

Daily Epidemiological Report for SARS-Cov-2

Report No. 341

Date Issued 10 Mar. 2021 @21h00

1. PURPOSE

The report provides a descriptive analysis of SARS-Cov-2 related cases and deaths, and hospitalizations in the Eastern Cape Province, as of 10 Mar. 2021.

2. HIGHLIGHTS

2.1. New cases, active cases and recoveries

- In the past 24 hours, 27 new cases were reported from 7 districts. Amathole, BC Metro and Chris Hani accounted for 44.4% (12 cases), N Mandela Metro and Sarah Baartman 33.3% (9 cases), Joe Gqabi 14.8% (4 cases), and Alfred Nzo 3.7% (1 case).
- Of the 261 active cases, Amathole, BC Metro and Chris Hani account for 41.4% (108 cases), NM Metro and Sarah Baartman account for 36.2% (94 cases), Alfred Nzo and OR Tambo account for 6.1% (16 cases), and Joe Gqabi accounts for 5.4% (14 cases).
- The incidence of active cases was less than 5 cases per 100,000 populations. When comparing the past two weeks (one ended on 27th February and the other on 6th March), there was a 28,8% decrease in the number of active cases.
- The overall provincial recovery rate was 94%. All the districts reported a recovery rate greater than 90%.
- The number of tests per week was 173 tests per 100,000 populations (i.e. less than 200 tests per 100,000 populations) as per the week ended in 6th March.

2.2. SARS-Cov-2 related deaths

- In the last 24 hours, zero deaths were reported.
- The case fatality rate was 5.8%, with a CFR of 6.3% among males and 5.5% among the female population. Chris Hani has the highest case fatality rate, followed by BC Metro, NM Metro and OR Tambo.

2.3. Hospitalizations and outcomes

- The cumulative number of SARS-Cov-2 hospitalizations is 31,421 (DATCOV). **This number is less by 38 cases to what was previously reported due to deduplication.**
- Of all the hospitalized cases, 64,3% (20,211) of hospitalized patients were discharged alive and 65,6% (13,259) of the reported discharges were from the public sector. Thirty percent 29,8% of hospitalized cases demised due to SARS-Cov-2 related causes with 76% (7,124) of those reported deaths occurring in public sector facilities.
- Of the 198 current admissions, 155 (78.3%) were admitted in the general ward, 36 (18.2%) in ICU and 7 (3.5%) in High Care. And 68 (34.3%) of current admissions were on oxygen and 12 (6.1%) were on ventilation.

2.4. Healthcare workers

- The number of healthcare workers who tested positive for SARS-Cov-2 was **11,836** and **304** demised (the case fatality rate was 2.6%). The increase in the number of cases is related to an improved reporting of cases.
- Nurses were the most affected, followed by doctors and clinical associates. **There is an increase in the positivity rate among healthcare workers in the metros.**

2.5. Conclusion

The number of newly reported SARS-Cov-2 cases, active cases and deaths have significantly decreased. However, the number of new cases and active cases in the metros, Amathole and Chris Hani remains high.

There is a need to ensure that the currently active cases are isolated and their contacts are quarantined to minimize the possibility of a resurgence of SARS-Cov-2. The metros and the districts that are associated to them need assistance to reduce the possibilities of having a resurgence of cases.

3. SARS-Cov-2 CASES & DEATHS

3.1. Summary of all cases and deaths

The number of new cases was **18** and **0** deaths. The cumulative number of cases and deaths were **194,174** and **11,316** respectively.

	No. of cases	New Cases	Total	%	Deaths	New Deaths		Total	CFR
						*Newly Reported	**Newly occurred		
Male	76765	9	76774	39,5	4832	0	0	4832	6,3
Female	117366	18	117384	60,5	6484	0	0	6484	5,5
Unknown	16	0	16	0,0	0			0	0,0
Total	194147	27	194174	100,0	11316	0	0	11316	5,8

* Deaths which occurred more than 48 hours ago ** Deaths which occurred within the last 48 hours of reporting

The provincial case fatality rate (CFR) was 5.8%, with a CFR of 6.3% among males and 5.5% among the female population.

District	Cases	New Cases	Total Confirmed	Recoveries	Deaths	New Deaths		Total Deaths	CFR%	Recovery Rate	Active Cases
						*Newly Reported	**Newly occurred				
Alfred Nzo	7970	1	7971	7536	429	0	0	429	5,4	94,5	6
Amathole	19283	4	19287	18159	1099	0	0	1099	5,7	94,2	29
BC Metro	38716	6	38722	36329	2340	0	0	2340	6,0	93,8	53
Chris Hani	19504	2	19506	17947	1533	0	0	1533	7,9	92,0	26
Joe Gqabi	7489	4	7493	7071	408	0	0	408	5,4	94,4	14
NM Metro	55305	8	55313	51929	3308	0	0	3308	6,0	93,9	76
OR Tambo	22423	0	22423	21056	1357	0	0	1357	6,1	93,9	10
S Baartman	21733	1	21734	20874	842	0	0	842	3,9	96,0	18
Imported	601	1	602	598	0	0	0	0	0,0	99,3	4
Unspecified	1123	0	1123	1098	0	0	0	0	0,0	97,8	25
E. Cape	194147	27	194174	182597	11316	0	0	11316	5,8	94,0	261

* Deaths that occurred more than 48 hours ** Deaths which occurred within the past 48 hours of reporting

In the past 24 hours, 27 new cases were reported from 7 districts. Amathole, BC Metro and Chris Hani accounted for 44.4% (12 cases), N Mandela Metro and Sarah Baartman 33.3% (9 cases), Joe Gqabi 14.8% (4 cases), and Alfred Nzo 3.7% (1 case).

Of the 261 active cases, Amathole, BC Metro and Chris Hani account for 41.4% (108 cases), NM Metro and Sarah Baartman account for 36.2% (94 cases), Alfred Nzo and OR Tambo account for 6.1% (16 cases), and Joe Gqabi accounts for 5.4% (14 cases).

The overall provincial recovery rate was 94%. All the districts reported a recovery rate greater than 90%.

3.2. Newly diagnosed cases

The figure below provides the number of newly reported SARS-Cov-2 cases, using the date of collection of specimen.

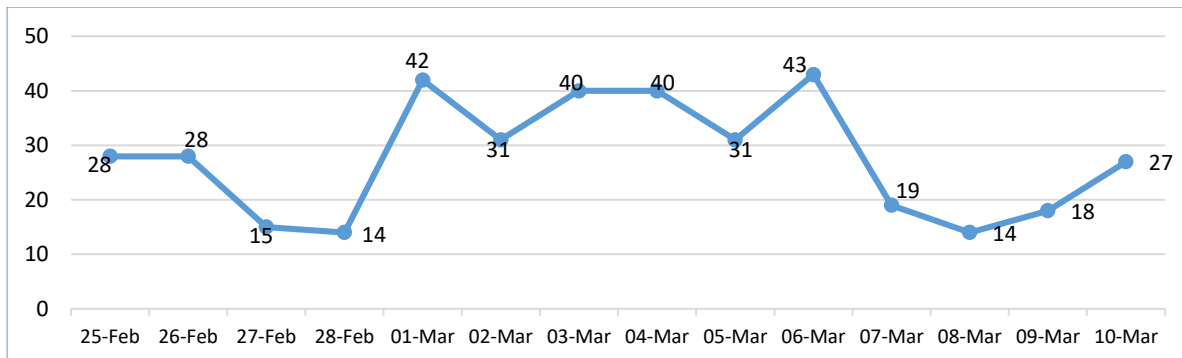


Fig. 1. No. of daily reported SARS-Cov-2 cases by date of collection, as of 10 Mar. 2021

In the past 14 days, 390 new cases were reported from all the districts, i.e. an average of 28 cases per day.

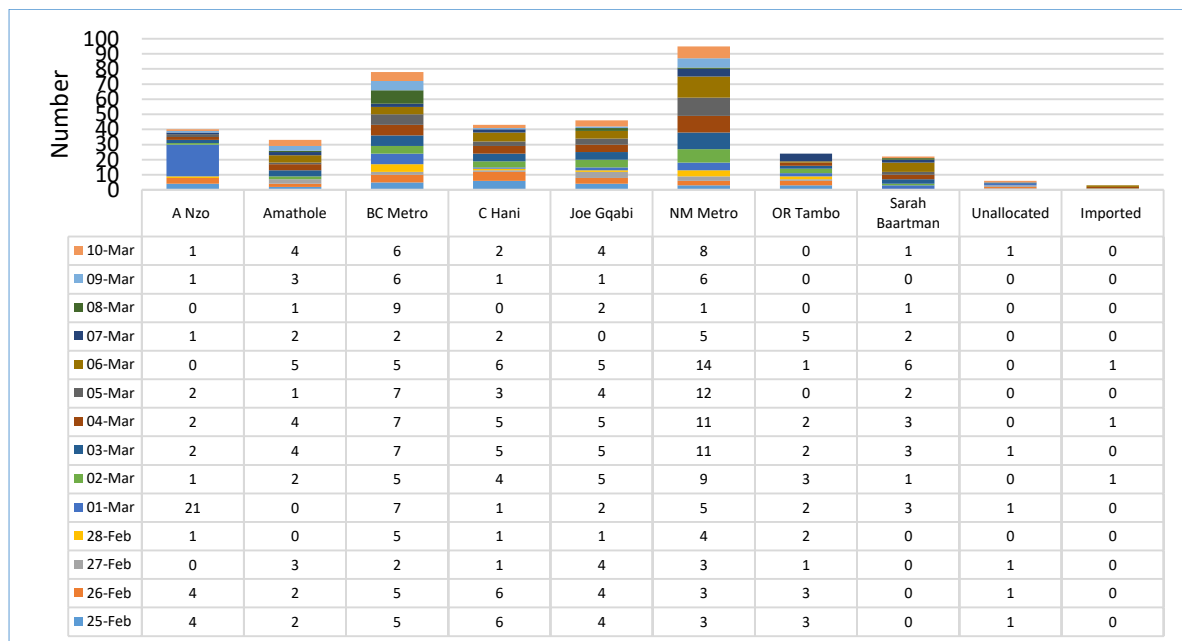


Fig. 2. No. of daily SARS-Cov-2 cases by district and date of collection, as of 10 Mar. 2021

The highest number of newly reported cases were from Nelson Mandela Metro followed by Buffalo City Metro, Amathole, Joe Gqabi, Chris Hani, A Nzo and Sarah Baartman. Three percent (3.1%) decrease in the number of cases from 198 on the 25 Feb-03 Mar to 192 on the 04-10 Mar.

4. SARS-Cov-2 LAB TESTS & RESULTS

4.1. Test Results by Laboratory

The cumulative number of SARS-Cov-2 tests was 893, 245 with about 62,4% done in the public sector and 37,6% in the private sector laboratories.

	Private	Public	Total	Percentage (%)
Alfred Nzo	2449	27 846	30 295	3,4
Amathole	8339	70 608	78 947	8,8
BC Metro	30821	95 340	126 161	14,1
Chris Hani	6866	55 663	62 529	7,0
Joe Gqabi	1281	26 709	27 990	3,1
NMB Metro	35290	130 067	165 357	18,5
OR Tambo	16631	67 098	83 729	9,4
Sarah Baartman	3764	83 843	87 607	9,8
Unclassified	230630	0	230 630	25,8
Eastern Cape	336071	557174	893 245	100,0

The number of tests represents 10% of all the SARS-Cov-2 tests in South Africa. About 32,6% of the tests were from the Metros in the province.

4.2. Antigen Testing

Ten percent (10,3%) of the 74,187 tests done tested positive for SARS-Cov-2. These tests constitute 14,0% of the tests in the country.

	Negative	Positive	Total	Percentage (%)	Positivity Rate (%)
A Nzo	7011	921	7932	10,7	11,6
Amathole	3549	603	4152	5,6	14,5
BC Metro	8771	1599	10370	14,0	15,4
Chris Hani	6919	1138	8057	10,9	14,1
Joe Gqabi	2479	465	2944	4,0	15,8
NM Metro	20833	1269	22102	29,8	5,7
OR Tambo	12186	1345	13531	18,2	9,9
Sarah Baartman	4799	300	5099	6,9	5,9
Total	66547	7640	74187	100,0	10,3

The Nelson Mandela Metro accounted for 29.8%, followed by OR Tambo (18.2%), Buffalo City Metro (14%), Chris Hani (10.9%) and Alfred Nzo (10.7%). The highest positivity rate of 15.8% was observed in Joe Gqabi, followed by 15.4% in BC Metro, 14.5% in Amathole, and 14.1% in Chris Hani. The lowest positivity rate was seen in both NM Metro and Sarah Baartman. The number of antigen tests has increased by 7,8% from 3,201 on the previous week (ends of the 27th March) to 3,452 in the current week (ends on the 6th March).

4.3. Tests by age group and sex

Analysis of the tests, which were conducted shows that the majority of the tests, were among the economically active age group (20 to 59 years), i.e. 62.8%. The elderly population was 18,8% of the individuals who tested for SARS-Cov-2.

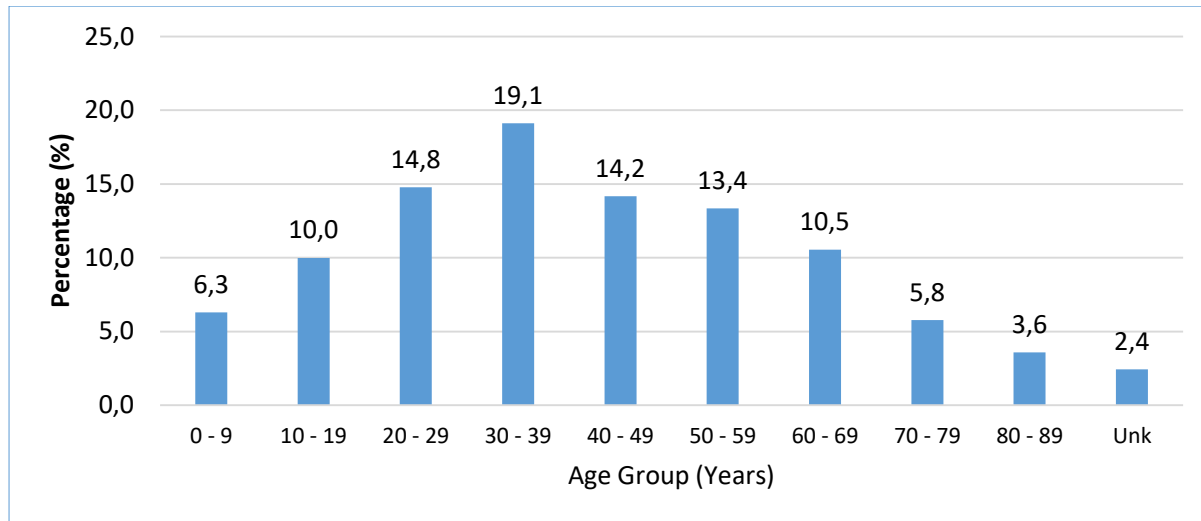


Fig. 3. The number of SARS-Cov-2 tests by age group, as of 10 Mar. 2021

The younger population and the elderly constitute less than 40% of the population that was tested.

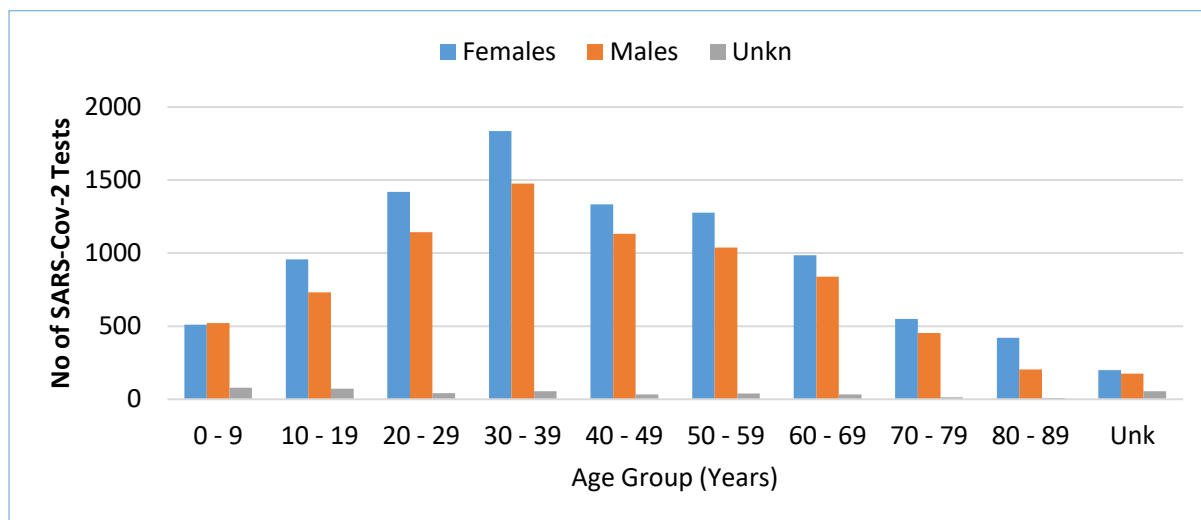


Fig. 4. No. of SARS-Cov-2 public sector tests by age group and gender, as of 10 Mar. 2021

The female population accounted for 53,8% and male population accounted for 43,8%, and 2,4% lacked information on gender.

4.4. Turnaround Time

The table below provides the turnaround time in both public and private laboratories.

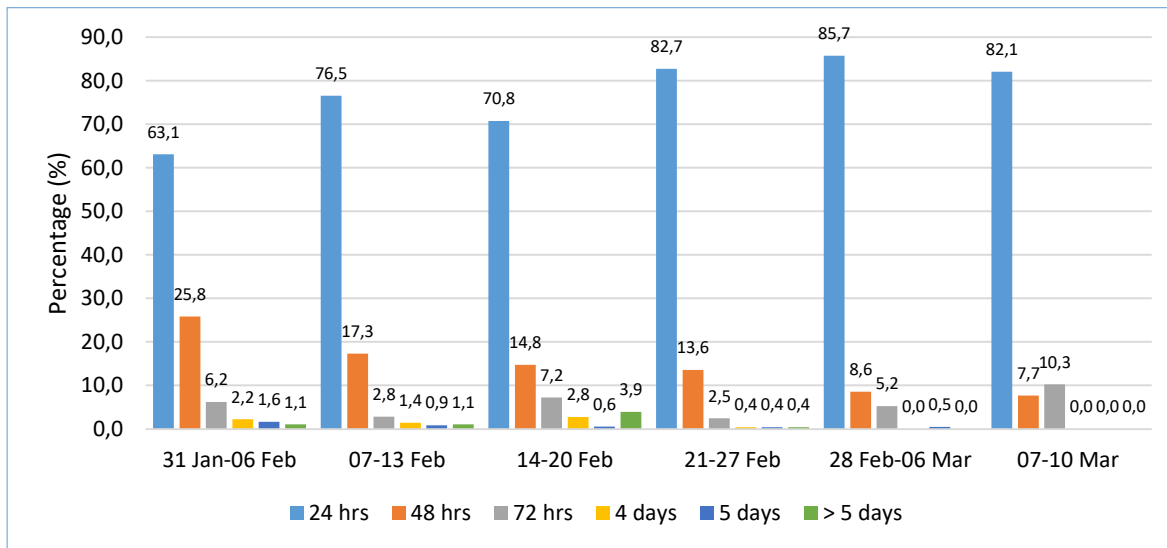


Fig. 5. Turnaround time for SARS-Cov-2 positive results by week as of 10 Mar. 2021

The laboratory results that were available within 24 hours of specimen collection have increased by 3,6%, i.e. from 82,7% in week 21-27 Feb to 85,7% in week 28 Feb-06 Mar. There was a 2,1% decrease in the results which were available within 48 hours, i.e. from 96,3% to 94,3% during the same period.

4.5. The 7-day moving average of SARS-Cov-2 tests & positivity rate

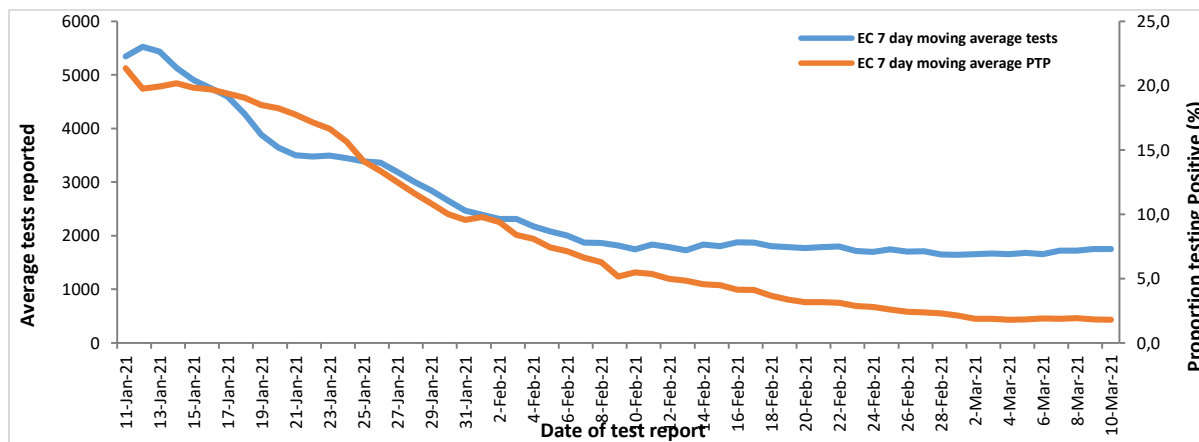


Fig. 6. 7-day moving average for SARS-Cov-2 tests and positivity rate, as of 10 Mar. 2021

The number of SARS-Cov-2 tests has increased by 5.3% from 1,658 on the 04th to 1,752 on the 10th of March 2021. However, the positivity rate remained the same at 1,8% during the same period.

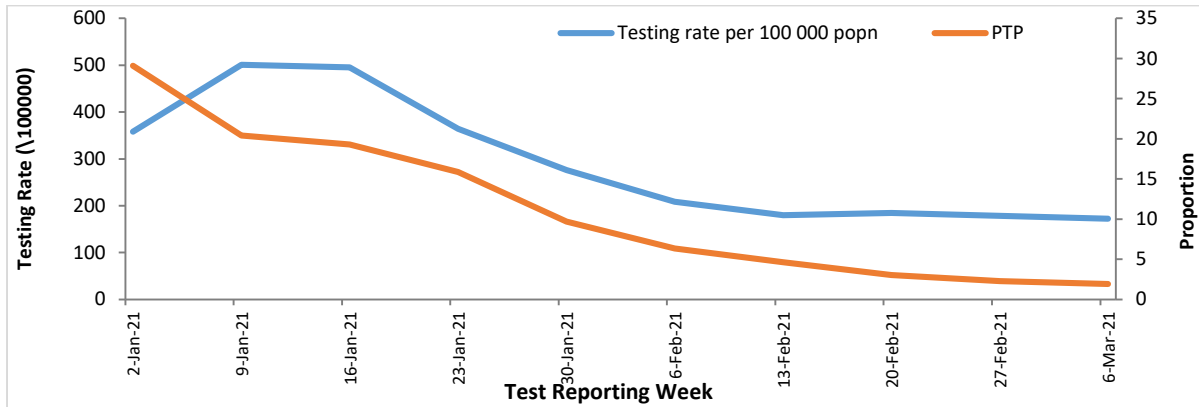


Fig. 7. Testing Rate for SARS-Cov-2 by week for past 9 weeks, as of 8 Mar. 2021

The testing rate for SARS-Cov-2 has decreased from the week of the 9th of January to the current week. In the past two weeks, there was a 2,9% decrease in the testing rate per week from 178 tests to 173 tests per 100,000 populations (i.e. < 200 tests per 100,000 per week). The current week was excluded because it is not yet complete.

5. ACTIVE CASES, INCIDENCE & POSITIVITY RATE

5.1. Active SARS-Cov-2 Cases

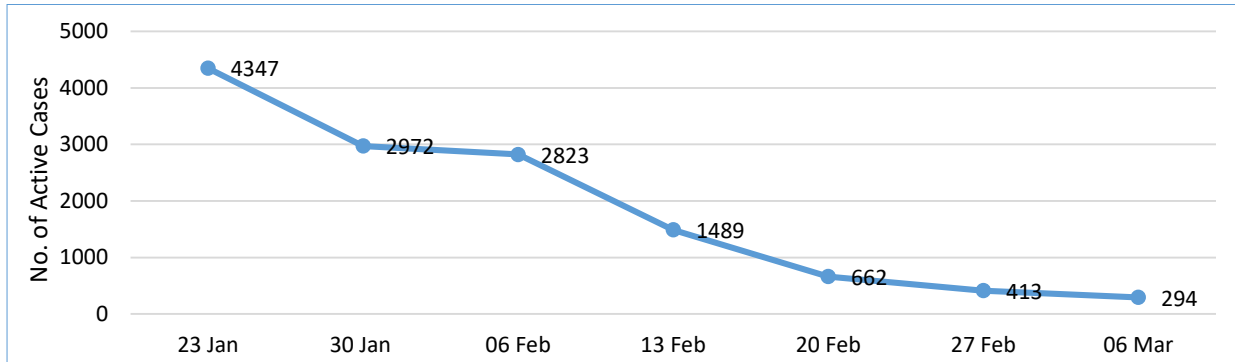


Fig. 8. Number of active SARS-Cov-2 cases by week, as of 06th March 2021

The abovementioned figure provides the number of active SARS-Cov-2 cases by week from the week that ended on the 23rd January to the one that ends on the 6th March.

The number of active SARS-Cov-2 cases has decreased significantly in the past 7 weeks. The number of active cases has decreased by 28,8% from 413 on the week ending on the 27th February to 294 on the week ending on the 06th March.

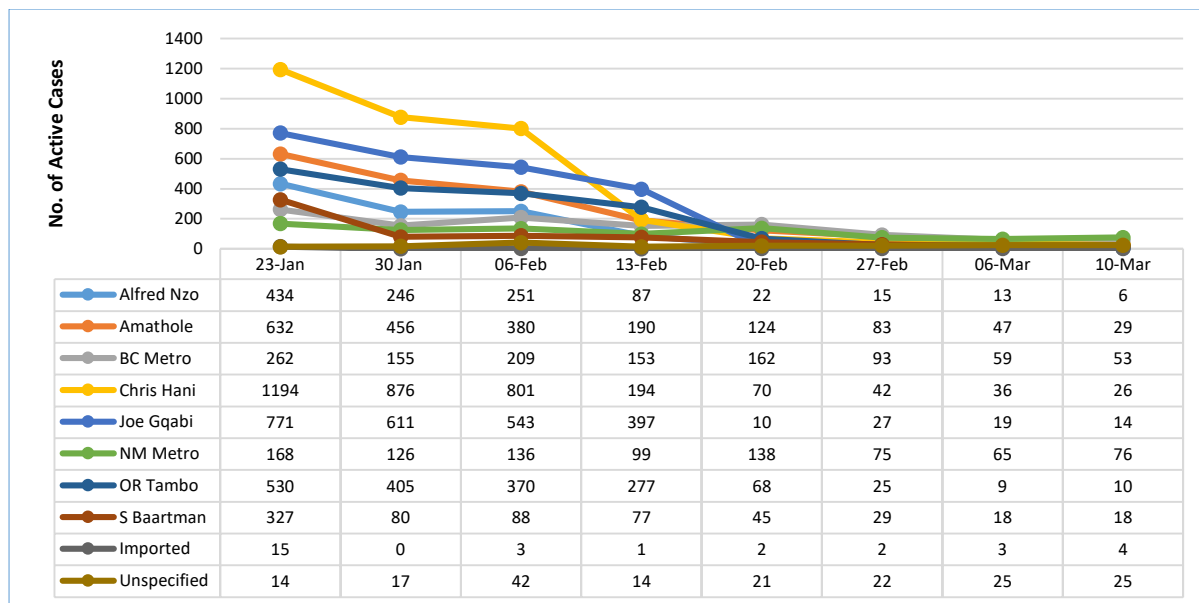


Fig. 9. No. of weekly Active SARS-Cov-2 cases by district, as of 10 March 2021

The number of SARS-Cov-2 active cases over the past 7 weeks appear to have decreased in all the districts. In the last three weeks, the two metros, Amathole and Chris Hani continue to have a high number of active cases compared to other districts.

5.2. Active SARS-Cov-2 cases and the cumulative positivity rate

District	Population Estimates	Number of Tests	SARS-Cov-2 Cases (ALL)	Active SARS-Cov-2 Cases	SARS-Cov-2 per 100,000 (Active)	Cumulative Positivity Rate
Alfred Nzo	827826	30 295	7971	6	0,7	26,3
Amathole	798067	78 947	19287	29	3,6	24,4
BC Metro	798798	126 161	38722	53	6,6	30,7
Chris Hani	733743	62 529	19506	26	3,5	31,2
Joe Gqabi	343075	27 990	7493	14	4,1	26,8
NM Metro	1210803	165 357	55313	76	6,3	33,5
OR Tambo	1520922	83 729	22423	10	0,7	26,8
S Baartman	480223	87 607	21734	18	3,7	24,8
Imported		0	602	4	0,0	0,0
Unspecified		230 630	1123	25	0,0	0,5
E Cape	6713457	893 245	194174	261	3,9	21,7

The incidence of active cases was 3,9 cases per 100,000 population. Six (6) districts had an incidence that was less than 5% per 100,000 and 2 districts have more than 5 per 100,000 but less than 10 per 100,000.

The cumulative positivity rate was 21,7%. Three (3) districts reported a cumulative positivity rate above 30%.

5.3. Incidence of SARS-Cov-2 cases

The incidence of SARS-Cov-2 has significantly declined in all districts. Since week 2 of the year, there was a decrease in incidence in all districts.

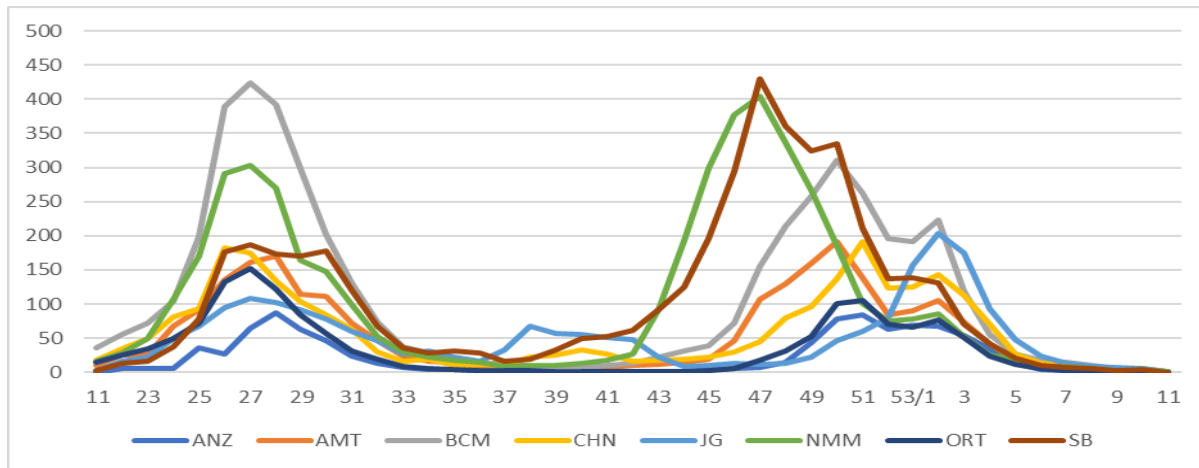


Fig. 10. Incidence of SARS-Cov-2 cases by epidemiological week, as of 10 Mar. 2021

In the past 7 days, the incidence of SARS-Cov-2 decreased from 4.2 cases per 100,000 on the 04th March to 3,9 cases per 100,000 on the 10th March 2021.

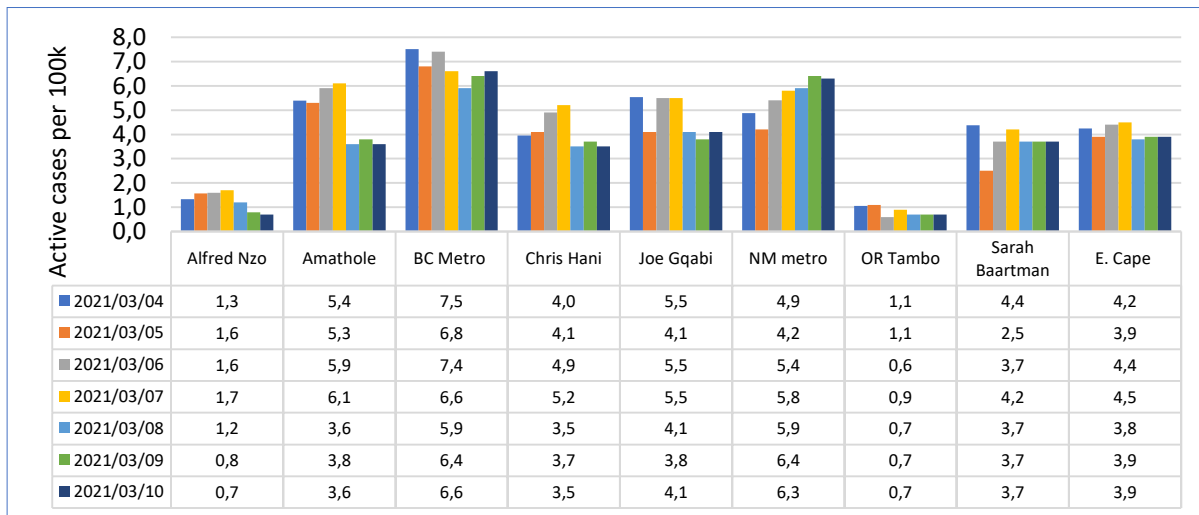


Fig. 11. Incidence of active SARS-Cov-2 (per 100,000) by district date, as of 10 Mar. 2021

The incidence of SARS-Cov-2 was less than 5 cases per 100,000 in 6 districts, i.e. Alfred Nzo, Amathole, Chris Hani, Joe Gqabi, OR Tambo, and Sarah Baartman. Both metros had more than 5 cases but less than 10 cases per 100,000.

5.4. Recovery Rate (%)

The provincial recovery rate remained above 90% over the past 7 days. In the past 7 days, all the districts reported a recovery rate above 90%. The recovery rate has remained at 94,0% for the past 7 days.

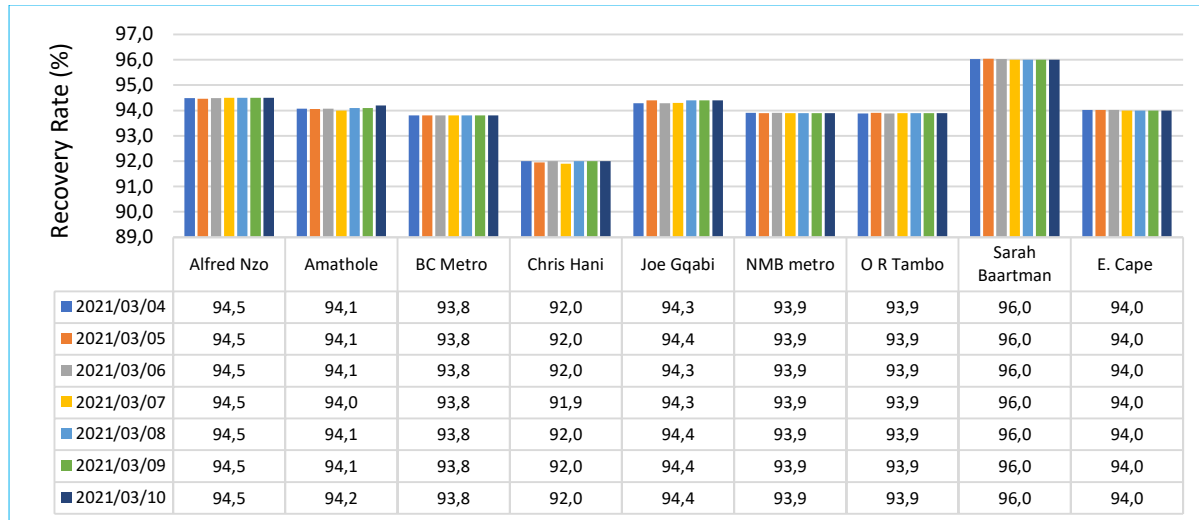


Fig. 12. SARS-Cov-2 Recovery Rate (%) by districts, as of 10 Mar. 2021 (N=182,597)

The limitation of the data on outcomes is that there is poor reporting of the number of active cases, and recoveries during weekends.

5.5. Mapping of active cases, recoveries and deaths

The map shows the distribution of active cases, recoveries and deaths related to SARS-Cov2.

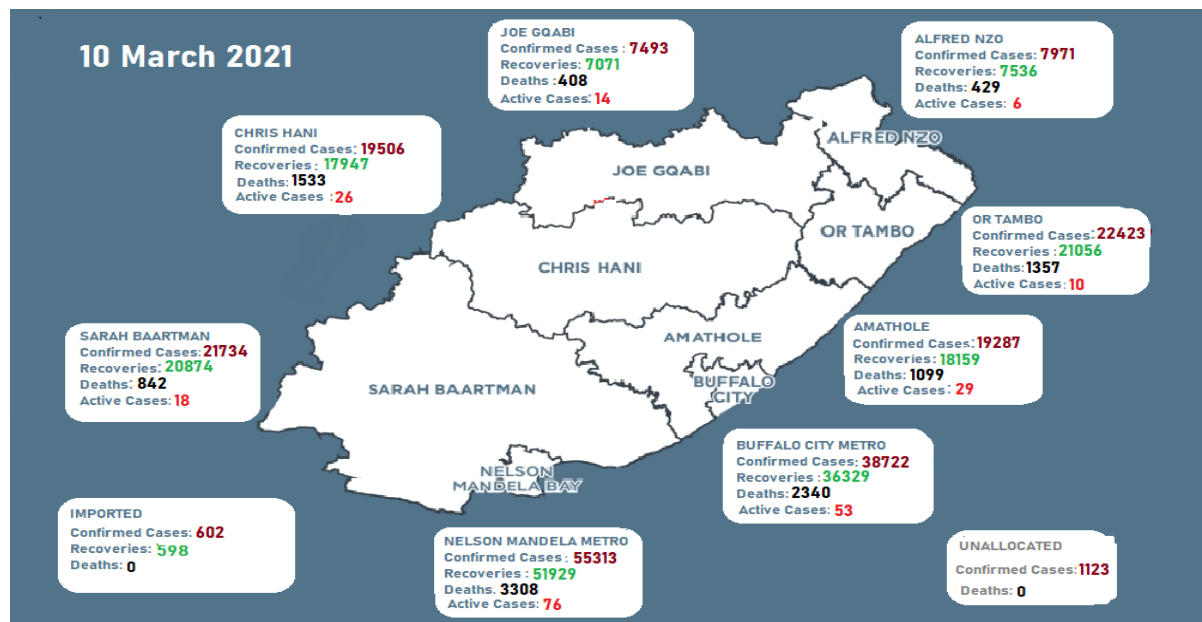
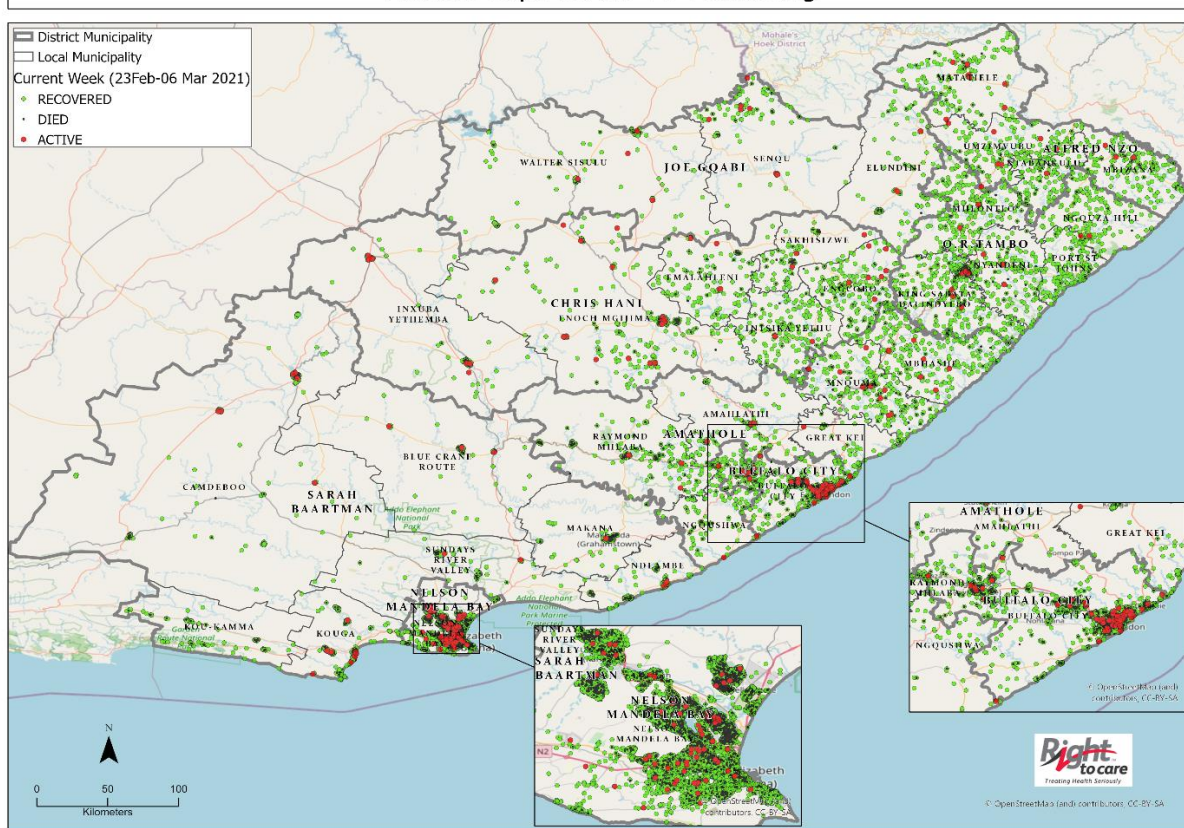


Fig. 13. The number of Covid-19 cases, recoveries and deaths, as of 10 Mar. 2021

Eastern Cape COVID-19 Monitoring



6. SARS-COV-2 CASES AND 7-DAY MOVING AVERAGE

The graph below depicts the total number (including cumulative) of cases and the 7-day moving average.

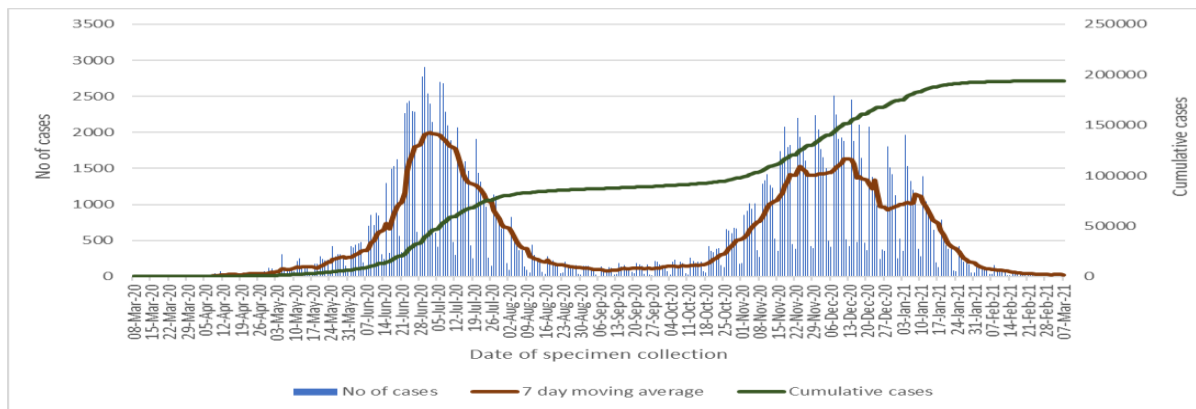


Fig. 14. The 7-day moving average for Covid-19 cases by date of collection, as of 10 Mar. 2021
 The number of daily newly diagnosed cases increased from the second half of October and peaked in mid-December, and then decreased until to date. The number of cumulative cases appears to have stabilized (known as flattening of the curve).

7. SARS-Cov-2 RELATED MORTALITY

7.1. SARS-Cov-2 related deaths

The table below provides the total number of cases, deaths and mortality rate by the month.

Month	Cases	Deaths	Percent (%)	Case Fatality Rate (%)	Mortality Rate (per 100,000)
Mar-20	13	1	0,0	7,7	0,0
Apr-20	638	35	0,3	5,5	0,5
May-20	3282	285	2,5	8,7	4,2
Jun-20	23793	1036	9,2	4,4	15,4
Jul-20	50290	2033	18,0	4,0	30,3
Aug-20	8279	668	5,9	8,1	10,0
Sep-20	2991	213	1,9	7,1	3,2
Oct-20	8625	287	2,5	3,3	4,3
Nov-20	33706	1709	15,1	5,1	25,5
Dec-20	42472	2775	24,5	6,5	41,3
Jan 21	18154	1909	16,9	10,5	28,4
Feb 21	1705	205	1,8	12,0	3,1
Mar 21	226	15	0,1	6,6	0,2
Unknown	0	145	1,3	0,0	2,2
Total	194174	11316	100,0	5,8	168,6

Twenty-five percent (24,5%) of the deaths occurred in December, 16,9% in January, 1,8% in February and 0.1% in March. The Case Fatality Rate was 6,5% in December, 10,5% in January, 12% in February and 6,6% in March.

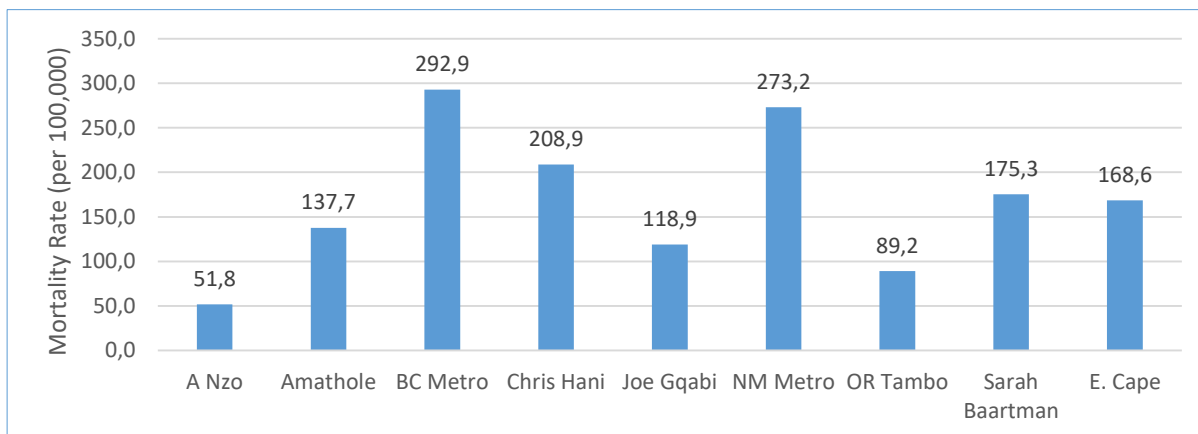


Fig. 15. SARS-Cov-2 related mortality per 100,000 by district, as of 10 Mar. 2021

The mortality rate related to SARS-Cov-2 was 168,6 deaths per 100,000 populations. The highest mortality rate was observed in Buffalo City Metro (292,9 deaths per 100,000) followed by Nelson Mandela Metro (273,2 deaths per 100,000), Chris Hani (208,9 per 100,000) and Sarah Baartman (175,3 per 100,000).

7.2. Number of reported SARS-Cov-2 related deaths

The figure below depicts the daily deaths and the cumulative number of deaths.

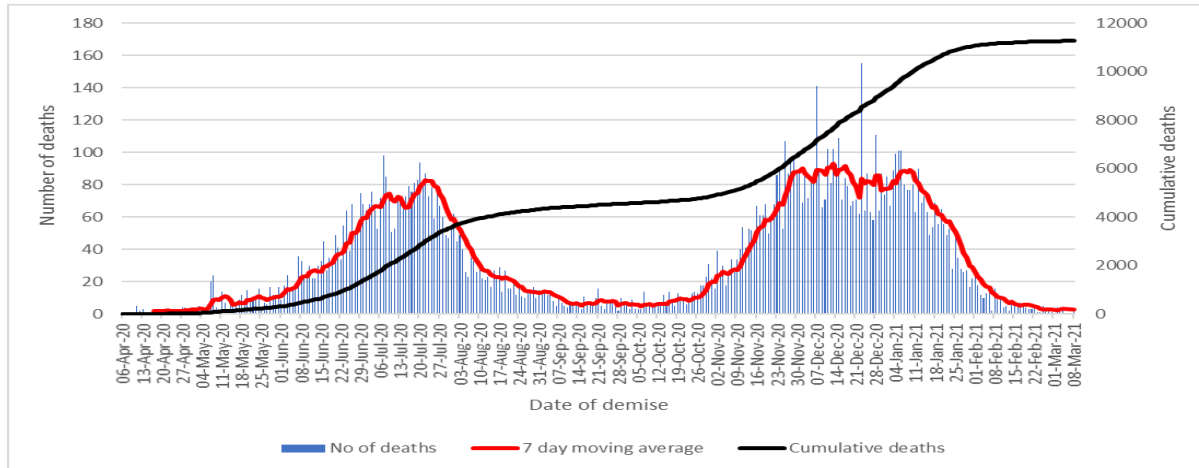


Fig. 16. Daily and cum. SARS-Cov-2 related deaths by date of demise, as of 09 Mar. 2021
 The number of daily deaths increased since May 2020 and peaked on the 20th July 2020, then rapidly declined in August and October. In the last week of October, the number of deaths increased and peaked in mid-December. The number of deaths continues to decline from the first week of January.

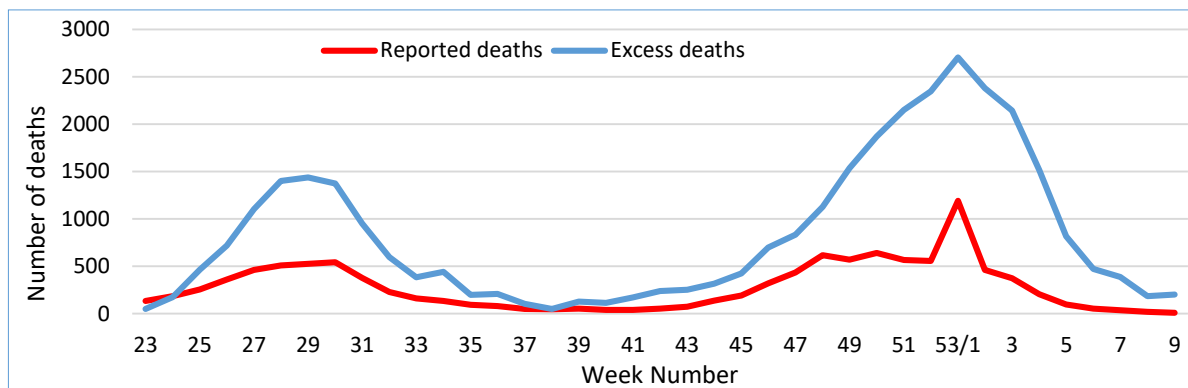


Fig. 17. Excess and SARS-Cov-2 related deaths by week, as on 04th Mar. 2021 (ECDOH, MRC)
 The above graph shows the number of excess deaths extracted from the MRC website, and the number of SARS-Cov-2 related deaths as reported by the districts and their facilities. The differences in the number of deaths during the period of low transmission appear to be lower compared to the period of high transmission. In both the first and second waves, the number of excess deaths was significantly higher than the number of deaths that were reported in the department.

7.3. Case Fatality Rate by district

The Chris Hani district reported the highest case fatality rate of 7,9%, followed by OR Tambo (6.1%), Buffalo City Metro (6.0%), Nelson Mandela Metro (6.0%), Amathole (5.7%), Alfred Nzo (5.4%), Joe Gqabi (5,4%) the lowest being Sarah Baartman by 3.9%.

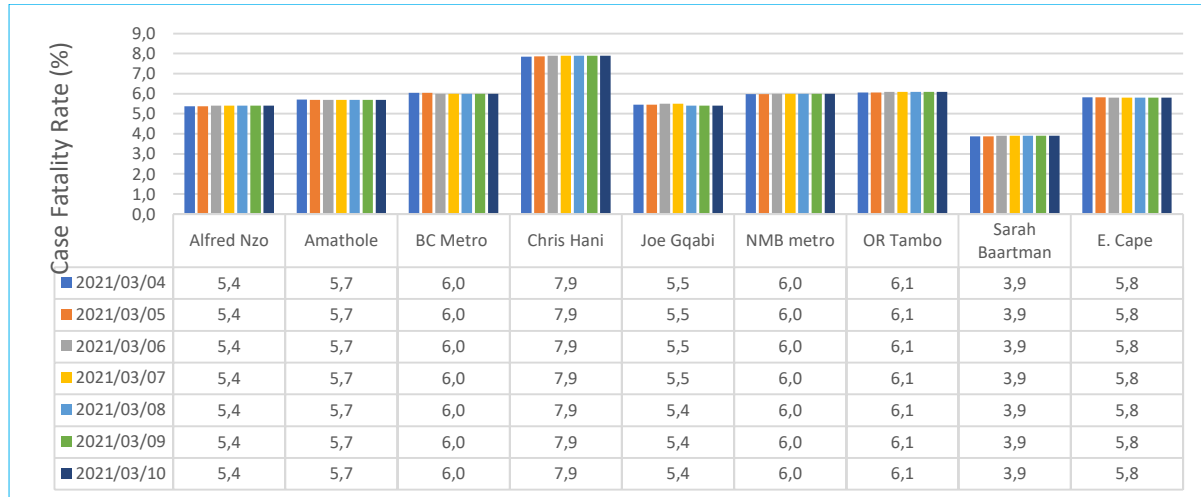


Fig. 18. SARS-Cov-2 Case Fatality Rate (%) by district, as of 10 Mar. 2021 (N=11,316)

There was no increase in the case fatality rate in the past 7 days. This may be due to a decrease in the number of deaths.

7.4. Case Fatality Rate by age group

The figure below provides the case fatality rate for both males and females.

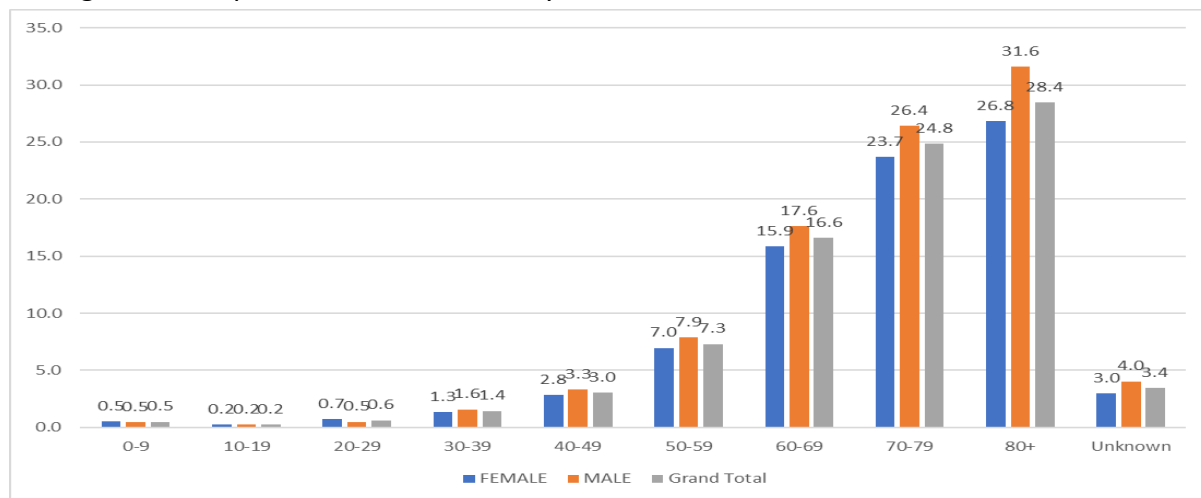


Fig. 19. SARS-Cov-2 related Case Fatality Rate (%) by age group, as of 10 Mar. 2021

The case fatality rate increases with increasing age. Since the beginning of the pandemic, the younger population had a low case fatality rate compared to the older population that had an increased case fatality rate. The male population had a higher case fatality rate compared to the female population.

7.5. Post-mortem testing

As of the 25th of February, 1,492 post-mortem tests were conducted from all districts.

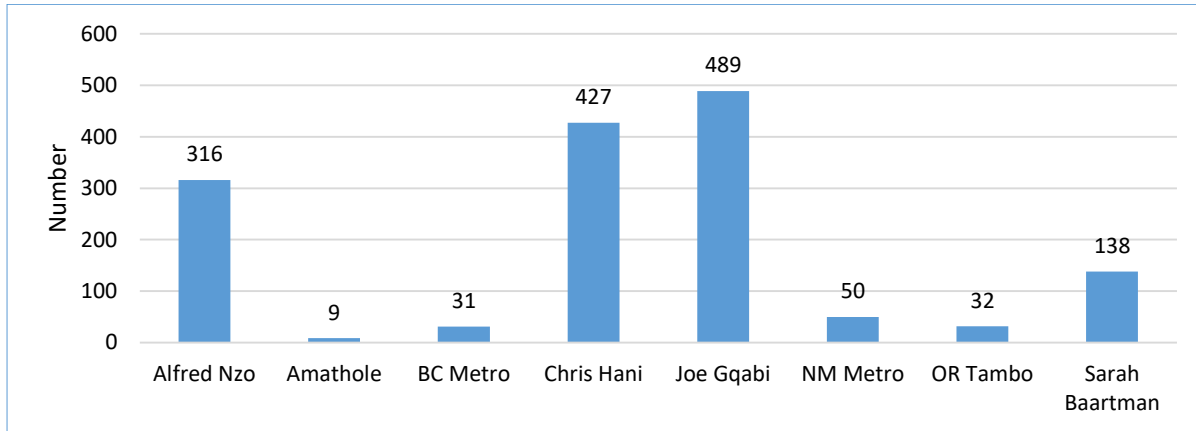


Fig. 20. No. of deaths with SARS-Cov-2 PMT done by district, as of 25th Feb. 2021 (N=1,492)

Three districts reported more than 300 post-mortem tests, i.e. Joe Gqabi, followed by Chris Hani and Alfred Nzo. Sarah Baartman reported more than 100 tests. The district with the lowest number of post-mortem tests was Amathole.

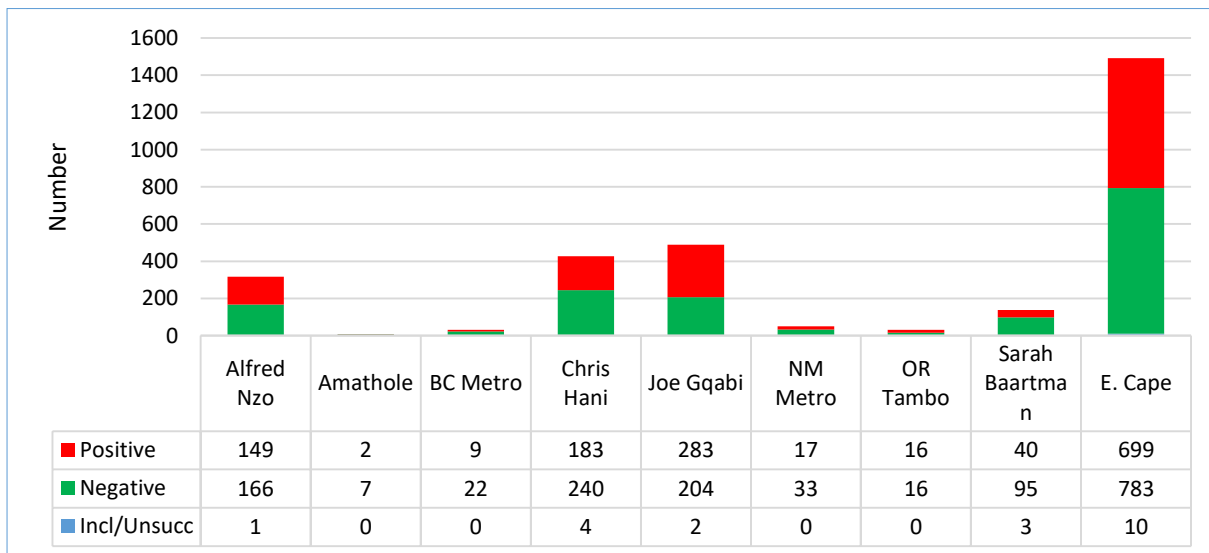


Fig. 21. Number of post-mortem test results by district, as of 25 Feb. 2020 (PMTs =1,492)

The number of post-mortem tests done by the public sector laboratories was 1,492. Eighty-three per cent (82,6%) of the tests were done in Alfred Nzo, Chris Hani and Joe Gqabi.

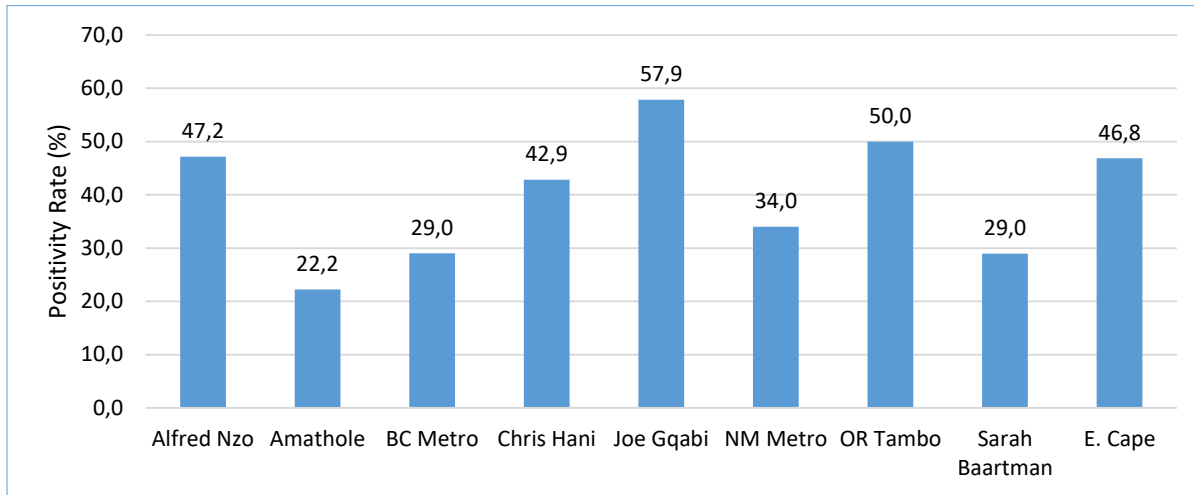


Fig. 22. Post-mortem SARS-Cov-2 positivity rate by district, as of 25th February 2021

Forty-seven percent (46,8%) of the PMTs tested positive for SARS-Cov-2. Joe Gqabi and OR Tambo reported a 50% and above positivity rate, followed by Chris Hani. The lowest positivity rate was observed in the Amathole district, which had the lowest number of PMTs done.

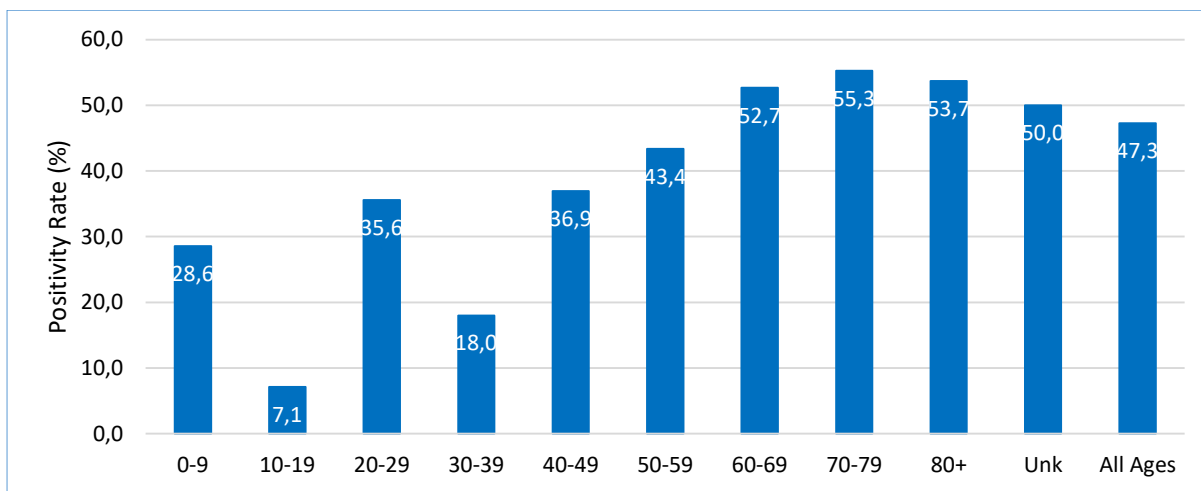


Fig. 23. SARS-Cov-2 post-mortem positivity rate by age group, as of 24th Feb. 2021

Sixty-six percent (65,5%) of the post mortems were done among the elderly population from 60 years and above. The positivity rate among that age group was 50% and above.

7.6. Deaths by health facilities

The figure below provides the number of deaths by hospital or place. Only hospitals or places with a minimum of 25 deaths are included in the figure below. Nearly most of the hospitals including both private and public have reported a case or more, whether private or public.

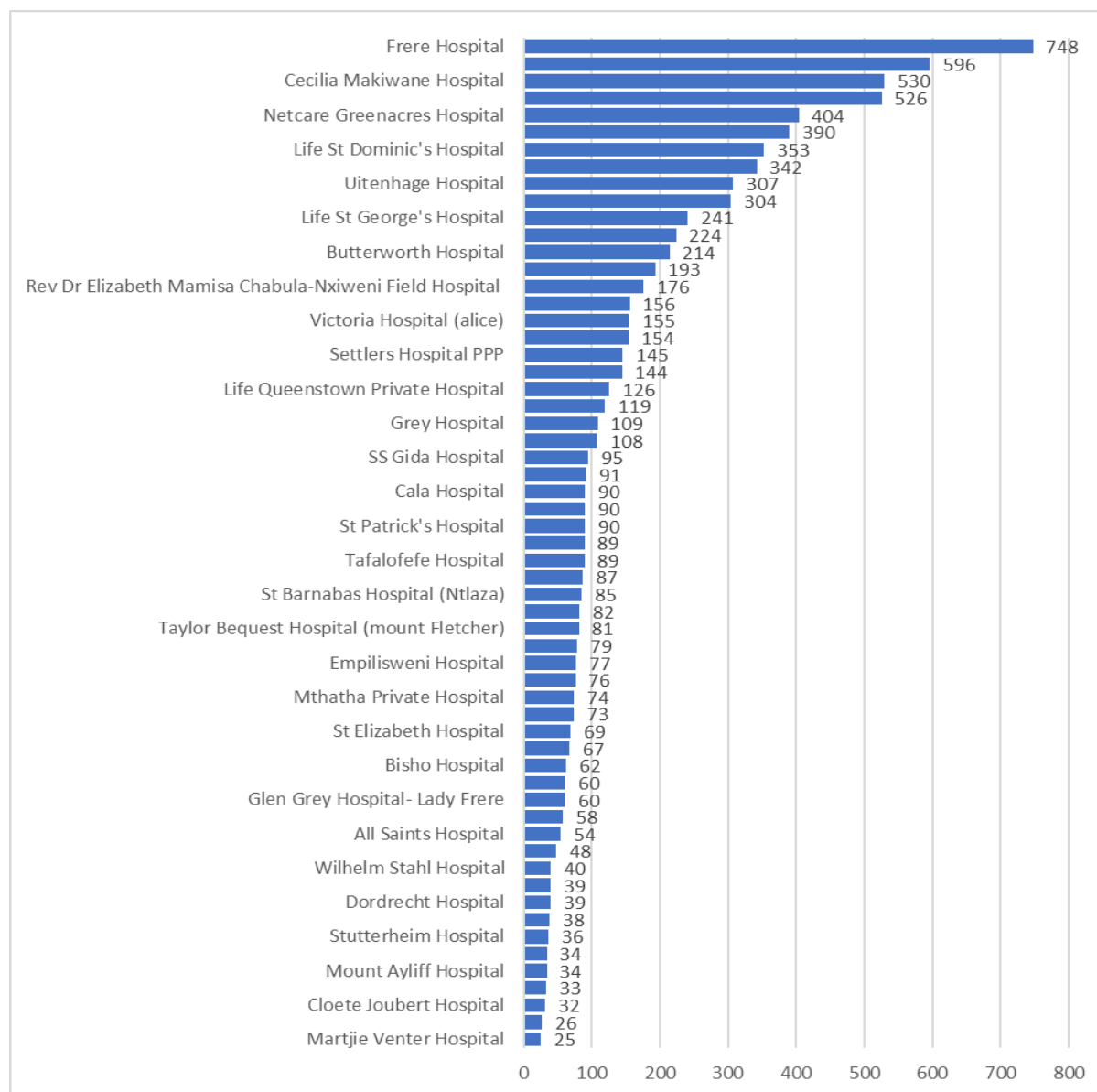


Fig. 24. No. of SARS-Cov-2 related deaths by the facility, as of 10 Mar. 2021

The majority of the deaths, which occurred in the province, occurred in 17 hospitals. The hospitals include Frere, Cecilia Makiwane, Dorah Nginza, Livingstone, Life St. Dominics, Netcare Greenacres, Mercantile, Uitenhage, Frontier, Mthatha Regional, Life St. Georges, Netcare Cuyler, Life EL Private, Life Queenstown, Butterworth and Rev. Dr. EM Chabula-Nxiweni Field Hospitals.

6. HEALTHCARE WORKERS

6.1. Cases and deaths among healthcare workers (HCWs)

As of 10th March 2021, 11,836 HCWs tested positive for SARS-Cov-2 and 304 persons demised.

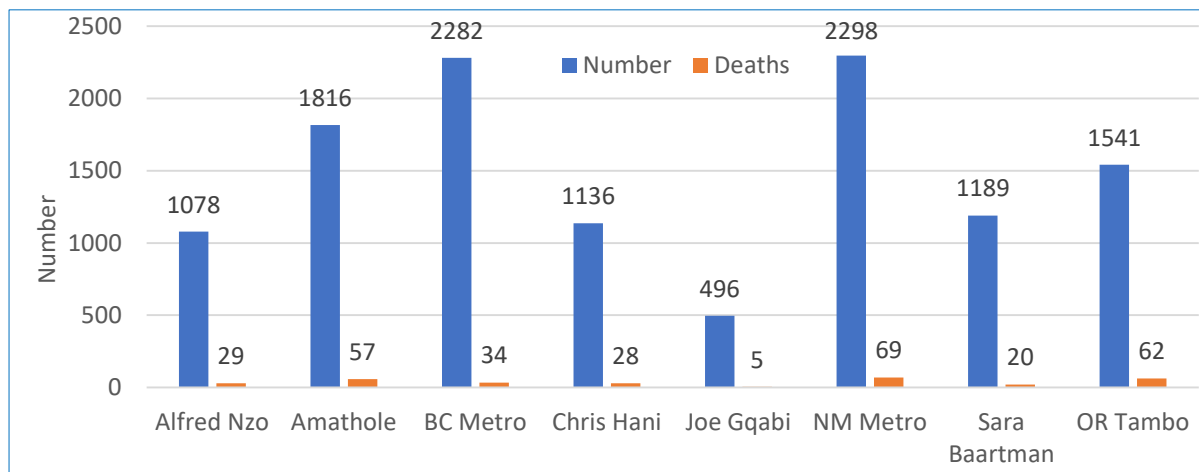


Fig. 25. SARS-Cov-2 positive Healthcare Workers, as on 09 Mar. 2021 (N = 11,836)

The number of healthcare workers who tested positive for SARS-Cov-2 in Nelson Mandela Metro was 2,298 (69 deaths), Buffalo City Metro 2,282 (34 deaths), Amathole 1,816 (57 deaths), OR Tambo 1,541 (62 deaths), Sarah Baartman 1189 (20 deaths), Chris Hani 1,136 (27 deaths) and Alfred Nzo (1078 cases, with 29 deaths).

6.2. SARS-Cov-2 Cases by job category

The table below provides the number of selected healthcare professionals employed by the State and SARS-Cov-2 cases by job categories, and the positivity rate of that job category.

	Population	Cases	Positivity Rate (%)
Admin	12434	793	6,4
Allied Professionals	3041	233	7,7
Doctors & Clinical Assoc	2369	440	18,6
Nurses	20650	4850	23,5
Emergency Medical Services	2498	298	11,9

The positivity rate among the nurses was 23,5%, followed by doctors and clinical associates (18,6%), allied professionals (7,7%), EMS (11,9%), and admin personnel (6,4%). The positivity rates among healthcare workers negatively affect patient safety, staff morale and confidence, and the capacity of the State to provide quality health services to the population.

6.3. Admissions of healthcare workers

The analysis of the admissions of the healthcare workers was 1,029 healthcare workers who admitted to the hospitals in the Eastern Cape. The source of the data was DATCOV.

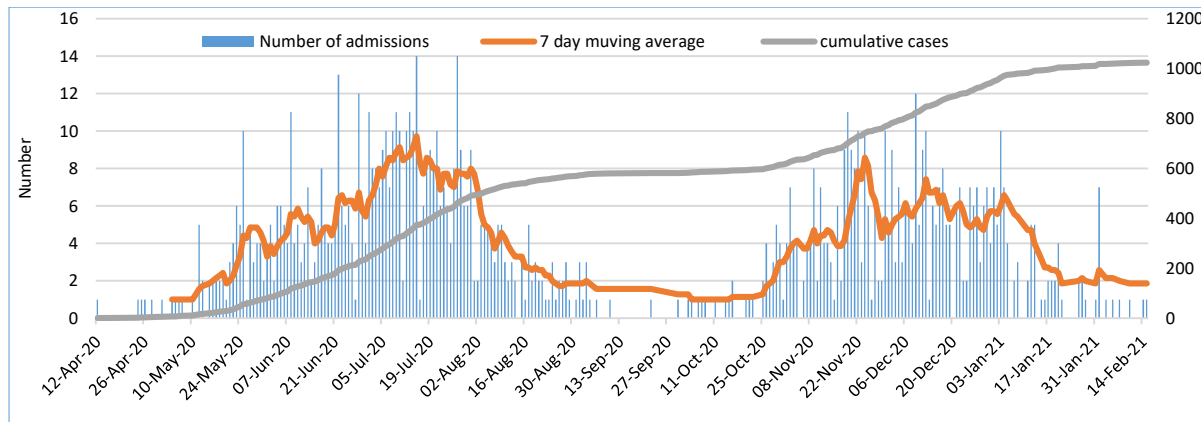


Fig. 26. No. of SARS-Cov-2 related admissions of healthcare workers, as of 19th Feb. 2021

The abovementioned figure shows the number of admissions, 7-day moving average and cumulative cases among healthcare workers. Figure 19 appear to mimic the epi-curve and admissions of the general population in both the first and the second waves.

6.4. Case Fatality Rate (%) among HCWs

The figure below provides the cases fatality rate among all healthcare workers.

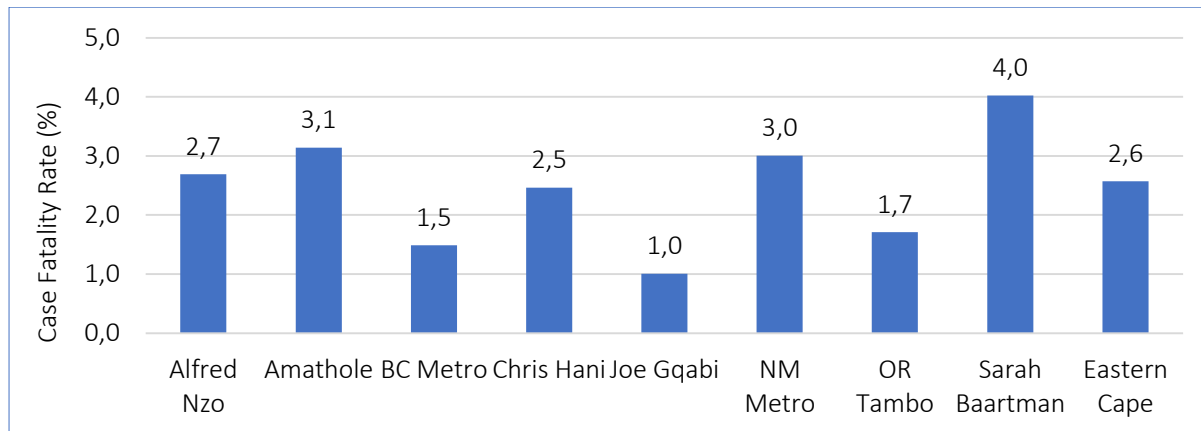


Fig. 27. SARS-Cov-2 Case Fatality Rate (%) among HCWs, as of 09 Mar. 2021 (N=304)

The case fatality rate among healthcare workers was 2.6%. The case fatality rate was reported to be equal or above 1% in all the districts in the province. Sarah Baartman reported the highest case fatality rate, followed by Amathole, Nelson Mandela Metro, Alfred Nzo and Chris Hani. The case fatality rate of less than 2% was observed in three districts, i.e. Joe Gqabi, BC Metro and OR Tambo.

7. Hospitalization and outcomes

7.1. Admissions and outcomes

The cumulative number of SARS-Cov-2 hospitalizations is 31,421 (DATCOV). Fifty-nine percent (58,5%) of the hospitalizations occurred in the Metros. Chris Hani and OR Tambo reported 10,5% and 10,1% of the hospitalizations, respectively.

Districts	Public	Private	Total	Percentage
Alfred Nzo	1681	93	1774	5,6
Amathole	2350	0	2350	7,5
Buffalo City Metro	4203	3100	7303	23,2
Chris Hani	2552	736	3288	10,5
Joe Gqabi	703	0	703	2,2
Nelson Mandela Bay Metro	6683	4417	11100	35,3
O R Tambo	2284	886	3170	10,1
Sarah Baartman	1595	138	1733	5,5
	22051	9370	31421	100,0

Of the reported hospitalizations, 22,051 (70,2%) occurred in public sector and 9,370 (29,8%) occurred in private sector health facilities.

Eastern Cape	Public	Private	Total
Cumulative Admissions	22051	9370	31421
Died	7124	2253	9377
Discharged Alive	13259	6952	20211
Transferred Out	1550	34	1584
Currently Admitted	73	125	198
In ICU	0	36	36
In High Care	3	4	7
In General	70	85	155
On Oxygen	35	33	68
Ventilated	3	9	12

Of all the hospitalized cases, 64,3% (20,211) of hospitalized patients were discharged alive and 65,6% (13,259) of the reported discharges were from the public sector. Thirty percent 29,8% of hospitalized cases demised due to SARS-Cov-2 related causes with 76% (7,124) of those reported deaths occurring in public sector facilities.

Of the 198 current admissions, 155 (78.3%) were admitted in the general ward, 36 (18.2%) in ICU and 7 (3.5%) in High Care. And 68 (34.3%) of current admissions were on oxygen and 12 (6.1%) were on ventilation.

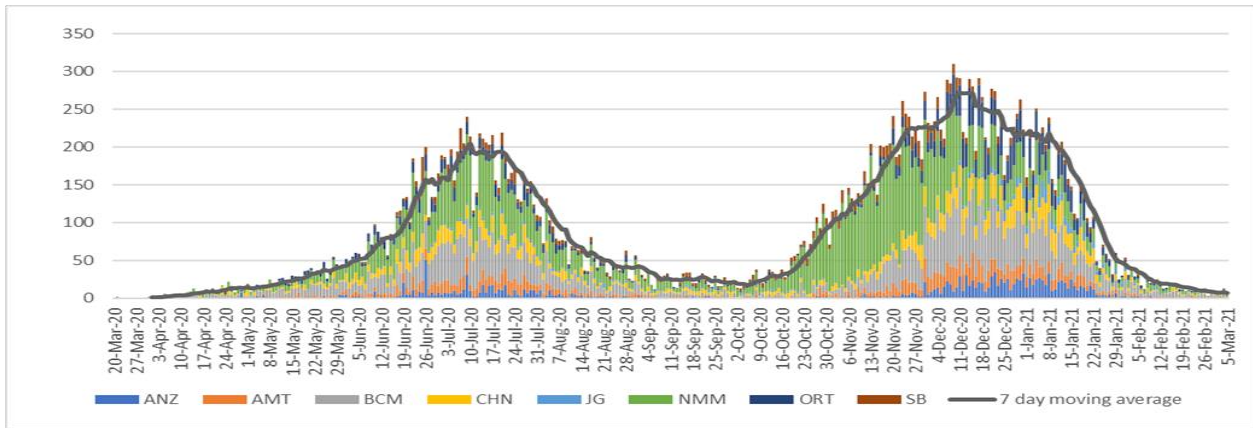


Fig. 28. Average (7 days moving) daily admissions by districts, as of 10 Mar. 2021 (DATCOV)

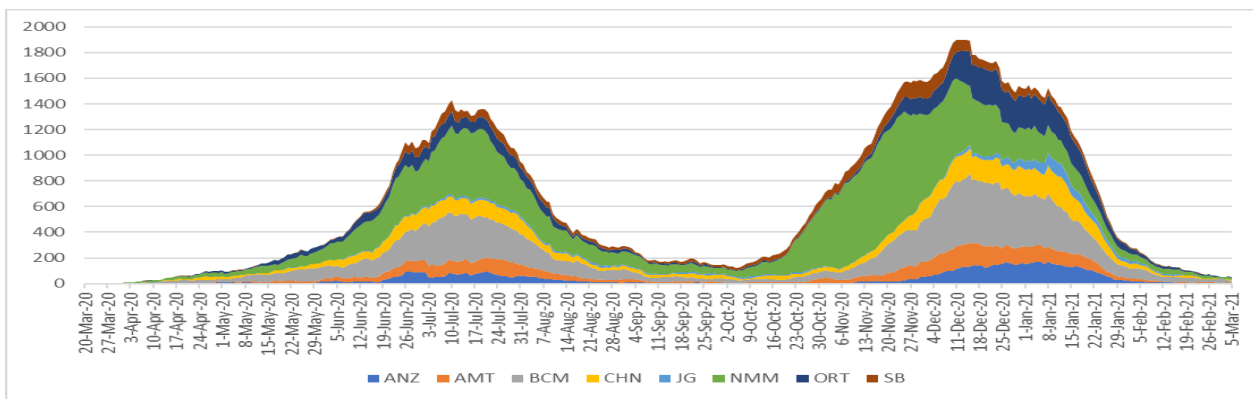


Fig. 29. No. of hospitalizations by date of admission for each district, as of 10 Mar. 2021

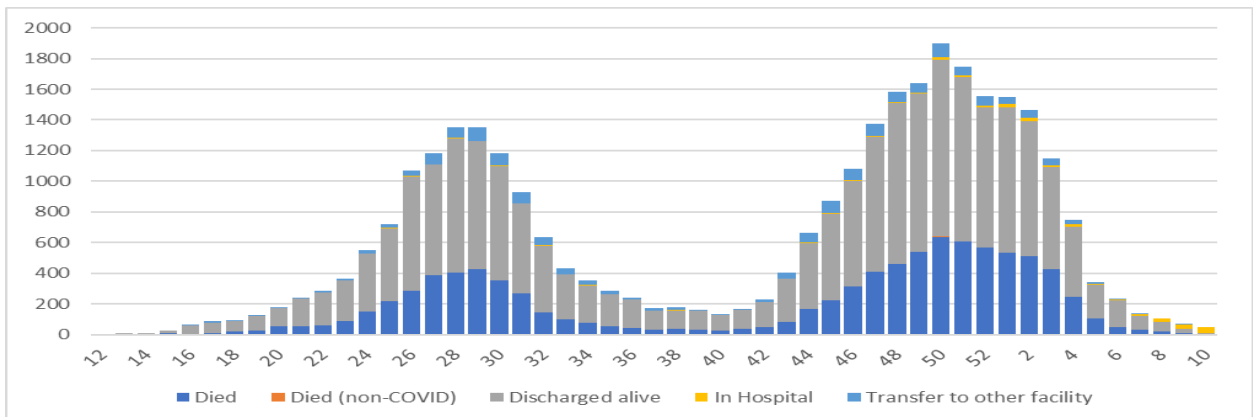


Fig. 30. Hospitalizations & outcomes by admission week, as of 10 Mar. 2021 (DATCOV)

The number of currently hospitalized patients remained high during the last part of the year and started to decline thereafter.

7.2. Co-morbidities among admitted cases and deaths

The most common co-morbidities among the hospitalized SARS-Cov-2 patients were hypertension (38,4%) and diabetes (25,5%) among hospitalized SARS-Cov-2 cases. Two other commonly reported co-morbidities HIV (7,2%), obesity (5,6%) and asthma (3,5%).

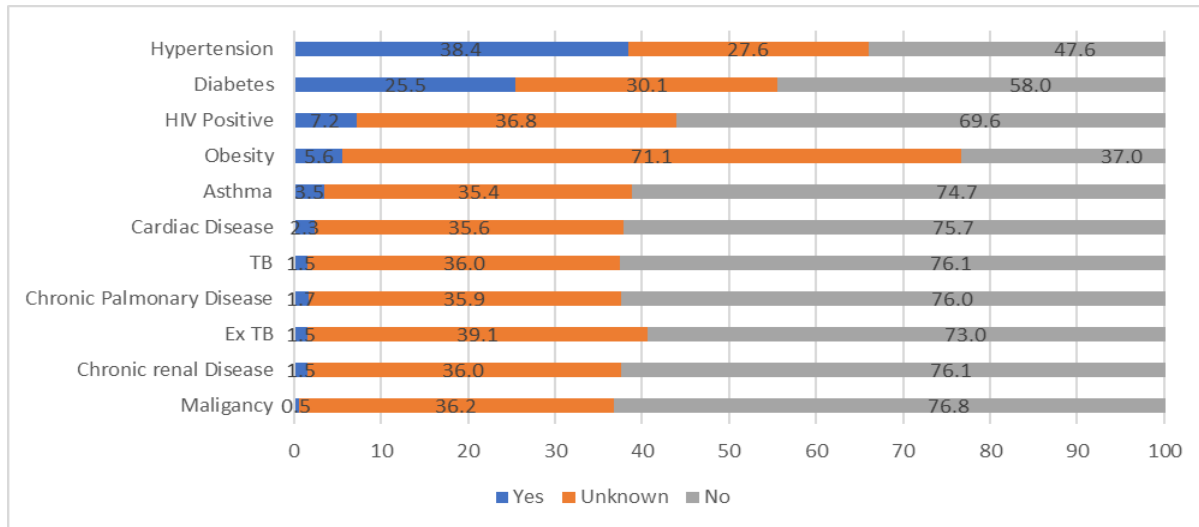


Fig. 31. Co-morbidities among SARS-Cov-2 hospitalizations, as of 10 Mar.2021 (DATCOV)

A significant percentage of hospitalized patients did not have co-morbidities. This may have resulted in the under-estimation of the burden of co-morbidities among hospitalized cases.

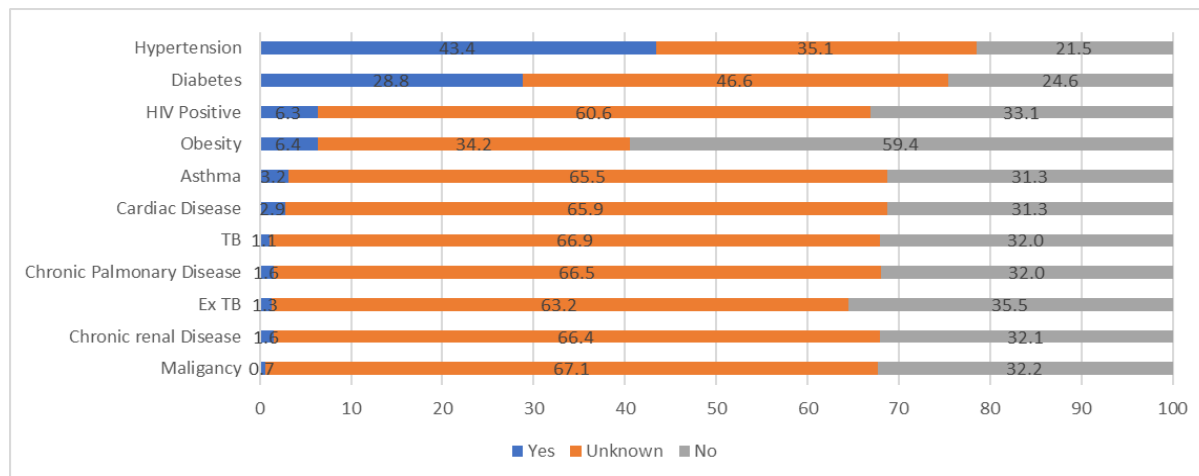


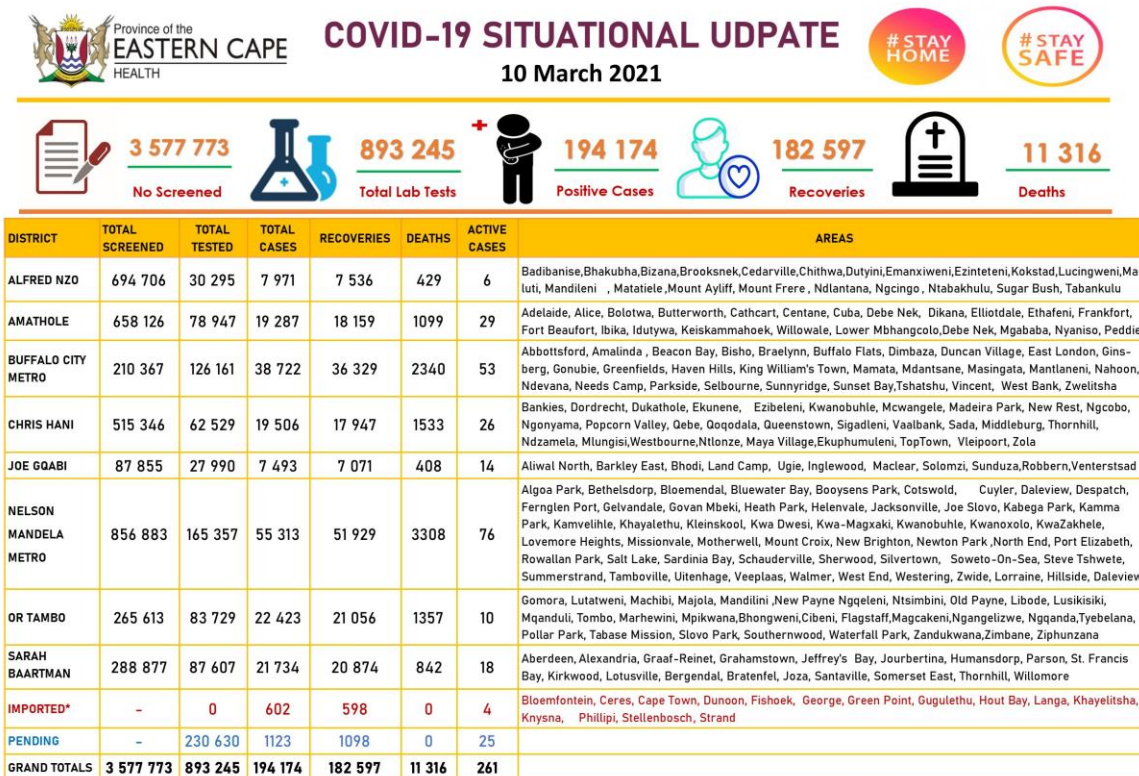
Fig. 32. Co-morbidities among SARS-Cov-2 cases who demised, as of 10 Mar. 2021 (DATCOV)

The most common comorbidities among those cases that demised in the hospital include hypertension (43,4%) and diabetes (28,8%). Other 4 co-morbidities were reported, i.e. obesity (6,4%), HIV (6,3%), asthma (3,2%) and cardiac diseases (2,9%).

8. KEY INTERVENTIONS

There are key issues, which require improvement;

- Strengthen surveillance of SARS-Cov-2 including collection and testing of specimens
- Prioritize contact tracing and monitoring to minimize the spread of the infections
- Isolate positive cases and quarantine contacts to minimize transmission
- Promote the use of prevention measures against SARS-Cov-2, i.e. wearing of masks, social distancing, and frequent handwashing.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- The epidemiological and surveillance functions continue because of the strong partnership between the following stakeholders;
- WHO supported epidemiologists, biostatisticians, and technical support
- The National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) provided the province with epidemiologists and technical support
- The data analyst from TB/HIV Care has supported data management, mapping of the cases and other functions in the department
- Right to Care assists in mapping the cases in different areas in the province
- Centre for Disease Control (Atlanta-Pretoria) provided the Department with an epidemiologist and a statistician to support the province
- The Department of Health, both the National and Provincial Department of Health re-purposed the employees to focus on the control and prevention of the pandemic
- Laboratories; National Health Laboratory Services, Pathcare and Ampath for prompt and regular reporting of SARS-Cov-2 newly diagnosed cases.