Latest numbers on COVID-19 in the UK – 9 October 2020

Not a good news week, I’m afraid

1. Tests

2. Cases

3. International comparison

4. Summary.

With many thanks to Catherine Finnecy for help in collating and understanding the data
Number of new tests by nation per million population

Only N Ireland really increasing tests

Data from https://www.travellingtabby.com/uk-coronavirus-tracker/
Proportion of tests results received promptly (England)

Number of new UK confirmed COVID-19 cases (people who have had a positive test)

Data from https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk

I have back-allocated the extra 15,841 to their reporting days last week (PHE)
Number of new confirmed COVID-19 cases / 100,000 people – UK nations

Data from https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk, last week adjusted for missing cases.
New cases from ONS infection survey (to 1 October)

Figure 2: The weighted fortnightly estimate to 1 October (which underpins our modelled official estimates) shows the number of infections has increased rapidly in recent weeks.

Estimated percentage of the population in England testing positive for the coronavirus (COVID-19) by non-overlapping 14-day periods between 1 May and 1 October 2020.

Approximately 2 week doubling, getting quicker.
2 weeks consistent with KCL Covid symptom tracker app.
Map of cases over previous day

Data from https://www.travellingtabby.com/uk-coronavirus-tracker/
Number of new confirmed COVID-19 cases / 100,000 people – England regions

Data from https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk
Proportion of people who test positive - England regions

% of people

NE
NW
Yorks
E. Midlands
London
W. Midlands

New cases from ONS infection survey (to 1 October)

Figure 3: There is clear evidence of variation in the infection rates across regions

Estimated percentage of the population testing positive for the coronavirus (COVID-19) on nose and throat swabs across regions, England, 28 September 2020 (reference point of the most recent week from modelling)

From https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/bulletins/coronaviruscovid19infectionsurveypilot/latest
New case rates per 100,000 by age group to w/e 4\textsuperscript{th} October

Massive increase in number & proportion of teenagers testing positive

New cases from ONS infection survey (to 1 October)

Figure 5: COVID-19 infection rates are highest among older teenagers and young adults

Estimated percentage of the population testing positive for the coronavirus (COVID-19) on nose and throat swabs, daily, by age group since 21 August 2020, England

From https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/bulletins/coronaviruscovid19infectionsurveypilot/latest
Number of new hospital admissions with COVID-19 per day in England

Data from [https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/](https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/)
3-day average of daily number of new hospital admissions with COVID-19 per day / million people across different regions in England

Data from https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/covid-19-hospital-activity/
Number of new UK deaths from COVID-19 per week

These are registered deaths where COVID-19 was mentioned on the death certificate, regardless of location.

- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- England and Wales

Data from:
- England and Wales: www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/bulletins/deathsregisteredweeklyinenglandandwalesprovisional/latest
- Northern Ireland: www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/weekly-deaths
Comparison to other countries: cases

Average daily reported cases

Comparison to other countries: hospitalisations

Weekly hospital admissions / 100,000 people

COVID seems to be spreading quicker again across the UK, particularly N Ireland and the North of England.

Hospital admissions in the North of England are increasing very rapidly. If this goes on they will reach levels seen in London on 23 March within a week.

Test and trace is getting worse – as case numbers continue to increase, this is likely to continue.

Existing restrictions not sufficient to reverse growth and we now do need to reverse growth: particularly in areas with high case numbers and high hospital admissions.

The government **urgently** needs to halt and reverse growth by:

- Introducing additional **temporary** restrictions, that are clearly communicated and transparent with clear criteria for exit
- Return to 2m distancing, mask wearing indoors
- Switch to online teaching in universities
- Supporting households to isolate if they have COVID-19 or are a close contact
- Supporting businesses and those whose livelihoods are impacted to weather this period
- Increasing test capacity and turnaround times
- Redesigning and improving contact tracing

Schools should only be closed as a last resort

Government must return to daily briefings