

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE



NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR
COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Division of the National Health Laboratory Service

SOUTH AFRICA WEEK 46 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 20 November 2021.

HIGHLIGHTS

- As of 20 November 2021, 436,289 COVID-19 admissions and 94,486 in-hospital deaths were reported to DATCOV from 666 facilities (408 public-sector and 258 private-sector) in all nine provinces of South Africa.
- There has been an increase in admissions in Gauteng in both sectors since week 44, and the increase in admissions is observed in City of Tshwane Metro. The increase in admissions in Gauteng appears to be in all age groups except those 55 years and older. 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 20 November 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 2020-20 November 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
South Africa	408	258

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RESULTS

Epidemiological and geographic trends in admissions

From 5 March 2020 to 20 November 2021, a total of 436,289 COVID-19 admissions were reported from 666 facilities in all nine provinces of South Africa. South Africa experienced three waves of the COVID-19 pandemic. There has been a sustained decrease in admissions in both sectors since the third wave peak in week 29 of 2021 (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.

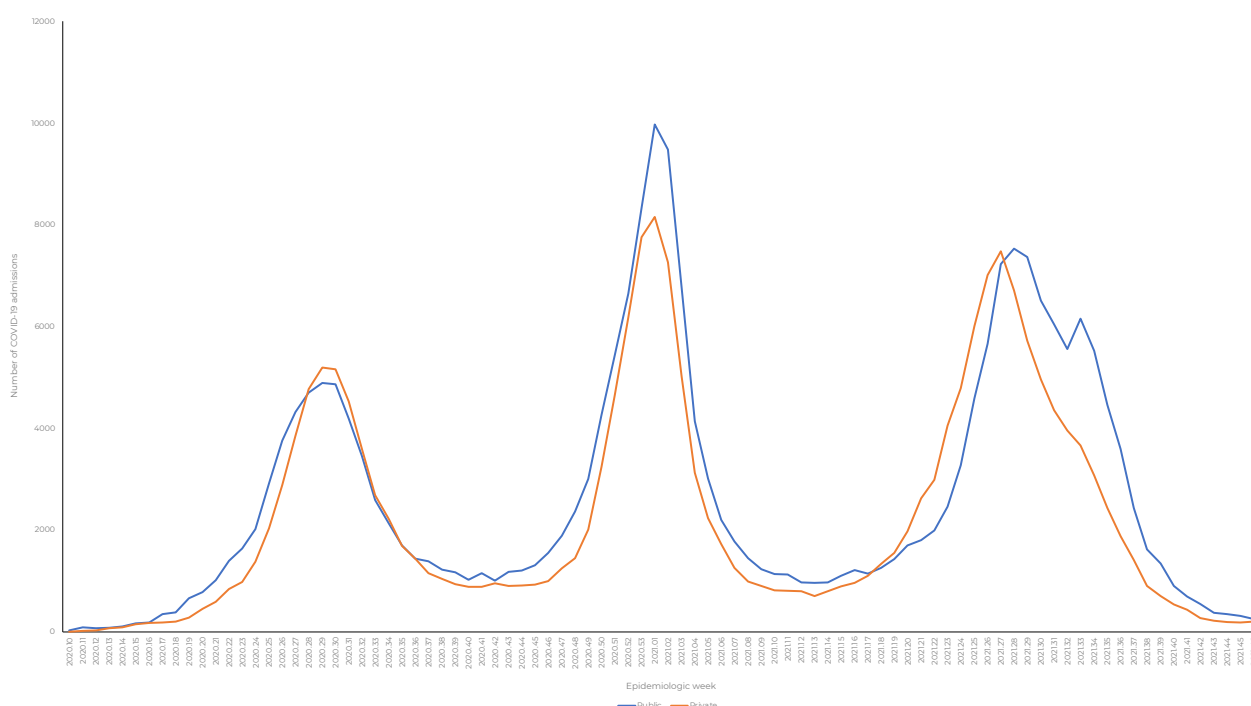


Figure 1. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=436,289

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The majority of admissions were recorded in four provinces, Gauteng 125,864 (29%), Western Cape 98,326 (23%), KwaZulu-Natal 69,845 (16%) and Eastern Cape 41,469 (10%) provinces. Weekly numbers of COVID-19 admissions have decreased in all provinces since the third wave peak (Figures 2a and 2b). The weekly COVID-19 admissions have increased in Gauteng in week 45.

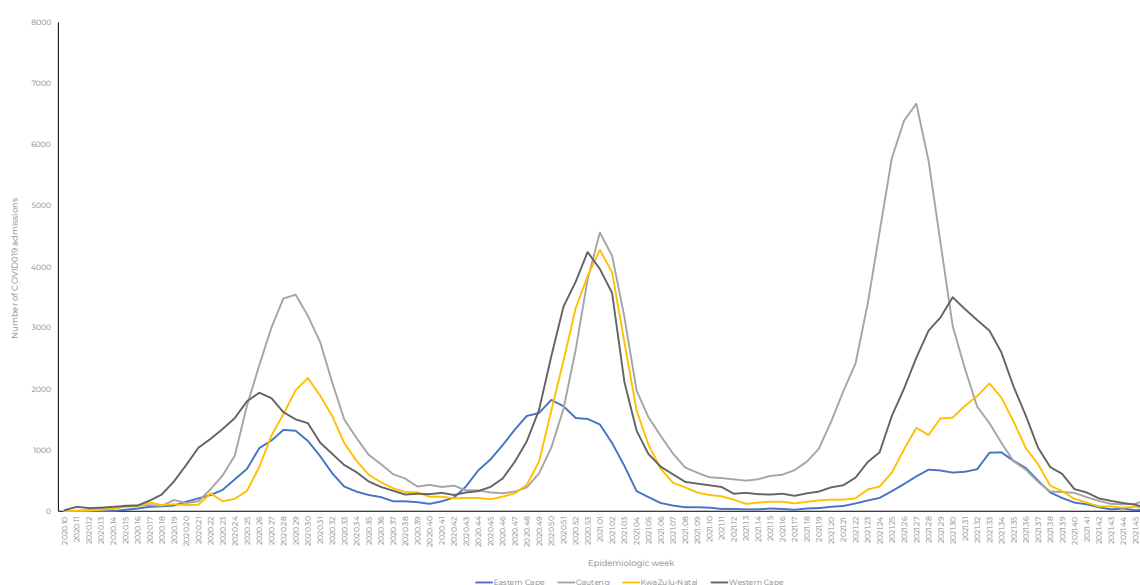


Figure 2a. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by provinces with highest admissions and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=436,289

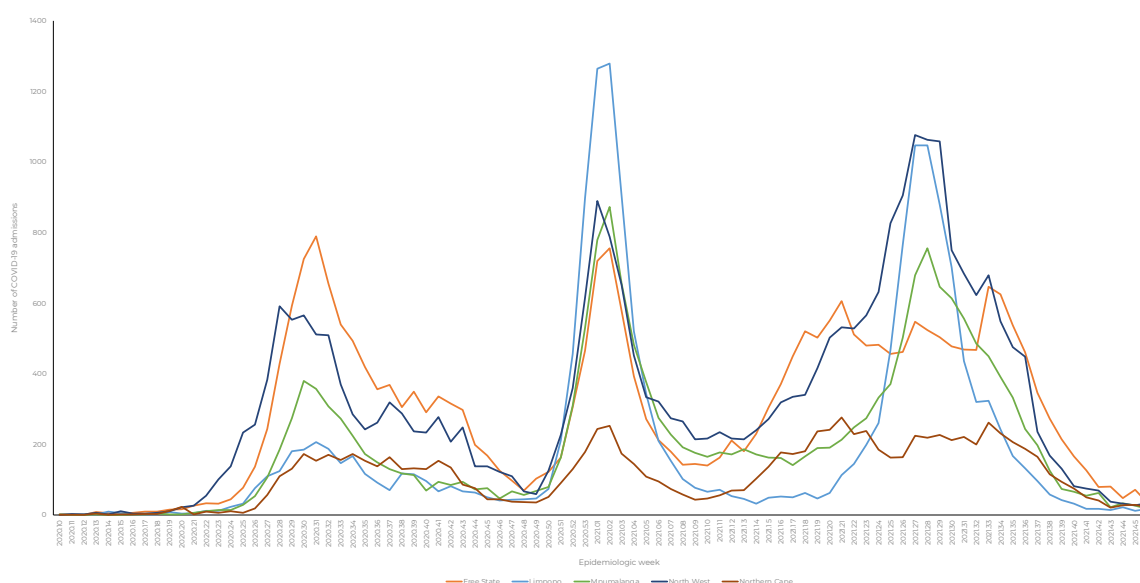


Figure 2b. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by provinces with lowest admissions and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, South Africa, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=436,289

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EPIDEMIOLOGICAL AND GEOGRAPHIC TRENDS IN IN-HOSPITAL MORTALITY

More deaths have been reported in the public sector in all three waves. There has been a sustained decrease in in-hospital COVID-19 deaths in both sectors since the third wave peak (Figure 3).

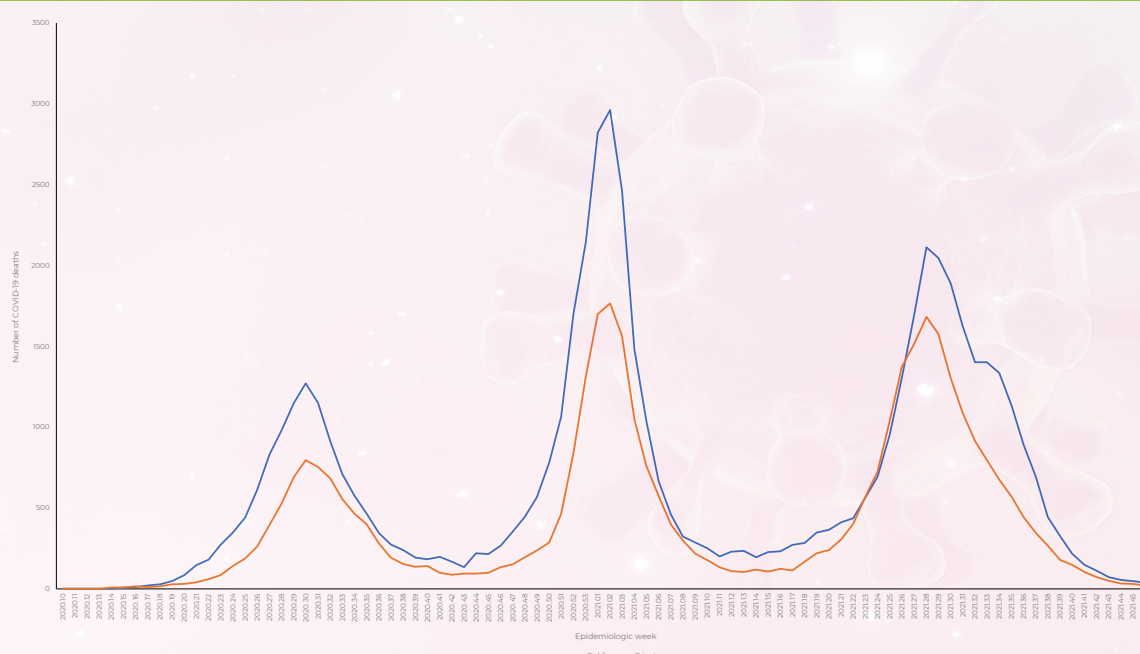


Figure 3. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by health sector and epidemiologic week, South Africa, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=94,486

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Most deaths were reported in Gauteng 27,734 (29%), Western Cape 17,191 (18%), KwaZulu-Natal 15,715 (17%), and Eastern Cape 12,182 (13%). There has been a sustained post-peak decrease in deaths in all provinces since the third wave peak. (Figures 4a and 4b).

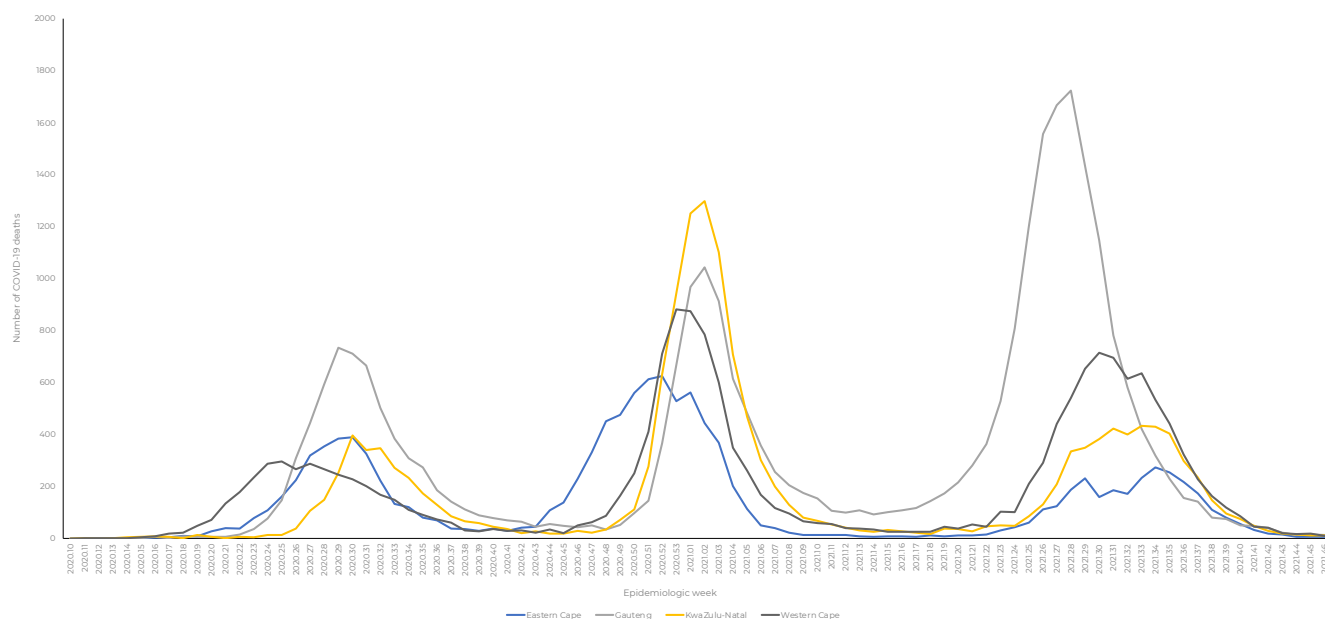


Figure 4a. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by province with highest deaths and epidemiologic week of death, South Africa, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=94,486

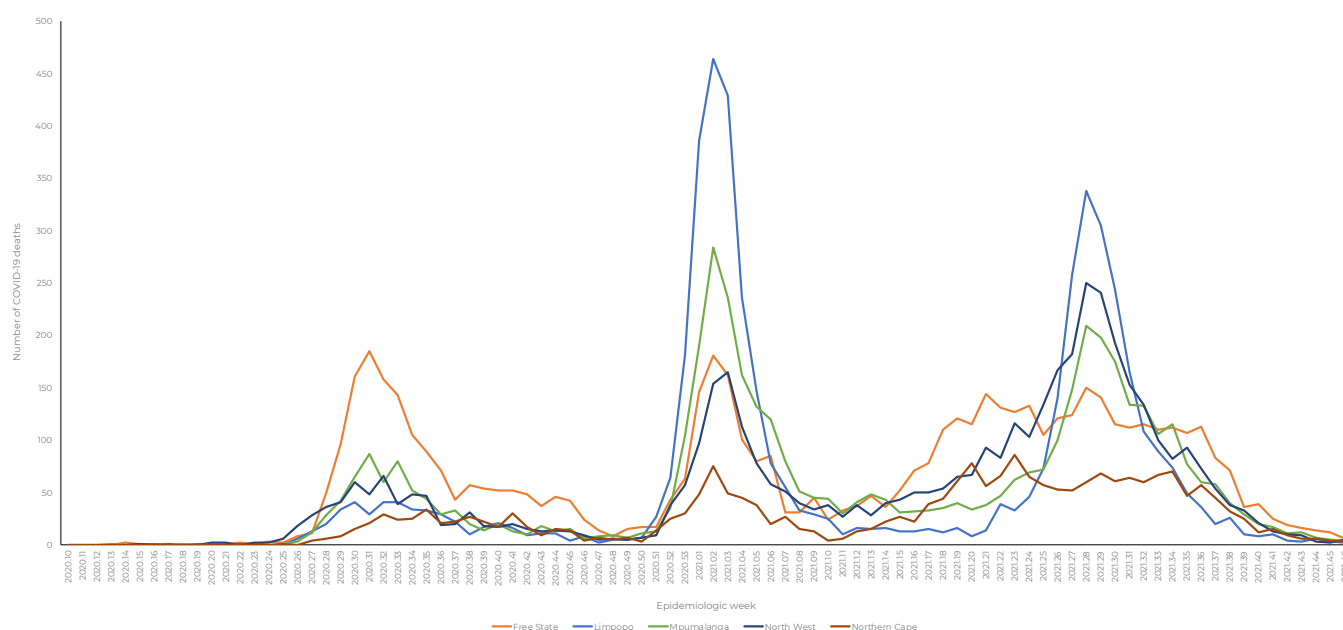


Figure 4b. Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by province with lowest deaths and epidemiologic week of death, South Africa, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=94,486

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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 2020-20 November 2021.

Province	Provincial Population mid 2020*	Cumulative admissions	Cumulative Admissions / 100,000	Cumulative deaths	Cumulative deaths / 100,000
Eastern Cape	6734001	41469	615.8	12182	180.9
Free State	2928903	26456	903.3	5589	190.8
Gauteng	15488137	125 864	812.6	27734	179.1
KwaZulu-Natal	11531628	69845	605.7	15713	136.3
Limpopo	5852553	17268	295.1	4862	83.1
Mpumalanga	4679786	18431	393.8	4510	96.4
North West	4108816	28 701	698.5	4437	108.0
Northern Cape	1292786	9 929	768.0	2266	175.3
Western Cape	7005741	98 326	1403.5	17190	245.4
South Africa	59622350	436 289	731.8	94 483	158.5

*StatsSA mid-year population estimates 2020

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PROVINCIAL TRENDS

Two provinces had an increase in the average daily COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days, Gauteng and Northern Cape (Table 3). There were 13 of 52 (25%) districts across the country that reported small increased change in incidence risk of admissions, Buffalo City Metro, Chris Hani and Joe Gqabi (Eastern Cape), City of Tshwane Metro (Gauteng), Amajuba, uMkhanyakude, Umzinyathi and Zululand (Kwazulu-Natal), Vhembe and Waterberg (Limpopo), Bojanala Platinum and Ngaka Modiri Molema (North West) and ZF Mgcawu (Northern Cape) (Appendix 1).

Table 3. Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, South Africa, 23 October-20 November 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	5.79	3.43	-40.74	1.50	0.86	-42.86
Free State	9.14	7.50	-17.97	2.14	1.29	-40.00
Gauteng	17.50	23.57	34.69	2.64	2.07	-21.62
KwaZulu-Natal	10.64	8.71	-18.12	2.43	1.64	-32.35
Limpopo	2.57	2.07	-19.44	0.64	0.36	-44.44
Mpumalanga	3.93	3.07	-21.82	1.36	0.64	-52.63
North West	4.93	4.29	-13.04	0.86	0.50	-41.67
Northern Cape	3.43	3.57	4.17	0.86	0.50	-41.67
Western Cape	22.14	11.79	-46.77	2.71	2.00	-26.32

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

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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 5). There has been an increase in admissions in both sectors since week 44.

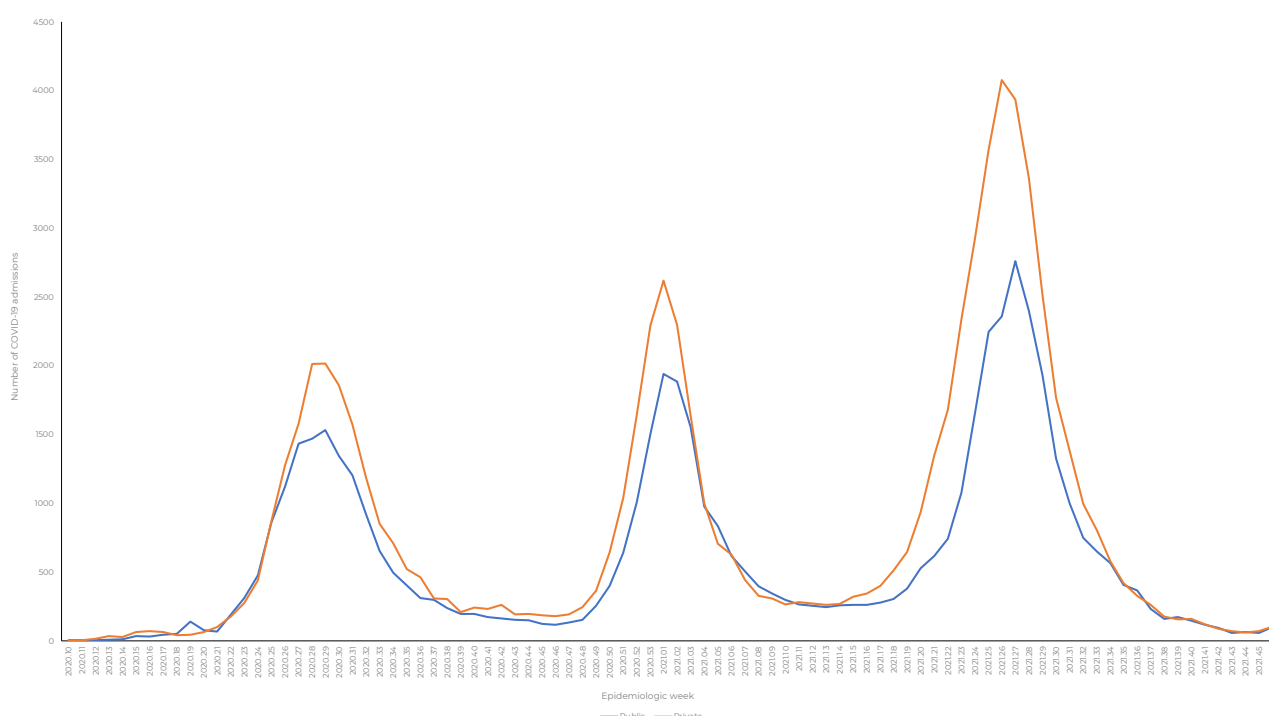


Figure 5: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=125,864

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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 6). There has been an increase in admissions in City of Tshwane Metro since week 44.

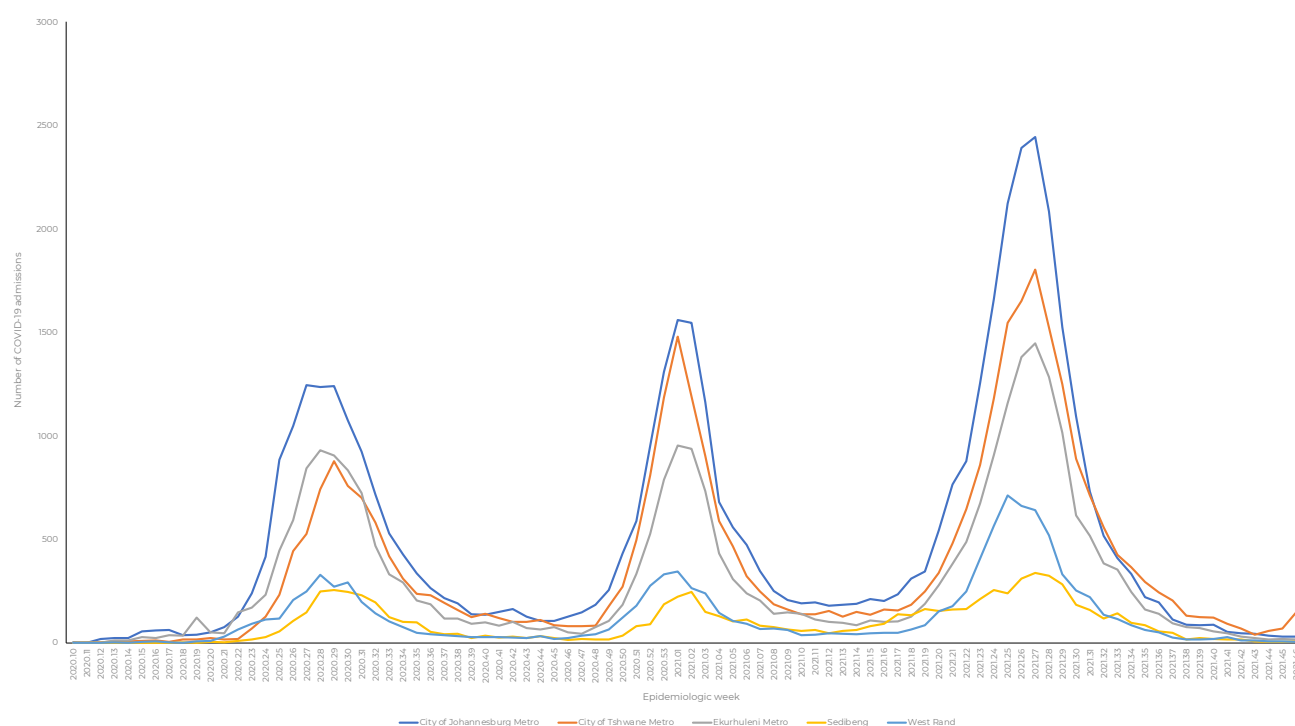


Figure 6. Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=125,864

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The weekly incidence of admissions increases by age group with the oldest age groups having the highest incidence risk of admissions (Figure 7). The increase in admissions in Gauteng appears to be in the all age groups except those 55 years and older (Table 4). The increase started with those aged 5-29 years in week 45, then increased in <5 and 30-54 years in week 46.

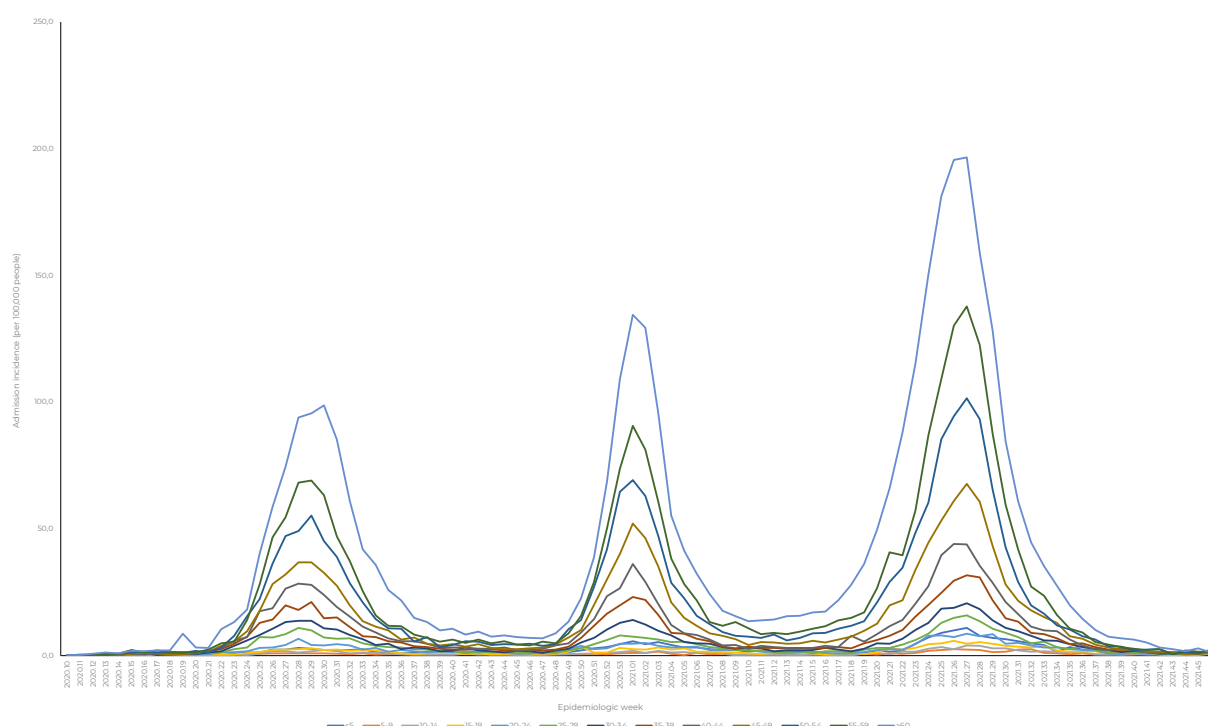


Figure 7. Number incidence risk of admissions, by age group and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=125,864

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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: Weekly incidence risk of admissions (per 100,000 people), by age group (years), Gauteng, week 42 to week 46 of 2021

Epi week	Weekly incidence risk of COVID-19 admissions (per 100,000)												
	<5	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	>60
2021.42	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.6	1.3	1.0	1.5	2.5	2.5	3.1
2021.43	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.8	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.1	0.4	0.5	2.5
2021.44	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.4	1.0	1.1	1.2	0.6	1.3	2.0	1.6
2021.45	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.5	2.7
2021.46	2.3	0.7	0.6	0.9	1.2	1.5	1.6	1.3	1.2	1.0	2.0	1.3	1.1

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

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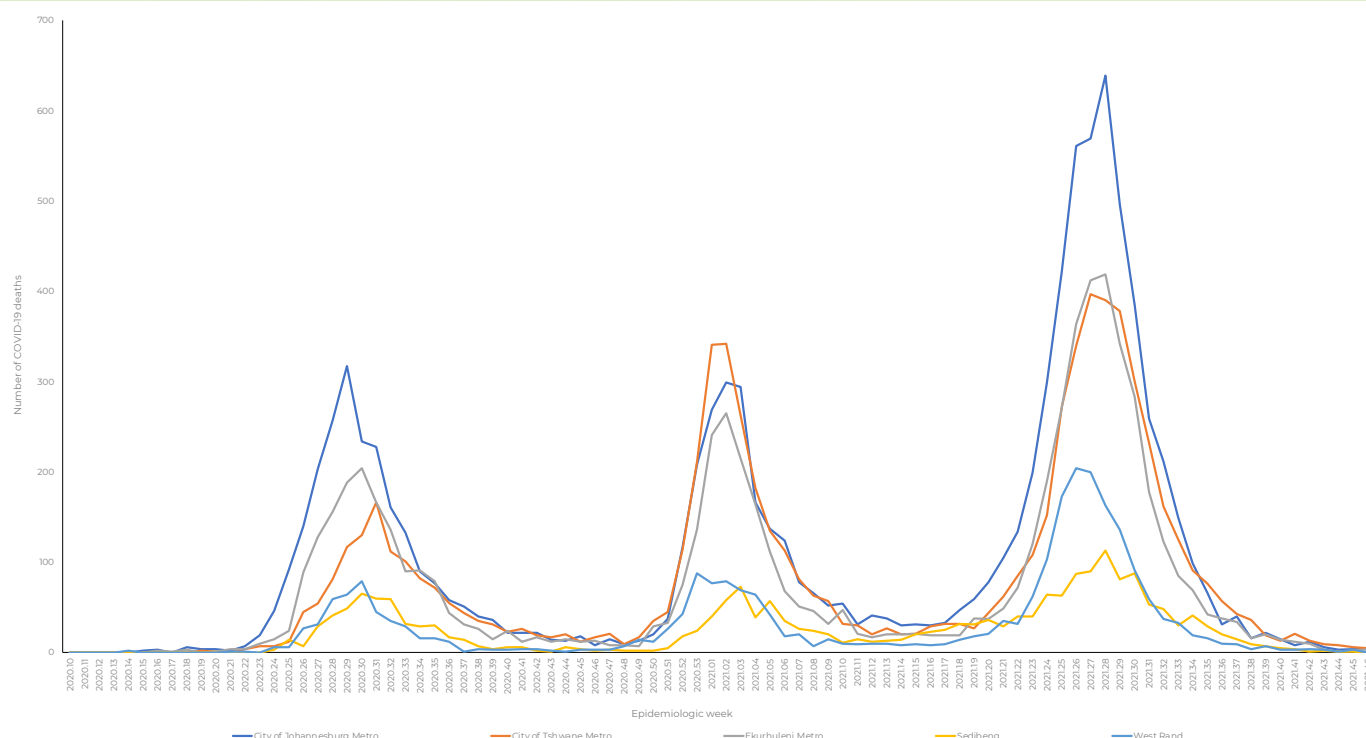


Figure 8: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Gauteng, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=27,734

There has been a large increase in average daily COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in City of Tshwane Metro (Table 5).

Table 5. Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Gauteng, 23 October-20 November 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	5.50	4.21	-23.38	0.64	0.57	-11.11
City of Tshwane Metro	6.93	15.43	122.68	1.21	0.79	-35.29
Ekurhuleni Metro	2.86	2.36	-17.50	0.29	0.43	50.00
Sedibeng	0.86	0.79	-8.33	0.21	0.07	-66.67
West Rand	1.36	0.79	-42.11	0.29	0.21	-25.00

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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 9).

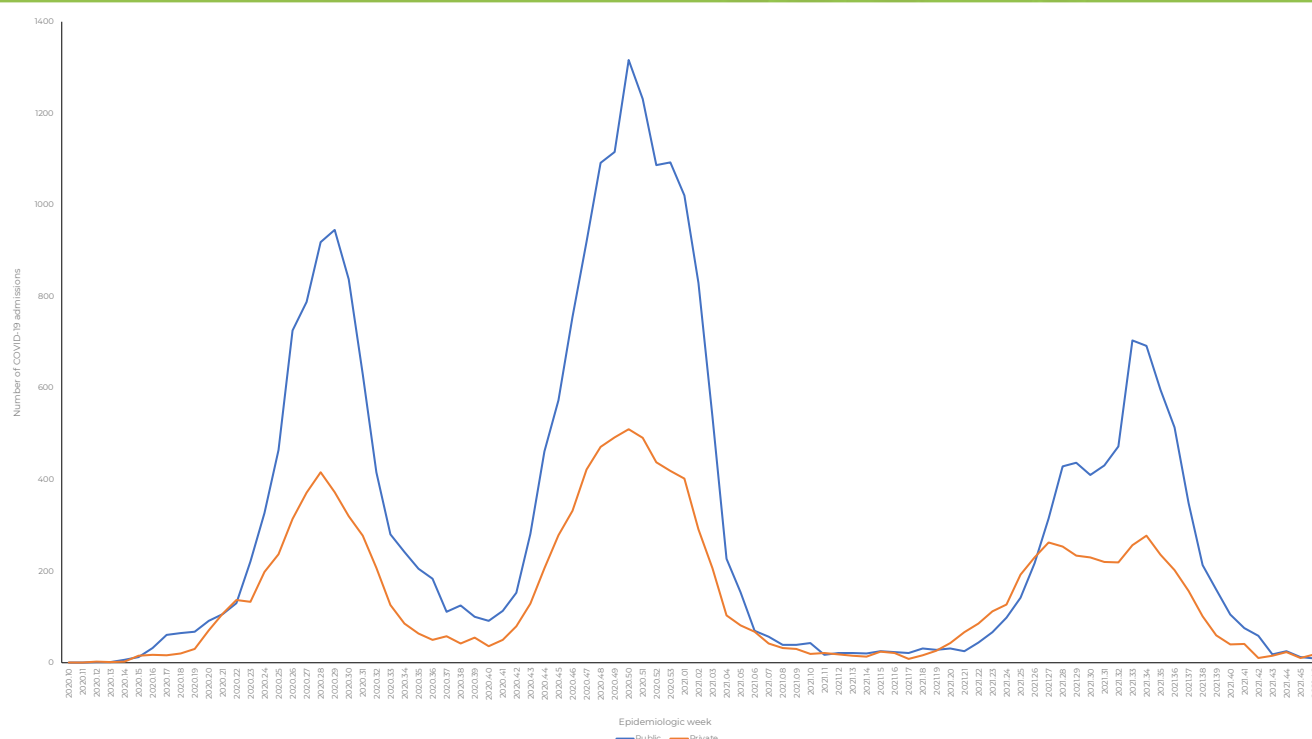


Figure 9: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=41,469

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

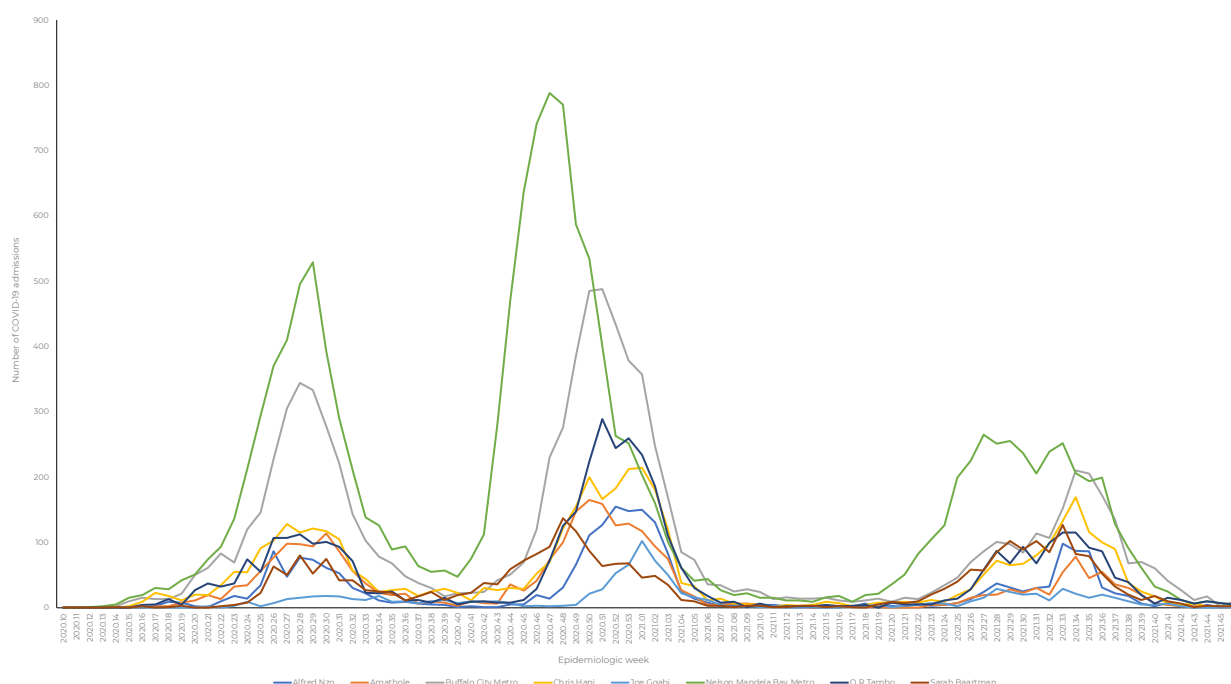


Figure 10: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=41,469

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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 11). Since the third wave peak in week 26, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of deaths in all districts.

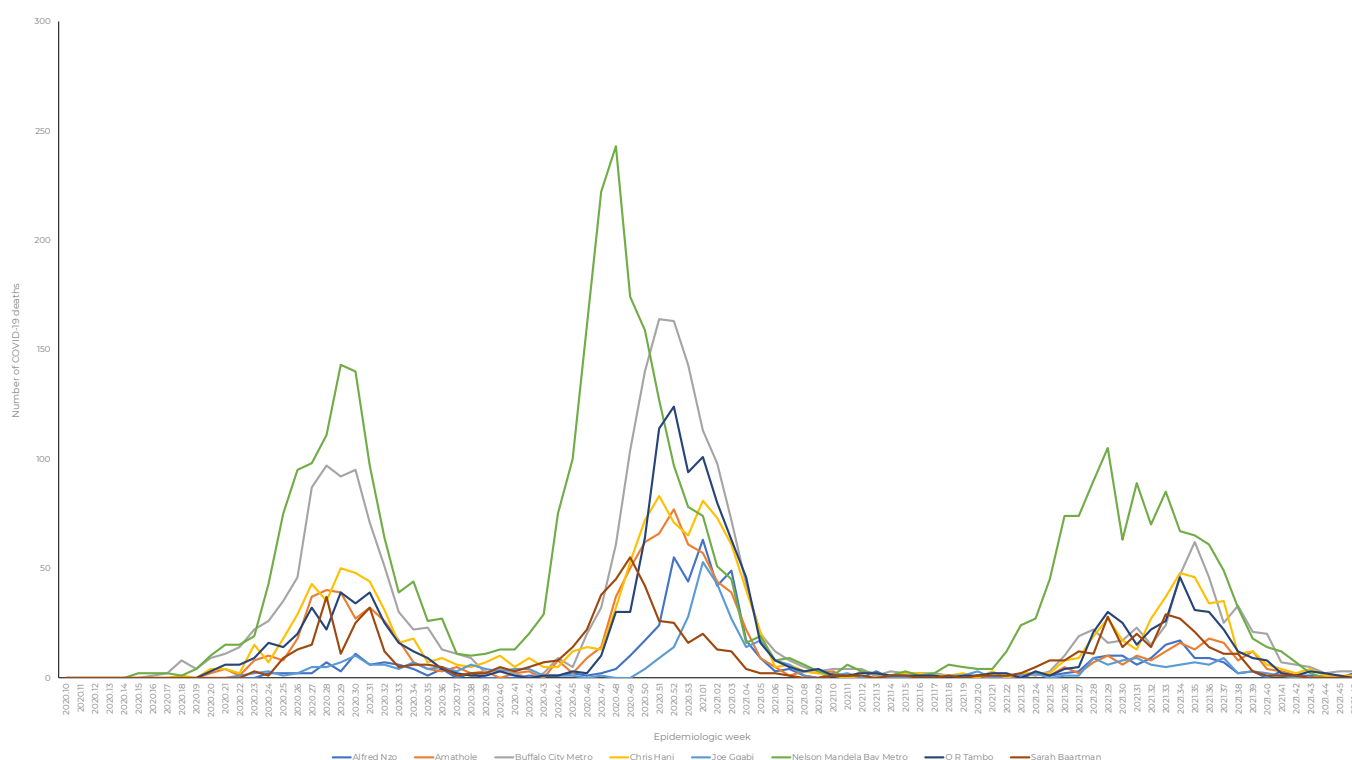


Figure 11: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Eastern Cape, 5 March 2020–20 November 2021, N=12,182

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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 6).

Table 6: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Eastern Cape, 23 October-20 November 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	0.29	0.14	-50.00	0.07	0.14	100.00
Amathole	0.29	0.14	-50.00	0.07	0.07	0.00
Buffalo City Metro	2.07	0.79	-62.07	0.50	0.43	-14.29
Chris Hani	0.57	0.29	-50.00	0.36	0.14	-60.00
Joe Gqabi	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nelson Mandela Bay	1.14	0.86	-25.00	0.14	0.00	-100.00
O R Tambo	1.14	0.86	-25.00	0.36	0.07	-80.00
Sarah Baartman	0.29	0.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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FREE STATE

In the 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 12). 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 exceeded the weekly numbers of admissions at the peak of the second wave in the private sector. Since the third wave peak in week 35, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of admissions in both sectors.

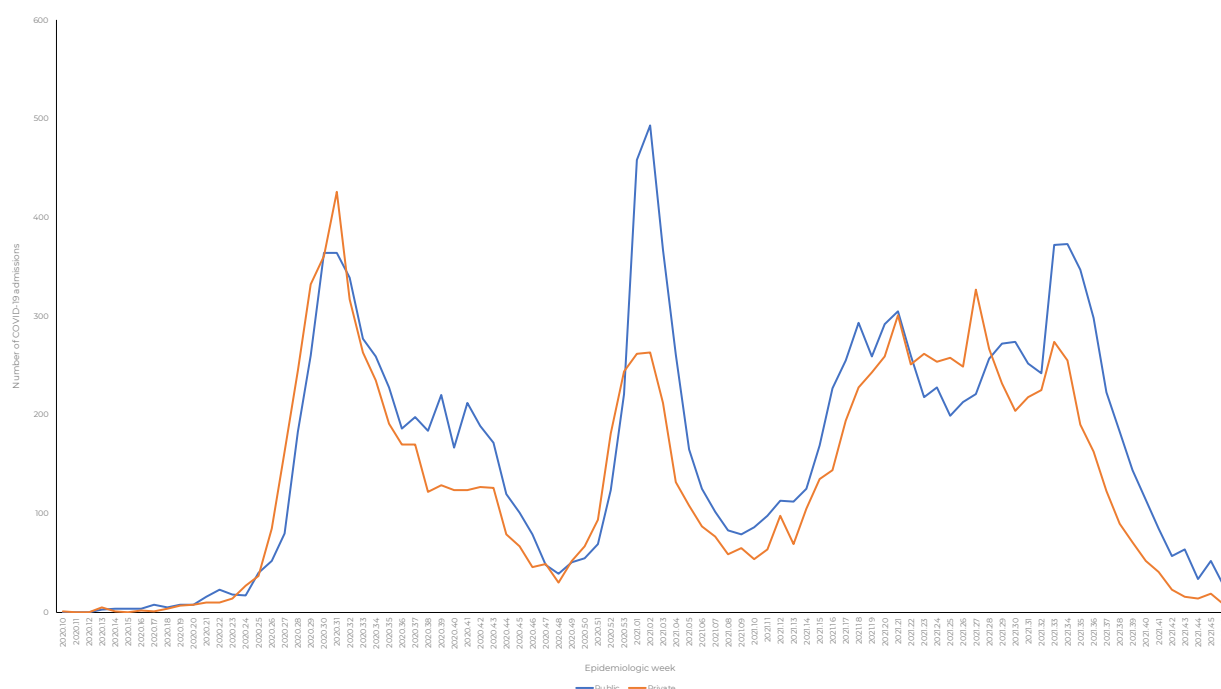


Figure 12: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Free State, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=26,456

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

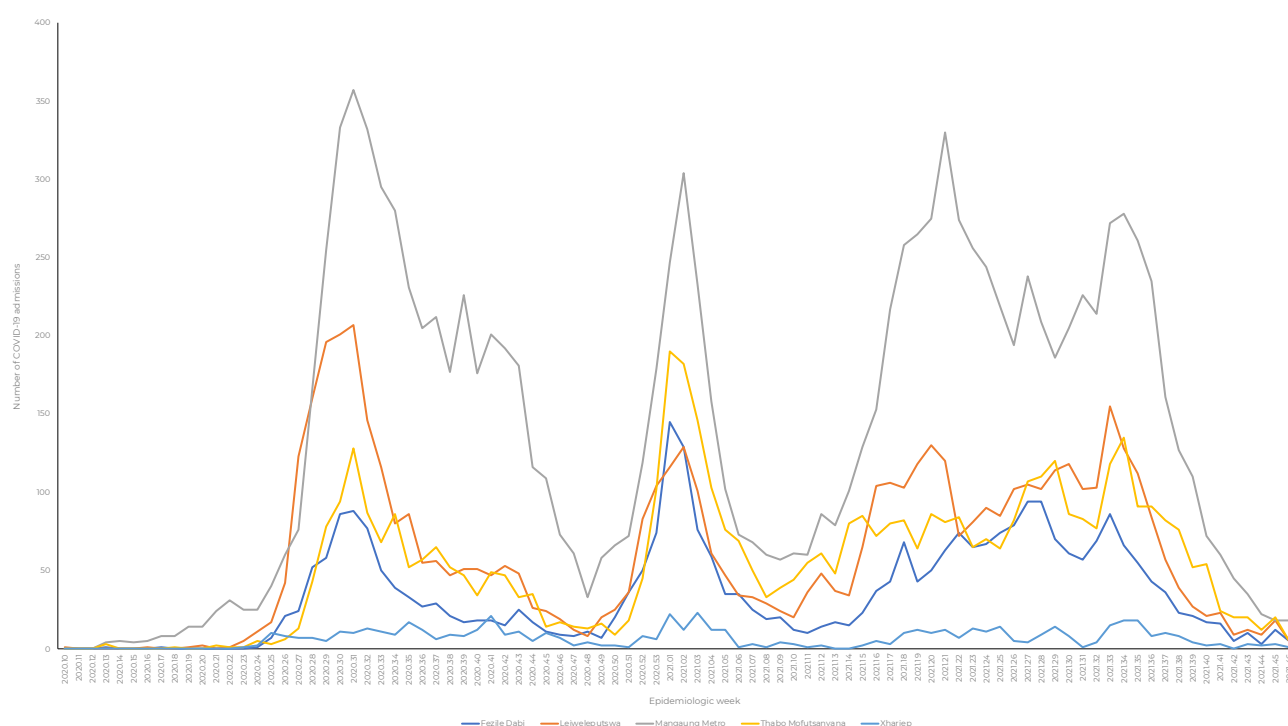


Figure 13: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Free State, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=26,456

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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 deaths at the peak of the second wave in Mangaung Metro and Lejweleputswa (Figure 14). Since the third wave peak, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of deaths in all districts.

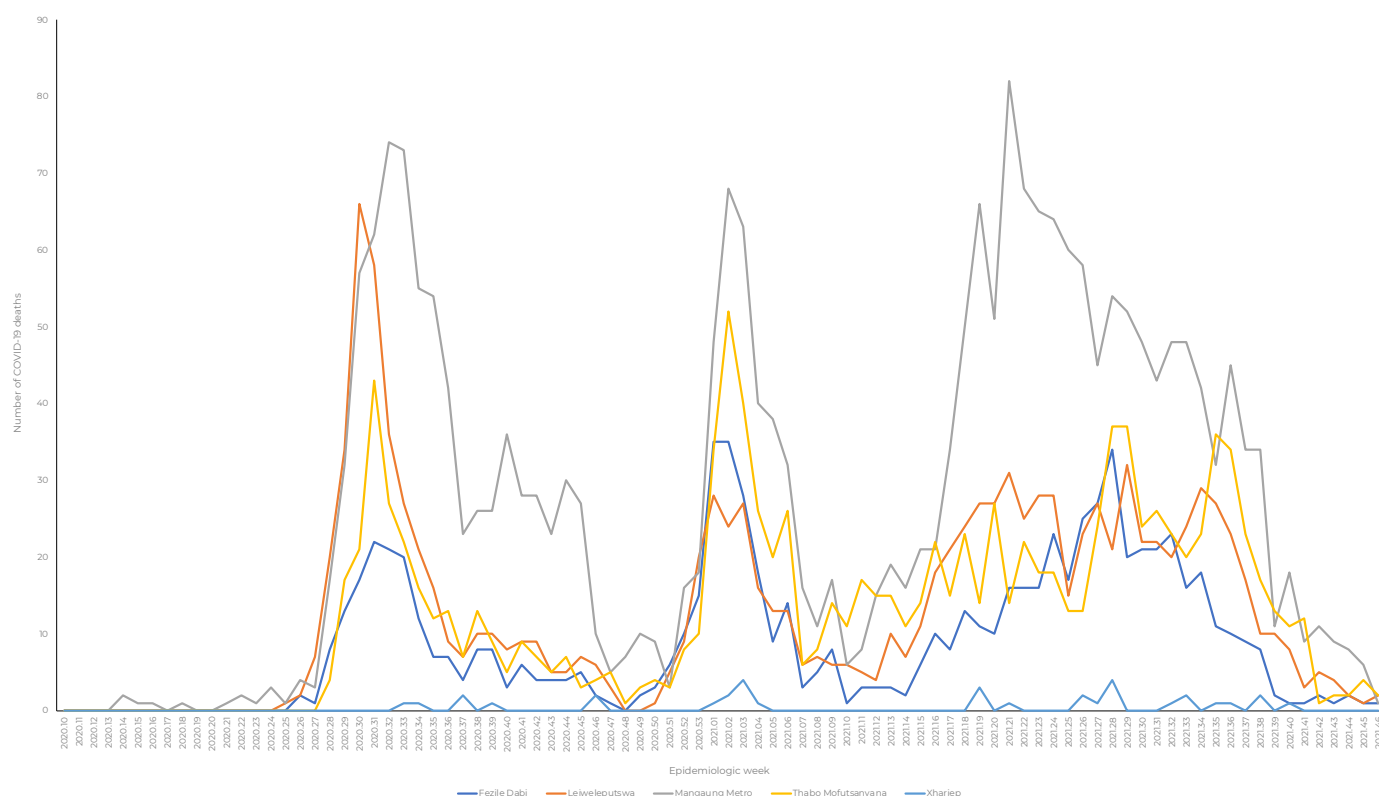


Figure 14: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Free State, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=5,589

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There has been a small increase in average daily COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in Fezile Dabi and Lejweleputswa (Table 7).

Table 7: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Free State, 23 October-20 November 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	0.93	1.21	30.77	0.21	0.14	-33.33
Lejweleputswa	1.50	1.64	9.52	0.43	0.21	-50.00
Mangaung Metro	4.07	2.57	-36.84	1.21	0.50	-58.82
Thabo Mofutsanyana	2.29	1.79	-21.88	0.29	0.43	50.00
Xhariep	0.36	0.29	-20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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

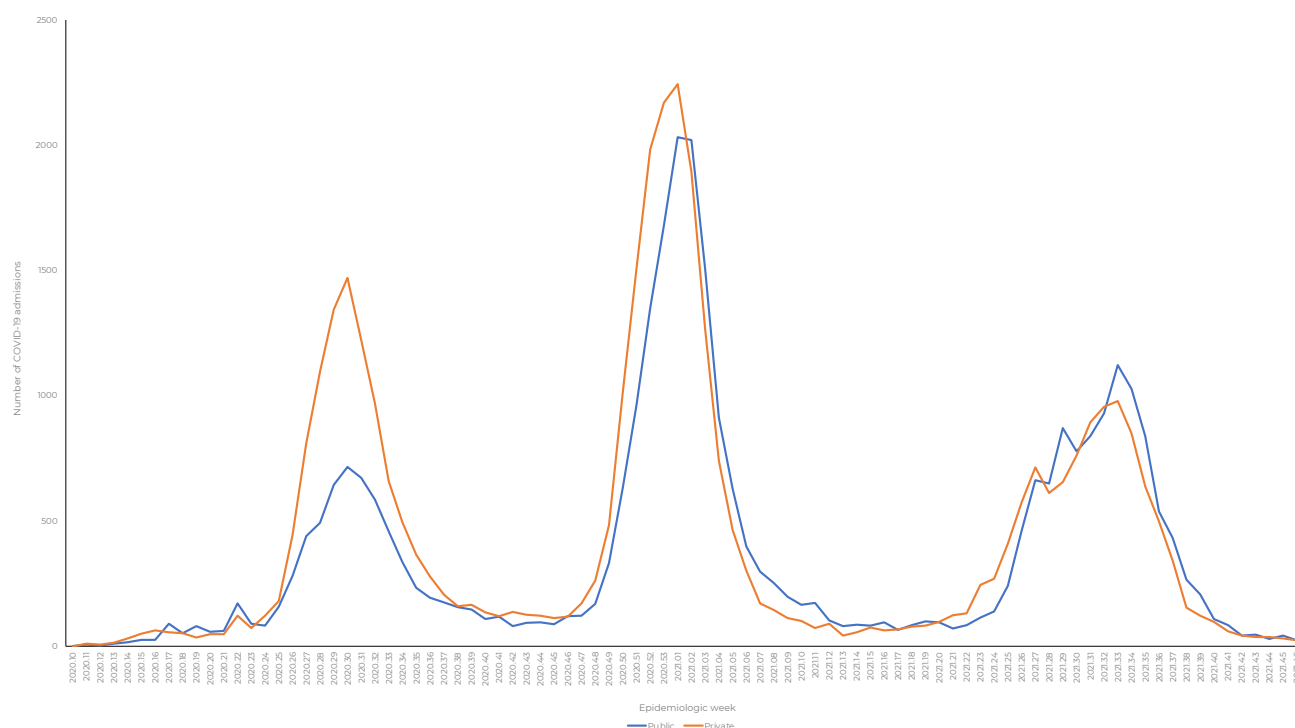


Figure 15: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=69,845

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

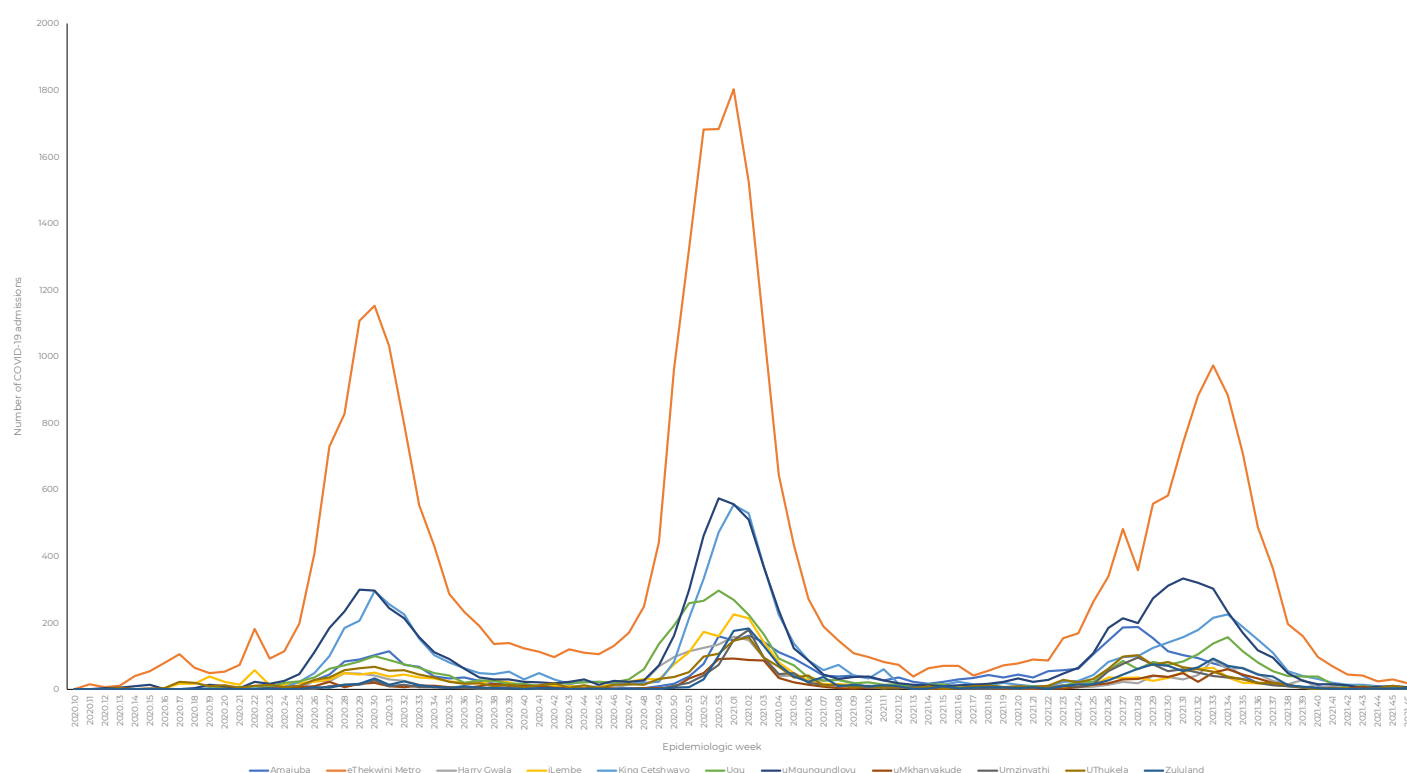


Figure 16: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=69,845

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

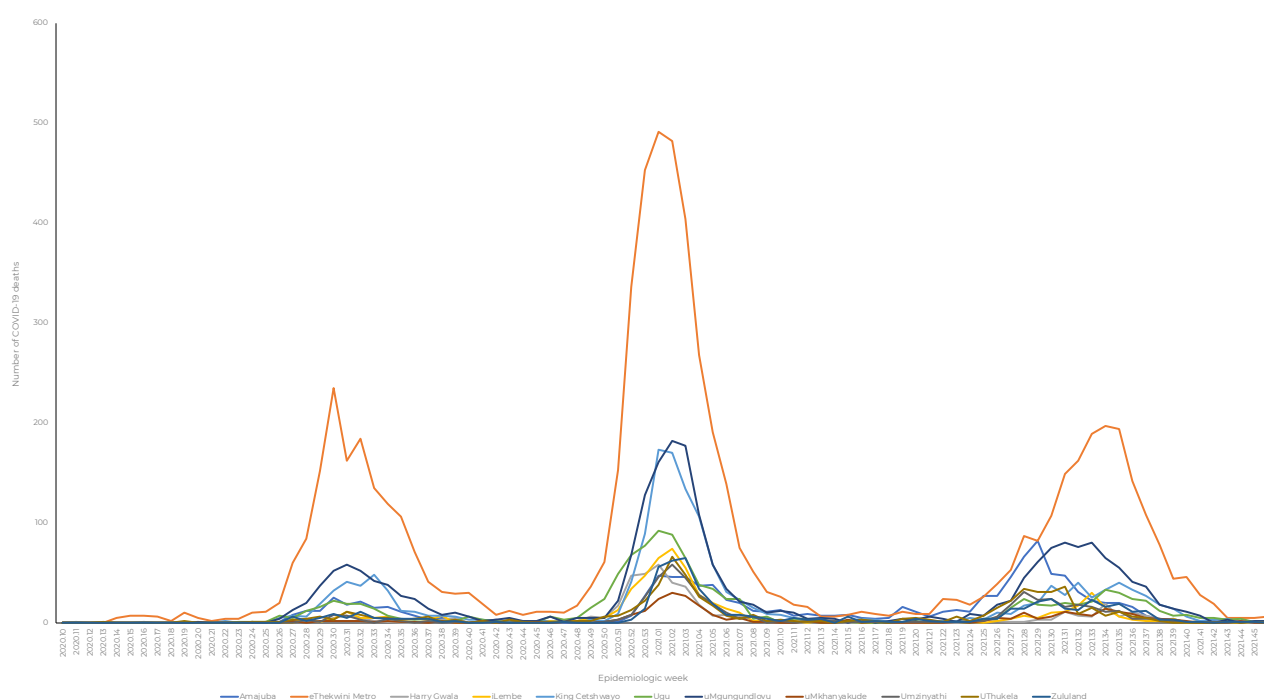


Figure 17: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, KwaZulu-Natal, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=15,715

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There has been a small increase in average daily COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in iLembe, uMgungundlovu, UThukela and Zululand (Table 8).

Table 8: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, KwaZulu-Natal, 23 October-20 November 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	0.29	0.29	0.00	0.07	0.00	-100.00
eThekweni Metro	4.64	3.36	-27.69	0.71	0.79	10.00
Harry Gwala	0.43	0.36	-16.67	0.07	0.00	-100.00
iLembe	0.14	0.29	100.00	0.00	0.07	0.00
King Cetshwayo	1.57	0.57	-63.64	0.43	0.00	-100.00
Ugu	1.21	1.21	0.00	0.50	0.21	-57.14
uMgungundlovu	0.86	1.14	33.33	0.21	0.29	33.33
uMkhanyakude	0.71	0.00	-100.00	0.14	0.00	-100.00
Umzinyathi	0.21	0.07	-66.67	0.07	0.14	100.00
UThukela	0.29	1.00	250.00	0.07	0.07	0.00
Zululand	0.29	0.43	50.00	0.14	0.07	-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, while weekly admissions in the third wave were lower than the second wave in both sectors (Figure 18). Since the third wave peak in week 28, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of admissions in both sectors.

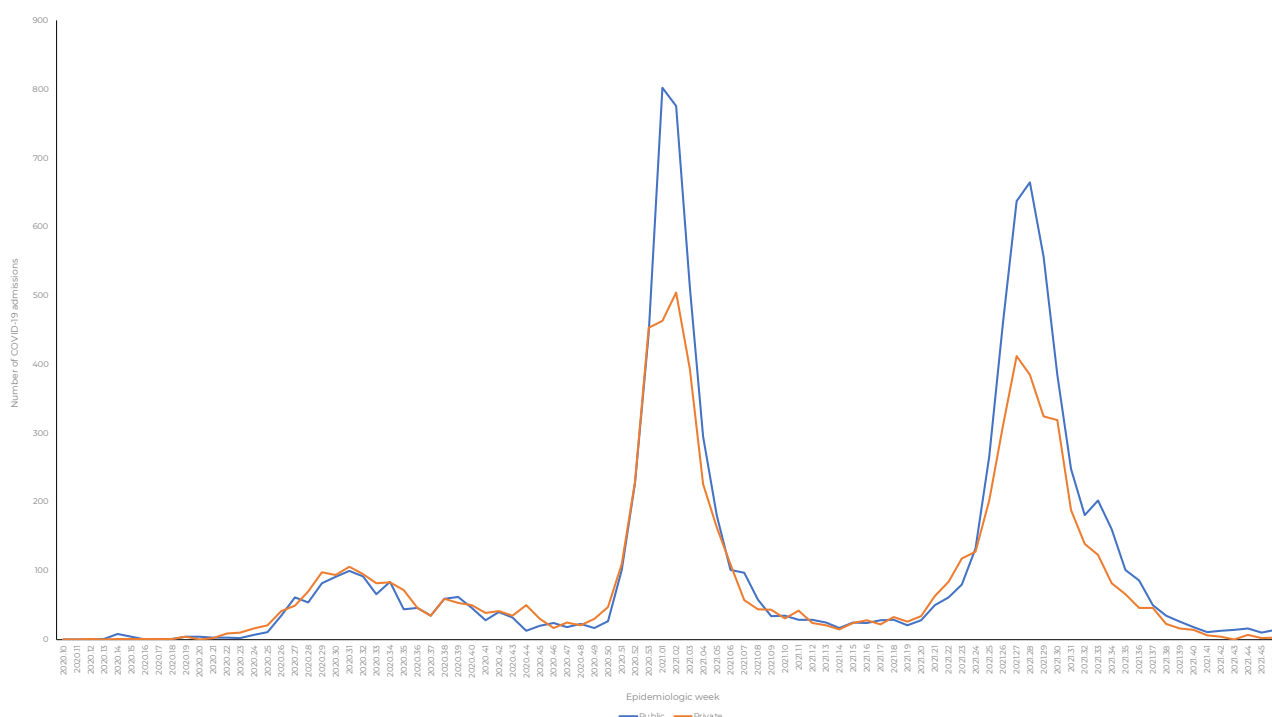


Figure 18: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=17,268

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

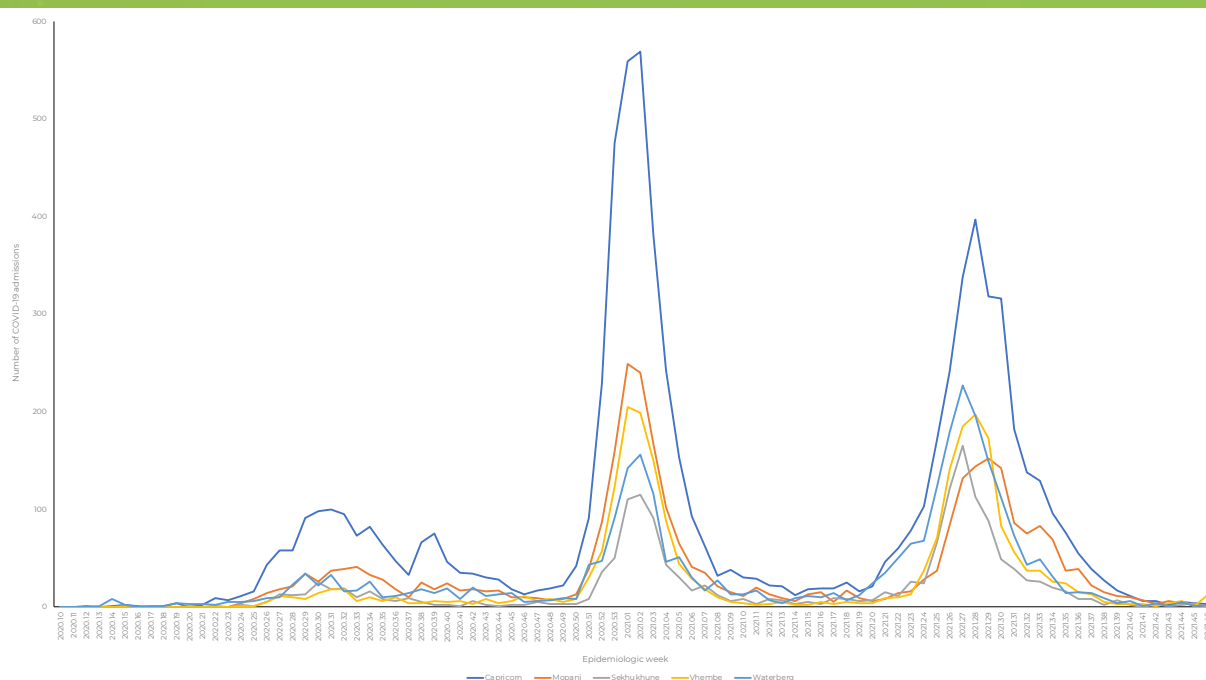


Figure 19: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=17,268

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 46 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 deaths at the peak of the second wave in Sekhukhune and Waterberg (Figure 20). Since the third wave peak, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of deaths in all districts.

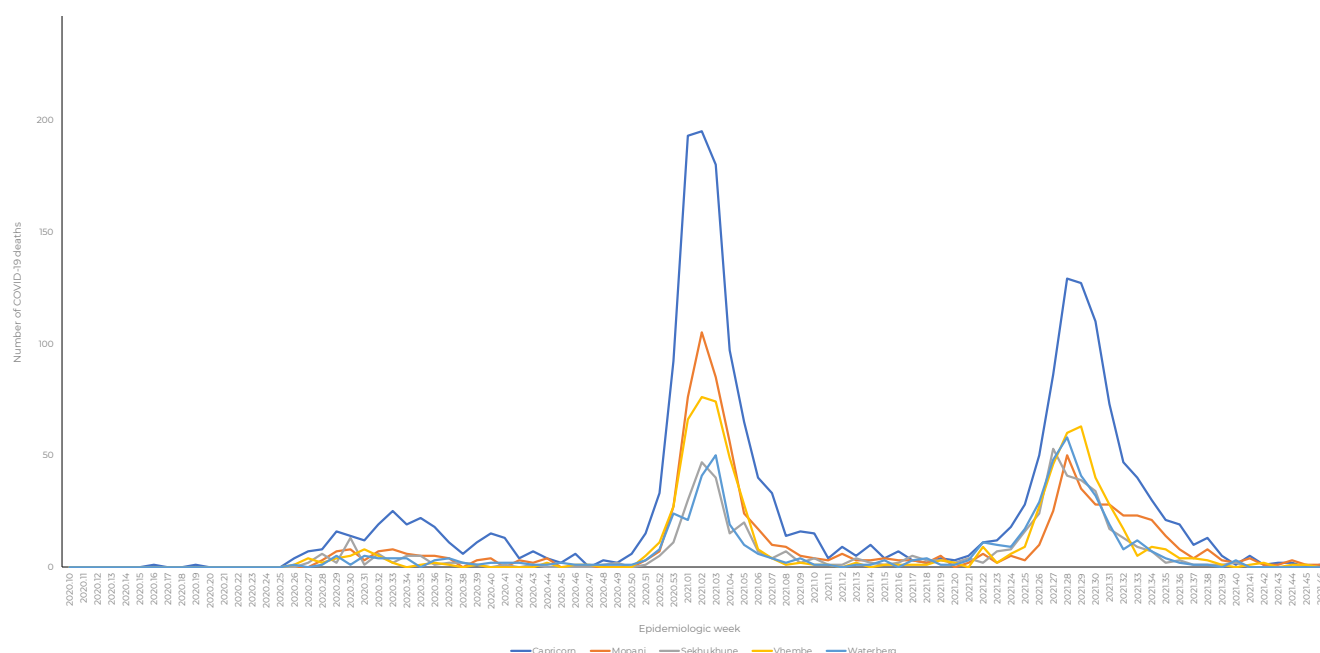


Figure 20: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Limpopo, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=4,862

There has been a small increase in average daily COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in Sekhukhune and Vhembe (Table 9).

Table 9: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Limpopo, 23 October-20 November 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	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.29	0.07	-75.00
Mopani	0.71	0.14	-80.00	0.29	0.14	-50.00
Sekhukhune	0.21	0.29	33.33	0.00	0.07	0.00
Vhembe	0.71	0.93	30.00	0.07	0.07	0.00
Waterberg	0.43	0.21	-50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 46 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 21). Since the third wave peak in week 28, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of admissions in both sectors.

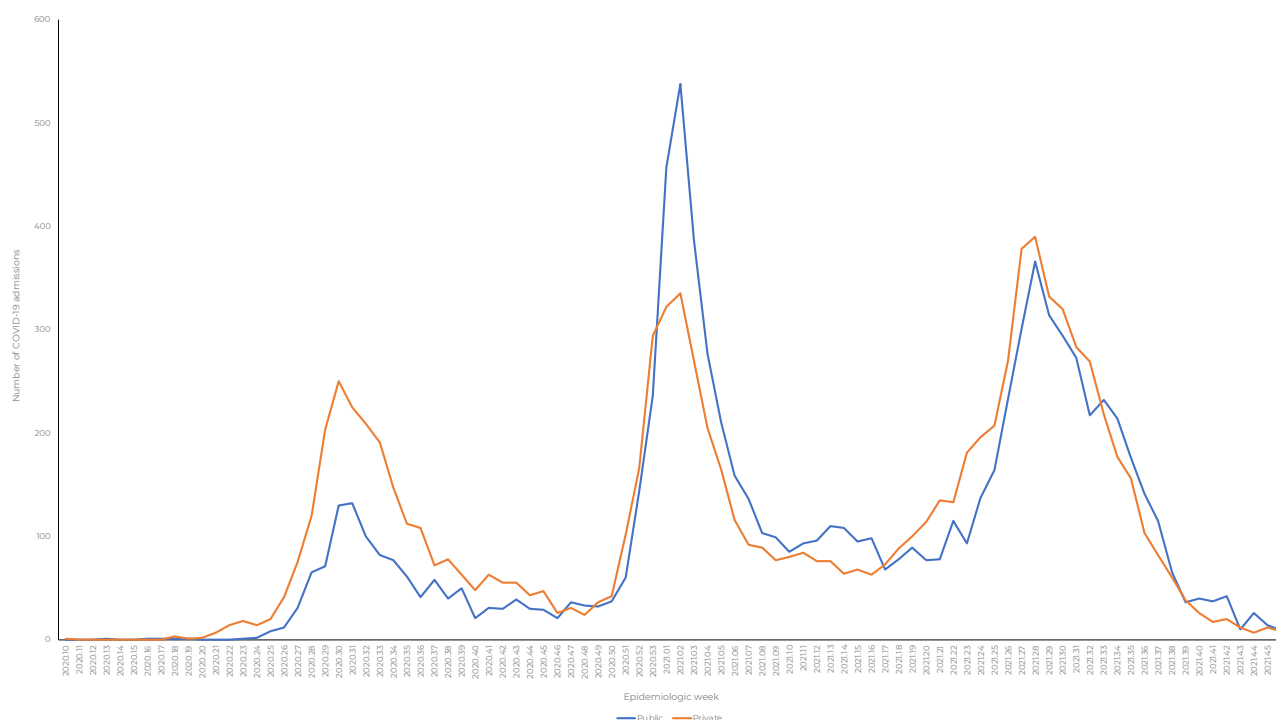


Figure 21: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=18,431

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 46 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 22). Since the third wave peak, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of admissions in all districts.

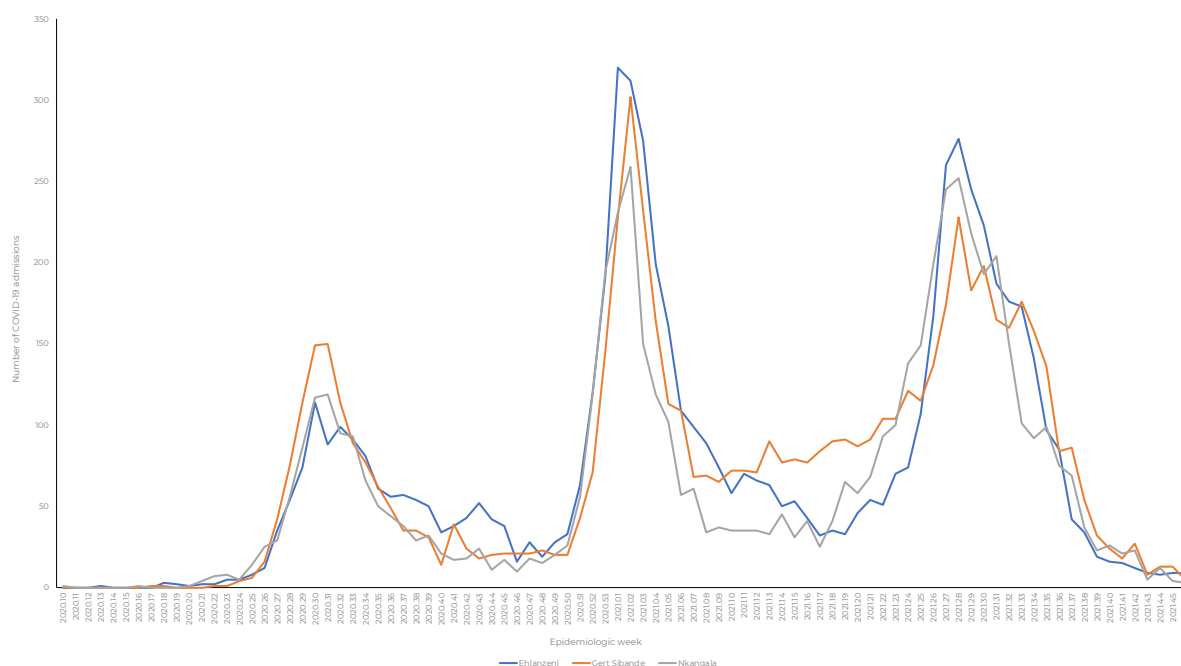


Figure 22: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=18,431

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 46 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 23). Since the third wave peak, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of deaths in all districts.

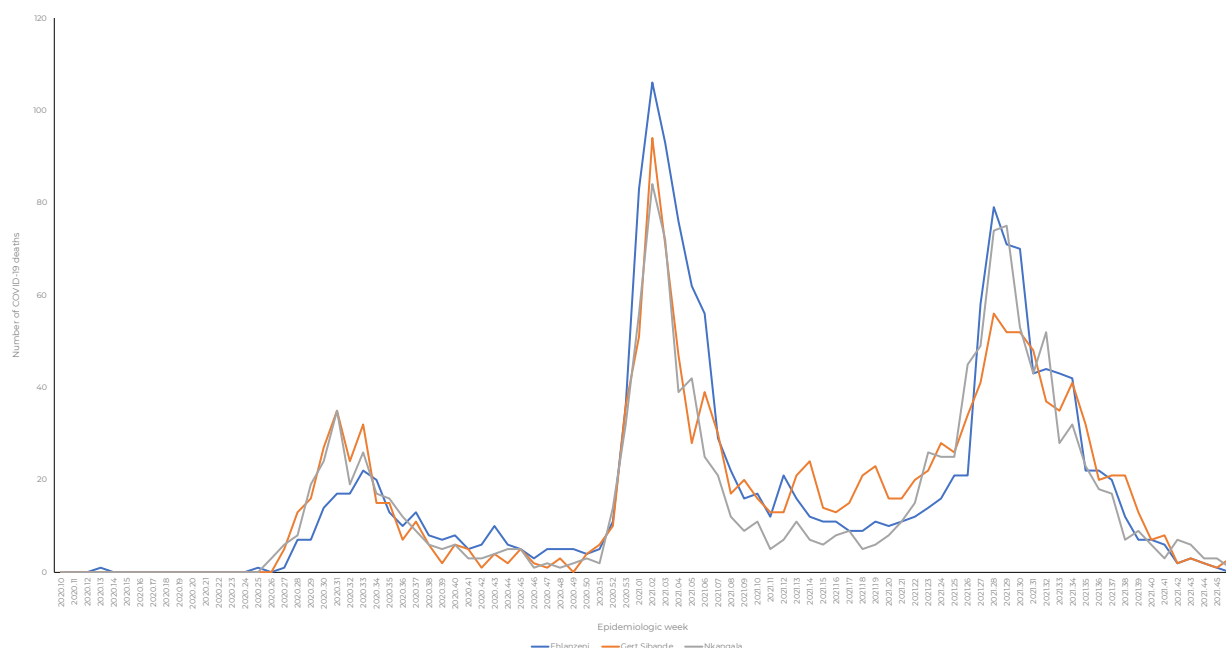


Figure 23: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Mpumalanga, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=4,510

There has been a small increase in average daily COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in Ehlanzeni (Table 10).

Table 10: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Mpumalanga, 23 October-20 November 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	1.21	1.29	5.88	0.36	0.07	-80.00
Gert Sibande	1.50	1.29	-14.29	0.36	0.29	-20.00
Nkangala	1.21	0.50	-58.82	0.64	0.29	-55.56

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 46 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 24). Since the third wave peak in week 29, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of admissions in both sectors.

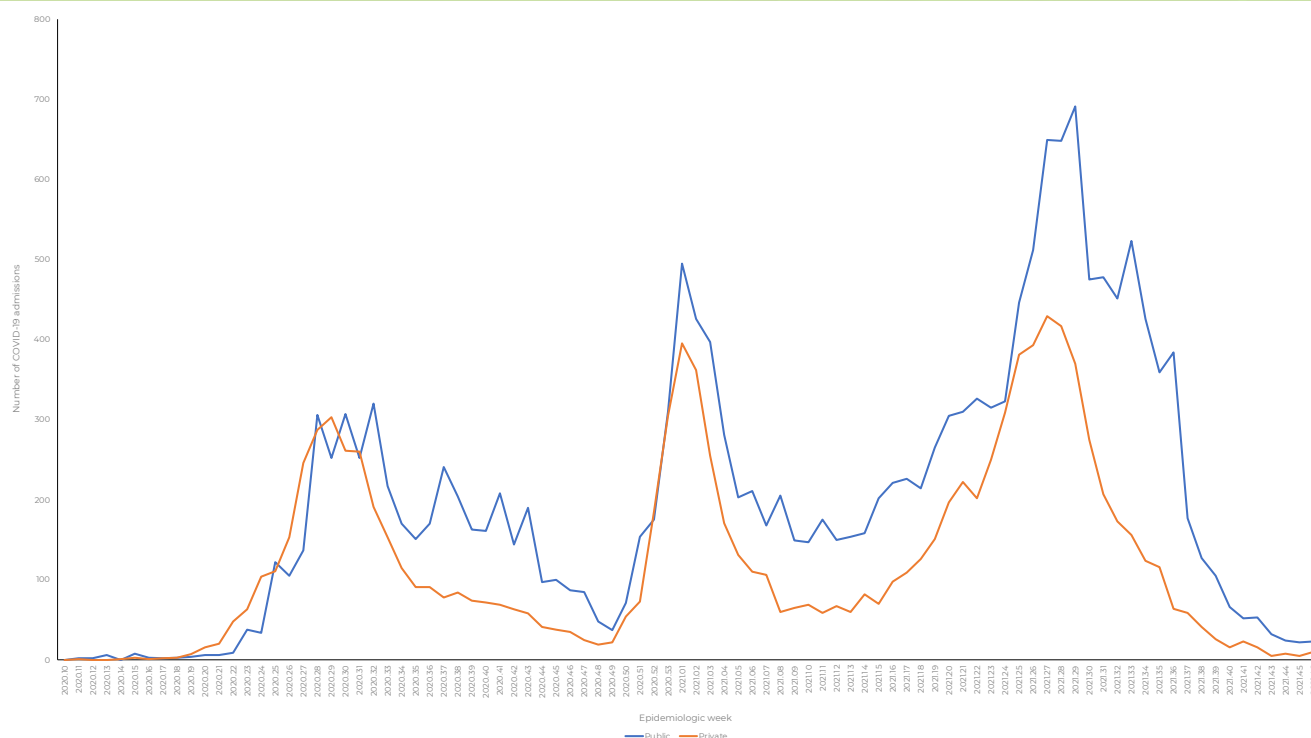


Figure 24: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, North West, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=28,701

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 46 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 25). Since the third wave peak in week 27, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of admissions in all districts.

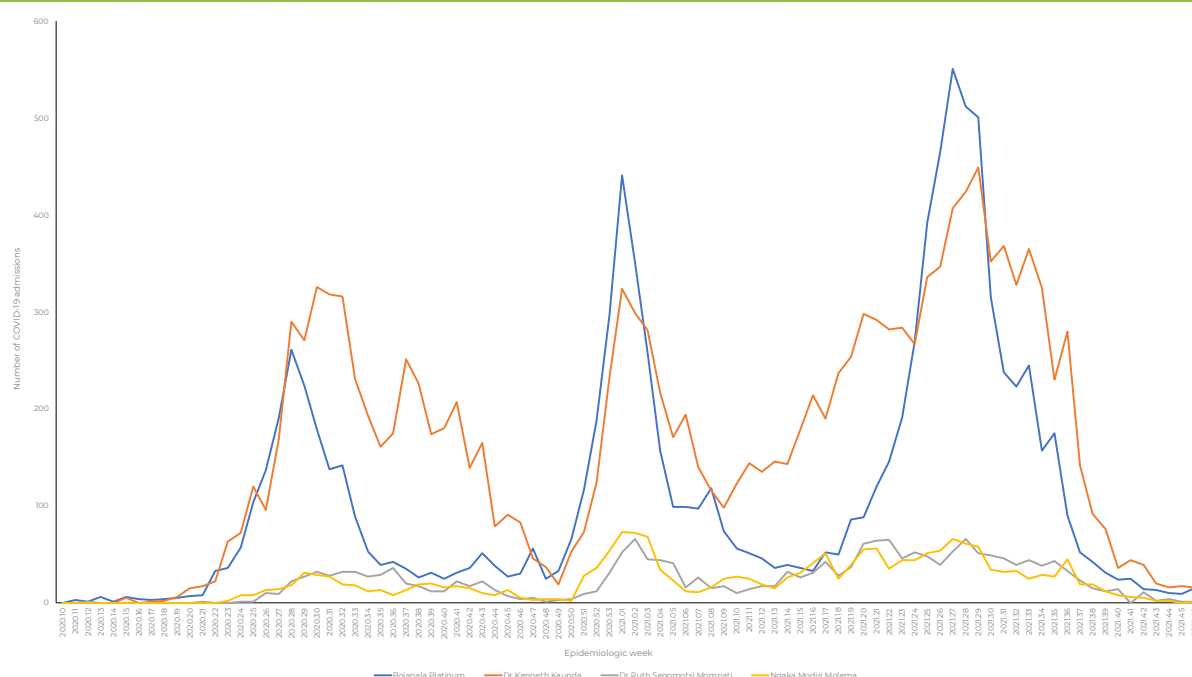


Figure 25: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=28,701

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 46 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 deaths at the peak of the second wave in Bojanala Platinum and Dr Kenneth Kaunda (Figure 26). Since the third wave peak, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of deaths in all districts.

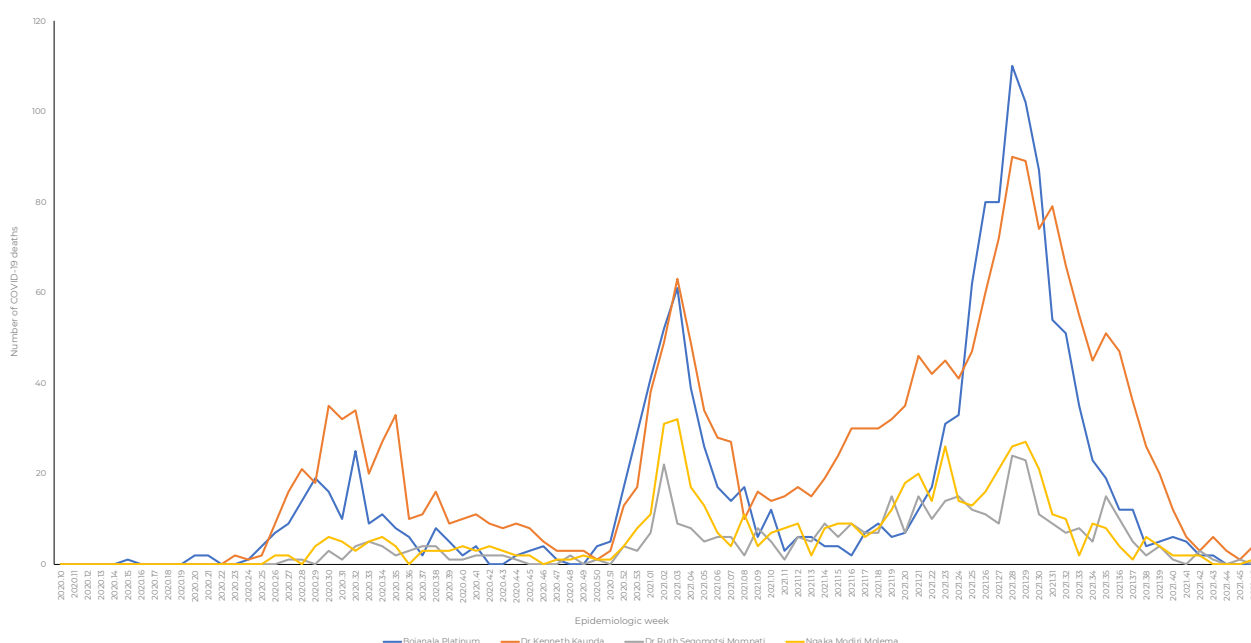


Figure 26: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, North West, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=4,437

There has been a small increase in average daily COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in Bojanala Platinum (Table 11).

Table 11: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, North West, 23 October-20 November 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	1.64	1.71	4.35	0.14	0.00	-100.00
Dr Kenneth Kaunda	2.57	2.36	-8.33	0.64	0.36	-44.44
Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	0.43	0.14	-66.67	0.07	0.07	0.00
Ngaka Modiri Molema	0.29	0.07	-75.00	0.00	0.07	0.00

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 46 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 27). Since the third wave peak in week 35, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of admissions in both sectors, however there have been increases in admission in the public sector since week 42.

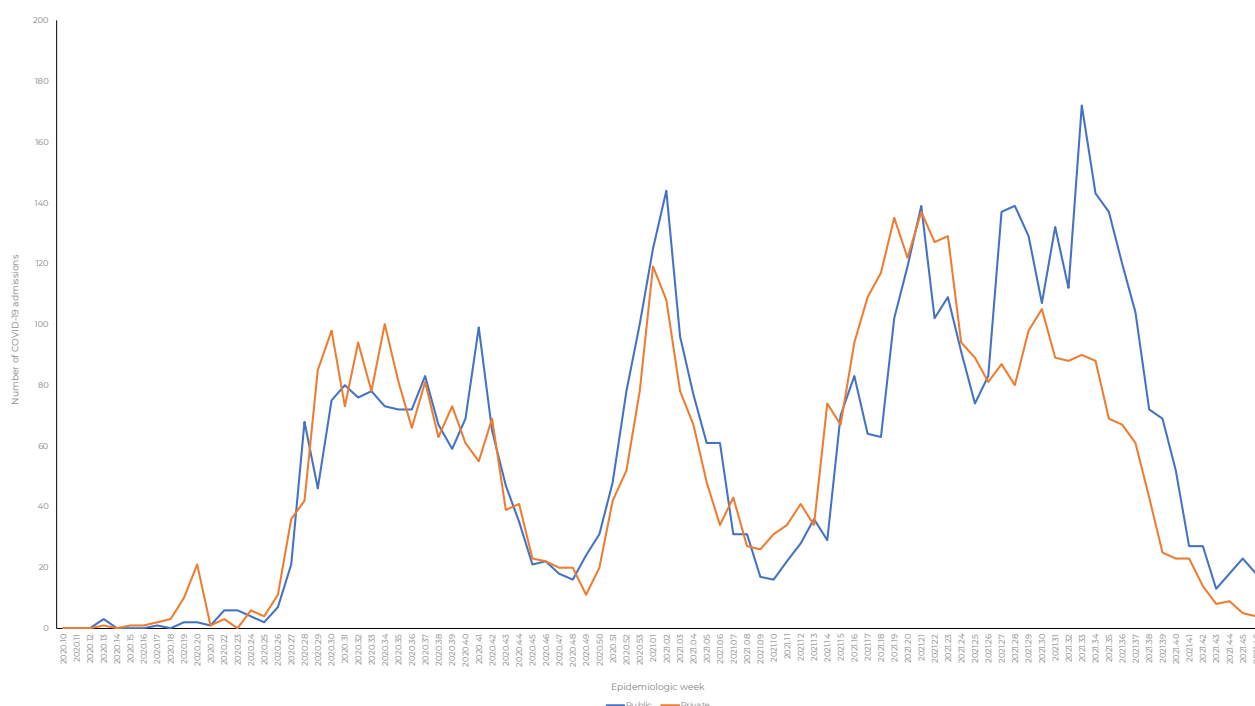


Figure 27: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=9,929

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 46 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 28). 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 return to low weekly numbers of admissions in all districts.

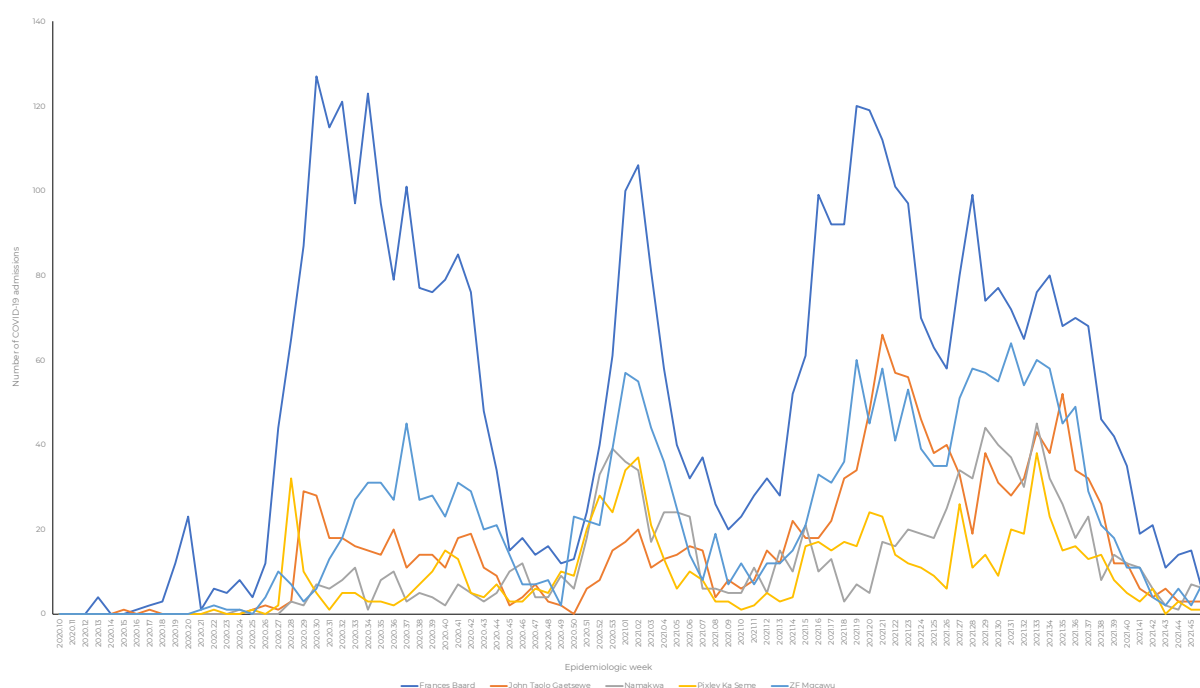


Figure 28: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=9,929

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 46 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 29). Since the third wave peak, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of deaths in all districts.

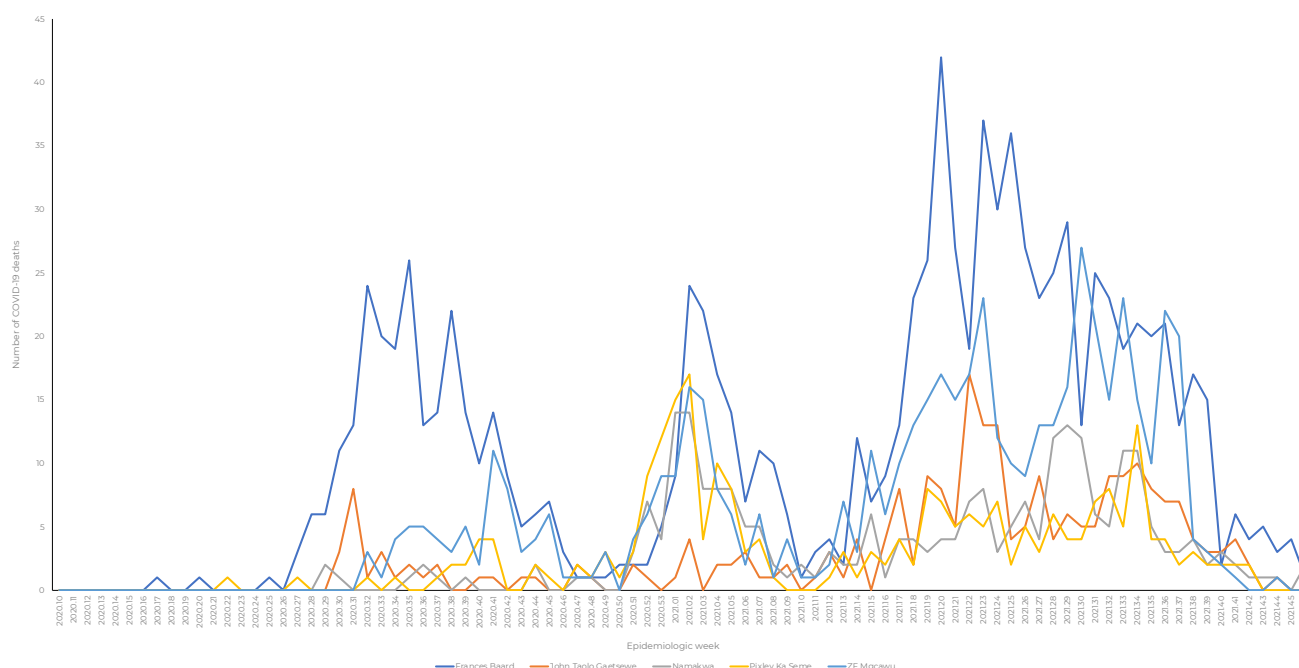


Figure 29: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Northern Cape, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=2,266

There has been a small increase in average daily COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in Namakwa and ZF Mgcawu (Table 12).

Table 12: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Northern Cape, 23 October-20 November 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	1.79	1.36	-24.00	0.57	0.36	-37.50
John Taolo Gaetsewe	0.64	0.43	-33.33	0.07	0.00	-100.00
Namakwa	0.21	0.93	333.33	0.14	0.14	0.00
Pixley Ka Seme	0.21	0.14	-33.33	0.00	0.00	0.00
ZF Mgcawu	0.57	0.71	25.00	0.07	0.00	-100.00

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 46 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 30). Since the third wave peak in week 30, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of admissions in both sectors.

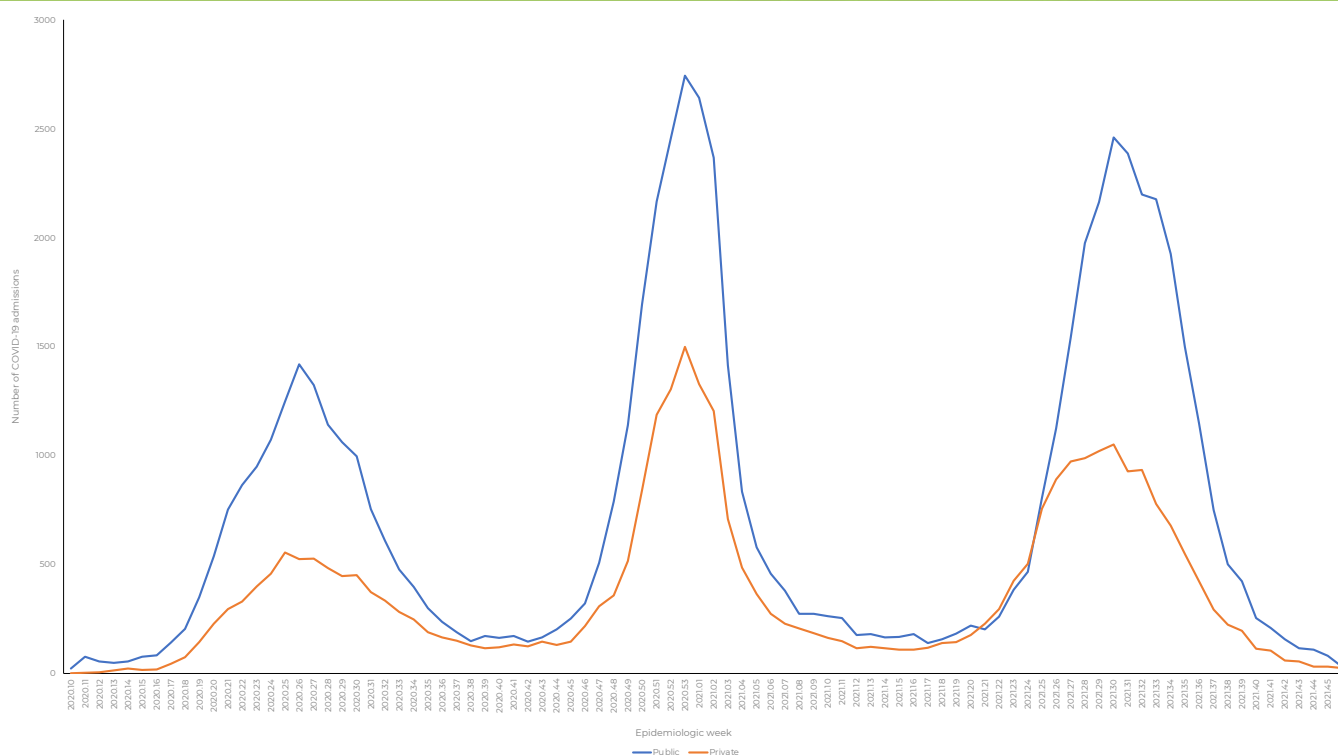


Figure 30: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions by health sector and epidemiologic week of diagnosis, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=98,326

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 46 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 31). Since the third wave peak, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of admissions in all districts.

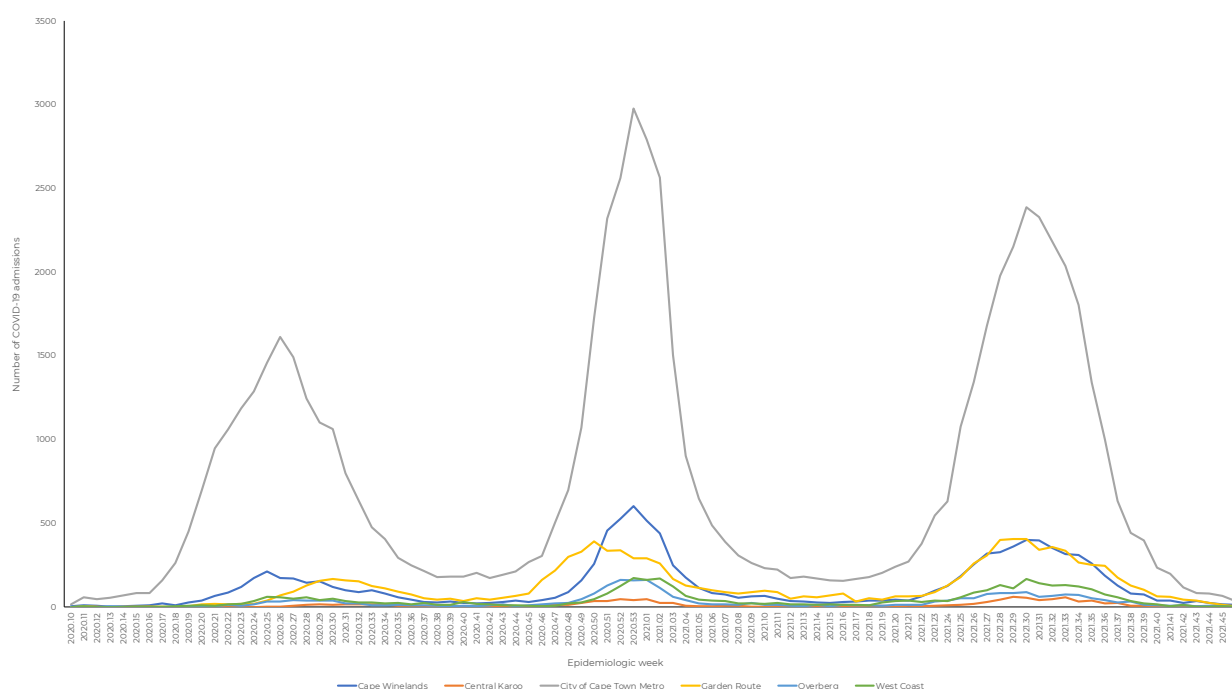


Figure 31: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=98,326

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 46 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 32). Since the third wave peak, there has been a return to low weekly numbers of deaths in all districts.

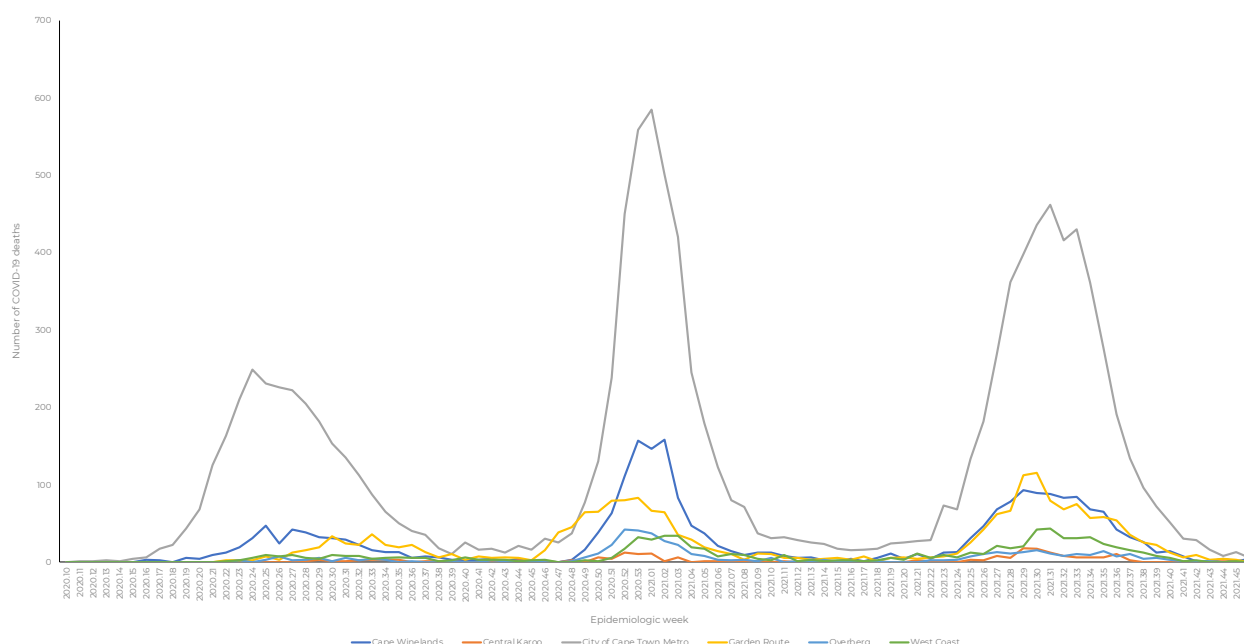


Figure 32: Number of reported COVID-19 in-hospital deaths, by district and epidemiologic week, Western Cape, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021, N=17,191

There has been a small increase in average daily COVID-19 admissions comparing the previous 14 days and the current 14 days in West Coast (Table 13).

Table 13: Previous 14 days and current 14 days average COVID-19 admissions and deaths and percentage changes, Western Cape, 23 October-20 November 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	4.36	2.14	-50.82	0.36	0.36	0.00
Central Karoo	0.64	0.29	-55.56	0.07	0.07	0.00
City of Cape Town Metro	11.64	7.29	-37.42	1.71	1.29	-25.00
Garden Route	4.43	1.29	-70.97	0.50	0.21	-57.14
Overberg	0.79	0.36	-54.55	0.07	0.00	-100.00
West Coast	0.29	0.43	50.00	0.00	0.07	0.00

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 46 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 46 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 46 2021

APPENDIX

Table 14: Percentage incidence change in hospital admissions over 14 days, by district, South Africa, 6 November-20 November 2021.

Province	District	Total admissions	Incidence (per 100k)	New admissions	New admissions incidence (per 100k)	% average change (14 days)
Eastern Cape	Alfred Nzo	2301	276.48	1	0.12	0.00
	Amathole	2827	353.73	1	0.13	0.00
	Buffalo City Metro	9039	1128.64	9	1.12	350.00
	Chris Hani	4493	617.47	3	0.41	50.00
	Joe Gqabi	995	288.43	1	0.29	100.00
	Nelson Mandela Bay Metro	14605	1203.98	6	0.49	-14.29
	O R Tambo	4339	283.19	5	0.33	-28.57
	Sarah Baartman	2870	593.19	2	0.41	-50.00
Free State	Fezile Dabi	3091	605.93	5	0.98	-58.33
	Lejweleputswa	5429	830.63	5	0.76	-79.17
	Mangaung Metro	12543	1440.20	18	2.07	0.00
	Thabo Mofutsanyana	4820	630.22	16	2.09	-48.39
	Xhariep	581	448.85	1	0.77	-66.67
Gauteng	City of Johannesburg Metro	45271	771.68	31	0.53	-3.13
	City of Tshwane Metro	33642	902.15	152	4.08	97.40
	Ekurhuleni Metro	27711	695.87	15	0.38	-25.00
	Sedibeng	8164	854.40	7	0.73	-12.50
	West Rand	11081	1160.63	4	0.42	-50.00
KwaZulu-Natal	Amajuba	3912	685.69	3	0.53	200.00
	eThekweni Metro	32221	809.33	22	0.55	-31.25
	Harry Gwala	2137	415.74	3	0.58	0.00
	iLembe	2678	385.58	0	0.00	-100.00
	King Cetshwayo	7632	786.26	4	0.41	0.00
	Ugu	4598	573.51	7	0.87	-30.00
	uMgungundlovu	9416	819.18	6	0.52	-50.00

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 46 2021

Province	District	Total admissions	Incidence (per 100k)	New admissions	New admissions incidence (per 100k)	% average change (14 days)
	uMkhanyakude	1280	186.34	0	0.00	100.00
	Umzinyathi	1556	274.15	1	0.18	100.00
	UThukela	2559	358.29	3	0.42	-72.73
	Zululand	1858	210.94	4	0.45	100.00
Limpopo	Capricorn	7362	562.86	3	0.23	-40.00
	Mopani	3095	261.21	0	0.00	-100.00
	Sekhukhune	1647	138.37	0	0.00	-100.00
	Vhembe	2365	165.71	12	0.84	1100.00
	Waterberg	2801	377.38	2	0.27	100.00
Mpumalanga	Ehlanzeni	6446	352.48	9	0.49	0.00
	Gert Sibande	6408	515.88	6	0.48	-62.50
	Nkangala	5581	346.88	3	0.19	-50.00
North West	Bojanala Platinum	9978	517.49	15	0.78	36.36
	Dr Kenneth Kaunda	14793	1854.42	18	2.26	-14.29
	Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti	1995	421.71	1	0.21	0.00
	Ngaka Modiri Molema	1943	213.55	1	0.11	100.00
Northern Cape	Frances Baard	4609	1110.84	4	0.96	-73.33
	John Taolo Gaetsewe	1433	527.85	3	1.11	0.00
	Namakwa	1049	907.34	6	5.19	-14.29
	Pixley Ka Seme	818	387.89	1	0.47	0.00
	ZF Mgcawu	2022	722.40	8	2.86	166.67
Western Cape	Cape Winelands	11131	1182.56	20	2.12	-13.04
	Central Karoo	1121	1492.42	1	1.33	-66.67
	City of Cape Town Metro	68629	1490.32	49	1.06	-42.35
	Garden Route	11093	1778.70	5	0.80	-70.59
	Overberg	2657	885.94	0	0.00	-100.00
	West Coast	3735	810.52	1	0.22	-83.33

COVID-19 HOSPITAL SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

WEEK 46 2021

APPENDIX

Table 15: Number of reported COVID-19 admissions and in-hospital deaths by age and gender, South Africa, 5 March 2020-20 November 2021.

Age (years)	ADMISSIONS				DEATHS			
	Female	Male	Unknown	Total	Female	Male	Unknown	Total
0-4	3573	4349	26	7948	135	142	2	279
5-9	1023	1305	7	2335	21	21	0	42
10-14	1698	1621	6	3325	57	48	0	105
15-19	4934	2645	2	7581	119	109	0	228
20-24	7657	3829	4	11490	276	212	1	489
25-29	12606	5751	10	18367	627	405	0	1032
30-34	16680	9645	6	26331	1079	889	1	1969
35-39	18114	13372	18	31504	1611	1483	4	3098
40-44	17157	15288	10	32455	2009	2072	0	4081
45-49	19640	19286	12	38938	2969	3111	1	6081
50-54	23223	21535	9	44767	4120	4222	1	8343
55-59	25934	23439	11	49384	5865	5846	5	11716
60-64	22755	20760	14	43529	6286	6470	4	12760
65-69	19511	17298	13	36822	6507	6030	5	12542
70-74	16247	14235	17	30499	5700	5511	4	11215
75-79	12017	9804	9	21830	4459	4130	2	8591
80-84	9047	6173	7	15227	3620	2780	3	6403
85-89	4760	2913	2	7675	1978	1431	0	3409
90-94	2054	987	1	3042	962	525	0	1487
>=95	622	306	2	930	301	134	0	435
Unknown	1144	1122	44	2310	69	112	0	181
Total	240396	195663	230	436289	48770	45683	33	94486