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Guidance

Number of coronavirus (COVID-19) cases and risk in the UK

The latest number of coronavirus (COVID-19) cases and risk level in the UK.

Contents

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Stay alert to stop coronavirus spreading.

Read more about what you need to do.

Number of cases and deaths

As of 9am 23 May, there have been 3,348,507 tests, with 116,585 tests on 22 May.

257,154 people have tested positive.

As of 5pm on 22 May, of those tested positive for coronavirus in the UK, 36,675 have sadly died. This new figure includes deaths in all settings not just in hospitals. The equivalent figure under the old measure would have been 29,583.

	Number of tests	Number of people tested	Number of positive cases	Deaths in hospitals	Deaths in all settings
Daily	116,585	Unavailable	2,959	190	282
Total	3,348,507	Unavailable	257,154	29,583	36,675

Breakdown of testing by 3 of the testing strategy 'pillars'

Daily

	Pillar 1	Pillar 2	Pillar 4	Total
Number of people tested	Unavailable	Unavailable	-	Unavailable
Number of tests	35,915	71,657	9,013	116,585
Number of positive cases	1,277	1,682	-	2,959

Cumulative

	Pillar 1	Pillar 2	Pillar 4	Total
Number of people tested	Unavailable	Unavailable	-	Unavailable
Number of tests	1,415,607	1,702,527	230,373	3,348,507
Number of positive cases	181,479	75,675	-	257,154

Pillar 2 breakdown of test types

	In-person routes (tests processed)	Delivery routes (tests sent out)	Total tests
Daily	31,434	40,223	71,657
Cumulative	900,052	802,475	1,702,527

- Pillar 1: swab testing in PHE labs and NHS hospitals for those with a clinical need, and health and care workers
- Pillar 2: swab testing for essential workers and their households, as well as other groups that meet the eligibility criteria as set out in government guidance
- Pillar 4: serology and swab testing for national surveillance supported by PHE, ONS, Biobank, universities and other partners to learn more about the prevalence and spread of the virus and for other testing research purposes, for example on the accuracy and ease of use of home testing

See the government's national testing strategy for more information on the different pillars and 'Notes on testing' section below.

See a time series of daily deaths: 23 May 2020 (CSV, 3.25KB)

23 May notes

Due to technical difficulties with data collection we cannot provide people tested figures today.

The daily total for tests is 1 lower than the difference between today's and yesterday's cumulative totals. This is due to historical data revision of Pillar 1.

General notes

Data on UK tests, positive cases and deaths is updated on this page daily at 2pm or shortly after. The figures for test results and for deaths are compiled from different sources. This is why the figures for deaths are reported from an earlier point in time than the figures for test results.

Daily totals reflect actual counts reported for the previous day. Each day there may be corrections to previous reported figures. This means that previously published daily counts will not necessarily sum to the latest cumulative figure. It also means that today's cumulative count may not match the previous day's cumulative count plus today's daily count.

Notes on testing figures

Tests in the UK are carried out via a number of different routes. Tests are measured and reported in different ways depending on the route and how they're administered.

The tests that are within the control of the central programme are counted when they're processed in our laboratories. For any tests that go outside the control of the central programme, they're counted when they leave the programme, for example the tests that are mailed out to people at home and the tests that are sent out via satellite sites.

The length of time it takes tests to be concluded varies depending on the testing route and the different processes involved. This means tests carried out on a particular day will not always be measured and reported at the same time.

The daily figures on the number of tests include:

Tests processed through our laboratories

These are counted at the time of processing in the laboratory and not when they are issued to people. Tests are never double-counted. This includes:

- all tests under pillar 1
- 'in-person' testing routes under pillar 2, for example tests carried out at the mobile testing units and the drive-through regional testing sites
- 'in-person' testing routes under pillar 4, for example tests carried out as part of surveillance testing where they are administered by nurses employed by the central programme

Tests sent to individual at home or to satellite testing locations

These are counted when tests are dispatched and not at the time of processing in the laboratory. Tests are never double-counted. This includes:

- 'delivery' testing routes under pillar 2, for example tests carried out by the satellite testing centres, and home testing kits delivered by post
- 'delivery' testing routes under pillar 4, for example tests carried out as part of surveillance testing where they are administered by individuals, rather than nurses employed by the central programme.

For clinical reasons, some people are tested more than once. Therefore the number of tests completed may be higher than the number of people tested. For serology testing (pillar 4), some protocols allow for samples to be tested repeatedly. Samples are anonymised prior to sending to the lab for testing, therefore the identification of individuals tested is not possible in the current reporting process, and so the number of people tested is not reported.

Notes on deaths figures

From 29 April, figures for deaths include all cases where there is a positive confirmed test for coronavirus. The figures include deaths with lab-confirmed COVID-19 in all settings, not just those in hospital, and this provides us with a single figure on an equivalent basis for the whole of the UK.

These UK figures are compiled from validated data provided by each of the four nations of the UK. Figures from Health Protection Scotland, Public Health Wales and the Public Health Agency (Northern Ireland) have always included tested cases outside hospital. Figures for England from 29 April onwards are provided by Public Health England and draw together several different data sources, including data from NHS England and Improvement, to produce this broader measure.

This approach allows us to compile deaths data on a daily basis using up-to-date figures across all settings. The data includes deaths with lab-confirmed COVID-19 reported as at 5pm the previous day. The amount of time between occurrence of death and reporting in these figures may vary slightly and in some cases could be a few days, so figures at 5pm may not include all deaths for that day. The PHE method draws on data from 3 data sources and individual records of deaths are included in the figures as soon as they are available in any of these 3 sources.

In rare instances, the daily count under the new measure may be lower than the old measure because some hospital deaths in the hospital-only data will include individuals who have already been included in the composite count. Individual deaths have already been reported in the PHE series on previous days.

In addition to these figures, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) publishes weekly counts of deaths in which COVID-19 was mentioned on the death certificate. This publication is issued every Tuesday, starting on 31 March 2020. The ONS series includes cases in all settings, and also includes some cases where COVID-19 is suspected but no test has taken place. ONS detailed data covers England and Wales only, but from 28 April their publication includes a headline summary of registered deaths in the whole of the UK. Their report each Tuesday covers deaths registered up to 11 days before publication.

> [Joint DHSC and ONS transparency statement about COVID deaths figures](#)

Material published by PHE

PHE updates a [daily dashboard](#) to show trends in UK data on positive tests and deaths and to provide confirmed cases in each local authority and NHS region in England.

Risk level

The risk to the UK has been raised to high.

Published 24 January 2020
Last updated 23 May 2020

23 May 2020
Updated the daily figures for number of cases and deaths. Due to technical difficulties with data collection we cannot provide people tested figures today.

22 May 2020
Updated figures.

21 May 2020
Updated figures.

20 May 2020
Updated figures.

19 May 2020
Updated figures.

18 May 2020
Updated figures.

17 May 2020
Updated figures.

16 May 2020
Updated figures.

15 May 2020
Updated figures.

14 May 2020
Updated figures.

13 May 2020
Updated figures.

12 May 2020
Updated figures.

11 May 2020
Updated figures.

10 May 2020
Updated figures.

9 May 2020
Updated figures

8 May 2020
Figures updated.

7 May 2020
Updated figures.

6 May 2020
Updated figures.

5 May 2020
Updated figures.

4 May 2020
Updated figures.

3 May 2020
Updated figures.

2 May 2020
Updated on 2 May with daily figures

1 May 2020
Updated figures.

30 April 2020
Updated figures.

30 April 2020
Updated with figures reported on 29 April, including deaths in all settings, and updated notes on reporting of deaths figures. Figures for 30 April will follow later today.

28 April 2020
Updated figures.

27 April 2020
Updated figures.

26 April 2020
Updated figures.

25 April 2020
Updated figures.

24 April 2020
Updated figures.

23 April 2020
Updated figures.

22 April 2020
Updated figures.

21 April 2020
Updated figures.

20 April 2020
Updated figures.

19 April 2020
Updated figures

19 April 2020
Updated figures

18 April 2020
Updated figures

17 April 2020
Updated figures.

16 April 2020
Updated figures.

15 April 2020
Updated figures.

14 April 2020
Updated figures.

13 April 2020
Updated figures

12 April 2020
Changed the total number of tests concluded from 352,974 to 350,575. The updated figure only includes tests carried out under pillars 1 and 2 of the government's national testing strategy

12 April 2020
In breakdown by pillar section, corrected total people tested figure in cumulative table

12 April 2020
Updated figures

11 April 2020
Updated figures.

10 April 2020
Updated figures and included breakdown of people tested under pillars 1 and 2 of the government's national testing strategy.

9 April 2020
Updated figures.

8 April 2020
Updated figures and added figures table.

7 April 2020
Updated figures.

6 April 2020
Updated figures to include cumulative tests.

5 April 2020
Updated figures

4 April 2020
Updated figures

3 April 2020
Updated daily figures

2 April 2020
Updates figures for testing

1 April 2020
Updated figures.

1 April 2020
Added information on how figures for deaths are compiled and reported.

31 March 2020
Updated figures.

30 March 2020
Updated figures.

29 March 2020
Updated figures.

28 March 2020
Updated figures.

27 March 2020
Updated figures.

26 March 2020
Updated figures. From today, 26 March 2020, recorded deaths will be as of 5pm the previous day.

25 March 2020
Update to the figures for testing in UK

24 March 2020
Updated figures.

23 March 2020
Updated test result figures.

22 March 2020
updated figures.

22 March 2020
updated figures.

21 March 2020
Updated figures on test results.

20 March 2020
Added updated figures.

19 March 2020
Updated figures and time

19 March 2020
Updated test figures

18 March 2020
Updated figures.

18 March 2020
Updated figures on test results.

17 March 2020
Updated figures.

16 March 2020
Updated test result figures.

15 March 2020
Update on case numbers, those who have tested positive and those who have sadly died.

14 March 2020
Updated numbers.

13 March 2020
Updated test result figures.

12 March 2020
The UK risk level has been raised to high.

12 March 2020
Added new guidance for people with symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19).

12 March 2020
Updated test result figures.

11 March 2020
Update to figures.

10 March 2020
Updated figures.

9 March 2020
Updated Italy advice.

9 March 2020
Updated figures.

8 March 2020
"to be determined" figures corrected - from 22 to 20.

8 March 2020
Updated lockdown areas.

8 March 2020
Regions updated.

8 March 2020
updated figures.

7 March 2020
Now with regional breakdown

7 March 2020
Update on stats and switch to 7am to improve reporting. Regionalised data to be published later today

6 March 2020
Updated test result figures.

5 March 2020

Updated returning traveller advice for Italy.

5 March 2020
Added updated figures for test results, including number of cases in each NHS England region.

4 March 2020
Updated test result figures.

3 March 2020
Updated figures for tests

2 March 2020
Added updated figures on UK test results.

1 March 2020
Updated figures.

29 February 2020
Updated stats and also made clear from now on stats will be accurate as of 0900 that day for consistency and accuracy.

28 February 2020
Updated figures.

27 February 2020
Updated figures.

26 February 2020
Updated figures.

25 February 2020
Updated test result figures.

25 February 2020
Updated advice for returning travellers.

24 February 2020
Updated test result figures.

23 February 2020
Updated figures.

22 February 2020
Updated numbers.

21 February 2020
Update to test figures

20 February 2020
Updated test figures.

19 February 2020
Updated daily figures on test results.

18 February 2020
Updated daily figures on test results.

17 February 2020
Updated figures.

16 February 2020
Daily update to testing numbers.

15 February 2020
Updated figures.

14 February 2020
Updated test result figures.

13 February 2020
Updated test result figures.

12 February 2020
Updated figures.

11 February 2020
Updated figures for those tested in the UK.

10 February 2020
Updated figures for those tested in UK

9 February 2020
Updated statistics on coronavirus tests.

9 February 2020
Fourth case of coronavirus in England

8 February 2020
Updated test figures

7 February 2020
Updated figures for coronavirus checks and removal figures of passengers returned from Wuhan as all are outside the incubation period.

6 February 2020
Updated advice from the Chief Medical Officer.

6 February 2020
Updated figures

5 February 2020
Updated figures - no new cases

4 February 2020
Updated advice for travellers

4 February 2020
Added link to FCO travel advice for British nationals.

4 February 2020
Updated test figures – no further positive cases.

3 February 2020
Added Northern Ireland contact number for those who have returned from Wuhan or Hubei Province in the last 14 days, or from elsewhere in China and have developed symptoms.

3 February 2020
updated figures - no new cases

2 February 2020
Updated figures - no new cases.

1 February 2020
Updated test figures – no further positive cases.

31 January 2020
Added coronavirus public information video.

31 January 2020
Updated the advice for travellers from China.

31 January 2020
Updated test figures.

31 January 2020
Update regarding first confirmed cases of coronavirus in England.

30 January 2020
Addition of CMO statement

30 January 2020
Updated information on risk level

30 January 2020
Updated figures – no confirmed cases

29 January 2020
Updated figures - no confirmed cases.

28 January 2020
Updated figures - no confirmed cases

28 January 2020
Updated advice for travellers from Wuhan.

27 January 2020
Updated advice for travellers from Wuhan.

27 January 2020
Updated test figures - no confirmed cases

26 January 2020
Updated figures - no confirmed cases.

25 January 2020
Tests figure update - no confirmed cases.

25 January 2020
Updated advice

24 January 2020
First published.

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