

REPORT ON WEEKLY DEATHS IN SOUTH AFRICA

1 JANUARY - 7 APRIL 2020

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UCT Centre
for Actuarial
Research

Data Source

Basic demographic information for all deaths registered on the National Population Register are provided to the SAMRC on a weekly basis. Since the weekly number of deaths has a seasonal trend, historical data from 2018 and 2019 have been used to predict the number of deaths that could be expected during 2020.

The excel forecast function has been used to predict values for each week of 2020 based on a linear annual trend, allowing for a seasonal effect over the year. In addition, 95% confidence intervals have been estimated for the predicted weekly number of deaths for 2020 to give a basis to assess fluctuations.

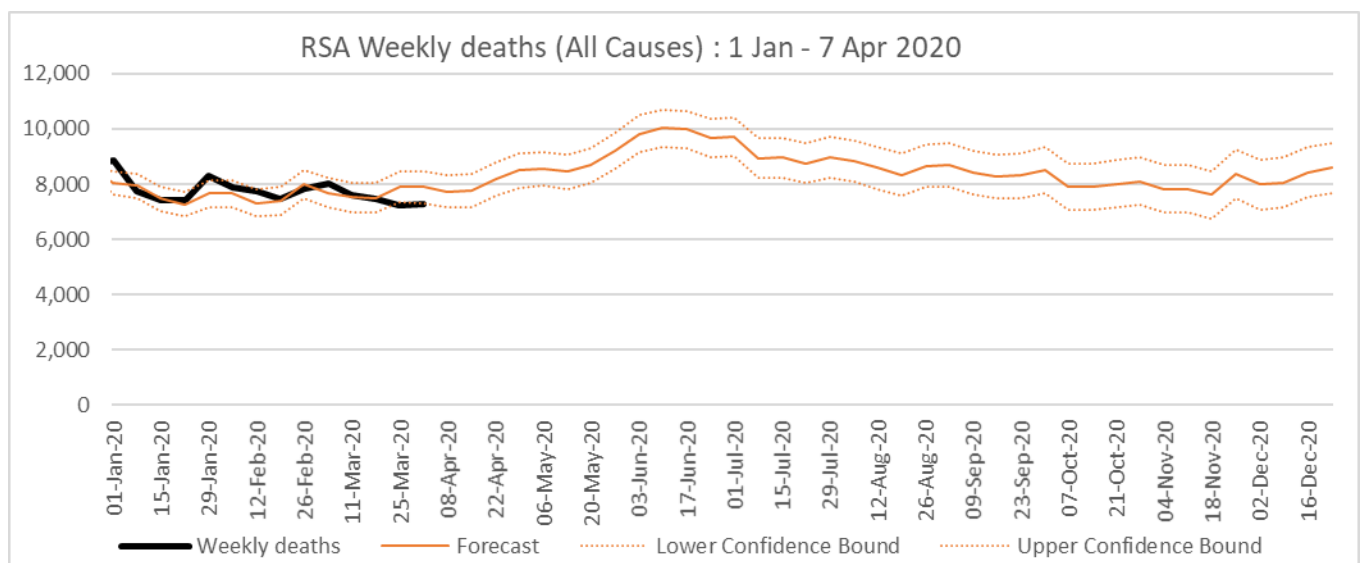
Graphs in this report have been prepared of the weekly number of deaths up till epidemiological week 14 covering the period from **1 January 2020** till **7 April 2020** based on the data received on 14 April 2020

Data for the most recent week has been scaled up to account for the lag in registrations. Based on previous data, a factor of 1.092 has been applied. This factor is a bit higher than that used in the previous report to account for the fact that no processing occurred on the Friday 10 April public holiday.

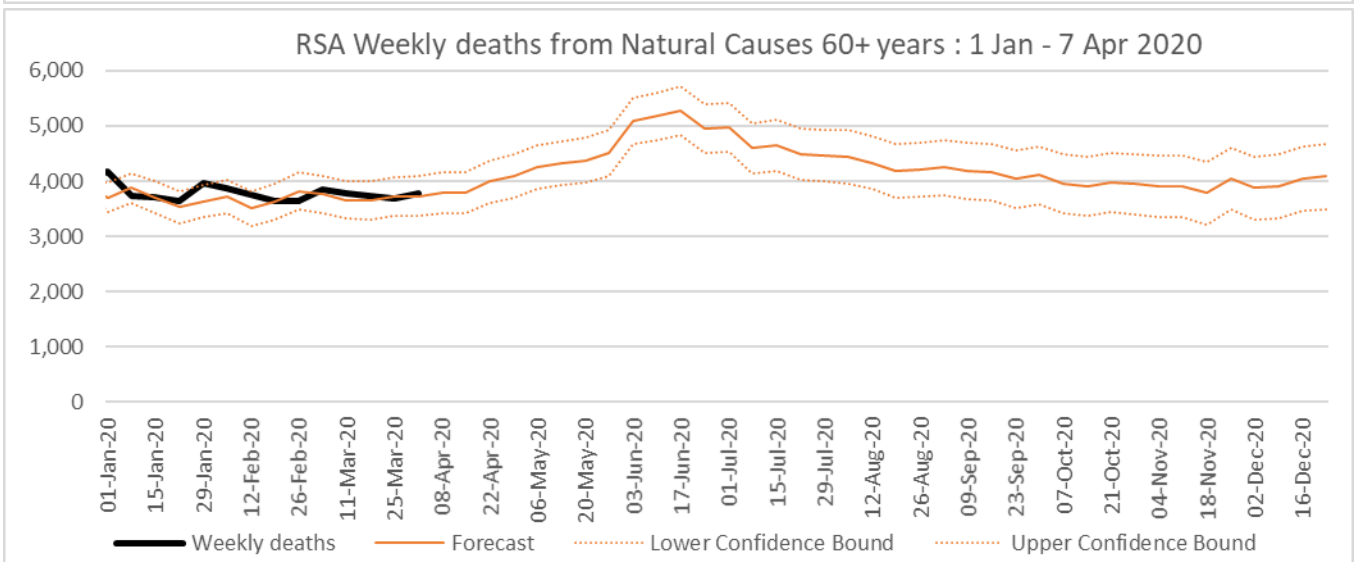
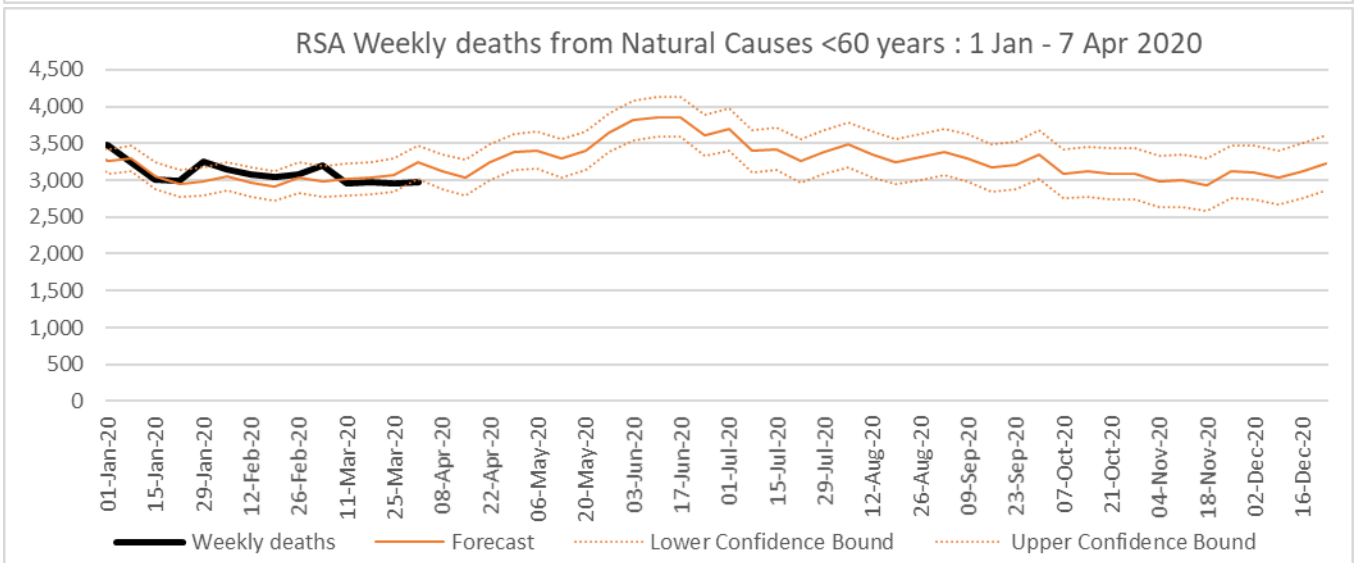
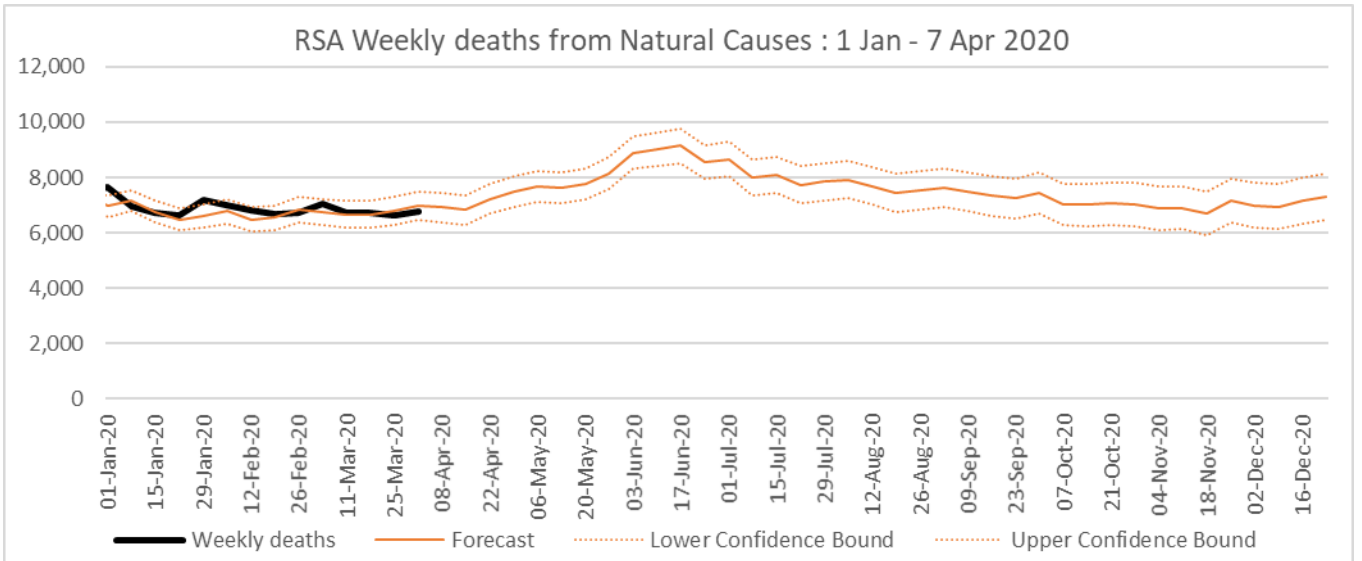
It must be noted that the National Population Register has only the registered deaths of persons with a national ID number and thus does not include unregistered deaths some registered deaths.

Trends

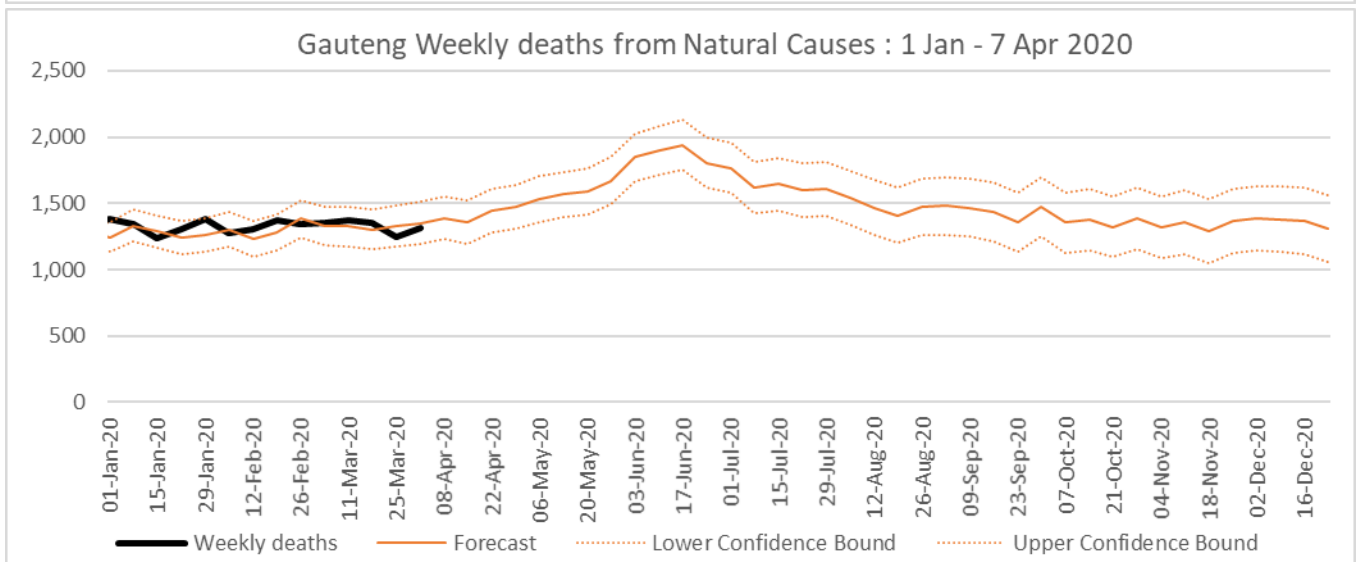
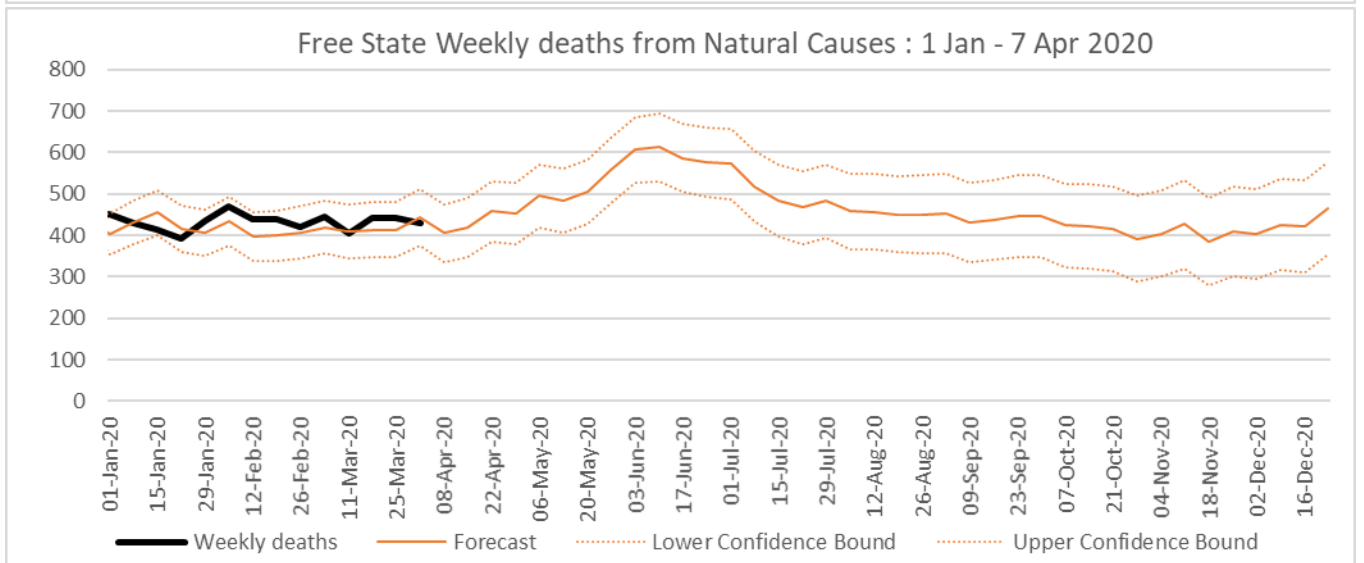
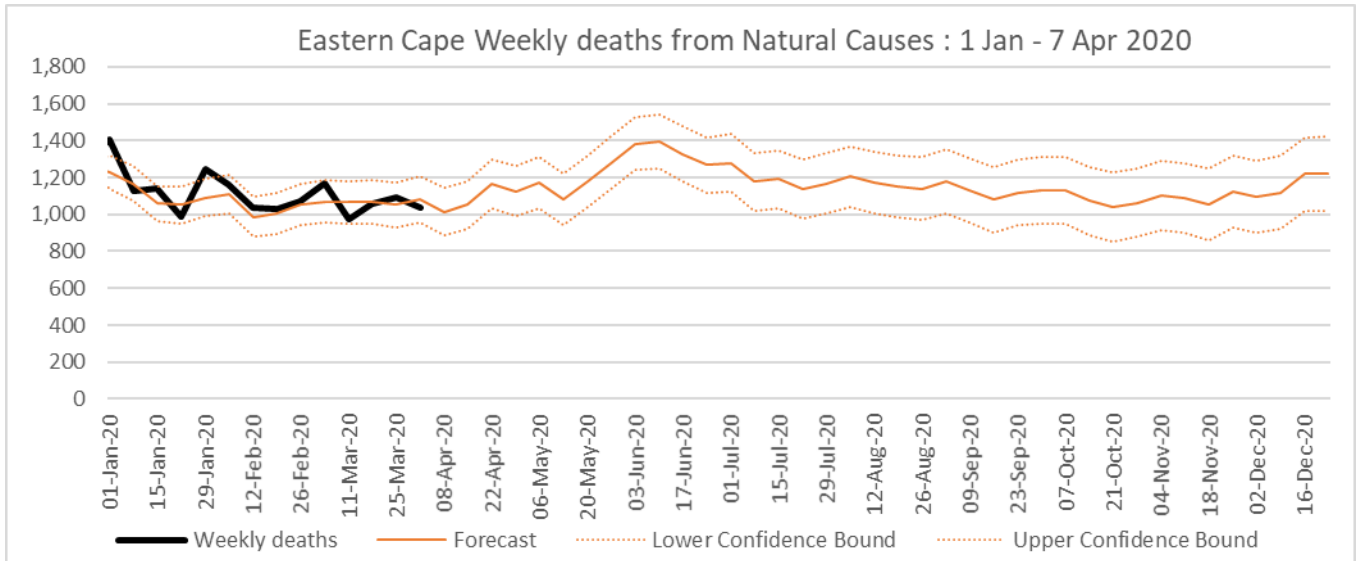
- The weekly number of deaths up till **7 April 2020** are generally within the bounds of expectation based on the historical data. The numbers in the most recent two weeks are noticeably lower than predicted as a result of a decline in the number of deaths from nonnatural causes such as road traffic fatalities and homicide.
- Deaths from natural causes show no unusual sign of increase by **7 April 2020** among people less than 60 years or those over 60 years.



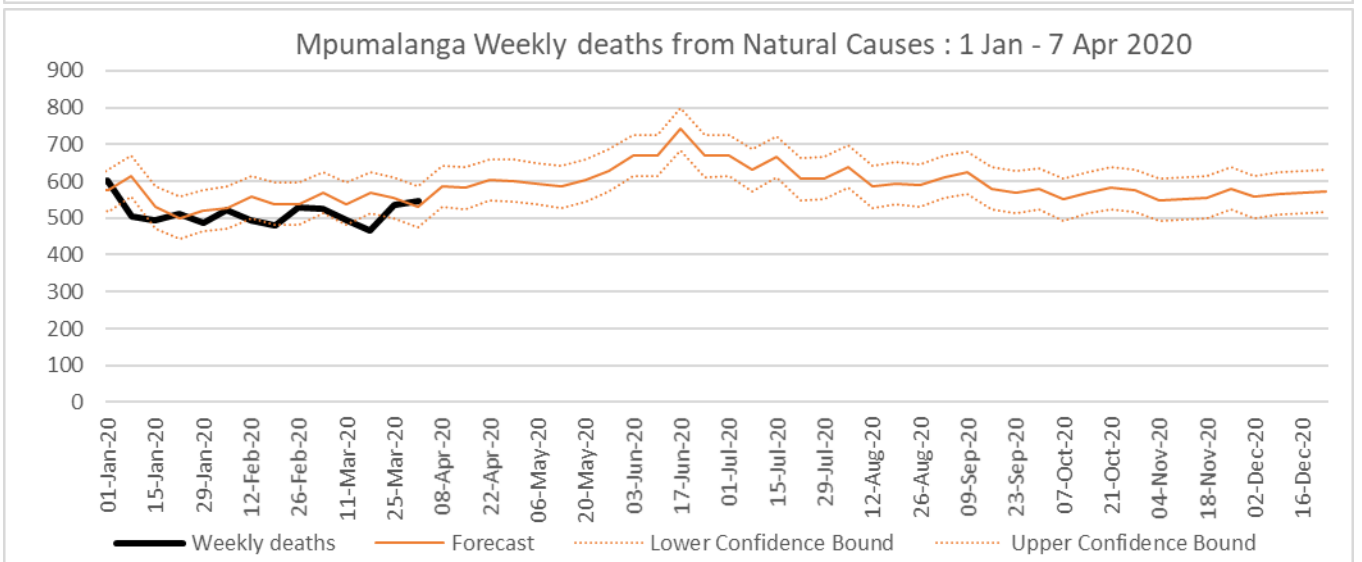
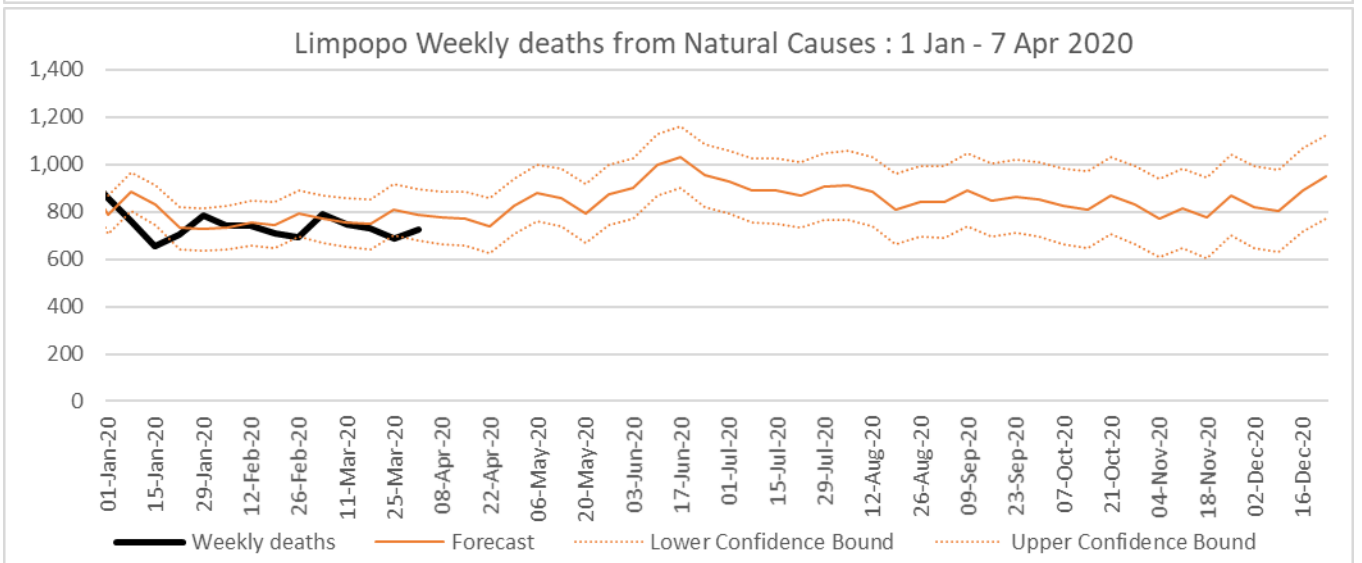
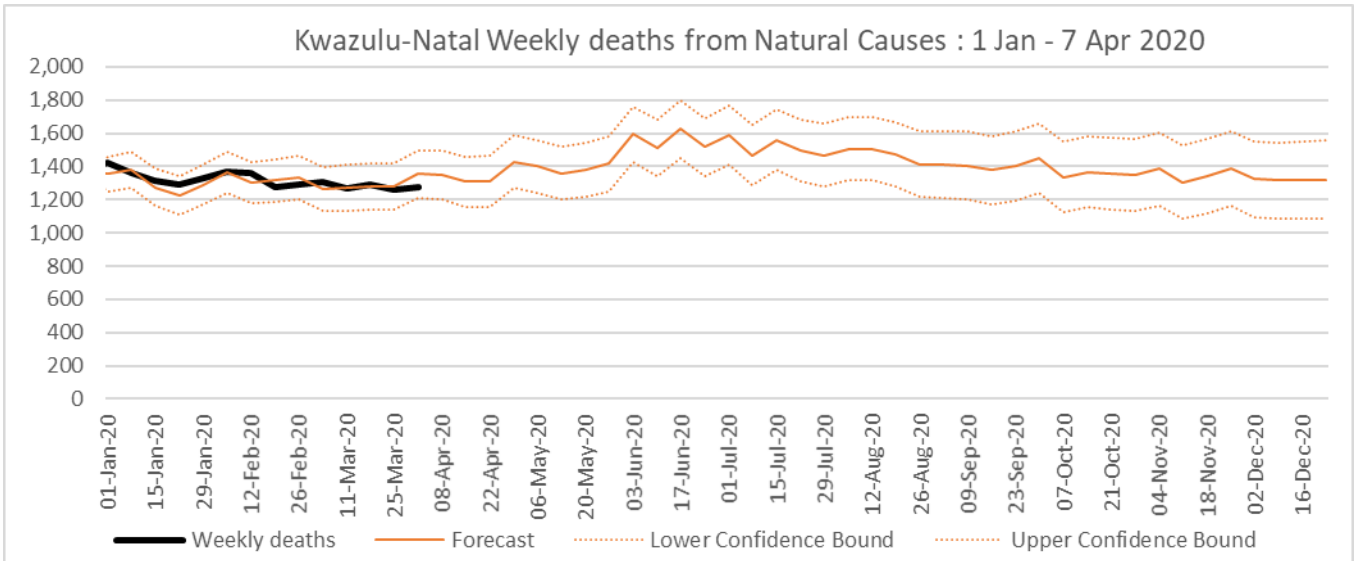
Number for the last week has been adjusted for delayed registrations.



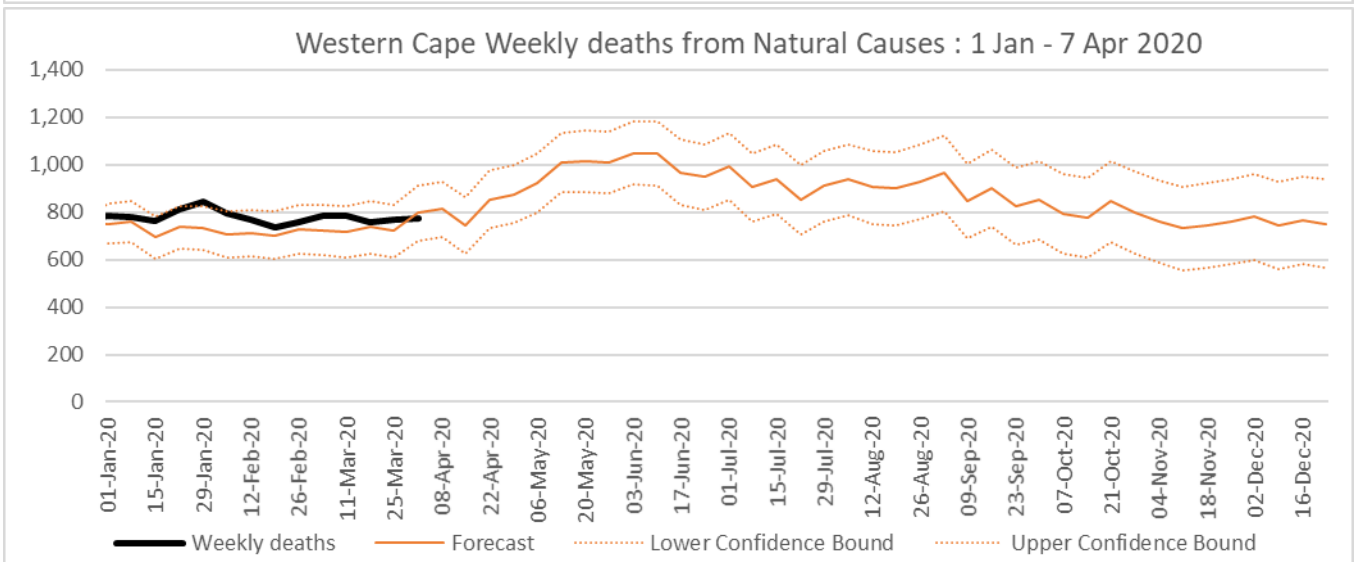
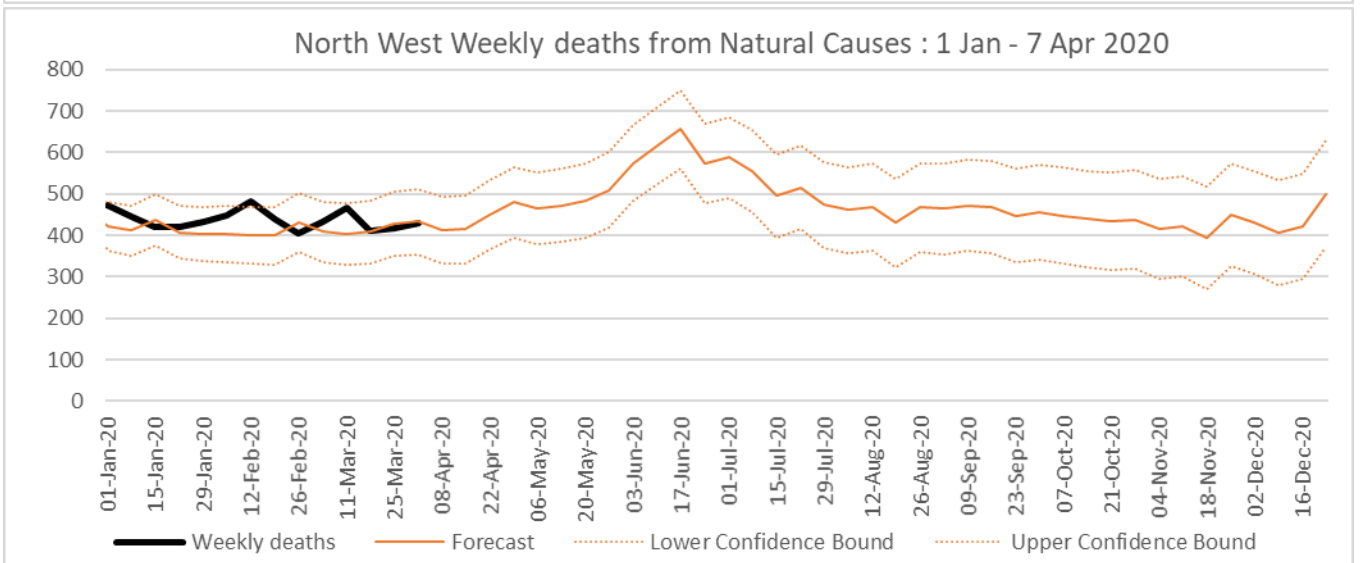
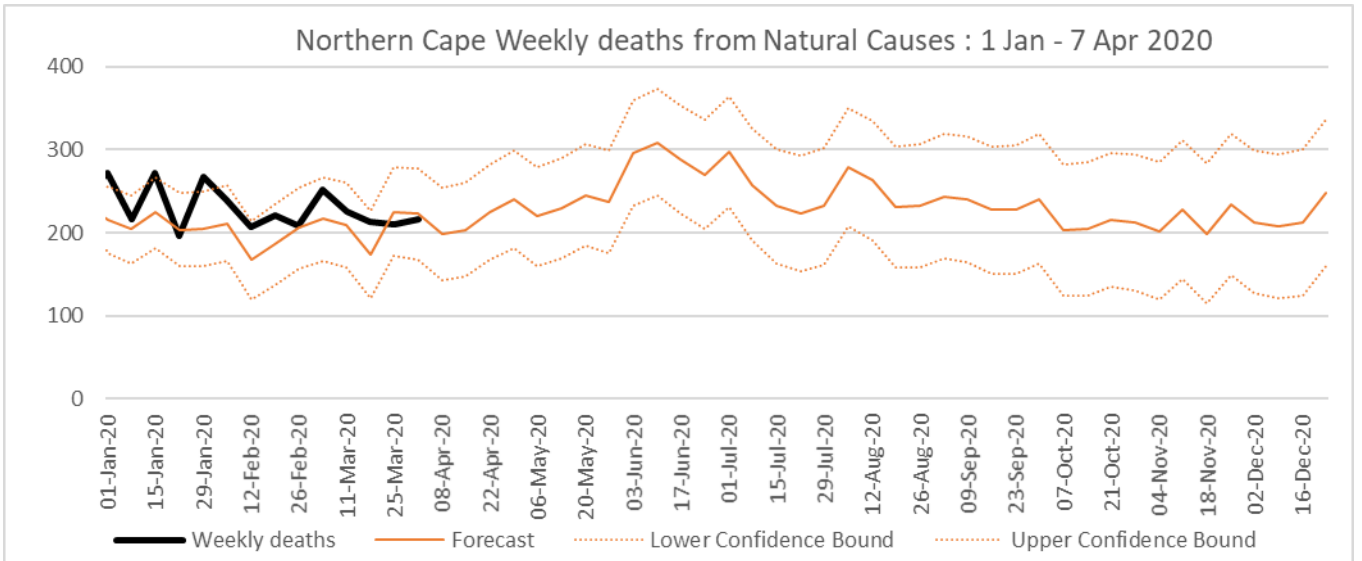
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