

UoC Asymptomatic COVID-19 Screening Programme: Lent Term Week 6 (22nd-28th February 2021)

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Participation

All 31 Colleges of the University of Cambridge and 6 Houses of the Cambridge Theological Federation participated in the screening programme.

We estimate that there are currently **6,550** students present in Cambridge and resident in College accommodation. Approximately **87%** of these students have agreed to participate in the screening programme, of whom **61%** contributed a swab.

Some students participating in the programme who did not contribute a swab may have had COVID-19 in the preceding 90 days, or be participating in NHS screening as a clinical medical student.

Students screened

All participating students present in Cambridge and resident in either College **or** private accommodation were invited to take part, provided they did not meet pre-determined exclusion criteria.

1,789 pooled samples were received and processed at the testing facility. Of these, **9** were reported as “void” (for a variety of reasons, including inappropriate packaging and leaking samples).

In total, **4,220** students contributed to pooled sample collection, including **4,192** students with valid results.

Results

The final pooled screening test results were:

Result	Number	%
Positive	3	0.2%
Negative	1,777	99.8%
Total	1,780	100%

Members of the **3** positive pools were invited for individual confirmatory tests. As of Monday 1st March, all students had been re-tested. Of the positive pools:

- **1** pool was a true positive (i.e. included at least 1 student confirmed to be positive on individual testing).
- **2** pools were operational false positives (i.e. all individual confirmatory tests were negative, following pooled screening test results).
- **0** pools have outstanding results.

The operational false positive rate for all pooled screening tests to date has been approximately **1 in 400**.

Additionally, **93** asymptomatic students were screened individually, for example on their return to Cambridge, and did not participate in pooled sample collection. **0** students tested positive for SARS-CoV-2.

Based on these data, we estimate that the weekly incidence of asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection amongst students screened last week was approximately **1 in 4,300** students (**0.02%**).

Summary for all students

Week	No. students screened	No. confirmed positive cases	Weekly incidence*
18 th -24 th Jan	3,570	4	0.1%
25 th -31 st Jan	3,945	2	0.05%
1 st -7 th Feb	4,058	0	-
8 th -14 th Feb	4,156	1	0.02%
15 th -21 st Feb	4,099	0	-
22nd-28th Feb	4,285	1	0.02%

*asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection amongst screened students