

Daily Epidemiological Report for SARS-Cov-2

Report No. 502

Date Issued: 18th 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 18th August 2021.

2. HIGHLIGHTS

2.1. New cases, active cases, and recoveries

- In the past 24 hours, 1,877 new cases and 52.8% of the new cases were from NM Metro (648 cases; 34.5%) and Sarah Baartman (344 cases; 18.3%); 18.3% from Amathole (86 cases; 4.6%) and BC Metro (258 cases; 13.7%); 14.7% from Chris Hani (211 cases; 11.2%) and Joe Gqabi (66 cases; 3.5%); and 18.2% were from Alfred Nzo (60 cases; 3.2%) and OR Tambo (150 cases; 8%).
- Of the 11,312 active cases, 51.5% were from NM Metro (3,872 cases; 34.2%) and Sarah Baartman (1,954 cases; 17.3%); 17.3% from Amathole (604 cases; 5.3%) and BC Metro (1,354 cases; 12%); 19.3% from Chris Hani (1,225 cases; 10.8%) and Joe Gqabi (957 cases; 8.5%); and 9.5% from Alfred Nzo (189 cases; 1.7%) and OR Tambo (880 cases; 7.8%).
- The number of recoveries were 223,517, i.e. 90.1% recovery rate.

2.2. SARS-Cov-2 related deaths

- In the past 24 hours, 54 deaths were reported (36 occurred in the past 48 hours).

2.3. Hospitalizations and outcomes

- In the past 24 hours, 85 admissions were reported (see Table 13). The cumulative hospitalizations were 37,025 with 63.8% of the hospitalized patients discharged alive and 14,943 (63.2%) occurred in public sector. About 10,806 (29.3%) demised & 7,988 (73.9%) in public sector.

- Joe Gqabi has the highest case fatality rate (43.1%) among the hospitalized, followed by Amathole (37.4%), Chris Hani (34.1%) and OR Tambo (33.4%). BC Metro discharged more than 70% of the hospitalized and the lowest discharge rate was seen in Joe Gqabi (50.9%).
- As on 15 August, hospitalization has decreased by 21.6% from weeks 31 to 32. However, 3.8% increase was reported in Chris Hani. Similarly, the number of deaths among hospitalized cases has also decreased by 25.8% in the province. It is only in Joe Gqabi where there was no change on the number of deaths
- Of the 885 currently admitted patients, 563 (63.6%) occurred in public and 322 (36.4%) in private. Hospitalizations in General ward were 756, i.e. 540 in public and 216 in private; 100 in ICU, i.e. 5 in public and 95 in private; 29 in High Care, i.e. 18 in public and 11 in private; 222 on oxygen, i.e. 189 in public and 33 in private; and 93 on ventilation, i.e. 61 in public and 32 in private.

2.4 Healthcare workers

- The cumulative number of healthcare workers who tested positive for SARS-Cov-2 was 12,489, with 1,228 hospitalized and 321 demised (2,6% CFR). The nurses were the most affected professional category, followed by doctors and clinical associates. In 2021, 188 HCWs were hospitalized due to SARS-Cov-2 related causes.
- The number of vaccine breakthrough infections among healthcare workers was 188 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. All the districts reported more than 20 cases per 100,000 populations. Clusters were identified in 82 schools which contributed about 7,1% to the number of active cases. Local municipalities or sub-districts to watch include Amahlathi, Great Kei, and Mnquma 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, **1,877 new cases** and **54 deaths** were reported (36 occurred in the past 48 hours). The cumulative number of cases was **246,241** and deaths were **13,235**.

Table 1. Number of SARS-Cov-2 cases and deaths in the Eastern Cape by sex, as of 18 Aug. 2021

	No. of cases	New Cases	Total Cases	%	Deaths	New Deaths		Total Deaths	CFR (%)
						*Newly Reported	**Newly occurred		
Male	100008	807	100815	40,6	5640	5	11	5656	5,6
Female	146231	1070	147301	59,4	7593	13	25	7631	5,2
Unknown	2	0	2	0,0	2	0	0	2	
Total	246241	1877	248118	100,0	13235	18	36	13289	5,4

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

Five percent (5.4%) of the cases demised, and 5.6% were males and 5.2% were females.

Table 2. Number of SARS-Cov-2 cases and deaths in the Eastern Cape by sex, as of 18 Aug. 2021

District	Cases	New Cases	Total Cases	Recoveries	Deaths	New Deaths		Total Deaths	CFR (%)	Recovery Rate	Active Cases
Alfred Nzo	9044	60	9104	8278	633	0	4	637	7,0	90,9	189
Amathole	20917	86	21003	19236	1161	1	1	1163	5,5	91,6	604
BC Metro	44104	258	44362	40517	2488	1	2	2491	5,6	91,3	1354
Chris Hani	23346	211	23557	20506	1813	5	8	1826	7,7	87,0	1225
Joe Gqabi	10443	66	10509	8925	620	1	6	627	5,9	84,9	957
NM Metro	80963	648	81611	73689	4038	5	7	4050	4,9	90,3	3872
OR Tambo	24865	150	25015	22630	1498	3	4	1505	6,0	90,5	880
S Baartman	30210	344	30554	27610	984	2	4	990	3,2	90,4	1954
Imported	792	3	795	766	0		0	0	0,0	96,4	29
Unspecified	1557	51	1608	1360	0	0	0	0	0,0	84,6	248
E. Cape	246241	1877	248118	223517	13235	18	36	13289	5,4	90,1	11312

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

Fifty-three percent (52.8%) of the new cases were from NM Metro (648 cases; 34.5%) and Sarah Baartman (344 cases; 18.3%); 18.3% from Amathole (86 cases; 4.6%) and BC Metro (258 cases; 13.7%); 14.7% from Chris Hani (211 cases; 11.2%) and Joe Gqabi (66 cases; 3.5%); and 18.2% were from Alfred Nzo (60 cases; 3.2%) and OR Tambo (150 cases; 8%).

Of the 11,312 active cases, 51.5% were from NM Metro (3,872 cases; 34.2%) and Sarah Baartman (1,954 cases, 17.3%); 17.3% from Amathole (604 cases; 5.3%) and BC Metro (1,354 cases; 12%); 19.3% from Chris Hani (1,225 cases; 10.8%) and Joe Gqabi (957 cases; 8.5%); and 9.5% from Alfred Nzo (189 cases; 1.7%) and OR Tambo (880 cases; 7.8%).

The number of recoveries were 223,517, i.e. 90.1% recovery rate. Fifty-four (54) deaths were reported and 36 occurred in the past 48 hours.

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

The number of new cases has increased by 18.4% and deaths decreased by 9.2% from week 31 to week 32. In the last 4 days, about 6,500 cases and 120 deaths were reported.

	Cases			Deaths			Current week cases and deaths		
	01-07 Aug	08-14 Aug	% Change	01-07 Aug	08-14 Aug	% Change	Cases 15-18 Aug	Deaths 15-18 Aug	Case Fatality Rate (%)
A Nzo	142	137	-3,5	15	8	-46,7	148	12	8,1
Amathole	160	303	89,4	13	5	-61,5	406	4	1,0
BC Metro	704	617	-12,4	16	13	-18,8	732	8	1,1
Chris Hani	478	744	55,6	23	28	21,7	907	27	3,0
Joe Gqabi	232	462	99,1	23	12	-47,8	655	10	1,5
NM Metro	2900	2963	2,2	71	72	1,4	1998	31	1,6
OR Tambo	266	541	103,4	14	25	78,6	468	17	3,6
Sarah Baartman	1143	1317	15,2	20	14	-30,0	1103	11	1,0
Imported	7	16	128,6	0	0		3	0	0,0
Unspecified	70	125	78,6	0	0		80	0	0,0
E. Cape	6102	7225	18,4	195	177	-9,2	6500	120	1,8

The number of newly reported cases decreased by 10% and deaths decreased by 32.2% compared to the previous week. The case fatality rate during the current week was 1.8%, with 8.1% in Alfred Nzo, 3.6% in OR Tambo and 3% in Chris Hani. Both NM Metro and Sarah Baartman constituted 47.7% of the newly reported cases. The other cases and deaths were from the other districts.

3.3. Average newly diagnosed cases

The average number of new cases has increased by 2.5% from 1141 on the 11th to 1170 on the 17th August.

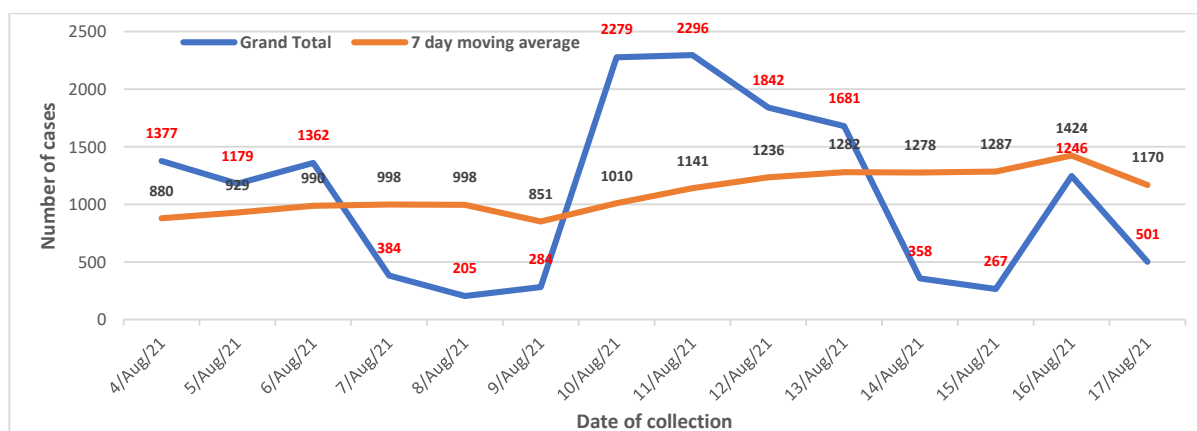


Fig. 1. Daily SARS-Cov-2 cases & 7-day moving average by date of collection, as of 18th Aug. 2021

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

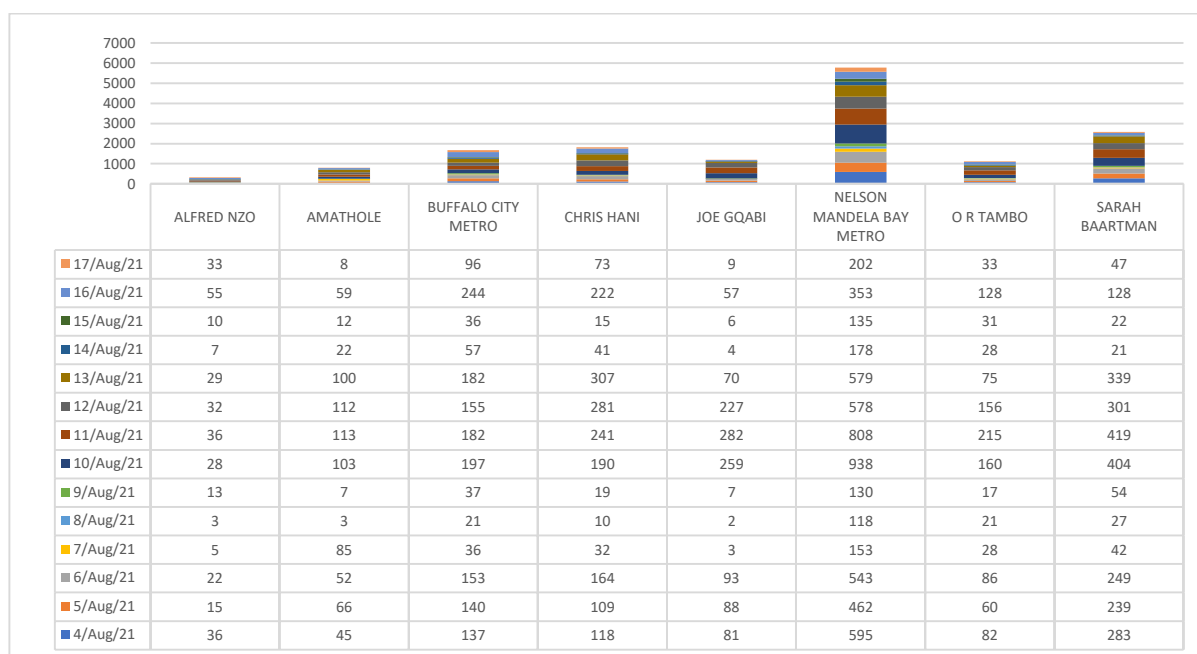


Fig. 2. Daily SARS-Cov-2 cases by district and date of collection, as of 18th August 2021

The burden of disease remains high in NM Metro and Sarah Baartman, 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 27,541 SARS-Cov-2 tests were reported in the past three days. Cumulatively, 1,3 million were from public (65%) and private sector (35%).

	Private	Public	Total	New Test 15-17 Aug	% New Tests 15-17 Aug	Tests 08-14 Aug
Alfred Nzo	4556	32766	37 322	256	0,9	199
Amathole	9821	81011	90 832	962	3,5	617
BC Metro	62909	113488	176 397	1436	5,2	885
Chris Hani	13141	71921	85 062	1309	4,8	1142
Joe Gqabi	1281	38136	39 417	2564	9,3	1224
NMB Metro	93335	198079	291 414	4527	16,4	5280
OR Tambo	30253	76679	106 932	1051	3,8	1165
Sarah Baartman	18788	113504	132 292	3227	11,7	3784
Unclassified	248578	172692	421 270	12209	44,3	17685
Eastern Cape	482662	898276	1 380 938	27541	100	31981

Twenty-eight percent (28.1%) 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 update the number of tests by district. Data is available from NICD and still need to be allocated by district.

4.2. Antigen Testing

Antigen Test Method was used to test 206,763 specimens and 8.6% positivity rate.

	Negative	Positive	Total	Percentage (%)	Positivity Rate (%)
A Nzo	22603	1280	23883	11,9	5,4
Amathole	6746	965	7711	3,7	12,5
BC Metro	18186	2116	20302	10,5	10,4
Chris Hani	20493	2234	22727	9,6	9,8
Joe Gqabi	5821	766	6587	3,1	11,6
NM Metro	64723	7272	71995	35,1	10,1
OR Tambo	38932	2075	41007	20,2	5,1
Sarah Baartman	11425	1126	12551	5,9	9,0
Total	188929	17834	206763	100	8,6

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, OR Tambo and Sarah Baartman reported less than 10% positivity rate and 4 have more than 10% positivity rate.

4.3. Tests by age group and sex

In the last 31 days, 44,263 specimens were tested for SARS-Cov-2 in public sector laboratories. Fifty-nine percent (54.6%) of the tests were among the 20 to 59 year's age group, and 43.9% were the younger and elderly population.

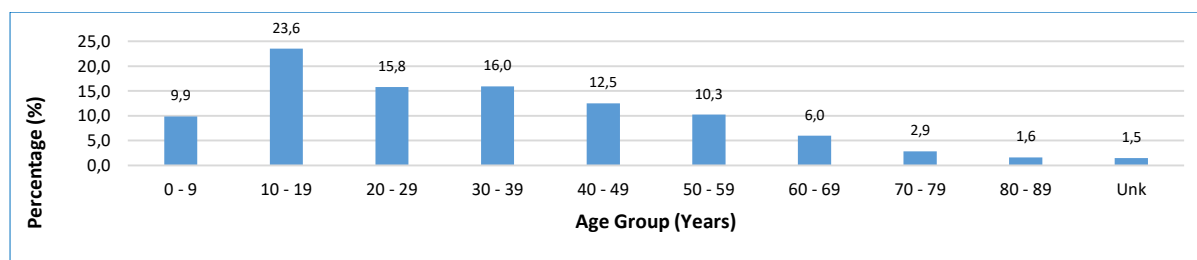


Fig. 3. Percentage of SARS-Cov-2 tests by age group in the last 31 days, as of 18th Aug. 2021

Only 1.5% of the tests lacked information on the age of the individuals.

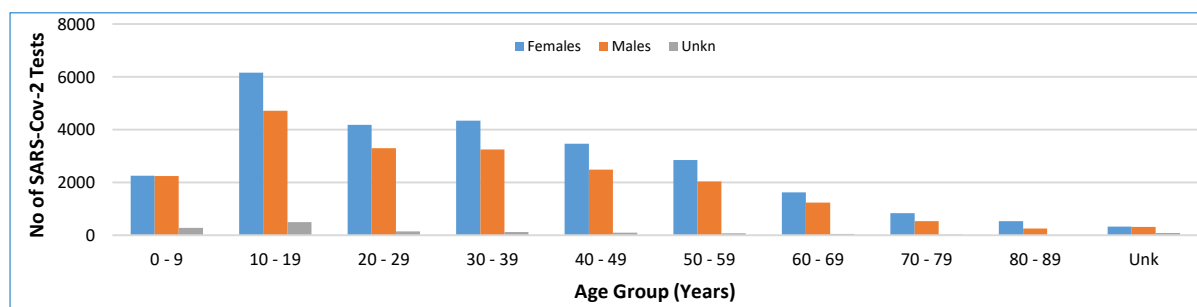


Fig. 4. No. of SARS-Cov-2 public sector tests by age group and gender, as of 18th Aug. 2021

Fifty-five percent (55.1%) of the tested individuals were females, 42.2% were males and 2.8% 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.

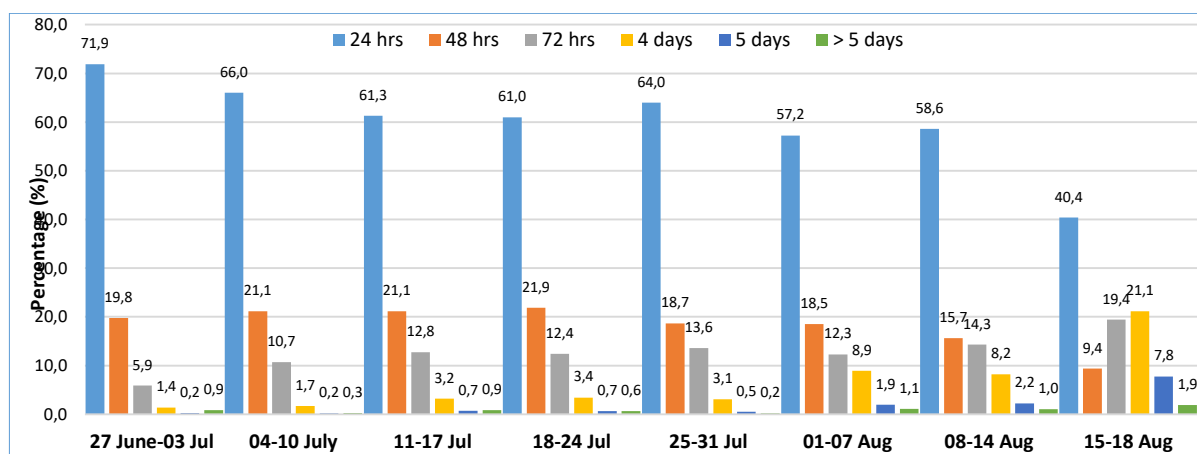


Fig. 5. Turnaround time for SARS-Cov-2 positive results by week as of 18th Aug. 2021

The 24-hour turnaround time (TAT) has decreased by 31.1% from 58.6% in the previous week to 40.4% in the current week. Similarly, the 48 hours TAT has decreased 33% from 74.3% to 49.8% 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.

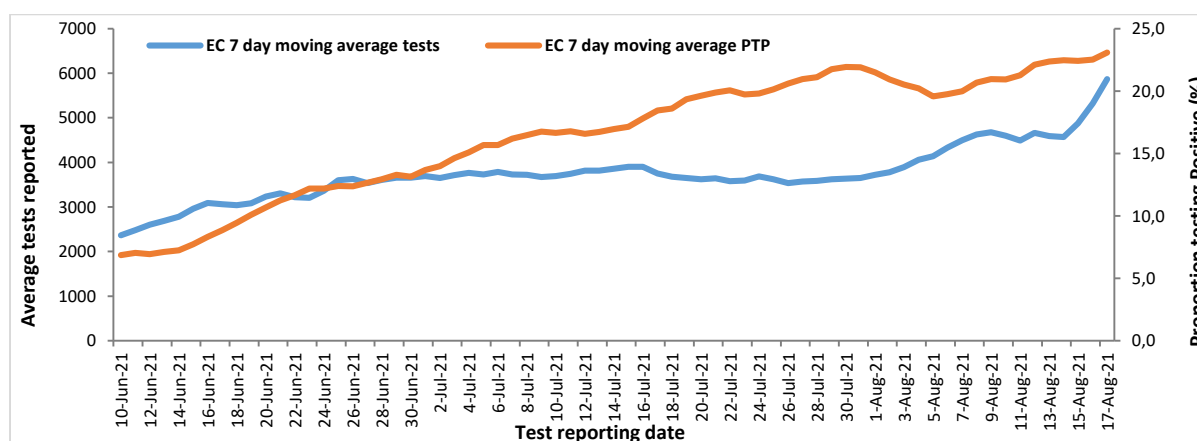


Fig. 6. 7-day moving average for SARS-Cov-2 tests & positivity rate, as of 17th Aug. 2021

In the past 7 days, the number of SARS-Cov-2 tests has decreased by 30.7% from 4,492 on the 11th to 5,870 on the 17th August 2021. The positivity has increased by 8.5% from 21.3% to 23.1% during the same period.

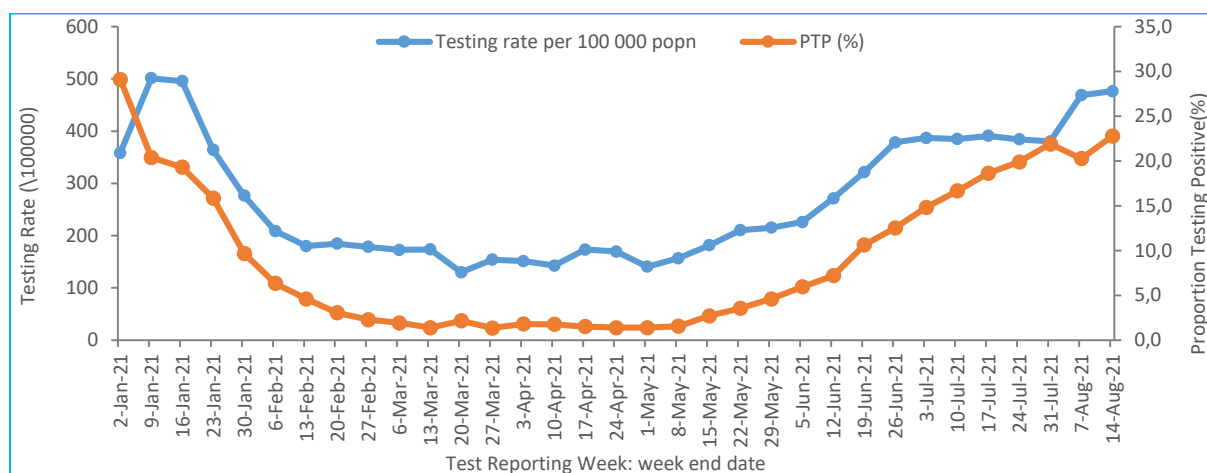


Fig. 7. Testing Rate and positivity rate for SARS-Cov-2 by week, as of 14th August 2021

The testing rate for SARS-Cov-2 has increased by 1,7% from 469 to 476 tests per 100,000 on the 07th to 14th 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 12.6% from 8,571 on the 07th to 9651 on the 14th August 2021. Over the past 24 hours, the number of active cases has increased by 4% from 10,880 to 11,312.

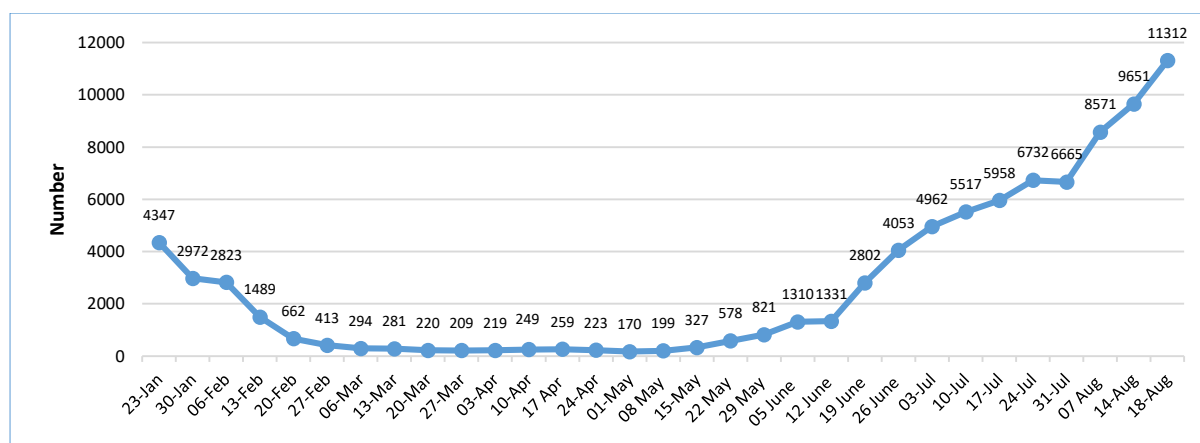


Fig. 8. Number of active SARS-Cov-2 cases by week, as of 18 August 2021

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.

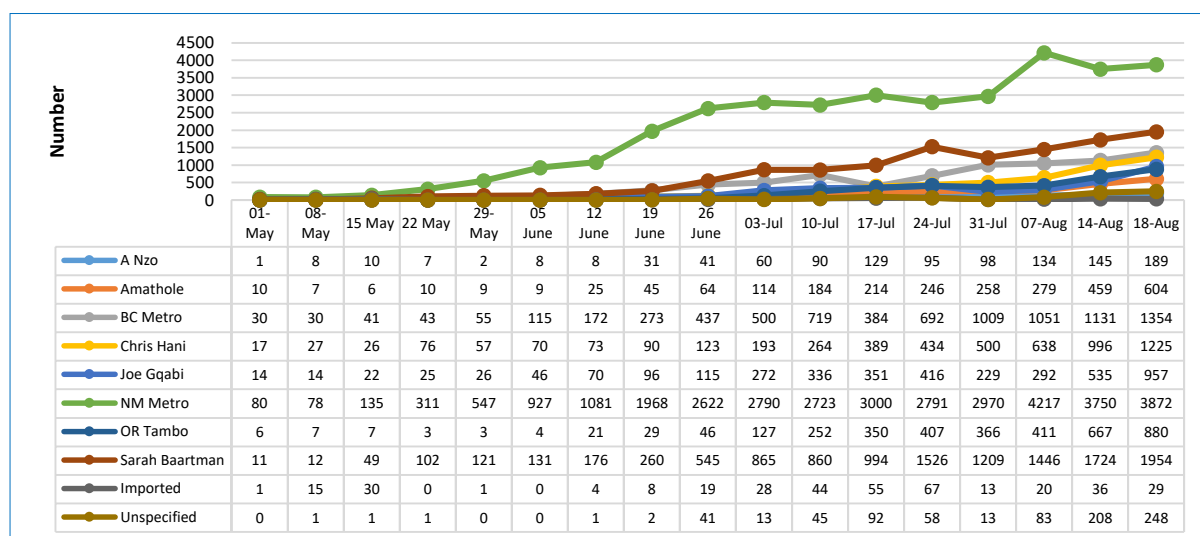


Fig. 9. Number of weekly Active SARS-Cov-2 cases by district, as of 18th August 2021

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	37 322	9104	189	22,8	24,4
Amathole	798067	90 832	21003	604	75,7	23,1
BC Metro	798798	176 397	44362	1354	169,5	25,1
Chris Hani	733743	85 062	23557	1225	167,0	27,7
Joe Gqabi	343075	39 417	10509	957	278,9	26,7
NM Metro	1210803	291 414	81611	3872	319,8	28,0
OR Tambo	1520922	106 932	25015	880	57,9	23,4
S Baartman	480223	132 292	30554	1954	406,9	23,1
Imported		0	795	29	0,0	0,0
Unspecified		421 270	1608	248	0,0	0,4
E.Cape	6713457	1 380 938	248118	11312	168,5	18,0

The incidence of SARS-Cov-2 was 168,5 cases per 100,000 populations, and all 8 districts have more than 20 cases per 100,000 populations. The cumulative positivity rate was at 18%. All districts have less than a 30% positivity rate.

5.3. Incidence of SARS-Cov-2 cases

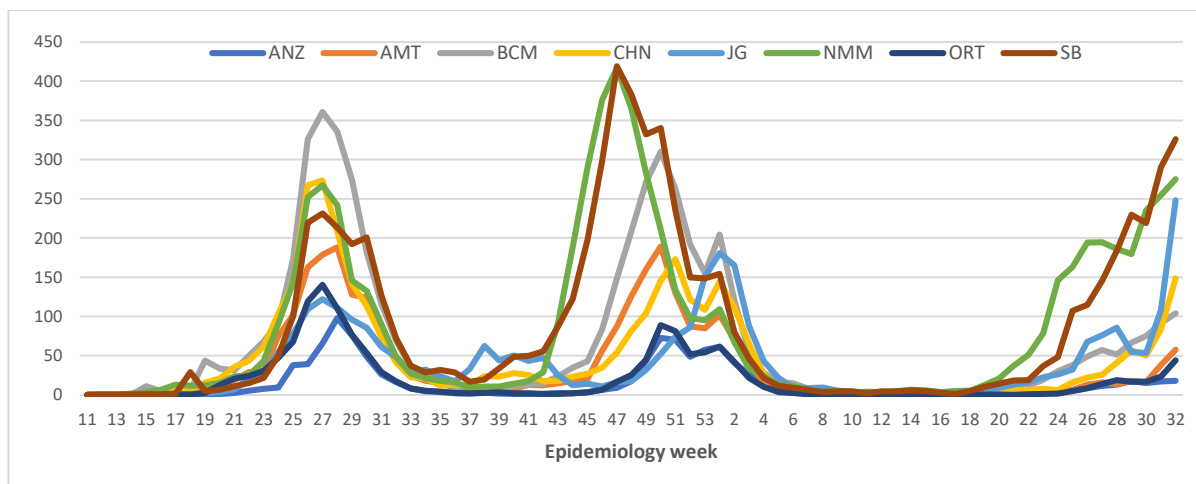


Fig. 10. Incidence of SARS-Cov-2 cases by epidemiological week, as of 18th August 2021

Between weeks 30 to 32, there was an increase in the weekly incidence of SARS-Cov-2 cases in all the districts. However, both NM Metro and Sarah Baartman continue to report the highest incidence, followed by Joe Gqabi, Chris Hani and BC Metro.

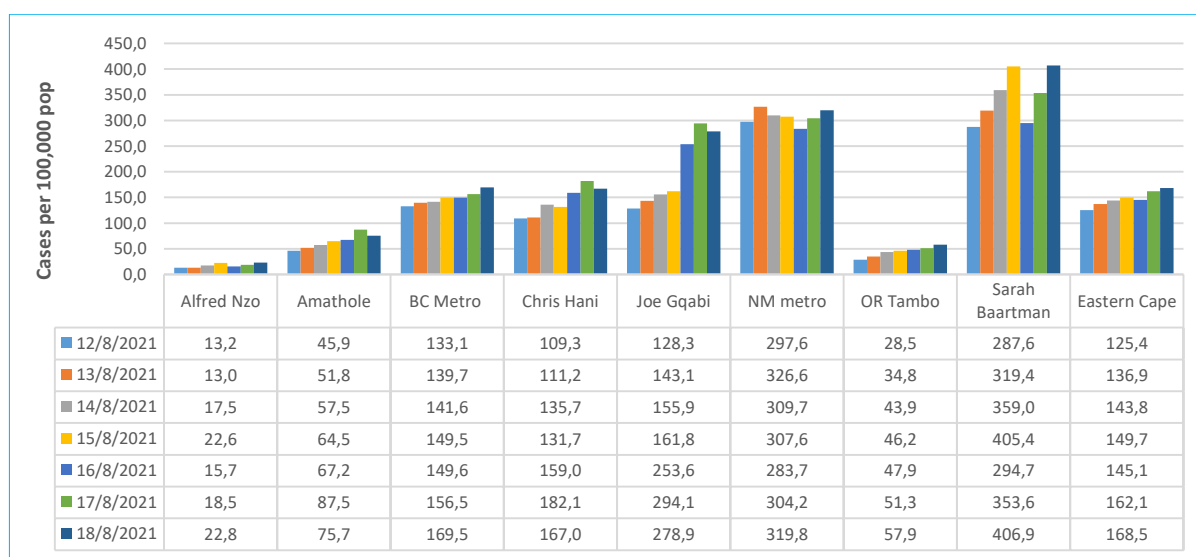


Fig. 11. Active SARS-Cov-2 cases (per 100,000 pop) by district, as of 18th August 2021

In the past 7 days, the incidence of SARS-Cov-2 increased by 34.4% from 125,4 cases to 168,5 cases per 100,000 population. Nearly all the districts have shown an increase in the incidence of SARS-Cov-2.

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.

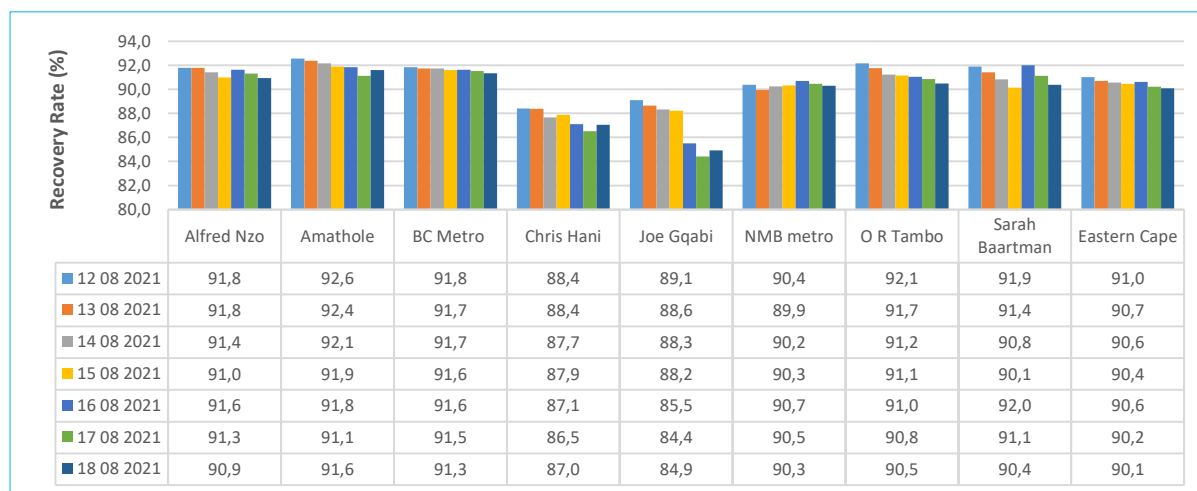


Fig. 12. SARS-Cov-2 Recovery Rate (%) by districts, as of 18th August 2021 (N=223,517)

As the number of new and active cases increases, the recovery rate also decreases. The recovery rate decreased by 1% 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.

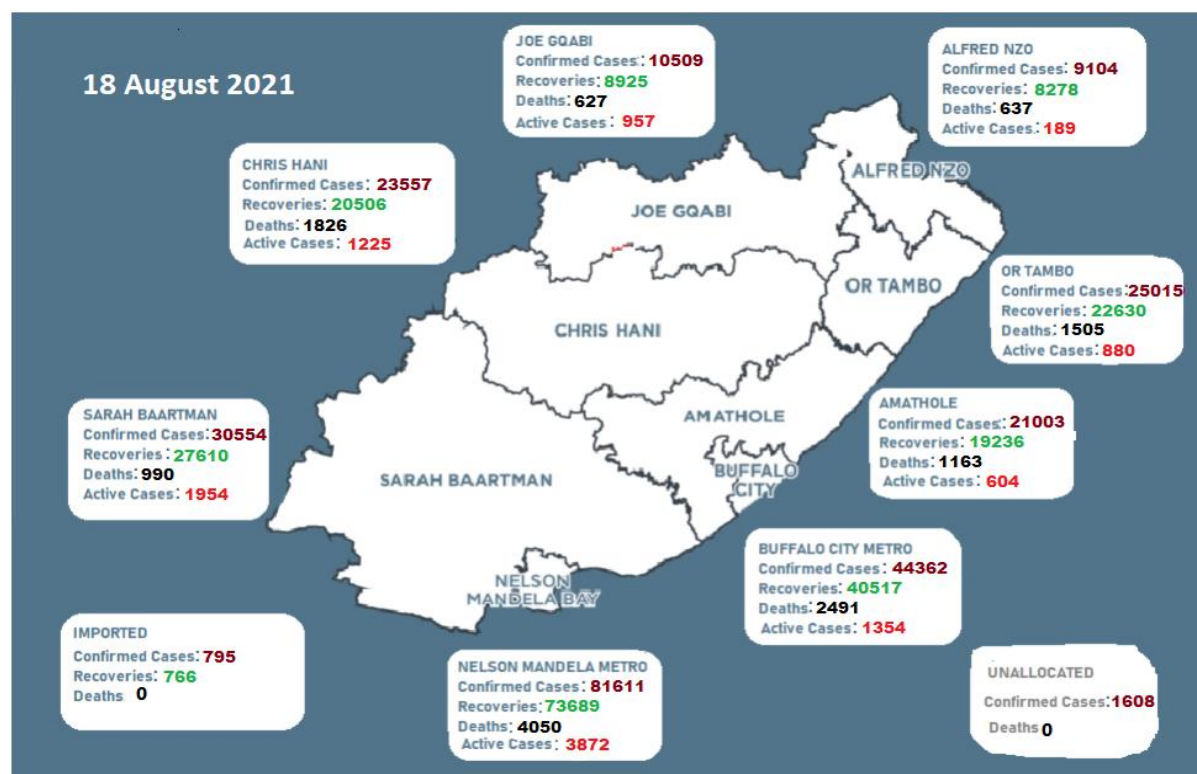


Fig. 13. The number of Covid-19 cases, recoveries, and deaths, as of 18 August 2021

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

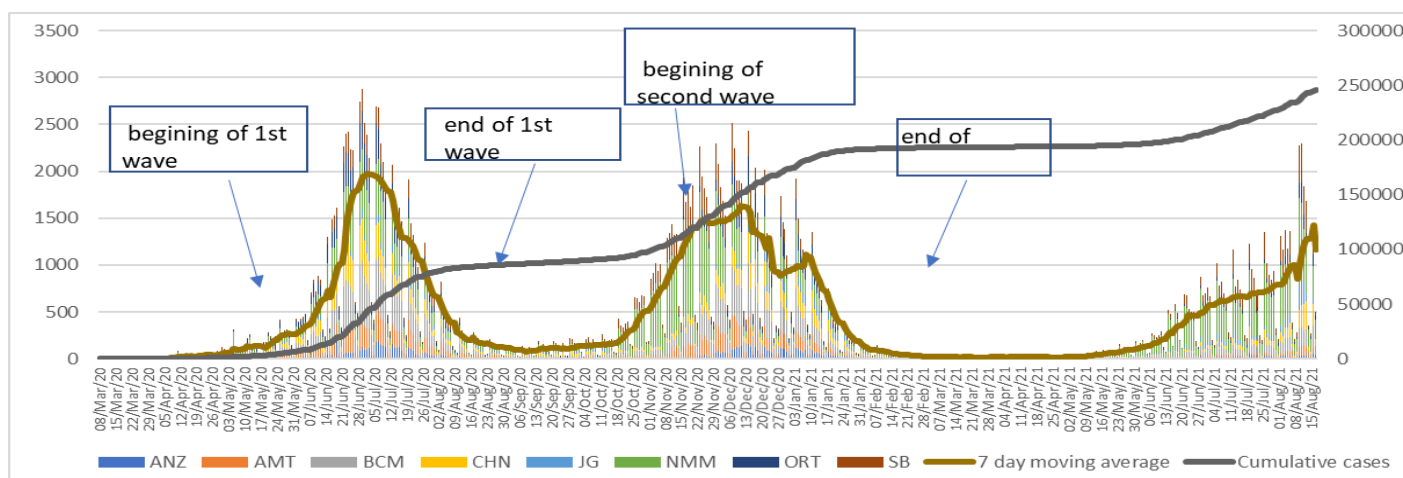


Fig. 14. The 7-day moving average for SARS-Cov-2 cases by date of collection, as of 18th Aug. 2021

After an increase in the number of new cases from the beginning of June, the number of cases were showing a decline at the end of July and mid-August.

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	2,1	8,7	4,2
Jun-20	23793	1036	7,8	4,4	15,4
Jul-20	50291	2036	15,3	4,0	30,3
Aug-20	8295	669	5,0	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	12,9	5,0	25,5
Dec-20	42757	2778	20,9	6,5	41,4
Jan-21	18169	1923	14,5	10,6	28,6
Feb-21	1708	312	2,3	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	1905	94	0,7	4,9	1,4
Jun-21	9062	259	1,9	2,9	3,9
Jul-21	22805	932	7,0	4,1	13,9
Aug-21	18223	411	3,1	2,3	6,1
Unknown	0	145	1,1	0,0	2,2
Total	248118	13289	100,0	5,4	197,9

Twenty-one percent (20.9%) of the deaths occurred in December; 14.5% in January; 2.3% in February; 0.8% in March; 0.4% in April; 0.7% in May, 1.9% in June, 7% in July and 3.1% 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, 4.1% in July and 2.3% in August.

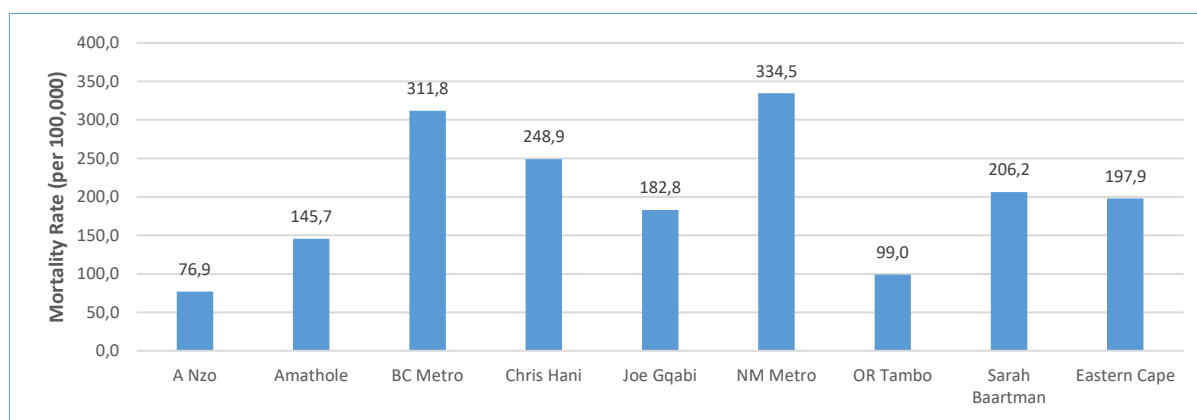


Fig. 15. SARS-Cov-2 related mortality per 100,000 by district, as of 18th Aug. 2021

The provincial mortality rate was 197,9 deaths per 100,000 populations. NM Metro reported the highest mortality rate at 334,5 per 100,000; followed by BC Metro (311,8 per 100,000); Chris Hani (248,9 per 100,000) and Sarah Baartman (206,2 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.

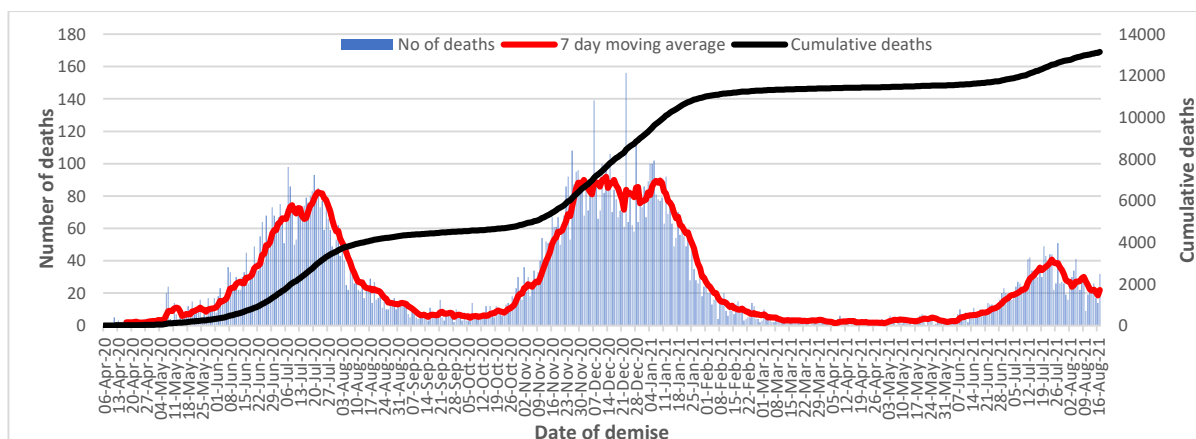


Fig. 16. Daily and cum. SARS-Cov-2 related deaths by date of demise, as of 18 August 2021

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 7.7% of the SARS-Cov-2 deaths, followed by Alfred Nzo (6.9%), Joe Gqabi (5.9%), OR Tambo (6%), BC Metro (5.6%), Amathole (5.5%), NM Metro (5%) and the lowest being Sarah Baartman (3.2%).

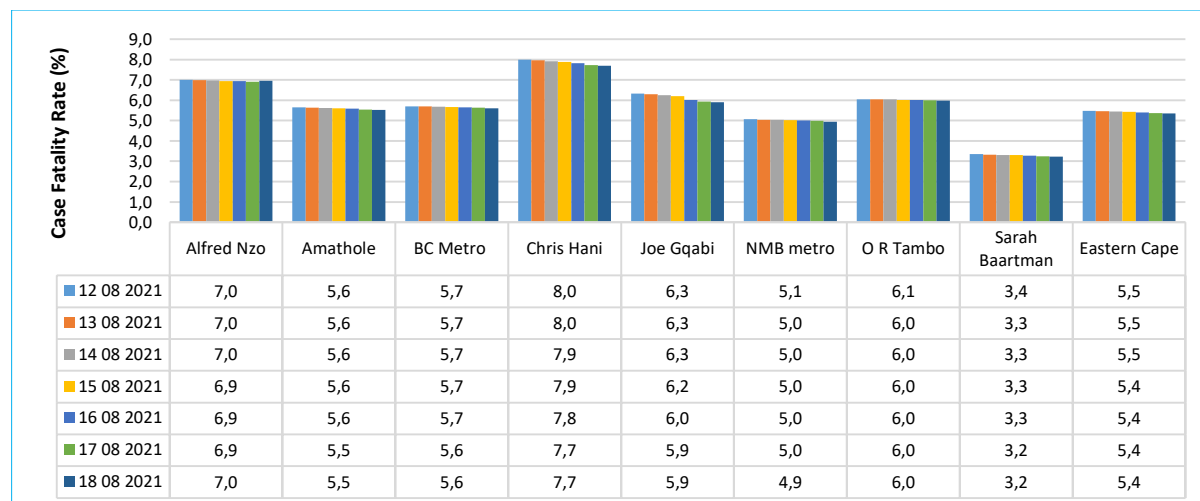


Fig. 17. SARS-Cov-2 Case Fatality Rate (%) by district, as of 18 August 2021 (N=13,289)

Over the 7-day period, the case fatality rate has decreased by 1.8% in the province. There was a change in case fatality rate in all the districts, with exception in BC Metro.

7.4. Case Fatality Rate by age group

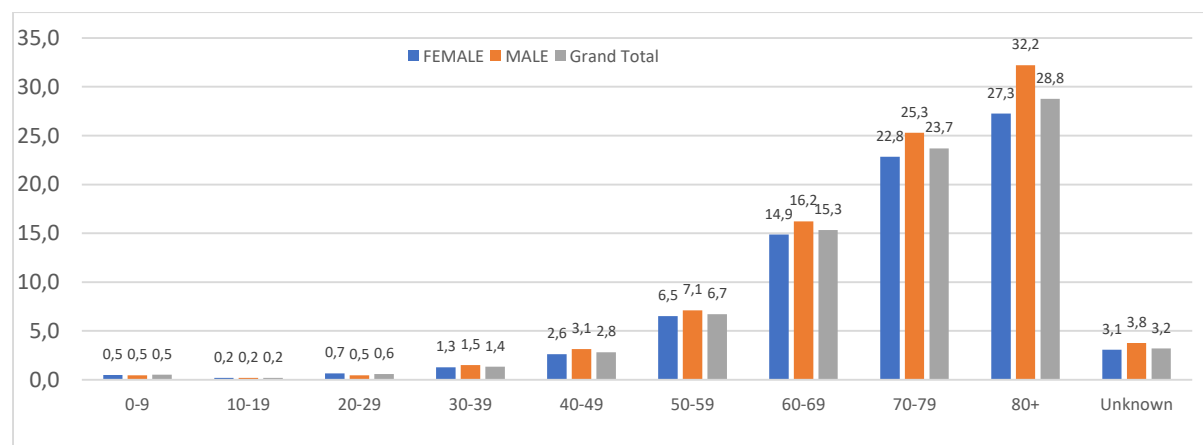


Fig. 18. SARS-Cov-2 related Case Fatality Rate (%) by age group, as of 16 Aug. 2021

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).

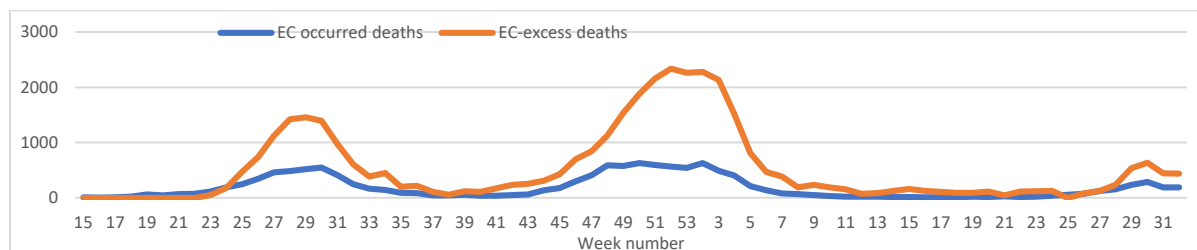


Fig. 19. Excess & reported Covid-19 deaths by week, as of 16th Aug. 2021 (ECDOH, MRC¹)

The number of excess deaths was 36,536 in the E. Cape, 3,921 in BC Metro and 5,854 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.

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

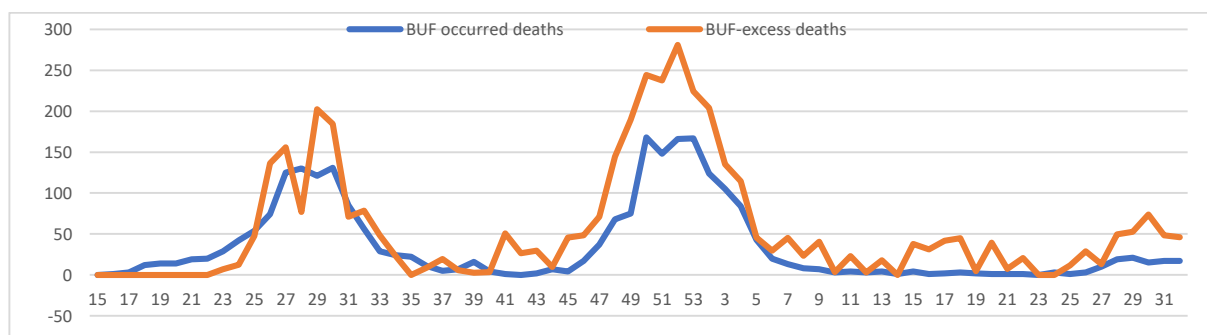


Fig. 20. Reported SARS-Cov-2 versus excess deaths in BC Metro, as of the 16th Aug. 2021

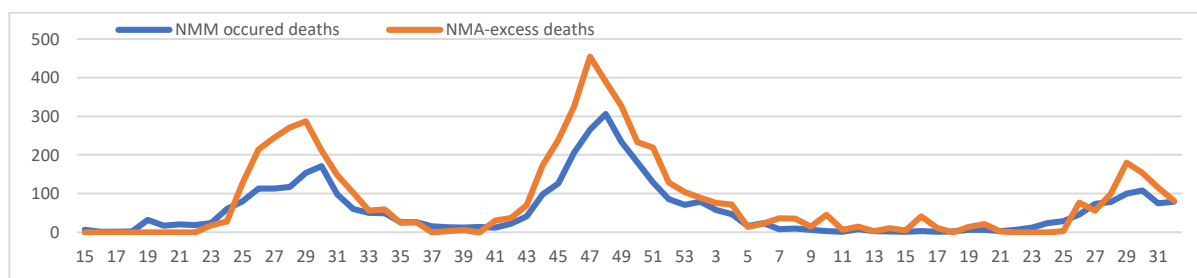


Fig. 21. Reported SARS-Cov-2 versus excess deaths in NM Metro, as of the 16th Aug. 2021

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.

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

7.6. Post-mortem tests (PMTs) and results

As of the 18th August, there were 4,535 PMTs which were done and 1,176 (25.9%) confirmed positive for SARS-Cov-2.

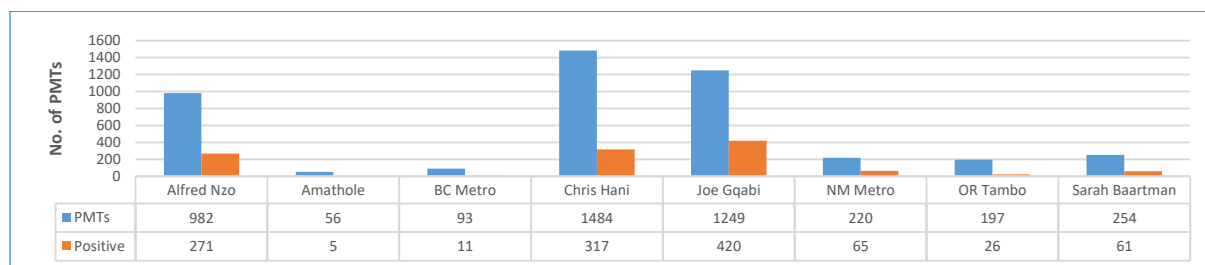


Fig. 22. Number of Post-Mortem Tests & Positive Cases by district, as of 18th Aug. 2021

Of all the PMTs, 3,715 (81.9%) were from Alfred Nzo, Chris Hani, and Joe Gqabi. Similarly, 1008 (85.7%) of the 1,176 confirmed cases were from the 3 districts.

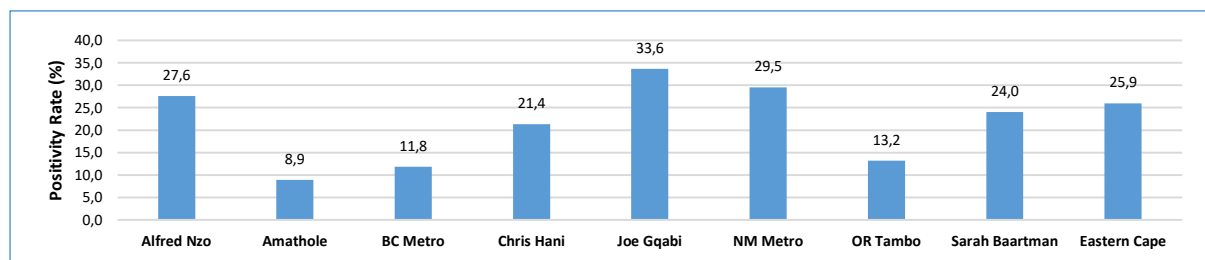


Fig. 23. Post-mortem SARS-Cov-2 positivity rate by district, as of 18 August 2021

Twenty-six percent (25.9%) 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, 587 PMTs were conducted and 146 tested positive for SARS-Cov-2.

	25-31 Jul		01-07 Aug		08-14 Aug		15-17 Aug		25 Jul-17 Aug	
	PMTs	Positive	PMTs	Positive	PMTs	Positive	PMTs	Positive	PMTs	Positive
Alfred Nzo	33	11	28	7	33	5	26	6	120	29
Amathole	4	1	4	0	1		1		10	1
BC Metro	8	1	0	0	1		1		10	1
Chris Hani	53	11	45	5	64	16	19	10	181	42
Joe Gqabi	39	12	34	12	45	7	16	4	134	35
NM Metro	33	16	15	2	26	9	1	0	75	27
OR Tambo	12	1	8	0	13	4	8	1	41	6
Sarah Baartman	2	1	5	3	6	1	3	0	16	5
Eastern Cape	184	54	139	29	189	42	75	21	587	146

In the past 3 days, 75 PMTs were conducted and 21 tested positive.

7.6. Deaths by health facilities

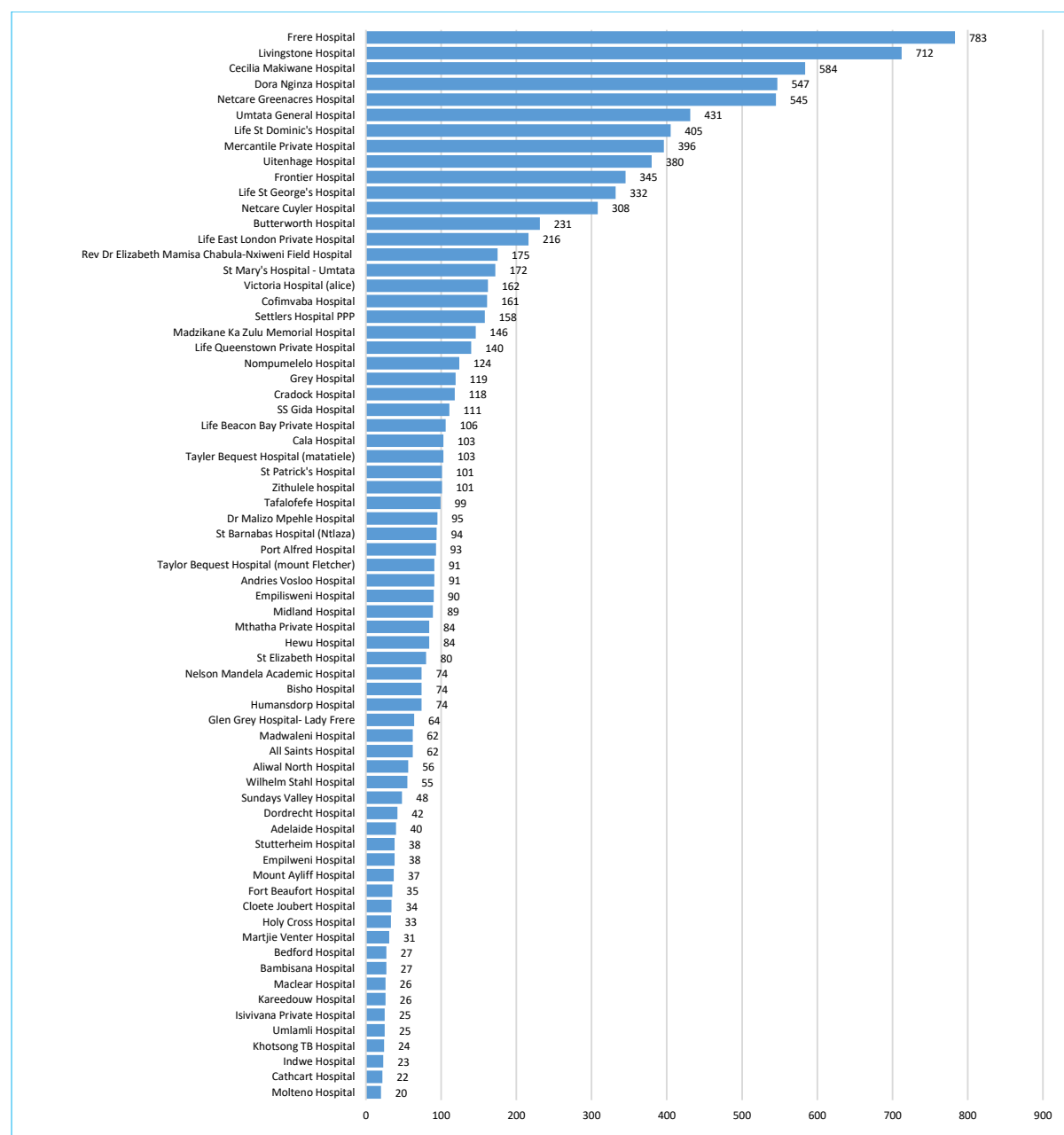


Fig. 24. Number of SARS-Cov-2 related deaths by the facility, as of 14 Aug. 2021

Fifty-eight percent (58,2%) 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 12,489 and 321 demised.

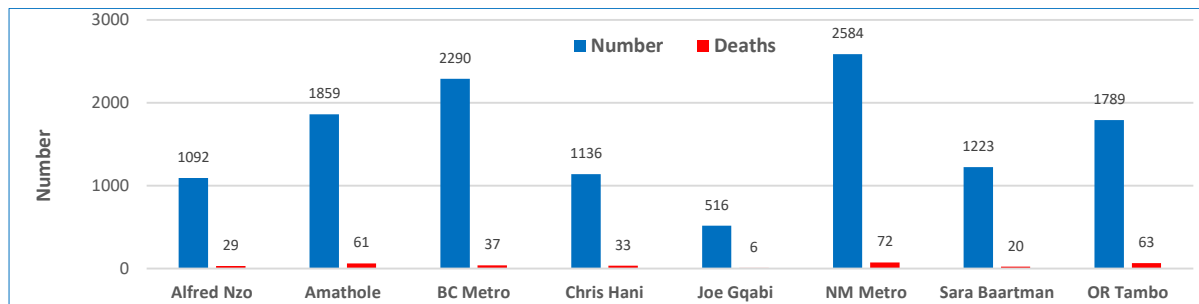


Fig. 25. SARS-Cov-2 positive Healthcare Workers, as of 18th August 2021 (N = 12,489)

The number of HCWs who tested positive for SARS-Cov-2 in NM Metro 2,584 (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 (516 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.

Table 9. SARS-Cov-2 cases by selected job categories, as of 18 Aug. 2021			
	Population	Cases	Positivity Rate (%)
Admin	12434	870	7.0
Allied Professionals	3041	262	8.6
Doctors & Clinical Assoc	2369	481	20.3
Nurses	20650	5121	24.8
Emergency Medical Services	2498	297	11.9

The positivity rate among the nurses was 24.8%, followed by doctors and clinical associates (20.3%), allied professionals (8.6%), EMS (11.9%), and admin personnel (7%). 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

From the beginning of the pandemic to date, the cumulative number of admissions of health workers was 1,228. From January to date, 188 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 17 in August. The last admission was on the 12th and 13th August from BC Metro and Sarah Baartman.

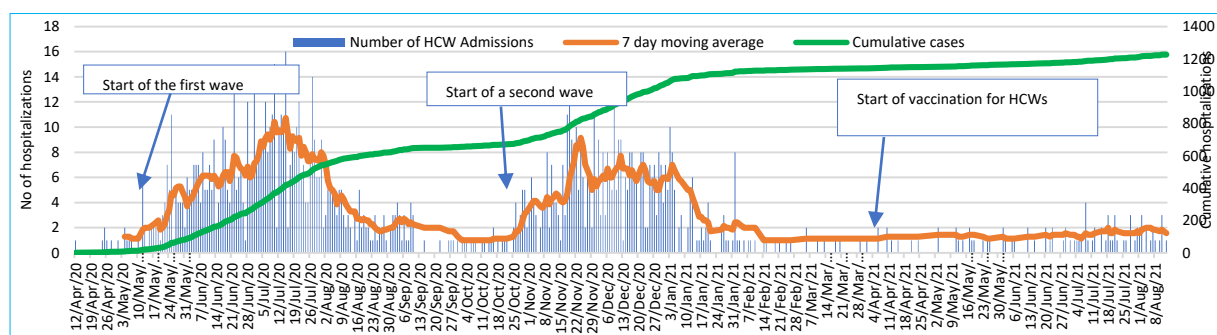


Fig. 26. No. of SARS-Cov-2 related admissions of healthcare workers, as of 14 Aug. 2021

The number of hospitalizations has not significantly changed from the February to date. There is a decrease which was observed from the beginning of August to date.

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 & tested positive days later	Admitted and discharged
Alfred Nzo	10	2
Amathole	7	2
BC Metro	8	1
Chris Hani	0	0
Joe Gqabi	6	0
NM Metro	126	2
OR Tambo	9	0
Sarah Baartman	22	0
Eastern Cape	188	7

The number of vaccine breakthrough infections was 188, 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.

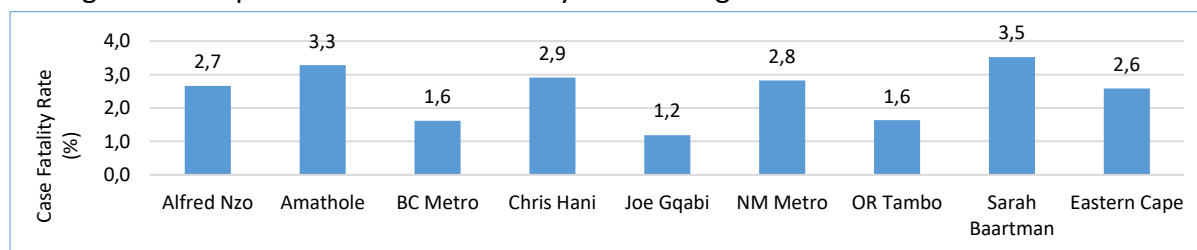


Fig. 27. SARS-Cov-2 Case Fatality Rate (%) among HCWs, as of 18 August 2021 (N=321)

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, 85 admissions were reported (see Table 13). The cumulative hospitalizations were 37,025, i.e. 25,132 (67.9%) in public and 11,893 (32.1%) in private; and 63.8%, i.e. 23,634 of the hospitalized patients were discharged alive and 14,943 (63.2%) occurred in public sector. And 10,806 (29.3%) demised & 7,988 (73.9%) in public sector.

Districts	Public	Private	Total	Died	Case Fatality Rate (%)	Discharged to date	Discharged (%)
Alfred Nzo	1841	124	1965	474	24,1	1183	60,2
Amathole	2503	0	2503	933	37,3	1501	60,0
BC Metro	4542	3658	8200	2227	27,2	5800	70,7
Chris Hani	2944	879	3823	1296	33,9	2338	61,2
Joe Gqabi	871	0	871	375	43,1	443	50,9
NM Metro	7487	5955	13442	3561	26,5	8572	63,8
O R Tambo	2693	1064	3757	1246	33,2	2301	61,2
Sarah Baartman	2251	213	2464	694	28,2	1496	60,7
Eastern Cape	25132	11893	37025	10806	29,2	23634	63,8

Joe Gqabi has the highest case fatality rate (43.1%) among the hospitalized, followed by Amathole (37.4%), Chris Hani (34.1%) and OR Tambo (33.4%). BC Metro discharged more than 70% of the hospitalized and the lowest discharge rate was seen in Joe Gqabi (50.9%).

In overall, hospitalization has decreased by 21.6% from weeks 31 to 32. However, 3.8% increase was reported in Chris Hani. Similarly, the number of deaths among hospitalized cases has also decreased by 25.8% in the province. It is only in Joe Gqabi where there was no change on the number of deaths (See Table 14).

Eastern Cape	Public	Private	Total
Cumulative Admissions	25132	11893	37025
Died	7988	2818	10806
Discharged Alive	14943	8691	23634
Transferred Out	1619	52	1671
Currently Admitted	563	322	885
In ICU	5	95	100
In High Care	18	11	29
In General	540	216	756
On Oxygen	189	33	222
Ventilated	61	32	93

Of the 885 currently admitted patients, 563 (63.6%) occurred in public and 322 (36.4%) in private. Hospitalizations in General ward were 756, i.e. 540 in public and 216 in private; 100 in ICU, i.e. 5 in public and 95 in private; 29 in High Care, i.e. 18 in public and 11 in private; 222 on oxygen, i.e. 189 in public and 33 in private; and 93 on ventilation, i.e. 61 in public and 32 in private.

Districts	Currently admitted	In ICU	Ventilated	Oxygenated	Admitted in Past Day
Alfred Nzo	40	0	0	8	13
Amathole	24	0	0	9	2
BC Metro	138	29	4	9	12
Chris Hani	110	7	0	43	11
Joe Gqabi	12	0	0	6	0
NM Metro	384	58	86	90	31
O R Tambo	98	6	3	26	8
Sarah Baartman	79	0	0	31	8
Eastern Cape	885	100	93	222	85

ECP District	Previous 14 days admission average	Current 14 days admissions average	Percentage change in admissions	Previous 14 days death average	Current 14 days deaths average	Percentage change in deaths
Alfred Nzo	3.93	3.36	-14.55	1.43	0.93	-35.00
Amathole	3.57	2.29	-36.00	1.07	0.93	-13.33
Buffalo City Metro	12.50	11.50	-8.00	2.29	2.14	-6.25
Chris Hani	9.43	9.79	3.79	3.29	2.36	-28.26
Joe Gqabi	3.07	1.86	-39.53	1.00	1.00	0.00
N Mandela Metro	34.93	24.93	-28.63	12.00	9.29	-22.62
O R Tambo	10.14	6.71	-33.80	3.36	1.50	-55.32
Sarah Baartman	13.57	11.07	-18.42	2.71	2.00	-26.32
Eastern Cape	91.14	71.50	-21.55	27.14	20.14	-25.79

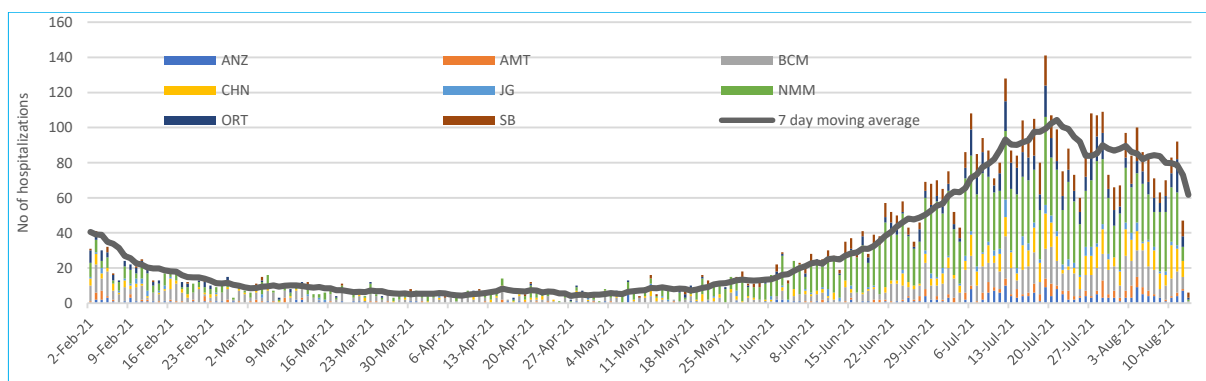


Fig. 28. Average (7 days moving) daily admissions by districts, as of 14 Aug. 2021 (DATCOV)

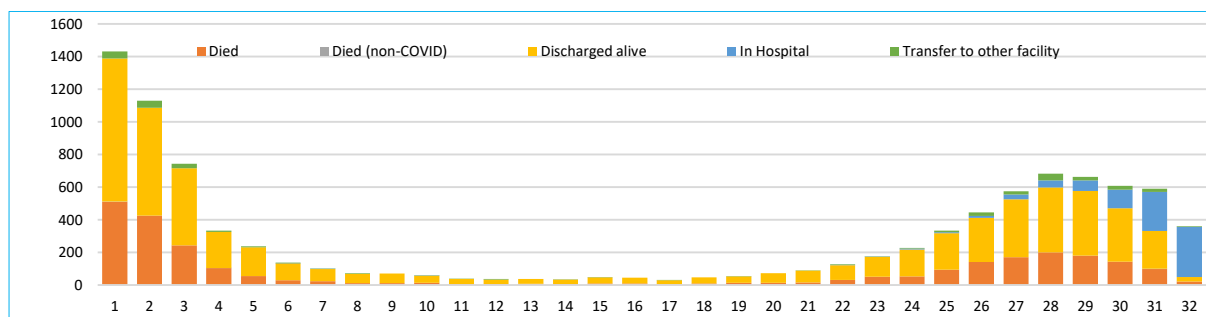


Fig. 29. Hospitalizations & outcomes by admission week, as of 14 Aug. 2021 (DATCOV)

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 32.

7.2. Co-morbidities among admitted cases and deaths

The most common co-morbidities among the hospitalized SARS-Cov-2 patients were hypertension (45,0%) and diabetes (29,5%) among hospitalized SARS-Cov-2 cases. Two other commonly reported co-morbidities HIV (9,0%), obesity (6,8%) and asthma (4,1%).

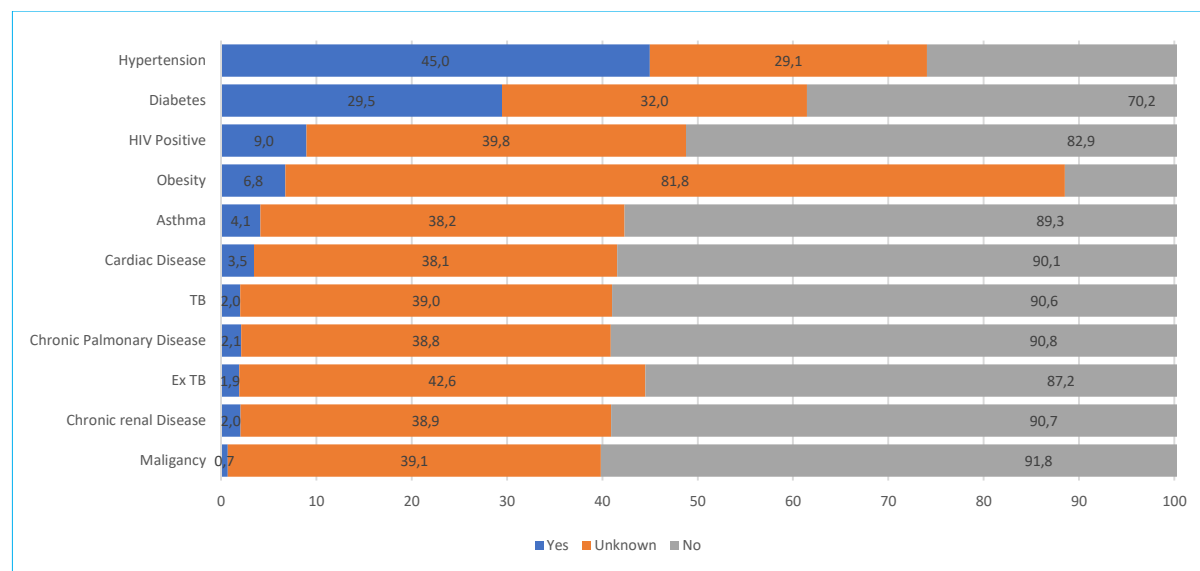


Fig. 30. Co-morbidities among SARS-Cov-2 hospitalizations, as of 14 Aug. 2021 (DATCOV)

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.

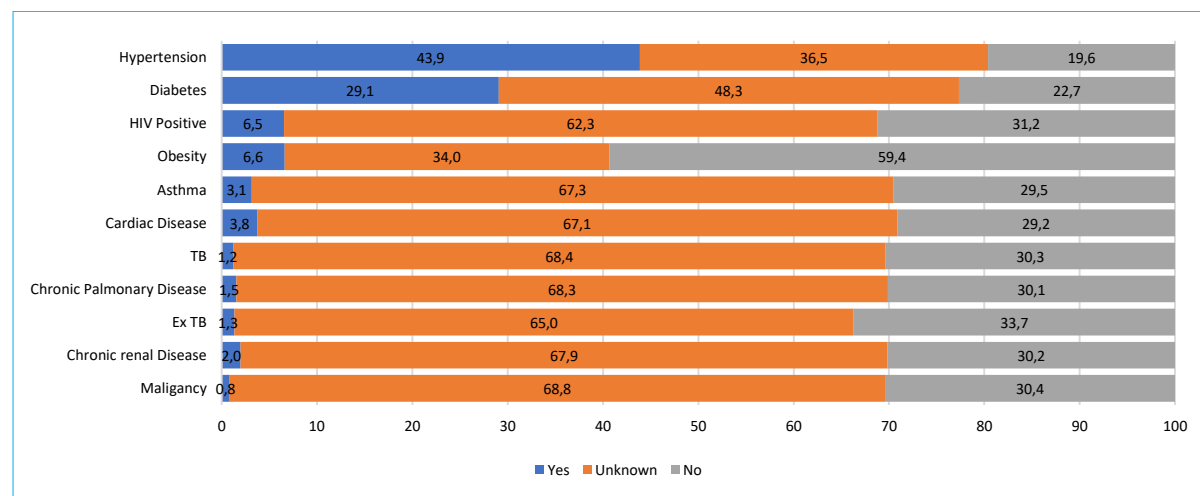


Fig. 31. Co-morbidities among SARS-Cov-2 cases who demised, as of 14 Aug. 2021 (DATCOV)

The most common comorbidities among those cases that demised in the hospital include hypertension (43,9%) and diabetes (29,1%). Other 4 co-morbidities were reported, i.e. HIV (6,5%), obesity (6,6%), cardiac diseases (3,8%), and asthma (3,1%).



3 577 773
No Screened



1 380 938
Total Lab Tests



248 118
Positive Cases



223 517
Recoveries



13 289
Deaths

DISTRICT	TOTAL SCREENED	TOTAL TESTED	TOTAL CASES	RECOVERIES	DEATHS	ACTIVE CASES	AREAS
ALFRED NZO	694 706	37 322	9 104	8 278	637	189	Badibanise, Bhakubha, Bizana, Brooksnek, Cedarville, Chithwa, Dutyini, Emanxiweni, Ezinteteni, Kokstad, Lucingweni, Maluti, Mandileni, Matatiele, Mount Ayliff, Mount Frere, Ndlantana, Ngcingo, Ntabakhulu, Sugar Bush, Tabankulu
AMATHOLE	658 126	90 832	21 003	19 236	1163	604	Adelaide, Alice, Bolotwa, Butterworth, Cathcart, Centane, Cuba, Debe Nek, Dikana, Elliotdale, Ethafeni, Frankfort, Fort Beaufort, Ibika, Idutywa, Keiskammahoek, Willowdale, Lower Mhangcolo, Debe Nek, Mgebaba, Nyaniso, Peddie
BUFFALO CITY METRO	210 367	176 397	44 362	40 517	2491	1 354	Abbottsford, Amalinda, Beacon Bay, Bisho, Braelyn, 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, Sunnyside, Sunset Bay, Tshatshu, Vincent, West Bank, Zweitssha
CHRIS HANI	515 346	85 062	23 557	20 506	1826	1 225	Bankies, Dordrecht, Dukathole, Ekunene, Ezibeleni, Kwanobuhle, Mkwangele, Madeira Park, New Rest, Ngcobo, Nkonyama, Popcorn Valley, Qebe, Qogodala, Queenstown, Sigadleni, Vaalbank, Sada, Middleburg, Thornhill, Ndzamela, Mtungisi, Westbourne, Ntlonge, Maya Village, Ekuphumleni, TopTown, Vleipoot, Zola
JOE GOABI	87 855	39 417	10 509	8 925	627	957	Aliwal North, Barkley East, Bhodi, Land Camp, Ugie, Inglewood, Maclear, Solomzi, Sunduza, Robberson, Venterstad
NELSON MANDELA METRO	856 883	291 414	81 611	73 689	4050	3 872	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, Kamma Park, Kamvelinhe, Khayathu, 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	106 932	25 015	22 630	1505	880	Gomora, Lutatweni, Machibi, Majola, Mandilini, New Payne Ngqeleni, Ntsimbini, Old Payne, Libode, Lusikisiki, Mqanduli, Tombo, Marheini, Mpikwana, Bhongweni, Ciben, Flagstaff, Magcakeni, Ngangelizwe, Ngqanda, Tyevelana, Pollar Park, Tabase Mission, Slovo Park, Southernwood, Waterfall Park, Zandukwana, Zimbane, Ziphuzana
SARAH BAARTMAN	288 877	132 292	30 554	27 610	990	1 954	Aberdeen, Alexandria, Graaf-Reinet, Grahamstown, Jeffrey's Bay, Joubertina, Humansdorp, Parson, St. Francis Bay, Kirkwood, Lotusville, Bergendal, Bratenfel, Joza, Santaville, Somerset East, Thornhill, Willomore
IMPORTED*	-	0	795	766	0	29	Bloemfontein, Ceres, Cape Town, Dunoon, Fishoek, George, Green Point, Gugulethu, Hout Bay, Langa, Khayelitsha, Knysna, Phillipi, Stellenbosch, Strand
PENDING	-	421 270	1608	1360	0	248	
GRAND TOTALS	3 577 773	1 380 938	248 118	223 517	13 289	11 312	

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.

	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