



Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

National Surveillance Report as of 16/11/2020

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Summary

- As of November 16th, a total of 7,314 COVID-19 cases have been diagnosed, of which 40 died due to COVID-19 (case fatality risk: 0.5%).
- The 14-day cumulative diagnosis rate is 270.1 per 100,000 population.
- In the last 14 days (3-16 November), 2,366 cases were diagnosed.
 - The median age was 36 years (Interquartile range - IQR: 23-52 years); 48.9% were male (n = 1,156), 48.5% female (n = 1,148) and for 62 cases (2.6%) sex is unknown.
 - By place of exposure: 6.6% (n = 155) were imported, 85.5% (n = 2,023) were locally-acquired, and 8% (n = 188) are unknown
- As of November 17th, 80 people were still hospitalized. The median age is 72 years (IQR: 60-80 years) and 68.8% (n = 55) are males.
- Among cases still hospitalised, 10 are in intensive care units (ICU) and 7 are intubated. The median age of current ICU patients is 68.5 (IQR: 64-72) years and all are males. Eight out of ten (80%) patients currently in ICU have pre-existing conditions.
- A total of 538,382 tests have been performed as of November 16th (61,466.1 per 100,000 population). In particular, over the last 14 days, 48,725 tests have been performed (5,562.8 per 100,000 population).



Epidemiological surveillance in the Republic of Cyprus

Analyses are based on laboratory-confirmed cases notified to the Epidemiological Surveillance Unit of the Ministry of Health.

As of November 16th, 7,314 laboratory-confirmed cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) have been diagnosed (Figure 1, 2 and 3).

In the last 14 days (03 -16 November), 2,366 cases have been diagnosed. The 14-day cumulative diagnosis rate of COVID-19 (per 100,000 population), a measure which reflects the number of active COVID-19 cases in the population (prevalence)¹, is 270.1 per 100,000 population (Figure 3).

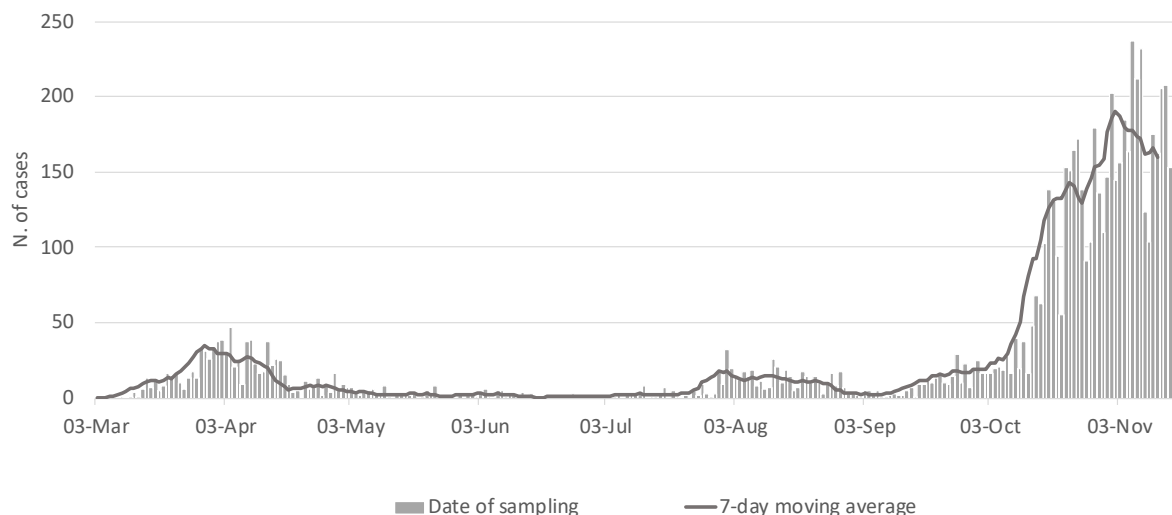


Figure 1: Number and 7-day moving average of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases in Cyprus since 03/03/2020 by date of sample collection.

¹Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic: increased transmission in the EU/EEA and the UK – seventh update, 25 March 2020. Stockholm: ECDC; 2020. <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/RRA-seventh-update-Outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-COVID-19.pdf>

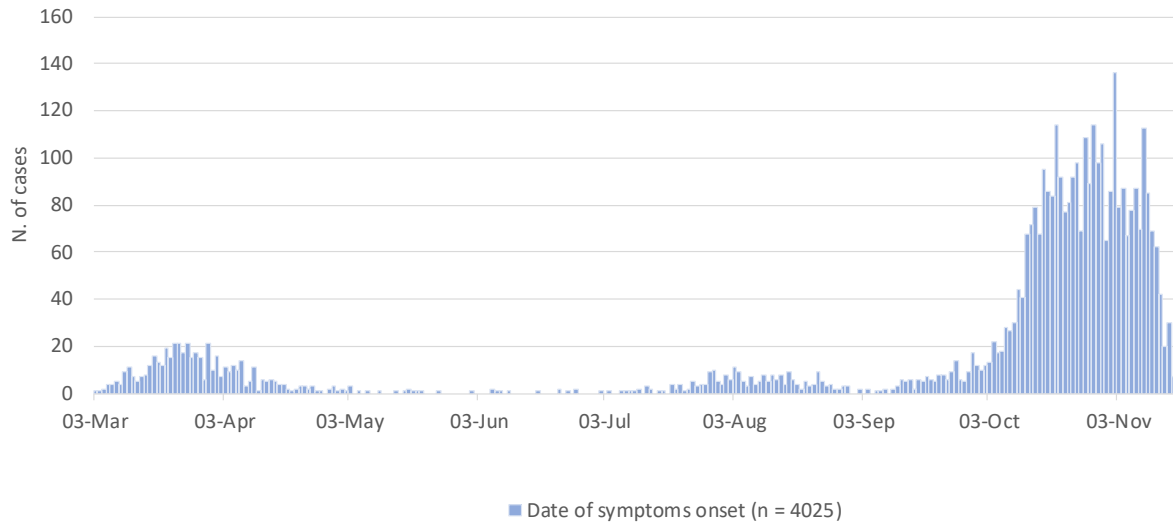


Figure 2: Number of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases in Cyprus since 03/03/2020 by date of symptoms onset.

Recent data should be interpreted with caution due to the possibility that cases with date of onset within the reporting period have not yet been diagnosed.

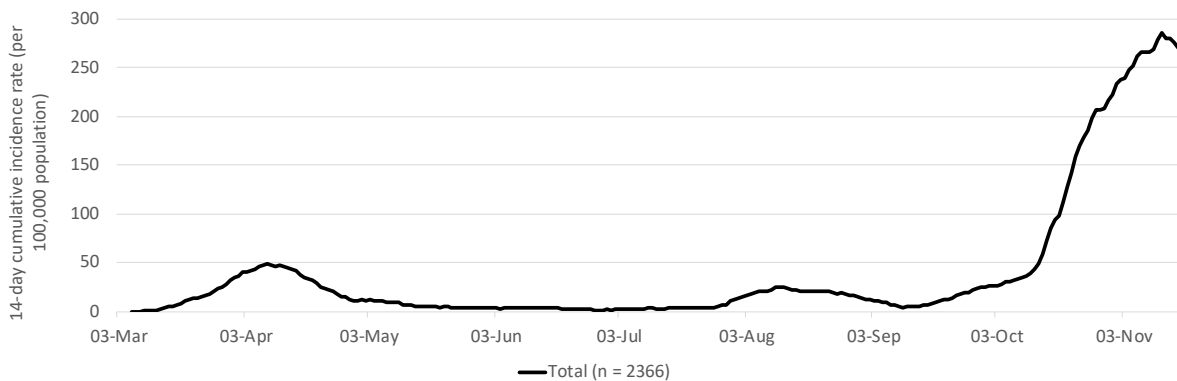


Figure 3: COVID-19 14-day cumulative diagnosis rate per 100,000 population (proxy of COVID-19 prevalence).



Characteristics of the cases diagnosed in the last 14 days

Age and sex

Among 2,366 cases diagnosed since 3rd November, 48.9% were male (n = 1,156), 48.5% female (n = 1,148), and for 62 cases (2.6%) sex is unknown.

By age group, cases include 365 infants, children and adolescents aged 0-17 years-old (15.4%), 1,619 adults aged 18-59 years (68.5%), 372 persons aged 60 years and older (15.7%), and for 10 cases (0.4%) information was missing. Figure 4 shows the number of cases by 10-year age band. The median age of all cases diagnosed in the last 14 days is 36 years (IQR: 23-52 years). The median age of adult cases (≥ 18 years) is 40 years (IQR: 29-55 years).

The 14-day cumulative diagnosis rate (per 100,000 population) by age groups is shown in figure A1 in Appendix.

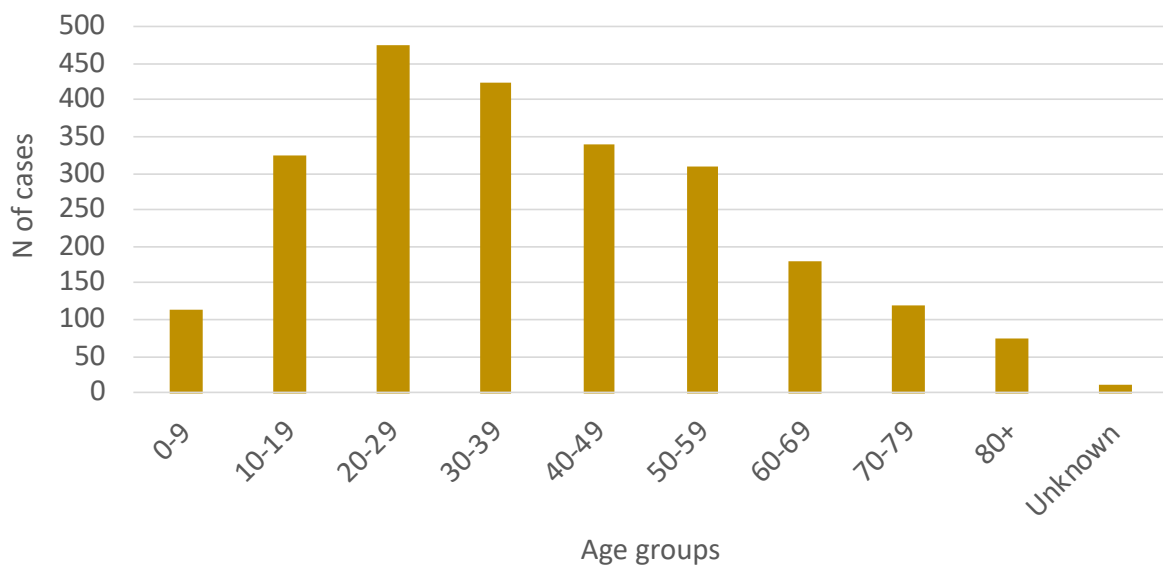


Figure 4: Laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases in Cyprus, diagnosed in the last 14 days, by age groups.

Among all cases diagnosed in the last 14 days, 1,234 (52%) were reported in Limassol district, 557 (23.5%) in Nicosia, 247 (10.4%) in Larnaka, 159 (6.7%) in Pafos, 114 (4.8%) in Ammochostos, and 59 (2.5%) were reported either in the British bases or had a residence abroad, or information was not available. Figure A2 in appendix shows the 14-day cumulative diagnosis rate (per 100,000 population) by district.



Epidemiological link

In the last 14 days (03 -16 November), of 2,366 cases sampled and notified, 6.6% (n = 155) were imported, 85.5% (n = 2,023) were locally-acquired, and 8% (n = 188) are unknown. Table A1 and Figure A3 (A&B) in Appendix show the characteristics of cases by origin of infection and the daily number of cases by origin of infection and by district in the recent period, respectively.

Clinical features

Of the 2,366 laboratory-confirmed COVID-19-cases, clinical information is available for 93.5 % (n = 2,213), of which 33% (n = 730) reported no symptoms at diagnosis and 67% (n = 1,483) reported at least one symptom.

Pre-existing conditions

Information on comorbidities was available for 2,212 (93.5%) cases. Of these, 571 (25.8%) reported at least one comorbidity.



Deaths

Among cases diagnosed until November 16th, 40 COVID-19 associated deaths were reported in Cyprus (Case Fatality Risk - CFR: 0.5%).

The COVID-19 associated mortality is 4.6 per 100,000 population.

Twenty-four deaths (60%) occurred in men and 16 (40%) in women; the median age of all deaths was 76.5 years (IQR: 67-82.5 years). Fifteen deaths were reported among residents in Limassol, nine in Larnaka, eight in Pafos, six in Nicosia, and two in Ammochostos.

The median time from date of sampling to death (due to COVID-19) was 11 days (IQR: 5-17.5 days).

Figure 5a reports the number of COVID-19 associated deaths by date.

Among cases diagnosed until November 16th, 51 deaths (all causes) were reported in Cyprus (CFR: 0.7%).

The mortality (all-causes) for people with COVID-19 is 5.8 per 100,000 population.

Thirty-three deaths (64.7%) occurred in men and 18 (35.3%) in women; the median age of all deaths was 77 years (IQR: 68-84 years). Eighteen deaths were reported among residents in Limassol, 12 in Larnaka, 10 in Pafos, six in Nicosia, four in Ammochostos, and one death occurred among cases reported either in the British bases or had a residence abroad, or information was not available.

The median time from date of sampling to death (all-causes) was 8 days (IQR: 5-17 days).

Figure 5b reports the number of all deaths by date.

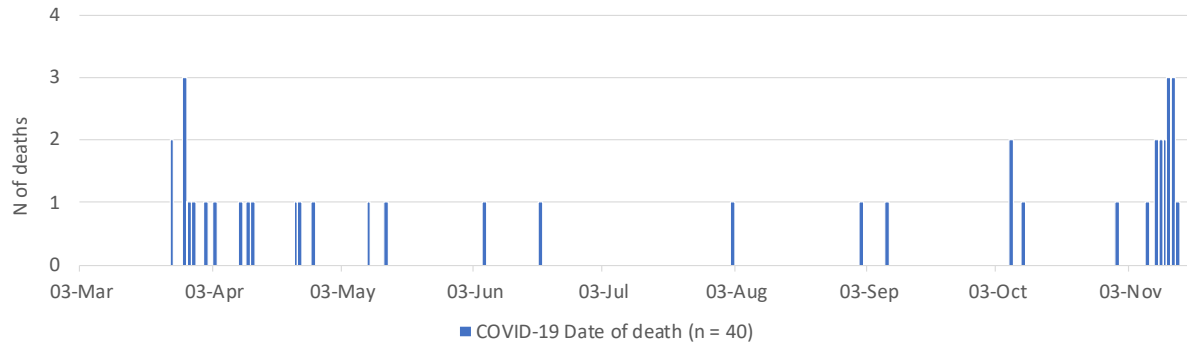


Figure 5a: Number of COVID-19 associated deaths in Cyprus by date of death.

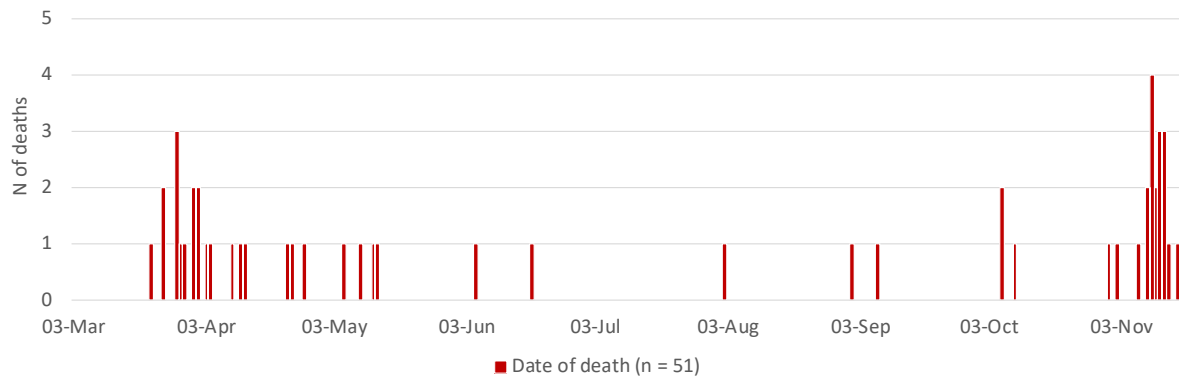


Figure 5b: Number of deaths (all causes) among COVID-19 cases in Cyprus by date of death.



Hospitalization and intensive care unit (ICU²) admissions³

In total, 6.3% (n = 460) of people with COVID-19 received hospital care, as of November 16th. The median age of hospitalized patients was 62 years (IQR: 47-75 years). Hospitalized cases were mainly males (n = 279; 60.7%).

The median age of patients still hospitalised (n = 80) is 72 years (IQR: 60-80 years), 68.8% (n = 55) are males, and 53.8% (n = 43) are from Limassol district. Forty-nine cases (70%) still hospitalised have comorbidities.

Figure 6a shows the total number of first hospital admissions by date.

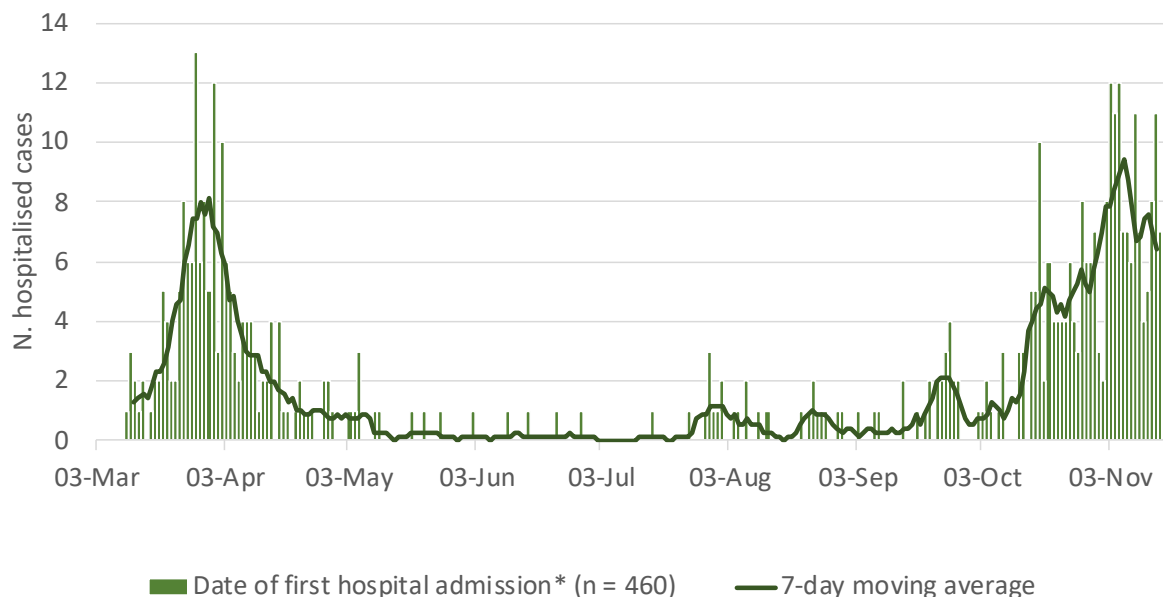


Figure 6a: Number and 7-day moving average of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases by date of first hospital admission.

**Date of hospital admission was replaced with date of sampling for inpatients hospitalised prior to the beginning of the epidemic.*

² Intensive care unit (ICU) refers only to the ICU in Limassol General Hospital and to the ICU in Nicosia General Hospital.

³ Data on hospitalisation and ICU are provisional and should be interpreted with caution because delay in data reporting is likely; for the construction of the curve, people are no longer in an ICU/hospital the day next to the date of their discharge, death or transfer.



Figure 6b reports the number of individuals in hospital every day (excluding those in ICU).

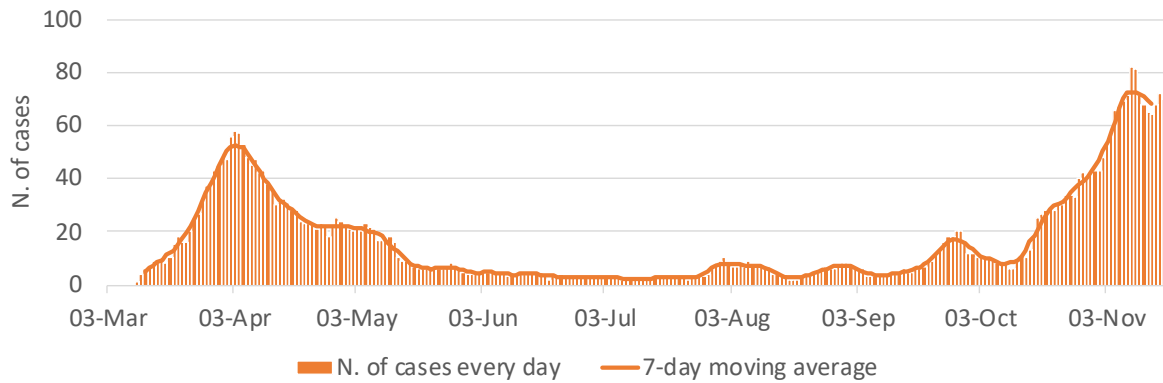


Figure 6b: Number and 7-day moving average of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases in hospital every day (excluding those in ICU).

Patients in hospital for only part of the day (e.g. transferred, dead) are included.



Overall, 48 cases (10.4% of all hospitalized patients) have been admitted to ICU. The median age of patients ever admitted to ICU was 66.5 years (IQR: 58.5-74.5 years). ICU patients are mainly male (n = 37; 77%). The overall median length of stay in ICU (for all 48 ICU cases) was 10 days (IQR: 6-27.5 days).

As of November 17th, 10 cases are still in ICU (including deaths / discharged on that day). The median age of current ICU patients is 68.5 (IQR: 64-72) years and all are males. Eight out of ten (80%) patients currently in ICU have pre-existing conditions.

The number of cases currently in ICU is 1.1 per 100,000 population (as of November 17th, including deaths/discharged on that day).

A total of 44 ICU patients (87.5% of all ICU patients) have been intubated - currently there are seven patients intubated in ICU (including deaths/discharged on that day). Figure 7 shows the number of patients in ICU, by day and intubation status.

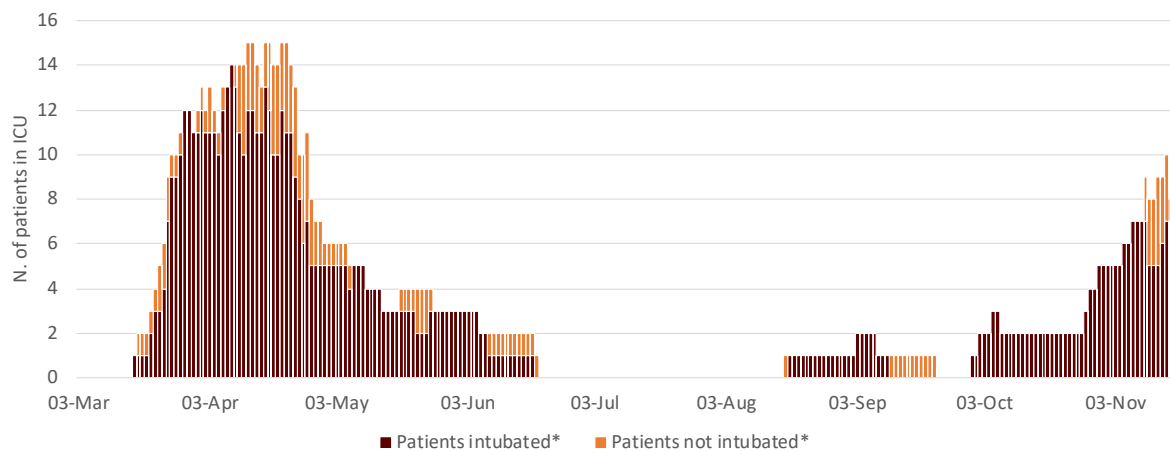


Figure 7: Number of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases in ICU by date and intubation.

**Date of discharge/transfer/death included*



Recovered/released

As of November 17th, among cases alive, 28.3% (n = 2,055) of COVID-19 cases have recovered⁴; of which 1,310 (63.7%) tested negative two consecutive times, and 745 (36.3%) have been released as per the new guidelines⁵. The median time between the second negative result and the first date of sampling was 19 days (IQR: 18-30 days).

More update information on recovery will be available in the next report.

⁴ For symptomatic cases, or for cases hospitalised, a COVID-19 case can be considered cured after the resolution of symptoms and two negative tests for SARS-CoV-2 at 24-hour interval at least. For asymptomatic cases, or for persons isolated at home, the negative tests to document virus clearance should be obtained at a minimum of 14 days after the initial positive test (end of the quarantine period).

Novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2). Discharge criteria for confirmed COVID-19 cases- When is it safe to discharge COVID-19 cases from the hospital or end home isolation? - Technical Report, 10 March 2020. Stockholm: ECDC; 2020.

⁵ A person is released 21 days after the initial diagnosis, if he/she has a positive test 14 days after the initial diagnosis and remains in isolation for one more week without being further tested.



Acknowledgments

We thank the companies CELLOCK (<https://cellock.com>) and GEOMATIC (<https://geomatic.com>) for their volunteering support.

Appendix

Table A1: Characteristics of cases by origin of infection, diagnosed in the last 14 days.

Characteristics	Total (n = 2366)		Imported (n = 155)		Locally-acquired (n = 2023)		Unknown (n = 188)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Sex								
Male	1156	48.9	75	48.4	987	48.8	94	50.0
Female	1148	48.5	78	50.3	998	49.3	72	38.3
Unknown	62	2.6	2	1.3	38	1.9	22	11.7
Age groups (years)								
0-9	114	4.8	2	1.3	107	5.3	5	2.7
10-19	323	13.7	27	17.4	276	13.6	20	10.6
20-29	475	20.1	57	36.8	371	18.3	47	25.0
30-39	424	17.9	27	17.4	365	18.0	32	17.0
40-49	338	14.3	21	13.5	292	14.4	25	13.3
50-59	310	13.1	13	8.4	272	13.4	25	13.3
60-69	181	7.7	5	3.2	166	8.2	10	5.3
70-79	118	5.0	1	0.6	106	5.2	11	5.9
80+	73	3.1	2	1.3	65	3.2	6	3.2
Unknown	10	0.4	0	0.0	3	0.1	7	3.7
Median age in years (IQR*)	36 (23-52)		26 (20-41)		36 (24-53)		36 (24-52)	
District								
Ammochostos	114	4.8	12	7.7	93	4.6	9	4.8
Larnaka	247	10.4	16	10.3	196	9.7	35	18.6
Limassol	1230	52.0	49	31.6	1110	54.9	71	37.8
Nicosia	557	23.5	48	31.0	462	22.8	47	25.0
Pafos	159	6.7	24	15.5	122	6.0	13	6.9
Other	59	2.5	6	3.9	40	2.0	13	6.9
Symptoms at diagnosis								
Yes	1483	62.7	71	45.8	1312	64.9	100	53.2
No	730	30.9	73	47.1	610	30.2	47	25.0
Unknown	153	6.5	11	7.1	101	5.0	41	21.8



Figure A1. 14-day cumulative diagnosis rate (per 100,000 population) by age groups for the last 14 days.

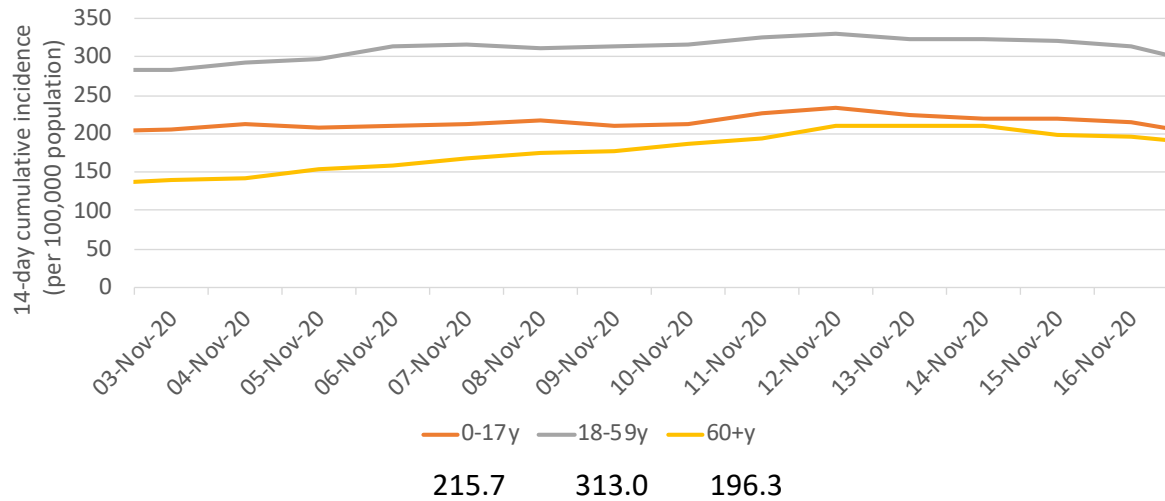
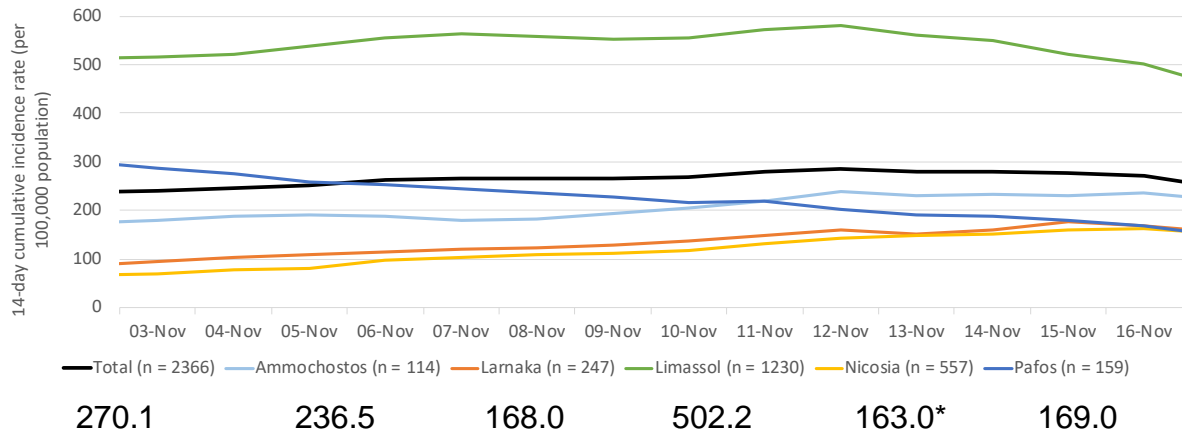




Figure A2: 14-day cumulative diagnosis rate (per 100,000 population) by district for the last 14 days.



*Excluding cases from the outbreak at the Meat Plant in Nicosia, the 14-day cumulative diagnosis rate is: 154.5 per 100,000 population



Figure A3A: Number of cases by origin of infection and by date of sample collection in the last 14 days (3-16 November, 2020).

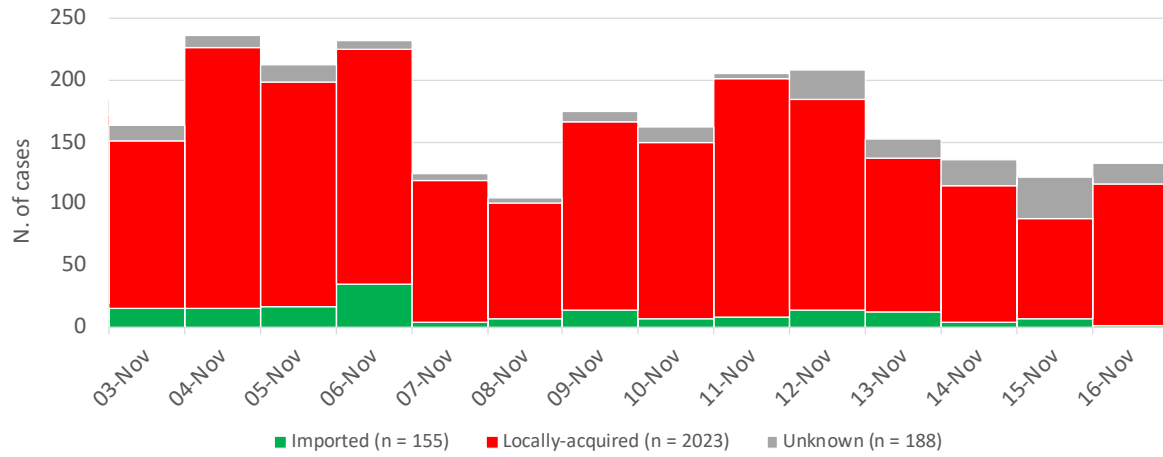




Figure A3B: Number and 7-day moving average of locally-acquired cases, by date of sample collection and district in the last 14 days (3-16 November, 2020).

