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Key points

Week 4/2021 (25 - 31 Jan 2021)

- The number of cases reported in the Region decreased by 12.1% to 1 360 026 in week 4/2021 (from 1 546 472 in week 3/2021)
- 67% (910 543) of the cases reported in week 4/2021 were reported from seven countries: Spain (15%; 203 600), United Kingdom (13%; 178 629), France (10%; 142 701), Russian Federation (10%; 131 039), Italy (6%; 86 958), Portugal (6%; 86 549) and Germany (6%; 81 427). The remaining cases (33%; 449 483) were reported by 47 countries and territories; each accounted for <5% of the total cases reported in week 4/2021
- The crude incidence continues to vary across the region with a range from 1 per 100,000 population in Uzbekistan to 846 per 100,000 population in Portugal in week 4/2021
- Five countries and territories had a crude incidence of ≥ 500 per 100 000 population in week 4/2021: Portugal (846), Gibraltar (566), Israel (530), Montenegro (526) and Andorra (500) (Figure 2A). A total of 19 countries had a crude incidence of ≥ 200 per 100 000 population in week 4/2021
- The 14-day cumulative incidence increased by $\geq 10\%$ in week 4/2021 in nine countries and territories in the Region; an increase of $\geq 50\%$ was observed in two of these countries and territories: Guernsey and Kazakhstan (see [EURO COVID-19 Dashboard](#) for recent trends)
- In week 4/2021, of countries that reported data on genetically characterized SARS-CoV-2 viruses, specific variants were observed in Belgium, Bulgaria, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Romania and Sweden (4 "501V2", 4 "S gene deletions" and 35 "VOC 202012/01" in Belgium, 25 "VOC 202012/01" in Bulgaria; 25 "S gene deletions" and 9 "VOC 202012/01" in Estonia; 1 "501V2" in Finland; 5 "VOC 202012/01" in France; 52 "VOC 202012/01" in Greece; 2 "VOC 202012/01" in Hungary; 6 "VOC 202012/01" in Ireland; 1 "VOC 202012/01" in Lithuania; 4 "501V2" and 15 "VOC 202012/01" in Luxembourg; 16 "VOC 202012/01" in Romania; and 1 "501V2", 1 "S gene deletion" and 19 "VOC 202012/01" in Sweden)
- The number of deaths in the Region in week 4/2021 decreased 4.0% to 38 115 (from 39 702 in week 3/2021) (Figure 1). The proportion of reported cases that died was 2.8% in week 4/2021
- 77% (29 294) of the deaths reported in week 4/2021 were reported by United Kingdom (22%; 8 242), Germany (13%; 5 075), Russian Federation (10%; 3 720), Italy (8%; 3 117), France (8%; 2 985), Spain (6%; 2 353), Portugal (5%; 1 985) and Poland (5%; 1 817). The remaining deaths (23%; 8 821) were reported from 45 countries and territories; each accounted for <5% of the total deaths reported in week 4/2021
- Community-transmission was reported by 38 countries and territories, 16 countries and territories reported cluster transmission, while 4 countries and territories reported sporadic transmission in week 4/2021
- For an interactive sub-national view of the recent COVID-19 situation in the WHO-EURO Region see the [WHO-EURO COVID-19 Subnational Explorer](#)

Summary overview

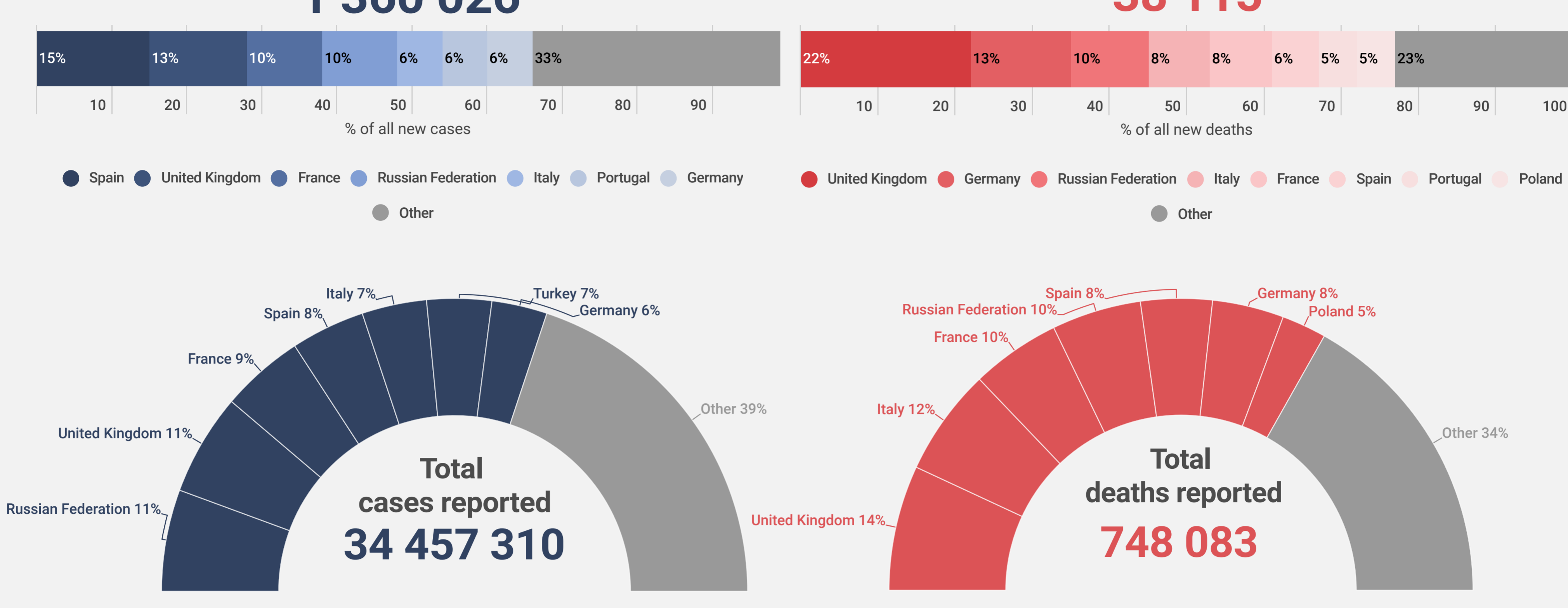
- The cumulative cases across the Region increased 6% to 34 457 310 cases in week 4/2021 (from 33 097 284 cases in week 3/2021) and cumulative deaths increased by 5.4% to 748 083 deaths in week 4/2021 (from 709 968 in week 3/2021)
- As of week 4/2021, 61% (20 878 167) of cases were reported from the Russian Federation (11%; 3 850 439), United Kingdom (11%; 3 796 088), France (9%; 3 177 879), Spain (8%; 2 824 714), Italy (7%; 2 541 783), Turkey (7%; 2 470 901) and Germany (6%; 2 216 363). The remaining cases (39%; 13 579 143) were reported by 47 countries and territories; each accounted for <5% of the total cases reported until week 4/2021
- As of 31 January 2021, two countries and territories in the Region had an effective reproductive number significantly over 1: Portugal and Kosovo (See [EpiForecasts](#) and the [CMMID COVID working group COVID-19 Global Summary](#) for latest estimates)
- Five countries in the Region each reported a cumulative incidence of ≥ 850 cases per 100,000 population: Andorra (12 813), Gibraltar (12 152), Montenegro (9 871), Czech Republic (9 212) and San Marino (8 932) (Figure 2B)
- As of week 4/2021, 66% of cumulative deaths (496 488) were reported from the United Kingdom (14%; 105 571), Italy (12%; 88 279), France (10%; 75 862), Russian Federation (10%; 73 182), Spain (8%; 59 469), Germany (8%; 56 945) and Poland (5%; 37 180). The remaining deaths (34%; 251 595) were reported by 38 countries and territories; each accounted for <5% of the total cases reported until week 4/2021
- 19.1% of cases were in persons aged ≥ 65 years in week 4/2021, while the percentage of fatal cases aged ≥ 65 years was 90.5% in week 4/2021 (Figure 3)
- The latest weekly pooled EuroMOMO estimates show a substantial increased excess all-cause mortality overall for the participating European countries, coinciding with a reported increase in COVID-19 cases in several countries. This excess mortality is driven by a very substantial excess mortality in some countries, while other countries see normal mortality levels. The increased excess all-cause mortality is primarily seen among persons aged 45 years and older.
- In week 4/2021, 17 countries reported a total of 1049 tests and 257 detections (24.5%) of SARS-CoV-2 in persons with influenza-like illness (ILI) in primary care sentinel surveillance (Figure 4)
- Overall, there were 1 360 026 COVID-19 cases among the total of 11 747 979 tests (11.6%) reported to have been performed in 33 countries in week 4/2021 (Figure 5)

New cases (week 4/2021)

1 360 026

New deaths (week 4/2021)

38 115



For more detailed information see: [WHO Global situation reports](#) [WHO Global situation dashboard](#)

Figure 1: Number of COVID-19 cases (N=34 457 310) and deaths (N=748 083) by reporting week

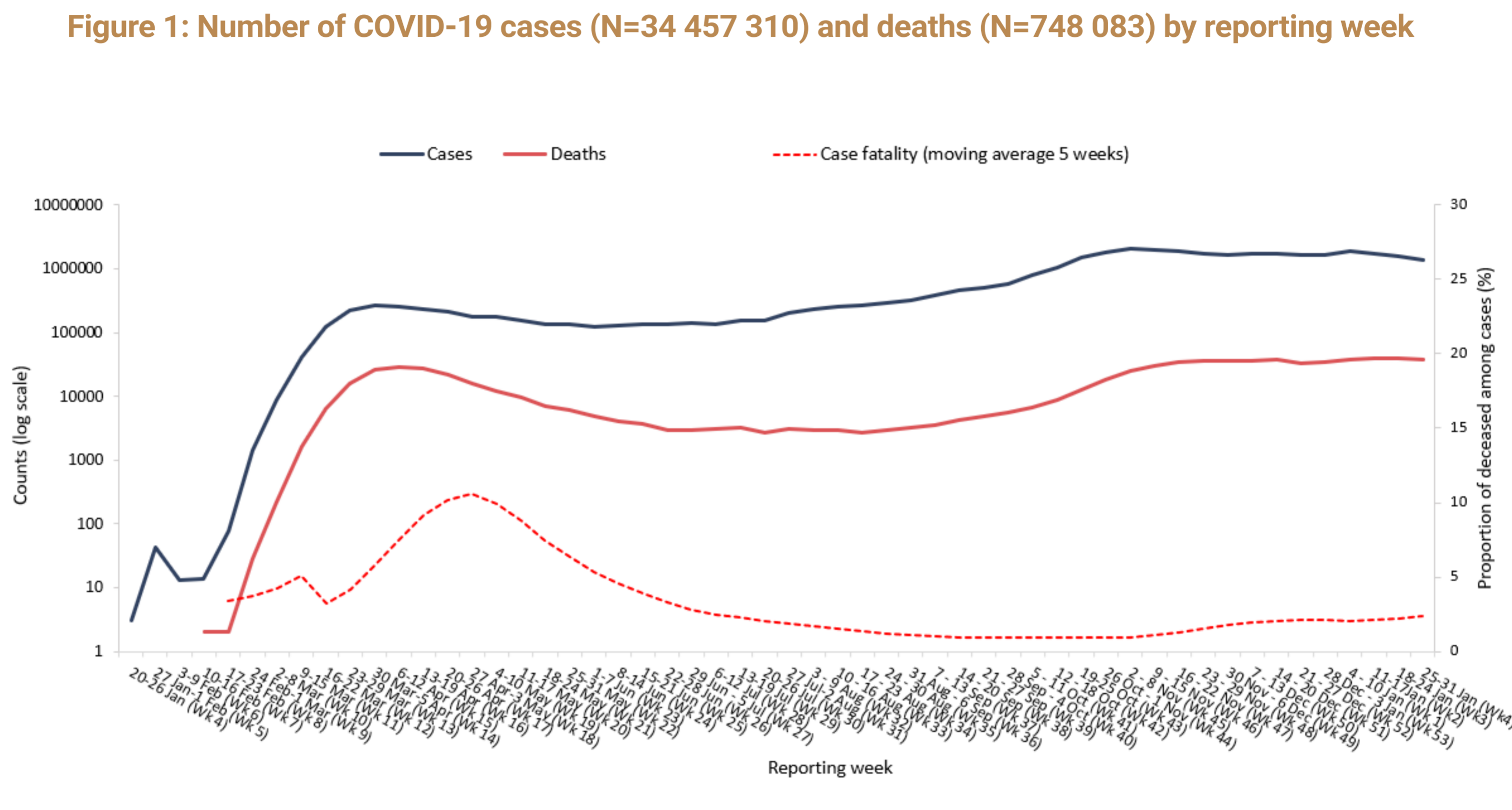


Figure 2A. COVID-19 incidence per 100,000 population and number of deaths by country for week 4/2021

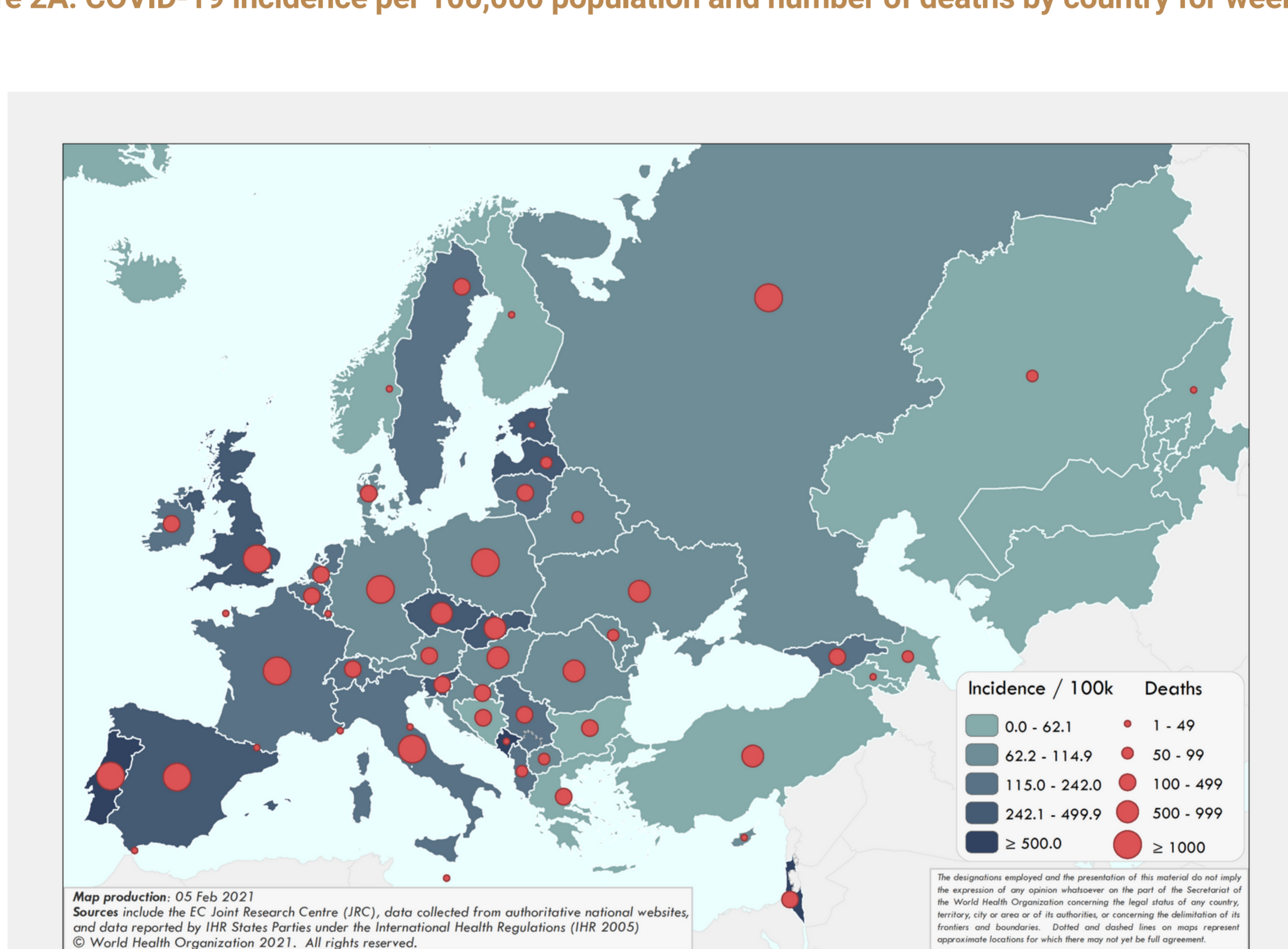


Figure 2B. COVID-19 cumulative incidence per 100,000 population and number of deaths by country

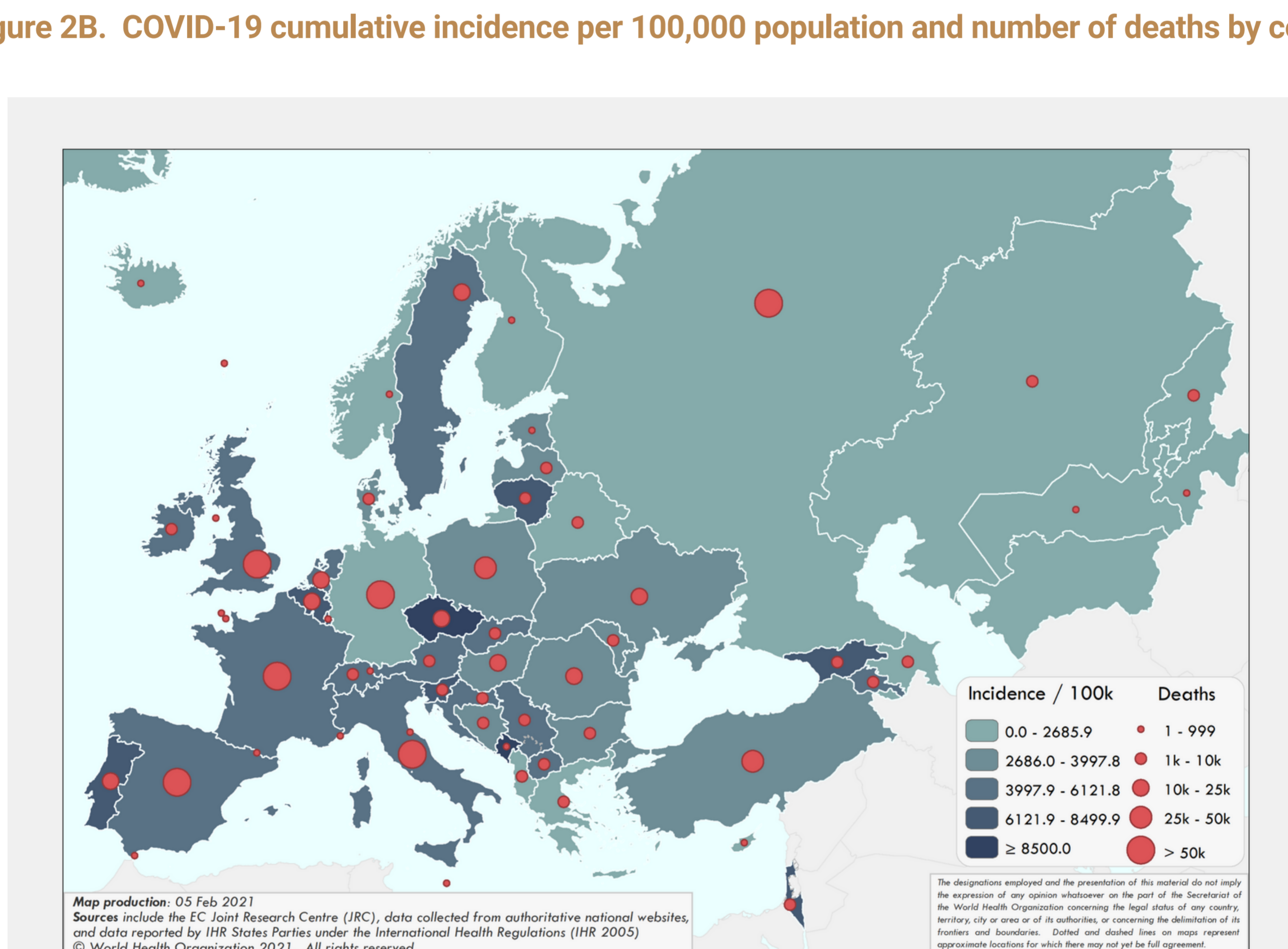


Figure 3. COVID-19 cases (N=3 323 573) and deaths (N=385 547) by age group and reporting week

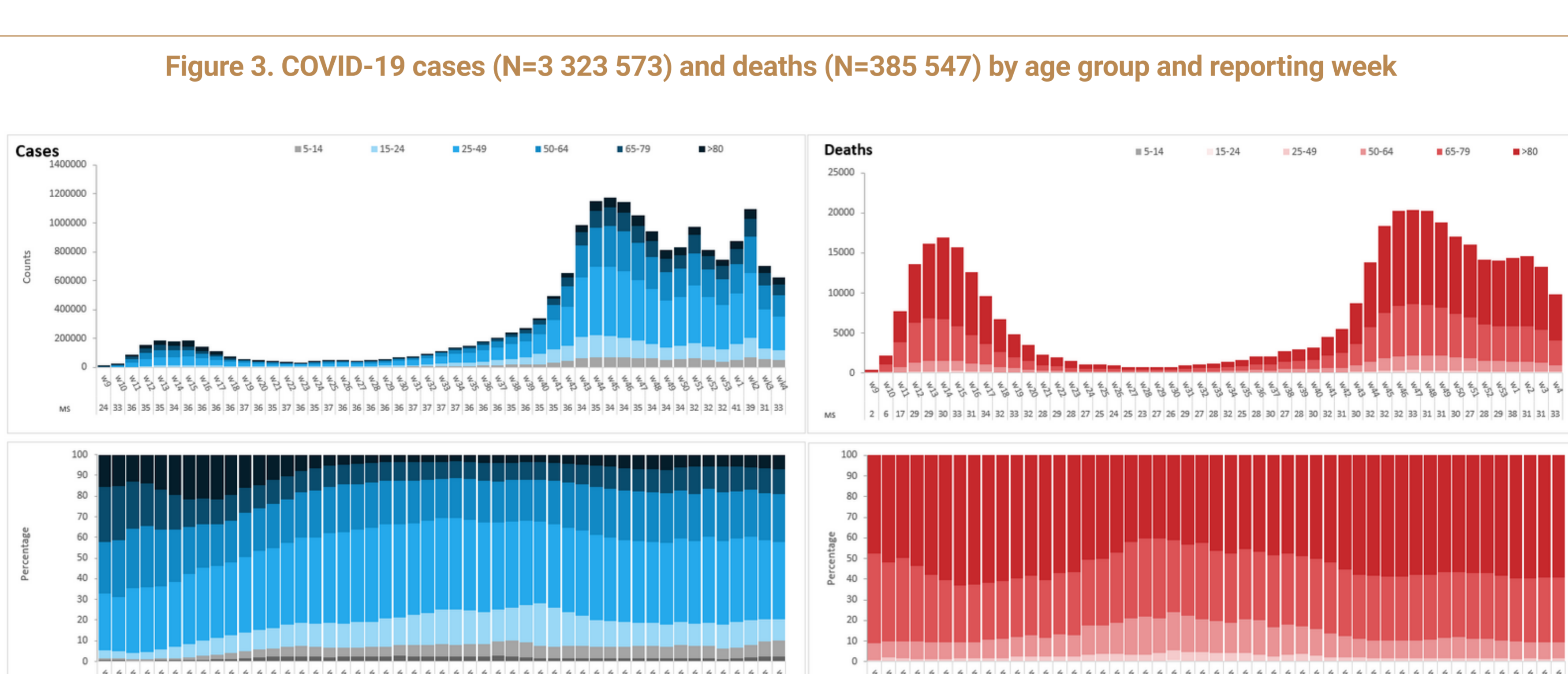


Figure 4. Percentage positive for COVID-19 in the ILI/ARI sentinel surveillance by reporting week

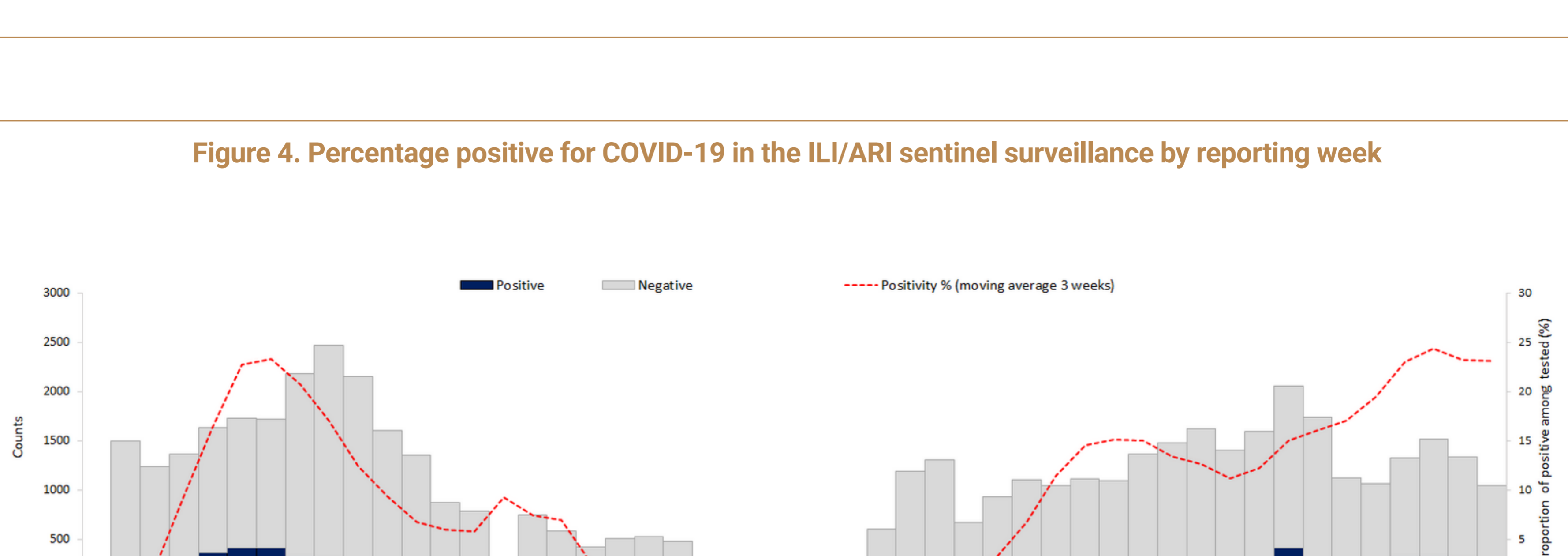


Figure 5. Percentage positive for COVID-19 among all tested by reporting week

