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Guidance

## Coronavirus cases in the UK: daily updated statistics

The latest number of coronavirus (COVID-19) tests, cases and deaths in the UK.

Published 24 January 2020

Last updated 21 July 2020 — [see all updates](#)

From: [Department of Health and Social Care](#) and [Public Health England](#)

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### Dashboard of coronavirus cases and deaths

The [coronavirus dashboard](#) is updated daily. It shows the number of cases and deaths in the UK, broken down by region and local authority area.

You can download the data in csv format.

## Number of coronavirus deaths and cases

### Deaths

On 17 July, the Secretary of State asked Public Health England (PHE) to urgently review the way daily death statistics are currently reported. We're pausing the publication of the daily figure while this review takes place.

	Daily	Cumulative
Deaths in all settings	not available	not available

Coronavirus deaths and cases give a sense of the spread of the epidemic. Deaths are counted where a lab-confirmed positive coronavirus test result is reported in any setting. This means that not all deaths reported here are caused by coronavirus. Further information is available in the ['Notes on deaths figures'](#) section.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) publishes [further statistics of deaths with breakdowns](#). This covers death registrations where coronavirus was mentioned, so will include deaths where a person did not have a lab-confirmed positive result.

### Positive cases

As of 9am on 20 July, 295,372 people have tested positive for coronavirus in the UK (pillar 1 and 2, see descriptions below).

	Daily	Cumulative
Positive cases (pillars 1 and 2)	580	295,372

Cases are reported when lab tests are completed and confirmed positive. There are more cases in the UK than are confirmed, for example where people are asymptomatic or have mild symptoms and do not get tested.

## Number of tests

### Definition of testing pillars

- pillar 1: swab (antigen) testing in Public Health England (PHE) labs and NHS hospitals for those with a clinical need and health and care workers
- pillar 2: swab (antigen) testing for the wider population
- pillar 3: serology testing to show if people have antibodies from having had coronavirus
- pillar 4: blood and swab testing for national surveillance supported by PHE, ONS, and research, academic, and scientific partners to learn more about the prevalence and spread of the virus and for other testing research purposes, such as the accuracy and ease of use of home testing

### Overall volume of tests

As of 9am on 20 July, there have been 13,459,190 tests (either processed or sent out) across all 4 pillars in the UK. Of these, 10,130,116 tests were processed in total.

	Daily	Cumulative
All tests made available (pillars 1 to 4)	165,545	13,459,190
All tests processed (pillars 1 to 4)	120,968	10,130,116

The [government's testing strategy](#) sets out a challenge to massively increase testing capacity over a range of areas and for a range of purposes. The total number of tests has been used as a summary measure of the volume of tests that have been made available ('all tests made available'). Within this summary measure, different tests are counted at different points.

Tests that remain within the control of the central programme are counted when they are processed in a lab (tests processed). Any tests that go outside the control of the central programme are counted when they leave the programme (tests sent out). These include tests that are mailed out to people at home and tests that are sent out through satellite sites.

'All tests processed' counts tests that have remained within the control of the programme (and were counted at the time of when it was processed in labs) and those that have been sent out and subsequently returned to be processed in a lab. This is a useful additional measure as it shows how many tests we have received results for. The publication of this measure is also in line with the UK Statistics Authority recommendations.

'People tested' figures are published as part of the [weekly Test and Trace publication](#). Many people are retested multiple times for valid reasons, such as regular testing of health and care workers over several months.

The 'people tested' measure was initially used to avoid counting one person tested several times in a short space of time. It no longer usefully reflects the volume of tests carried out as, for example, a healthcare worker receiving their second, third or fourth test since the start of the pandemic would not be counted as they have been tested once before. Therefore, the people tested figure will be published on a weekly basis within the NHS Test and Trace statistics rather than daily.

## Testing capacity

In early May, the government set out another challenge to increase testing capacity to 200,000 tests per day by the end of May. This target was met on 29 May and continues to be met daily.

Overall lab capacity is important to ensure the programme is able to meet potential demand and deliver large numbers of tests.

At 9am on 19 July, testing capacity was 318,829 in the UK.

	Pillar 1	Pillar 2	Pillar 3	Pillar 4	Total
Lab capacity	79,229	118,500	120,000	1,100	318,829

Coronavirus tests are processed in several separate labs. Projected lab capacity is an estimate of each lab's constrained capacity each day based on the staff, chemical reagents and other resources it has available. These estimates are made locally by the labs themselves.

Further information on the methodology of how capacity is reported is available in the [testing methodology](#).

## Antigen tests (pillars 1 and 2) (UK)

These are swab tests targeted at those who are sick and with symptoms. They look for the presence of the virus itself.

All tests in pillar 1 are counted when they are processed by a lab. Tests in pillar 2 are administered in 2 different ways:

- counted when they are sent out
- counted when they are processed by a lab

Not all tests sent out will be returned to the labs.

	Daily	Cumulative
Pillar 1 tests processed	39,747	3,771,479
Pillar 2 tests processed	62,825	3,179,493
Pillar 2 tests sent out	51,937	4,242,390

Tests that are counted at the time of dispatch are typically returned to the labs a few days later. Therefore, the daily figures of tests processed are not directly comparable to tests dispatched for that day.

Positive results are often used as an indicator of the progress of the pandemic. Positive test results are an international standard and are reported to the World Health Organization. However, it is important to look at a wider range of indicators, as the proportion of people testing positive in this section is heavily influenced by the number of tests being done and who is being tested.

[PHE's surveillance report](#) and the [ONS coronavirus Infection Survey](#) offer detailed information on the incidence and prevalence of the virus.

	Daily	Cumulative
Pillar 1 positive cases	66	199,946
Pillar 2 positive cases	514	95,426
Total positive cases	580	295,372

Results from pillars 1 and 2 will drive the NHS Test and Trace programme and devolved test and trace systems.

### Antibody tests (pillar 3) (England)

These tests are designed to identify if a person has antibodies in their system, which means that they have had coronavirus at some point, but they do not test for the presence of the virus itself (as in pillars 1 and 2).

Tests in pillar 3 are counted when they are processed by a lab.

	Daily	Cumulative
Pillar 3 tests processed	1,720	1,316,883

This pillar does not report people tested or positive cases because tests are anonymised before being sent to a lab. Positive cases for pillar 3 are different to pillars 1 and 2 so should not be classed together.

### Surveillance tests (pillar 4) (UK)

Testing in this pillar is designed to understand the spread of the virus and the reliability of different testing methods.

As in pillar 2, pillar 4 tests are counted either when they are sent out or when they are processed by a lab.

This includes antigen and antibody testing. People tested and positive cases are not reported due to this covering a variety of different studies that do not currently allow to deduplicate individuals.

	Daily	Cumulative
Pillar 4 tests processed	4,401	289,358
Pillar 4 tests sent out	4,915	659,587

See the [results of the ongoing ONS study](#), which gives the best estimates of what proportion of the population has the virus now.

## Time series documents

- [See a time series of testing statistics: 20 July 2020](#)(CSV, 92.1KB)
- [See a time series of daily deaths: 20 July 2020](#)(CSV, 4.19KB)
- [See a time series of positive cases by specimen date: 20 July 2020](#)(CSV, 58.4KB)
- [See a time series of capacity statistics: 21 July 2020](#)(MS Excel Spreadsheet, 62.4KB) (updated every Tuesday at 9:30am)

## 20 July notes

The total number of tests made available has been revised since yesterday's total after the following changes to the historical data:

- One test removed from the pillar 1 cumulative total
- 123 tests added to the pillar 2 cumulative total

The daily tests made available reported today have been added to this revised total rather than the total reported yesterday, so the cumulative total today is 122 higher than if you added the daily tests to yesterday's total.

Due to data not being made available, it is likely that pillar 2 numbers for 20 July are over-reported. The figures will be revised as soon as possible, once the necessary data has been made available. This affects the 'tests made available' totals.

Further information:

- [NHS Test and Trace guidance](#)
- [NHS Test and Trace statistics \(England\): methodology](#)
- [NHS Test and Trace statistics: statement of voluntary application of the Code of Practice for Statistics](#)

## Correspondence with the Office for Statistics Regulation about testing data

The Chair of the Office for Statistics Regulation wrote to us about presentation of statistics about testing.

[Read the letter from the regulator on 11 May](#)

[Read our response, published on 27 May](#)

[Read the letter from the regulator on 2 June](#)

[Read our response, published on 12 June](#)

## 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 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.

As announced previously, from 1 June we have stopped publishing a separate count of deaths in hospital as our daily count now provides a count of deaths in all settings. [Figures for deaths in hospital in England](#) continue to be published by NHS England.

In addition to these figures, ONS publishes weekly counts of deaths in which coronavirus 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 coronavirus 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.

Read the [joint DHSC and ONS transparency statement about coronavirus deaths figures](#)

## Related coronavirus testing publications

- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): testing data methodology](#)
- [NHS Test and Trace: how it works](#)
- [Government dashboard on coronavirus in the UK](#)
- [ONS deaths statistics](#)
- [PHE surveillance reporting](#)
- [ONS coronavirus Infection Survey results](#)

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Published 24 January 2020

Last updated 21 July 2020

### **21 July 2020**

Updated figures on testing capacity.

### **20 July 2020**

Updated daily figures.

### **19 July 2020**

Updated daily figures.

### **18 July 2020**

Updated daily figures.

### **17 July 2020**

Updated daily figures.

### **16 July 2020**

Updated daily figures.

### **15 July 2020**

Updated daily figures and added a new type of time series for positive cases by specimen date.

### **14 July 2020**

Updated daily figures.

### **14 July 2020**

Updated weekly testing capacity figures.

### **13 July 2020**

Updated daily figures.

### **12 July 2020**

Updated daily figures.

### **11 July 2020**

Updated daily figures.

### **10 July 2020**

Updated daily figures.

**9 July 2020**

Updated daily figures.

**8 July 2020**

Updated daily figures.

**7 July 2020**

Updated daily figures.

**7 July 2020**

Updated testing capacity figures.

**6 July 2020**

Updated daily figures.

**5 July 2020**

Updated daily stats and CSV files

**4 July 2020**

The figures have been updated and the page has been rewritten to make it clearer what each testing pillar covers and to help users understand the statistics. This is in line with comments from the UK Statistics Authority.

**3 July 2020**

Updated figures.

**2 July 2020**

Updated figures.

**1 July 2020**

Updated figures.

**30 June 2020**

Updated daily figures.

**30 June 2020**

Updated testing capacity figures.

**29 June 2020**

Updated daily figures.

**28 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**27 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**26 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**25 June 2020**

Updated daily figures.

**24 June 2020**

Added daily figures.

**23 June 2020**

Updated 'time series of daily deaths' attachment.

**23 June 2020**

Updated daily figures. The 'time series of daily deaths' document will be updated later.

**23 June 2020**

Updated testing capacity figures.

Changed the first column heading in the table 'Pillar 4 breakdown of test types' from 'In-person (tests processed)' to 'Tests processed'. This is to clarify that it includes a number of samples tested as well as people tested.

**22 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**21 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**20 June 2020**

Updated daily figures.

**19 June 2020**

Updated daily figures and removed section on risk level.

**18 June 2020**

Daily figures added.

**17 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**16 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**16 June 2020**

Updated testing capacity figures.

**15 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**14 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**13 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**12 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**11 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**10 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**9 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**9 June 2020**

Updated with weekly testing capacity figures.

**8 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**7 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**6 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**5 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**4 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**3 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**2 June 2020**

Corrections have been made to the table 'Pillar 4 breakdown of test types'.

**2 June 2020**

Updated figures and added new table: 'Pillar 4 breakdown of test types'.

**2 June 2020**

Notes about testing data sources and methodology have been moved to a new page: 'Coronavirus (COVID-19): testing data methodology'. Figures will be updated later today.

**1 June 2020**

Updated figures.

**31 May 2020**

Updated figures

**30 May 2020**

Updated figures and added pillar 3 definition under testing capacity

**29 May 2020**

Updated figures.

**28 May 2020**

Updated figures.



**27 May 2020**

Added new information about testing and capacity times series

**27 May 2020**

Updated figures.

**26 May 2020**

Updated figures.

**25 May 2020**

Updated figures.

**24 May 2020**

Updated figures.

**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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