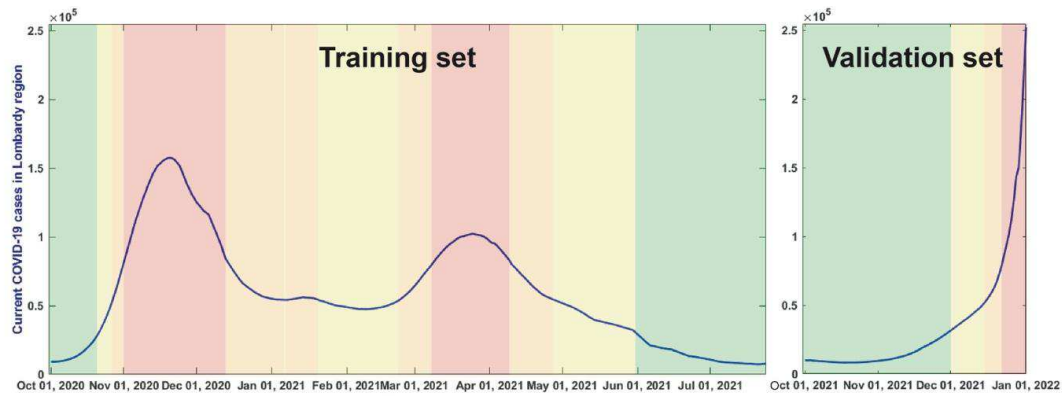


**Figure 3, COVID-19 prevalence in the study period**

Subdivision of days in the timeframe from Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, to Jul 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 (training set) and from Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, to Dec 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021, into four quartiles according to the number of patients currently positive for SARS-CoV-2 infection (filtered with a 7-day moving average) on the territory of Lombardy region, Italy. For each quartile of the training set, Table 1 reports the thresholds (minimum and maximum values), the range of values, and the timeframe assigned to it.