

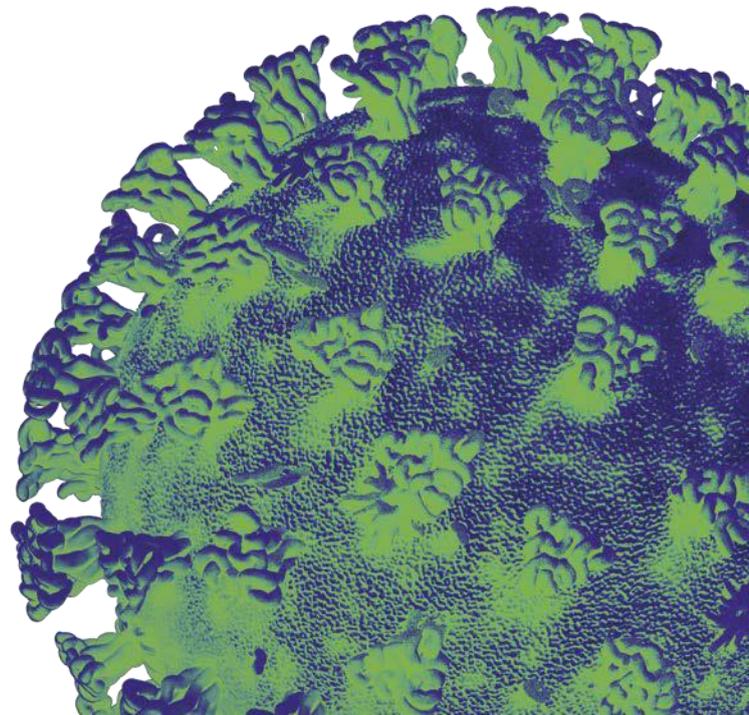
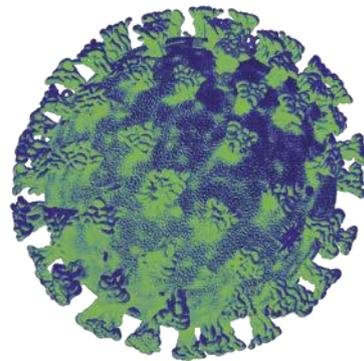
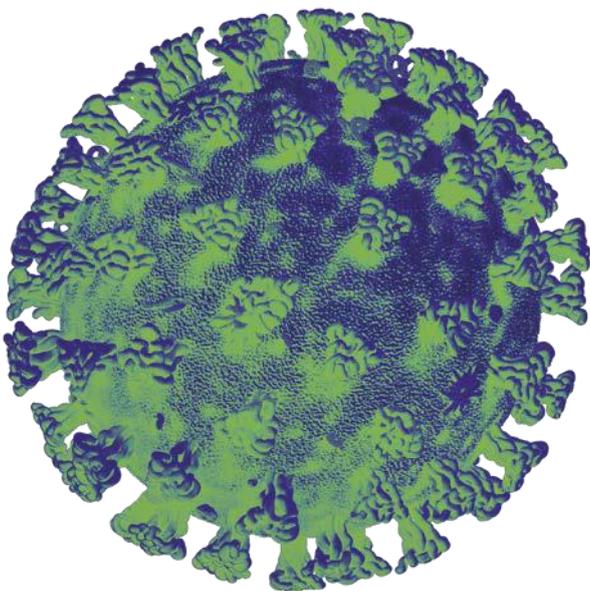


Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Technical Advisory Cell

Summary of Advice

9th April 2021



Technical Advisory Cell: Summary of Advice

09 April 2021

Top-line summary

- The most recent estimate of the R_t for Wales from SAGE on 7 April is between 0.6 and 0.9 (90% confidence interval) and has been below, but close to 1 for twelve weeks. As at 2 April, R_t estimated by Public Health Wales (PHW) which is less lagging but uses case data only, is 0.6 (95% confidence interval: 0.6 to 0.7).
- Case numbers continue to decrease, with more than half of Wales' local authorities now in the lowest case threshold (less than 15 cases per 100k) and at a national level Wales is at 17.6 cases per 100k, the second lowest case threshold, for the first time since the beginning of September when cases first began to rise following the summer. Following the peak of the first wave on 10 April this level was first seen on June 3 2020, marking the beginning of proposals to allow the public to safely use a range of outdoor spaces.
- As reported by PHW, as at 11 April over **1.5M first doses** of COVID-19 vaccine and over **500,000 second doses** have been given in Wales.
- As reported by PHW in the most recent week, case incidence has decreased or remained stable in all age groups with the exception of those aged 90+, which saw a small increase and currently has the highest rates at 49 cases per 100k compared to the next highest group 30-39 at 30 cases per 100k.
- For the week of 28 to 3 April 2021, the [COVID-19 infection survey](#) estimates that around 1 in 800 (95% credible interval: 1 in 1,630 to 1 in 470) people in the community population had COVID-19. Rates have decreased in Wales in the most recent week.
- Confirmed cases of COVID-19 in hospital and ICU beds continue to decrease and are at levels last seen in September 2020. COVID-19 deaths reported by PHW rapid mortality surveillance up to 31 March are stable, with a 10 deaths reported for the preceding 7 day period.
- As at 7 April, VOC-20DEC-01 (B.1.1.7, first identified in the UK) remains the dominant variant in Wales. There have been 26 genomically confirmed and probable cases of VOC-20DEC-02 (B.1.351, the variant linked to South Africa) and six cases of the variant VUI-21FEB-03 (B.1.525, linked to Nigeria). One case of the variant VUI-21JAN-01 (P.1, first identified in Brazil via Japan) has been identified in Wales.

TAC/ SAGE papers published this week:

- [Technical Advisory Group: Advice for 31 March Restriction Review](#)
- [Technical Advisory Group: the potential risks and benefits of removing restrictions in a phased approach to mitigate the impact of harms from Covid-19 in Wales](#)
- [Technical Advisory Group: statement on priority considerations relating to personal protective behaviours to inform decisions on easing of restrictions in Spring 2021](#)
- [Technical Advisory Group: COVID-19 evidence associated with transmission and potential risks associated with religious activities and places of worship](#)

- [SAGE 85 minutes: Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) response, 31 March 2021](#)
- [SAGE: UKOSS/ISARIC/CO-CIN: Females in Hospital with SARS-CoV-2 infection, the association with pregnancy and pregnancy outcomes, 25 March 2021](#)
- [SAGE: ONS: Differential impacts of the Coronavirus pandemic on men and women, 24 March 2021](#)
- [SPI-M-O: Medium-term projections, 24 March 2021](#)
- [SAGE: Dynamic CO-CIN report to SAGE and NERVTAG \(recent cases\), 25 March 2021](#)
- [SPI-M-O: Consensus statement on COVID-19, 24 March 2021](#)
- [SAGE COVID-19 Ethnicity subgroup: Interpreting differential health outcomes among minority ethnic groups in wave 1 and 2, 24 March 2021](#)
- [SAGE 84 minutes: Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) response, 25 March 2021](#)
- [SPI-M-O: Medium-term projections, 17 March 2021](#)
- [SPI-M-O: Consensus statement on COVID-19, 17 March 2021](#)
- [SAGE: COG-UK: Impact of travel restrictions on importations to England from May to September 2020, 16 March 2021](#)
- [SPI-M-O: Statement on daily contact testing, 3 March 2021](#)

Reproduction number and Growth Rate

SAGE estimate

- **The most recent estimate of the R_t for Wales from SAGE on 7 April is between 0.6 and 0.9 (90% confidence interval).**
- The most recent daily growth rate for Wales from SAGE estimates that the infection rate in Wales is **shrinking by between -6% and -1%** per day (90% confidence interval).
- Particular care should be taken when interpreting estimates for Wales as they are based on low numbers of cases and / or dominated by clustered outbreaks and so should not be treated as robust enough to inform policy decisions alone.
- The Reproduction number (R_t) is the average number of secondary infections produced by a single infected individual. R_t is an average value over time, geographies, and communities. This should be considered when interpreting the R_t estimate for the UK given the differences in policies across the four nations. The estimate of R_t is shown as a range (90 or 95% confidence intervals) without a central estimate and is a lagging indicator.
- Growth rate reflects how quickly the numbers of infections are changing day by day. It is an approximation of the percentage change in the number of infections each day. Growth rate is also a lagging indicator and shown as a range (90 or 95% confidence intervals) without a central estimate. Figures are shown as either doubling if R is above 1, or halving if R_t is below 1.
- Care should be taken when interpreting R_t and growth rate estimates for the UK, due to their inherently lagged nature, their correlation with testing incidence and that national estimates can mask regional variation in the number of infections and rates of transmission.
- For more information on the models that are used to create the SPI-M/ SAGE consensus on R , please see the [UK Government website](#).

Public Health Wales (PHW) R_t estimate

- PHW also estimate R_t for Wales using data on the number of positive cases only for the last 7 day rolling period. Like the SAGE estimate these figures should be interpreted with caution as the number of positive cases detected can be a reflection of the amount of testing. It is assumed there is no change in testing patterns for the duration of these estimates.
- Halving times have also been calculated using 14 days of rolling data. The most recent 3 days of data were excluded to account for testing and reporting lag. Predictions were then extended. The R package “Incidence” was used to calculate doubling times. <https://www.repidemicsconsortium.org/incidence>
- As at **7 April**, PHW estimates R_t in Wales to be **0.6** (95% CI: 0.6 to 0.7). The growth rate time is estimated to be **halving every 12 days** (95% CI: 7 to 28).

Case numbers

- The figure below shows weekly COVID-19 cases per 100k population (7 day rolling sum). The most recent data up to **6 April** shows a decrease in cases to **17.6 cases per 100k population**, a **42% decrease** from the previous 7 day period.



Source: Data from [PHW](#)

Age profile

- The Figure below shows the number of weekly cases per 100,000 population, by age group and local authority up to **5 April**. Incidence has decreased or remained stable in most age groups, although there has been a small increase in those aged 90+, which also has the highest number of cases.

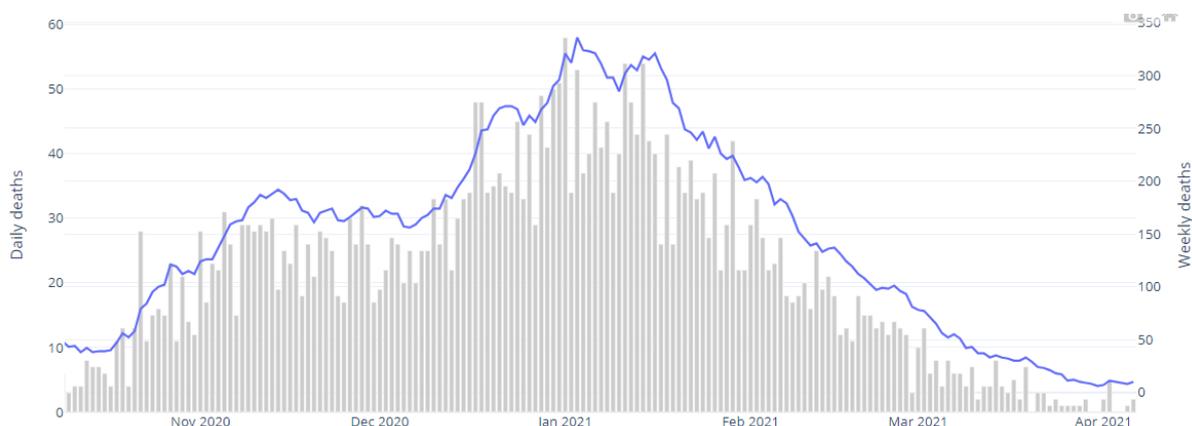


Source: Data from [PHW](#)

Deaths

- The figure below shows the 7 day rolling sum of COVID-19 deaths reported by PHW rapid mortality surveillance up to 6 April, with **10 deaths** for the preceding 7 day period.

- It is important to note that PHW death data is limited to reports of deaths of hospitalised patients in Welsh hospitals or care homes where COVID-19 has been confirmed with a positive laboratory test and the clinician suspects COVID-19 was a causative factor. It does not include patients who may have died from COVID-19 but who were not confirmed by laboratory testing, those who died in other settings, or Welsh residents who died outside of Wales as a result the true number of deaths will be higher.



Source: Data from [PHW](#)

ONS: Deaths registered weekly in England and Wales

- The Office for National Statistics (ONS) reports on both suspected and confirmed COVID-19 deaths using data available on completion of the death registration process and is more complete, albeit subject to a greater time lag. Figures are based on the date the death was registered, not when it occurred. There is usually a delay of at least five days between occurrence and registration.
- In Wales, the total number of deaths registered increased from 621 in the previous week to 651 in the week ending 26 March; this was the first increase in total deaths since Week 7, however, total deaths remained below the five-year average for a fourth consecutive week (3.8% below).
- In Wales, the number of weekly registered deaths involving COVID-19 continued to decrease from 49 to 32, accounting for 4.9% of all deaths compared with 7.9% the previous week.

Source: [ONS, Deaths registered weekly in England and Wales, provisional: week ending 26 March 2021](#)

Wales Local Authority Update

- Recent surveillance data for Wales for the 7 day period ending 6 April suggests that COVID-19 case incidence across almost all of Wales is decreasing and more than half are in the lowest case threshold (see below table).

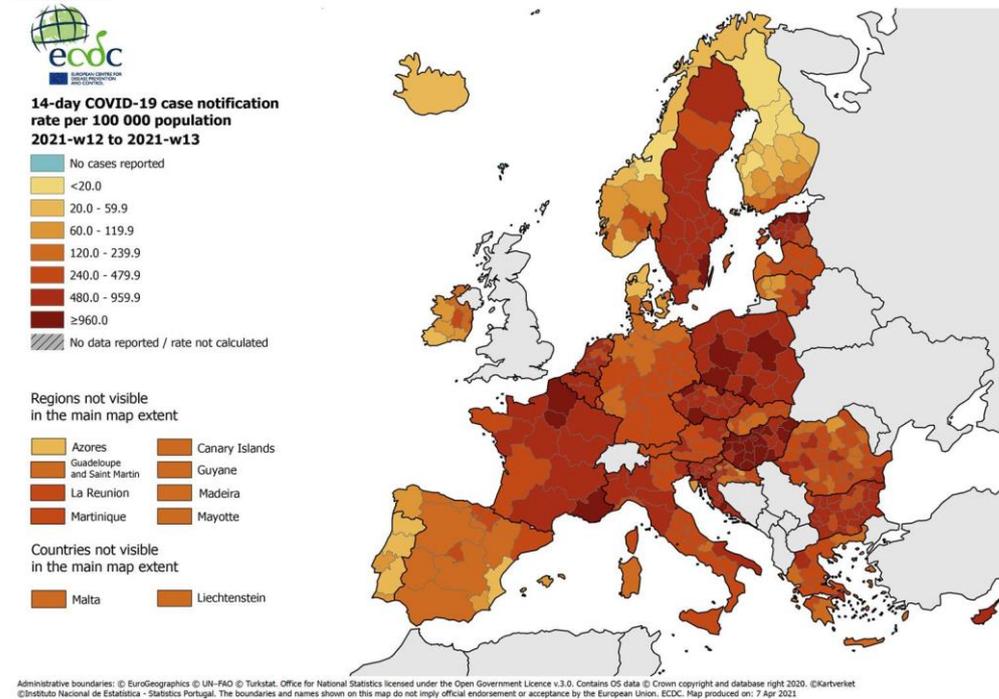
- Case incidence per 100,000 population for the whole of Wales during this period was **17.6**, a **43% decrease** from the previous period. Cases for all-Wales are now in the 15 to <20 threshold for the first time since September 2020.
- Test positivity for COVID-19 for the whole of Wales was 2.0% for the most recent rolling 7 period, a 20% reduction from the previous period.
- At low incidence changes between weeks will be more variable, as a result of the impact of localised outbreaks against a background of low cases.

Local Authority	Health Board	Number	% of All Wales Total	Case Incidence per 100,000	Incidence threshold reached	Change from previous week	Proportion of tests positive (%)	Positivity threshold reached	Test Incidence per 100,000
Cardiff	CVUHB	119	21.40%	32.4	25 to < 50	-17% ↓	3.4%	2.5 to <5%	949
Swansea	SBUHB	79	14.20%	32	25 to < 50	-44% ↓	3.8%	2.5 to <5%	839.7
Gwynedd	BCUHB	33	5.90%	26.5	25 to < 50	-52% ↓	3.0%	2.5 to <5%	885.5
Isle of Anglesey	BCUHB	16	2.90%	22.8	20 to < 25	-64% ↓	2.4%	Under 2.5%	943.7
Wrexham	BCUHB	28	5.00%	20.6	20 to < 25	-3% ↓	2.6%	2.5 to <5%	778.9
Neath Port Talbot	SBUHB	29	5.20%	20.2	20 to < 25	-61% ↓	2.3%	Under 2.5%	891.7
Merthyr Tydfil	CTMUHB	12	2.20%	19.9	15 to < 20	-66% ↓	1.8%	Under 2.5%	1075.8
Rhondda Cynon Taf	CTMUHB	42	7.60%	17.4	15 to < 20	0% →	2.00%	Under 2.5%	875.4
Torfaen	ABUHB	15	2.70%	16	15 to < 20	-35% ↓	1.8%	Under 2.5%	870.6
Vale of Glamorgan	CVUHB	20	3.60%	15	Under 15	-13% ↓	1.7%	Under 2.5%	871.3
Newport	ABUHB	22	4.00%	14.2	Under 15	-41% ↓	1.5%	Under 2.5%	934.9
Pembrokeshire	HDUHB	17	3.10%	13.5	Under 15	-47% ↓	1.5%	Under 2.5%	887
Flintshire	BCUHB	21	3.80%	13.5	Under 15	-42% ↓	2.0%	Under 2.5%	680.3
Blaenau Gwent	ABUHB	9	1.60%	12.9	Under 15	-44% ↓	1.3%	Under 2.5%	976.2
Conwy	BCUHB	13	2.30%	11.1	Under 15	-59% ↓	1.3%	Under 2.5%	867.7
Caerphilly	ABUHB	20	3.60%	11	Under 15	-53% ↓	1.4%	Under 2.5%	789.7
Denbighshire	BCUHB	10	1.80%	10.4	Under 15	-76% ↓	1.2%	Under 2.5%	851.7
Carmarthenshire	HDUHB	17	3.10%	9	Under 15	-51% ↓	1.0%	Under 2.5%	923.3
Bridgend	CTMUHB	11	2.00%	7.5	Under 15	-35% ↓	1.0%	Under 2.5%	767.8
Powys	PTHB	9	1.60%	6.8	Under 15	-40% ↓	1.1%	Under 2.5%	642.6
Ceredigion	HDUHB	2	0.40%	2.8	Under 15	-80% ↓	0.4%	Under 2.5%	663
Monmouthshire	ABUHB	2	0.40%	2.1	Under 15	-88% ↓	0.3%	Under 2.5%	797.1
Total	Total	555	100.00%	17.6	15 to < 20	-43% ↓	2.0%	Under 2.5%	866

Source: Data from [PHW](#)

International update

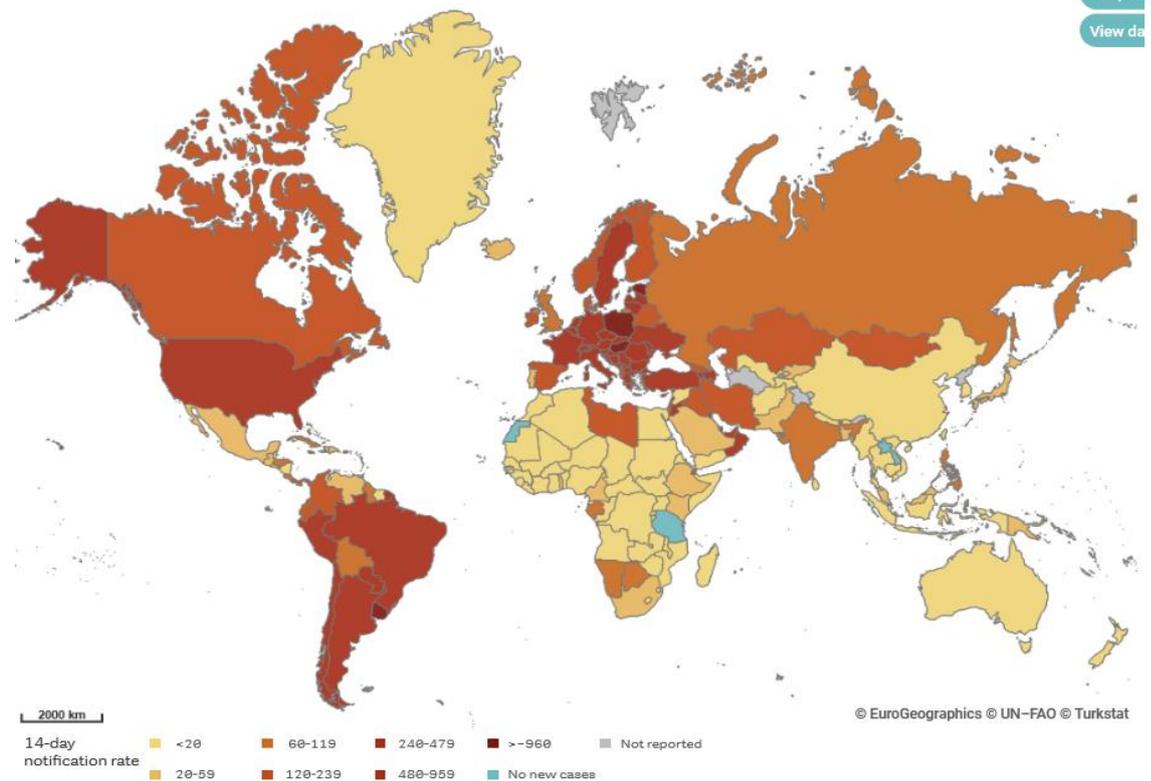
Europe



Source: [European Centre for Disease Control](#)

- In most European countries which experienced recent rapid increases, the imposition of tighter or extended NPI controls has had the desired effect and case rates have stabilised or are starting to fall. In most cases, the recent increases have been driven by the United Kingdom VOC. Western Europe is maintaining its recovery from the earlier peaks with Portugal, Spain, UK and Ireland all showing very low rates comparatively. Overall, the vaccination programmes in Europe are beginning to accelerate and some countries are getting to point where some level of protection will be beginning to have an effect, especially among the target groups (elderly, vulnerable) but this is not to say that these countries are anywhere near being able to relax conventional NPI controls to any appreciable extent.

Worldwide



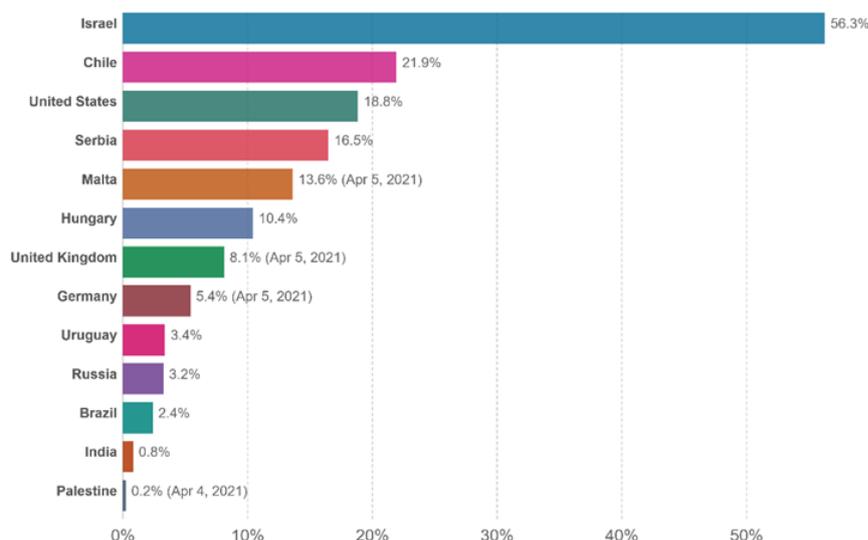
Source: [European Centre for Disease Control](#)

- Case rates in the Americas are high although with signs of stabilisation in Brazil but conversely, Chile is showing strong signs of deterioration and Argentina has experienced a very rapid rise with cases doubling to their highest ever level in just the last three weeks.
- Elsewhere, over the last four weeks, India and Bangladesh have experienced probably the fastest rising rates of infection experienced by any country so far; in India, daily new cases have risen by more than 6 fold, from 24,000 per day to over 150,000 per day in the last four weeks. Bangladesh has seen similar rates of increase but the totals are smaller due to a smaller population. These are concerning developments as the daily death rate is only now starting to respond in a similar manner, although so far India has not experienced the same proportion of deaths to cases ratio experienced by many other countries but it is too early to say whether this is an artefact due to recording of data or the natural delay in deaths, or some other factor. These increases are thought to be due to a mixture of reduced NPI controls adherence and the new variants – the UK variant and India’s own new variant but the available data does not support a definitive conclusion.

Vaccination trends

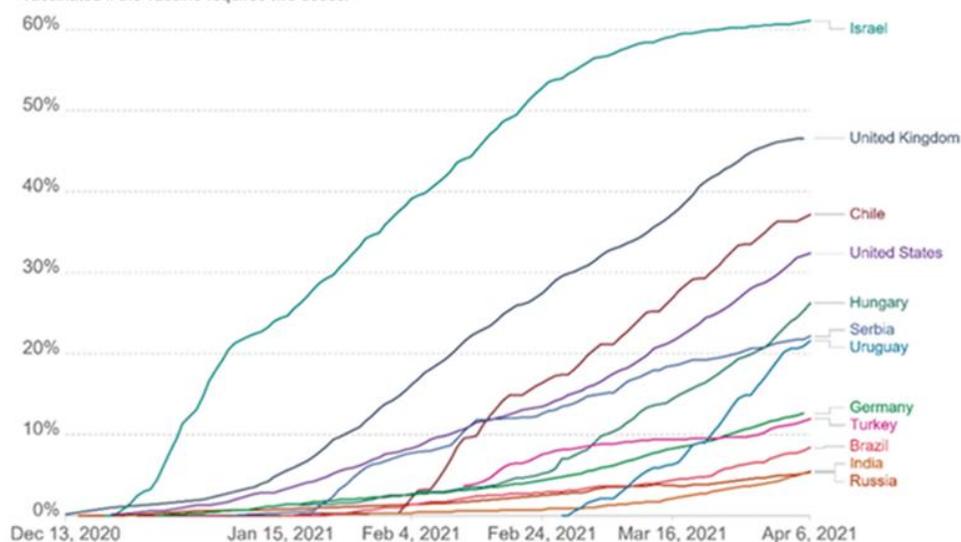
Share of the population fully vaccinated against COVID-19, Apr 6, 2021

Share of the total population that have received all doses prescribed by the vaccination protocol. This data is only available for countries which report the breakdown of doses administered by first and second doses.



Share of people who received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine

Share of the total population that received at least one vaccine dose. This may not equal the share that are fully vaccinated if the vaccine requires two doses.



Source: [Our World in Data](#)

- Vaccine rollout is ramping up in most countries where available. Israel's rate of vaccination is slowing as they currently are rolling out second doses to the younger cohorts. The difference the UK vaccination strategy has made can be seen by the share of people who have received at least one dose.

Covid-19 Infection Survey results (Office for National Statistics)

- The latest estimates for Wales from the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Infection Survey (CIS) have been published on the [Welsh Government statistics and research web pages](#) and the [Office for National Statistics website](#). The results

include estimates for the number and proportion of people in Wales that had COVID-19 in the latest week, 28 March to 3 April 2021.

- Because the number of positive cases detected is low compared with the total survey sample there is uncertainty with the estimates. The figures are provided with 95% credible or confidence intervals to indicate the range within which we may be confident the true figure lies.
- Estimates are provided for the 'community population', i.e. private households only; residents in care homes, communal establishments and hospitals are not included.
- Please note that there is a greater lag in data from the infection survey than from other sources such as Public Health Wales.
- It is important to stress the uncertainty around these figures. Since the survey picks up relatively few positive tests overall, the results can be sensitive to small changes in the number of these positive tests.

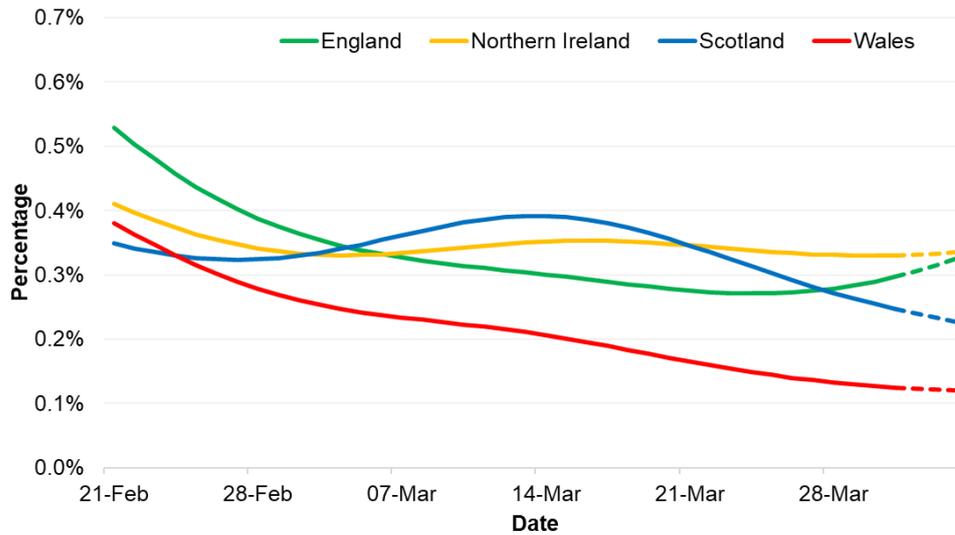
Latest estimates and recent trends for Wales:

- For the week 28 March to 3 April 2021, an average of **0.12%** of the [community population](#) had COVID-19 (95% credible interval: 0.06% to 0.21%).
- This equates to approximately **1 person in every 800** (95% credible interval: 1 in 1,630 to 1 in 470), **or 3,800 people** during this time (95% credible interval: 1,900 to 6,500).
- The trend in the percentage of people testing positive in Wales has decreased in the most recent two weeks.
In the most recent week, the percentage of cases **compatible with the UK variant** has decreased. The trend is uncertain for people testing positive for strains **not compatible with the variant** and cases where the **virus is too low for the variant to be identifiable**.

Latest estimates for the UK countries

- At the midpoint of the most recent week (28 March to 3 April 2021) the highest estimated percentages of the [community population](#) with COVID-19 among the nations of the UK was in Northern Ireland (0.33%) and England (0.30%) whilst Wales appeared to have the lowest.
- In the most recent week, rates have decreased in Wales and Scotland, whilst the trend was level in Northern Ireland. There was sign of an early increase in England in the most recent week.

Positivity rates (%) across UK countries since 21 February 2021

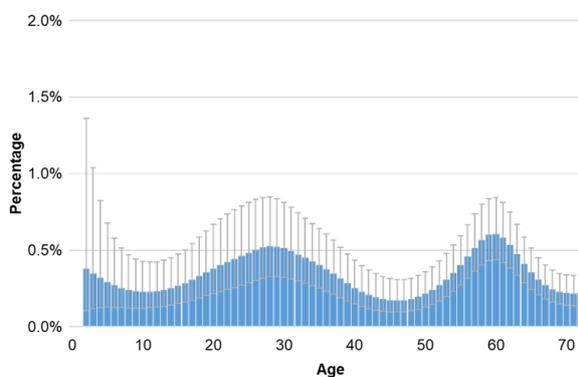


Source: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Infection Survey, Office for National Statistics](#)

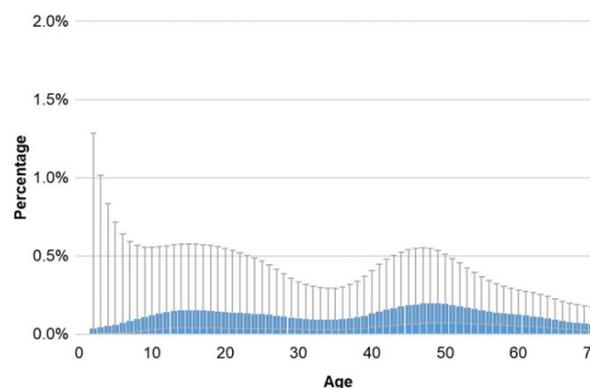
Age analysis:

- Rates of positive cases vary by age, but appear to have decreased in all age groups in recent weeks. The biggest decreases were seen in participants aged 20 to 40 and aged 65 to 70.
- In the data used to produce these estimates, the number of people sampled in the different ages who tested positive for COVID-19 was lower relative to Wales overall. This means there is a higher degree of uncertainty in estimates for individual age groups over this period.
- Caution should be taken in over-interpreting any small movements in the latest trend, particularly where credible intervals are large.

The percentage testing positive by age on 24 February 2021



The percentage testing positive by age on 31 March 2021



Source: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Infection Survey, Office for National Statistics](#)

Modelled incidence estimates in Wales

- The incidence of new infections (the number of new infections in a set period of time) helps us understand the rate at which infections are growing within the population and supports the main measure of positivity (how many people test positive at any time, related to prevalence) to provide a fuller understanding of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.
- In Wales, during the week ending 27 March 2021, we estimate that there were 1.10 new PCR-positive coronavirus (COVID19) cases per 10,000 people per day (95% credible interval: 0.16 to 2.24). This equates to 330 new positive cases in Wales per day (95% credible interval: 50 to 680).
- Incidence of new positive cases appears to have been level in recent weeks, although credible intervals are wide due to the smaller sample size, and care should be taken in interpreting results. When prevalence is very low it may not be possible to produce a reliable estimate.

Source: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Infection Survey, ONS](#)

Vaccination in Wales

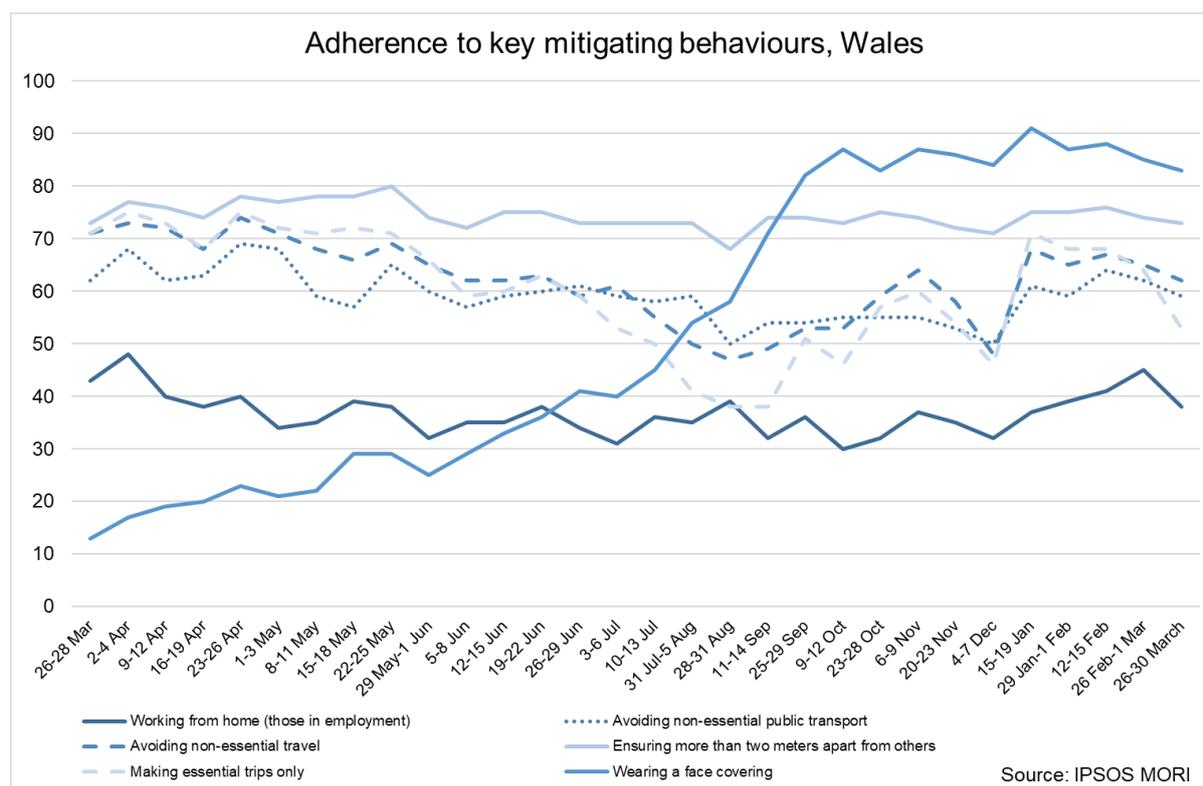
- Whilst numbers will be higher due to ongoing data entry, as at 11 April 2021 **1,572,752 first doses** of COVID-19 vaccine have been given in Wales and **525,177 second doses** have been given.

Group	Group size (n)	Received 1st dose (n)	Received 2nd dose (n)	1st dose uptake (%)	2nd dose uptake (%)
Care home residents	15,505	15,105	12,554	97.4%	81.0%
Care home worker	38,035	33,955	28,710	89.3%	75.5%
80 years and older	174,892	166,497	92,399	95.2%	52.8%
Health care worker	142,383	132,562	115,418	93.1%	81.1%
Social care worker		44,686	37,382		
Aged 75-79 years	133,215	127,626	67,656	95.8%	50.8%
Aged 70-74 years	183,657	174,889	98,131	95.2%	53.4%
Clinically extremely vulnerable aged 16-69 years	81,468	75,237	23,680	92.4%	29.1%
Aged 65-69 years	180,380	168,284	43,198	93.3%	23.9%
Clinical risk groups aged 16-64 years	352,418	291,890	13,891	82.8%	3.9%
Aged 60-64 years	205,653	186,079	28,919	90.5%	14.1%
Aged 55-59 years	233,640	203,998	32,472	87.3%	13.9%
Aged 50-54 years	227,826	179,020	30,985	78.6%	13.6%
Aged 40-49 years	391,869	163,619	47,264	41.8%	12.1%
Aged 30-39 years	419,364	101,249	41,468	24.1%	9.9%
Aged 18-29 years	463,273	78,529	34,256	17.0%	7.4%

Source: [PHW Covid-19 Rapid Surveillance Dashboard](#)

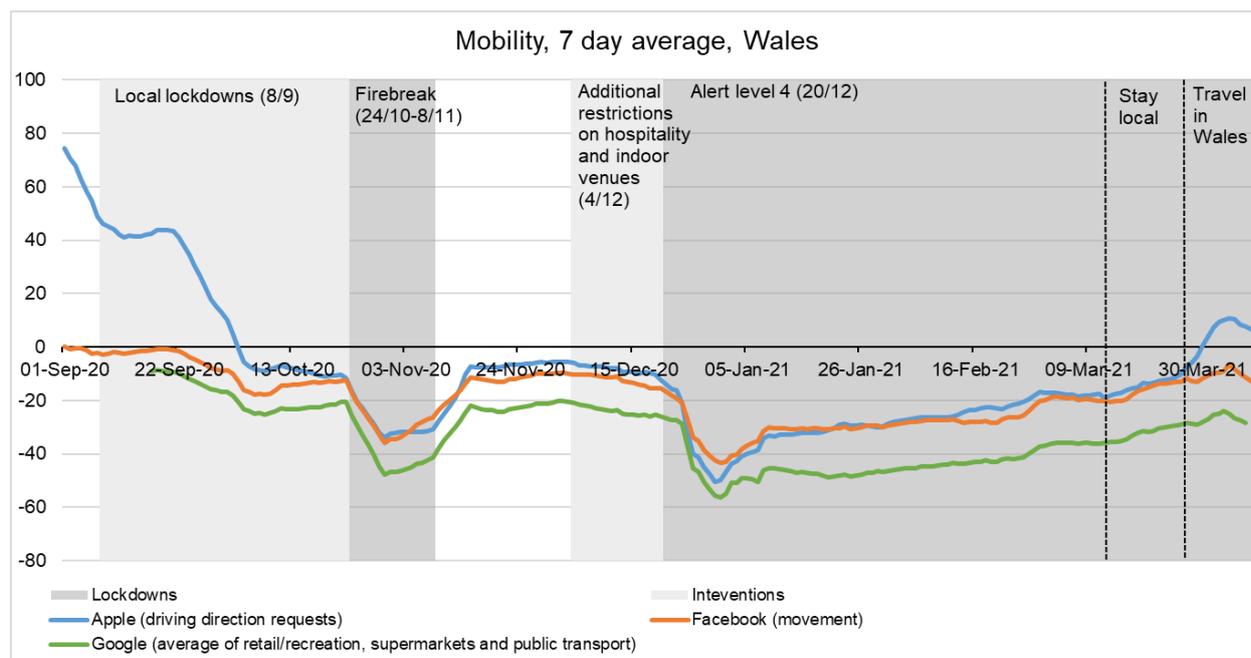
Adherence and understanding of current measures

- The data from IPSIS MORI is the same as last week.
- The most recent IPSOS MORI data for the period 26 – 30 March for Wales shows reductions in some categories compared to the last survey wave which was 4 weeks prior (26 February - 1 March). Most notably a reduction in those making essential trips only – this follows the change in guidance from stay at home in the last survey to being able to travel within Wales/staying local. It should be noted that this is self-reported adherence and will be affected by individuals understanding of the rules and the circumstances that apply to them. Some restrictions were lifted on 27 March, during the data collection period, as a result of the 12 March review cycle (e.g. stay local requirement and first phased reopening of the tourist sector).
- The figure below represents data collected online by IPSOS MORI as part of a multi-country survey on the Global Advisor platform. Each of the waves has included c.500 respondents in Wales. The sample is broadly representative of the adult population aged 16-74. Data is weighted to reflect the age and gender profile of the Welsh population aged 16-74. All samples have a margin of error around them. For a sample of around 500, this is +/- 4.8 percentage points.

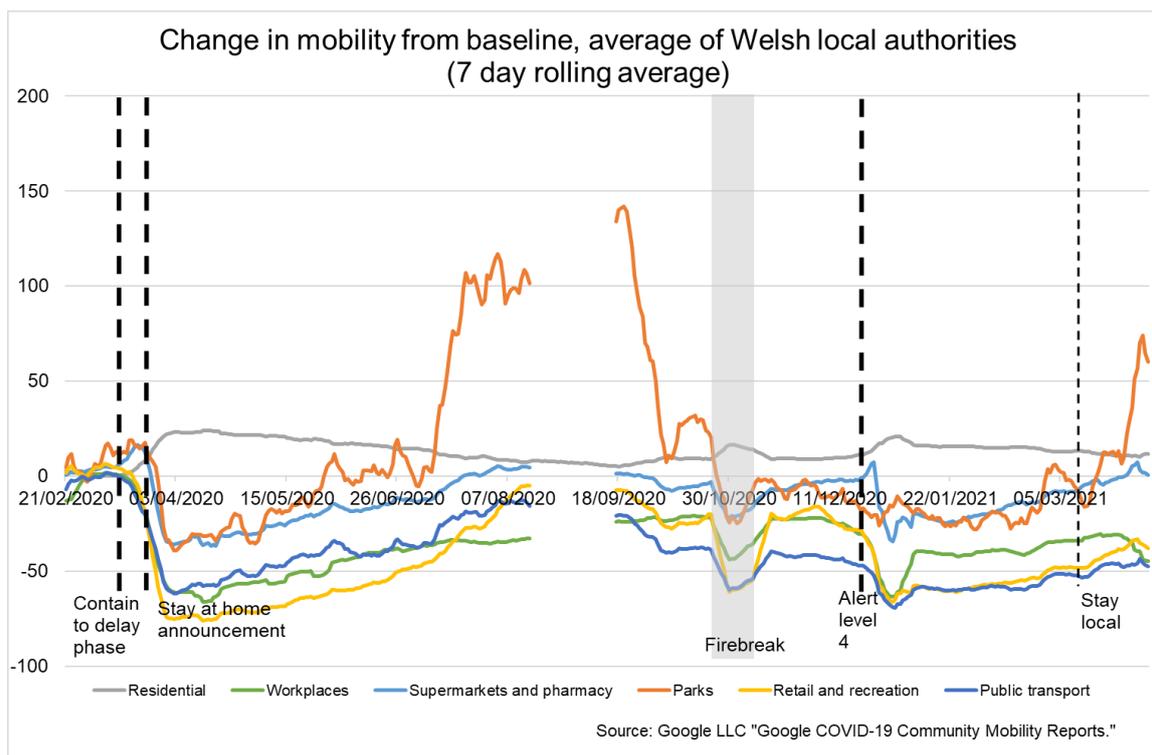


Mobility

- The most recent mobility data covers the Easter weekend, and shows reductions in mobility compared to the previous week (with increases in those staying at home/residential). However, mobility has steadily increased since the change in guidance to stay local on 13 March.



- Mobility of [Facebook users](#) in Wales shows movement was 14% below the baseline for the week to the 10 April. This is lower than the week before (9%). The percentage of users staying put (near to home) was 29%, up from the week before (27%). The baseline is the average value, for the corresponding day of the week, during the 4-week period 2 February – 29 February 2020.
- [Apple data](#) for the week to the 10 April shows that requests for driving directions in Wales were lower than the previous week at 6% above the baseline (down from 10% above the baseline). Requests for walking directions and requests for public transport directions also decreased compared to the previous week relative to the baseline. The baseline is the 13th of January 2020.
- The [Google mobility data](#) to the week of the 7 April for residential (i.e people spending time at home) were higher than the week before at 12% above the baseline (up from 11%). Workplaces fell relative to the baseline by 11 percentage points (at 45% below the baseline). Note that the week to the 7 April includes two bank holidays during the Easter period. Retail & recreation mobility was down from the previous week (38% below the baseline, down from 36%) and supermarkets & pharmacy also fell (at 1% above the baseline, down from 2% above). Public transport mobility was unchanged whilst parks increased over the week relative to the baseline.
- The figure below shows the change in mobility in Wales using Google mobility data. The figures are based on the average of the local authorities that have data. The baseline is the median value, for the corresponding day of the week, during the 5-week period Jan 3–Feb 6, 2020. The data for several categories is not available for August 16th – September 10th due to the data not meeting quality thresholds.



- Anonymised and aggregated mobile phone data from O2 for the week to the 2 April shows an increase in trips compared to the week before. Trips starting in Wales rose by 3 percentage points to 70% of the baseline. The baseline for the O2 data is the same day of the week in the first week of March.

COVID-19 weekly surveillance and epidemiological summary from PHW (as at 7 April)

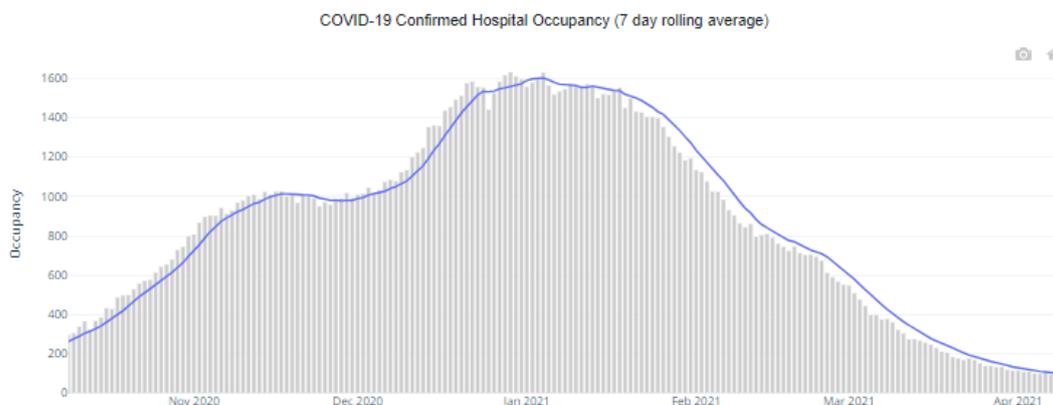
- The proportion of calls to NHS 111 and NHS Direct related to possible COVID-19 symptoms has slightly increased compared to the previous week.
- Overall GP consultations for any Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) and suspected COVID consultations have decreased in the most recent week.
- The overall number of ambulance calls and calls possibly related to COVID- have increased in the most recent week.
- The all-Wales number of lab confirmed COVID-19 episodes has decreased in the most recent week. Sample positivity for testing episodes was 2.2% in week 13.
- Confirmed case incidence has decreased or remained stable in all regions of Wales. Testing episode positivity continues to decrease nationally.
- During week 13, incidence decreased or remained stable in all age groups. Incidence per 100,000 population was highest in those aged 26-44 years and those aged 85y+.

- At a national level, confirmed case admissions to hospitals and confirmed cases who are inpatients in hospital decreased compared to the previous week. In the most recent week, admissions to critical care wards also decreased compared to the previous week.
- Recent surveillance data suggest that COVID-19 infections in Wales are decreasing in most regions of Wales. Cases remain geographically widespread, however the majority of local authority (LA) areas are seeing decreasing overall trends in confirmed case incidence in the most recent week.
- Although the distribution of cases at MSOA level in the most recent week still suggests geographically wide-spread activity, the number of MSOAs with confirmed cases and the number of cases per MSOA continue to decrease.
- There was a small increase in the number of incidents in the most recent week.
- From 22nd February, children aged three to seven began to return to school in a phased manner. According to Welsh Government guidance, from 15th March, all remaining primary school children were able to return to learning onsite, along with learners in qualifications years, and more learners in colleges and training. Children of critical workers remain able to receive face to face learning on school sites. Confirmed case incidence remained stable in those aged <18y in the most recent week.
- VOC 202012/01 (B.1.1.7, first identified in Kent) has been detected in all parts of Wales; 7,851 genomically probable or confirmed cases have been identified as of 07/04/2021. There have been 29 genomically confirmed and probable cases of VOC-20DEC-02 (B.1.351, first identified in South Africa) in Wales as of 07/04/2021. There have been six cases of the variant VUI-21FEB-03 (B.1.525, first identified in Nigeria) in Wales. One case of the variant VUI-21JAN-01 (P.1, first identified in Brazil via Japan) has been identified in Wales.
- All-cause deaths have continued to decrease in the most recent week and are below the 5 year average.
- Deaths in confirmed cases in hospital, reported through PHW mortality surveillance decreased in the most recent week.
- In deaths where information is available from PHW rapid mortality surveillance, chronic heart disease, diabetes and chronic respiratory disease are the most commonly reported risk factors (in 34%, 27% and 22% of deaths respectively).
- Influenza is not currently circulating in Wales and RSV has not circulated over the 2020-21 winter period.

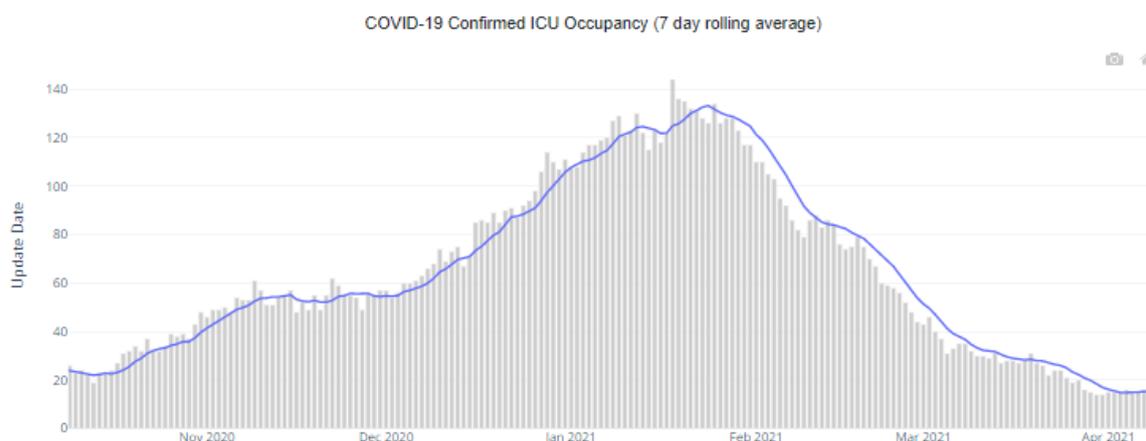
Hospital occupancy

- The figure below shows the hospital occupancy of suspected and confirmed Covid-19 positive patients over the first and second wave of the pandemic (7 day rolling average, as at 9 April).

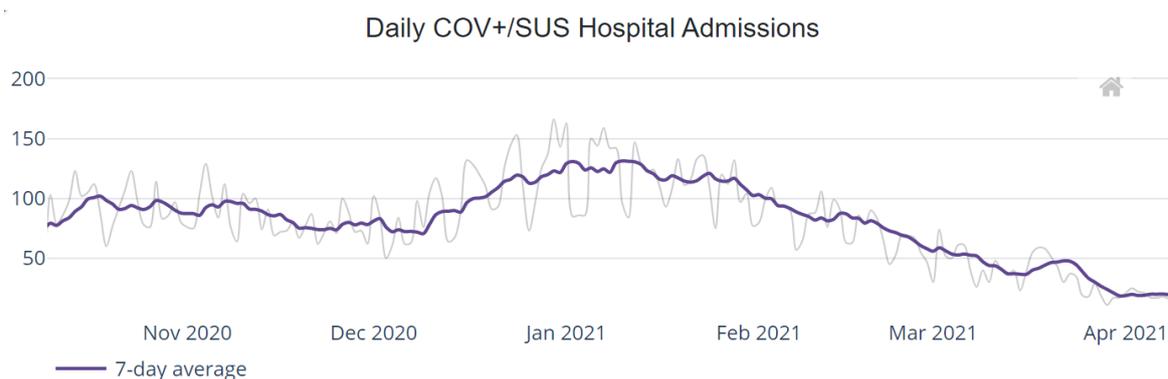
- For the most recent 7 day period the average weekly hospital occupancy was **98**, a **21% reduction** from the previous period.



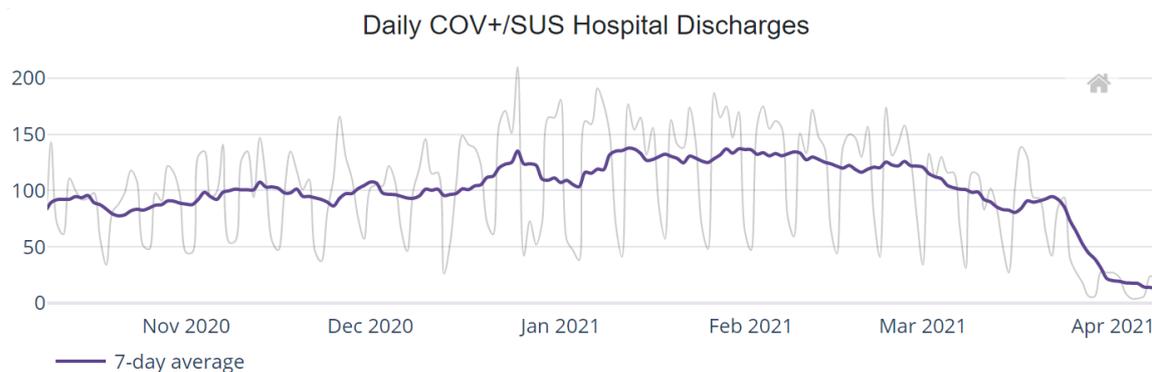
- The Figure below shows the invasive ventilated bed occupancy of confirmed COVID-19 positive patients (7 day rolling average, as at 31 March).
- For the most recent 7 day period the average ICU occupancy was **15**, a **6% reduction** from the previous period.



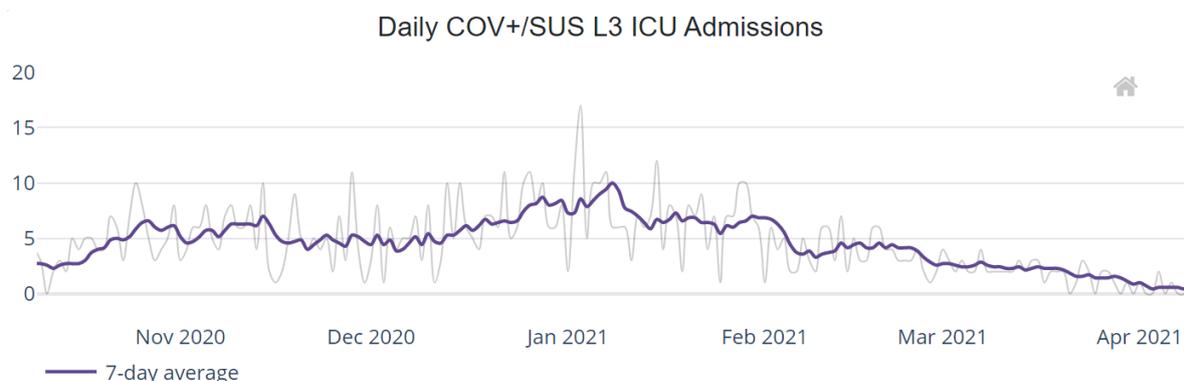
- The number of people recovering from COVID-19 also continues to decrease overall and is at 375 as at 8 April a 14% reduction from the previous week.
- The Figure below shows the number of people admitted to hospital who are either suspected or confirmed as having Covid-19 (COV+). The purple line represents the total number over a rolling 7 day average, whilst the fainter grey lines show the actual figures at that time.
- The 7 day daily average hospital admissions as at 9 April was **18**, a **9% reduction** from the previous period.



- The Figure below shows the number of hospital discharges of people who are either suspected (SUS) or confirmed as having Covid-19 (COV+). The purple line represents the total number over a rolling 7 day average, whilst the fainter grey lines show the actual figures at that time.
- The 7 day daily average hospital discharges as at 1 April was **12.6**, a **35% reduction** from the previous 7 day period.



- The Figure below shows patients admitted to Level 3 ICU and are either suspected (SUS) or confirmed as having Covid-19 (COV+). The purple line represents the total number over a rolling 7 day average, whilst the fainter grey lines show the actual figures at that time.
- The 7 day daily average as at 1 April was **0.7**, remaining **steady** with the previous 7 day period.



Source: Data from [StatsWales](#)

Professional Head of Intelligence Assessment (PHIA) probability yardstick

- Where appropriate, TAC advice will express Likelihood or confidence in the advice provided using the PHIA probability yardstick to ensure consistency across the different elements of advice.

