

# The demography of COVID-19 deaths (<https://dc-covid.site.ined.fr/en/>)

## Summary of metadata for Italy

(Last revised 31/05/2022)

### Development of data collection systems during the pandemic

In Italy, two sources provide information on COVID-19 deaths: the Civil Protection Department and the National Institute of Health. The Civil Protection Department publishes a daily update of the number of deaths at 17:00, but does not provide age and sex breakdowns for these deaths. The ISS has been publishing reports since March 2020. From 22 July 2020 onwards, these reports were weekly. From 5 January 2021, Excel files were also available, published every day until 15 April 2022, and only from Monday to Friday since.

### Summary description of each source as of 21 April 2022

#### A.1. Data source 1

Istituto superiore di sanità (ISS):  
<https://www.epicentro.iss.it/coronavirus/>

#### A.2. Coverage

##### 2.1 COVID-19 definition

Confirmed COVID-19 deaths.

##### 2.2 Place of death

All places.

##### 2.3. Geographical coverage

The whole country.

##### 2.4. Time coverage

From 09/03/2020 to 20/04/2022.

#### A.3. Data collection method

Regional health authorities verify and report information on cases diagnosed by regional reference laboratories to the ISS.

#### A.4. Collected data

4.1. Age group: 0-9, 10-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70-79, 80-89, 90+

4.2. Sex: male and female, broken down by age group

4.3. Reference date type: report date for age and sex data in the Excel tabs "ISS\_Data" and "ISS\_Age&Sex\_Daily" and for totals per day in the tab "Civil\_Protection\_Data"; date of death for totals per day in the Excel tab "ISS\_by\_occurrence\_date".

4.4. Place of death: *Not applicable*

#### A.5. Update frequency and data cut-off time

Weekly reports are usually published on Friday, with figures ending on Wednesday. Excel files are published daily.

## **B.1. Data source 2**

Dipartimento della Protezione Civile:

<https://emergenze.protezionecivile.it/it/sanitarie/coronavirus>

## **B.2. Coverage**

### **2.1 COVID-19 definition**

Confirmed COVID-19 deaths.

### **2.2 Place of death**

All places.

### **2.3. Geographical coverage**

The whole country.

### **2.4. Time coverage**

From 24/02/2020 to 21/04/2022.

## **B.3. Data collection method**

Daily electronic transmission of data via the civil protection bulletin.

## **B.4. Collected data**

4.1. Age group: *Not applicable*

4.2. Sex: *Not applicable*

4.3. Reference date type: report date

4.4. Place of death: *Not applicable*

## **B.5. Update frequency and data cut-off time**

The daily figures are finalized at 17:00 and published online in the evening.

## **ANNEX: Detailed metadata sheet for Italy** **(Last revised 28/12/2021)**

### **Data Source 1**

Italian National Institute of Health (Istituto superiore di sanità - ISS)

### **Coverage**

COVID-19 tested deaths occurring in or out of hospital

### **Data collection method**

Weekly electronic transmission to the ISS, in accordance with the “Integrated COVID-19 Surveillance in Italy” protocol and the “National COVID-19 Epidemic Update.” (<https://www.epicentro.iss.it/coronavirus/sars-cov-2-sorveglianza-dati>). Additional reports are provided for random dates.

The ISS receives and verifies all data from each regional health authority, including case sheets for hospitalized patients.

All COVID-19 cases are diagnosed by regional reference laboratories, as indicated by Ministry of Health circular no. 0005443 of 22 February 2020. See the “Methodological Note” available in the documentation [in Italian]

### **Data collected**

Age

Sex

From 9 March 2020 to 22 June 2020 and for additional dates, data only available by age.

Date of occurrence of the deaths (since 5 January 2021)

### **Data cut off time**

From 16 June 2020, ISS weekly figures communicated each Friday and published at 11:00.

Prior to 16 June 2020, ISS weekly figures communicated each Friday and published at 15:00

For the additional reports no exact time is indicated in the documentation.

### **New source file**

Since 5 January 2021, the ISS publishes on its dashboard (available here: <https://www.epicentro.iss.it/coronavirus/sars-cov-2-dashboard>), an excel file containing information on the daily number of deaths by date of occurrence on the one hand, and on the distribution by age and sex of the deaths that occurred until the day of publication on the other hand.

These data are reproduced in the “ISS\_Age&Sex\_Daily” and “ISS\_by\_occurrence\_date” tabs. When the total number of deaths is less than 5 for a given category (date or age-gender crossover), the exact number is not specified (replaced by '<5'). We replace “<5” with “0” in order to calculate the cumulative number of deaths. Therefore, totals should be taken with caution. Deaths that are not disclosed in the daily publication for confidentiality reasons, are revealed in the weekly report. However, for these deaths only the sex is known.

The time series coming from this data source and published in the excel sheet “ISS\_by\_occurrence\_date”, includes death counts occurred since the beginning of the pandemic and may account for retrospective corrections.

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**Source 2**

Civil Protection

**Coverage**

COVID-19 tested deaths occurring in or out of hospital

**Data collection method**

Daily electronic transmission via COVID-19 Civil Protection Bulletin (<http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/nuovocoronavirus>).

**Data collected**

Aggregate data (all ages and sexes combined)

Place of death (regions)

**Data cut off time**

Daily figures recorded at 17:00 (at 18:00 prior to 4 March 2020)