change in deaths
Alfred Nzo	3.93	7.29	85.45	1.14	1.29	12.50
Amathole	3.64	3.93	7.84	1.14	1.29	12.50
Buffalo City Metro	13.64	15.64	14.66	2.71	2.64	-2.63
Chris Hani	10.43	14.64	40.41	2.21	3.71	67.74
Joe Gqabi	2.79	2.43	-12.82	1.21	0.71	-41.18
Nelson Mandela Bay	30.79	30.43	-1.16	10.36	8.57	-17.24
O R Tambo	10.29	9.71	-5.56	2.43	2.14	-11.76
Sarah Baartman	13.64	11.79	-13.61	2.43	2.64	8.82

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FREE STATE

In all three waves there were roughly equal numbers of admissions in both sectors (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, peaking in week 22, but have not shown sustained post-peak decreases. 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.



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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, with a peak in week 22, but have not shown sustained post-peak decreases in most districts. 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.

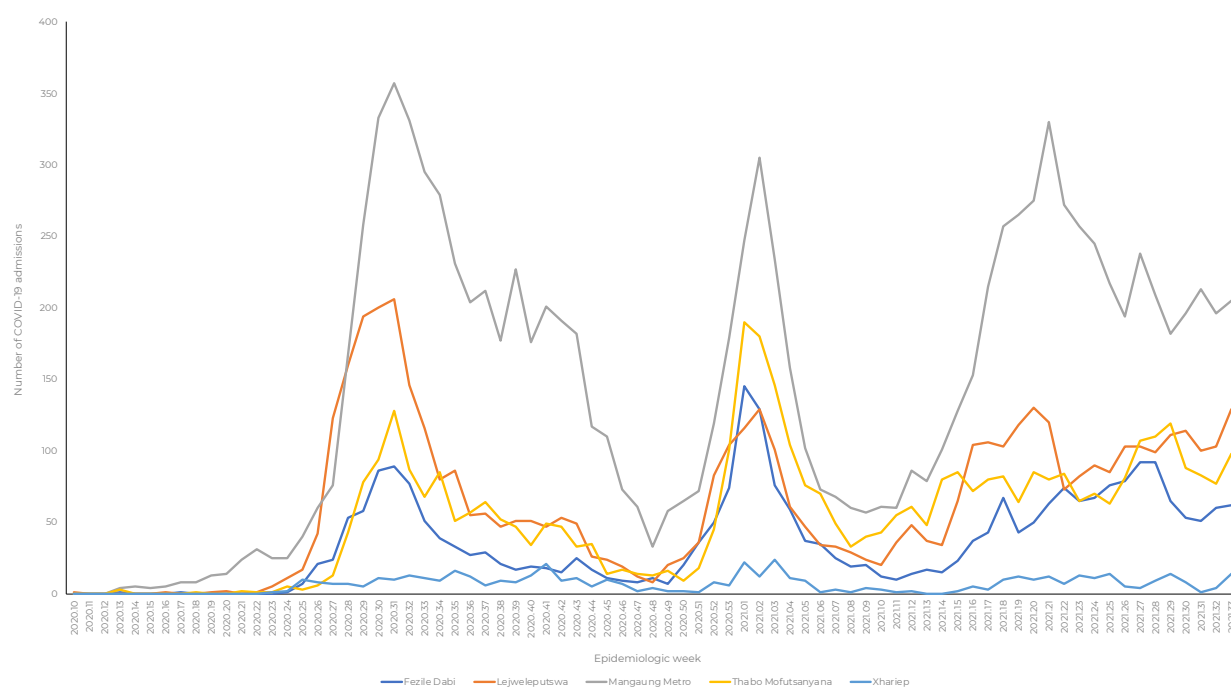


Figure 9: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Free State, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=23,162

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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 nine weeks in most districts. However, there were increased deaths in Mangaung Metro, Thabo Mofutsanyane and Lejweleputswa in the past four 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.

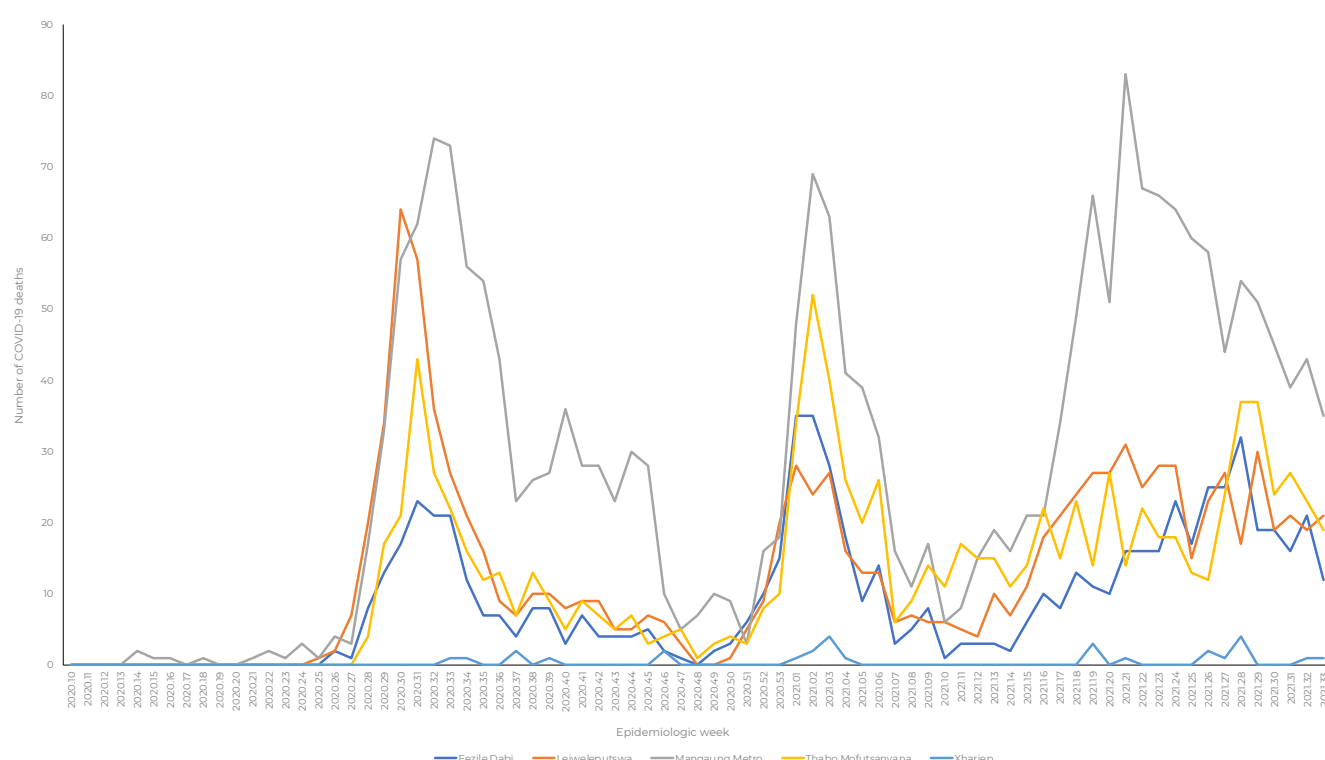


Figure 10: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Free State, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=4,884

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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 (Table 5).

Table 5: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Free State, 24 July-21 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	7.43	8.71	17.31	2.50	2.36	-5.71
Lejweleputswa	15.29	16.57	8.41	2.86	2.86	0.00
Mangaung Metro	29.21	28.64	-1.96	6.00	5.57	-7.14
Thabo Mofutsanyana	12.21	12.50	2.34	3.64	3.00	-17.65
Xhariep	0.64	1.29	100.00	0.00	0.14	0.00

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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). Since the third wave peak in week 26, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of admissions in both sectors. 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.

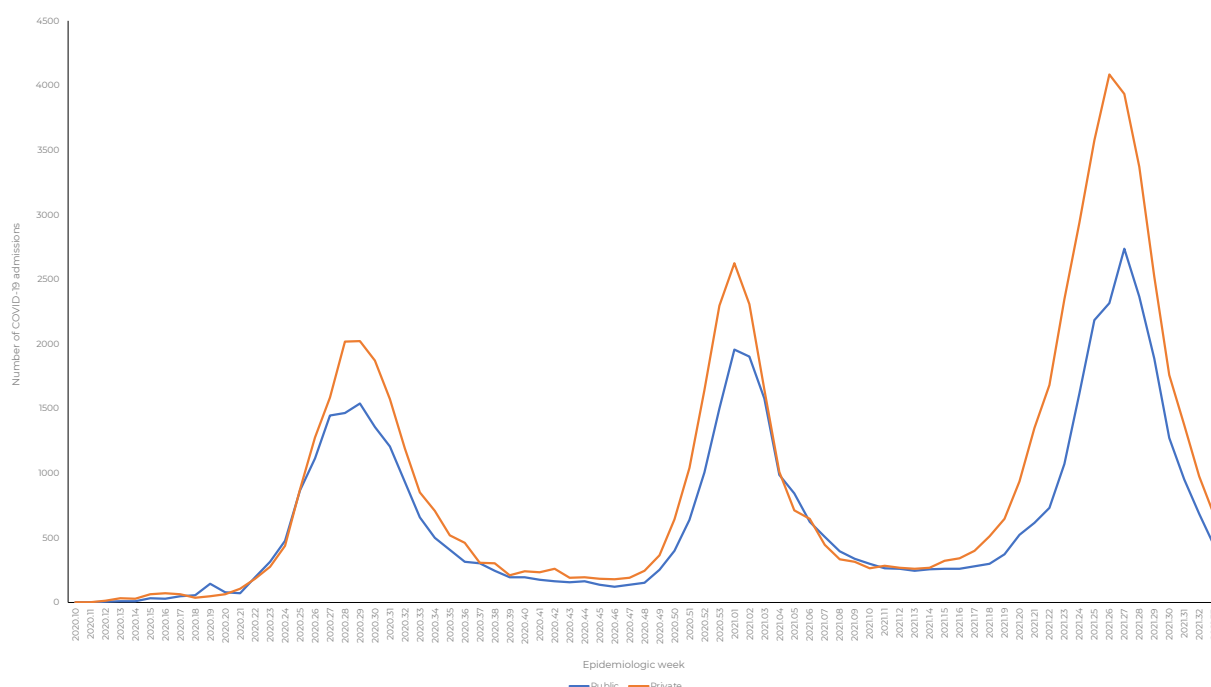


Figure 11: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=120,719

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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). Since the third wave peak, a decrease in admissions has been observed in all districts over the past six 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.

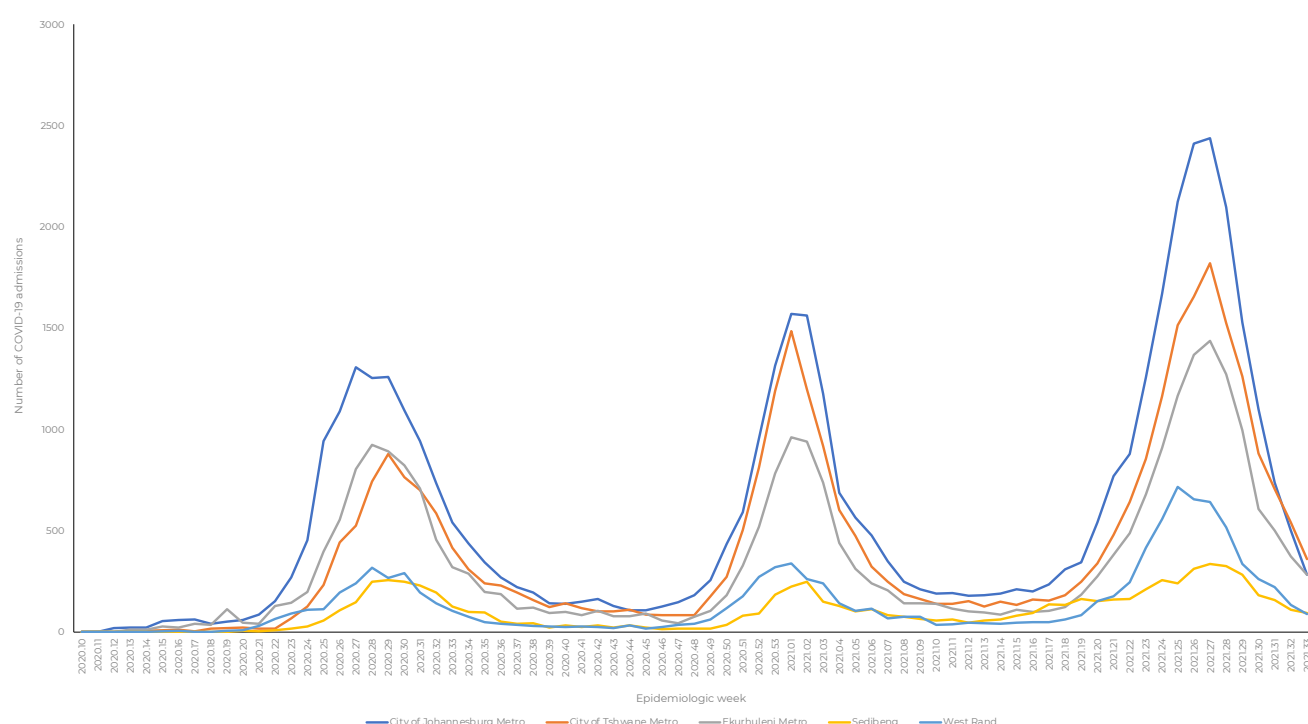


Figure 12: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=120,719

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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). Since the third wave peak, a decrease in the number of deaths has been observed in all districts over 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 all districts.

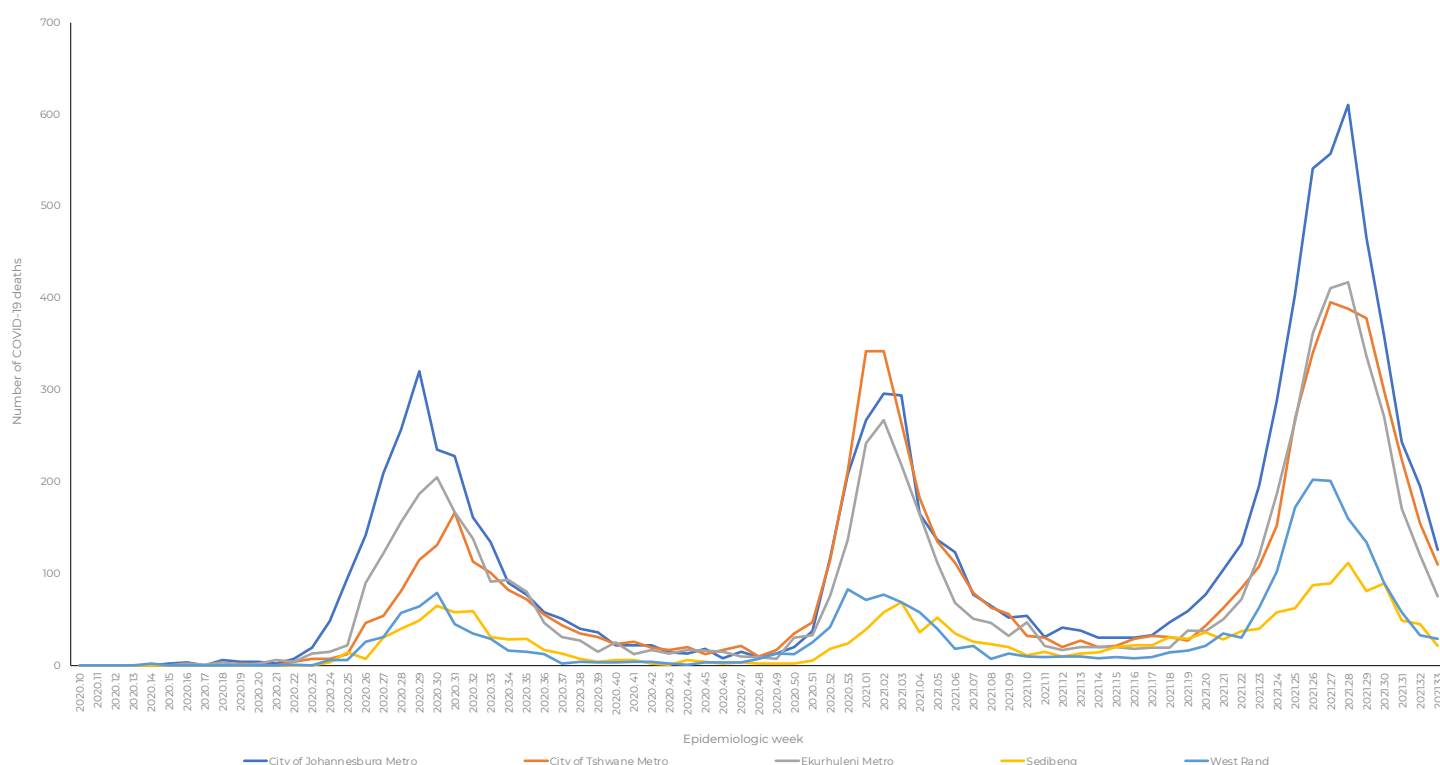


Figure 13: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=26,163

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

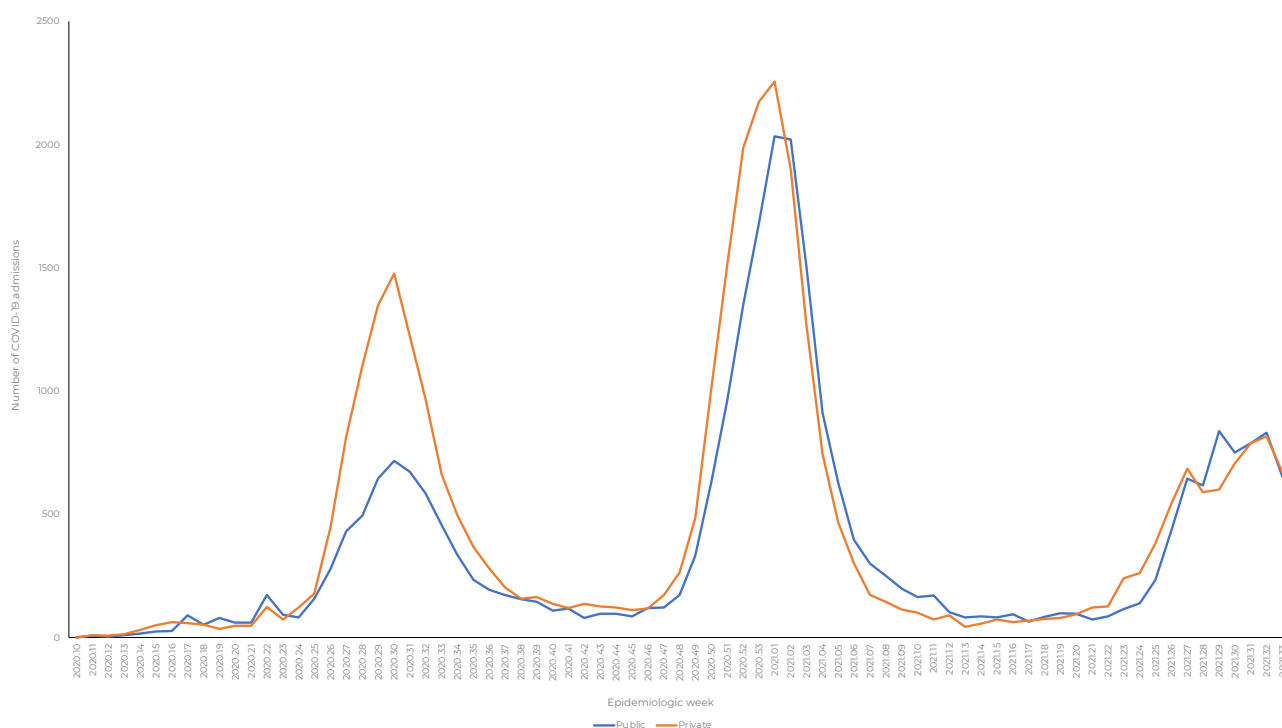
Table 6: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Gauteng, 24 July-21 August 2021.

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	131.21	55.93	-57.38	42.93	22.93	-46.59
City of Tshwane Metro	113.36	64.29	-43.29	37.36	18.93	-49.33
Ekurhuleni Metro	78.93	47.00	-40.45	31.57	13.93	-55.88
Sedibeng	24.29	14.57	-40.00	9.86	4.71	-52.17
West Rand	34.50	15.93	-53.83	10.57	4.43	-58.11

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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 three weeks.



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

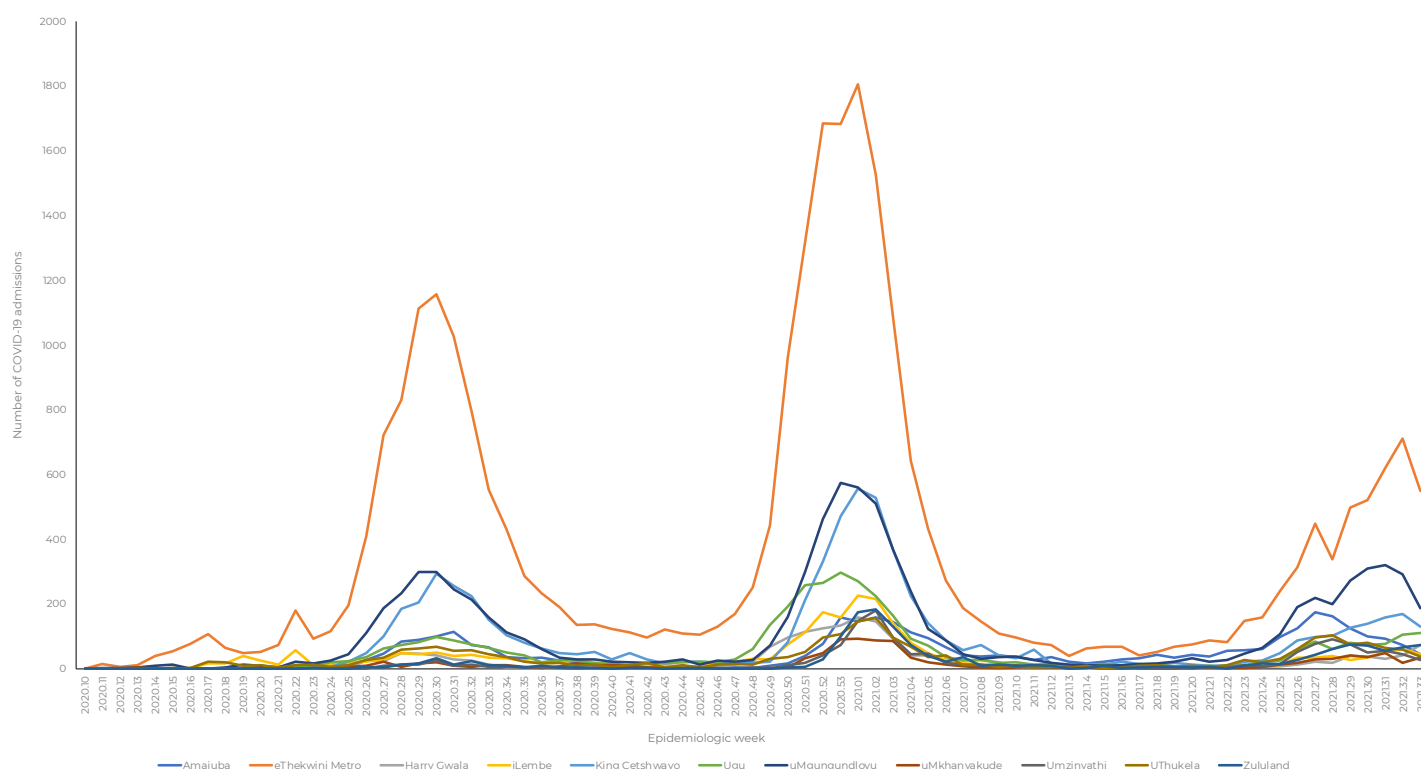


Figure 15: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=61,807

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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, however the weekly numbers of deaths have decreased in most districts over the past two weeks.

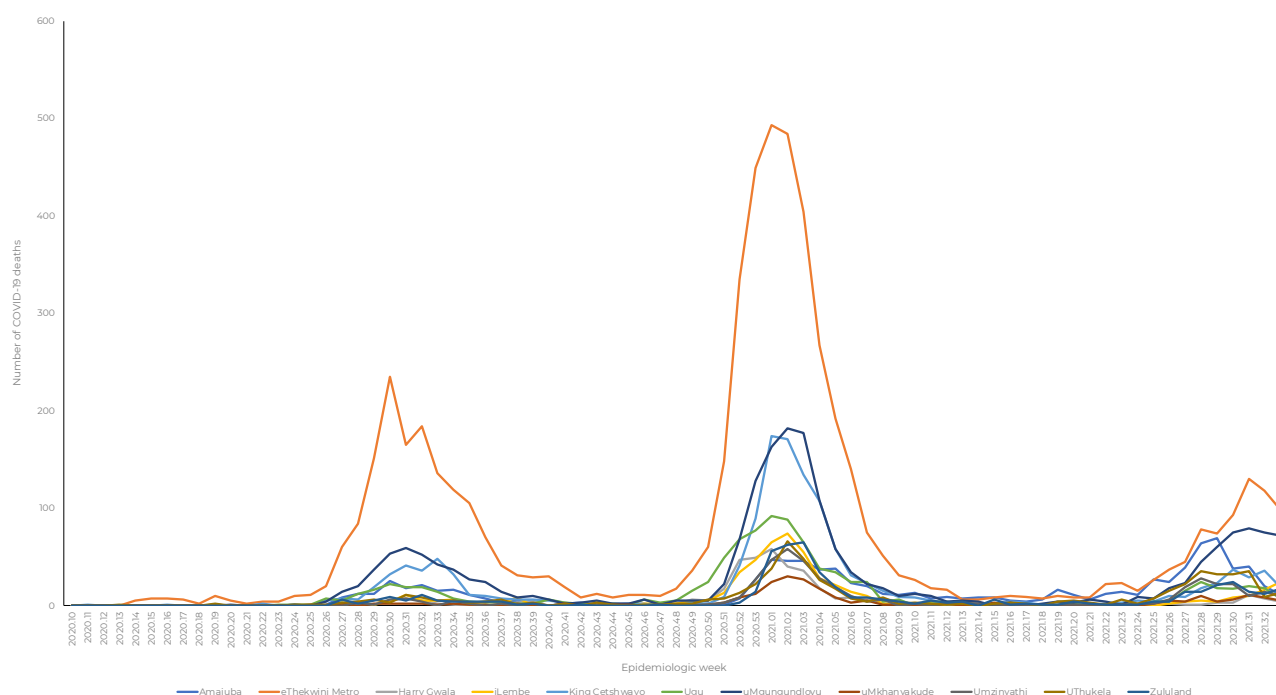


Figure 16: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=13,561

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

Table 7: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, KwaZulu-Natal, 24 July-21 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	13.86	8.50	-38.66	5.57	2.21	-60.26
eThekwin Metro	81.64	90.00	10.24	15.93	15.43	-3.14
Harry Gwala	4.93	8.21	66.67	1.00	0.79	-21.43
iLembe	6.21	7.71	24.14	1.29	2.86	122.22
King Cetshwayo	21.29	21.50	1.01	4.71	3.93	-16.67
Ugu	10.71	15.43	44.00	2.64	1.79	-32.43
uMgungundlovu	45.00	34.29	-23.81	11.00	10.50	-4.55
uMkhanyakude	6.14	3.79	-38.37	1.21	0.93	-23.53
Umzinyathi	7.57	5.14	-32.08	2.29	1.71	-25.00
UThukela	10.43	7.00	-32.88	4.79	1.57	-67.16
Zululand	9.00	10.00	11.11	2.71	2.07	-23.68

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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). Since the third wave peak in week 28, a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in both sectors over the past five weeks.

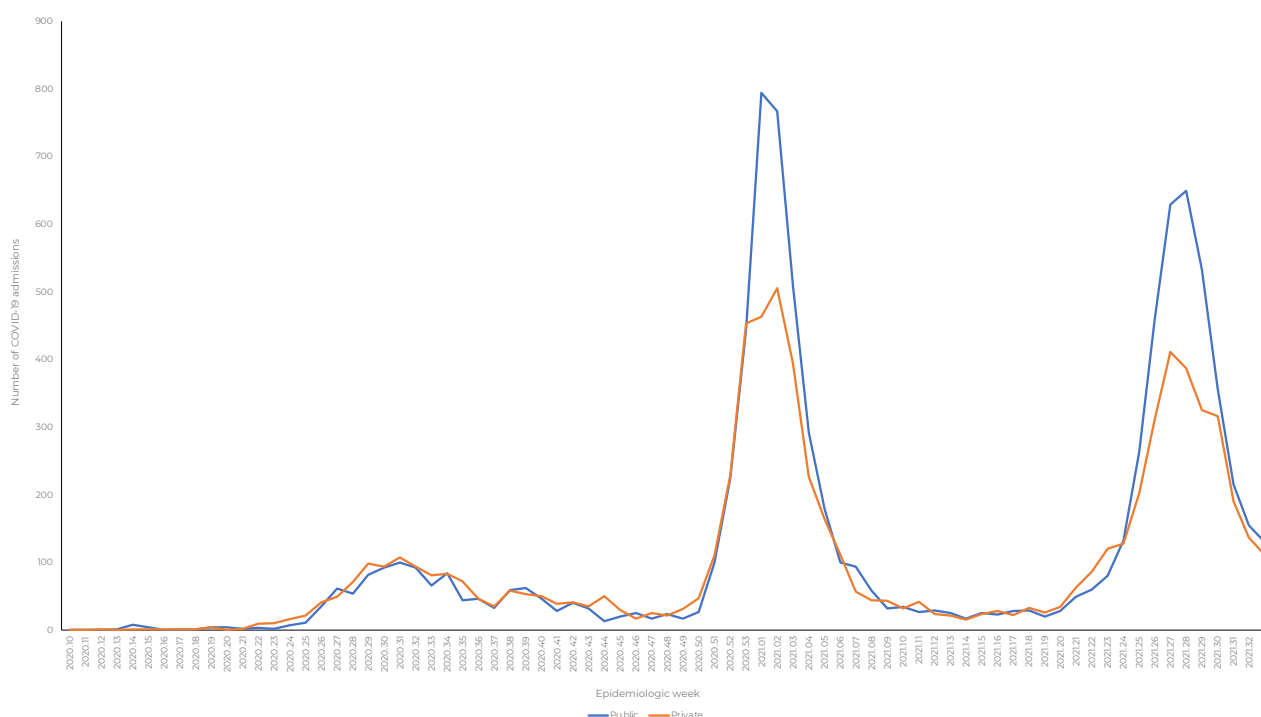


Figure 17: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=16,151

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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 third wave peak, a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in all districts over 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 Sekhukhune and Waterberg.

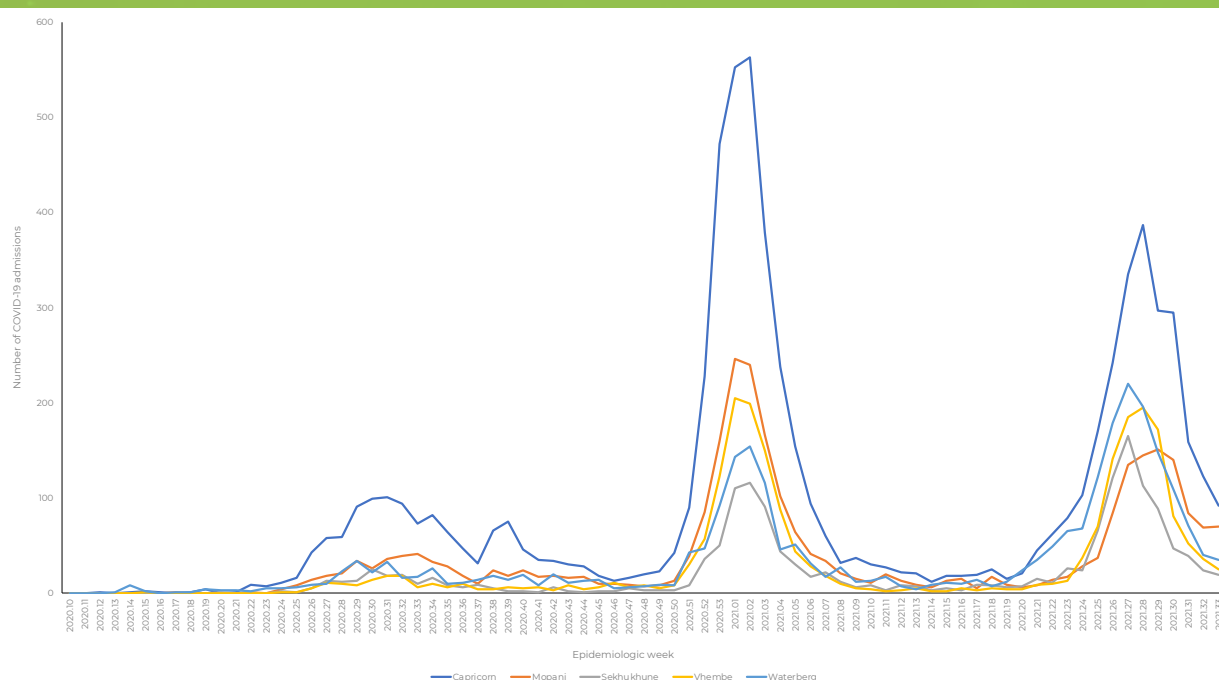


Figure 18: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020–21 August 2021, n=16,151

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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). Since the third wave peak, a decrease in the number of deaths has been observed in all districts over the past five weeks.

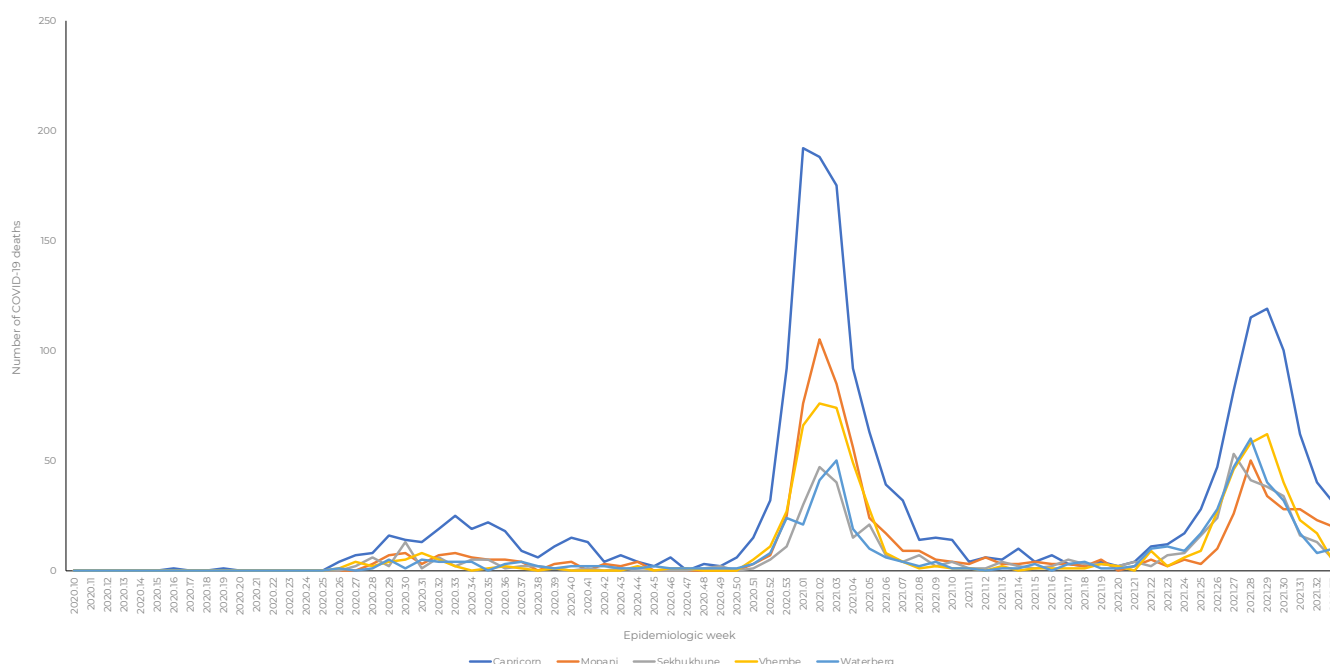


Figure 19: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=4,486

There has been a decrease in average daily 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, 24 July-21 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	32.43	15.29	-52.86	11.57	5.07	-56.17
Mopani	16.00	9.93	-37.95	4.00	3.07	-23.21
Sekhukhune	6.14	3.07	-50.00	3.57	1.29	-64.00
Vhembe	9.50	4.36	-54.14	4.50	1.50	-66.67
Waterberg	12.86	5.36	-58.33	3.50	1.29	-63.27

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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). Since the third wave peak in week 28, a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in both sectors over 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 the private sector.

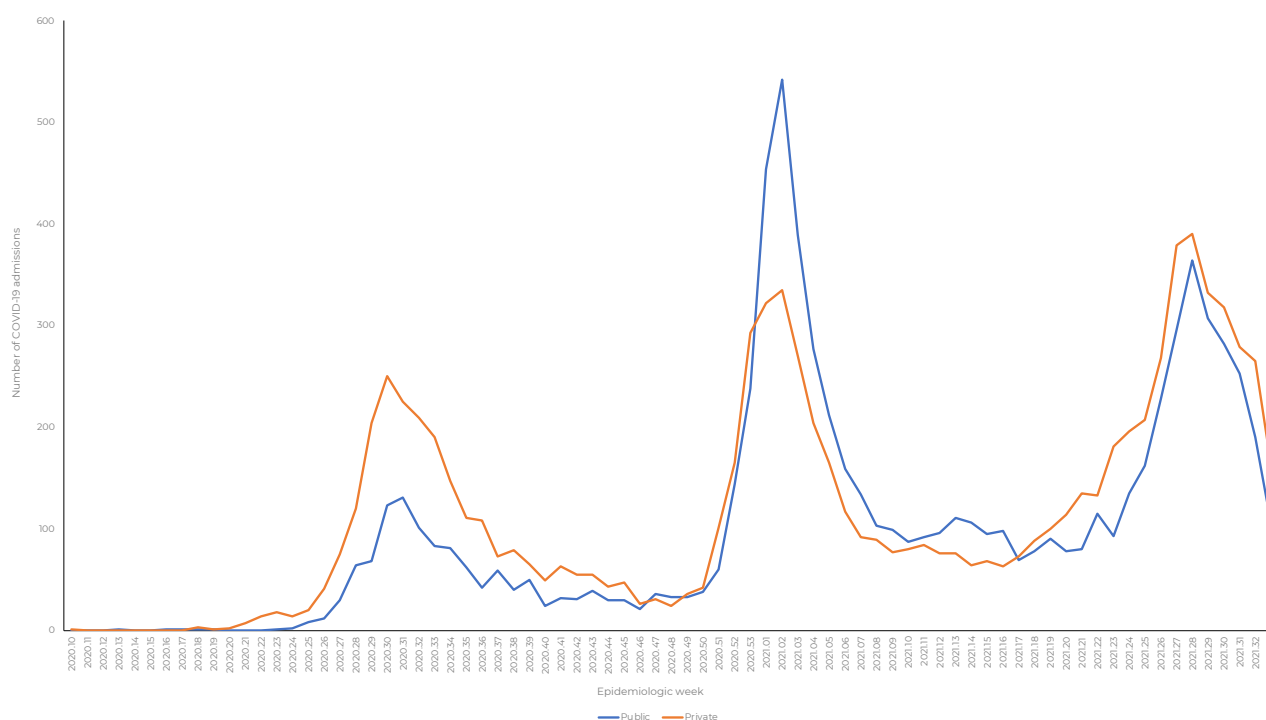


Figure 20: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=16,514

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 33 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). Since the third wave peak, a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in all districts over the past six weeks.

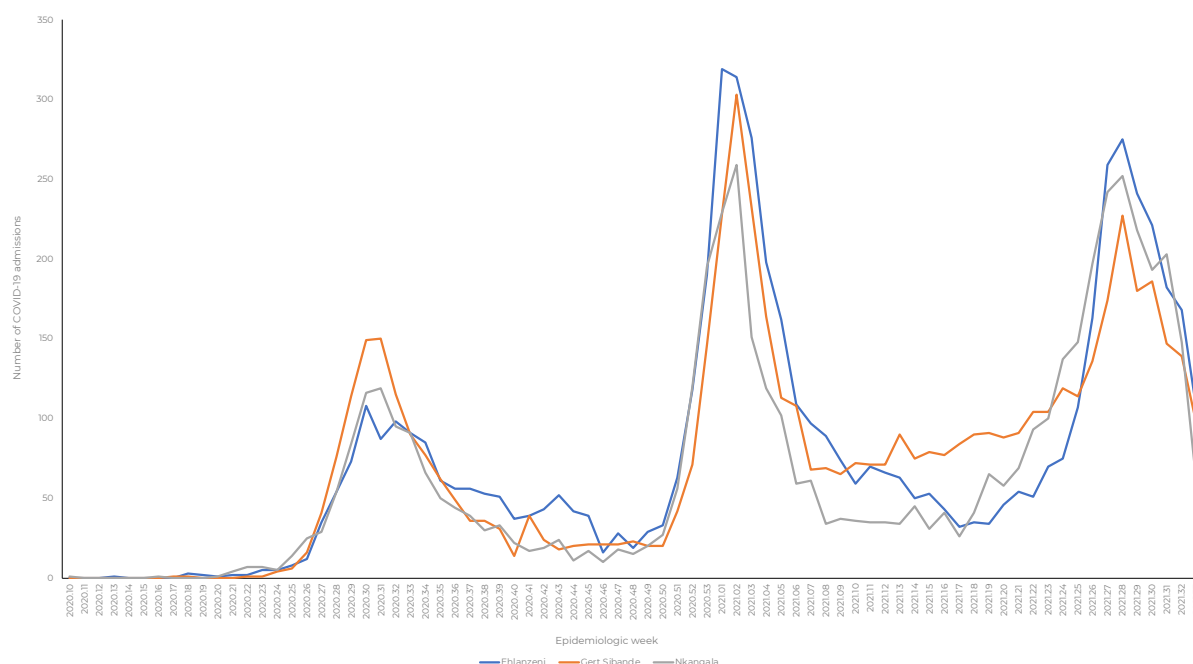


Figure 21: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=16,514

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 33 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). Since the third wave peak, a decrease in the number of deaths has been observed in all districts over the past five weeks.

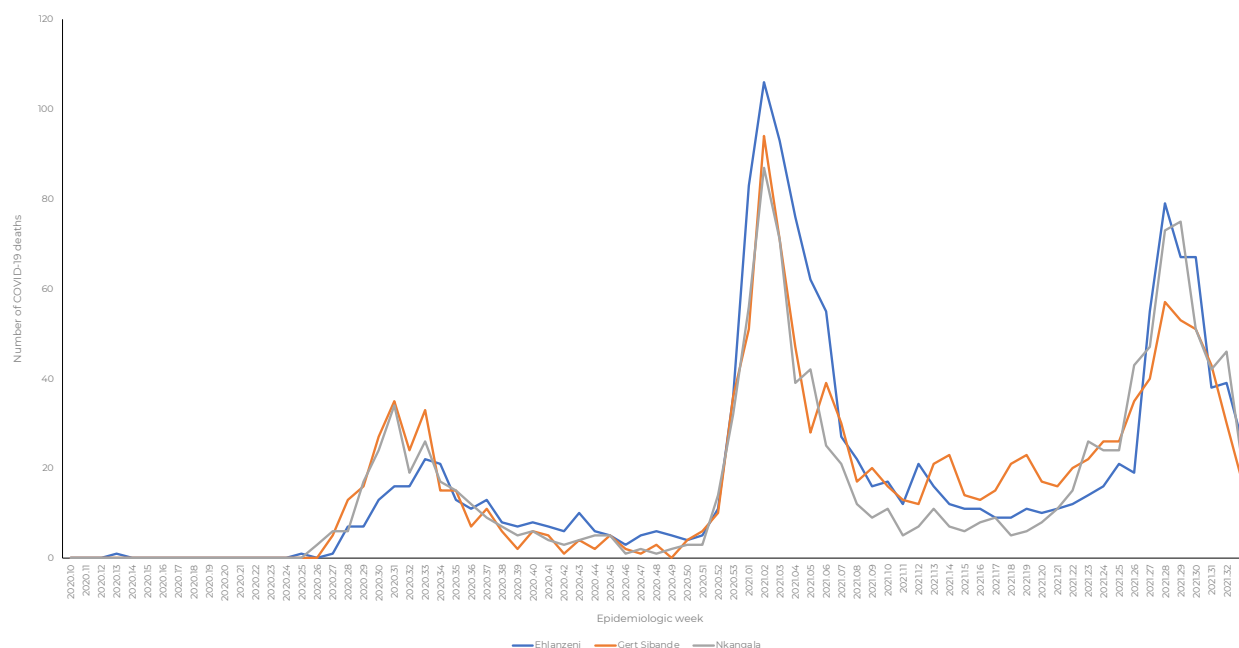


Figure 22: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=3,960

There has been a decrease in average daily 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, 24 July-21 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	28.71	19.57	-31.84	7.50	4.64	-38.10
Gert Sibande	23.79	16.86	-29.13	6.71	3.36	-50.00
Nkangala	28.29	14.86	-47.47	6.64	4.79	-27.96

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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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). Since the third wave peak in week 29, a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in both sectors over the past four weeks, however the numbers of admissions still remain high in the public sector. 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.

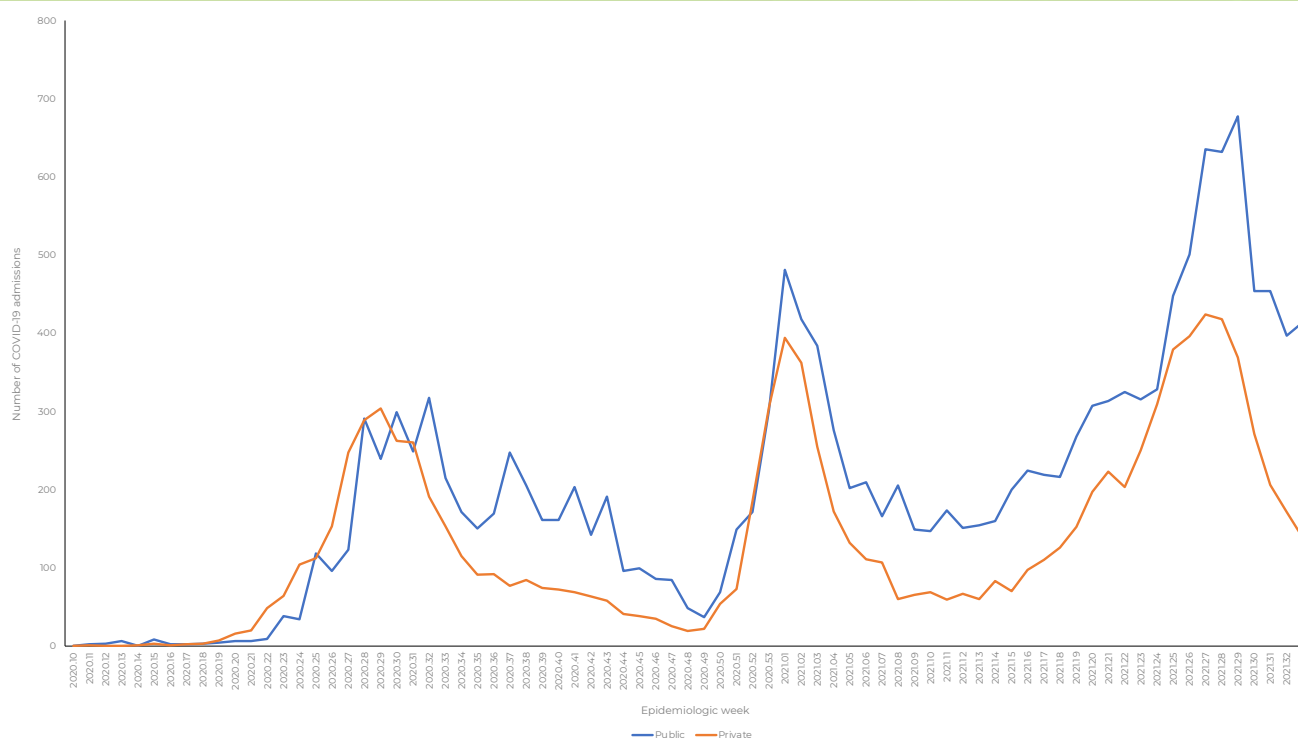


Figure 23: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, North West, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=25,930

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 except Dr Kenneth Kaunda (Figure 24). Since the third wave peak in week 27, a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in all districts over the past four weeks. However, the weekly numbers of admissions remain high in Dr Kenneth Kaunda district and have shown some increases in the past week. 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.

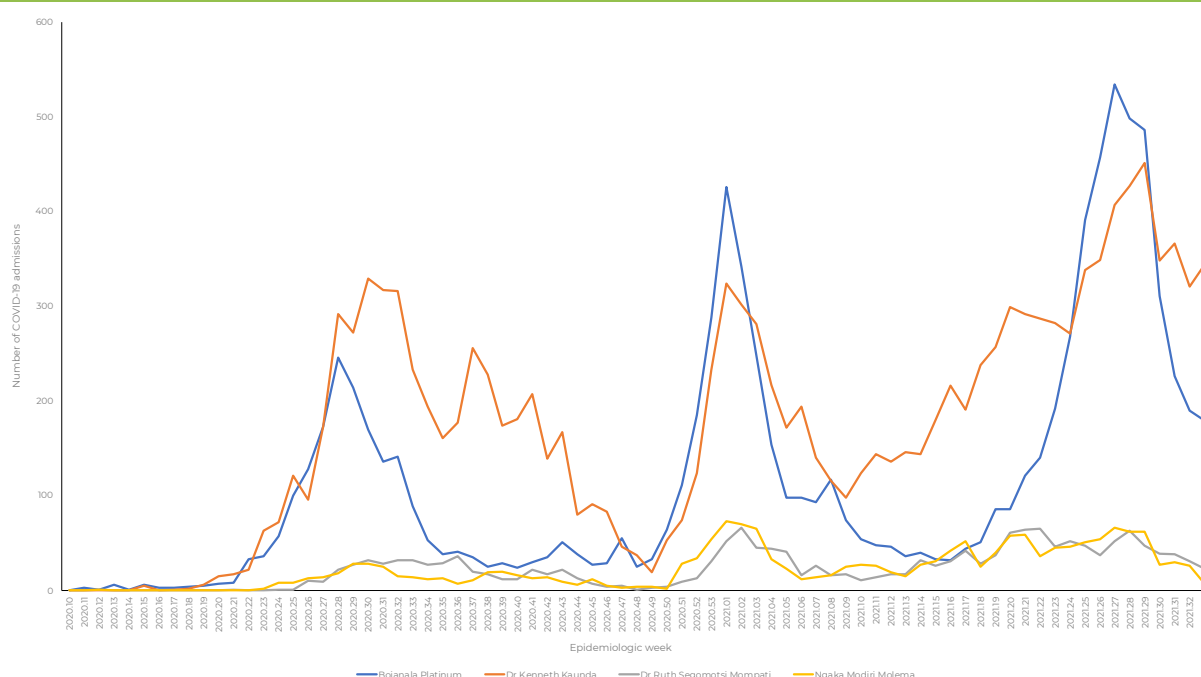


Figure 24: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=25,930

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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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 25). Since the third wave peak, a decrease in the number of deaths has been observed in all districts over the past five 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.

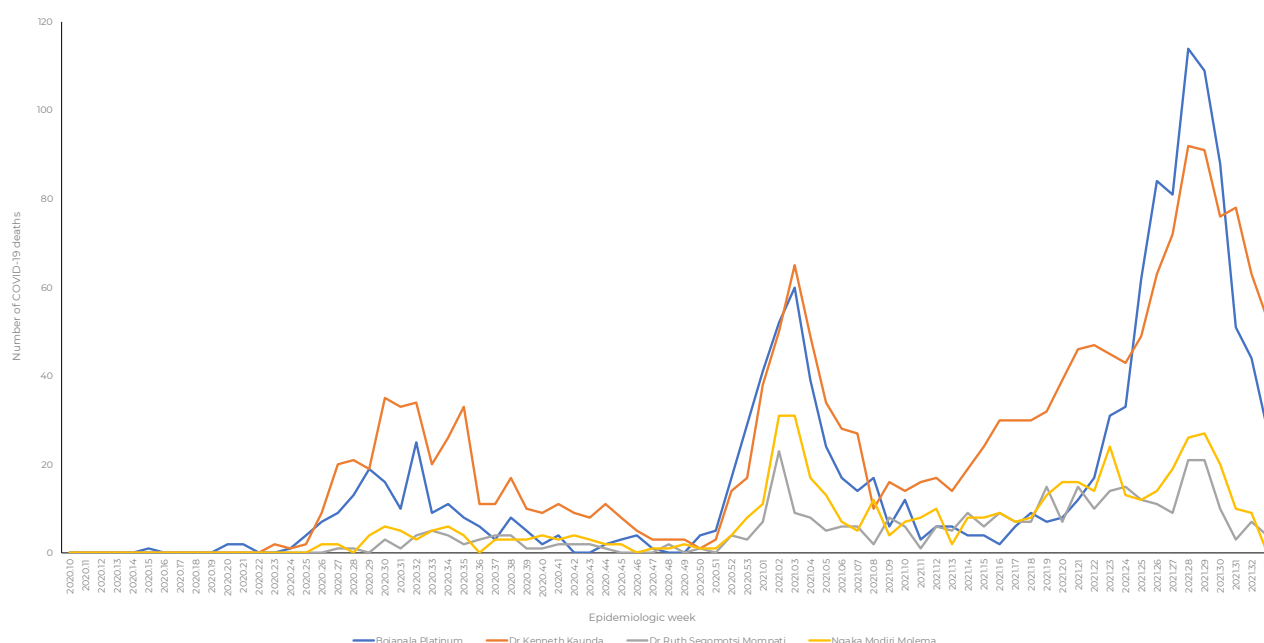


Figure 25: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=3,998

There has been a decrease in average daily 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, 24 July-21 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	38.36	26.36	-31.28	9.93	5.14	-48.20
Dr Kenneth Kaunda	51.00	47.50	-6.86	10.93	8.29	-24.18
Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	5.50	3.86	-29.87	0.93	0.79	-15.38
Ngaka Modiri Molema	4.07	2.36	-42.11	2.14	0.64	-70.00

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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NORTHERN CAPE

In all three waves there were roughly equal numbers of admissions in both sectors. 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 peaking in week 29. A second increase in admissions was observed in both sectors over the past seven. 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.

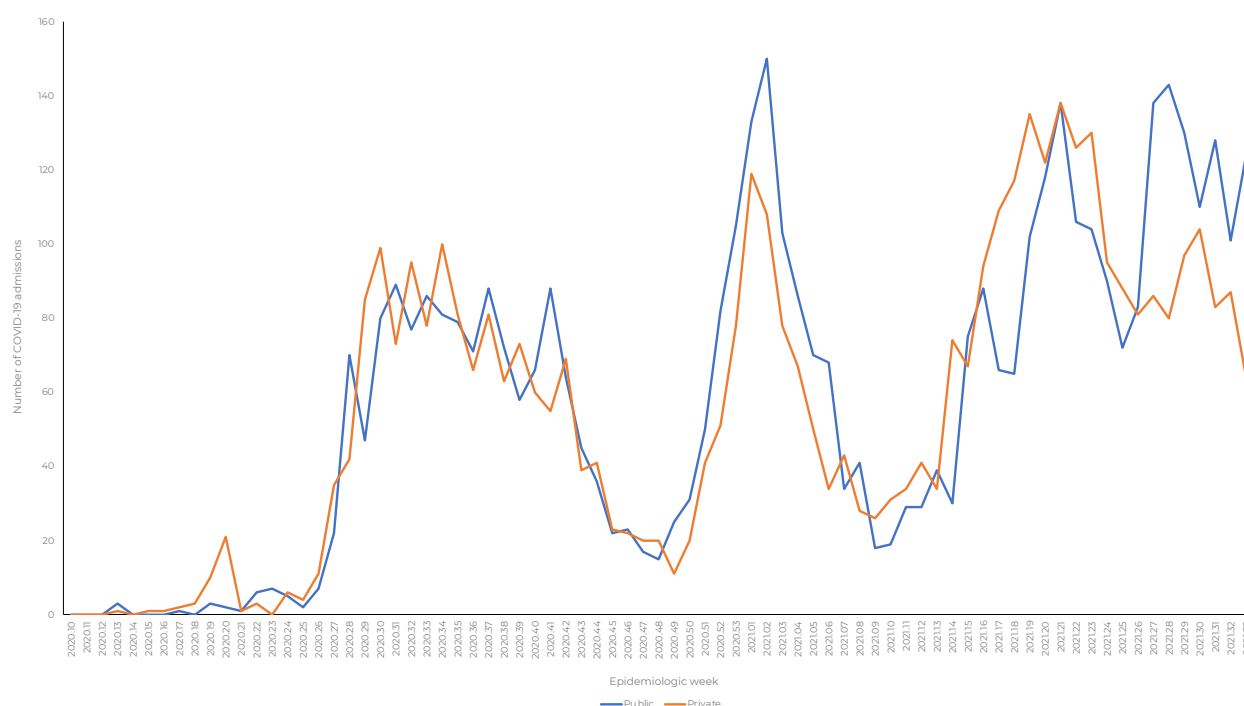


Figure 26: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=8,710

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 27). Since the third wave peak, the numbers of admissions have decreased in all districts, however some increases in admissions have been observed in the past two weeks in Pixley Ka Seme and John Taolo Gaetsewe districts. 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.

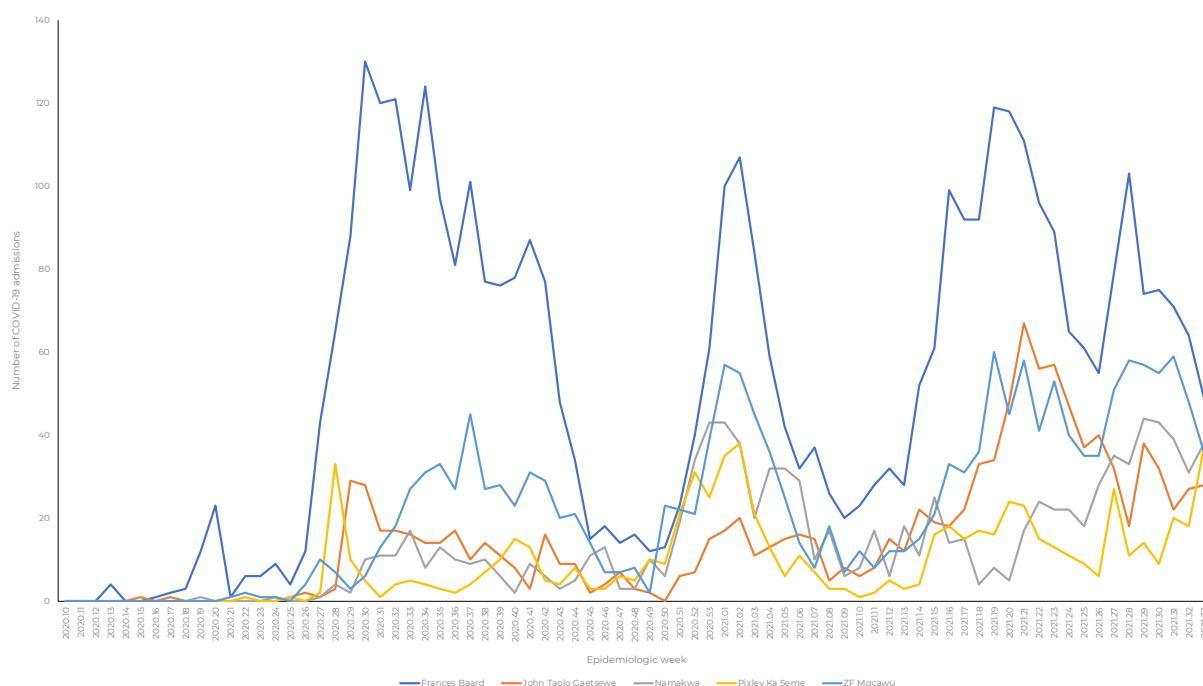


Figure 27: Number reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=8,710

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 33 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). Since the third wave peak, the numbers of COVID-19 deaths have increased in all districts, however an increase in the number of deaths has been observed in some districts over the past five 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.

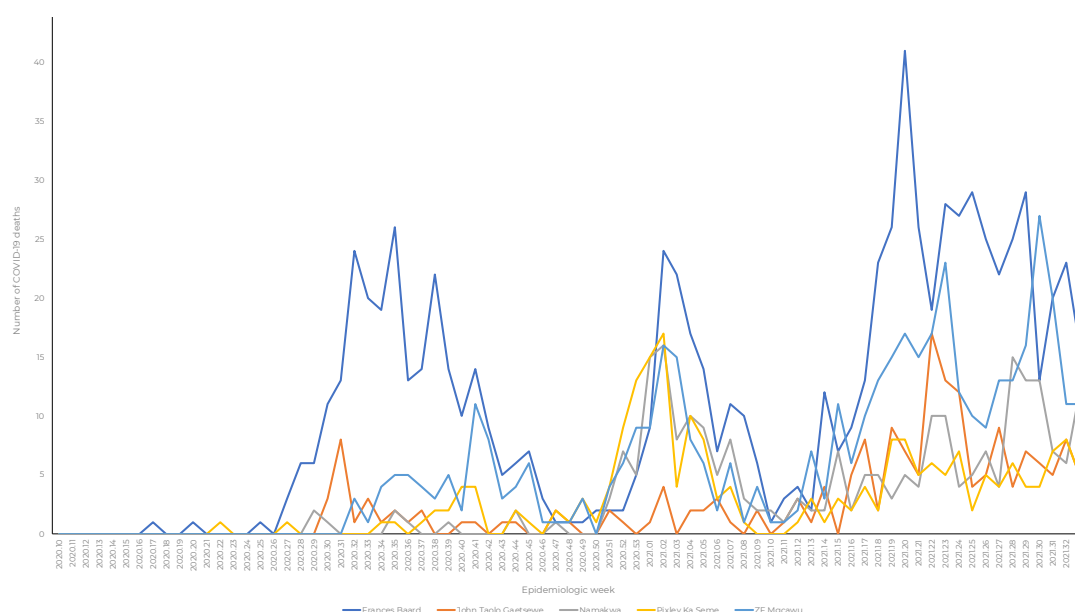


Figure 28: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=1,913

There has been an increase in average daily COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in John Taolo Gaetsewe and Pixley Ka Seme. The highest percentage change in admissions was in 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, 24 July-21 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	10.43	8.07	-22.60	2.36	2.79	18.18
John Taolo Gaetsewe	3.86	3.93	1.85	0.79	0.93	18.18
Namakwa	5.86	4.93	-15.85	1.43	1.29	-10.00
Pixley Ka Seme	2.07	3.93	89.66	0.79	0.93	18.18
ZF Mgcawu	8.14	6.00	-26.32	3.36	1.57	-53.19
ZF Mgcawu	8.00	6.36	-20.54	3.07	1.86	-39.53

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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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). Since the third wave peak in week 30, a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in both sectors in the past three weeks.

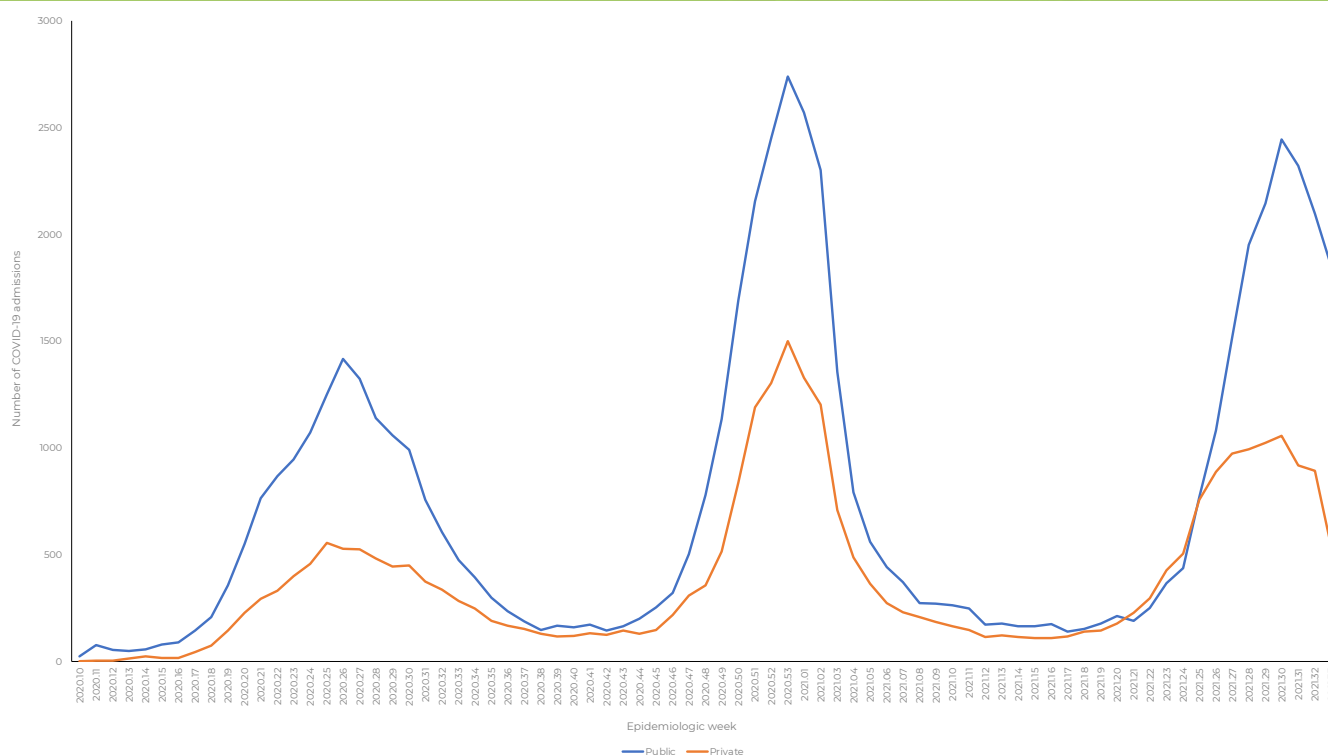


Figure 29: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=86,954

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 33 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). Since the third wave peak, a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in all districts in the past three weeks. Weekly number of admissions in the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave in Garden Route.

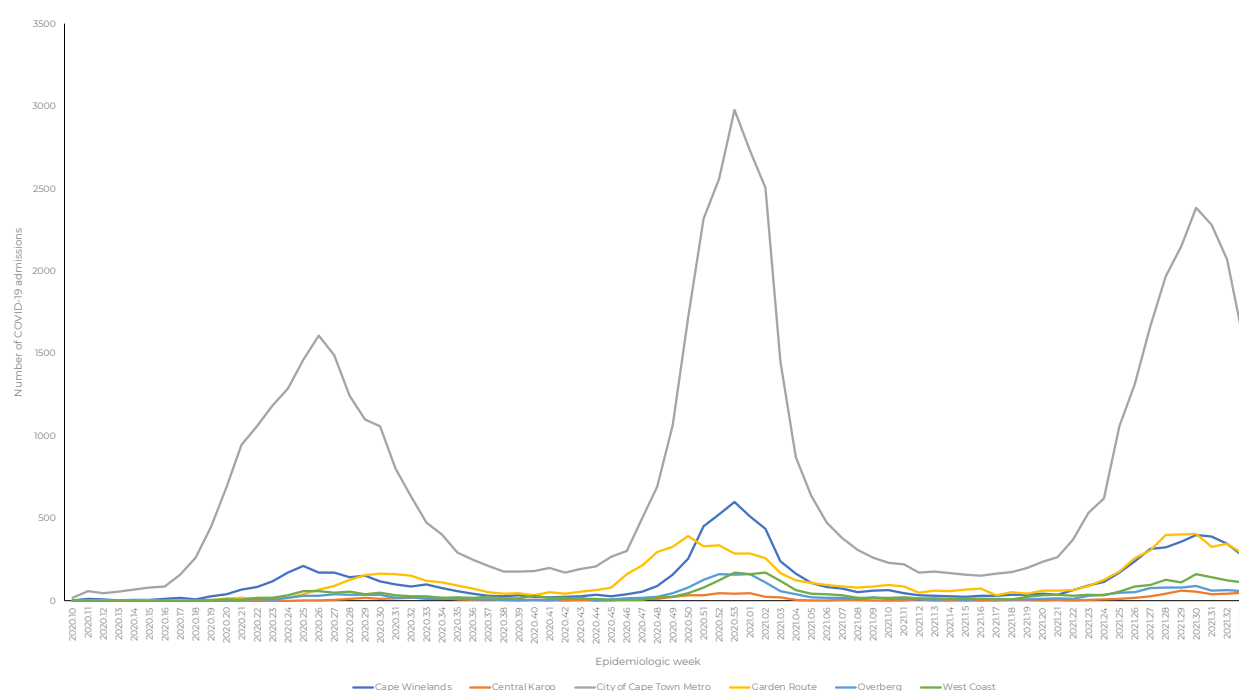


Figure 30: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=86,954

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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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 31). Since the third wave peak, there have been decreases in deaths in all districts in the past three weeks. Weekly number of deaths in the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the second wave in Garden Route and West Coast.

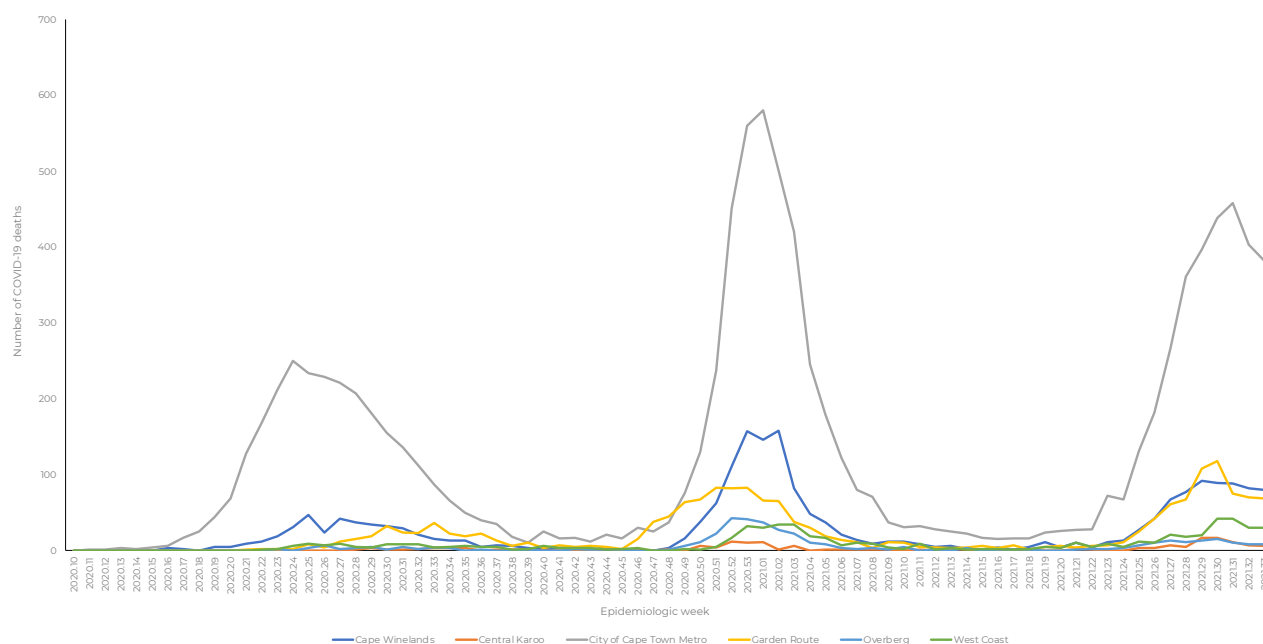


Figure 31: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-21 August 2021, n=15,079

There has been a decrease in average daily COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in all the districts (Table 12).

Table 12: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Western Cape, 24 July-21 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	56.50	44.36	-21.49	12.64	11.57	-8.47
Central Karoo	6.79	6.50	-4.21	2.00	0.93	-53.57
City of Cape Town Metro	332.79	262.64	-21.08	64.00	56.07	-12.39
Garden Route	52.43	44.93	-14.31	13.79	9.86	-28.50
Overberg	10.86	8.86	-18.42	1.79	1.14	-36.00
West Coast	21.71	16.86	-22.37	6.00	4.29	-28.57

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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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.

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

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APPENDIX

Table 13: Percentage incidence change in hospital admissions over 14 days, by district, South Africa, 7 August-21 August 2021.

Province	District	Total admissions	Incidence (per 100k)	New admissions	New admissions incidence (per 100k)	% average change (14 days)
Eastern Cape	Alfred Nzo	2012	241.75	73	8.77	102.78
	Amathole	2521	315.44	36	4.50	89.47
	Buffalo City Metro	8275	1033.25	124	15.48	15.89
	Chris Hani	3900	535.97	110	15.12	10.00
	Joe Gqabi	888	257.42	26	7.54	136.36
	Nelson Mandela Bay Metro	13582	1119.65	209	17.23	-9.52
	O R Tambo	3825	249.65	57	3.72	-35.96
	Sarah Baartman	2533	523.54	85	17.57	1.19
Free State	Fezile Dabi	2731	535.36	65	12.74	-1.52
	Lejweleputswa	4868	744.80	142	21.73	23.48
	Mangaung Metro	11011	1264.30	225	25.83	7.66
	Thabo Mofutsanyana	4108	537.12	101	13.21	18.82
	Xhariep	497	383.95	14	10.82	250.00
Gauteng	City of Johannesburg Metro	44369	756.30	308	5.25	-44.80
	City of Tshwane Metro	31736	851.04	417	11.18	-33.17
	Ekurhuleni Metro	26340	661.44	308	7.73	-26.49
	Sedibeng	7731	809.09	102	10.67	-18.40
	West Rand	10675	1118.11	93	9.74	-37.58
KwaZulu-Natal	Amajuba	3577	626.97	51	8.94	-38.55
	eThekwin Metro	28154	707.17	573	14.39	-23.70
	Harry Gwala	1861	362.04	75	14.59	66.67
	iLembe	2560	368.59	48	6.91	-28.36
	King Cetshwayo	6709	691.17	134	13.80	-21.64
	Ugu	4004	499.42	118	14.72	8.26
	uMgungundlovu	8545	743.41	196	17.05	-35.74

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	1069	155.62	38	5.53	100.00
	Umzinyathi	1425	251.07	27	4.76	-49.06
	UThukela	2401	336.17	41	5.74	-35.94
	Zululand	1596	181.20	77	8.74	11.59
Limpopo	Capricorn	6869	525.17	100	7.65	-25.37
	Mopani	2853	240.79	73	6.16	-5.19
	Sekhukhune	1567	131.65	20	1.68	-20.00
	Vhembe	2229	156.18	25	1.75	-32.43
	Waterberg	2666	359.20	39	5.25	-25.00
Mpumalanga	Ehlanzeni	5862	320.55	112	6.12	-37.43
	Gert Sibande	5626	452.92	118	9.50	-28.05
	Nkangala	5047	313.69	63	3.92	-60.63
North West	Bojanala Platinum	8989	466.20	183	9.49	-7.58
	Dr Kenneth Kaunda	13493	1691.45	361	45.25	5.87
	Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti	1746	369.07	23	4.86	-34.29
	Ngaka Modiri Molema	1724	189.48	7	0.77	-73.08
Northern Cape	Frances Baard	4092	986.24	53	12.77	-26.39
	John Taolo Gaetsewe	1153	424.71	33	12.16	13.79
	Namakwa	1039	898.69	43	37.19	19.44
	Pixley Ka Seme	723	342.84	39	18.49	116.67
	ZF Mgcawu	1734	619.50	37	13.22	-26.00
Western Cape	Cape Winelands	9967	1058.90	376	39.95	-25.69
	Central Karoo	947	1260.77	59	78.55	1.72
	City of Cape Town Metro	62902	1365.95	2643	57.39	-20.32
	Garden Route	9682	1552.45	381	61.09	-20.29
	Overberg	2376	792.24	79	26.34	-3.66
	West Coast	3275	710.70	151	32.77	-1.31

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 2020-21 August 2021.

Age (years)	ADMISSIONS				DEATHS			
	Female	Male	Unknown	Total	Female	Male	Unknown	Total
0-4	3069	3677	23	6769	113	117	2	232
5-9	855	1032	6	1893	17	19	0	36
10-14	1375	1302	2	2679	43	39	0	82
15-19	4149	2184	3	6336	103	98	0	201
20-24	6605	3296	7	9908	233	180	1	414
25-29	11136	4995	11	16142	549	336	0	885
30-34	14820	8591	5	23416	937	752	0	1689
35-39	16348	12077	19	28444	1404	1286	3	2693
40-44	15638	14052	14	29704	1765	1849	1	3615
45-49	18093	17712	12	35817	2643	2742	1	5386
50-54	21537	19935	9	41481	3662	3803	2	7467
55-59	23961	21717	20	45698	5270	5280	9	10559
60-64	21119	19321	18	40458	5719	5903	5	11627
65-69	17944	16105	20	34069	5878	5522	6	11406
70-74	14856	13252	21	28129	5115	5074	7	10196
75-79	10964	9064	9	20037	3989	3757	3	7749
80-84	8254	5691	10	13955	3275	2534	4	5813
85-89	4264	2684	5	6953	1750	1281	1	3032
90-94	1858	892	1	2751	852	474	0	1326
>=95	558	301	2	861	258	123	0	381
Unknown	962	932	43	1937	66	99	0	165
Total	218365	178812	260	397437	43641	41268	45	84954