

# WEEKLY REPORT – WASTEWATER-BASED EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE OF THE SARS-COV-2

## — RESULTS OF 11/01/2023

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In collaboration with:



# 1. Summary

In the present work, the circulation of the SARS-CoV-2 virus in the environment is assessed based on three indicators. The analysis of wastewater samples collected in 42 wastewater treatment plants covers 45% of the Belgian population, with increased accuracy in the urban areas. The results of the wastewater surveillance are a source of complementary information to the infection cases number. Indeed, the wastewater results do notably include all asymptomatic persons, and are independent of the testing strategy.

Here are the conclusions based on the latest results of January 11<sup>th</sup> 2023:

- Due to extensive and prolonged precipitations, the wastewater samples of last week have been too diluted to allow a proper detection of SARS-CoV-2. Therefore, this week, there is no (accurate) reporting of the indicators. (The evolution of the viral concentrations will be re-assessed next week.)
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The wastewater situation can be followed on a weekly basis on:

- The graphics available on the public [COVID-19 dashboard](#)
  - The Risk Assessment Group (RAG) updating the weekly epidemiological situation through a report validated by the Risk Management Group (RMG) and published every Friday in [French](#) and [Dutch](#).
  - Further details on the methodology applied for the wastewater surveillance can be found in [the Appendix Methodology document \(access available online\)](#). The methodology was updated on June 20th 2022.
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