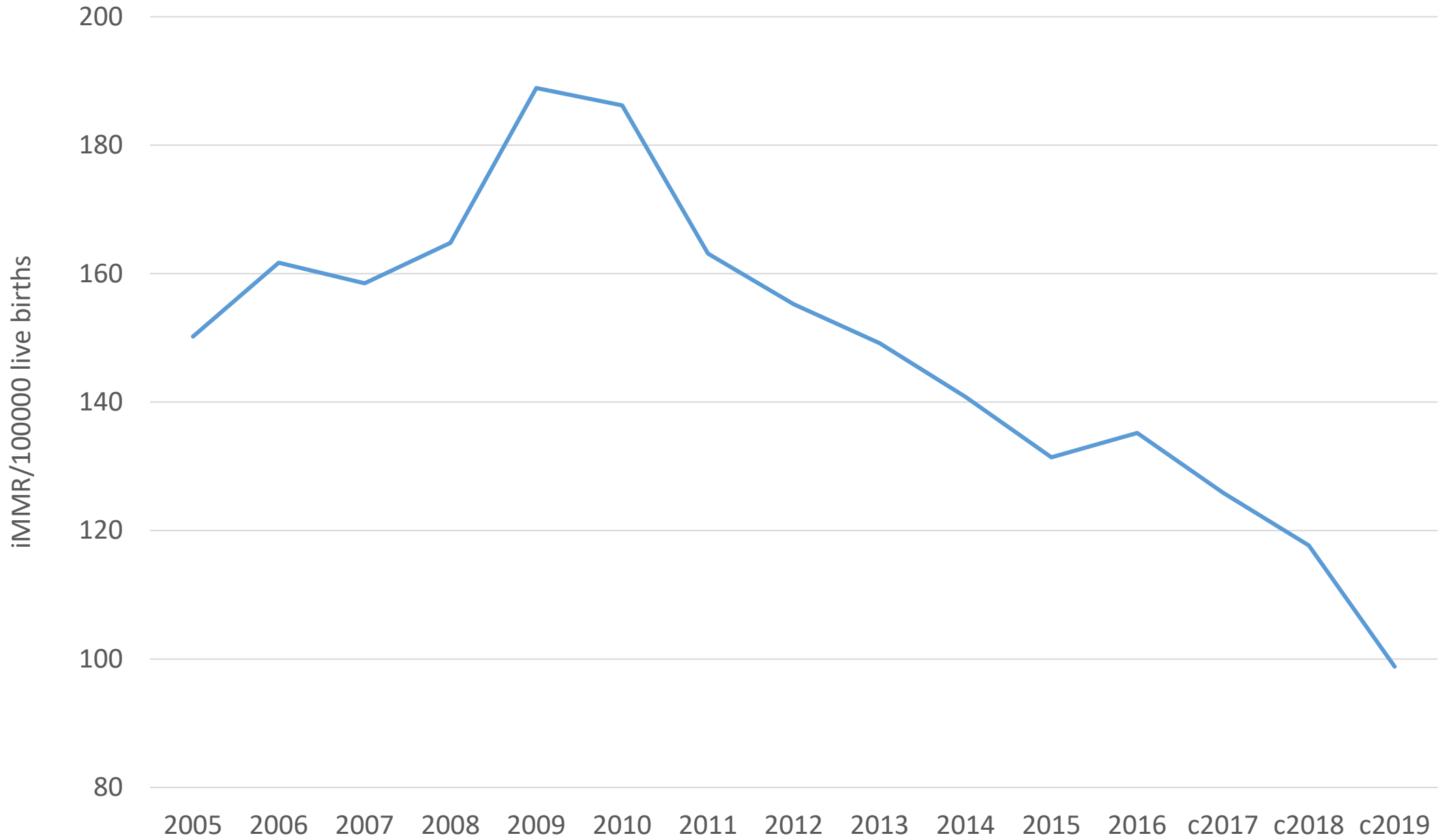




The effect of Covid-19 on the use of maternal and reproductive health services and maternal deaths in South Africa

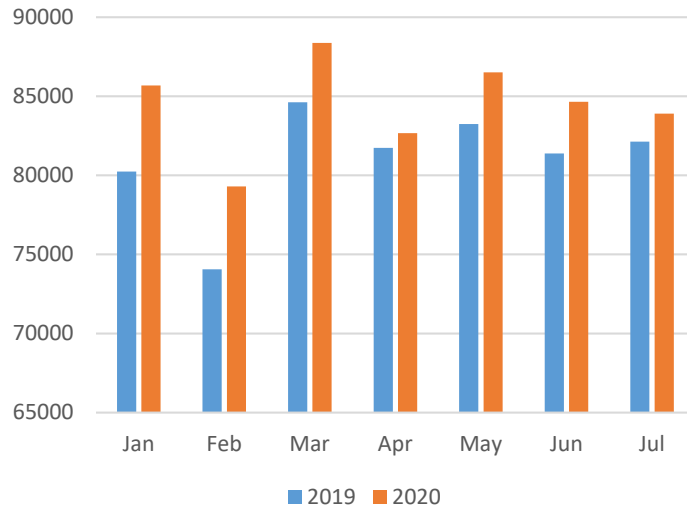
Priya Soma-Pillay
2021

Figure 2. South African iMMR 2005-2019

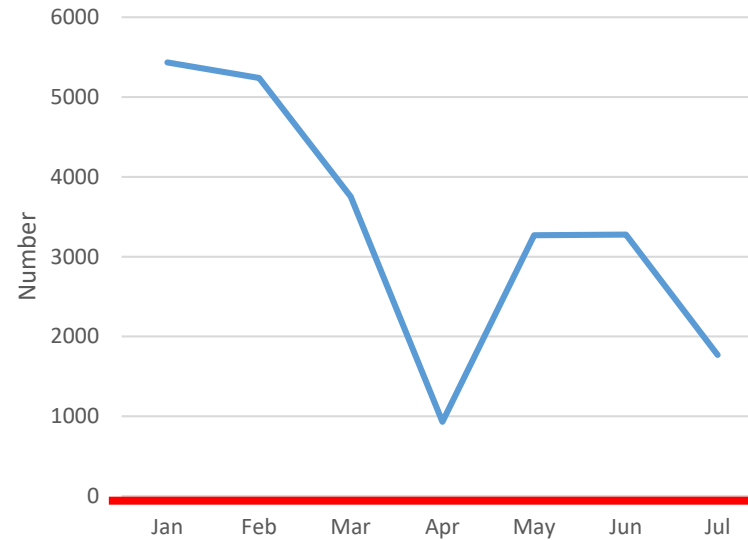


BIRTHS

Comparison of all births in facilities
2020 and 2019

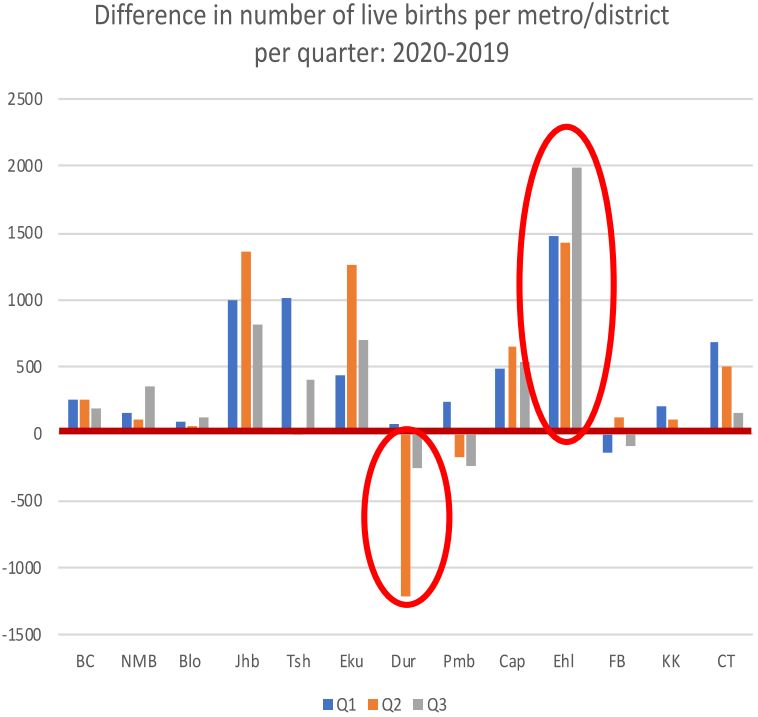
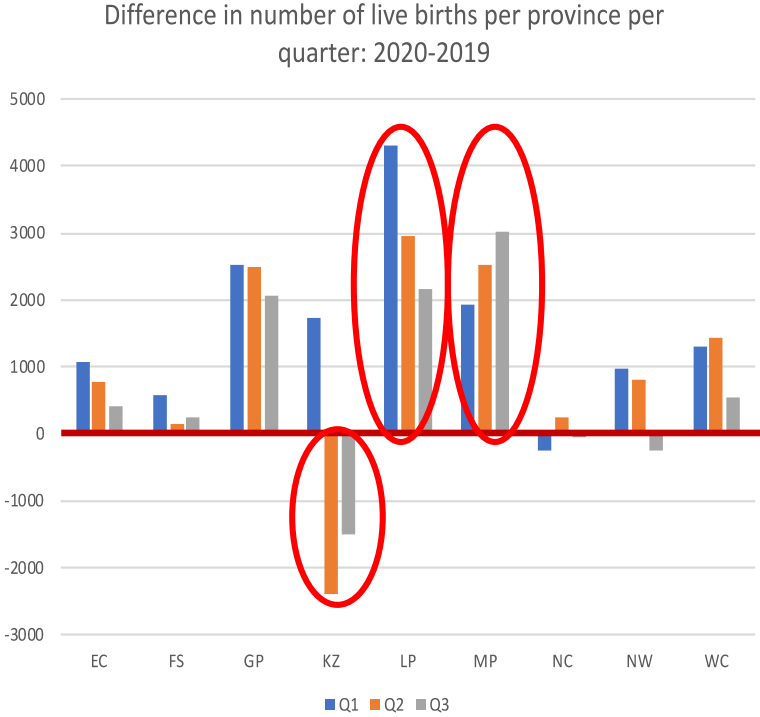


Difference in all births in facility 2020 and
2019



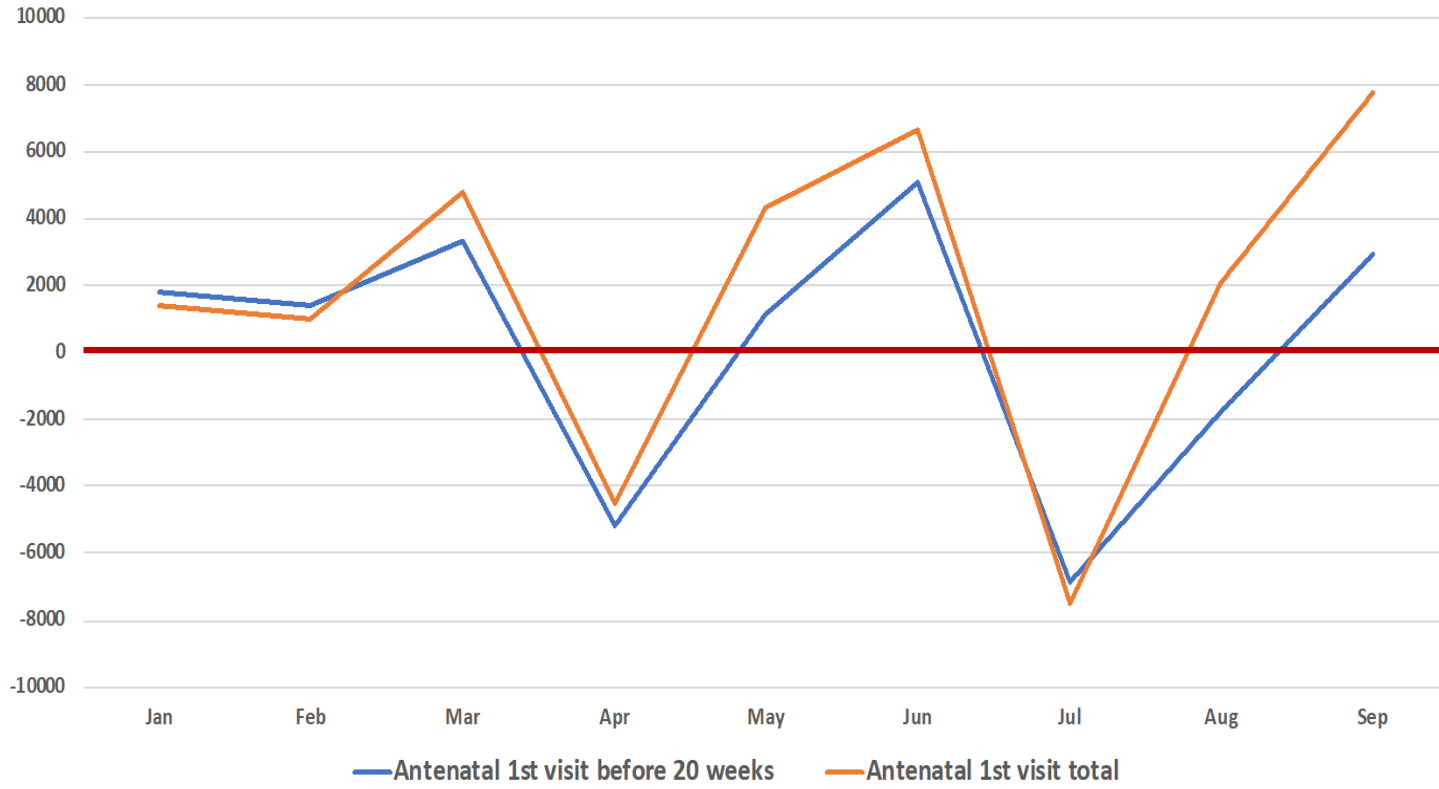
Increase in live births
in 2020 compared with
2019 but increase was
less in Q2 and Q3

Figure 27. Difference in number of live births in facility: 2020-2019



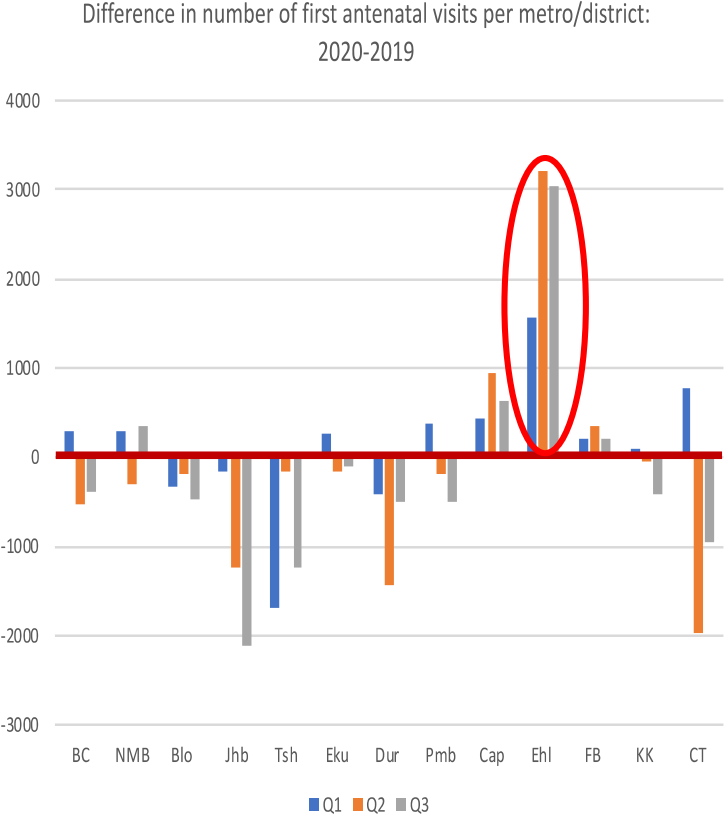
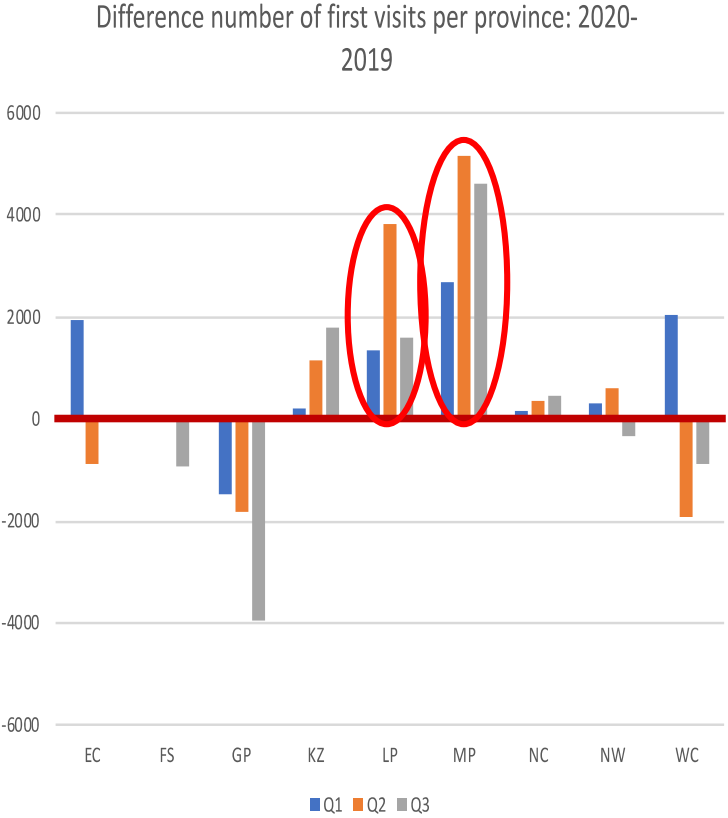
Migration back to rural areas during pandemic

Figure 2. Difference in Antenatal care first visits: 2020-2019



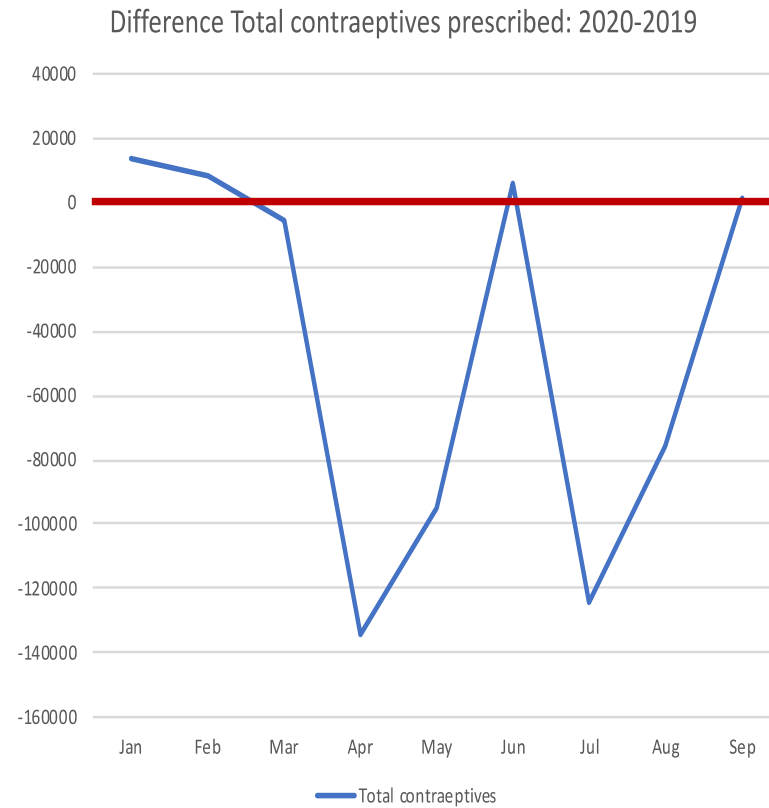
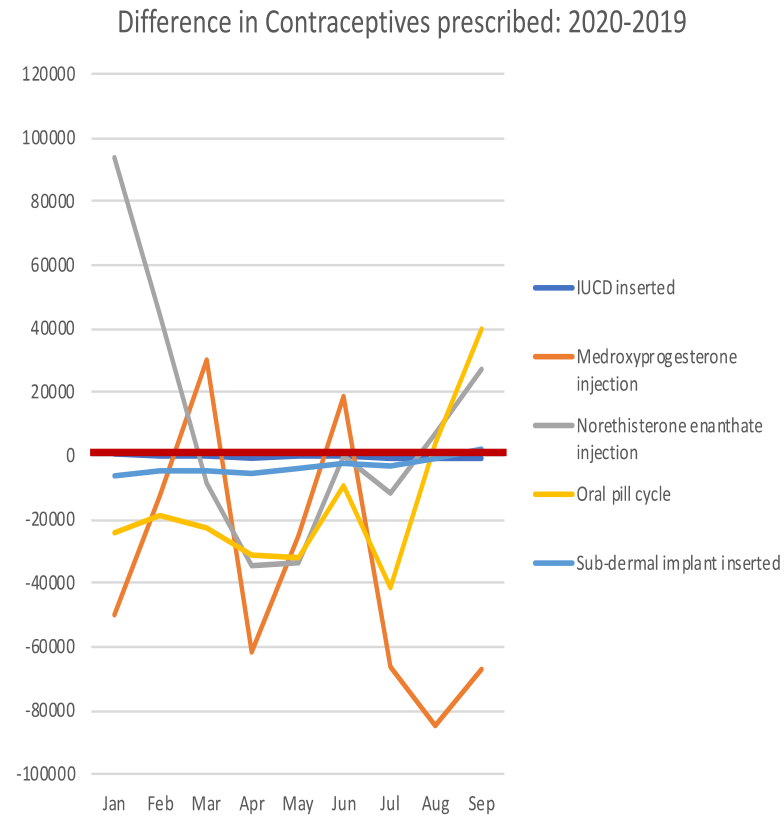
Overall increase in antenatal care first visit attendance but dip in April and July

Figure 18. Difference in number of antenatal first attendance per quarter: 2020-2019



Increase in antenatal care first visit in rural provinces. Metropolitan areas had marked decrease in first antenatal visit

Figure 3. Contraceptive use



Decline in all areas in Q2 and Q3

Figure 4. Termination of pregnancy

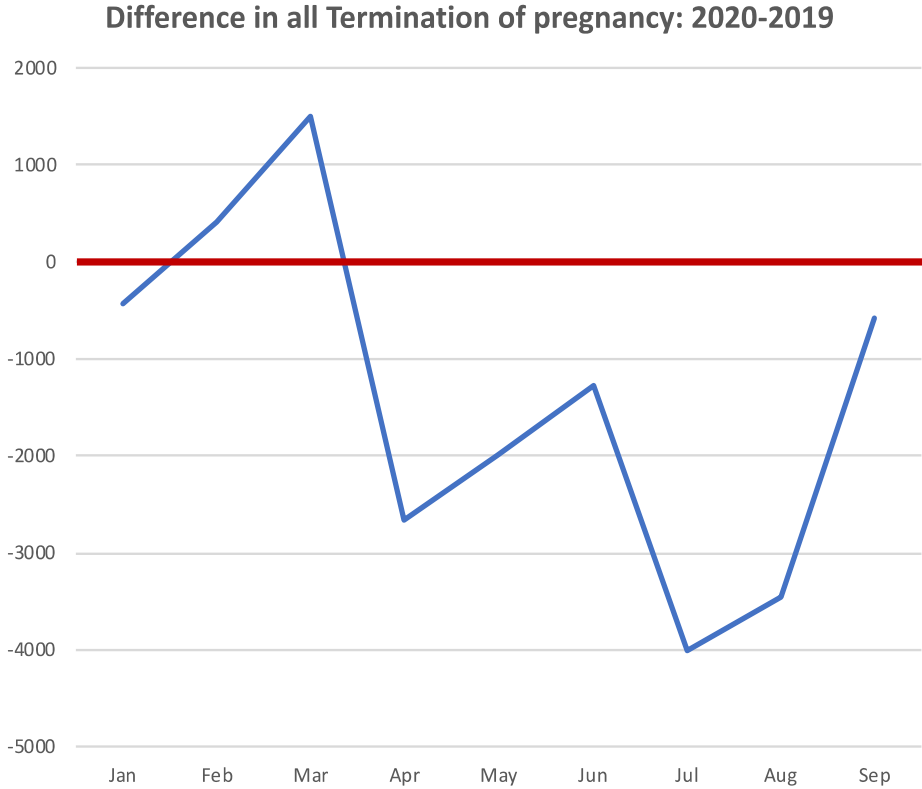
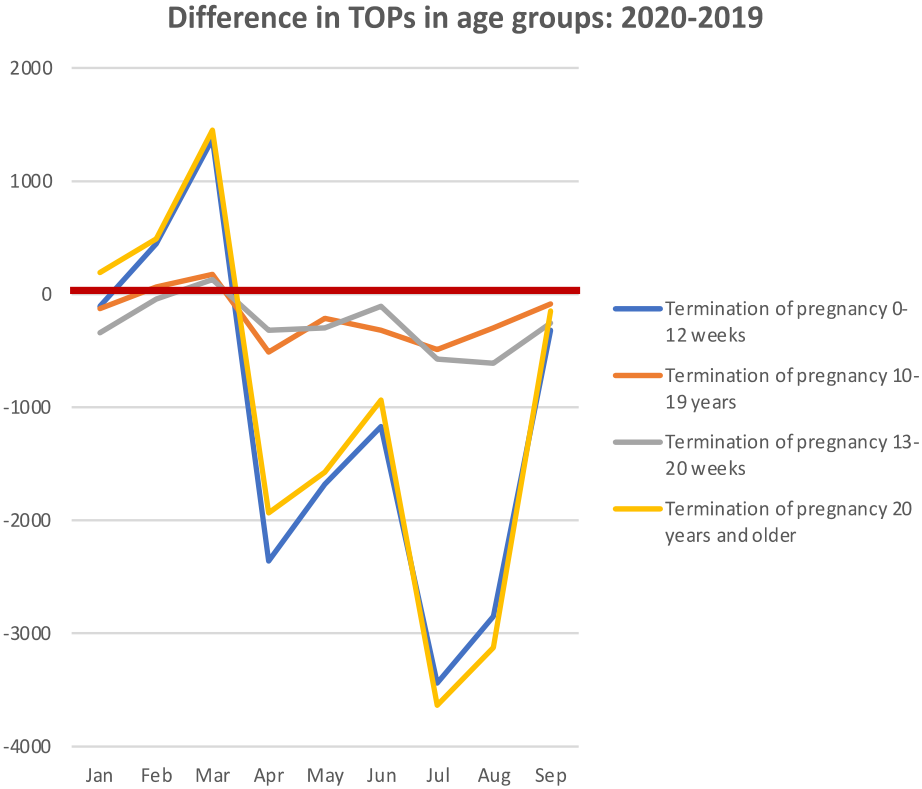


Table 1. Maternal deaths before and after lockdown at end March

	Number	Difference
Total deaths Jan - Mar 2019	270	
Total deaths Jan - Mar 2020	235	-35
		-13,0%
Total deaths - April to Sep 2019	441	
Total deaths - April to Sep 2020	572	132
		30,0%


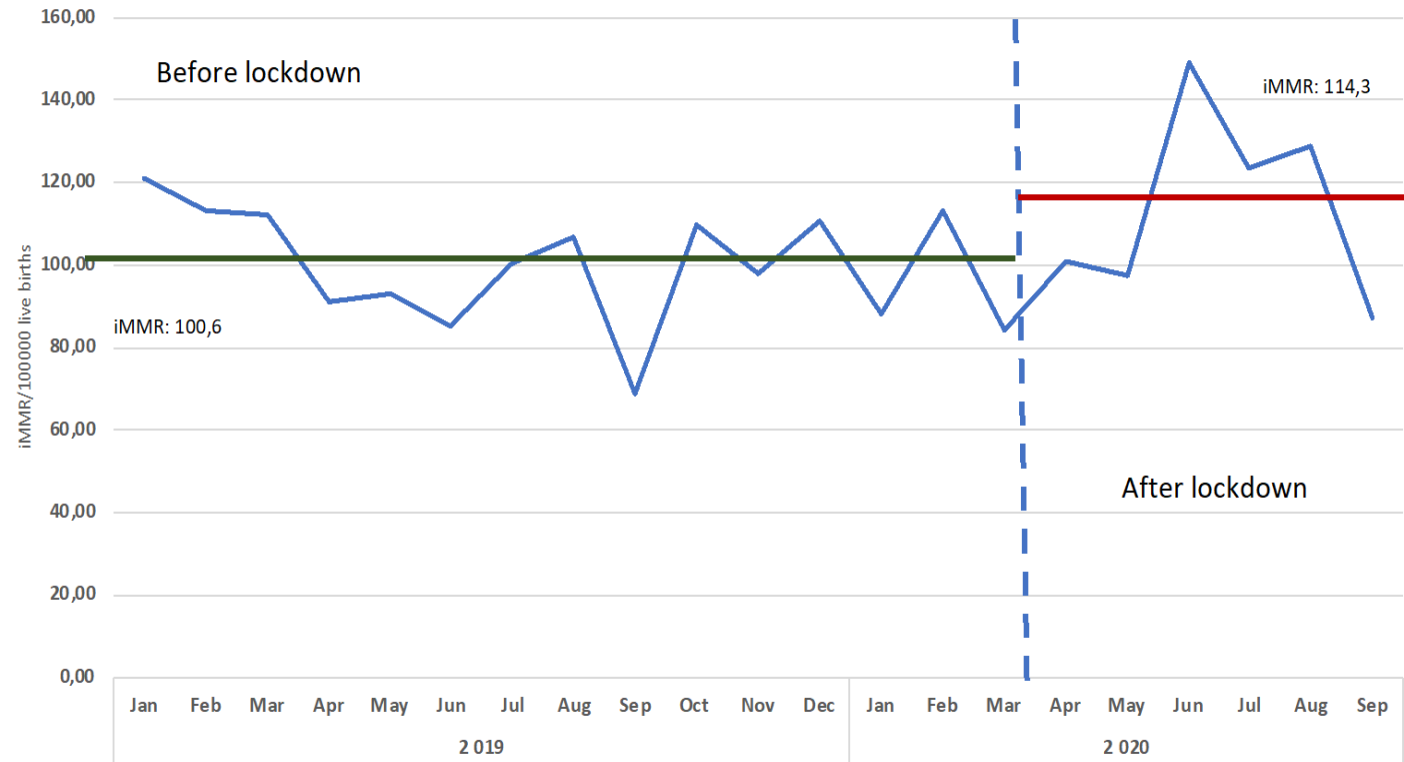


Figure 5. Monthly iMMR: Jan 2019-Sept 2020



CONCLUSION

- **30% increase in Maternal deaths most likely due to indirect effects of covid on maternal and reproductive services**
- **There has been 2 markedly different effects of covid-19 on maternal care:**
 - Rural provinces experiencing pressure on services due to women migrating from metropolitan areas back to their homes - increased burden in already under-resourced facilities
 - Metropolitan areas inundated with severe covid-19 specific conditions resulting in difficulty in managing routine emergencies

Thank You