

Managing COVID-19

ONS Contribution

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Coronavirus (COVID-19) Infection Survey pilot

Major long-term study tracking spread of COVID-19 in general population to improve understanding around the current rate of infection and how many people are likely to have developed antibodies to the virus.

20,000 households in England were contacted to take part in the first wave of this study. Up to 300,000 to take part over 12 months.

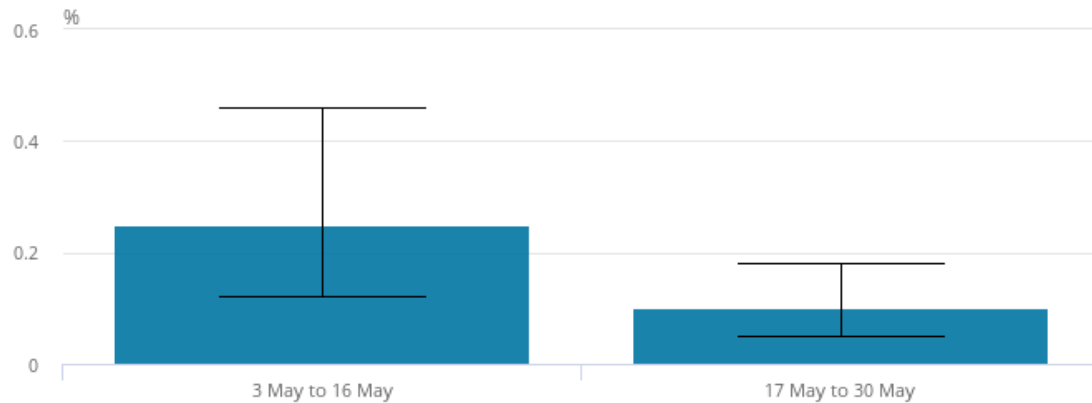
Participants provide samples taken from self-administered nose and throat swabs. They take further tests every week for the first 5 weeks, then every month for 12 months.

LATEST RESULTS

17 – 30 May 2020

Figure 1: There is some evidence that the proportion of people testing positive with COVID-19 has decreased in recent weeks

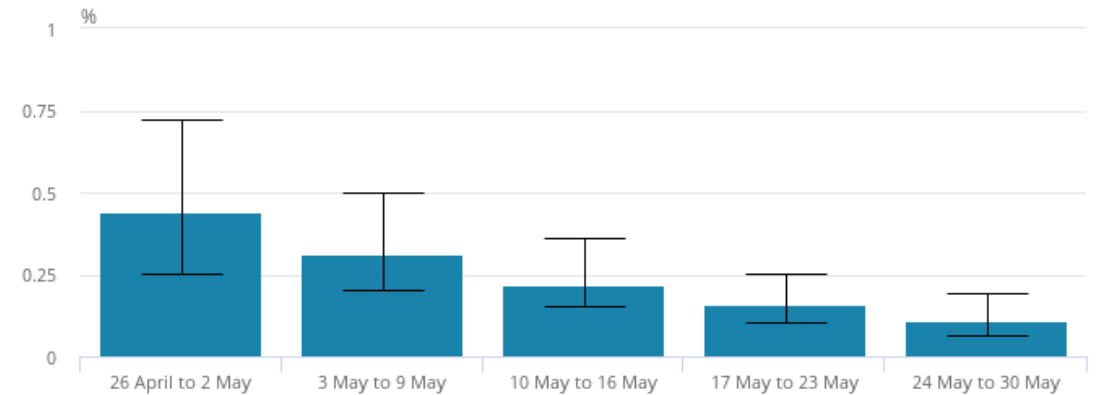
Estimated percentage of the population in England who had the coronavirus (COVID-19), based on tests conducted between 3 May to 16 May 2020 and 17 May to 30 May 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – COVID-19 Infection Survey

Figure 2: New modelling shows the downward trend in those testing positive for COVID-19 is statistically significant

Estimated percentage of the population in England testing positive for the coronavirus (COVID-19) by week since the start of the study, 26 April 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – COVID-19 Infection Survey