New York City COVID-19 Cases Caused by SARS-CoV-2 Variants Report (2.28.2021)

Among a sample of specimens submitted to the NYC Pandemic Response Laboratory (PRL), an estimated 7.9% were B.1.1.7 (65 out of 824 specimens) based on specimens sequenced the week of Feb 15-21 compared to 6.3% the prior week (Feb. 8-14).

As of 2/28, 2 cases caused by B.1.351 have been identified in NYC residents. These will appear in the below table once posted in GISAID.

** Estimates are derived from a subset of specimens submitted to the New York City Pandemic Response Laboratory (PRL) for diagnostic testing and may not be completely representative of all NYC COVID cases. The rate of B.1.1.7. in these samples may not be generalizable to all NYC COVID infections. PRL receives specimens from New York City Health and Hospitals outpatient and inpatient facilities, including community Test & Trace Corps sites, as well as private providers. Specimens are eligible for sequence analysis if they are from a New York City resident and meet specific virologic thresholds.

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Data pulled 2/24/21 from GISAID

Total B.1.1.7 available in GISAID for NYC residents, cumulative	116
Number of B.1.1.7 in NYC residents, reported to GISAID, for week of 2/17 – 2/23	57
Number of genome sequences from specimens from NYC residents in GISAID, cumulative*	3930
Number of sequences from NYC residents from NYC Public Response Lab and the NYC Health Department Public Health Lab week of 2/17 – 2/23	902

* GISAID is a global science repository for open-access to genomic data of SARS-CoV2. Cumulative refers to January 2021 – present.

For national figures, see the CDC's US COVID-19 Cases Caused by Variants: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/transmission/variant-cases.html