

1 Supplemental Information for

2 **SARS-CoV-2 RNA is enriched by orders of magnitude in primary settled solids relative to**  
3 **liquid wastewater at publicly owned treatment works**

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30

31 **Laboratory participation**

32 Solid samples were processed by the labs at Stanford University (SB, JI, OC), University of  
33 Michigan (AA), and Verily (OS). Influent samples were processed by the lab at Southern  
34 California Coastal Water Research Project (SB, OC), University of Michigan (AA), UC Berkeley  
35 (OS), and University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (JI).

36

37 **Laboratory specific procedures - additional details**

38

39 *Solids*

40 Frozen samples were thawed at 4°C for 12-36 hours and processed according to Wolfe et al.,<sup>1</sup>  
41 with modifications for samples from all POTW except OS which were processed exactly  
42 according to the publication.

43

44 40 mL of primary solids were centrifuged at 24,000xg for 30 minutes at 4°C and the supernatant  
45 was decanted. Approximately 0.5 g of the dewatered solids was dried at 110°C for up to 24  
46 hours to determine its dry weight. For SB and OC, the dewatered solids were resuspended in  
47 DNA/RNA shield (Zymo Research, CA) in 15 mL falcon tubes to achieve 75 mg of solids (wet  
48 weight) per mL of the DNA/RNA shield, then stored in 4°C for up to 48 hours until extraction.  
49 5.25 µL of bovine coronavirus (BCoV) (Calf-guard Cattle Vaccine, PBS Animal Health, OH) was  
50 spiked into all samples a few hours before homogenization. For JI, the dewatered solids were  
51 stored at 4°C for up to 48 hours, and a mixture of DNA/RNA shield and BCoV (1.5 µL of  
52 BCoV/mL shield) was used to resuspend the solids to 75 mg of solids (wet weight) per mL of the  
53 BCoV-spiked solution a few hours before extraction. For AA dewatered solids were suspended  
54 in BCoV-spiked solution at a concentration of 37.5 mg/mL. These concentrations of solids in  
55 solution optimized sensitivity while reducing RT-PCR inhibition.<sup>1</sup>

56

57 For AA, 0.5 g of 0.5 mm silica/zirconia beads (Biospec Products, OK) were added to each  
58 sample and homogenized by shaking with a Biospec Mini-Beadbeater-96 (Biospec Products,  
59 OK). For all other POTW, 5/32" Stainless Steel Grinding Balls (OPS Diagnostics, NJ) were  
60 added to each sample and homogenized by shaking with a Geno/Grinder 2010 (Spex  
61 SamplePrep, NJ). After the homogenization step, samples were briefly centrifuged and 300 µL  
62 of the supernatant was used for each replicate; for OS 300 µL of homogenized sludge was  
63 used. For SB, OC, and JI, RNA was extracted from duplicate aliquots per sample; for AA, RNA  
64 was extracted from triplicate aliquots per sample; for OS, RNA was extracted from ten replicate  
65 aliquots as described by Wolfe et al.<sup>1</sup> Extractions were done using the Chemagic 360 and the  
66 Chemagic™ Viral DNA/RNA 300 Kit H96 (Perkin Elmer, MA). Inhibitors were removed with  
67 Zymo OneStep-96 PCR Inhibitor Removal Kits (Zymo Research, CA) before storing the RNA in  
68 -80°C for up to 78 days. Extraction negative controls (water) were extracted using the same  
69 protocol. Extraction positive controls, BCoV spiked in DNA/RNA shield, were extracted by  
70 adding 4 µL of Poly-A as carrier RNA.

71

72 Nucleic acids (NA) were quantified through one-step digital droplet (dd)RT-PCR for SARS-CoV-  
73 2 targets, BCoV, and Pepper Mild Mottle Virus (PMMoV). BioRad SARS-CoV-2 droplet digital

74 PCR kits were used with a BioRad QX200 AutoDG droplet digital PCR system (BioRad, CA).  
75 Full methods for OS solids are in Wolfe et al.<sup>1</sup>

76  
77 For SB, OC, and JI, N1 and N2 were quantified using a duplex assay with undiluted NA  
78 template; each of the two replicate extractions were run in triplicate wells for a total of six wells  
79 per sample. Nine no-template controls (NTCs) were included on each plate. N1 and N2 positive  
80 controls were run in two wells per plate and consisted of NA from a nasopharynx swab of a  
81 high-titer patient from Stanford Hospital. For samples from the same POTWs, PMMoV and  
82 BCoV were quantified using a duplex assay with 1:100 diluted template; each of the two  
83 replicate extractions was run in one well for a total of two wells per sample. Four NTCs were  
84 included on each plate. Positive controls for BCoV (direct extraction of BCoV vaccine diluted to  
85  $\sim 10^6$  cp/mL) and PMMoV (synthetic DNA ultramer from IDT) were included in two wells each.  
86 Replicate wells were merged and processed in QuantaSoft and QuantaSoft Analysis Pro  
87 (BioRad, CA) to manually threshold and export data as described in Graham et al.<sup>2</sup>

88  
89 For AA, N1 and N2 were quantified using a duplex assay with undiluted NA template; each of  
90 the three replicate extractions were run in one well for a total of three wells per sample. At least  
91 three wells of NTC were included on each plate, and N1 and N2 positive controls were run in  
92 three wells per plate (IDT plasmids). PMMoV and BCoV were quantified using a duplex assay  
93 with 1:100 diluted NA template; each of the three replicate extractions was run in one well for a  
94 total of three wells per sample. At least three wells of NTC were included on each plate; three  
95 wells of positive control (PMMoV synthetic DNA ultramer from IDT and BCoV spiked in water)  
96 were included on each plate, QuantaSoft and QuantaSoft Analysis Pro (BioRad, CA) were used  
97 to manually threshold and export data.

98  
99 The required number of droplets was 10,000 for individual wells; any samples with fewer  
100 droplets were rerun or not included in the final analysis. Merged wells with three or more  
101 positive droplets were deemed positive. For a plate to be included in further analysis, merged  
102 NTCs were required to have no more than two positive droplets. Any samples that did not return  
103 a value for PMMoV or BCoV were not included in the final analysis, assuming failed extraction.  
104 Six samples for JI were excluded based on these criteria.

105  
106 *SB, OC influent*

107 Following the methods described in Steel et al.,<sup>3</sup> 500 mL of raw influent was acidified by adding  
108 20% HCl to achieve pH of 3.5 or less. MgCl<sub>2</sub> was added to each sample bottle to a final  
109 concentration of 25 mM. Each sample was spiked with 150  $\mu$ L of BCoV, including the filter blank  
110 (sterilized Phosphate Buffered Solution, Fisher BioReagents, MA). 20 mL of the samples were  
111 filtered through 0.45  $\mu$ m pore size mixed cellulose ester HA filters (Millipore Sigma, MA) and  
112 stored at -80°C for up to 2 months until NA extraction. For NA extraction, HA filters were added  
113 to Zymo BeadBashing beads to beat for a total of 2 minutes after spiking with armored Hep G  
114 (Asuragen, TX) as extraction control. After centrifuging, the supernatant was processed using  
115 BioMerieux Nucleic Extraction Kit (BioMerieux, NC) by following the protocols provided by the  
116 manufacturers. Extracted nucleic acid was stored at -80°C for up to 24 hours before analysis.  
117 Nucleic acids were quantified through one-step ddRT-PCR for SARS-CoV-2 (N1 and N2),

118 BCoV, and PMMoV. BioRad one-step RT-ddPCR Advanced Kit for Probes were used with a  
119 BioRad manual droplet generator and QX200 droplet digital PCR system (BioRad, CA). At least  
120 two technical replicates were quantified either undiluted or at a 1:2 dilution for SARS-CoV-2  
121 targets and BCoV; PMMoV was quantified at a 1:10 dilution. However, if the concentration of  
122 the target gene was suspected to be low, four technical replicates were run. The positive  
123 controls were used one each plate for N1, N2 (IDT plasmids), BCoV and Hep G (1:1 mix of  
124 armored Hep G and 1:10 dilution of BCoV vaccine in water, heated to 75°C for 3 minutes), and  
125 PMMoV (a previously extracted sewage sample). At least four no template controls (NTCs)  
126 were included on every plate. Technical replicates were merged and processed in QuantaSoft  
127 and QuantaSoft Analysis Pro using manual thresholding (BioRad, CA).

128  
129 For a plate to be included in further analysis, merged NTCs were required to have no more than  
130 two positive droplets. The required number of droplets for merged wells was 10,000. Three or  
131 more positive droplets in a merged well after subtracting the number of positive droplets found  
132 in NTC were deemed positive. Each measurement had to have more than five negative droplets  
133 or was otherwise considered overloaded and was excluded from analysis or rerun. BCoV was  
134 used to calculate recovery throughout the entire process and Hep G was used as extraction and  
135 inhibition control. BCoV was used after 3 Jun 2020, so measurements before then do not have  
136 a BCoV recovery associated with the sample. Any samples with less than three droplets for Hep  
137 G, BCoV, or PMMoV were not included in the final analysis. BCoV recovery had to be above 3%  
138 or the sample was excluded or rerun.

139  
140 *Jl influent*  
141 Feng et al.<sup>4</sup> provides the full methods used. The methods are similar to those used for OC and  
142 SB and are filtration based.

143  
144 *AA influent*  
145 PEG concentration method was used to extract nucleic acids, which were quantified using one-  
146 step ddRT-PCR for SARS-CoV-2 (N1 and N2), BCoV, and PMMoV.<sup>5</sup> BioRad SARS-CoV-2  
147 droplet digital PCR kits were used with a BioRad QX200 AutoDG droplet digital PCR system  
148 (BioRad, CA). At least two technical replicates were quantified either undiluted for SARS-CoV-2  
149 targets and BCoV; PMMoV was quantified at a 1:100 dilution. The positive controls were used  
150 three each plate for N1, N2, (gRNA from ATCC, ATCC VR-3276SD) and BCoV (BCoV spiked in  
151 water). At least three wells of NTC were included on each plate. The concentration per reaction  
152 was converted to copies per volume of wastewater using dimensional analysis.

153  
154 *OS influent*  
155 The sample collection, processing and reverse transcription quantitative polymerase chain  
156 reaction (RT-qPCR) protocols were in development throughout the time period of sampling, as  
157 described by Kantor et al.<sup>6</sup> The major changes relevant to the collection of data are outlined  
158 throughout this section.

159  
160 For each sample, 40 mL of raw wastewater was collected in a sterile centrifuge tube containing  
161 sodium chloride and buffer and shipped on ice to the lab at UC Berkeley. Samples were

162 extracted and quantified within about three days of collection, as was previously determined to  
163 be adequate storage conditions and time for the extraction method.<sup>7</sup>

164  
165 SARS-CoV-2 RNA was extracted directly from wastewater following the Sewage, Salt, Silica,  
166 and SARS-CoV-2 (4S) method,<sup>7</sup> with minor changes throughout the sampling period reflected in  
167 versions 2-4 of the protocol.<sup>8</sup> Extraction was completed without replication until 8 Dec 2020,  
168 after which extraction duplicates were processed for all samples. Bovilis<sup>®</sup> coronavirus (Merck  
169 Animal Health, NJ) was spiked into each sample and quantified as an extraction positive control  
170 in a subset of samples until 15 Mar 2021 when this procedure was extended to all samples.

171  
172 Sample extracts underwent RT-qPCR targeting N1, PMMoV, BCoV, and VetMAX<sup>™</sup> Xeno<sup>™</sup>  
173 Internal Positive Control (Xeno). After March 15, 2021, a duplexed assay for PMMoV with BCoV  
174 replaced the individual assays. No-template controls, extraction negative controls, and  
175 standards on each plate were quantified in triplicate. Automatic thresholding on a Quant Studio  
176 3 Real-Time qPCR system (ThermoFisher Scientific, MA) was used to determine Cq values  
177 (Design and analysis software v1.5.1) with thermocycling conditions in Table S9.

178  
179 For the N1 assay, the limit of detection was assessed using the DNA standards to be 4 gene  
180 copies per reaction (gc/rxn). For BCoV and PMMoV, it was set at the bottom of the standard  
181 curve, which no samples fell below. Negative controls were all below the detection limit or had a  
182 higher Cq value than the lowest standard run. Individual standard curves were combined into  
183 master standard curves for each assay (Table S10) as described by Kantor et al.<sup>6</sup> RNA  
184 standards were used for N1 (Twist Bioscience, CA), PMMoV (IDT ultramer), and BCoV (IDT  
185 ultramer) assays until 11/4/20, after which DNA standards were used for N1 (2019-nCoV RUO  
186 kit), PMMoV (IDT gblock), and BCoV (IDT gblock). A detailed description of this process has  
187 been described previously by Kantor et al.<sup>6</sup> Outliers were assessed using a two-sided Grubbs  
188 test (alpha=0.05) on Cq triplicates.

189  
190 RT-PCR inhibition was assessed by an internal positive control (Xeno) until further study found  
191 this method inadequate compared to serial dilution.<sup>9</sup> For samples collected after 11/13/20, serial  
192 dilution was completed to assess for inhibition by comparing 1x and 5x diluted samples.<sup>2,9</sup> The  
193 higher (adjusted) value between these dilutions was used in this study.

194

## 195 **Dimensional Analysis**

196

### 197 *Solids*

198 In order to convert from X copies/uL from ddPCR to Y copies/g dry weight, the following  
199 equation was used for all samples.

$$\begin{aligned} 200 \quad X \frac{\text{copies}}{\mu\text{L rxn}} &\times \frac{\text{Volume of rxn } (\mu\text{L})}{\text{Volume of template in rxn } (\mu\text{L})} \times \text{dilution factor} \\ 201 \quad &\times \frac{\text{Volume of eluent from extract } (\mu\text{L})}{\text{Wet mass of solids in extract } (g)} \times \% \text{ solids of sample} \\ 202 \quad &= Y \frac{\text{copies}}{g \text{ dry weight}} \end{aligned}$$

203

204 *Influent*

205 For SB, OC, and JI, the following equation was used to convert copies/uL from ddPCR to  
206 copies/L wastewater.

$$\begin{aligned}
207 \quad & X \frac{\text{copies}}{\mu\text{L rxn}} \times \frac{\text{Volume of rxn } (\mu\text{L})}{\text{Volume of template in rxn } (\mu\text{L})} \times \text{dilution factor} \\
208 \quad & \quad \times \frac{\text{Volume of eluent from extract } (\mu\text{L})}{\text{Volume of lysate for extraction } (\text{mL})} \\
209 \quad & \times \frac{\text{Volume of lysis buffer added } (\text{mL})}{\text{Volume filtered } (\text{mL})} = Y \frac{\text{copies}}{\text{mL wastewater}}
\end{aligned}$$

210

211 For OS, the following equation was used for all samples with a dilution factor of 1 or 5.

$$\begin{aligned}
212 \quad & X \frac{\text{copies}}{\text{rxn}} \times \frac{\text{rxn}}{\text{Volume of template } (\mu\text{L})} \times \frac{\text{Volume of eluent from extract } (\mu\text{L})}{\text{Weight of sample } (\text{mg})} \times \frac{1 \text{ mg}}{1 \mu\text{L}} \\
213 \quad & \quad \times \frac{1000 \mu\text{L}}{1 \text{ mL}} \times \text{dilution factor} \\
214 \quad & \quad \quad \quad = Y \frac{\text{copies}}{\text{mL wastewater}}
\end{aligned}$$

215

216 For AA,

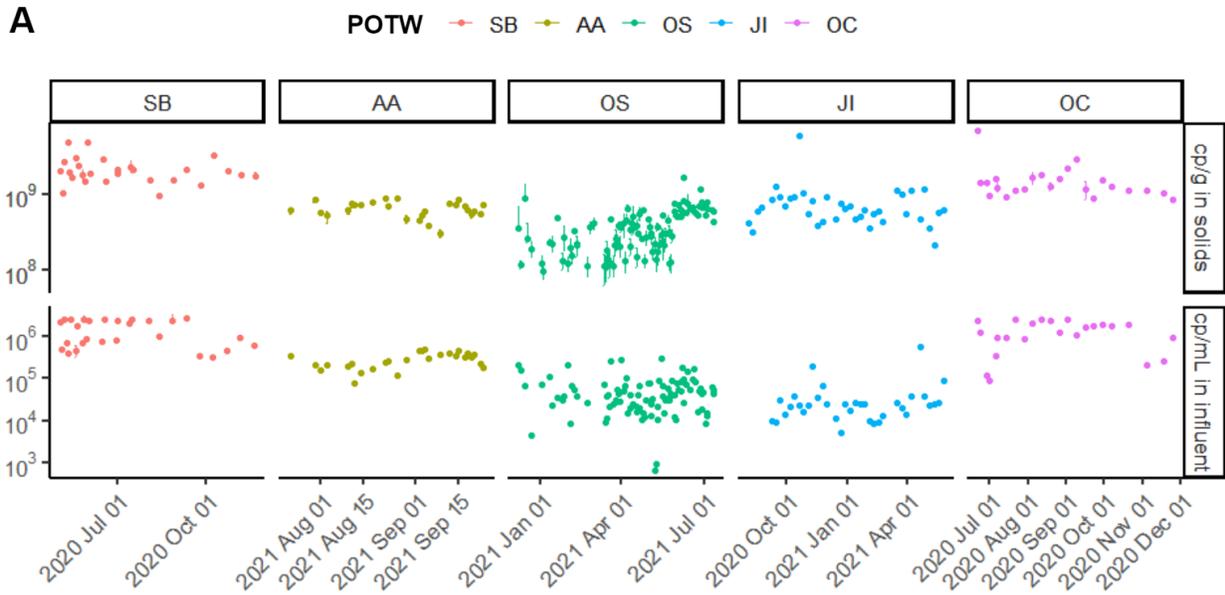
$$\begin{aligned}
217 \quad & X \frac{\text{copies}}{\text{rxn}} \times \frac{\text{rxn}}{\text{Volume of template } (\mu\text{L})} \times \mu\text{L eluent from extract} \\
218 \quad & \quad \times \frac{\text{Volume of final concentrated volume } (\text{mL})}{\text{Volume of concentrated sample used in extraction } (\text{mL})} \\
219 \quad & \quad \times \frac{1}{\text{Volume of initial wastewater } (\text{mL})} = Y \frac{\text{copies}}{\text{mL wastewater}}
\end{aligned}$$

220

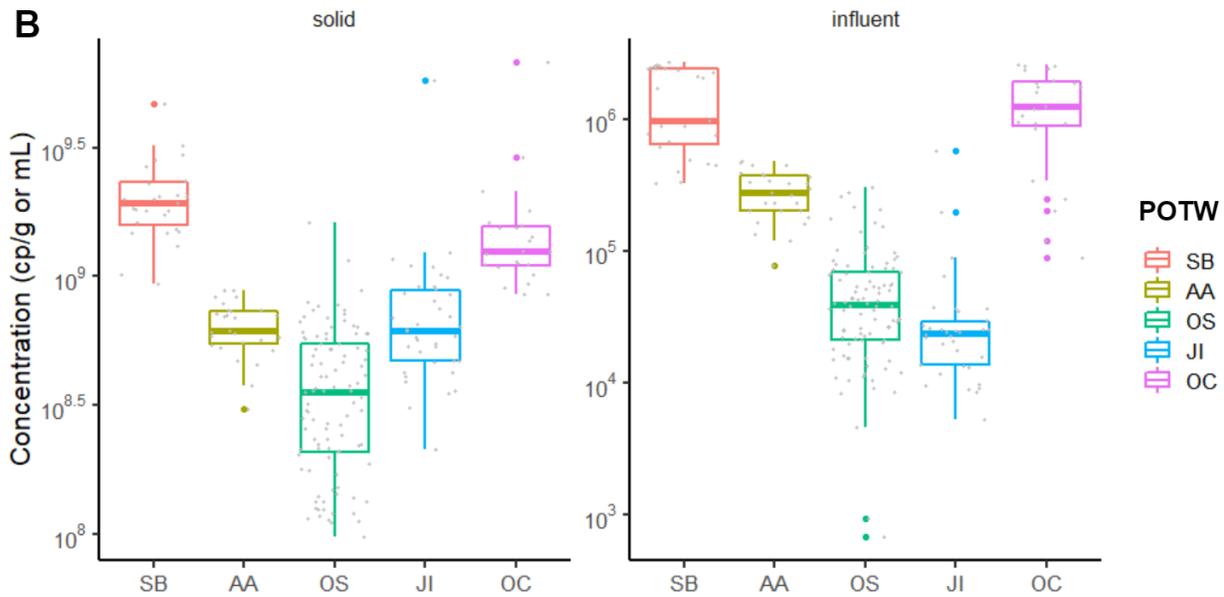
221 **Lower measurement limit.**

222 AA solids and OS solids lower measurement limit was calculated by the respective lab and  
 223 reported based on the concentration that would be obtained with three positive droplets in  
 224 ddPCR. For OS influent, lower measurement limit was assessed using DNA standards with  
 225 qPCR, as described above. For all other data sets, the lower measurement limit for individual  
 226 samples were calculated based on the three positive droplet cut-off and the average was  
 227 reported. Additionally, for AA influent, different amounts of water was used when resuspending  
 228 the viral PEG pellet, resulting in a unique effective volume for all samples. For JI influent, as the  
 229 procedure evolved, the effective volume associated with the sample also differed. In both of  
 230 these cases, an average of the lower measurement limit was calculated and reported. Lower  
 231 measurement limit for data sets in this study are shown in Table S4.

232



233

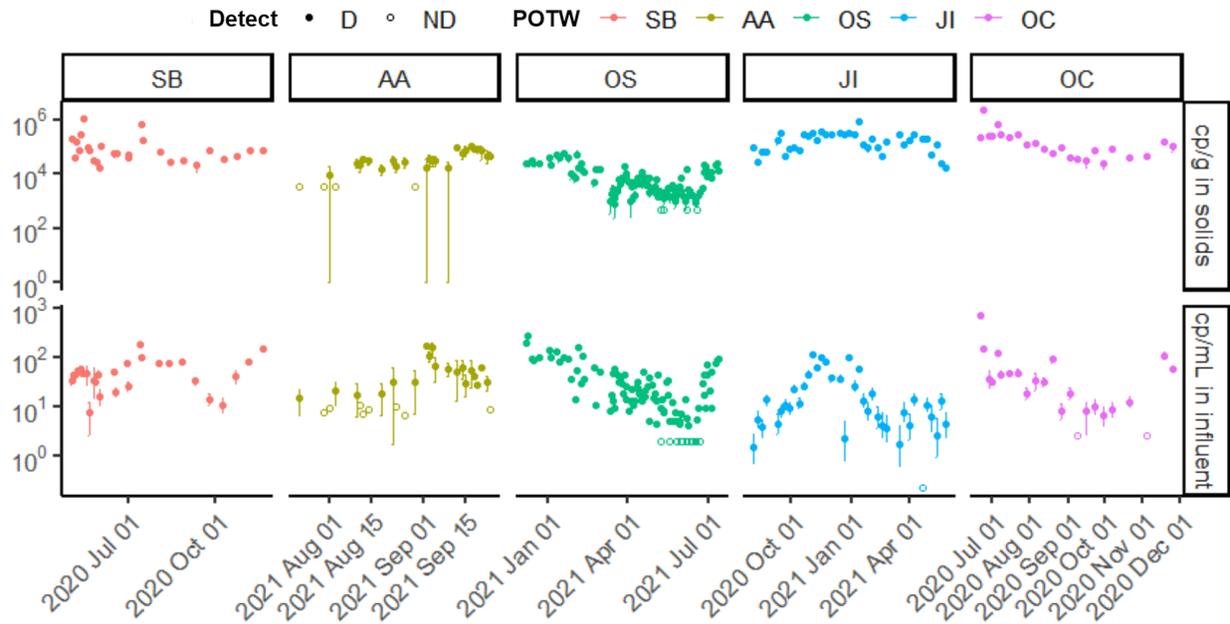


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235 Figure S1. PMMoV concentration for each of the POTW sampled. **A.** Time series of PMMoV  
 236 measured in solids (top) and influent (bottom). Standard deviations are plotted as error bars on  
 237 all data points except OS and JI influent, as they were not reported. Some of the error bars are  
 238 too small to be seen in the figure. **B.** Boxplot showing distribution of PMMoV concentration for  
 239 each POTW. On the left is solid concentrations (cp/g dry weight) and on the right is influent  
 240 (cp/mL wastewater). The line through the box represents the median, and the top and bottom of  
 241 the box represent 75th and 25th percentile, respectively. The top and bottom whiskers show 1.5  
 242 times the upper and lower interquartile range, respectively. Data beyond this range is plotted in  
 243 colored symbols. Individual data points are shown in grey.

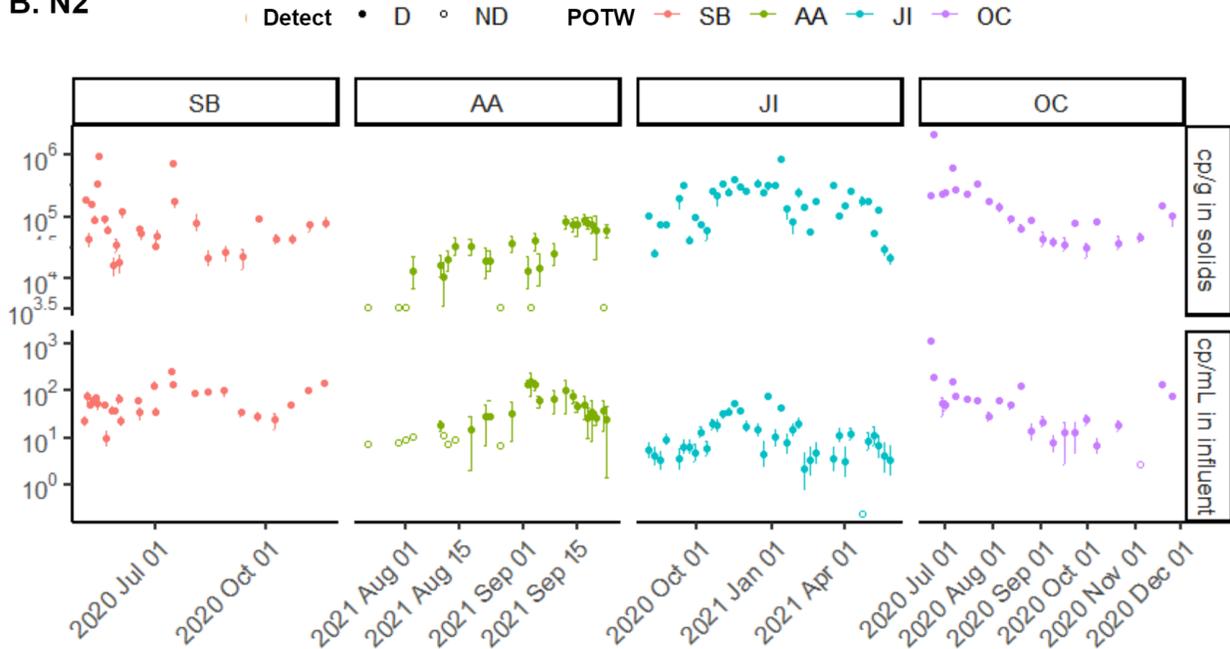
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**A. N1 or N**



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**B. N2**



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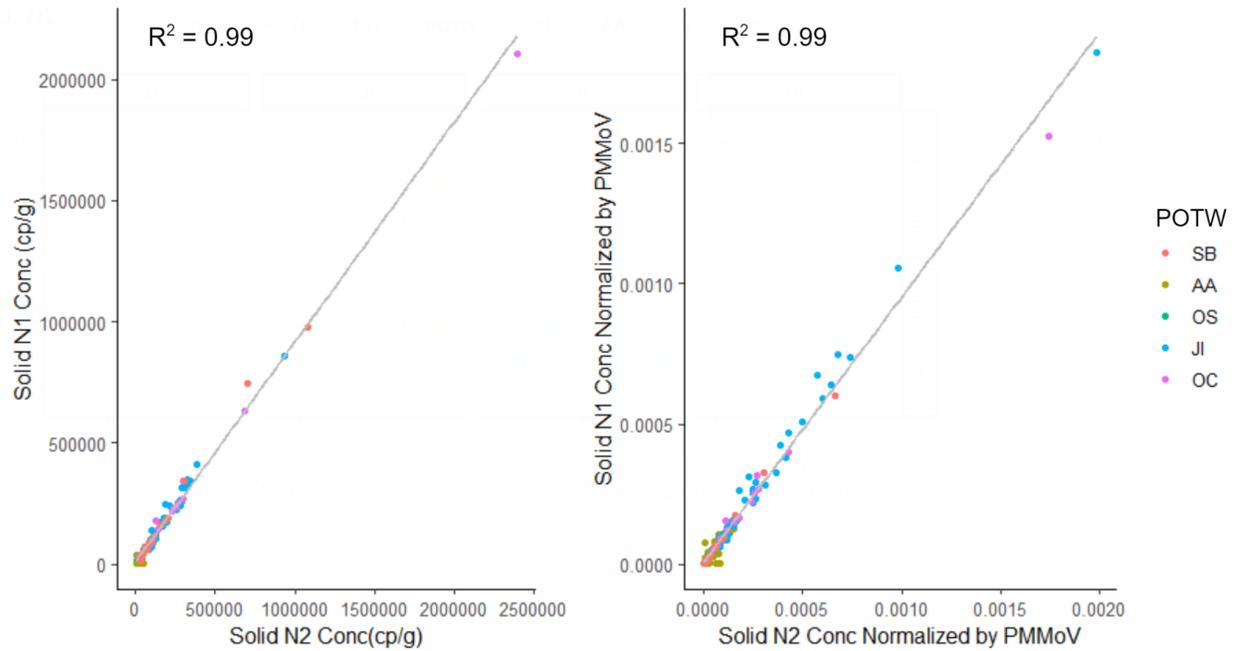
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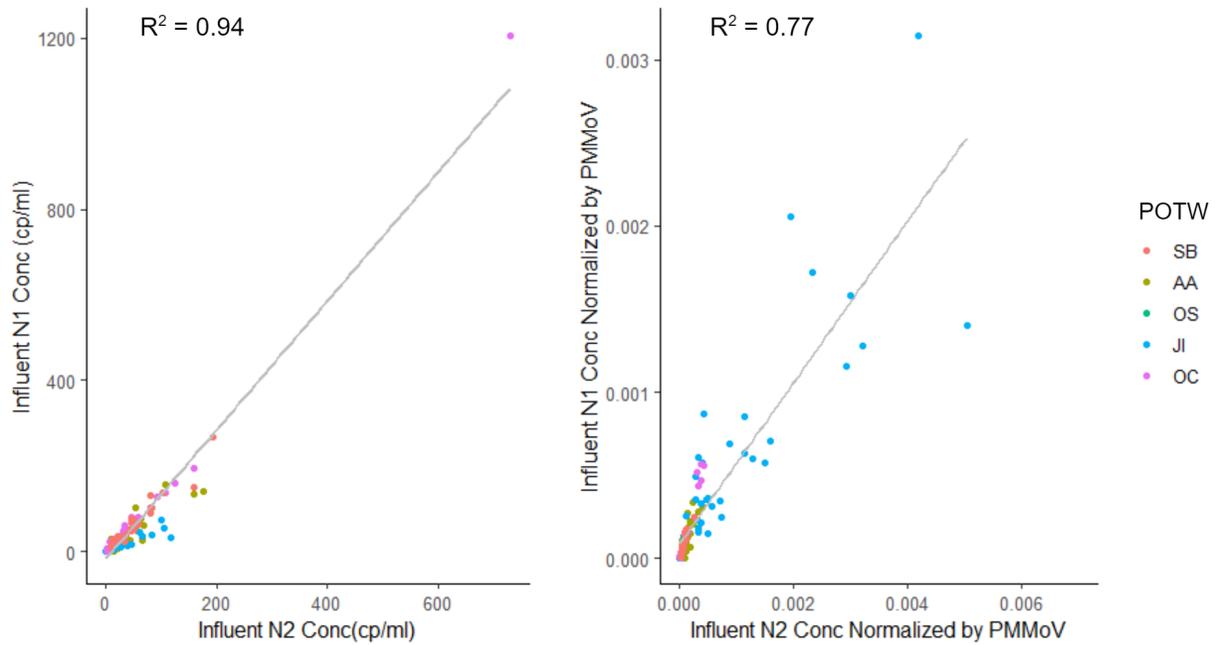
Figure S2. SARS-CoV-2 target concentrations for each POTW. **A.** Time series of N1 or N measured in solids (top) and influent (bottom). Standard deviations are plotted as error bars on all data points except OS influent, as they were not available for all samples. Samples above the lower measurement limit are shown as filled circles. Samples that resulted in ND, shown as empty circles, were substituted with a value half of the lower measurable limit. **B.** Time series of N2 measured in solid (top) and influent (bottom). Since N2 was not measured in OS, only four POTWs are shown. Standard deviations are plotted as error bars on all data points. Samples

254 above the lower measurement limit are shown as filled circles. Samples that resulted in ND,  
255 shown as empty circles, were substituted with a value half of the lower measurable limit.  
256  
257



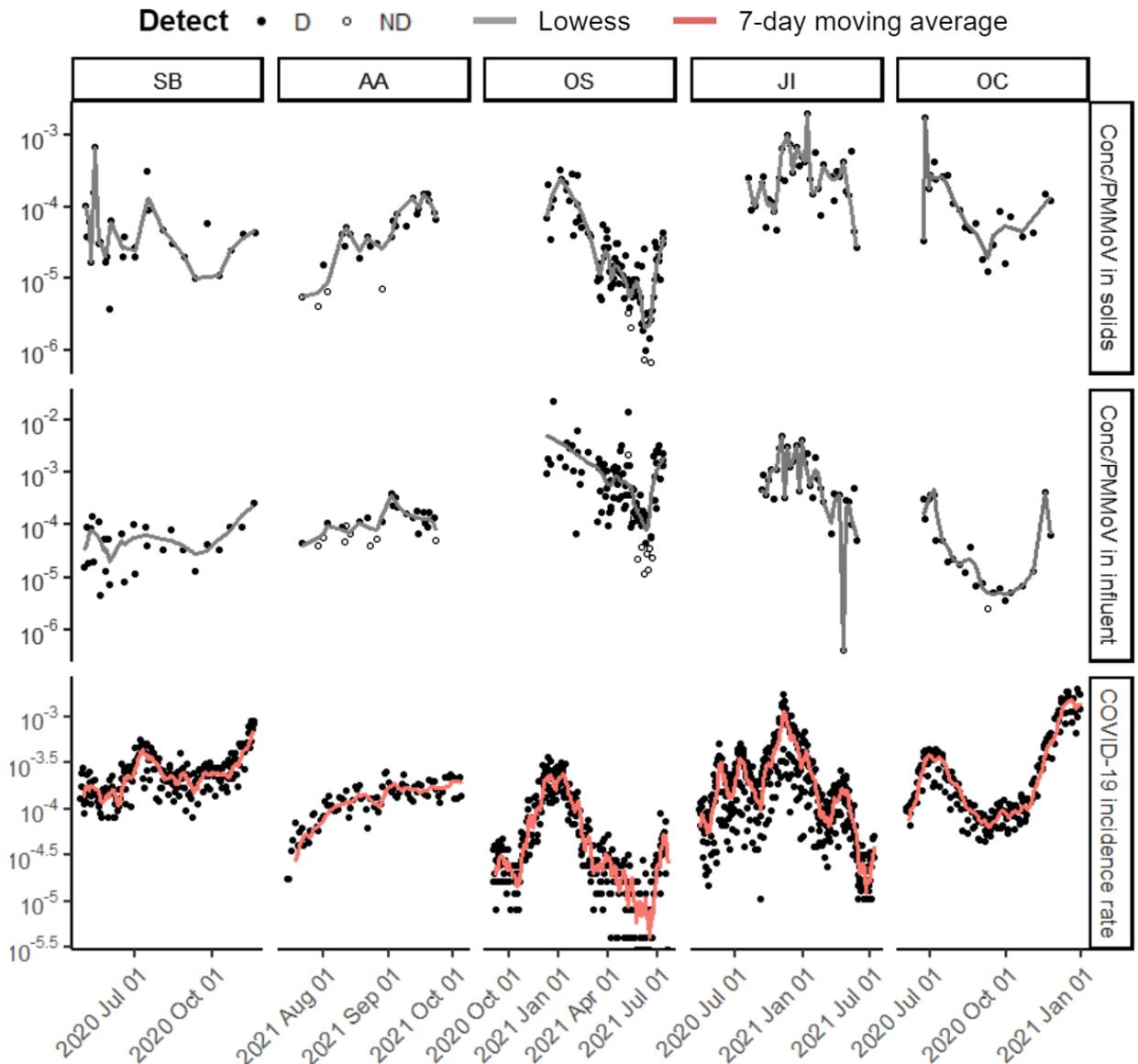
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Figure S3. Pairwise linear regression between N1 and N2 solid concentrations from samples that detected both N1 and N2 (SB, AA, JI, OC). On the left are raw concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.99$ , slope = 1.1, p-value  $< 10^{-15}$ ), and on the right are concentrations normalized by PMMoV ( $R^2 = 0.99$ , slope = 1.0, p-value  $< 10^{-15}$ ).



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Figure S4. Pairwise linear regression between N1 and N2 influent concentrations from samples that detected both N1 and N2 (SB, AA, JI, OC). On the left are raw concentrations ( $R^2 = 0.93$ , slope = 0.6, p-value  $< 10^{-16}$ ) and on the right are concentrations normalized by PMMoV ( $R^2 = 0.77$ , slope = 1.6, p-value  $< 10^{-16}$ ).



272  
 273 Figure S5. Time series of (top to bottom) SARS-CoV-2 targets N1 or N measured in solids  
 274 (cp/g dry weight) normalized by PMMoV, concentration measured in influent (cp/mL) normalized  
 275 by PMMoV and laboratory-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 incidence rate for each of the five POTWs  
 276 over their respective duration of sample collection. N was measured for OS solids and N1 for all  
 277 other data sets. Points represent individual data points. Samples above the lower measurement  
 278 limit are shown as filled circles. Samples that resulted in ND, shown as empty circles, were  
 279 substituted with a value half of the lower measurable limit. Lines for solid and influent are locally  
 280 weighted scatterplot smoothing (lowess) with value of  $\alpha$  that minimizes the residual for each  
 281 dataset (Table S6).<sup>9</sup> Lines for COVID-19 incidence rates are 7-day centered smoothed  
 282 averages.  
 283

284 Table S1. Sampling procedures associated with each plant for both influent and primary settled  
 285 solids.

	Influent	Primary Settled Solids
SB	Flow-weighted 24 hour composites	One grab sample taken in the morning
AA	Time-weighted 24 hour composites collected every 15 min	One grab sample, time of collection varied
OS	Time-weighted 24 hour composite collected every hour	One grab sample taken in the morning
JI	Flow-weighted 24 hour composites	Six grab samples collected every 4 hours composited
OC	Time-weighted 24 hour composites collected every 30 minutes	Two grab samples collected at 7am and 7pm composited

286

287 Table S2. Additional information about each POTW. Chemical additions during the wastewater  
 288 treatment process upstream of sampling points were noted here. The primary clarifier residence  
 289 time was an estimate for residence time of the settled solids provided by the operators at each  
 290 respective plant based on the hydraulic residence time. NA means not available, but solids  
 291 residence times are usually less than 12 hours in primary clarifiers.

POTW	Chemical Additions	Estimated primary clarifier residence time (hr)
SB	- No chemical additions	3-6
AA	- No chemical additions	NA
OS	- No chemical additions	3-6
JI	- Ferric chloride for odor control and improved settling efficiency on occasion	1-2
OC	- Hydrogen peroxide to influent for odor & corrosion control - Ferric chloride and anionic polymer to primary clarifier for improved settling efficiency	2-4

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Table S3. Summary of major differences in methods for solids analyzed by various labs. Sample volume depended on the number of extraction replicates where one extraction replicate contained 0.0225g of homogenized solids. No pre-analytical processing was involved, NA extraction was completed in an identical fashion, and ddPCR was used for quantification.

POTW	Fresh/ Frozen	# of extraction replicates	Quantification assay	# of merged Wells
SB	Frozen	2	N1, N2 duplex assay	6
AA	Fresh	3	N1, N2 duplex assay	3
OS	Fresh	10	N assay	10
JI	Frozen	2	N1, N2 duplex assay	6
OC	Frozen	2	N1, N2 duplex assay	6

300

301 Table S4. Summary of major differences in methods for influent analyzed by various labs. Note  
 302 that the number of merged wells is only available for ddPCR. All samples were processed fresh.  
 303 Extraction was completed without replication except with a subset of OS samples. All labs used  
 304 either an N1 assay or N1 and N2 duplex assay for quantification.

POTW	Sample Volume	Pre-analytical processing	NA extraction	Quantification method	# of merged Wells
SB	20 mL	Filtration-based method	BioMerieux Nucleic Extraction Kit	ddPCR	2 or 4
AA	40 ml	PEG precipitation	QIAmp Viral RNA Mini Kit	ddPCR	3
OS	40 mL	4S method		qPCR	N/A
JI	25 mL	Filtration-based method	RNeasy PowerMicorbiome Kit	ddPCR	1
OC	20 mL	Filtration-based method	BioMerieux Nucleic Extraction Kit	ddPCR	2 or 4

305

306 Table S5. Sample storage condition until preanalytical step. <1 day indicates that the sample  
 307 was processed on the day of collection.

POTW	Sample	Temperature	Days stored at specified temperature	
			Min	Max
AA	Influent	4°C	<1	3
	Solids	4°C	<1	7
SB	Influent	4°C	<1	3
	Solids	-80°C	173	371
OS	Influent	4°C	<1	3
	Solids	4°C	<1	<1
JI	Influent	4°C	1	1
	Solids	-80°C	28	428
OC	Influent	4°C	<1	3
	Solid	-80°C	159	329

308

309 Table S6. Estimated lower measurement limit for both solids and influent samples in each  
310 POTW. For influent, where samples had variable volumes processed, and therefore different  
311 lower measurement limits, the average of sample-specific lower measurement limits are  
312 reported.

	SB	AA	OS	JI	OC
Solid (cp/g)	4300	6,800	900	3000	3000
Influent (cp/ml)	27	19	4	0.44	5.2

313

314 Table S7. Ratio of PMMoV concentrations in matched solid to influent samples in each POTW  
 315 listed as a row. Number of matched samples and minimum, median, and maximum ratios  
 316 calculated for the plants are reported. Note that some samples did not have PMMoV measured  
 317 so the number of samples (N) in this table is different for PMMoV and SARS-CoV-2 N1 or N  
 318 targets.

<b>Plant</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Max</b>
SB	27	$6 \times 10^2$	$1 \times 10^3$	$1 \times 10^4$
AA	27	$8 \times 10^2$	$2 \times 10^3$	$9 \times 10^3$
OS	96	$6 \times 10^2$	$9 \times 10^3$	$3 \times 10^5$
JI	34	$8 \times 10^2$	$3 \times 10^4$	$3 \times 10^5$
OC	23	$4 \times 10^2$	$1 \times 10^3$	$1 \times 10^4$

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Table\_S8.  $\alpha$  values used to plot lowess lines in Figure 2 (in column N1/PMMoV or N/PMMoV) and Figure S5 (in column N1 or N). Plants and matrices are listed as rows. These  $\alpha$  values were chosen to minimize the residual for each dataset.

<b>Plant</b>	<b>Matrix</b>	<b>N1 or N</b>	<b>N1/PMMoV or N/PMMoV</b>
SB	Solids	0.221	0.221
	Influent	0.221	0.221
AA	Solids	0.174	0.174
	Influent	0.221	0.221
OS	Solids	0.174	0.112
	Influent	0.314	0.205
JI	Solids	0.128	0.128
	Influent	0.128	0.143
OC	Solids	0.252	0.252
	Influent	0.205	0.252

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333 Table S9. Median Kendall's tau correlation between matched solid and influent SARS-CoV-2  
 334 concentration. 1000 instances of Kendall's tau were calculated by bootstrapping upper and  
 335 lower bounds for measured concentration of SARS-CoV-2 RNA. Confidence intervals were not  
 336 available for all OS influent measurements, and therefore Kendall's tau was calculated with raw  
 337 data points. Kendall's tau was calculated with N1 or N wastewater concentration and with  
 338 values normalized by PMMoV. Empirical p-value was below 0.005 unless otherwise stated in  
 339 parentheses.

<b>Plant</b>	<b>N1 or N</b>	<b>N1/PMMoV or N/PMMoV</b>
All	0.22	0.11
SB	0.12	0.01 (p-value = 0.28)
AA	0.20	0.22
OS	0.46	0.41
JI	0.33	0.27
OC	0.54	0.52

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342 Table S10. Linear regression coefficients between log<sub>10</sub>-transformed N1 or N concentrations of  
 343 matched influent and solids: Y = mx+b where y = log<sub>10</sub>-transformed solids concentrations, m =  
 344 slope, b = intercept and x = log<sub>10</sub>-transformed influent concentration. The error on m and b  
 345 represents standard error for the calculated coefficients. R<sup>2</sup> and p-value are provided for  
 346 completeness (Kendall's tau is used to assess association, see Table S7).

POTW	m	b	R <sup>2</sup>	p-value
All	0.47 ± 0.10	3.71 ± 0.14	0.10	< 10 <sup>-5</sup>
SB	0.32 ± 0.26	4.34 ± 0.43	0.02	0.2174
AA	0.35 ± 0.21	3.90 ± 0.31	0.07	0.10
OS	0.63 ± 0.07	2.89 ± 0.10	0.41	<10 <sup>-12</sup>
JI	0.26 ± 0.10	4.89 ± 0.12	0.13	0.01
OC	0.55 ± 0.13	4.29 ± 0.20	0.45	<10 <sup>-3</sup>

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Table S11. PCR cycling conditions used for target quantification. The matrix and POTW they were used for is provided in the first column. For dd RT-PCR methods, after cycling was complete, plates were either analyzed immediately or placed in 4°C until analysis with the plate reader. The superscript in the sample description column provides a reference for the assay conditions.

Sample description	Assay	Step	Cycle #s	Temp (°C)	Time (min)
Solids JI, SB, OC and AA; and influent AA	SARS-CoV-2_N1/N2	Reverse transcription	1	50	60
		Enzyme activation	1	95	10
		Denaturing	40	94	0.5
		Annealing		55	0.5
		Enzyme deactivation	1	98	10
		Droplet stabilization	1	4	30
	PMMoV/BCoV	Reverse transcription	1	50	60
		Enzyme activation	1	95	10
		Denaturing	40	94	0.5
		Annealing		56	0.5
		Enzyme deactivation	1	98	10
		Droplet stabilization	1	4	30
Solids OS <sup>1</sup>	SARS-CoV-2 assay	Reverse transcription	1	50	60
		Enzyme activation	1	95	5
		Denaturing	40	95	0.5
		Annealing		59	0.5

		Enzyme deactivation	1	98	10
		Indefinite hold	1	4	$\infty$
	PMMoV/BCoV	Reverse transcription	1	50	60
		Enzyme activation	1	95	5
		Denaturing	40	95	0.5
		Annealing		56	0.5
		Enzyme deactivation	1	98	10
		Indefinite hold	1	4	$\infty$
Influent SB and OC	All	Reverse transcription	1	50	60
		Enzyme activation	1	95	10
		Denaturing	40	95	0.5
		Annealing		58	0.5
		Enzyme deactivation	1	98	10
		Hold	1	12	20
Influent JI <sup>4</sup>	SARS-CoV-2_N1/N2 & BCoV	Reverse transcription	1	50	60
		Enzyme activation	1	95	10
		Denaturing	40	94	0.5
		Annealing		55	1
		Enzyme deactivation	1	98	10
		Hold	1	4	30

	PMMoV	Reverse transcription	1	50	60
		Enzyme activation	1	95	10
		Denaturing	40	94	0.5
		Annealing		60	1
		Enzyme deactivation	1	98	10
		Hold	1	4	30
Influent OS <sup>7</sup>	All	Uracil-DNA glycosylase incubation	1	25	2
		Reverse transcription	1	50	15
		Enzyme activation	1	95	2
		Denaturing	45	95	0.05
		Annealing		55	0.5

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357 Table S12: Master standard curves used to calculate quantities for each assay as applied in the  
 358 4S method for OS influent. The Target is the assay target. The standard curve minimum and  
 359 maximum are the lowest and highest concentration standard used in generating the standard  
 360 curve, respectively. Slope is the slope,  $m$ , of the standard curve;  $b$  is the y-intercept of the  
 361 standard curve where  $y = mx + b$  and  $y$  is  $\log_{10}$  gc/rxn and  $x$  is Cq.  
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Target	Standard curve minimum (cp/rxn)	Standard curve maximum (cp/rxn)	slope	intercept	R <sup>2</sup>
N1	5	10 <sup>5</sup>	-3.37	38.5	0.92
PMMoV	10 <sup>2</sup>	10 <sup>8</sup>	-3.31	40.5	0.88

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365 Table S13. Primer and probe sequences used in the study. The matrix and POTW they were  
 366 used for is provided in the first column along with a reference. The superscript in the sample  
 367 description column provides a reference for the sequences.

Sample description	Amplicon	Forward Primer	Reverse Primer	Probe Sequence
Solids JI, SB, OC and AA; and influent AA	SARS-CoV-2_N1	GACCCCAAA ATCAGCGAAAT	TCTGGTACTGC CAGTTGAATCTG	FAM- ACCCCGCATTAC GTTTGGTGGACC -IBFQ
	SARS-CoV-2_N2	TTACAAACATTG GCCGCAAA	GCGCGACATTC CGAAGAA	HEX- ACAATTTGCCCC CAGCGCTTCAG- IBFQ
	BCoV	CTGGAAGTTGGT GGAGTT	ATTATCGGCCTA ACATACATC	CCTTCATATCTA TACACATCAAGT TGTT
	PMMoV	GAGTGGTTTGAC CTTAACGTTTGA	TTGTTCGGTTGCA ATGCAAGT	FAM-CCTACCG AAGCAAATG- MGB-NFQ
Solids OS <sup>1</sup>	SARS-CoV-2_N	CATTACGTTTGG TGGACCCT	CCTTGCCATGTT GAGTGAGA	FAM/ZEN- CGCGATCAAAAC AACGTCGG-IBFQ
	BCoV	CTGGAAGTTGGT GGAGTT	ATTATCGGCCTA ACATACATC	ATTATCGGCCTA ACATACATC
	PMMoV	GAGTGGTTTGAC CTTAACGTTTGA	GAGTGGTTTGAC CTTAACGTTTGA	HEX/ZEN- CCTACCGAAGCA AATG-IBFQ
Influent SB and OC	SARS-CoV-2_N1	GACCCCAAAATC AGCGAAAT	TCTGGTACTGC CAGTTGAATCTG	FAM- ACCCCGCATTAC GTTTGGTGGACC -BHQ1
	SARS-CoV-2_N2	TTACAAACATTG GCCGCAAA	GCGCGACATTC CGAAGAA	SUN- ACAATTTGCCCC CAGCGCTTCAG- BHQ1
	Hep-G	GGCCAAAAGGT GGTG	GACGAGCCTGA CGTCG	FAM- TCCCTCTGG- ZEN- CGCTTGTGGC- 3IABkFQ

	BCoV	C+TGGAAGTTGG TGGAGTT	ATTATCGG+CCT AACATAC+ATC	HEX- ACCCAGAAA- ZEN- CAAACAACTTGA TGTGTATAGATA TGAA-3IABkFQ
	PMMoV	GAGTGGTTTGAC CTTAACGTTGA	TTGTCGGTTGCA ATGCAAGT	HEX- CCTACCGAAGCA AATG-3IABkFQ
Influent JI <sup>4</sup>	SARS-CoV- 2_N1	GACCCCAAATC AGCGAAAT	TCTGGTACTGC CAGTTGAATCTG	FAM- ACCCCGCAT- ZEN- TACGTTTGGTGG ACC-IABkFQ
	SARS-CoV- 2_N2	TTACAAACATTG GCCGCAA	GCGCGACATTC CGAAGAA	HEX- ACAATTTGCCCC CAGCGCTTCAG- BHQ1 and HEX- ACAATTTGC- ZEN- CCCCAGCGCTT CAG-IABkFQ
	BCoV	CTGGAAGTTGGT GGAGTT	ATTATCGGCCTA ACATACATC	FAM- CCTTCATAT- ZEN- CTATACACATCA AGTTGTT-IA BkFQ
	PMMoV	GAGTGGTTTGAC CTTAACGTTGA	TTGTCGGTTGCA ATGCAAGT	FAM- CCTACCGAAGCA AATG-MGBNFQ
Influent OS <sup>7</sup>	SARS-CoV- 2_N1	GACCCCAAATC AGCGAAAT	TCTGGTACTGC CAGTTGAATCTG	FAM- ACCCCGCATTAC GTTTGGTGGACC - ZEN/IBFQ
	BCoV	CTGGAAGTTGGT GGAGTT	ATTATCGGCCTA ACATACATC	FAM- CCTTCATATCTA TACACATCAAGT TGTT- ZEN/IBFQ

	PMMoV	GAGTGGTTTGAC CTTAACGTTTGA	TTGTCGGTTGCA ATGCAAGT	FAM- CCTACCGAAGCA AATG-ZEN/IBFQ
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