

INSACOG BULLETIN

15 September 2023

The INSACOG reports genomic surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 by whole genome sequencing of samples from sentinel sites across the country and international passengers arriving in India. A summary of the cumulative data of INSACOG and other state sequencing initiatives can be found in the INSACOG data portal along with other INSACOG related information at <https://ibdc.rcb.res.in/>

INSACOG:

Total number of samples sequenced is 297,485

Samples sequenced by IGSLs under State government MoUs: 35,441

Total number of samples sequenced: 332,926

The number of samples with pangolin lineages assigned is given below:

Table 1: Cumulative samples with pangolin lineage assigned (as on 15.09.2023)

Community sample	Travelers sample	Total pangolin lineage assigned	Total VOC/VOI	Percentage
209711	12564	222275	186282	83.8

Global Scenario

Globally, nearly 1.4 million new cases and over 1800 deaths have been reported in the last 28 days (31 July to 27 August 2023), an increase of 38% and a decrease of 50%, respectively, compared to the previous 28 days^[1]. During the week 31-32 of the year 2023, recombinant lineages continued to be the most prevalent variants globally. Currently, there are three variants of interest (VOI), XBB.1.5, XBB.1.16 & EG.5 and seven variants under monitoring (VUMs): BA.2.75, BA.2.86, CH.1.1, XBB, XBB.1.9.1, XBB.1.9.2, and XBB.2.3. On 17 August 2023, BA.2.86 was identified as a new variant under monitoring. As of 13 September 2023, 32 sequences of the BA.2.86 variant have been reported from 8 countries. An increase has been observed in the prevalence of XBB.1.5 globally (124 Countries), accounting for 10.2% of sequences in week 32 compared to 9.7% of sequences in week 31. XBB.1.16 and EG.5 are still the most prevalent VOIs worldwide and have been reported from 109 and 57 countries, respectively. In week 32 (7 August to 13 August 2023), XBB.1.16

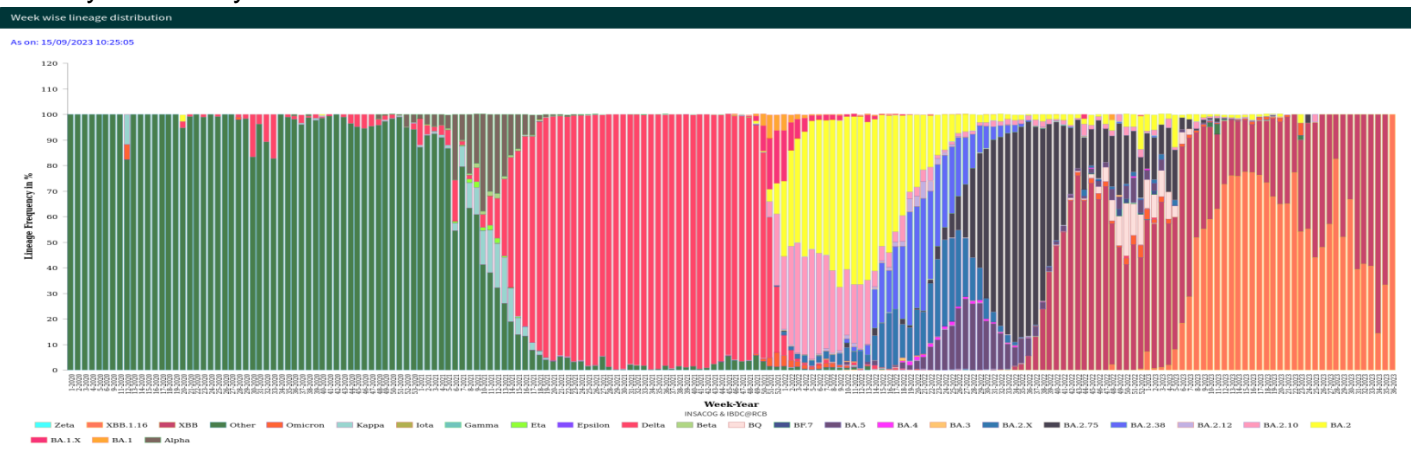
INSACOG BULLETIN

and EG.5 accounted for 22.7% and 26.1% of sequences in comparison to 24.5% and 22.9% in week 31(1 to 6August 2023), respectively.

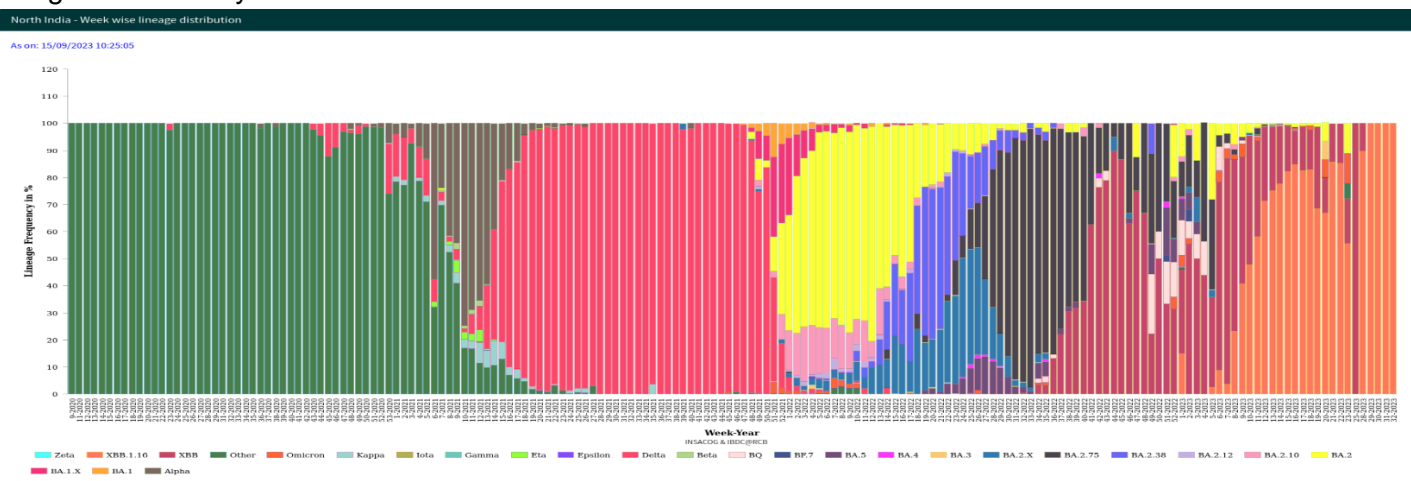
Indian Scenario

Omicron and its sub-lineages continue to be the dominant variants in India. The prevalence of recombinant variant XBB.1.16 has been observed in different parts of India, accounting for most of the infections last week. Recently four cases of EG.5.1 variant have been identified from Maharashtra, Gujrat, and Karnataka. However, till date BA.2.86 variant has not been detected in India. No increase in disease severity or hospitalization has been observed.

Country wide analysis:



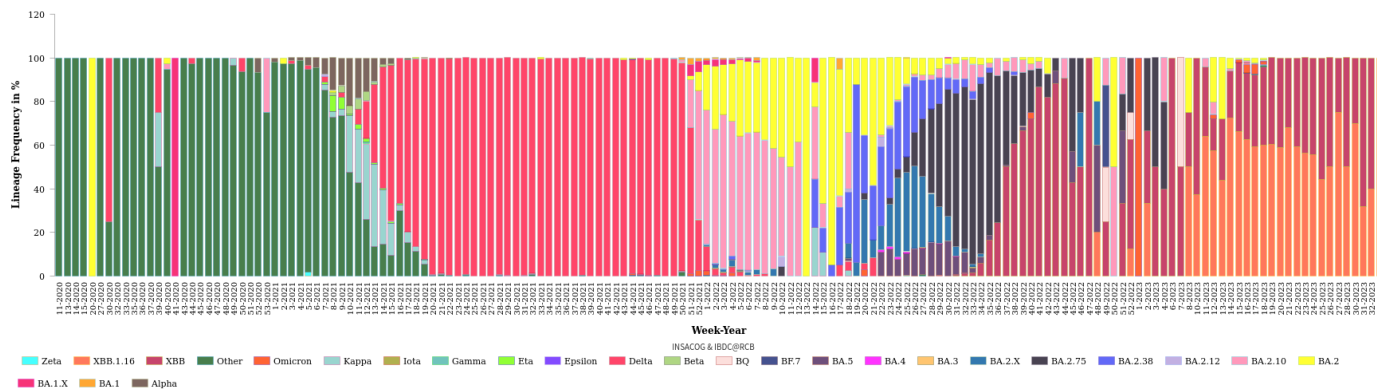
Region-wise analysis:



INSACOG BULLETIN

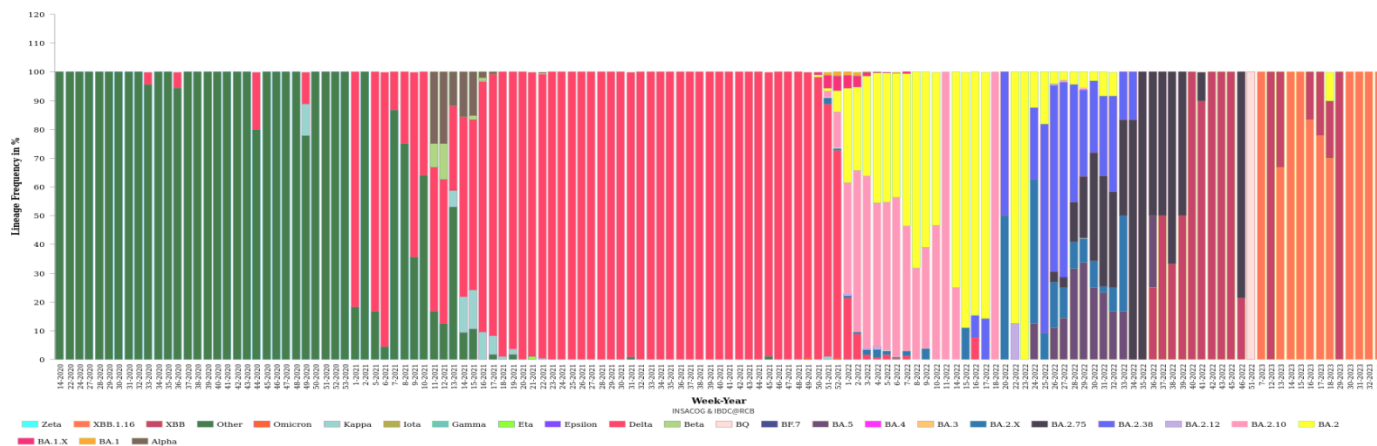
East India - Week wise lineage distribution

As on: 15/09/2023 10:25:05



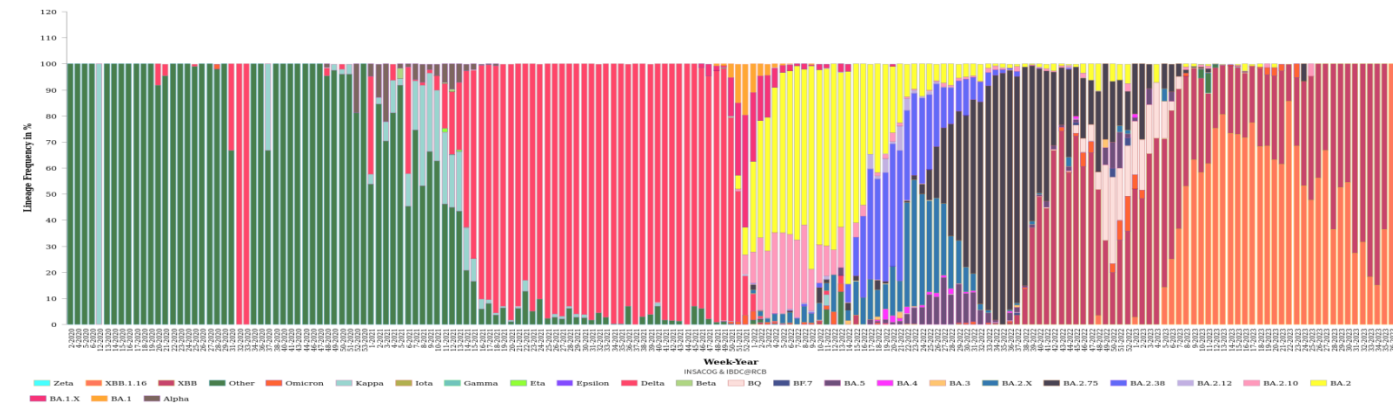
NorthEast India - Week wise lineage distribution

As on: 15/09/2023 10:25:05



West India - Week wise lineage distribution

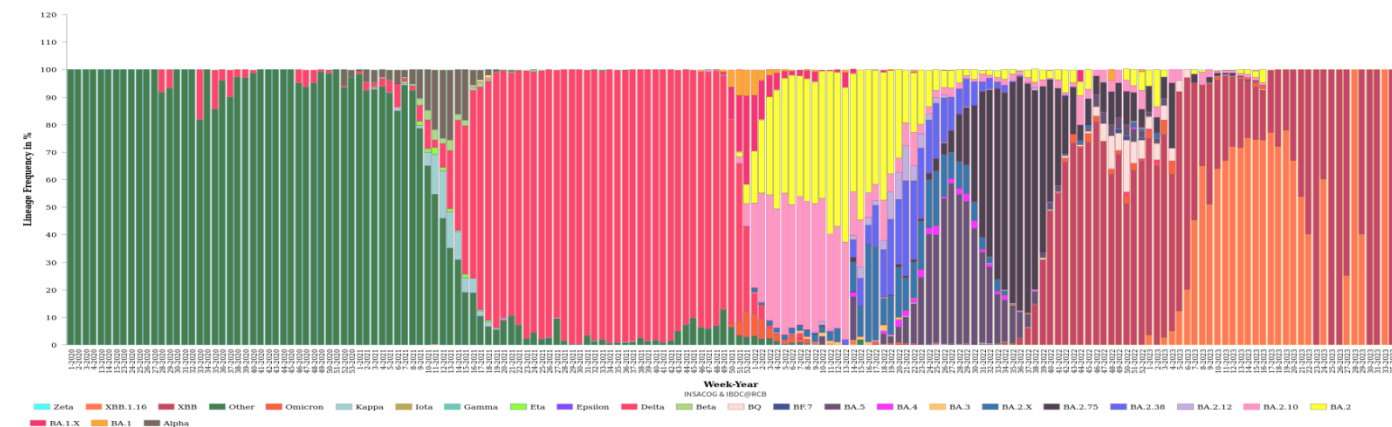
As on: 15/09/2023 10:25:05



INSACOG BULLETIN

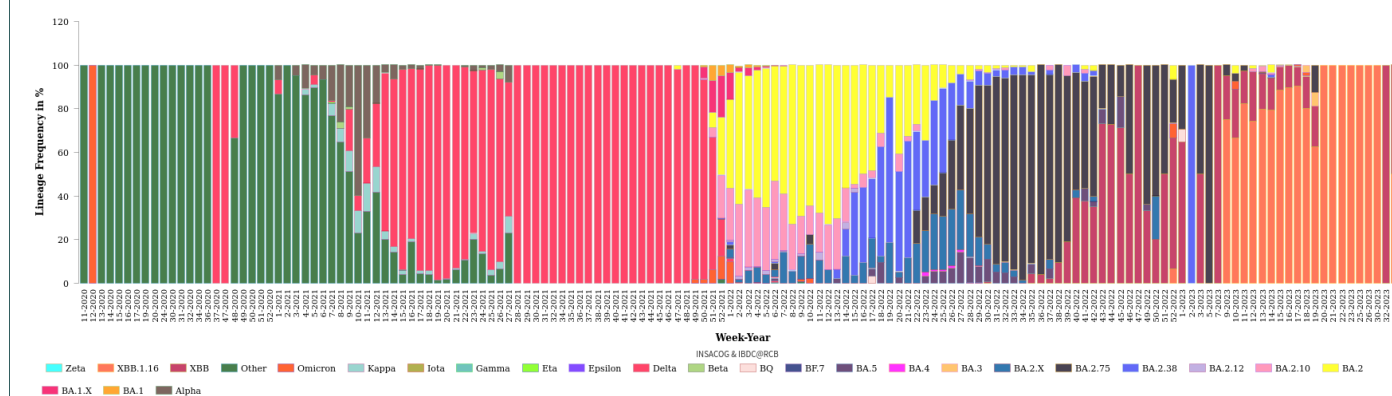
South India - Week wise lineage distribution

As on: 15/09/2023 10:25:05



Central India - Week wise lineage distribution

As on: 15/09/2023 10:25:05



Reference:

1. WHO weekly epidemiological report.