

## Coronavirus Disease 2019

(COVID-19)

### Weekly Situation Report of the Robert Koch Institute

CALENDAR WEEK 11/2021 - UPDATED STATUS FOR GERMANY

As of March 6, 2021, the situation report in English language is published by the Robert Koch Institute on a weekly base. For information on daily COVID-19 epidemiology in Germany, the Dashboard is updated on a daily base. In addition, daily situation reports in German language, information on vaccination data and intensive care registry as well as other data are regularly uploaded on our website (see information sources at end of this report).

In this situation report, the following information is given: overview on epidemiological situation, demographic distribution of cases, surveys on SARS-CoV-2 laboratory tests in Germany additional RKI based surveillance systems.

– Changes since the last report are marked *blue* in the text –

## Epidemiological Situation in Germany

As of *March 18*, 2021

Confirmed cases		7-day incidence (7-di)		Vaccination monitoring	DIVI-Intensive care register
Total <sup>1</sup>	Active cases <sup>2</sup>	Total population	No. of districts with 7-di > 50/100,000 pop	No. of vaccinations reported in last 24h <sup>4</sup>	Change to previous day for cases currently in ICU
<b>+17,504</b> (2,612,268)	<b>+8,300</b> [145,500]	<b>90</b> cases/ 100,000 pop	<b>+8</b> [342/412]	1st vaccin. + 122,536 2nd vaccin. + 75,885	<b>+36</b> [2,895]
Recovered <sup>3</sup>	Deaths	60-79 years	80+ years	Total no. of vaccinated with one/two vaccine dose/s and share of population <sup>4</sup>	Died on ICU compared to the previous day
<b>+9,000</b> (ca. 2,392,600)	<b>+27</b> (74,132)	<b>55</b> cases/ 100,000 pop	<b>56</b> cases/ 100,000 pop	<b>+15</b> [141/412]	<b>+81</b>
				N1: 6,970,861 (8.4%) N2: 3,097,094 (3.7%)	

As of *18/03/2021*, *2,612,268* laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases as well as *74,132* deaths associated with COVID-19 were transmitted to the RKI. The national 7-day incidence is *90* cases per 100,000 population.

Since 26/12/2020 a total of *6,970,861* people in Germany have been vaccinated at least once (vaccination rate *8.4* %) and of those *3,097,094* people twice (vaccination rate *3.7* %) against COVID-19.

On *18/03/2021 (12:15 PM)* *2.895* COVID-19 patients were in intensive care. *+311* COVID-19 patients were newly admitted. The resulting number of cases under treatment was *+36* compared to the prior day. *+81* COVID-19 patients died on ICU since the prior day.

## Geographical distribution of cases

Table 1 shows the number of laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19 reported to and validated by the RKI.

Table 1: Number and cumulative incidence (per 100,000 population) of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths for each federal state electronically reported to RKI, Germany (18/03/2021, 12:00 AM). The number of new cases includes positive cases notified to the local health department at the same day, but also at previous days.

Federal State	Cumulative cases			Last 7 days		Cumulative deaths	
	Total number of cases	Number of new cases	Cases/100,000 pop.	Cases in the last 7 days	7-day incidence/100,000 pop.	Number of deaths	Number of deaths/100,000 pop.
Baden-Wuerttemberg	337,011	2,127	3,036	9,409	85	8,478	76.4
Bavaria	465,058	3,005	3,543	12,552	96	12,906	98.3
Berlin	136,396	621	3,717	3,240	88	2,955	80.5
Brandenburg	81,356	485	3,226	2,285	91	3,208	127.2
Bremen	19,272	138	2,829	577	85	385	56.5
Hamburg*	55,475	0	3,003	1,223	66	1,337	72.4
Hesse	201,865	1,554	3,210	6,305	100	6,108	97.1
Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania	27,289	195	1,697	1,029	64	817	50.8
Lower Saxony	179,604	1,669	2,247	6,462	81	4,666	58.4
North Rhine-Westphalia	567,947	4,145	3,165	16,525	92	13,803	76.9
Rhineland-Palatinate	108,086	662	2,640	2,705	66	3,231	78.9
Saarland	30,408	162	3,081	567	57	914	92.6
Saxony	205,416	1,011	5,045	4,466	110	8,168	200.6
Saxony-Anhalt	66,118	475	3,013	2,343	107	2,612	119.0
Schleswig-Holstein	46,096	338	1,587	1,632	56	1,393	48.0
Thuringia	84,871	917	3,978	3,845	180	3,151	147.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,612,268</b>	<b>17,504</b>	<b>3,141</b>	<b>75,165</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>74,132</b>	<b>89.1</b>

Quality checks and data cleaning by the health authorities and regional offices can lead to corrections to cases previously transmitted (e. g. detection of duplicate reports). This can occasionally lead to negative values for the number of new cases.

\*No data was transmitted by Hamburg on 17/03/2021.

## Demographic distribution of cases

The age-specific 7-day incidence is shown using a heat map (Figure 1). Age-specific case numbers and age-specific 7-day incidences can be accessed at: [www.rki.de/covid-19-altersverteilung](http://www.rki.de/covid-19-altersverteilung).

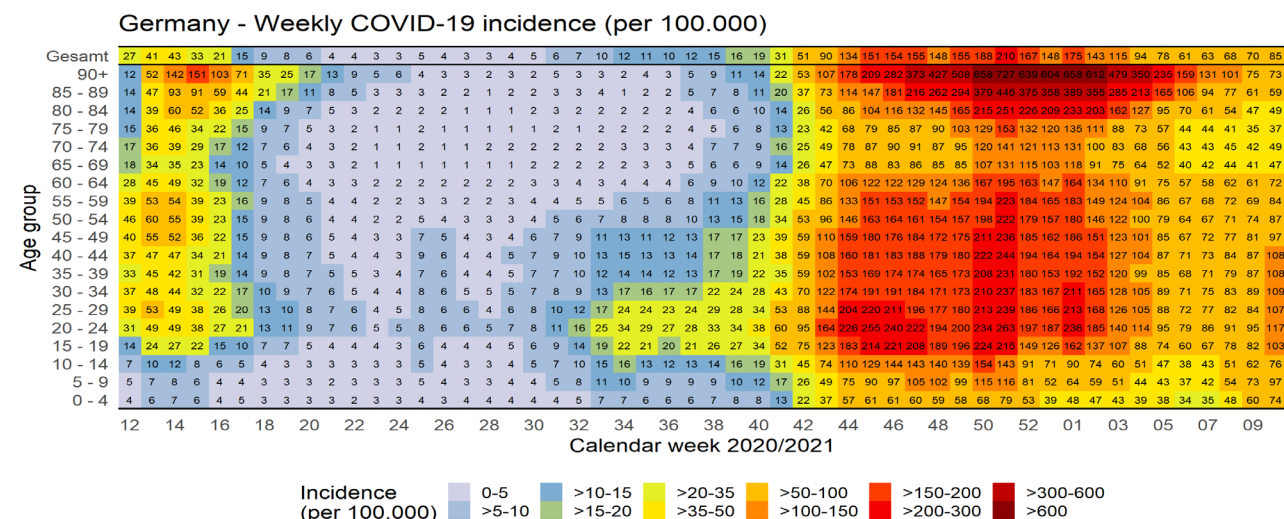


Figure 1: 7-day-incidence of notified COVID-19 cases by age group and reporting week (n=2,570,080) cases with respective data in the weeks 11 to 53, 2020 and weeks 01-09, 2021 (09/03/2021, 12:00 AM). Data from the mandatory surveillance system according to the German Data Protection Act.

Note: The report is a snapshot and is continuously updated.

Figure 2 displays the total number of cases with or without COVID-19 relevant symptoms as well as proportion of hospitalized and deceased. As deaths occur on average 2-3 weeks after infection, further reports of deaths are expected for the most recent three weeks. The data on which the figure is based can be found at: [www.rki.de/covid-19-tabelle-klinische-aspekte](http://www.rki.de/covid-19-tabelle-klinische-aspekte).

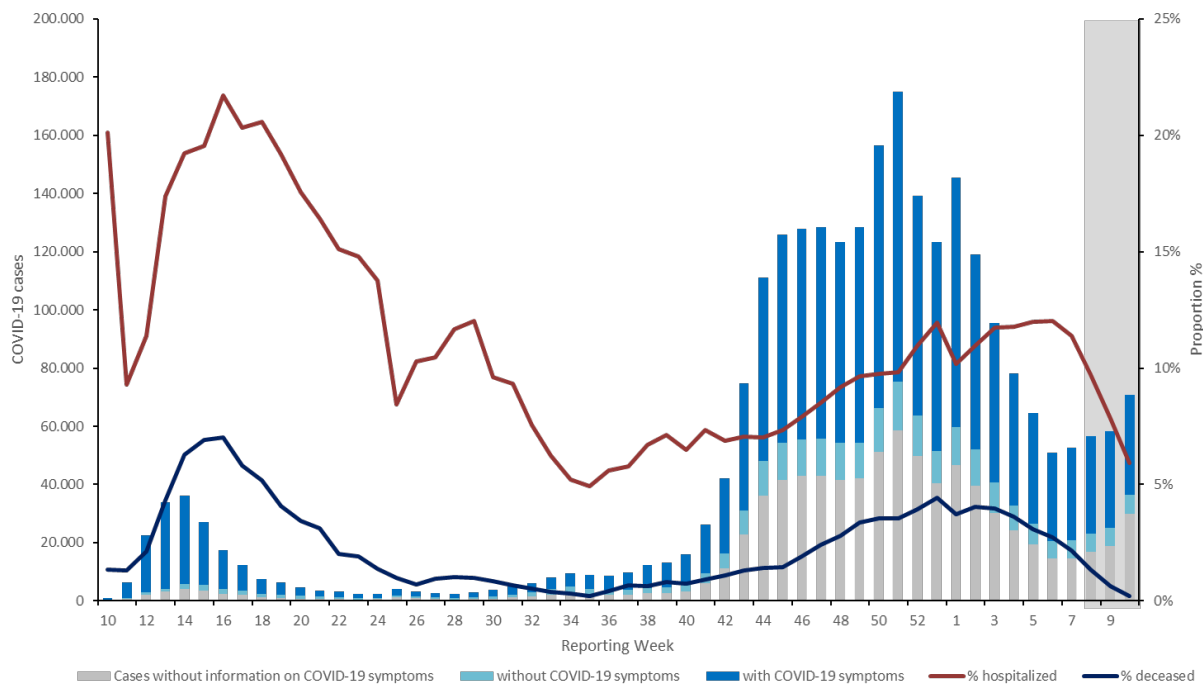


Figure 2: Depiction of COVID-19 cases with or without relevant symptoms and proportion of deceased and hospitalized, in relation to the respective number with corresponding data in weeks 10 – 53, 2020 and weeks 01-10, 2021 (10/03/2021, 12:00 AM). These numbers/proportions may equally change due to delayed reporting and data corrections. Data from the mandatory surveillance system according to the German Data Protection Act.

Figure 3 shows the reported COVID-19 deaths by calendar week according to the date of death. For recent weeks, further reports of deaths among reported cases can be expected.

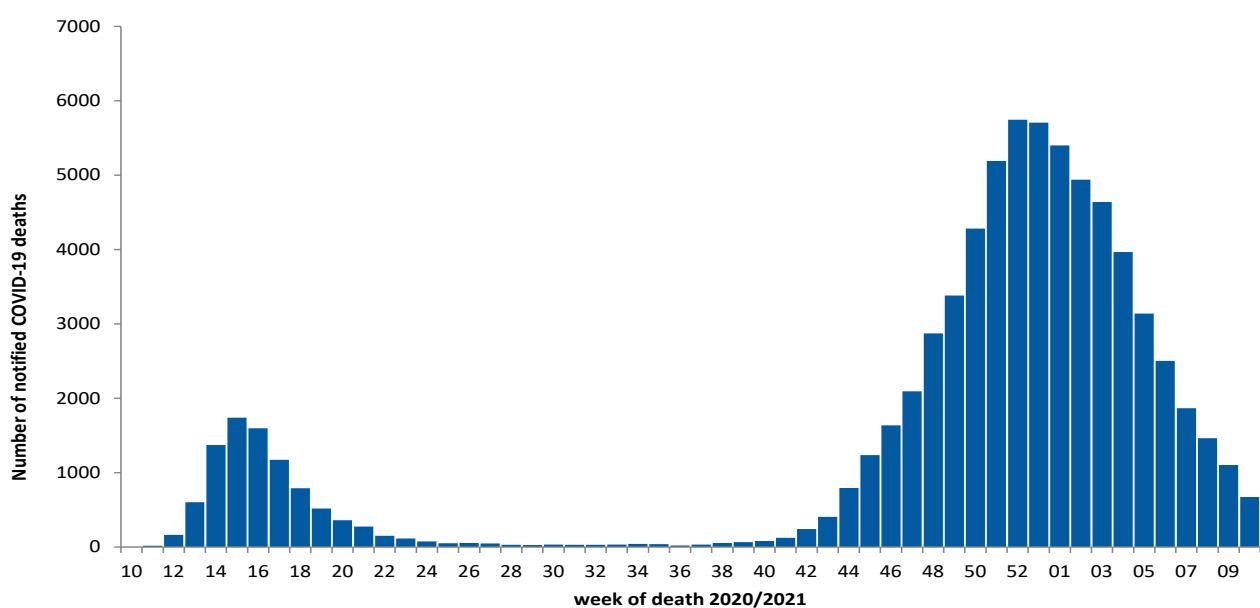


Figure 3: Number of notified COVID-19 deaths according to week of death for the reporting weeks 10 – 53, 2020 and weeks 01 - 10, 2021 (18/03/2021, 12:00 AM). Further reports of deaths are expected for weeks 06-08/2021.

## Surveys on SARS-CoV-2 laboratory tests in Germany

To assess the SARS-CoV-2 PCR test numbers, data from university hospitals, research institutions as well as clinical and outpatient laboratories throughout Germany are merged weekly at the RKI. These data are ascertained on a voluntary basis and are transmitted to RKI via an internet-based RKI test laboratory survey, via the network for respiratory viruses (RespVir), via the laboratory-based SARS-CoV-2 surveillance established at the RKI (an extension of the Antibiotic Resistance Surveillance (ARS)) and via the enquiry of a professional association of laboratory medicine.

The number of tests, the proportion of positive tests and number of reporting laboratories since the beginning of testing in Germany are shown in table 2. Since laboratories can register and correct the tests of the previous calendar weeks at a later date, it is possible that the ascertained numbers can increase retrospectively. It should be noted that the number of tests is not the same as the number of persons tested, as the data may include multiple tests of individual patients (Table 2) with data for the last 10 weeks – complete data since beginning of testing are available at <http://www.rki.de/covid-19-testzahlen> (in German). The current testing criteria can be found under: [www.rki.de/covid-19-testkriterien](http://www.rki.de/covid-19-testkriterien) (in German).

Table 2: Number of SARS-CoV-2-laboratory tests in Germany (as of 17/03/2021 12:00 pm)

Calendar week	Number of tests	Tested positive	Proportion positive (%)	Number of reporting laboratories
<b>Up to &amp; incl. week KW53/2020</b>	<b>36,082,452</b>	<b>1,912,965</b>		
<b>1/2021</b>	1,231,405	157,772	12.8	206
<b>2/2021</b>	1,187,564	124,037	10.4	206
<b>3/2021</b>	1,110,190	110,014	9.9	207
<b>4/2021</b>	1,148,018	97,256	8.5	207
<b>5/2021</b>	1,097,419	82,288	7.5	207
<b>6/2021</b>	1,056,768	67,774	6.4	211
<b>7/2021</b>	1,098,665	67,211	6.1	205
<b>8/2021</b>	1,170,335	72,008	6.2	209
<b>9/2021</b>	1,147,877	71,377	6.2	208
<b>10/2021</b>	1,248,100	84,480	6.8	203
<b>Summe</b>	<b>47,578,793</b>	<b>2,847,182</b>		

## Information from additional RKI based surveillance systems for acute respiratory illnesses

GrippeWeb ("FluWeb") is a web interface at RKI for monitoring the activity of acute respiratory illness (ARI), utilizing information from the population. In [week 10, 2021](#), the ARI rate [increased in total and in the age groups 5 years and above](#). Despite the increase, the total ARI rate is still below the level of the previous years. Further information can be found under <https://grippeweb.rki.de/>.

The Influenza Working Group (AGI) monitors ARI through a sentinel network on primary care level. In [week 10, 2021](#), the overall number of patient visits (consultations) due to ARI (ARI consultation rate) increased. [The ARI consultation rate increased in the age groups below 60 years, especially in the age group below 5 years](#). The ARI consultation rate [remained on a](#) substantially lower level compared to previous years. Within the virological surveillance of the AGI, respiratory viruses were detected in [91 of 236 sentinel samples \(39%\)](#) in [week 10, 2021](#). Among those, rhinovirus was identified in [60 \(25%\)](#), human seasonal coronavirus (hCoV) in [17 \(7%\)](#) and SARS-CoV-2 in [13 samples \(6%\)](#). Respiratory Syncytial Virus and Parainfluenzavirus [were found in one sample each](#). Further information - [both on national and regional level](#) - can be found under <https://influenza.rki.de/> and under <https://influenza.rki.de/Diagrams.aspx?agiRegion=0>.

A third, ICD-10 code-based system monitors severe acute respiratory illness (SARI) in hospitalized patients (ICD-10 codes J09 to J22: primary diagnoses influenza, pneumonia or other acute infections of the lower respiratory tract). The overall number of SARI cases [has remained stable in the past few weeks and was markedly lower than usual at this time of the year in week 9, 2021](#). [After a steady decrease, the proportion of COVID-19 infections among SARI has fluctuated around 50% in the last few weeks](#). In [week 9, 2021](#), 50% of the reported SARI cases per week [were](#) diagnosed with COVID-19 (ICD-10 code U07.1!) (Figure 4). Please note that due to data availability only patients with an ICD-10 Code for SARI as the main diagnosis and hospitalisation duration of up to one week were included in this analysis.

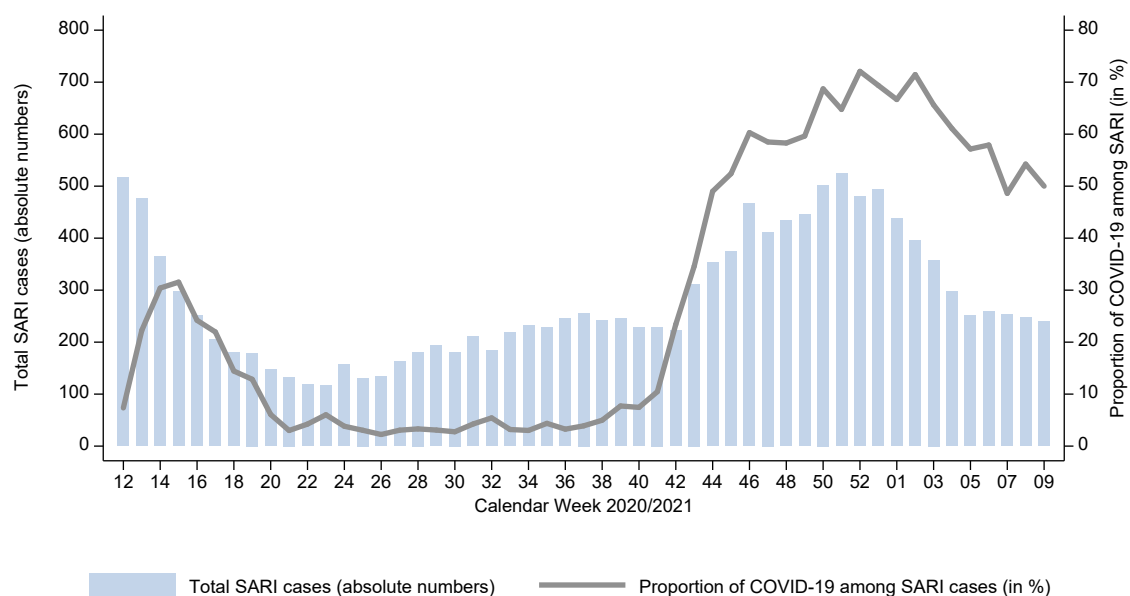


Figure 4: Weekly number of SARI cases (ICD-10 codes J09-J22) and proportion of cases with a diagnosis of COVID-19 (ICD-10 code U07.1!) among SARI cases with duration of hospitalization of up to one week and with date of admission in weeks 12, 2020 to 9, 2021, from 72 sentinel hospitals

## Risk Assessment by the RKI

In view of persistently high case numbers, the RKI currently assesses the threat to the health of the general population to be **very high**. The revised version highlights the ongoing community transmission of SARS-CoV-2 as well as the occurrence of outbreaks especially in nursing and senior care homes, households, and occupational settings.

Against the background of rising occurrence of variants of concern (VOC) with higher infectiousness, a rigorous reduction of physical contacts, usage of protective measures as well as intensive efforts to contain outbreaks and chains of infections are necessary to reduce the number of new infections and to protect vulnerable persons.

On 15/03/2021, the risk assessment was updated with reference to the new SARS-CoV-2 variants. The current version can be found here: <http://www.rki.de/covid-19-risikobewertung> (*in German*).

## Measures taken in Germany

- Epidemiological Profile of SARS-CoV-2 und COVID-19 (24/02/2021, *in German*)  
[https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/InfAZ/N/Neuartiges\\_Coronavirus/Steckbrief.html](https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/InfAZ/N/Neuartiges_Coronavirus/Steckbrief.html)
- Information on the designation of international risk areas  
<http://www.rki.de/covid-19-risikogebiete>
- Seroepidemiological studies in Germany (04/02/2021)  
[www.rki.de/covid-19-serostudies-germany](http://www.rki.de/covid-19-serostudies-germany)
- Entry restrictions to Germany for travelers from countries designated as regions with variants (30/01/2021; *in German*)  
[https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/InfAZ/N/Neuartiges\\_Coronavirus/Transport/CoronaSchV\\_Mutationen.pdf?blob=publicationFile](https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/InfAZ/N/Neuartiges_Coronavirus/Transport/CoronaSchV_Mutationen.pdf?blob=publicationFile)
- German electronic Sequencing-Data-Hub (DESH, Deutscher elektronischer Sequenzdaten-Hub, 18.02.2021, *in German*)  
[www.rki.de/covid-19-desh](http://www.rki.de/covid-19-desh)
- Recommendations on COVID-19-vaccination (*in German*)  
[www.rki.de/covid-19-impfempfehlung](http://www.rki.de/covid-19-impfempfehlung)
- Further governmental resolutions regarding additional containment measures (Lockdown, *in German*)  
<https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/themen/coronavirus/mpk-beschluss-corona-1834364>
- National Testing Strategy – who will be tested for SARS-CoV-2 in Germany (*in German*)  
[www.rki.de/covid-19-teststrategie](http://www.rki.de/covid-19-teststrategie)
- Important information and guidance on SARS-CoV-2 for returning travellers (*in German*)  
[www.rki.de/covid-19-reisende](http://www.rki.de/covid-19-reisende)
- Selected and regularly updated information on COVID-19  
<https://www.rki.de/covid-19-en>
- The ministry of health has published a record of all measures implemented in Germany since 27/01/2020 (*in German*)  
<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/coronavirus/chronik-coronavirus.html>
- Information from the Ministry of Health for travellers entering Germany: Frequently asked questions and answers (*in German*)  
<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/coronavirus-infos-reisende/faq-tests-einreisende.html>
- Corona-Warn-App  
[www.rki.de/covid-19-warnapp-en](http://www.rki.de/covid-19-warnapp-en)

- Information on regulations at the regional level regarding control measures such as physical distancing or quarantine regulations for persons entering from other countries can be accessed here (*in German*): <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/themen/coronavirus/corona-bundeslaender-1745198>

## Further information sources

- <https://corona.rki.de/>  
Report of SARS-CoV-2 variants in Germany, especially of VOC B.1.1.7 (Update 17/02/2021, *in German*)  
[www.rki.de/covid-19-voc-berichte](http://www.rki.de/covid-19-voc-berichte)
- Other data tables  
[www.rki.de/covid-19-fallzahlen](http://www.rki.de/covid-19-fallzahlen)  
[www.rki.de/covid-19-altersverteilung](http://www.rki.de/covid-19-altersverteilung)  
[www.rki.de/covid-19-tabelle-klinische-aspekte](http://www.rki.de/covid-19-tabelle-klinische-aspekte)  
[www.rki.de/covid-19-ausbruchsdaten](http://www.rki.de/covid-19-ausbruchsdaten)  
[www.rki.de/covid-19-nowcasting](http://www.rki.de/covid-19-nowcasting)
- German situation reports  
[www.rki.de/covid-19-situationsbericht](http://www.rki.de/covid-19-situationsbericht)
- Vaccination  
<http://www.rki.de/covid-19-impfquoten>  
<https://impfdashboard.de/>  
[https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/InfAZ/N/Neuartiges\\_Coronavirus/Daten/Impfquotenmonitoring.html](https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/InfAZ/N/Neuartiges_Coronavirus/Daten/Impfquotenmonitoring.html)
- Intensive care registry  
<https://www.intensivregister.de>

## Annex

- <sup>1</sup> The difference to the previous day is based on the date cases are received at RKI. Due to delay in data transmission, cases from preceding days may be included.
- <sup>2</sup> Active cases were calculated from the number of transmitted cases minus deaths and the estimated number of recovered cases.
- <sup>3</sup> The algorithm for estimation of recovered cases considers information on disease onset and hospitalization, but not for late effects, because such data are not recorded regularly.
- <sup>4</sup> Data on COVID-19 vaccinations are only updated on weekdays. On Sundays, updated figures are not reported.