

UoC Asymptomatic COVID-19 Screening Programme: Week 3 (19th-25th October 2020)

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Participation

All 31 Colleges of the University of Cambridge, and 6 Houses of the Cambridge Theological Federation, participated in the programme. A summary of participation across the University is shown in the table below:

Decision	Number	%
Consented	12,195	78.7%
Declined	224	1.4%
Undecided	3,069	19.8%
Total Eligible	15,488	100%

Students screened

This week, **half** of the students from each testing pool were requested to contribute swabs. Based on data from electronic student returns, the mean number of students who actually contributed swabs was **2.5** per testing pool.

From a total of **2,255** testing pools across the University, **1,933** (84.3%) samples were received and processed at the testing facility. Of these, **31** were reported as “void” (for a variety of reasons, including inappropriate packaging and leaking samples).

Combined with the student returns data, we estimate that **4,736** students contributed swabs, including **4,660** students with valid results.

Results

The final pool results were:

Result	Number	%
Positive	38	2.0%
Negative	1,864	98.0%
Total	1,902	100%

Members of all **38** positive pools were invited for individual confirmatory tests. As of Sunday 25th October, all students have been re-tested apart from **1**, who has been invited for further testing. Of the positive pools:

- **36** pools were true positives (i.e. they included at least 1 student confirmed to be positive on individual testing). **39** students had a positive confirmatory individual result across these pools.
- **2** pools were false positives (i.e. all individual confirmatory tests were negative, following pooled screening test results which were positive at the limit of detection)
- **1** pool has outstanding results, but already has one or more confirmed positive individuals.

Based on these data we estimate that the prevalence of asymptomatic COVID-19 in students living in College accommodation this week was **1 in 120** students (**0.8%**).

The false positive rate from the available data this week was **1 in 951** tests performed (**0.1%**).

Summary

Week	No. students screened	No. confirmed positive cases	Prevalence*
5 th – 11 th October	3,463	12	0.3%
12 th – 18 th October	3,675	34	0.9%
19th – 25th October	4,660	39	0.8%

*asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection