



Figure 1: Percentage of specimens positive on the respiratory viral multiplex PCR and SARS-CoV-2 PCR

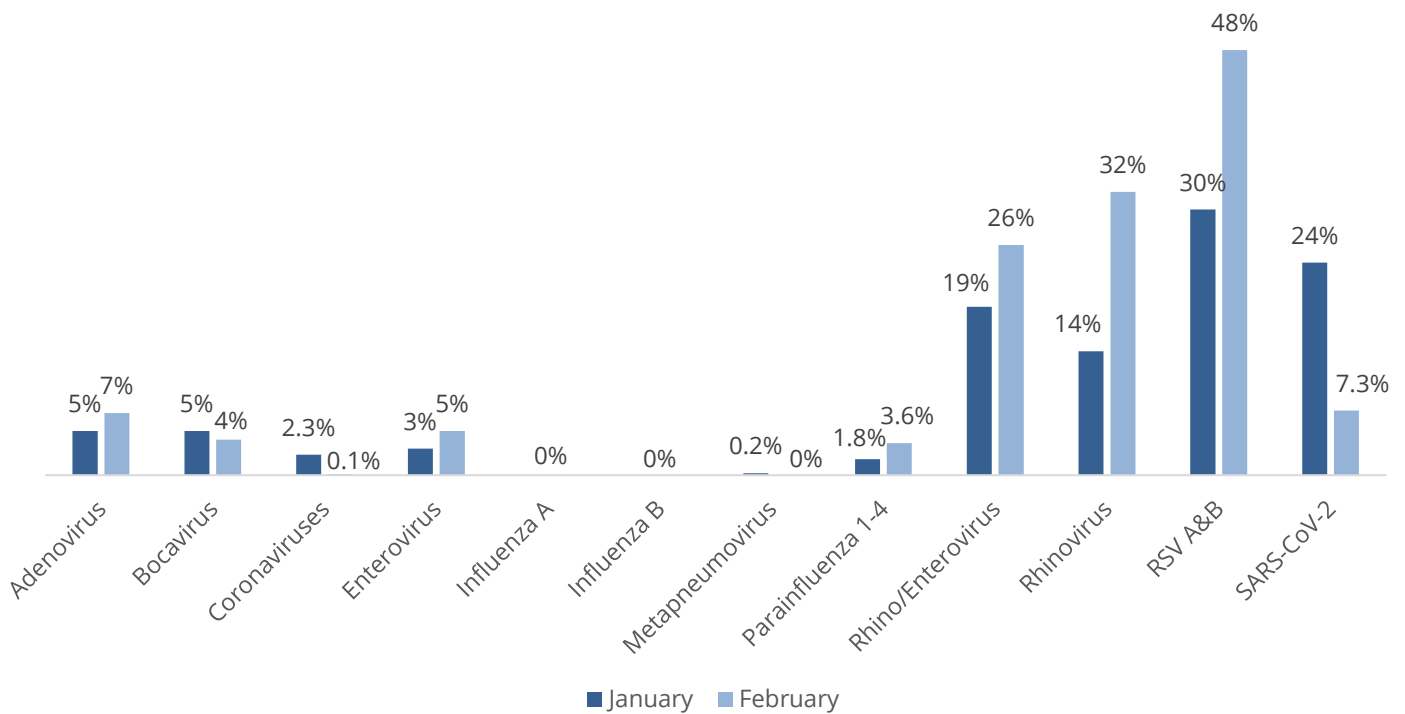


Figure 2: Percentage of specimens positive for RSV per month 2019 vs 2020

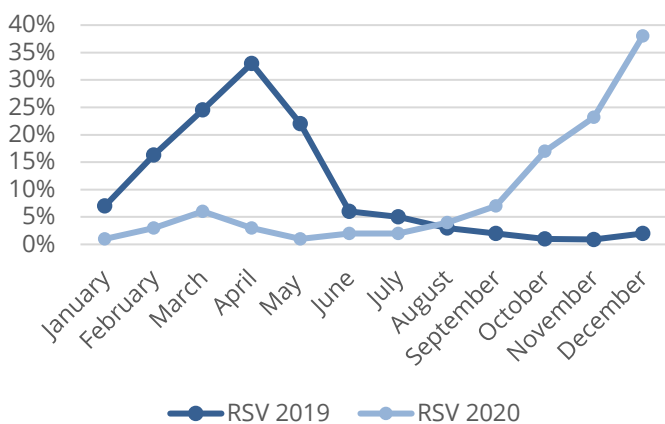


Figure 3: Percentage of specimens RSV positive according to age: February 2021

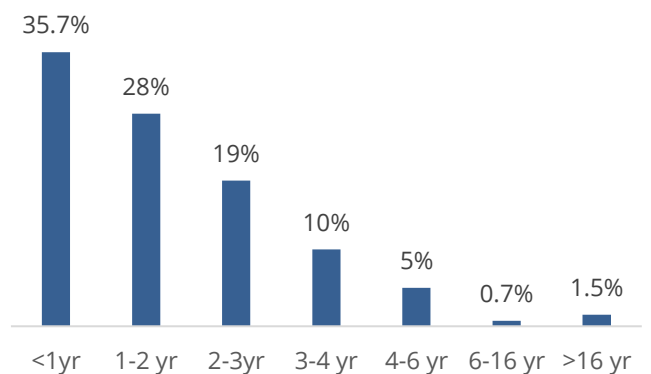




Figure 1, 2 and 3: Respiratory viruses – countrywide data February findings

- The most frequently detected viruses during February were as follow: RSV (48%), Rhinovirus (32%) and Rhino/Enterovirus (26%), SARS-CoV-2 (7.3%) and Adenovirus 7%.
- The rate of detection of RSV remains very high at 48% of all specimens submitted for testing during February. As is shown in Figure 2: the rate of RSV detection started increasing during August/September 2020, following an atypical pattern as compared to 2019. The vast majority (97,7%) of positive RSV cases were detected in paediatric patients <6 years of age. As is shown in Figure 3 the majority of RSV positive cases were detected in patients <3 years of age.
- No Influenza A and Influenza B were detected in any of the specimens submitted during February.
- The novel Coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, was detected in 7.3% of specimens tested nationally, decreasing from 24% in January
- Please note: the graph includes the combined data from different respiratory multiplex assays offered by Ampath laboratories as well as the SARS-CoV-2 PCR.
- SARS-CoV-2 is not included in the multiplex molecular panels currently in use at Ampath.
- Refer to the Ampath website for the current and previous respiratory viral statistics both countrywide and per region: <https://www.ampath.co.za/respiratory-tract-infection>.



Figure 4: Percentage of specimens positive for SARS-CoV-2 by province

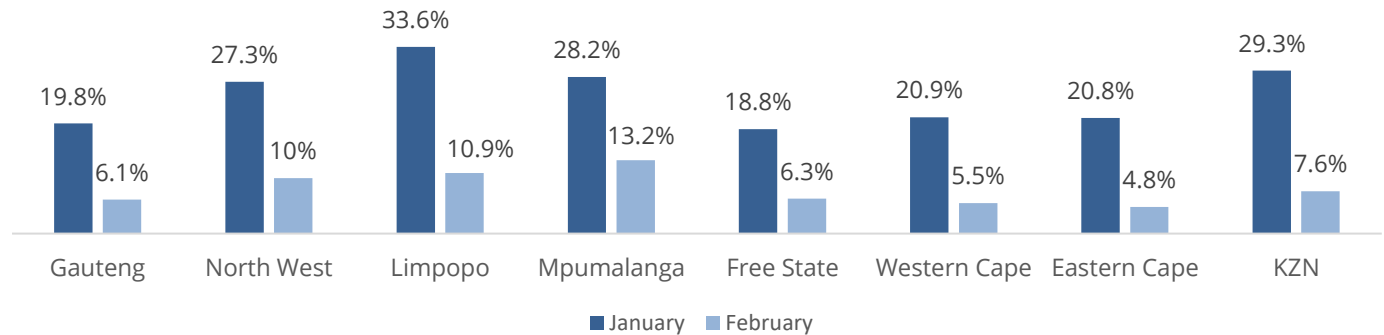


Figure 5: Distribution of total positive SARS-CoV-2 tests per province

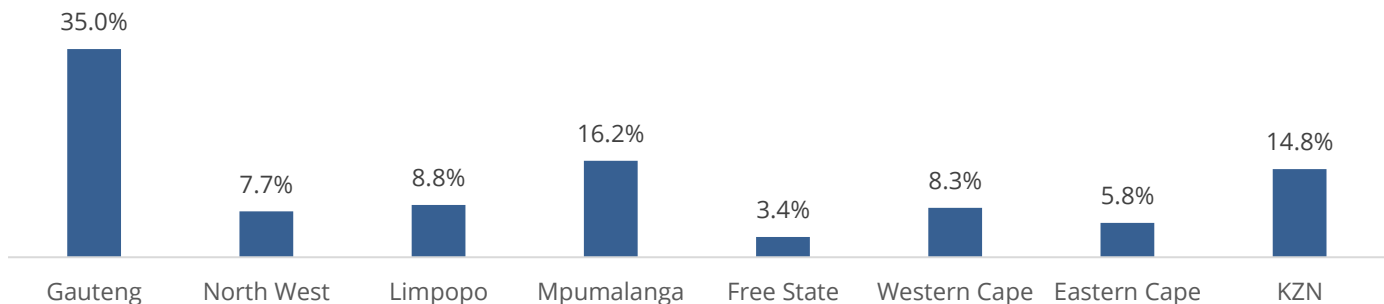


Figure 4: Percentage of total positive SARS-CoV-2 tests per province

- The percentage of specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 decreased significantly across all provinces during February.
- This percentage was calculated by dividing the number of positive specimens per province by the total of specimens submitted per province.

Figure 5: Distribution of specimens positive for SARS-CoV-2 per province

- The majority of the positive SARS-CoV-2 specimens were from Gauteng (35%), Mpumalanga (16.2%) and KwaZulu-Natal (14.8%).
- This percentage was calculated by dividing the number of positive specimens per province by the total of positive specimens countrywide.