



# COVID-19 Weekly Surveillance Report

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## Summary for the week 25 July to 31 July 2022 (inclusive)

In the week of 25 July to 31 July 2022 there were:

- 29,629 COVID-19 cases reported
  - 10,494 with positive polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests
  - 19,135 with positive rapid antigen tests (RAT)
  - 27,948 locally acquired, 1,015 interstate acquired, 666 overseas acquired
  - 3,022 were reinfections (see definition in Table 2)
- 181 new hospital admissions and 4 new admissions into an intensive care unit
- 35 deaths reported, aged between 49 to 102 years old
- 50,341 COVID-19 PCR tests conducted.

### Surveillance summary

There was a 9% decrease in **PCR tests** in the current reporting week (week ending 31 July 2022), compared to the previous reporting week, with the proportion of positive PCR tests on a downward trend but still remaining high over the course of the week with a 7-day average of 21.2% positivity.

Overall, **case numbers** decreased by 25% compared to the previous week, compared to the 9% week-on-week decrease observed during the previous 7-day period. There was a decrease in cases diagnosed by PCR test and RAT of 26% and 24%, respectively. The significant decrease in cases over the past week, and reducing proportion of positive PCR tests, indicates that the case load in the community is continuing to decline.

**Case rates** per 100,000 population for all public health regions are decreasing, except for the Great Southern and Midwest regions, where rates are increasing and remaining steady, respectively. The Kimberley and Pilbara regions have the highest rates. The rates in the Perth metropolitan area are tracking approximately 5% higher than in Western Australia Country Health Service (WACHS) areas combined. Age groups between 20 - 69 years old represent the highest proportion of cases reported, with a decreasing trend observed in all but the 0 – 19 age groups, where rates remain steady. The rate of cases per 100,000 population is decreasing in WA and now sits below all other jurisdictions, with ACT and Tasmania having the highest case rates.

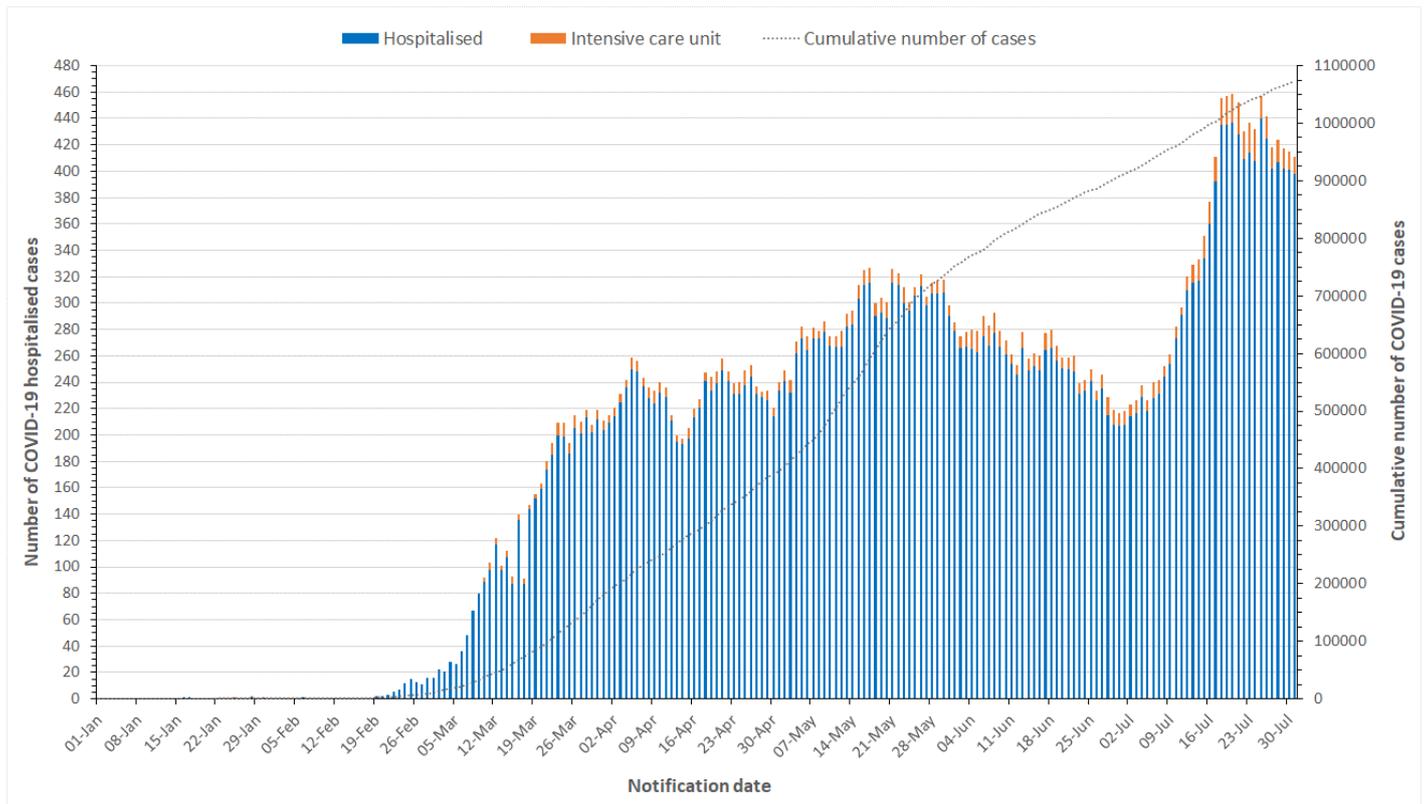
The 7-day average of **hospitalised inpatient cases** and **intensive care unit inpatient cases** decreased by 3% and 27%, respectively, compared to the previous reporting week. New hospital admissions and new intensive care unit admissions related to COVID-19 decreased by 12% and 67%, respectively, compared to the previous reporting week.

There was a 30% increase in **deaths** reported in the current reporting week compared to the previous reporting week.

There were 1,042 cases in the **Aboriginal population** during the current reporting week, a 10% decrease in cases compared to the previous reporting week. Cases in the Aboriginal population are being reported at a lower rate compared to the non-Aboriginal population, with the rate ratio increasing to 0.87 in the past week. There were 2 deaths 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 31 July 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.

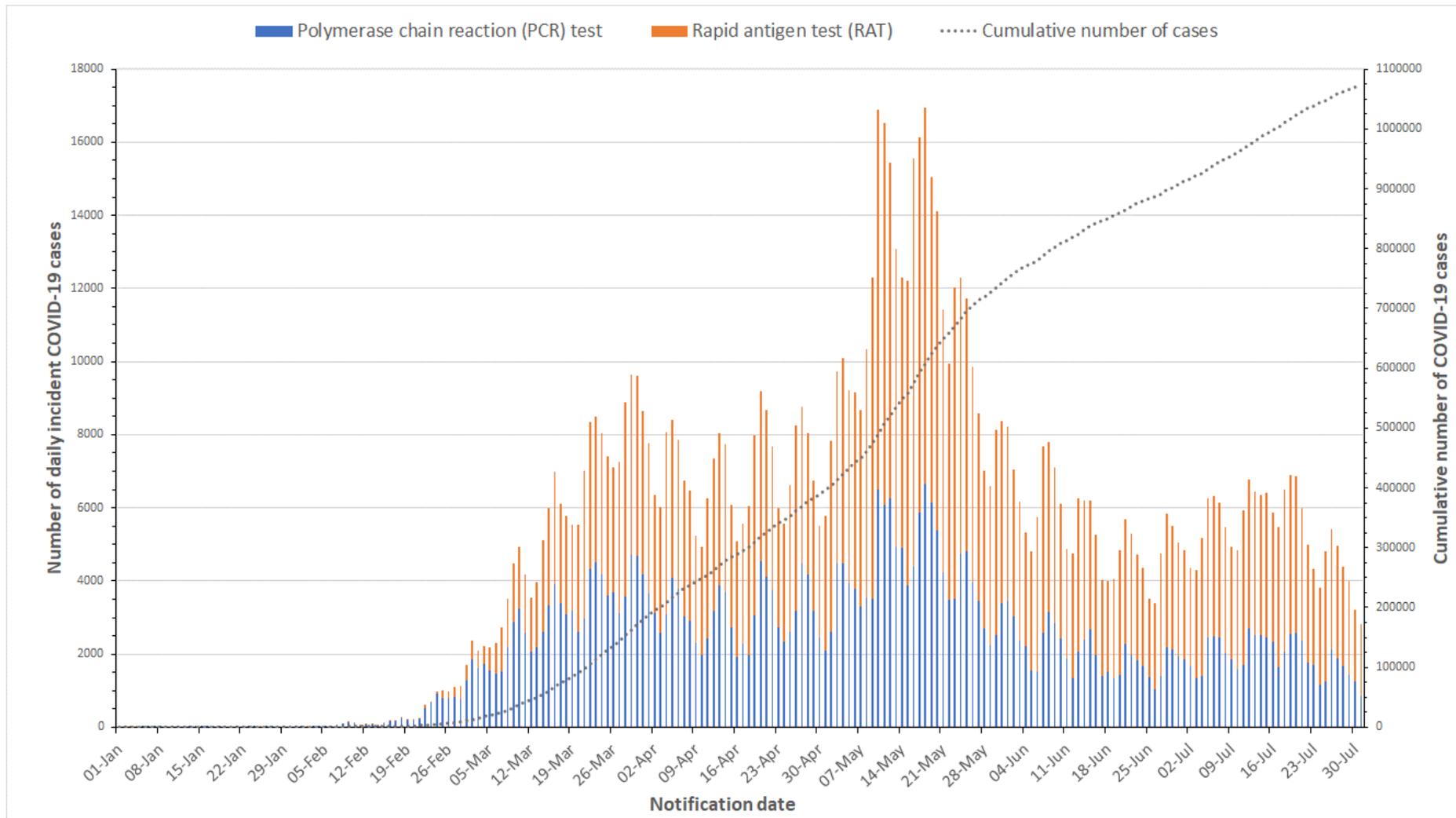
**Table 1. Number of COVID-19 related deaths reported by vaccination status and age group, 25 July to 31 July 2022 and 01 January to 31 July 2022.**

	Week 25 July to 31 July 2022	01 Jan 2022 – 31 July 2022
<b>Number of COVID-19 vaccine doses</b>	<b>Deaths n=35</b>	<b>Deaths n=494</b>
<b>0</b>	5 (14.3%)	107 (21.7%)
<b>1</b>	0 (0%)	24 (4.8%)
<b>2</b>	10 (28.6%)	73 (14.8%)
<b>3+</b>	20 (57.1%)	290 (58.7%)
<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 (0.8%)
<b>40-49</b>	1 (2.9%)	7 (1.4%)
<b>50-59</b>	2 (5.7%)	21 (4.3%)
<b>60-69</b>	2 (5.7%)	42 (8.5%)
<b>70-79</b>	9 (25.7%)	85 (17.2%)
<b>80-89</b>	10 (28.6%)	185 (37.4%)
<b>90+</b>	11 (31.4%)	147 (29.8%)

**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 29<sup>th</sup> July 2022 – 83.3% 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  
 4 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

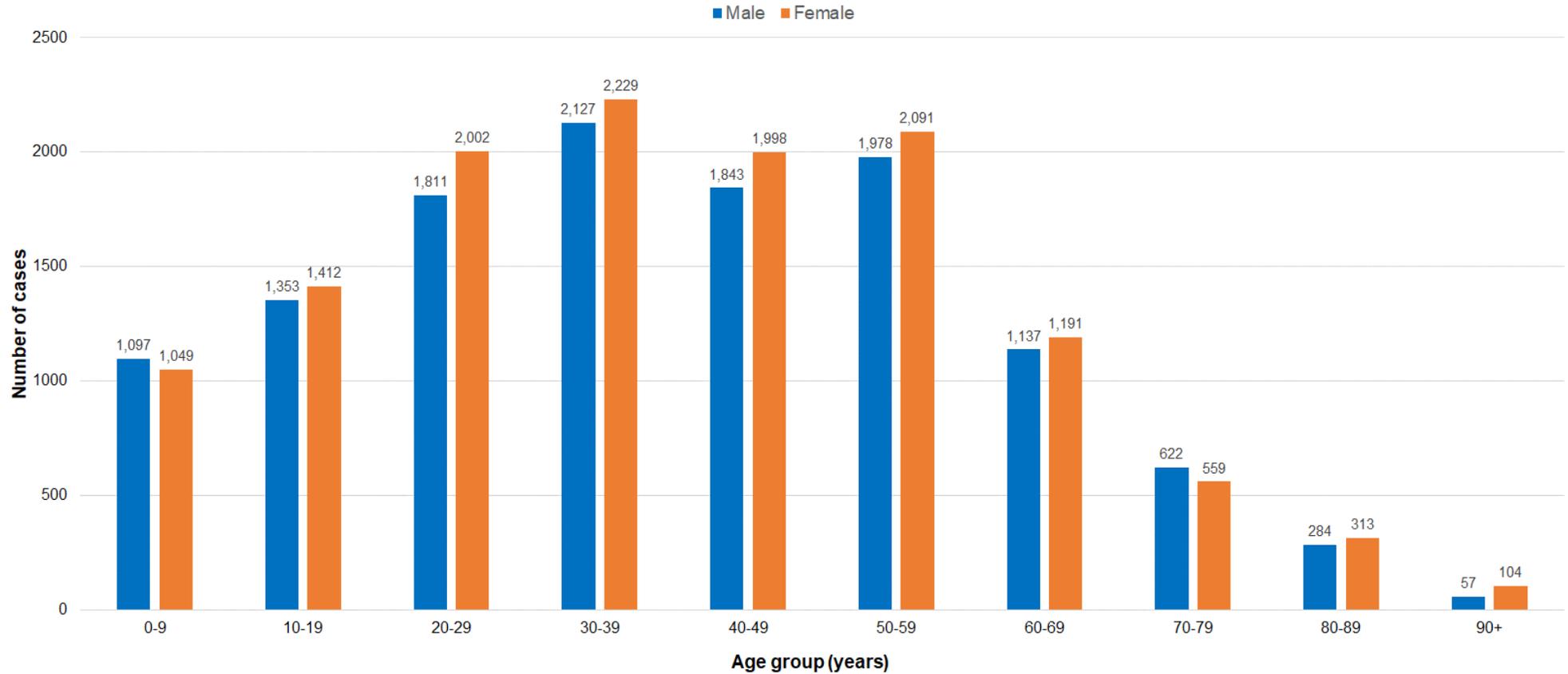
Figure 2. COVID-19 cases by notification date and test type, Western Australia, 01 January to 31 July 2022.



### 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, 25 July to 31 July 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.

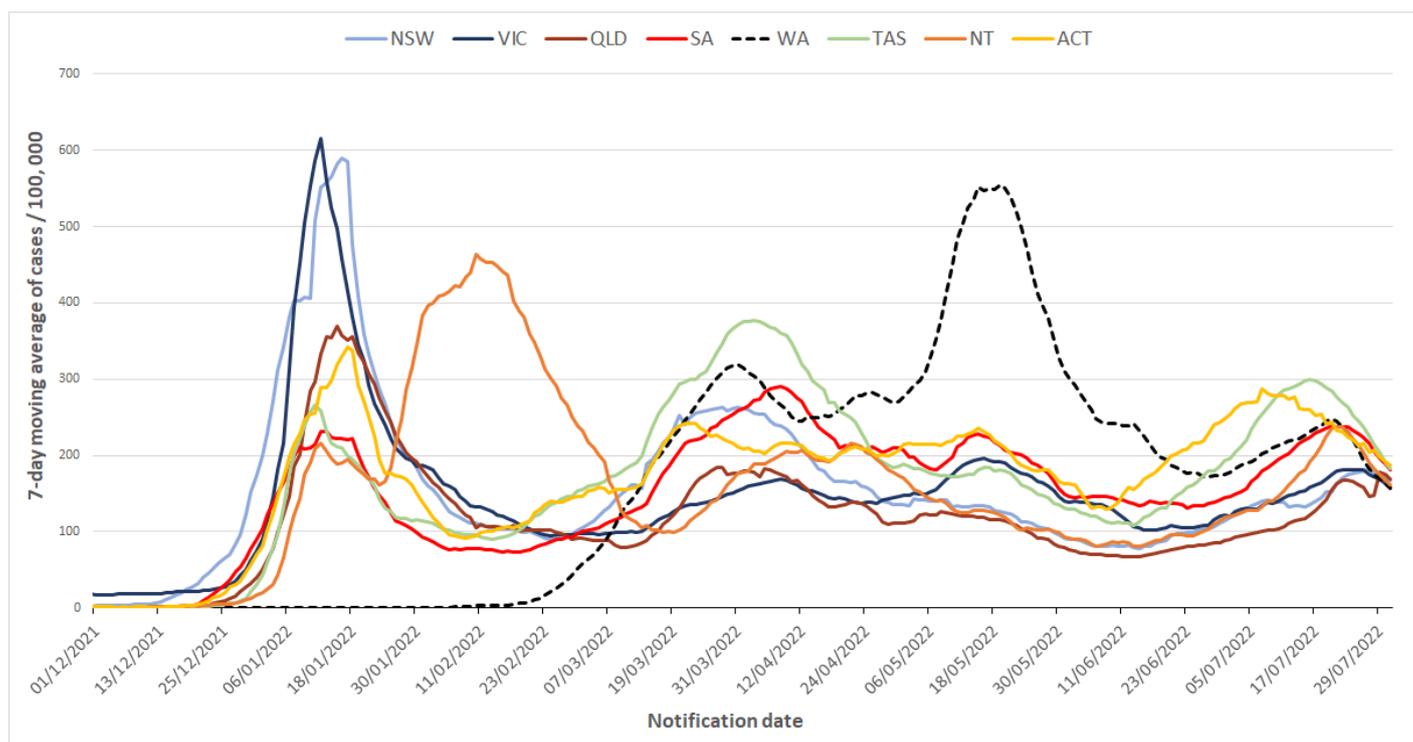
- Males: n=12,309 (48.7%) Females: n=12,948 (51.3%)
- Median age = 38 years; range: 0 to 105 years

**Table 2. COVID-19 reinfections in Western Australia, 02 March to 31 July 2022.**

Month	Number of reinfections *
Mar-2022	14
Apr-2022	26
May-2022	104
Jun-2022	746
Jul-2022	6296
<b>Total</b>	<b>7176</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

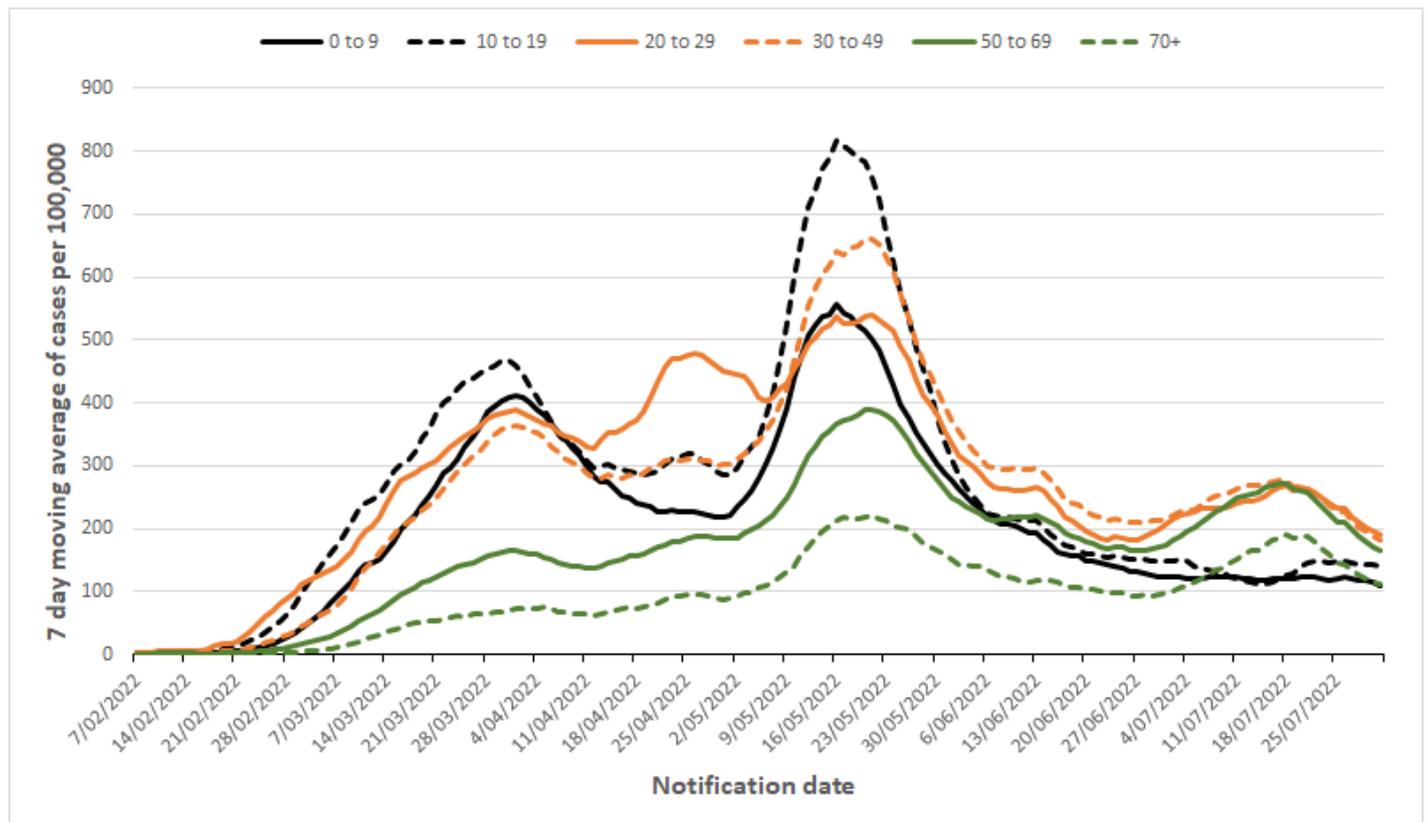
**Figure 4. 7-day moving average of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people, by Australian jurisdiction, 01 December 2021 to 31 July 2022.**



**Notes**

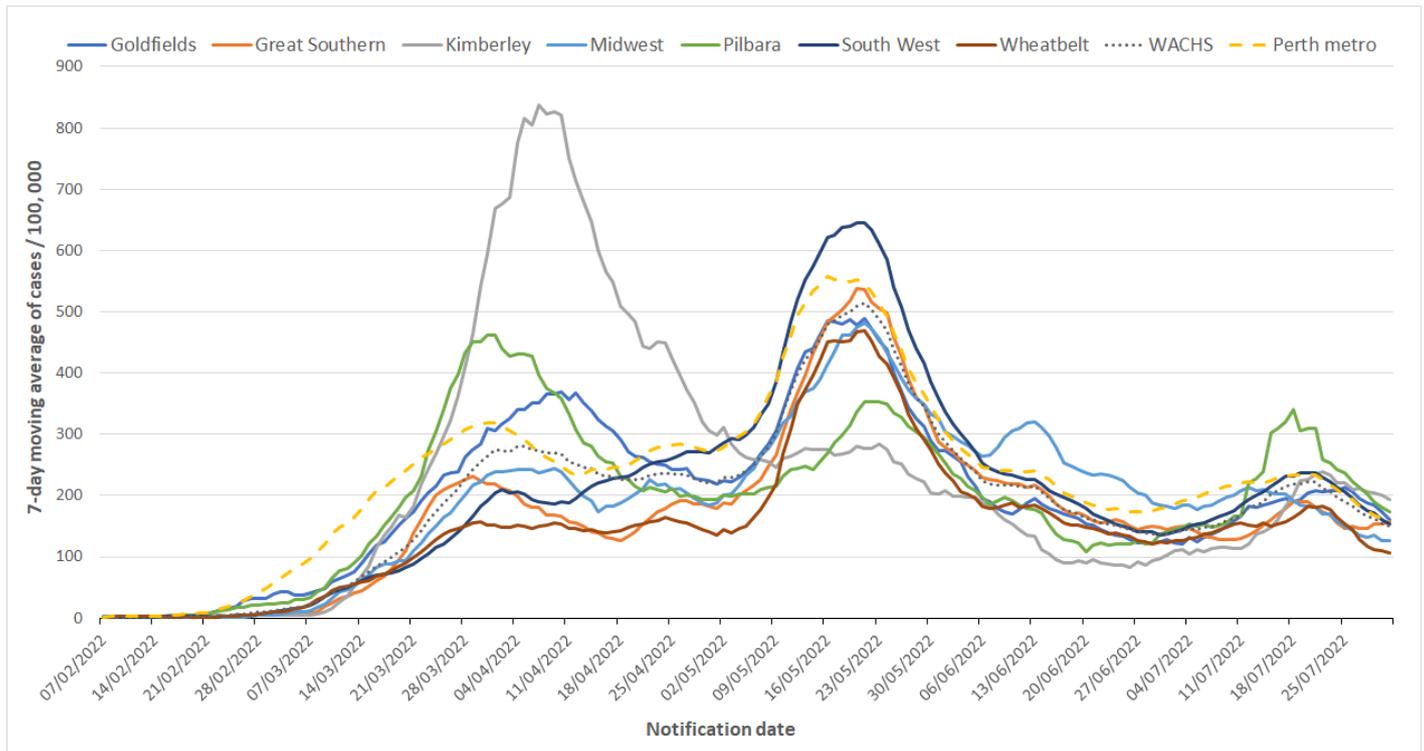
Data sourced from the respective jurisdictional health department datasets  
 Notification date refers to data collected up to the end of the 24-hour reporting period 8pm to 8pm  
 The reporting period in WA transitioned to a 6pm to 6pm cycle from 18<sup>th</sup> June 2022 inclusive  
 Population denominator 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, 07 February to 31 July 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, 07 February 2022 to 31 July 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, 25 July to 31 July 2022 and 18 July to 24 July 2022.**

	Region	Week 25 July to 31 July 2022		Week 18 July to 24 July 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)
<b>WACHS Regions</b>	<b>Goldfields</b>	609	1129	783	1452
	<b>Great Southern</b>	672	1096	670	1093
	<b>Kimberley</b>	489	1356	557	1545
	<b>Midwest</b>	550	886	685	1104
	<b>Pilbara</b>	766	1220	1069	1702
	<b>South West</b>	1943	1069	2726	1499
	<b>Wheatbelt</b>	571	749	880	1155
<b>WACHS total*</b>		<b>5600</b>	<b>1048</b>	<b>7370</b>	<b>1380</b>
<b>Other**</b>		472	-	806	-
<b>Metropolitan</b>		23,557	1106	31,190	1465
<b>Total</b>		29,629	1112	39,366	1478

**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

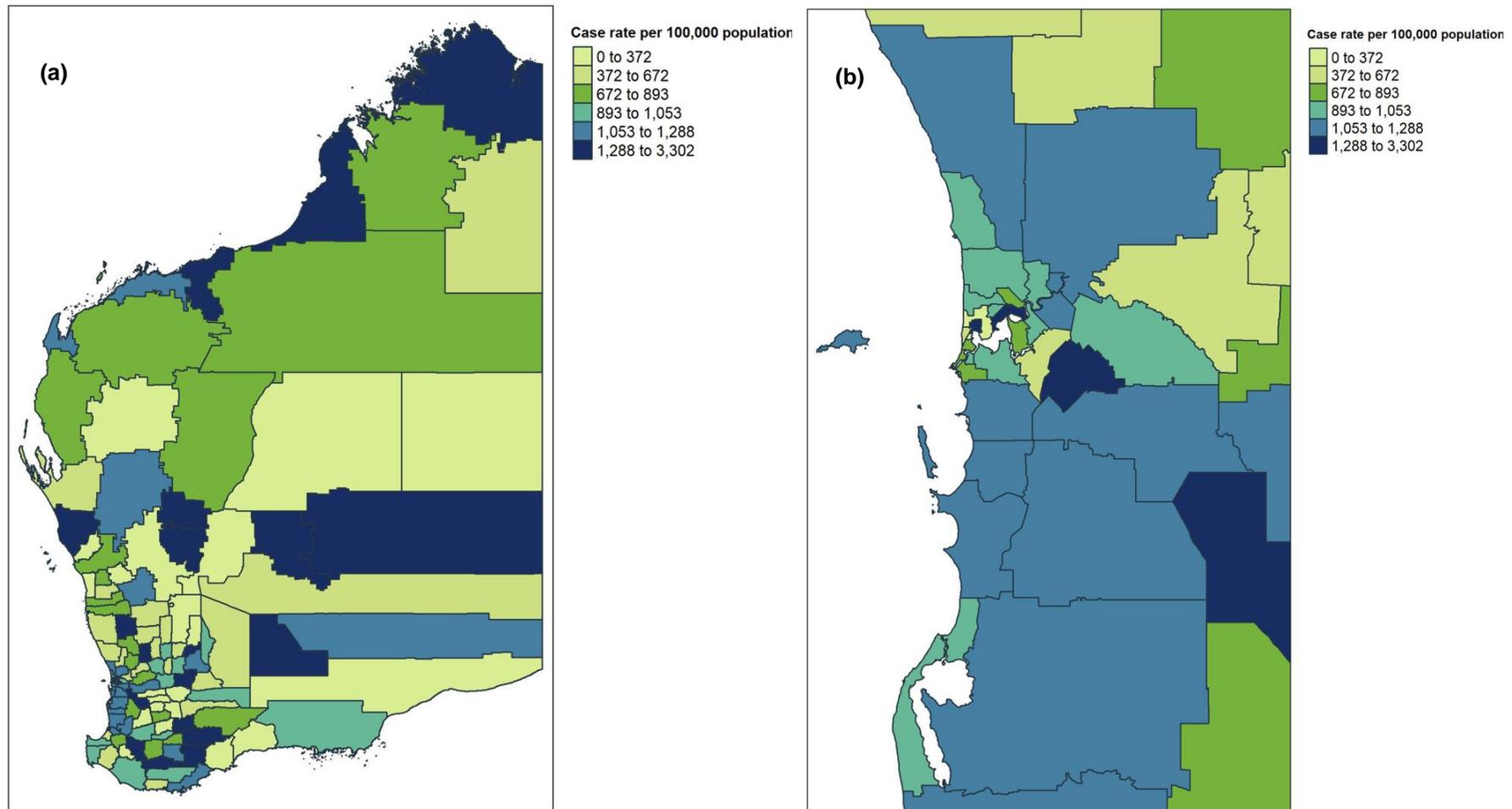
Total excludes WACHS\*

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, 25 July to 31 July 2022. (b) Locally acquired COVID-19 case rates per 100,000 population by LGA, Perth metropolitan area, 25 July to 31 July 2022.**

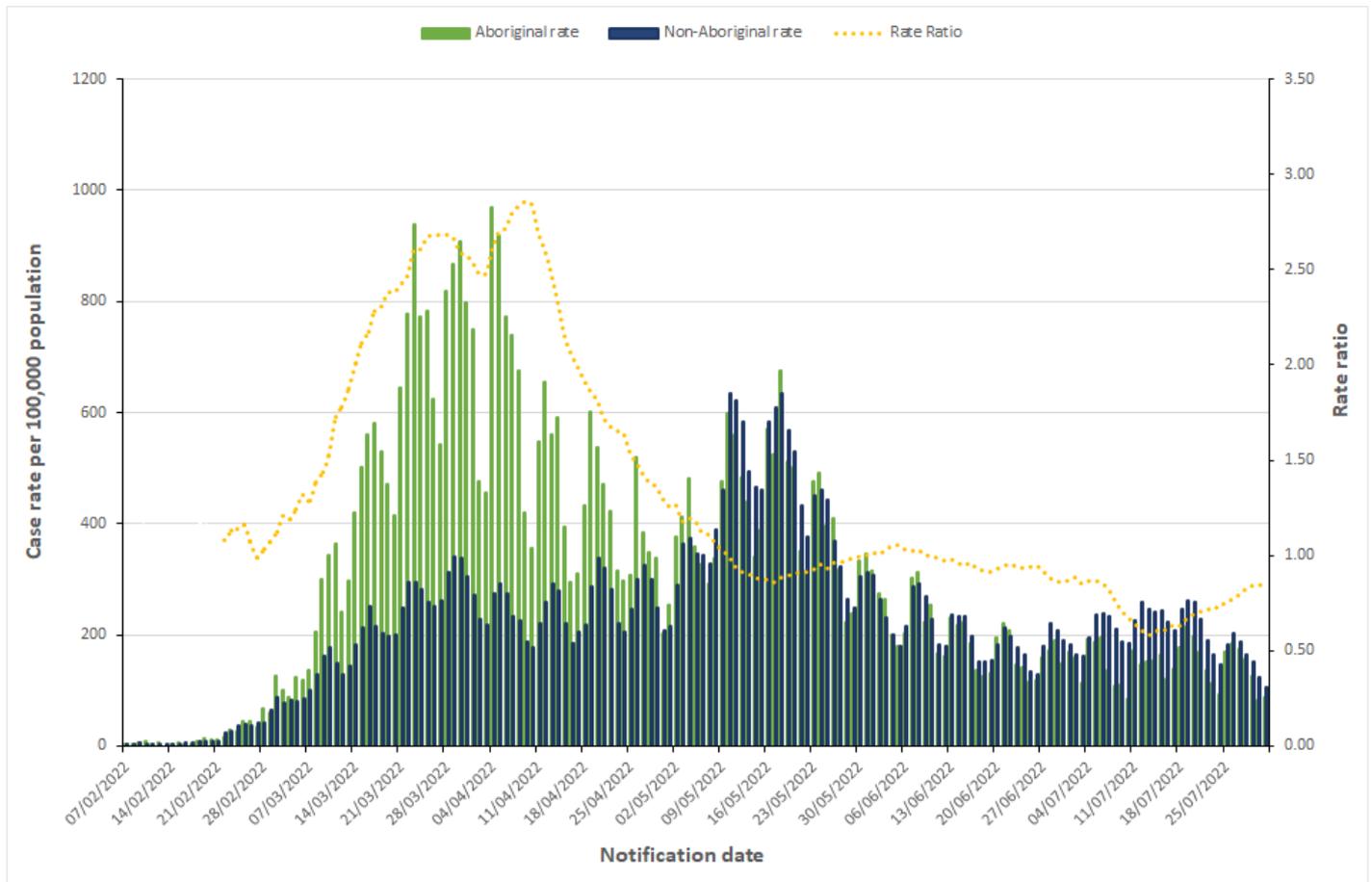


**Notes**

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, 07 February to 31 July 2022.

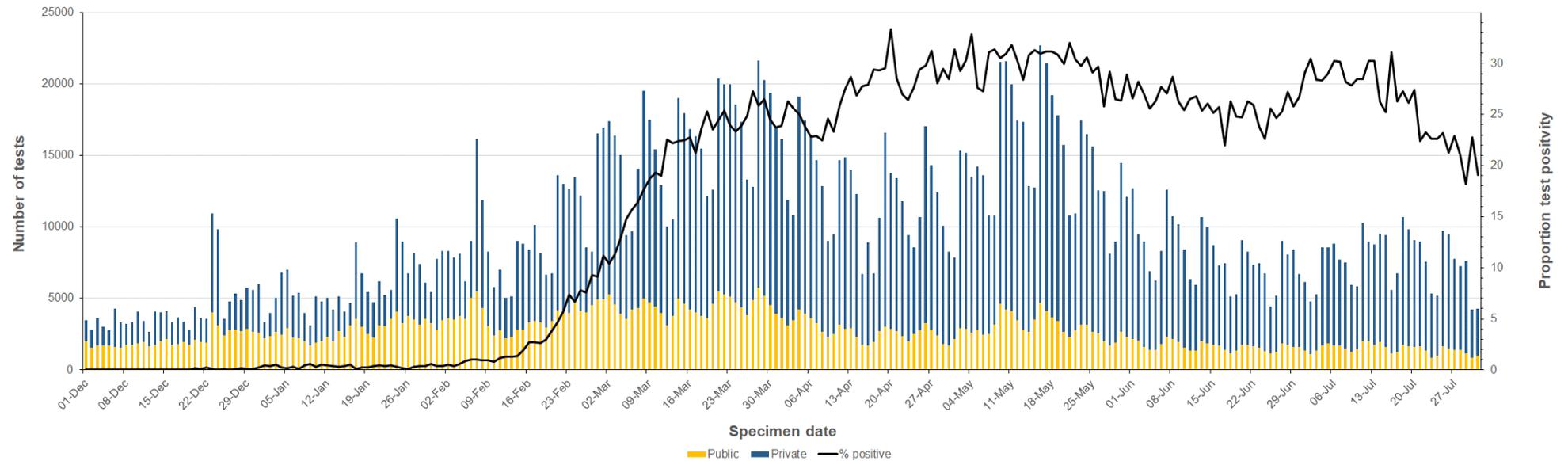


**Notes**

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 31 July 2022.



### Notes

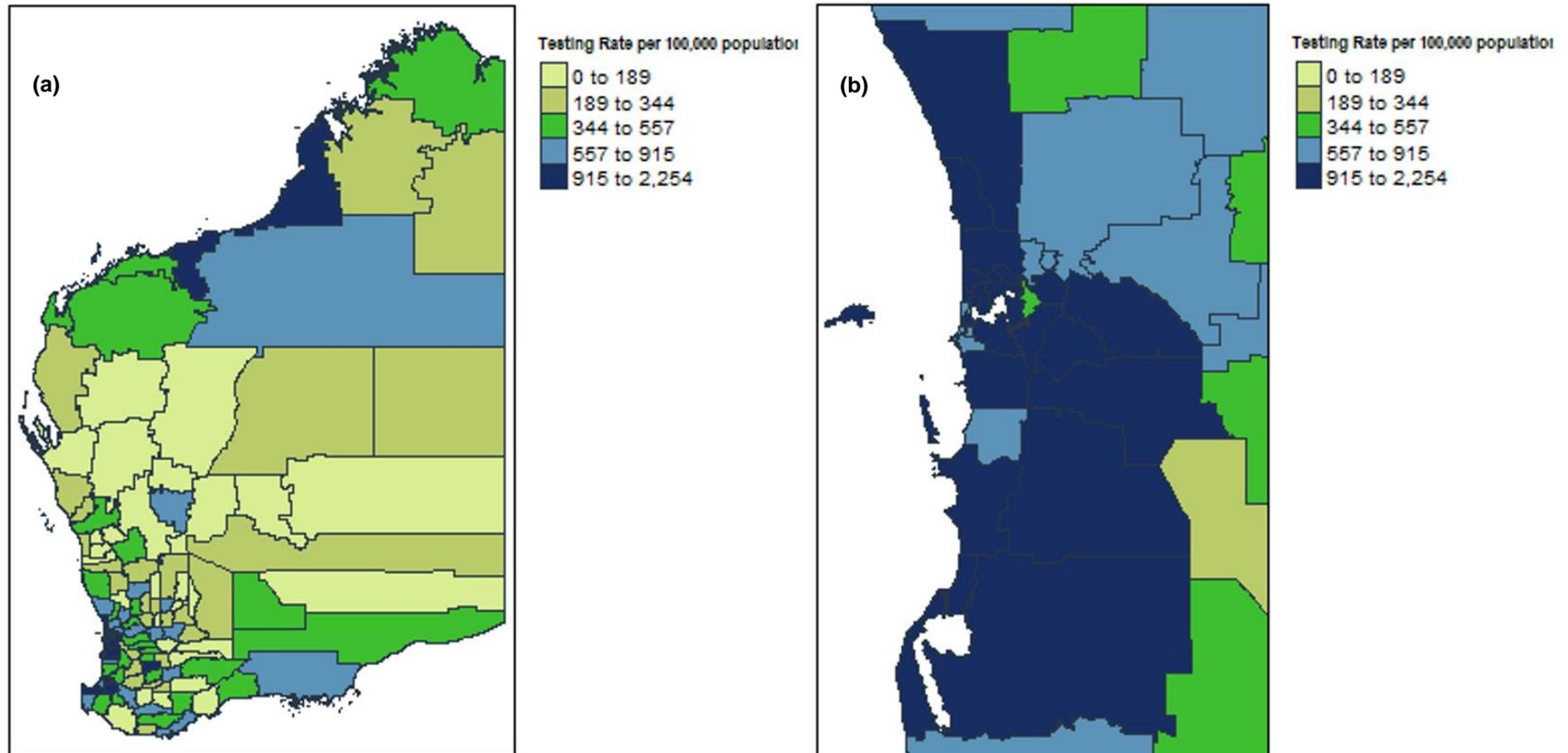
Data sourced from Western Australian public and private pathology laboratories  
Specimen date refers to the date that specimen was collected  
Number of tests includes both positive and negative tests.

**Table 4. Number of COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction tests and testing rates, by region, Western Australia, 25 July to 31 July 2022 and 18 July to 24 July 2022.**

	Region	Week 25 July to 31 July 2022		Week 18 July to 24 July 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>	484	897	619	1147
	<b>Great Southern</b>	498	812	409	667
	<b>Kimberley</b>	396	1098	414	1148
	<b>Midwest</b>	371	598	427	688
	<b>Pilbara</b>	655	1043	821	1307
	<b>South West</b>	2647	1456	2856	1571
	<b>Wheatbelt</b>	545	715	560	735
<b>WACHS total *</b>		<b>5596</b>	<b>1048</b>	<b>6106</b>	<b>1143</b>
<b>Other**</b>		372	-	420	-
<b>Metropolitan</b>		44,373	2084	48,908	2297
<b>Total</b>		50,341	1890	55,434	2081

**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, 25 July to 31 July 2022. (b) Polymerase chain reaction testing rates per 100,000 population by LGA, Perth metropolitan area, 25 July to 31 July 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, 25 July – 31 July 2022

WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 25 July to 31 July 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 25 July to 31 July 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 25 July to 31 July 2022	
Goldfields	872	<5	Great Southern (continued)	6348	<5	Midwest (continued)	6642	7	
	6346	<5		6394	<5		6701	37	
	6429	7		6395	14		6705	<5	
	6430	285		6396	15		6707	38	
	6432	93		6397	5	Pilbara	6710	<5	
	6434	<5	Kimberley	6725	217		6712	11	
	6436	<5		6726	59		6713	7	
	6437	5		6728	54		6714	227	
	6438	17		6740	<5		6716	10	
	6440	19		6743	123		6718	<5	
	6442	47		6765	13		6720	32	
	6443	<5		6770	21		6721	125	
	6445	10		6725	217		6722	168	
	6446	<5		Midwest	6514		5	6751	65
	6447	<5			6515		<5	6753	80
	6448	6	6517		<5		6754	14	
	6450	107	6518		<5		6758	<5	
	6646	<5	6519		<5		6760	<5	
	Great Southern	6316	<5		6522		<5	6762	16
		6317	38		6525	14	South West	6218	<5
6318		<5	6528		5	6219		7	
6320		11	6530	313	6220	38			
6321		6	6532	60	6221	<5			
6323		6	6535	9	6223	<5			
6324		39	6536	7	6224	9			
6326		<5	6537	5	6225	108			
6327		<5	6616	<5	6226	7			
6328		<5	6620	<5	6227	17			
6330		440	6623	<5	6228	<5			
6333		31	6630	13	6230	472			
6335		24	6631	<5	6232	131			
6336		<5	6632	<5	6233	259			
6338		11	6635	<5	6236	21			
6341		9	6638	7	6237	27			
6343		<5	6640	<5	6239	42			

WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 25 July to 31 July 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 25 July to 31 July 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 25 July to 31 July 2022
South West (continued)	6244	17	Wheatbelt (continued)	6356	<5	Wheatbelt (continued)	6485	6
	6251	<5		6357	<5		6488	<5
	6252	<5		6358	<5		6489	<5
	6253	6		6359	<5		6490	7
	6255	37		6365	4		6501	7
	6256	<5		6367	6		6502	15
	6258	72		6369	<5		6503	8
	6260	11		6375	5		6504	5
	6262	5		6383	10		6505	<5
	6271	54		6385	<5		6506	<5
	6275	6		6390	13		6507	<5
	6280	336		6391	<5		6509	<5
	6281	65		6392	<5		6510	34
	6282	13		6401	62		6513	<5
	6284	28		6405	5		6516	18
	6285	120		6407	8		6521	<5
	6286	12		6409	<5		6560	11
	6288	6		6410	8		6562	<5
	6290	7		6411	<5		6564	5
	6398	<5		6412	<5		6566	31
Wheatbelt	6041	9	6413	<5	6569	<5		
	6042	<5	6415	38	6574	<5		
	6043	<5	6418	16	6575	<5		
	6044	11	6420	<5	6603	12		
	6302	28	6421	<5	6606	6		
	6304	22	6423	<5	6609	6		
	6308	14	6426	<5	6612	<5		
	6309	<5	6428	<5	6613	<5		
	6311	<5	6460	<5				
	6312	38	6461	<5				
	6315	5	6468	<5				
	6350	<5	6470	<5				
	6352	7	6475	<5				
	6353	<5	6476	<5				
	6355	<5	6484	<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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