



COVID-19 Weekly Surveillance Report

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Summary for the week 23 May to 29 May 2022 (inclusive)

In the week of 23 May to 29 May 2022 there were:

- 68,400 COVID-19 cases reported (31% decrease compared to previous week)
 - 25,030 with positive polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests (29% decrease)
 - 43,370 with positive rapid antigen tests (RAT) (32% decrease)
 - 67,037 locally-acquired, 1060 interstate acquired, 303 overseas acquired
- 253 hospital admissions (15% decrease) and 11 transfers into an intensive care unit (38% increase)
- 35 deaths reported (21% increase), aged between 37 to 97 years old
- 91,660 COVID-19 PCR tests conducted (23% decrease).

Surveillance summary

There were 91,660 PCR tests conducted in the current reporting week (week ending 29 May 2022), a 23% decrease compared to the previous reporting week, with test positivity proportion reducing slightly but still remaining high over the course of the week with a 7-day average of 28.4%.

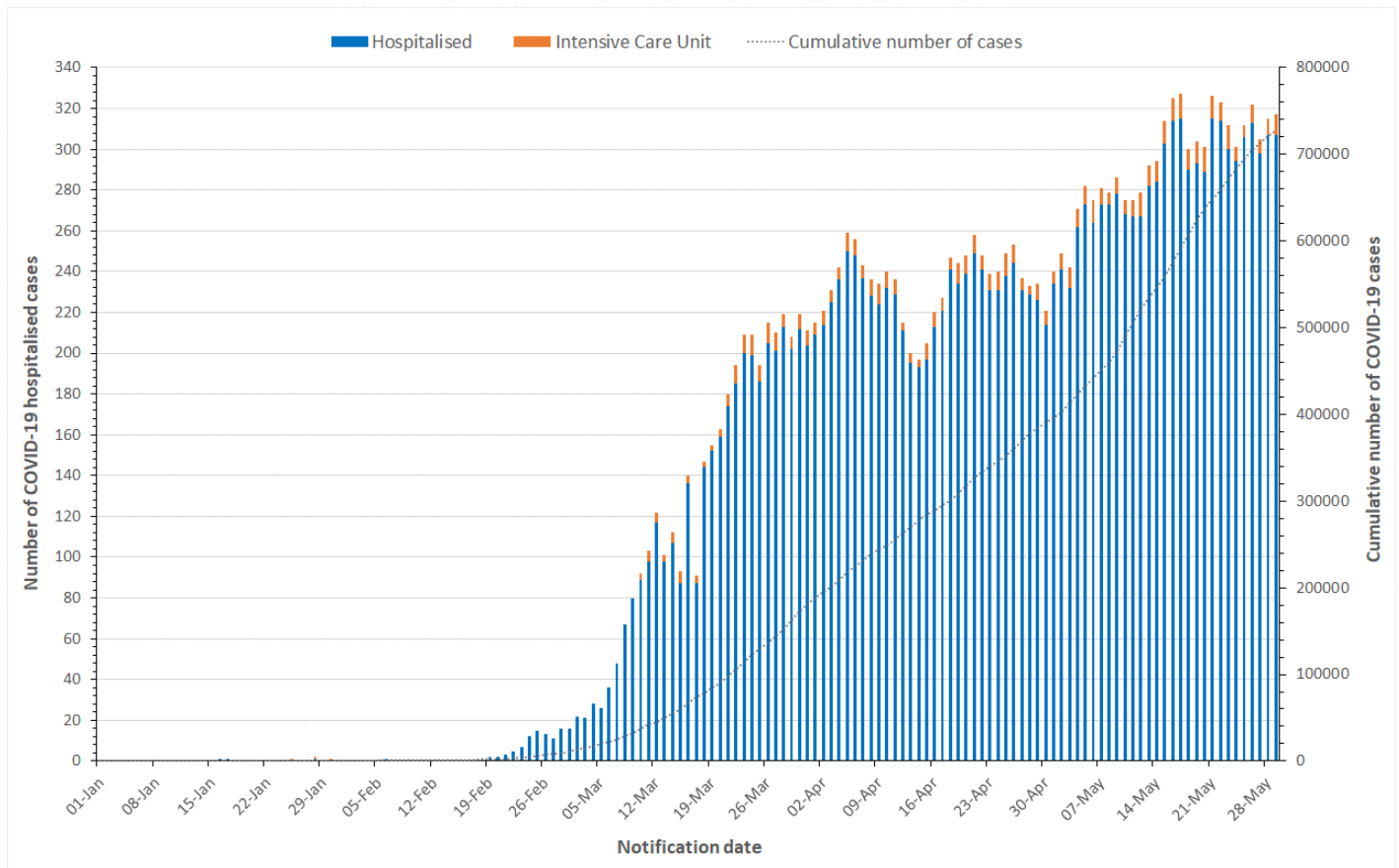
Overall, case numbers decreased by 31% compared to the previous week, compared to the 0.5% week-on-week increase observed during the previous 7-day period. There was a decrease in cases diagnosed by PCR test and RAT of 29% and 32%, respectively. The decrease in cases over the last week and high proportion of positive PCR tests indicates the case load in the community is reducing, however, still at a sustained high level.

Case rates per 100,000 population for all public health regions are decreasing, with the South West region and Perth metro area having the highest rates. Rates in the Perth metropolitan area are tracking approximately 7% higher than in Western Australia Country Health Service (WACHS) areas combined. Younger age groups less than 40 years old continue to represent the highest proportion of cases reported, with decreasing trends appearing in all age groups. The rate of cases per 100,000 population in WA has continued on a downward trend but still remains higher than all other Australian jurisdictions.

There were 2,724 cases and 1 death in the Aboriginal population during the reporting period, a 26% decrease in cases compared to the previous report week. Cases in the Aboriginal population are now being reported at a similar rate compared to the non-Aboriginal population, with the rate ratio increasing to 0.98 in the past week.

Hospitalisations, ICU admissions and deaths

Figure 1. Number of COVID-19 cases admitted to hospital and intensive care unit transfers, and cumulative number of COVID-19 cases, by notification date, 01 January to 29 May 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
'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, 23 May to 29 May 2022 and 01 January to 29 May 2022.

	Week 23 May to 29 May 2022	01 Jan 2022 – 29 May 2022
Number of COVID-19 vaccine doses	Deaths n=35	Deaths n=241
0	13 (37.1%)	63 (26.1%)
1	0 (0%)	18 (7.5%)
2	2 (5.7%)	42 (17.4%)
3+	20 (57.2%)	118 (49.0%)
Age group (years)		
0-9	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
10-19	0 (0%)	2 (0.8%)
20-29	0 (0%)	1 (0.4%)
30-39	1 (2.9%)	4 (1.7%)
40-49	0 (0%)	5 (2.1%)
50-59	0 (0%)	16 (6.6%)
60-69	3 (8.6%)	22 (9.1%)
70-79	7 (20.0%)	46 (19.1%)
80-89	11 (31.4%)	85 (35.3%)
90+	6 (17.1%)	60 (24.9%)

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

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

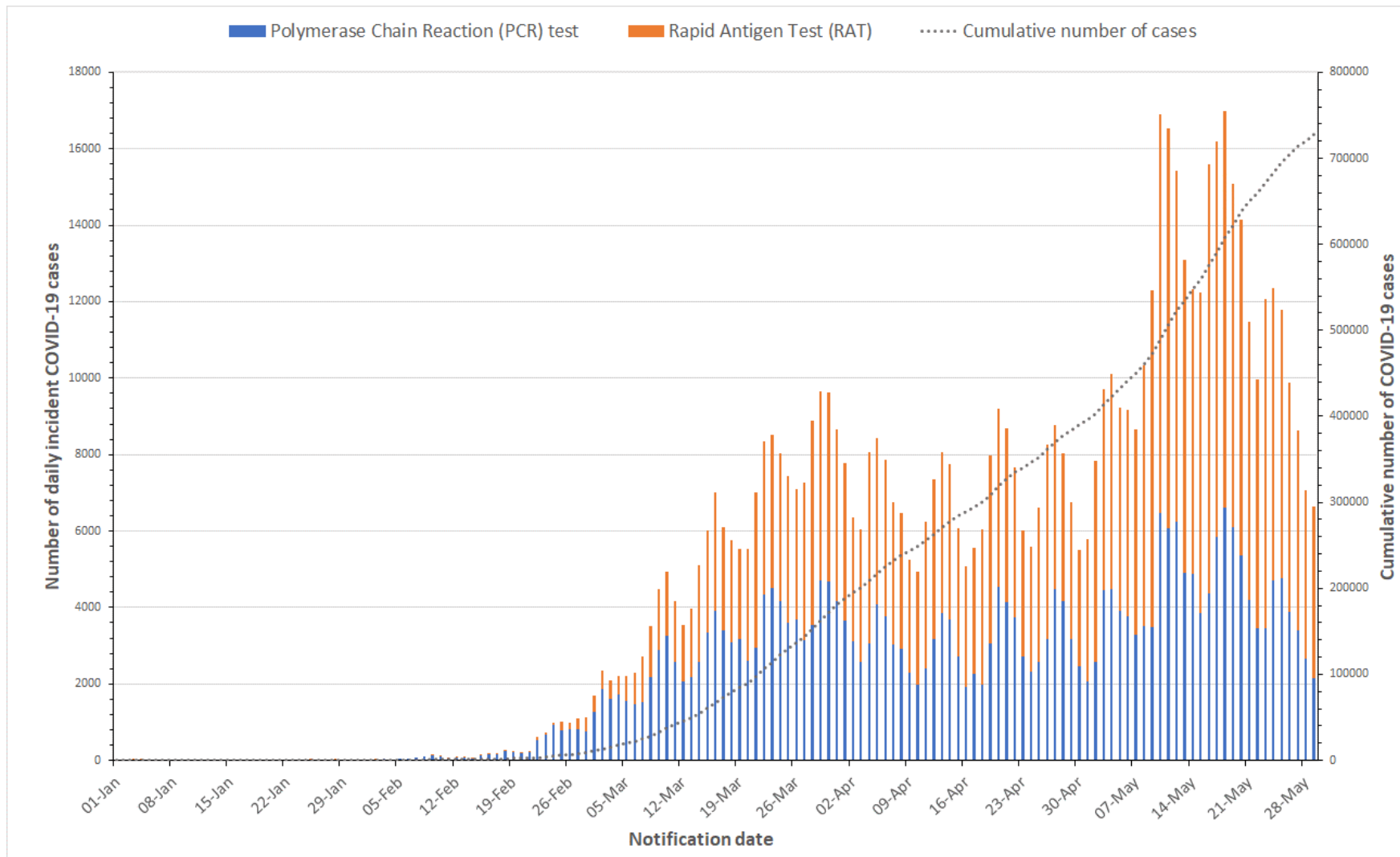
Notification date refers to data collected up to the end of the 24-hour reporting period 8pm to 8pm

Deaths are not necessarily associated with hospital and/or ICU admissions

One previous death was reclassified as being non-COVID related in the most recent report week.

Case data

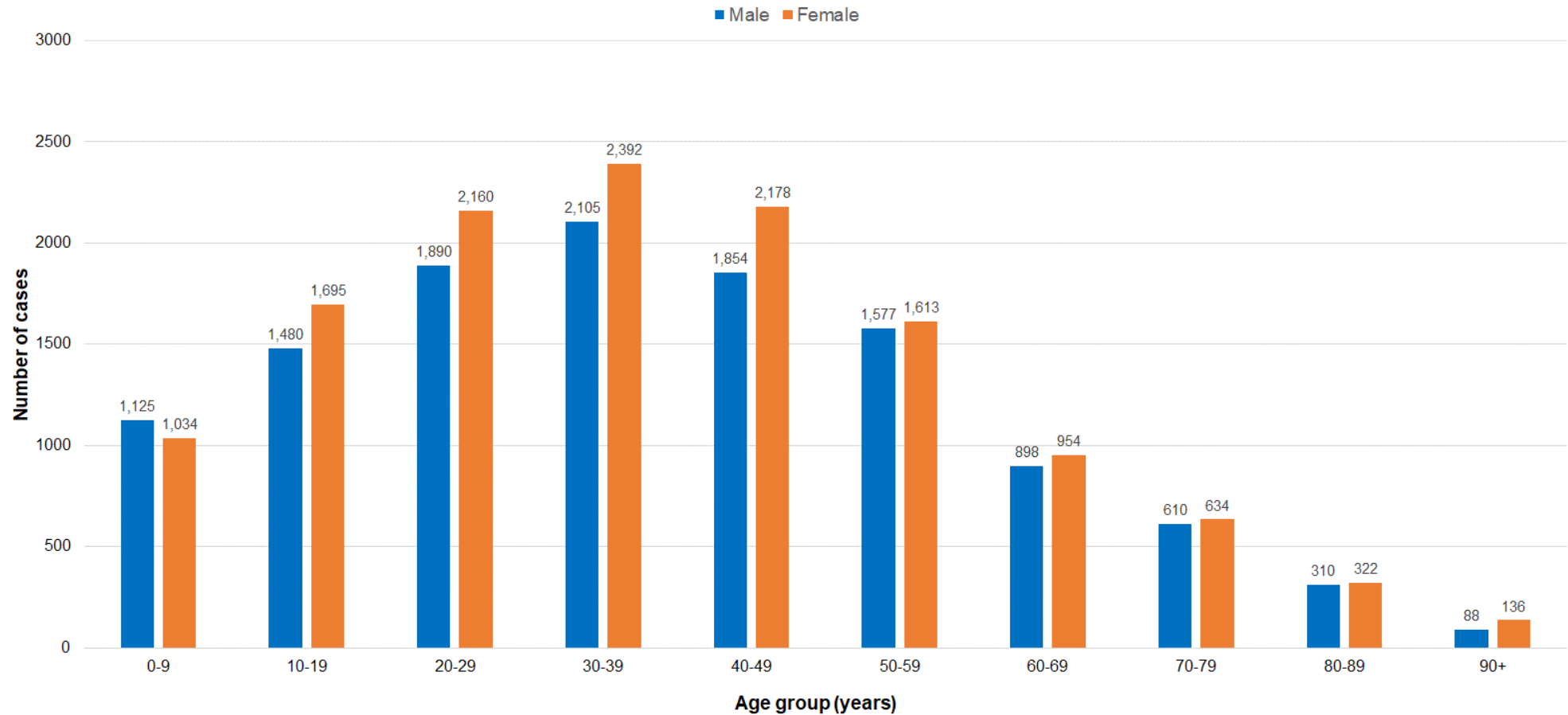
Figure 2. COVID-19 cases by notification date and test type, Western Australia, 01 January to 29 May 2022.



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.

Figure 3. COVID-19 cases by age group and sex, Western Australia, 23 May to 29 May 2022.



Notes

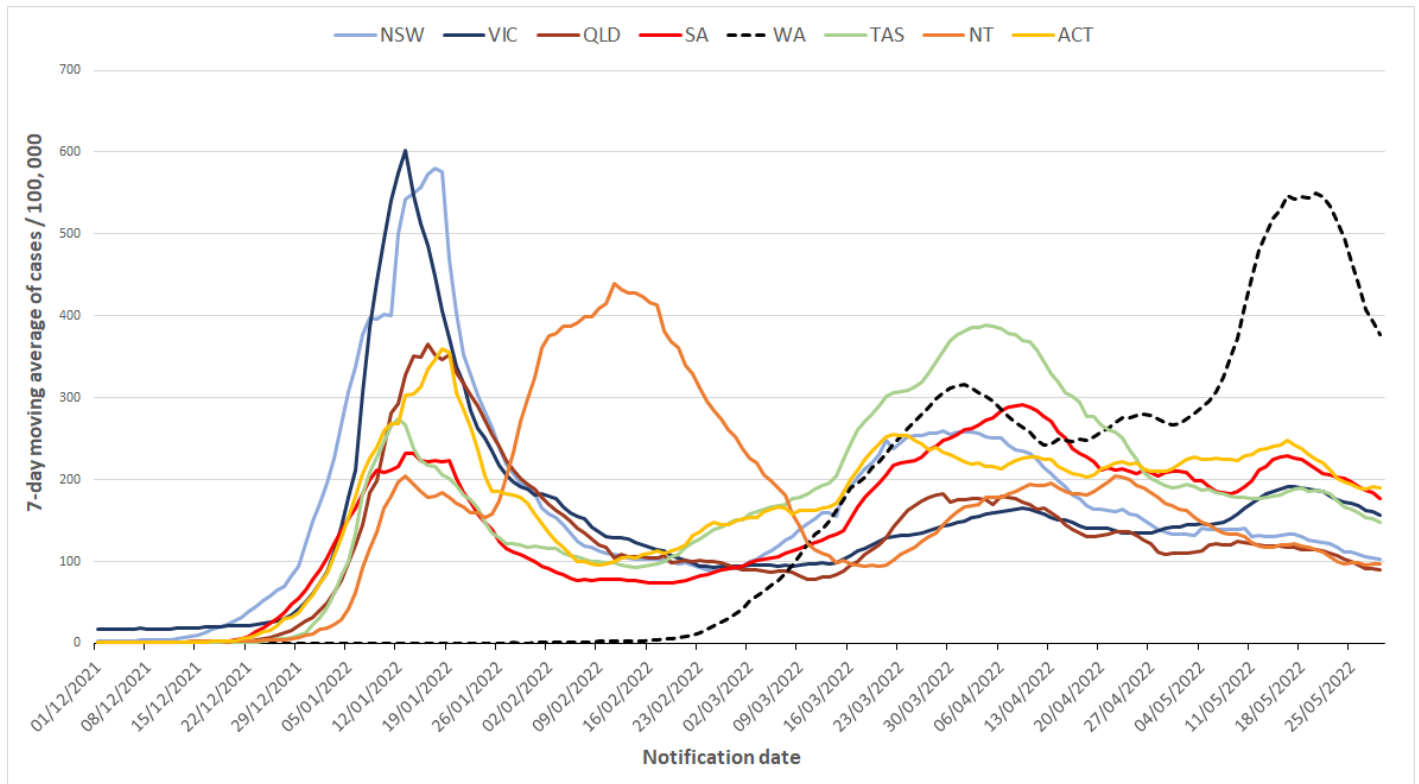
Data sourced from Western Australia Department of Health dataset

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

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=11,937 (47.6%). Females: n=13,118 (52.4%)
- Median age = 34 years; range: 0 to 102 years

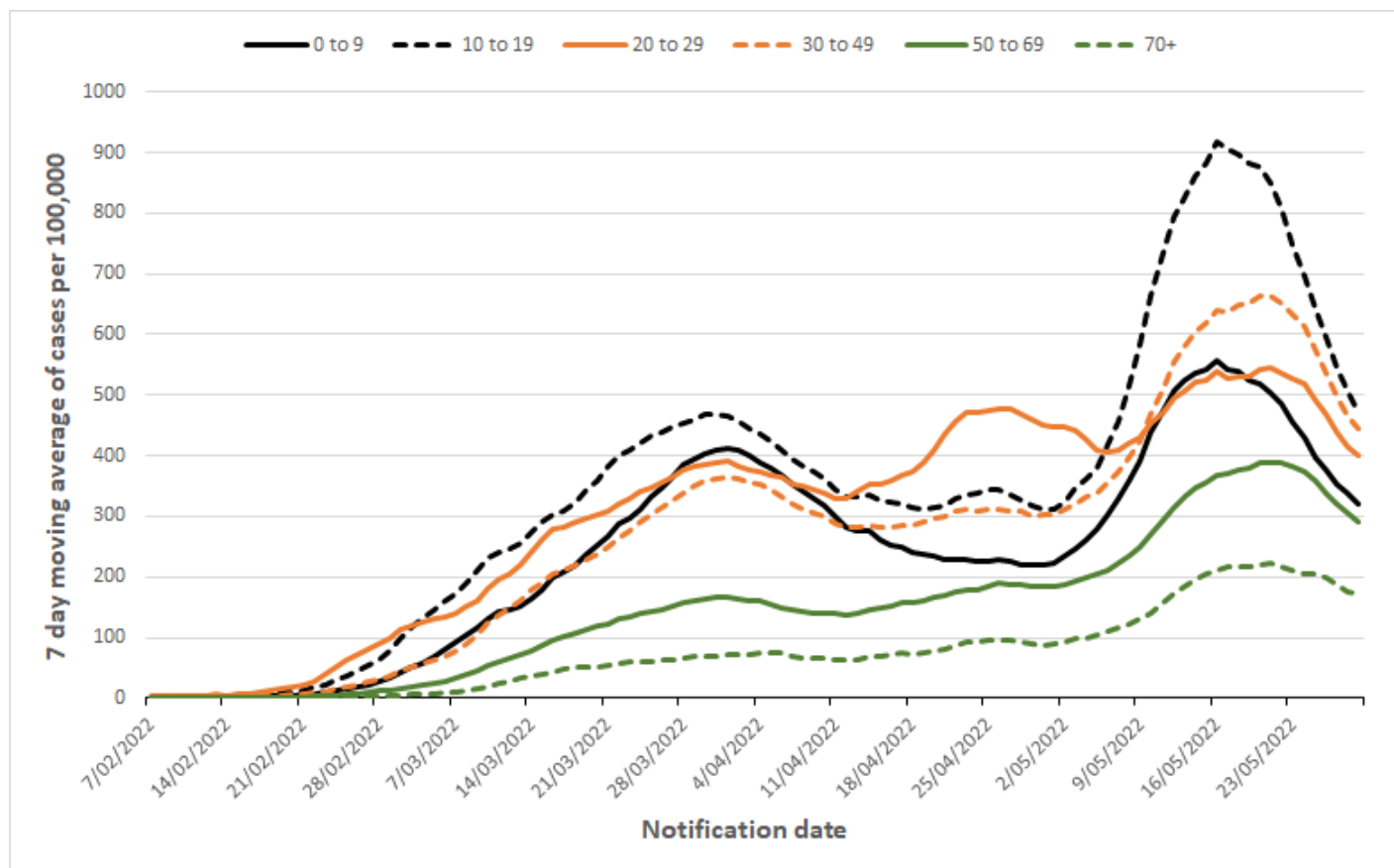
Figure 4. 7-day moving average of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people, by Australian jurisdiction, 01 December 2021 to 29 May 2022.



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

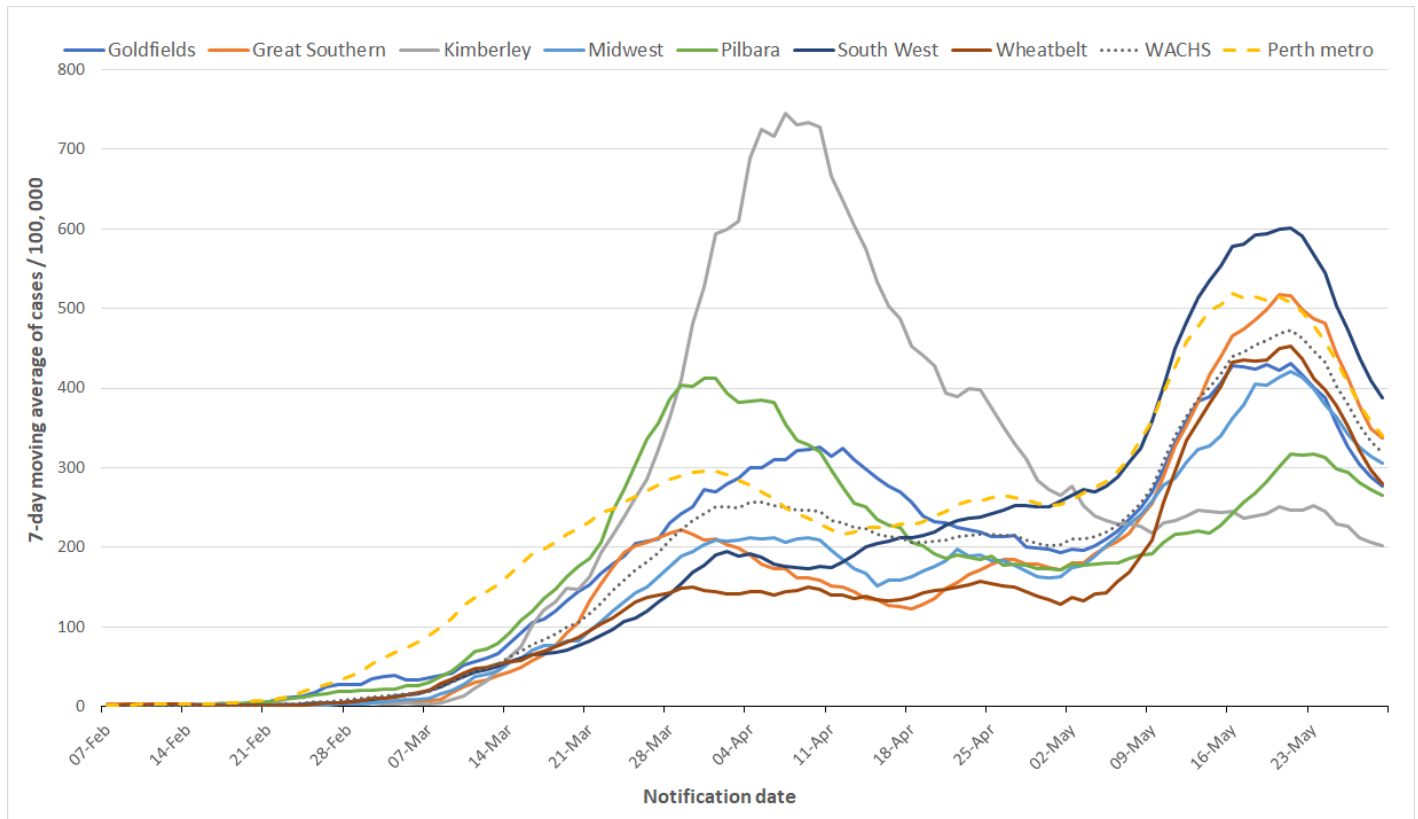
Figure 5. 7-day moving average of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 by age group, Western Australia, 07 February to 29 May 2022.



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
 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 2019 estimates.

Figure 6. 7-day moving average of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people, by public health region, Western Australia, 07 February 2022 to 29 May 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
 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
 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 June 2019 estimates.

Table 2. Number of COVID-19 cases and case rates per 100,000 population, by region, 23 May to 29 May 2022 and 16 May to 22 May 2022.

	Region	Week 23 May to 29 May 2022		Week 16 May to 22 May 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	1184	1936	1791	2928
	Great Southern	1504	2359	2228	3495
	Kimberley	575	1415	707	1740
	Midwest	1528	2145	2069	2904
	Pilbara	1306	1856	1562	2220
	South West	5329	2720	8118	4144
	Wheatbelt	1557	1957	2436	3062
WACHS total*		12,983	2228	18,911	3246
Other**		786	-	916	-
Metropolitan		54,631	2383	79,897	3485
Total		68,400	2379	99,724	3468

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

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

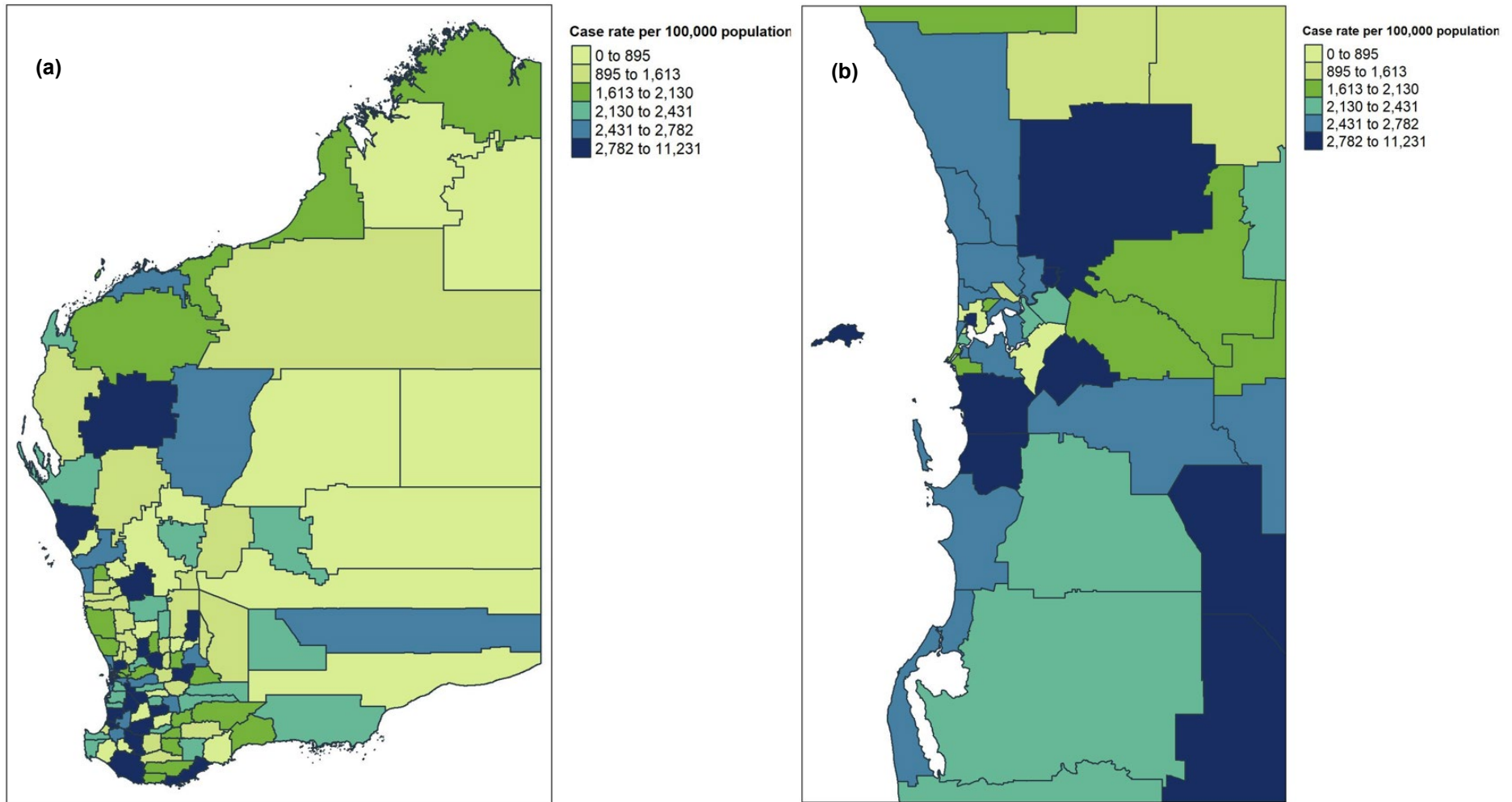
Total excludes WACHS*

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 2019 estimates.

Figure 7 (a). Locally-acquired COVID-19 case rates per 100,000 population by LGA, regional Western Australia, 23 May to 29 May 2022. (b) Locally-acquired COVID-19 case rates per 100,000 population by LGA, Perth metropolitan area, 23 May to 29 May 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

'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)

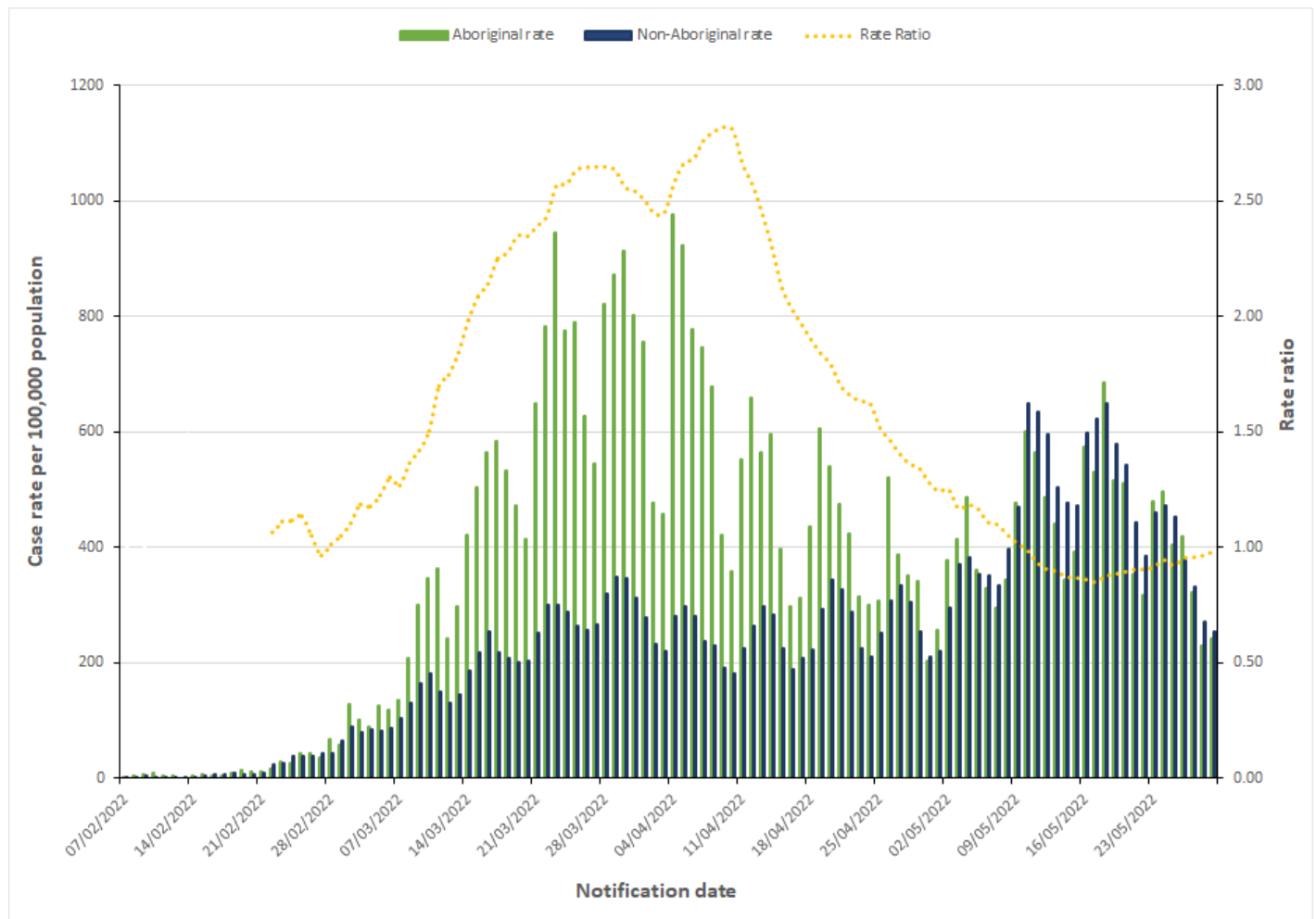
Case data includes those determined by both polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests and rapid antigen tests (RAT)

Areas on the map are defined by Local Government Area (LGA) boundaries

Population denominator is sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics 2019 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 29 May 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

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)

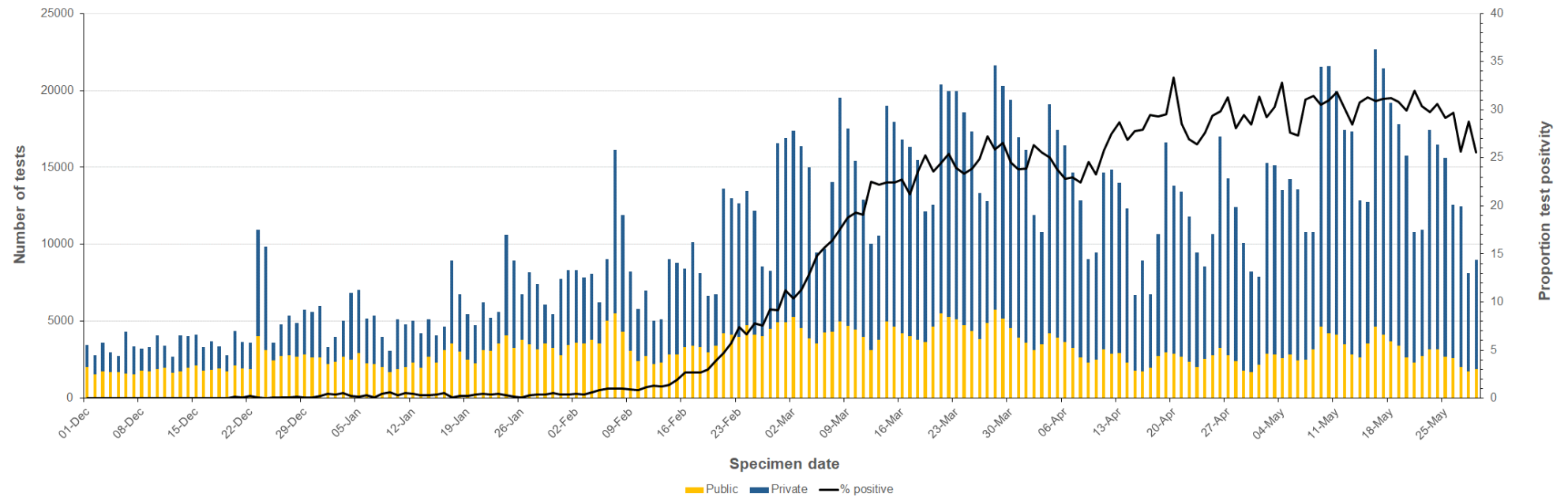
Population denominator is sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics 2019 estimates

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 29 May 2022.



Notes

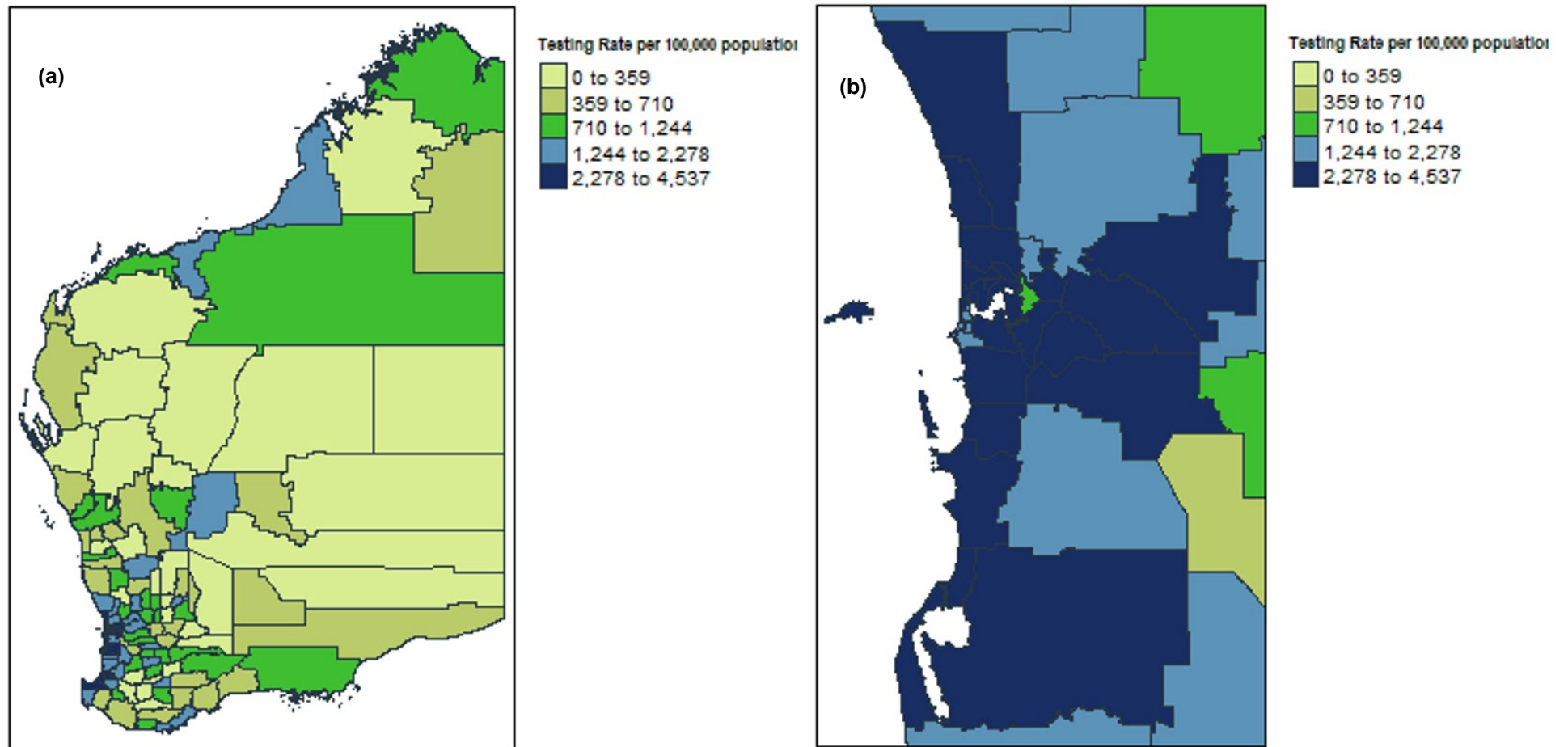
Data sourced from Western Australian public and private pathology laboratories
Specimen date refers to the date that specimen was collected
Number of tests includes both positive and negative tests.

Table 3. Number of COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction tests and testing rates, by region, Western Australia, 23 May to 29 May 2022 and 16 May to 22 May 2022.

	Region	Week 23 May to 29 May 2022		Week 16 May to 22 May 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	758	1239	692	1131
	Great Southern	1262	1979	1409	2210
	Kimberley	448	1103	518	1275
	Midwest	913	1282	989	1388
	Pilbara	659	937	814	1157
	South West	5293	2702	6878	3511
	Wheatbelt	924	1161	1360	1710
WACHS total *		10,257	1761	12,660	2173
Other**		636	-	748	-
Metropolitan		80,767	3523	105,187	4588
Total		91,660	3188	118,595	4124

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 2019 estimates.

Figure 10 (a). Polymerase chain reaction testing rates per 100,000 population by LGA, regional Western Australia, 23 May to 29 May 2022. (b) Polymerase chain reaction testing rates per 100,000 population by LGA, Perth metropolitan area, 23 May to 29 May 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 2019 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, 23 May – 29 May 2022

WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 23 May to 29 May 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 23 May to 29 May 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 23 May to 29 May 2022
Goldfields	872	<5	Great Southern (continued)	6338	18	Midwest (continued)	6639	<5
	6346	6		6341	5		6642	25
	6429	14		6343	<5		6701	55
	6430	576		6348	17		6705	9
	6431	<5		6394	<5		6707	68
	6432	145		6395	31	Pilbara	6710	16
	6434	<5		6396	<5		6712	<5
	6436	<5	Kimberley	6725	266		6713	45
	6437	23		6726	66		6714	532
	6438	15		6728	47		6716	14
	6440	<5		6740	20		6718	8
	6442	60		6743	150		6720	41
	6443	<5		6752	<5		6721	78
	6445	5		6765	16		6722	195
	6446	5		6770	9		6751	117
	6447	<5	Midwest	6514	9		6753	167
	6448	<5		6515	<5		6754	82
	6450	315		6517	5		6760	<5
	6646	<5		6518	<5		6762	7
Great Southern	6316	8		6519	9	South West	6218	13
	6317	82		6522	8		6219	7
	6318	11		6525	87		6220	117
	6320	11		6528	<5		6221	<5
	6321	9		6530	955		6223	10
	6322	<5		6532	173		6224	34
	6323	23		6535	24		6225	241
	6324	64		6536	18		6226	37
	6326	7		6537	20		6227	54
	6327	<5		6616	<5		6228	9
	6328	5		6620	7		6229	<5
	6330	1062		6623	22		6230	1382
	6333	122		6625	<5		6232	429
	6335	8		6630	12		6233	770
	6336	<5		6635	<5		6236	77
	6337	10		6638	10		6237	82

WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 23 May to 29 May 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 23 May to 29 May 2022	WACHS Regions	Postcode	Week 23 May to 29 May 2022
South West (continued)	6239	147	Wheatbelt (continued)	6353	14	Wheatbelt (continued)	6461	12
	6240	<5		6355	6		6470	<5
	6243	<5		6356	2		6472	<5
	6244	23		6358	4		6475	8
	6251	8		6359	10		6476	<5
	6252	<5		6361	6		6477	<5
	6253	6		6363	6		6479	15
	6254	20		6365	11		6480	<5
	6255	173		6367	7		6485	7
	6256	10		6368	2		6487	<5
	6258	215		6369	14		6488	<5
	6260	46		6370	11		6490	<5
	6262	8		6372	2		6501	22
	6271	102		6375	12		6502	26
	6275	11		6383	10		6503	55
	6280	639		6386	<5		6504	5
	6281	234		6390	47		6505	<5
	6282	45		6391	22		6507	17
	6284	68		6392	20		6509	<5
	6285	232		6393	<5		6510	32
	6286	16		6401	181		6511	6
	6288	15		6403	6		6516	31
	6290	23		6405	24		6521	7
	6398	10		6407	21		6560	41
Wheatbelt	6041	31		6409	5		6562	29
	6042	<5		6410	22		6564	11
	6043	6		6411	<5		6566	52
	6044	5		6414	<5		6567	<5
	6302	74		6415	83		6568	8
	6304	43		6418	55		6569	<5
	6306	23		6419	2		6571	<5
	6308	27		6420	<5		6575	<5
	6309	9		6421	3		6603	17
	6311	10		6423	4		6605	5
	6312	141		6424	<5		6606	<5
	6313	<5		6425	4		6608	<5
	6315	53		6426	10		6609	29
	6350	11		6428	3		6612	<5
	6352	<5		6460	21			

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
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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