Latest numbers on COVID-19 in the UK – 7th May 2021

Things are generally good – but beware the variants.

1. Cases
2. Hospitalisations & Deaths
3. Vaccinations
4. Schools
5. Variants
6. International Context

With many thanks to Bob for his help in collating the data
Cases
Number of new UK confirmed COVID-19 cases by reported date (people who have had a positive test)

Data from https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk
Number of new UK confirmed COVID-19 cases by reported date (people who have had a positive test)

Data from [https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk](https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk)
Number of tests performed each day by LFD or PCR type in England (to 5th May)

Data from https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk
Number of *cases* each day by LFD or PCR type in England (i.e. positive tests) to 1st May

Data from https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk
Proportion of *cases* each day by LFD or PCR type in England to 1st May

Proportion of positive tests

Still a lot of unconfirmed LFDs even with confirmatory PCR recommended.

Don’t show up in positivity rates.

Hard to know how to interpret

Data from https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk
Thanks to Bob Hawkins for the chart
Positivity rates – UK nations – by date of test to 1st May
(PCR positive cases only only)

% of people tested who are positive

Excellent news

Data from:
Scotland: https://www.opendata.nhs.scot/dataset/covid-19-in-Scotland
Visualisation courtesy of Bob Hawkins
Incidence rate (new infections) by nation to 2\textsuperscript{nd} May – ONS

Incidence is low and flat across all nations

Chart from https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/bulletins/coronaviruscovid19infectionsurveypilot/latest
Case rates for English regions to 1st May (by date of test)

Number of cases

Data from https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk
ONS infection survey for English regions to 2nd May

Figure 2: The percentage of people testing positive decreased in all regions except in Yorkshire and The Humber, the East of England and London where the trends are uncertain in the week ending 2 May 2021

Estimated percentage of the population testing positive for the coronavirus (COVID-19) on nose and throat swabs, daily, by region since 22 March 2021, England

Data from https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/bulletins/coronaviruscovid19infectionsurveypilot/latest
Hospitalisations and Deaths
Number of people in hospital per million people – UK nations to 5 May

Data from https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk.
Number of new UK deaths from COVID-19 per week to week ending 23rd April

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

290 w/e 23rd April, 2021
Vaccination data
Number of 1\textsuperscript{st} and 2\textsuperscript{nd} doses given by day in the UK to 5\textsuperscript{th} May

Data from https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/
Thanks to Bob Hawkins for the chart
Vaccine projections (England)

Should be on track to offer 1st dose to everyone by end July, and 2nd dose by end Sept

Data from https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/
Proportion of adults given at least one dose over time for each nation to 5th May

Data from https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/
Thanks to Bob Hawkins for the chart
Proportion of adults fully vaccinated over time for each nation to 5th May

Data from https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/
Thanks to Bob Hawkins for the chart
First and Second Dose Coverage by Age for England to 25th April

Data from https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/covid-19-vaccinations
Thanks to Bob Hawkins for the chart
First Dose Coverage by Ethnicity for over 50s for England to Apr 12 (ONS)

Data from COVID-19 vaccination rates and odds ratios by socio-demographic group - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)
Thanks to Bob Hawkins for the chart
Schools
Age distribution of cases – Public Health England to 2\textsuperscript{nd} May

Percentage of population testing positive by age in England (to 2^{nd} May) (ONS infection survey)

Figure 3: The percentage testing positive in England decreased in people aged two years to school Year 11 in the week ending 2 May 2021

Estimated percentage of the population testing positive for the coronavirus (COVID-19) on nose and throat swabs, daily, by age group since 22 March 2021, England

Chart from https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/bulletins/coronaviruscovid19infectionsurveypilot/latest
School outbreaks – Public Health England to 2\textsuperscript{nd} May

So far much lower than in March, which in turn much lower than in Nov/Dec.

Shows that low community prevalence is key to keeping schools safe

Variants
Cumulative number of sequenced samples of different variants in UK (COVID-19 Genomics (COG-UK) Consortium)

Includes all sequenced tests, including from travellers to UK & surge testing

Data from [http://sars2.cvr.gla.ac.uk/cog-uk/](http://sars2.cvr.gla.ac.uk/cog-uk/). Note that numbers for B1617 include subtypes: B1617.1, B1617.2, B1617.3
Cumulative number of sequenced samples of different variants in UK (COVID-19 Genomics (COG-UK) Consortium)

Includes all sequenced tests, including from travellers to UK & surge testing

Data from [http://sars2.cvr.gla.ac.uk/cog-uk/](http://sars2.cvr.gla.ac.uk/cog-uk/). Note that numbers for B1617 include subtypes: B1617.1, B1617.2, B1617.3
Number of sequenced cases each week in UK for each of four new variants (does not include B117 ("Kent") which makes up 90%+ of cases).

Includes all sequenced tests, including from travellers to UK & surge testing.

Data from [sars2.cvr.gla.ac.uk/cog-uk/](http://sars2.cvr.gla.ac.uk/cog-uk/). Note that numbers for B1617 include subtypes: B1617.1, B1617.2, B1617.3.
Number of sequenced cases each week in UK by B1617 ("India") subtype

Includes all sequenced tests, including from travellers to UK & surge testing

New variant of concern

Data from [http://sars2.cvr.gla.ac.uk/cog-uk/](http://sars2.cvr.gla.ac.uk/cog-uk/)
Number of sequenced cases each week in UK by B1617 ("India") subtype. This time from the Sanger Institute which *excludes* travel related cases and surge testing cases.

The numbers are smaller but the trend is the same.

Data from https://covid19.sanger.ac.uk/downloads
Proportion of sequenced cases each week that are B.1.617 or its sub-lineages by region
Excludes cases from travellers and surge testing.
Excludes regions where proportion B.1.617 is currently below 2%

Data from https://covid19.sanger.ac.uk/downloads.
Proportion of sequenced cases each week that are B.1.617 or its sub-lineages by region

Excludes cases from travellers and surge testing.
Excludes regions where proportion B.1.617 is currently below 2%

In the PHE documents, 48 clusters of Indian variant B16172 have been identified, including those linked to secondary schools and religious gatherings, with evidence of community transmission in some of the clusters.

Data from https://covid19.sanger.ac.uk/downloads.
International context
World cases of Covid October 2020 – May 2021

Graphs from https://ourworldindata.org/.
World cases of Covid October 2020 – May 2021

Asia

Europe

Vaccines are needed!!

South America

North America

Data from https://ourworldindata.org/.
Summary

Cases, hospitalisations and deaths are flat or falling in all nations. LFDs hard to interpret.

Vaccination going very well – mostly second doses until end of May. Disparities by deprivation and ethnicity persist.

The rise in school age children that we saw in March is not seen this term (yet). This is good and likely an indication of how much community prevalence matters.

That said, case rates still highest in school age children.

South America and Asia (mainly India and its neighbours) have very high levels of Covid. Europe is high but going down.

The rapid increase of B.1.617.2 in UK shows the problems with both the “red list” system and with allowing Covid to run amok internationally (and summer travel?).

The rapid increase of the B.1.617.2 variant is concerning – indications are that is it at least as transmissible as B117 (“Kent”) but no evidence yet that vaccines don’t work against it. BUT could still mean a nasty “exit wave” if not contained.