**Who is engaging with COVID-19 testing?**

8 July 2021

**Executive summary**

*Background:* As the UK moves to continuous management of COVID-19 in everyday life, a variety of strategies are being used to prevent the spread of infection. From 9 April 2021, everyone in the UK was able to access free, regular, rapid lateral flow COVID-19 testing.(1) The English and Scottish Governments are recommending twice weekly testing for all adults.

*Aim:* To investigate uptake of testing, where people received their latest COVID-19 test from, and factors associated with uptake of testing. To investigate uptake of PCT vs lateral flow testing (LFT) when symptomatic.

*Sample:* Four waves (19 April to 2 June 2021) of online national surveys, part of the CORSAIR study (methodological details are in Smith *et al* (2)). We limited the sample to people living in England or Scotland as Wales and Northern Ireland are following a different testing schedule. We excluded those under 18 years of age as they would be under school testing regimes (total sample = 7283).

*Results:*

* Uptake of testing is low, with approximately 24% of respondents reporting having had a test in the last week. When you exclude people who report that their last test was a PCR test, this drops to 17%.
* The most common places people got hold of their latest COVID-19 test were from their place of work, a school or further education college, or by ordering it online.
* After receiving a positive test, 31% of people reported leaving home “as usual” [should be treated with caution due to small sample sizes].
* There was some confusion about whether there was a need to complete a lateral flow test or PCR test after developing COVID-19 symptoms, with 10% of respondents stating that a lateral flow test is sufficient and 13% not stating that testing is needed.
* Of people who took a test after developing COVID-19 symptoms, 52% reported taking a PCR test (15% of all people who reported developing symptoms), while 45% reported taking a lateral flow test (13% of all people who reported developing symptoms; 3% were unsure what type of test they took). [Numbers should be taken with caution due to small sample sizes.]
* People were more likely to have had a test in the last week if they:
  + Were employed, reported having been out to work in the last week, and if they worked in a sector that recommended testing before the national guidance was implemented.
  + Were required to take a test through their work or school/college.
  + Had heard more about regular lateral flow testing, knew that they were eligible for regular lateral flow testing, and thought lateral flow tests were accurate and an effective way of preventing the spread of COVID-19.
  + Had been vaccinated.
* People were less likely to have had a test in the last week if they:
  + Did not know that they were eligible for regular lateral flow testing.
  + Thought that you only need to take a lateral flow test if you have come into contact with somebody who has COVID-19.
  + Agreed that people who had been vaccinated did not need to be tested for coronavirus regularly.

**Main report**

Since the introduction of guidance recommending twice weekly testing for all adults, 24.1% of people reported that they had had a COVID-19 test in the last week (Table 1). Of these, 64.3% had completed two or more tests in the last week (15.4% total sample).

Table 1. Uptake of testing

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| When was the last time you had a test for coronavirus? We're interested in your most recent test, even if you didn't have symptoms [Total N=7283] | | *Asked to people who reported having a covid test in the last seven days.*  And how many times have you taken a test for coronavirus in the last seven days? [Total N=1755] | |
|  | % (n) |  | % (n) |
| Within the last 24 hours | 5.6 (410) | Once | 35.7 (627) |
| 1-3 days ago | 10.1 (735) | Twice | 37.8 (663) |
| 4-7 days ago | 8.4 (610) | Three times | 11.7 (206) |
| One to two weeks ago | 6.4 (469) | Four to five times | 5.7 (100) |
| Two to four weeks ago | 6.3 (460) | Six to seven times | 3.9 (69) |
| One month to three months ago | 9.2 (667) | Eight to nine times | 2.0 (35) |
| Three months to six months ago | 7.1 (520) | Ten times or more | 1.7 (30) |
| More than six months ago | 5.7 (417) |  |  |
| I've never had a coronavirus test | 39.3 (2862) |  |  |
| Don't know | 1.8 (133) | Don’t know | 1.4 (25) |

Most people received their latest COVID-19 test by ordering it online, from their place of work, or received it from a school or further education college (Table 2). Responses of “other” included being involved in other studies, such as from the ONS.

Table 2. Where people received their latest COVID-19 test from

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Asked to people who reported having a COVID-19 test in the last seven days.*  How did you receive your most recent coronavirus test? [Total N=1755] | % (n) |
| I ordered it online from NHS.UK/Get-Tested or the NHS Test and Trace website and it was delivered to my home | 24.4 (428) |
| From my place of work | 23.7 (416) |
| From the school or further education college where I or a member of my family study | 8.8 (154) |
| 18 to 24 years | 27.2 (66) |
| 25 to 34 years | 8.1 (31) |
| 35 to 44 years | 9.7 (34) |
| 45 to 54 years | 4.3 (14) |
| 55+ years | 2.0 (9) |
| I collected a pack from a local test site | 7.5 (131) |
| I collected a pack from a pharmacy | 7.5 (131) |
| I took an assisted test at a local test site | 5.2 (92) |
| From a hospital/clinical setting | 4.5 (79) |
| It was delivered to my home from another provider | 4.1 (72) |
| Someone came to my house to administer a test | 3.1 (55) |
| From a care home that I went to as a visitor | 2.7 (48) |
| From the university where I or a member of my family study | 2.5 (44) |
| When travelling internationally, from an airline, Eurostar or ferry company | 1.8 (32) |
| Other | 2.5 (43) |
| Don't know | 1.7 (30) |

Of people who reported that their latest test was positive, 31% (95% CI 21% to 42%) reported that they had been leaving home as much as they normally would (Table 3).

Table 3. Out-of-home behaviour after most recent positive test result

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Asked to people whose most recent COVID-19 test (completed in last seven days) was positive.*  You mentioned your most recent test was within the last week and was positive. Which of the following options best describes what you have done since receiving your test result? [Total N=85] | % (n) |
| I have not left my home at all | 35.3 (30) |
| I have been out once or twice but have otherwise not left my home | 15.3 (13) |
| I have been out quite a few times but have tried to stay at home more than usual | 17.6 (15) |
| I have been leaving my home as much as I usually would | 30.6 (26) |
| Don't know | 1.2 (1) |

In the latest wave of data (1-2 June 2021), participants were asked what they thought Government advice was for people who had symptoms of COVID-19. Response options included taking “a rapid ‘lateral flow’ coronavirus test (results typically within 30 minutes)” and taking “a lab-processed ‘PCR’ coronavirus test (results typically within a day or two)”. 13% (95% CI 11% to 14%) of people thought you did not need any test if you had symptoms of COVID-19, and 10% (95% CI 9% to 12%) thought you only needed a lateral flow test (Table 4).

Table 4. Understanding of Government guidance if you have symptoms of COVID-19.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| The Government has issued advice on how people should help prevent the spread of coronavirus if they have symptoms. If you have symptoms of coronavirus, you:  [Total N=1841] | % (n) |
| Should take a rapid ‘lateral flow’ coronavirus test (results within 30 minutes) | 10.3 (189) |
| Should take a lab-processed ‘PCR’ coronavirus test (results typically within a day or two) | 17.8 (328) |
| Selected both options | 59.2 (1090) |
| Selected neither option | 12.7 (234) |

Of people who reported that they had developed symptoms of COVID-19 in the last ten days, 29% (n=29/101, 95% CI 20% to 39%) reported taking a test to confirm whether they had COVID-19. Of people who took a test, 52% (n=15/29, 95% CI 33% to 71%) reported taking a PCR test (15% of all people who reported developing COVID-19 symptoms), while 45% (n=13/29, 95% CI 26% to 64%) reported taking a lateral flow test (13% of all people who reported developing COVID-19 symptoms; 1 person did not know what type of test they took). This question was only asked in the latest wave of data collection (1-2 June 2021).

For the following analyses, we excluded people who reported that they did not know when their last COVID-19 test was (all waves used). Having excluded this group, 24.5% (95% CI 23.5% to 25.5%, n=1755/7150) reported having had at least one COVID-19 test in the last week. We then ran logistic regression analyses to investigate factors associated with having completed at least one COVID-19 test in the last week. Due to the large number of analyses (n=16) conducted on a single outcome, we used a Bonferroni correction and only report narratively results where *p*<.003.

Uptake of testing was associated with: younger age, having a dependent child in your household, having a chronic illness, being employed, lower socio-economic grade, thinking that you have had COVID-19 before, being vaccinated, having experienced COVID-19 symptoms in the last seven to ten days, being a student, having been out to work in the last week, working in a sector that previously adopted lateral flow testing (health or social care, education and childcare, travel), having heard more about regular lateral flow testing, knowing that you are eligible for regular lateral flow testing, being confident that lateral flow tests are accurate, agreeing that regularly testing people without symptoms is an effective way to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and perceiving a greater risk of COVID-19 to people in the UK (Table 5). Age had a non-linear relationship with testing, with testing being higher in people under 35 years of age and then decreasing with increasing age.

Not having had a test was associated with not knowing that you were eligible for regular lateral flow testing, agreeing that you only need to take a lateral flow test unless you have come into contact with somebody who has COVID-19, and that people who have been vaccinated do not need to be tested for coronavirus regularly (in people who reported at least one dose of the vaccine; Table 5). There was significant variation by region: no individual region reached our significance level, but testing rates were notably lower in Scotland.

Table 5. Factors associated with having completed at least one COVID-19 test in the last week.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Factor | Level | Had not completed a COVID-19 test in the last week, n (%) [total n=5395] | Had completed a COVID-19 test in the last week, n (%) [total n=1755] | Adjusted odds ratio (95% CI)† | p-value |
| Survey wave | Wave 48 | 1381 (77.8) | 393 (22.2) | Reference | - |
| Wave 49 | 1334 (74.4) | 458 (25.6) | 1.12 (0.95 to 1.33) | .18 |
| Wave 50 | 1326 (74.4) | 457 (25.6) | 1.10 (0.93 to 1.31) | .26 |
| Wave 51 | 1354 (75.2) | 447 (24.8) | 0.99 (0.83 to 1.18) | .90 |
| Overall |  |  | χ2(3)=3.6 | .31 |
| Region | East Midlands | 443 (76.2) | 138 (23.8) | Reference | - |
| East of England | 564 (73.3) | 205 (26.7) | 1.19 (0.91 to 1.56) | .20 |
| London | 640 (69.4) | 282 (30.6) | 1.22 (0.93 to 1.58) | .15 |
| North East | 251 (74.7) | 85 (25.3) | 1.23 (0.88 to 1.71) | .23 |
| North West | 670 (78.4) | 185 (21.6) | 0.97 (0.74 to 1.27) | .80 |
| Scotland | 608 (83.9) | 117 (16.1) | 0.66 (0.49 to 0.88) | .006 |
| South East | 726 (74.9) | 243 (25.1) | 1.12 (0.87 to 1.46) | .38 |
| South West | 505 (77.8) | 144 (22.2) | 1.02 (0.77 to 1.36) | .89 |
| West Midlands | 489 (71.2) | 198 (28.8) | 1.32 (1.01 to 1.74) | .05 |
| Yorkshire and the Humber | 499 (76.0) | 158 (24.0) | 1.13 (0.86 to 1.50) | .38 |
| Overall |  |  | **χ2(9)=32.5** | **<.001** |
| Gender | Male | 2511 (76.5) | 772 (23.5) | Reference | - |
| Female | 2870 (74.6) | 975 (25.4) | 1.10 (0.98 to 1.24) | .12 |
| Age | Raw age | N=5395, M=50.6, SD=16.5 | N=1755, M=43.0, SD=16.1 | **0.76 (0.72 to 0.80)** | **<.001** |
| Age – quadratic (age-mean)2 | **-** | **-** | **-** | **1.0005 (1.0002 to 1.0007)** | **<.001** |
| Dependent child in household | None | 3831 (79.6) | 984 (20.4) | Reference | - |
| Child present | 1564 (67.0) | 771 (33.0) | **1.35 (1.18 to 1.54)** | **<.001** |
| Has a chronic illness (oneself) | None | 3798 (75.6) | 1223 (24.4) | Reference | - |
| Present | 1479 (74.6) | 503 (25.4) | **1.34 (1.17 to 1.54)** | **<.001** |
| Household member has chronic illness | None | 4487 (75.7) | 1444 (24.3) | Reference | - |
| Present | 790 (73.7) | 282 (26.3) | 1.12 (0.96 to 1.32) | .16 |
| Employment status | Not working | 2544 (83.6) | 498 (16.4) | Reference | - |
| Working | 2787 (69.2) | 1239 (30.8) | **1.94 (1.67 to 2.25)** | **<.001** |
| Socio-economic grade | ABC1 | 3845 (77.6) | 1107 (22.4) | Reference | - |
| C2DE | 1442 (70.0) | 619 (30.0) | **1.26 (1.11 to 1.44)** | **.001** |
| Index of multiple deprivation | 1st quartile (least deprived) to 4th quartile (most deprived) | N=5395, M=2.6, SD=1.1 | N=1755, M=2.6, SD=1.1 | 0.93 (0.88 to 0.99) | .02 |
| Highest educational or professional qualification | GCSE/vocational/A-level/No formal qualifications | 3628 (76.3) | 1124 (23.7) | Reference | - |
| Degree or higher (Bachelors, Masters, PhD) | 1767 (73.7) | 631 (26.3) | 0.99 (0.87 to 1.13) | .91 |
| Ethnicity | White British | 4551 (76.5) | 1400 (23.5) | Reference | - |
| White other | 325 (70.0) | 139 (30.0) | 1.14 (0.87 to 1.50) | .35 |
| Black and minority ethnicity | 485 (69.5) | 213 (30.5) | 0.97 (0.79 to 1.19) | .76 |
| Overall |  |  | χ2(2)=1.2 | .55 |
| English as first language | No | 418 (67.7) | 199 (32.3) | Reference | - |
| Yes | 4977 (76.2) | 1556 (23.8) | 0.96 (0.75 to 1.23) | .76 |
| Had COVID-19 before | Think not | 4604 (77.8) | 1312 (22.2) | Reference | - |
| Think yes | 791 (64.1) | 443 (35.9) | **1.40 (1.21 to 1.62)** | **<.001** |
| Vaccination status | Not vaccinated | 1629 (73.6) | 585 (26.4) | Reference | - |
| 1 dose | 1940 (76.9) | 584 (23.1) | **1.45 (1.23 to 1.71)** | **<.001** |
| 2 doses | 1826 (75.7) | 586 (24.3) | **2.37 (1.96 to 2.86)** | **<.001** |
| Overall |  |  | **χ2(2)=80.6** | **<.001** |
| Financial hardship | Range 3 (least) to 15 (most) | N=5316, M=7.3, SD=3.0 | N=1720, M=8.1, SD=3.2 | 1.03 (1.01 to 1.05) | 0.005 |
| COVID-19 symptoms in last week / ten days | No | 5263 (77.0) | 1576 (23.0) | Reference | - |
| Yes | 132 (42.4) | 179 (57.6) | **2.66 (2.04 to 3.47)** | **<.001** |
| Being a student | No | 5193 (75.8) | 1661 (24.2) | Reference | - |
| Yes | 138 (64.5) | 76 (35.5) | **1.81 (1.27 to 2.58)** | **.001** |
| Been out to work in last week | No | 3702 (83.2) | 750 (16.8) | Reference | - |
| Yes | 1693 (62.8) | 1005 (37.2) | **2.15 (1.86 to 2.48)** | **<.001** |
| Number of times been out to meet people from another household socially | Range 0 to 30 | N=5395, M=0.9, SD=1.5, median = 0 | N=1755, M=1.2, SD=1.6, median =1 | 1.05 (1.01 to 1.09) | .01 |
| Work in a sector that previously adopted LFT | No | 4704 (80.7) | 1127 (19.3) | Reference | - |
| Yes | 691 (52.4) | 628 (47.6) | **2.70 (2.33 to 3.14)** | **<.001** |
| Amount heard about regular LFT | 4-point scale from “nothing at all” to “a great deal” | N=5256, M=2.8, SD=0.8 | N=1724, M=3.2, SD=0.8 | **1.90 (1.75 to 2.06)** | **<.001** |
| As far as you know, are you eligible to receive rapid COVID-19 tests twice a week to check for coronavirus even if you don’t have symptoms (also known as lateral flow testing)? | No | 929 (79.2) | 244 (20.8) | Reference | - |
| Don’t know | 1719 (89.0) | 212 (11.0) | 0.55 (0.44 to 0.68) | **<.001** |
| Yes | 2747 (67.9) | 1299 (32.1) | 1.79 (1.50 to 2.12) | **<.001** |
| Overall |  |  | **χ2(2)=196.9** | **<.001** |
| I am confident that lateral flow tests are accurate | 5-point scale from “strongly disagree” to “strongly agree” | N=5136, M=3.3, SD=1.0 | N=1704, M=3.6, SD=1.0 | **1.35 (1.26 to 1.44)** | **<.001** |
| Regularly testing people without symptoms is an effective way to prevent the spread of coronavirus | 5-point scale from “strongly disagree” to “strongly agree” | N=5230, M=3.9, SD=0.9 | N=1732, M=4.1, SD=0.9 | **1.54 (1.43 to 1.66)** | **<.001** |
| I do not need to take a lateral flow test unless I have come into contact with somebody who has coronavirus | 5-point scale from “strongly disagree” to “strongly agree” | N=5066, M=2.6, SD=1.0 | N=1728, M=2.4, SD=1.2 | **0.67 (0.63 to 0.72)** | **<.001** |
| People who have been vaccinated do not need to be tested for coronavirus regularly | 5-point scale from “strongly disagree” to “strongly agree” |  |  |  |  |
| In people who have not been vaccinated | N=1481, M=2.8, SD=1.1 | N=569, M=2.9, SD=1.1 | 1.02 (0.93 to 1.13) | .64 |
| In people who have had one vaccine dose | N=1793, M=2.5, SD=1.0 | N=571, M=2.4, SD=1.3 | **0.73 (0.66 to 0.81)** | **<.001** |
| In people who have had two vaccine doses | N=1645, M=2.6, SD=1.0 | N=575, M=2.1, SD=1.2 | **0.59 (0.53 to 0.65)** | **<.001** |
| Perceived risk of COVID-19 to self | 5-point scale from “no risk at all” to “major risk” | N=5348, M=3.0, SD=1.1 | N=1739, M=3.1, SD=1.1 | 1.06 (1.01 to 1.12) | .03 |
| Excluding people who tested positive and whose test result was inconclusive | N=5348, M=3.0, SD=1.1 | N=1501, M=3.0, SD=1.1 | 1.05 (0.99 to 1.11) | .12 |
| Perceived risk of COVID-19 to people in the UK | 5-point scale from “no risk at all” to “major risk” | N=5331, M=3.5, SD=1.0 | N=1734, M=3.6, SD=1.0 | **1.11 (1.04 to 1.18)** | **.001** |

† Adjusting for wave, region, gender, age (raw and quadratic), presence of a dependent child in the household, having a chronic illness oneself, having a household member who has chronic illness, employment status, socio-economic grade, index of multiple deprivation, highest educational or professional qualification, ethnicity, first language, having had COVID-19 before, vaccination status, and financial hardship.

To investigate uptake of lateral flow testing, we excluded people who reported that their most recent test was a PCR test or they did not know what type their most recent test was. When excluding these groups, 17.2% (95% CI 16.3% to 18.2%, n=1123/6513) reported having had at least one COVID-19 test in the last week.

Additionally, associated with uptake of testing was being female (supplementary materials). There was significant variation by region, with Scotland showing lower uptake of lateral flow testing. No longer associated with uptake of testing were having a chronic illness oneself, socio-economic grade, and thinking that you have had COVID-19 before.

Datasets used:

* Department of Health and Social Care weekly tracker
  + Tracking DHSC marketing, coronavirus attitudes, beliefs, knowledge, reported behaviour, satisfaction with Government response, credibility of Government.
  + Data collected fortnightly (Monday to Wednesday).
  + N~2000 per wave. Wave 48 to 51 included in analyses (19 April to 2 June 2021).
  + Market research company commissioned: BMG Research.

*Please note that this work has been conducted rapidly and has not been peer reviewed or subject to normal quality control measures.*

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2. Smith LE, Potts HWW, Amlot R, Fear NT, Michie S, Rubin GJ. Adherence to the test, trace, and isolate system in the UK: results from 37 nationally representative surveys. BMJ. 2021;372:n608.

Supplementary materials. Factors associated with having completed at least COVID-19 test in the last week, excluding those whose most recent test was a PCR test or they did not know what type of test and excluding those who reported taking a PCR test or not knowing what type of test they took after developing symptoms.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Factor | Level | Had not completed a COVID-19 test in the last week, n (%) [total n=5390] | Had completed a COVID-19 test in the last week, n (%) [total n=1123] | Adjusted odds ratio (95% CI)† | p-value |
| Survey wave | Wave 48 | 1381 (84.6) | 252 (15.4) | Reference | - |
| Wave 49 | 1334 (81.3) | 306 (18.7) | 1.13 (0.93 to 1.38) | .22 |
| Wave 50 | 1326 (82.6) | 280 (17.4) | 1.04 (0.85 to 1.27) | .69 |
| Wave 51 | 1349 (82.6) | 285 (17.4) | 0.97 (0.79 to 1.19) | .78 |
| Overall | - | - | χ2(3)=2.8 | .42 |
| Region | East Midlands | 443 (83.6) | 87 (16.4) | Reference | - |
| East of England | 564 (80.3) | 138 (19.7) | 1.23 (0.90 to 1.68) | .19 |
| London | 638 (80.7) | 153 (19.3) | 1.13 (0.83 to 1.55) | .43 |
| North East | 251 (81.8) | 56 (18.2) | 1.22 (0.83 to 1.80) | .31 |
| North West | 669 (84.2) | 126 (15.8) | 1.02 (0.75 to 1.40) | .89 |
| Scotland | 608 (90.3) | 65 (9.7) | **0.53 (0.37 to 0.76)** | **.001** |
| South East | 726 (80.3) | 178 (19.7) | 1.24 (0.92 to 1.67) | .15 |
| South West | 504 (84.3) | 94 (15.7) | 1.04 (0.74 to 1.44) | .83 |
| West Midlands | 489 (79.5) | 126 (20.5) | 1.35 (0.98 to 1.85) | .07 |
| Yorkshire and the Humber | 498 (83.3) | 100 (16.7) | 1.08 (0.78 to 1.50) | .65 |
| Overall | - | - | **χ2(9)=35.6** | **<.001** |
| Gender | Male | 2508 (85.0) | 442 (15.0) | Reference | - |
| Female | 2868 (80.9) | 676 (19.1) | 1.32 (1.14 to 1.51) | **<.001** |
| Age | Raw age | N=5390, M=50.6, SD=16.5 | N=1123, M=44.9, SD=15.9 | 0.76 (0.72 to 0.81) | **<.001** |
| Age – quadratic (age-mean)2 | **-** | **-** | **-** | 1.0003 (1.0000 to 1.0006) | .06 |
| Dependent child in household | None | 3829 (85.3) | 660 (14.7) | Reference | - |
| Child present | 1561 (77.1) | 463 (22.9) | **1.29 (1.10 to 1.51)** | **.001** |
| Has a chronic illness (oneself) | None | 3974 (82.2) | 819 (17.8) | Reference | - |
| Present | 1478 (83.6) | 209 (16.4) | 1.18 (1.00 to 1.39) | .05 |
| Household member has chronic illness | None | 4482 (82.7) | 936 (17.3) | Reference | - |
| Present | 790 (82.0) | 173 (18.0) | 1.04 (0.86 to 1.26) | .71 |
| Employment status | Not working | 2544 (88.5) | 330 (11.5) | Reference | - |
| Working | 2783 (78.1) | 781 (21.9) | **1.94 (1.63 to 2.32)** | **<.001** |
| Socio-economic grade | ABC1 | 3844 (83.6) | 754 (16.4) | Reference | - |
| C2DE | 1438 (80.5) | 348 (19.5) | 1.10 (0.94 to 1.29) | .21 |
| Index of multiple deprivation | 1st quartile (least deprived) to 4th quartile (most deprived) | N=5390, M=2.6, SD=1.1 | N=1123, M=2.6, SD=1.1 | 0.93 (0.87 to 0.99) | .02 |
| Highest educational or professional qualification | GCSE/vocational/A-level/No formal qualifications | 3625 (82.9) | 749 (17.1) | Reference | - |
| Degree or higher (Bachelors, Masters, PhD) | 1765 (82.5) | 374 (17.5) | 0.91 (0.78 to 1.07) | .24 |
| Ethnicity | White British | 4549 (82.7) | 954 (17.3) | Reference | - |
| White other | 323 (83.9) | 62 (16.1) | 0.87 (0.61 to 1.25) | .45 |
| Black and minority ethnicity | 484 (82.2) | 105 (17.8) | 0.83 (0.64 to 1.08) | .16 |
| Overall | - | - | χ2(2)=2.1 | .34 |
| English as first language | No | 415 (83.2) | 84 (16.8) | Reference | - |
| Yes | 4975 (82.7) | 1039 (17.3) | 1.19 (0.86 to 1.65) | .29 |
| Had COVID-19 before | Think not | 4600 (83.8) | 888 (16.2) | Reference | - |
| Think yes | 790 (77.1) | 235 (22.9) | 1.23 (1.03 to 1.47) | .02 |
| Vaccination status | Not vaccinated | 1628 (82.9) | 336 (17.1) | Reference | - |
| 1 dose | 1937 (83.2) | 392 (16.8) | **1.52 (1.25 to 1.86)** | **<.001** |
| 2 doses | 1825 (82.2) | 395 (17.8) | **2.45 (1.96 to 3.07)** | **<.001** |
| Overall | - | - | **χ2(2)=61.7** | **<.001** |
| Financial hardship | Range 3 (least) to 15 (most) | N=5311, M=7.3, SD=3.0 | N=1107, M=7.5, SD=3.0 | 0.99 (0.97 to 1.01) | .38 |
| COVID-19 symptoms in last week / ten days | No | 5258 (83.2) | 1061 (16.8) | Reference | - |
| Yes | 132 (68.0) | 62 (32.0) | **1.89 (1.34 to 2.66)** | **<.001** |
| Being a student | No | 5189 (83.0) | 1061 (17.0) | Reference | - |
| Yes | 138 (73.4) | 50 (26.6) | **2.65 (1.76 to 4.00)** | **<.001** |
| Been out to work in last week | No | 3702 (88.3) | 490 (11.7) | Reference | - |
| Yes | 1688 (72.7) | 633 (27.3) | **2.30 (1.94 to 2.73)** | **<.001** |
| Number of times been out to meet people from another household socially | Range 0 to 30 | N=5390, M=0.9, SD=1.5, median=0 | N=1123, M=1.2, SD=1.6, median=1 | 1.05 (1.01 to 1.10) | .03 |
| Work in a sector that previously adopted LFT | No | 4700 (86.3) | 744 (13.7) | Reference | - |
| Yes | 690 (64.5) | 379 (35.5) | **2.54 (2.14 to 3.02)** | **<.001** |
| Amount heard about regular LFT | 4-point scale from “nothing at all” to “a great deal” | N=5253, M=2.8, SD=0.8 | N=1112, M=3.3, SD=0.7 | **2.28 (2.06 to 2.51)** | **<.001** |
| As far as you know, are you eligible to receive rapid COVID-19 tests twice a week to check for coronavirus even if you don’t have symptoms (also known as lateral flow testing)? | No | 928 (90.5) | 97 (9.5) | Reference | - |
| Don’t know | 1718 (95.0) | 91 (5.0) | **0.59 (0.43 to 0.8)** | **.001** |
| Yes | 2744 (74.6) | 935 (25.4) | **2.98 (2.35 to 3.78)** | **<.001** |
| Overall | - | - | **χ2(2)=240.5** | **<.001** |
| I am confident that lateral flow tests are accurate | 5-point scale from “strongly disagree” to “strongly agree” | N=5131, M=3.3, SD=1.0 | N=1097, M=3.6, SD=0.9 | **1.40 (1.29 to 1.51)** | **<.001** |
| Regularly testing people without symptoms is an effective way to prevent the spread of coronavirus | 5-point scale from “strongly disagree” to “strongly agree” | N=5225, M=3.9, SD=0.9 | N=1115, M=4.3, SD=0.8 | **1.96 (1.77 to 2.16)** | **<.001** |
| I do not need to take a lateral flow test unless I have come into contact with somebody who has coronavirus | 5-point scale from “strongly disagree” to “strongly agree” | N=5061, M=2.6, SD=1.0 | N=1114, M=2.0, SD=1.1 | **0.51 (0.47 to 0.55)** | **<.001** |
| People who have been vaccinated do not need to be tested for coronavirus regularly | 5-point scale from “strongly disagree” to “strongly agree” |  |  |  |  |
| In people who have not been vaccinated | N=1480, N=2.8, SD=1.1 | N=329, M=2.7, SD=1.1 | 0.90 (0.80 to 1.01) | .08 |
| In people who have had one vaccine dose | N=1790, M=2.5, SD=1.0 | N=385, M=2.0, SD=1.1 | **0.54 (0.47 to 0.61)** | **<.001** |
| In people who have had two vaccine doses | N=1644, M=2.6, SD=1.0 | N=392, M=2.0, SD=1.1 | **0.53 (0.47 to 0.60)** | **<.001** |
| Perceived risk of COVID-19 to self | 5-point scale from “no risk at all” to “major risk” | N=5343, M=3.0, SD=1.1 | N=1117, M=3.0, SD=1.1 | 1.04 (0.98 to 1.11) | .23 |
| Excluding people who tested positive and whose test result was inconclusive | N=5343, M=3.0, SD=1.1 | N=1058, M=3.0, SD=1.1 | 1.03 (0.96 to 1.10) | .42 |
| Perceived risk of COVID-19 to people in the UK | 5-point scale from “no risk at all” to “major risk” | N=5326, M=3.5, SD=1.0 | N=1114, M=3.6, SD=0.9 | **1.13 (1.05 to 1.22)** | **.001** |

† Adjusting for wave, region, gender, age (raw and quadratic), presence of a dependent child in the household, having a chronic illness oneself, having a household member who has chronic illness, employment status, socio-economic grade, index of multiple deprivation, highest educational or professional qualification, ethnicity, first language, having had COVID-19 before, vaccination status, and financial hardship.