



European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19)

Stockholm, 14 December 2020

Disclaimer: These tables, histograms, maps and graphs are based on the available information at the time of publication, originating from several sources. Data completeness depends on the availability of information from the affected areas. All data should be interpreted with caution as the outbreak is evolving rapidly. In addition, due to the unavailability of date-of-onset data and different testing policies per country, these figures might not be reflective of the evolution of the epidemic.



Interpretation of the data



14-day notification rates and trends are collected using epidemic intelligence from various sources and are affected by the testing strategy, laboratory capacity and the effectiveness of surveillance systems.

As all of these factors can differ greatly between countries, ECDC does not recommend using notification rates to directly compare countries. Particular caution is needed when interpreting reported rates from areas with small populations where small changes in numbers of reported cases can have a big impact on the notification rate.

In addition, retrospective adjustment of data by reporting authorities is possible. Negative counts of new cases can arise if countries or subnational areas report cumulative totals that are lower than those reported previously, which can affect the presentation of data in maps and time-series plots.

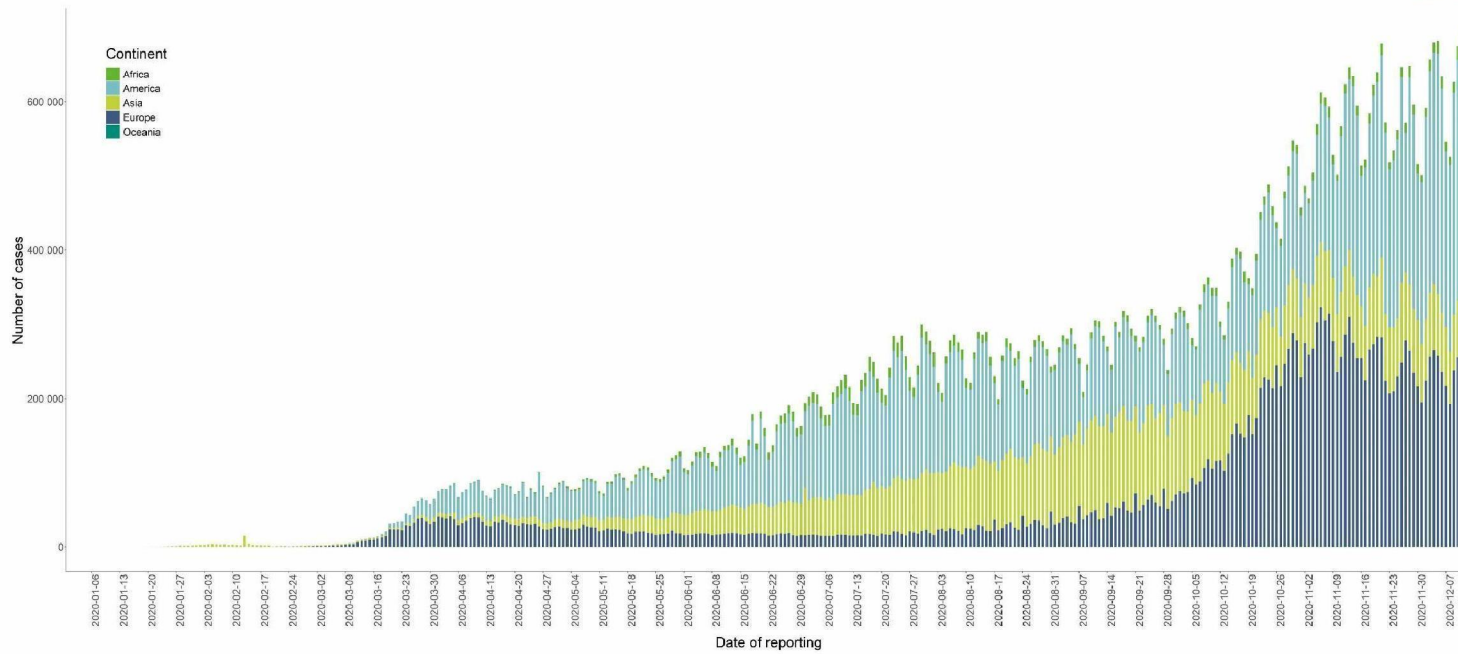


Distribution of COVID-19 cases, in accordance with the applied case definitions in the affected countries, by continent, as of 14 December 2020

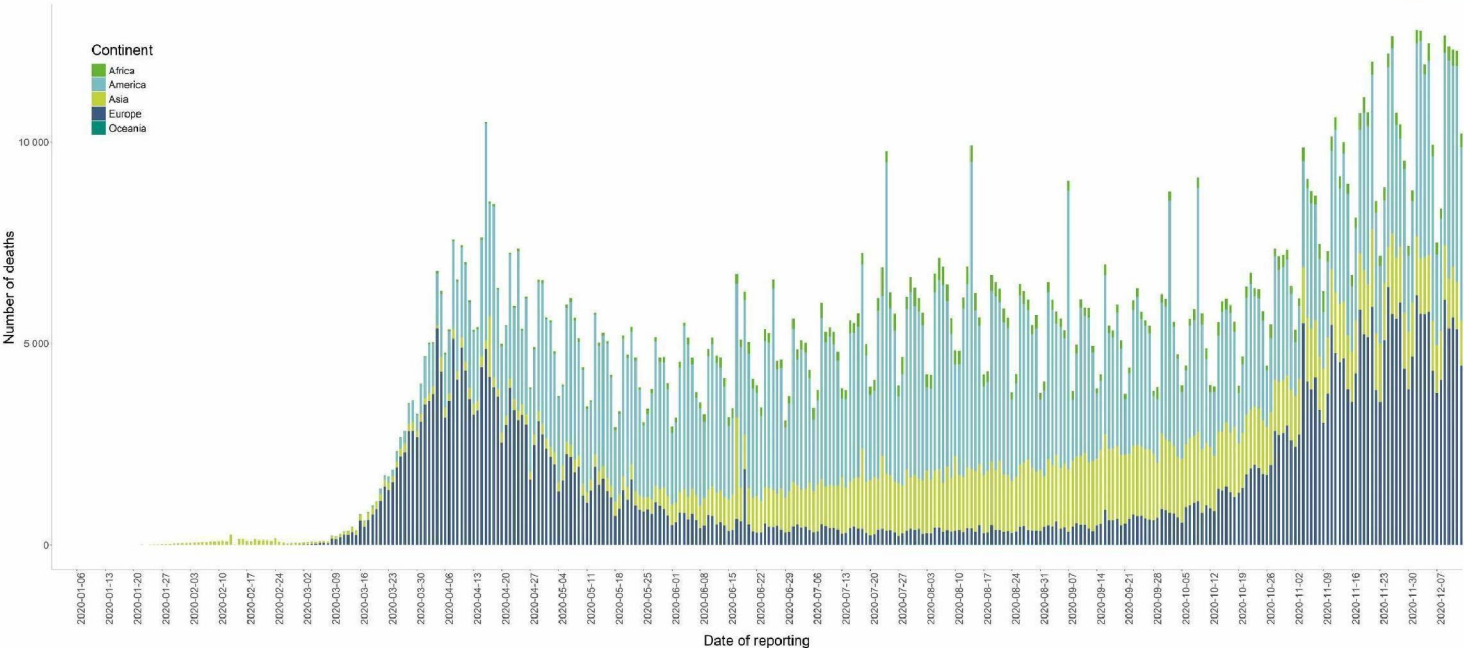


Continent	Cases	Deaths	Crude case fatality
Africa	2 363 685	55 987	2.4%
America	30 636 671	782 987	2.6%
Asia	16 717 051	289 102	1.7%
Europe	21 186 465	476 359	2.2%
Oceania	53 411	1 153	2.2%
Total	70 957 283	1 605 588	2.3%

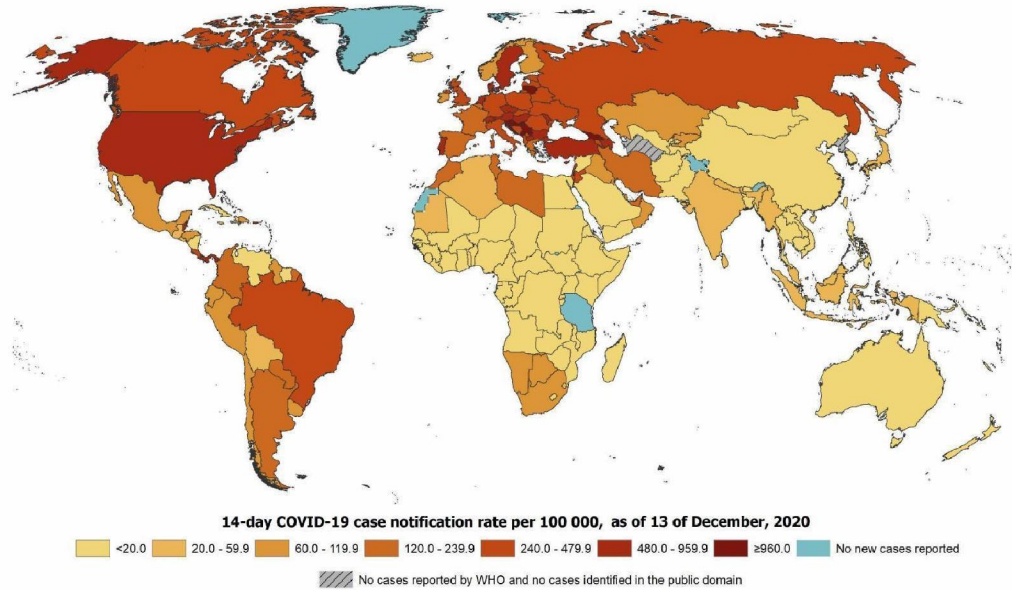
Distribution of COVID-19 cases in accordance with the applied case definitions in the affected countries, as of 14 December 2020



Distribution of COVID-19 deaths worldwide, as of 14 December 2020



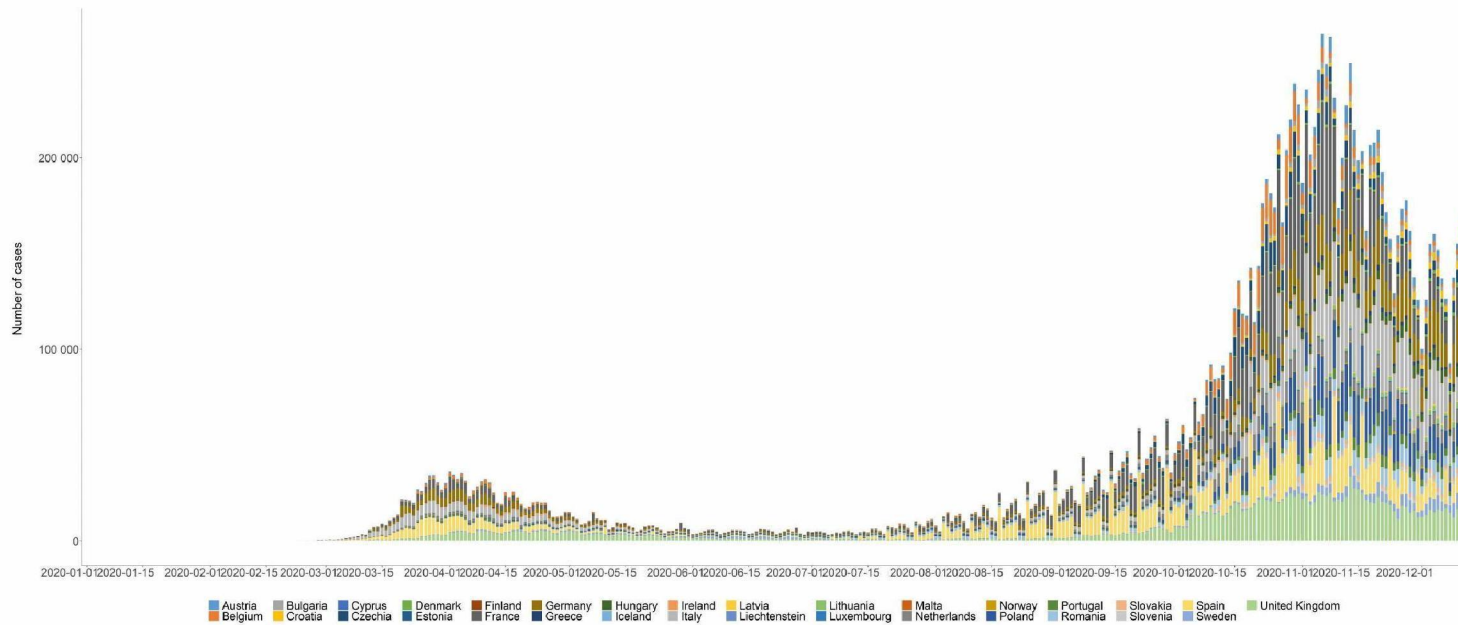
Geographic distribution of 14-day cumulative number of reported COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population, worldwide, as of 14 December 2020



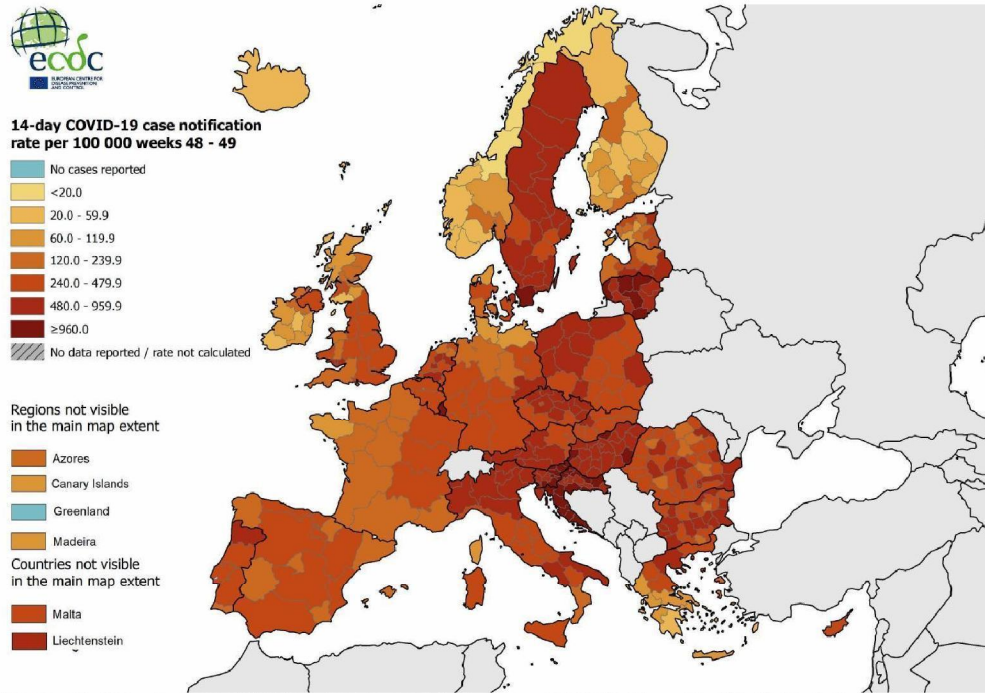
Administrative boundaries: © EuroGeographics © UN-FAO © Turkstat. The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the European Union.

Date of production: 13/12/2020

Distribution of laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19 in EU/EEA and the UK, as of 14 December 2020



14-day COVID-19 case notification rate per 100 000 weeks 48-49



Administrative boundaries: © EuroGeographics © UN-FAO © Turstat, Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right 2020. © Kärberstat
 © Instituto Nacional de Estatística - Statistics Portugal. The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the European Union. ECDC. Map produced on: 9 Dec 2020

Trends in reported cases



By the end of week 49 (ending Sunday 6 December 2020), most countries have started or continue to observe a stabilisation or reductions in case notification rates, test positivity and new hospital/ICU admissions. Absolute values of these indicators remain high, even where they are stable or decreasing, suggesting that transmission is still widespread. Furthermore, case rates among older age groups in 10 countries and death rates in 17 countries continue to increase. Ten countries continue to observe increases in hospital or ICU admissions and/or occupancy due to COVID-19.

Among 30 countries with high case notification rates (at least 60 per 100 000), sustained increases (for at least seven days) were observed in six countries (Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Latvia and Lithuania). Two countries (Denmark and Sweden) had increases of less than seven days' duration. Stable or decreasing trends in case rates of 1–31 days' duration were observed in 22 countries (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and the UK).

Based on data reported to TESSy from 27 countries, among people over 65 years of age, high levels (at least 60 per 100 000) or sustained increases in the 14-day COVID-19 case notification rates compared to last week have been observed in 25 countries (Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden).

Notification rates are highly dependent on several factors, one of which is the testing rate. Weekly testing rates for week 49, available for 30 countries, varied from 627 to 13 048 tests per 100 000 population. Luxembourg had the highest testing rate for week 49, followed by Denmark, Cyprus, Malta and the UK.

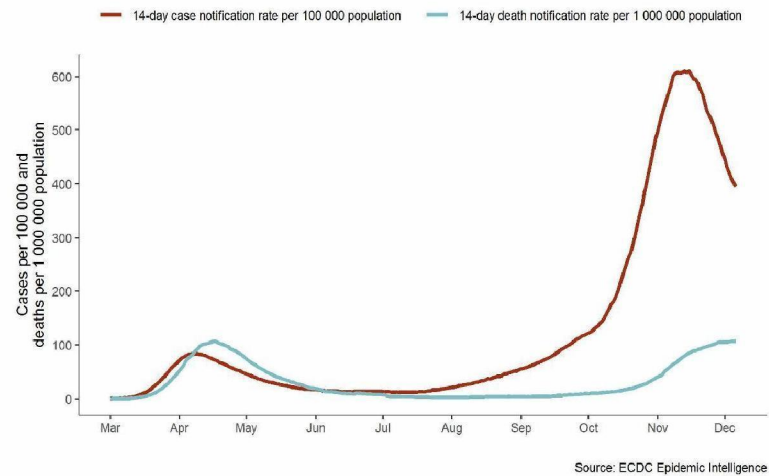
Among 25 countries in which weekly test positivity was high (at least 3%), three countries (Croatia, Cyprus and Estonia) had positivity that had increased compared to the previous week. Test positivity remained stable or had decreased in 22 countries (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the UK).

The 14-day notification rates for COVID-19 are not directly comparable between countries due to differences in testing policies, testing capacity and surveillance systems at national level. ECDC therefore does not recommend using notification rates for comparison between countries.

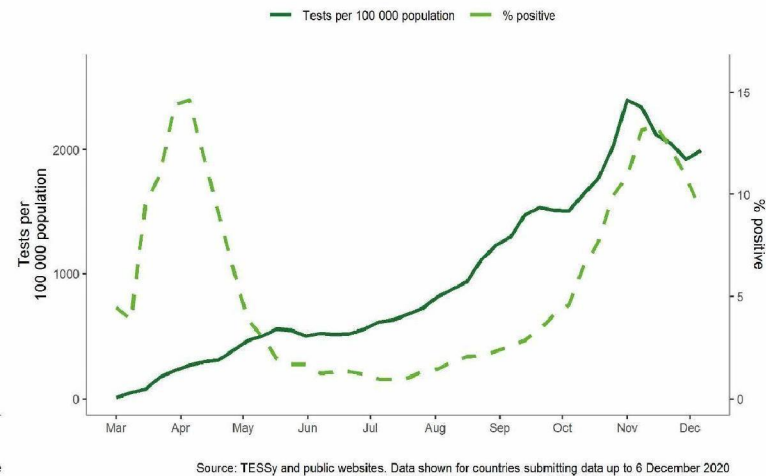
COVID-19 case and death notification rates, testing rates and test positivity, EU/EEA and the UK



EU/EEA and the UK: 14-day COVID-19 case and death notification rates, 1 March 2020 to 6 December 2020



EU/EEA and the UK: testing rate and test positivity (%), 1 March 2020 to 6 December 2020



Disclaimers



National updates are published at different times and in different time zones. This, and the time ECDC needs to process these data, may lead to discrepancies between the national numbers and the numbers published by ECDC. Users are advised to use all data with caution and awareness of their limitations. Data are subject to retrospective corrections; corrected datasets are released as soon as processing of updated national data has been completed.

Belgium:

- [Daily cases and deaths] 27 August – 02 September 2020 data should be read as 26 August – 01 September 2020 due to a one-day reporting delay
- [Daily cases and deaths] 21 June – 27 June 2020 (week 25), Belgium authorities slightly modified the reporting in order to report the COVID-19 cases by date of sampling or diagnosis, and deaths by date of death. The earliest available date is used and might be changed as new information becomes available.

France:

Disclaimers



- [Testing, national and subnational cases] Starting in week 49 of 2020, the following changes have occurred in COVID-19 surveillance in France: a) the case definition has been updated to include antigen tests as a laboratory method to confirm a case; b) test positivity is calculated as the number of patients testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 (by RT-PCR or AT) divided by the number of patients testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 and the number of individuals testing negative; c) the number of individuals tested during a certain period corresponds to the number of people who had at least one test during this period and who have never tested positive in the previous 60 days; d) the number of individuals tested positive corresponds to a person who tested positive either for the first time or after more than 60 days after a previous positive test (in this event the person will be counted as a new case). As a result of these changes, surveillance artefacts are present in the values for week 49 compared to week 48 for test positivity (decrease, due to an increase in the denominator of number of people tested) and the testing rate (increase, approximately doubled). An increase in the case notification rate is also expected to occur due to an increased number of detections by antigen tests.
- [Testing, subnational cases] Starting in week 44 of 2020, data for some indicators displayed in ECDC's surveillance outputs (testing rate, test positivity and subnational case notification rates) are provided for a week that runs from Saturday to Friday (i.e. two days earlier than calendar week). Data for all other indicators are for the calendar week.
- [Daily cases and deaths] 29 May 2020, the increase in cases in the dashboard does not reflect increased incidence of COVID-19 cases, but an improved comprehensiveness of the surveillance system.
- [Daily cases and deaths] 13 May 2020 there was a significant change in the French surveillance of lab confirmed COVID-19 cases and virtually all laboratories in France are now included in the system. Cases from this new system were reported on 29 May.
- [Daily cases and deaths] 7 May 2020, France reported an increase over 3 200 cases. This increase is due to the addition of new laboratories who transmitted retrospective positive tests (since 16 March 2020).

Disclaimers



Ireland:

- [Daily cases and deaths] 2 October 2020 authorities in Ireland retrospectively corrected the total number of COVID-19 deaths leading to a negative value for the deaths reported on 3 October 2020.
- [Daily cases and deaths] 5 April – 19 April 2020 the daily number of confirmed COVID-19 cases reported in Ireland is inflated due to batch reporting of cases with specimen dates between from 19 March – 01 April 2020 in addition to real-time reporting of cases with contemporaneous specimen dates.

Luxembourg:

- [Daily cases and deaths] 24 August 2020, authorities in Luxembourg report COVID-19 cases and deaths from their resident population only. Therefore, the difference with the figure from 27 August translates into a negative value for the cases and deaths reported on 28 August 2020.

Disclaimers



Netherlands:

- [Testing] Since week 38 of 2020, the number of tests reported are corrected for under-reporting from virological laboratories. The estimated number of tests is obtained by multiplying the weekly total number of tests reported from virological laboratories by the weekly ratio of COVID-19 notifications by municipal health services to positive tests reported from virological laboratories.

Spain:

- [Daily cases and deaths] 27 August – 02 September 2020 data should be read as 26 August – 01 September 2020 due to a one-day reporting delay.

Sweden:

Disclaimers



- [Testing] Since week 40 of 2020, the number of tests reported has been the number of tested individuals per week. From weeks 27–39 this related to the number of analysed tests per week. Where testing data are not available in advance of the reporting deadline the number of tests for the most recent week are estimated using the previous week's data.
- [Daily cases and deaths] 31 August 2020 Swedish authorities are now performing daily data consolidation leading to data retro-corrections. From week 38, the Swedish Public Health Agency will update COVID-19 daily data four times per week on Tuesday–Friday. This can result in a decrease of cumulative figures (cases or deaths) and related outputs.
- [Daily cases and deaths] 27 August – 02 September 2020 data should be read as 26 August – 01 September 2020 due to a one-day reporting delay

United Kingdom:

- [Daily cases and deaths] 3 October 2020, due to a technical issue, COVID-19 cases from 24 September to 1 October will be reported by British authorities in the coming days.

Disclaimers



- [Daily cases and deaths] 13 August 2020, the United Kingdom did not report cumulative cases and deaths due to technical difficulties. Data are updated as soon as available.
- [Daily cases and deaths] 10 August 2020 the United Kingdom reported less cumulative deaths in the United Kingdom. This is due to revisions in historical data.

Due to the reporting delay in Belgium, Spain and Sweden the 14-day period for these countries is provided with one day delay e.g. the period 27/08/2020-02/09/2020 should be read 26/08/2020-01/09/2020.

Thank you



Country overview report

<http://covid19-country-overviews.ecdc.europa.eu/>

COVID-19 dashboard

<https://qap.ecdc.europa.eu/public/extensions/covid-19/covid-19.html>