



Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

National Surveillance Report as of 24/10/2020

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Summary

- As of October 24th, a total of 3,388 COVID-19 cases and 32 deaths (case fatality risk: 0.9%) have been reported in the Republic of Cyprus.
- The 14-day cumulative notification rate is 158.1 per 100,000 population.
- In the last 14 days (11-24 October), 1,374 cases were diagnosed.
 - The median age is 32 years (Interquartile range - IQR: 24-46 years); 51.7% are male.
 - By place of exposure, 7.4% were imported, 89.5% were locally-acquired, and for 3.1% place of exposure is unknown.
- As of October 24th, 33 people are hospitalised. The median age is 58 years (IQR: 52-72 years) and 57.6% are male.
- Among cases hospitalised, two are in intensive care units (ICU) and intubated. The mean age of ICU patients is 68 years, and both are male.
- A total of 461,136 tests have been performed as of October 24th (52,647.1 per 100,000 population). In particular, over the last 14 days 50,719 tests have been performed (5,790.5 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 October 24th, 3,388 laboratory-confirmed cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) have been reported (Figure 1a,1b and 2). The 14-day cumulative notification 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 158.1 per 100,000 population (Figure 3).

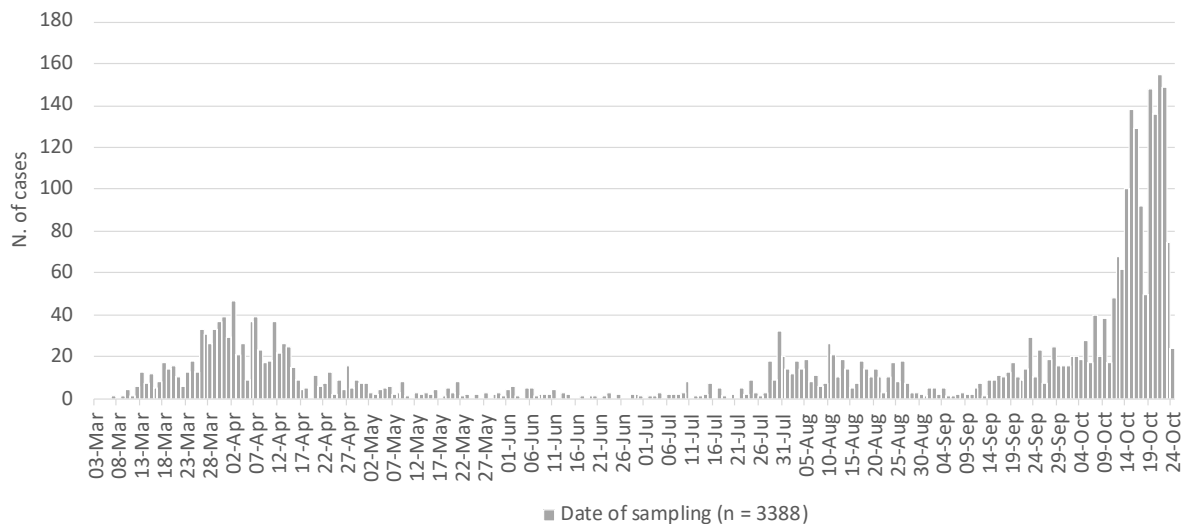


Figure 1a: Number of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases in Cyprus since 03/03/2020 by date of sample collection (n = 3,388).

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>

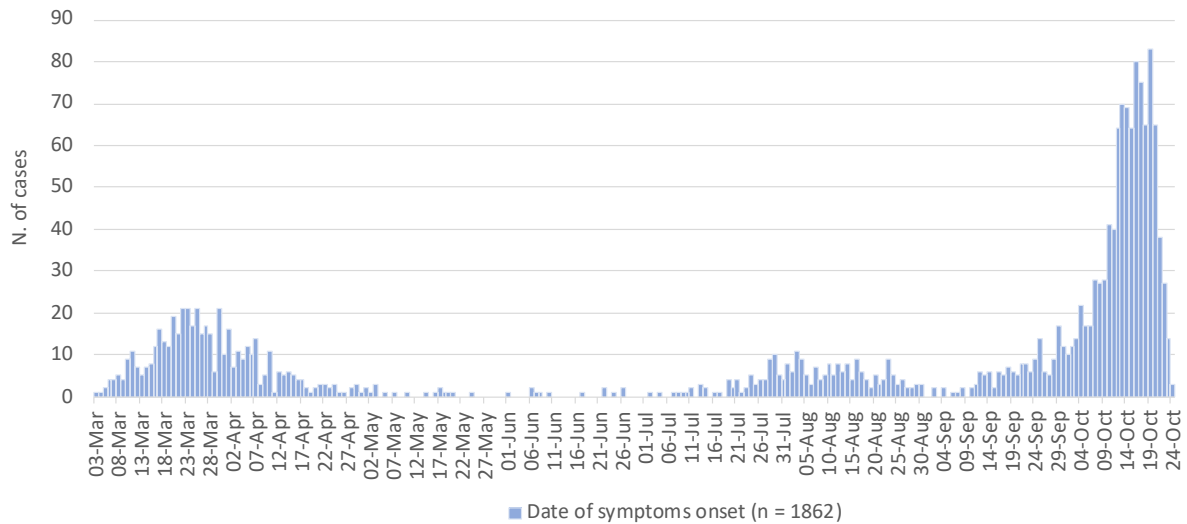


Figure 1b: Number of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases in Cyprus since 03/03/2020 by date of symptoms onset (n = 1,862).

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.

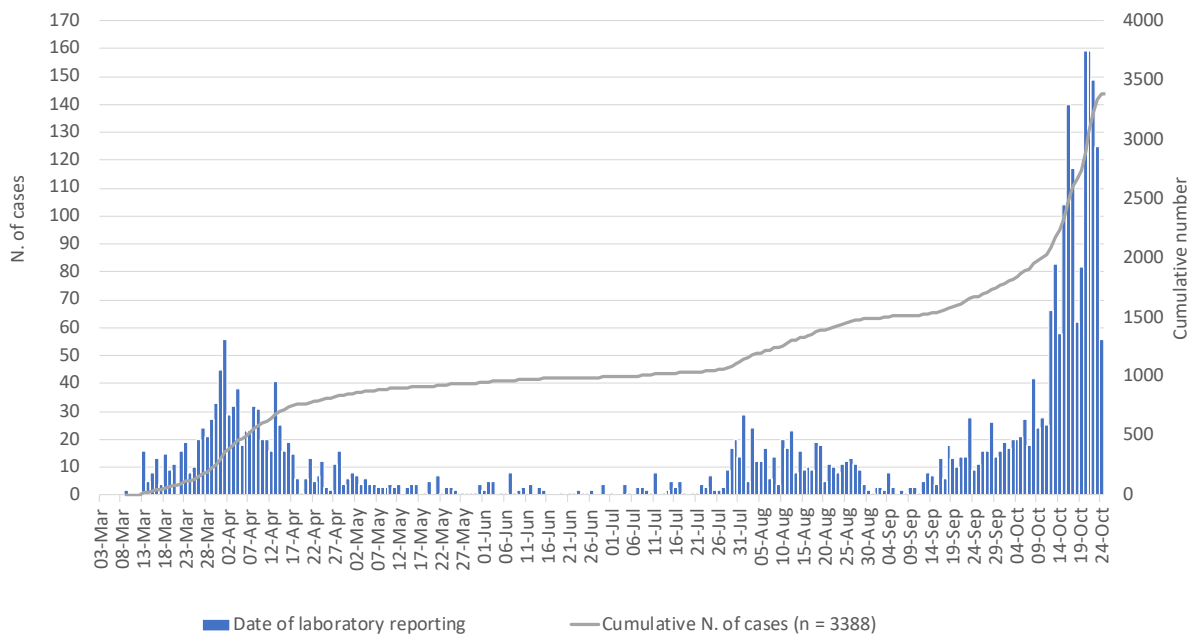


Figure 2: Number and cumulative number of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases in Cyprus since 03/03/2020, by date of laboratory reporting (n = 3,388).

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.

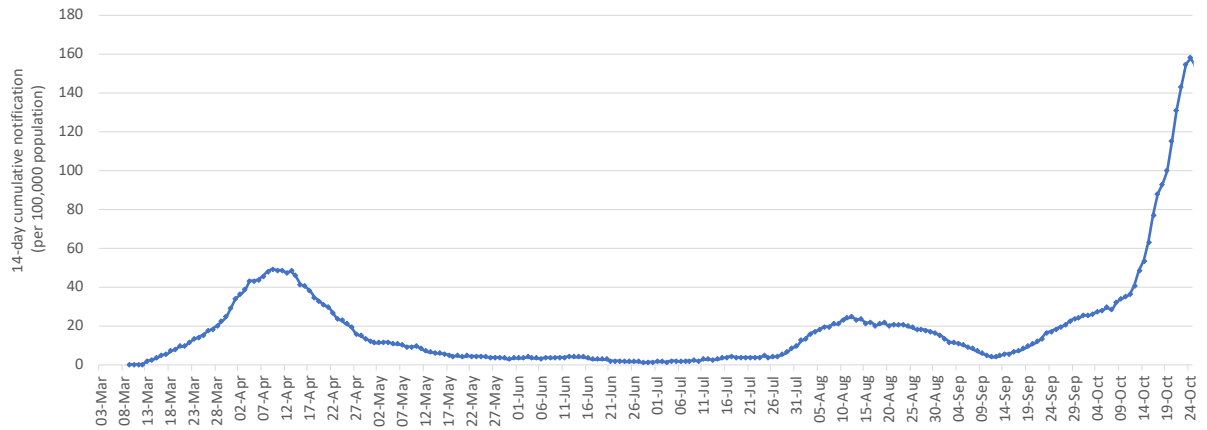


Figure 3: COVID-19 14-day cumulative notification rate per 100,000 population (proxy of COVID-19 prevalence).
March 23rd represents the first 14th day since cases have been reported.



Characteristics of the cases diagnosed in the last 14 days

Age and sex

Among 1,374 cases diagnosed since 11th October, 52% are male (n = 710) and 48% female (n = 664).

By age group, cases include 170 infants, children and adolescents aged 0-17 years-old (12%), 1,086 adults aged 18-59 years (79%), 117 persons aged 60 years and older (9%), and for one case 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 32 years (IQR: 24-46 years). The median age of adult cases (≥ 18 years) is 35 years (IQR: 27-48 years).

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

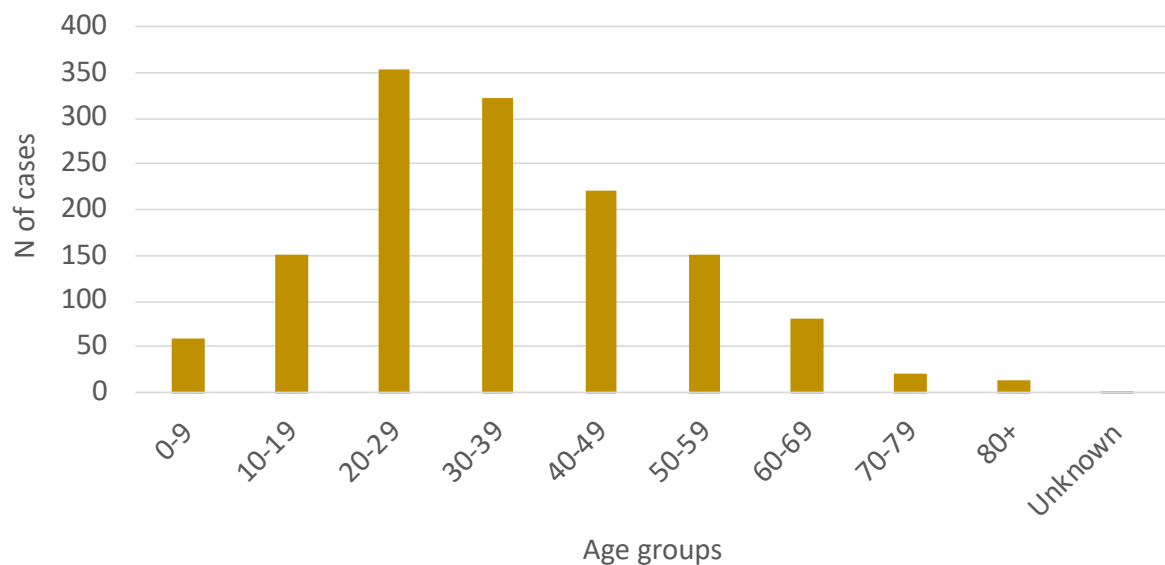


Figure 4: Laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases in Cyprus, diagnosed in the last 14 days, by age groups.

Among all cases diagnosed in the last 14 days, 794 (57.8%) were reported in Limassol district, 222 (16.2%) in Pafos, 149 (10.8%) in Nicosia, 117 (8.5%) in Larnaka, 36 (2.6%) in Ammochostos, and 56 (4.1%) 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 incidence rate (per 100,000 population) by district.



Epidemiological link

In the last 14 days (11-24 October), of 1,374 cases sampled and notified, 7.4% (n = 101) were imported, 89.5% (n = 1,230) were locally-acquired, and 3.1% (n = 43) are unknown. Table A1 and Figure A3 in Appendix show the characteristics of cases by origin of infection and the daily number of cases by origin of infection in the recent period, respectively.

Clinical features

Of the 1,374 laboratory-confirmed COVID-19-cases, clinical information is available for 99.1 % (n = 1,362), of which 27.4% (n = 373) reported no symptoms at diagnosis and 72.6% (n = 989) reported at least one symptom.

Pre-existing conditions

Information on comorbidities was available for 1,335 (97.1%) cases. Of these, 309 (23.2%) reported at least one comorbidity.



Deaths

As of October 24th, 32 deaths were reported in Cyprus (Case Fatality Risk - CFR: 0.9%).

The mortality for COVID-19 is 3.7 per 100,000 population.

Twenty-three deaths (71.9%) occurred in men and nine (28.1%) in women; the median age of all deaths was 76 years (IQR: 67-79 years). Twelve deaths were reported among residents in Larnaka, eight in Pafos, five in Nicosia, four in Limassol, and three in Ammochostos.

The median time from date of sampling to death was 11.5 days (IQR: 5-29.5 days).

For 25 deaths, COVID-19 was the underlying cause of death (COVID-19 CFR: 0.7%). Figure 5 reports the number of deaths by date.

Over the last 14 days no deaths were reported (mortality for COVID-19: 0 per 100,000 population).

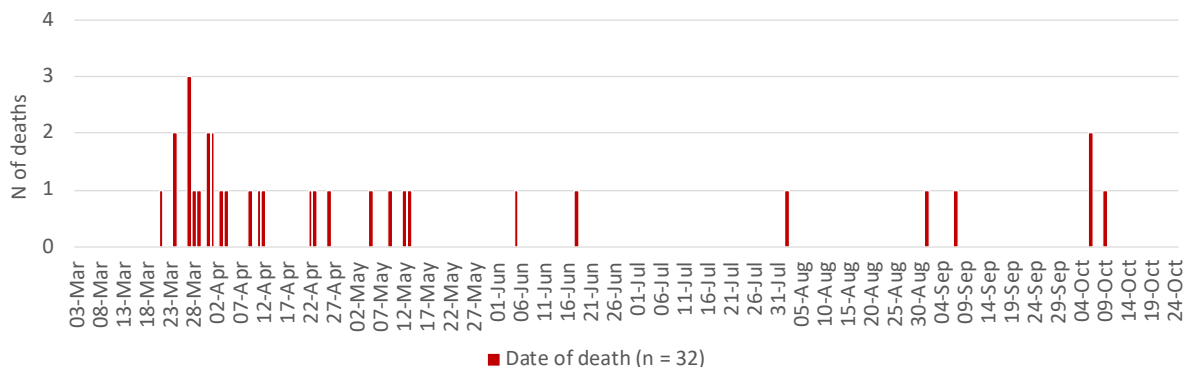


Figure 5: Number of deaths among COVID-19 cases in Cyprus by date of death (n = 32).



Hospitalization and intensive care unit (ICU²) admissions³

In total, 8.6% (n = 292) of people with COVID-19 received hospital care, as of October 24th. The median age of hospitalized patients was 59 years (IQR: 47-72 years). Hospitalized cases were mainly males (n = 169; 61.3%).

The median age of patients still hospitalised (n = 33) is 58 years (IQR: 52-72 years) and 57.6% are male.

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

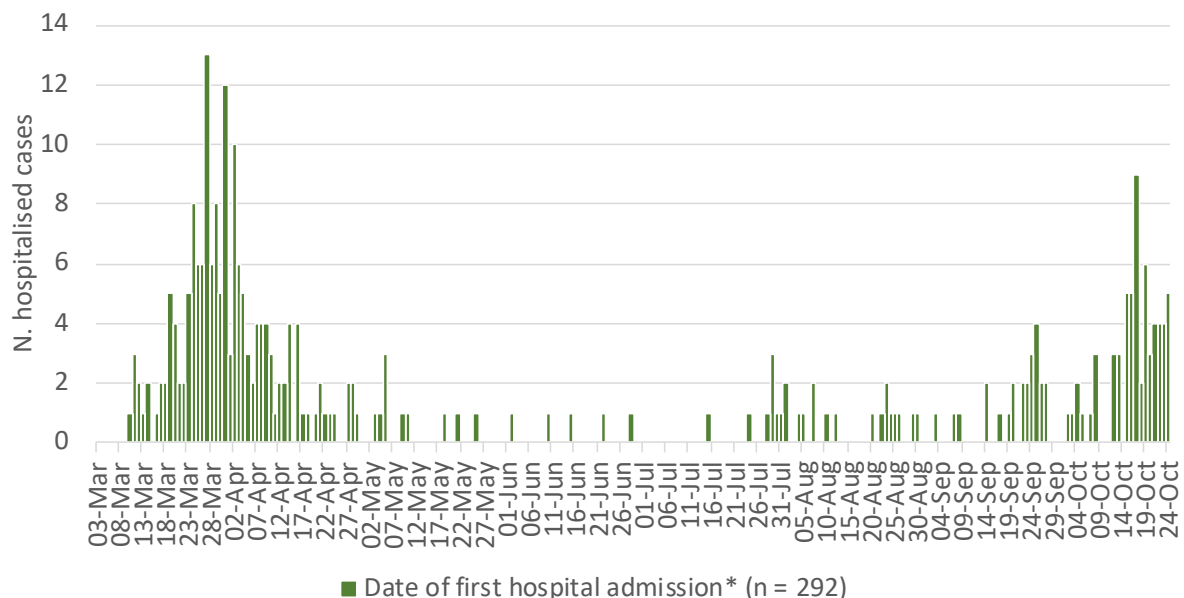


Figure 6a: Number of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases by date of first hospital admission (n = 292).

**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).

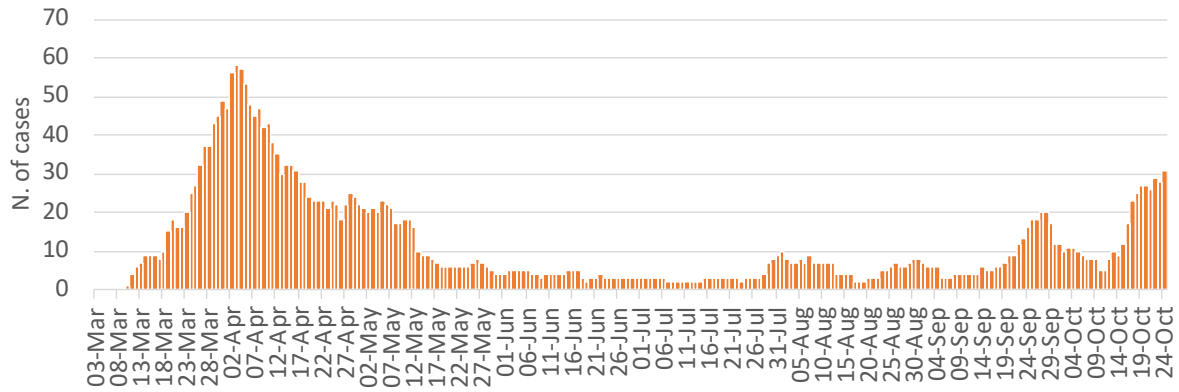


Figure 6b: Number of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases in hospital every day (excluding those in ICU).



Overall, 36 cases (12.3% of all hospitalized patients) have been admitted to ICU. The median age of patients ever admitted to ICU was 65.5 years (IQR: 57-75 years). ICU patients are mainly male (n = 27; 75%). The overall median length of stay in ICU (for all 36 ICU cases) was 13.5 days (IQR: 8-29 days).

As of October 24th, two cases were still in ICU (including deaths/ discharged on that day). The mean age of ICU patients is 68 years and both are males. The number of cases currently in ICU is 0.2 per 100,000 population (as of October 24th, including deaths/discharged on that day).

A total of 31 ICU patients (86.1% of all ICU patients) have been intubated - currently there are two patients intubated (as of October 24th, including deaths/discharged on that day).

Figure 7 shows the number of patients in ICU, by day and intubation status.

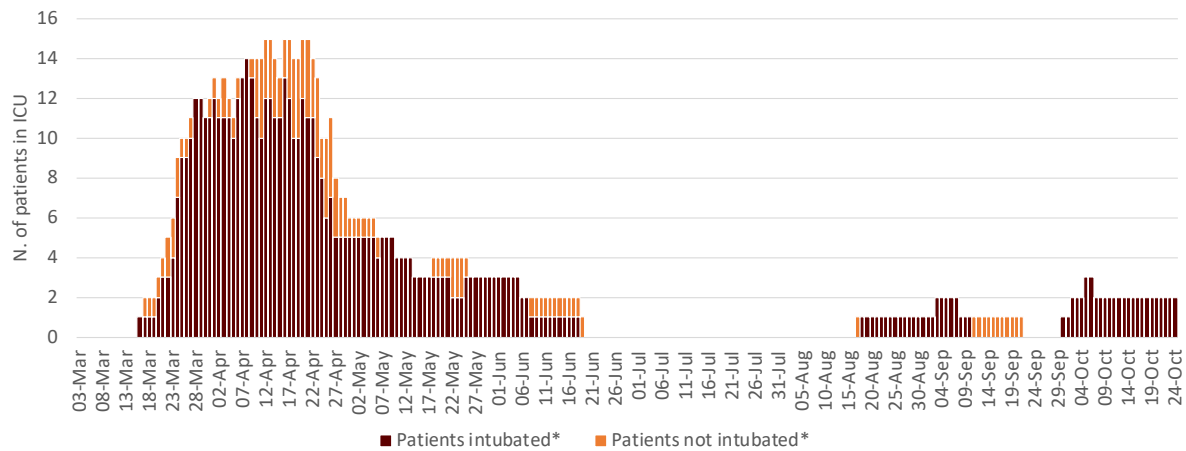


Figure 7: Number of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases in ICU by date and intubation.

**Date of discharge/transfer/death included*



Recovered/released

As of October 24th, among cases alive, 47.2% (n = 1,583) of COVID-19 cases have recovered⁴; of which 1,091 (68.9%) tested negative two consecutive times, and 492 (31.1%) have been released as per the new guidelines⁵. The median time between the second negative result and the first date of sampling was 21 days (IQR: 18-33 days).

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

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Appendix

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

Characteristics	Total (n = 1374)		Imported (n = 101)		Locally-acquired (n = 1230)		Unknown (n = 43)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Sex								
Male	710	51.7	50	49.5	634	51.5	26	60.5
Female	664	48.3	51	50.5	596	48.5	17	39.5
Age groups (years)								
0-9	59	4.3	0	0.0	59	4.8	0	0.0
10-19	151	11.0	8	7.9	140	11.4	3	7.0
20-29	354	25.8	27	26.7	317	25.8	10	23.3
30-39	322	23.4	26	25.7	286	23.3	10	23.3
40-49	220	16.0	20	19.8	191	15.5	9	20.9
50-59	150	10.9	10	9.9	135	11.0	5	11.6
60-69	81	5.9	3	3.0	73	5.9	5	11.6
70-79	22	1.6	7	6.9	14	1.1	1	2.3
80+	14	1.0	0	0.0	14	1.1	0	0.0
Unknown	1	0.1	0	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0
Median age in years (IQR*)	32 (24-46)		34 (27-45)		32 (23-45)		36 (28-50)	
District								
Ammochostos	36	2.6	9	8.9	27	2.2	0	0.0
Larnaka	117	8.5	9	8.9	107	8.7	1	2.3
Limassol	794	57.8	40	39.6	724	58.9	30	69.8
Nicosia	149	10.8	16	15.8	127	10.3	6	14.0
Pafos	222	16.2	9	8.9	207	16.8	6	14.0
Other	56	4.1	18	17.8	38	3.1	0	0.0
Symptoms at diagnosis								
Yes	989	72.0	53	52.5	902	73.3	34	79.1
No	373	27.1	46	45.5	319	25.9	8	18.6
Unknown	12	0.9	2	2.0	9	0.7	1	2.3



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

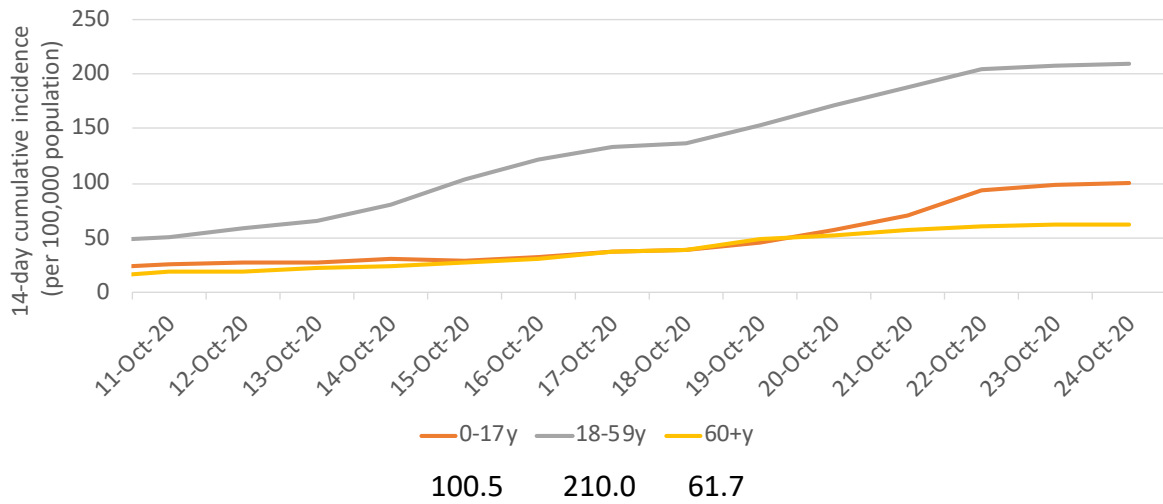




Figure A2: 14-day cumulative incidence rate (per 100,000 population) by district for the last 14 days.

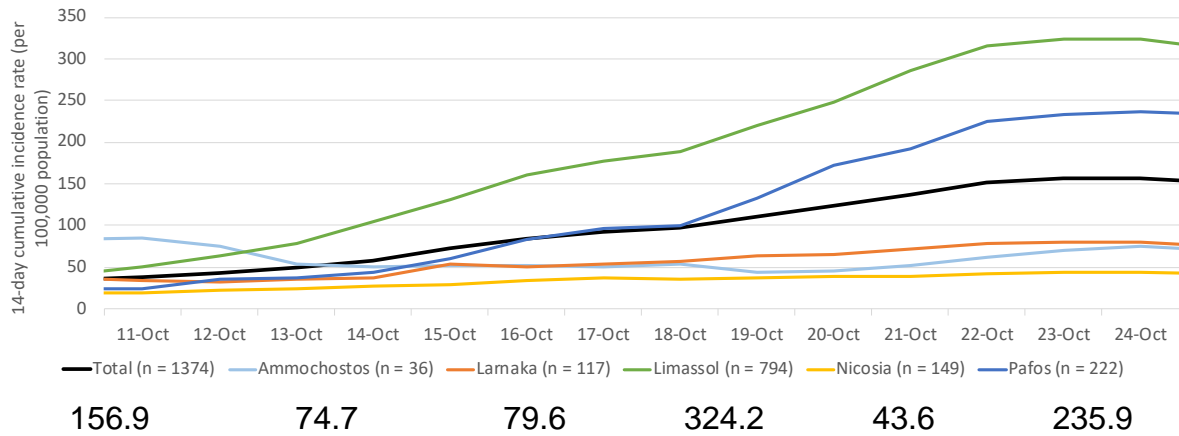




Figure A3: Number of cases by origin of infection, by date of sample collection in the last 14 days (11-24 October, 2020).

