

# WEEKLY RESPIRATORY PATHOGENS SURVEILLANCE REPORT

SOUTH AFRICA WEEK 31 2021

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## CUMULATIVE DATA FROM



## HIGHLIGHTS: WEEK 31

- RSV activity remains below seasonal threshold in both influenza-like illness (ILI) and pneumonia surveillance programmes.
- One new case of influenza from Western Cape was detected in week 31. To date, 60 influenza cases have been detected from Gauteng, Western Cape, North West, Eastern Cape, Mpumalanga and KwaZulu-Natal sentinel surveillance sites. The influenza season has not started.
- From 2 March 2020 to 8 August 2021, a total of 2 370 COVID-19 cases were detected from all surveillance programmes. A decline in detection rate has been noted in both pneumonia surveillance and ILI programme in this reporting week (week 31). Of the 1 437 hospitalised COVID-19 cases reported with available data on outcome, 233 (16%) died.

# INFLUENZA, RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS AND SARS-CoV-2 SURVEILLANCE REPORT

WEEK 31 2021

REPORTING PERIOD 4 JANUARY 2021 TO 8 AUGUST 2021

## PROGRAMME DESCRIPTIONS

Programme	Influenza-like illness (ILI)	Viral Watch	National syndromic surveillance for pneumonia
Start year	2012	1984	2009
Provinces*	KZ NW WC** MP***	EC FS GP LP MP NC NW WC	GP KZ MP NW WC
Type of site	Primary health care clinics	General practitioners	Public hospitals
Case definition	<p><b>ILI:</b> An acute respiratory illness with a temperature (<math>\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}</math>) and cough, &amp; onset <math>\leq 10</math> days</p> <p><b>Suspected pertussis</b> Any person with an acute cough illness lasting <math>\geq 14</math> days (or cough illness of any duration for children <math>&lt; 1</math> year), without a more likely diagnosis AND one or more of the following signs or symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• paroxysms of coughing,</li> <li>• or inspiratory “whoop”,</li> <li>• or post-tussive vomiting</li> <li>• or apnoea in children <math>&lt; 1</math> year;</li> </ul> <p>OR</p> <p>Any person in whom a clinician suspects pertussis</p> <p><b>Suspected SARS-CoV-2</b> Any person presenting with an acute (<math>\leq 14</math> days) respiratory tract infection or other clinical illness compatible with COVID-19<sup>§</sup></p>	<p><b>ILI:</b> An acute respiratory illness with a temperature (<math>\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}</math>) and cough, &amp; onset <math>\leq 10</math> days</p> <p><b>Suspected SARS-CoV-2</b> Any person presenting with an acute (<math>\leq 14</math> days) respiratory tract infection or other clinical illness compatible with COVID-19<sup>§</sup></p>	<p><b>SRI:</b> Acute (symptom onset <math>\leq 10</math> days) or chronic (symptom onset <math>&gt; 10</math>) lower respiratory tract infection</p> <p><b>Suspected pertussis</b> Any person with an acute cough illness lasting <math>\geq 14</math> days (or cough illness of any duration for children <math>&lt; 1</math> year), without a more likely diagnosis AND one or more of the following signs or symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• paroxysms of coughing,</li> <li>• or inspiratory “whoop”,</li> <li>• or post-tussive vomiting</li> <li>• or apnoea in children <math>&lt; 1</math> year;</li> </ul> <p>OR</p> <p>Any person in whom a clinician suspects pertussis.</p> <p><b>Suspected SARS-CoV-2</b> Any person admitted with a physician-diagnosis of suspected COVID-19 and not meeting SRI case definition.</p>
Specimens collected	Oropharyngeal & nasopharyngeal swabs	Throat and/or nasal swabs or Nasopharyngeal swabs	Oropharyngeal & nasopharyngeal swabs
Main pathogens tested****	INF RSV BP SARS-CoV-2	INF RSV BP SARS-CoV-2	INF RSV BP SARS-CoV-2

### Epidemic Threshold

Thresholds are calculated using the Moving Epidemic Method (MEM), a sequential analysis using the R Language, available from: <http://CRAN.R-project.org/web/package=mem> designed to calculate the duration, start and end of the annual influenza epidemic. MEM uses the 40th, 90th and 97.5th percentiles established from available years of historical data to calculate thresholds of activity. Thresholds of activity for influenza and RSV are defined as follows: Below seasonal threshold, Low activity, Moderate activity, High activity, Very high activity. For influenza, thresholds from outpatient influenza like illness (Viral Watch Programme) are used as an indicator of disease transmission in the community and thresholds from pneumonia surveillance are used as an indicator of impact of disease.

\* EC: Eastern Cape; FS: Free State; GP: Gauteng; KZ: KwaZulu-Natal; LP: Limpopo; MP: Mpumalanga; NC: Northern Cape; NW: North West; WC: Western Cape

\*\*Started in 2019

\*\*\*Started in November 2020

\*\*\*\*INF: influenza virus; RSV: respiratory syncytial virus; BP: *Bordetella pertussis*; SARS-CoV-2: severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2

§Symptoms include ANY of the following respiratory symptoms: cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, anosmia (loss of sense of smell) or dysgeusia (alteration of the sense of taste), with or without other symptoms (which may include fever, weakness, myalgia, or diarrhoea)

# INFLUENZA, RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS AND SARS-CoV-2 SURVEILLANCE REPORT

WEEK 31 2021

REPORTING PERIOD 2 MARCH 2020 TO 8 AUGUST 2021

## COMMENTS

### Influenza

The influenza 2021 season has not started. Since the first influenza positive case of 2021 was detected in pneumonia surveillance in week 9 of 2021 (week ending on the 07 March 2021), sporadic cases have been reported from week 16 to date. Of the 60 influenza cases detected in surveillance sites in 2021, the majority (48, 80%) were influenza B/Victoria.

**ILI programme:** In 2021 to date, specimens from 1091 patients meeting ILI case definition were received from 4 ILI sites. Influenza was detected in eight (1%) patients, of which six (75%) were influenza B (Victoria) and two (25%) were influenza B (lineage inconclusive). (Figure 1 and Table 1).

**Viral Watch programme:** In 2021 to date, specimens were received from 157 patients from Viral Watch sites in five of the 8 provinces participating in surveillance. Influenza was detected in nine (6%) patients, of which four (44%) were influenza B (Victoria), four (44%) influenza B (lineage inconclusive) and one (11%) was influenza B (pending lineage results). (Figure 5 and Table 4).

**Pneumonia surveillance:** Since the beginning of 2021, specimens from 3 695 patients with severe respiratory illness (SRI) were received from the 6 sentinel sites. Influenza was detected in 32 (0.9%) patients, of which one (3%) was influenza A(H3N2), 27 (84%) influenza B (Victoria) and four (13%) were influenza B (pending lineage results). (Figure 9 and Table 7).

In addition, influenza was detected in 11 (2%) specimens, all were influenza B (Victoria) from 586 patients who met suspected SARS-CoV-2 case definition but did not meet the pneumonia/ILI surveillance case definitions.

### Respiratory syncytial virus

In 2021 to date, RSV transmission has been reported from all surveillance programmes, activity remains below seasonal threshold.

**ILI programme:** In 2021 to date, 1091 specimens were tested and RSV was detected in specimens of 72 (7%) patients.

**Viral Watch programme:** In 2021 to date, 157 specimens were tested and RSV was detected in specimens of six (4%) patients.

**Pneumonia surveillance:** Since the beginning of 2021, 3 695 specimens were tested and RSV was detected in specimens of 384 (10%) patients.

In addition, RSV was detected in 21 of 586 (4%) specimens from patients who met suspected SARS-CoV-2 case definition but did not meet the pneumonia/ILI surveillance case definitions.

### SARS-CoV-2 (Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2)

Testing for SARS-CoV-2 was initiated in all three surveillance programmes in week 10 of 2020 (week starting 2 March 2020).

**ILI programme:** From March 2020 to date, specimens from 2 394 patients were tested and SARS-CoV-2 was detected in 470 (20%) patients.

**Viral Watch programme:** From March 2020 to date, specimens were tested from 436 patients and SARS-CoV-2 was detected in 80 (18%) patients.

**Pneumonia surveillance:** From March 2020 to date, specimens from 7 711 patients with severe respiratory illness (SRI) were tested and SARS-CoV-2 was detected in 1 670 (22%) patients.

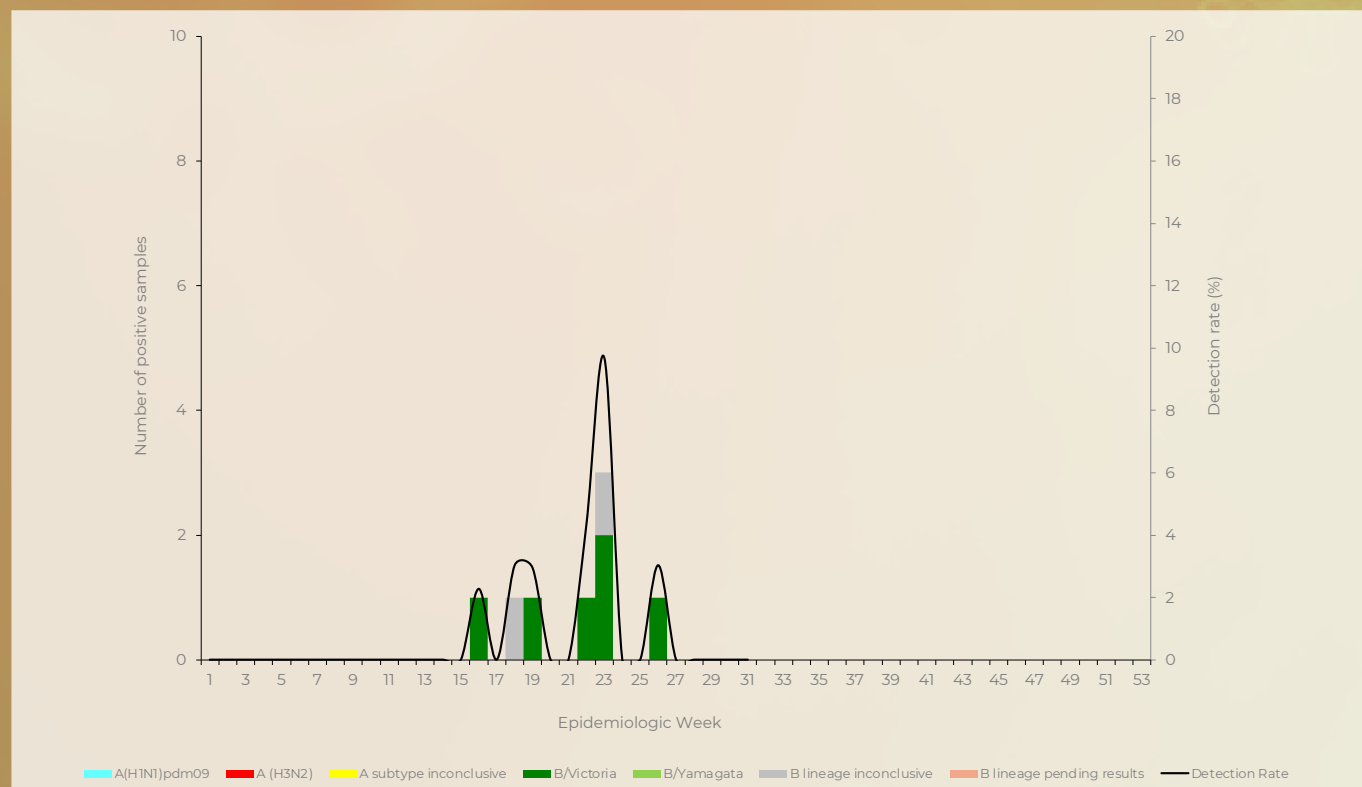
In addition, SARS-CoV-2 was detected in 150 of 789 (19%) specimens from patients who met suspected SARS-CoV-2 case definition but did not meet the pneumonia/ILI surveillance case definitions.

# INFLUENZA, RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS AND SARS-CoV-2 SURVEILLANCE REPORT

WEEK 31 2021

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## INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS (ILI) SURVEILLANCE PRIMARY HEALTH CARE CLINICS



**Figure 1.** Number of positive samples\* by influenza subtype and lineage\*\* and detection rate\*\*\* by week

\*Specimens from patients with influenza-like illnesses at 5 sentinel sites in 4 provinces

\*\*Influenza was detected from 10 of 475 (2%), all were influenza B(Victoria) from patients who met suspected SARS-CoV-2 case definition but did not meet Influenza-like illness (ILI) case definition. These are not included in the epidemiological curve.

\*\*\*Only reported for weeks with >10 specimens submitted

Inconclusive: insufficient viral load in sample and unable to characterise further

B lineage pending results: means influenza B results for lineage are pending

**Table 1.** Cumulative number of influenza subtype and lineage\*\* and total number of samples tested by clinic and province

Clinic (Province)	A(H1N1) pdm09	A(H3N2)	A subtype inconclusive	B/Victoria	B/Yamagata	B lineage inconclusive	B lineage pending results***	Total samples
Agincourt (MP)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	156
Eastridge (WC)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	169
Edendale Gateway (KZ)	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	123
Jouberton (NW)	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	526
Mitchell's Plain (WC)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	117
<b>Total:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1091</b>

KZ: KwaZulu-Natal; NW: North West; WC: Western Cape; MP: Mpumalanga

Inconclusive: insufficient viral load in sample and unable to characterise further

\*\*Influenza was detected from 10 of 475 (2%), all were influenza B(Victoria) from patients who met suspected SARS-CoV-2 case definition but did not meet Influenza-like illness (ILI) case definition. These are not included in the table.

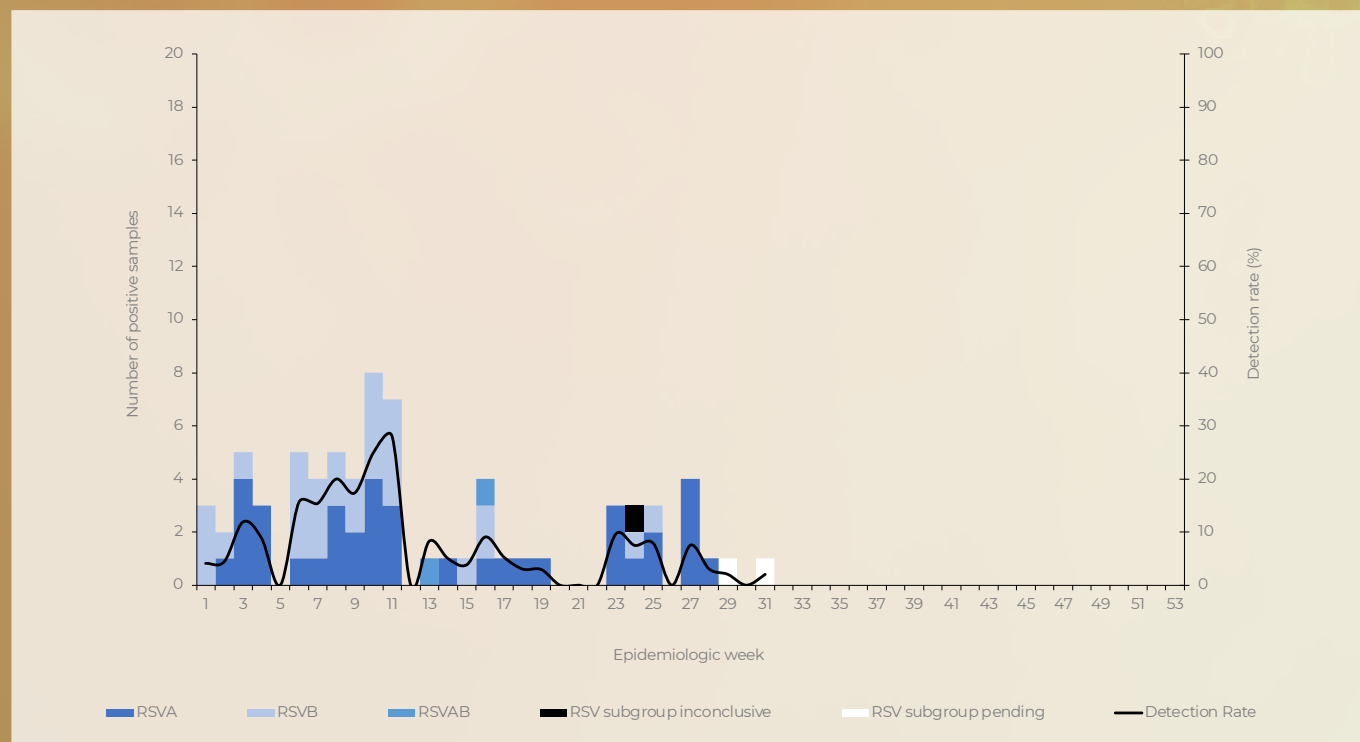
\*\*\*influenza B lineage results are pending

# INFLUENZA, RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS AND SARS-CoV-2 SURVEILLANCE REPORT

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## INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS (ILI) SURVEILLANCE PRIMARY HEALTH CARE CLINICS



**Figure 2.** Number of samples testing positive for respiratory syncytial virus\*\* by subgroup and detection rate by week

Inconclusive: insufficient viral load in sample and unable to characterise further  
 RSV AB: Both RSV A and B subgroup identified  
 RSV subgroup pending: means RSV results for subgroups are pending

\*\*RSV was detected from 15 of 475 (3%) specimens from patients who met suspected SARS-CoV-2 case definition but did not meet influenza-like illness (ILI) case definition. These are not included in the epidemiological curve.

**Table 2.** Cumulative number of respiratory syncytial virus subgroups\*\* identified and total number of samples tested by clinic and province

Clinic (Province)	RSVA	RSVB	RSVAB	RSV subgroup inconclusive	RSV subgroup pending*	Total samples
Agincourt (MP)	11	7	1	0	0	156
Eastridge (WC)	22	0	1	0	1	169
Edendale Gateway (KZ)	1	6	0	0	0	123
Jouberton (NW)	2	16	0	1	1	526
Mitchell's Plain (WC)	2	0	0	0	0	117
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1091</b>

KZ: KwaZulu-Natal; NW: North West; WC: Western Cape; MP: Mpumalanga  
 Inconclusive: insufficient viral load in sample and unable to characterise further  
 RSV AB: Both RSV A and B subgroup identified  
 \*RSV results for subgroups are pending

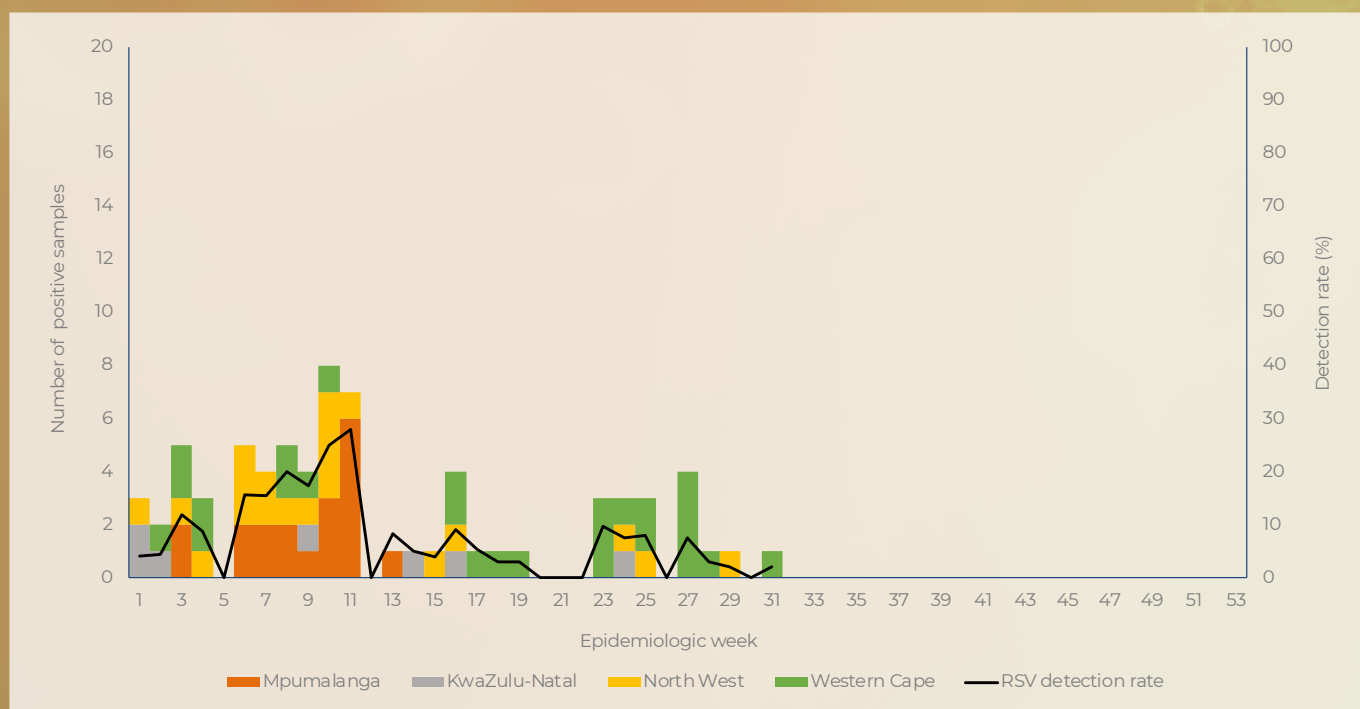
\*\*RSV was detected from 15 of 475 (3%) specimens from patients who met suspected SARS-CoV-2 case definition but did not meet influenza-like illness (ILI) case definition. These are not included in the table.

# INFLUENZA, RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS AND SARS-CoV-2 SURVEILLANCE REPORT

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## INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS (ILI) SURVEILLANCE PRIMARY HEALTH CARE CLINICS



**Figure 3.** Number of samples testing positive for respiratory syncytial virus\* by province and detection rate by week

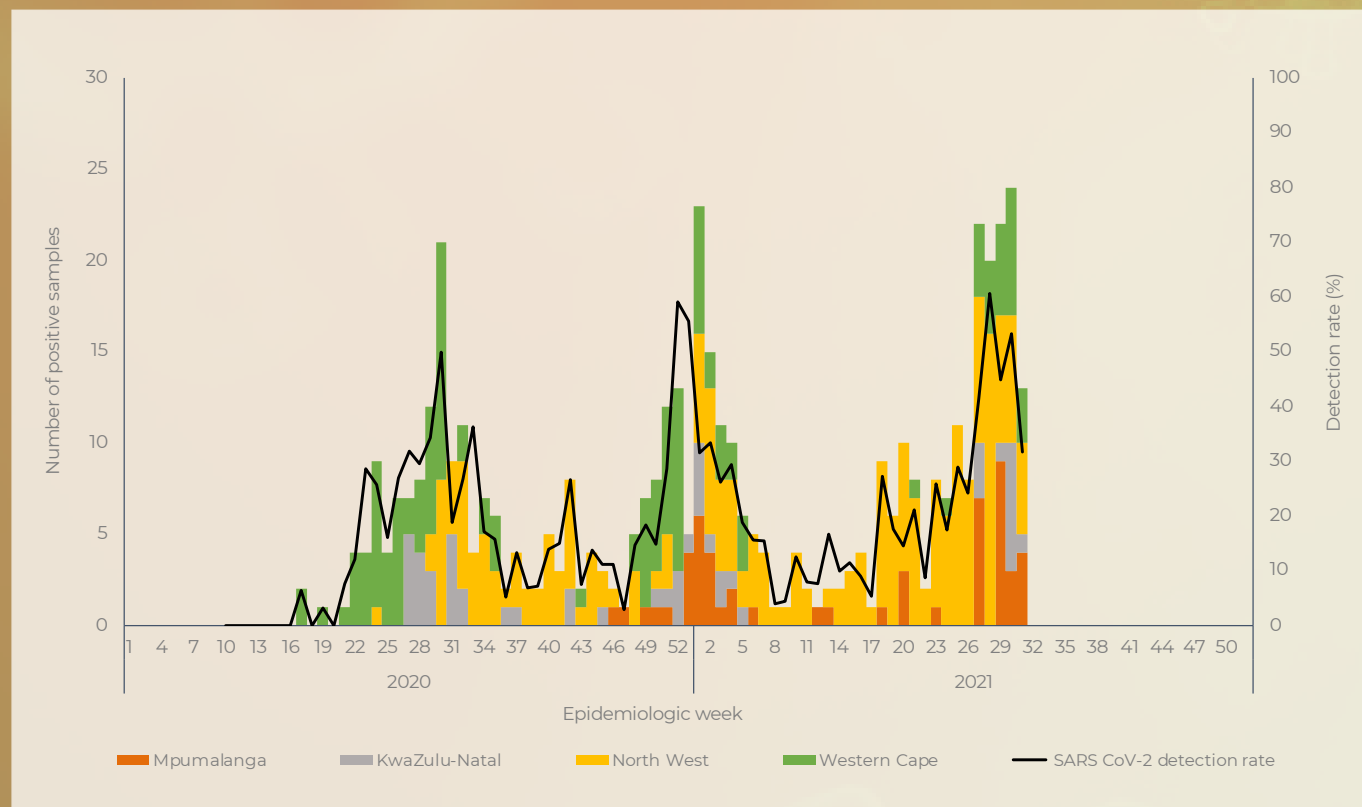
\*RSV was detected from 15 of 475 (3%) specimens from patients who met suspected SARS-CoV-2 case definition but did not meet influenza-like illness (ILI) case definition. These are not included in the epidemiological curve.

# INFLUENZA, RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS AND SARS-CoV-2 SURVEILLANCE REPORT

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## INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS (ILI) SURVEILLANCE PRIMARY HEALTH CARE CLINICS



**Figure 4.** Number of samples testing positive for SARS-CoV-2\*<sup>p</sup> by province and detection rate by week

\*Specimens from patients with influenza-like illnesses at 5 sentinel sites in 4 provinces

<sup>p</sup>SARS-CoV-2 was detected in 122 of 607 (20%) specimens from patients who met suspected SARS-CoV-2 case definition but did not meet influenza-like illness (ILI) case definition. These are not included in the epidemiological curve.

**Table 3.** Cumulative number of SARS-CoV-2\*\* identified and total number of samples tested by clinic and province

Clinic (Province)	SARS-CoV-2 positive	Total samples tested
Agincourt (MP)	53	183
Eastridge (WC)	54	671
Edendale Gateway (KZ)	51	265
Jouberton (NW)	229	829
Mitchell's Plain (WC)	83	446
<b>Total:</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>2 394</b>

KZ: KwaZulu-Natal; NW: North West; WCP: Western Cape; MP: Mpumalanga (started enrolling on the 10th November 2020)

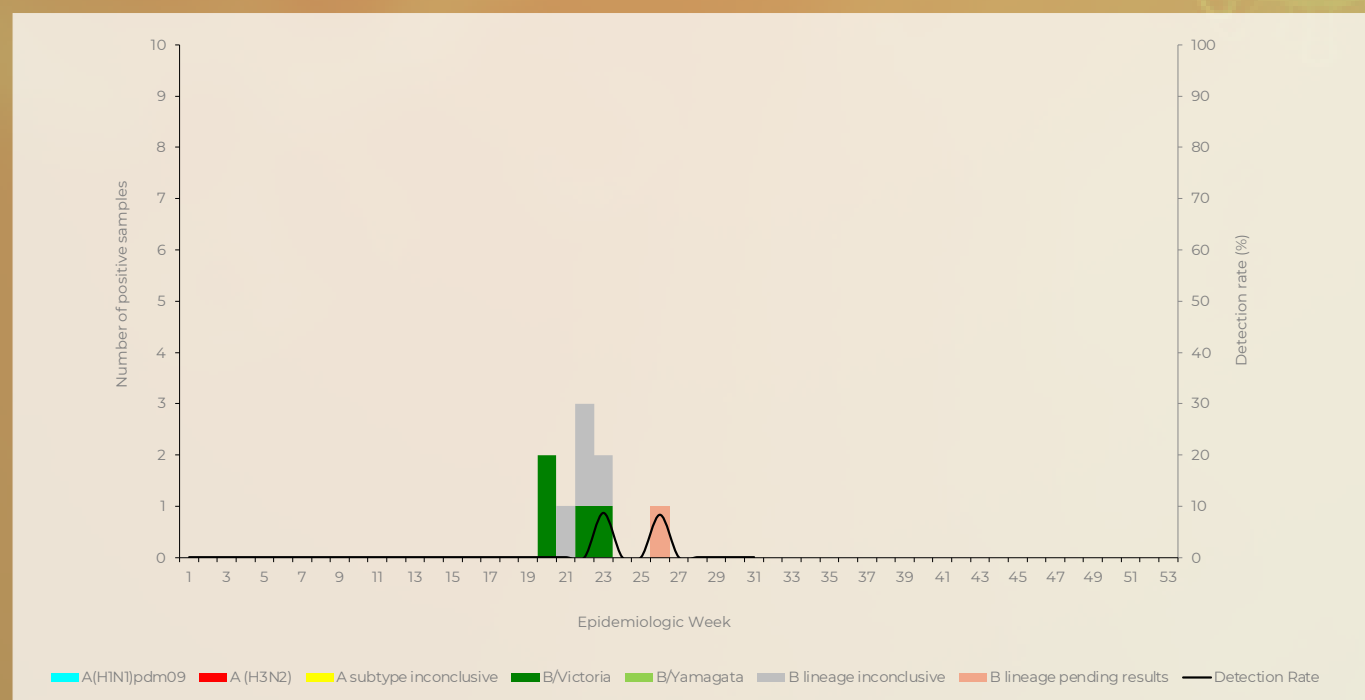
\*\*SARS-CoV-2 was detected in 122 of 607 (20%) specimens from patients who met suspected SARS-CoV-2 case definition but did not meet influenza-like illness (ILI) case definition. These are not included in the table.

# INFLUENZA, RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS AND SARS-CoV-2 SURVEILLANCE REPORT

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## INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS (ILI) SURVEILLANCE VIRAL WATCH



**Figure 5.** Number of positive samples\* by influenza subtype and lineage and detection rate\*\* by week

\*Specimens from patients with Influenza-like illnesses at 92 sentinel sites in 8 provinces

\*\* Only reported for weeks with >10 specimens submitted

Inconclusive: insufficient viral load in sample and unable to characterise further

**Table 4.** Cumulative number of influenza subtype and lineage and total number of samples tested by province

Province	A(H1N1) pdm09	A(H3N2)	A subtype inconclusive	B/Victoria	B/Yamagata	B lineage inconclusive	B lineage pending results*	Total samples
Eastern Cape	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Free State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gauteng	0	0	0	3	0	4	1	136
Limpopo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mpumalanga	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
North West	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Northern Cape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Western Cape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
<b>Total:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>157</b>

Inconclusive: insufficient viral load in sample and unable to characterise further

From 04 January 2021 to date, no patients were tested for influenza at the time of entry into South Africa following travel abroad.

Patients known to have acquired influenza abroad are not included in the table or epidemiological curve.



# INFLUENZA, RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS AND SARS-CoV-2 SURVEILLANCE REPORT

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## INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS (ILI) SURVEILLANCE VIRAL WATCH



**Figure 6.** ILI surveillance (Viral Watch) percentage influenza detections and epidemic thresholds\*

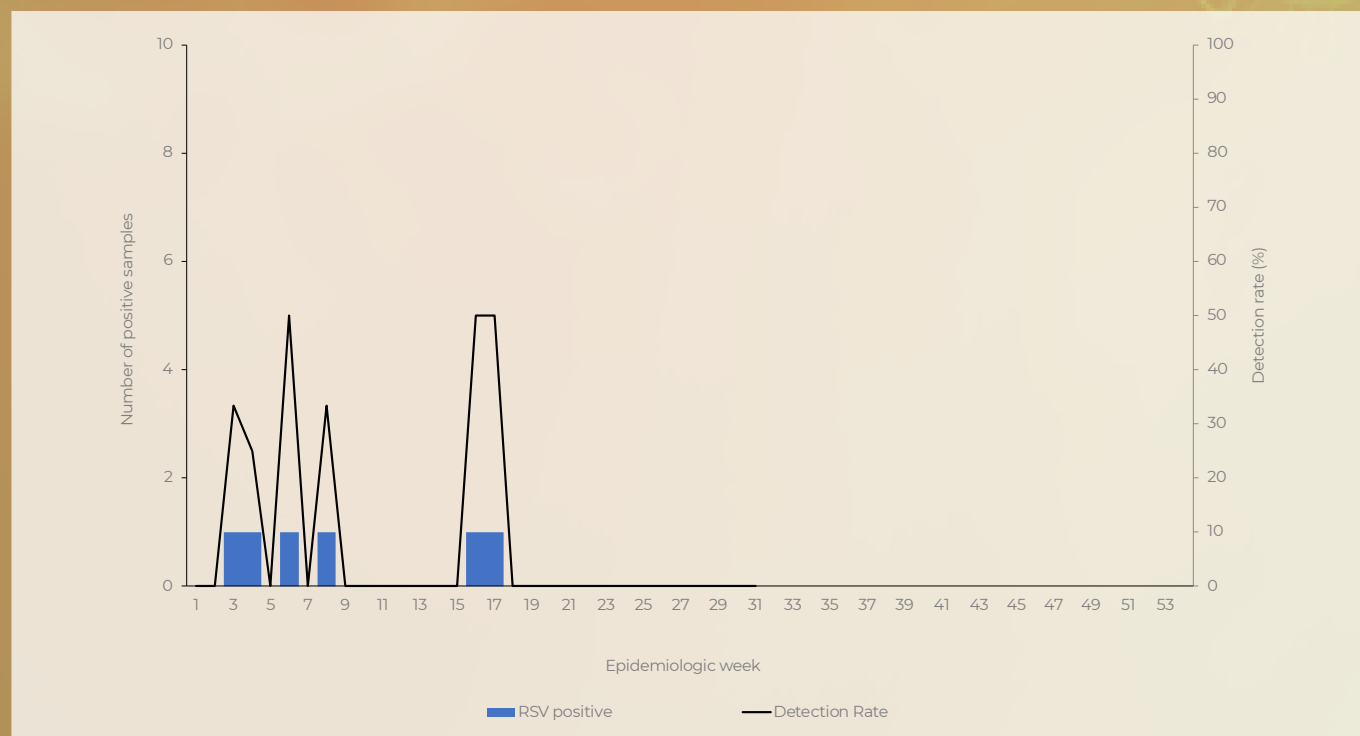
\*Thresholds based on 2010-2019 data

# INFLUENZA, RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS AND SARS-CoV-2 SURVEILLANCE REPORT

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## INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS (ILI) SURVEILLANCE VIRAL WATCH



**Figure 7.** Number of samples testing positive for RSV\*, and detection rate by week

\*Specimens from patients with Influenza-like illnesses at 92 sentinel sites in 8 provinces

**Table 5.** Cumulative number of RSV positive cases identified and total number of samples tested by province

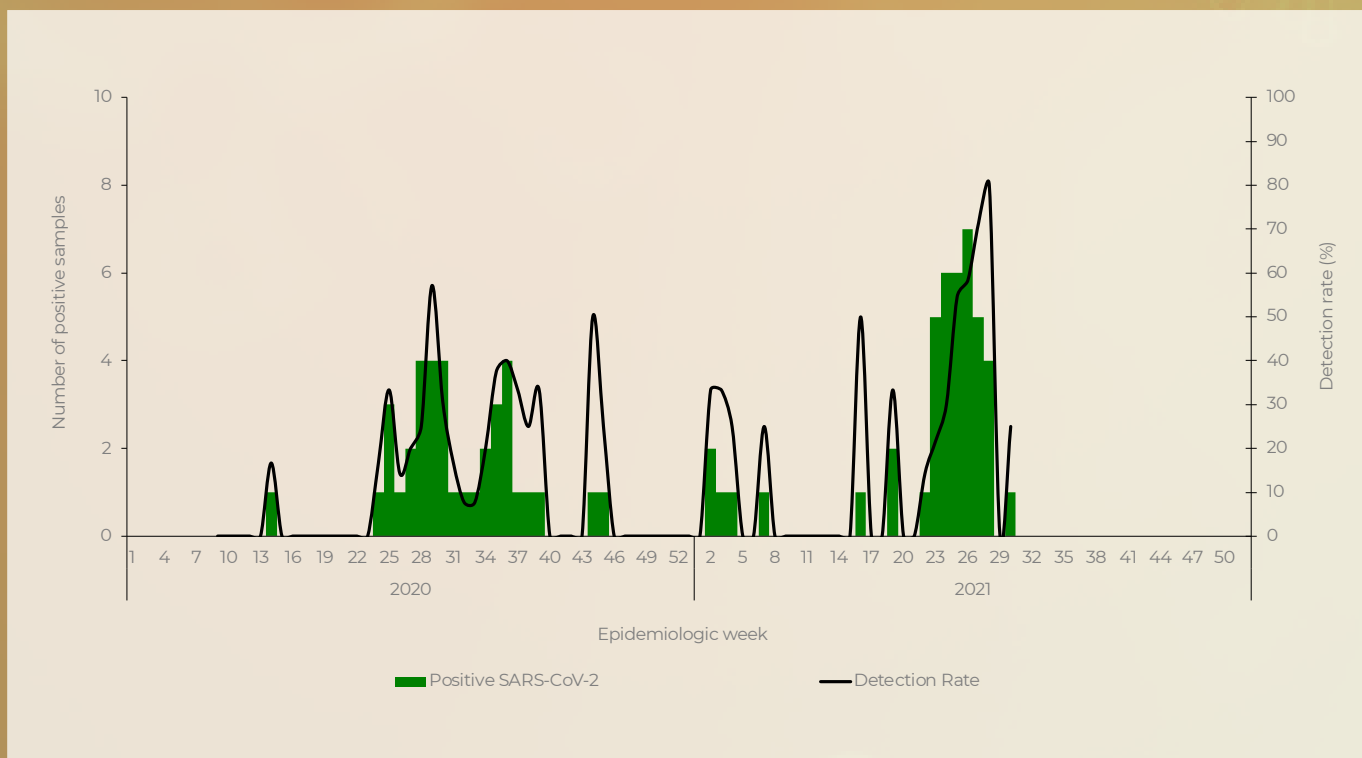
Province	RSV positive	Total samples tested
Eastern Cape	0	1
Free State	0	0
Gauteng	4	136
Limpopo	0	0
Mpumalanga	0	2
North West	0	2
Northern Cape	0	0
Western Cape	2	16
<b>Total:</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>157</b>

# INFLUENZA, RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS AND SARS-CoV-2 SURVEILLANCE REPORT

WEEK 31 2021

REPORTING PERIOD 2 MARCH 2020 TO 8 AUGUST 2021

## INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS (ILI) SURVEILLANCE VIRAL WATCH



**Figure 8.** Number of samples testing positive for SARS-CoV-2\*, and detection rate by week

\*Specimens from patients with Influenza-like illnesses at 92 sentinel sites in 8 provinces

**Table 6.** Cumulative number of SARS-CoV-2 identified and total number of samples tested by province

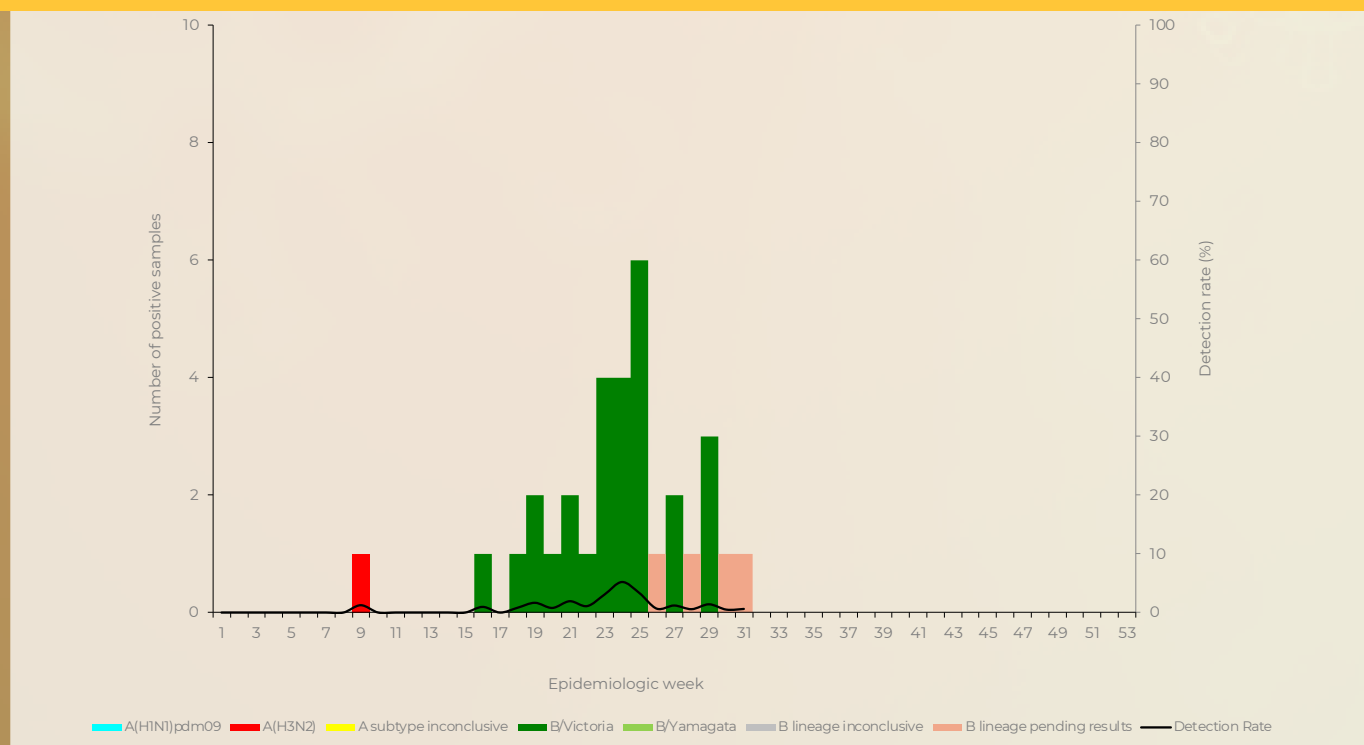
Hospital (Province)	SARS-CoV-2 positive	Total samples
Eastern Cape	1	5
Free State	1	14
Gauteng	65	296
Limpopo	0	2
Mpumalanga	1	7
North West	0	2
Northern Cape	0	2
Western Cape	12	108
<b>Total:</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>436</b>

# INFLUENZA, RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS AND SARS-CoV-2 SURVEILLANCE REPORT

WEEK 31 2021

REPORTING PERIOD 4 JANUARY 2021 TO 8 AUGUST 2021

## NATIONAL SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE FOR PNEUMONIA



**Figure 9.** Number of positive samples\* by influenza subtype and lineage\*\* and detection rate\*\*\* by week

\*Specimens from patients hospitalised with pneumonia at 7 sentinel sites in 5 provinces

\*\*Influenza B(Victoria) was detected from one of 111 (1%) specimens from patients who met suspected SARS-CoV-2 case definition but did not meet pneumonia (SRI) case definition. These are not included in the epidemiological curve.

\*\*\*Only reported for weeks with >10 specimens submitted

Inconclusive: insufficient viral load in sample and unable to characterise further

B lineage pending results: influenza B results for lineage are pending

**Table 7.** Cumulative number of identified influenza subtype and lineage\*\* and total number of samples tested by hospital

Province	A(H1N1) pdm09	A(H3N2)	A subtype inconclusive	B/Victoria	B/Yamagata	B lineage inconclusive	B lineage pending results***	Total samples
Edendale (KZ)	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	533
Helen Joseph-Rahima Moosa (GP)	0	0	0	12	0	0	1	983
Klerksdorp-Tshepong (NW)	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	622
Mapulaneng-Matikwana (MP)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	395
Red Cross (WC)	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	480
Mitchell's Plain (WC)	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	530
Tintswalo (MP)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	152
<b>Total:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3 695</b>

GP: Gauteng; KZ: KwaZulu-Natal; NW: North West; MP: Mpumalanga (Tintswalo started enrolling on the 10th Feb 2021); WC: Western Cape  
Inconclusive: insufficient viral load in sample and unable to characterise further

\*\*Influenza B(Victoria) was detected from one of 111 (1%) specimens from patients who met suspected SARS-CoV-2 case definition but did not meet pneumonia (SRI) case definition. These are not included in the table.

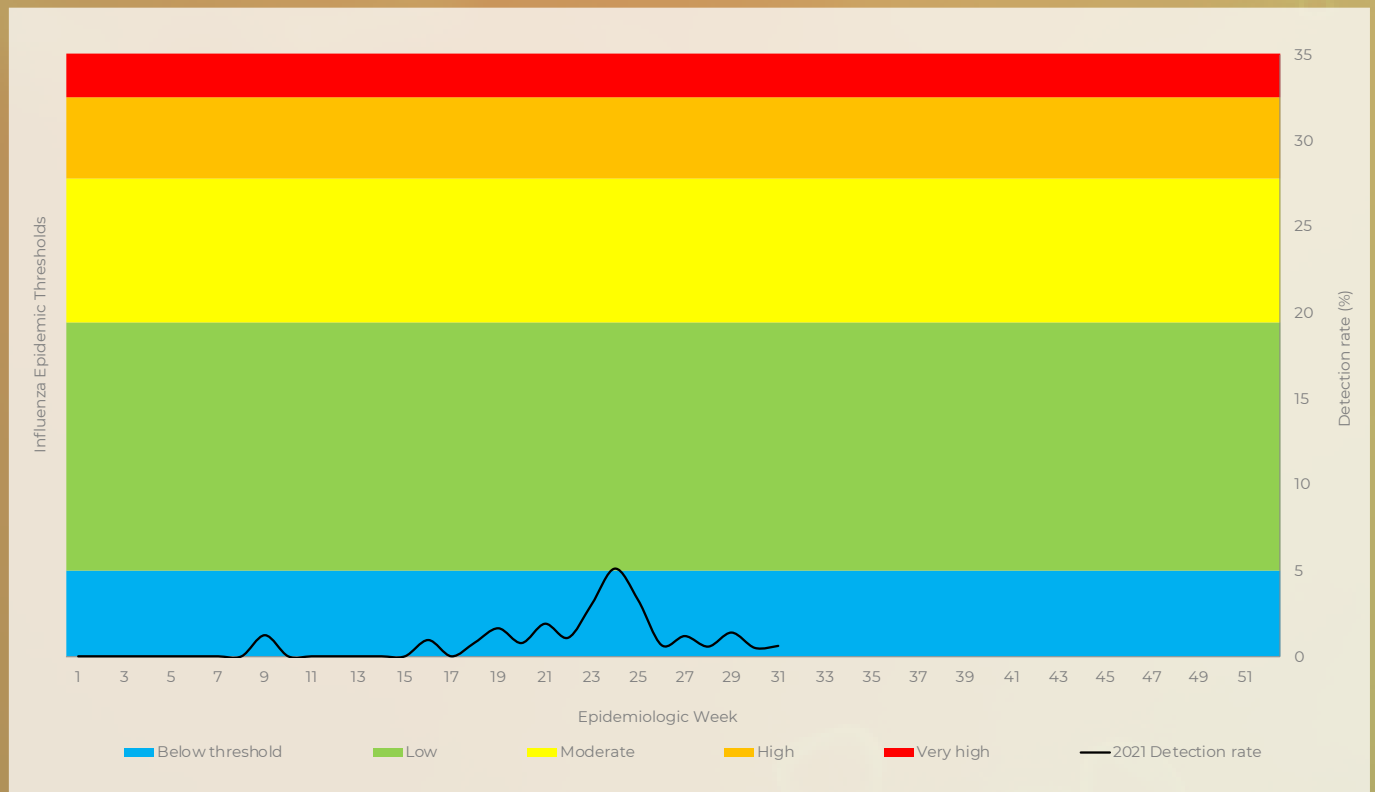
\*\*\*influenza B lineage results are pending

# INFLUENZA, RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS AND SARS-CoV-2 SURVEILLANCE REPORT

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## NATIONAL SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE FOR PNEUMONIA



**Figure 10.** National syndromic surveillance for pneumonia percentage influenza detections and epidemic thresholds\*

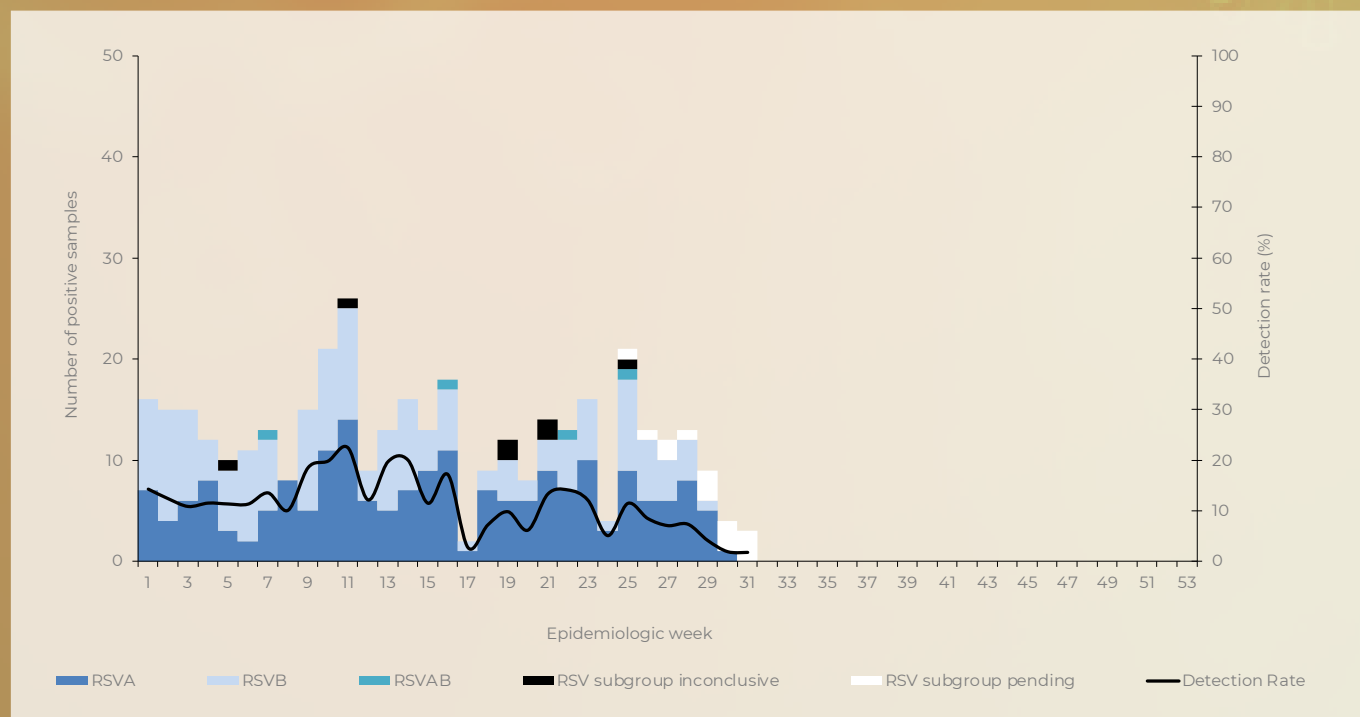
\*Thresholds based on 2010-2019 data

# INFLUENZA, RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS AND SARS-CoV-2 SURVEILLANCE REPORT

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## NATIONAL SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE FOR PNEUMONIA



**Figure 11.** Number of samples testing positive for respiratory syncytial virus\* by subgroup and detection rate by week

Inconclusive: insufficient viral load in sample and unable to characterise further

RSV AB: Both RSV A and B subgroup identified

RSV subgroup pending: means RSV results for subgroups are pending

\*RSV was detected in six of 111 (5%) specimens from patients who met suspected SARS-CoV-2 case definition but did not meet pneumonia (SRI) case definition. These are not included in the epidemiological curve.

**Table 8:** Cumulative number of respiratory syncytial virus\*\* subgroups identified and total number of samples tested by hospital

Hospital (Province)	RSVA	RSVB	RSVAB	RSV subgroup inconclusive	RSV subgroup pending*	Total samples
Edendale (KZ)	5	29	0	0	0	533
Helen Joseph-Rahima Moosa (GP)	36	42	0	0	1	983
Klerksdorp-Tshepong (NW)	8	44	0	2	0	622
Mapulaneng-Matikwana (MP)	20	7	1	0	0	395
Red Cross (WC)	80	29	2	4	13	480
Mitchell's Plain (WC)	36	10	1	1	0	530
Tintswalo (MP)	10	3	0	0	0	152
<b>Total:</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3 695</b>

GP: Gauteng; KZ: KwaZulu-Natal; NW: North West; MP: Mpumalanga (Tintswalo started enrolling on the 10th Feb 2021); WC: Western Cape

Inconclusive: insufficient viral load in sample and unable to characterise further

RSV AB: Both RSV A and B subgroup identified

\*RSV results for subgroups are pending

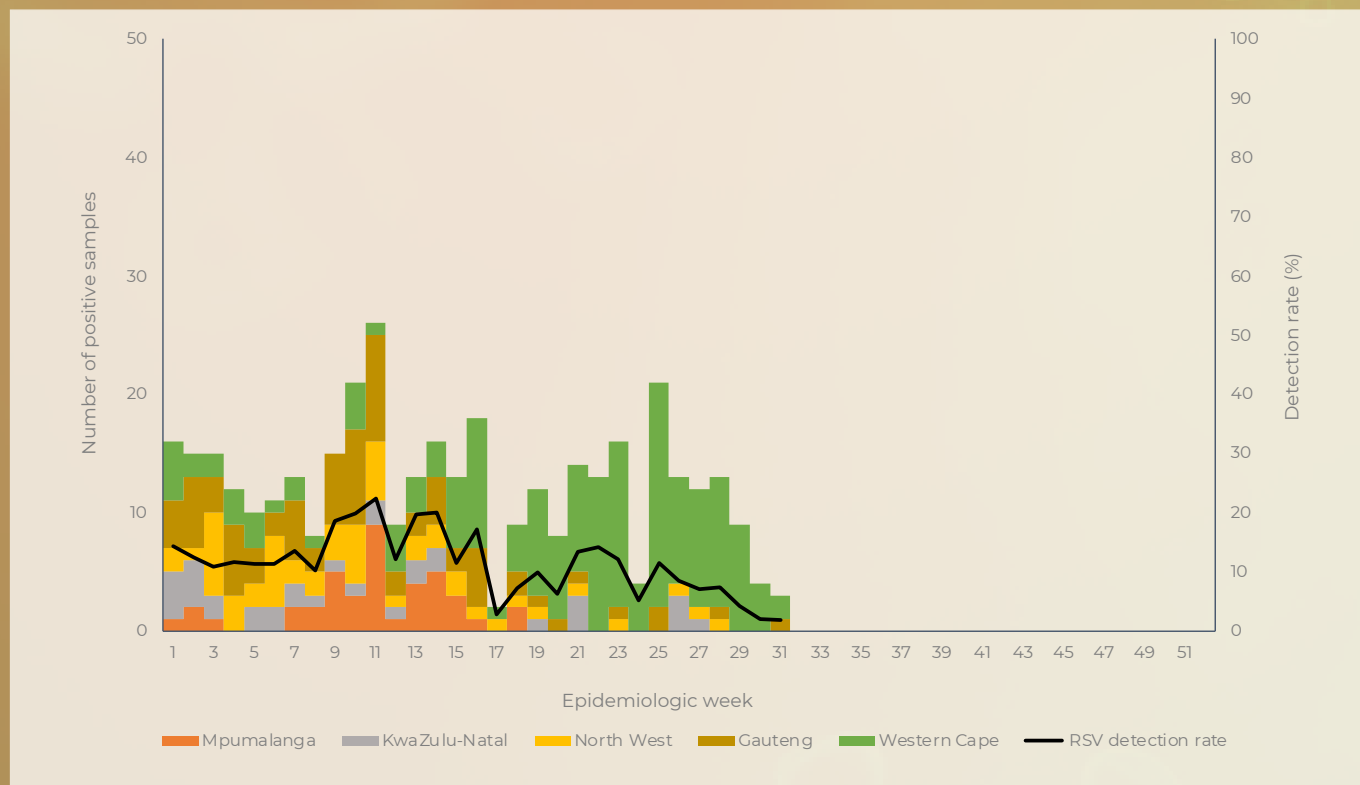
\*\*RSV was detected in six of 111 (5%) specimens from patients who met suspected SARS-CoV-2 case definition but did not meet pneumonia (SRI) case definition. These are not included in the table.

# INFLUENZA, RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS AND SARS-CoV-2 SURVEILLANCE REPORT

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## NATIONAL SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE FOR PNEUMONIA



**Figure 12.** Number of samples testing positive for respiratory syncytial virus\* by province and detection rate by week

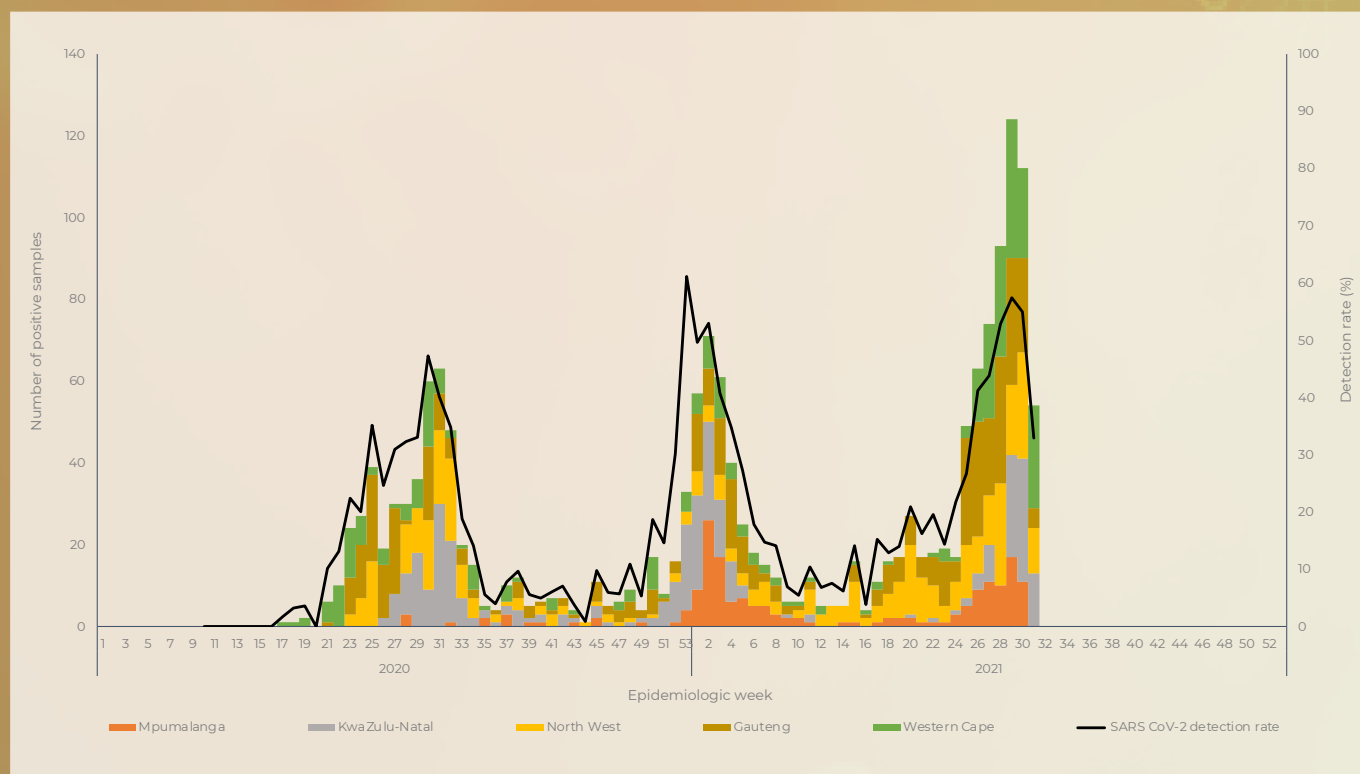
\*RSV was detected in six of 111 (5%) specimens from patients who met suspected SARS-CoV-2 case definition but did not meet pneumonia (SRI) case definition. These are not included in the epidemiological curve.

# INFLUENZA, RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS AND SARS-CoV-2 SURVEILLANCE REPORT

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## NATIONAL SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE FOR PNEUMONIA



**Figure 13.** Number of samples testing positive for SARS-CoV-2\*\* by province and detection rate by week

\*Specimens from patients hospitalised with pneumonia at 7 sentinel sites in 5 provinces

\*\*SARS-CoV-2 was detected in 28 of 182 (15%) specimens from patients who met suspected SARS-CoV-2 case definition but did not meet pneumonia (SRI) case definition. These are not included in the epidemiological curve.

**Table 9.** Cumulative number of identified SARS-CoV-2\*\* and total number of samples tested by hospital

Hospital (Province)	SARS-CoV-2 positive	Total samples tested
Edendale (KZ)	330	1 363
Helen Joseph-Rahima Moosa (GP)	456	1 836
Klerksdorp-Tshepong (NW)	388	1 222
Mapulaneng-Matikwana (MP)	141	700
Red Cross (WC)	52	1 436
Mitchell's Plain (WC)	263	1001
Tintswalo (MP)	40	153
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1 670</b>	<b>7 711</b>

GP: Gauteng; KZ: KwaZulu-Natal; NW: North West; MP: Mpumalanga (Tintswalo started enrolling on the 10th Feb 2021); WC: Western Cape

\*\*SARS-CoV-2 was detected in 28 of 182 (15%) specimens from patients who met suspected SARS-CoV-2 case definition but did not meet pneumonia (SRI) case definition. These are not included in the table.



# INFLUENZA, RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS AND SARS-CoV-2 SURVEILLANCE REPORT

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## SUMMARY OF LABORATORY CONFIRMED SARS-COV-2 CASES

**Table 10.** Characteristics of laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19, enrolled in influenza-like illness (ILI) and pneumonia surveillance programmes, South Africa, 02 March 2020 – 08 August 2021

Characteristic	Influenza-like illness (ILI), public-sector, n=592 (%)	Pneumonia, n=1 698 (%)
<b>Age group</b>		
0-9	46/592 (8)	110/1698 (6)
10-19	39/592 (7)	11/1698 (1)
20-39	271/592 (46)	285/1698 (17)
40-59	190/592 (32)	639/1698 (37)
60-79	44/592 (7)	587/1698 (35)
≥80	2/592 (<1)	66/1698 (4)
<b>Sex-female</b>	359/592 (61)	1026/1698 (60)
<b>Province*</b>		
Gauteng	N/A	457/1698 (27)
KwaZulu-Natal	85/592 (14)	334/698 (20)
Mpumalanga**	72/592 (12)	204/1698 (12)
North West	294/592 (50)	388/1698 (23)
Western Cape	141/592 (24)	315/1698 (18)
<b>Race</b>		
Black	426/577 (74)	1315/1652 (80)
Coloured	125/577 (22)	244/14652 (14)
Asian/Indian	4/577 (<1)	44/1652 (3)
White	19/577 (3)	31/1652 (2)
Other	3/577 (<1)	18/1652 (1)
<b>Presentation</b>		
Fever	464/577 (80)	807/1652 (49)
Cough	560/577 (97)	1584/1652 (96)
Shortness of breath	198/577 (34)	1302/1652 (79)
Chest pain	236/577 (41)	665/1652 (40)
Diarrhoea	47/577 (8)	99/1652 (6)

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Characteristic	Influenza-like illness (ILI), public-sector, n=592 (%)	Pneumonia, n=1 698 (%)
<b>Underlying conditions</b>		
Hypertension	17/577 (3)	248/1652 (17)
Cardiac	2/577 (<1)	42/1652 (3)
Lung disease	0/577 (0)	2/1652 (<1)
Diabetes	14/577 (2)	339/1652 (21)
Cancer	1/577 (<1)	10/1652 (1)
Tuberculosis	8/577 (1)	39/1652 (2)
HIV-infection	100/577 (17)	342/1652 (21)
Other ***	12/577 (2)	90/1652 (5)
<b>Management</b>		
Oxygen therapy	2/577 (1)	1 157/1652 (70)
ICU admission	N/A	36/1652 (2)
Ventilation	N/A	43/1652 (3)
<b>Outcome***</b>		
Died	0/560 (0)	233/1437 (16)

\*ILI surveillance not conducted in Gauteng province

\*\*Mpumalanga (ILI site started enrolling on the 10th November 2020 and an additional SARI site started enrolling on the 10th February 2021)

\*\*\*Chronic lung, liver and kidney disease, organ transplant, pregnancy, malnutrition, obesity, tracheostomy, prematurity, seizure, stroke, anaemia, asplenia, burns, Systemic lupus erythematosus, seizures

\*\*\*\*Outcome includes patients who are still hospitalised, have been discharged or referred, and those who died

**Note:** Children may be over-represented amongst hospitalised patients due to the inclusion of a large paediatric hospital in Cape Town.

Of the 233 patients who died, two were in <20 age group, 18 in the 20-39 year age group, 69 in the 40-59 year age group, and 144 were ≥60 years; 134/233 (58%) were female. All except eight were known to have underlying medical conditions.

Of the 805 admitted cases with COVID19 vaccine status, 34 (4%) received the first dose of Pfizer-BioNTech. All cases were 50 years old and above with 62% (21/34) females and 85% (29/34) being ≥65 years old. During their hospitalization 68% (23/34) received oxygen, 38% (13/34) were admitted in ICU, 6% (2/34) were HIV infected.