

Healthier Communities & Older People Overview & Scrutiny Panel – 14th March 2022

Dr Dagmar Zeuner, Director of Public Health

Merton Public Health Intelligence

Produced by Amira Yunusa

3rd March 2022

Please note: Due to the living with COVID plan released by government, many data sources will become unreliable or stop. This is the final situational awareness report which will be produced by the public health team. We will continue internal monitoring especially of deaths, vaccination and hospitalisations, and have processes in place to resume the SAR should it be required

Summary of COVID cases, PCR testing, deaths, vaccinations and inpatient statistics

Domain	Indicator	Merton (previous 7 days)	Merton change	London (previous 7 days)	London Change
Regional marker	R value (25 th February)	-	-	0.7 to 1.0 (0.8 to 1.1)	↓
Cases over last week (19 th – 25 th Feb)	New cases (week ending 25 th Feb)	673 (983)	↓	23,405 (33,711)	↓
	7 day rate (per 100,000)	406.9 (499.9)	↓	327.6 (391.5)	↓
	7 day rate aged 60+ (per 100,000)	303.1 (407.8)	↓	237.4 (288.3)	↓
Pillar 1 & 2 PCR tests over 7 days (10 th – 16 th Feb)	Number of people tested	6,113 (7,441)	↓	264,548 (336,551)	↓
	Test positivity %*	11.6% (13.6)	↓	9.6% (11.1%)	↓
Deaths (12 th Feb – 18 th Feb)	Number of COVID-19 registered deaths	2 (1)	↑	71 (100)	↓
Vaccinations (as of 2 nd March)**	Vaccine uptake in 12–15 years (% who have had at least 1 dose)	49.0% (48.7%)	↑	43.1% (42.8%)	↑
	Vaccine uptake in 18–24 years (% who have had 3 doses)	31.7% (31.3%)	↑	25.9% (25.5%)	↑
	Vaccine uptake in 50+ (% who have had 3 doses)	72.3% (72.1%)	↑	70.2% (70.0%)	↑
Current inpatients in SWL hospitals (as of 22 nd Feb)	COVID inpatients	458 (485)	↓	1,809 (2,031)	↓
	COVID patients in mechanical ventilator beds	11 (13)	↓	101 (119)	↓

Please note: reporting periods are based on the latest data available from different sources.

*Test positivity refers to the percent of people that tested positive, therefore if someone had multiple tests or tested positive multiple times in a reporting week they are only counted once.

**Denominator based on NIMS population.

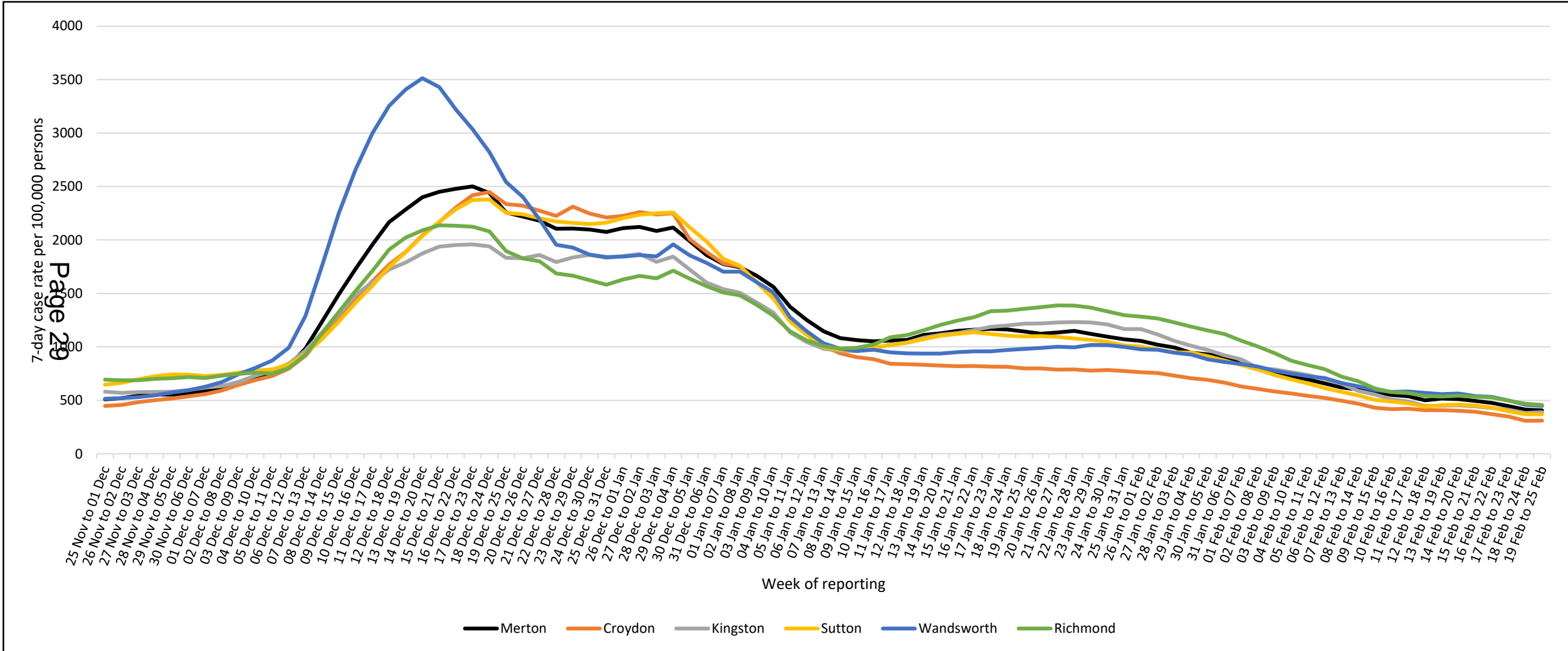
Due to the recent change in reporting (as of 31st January 2022) there are an additional 8% of cases identified in Merton for the duration of the pandemic. The data now includes possible re-infections (people who test positive again after 90 days). Data as of 2nd March; contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

Rolling 7-day case rate per 100,000 people in Merton compared to SW London boroughs

Source: Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the UK (<https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/>)

Reporting frequency: Daily

Key message: Merton ranks 4 out of 6 for lowest case rate per 100,000 among SW London boroughs



Due to the recent change in reporting (as of 31st January 2022) there are an additional 8% of cases identified in Merton for the duration of the pandemic. The data now includes possible re-infections (people who test positive again after 90 days).

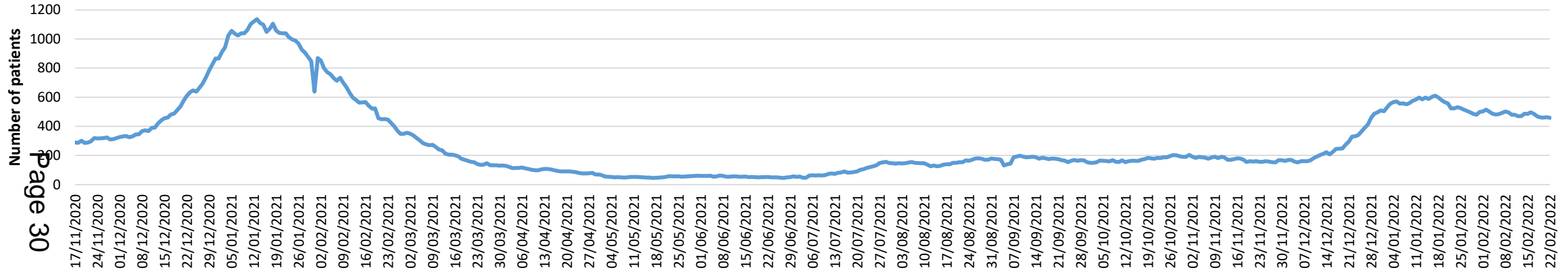
COVID-19 hospital indicators for South West London

Source: Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the UK (<https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/>)

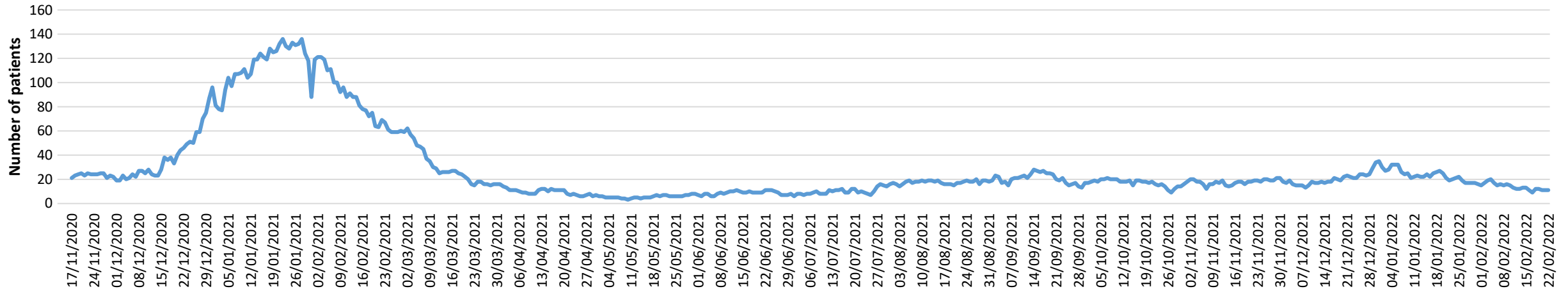
Reporting frequency: daily but inconsistent updates

Key message: The number of confirmed COVID-19 inpatients and the number of ventilated patients remains steady

Confirmed COVID-19 inpatients in Southwest London NHS trust hospitals
(Daily count of confirmed COVID-19 patients in hospital at 8am)



Confirmed number of COVID-19 inpatients in mechanical ventilator beds in Southwest London NHS trusts

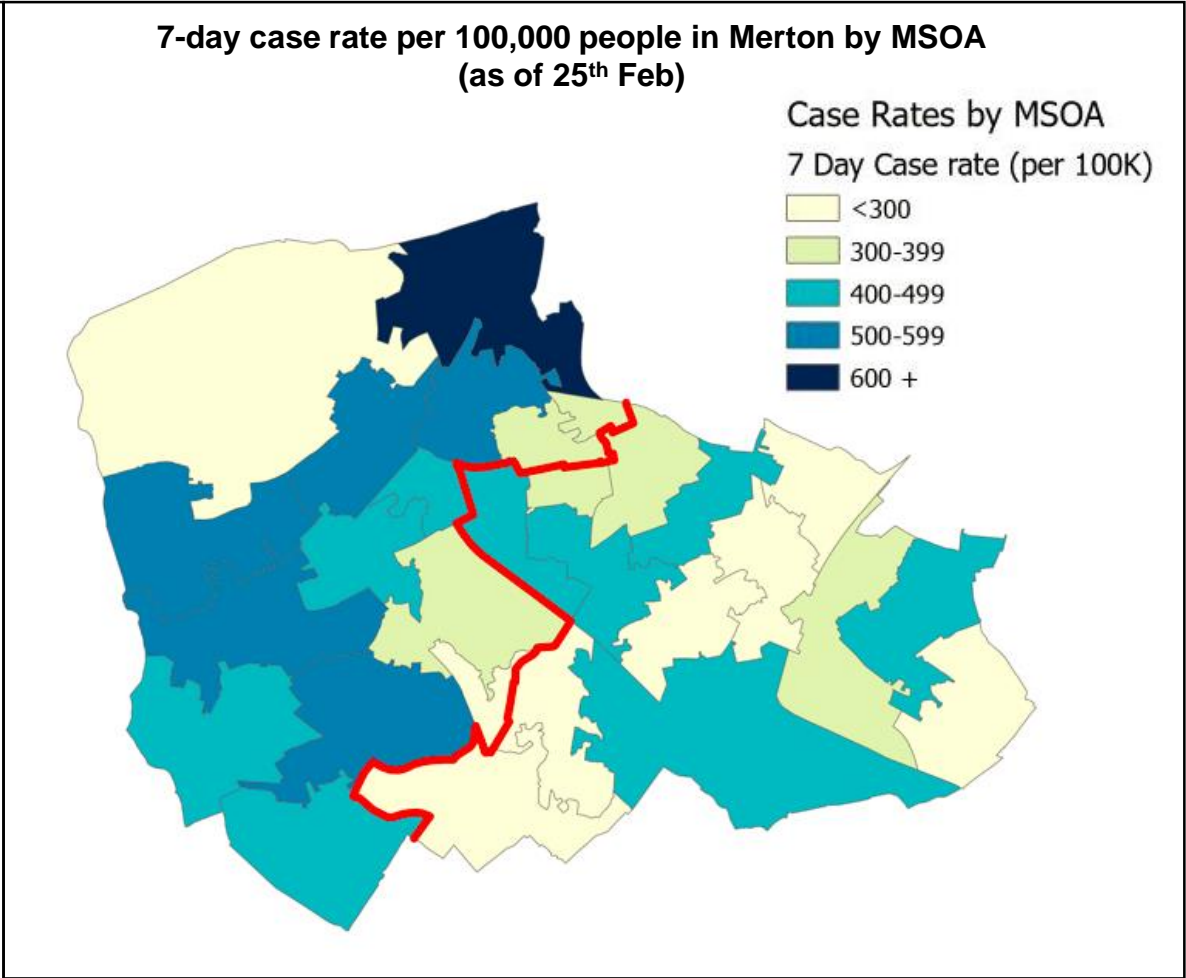
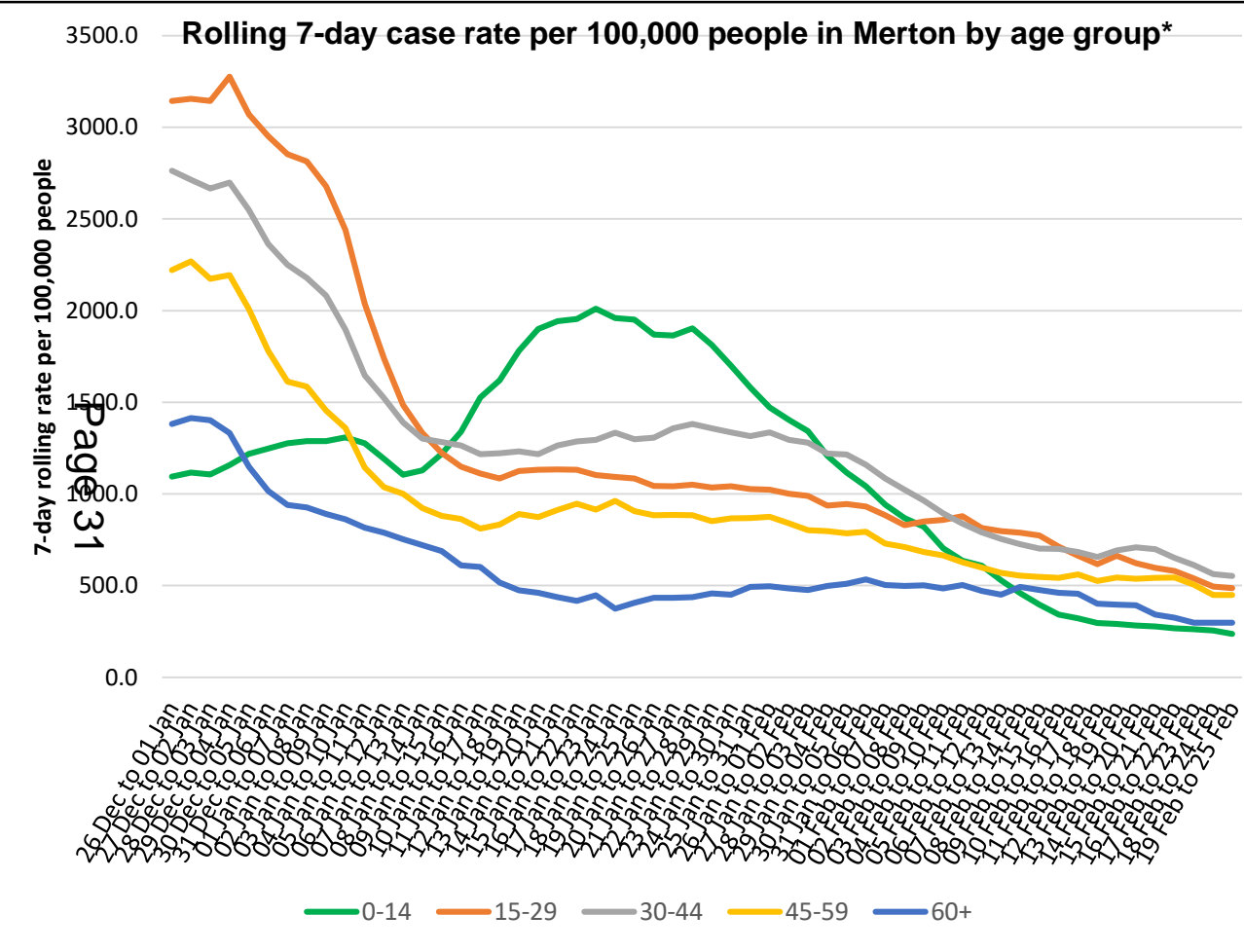


COVID-19 cases in Merton by age and geography

Source: Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the UK (<https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/>)

Reporting frequency: daily

Key message: case rates are highest among 15-29 years and 30-44 years and are higher in west versus east Merton



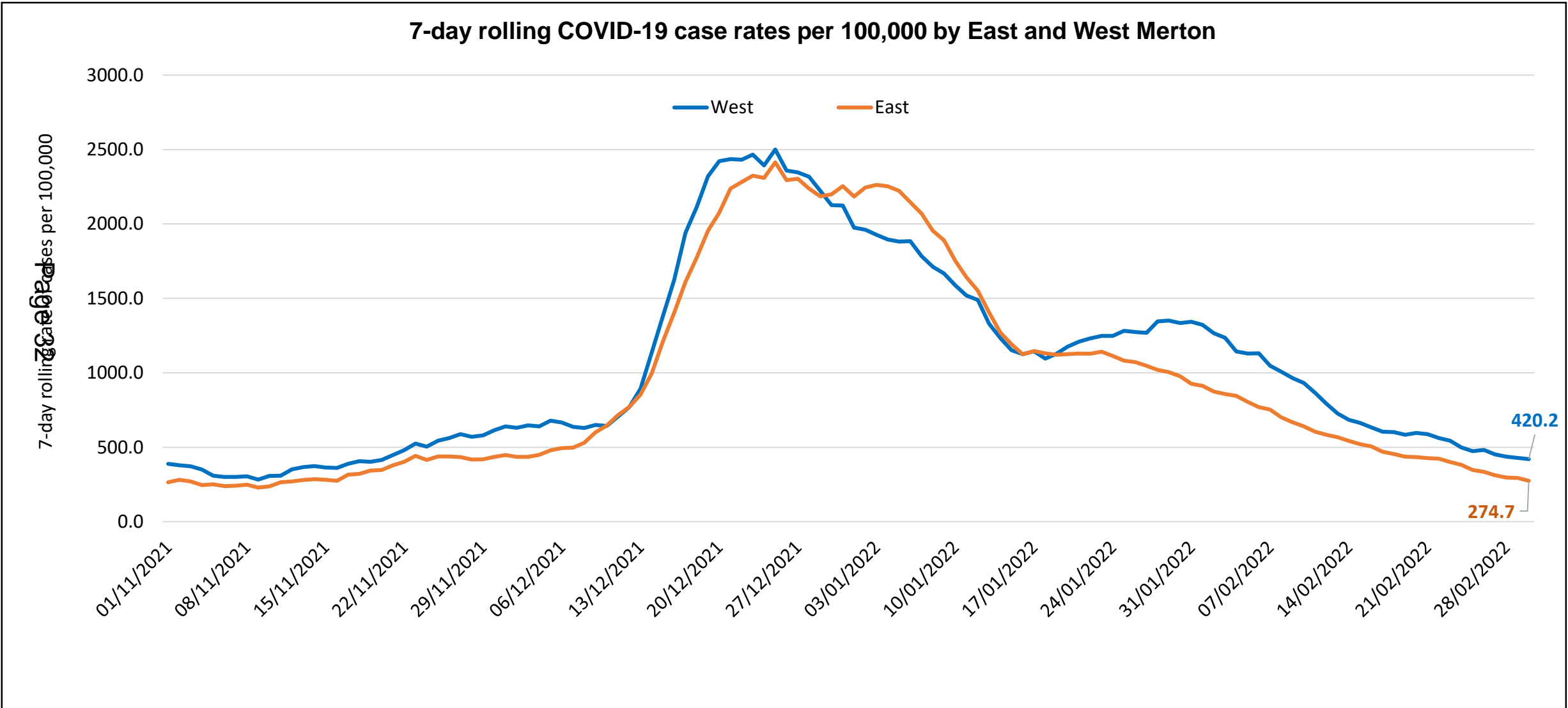
*Rolling 7-day case rate per 100,000 is calculated using the number of people testing positive (source: Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the UK; <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/>) and Merton population estimates (source: GLA Housing-led identified capacity model estimates for 2021).

Due to the recent change in reporting (as of 31st January 2022) there are an additional 8% of cases identified in Merton for the duration of the pandemic. The data now includes possible re-infections (people who test positive again after 90 days). Data as of 2nd March (rates are presented up to and including 25th Feb)

COVID-19 7-day case rates in East and West Merton

Source: UKHSA Covid-19 Situational Awareness Explorer

Reporting frequency: daily



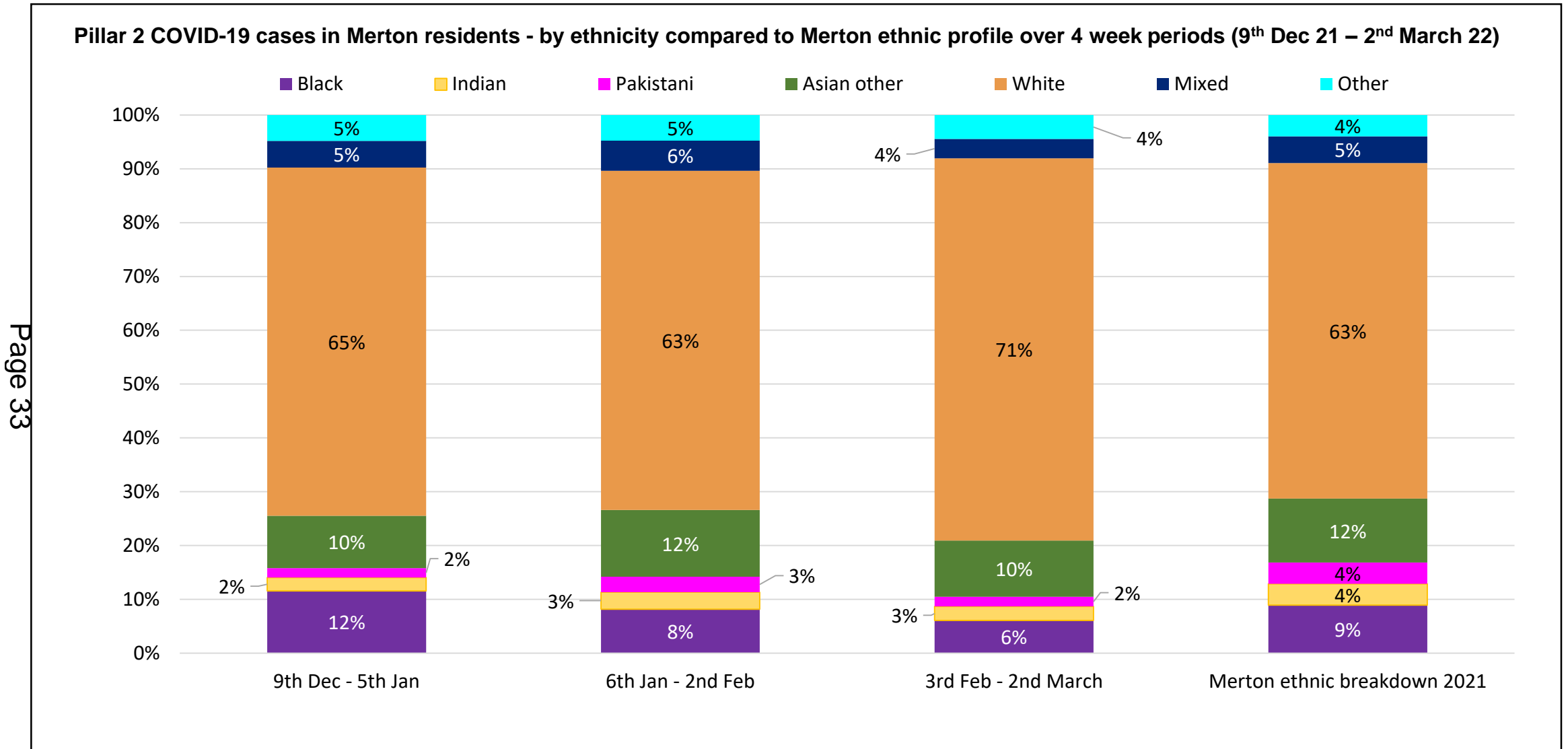
Due to the recent change in reporting (as of 31st January 2022) there are an additional 8% of cases identified in Merton for the duration of the pandemic. The data now includes possible re-infections (people who test positive again after 90 days).

Data as of 3rd March (rates are presented up to and including 2nd March)

COVID-19 cases in Merton by ethnicity

Source: UKHSA Covid-19 Situational Awareness Explorer

Reporting frequency: daily



Page 33

Due to the recent change in reporting (as of 31st January 2022) there are an additional 8% of cases identified in Merton for the duration of the pandemic. The data now includes possible re-infections (people who test positive again after 90 days).

Data as of 3rd March

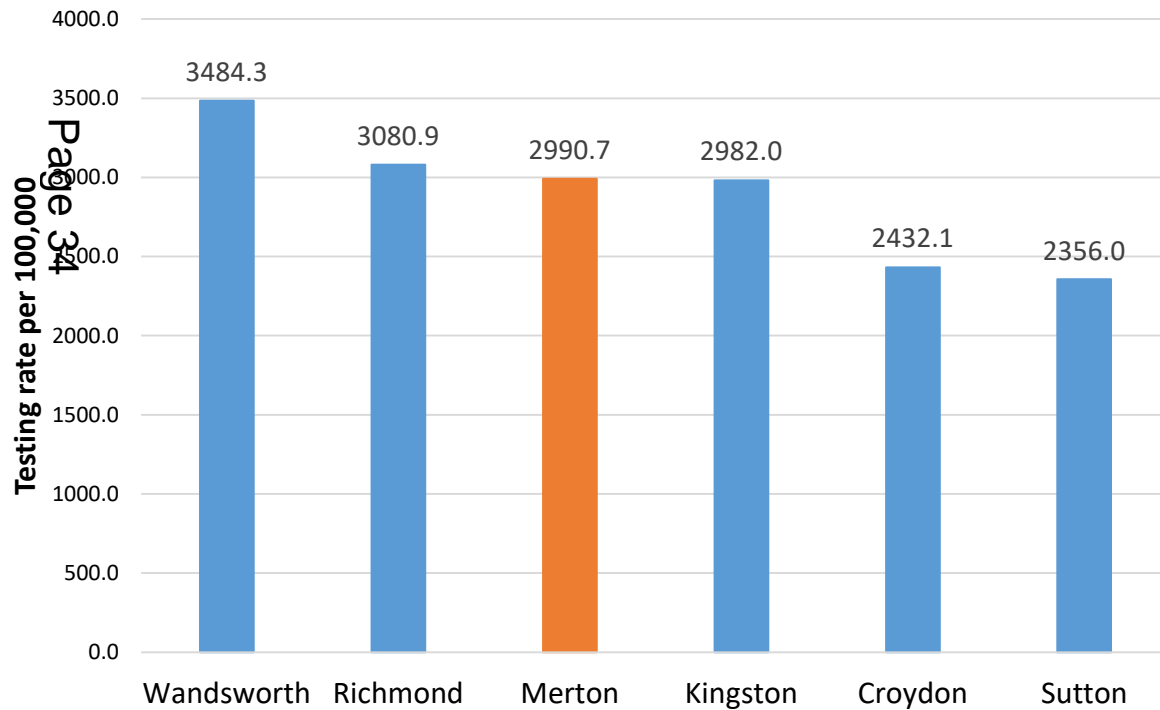
COVID-19 testing & positivity in Merton compared to SW London boroughs

Source: UKHSA Weekly statistics for NHS Test and Trace (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/nhs-test-and-trace-statistics-england-weekly-reports>)

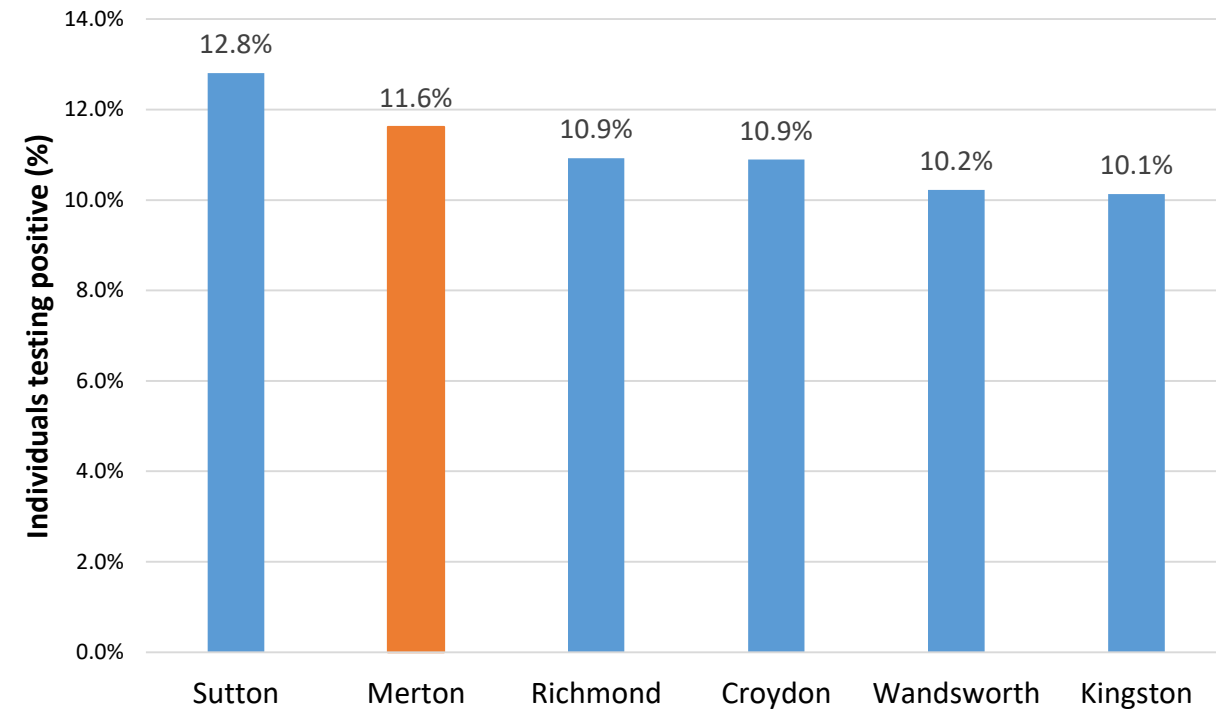
Reporting frequency: weekly

Key message: Merton ranks 3 out of 6 for testing rate per 100,000 people and 2 out of 6 for highest test positivity compared to SWL boroughs

**Weekly testing rate* per 100,000 people in SWL
for week ending 16th February
(Pillar 1 & 2, PCR in all ages)**



**Weekly test positivity in SWL
for week ending 16th February
(Pillar 1 & 2, PCR in all ages)**



*Testing rate per 100,000 is calculated using the number of people tested (source: UKHSA weekly statistics for NHS Test and Trace report) and SWL borough population estimates (source: GLA Housing-led identified capacity model estimates for 2021).

Please note both the test rates and positivity presented on this slide are person-based, not test-based (if someone had multiple tests or tested positive multiple times in a reporting week they are only counted once). Data as of 2nd March (date of latest available UKHSA report published on 24th Feb). Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

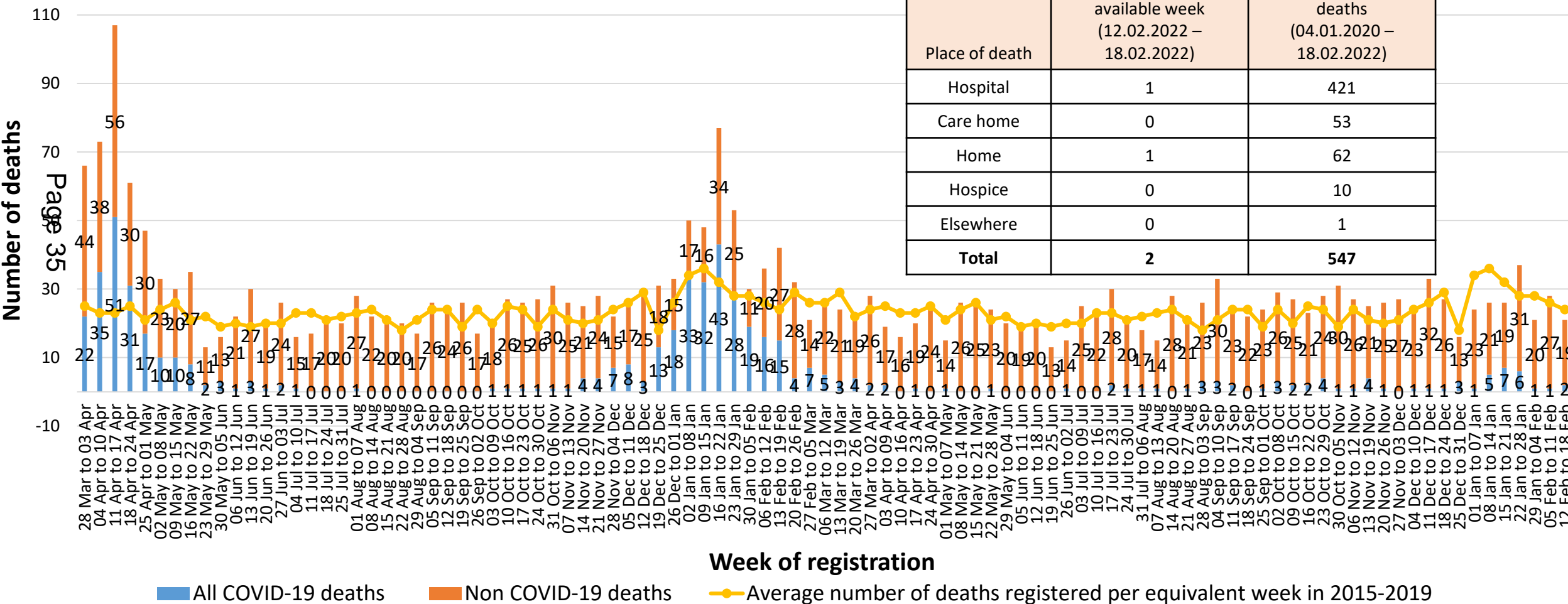
Number of deaths of Merton residents by week of registration

Source: ONS death registrations and occurrences by local authority and health board

(<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/causesofdeath/datasets/deathregistrationsandoccurrencesbylocalauthorityandhealthboard>)

Reporting frequency: Weekly

Key message: There was a slight increase in COVID-19 deaths registered during January though this did not exceed the average number of deaths seen in previous years

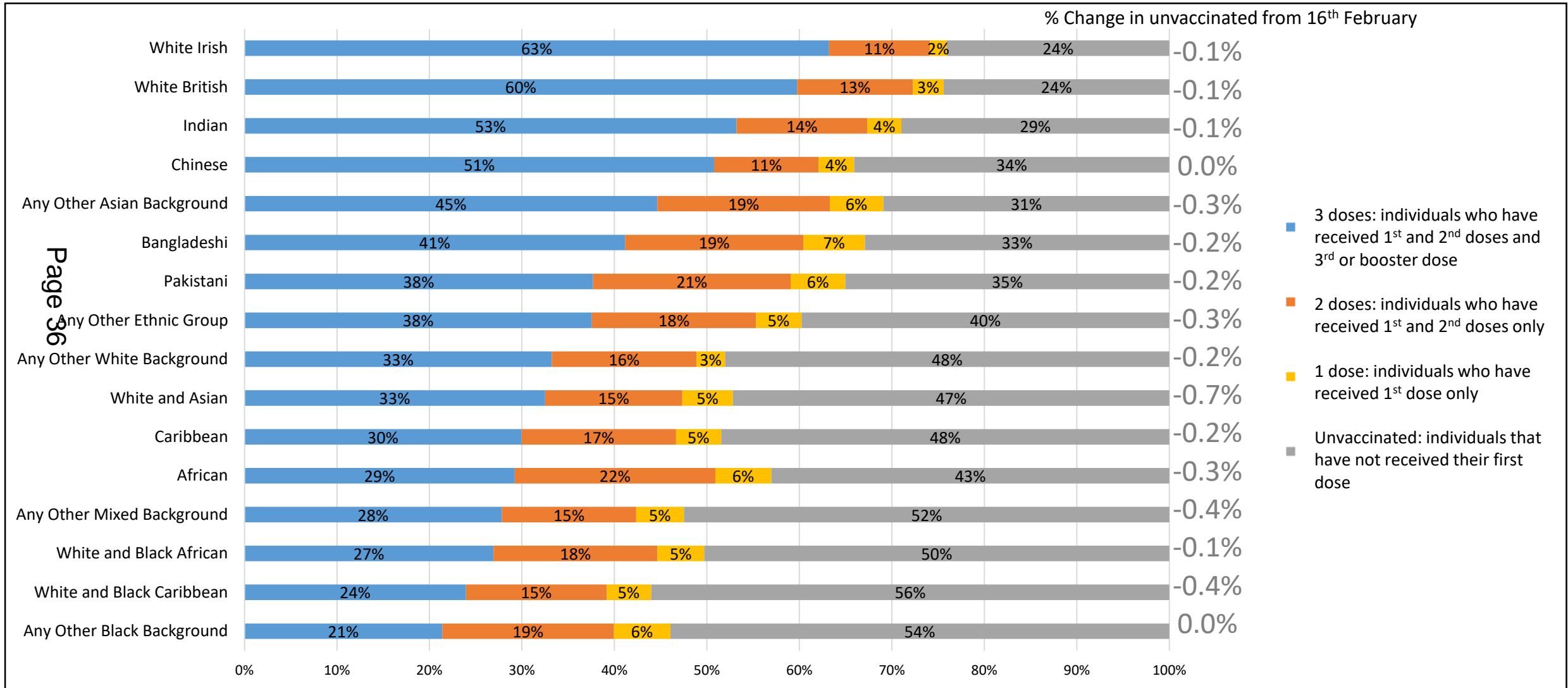


COVID-19 vaccination uptake by ethnicity

Source: UKHSA Covid-19 Situational Awareness Explorer

Reporting frequency: Daily

Key message: The unvaccinated population has continued to decrease across all ethnic groups



Page 36

COVID-19 vaccination uptake by age group and geography

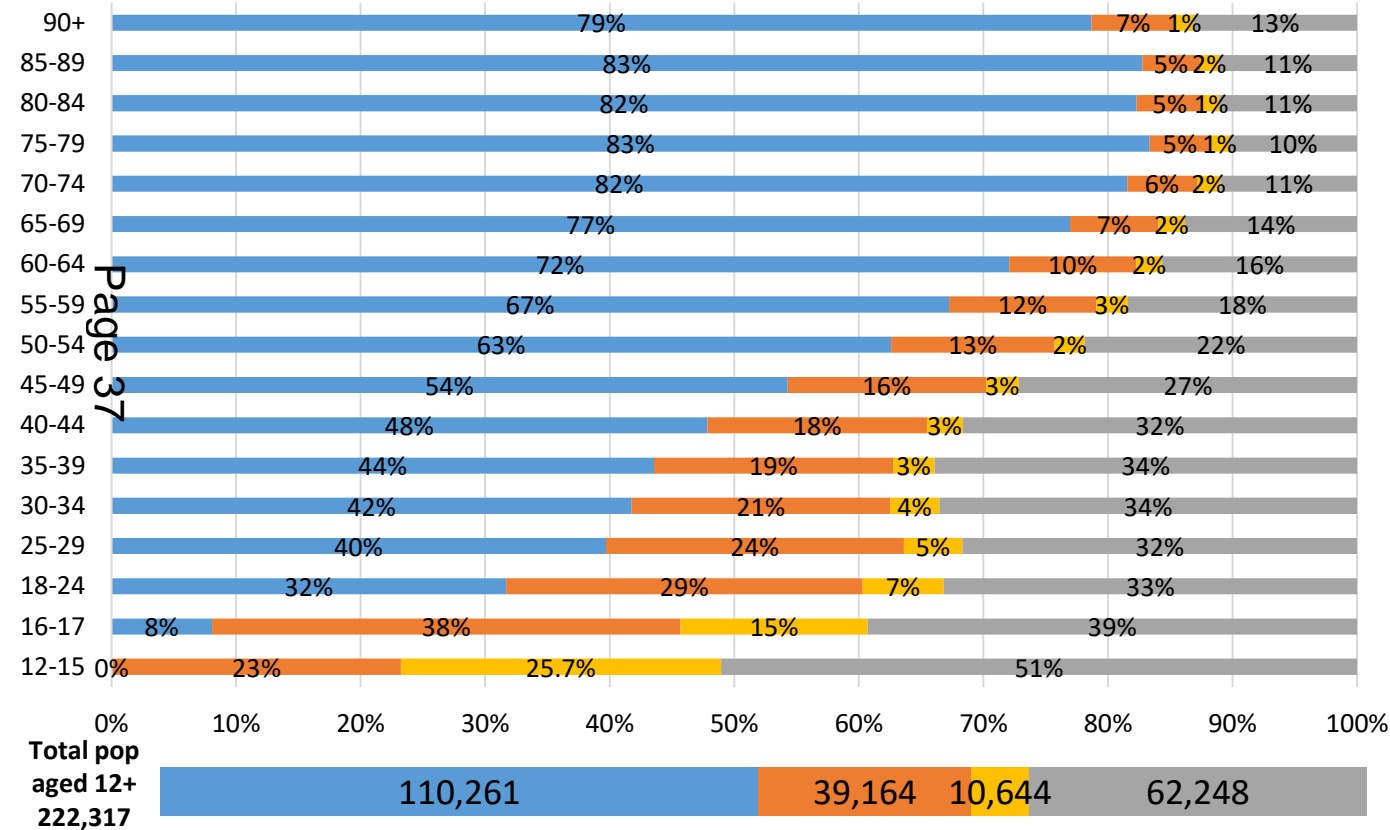
Source: Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the UK (<https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/>) and NHS England COVID-19 vaccinations report (<https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/covid-19-vaccinations/>)

Reporting frequency: Weekly

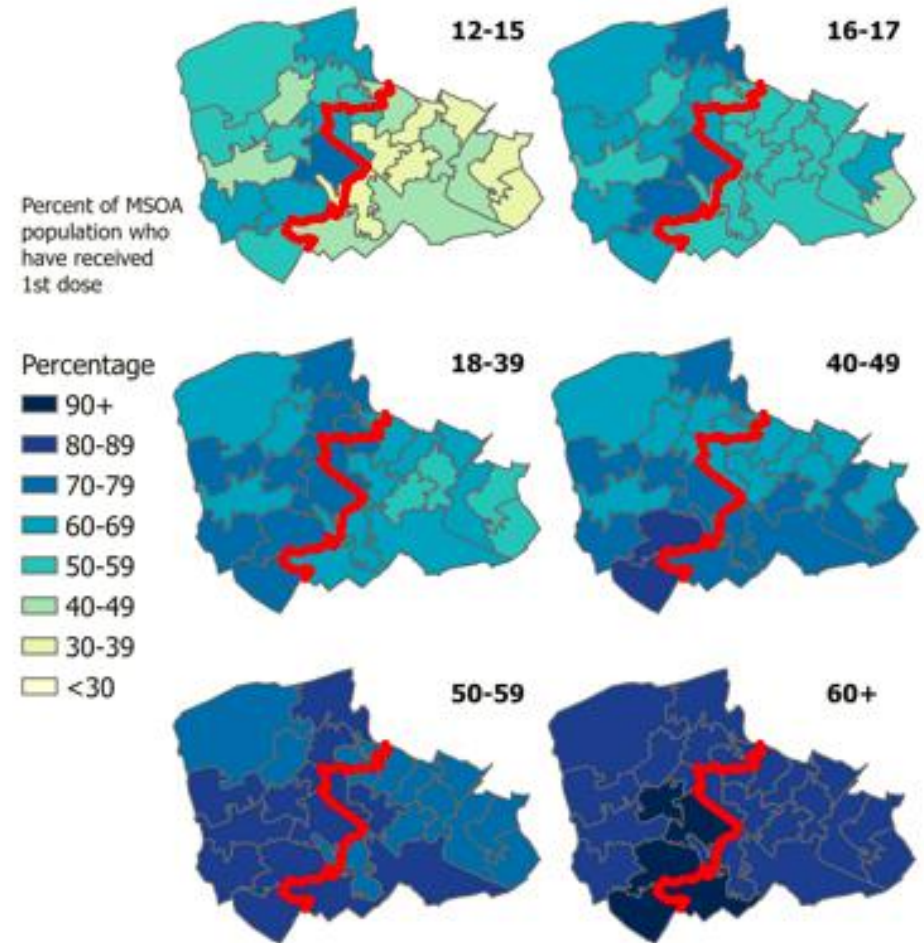
Key message: Vaccination uptake is lowest among younger age groups

Vaccine uptake by age band among Merton residents* (as of 1st March)

3 doses 2 doses 1 dose Unvaccinated



Percentage of Merton residents by age group and MSOA that have received at least 1 dose of Covid-19 vaccination



*Data using NIMS population as denominator. 3 doses: individuals who have received 1st and 2nd doses and 3rd or booster dose. 2 doses: individuals who have received 1st and 2nd doses only. 1 dose: individuals who have received 1st dose only. Unvaccinated: individuals that have not received their first dose. Fewer than 1% of 12-15 year olds have received a booster dose.

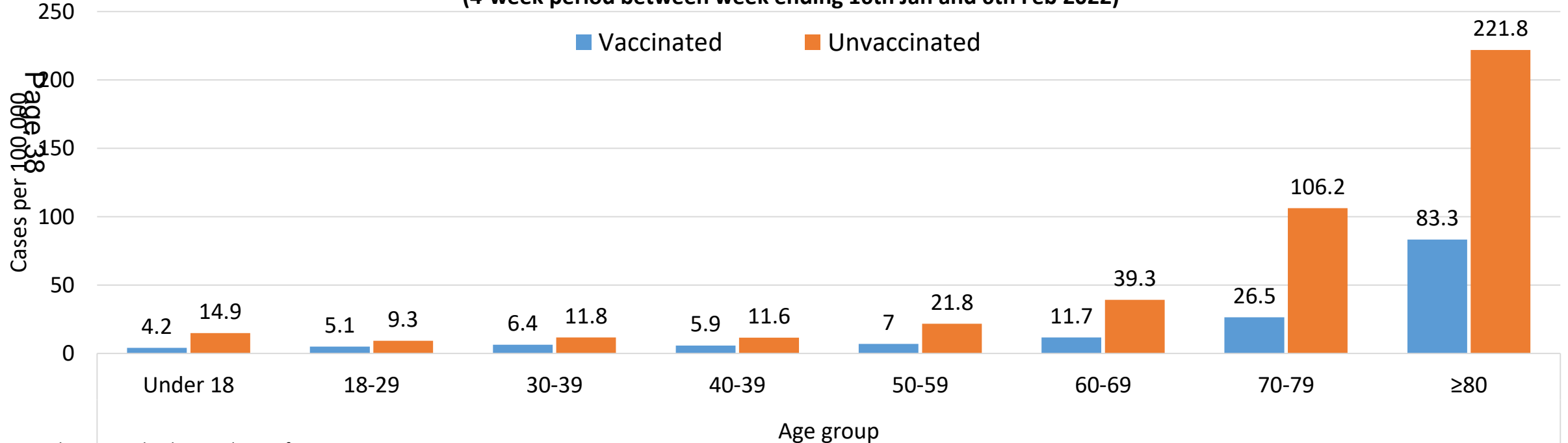
Hospitalisation following COVID-19 infection by vaccination status in England

Source: UKHSA COVID-19 vaccine surveillance report week 6, 10th Feb 2022 (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccine-weekly-surveillance-reports>)

Key messages

- Hospitalisation rates following COVID-19 infection are higher with older age
- Hospitalisation rates are lower in fully vaccinated people compared to unvaccinated people, in all age groups
- Hospitalisation rates by vaccine status data are not publicly available for the SW London region or by borough

Cases per 100,000 presenting to emergency care resulting in overnight inpatient admission by vaccination status*
(4-week period between week ending 16th Jan and 6th Feb 2022)



*vaccinated = received at least 3 doses of COVID-19 vaccine

Please note the difference in case rates between people with different vaccination status could be partly explained by differences in COVID-19 exposure and testing behaviour. However additional analyses by UKHSA which take this into account using a “test-negative case control approach” shows that AstraZeneca, Pfizer, and Moderna vaccines protect against hospitalisation. Read more here: <https://ukhsa.blog.gov.uk/2021/11/02/transparency-and-data-ukhsas-vaccines-report/>

For external use and wider circulation as publicly available data has been used in this report

COVID-19 Mortality in Merton

Page 39

Merton Public Health Intelligence

March 2022

Produced by Monica Koo (monica.koo@merton.gov.uk)

The Covid-19 pandemic arrived in the UK in early 2020. This report looks at mortality in Merton during three key periods:

- Wave 1 (23rd March 2020 to 30th May 2020)
- Wave 2 (7th September 2020 to 24th April 2021)
- Omicron period (20th Dec 2021 – current)

The above periods are based on definitions produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

Data on deaths may be described in several different ways. We have presented data from two sources:

- ONS provisional counts of death registrations (data on deaths registered between 29th Feb 2020 and 4th Feb 2022)
- NHS Digital Primary Care Mortality Database (data on deaths registered between 23rd Mar 2020 and 31st Dec 2021)

The above two sources cover different time periods and therefore do not match exactly, but have been used as they provide different types of information. COVID-19 deaths were defined as deaths where COVID-19 was mentioned on the death certificate.

References for further information

- <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/articles/coronaviruscovid19infectionsurveytechnicalarticle/wavesandlagsofcovid19inenglandjune2021>
- <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/methodologies/userguidetomortalitystatisticsjuly2017>

Summary

There have been a total of 3,063 deaths in Merton since the start of the pandemic as of 4th Feb 2022

- 544 (18%) deaths were involving COVID-19 while 2,519 (82%) did not involve COVID-19

Mortality by place of death

The number of deaths in all settings in Merton was highest in April 2020 and January 2021

- Out of all deaths, 1,463 (48%) were in hospital, 874 (29%) were at home, and 502 (16%) were in a care home
- Out of deaths involving COVID-19, 419 (77%) were in hospital, 61 (11%) were at home, and 53 (10%) were in a care home

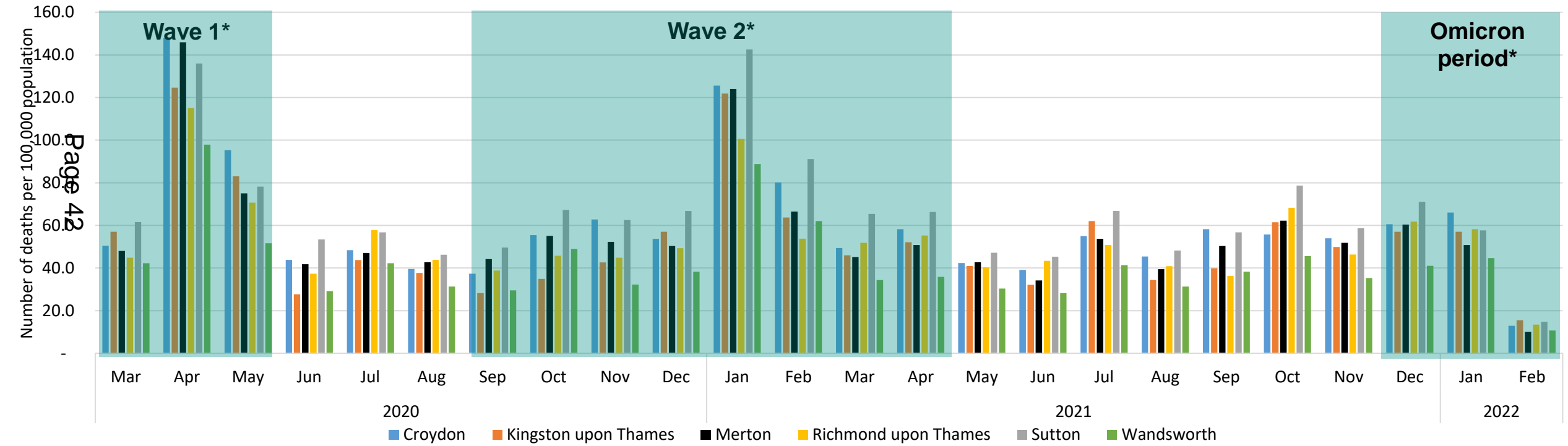
Merton's all-cause and COVID-19 mortality rates have been comparable to other SWL boroughs during the pandemic

Crude all-cause mortality rate by SWL borough

Source: ONS death registrations and occurrences by local authority and health board licensed under the Open Government Licence (<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/causesofdeath/datasets/deathregistrationsandoccurrencesbylocalauthorityandhealthboard>)

Key messages

There have been 3,063 registered deaths in Merton since the start of the pandemic
 Merton's all-cause mortality rate has been similar to other SWL boroughs across the pandemic
 Please note this does not account for demographic differences between the SWL borough populations
 Mortality analysis is very complex and further analysis can be provided



	Croydon	Kingston	Merton	Richmond	Sutton	Wandsworth
Total number of deaths	6198	2507	3063	2776	3617	3613
Cumulative all-cause mortality rate per 100,000	1,563	1,389	1,455	1,382	1,725	1,098

*please note the two waves and "Omicron period" are based on definitions produced by the ONS.
 **The presented data represents deaths registered between 29th Feb 2020 and 4th Feb 2022. COVID-19 deaths are defined as deaths where COVID-19 was mentioned on the death certificate. GLA population estimates for each of the SWL boroughs in 2019 were used to estimate crude mortality rate per 100,000 people.

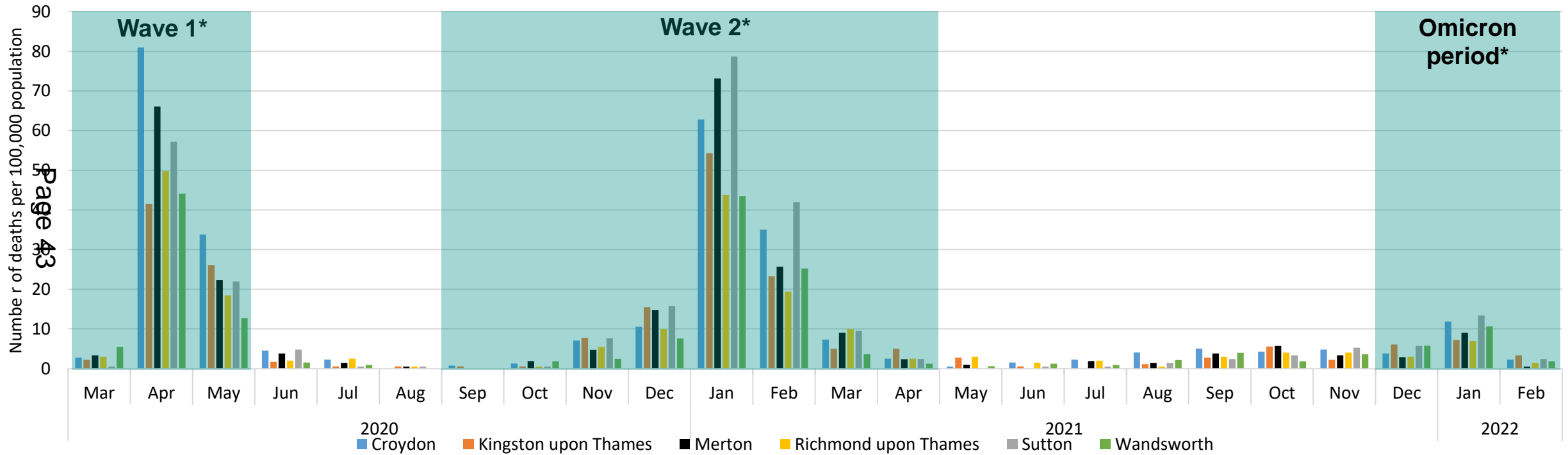
Crude COVID-19 mortality rate by SWL borough

Source: ONS death registrations and occurrences by local authority and health board licensed under the Open Government Licence

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/causesofdeath/datasets/deathregistrationsandoccurrencesbylocalauthorityandhealthboard>

Key messages

- There have been 544 registered deaths involving COVID-19 in Merton since 29th February 2020
- Merton's COVID-19 mortality rate has been similar to other SWL boroughs across the pandemic
- Please note this does not account for demographic differences between the SWL borough populations
- Mortality analysis is very complex and further analysis can be provided



	Croydon	Kingston	Merton	Richmond	Sutton	Wandsworth
Total number of deaths	1158	390	544	396	580	601
Cumulative COVID-19 mortality rate per 100,000	292	216	258	197	277	183

*please note the two waves and "Omicron period" are based on definitions produced by the ONS.

**The presented data represents deaths registered between 29th Feb 2020 and 4th Feb 2022. COVID-19 deaths are defined as deaths where COVID-19 was mentioned on the death certificate. GLA population estimates for each of the SWL boroughs in 2019 were used to estimate crude mortality rate per 100,000 people.

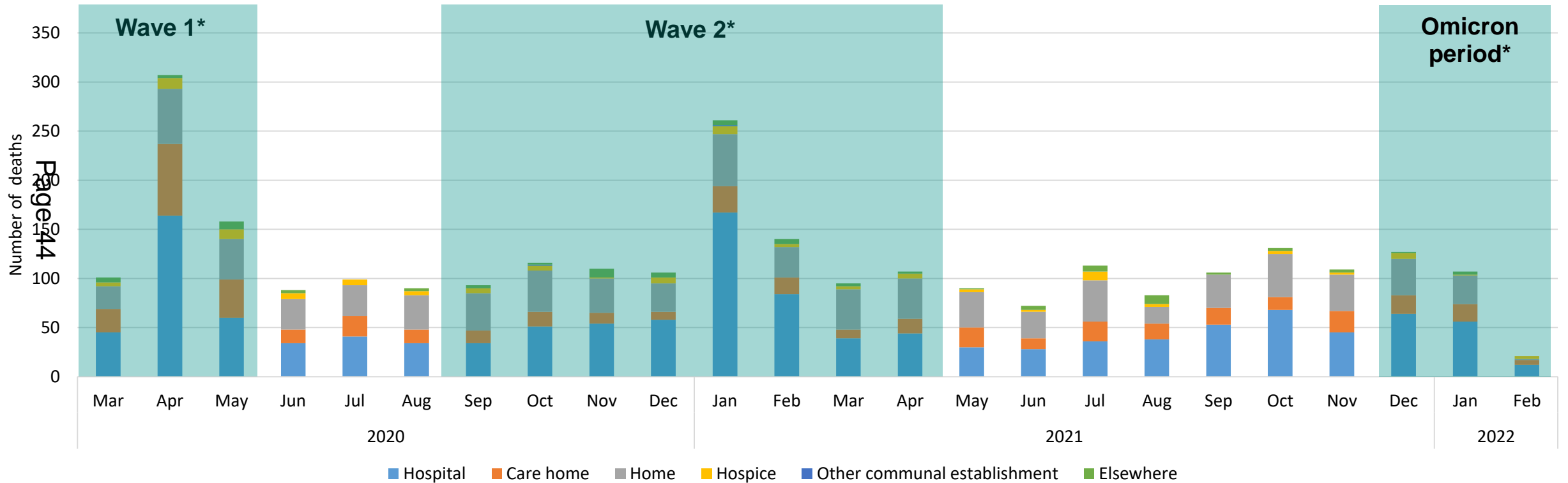
Number of deaths (all causes) in Merton by place

Source: ONS death registrations and occurrences by local authority and health board licensed under the Open Government Licence

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/causesofdeath/datasets/deathregistrationsandoccurrencesbylocalauthorityandhealthboard>

Key messages

Of the registered deaths (all causes) in Merton, 1,463 (48%) were in hospital, 874 (29%) were at home, and 502 (16%) were in a care home



Hospital	Care home	Home	Hospice	Other communal establishment	Elsewhere	Total
1463 (48%)	502 (16%)	874 (29%)	128 (4%)	2 (0.1%)	94 (3%)	3063 (100%)

*please note the two waves and "Omicron period" are based on definitions produced by the ONS.

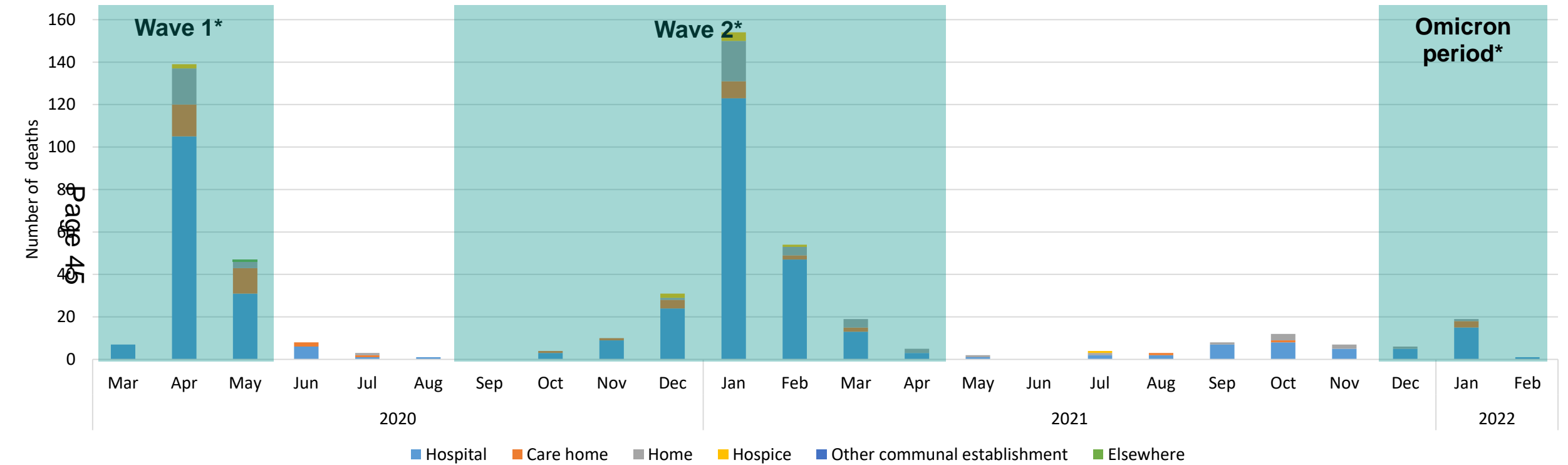
**The presented data represents deaths registered between 29th Feb 2020 and 4th Feb 2022. COVID-19 deaths are defined as deaths where COVID-19 was mentioned on the death certificate.

Number of deaths involving COVID-19 in Merton by place

Source: ONS death registrations and occurrences by local authority and health board licensed under the Open Government Licence

(<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/causesofdeath/datasets/deathregistrationsandoccurrencesbylocalauthorityandhealthboard>)

Key messages
 Of the registered deaths involving COVID-19, 419 (77%) were in hospital, 61 (11%) were at home, and 53 (10%) were in a care home



Hospital	Care home	Home	Hospice	Other communal establishment	Elsewhere	Total
419 (77%)	53 (10%)	61 (11%)	10 (2%)	0 (0%)	1 (0.2%)	544 (100%)

*please note the two waves and "Omicron period" are based on definitions produced by the ONS.

**The presented data represents deaths registered between 29th Feb 2020 and 4th Feb 2022. COVID-19 deaths are defined as deaths where COVID-19 was mentioned on the death certificate.

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