



COVID-19 Weekly Surveillance Report

Table of Contents

Summary for the week 10 October to 16 October 2022 (inclusive)	2
Hospitalisations, intensive care unit inpatients and deaths	3
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 16 October 2022.	3
Table 1. Number of COVID-19 related deaths reported by vaccination status and age group, 10 October to 16 October 2022 and 01 January to 16 October 2022.	4
Case data	5
Figure 2. COVID-19 cases by notification date and test type, Western Australia, 01 January to 16 October 2022.	5
Figure 3. COVID-19 cases by age group and sex, Western Australia, 10 October to 16 October 2022.	6
Table 2. COVID-19 reinfections in Western Australia, 02 March to 16 October 2022.	7
Figure 4. 7-day moving average of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people, by Australian jurisdiction, 01 December 2021 to 13 October 2022.	7
Figure 5. 7-day moving average of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 by age group, Western Australia, 08 February to 16 October 2022.	8
Figure 6. 7-day moving average of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people, by health region, Western Australia, 08 February 2022 to 16 October 2022.	9
Table 3. Number of COVID-19 cases and case rates per 100,000 population, by region, 10 October to 16 October 2022 and 03 October to 09 October 2022.	10
Figure 7 (a). Locally acquired COVID-19 case rates per 100,000 population by LGA, regional Western Australia, 10 October to 16 October 2022. (b) Locally acquired COVID-19 case rates per 100,000 population by LGA, Perth metropolitan area, 10 October to 16 October 2022.	11
Aboriginal case summary	12
Figure 8. COVID-19 cases in Western Australia per 100,000 population, and rate ratio, by Indigenous status and notification date, 08 February to 16 October 2022.	12
Testing data	13
Figure 9. The number of COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction tests and proportion positive by laboratory category and specimen date, 01 December 2021 to 16 October 2022.	13
Table 4. Number of COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction tests and testing rates, by region, Western Australia, 10 October to 16 October 2022 and 03 October to 09 October 2022.	14
Figure 10 (a). Polymerase chain reaction testing rates per 100,000 population by LGA, regional Western Australia, 10 October to 16 October 2022. (b) Polymerase chain reaction testing rates per 100,000 population by LGA, Perth metropolitan area, 10 October to 16 October 2022.	15
Appendix 1	16
Regional cases by postcode, 10 October – 16 October 2022	16

Summary for the week 10 October to 16 October 2022 (inclusive)

In the week of 10 October to 16 October 2022 there were:

- 4,828 COVID-19 cases reported
 - 1,043 with positive polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests
 - 3,785 with positive rapid antigen tests (RAT)
 - 611 were reinfections (see definition in Table 2)
- 32 new hospital admissions and 1 new admission directly into an intensive care unit
- 5 deaths reported, aged between 69 and 92 years old
- 7,602 COVID-19 PCR tests conducted

Surveillance summary

There was a 10% decrease in **PCR tests** conducted in the current reporting week compared to the previous reporting week, with the proportion of positive PCR tests increasing slightly over the course of the week with a 7-day average of 14.6%.

Overall, **case numbers** increased by 6% compared to the previous week. Cases diagnosed by PCR increased by 7% and RAT increased by 5%. The slight increase in the proportion of positive PCR tests over the past week is likely the combined effect of both the reduced availability of open access PCR testing to the public and the increase in cases reported.

Case rates per 100,000 population increased at a marginal rate across most public health regions. The Great Southern region has the lowest case rate during the current reporting week. The case rate for the Perth metropolitan area is tracking approximately 35% higher than Western Australia Country Health Service (WACHS) regions combined. The highest rates were observed in the 20 to 49 years age group, with rates in the 50+ age group increasing slightly. Nationally, case rates per 100,000 population appear to be tracking at a steady low level across all jurisdictions.

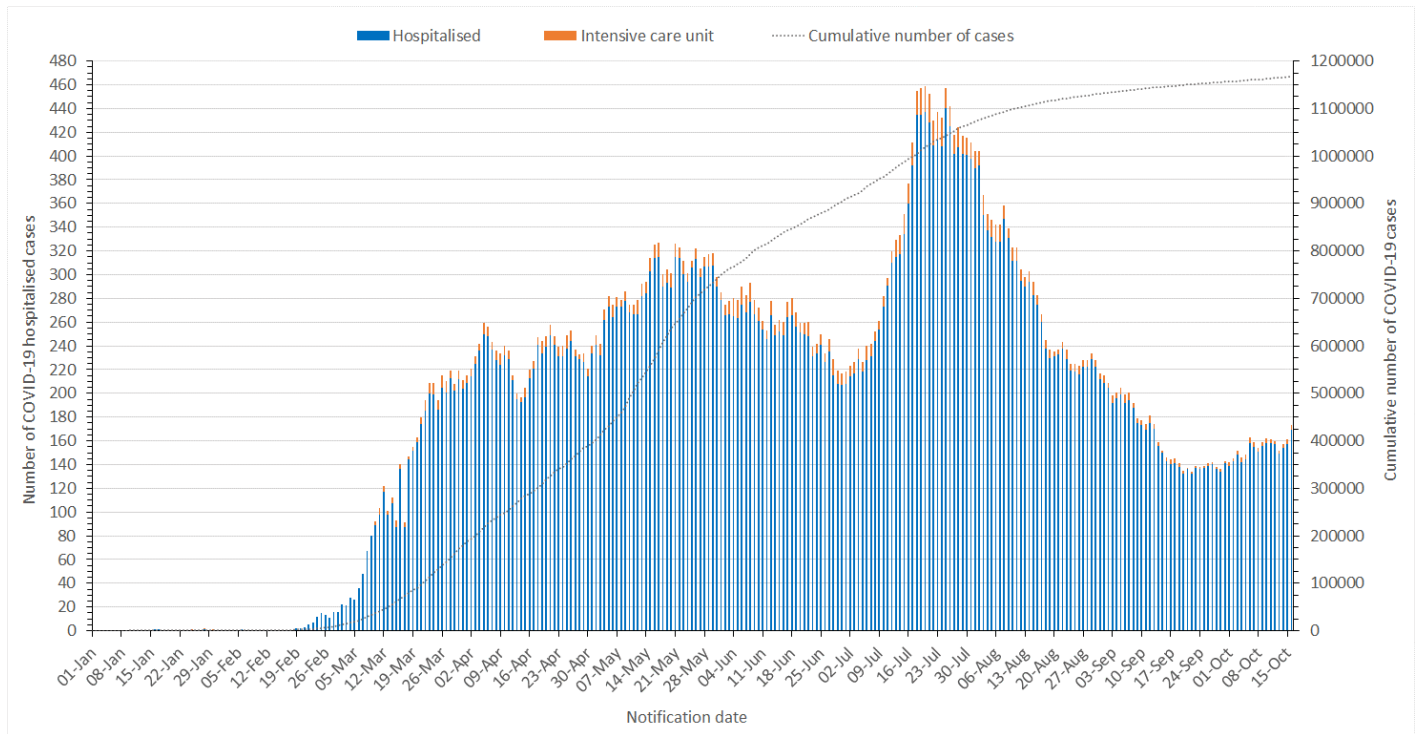
The 7-day average of **hospitalised cases** increased by 5% from 154 in the last reporting week to 161 this week and **intensive care unit cases** decreased from 4 in the last reporting week to 3 this week. New hospital admissions related to COVID-19 increased by 52% from 21 in the last reporting week to 32 this week, and direct intensive care unit admissions decreased from two to one case in the last reporting week.

There was a 17% decrease in **deaths** reported in the current reporting week with 5 deaths reported compared to the 6 in the previous reporting week.

There were 224 cases in the **Aboriginal population** during the current reporting week, a 25% decrease in cases compared to the previous reporting week. Case rates in the Aboriginal population are declining but continue to remain higher than in the non-Aboriginal population, with the 7-day average rate ratio reducing to 1.1 in the past week. No deaths were 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 16 October 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.

Table 1. Number of COVID-19 related deaths reported by vaccination status and age group, 10 October to 16 October 2022 and 01 January to 16 October 2022.

	Week 10 Oct – 16 Oct 2022	01 Jan 2022 – 16 Oct 2022
Number of COVID-19 vaccine doses	Deaths n= 5	Deaths n= 665
0	0 (0%)	130 (19.5%)
1	0 (0%)	27 (4.1%)
2	0 (0%)	86 (12.9%)
3+	5 (100%)	422 (63.5%)
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 (0.6%)
40-49	0 (0%)	9 (1.4%)
50-59	0 (0%)	27 (4.1%)
60-69	1 (20.0%)	53 (8.0%)
70-79	0 (0%)	115 (17.3%)
80-89	1 (20.0%)	249 (37.3%)
90+	3 (60.0%)	205 (30.8%)

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 14th October 2022 – 83.9% 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.

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

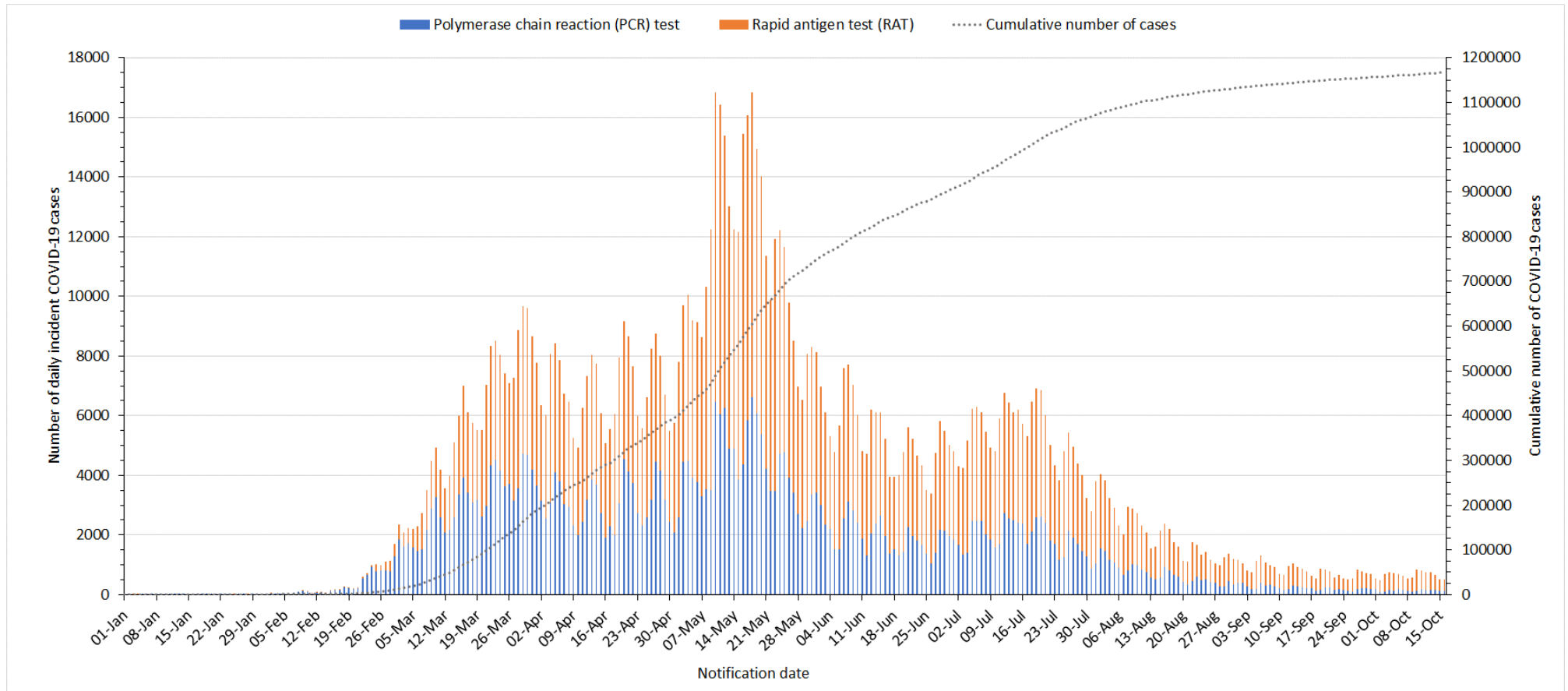
Notification date refers to data collected up to the end of the 24-hour reporting period 8pm to 8pm

The reporting period transitioned to a 6pm to 6pm cycle from 18th June 2022 and then to a 4pm to 4pm cycle from 24th August 2022

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 16 October 2022.



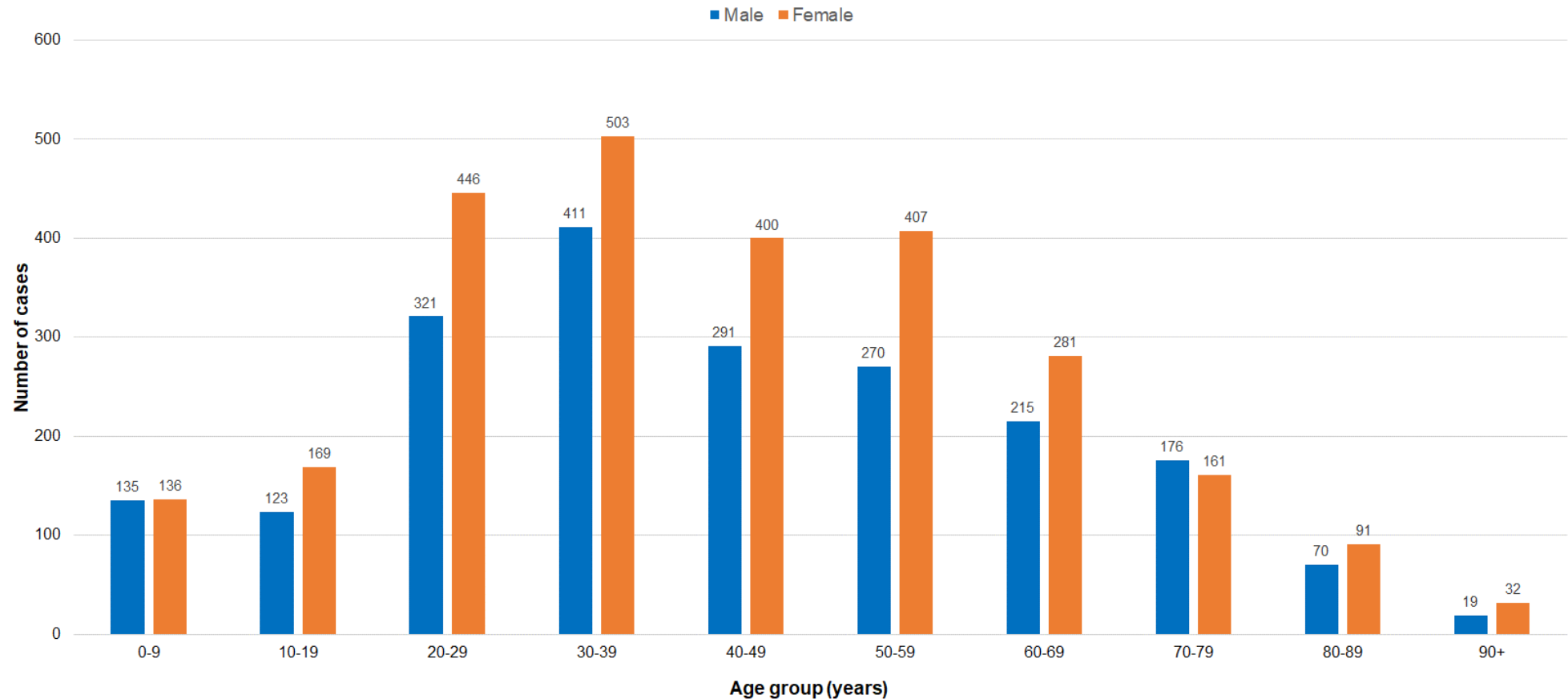
Notes

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

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.

Figure 3. COVID-19 cases by age group and sex, Western Australia, 10 October to 16 October 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

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=2,031 (43.6%) Females: n=2,626 (56.4%)
- Median age = 40 years; range: 0 to 101 years

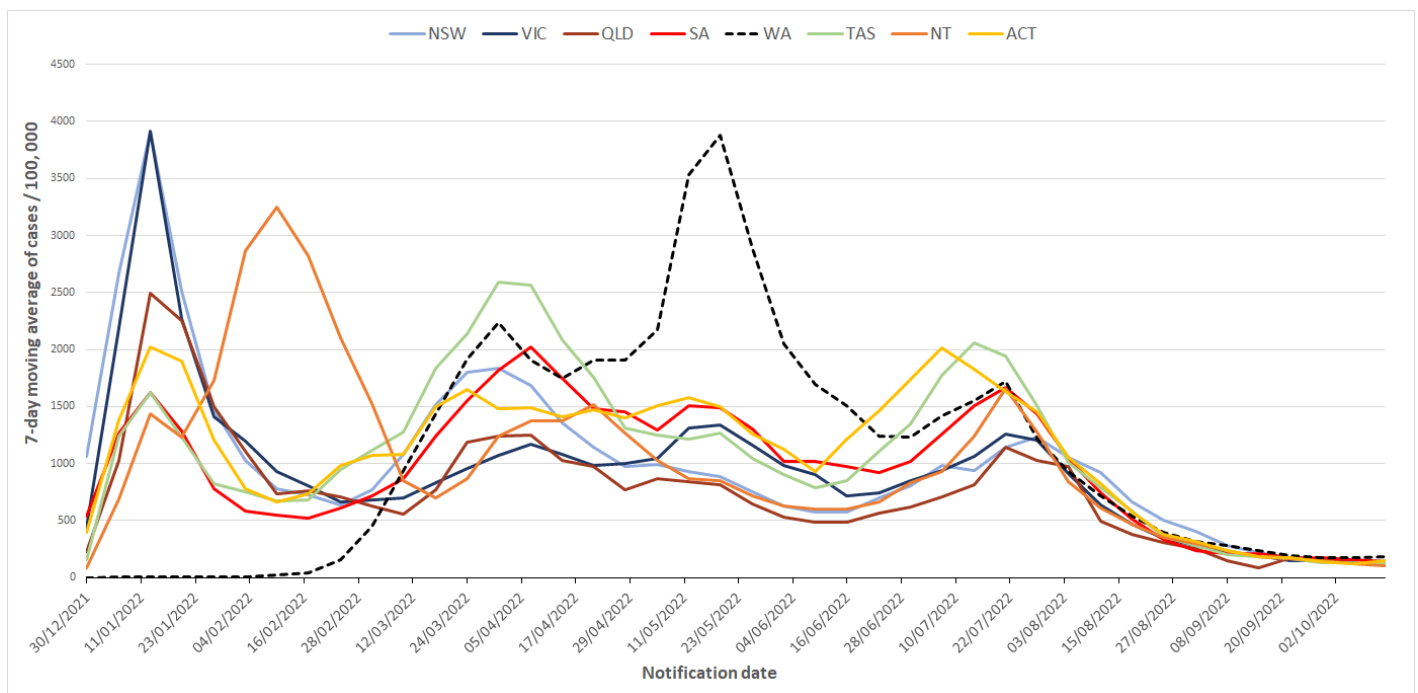
Table 2. COVID-19 reinfections in Western Australia, 02 March to 16 October 2022.

Month	Number of reinfections *
Mar-2022	14
Apr-2022	28
May-2022	105
Jun-2022	843
Jul-2022	5,037
Aug-2022	5,692
Sep-2022	3,981
Oct-2022[^]	1,409
Total	17,109

* 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 current, COVID-19 reinfections are defined as a positive COVID-19 test occurring 28 days after previously recovering from the virus

[^] Data from 1st October to 16th October inclusive

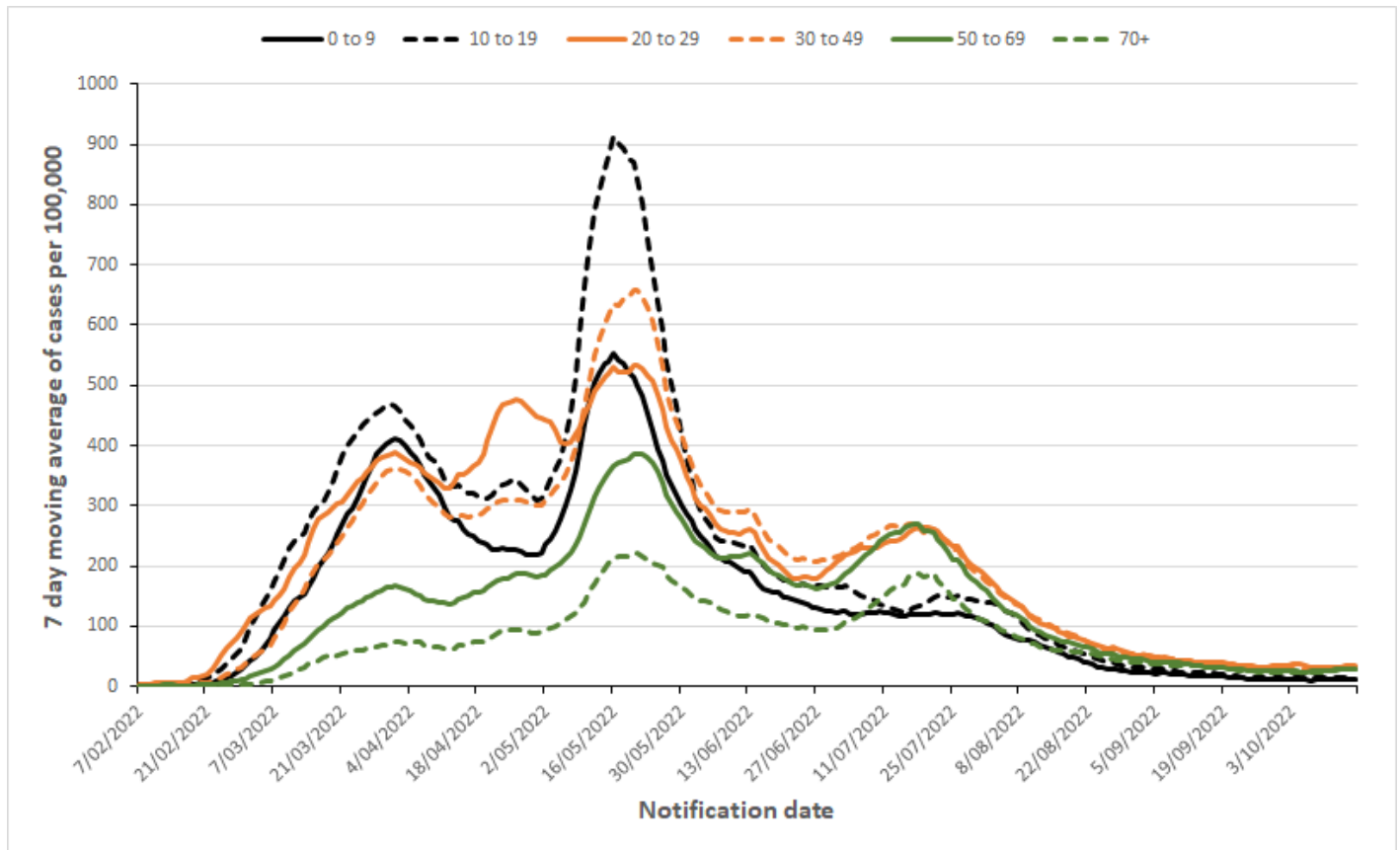
Figure 4. 7-day moving average of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people, by Australian jurisdiction, 01 December 2021 to 13 October 2022.



Notes

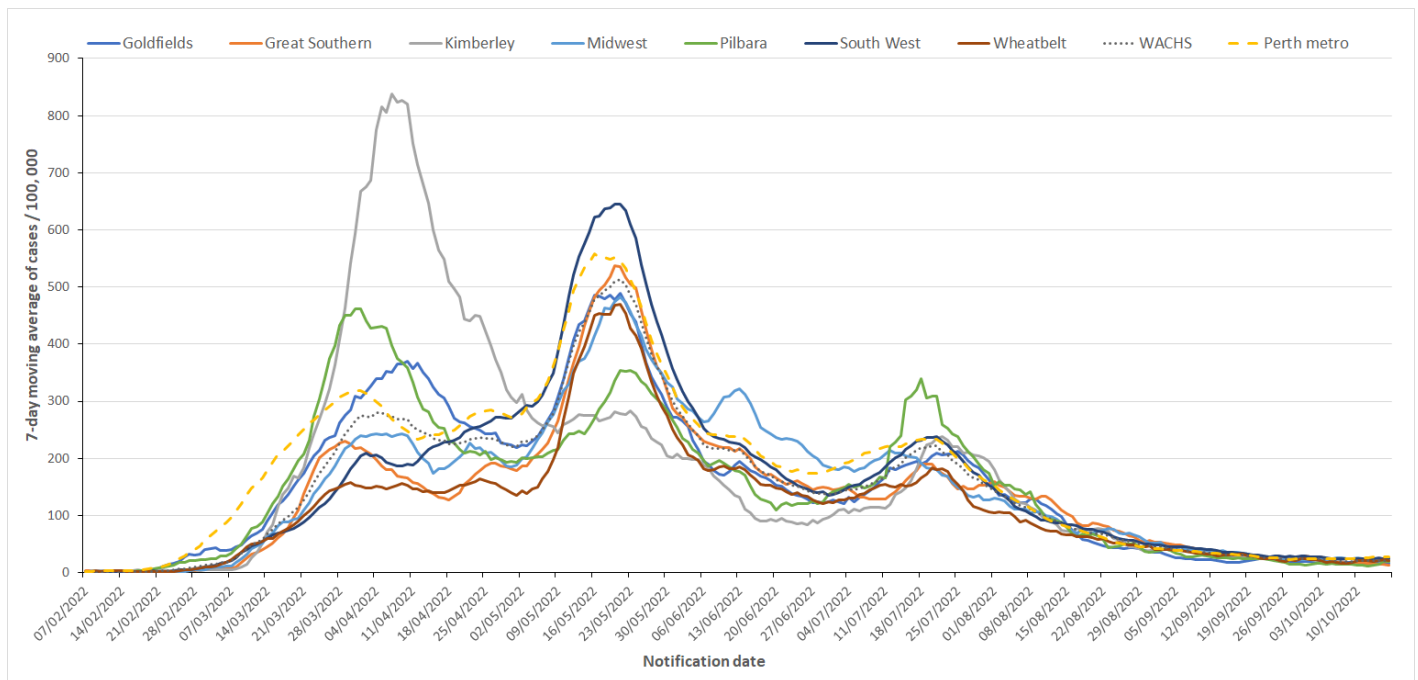
Data sourced from the respective jurisdictional health department datasets
 Notification date refers to data collected up to the end of the 24-hour reporting period 8pm to 8pm
 The reporting period in WA transitioned to a 6pm to 6pm cycle from 18th June 2022 and then to a 4pm to 4pm cycle from 24th August 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 16 October 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 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 16 October 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 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, 10 October to 16 October 2022 and 03 October to 09 October 2022.

	Region	Week 10 October to 16 October 2022		Week 03 October to 09 October 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	61	113	66	122
	Great Southern	54	88	70	114
	Kimberley	64	178	60	166
	Midwest	84	135	105	169
	Pilbara	69	110	60	96
	South West	307	169	305	168
	Wheatbelt	116	152	94	123
WACHS total*		755	141	760	142
Other**		46	-	69	-
Metropolitan		4,027	189	3,744	176
Total		4,828	181	4,573	172

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 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

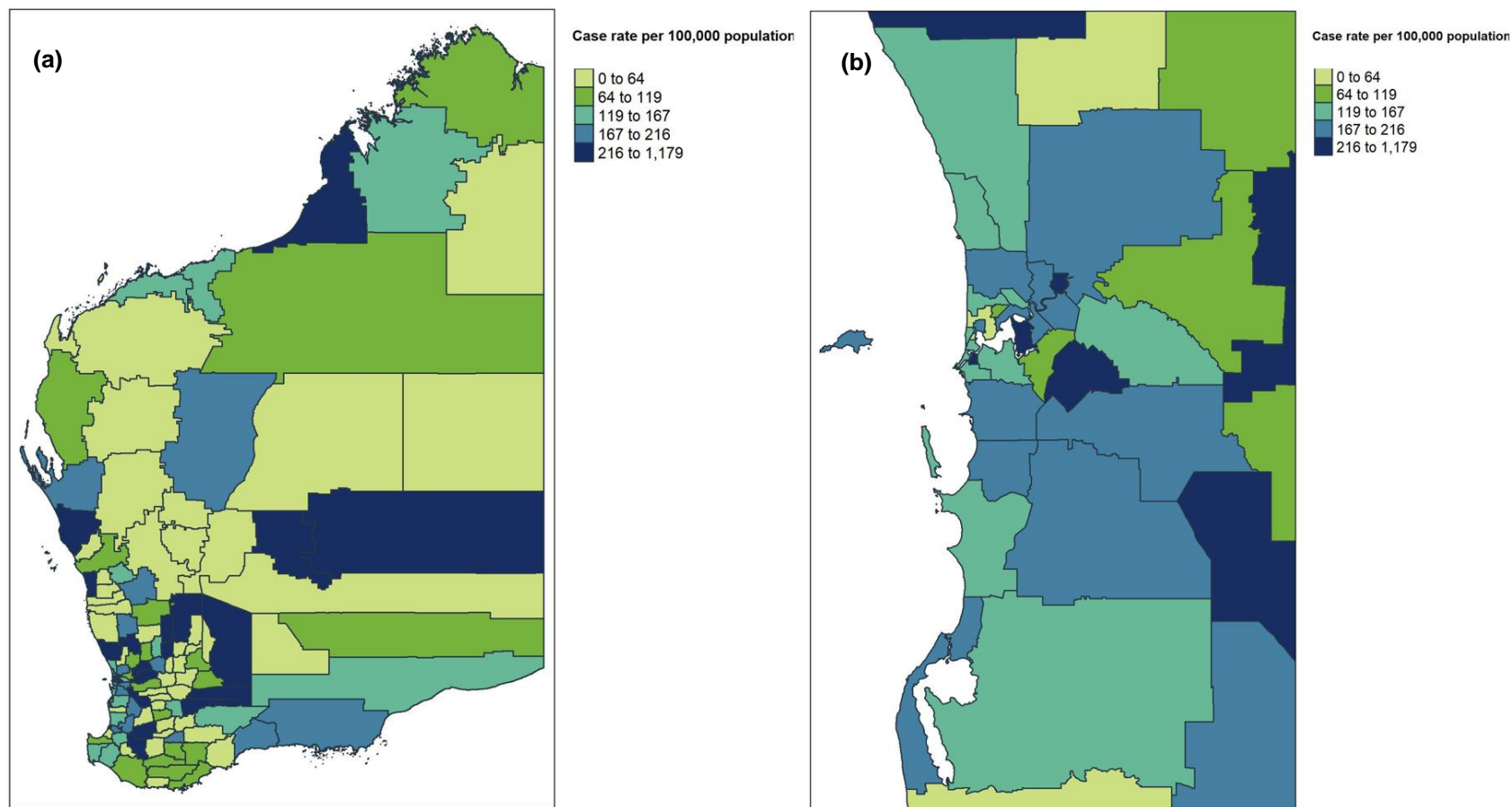
Total excludes WACHS*

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, 10 October to 16 October 2022. (b) Locally acquired COVID-19 case rates per 100,000 population by LGA, Perth metropolitan area, 10 October to 16 October 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 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)

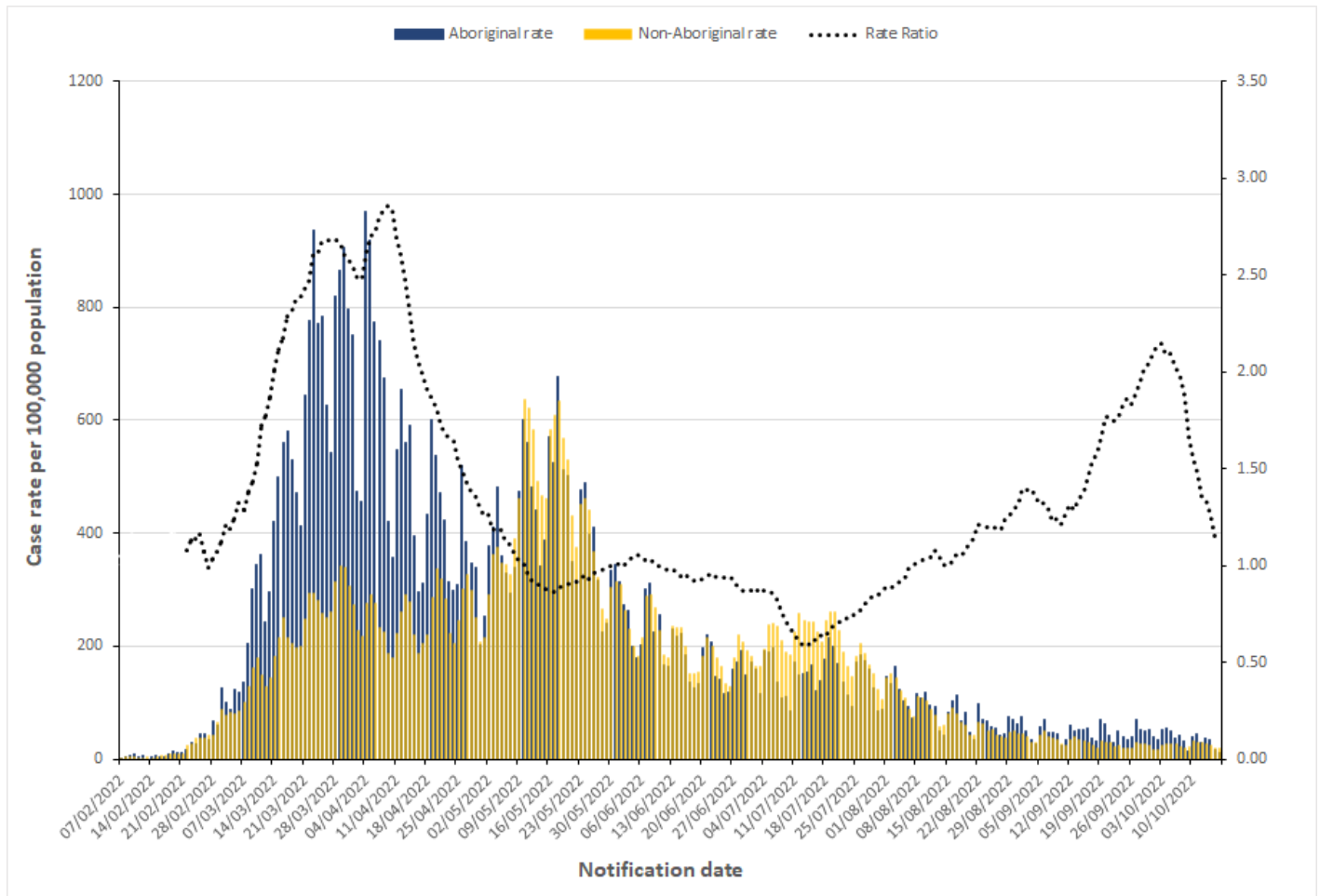
Case data includes those determined by both polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests and rapid antigen tests (RAT)

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 16 October 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

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)

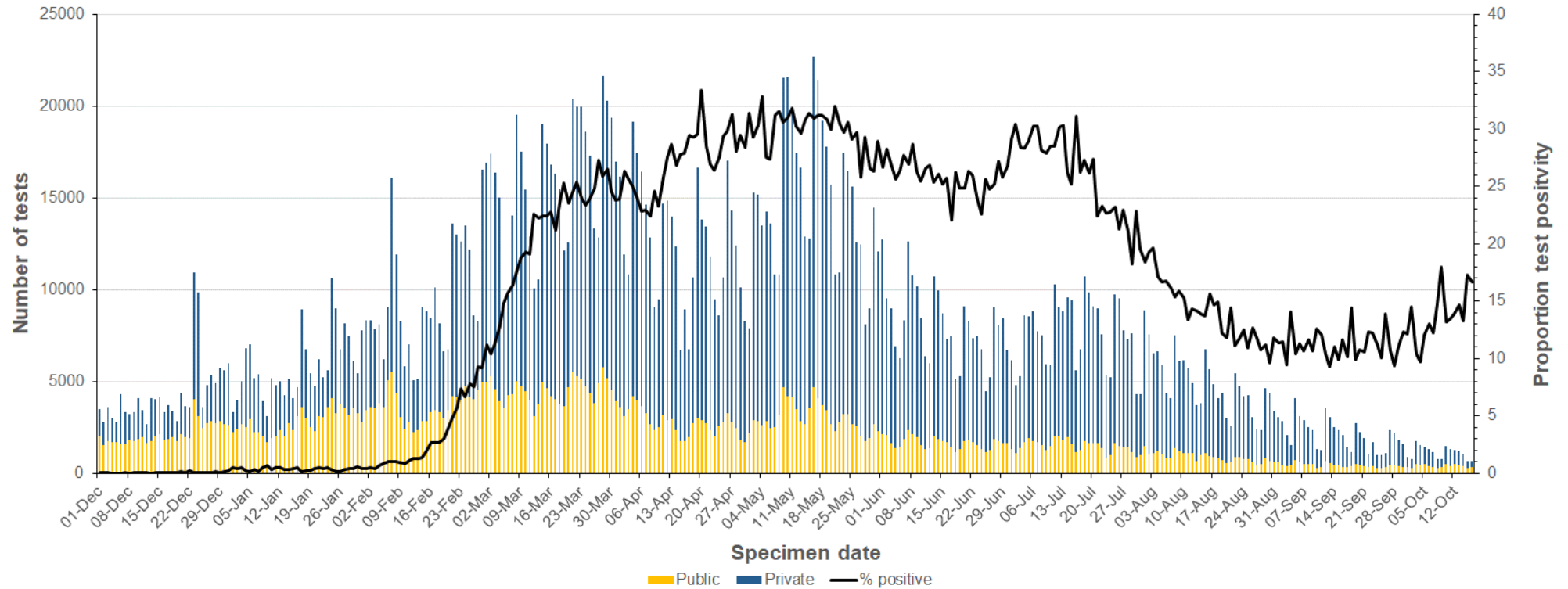
Population denominator is sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics 2020 estimates

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 16 October 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.

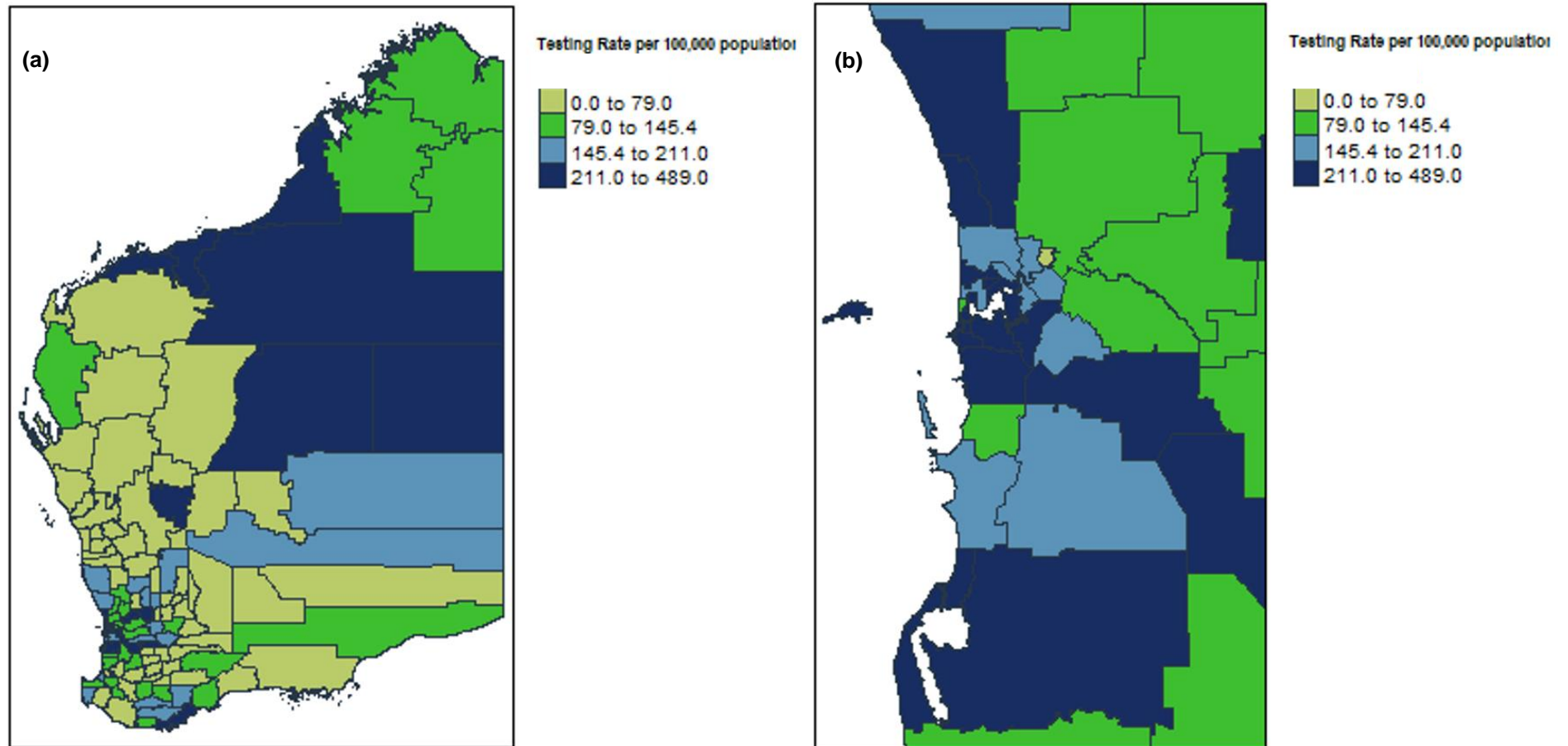
From 01 October, testing at private pathology providers require a referral from a GP

Table 4. Number of COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction tests and testing rates, by region, Western Australia, 10 October to 16 October 2022 and 03 October to 09 October 2022.

	Region	Week 10 October to 16 October 2022		Week 03 October to 09 October 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	92	171	95	176
	Great Southern	195	318	214	349
	Kimberley	91	252	81	225
	Midwest	80	129	111	179
	Pilbara	221	352	226	360
	South West	330	182	275	151
	Wheatbelt	97	127	133	175
WACHS total *		1,106	207	1,135	212
Other**		149	-	154	-
Metropolitan		6,347	298	7,118	334
Total		7,602	285	8,407	316

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, 10 October to 16 October 2022. (b) Polymerase chain reaction testing rates per 100,000 population by LGA, Perth metropolitan area, 10 October to 16 October 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, 10 October – 16 October 2022

WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 10 Oct to 16 Oct 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 10 Oct to 16 Oct 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 10 Oct to 16 Oct 2022
Goldfields	6429	<5	Midwest (continued) Pilbara	6707	<5	South West (continued)	6288	<5
	6430	18		6710	<5		6290	7
	6432	5		6714	30		6398	<5
	6436	<5		6718	<5	Wheatbelt	6041	9
	6437	<5		6720	<5		6044	<5
	6438	<5		6721	11		6302	10
	6440	<5		6722	9		6304	<5
	6442	<5		6751	<5		6308	5
	6443	<5		6753	7		6312	<5
	6450	26		6760	<5		6313	<5
Great Southern	6317	8	South West	6762	<5		6315	<5
	6320	<5		6218	<5		6353	<5
	6322	<5		6219	<5		6359	<5
	6323	<5		6220	5	6365	<5	
	6324	<5		6223	<5	6366	<5	
	6326	<5		6224	<5	6367	<5	
	6330	33		6225	18	6369	<5	
	6333	<5		6227	<5	6370	<5	
	6335	<5		6230	107	6390	<5	
	6337	<5		6232	25	6391	<5	
6348	<5	6233	32	6401	19			
Kimberley	6725	37	6236	<5	6407	<5		
	6726	6	6237	<5	6410	<5		
	6728	11	6239	5	6415	<5		
	6743	9	6244	<5	6426	<5		
	6770	<5	6253	<5	6460	<5		
Midwest	6525	13	6255	8	6462	<5		
	6530	48	6258	8	6475	<5		
	6532	5	6260	<5	6477	<5		
	6535	<5	6271	<5	6485	<5		
	6536	<5	6275	<5	6501	<5		
	6537	<5	6280	42	6503	<5		
	6620	<5	6281	<5	6507	<5		
	6623	<5	6282	<5	6510	<5		
	6627	<5	6284	6	6516	<5		
	6642	<5	6285	14	6560	5		
	6701	<5	6286	<5	6562	6		

WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 10 Oct to 16 Oct 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 10 Oct to 16 Oct 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 10 Oct to 16 Oct 2022
Wheatbelt (continued)	6566	<5						
	6571	<5						
	6609	<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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