



Western Cape
Government

FOR YOU

Health

Digital Press Conference - Health Update

Update on COVID-19 and Vaccination Roll-out

Dr K Cloete

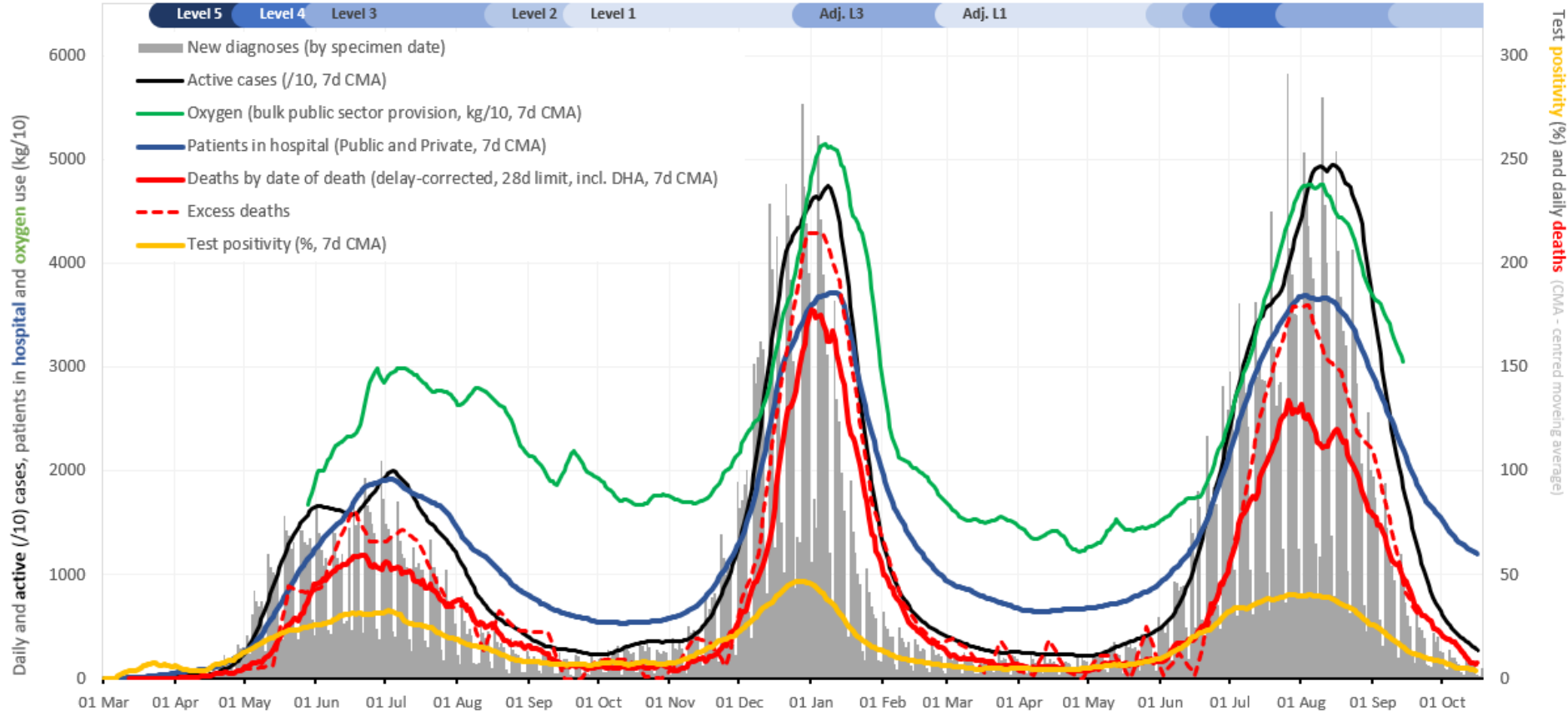
21 October 2021

Overview

1. COVID Surveillance & Response Update
2. The current status of the health platform
3. Comparing wave 3 with wave 2 and the impact of vaccines
4. Vaccine Implementation update
5. Conclusions

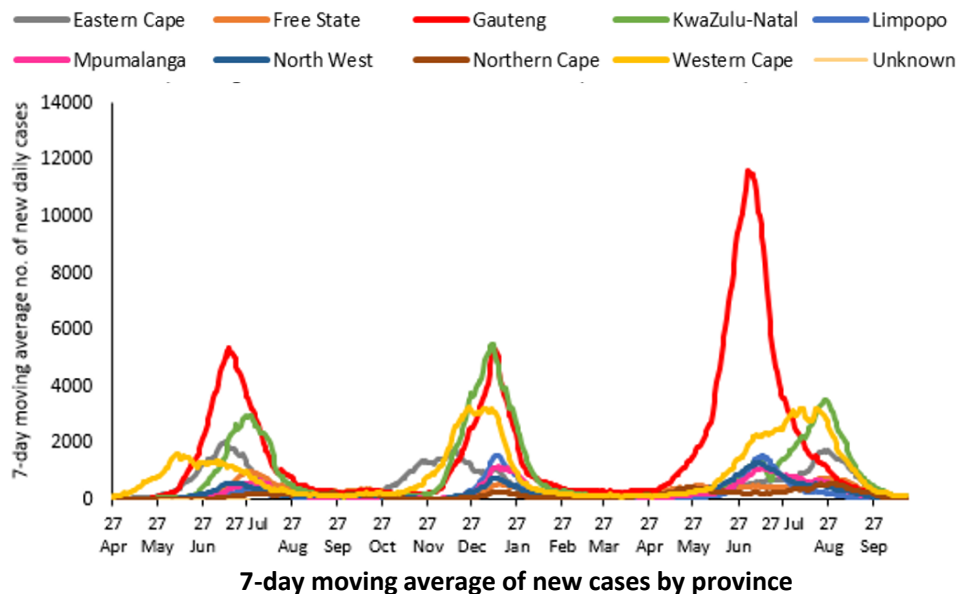
COVID Surveillance & Response Update

Integrated testing, case, hospitalisation and mortality trends

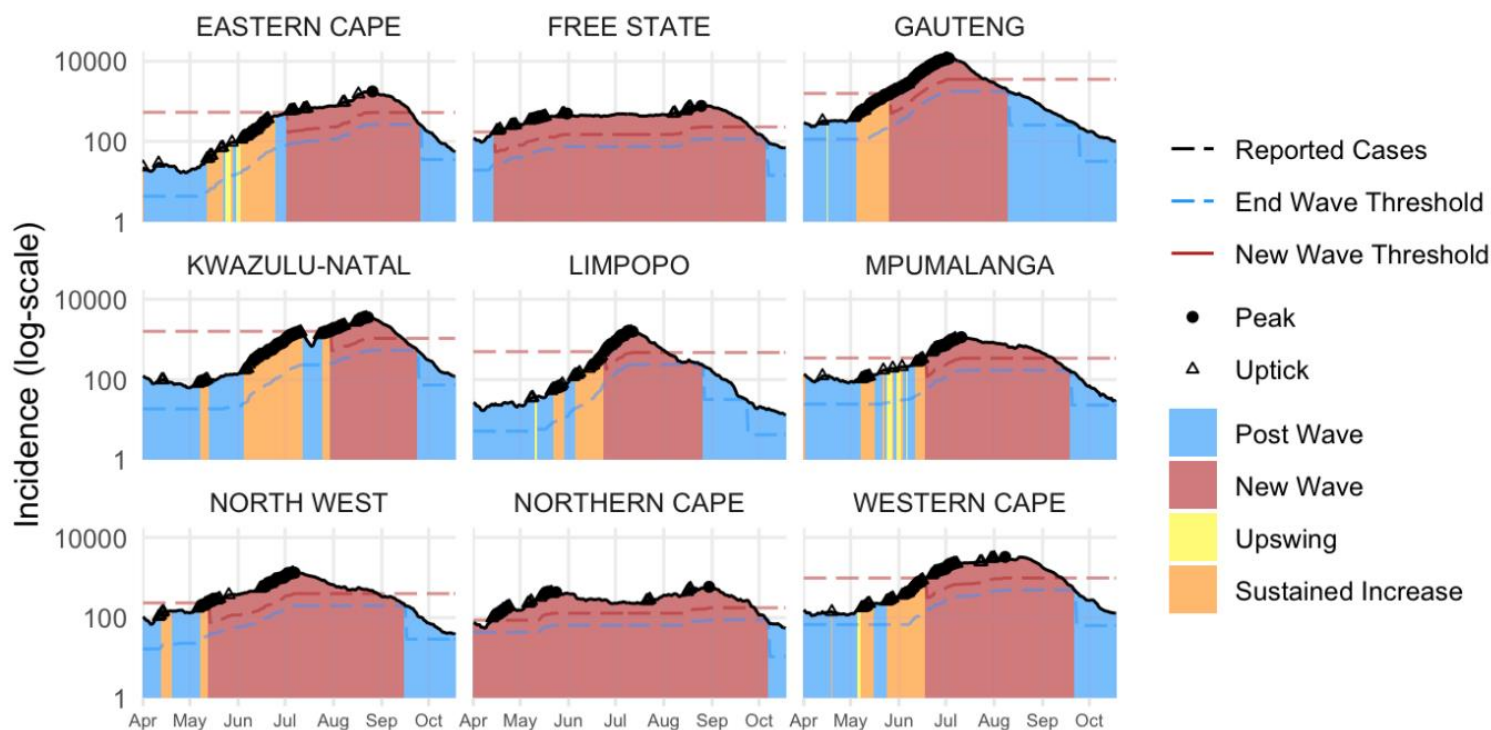


National trends

South Africa as a whole and all provinces have reached the end of wave threshold.



NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
Division of the National Health Laboratory Service



SOUTH AFRICAN COVID-19 MODELLING CONSORTIUM



Provincial Resurgence Overview

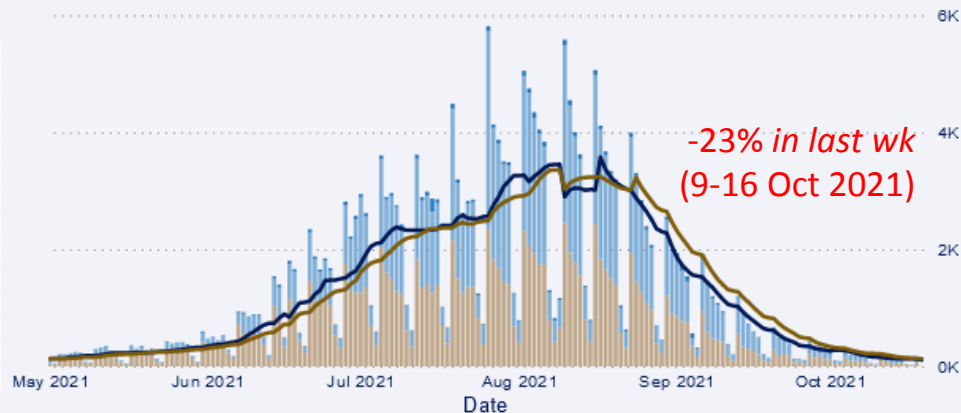
Health Impact Assessment
WC Department of Health
Last Updated:
10/20/2021 4:02:55 AM

No. of Cases, 7 Day Moving Average and 14 Day Moving Average by Date and Sector

Sector ● Private/Other ● Public ● Unknown — 7 Day Moving Average — 14 Day Moving Average

Select District, Subdistrict:

- ☐ Cape Winelands
- ☐ Central Karoo
- ☐ City of Cape Town
 - ☐ Eastern
 - ☐ Khayelitsha
 - ☐ Klipfontein
 - ☐ Mitchells Plain
 - ☐ Northern
 - ☐ Southern
 - ☐ Tygerberg
 - ☐ Western
- ☐ Garden Route
- ☐ Overberg
- ☐ West Coast



Date of Diagnosis/Admission

5/1/2021 10/20/2021

Date of Death

5/1/2021 10/19/2021

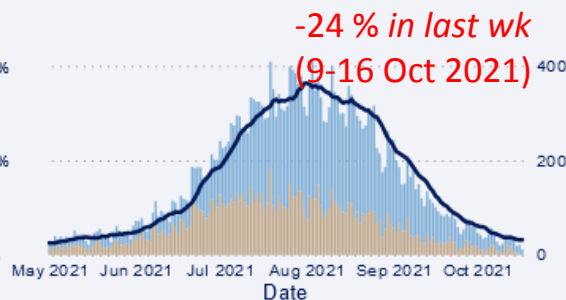
Proportion Positive and Overall Positivity by Date and Sector (*Provincial Only)

Sector ● Private/Other ● Public — Overall Positivity



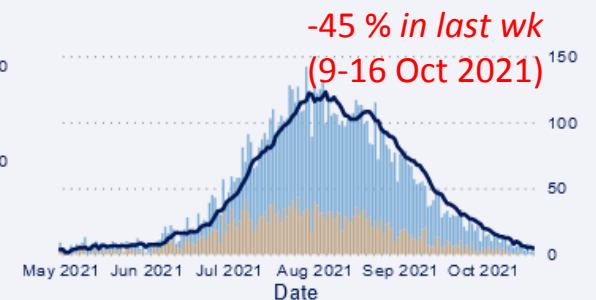
No. of New Admissions and 7 Day MA by Date and Sector

Sector ● Private ● Public — 7 Day MA



No. of Deaths and 7 Day MA by Date and Sector

Sector ● Private/Other ● Public — 7 Day MA



Provincial Overview

- Case numbers continue on their downward trend.
- The **proportion positive** has decreased to **4%** now.
- We are currently seeing an average of around **127 new diagnoses**, **31 new admissions** and **6 deaths** each day.



8/1/2021

10/19/202



Metro Resurgence Overview

Health Impact Assessment
WC Department of Health

Last Updated:

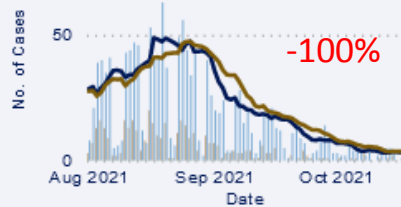
10/20/2021 4:02:55 AM

Southern

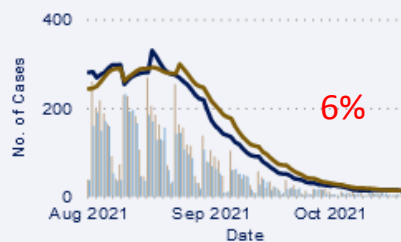
Khayelitsha

Metro Overview: No. of Cases with 7 and 14 Day MA by Date and by sector

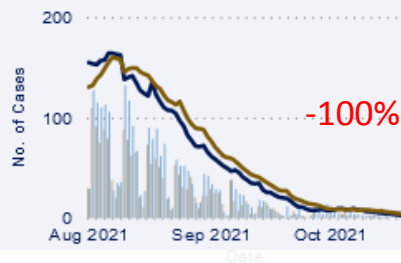
Sector ● Private/Other ● Public — 7 Day Moving Average — 14 Day Moving Average



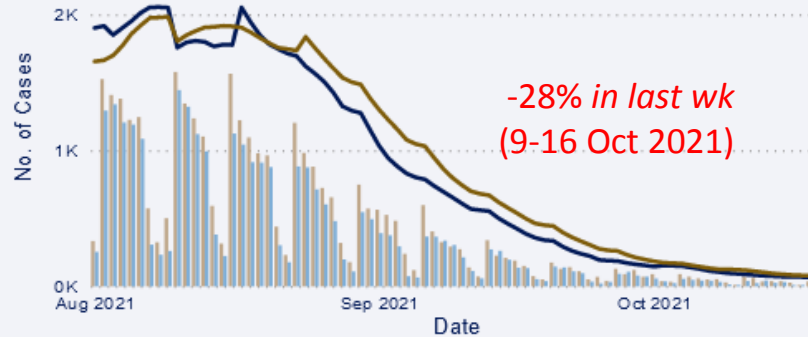
Eastern



Klipfontein

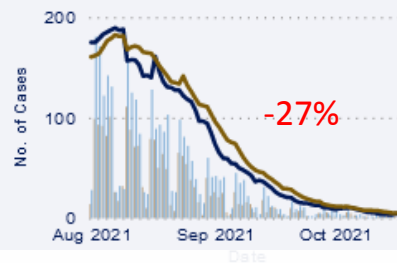


No. of Cases

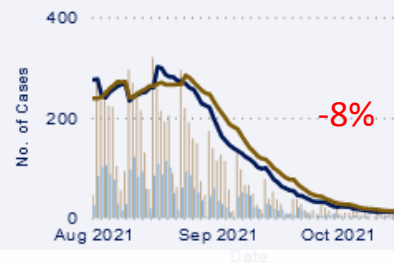


Date

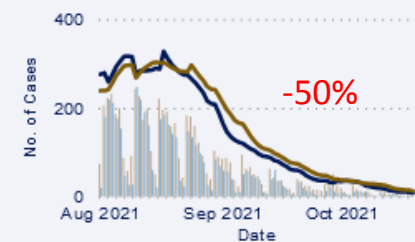
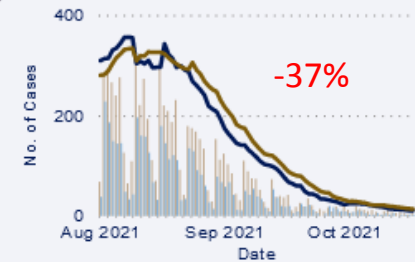
Mitchells Plain



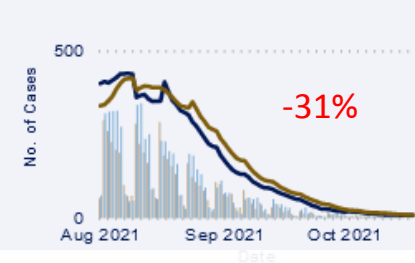
Northern



Western



Tygerberg

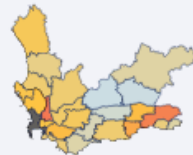


Metro Overview

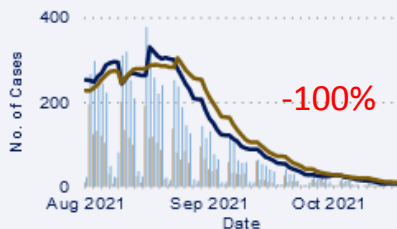
- Overall, there is a **28% week on week decrease** in cases in the **Metro**.
- Almost all areas are showing a decrease in case numbers (the exception is Eastern, but the absolute numbers of cases there remains very small).



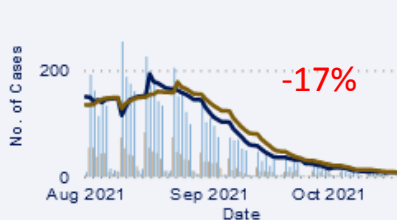
Rural Resurgence Overview



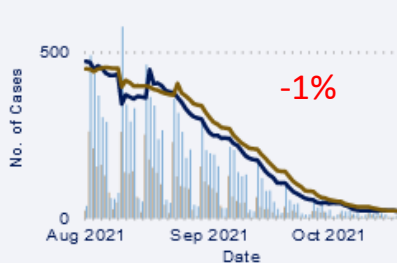
West Coast



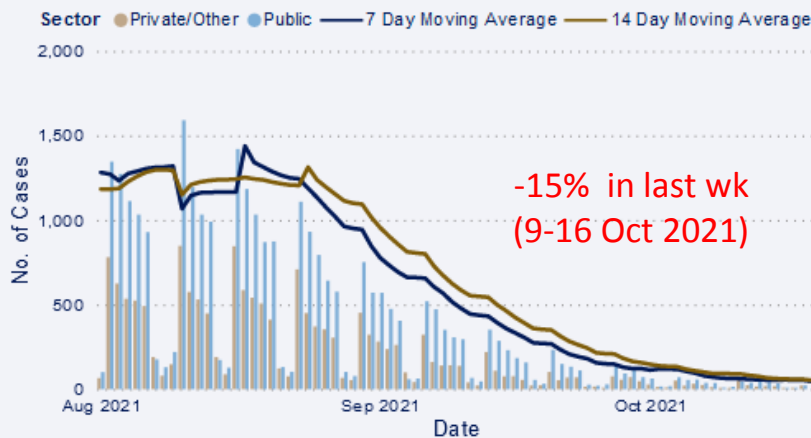
Overberg



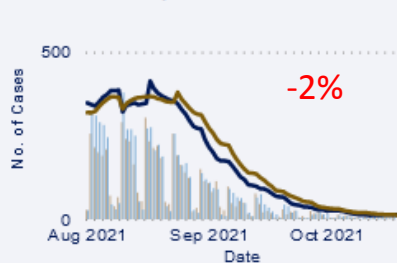
Garden Route



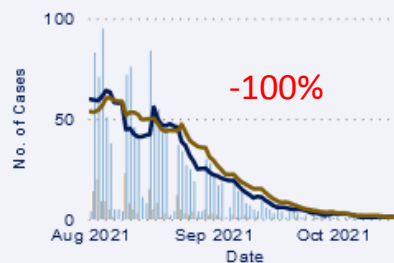
Rural Overview: No. of Cases with 7 and 14 Day MA by Date and by sector



Cape Winelands



Central Karoo



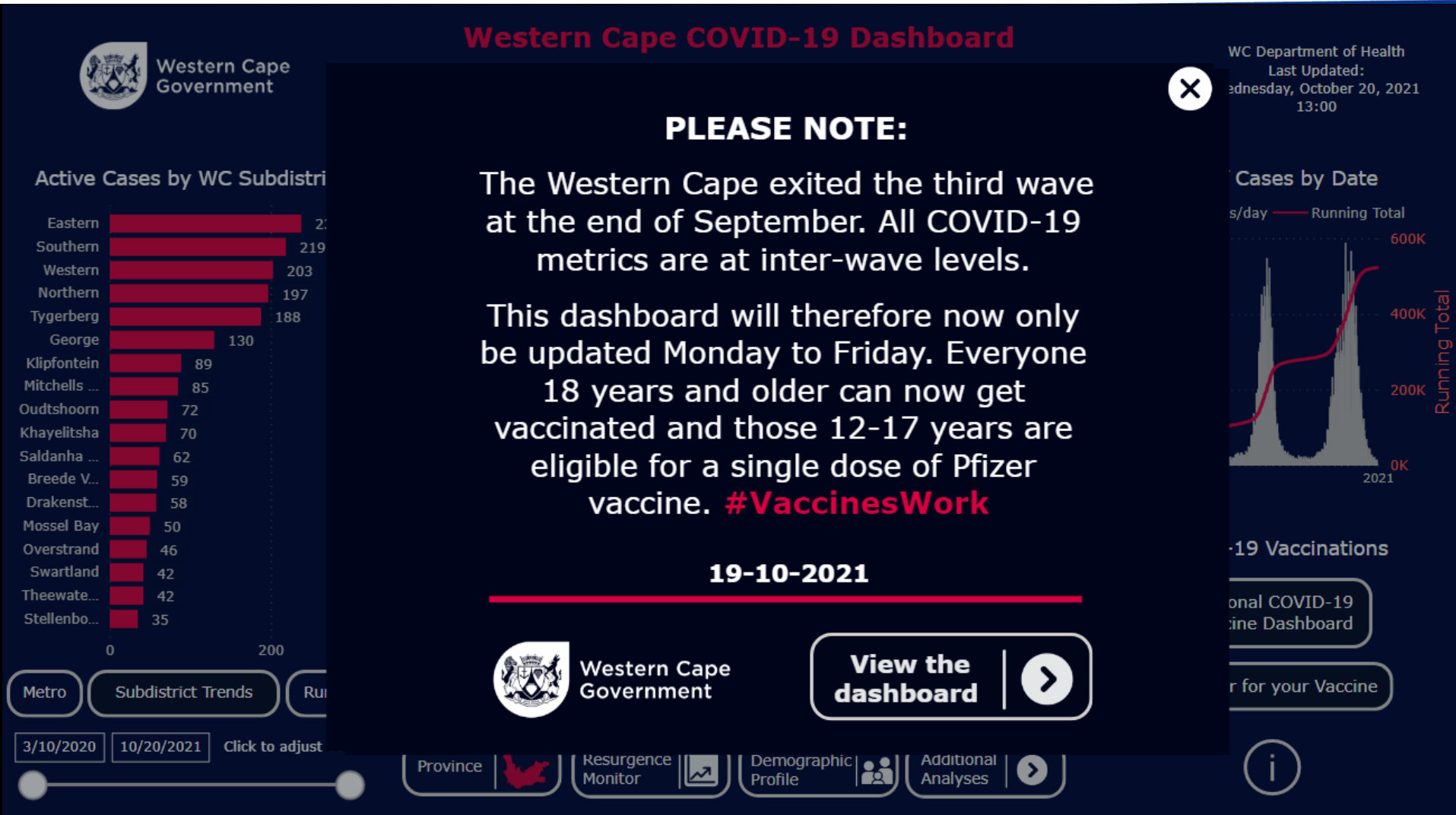
No. of Cases by Rural Subdistrict

District	Subdistrict	No. of Cases
Cape Winelands	Drakenstein	4,702
Garden Route	George	4,423
Garden Route	Mossel Bay	3,242
Overberg	Theewaterskloof	2,623
Garden Route	Oudtshoorn	2,597
West Coast	Swartland	2,378
Cape Winelands	Stellenbosch	2,313
West Coast	Saldanha Bay	2,242
West Coast	Matzikama	2,058
Cape Winelands	Langeberg	1,991
Cape Winelands	Breede Valley	1,847
West Coast	Bergvliet	1,748
Garden Route	Hessequa	1,732
Cape Winelands	Witzenberg	1,730
Overberg	Overstrand	1,702
Garden Route	Knysna	1,578
West Coast	Cederberg	1,445
Central Karoo	Beaufort West	1,054
Garden Route	Bitou	1,037
Overberg	Cape Agulhas	985
Overberg	Swellendam	793
Garden Route	Kannaland	484
Central Karoo	Prince Albert	245
Central Karoo	Laingsburg	214
Total		45,163

Rural Overview

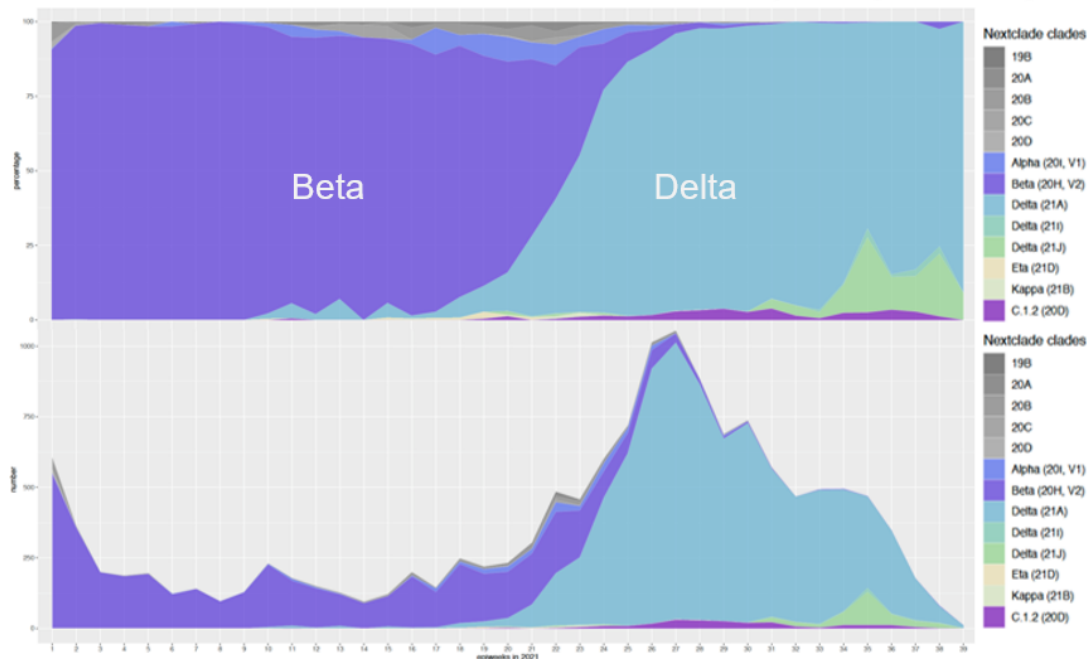
- A similar decrease in case numbers is being seen in the rural districts as well.

Dashboard – weekday updates until cases increase again



Update on genomic surveillance in South Africa

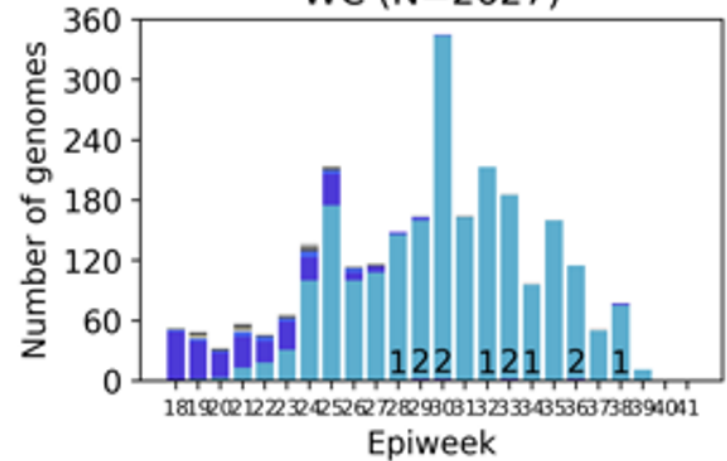
Distribution and number of clades in South Africa, 2021 (N= 14 869)



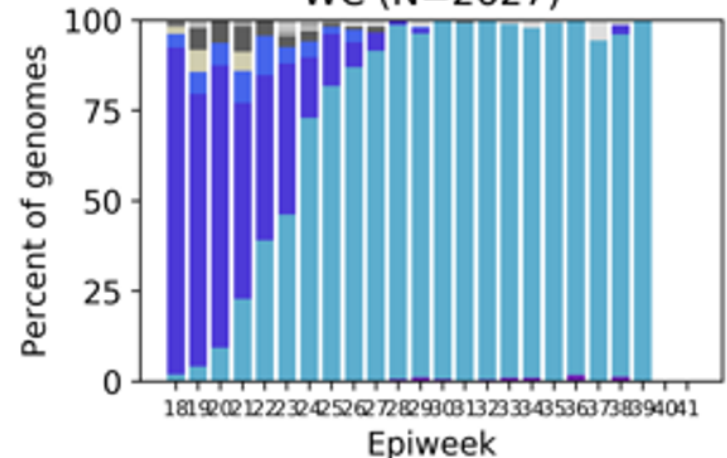
Delta came to dominate by end June at >65%, in July at >85% and in August and September at >90%
C.1.2 present at <4% frequency since March



WC (N=2627)



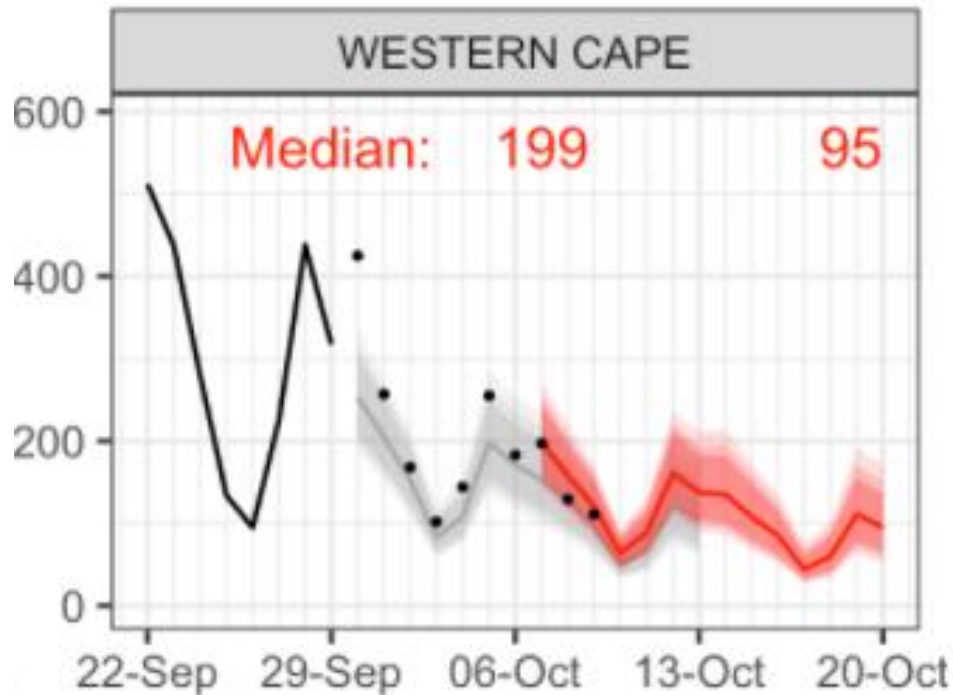
WC (N=2627)



- Delta overwhelmingly dominant variant with very little Beta or C.1.2 detected, though C.1.2. establishing in every province including the WC.
- In UK a new Delta sublineage is establishing (AY.4.2.)

Short term predictions from SACMC – new cases

Actual cases continue to fit relatively well with predicted numbers for the past week with a smaller decline in case numbers expected for the coming week.



Black line:
previous cases

Grey line:
forecast for this week

Dots:
actual cases

Red line:
Prediction for next week

Proposal for differentiated approach to wave 4:



Watch case indicators but



RESPOND (to restrictions) in similar way to hospital indicators at provincial level as far as possible











- probability that hospital indicators will be met with high vaccine coverage & high levels of prior infection very low
- SACMC 4th wave scenarios to inform

Indicator	Resurgence Metric
First warning: ↑ health service demand in 14-21d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large ↑ case incidence (↑ for ≥ 1week of ≥ 20%) & moderate case numbers (200-300 new cases/day) • Moderate ↑ case incidence (increase for ≥ 1week of ≥ 10%) when case numbers already high (> 300 new cases/day) • Facility-based test positivity > 15% or Overall test positivity 7% • >15% of hospitals have >10% of beds occupied by COVID-19 patients • >50% increase in pre-COVID-19 baseline of oxygen consumption by hospitals (>18.3 tons per day) for ≥3 day
Second warning: ↑ health service demand in 7-14d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall test positivity >15% • 7 dma of new cases is >10% more than 40dma of new cases for ≥ 14 consecutive days if 40dma >100 new cases/day • Testing approaches 80% of max capacity OR TAT >24 hrs (urgent cases - admissions) & >48 hours (non-urgent cases) for 2d consecutively >40% of hospitals have >10% of beds occupied by COVID-19 patients • >15% week-on-week increase in 7 day moving average of current admissions • >75% increase in pre-COVID-19 baseline of oxygen consumption by hospitals (>21.4 tons per day) for ≥3 days
Third warning: ↑ health service demand in 2-7d	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • >20% week-on-week increase in 7 day moving average of current admissions. • >50% bed occupancy of available HC, ICU and HFNO₂ COVID-19 beds. • COVID-19 patients occupy >20% of beds in >50% of hospitals OR >10% of beds in >80% of hospitals. • >100% increase in pre-COVID-19 baseline of oxygen consumption by hospitals (or >24.4 tons per day) for ≥3 days.
Health service capacity close to overwhelmed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustained increase of probable/confirmed cases needing hospital admission (as per first, second and third warning indicator) • Absolute current COVID-19 hospitalization >2800 • BUR % for designated COVID-19 general beds >70% in a district/province • BUR % for designated COVID-19 critical care beds (HC, intensive care and high flow nasal oxygen) >80% • Oxygen consumption/supply >200% baseline pre-COVID-19 reference level (or >36.6 tons/day)

Current status of the health platform

Western Cape post 3rd wave – triggered response

Principle: Transparent pre-defined triggers for whole of society response to reduce transmission and prepare health services.

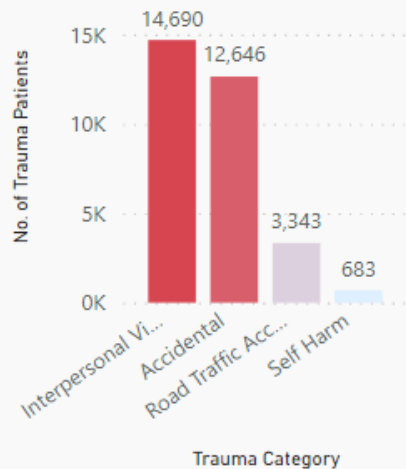
Indicator	Example of Resurgence Metric	
First warning: ↑ health service demand in 14-21d	  	<p>Large ↑ daily cases (increase for ≥ 1 week of ≥ 20%) (-23.0%)</p> <p>Overall test positivity >7% for ≥1 week (3.1%)</p> <p>>15% of hospitals have >10% of beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (14%)</p> <p>>50% ↑ in pre-COVID-19 hospital O₂ use (currently at 20T/day or >50%)</p>
Second warning: ↑ health service demand in 7-14d	  	<p>Overall test positivity 10-15% for ≥1 week (3.1%)</p> <p>>15% week-on-week increase in 7dma of current admissions (↓to - 11.2%)</p> <p>>40% of hospitals have >10% of beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (14%)</p> <p>>75% ↑ in pre-COVID-19 hospital O₂ use (currently at 20T/day or 63.9%)</p>
Third warning: ↑ health service demand in 2-7d	 	<p>>20% week-on-week increase in 7dma of current admissions (↓to - 11.2%)</p> <p>>50% of hospitals have >20% of beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (14%)</p> <p>>50% of high care, intensive care & HFNO₂ COVID-19 beds occupied (33%)</p> <p>>100% ↑ in pre-COVID-19 hospital O₂ use (currently at 20T/day or <100%)</p>
Health service capacity threatened	 	<p>>2800 current COVID-19 inpatients (currently at 1406 admissions)</p> <p>Note: This is across both public and private sector.</p> <p>>80% of high care, intensive care & HFNO₂ COVID-19 beds occupied (33%)</p> <p>>200% ↑ in pre-COVID-19 hospital O₂ use (currently at 20 T/daily <200%)</p>

Acute service platform – current picture

1. Currently **1 406 COVID patients** in our acute hospitals (**684** in **public** hospitals & **722** in **private** hospitals). This **excludes PUIs** and **cases in specialised hospital** settings.
2. The **Metro hospitals** have an average **BOR of 91%**; **George** drainage area hospitals at **72%**; **Paarl** drainage area hospitals at **66%** & **Worcester** drainage area hospitals at **67%**. **Critical care BOR** for designated COVID beds for the province at **33 %**.
3. **COVID & PUI cases** currently make up **5%** of all available acute general hospital capacity in both Metro and Rural Regional Hospital drainage areas.
4. **COVID inter-mediate care** – the **Brackengate** Hospital of Hope currently has **46** patients (**13.69% BOR**), **Sonstraal** currently has **2 clients (10.29 % BOR)**; **Freesia & Ward 99** have **0 patients**. **Mitchell Plain** Hospital of Hope has **now closed**.
5. The Metro **mass fatality centre** has capacity has now closed.

Overview of changes in recent trauma presentations (28 June 2021-17 Oct 2021)

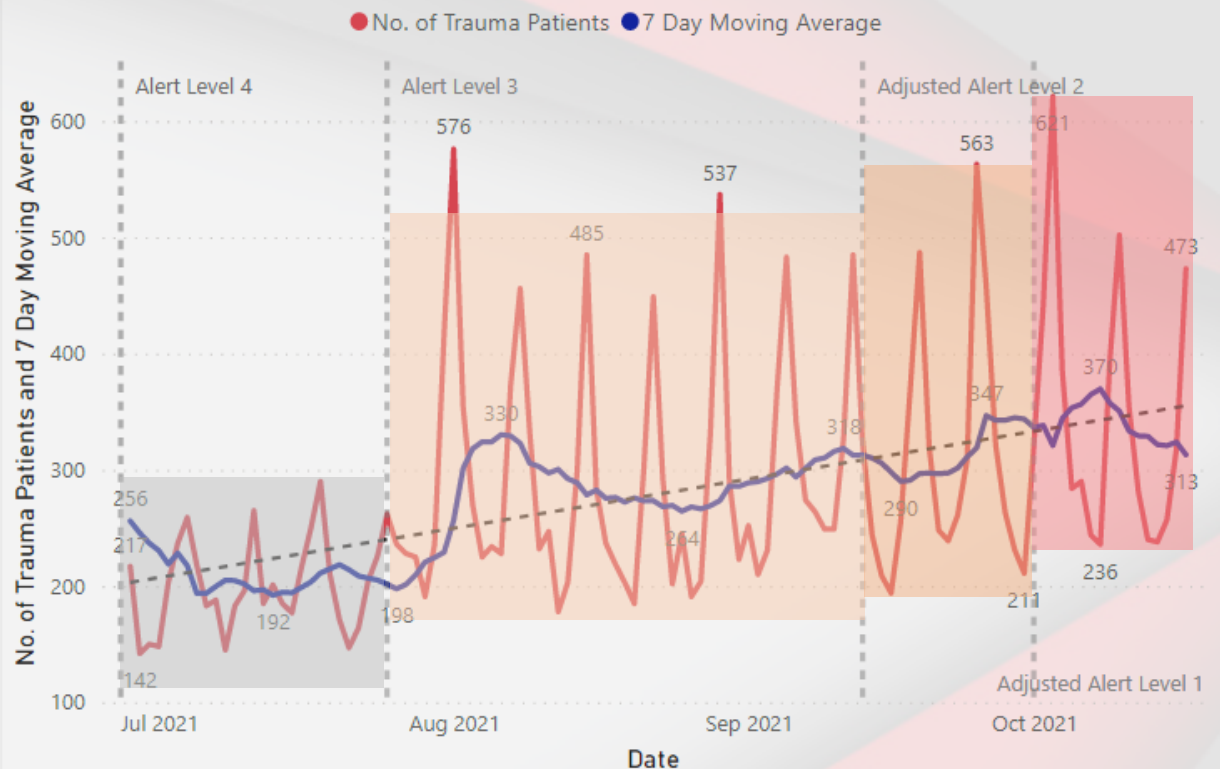
No. of Trauma Patients by Trauma Category



This report shows a sample of 17 hospital emergency centres and their trauma patient numbers over time

No. of Trauma Patients and 7 Day Moving Average by Date

Source: HECIIS



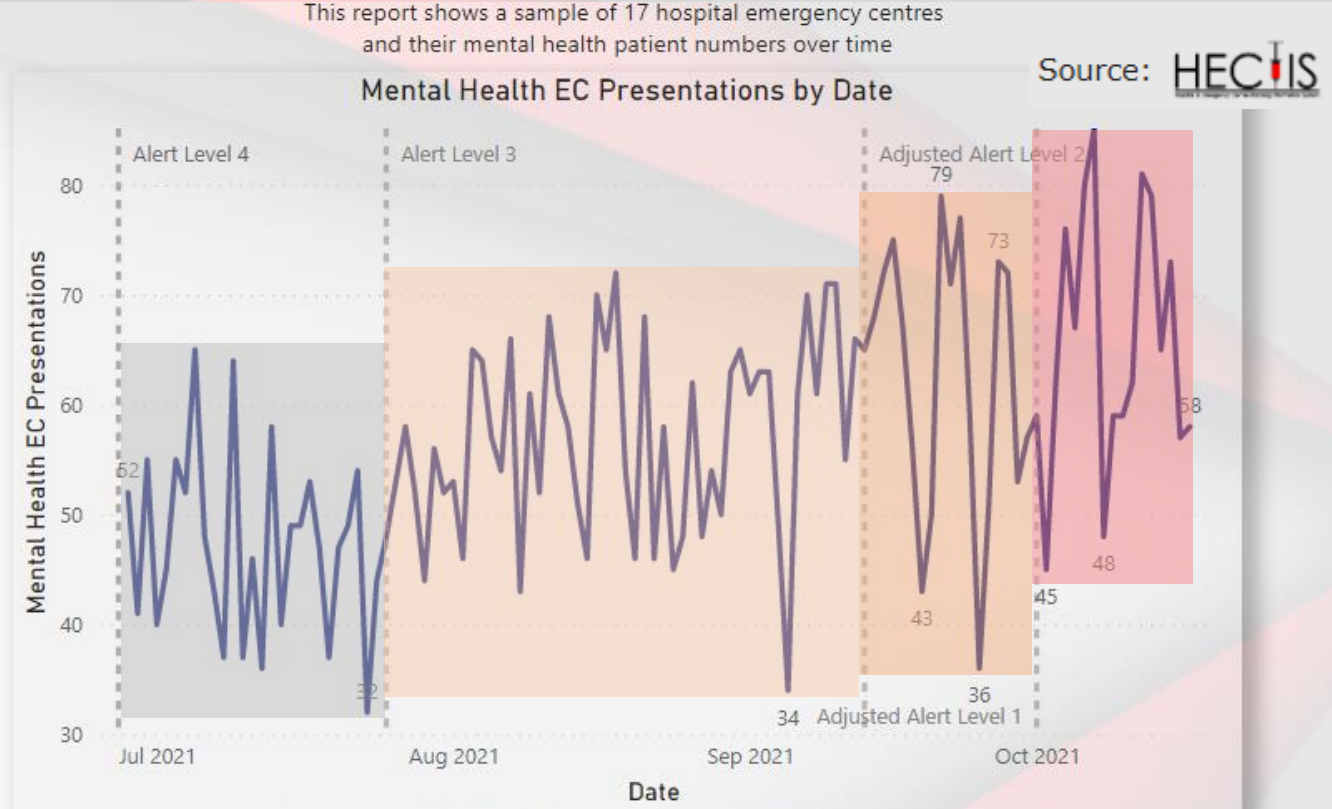
Date Period	Lockdown Level	Alcohol Regulation	Curfew
28 June – 25 July 2021	Adjusted Level 4	Complete prohibition of sale	21:00-04:00
26 July - 12 September 2021	Adjusted Level 3	Offsite sale restriction Mon-Thurs 10-00-18:00	22:00-04:00
13 Sept – 30 Sept 2021	Adjusted Level 2	Offsite sale restriction Mon-Friday 10-00-18:00	23:00-04:00
>1 Oct 2021	Adjusted Level 1	No restrictions	00:00-04:00

Similar to last year, over the last few months with every relaxation of alcohol regulation, we see trauma numbers consistently increase in response to the regulation introduced.

Overview of changes in mental health presentations to EC's (28 June 2021- 17 Oct 2021)

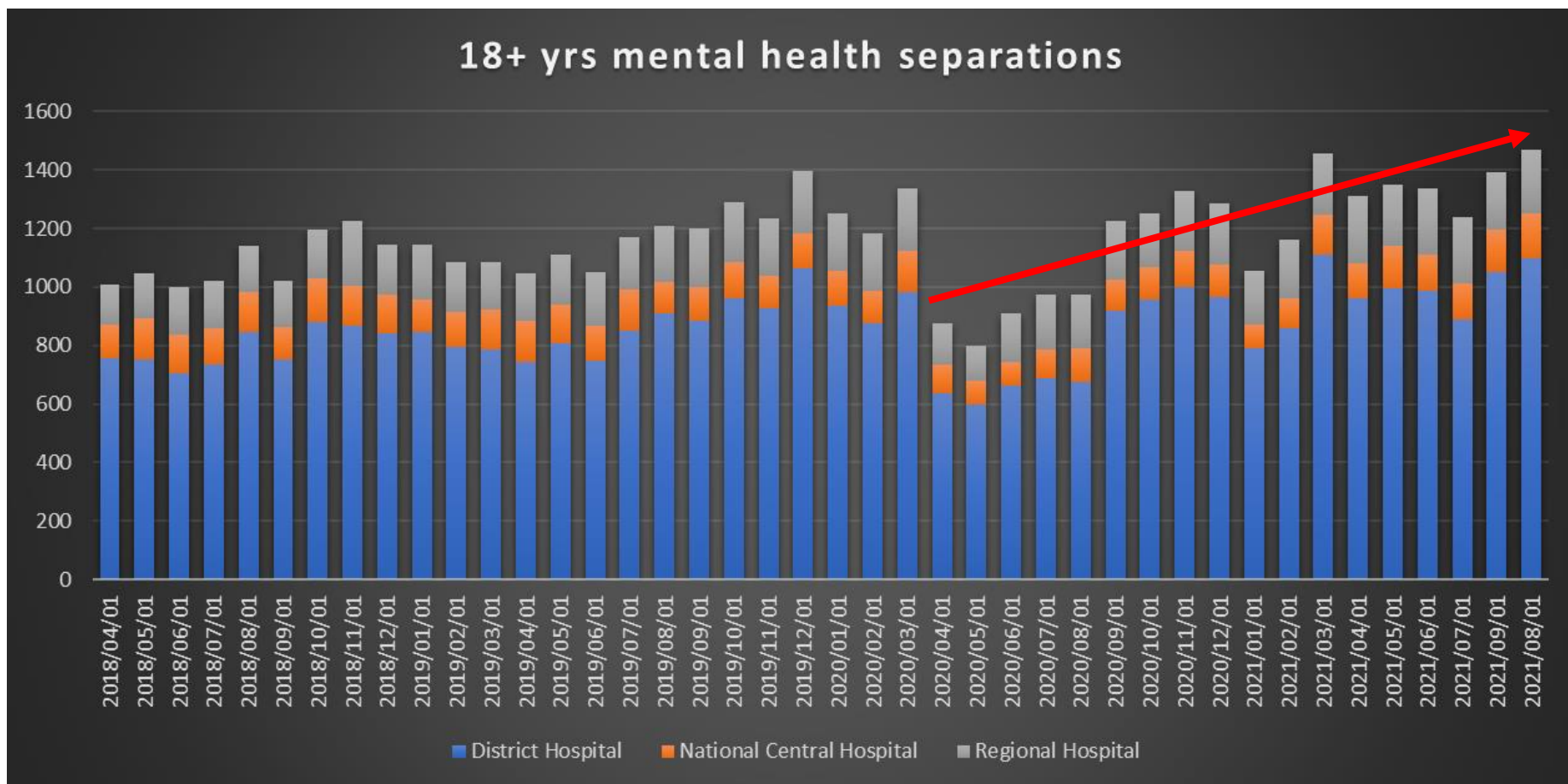
This graph reflects all acute Mental Health presentations that presented to 17 Emergency Centres across the province over the last few months.

Date Period	Lockdown Level
28 June – 25 July 2021	Adjusted Level 4
26 July - 12 September 2021	Adjusted Level 3
13 Sept – 30 Sept 2021	Adjusted Level 2
>1 Oct 2021	Adjusted Level 1



Mental Health presentations to Emergency Centres have recently been increasing as we come out of the third wave with nonorganic psychosis and mental and behavioural disorders related to substances accounting for the highest number of presentations over the period.

18+ yrs mental health separations – acute hospitals



Preparing the People Capacity – 4th Wave

Workforce Planning:

- Currently, appointed **781** staff additional for COVID
- Appointed **1459 HCW and support staff** which includes **610 interns** for the Vaccination Drive
- Contract extensions until end of Dec to ensure continued staff capacity on the health platform (in anticipation of the 4th wave).
- A total of **785 applicants** can still be appointed, if needed

COVID: 4 less appointments

Vaccination Drive:

- 1 new appointment (HCW & Support);
- 2 new interns appointed

Vaccination Training:

- **6348** registered vaccinators on health platform
- **4245** trained vaccinators to date

5

Safeguard & protect the well-being of health care workers

EHW Programme

Financial Wellbeing

Life Management Services

Healing and Grieving Sessions

Face to Face Counselling

EHWP Support

Containment via telephonic support

Onsite Clinics

Managerial support
Managerial consultancy and Individual Coaching

Bereavement Support

Decreased Utilisation with easing of the 3rd Wave (GHS, TBH and FPS still active)

Interventions:

- Group Coaching (Team Cohesion – post pandemic)
- Stress Management
- Physical Wellness (Yoga)

DEPARTMENTAL OVERVIEW OF ONLY COVID-19 CASES AND DEATHS IN HEALTHCARE WORKERS (HCWs)

Totals as at 20 Oct 2021

Cumulative Infections

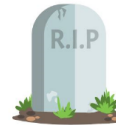
12,590



12,362

% Recovered

98.19%



191

% Died

1.52%

Active Cases

37

% Active

0.29%

Doctors



1262

Nurse



5,474

Radiographers



151

Pharmacists



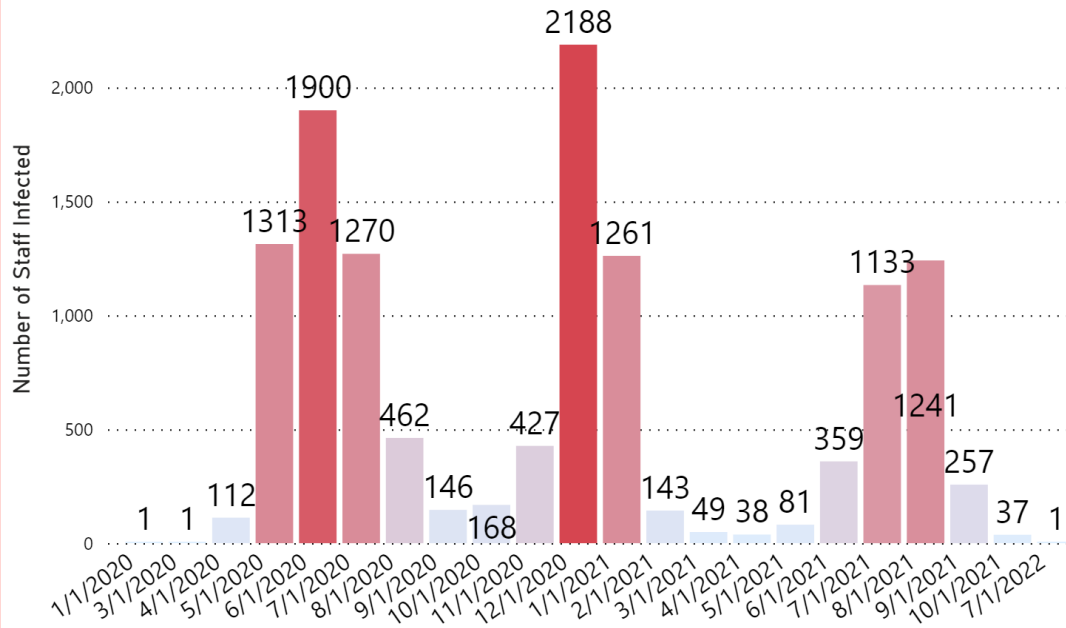
142

Other
categories

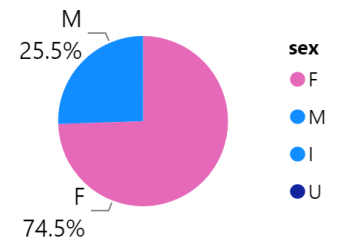


5,561

Total Staff Infected per Month



Gender Distribution



Comparing wave 3 with wave 2 and the impact of vaccines

50+ years, Cases, hospitalisations & deaths

over a period of 12 weeks during the 3rd Wave



Age 50+
**30% of
Cases**



Age 50+
**60% of
admissions**



Age 50+
**83% of
Deaths**

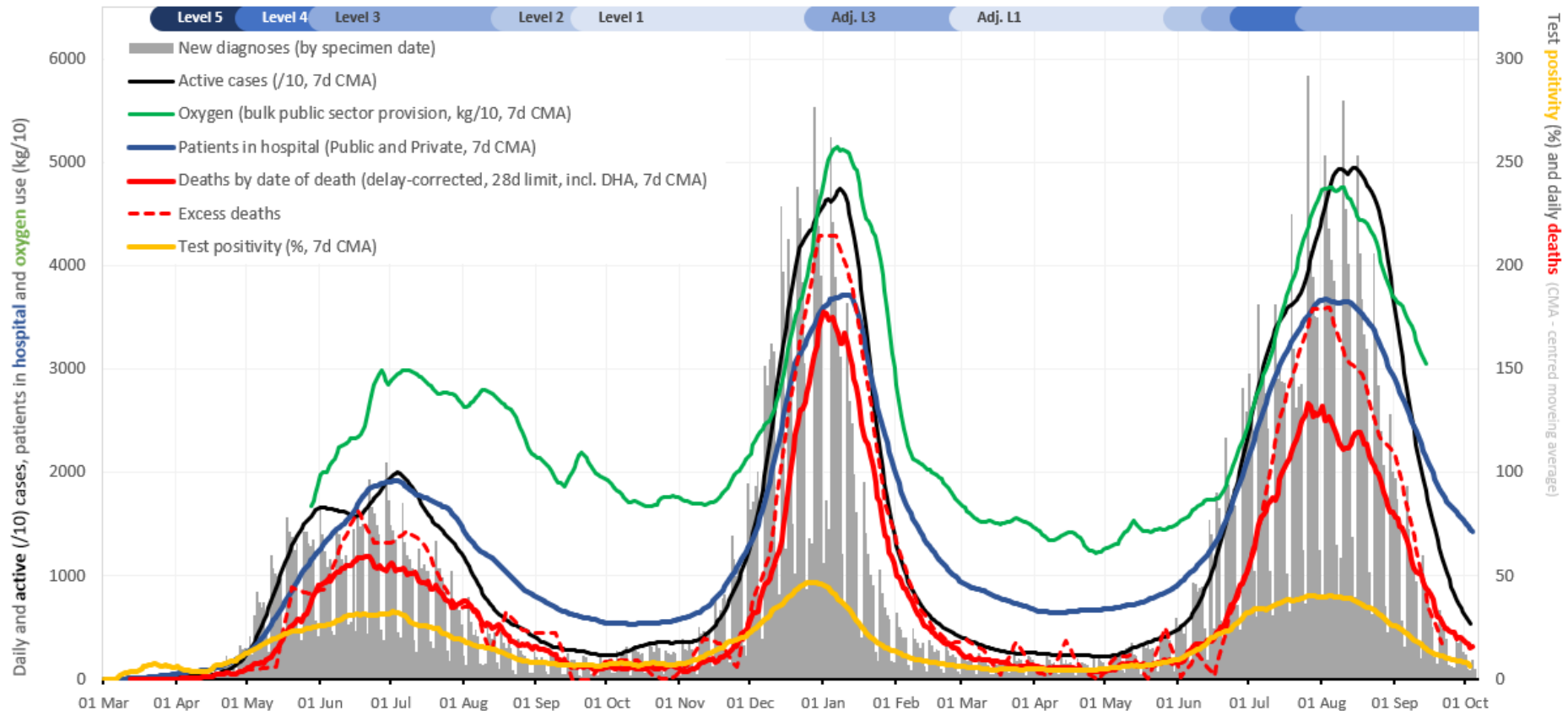


Comparing the severity of wave 3 with wave 2 & the effect of vaccines

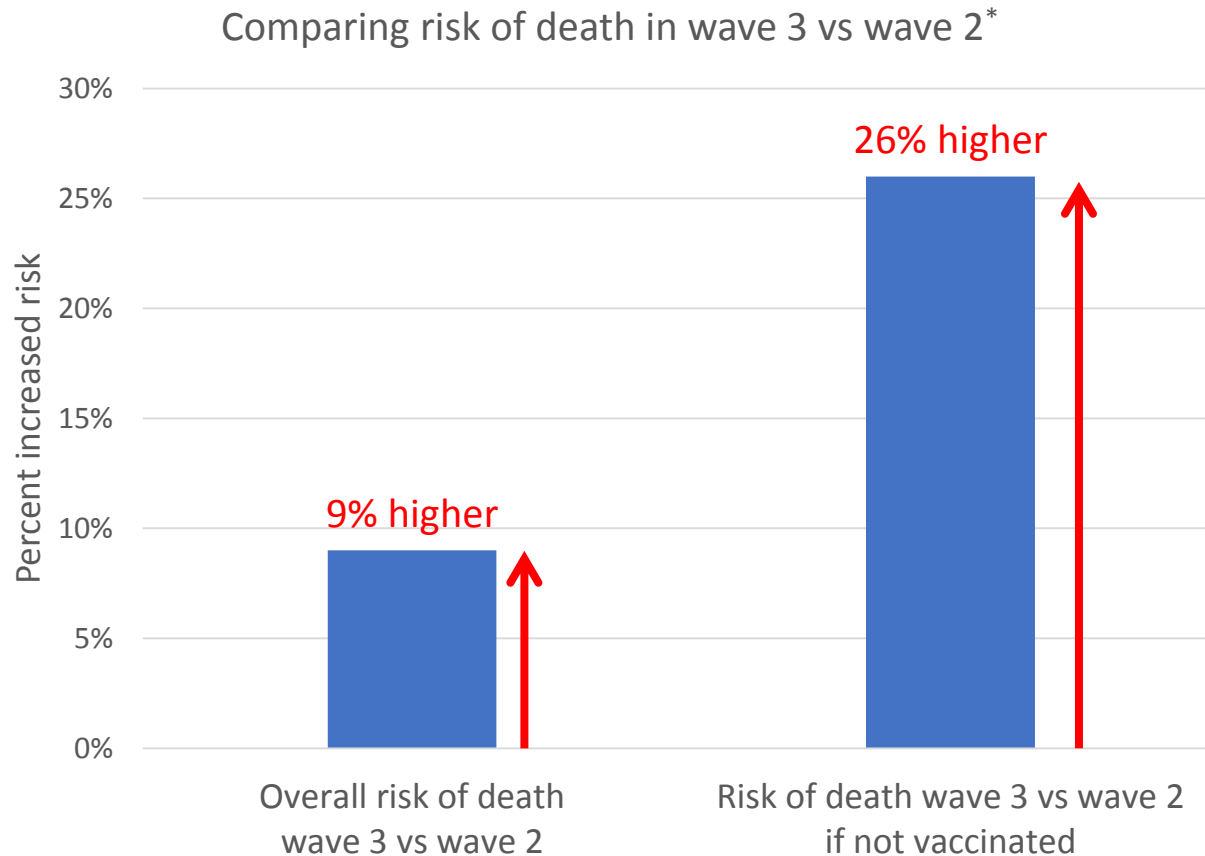
Waves defined as periods with >5 admissions (public sector)/million/day

Public sector

	Wave 2	Wave 3
Wave dates	17 Nov 20 – 9 Feb 21	17 Jun – 23 Sep 21
Cases	54,229	68,796
Admissions	10,719 (20%)	11,671 (17%)
Deaths	3,887 (7%)	4,345 (6%)



Risk of death in wave 3 vs wave 2

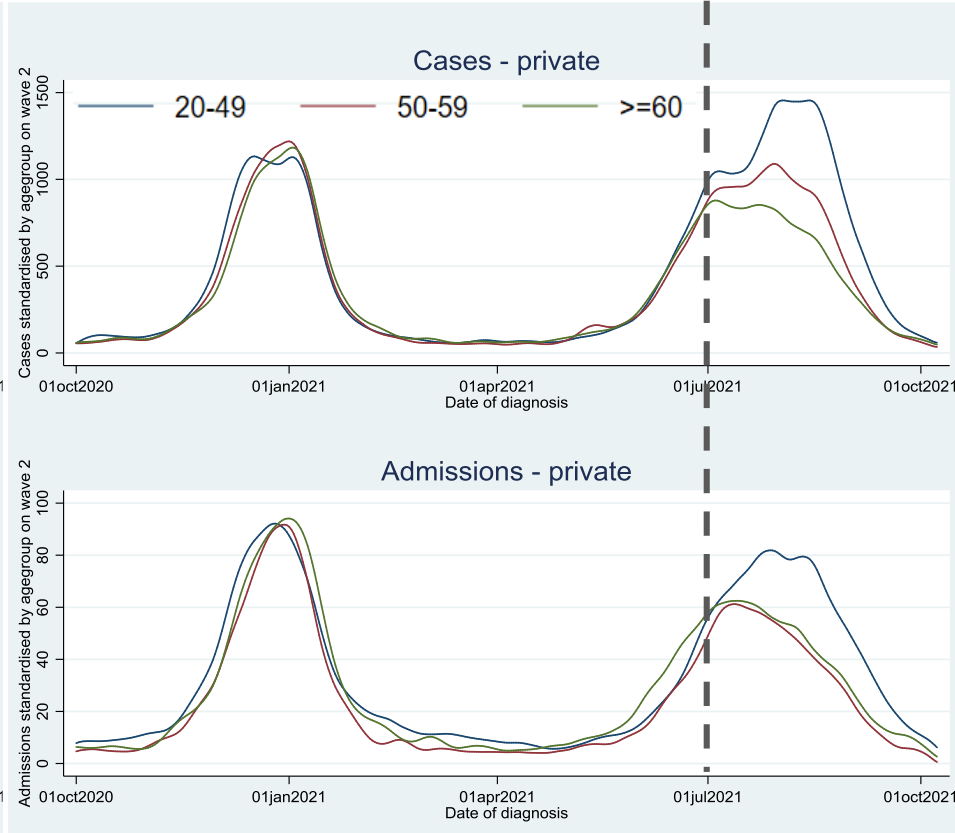
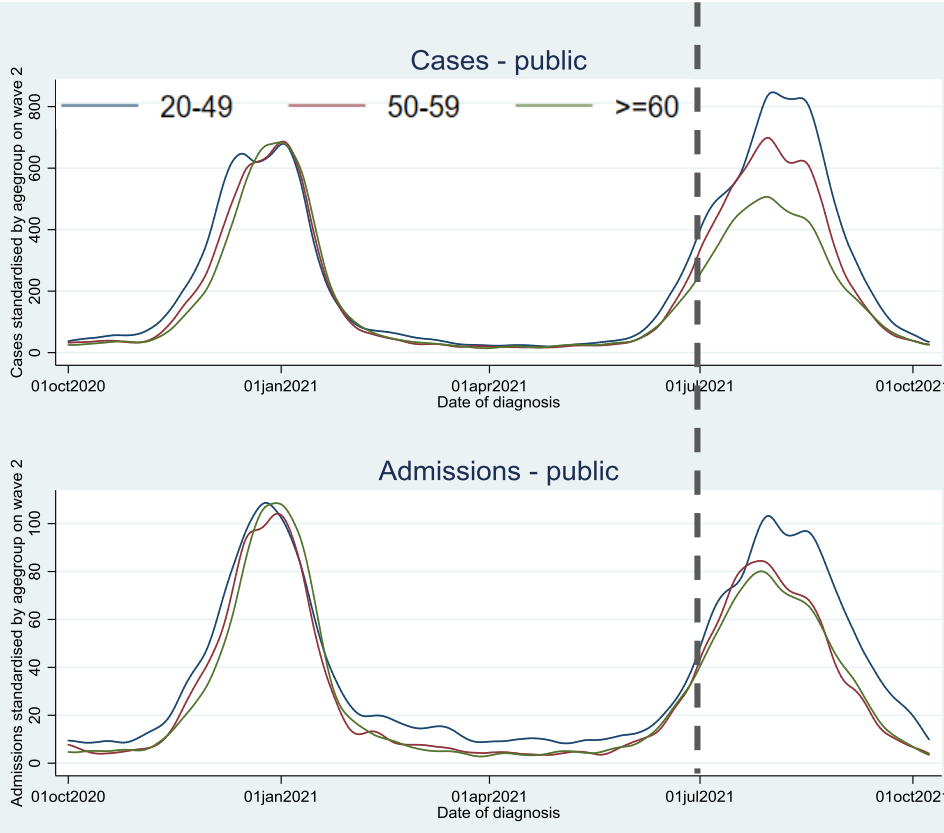


Wave 3 was associated with a 9% increased risk of death in COVID-19 cases, but risk was 26% higher if not vaccinated.

Impact of vaccines on total cases & admissions

Vaccination of 50y+ starts
60y+ 2nd dose starts

Vaccination of 50y+ starts
60y+ 2nd dose starts



Scaled the number of cases and admissions to be the same for each age group in wave 2.

– if the experience of different age groups had been the same in wave 3 as in wave 2, then curves for different age groups would be the same height in wave 3.

INSTEAD

We see a drop off in cases and admissions in the older age groups who were vaccinated first.

This is more marked in private sector where vaccine uptake initially highest

→ pattern strongly indicates protective effect of vaccines at the level of the population.

Summary & implications for best approach to vaccination to mitigate the 4th wave

- Wave 3 worse than wave 2 which was worse than wave 1.
- **Vaccination of those 50y+ protected us from full effects of wave 3.**
- **Age 50y+ and comorbidities consistently remain the biggest risk factors** for hospital admission and death in all waves.
- The **best protection against a 4th wave** that could overwhelm health services and result in excess mortality is **to ensure that those 50y+ or with comorbidities are FULLY VACCINATED (2 doses Pfizer/ 1 dose J&J).**
- **No need for Pfizer booster shots for at least 6-8 months after 2nd dose** except in severely immune compromised patients who may not respond to initial doses. **Priority is getting 2 doses Pfizer or 1 dose J&J into arms – especially arms of the 50y+ or with comorbidities.**
- **Fully vaccinating those 50y+ or with comorbidities will reduce peak hospital admissions overall**, so that those who do still need admission can have better outcomes. This is over and above the individual-level protection that vaccines provide against severe COVID-19.

Vaccine Implementation update

Strategic Focus: Adjusting Aim



Promoting Equity

Increase access to registration and vaccination sites

Community-level interventions

Target identified geographic areas



Demand Creation

Retain focus on **>50 years as the most vulnerable** population group

Neutralise misinformation & strengthen pro-vaccine trusted voices

Target **Business, Government & Civil Society** with specific daily targets



Targeted Approach

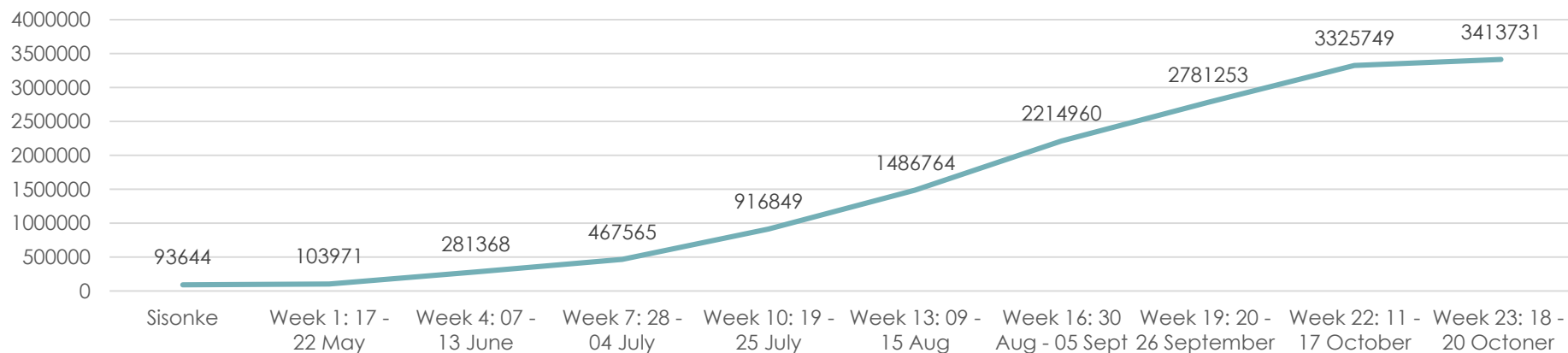
Focus on **geographic areas** with low vaccine uptake

Maximise reach and efficiencies through **increased outreach** services and **pop-up** sites

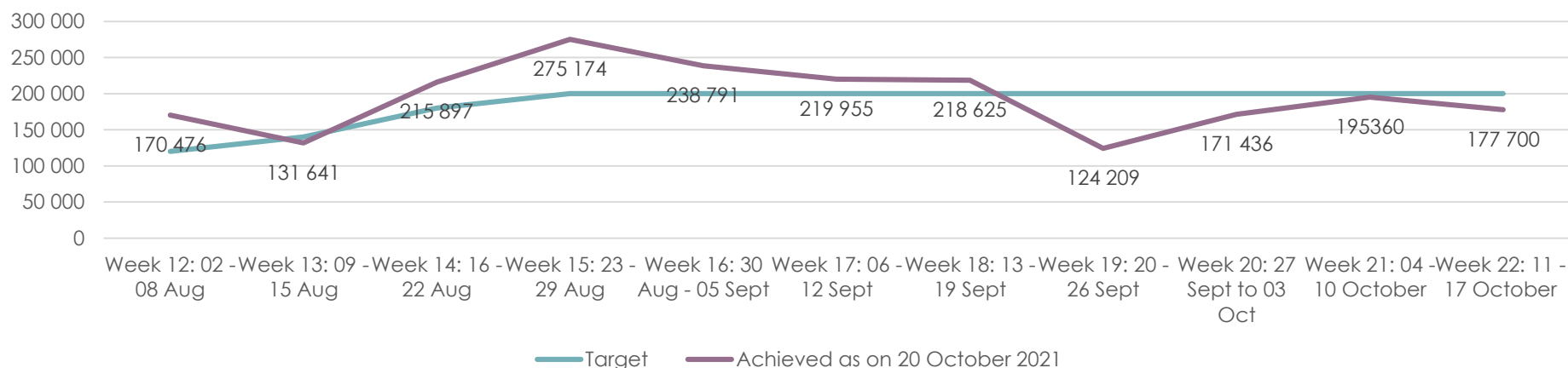
Rationalise and retain fixed vaccination sites with high throughput and **where appropriately placed**

Vaccines Administered

Cumulative Vaccines Administered up to 20 October 2021

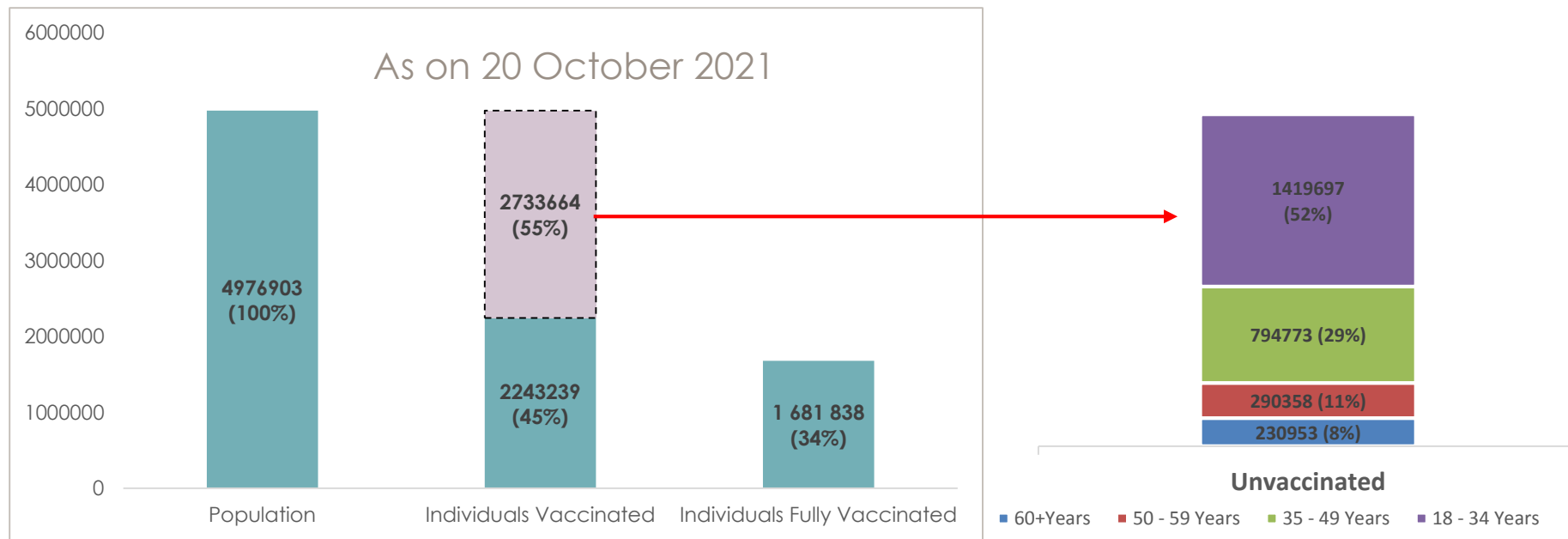


Vaccines Administered Against Weekly Targets (Week 12 - Week 22)



Source: NDoH Dashboard ([Microsoft Power BI](#)) accessed on 20 October @ 20:00

Current status and the road ahead



As on 20 October 2021:

Total number of individuals vaccinated (at least one dose) = **2 243 239** = **45% of >18s** (EVDS National Dashboard on 20 October 2021)

Total number of individuals fully vaccinated = **1 681 838** = **34% of >18s** (EVDS National Dashboard on 20 October 2021)

Number of unvaccinated persons aged 18 years and older = **2 733 664**

Registration breakdown

As on 18 October 2021, a total of **2 305 922** people in the Western Cape have registered on EVDS, equalling **46.43% of the total eligible population (>18 years)**.

Age Band	Total Registrations	% Individuals Registered
18 – 35 Years	697 492	32.97%
35 – 49 Years	734 113	48.55%
50 – 59 Years	384 132	56.28%
60 Years +	511 185	71.03%

Metro: Sub-district	Proportion >18 years as on 18 October 2021	Rural: District	Proportion >18 years as on 18 October 2021
Eastern	49.10%	Cape Winelands	48.61%
Khayelitsha	27.65%	Central Karoo	37.10%
Klipfontein	44.64%	Garden Route	48.04%
Mitchell's Plain	27.31%	Overberg	54.88%
Northern	50.16%	West Coast	43.87%
Southern	51.87%		
Tygerberg	42.01%		
Western	72.05%		

EVDS Registrations: +18 years as at 20 October 2021

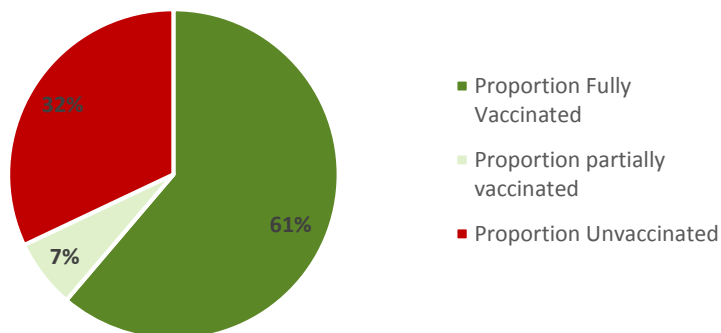
Western Cape: 46.69% (2 318 655)

33.4% (18yrs to 34yrs) **48.8%** (35yrs to 49yrs) **56.4%** (50yrs to 59yrs) and **71.1%** (60yrs+)

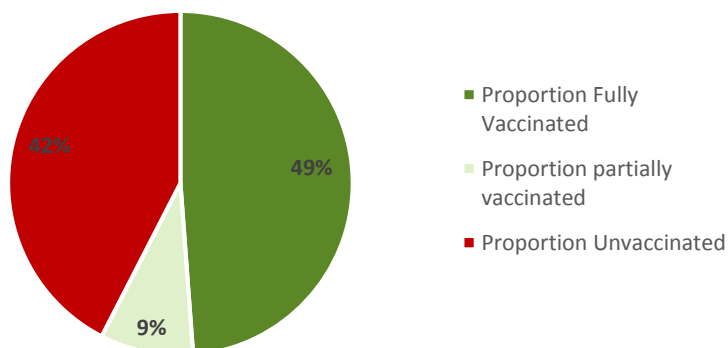


Vaccinations & Registrations: >50 Years

Vaccinations >60 Years as on 20 October 2021



Vaccinations 50 - 59 Years as on 20 October 2021

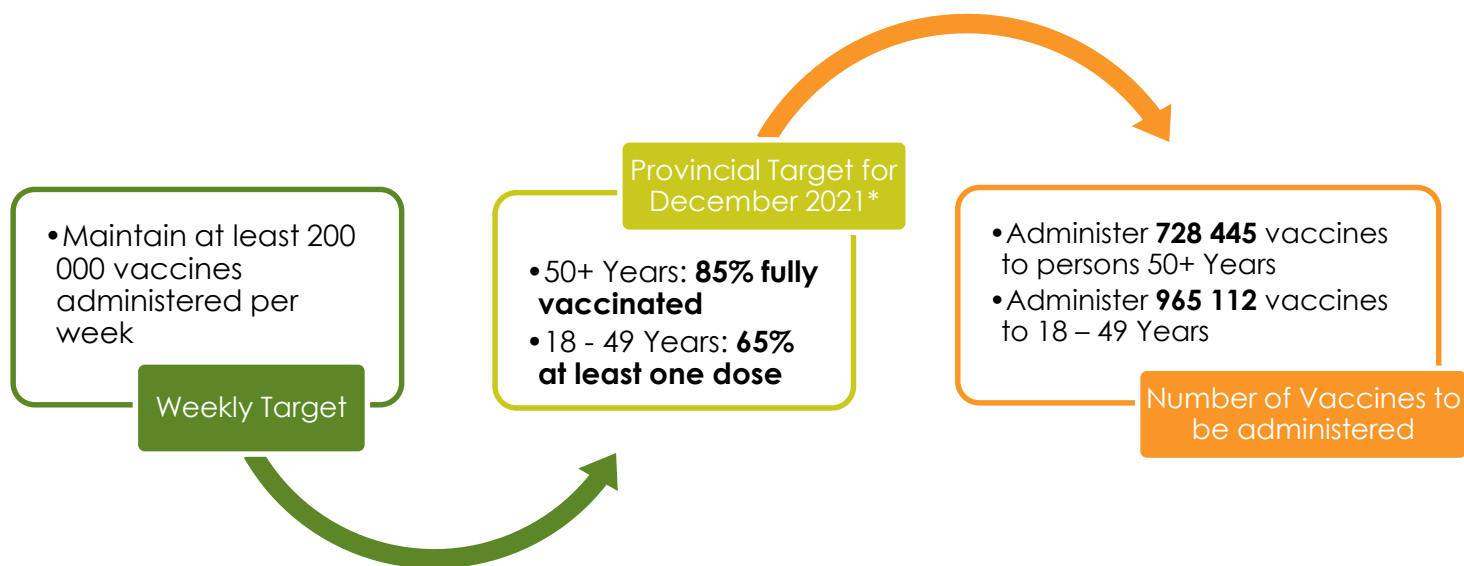


EVDS Registrations	60+ Years
Cape Winelands	68,96%
Central Karoo	50,64%
Garden Route	79,81%
Overberg	101,18%
West Coast	85,10%
Eastern	68,23%
Khayelithsa	50,07%
Klipfontein	82,40%
Mitchell's Plain	45,67%
Northern	58,97%
Southern	77,38%
Tygerberg	60,47%
Western	83,21%
Western Cape	71,10%

EVDS Registrations	50 - 59 Years
Cape Winelands	58,58%
Central Karoo	50,25%
Garden Route	59,10%
Overberg	63,75%
West Coast	54,18%
Eastern	57,50%
Khayelithsa	52,07%
Klipfontein	60,01%
Mitchell's Plain	35,29%
Northern	56,42%
Southern	55,96%
Tygerberg	50,62%
Western	76,81%
Western Cape	56,41%

Provincial Targets up to December 2021

Age in years	Total Population	Proportion Fully Vaccinated (Received either 1 dose J&J or 2-dose Pfizer) as on 20 October 2021	Proportion Partially Vaccinated (One dose of two-dose regimen received) as on 20 October 2021	Proportion Unvaccinated as on 20 October 2021
60 Years +	723 160	61.40%	6.67%	31.94%
50 – 59 Years	684 149	48.82%	8.74%	42.44%
50 Years +	1 407 309	55.28%	7.68%	37.04%
35 – 49 Years	1 511 813	35.99%	11.44%	52.57%
18 – 34 Years	2 057 781	17.47%	13.53%	68.99%
18 - 49	3 569 594	25.32%	12.65%	62.04%
18 Years +	4 976 903	33.79%	11.24%	54.97%



Additional Eligibility Groups

12 – 17 Years

- Eligible from 20 October 2021
- Total Population = **667 000**
- Not a priority target group, not school-based
- Can access service at any vaccination site
- **Total of 10 589 registrations on 20 October 2021**

Immuno- compromised >18 years

- Provide additional dose of vaccine for **immuno-compromised persons >18yrs**
- At least **28 days after last dose**, to be **motivated by medical practitioner**, for implementation before **December 2021**

Sisonke 2

- Implementation of **2nd J&J dose for health care workers**
- Before **December 2021**
- Total of **93 774** healthcare workers who participated in Sisonke 1 will be eligible

Booster Doses

- Booster doses for the general public will only be applicable for consideration in our context at least **6-8 months after the 2nd dose of Pfizer**
- Will commence in **January to March 2022 with 60 Years** and older.
- Of the eligible population, a total of **490 258** will be eligible between January and March 2022.

Remarks on Vaccine Implementation

1. **Projected Weekly Throughput of 200 000 Vaccines Administered:** Capacity is available and needs to be supported by concerted demand creation and social mobilisation efforts.
2. **Focus**
 - The primary focus will remain on ensuring that the most **vulnerable groups** are vaccinated (**>50yrs and people >18yrs with co-morbidities**).
 - **Ensuring Equity in Access:** Ongoing efforts to remove barriers to access to ensure equitable access between males/ females, insured/ uninsured and more affluent/ poorer communities.
 - **Refocussing:** Reviewing implementation models to match local context. This will require rationalising and reducing fixed sites in favour of community-based outreach models that include mobile services and pop-up sites.
 - **Targeted Mobilisation:** Reaching everyone who has not got around to it yet, as well as everyone who is still unsure or anxious.

Communications




Why 50+ must vaccinate

HIGH RISK WARNING!


October 2021

Over 50 years?


You are at high risk. Get vaccinated now to protect yourself. During the third wave, people aged 50 years and older made up 30% of cases, 60% of admissions, and 83% of deaths due to COVID-19*.



Age 50+
30% of cases



Age 50+
60% of admissions



Age 50+
83% of deaths

*Over a period of 12 weeks during the 3rd wave.



Addressing misinformation

COVID-19 VACCINES DEBUNKING THE MYTHS

FALSE ❌



The vaccine was rushed and is not safe



It changes your DNA



The vaccine can give you COVID-19



It causes severe side effects or death



It can make women infertile

FACT ✅

Expert researchers across the world worked together and took no safety shortcuts. Existing safe technology was used to create the vaccine. Over 1.84 billion people worldwide have already been safely vaccinated.

It is impossible for the vaccine to change your DNA. The vaccine does not remain in your body but gets broken down and discarded by your body.

It is impossible. It does not contain live COVID-19 virus.

Side effects like headache, a sore arm, feeling tired, or mild flu symptoms are normal. This means the vaccine is working and your body's immune system is responding by making antibodies.

There is no evidence that the vaccine causes infertility or any other long-term side effects.

Everyone over 18 can go to the nearest vaccination site to register and get their vaccine. Bring an unvaccinated family member with you.

Do you have high blood pressure or diabetes? The vaccine is safe for people with high blood pressure and diabetes. Get vaccinated immediately to protect yourself against getting severe COVID-19.



August 2021



COVID-19 VACCINES: What you need to know



Unsure about getting the COVID-19 vaccine

- It is normal to have questions.
- Vaccines have ended pandemics like polio and measles. Babies and children get them to prevent these and other diseases.
- COVID-19 vaccines are safe and are already saving lives in many countries.



COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective

- Of 2 billion people vaccinated only a very small number had a serious side-effect.
- Vaccines protect against severe COVID-19 illness and death. Vaccines are already saving thousands of lives.



How does the vaccine work?

- The vaccine trains your immune system to recognise the coronavirus.
- If you then get COVID-19, your immune system will spring into action and prevent you from getting severely ill.



Why do I need the vaccine?

- There is no cure for COVID-19.
- Vaccines will protect you against getting very sick or dying from COVID-19.
- Being vaccinated is our best protection against more 'waves' of COVID-19 and return to a more normal life.
- The more people that are vaccinated, the less chance the virus has to make people sick.

Will the vaccine give me COVID-19 or make me sick?

- No, the vaccine does not contain the virus and will not give you COVID-19.
- Many people experience mild side effects like headache and fever. These start around 6 hours after vaccination and last 1-2 days.
- These show the immune system is preparing to fight COVID-19.



Send the word **'REGISTER'** to **0600 123 456** on WhatsApp or dial ***134*832#**. For support to register, call **0860 142 142** or visit **www.westerncape.gov.za**

Conclusions

Concluding remarks

1. We have **exited the 3rd wave** with **continuous decline in COVID cases**, but urge everyone to **adhere strictly to protective behaviours**, to **contain** spread over **the coming weeks and months**, in expectation of a **4th wave**.
2. We have **tailored a triggered health** and **societal response** and will refine these tools to trigger appropriate responses **to detect** and **avert** an **early onset of a 4th wave**.
3. Our biggest weapon **against a big 4th wave** is **vaccination (especially for >50yr olds)**. We have a **bespoke vaccination capacity** to **administer 40 000 vaccines/ day**, but now require a massive **whole of society effort** to **generate targeted demand**.
4. We need to scale our **mobilisation and assist everyone that is eligible** to be **registered on the EVDS**, and **to be vaccinated**, in a **targeted and intentional manner**, to **restore our economy**, and **normalise the health system & societal functioning**.

Thank you

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