

Novus Coronastatus 0610

Summary

In today's Novus survey on Corona, we see that the proportion of sufferers does not continue to decrease, but rather increases a little. Today, 15% of Swedes believe they have been infected by Corona. But the percentage who doubt increases, read more about why further down. When Sweden opens and the travel bans disappear, so too does the number of people that keeps distance, a negative trend throughout Sweden except in Western Sweden. The Swedes' confidence that Sweden will cope with Corona pandemic is also declining. Perhaps not unexpected as we were able to report on a loss in trust for the government and responsible authorities' previous week. We also see suspected Corona infected already in November. Something we have noted before. As early as April 14 we reported 60,000 suspected corona cases between December and January. The more we follow this, the more people show up. After clinical reports that the infection existed in Europe back in November, we also see in our studies that there are people who have clear Corona symptoms even then in Sweden. It should be very clear that the disease existed in Sweden long before it was discovered. At least in December 2019, but probably in November or even earlier than that.

The latest corona survey included in the time series is between the period 1-7 June 2020 and is based on 1129 interviews conducted in the age group 18-79 years in Novus randomly recruited Sweden panel. The participation rate is 70%.

Read more on the following pages.

How many people are sick?

20200610



750 000
+150 000

Swedes are sick now. Primarily with cold and Covid like symptoms. Svenskar är sjuka nu.
(Increase from June 1:st 600 000 sick then, but still lower than May 19 when 860 000 were sick)



1 125 000 (15%)

Adults think they have been infected with covid-19 (sick now and previously sick)



210 000
(+60 000)

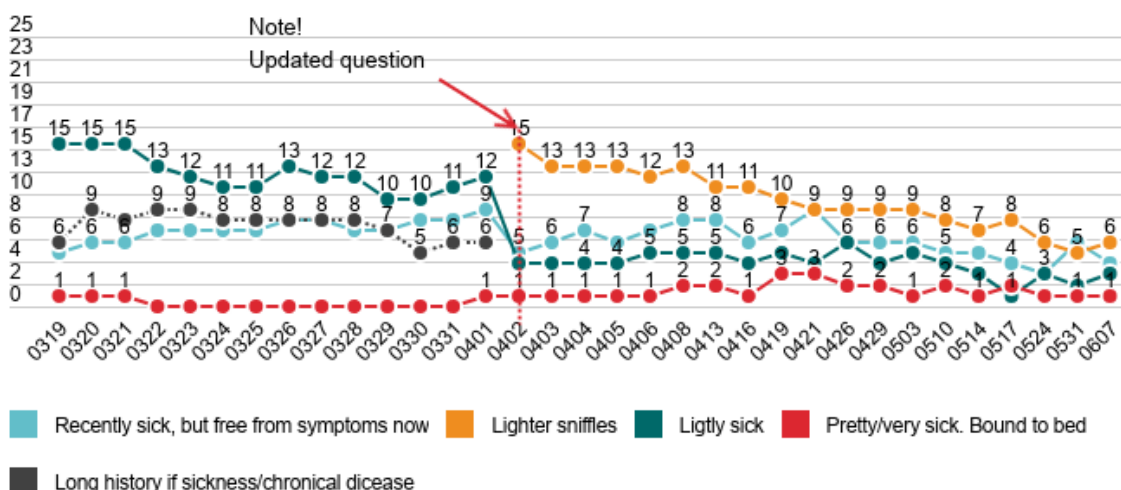
Are sick and have been for OVER 10 weeks
June 1:st: 150 000
May 11: 360 000

750,000 are sick now, an increase of 150,00 compared to June 1. But still lower than before, for instance in mid-May 860,000 were sick.

1,125,000 now believe they were infected with Covid-19 (now sick and recovered). The proportion of those who are sick for a long time is increasing again after the fall in early June. Now about 210,000 who are sick have now been sick over 10 weeks, an increase of 60,000 compared to June 1, but still lower than May 11, when 360,000 were sick and had been there over 10 weeks.

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How would you rate your health right now?

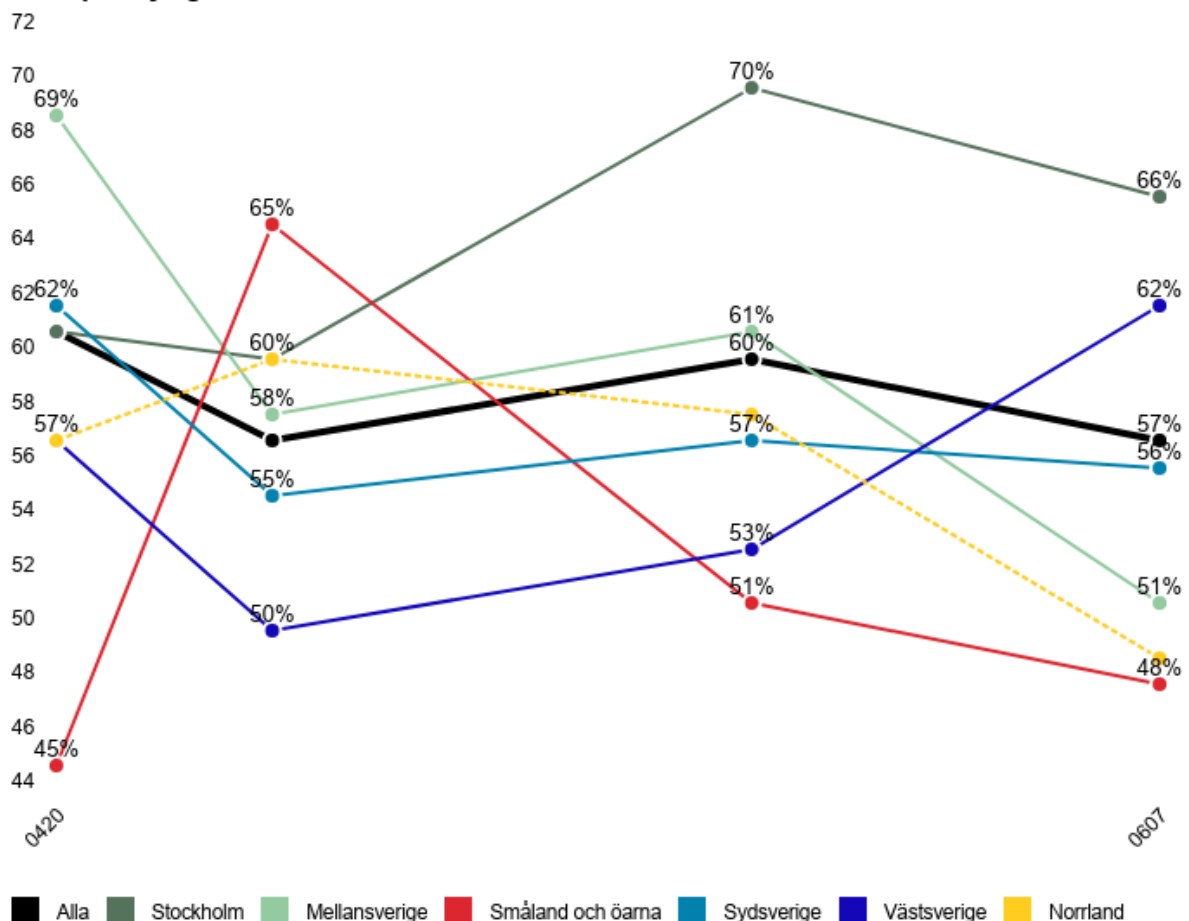


Today, 9% of all adult Swedes are sick with some form of cold symptoms. Significantly lower than in April, when about twice as many were sick. But it seems to have leveled off a bit at about one in ten Swedes. There are also fewer who now have recently recovered. The fact that many people are sick for a long time and it is a disease with symptoms that come back again and again is something that should be investigated more. Many are sick for a remarkably long time. Are they still contagious? Is it Covid-19 that behaves like this or is it something else? There are many questions that need to be answered about this in addition to “flattening the curve” by relieving the emergency departments of the health care system.

Do Swedes keep their distance?

20200610

I keep at least 1 meters distance to other people when I am outside because of Covid-19
-Completely agree



While the number of sick stays at a lower level, we also see that you relax a bit.

Today, 57% fully agree that you keep at least one metre away when you are outside the home, a drop of three percentage points compared to 19 May.

It is only in Western Sweden that the proportion that keeps distance increases.

There is also an increased number of confirmed cases in western Sweden now, visible in the healthcare system and Novus research, see below in this report so this is likely related. A noticeable increase in infected result in a better compliance. But in contrast in Stockholm where probably a fifth of the residents have already have or had Covid by now people relax more.

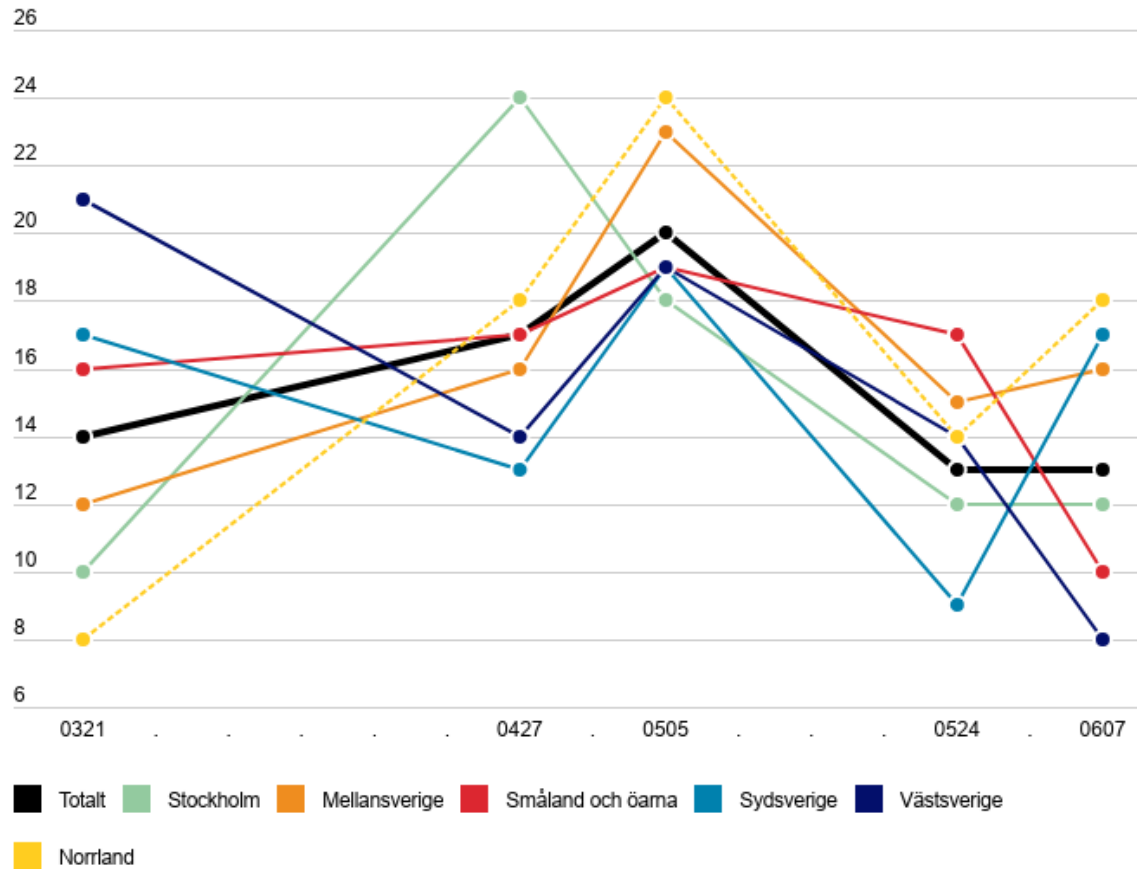
If it continues to increase there, it will soon be at the same level as in Stockholm.

While there is still a majority that keeps its distance, it may not be surprising that the proportion is declining. Now the travel ban within Sweden is lifted, the upper secondary schools are opening, although it may be summer holidays for the students, Sweden seems slowly to return to a more normal level. It is also practically difficult to keep a distance if more people move out. Shops and public places become more crowded as more people walk outside the home, of course.

Can Sweden handle the Corona virus?

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To what extent do you think Sweden will Cope with the Corona virus? (showing answer "very well")



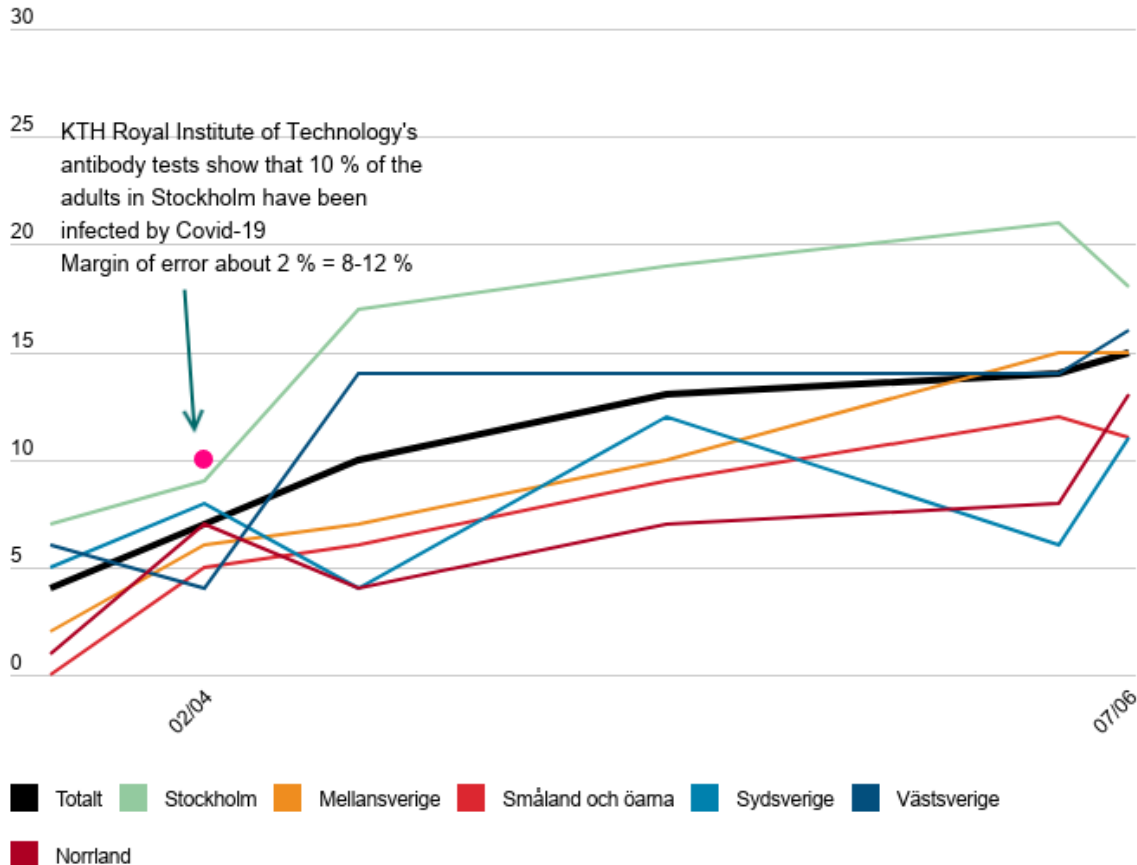
Today, 13% of Swedes believe that Sweden can do it very well. Confidence in Sweden's ability to cope with the Corona virus has fallen since its peak just over a month ago, when 20% believed it, the lowest level that believes Sweden can do this very well since Novus began investigating this. The people living in western Sweden are most pessimistic, with only 8% believing that Sweden will do this very well. Coinciding with an increased spread of Covid there

You think you have been infected by Covid-19?

Residents in Stockholm are beginning to doubt, but in the rest of the country the number is increasing.

20200610

**Do you think you have been infected with Covid-19?
"Yes I think so + Yes it is confirmed"**



Was it really Corona I had? One question more seems to be asking themselves now. Many have had a strange cold, many have been sick for an extremely long time but few have been seriously ill. Private antibody tests are booming now. When the stories of people who were convinced that they had corona get negative results on antibody tests, confusion arises. What exactly did you have? Was it just a common cold anyway? Doubts that spread quickly and that are visible in our investigations. The proportion who think they had corona in Stockholm continues to fall. Today, 18% believe they have had it in Stockholm, and 15% in the whole of Sweden. In western Sweden, as many as 16% think they have or have had Covid-19 now.

Despite months of constant corona monitoring, there has been no sensible description of the course of the disease unless you become acutely ill. Nor does

the discussion about what happens if you do not have antibodies despite suspected Corona. Issues that will now bubble up to the surface of more and more people when it is possible to test themselves.

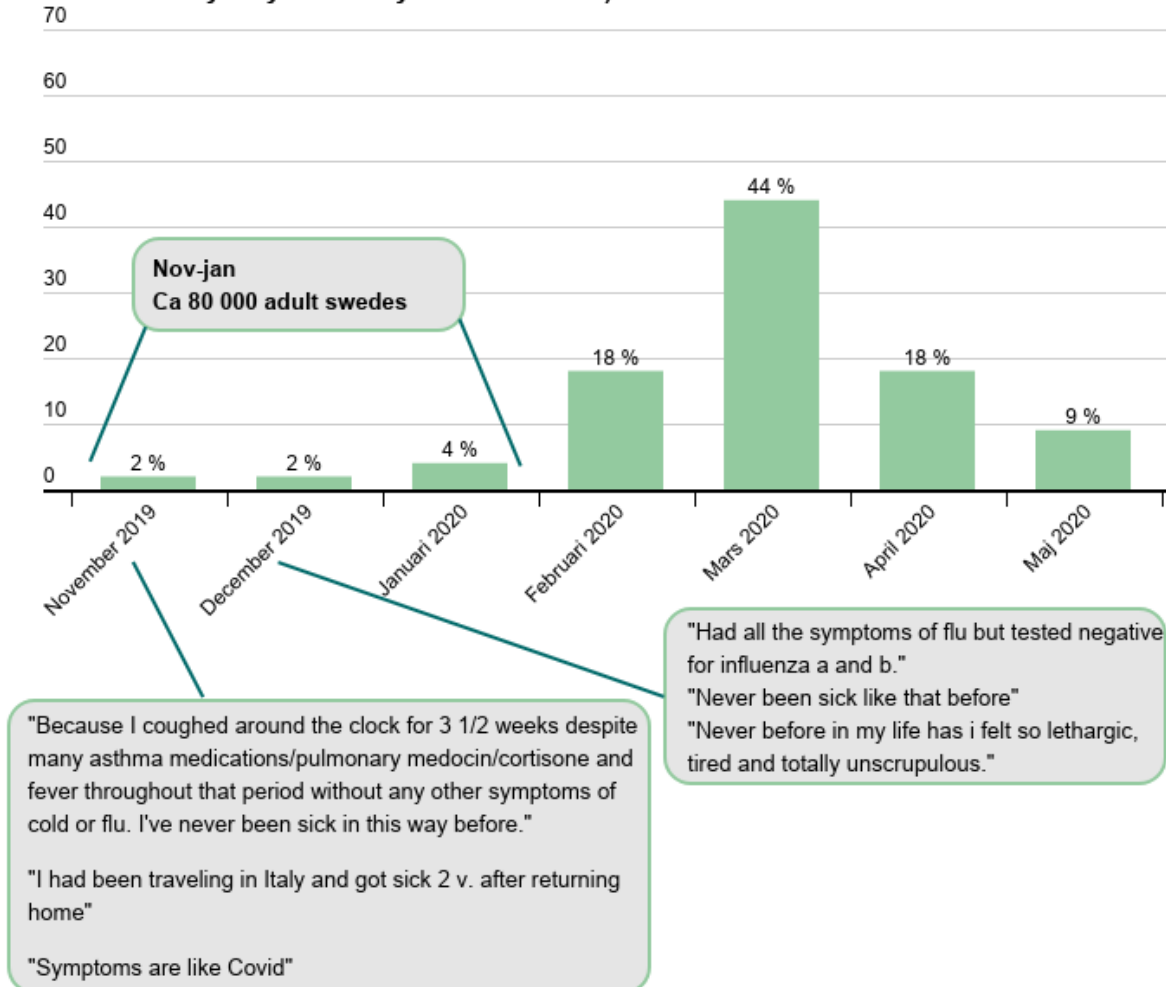
Can you have Corona without forming antibodies? Is it contagious? Can you get sick again? What was the disease I had? And those who are still sick of a prolonged strange disease: Will it ever end?

Personally, I am beginning to think about how to quantify the extent of the disease at all. Novus has been following Swedish public health for almost 3 months. We see how many people are sick. We see what symptoms they have and have had. We see when you got sick, how long you have been sick and if you think it is Covid-19. But will we ever find out how the disease behaves? Or will it continue to be just a focus on how much health care can handle rather than Sweden's health condition. The latter is crucial now that Sweden is opening up. Everything in our surveys suggests that many have had it, but we also see indications that more people are doubting what they have had. I see a setback in individuals who do not have antibodies but who have been convinced that it must have been Covid.19. A general doubt and resignation can spread, something that will hit even harder against the Swedes' confidence in Sweden's strategy and perhaps even the belief in the future.

When did you get sick in what you think was Corona?

20200610

You responded that you think you have been infected with Covid. When do you think that happened? (also showing some open ended answers to why they think they have/had covid)



We have been finding cases for some time as early as November. Now about 80,000 believe they were infected by Corona between November and January. Long before the disease was detected in Sweden, and long before it was stated that it was a general spread. In particular, we see cases of a more serious nature or the narrow specific symptoms, which have lost smell or taste, during that period, lighter cases are likely going under the radar during this period or is thought to be the flu or a common cold, so if anything, the number of cases should be underestimated during that period. Many are not at all linked to trips abroad, but only describe symptoms that should be Covid-19.

But it could also be that it ravages other strange viral diseases in parallel with Covid-19. It is not surprising that you wonder what is going on. But however you interpret this, many are sick of a strange disease with a cold, stomach, and other problems that they are not used to having at all.

Generally

Perhaps also worth clarifying that we draw a random new sample in each survey. So not the same people who respond day after day, but it is new people who are randomized every time.

All surveys have been completed in Novus Sverigepanel. The participation rate is over 70% in only one day's data collection. A level that is at a record high. Novus surveys are something you like to respond to, which makes me incredibly grateful. Thank you all for helping to spread understanding of this unique and worrying situation brought about by the Corona pandemic. Without you, we would not have been able to obtain this information. Together we have been able to show Sweden and the world how well we are doing and manage the collective responsibility that is a prerequisite for us to be able to cope with this pandemic with as little damage as possible to society and individuals.



For more information about the survey please contact:

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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 Sverige panel 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.