
COVID-19 Variant Update

*House Interim Special Committee on
COVID-19 Response*

November 17, 2021

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COVID-19 Variants

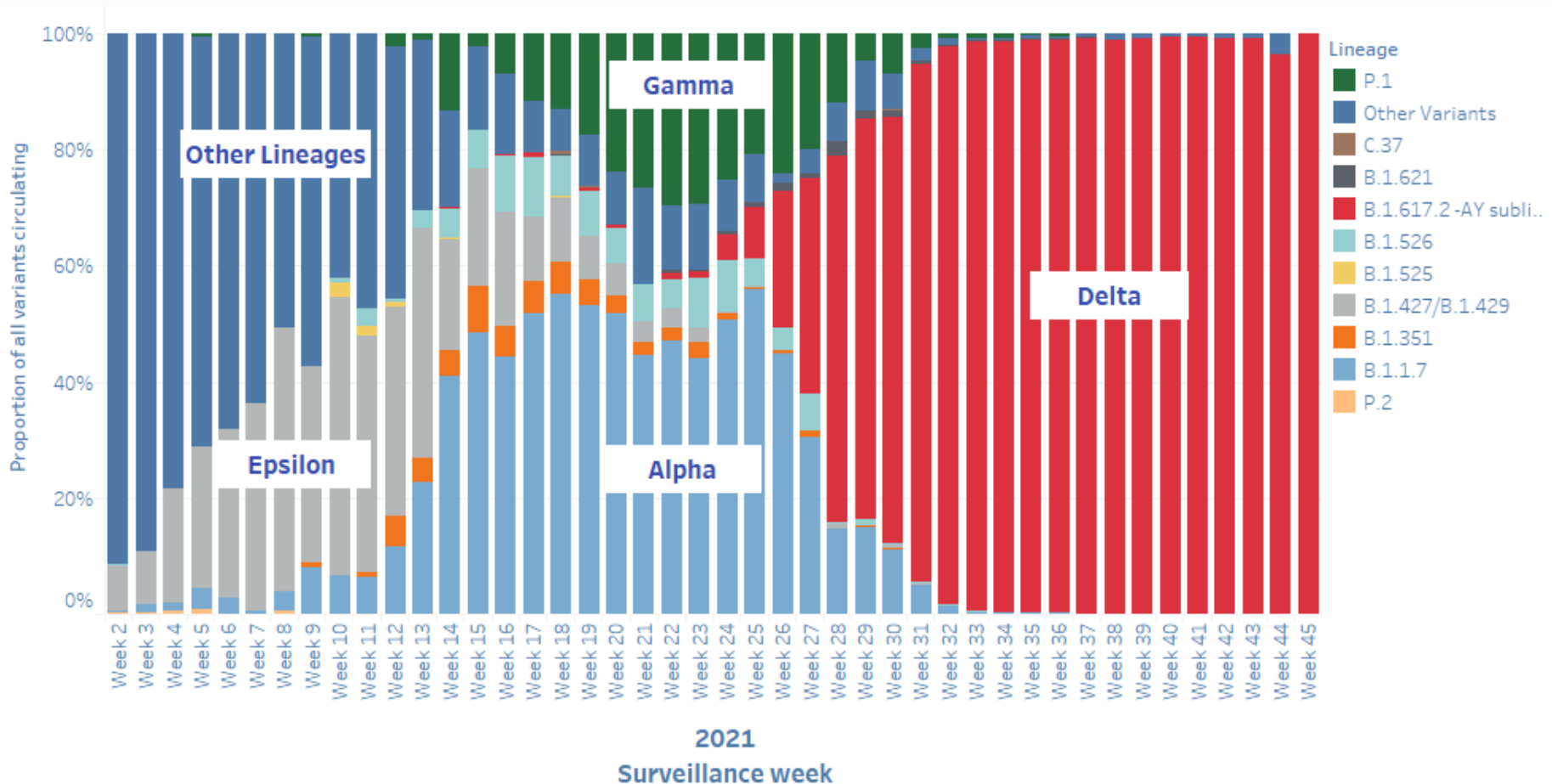
- **Variant of Concern:** a variant for which there is demonstrated evidence of characteristics of public health concern
- **Variant of Interest:** a variant for which there is suspected evidence of characteristics of public health concern

Situational overview: variants

B.1.1.7 (alpha) 3,106		P.1 (gamma) 1,184		B.1.351 (beta) 233		B.1.617.2 (delta/delta plus) 11,058/64	
B.1.427/9 (epsilon) 1,260		B.1.525 (eta) 9		B.1.526 (iota) 425		B.1.617.1 (kappa) 0	
C.37 (lambda) 5		B.1.621 (mu) 53				C.1.2 0	

- Oregon has sequenced **23,900+** specimens
- **B.1.617.2 (Delta)** dominant at $\approx 100\%$

SARS-CoV-2 variant circulation in Oregon



B.1.617.2 (Delta) variant

- Approximately 3-fold more transmissible
- Robust Pfizer vaccine effectiveness information is available from the UK, Canada and Israel
 - VE against severe disease: 93-100%
 - Israel observed drop to 85% for those vaccinated 6 months prior
 - VE against symptomatic disease diminished
 - UK and Canada: 79-87%
 - Israel: 64%
- New evidence that vaccine breakthroughs may be as infectious as unvaccinated cases (as measured by Ct values)
- New evidence regarding increased severity
 - Adult: mixed data, but signals of increased risk of hospitalization (?2-fold), ICU admission (?3-fold) and death (?)
 - Pediatric: no clear evidence of increased severity

Thank you!