



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

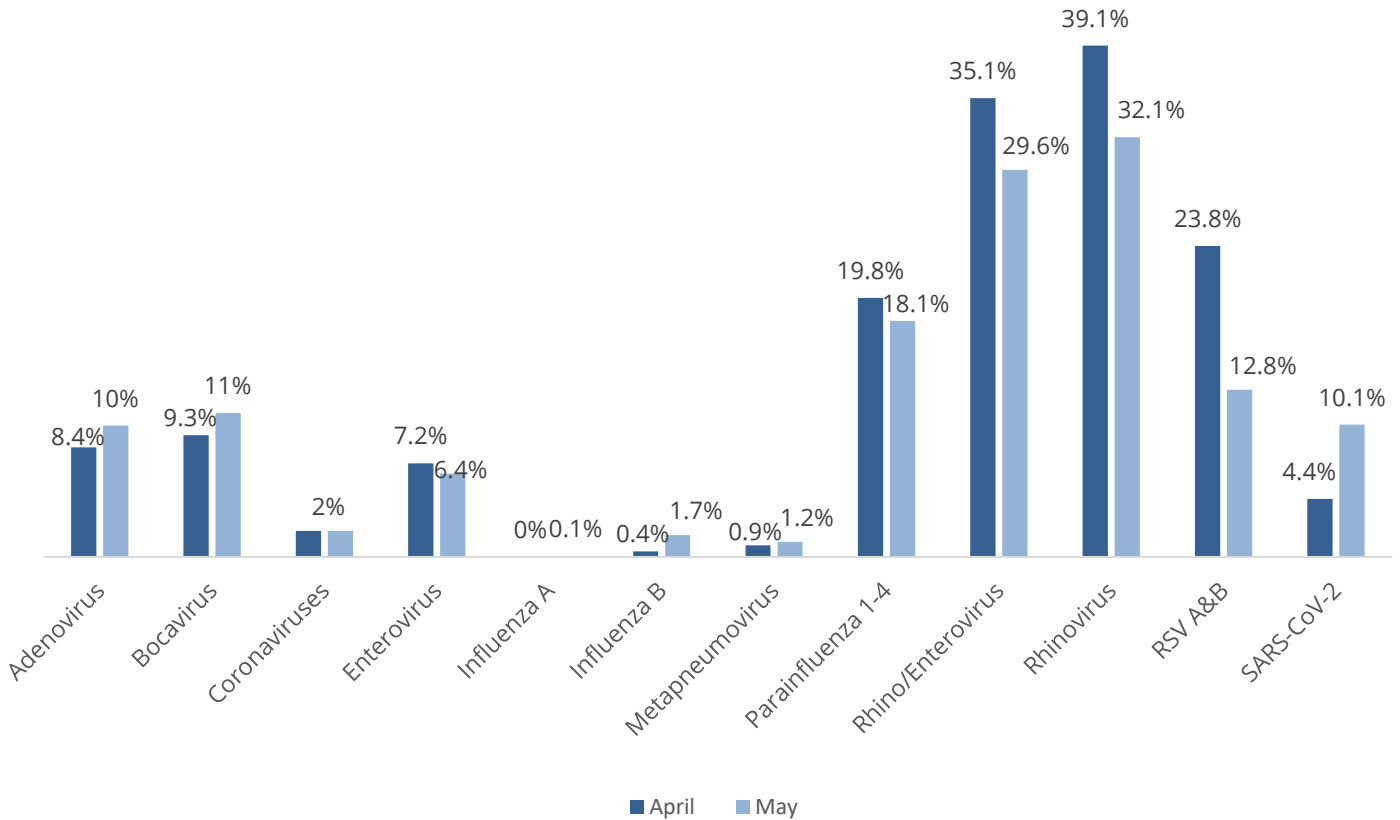


Figure 2: Percentage of specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 by week in May 2021

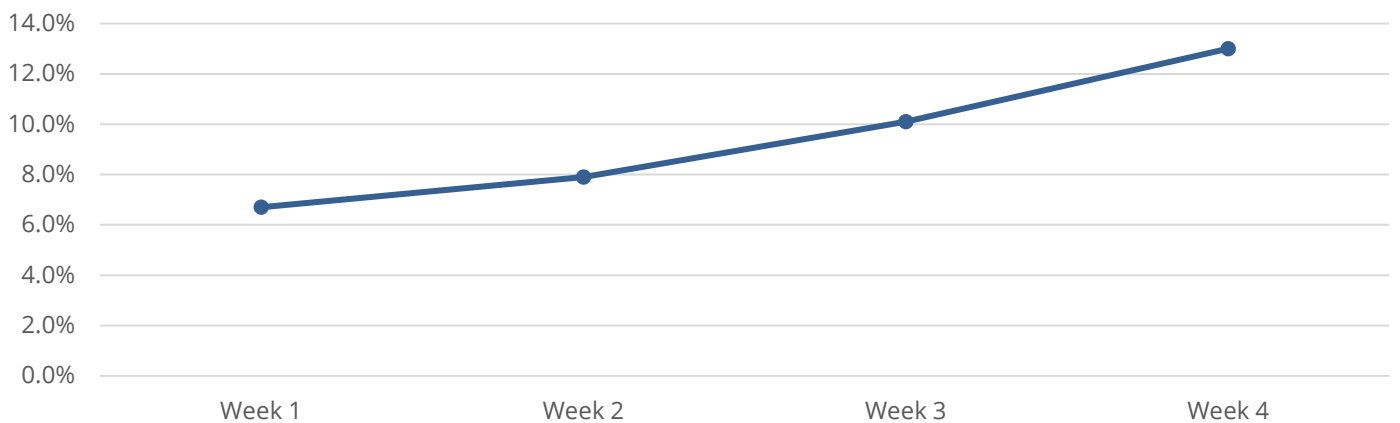




Figure 1: Respiratory viruses – countrywide data May findings

- The most frequently detected viruses during May were as follow: Rhinovirus (32.1%) and Rhino/Enterovirus (29.6%), Parainfluenza (18.1%), RSV (12.8%), SARS-CoV-2 (10.1%), Bocavirus (11%) and Adenovirus (10%).
- One case of Influenza A was detected during May from the Limpopo province. Thirty two cases of Influenza B were detected during May from the following provinces: Gauteng (17 cases), KwaZulu-Natal (7 cases), Limpopo (3 cases), North West (2 cases), Mpumalanga (2 cases) and Eastern Cape (1 case). Clinicians are advised to remain vigilant and to encourage patients to take the Influenza vaccine.
- The percentage of positive RSV cases continue to decline from 23.8% in April to 12.8% in May.
- Parainfluenza virus continue to circulate at high levels with 18.1% of specimens testing positive in May.
- The novel Coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, was detected in 10.1% of specimens tested nationally, more than doubling from the 4.4% of specimens tested in April. The SARS-CoV-2 positivity rate increased from 6.7% in week 1 of May to 13% in the last week of May as is shown in Figure 2.
- 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.
- 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 3: Percentage of specimens positive for SARS-CoV-2 by province

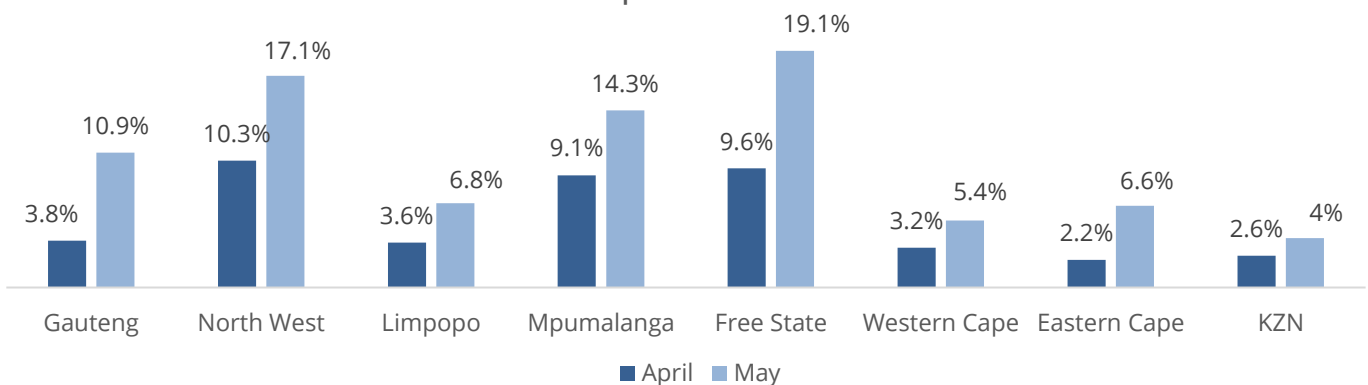




Figure 4: Distribution of total positive SARS-CoV-2 tests per province

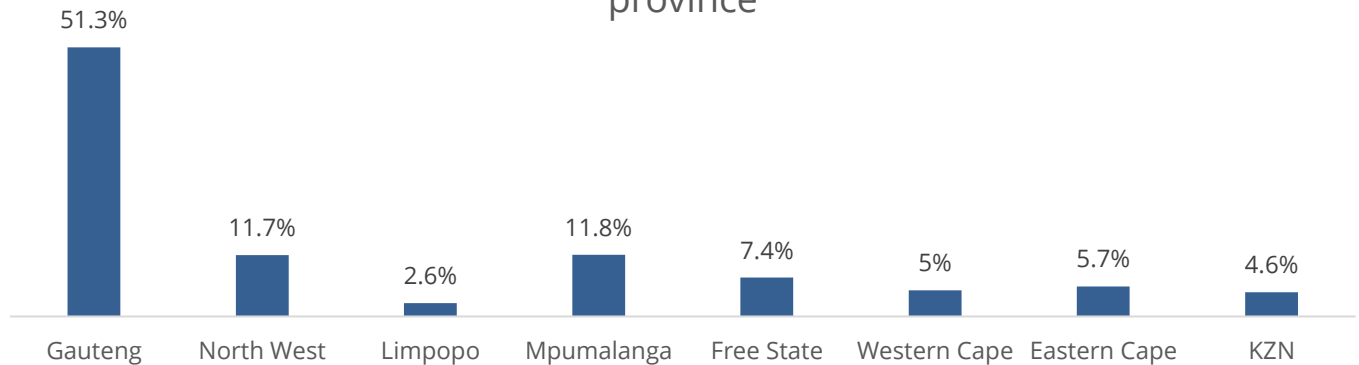


Figure 3: Percentage of total positive SARS-CoV-2 tests per province

- The percentage of specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 increased across all provinces. The largest increase in positivity rate was observed in the Free State, North West, Mpumalanga and Gauteng provinces.
- This percentage was calculated by dividing the number of positive specimens per province by the total of specimens submitted per province.

Figure 4: Distribution of specimens positive for SARS-CoV-2 per province

- The majority of the positive SARS-CoV-2 specimens were from Gauteng (51.3%), Mpumalanga (11.8%) and the North West (11.7%) provinces.
- This percentage was calculated by dividing the number of positive specimens per province by the total of positive specimens countrywide.