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In this issue of Syria COVID-19 Morbidity and Mortality Summary (SMMS) N° 04:

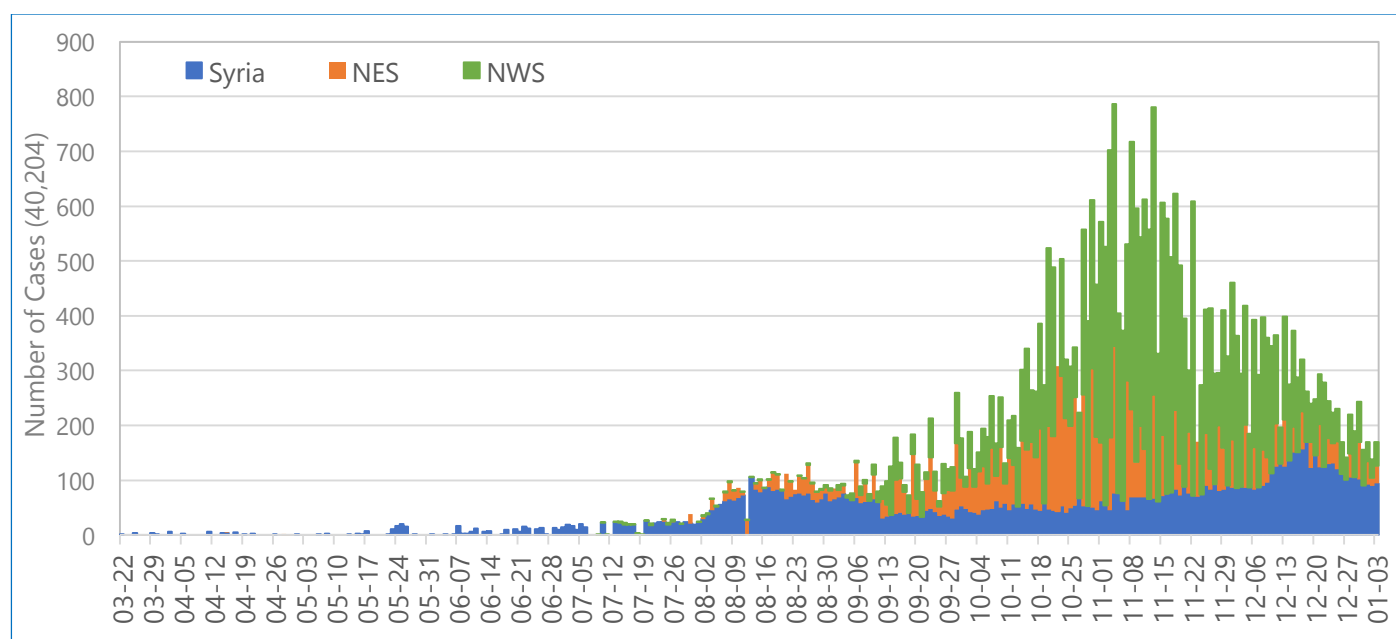
- ✓ dashboard with key figures for whole of Syria
- ✓ detailed epidemiological update on COVID-19 outbreak in Syria and North-East Syria
- ✓ daily and weekly distribution of COVID-19 cases and related deaths
- ✓ daily distribution of COVID-19 cases and rolling seven-day average per governorate in whole of Syria
- ✓ gender and age distribution of COVID-19 deaths in Syria
- ✓ overall and cumulative weekly attack rate and rates in selected governorates in Syria
- ✓ number of COVID-19 testing laboratories and number of daily tested per 100,000 in Syria and North-East Syria
- ✓ geographical distribution of COVID-19 attack rate (AR) per governorates in Syria

Whole of Syria	Tested	Confirmed	Recovered	Dead
				
TOTAL	148,370	40,204	20,046	1,353
Syria	54,375	11,710	5,615	729
NES	18,664	8,113	1,150	276
NWS	75,331	20,381	13,281	348
	Tests/100,000	AR/100,000	Recovery Rate %	CFR%
	COVID-19 Hospitals	Isolation Beds	ICU Beds	Ventilators
TOTAL	36	2,931	460	412
Syria	22	917	214	180
NES	4	683	34	75
NWS	10	1,331	212	157

1. Whole of Syria (WoS)

Between 23 March 2020 and 03 January 2021, there were **40,204** COVID-19 cases¹ confirmed by rt-PCR. Out of the total number of cases, **50.7% (20,381/40,204)** were reported from the North-West Syria (NWS), **29.1% (11,710)** from Damascus, and the remaining **20.2% (8,113)** were reported from the North-East Syria (NES). During the same reporting period, a total of **1,353** related deaths were reported, of them **53.9% (729/1,353)** from Syria, **25.7% (348)** from NWS, and **20.4% (276)** from NES. The overall Case Fatality Ratio (CFR)² is **3.4%**.

The figure below demonstrates the daily distribution of reported confirmed COVID-19 cases per geographical area, 23 March – 03 January 2021, whole of Syria.



The following table demonstrates the reported number of cases, deaths, testing rate, positivity rate, attack rate and case fatality rate per governorate, 23 March 2020 – 03 January 2021, whole of Syria.

Province	# Test	Test/100,000	Positive	Positivity Rate	Attack Rate	# Deaths	CFR
Damascus	16,130	879	2,192	13.59%	119.4	202	9.22%
Rural Damascus	5,896	187	1,354	22.96%	42.8	27	1.99%
Homs	3,562	245	1,837	51.57%	126.6	167	9.09%
As-Sweida	1,273	336	738	57.97%	194.6	43	5.83%
Al-Hasakeh	11,559	1,090	4827	41.76%	455.2	207	4.29%
Dar'a	2,782	274	887	31.88%	87.4	39	4.40%
Lattakia	14,083	1,187	1,256	8.92%	1,05.9	56	4.46%
Aleppo	48,636	1,237	1,2414	25.52%	3,15.6	288	2.32%
Ar-Raqqa	3,850	557	1,796	46.65%	2,60.0	6	0.33%
Deir-ez-Zor	727	98	245	33.70%	33.1	9	3.67%
Hama	1,710	127	536	31.35%	39.9	39	7.28%
Quneitra	1,304	1,263	189	14.49%	183.0	15	7.94%
Tartous	1,476	163	798	54.07%	88.0	62	7.77%
Idleb	35,382	1,367	1,1135	31.47%	430.2	193	1.73%
Total	148,370	728	40,204	27.10%	197.1	1,353	3.4%

¹ WHO Syria COVID-19 Situation Reports present official counts of confirmed COVID-19 as announced by the MOH on the indicated date. Difference in data between the WHO reports and other sources can result from using different cutoff times for the aggregation and reporting of data of the total number of new cases in the country.

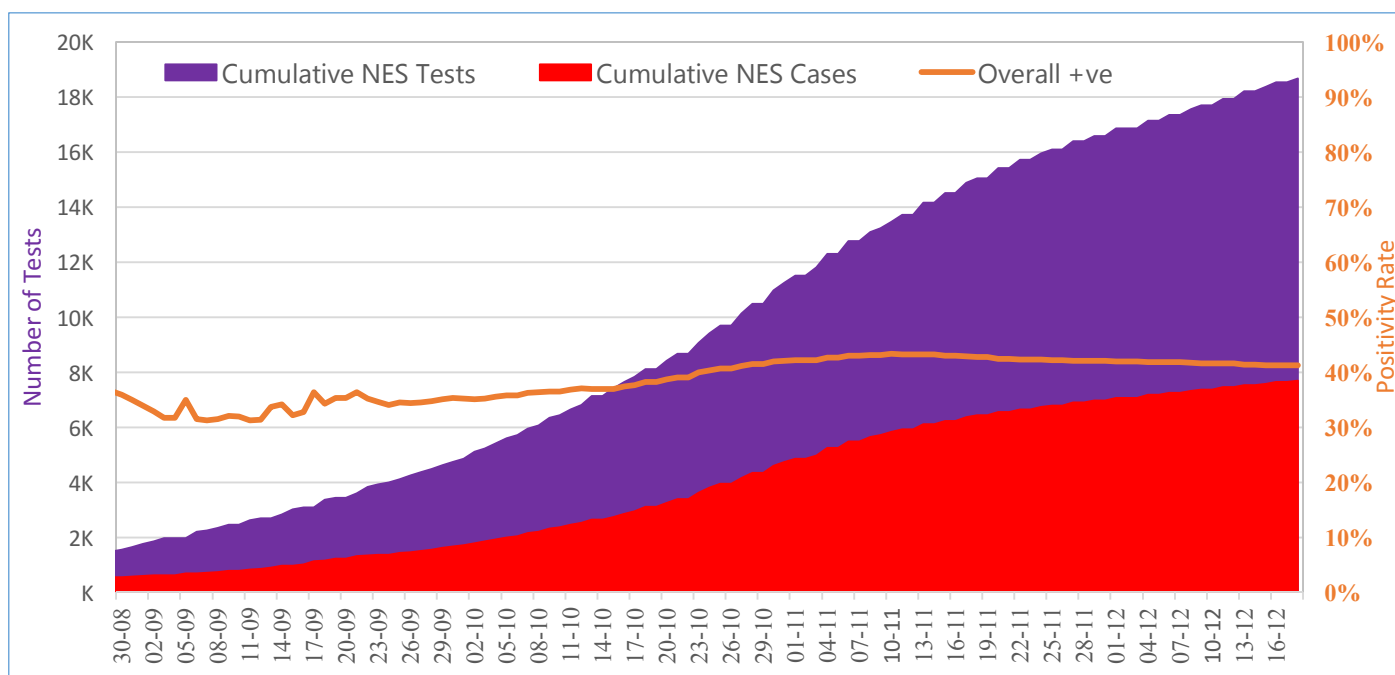
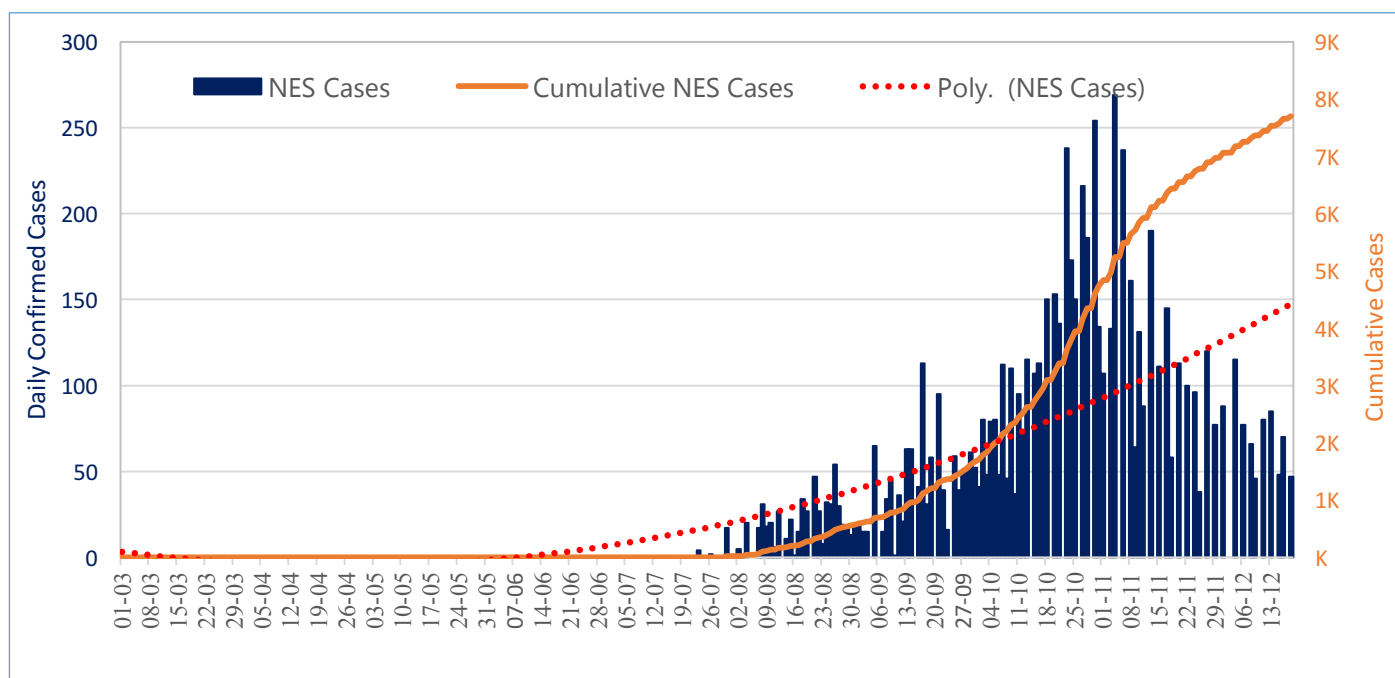
² CFR is not the same as Infection Fatality Ratio (IFR) which is the proportion of individuals diagnosed with a disease who die from that disease and is therefore a measure of severity among detected cases, Estimating mortality from COVID-19, WHO Scientific Brief, 4 August 2020. <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Sci-Brief-Mortality-2020>.

2. North East Syria (NES)

In the North East Syria, between 23 July 2020 and 03 January 2021, there were **8,113** COVID-19 cases³ confirmed by rt-PCR, including **276** related deaths. The Case Fatality Ratio (CFR) is **3.4%**.

During the same period, a total of **18,664** COVID-19 tests were conducted with the overall positivity rate of **41.2%**. According to available data, health workers are representing **6.5%** (686) from the total number of reported cases.

The figures below demonstrate the daily distribution of reported confirmed COVID-19 cases, cumulative number of Samples tested and Positivity rate, 23 March 2020 – 03 January 2021, North East Syria (NES).

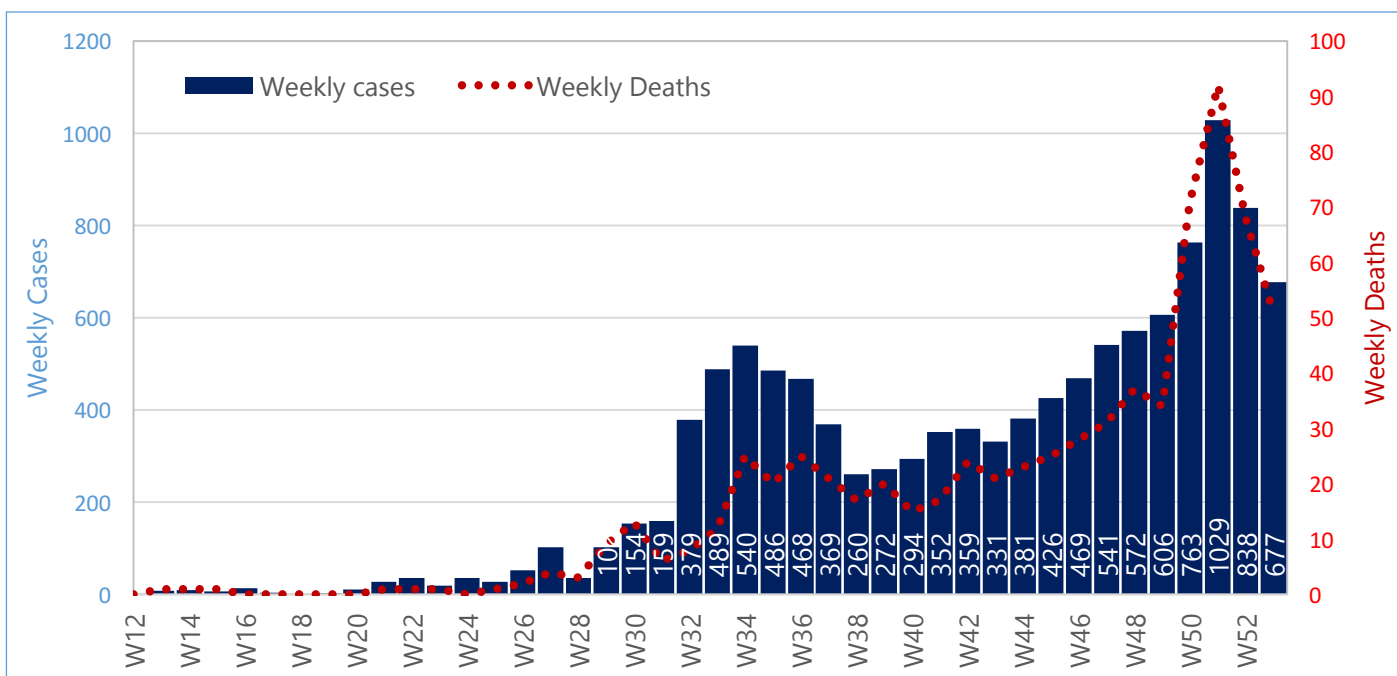
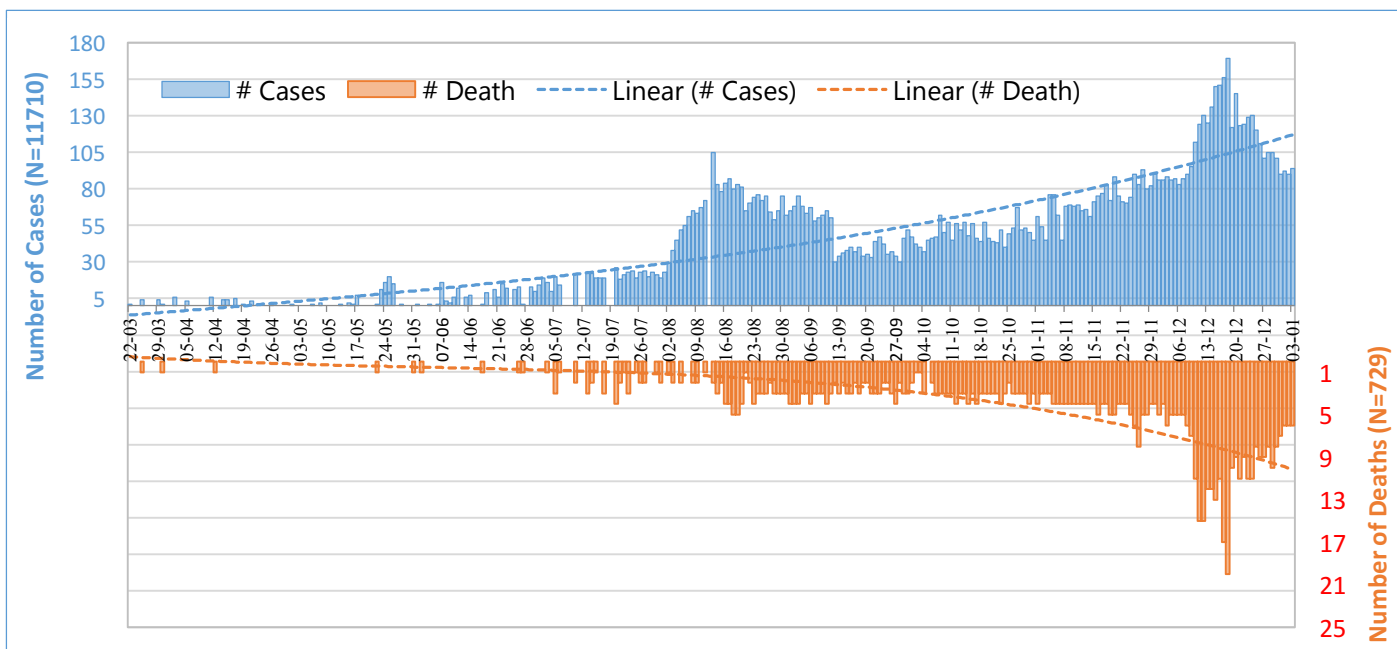


³ WHO Syria COVID-19 Situation Reports present official counts of confirmed COVID-19 as announced by the MOH on the indicated date. Difference in data between the WHO reports and other sources can result from using different cutoff times for the aggregation and reporting of the total number of new cases in the country.

3. Syria, MOH reports

Between 23 March 2020 and 03 January 2021, according to the Ministry of Health (MOH) there were **11,710** COVID-19 cases⁴ confirmed by rt-PCR, including **729** related deaths. The Case Fatality Ratio (CFR)⁵ is **6.2%**. In the epidemiological week 53, in comparison to the previous epidemiological week, the number of new weekly COVID-19 cases decreased by **23.8%** (677 and 838 respectively) and the weekly number of death cases increased by **33.3%** (51 and 68 respectively).

The figures below demonstrate the daily and weekly distribution of reported confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths, 23 March 2020 – 03 January 2021, Syria

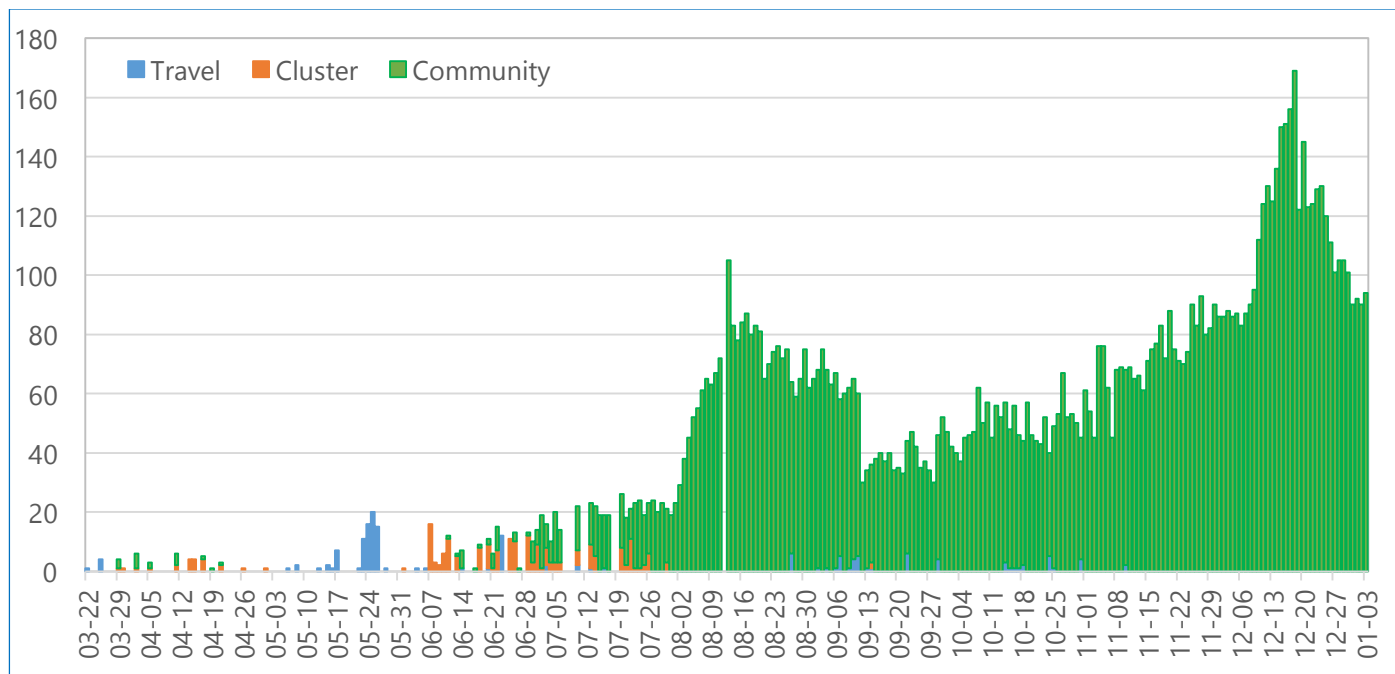


⁴ WHO Syria COVID-19 Situation Reports present official counts of confirmed COVID-19 as announced by the MOH on the indicated date. Difference in data between the WHO reports and other sources can result from using different cutoff times for the aggregation and reporting of the total number of new cases in the country.

⁵ CFR is not same as Infection fatality ratio (IFR) which is the proportion of individuals diagnosed with a disease who die from that disease and is therefore a measure of severity among detected cases, Estimating mortality from COVID-19, WHO Scientific Brief, 4 August 2020. <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Sci-Brief-Mortality-2020>.

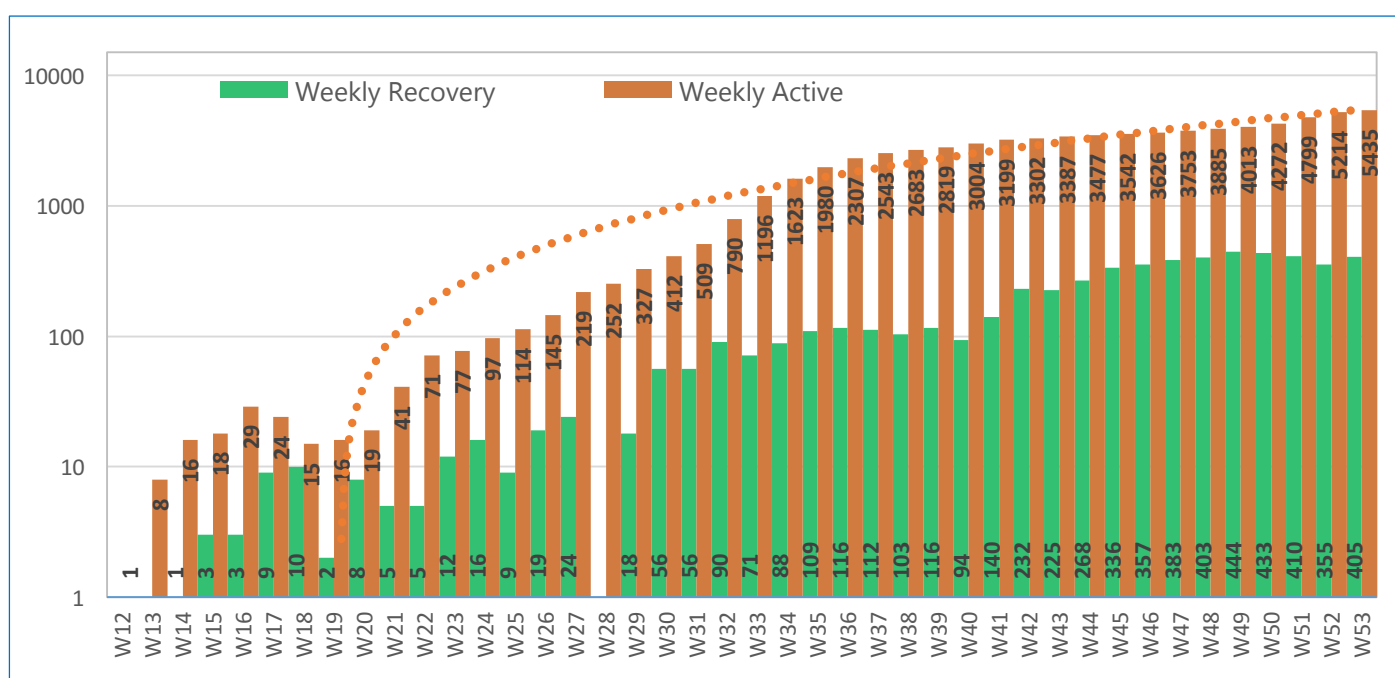
As of 03 January 2021, information on the mode of transmission was available on **100%** of confirmed reported COVID-19 cases (**11,710/11,710**). Of all cases, **96.9%** (11,344) were community transmission, **1.8%** (205) - contacts of confirmed cases (cluster) and **1.3%** (161) were imported cases.

The figure below demonstrates the mode of transmission of the reported confirmed COVID-19 cases, 23 March 2020 – 03 January 2021, Syria.



In the epidemiological week 53, the number of COVID-19 **active cases** increased by **4.2%**, in comparison to the previous week (**5,435** and **5,214**) and at the same time, the number of **recovered** COVID-19 cases increased by **13.5%** (**403** and **383** respectively).

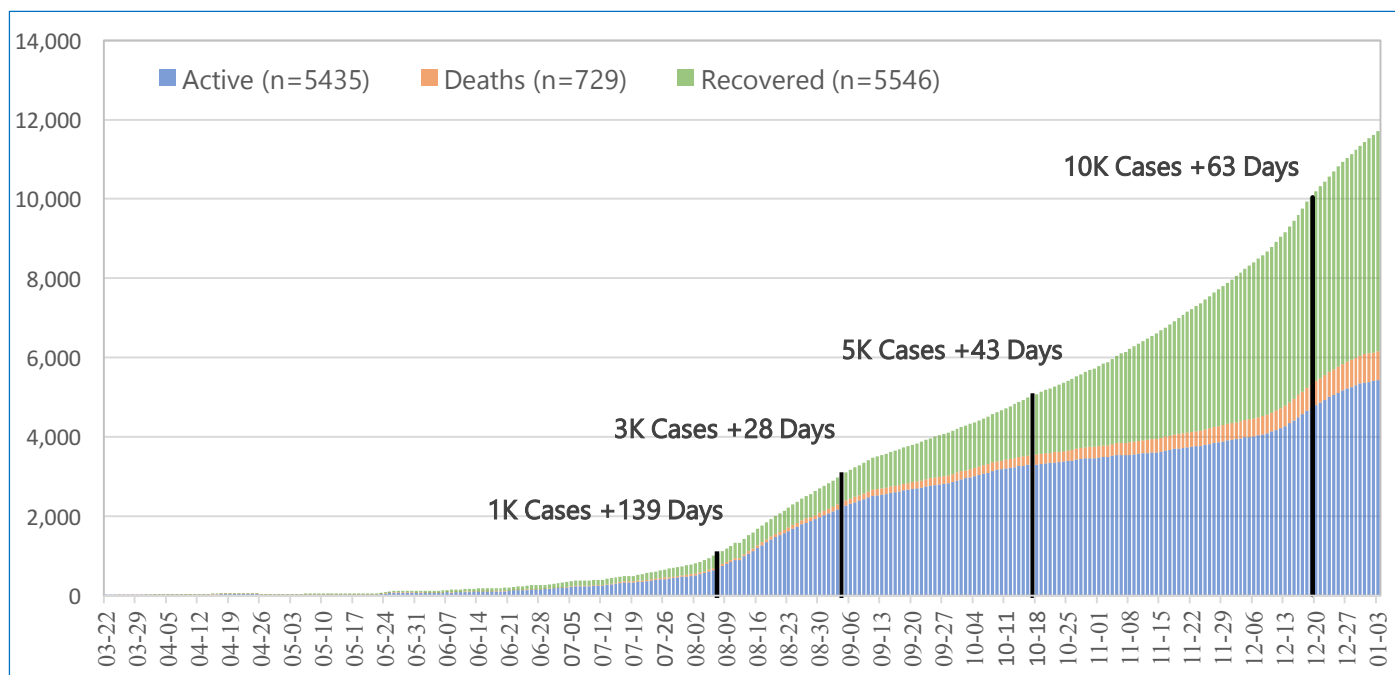
The figure below demonstrates the weekly outcomes of the reported confirmed COVID-19 cases, 23 March 2020 – 03 January 2021, Syria.



Since the beginning of reporting COVID-19 cases in Syria, the first 1,000 cases were reported in 139 days, reaching 3,000 cases in 28 days, 5,000 cases in 43 days and 10,000 in 63 days.

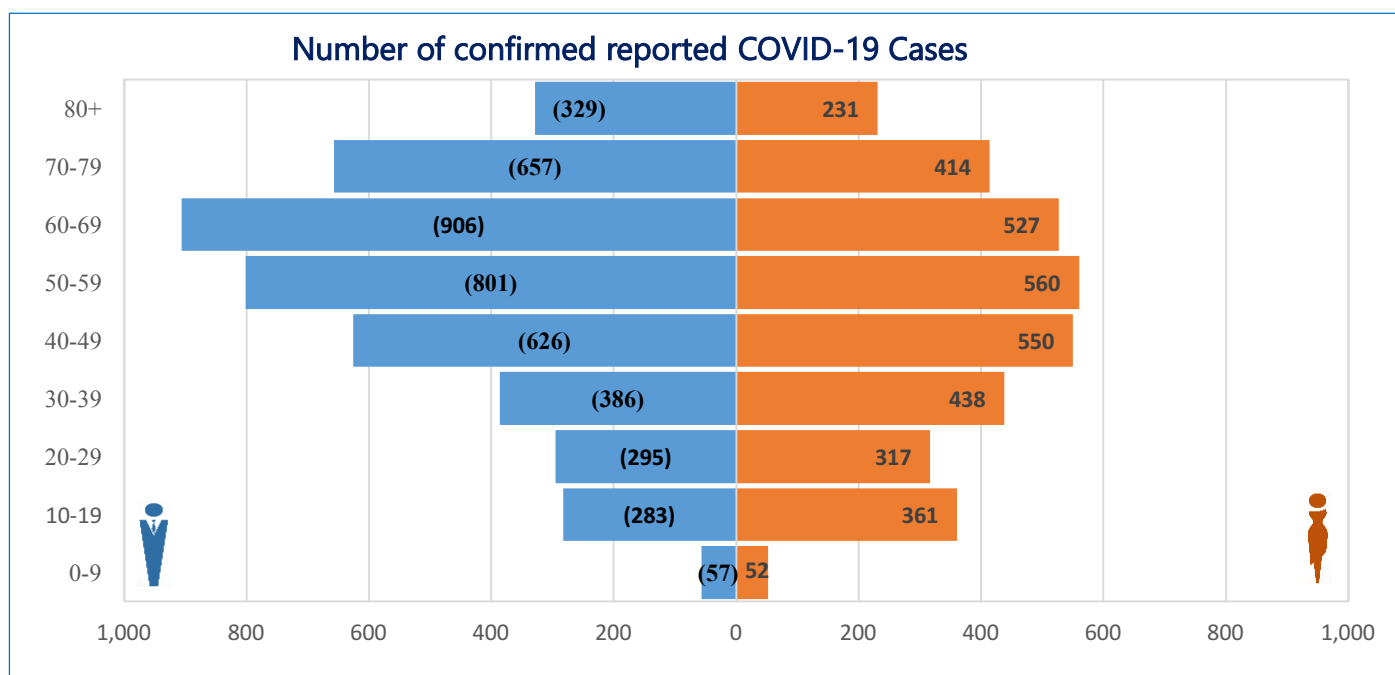
Out of the total 11,710 COVID-19 cases reported as of 03 January 2021, **47.4% (5,546)** recovered, **6.2% (729)** died and **46.4% (5,435)** are active cases.

The figure below demonstrates the timeline of reported confirmed COVID-19 cases, 23 March 2020 – 03 January 2021, Syria.



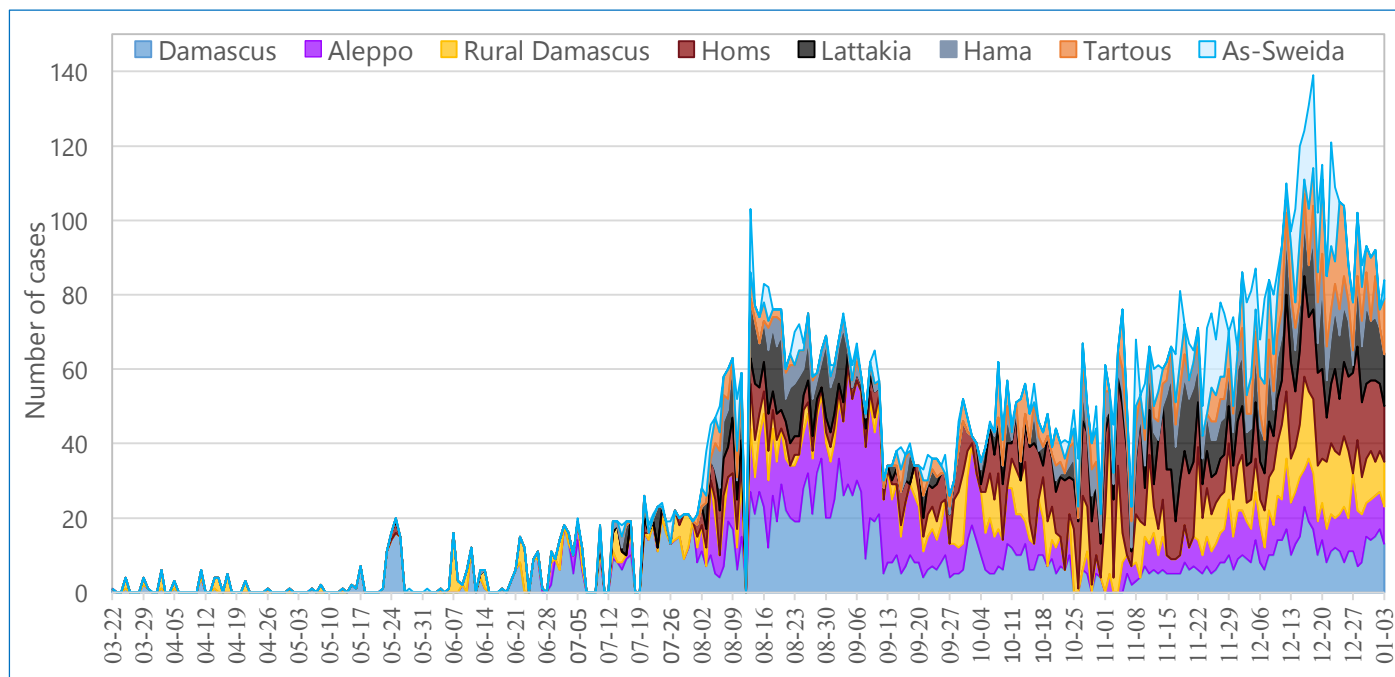
As of 03 January 2021, **43.4%** of all confirmed cases were registered among patients of 60 years old and above, **18.2%** - in the age group from 50 to 59-year-old, **13.4%** - 40 to 49-year olds, **9.8%** -30 to 39 years, **8.6%** - 20-29 years, **5.0%** - 10-19-year-old and **1.7%** in the age group of 9-year-old and younger. Males represented **59.1%** of the of total reported confirmed COVID-19 cases.

The figure below demonstrates age-sex distribution of the reported confirmed COVID-19 cases, 23 March 2020 – 03 January 2021, Syria.

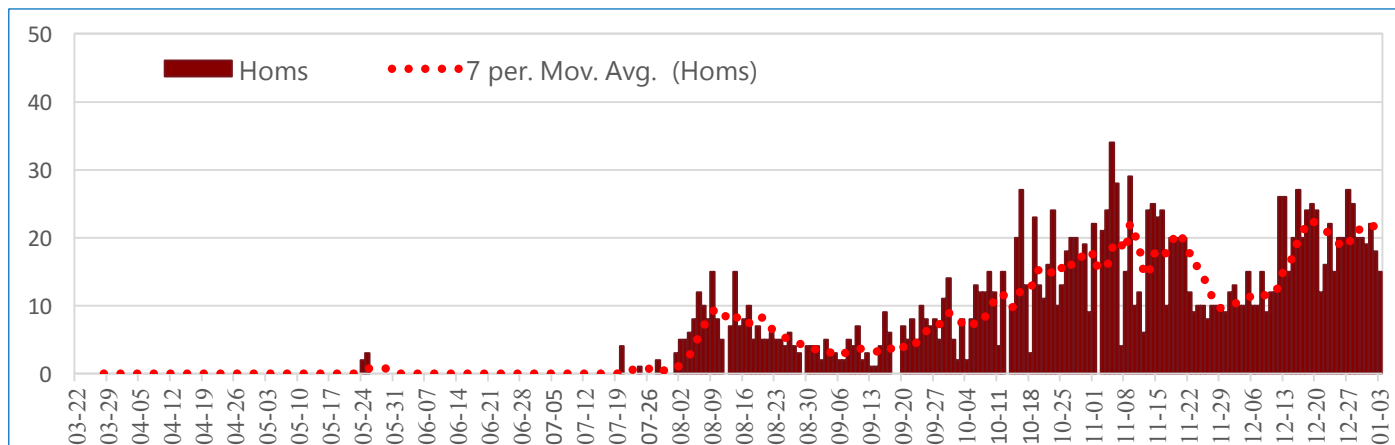
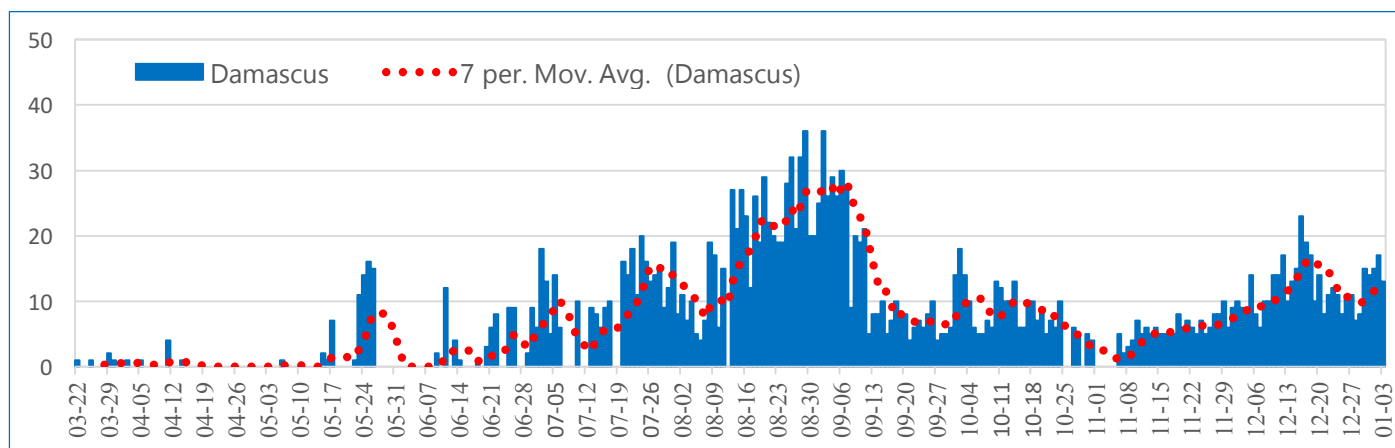


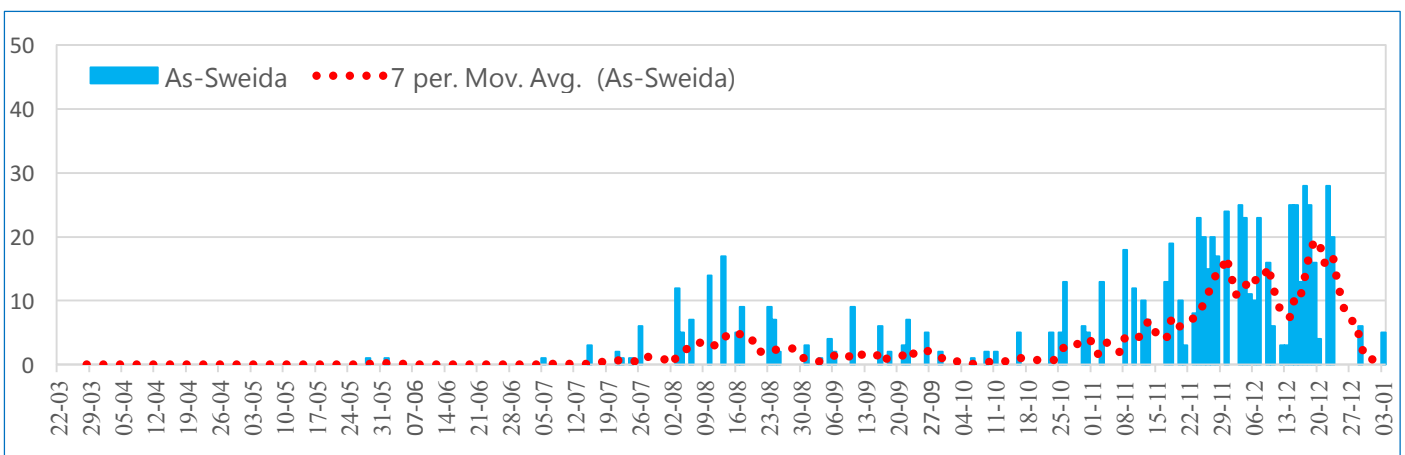
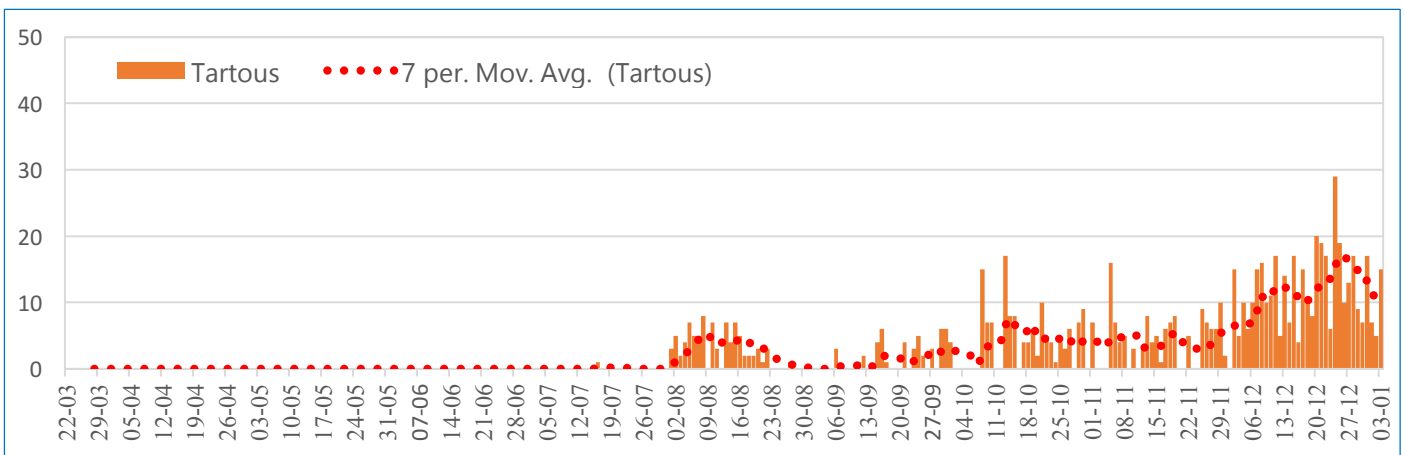
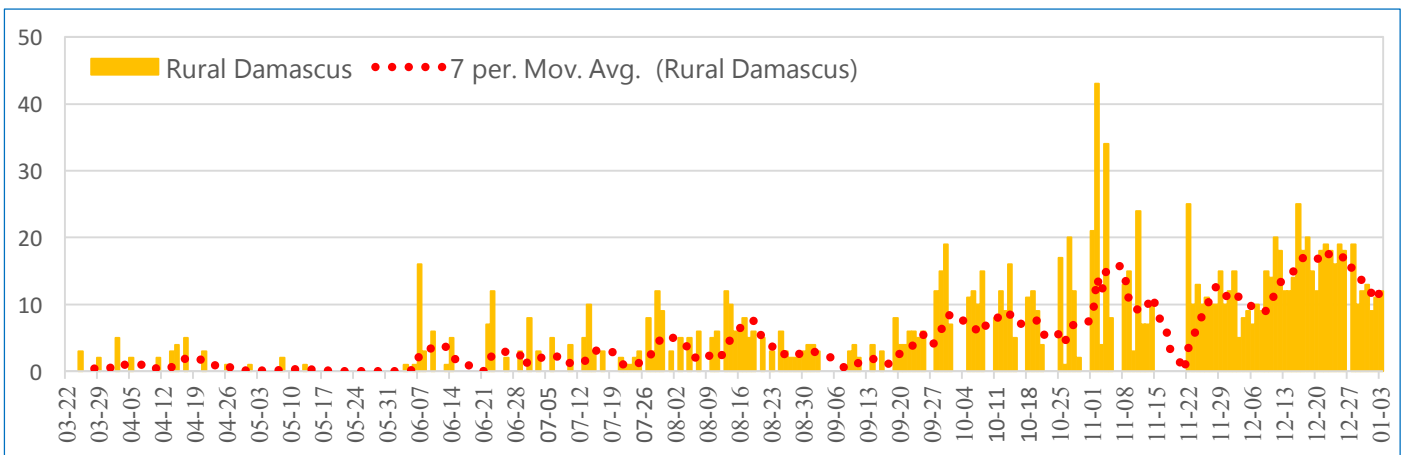
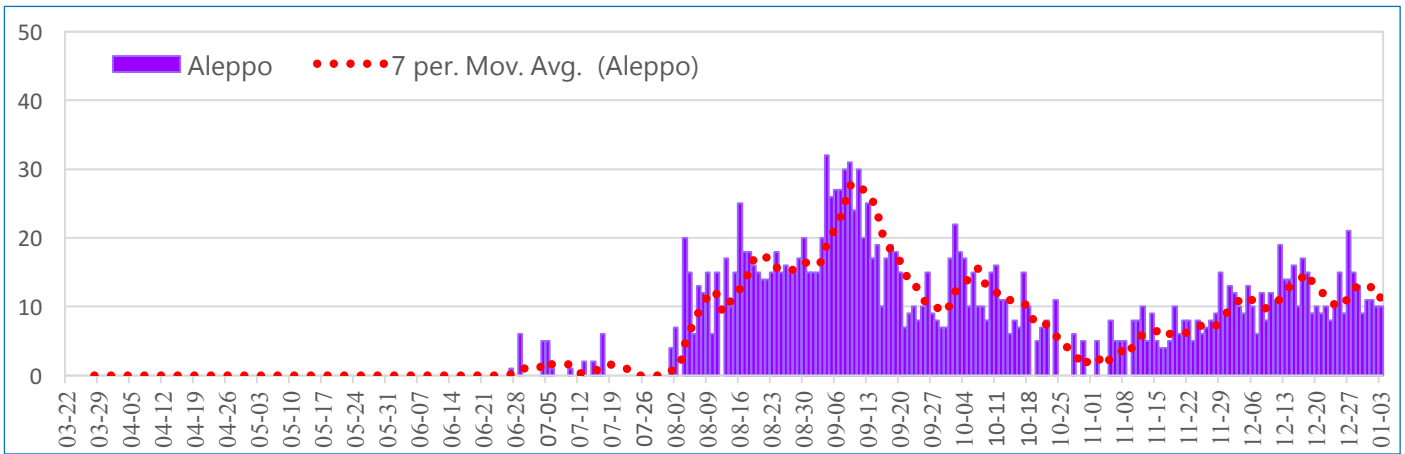
As of 03 January 2021, geographical distribution of confirmed reported COVID-19 cases was available on 100% of cases (11,710/11,710). Of all cases, 18.7% (2,192) reported from the Damascus governorate, followed by 15.7% (1,837) from Homs, Aleppo, 15.6% (1,832), Rural Damascus, 11.6% (1,354), Lattakia, 10.7% (1,256), Dar'a, 7.6% (887), As- Tartous, 6.8% (798), Sweida, 6.3% (738), Hama, 4.6% (536), Quneitra, 1.6% (189), and the remaining 0.4%. 0.3% and 0.1% are form Deir- ez-Zor, Al-Hasakeh, and Ar-Raqqa Governorates, respectively.

The figure below demonstrates the daily distribution of reported confirmed COVID-19 cases per selected governorate, 23 March 2020 – 03 January 2021, Syria.



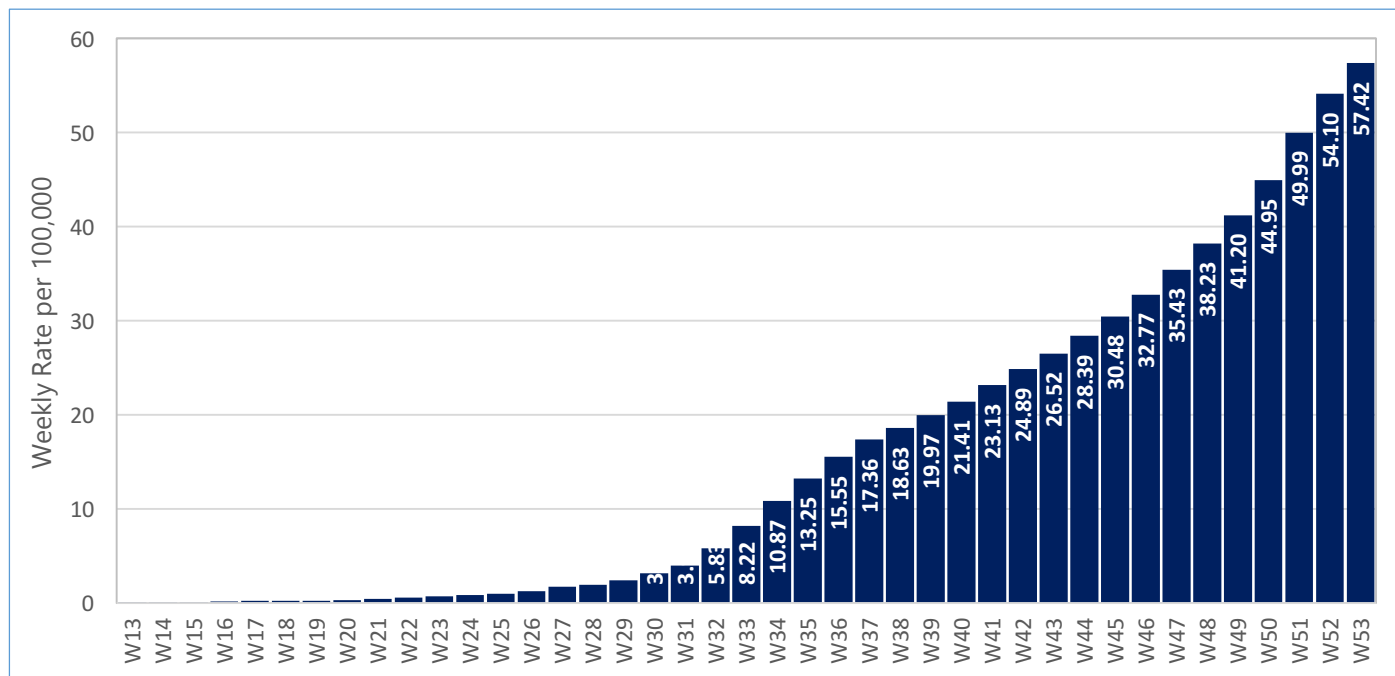
The figures below demonstrate the daily distribution of reported confirmed COVID-19 cases and rolling seven-day average in selected governorates, 23 March 2020– 03 January 2021, Syria.





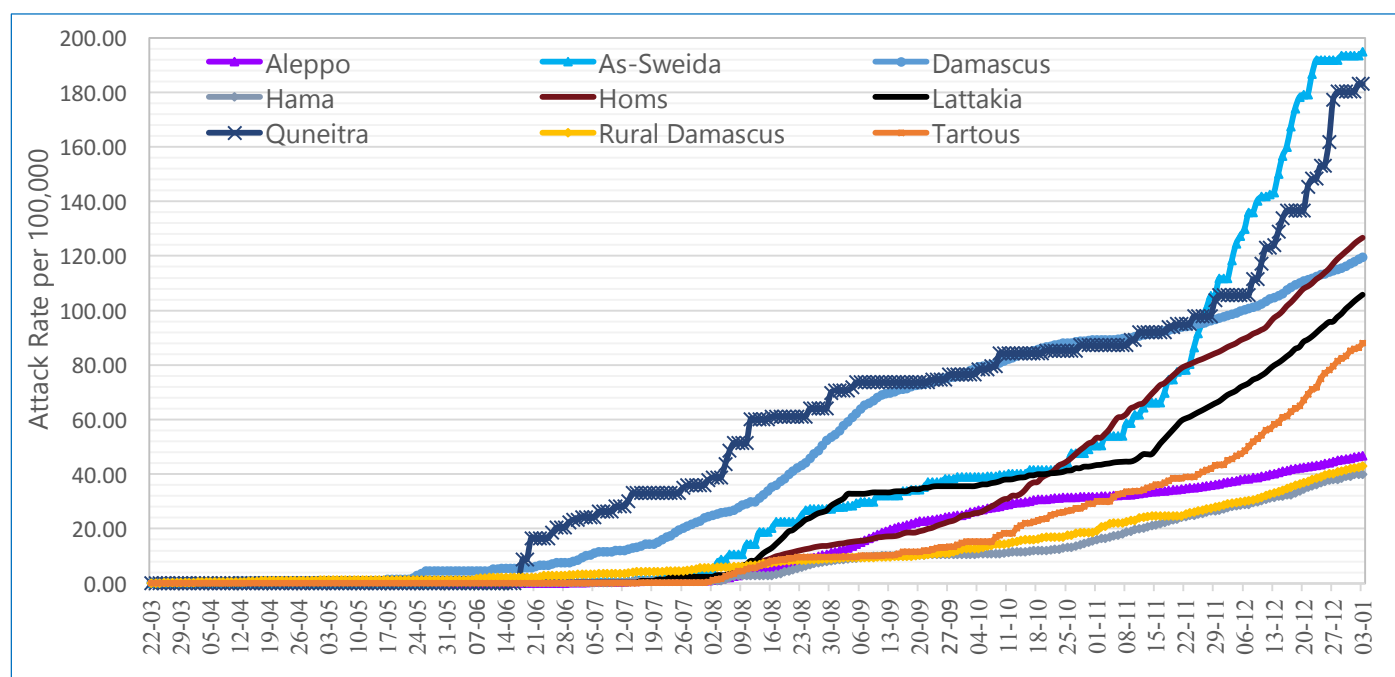
On 03 January 2021, the overall attack rate (AR) in Syria was **57.42** per 100,000 and **100% (13/13)** of provinces with the total population of 20,393,662 people have reported confirmed COVID-19 cases. In the epidemiological week 53, COVID-19 weekly AR increased by **6.1%** in comparison to the previous week (57.42 and 54.10) respectively.

The figure below demonstrates the weekly COVID-19 attack rate (AR) per 100,000, 23 March 2020 – 03 January 2021, Syria.



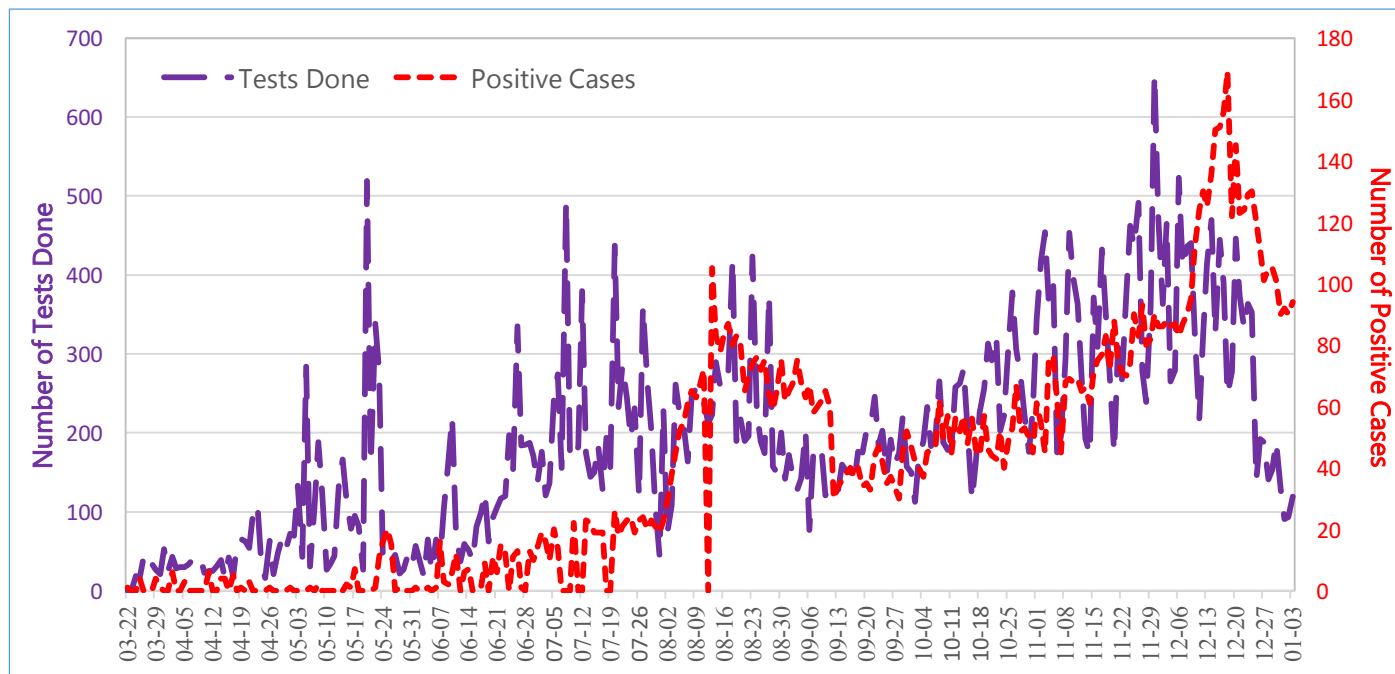
The highest AR is reported from **As-Sweida (194.64/100,000)** followed by **Quneitra** governorate (**183.02/1,000,000**), **Homs** governorate (**126.60/100,000**), **Damascus** governorate (**119.43/100,000**), **Lattakia** governorate (**105.86/100,000**), **Tartous** governorate (**88.04/100,000**), **Dar'a** governorate (**87.37/100,000**), **Aleppo** (**46.58/100,100**), **Rural Damascus** (**42.84/100,000**), **Hama** governorate (**39.93/100,000**), **Deir-ez-Zor** governorate (**6.61/100,000**), Al-Hasakeh governorate (**3.30/100,000**), and the lowest rate (**1.01/100,000**) in Ar-Raqqa governorate.

The following figure demonstrates the COVID-19 attack rate per 100,000 population in selected governorates, 23 March 2020 – 03 January 2021, Syria.



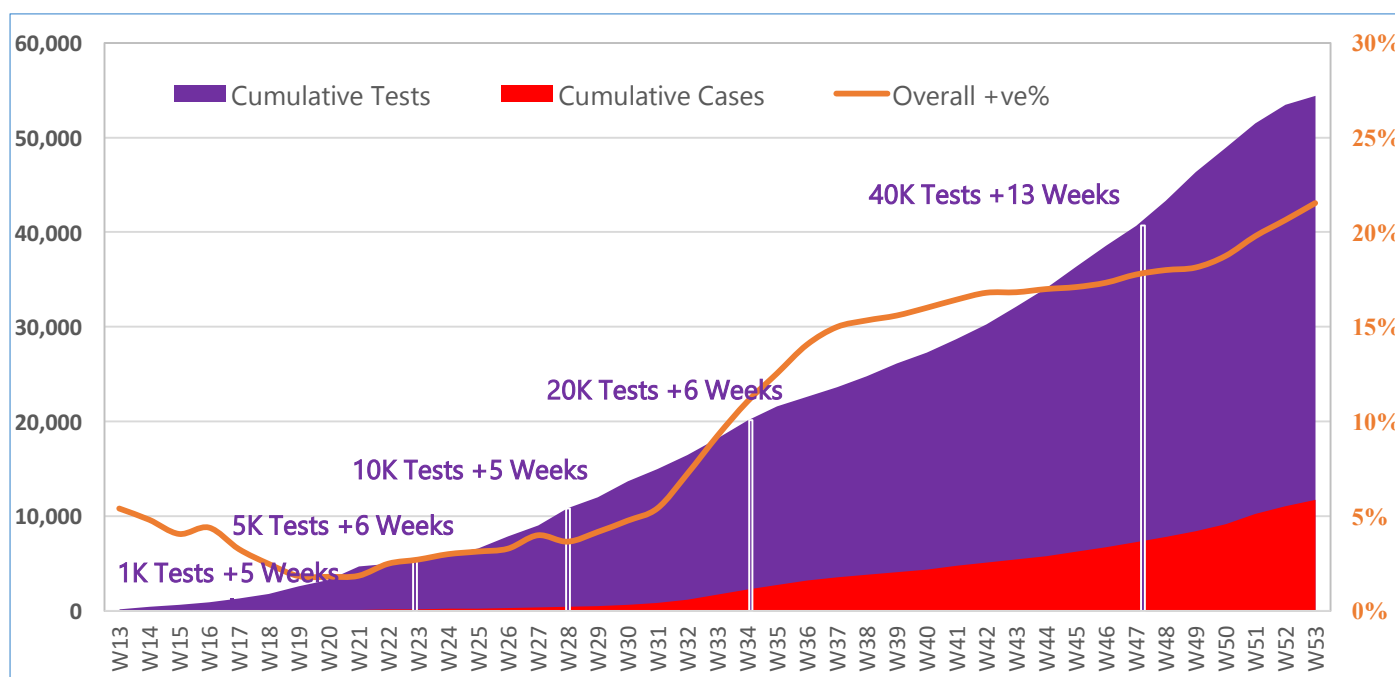
Between 23 March 2020 and 03 January 2021, a total of **148,370** COVID-19 tests with the overall positivity rate of **27.1%** with overall **727.5/100,000** were conducted in whole of Syria. Out of them **50.8%** (**54,375/148,370**) tested in **NWS**, **36.6%** (**75,331**) in **Syria** and **12.6%** (**18,664**) in **NES**. The analysis of data on the two variables (weekly number of tests and number of confirmed cases) in Syria showed correlation coefficient (R) between the two variables as **0.632**.

The graphs below demonstrate the daily number of COVID-19 conducted tests and daily number of confirmed cases, 23 March 2020 – 03 January 2021.

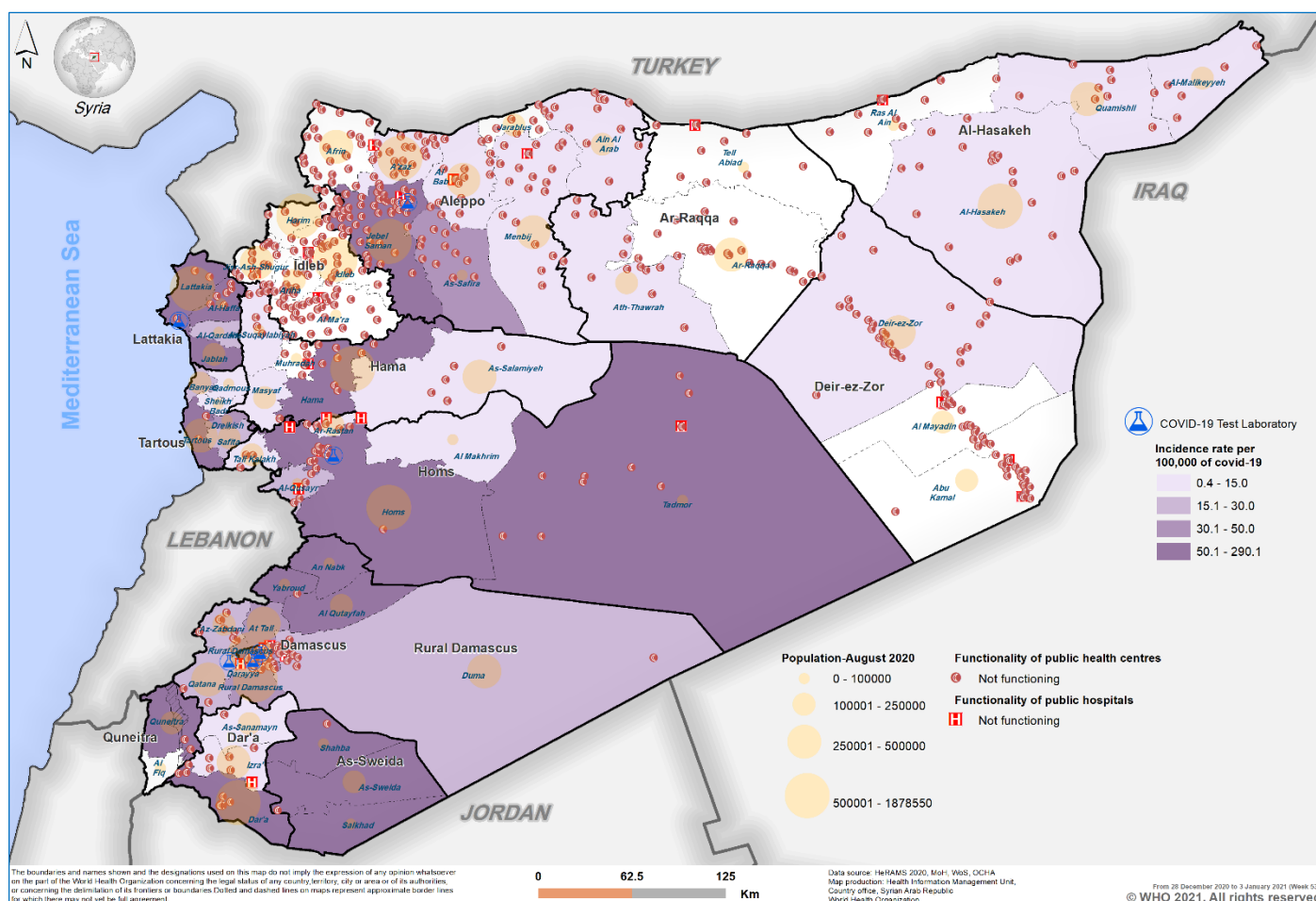


Out of the total **54,375** COVID-19 tests conducted in **Syria** since 23 March 2020 to 03 January 2021, the overall positivity rate was **21.5%**. Since the beginning of COVID-19 testing in Syria, the first 1,000 tests were conducted in 5 weeks, reaching 5,000 cases in 6 weeks, 10,000 tests in 5 weeks, 20,000 tests in 6 weeks, 40,000 tests in 13 weeks and 50,000 tests in 5 weeks.

The graph below demonstrates the cumulative number of Samples tested and Positivity rate, 23 March 2020 – 03 January 2021, Syria



The map below demonstrates COVID-19 Attack Rate (AR) by governorates and the location of COVID-19 laboratories, 23 March 2020 – 05 January 2021, Syria



4. Useful COVID-19 links:

WHO Syria, COVID-19 Dashboard (English):

<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiNmY5OGYzNDYtNjZhMy00MWlyLWlyMzctYzctYzc4MmI3ZDNIODk5liwidCI6ImY2MTBjMGI3LWJkMjQtNGZlOS04MTBiLTNkYzI4MGFmYjU5MCIslmMiOjh9>

WHO Syria, COVID-19 Dashboard (Arabic):

<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiNTA0NWMyZmYtMDJiMC00ZWU0LTIINTktZTViZjYwYThjZmUzliwidCI6ImY2MTBjMGI3LWJkMjQtNGZlOS04MTBiLTNkYzI4MGFmYjU5MCIslmMiOjh9>

COVID-19 situation in EMRO Region reports: <http://www.emro.who.int/health-topics/corona-virus/index.html>

Latest global WHO weekly update on COVID-19, 05 January 2021: <https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/weekly-epidemiological-update---5-january-2021>

WHO COVID-19 Country and Technical Guidance: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance>

WHO COVID-19 Online Training: <https://openwho.org/channels/covid-19>