

Genetic diversity of the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) in Portugal

More information at <https://insaflu.insa.pt/covid19>



Situation Report

August 9th, 2022

The National Institute of Health Doutor Ricardo Jorge, I.P. (INSA) has analysed **40155** SARS-CoV-2 genome sequences so far.

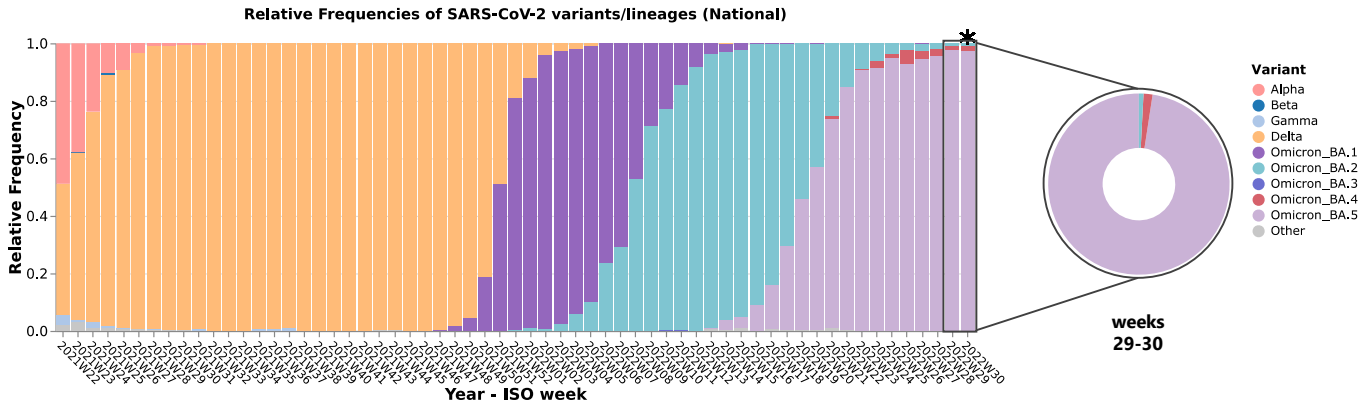


Figure 1: Evolution of the weekly relative frequency of the SARS-CoV-2 variants circulating in Portugal between ISO weeks 22 (31/05/21 - 06/06/21) and 30 (25/07/22 - 31/07/22). The frequencies presented for the last week under analysis (ISO week 30*) might change in the next report, given that some data from that period is still being processed. *This and other graphs can be explored interactively on the website.*

Main highlights

- **Lineage BA.5 of the variant Omicron** (including its multiple sub-lineages) is **dominant in Portugal** since week 19 (09/05/22 - 15/05/22) and presents a **relative frequency of 97%** according to the most recent national sequencing survey on week 30 (25/07/22 - 31/07/22).
- **Lineage BA.4 of the variant Omicron** has revealed a **stable relative frequency** in the latest sequencing surveys, representing **1.6%** of the sequences analysed in weeks 29 and 30.
- **Lineage BA.2 of the variant Omicron** was **dominant in Portugal between weeks 8 (21/02/22 - 27/02/22) and 19 (09/05/22 - 15/05/22)**. Since then, its relative frequency has been continuously decreasing, representing **0.8% of the sequences in weeks 29 and 30**. We have been monitoring the circulation of BA.2 lineages with an additional mutation in position L452 of Spike protein (associated with resistance to neutralizing antibodies). Among those, it is highlighted the circulation of **BA.2.12.1**, although its **relative frequency has not exceeded 2% so far**. Of note, no sequences of the sub-lineage of interest BA.2.75 have been detected so far in Portugal.
- It is estimated that the circulation of **lineage BA.1 of the variant Omicron** (dominant between weeks 51/2021 and 7/2022) is **currently residual**.

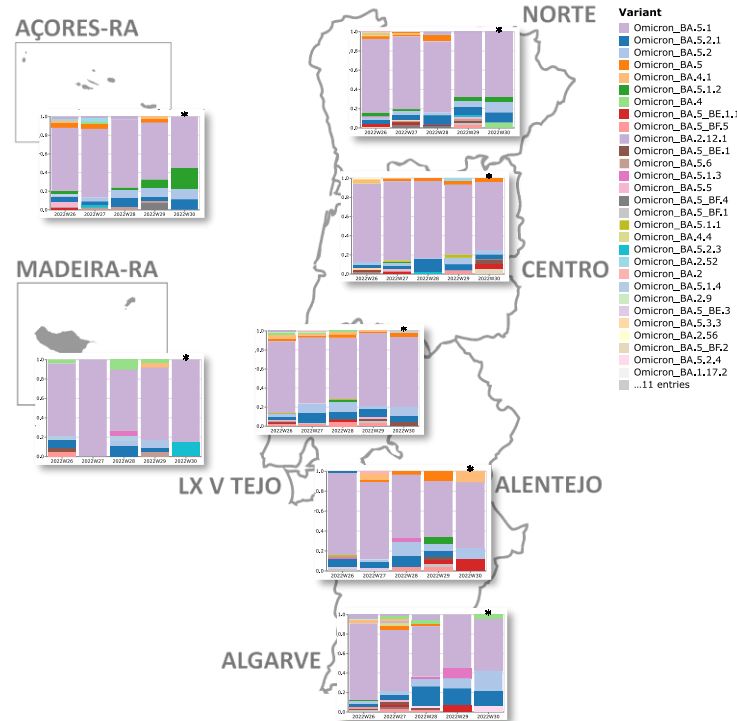


Figure 2: Evolution of the weekly relative frequency of SARS-CoV-2 lineages in each Health Region, between ISO weeks 25 (20/06/22 - 26/06/22) and 30 (25/07/22 - 31/07/22). It is expected that the frequencies presented for the last week under analysis (ISO week 30*) might change in the next report, given that some data from that period is still being processed. *This and other graphs can be explored interactively on the website.*

Autorship

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Useful links

<https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/covid-19/situation-updates/variants-dashboard>
<https://www.who.int/activities/tracking-SARS-CoV-2-variants>
https://cov-lineages.org/lineage_list.html
<https://outbreak.info/>
<https://www.gisaid.org/>