

INSACOG BULLETIN

15 May 2024

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:

Number of samples sequenced by IGSLs 301,278

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

Total number of samples sequenced by labs associated with INSACOG including their efforts under MoU with States: 336,719

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

Table 1: Cumulative samples with pangolin lineage assigned (as on 10-05-2024)				
Community sample	Travelers sample	Total pangolin lineage assigned	Total VOC/VOI	Percentage
213810	12564	226374	190148	84.0

Global Scenario

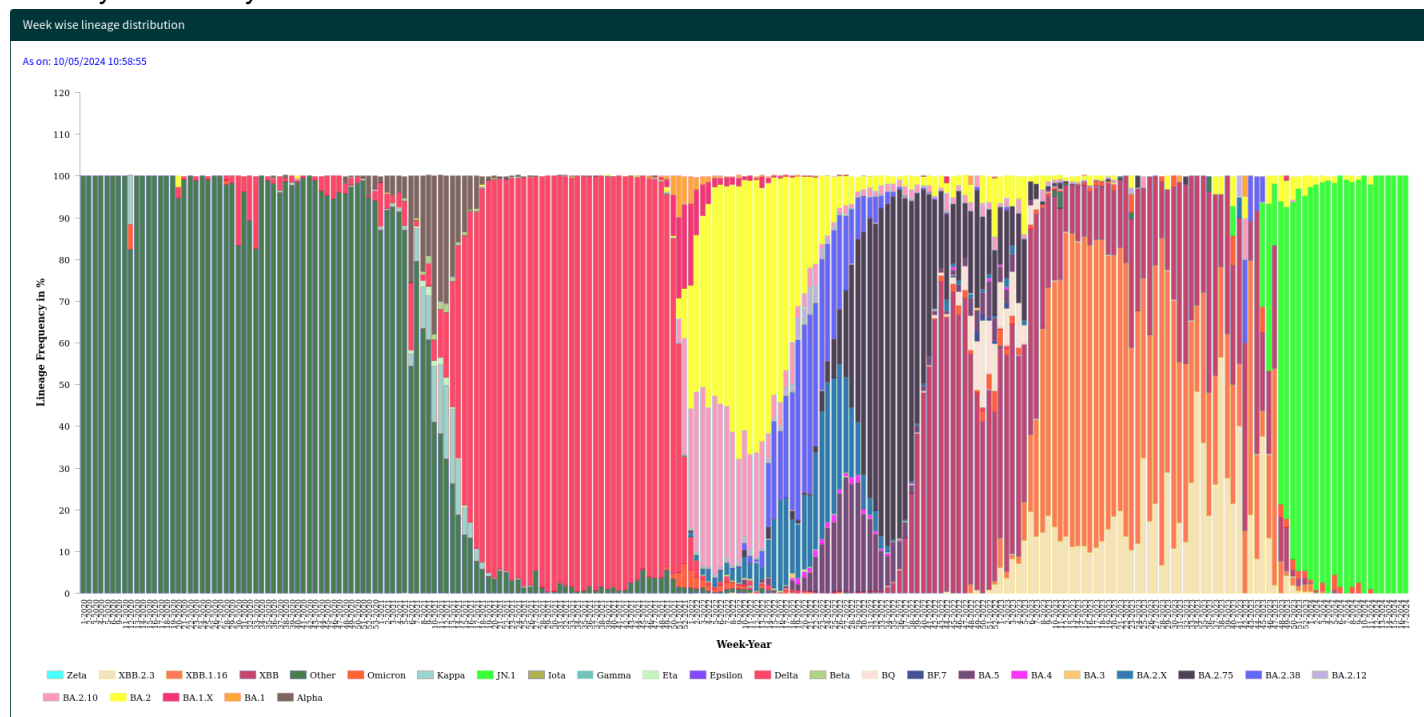
Globally WHO is currently tracking several SARS-CoV-2 variants: five variants of interest (VOIs) – XBB.1.5, XBB.1.16, EG.5, BA.2.86 and JN.1. All the most recent variants under monitoring (VUMs) (XBB, XBB.1.9.1 and XBB.2.3) have been de-escalated after having less than 1% global prevalence for eight epidemiological weeks. Globally, JN.1 is now accounting for 95.1% of sequences in week 13 compared to 93.0% in week 10. As of 15th May, 2024, 80,482 JN.1 sequences have been submitted to GISAID from 120 countries². Its parent lineage, BA.2.86, is stable and accounted for 1.6% of sequences in week 13. However, the JN.1 is of perceived as of low public health risk at the global level based on available evidence. The other VOIs, XBB.1.5, XBB.1.16 and EG.5, have either decreased or remained stable in global prevalence during the same period. XBB.1.5 and EG.5 have not been reported, whereas, XBB.1.16 is reported by 0.4% sequences in week 13.

Indian Scenario

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During this reporting period, most of the submitted sequences were of JN.1 sub-variants. Since the testing and the sampling frequency is less for some parts of India, the overall scenario might not be clear yet. INSACOG is continuing the surveillance of the emerging variants. So far, 112 cases of KP.1.1* (includes KP.1.1, KP.1.1.1) and 353 cases of KP.2* (includes KP.2, KP.2.1, KP.2.2, KP.2.3) have been reported from states of Maharashtra, West Bengal, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Goa, Uttarakhand, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Haryana, Delhi and Madhya Pradesh. However, no increase in disease severity or hospitalization has been observed with these sub-variants so far.

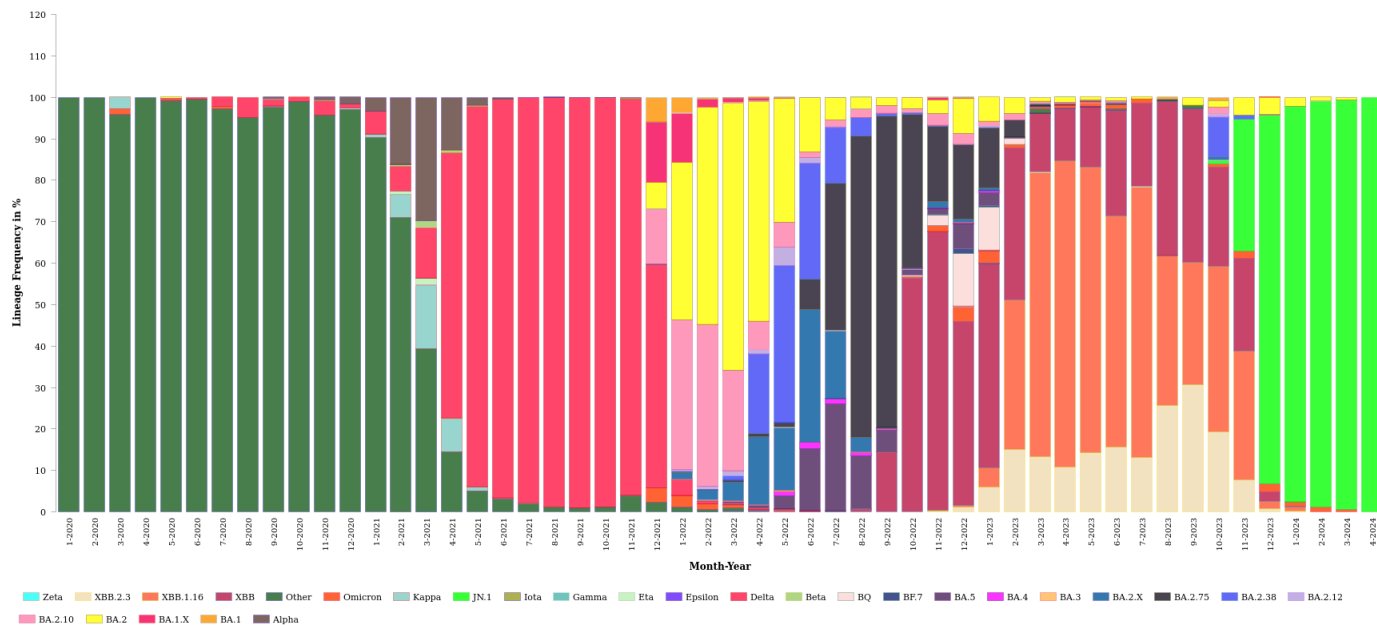
Country wide analysis:



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Month wise lineage distribution

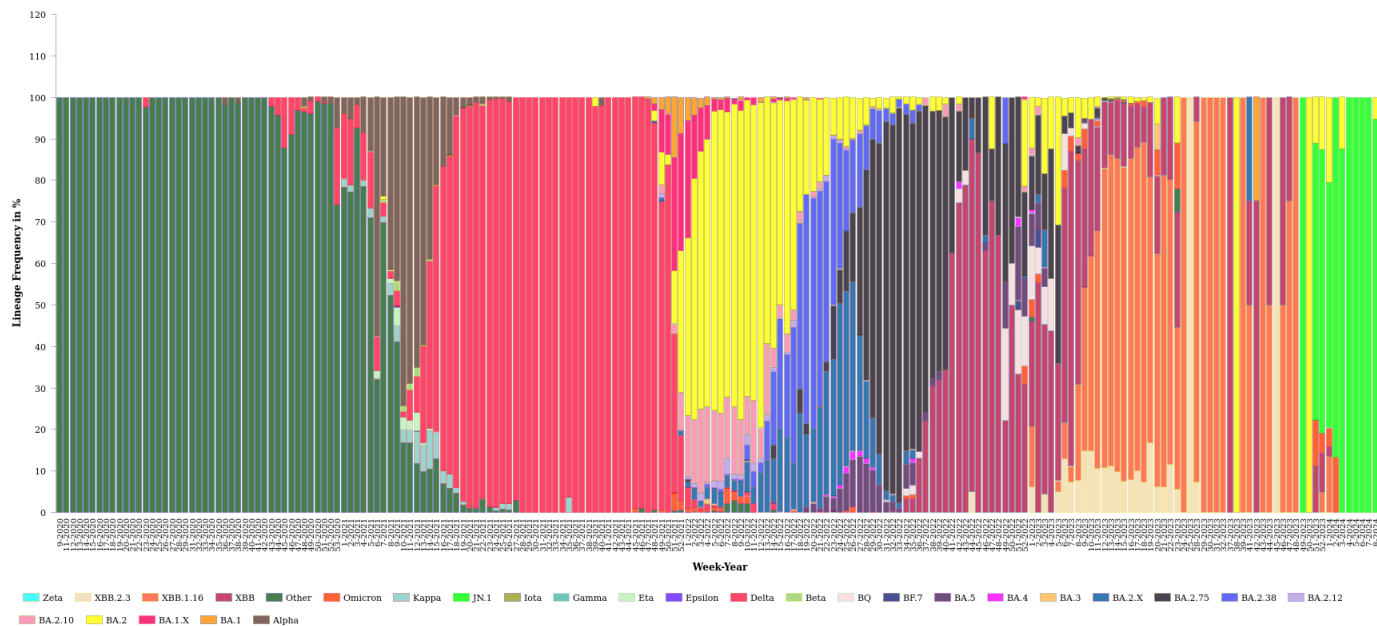
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Region-wise analysis:

North India - Week wise lineage distribution

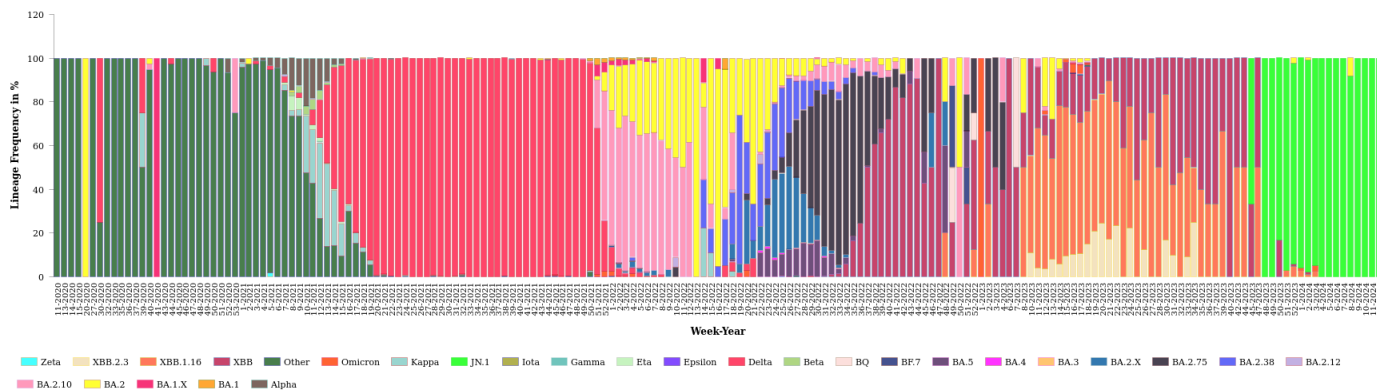
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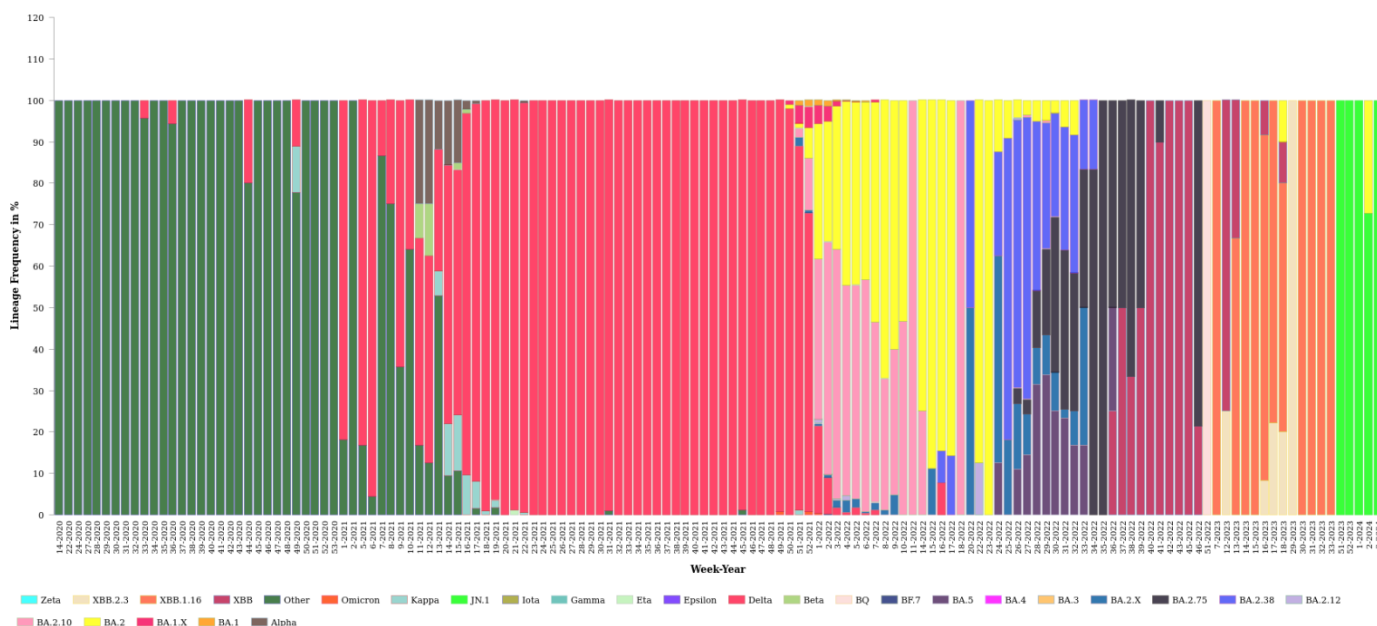
East India - Week wise lineage distribution

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NorthEast India - Week wise lineage distribution

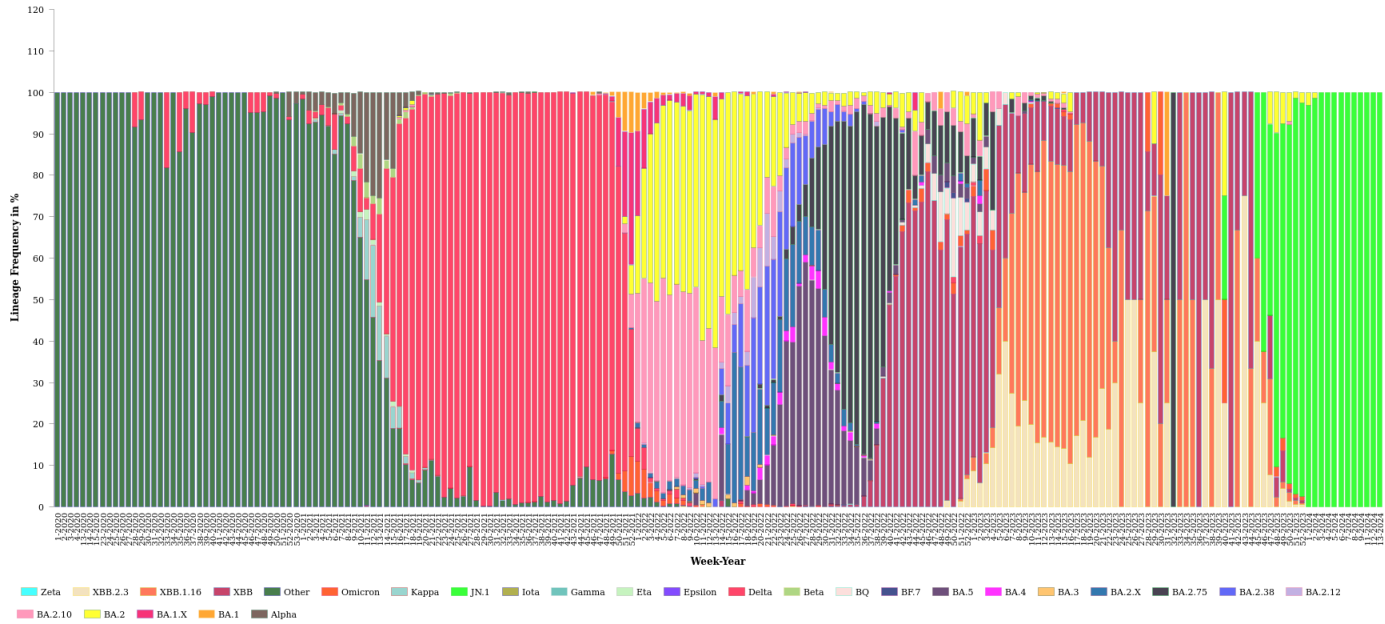
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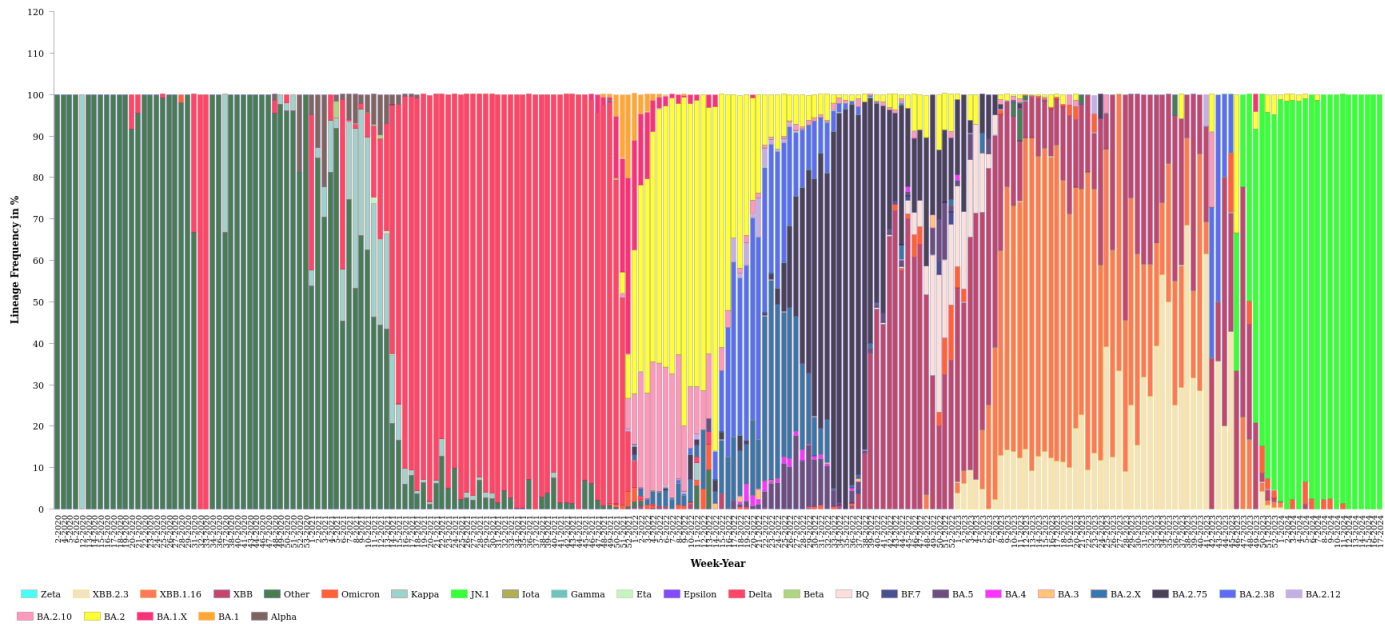
South India - Week wise lineage distribution

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West India - Week wise lineage distribution

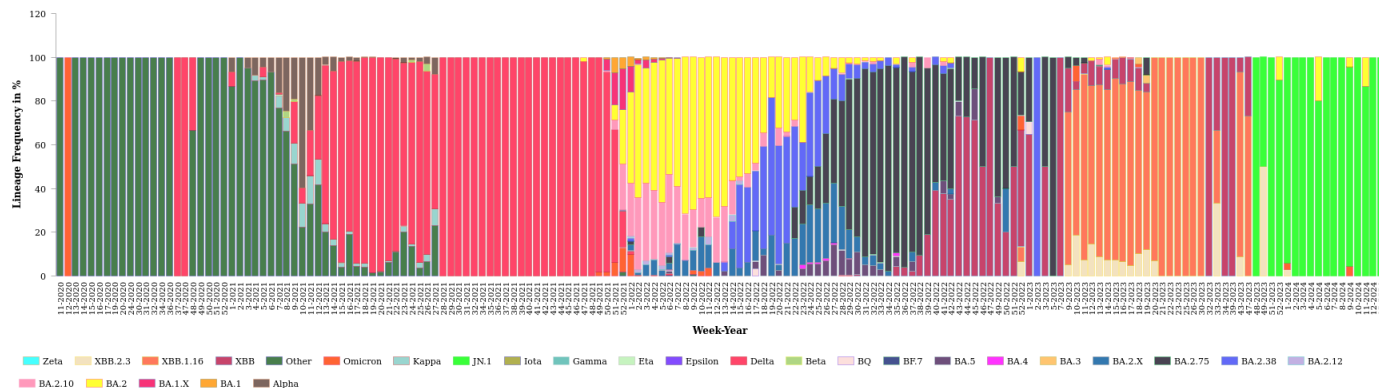
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Central India - Week wise lineage distribution

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Reference:

1. WHO weekly epidemiological report.
2. GISAID. Available from: <https://gisaid.org/hcov19-variants/>