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MPUMALANGA COVID-19 VACCINATION ROLL-OUT PROGRAMME

31 AUGUST 2021

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Background on COVID-19 vaccination programme
- District and Provincial Trends on COVID-19 vaccination programme
- Progress on COVID-19 vaccine roll out for prioritized age bands per district
- Resources
- Key challenges
- Key vaccination programme interventions
- Recommendation

BACKGROUND

- According to the mid- year estimates 2021 from Stats-SA released in July 2021 Mpumalanga has an estimated population of **4 743 584**
- The targeted COVID-19 vaccination population starts from 18 years and above
- The province is having **3 050 289** of the eligible population to be vaccinated
- For the province to realize the 67% herd immunity, it needs to vaccinate a population of **2 043 694**
- As of 28rd August 2021 the province had vaccinated a total cumulative number of **538 320**
- / **3 050 289** eligible population which is **17,7%**
- %

PROVINCIAL SUMMARY

	ELIGIBLE POPULATION	TOTAL VACCINATED	PERCENTAGE
Ehlanzeni	1 132 787	217 013	19,16
Gert Sibande	814 555	149 994	18,41
Nkangala	1 102 947	171 313	15,53
Provincial total	3 050 289	538 320	17,7

Nkangala District is the district that is pulling the performance of the province down one of the contributory factors is inadequate Staff in their health facilities due to financial constraints and also most of the working group access services in Gauteng as is next to their work-stations.

PFIZER AND JOHNSON & JOHNSON COVID-19 VACCINE ROLL-OUT UPTAKE >60 YEARS (SUMMARY)

DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY	POP >60	REGISTRERED	VACCINATED	% VACCINATED
Ehlanzeni	155 243	81 614	97 809	63
Gert Sibande	101 474	50 038	46 721	46
Nkangala	124 999	67 627	84 307	67.4
Province	381 716	199 279	228 837	60%



PHASE 2 COVID-19 VACCINE ROLL-OUT UPTAKE (60 and above)

- Vaccine uptake for age band >60 years was launched on 17 May 2021 .
- As of the 28 August 2021 a total of **199 279 / 381 716** has been registered while **228 837** were vaccinated
- The highest performing district is **Nkangala with 67.4 %** , this can be due the high number of old age homes where the targeted population is confined in one place at the same time.
- Three of the local municipalities in Nkangala that have exceeded the 67% coverage of the age group population that is **Emakhazeni, Steve Tshwete and Thembisile Hani** having recorded **133,86% ; 81,78% and 68,60%** respectively.
- Furthermore, Ehlanzeni district has performed well in this age group is related to high number rural areas governed by traditional authorities. Having two of the local municipalities exceeded 67% (**Bushbuckridge recorded 86,85% and Nkomazi 68,17%**)

PFIZER AND JOHNSON & JOHNSON COVID-19 VACCINE ROLL-OUT UPTAKE 50-59 YEARS (SUMMARY)

DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY	POP >50	REGISTERED	VACCINATED	% VACCINATED
Ehlanzeni	134 118	16491	29 292	21.8
Gert Sibande	91 666	46 305	45 661	50.9
Nkangala	123 012	35 740	23 338	18.9
Province	348 796	113 911	98 291	28.1



PHASE 2 COVID-19 VACCINE ROLL-OUT UPTAKE (50 - 59)

- Vaccine uptake for age band 50-59 years was launched on 15 July 2021 .
- A total of **113 911/ 348 796** have been registered while **98 291** (28 August 2021) were vaccinated
- Gert Sibande is the best performing district in this age group
- While the lowest performing district in this age band is Nkangala this can be due to this age band working in Gauteng and accessing vaccination service closer to their work-stations

PFIZER AND JOHNSON & JOHNSON COVID-19 VACCINE ROLL-OUT UPTAKE 35-49 YEARS (SUMMARY)

DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY	POP >35	REGISTRERED	VACCINATED	% VACCINATED
Ehlanzeni	478 936	79 164	31 275	6.5
Gert Sibande	361 434	57 047	40 894	11.3
Nkangala	516 101	61 547	30 177	5.8
Province	1 356 471	197 758	102 662	7.6

PHASE 2 COVID-19 VACCINE ROLL-OUT UPTAKE (35 – 49yrs)

- Vaccine uptake for age band 35-49 years was launched on 01 August 2021 .
- A total of **197 758/ 1 356 471** have been registered while **102 758** (28 August 2021) were vaccinated.
- Even in this age group Gert Sibande is the best performer at 11.3%
- The lowest performing district is **Nkangala at 5.8 %** in this age band this might be related to border issues as most of the population works and use services from both Gauteng and Limpopo

PFIZER AND JOHNSON & JOHNSON COVID-19 VACCINE ROLL-OUT UPTAKE 18-34 YEARS (SUMMARY)

DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY	POP 18-34 years	REGISTRERED	VACCINATED	% VACCINATED
Ehlanzeni	364 490	21 618	4 644	1.3
Gert Sibande	259 981	18 930	10 020	3.85
Nkangala	338 835	16792	3 819	1.1
Province	963306	57 340	18 483	1.9

Vaccine uptake for age band 18-34 years was launched on 20 August 2021 . A total of **57 340/ 963 306** have been registered while **18 483** (28 August 2021) were vaccinated and we are still continuing with the programme. This is a new age band recently introduced, and we are continuing with demand creation

COVID-19 VACCINATION IN MINES, FARMS AND FORESTRY

- The department visited mines, power stations, farms and forestry and managed to vaccinate the following: **(data is included in the total vaccinated)**
- **Ehlanzeni district**
 - Mines: **405**
 - Farms: **2 823**
 - Forestry: **155**
- **Gert Sibande district**
 - Mines: **2 585**
 - Farms: **3 069**
 - Forestry: **663**
- **Nkangala district**
 - Mines: **3 449**
 - Power stations: **1 202**
 - Farms: **826**



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RESOURCES

	ELIGIBLE POPULATION Estimates 2020	TOTAL VACCINATED	POPULATION STILL TO BE VACCINATED TO REACH 67% HERD IMMUNITY	CURRENT AVERAGE VACCINATION RATE/DAY	NUMBER OF VACCINATORS REQUIRED	NUMBER OF CURRENT VACCINATOR
Ehlanzeni	1 132 787	217 013	541 954	8000	135	92
Gert Sibande	814 555	149 994	395 757		99	84
Nkangala	1 102 947	171 313	567 661		142	82
Provincial total	3 050 289	538 320	1 505 372		376	258

Province prepared **1108 Community Structures** to be used for vaccination



KEY CHALLENGES

- Inadequate number of staff in all health facilities leading to reduced capacity to increase vaccination coverage
- Low uptake of vaccine in all prioritized age bands particularly age 50-59 years and 35-49 years
- Poor connectivity in rural areas resulting in delay in the registration
- Paper base registration result in disparities on EVDS which distort of numbers in the province
- Anti-vaccine narrative on social media leading to vaccine hesitancy



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KEY INTERVENTIONS

- Increase work force to improve vaccine roll out programme. The following cadres were appointed:
 - **175** Professional Nurses (vaccinators)
 - **486** data capture for EVDS
 - **60** Enrolled Nursing Assistants for screening and vital signs
- Increase fixed vaccination sites from 20 to 60 sites while continuing with daily community outreach
- Continue with the vaccination programme at SASSA pay points and taxi ranks
- Partnering with TVETs, Mpumalanga University, TUTs and DOE
- Integrate COVID-19 vaccination services into the existing health services in all health facilities including Mobile Clinic
- Expand vaccination point at strategic areas such as shopping malls especially on busy days (month end and long weekend)
- Expand community loud hailing by hailing three days before outreach team visit the site to raise awareness on vaccination activities
- Each sub-district has allocated two (02) data capture with a target of 100 paper base per day to address the back log of paper registration last day of the project is 31 August 2021

VACCINATION PROGRAMME EXPANSION PLAN

Strategy focus	Activities
Political Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MEC Vaccine drives: Shopping malls, taxi ranks, sporting clubs e.g. Bikers • Premier, MEC's and Executive Mayors to monitor vaccination programs
Mining sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue with collaboration with all mines and power stations within each district to upscale vaccination
Traditional Authorities and Religious leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue with outreach to traditional authorities and Religious gatherings • Partnering with headman (Indunas) in traditional authorities on demand creation and vaccination to increase uptake
Farms & Forestry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue with vaccination outreach to all farms and forestry in each district to increase vaccine uptake



COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION AND DEMAND CREATION

FOCUS AREA	INTERVENTION
Information access, Information in people's hands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue with the use of local media, talk shows, social media to convey vaccination information ▪ Upload vaccine information on Mpumalanga Dept. of health Facebook page ▪ Develop age- appropriate messages to enhance communication ▪ Use of Ward- Based / Clinic Based model in the 400 municipality wards and reach out to house holds
Misconceptions addressed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide continuous health education on COVID 19 and vaccine safety and benefits at community level using radio talk shows , poster in communities and social media platforms. ▪ Conduct community interaction talk-shows to address the myths and misconceptions around vaccines ▪ Need to have J&J to increase the uptake
Community buy-in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Collaborate with stakeholders at community level (NGOs, Civil societies, ward counsellors etc.) to assist with public trust building and community engagement. ▪ Continue to collaborate with command councils at all levels to get obtain community by-ins, address misconceptions and allay anxieties

RECOMMENDATION

- That NCOP takes note of progress made on the COVID-19 vaccination roll-out programme and to request guidance.

Thank You



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