

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR  
COMMUNICABLE DISEASES  
Division of the National Health Laboratory Service

SOUTH AFRICA WEEK 42 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 23 October 2021.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- As of 23 October 2021, 433,887 COVID-19 admissions and 93,943 in-hospital deaths were reported from 666 facilities (408 public-sector and 258 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 23 October 2021, a total of 666 facilities submitted data on hospitalised COVID-19 cases, 408 from public sector and 258 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 2020-23 October 2021.

Name of province	Public Sector	Private Sector
Eastern Cape	86	18
Free State	35	20
Gauteng	40	94
KwaZulu-Natal	70	47
Limpopo	41	7
Mpumalanga	31	9
North West	17	13
Northern Cape	29	6
Western Cape	59	44
<b>South Africa</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>258</b>

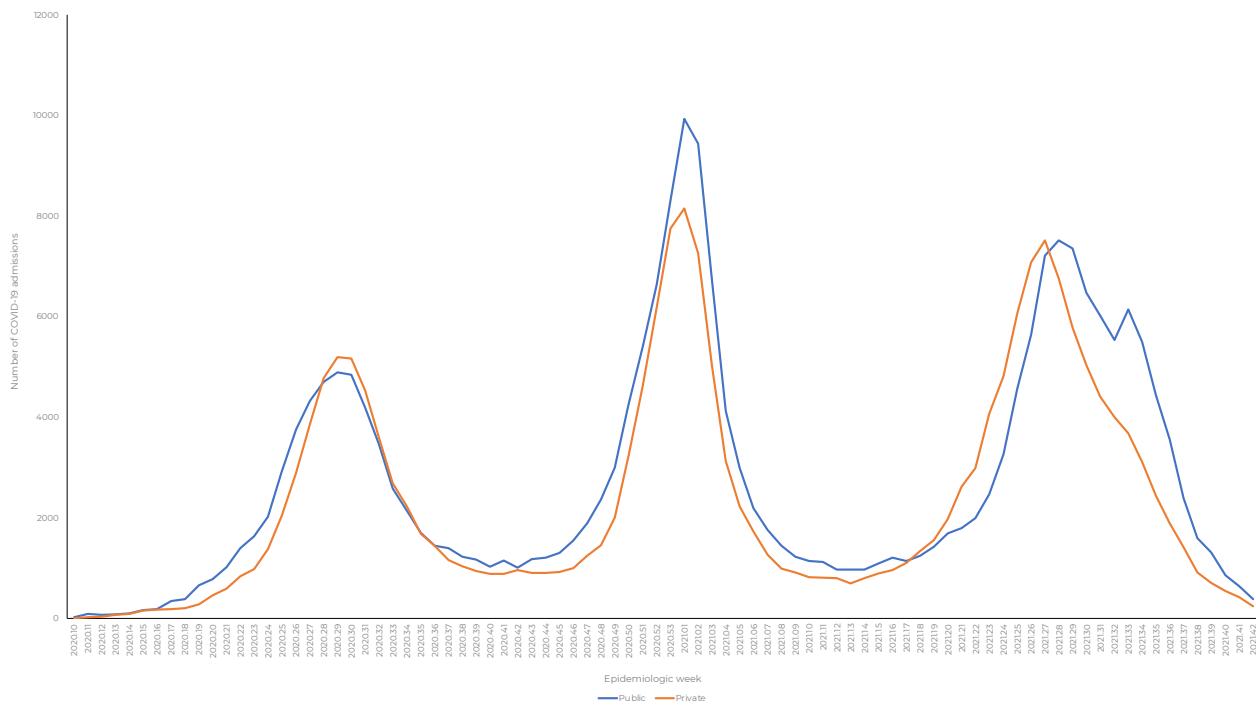
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## RESULTS

### Epidemiological and geographic trends in admissions

From 5 March 2020 to 23 October 2021, a total of 433,887 COVID-19 admissions were reported from 666 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. There has been a sustained post-peak decreases in admissions in both sectors (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.

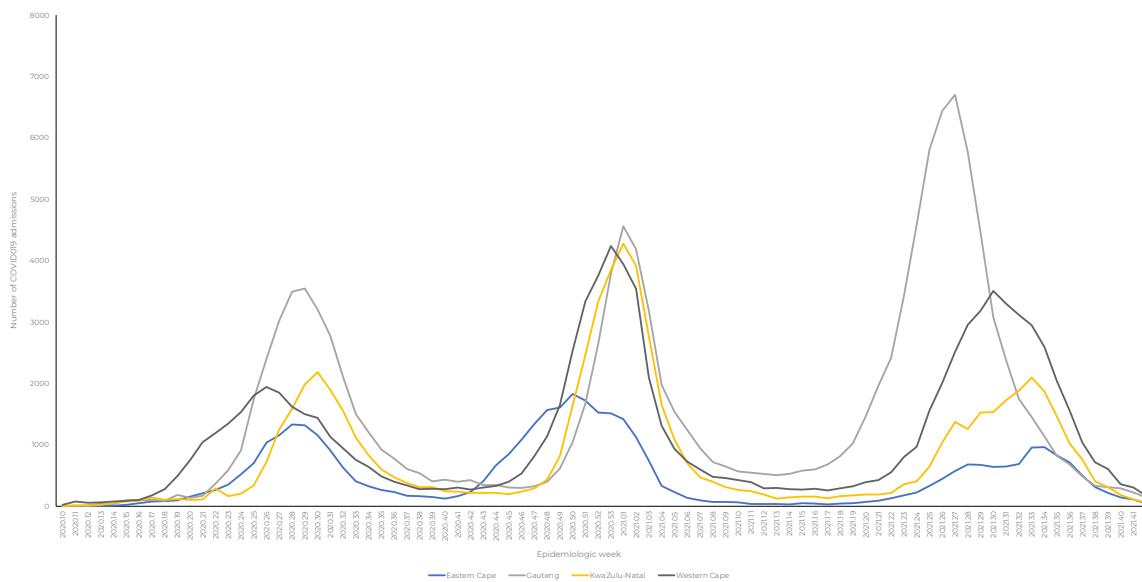


**Figure 1.** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=433,887

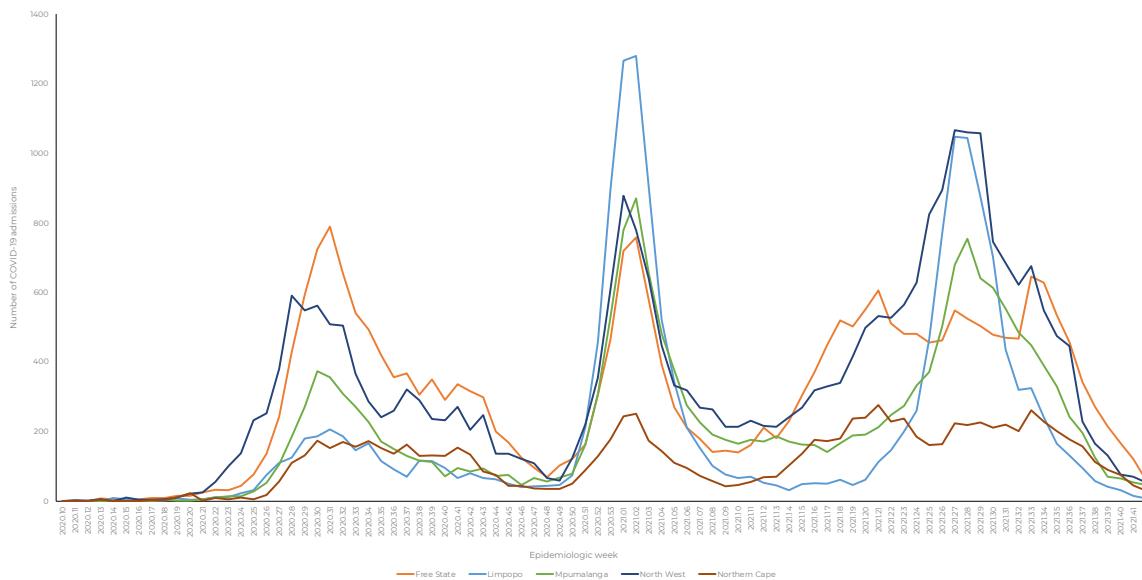
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The majority of admissions were recorded in four provinces, Gauteng 125,655 (29%), Western Cape 97,535 (22%), KwaZulu-Natal 69,517 (16%) and Eastern Cape 41,337 (10%) provinces. Weekly numbers of COVID-19 admissions have peaked with sustained post-peak 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 2020-23 October 2021, N=433,887



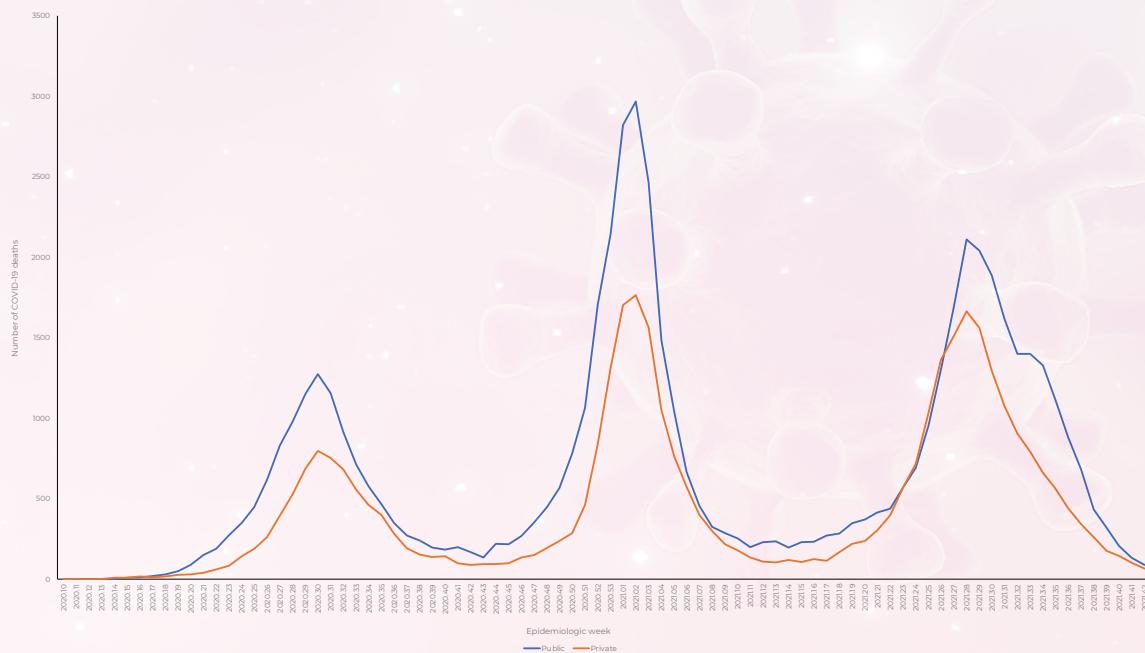
**Figure 2b.** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by provinces with lowest admissions and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=433,887

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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## EPIDEMIOLOGICAL AND GEOGRAPHIC TRENDS IN IN-HOSPITAL MORTALITY

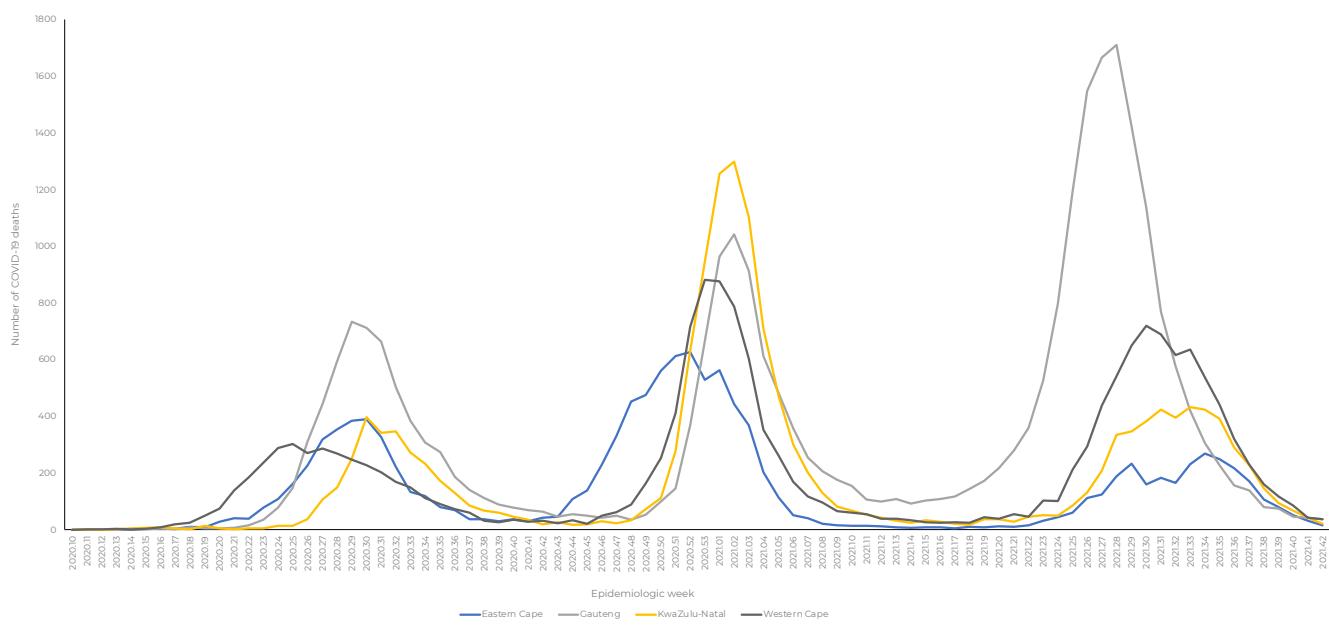
The number of deaths increased in both sectors since week 15 until the third wave peak in week 28 (Figure 3). Decreases in deaths in both sectors have been observed.



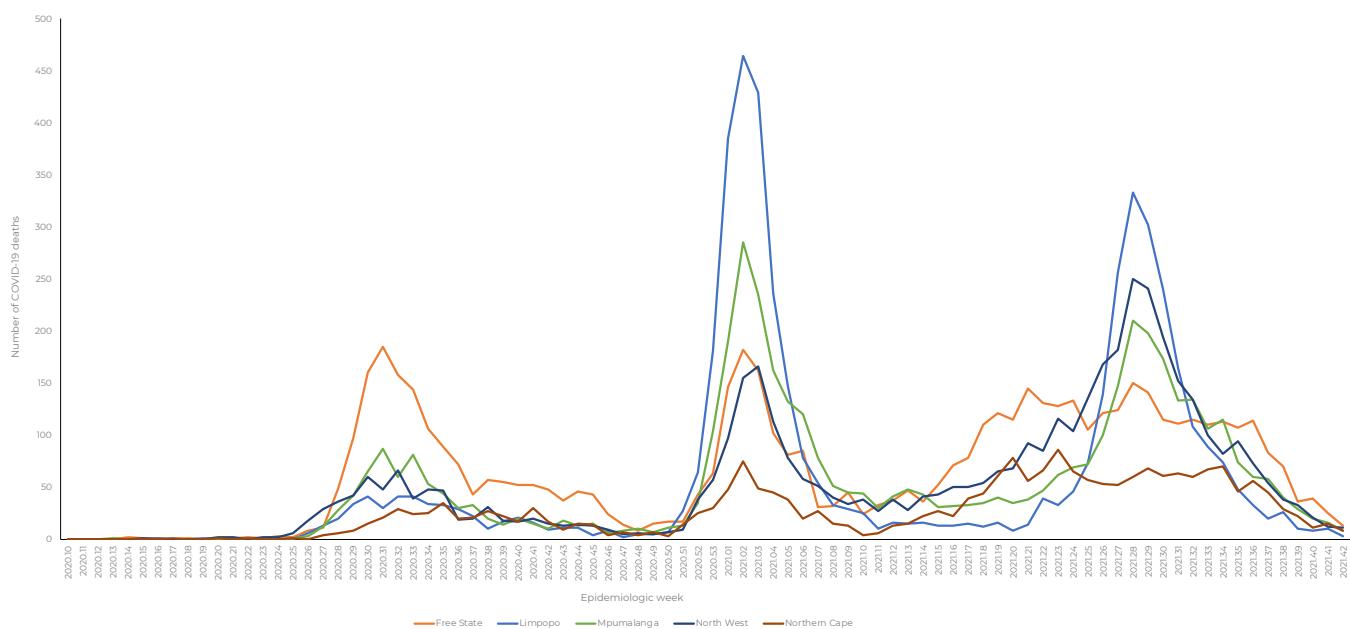
# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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Most deaths were reported in Gauteng 27,541 (29%), Western Cape 17,173 (18%), KwaZulu-Natal 15,597 (17%), and Eastern Cape 12,119 (13%). There has been a sustained post-peak decrease in deaths in all provinces. (Figures 4a and 4b).



**Figure 4a.** Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by province with highest deaths and epidemiologic week of death, South Africa, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=93,943



**Figure 4b.** Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by province with lowest deaths and epidemiologic week of death, South Africa, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=93,943

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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 2020-23 October 2021.

Province	Provincial Population mid 2020*	Cumulative admissions	Cumulative Admissions / 100,000	Cumulative deaths	Cumulative deaths / 100,000
Eastern Cape	6734001	41337	613.9	12119	180.0
Free State	2928903	26207	894.8	5546	189.4
Gauteng	15488137	125 655	811.3	27541	177.8
KwaZulu-Natal	11531628	69517	602.8	15595	135.2
Limpopo	5852553	17189	293.7	4826	82.5
Mpumalanga	4679786	18287	390.8	4478	95.7
North West	4108816	28 380	690.7	4429	107.8
Northern Cape	1292786	9 780	756.5	2234	172.8
Western Cape	7005741	97 535	1392.2	17172	245.1
<b>South Africa</b>	<b>59622350</b>	<b>433 887</b>	<b>727.7</b>	<b>93 940</b>	<b>157.6</b>

\*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 were 10 of 52 (19%) districts across the country that reported increased change in incidence risk of admissions, Amajuba (Kwazulu-Natal), Sekhukhune and Waterberg (Limpopo) Gert Sibande (Mpumalanga), Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati (North West), Frances Baard and Pixley Ka Seme (Northern Cape) and Central Karoo, Overberg and West Coast (Western Cape) (Appendix 1).

**Table 3.** Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, South Africa, 25 September-23 October 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	25.79	11.43	-55.68	9.43	3.36	-64.39
Free State	27.21	13.14	-51.71	5.36	2.71	-49.33
Gauteng	43.07	26.14	-39.30	8.71	5.71	-34.43
KwaZulu-Natal	35.64	12.29	-65.53	11.64	4.57	-60.74
Limpopo	5.29	1.71	-67.57	1.29	0.93	-27.78
Mpumalanga	9.71	7.21	-25.74	3.50	1.71	-51.02
North West	14.86	8.86	-40.38	3.86	1.64	-57.41
Northern Cape	11.86	5.43	-54.22	2.36	1.64	-30.30
Western Cape	69.50	34.14	-50.87	14.36	5.71	-60.20

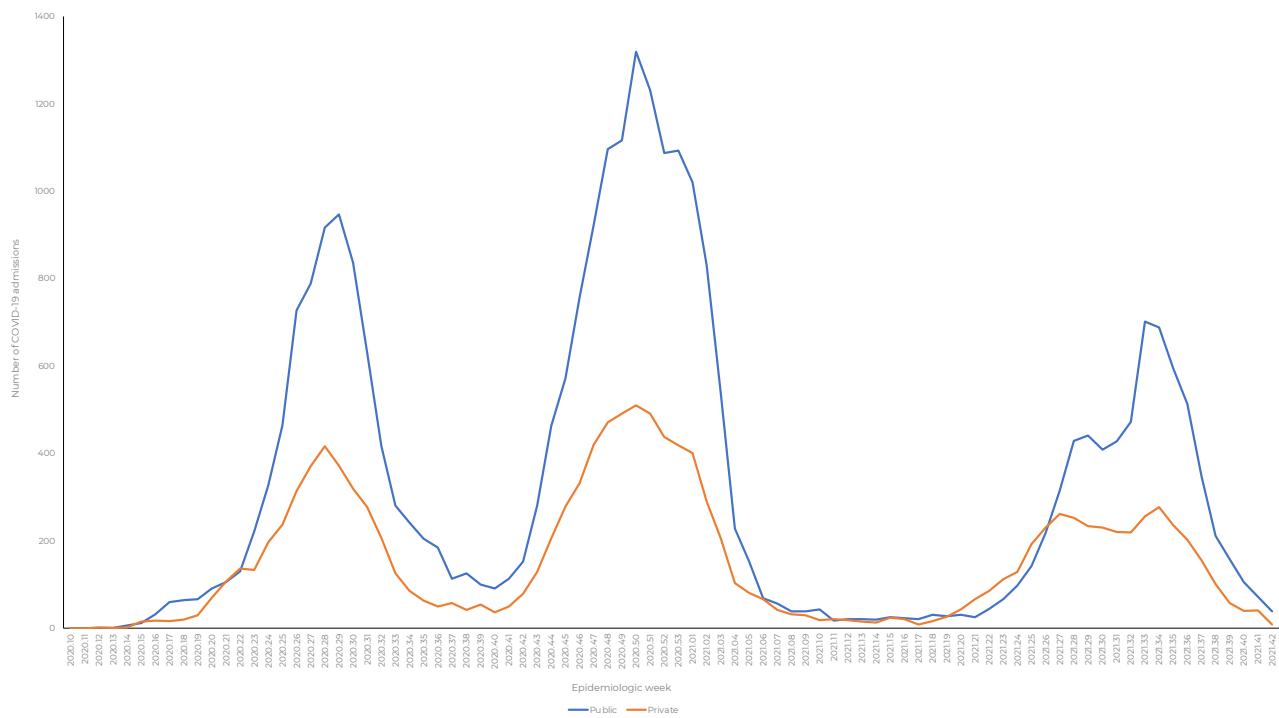
\* Reporting of new admissions in the most recent week may be delayed

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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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, while weekly admissions in the third wave were lower than the second 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).

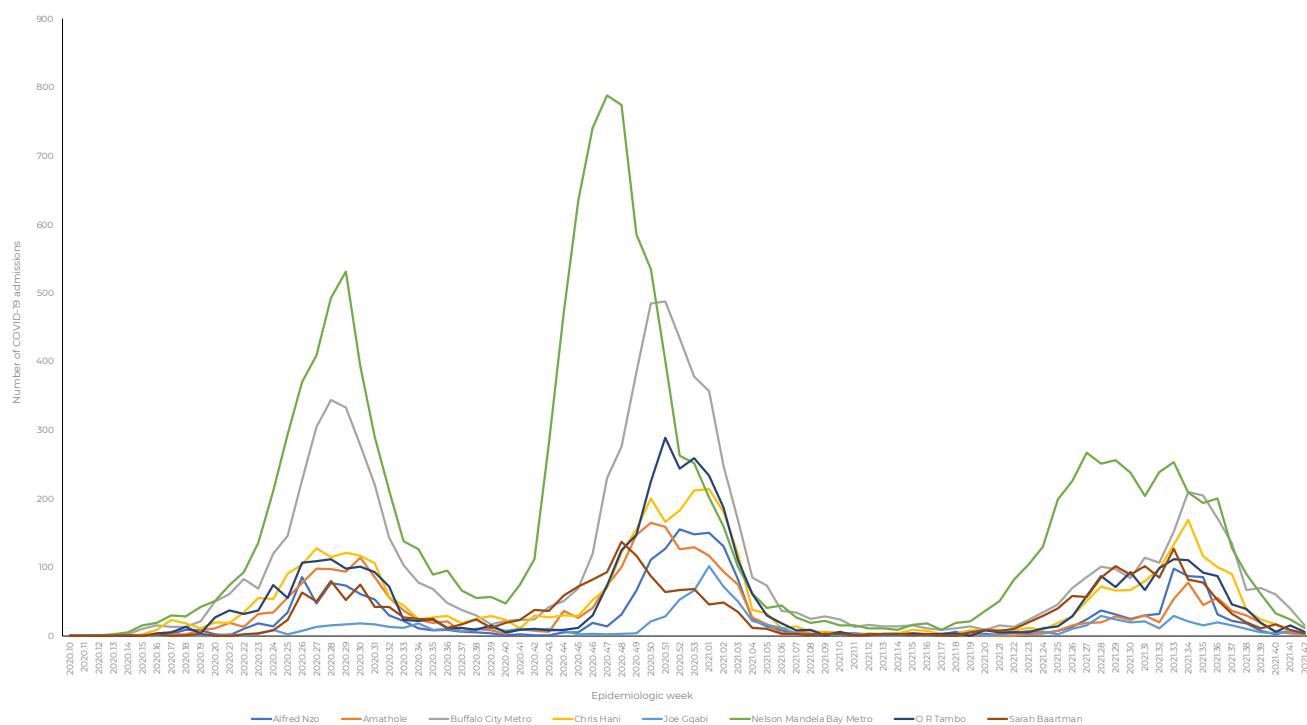


**Figure 5:** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=41,337

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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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, while weekly admissions in the third wave were lower than the second 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.

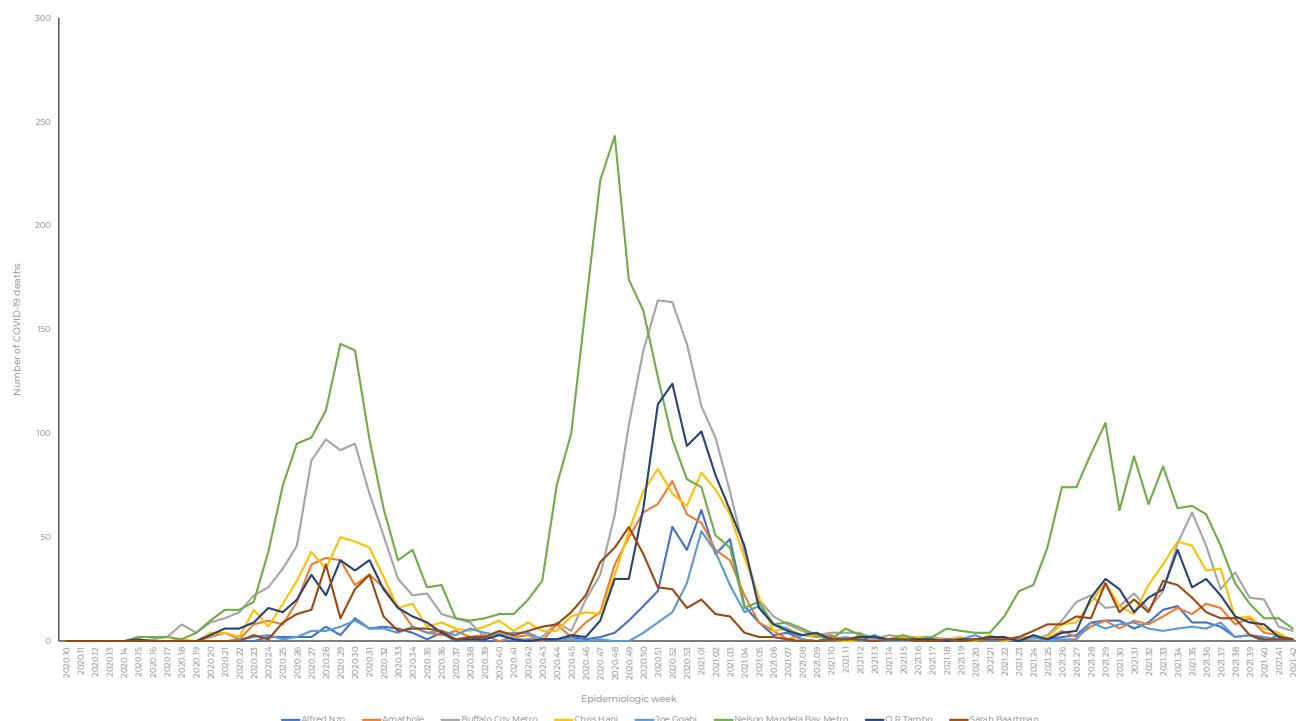


**Figure 6.** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=41,337

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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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, while weekly deaths in the third wave were lower than the second wave in both sectors (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 2020-23 October 2021, N=12,119

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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 except in Alfred Nzo (Table 4).

**Table 4:** Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Eastern Cape, 25 September-23 October 2021.

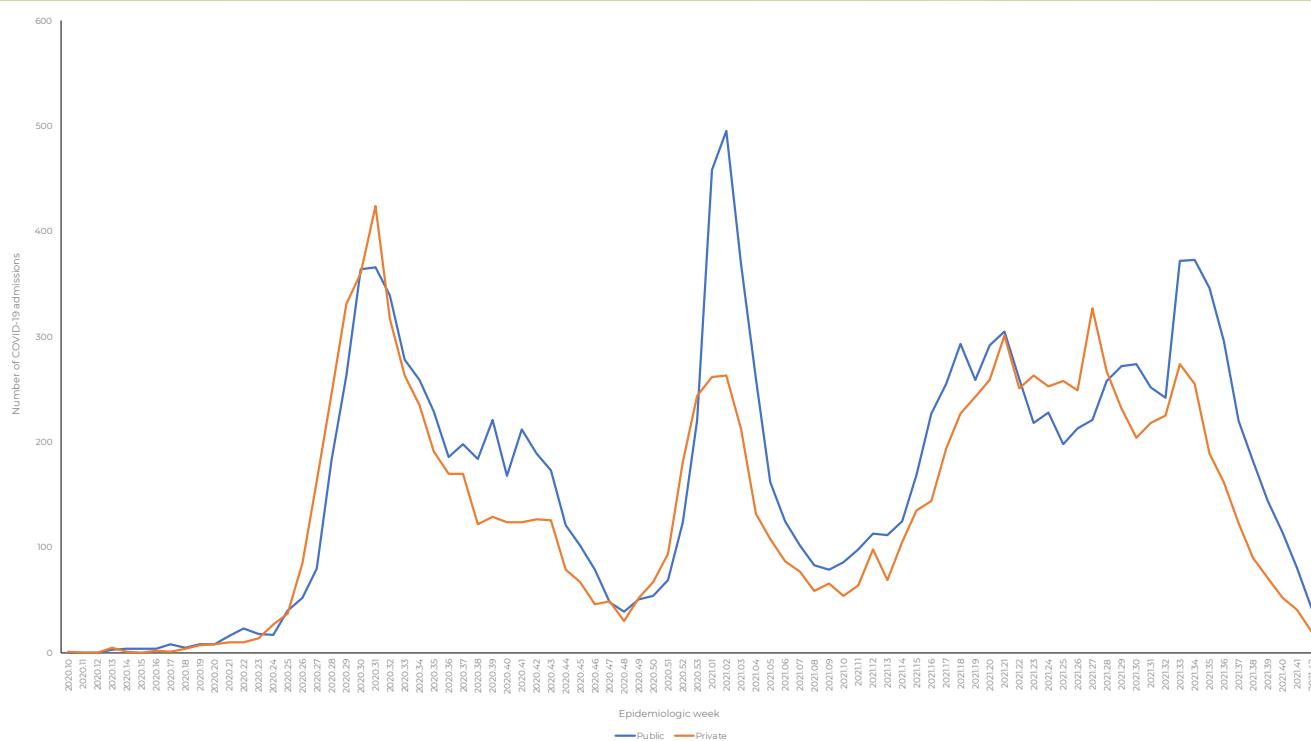
District	Previous 14 days admissions average	Current 14 days admissions average	Percentage change in admissions	Previous 14 days deaths average	Current 14 days deaths average	Percentage change in deaths
Alfred Nzo	0.64	0.79	22.22	0.21	0.29	33.33
Amathole	1.79	0.36	-80.00	1.07	0.29	-73.33
Buffalo City Metro	9.29	3.93	-57.69	2.93	0.86	-70.73
Chris Hani	2.93	0.79	-73.17	1.29	0.29	-77.78
Joe Gqabi	0.64	0.57	-11.11	0.36	0.07	-80.00
Nelson Mandela Bay	6.71	2.57	-61.70	2.07	1.21	-41.38
O R Tambo	1.79	1.50	-16.00	1.21	0.21	-82.35
Sarah Baartman	2.00	0.93	-53.57	0.29	0.14	-50.00

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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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. 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. Since the initial peak in week 21, there was a decrease in admissions then a second increase from week 25. Since the third wave peak in week 35, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of deaths in all districts.

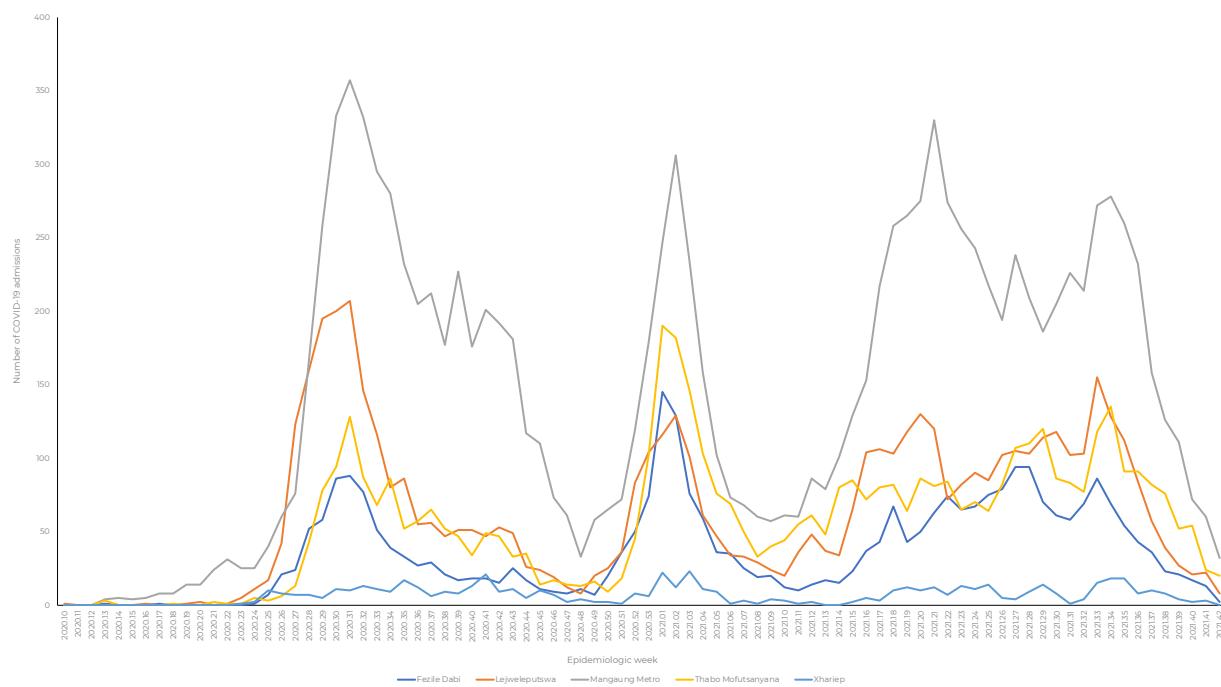


**Figure 8:** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Free State, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=26,207

# 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 Fezile Dabi, Thabo Mofutsanyane and Xhariep. 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). 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 nine weeks.

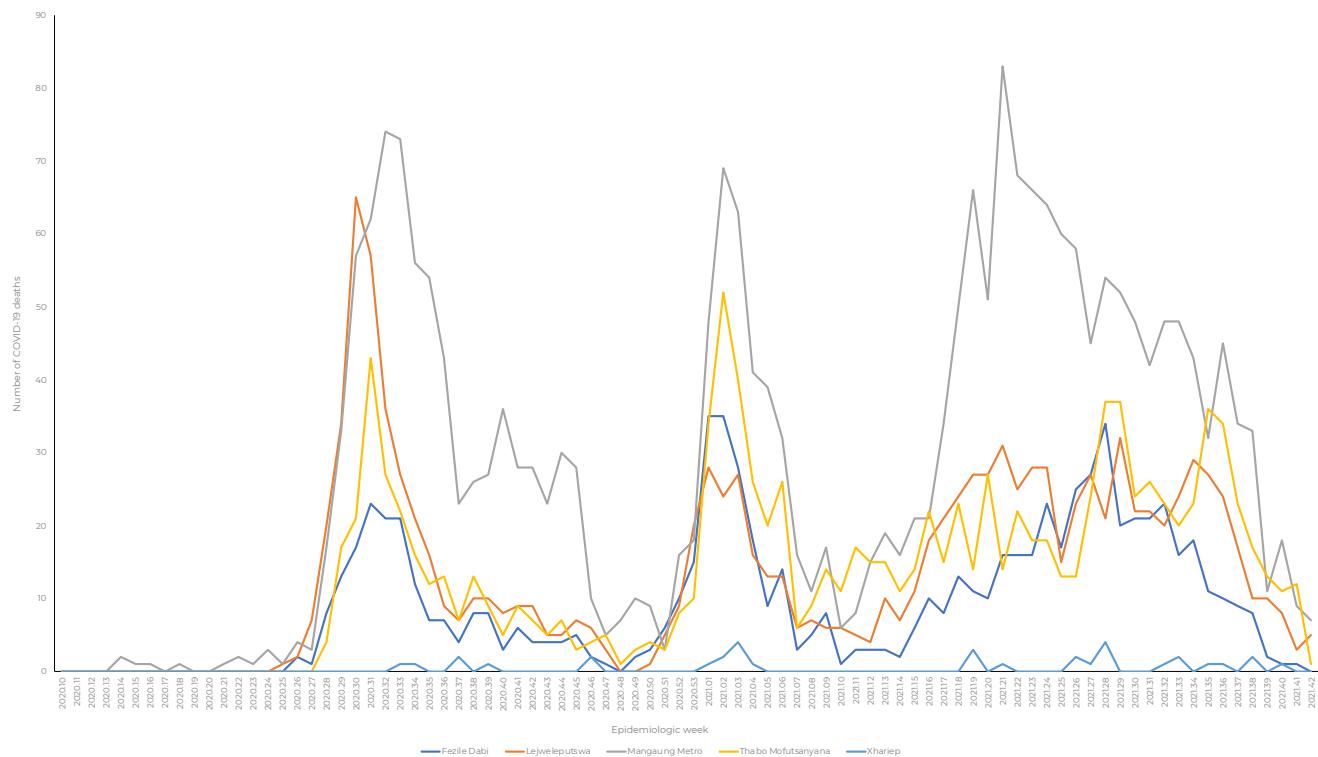


**Figure 9:** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Free State, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=26,207

# 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 Thabo Mofutsanyana, Fezile Dabi and Xhariep. 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). Since the third wave peak, there has been sustained decreases in deaths in all districts.



**Figure 10:** Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Free State, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=5,546

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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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, 25 September-23 October 2021.

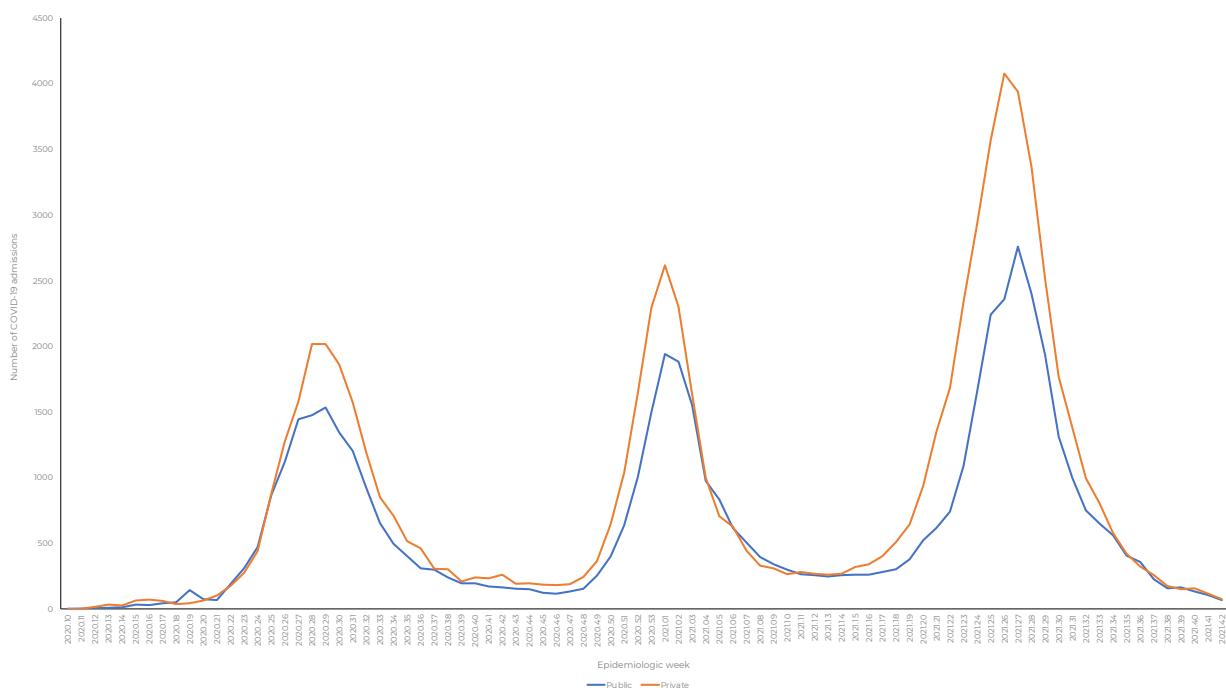
District	Previous 14 days admissions average	Current 14 days admissions average	Percentage change in admissions	Previous 14 days deaths average	Current 14 days deaths average	Percentage change in deaths
Fezile Dabi	2.71	1.07	-60.53	0.21	0.07	-66.67
Lejweleputswa	3.43	2.14	-37.50	1.29	0.57	-55.56
Mangaung Metro	13.07	6.57	-49.73	2.07	1.14	-44.83
Thabo Mofutsanyana	7.57	3.14	-58.49	1.71	0.93	-45.83
Xhariep	0.43	0.21	-50.00	0.07	0.00	-100.00

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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

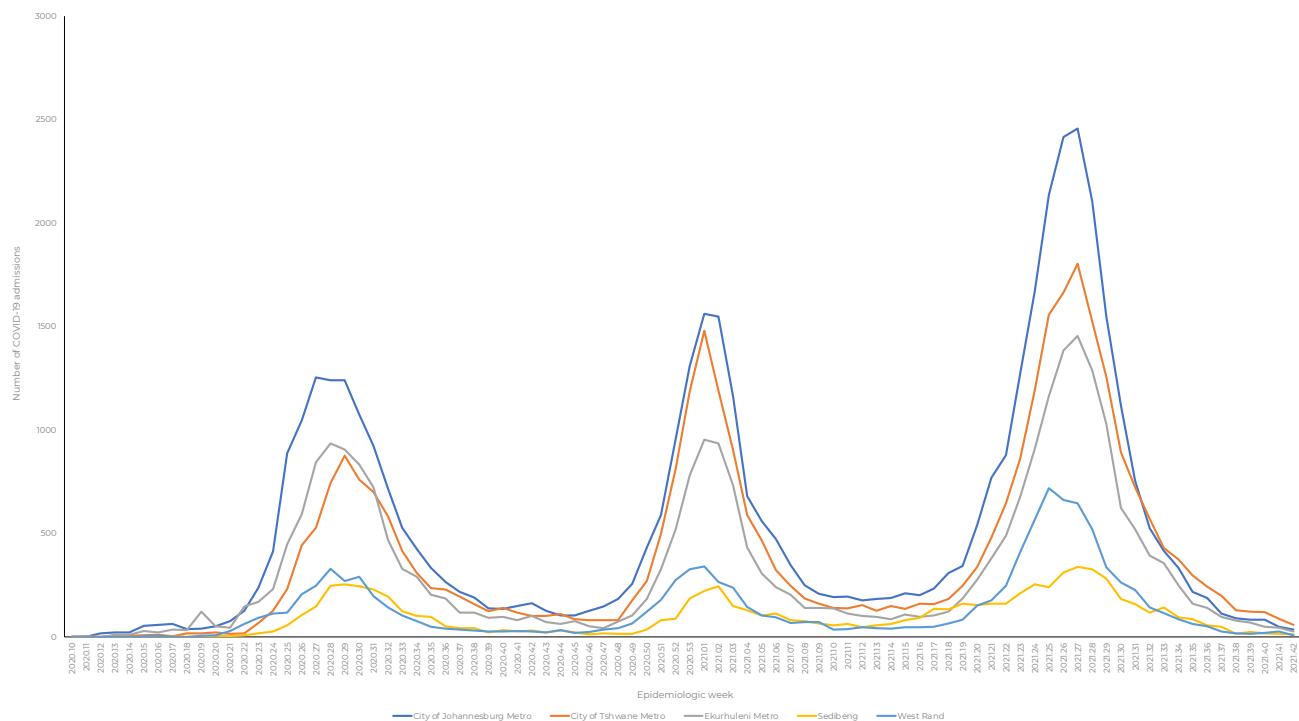


**Figure 11:** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=125,655

# 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 City of Johannesburg Metro, City of Tshwane Metro, Ekurhuleni Metro and West Rand. 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). Since the third wave peak, there has been a sustained decrease in admissions.

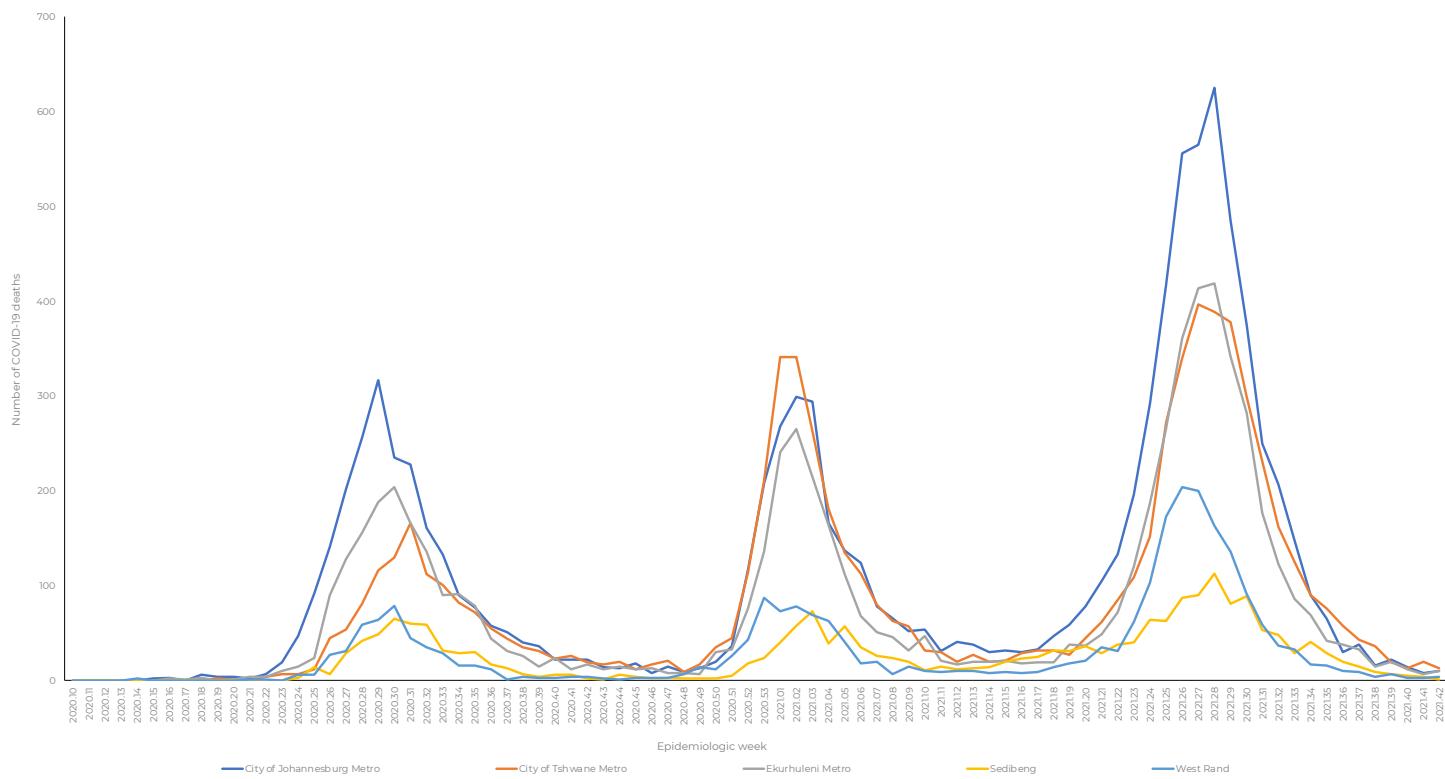


**Figure 12:** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=125,655

# 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 City of Tshwane Metro, Ekurhuleni Metro and West Rand. Weekly deaths at the peak of the third wave exceeded the weekly numbers of deaths at the peak of the second wave in all districts (Figure 13). Since the third wave peak, a decrease in the number of deaths has been observed in all districts.



**Figure 13:** Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=27,541

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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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 except in West Rand (Table 6).

**Table 6:** Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Gauteng, 25 September-23 October 2021.

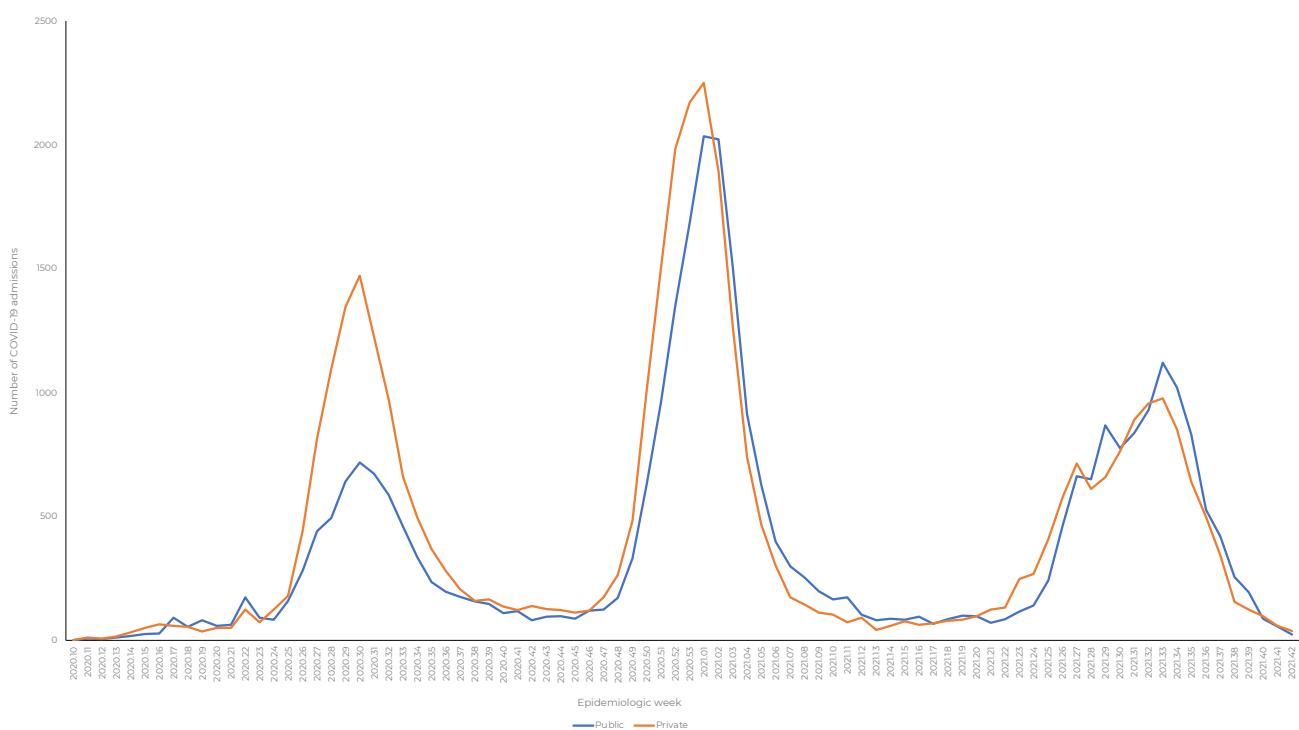
District	Previous 14 days admissions average	Current 14 days admissions average	Percentage change in admissions	Previous 14 days deaths average	Current 14 days deaths average	Percentage change in deaths
City of Johannesburg Metro	11.93	6.07	-49.10	2.57	1.29	-50.00
City of Tshwane Metro	17.29	10.43	-39.67	2.29	2.36	3.13
Ekurhuleni Metro	8.36	4.93	-41.03	2.29	1.21	-46.88
Sedibeng	3.00	2.14	-28.57	0.86	0.36	-58.33
West Rand	2.50	2.57	2.86	0.71	0.50	-30.00

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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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, while weekly admissions in the third wave were lower than the second 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.

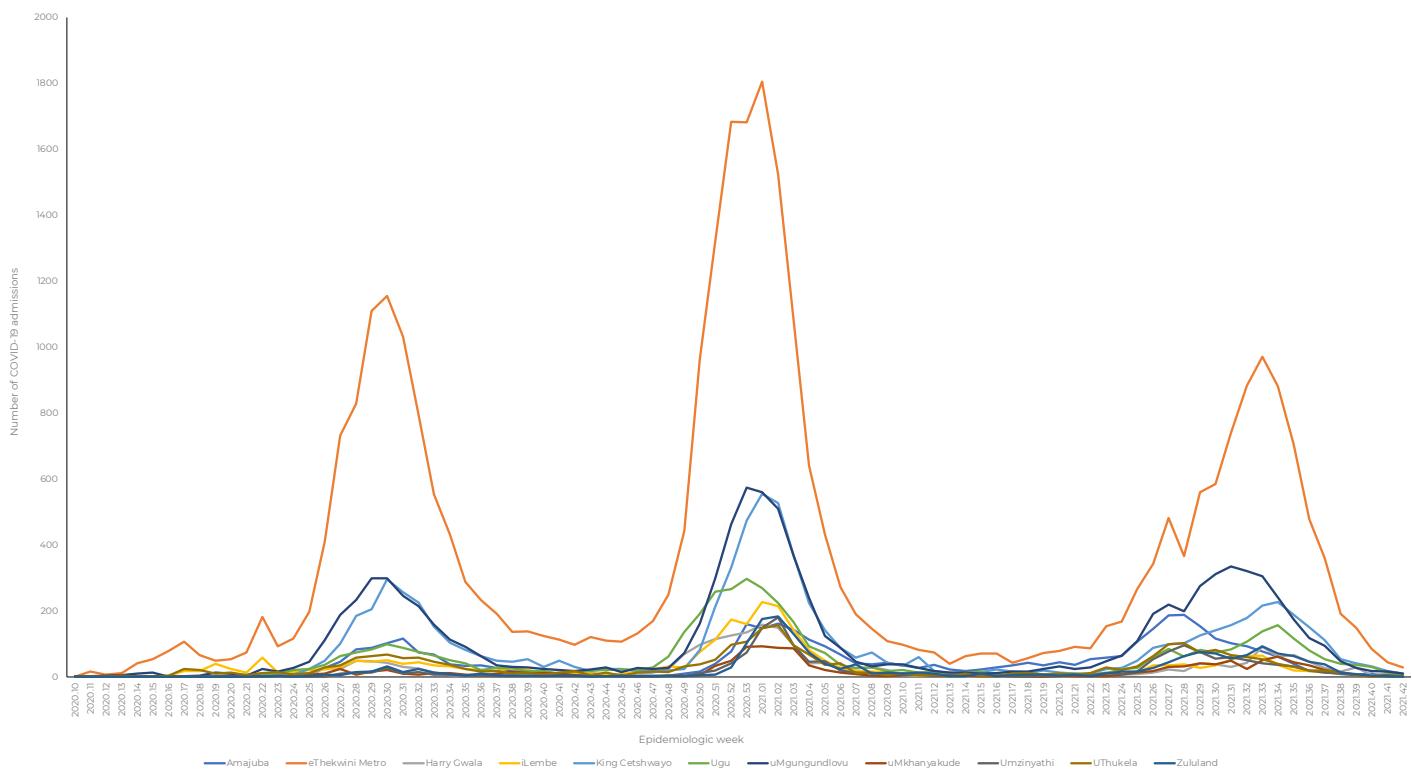


**Figure 14:** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=69,517

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

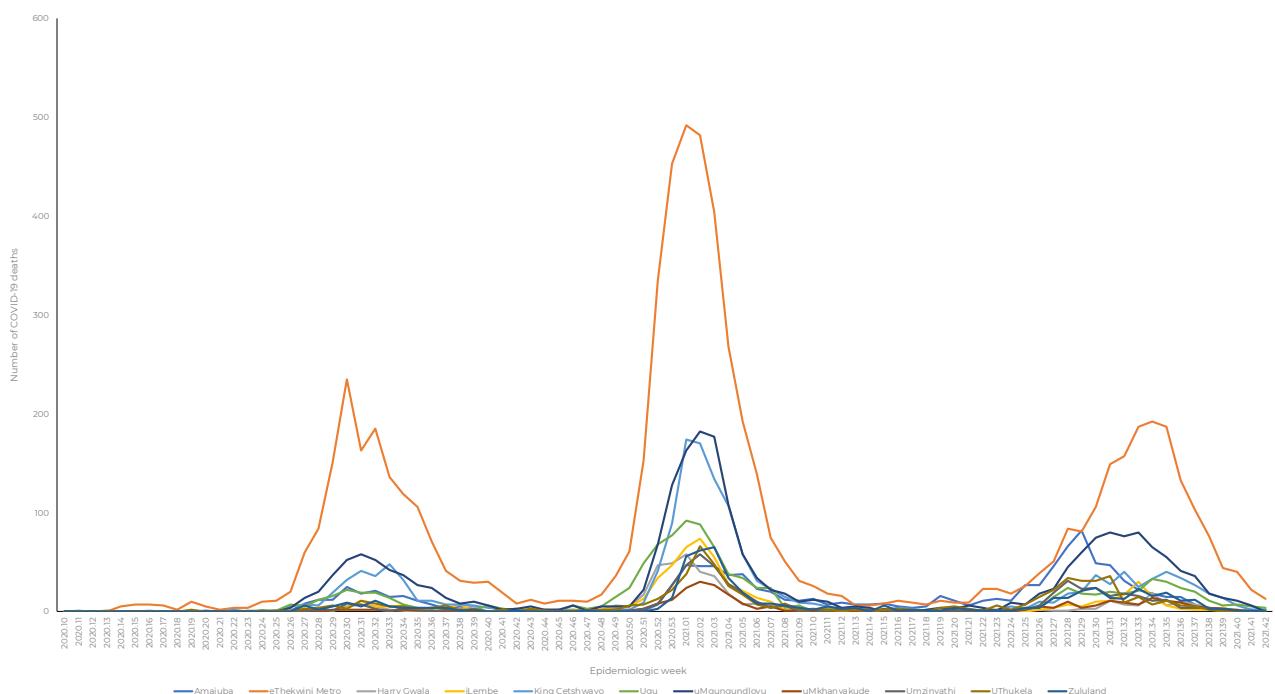


**Figure 15:** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=69,517

# 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. 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). Since the third wave peak in week 33, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of deaths in all districts.



**Figure 16:** Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=15,597

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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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, 25 September-23 October 2021.

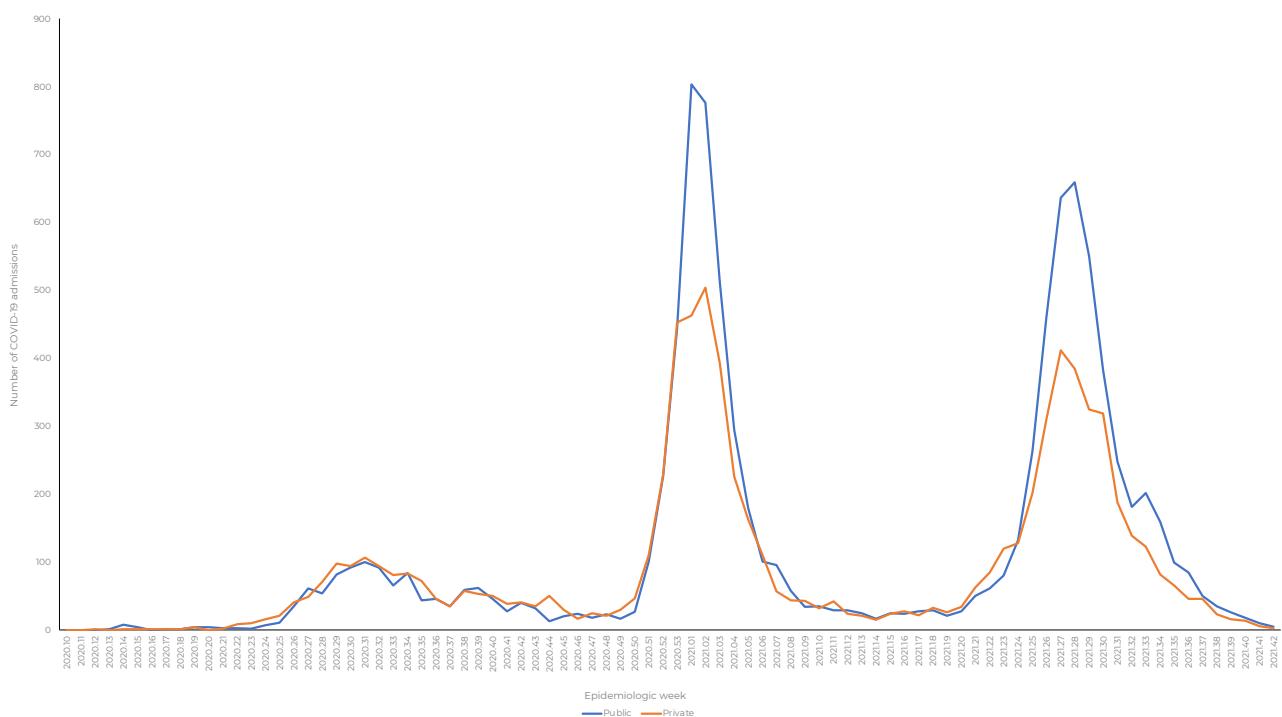
District	Previous 14 days admissions average	Current 14 days admissions average	Percentage change in admissions	Previous 14 days deaths average	Current 14 days deaths average	Percentage change in deaths
Amajuba	1.14	0.07	-93.75	0.29	0.29	0.00
eThekweni Metro	16.64	5.21	-68.67	6.00	2.50	-58.33
Harry Gwala	2.36	0.64	-72.73	0.14	0.14	0.00
iLembe	0.43	0.36	-16.67	0.29	0.14	-50.00
King Cetshwayo	5.00	2.00	-60.00	1.43	0.29	-80.00
Ugu	4.71	1.29	-72.73	0.93	0.64	-30.77
uMgungundlovu	3.07	1.79	-41.86	1.79	0.43	-76.00
uMkhanyakude	0.50	0.29	-42.86	0.36	0.00	-100.00
Umzinyathi	0.43	0.36	-16.67	0.14	0.07	-50.00
UThukela	0.50	0.21	-57.14	0.00	0.00	0.00
Zululand	0.86	0.07	-91.67	0.29	0.07	-75.00

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

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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, while weekly admissions in the third wave were lower than the second 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.

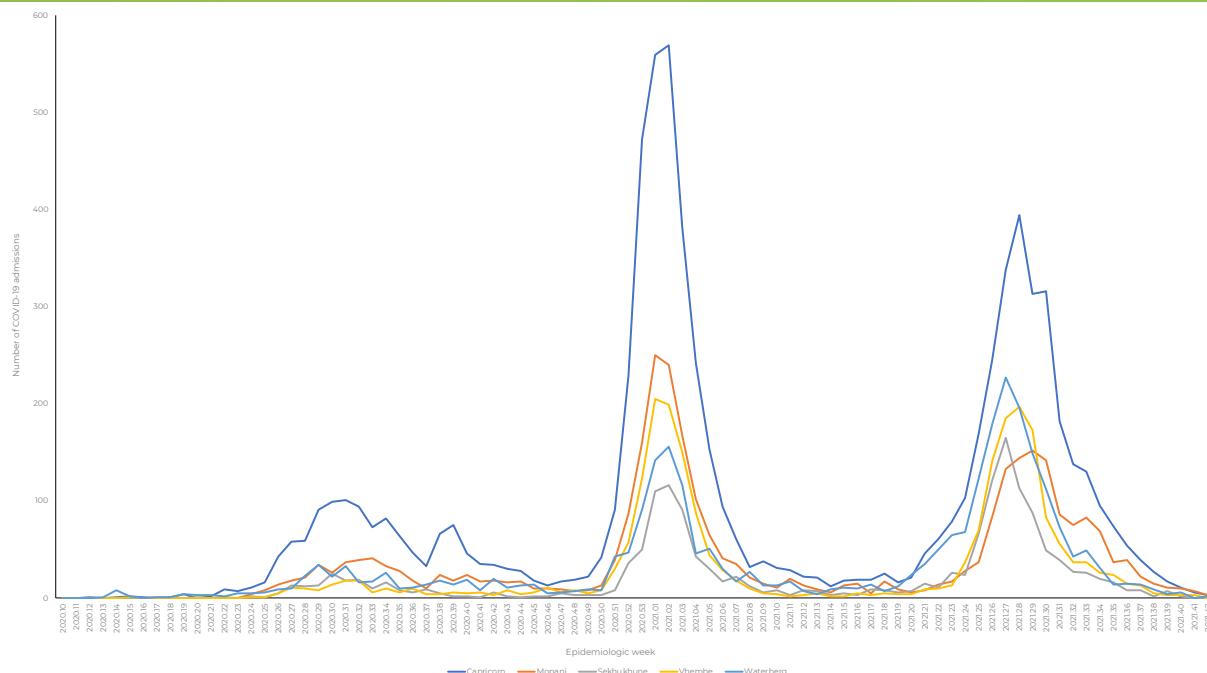


**Figure 17:** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=17,189

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

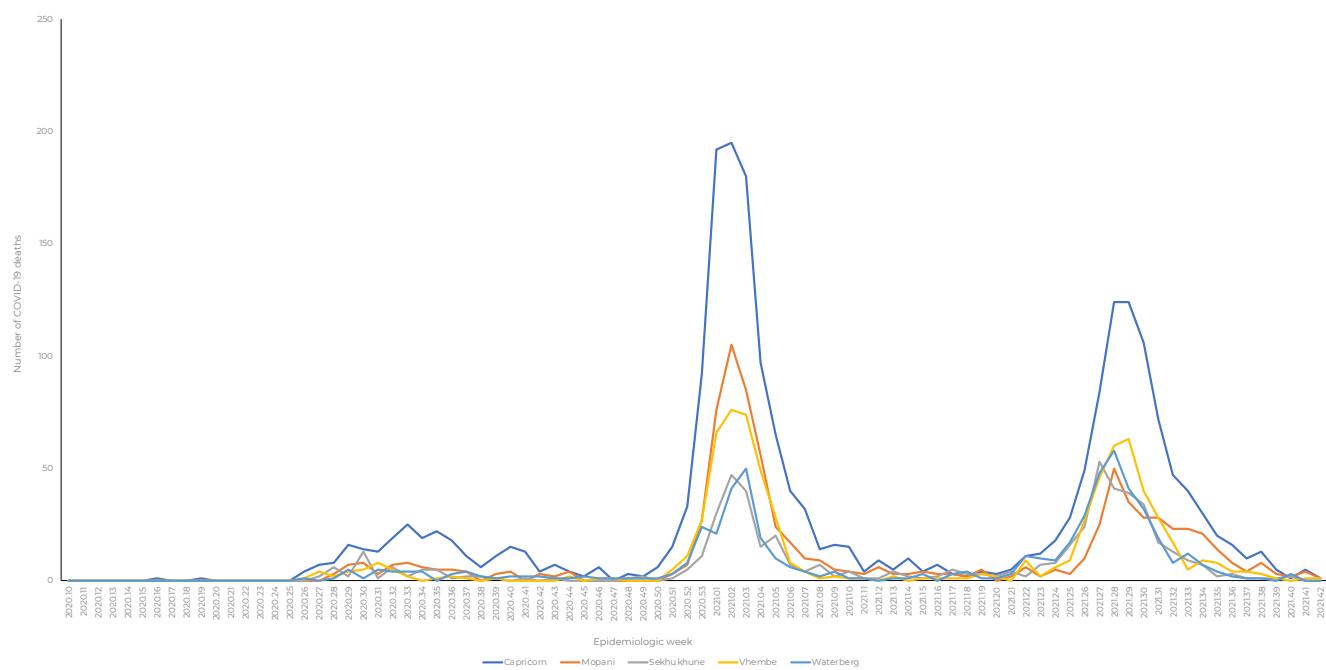


**Figure 18:** Number reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=17,189

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



**Figure 19:** Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=4,826

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, 25 September-23 October 2021.

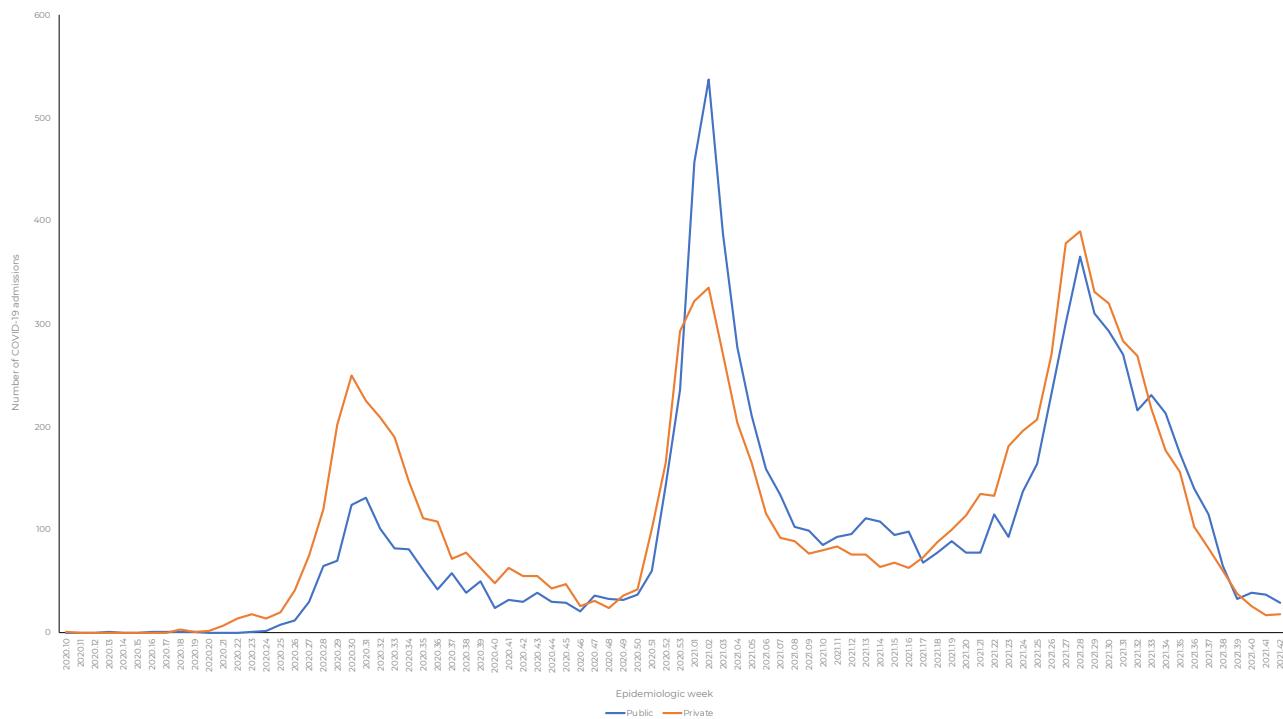
District	Previous 14 days average	Current 14 days average	Percentage change in admissions	Previous 14 days deaths average	Current 14 days deaths average	Percentage change in deaths
Capricorn	2.00	0.64	-67.86	0.43	0.43	0.00
Mopani	1.50	0.71	-52.38	0.36	0.36	0.00
Sekhukhune	0.64	0.00	-100.00	0.21	0.00	-100.00
Vhembe	0.43	0.21	-50.00	0.07	0.14	100.00
Waterberg	0.71	0.14	-80.00	0.21	0.00	-100.00

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 42 2021

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

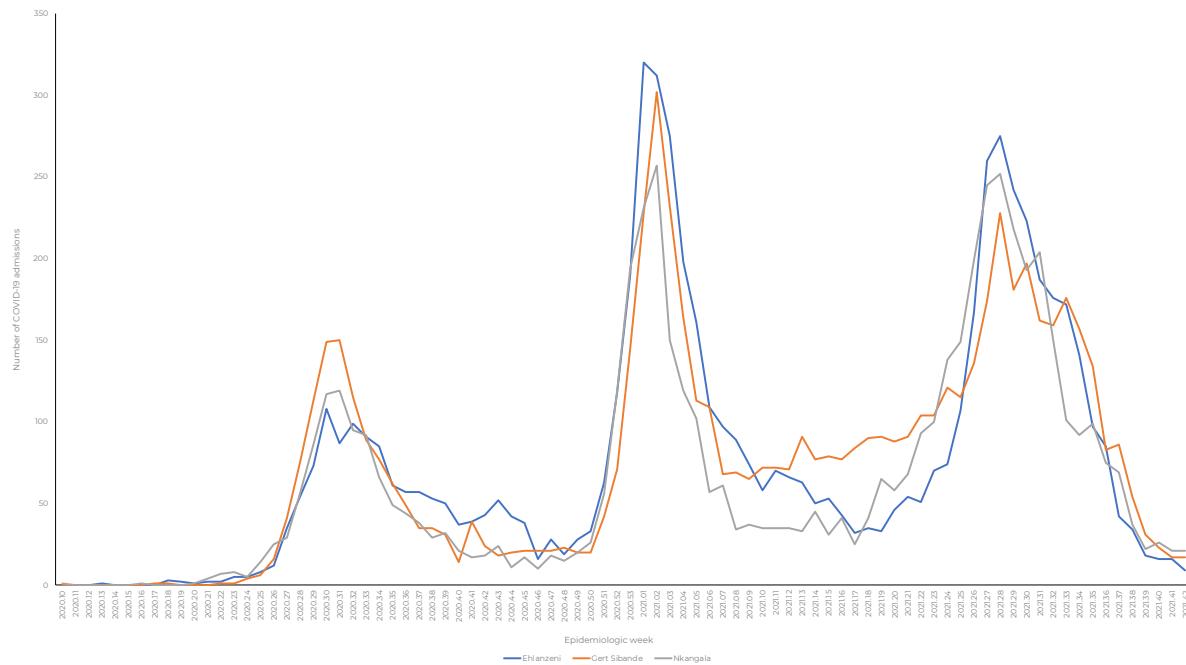


**Figure 20:** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=18,287

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 42 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, while weekly admissions in the third wave were lower than the second wave in all districts (Figure 21). Since the third wave peak, a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in all districts.

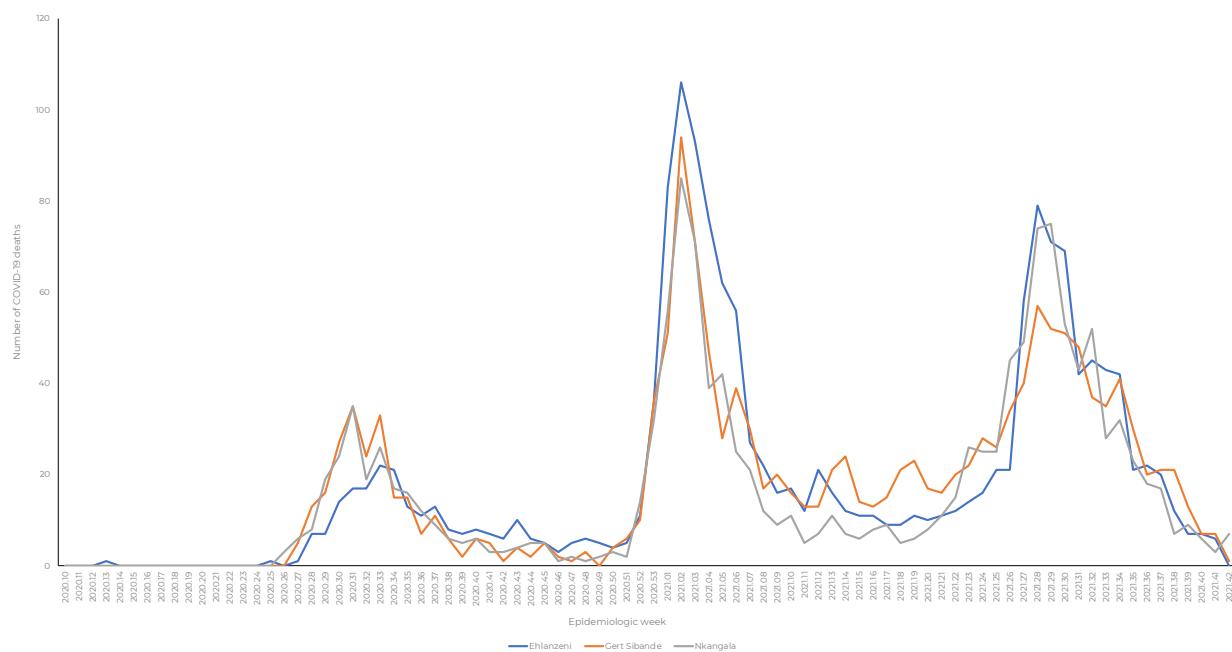


**Figure 21:** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=18,287

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 42 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, while weekly deaths in the third wave were lower than the second 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 2020-23 October 2021, N=4,478

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, 25 September-23 October 2021.

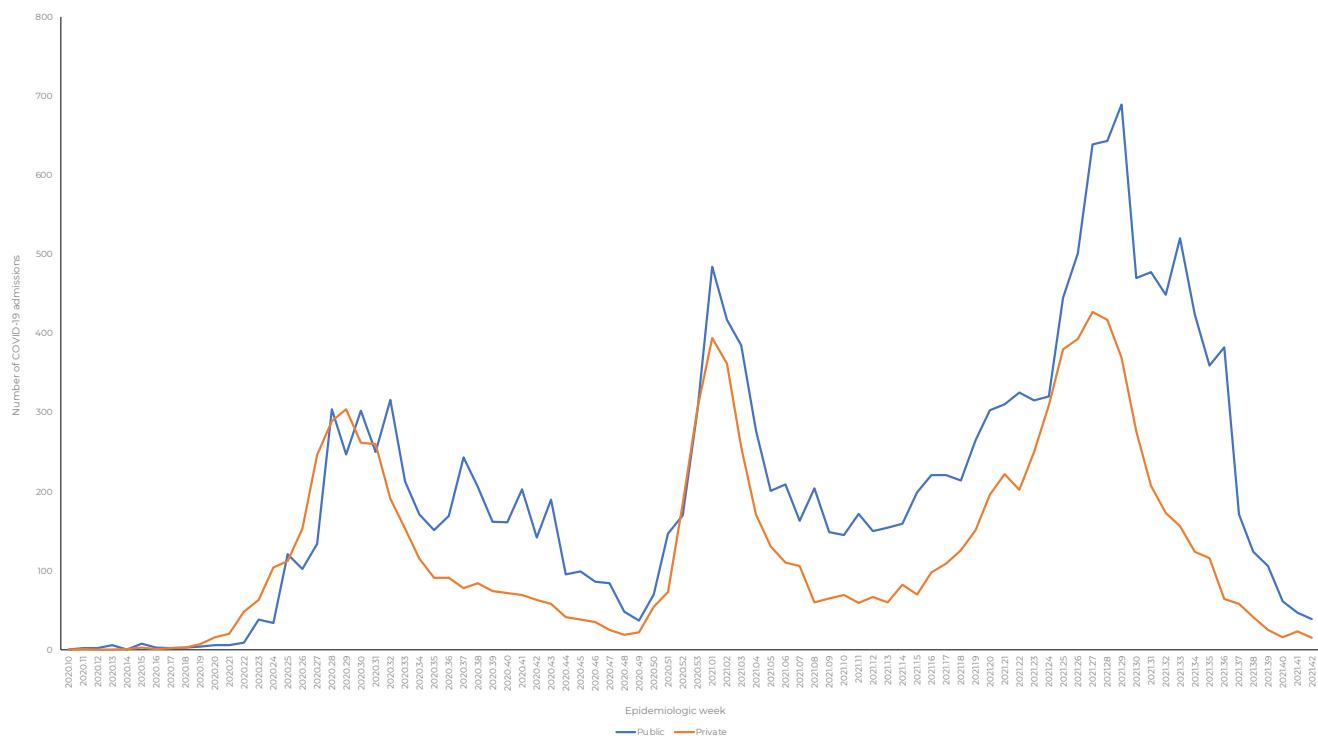
District	Previous 14 days admissions average	Current 14 days admissions average	Percentage change in admissions	Previous 14 days deaths average	Current 14 days deaths average	Percentage change in deaths
Ehlanzeni	2.43	1.79	-26.47	1.00	0.43	-57.14
Gert Sibande	3.86	2.43	-37.04	1.43	0.57	-60.00
Nkangala	3.43	3.00	-12.50	1.07	0.71	-33.33

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 42 2021

## NORTH WEST

In all three waves there were higher numbers of admissions in the public sector. Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in both sectors. 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). Since the third wave peak in week 29, a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in both sectors.

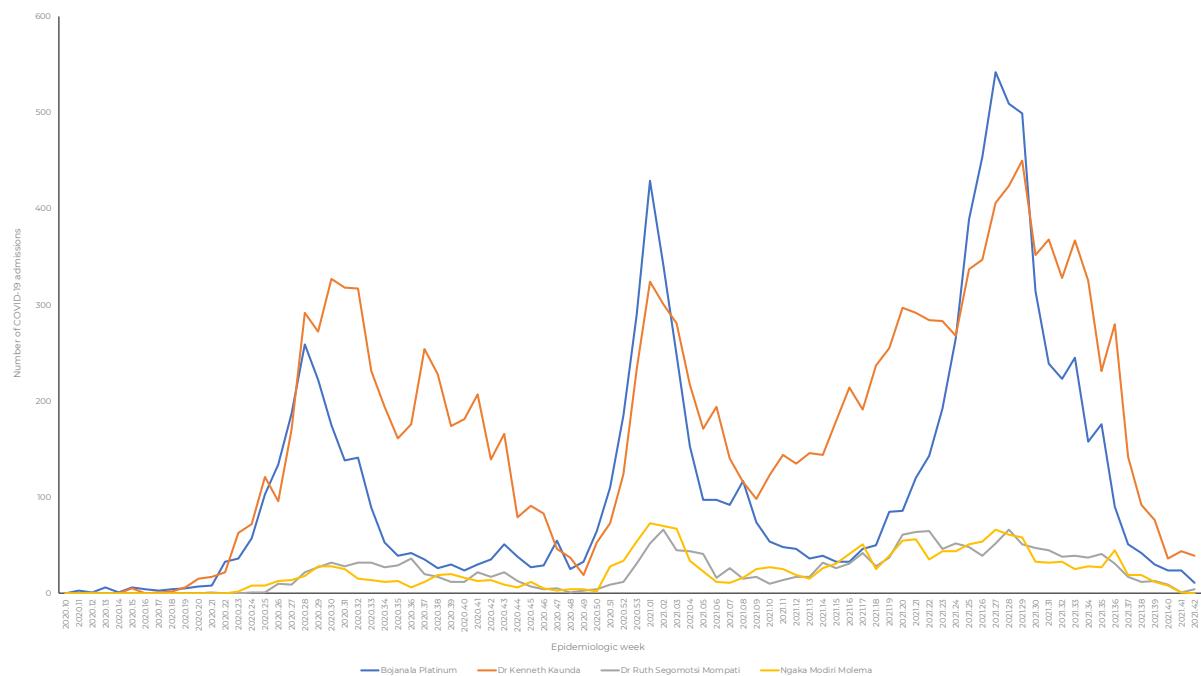


**Figure 23:** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, North West, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=28,380

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 42 2021

Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in all districts except Dr Kenneth Kaunda. 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). Since the third wave peak in week 27, a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in all districts.

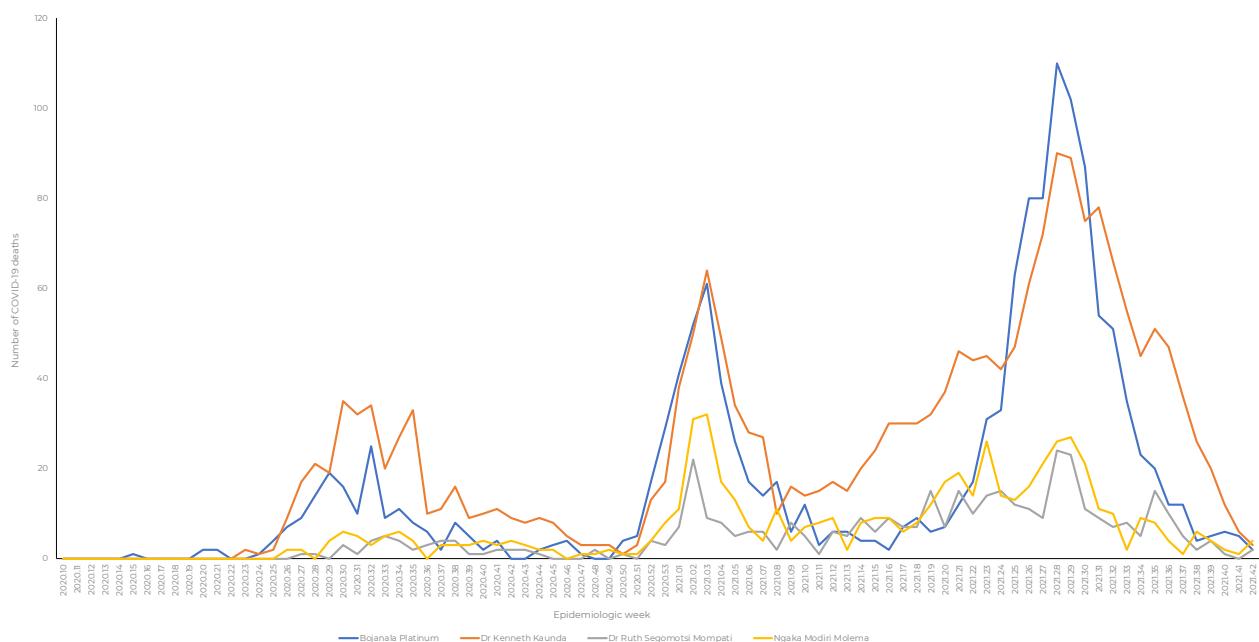


**Figure 24:** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=28,380

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 42 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. 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). Since the third wave peak, a decrease in the number of deaths has been observed in all districts.



**Figure 25:** Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=4,429

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, 25 September-23 October 2021.

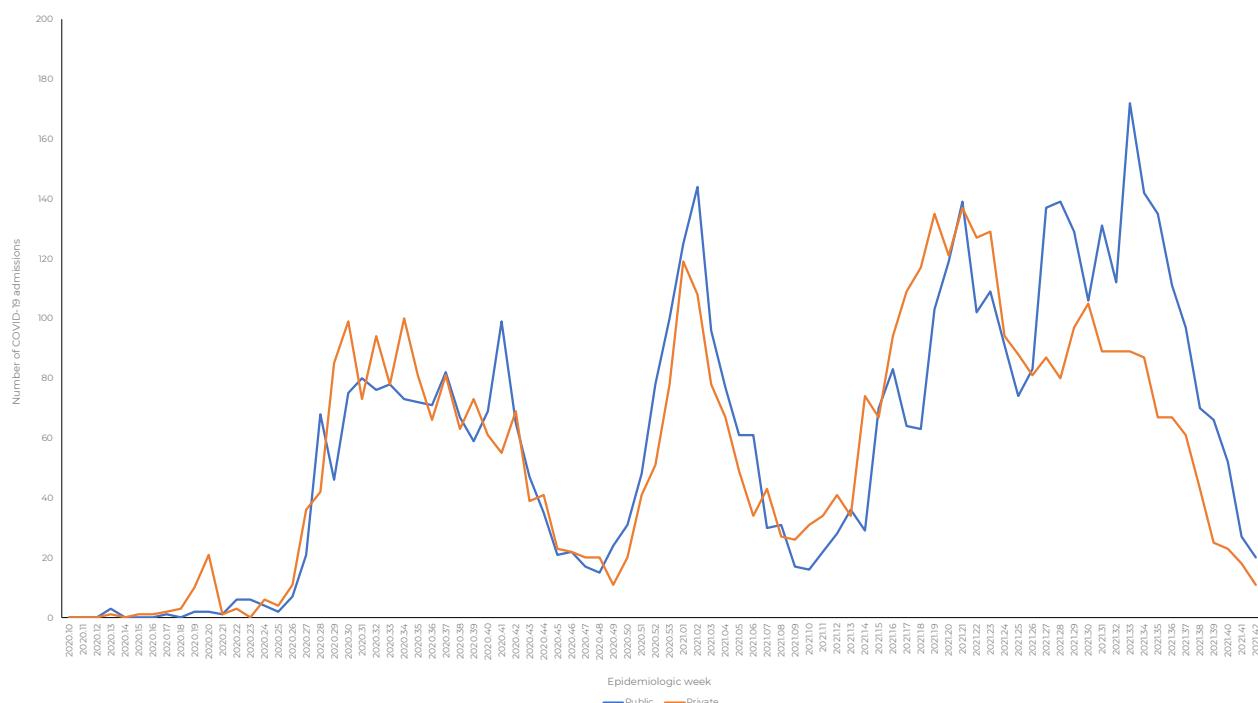
District	Previous 14 days admissions average	Current 14 days admissions average	Percentage change in admissions	Previous 14 days deaths average	Current 14 days deaths average	Percentage change in deaths
Bojanala Platinum	3.86	2.50	-35.19	0.79	0.50	-36.36
Dr Kenneth Kaunda	8.00	5.93	-25.89	2.29	0.64	-71.88
Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	1.57	0.36	-77.27	0.36	0.14	-60.00
Ngaka Modiri Molema	1.43	0.07	-95.00	0.43	0.36	-16.67

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 42 2021

## 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. 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). 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, since the peak in week 35, decreased in admissions has been observed in both sectors.

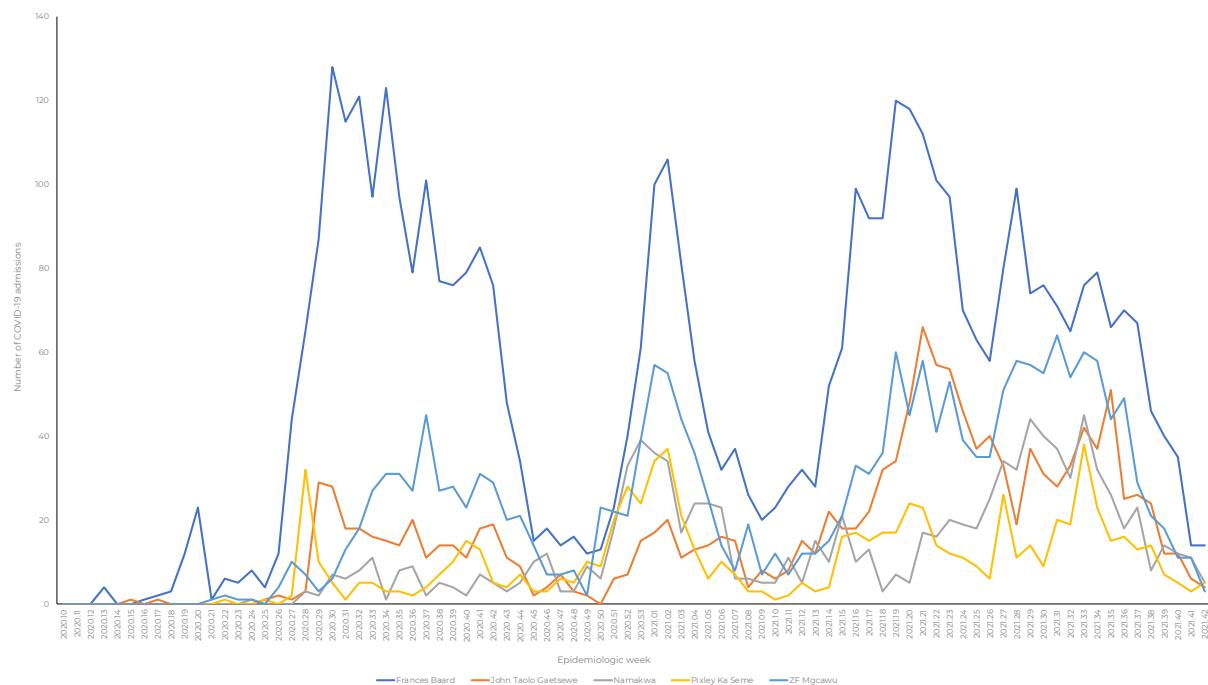


**Figure 26:** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=9,780

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 42 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. 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 27). Since the third wave peak, the numbers of admissions initially decreased, however a second increase in admissions were observed from week 26. There has been a decrease in admissions in all districts over the past eleven weeks.

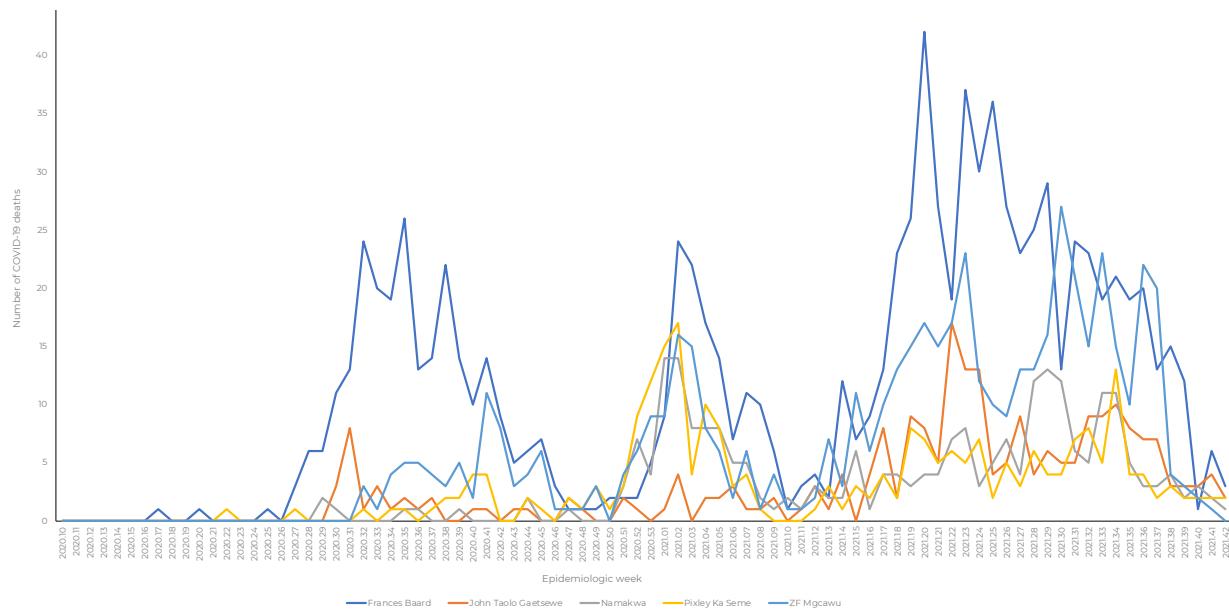


**Figure 27:** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=9,780

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 42 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. 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). Since the third wave peak, the numbers of COVID-19 deaths have increased in all districts.



**Figure 28:** Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=2,234

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, 25 September-23 October 2021.

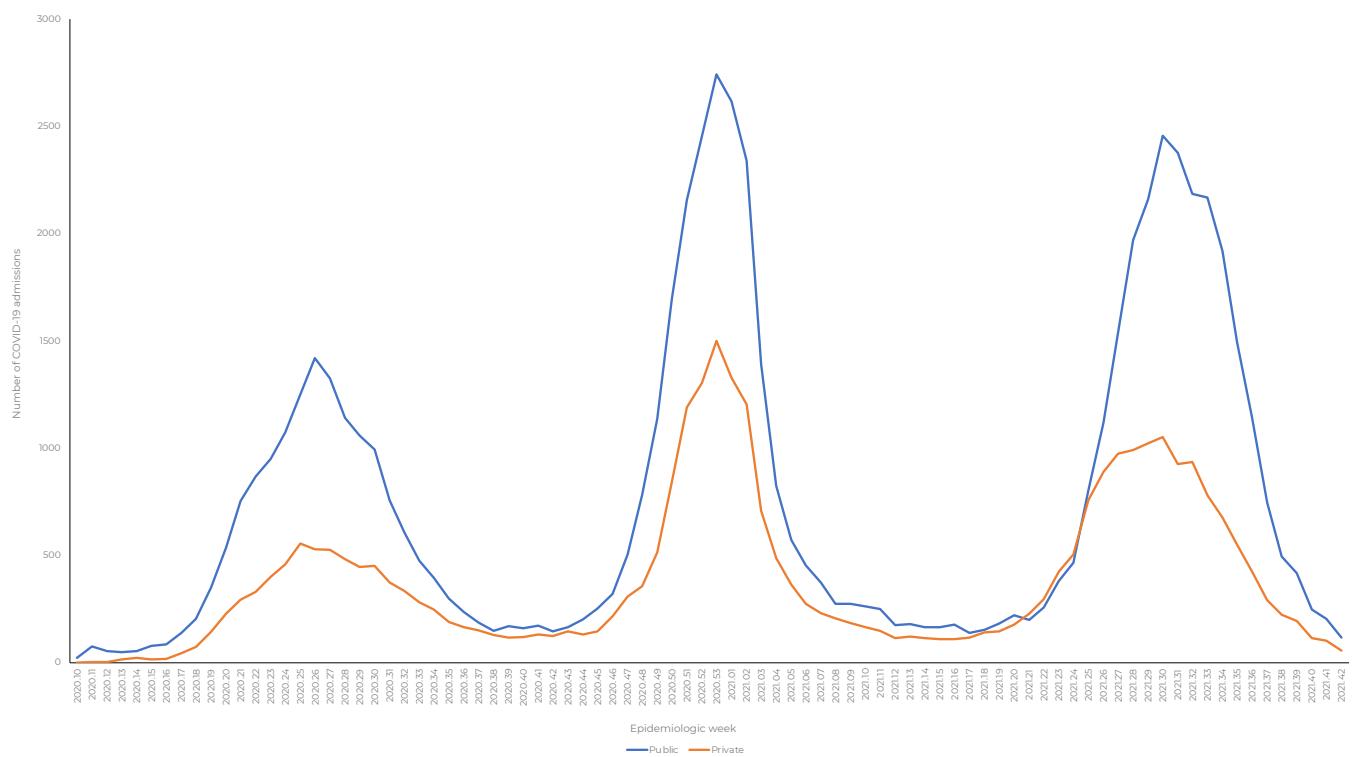
District	Previous 14 days admissions average	Current 14 days admissions average	Percentage change in admissions	Previous 14 days deaths average	Current 14 days deaths average	Percentage change in deaths
Frances Baard	5.36	2.00	-62.67	0.93	0.64	-30.77
John Taolo Gaetsewe	1.71	0.71	-58.33	0.43	0.43	0.00
Namakwa	1.86	1.14	-38.46	0.36	0.21	-40.00
Pixley Ka Seme	0.86	0.57	-33.33	0.29	0.29	0.00
ZF Mgcawu	2.07	1.00	-51.72	0.36	0.07	-80.00

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 42 2021

## WESTERN CAPE

In all three waves there were higher numbers of admissions in the public sector. Weekly admissions at the peak of the second wave exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the first wave in both sectors, while weekly admissions in the third wave were lower than the second 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.

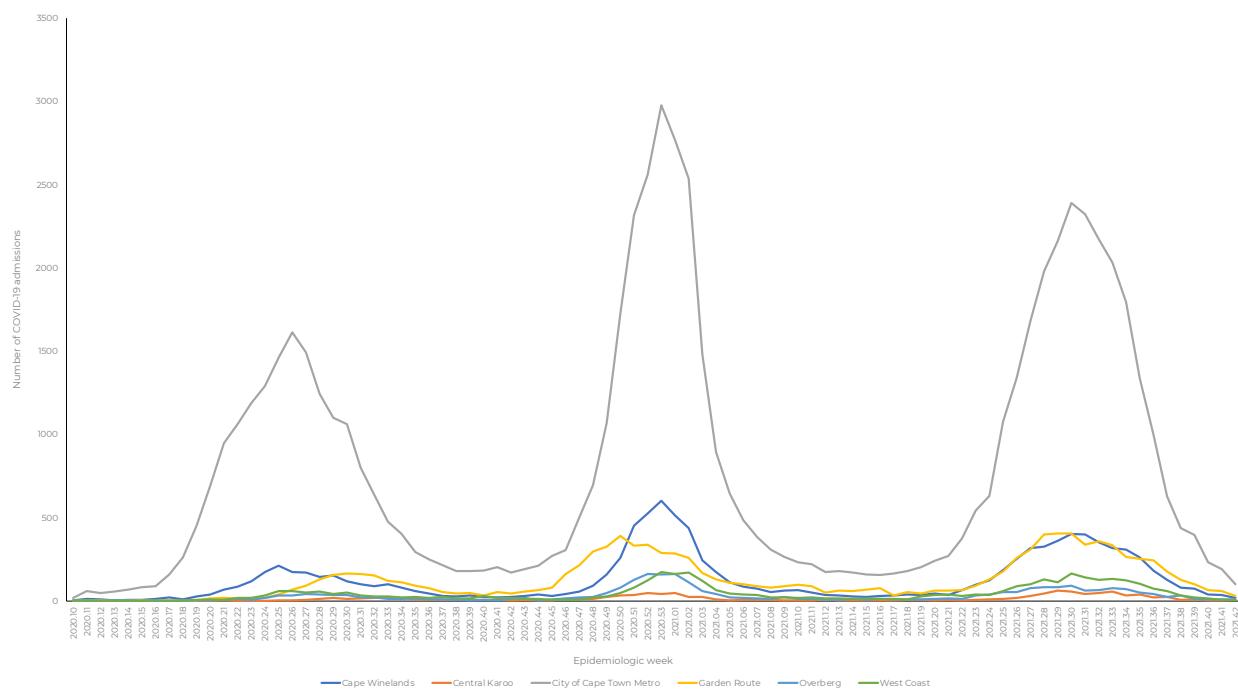


**Figure 29:** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=97,535

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 42 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. 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). Since the third wave peak, a decrease in the number of admissions has been observed in all districts.

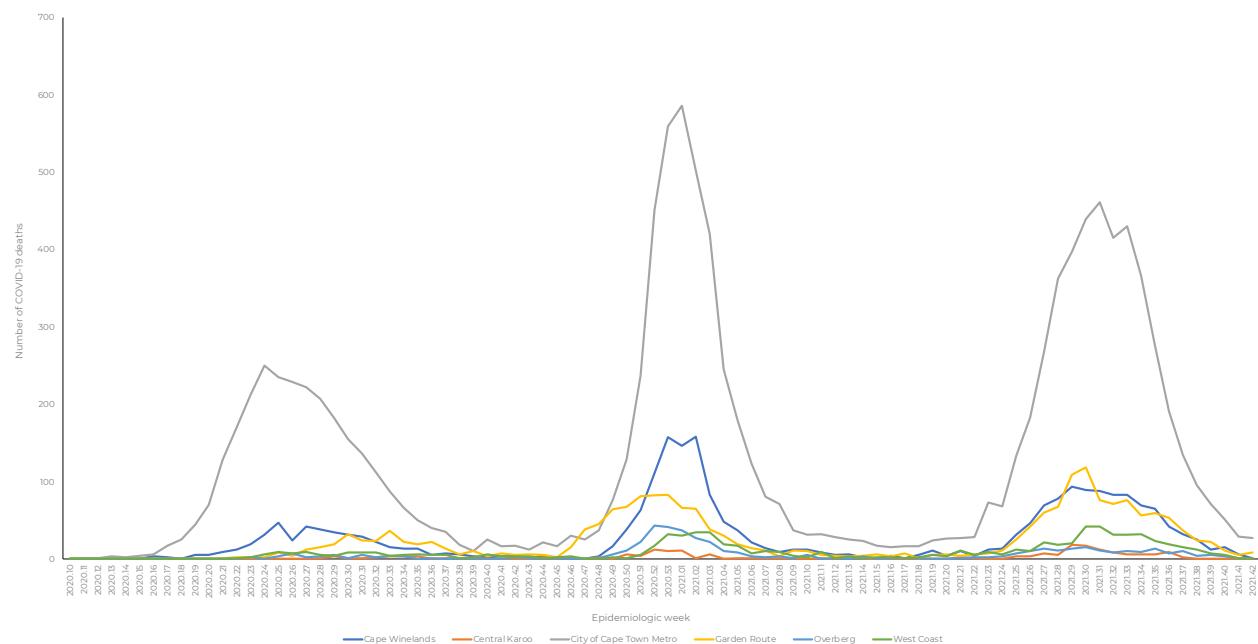


**Figure 30:** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=97,535

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 42 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. 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). Since the third wave peak, there has been a decrease in deaths in all districts.



**Figure 31:** Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021, N=17,173

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, 25 September-23 October 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	8.14	4.00	-50.88	1.93	0.50	-74.07
Central Karoo	0.79	0.64	-18.18	0.00	0.00	0.00
City of Cape Town Metro	44.71	20.86	-53.35	8.71	4.00	-54.10
Garden Route	11.79	6.50	-44.85	2.29	0.93	-59.38
Overberg	1.43	1.29	-10.00	0.57	0.14	-75.00
West Coast	2.64	0.86	-67.57	0.86	0.14	-83.33

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 42 2021

## 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

WEEK 42 2021

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All public and private sector hospitals submitting data to DATCOV

Private hospital groups submitting data to DATCOV:

- Netcare
- Life Healthcare
- Mediclinic Southern Africa
- National Hospital Network (NHN)
- Clinix Health Group
- Lenmed
- Joint Medical Holdings (JMH)

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 42 2021

## APPENDIX

**Table 13:** Percentage incidence change in hospital admissions over 14 days, by district, South Africa, 9 October-23 October 2021.

Province	District	Total admissions	Incidence (per 100k)	New admissions	New admissions incidence (per 100k)	% average change (14 days)
Eastern Cape	Alfred Nzo	2296	275.88	3	0.36	-62.50
	Amathole	2819	352.73	1	0.13	-80.00
	Buffalo City Metro	8986	1122.02	16	2.00	-60.98
	Chris Hani	4483	616.09	4	0.55	-42.86
	Joe Gqabi	994	288.14	2	0.58	-66.67
	Nelson Mandela Bay Metro	14598	1203.40	12	0.99	-61.29
	O R Tambo	4312	281.43	7	0.46	-58.82
	Sarah Baartman	2861	591.33	4	0.83	-66.67
Free State	Fezile Dabi	3060	599.85	3	0.59	-76.92
	Lejweleputswa	5390	824.66	10	1.53	-64.29
	Mangaung Metro	12468	1431.59	37	4.25	-55.95
	Thabo Mofutsanyana	4767	623.29	21	2.75	-38.24
	Xhariep	569	439.58	0	0.00	-100.00
Gauteng	City of Johannesburg Metro	45324	772.58	40	0.68	-31.03
	City of Tshwane Metro	33421	896.22	74	1.98	-30.84
	Ekurhuleni Metro	27673	694.91	27	0.68	-44.90
	Sedibeng	8148	852.73	16	1.67	-11.11
	West Rand	11120	1164.72	10	1.05	-64.29
KwaZulu-Natal	Amajuba	3884	680.78	1	0.18	100.00
	eThekweni Metro	32030	804.53	30	0.75	-38.78
	Harry Gwala	2128	413.99	0	0.00	-100.00
	iLembe	2673	384.86	2	0.29	-33.33
	King Cetshwayo	7615	784.51	11	1.13	-42.11
	Ugu	4558	568.52	5	0.62	-64.29
	uMgungundlovu	9427	820.14	12	1.04	-25.00

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 42 2021

Province	District	Total admissions	Incidence (per 100k)	New admissions	New admissions incidence (per 100k)	% average change (14 days)
	uMkhanyakude	1269	184.74	1	0.15	-66.67
	Umgonyathi	1558	274.50	0	0.00	-100.00
	UThukela	2539	355.49	1	0.14	-50.00
	Zululand	1848	209.81	0	0.00	-100.00
Limpopo	Capricorn	7339	561.10	4	0.31	-33.33
	Mopani	3088	260.62	3	0.25	-70.00
	Sekhukhune	1636	137.45	0	0.00	100.00
	Vhembe	2340	163.95	0	0.00	-100.00
	Waterberg	2790	375.90	2	0.27	100.00
Mpumalanga	Ehlanzeni	6399	349.91	10	0.55	-37.50
	Gert Sibande	6200	499.13	41	3.30	-52.87
	Nkangala	5433	337.69	27	1.68	-60.87
North West	Bojanala Platinum	9789	507.69	11	0.57	-54.17
	Dr Kenneth Kaunda	14750	1849.03	45	5.64	-22.41
	Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	1953	412.83	4	0.85	300.00
	Ngaka Modiri Molema	1895	208.27	0	0.00	-100.00
Northern Cape	Frances Baard	4544	1095.17	15	3.62	7.14
	John Taolo Gaetsewe	1395	513.86	4	1.47	-33.33
	Namakwa	1029	890.04	5	4.32	-54.55
	Pixley Ka Seme	811	384.57	5	2.37	66.67
	ZF Mgcawu	2004	715.97	6	2.14	-53.85
Western Cape	Cape Winelands	11012	1169.92	20	2.12	-59.18
	Central Karoo	1099	1463.13	7	9.32	40.00
	City of Cape Town Metro	68303	1483.24	172	3.74	-46.08
	Garden Route	10950	1755.77	37	5.93	-55.42
	Overberg	2638	879.60	12	4.00	33.33
	West Coast	3718	806.83	12	2.60	50.00

# COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 42 2021

## APPENDIX

**Table 14:** Number of reported COVID-19 admissions and in-hospital deaths by age and gender, South Africa, 5 March 2020-23 October 2021.

Age (years)	ADMISSIONS				DEATHS			
	Female	Male	Unknown	Total	Female	Male	Unknown	Total
0-4	3528	4291	26	7845	135	142	2	279
5-9	1004	1268	7	2279	20	22	0	42
10-14	1665	1601	6	3272	56	48	0	104
15-19	4865	2603	3	7471	115	112	0	227
20-24	7553	3780	5	11338	275	209	1	485
25-29	12467	5676	10	18153	619	399	0	1018
30-34	16518	9529	8	26055	1065	878	1	1944
35-39	17957	13266	17	31240	1590	1471	4	3065
40-44	17077	15203	11	32291	2002	2046	0	4048
45-49	19559	19204	16	38779	2957	3084	3	6044
50-54	23133	21448	11	44592	4085	4190	2	8277
55-59	25860	23364	18	49242	5844	5825	7	11676
60-64	22677	20697	18	43392	6264	6441	4	12709
65-69	19437	17255	14	36706	6462	5997	5	12464
70-74	16217	14214	17	30448	5675	5496	5	11176
75-79	11983	9784	9	21776	4439	4107	2	8548
80-84	9020	6160	7	15187	3599	2765	3	6367
85-89	4740	2914	3	7657	1963	1425	0	3388
90-94	2050	988	1	3039	953	522	0	1475
>=95	616	305	2	923	298	130	0	428
Unknown	1083	1074	45	2202	70	109	0	179
<b>Total</b>	<b>239009</b>	<b>194624</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>433887</b>	<b>48486</b>	<b>45418</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>93943</b>