

# NATIONAL WASTEWATER-BASED SURVEILLANCE OF SARS-COV-2 VARIANTS IN BELGIUM IN SUMMER 2023

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## **ECDC** recommendation

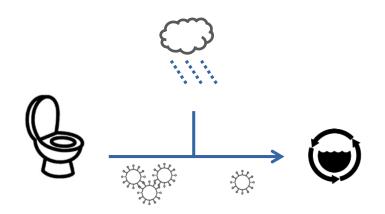
### Surveillance systems of respiratory viruses

- Viruses of public health concern
- Representative
- Plan potential upscaling
- Monitoring the spread and intensity
- Important in the event of future pandemics
- Integrated genomic monitoring
- Ensure reliability and interpretability of findings

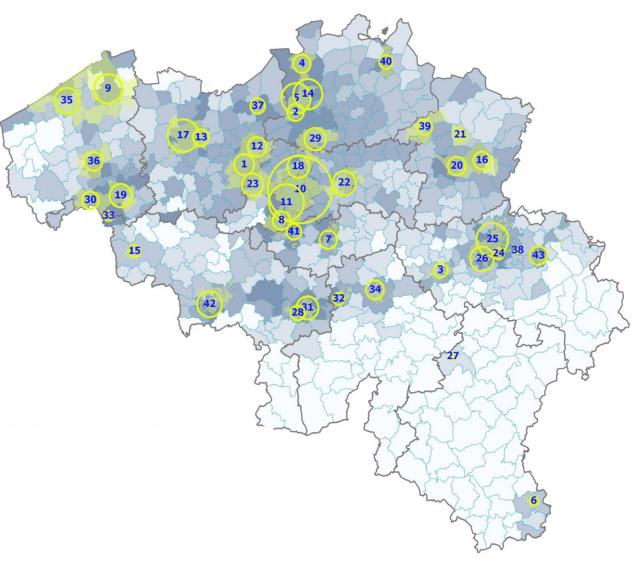
ECDC Operational considerations for respiratory virus surveillance in Europe, 18/07/2022

Impact for the wastewater-based surveillance in Belgium?

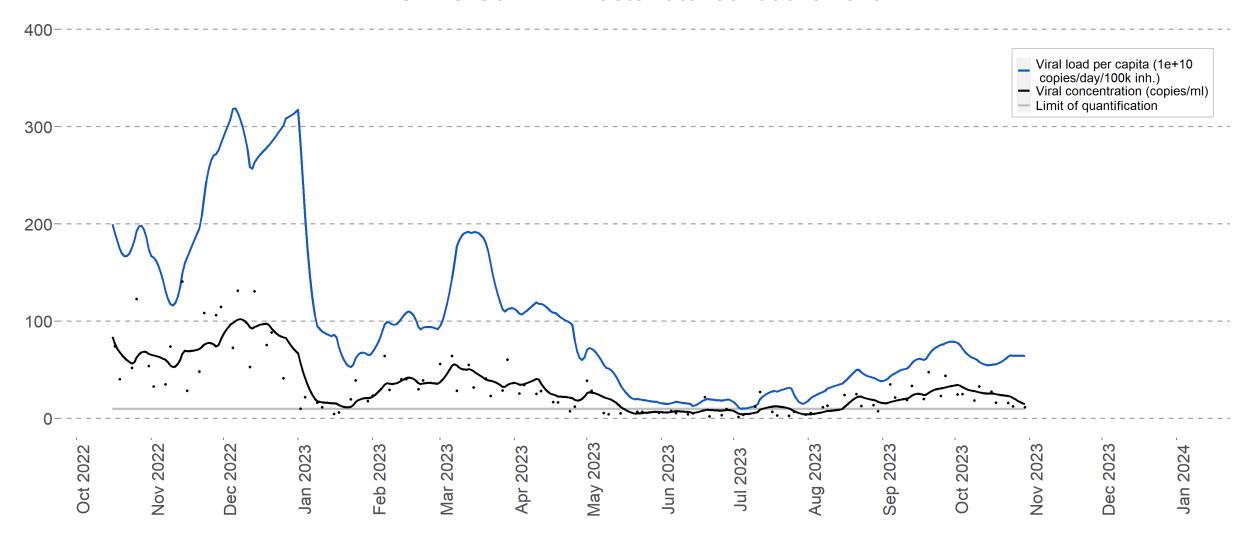
# Methodology



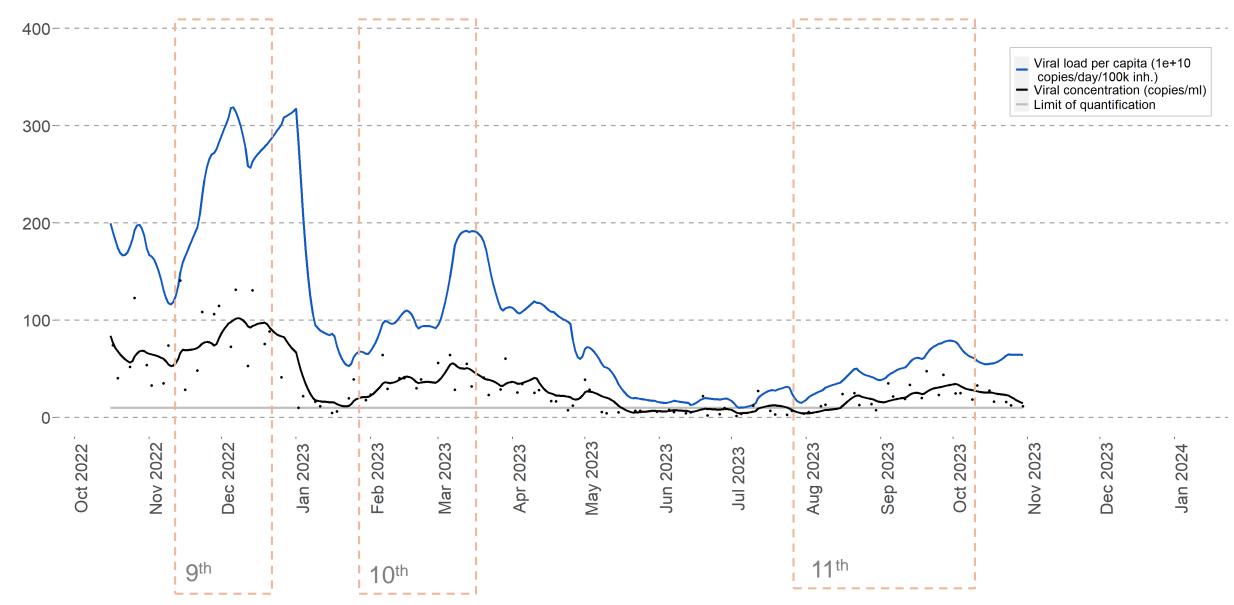
- Over 40 treatment plants in highly populated areas
- Sampled twice per week since Sept. 2020
- Around 13 000 samples analyzed
- SARS-CoV-2 viral cc. corrected for the rain impact
- Sequencing at spreads and peaks



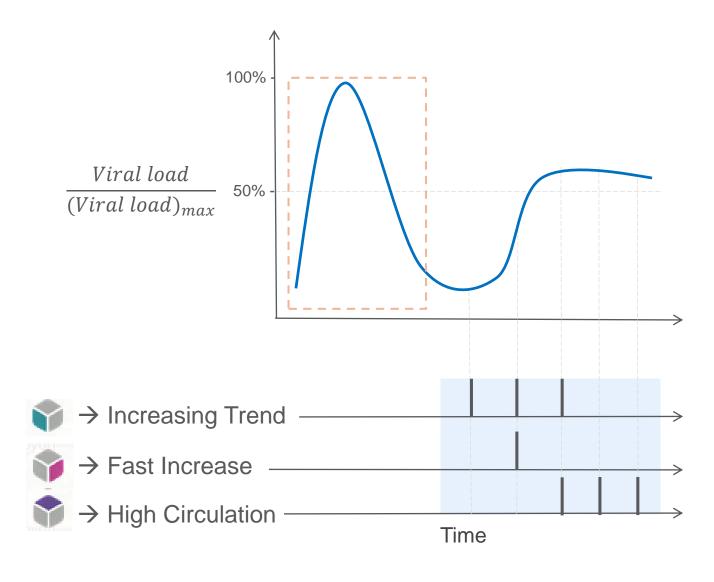
## SARS-CoV-2 in wastewater at national level

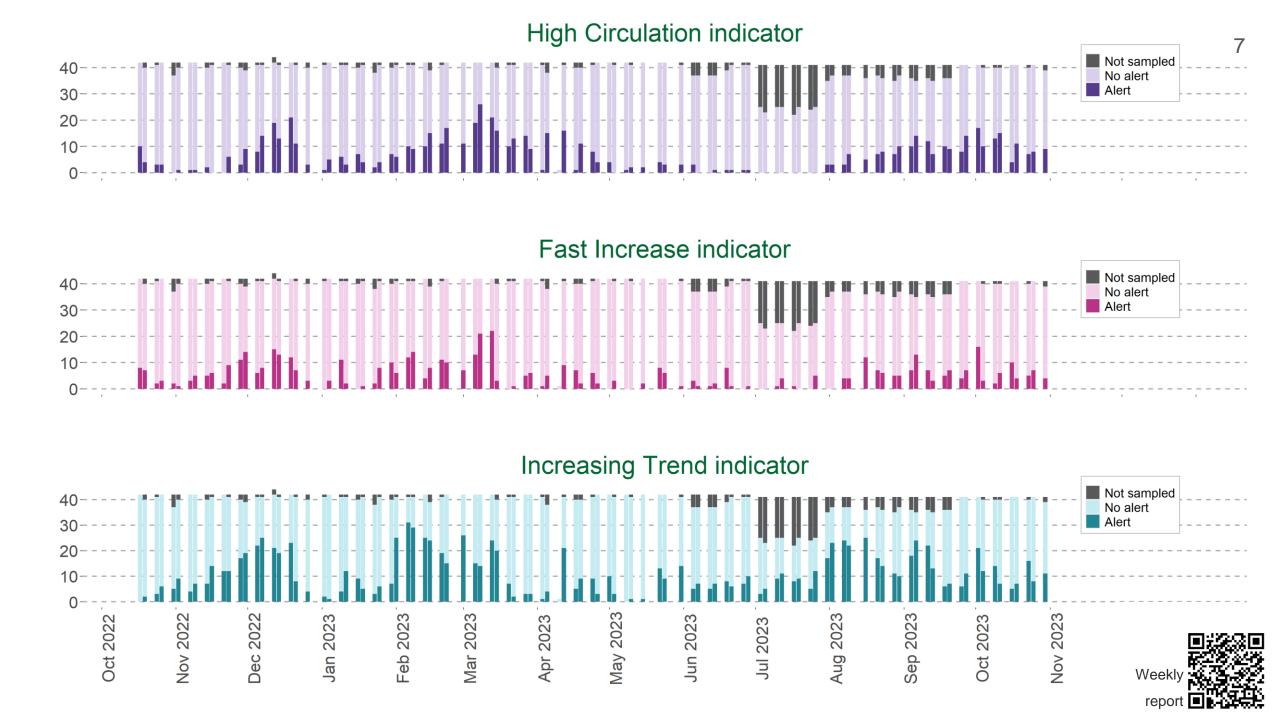


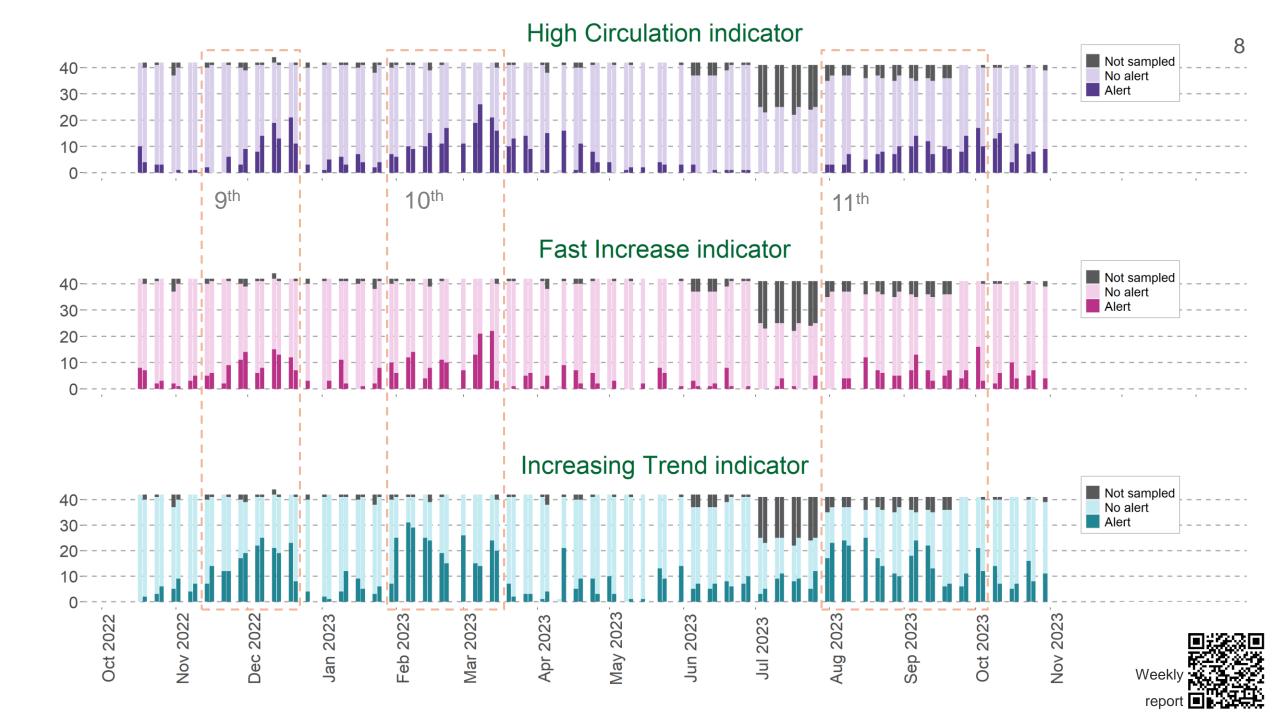
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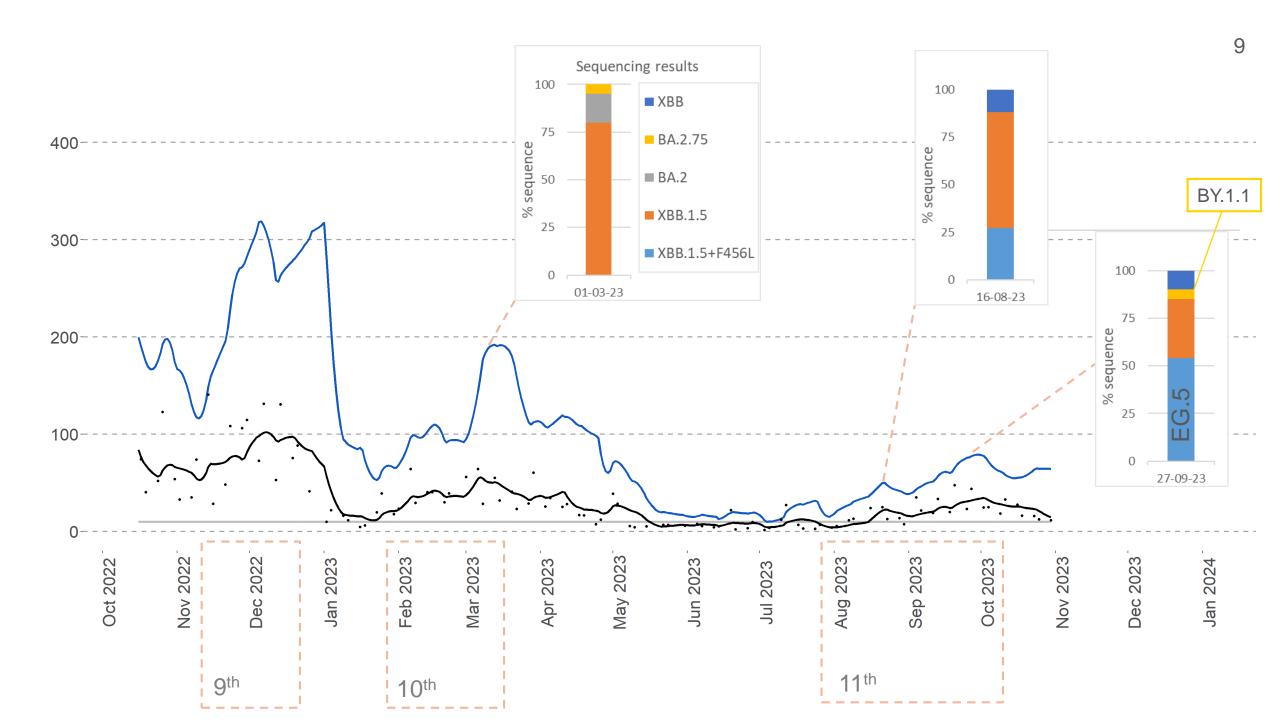


## **Indicators**









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## Actions in Belgium

#### Wastewater-based surveillance

- SARS-CoV-2 since Sept. 2020
- 40% of population
- dPCR quantification
- Indicators developed
- Infrastructure in place with bio-banking
- Genomic surveillance in place (community)
- Communication strategy

#### Perspectives for 2024

- Extend to FLU, RSV
- Start ww-based polio surveillance













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