

THE COVID-19 SEX-DISAGGREGATED DATA TRACKER

OCTOBER UPDATE REPORT

About the tracker

The COVID-19 Sex-Disaggregated Data Tracker collects and disseminates sex-disaggregated data along the COVID-19 clinical pathway. Our researchers search for national data on: COVID-19 tests conducted, confirmed cases (including among healthcare workers), hospitalisations, intensive care unit (ICU) admissions, and deaths. We also collect data on age- and sex-disaggregated data on cases and deaths. Data is collected from official sources and is updated every two weeks.

Update findings

At the time of this upload, we are tracking the availability of data in 183 countries. Countries we track account for over 99% of global cases and over 99% of global deaths, **though nearly half (46%) of these countries provided no updated sex-disaggregated data at the time of data collection.**

At this time, the tracker had sex-disaggregated data for 56% of global cases and 72% of global deaths reported to the World Health Organization. This means that **we do not know the sex of roughly 4 in 10 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 3 in 10 deaths globally.**

KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM THE LATEST DATA UPLOAD

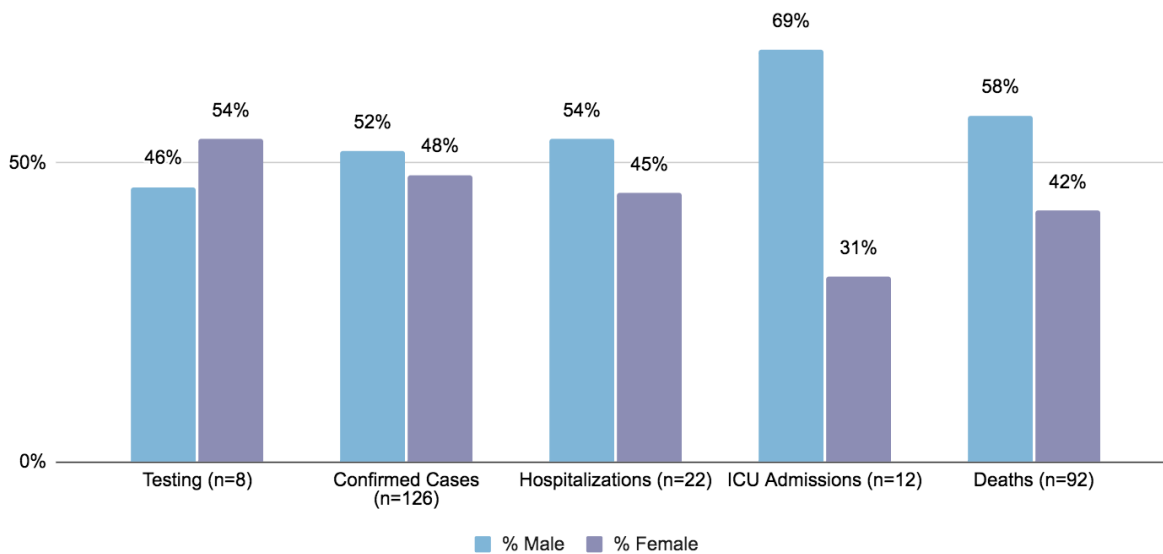
- 1 Despite all that we know and are learning about the role of gender in the COVID-19 pandemic, reporting trends are moving in the wrong direction.
- 2 In the past month, 1 in 5 countries that had previously reported sex-disaggregated data on COVID-19 cases were no longer found to be reporting such data. The proportion of global cases for which we have found sex-disaggregated data has decreased from 58% to 56% over the past month.
- 3 Among the 10 countries which currently have the highest number of confirmed cases globally, only 4 are reporting sex-disaggregated data on both cases and deaths - leaving major blind spots in our understanding of how the pandemic is impacting men and women differently.
- 4 The impact of COVID-19 on the health of trans and non-binary people remains neglected in national surveillance. We have not identified any country where COVID-19 national surveillance reporting is inclusive of diverse gender identities.

Snapshot of global gender differences along the COVID-19 clinical pathway

The chart below shows the distribution of testing, confirmed cases, hospitalisations, ICU admissions and deaths in men and women across all available global data. This distribution varies along the pathway, with more women than men getting tested for COVID-19, and men and women accounting for similar numbers of confirmed cases.

The gender gap is larger further along the pathway, with men accounting for a larger proportion of hospitalisations, ICU admissions, and deaths (Figure 1). These proportions vary significantly by country. Country data on each variable can be explored [here](#).

Fig 1. Global COVID-19 Clinical Pathway, % male / % female



Availability of nationally-reported sex-disaggregated data on COVID-19

At the time of this upload, across the 10 countries with the highest number of confirmed cases globally, 6 reported sex-disaggregated data on cases within the past month and 6 reported such data on deaths. One of these countries, the Russian Federation, has never reported any sex-disaggregated data on cases or deaths (Table 1).

Countries report sex-disaggregated data inconsistently and incompletely across all key indicators. A notably smaller proportion of countries reported sex-disaggregated data in the past month than have ever reported such data over the course of the pandemic (Table 2).

Table 1. Availability of Sex-Disaggregated Data within the Past Month among Countries with the Highest COVID-19 Caseload (Source: [WHO](#)) as of this Update

Country	Cases	Deaths
USA	Yes	Yes
India		
Brazil		Yes
Russia		
Colombia	Yes	Yes
Spain	Yes	
Argentina	Yes	
Peru	Yes	Yes
Mexico	Yes	Yes
France		Yes

Table 2. Availability of Sex-Disaggregated Data by Indicator, across 183 Countries as of 19 October 2020

The full list of countries reporting on each variable and the corresponding data can be found [here](#).

	Countries that ever reported	Reported in past month (% of ever reported)
Testing	8	8 (100%)
Confirmed cases	126	101 (80%)
Confirmed cases disaggregated by age	53	48 (91%)
Confirmed cases among healthcare workers	8	4 (50%)
Hospitalisations	22	14 (64%)
ICU admissions	12	6 (50%)
Deaths	92	74 (80%)
Deaths disaggregated by age	45	41 (91%)
Deaths among confirmed cases	79	53 (67%)

If you are aware of countries that are reporting data that we have not been able to locate or collect, we would be grateful if you could make us aware by emailing us at info@globalhealth5050.org and sharing a link to where the data can be found.

The full datatable can be viewed [here](#).

More on how data is collected, limitations to the data, and notes on the recent upload can be found [here](#).

About the COVID-19 Sex-Disaggregated Data Tracker

The COVID-19 Sex-disaggregated Data Tracker is the world's largest database of sex-disaggregated data on COVID-19 health outcomes. The tracker currently collects data on testing, confirmed cases (including among health workers), hospitalisations, ICU admissions and deaths among women and men. It is also tracking the availability of data disaggregated by other social and demographic characteristics as well as data on pre-existing comorbidities. Data is collected directly from official national sources, including ministry of health websites, national statistics sites, death registers and government social media accounts.

About the Sex, Gender and COVID-19 Project

The Sex, Gender and COVID-19 Project is a partnership of Global Health 50/50, the International Center for Research on Women and the African Population and Health Research Center. Together, these partners are investigating the roles sex and gender are playing in the outbreak, building the evidence base of what works to tackle gender disparities in COVID-19 health outcomes, and advocating for effective gender-responsive approaches to COVID-19.

Learn more about sex, gender and COVID-19 and explore the Sex-Disaggregated Data Tracker here: <https://globalhealth5050.org/the-sex-gender-and-covid-19-project/>



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