



# **Health Inequality Data Repository**

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## INDICATOR METADATA

COVID-19 cases and deaths (WHO COVID-19  
surveillance data)

**July 2023**

## COVID-19 cases and deaths (WHO COVID-19 surveillance data)

### About

This dataset is from the [WHO Health Inequality Data Repository](#).

This dataset contains data on COVID-19 case and death rates per 100 000 population and case fatality ratios, disaggregated by age and sex. Weekly country-level data were sourced from the WHO COVID-19 Surveillance Database.

### Data source

The data come from disaggregated data published in the [WHO COVID-19 Detailed Surveillance Data Dashboard](#). Data in this dashboard come from various sources:

- Official reporting to WHO through regional offices using case report forms;
- Official reporting to WHO (HQ and regional offices) of daily cases and deaths counts;
- Official reporting to WHO of weekly aggregates;
- Our World In Data;
- FIND; and
- Official public websites (not officially reported to WHO).

### Methodology

The indicators were estimated based on information from detailed weekly surveillance data for COVID-19 cases and deaths. Information about data processing of the source data is available [here](#). See the indicator metadata below for information about indicator calculation methodologies.

Population data for the calculation of case and death rates were sourced from the UN World Population Prospects 2019 estimates for the relevant year and population subgroup.

Data were included in this dataset if:

- The country reported at least 100 cases in a given week;
- Data was available for all subgroups within a dimension of inequality in a given week.

### Dataset metadata

<b>Date of first publication</b>	April 2023
<b>Date of updated publication</b>	n/a
<b>Expected frequency of update</b>	n/a
<b>Date of data extraction</b>	24 March 2023
<b>Temporal coverage</b>	30/12/2019 – 06/03/2023
<b>Spatial coverage</b>	Global
<b>Spatial granularity</b>	National
<b>Number of countries, territories or areas</b>	130
<b>Number of indicators</b>	3
<b>Number of dimensions of inequality</b>	2

## Inequality dimensions

**Age** was condensed into five subgroups. As a result of an update to the way COVID-19 cases and deaths were reported, one age group (20-29) was incompatible with the banding system (15-24 years and 25-64 years). To allow these data to be incorporated, national age-stratified population data were used to distribute these cases and deaths accordingly for each country. For further information, see the data processing notes of the WHO COVID-19 Detailed Surveillance Data Dashboard.

Indicators disaggregated by **sex** include estimates for males and females. The dataset does not contain estimates for other gender identities.

## Disclaimer

The estimates presented may differ from, and should not be regarded as, the official national statistics of individual WHO Member States or official WHO estimates.

Completeness for indicators varies between countries and over time. A decrease in cases displayed needs to be interpreted together with the trend in country participation. Case identification in a country is subject to detection and testing strategies, which vary between countries and over time. Interpretation of the data must be done with caution due to the heterogeneous data collection and because data cleaning and validation checks on the published dashboard data are performed continuously. For further information please refer to the [WHO COVID-19 Detailed Surveillance Data Dashboard](#).

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Indicator metadata

Indicator name	Disaggregation	Definition / Further information	Notes
COVID-19 cases (per 100 000 population)	Age (5 groups) (0-65+) Sex	Number of COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population. <u>Numerator</u> : Number of COVID-19 cases reported. <u>Denominator</u> : UN World Population Prospects 2019 estimated population for the relevant year and population subgroup.	Setting average (i.e. overall incidence) data are based on the maximum number of COVID-19 cases reported in the given week.
COVID-19 deaths (per 100 000 population)	Age (5 groups) (0-65+) Sex	Number of COVID-19 deaths per 100 000 population. <u>Numerator</u> : Number of COVID-19 deaths reported. <u>Denominator</u> : UN World Population Prospects 2019 estimated population for the relevant year and population subgroup.	Setting average (i.e. overall mortality) data are based on the maximum number of COVID-19 deaths reported in the given week.
COVID-19 case fatality ratio	Age (5 groups) (0-65+) Sex	The ratio of deaths to every 100 COVID-19 cases during the same time period. <u>Numerator</u> : Number of COVID-19 deaths reported. <u>Denominator</u> : Number of COVID-19 cases reported / 100.	The COVID-19 deaths and cases reported for a specific week are cross-sectional and better represented as a ratio rather as a proportion, as deaths reported in a specific week are not necessarily among the cases for that week, thus this indicator represents a crude case fatality ratio. Setting average (i.e. overall case fatality ratio) data are based on the maximum number of COVID-19 cases and deaths reported in the given week.