



Omicron daily overview: 15 December 2021

Summary

UK total case numbers

	Confirmed Omicron cases	Change from previous report	SGTF cases*	Change from previous report^
England	9,243	+4,237	19105	See below^
Northern Ireland	151	+139	0	See below^
Scotland	561	+265	5791	See below^
Wales	62	+30	77	See below^
Cumulative total	10,017	+4,671	24,973	See below^

Data up to 18h00 14 December 2021

Notes to table

* SGTF cases in the above table excludes persons ruled out as other variants and is a combination of probable and possible cases with SGTF

^Changes in case definition have been applied and are reflected in the appendix 1 of this overview therefore there is no change from previous reporting

Due to a data flow delay of confirmed cases on 14 December 2021, case numbers for ENGLAND are higher than expected.

Hospitalisations and deaths

	Hospitalisations		Deaths
	Confirmed	SGTF*	
England	11	5	1

Data up to 19h00 13 December 2021

Notes to table

* SGTF cases in the above table excludes persons ruled out as other variants and is a combination of probable and possible cases with SGTF. Changes in case definition have been applied and are reflected in the appendix 1 of this overview

Definition of hospitalisation is in appendix 2 of this overview

Breakdown of England daily cases by region

Region	Confirmed Omicron cases	Change from previous report	SGTF cases*	Change from previous report^
East Midlands	1033	+550	873	See below^
East of England	919	+340	3232	See below^
London	3714	+1628	7067	See below^
North East	261	+159	90	See below^
North West	365	+97	2829	See below^
South East	2032	+958	2405	See below^
South West	627	+375	527	See below^
West Midlands	152	+67	1088	See below^
Yorkshire and Humber	110	+52	958	See below^
Unknown	30	+11	36	See below^
Total	9243	+4237	19105	See below^

Data up to 18h00 14 December 2021

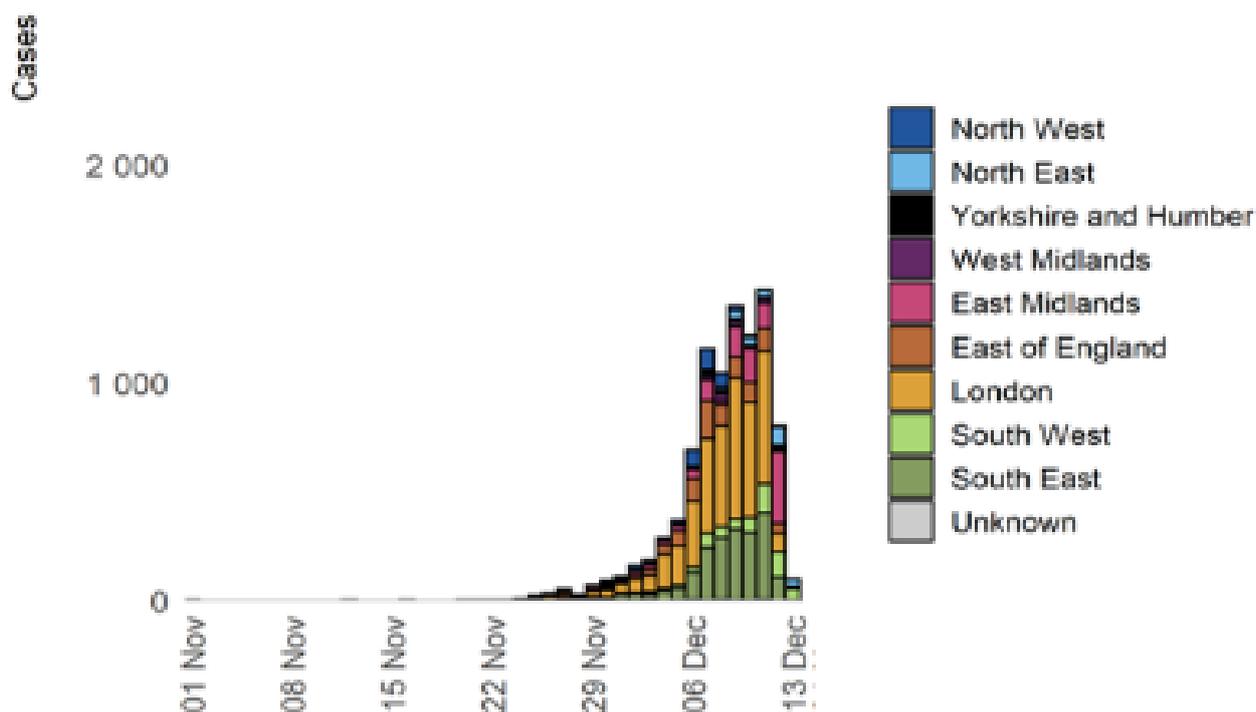
Notes to table

* SGTF cases in the above table excludes persons ruled out as other variants

^Changes in case definition have been applied and are reflected in the appendix 1 of this overview therefore there is no change from previous reporting

Epidemiology curve of Confirmed Omicron cases by region

Data up to 18h00 14 December 2021



Samples with S Gene Target Failure

Number and proportion of SARS-CoV-2 cases with S gene Target failure by region, among those with specimen dates on 12 and 13 December 2021.

Region	Total COVID Cases with known S gene status**	SGTF cases	SGTF %
East Midlands	1349	359	26.6
East of England	2774	1012	36.5
London	2878	1736	60.3
North East	511	67	13.1
North West	1899	555	29.2
South East	1972	677	34.3
South West	851	189	22.2
West Midlands	965	214	22.2
Yorkshire and Humber	1807	316	17.5
England	15030	5131	34.1

SGSS data as of 18h00 14 December 2021.

The SGTF % is plotted below by region ([Figure 1](#)) and nationally ([Figure 2](#)).

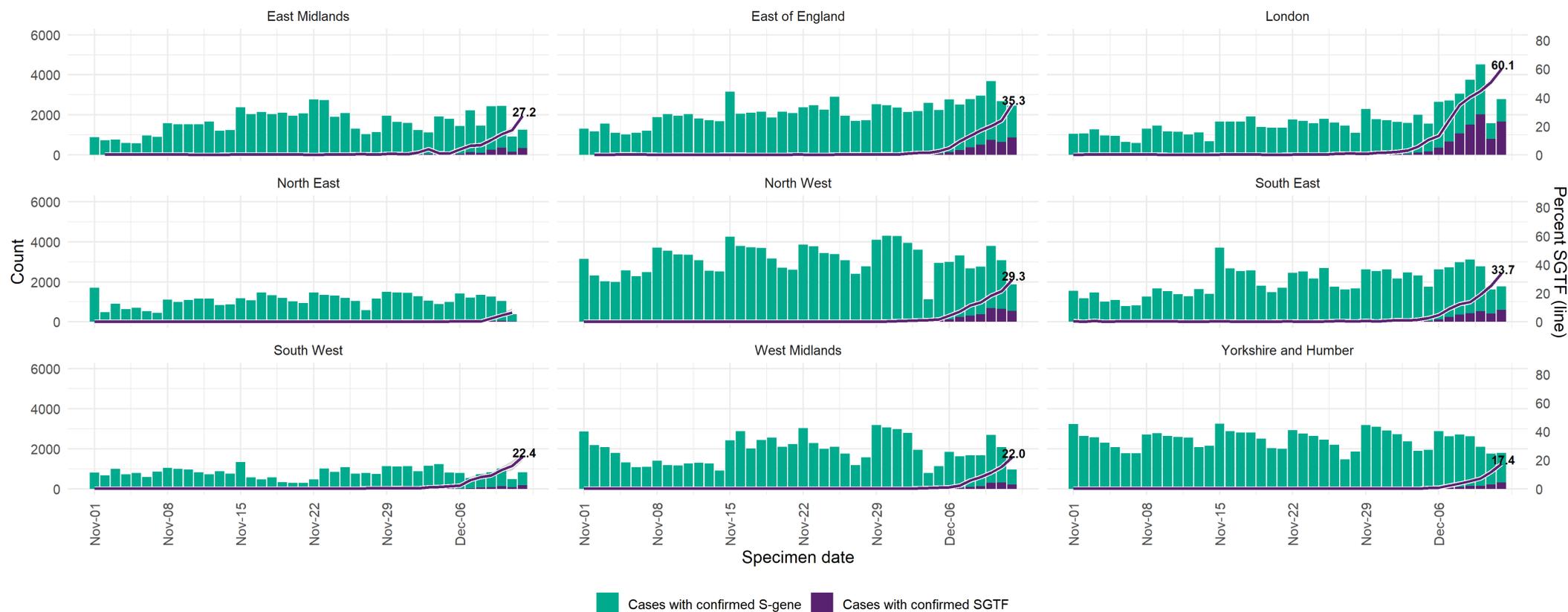
Notes to tables

** Known S gene status based on those tested by TaqPath laboratories (Alderley Park, Milton Keynes, Glasgow, and Newcastle Lighthouse Laboratories).

Figure 1. COVID-19 cases with detectable S gene/SGTF and percentage with SGTF among those tested in TaqPath Labs by day, by region

(95% confidence intervals indicated by grey shading).

Data updated 18h00 14 December 2021.



A detectable S gene is a proxy for Delta since April 2021. SGTF was a surveillance proxy for VOC-20DEC-01 however has largely consisted of Delta since August 2021.

Local trends in these data may be affected by decisions to direct the processing of samples via a TaqPath laboratory.

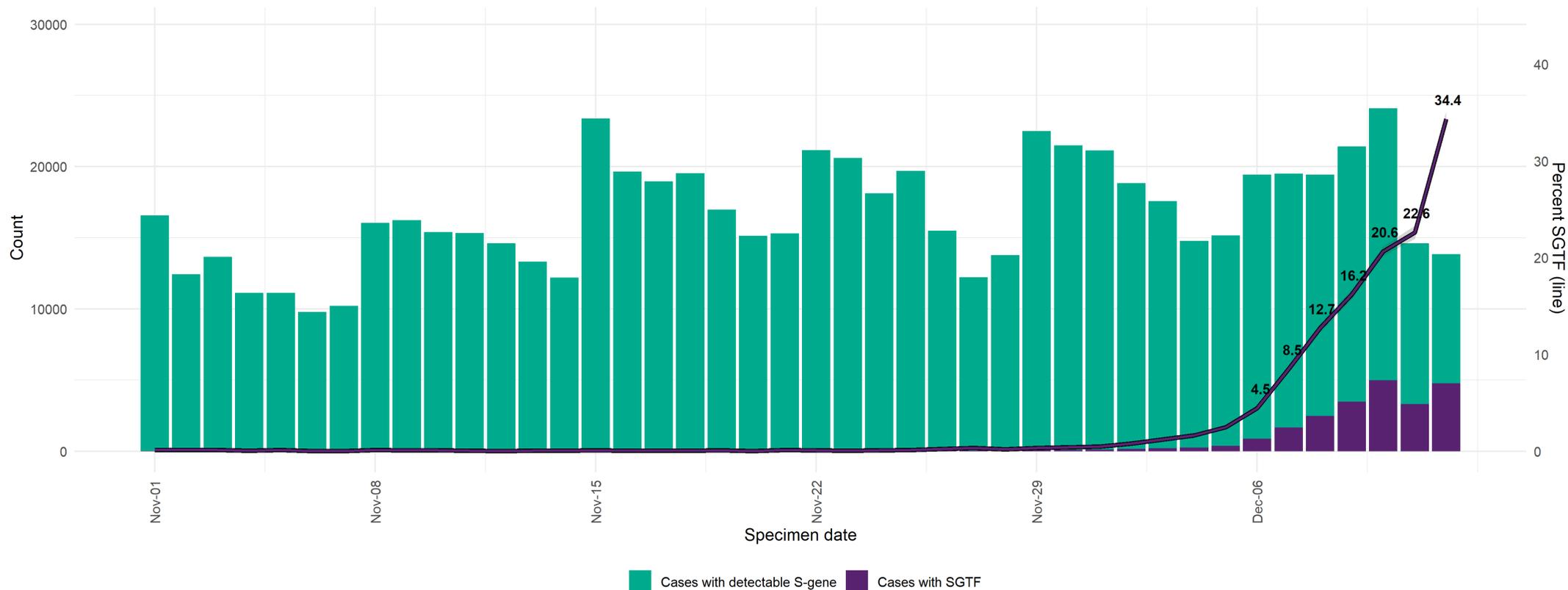
Only tests carried out with the TaqPath PCR assay and with confirmed SGTF or S gene results included, from Newcastle, Alderley Park, Milton Keynes and Glasgow Lighthouse Labs.

SGTF refers to non-detectable S gene and ≤ 30 CT values for N and ORF1ab genes. Detectable S-gene refers to ≤ 30 CT values for S, N, and ORF1ab genes.

Produced by Outbreak Surveillance Team, UKHSA.

Figure 2. Number of COVID-19 cases with S gene positive/SGTF by day, among those tested in TaqPath labs

(95% confidence intervals indicated by grey shading).
 Data updated 18h00 14 December 2021.



A detectable S gene is a proxy for Delta since April 2021. SGTF was a surveillance proxy for VOC-20DEC-01 however has largely consisted of Delta since August 2021. Local trends in these data may be affected by decisions to direct the processing of samples via a TaqPath laboratory. Only tests carried out with the TaqPath PCR assay and with confirmed SGTF or S gene results included, from Newcastle, Alderley Park, Milton Keynes and Glasgow Lighthouse Labs. SGTF refers to non-detectable S gene and <=30 CT values for N and ORF1ab genes. Detectable S-gene refers to <=30 CT values for S, N, and ORF1ab genes. Produced by Outbreak Surveillance Team, UKHSA.

APPENDIX 1

Counts below are based on case definitions agreed on 13 December 2021 (Implemented on data 18h00 14 December 2021):

- **confirmed case:** Omicron (B.1.1.529) by sequencing or genotyping (i) 417N and 681R failure; ii) 69-70 deletion plus 417N; iii) 69-70 deletion plus 501Y; iv) Q493R, vi) other relevant genotyping results)
- **probable case:** COVID-19 PCR positive and i) SGTF^^ or ii) 69-70 deletion with specimen dates from 1 December**
- **possible case:** COVID-19 PCR positive and SGTF^^ with specimen dates from November 1 up to and including November 30*

^^S-Gene Target Failure (SGTF): A positive SARS CoV2 PCR test carried out on the TaqPath assay with undetectable S gene and CT values ≤ 30 for both N and Orf1ab gene targets. Currently reported into SGSS by Milton Keynes, Alderley Park, Glasgow, and Newcastle lighthouse laboratories.

*Excludes those confirmed as non-Omicron variant.

APPENDIX 2

Definitions of hospitalisation

Cases with presentation to emergency care and are admitted or transferred at the end of their emergency care stay, who have a positive SARS-CoV-2 test either:

- within 28 days before presentation to emergency care
- on admission
- during their admission in hospital

Data source: NHS Digital Emergency Care Data Set (ECDS), linked to EpiCell cases Line List and OST Omicron Line List – Due to this linkage process there is a delay in reporting hospitalisation data