



COVID-19 Weekly Surveillance Report

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Summary for the week 22 August to 28 August 2022 (inclusive)

In the week of 22 August to 28 August 2022 there were:

- 9,381 COVID-19 cases reported
 - 3,121 with positive polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests
 - 6,260 with positive rapid antigen tests (RAT)
 - 8,843 locally acquired, 276 interstate acquired, 262 overseas acquired
 - 1,021 were reinfections (see definition in Table 2)
- 63 new hospital admissions and 5 transfers into an intensive care unit
- 17 deaths reported, aged between 49 to 93 years old
- 25,870 COVID-19 PCR tests conducted

Surveillance summary

There was a 28% decrease in **PCR tests** in the current reporting week compared to the previous reporting week, with the proportion of positive PCR tests on a downward trend. The 7-day average test positivity was 11.2%.

Overall, **case numbers** decreased by 24% compared to the previous week. Cases diagnosed by PCR and RAT decreased by 28% and 22% respectively. The decrease in case numbers and proportion of positive PCR tests over the past week is in keeping with the case load declining in the community.

Case rates per 100,000 population for all public health regions are on a downward trend. The Great Southern and Midwest regions have the highest case rates. The rates in the Perth metropolitan area are tracking approximately 10% lower than rates in the Western Australia Country Health Service (WACHS) regions. Age groups 20 - 49 years have the highest case rates, with a decreasing trend observed in all age groups. The case rate per 100,000 population is decreasing across all jurisdictions, with New South Wales having the highest case rates.

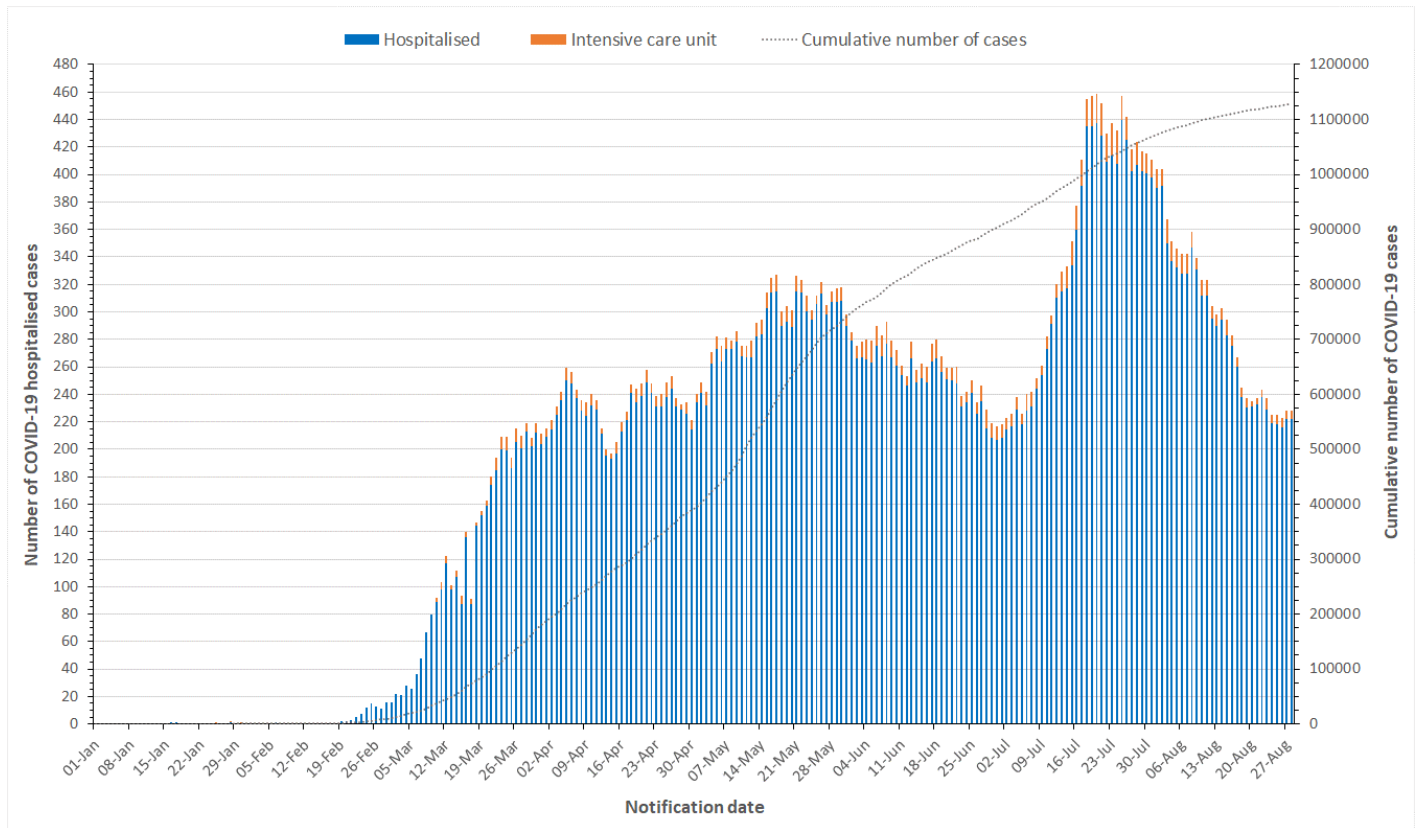
The 7-day average of **hospitalised cases** and **intensive care unit cases** decreased by 11% and 7% respectively, compared to the previous reporting week. New hospital admissions related to COVID-19 decreased by 22% (n=18) this report week compared to last week and intensive care unit transfers increased from 1 case in the last report week to 5 cases this week.

There was a 26% decrease in **deaths** reported in the current reporting week compared to the previous reporting week.

There were 460 cases in the **Aboriginal population** during the current reporting week, an 18% decrease in cases compared to the previous reporting week. Cases in the Aboriginal population are being reported at a higher rate compared to the non-Aboriginal population, with the rate ratio increasing to 1.24 in the past week. There was one death reported in the Aboriginal population during the reporting period.

Hospitalisations, intensive care unit inpatients and deaths

Figure 1. Number of active and cleared COVID-19 cases currently in hospital and intensive care unit, and cumulative number of COVID-19 notifications, by notification date, 01 January to 28 August 2022.



Notes
Data sourced from Western Australia Department of Health dataset
Notification date refers to data collected up to the end of the 24-hour reporting period 8pm to 8pm
The reporting period transitioned to a 6pm to 6pm cycle from 18th June 2022 inclusive
'Hospitalised' relates to active and cleared COVID-19 cases that are current hospital inpatients. The reason for admission may be unrelated to COVID-19 for some people
'Intensive care unit' (ICU) is a subset of hospitalised and relates to active/cleared COVID-19 cases that are currently in an ICU.

Table 1. Number of COVID-19 related deaths reported by vaccination status and age group, 22 August to 28 August 2022 and 01 January to 28 August 2022.

	Week 22 Aug – 28 Aug 2022	01 Jan 2022 – 28 Aug 2022
Number of COVID-19 vaccine doses	Deaths n=17	Deaths n=579
0	1 (5.9%)	122 (21.1%)
1	1 (5.9%)	27 (4.7%)
2	3 (17.6%)	81 (14.0%)
3+	12 (70.6%)	349 (60.2%)
Age group (years)		
0-9	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
10-19	0 (0%)	2 (0.3%)
20-29	0 (0%)	1 (0.2%)
30-39	0 (0%)	4 (0.7%)
40-49	0 (0%)	8 (1.4%)
50-59	1 (5.9%)	26 (4.5%)
60-69	2 (11.8%)	52 (9.0%)
70-79	6 (35.3%)	101 (17.4%)
80-89	5 (29.4%)	217 (37.5%)
90+	3 (17.6%)	168 (29.0%)

Notes

Data sourced from Western Australia Department of Health dataset

Number of vaccination doses sourced from Australian Immunisation Register. Vaccination data are available for WA residents only, therefore, the number of unvaccinated individuals (0 doses) may be overestimated

A high proportion of the WA population (16 years and above) is fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (as of 26th August 2022 – 83.7% for 3+ doses, >95% for 2 doses), therefore interpretation of people who have died with both 3+ and 2 doses requires consideration within this context.

Hospitalisation and intensive care unit breakdown available in bi-weekly WA COVID-19 data update. Link [here](#).

Deaths are counted by notification date and may include historical deaths that occurred (i.e. date of death) prior to the current report week

Notification date refers to data collected up to the end of the 24-hour reporting period 8pm to 8pm

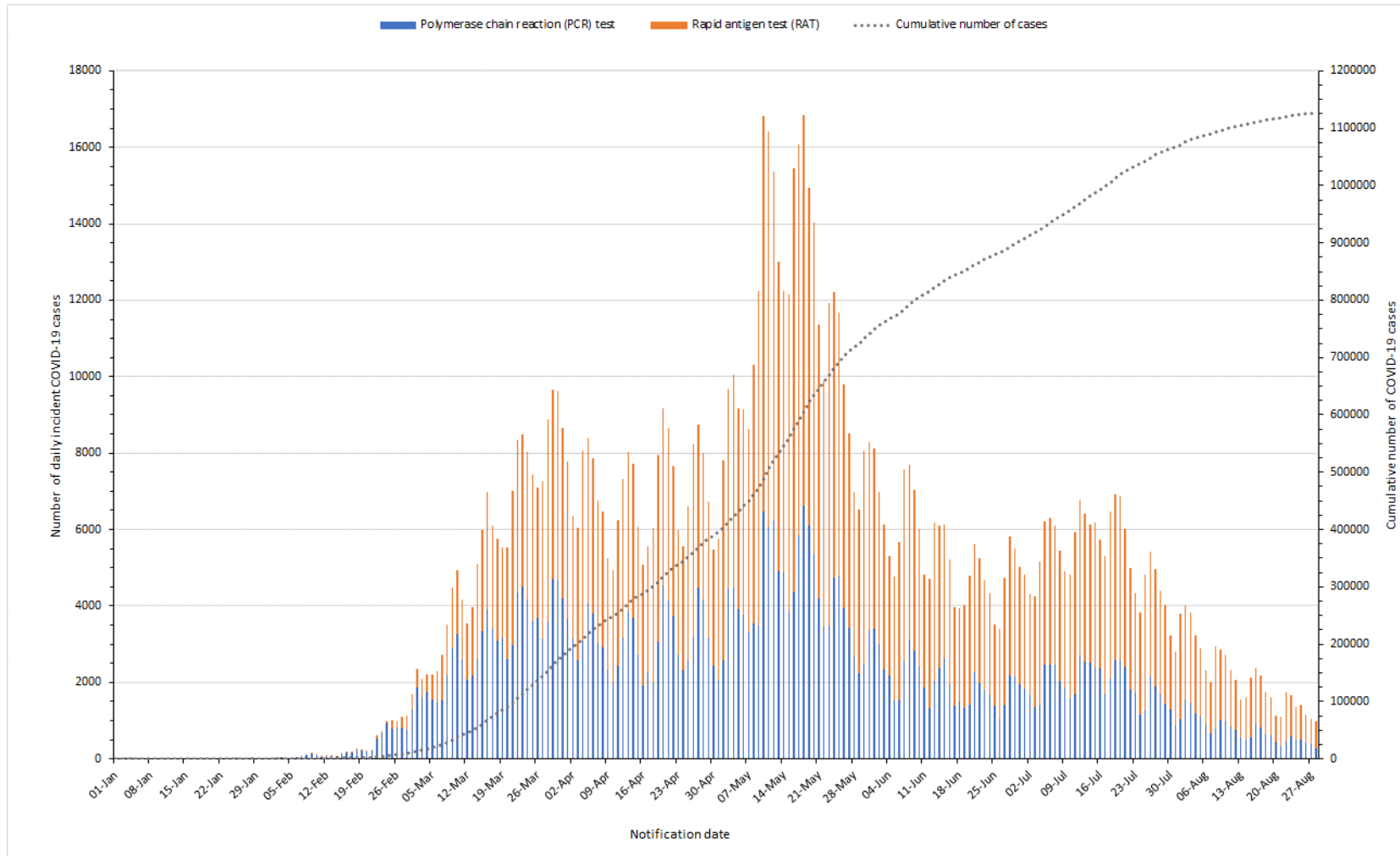
The reporting period transitioned to a 6pm to 6pm cycle from 18th June 2022 inclusive

3 previously reported deaths were re-classified as non-COVID-related since most recent surveillance report

Deaths are not necessarily associated with hospital and/or ICU admissions.

Case data

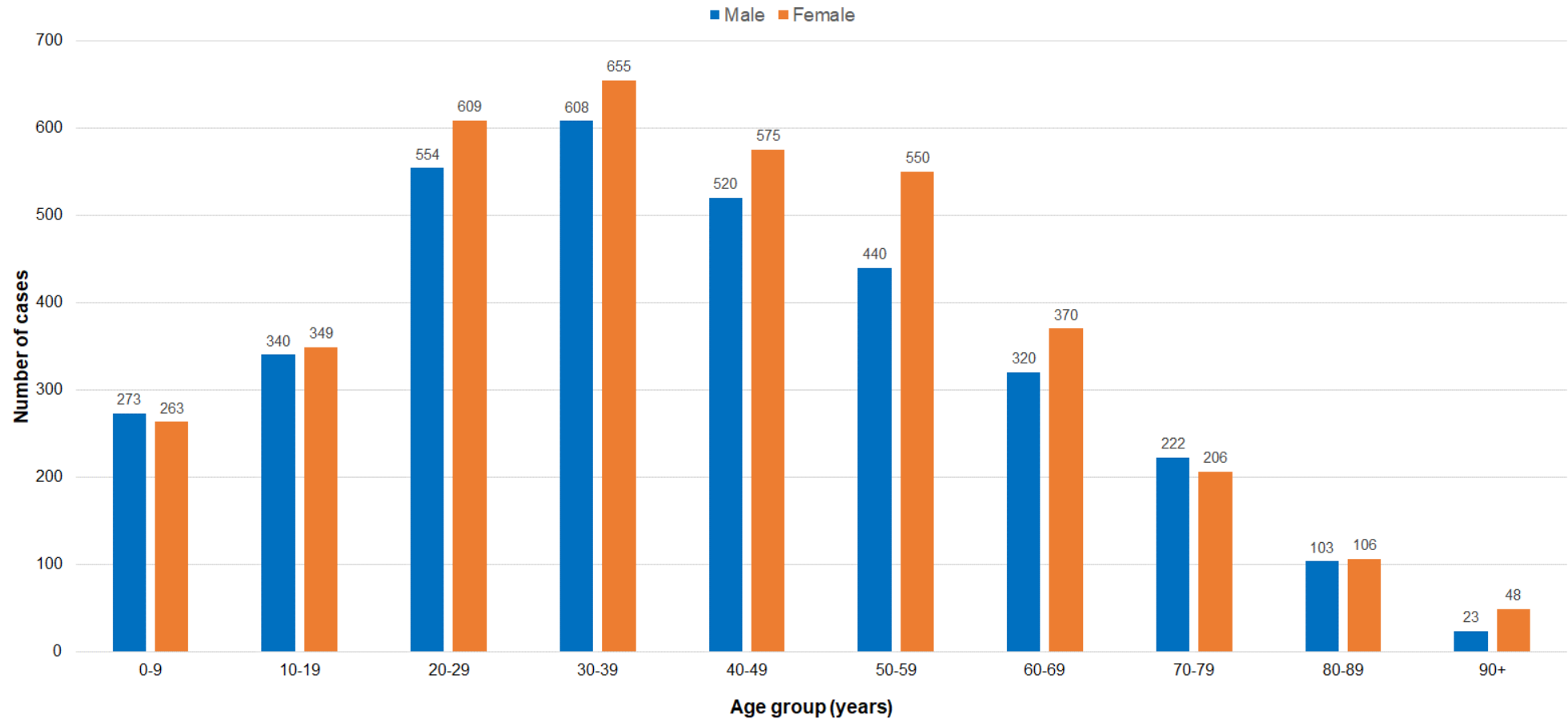
Figure 2. COVID-19 cases by notification date and test type, Western Australia, 01 January to 28 August 2022.



Notes

Data sourced from Western Australia Department of Health dataset
Notification date refers to data collected up to the end of the 24-hour reporting period 8pm to 8pm
The reporting period transitioned to a 6pm to 6pm cycle from 18th June 2022 inclusive.

Figure 3. COVID-19 cases by age group and sex, Western Australia, 22 August to 28 August 2022.



Notes

Data sourced from Western Australia Department of Health dataset

Notification date refers to data collected up to the end of the 24-hour reporting period 8pm to 8pm

The reporting period transitioned to a 6pm to 6pm cycle from 18th June 2022 inclusive

Gender data is partially incomplete due to the unavailability of this variable during rapid antigen test registration, resulting in a discrepancy to total case numbers reported for the week.

- Males: n=3,403 (47.7%) Females: n=3,731 (52.3%)
- Median age = 39 years; range: 0 to 102 years

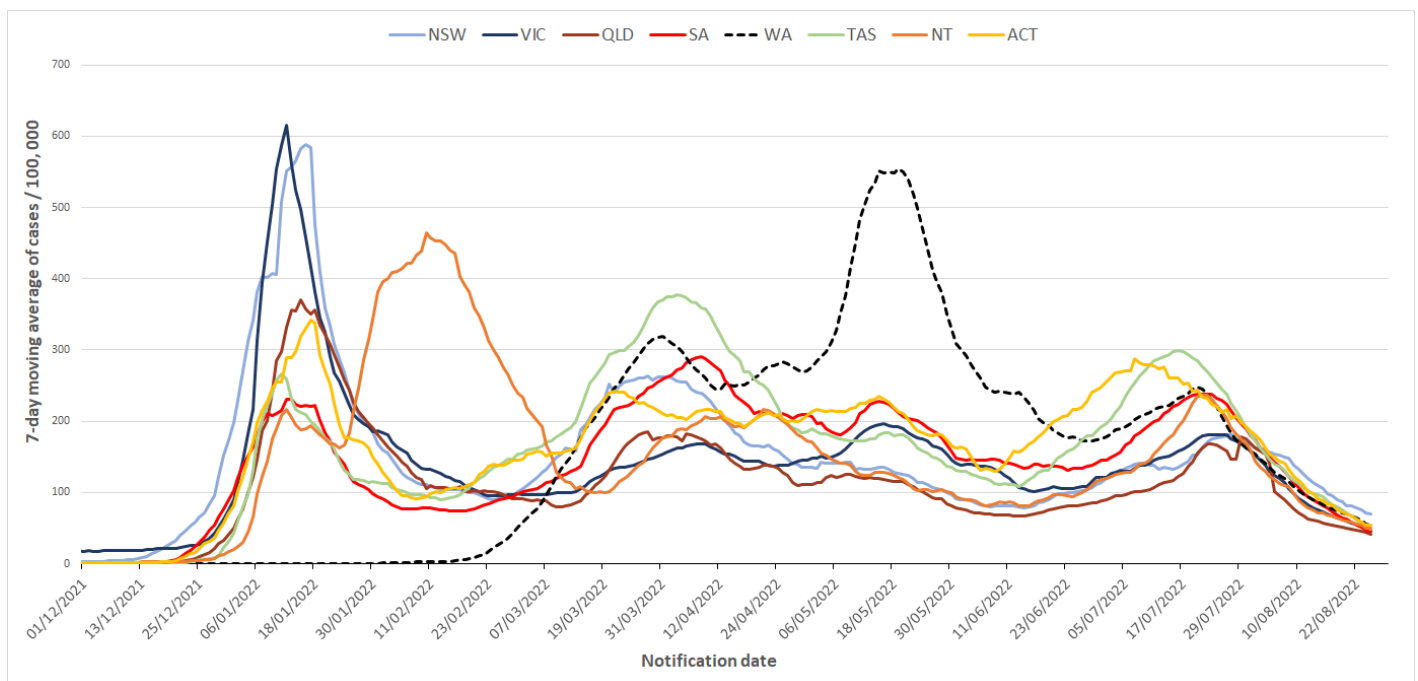
Table 2. COVID-19 reinfections in Western Australia, 02 March to 28 August 2022.

Month	Number of reinfections *
Mar-2022	14
Apr-2022	28
May-2022	113
Jun-2022	874
Jul-2022	5038
Aug-2022 ^	4999
Total	11,066

* Reinfection definition as per Series of National Guidelines (SoNGs) published by the Communicable Disease Network Australia (CDNA): between 2nd March 2022 and 8th July 2022, COVID-19 reinfections were defined as a positive COVID-19 test that occurred more than 12 weeks after an initial infection. From 9 July 2022 to current, COVID-19 reinfections are defined as a positive COVID-19 test occurring 28 days after previously recovering from the virus

^ Data from 1st August to 28st August inclusive

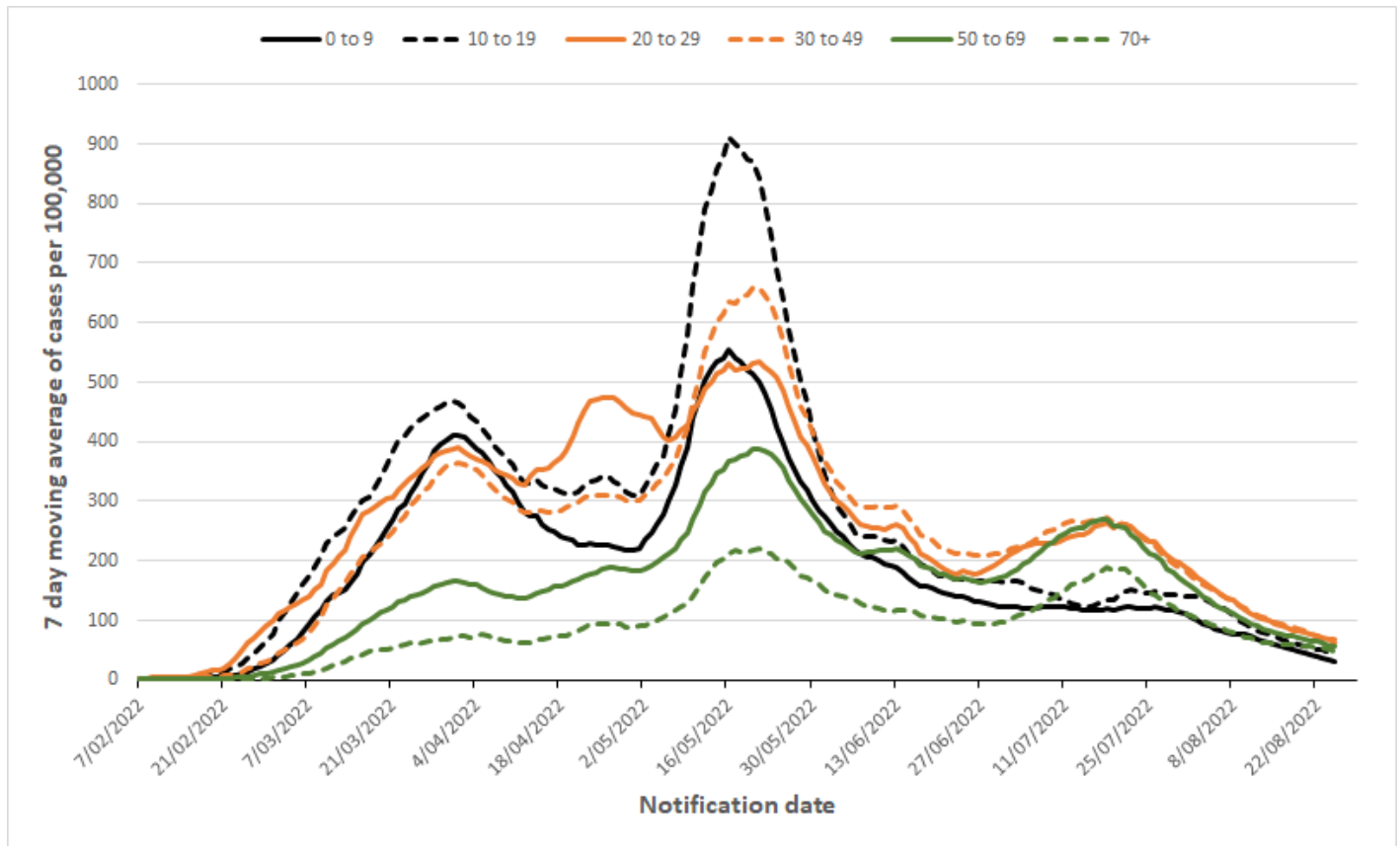
Figure 4. 7-day moving average of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people, by Australian jurisdiction, 01 December 2021 to 28 August 2022.



Notes

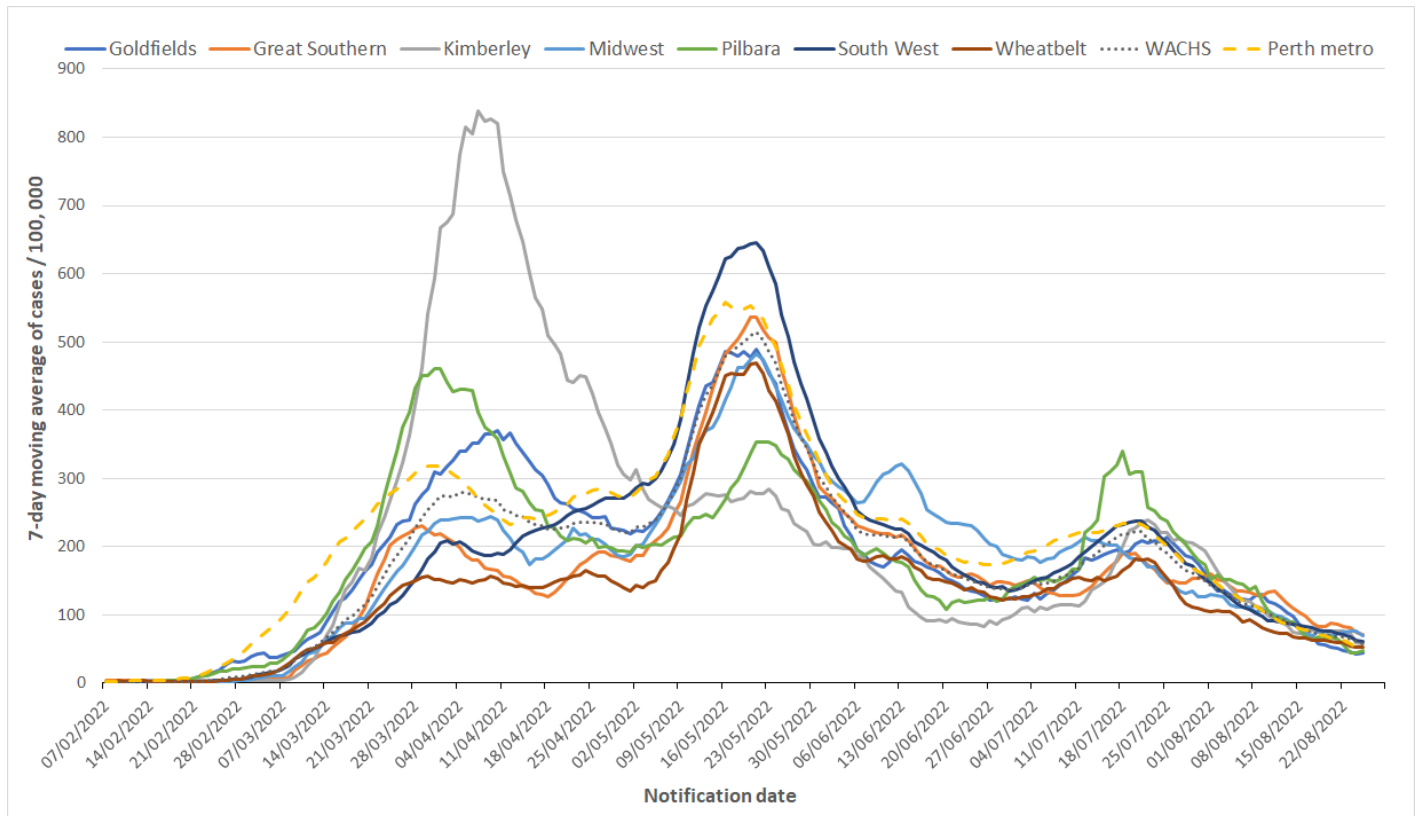
Data sourced from the respective jurisdictional health department datasets
 Notification date refers to data collected up to the end of the 24-hour reporting period 8pm to 8pm
 The reporting period in WA transitioned to a 6pm to 6pm cycle from 18th June 2022 inclusive
 Population denominator is sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics December 2021 estimates.

Figure 5. 7-day moving average of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 by age group, Western Australia, 08 February to 28 August 2022.



Notes
 Data sourced from Western Australia Department of Health dataset
 Notification date refers to data collected up to the end of the 24-hour reporting period 8pm to 8pm
 The reporting period transitioned to a 6pm to 6pm cycle from 18th June 2022 inclusive
 Cases include all cases whose source of infection is classified as 'locally-acquired', 'interstate-acquired', 'overseas-acquired' and 'source under investigation'
 Case data includes those determined by both polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests and rapid antigen tests (RAT)
 Population denominator sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics June 2021 estimates.

Figure 6. 7-day moving average of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people, by health region, Western Australia, 08 February 2022 to 28 August 2022.



Notes

Data sourced from Western Australia Department of Health dataset
 Notification date refers to data collected up to the end of the 24-hour reporting period 8pm to 8pm
 The reporting period transitioned to a 6pm to 6pm cycle from 18th June 2022 inclusive
 Cases include all cases whose source of infection is classified as 'locally-acquired', 'interstate-acquired', 'overseas-acquired' and 'source under investigation'
 Case data is by place of usual residence for positive case (due to unavailability of data for specific location of acquisition)
 Case data includes those determined by both polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests and rapid antigen tests (RAT)
 Western Australia Country Health Service (WACHS) includes Goldfields, Great Southern, Kimberley, Midwest, Pilbara, South West and Wheatbelt health regions combined
 Perth metro includes East Metropolitan Health Service, North Metropolitan Health Service and South Metropolitan Health Service combined
 Population denominator sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics 2020 estimates.

Table 3. Number of COVID-19 cases and case rates per 100,000 population, by region, 22 August to 28 August 2022 and 15 August to 21 August 2022.

	Region	Week 22 August to 28 August 2022		Week 15 August to 21 August	
		Number for current week	Rates for current week (cases/100,000 pop)	Number for previous week	Rates for previous week (cases/100,000 pop)
WACHS Regions	Goldfields	167	310	191	354
	Great Southern	272	444	369	602
	Kimberley	115	319	194	538
	Midwest	289	466	317	511
	Pilbara	199	317	247	393
	South West	717	394	932	513
	Wheatbelt	256	336	313	411
WACHS total*		2015	377	2563	480
Other**		172	-	209	-
Metropolitan		7,194	338	9,541	448
Total		9,381	352	12,313	462

Notes

Data sourced from Western Australia Department of Health dataset

Notification date refers to data collected up to the end of the 24-hour reporting period 8pm to 8pm

The reporting period transitioned to a 6pm to 6pm cycle from 18th June 2022 inclusive

Cases include all cases whose source of infection is classified as 'locally acquired', 'interstate acquired', 'overseas acquired' and 'source under investigation'

Case data is by place of usual residence for positive case (due to unavailability of data for specific location of acquisition)

Case data includes those determined by both polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests and rapid antigen tests (RAT)

*Western Australia Country Health Service (WACHS) includes Goldfields, Great Southern, Kimberley, Midwest, Pilbara, South West and Wheatbelt public health regions combined

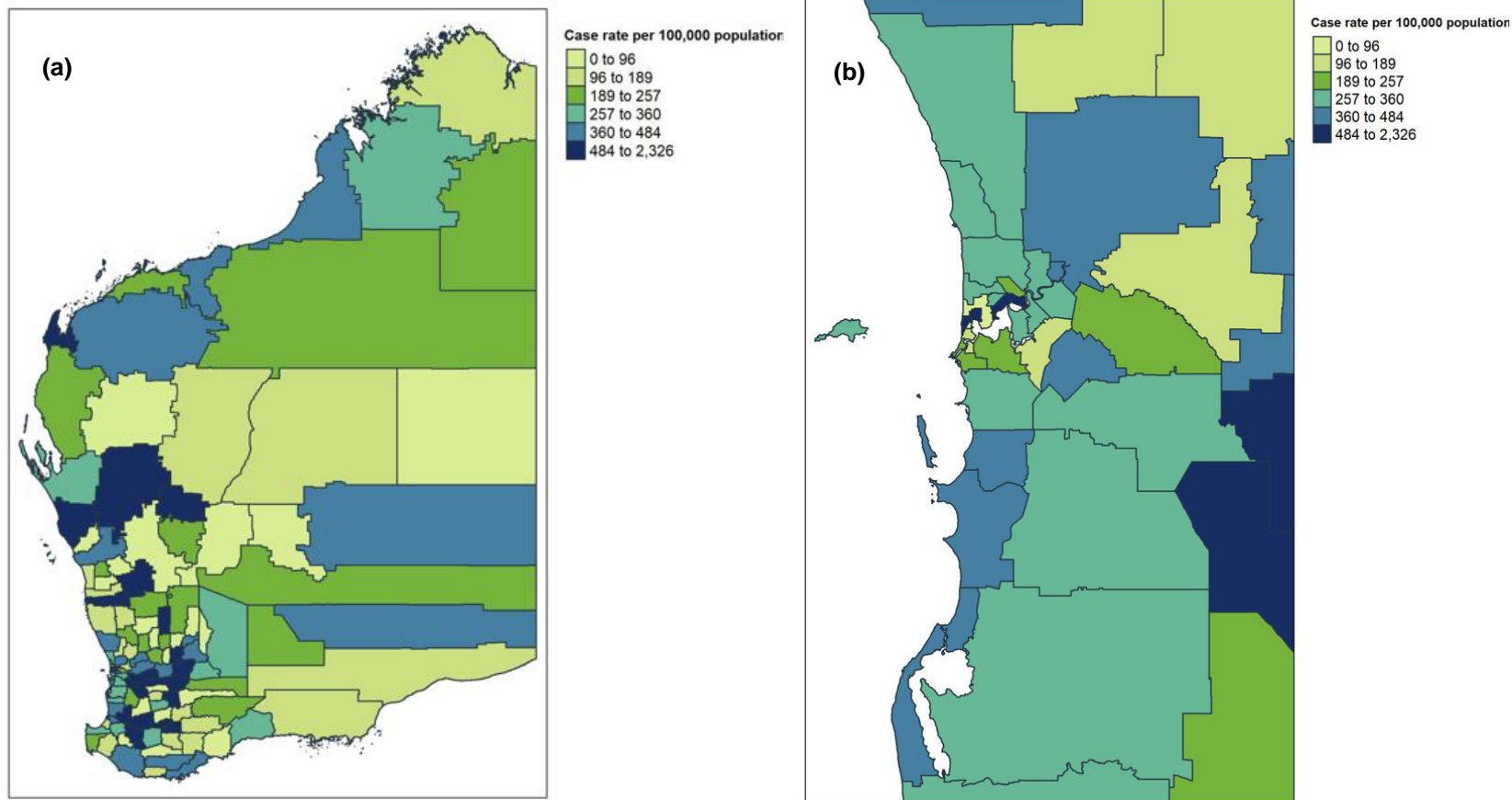
Total excludes WACHS*

Metropolitan includes East Metropolitan Health Service, North Metropolitan Health Service and South Metropolitan Health Service combined

**Other includes overseas and interstate residential addresses, and cases whom had no residential data available

Population denominator is sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics 2020 estimates.

Figure 7 (a). Locally acquired COVID-19 case rates per 100,000 population by LGA, regional Western Australia, 22 August to 28 August 2022. (b) Locally acquired COVID-19 case rates per 100,000 population by LGA, Perth metropolitan area, 22 August to 28 August 2022.

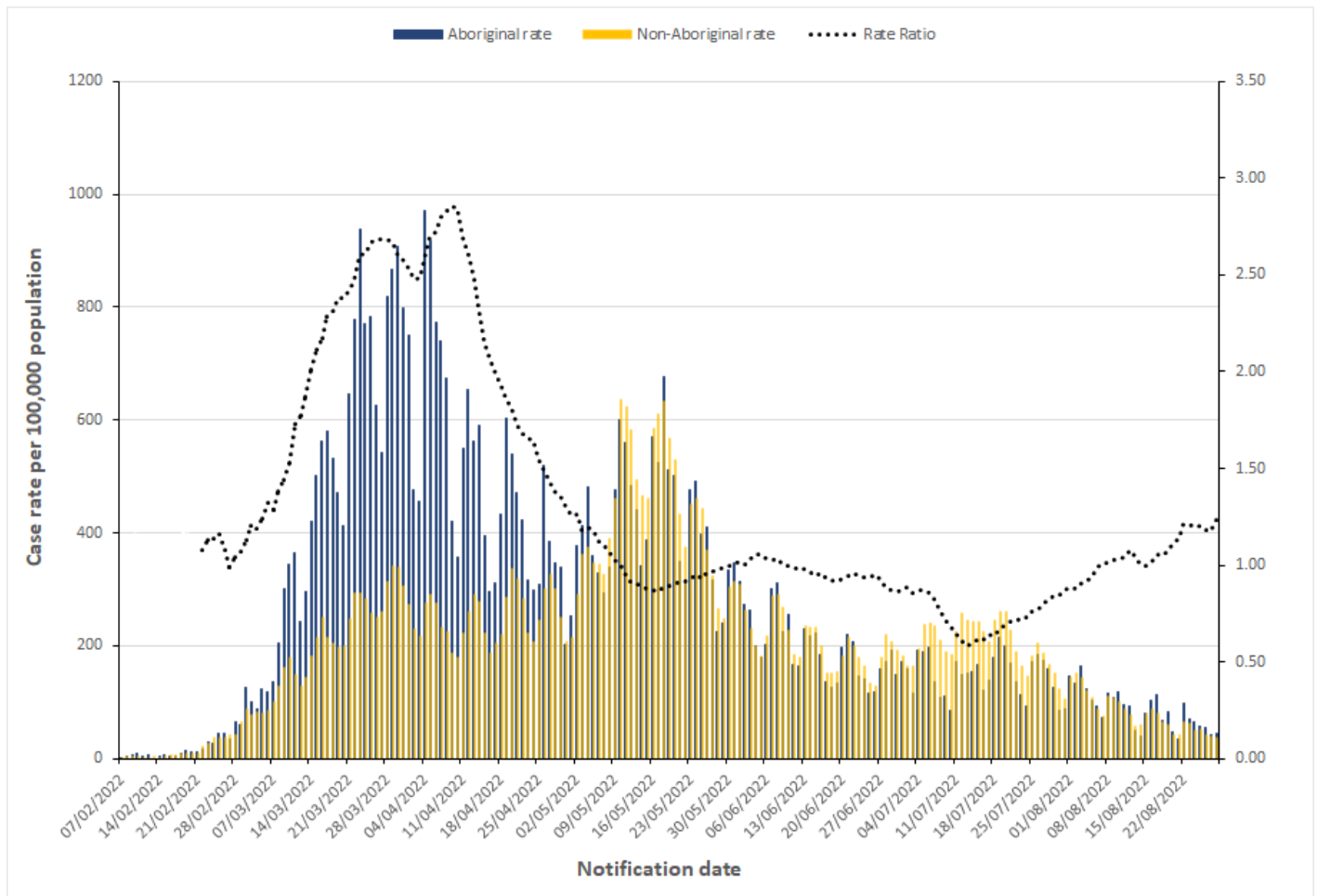


Notes

Data sourced from Western Australia Department of Health dataset
 Notification date refers to data collected up to the end of the 24-hour reporting period 8pm to 8pm
 The reporting period transitioned to a 6pm to 6pm cycle from 18th June 2022 inclusive
 'Locally acquired' cases include all cases whose source of infection is classified as 'locally acquired' and 'source under investigation' only (excludes interstate and overseas-acquired cases)
 Case data is represented on the map by place of usual residence for positive case (due to unavailability of data for specific location of acquisition)
 Case data includes those determined by both polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests and rapid antigen tests (RAT)
 Areas on the map are defined by Local Government Area (LGA) boundaries
 Population denominator is sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics 2020 estimates.

Aboriginal case summary

Figure 8. COVID-19 cases in Western Australia per 100,000 population, and rate ratio, by Indigenous status and notification date, 08 February to 28 August 2022.



Notes

Data sourced from Western Australia Department of Health dataset

Notification date refers to data collected up to the end of the 24-hour reporting period 8pm to 8pm

The reporting period transitioned to a 6pm to 6pm cycle from 18th June 2022 inclusive

Aboriginal status is defined as those who identify as 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (TSI) origin'/'Aboriginal but not TSI origin'/'TSI but not Aboriginal origin'

Cases where Aboriginal status was not stated were designated as non-Aboriginal

Cases include those determined by both polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests and rapid antigen tests (RAT)

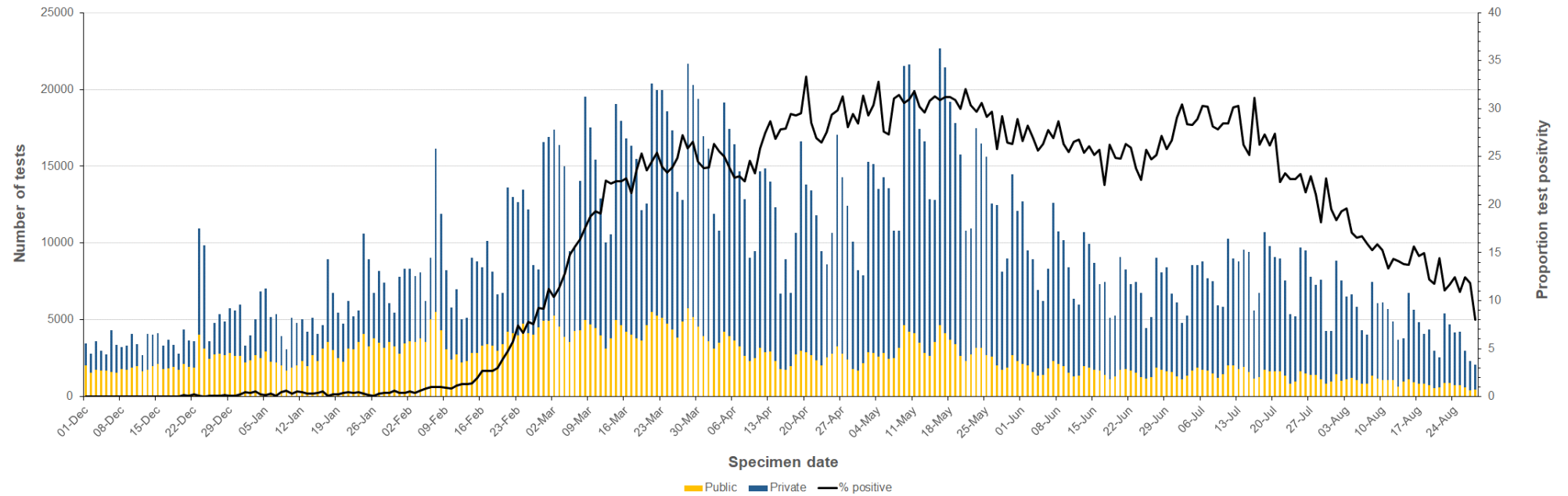
Population denominator is sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics 2020 estimates

Rate ratio is calculated as Aboriginal rate/Non-Aboriginal rate, with a 7-day average of the respective rate ratios applied to smooth the trend

Rate ratio is only plotted from 22nd February 2022 onwards due to there being too few case numbers prior to this date.

Testing data

Figure 9. The number of COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction tests and proportion positive by laboratory category and specimen date, 01 December 2021 to 28 August 2022.



Notes

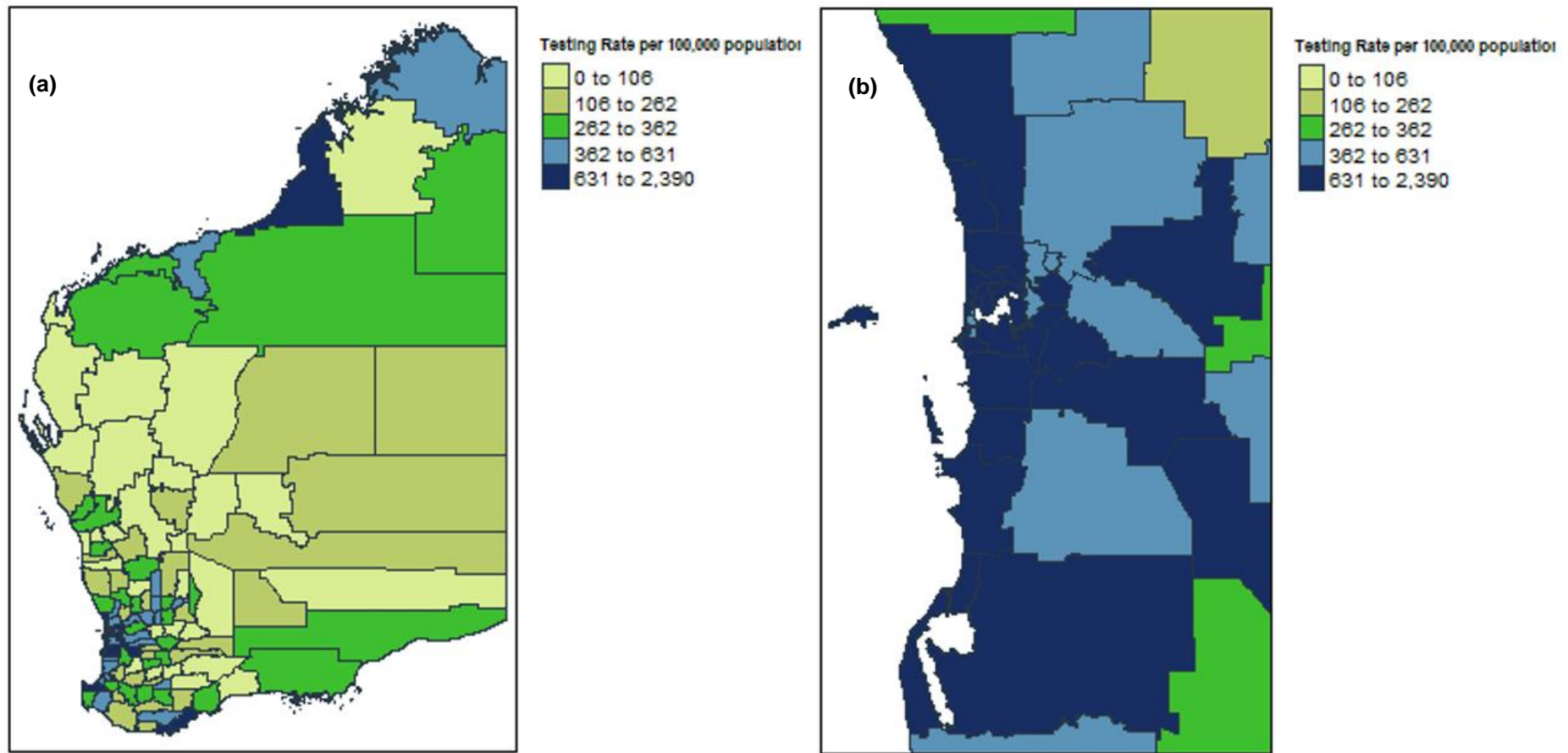
Data sourced from Western Australian public and private pathology laboratories
Specimen date refers to the date that specimen was collected
Number of tests includes both positive and negative tests.

Table 4. Number of COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction tests and testing rates, by region, Western Australia, 22 August to 28 August 2022 and 15 August to 21 August 2022.

	Region	Week 22 August to 28 August 2022		Week 15 August to 21 August 2022	
		Number for current week	Rates for current week (tests/100,000 pop)	Number for previous week	Rates for previous week (tests/100,000 pop)
WACHS Regions	Goldfields	249	462	187	347
	Great Southern	386	629	480	783
	Kimberley	178	494	195	541
	Midwest	304	490	333	537
	Pilbara	300	478	270	430
	South West	1,271	699	1,685	927
	Wheatbelt	237	311	265	348
WACHS total *		2,925	548	3,415	639
Other**		300	-	291	-
Metropolitan		22,645	1,063	26,789	1,258
Total		25,870	971	30,495	1,145

Notes
 Data sourced from Western Australian public and private pathology laboratories
 Number of tests includes both positive and negative tests
 Region of residential address for person tested
 *Western Australia Country Health Service (WACHS) includes Goldfields, Great Southern, Kimberley, Midwest, Pilbara, South West and Wheatbelt public health regions
 Total excludes WACHS*
 **Other includes overseas and interstate residential addresses
 Population denominator is sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics 2020 estimates.

Figure 10 (a). Polymerase chain reaction testing rates per 100,000 population by LGA, regional Western Australia, 22 August to 28 August 2022. (b) Polymerase chain reaction testing rates per 100,000 population by LGA, Perth metropolitan area, 22 August to 28 August 2022.



Notes

Data sourced from Western Australian pathology laboratories and includes both positive and negative tests
 RAT testing numbers could not be included due to the department only receiving positive RAT tests
 Population denominator is sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics 2020 estimates
 Testing data is represented on the map by place of usual residence for person tested (due to unavailability of data for place of test)
 Areas on the map are defined by Local Government Area (LGA) boundaries.

Appendix 1

Regional cases by postcode, 22 August – 28 August 2022

WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 22 Aug to 28 Aug 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 22 Aug to 28 Aug 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 22 Aug to 28 Aug 2022
Goldfields	6429	<5	Midwest	6514	<5	South West (continued)	6224	6
	6430	96		6515	<5		6225	52
	6431	<5		6517	<5		6226	9
	6432	29		6522	<5		6227	<5
	6436	<5		6525	8		6230	211
	6438	<5		6528	<5		6232	43
	6440	5		6530	184		6233	82
	6442	6		6532	38		6236	10
	6443	<5		6535	<5		6237	9
	6450	22		6536	<5		6239	12
	6646	<5		6537	<5		6240	<5
Great Southern	6316	10	Pilbara	6620	<5	6244	11	
	6317	21		6623	<5	6253	<5	
	6318	<5		6630	<5	6254	<5	
	6320	<5		6635	<5	6255	16	
	6324	22		6638	<5	6256	<5	
	6326	<5		6640	<5	6258	27	
	6327	<5		6642	<5	6260	<5	
	6328	<5		6701	10	6262	5	
	6330	188		6707	17	6271	14	
	6333	13		6710	14	6275	<5	
	6335	<5		6712	<5	6280	96	
	6337	<5		6713	<5	6281	33	
	6338	<5		6714	46	6282	8	
	6341	<5		6716	12	6284	7	
	6348	<5		6720	<5	6285	24	
6395	6	6721	31	6286	<5			
Kimberley	6725	53	South West	6722	42	Wheatbelt	6290	5
	6726	17		6751	7		6398	<5
	6728	26		6753	17		6041	8
	6743	10		6754	16		6044	5
	6765	<5		6760	7		6302	15
	6770	8		6220	12		6304	14
			6223	<5	6306	12		

WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 22 Aug to 28 Aug 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 22 Aug to 28 Aug 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 22 Aug to 28 Aug 2022
Wheatbelt (continued)	6308	6	Wheatbelt (continued)	6505	<5			
	6311	<5		6507	<5			
	6312	11		6510	<5			
	6313	<5		6513	<5			
	6315	10		6516	<5			
	6350	<5		6521	<5			
	6353	<5		6560	9			
	6355	<5		6562	5			
	6359	<5		6564	<5			
	6361	<5		6566	5			
	6367	<5		6567	<5			
	6369	<5		6569	<5			
	6370	7		6571	<5			
	6375	6		6603	<5			
	6383	<5		6609	<5			
	6390	<5						
	6391	<5						
	6392	<5						
	6401	33						
	6403	<5						
	6405	<5						
	6407	<5						
	6410	13						
	6411	<5						
	6415	16						
	6418	6						
	6426	<5						
	6460	<5						
	6466	<5						
	6475	<5						
	6477	<5						
	6485	<5						
6490	<5							
6502	6							
6503	8							

Notes

Data sourced from Western Australia Department of Health dataset

Exact number of cases less than 5 not reported for confidentiality

Notification date refers to data collected up to the end of the 24-hour reporting period 8pm to 8pm

The reporting period transitioned to a 6pm to 6pm cycle from 18th June 2022 inclusive

Cases include all cases whose source of infection is classified as 'locally acquired', 'interstate acquired', 'overseas acquired' and 'source under investigation'

Case data is based on the residential postcode of each case. The case may have an isolation address based in another regional postcode.

Case data includes those determined by both polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests and rapid antigen tests (RAT)

*Western Australia Country Health Service (WACHS) includes Goldfields, Great Southern, Kimberley, Midwest, Pilbara, South West and Wheatbelt public health regions

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