

The Great Vaxed, and The Great Unvaxed

–and why do some university neighbourhoods appear to lead the way both the unvaxed and in cases?

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In terms of Covid-19 cases on 1st July 2021 the worst 4 neighbourhoods in England (out of 6,791 neighbourhoods of about 8,000 people) were Durham City, Oxford Central, Hyde Park Corner/Woodhouse Cliff in Leeds, and Selly Oak in Birmingham.

For some data, the government splits the country up into 6,791, roughly equally populated, neighbourhoods called MSOAs. About 8,000 people live in each. Selly Oak parliamentary constituency, for example, has 13 separate MSOA neighbourhoods, only one is called Selly Oak. So these are smaller than council wards (in Birmingham, at least).

As we learn that two-thirds of UK Adults have had the equivalent of two jobs, what about these places?

And as the neighbourhood of Garstang & Catterall in Wyre, Lancashire tops the national Vax charts with a whopping 86% wholly vaccinated, and a even whopper 92% having had at least one jab, how are the worst four for cases on July 1st 2021 faring?

Well, all of them are in the bottom 5% out of 6,791 neighbourhoods for vaccinations. As few as 12% of eligible adults have had complete vaccinations in Durham City. So over half of the adults in these wards are completely unvaccinated. 56% of Selly Oak neighbourhood MSOA'S adults are unvaccinated.

12th July 2021	Lowest Complete Vaccination Neighbourhoods (MSOA)	2 jobs	1 job	Weekly cases 1st July	Weekly cases 8 th July	Cases 2 weeks to 8th July
1	Cathedral & Kelham, Sheffield	10%	33%	43	46	89
2	Durham City, County Durham	12%	46%	291	157	448
3	University & Little Woodhouse, Leeds	13%	35%	63	37	100
4	Leeds City Centre, Leeds	13%	38%	66	58	124
5	Oxford Central, Oxford	14%	47%	386	143	529
6	Devonshire Quarter, Sheffield	14%	38%	69	36	105
7	Central & Islington, Liverpool	15%	37%	84	76	160
8	Arboretum, Forest & Trent University, Nottingham	15%	51%	79	63	142
9	City Centre & Arthur's Hill, Newcastle upon Tyne	16%	37%	152	140	292
10	University North & Whitworth Street, Manchester	16%	36%	58	40	98
11	Selly Oak, Birmingham	17%	44%	174	58	232
12	North Central & Dartmouth Circus, Birmingham	17%	40%	61	54	115
13	Radford, Nottingham	17%	39%	101	69	170
14	Woodhouse & Little London, Leeds	17%	38%	102	68	170
15	Leicester City South, Leicester	18%	38%	32	31	63
16	Leicester City Centre, Leicester	18%	39%	22	36	58
17	City Centre & Trent Bridge, Nottingham	18%	47%	55	39	94
18	Tidenham & Woolaston, Forest of Dean	18%	31%	17	24	41
19	Bristol City Centre, Bristol, City of	19%	52%	117	112	229
20	Central Coventry, Coventry	19%	38%	29	49	78

Now there will, I'm sure, be explanations offered. These are university neighbourhoods so most on the eligible vaccination register there will have gone home in June. They might have been counted elsewhere, so rather than double counting, there's half counting going on; and university neighbourhoods tend to have much bigger populations. Perhaps in these places much fewer

students actually turned up for the summer term, online learning took over again. Perhaps University vaccinations have not yet been assimilated into the MSOA figures.

But on the other hand, if most have gone home, why do some still rank so highly in cases in England?

There again, other similar university neighbourhoods in other parts of England fare significantly better in both vaccination progress and cases.

A week later, cases have dropped in all three, but is that because unvaxed students have gone home? Did earlier vaccinations' effects come into play?

So knowing what went on in these neighbourhoods is important – I pose the questions at the moment.

And one further aspect for note is that the neighbourhoods appearing in the current 20 worst out of 6,791 for both unvaxed (as per table above) and cases, seem to be mainly university neighbourhoods.

	Highest Case numbers by Neighbourhood (MSOA)	Weekly Cases 8th July	Weekly Cases 1st July	2 weeks to 8th July
1	Oxford Central, Oxford	143	386	529
2	Durham City, County Durham	157	291	448
3	Shieldfield & Heaton Park, Newcastle upon Tyne	158	165	323
4	City Centre & Arthur's Hill, Newcastle upon Tyne	140	152	292
5	Salford Central & University, Salford	147	123	270
6	Hyde Park Corner & Woodhouse Cliff, Leeds	80	180	260
7	Ordsall & Salford Quays, Salford	146	108	254
8	East Central Oxford, Oxford	87	152	239
9	New Islington & Miles Platting, Manchester	120	116	236
10	Selly Oak, Birmingham	58	174	232
11	Ingleby Barwick West, Stockton-on-Tees	159	71	230
12	Lenton & Dunkirk, Nottingham	58	171	229
13	Bristol City Centre, Bristol, City of	112	117	229
14	Byker, Newcastle upon Tyne	124	104	228
15	North Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne	72	154	226
16	Aykley Heads, Neville's Cross & Langley Moor, County Durham	94	130	224
17	Central & West Cambridge, Cambridge	88	134	222
18	South Jesmond & Sandyford, Newcastle upon Tyne	86	135	221
19	Heaton South, Newcastle upon Tyne	111	110	221
20	South Bank & Teesville, Redcar and Cleveland	117	103	220

It applies also for the worst 50 in cases and unvaxed.

Nevertheless, that correlation does start to look clear.

Ironically, there was a widespread acceptance that the new arrival of, and return of, students to Universities last September/October was premature and probably seeded a strong further cycle of cases going into winter. Looking at the other end of the telescope, could the reverse be happening now? A sudden return by unvaccinated students to homes across the country?

It is also obvious to the lay person and expert alike that it has been Vaccinations which have broken the power of the virus to bring case fatalities. It has obviously been an heroic and powerful national achievement.

And especially for these 20 neighbourhoods where 9 out of 10 have had one jab; and 8 out of 10 have had two:

12th July 2021	Highest Complete Vaccination Neighbourhoods (MSOA)	1 Jab %	2 Jabs %	Weekly cases 1st July	Weekly cases 8th July	Cases 2 weeks to 8th July
1	Garstang & Catterall, Lancashire	92%	86%	24	30	54
2	Sutton-on-Sea, Lincolnshire	93%	84%	10	21	31
3	East Preston & Rustington East, West Sussex	91%	84%	0	6	6
4	Settle, Hellfield & Horton, North Yorkshire	91%	84%	3	7	10
5	Rotbury & Longframlington,	91%	84%	6	11	17
6	Pilling, Great Eccleston & Inskip, Lancashire	93%	83%	32	29	61
7	Preesall, Stalmine & Hambleton, Lancashire	90%	83%	26	15	41
8	Yarmouth & Freshwater, Isle	89%	83%	51	54	105
9	Dronfield Woodhouse & Holmesfield, Derbyshire	90%	83%	5	10	15
10	Ferring & Kingston Gorse, West Chillington Common, West Sussex	92%	83%	10	17	27
11	Amble, Shilbottle & Swarland, Northumberland	92%	83%	8	11	19
12	Wingerworth & Holymoorside, Derbyshire	92%	83%	32	44	76
13	Bridport North, Dorset	93%	83%	15	10	25
14	Burton Bradstock & Addingham & Ilkley Moor,	91%	83%	0	23	23
15	Bembridge & Nettleton, Isle of Wight	92%	83%	8	15	23
16	Bridport South & West Bay,	90%	83%	16	17	33
17	Dronfield South & Gosforth Lane, Derbyshire	90%	83%	0	4	4
18		92%	83%	16	17	33
19		90%	83%	0	4	4
20		92%	83%	16	17	33
21		90%	83%	0	4	4
22		92%	83%	16	17	33
23		90%	83%	0	4	4
24		92%	83%	16	17	33
25		90%	83%	0	4	4
26		92%	83%	16	17	33
27		90%	83%	0	4	4
28		92%	83%	16	17	33
29		90%	83%	0	4	4
30		92%	83%	16	17	33
31		90%	83%	0	4	4
32		92%	83%	16	17	33
33		90%	83%	0	4	4
34		92%	83%	16	17	33
35		90%	83%	0	4	4
36		92%	83%	16	17	33
37		90%	83%	0	4	4
38		92%	83%	16	17	33
39		90%	83%	0	4	4
40		92%	83%	16	17	33
41		90%	83%	0	4	4
42		92%	83%	16	17	33
43		90%	83%	0	4	4
44		92%	83%	16	17	33
45		90%	83%	0	4	4
46		92%	83%	16	17	33
47		90%	83%	0	4	4
48		92%	83%	16	17	33
49		90%	83%	0	4	4
50		92%	83%	16	17	33

But whilst half of the neighbourhoods in England have indeed seen approaching two thirds effectively double jabbed, half haven't. Relative Vax deserts such as Durham City or Selly Oak still exist and, generally speaking, the virus seems present in those places in a way it isn't in places where the serious double jabbing has been done.

In 1 in 10 of England's neighbourhoods almost 60% of the adults there have not yet had the equivalent of two doses.

In 1 in 12 of England's neighbourhoods 50% have not even had one dose. The absolute priority for the nation needs to be to get to those 600 or so neighbourhoods and get them vaxed good and proper.

All of these neighbourhoods are also in the top 50 neighbourhoods nationally in terms of cases.

So really the only game in town when it comes to defeating the virus is vaccinations. Everything else at the moment is only so much noise. That's where everyone should be putting the effort. Delta this and Delta that, Exit waves, even daily/weekly case numbers are side issues and bit parts. The stats do suggest if we get the whole country upto Lancashire's Garstang and Catterall's impressive numbers, the virus will be history and very soon.

Face masks, compulsory or not, won't defeat this virus – vaccinations will.