Omicron daily overview: 28 December 2021

Summary

UK total case numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Confirmed Omicron cases</th>
<th>Change from previous report</th>
<th>SGTF cases*</th>
<th>Change from previous report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>159,204</td>
<td>+16,133</td>
<td>355,714</td>
<td>+38,458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>10,458</td>
<td>+1,136</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>6,154</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>32,669</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wales</td>
<td>1,385</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,553</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative total</td>
<td>177,201</td>
<td>+17,269</td>
<td>390,936</td>
<td>+38,458</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data up to 6pm 27 December 2021 for England
Data up to 4pm 27 December 2021 for Northern Ireland
Data up to 5pm 23 December 2021 for Scotland
Data up to 5pm 23 December 2021 for Wales

Notes to table
* SGTF cases in the above table excludes persons ruled out as other variants.
Scotland is no longer separating VOC Omicron cases in daily reporting and will update weekly.
No update received from Wales due to Christmas and Bank Holiday working arrangements.
Northern Ireland figures are provisional and may be subject to change.

Hospitalisations and deaths

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Hospitalisations (Confirmed and SGTF*)</th>
<th>Change from previous report</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>Change from previous report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>668</td>
<td>+261</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>+10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data provided 27 December 2021 for dates up to 26 December 2021

Notes to table
*SGTF cases in the above table exclude cases confirmed with other variants

Data set and definitions as described in Appendix 2. The data is lagged and requires hospital staff to submit emergency care data sets to NHS Digital for analysis and linkage with testing data.
Proportion of hospitalised cases with confirmed or probable (SGTF+) Omicron who are unvaccinated, by region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>% Confirmed Omicron unvaccinated hospitalised</th>
<th>% SGTF* unvaccinated hospitalised</th>
<th>% Total unvaccinated Omicron hospitalised</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East Midlands</td>
<td>27.5%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>24.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East of England</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td>14.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>41.7%</td>
<td>37.5%</td>
<td>41.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North East</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West</td>
<td>14.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Midlands</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yorkshire and Humber</td>
<td>42.9%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(n=656) 12 cases excluded due to unknown vaccination status.

Data provided 27 December 2021 for dates up to 26 December 2021

Notes to table

*SGTF cases in the above table exclude cases confirmed with other variants

Data set and definitions as described in Appendix 2. The data is lagged and requires hospital staff to submit emergency care data sets to NHS Digital for analysis and linkage with testing data.

The % total unvaccinated Omicron hospitalised cases is calculated against the total combined number of confirmed and SGTF cases with known vaccination status that have been hospitalised.

From the above table, 41.2% of hospitalised cases in London were unvaccinated. London is currently the largest and most robust data set of the regions and reflects the importance of vaccine uptake.
### Breakdown of England daily cases by region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Confirmed Omicron cases</th>
<th>Change from previous report</th>
<th>SGTF cases*</th>
<th>Change from previous report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East Midlands</td>
<td>14,099</td>
<td>+597</td>
<td>30,014</td>
<td>+1,283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East of England</td>
<td>9,487</td>
<td>+458</td>
<td>37,424</td>
<td>+4,094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>39,537</td>
<td>+3,401</td>
<td>73,480</td>
<td>+7,713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North East</td>
<td>6,254</td>
<td>+681</td>
<td>11,098</td>
<td>+1,587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>18,529</td>
<td>+1,593</td>
<td>63,881</td>
<td>+8,742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East</td>
<td>36,110</td>
<td>+4,329</td>
<td>35,203</td>
<td>+3,665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West</td>
<td>15,714</td>
<td>+1,838</td>
<td>14,077</td>
<td>+1,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Midlands</td>
<td>10,719</td>
<td>+912</td>
<td>28,594</td>
<td>+3,186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yorkshire and Humber</td>
<td>8,281</td>
<td>+2,194</td>
<td>36,701</td>
<td>+4,754</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>474</td>
<td>+130</td>
<td>25,242</td>
<td>+1,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>159,204</strong></td>
<td><strong>+16,133</strong></td>
<td><strong>355,714</strong></td>
<td><strong>+38,485</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data up to 6pm 27 December 2021

**Notes to table**

*SGTF cases in the above table exclude cases confirmed with other variants

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Epidemiology curve of confirmed Omicron cases by region

Data as of 27 December 2021
**Samples with S-gene target failure (SGTF)**

Number and proportion of SARS-CoV-2 cases with SGTF by region, among those with specimen dates on 25 and 26 December 2021.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Total COVID Cases with known S-gene status**</th>
<th>SGTF cases</th>
<th>SGTF %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East Midlands</td>
<td>514</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>91.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East of England</td>
<td>776</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>93.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>97.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North East</td>
<td>1,571</td>
<td>1,414</td>
<td>90.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>1,865</td>
<td>1,748</td>
<td>93.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>88.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>95.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Midlands</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>88.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yorkshire and Humber</td>
<td>3,334</td>
<td>3,053</td>
<td>91.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>8,844</td>
<td>8,132</td>
<td>91.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SGSS data as of 6pm 27 December 2021.

**Notes to tables**

** Known S-gene status based on those tested by TaqPath laboratories (Alderley Park, Milton Keynes, Glasgow, and Newcastle Lighthouse Laboratories).
Figure 1. COVID-19 cases with detectable S-gene/SGTF and percentage with SGTF among those tested in TaqPath Labs by day, by region (95% confidence intervals indicated by grey shading). Data updated 6pm 27 December 2021.

A detectable S gene is a proxy for Delta since April 2021. SGTF was a surveillance proxy for VOC-20DEC-01 however has largely consisted of Delta since August 2021. Local trends in these data may be affected by decisions to direct the processing of samples via a TaqPath laboratory. Only tests carried out with the TaqPath PCR assay and with confirmed SGTF or S gene results included, from Newcastle, Alderley Park, Milton Keynes and Glasgow Lighthouse Labs. SGTF refers to non-detectable S gene and <=30 CT values for N and ORF1ab genes. Detectable S-gene refers to <=30 CT values for S, N, and ORF1ab genes.

Produced by Outbreak Surveillance Team, UKHSA.
Figure 2. Number of COVID-19 cases with S-gene positive/SGTF by day, among those tested in TaqPath labs (95% confidence intervals indicated by grey shading). Data updated 6pm 27 December 2021.

A detectable S gene is a proxy for Delta since April 2021. SGTF was a surveillance proxy for VOC-20DEC-01 however has largely consisted of Delta since August 2021. Local trends in these data may be affected by decisions to direct the processing of samples via a TaqPath laboratory. Only tests carried out with the TaqPath PCR assay and with confirmed SGTF or S gene results included, from Newcastle, Alderley Park, Milton Keynes and Glasgow Lighthouse Labs. SGTF refers to non-detectable S gene and <=30 CT values for N and ORF1ab genes. Detectable S-gene refers to <=30 CT values for S, N, and ORF1ab genes. Produced by Outbreak Surveillance Team, UKHSA.
Appendix 1
Counts are based on case definitions agreed on 13 December 2021
(Implemented on data 6pm 14 December 2021):

- **confirmed case**: Omicron (B.1.1.529) by sequencing or genotyping (i) 417N and 681R failure; ii) 69-70 deletion plus 417N; iii) 69-70 deletion plus 501Y; iv) Q493R, vi) other relevant genotyping results)

- **probable case**: COVID-19 PCR positive and i) SGTF^^ or ii) 69-70 deletion with specimen dates from 1 December**

- **possible case**: COVID-19 PCR positive and SGTF^^ with specimen dates from November 1 up to and including November 30”

^^S-gene target failure (SGTF): A positive SARS-CoV-2 PCR test carried out on the TaqPath assay with undetectable S-gene and CT values <=30 for both N and Orf1ab gene targets. Currently reported into SGSS by Milton Keynes, Alderley Park, Glasgow, and Newcastle lighthouse laboratories.

*Excludes those confirmed as non-Omicron variant.

Appendix 2
Definitions of hospitalisation
Cases with presentation to a type 1 A&E and are admitted or transferred at the end of their emergency care stay, who have a positive SARS-CoV-2 test either:

- within 14 days prior to admission
- within 1 day post admission

Data source: NHS England provides this data from the NHS Digital Emergency Care Data Set (ECDS). This data is subject to delays.