Latest numbers on COVID-19 in the UK – 17th February 2023

Cases seem still to be rising but slowly.
Hospitalisations are increasing slowly.
Deaths from the last wave are coming down.

1. Prevalence
2. Hospitalisations
3. Deaths
4. Workforce absence

With many thanks to Bob Hawkins for his help in collating and presenting the data
Prevalence
Percent Testing Positive by Home Nation: Week Ending 7 Feb 2023
(Source: ONS Coronavirus (COVID-19) Infection Survey results)

Thanks to Bob Hawkins for the chart
Percent Testing Positive by Nation: 3 Sep 2021 to 7 Feb 2023
(Source: ONS Coronavirus (COVID-19) Infection Survey results)

- England: 1 in 55
- Wales: 1 in 65
- Northern Ireland: 1 in 80
- Scotland: 1 in 55

Thanks to Bob Hawkins for the chart.
Zoe symptom tracker prevalence estimate: Nov 2021 – Feb 16 2023
(Source: https://health-study.joinzoe.com/data)
Percent Testing Positive by Region: Recent Trend
(Source: ONS Coronavirus (COVID-19) Infection Survey results)

Thanks to Bob Hawkins for the chart
Percent Testing Positive by Age for England: Recent Trend
(Source: ONS Coronavirus (COVID-19) Infection Survey results)

Thanks to Bob Hawkins for the chart
Hospital covid
Daily Hospital Admissions by Age for England
1 May 2021 – 6 Feb 2023
(Source: Covid Daily Update)
Seven Day Hospital Admissions Rate per 100K by Regions
Recent Weekly Trend
(Source: Covid Daily Update)
Flu
Comparison of 2022/23 Weekly Influenza Admissions Rate (per 100K) for England with Prior Years: 2018/19 to 2021/22
(Source: Weekly National Influenza and COVID-19 Surveillance Data Report)

Deaths
Daily deaths with COVID-19 on the death certificate by Date of Death for the United Kingdom: 1 May 2021 – 20 Jan 2023

(Source: UK Covid Dashboard)

https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/details/download
Workforce absence
Crackdown on Sicknotes
(Source: Telegraph 14/02/23)

Sick note crackdown to get more people back into work

Doctors told to sign fewer patients off under proposals to reinvigorate the economy

By Ben Riley-Smith, POLITICAL EDITOR and Nick Gutteridge, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT
14 February 2023 • 9:51pm

Doctors are to be told to sign fewer people off work with sick notes and instead help them to remain in employment under plans being considered for next month’s Budget.

The Treasury and the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) are examining how to reverse a marked rise in the number of people off work with long-term sickness in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.
UK Sickness Absence Rate: 2000 to 2021
(Source: Sickness absence in the UK labour market report, April 2022)

https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/datasets/sicknessabsenceinthelabourmarket
UK Sickness Absence Rate by Age: 2018 to 2021
(Source: Sickness absence in the UK labour market report, April 2022)

https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/datasets/sicknessabsenceinthelabourmarket
Main Reasons for Sickness Absences in the UK for 2021
(Source: Sickness absence in the UK labour market report, April 2022)

- **Coronavirus (COVID-19)**: 24%
- **Minor illnesses**: 22%
- **Musculoskeletal problems**: 13%
- **Mental health conditions**: 10%
- **Respiratory conditions**: 6%
- **Prefers not to give details**: 5%
- **Gastrointestinal problems**: 5%
- **Headaches and migraines**: 4%
- **Eye/ear/nose/mouth/dental problems**: 3%
- **Heart, blood pressure, circulation**: 3%
- **Genito-urinary problems**: 3%

[Source: https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/datasets/sicknessabsenceinthelabourmarket]
UK Sickness Absence Rate by Industry: 2019 to 2021
(Source: Sickness absence in the UK labour market report, April 2022)

https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/datasets/sicknessabsenceinthelabourmarket
Percent of People by Job Sectors Living with Self-Reported Long Covid of Any Duration in the UK: Dec 5, 2022 - Jan 2, 2023
(Source: ONS Prevalence of ongoing symptoms following coronavirus (COVID-19) infection in the UK Reports)

Thanks to Bob Hawkins for the chart

https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/datasets/alldatarelatingtoprevalenceofongoingsymptomsfollowingcoronaviruscovid19infectionintheuk
Impact on People Living with Self-Reported Long Covid of Any Duration by Job Sector in the UK: Dec 5, 2022 - Jan 2, 2023

(Source: ONS Prevalence of ongoing symptoms following coronavirus (COVID-19) infection in the UK Reports)

Thanks to Bob Hawkins for the chart

https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/datasets/alldatarelatingtoprevalenceofongoingsymptomsfollowingcoronaviruscovid19infectionintheuk
Statutory Sick Pay as a Percent of Earnings by Country
(Source: The Compensation Expert Report, May 2021)

Memo. (a) Ireland currently has no Statutory Sick Pay but pays a Covid sickness benefit

https://the-compensation-experts.co.uk/news/european-sick-pay/
Summary

Prevalence is increasing (although incidence may have turned a corner).

Hospitalisation admissions continue to rise for covid.

Deaths are falling, but still at relatively high levels.

Increasing numbers of people are out of the workforce through ill-health. Covid is contributing to this substantially.