## **Description and disclaimer**

The downloadable data file contains information on the 14-day notification rate of newly reported COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population and the 14-day notification rate of reported deaths per million population by day and country. Each row contains the corresponding data for a certain day and per country. The file is updated weekly. You may use the data in line with ECDC's copyright policy.

## Source

ECDC uses multiple information sources per country. The information sources are Ministries of Health or National Public Health Institutes (websites, twitter official accounts or Facebook official accounts), and the obtained data is systematically cross checked with data from WHO. More information is available at <a href="https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/covid-19/data-collection">https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/covid-19/data-collection</a>.

## Interpretation of COVID-19 data

The 14-day notification rate of newly reported COVID-19 cases is based on data collected by the ECDC Epidemic Intelligence from various sources and is affected by the local testing strategy, laboratory capacity and the effectiveness of surveillance systems. Comparing the epidemiological situation regarding COVID-19 between countries should therefore not be based on these rates alone. However, at the individual country level, this indicator may be useful for monitoring the national situation over time.

Testing policies and the number of tests performed per 100 000 persons, vary markedly across the EU/EEA and presumably even more so among third countries. More extensive testing will inevitably lead to more cases being detected.

The 14-day notification rate of new COVID-19 cases should be used in combination with other factors including testing policies, number of tests performed, test positivity, excess mortality and rates of hospital and Intensive Care Unit (ICU) admissions, when analysing the epidemiological situation in a country. Most of these indicators are presented for EU/EEA Member States in the Country Overview report.

Even when using several indicators in combination, comparisons between countries should be done with caution and relevant epidemiological expertise.

Variable (as of 20201217)	Definition	Code
country		String
country_code	3-letter ISO code	String
continent		String
population	Eurostat or UN	Numeric
indicator	cases deaths	String
weekly_count		Numeric
year_week		YYYY-WW
rate_14_day	14-day notification rate of reported COVID-19 cases per 100 000 population OR 14-day notification rate of reported deaths per 1 000 000 population	Numeric
cumulative_count		Numeric
source	Epidemic intelligence, national weekly data	String
	https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/covid-19/data-collection	