



COVID-19 Weekly Surveillance Report

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Summary for the week 05 December to 11 December 2022 (inclusive)

In the week of 05 November to 11 December 2022 there were:

- 12,250 COVID-19 cases reported
 - 2,119 with positive polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests
 - 10,131 with positive rapid antigen tests (RAT)
 - 2,789 were reinfections (see definition in Table 2)
- 24 deaths reported, aged between 59 and 98 years old
- 9,900 COVID-19 PCR tests conducted

Surveillance summary

This week, **case numbers** increased by 4% compared to the previous week. Cases diagnosed by PCR increased by 4% and by RAT increased by 4%. **Reinfections** comprised 23% of total cases this week, compared with 20% last week.

There was a 2% decrease in **PCR tests** conducted compared to the previous week, with a 7-day average test positive rate for PCR tests of 23.2%.

The moving seven-day average **case rates** per 100,000 population increased in all regions except the Metropolitan region. The seven-day average case rate for the Perth metropolitan area (67 cases/100,000 population) was approximately 70% higher than the Western Australia Country Health Service (WACHS) regions combined (40 cases/100,000 population).

The highest seven-day average **age-specific rates** were in the 50 - 69 years age group (74 cases/100,000 population), with the lowest rates in the 0 – 9 years age group (28 cases/100,000 population).

Nationally, the moving seven-day average case rates increased across all jurisdictions, with Tasmania having the highest rate (107 cases/100,000 population) and Queensland the lowest rate (34 cases/100,000 population).

The 7-day average of **hospitalised cases** increased by 13% from 188 last week to 213 this week. **Intensive care unit cases** increased from 5 in the last reporting week to 7 this week.

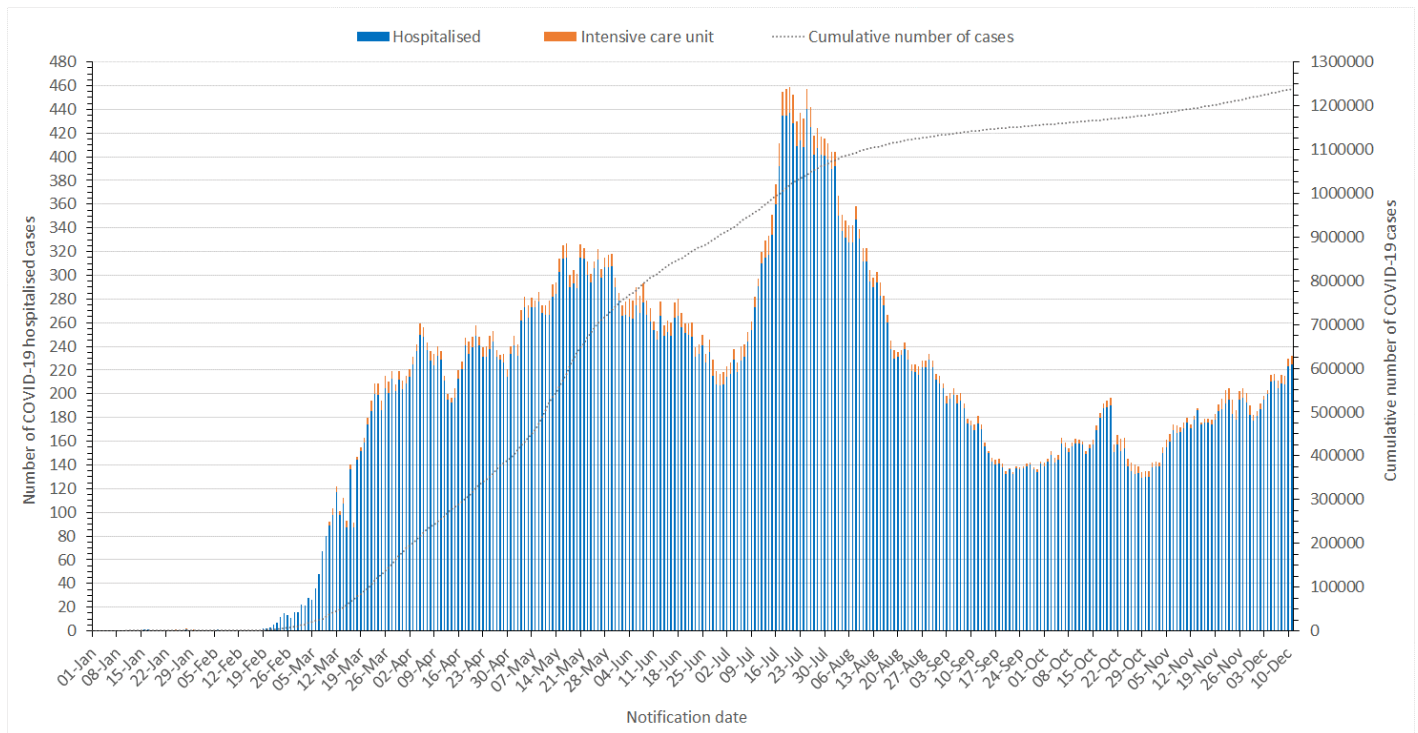
Deaths increased by 60% this reporting week with 24 deaths compared to 15 last week.

This week, 355 cases were reported in the **Aboriginal population**, an 18% increase compared to last week. Case rates in the Aboriginal population were lower compared to the non-Aboriginal population, with the 7-day average rate ratio sitting at 0.73 this reporting week. No deaths were reported in the Aboriginal population this week.

Note: Data for COVID-19 related new hospital admissions and new intensive care unit admissions is unavailable for this week due to technical issues within the system. We will endeavour to update this information as soon as the issue is resolved.

Hospitalisations, intensive care unit (ICU) inpatients and deaths

Figure 1. Number of active and cleared COVID-19 cases currently in hospital or in ICU, and cumulative number of COVID-19 notifications by notification date, 01 January to 11 December 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 and then to a 4pm to 4pm cycle from 24th August 2022
 '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
 The definition of COVID-19 related hospitalisation was updated on 21 October 2022 to exclude cases where more than 60 days have passed since their positive COVID-19 test. This new definition more accurately captures cases in whom COVID-19 may have contributed to their reason for ongoing hospitalisation. Data reported after 21 October cannot be compared directly to data recorded prior to that date.

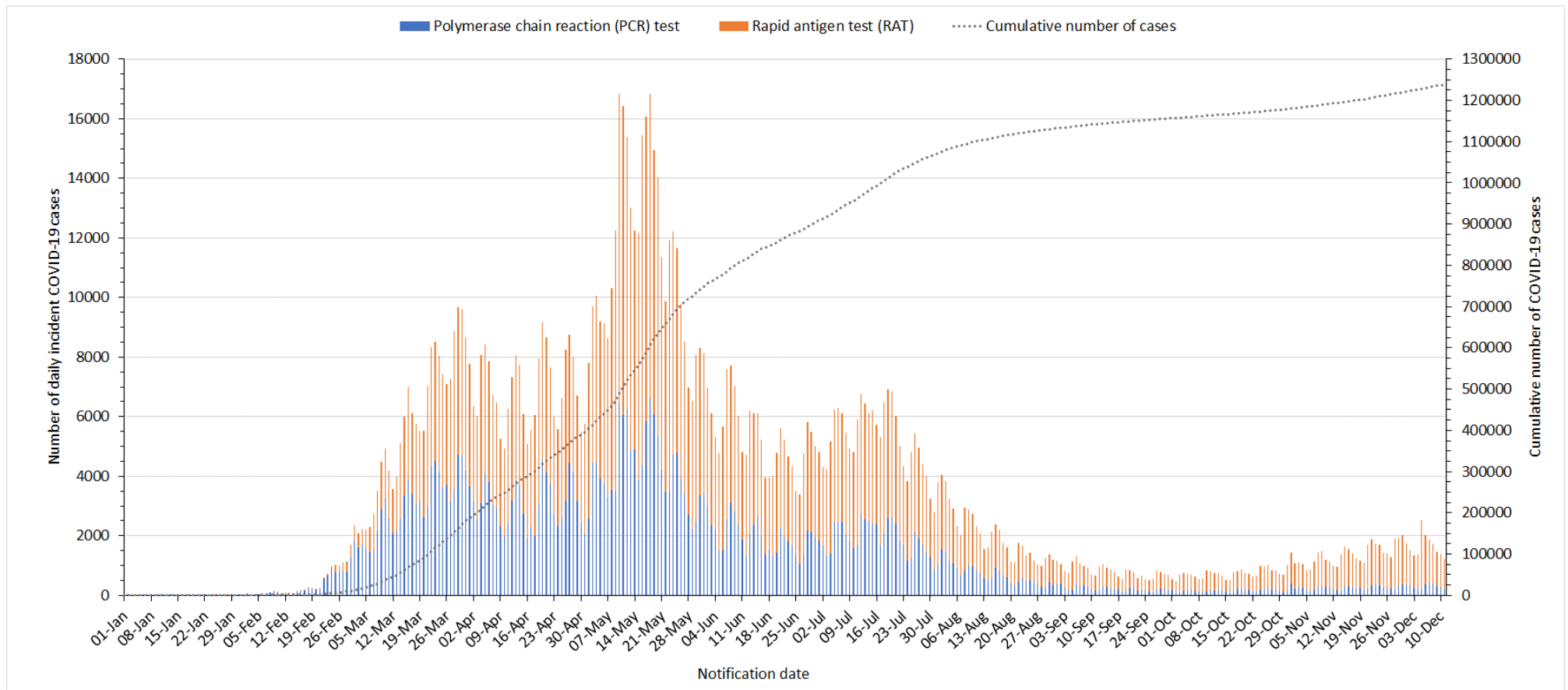
Table 1. Number of COVID-19 related deaths by vaccination status and age group, 05 December to 11 December 2022 and 01 January to 11 December 2022.

	Current report week	Year to date
	Week 05 Dec – 11 Dec 2022	01 Jan 2022 – 11 Dec 2022
Number of COVID-19 vaccine doses	Deaths (n= 24)	Deaths (n= 786)
0	2 (8.3%)	144 (18.3%)
1	0 (0%)	27 (3.4%)
2	7 (29.2%)	103 (13.1%)
3+	15 (62.5%)	512 (65.2%)
Age group (years)		
0-9	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
10-19	0 (0%)	2 (0.3%)
20-29	0 (0%)	1 (0.1%)
30-39	0 (0%)	4 (0.5%)
40-49	0 (0%)	9 (1.1%)
50-59	1 (4.2%)	28 (3.6%)
60-69	1 (4.2%)	55 (7.0%)
70-79	4 (16.6%)	143 (18.2%)
80-89	9 (37.5%)	300 (38.2%)
90+	9 (37.5%)	244 (31.0%)

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 9th December 2022 – 84.1% for 3+ doses, >95% for 2 doses), therefore interpretation of people whom have died with both 3+ and 2 doses requires consideration within this context.
 Deaths are counted by notification date and may include historical deaths that occurred (i.e. date of death) prior to the current report week
 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 11 December 2022.



Notes

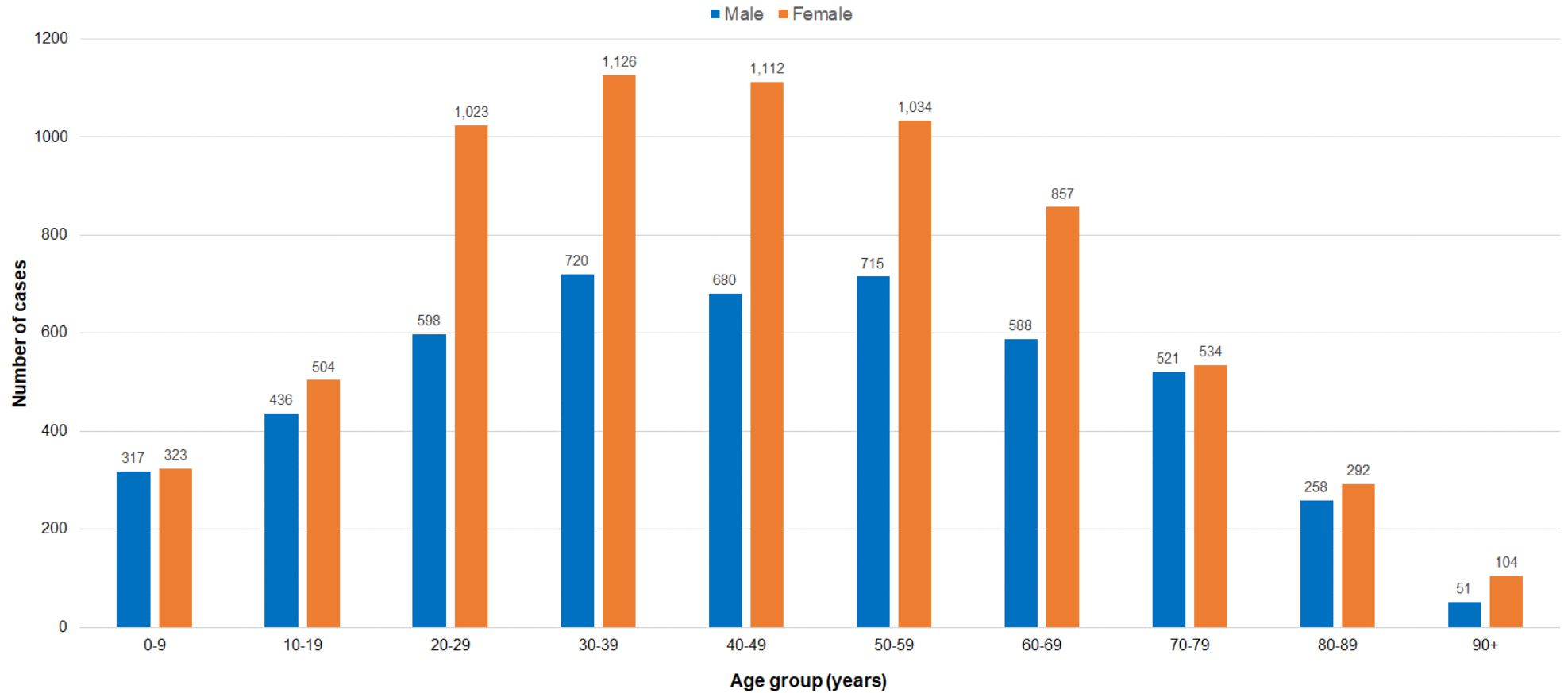
Data sourced from Western Australia Department of Health dataset

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 and then to a 4pm to 4pm cycle from 24th August 2022

COVID-19 cases diagnosed on cruise vessels in WA are included in report weeks ending 06th November and 11th December, resulting in a larger increase in cases than would be expected on current trends. These cases were identified through enhanced surveillance processes and there was no severe disease or deaths associated with these cases.

Figure 3. COVID-19 cases by age group and sex, Western Australia, 05 December to 11 December 2022.



Notes

Data sourced from Western Australia Department of Health dataset

Sex 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=4,884 (41.4%) Females: n=6,909 (58.6%)
- Median age = 44 years; range: 0 to 106 years

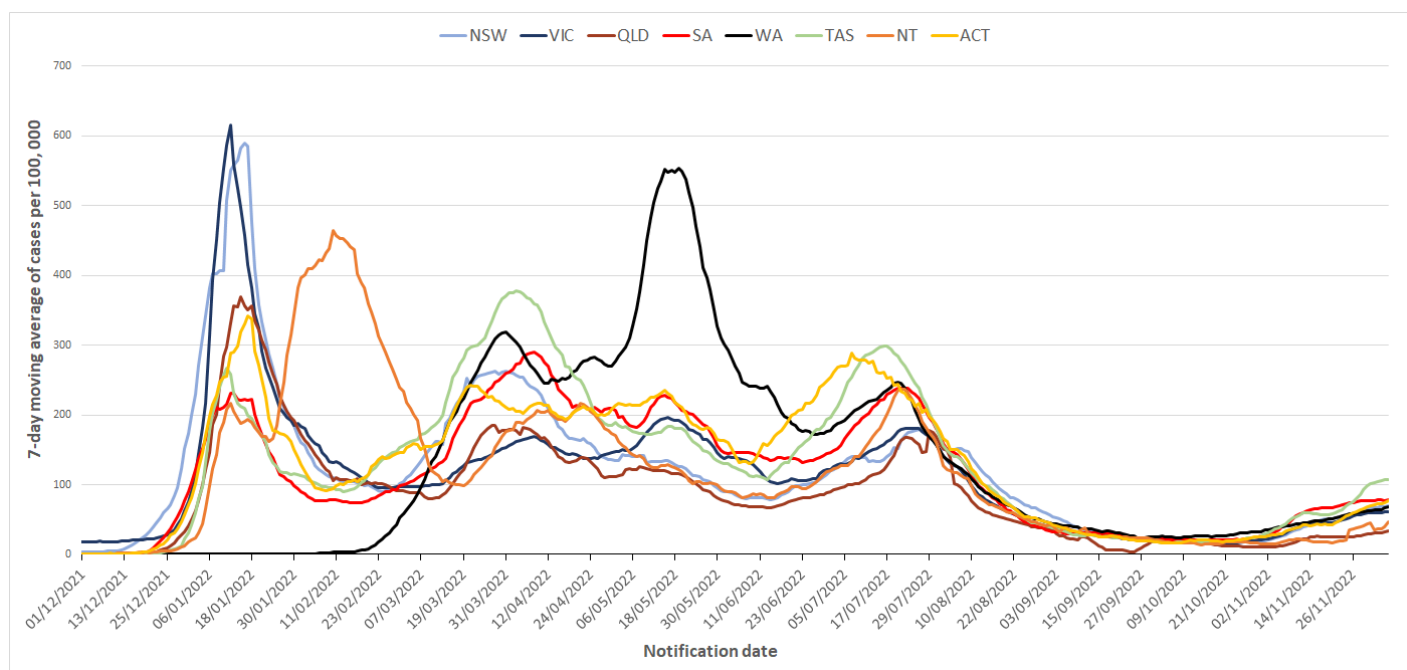
Table 2. COVID-19 reinfections in Western Australia, 02 March to 11 December 2022.

Month	Number of reinfections *
Mar-2022	14
Apr-2022	29
May-2022	105
Jun-2022	846
Jul-2022	5,041
Aug-2022	5,697
Sep-2022	4,025
Oct-2022	2,969
Nov-2022	6,978
Dec-2022[^]	4,078
Total	29,782

* Reinfection definition as per Series of National Guidelines (SoNG) 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 date, COVID-19 reinfections are defined as a positive COVID-19 test occurring 28 days after previously recovering from the virus

[^] Data from 1st December to 11th December inclusive

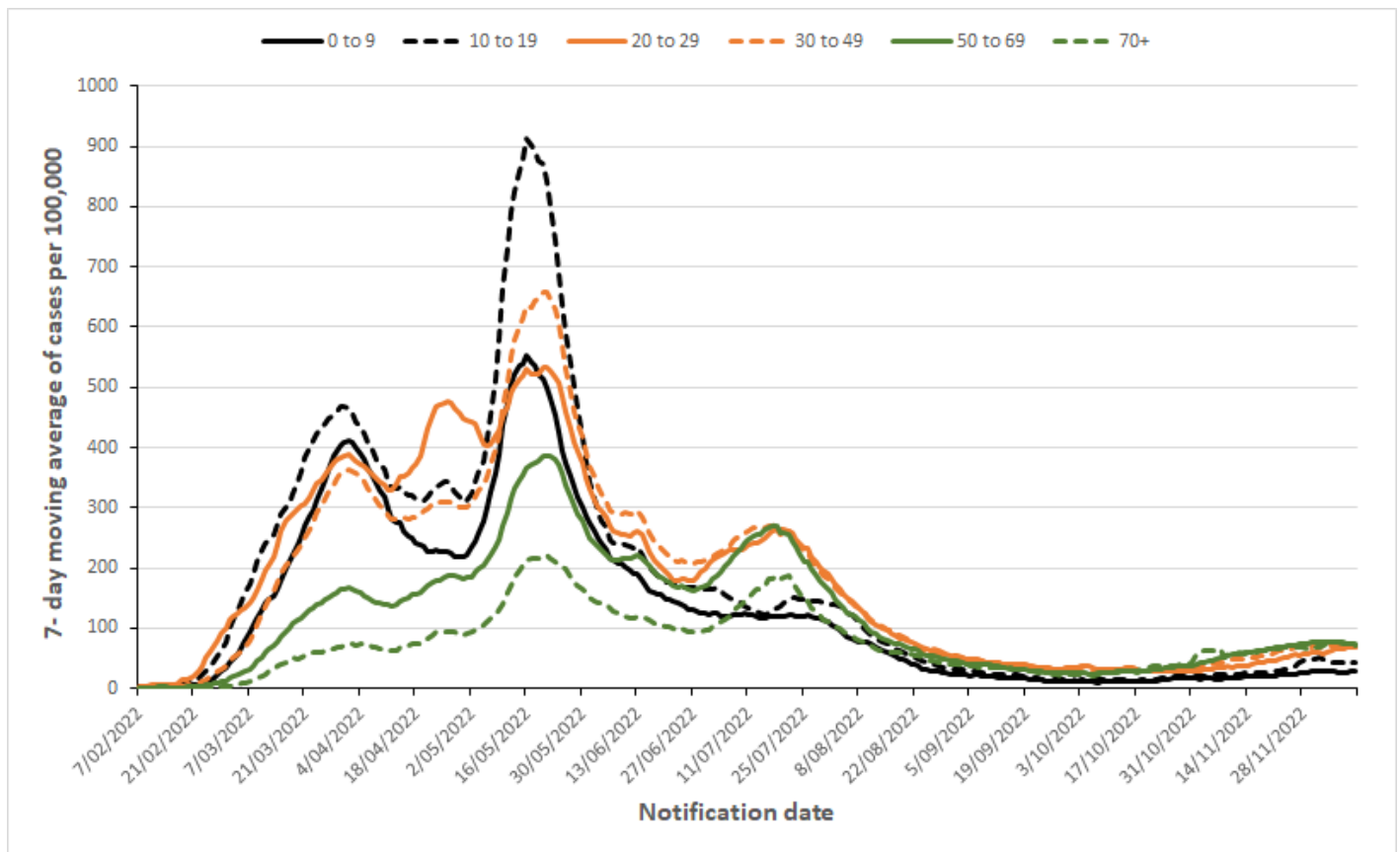
Figure 4. 7-day moving average of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population by Australian jurisdiction, 01 December 2021 to 6 December 2022.



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 and then to a 4pm to 4pm cycle from 24th August 2022
 Population denominators are 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 11 December 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 and then to a 4pm to 4pm cycle from 24th August 2022

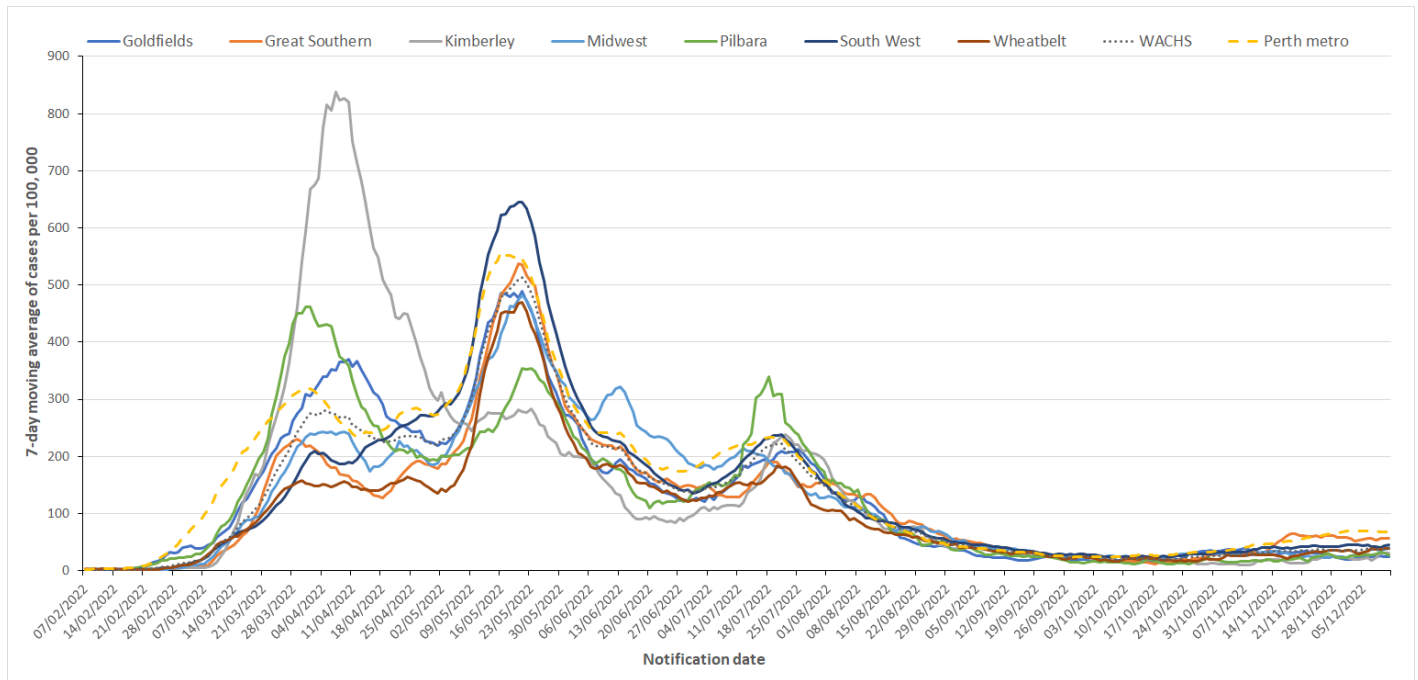
Cases include cases whose source of infection is classified as 'locally-acquired', 'interstate-acquired', 'overseas-acquired' and 'source under investigation'

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

COVID-19 cases diagnosed onboard cruise vessels in WA are included in reporting week ending 06th November, resulting in a larger increase in cases than would be expected on current trends. These cases were identified through enhanced surveillance processes and there was no severe disease or deaths associated with these cases.

Population denominator sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics June 2021 estimates.

Figure 6. 7-day moving average of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population by health region, Western Australia, 08 February 2022 to 11 December 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 and then to a 4pm to 4pm cycle from 24th August 2022
 Cases include 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 metropolitan region 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.

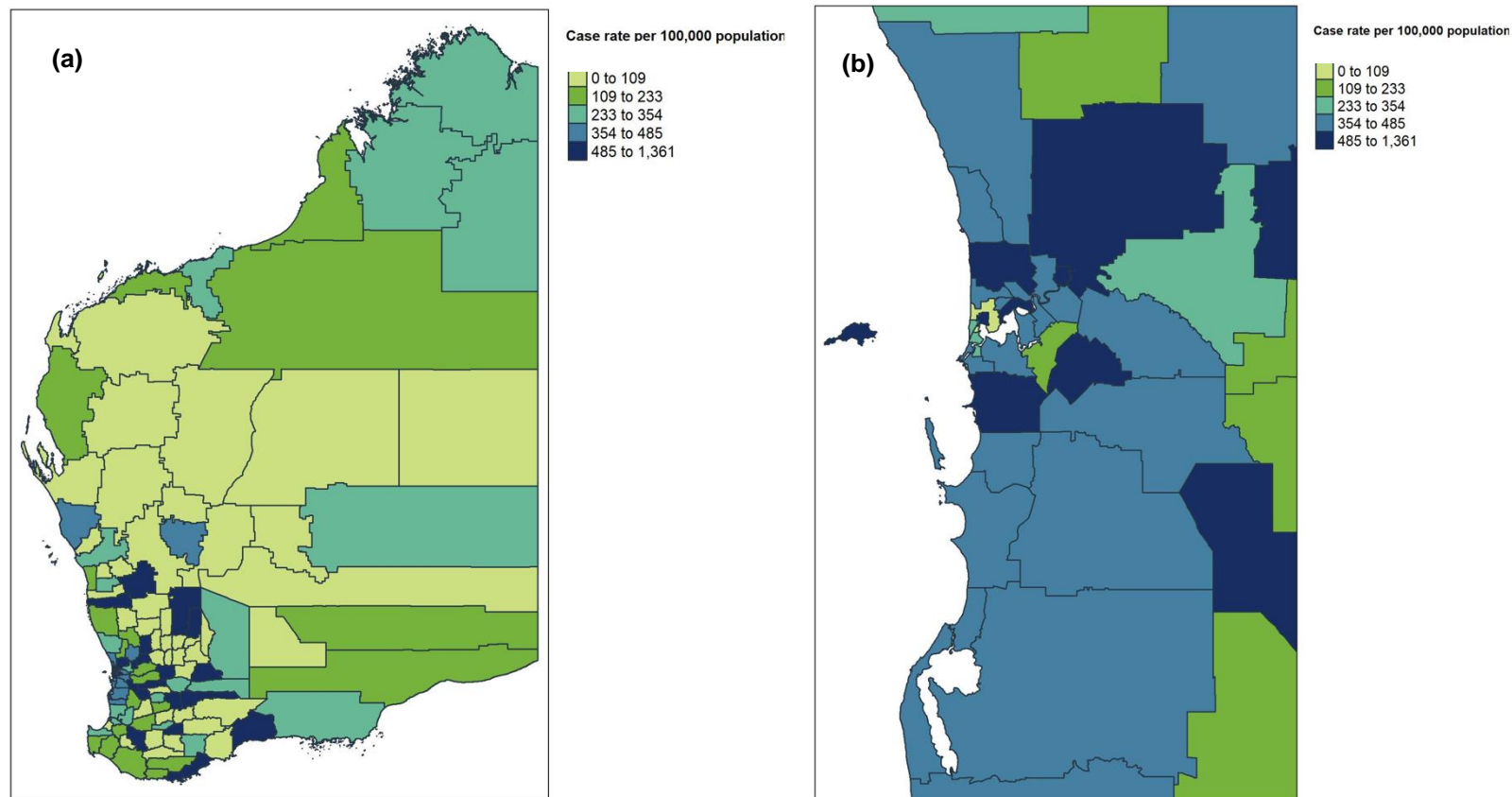
Table 3. Number of COVID-19 cases and case rates per 100,000 population by region, Western Australia, 05 December to 11 December 2022 and 28 November to 04 December 2022.

	Region	Current report week		Previous report week	
		Week 05 December to 11 December 2022		Week 28 November to 04 December 2022	
		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	93	172	78	145
	Great Southern	245	400	231	377
	Kimberley	79	219	50	139
	Midwest	167	269	134	216
	Pilbara	122	194	124	197
	South West	569	313	573	315
	Wheatbelt	209	274	160	210
WACHS total*		1,484	278	1,350	253
Other**		731	-	108	-
Perth Metropolitan region		10,035	471	10,369	487
Total		12,250	460	11,827	444

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 and then to a 4pm to 4pm cycle from 24th August 2022
 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 COVID-19 cases diagnosed by either polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests and/or 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*
 Perth Metropolitan region includes East Metropolitan Health Service, North Metropolitan Health Service and South Metropolitan Health Service combined
 **Other includes cases with overseas and interstate residential addresses, and cases without residential address information
 COVID-19 cases diagnosed onboard cruise vessels in WA are included in reporting week ending 06th November, resulting in a larger increase in cases than would be expected on current trends. These cases were identified through enhanced surveillance processes and there was no severe disease or deaths associated with these cases
 Population denominator is sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics 2020 estimates.

Figure 7 (a). Locally acquired COVID-19 weekly case rates per 100,000 population by LGA, regional Western Australia, 05 December to 11 December 2022.

(b) Locally acquired COVID-19 weekly case rates per 100,000 population by LGA, Perth metropolitan area, 05 December to 11 December 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 and then to a 4pm to 4pm cycle from 24th August 2022

'Locally acquired' cases refers to cases where source of infection is classified as 'locally acquired' and 'source is under investigation' only (excludes interstate and overseas-acquired cases)

Cases are represented on the map according to their place of usual residence (no information for specific location of acquisition)

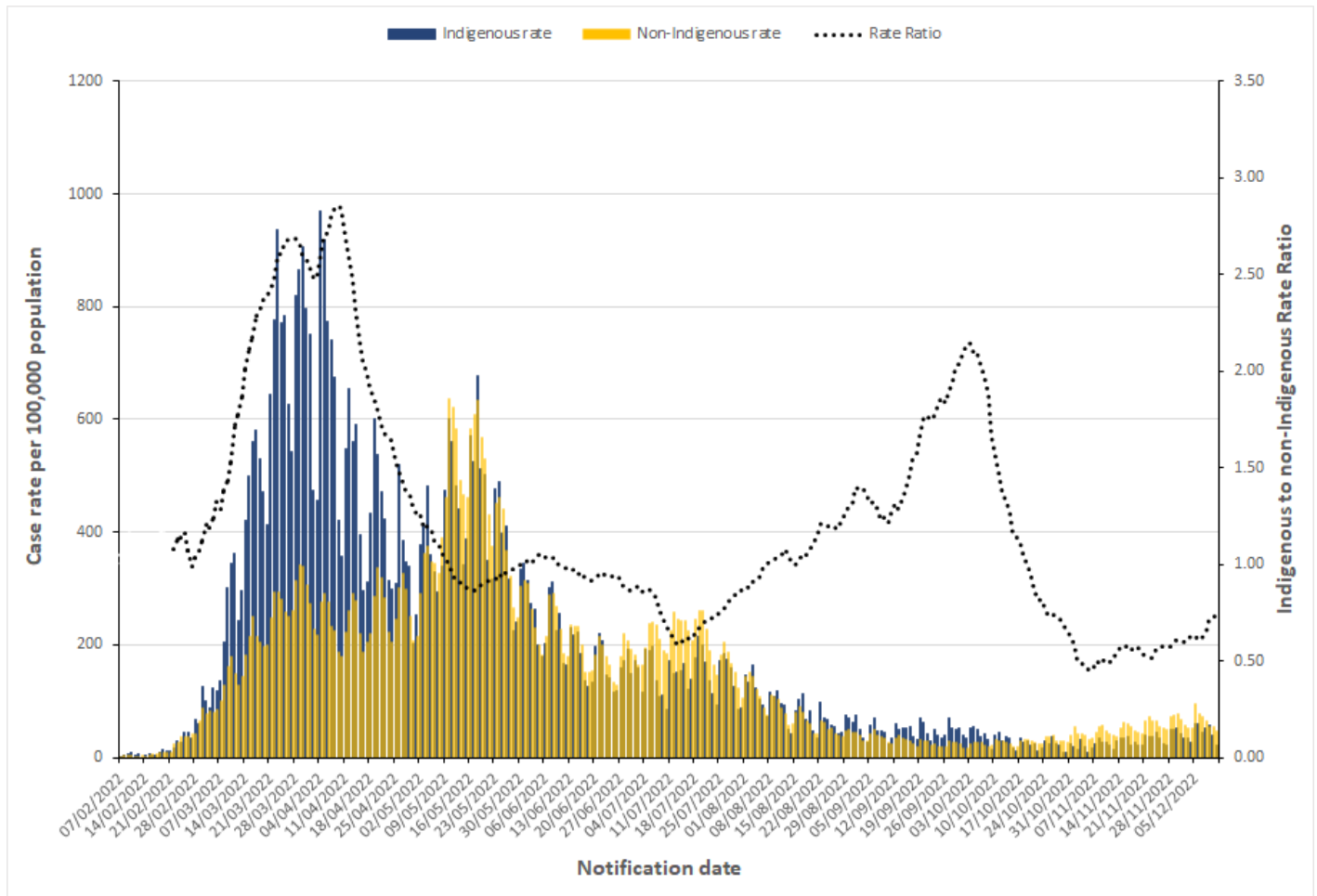
Cases include those detected by either polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests or rapid antigen tests (RAT)

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 case rates per 100,000 population and rate ratio by Indigenous status and notification date, Western Australia, 08 February to 11 December 2022.

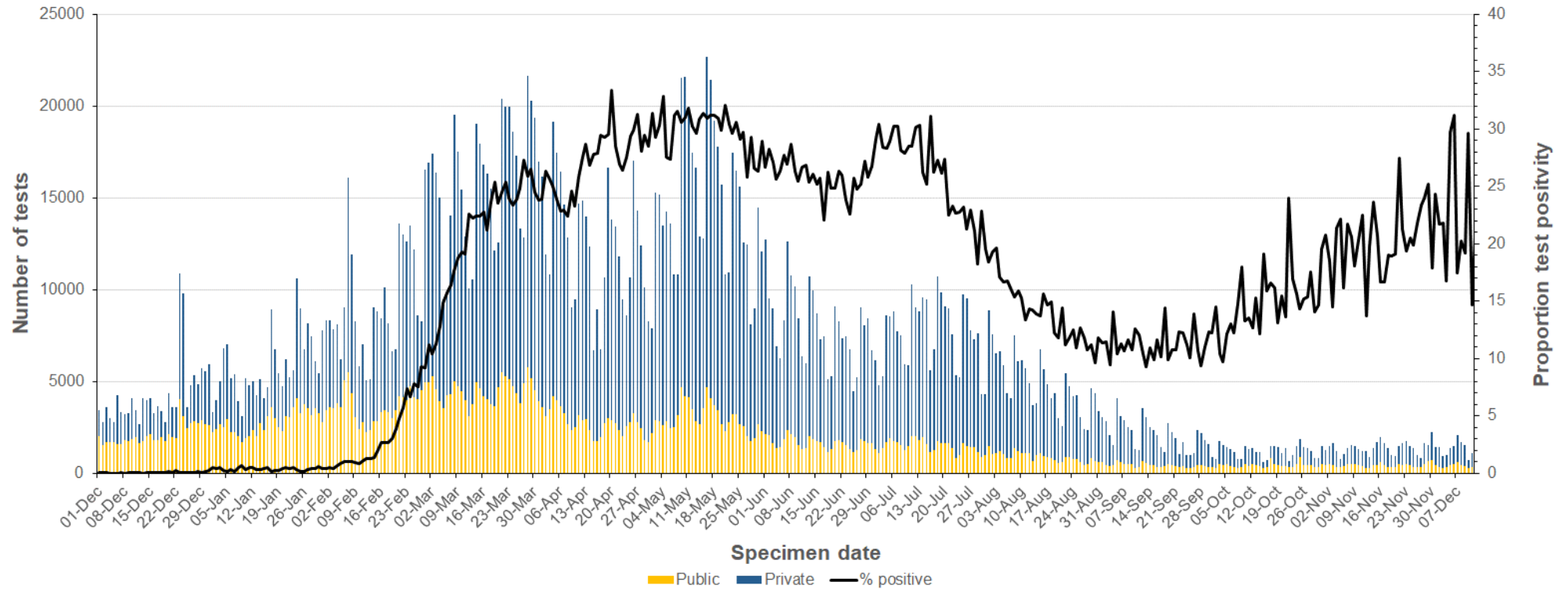


Notes

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 and then to a 4pm to 4pm cycle from 24th August 2022
 Indigenous 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 Indigenous status was not stated were designated as non-Indigenous
 Cases include those detected by both polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests and rapid antigen tests (RAT)
 Population denominator data were sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics 2020 estimates
 Rate ratio is calculated by dividing the Indigenous rate by the non-Indigenous 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 as prior to this, case numbers were too low.

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 11 December 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.

From 01 October, testing at private pathology providers require a referral from a GP

Appendix 1

Regional cases by postcode, 05 December – 11 December 2022

WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 05 Dec to 11 Dec 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 05 Dec to 11 Dec 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 05 Dec to 11 Dec 2022	
Goldfields	6346	<5	Midwest (continued)	6537	<5	South West (continued)	6255	14	
	6429	<5		6620	<5		6258	12	
	6430	32		6623	<5		6260	<5	
	6432	5		6630	<5		6262	6	
	6433	<5		6638	<5		6271	8	
	6440	<5		6701	7		6272	<5	
	6442	<5		6707	<5		6275	<5	
	6443	<5		Pilbara	6710		<5	6280	86
	6450	47			6713		<5	6281	33
Great Southern	6316	<5	6714		42	6282	<5		
	6317	25	6716		<5	6284	<5		
	6320	<5	6720		5	6285	29		
	6323	<5	6721		22	6286	<5		
	6324	7	6722		23	6290	5		
	6326	<5	6751		7	Wheatbelt	6041	5	
	6330	184	6753		9		6042	<5	
	6333	9	6754	<5	6043		<5		
	6335	<5	6758	<5	6044		<5		
	6337	<5	6762	<5	6302		11		
	6338	<5	South West	6218	<5		6304	<5	
	6348	6		6220	<5		6306	5	
	6396	<5		6223	<5		6308	5	
Kimberley	6725	18		6224	6		6309	<5	
	6726	5		6225	29		6311	<5	
	6728	22		6226	<5		6312	8	
	6729	<5		6228	<5		6315	<5	
	6740	11		6230	157		6358	<5	
	6743	12		6232	38	6365	8		
	6765	<5		6233	86	6367	<5		
	6770	9		6236	7	6369	5		
	Midwest	6514		5	6237	<5	6370	<5	
6519		<5		6238	<5	6375	<5		
6525		10	6239	12	6383	9			
6528		<5	6244	10	6390	<5			
6530		119	6251	<5	6401	47			
6532		10	6253	<5	6403	<5			
6535		<5	6254	<5	6411	<5			

WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 05 Dec to 11 Dec 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 05 Dec to 11 Dec 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 05 Dec to 11 Dec 2022
Wheatbelt (continued)	6415	<5	Wheatbelt (continued)	6560	5			
	6420	<5		6562	8			
	6426	<5		6564	<5			
	6460	<5		6566	16			
	6472	<5		6567	<5			
	6477	<5		6569	<5			
	6479	5		6571	<5			
	6480	<5		6572	<5			
	6501	5		6603	<5			
	6502	<5						
	6503	<5						
	6507	<5						
	6510	<5						
	6516	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 18th June 2022 and then to a 4pm to 4pm cycle from 24th August 2022

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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