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## Key points

### Week 3/2021 (18 - 24 Jan 2021)

- The number of cases reported in the Region decreased by 11.8% to 1 530 373 in week 3/2021 (from 1 717 851 in week 2/2021)
- 68% (1 048 293) of the cases reported in week 3/2021 were reported from seven countries: United Kingdom (17%; 260 098), Spain (15%; 223 247), Russian Federation (10%; 151 191), France (9%; 140 834), Germany (7%; 101 418), Italy (6%; 86 452) and Portugal (6%; 85 053). The remaining cases (32%; 482 080) were reported by 53 countries and territories; each accounted for <5% of the total cases reported in week 3/2021
- The crude incidence continues to vary across the region with a range from 0.1 per 100,000 population in Faroe Islands to 979 per 100,000 population in Gibraltar in week 3/2021
- Four countries and territories had a crude incidence of  $\geq 500$  per 100 000 population in week 3/2021: Gibraltar (979), Portugal (831), Israel (613) and Andorra (597) (Figure 2A). A total of 20 countries had a crude incidence of  $\geq 200$  per 100 000 population in week 3/2021
- The 14-day cumulative incidence increased by  $\geq 10\%$  in week 3/2021 in 12 countries and territories in the Region; an increase of  $\geq 50\%$  was observed in four of these countries and territories: Isle of Man, Spain, Portugal, and Guernsey (see [EURO COVID-19 Dashboard](#) for recent trends)
- In week 3/2021, of countries that reported data on genetically characterized SARS-CoV-2 viruses, specific variants were observed in Belgium, Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary Luxembourg, Romania and Sweden (197 "VOC 202012/01", 31 "501V2" and 26 "S gene deletions" in Belgium, 8 "VOC 202012/01" in Bulgaria, 2 "VOC 202012/01" in Greece, 17 "VOC 202012/01" in Hungary, 6 "VOC 202012/01" and 1 "501V2" in Luxembourg, 5 "S gene deletions" and 3 "VOC 202012/01" in Romania and 2 "S gene deletions" in Sweden).
- The number of deaths in the Region in week 3/2021 increased 2% to 39 702 (from 38 406 in week 2/2021) (Figure 1). The proportion of reported cases that died was 2.6% in week 3/2021
- 71% (28 048) of the deaths reported in week 3/2021 were reported by United Kingdom (22%; 8 739), Germany (14%; 5 451), Russian Federation (10%; 3 896), Italy (8%; 3 362), France (7%; 2 735), Poland (5%; 2 008) and Spain (5%; 1 857). The remaining deaths (29%; 11 654) were reported from 53 countries and territories; each accounted for <5% of the total deaths reported in week 3/2021
- 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 3/2021
- For an interactive sub-national view of the recent COVID-19 situation in the WHO-EURO Region [WHO-EURO COVID-19 Subnational Explorer](#)

## Summary overview

- The cumulative cases across the Region increased 4.9% to 33 055 053 cases in week 3/2021 (from 31 524 680 cases in week 2/2021) and cumulative deaths increased by 5.9% to 708 433 deaths in week 3/2021 (from 668 731 in week 2/2021)
- As of week 3/2021, 60% (19 968 271) of cases were reported from the Russian Federation (11%; 3 719 400), United Kingdom (11%; 3 617 459), France (9%; 3 035 181), Spain (8%; 2 581 782), Italy (7%; 2 455 185), Turkey (7%; 2 424 328) and Germany (6%; 2 134 936). The remaining cases (40 %; 13 086 782) were reported by 52 countries and territories; each accounted for <5% of the total cases reported until week 3/2021
- As of 24 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)
- 21 countries in the Region each reported a cumulative incidence of  $\geq 5000$  cases per 100,000 population: Andorra (12 313), Gibraltar (11 585), Montenegro (9 342), Czech Republic (8 771), San Marino (8 486), Luxembourg (8 052), Slovenia (7 567), Israel (6 949), Liechtenstein (6 586), Lithuania (6 400), Georgia (6 343), Portugal (6 106), Belgium (6 019), Switzerland (5 915), Armenia (5 613), Croatia (5 542), Spain (5 524), Netherlands (5 520), Serbia (5 491), Sweden (5 488) and United Kingdom (5 356) (Figure 2B)
- As of week 3/2021, 66% of cumulative deaths (468 324) were reported from the United Kingdom (14%; 97 329), Italy (12%; 85 162), France (10%; 87 877), Russian Federation (10%; 69 462), Spain (8%; 56 261), Germany (7%; 51 870) and Poland (5%; 35 363). The remaining deaths (34%; 240 109) were reported by 52 countries and territories; each accounted for <5% of the total cases reported until week 3/2021
- 18.6% of cases were in persons aged  $\geq 65$  years in week 3/2021, while the percentage of fatal cases aged  $\geq 65$  years was 89.5% in week 3/2021 (compared to 91% in week 14/2020) (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 3/2021, 18 countries reported a total of 1016 tests and 139 detections (13.7%) of SARS-CoV-2 in persons with influenza-like illness (ILI) in primary care sentinel surveillance (Figure 4)
- Overall, there were 1,530,373 COVID-19 cases among the total of 11,641,541 tests (15.8%) reported to have been performed in 33 countries in week 3/2021 (Figure 5)

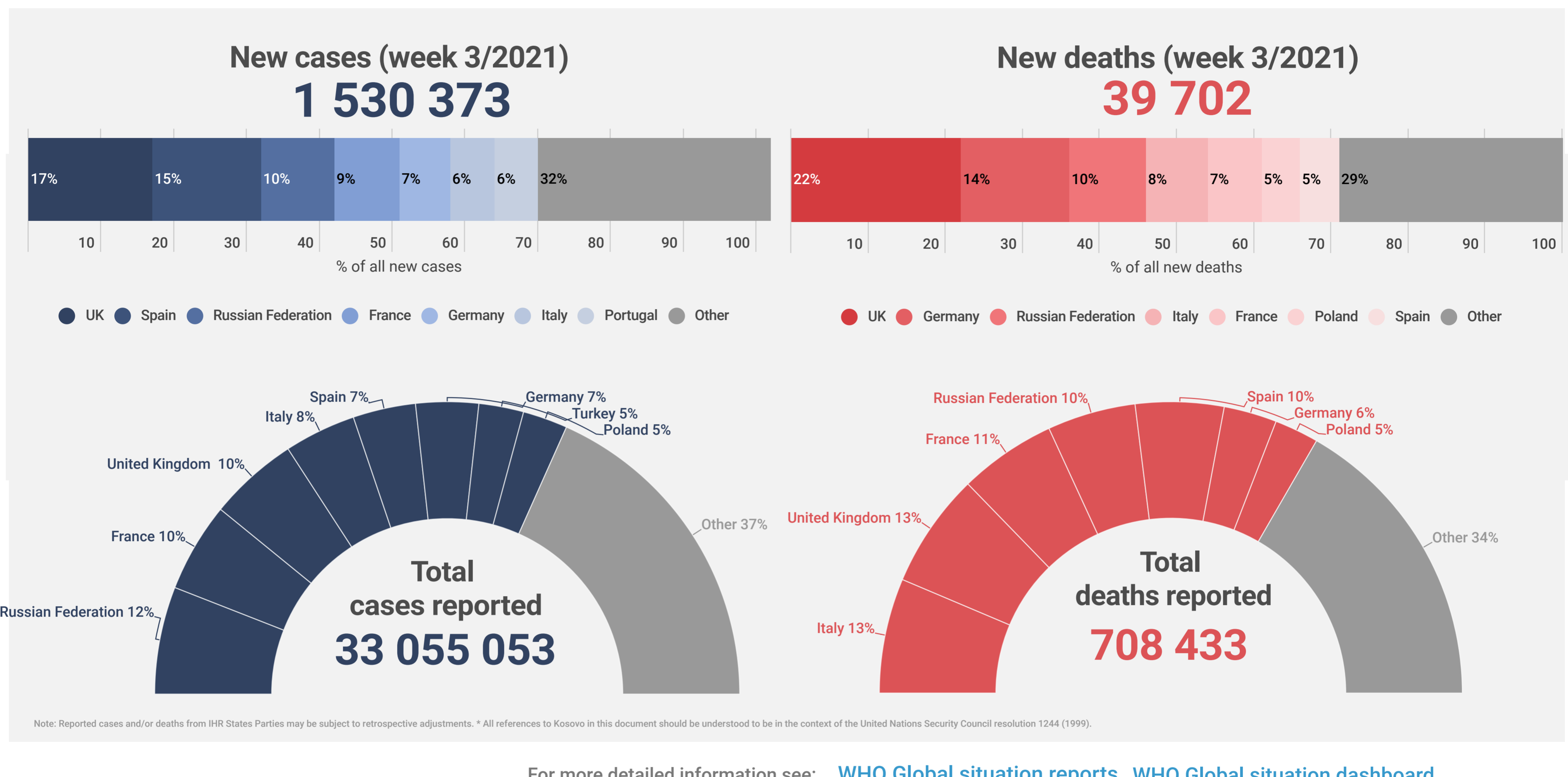


Figure 1: Number of COVID-19 cases (N=30 055 053) and deaths (N=708 433) by reporting week

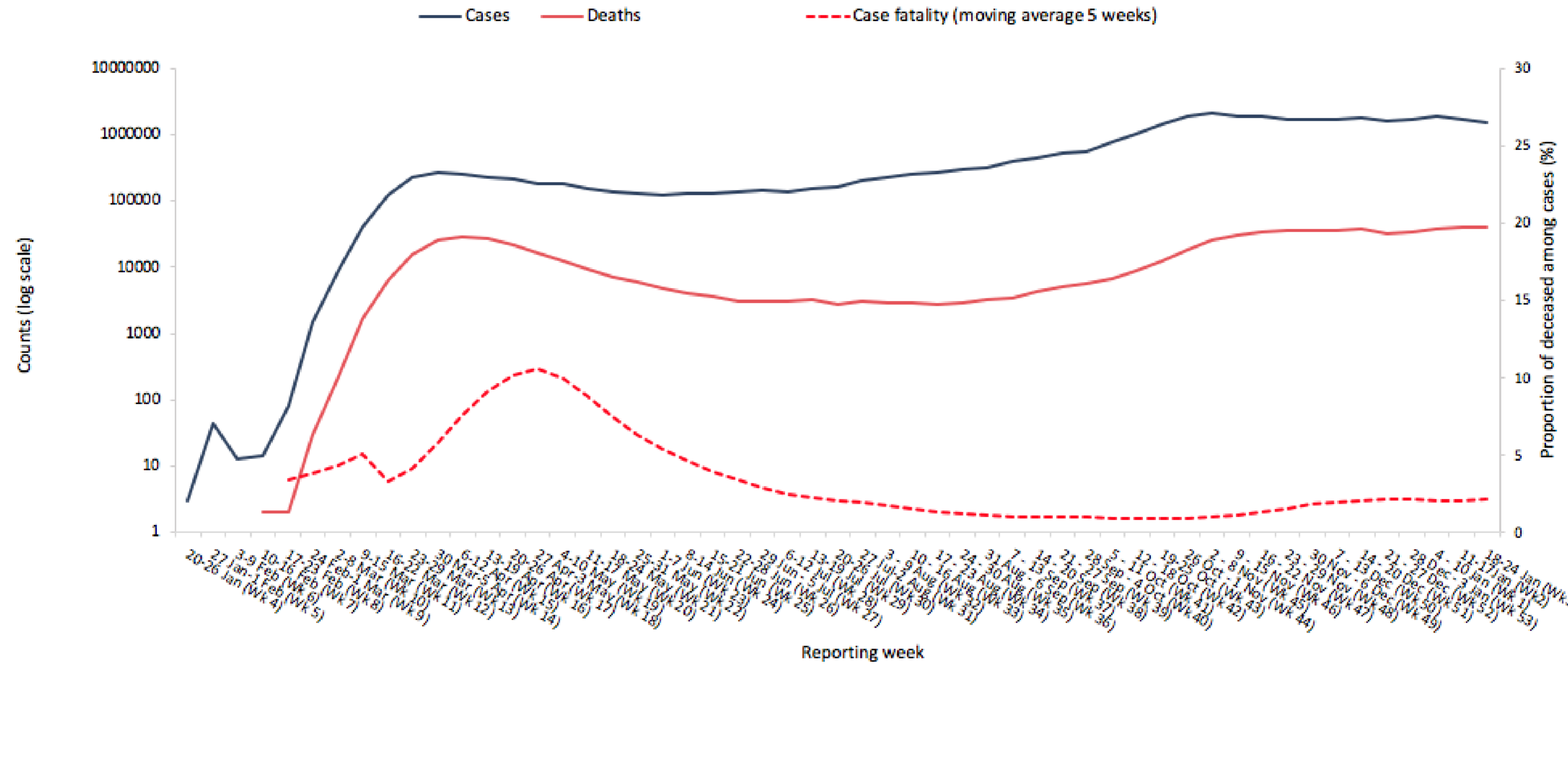


Figure 2A. COVID-19 incidence per 100,000 population and number of deaths by country for week 3/2021

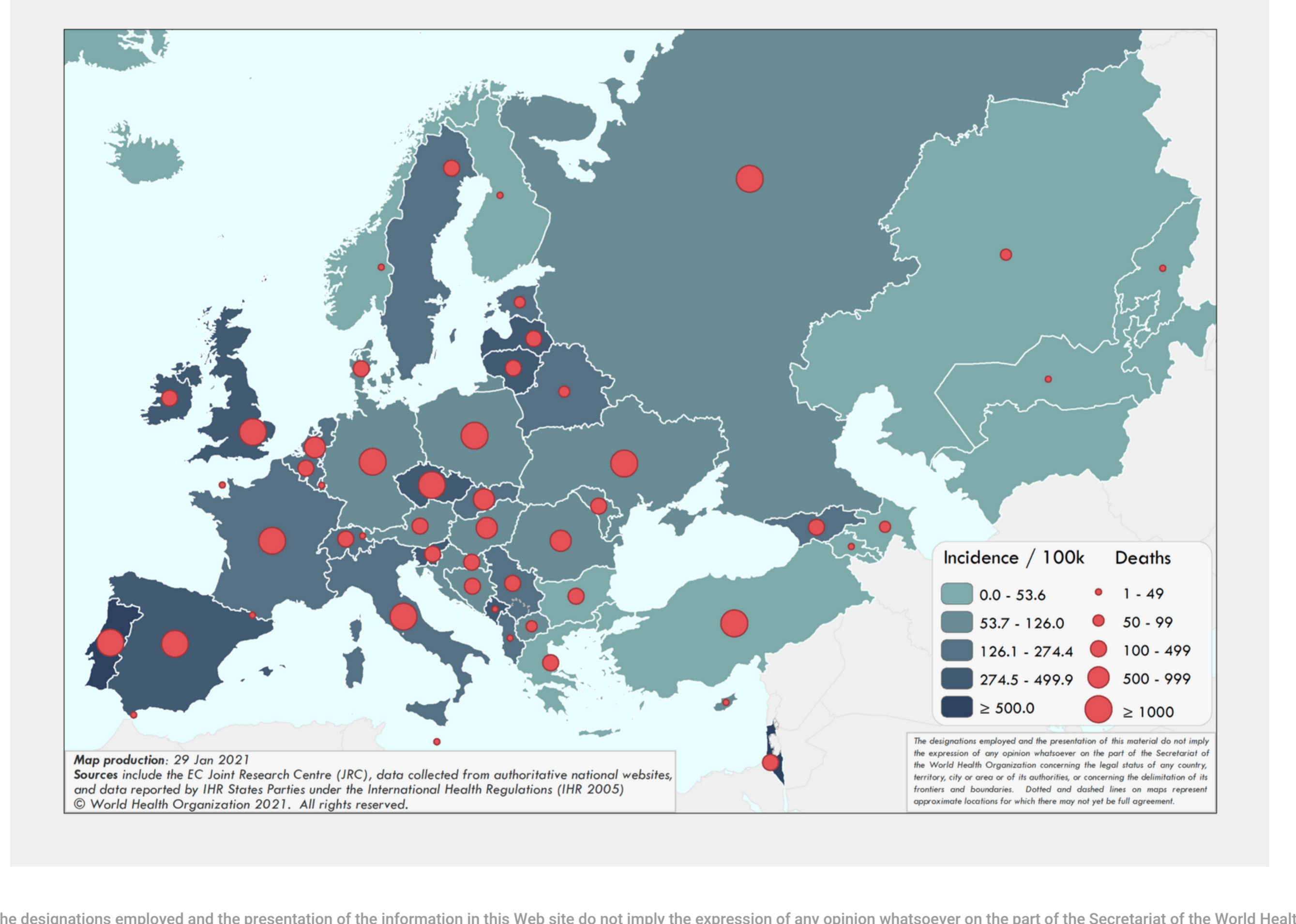


Figure 2B. COVID-19 cumulative incidence per 100,000 population and number of deaths by country

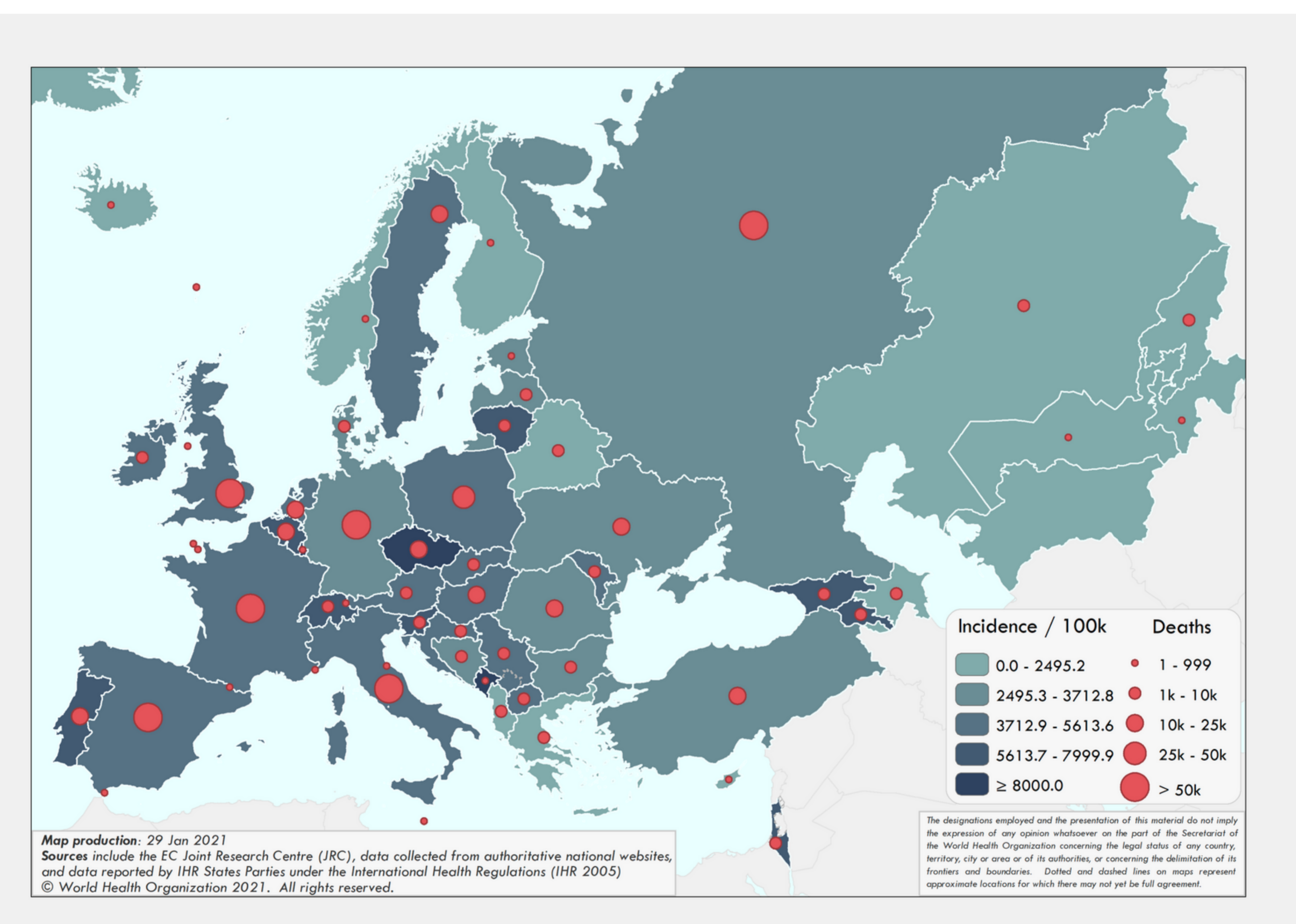


Figure 3. COVID-19 cases (N=3 209 502) and deaths (N=387 922) by age group and reporting week

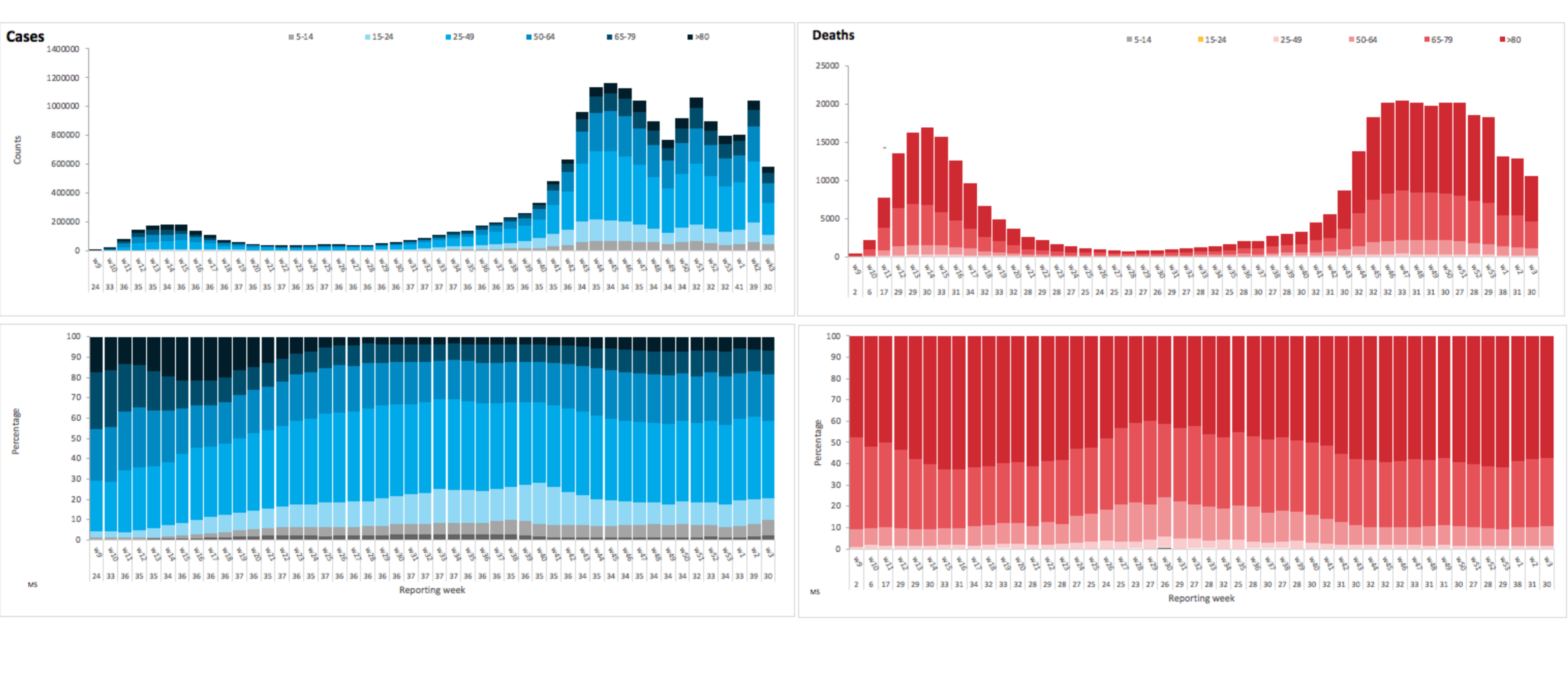


Figure 4. Percentage positive for COVID-19 in the ILI/ARI sentinel surveillance by reporting week

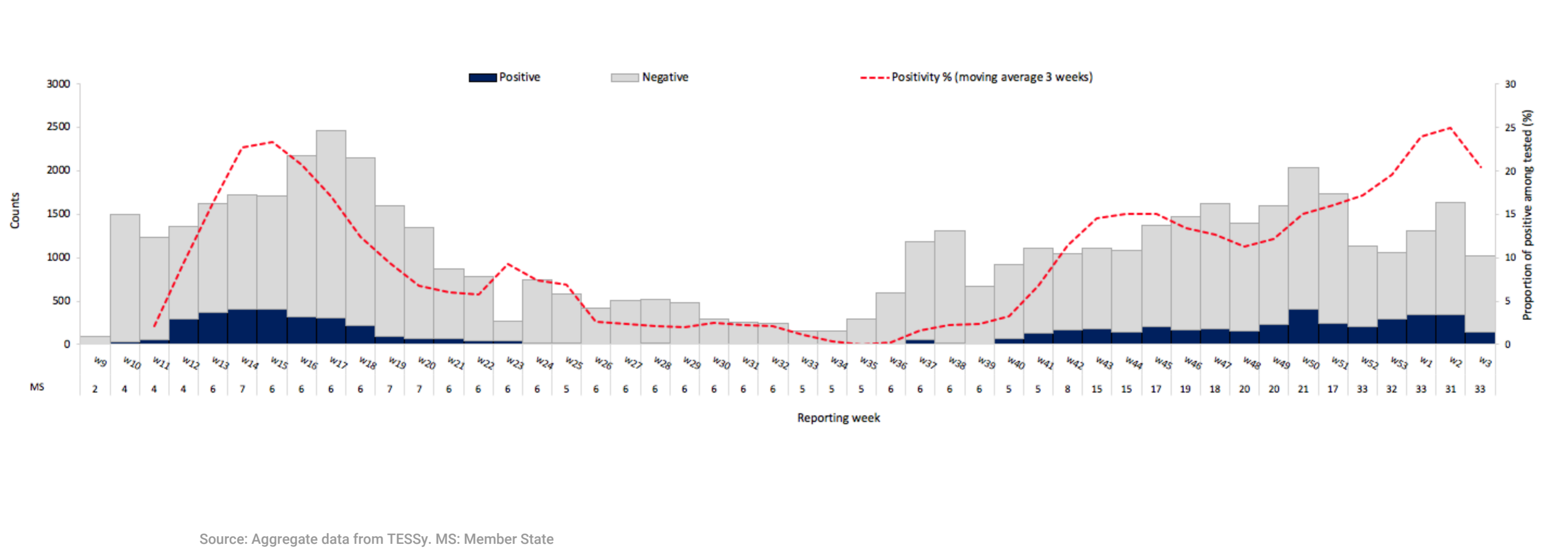


Figure 5. Percentage positive for COVID-19 among all tested by reporting week

