Abt ASSOCIATES

BOLD THINKERS DRIVING REAL-WORLD IMPACT

Averting a Dual Disaster in Africa: Protecting Essential Health Services During COVID-19

Webinar
June 3, 2020

Speakers

Moderator:

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Regional Overview of COVID-19 and Health Systems Resilience

Dr. Ambrose Talisuna
WHO Regional Office for Africa

Epidemiological Status Update: 81,368 CASES 2,193 DEATHS

Reported from 47 countries (as of 25/05/2020)

New confirmed cases:

- 2,350 (22 countries)

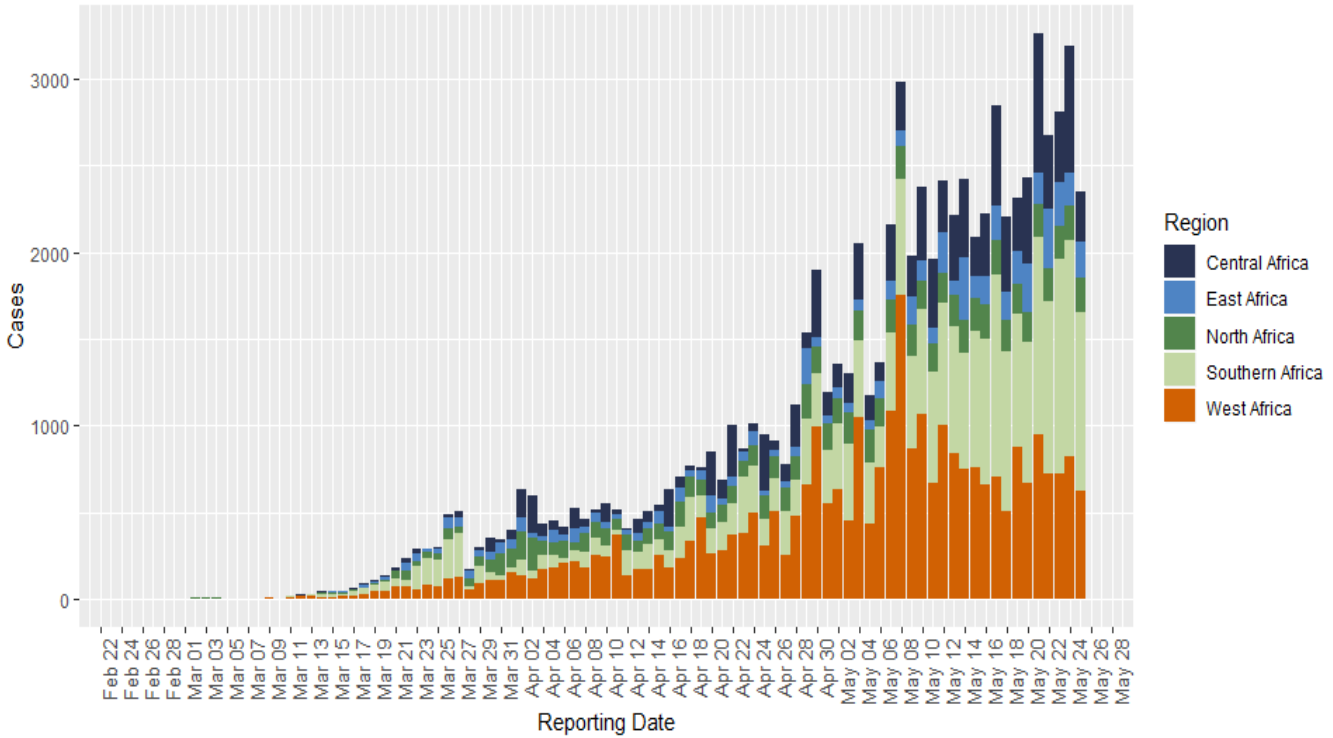
New deaths:

- 83 (13 countries)

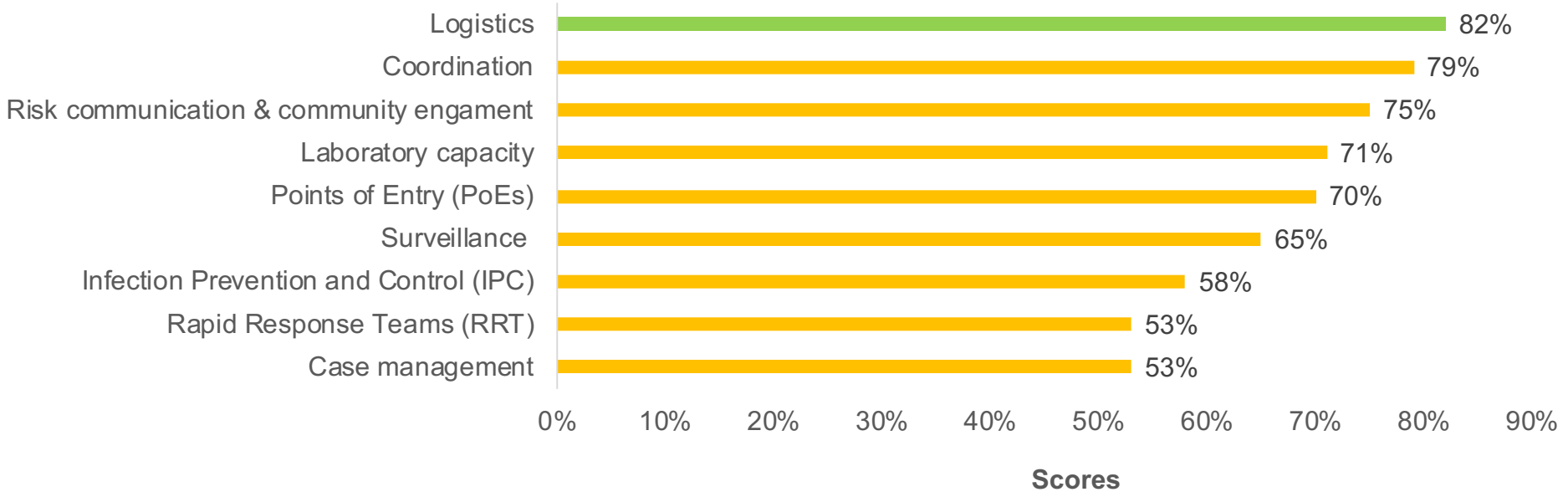
Cumulative:

- Confirmed cases: 80,979
- Probable cases: 389
- Total cases: 81,368
- Recovered: 34,189 (42.0%)
- Deaths: 2,193 (2.7%)

Countries affected: 47/47



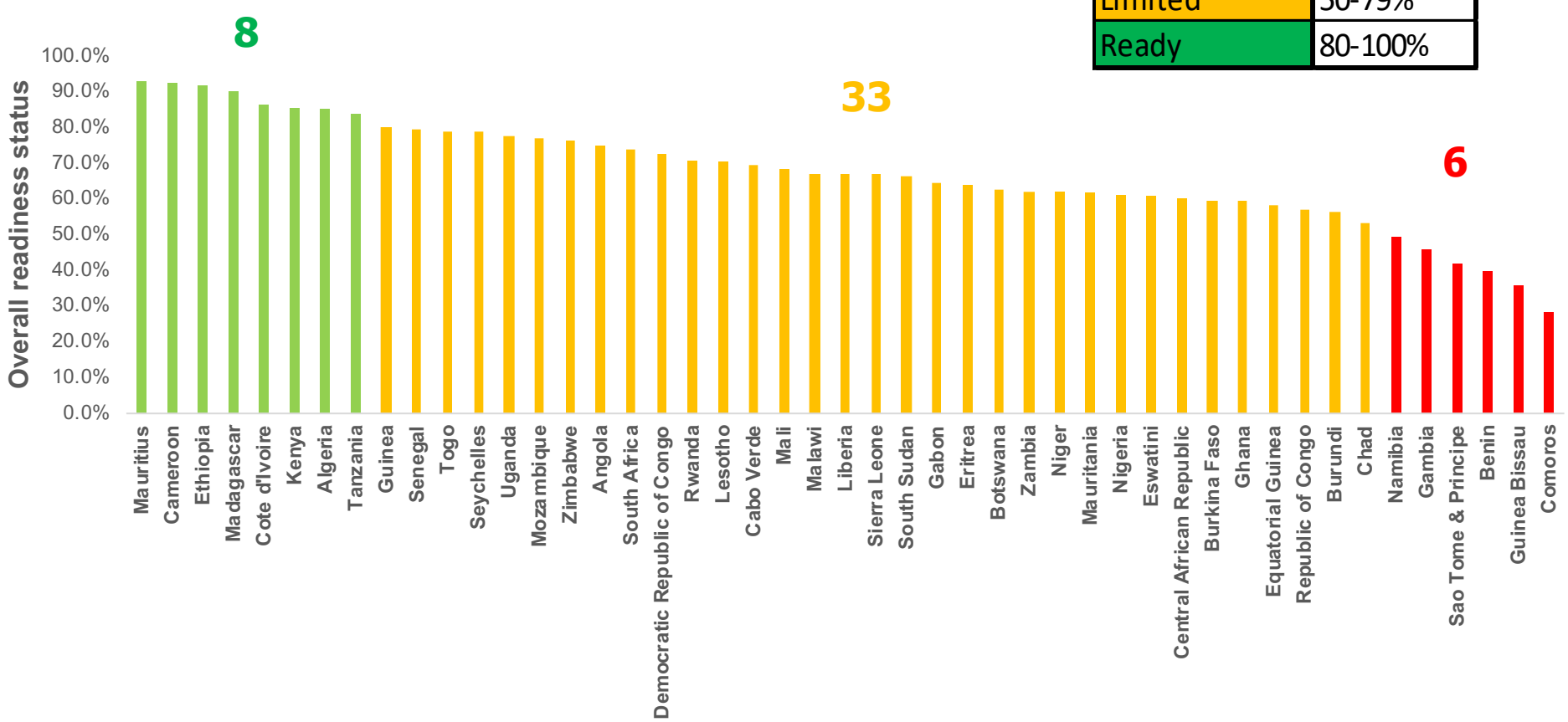
Readiness Status by Response Pillar for COVID-19, Feb. 2020



- Overall country readiness was 66%
- Largest readiness gaps were in RRT, IPC, Case management, and RCCE

Readiness Status by Country for COVID-19, Feb. 2020

Not ready	0-49%
Limited	50-79%
Ready	80-100%



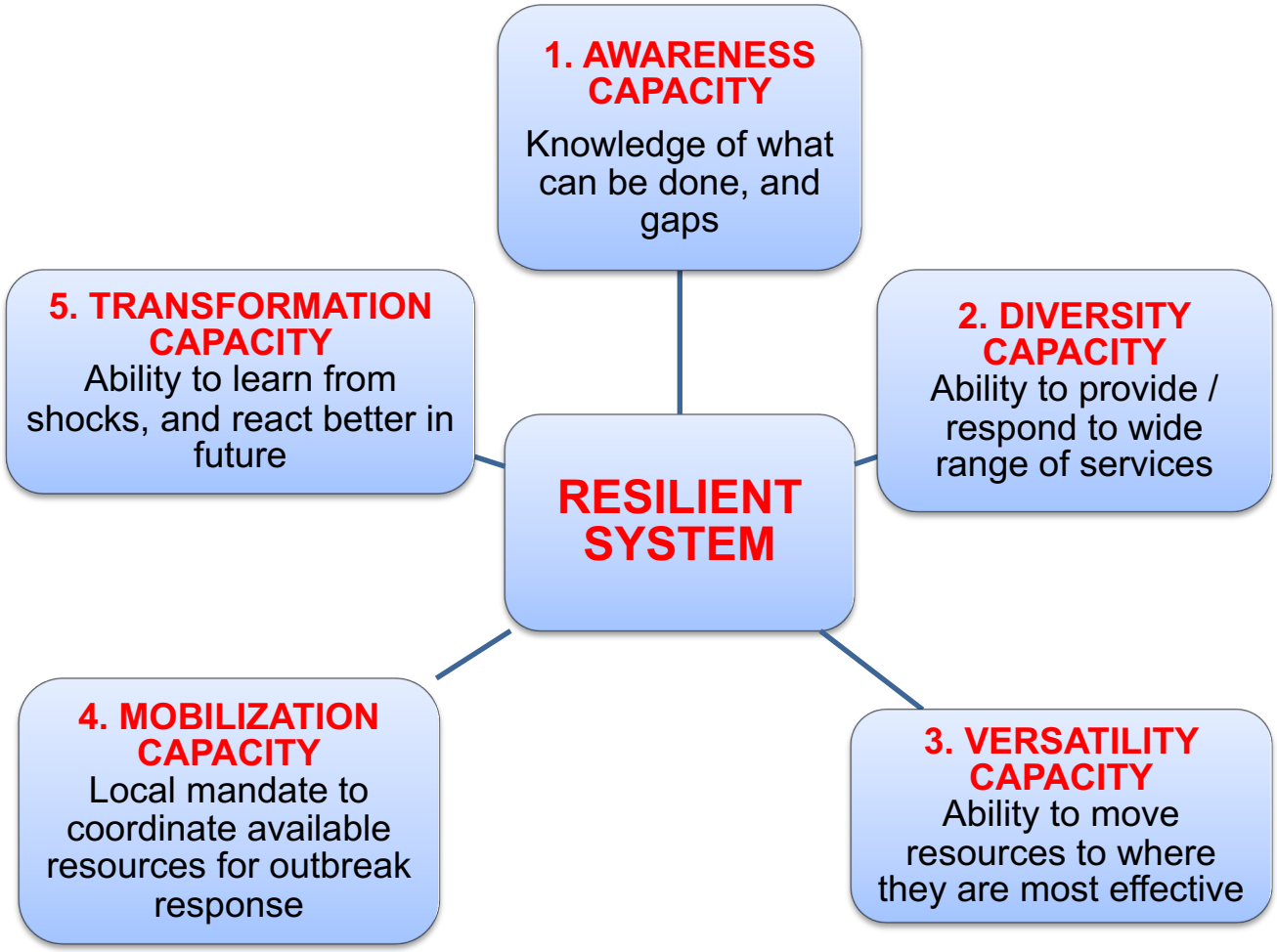
World Health Organization
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR Africa

What is health systems resilience?

- Ability to maintain delivery of essential services, even in presence of shock events
- Multiple types of shock events that can disrupt essential services continuity

TYPES OF SHOCK EVENTS					
		Disease Events	**Environmental Events**	**Economic Events**	**Political Events**
DURATION	**Acute events (short duration)**	e.g., Ebola Virus Disease, COVID-19	e.g., floods	e.g., sudden economic downturn with sudden reduction in health funding	e.g., sudden upheavals in government / change of health steward
	Chronic events (longer duration/ repetitive)	e.g., cholera outbreaks, measles	e.g., drought	e.g., slow economic deterioration like in Zimbabwe, CAR, S/Sudan	e.g., gradual de-prioritization of health and multiple weak stewardship

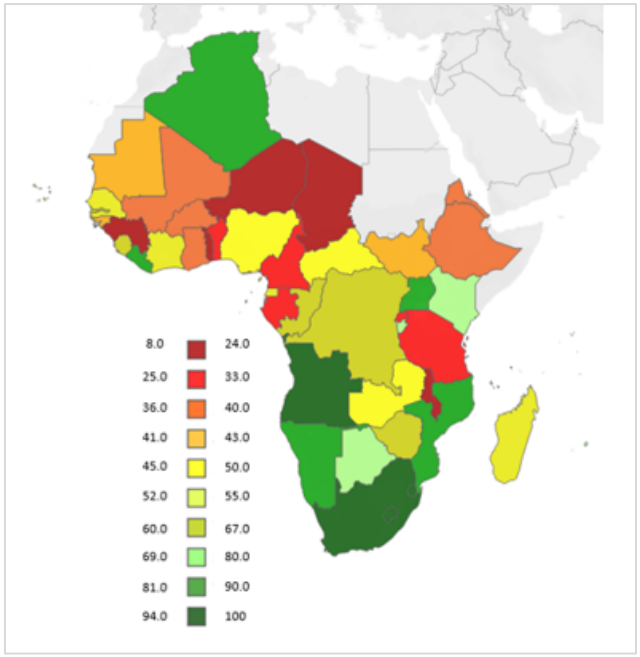
System resilience vital signs



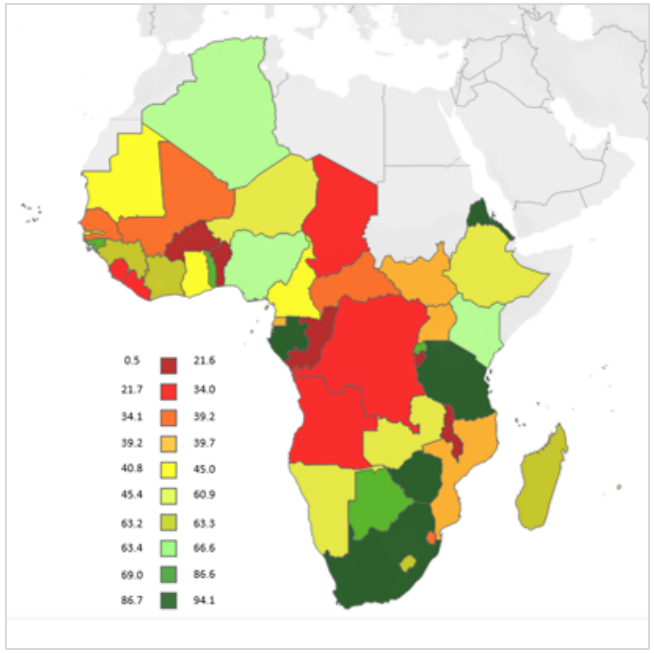
Countries are strong in some vital signs, weak in others

- Diversity capacity generally is strong
- Versatility capacity is weak in highly centralized systems
- Awareness and transformation capacities are generally weak, but can easily be strengthened

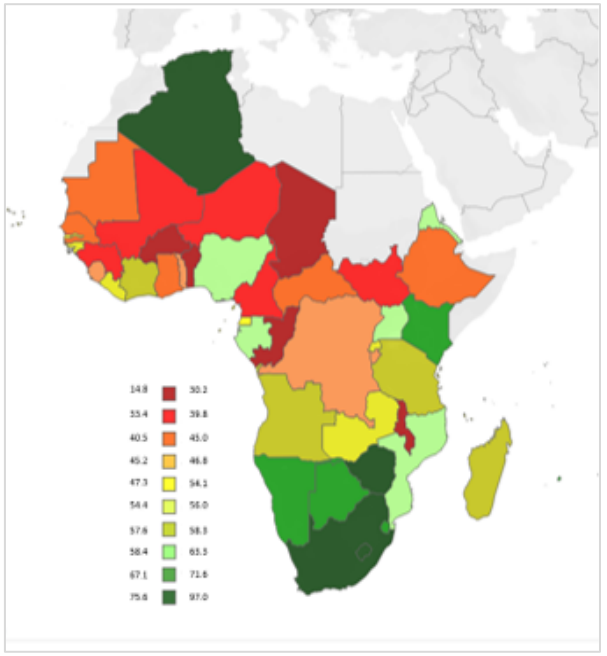
Integrating Emergency Preparedness/Response and System Resilience: A Regional Resilience Index



IHR Capacity Index



System Resilience Index



Regional Resilience Index

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Varying Country Capacities to Mitigate Effects of Shock Events

- Need strong resilience index – both IHR capacity and system resilience index
- Four broad country classifications:

1. **Strong resilience index (both good system resilience and IHR capacity index)**
   - Examples: South Africa, Seychelles, Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Algeria
   - **Focus: Close monitoring of essential service continuity; targeted support on request**

2. **Strong system resilience, but weak IHR capacity index**
   - Examples: Gabon, Rwanda, Tanzania, Eritrea, Togo
   - **Focus: Accelerate IHR capacity strengthening; prepare for sustaining essential service continuity**

3. **Weak system resilience, but strong IHR capacity index**
   - Examples: Burundi, Angola, Liberia, eSwatini, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo
   - **Focus: Accelerate system resilience capacity; prepare for sustaining essential service continuity**

4. **Weak resilience index (low system resilience and IHR capacity index)**
   - Examples: Malawi, Burkina Faso, Benin, Chad, Congo
   - **Focus: Emergency measures for both system resilience and IHR core capacity; plus essential service continuity**

Thank You

Dr. Ambrose Talisuna

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ขอขอบคุณ

Amesegënallô

Mwebale munno

Nagode

Asante sana

Me daa si

Dankie

Murakoze

Obrigado

merci

Matondo

Ong-jarama

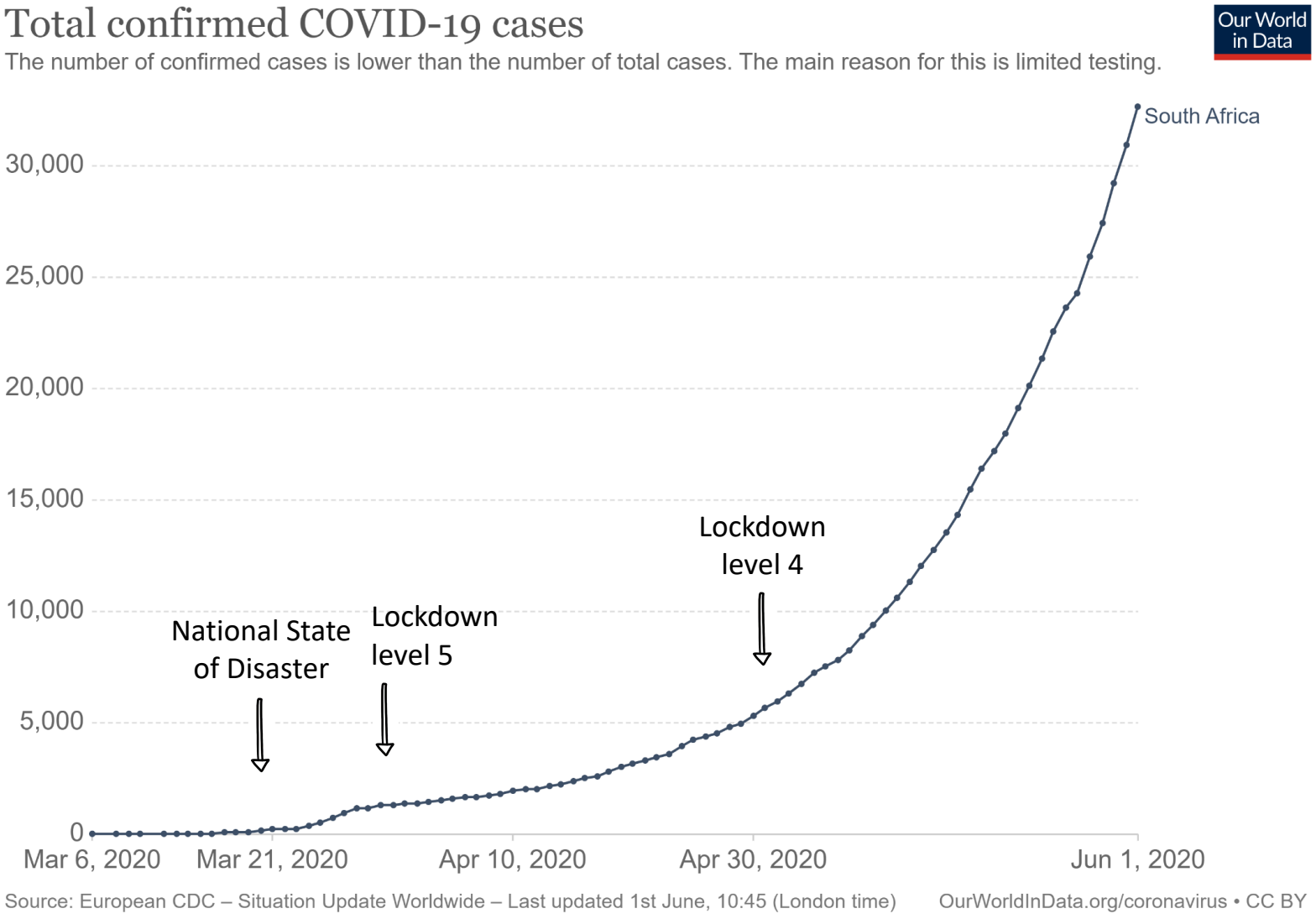
Jërëjëf

Siyabonga

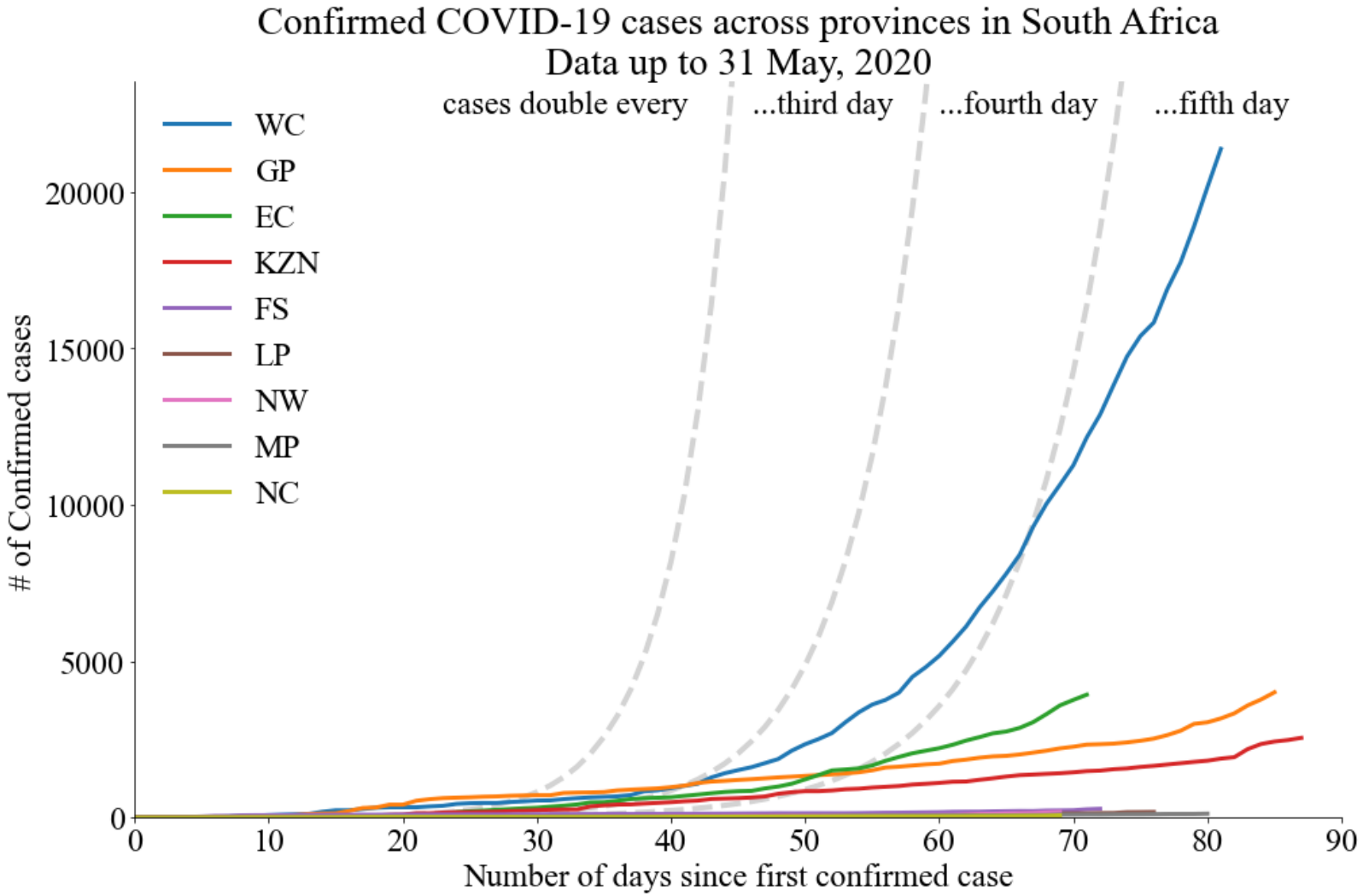
COVID-19 and the War Room in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

Dr. Richard Lessells
University of KwaZulu-Natal

South Africa – Confirmed Cases

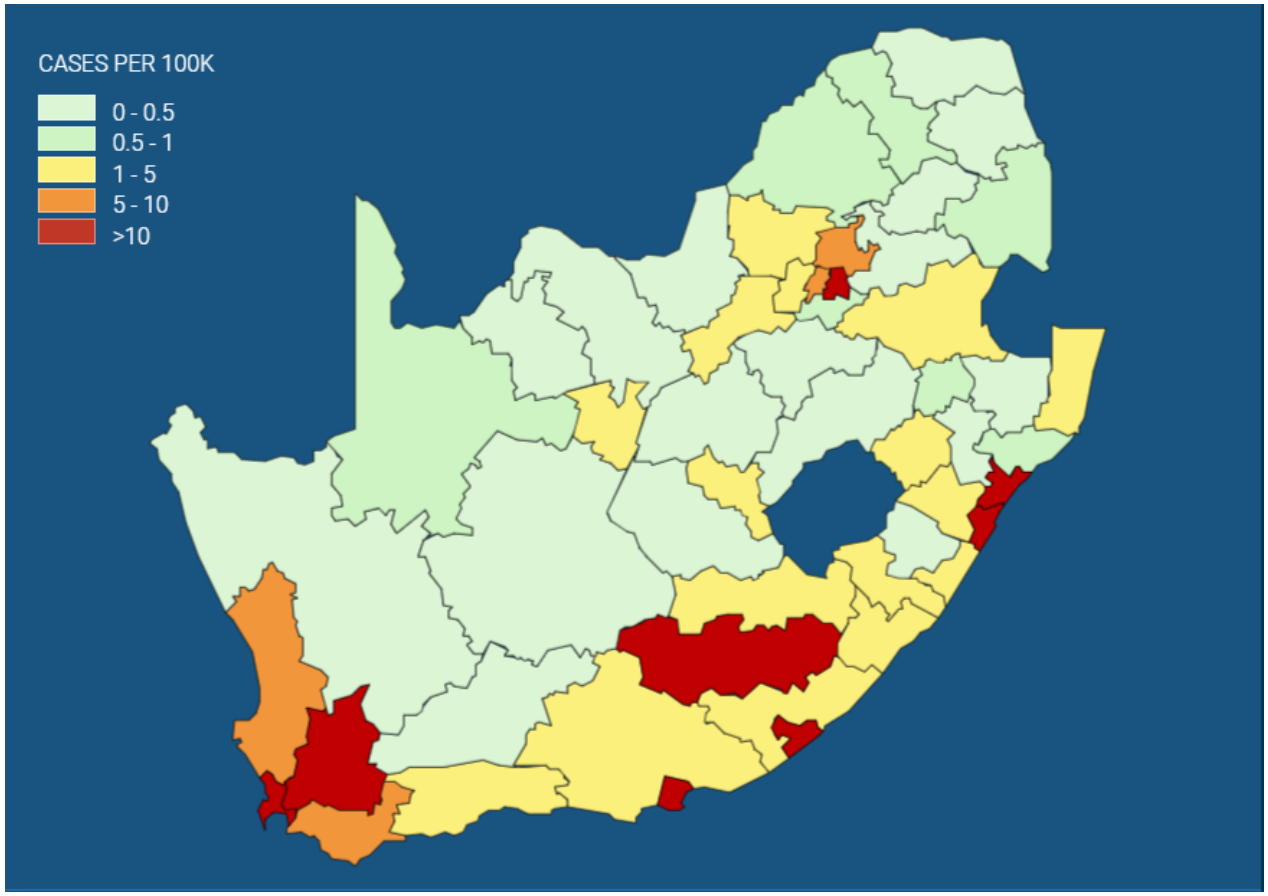


Confirmed Cases by Province



Data Source & Inspiration: Data Science for Social Impact | github.com/dsfsi/covid19za
Author: UKZN CoV Big Data Consortium

Confirmed Cases by District

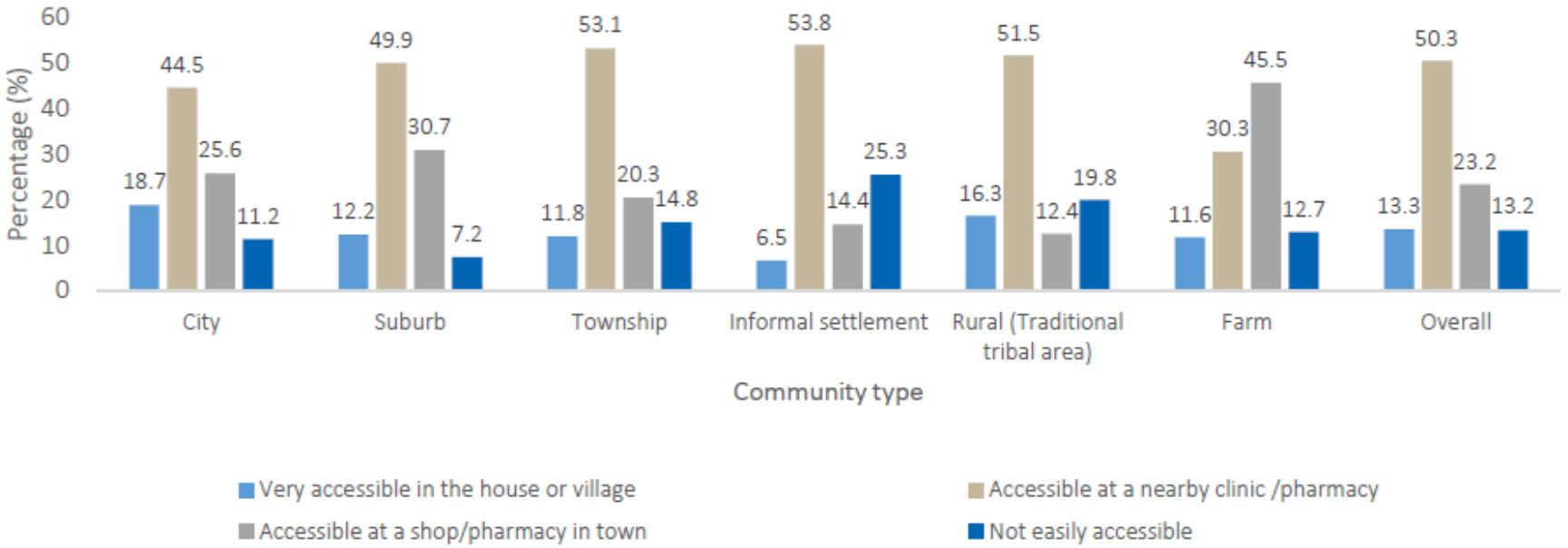


- Moving to district-level alert system
- Hotspot is district with 5 or more cases per 100,000
- Level of lockdown may vary by district

Source:

Effect on Essential Health Services
Access to Chronic Medication

- HSRC nationwide survey
- N = 19,330
- 13% reported that chronic medication was not easily accessible



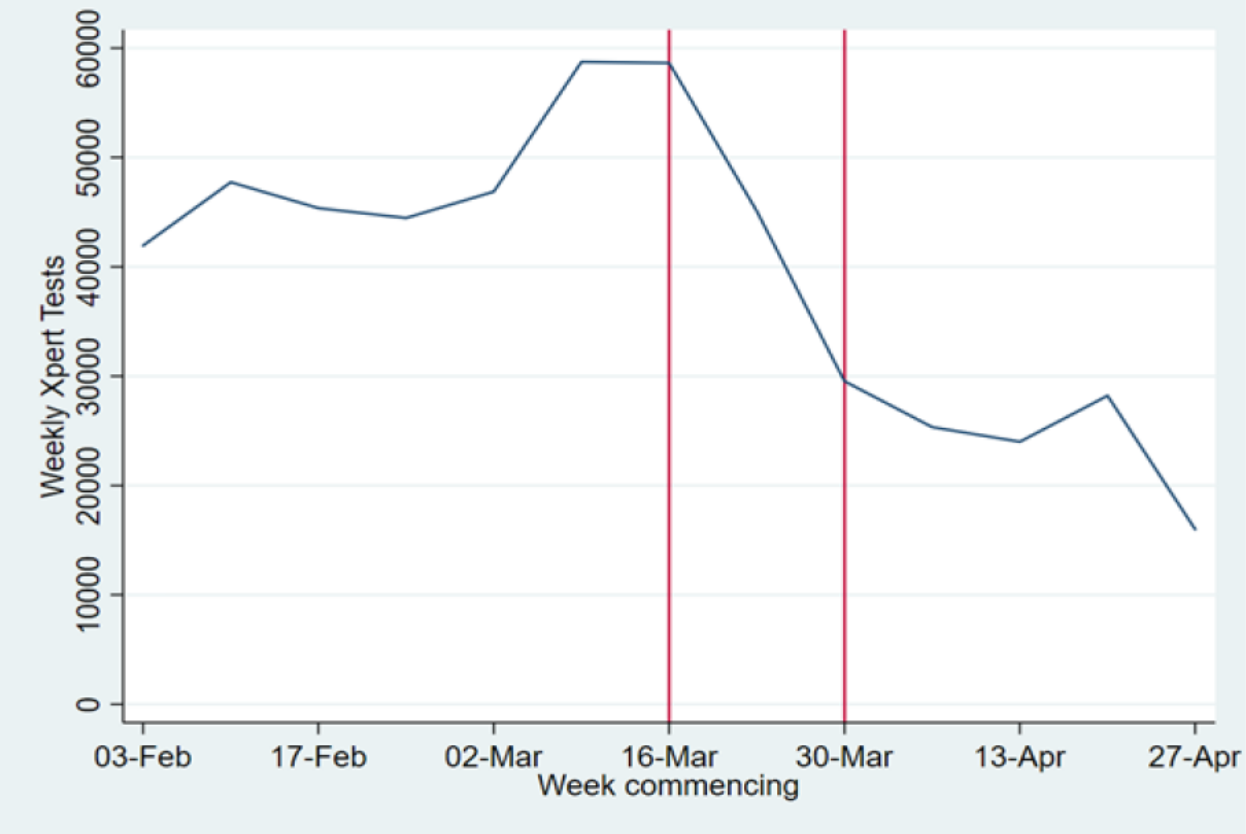
science & innovation
Department: Science and Innovation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

HSRC Human Sciences Research Council

Source: Human Sciences Research Council

Effect on Essential Health Services

Access to TB Diagnosis

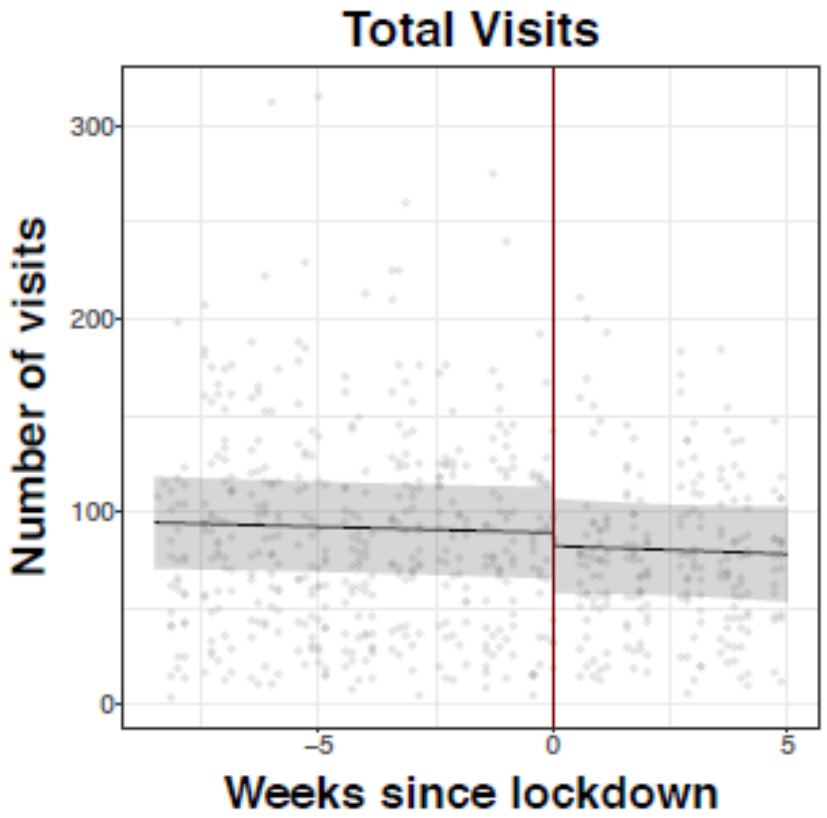


- Data from National Health Laboratory System
- ~ 48% decline in weekly TB Xpert tests nationally
- ~ 33% decline in weekly positive Xpert tests

Source: NICD Centre for Tuberculosis

Effect on Essential Health Services

Access to Primary Health Care



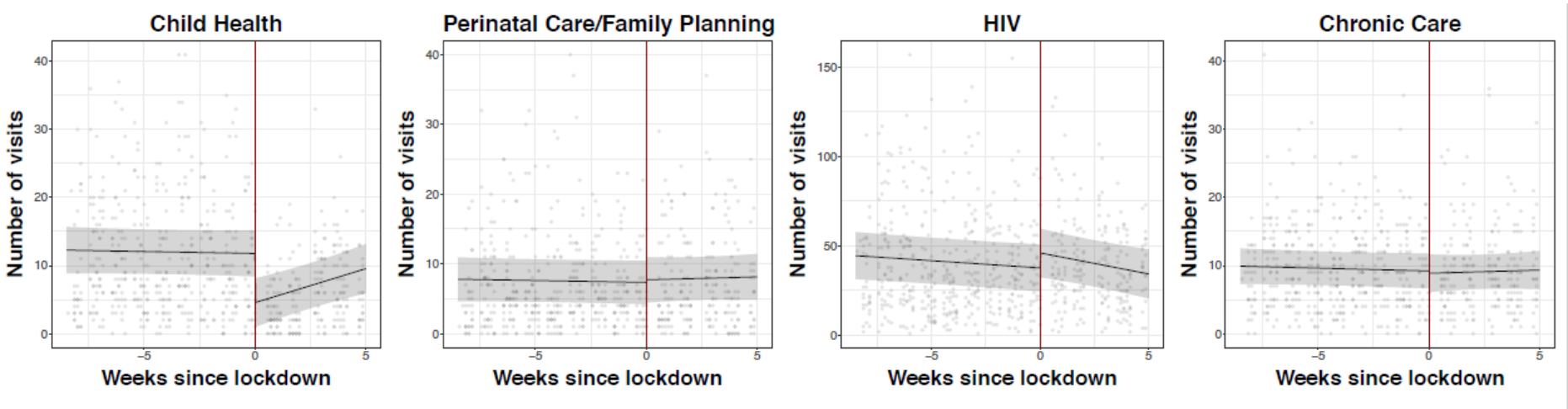
- Data from uMkhanyakude District, KwaZulu-Natal
- Africa Health Research Institute Health & Demographic Surveillance System - 11 primary health care clinics
- 55,545 clinic visits between 27 January – 29 April

- Overall, no change in total clinic visits/clinic/day from prior to and during the lockdown (-6.9 visits/clinic/day, 95%CI -17.4, 3.7)

Source: Siedner M et al. medRxiv 2020

Effect on Essential Health Services

Access to Primary Health Care



- Some evidence of a reduction in child health visits after lockdown (-7.2 visits/clinic/day, 95%CI -9.2, -5.3), seen in both children <1 yr age and children 1-5 yrs age

- Conversely, a significant increase in HIV visits immediately after the lockdown (8.4 visits/clinic/day, 95%CI 2.4, 14.4)

Source: Siedner M et al. medRxiv 2020

Effect on Essential Health Services

Health Care Worker Infections

- Increasing reports of health care worker infections and deaths
- In a single outbreak in a private hospital in eThekwini, KZN in March-April a single introduction of SARS-CoV-2 led to 135 infections (88 staff and 47 patients)
- Strengthening of infection prevention & control systems and practices essential to protect frontline health care workers

Source: Lessells R et al. Report into a nosocomial outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) at Netcare St. Augustine's Hospital

Thank You

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Panel Q&A

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Thank you!

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