

Years of life lost associated with COVID-19 deaths in Portugal between 2020 and 2022

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Background

The health impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Portuguese population is still underexplored

The number of deaths among people with COVID-19 does not show the true impact of the disease on communities

The characterization of years of life lost (YLL) due to this disease may provide relevant data for establishing effective strategies in future epidemics

Aim

To calculate the YLL associated with COVID-19 deaths in Portugal between 2020 and 2022



Methods

- ▶ Observational and cross-sectional study
- ▶ Average resident population - Statistics Portugal (INE)
- ▶ Life expectancy at birth by age group and sex - GBD 2019 standard life-table
- ▶ **COVID-19 deaths** - Directorate-General of Health's (DGS) reports (**March 2020 - March 2022**)
- ▶ **YLL** - number of COVID-19 deaths multiplied by standard life expectancy at the age of death, globally, by sex and age group (per 100,000 population and age-standardized)

Results

COVID-19 | Cases

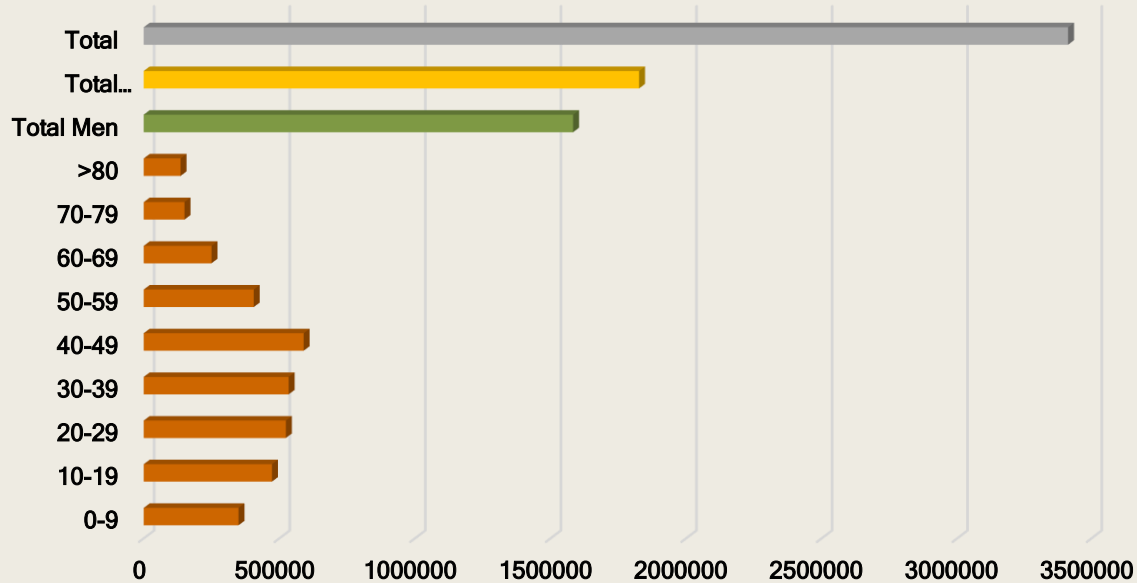


Figure 1 - Number of COVID-19 cases in Portugal between March 2020-March 2023 (by age group and sex)

COVID-19 | Deaths

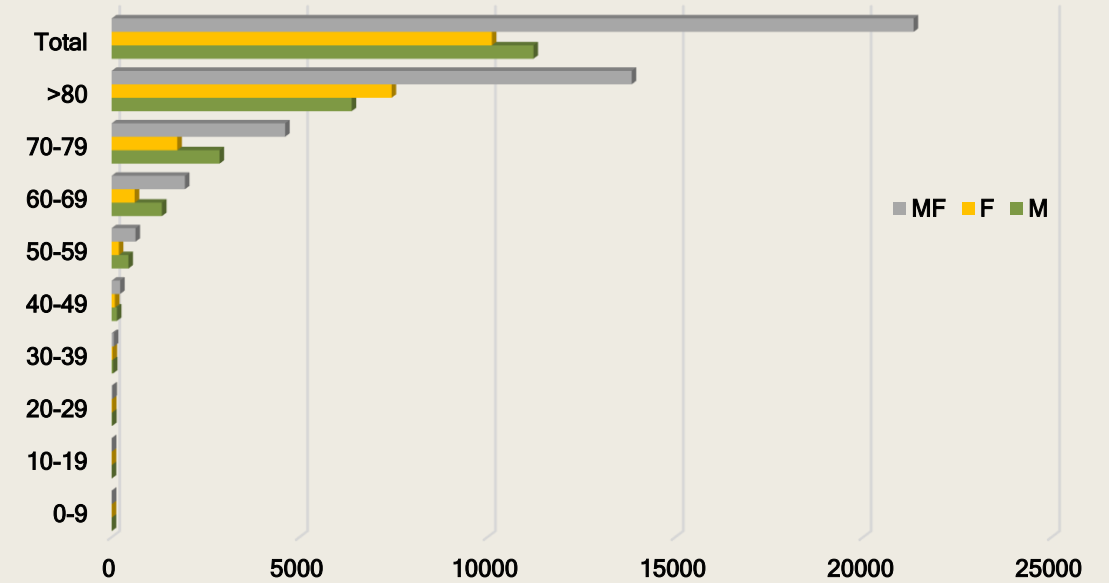


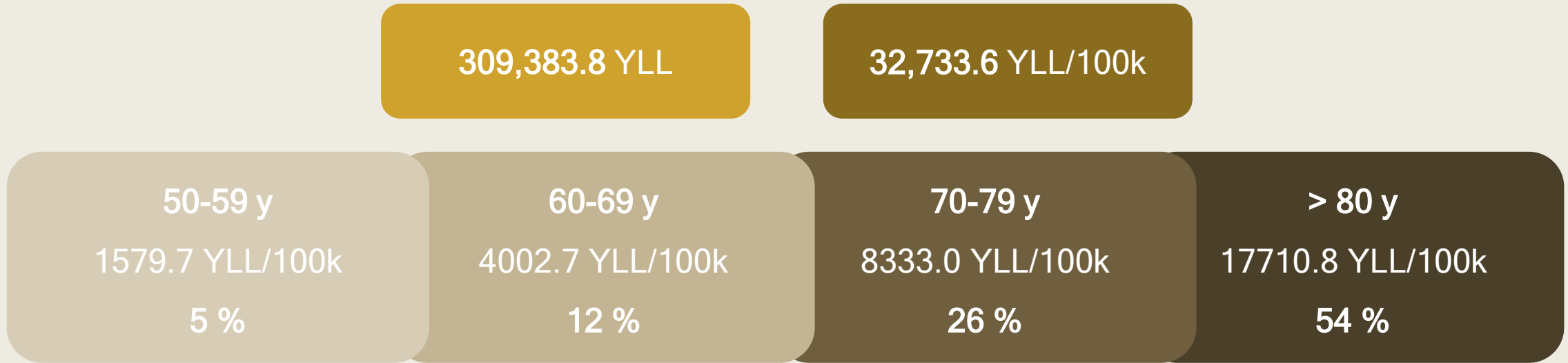
Figure 2 - Number of COVID-19 deaths in Portugal between March 2020-March 2023 (by age group and sex)

3,413,013 cases of COVID-19 → 21,342 (0.6%) died of the disease (assumed)

Number of deaths by sex was similar

Number of deaths was higher in older age groups (> 60 y)

Results



Main Conclusions

COVID-19 has had a major impact on mortality rates in Portugal, with this impact being greater in the older population, especially in people aged over 70 years.

These insights can be useful in terms of public health as the disease progresses to an endemic phase.