

# UoC Asymptomatic COVID-19 Screening Programme: 11th – 17<sup>th</sup> Oct 2021

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## **Participation**

All 31 Colleges of the University of Cambridge and 4 Houses of the Cambridge Theological Federation participated in the screening programme.

We estimate that there are currently **16,169** students present in Cambridge and resident in College accommodation. **81%** of these students have agreed to participate in the screening programme, of whom approximately **39%** contributed swabs to pooled sample collection and registered their tests.

Some students participating in the programme who did not contribute swabs may have had COVID-19 in the preceding 90 days, or be participating in NHS screening as a clinical medical student. In addition, some students may have contributed swabs, but not registered their tests.

## **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.

**1617** pooled samples were received and processed at the testing facility. Of these, **2** were reported as “void” (void results may occur for a variety of reasons, including inappropriate packaging or leaking samples).

In total, **4987** students contributed swabs to pooled sample collection and registered their tests, including **4978** students with valid results.

## **Results**

The final pooled screening test results were:

<b>Result</b>	<b>Number of pools</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Positive	15	0.93%
Negative	1600	99.07%
Total	1615	100.00%

Members of the **15** positive pools were invited for individual confirmatory tests. Of the positive pools:

- **12** pools were true positives (i.e. included at least 1 student confirmed to be positive on individual confirmatory testing). **14** students from these pools had positive individual confirmatory tests.
- **3** pools were operational false positives (i.e. all individual confirmatory tests were negative, following a positive pooled screening test result).

Additionally, **144** asymptomatic students were screened individually (individual tests may include: "Return to Cambridge" tests, for students arriving in Cambridge; "Pre-departure" tests, for students leaving Cambridge; confirmatory PCR tests, following positive LFTs; "Test to check" tests, for students already self-isolating as contacts; and tests for enhanced contact tracing). Altogether, **2** students tested positive for SARS-CoV-2.

### Summary for all students

<b>Week</b>	<b>No. students screened†</b>	<b>No. confirmed positive cases</b>	<b>Prevalence*</b>
<b>27<sup>th</sup> Sept – 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct</b>	1740	1	0.06%
<b>4<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	4622	1	0.02%
<b>11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	5122	16	0.31%

†Because of incomplete test registration, we estimate (based on a "swab-counting" exercise in the week of 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> Oct) that the actual number of students screened is approximately 40% greater than stated.

\*Prevalence of asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection amongst screened students. Please note that, because students screened are not a representative sample, the overall prevalence in all students may be lower or higher than this estimate.