Latest numbers on COVID-19 in the UK – 18 February 2022

1. Vaccination
2. Prevalence of Covid
3. Variants
4. Hospitals & Death

With many thanks to Bob Hawkins for his help in collating the data
First Dose Coverage by Deprivation for 12-15 Year Olds in England as at Feb 16
(Source: NHS Weekly Vaccination Report and Mid-2020 ONS Population Estimates)

Thanks to Bob Hawkins for the chart
Prevalence of Covid
Weekly Percent Testing Positive by Nation: 3 Sep 2021 to 12 Feb 2022
(Source: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Infection Survey)

Data from https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/bulletins/coronaviruscovid19infectionsurveypilot/previousReleases.
Thanks to Bob Hawkins for the chart
Percent Testing Positive by Home Nation: 12 Feb 2022
(Source: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Infection Survey headline results, UK: 16 Feb 2022)

Data from https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/bulletins/coronaviruscovid19infectionsurveypilot/previousReleases.

Thanks to Bob Hawkins for the chart.
Percent Testing Positive by Age for England: 12 Feb vs Prior Weeks
(Source: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Infection Survey headline results, UK: 16 Feb 2022)

Data from https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/bulletins/coronaviruscovid19infectionsurveypilot/previousReleases.
Thanks to Bob Hawkins for the chart
BA.2 Omicron variant
Proportion of sequenced cases that are BA.2 over time by home nation to week ending 12 Feb 2022.

### BA.2 latest risk assessment from UKHSA on 11 Feb 2022

**9 February 2022**  | **Risk assessment for SARS-CoV-2 variant: VUI-22JAN-01 (BA.2)** | **UK Health Security Agency**
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**Indicator** | **Red, amber or green status** | **Confidence level** | **Assessment and rationale**
Overall growth advantage | Red | Moderate | **There is evidence of a growth advantage for BA.2 compared to BA.1 in more than one country**
 |  |  | There is evidence of a continued growth advantage for BA.2 compared to BA.1 in community cases in all regions of England. This growth advantage is visible in some other countries but is not clearly the same across all countries with genomic surveillance at present. Prior variant exposure and timing may contribute to differences between countries.
Growth advantage 1: Transmissibility | Red | Low | **It is plausible that transmissibility and/or a shorter serial interval is contributing to the growth advantage**
 |  |  | Given the lack of apparent immune evasion, it is plausible that a change in transmissibility is contributing to the growth advantage. It is unclear at present how this would arise from the BA.2 mutation profile. Preliminary analysis using contact tracing data suggests a shorter serial interval for BA.2 compared to BA.1.
Growth advantage 2: Immune evasion | Amber | Moderate | **There is evidence of a small antigenic distance between BA.1 and BA.2 but no evidence of a difference in vaccine effectiveness in English data**
 |  |  | Neutralisation studies using monoclonal antibodies and some preliminary studies using sera suggest a small antigenic difference between BA.1 and BA.2, which is expected from the mutation profile. However, sera from individuals with recent booster vaccinations neutralise both variants similarly. Neutralisation studies use recent vaccinee sera and it is unclear whether the difference between variants will increase as the responses wane.
Infection severity | Insufficient data |  | No systematic analyses comparing BA.1 and BA.2 are as yet available.

* Refer to scale and confidence grading slide.

Hospitals & Deaths
Number of people in hospital with Covid per million people – UK nations
7 day rolling average to 1 Apr 2020 – 17 Feb 2022

Data from https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk.
Number of daily hospital admissions with Covid in England to 15 Feb 2022

Data from https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/covid-19-hospital-activity/
Number of deaths within 28 days of +ve COVID test by date of death across the UK to 10 February 2022
Number of deaths with Covid as a contributing cause from death certificate data for England and Wales to w/e 28 Jan 2022

86,769 deaths

Second wave

5,127 deaths in first 4 weeks of 2022

Data from https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/bulletins/deathsregisteredweeklyinenglandandwalesprovisional/latest

Flu & pneumonia from https://www.ons.gov.uk/aboutus/transparencyandgovernance/freedomofinformationfoi/influenzadeathsin20182019and2020
Number of deaths with Covid as a contributing cause from death certificate data for England and Wales to w/e 28 Jan 2022

86,769 deaths

Second wave

Deaths involving Covid since mid July 2021: 23,632

Annual deaths involving flu (E&W)
2018: 1,596
2019: 1,213

Annual deaths involving flu and pneumonia (E&W)
2018: 29,451
2019: 26,342

5,127 deaths in first 4 weeks of 2022

Data from https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/bulletins/deathsregisteredweeklyinenglandandwalesprovisional/latest
Flu & pneumonia from https://www.ons.gov.uk/aboutus/transparencyandgovernance/freedomofinformationfoi/influenzadeathsin20182019and2020
SUMMARY

- As vaccination for 5-11 year olds look set to happen soon, we should note the big differences by deprivation in uptake for 12-15 year olds. How do we tackle this?

- ONS shows that the number of people with Covid is falling in England and Wales, but flattish in NI and Scotland

- Number of people in hospital is continuing to fall in all nations (but very slight shift in Scotland recently).

- Deaths are coming down but are still high.

- The Omicron subvariant (BA.2) continues to increase in all nations, is dominant in N Ireland and likely dominant in England and Scotland within next week or two. No indication that it’s more severe.