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Province of the
EASTERN CAPE
HEALTH

Daily Epidemiological Report for SARS-Cov-2

Report No. 404

Date Issued: 12 May 2021 @ 21h00

1. PURPOSE

The report provides a descriptive analysis of SARS-Cov-2 related cases and deaths, and hospitalizations in the Eastern Cape Province, as of 12 May 2021.

2. HIGHLIGHTS

2.1. New cases, active cases, and recoveries

- There is a gradual increase in the number of newly detected cases which was observed in all the districts. In the past 24 hours, 54 new cases, 1 transfer from North West, 6 deaths (4 newly occurred) were reported.
- NM Metro accounted for 26 (47,3%), followed by BC Metro (10 cases, 18,2%), Sarah Baartman (4 cases, 7,3%), Amathole (3 cases, 5,5%), Joe Gqabi (2 cases, 3,6%), and 5 (9,1%) were imported cases (currently in NM Metro).
- Fifty percent (49,8%), i.e. 135 cases were from NM Metro and Sarah Baartman, followed by 28,4% (78 cases) from Amathole, BC Metro and Chris Hani, 5,2% (14 cases) from Alfred Nzo and OR Tambo, and 5,2% (14 cases) from Joe Gqabi. Twenty-nine (29) cases (10,7%) were detected from the vessels which are in PE Harbor.
- Five (5) districts have reported less than 5 cases per 100,000 and 3 reported more than 5 cases per 100,000, i.e. BC Metro, NM Metro and Sarah Baartman.

2.2. SARS-Cov-2 related deaths

- Six (6) deaths were report, i.e. 2 deaths occurred within the past 48 hours. And 2 deaths occurred outside of the health facilities.
- The case fatality rate was 5,9%, i.e.,6,3% reported among males and 5,7% females.

2.3. Hospitalizations and outcomes

- The cumulative number of SARS-Cov-2 related hospitalizations was 31,742, where 58,4% occurred in the Metros, 10,5% in Chris Hani and 10,3% in OR Tambo

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- Of the reported hospitalizations, 22,229 (70%) occurred in the public sector and 9,513 (30%) occurred in private sector health facilities.
- Of all the hospitalized cases, 64,8% (20,575) of hospitalized patients were discharged alive and 65,3% (13,430) of the reported discharges were from the public sector. Thirty percent (29,8%) of hospitalized cases, i.e. 9,470 demised due to SARS-Cov-2 related causes with 75,8% (7,182) of those reported deaths occurring in public sector facilities.
- Of the 83 currently admitted, 71 (85,5%) were admitted in the general ward, 7 (8,4%) in ICU, 5 (6,0%) in high care, 17 (20,5%) on oxygen and 1 (1,2%) were on ventilation.

2.4 Healthcare workers

- The number of HCWs who tested SARS-Cov-2 positive was 11,988 and 307 persons demised.
- Majority of the health workers who tested positive for SARS-Cov-2 were nurses, followed by doctors and clinical associates.
- The number of healthcare workers who tested positive for SARS-Cov-2 were from NM Metro, followed by BC Metro.

2.5 Conclusion

The number of new cases appear to be gradually increasing in all districts. As of to date, 3 districts have reported more than 5 cases per 100,000 population, i.e. BC Metro, NM Metro and Sarah Baartman. An increase in the positivity rate and active cases was observed when comparing the past few days especially in the Metros. In NM Metro, there is also an increase in the number of imported cases, which had a history of having travelled to India.

The possible impact of the travelling between India and South Africa as observed with the two vessels which came to the province and had positive cases.

There is a need to ensure that non-pharmaceutical preventive measures are implemented, increase case detection, enhance contact tracing and case management.

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3. SARS-Cov-2 CASES & DEATHS

3.1. Summary of all cases and deaths

In the past 24 hours, 54 new cases, 1 transfer from North West, 6 deaths (4 newly occurred) were reported. The cumulative number of cases and deaths were **196,387** and **11,612** respectively.

Table 1. SARS-Cov-2 cases and deaths in the Eastern Cape by sex, as of 12 May 2021

	No. of cases	Transfer	New Cases	Total	%	Deaths	New Deaths		Total	CFR (%)
							*Newly Reported	**Newly occurred		
Male	77716		29	77745	39,6	4902	2	3	4907	6,3
Female	118596	1	25	118622	60,4	6704	0	1	6705	5,7
Unknown	20		0	20	0,0	0	0		0	0,0
Total	**196332**	**1**	**54**	**196387**	**100,0**	**11606**	**2**	**4**	**11612**	**5,9**

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

Six percent (5.9%) of the cases demised, and 6.3% were males and 5,7% were females.

Table 2. Number of positive SARS-Cov-2 cases, recoveries and deaths, as of 12 May 2021

District	Cases	Transfer	New Cases	Total Confirmed	Recoveries	Deaths	New Deaths		Total Deaths	CFR (%)	Recovery Rate	Active Cases
							*Newly Reported	**Newly occurred				
Alfred Nzo	8038		1	8039	7542	488	0	1	489	6,1	93,8	8
Amathole	19403		3	19406	18292	1109	0	0	1109	5,7	94,3	5
BC Metro	39103		10	39113	36710	2362	0	0	2362	6,0	93,9	41
Chris Hani	19658	1	3	19662	18034	1595	0	1	1596	8,1	91,7	32
Joe Gqabi	7615		2	7617	7112	491	0	0	491	6,4	93,4	14
NM Metro	56336		26	56362	52914	3336	1	2	3339	5,9	93,9	109
OR Tambo	22490		0	22490	21106	1377	1	0	1378	6,1	93,8	6
S Baartman	21891		4	21895	21021	848	0	0	848	3,9	96,0	26
Imported	670		5	675	646	0	0	0	0	0,0	95,7	29
Unspecified	1128		0	1128	1127	0	0	0	0	0,0	99,9	1
E. Cape	**196332**	**1**	**54**	**196387**	**184504**	**11606**	**2**	**4**	**11612**	**5,9**	**93,9**	**271**

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

NM Metro accounted for 26 (47,3%), followed by BC Metro (10 cases, 18,2%), Sarah Baartman (4 cases, 7,3%), Amathole (3 cases, 5,5%), Joe Gqabi (2 cases, 3,6%), and 5 (9,1%) were imported cases (currently in NM Metro).

Fifty percent (49,8%), i.e. 135 cases were from NM Metro and Sarah Baartman, followed by 28,4% (78 cases) from Amathole, BC Metro and Chris Hani, 5,2% (14 cases) from Alfred Nzo and OR Tambo, and 5,2% (14 cases) from Joe Gqabi. Twenty-nine (29) cases (10,7%) were detected from the vessels which are in PE Harbor. The gradual increase in the number of cases has impacted negatively the recovery rate, i.e. 0,1% decrease.

3.2. Newly diagnosed cases

The figure below provides the average number of newly reported SARS-Cov-2 cases per day.

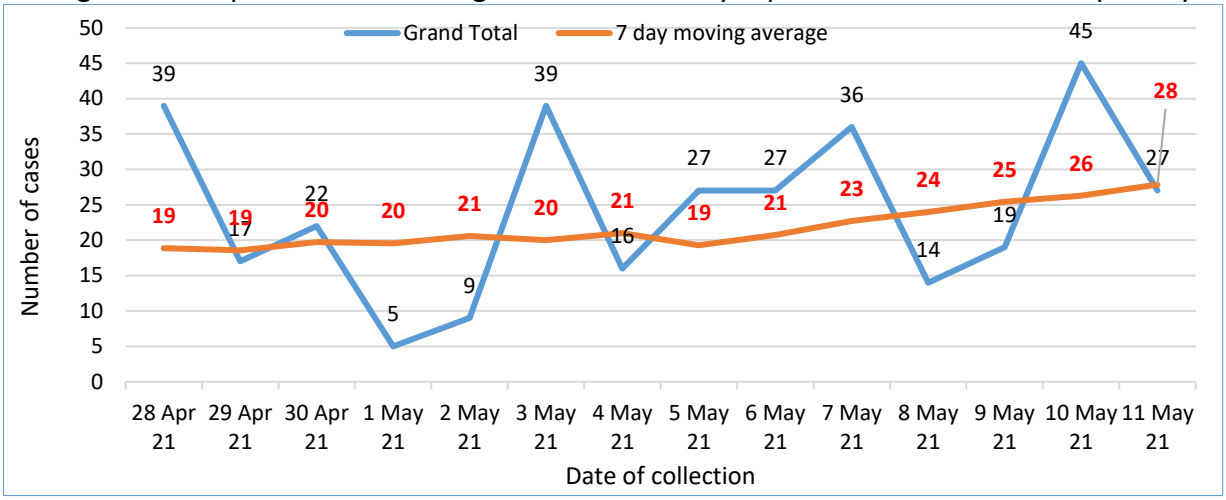
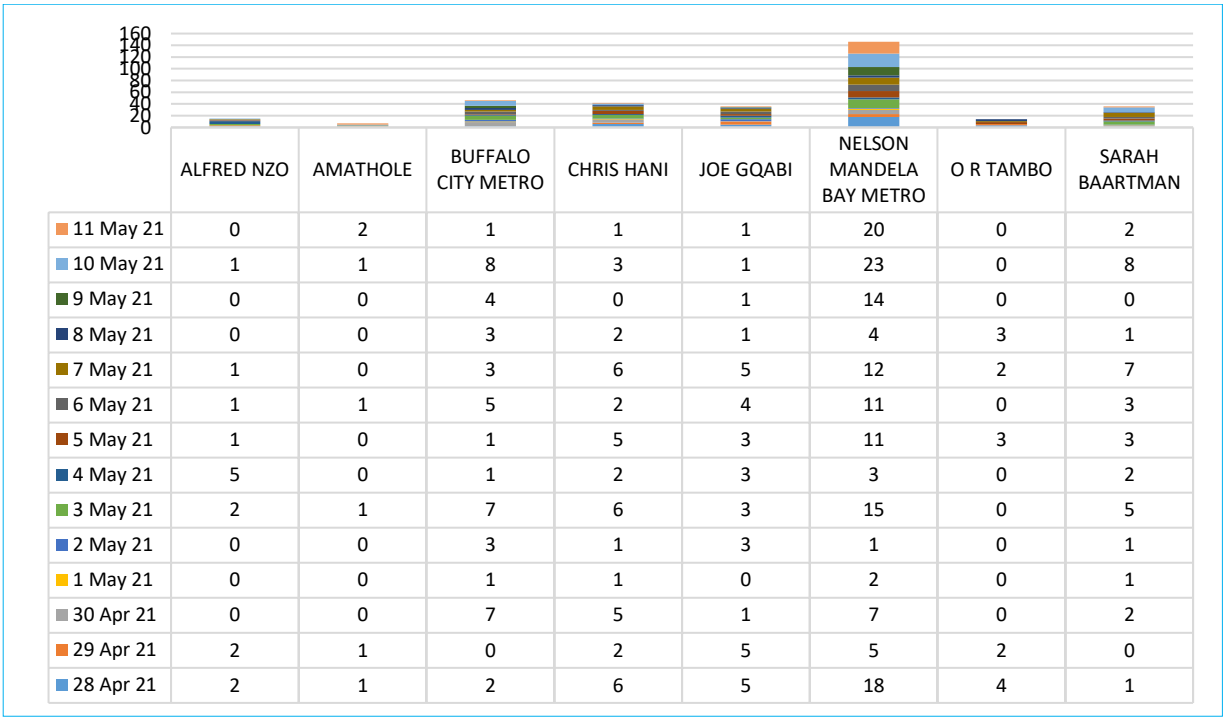


Fig. 1. Daily SARS-Cov-2 cases & 7-day moving average by date of collection, as of 12 May 2021

The average number of new cases per day has increased from 19 on the 05 of May to 28 on the 11 of May 2021, using the date of collection.



	ALFRED NZO	AMATHOLE	BUFFALO CITY METRO	CHRIS HANI	JOE GQABI	NELSON MANDELA BAY METRO	O R TAMBO	SARAH BAARTMAN
11 May 21	0	2	1	1	1	20	0	2
10 May 21	1	1	8	3	1	23	0	8
9 May 21	0	0	4	0	1	14	0	0
8 May 21	0	0	3	2	1	4	3	1
7 May 21	1	0	3	6	5	12	2	7
6 May 21	1	1	5	2	4	11	0	3
5 May 21	1	0	1	5	3	11	3	3
4 May 21	5	0	1	2	3	3	0	2
3 May 21	2	1	7	6	3	15	0	5
2 May 21	0	0	3	1	3	1	0	1
1 May 21	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	1
30 Apr 21	0	0	7	5	1	7	0	2
29 Apr 21	2	1	0	2	5	5	2	0
28 Apr 21	2	1	2	6	5	18	4	1

Fig. 2. Daily SARS-Cov-2 cases by district and date of collection, as of12 May 2021

The number of new cases appears to be increasing in the NM Metro and BC Metro. There is a gradual increase in the number of cases in Chris Hani, Joe Gqabi and Sarah Baartman. There is a need to improve case detection (including increased testing) and contact tracing and monitoring.

4. SARS-Cov-2 LAB TESTS & RESULTS

4.1. Test Results by Laboratory

In the last 24 hours, 1,623 new tests were reported, which brings the number to 958,285 where 61,9% were reported by the public labs and 39,1% reported by the private labs.

Table 3. Number of SARS-Cov-2 tests for Private and Public by Laboratories, as of 12 May 2021

	Private	Public	Total	Percentage (%)	New Tests
Alfred Nzo	4556	28992	33 548	3,5	10
Amathole	9821	72956	82 777	8,6	65
BC Metro	62909	100111	163 020	17,0	101
Chris Hani	13141	58256	71 397	7,5	57
Joe Gqabi	1281	27890	29 171	3,0	66
NMB Metro	93335	140699	234 034	24,4	264
OR Tambo	30253	68635	98 888	10,3	67
Sarah Baartman	18788	86489	105 277	11,0	87
Unclassified	140173	0	140 173	14,6	906
Eastern Cape	**374257**	**584028**	**958 285**	**100**	**1623**

Fifty-six percent of the new tests were done in private sector. However, BC Metro and NM Metro accounted for 22,5% of all the new tests.

4.2. Antigen Testing

Antigen Test Method was used to test 110,563 specimens with a 7,5% positivity rate.

Table 4. No. of SARS-Cov-2 Tests and results using Antigen Test Method, as of 12 May 2021

	Negative	Positive	Total	Positivity Rate (%)
A Nzo	12291	931	13222	7,0
Amathole	4216	613	4829	12,7
BC Metro	11491	1623	13114	12,4
Chris Hani	9195	1170	10365	11,3
Joe Gqabi	3488	473	3961	11,9
NM Metro	34287	1831	36118	5,1
OR Tambo	20767	1357	22124	6,1
Sarah Baartman	6517	313	6830	4,6
Total	**102252**	**8311**	**110563**	**7,5**

BC Metro and NM Metro contributed 44,5% of all the antigen tests done in the Eastern Cape. Three districts reported 12% or more positivity rate, i.e. Amathole, BC Metro and Joe Gqabi. The lowest positivity rate was observed in NM Metro and Sarah Baartman.

4.3. Tests by age group and sex

In the last 31 days, the public sector laboratories tested 12,433 specimens for SARS-Cov-2, with the highest number in the Metros. Sixty-three percent (62,6%) of the tests were among

the 20 to 59 year's age group. Thirty-five percent (34,8%) of the tests were among the younger and elderly population.

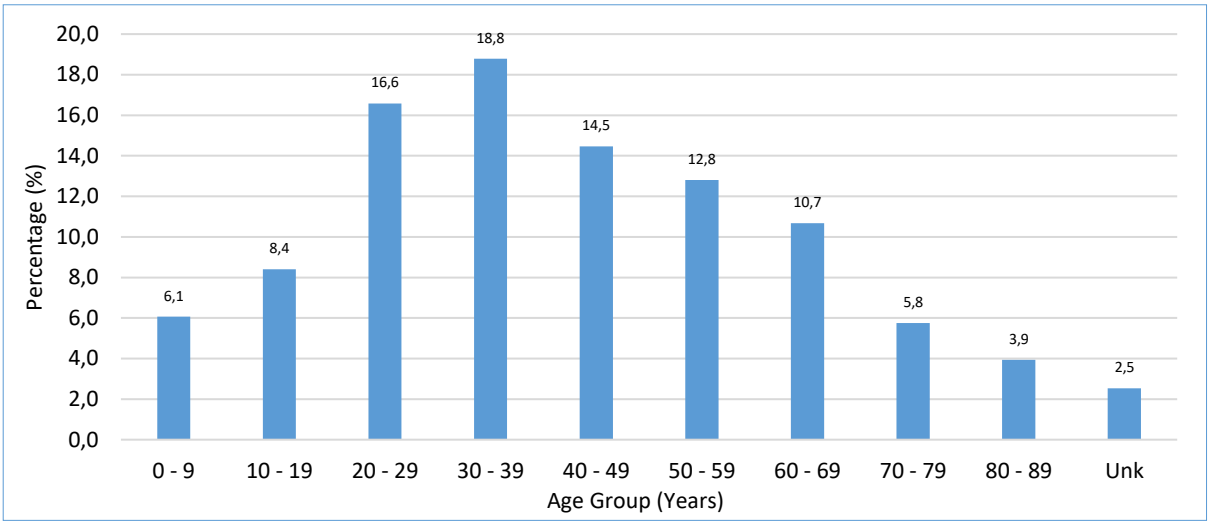


Fig. 3. The number of SARS-Cov-2 tests by age group in the last 31 days, as of 11 May 2021

Only 2,5% of the tests did not have information on the age of the person who was tested for SARS-Cov-2.

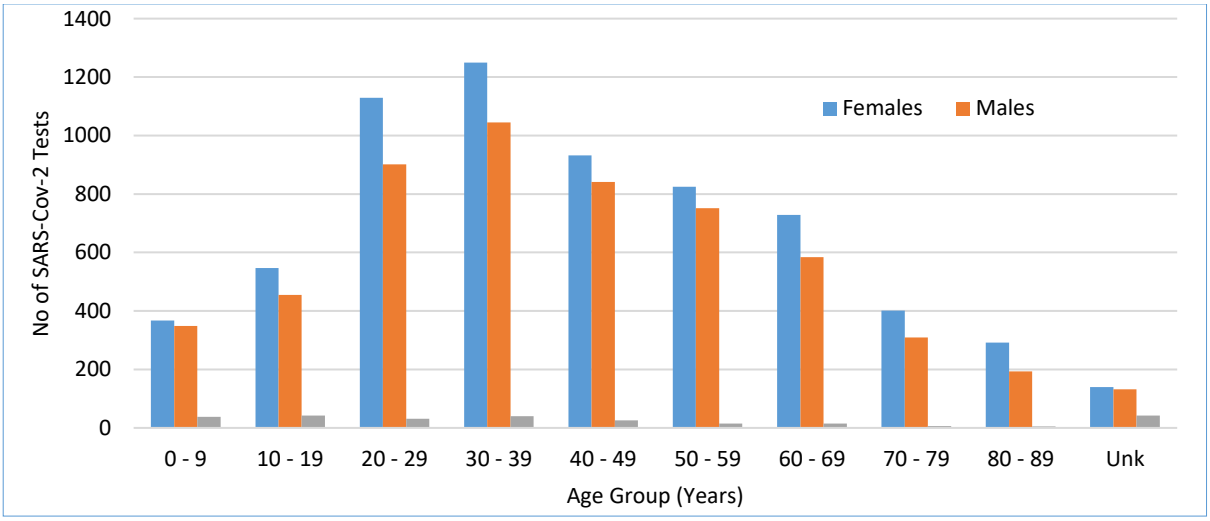


Fig. 4. No. of SARS-Cov-2 public sector tests by age group and gender, as of 11 May 2021

More than half of all the tests (53,2%), which were done in the last 31 days, were predominantly among the female population. Only 44,7% of the tests were among the male population and 2,1% with unknown gender. There were those individuals who were tested for SARS-Cov-2 but did not have information on the age or date of birth.

4.4. Turnaround Time

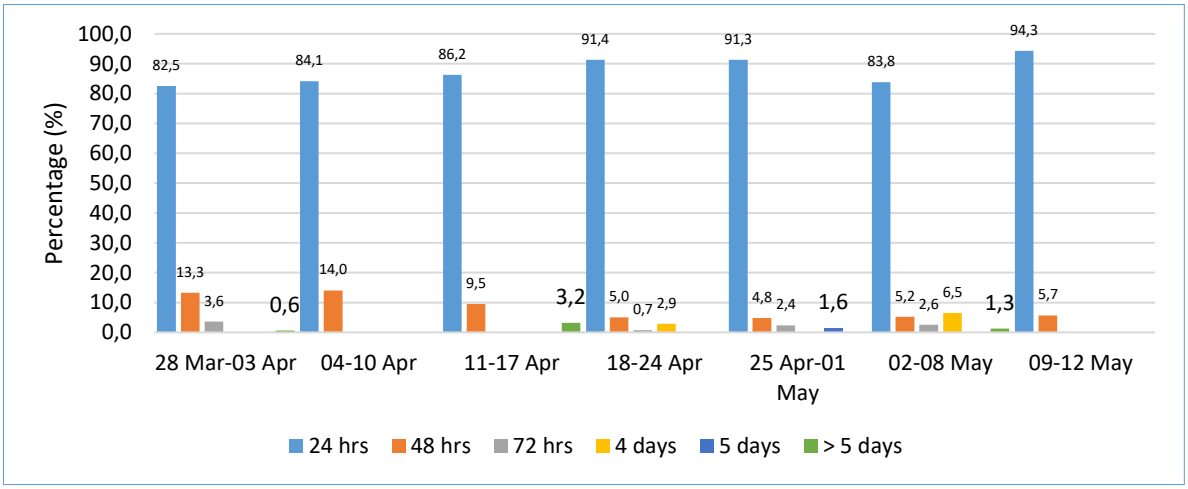


Fig. 5. Turnaround time for SARS-Cov-2 positive results by week as of 12 May 2021

Ninety-four percent (94,3%) of the SARS-Cov-2 results were available within 24 hours of specimen collection, compared to 83,8% reported in the previous week i.e., 12,5% increase. Results that were available within 48 hours decreased by 4,1% from 96.1% during the previous week to 100% in the current week.

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

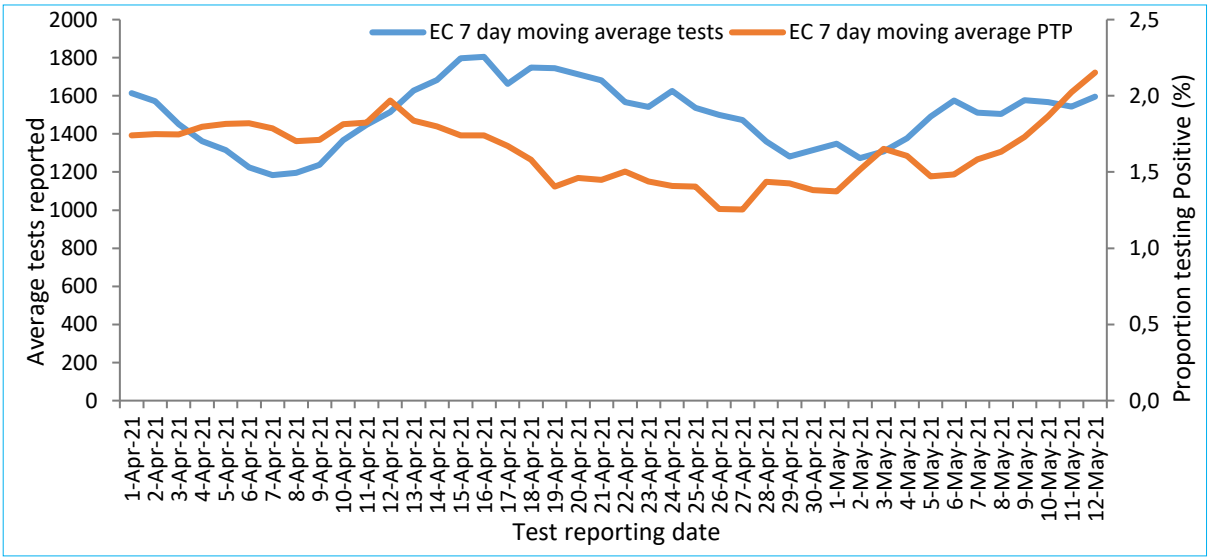


Fig. 6. 7-day moving average for SARS-Cov-2 tests & positivity rate, as of 12 May 2021

In the past 7 days, the number of SARS-Cov-2 tests has increased by 1,3% from 1,576 on the 06th of May to 1,596 on the 12th May 2021. The number of tests per day has increased by 4,3% from 23 tests to 24 tests per 100,000 population per day. The positivity rate has increased by 46,7% from 1,5% to 2,2% during the same period.

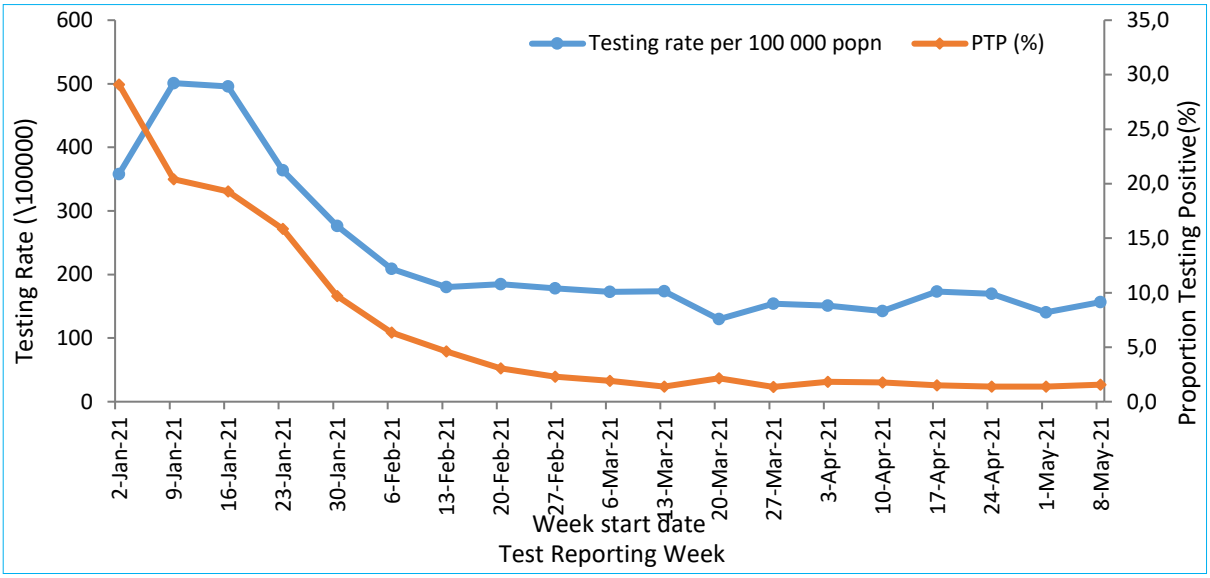


Fig. 7. Testing Rate for SARS-Cov-2 by week for past 18 weeks, as of 12 May 2021

The testing rate for SARS-Cov-2 has increased by 11.3% from 141 tests per 100,000 on the 01st May to 157 tests per 100,000 on the 08th May. The testing rate has remained below 200 tests per 100,000 per week from the 13th of February. There is a need to improve the testing rate to increase the ability of the surveillance system to detect cases.

5. ACTIVE CASES, INCIDENCE & POSITIVITY RATE

5.1. Active SARS-Cov-2 Cases

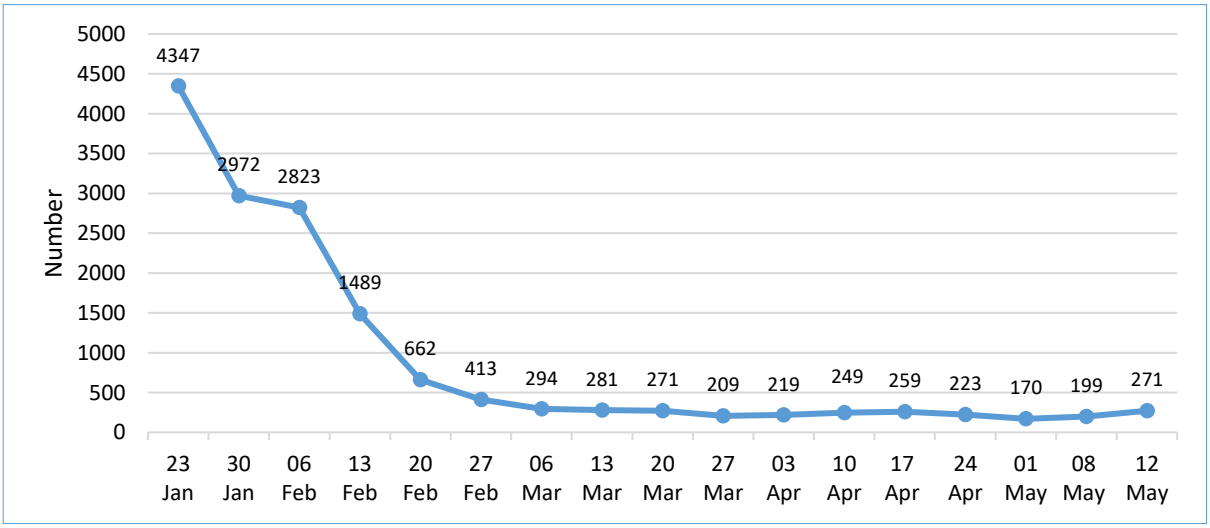
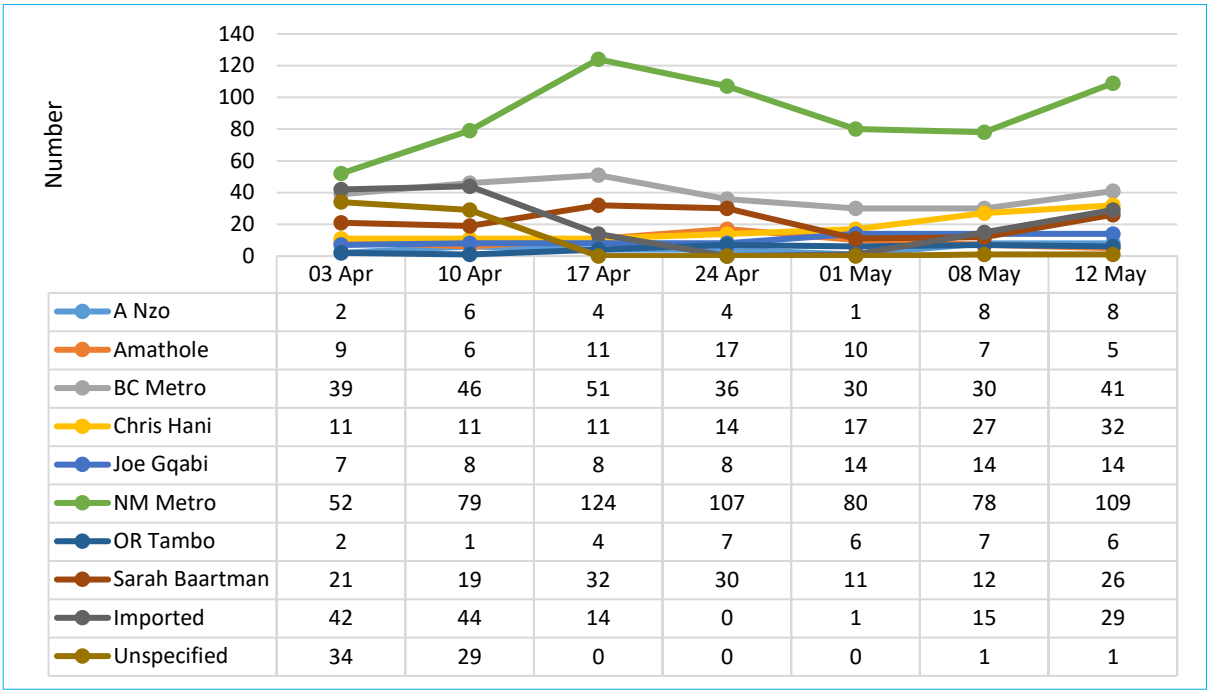


Fig. 8. Number of active SARS-Cov-2 cases by week, as of 12 May 2021

The number of active cases has increased by 36,2% from 199 on the 08th to 271 on the 12th May 2021. There is a need to improve the implementation of non-pharmaceutical preventive measures with the vaccination services.



	03 Apr	10 Apr	17 Apr	24 Apr	01 May	08 May	12 May
A Nzo	2	6	4	4	1	8	8
Amathole	9	6	11	17	10	7	5
BC Metro	39	46	51	36	30	30	41
Chris Hani	11	11	11	14	17	27	32
Joe Gqabi	7	8	8	8	14	14	14
NM Metro	52	79	124	107	80	78	109
OR Tambo	2	1	4	7	6	7	6
Sarah Baartman	21	19	32	30	11	12	26
Imported	42	44	14	0	1	15	29
Unspecified	34	29	0	0	0	1	1

Fig. 9. Number of weekly Active SARS-Cov-2 cases by district, as of 12 May 2021

NM Metro continues to report more active cases compared to the other districts. BC Metro, Chris Hani, Joe Gqabi, Sarah Baartman and Amathole need careful attention to minimize the spread of their active cases.

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

Table 5. Confirmed SARS-Cov-2 cases, incidence & positivity rate, as of 12 May 2021

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	33 548	8039	8	1,0	24,0
Amathole	798067	82 777	19406	5	0,6	23,4
BC Metro	798798	163 020	39113	41	5,1	24,0
Chris Hani	733743	71 397	19662	32	4,4	27,5
Joe Gqabi	343075	29 171	7617	14	4,1	26,1
NM Metro	1210803	234 034	56362	109	9,0	24,1
OR Tambo	1520922	98 888	22490	6	0,4	22,7
S Baartman	480223	105 277	21895	26	5,4	20,8
Imported		0	675	29	0,0	0,0
Unspecified		140 173	1128	1	0,0	0,8
E.Cape	**6713457**	**958 285**	**196387**	**271**	**4,0**	**20,5**

The incidence of active cases was 4,0 cases per 100,000 populations. The incidence of SARS-Cov-2 was less than 5 cases per 100,000 in 5 districts, and more than 5 cases per 100,000 populations in BC Metro, NM Metro and Sarah Baartman. The cumulative positivity rate is at 20,5%. All districts have less than a 30% positivity rate.

5.3. Incidence of SARS-Cov-2 cases

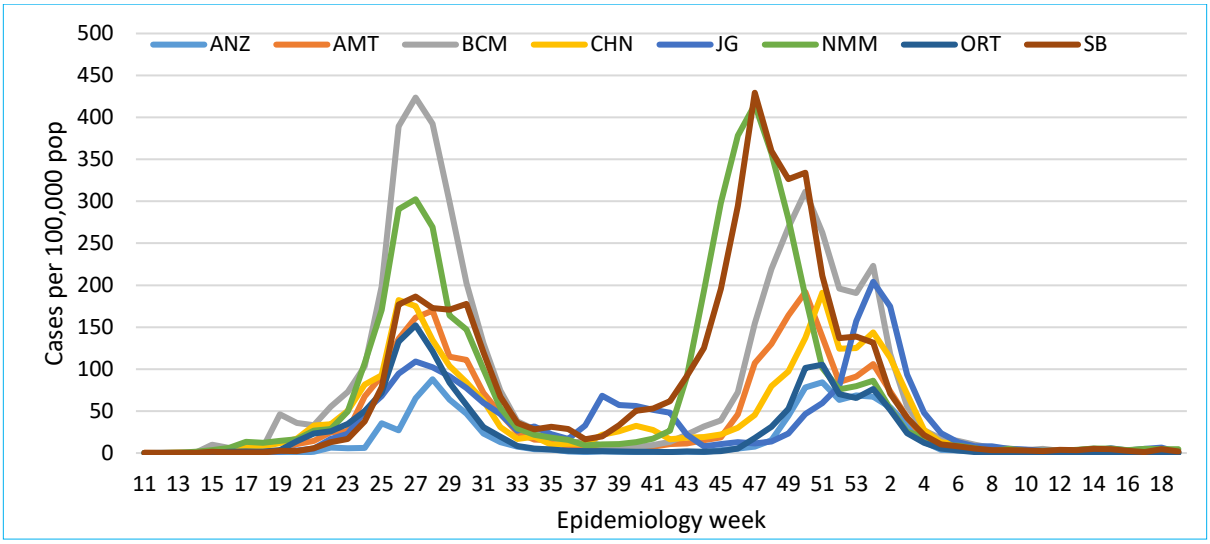
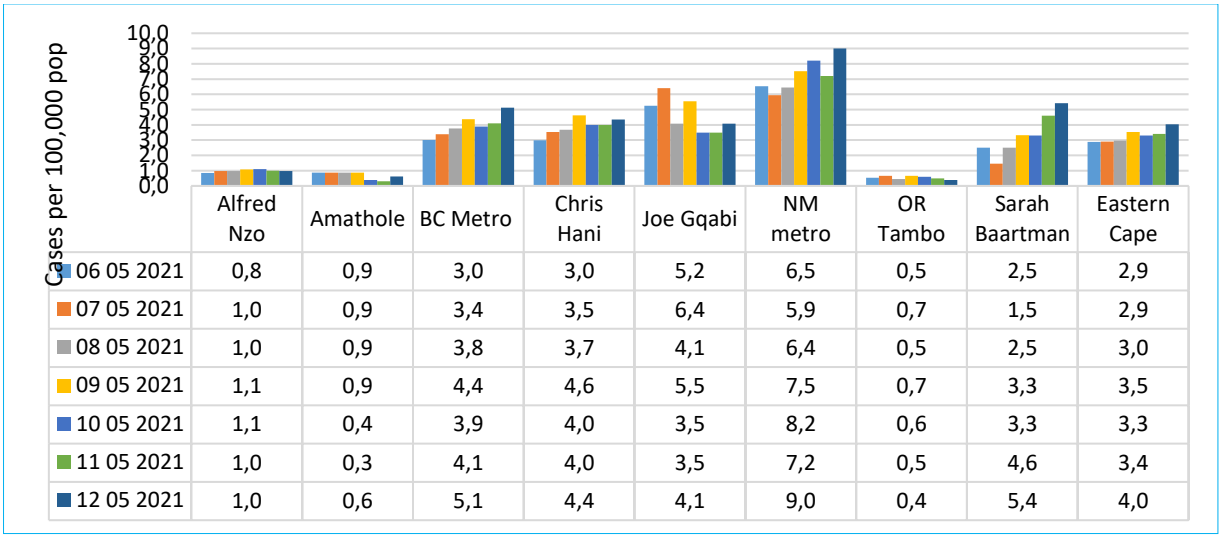


Fig. 10. Incidence of SARS-Cov-2 cases by epidemiological week, as of 12 May 2021

The incidence of SARS-Cov-2 has significantly declined in all districts including the metros between week 6 and week 18.



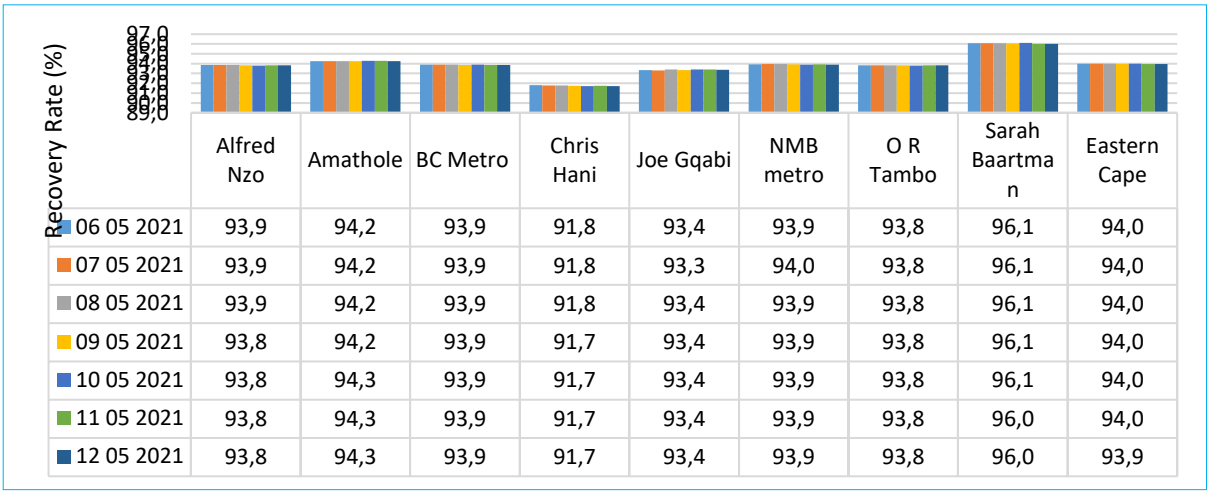
	Alfred Nzo	Amathole	BC Metro	Chris Hani	Joe Gqabi	NM metro	OR Tambo	Sarah Baartman	Eastern Cape
06 05 2021	0,8	0,9	3,0	3,0	5,2	6,5	0,5	2,5	2,9
07 05 2021	1,0	0,9	3,4	3,5	6,4	5,9	0,7	1,5	2,9
08 05 2021	1,0	0,9	3,8	3,7	4,1	6,4	0,5	2,5	3,0
09 05 2021	1,1	0,9	4,4	4,6	5,5	7,5	0,7	3,3	3,5
10 05 2021	1,1	0,4	3,9	4,0	3,5	8,2	0,6	3,3	3,3
11 05 2021	1,0	0,3	4,1	4,0	3,5	7,2	0,5	4,6	3,4
12 05 2021	1,0	0,6	5,1	4,4	4,1	9,0	0,4	5,4	4,0

Fig. 11. Active SARS-Cov-2 cases (per 100,000 pop) by district, as of 12 May 2021

In the past 7 days, the incidence of SARS-Cov-2 increased by 37,9% from 2,9 cases per 100,000 population to 4,0 per 100,000 population. Five (5) districts have less than 5 cases per 100,000 populations. BC Metro, NM Metro and Sarah Baartman reported more than 5 cases per 100,000 populations.

5.4. Recovery Rate (%)

The provincial recovery rate remained above 90% over the past 7 days. The recovery rate for all the districts has not changed for more than 14 days.



	Alfred Nzo	Amathole	BC Metro	Chris Hani	Joe Gqabi	NMB metro	O R Tambo	Sarah Baartman	Eastern Cape
06 05 2021	93,9	94,2	93,9	91,8	93,4	93,9	93,8	96,1	94,0
07 05 2021	93,9	94,2	93,9	91,8	93,3	94,0	93,8	96,1	94,0
08 05 2021	93,9	94,2	93,9	91,8	93,4	93,9	93,8	96,1	94,0
09 05 2021	93,8	94,2	93,9	91,7	93,4	93,9	93,8	96,1	94,0
10 05 2021	93,8	94,3	93,9	91,7	93,4	93,9	93,8	96,1	94,0
11 05 2021	93,8	94,3	93,9	91,7	93,4	93,9	93,8	96,0	94,0
12 05 2021	93,8	94,3	93,9	91,7	93,4	93,9	93,8	96,0	93,9

Fig. 12. SARS-Cov-2 Recovery Rate (%) by districts, as of 12 May 2021 (N=184,501)

Ninety-four percent (94%) of the cases recovered and all districts have more than 90% of the cases have recovered. The recovery rate has remained unchanged for more than 2 months.

5.5. Mapping of active cases, recoveries, and deaths

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

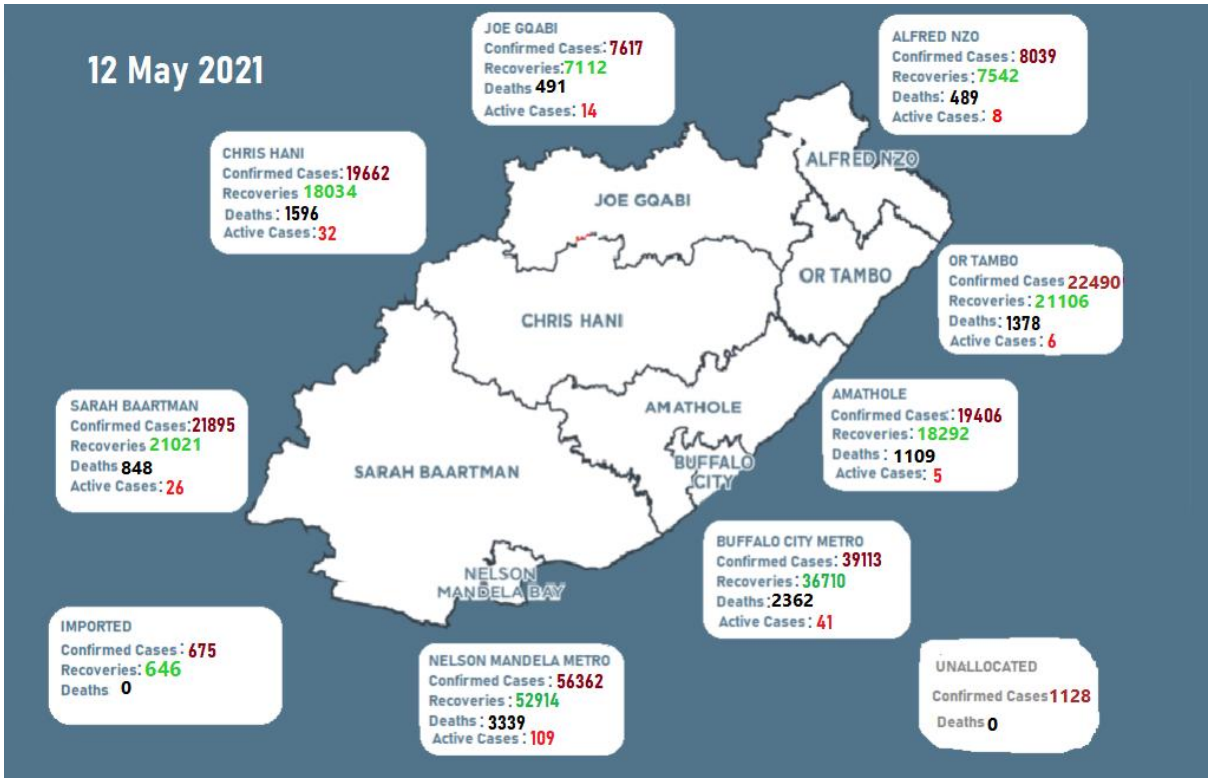


Fig. 13. The number of Covid-19 cases, recoveries, and deaths, as of 12 May 2021

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

Fig. 14 provides the number (including cumulative) of cases and the 7-day moving average.

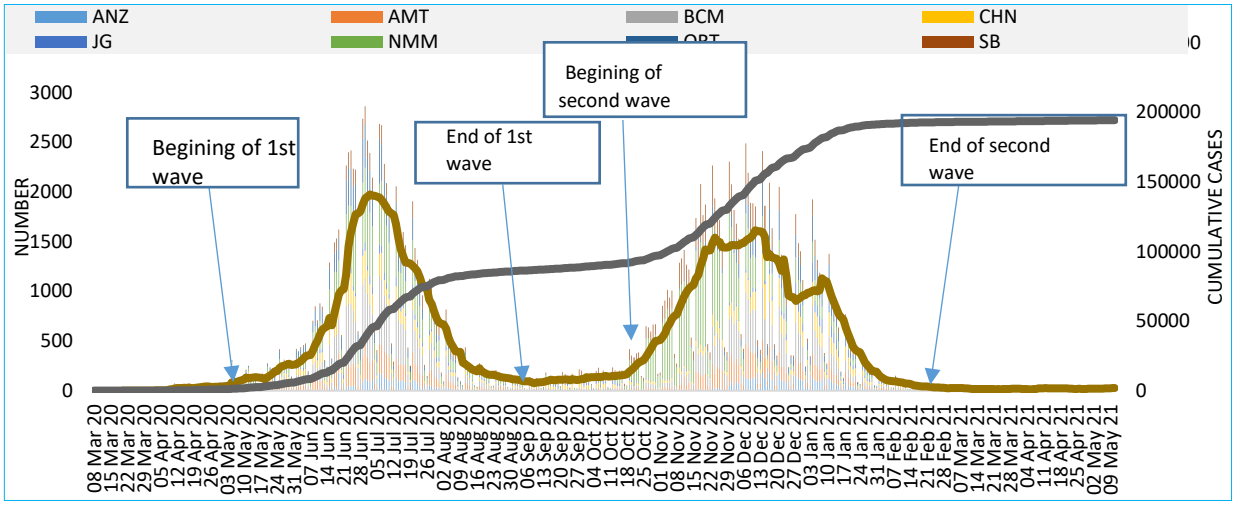


Fig. 14. The 7-day moving average for Covid-19 cases by date of collection, as of 12 May 2021

The number of daily newly diagnosed cases increased from the second half of October and peaked in mid-December, and then decreased until to date. The number of cumulative cases appears to have stabilized (known as flattening of the curve).

7. SARS-Cov-2 RELATED MORTALITY

7.1. SARS-Cov-2 related deaths

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

Table 5. Number of SARS-Cov-2 cases and related deaths by month, as of 12 May 2021

Month	Cases	Deaths	Percent (%)	Case Fatality Rate (%)	Mortality Rate (per 100,000)
Mar 20	13	1	0,0	7,7	0,0
Apr 20	638	35	0,3	5,5	0,5
May 20	3282	285	2,5	8,7	4,2
Jun 20	23793	1036	8,9	4,4	15,4
Jul 20	50291	2035	17,5	4,0	30,3
Aug 20	8295	668	5,8	8,1	10,0
Sep 20	2992	213	1,8	7,1	3,2
Oct 20	8626	287	2,5	3,3	4,3
Nov 20	34232	1710	14,7	5,0	25,5
Dec 20	42757	2777	23,9	6,5	41,4
Jan 21	18167	1917	16,5	10,6	28,6
Feb 21	1705	311	2,7	18,2	4,6
Mar 21	701	105	0,9	15,0	1,6
Apr 21	625	55	0,5	8,8	0,8
May 21	270	32	0,3	11,9	0,5
Unknown	0	145	1,2	0,0	2,2
Total	**196387**	**11612**	**100,0**	**5,9**	**173,0**

Twenty-four percent (23,9%) of the deaths occurred in December, 16,5% in January, 2,7% in February, 0,9% in March, 0,5% in April, and 0,2% in May.

The Case Fatality Rate was 6,5% in December, 10,6% in January, 18,2% in February, 15% in March, 8,5% in April and 13,2% in May. Between November and January, the mortality rate was above 20 per 100,000.

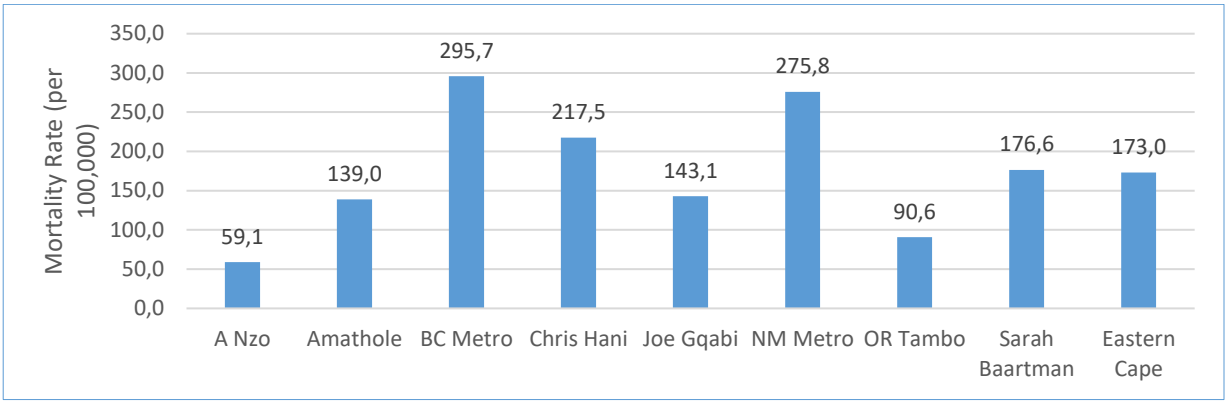


Fig. 15. SARS-Cov-2 related mortality per 100,000 by district, as of 12 May 2021

The provincial mortality rate was 172,9 deaths per 100,000 populations. BC Metro reported the highest mortality rate at 295,7 per 100,000, followed by NM Metro (275,5 per 100,000), Chris Hani (217,4 per 100,000) and Sarah Baartman (176,6 per 100,000).

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

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

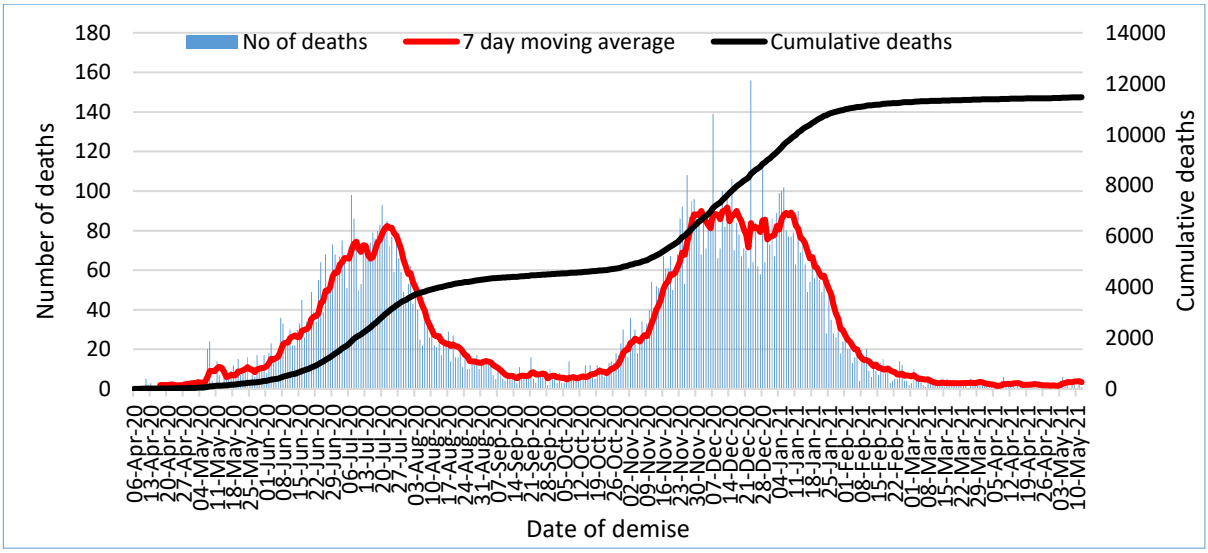


Fig. 16. Daily and cum. SARS-Cov-2 related deaths by date of demise, as of 12 May 2021

The second wave had more deaths and took a longer duration compared to the first wave. The number of deaths continues to decline from the first week of January until to date.

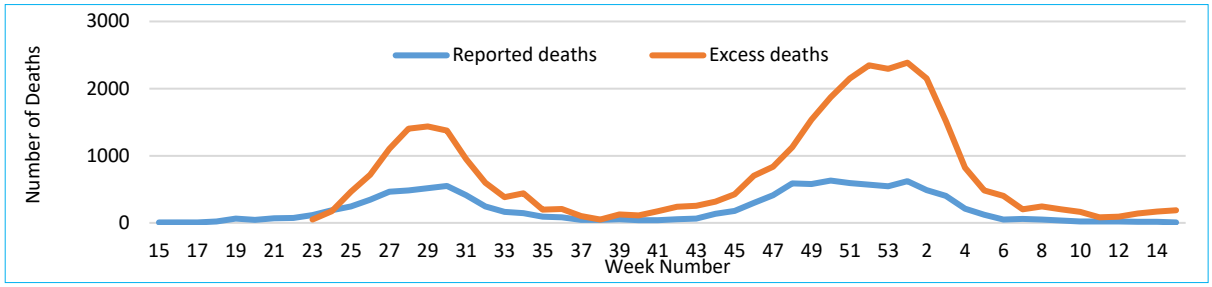


Fig. 17. Excess & SARS-Cov-2 related deaths by week, as of 22 April 2021 (ECDOH, MRC)

The number of excess deaths extracted from the MRC website was greater than the number of deaths as reported by the Department. The differences in the number of deaths during the period of low transmission appear to be lower compared to the period of high transmission. In the first and second waves, the number of excess deaths was significantly higher than the number reported in the department. The gap between the number of reported deaths related to SARS-Cov-2 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 peak periods in the first and second waves.

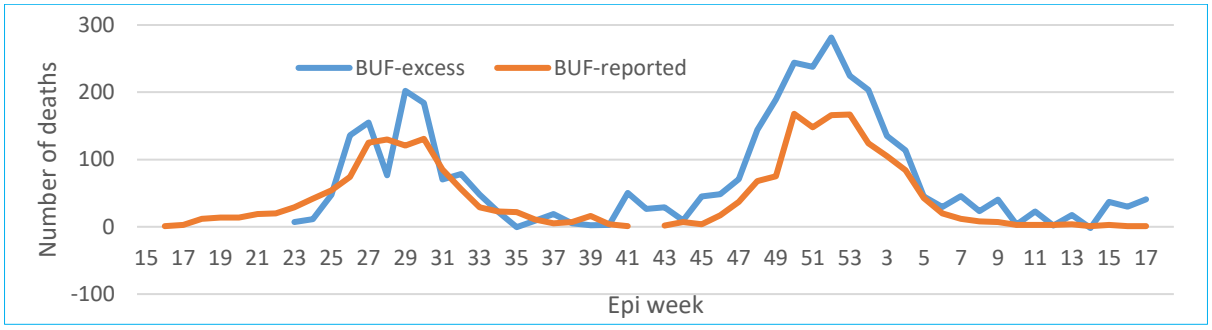


Fig. 18. Reported SARS-Cov-2 versus excess deaths in BC Metro, as of the 29 April 2021

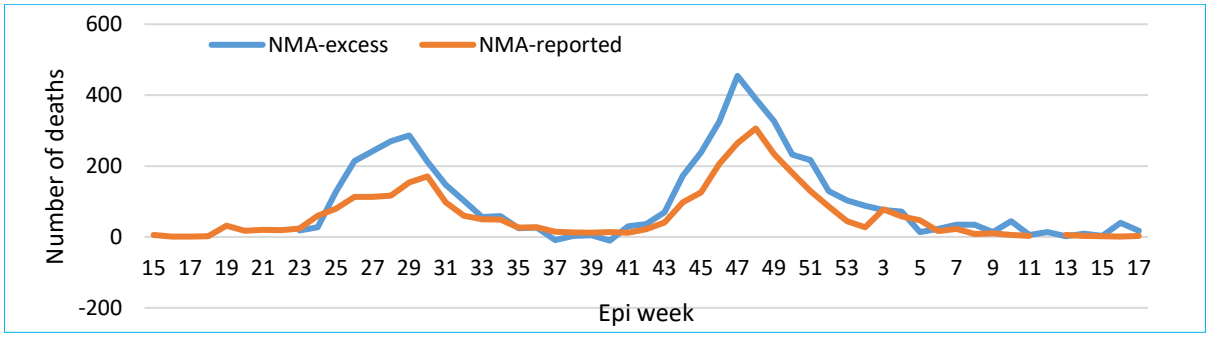
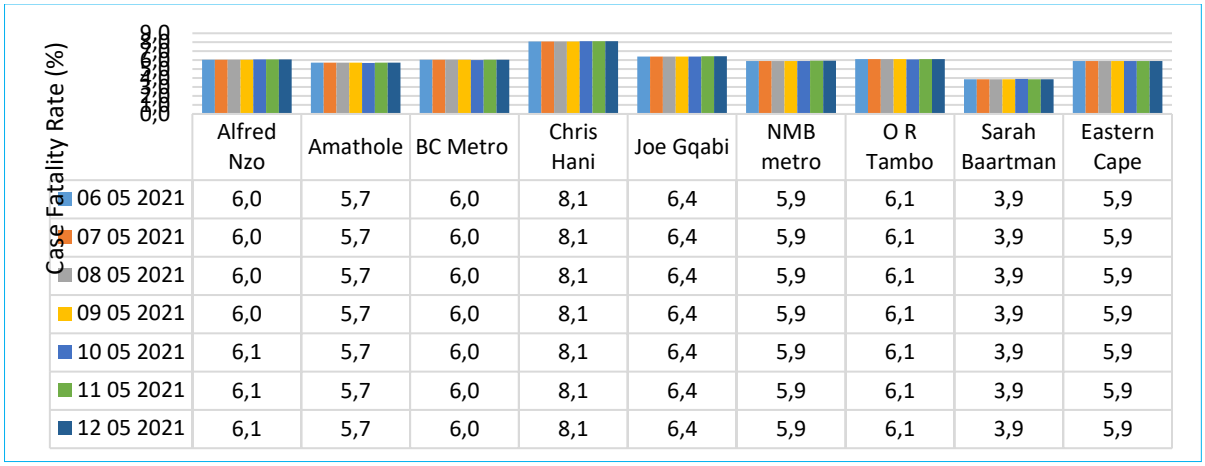


Fig. 19. Reported SARS-Cov-2 versus excess deaths in NM Metro, as of the 29 April 2021

There is a need to increase the reporting of deaths and the post-mortem testing in all districts.

7.3. Case Fatality Rate by district

Chris Hani reported 8,1% of the SARS-Cov-2 deaths, followed by Joe Gqabi (6,4%), OR Tambo (6,1%), Alfred Nzo (6,1%), BC Metro (6,0%), NM Metro (5,9%), Amathole (5,7%) and the lowest being Sarah Baartman (3.9%).



	Alfred Nzo	Amathole	BC Metro	Chris Hani	Joe Gqabi	NMB metro	O R Tambo	Sarah Baartman	Eastern Cape
06 05 2021	6,0	5,7	6,0	8,1	6,4	5,9	6,1	3,9	5,9
07 05 2021	6,0	5,7	6,0	8,1	6,4	5,9	6,1	3,9	5,9
08 05 2021	6,0	5,7	6,0	8,1	6,4	5,9	6,1	3,9	5,9
09 05 2021	6,0	5,7	6,0	8,1	6,4	5,9	6,1	3,9	5,9
10 05 2021	6,1	5,7	6,0	8,1	6,4	5,9	6,1	3,9	5,9
11 05 2021	6,1	5,7	6,0	8,1	6,4	5,9	6,1	3,9	5,9
12 05 2021	6,1	5,7	6,0	8,1	6,4	5,9	6,1	3,9	5,9

Fig. 20. SARS-Cov-2 Case Fatality Rate (%) by district, as of 12 May 2021 (N=11,612)

The case fatality rate has not changed for more than 7 days. However, there were no significant changes which were observed in nearly all the districts.

7.4. Case Fatality Rate by age group

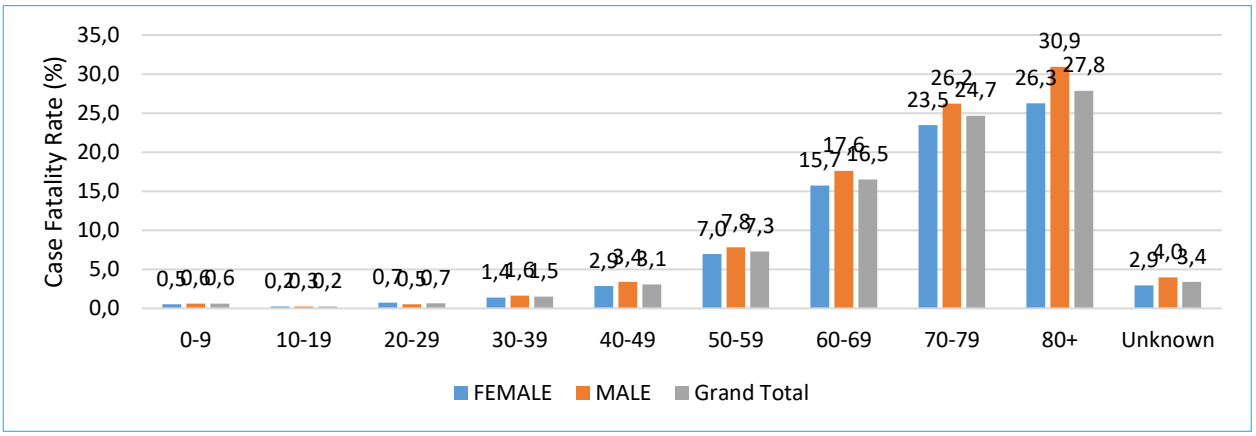


Fig. 21. SARS-Cov-2 related Case Fatality Rate (%) by age group, as of 12 May 2021

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. Post-mortem tests (PMTs) and results

As of the 12th May, 2,508 PMTs were done and 799 tested positive for SARS-Cov-2 (2 new cases).

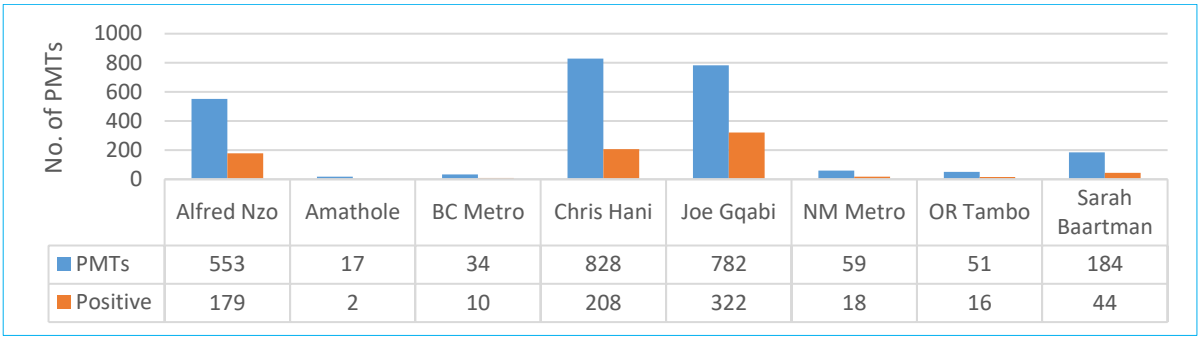


Fig. 22. Number of Post-Mortem Tests & Positive Cases by district, as of 12 May 2021

Alfred Nzo, Chris Hani and Joe Gqabi reported 2,163 (86,2%) PMTs and 709 tested positive.

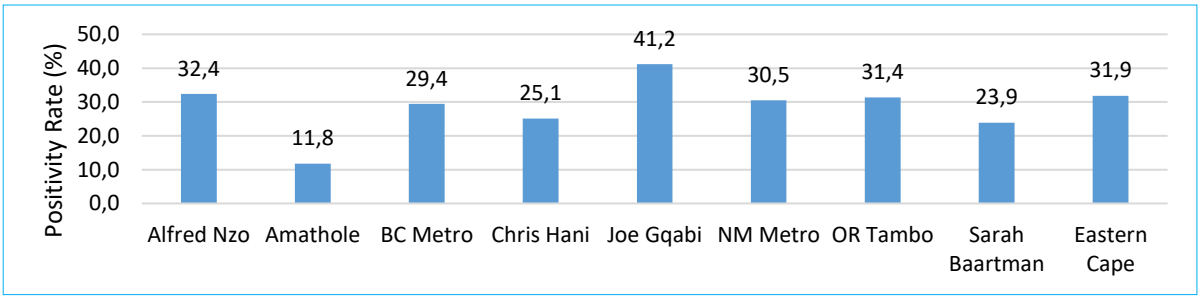


Fig. 23. Post-mortem SARS-Cov-2 positivity rate by district, as of 12 May 2021

Joe Gqabi has the highest positivity rate, followed by OR Tambo, Alfred Nzo, and NM Metro.

Table 6. Number of Post-mortem tests and positive SARS-Cov-2 cases, as of 11 May 2021

	25 Apr-01 May		02-08 May		25 Apr-08 May	
	PMTs	Positive	PMTs	Positive	PMTs	Positive
Alfred Nzo	14	1	19	2	33	3
Amathole			6		6	
BC Metro						
Chris Hani	40	1	35	4	75	5
Joe Gqabi	13		25	4	38	4
NM Metro	2				2	
OR Tambo	2		1		3	
Sarah Baartman	6		5		11	
Eastern Cape	77	2	91	10	168	12

In the past 14 days, 12 of the 168 PMTs tested positive for SARS-Cov-2. Three districts accounted for 146 PMTs (86,9%), i.e. Alfred Nzo, Chris Hani, and Joe Gqabi. The 12 confirmed cases were from Alfred Nzo, Chris Hani, and Joe Gqabi.

There is a need to promote testing of all deaths which occurred outside the health facilities especially in Amathole, BC Metro and NM Metro.

7.6. Deaths by health facilities

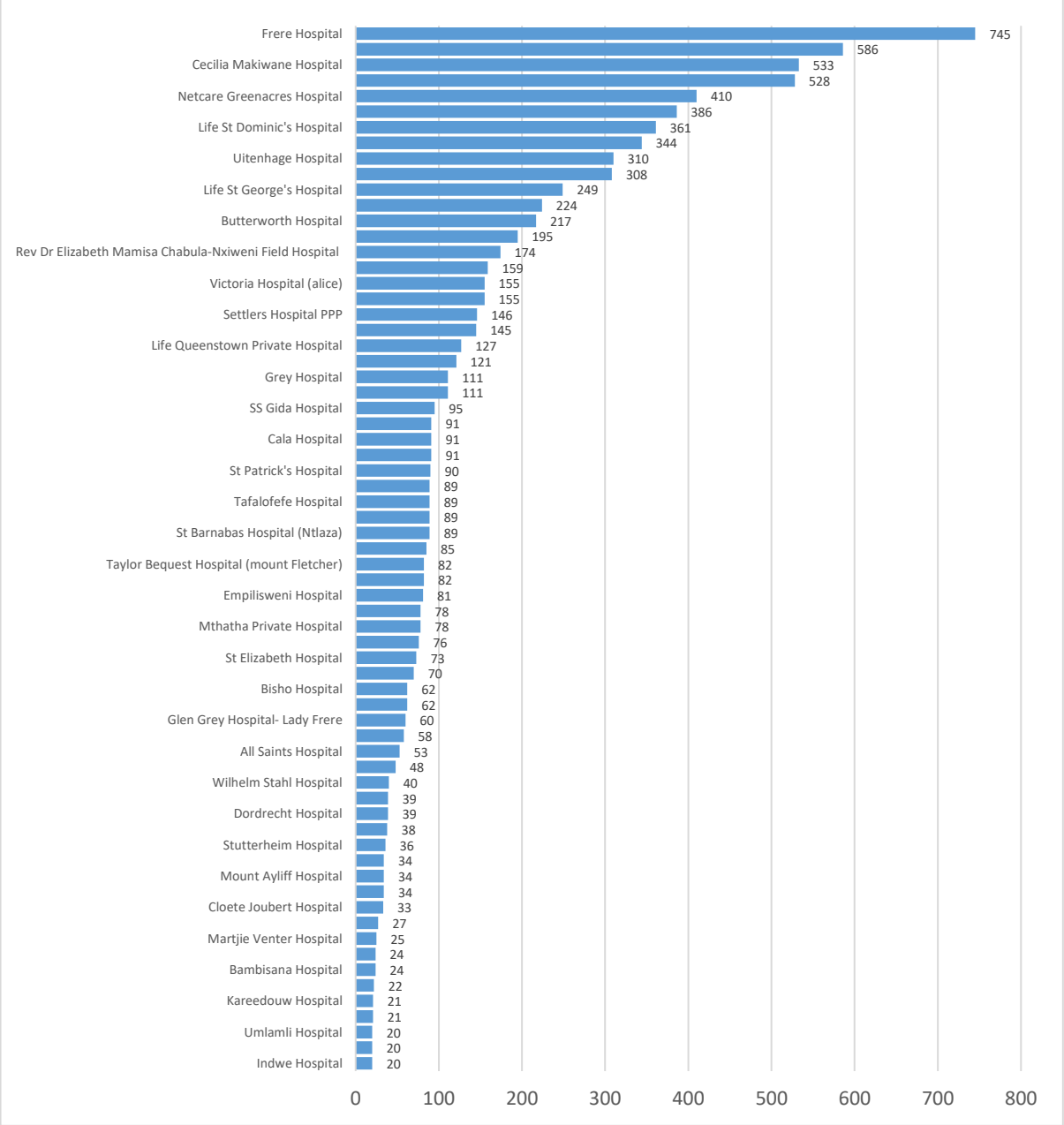


Fig. 24. Number of SARS-Cov-2 related deaths by the facility, as of 09 May 2021

Fifty-five percent (55%) of the deaths occurred in 13 hospitals, i.e. 8 public and 5 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 Cyler hospitals. Only hospitals with a minimum of 20 deaths are included in the abovementioned figure.

6. HEALTHCARE WORKERS

6.1. Cases and deaths among healthcare workers (HCWs)

The number of HCWs who tested SARS-Cov-2 positive was 11,988 and 307 persons demised.

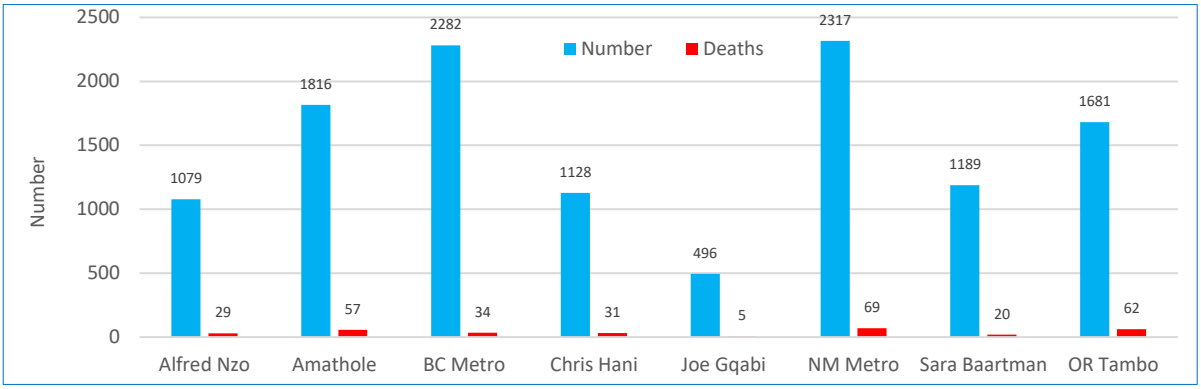


Fig. 25. SARS-Cov-2 positive Healthcare Workers, as of 10 May 2021 (N = 11,988)

The number of healthcare workers who tested positive for SARS-Cov-2 in Nelson Mandela Metro was 2,317 (69 deaths), Buffalo City Metro 2,282 (34 deaths), Amathole 1,816 (57 deaths), OR Tambo 1,681 (62 deaths), Sarah Baartman 1189 (20 deaths), Chris Hani 1,128 (31 deaths) and Alfred Nzo 1,079 cases (29 deaths). Amathole, and Joe Gqabi reported zero increase in the number of cases.

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 6. SARS-Cov-2 cases by selected job categories, as on 10 May 2021

	Population	Cases	Positivity Rate (%)
Admin	12434	811	6,5
Allied Professionals	3041	234	7,7
Doctors & Clinical Assoc	2369	448	18,9
Nurses	20650	4966	24,0
Emergency Medical Services	2498	294	11,8

The positivity rate among the nurses was 24,0%, followed by doctors and clinical associates (18,9%), allied professionals (7,7%), EMS (11,8%), and admin personnel (6,5%). The positivity rates among healthcare workers negatively affect patient safety, staff morale and confidence, and the capacity of the State to provide quality health services to the population.

6.3. Admissions of healthcare workers

The analysis of the admissions of the healthcare workers was 1,086 healthcare workers who admitted to the hospitals in the Eastern Cape.

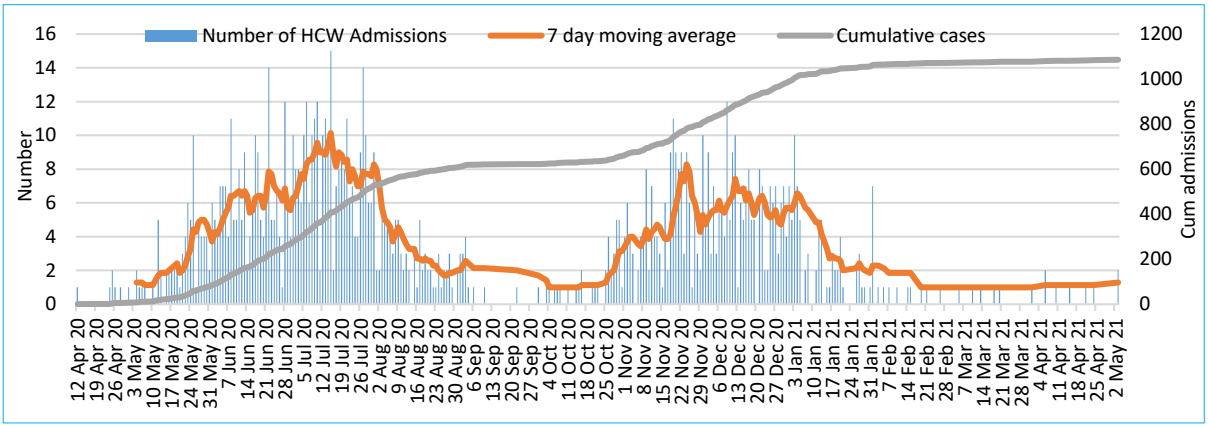


Fig. 26. No. of SARS-Cov-2 related admissions of healthcare workers, as of 09 May 2021

The abovementioned figure shows the number of admissions, 7-day moving average and cumulative cases among healthcare workers. This graph appears to be mimicking the epi-curve and admissions of the general population including during the first and the second waves. In the past few weeks, the was a plateau in the number of HCW admissions.

6.4. Case Fatality Rate (%) among HCWs

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

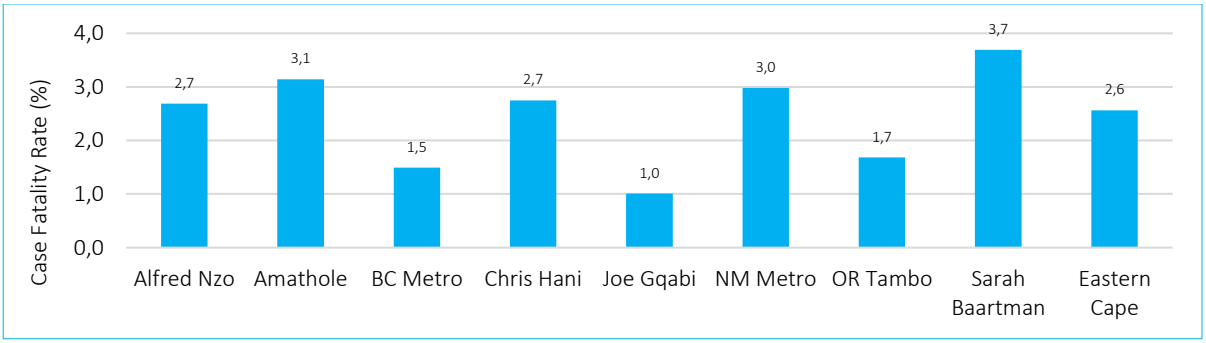


Fig. 27. SARS-Cov-2 Case Fatality Rate (%) among HCWs, as of 10 May 2021 (N=307)

The case fatality rate among healthcare workers was 2.6%. The case fatality rate was 1,0% and above in all the districts. Sarah Baartman reported the highest case fatality rate, followed by Amathole, Nelson Mandela Metro, Chris Hani and Alfred Nzo. The case fatality rate of less than 2% in three districts, i.e. Joe Gqabi, BC Metro and OR Tambo.

7. Hospitalization and outcomes

7.1. Admissions and outcomes

The cumulative number of SARS-Cov-2 related hospitalizations was 31,742, where 58,4% occurred in the Metros, 10,5% in Chris Hani and 10,3% in OR Tambo.

Table 7. Number of SARS-Cov-2 related hospitalizations by district and sector, as of 12 May 2021

Districts	Public	Private	Total	Percentage (%)
Alfred Nzo	1692	106	1798	5,7
Amathole	2364	0	2364	7,4
Buffalo City Metro	4241	3153	7394	23,3
Chris Hani	2585	740	3325	10,5
Joe Gqabi	711	0	711	2,2
Nelson Mandela Bay Metro	6667	4482	11149	35,1
O R Tambo	2364	892	3256	10,3
Sarah Baartman	1605	140	1745	5,5
Eastern Cape	22229	9513	31742	100,0

Of the reported hospitalizations, 22,229 (70%) occurred in the public sector and 9,513 (30%) occurred in private sector health facilities.

Table 8. Number of SARS-Cov-2 related hospitalizations and outcomes, as of 12 May 2021

Eastern Cape	Public	Private	Total
Cumulative Admissions	22229	9513	**31742**
Died	7182	2288	9470
Discharged Alive	13430	7145	20575
Transferred Out	1564	35	1599
Currently Admitted	42	41	83
In ICU	0	7	7
In High Care	3	2	5
In General	39	32	71
On Oxygen	15	2	17
Ventilated	0	1	1

Of all the hospitalized cases, 64,8% (20,575) of hospitalized patients were discharged alive and 65,3% (13,430) of the reported discharges were from the public sector. Thirty percent (29,8%) of hospitalized cases, i.e. 9,470 demised due to SARS-Cov-2 related causes with 75,8% (7,182) of those reported deaths occurring in public sector facilities.

Of the 83 currently admitted, 71 (85,5%) were admitted in the general ward, 7 (8,4%) in ICU, 5 (6,0%) in high care, 17 (20,5%) on oxygen and 1 (1,2%) were on ventilation.

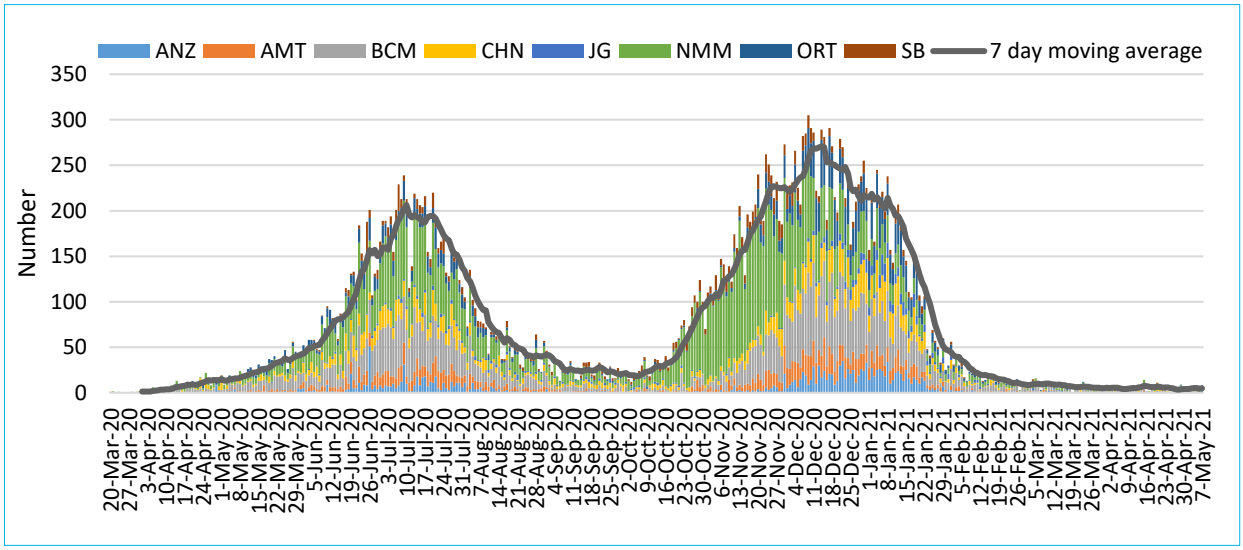


Fig. 28. Average (7 days moving) daily admissions by districts, as of 09 May 2021 (DATCOV)

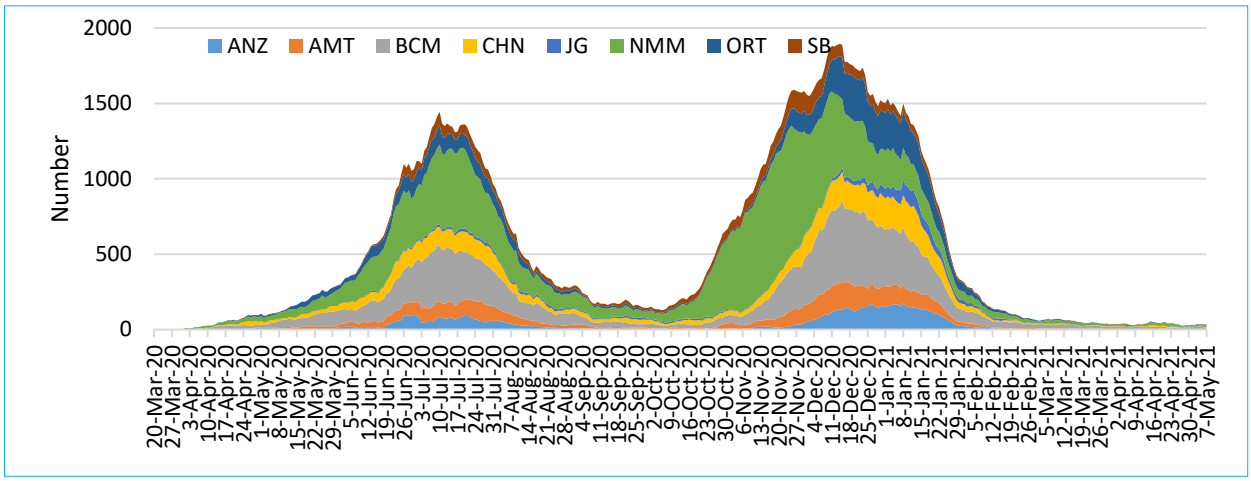


Fig. 29. No. of hospitalizations by date of admission for each district, as of 09 May 2021

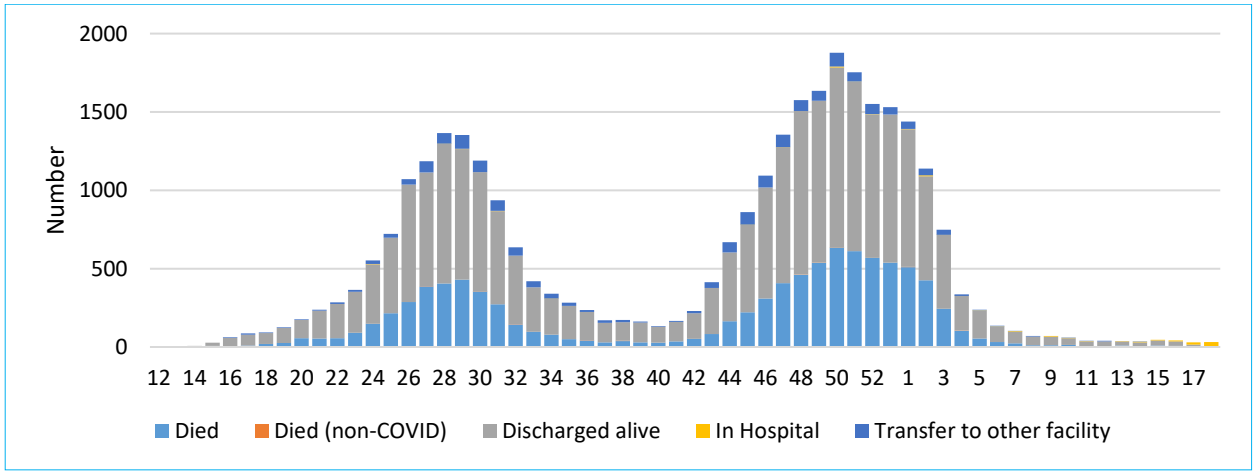


Fig. 30. Hospitalizations & outcomes by admission week, as of 09 May 2021 (DATCOV)

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

7.2. Co-morbidities among admitted cases and deaths

The most common co-morbidities among the hospitalized SARS-Cov-2 patients were hypertension (39.2%) and diabetes (26%) among hospitalized SARS-Cov-2 cases. Two other commonly reported co-morbidities HIV (7.8%), obesity (5.8%) and asthma (3.6%).

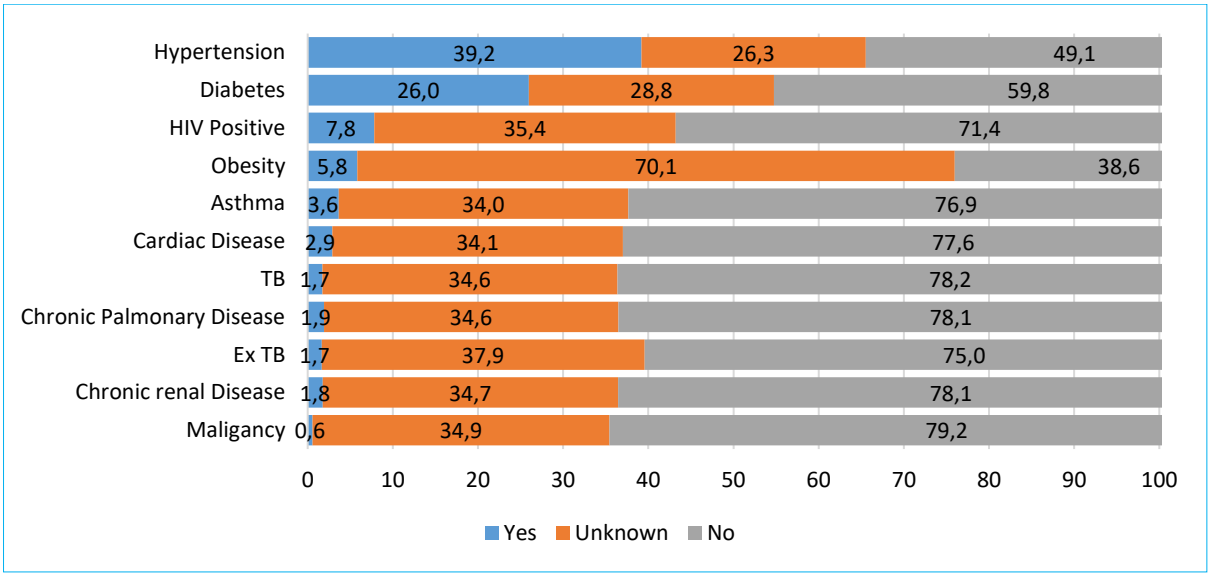


Fig. 31. Co-morbidities among SARS-Cov-2 hospitalizations, as of 09 May 2021 (DATCOV)

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

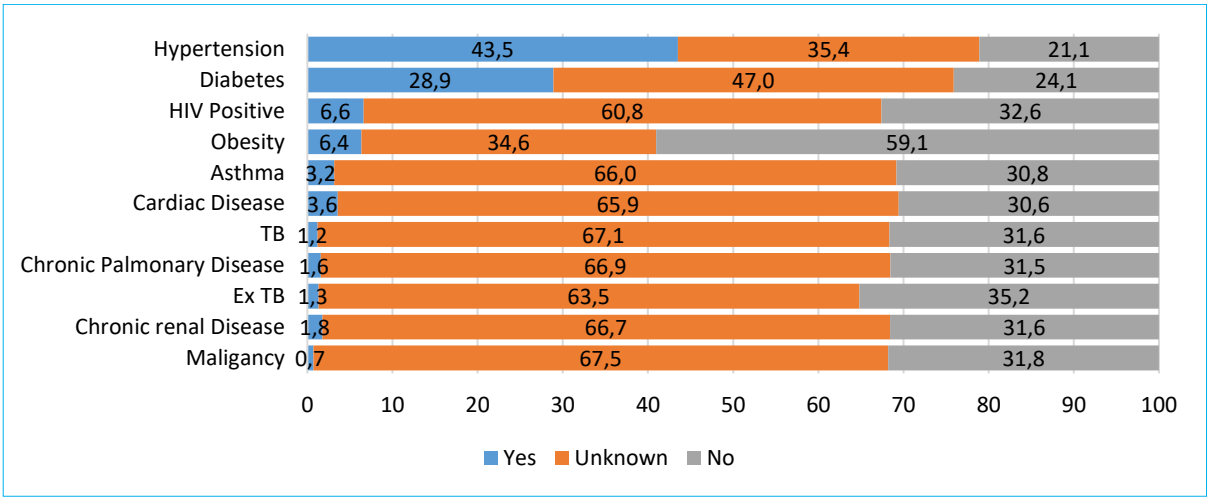


Fig. 32. Co-morbidities among SARS-Cov-2 cases who demised, as of 09 May 2021 (DATCOV)

The most common comorbidities among those cases that demised in the hospital include hypertension (43,5%) and diabetes (28,9%). Other 4 co-morbidities were reported, i.e. HIV (6,6%), obesity (6,4%), cardiac diseases (3,6%), and asthma (3,2%).

DISTRICT	TOTAL SCREENED	TOTAL TESTED	TOTAL CASES	RECOVERIES	DEATHS	ACTIVE CASES	AREAS
ALFRED NZO	694 706	33 548	8 039	7 542	489	8	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	82 777	19 406	18 292	1109	5	Adelaide, Alice, Bolotwa, Butterworth, Cathcart, Centane, Cuba, Debe Nek, Dikana, Elliotdale, Ethafeni, Frankfort, Fort Beaufort, Ibika, Idutywa, Keiskammahoek, Willowale, Lower Mbhangcolo,Debe Nek, Mgababa, Nyaniso, Peddie
BUFFALO CITY METRO	210 367	163 020	39 113	36 710	2362	41	Abbottsford, Amalinda , Beacon Bay, Bisho, Braelynn, Buffalo Flats, Dimbaza, Duncan Village, East London, Ginsberg, Gonubie, Greenfields, Haven Hills, King William's Town, Mamata, Mdantsane, Masingata, Mantlaneni, Nahoon, Ndevana, Needs Camp, Parkside, Selbourne, Sunnyridge, Sunset Bay,Tshatshu, Vincent, West Bank, Zwelitsha
CHRIS HANI	515 346	71 397	19 662	18 034	1596	32	Bankies, Dordrecht, Dukathole, Ekunene, Ezibeleni, Kwanobuhle, Mcwangele, Madeira Park, New Rest, Ngcobo, Ngonyama, Popcorn Valley, Qebe, Qoqodala, Queenstown, Sigadleni, Vaalbank, Sada, Middleburg, Thornhill, Ndzamela, Mlungisi,Westbourne,Ntlonze, Maya Village,Ekuphumuleni, TopTown, Vleipoort, Zola
JOE GQABI	87 855	29 171	7 617	7 112	491	14	Aliwal North, Barkley East, Bhodi, Land Camp, Ugie, Inglewood, Maclear, Solomzi, Sunduza,Robbern,Venterstsad
NELSON MANDELA METRO	856 883	234 034	56 362	52 914	3339	109	Algoa Park, Bethelsdorp, Bloemendal, Bluewater Bay, Booysens Park, Cotswold, Cuyler, Daleview, Despatch, Fernglen Port, Gelvandale, Govan Mbeki, Heath Park, Helenvale, Jacksonville, Joe Slovo, Kabega Park, Kamma Park, Kamvelihle, Khayalethu, 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	98 888	22 490	21 106	1378	6	Gomora, Lutatweni, Machibi, Majola, Mandilini ,New Payne Ngqeleni, Ntsimbini, Old Payne, Libode, Lusikisiki, Mqanduli, Tombo, Marhewini, Mpikwana,Bhongweni,Cibeni, Flagstaff,Magcakeni,Ngangelizwe, Ngqanda,Tyebelana, Pollar Park, Tabase Mission, Slovo Park, Southernwood, Waterfall Park, Zandukwana,Zimbane, Ziphunzana
SARAH BAARTMAN	288 877	105 277	21 895	21 021	848	26	Aberdeen, Alexandria, Graaf-Reinet, Grahamstown, Jeffrey's Bay, Jourbertina, Humansdorp, Parson, St. Francis Bay, Kirkwood, Lotusville, Bergendal, Bratenfel, Joza, Santaville, Somerset East, Thornhill, Willomore
IMPORTED*	-	0	675	646	0	29	Bloemfontein, Ceres, Cape Town, Dunoon, Fishoek, George, Green Point, Gugulethu, Hout Bay, Langa, Khayelitsha, Knysna, Phillipi, Stellenbosch, Strand
PENDING	-	140 173	1128	1127	0	1	
GRAND TOTALS	3 577 773	958 285	196 387	184 504	11 612	271	

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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

RESURGENCE INDICATORS BY DISTRICT

Resurgence Indicators in the Eastern Cape						
Indicator	Description	week 17	week 18	% change	Phase/Threshold	Target
New cases (seven day moving Average)	COVID-19 cases (percentage change from previous week)	16	18	12,5		< 10% increase from previous week
Active cases incidence	Active COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population	2,52	2,96	17,5		< 10% increase from previous week
Current COVID-19 hospital admissions	Current COVID-19 hospital admissions (Public and Private)	99	96	-3,0		< 10% increase from previous week
COVID-19 mortality	COVID-19 deaths in the last 7 days	0,03	0,13	333,3		< 10% increase from previous week
All cause mortality						
Positivity Rate	Percentage of positive tests of all tests conducted within a geographical area		1,2			Positivity rate rising above 20% in a geographical area constitute an alert
Testing rate	Number of tests/ 100000 population		162			There should be 5 tests for each positive case per 100000 population

ALFRED NZO						
Indicator	Description	week 17	week 18	% change	Phase/Threshold	Target
New cases (seven day moving Average)	COVID-19 cases (percentage change from previous week)	1	2	100,0		< 10% increase from previous week
Active cases incidence	Active COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population	0,12	0,97	708,3		< 10% increase from previous week
Current COVID-19 hospital admissions	Current COVID-19 hospital admissions (Public and Private)	1	7	600,0		< 10% increase from previous week
COVID-19 mortality	COVID-19 deaths in the last 7 days	0,00	0,00	0,0		< 10% increase from previous week
All cause mortality						
Positivity Rate	Percentage of positive tests of all tests conducted within a geographical area		1,5			Positivity rate rising above 20% in ageographical area constitute an alert
Testing rate	Number of tests/ 100000 population		88			There should be 5 tests for each positive case per 100000 population

AMATHOLE						
Indicator	Description	week 17	week 18	% change	Phase/Threshold	Target
New cases (seven day moving Average)	COVID-19 cases (percentage change from previous week)	2	1	-50,0		< 10% increase from previous week
Active cases incidence	Active COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population	1,25	0,88	-29,6		< 10% increase from previous week
Current COVID-19 hospital admissions	Current COVID-19 hospital admissions (Public and Private)	0	1	infinity		< 10% increase from previous week
COVID-19 mortality	COVID-19 deaths in the last 7 days	0,00	0,13	infinity		< 10% increase from previous week
All cause mortality						
Positivity Rate	Percentage of positive tests of all tests conducted within a geographical area		1,1			Positivity rate rising above 20% in ageographical area constitute an alert
Testing rate	Number of tests/ 100000 population		34			There should be 5 tests for each positive case per 100000 population

BUFFALO CITY METRO						
Indicator	Description	week 17	week 18	% change	Phase/Threshold	Target
New cases (seven day moving Average)	COVID-19 cases (percentage change from previous week)	3	3	0,0		< 10% increase from previous week
Active cases incidence	Active COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population	3,76	3,76	0,0		< 10% increase from previous week
Current COVID-19 hospital admissions	Current COVID-19 hospital admissions (Public and Private)	28	33	17,9		< 10% increase from previous week
COVID-19 mortality	COVID-19 deaths in the last 7 days	0,00	0,25	infinity		< 10% increase from previous week
All cause mortality						
Positivity Rate	Percentage of positive tests of all tests conducted within a geographical area		3,1			Positivity rate rising above 20% in ageographical area constitute an alert
Testing rate	Number of tests/ 100000 population		92			There should be 5 tests for each positive case per 100000 population

CHRIS HANI						
Indicator	Description	week 17	week 18	% change	Phase/Threshold	Target
New cases (seven day moving Average)	COVID-19 cases (percentage change from previous week)	2	3	50		< 10% increase from previous week
Active cases incidence	Active COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population	3,32	3,68	11		< 10% increase from previous week
Current COVID-19 hospital admissions	Current COVID-19 hospital admissions (Public and Private)	7	3	-57		< 10% increase from previous week
COVID-19 mortality	COVID-19 deaths in the last 7 days	0,14	0,14	0		< 10% increase from previous week
All cause mortality						
Positivity Rate	Percentage of positive tests of all tests conducted within a geographical area		3,6			Positivity rate rising above 20% in ageographical area constitute an alert
Testing rate	Number of tests/ 100000 population		77			There should be 5 tests for each positive case per 100000 population

JOE GQABI						
Indicator	Description	week 17	week 18	% change	Phase/Threshold	Target
New cases (seven day moving Average)	COVID-19 cases (percentage change from previous week)	3	3	0		< 10% increase from previous week
Active cases incidence	Active COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population	4,08	4,08	0		< 10% increase from previous week
Current COVID-19 hospital admissions	Current COVID-19 hospital admissions (Public and Private)	0	2	infinity		< 10% increase from previous week
COVID-19 mortality	COVID-19 deaths in the last 7 days	0,00	0,29	infinity		< 10% increase from previous week
All cause mortality						
Positivity Rate	Percentage of positive tests of all tests conducted within a geographical area		6,7			Positivity rate rising above 20% in a geographical area constitute an alert
Testing rate	Number of tests/ 100000 population		70			There should be 5 tests for each positive case per 100000 population

NELSON MANDELA BAY						
Indicator	Description	week 17	week 18	% change	Phase/Threshold	Target
New cases (seven day moving Average)	COVID-19 cases (percentage change from previous week)	8	7	-12,5		< 10% increase from previous week
Active cases incidence	Active COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population	6,61	6,44	-2,6		< 10% increase from previous week
Current COVID-19 hospital admissions	Current COVID-19 hospital admissions (Public and Private)	60	44	-26,7		< 10% increase from previous week
COVID-19 mortality	COVID-19 deaths in the last 7 days	0,08	0,25	212,5		< 10% increase from previous week
All cause mortality						
Positivity Rate	Percentage of positive tests of all tests conducted within a geographical area		1,5			Positivity rate rising above 20% in ageographical area constitute an alert
Testing rate	Number of tests/ 100000 population		199			There should be 5 tests for each positive case per 100000 population

OR TAMBO						
Indicator	Description	week 17	week 18	% change	Phase/Threshold	Target
New cases (seven day moving Average)	COVID-19 cases (percentage change from previous week)	2	3	50,0		< 10% increase from previous week
Active cases incidence	Active COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population	0,39	0,46	17,9		< 10% increase from previous week
Current COVID-19 hospital admissions	Current COVID-19 hospital admissions (Public and Private)	3	6	100,0		< 10% increase from previous week
COVID-19 mortality	COVID-19 deaths in the last 7 days	0,00	0,00	infinity		< 10% increase from previous week
All cause mortality						
Positivity Rate	Percentage of positive tests of all tests conducted within a geographical area		0,5			Positivity rate rising above 20% in ageographical area constitute an alert
Testing rate	Number of tests/ 100000 population		72			There should be 5 tests for each positive case per 100000 population

SARAH BAARTMAN						
Indicator	Description	week 17	week 18	% change	Phase/Threshold	Target
New cases (seven day moving Average)	COVID-19 cases (percentage change from previous week)	1	3	200,0		< 10% increase from previous week
Active cases incidence	Active COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population	2,29	2,50	9,2		< 10% increase from previous week
Current COVID-19 hospital admissions	Current COVID-19 hospital admissions (Public and Private)	0	0	0,0		< 10% increase from previous week
COVID-19 mortality	COVID-19 deaths in the last 7 days	0,00	0,21	infinity		< 10% increase from previous week
All cause mortality						
Positivity Rate	Percentage of positive tests of all tests conducted within a geographical area		4,7			Positivity rate rising above 20% in ageographical area constitute an alert
Testing rate	Number of tests/ 100000 population		94			There should be 5 tests for each positive case per 100000 population