

## Novus Coronastatus 0514: How many are sick for a longer time, and what symptoms

### Summary

20200514



**1 020 000**

Adult Swedes are ill in mainly flu like symptoms



**500 000**

Adult Swedes are now ill and have been consecutively for mor than 5 weeks



**1 125 000 (13%)**

Think they have been infected with the Coronavirus



**580 000 (8%)**

Think their partner has been infected with the Coronavirus

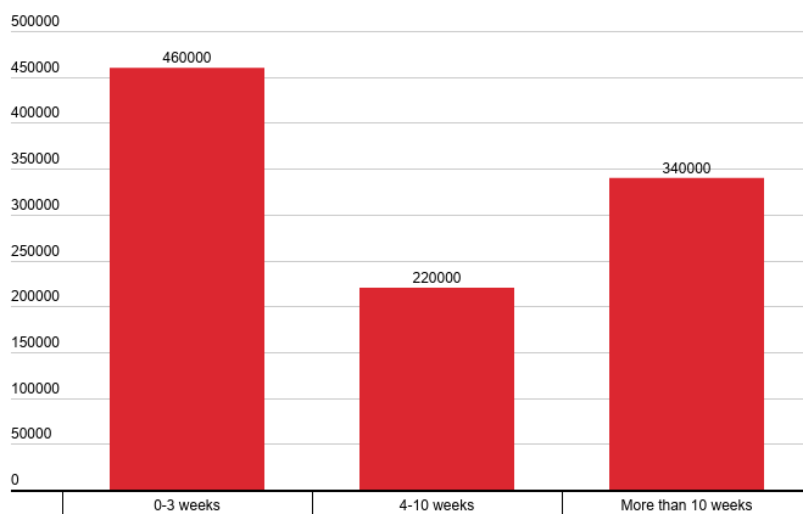
Just over 1 million adult Swedes are sick now. Half a million of them have been sick for more than five weeks.

One in three Swedes believe they have been infected with Corona, one in three of those who are sick now believe it. So, it is not that all the sick people today think they're sick of the Corona virus.

2020511

3200 int. 4-10 maj

The illness you have now, for about how long has it lasted?



About 340,000 Adult Swedes (4.5% of all adults) are sick today and have been sick with the same disease for over 10 weeks. 220,000 Swedes are sick now and have been between 4-10

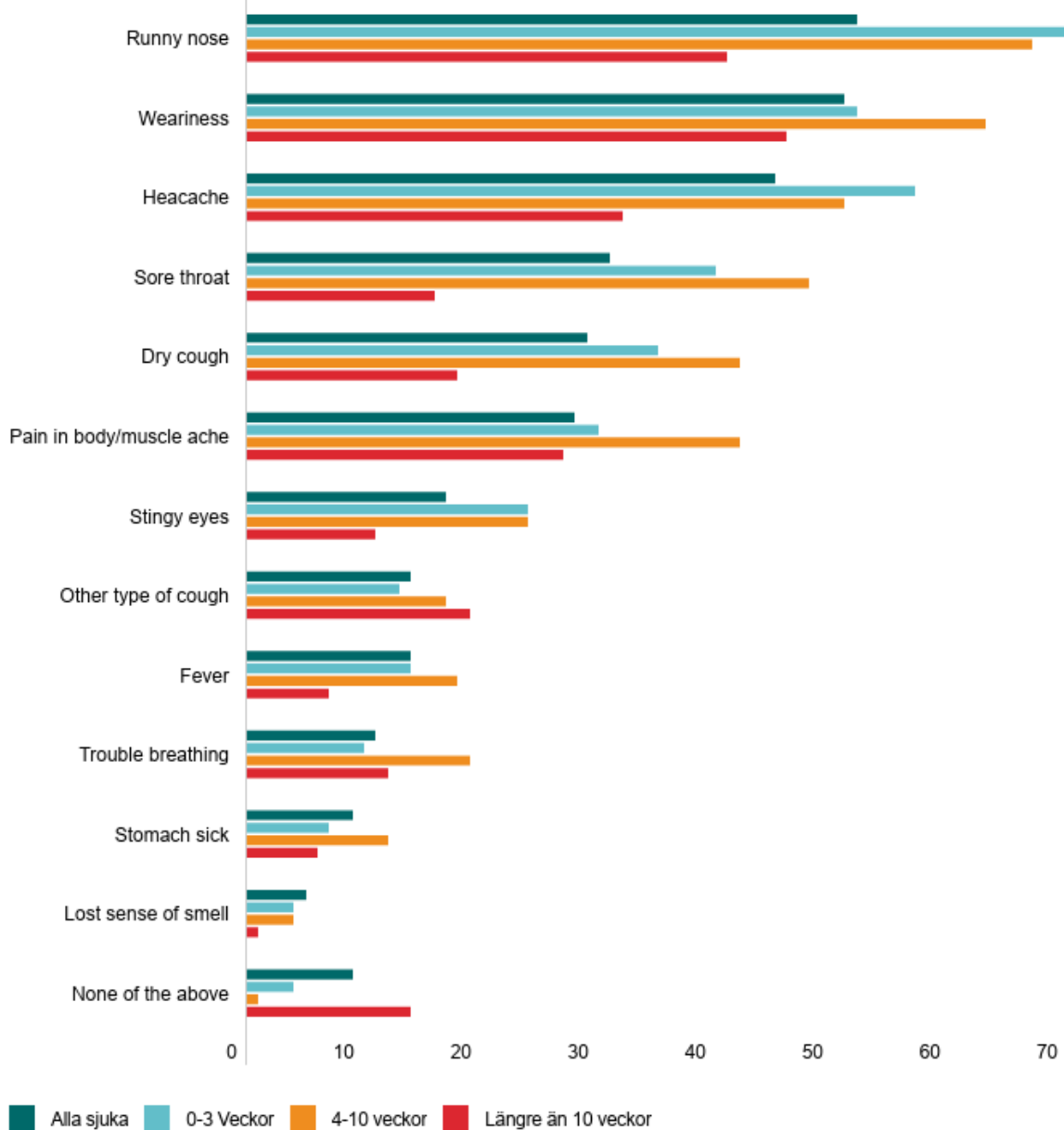
weeks. 460,000 are sick and have been between 0 and 3 weeks. A total of 1,020,000 people are sick today. But almost everyone has mild symptoms

20200513

**Do you have or have had any of the following symptoms during the last two weeks?**



**Group: Ill today (NOTE: Allergy is removed here, in the question but not listed)**



The most common symptoms in recent weeks among the sick are: Runny nose/sniffle, Fatigue, Headache, Sore throat, and cough.

It differs a little depending on how long you have been sick. Those who have been ill for a shorter time (0-3 weeks) report sniffle, headache, fatigue and sore throat as the most common symptoms. 4-10 weeks sick it is sniffing, fatigue, headache and sore throat that is most

common in the last two weeks. Those who have been sick for more than 10 weeks report weariness, snuffle, headaches, and body ache.

The cough is worth mentioning, it is probably quite difficult to distinguish between dry cough and other types of cough. However, it is divided by type of cough in the symptoms and it is not possible to merge these directly, because if you have both dry cough and other cough, you can enter both. In the beginning when Covid-19 was described dry cough was an important symptom and we got comment not dividing different types of cough. But now I think it would have been better to not do that. Because I think it is hard to separate for many people (me being one of them).

The symptoms that have been worst during the disease among those who are sick now also differ slightly. Among those who think they have been infected by Corona, fatigue, headache, and cough followed by body pain have been the worst.

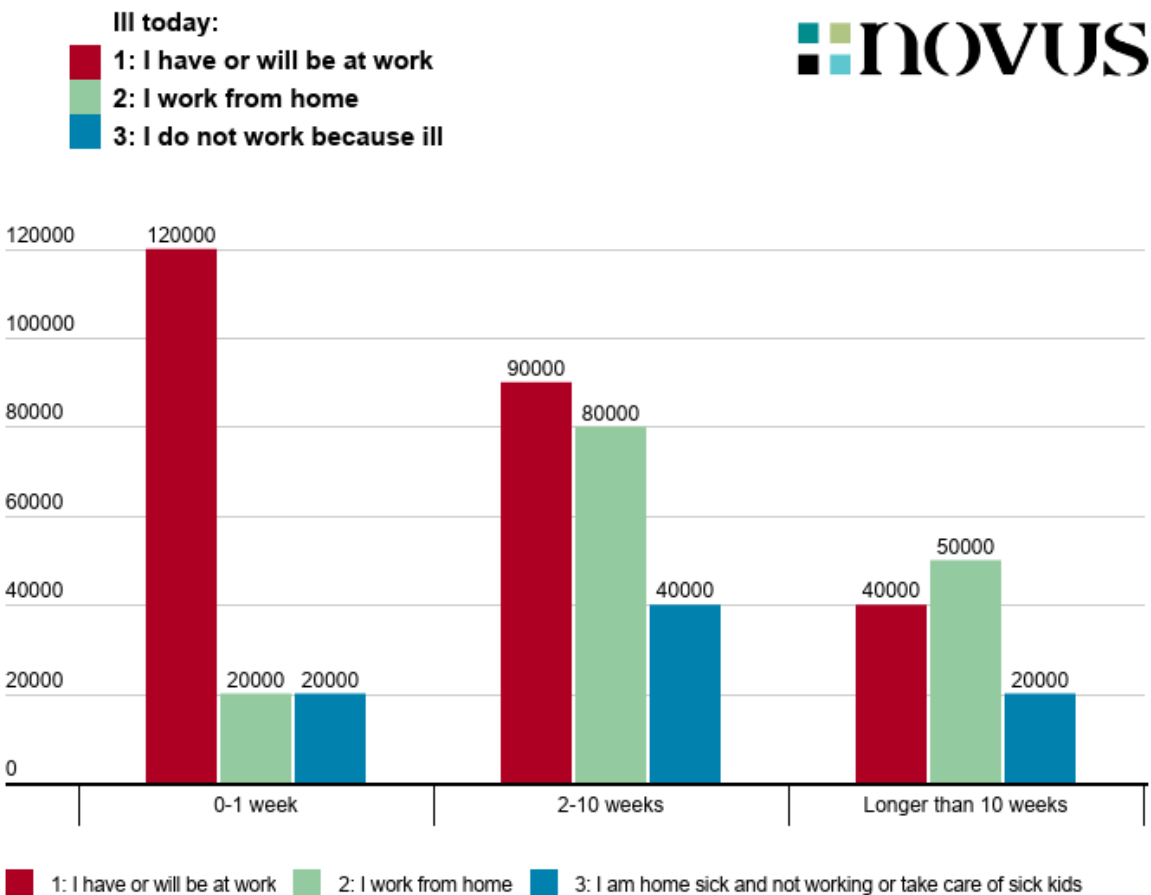
Those who have been sick for less time (0-3weeks) is fatigue, headache and cough the worst symptoms.

Sick 4-10 weeks and it is fatigue, sore throat, headache and dry cough and pain in the body that has been the worst.

Those who have been ill for more than 10 weeks, in principle all (98%) it is fatigue and cough that is the worst. Subsequently, sore throat (77%) headache (73%).

2020514

3200 interiews 4-10 maj



I was wrong in my guesses the other day, when I thought it was those who had been sick for a long time were the ones who went to work to the greatest extent. With a little more research I now see that this was not the case.

If you have been sick less than a week, you are most likely to go to work. The image of the Corona virus as a serious disease that leads to acute symptoms is not impossible the cause. If you're a little cold, a lot of people go to work anyway. Only 12% of those who have just fallen ill and are in employment stay home from work. Most people still go to work then.

Sick a little longer than a week, between 2-10 weeks it is 50/50 approximately. But many go to work anyway as usual. However, the number of people working at home or calling in sick increases.

If you are sick for longer than 10 weeks, most people work from home.

But i guess this is the insidious thing about the Corona virus. Maybe at the same time a little comforting. About 15% of all Swedes now think they have been infected with the Corona virus, and almost all get only mildly ill, it spreads a little just right at work at least. But if the elderly can be protected maybe it can continue to be kept under control. The big tragedy seems to be all the elder who get infected. I have not looked at updated figures from the National Board of Health and Welfare for about a week. Last time I checked statistics about death, it was not only very old age and the corona virus. The vast majority also had high blood pressure and at least one more underlying disease, such as cardiovascular disease, lung disease or diabetes. That is very important information to follow. Novus examinations give a picture of those who do not need emergency care, are unlikely to ever be tested. They haven't even contacted the health care system either. More will come about this in the future. Not everything can be accounted for every time. That's an incredible amount of data we have in our research. We must take a little at a time.

*The survey is based on 3196 interviews in Novus Sverigepanel between 4-10 May 2020 within the age group 18-79 years. The survey is a representative of the entire Swedish people within that age group.*

By the way. I was told yesterday that until then, the Public Health Agency said that you could not be sick with the Corona virus for longer than 6 weeks. And that the social insurance office has refused sick leave for longer than that based on that information. But that the Public Health Agency has now removed the upper limit for how long one can be sick. Can't help but think that Novus' investigations actually had an impact on this. But I do not know so of course, but interesting that it changes after we report on how many are sick for a very long time.

This is an English translation the Swedish report can be seen here:

<https://novus.se/coronastatus-0514/>

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## Background

Novus always presents the latest report or survey on Corona here <https://novus.se/novus-coronastatus/>:

Novus has since 19 March regularly up to daily investigated swedes' views of the Corona virus, their health status, symptoms, when one became, how long one has been sick and thoughts about the disease and authorities.

On May 4, KTH released clinical tests on antibodies, and finally we got a data point to go on that allows us to look a little closer at how well self-rated disease matches clinical tests.

KTH's studies show that 10% of Stockholmers contracted the coronavirus at the end of March. If we assume that the loss was random and that the accuracy of the tests is good in their studies, it would mean a margin of error of just under 2%, there are several assumptions here, but it gives us a starting point that is a different test and something we can compare with Novus studies.

Around the end of March, 9% of Stockholmers in novus survey said they believe they were infected with Corona or have found that they have Corona. The margin of error in Novus' surveys is also a couple of percent. But this provides a level that is very consistent with the clinical tests. When the results are so close together, one can conclude that the Swedes' self-assessment of whether one is infected fits quite well with clinical tests. The difference was within the margin of error, we can look at developments over time but also developments throughout Sweden.

I will start from Novus data in this, we have not recalculated anything based on KTH's clinical tests, but the results are so close to each other that it would not give anything.

Novus has during the period 19 March to 5 May conducted over 20,000 interviews in Novus Sverigepanel, with at least two surveys a week, but for long periods also daily conducted surveys. Novus Sverigepanel is a probability based panel of Swedish adults age from 18 and up, majority of the studies included here is in the age span of 18-79 although a couple of research is made up to 89 years. The surveys give a good picture of the Swedish people's view of what the Swedish people think during the period under investigation. Participation rates have averaged 70% per day. Record results, which strengthens the reliability of the survey.