

# COVID-19 TESTING SUMMARY



NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR  
COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Division of the National Health Laboratory Service

SOUTH AFRICA WEEK 14 2022

## OVERVIEW OF REPORT

This report summarises national laboratory testing for SARS-CoV-2, the virus causing COVID-19, in South Africa. This report is based on data for specimens reported up to 9 April 2022 (Week 14 of 2022).

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The number of tests reported in week 14 of 2022 (127,855: 92,290 PCR and 35,565 antigen tests) was lower than the number of tests reported in the previous week.
- In week 14, the testing rate was highest in Gauteng (326 per 100,000 persons) and lowest in Limpopo (38 per 100,000 persons).
- In week 14, the percentage testing positive was 7.9%, which was 1.1% higher than the previous week.
- In week 14, compared to the previous week the percentage testing positive increased in the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, Gauteng and Limpopo and was unchanged in all other provinces.
- The percentage testing positive in week 14 was highest in the Western Cape (12.3%) and was <10% in all other provinces.
- In week 14, the percentage testing positive increased in the 5-9 and 10-14 year age groups and was highest in the 10-14 years age group (14.4%).

# COVID-19 TESTING SUMMARY

SOUTH AFRICA WEEK 14 2022

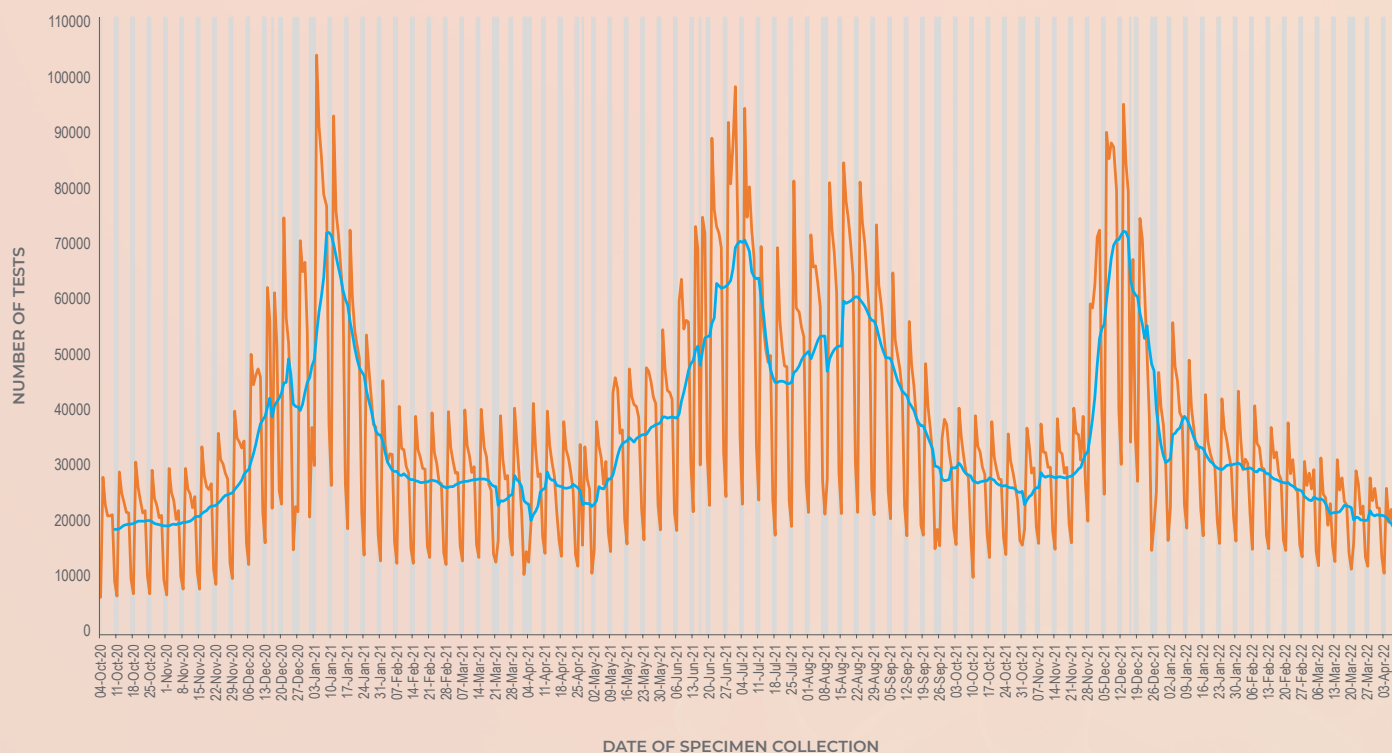
## Executive Summary:

- In the period 1 March 2020 through 9 April 2022, 23,827,314 tests for SARS-CoV-2 have been reported nationally: 19,722,985 PCR and 4,104,329 antigen tests.
- The number of tests reported in week 14 of 2022 (n=127,855: 92,290 PCR and 35,565 antigen tests) was lower than the number of tests reported in the previous week.
- Gauteng reported the largest proportion of tests (40.3%), followed by KwaZulu-Natal (20.3%) and Western Cape (14.3%).
- The overall testing rate decreased from the previous week (248 per 100,000 persons in week 13 to 213 per 100,000 persons in week 14).
- In week 14, a decrease in testing rate was observed in all provinces. The testing rate was highest in Gauteng (326 per 100,000 persons) and lowest in Limpopo (38 per 100,000 persons).
- The testing rate in week 14 was highest in the ≥80 years age group (401 per 100,000 persons).
- In week 14, the percentage testing positive was 7.9%, which was 1.1% higher than the previous week (6.8% in week 13 to 7.9% in week 14,  $P<0.001$ ).
- In the past week, the percentage testing positive increased by 0.5% in the public sector (5.0% in week 13 to 5.5% in week 14,  $P<0.001$ ) and by 1.2% in the private sector (8.1% in week 13 to 9.3% in week 14,  $P<0.001$ ).
- In week 14, compared to the previous week, the percentage testing positive increased in the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, Gauteng and Limpopo. The percentage testing positive was unchanged in all other provinces.
- The percentage testing positive in week 14 was highest in the Western Cape (12.3%) and was <10% in all other provinces.
- Health sub-districts showing the highest percentage testing positive were concentrated in the Western Cape (n=17).
- In week 14, the percentage testing positive increased in the 5-9 and 10-14 year age groups and was highest in the 10-14 years age group (14.4%).
- Antigen tests accounted for 27.8% (35,565/127,855) of tests reported in week 14, however the number of antigen tests is likely underestimated due to under-reporting and delayed reporting of antigen tests.
- In week 14 the public sector accounted for 49.1% (17,465/35,565) of antigen tests reported. A decrease in the number of antigen tests reported was observed across all provinces in the past week.
- The mean turnaround time for PCR tests reported in week 14 was 0.7 days; 1.1 day in the public sector and 0.6 days in the private sector. Turnaround times for public sector PCR tests increased in Limpopo and Mpumalanga, and were <2 days in all provinces except in Mpumalanga (2.4 days).
- The mean turnaround time for antigen tests reported in week 13 was 16.7 days in the public sector and 0.2 days in the private sector.

# COVID-19 TESTING SUMMARY

SOUTH AFRICA

WEEK 14 2022



**Figure 1.** Number of SARS-CoV-2 tests reported by date of specimen collection, South Africa, 4 October 2020 – 9 April 2022. Blue line shows the 7-day moving average of the number of tests reported. Grey bars highlight weekend days and public holidays

# COVID-19 TESTING SUMMARY

SOUTH AFRICA WEEK 14 2022

**Table 1.** Weekly number of SARS-CoV-2 tests and positive tests reported, South Africa, 3 January 2021 – 9 April 2022

| Week number | Week beginning | No. of tests n (%) | No. of positive tests | Percentage testing positive (%) |
|-------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1           | 03-Jan-21      | 501385 (2.1)       | 151074                | 30.1                            |
| 2           | 10-Jan-21      | 418299 (1.8)       | 104825                | 25.1                            |
| 3           | 17-Jan-21      | 327532 (1.4)       | 63282                 | 19.3                            |
| 4           | 24-Jan-21      | 249623 (1.0)       | 34652                 | 13.9                            |
| 5           | 31-Jan-21      | 203797 (0.9)       | 22380                 | 11.0                            |
| 6           | 07-Feb-21      | 193340 (0.8)       | 16476                 | 8.5                             |
| 7           | 14-Feb-21      | 190712 (0.8)       | 12192                 | 6.4                             |
| 8           | 21-Feb-21      | 184729 (0.8)       | 10390                 | 5.6                             |
| 9           | 28-Feb-21      | 189730 (0.8)       | 8695                  | 4.6                             |
| 10          | 07-Mar-21      | 193454 (0.8)       | 8341                  | 4.3                             |
| 11          | 14-Mar-21      | 185526 (0.8)       | 8156                  | 4.4                             |
| 12          | 21-Mar-21      | 173275 (0.7)       | 7356                  | 4.2                             |
| 13          | 28-Mar-21      | 163975 (0.7)       | 7063                  | 4.3                             |
| 14          | 04-Apr-21      | 180874 (0.8)       | 7292                  | 4.0                             |
| 15          | 11-Apr-21      | 185349 (0.8)       | 8847                  | 4.8                             |
| 16          | 18-Apr-21      | 184920 (0.8)       | 9471                  | 5.1                             |
| 17          | 25-Apr-21      | 160025 (0.7)       | 9183                  | 5.7                             |
| 18          | 02-May-21      | 193973 (0.8)       | 13463                 | 6.9                             |
| 19          | 09-May-21      | 240325 (1.0)       | 19939                 | 8.3                             |
| 20          | 16-May-21      | 248488 (1.0)       | 24212                 | 9.7                             |
| 21          | 23-May-21      | 262637 (1.1)       | 29778                 | 11.3                            |
| 22          | 30-May-21      | 270305 (1.1)       | 36106                 | 13.4                            |
| 23          | 06-Jun-21      | 337913 (1.4)       | 59453                 | 17.6                            |
| 24          | 13-Jun-21      | 370988 (1.6)       | 88086                 | 23.7                            |
| 25          | 20-Jun-21      | 432588 (1.8)       | 118653                | 27.4                            |
| 26          | 27-Jun-21      | 490246 (2.1)       | 146637                | 29.9                            |
| 27          | 04-Jul-21      | 443857 (1.9)       | 141461                | 31.9                            |
| 28          | 11-Jul-21      | 320770 (1.3)       | 100955                | 31.5                            |
| 29          | 18-Jul-21      | 313098 (1.3)       | 88444                 | 28.2                            |
| 30          | 25-Jul-21      | 350532 (1.5)       | 88356                 | 25.2                            |
| 31          | 01-Aug-21      | 372230 (1.6)       | 88127                 | 23.7                            |
| 32          | 08-Aug-21      | 359548 (1.5)       | 83380                 | 23.2                            |
| 33          | 15-Aug-21      | 420878 (1.8)       | 95389                 | 22.7                            |
| 34          | 22-Aug-21      | 391504 (1.6)       | 78190                 | 20.0                            |
| 35          | 29-Aug-21      | 345241 (1.4)       | 55095                 | 16.0                            |
| 36          | 05-Sep-21      | 300465 (1.3)       | 38855                 | 12.9                            |
| 37          | 12-Sep-21      | 260666 (1.1)       | 24018                 | 9.2                             |
| 38          | 19-Sep-21      | 209033 (0.9)       | 14011                 | 6.7                             |
| 39          | 26-Sep-21      | 207757 (0.9)       | 9491                  | 4.6                             |
| 40          | 03-Oct-21      | 197825 (0.8)       | 6450                  | 3.3                             |
| 41          | 10-Oct-21      | 191658 (0.8)       | 5043                  | 2.6                             |
| 42          | 17-Oct-21      | 185546 (0.8)       | 3412                  | 1.8                             |
| 43          | 24-Oct-21      | 177125 (0.7)       | 2566                  | 1.4                             |
| 44          | 31-Oct-21      | 182835 (0.8)       | 2105                  | 1.2                             |
| 45          | 07-Nov-21      | 196629 (0.8)       | 2321                  | 1.2                             |
| 46          | 14-Nov-21      | 196674 (0.8)       | 4810                  | 2.4                             |
| 47          | 21-Nov-21      | 224578 (0.9)       | 18974                 | 8.4                             |
| 48          | 28-Nov-21      | 381895 (1.6)       | 98388                 | 25.8                            |
| 49          | 05-Dec-21      | 492654 (2.1)       | 175022                | 35.5                            |
| 50          | 12-Dec-21      | 424178 (1.8)       | 154791                | 36.5                            |
| 51          | 19-Dec-21      | 336965 (1.4)       | 117607                | 34.9                            |
| 52          | 20-Dec-21      | 216483 (0.9)       | 66057                 | 30.5                            |
| 1           | 02-Jan-22      | 272318 (1.1)       | 61043                 | 22.4                            |
| 2           | 09-Jan-22      | 233197 (1.0)       | 35097                 | 15.1                            |

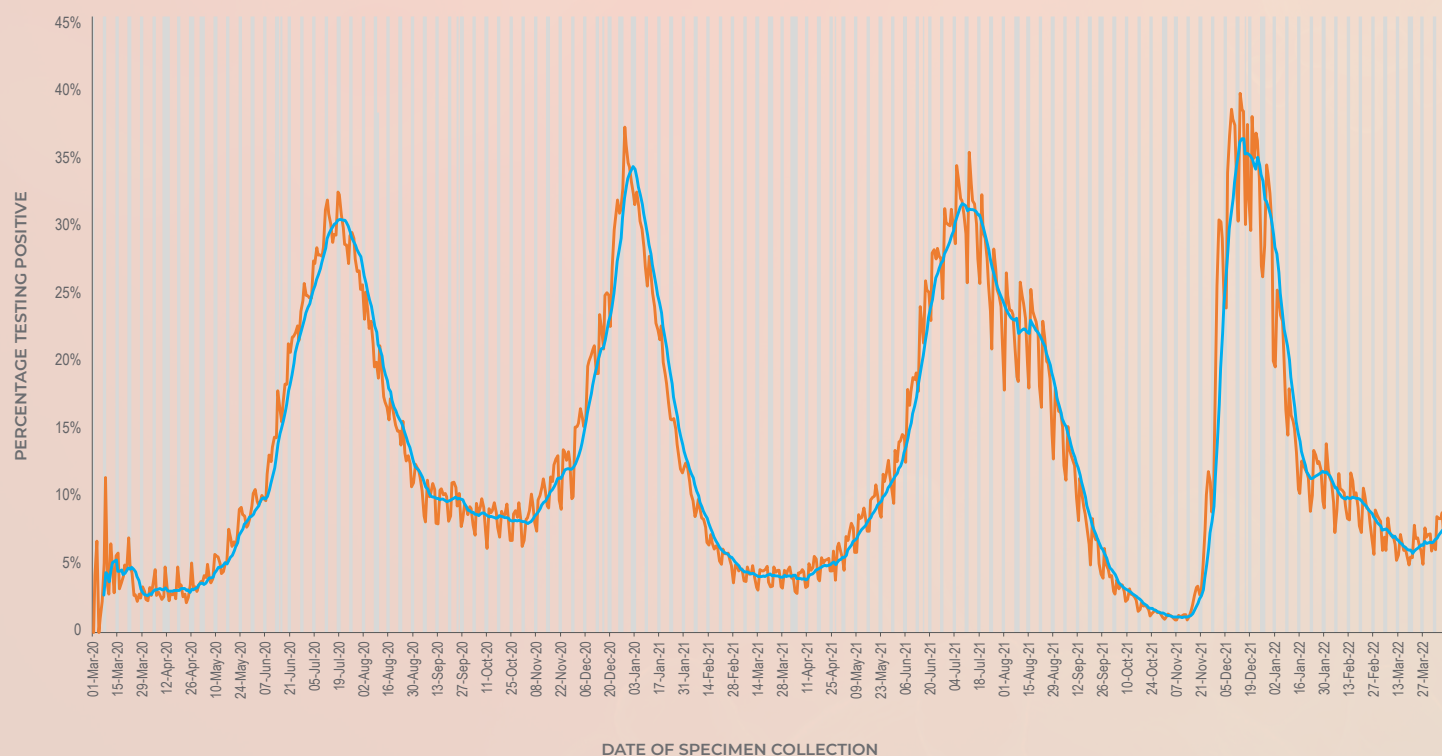
# COVID-19 TESTING SUMMARY

SOUTH AFRICA | WEEK 14 2022

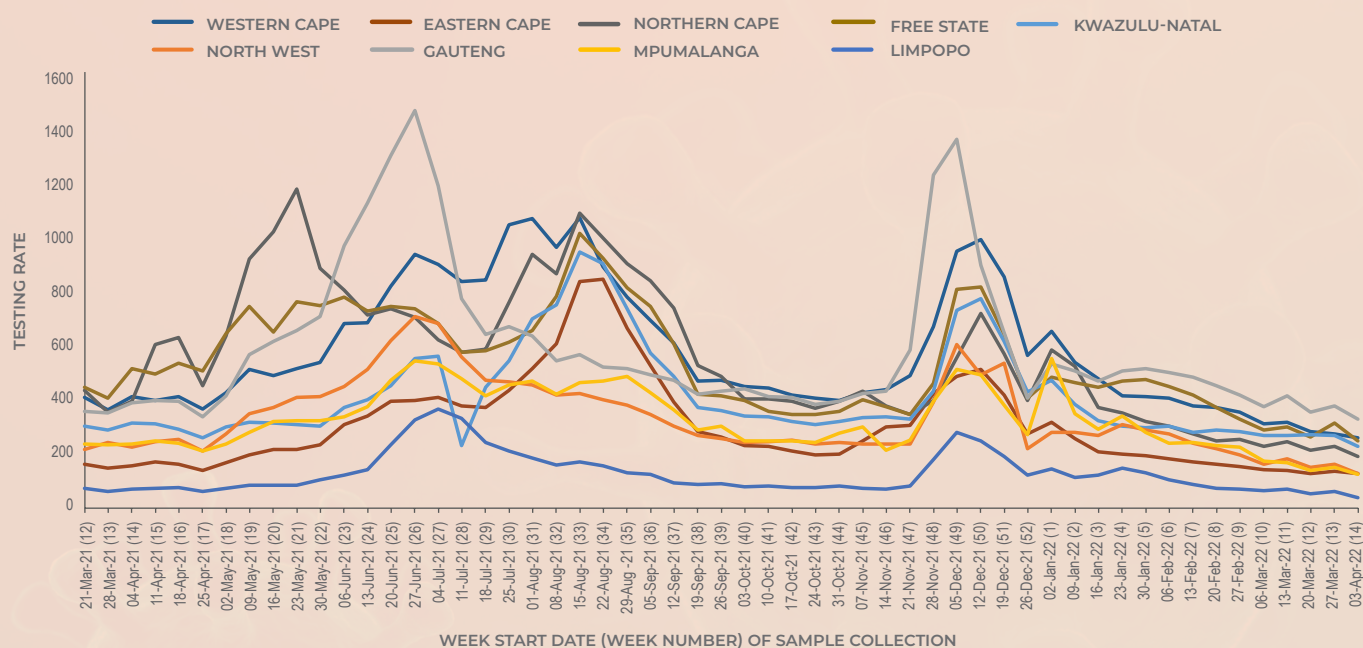
|       |           |                    |           |      |
|-------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|------|
| 3     | 16-Jan-22 | 208094 (0.9)       | 24006     | 11.5 |
| 4     | 23-Jan-22 | 212186 (0.9)       | 25771     | 12.1 |
| 5     | 24-Jan-22 | 207624 (0.9)       | 22918     | 11.0 |
| 6     | 06-Feb-22 | 200383 (0.8)       | 20375     | 10.2 |
| 7     | 13-Feb-22 | 189288 (0.8)       | 19049     | 10.1 |
| 8     | 14-Feb-22 | 179975 (0.8)       | 16261     | 9.0  |
| 9     | 27-Feb-22 | 170106 (0.7)       | 13101     | 7.7  |
| 10    | 06-Mar-22 | 151819 (0.6)       | 10622     | 7.0  |
| 11    | 13-Mar-22 | 159405 (0.7)       | 9830      | 6.2  |
| 12    | 20-Mar-22 | 142277 (0.6)       | 9411      | 6.6  |
| 13    | 27-Mar-22 | 149096 (0.6)       | 10134     | 6.8  |
| 14    | 03-Apr-22 | 127855 (0.5)       | 10080     | 7.9  |
| Total |           | 23,827,314 (100.0) | 4,061,960 |      |

# COVID-19 TESTING SUMMARY

SOUTH AFRICA WEEK 14 2022



**Figure 2.** Percentage of tests positive for SARS-CoV-2 by date of specimen collection, South Africa, 1 March 2020 – 9 April 2022. Blue line shows the 7-day moving average of the percentage testing positive. Grey bars highlight weekend days and public holidays.



**Figure 3.** Testing rate per 100,000 persons by province and week of specimen collection, South Africa, 21 March 2021 – 9 April 2022

# COVID-19 TESTING SUMMARY

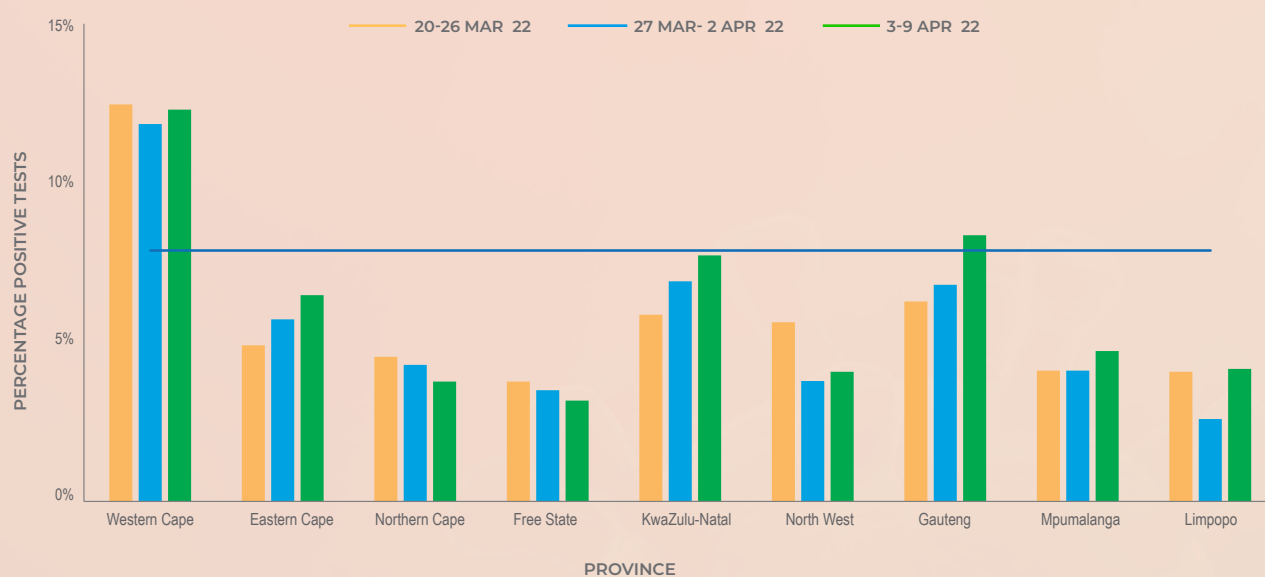
SOUTH AFRICA WEEK 14 2022

**Table 2.** Weekly number of tests and positive tests reported by province, South Africa, 20 March – 9 April 2022

| Province      | Population <sup>a</sup> | 20-26 Mar 2022 |                        | 27 Mar - 2 Apr 2022 |                        | 3-9 Apr 2022  |                        | Tests per 100,000 persons | Change in percentage positive <sup>b</sup> |
|---------------|-------------------------|----------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------------------|--|
|               |                         | No. of tests   | No. positive tests (%) | No. of tests        | No. positive tests (%) | No. of tests  | No. positive tests (%) |                           |  |
| Western Cape  | 7113776                 | 19894          | 2482 (12.5)            | 19332               | 2292 (11.9)            | 18276         | 2251 (12.3)            | 257                       | 0.5%                                       |
| Eastern Cape  | 6676590                 | 8374           | 411 (4.9)              | 9019                | 516 (5.7)              | 8400          | 545 (6.5)              | 126                       | 0.8%                                       |
| Northern Cape | 1303047                 | 2773           | 126 (4.5)              | 2956                | 127 (4.3)              | 2445          | 92 (3.8)               | 188                       | -0.5%                                      |
| Free State    | 2932441                 | 7653           | 289 (3.8)              | 9139                | 320 (3.5)              | 7178          | 228 (3.2)              | 245                       | -0.3%                                      |
| KwaZulu-Natal | 11513575                | 30819          | 1806 (5.9)             | 30644               | 2118 (6.9)             | 25935         | 2005 (7.7)             | 225                       | 0.8%                                       |
| North West    | 4122854                 | 6154           | 346 (5.6)              | 6668                | 252 (3.8)              | 5191          | 212 (4.1)              | 126                       | 0.3%                                       |
| Gauteng       | 15810388                | 55625          | 3492 (6.3)             | 59232               | 4036 (6.8)             | 51483         | 4307 (8.4)             | 326                       | 1.6%                                       |
| Mpumalanga    | 4743584                 | 6551           | 269 (4.1)              | 7069                | 291 (4.1)              | 5784          | 273 (4.7)              | 122                       | 0.6%                                       |
| Limpopo       | 5926724                 | 3090           | 126 (4.1)              | 3560                | 92 (2.6)               | 2276          | 95 (4.2)               | 38                        | 1.6%                                       |
| Unknown       |                         | 1344           | 64 (4.8)               | 1477                | 90 (6.1)               | 887           | 72 (8.1)               |                           |  |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>60142978</b>         | <b>142277</b>  | <b>9411 (6.6)</b>      | <b>149096</b>       | <b>10134 (6.8)</b>     | <b>127855</b> | <b>10080 (7.9)</b>     | <b>213</b>                | <b>1.1%</b>                                |

<sup>a</sup> 2021 Mid-year population Statistics SA

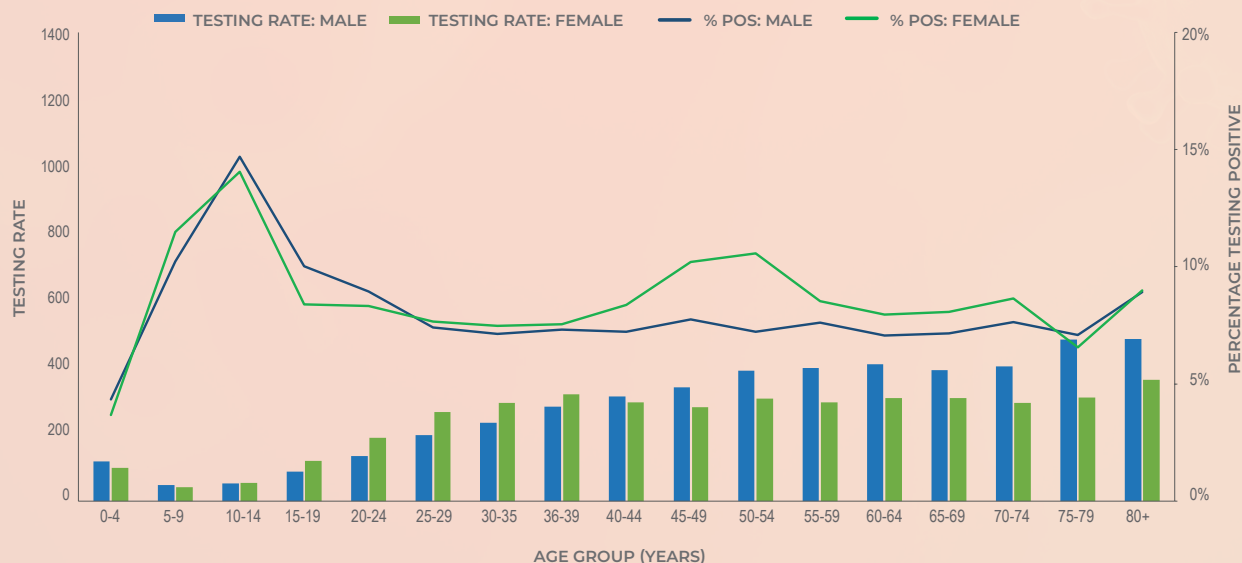
<sup>b</sup> Current week compared to previous week



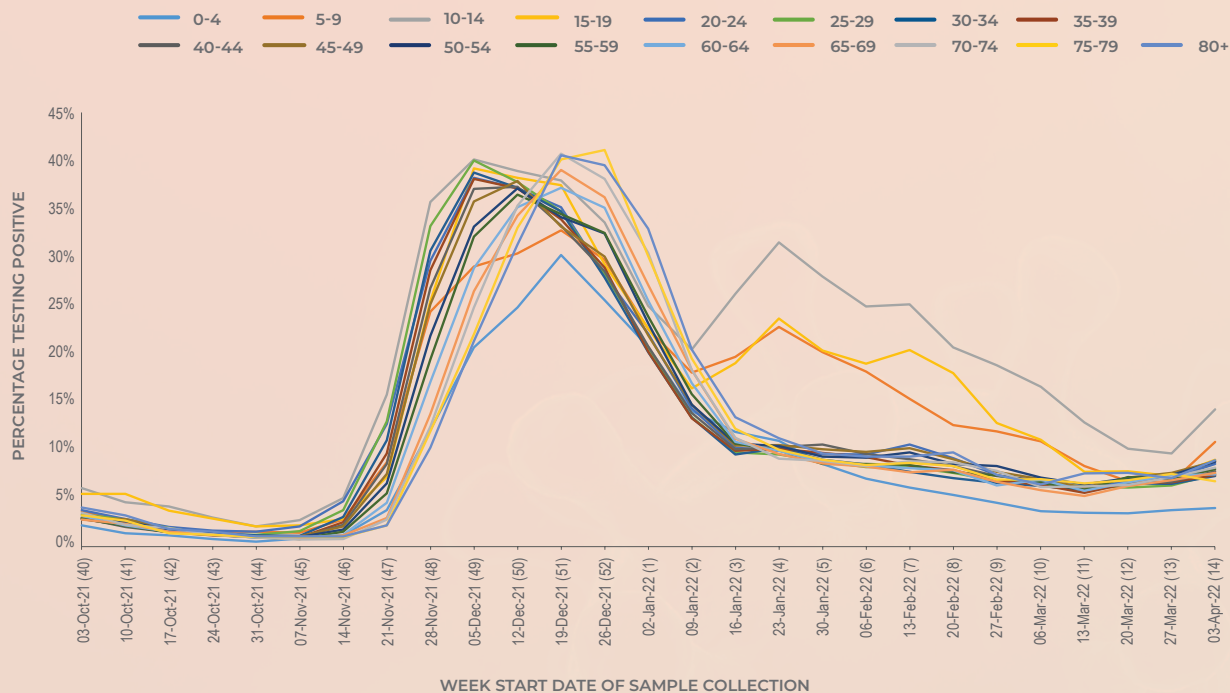
**Figure 4.** Weekly percentage testing positive by province, South Africa, 20 March – 9 April 2022. The horizontal blue line shows the national mean for week 14, beginning 3 April 2022

# COVID-19 TESTING SUMMARY

SOUTH AFRICA WEEK 14 2022



**Figure 5.** Testing rates per 100,000 persons and percentage testing positive by age group and sex, South Africa, week 14, 3-9 April 2022



**Figure 6.** Percentage testing positive by age group and week of specimen collection, South Africa, 3 October 2021 – 9 April 2022

# COVID-19 TESTING SUMMARY

SOUTH AFRICA | WEEK 14 2022

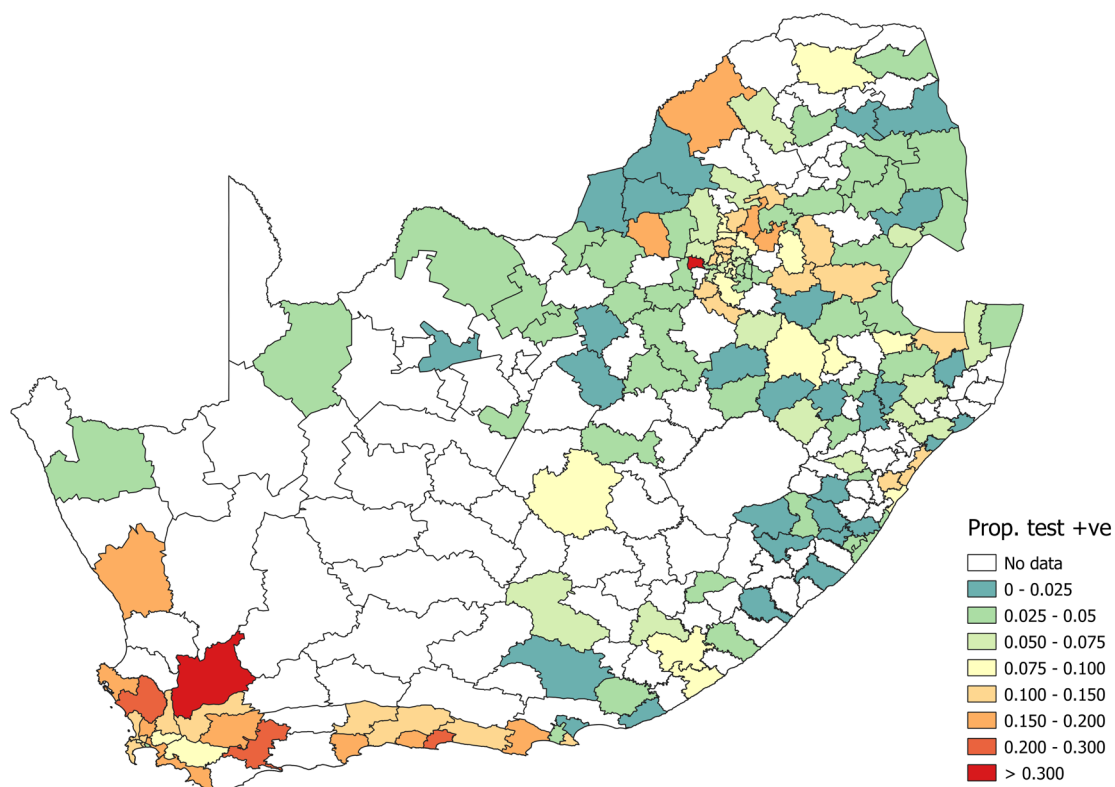
**Table 3.** Health sub-districts with the highest proportion testing positive based on public and private sector data for the week of 3-9 April 2022

| Health district or sub-district | Province      | PTP (95% CI)        | Previous week       |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Witzenberg                      | Western Cape  | 0.383 (0.253-0.512) | 0.099 (0.033-0.165) |
| Randfontein                     | Gauteng       | 0.381 (0.340-0.422) | 0.371 (0.333-0.410) |
| Swartland                       | Western Cape  | 0.283 (0.169-0.397) | 0.221 (0.076-0.366) |
| Swellendam                      | Western Cape  | 0.270 (0.166-0.374) | 0.252 (0.156-0.348) |
| Bitou                           | Western Cape  | 0.256 (0.169-0.343) | 0.186 (0.117-0.255) |
| Kouga                           | Eastern Cape  | 0.195 (0.132-0.258) | 0.102 (0.055-0.150) |
| Saldanha Bay                    | Western Cape  | 0.188 (0.141-0.235) | 0.196 (0.146-0.245) |
| Overstrand                      | Western Cape  | 0.186 (0.141-0.231) | 0.155 (0.116-0.195) |
| Matzikama                       | Western Cape  | 0.186 (0.110-0.261) | 0.131 (0.064-0.197) |
| CT Northern                     | Western Cape  | 0.183 (0.161-0.205) | 0.189 (0.168-0.210) |
| Tshwane 5                       | Gauteng       | 0.181 (0.088-0.274) | 0.201 (0.089-0.312) |
| Langeberg                       | Western Cape  | 0.169 (0.061-0.276) | 0.173 (0.064-0.282) |
| Mossel Bay                      | Western Cape  | 0.158 (0.121-0.196) | 0.127 (0.095-0.158) |
| Knysna                          | Western Cape  | 0.158 (0.100-0.216) | 0.123 (0.073-0.172) |
| Kgetlengrivier                  | North West    | 0.155 (0.049-0.261) | 0.019 (0.000-0.056) |
| Lephalale                       | Limpopo       | 0.154 (0.099-0.208) | 0.084 (0.042-0.127) |
| CT Eastern                      | Western Cape  | 0.153 (0.131-0.175) | 0.148 (0.126-0.171) |
| Tshwane 7                       | Gauteng       | 0.152 (0.085-0.218) | 0.080 (0.032-0.127) |
| CT Western                      | Western Cape  | 0.148 (0.135-0.160) | 0.142 (0.131-0.153) |
| eThekweni North                 | KwaZulu-Natal | 0.144 (0.130-0.157) | 0.131 (0.119-0.144) |
| Tshwane 4                       | Gauteng       | 0.140 (0.119-0.162) | 0.108 (0.090-0.126) |
| CT Tygerberg                    | Western Cape  | 0.137 (0.123-0.151) | 0.153 (0.137-0.168) |
| CT Southern                     | Western Cape  | 0.137 (0.118-0.155) | 0.111 (0.095-0.127) |
| Drakenstein                     | Western Cape  | 0.133 (0.105-0.162) | 0.151 (0.121-0.181) |
| CT Mitchells Plain              | Western Cape  | 0.132 (0.093-0.170) | 0.105 (0.073-0.136) |

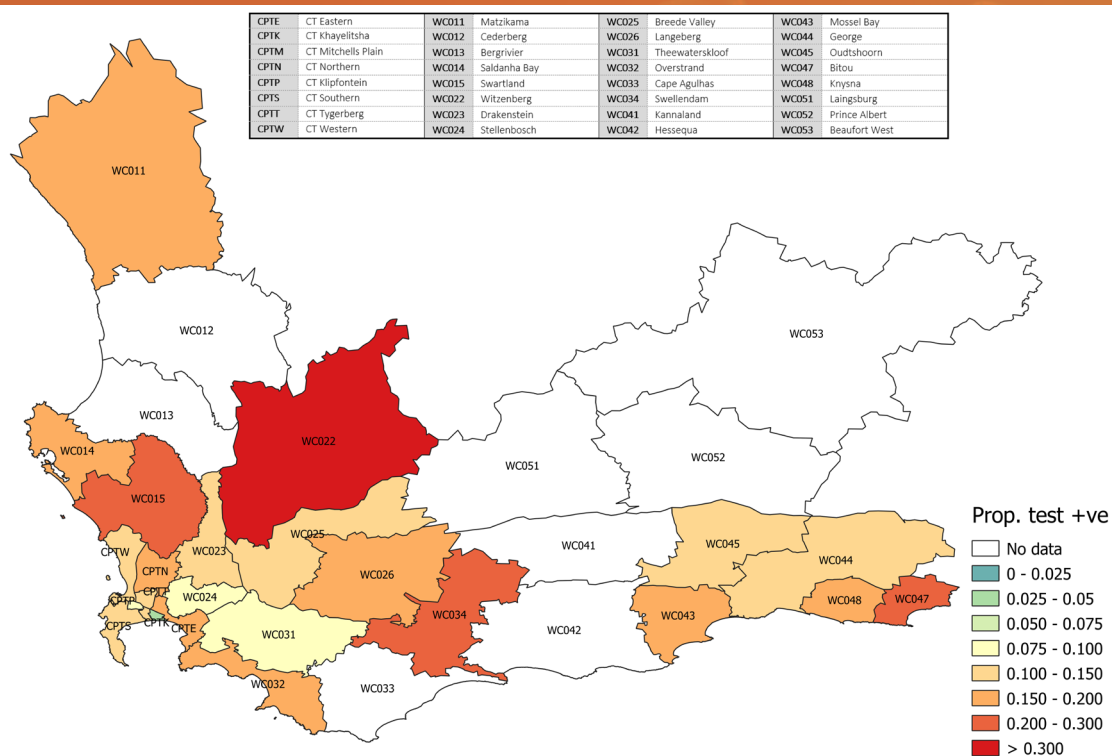
95% CI: 95% confidence interval; PTP: adjusted positive test proportion; Elements marked in **red** have current week proportions testing positive that are **higher** than, and CIs that do not overlap with, the previous week proportions and CIs. Elements marked in **blue** have current week proportions testing positive that are **lower** than, and CIs that do not overlap with, the previous week proportions and CIs.

# COVID-19 TESTING SUMMARY

SOUTH AFRICA WEEK 14 2022



**Figure 7.** Proportion testing positive by health sub-district in South Africa for the week of 3-9 April 2022. Areas shaded white represent districts in which either (i) no tests were reported (ii) all tests were negative or (iii) the confidence interval exceeded 30%.



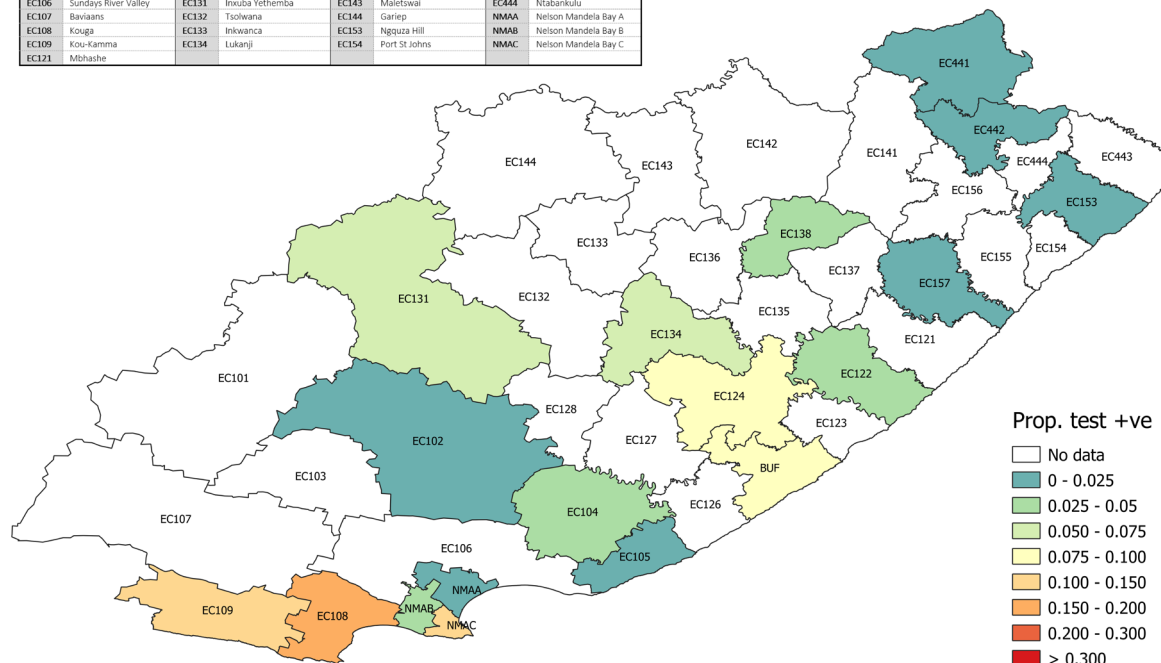
**Figure 8.** Proportion testing positive by health sub-district in the Western Cape Province for the week of 3-9 April 2022. Areas shaded white represent districts in which either (i) no tests were reported (ii) all tests were negative or (iii) the confidence interval exceeded 30%.

# COVID-19 TESTING SUMMARY

SOUTH AFRICA

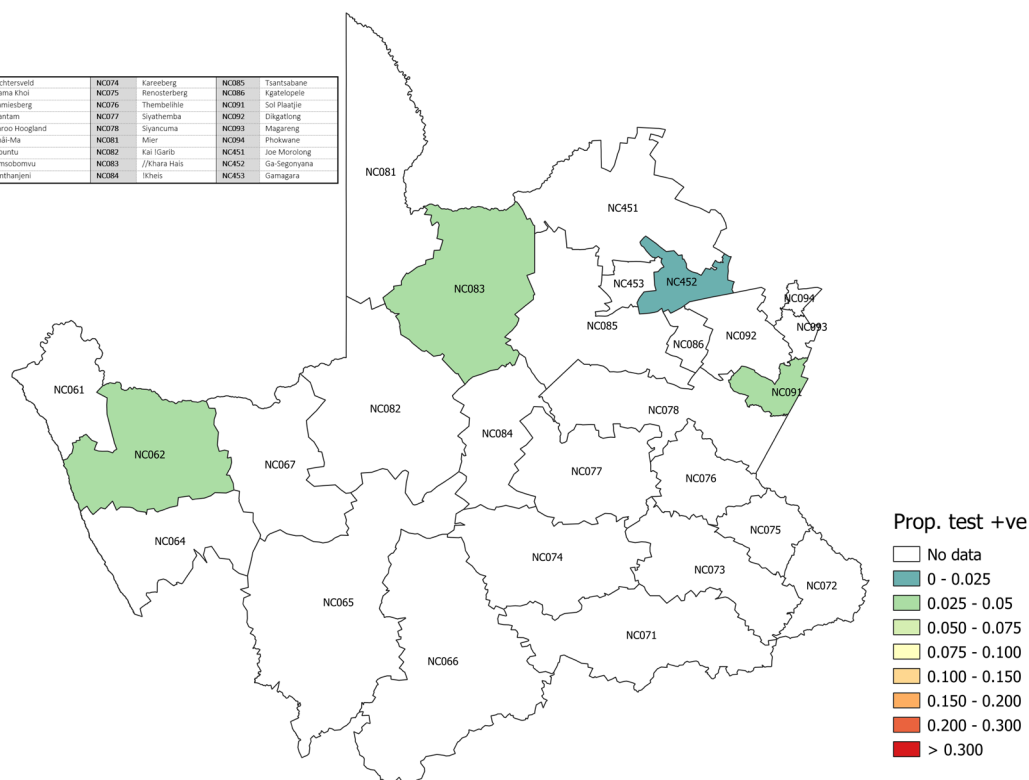
WEEK 14 2022

|       |                      |       |                 |       |               |       |                        |
|-------|----------------------|-------|-----------------|-------|---------------|-------|------------------------|
| BUF   | Buffalo City         | EC122 | Mnquma          | EC135 | Intsika Yethu | EC155 | Nyandeni               |
| EC101 | Camdeboo             | EC123 | Great Kei       | EC136 | Emalahleni    | EC156 | Mlinontlo              |
| EC102 | Blue Crane Route     | EC124 | Amahlahli       | EC137 | Engcobo       | EC157 | King Sabata Dalindyebo |
| EC103 | Ikwevo               | EC126 | Ngushwa         | EC138 | Sakhisizwe    | EC441 | Matalele               |
| EC104 | Makana               | EC127 | Nkonkobe        | EC141 | Elundini      | EC442 | Umtzimvubu             |
| EC105 | Ndlambe              | EC128 | Nxuba           | EC142 | Senqu         | EC443 | Mbizana                |
| EC106 | Sundays River Valley | EC131 | Inxuba Yethemba | EC143 | Maletswal     | EC444 | Ntabankulu             |
| EC107 | Baviaans             | EC132 | Tsolwana        | EC144 | Gariep        | NMAA  | Nelson Mandela Bay A   |
| EC108 | Kouga                | EC133 | Inkwanca        | EC153 | Nqozu Hill    | NMAB  | Nelson Mandela Bay B   |
| EC109 | Kou-kamma            | EC134 | Lukanji         | EC154 | Port St Johns | NMAC  | Nelson Mandela Bay C   |
| EC121 | Mbhashe              |       |                 |       |               |       |                        |



**Figure 9.** Proportion testing positive by health sub-district in the Eastern Cape Province for the week of 3-9 April 2022. Areas shaded white represent districts in which either (i) no tests were reported (ii) all tests were negative or (iii) the confidence interval exceeded 30%.

|       |                |       |              |       |              |
|-------|----------------|-------|--------------|-------|--------------|
| NC061 | Richtersveld   | NC074 | Kareeberg    | NC085 | Tsantsabane  |
| NC062 | Nama Khol      | NC075 | Renosterberg | NC086 | Igatelopole  |
| NC064 | Kamiesberg     | NC076 | Thembelihle  | NC091 | Sol Plaatje  |
| NC065 | Hantam         | NC077 | Siyathemba   | NC092 | Dikgatong    |
| NC066 | Karoo Hoogland | NC078 | Siyancuma    | NC093 | Magareng     |
| NC067 | Khâi-Ma        | NC081 | Mier         | NC094 | Phokwane     |
| NC071 | Uburu          | NC082 | Kai I Garib  | NC451 | Joe Morolong |
| NC072 | Umsobomvi      | NC083 | /Khara Halls | NC452 | Ga-Segonyana |
| NC073 | Emthanjeni     | NC084 | Ikhels       | NC453 | Gamsagara    |



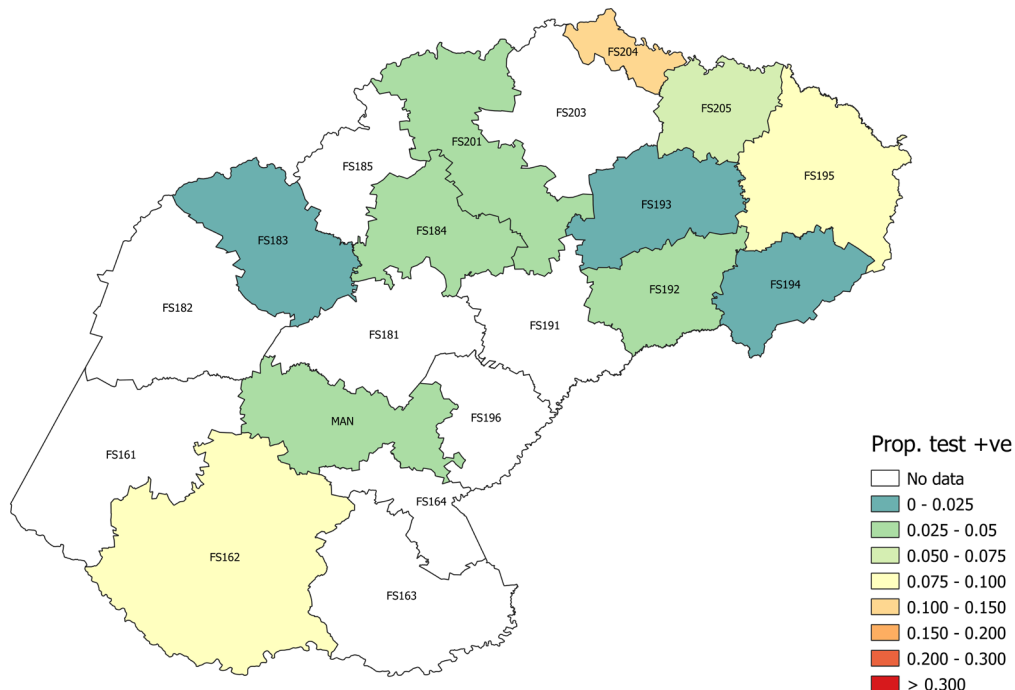
**Figure 10.** Proportion testing positive by health sub-district in Northern Cape Province for the week of 3-9 April 2022. Areas shaded white represent districts in which either (i) no tests were reported (ii) all tests were negative or (iii) the confidence interval exceeded 30%.

# COVID-19 TESTING SUMMARY

SOUTH AFRICA

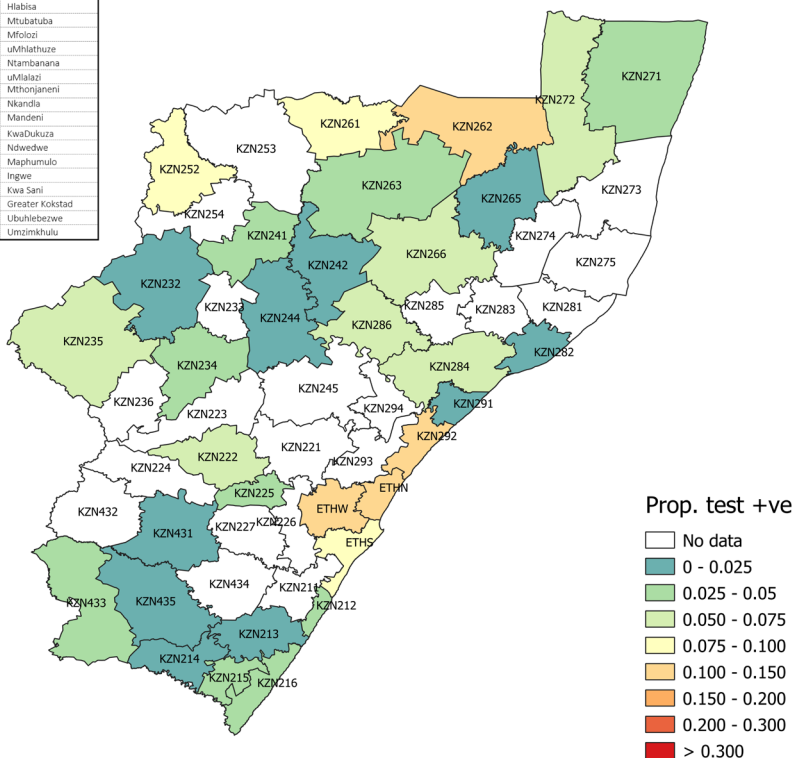
WEEK 14 2022

|       |           |       |             |       |                  |       |             |
|-------|-----------|-------|-------------|-------|------------------|-------|-------------|
| MAN   | Mangaung  | FS181 | Masilonyana | FS191 | Setso            | FS196 | Mantsopa    |
| FS161 | Letsemeng | FS182 | Tokologo    | FS192 | Ditlabeng        | FS201 | Moghaka     |
| FS162 | Kopanong  | FS183 | Tswelopele  | FS193 | Nietoana         | FS203 | Ngwathe     |
| FS163 | Mohokare  | FS184 | Matjhabeng  | FS194 | Maluti a Phofung | FS204 | Metsimaholo |
| FS164 | Naledi    | FS185 | Nala        | FS195 | Phumelela        | FS205 | Mafube      |



**Figure 11.** Proportion testing positive by health sub-district in Free State Province for the week of 3-9 April 2022. Areas shaded white represent districts in which either (i) no tests were reported (ii) all tests were negative or (iii) the confidence interval exceeded 30%.

|        |                      |        |                 |        |                     |
|--------|----------------------|--------|-----------------|--------|---------------------|
| ETHN   | eThekweni North      | KZN233 | Indaka          | KZN273 | The Big 5 False Bay |
| ETHS   | eThekweni South      | KZN234 | Umtshezi        | KZN274 | Hlabisa             |
| ETHS   | eThekweni South      | KZN235 | Okhahlamba      | KZN275 | Mtubatuba           |
| ETHW   | eThekweni West       | KZN236 | Imbabazane      | KZN281 | Mfolosi             |
| KZN211 | Vulamehlo            | KZN241 | Endumeni        | KZN282 | uMhlathuze          |
| KZN212 | Umdoni               | KZN242 | Nqutu           | KZN283 | Ntambanana          |
| KZN213 | Umtzambe             | KZN244 | Msinga          | KZN284 | uMlalazi            |
| KZN214 | uMuziwabantu         | KZN245 | Umvoti          | KZN285 | uMhlonjaneni        |
| KZN215 | Ezingolweni          | KZN252 | Newcastle       | KZN286 | Nkandla             |
| KZN216 | Hiobiscus Coast      | KZN253 | Emadlangeni     | KZN291 | Mandeni             |
| KZN221 | uMshwathi            | KZN254 | Dannhauser      | KZN292 | KwaDukuza           |
| KZN222 | uMngeni              | KZN261 | eDumbe          | KZN293 | Ndwedwe             |
| KZN223 | Mpofana              | KZN262 | uPhongolo       | KZN294 | Maphumulo           |
| KZN224 | Impendle             | KZN263 | Abaqulusi       | KZN431 | Ingwe               |
| KZN225 | The Msunduzi         | KZN265 | Nongoma         | KZN432 | Kwa Sanli           |
| KZN226 | Mhambathini          | KZN266 | Ulundi          | KZN433 | Greater Kokstad     |
| KZN227 | Richmond             | KZN271 | Umhlabyalingana | KZN434 | Ubuhlebezwe         |
| KZN232 | Ennambithi/Ladysmith | KZN272 | Jozini          | KZN435 | Umtshkulu           |

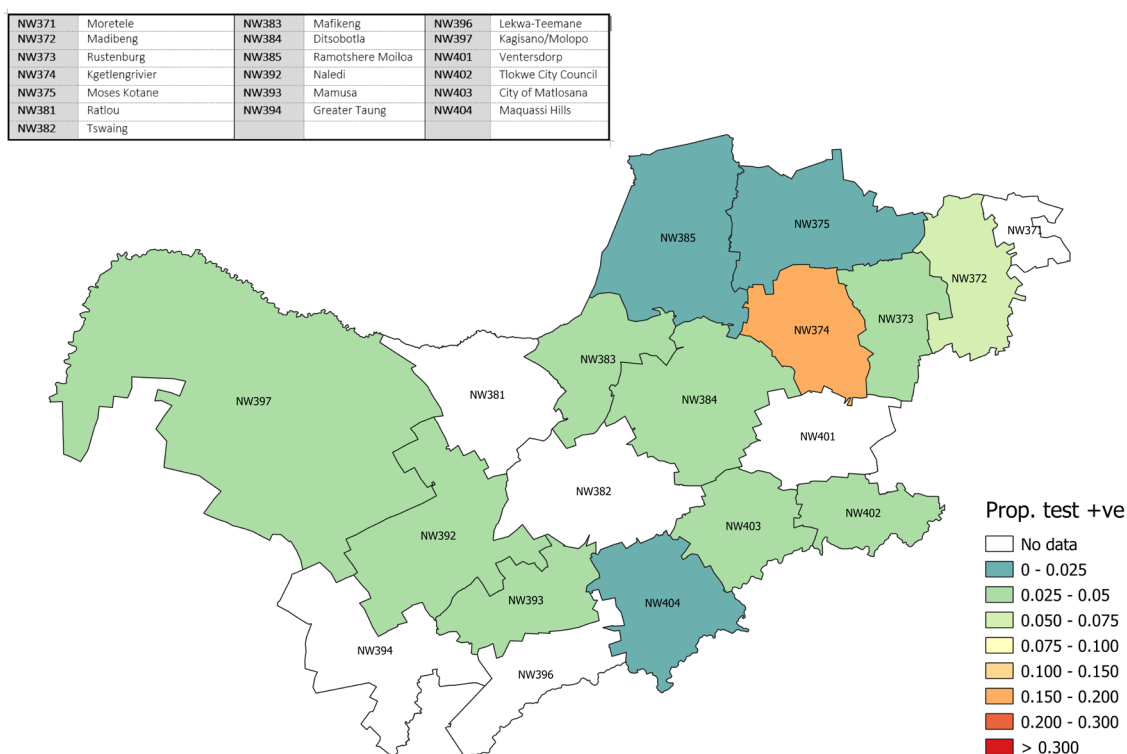


**Figure 12.** Proportion testing positive by health sub-district in KwaZulu-Natal Province for the week of 3-9 April 2022. Areas shaded white represent districts in which either (i) no tests were reported (ii) all tests were negative or (iii) the confidence interval exceeded 30%.

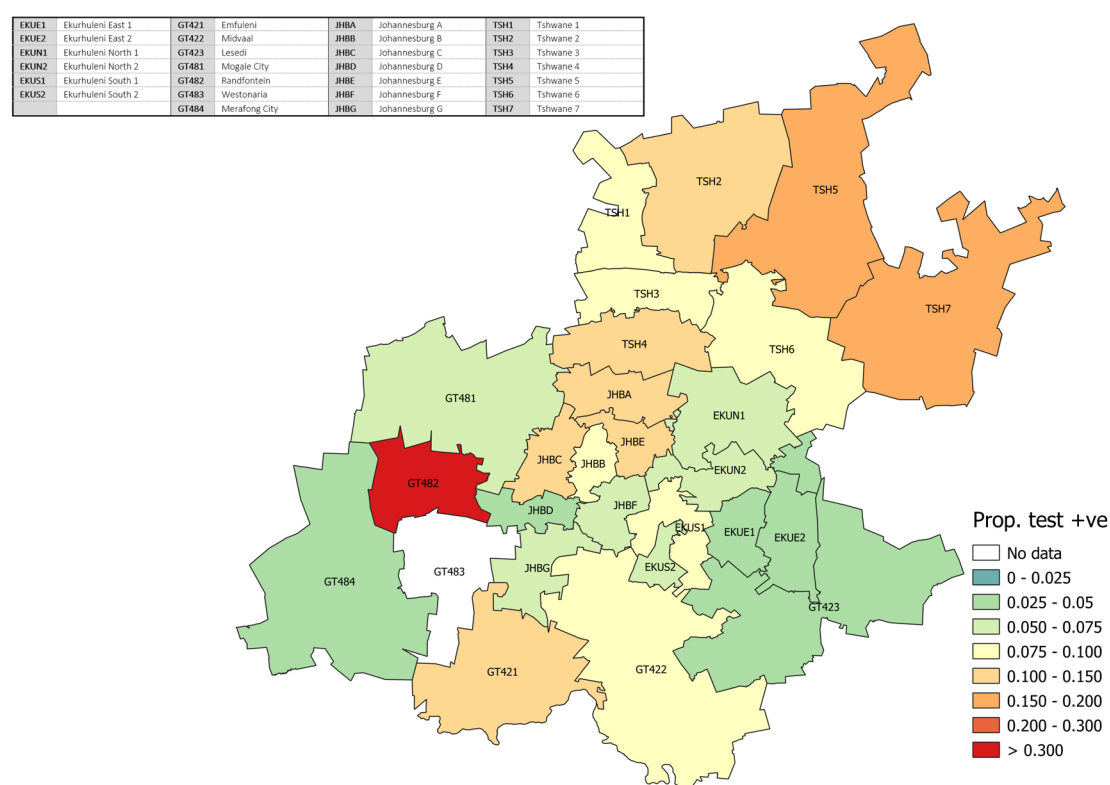
# COVID-19 TESTING SUMMARY

SOUTH AFRICA

WEEK 14 2022



**Figure 13.** Proportion testing positive by health sub-district in North West Province for the week of 3-9 April 2022. Areas shaded white represent districts in which either (i) no tests were reported (ii) all tests were negative or (iii) the confidence interval exceeded 30%.



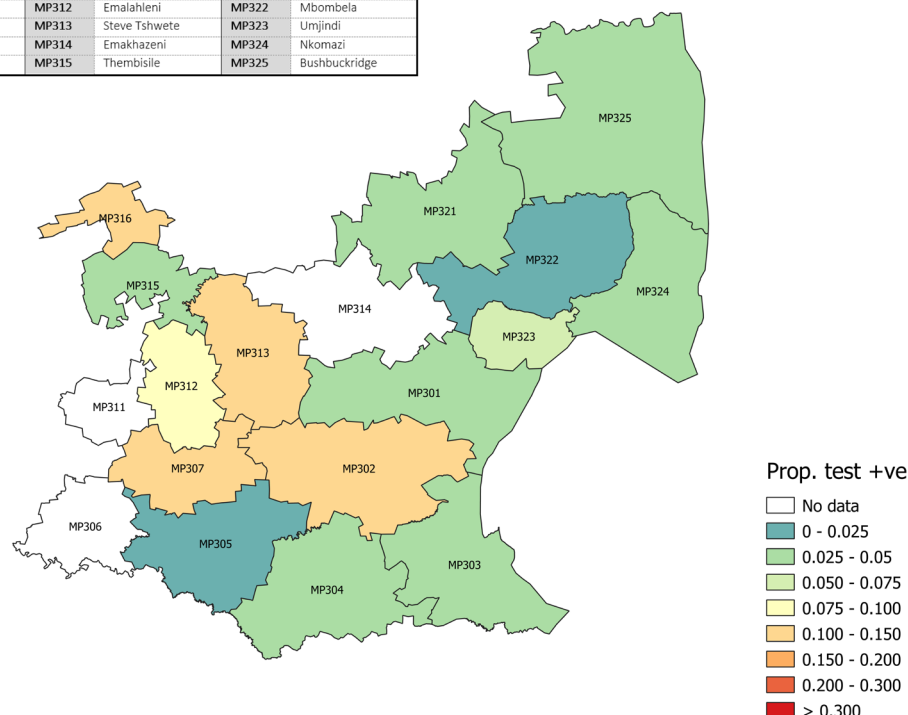
**Figure 14.** Proportion testing positive by health sub-district in Gauteng Province for the week of 3-9 April 2022. Areas shaded white represent districts in which either (i) no tests were reported (ii) all tests were negative or (iii) the confidence interval exceeded 30%.

# COVID-19 TESTING SUMMARY

SOUTH AFRICA

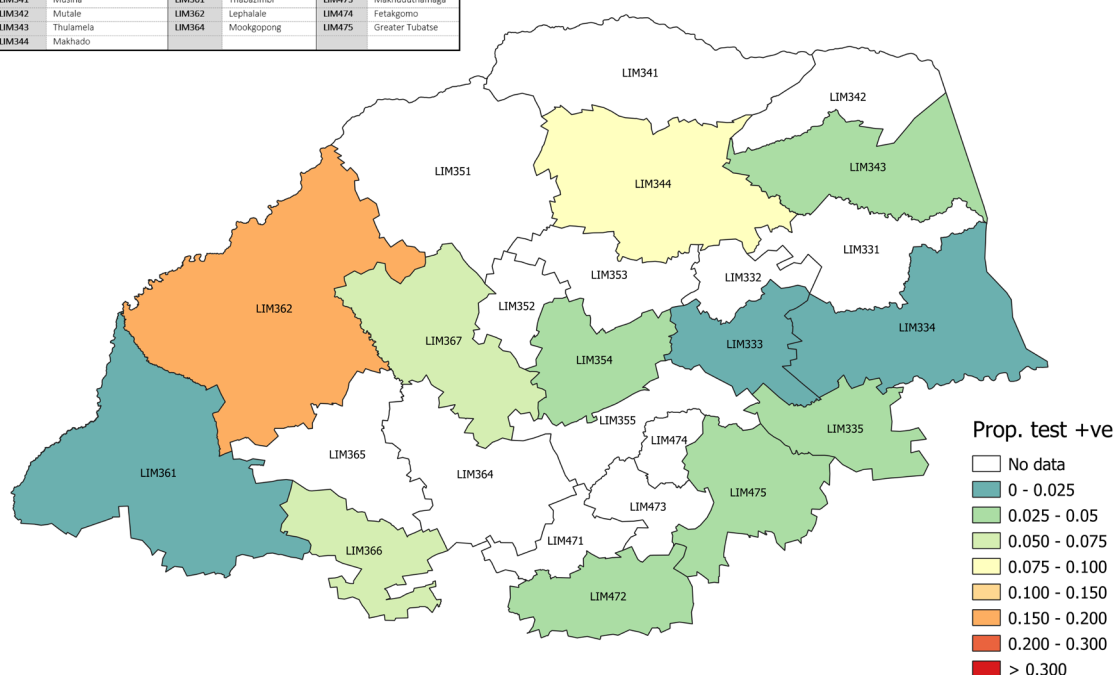
WEEK 14 2022

|       |                |       |               |       |               |
|-------|----------------|-------|---------------|-------|---------------|
| MP301 | Albert Luthuli | MP307 | Govan Mbeki   | MP316 | Dr JS Moroka  |
| MP302 | Mskungu        | MP311 | Victor Khanye | MP321 | Thaba Chweu   |
| MP303 | Mkhondo        | MP312 | Emalaheni     | MP322 | Mbombela      |
| MP304 | Pixley Ka Seme | MP313 | Steve Tshwete | MP323 | Umgindi       |
| MP305 | Lekwa          | MP314 | Emakhazeni    | MP324 | Nkomazi       |
| MP306 | Dipaleseng     | MP315 | Thembisile    | MP325 | Bushbuckridge |



**Figure 15.** Proportion testing positive by health sub-district in Mpumalanga Province for the week of 3-9 April 2022. Areas shaded white represent districts in which either (i) no tests were reported (ii) all tests were negative or (iii) the confidence interval exceeded 30%.

|        |                 |        |               |        |                 |
|--------|-----------------|--------|---------------|--------|-----------------|
| LIM331 | Greater Giyani  | LIM351 | Bloubaai      | LIM365 | Modimotse       |
| LIM332 | Greater Letaba  | LIM352 | Aganang       | LIM366 | Bela-Bela       |
| LIM333 | Greater Tzaneen | LIM353 | Molenvale     | LIM367 | Mogalakwena     |
| LIM334 | Ba Phalaborwa   | LIM354 | Polokwane     | LIM471 | Ephraim Mogale  |
| LIM335 | Maruleng        | LIM355 | Lepele-Nkumpi | LIM472 | Elias Mokoale   |
| LIM341 | Musina          | LIM361 | Thabazimbi    | LIM473 | Makhdudlamaga   |
| LIM342 | Mutale          | LIM362 | Lephalale     | LIM474 | Fetakgomo       |
| LIM343 | Thulamela       | LIM364 | Mookgopong    | LIM475 | Greater Tzaneen |
| LIM344 | Makhado         |        |               |        |                 |

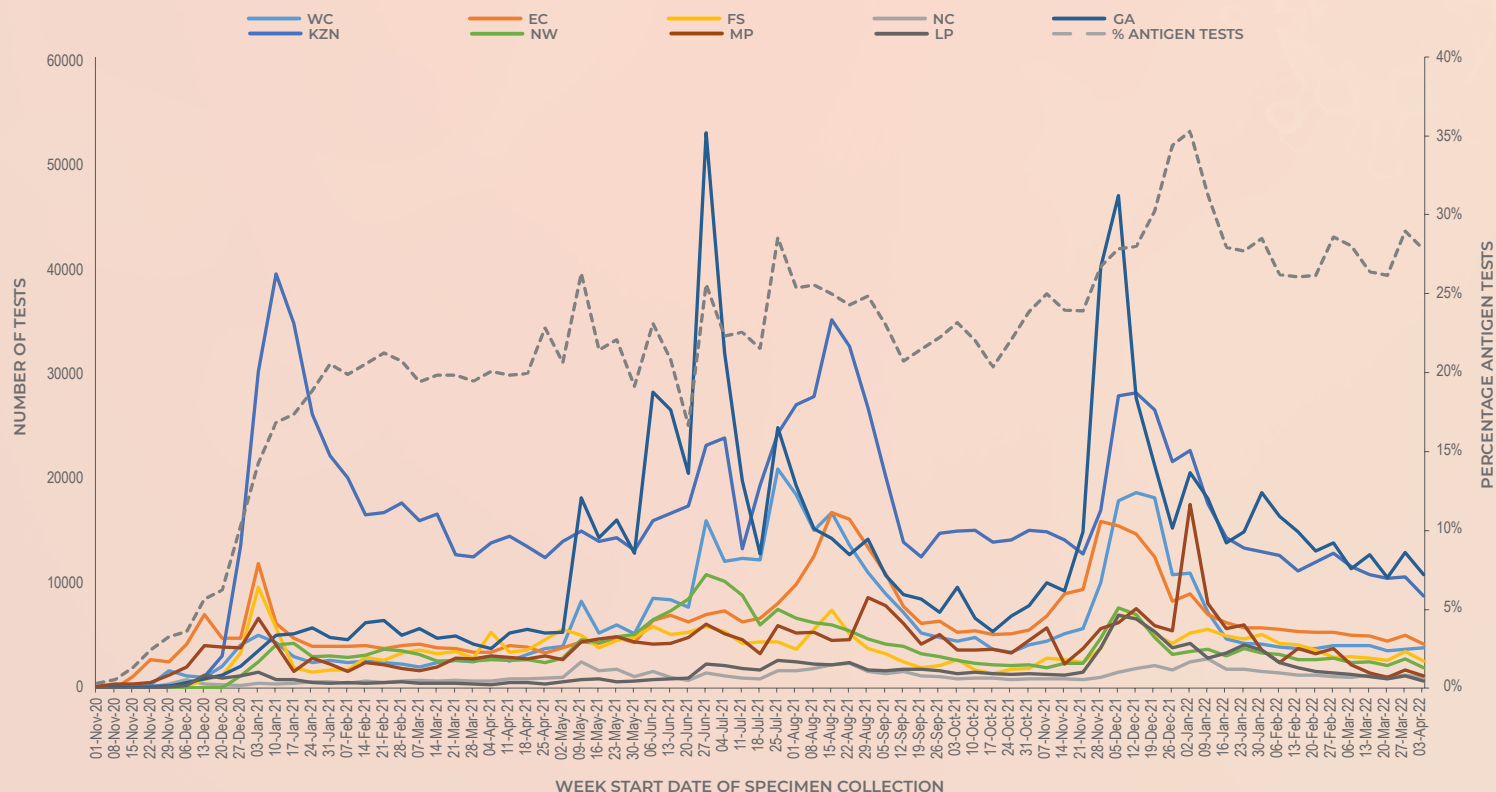


**Figure 16.** Proportion testing positive by health sub-district in Limpopo Province for the week of 3-9 April 2022. Areas shaded white represent districts in which either (i) no tests were reported (ii) all tests were negative or (iii) the confidence interval exceeded 30%.

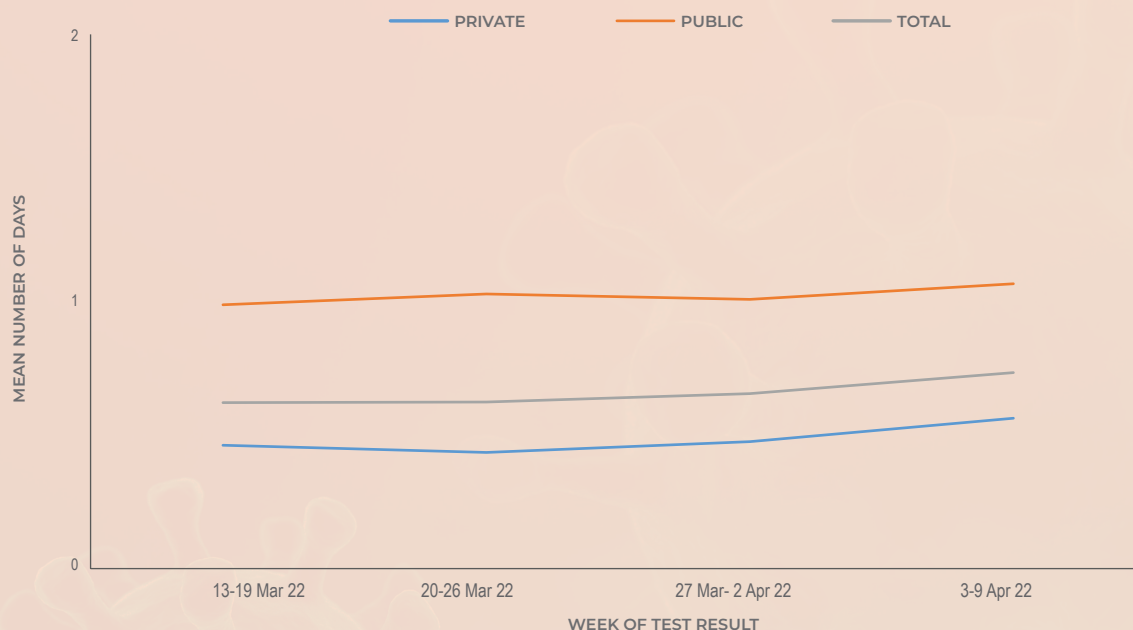
# COVID-19 TESTING SUMMARY

SOUTH AFRICA

WEEK 14 2022



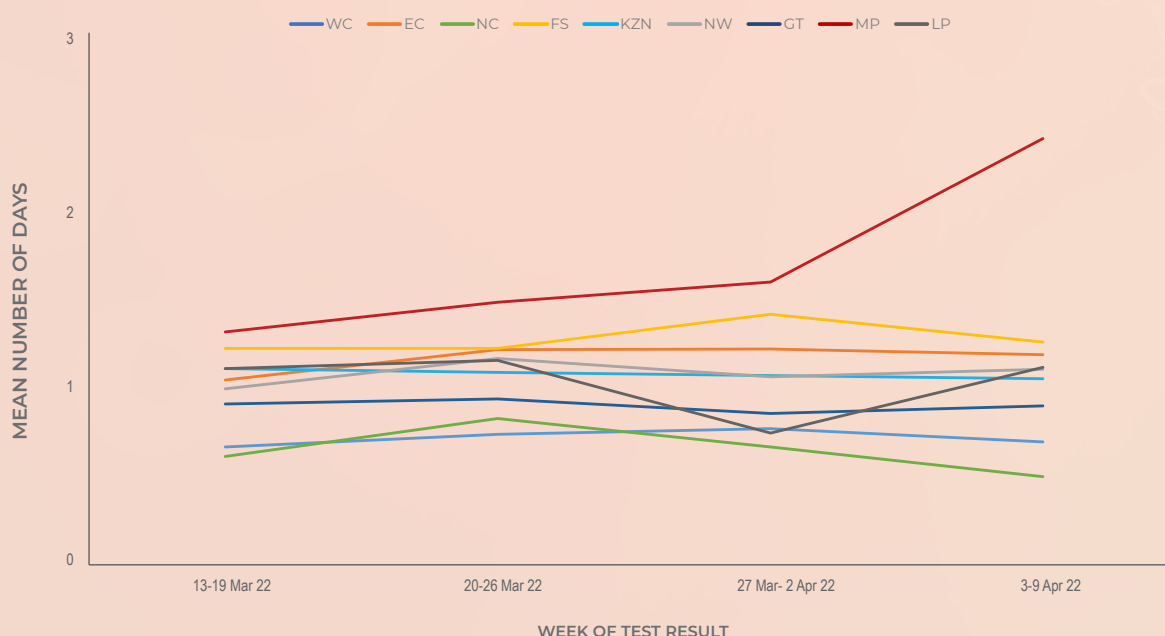
**Figure 17.** Number of antigen tests by province and overall percentage antigen tests, South Africa, 1 November 2020 – 9 April 2022. WC Western Cape; EC Eastern Cape; FS Free State; KZN KwaZulu-Natal; GA Gauteng; NC Northern Cape; NW North West; MP Mpumalanga; LP Limpopo



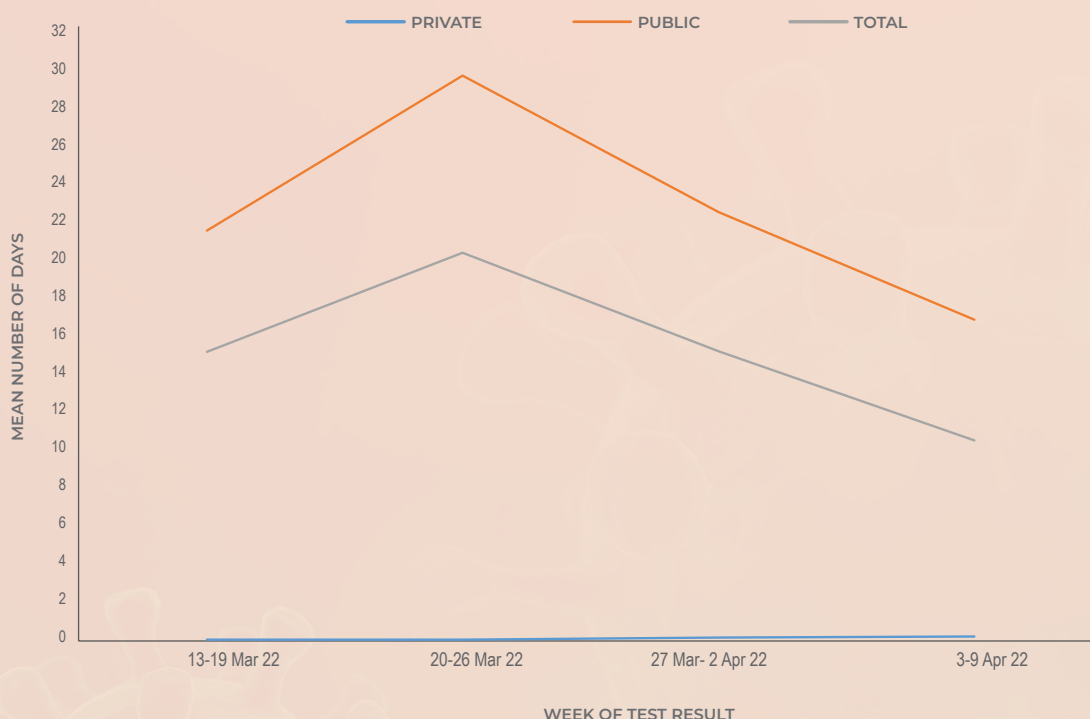
**Figure 18.** Mean number of days between date of specimen collection and date of test result for PCR tests by week of test result, South Africa, 13 March – 9 April 2022.

# COVID-19 TESTING SUMMARY

SOUTH AFRICA WEEK 14 2022



**Figure 19.** Mean number of days between date of specimen collection and date of test result for PCR tests in the public sector by week of test result and province, South Africa, 13 March – 9 April 2022. WC Western Cape; EC Eastern Cape; FS Free State; KZN KwaZulu-Natal; GT Gauteng; NC Northern Cape; NW North West; MP Mpumalanga; LP Limpopo



**Figure 20.** Mean number of days between date of specimen collection and date of test result for antigen tests by week of test result, South Africa, 13 March – 9 April 2022.

# COVID-19 TESTING SUMMARY

SOUTH AFRICA WEEK 14 2022

## Methods

Testing for SARS-CoV-2 began on 28 January 2020 at the NICD and after the first case was confirmed on 5th March 2020, testing was expanded to a larger network of private and NHLS laboratories. Laboratory testing was conducted for people meeting the case definition for persons under investigation (PUI). This definition was updated several times over the reporting period but at different times included (i) symptomatic individuals seeking testing, (ii) hospitalised individuals for whom testing was done, (iii) individuals in high-risk occupations, (iv) individuals in outbreak settings, and (v) individuals identified through community screening and testing (CST) programmes which were implemented in April 2020 and was discontinued from the week beginning 17th May. CST was implemented differently in different provinces, and ranged from mass screening approaches (including asymptomatic individuals) to screening of individuals in contact with a confirmed case to targeted testing of clusters of cases. Respiratory specimens were submitted to testing laboratories. Testing was performed using reverse transcriptase real-time PCR, which detects SARS-CoV-2 viral genetic material. Laboratories used any one of several in-house and commercial PCR assays to test for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 RNA. Testing for SARS-CoV-2 using rapid antigen-based tests was implemented towards the end of October 2020. Results of reported rapid antigen-based tests are included in this report, however data are incomplete and efforts are ongoing to improve data completeness.

Test results were automatically fed into a data warehouse after result authorisation. We excluded specimens collected outside South Africa and duplicate entries of the same test for an individual. From week 49 of 2020 onwards, test data were reported from the Notifiable Medical Conditions Surveillance System (NMCCSS). Date of specimen receipt in the laboratory was used when date of specimen collection was missing. Proportion testing positive (PTP) was calculated as the number of positive tests/total number of tests and presented as percentage by multiplying with 100. Testing rates were calculated using mid-year population estimates from Statistics South Africa and expressed as tests per 100,000 (2019 estimates were used from week 10 – 40 of 2020, 2020 estimates were used from week 41 2021

to week 1 of 2022 and 2021 estimates were used from week 2 of 2022 and onwards). Laboratory turnaround times were calculated as the mean number of days between specimen collection and reporting of the result. Categorical variables were compared using the chi-squared test, with a P-value < 0.05 considered statistically significant.

Health district and sub-district (in the metros) level results were mapped based on geo-locatable public (approximately 99% of public sector facilities in the country) and private (approximately 73% of private testing facilities) sector testing facilities. Estimates of overall prevalence were derived using regression techniques. Estimates were adjusted to produce district-specific positive test prevalences based on the national average age and sex profile of testing for that week. This adjustment allows more accurate comparison of the proportion testing positive across districts. Districts with fewer than 20 tests reported during the week have been excluded from the analysis.

## Limitations

- A backlog in testing of samples by laboratories affects the reported number of tests. As a result, numbers tested during this period may change in subsequent reports.
- If higher-priority specimens were tested preferentially this would likely result in an inflated proportion testing positive.
- Different and changing testing strategies (targeted vs. mass testing, PCR vs. antigen-based tests or prioritisation of severe or at-risk cases during epidemic waves) used by different provinces makes percentage testing positive and number of reported tests difficult to interpret and compare.
- Health district and sub-district level were mapped based on the testing facility and not place of residence.
- Patient admission status was categorised based on the reported patient facility and may not reflect whether the patient was actually admitted to hospital.
- Antigen tests may be underestimated as they are used in a number of different settings and results may not be reported.