

INSACOG BULLETIN

April 18, 2022

The INSACOG reports genomic surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 across the country through sequencing of samples from Sentinel sites and International passengers arriving in India. A summary of the cumulative data of INSACOG and other state sequencing initiatives can be found at the INSACOG data portal link along with other INSACOG information at <https://research.nibmg.ac.in/insacog/>

INSACOG:

- Total number of samples processed so far is 207,182
- Total number of samples sequenced is 207,182
- Total number of sequences analyzed 206,307

Samples sequenced by IGSLs under State government MoUs: 34,763

Total number of samples sequenced: 241,945

The number of samples with pangolin lineage assigned are given below:

Table 1: Cumulative samples with pangolin lineage assigned (as on 15.04.2022)				
Community sample	Travelers sample	Total pangolin lineage assigned	Total VOC/VOI	Proportion
138929	12263	151192	119462	79.0

Distribution of variants (as on 18-04-2022)

Alpha Variant			Beta Variant			Gamma Variant			Delta Variant			B.1.617.1 and B.1.617.3			AY Series			Omicron*			XE Variant	Total VOC/VOI
Tr&Co	Com	Total	Tr&Co	Com	Total	Tr&Co	Com	Total	Tr&Co	Com	Total	Tr&Co	Com	Total	Tr&Co	Com	Total	Tr&Co	Com*	Total		
577	3689	4266	117	103	220	1	2	3	387	43538	43925	84	5523	5607	227	20222	20449	5877	39114	44991	1	119462

Tr&Co= Travelers and contacts ; Com= Community samples

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Global Scenario

Globally,

A small number of sequences of BA.4 and BA.5 descendent lineages have now been detected in a few countries. Both have additional mutations in the Spike region (S:L452R, S:F486V) and unique mutations outside of Spike and are associated with potential immune escape characteristics. In addition, the majority of BA.4 and BA.5 sequences have the 69-70 deletion responsible for S gene target failure (SGTF) in some PCR assays. This may prove useful for surveillance purposes in places where BA.2 is dominant, as the 69-70 deletion is largely not present in BA.2 sequences. The recombinant variant, XE, is under further evaluation all over the world.

Indian Scenario

Omicron (BA.2) continues to be the dominant lineage in India. However, as of now, there is no indication of any surge.