Wastewater Sequencing Trend Report: Detection of SARS-CoV-2 Variants of **Concern by Metagenomic Sequencing**

Public Health Agence de la santé Statistics Statistique Agency of Canada publique du Canada Canada Canada

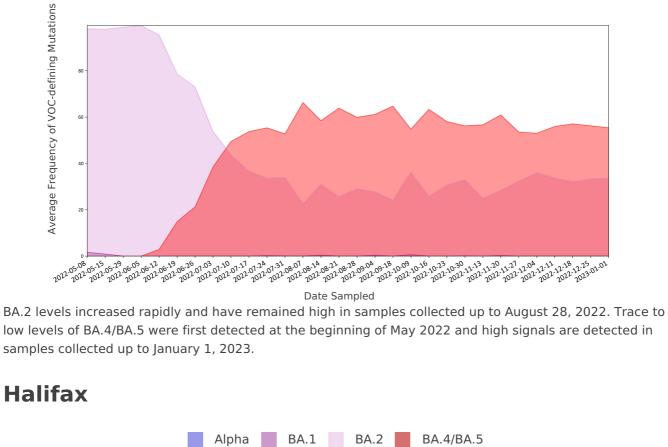
Longitudinal wastewater sequencing data ending 2023-01-24

variants of concern (Omicron sublineages) detected in wastewater samples collected from different sites using metagenomic sequencing. SARS-CoV-2 viral fragments present in the wastewater are isolated and sequenced to obtain a genomic "blueprint" of the virus. Each sublineage carries small differences in their genomic blueprint called mutations that can be queried using specialized software to identify their presence and abundance (BA.1, BA.2 and BA.4 or BA.5) present in the wastewater sample. The shaded areas in the plot show BA.1 in dark purple, BA.2 in light purple, BA.4 or BA.5 in red and where applicable, Alpha in blue. To correct for the shared ancestry of BA.2 and BA.4/BA.5 SARS-CoV-2 lineages, the average frequency of VOC-defining mutations for BA.4/BA.5 has been subtracted from BA.2. **Edmonton**

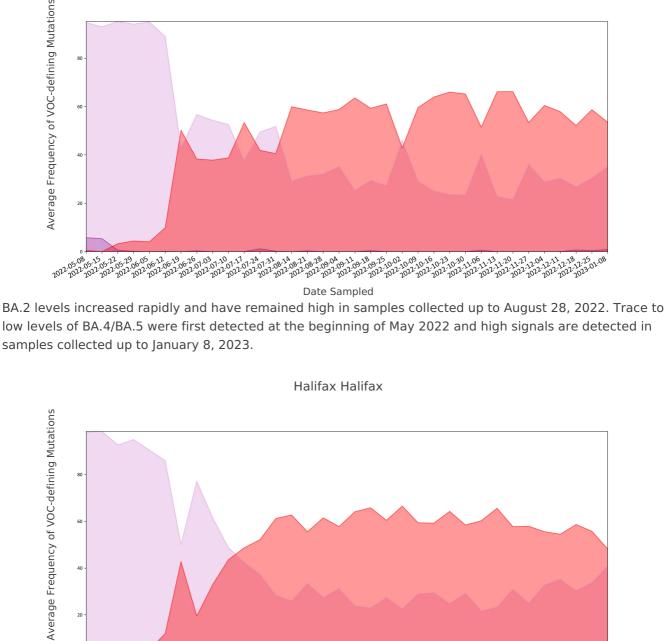
BA.1 BA.2 BA.4/BA.5

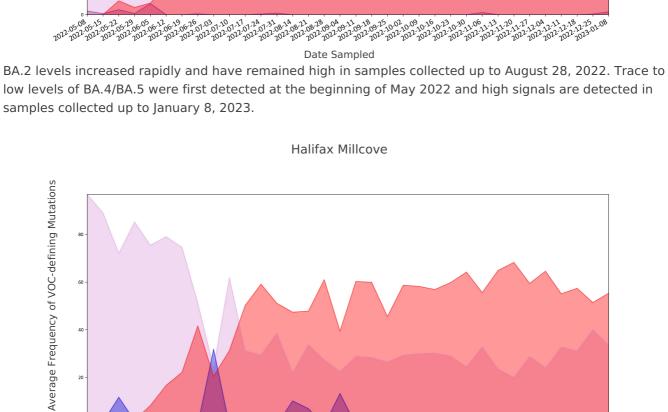
Edmonton Goldbar

The plots show the percentage of Omicron and its sublineages (BA.1, BA.2 and BA.4/BA.5) SARS-CoV-2



Halifax Dartmouth





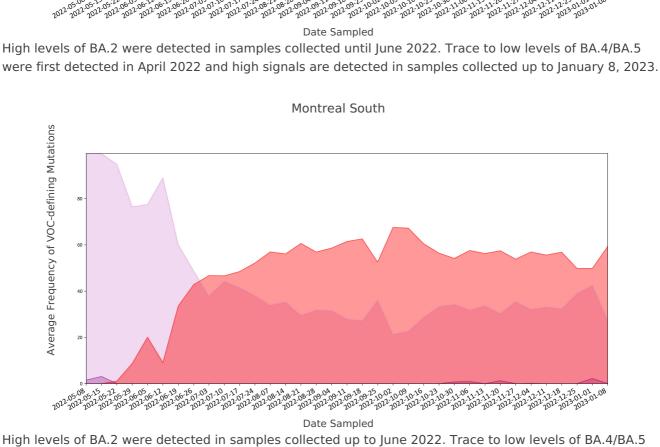
Average Frequency of VOC-defining Mutations

Date Sampled BA.2 emerged at the start of March and rapidly increased to sustained high levels observed until August 28 2022. Variable levels of Alpha were observed between January and September at which point levels began to drop off to a nil-trace level of presence. Trace to low levels of BA.4/BA.5 were first detected at the beginning of May 2022 and high signals are detected in samples collected up to January 8, 2023.

BA.1 BA.2 BA.4/BA.5

Montreal North

Montreal



BA.1 BA.2 BA.4/BA.5

Toronto Ashbridges Bay

Date Sampled

Toronto Highland Creek

were first detected in April 2022 and high signals are detected in samples collected up to Januart 8, 2023.

BA.2 levels increased rapidly and remained high in samples collected up to August 28, 2022. Trace to low levels of BA.4/BA.5 were first detected at the beginning of May 2022 and high signals are detected in

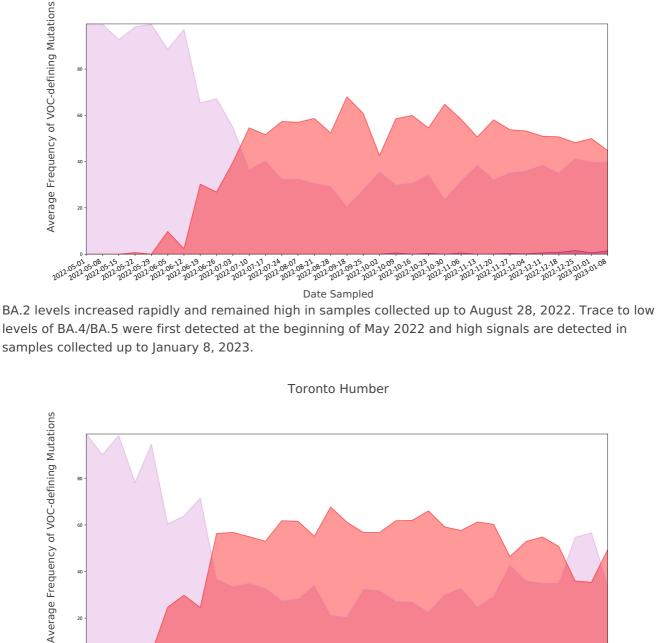
Average Frequency of VOC-defining Mutations

samples collected up to January 8, 2023.

Toronto

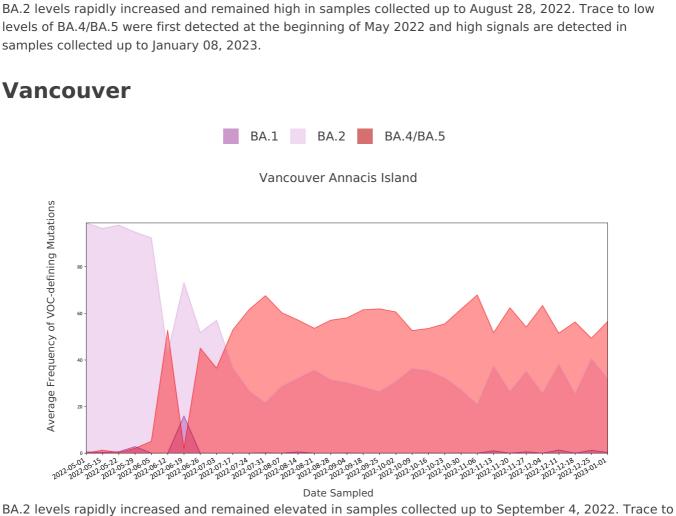
Frequency of VOC-defining Mutations

Average



BA.2 levels rapidly increased and remained high in samples collected up to August 28, 2022. Trace to low levels of BA.4/BA.5 were first detected at the beginning of May 2022 and high signals are detected in samples collected up to January 8, 2023. Toronto North Toronto

Date Sampled



low levels of BA.4/BA.5 were first detected at the beginning of May 2022 and high signals are detected in

Vancouver Iona Island

Date Sampled BA.2 emerged in mid January and was detected at high levels by mid February. BA.2 levels rapidly increased and remained elevated in samples collected up to September 4, 2022. Trace to low levels of BA.4/BA.5 were first detected at the beginning of May 2022 and high signals are detected in samples collected up to January

Vancouver Lions Gate

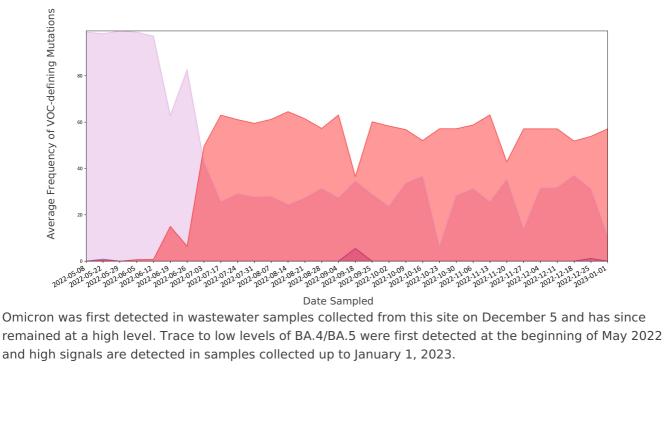
samples collected up to January 1, 2023.

Average Frequency of VOC-defining Mutations

1, 2023.

Date Sampled

Average Frequency of VOC-defining Mutations Date Sampled BA.2 levels rapidly increased and remained elevated in samples collected up to September 4, 2022. Trace to low levels of BA.4/BA.5 were first detected at the beginning of May 2022 and high signals are detected in samples collected up to January 1, 2023. Vancouver Lulu Island Average Frequency of VOC-defining Mutations



Date Sampled BA.2 levels rapidly increased and remained elevated in samples collected up to September 4, 2022. Trace to low levels of BA.4/BA.5 were first detected at the beginning of May 2022 and high signals are detected in

Vancouver Northwest Langley

samples collected up to January 1, 2023.