

South Africa 30 September 2020

Mobility changes

This data set is intended to help remediate the impact of COVID-19. It shouldn't be used for medical diagnostic, prognostic or treatment purposes. Nor is it intended to be used for guidance on personal travel plans.

The data shows how visits to places, such as corner shops and parks, are changing in each geographic region. Learn how you can use this report in your work by visiting [Community Mobility Reports Help](#).

Location accuracy and the understanding of categorised places varies from region to region, so we don't recommend using this data to compare changes between countries, or between regions with different characteristics (e.g. rural versus urban areas).

We'll leave a region out of the report if we don't have statistically significant levels of data. To learn how we calculate these trends and preserve privacy, read [About this data](#).

Retail and recreation

-14%

compared to baseline

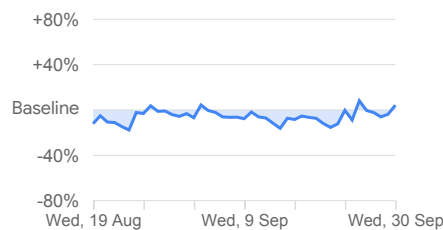


Mobility trends for places such as restaurants, cafés, shopping centres, theme parks, museums, libraries and cinemas.

Supermarket and pharmacy

+4%

compared to baseline

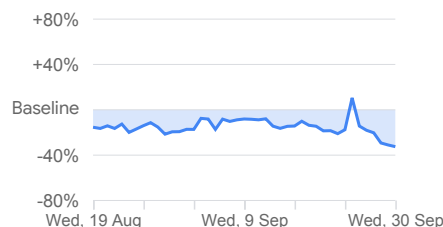


Mobility trends for places such as supermarkets, food warehouses, farmers markets, specialty food shops and pharmacies.

Parks

-33%

compared to baseline



Mobility trends for places like national parks, public beaches, marinas, dog parks, plazas and public gardens.

Public transport

-33%

compared to baseline



Mobility trends for places that are public transport hubs, such as underground, bus and train stations.

Workplaces

-24%

compared to baseline

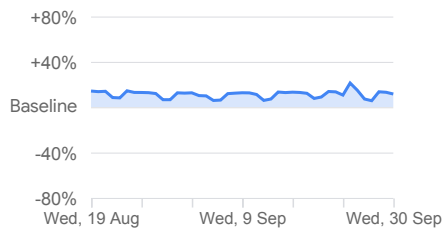


Mobility trends for places of work.

Residential

+12%

compared to baseline



Mobility trends for places of residence.

Eastern Cape

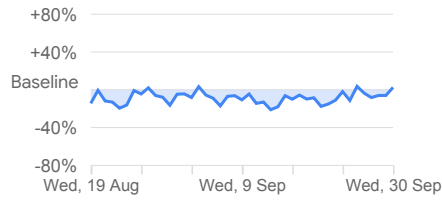
Retail and recreation

-6% compared to baseline



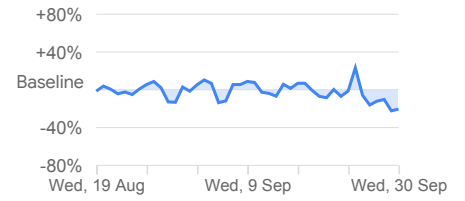
Supermarket and pharmacy

+2% compared to baseline



Parks

-20% compared to baseline



Public transport*

-30% compared to baseline



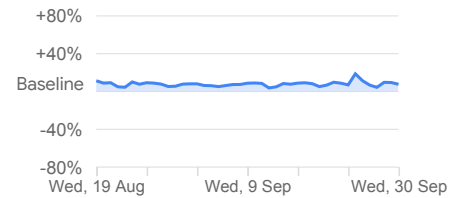
Workplaces

-17% compared to baseline



Residential

+8% compared to baseline



Free State

Retail and recreation

-9% compared to baseline



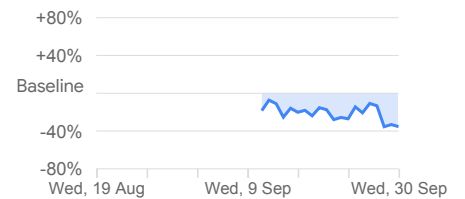
Supermarket and pharmacy

+6% compared to baseline



Parks*

-35% compared to baseline



Public transport*

-19% compared to baseline



Workplaces

-18% compared to baseline



Residential

+9% compared to baseline



* The data doesn't meet quality and privacy thresholds for every day in the chart.

Gauteng

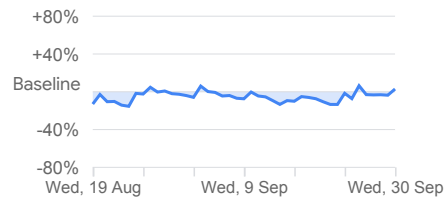
Retail and recreation

-16% compared to baseline



Supermarket and pharmacy

+3% compared to baseline



Parks

-36% compared to baseline



Public transport

-32% compared to baseline



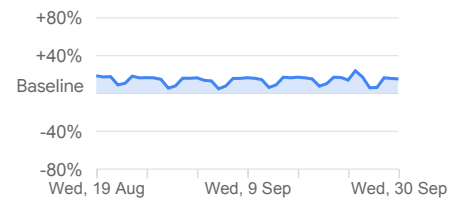
Workplaces

-29% compared to baseline



Residential

+15% compared to baseline



KwaZulu-Natal

Retail and recreation

-10% compared to baseline



Supermarket and pharmacy

+6% compared to baseline



Parks

-31% compared to baseline



Public transport

-36% compared to baseline



Workplaces

-18% compared to baseline



Residential

+11% compared to baseline



Limpopo

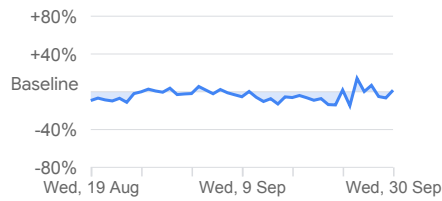
Retail and recreation

-4% compared to baseline



Supermarket and pharmacy

+2% compared to baseline



Parks*

-19% compared to baseline



Public transport*

-17% compared to baseline



Workplaces

-9% compared to baseline



Residential

+11% compared to baseline



Mpumalanga

Retail and recreation

-9% compared to baseline



Supermarket and pharmacy

+13% compared to baseline



Parks

-23% compared to baseline



Public transport*

+10% compared to baseline



Workplaces

-15% compared to baseline



Residential

+10% compared to baseline



* The data doesn't meet quality and privacy thresholds for every day in the chart.

North West

Retail and recreation

-5% compared to baseline



Supermarket and pharmacy

+3% compared to baseline



Parks*

-27% compared to baseline



Public transport*

-8% compared to baseline



Workplaces

-11% compared to baseline



Residential

+9% compared to baseline



Northern Cape

Retail and recreation*

+2% compared to baseline



Supermarket and pharmacy

+9% compared to baseline



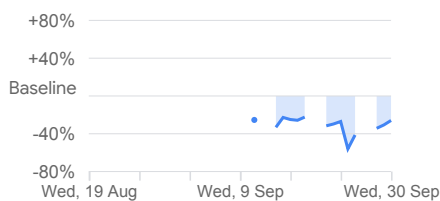
Parks*

-23% compared to baseline



Public transport*

-26% compared to baseline



Workplaces

-13% compared to baseline



Residential

+5% compared to baseline



* The data doesn't meet quality and privacy thresholds for every day in the chart.

Western Cape

Retail and recreation

-20% compared to baseline



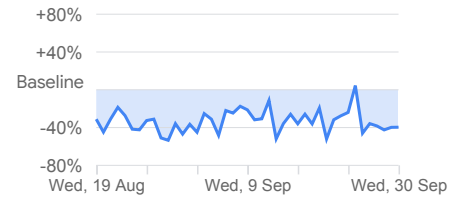
Supermarket and pharmacy

-3% compared to baseline



Parks

-40% compared to baseline



Public transport

-42% compared to baseline



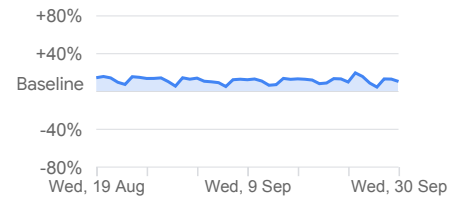
Workplaces

-30% compared to baseline



Residential

+11% compared to baseline



About this data

These reports show how visits and length of stay at different places change compared to a baseline. We calculate these changes using the same kind of aggregated and anonymised data used to show [popular times](#) for places in Google Maps.

Changes for each day are compared to a baseline value for that day of the week:

- The baseline is the *median* value, for the corresponding day of the week, during the five-week period 3 Jan – 6 Feb 2020.
- The reports show trends over several weeks with the most recent data representing approximately 2–3 days ago (this is how long it takes to produce the reports).

The data that is included in the calculation depends on user settings, connectivity and whether it meets our privacy threshold. If the privacy threshold isn't met (when somewhere isn't busy enough to ensure anonymity) we don't show a change for the day.

We include categories that are useful for social distancing efforts, as well as access to essential services.

We calculate these insights based on data from users who have opted in to Location History for their Google Account, so that the data represents a sample of our users. As with all samples, this may or may not represent the exact behaviour of a wider population.

We continue to improve our reports as places close and reopen. We updated the way that we calculate changes for *groceries and pharmacy*, *retail and recreation*, *public transport stations* and *parks* categories. For regions published before May 2020, the data may contain a consistent shift (up or down) which starts between 11–18 April 2020.

Preserving privacy

These reports were developed to be helpful while adhering to our stringent privacy protocols and protecting people's privacy. No personally identifiable information, like an individual's location, contacts or movement, is made available at any point.

Insights in these reports are created with aggregated, anonymised sets of data from users who have turned on the [Location History](#) setting, which is off by default. People who have Location History turned on can choose to turn it off at any time from their [Google Account](#) and can always delete Location History data directly from their [Timeline](#).

These reports are powered by the same world-class anonymisation technology that we use in our products every day and that keep your activity data private and secure. These reports use [differential privacy](#), which adds artificial noise to our data sets enabling high-quality results without identifying any individual person. These privacy-preserving protections also ensure that the absolute number of visits isn't shared.

Further resources

To learn how you can get the most out of this report in your work, visit [Mobility Reports Help](#).

To get the latest report, visit google.com/covid19/mobility