

Summary report: COG-UK geographic coverage of SARS-CoV-2 sample sequencing

Report on the week commencing on 28 December 2020 (week 53)

This report was generated on 26 January 2021 using data downloaded on 24 January 2021

COG-UK captures SARS-CoV-2 samples from COVID-19 infections across the UK, and this summary includes information on sequencing coverage across the UK. Coverage is defined as the number of sequences available in COG-UK out of the number of people with a COVID-19 infection.

In the week commencing on 28 December 2020 (week 53), 200,809 sequences out of 2,804,687 infected people (7.2%) passed basic quality checks and were available in Medical Research Council Cloud Infrastructure for Microbial Bioinformatics (MRC CLIMB-COVID, the central computational infrastructure for COG-UK).

This is an operational report – please interpret the results with caution due to the following limitations:

- Geographic information is currently lacking for ~8% of sequences which may result in apparent low coverage in some areas
- For a minority of numerator sequences, there may be more than one sequence per individual (i.e. no deduplication); this can lead to mismatches because the denominator includes the total number of infected people, not the number of samples
- Coverage proportion by Pillar is currently not available for all countries but will be included in the report as soon as available. Frequency of sequences by Pillar is shown in the table below

Table 1: Coverage, overall and by Pillar in the week commencing on 28 December 2020 (week 53)

	Overall coverage		Pillar 1 frequency		Pillar 2 frequency	
	Cumulative	Week	Cumulative	Week	Cumulative	Week
UK	200,809 (7.2%)	9,955 (2.5%)	90,281	3,498	110,528	6,457
Wales	25,725 (15.9%)	1,096 (7.0%)	22,601	975	3,124	121
Scotland	15,192 (11.0%)	255 (1.6%)	9,007	84	6,185	171
England	157,238 (6.5%)	8,570 (2.4%)	56,748	2,405	100,490	6,165
Northern Ireland	2,654 (3.3%)	34 (0.3%)	1,925	34	729	0

Cumulative coverage is the total number of sequences out of all COVID-19 infections. Week coverage is the number of sequences collected in the week of interest out of all infections reported in the same week. Pillar 1 includes NHS diagnostic labs. Pillar 2 includes lighthouse labs network and other large-scale diagnostic testing capacity.

Figure 1: Map of cumulative coverage up to the week commencing on 28 December 2020 (week 53) (left) and week coverage in the same week (right)

