

COVID-19 SECOND WAVE IS HERE

Let's remain vigilant and protect each other

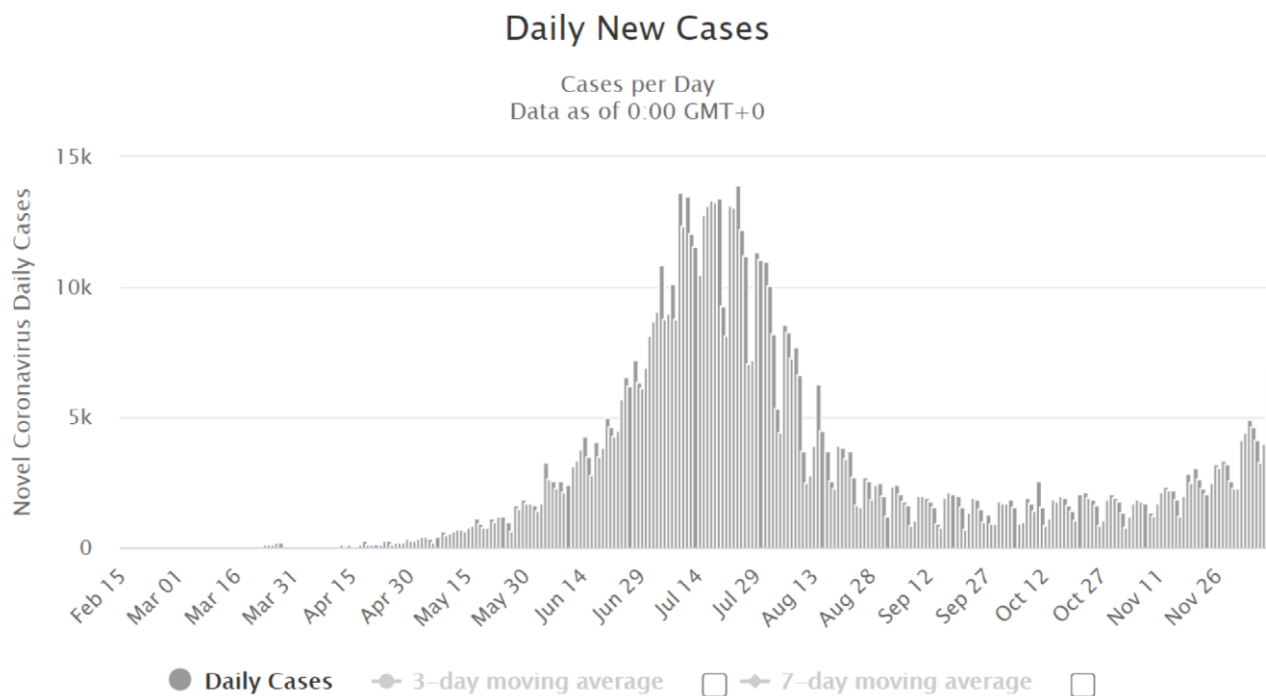


PLATINUM
HEALTH

It's official, the Department of Health (DoH) announced on 9 December that South Africa entered the second wave. New COVID-19 infections have increased sharply over the past week with an alarming 8 166 new cases recorded yesterday.

The sharp rise in daily COVID-19 from 3 000 to 8 000 infections illustrates just how infectious the virus is.

Daily New Cases in South Africa



Although the critical hotspots are the Eastern and Western Cape, other provinces are also starting to see an increase. The only provinces not affected at this stage are North West, Limpopo and Mpumalanga.

With many going on holiday and at home for Christmas, we caution members that there is a significant risk when traveling elsewhere in the country.

It is critical that we all remain focused on protecting ourselves and our loved ones. There are three specific scenarios people should avoid to help stop the spread of the virus:

- **Crowded places** such as Malls and Shopping Centres with many people nearby.
- **Close-contact settings** such as restaurants, bars and taverns, especially where people have close-range conversations.
- **Confined and enclosed spaces** with poor ventilation.

Remain vigilant and remember the positive actions of wearing a mask, maintaining social distancing, and regular hand washing are still our best defense against spreading the virus.