

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

SOUTH AFRICA

WEEK 38 2021

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 25 September 2021.

HIGHLIGHTS

- As of 25 September 2021, 427,832 COVID-19 admissions and 92,386 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. The third wave resurgence first emerged in Free State and Northern Cape, peaking in week 21, then a second increase in admissions occurred in weeks 26-33. Gauteng, North West, Limpopo and Mpumalanga next experienced resurgence and all peaked around week 27-29. A later resurgence occurred in Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal and Western Cape, and these provinces peaked in weeks 31-33. All provinces have shown sustained post-peak decreases in admissions.
- 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 25 September 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 2020-25 September 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 25 September 2021, a total of 427,832 COVID-19 admissions were reported from 664 facilities in all nine provinces of South Africa. Since week 14 2021, numbers of COVID-19 admissions increased in both sectors until the peak of the third wave in week 27, with admissions decreasing in both sectors for the past ten 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.

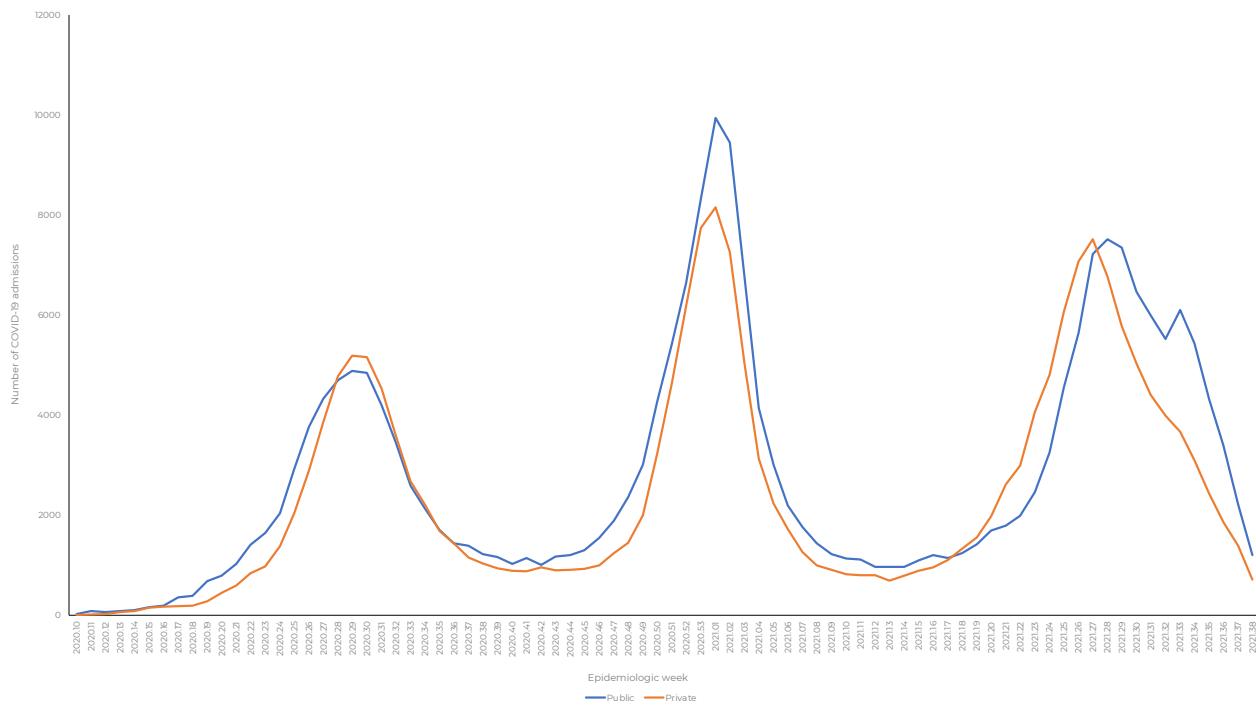


Figure 1. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=427,832

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The majority of admissions were recorded in four provinces, Gauteng 124,553 (29%), Western Cape 95,884 (22%), KwaZulu-Natal 68,591 (16%) and Eastern Cape 40,961 (10%) provinces. Weekly numbers of COVID-19 admissions have peaked with sustained post-peak decreases in all provinces (Figures 2a and 2b).

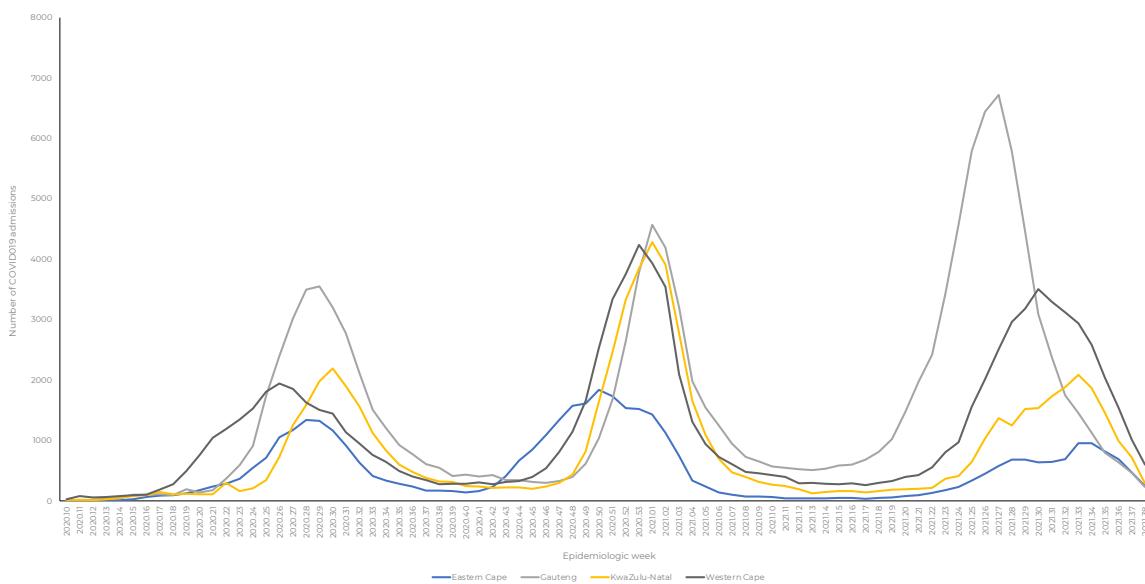


Figure 2a. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by provinces with highest admissions and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=427,832

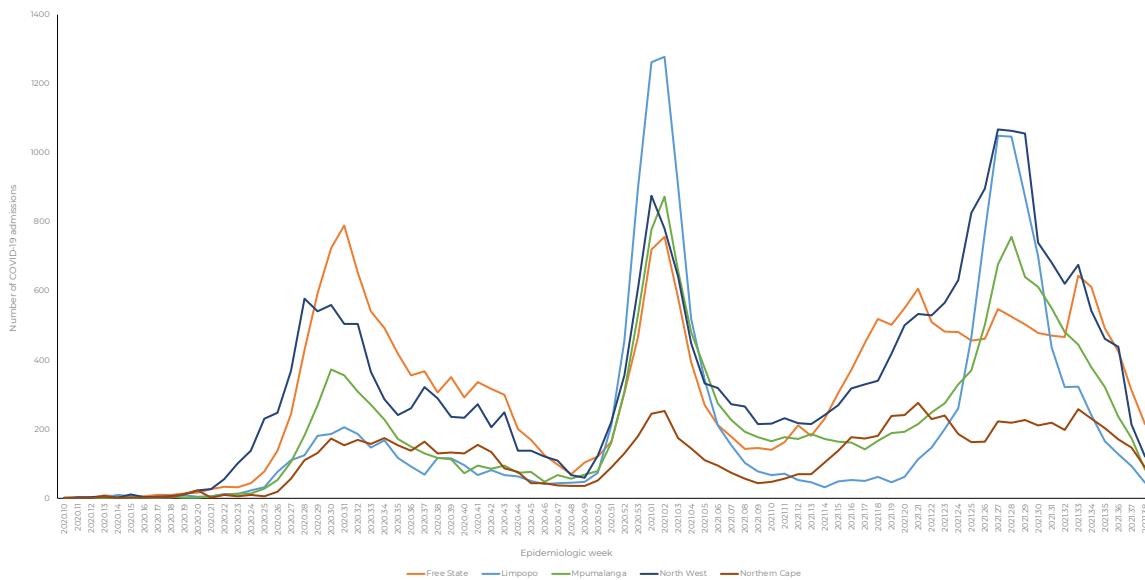


Figure 2b. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by provinces with lowest admissions and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=427,832

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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 third wave peak in week 28 (Figure 3). Decreases in deaths in both sectors have been observed in the past ten weeks.

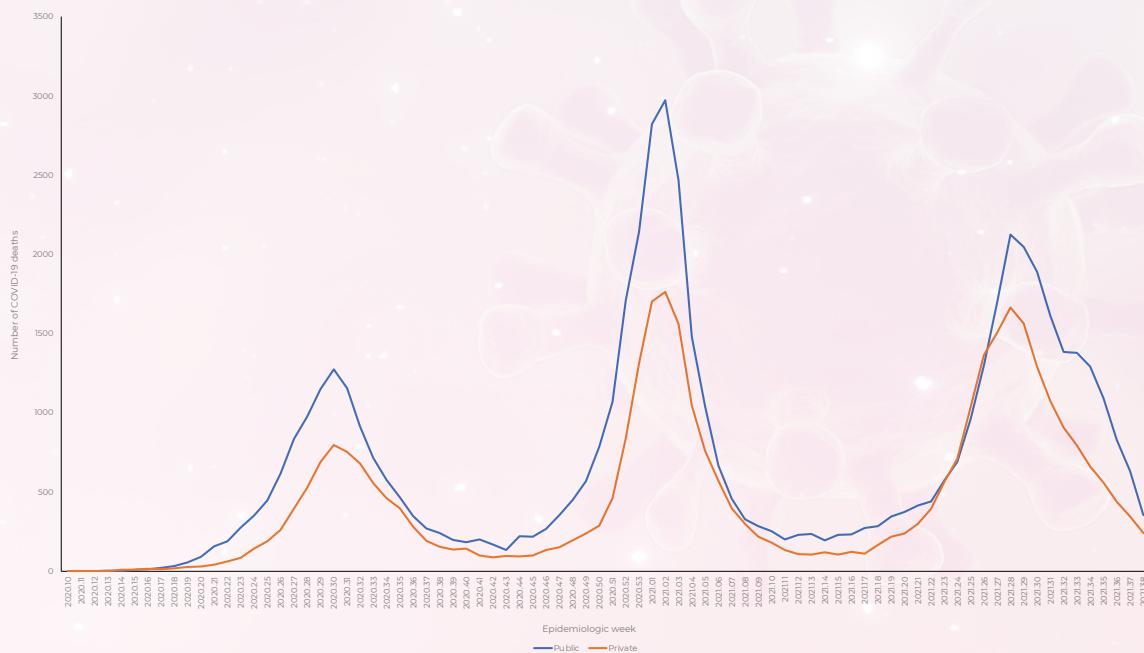


Figure 3. Number of in-hospital COVID-19 in-hospital deaths reported per week by health sector and epidemiologic week, South Africa, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=92,386

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Most deaths were reported in Gauteng 27,251 (30%), Western Cape 16,864 (18%), KwaZulu-Natal 15,293 (17%), and Eastern Cape 11,931 (13%). The numbers of COVID-19 deaths have decreased in all provinces over the past ten weeks (Figures 4a and 4b).

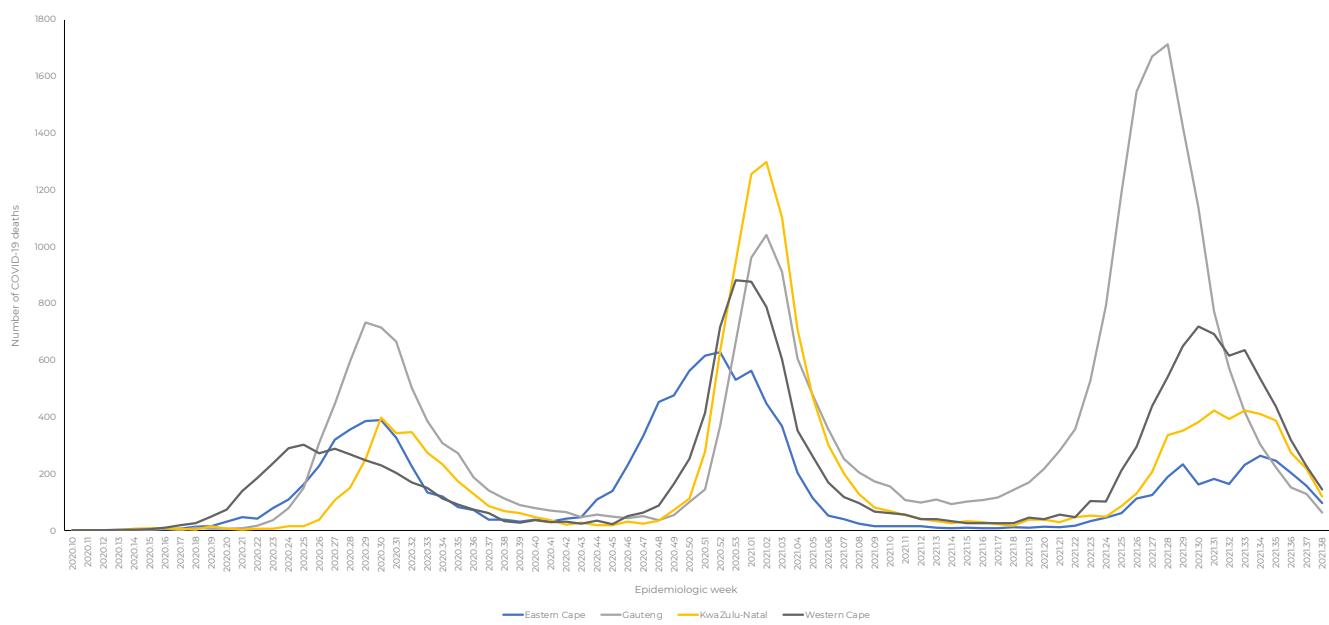


Figure 4a. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by province with highest deaths and epidemiologic week of death, South Africa, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=92,386

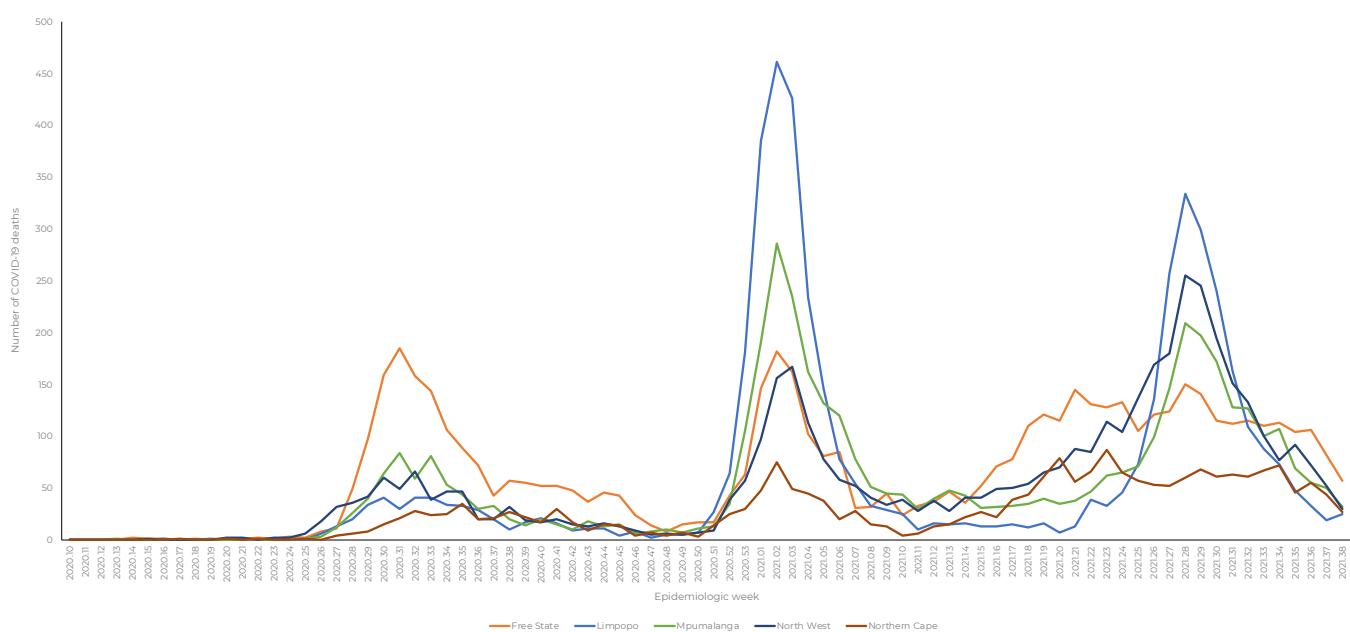


Figure 4b. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by province with lowest deaths and epidemiologic week of death, South Africa, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=92,386

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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 2020-25 September 2021.

Province	Provincial Population mid 2020*	Cumulative admissions	Cumulative Admissions / 100,000	Cumulative deaths	Cumulative deaths / 100,000
Eastern Cape	6734001	40961	608.3	11931	177.2
Free State	2928903	25449	868.9	5408	184.6
Gauteng	15488137	124 553	804.2	27251	175.9
KwaZulu-Natal	11531628	68591	594.8	15291	132.6
Limpopo	5852553	17056	291.4	4774	81.6
Mpumalanga	4679786	17928	383.1	4336	92.7
North West	4108816	27 920	679.5	4350	105.9
Northern Cape	1292786	9 490	734.1	2179	168.6
Western Cape	7005741	95 884	1368.6	16863	240.7
South Africa	59622350	427 832	717.6	92 383	154.9

*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 (Table 3). There was only 1 of 52 (2%) districts across the country that reported increased change in incidence risk of admissions, Overberg (Western Cape) (Appendix 1).

Table 3. Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, South Africa, 28 August-25 September 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	107.29	50.93	-52.53	31.93	18.00	-43.62
Free State	65.43	37.64	-42.47	15.00	9.93	-33.81
Gauteng	102.21	49.64	-51.43	26.64	13.71	-48.53
KwaZulu-Natal	174.50	71.93	-58.78	47.21	23.86	-49.47
Limpopo	20.86	9.86	-52.74	5.79	3.14	-45.68
Mpumalanga	39.64	18.36	-53.69	8.86	5.86	-33.87
North West	64.29	23.86	-62.89	11.71	5.86	-50.00
Northern Cape	26.64	16.79	-37.00	7.21	5.07	-29.70
Western Cape	256.14	115.29	-54.99	53.93	26.43	-50.99

* 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. Since the third wave peak in week 33, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of admissions in both sectors. (Figure 5).

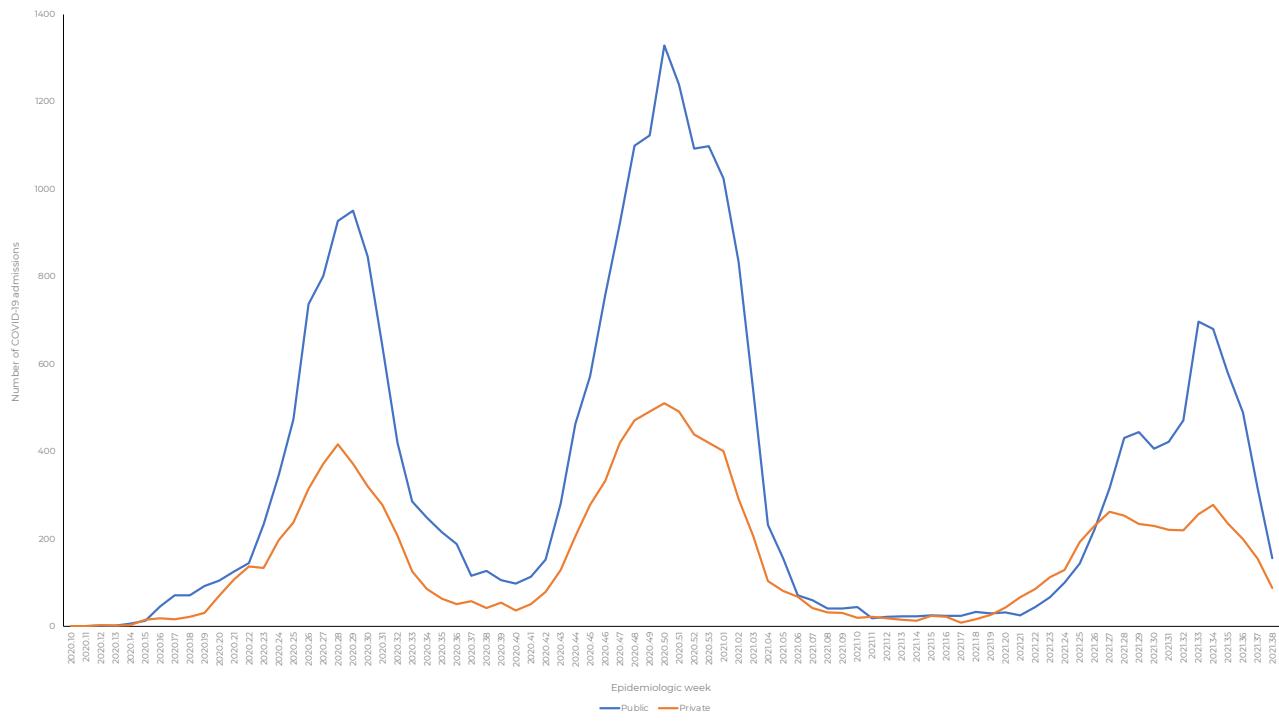


Figure 5: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=40,961

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The weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 6). Since the third wave peak, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of admissions in all districts.

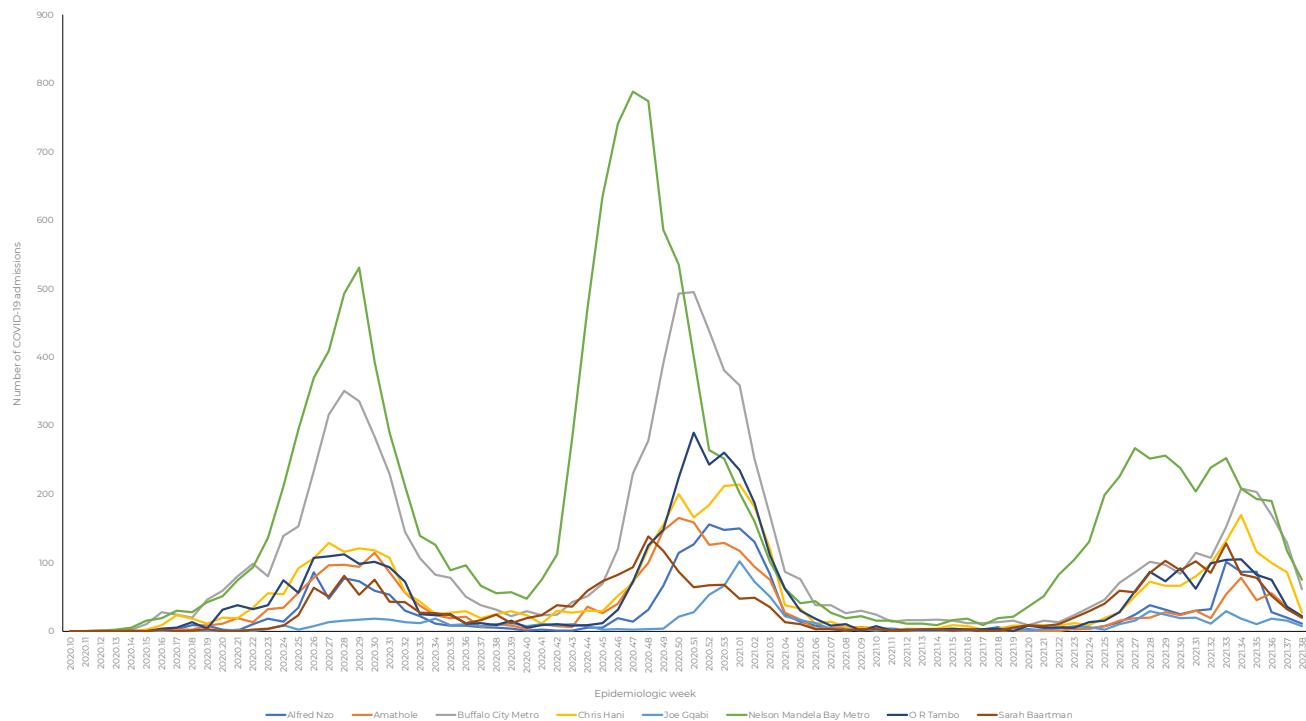


Figure 6. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=40,961

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The weekly deaths at the peak of the second wave exceeded the numbers of deaths at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 7). Since the third wave peak in week 26, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of deaths in all districts.

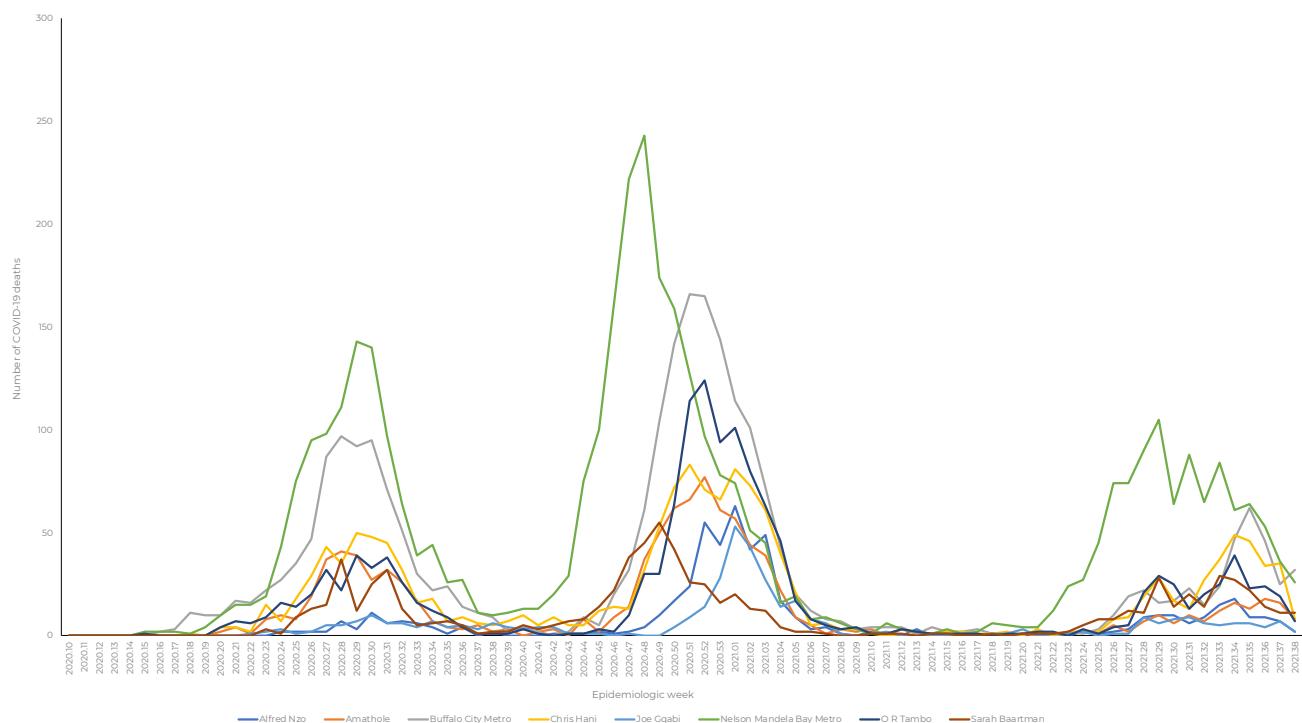


Figure 7. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=11,931

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

Table 4: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Eastern Cape, 28 August-25 September 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	8.21	2.21	-73.04	1.29	0.64	-50.00
Amathole	7.14	3.93	-45.00	2.21	1.71	-22.58
Buffalo City Metro	26.64	13.57	-49.06	7.71	4.07	-47.22
Chris Hani	15.43	8.07	-47.69	5.71	3.07	-46.25
Joe Gqabi	2.00	1.57	-21.43	0.71	0.64	-10.00
Nelson Mandela Bay	27.36	13.71	-49.87	8.36	4.43	-47.01
O R Tambo	11.21	4.14	-63.06	3.36	1.86	-44.68
Sarah Baartman	9.29	3.71	-60.00	2.57	1.57	-38.89

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FREE STATE

In all first and third waves there were roughly equal numbers of admissions in both sectors, while 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. Since the initial peak in week 21, there was a decrease in admissions then a second increase from week 25. Admissions have decreased in both sectors for the past five weeks. Weekly admissions at the peak of the third wave have exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave in the private sector.

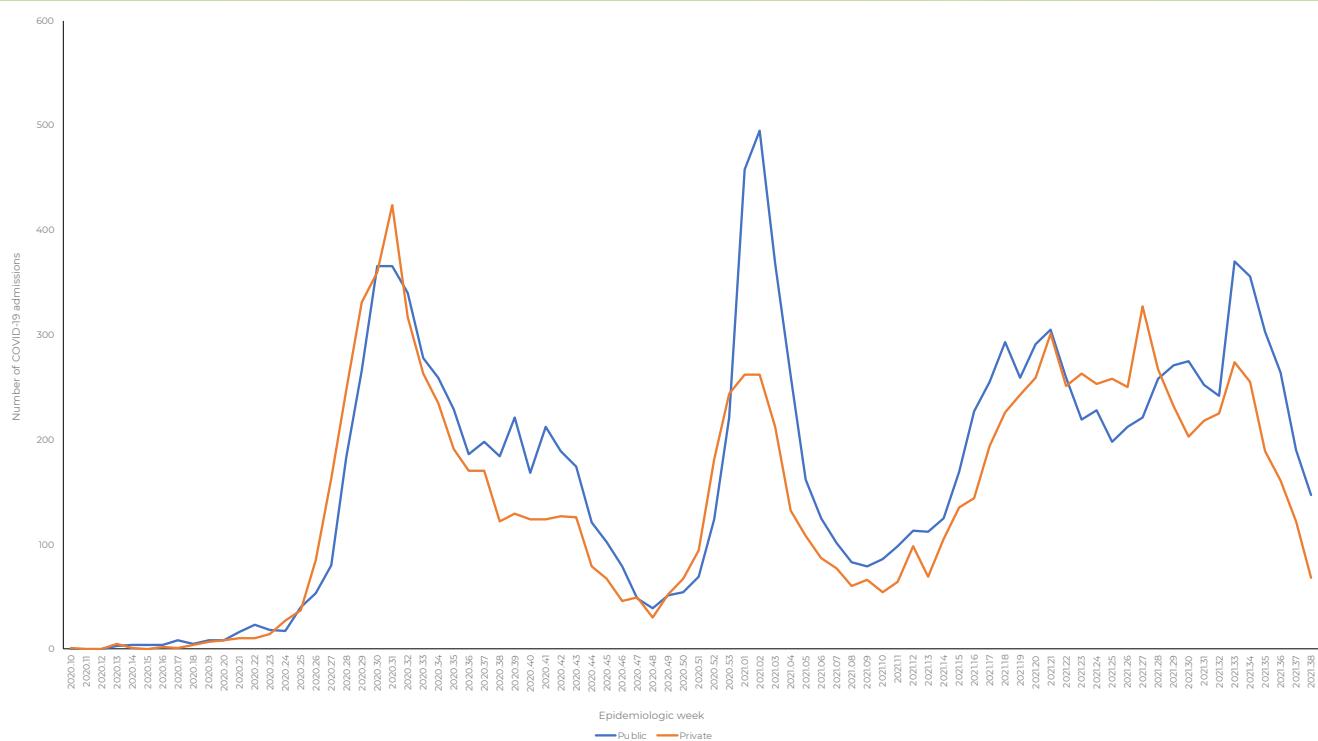


Figure 8: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Free State, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=25,449

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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 and a second peak in week 33, but have shown sustained post-peak decreases in most 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 Lejweleputswa and Mangaung Metro.

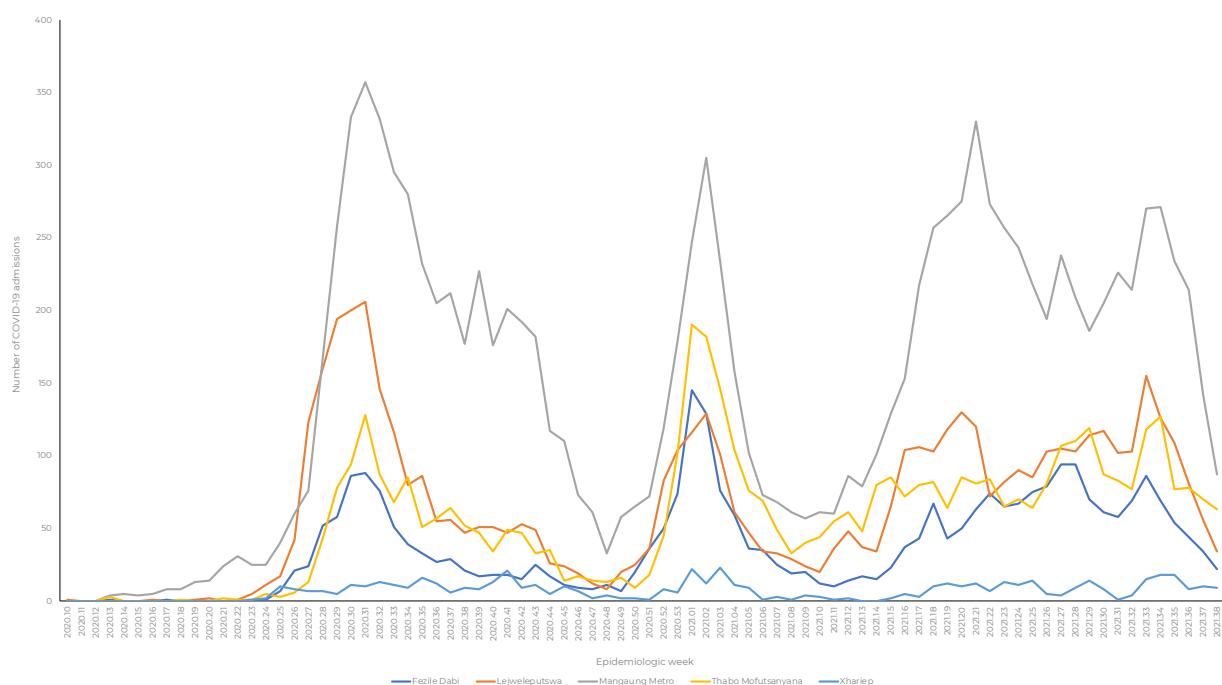


Figure 9: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Free State, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=25,449

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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). Since the third wave peak, there has been sustained decreases for the past nine weeks in most districts. 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.

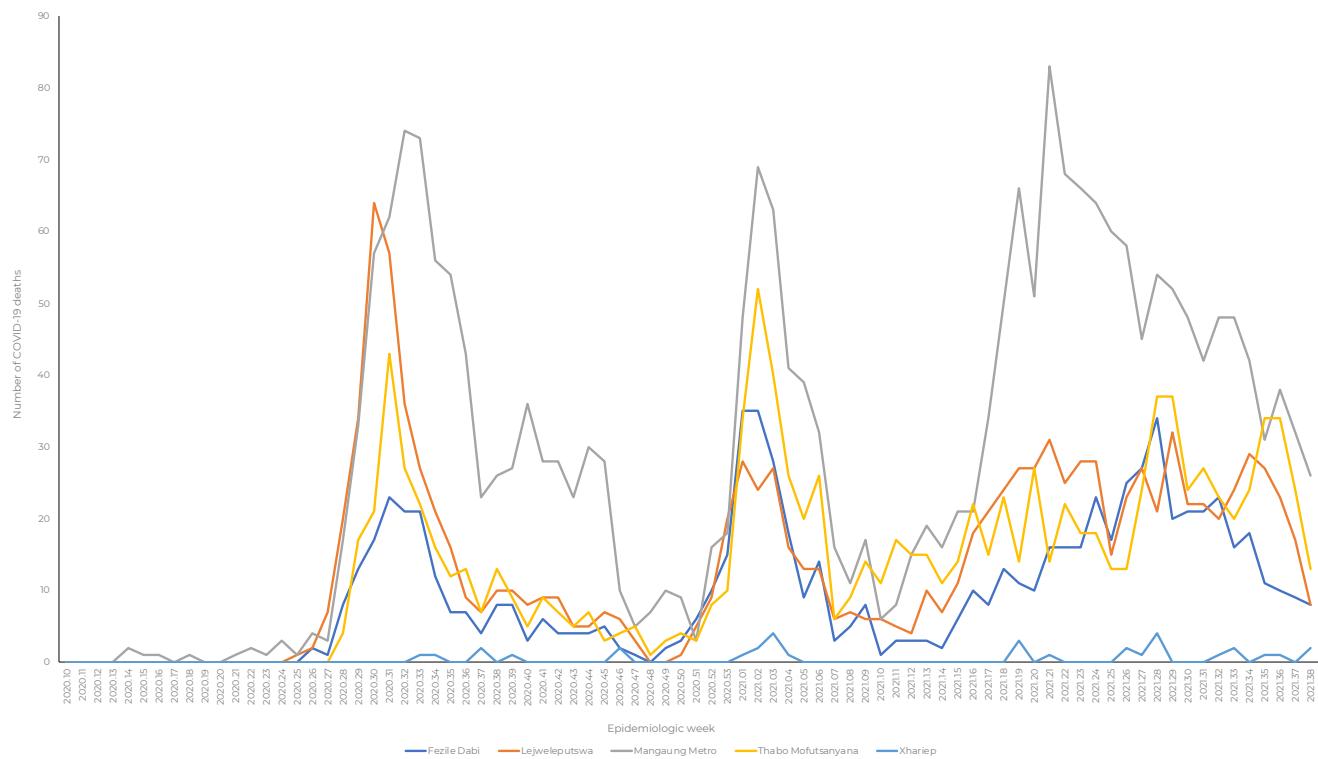


Figure 10: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Free State, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=5,408

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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 5).

Table 5: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Free State, 28 August-25 September 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	7.00	4.00	-42.86	1.50	1.21	-19.05
Lejweleputswa	13.57	6.43	-52.63	3.57	1.79	-50.00
Mangaung Metro	31.93	16.36	-48.77	4.93	4.14	-15.94
Thabo Mofutsanyana	11.07	9.50	-14.19	4.86	2.64	-45.59
Xhariep	1.86	1.36	-26.92	0.14	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.

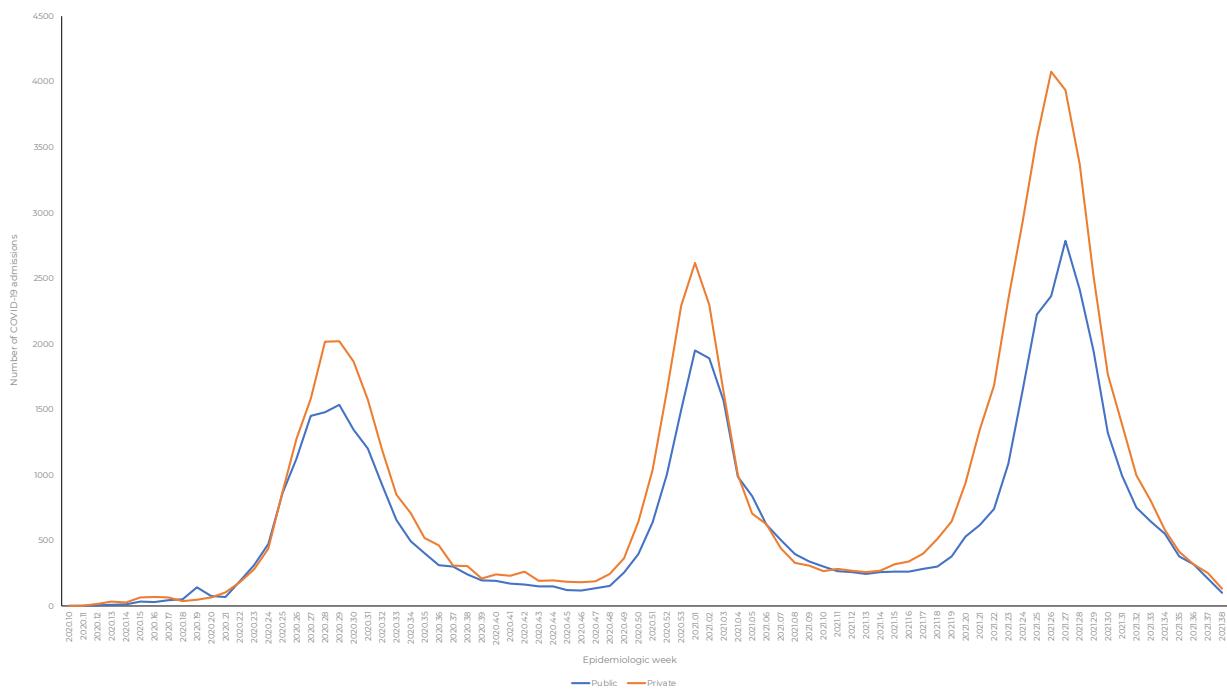


Figure 11: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=124,553

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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 eleven 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.

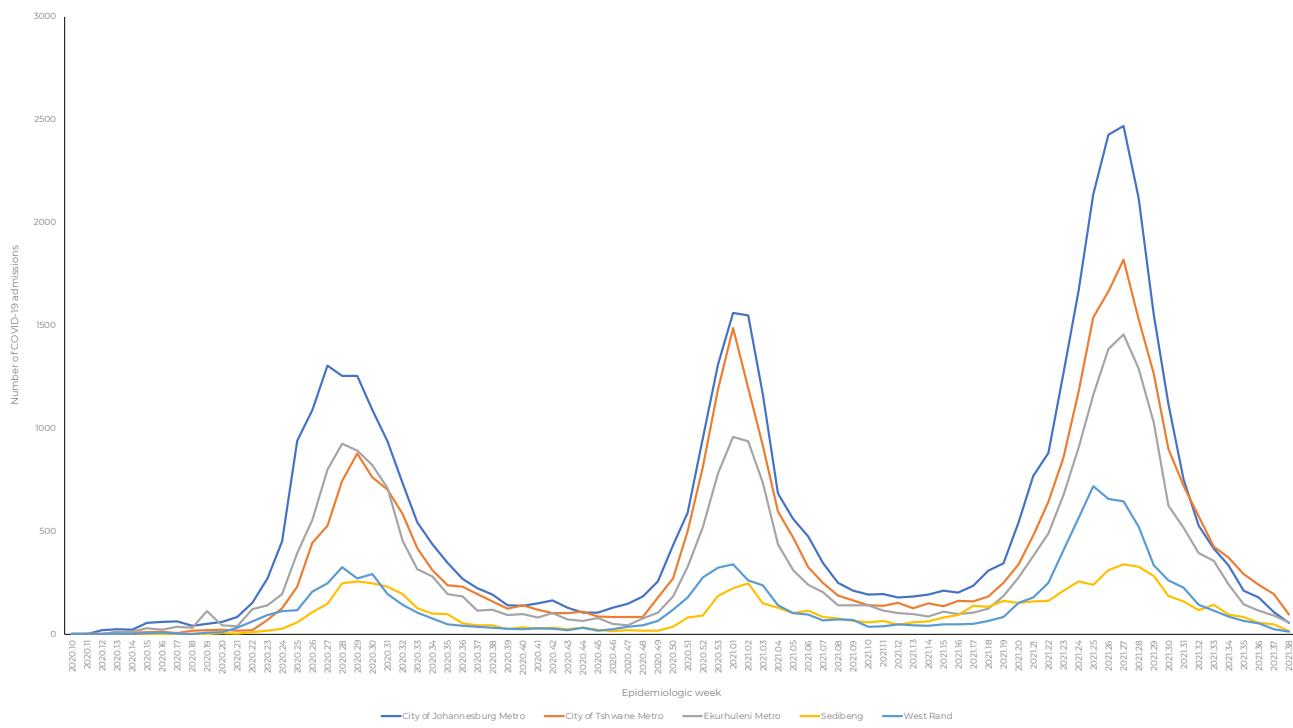


Figure 12: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=124,553

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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 eleven 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.

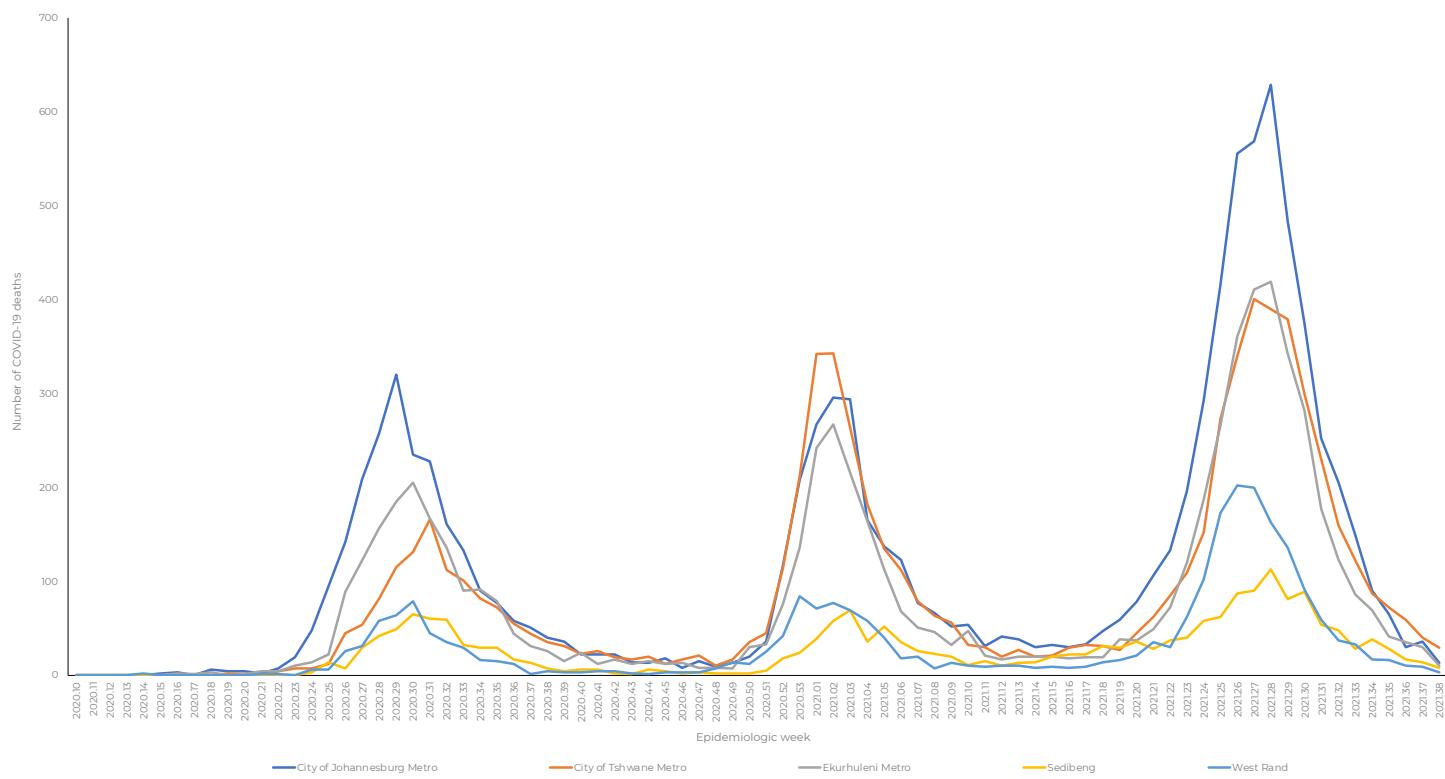


Figure 13: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=27,251

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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, 28 August-25 September 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	27.71	11.50	-58.51	6.79	3.50	-48.42
City of Tshwane Metro	37.86	20.71	-45.28	9.36	4.93	-47.33
Ekurhuleni Metro	18.57	10.50	-43.46	5.43	2.86	-47.37
Sedibeng	9.86	4.36	-55.80	3.21	1.57	-51.11
West Rand	8.21	2.57	-68.70	1.86	0.86	-53.85

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KWAZULU-NATAL

In the first and second waves there were higher numbers of admissions in the private sector but there have been equal numbers of admissions in the public and private sector in the third wave. 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). Since the third wave peak in week 33, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of admissions in both sectors.

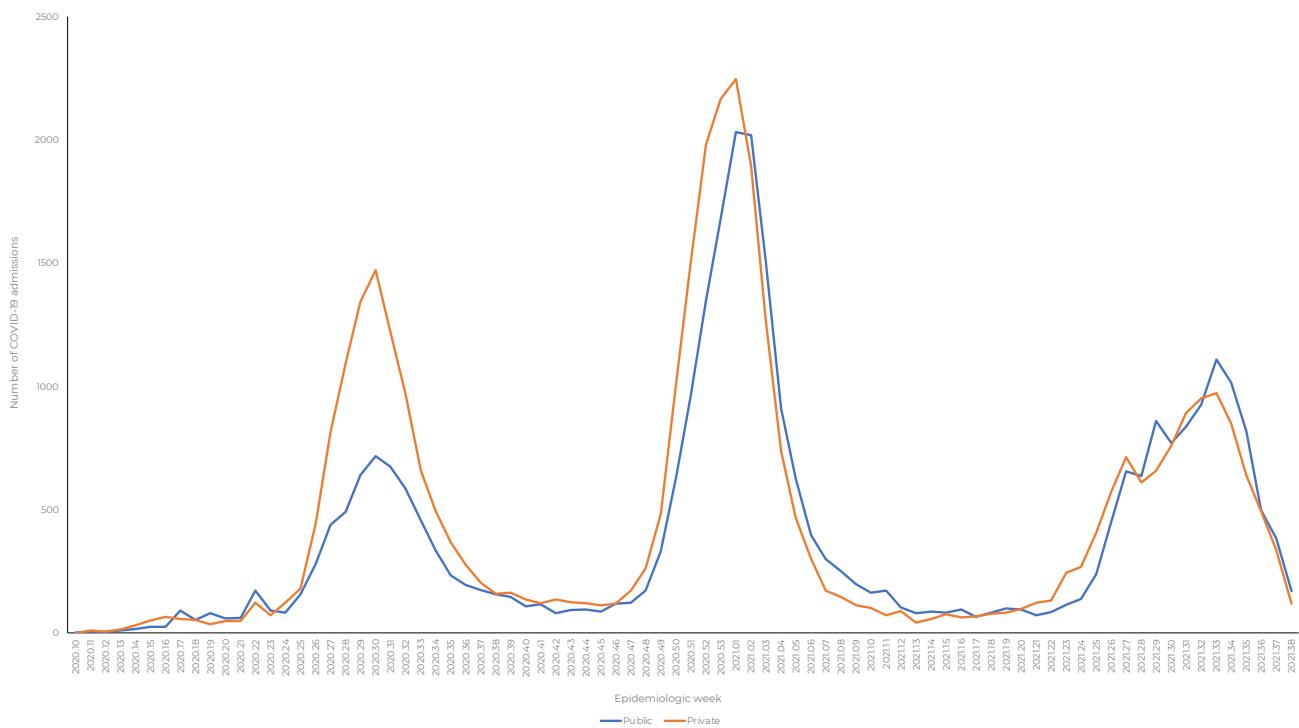


Figure 14: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=68,591

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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). Since the third wave peak in week 33, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of admissions in all districts. Weekly admissions at the peak of the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave in Amajuba.

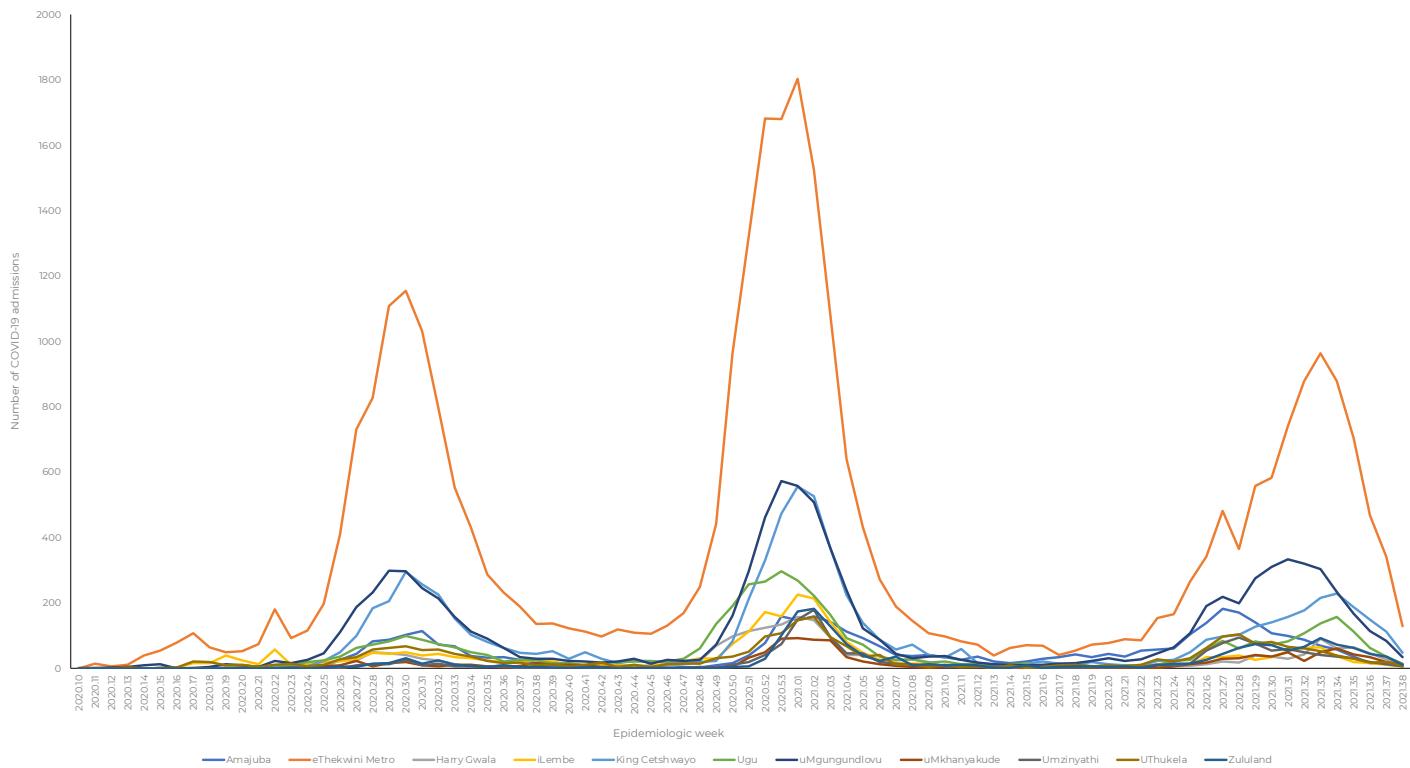


Figure 15: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=68,591

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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 third wave peak in week 33, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of deaths in all districts. Weekly deaths at the peak of the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the second wave in Amajuba.

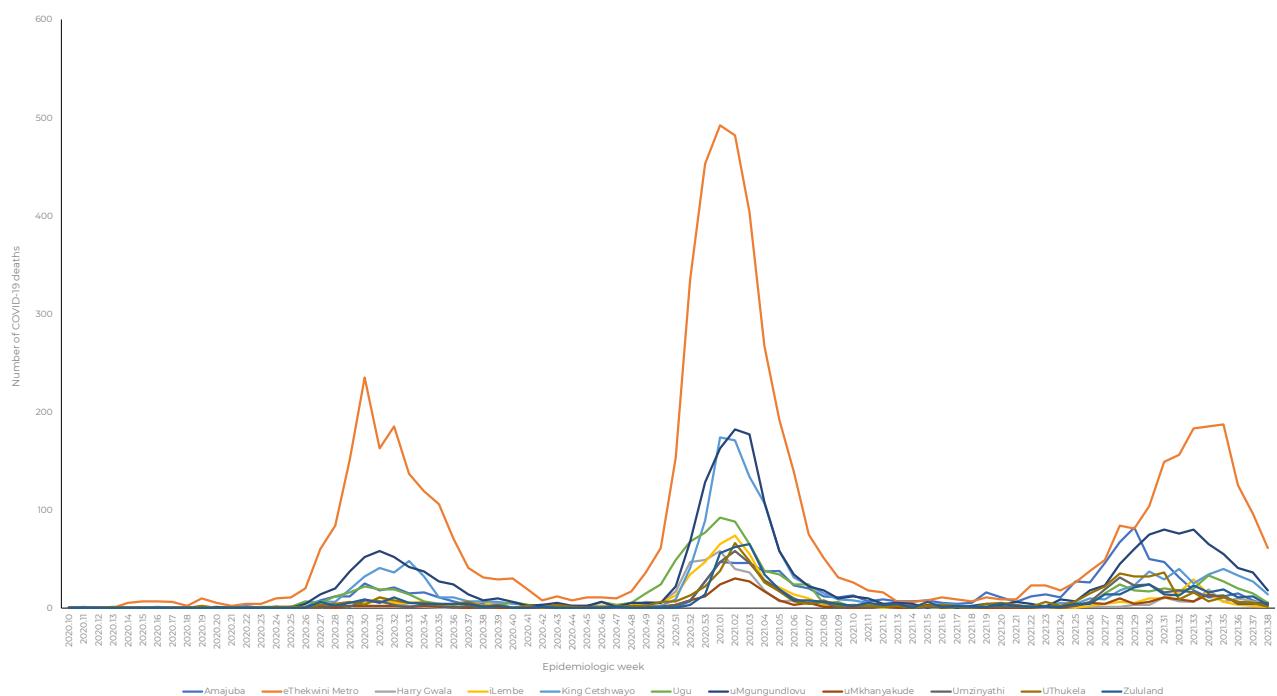


Figure 16: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=15,293

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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 7).

Table 7: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, KwaZulu-Natal, 28 August-25 September 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	3.86	1.57	-59.26	1.93	0.79	-59.26
eThekweni Metro	83.79	33.64	-59.85	22.29	11.14	-50.00
Harry Gwala	7.93	2.93	-63.06	1.14	0.79	-31.25
iLembe	2.57	1.36	-47.22	0.64	0.21	-66.67
King Cetshwayo	23.57	11.36	-51.82	5.21	2.86	-45.21
Ugu	12.43	3.57	-71.26	3.36	1.43	-57.45
uMgungundlovu	20.07	8.57	-57.30	6.86	3.86	-43.75
uMkhanyakude	5.57	2.14	-61.54	1.21	0.64	-47.06
Umzinyathi	3.57	1.43	-60.00	1.21	0.64	-47.06
UThukela	3.43	1.93	-43.75	1.21	0.43	-64.71
Zululand	7.71	3.43	-55.56	2.14	1.07	-50.00

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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.

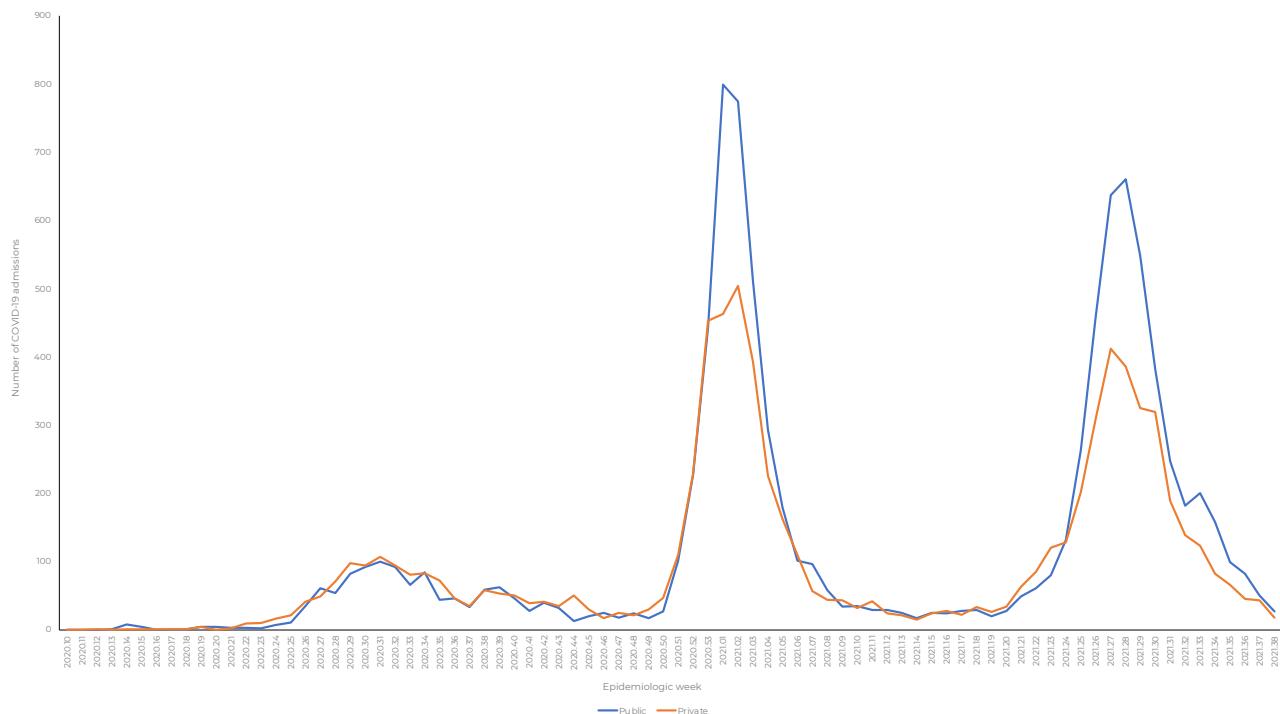


Figure 17: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=17,056

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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. 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.

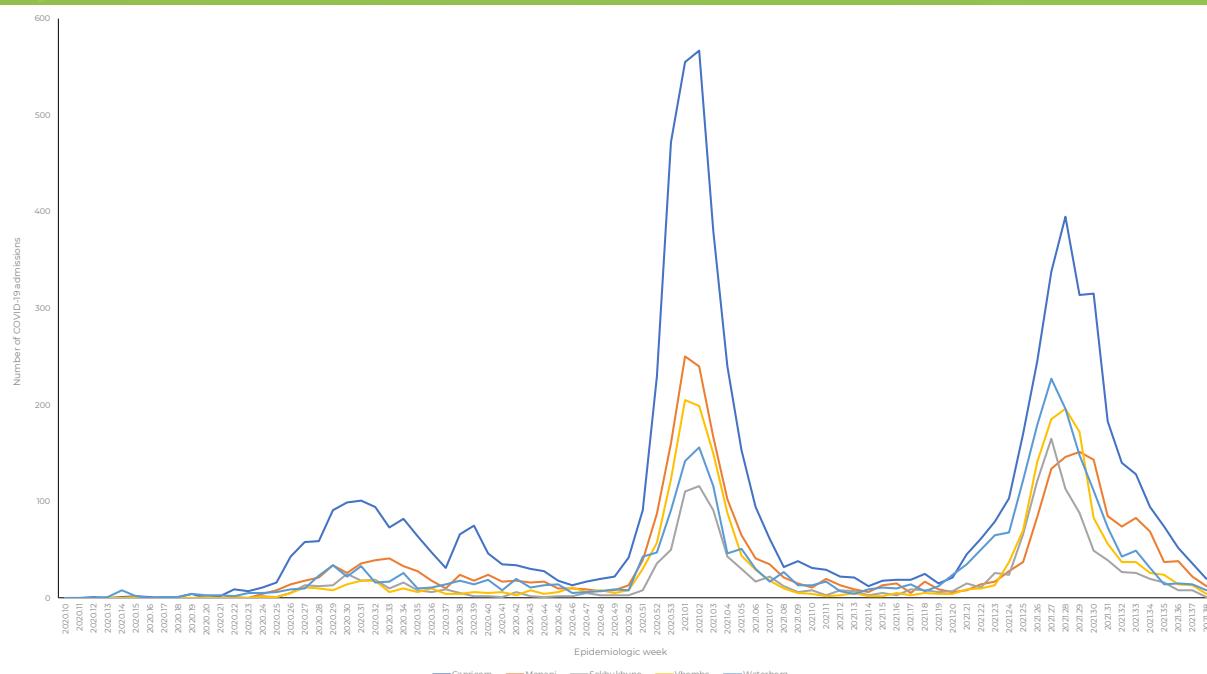


Figure 18: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=17,056

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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. Weekly deaths at the peak of the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the second wave in Sekhukhune and Waterberg.

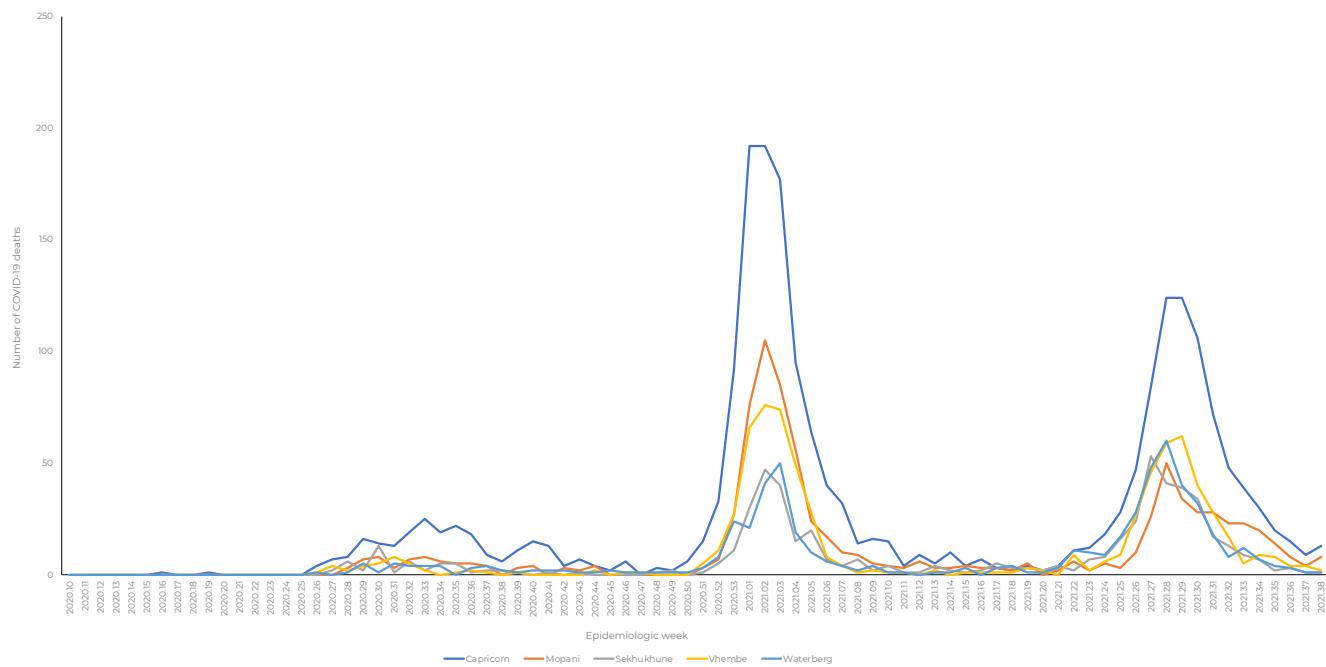


Figure 19: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=4,774

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, 28 August-25 September 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	9.00	4.00	-55.56	2.50	1.57	-37.14
Mopani	5.36	2.43	-54.67	1.57	0.86	-45.45
Sekhukhune	1.71	0.64	-62.50	0.36	0.14	-60.00
Vhembe	2.71	1.21	-55.26	0.86	0.43	-50.00
Waterberg	2.07	1.57	-24.14	0.50	0.14	-71.43

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MPUMALANGA

In the first wave there were higher numbers of admissions in the private sector, in the second wave there were higher numbers of admissions in the public sector, and in the third wave there were 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 20). Since the third wave peak in week 28, a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed 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 the private sector.

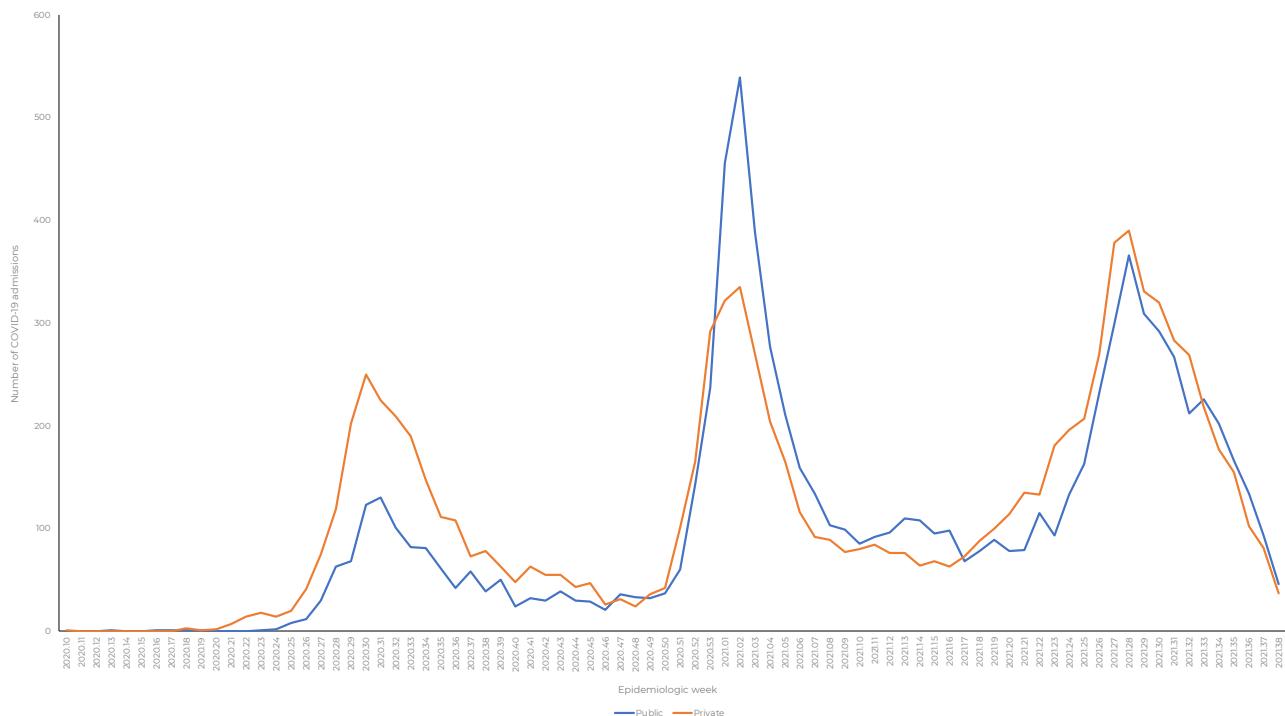


Figure 20: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=17,928

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 38 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.

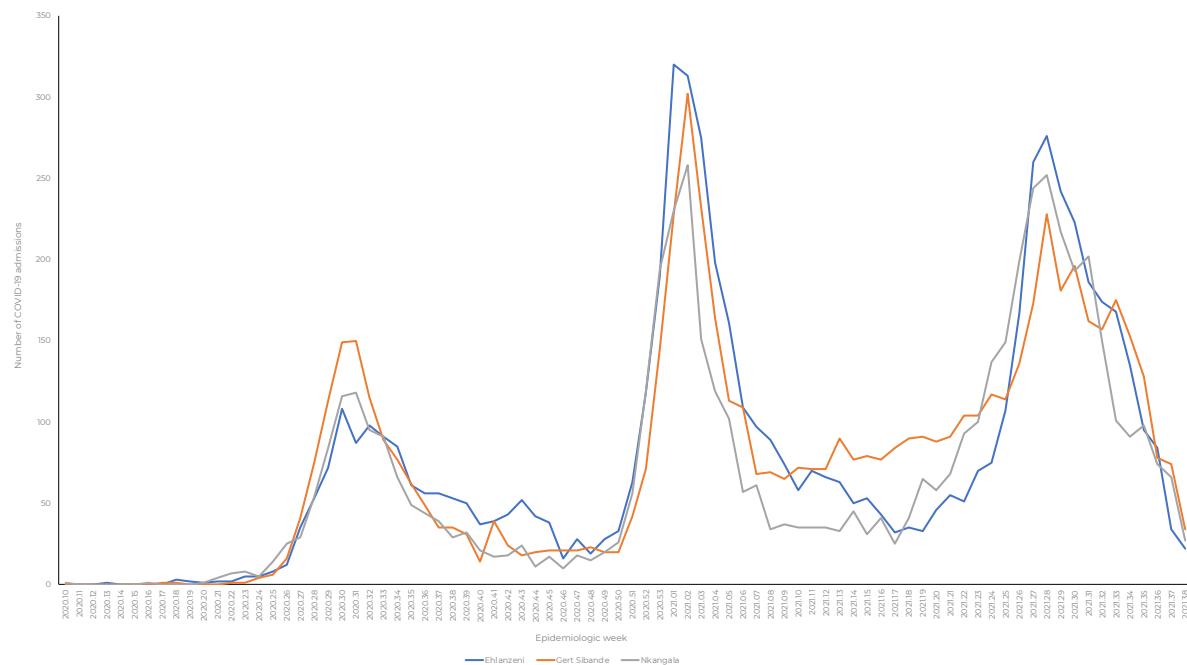


Figure 21: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=17,928

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 38 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.

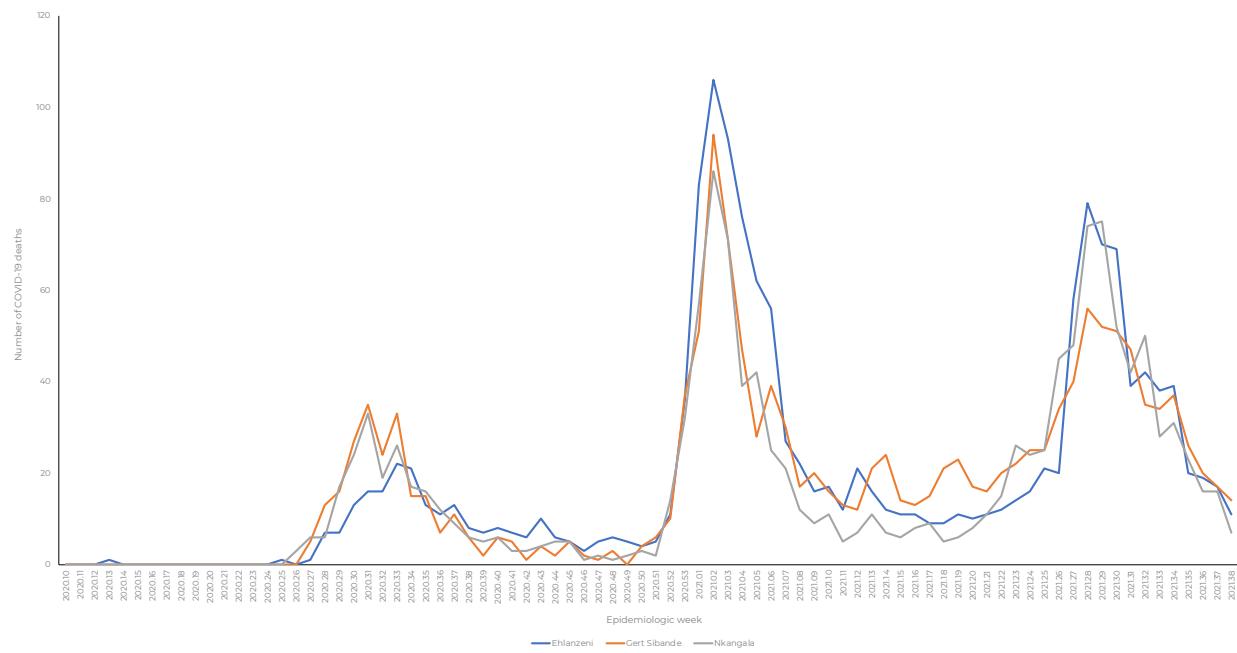


Figure 22: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=4,336

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, 28 August-25 September 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	12.71	4.00	-68.54	2.79	2.00	-28.21
Gert Sibande	14.64	7.71	-47.32	3.29	2.21	-32.61
Nkangala	12.29	6.64	-45.93	2.79	1.64	-41.03

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. 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.

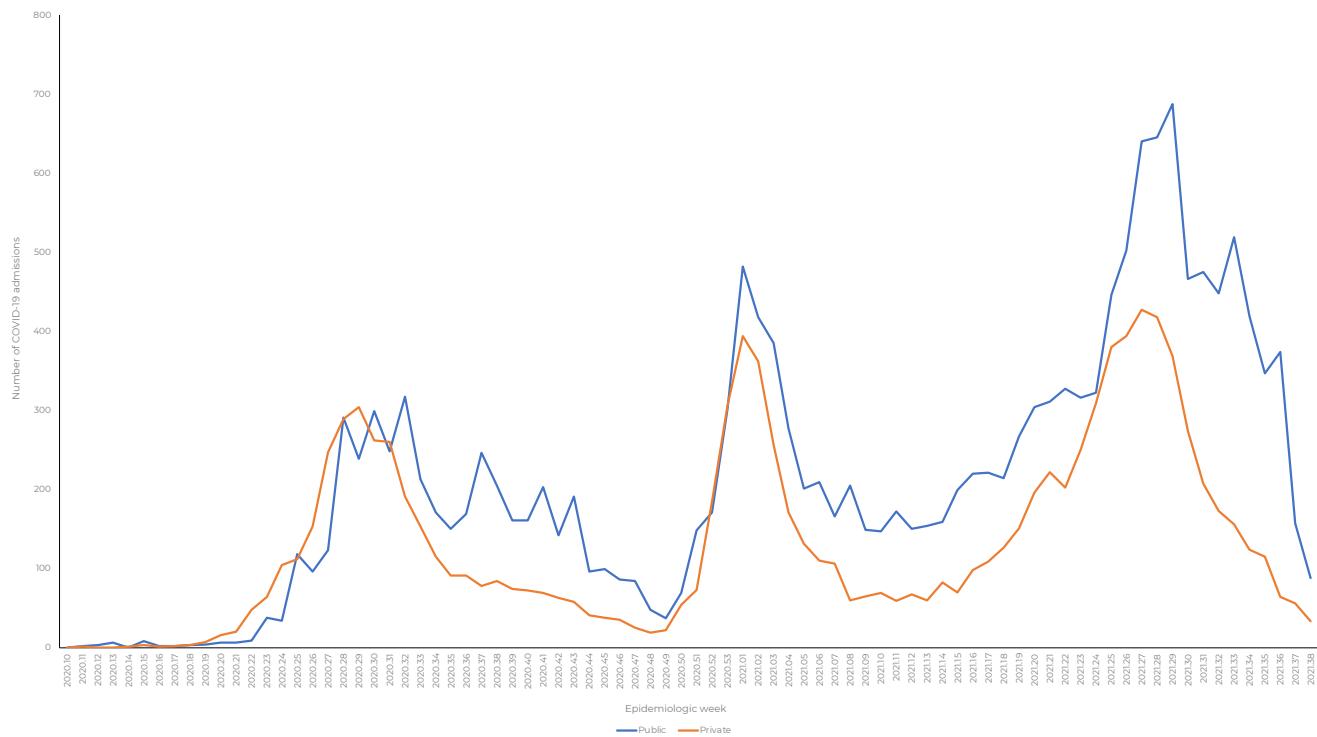


Figure 23: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, North West, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=27,920

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. 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.

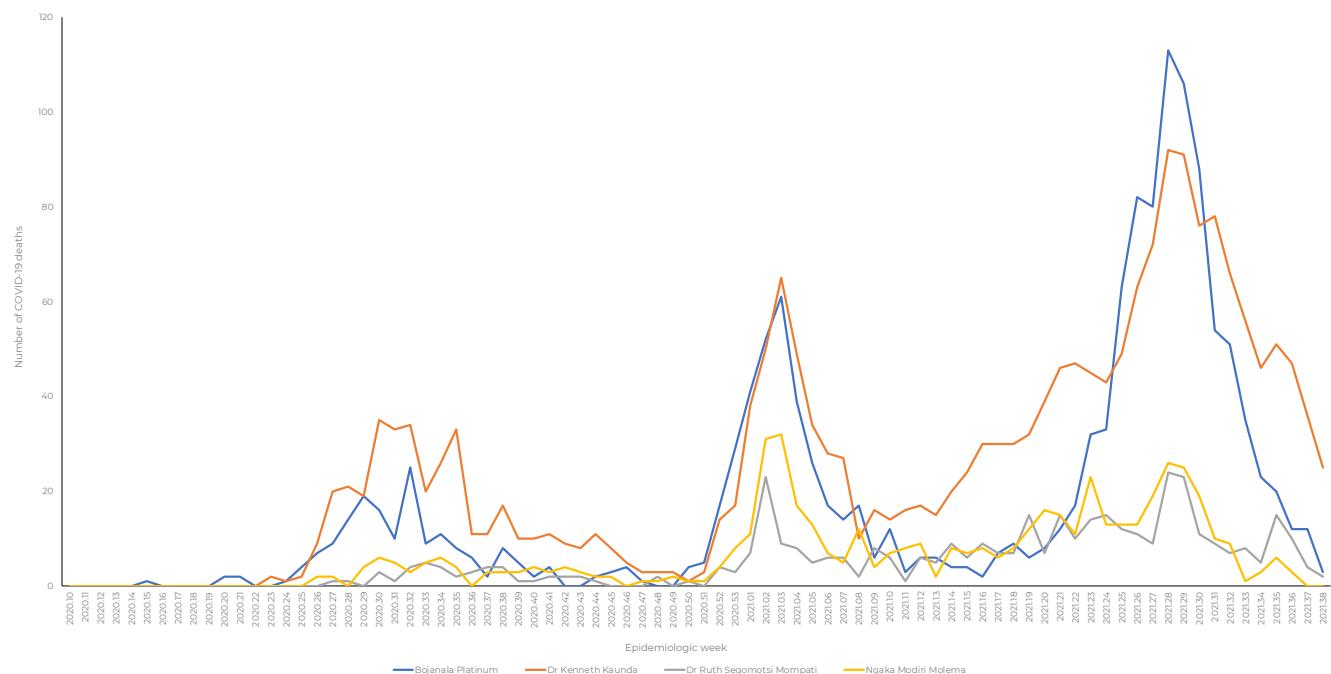


Figure 24: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=27,920

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. 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.

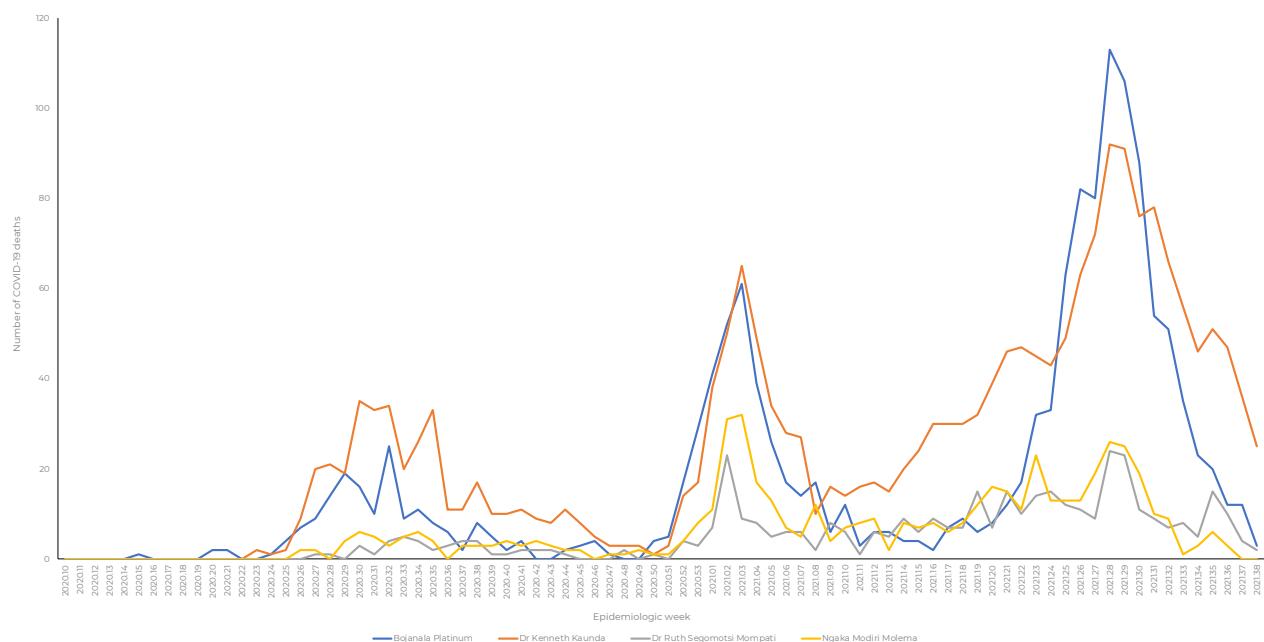


Figure 25: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=4,350

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, 28 August-25 September 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	19.00	5.93	-68.80	2.29	1.07	-53.13
Dr Kenneth Kaunda	36.50	15.71	-56.95	7.00	4.36	-37.76
Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	5.21	1.64	-68.49	1.79	0.43	-76.00
Ngaka Modiri Molema	3.57	0.57	-84.00	0.64	0.00	-100.00

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, however a second increase in the third wave was concentrated more in the public sector. Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in both sectors (Figure 26). The numbers of COVID-19 admissions increased in both sectors since week 9 peaking in week 21. A second increase in admissions was observed in both sectors but higher in the public sector, however, decreased in 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 both sectors.

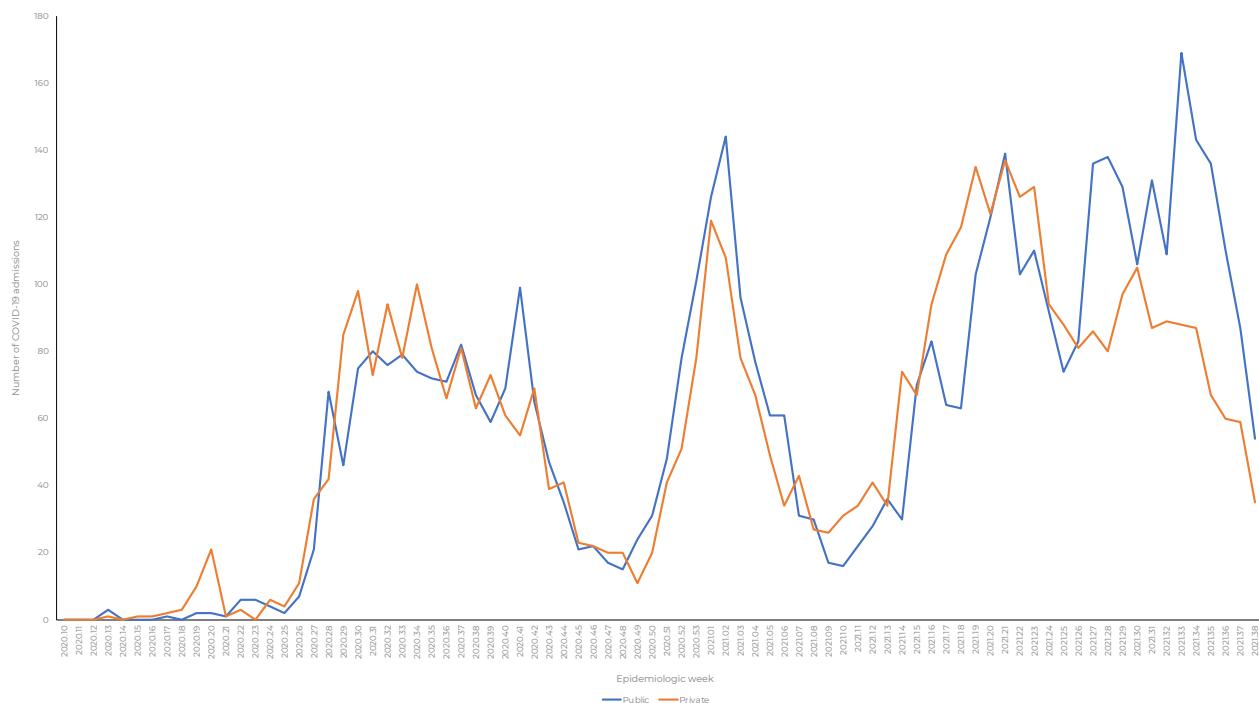


Figure 26: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=9,490

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 38 2021

Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly number of admissions during the peak of the first wave in Pixley Ka Seme, Namakwa and ZF Mgcawu districts (Figure 27). Since the third wave peak, the numbers of admissions initially decreased, however a second increases in admissions were observed from week 26. There has been a decrease in admissions 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 Frances Baard, ZF Mgcawu, John Taolo Gaetsewe, Namakwa and Pixley Ka Seme districts.

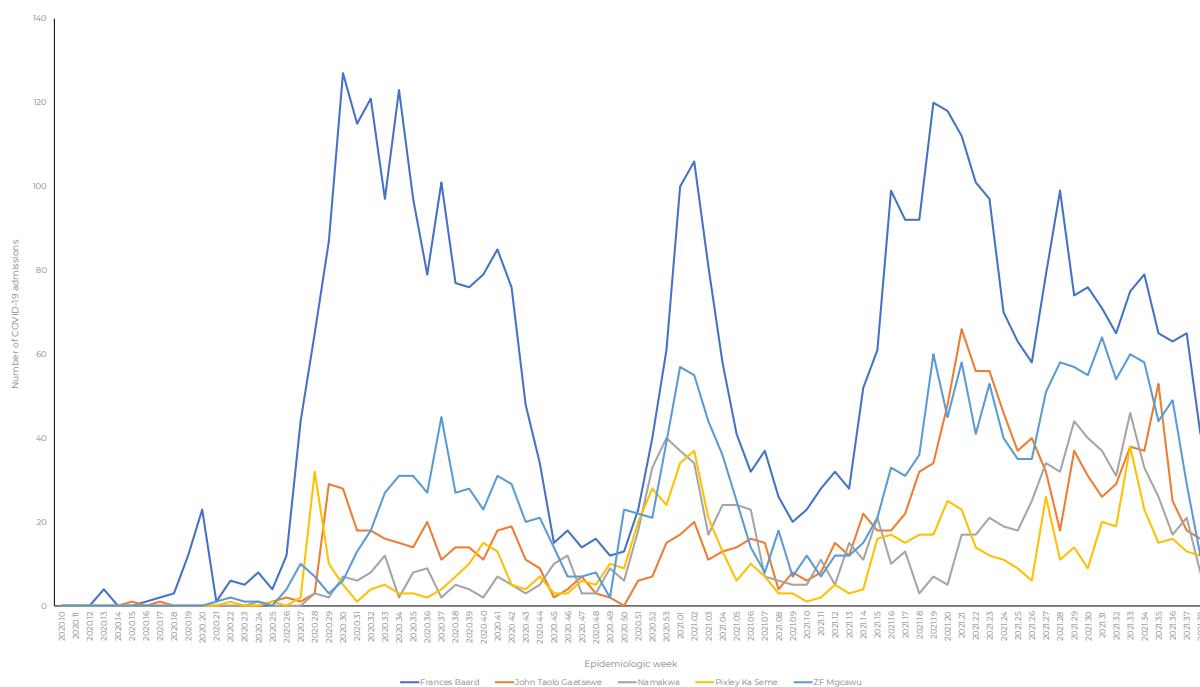


Figure 27: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=9,490

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 38 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. 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.

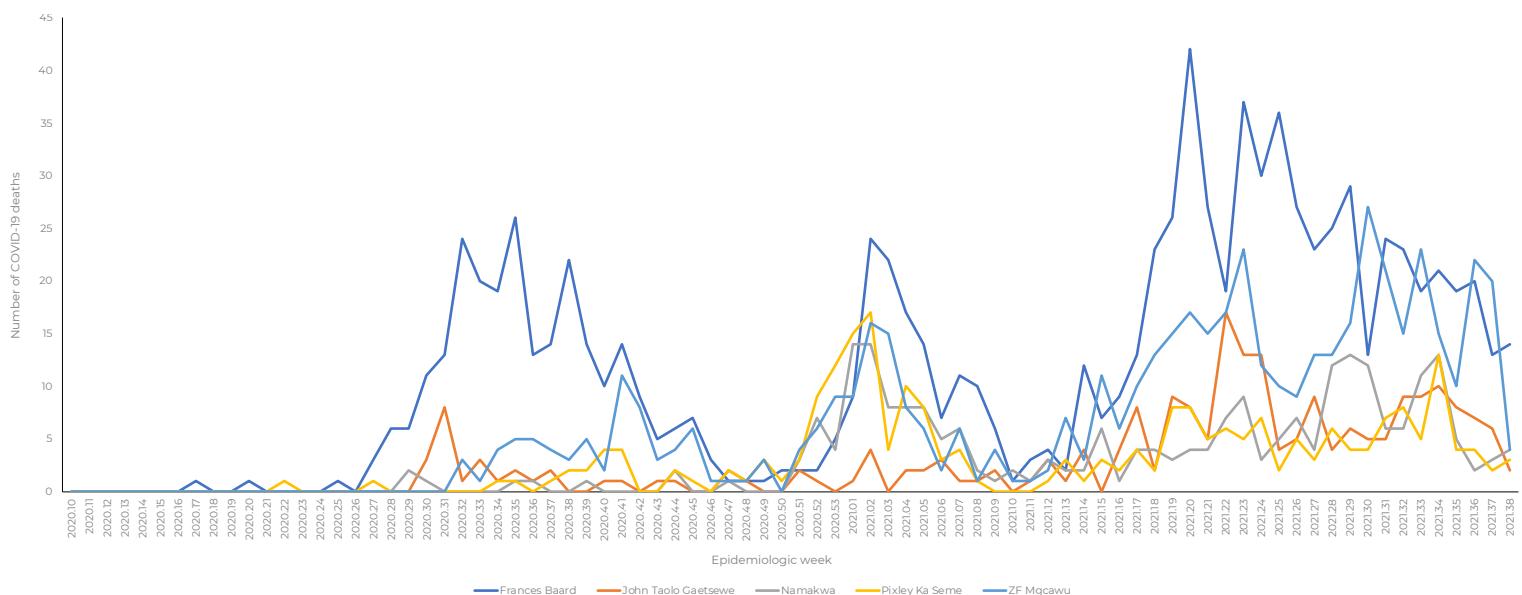


Figure 28: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=2,179

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 11).

Table 11: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Northern Cape, 28 August-25 September 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	9.14	7.57	-17.19	2.79	1.93	-30.77
John Taolo Gaetsewe	5.57	2.43	-56.41	1.07	0.57	-46.67
Namakwa	3.07	2.07	-32.56	0.50	0.50	0.00
Pixley Ka Seme	2.21	1.79	-19.35	0.57	0.36	-37.50
ZF Mgcawu	6.64	2.93	-55.91	2.29	1.71	-25.00

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.

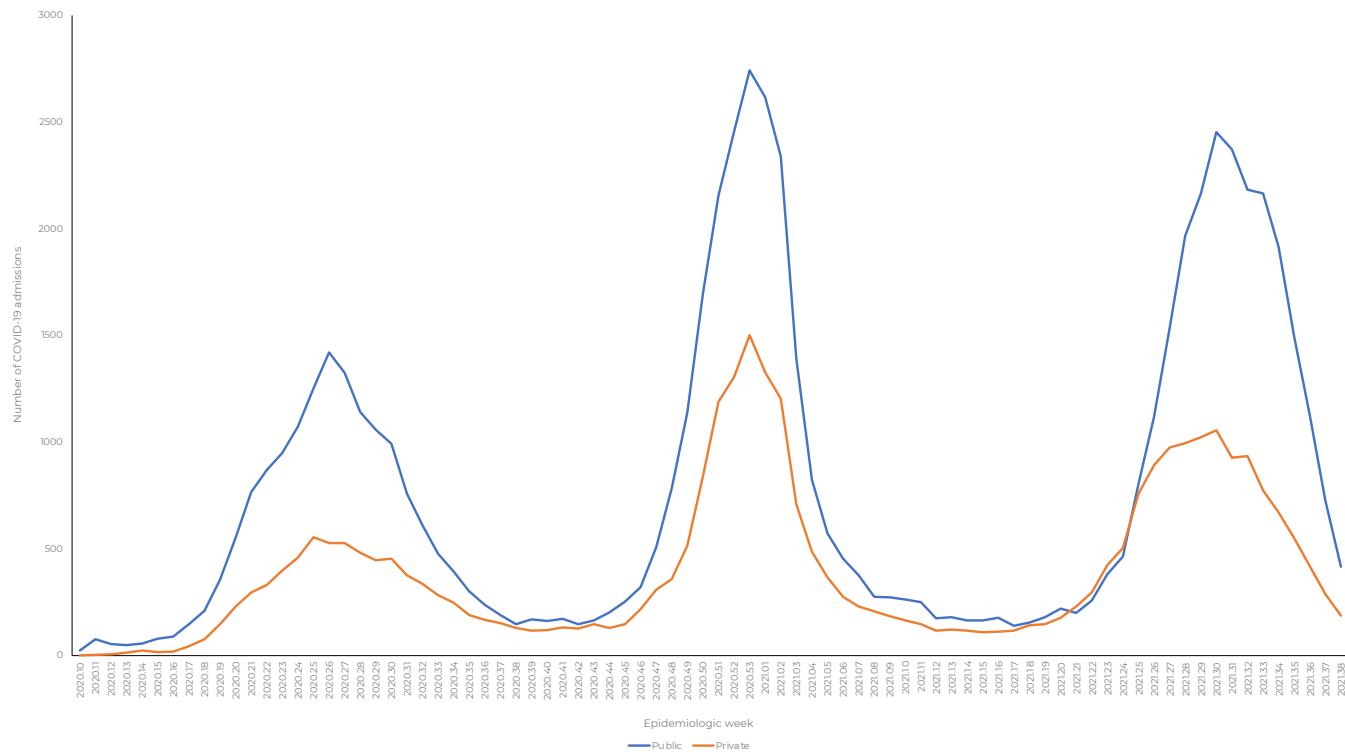


Figure 29: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=95,884

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 38 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. Weekly number of admissions in the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave in Central Karoo and Garden Route.

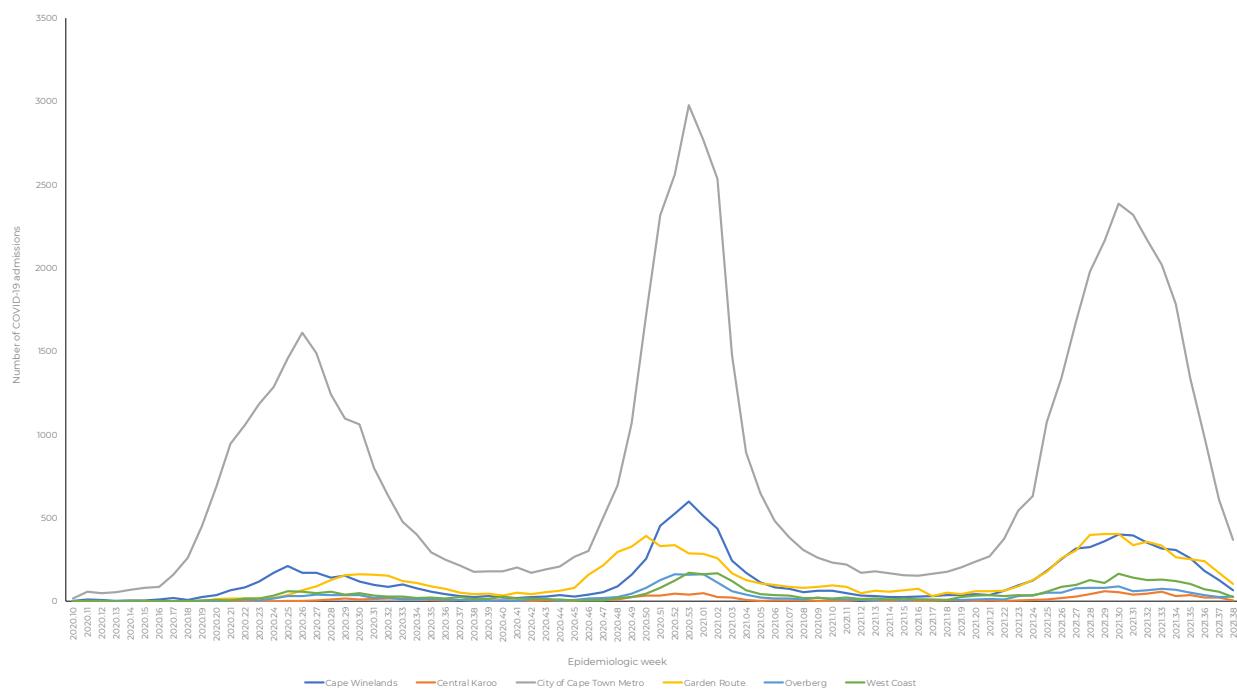


Figure 30: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=95,884

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 38 2021

Weekly deaths at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the first wave in all districts (Figure 31). Since the third wave peak, there has been a decrease in deaths in all districts. Weekly number of deaths in the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the second wave in Central Karoo, Garden Route and West Coast.

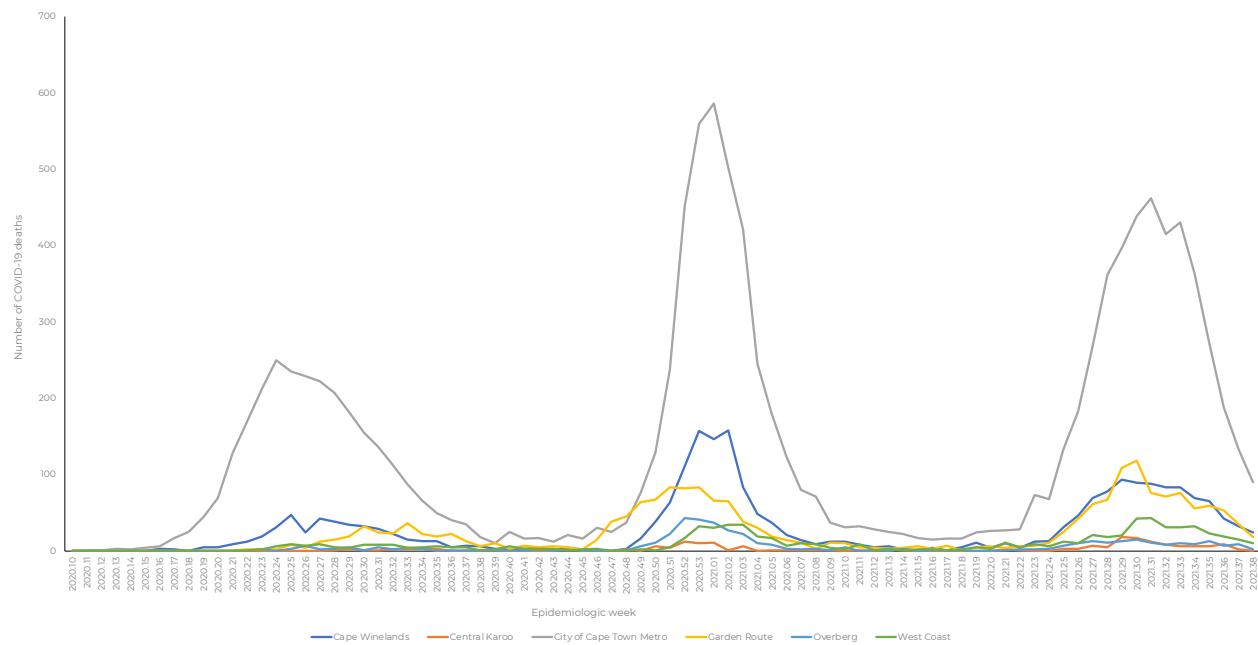


Figure 31: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-25 September 2021, n=16,864

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 12).

Table 12: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Western Cape, 28 August-25 September 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	31.57	13.79	-56.33	7.64	4.00	-47.66
Central Karoo	4.29	2.00	-53.33	1.07	0.14	-86.67
City of Cape Town Metro	165.93	70.00	-57.81	32.79	15.93	-51.42
Garden Route	35.36	19.64	-44.44	8.00	3.79	-52.68
Overberg	6.43	3.93	-38.89	1.43	0.79	-45.00
West Coast	12.57	5.93	-52.84	3.00	1.79	-40.48

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, 11 September-25 September 2021.

Province	District	Total admissions	Incidence (per 100k)	New admissions	New admissions incidence (per 100k)	% average change (14 days)
Eastern Cape	Alfred Nzo	2282	274.20	12	1.44	-55.56
	Amathole	2776	347.35	20	2.50	-47.37
	Buffalo City Metro	9062	1131.51	66	8.24	-53.85
	Chris Hani	4431	608.94	27	3.71	-70.65
	Joe Gqabi	962	278.87	7	2.03	-53.33
	Nelson Mandela Bay Metro	14443	1190.63	79	6.51	-35.77
	O R Tambo	4217	275.23	23	1.50	-36.11
	Sarah Baartman	2829	584.72	22	4.55	-33.33
Free State	Fezile Dabi	3007	589.46	22	4.31	-45.00
	Lejweleputswa	5300	810.89	36	5.51	-41.94
	Mangaung Metro	12069	1385.78	89	10.22	-44.03
	Thabo Mofutsanyana	4546	594.39	66	8.63	-14.29
	Xhariep	562	434.17	11	8.50	0.00
Gauteng	City of Johannesburg Metro	45451	774.75	62	1.06	-51.18
	City of Tshwane Metro	33048	886.22	118	3.16	-50.21
	Ekurhuleni Metro	27062	679.57	61	1.53	-44.55
	Sedibeng	8069	844.46	17	1.78	-67.31
	West Rand	10969	1148.90	14	1.47	-44.00
KwaZulu-Natal	Amajuba	3797	665.53	7	1.23	-69.57
	eThekweni Metro	31644	794.83	139	3.49	-62.43
	Harry Gwala	2091	406.79	13	2.53	-60.61
	iLembe	2666	383.85	8	1.15	-33.33
	King Cetshwayo	7521	774.82	49	5.05	-57.76
	Ugu	4418	551.06	14	1.75	-69.57
	uMgungundlovu	9324	811.18	39	3.39	-59.38

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	1254	182.56	11	1.60	-45.00
	Umgonyathi	1553	273.62	8	1.41	-42.86
	UThukela	2529	354.09	10	1.40	-52.38
	Zululand	1835	208.33	11	1.25	-70.27
Limpopo	Capricorn	7279	556.52	26	1.99	-39.53
	Mopani	3053	257.66	12	1.01	-52.00
	Sekhukhune	1626	136.61	1	0.08	-88.89
	Vhembe	2327	163.04	6	0.42	-53.85
	Waterberg	2774	373.75	11	1.48	-26.67
Mpumalanga	Ehlanzeni	6303	344.66	22	1.20	-43.59
	Gert Sibande	6200	499.13	41	3.30	-52.87
	Nkangala	5433	337.69	27	1.68	-60.87
North West	Bojanala Platinum	9636	499.75	36	1.87	-35.71
	Dr Kenneth Kaunda	14588	1828.72	91	11.41	-43.83
	Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	1923	406.49	6	1.27	-66.67
	Ngaka Modiri Molema	1807	198.60	2	0.22	-66.67
Northern Cape	Frances Baard	4432	1068.18	46	11.09	-37.84
	John Taolo Gaetsewe	1335	491.75	18	6.63	-14.29
	Namakwa	995	860.63	8	6.92	-63.64
	Pixley Ka Seme	789	374.14	12	5.69	-7.69
	ZF Mgcawu	1954	698.10	16	5.72	-51.52
Western Cape	Cape Winelands	10902	1158.23	102	10.84	-52.34
	Central Karoo	1088	1448.48	5	6.66	-86.84
	City of Cape Town Metro	67646	1468.97	567	12.31	-42.44
	Garden Route	10715	1718.09	143	22.93	-42.34
	Overberg	2607	869.27	41	13.67	5.13
	West Coast	3677	797.94	44	9.55	-44.30

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 2020-25 September 2021.

Age (years)	ADMISSIONS				DEATHS			
	Female	Male	Unknown	Total	Female	Male	Unknown	Total
0-4	3467	4202	26	7695	129	141	2	272
5-9	969	1222	7	2198	20	20	0	40
10-14	1603	1554	5	3162	50	44	0	94
15-19	4716	2521	3	7240	113	107	0	220
20-24	7362	3676	5	11043	261	204	1	466
25-29	12192	5551	9	17752	601	394	0	995
30-34	16190	9359	8	25557	1033	845	1	1879
35-39	17646	13041	17	30704	1554	1430	3	2987
40-44	16845	15002	10	31857	1960	1999	0	3959
45-49	19335	18997	16	38348	2912	3017	3	5932
50-54	22881	21215	9	44105	4022	4126	2	8150
55-59	25579	23121	18	48718	5749	5737	6	11492
60-64	22442	20464	18	42924	6158	6346	4	12508
65-69	19223	17075	13	36311	6370	5905	4	12279
70-74	15997	14039	18	30054	5598	5413	5	11016
75-79	11817	9691	11	21519	4381	4050	2	8433
80-84	8895	6081	7	14983	3537	2730	3	6270
85-89	4675	2878	2	7555	1936	1404	0	3340
90-94	2017	970	1	2988	944	513	0	1457
>=95	612	311	2	925	291	130	0	421
Unknown	1087	1060	47	2194	71	105	0	176
Total	235550	192030	252	427832	47690	44660	36	92386