

Daily Epidemiological Report for SARS-Cov-2

Report No. 495

Date Issued: 11th August 2021

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 11th August 2021.

2. HIGHLIGHTS

2.1. New cases, active cases, and recoveries

- In the past 24 hours, 999 new cases were reported, 73,4% of the new cases were from NM Metro (532 cases; 53,3%) and Sarah Baartman (201 cases; 20,1%); 10,6% from Amathole (13 cases; 1,3%) and BC Metro (93 cases; 9,6%); 8,7% from Chris Hani (74 cases; 7,4%) and Joe Gqabi (13 cases; 1,3%); and 5,9% were from Alfred Nzo (14 cases; 1,4) and OR Tambo (45 cases; 4,5%).
- Of the 7,675 active cases, 64,1% were from NM Metro (3,522 cases; 45,9%) and Sarah Baartman (1,399 cases, 18,2%); 16,1% from Amathole (256 cases; 3,3%) and BC Metro (986 cases; 12,8%); 13,2% from Chris Hani (632 cases; 8,2%) and Joe Gqabi (383 cases; 5,0%); and 4,5% from Alfred Nzo (99 cases; 1,3%) and OR Tambo (248 cases; 3,2%).
- The number of recoveries were 216,862, i.e. 91,3% recovery rate.
- On average, 710 cases per day were reported and 8,5% increase in the positivity rate.

2.2. SARS-Cov-2 related deaths

- In the past 24 hours, 47 deaths were reported (39 occurred in the past 48 hours).

2.3. Hospitalizations and outcomes

- In the past 24 hours, 39 admissions were reported from all the districts (see Table 12). The cumulative hospitalizations were 36,201, i.e. 24,542 (67,8%) in public and 11,659 (32,2%) in private. Sixty-four percent (63,7%), i.e., 23,070 of the hospitalized patients were discharged alive and 14,571 (63,1%) occurred in public sector. About 10,619 (29,3%) demised and 7,835 (73,8%) in public sector.

- Joe Gqabi has the highest case fatality rate (43,1%) among the hospitalized, followed by Amathole (37,4%), Chris Hani (34,2%) and OR Tambo (33,3%). BC Metro discharged more than 70% of the hospitalized and the lowest discharge rate was seen in Joe Gqabi (50,5%).
- Of the 833 currently admitted, 519 (62,3%) occurred in public and 314 (37,7%) in private. Hospitalizations in General ward were 727, i.e., 502 in public and 225 in private; 84 in ICU, i.e. 3 in public and 81 in private; 22 in High Care, i.e., 14 in public and 8 in private; 244 on oxygen, i.e., 210 in public and 34 in private; and 114 on ventilation, i.e., 93 in public and 21 in private.

2.4 Healthcare workers

- The cumulative number of healthcare workers who tested positive for SARS-Cov-2 was 12,438, with 1,223 hospitalized and 321 demised (2,6% CFR). The nurses were the most affected professional category, followed by doctors and clinical associates. In 2021, 183 HCWs were hospitalized due to SARS-Cov-2 related causes.
- The number of vaccine breakthrough infections among healthcare workers was 168 and 7 were hospitalized and discharged.

2.5 Conclusion

The highest burden of disease of SARS-Cov-2 was seen in NM Metro and Sarah Baartman, followed by BC Metro, Chris Hani and Joe Gqabi. Six districts reported more than 20 cases per 100,000 populations, except for Alfred Nzo and OR Tambo, with less than 20 cases per 100,000 populations.

The increase in the number of healthcare workers was slower than in the previous waves.

Local municipalities or sub-districts to watch include Amahlathi, Great Kei, and Mquma in Amathole; Bhisho, Duncan, East London and West Bank in BC Metro; Emalahleni, Engcobo, Enoch Mgijima, Inxuba yethemba, and Sakhisizwe in Chris Hani; Senqu and Walter Sisulu in Joe Gqabi; all sub-districts in NM Metro, KSD and Ingquza Hill in OR Tambo; and 7 local municipalities in Sarah Baartman.

3. SARS-Cov-2 CASES & DEATHS

3.1. Summary of all cases and deaths

In the past 24 hours, 999 new cases and 47 deaths were reported (39 occurred in the past 48 hours). Cumulatively, **236,621 cases** and **13,036 deaths** were reported.

	No. of cases	New Cases	Total Cases	%	Deaths	New Deaths		Total Deaths	CFR (%)
						*Newly Reported	**Newly occurred		
Male	95816	423	96239	40,5	5550	2	14	5566	5,8
Female	140804	576	141380	59,5	7485	5	25	7515	5,3
Unknown	1	0	1	0,0	1	1		2	200,0
Total	236621	999	237620	100,0	13036	8	39	13083	5,5

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

Six percent (5,5%) of the cases demised, and 5,8% were males and 5,3% were females.

District	Cases	New Cases	Total Cases	Recoveries	Deaths	New Deaths		Total Deaths	CFR (%)	Recovery Rate	Active Cases
						*Newly Reported	**Newly occurred				
Alfred Nzo	8853	14	8867	8145	617	2	4	623	7,0	91,9	99
Amathole	20380	13	20393	18979	1154	0	4	1158	5,7	93,1	256
BC Metro	43200	93	43293	39832	2472	0	3	2475	5,7	92,0	986
Chris Hani	22128	74	22202	19784	1773	3	10	1786	8,0	89,1	632
Joe Gqabi	9576	13	9589	8595	608	1	2	611	6,3	89,6	383
NM Metro	77517	532	78049	70539	3977	1	10	3988	5,1	90,4	3522
OR Tambo	24142	45	24187	22469	1464	1	5	1470	6,1	92,9	248
Sarah Baartman	28613	201	28814	26443	971	0	1	972	3,4	91,8	1399
Imported	777	0	777	756	0	0		0	0,0	97,3	21
Unspecified	1435	14	1449	1320	0	0	0	0	0,0	91,1	129
E. Cape	236621	999	237620	216862	13036	8	39	13083	5,5	91,3	7675

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

Seventy-three percent (73,4%) of the new cases were from NM Metro (532 cases; 53,3%) and Sarah Baartman (201 cases; 20,1%); 10,6% from Amathole (13 cases; 1,3%) and BC Metro (93 cases; 9,6%); 8,7% from Chris Hani (74 cases; 7,4%) and Joe Gqabi (13 cases; 1,3%); and 5,9% were from Alfred Nzo (14 cases; 1,4) and OR Tambo (45 cases; 4,5%).

Of the 7,675 active cases, 64,1% were from NM Metro (3,522 cases; 45,9%) and Sarah Baartman (1,399 cases, 18,2%); 16,1% were from Amathole (256 cases; 3,3%) and BC Metro (986 cases; 12,8%); 13,2% from Chris Hani (632 cases; 8,2%) and Joe Gqabi (383 cases; 5,0%); and 4,5% from Alfred Nzo (99 cases; 1,3%) and OR Tambo (248 cases; 3,2%).

The number of recoveries were 216,862, i.e. 91,3% recovery rate. Forty-seven (47) deaths were reported and 39 occurred in the past 48 hours.

3.2. Weekly SARS-Cov-2 Cases, Deaths and %Change

The number of new cases has increased by 13,9% and deaths decreased by 17,4% from week 30 to week 31. In the last 4 days, the number of cases and deaths were 3,227 and 91, respectively.

	Cases			Deaths			Current week cases and deaths	
	25-31 July	01-07 Aug	% Change	25-31 July	01-07 Aug	% Change	Cases 08-10 Aug	Deaths 08-10 Aug
A Nzo	113	142	25,7	28	15	-46,4	48	6
Amathole	144	160	11,1	7	13	85,7	99	4
BC Metro	618	704	13,9	18	16	-11,1	280	5
Chris Hani	372	478	28,5	26	23	-11,5	296	15
Joe Gqabi	195	232	19,0	25	23	-8,0	197	6
NM Metro	2575	2900	12,6	92	71	-22,8	1399	41
OR Tambo	249	266	6,8	16	14	-12,5	181	7
Sarah Baartman	1040	1143	9,9	24	20	-16,7	680	7
Imported	13	7	-46,2	0	0		1	0
Unspecified	38	70	84,2	0	0		46	0
E. Cape	5357	6102	13,9	236	195	-17,4	3227	91

Sixty-four percent (64,4%) of the newly reported cases and 52,7% of the deaths were from NM Metro and Sarah Baartman. In the past 4 days, NM Metro and Chris Hani reported the highest number of deaths.

3.3. Average newly diagnosed cases

The average number of new cases has decreased by 19,2% from 879 on the 04th to 710 on the 10th August.

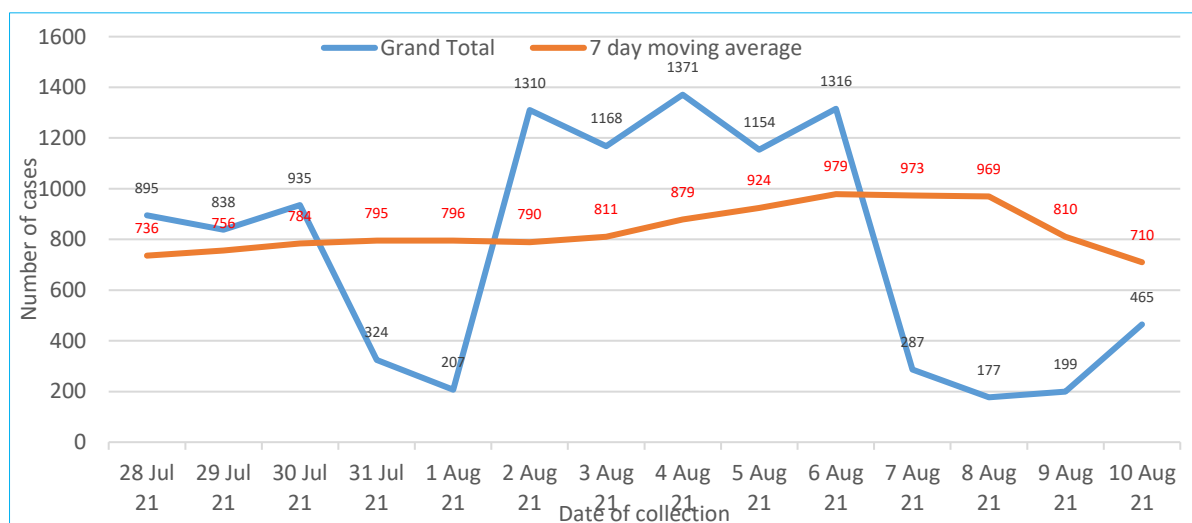


Fig. 1. Daily SARS-Cov-2 cases & 7-day moving average by date of collection, as of 10 August 2021

NM Metro and Sarah Baartman continue to report the highest number of new cases, followed by BC Metro, Chris Hani, Joe Gqabi.

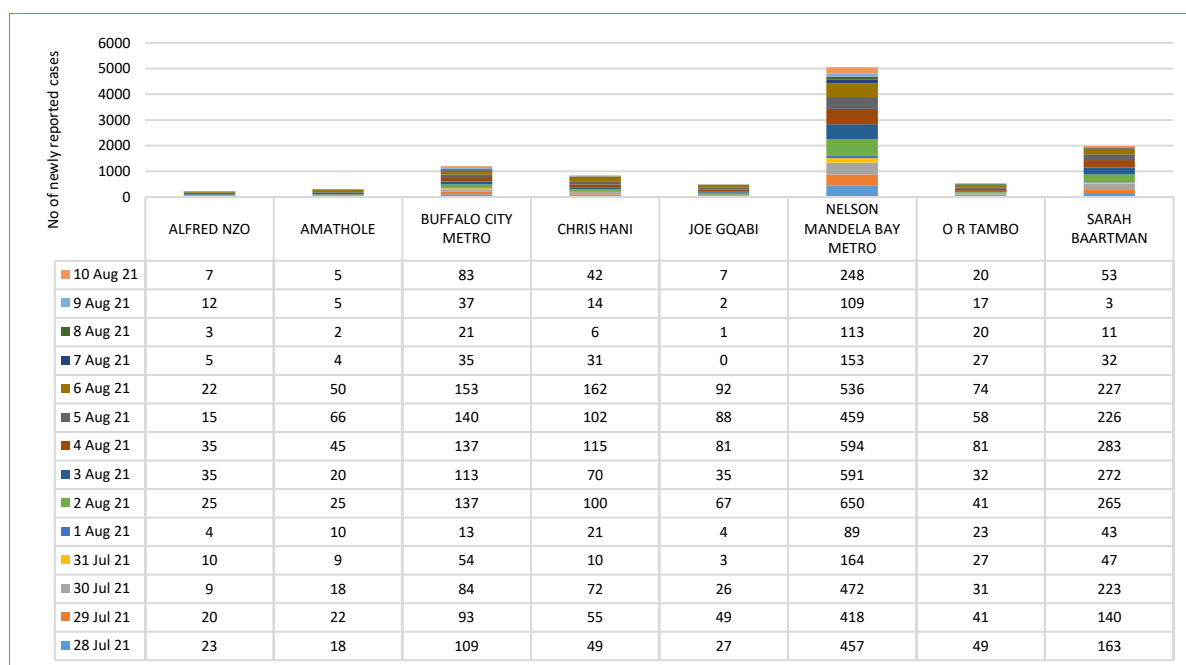


Fig. 2. Daily SARS-Cov-2 cases by district and date of collection, as of 11th August 2021

The burden of disease remains high in the western part, which continues to yield high number of new cases. There is a need to improve case detection (including increased testing rate) and contact tracing and monitoring in all districts.

4. SARS-Cov-2 LAB TESTS & RESULTS

4.1. Test Results by Laboratory

A total of 11,736 SARS-Cov-2 tests were reported in the past 3 days. Cumulatively, 1,2 million were from public (59,9%) and private sector (40,1%).

	Private	Public	Total	New Tests 08-10 Aug	% New Tests 08-05 Aug	Tests 01-07 Aug
Alfred Nzo	4556	32390	36 946	79	0,7	301
Amathole	9821	79866	89 687	434	3,7	669
BC Metro	62909	111731	174 640	564	4,8	1169
Chris Hani	13141	70087	83 228	617	5,3	1319
Joe Gqabi	1281	34911	36 192	563	4,8	628
NMB Metro	93335	191283	284 618	3011	25,7	6261
OR Tambo	30253	74925	105 178	462	3,9	1018
Sarah Baartman	18788	108819	127 607	2326	19,8	3318
Unclassified	237348		237 348	3680	31,4	8758
Eastern Cape	471432	704012	1 175 444	11736	100	23441

Forty-six percent (45,5%) of the tests were done in NM Metro and Sarah Baartman. The lowest number of tests were observed in Alfred Nzo, OR Tambo and Amathole. There is a need to improve case detection by increasing the number of tests per day and contact tracing rate (which has influence in the testing rate).

4.2. Antigen Testing

Antigen Test Method was used to test 192,573 specimens and 8,1% positivity rate.

	Negative	Positive	Total	Percentage (%)	Positivity Rate (%)
A Nzo	21644	1194	22838	11,9	5,2
Amathole	5835	708	6543	3,7	10,8
BC Metro	17474	2055	19529	10,5	10,5
Chris Hani	17357	1643	19000	9,6	8,6
Joe Gqabi	5213	648	5861	3,1	11,1
NM Metro	62281	6626	68907	35,1	9,6
OR Tambo	36356	1776	38132	20,2	4,7
Sarah Baartman	10809	954	11763	5,9	8,1
Total	176969	15604	192573	100	8,1

NM Metro accounted for 35,1% of the tests, followed by OR Tambo (20,2%), Alfred Nzo (11,9%), and BC Metro (10,5%). Alfred Nzo, Chris Hani, NM Metro, OR Tambo and Sarah Baartman reported less than 10% positivity rate. Three districts have more than 10% positivity rate.

4.3. Tests by age group and sex

In the last 31 days, 37,980 specimens were tested for SARS-Cov-2 in public sector laboratories. Sixty-one percent (60,8%) of the tests were among the 20 to 59 year's age group, and 37,7% were the younger and elderly population.

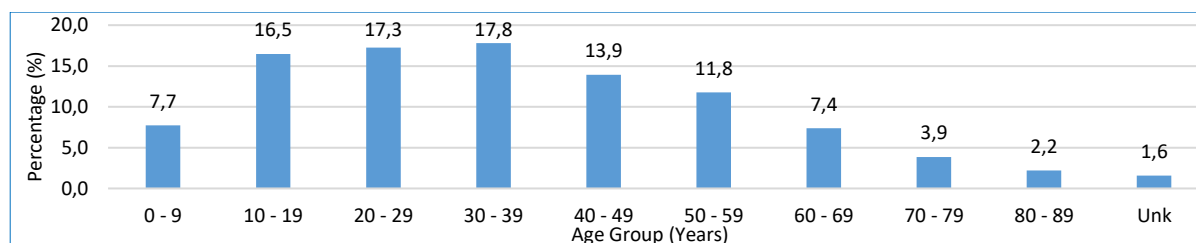


Fig. 3. Percentage of SARS-Cov-2 tests by age group in the last 31 days, as of 10th Aug. 2021

Only 1,6% of the tests lacked information on the age of the individuals.

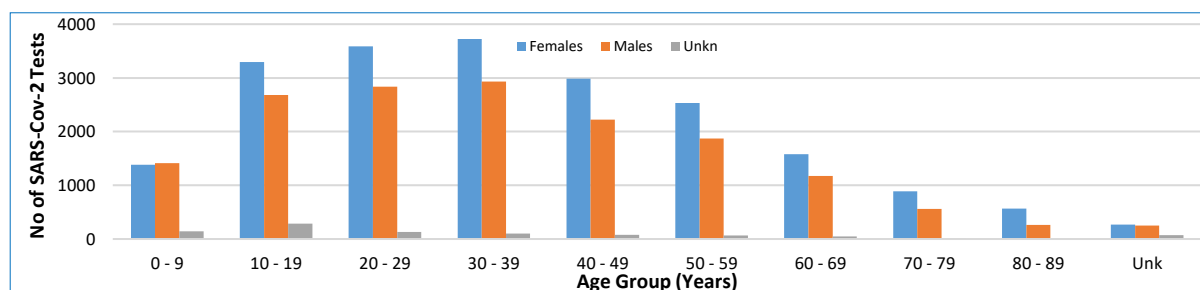


Fig. 4. No. of SARS-Cov-2 public sector tests by age group and gender, as of 10th Aug. 2021

Fifty-five percent (54,8%) of the tested individuals were females, 42,7% were males and 2,5% had no information on gender.

4.4. Turnaround Time

Availability of the laboratory results within a short period is essential for early response to positive cases and their contacts.

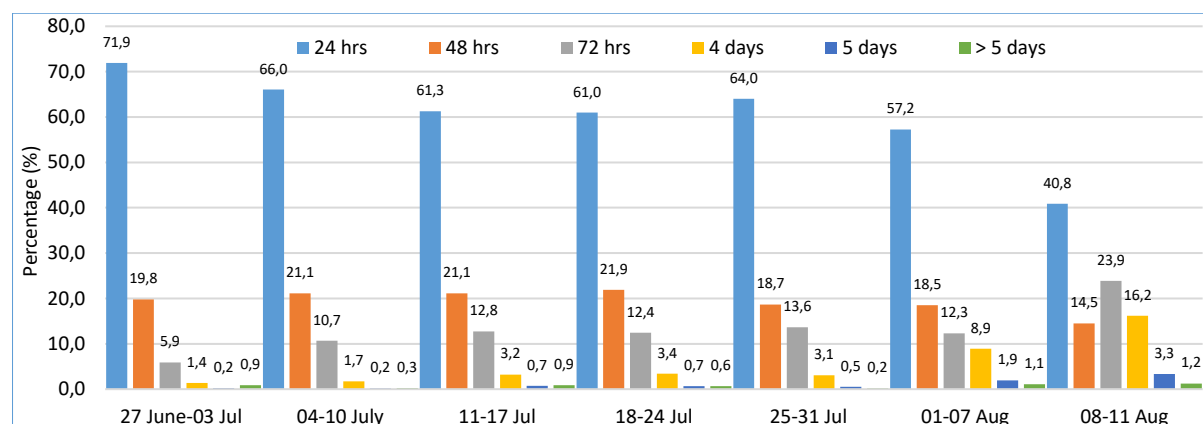


Fig. 5. Turnaround time for SARS-Cov-2 positive results by week as of 11th Aug. 2021

The 24-hour turnaround time (TAT) has decreased by 27% from 57,2% in the previous week to 40,8% in the current week. Similarly, the 48 hours TAT has decreased 28,6% from 75,8% to 55,3% during the same period.

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

The figure below provides the 7-day moving average for the number of tests and the positivity rate over a period.

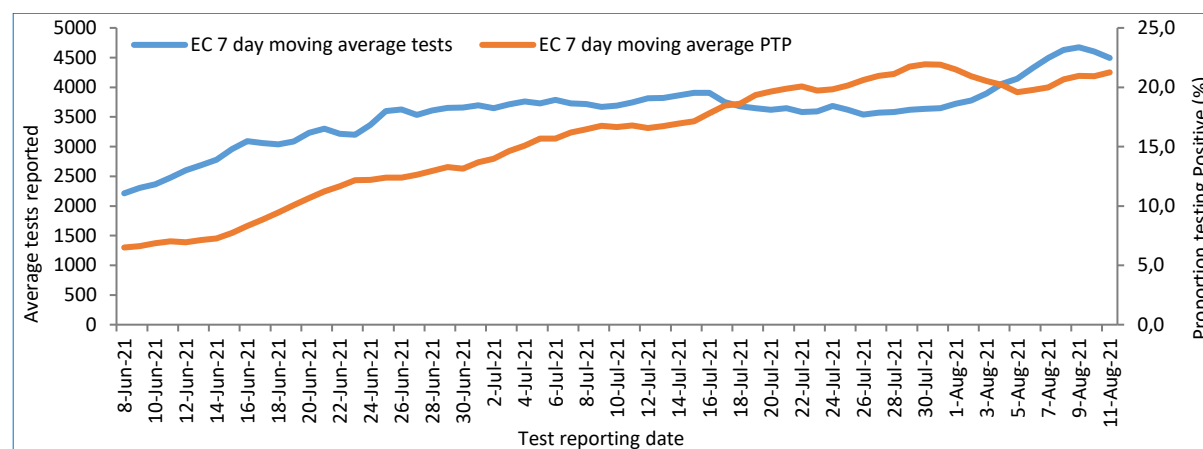


Fig. 6. 7-day moving average for SARS-Cov-2 tests & positivity rate, as of 11th Aug. 2021

In the past 7 days, the number of SARS-Cov-2 tests has increased by 8,5% from 4,141 on the 05th to 4,492 on the 11th August 2021. The positivity has increased by 8,6% from 19,6% to 21,3% during the same period.

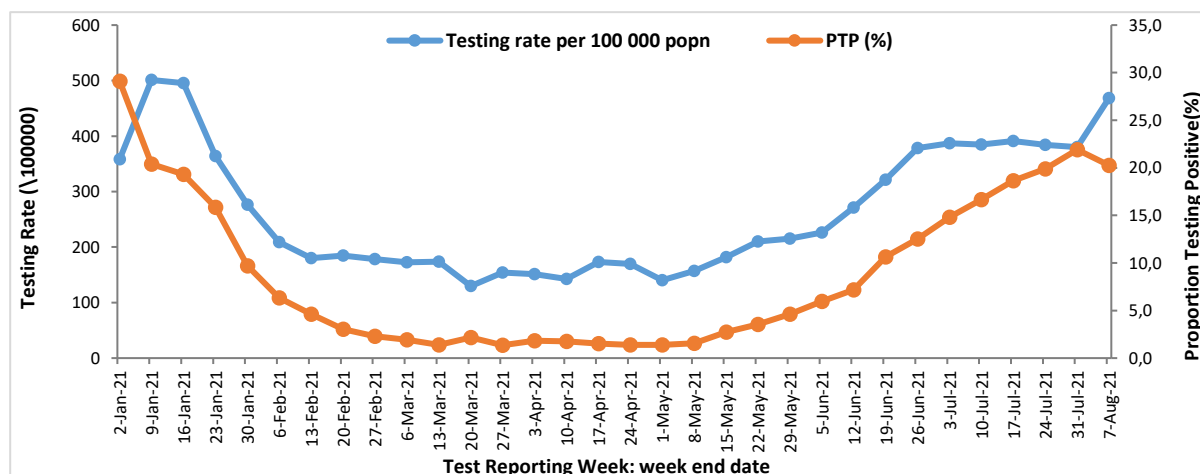


Fig. 7. Testing Rate and positivity rate for SARS-Cov-2 by week, as of 07th August 2021

The testing rate for SARS-Cov-2 has increased by 23.4% from 380 tests to 469 per 100,000 on the 31st July to 07th August 2021. The testing rate has increased to more than 200 tests per 100,000 per week.

5. ACTIVE CASES, INCIDENCE & POSITIVITY RATE

5.1. Active SARS-Cov-2 Cases

Over the past 7 days, the number of active cases has increased by 28.6% from 6,665 on the 31st July to 8,571 on the 07th August 2021. In the past 4 days, the number of active cases has decreased by 10.5% from 8,571 to 7,675.

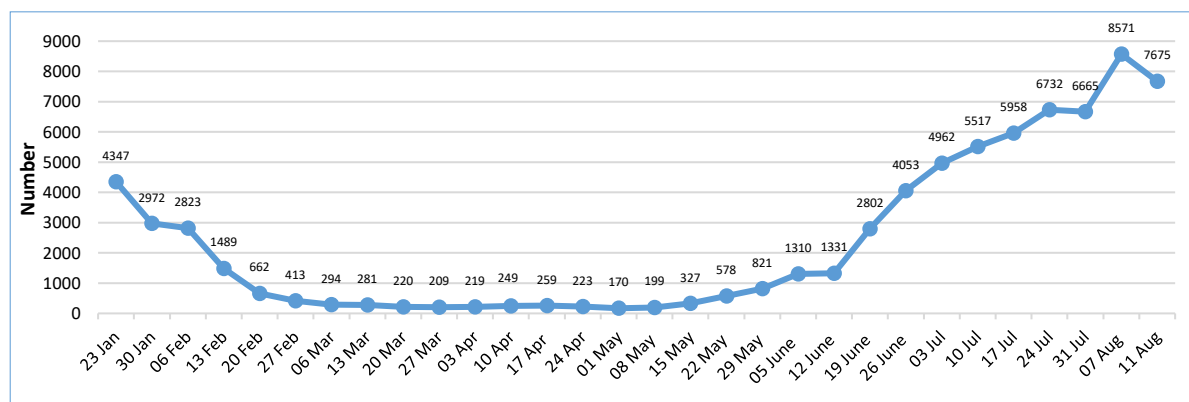


Fig. 8. Number of active SARS-Cov-2 cases by week, as of 11 August 2021

There is a need to strengthen public health surveillance, contact tracing and health education and community engagement especially after the relaxation of the restrictions. There is a high possibility of cluster outbreaks as observed in the past when there was relaxation of the restrictions.

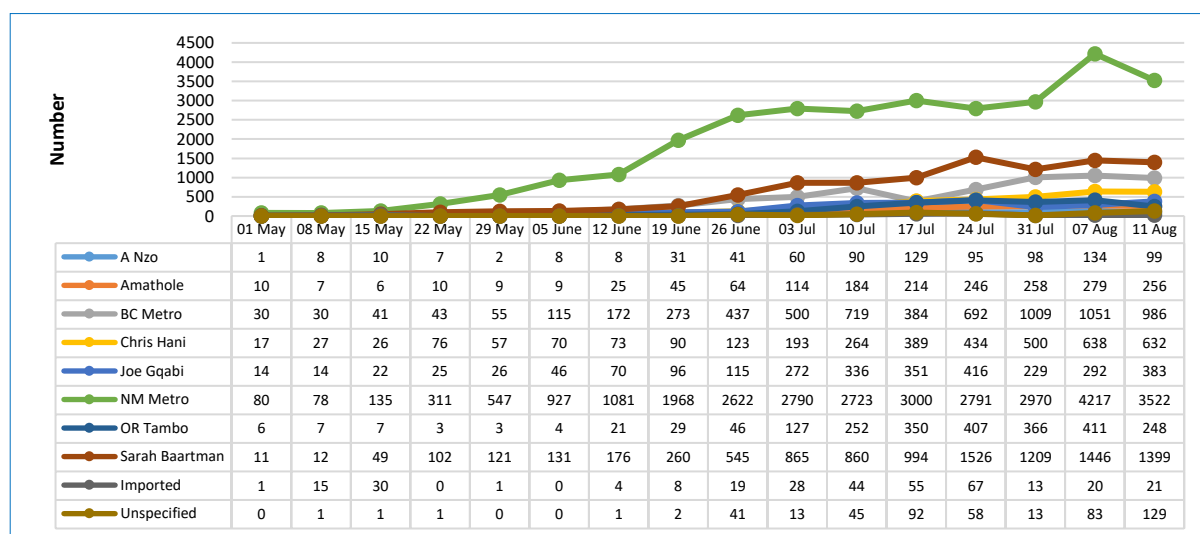


Fig. 9. Number of weekly Active SARS-Cov-2 cases by district, as of 11th August 2021

More than half of the active cases were from NM Metro and Sarah Baartman, followed BC Metro, Chris Hani, and Joe Gqabi.

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	36 946	8867	99	12,0	24,0
Amathole	798067	89 687	20393	256	32,1	22,7
BC Metro	798798	174 640	43293	986	123,4	24,8
Chris Hani	733743	83 228	22202	632	86,1	26,7
Joe Gqabi	343075	36 192	9589	383	111,6	26,5
NM Metro	1210803	284 618	78049	3522	290,9	27,4
OR Tambo	1520922	105 178	24187	248	16,3	23,0
S Baartman	480223	127 607	28814	1399	291,3	22,6
Imported		0	777	21	0,0	0,0
Unspecified		237 348	1449	129	0,0	0,6
E.Cape	6713457	1 175 444	237620	7675	114,3	20,2

The incidence of SARS-Cov-2 was 114,3 cases per 100,000 populations, and 6 districts have more than 20 cases per 100,000 populations, except for Alfred Nzo and OR Tambo. The cumulative positivity rate is at 20,2%. All districts have less than a 30% positivity rate.

5.3. Incidence of SARS-Cov-2 cases

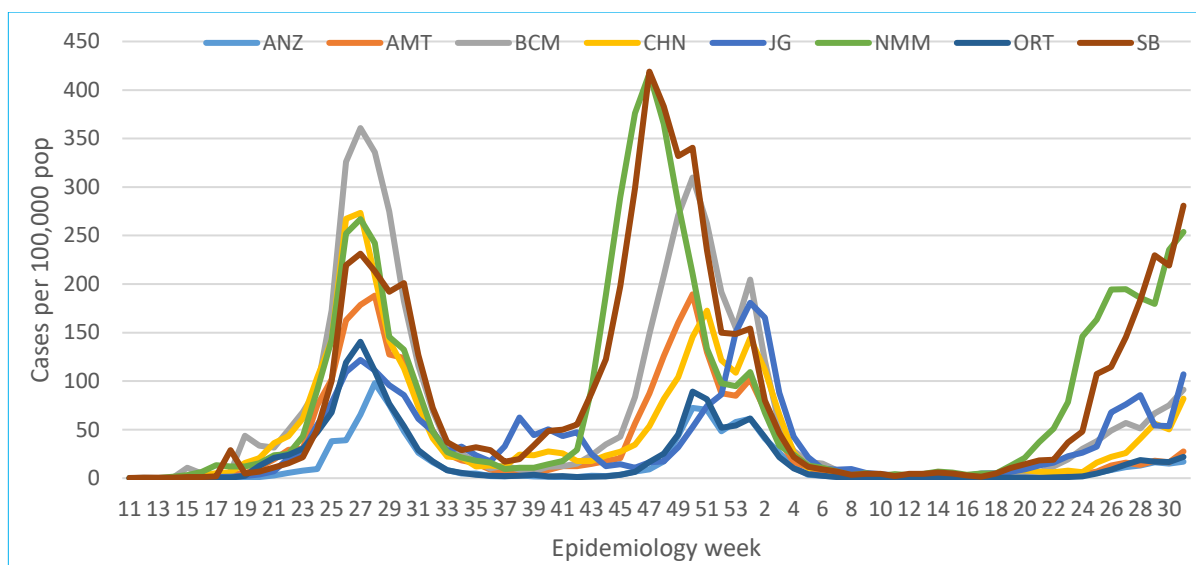


Fig. 10. Incidence of SARS-Cov-2 cases by epidemiological week, as of 11th August 2021

The incidence of SARS-Cov-2 appear to be on an upward trend in all the districts including Alfred Nzo and OR Tambo. However, both NM Metro and Sarah Baartman continue to report the highest incidence, followed by Joe Gqabi, BC Metro, and Chris Hani.

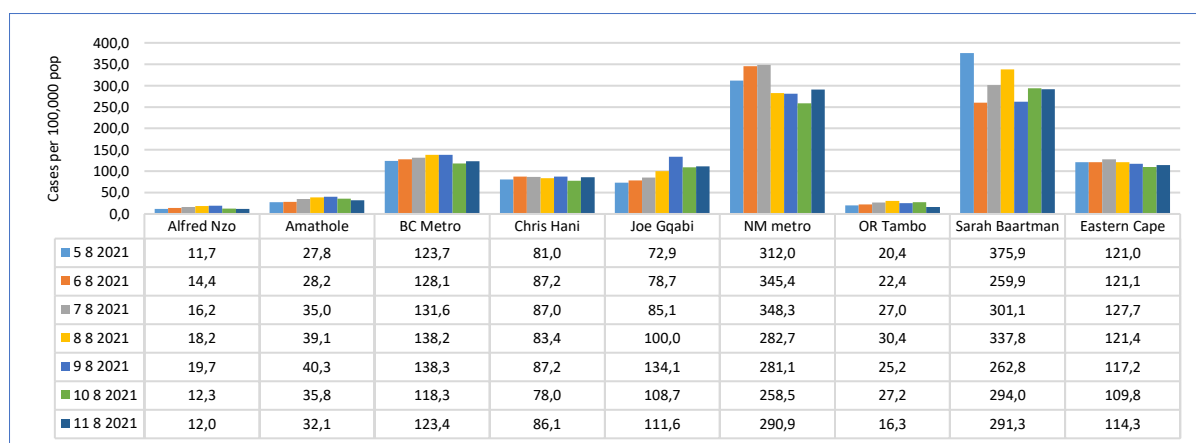


Fig. 11. Active SARS-Cov-2 cases (per 100,000 pop) by district, as of 11th August 2021

In the past 7 days, the incidence of SARS-Cov-2 decreased by 5,5% from 121,0 cases to 114,3 cases per 100,000 population. Four (4) districts have more than 100 cases per 100,000, i.e. BC Metro, Joe Gqabi, NM Metro and Sarah Baartman. Two (2) districts have more than 20 cases but less than 100 cases per 100,000 populations. Alfred Nzo and OR Tambo have less than 20 cases per 100,000 populations.

5.4. Recovery Rate (%)

The provincial recovery rate remained above 90% over the past 7 days. However, it has shown a decrease during the same period.

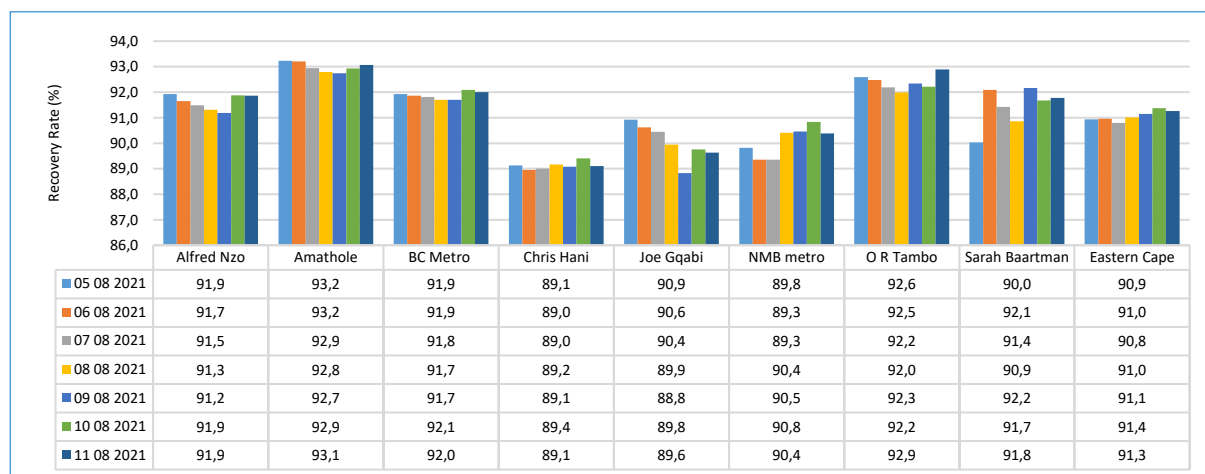


Fig. 12. SARS-Cov-2 Recovery Rate (%) by districts, as of 11 August 2021 (N=216,862)

As the number of new and active cases increases, the recovery rate also decreases. The recovery rate decreased by 0,4% in the past 7 days.

5.5. Mapping of active cases, recoveries, and deaths

The map shows the distribution of SARS-Cov-2 active cases, recoveries, and deaths.

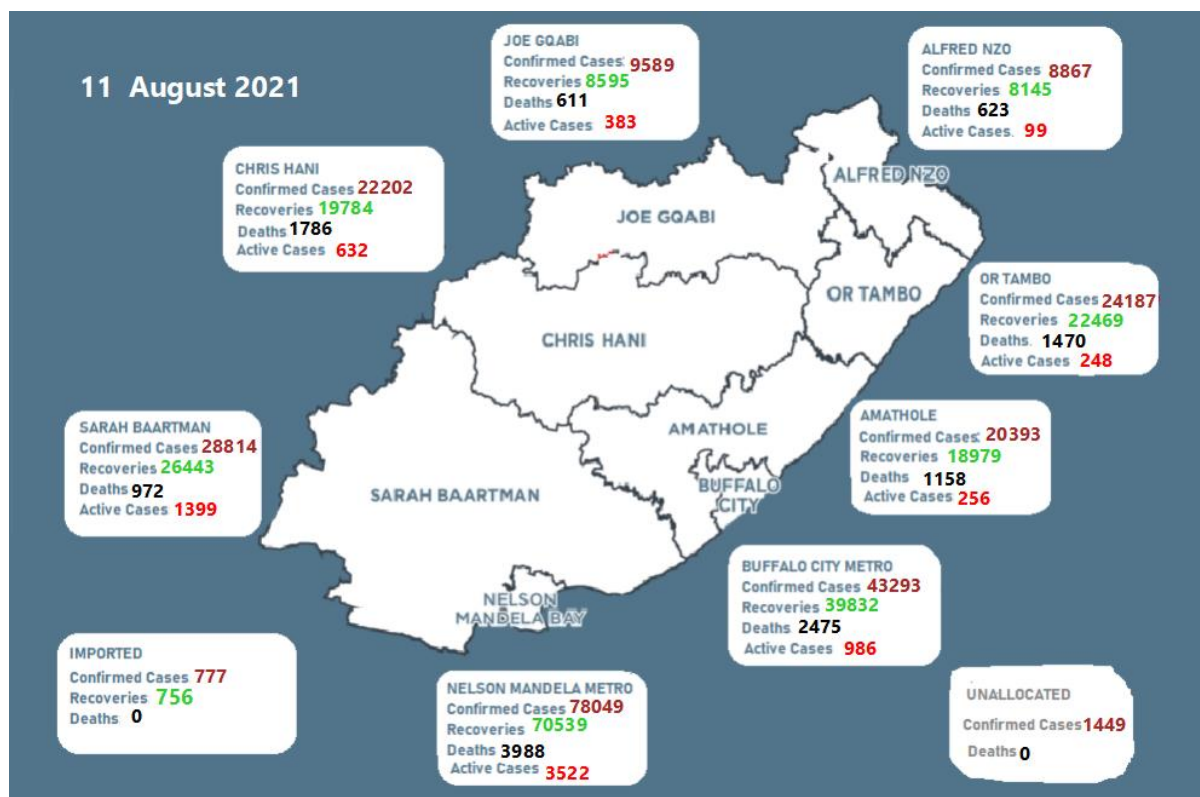


Fig. 13. The number of Covid-19 cases, recoveries, and deaths, as of 11 August 2021

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

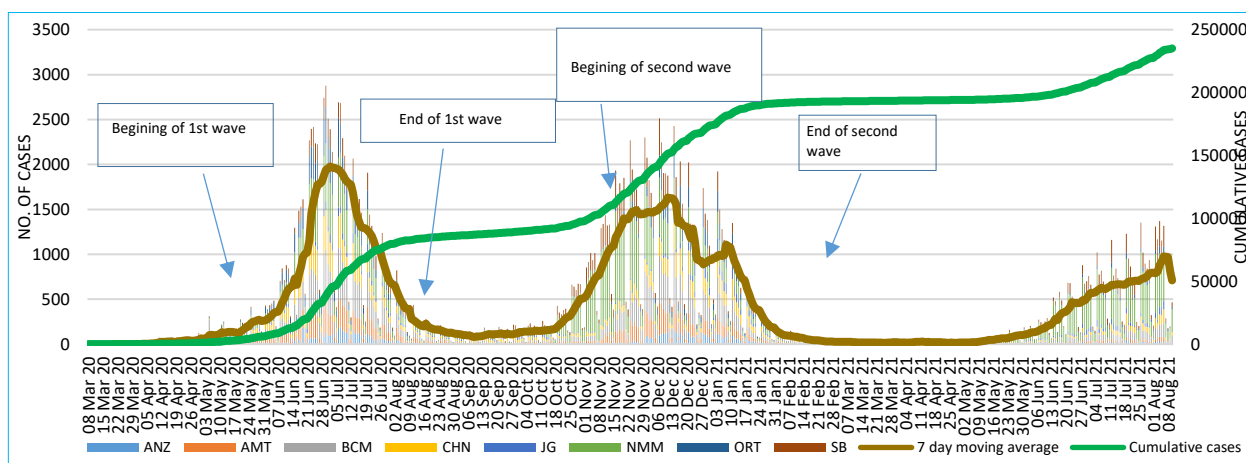


Fig. 14. The 7-day moving average for SARS-Cov-2 cases by date of collection, as of 11th Aug. 2021
After an increase in the number of new cases from the beginning of June, the number of cases were showing a decline in the end of July.

7. SARS-Cov-2 RELATED MORTALITY

7.1. SARS-Cov-2 related deaths

The table below provides the number of cases, deaths, and mortality rate by 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	2,2	8,7	4,2
Jun 20	23793	1036	7,9	4,4	15,4
Jul 20	50291	2036	15,6	4,0	30,3
Aug 20	8295	669	5,1	8,1	10,0
Sep 20	2992	213	1,6	7,1	3,2
Oct 20	8626	287	2,2	3,3	4,3
Nov 20	34232	1710	13,1	5,0	25,5
Dec 20	42757	2778	21,2	6,5	41,4
Jan 21	18169	1922	14,7	10,6	28,6
Feb 21	1708	312	2,4	18,3	4,6
Mar 21	701	107	0,8	15,3	1,6
Apr 21	626	56	0,4	8,9	0,8
May 21	1902	94	0,7	4,9	1,4
Jun 21	9062	259	2,0	2,9	3,9
Jul 21	22789	911	7,0	4,0	13,6
Aug 21	7744	227	1,7	2,9	3,4
Unknown	0	145	1,1	0,0	2,2
Total	237620	13083	100,0	5,5	194,9

Twenty-two percent (21.4%) of the deaths occurred in December; 14.8% in January; 2.4% in February; 0.8% in March; 0.4% in April; 0.7% in May, 2% in June, 7% in July and 1% in August. The Case Fatality Rate was 6.5% in December, 10.6% in January, 18.3% in February, 15.3% in March, 8.9% in April, 4.9% in May, 2.9% in June, 4% in July and 2.9% in August.

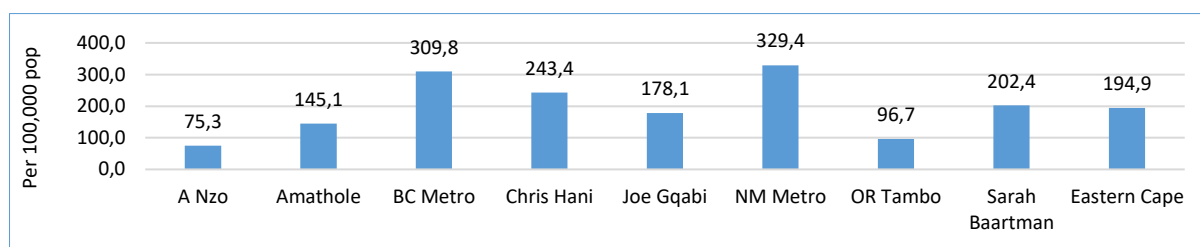


Fig. 15. SARS-Cov-2 related mortality per 100,000 by district, as of 11th Aug. 2021

The provincial mortality rate was 194,9 deaths per 100,000 populations. NM Metro reported the highest mortality rate at 329,4 per 100,000; followed by BC Metro (309,8 per 100,000); Chris Hani (243,4 per 100,000) and Sarah Baartman (202,4 per 100,000).

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

The figure below depicts the daily and cumulative number of SARS-Cov-2 related deaths which occurred in the province from the beginning of the pandemic.

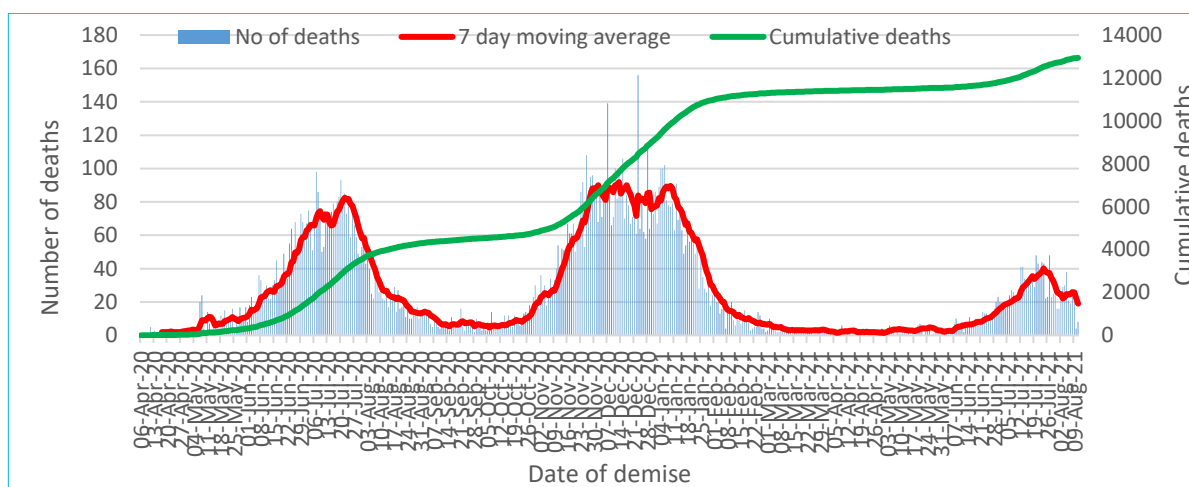


Fig. 16. Daily and cum. SARS-Cov-2 related deaths by date of demise, as of 11 August 2021

After a severe second wave, the number of deaths decreased with the number of cases. The number of deaths appear to have increased in July compared to June. As the number of cases increased, the number of deaths also increased. In the last part of July, the number of deaths appear to the decreasing with the decrease in the number of cases.

7.3. Case Fatality Rate by district

Chris Hani reported 8,0% of the SARS-Cov-2 deaths, followed by Alfred Nzo (7,0%), Joe Gqabi (6,3%), OR Tambo (6,1%), Amathole (5,7%), BC Metro (5,7%), NM Metro (5,1%) and the lowest being Sarah Baartman (3,4%).

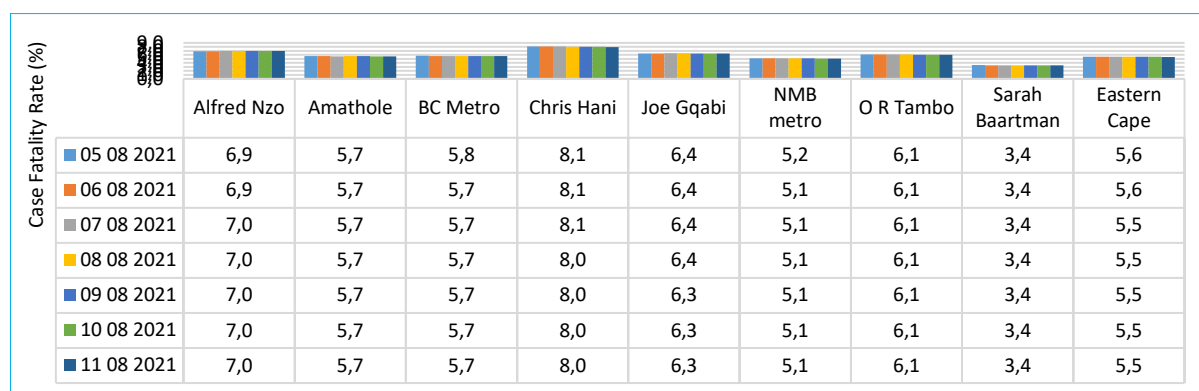


Fig. 17. SARS-Cov-2 Case Fatality Rate (%) by district, as of 11 August 2021 (N=13,083)

The case fatality rate has decreased by 1,8% in the province. There was a change in case fatality rate in 5 districts, except in Amathole, OR Tambo and Sarah Baartman.

7.4. Case Fatality Rate by age group

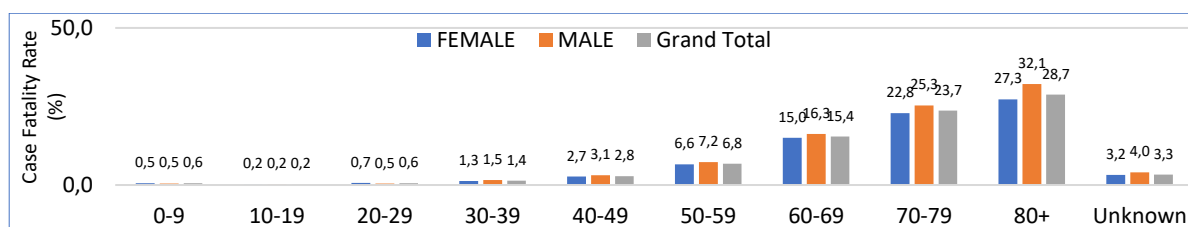


Fig. 18. SARS-Cov-2 related Case Fatality Rate (%) by age group, as of 11 Aug. 2021

The case fatality rate increases with increasing age. The younger population reported 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. Excess versus reported deaths

Data is from the Medical Research Council (as of 3rd Aug. 2021) and ECDOH (as of 09th Aug).

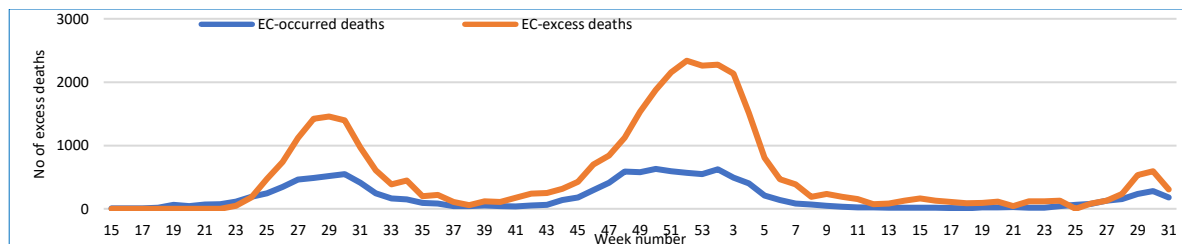


Fig. 19. Excess & reported Covid-19 deaths by week, as of 10th Aug. 2021 (ECDOH, MRC¹)

The number of excess deaths was 36,000 in the E. Cape, 3,883 in BC Metro and 5,796 in NM Metro, and 26,321 from other districts. The gap between the numbers of reported SARS-Cov-2 related deaths and excess deaths appears to be narrower in BC Metro and NM Metro compared to the provincial figures.

¹ Medical Research Council (MRC) data was updated on the 03 Aug. 2021

Like the provincial figures, there were notable gaps during the first and second peaks of the pandemic.

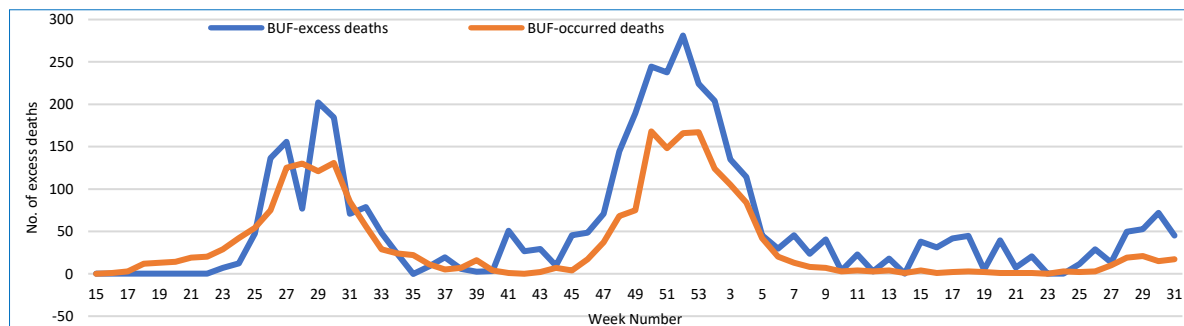


Fig. 20. Reported SARS-Cov-2 versus excess deaths in BC Metro, as of the 10th Aug. 2021

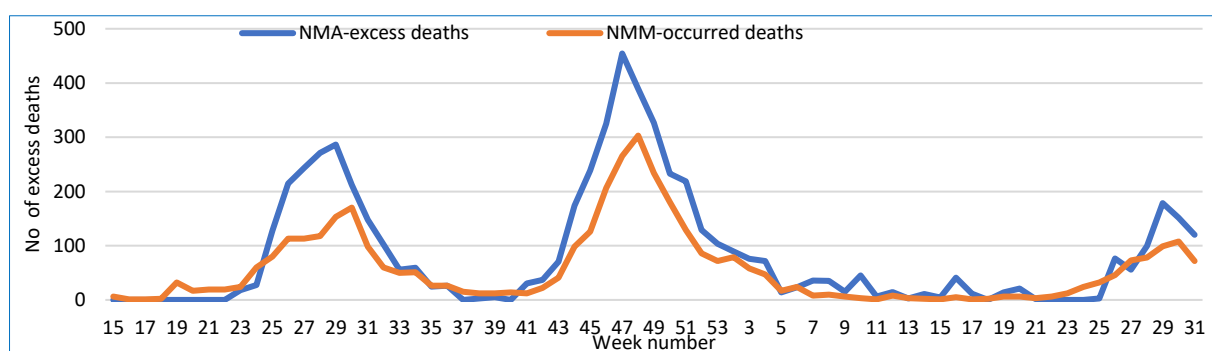


Fig. 21. Reported SARS-Cov-2 versus excess deaths in NM Metro, as of the 10th Aug. 2021

Figures 20 and 21 shows that the gap between the number of excess deaths in BC Metro and NM Metro appears to be narrower, which is contrary to the provincial picture.

7.6. Post-mortem tests (PMTs) and results

As of the 10th August, there were 4,318 PMTs which were done and 1,125 (26,1%) confirmed positive for SARS-Cov-2.

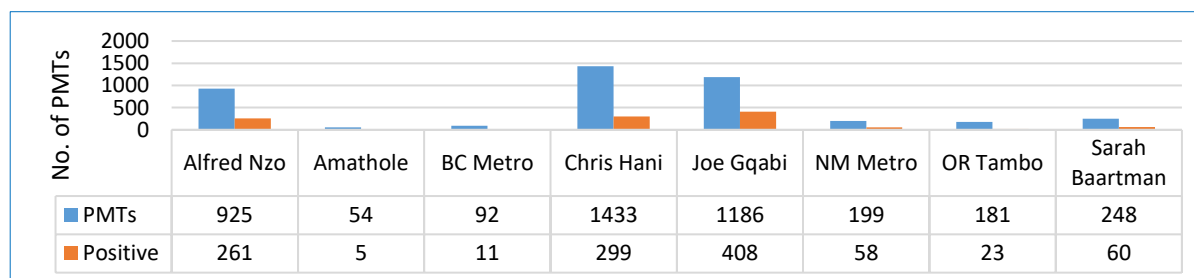


Fig. 22. Number of Post-Mortem Tests & Positive Cases by district, as of 11th Aug. 2021

Of all the PMTs, 3,544 (82,1%) were from Alfred Nzo, Chris Hani, and Joe Gqabi. Similarly, 968 (86,0%) of the 1,113 confirmed cases were from the 3 districts.

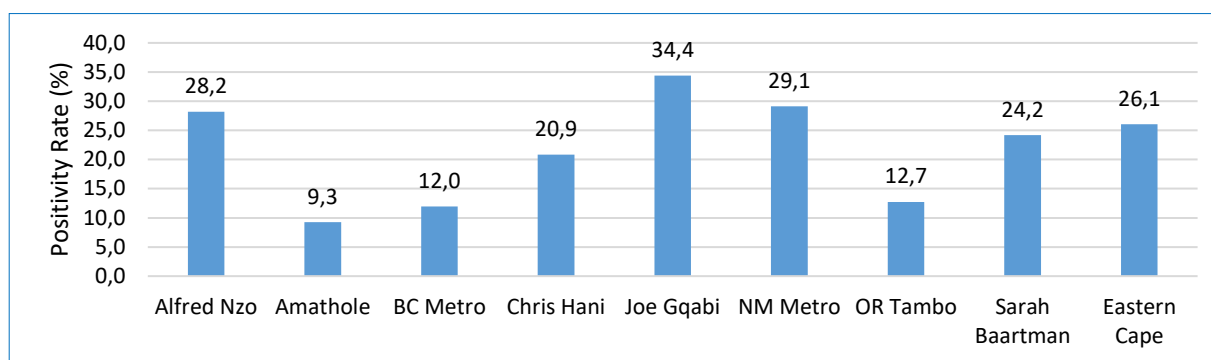


Fig. 23. Post-mortem SARS-Cov-2 positivity rate by district, as of 11 August 2021

Twenty-six percent (26,1%) of the PMTs tested positive. Joe Gqabi reported the highest positivity rate, followed by NM Metro, Alfred Nzo, Sarah Baartman and Chris Hani. In the past 24 days, 571 PMTs were conducted and 159 tested positive for SARS-Cov-2.

	18-24 Jul		25-31 Jul		01-07 Aug		08-10 Aug		18 Jul-10 Aug	
	PMTs	Positive	PMTs	Positive	PMTs	Positive	PMTs	Positive	PMTs	Positive
Alfred Nzo	51	19	33	11	26	7	4	1	114	38
Amathole			4	1	4	0			8	1
BC Metro	3		8	1	0	0	1		12	1
Chris Hani	60	20	53	11	44	5	33	8	190	44
Joe Gqabi	36	11	39	12	32	11	6	0	113	34
NM Metro	29	5	33	16	15	2	5	2	82	25
OR Tambo	12	3	12	1	8	0	4	2	36	6
Sarah Baartman	10	6	2	1	4	3			16	10
Eastern Cape	201	64	184	54	133	28	53	13	571	159

Fifty-three (53) tests were done in this current week and 13 tested positive. Majority of the tests and confirmed cases were from Chris Hani in the current week.

7.6. Deaths by health facilities

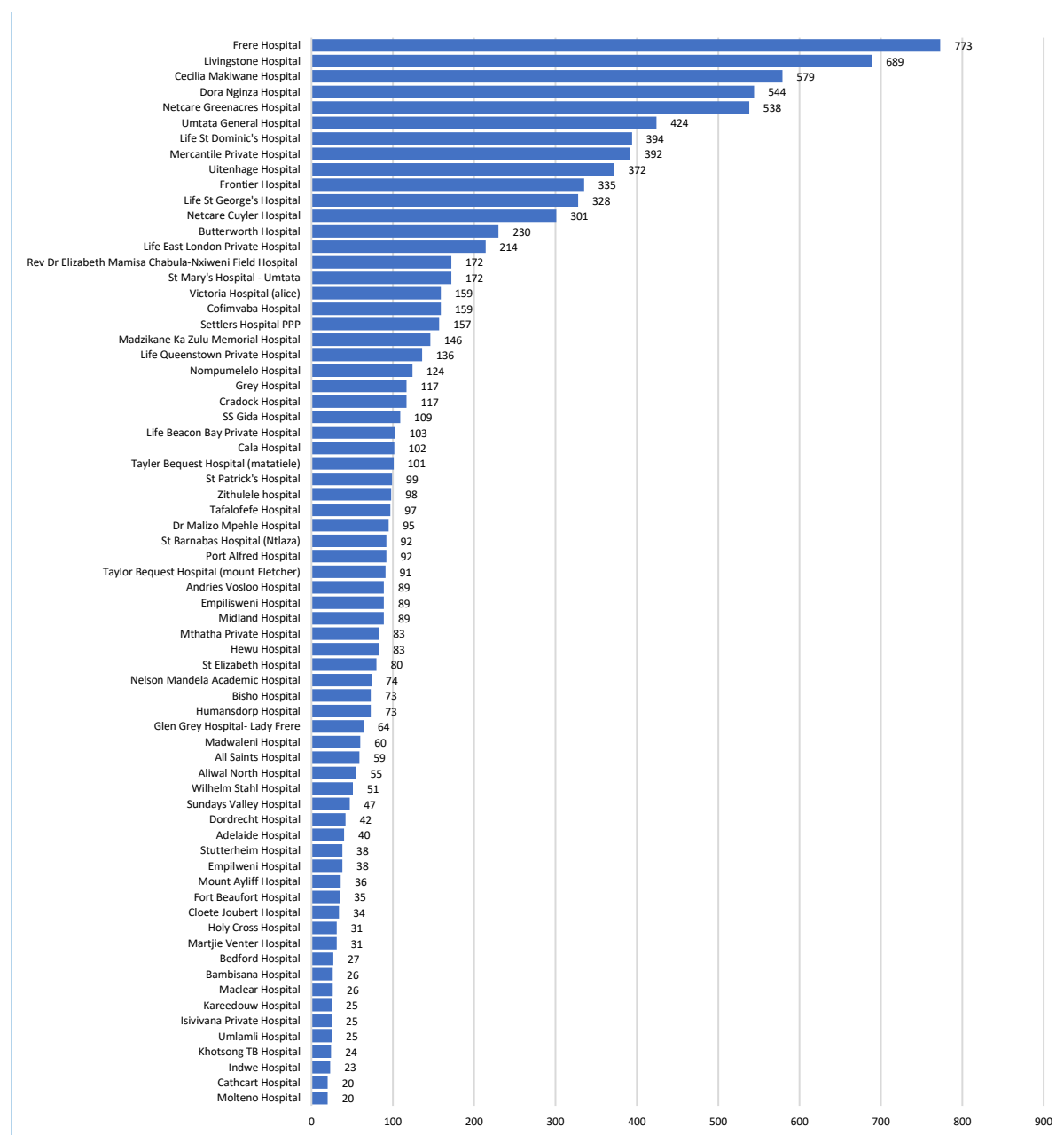


Fig. 24. Number of SARS-Cov-2 related deaths by the facility, as of 09 Aug. 2021

Fifty-eight percent (58,1%) of the deaths occurred in 14 hospitals, i.e., 8 public and 6 private sectors. The public hospitals include Frere, Livingstone, CMH, Dora Nginza, Frontier, Mthatha, Uitenhage, and Butterworth hospitals. And the private hospitals include Netcare Greenacres, Life St. Dominics, Mercantile, Life St Georges, and Netcare Cuyler and Life East London Private hospitals. These hospitals reported more than 200 deaths from the beginning of the pandemic. Only hospitals with a minimum of 20 deaths are included in the above-mentioned figure.

6. HEALTHCARE WORKERS

6.1. Cases and deaths among healthcare workers (HCWs)

The number of HCWs who tested SARS-Cov-2 positive was 12,438 and 321 demised.

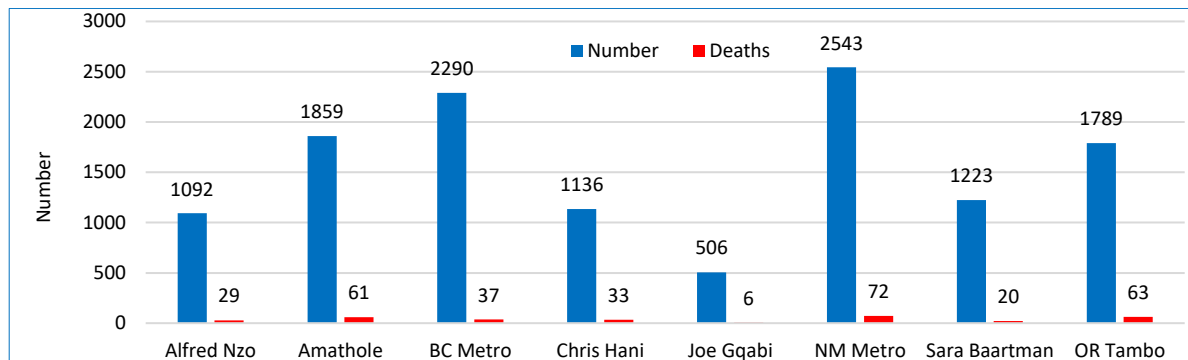


Fig. 25. SARS-Cov-2 positive Healthcare Workers, as of 11th August 2021 (N = 12,438)

The number of HCWs who tested positive for SARS-Cov-2 in NM Metro 2,543 (72 deaths), BC Metro 2,290 (37 deaths), Amathole 1,859 (61 deaths), OR Tambo 1,789 (63 deaths), Sarah Baartman 1,223 (20 deaths), Chris Hani 1,136 (33 deaths), Alfred Nzo 1,092 cases (29 deaths) and Joe Gqabi (506 cases, 6 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	864	6,9
Allied Professionals	3041	262	8,6
Doctors & Clinical Assoc	2369	474	20,0
Nurses	20650	5099	24,7
Emergency Medical Services	2498	297	11,9

The positivity rate among the nurses was 24,7%, followed by doctors and clinical associates (20%), allied professionals (8,6%), EMS (11,9%), and admin personnel (6,9%). 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 cumulative number of admissions was 1,223 health workers. From January to date, 183 healthcare workers were hospitalized, i.e., 73 on January, 20 in February, 7 on March, 9 in April, 13 in May, 16 in June, 33 in July and 12 in August. The last admission was on the 08th and 10th August from BC Metro and NM Metro.

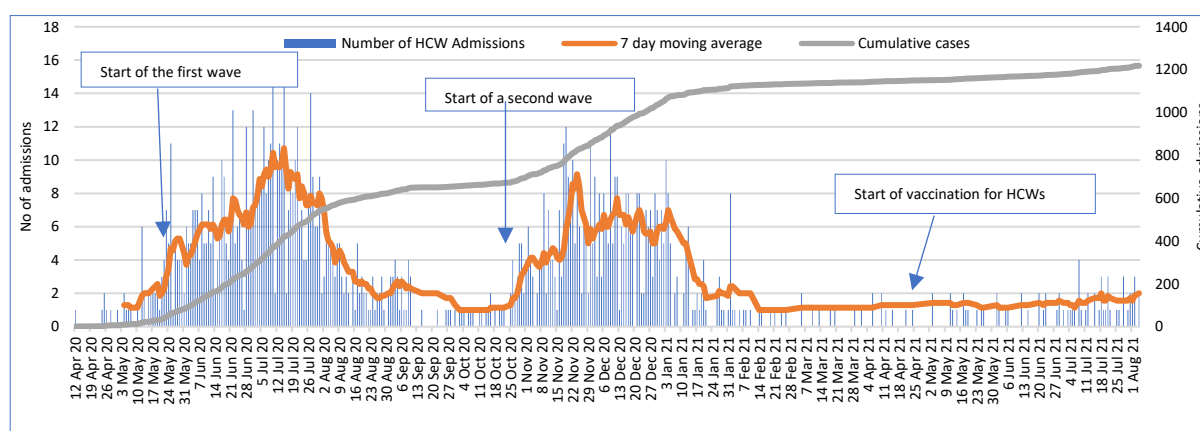


Fig. 26. No. of SARS-Cov-2 related admissions of healthcare workers, as of 11 Aug. 2021
There is an increase in the number of hospitalizations in July compared to June month.

6.4. Vaccine Breakthrough Infections among HCWs

A vaccine breakthrough infection is defined as the detection of SARS-Cov-2 RNA or antigen in a respiratory specimen collected from a person ≥ 14 days after they have completed all recommended doses of the Covid-19 vaccine (adapted from CDC 2021).

	Vaccinated & positive	Admitted
Alfred Nzo	10	2
Amathole	7	2
BC Metro	8	1
Chris Hani	0	0
Joe Gqabi	6	0
NM Metro	106	2
OR Tambo	9	0
Sarah Baartman	22	0
Eastern Cape	168	7

The number of vaccine breakthrough infections was 168, with only 7 cases which were admitted and discharged. Majority of the reported cases were from NM Metro followed by Sarah Baartman, Alfred Nzo and OR Tambo, and other districts.

6.5. Case Fatality Rate (%) among HCWs

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

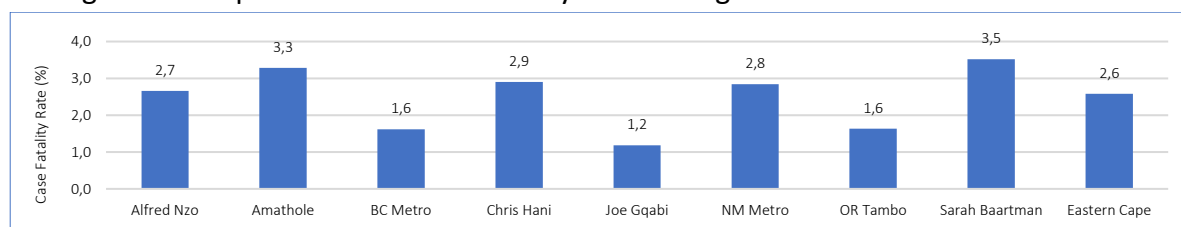


Fig. 27. SARS-Cov-2 Case Fatality Rate (%) among HCWs, as of 09 August 2021 (N=321)

The case fatality rate among healthcare workers was 2,6%. Five (5) districts reported more than 2% case fatality rate and only 3 with less than 2%. Sarah Baartman reported the highest case fatality rate, followed by Amathole, NM Metro, Chris Hani, and Alfred Nzo.

7. Hospitalization and outcomes

7.1. Admissions and outcomes

In the past 24 hours, 39 admissions were reported from all the districts (see Table 12). The cumulative hospitalizations were 36,201, i.e. 24,542 (67,8%) in public and 11,659 (32,2%) in private. Sixty-four percent (63,7%), i.e., 23,070 of the hospitalized patients were discharged alive and 14,571 (63,1%) occurred in public sector. About 10,619 (29,3%) demised and 7,835 (73,8%) in public sector.

Districts	Public	Private	Total	Died	Case Fatality Rate (%)	Discharged to date	Discharged (%)
Alfred Nzo	1788	123	1911	464	24,3	1160	60,7
Amathole	2477	0	2477	927	37,4	1484	59,9
BC Metro	4482	3592	8074	2213	27,4	5696	70,5
Chris Hani	2845	858	3703	1265	34,2	2276	61,5
Joe Gqabi	857	0	857	369	43,1	433	50,5
NM Metro	7357	5835	13192	3495	26,5	8407	63,7
O R Tambo	2605	1043	3648	1215	33,3	2214	60,7
Sarah Baartman	2131	208	2339	671	28,7	1400	59,9
Eastern Cape	24542	11659	36201	10619	29,3	23070	63,7

Joe Gqabi has the highest case fatality rate (43,1%) among the hospitalized, followed by Amathole (37,4%), Chris Hani (34,2%) and OR Tambo (33,3%). BC Metro discharged more than 70% of the hospitalized and the lowest discharge rate was seen in Joe Gqabi (50,5%).

Eastern Cape	Public	Private	Total
Cumulative Admissions	24542	11659	36201
Died	7835	2784	10619
Discharged Alive	14571	8499	23070
Transferred Out	1598	52	1650
Currently Admitted	519	314	833
In ICU	3	81	84
In High Care	14	8	22
In General	502	225	727
On Oxygen	210	34	244
Ventilated	93	21	114

Of the 833 currently admitted, 519 (62,3%) occurred in public and 314 (37,7%) in private. Hospitalizations in General ward were 727, i.e., 502 in public and 225 in private; 84 in ICU, i.e. 3 in public and 81 in private; 22 in High Care, i.e., 14 in public and 8 in private; 244 on oxygen, i.e., 210 in public and 34 in private; and 114 on ventilation, i.e., 93 in public and 21 in private.

Districts	Currently admitted	In ICU	Ventilated	Oxygenated	Admitted in Past Day
Alfred Nzo	22	0	0	13	1
Amathole	21	0	0	11	1
BC Metro	130	26	3	15	7
Chris Hani	84	9	1	35	9
Joe Gqabi	14	0	0	5	1
NM Metro	374	45	109	70	12
O R Tambo	110	4	1	56	6
Sarah Baartman	78	0	0	39	2
Eastern Cape	833	84	114	244	39

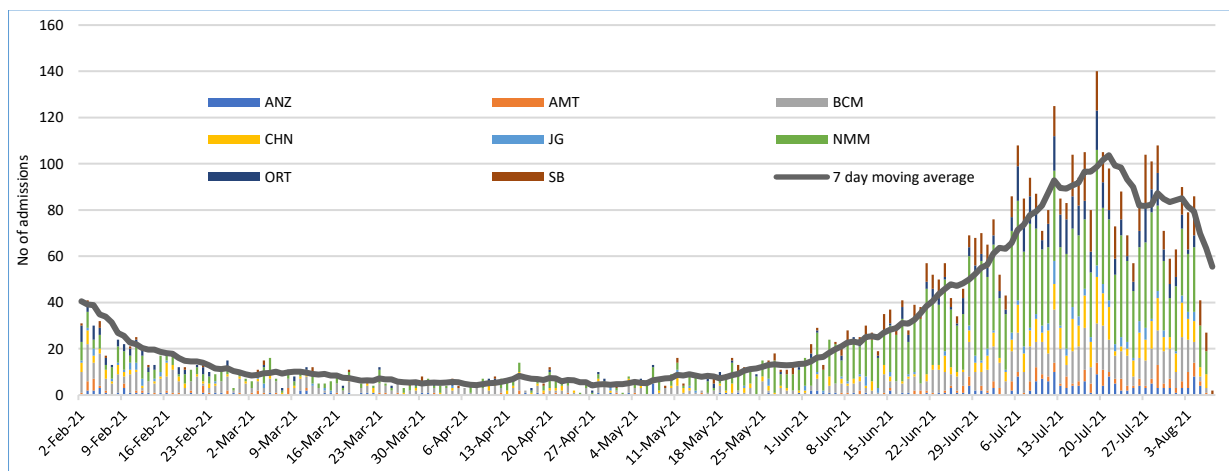


Fig. 28. Average (7 days moving) daily admissions by districts, as of 09 Aug. 2021 (DATCOV)

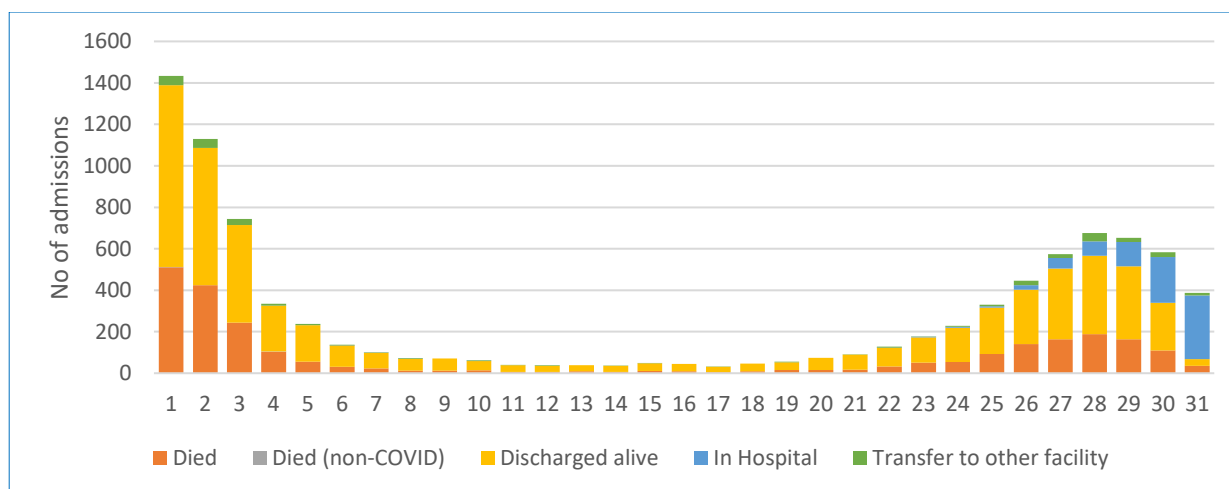


Fig. 29. Hospitalizations & outcomes by admission week, as of 09 Aug. 2021 (DATCOV)

There was an increase in the number of patients who remained in hospital from week 24 to week 28 and shown a decline to week 31.

7.2. Co-morbidities among admitted cases and deaths

The most common co-morbidities among the hospitalized SARS-Cov-2 patients were hypertension (44,2%) and diabetes (28,9%) among hospitalized SARS-Cov-2 cases. Two other commonly reported co-morbidities HIV (8,8%), obesity (6,7%) and asthma (4,1%).

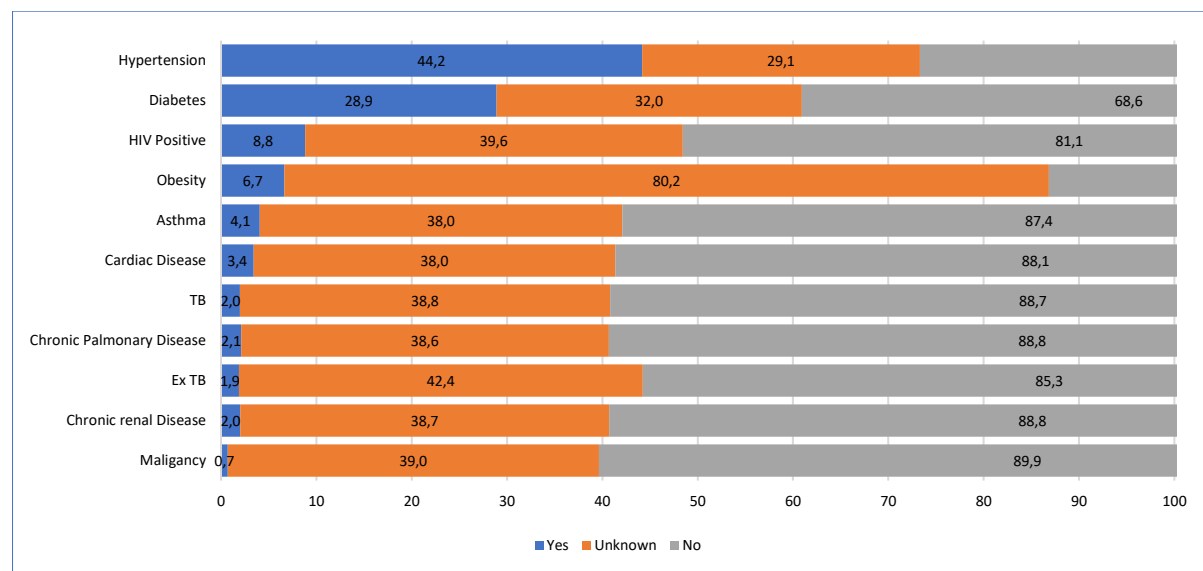


Fig. 30. Co-morbidities among SARS-Cov-2 hospitalizations, as of 09 Aug. 2021 (DATCOV)

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

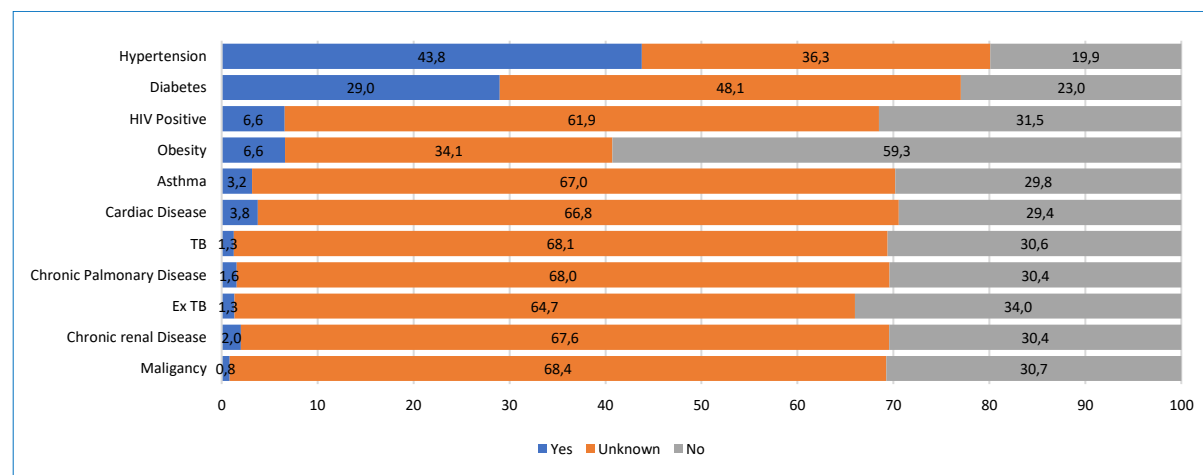


Fig. 31. Co-morbidities among SARS-Cov-2 cases who demised, as of 09 Aug. 2021 (DATCOV)

The most common comorbidities among those cases that demised in the hospital include hypertension (43,8%) and diabetes (29,0%). Other 4 co-morbidities were reported, i.e. HIV (6,6%), obesity (6,6%), cardiac diseases (3,8%), and asthma (3,2%).



3 577 773

No Screened



1 175 444

Total Lab Tests



237 620

Positive Cases



216 862

Recoveries



13 083

Deaths

DISTRICT	TOTAL SCREENED	TOTAL TESTED	TOTAL CASES	RECOVERIES	DEATHS	ACTIVE CASES	AREAS
ALFRED NZO	694 706	36 946	8 867	8 145	623	99	Badibanise,Bhakubha,Bizana,Brooksnek,Cedarville,Chithwa,Dutyini,Emanxiweni,Ezinteteni,Kokstad,Lucingweni,Maluti, Mandileni , Matatiele,Mount Ayliff, Mount Frere , Ndiantana, Ngcingo , Ntabakhulu, Sugar Bush, Tabankulu
AMATHOLE	658 126	89 687	20 393	18 979	1158	256	Adelaide, Alice, Bolotwa, Butterworth, Cathcart, Centane, Cuba, Debe Nek, Dikana, Elliotdale, Ethafeni, Frankfort, Fort Beaufort, Ibika, Idutywa, Keiskammahoe, Willowale, Lower Mhangcolo,Debe Nek, Mbababa, Nyaniso, Peddie
BUFFALO CITY METRO	210 367	174 640	43 293	39 832	2475	986	Abbottsford, Amalinda , Beacon Bay, Bisho, Brae Lynn, Buffalo Flats, Dimbaza, Duncan Village, East London, Ginsberg, Gonubie, Greenfields, Haven Hills, King William's Town, Mamata, Mdantsane, Masingata, Mantlani, Nahoon, Ndevana, Needs Camp, Parkside, Selbourne, Sunnyridge, Sunset Bay,Tshatshu, Vincent, West Bank, Zweitssha
CHRIS HANI	515 346	83 228	22 202	19 784	1786	632	Bankies, Dordrecht, Dukathole, Ekunene, Ezibeleni, Kwanobuhle, Mcwangele, Madeira Park, New Rest, Ngqobo, Ngonyama, Popcorn Valley, Gebe, Qoqodala, Queenstown, Sigadleni, Vaalbank, Sada, Middleburg, Thornhill, Ndzamel, Mlungisi,Westbourne,Nttonze, Maya Village,Ekuphumleni, TopTown, Vleipoort, Zola
JOE GOABI	87 855	36 192	9 589	8 595	611	383	Aliwal North, Barkley East, Bhodi, Land Camp, Ugie, Inglewood, Maclear, Solomzi, Sunduza,Robberv, Venterstad
NELSON MANDELA METRO	856 883	284 618	78 049	70 539	3988	3 522	Algoa Park, Bethelsdorp, Bloemendal, Bluewater Bay, Booyens Park, Cotswold, Cuyler, Daleview, Despatch, Fernglen Port, Gelvandale, Govan Mbeki, Heath Park, Helenvale, Jacksonville, Joe Slovo, Kabega Park, Kamama Park, Kamvelihle, Khayaletu, Kleinskool, Kwa Dwesi, Kwa-Magxaki, Kwanobuhle, Kwanoxolo, KwaZakhele, Lovemore Heights, Missionvale, Motherwell, Mount Croix, New Brighton, Newton Park ,North End, Port Elizabeth, Rowallan Park, Salt Lake, Sardinia Bay, Schauderville, Sherwood, Silvertown, Soweto-On-Sea, Steve Tshwete, Summerstrand, Tamboville, Uitenhage, Veeplaas, Walmer, West End, Westering, Zwide, Lorraine, Hillside, Daleview
OR TAMBO	265 613	105 178	24 187	22 469	1470	248	Gomora, Lutatweni, Machibi, Majola, Mandilini ,New Payne Ngqeleni, Ntsimbini, Old Payne, Libode, Lusikisiki, Mqanduli, Tombo, Marhewini, Mpiwana,Bhongweni,Cibeni, Flagstaff,Magcakeni,Ngangeizwe, Ngqanda,Tyebelana, Pollar Park, Tabase Mission, Slovo Park, Southernwood, Waterfall Park, Zandukwana,Zimbane, Ziphunzana
SARAH BAARTMAN	288 877	127 607	28 814	26 443	972	1 399	Aberdeen,Alexandria, Graaf-Reinet, Grahamstown, Jeffrey's Bay, Joubertina, Humansdorp, Parson, St. Francis Bay, Kirkwood, Lotusville, Bergendal, Bratenfet, Joza, Santaville, Somerset East, Thornhill, Willomore
IMPORTED*	-	0	777	756	0	21	Bloemfontein, Ceres, Cape Town, Dunoon, Fishoek, George, Green Point, Gugulethu, Hout Bay, Langa, Khayelitsha, Knysna, Phillipi, Stellenbosch, Strand
PENDING	-	237 348	1449	1320	0	129	
GRAND TOTALS	3 577 773	1 175 444	237 620	216 862	13 083	7 675	

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 repurposed 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.

	PROVINCE					
Indicator	Description	week 30	week 31	% change	Phase/Th reshold	Target
New cases (seven day moving Average)	COVID-19 cases (percentage change from previous week)	608	687	13,0		< 10% increase from previous week
Active cases incidence	Active COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population	98,98	127,28	28,6		< 10% increase from previous week
Current COVID-19 hospital admissions	Current COVID-19 hospital admissions (Public and Private)	796	813	2,1		< 10% increase from previous week
COVID-19 mortality	COVID-19 deaths in the last 7 days	2,69	2,32	-13,8		< 10% increase from previous week
All cause mortality						
Positivity Rate	Percentage of positive tests of all tests conducted within a geographical area		15,2			Positivity rate rising above 20% in ageographical area constitute an alert
Testing rate	Number of tests/ 100000 population		479			Testing rate should be 200 cases per 100000 population

	ALFRED NZO					
Indicator	Description	week 30	week 31	% change	Phase/Th reshold	Target
New cases (seven day moving Average)	COVID-19 cases (percentage change from previous week)	15	18	20,0		< 10% increase from previous week
Active cases incidence	Active COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population	11,84	16,19	36,7		< 10% increase from previous week
Current COVID-19 hospital admissions	Current COVID-19 hospital admissions (Public and Private)	21	22	4,8		< 10% increase from previous week
COVID-19 mortality	COVID-19 deaths in the last 7 days	2,17	1,57	-27,6		< 10% increase from previous week
All cause mortality						
Positivity Rate	Percentage of positive tests of all tests conducted within a geographical area		9,3			Positivity rate rising above 20% in ageographical area constitute an alert
Testing rate	Number of tests/ 100000 population		164			Testing rate should be 200 cases per 100000 population

	AMATHOLE					
Indicator	Description	week 30	week 31	% change	Phase/Th reshold	Target
New cases (seven day moving Average)	COVID-19 cases (percentage change from previous week)	15	20	33,3		< 10% increase from previous week
Active cases incidence	Active COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population	32,33	34,96	8,1		< 10% increase from previous week
Current COVID-19 hospital admissions	Current COVID-19 hospital admissions (Public and Private)	21	28	33,3		< 10% increase from previous week
COVID-19 mortality	COVID-19 deaths in the last 7 days	0,63	1,13	79,4		< 10% increase from previous week
All cause mortality						
Positivity Rate	Percentage of positive tests of all tests conducted within a geographical area		16,2			Positivity rate rising above 20% in ageographical area constitute an alert
Testing rate	Number of tests/ 100000 population		110			Testing rate should be 200 cases per 100000 population

BUFFALO CITY METRO						
Indicator	Description	week 30	week 31	% change	Phase/Threshold	Target
New cases (seven day moving Average)	COVID-19 cases (percentage change from previous week)	73	92	26,0		< 10% increase from previous week
Active cases incidence	Active COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population	126,30	131,57	4,2		< 10% increase from previous week
Current COVID-19 hospital admissions	Current COVID-19 hospital admissions (Public and Private)	94	113	20,2		< 10% increase from previous week
COVID-19 mortality	COVID-19 deaths in the last 7 days	2,13	1,50	-29,6		< 10% increase from previous week
All cause mortality						
Positivity Rate	Percentage of positive tests of all tests conducted within a geographical area		33,9			Positivity rate rising above 20% in ageographical area constitute an alert
Testing rate	Number of tests/ 100000 population		238			Testing rate should be 200 cases per 100000 population

CHRIS HANI						
Indicator	Description	week 30	week 31	% change	Phase/Threshold	Target
New cases (seven day moving Average)	COVID-19 cases (percentage change from previous week)	38	54	42,1		< 10% increase from previous week
Active cases incidence	Active COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population	68,14	86,95	27,6		< 10% increase from previous week
Current COVID-19 hospital admissions	Current COVID-19 hospital admissions (Public and Private)	70	76	8,6		< 10% increase from previous week
COVID-19 mortality	COVID-19 deaths in the last 7 days	3,13	2,59	-17,3		< 10% increase from previous week
All cause mortality						
Positivity Rate	Percentage of positive tests of all tests conducted within a geographical area		16,2			Positivity rate rising above 20% in ageographical area constitute an alert
Testing rate	Number of tests/ 100000 population		319			Testing rate should be 200 cases per 100000 population

JOE GQABI						
Indicator	Description	week 30	week 31	% change	Phase/Threshold	Target
New cases (seven day moving Average)	COVID-19 cases (percentage change from previous week)	20	27	35,0		< 10% increase from previous week
Active cases incidence	Active COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population	66,75	85,11	27,5		< 10% increase from previous week
Current COVID-19 hospital admissions	Current COVID-19 hospital admissions (Public and Private)	17	12	-29,4		< 10% increase from previous week
COVID-19 mortality	COVID-19 deaths in the last 7 days	6,12	5,25	-14,2		< 10% increase from previous week
All cause mortality						
Positivity Rate	Percentage of positive tests of all tests conducted within a geographical area		21,8			Positivity rate rising above 20% in ageographical area constitute an alert
Testing rate	Number of tests/ 100000 population		249			Testing rate should be 200 cases per 100000 population

NELSON MANDELA BAY						
Indicator	Description	week 30	week 31	% change	Phase/Threshold	Target
New cases (seven day moving Average)	COVID-19 cases (percentage change from previous week)	314	330	5,1		< 10% increase from previous week
Active cases incidence	Active COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population	245,30	348,28	42,0		< 10% increase from previous week
Current COVID-19 hospital admissions	Current COVID-19 hospital admissions (Public and Private)	405	386	-4,7		< 10% increase from previous week
COVID-19 mortality	COVID-19 deaths in the last 7 days	6,19	4,87	-21,3		< 10% increase from previous week
All cause mortality						
Positivity Rate	Percentage of positive tests of all tests conducted within a geographical area		23,9			Positivity rate rising above 20% in ageographical area constitute an alert
Testing rate	Number of tests/ 100000 population		799			Testing rate should be 200 cases per 100000 population

OR TAMBO						
Indicator	Description	week 30	week 31	% change	Phase/Threshold	Target
New cases (seven day moving Average)	COVID-19 cases (percentage change from previous week)	30	34	13,3		< 10% increase from previous week
Active cases incidence	Active COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population	24,06	27,02	12,3		< 10% increase from previous week
Current COVID-19 hospital admissions	Current COVID-19 hospital admissions (Public and Private)	99	89	-10,1		< 10% increase from previous week
COVID-19 mortality	COVID-19 deaths in the last 7 days	0,53	0,46	-13,2		< 10% increase from previous week
All cause mortality						
Positivity Rate	Percentage of positive tests of all tests conducted within a geographical area		9,7			Positivity rate rising above 20% in ageographical area constitute an alert
Testing rate	Number of tests/ 100000 population		161			Testing rate should be 200 cases per 100000 population

SARAH BAARTMAN						
Indicator	Description	week 30	week 31	% change	Phase/Threshold	Target
New cases (seven day moving Average)	COVID-19 cases (percentage change from previous week)	102	112	9,8		< 10% increase from previous week
Active cases incidence	Active COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population	251,80	301,11	19,6		< 10% increase from previous week
Current COVID-19 hospital admissions	Current COVID-19 hospital admissions (Public and Private)	69	87	26,1		< 10% increase from previous week
COVID-19 mortality	COVID-19 deaths in the last 7 days	2,92	3,96	35,6		< 10% increase from previous week
All cause mortality						
Positivity Rate	Percentage of positive tests of all tests conducted within a geographical area		19,5			Positivity rate rising above 20% in ageographical area constitute an alert
Testing rate	Number of tests/ 100000 population		837			Testing rate should be 200 cases per 100000 population