



Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Daily Situation Report of the Robert Koch Institute

24/07/2020 - UPDATED STATUS FOR GERMANY

Confirmed cases	Deaths	Deaths (%)	Recovered
204,183 (+ 815*)	9,111 (+ 10*)	4.5%	ca. 189,400**

*Change from previous day; **Estimate

COVID-19 cases are notified to the local public health department in the respective districts, in accordance with the German Protection against Infection Act (IfSG). The data are further transmitted through the respective federal state health authority to the Robert Koch Institute (RKI). This situation report presents the uniformly recorded nationwide data on laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases transmitted to RKI.

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

Summary (as of 24/07/2020 12:00 AM)

- A general increase in the daily reported cases could be observed during the last days. Today's value of 815 is notably higher than during the last weeks.
- The cumulative nationwide incidence over the past 7 days was 3.7 cases per 100,000 inhabitants and thus increased slightly at a low level. A total of 88 districts transmitted zero cases. Moreover, in 238 districts the 7-day-incidence is below 5,0/100,000 inhabitants.
- In total, 204,183 laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases and 9,111 deaths due to COVID-19 have been electronically reported to the RKI in Germany.
- An accumulation of COVID-19 cases occurred in a meat processing plant in Lower Saxony,
- Currently, COVID-19 outbreaks continue to occur in various other settings, including facilities for asylum-seekers and refugees, nursing homes and hospitals as well as in the context of family or religious events.

Epidemiological Situation in Germany

General current assessment

The number of newly reported cases on Friday, July 24th 2020, amounts to 815. This is significantly higher than in the previous weeks. Recently, the numbers had circled around 500 cases per day, at times significantly lower.

The increase can be observed in many federal states. However, more than 60% of the newly reported cases are due to increases in North Rhine-Westphalia and Baden-Wuerttemberg. Nationwide, there are many smaller incidents in different administrative districts, which are connected in different ways, e.g. larger celebrations in the family settings, leisure activities, jobs, but also in community and health facilities. In addition, COVID-19 cases are increasingly being identified among people returning from travels outside of Germany.

The number of new cases reported daily had already increased in recent days. This development is very concerning and will continue to be monitored very closely by the RKI. A further worsening of the situation must be avoided at all costs. This will only succeed if the entire population continues to be committed, e.g. by consistently observing rules of distance and hygiene - also in outdoor settings, airing indoor areas and, where necessary, wearing a community or face mask correctly.

Geographical distribution of cases

Epidemiological analyses are based on validated cases notified electronically to the RKI in line with the Protection Against Infection Law (Data closure: 12:00 AM daily). Since January 2020, a total of 204,183 (+815) laboratory-confirmed cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) have been electronically reported to and validated by RKI (see Table 1). A total of 88 districts reported no cases in the past 7 days. Information on laboratory-confirmed cases is also available on the RKI website at https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/InfAZ/N/Neuartiges_Coronavirus/Fallzahlen.html and <https://corona.rki.de>.

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 (24/07/2020, 12:00 AM). The number of new cases covers positive cases, which have been sent to the local health department at the same day, but also at previous days.

Federal State	Total number of cases	Number of new cases	Cases/ 100,000 pop.	Cases in the last 7 days	7-day incidence per 100,000 pop.	Number of deaths	Number of deaths/ 100,000 pop.
Baden-Wuerttemberg	36,731	166	332	401	3.6	1,839	16.6
Bavaria	50,112	63	383	442	3.4	2,619	20.0
Berlin	8,894	34	237	148	3.9	222	5.9
Brandenburg	3,523	13	140	50	2.0	168	6.7
Bremen	1,733	6	254	32	4.7	55	8.1
Hamburg	5,275	24	287	40	2.2	261	14.2
Hesse	11,591	57	185	251	4.0	517	8.3
Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania	826	11	51	21	1.3	20	1.2
Lower Saxony	14,185	52	178	256	3.2	647	8.1
North Rhine-Westphalia	46,956	341	262	1,203	6.7	1,726	9.6
Rhineland-Palatinate	7,397	23	181	106	2.6	238	5.8
Saarland	2,841	1	287	14	1.4	174	17.6
Saxony	5,506	3	135	21	0.5	225	5.5
Saxony-Anhalt	1,975	2	89	37	1.7	63	2.9
Schleswig-Holstein	3,299	7	114	61	2.1	155	5.4
Thuringia	3,339	12	156	21	1.0	182	8.5
Total	204,183	815*	246	3,104	3.7	9,111	11.0

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

* The increase can be observed in many federal states. However, more than 60% of the newly reported cases are due to increases in North Rhine-Westphalia and Baden-Wuerttemberg.

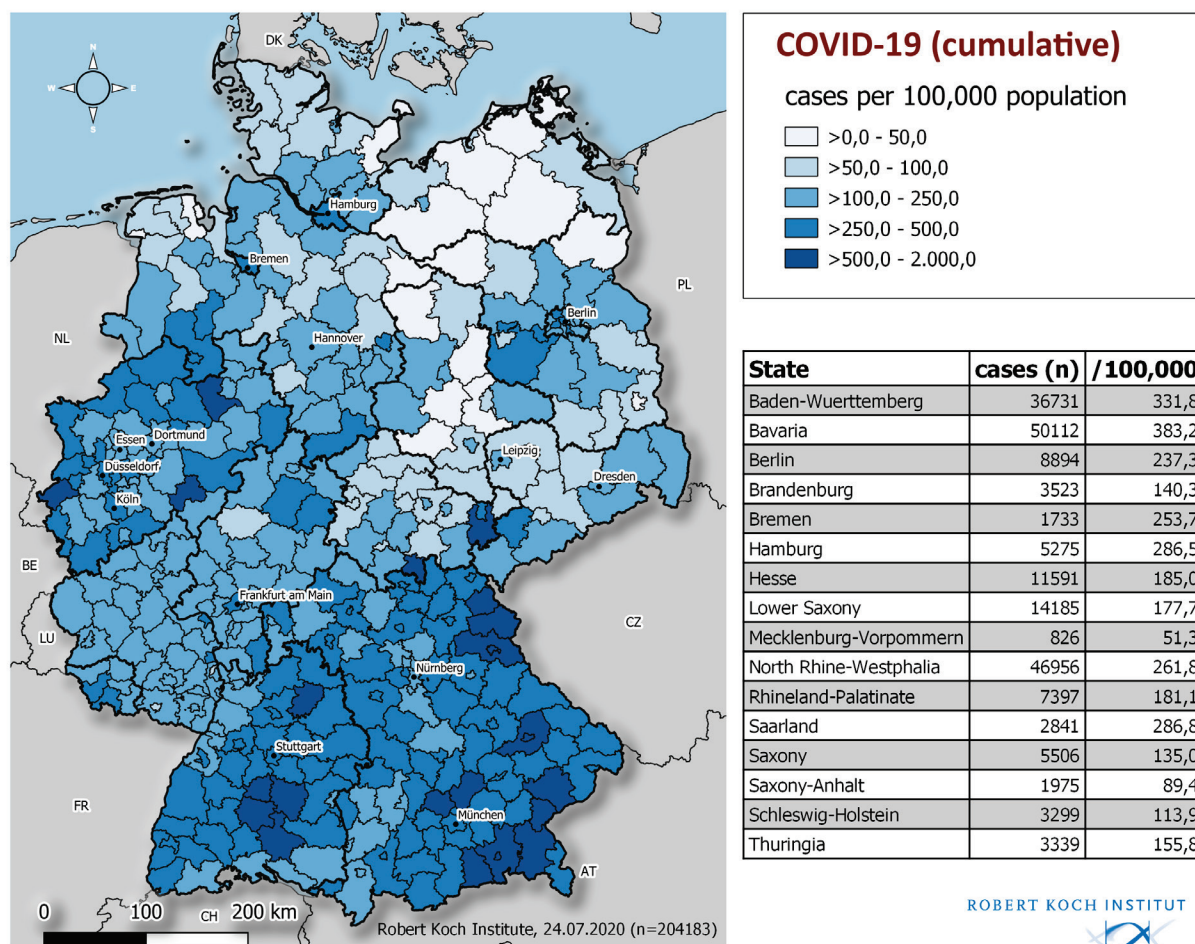


Figure 1: Number and cumulative incidence (per 100,000 population) of the 204,183 electronically reported COVID-19 cases in Germany by county and federal state (24/07/2020, 12:00 AM). Please see the COVID-19 dashboard (<https://corona.rki.de/>) for information on number of COVID-19 cases by county (local health authority).

Distribution of cases over time

The first COVID-19 cases in Germany were notified in January 2020. Figure 2 shows COVID-19 cases transmitted to RKI according to date of illness onset from 01/03/2020 onwards. Of these cases, the onset of symptoms is unknown in 62,518 cases (31%), thus their date of reporting is provided in Figure 2.

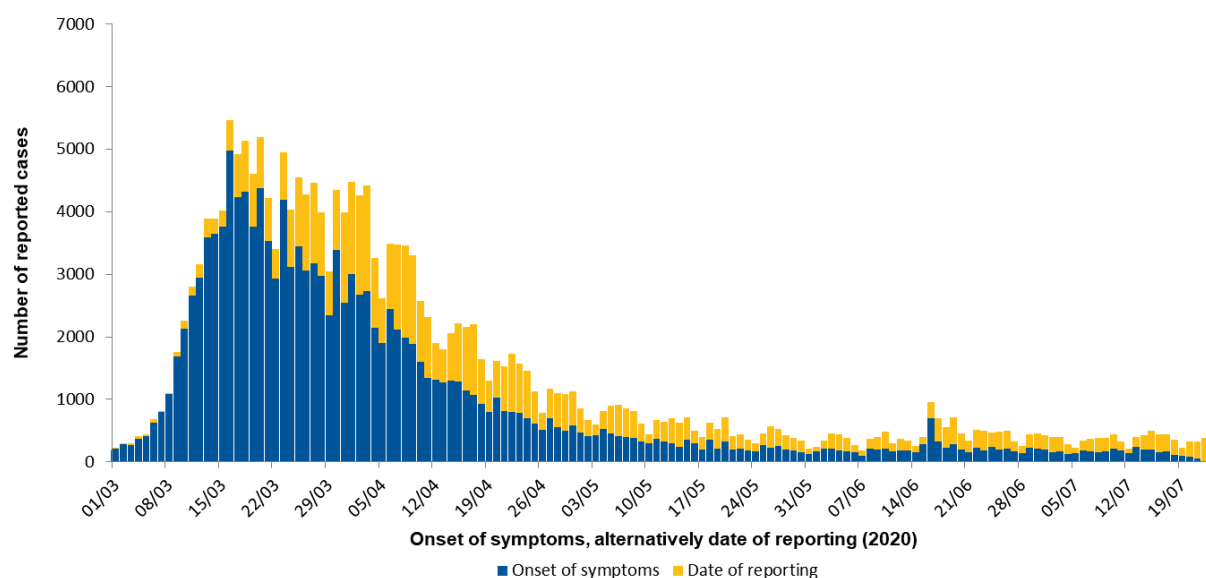


Figure 2: Number of Covid-19 cases in Germany electronically reported to the RKI by the date of symptoms onset or –if unknown- alternatively by date of reporting from 01/03/2020 (24/07/2020, 12:00 AM).

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

Demographic distribution of cases

Of all reported cases, 52% are female and 48% are male. Among all those notified cases, for which data on age and gender were reported, 5,725 were children under 10 years of age (2.8%), 10,379 children and teenagers aged 10 to 19 years (5.1%), 90,542 persons aged 20 to 49 years (44%), 60,957 persons aged 50 to 69 years (30%), 30,694 persons aged 70 to 89 years (15%) and 5,421 persons aged 90 years and older (2.7%). The age and/or gender is unknown in 465 notified cases. The mean age of cases is 48 years (median age 48 years). The highest incidences are seen in persons aged 90 years and older (Figure 3).

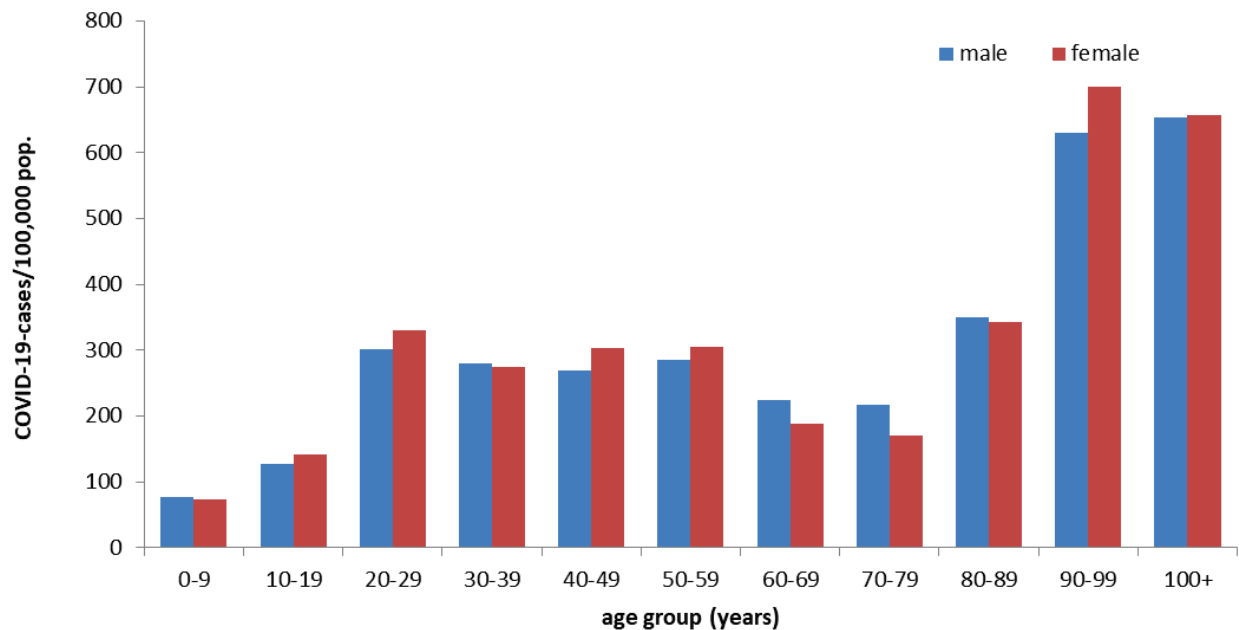


Figure 3: Electronically reported COVID-19 cases/100,000 population in Germany by age group and gender (n=203,712) for cases with information available (24/07/2020,12:00 AM).

Clinical aspects

Information on symptoms is available for 173,843 (85%) of the notified cases. Common symptoms are cough (48%), fever (40%) and rhinorrhoea (21%). Pneumonia was reported in 5,196 cases (3.0%). Since calendar week 17, cases are reported to the RKI as a distinct COVID-19 surveillance category. Since then, ageusia and anosmia can also be entered as symptoms. At least one of these two symptoms was reported in 4,491 of 30,070 cases (15%).

Hospitalisation was reported for 30,280 (17%) of 177,874 COVID-19 cases with information on hospitalisation status.

Approximately 189,400 people have recovered from their COVID-19 infection. Since the exact date of recovery is unknown in most cases, an algorithm was developed to estimate this number.

In total, 9,111 COVID-19-related deaths have been reported in Germany (4.5% of all confirmed cases). Of these, 5,035 (55%) are men and 4,071 (45%) are women (see Table 2), the gender was unknown in five cases. The median age was 82 years. Of all deaths, 7,794 (86%) were in people aged 70 years or older, but only 18% of all cases were in this age group. So far, three deaths among COVID-19 cases under 20 years of age have been reported to the RKI. Pre-existing medical conditions were reported for all three.

Table 2: Number of notified COVID-19 deaths by age group and gender electronically reported to RKI (Data available for 9,106 of notified deaths; 24/07/2020, 12:00 AM)

Gender	Age group (in years)										
	0-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90-99	100+
Male		2	6	17	54	239	646	1,381	2,114	570	6
Female	1		3	6	22	86	233	670	1,917	1,089	44
Total	1	2	9	23	76	325	879	2,051	4,031	1,659	50

Occupation, accommodation or care in facilities

In accordance with the Protection Against Infection Act, the RKI receives information on occupation, accommodation or care in a facility relevant for infection control for reported COVID-19 cases

Since information on occupation, accommodation or care in these facilities is missing in 25% of cases, the proportion of cases working, accommodated or cared for in these facilities reported here should be considered minimum values. Among the COVID-19 cases reported from the above mentioned facilities, the proportion of cases that actually acquired their infection in these facilities is unknown.

Table 3: Notified COVID-19-cases according to possible occupation, accommodation or care in facilities relevant for transmission of infectious diseases electronically reported to RKI (203,000* cases, no data available for 50,626 cases; 24/07/2020, 12:00 AM)

Facility according to		Total	Hospitalised	Deaths	Recovered (estimate)
§ 23 IfSG (e.g. hospitals, outpatient clinics and practices, dialysis clinics or outpatient nursing services)	Cared for / accommodated in facility	3,541	2,552	651	2,800
	Occupation in facility	14,239	649	22	14,100
§ 33 IfSG (e.g. day care facilities, kindergartens, facilities for after school care, schools or other educational facilities, children's homes, holiday camps)	Cared for / accommodated in facility*	3,869	81	1	3,600
	Occupation in facility	2,870	151	7	2,800
§ 36 IfSG (e.g. facilities for the care of older, disabled, or other persons in need of care, homeless shelters, community facilities for asylum-seekers, repatriates and refugees as well as other mass accommodation and prisons)	Cared for / accommodated in facility	18,429	4,155	3,608	14,600
	Occupation in facility	10,138	425	40	10,000
§ 42 IfSG (e.g. meat processing plants or kitchens in the catering trade, in inns, restaurants, canteens, cafés, or other establishments with or for communal catering)	Occupation in facility	4,941	211	5	4,700
Neither cared for, accommodated in nor working in a facility		94,347	16,438	3,489	88,500

*for care according to § 33 IfSG only cases under 18 years of age are taken into account, as other information may be assumed to be incorrect.

IfSG: Protection Against Infection Law

The number of COVID-19 cases was highest among persons cared for or employed in medical and other care facilities according to §23 and §36 IfSG (Table 3). The number of deaths was particularly high among persons cared for in these facilities. Among the cases reported as working in medical facilities, 73% were female and 27% male. Their median age was 41 years.

The high number of cases among people cared for or working in various care facilities (Section 36 IfSG) is consistent with numerous reported outbreaks, especially in nursing homes. The low number of cases among persons who attend or work in facilities providing child care or education (Section 33 IfSG) reflects the low number of case in children observed thus far. The increase in the number of cases among persons working in the food sector (§42) is largely due to outbreaks in meat processing plants.

Outbreaks

A high 7-day incidence with more than 25 cases per 100,000 inhabitants was observed in the district of Vechta (Lower Saxony). An accumulation of COVID-19 cases was detected as a result of screening of >1,000 employees of a meat processing company. Neighbouring districts are also affected.

Further COVID-19 outbreaks continue to be reported in nursing homes and hospitals, refugee facilities, family events, child-day care facilities as well as religious communities.

Estimation of the reproduction number (R)

The presented case numbers do not fully reflect the temporal progression of incident COVID-19-cases, since the time intervals between actual onset of illness and diagnosis, reporting, as well as data transmission to the RKI vary greatly. Therefore, a nowcasting approach is applied to model the true temporal progression of COVID-19 cases according to illness onset. Figure 4 shows the result of this analysis.

The reproduction number, R , is defined as the mean number of people infected by one infected person. R can only be estimated based on statistical analyses such as nowcasting and not directly extracted from the notification system.

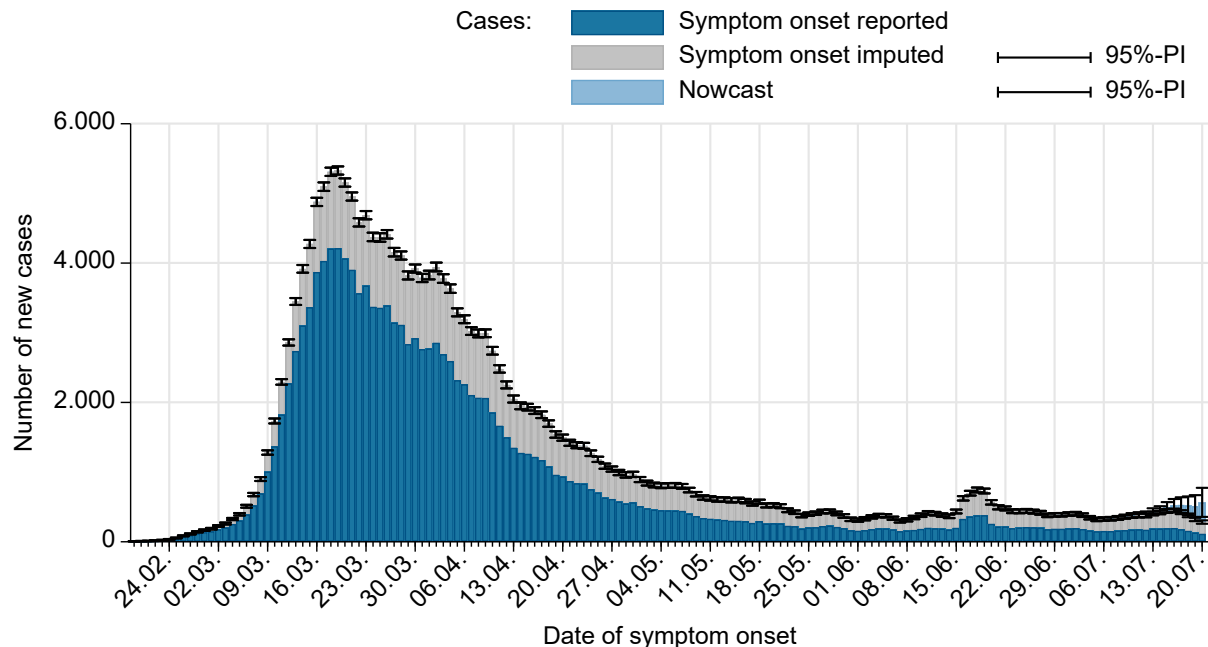


Figure 4: Number of notified COVID-19 cases with known date of illness onset (dark blue), estimated date of illness onset for cases without reported date of onset (grey) and estimated number of not yet notified cases according to illness onset electronically reported to RKI (light blue) (as of 24/07/2020, 12 AM, taking into account cases up to 20/07/2020).

A sensitive 4-day- R -value can be estimated by using a 4-day moving average of the number of new cases estimated by nowcasting. This 4-day value reflects the infection situation about one to two weeks ago. This value reacts sensitively to short-term changes in case numbers, such as those caused by individual outbreaks. Furthermore, outbreak dynamics may be influenced widespread testing performed among affected persons, leading to therapid detection of many additional COVID-19 cases. This can lead to

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

relatively large fluctuations in the estimated R-value, especially if – as is currently the case in Germany – the total number of new cases is small.

The current estimate of the 4-day R-value is **1.08** (95%-prediction interval: **0.83 – 1.34**) and is based on electronically notified cases as of 24/07/2020, 12:00 AM.

Similarly, the 7-day R-value is estimated by using a moving 7-day average of the nowcasting curve. This compensates for fluctuations more effectively, as this value represents a slightly later course of infection of about one to a little over two weeks ago. The 7-day R-value is estimated at **1.16** (95% prediction interval: **1.02 – 1.31**) and is based on electronically notified cases as of 24/07/2020, 12:00 AM.

Sample calculations as well as an excel sheet presenting both R-values with daily updates can be found under www.rki.de/covid-19-nowcasting. A detailed methodological explanation of the more stable 7day R-value is also available there. More general information and sample calculations for both R-values can also be found in our FAQs (<http://www.rki.de/covid-19-faq>).

A detailed description of the methodology is available at https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/Infekt/EpidBull/Archiv/2020/17/Art_02.html (Epid. Bull. 17 | 2020 from 23/04/2020)

DIVI intensive care register

A registry of the German Interdisciplinary Association for Intensive and Emergency Medicine (DIVI), the RKI and the German Hospital Federation (DKG) was established to document intensive care capacity as well as the number of COVID-19 cases treated in participating hospitals (<https://www.intensivregister.de/#/intensivregister>). The DIVI intensive care register documents the number of available intensive care beds in the reporting hospitals on a daily basis. Since 16/04/2020, all hospitals with intensive care beds are required to report.

As of 24/07/2020, a total of **1,275** hospitals or departments reported to the DIVI registry. Overall, **32,994** intensive care beds were registered, of which **21,734** (66%) are occupied, and **11,260** beds (34%) are currently available. The number of COVID-19 cases treated in participating hospitals is shown in Table 4.

Table 4: COVID-19 patients requiring intensive care (ICU) recorded in the DIVI register (24/07/2020, 12:15 AM).

	Number of patients	Percentage	Change to previous day*
Currently in ICU	237		-2
- of these: mechanically ventilated	119	50%	-8
Discharged from ICU	15.322		-6
- of these: deaths	3.779	25%	-4

*The interpretation of these numbers must take into account the slightly changing number of reporting hospitals (with large differences in their number of beds) from day to day. This can explain the observed decrease in the cumulative number of discharged

Mortality Monitoring

A total of 24 European countries provide the European EuroMOMO project (European monitoring of excess mortality for public health action) with official mortality statistics on a weekly basis which allows the detection and measuring of excess deaths related to e.g. seasonal influenza and pandemics (<https://www.euromomo.eu/>). In Germany, two regional systems that allow the transmission of data,

have been established so far (since 2007 in Berlin and Hesse). The establishment of a nationwide monitoring system is planned from 2021 onwards.

All-cause mortality for the countries in the EuroMOMO network has now returned to normal levels, following a period of a substantial excess mortality coinciding with the COVID-19 pandemic. Excess mortality was observed primarily in the age group of over-65s, but also in the age group of 15-64s.

Weekly mortality statistics are also recorded on the website of the Federal Statistical Office, albeit with a certain time lag. A special evaluation on excess mortality is normally updated weekly every two weeks.

<https://www.destatis.de/DE/Themen/Gesellschaft-Umwelt/Bevoelkerung/Sterbefaelle-Lebenserwartung/Tabellen/sonderauswertung-sterbefaelle.html> (in German).

Looking at the development by months, in March 2020 there is no noticeable increase in the number of deaths compared to March of the previous year. In April, however, the mortality figures were significantly above the average of previous years; since the beginning of May, the mortality figures have been back to around the average.

Risk Assessment by the RKI

General assessment

At the global and the national level, the situation is very dynamic and must be taken seriously. The number of newly reported cases has been declining since mid-March. Currently, many districts are transmitting very few or no cases to the RKI. The RKI currently assesses the risk to the health of the German population overall as **high** and as **very high** for risk groups. This assessment may change at short notice based on new insights.

Infection risk

The risk of infection depends heavily on the regional spread, living conditions and also on individual behaviour, including compliance with physical distancing, hygiene measures and community masks.

Disease severity

In most cases, the disease is mild. The probability of progression towards serious disease increases with increasing age and underlying illnesses.

Burden on health system

The burden on the health care system depends on the geographical distribution of cases, health care capacity and initiation of containment measures (isolation, quarantine, physical distancing etc.). The burden is currently low in many regions, but may be high in some locations.

Measures taken by Germany

- Corona-Warn-App
https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/InfAZ/N/Neuartiges_Coronavirus/WarnApp/Warn_App.html
- Regulations for persons entering Germany in connection with the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 (15.06.2020) https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/InfAZ/N/Neuartiges_Coronavirus/Transport/BMG_Merkblatt_Reisende_Tab.html
- Information on additional 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: <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/themen/coronavirus/corona-bundeslaender-1745198> (in German)

- (Non-medical) face masks must be worn on public transport and in shops in all federal states.
- Data on current disease activity can be found in the daily situation reports and on the RKI dashboard:
<https://corona.rki.de/>
- A distance of 1.5 metres to other individuals must be maintained in public spaces:
<https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/themen/coronavirus/besprechung-der-bundestkanzlerin-mit-den-regierungschefinnen-und-regierungschefs-der-laender-1733248> *(in German)*