

ICNARC report on COVID-19 in critical care: England, Wales and Northern Ireland 18 December 2020

This report presents analyses of data on patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19, reported to ICNARC up to 23:59 on 17 December 2020, from critical care units participating in the Case Mix Programme (the national clinical audit covering all NHS adult, general intensive care and combined intensive care/high dependency units in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, plus some additional specialist and non-NHS critical care units) and increasing numbers of surge/other areas providing critical care.

Data are reported separately for patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 either at or after the start of critical care:

- admitted from 1 September 2020 to date; and
- admitted up to 31 August 2020.

Please note that adult critical care units in Scotland, paediatric intensive care units and neonatal intensive care units do not participate in the Case Mix Programme.

Reporting process

Critical care units/areas participating in the Case Mix Programme are asked to:

- log a case with ICNARC by submitting a record, with minimal data, as soon as they have an admission with confirmed COVID-19;
- resubmit data, including first 24-hour physiology, as soon as possible after the end of the first 24 hours in critical care;
- resubmit data for the whole critical care stay, including critical care outcome and organ support, when the patient leaves critical care; and
- submit final data when the patient leaves acute hospital.

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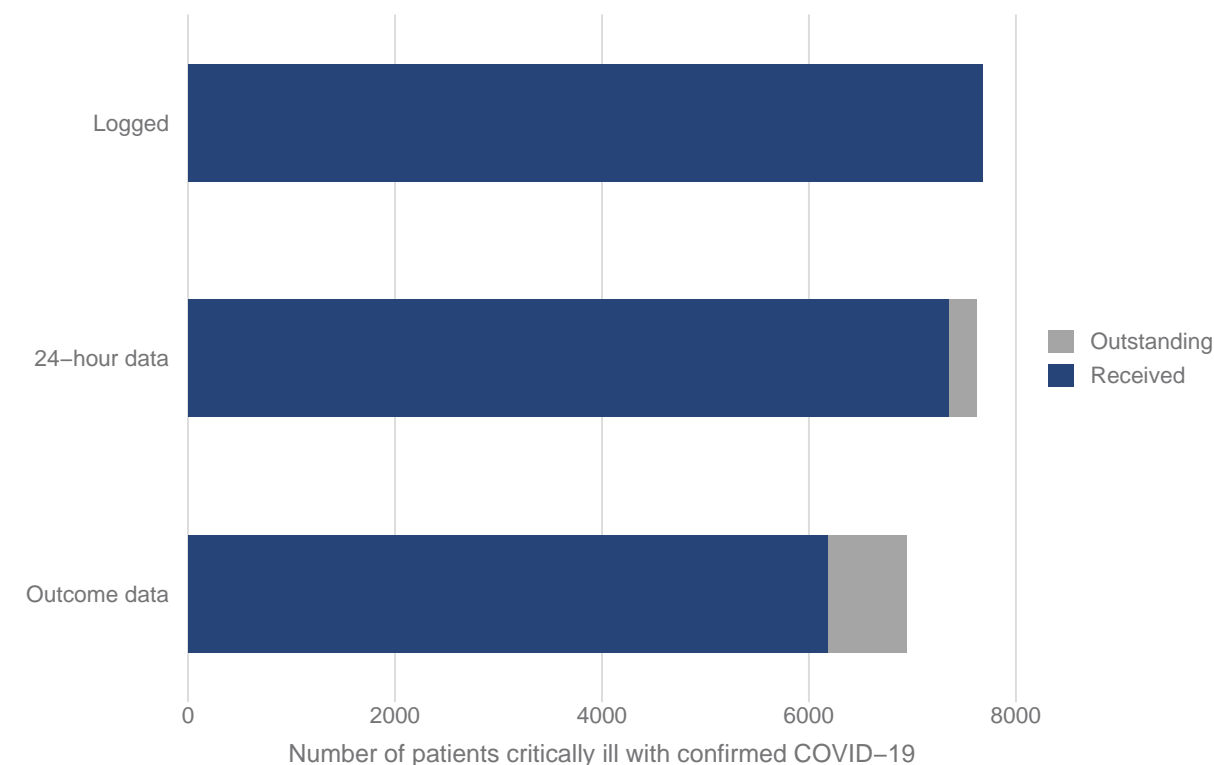
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* Please see individual notes for Tables/Figures.

Admissions to critical care – COVID-19

ICNARC have logged data for 8787 admissions of 7677 patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19, either at or after the start of critical care, admitted from 1 September 2020 to date in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Of these, data covering the first 24 hours of critical care have been submitted to ICNARC for 7345 patients (Figure 1). Of the 7677 total patients, 6179 have outcomes reported and 1498 patients were last reported as still receiving critical care. These patients are compared with a cohort of 10,935 patients with confirmed COVID-19 admitted up to 31 August 2020.



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Figure 1. Numbers of patients with data included in this report and outstanding *

Numbers of critically ill patients with confirmed COVID-19 admitted from 1 September 2020 to date with data included in this report and outstanding.

* Please note that 24-hour data are considered outstanding when a case was logged at least 48 hours previously and outcome data are considered outstanding when 24-hour data have been received and at least 10 days have elapsed since the start of critical care.

Of the 7677 patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 admitted from 1 September 2020 to date, the largest numbers were admitted in the North West, North East And Yorkshire, and Midlands regions (Figure 2). Of the patients included in this week's report, 1068 patients were admitted to critical care within the past 14 days (04 Dec 2020 to 17 Dec 2020). The geographical spread of these patients is shown in Figure 3.

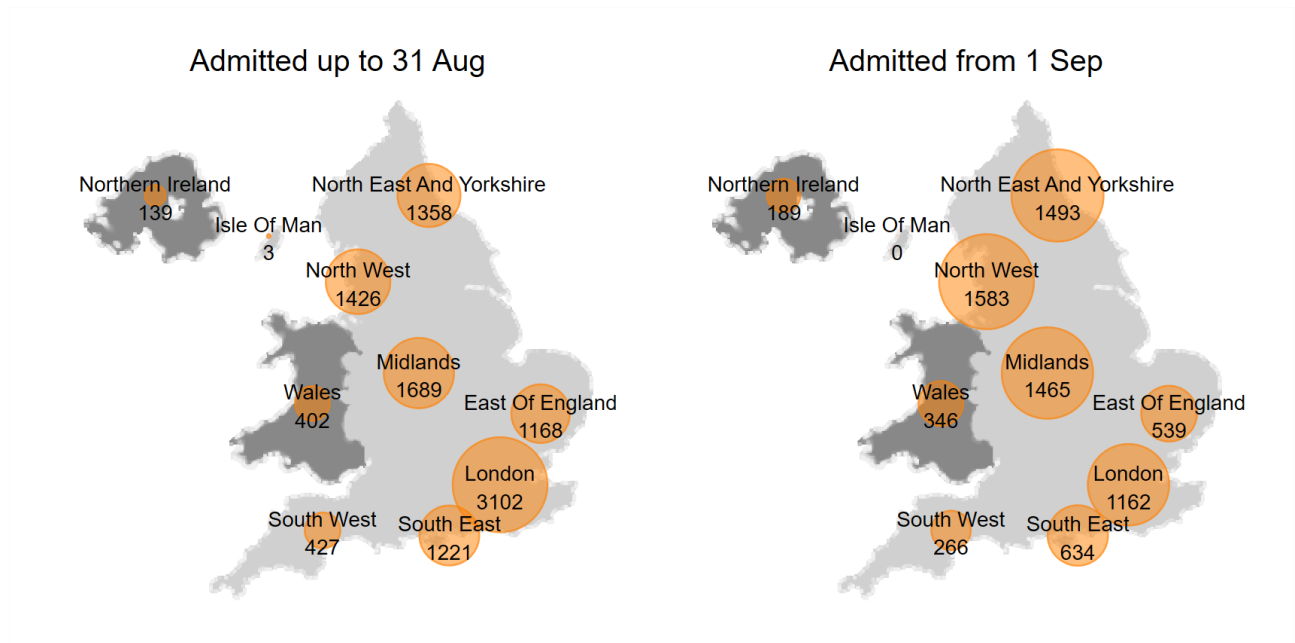


Figure 2. Geographical distribution

Geographical distribution of patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 by NHS region.

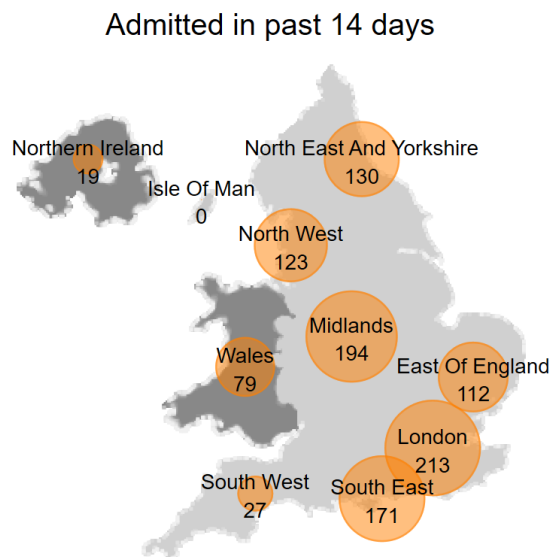
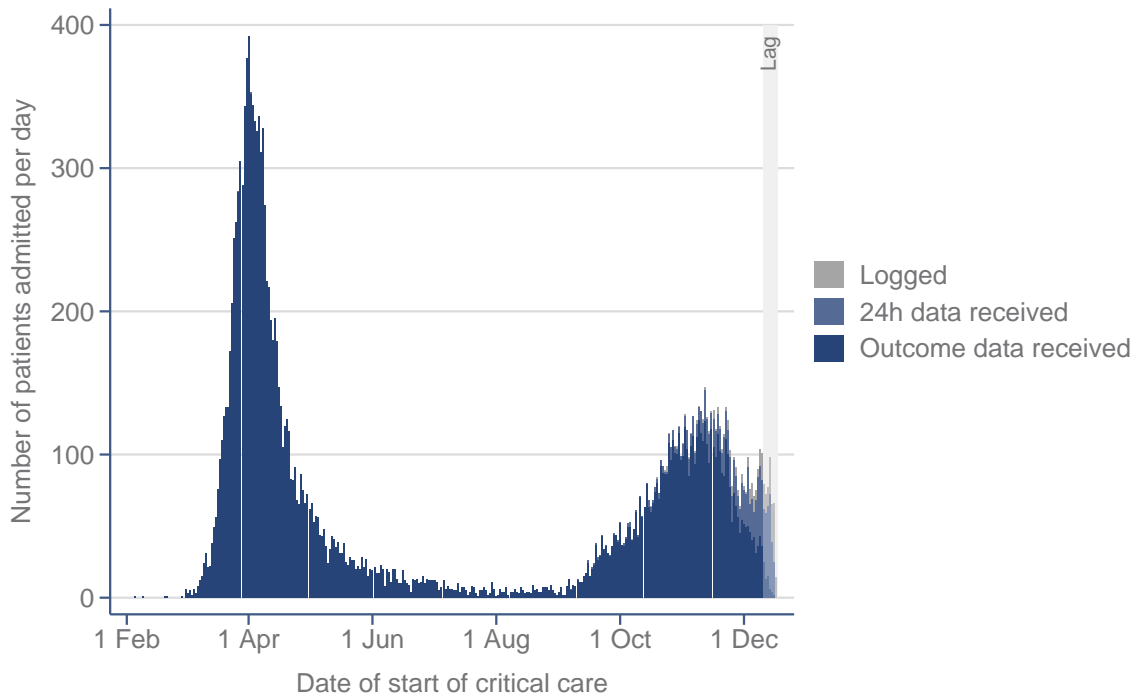


Figure 3. Geographical distribution – past 14 days

Geographical distribution of patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 admitted during the past 14 days by NHS region.

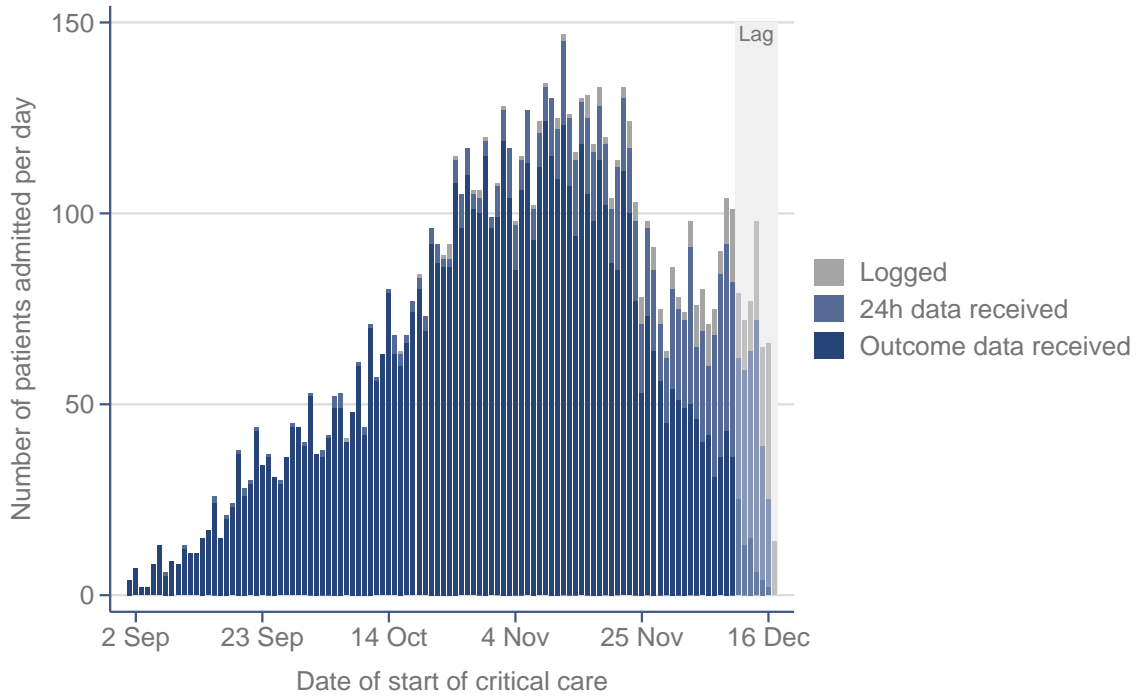
The numbers of new patients, inter-hospital critical care transfers, cumulative numbers of patients and numbers of patients in critical care by date are shown in Figures 4-13. Please note that these figures are affected by a variable lag time for submission of data.



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Figure 4. Number of new patients by start of critical care

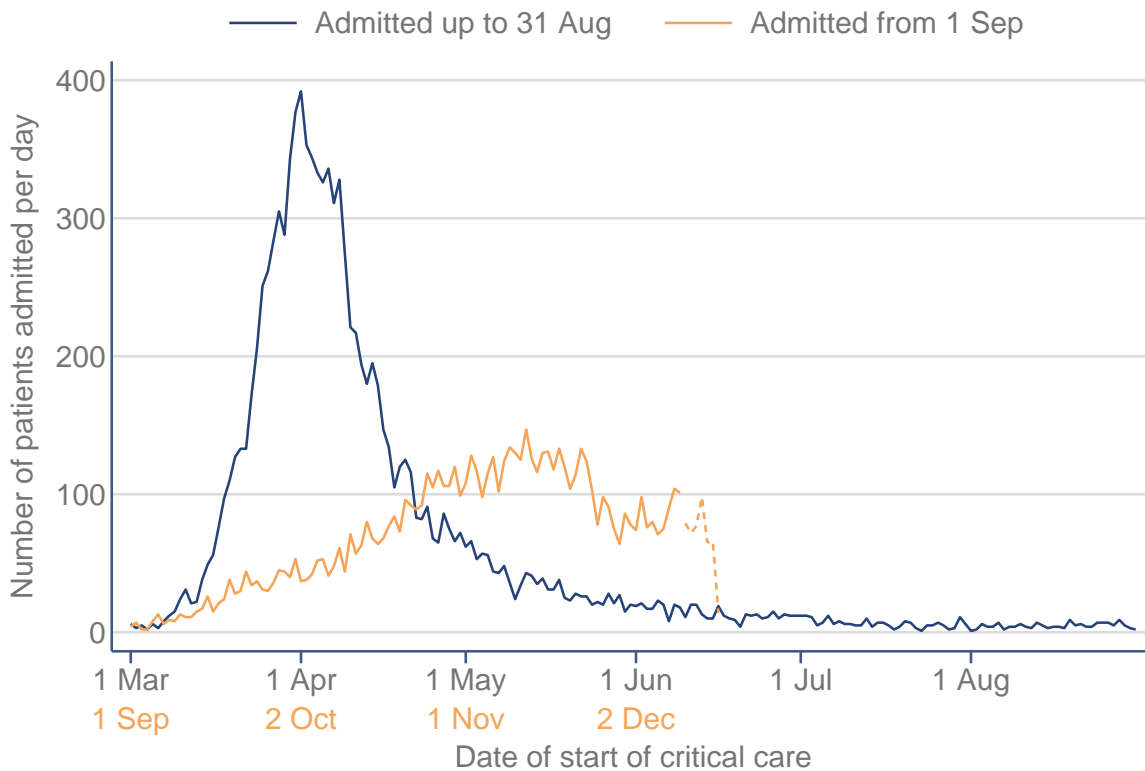
Number of new patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 by date of start of critical care over the entire epidemic.



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Figure 5. Number of new patients admitted from 1 September 2020 by date of start of critical care

Number of new patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 admitted from 1 September 2020 to date by date of start of critical care.

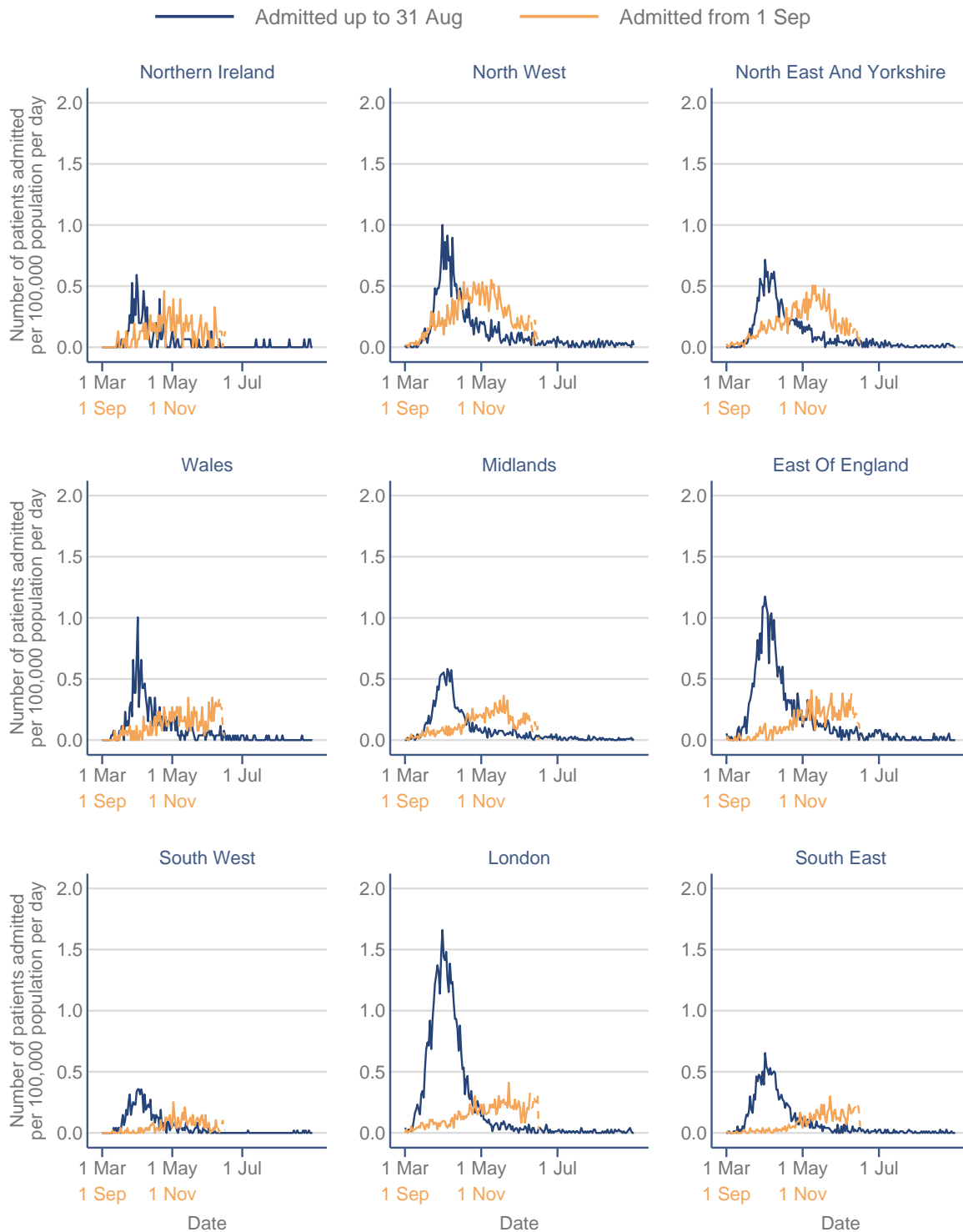


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Figure 6. Number of new patients from 1 March 2020 to 31 August 2020 versus 1 September 2020 to date *

Comparison of the number of new patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 by date of start of critical care from 1 March 2020 to 31 August 2020 versus 1 September 2020 to date.

* Dashed line indicates lag in data submission.

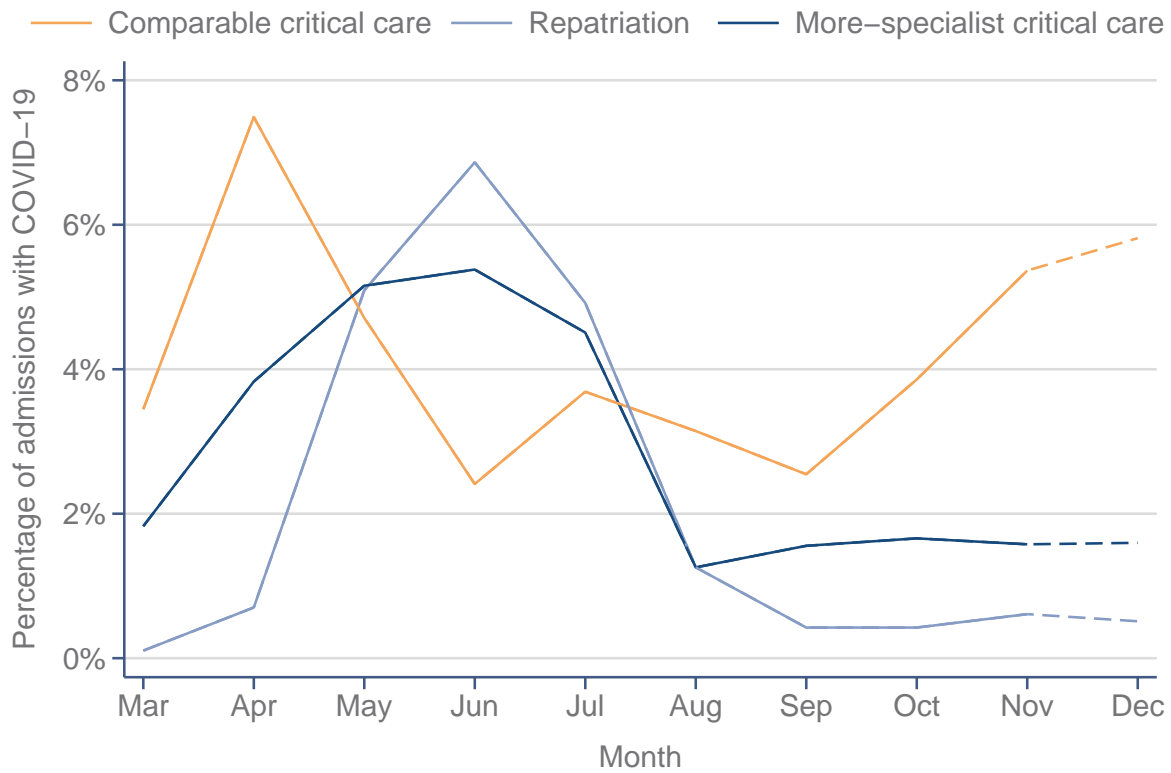


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Figure 7. Number of new patients from 1 March 2020 to 31 August 2020 versus 1 September 2020 to date by region *

Number of new patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 by date of start of critical care from 1 March 2020 to 31 August 2020 versus 1 September 2020 to date by region.

* Dashed line indicates lag in data submission.

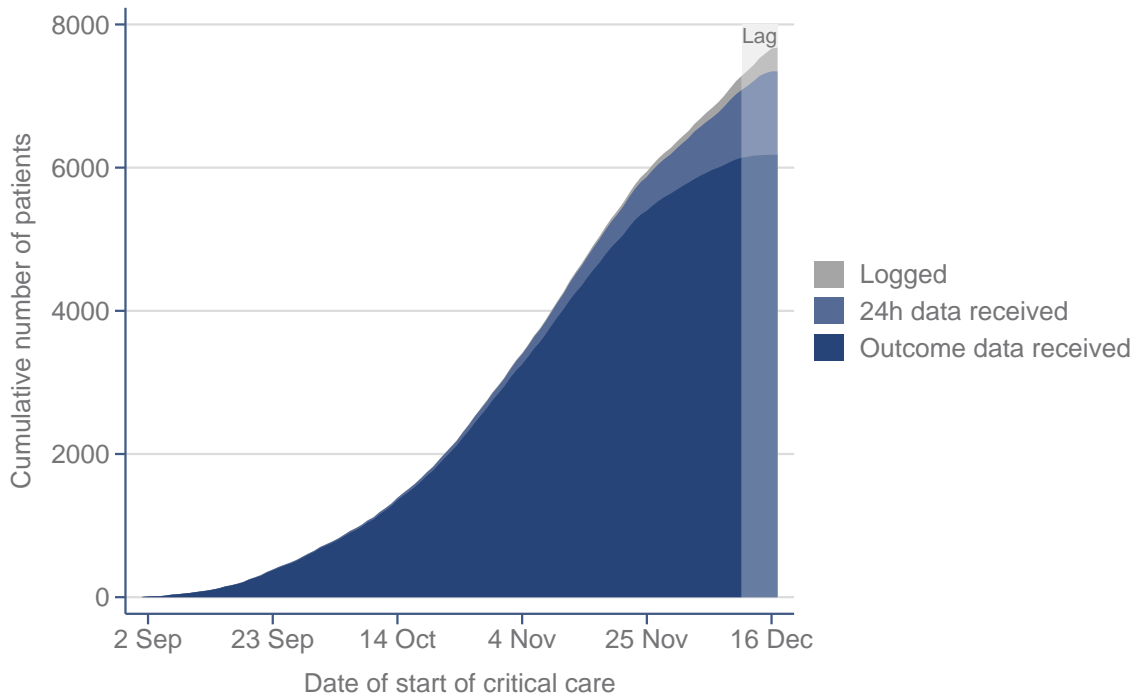


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Figure 8. Inter-hospital critical care transfers

Percentage of critical care admissions that were transfers between critical care units in different hospitals by month of admission and reason for transfer *.

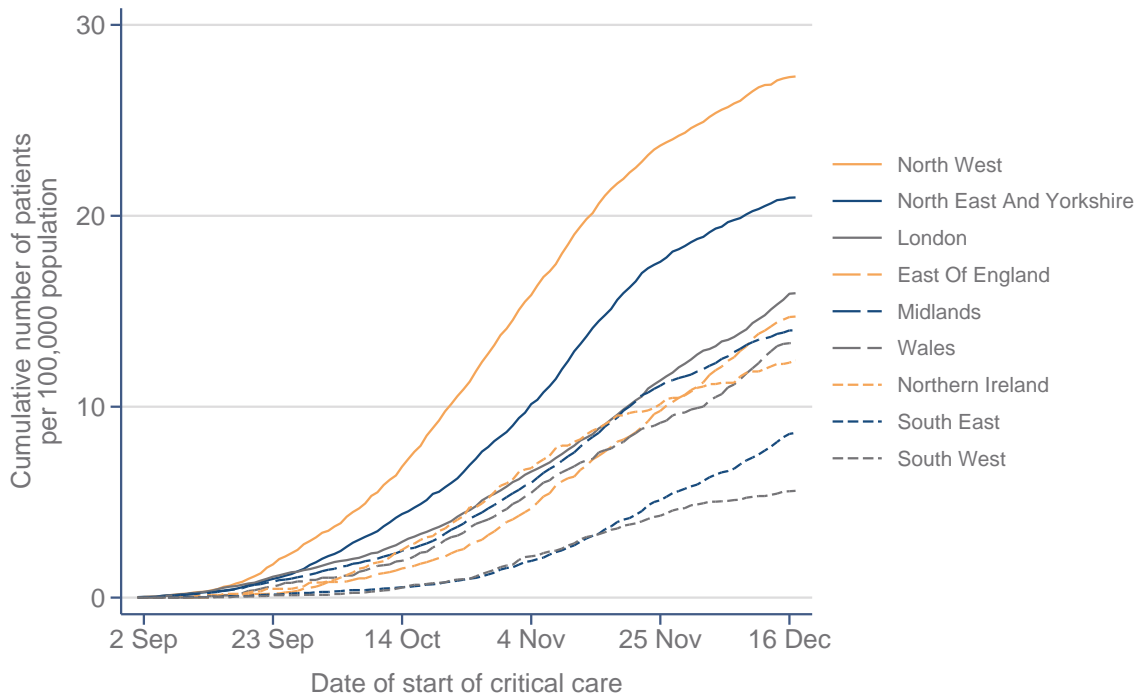
* Please see Definitions on page 63.



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Figure 9. Cumulative number of patients

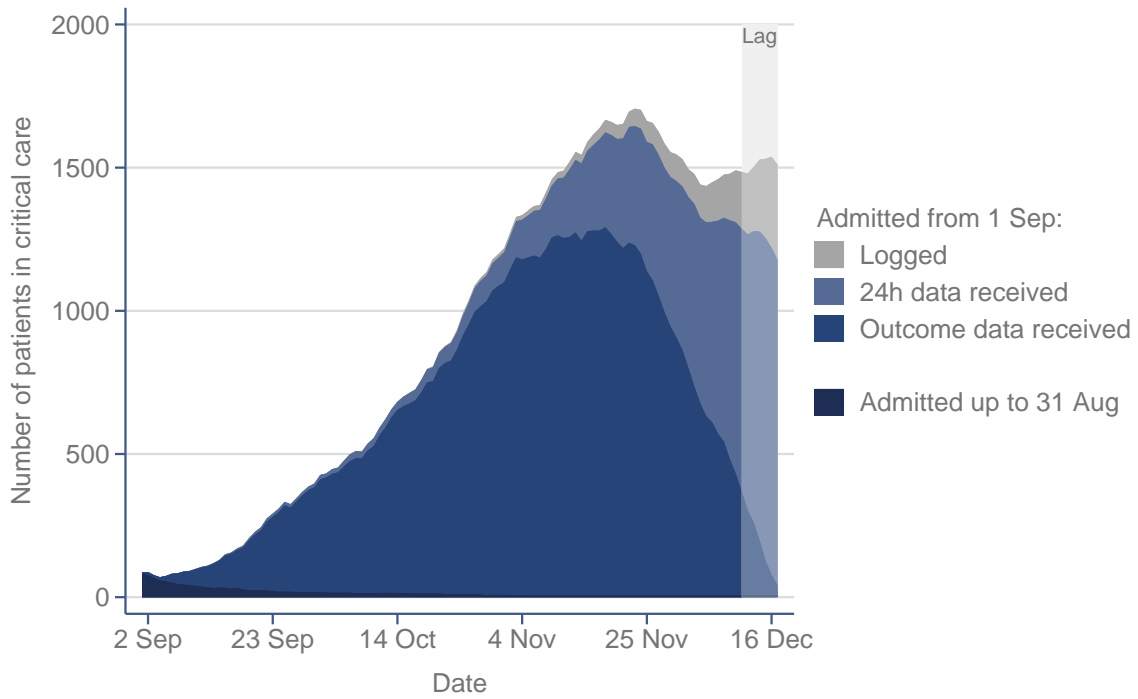
Cumulative number of patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 admitted from 1 September 2020 by date of start of critical care.



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Figure 10. Cumulative number of patients per 100,000 adult population by region

Cumulative number of patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 admitted from 1 September 2020 per 100,000 adult population by region.

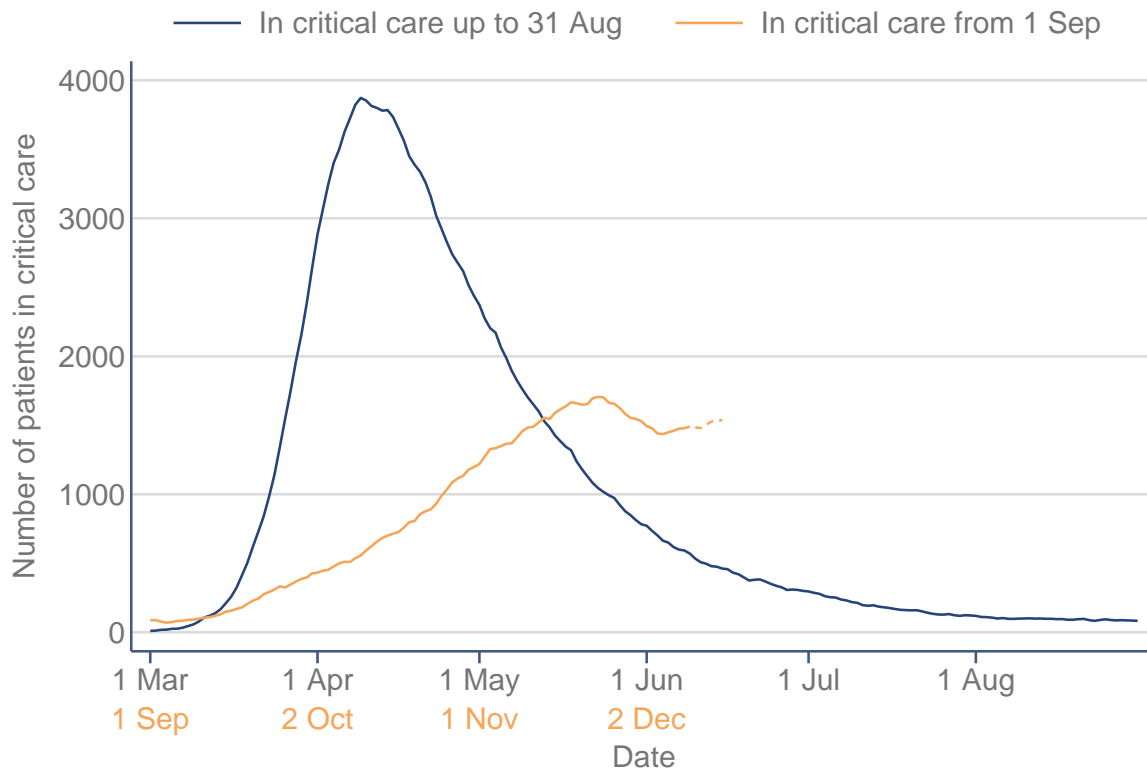


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Figure 11. Number of patients in critical care *

Number of patients with confirmed COVID-19 in critical care from 1 September 2020 by date.

* Please note patients whose outcome data have not been received are assumed to remain in critical care as of 17 December 2020.

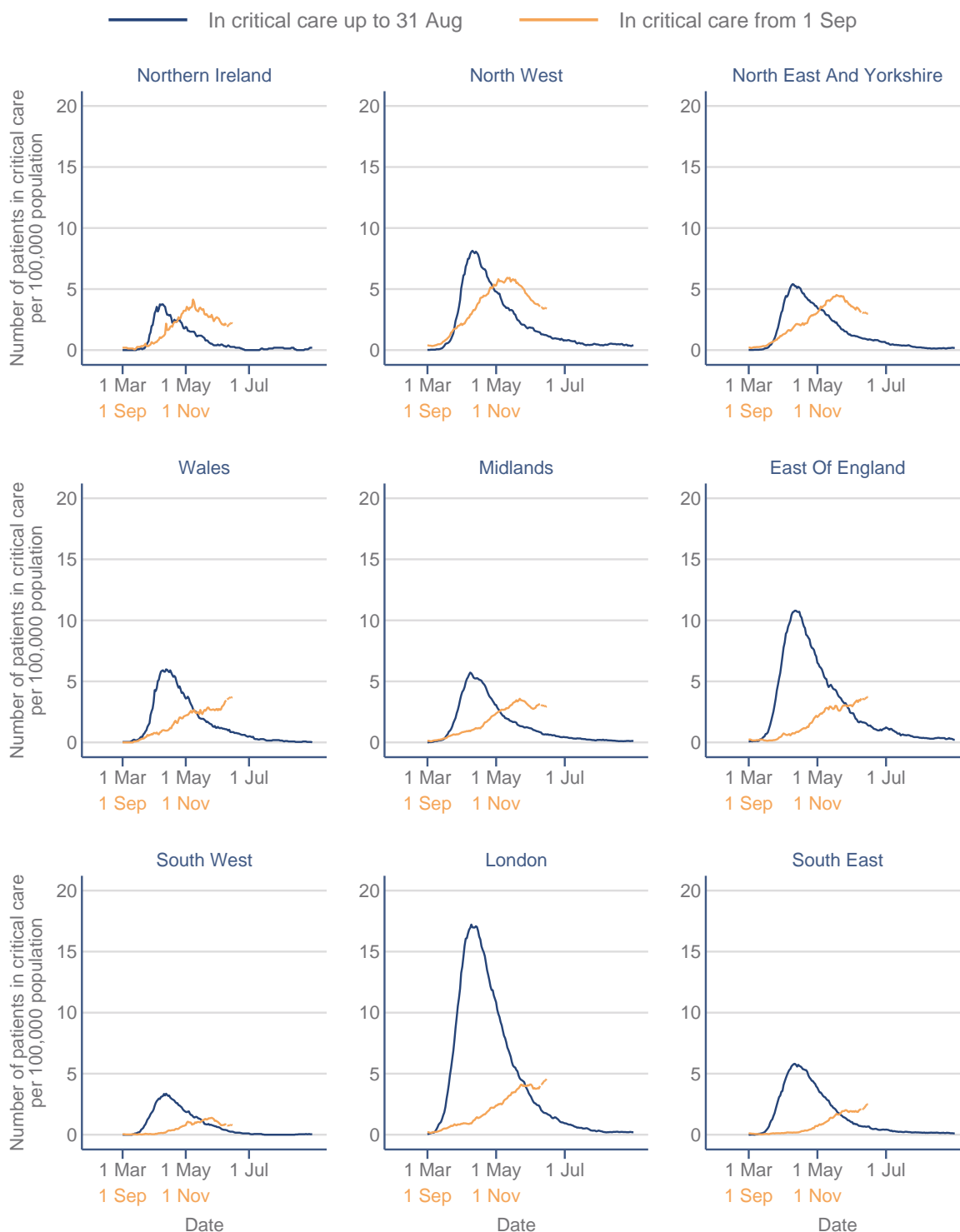


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Figure 12. Number of patients in critical care * from 1 March 2020 to 31 August 2020 versus 1 September 2020 to date

Number of patients with confirmed COVID-19 in critical care by date * from 1 March 2020 to 31 August 2020 versus 1 September 2020 to date.

* Please note patients whose outcome data have not been received are assumed to remain in critical care as of 17 December 2020. Dashed line indicates lag in data submission.



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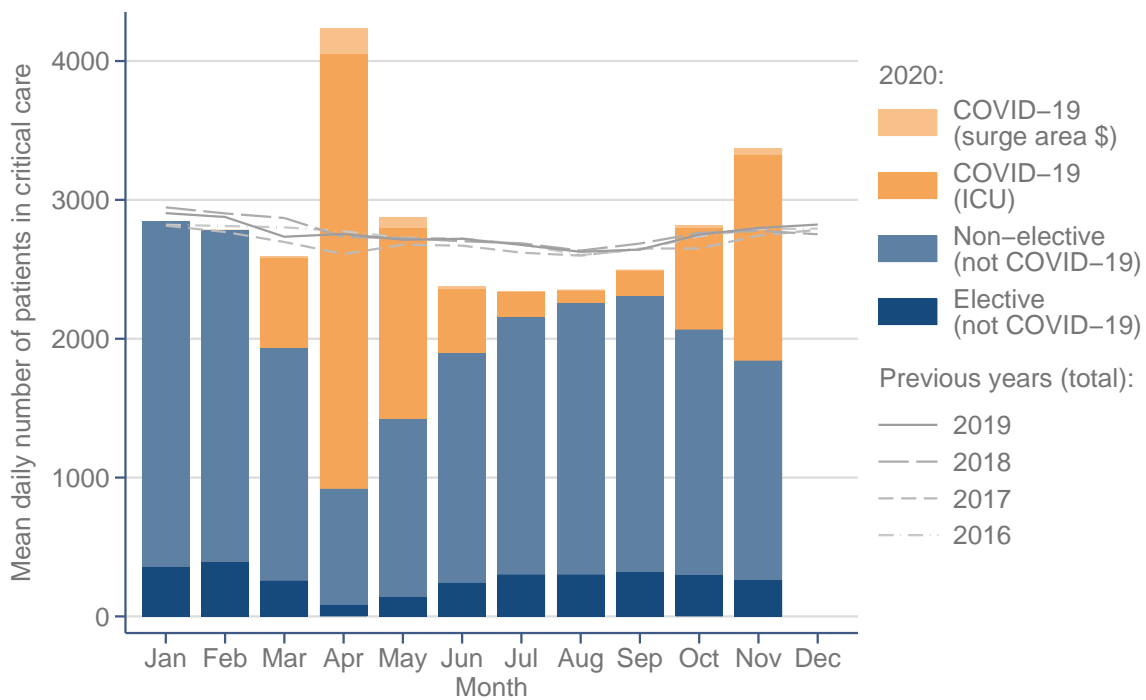
Figure 13. Number of patients in critical care * from 1 March 2020 to 31 August 2020 versus 1 September 2020 to date by region

Number of patients with confirmed COVID-19 in critical care by date * from 1 March 2020 to 31 August 2020 versus 1 September 2020 to date by region.

* Please note patients whose outcome data have not been received are assumed to remain in critical care as of 17 December 2020. dashed line indicates lag in data submission.

Admissions to critical care – COVID-19 and non-COVID-19

Figure 14 shows the average daily number of patients in critical care for each month over the past five years. For 2020, this is broken down into the numbers of: elective admissions (not COVID-19) – those admitted directly following elective or scheduled surgery or for a planned medical procedure; non-elective admissions (not COVID-19); confirmed COVID-19 admitted to an ICU; and confirmed COVID-19 managed in a surge area outside of ICU.



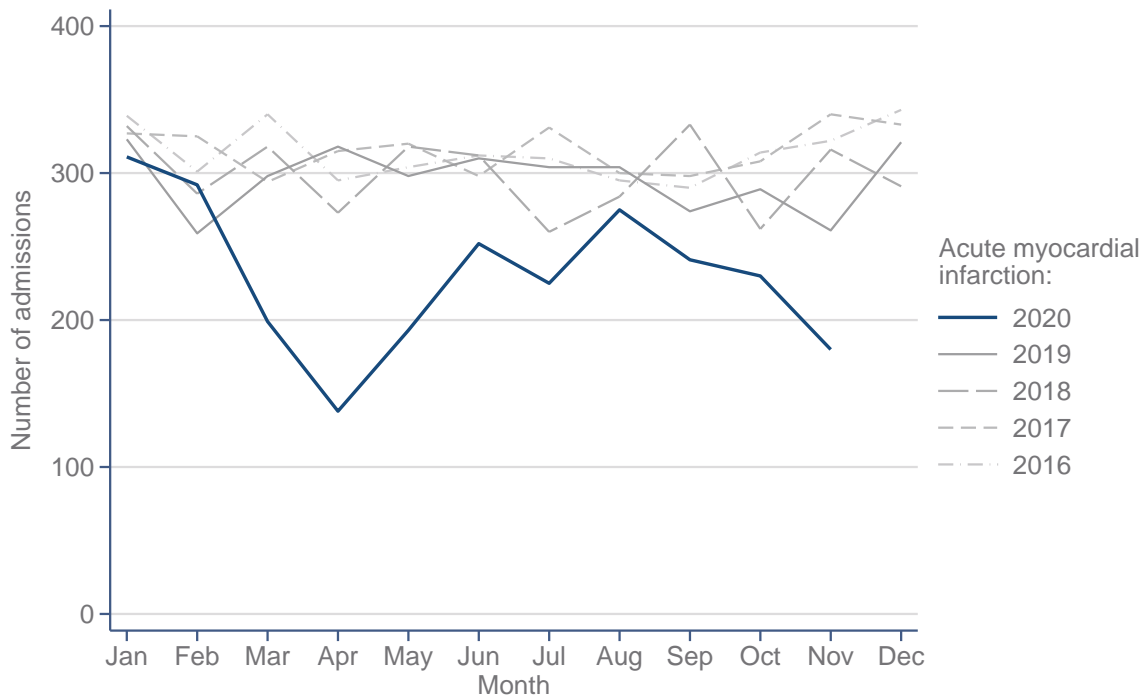
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Figure 14. Average daily number of patients in critical care by month, 2016-2020 *

* Please note that data for patients without COVID-19 are submitted by participating critical care units either monthly or quarterly. Values have been adjusted for coverage.

§ Not all surge patients are identifiable from ICU data and not all surge areas are covered.

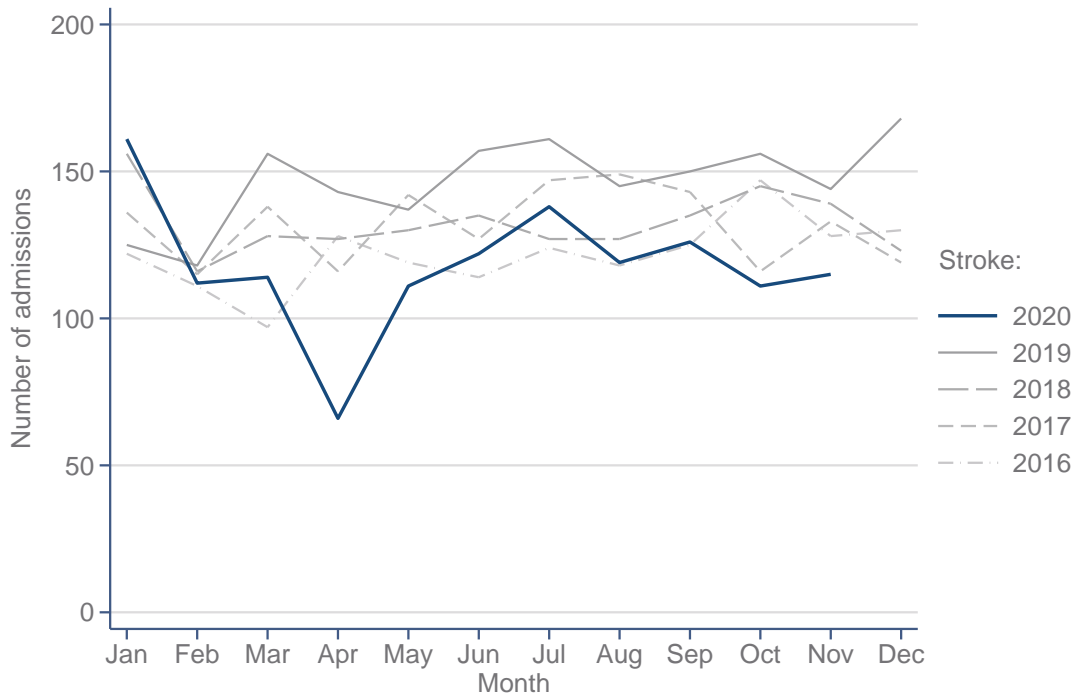
The numbers of admissions with acute myocardial infarction, stroke, trauma and self-harm (with drugs or other substances) recorded as primary or secondary reason for admission to critical care (with or without recording of COVID-19 as the other reason for admission) are shown in Figures 15 to 18.



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Figure 15. Number of admissions with acute myocardial infarction by month, 2016-2020 *

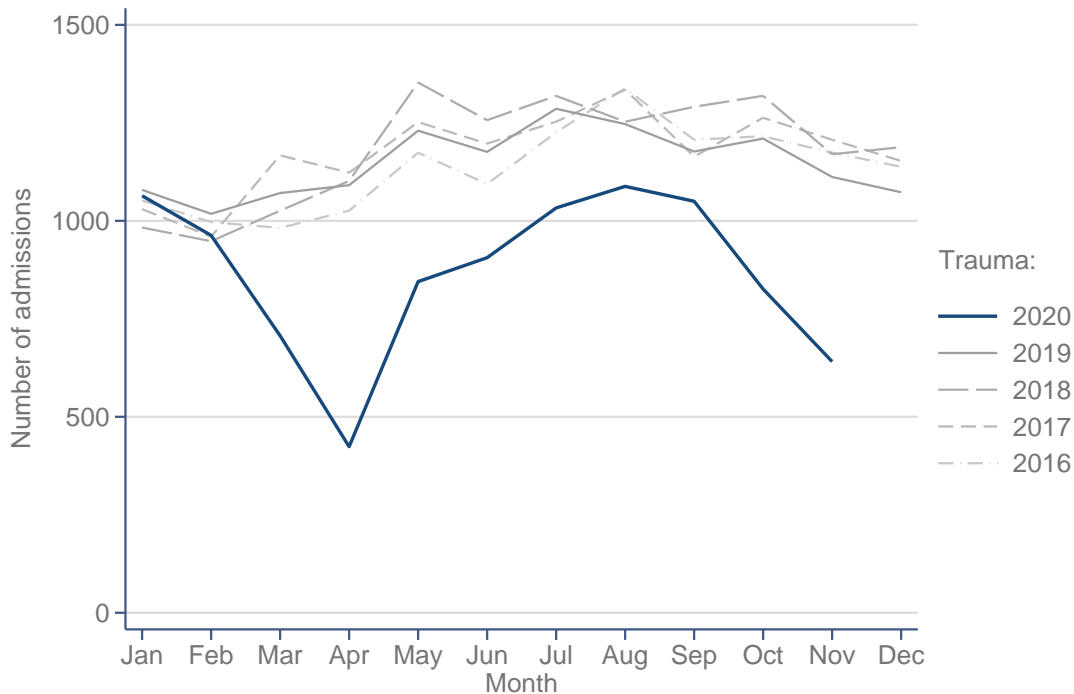
* Please note that data for patients without COVID-19 are submitted by participating critical care units either monthly or quarterly. Values have been adjusted for coverage.



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Figure 16. Number of admissions with stroke by month, 2016-2020 *

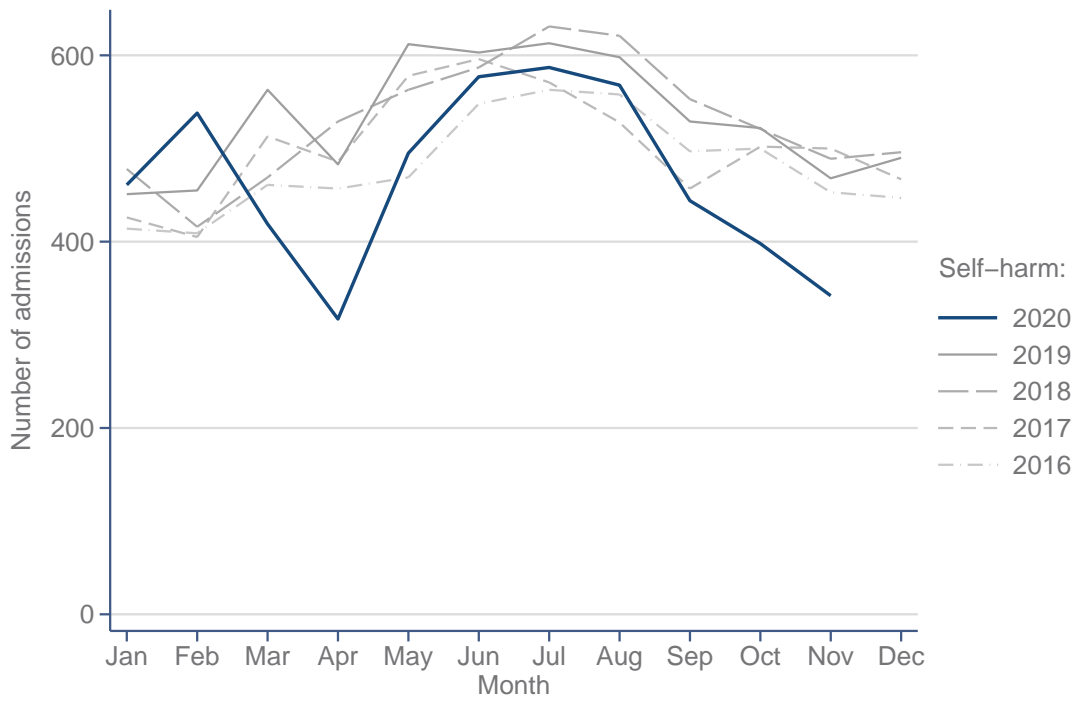
* Please note that data for patients without COVID-19 are submitted by participating critical care units either monthly or quarterly. Values have been adjusted for coverage.



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Figure 17. Number of admissions with trauma by month, 2016-2020 *

* Please note that data for patients without COVID-19 are submitted by participating critical care units either monthly or quarterly. Values have been adjusted for coverage.



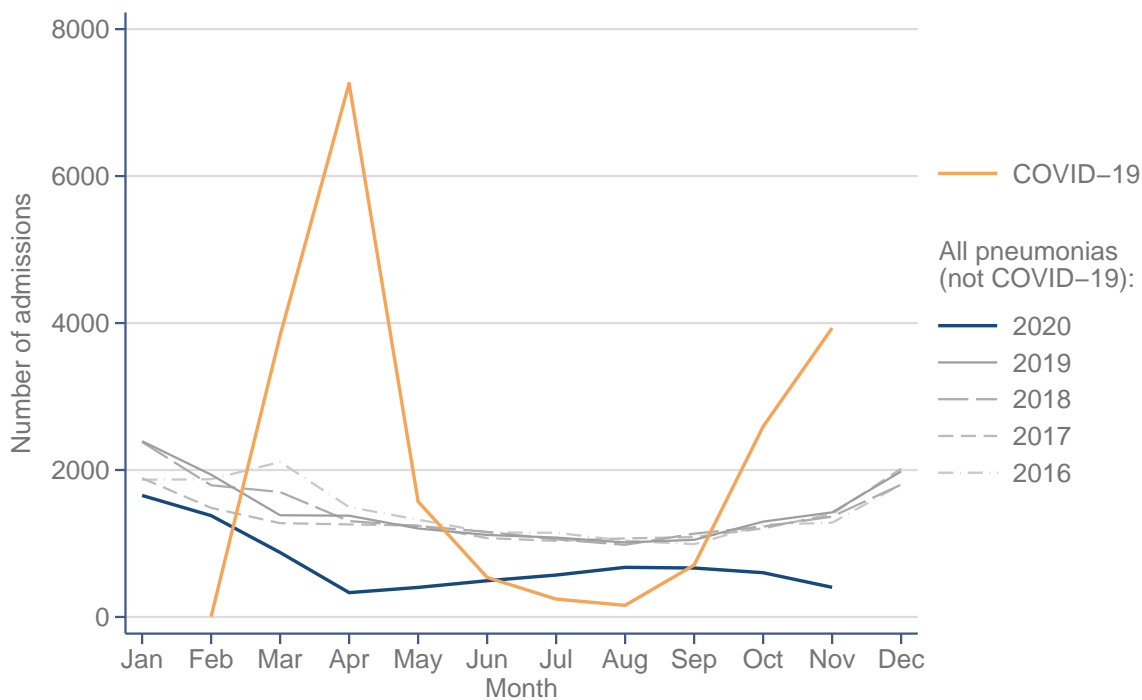
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Figure 18. Number of admissions with self-harm (drugs or other substances) by month, 2016-2020 *

* Please note that data for patients without COVID-19 are submitted by participating critical care units either monthly or quarterly. Values have been adjusted for coverage.

Admissions to critical care – pneumonia (not COVID-19)

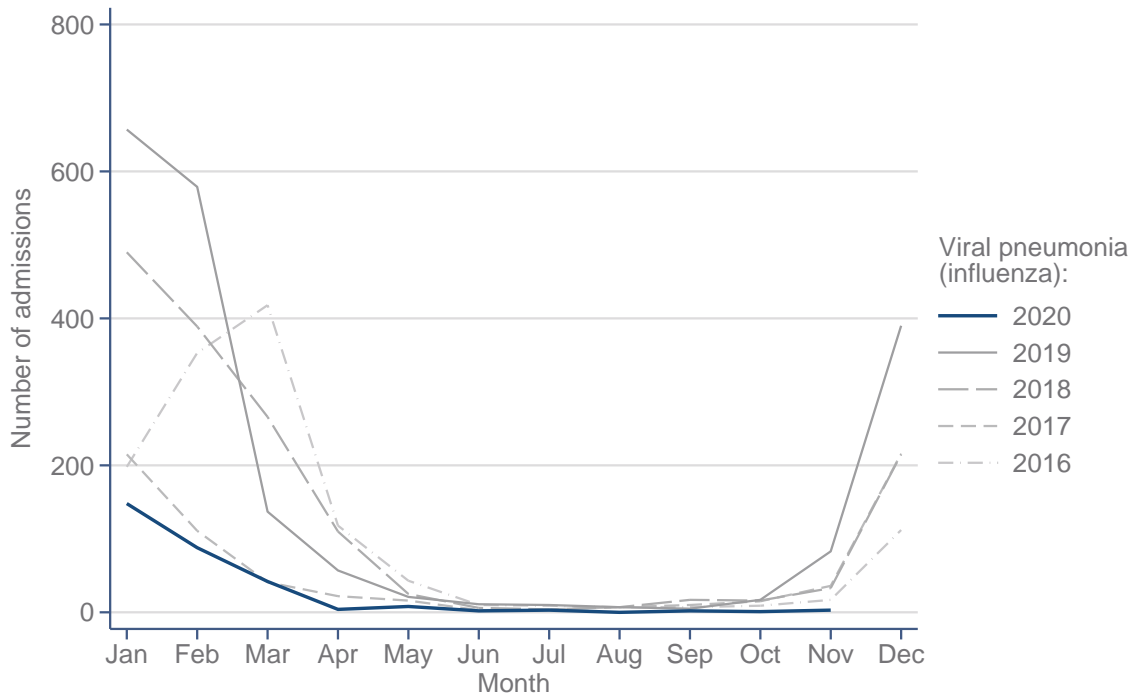
Figure 19 shows the total numbers of admissions to critical care over the past five years by month of admission reported as due to pneumonia (not COVID-19), compared with the numbers with confirmed COVID-19. Figure 20 shows the number of these pneumonia admissions that were specifically coded as due to influenza. Note that not all admissions due to influenza will be coded as viral pneumonia (influenza) as if the organism has not yet been identified, then these will likely be coded under pneumonia (no organism isolated).



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Figure 19. Number of admissions with pneumonia (not COVID-19) by month, 2016-2020 *, compared with confirmed COVID-19 during 2020

* Please note that data for patients without COVID-19 are submitted by participating critical care units either monthly or quarterly. Values have been adjusted for coverage.



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Figure 20. Number of admissions with viral pneumonia (influenza) by month, 2016-2020 *

* Please note that data for patients without COVID-19 are submitted by participating critical care units either monthly or quarterly. Values have been adjusted for coverage.

Patient characteristics

Characteristics of patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 admitted from 1 September 2020 to date are summarised in Tables 1-3 and compared with patients admitted up to 31 August 2020.

Table 1. Patient characteristics: demographics

Demographics	Patients with confirmed COVID-19	
	Admitted from 1 Sep (N=7677)	Admitted up to 31 Aug (N=10,935)
Age at admission (years) [N=7668]		
Mean (SD)	60.8 (13.7)	58.8 (12.7)
Median (IQR)	62 (53, 71)	60 (51, 68)
Sex, n (%) [N=7668]		
Female	2437 (31.8)	3275 (30.0)
Male	5231 (68.2)	7654 (70.0)
Ethnicity, n (%) [N=7239]		
White	5399 (74.6)	6948 (66.0)
Mixed	81 (1.1)	191 (1.8)
Asian	1199 (16.6)	1680 (16.0)
Black	277 (3.8)	1007 (9.6)
Other	283 (3.9)	700 (6.7)
Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) quintile *, n (%) [N=7556]		
1 (least deprived)	897 (11.9)	1545 (14.3)
2	1087 (14.4)	1738 (16.1)
3	1256 (16.6)	2083 (19.3)
4	1786 (23.6)	2613 (24.2)
5 (most deprived)	2530 (33.5)	2804 (26.0)
Urban/rural classification *, n (%) [N=7407]		
Major conurbation	3237 (43.7)	5219 (48.7)
Minor conurbation	414 (5.6)	337 (3.1)
City and town	2964 (40.0)	3991 (37.3)
Rural	791 (10.7)	1152 (10.8)

* Please see Definitions on page 63.

Table 2. Patient characteristics: medical history

Medical history	Patients with confirmed COVID-19	
	Admitted from 1 Sep (N=7677)	Admitted up to 31 Aug (N=10,935)
Dependency prior to admission to acute hospital, n (%) [N=7160]		
Able to live without assistance in daily activities	6240 (87.2)	9682 (89.4)
Some assistance with daily activities	897 (12.5)	1113 (10.3)
Total assistance with all daily activities	23 (0.3)	40 (0.4)
Very severe comorbidities *, n (%) [N=7255]		
Cardiovascular	56 (0.8)	68 (0.6)
Respiratory	82 (1.1)	122 (1.1)
Renal	152 (2.1)	187 (1.7)
Liver	47 (0.6)	51 (0.5)
Metastatic disease	56 (0.8)	59 (0.5)
Haematological malignancy	127 (1.8)	214 (2.0)
Immunocompromised	304 (4.2)	387 (3.6)
Body mass index *, n (%) [N=6904]		
<18.5	53 (0.8)	79 (0.8)
18.5-<25	1372 (19.9)	2643 (25.4)
25-<30	2281 (33.0)	3572 (34.4)
30-<40	2458 (35.6)	3268 (31.4)
≥40	740 (10.7)	831 (8.0)
CPR within previous 24h, n (%) [N=7366]		
In the community	48 (0.7)	50 (0.5)
In hospital	67 (0.9)	76 (0.7)
Prior hospital length of stay [N=7603]		
Mean (SD)	3.1 (7.4)	2.5 (6.2)
Median (IQR)	1 (0, 3)	1 (0, 3)
Currently or recently pregnant, n (% of females aged 16-49) [N=574]		
Currently pregnant	44 (7.7)	29 (3.7)
Recently pregnant (within 6 weeks)	28 (4.9)	41 (5.2)
Not known to be pregnant	502 (87.5)	720 (91.1)

* Please see Definitions on page 63.

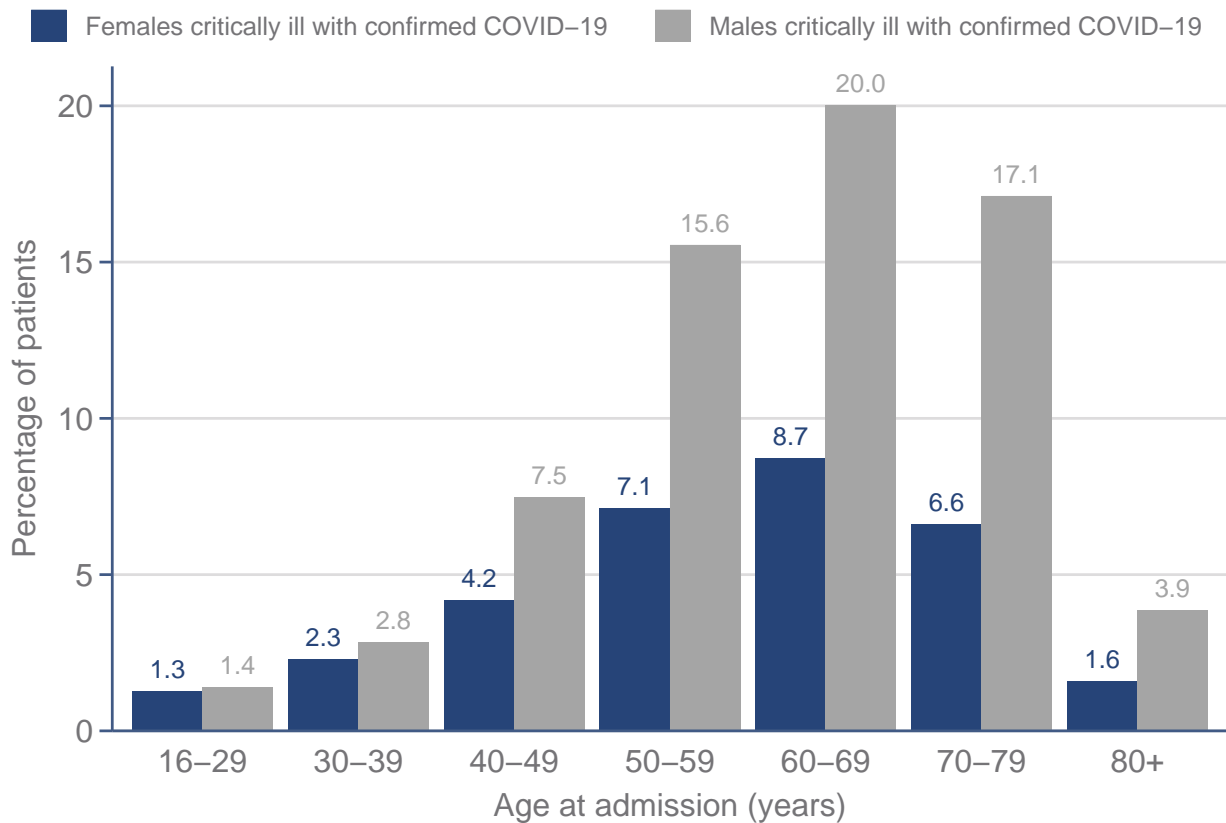
Table 3. Patient characteristics: indicators of acute severity

Indicators of acute severity	Patients with confirmed COVID-19 and 24h data received	
	Admitted from 1 Sep (N=7345)	Admitted up to 31 Aug (N=10,935)
Invasively ventilated within first 24h *, n (%) [N=7019]	1711 (24.4)	5866 (54.3)
APACHE II Score [N=7150]		
Mean (SD)	14.7 (5.4)	15.1 (5.3)
Median (IQR)	14 (11, 18)	15 (11, 18)
PaO ₂ /FiO ₂ ratio † (kPa), median (IQR) [N=6666]	13.5 (10.0, 19.0)	15.8 (11.3, 22.0)
PaO ₂ /FiO ₂ ratio †, n (%) [N=6666]		
< 13.3 kPa (< 100 mmHg)	3273 (49.1)	3809 (37.0)
13.3-26.6 kPa (100-200 mmHg)	2640 (39.6)	4935 (47.9)
≥ 26.7 kPa (≥ 200 mmHg)	753 (11.3)	1558 (15.1)

* Please see Definitions on page 63. Indicators of acute severity are based on data from the first 24 hours of critical care.

† Derived from the arterial blood gas with the lowest PaO₂ during the first 24 hours of critical care.

The distribution of age and sex is presented in Figure 21.

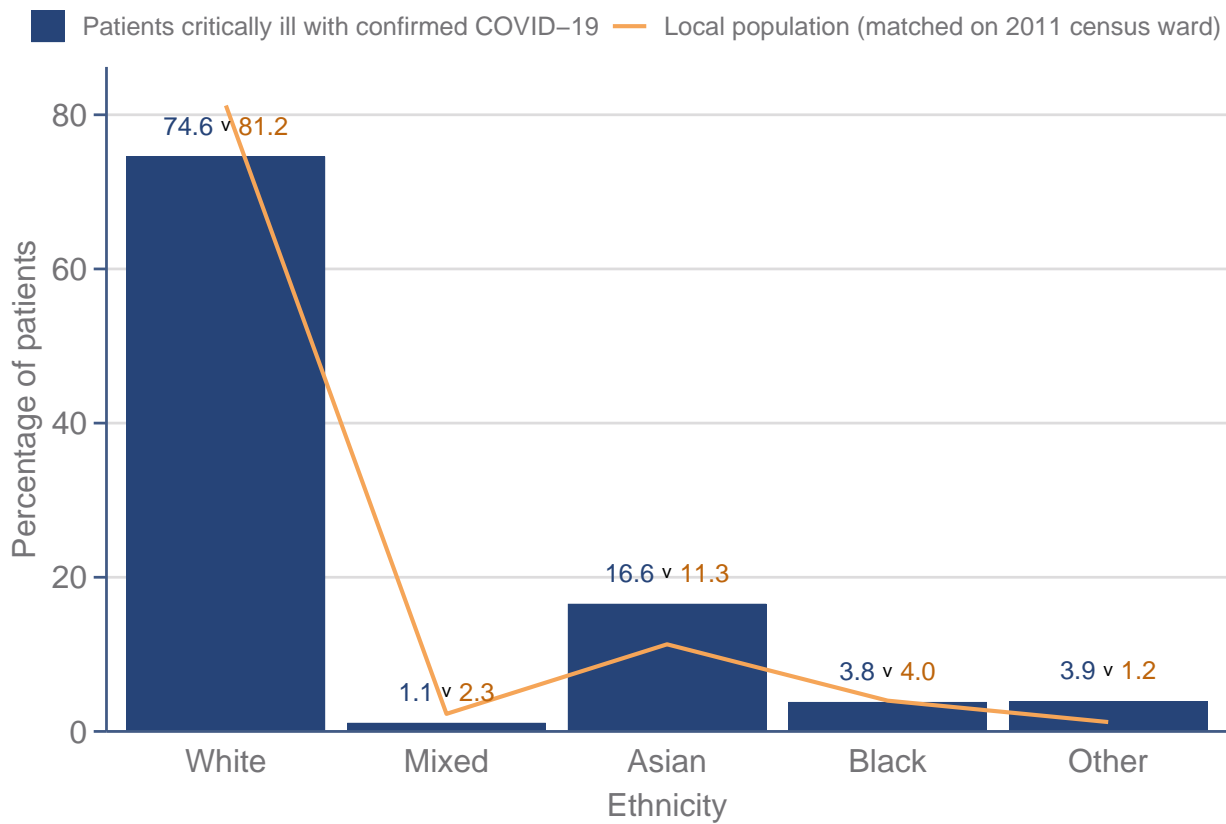


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Figure 21. Age and sex distribution

Age and sex distribution of patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 admitted from 1 September 2020 to date.

The distribution of ethnicity, matched on 2011 census ward for location of patients critically ill with COVID-19, is presented in Figure 22.

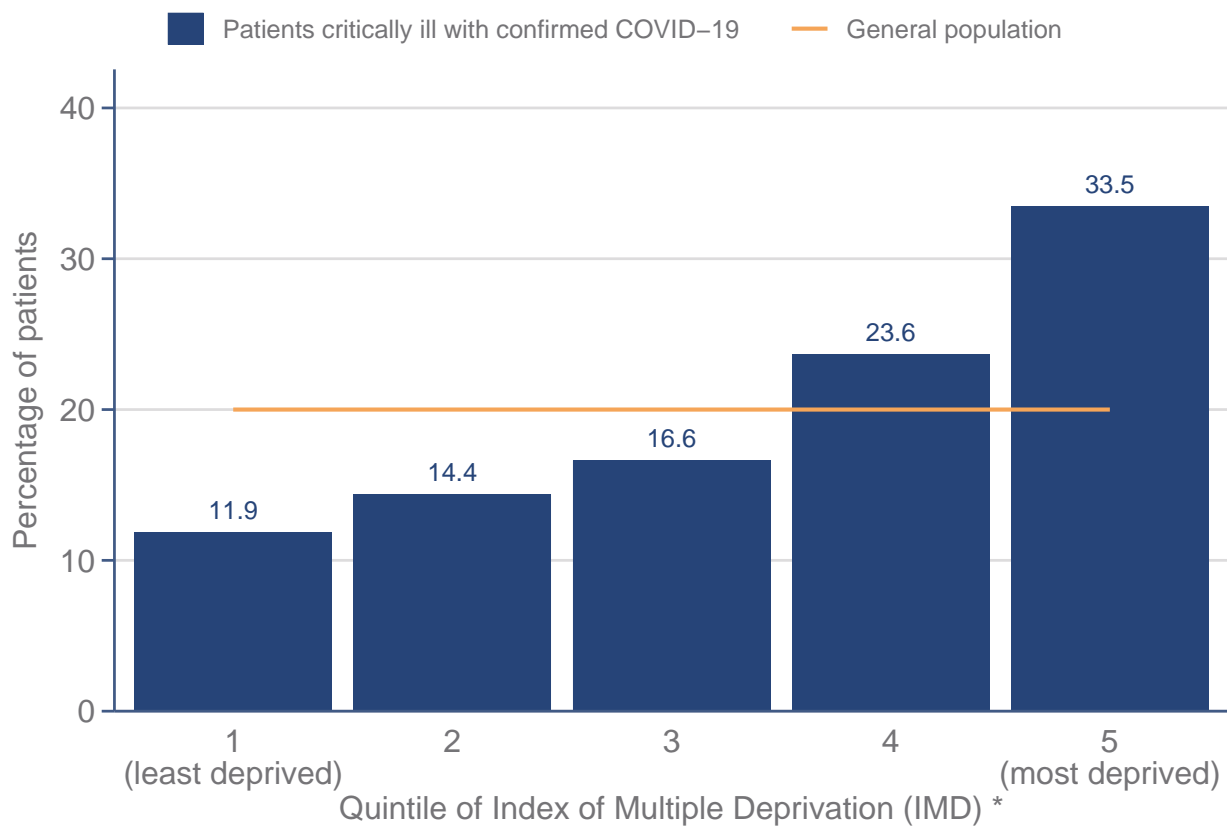


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Figure 22. Ethnicity distribution compared with the local population

Ethnicity distribution of patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 admitted from 1 September 2020 to date compared with the local population (linked to 2011 census ward).

The distribution of Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is presented in Figure 23.



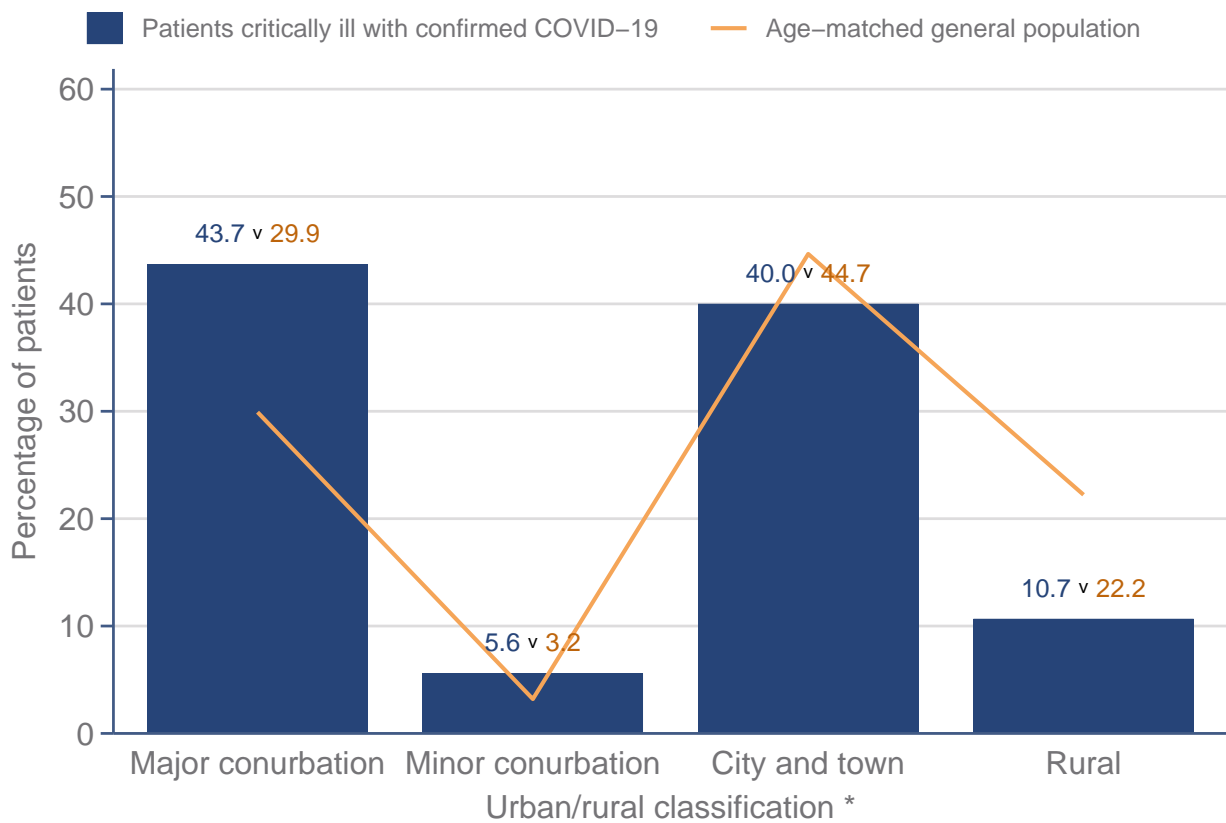
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Figure 23. Index of Multiple Deprivation * distribution compared with the general population

Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) * distribution of patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 admitted from 1 September 2020 to date compared with the general population.

* Please see Definitions on page 63.

The distribution of patients by the urban/rural classification of their usual residence, compared with the age-matched general population (Office for National Statistics 2020), is presented in Figure 24.



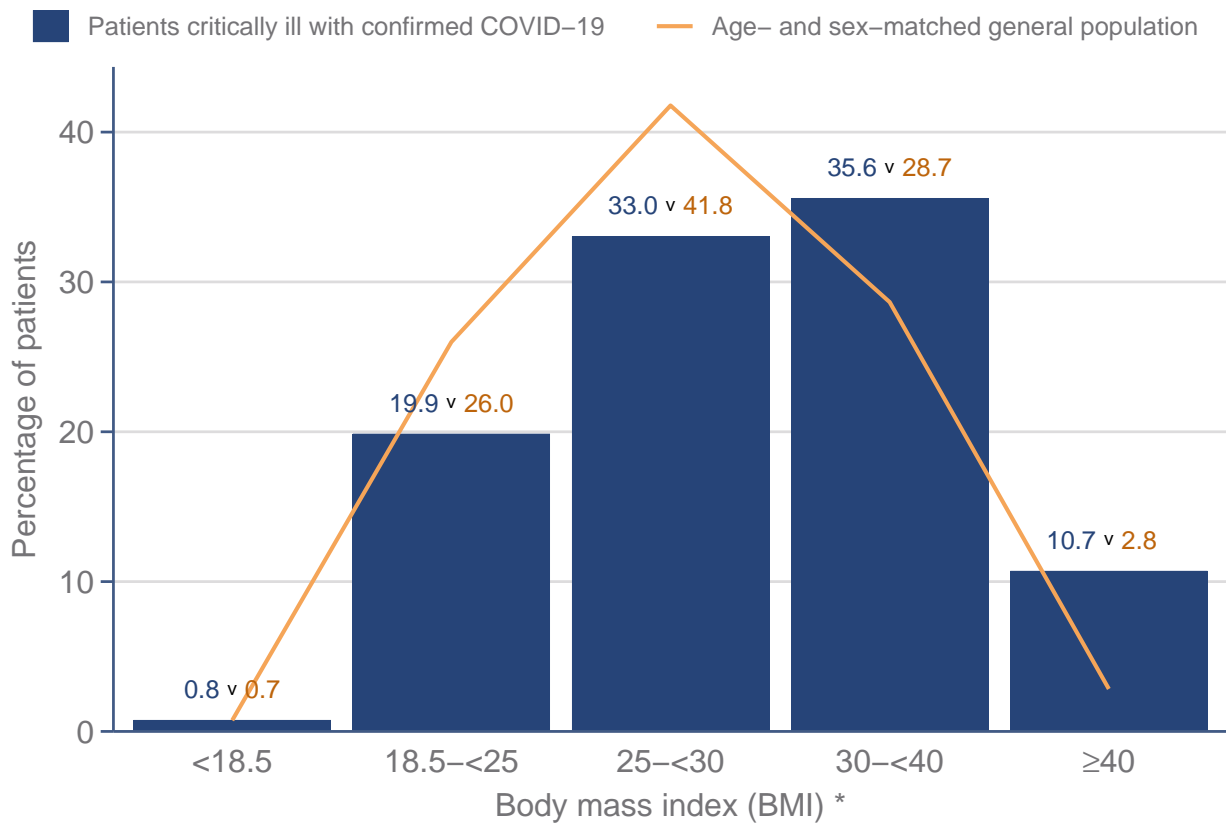
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Figure 24. Urban/rural * distribution compared with the age-matched general population

Urban/rural * distribution of patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 admitted from 1 September 2020 to date compared with the age-matched general population.

* Please see Definitions on page 63.

The distribution of body mass index (BMI), compared with an age- and sex-matched population (from the Health Survey for England 2018), is presented in Figure 25.



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Figure 25. Body mass index * distribution compared with the age- and sex-matched general population

Body mass index (BMI) * distribution of patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 admitted from 1 September 2020 compared with the age- and sex-matched general population (Health Survey for England 2018).

* Please see Definitions on page 63.

Patient characteristics – invasively ventilated first 24 hours

Characteristics of patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 and receiving invasive ventilation during the first 24 hours in critical care admitted from 1 September 2020 to date are summarised in Tables 4-6 and compared with patients admitted up to 31 August 2020.

Table 4. Patient characteristics: demographics (invasively ventilated first 24 hours)

Patients with confirmed COVID-19 invasively ventilated first 24 hours *		
Demographics	Admitted from 1 Sep (N=1711)	Admitted up to 31 Aug (N=5866)
Age at admission (years) [N=1710]		
Mean (SD)	60.4 (13.6)	58.5 (12.1)
Median (IQR)	62 (53, 70)	59 (51, 67)
Sex, n (%) [N=1709]		
Female	550 (32.2)	1608 (27.4)
Male	1159 (67.8)	4253 (72.6)
Ethnicity, n (%) [N=1630]		
White	1203 (73.8)	3465 (61.4)
Mixed	13 (0.8)	115 (2.0)
Asian	278 (17.1)	965 (17.1)
Black	68 (4.2)	651 (11.5)
Other	68 (4.2)	443 (7.9)
Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) quintile *, n (%) [N=1683]		
1 (least deprived)	194 (11.5)	786 (13.6)
2	221 (13.1)	925 (16.0)
3	291 (17.3)	1152 (19.9)
4	402 (23.9)	1486 (25.6)
5 (most deprived)	575 (34.2)	1447 (25.0)
Urban/rural classification *, n (%) [N=1596]		
Major conurbation	800 (50.1)	3126 (54.6)
Minor conurbation	64 (4.0)	119 (2.1)
City and town	586 (36.7)	1910 (33.4)
Rural	145 (9.1)	567 (9.9)

* Please see Definitions on page 63.

Table 5. Patient characteristics: medical history (invasively ventilated first 24 hours)

Patients with confirmed COVID-19 invasively ventilated first 24 hours *		
Medical history	Admitted from 1 Sep (N=1711)	Admitted up to 31 Aug (N=5866)
Dependency prior to admission to acute hospital, n (%) [N=1656]		
Able to live without assistance in daily activities	1446 (87.3)	5363 (92.3)
Some assistance with daily activities	209 (12.6)	438 (7.5)
Total assistance with all daily activities	1 (0.1)	10 (0.2)
Very severe comorbidities *, n (%) [N=1664]		
Cardiovascular	20 (1.2)	19 (0.3)
Respiratory	13 (0.8)	32 (0.6)
Renal	27 (1.6)	79 (1.4)
Liver	15 (0.9)	23 (0.4)
Metastatic disease	5 (0.3)	20 (0.3)
Haematological malignancy	24 (1.4)	75 (1.3)
Immunocompromised	63 (3.8)	162 (2.8)
Body mass index *, n (%) [N=1620]		
<18.5	15 (0.9)	30 (0.5)
18.5-<25	324 (20.0)	1415 (24.8)
25-<30	539 (33.3)	1981 (34.8)
30-<40	549 (33.9)	1850 (32.5)
≥40	193 (11.9)	424 (7.4)
CPR within previous 24h, n (%) [N=1685]		
In the community	34 (2.0)	39 (0.7)
In hospital	49 (2.9)	58 (1.0)
Prior hospital length of stay [N=1707]		
Mean (SD)	3.5 (6.1)	2.1 (5.3)
Median (IQR)	1 (0, 4)	1 (0, 3)
Currently or recently pregnant, n (% of females aged 16-49) [N=139]		
Currently pregnant	9 (6.5)	9 (2.4)
Recently pregnant (within 6 weeks)	11 (7.9)	22 (5.9)
Not known to be pregnant	119 (85.6)	344 (91.7)

* Please see Definitions on page 63.

Table 6. Patient characteristics: indicators of acute severity (invasively ventilated first 24 hours)

Patients with confirmed COVID-19 invasively ventilated first 24 hours *		
Indicators of acute severity	Admitted from 1 Sep (N=1711)	Admitted up to 31 Aug (N=5866)
APACHE II Score [N=1710]		
Mean (SD)	16.9 (5.5)	15.6 (5.2)
Median (IQR)	16 (13, 20)	15 (12, 19)
PaO ₂ /FiO ₂ ratio † (kPa), median (IQR) [N=1707]	12.5 (8.6, 19.6)	15.5 (10.8, 21.6)
PaO ₂ /FiO ₂ ratio †, n (%) [N=1707]		
< 13.3 kPa (< 100 mmHg)	915 (53.6)	2280 (39.0)
13.3-26.6 kPa (100-200 mmHg)	555 (32.5)	2783 (47.6)
≥ 26.7 kPa (≥ 200 mmHg)	237 (13.9)	783 (13.4)

* Please see Definitions on page 63. Indicators of acute severity are based on data from the first 24 hours of critical care.

† Derived from the arterial blood gas with the lowest PaO₂ during the first 24 hours of critical care.

Patient characteristics – advanced respiratory support

Characteristics of patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 that received advanced respiratory support at any time during their critical care stay admitted from 1 September 2020 to date are summarised in Tables 7-9 and compared with patients admitted up to 31 August 2020.

Table 7. Patient characteristics: demographics (any advanced respiratory support and known outcomes)

Patients with confirmed COVID-19 and advanced respiratory support *		
Demographics	Admitted from 1 Sep (N=2673)	Admitted up to 31 Aug (N=7877)
Age at admission (years) [N=2672]		
Mean (SD)	61.7 (12.9)	58.6 (11.9)
Median (IQR)	64 (55, 71)	60 (51, 67)
Sex, n (%) [N=2671]		
Female	786 (29.4)	2205 (28.0)
Male	1885 (70.6)	5667 (72.0)
Ethnicity, n (%) [N=2561]		
White	1916 (74.8)	4751 (62.6)
Mixed	16 (0.6)	148 (2.0)
Asian	450 (17.6)	1298 (17.1)
Black	90 (3.5)	823 (10.9)
Other	89 (3.5)	564 (7.4)
Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) quintile *, n (%) [N=2644]		
1 (least deprived)	305 (11.5)	1063 (13.7)
2	353 (13.4)	1229 (15.8)
3	425 (16.1)	1553 (20.0)
4	617 (23.3)	1941 (24.9)
5 (most deprived)	944 (35.7)	1996 (25.6)
Urban/rural classification *, n (%) [N=2551]		
Major conurbation	1199 (47.0)	4019 (52.2)
Minor conurbation	132 (5.2)	205 (2.7)
City and town	964 (37.8)	2674 (34.7)
Rural	255 (10.0)	802 (10.4)

* Please see Definitions on page 63.

Table 8. Patient characteristics: medical history (any advanced respiratory support and known outcomes)

Patients with confirmed COVID-19 and advanced respiratory support *		
Medical history	Admitted from 1 Sep (N=2673)	Admitted up to 31 Aug (N=7877)
Dependency prior to admission to acute hospital, n (%) [N=2600]		
Able to live without assistance in daily activities	2312 (88.9)	7181 (92.0)
Some assistance with daily activities	286 (11.0)	612 (7.8)
Total assistance with all daily activities	2 (0.1)	11 (0.1)
Very severe comorbidities *, n (%) [N=2606]		
Cardiovascular	23 (0.9)	25 (0.3)
Respiratory	22 (0.8)	47 (0.6)
Renal	46 (1.8)	94 (1.2)
Liver	23 (0.9)	31 (0.4)
Metastatic disease	10 (0.4)	24 (0.3)
Haematological malignancy	46 (1.8)	128 (1.6)
Immunocompromised	122 (4.7)	234 (3.0)
Body mass index *, n (%) [N=2531]		
<18.5	16 (0.6)	41 (0.5)
18.5-<25	520 (20.5)	1888 (24.9)
25-<30	840 (33.2)	2635 (34.7)
30-<40	892 (35.2)	2466 (32.5)
≥40	263 (10.4)	567 (7.5)
CPR within previous 24h, n (%) [N=2643]		
In the community	35 (1.3)	45 (0.6)
In hospital	52 (2.0)	70 (0.9)
Prior hospital length of stay [N=2667]		
Mean (SD)	3.2 (7.1)	2.2 (5.3)
Median (IQR)	1 (0, 4)	1 (0, 3)
Currently or recently pregnant, n (% of females aged 16-49) [N=179]		
Currently pregnant	14 (7.8)	15 (2.9)
Recently pregnant (within 6 weeks)	12 (6.7)	27 (5.2)
Not known to be pregnant	153 (85.5)	481 (92.0)

* Please see Definitions on page 63.

Table 9. Patient characteristics: indicators of acute severity (any advanced respiratory support and known outcomes)

Patients with confirmed COVID-19 and advanced respiratory support *		
Indicators of acute severity	Admitted from 1 Sep (N=2673)	Admitted up to 31 Aug (N=7877)
APACHE II Score [N=2620]		
Mean (SD)	16.1 (5.4)	15.4 (5.1)
Median (IQR)	15 (13, 19)	15 (12, 18)
<hr/>		
PaO ₂ /FiO ₂ ratio † (kPa), median (IQR) [N=2544]	12.2 (9.0, 17.0)	15.0 (10.8, 21.0)
<hr/>		
PaO ₂ /FiO ₂ ratio †, n (%) [N=2544]		
< 13.3 kPa (< 100 mmHg)	1480 (58.2)	3101 (40.3)
13.3-26.6 kPa (100-200 mmHg)	799 (31.4)	3625 (47.1)
≥ 26.7 kPa (≥ 200 mmHg)	265 (10.4)	963 (12.5)

* Please see Definitions on page 63. Indicators of acute severity are based on data from the first 24 hours of critical care.

† Derived from the arterial blood gas with the lowest PaO₂ during the first 24 hours of critical care.

Patient characteristics – basic respiratory support only

Characteristics of patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 that received basic respiratory support only during their critical care stay admitted from 1 September 2020 to date are summarised in Tables 10-12 and compared with patients admitted up to 31 August 2020.

Table 10. Patient characteristics: demographics (basic respiratory support only and known outcomes)

Patients with confirmed COVID-19 and basic respiratory support only *		
Demographics	Admitted from 1 Sep (N=3203)	Admitted up to 31 Aug (N=2790)
Age at admission (years) [N=3203]		
Mean (SD)	60.6 (14.4)	59.4 (14.3)
Median (IQR)	62 (52, 72)	60 (50, 70)
Sex, n (%) [N=3202]		
Female	1045 (32.6)	958 (34.3)
Male	2157 (67.4)	1831 (65.7)
Ethnicity, n (%) [N=3067]		
White	2340 (76.3)	2018 (74.9)
Mixed	34 (1.1)	41 (1.5)
Asian	464 (15.1)	351 (13.0)
Black	115 (3.7)	164 (6.1)
Other	114 (3.7)	119 (4.4)
Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) quintile *, n (%) [N=3158]		
1 (least deprived)	380 (12.0)	440 (16.0)
2	473 (15.0)	465 (17.0)
3	520 (16.5)	488 (17.8)
4	728 (23.1)	602 (22.0)
5 (most deprived)	1057 (33.5)	747 (27.2)
Urban/rural classification *, n (%) [N=3148]		
Major conurbation	1295 (41.1)	1047 (38.2)
Minor conurbation	201 (6.4)	128 (4.7)
City and town	1300 (41.3)	1241 (45.2)
Rural	352 (11.2)	324 (11.8)

* Please see Definitions on page 63.

Table 11. Patient characteristics: medical history (basic respiratory support only and known outcomes)

Patients with confirmed COVID-19 and basic respiratory support only *		
Medical history	Admitted from 1 Sep (N=3203)	Admitted up to 31 Aug (N=2790)
Dependency prior to admission to acute hospital, n (%) [N=3142]		
Able to live without assistance in daily activities	2684 (85.4)	2295 (83.0)
Some assistance with daily activities	442 (14.1)	446 (16.1)
Total assistance with all daily activities	16 (0.5)	24 (0.9)
Very severe comorbidities *, n (%) [N=3157]		
Cardiovascular	27 (0.9)	39 (1.4)
Respiratory	51 (1.6)	72 (2.6)
Renal	58 (1.8)	76 (2.7)
Liver	12 (0.4)	17 (0.6)
Metastatic disease	35 (1.1)	26 (0.9)
Haematological malignancy	57 (1.8)	78 (2.8)
Immunocompromised	127 (4.0)	137 (5.0)
Body mass index *, n (%) [N=3007]		
<18.5	25 (0.8)	28 (1.1)
18.5-<25	556 (18.5)	666 (26.3)
25-<30	1006 (33.5)	857 (33.8)
30-<40	1086 (36.1)	736 (29.0)
≥40	334 (11.1)	249 (9.8)
CPR within previous 24h, n (%) [N=3182]		
In the community	5 (0.2)	5 (0.2)
In hospital	2 (0.1)	3 (0.1)
Prior hospital length of stay [N=3195]		
Mean (SD)	2.7 (6.2)	3.0 (7.3)
Median (IQR)	1 (0, 3)	1 (0, 3)
Currently or recently pregnant, n (% of females aged 16-49) [N=254]		
Currently pregnant	19 (7.5)	11 (4.6)
Recently pregnant (within 6 weeks)	11 (4.3)	11 (4.6)
Not known to be pregnant	224 (88.2)	217 (90.8)

* Please see Definitions on page 63.

Table 12. Patient characteristics: indicators of acute severity (basic respiratory support only and known outcomes)

Patients with confirmed COVID-19 and basic respiratory support only *		
Indicators of acute severity	Admitted from 1 Sep (N=3203)	Admitted up to 31 Aug (N=2790)
APACHE II Score [N=3143]		
Mean (SD)	13.7 (5.1)	14.2 (5.5)
Median (IQR)	13 (10, 16)	14 (10, 17)
<hr/>		
PaO ₂ /FiO ₂ ratio † (kPa), median (IQR) [N=2882]	14.6 (11.2, 19.6)	17.5 (12.5, 24.0)
<hr/>		
PaO ₂ /FiO ₂ ratio †, n (%) [N=2882]		
< 13.3 kPa (< 100 mmHg)	1181 (41.0)	702 (29.1)
13.3-26.6 kPa (100-200 mmHg)	1425 (49.4)	1273 (52.8)
≥ 26.7 kPa (≥ 200 mmHg)	276 (9.6)	437 (18.1)

* Please see Definitions on page 63. Indicators of acute severity are based on data from the first 24 hours of critical care.

† Derived from the arterial blood gas with the lowest PaO₂ during the first 24 hours of critical care.

Outcomes, duration of critical care and organ support

Critical care outcomes have been received for 6179 (of 7677) patients. Of these, 2347 have died and 3832 have been discharged from critical care (Figures 26 and 27). The remaining 1498 were last reported to still be receiving critical care.

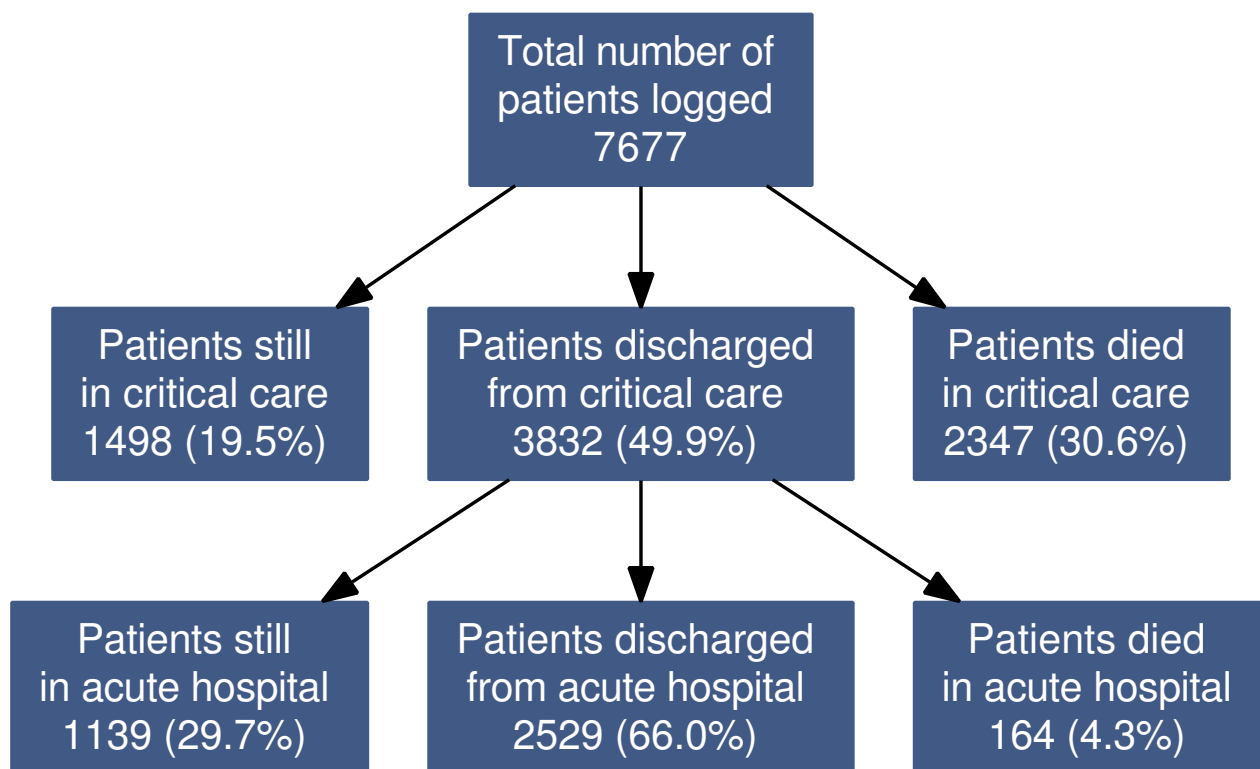
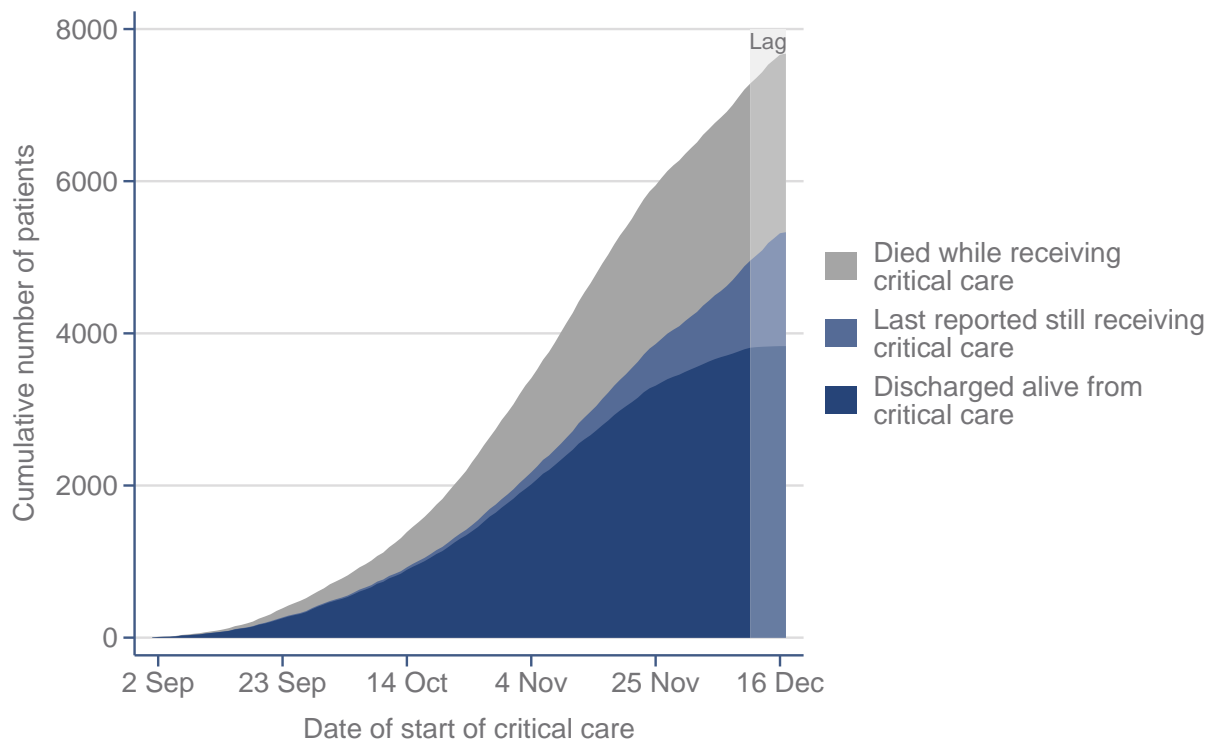


Figure 26. Critical care and acute hospital outcomes

Critical care and acute hospital outcomes for patients admitted from 1 September 2020 to date.



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Figure 27. Cumulative outcomes *

Cumulative outcomes for patients admitted from 1 September 2020 to date by date of start of critical care.

* Please note that patients whose outcome data have not been received are assumed to remain in critical care as of 17 December 2020.

Critical care outcome, duration of critical care and organ support for patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 admitted from 1 September 2020 to date for whom outcomes have been received are summarised in Table 13 and compared with patients admitted up to 31 August 2020.

Table 13. Critical care outcome, duration of critical care and organ support

Patients with confirmed COVID-19 and outcome received		
Critical care outcome	Admitted from 1 Sep (N=7677)	Admitted up to 31 Aug (N=10,935)
Outcome at end of critical care, n (%)		
Discharged	3832 (49.9)	6622 (60.6)
Died	2347 (30.6)	4311 (39.4)
Still receiving critical care	1498 (19.5)	2 (0.0)
Duration of critical care	(N=6149)	(N=10,900)
Duration of critical care (days) †, median (IQR)		
Survivors	6 (3, 10)	12 (5, 28)
Non-survivors	11 (5, 17)	9 (5, 16)
Organ support (Critical Care Minimum Dataset) *	(N=6121)	(N=10,931)
Receipt of organ support, at any point, n (%)		
Advanced respiratory support	2673 (43.7)	7877 (72.1)
Basic respiratory support only	3203 (52.3)	2790 (25.5)
No respiratory support	245 (4.0)	264 (2.4)
Advanced cardiovascular support	1159 (18.9)	3365 (30.8)
Basic cardiovascular support only	4638 (75.8)	7104 (65.0)
No cardiovascular support	324 (5.3)	462 (4.2)
Renal support	862 (14.1)	2925 (26.8)
Liver support	40 (0.7)	114 (1.0)
Neurological support	368 (6.0)	993 (9.1)
Duration of organ support (calendar days), median (IQR)		
Advanced respiratory support	10 (5, 16)	14 (7, 24)
Total (advanced + basic) respiratory support	7 (4, 14)	11 (5, 22)
Advanced cardiovascular support	2 (1, 5)	3 (2, 6)
Total (advanced + basic) cardiovascular support	8 (4, 14)	11 (5, 22)
Renal support	4 (2, 9)	8 (3, 15)

Please note that the results for patients admitted from 1 September 2020 are biased towards patients with shorter lengths of stay in critical care prior to discharge or death, i.e. those who died or recovered quickly.

* Please see Definitions on page 63.

† Duration of critical care is the total over all critical care admissions for the the same patient and excludes any time spent outside critical care areas (e.g. prior to any readmissions).

Outcomes, duration of critical care and organ support – invasively ventilated first 24 hours

Critical care outcome, duration of critical care and organ support for patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 and receiving invasive ventilation during the first 24 hours in critical care admitted from 1 September 2020 to date for whom outcomes have been received are summarised in Table 14 and compared with patients admitted up to 31 August 2020.

Table 14. Critical care outcome, duration of critical care and organ support (invasively ventilated first 24 hours)

Patients with confirmed COVID-19 invasively ventilated first 24 hours *		
Critical care outcome	Admitted from 1 Sep (N=1711)	Admitted up to 31 Aug (N=5866)
Outcome at end of critical care, n (%)		
Discharged	580 (33.9)	3131 (53.4)
Died	769 (44.9)	2734 (46.6)
Still receiving critical care	362 (21.2)	1 (0.0)
Duration of critical care	(N=1340)	(N=5848)
Duration of critical care (days) †, median (IQR)		
Survivors	12 (6, 20)	22 (12, 35)
Non-survivors	11 (5, 17)	10 (5, 17)
Organ support (Critical Care Minimum Dataset) *	(N=1335)	(N=5864)
Receipt of organ support, at any point, n (%)		
Advanced cardiovascular support	554 (41.5)	2392 (40.8)
Basic cardiovascular support only	779 (58.4)	3459 (59.0)
No cardiovascular support	2 (0.1)	13 (0.2)
Renal support	359 (26.9)	2120 (36.2)
Liver support	21 (1.6)	80 (1.4)
Neurological support	200 (15.0)	716 (12.2)
Duration of organ support (calendar days), median (IQR)		
Advanced respiratory support	10 (4, 17)	14 (7, 24)
Total (advanced + basic) respiratory support	11 (6, 18)	15 (8, 26)
Advanced cardiovascular support	2 (1, 5)	3 (2, 6)
Total (advanced + basic) cardiovascular support	11 (6, 18)	15 (8, 26)
Renal support	5 (2, 10)	8 (4, 16)

Please note that the results for patients admitted from 1 September 2020 are biased towards patients with shorter lengths of stay in critical care prior to discharge or death, i.e. those who died or recovered quickly.

* Please see Definitions on page 63.

† Duration of critical care is the total over all critical care admissions for the the same patient and excludes any time spent outside critical care areas (e.g. prior to any readmissions).

Outcomes, duration of critical care and organ support – advanced respiratory support

Critical care outcome, duration of critical care and organ support for patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 that received advanced respiratory support at any time during their critical care stay admitted from 1 September 2020 to date for whom outcomes have been received are summarised in Table 15 and compared with patients admitted up to 31 August 2020.

Table 15. Critical care outcome, duration of critical care and organ support (any advanced respiratory support and known outcomes)

Patients with confirmed COVID-19 and advanced respiratory support *		
Critical care outcome	Admitted from 1 Sep (N=3732 ‡)	Admitted up to 31 Aug (N=7877)
Outcome at end of critical care, n (%)		
Discharged	957 (25.6)	4122 (52.3)
Died	1716 (46.0)	3755 (47.7)
Still receiving critical care ‡	1059 (28.4)	0 (0.0)
Duration of critical care	(N=2657)	(N=7853)
Duration of critical care (days) †, median (IQR)		
Survivors	13 (7, 24)	23 (12, 37)
Non-survivors	13 (8, 19)	10 (6, 17)
Organ support (Critical Care Minimum Dataset) *	(N=2673)	(N=7877)
Receipt of organ support, at any point, n (%)		
Advanced cardiovascular support	1087 (40.7)	3295 (41.8)
Basic cardiovascular support only	1584 (59.3)	4565 (58.0)
No cardiovascular support	2 (0.1)	17 (0.2)
Renal support	740 (27.7)	2776 (35.2)
Liver support	36 (1.3)	110 (1.4)
Neurological support	336 (12.6)	967 (12.3)
Duration of organ support (calendar days), median (IQR)		
Advanced respiratory support	10 (5, 16)	14 (7, 24)
Total (advanced + basic) respiratory support	13 (8, 20)	16 (8, 27)
Advanced cardiovascular support	3 (2, 5)	3 (2, 6)
Total (advanced + basic) cardiovascular support	13 (8, 20)	16 (9, 27)
Renal support	5 (2, 10)	8 (4, 16)

Please note that the results for patients admitted from 1 September 2020 are biased towards patients with shorter lengths of stay in critical care prior to discharge or death, i.e. those who died or recovered quickly.

* Please see Definitions on page 63.

† Duration of critical care is the total over all critical care admissions for the the same patient and excludes any time spent outside critical care areas (e.g. prior to any readmissions).

‡ Numbers of patients still receiving critical care estimated based on observed, incomplete organ support data received.

Outcomes, duration of critical care and organ support – basic respiratory support only

Critical care outcome, duration of critical care and organ support for patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 that received basic respiratory support only during their critical care stay admitted from 1 September 2020 to date for whom outcomes have been received are summarised in Table 16 and compared with patients admitted up to 31 August 2020.

Table 16. Critical care outcome, duration of critical care and organ support (basic respiratory support only and known outcomes)

Patients with confirmed COVID-19 and basic respiratory support only *		
Critical care outcome	Admitted from 1 Sep (N=3700 ‡)	Admitted up to 31 Aug (N=2790)
Outcome at end of critical care, n (%)		
Discharged	2612 (70.6)	2250 (80.6)
Died	591 (16.0)	540 (19.4)
Still receiving critical care ‡	497 (13.4)	0 (0.0)
Duration of critical care	(N=3192)	(N=2781)
Duration of critical care (days) †, median (IQR)		
Survivors	5 (3, 8)	4 (2, 7)
Non-survivors	5 (2.5, 9)	4 (2, 7)
Organ support (Critical Care Minimum Dataset) *	(N=3203)	(N=2790)
Receipt of organ support, at any point, n (%)		
Advanced cardiovascular support	61 (1.9)	53 (1.9)
Basic cardiovascular support only	2898 (90.5)	2326 (83.4)
No cardiovascular support	244 (7.6)	411 (14.7)
Renal support	98 (3.1)	114 (4.1)
Liver support	2 (0.1)	3 (0.1)
Neurological support	26 (0.8)	22 (0.8)
Duration of organ support (calendar days), median (IQR)		
Total (advanced + basic) respiratory support	5 (3, 8)	4 (3, 7)
Advanced cardiovascular support	2 (1, 2)	2 (1, 3)
Total (advanced + basic) cardiovascular support	5 (4, 8)	5 (3, 7)
Renal support	3 (2, 6)	3 (2, 5)

Please note that the results for patients admitted from 1 September 2020 are biased towards patients with shorter lengths of stay in critical care prior to discharge or death, i.e. those who died or recovered quickly.

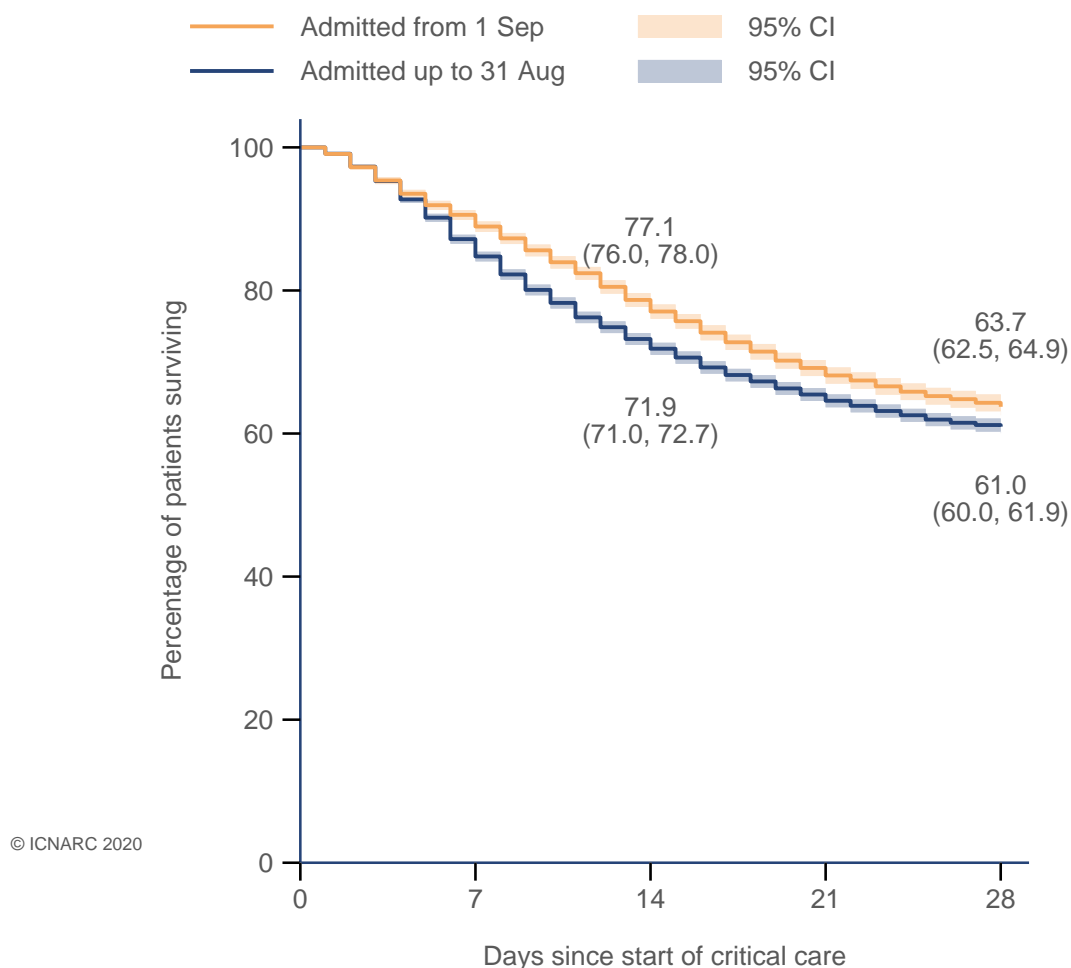
* Please see Definitions on page 63.

† Duration of critical care is the total over all critical care admissions for the the same patient and excludes any time spent outside critical care areas (e.g. prior to any readmissions).

‡ Numbers of patients still receiving critical care estimated based on observed, incomplete organ support data received.

28-day in-hospital outcome - overall

A Kaplan-Meier plot of in-hospital survival to 28 days following admission to critical care for patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 admitted from 1 September 2020 to date is shown in Figure 28 and compared with patients admitted up to 31 August 2020.



Admitted from 1 Sep

At risk	7345	6137	4897	3964	3228
Died (in hospital)	0	795	1585	2134	2377
Censored	0	413	863	1247	1740

Admitted up to 31 Aug

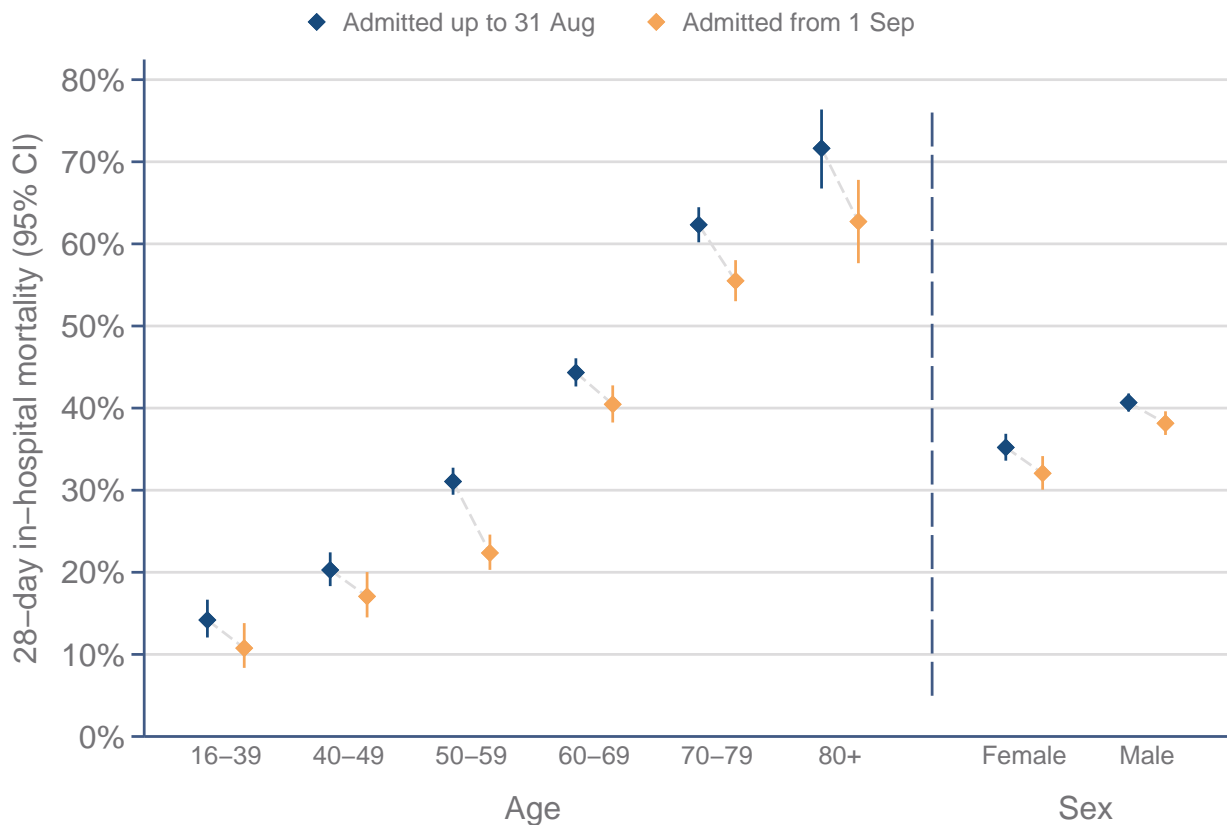
At risk	10935	9267	7856	7059	6662
Died (in hospital)	0	1667	3077	3873	4268
Censored	0	1	2	3	5

Figure 28. In-hospital survival to 28 days following admission to critical care

Kaplan-Meier survival analysis. Patients last reported to be still receiving critical care censored on the most recent date of data submission by the treating unit. Patients discharged from acute hospital within 28 days assumed to survive to 28 days. Please note that these survival curves are not adjusted for differences in patient characteristics (see Tables 1-3).

28-day in-hospital outcome - by patient characteristics

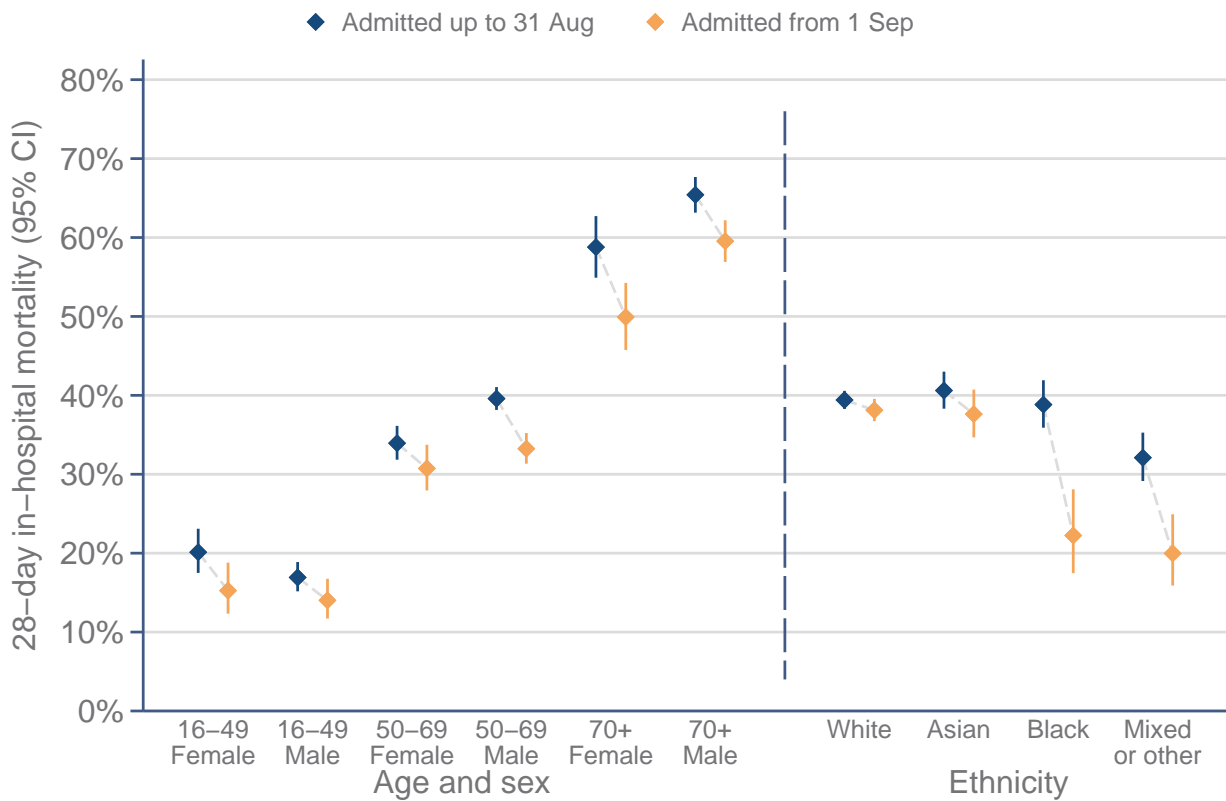
28-day in-hospital mortality for patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 admitted from 1 September 2020 to date by patient characteristics (demographics, medical history and indicators of acute severity) is presented in Figures 29-32 and compared with patients admitted up to 31 August 2020.



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Figure 29. 28-day in-hospital mortality by patient characteristics (demographics)

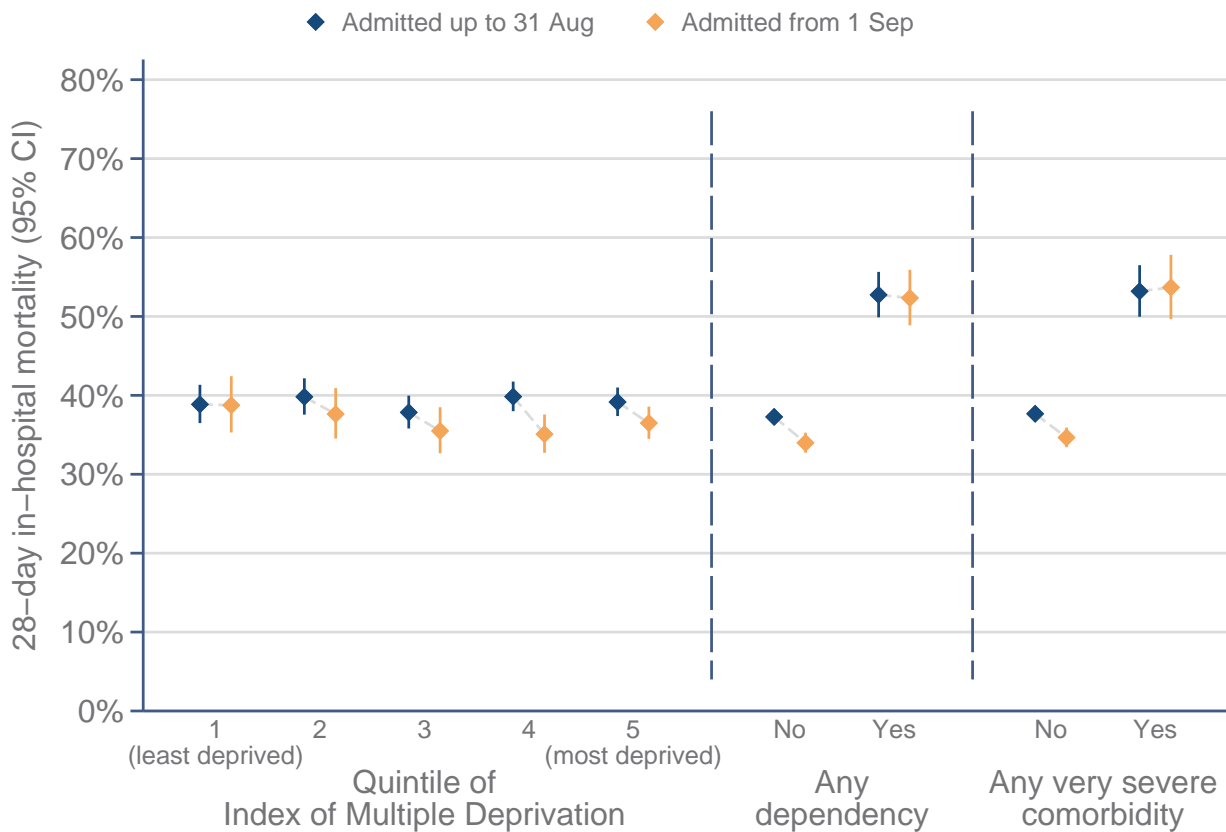
Estimates of 28-day in-hospital mortality based on Kaplan-Meier survival analysis. Patients last reported to be still receiving critical care censored on the most recent date of data submission by the treating unit. Patients discharged from acute hospital within 28 days assumed to survive to 28 days. Please note that these estimates are not adjusted for differences in other patient characteristics (see Tables 1-3).



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Figure 30. 28-day in-hospital mortality by patient characteristics (demographics continued)

Estimates of 28-day in-hospital mortality based on Kaplan-Meier survival analysis. Patients last reported to be still receiving critical care censored on the most recent date of data submission by the treating unit. Patients discharged from acute hospital within 28 days assumed to survive to 28 days. Please note that these estimates are not adjusted for differences in other patient characteristics (see Tables 1-3).



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Figure 31. 28-day in-hospital mortality by patient characteristics (demographics and medical history)

Estimates of 28-day in-hospital mortality based on Kaplan-Meier survival analysis. Patients last reported to be still receiving critical care censored on the most recent date of data submission by the treating unit. Patients discharged from acute hospital within 28 days assumed to survive to 28 days. Please note that these estimates are not adjusted for differences in other patient characteristics (see Tables 1-3).

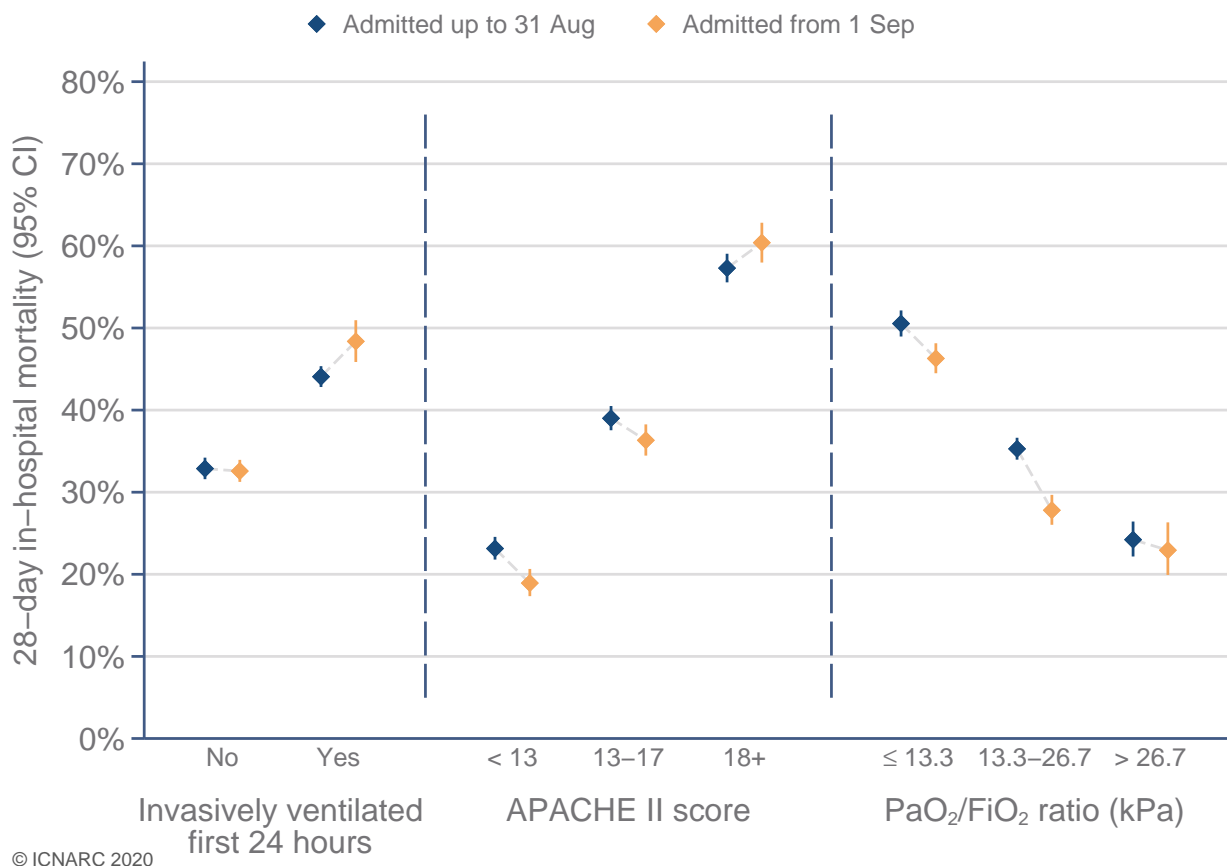


Figure 32. 28-day in-hospital mortality by patient characteristics (indicators of acute severity *)

Estimates of 28-day in-hospital mortality based on Kaplan-Meier survival analysis. Patients last reported to be still receiving critical care censored on the most recent date of data submission by the treating unit. Patients discharged from acute hospital within 28 days assumed to survive to 28 days. Please note that these estimates are not adjusted for differences in other patient characteristics (see Tables 1-3).

* Please see Definitions on page 63. Indicators of acute severity are based on data from the first 24 hours of critical care.

28-day in-hospital outcome - by patient characteristics and invasive ventilation first 24 hours

28-day in-hospital mortality for patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 admitted from 1 September 2020 to date by patient characteristics (demographics and indicators of acute severity) separately for those invasively ventilated and not invasively ventilated during the first 24 hours of critical care is presented in Figures 33-35 and compared with patients admitted up to 31 August 2020.

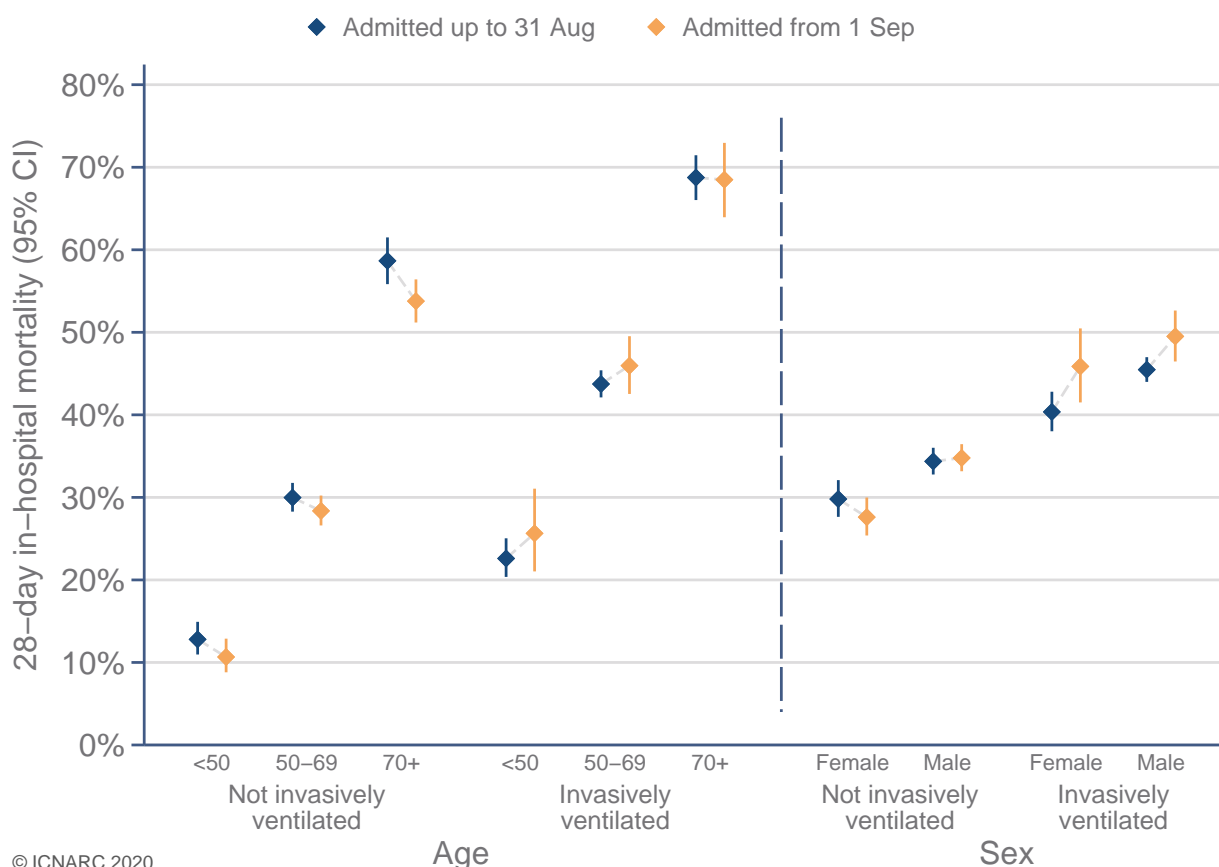
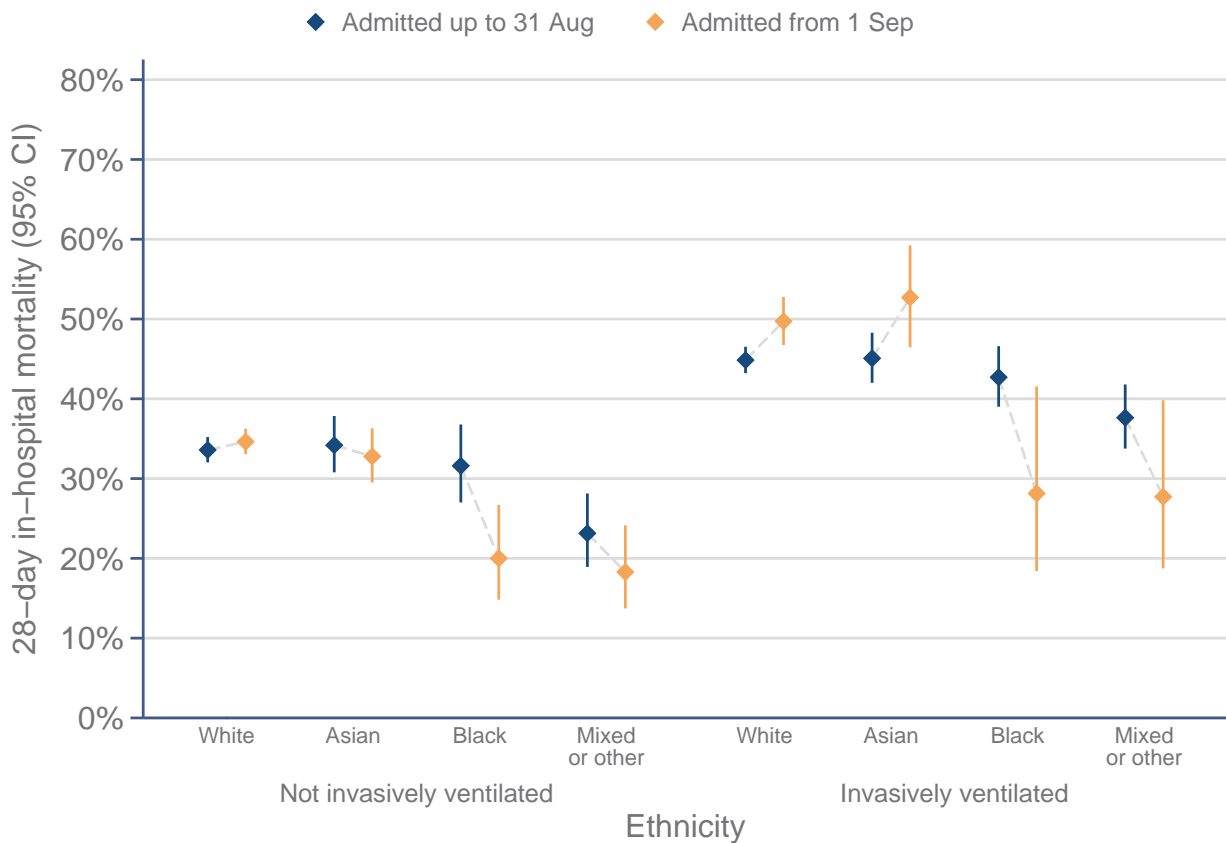


Figure 33. 28-day in-hospital mortality by patient characteristics and invasive ventilation (demographics)

Estimates of 28-day in-hospital mortality based on Kaplan-Meier survival analysis. Patients last reported to be still receiving critical care censored on the most recent date of data submission by the treating unit. Patients discharged from acute hospital within 28 days assumed to survive to 28 days. Please note that these estimates are not adjusted for differences in other patient characteristics (see Tables 1-3).



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Figure 34. 28-day in-hospital mortality by patient characteristics and invasive ventilation (demographics continued)

Estimates of 28-day in-hospital mortality based on Kaplan-Meier survival analysis. Patients last reported to be still receiving critical care censored on the most recent date of data submission by the treating unit. Patients discharged from acute hospital within 28 days assumed to survive to 28 days. Please note that these estimates are not adjusted for differences in other patient characteristics (see Tables 1-3).

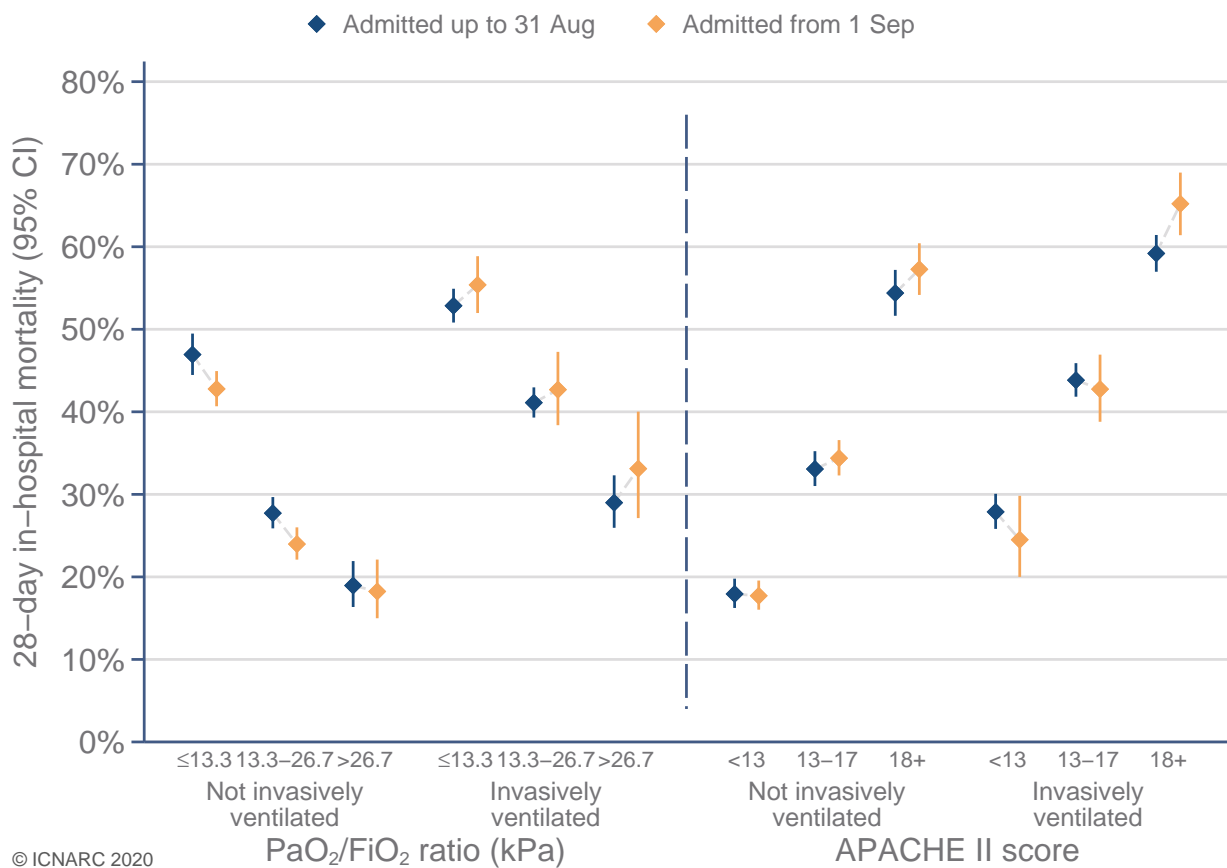
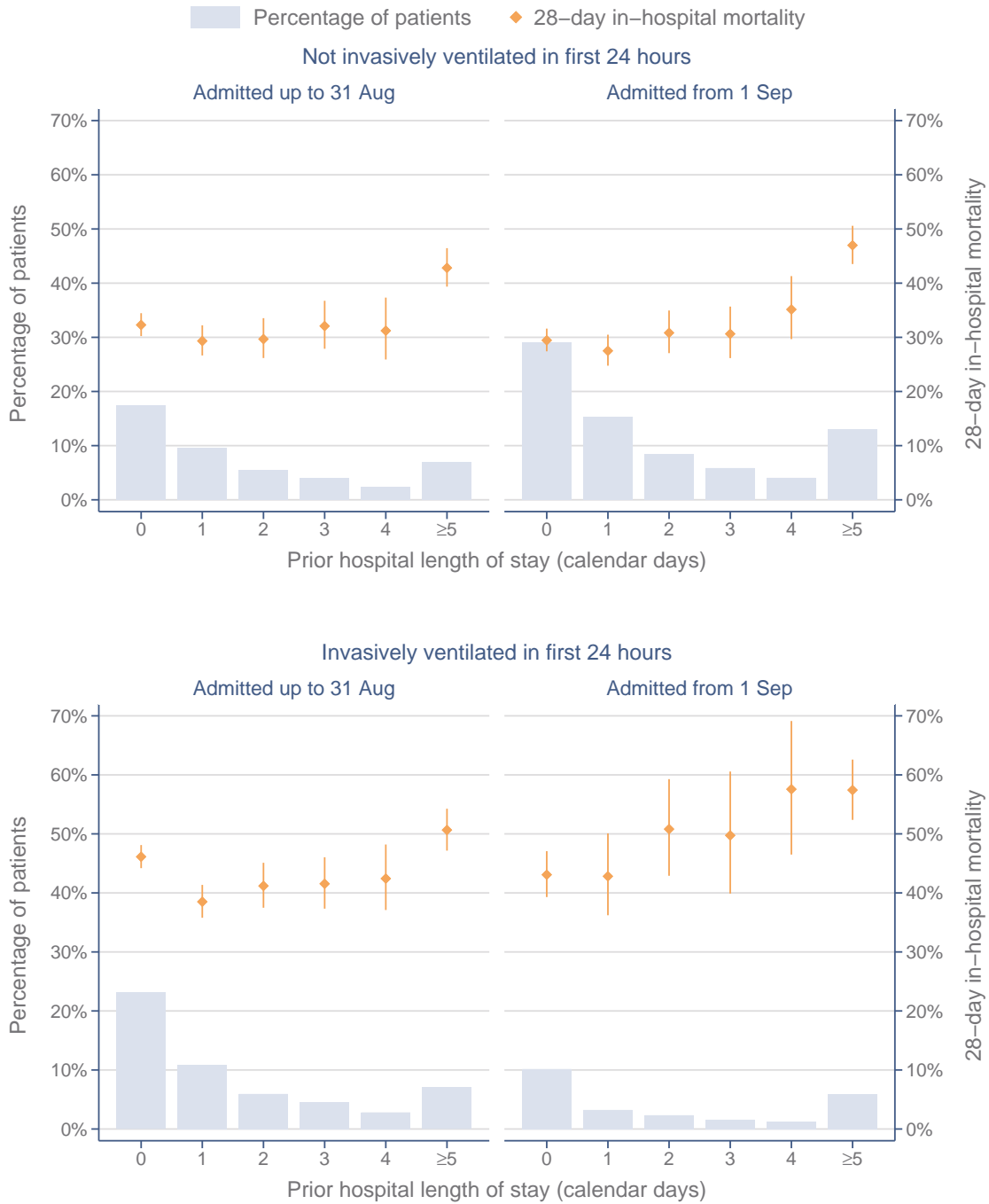


Figure 35. 28-day in-hospital mortality by patient characteristics and invasive ventilation (acute severity)

Estimates of 28-day in-hospital mortality based on Kaplan-Meier survival analysis. Patients last reported to be still receiving critical care censored on the most recent date of data submission by the treating unit. Patients discharged from acute hospital within 28 days assumed to survive to 28 days. Please note that these estimates are not adjusted for differences in other patient characteristics (see Tables 1-3).

* Please see Definitions on page 63. Indicators of acute severity are based on data from the first 24 hours of critical care.

28-day in-hospital mortality for patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 admitted from 1 September 2020 to date by the number of days in hospital prior to admission to critical care, separately for those invasively ventilated and not invasively ventilated during the first 24 hours of critical care, is presented in Figure 36 and compared with patients admitted up to 31 August 2020.



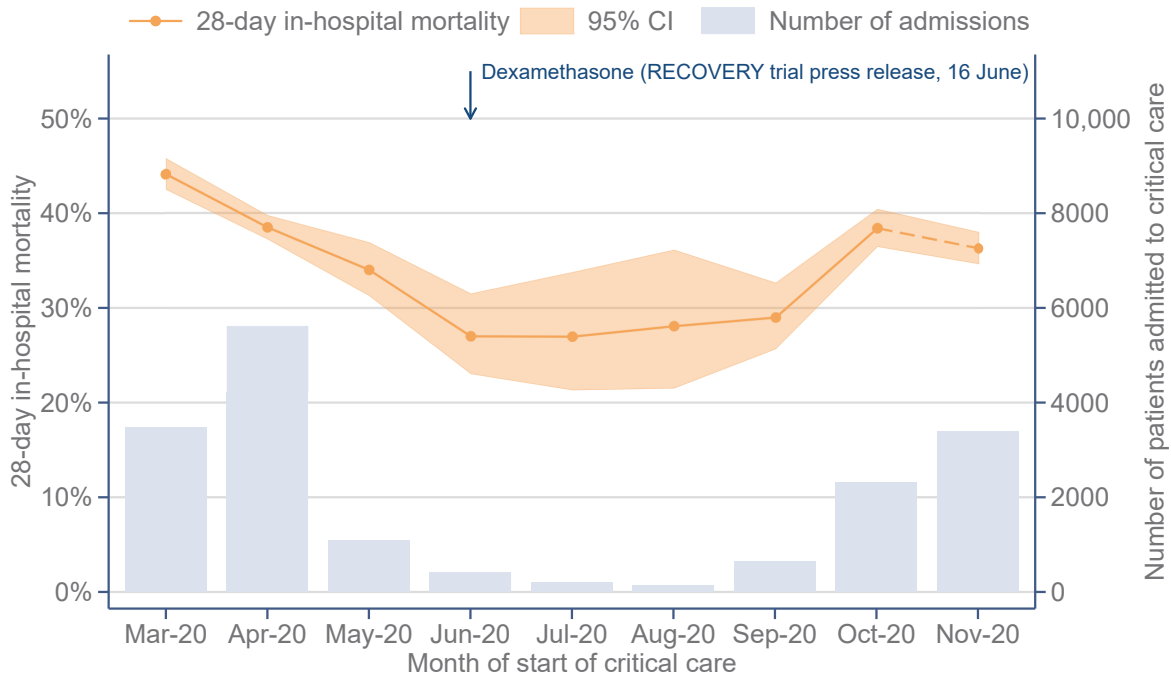
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Figure 36. Percentage of patients and 28-day in-hospital mortality by invasive ventilation and prior hospital length of stay

Percentages of patients are reported as a percentage of all patients admitted within the time period. Estimates of 28-day in-hospital mortality based on Kaplan-Meier survival analysis. Patients last reported to be still receiving critical care censored on the most recent date of data submission by the treating unit. Patients discharged from acute hospital within 28 days assumed to survive to 28 days. Please note that these estimates are not adjusted for differences in other patient characteristics (see Tables 1-3).

Monthly trends – COVID-19

Figure 37 shows the monthly number of new patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 from March 2020 until the last complete month and the corresponding 28-day in-hospital mortality, indicating the month on which information became available identifying steroids (Dexamethasone) as an effective treatment for critically ill patients. Figures 38-40 show monthly variation in patient characteristics relating to ventilation and timing of critical care compared with the change in mortality.

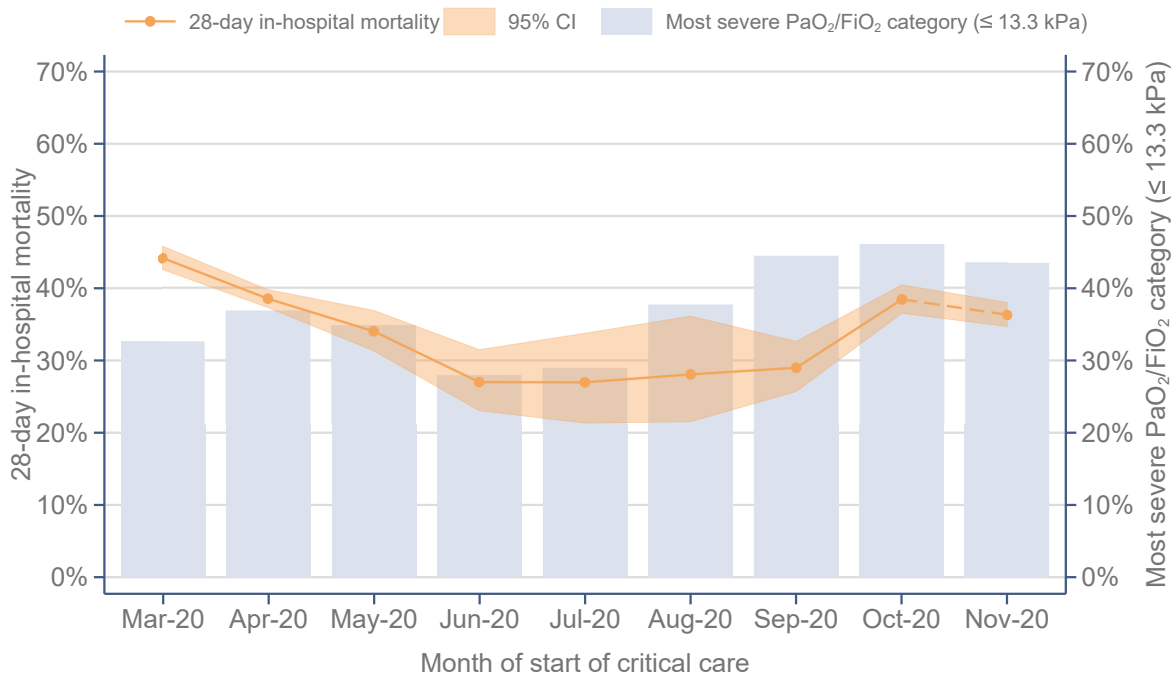


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Figure 37. Number of admissions and 28-day in-hospital mortality by month

Number of admissions and 28-day in-hospital mortality for patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 by month of start of critical care.

Estimates of 28-day in-hospital mortality based on Kaplan-Meier survival analysis. Patients last reported to be still receiving critical care censored on the most recent date of data submission by the treating unit. Patients discharged from acute hospital within 28 days assumed to survive to 28 days. Please note that these estimates are not adjusted for changes in patient characteristics (see Tables 1-3).

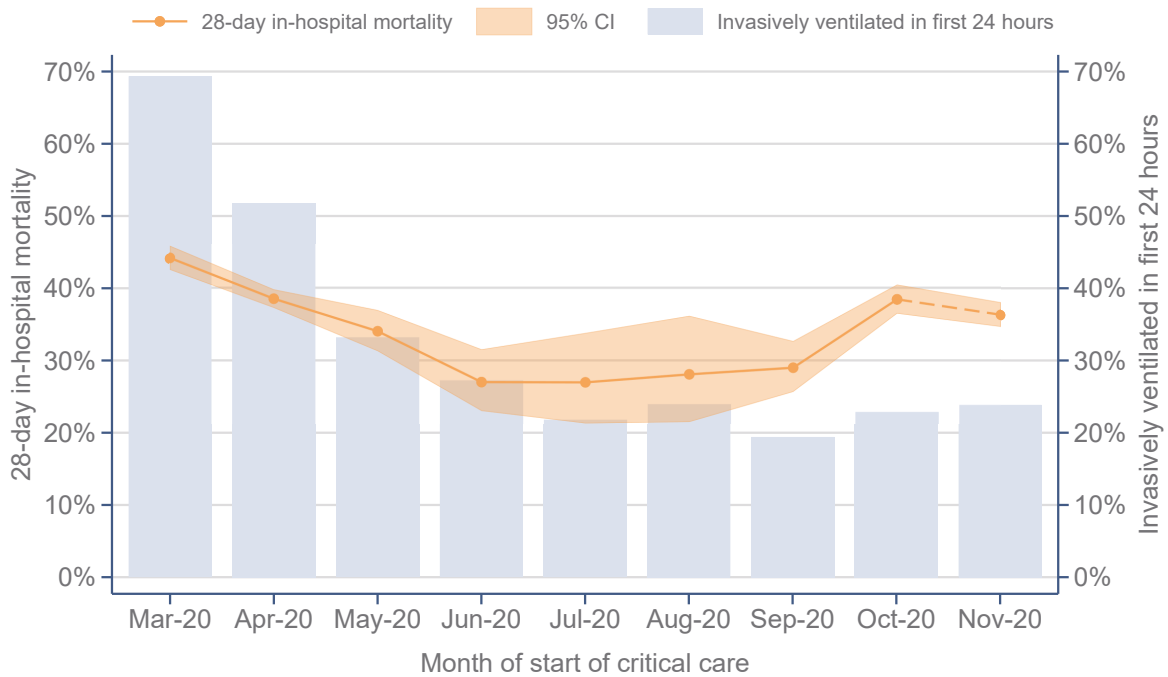


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Figure 38. PaO₂/FiO₂ and 28-day in-hospital mortality by month

Percentage of patients in most severe PaO₂/FiO₂ category (≤ 13.3 kPa) and 28-day in-hospital mortality for patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 by month of start of critical care.

Estimates of 28-day in-hospital mortality based on Kaplan-Meier survival analysis. Patients last reported to be still receiving critical care censored on the most recent date of data submission by the treating unit. Patients discharged from acute hospital within 28 days assumed to survive to 28 days. Please note that these estimates are not adjusted for changes in patient characteristics (see Tables 1-3).

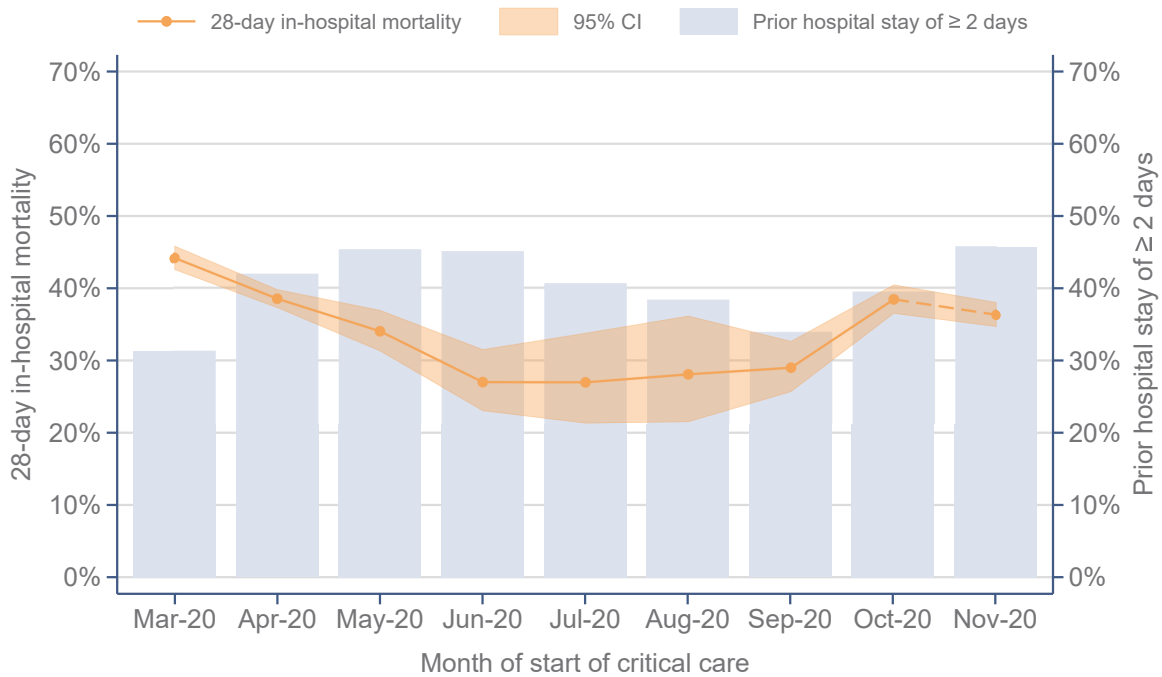


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Figure 39. Invasive ventilation first 24 hours and 28-day in-hospital mortality by month

Percentage of patients receiving invasive ventilation during the first 24 hours in critical care and 28-day in-hospital mortality for patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 by month of start of critical care.

Estimates of 28-day in-hospital mortality based on Kaplan-Meier survival analysis. Patients last reported to be still receiving critical care censored on the most recent date of data submission by the treating unit. Patients discharged from acute hospital within 28 days assumed to survive to 28 days. Please note that these estimates are not adjusted for changes in patient characteristics (see Tables 1-3).



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Figure 40. Prior hospital length of stay and 28-day in-hospital mortality by month

Percentage of patients with a hospital stay of 2 or more days before admission to critical care and 28-day in-hospital mortality for patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 by month of start of critical care.

Estimates of 28-day in-hospital mortality based on Kaplan-Meier survival analysis. Patients last reported to be still receiving critical care censored on the most recent date of data submission by the treating unit. Patients discharged from acute hospital within 28 days assumed to survive to 28 days. Please note that these estimates are not adjusted for changes in patient characteristics (see Tables 1-3).

Additional analyses for patients admitted up to 31 August 2020

Updated outcomes up to discharge from acute hospital for patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 admitted up to 31 August 2020 are shown in Figure 41.

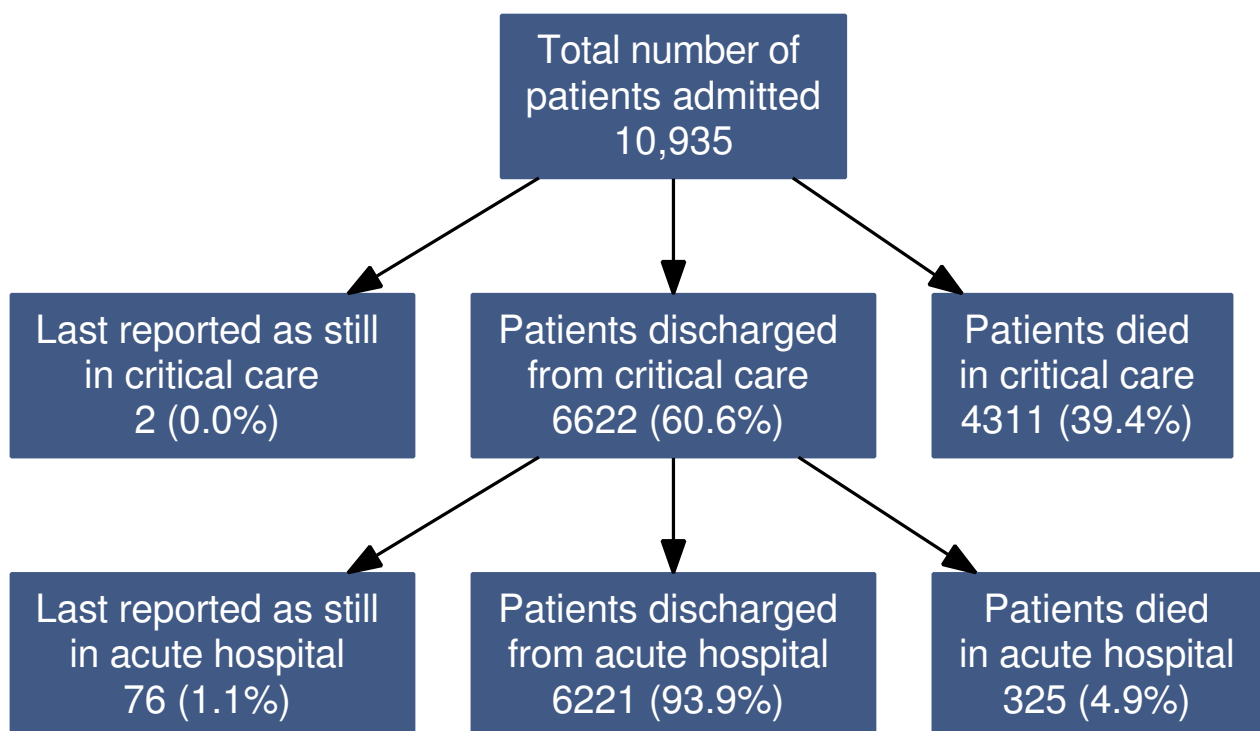
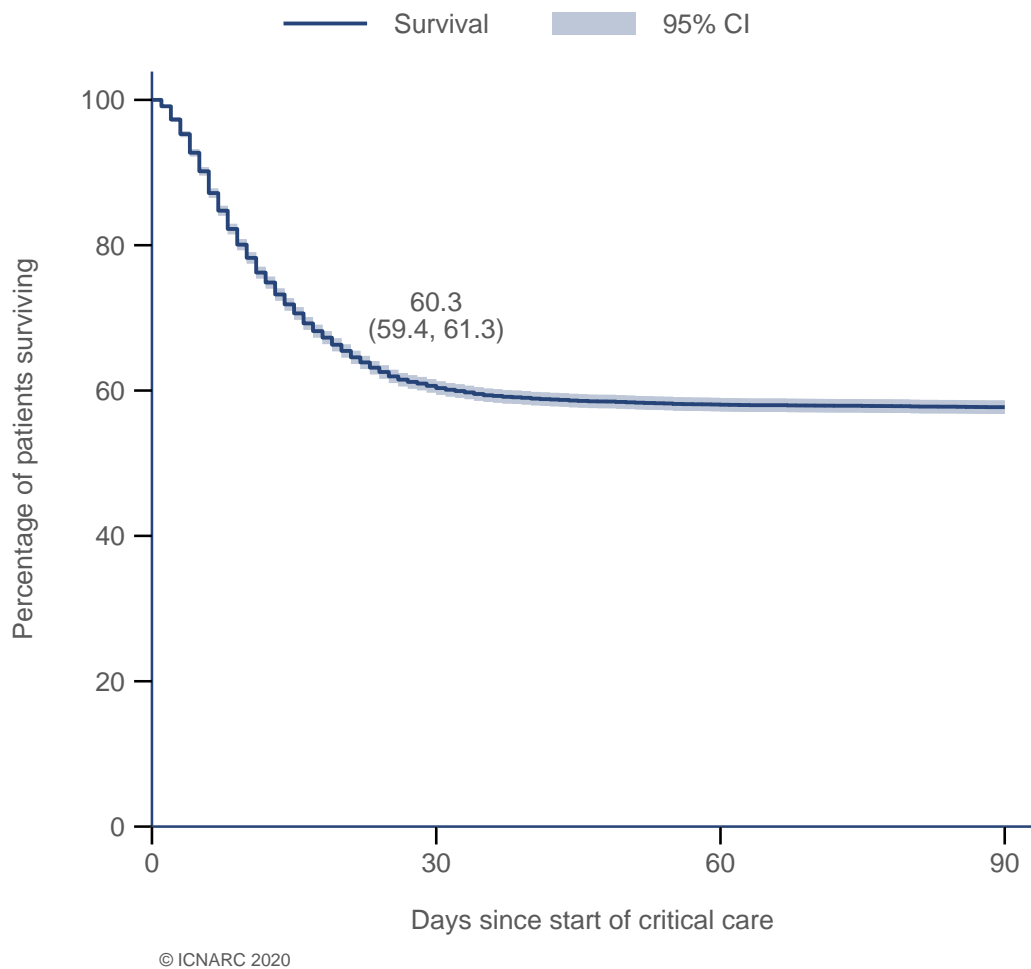


Figure 41. Critical care and acute hospital outcomes for patients admitted up to 31 August 2020

Of 10,170 patients admitted up to 31 May 2020, 5719 have been discharged alive from acute hospital and, of these, 129 have subsequently been readmitted to critical care.

A Kaplan-Meier plot of in-hospital survival to 90 days following admission to critical care for patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19 admitted up to 31 August 2020 is shown in Figure 42.



At risk	10935	6594	6317	6275
Died (in hospital)	0	4336	4586	4622
Censored	0	5	32	38

Figure 42. In-hospital survival to 90 days following admission to critical care for patients admitted up to 31 August 2020

Definitions

Reason for transfer between critical care units is categorised as:

- Comparable critical care: transfer for similar care as provided in the transferring critical care unit
- Repatriation: returning a patient to their original unit, hospital or area
- More-specialist critical care: transfer for specialist critical care not available in the transferring critical care unit

Ethnicity is recorded using the ethnic category codes from the 2001 census and grouped as:

- White: White – British; White – Irish; White – any other
- Mixed: Mixed – white and black Caribbean; Mixed – white and black African; Mixed – white and Asian; Mixed – any other
- Asian: Asian or Asian British – Indian; Asian or Asian British – Pakistani; Asian or Asian British – Bangladeshi; Asian or Asian British – any other
- Black: Black or black British – Caribbean; Black or black British – African; Black or black British – any other
- Other: Other ethnic group – Chinese; Any other ethnic group
- Not stated or not recorded

Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is based on the patient's usual residential postcode (assigned at the level of Lower Layer Super Output Area) according to:

- English Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019 for postcodes in England
- Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019 for postcodes in Wales
- Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017 for postcodes in Northern Ireland

Urban/rural classification is based on the patient's usual residential postcode (assigned at the level of Output Area) and categorised according to 2011 census categories as:

- Urban: the majority of the population lives within settlements with a population of more than 10,000 people, subcategorised according to dwelling densities for every 100m x 100m square and the density in squares at varying distances around each square as either Major conurbation, Minor conurbation, or City or town
- Rural: the majority of the population lives within settlements with a population of less than 10,000 people (combining the categories Town and fringe, Village, and Hamlet or isolated dwellings)

Body mass index is calculated as the weight in kilograms divided by the height in metres squared. Weight and height values may have been measured or estimated.

Dependency prior to admission to acute hospital is assessed as the best description for the dependency of the patient in the two weeks prior to admission to acute hospital and prior to the onset of the acute illness, i.e. "usual" dependency. It is assessed according to the amount of personal assistance they receive with daily activities (bathing, dressing, going to the toilet, moving in/out of bed/chair, continence and eating).

Very severe comorbidities must have been evident within the six months prior to critical care and documented at or prior to critical care:

- Cardiovascular: symptoms at rest
- Respiratory: shortness of breath with light activity or home ventilation
- Renal: renal replacement therapy for end-stage renal disease
- Liver: biopsy-proven cirrhosis, portal hypertension or hepatic encephalopathy
- Metastatic disease: distant metastases
- Haematological malignancy: acute or chronic leukaemia, multiple myeloma or lymphoma
- Immunocompromise: chemotherapy, radiotherapy or daily high dose steroid treatment in previous six months, HIV/AIDS or congenital immune deficiency

Invasive ventilation during the first 24 hours was defined as mechanical ventilation (identified by the recording of a ventilated respiratory rate, indicating that all or some of the breaths or a portion of the breaths were delivered by a mechanical device) and sedation (receiving continuous or intermittent doses of agents to produce and maintain a continuous decreased level of consciousness with or without paralyzing agents) at any time during the first 24 hours and not reported as having zero days of advanced respiratory support.

Organ support is recorded as the number of calendar days (00:00-23:59) on which the support was received at any time, defined as:

- Advanced respiratory: invasive ventilation, BPAP via trans-laryngeal tube or tracheostomy, CPAP via trans-laryngeal tube, extracorporeal respiratory support
- Basic respiratory: >50% oxygen by face mask, close observation due to potential for acute deterioration, physiotherapy/suction to clear secretions at least two-hourly, recently extubated after a period of mechanical ventilation, mask/hood CPAP/BPAP, non-invasive ventilation, CPAP via a tracheostomy, intubated to protect airway
- Advanced cardiovascular: multiple IV/rhythm controlling drugs (at least one vasoactive), continuous observation of cardiac output, intra-aortic balloon pump, temporary cardiac pacemaker
- Basic cardiovascular: central venous catheter, arterial line, single IV vasoactive/ rhythm controlling drug
- Renal: acute renal replacement therapy, renal replacement therapy for chronic renal failure where other organ support is received
- Liver: management of coagulopathy and/or portal hypertension for acute on chronic hepatocellular failure or primary acute hepatocellular failure
- Neurological: central nervous system depression sufficient to prejudice airway, invasive neurological monitoring, continuous IV medication to control seizures, therapeutic hypothermia

Publications

The following publications, based on Case Mix Programme data for patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19, are published, in press or in preprint:

- Richards-Belle A, Orzechowska I, Doidge J, Thomas K, Harrison DA, Koelewyn A, Christian MD, Shankar-Hari M, Rowan KM, Gould DW. Critical care outcomes, for the first 200 patients with confirmed COVID-19, in England, Wales and Northern Ireland: a report from the ICNARC Case Mix Programme. *J Intensive Care Soc* 2020; doi:[10.1177/1751143720961672](https://doi.org/10.1177/1751143720961672)
- Richards-Belle A, Orzechowska I, Gould DW, Thomas K, Doidge JC, Mouncey PR, Christian MD, Shankar-Hari M, Harrison DA, Rowan KM. COVID-19 in critical care: epidemiology of the first epidemic wave across England, Wales and Northern Ireland. *Intensive Care Med* 2020; doi:[10.1007/s00134-020-06267-0](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00134-020-06267-0)
- Ferrando-Vivas P, Doidge J, Thomas K, Gould DW, Mouncey P, Shankar-Hari M, Young JD, Rowan KM, Harrison DA. Prognostic Factors for 30-day Mortality in Critically Ill Patients with Coronavirus Disease 2019: An Observational Cohort Study. *Crit Care Med* 2020; doi:[10.1097/CCM.0000000000004740](https://doi.org/10.1097/CCM.0000000000004740)
- Doidge JC, Gould DW, Ferrando-Vivas P, Mouncey PR, Thomas K, Shankar-Hari M, Harrison DA, Rowan KM. Trends in intensive care for patients with COVID-19 in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med* 2020; doi:[10.1164/rccm.202008-321OC](https://doi.org/10.1164/rccm.202008-321OC)

The following publications, based on external data sources linked with Case Mix Programme data for patients critically ill with confirmed COVID-19, are published, in press or in preprint:

- Hippisley-Cox J, Young D, Coupland C, Channon KM, Tan PS, Harrison DA, Rowan K, Aveyard P, Pavord ID, Watkinson PJ. Risk of severe COVID-19 disease with ACE inhibitors and angiotensin receptor blockers: cohort study including 8.3 million people. *Heart* 2020; doi:[10.1136/heartjnl-2020-317393](https://doi.org/10.1136/heartjnl-2020-317393)
- Mathur R, Rentsch CT, Morton C, Hulme WJ, Schultze A, MacKenna B, Eggo RM, Bhaskaran K, Wong AYS, Williamson EJ, Forbes H, Wing K, McDonald HI, Bates C, Bacon S, Walker AJ, Evans D, Inglesby P, Mehrkar A, Curtis HJ, DeVito NJ, Croker R, Drysdale H, Cockburn J, Parry J, Hester F, Harper S, Douglas IJ, Tomlinson L, Evans S, Grieve R, Harrison D, Rowan K, Khunti K, Chaturvedi N, Smeeth L, Goldacre B. Ethnic differences in COVID-19 infection, hospitalisation, and mortality: an OpenSAFELY analysis of 17 million adults in England. *medRxiv* 2020; doi:[10.1101/2020.09.22.20198754](https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.09.22.20198754)

Acknowledgement

Please acknowledge the source of these data in all future presentations (oral and/or written) as follows:

“These data derive from the ICNARC Case Mix Programme Database. The Case Mix Programme is the national clinical audit of patient outcomes from adult critical care coordinated by the Intensive Care National Audit Research Centre (ICNARC). For more information on the representativeness and quality of these data, please contact ICNARC.”