

The results of our COVID-19 survey in UK divers

Demographics

There were 335 respondents, with an age range of 15 to 77 years old. 44 (12%) of respondents undertook commercial or professional diving and 321 (96%) undertook recreational diving.

Age range (years)	n	%
≤17	1	0.3
18 – 24	14	4.2
25 – 44	104	31.0
45 – 64	174	51.9
≥65	42	12.5
Total	335	100
Purpose of diving	n	%
Recreational	321	96
Commercial / professional	44	12
Both recreational and commercial/professional	30	9

Severity of infection

66 people (20%) reported having had symptoms consistent with COVID-19 infection or a positive COVID-19 test. Of these respondents, 3 (5%) required hospital admission and 63 (95%) were not admitted to hospital. No respondents required ICU.

If suspected or confirmed COVID-19:	n	%
Hospital admission, required O2	2	3
Hospital admission, no O2 required	1	2
ICU admission	0	0
Not hospitalised	63	95
<i>Total</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>100</i>

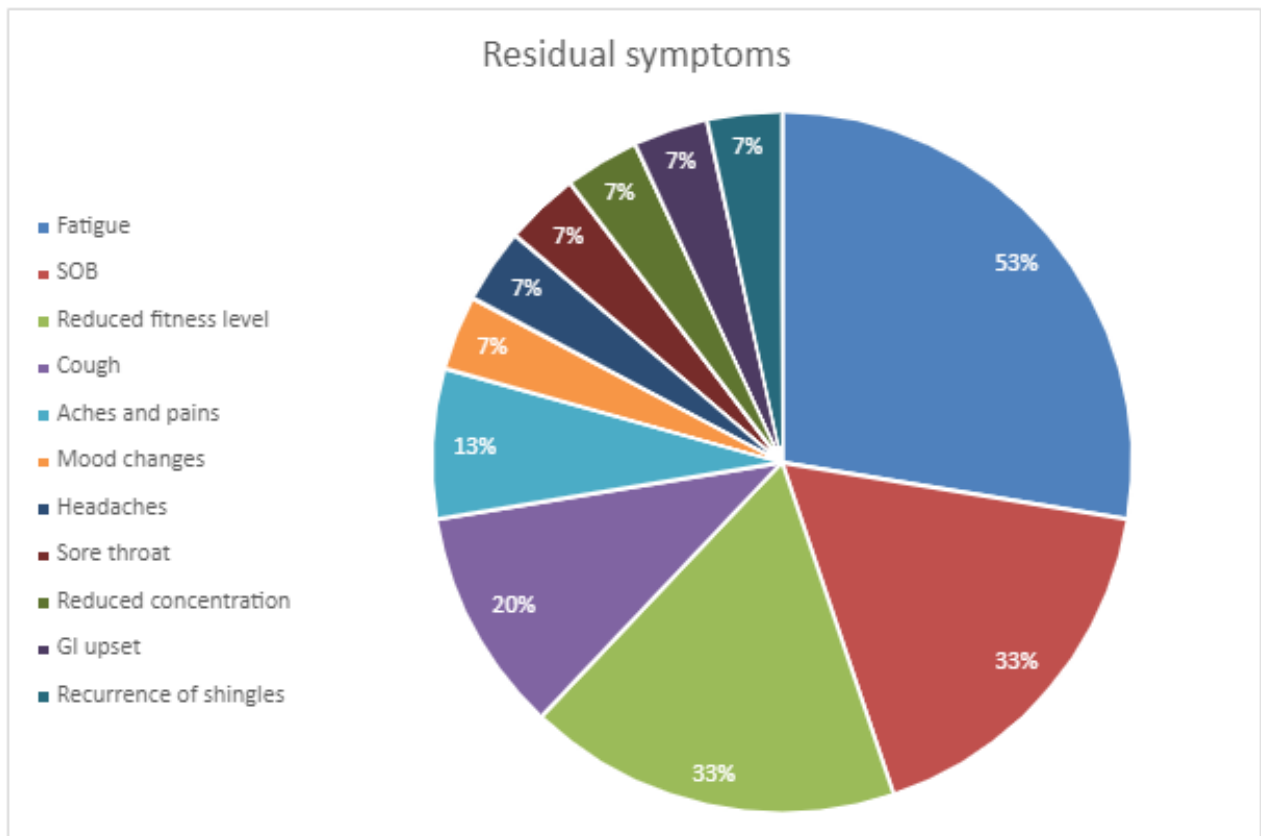
Residual symptoms

Of the respondents who had suspected or confirmed COVID-19, 15 (23%) felt they had not fully recovered from their infection at the time of completing the survey, and 9 (14%) felt that they had not returned to their normal exercise capacity.

If suspected or confirmed COVID-19, feel recovered?	n	%
Yes	51	77
No	15	23
Total	66	100

If not recovered, feel ready to return to diving?	n	%
Yes	8	53
No	7	47
Total	15	100

Most ongoing symptoms were related to fatigue, shortness of breath and reduced fitness level, with a significant number reporting ongoing cough.



Of those respondents who reported they were not fully recovered from COVID-19 or did not feel that they had returned to their normal levels of exercise, 12 (63%) answered that they **did** feel ready to return to diving despite this.

If suspected or confirmed COVID-19, returned to normal level of exercise?	n	%
Yes	50	76
No	9	14
Unanswered	7	11
Total	66	100

If not returned to normal level exercise, feel ready to return to diving?	n	%
Yes	10	63
No	6	38
Total	16	100