



# COVID-19 Weekly Surveillance Report

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## Summary for the week 15 August to 21 August 2022 (inclusive)

In the week of 15 August to 21 August 2022 there were:

- 12,313 COVID-19 cases reported
  - 4,318 with positive polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests
  - 7,995 with positive rapid antigen tests (RAT)
  - 11,621 locally acquired, 326 interstate acquired, 366 overseas acquired
  - 1,162 were reinfections (see definition in Table 2)
- 81 new hospital admissions and 1 transfer into an intensive care unit
- 23 deaths reported, aged between 50 to 103 years old
- 30,495 COVID-19 PCR tests conducted

### Surveillance summary

There was a 19% 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 yet remaining relatively high over the course of the week. The 7-day average test positivity was 13.9%.

Overall, **case numbers** decreased by 23% compared to the previous week. Cases diagnosed by PCR and RAT decreased by 20% and 25% 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 Goldfields regions have the highest case rates. The rates in the Perth metropolitan area are tracking approximately 6% 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 except in those aged 70+ where rates remain steady. The case rate per 100,000 population is decreasing across all jurisdictions, with New South Wales and Tasmania having the highest case rates.

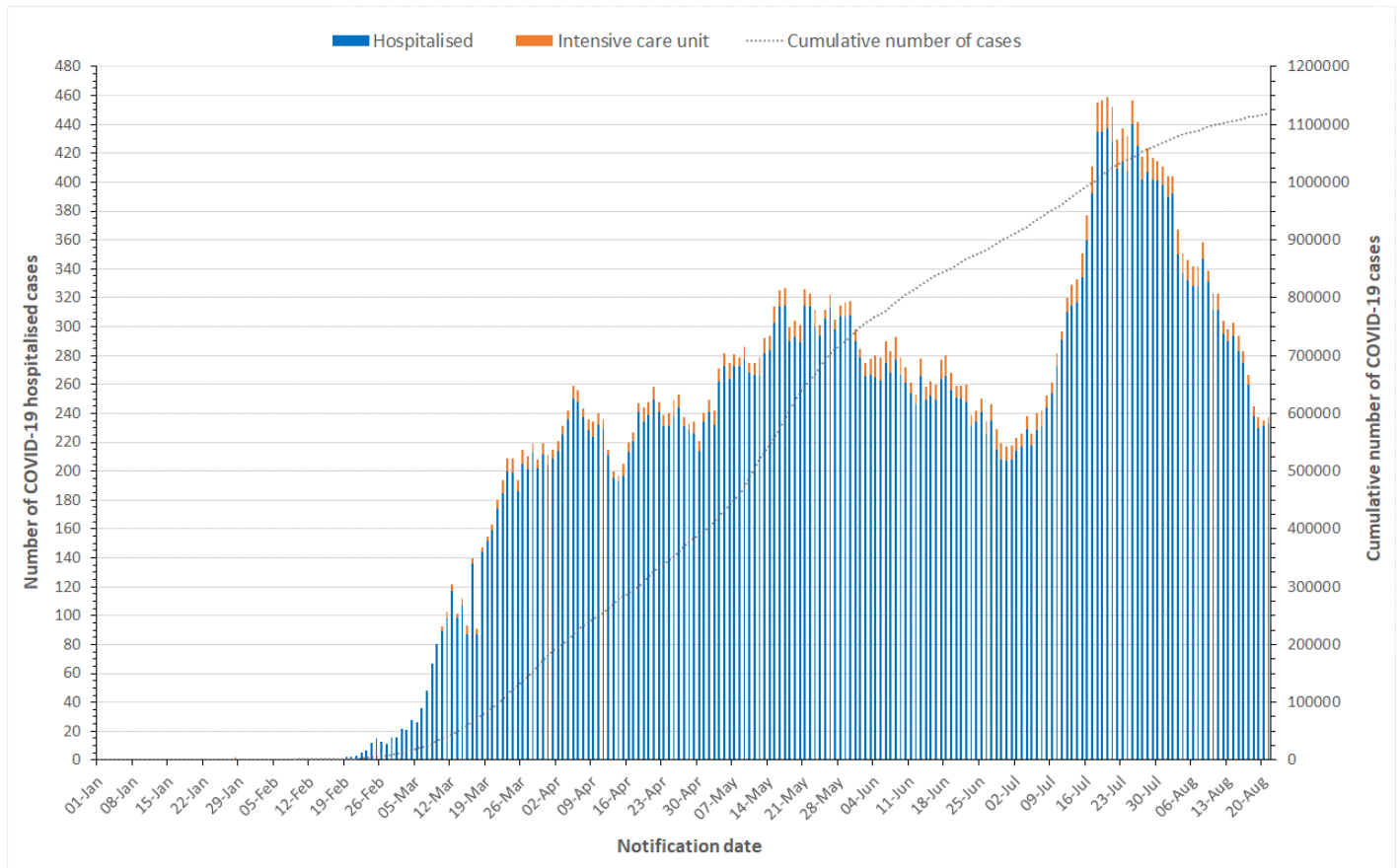
The 7-day average of **hospitalised cases** and **intensive care unit cases** decreased by 20% and 28% respectively, compared to the previous reporting week. New hospital admissions and intensive care unit transfers related to COVID-19 decreased by 25% and 80%, respectively, compared to the previous reporting week.

There was a 64% increase in **deaths** reported in the current reporting week compared to the previous reporting week.

There were 562 cases in the **Aboriginal population** during the current reporting week, a 14% 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 1.14 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 21 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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, 15 August to 21 August 2022 and 01 January to 21 August 2022.**

	Week 15 Aug – 21 Aug 2022	01 Jan 2022 – 21 Aug 2022
<b>Number of COVID-19 vaccine doses</b>	<b>Deaths n=23</b>	<b>Deaths n=562</b>
<b>0</b>	4 (17.4%)	121 (21.5%)
<b>1</b>	2 (8.7%)	26 (4.6%)
<b>2</b>	2 (8.7%)	78 (13.9%)
<b>3+</b>	15 (65.2%)	337 (60.0%)
<b>Age group (years)</b>		
<b>0-9</b>	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
<b>10-19</b>	0 (0%)	2 (0.4%)
<b>20-29</b>	0 (0%)	1 (0.2%)
<b>30-39</b>	0 (0%)	4 (0.7%)
<b>40-49</b>	0 (0%)	8 (1.4%)
<b>50-59</b>	1 (4.4%)	25 (4.4%)
<b>60-69</b>	3 (13.0%)	50 (8.9%)
<b>70-79</b>	4 (17.4%)	95 (16.9%)
<b>80-89</b>	9 (39.1%)	212 (37.7%)
<b>90+</b>	6 (26.1%)	165 (29.4%)

**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 19<sup>th</sup> August 2022 – 83.6% 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

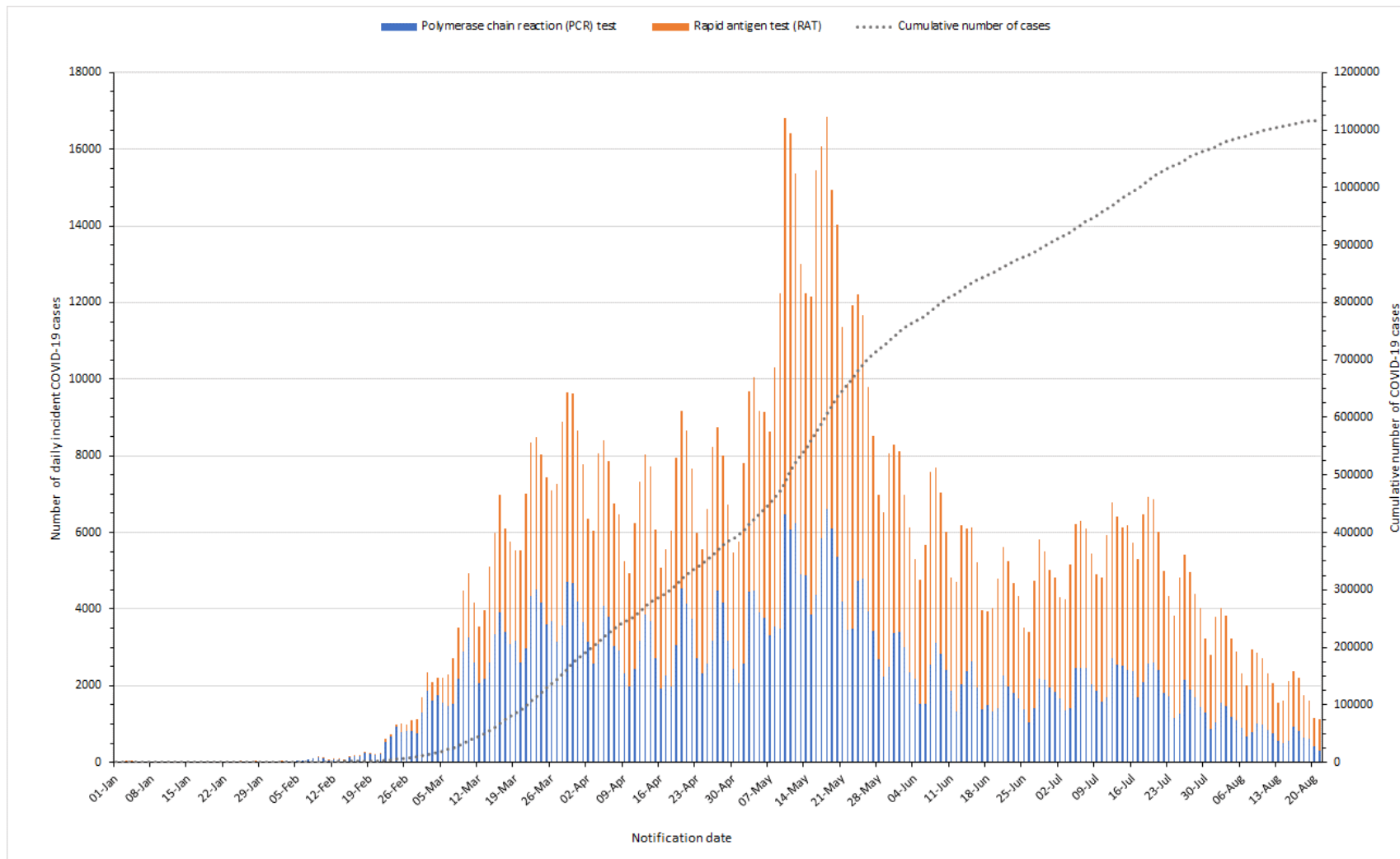
The reporting period transitioned to a 6pm to 6pm cycle from 18<sup>th</sup> June 2022 inclusive

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 21 August 2022.



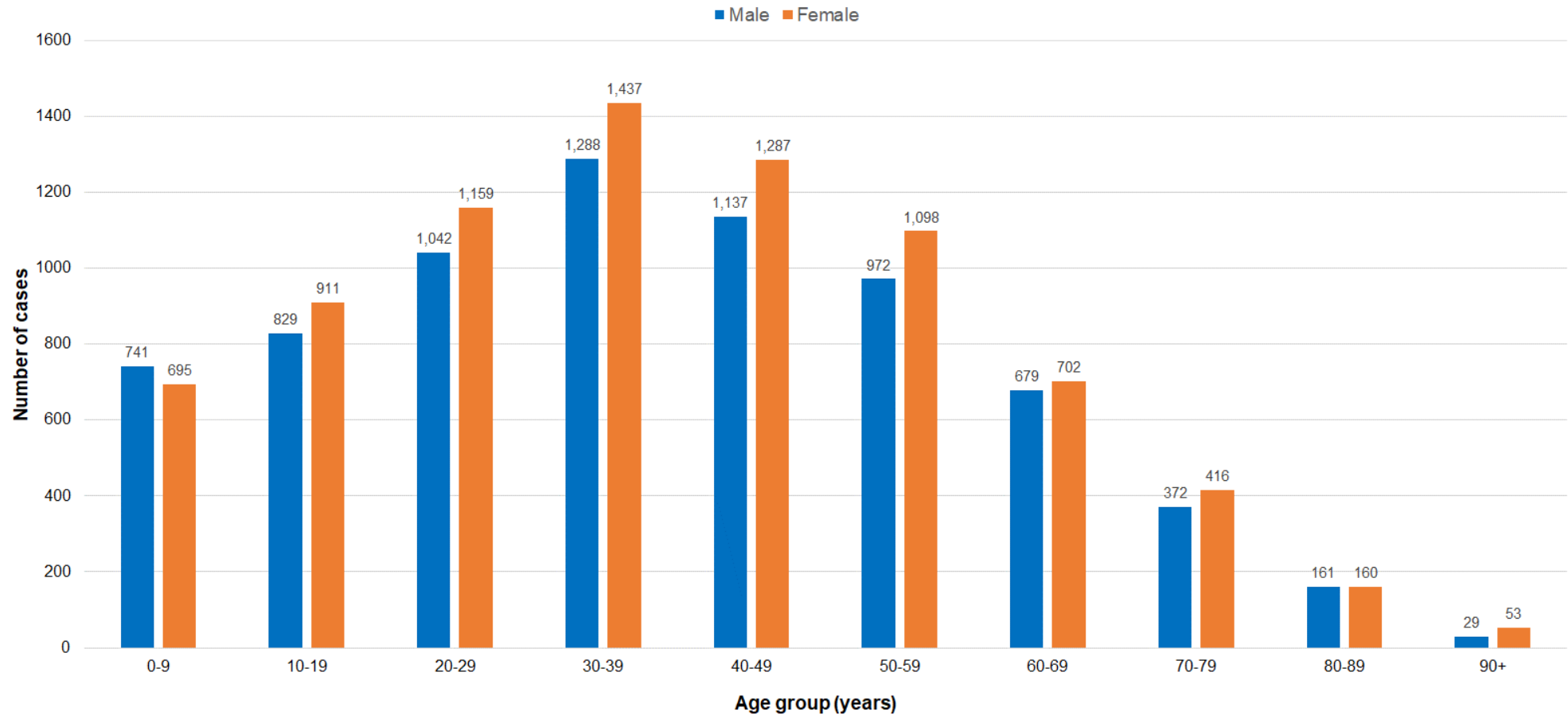
### Notes

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 18<sup>th</sup> June 2022 inclusive.

**Figure 3. COVID-19 cases by age group and sex, Western Australia, 15 August to 21 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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=7,250 (47.8%) Females: n=7,918 (52.2%)
- Median age = 38.5 years; range: 0 to 103 years

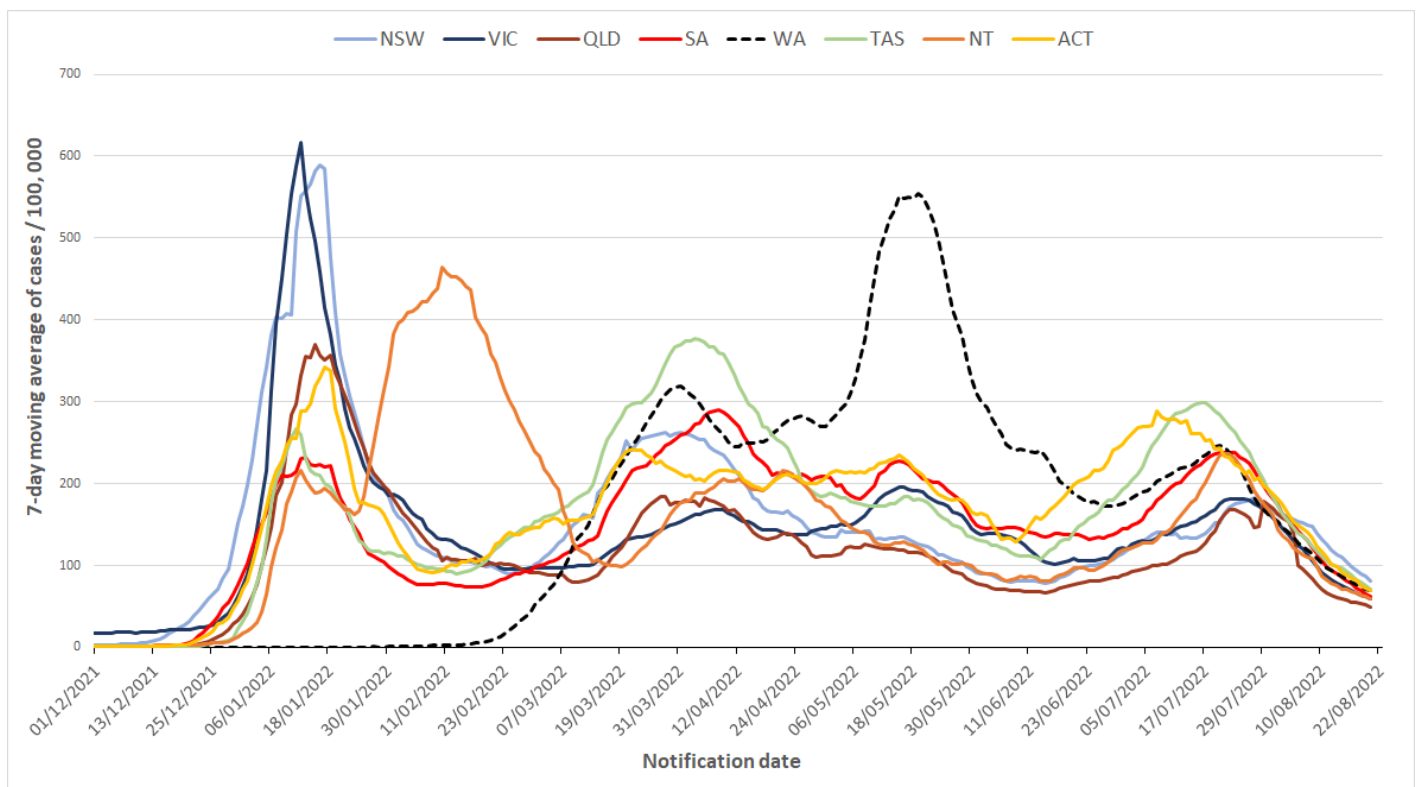
**Table 2. COVID-19 reinfections in Western Australia, 02 March to 21 August 2022.**

Month	Number of reinfections *
Mar-2022	14
Apr-2022	28
May-2022	113
Jun-2022	874
Jul-2022	5038
Aug-2022 ^	3978
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,045</b>

\* Reinfection definition as per Series of National Guidelines (SoNGs) published by the Communicable Disease Network Australia (CDNA): between 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022 and 8<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> August to 21<sup>st</sup> August inclusive

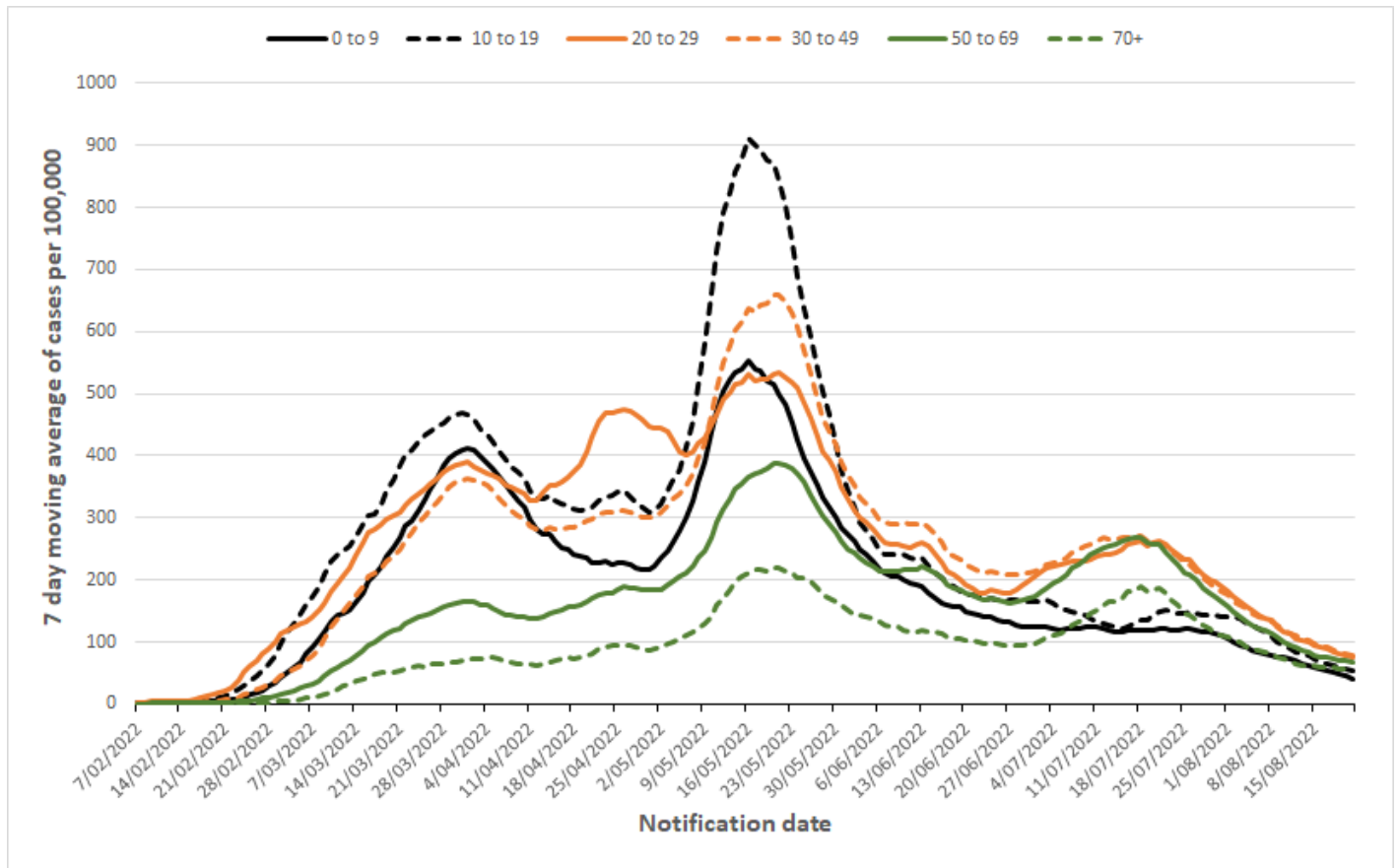
**Figure 4. 7-day moving average of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people, by Australian jurisdiction, 01 December 2021 to 21 August 2022.**



**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 18<sup>th</sup> June 2022 inclusive  
 Population denominator is sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics December 2021 estimates.

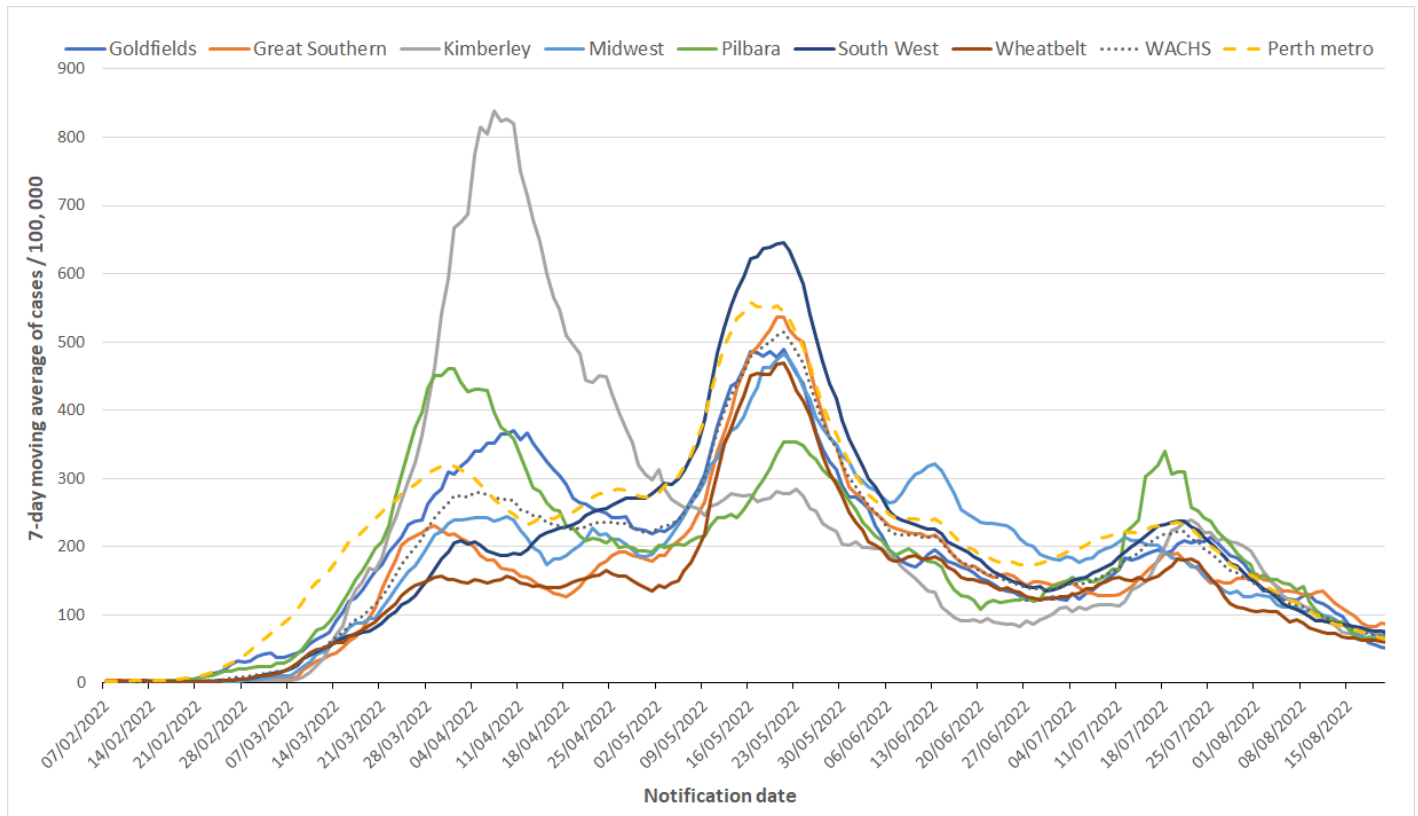
**Figure 5. 7-day moving average of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 by age group, Western Australia, 08 February to 21 August 2022.**



**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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 21 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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, 15 August to 21 August 2022 and 07 August to 14 August 2022.**

	Region	Week 15 August to 21 August 2022		Week 07 August to 14 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)
<b>WACHS Regions</b>	<b>Goldfields</b>	191	354	373	691
	<b>Great Southern</b>	369	602	472	770
	<b>Kimberley</b>	194	538	189	524
	<b>Midwest</b>	317	511	375	604
	<b>Pilbara</b>	247	393	339	540
	<b>South West</b>	932	513	1105	608
	<b>Wheatbelt</b>	313	411	364	478
<b>WACHS total*</b>		<b>2563</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>3217</b>	<b>602</b>
<b>Other**</b>		209	-	258	-
<b>Metropolitan</b>		9,541	448	12,604	592
<b>Total</b>		<b>12,313</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>16,079</b>	<b>604</b>

**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 18<sup>th</sup> 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

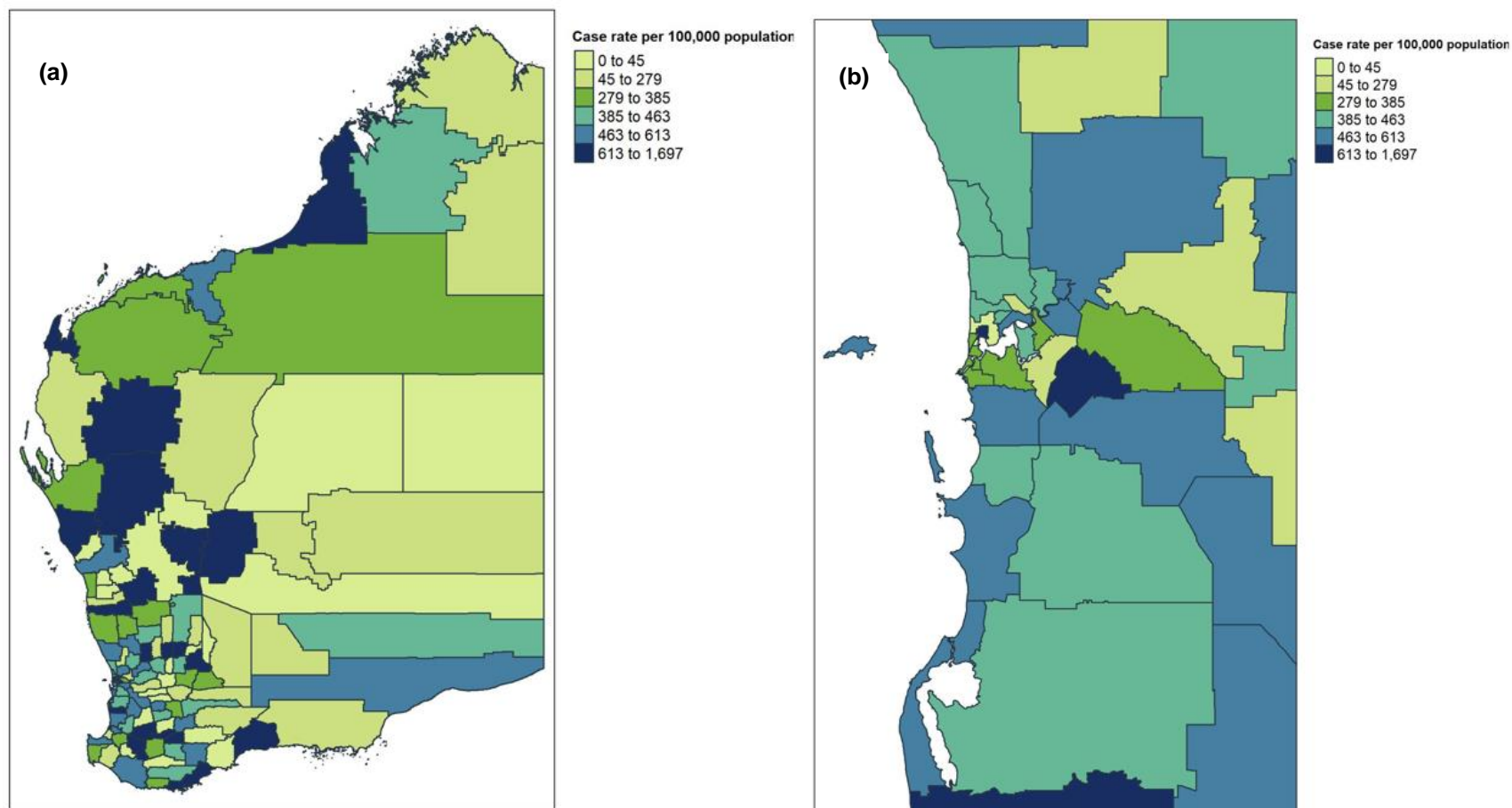
Total excludes WACHS\*

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, 15 August to 21 August 2022. (b) Locally acquired COVID-19 case rates per 100,000 population by LGA, Perth metropolitan area, 15 August to 21 August 2022.

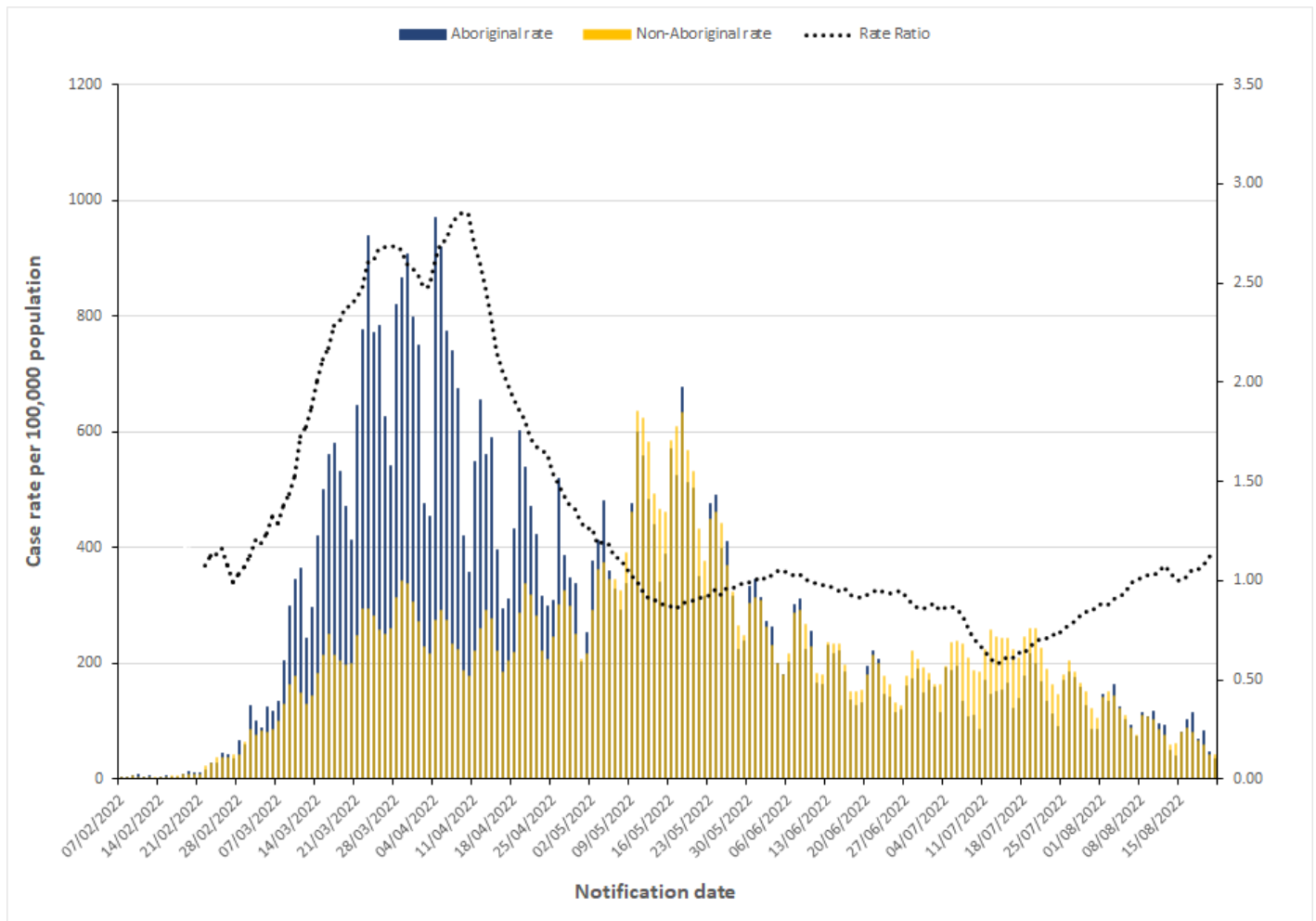


**Notes**

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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 21 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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)

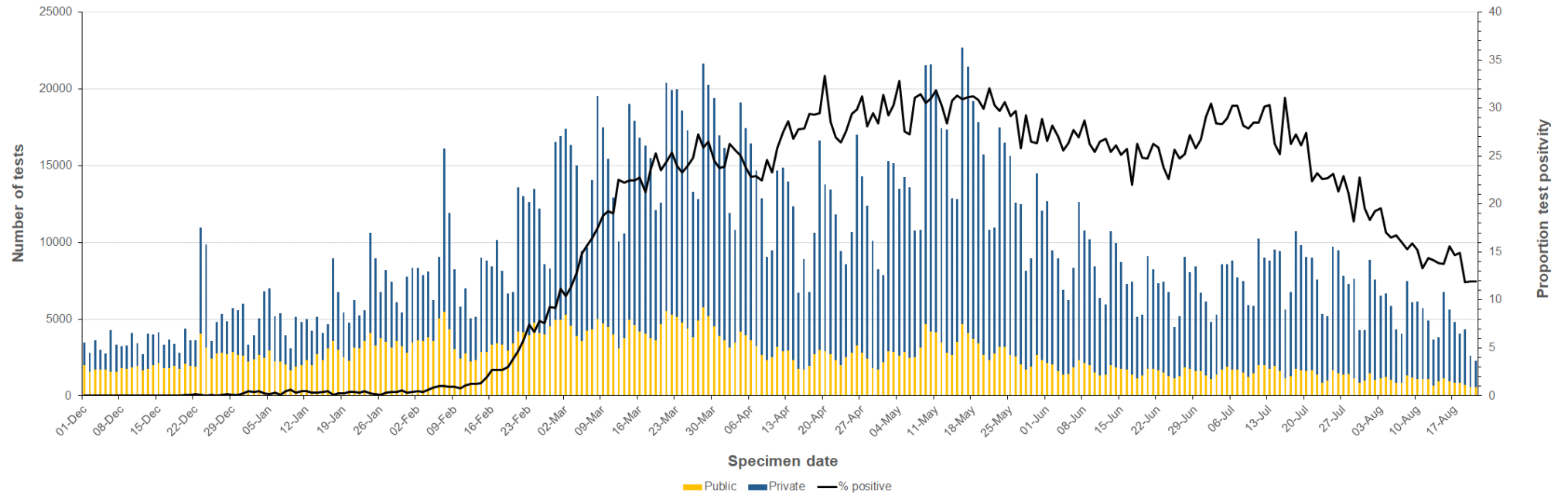
Population denominator is sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics 2020 estimates

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 21 August 2022.



### Notes

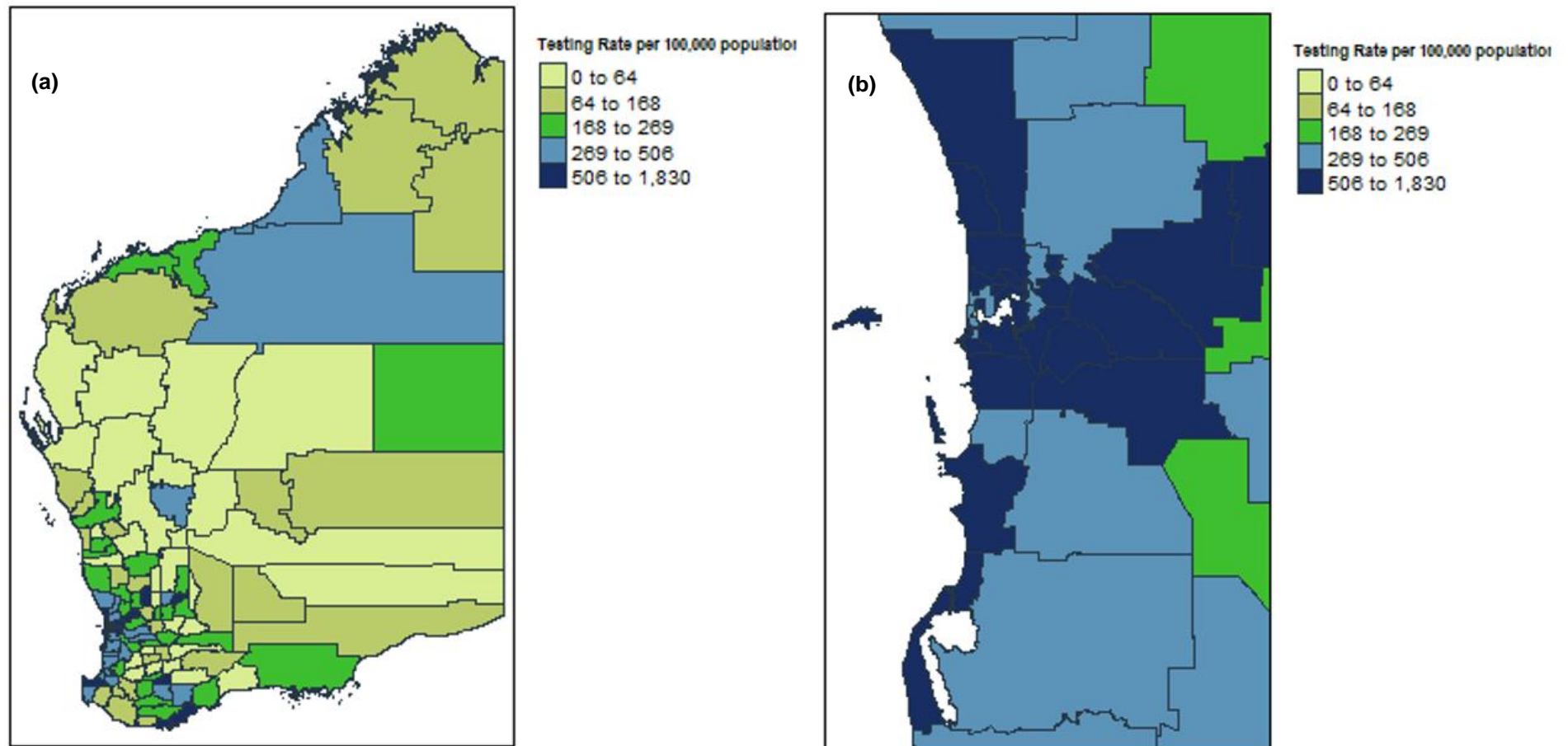
Data sourced from Western Australian public and private pathology laboratories  
Specimen date refers to the date that specimen was collected  
Number of tests includes both positive and negative tests.

**Table 4. Number of COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction tests and testing rates, by region, Western Australia, 15 August to 21 August 2022 and 08 August to 15 August 2022.**

	Region	Week 15 August to 21 August 2022		Week 08 August to 14 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)
<b>WACHS Regions</b>	<b>Goldfields</b>	187	347	347	643
	<b>Great Southern</b>	480	783	477	778
	<b>Kimberley</b>	195	541	214	594
	<b>Midwest</b>	333	537	302	487
	<b>Pilbara</b>	270	430	522	831
	<b>South West</b>	1,685	927	1,979	1,089
	<b>Wheatbelt</b>	265	348	474	622
<b>WACHS total *</b>		3,415	639	4,315	808
<b>Other**</b>		291	-	331	-
<b>Metropolitan</b>		26,789	1,258	33,145	1,557
<b>Total</b>		30,495	1,145	37,791	1,419

**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, 15 August to 21 August 2022. (b) Polymerase chain reaction testing rates per 100,000 population by LGA, Perth metropolitan area, 15 August to 21 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, 15 August – 21 August 2022

WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 15 Aug to 21 Aug 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 15 Aug to 21 Aug 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 15 Aug to 21 Aug 2022
Goldfields	872	<5	Midwest	6514	9	South West (continued)	6224	6
	6429	<5		6517	<5		6225	35
	6430	104		6525	11		6227	<5
	6432	30		6528	<5		6228	<5
	6438	2		6530	191		6230	269
	6440	<5		6532	43		6232	60
	6442	6		6535	<5		6233	110
	6443	<5		6537	<5		6236	5
	6446	<5		6620	<5		6237	22
	6448	3		6623	6		6239	17
	6450	35		6630	<5		6240	<5
Great Southern	6316	4	Pilbara	6635	<5	6244	5	
	6317	35		6638	7	6251	<5	
	6318	<5		6639	<5	6253	<5	
	6320	<5		6642	2	6254	<5	
	6323	<5		6701	11	6255	18	
	6324	17		6705	3	6258	22	
	6326	<5		6707	19	6260	5	
	6330	258		6710	11	6262	8	
	6333	21		6712	5	6271	12	
	6335	<5		6713	5	6275	<5	
	6336	<5		6714	73	6280	158	
	6337	<5		6716	5	6281	58	
	6338	<5		6720	11	6282	8	
	6348	6		6721	22	6284	6	
	6394	<5		6722	56	6285	44	
6395	7	6751	9	6286	5			
Kimberley	6725	115	South West	6753	34	Wheatbelt	6288	<5
	6726	21		6754	12		6290	9
	6728	33		6760	<5		6398	10
	6740	<5		6762	<5		6041	7
	6743	13		6220	23		6042	<5
	6765	4		6221	<5		6043	9
	6770	7		6223	<5		6044	6



WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 15 Aug to 21 Aug 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 15 Aug to 21 Aug 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 15 Aug to 21 Aug 2022
Wheatbelt (continued)	6302	18	Wheatbelt (continued)	6460	5			
	6304	<5		6461	<5			
	6308	3		6466	5			
	6311	<5		6475	<5			
	6312	21		6476	<5			
	6313	<5		6477	<5			
	6315	<5		6479	<5			
	6350	<5		6485	5			
	6352	<5		6487	<5			
	6353	<5		6488	<5			
	6356	<5		6501	<5			
	6359	<5		6502	<5			
	6361	<5		6503	5			
	6363	<5		6505	<5			
	6365	<5		6507	<5			
	6369	<5		6510	6			
	6372	<5		6511	<5			
	6375	<5		6512	<5			
	6385	<5		6516	8			
	6390	7		6521	<5			
	6391	<5		6560	7			
	6392	<5		6562	6			
	6393	<5		6566	19			
	6401	48		6568	<5			
	6403	<5		6569	<5			
	6405	<5		6575	<5			
	6407	5		6603	14			
	6409	<5		6609	<5			
	6410	<5		6612	<5			
	6411	<5						
	6415	21						
	6418	<5						
6419	<5							
6420	<5							
6426	<5							

## 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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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