



# COVID-19 Weekly Surveillance Report

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## Summary for the week 29 August to 04 September 2022 (inclusive)

In the week of 29 August to 04 September 2022 there were:

- 7,660 COVID-19 cases reported
  - 2,545 with positive polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests
  - 5,115 with positive rapid antigen tests (RAT)
  - 7,233 locally acquired, 180 interstate acquired, 247 overseas acquired
  - 833 were reinfections (see definition in Table 2)
- 48 new hospital admissions and no transfers into an intensive care unit
- 22 deaths reported, aged between 49 to 102 years old
- 21,466 COVID-19 PCR tests conducted

### Surveillance summary

There was a 17% decrease in **PCR tests** conducted in the current reporting week compared to the previous reporting week, with the proportion of positive PCR tests remaining relatively steady over the course of the week with a 7-day average of 11.1%.

Overall, **case numbers** decreased by 18% compared to the previous week. Cases diagnosed by PCR and RAT decreased by 19% and 18% respectively. The decrease in case numbers and proportion of positive PCR tests over the past week is in keeping with the case load continuing to decline in the community.

**Case rates** per 100,000 population for all public health regions continue to decline. The Great Southern and South West regions had the highest case rates during the current reporting week. The rate in the Perth metropolitan area was approximately 5% lower than the combined rate in the Western Australia Country Health Service (WACHS) regions. The highest rates were observed in the 20 to 29 and 30 to 49 years age groups, with rates continuing to decline among all age groups. Nationally, case rates per 100,000 population have decreased across all jurisdictions, with the highest rate occurring in New South Wales during the current reporting week.

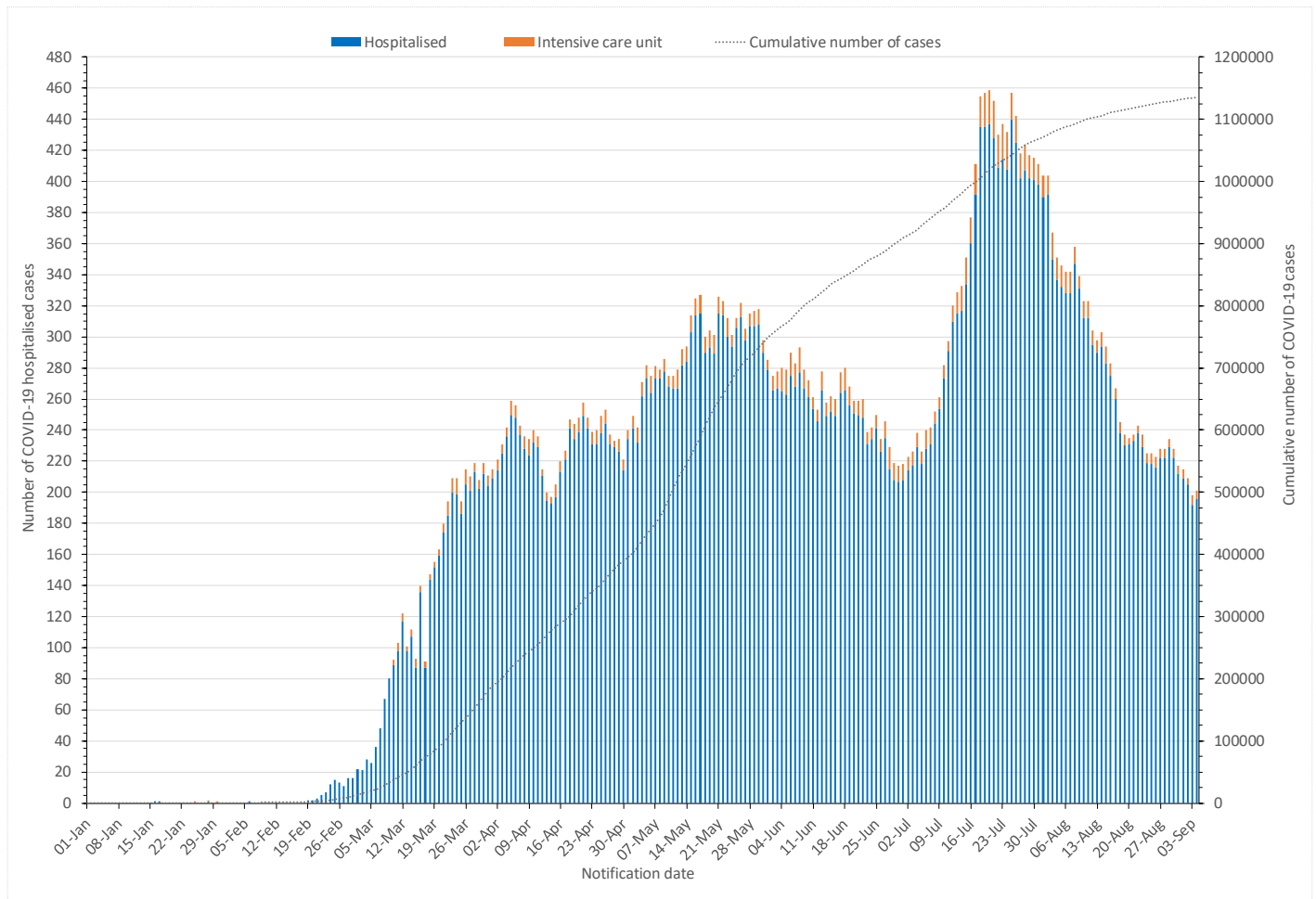
The 7-day average of **hospitalised cases** and **intensive care unit cases** decreased by 7% and 18% respectively, compared to the previous reporting week. New hospital admissions related to COVID-19 decreased by 24% from 63 in the last reporting week to 48 this week, and intensive care unit transfers decreased from 5 in the last report week to zero this week.

There was a 29% increase in **deaths** reported in the current reporting week with 22 deaths reported compared to the 17 in the previous reporting week.

There were 417 cases in the **Aboriginal population** during the current reporting week, a 9% decrease in cases compared to the previous reporting week. Case rates in the Aboriginal population are declining more slowly compared to the rate of decline in the non-Aboriginal population, resulting in the rate ratio increasing to a seven-day average of 1.36 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 04 September 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 and then to a 4pm to 4pm cycle from 24<sup>th</sup> 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, 29 August to 04 September 2022 and 01 January to 04 September 2022.**

	<b>Week 29 Aug – 04 Sep 2022</b>	<b>01 Jan 2022 – 04 Sep 2022</b>
<b>Number of COVID-19 vaccine doses</b>	<b>Deaths n=22</b>	<b>Deaths n=600</b>
<b>0</b>	3 (13.6%)	125 (20.8%)
<b>1</b>	0 (0%)	27 (4.5%)
<b>2</b>	1 (4.5%)	82 (13.7%)
<b>3+</b>	18 (81.8%)	366 (61.0%)
<b>Age group (years)</b>		
<b>0-9</b>	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
<b>10-19</b>	0 (0%)	2 (0.3%)
<b>20-29</b>	0 (0%)	1 (0.2%)
<b>30-39</b>	0 (0%)	4 (0.7%)
<b>40-49</b>	1 (4.5%)	9 (1.5%)
<b>50-59</b>	0 (0%)	26 (4.3%)
<b>60-69</b>	1 (4.5%)	52 (8.7%)
<b>70-79</b>	3 (13.6%)	104 (17.3%)
<b>80-89</b>	11 (50.0%)	228 (38.0%)
<b>90+</b>	6 (27.3%)	174 (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 26<sup>th</sup> August 2022 – 83.7% 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.

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

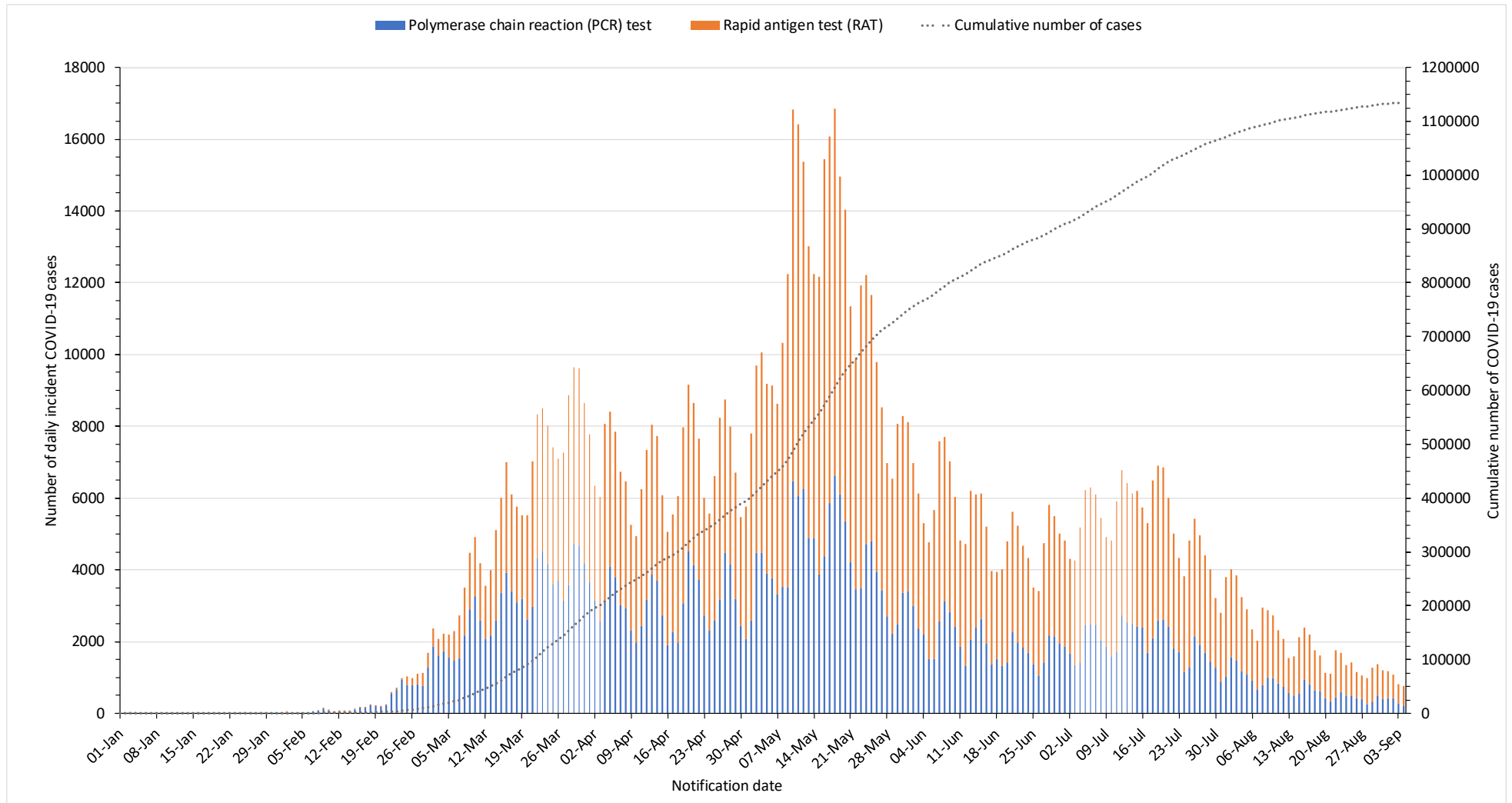
The reporting period transitioned to a 6pm to 6pm cycle from 18th June 2022 and then to a 4pm to 4pm cycle from 24th August 2022

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 04 September 2022.



### Notes

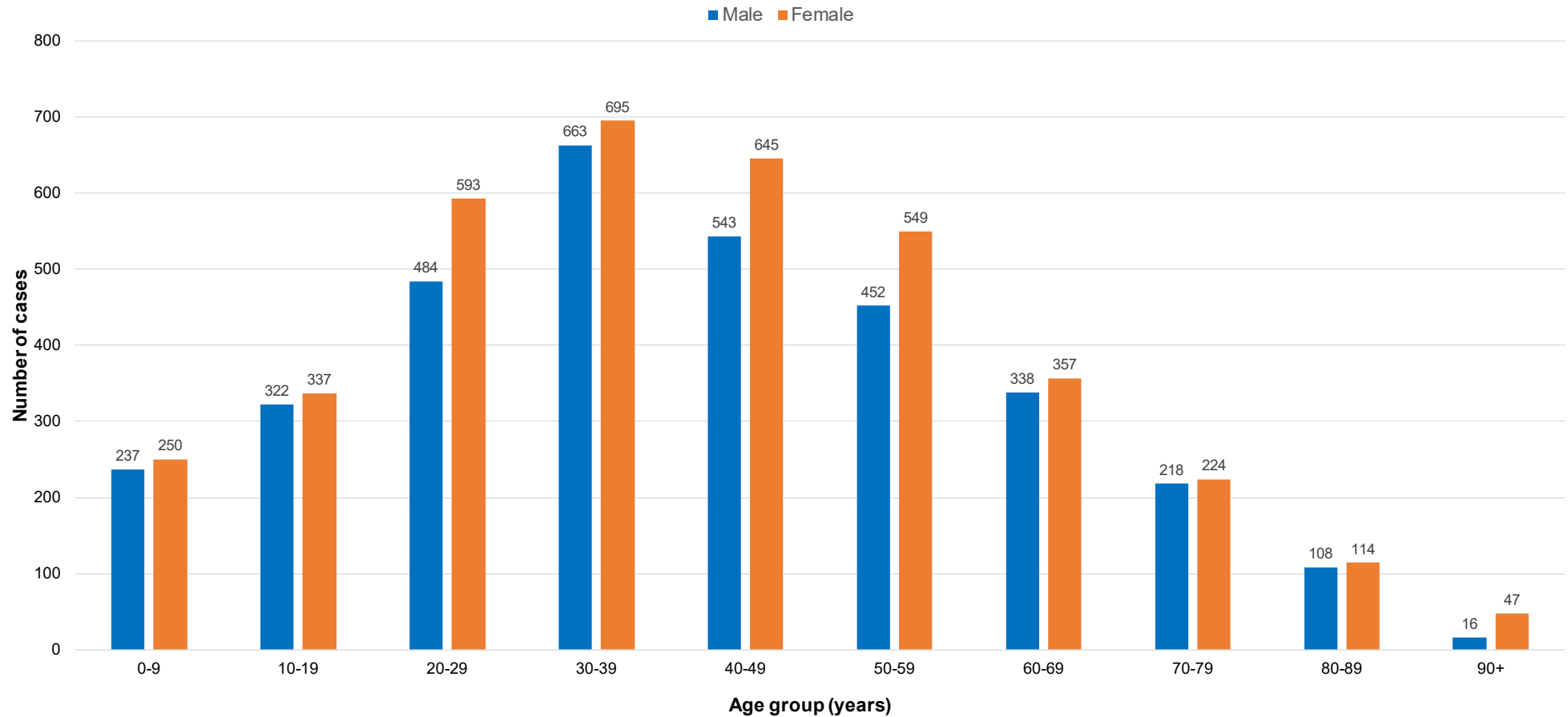
Data sourced from Western Australia Department of Health dataset

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.

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**Figure 3. COVID-19 cases by age group and sex, Western Australia, 29 August to 04 September 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=3,381 (47.0%) Females: n=3,811 (53.0%)
- Median age = 39 years; range: 0 to 102 years

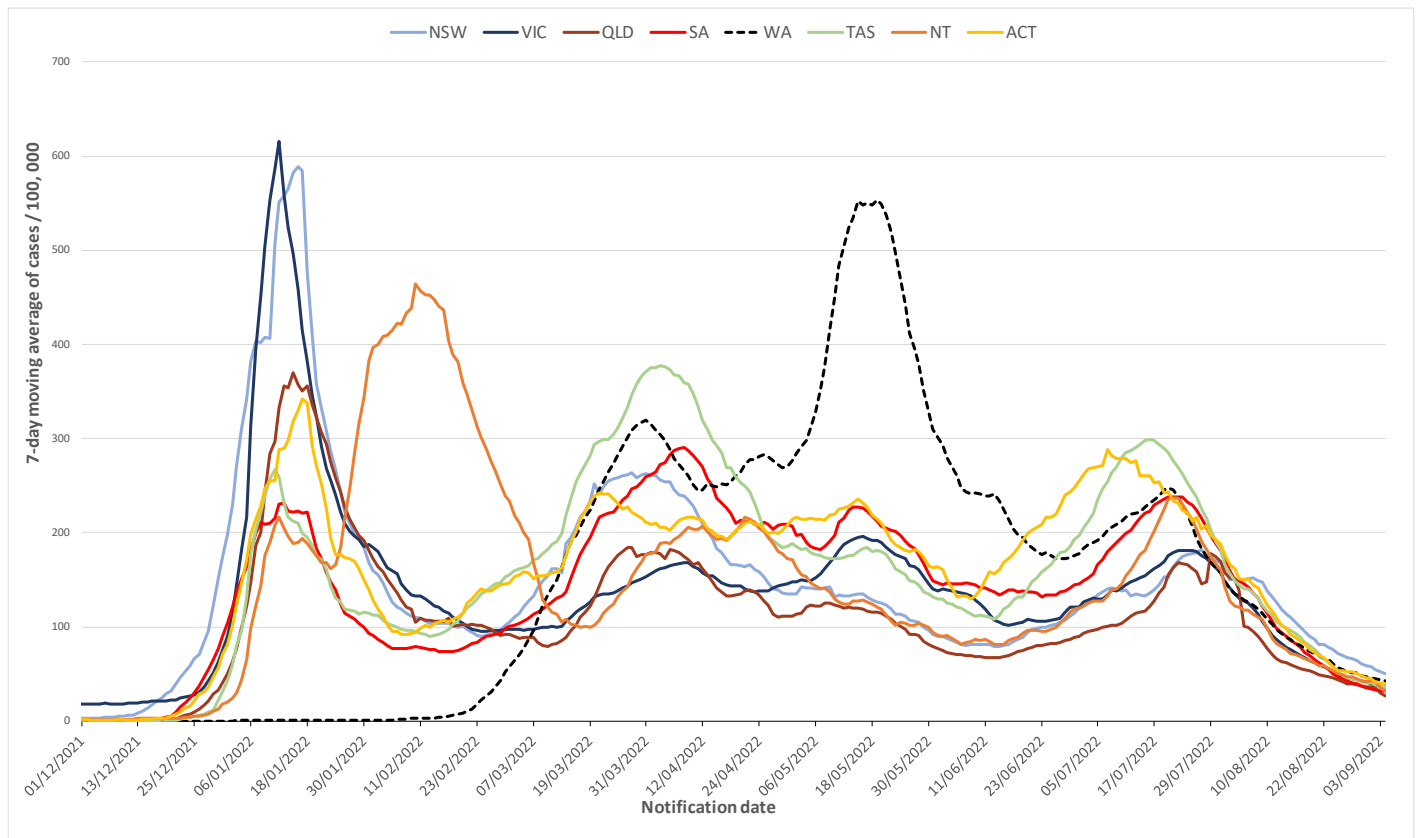
**Table 2. COVID-19 reinfections in Western Australia, 02 March to 04 September 2022.**

Month	Number of reinfections *
Mar-2022	14
Apr-2022	28
May-2022	105
Jun-2022	841
Jul-2022	5031
Aug-2022	5631
Sep-2022 ^	372
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,022</b>

\* Reinfection definition as per Series of National Guidelines (SoNG) 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> September to 4<sup>th</sup> September inclusive

**Figure 4. 7-day moving average of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people, by Australian jurisdiction, 01 December 2021 to 04 September 2022.**



**Notes**

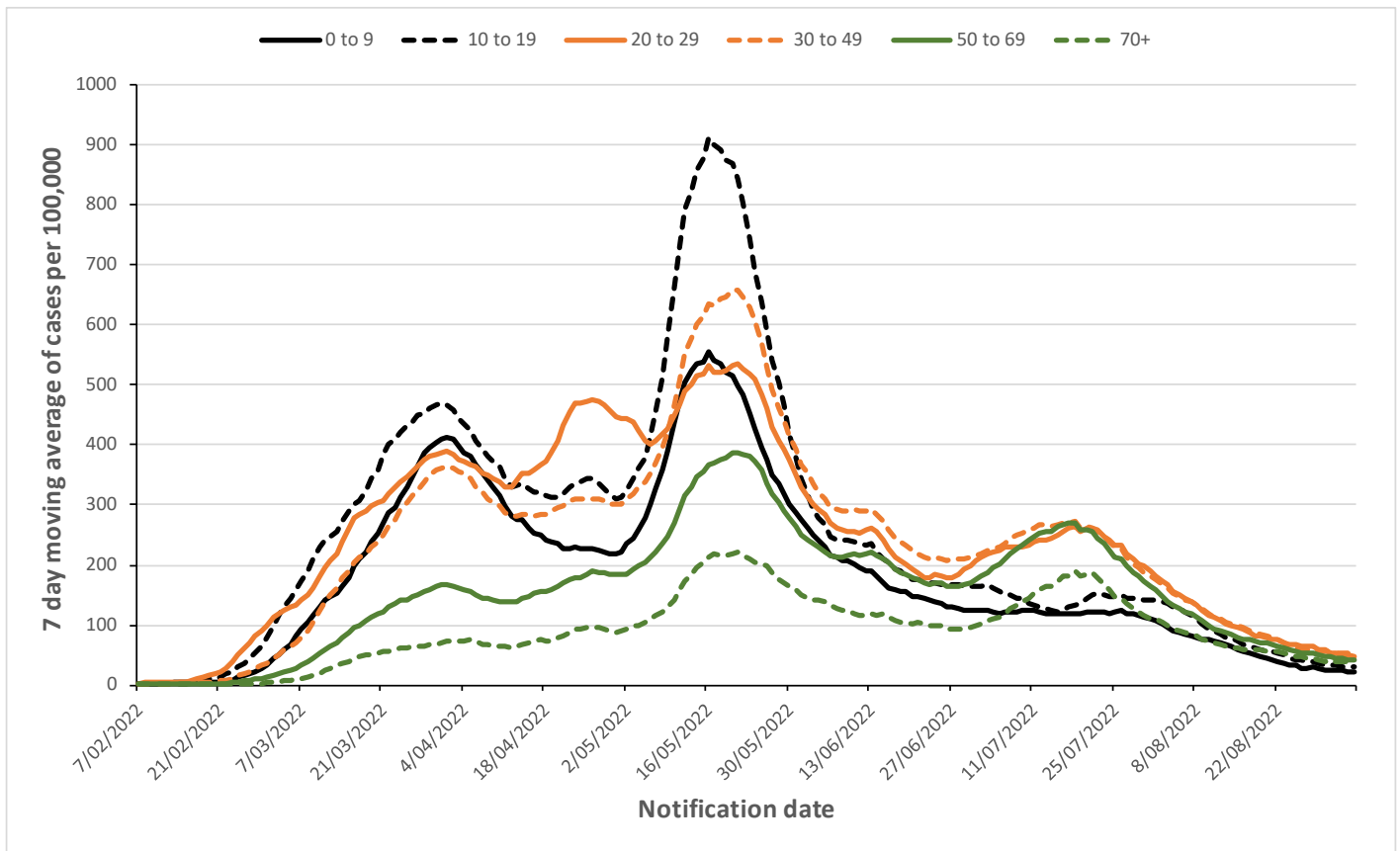
Data sourced from the respective jurisdictional health department datasets

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 and then to a 4pm to 4pm cycle from 24<sup>th</sup> August 2022

Population denominators are sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics December 2021 estimates.

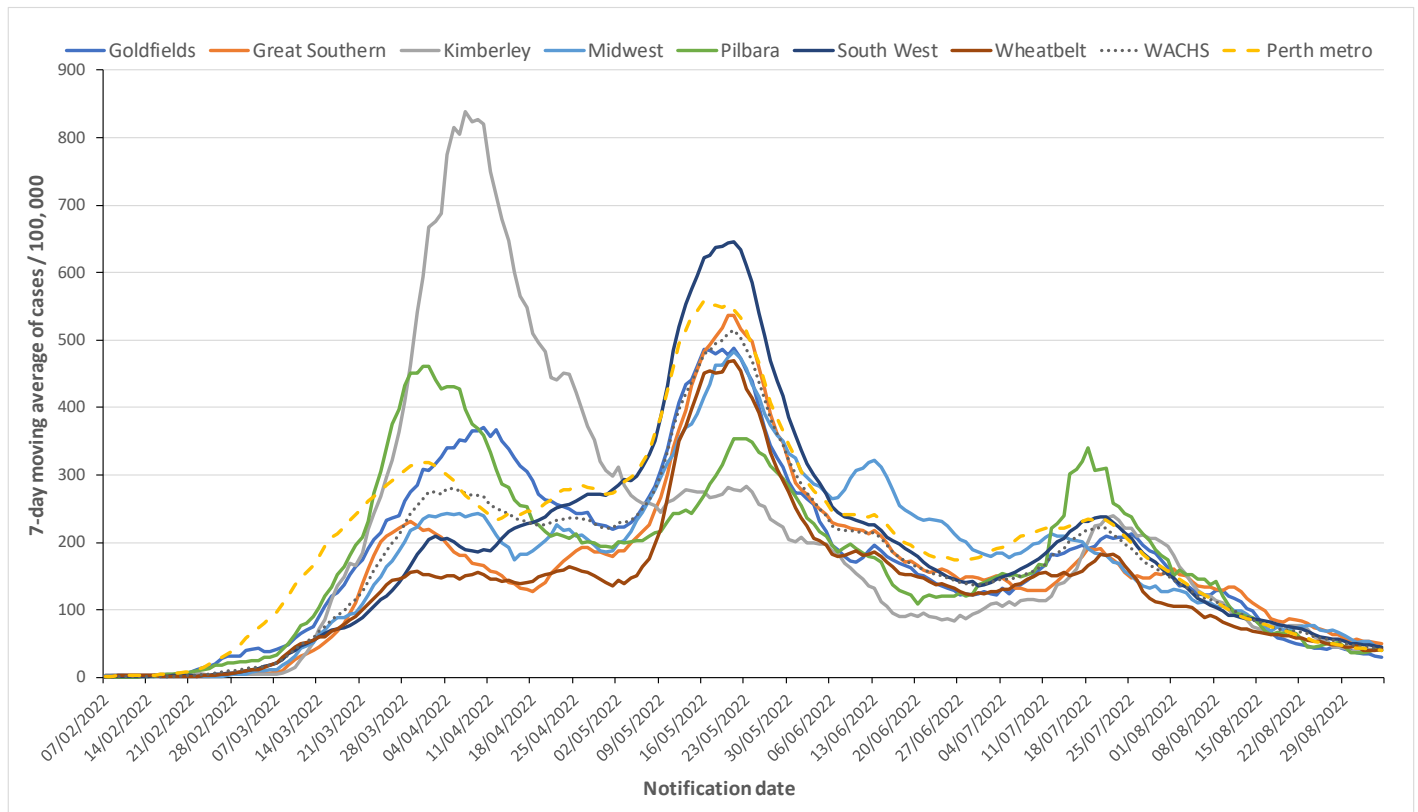
**Figure 5. 7-day moving average of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 by age group, Western Australia, 08 February to 04 September 2022.**



**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 04 September 2022.**



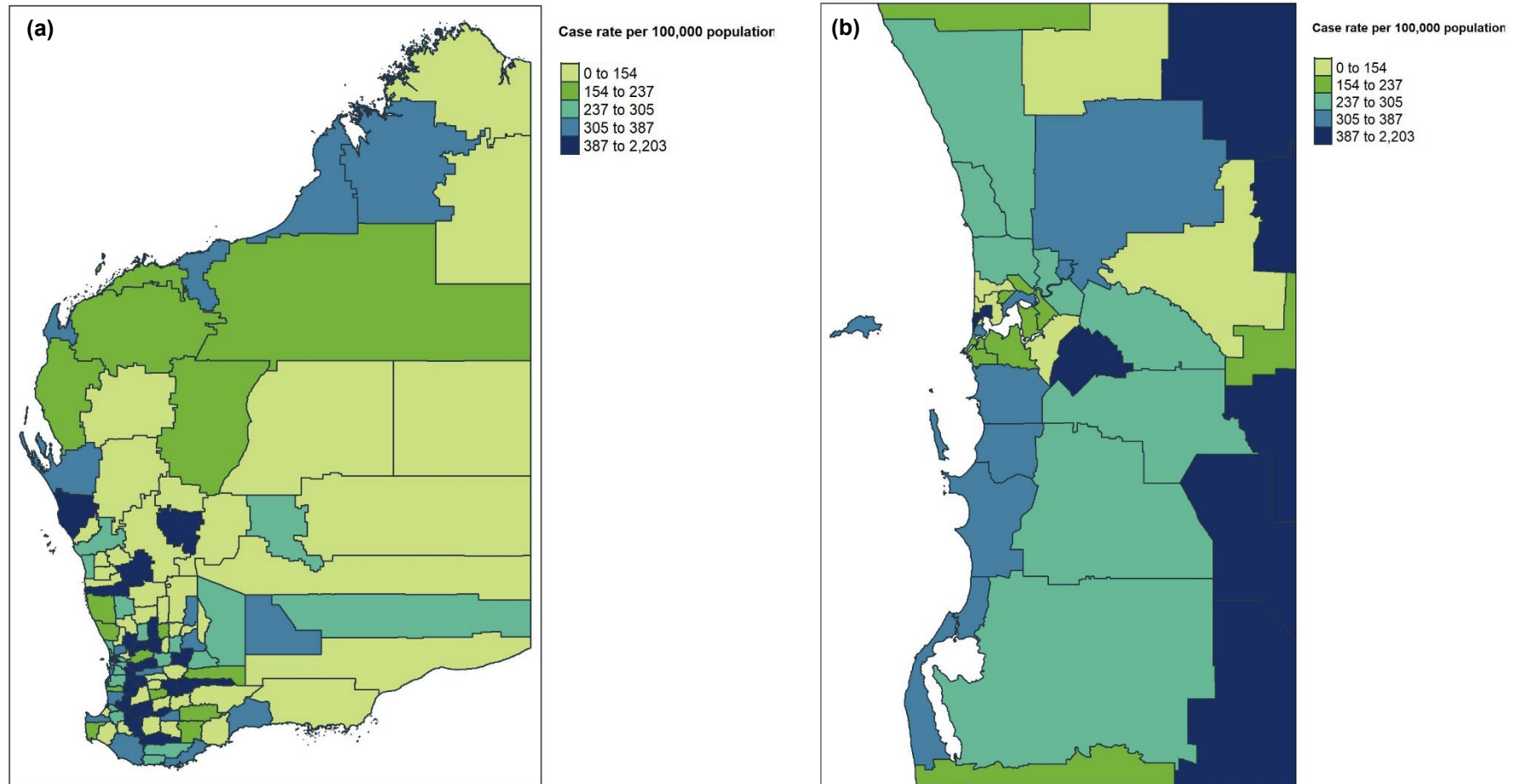
**Notes**  
 Data sourced from Western Australia Department of Health dataset  
 Notification date refers to data collected up to the end of the 24-hour reporting period 8pm to 8pm  
 The reporting period transitioned to a 6pm to 6pm cycle from 18th June 2022 and then to a 4pm to 4pm cycle from 24th 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, 29 August to 04 September 2022 and 22 August to 28 August 2022.**

	Region	Week 29 August to 04 September 2022		Week 22 August to 28 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>	112	208	167	310
	<b>Great Southern</b>	214	349	272	444
	<b>Kimberley</b>	99	275	115	319
	<b>Midwest</b>	190	306	289	466
	<b>Pilbara</b>	154	245	199	317
	<b>South West</b>	581	320	717	394
	<b>Wheatbelt</b>	218	286	256	336
<b>WACHS total*</b>		1568	294	2015	377
<b>Other**</b>		129	-	172	-
<b>Metropolitan</b>		5,963	280	7,194	338
<b>Total</b>		7,660	288	9,381	352

**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, 29 August to 04 September 2022. (b) Locally acquired COVID-19 case rates per 100,000 population by LGA, Perth metropolitan area, 29 August to 04 September 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)

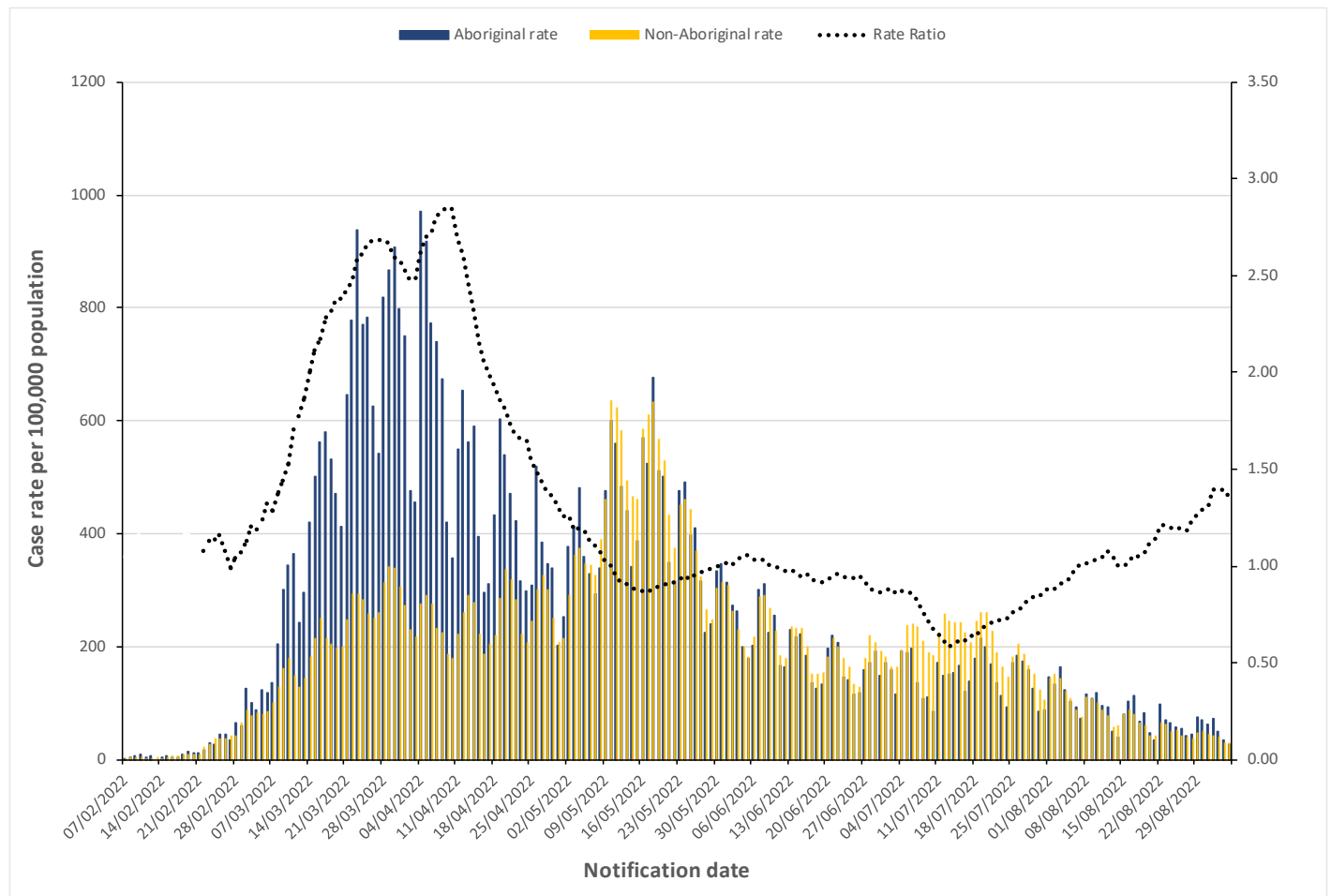
Case data includes those determined by both polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests and rapid antigen tests (RAT)

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 04 September 2022.

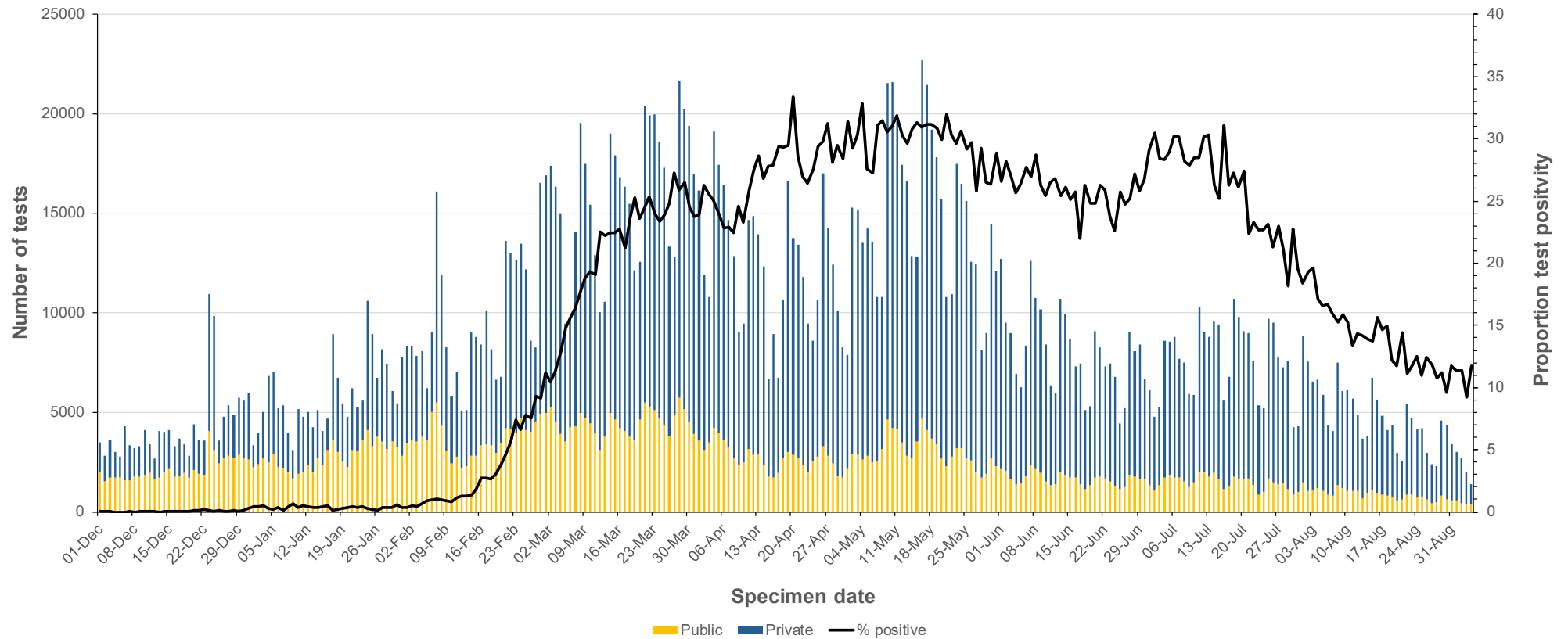


**Notes**

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 18th 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 04 September 2022.



### Notes

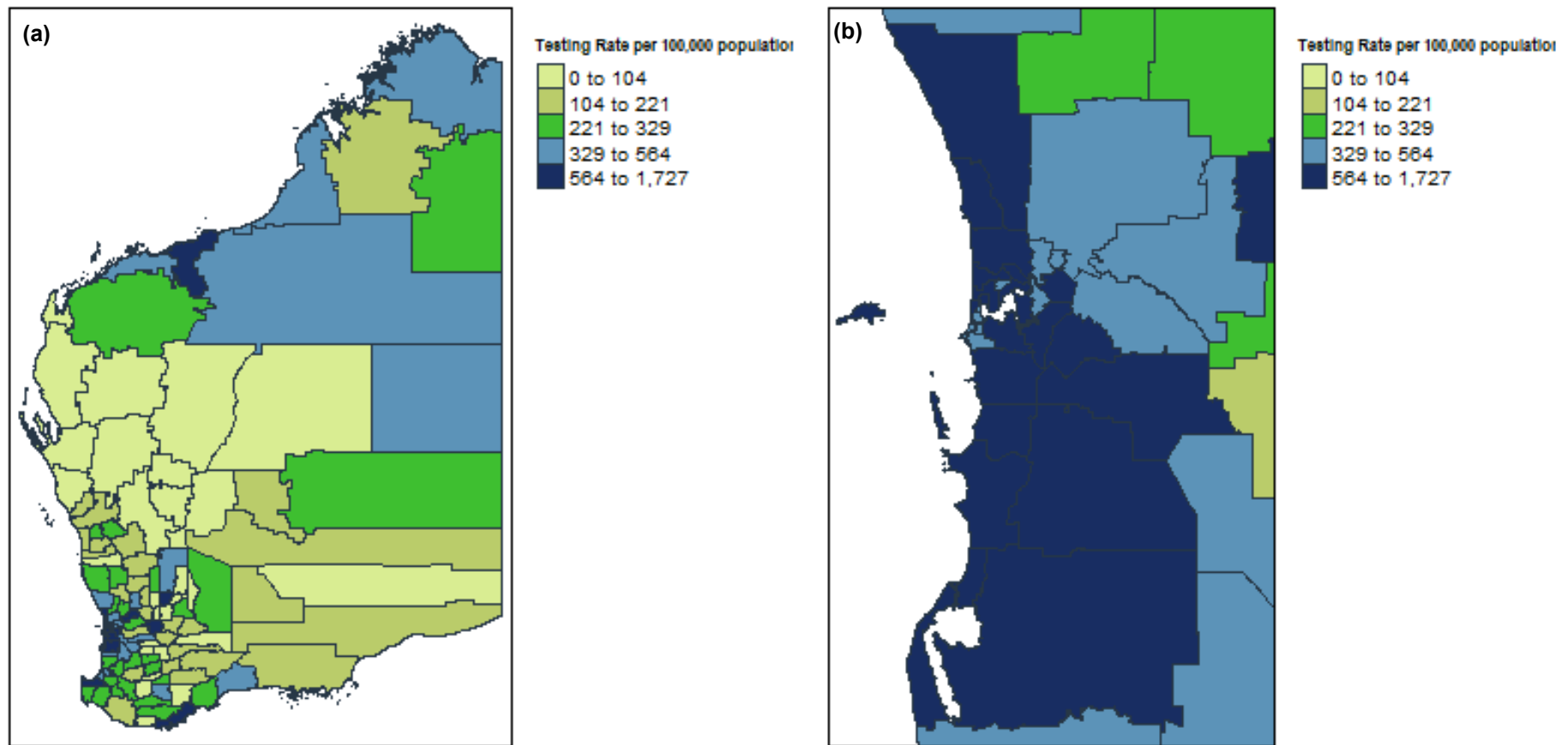
Data sourced from Western Australian public and private pathology laboratories  
 Specimen date refers to the date that specimen was collected  
 Number of tests includes both positive and negative tests.

**Table 4. Number of COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction tests and testing rates, by region, Western Australia, 29 August to 04 September 2022 and 22 August to 28 August 2022.**

	Region	Week 29 August to 04 September 2022		Week 22 August to 28 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>	185	343	249	462
	<b>Great Southern</b>	328	535	386	629
	<b>Kimberley</b>	160	444	178	494
	<b>Midwest</b>	207	334	304	490
	<b>Pilbara</b>	335	533	300	478
	<b>South West</b>	1,025	564	1,271	699
	<b>Wheatbelt</b>	261	343	237	311
<b>WACHS total *</b>		2,501	468	2,925	548
<b>Other**</b>		236	-	300	-
<b>Metropolitan</b>		18,729	880	22,645	1,063
<b>Total</b>		21,466	806	25,870	971

**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, 29 August to 04 September 2022. (b) Polymerase chain reaction testing rates per 100,000 population by LGA, Perth metropolitan area, 29 August to 04 September 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, 29 August – 04 September 2022

WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 29 Aug to 04 Sept 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 29 Aug to 04 Sept 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 29 Aug to 04 Sept 2022
Goldfields	0872	<5	Midwest (continued)	6642	<5	South West (continued)	6282	5
	6429	6		6701	9		6284	10
	6430	49		6707	12		6285	19
	6431	5	Pilbara	6710	<5		6286	<5
	6432	20		6713	6		6290	<5
	6437	<5		6714	41		6398	<5
	6438	<5		6716	14	Wheatbelt	6041	<5
	6442	7		6720	<5		6044	<5
	6450	19		6721	16		6302	6
Great Southern	6316	<5		6722	32		6304	12
	6317	14		6751	5		6306	<5
	6320	<5		6753	24		6308	<5
	6323	<5	6754	13	6311		<5	
	6324	15	6760	<5	6312		9	
	6330	148	South West	6219	<5		6313	<5
	6333	15		6220	17		6315	13
	6337	<5		6223	<5		6350	<5
	6338	<5		6224	<5		6359	<5
	6341	<5		6225	39	6365	<5	
	6348	<5		6226	<5	6369	<5	
	6395	<5		6227	<5	6370	6	
6396	8	6229		<5	6375	<5		
Kimberley	6725	41		6230	134	6383	<5	
	6726	18		6232	40	6386	<5	
	6728	25		6233	73	6390	7	
	6743	9		6236	<5	6391	<5	
	6765	<5	6237	5	6392	<5		
	6770	5	6239	16	6401	36		
	Midwest	6514	5	6244	5	6405	<5	
6525		9	6253	<5	6407	10		
6528		<5	6254	<5	6410	<5		
6530		118	6255	13	6411	<5		
6532		14	6258	21	6415	13		
6535		<5	6260	<5	6418	<5		
6536		<5	6262	<5	6426	<5		
6537		<5	6271	<5	6460	<5		
6620		<5	6280	122	6461	<5		
6638		10	6281	27	6473	<5		



WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 29 Aug to 04 Sept 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 29 Aug to 04 Sept 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 29 Aug to 04 Sept 2022
Wheatbelt (continued)	6475	<5						
	6479	<5						
	6485	<5						
	6501	<5						
	6502	<5						
	6503	5						
	6507	<5						
	6510	7						
	6511	<5						
	6516	<5						
	6560	5						
	6562	7						
	6566	17						
	6567	<5						
	6603	<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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