

HSE COVID-19 Test and Trace Briefing

07th of October, 2021

Testing Volumes and Turnaround Times

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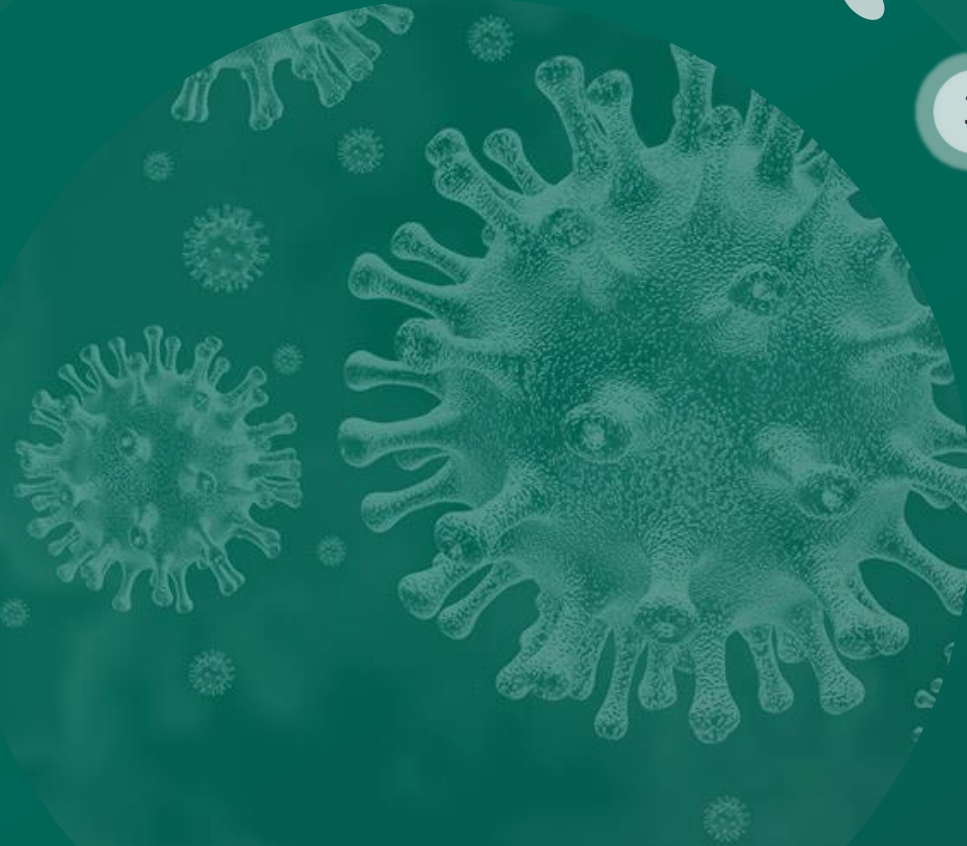
Test and Trace Trends

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Testing Programmes

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Recruitment





Test and Trace Headlines



1.0 day

Community - median end to end TAT for a not detected result



1.8 days

Community - median end to end for a detected result



c. 97,809

Total number of community swabs taken last week



c. 134,233

Total number of laboratory tests last week



c. 16,256

Calls made to close contacts last week

Note: The above TaT and volume metrics refer to the seven day date range from 29th – 05th October

Note 2: The above swab figures represent total community swabs. Additional swabs are carried out in private and acute settings.

Test and Trace Key Messages



Testing Demand

In the last week, demand has reduced by 15% in community testing sites

97,809 tests completed in last 7 days

93.7% can get a test in < 24 hrs



Close Contact Trends

Household close contacts highest at **46.6%**



Testing and Tracing Protocol: Children

Routine testing of asymptomatic close contacts no longer taking place

However, testing of unvaccinated close contacts is being arranged by the HSE for both children and staff.

The HSE is also continuing to arrange testing for staff close contacts across all education and childcare settings



Antigen Testing in Education Settings

29 facilities involved to date

24 completed 4 wks of testing (5 Further and Higher Education & 19 Childcare)

10 undertaking another 4 wks of the programme (2 Further & Higher Education & 8 Childcare)

5 additional Higher Education sites are also preparing to commence testing.

A circular inset image showing a microscopic view of several coronavirus particles. The particles are spherical with a textured surface and numerous spike-like projections (spikes) extending from them. They are set against a dark, slightly grainy background within the circular frame.

1. Testing Volumes and Turnaround Times



Test and Trace Volumes

The following metrics and turnaround times refer to the seven days from 29th – 5th October



Total Community Referrals

- There were **c.104,877 community referrals** over the seven day period.
- This figure includes **924 International travel referrals** (↓25% in comparison to last week) and **70,303 referrals** from the **self-referral portal** (↓ 15.5% in comparison to last week), the remainder relate to GP and close contact referrals.
- Overall, this weekly total has **decreased** by **15%** in comparison to the same time-frame the previous week (22nd – 28th September; c.124,112 total referrals).



Total Community Swabs Completed

- During this time period, there were c. **97,809** swabs were completed.



Laboratory Tests and Detected Rate

- During this time period, there was c.**134,233** lab tests reported in community, private and acute settings over the past week.
- The average detected rate over the past week is **approximately 7.3% - Community and Acute and Serial blended. Community on its own is 8.9%**



Contact Tracing

- Over the last 7 days, of those tested with close contacts, the average number **close contacts was 3.5 per person.**
- From 29th – 5th October, a total of 8,439 calls were completed to inform individuals of their detected COVID-19 test result.
- From 29th – 5th October, contact tracing was completed for c. 8,370 individuals that had a confirmed COVID-19 case
- In addition, c. 16,256 calls were made to close contacts.

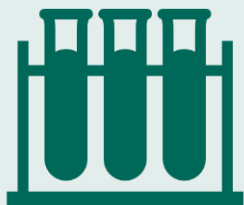
Note: The above swab figures represent total community swabs. Additional swabs are carried out in private and acute settings.



Test and Trace Turnaround Times

The following metrics and turnaround times refer to the 7 day date range from 29th – 5th October.

22 hrs



Combined median time from
swab to lab result in
community and acute setting

6.6 hrs



Median time taken to
complete contact tracing
calls

1.0 day



Median end to end
turnaround time for a **not**
detected result

1.8 days



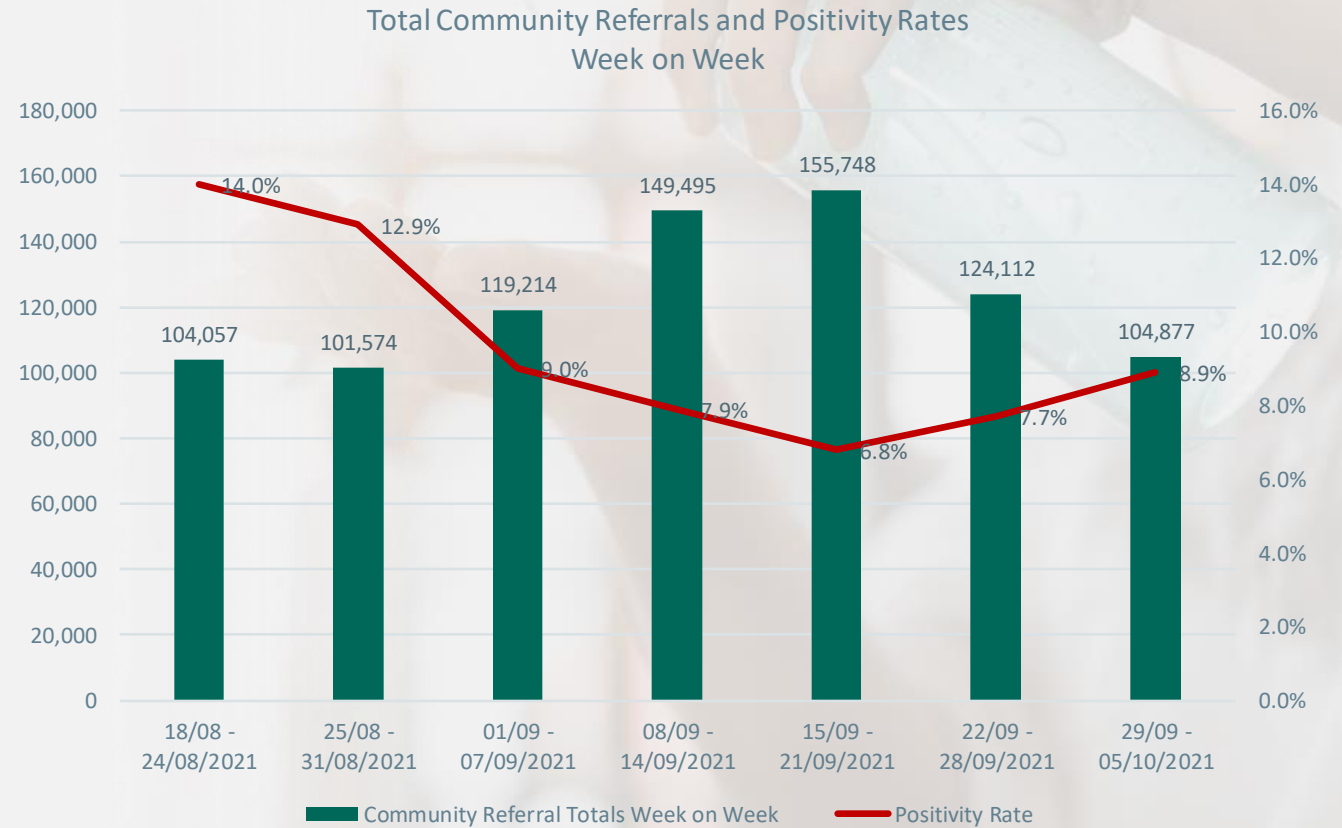
Median end to end
turnaround time for a
detected result

A circular inset image showing a microscopic view of several coronavirus particles. The particles are spherical with a textured surface and numerous spike-like protrusions (spikes) extending from them. They are set against a dark, slightly hazy background within the circle.

2. Testing and Trace Trends

Total Community Referrals

- From the 29th – 5th October, there were **c.104,877** Community Referrals (including walk-ins, international travel and self referrals)
- This weekly total has **decreased by 15%** in comparison to the same time-period last week (22nd – 28th September; c.124,112 total referrals)
- The graph to the right shows a weekly breakdown **of total community referrals** over the past 7 weeks.

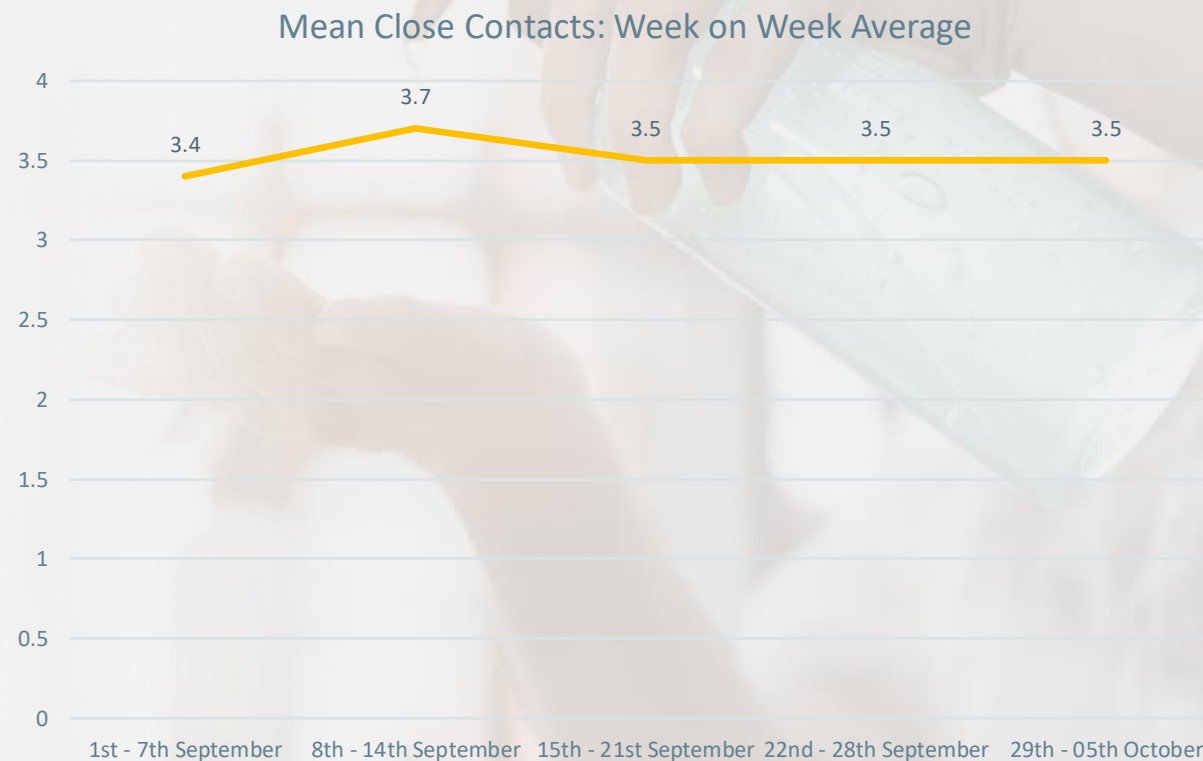




Close Contacts Trend

3.5

Over the last 7 days, of those tested with at least one close contact, the mean number of close contacts per person was **3.5**



A circular inset on the left side of the slide shows a microscopic view of several coronavirus particles. These particles are spherical with a textured surface and numerous spike-like projections (spikes) extending from them. They are set against a dark, slightly hazy background within the circle.

3. Testing Programmes



Serial Testing in Nursing Homes

In Cycle 16 (Commenced 13th September);



194 facilities have been tested

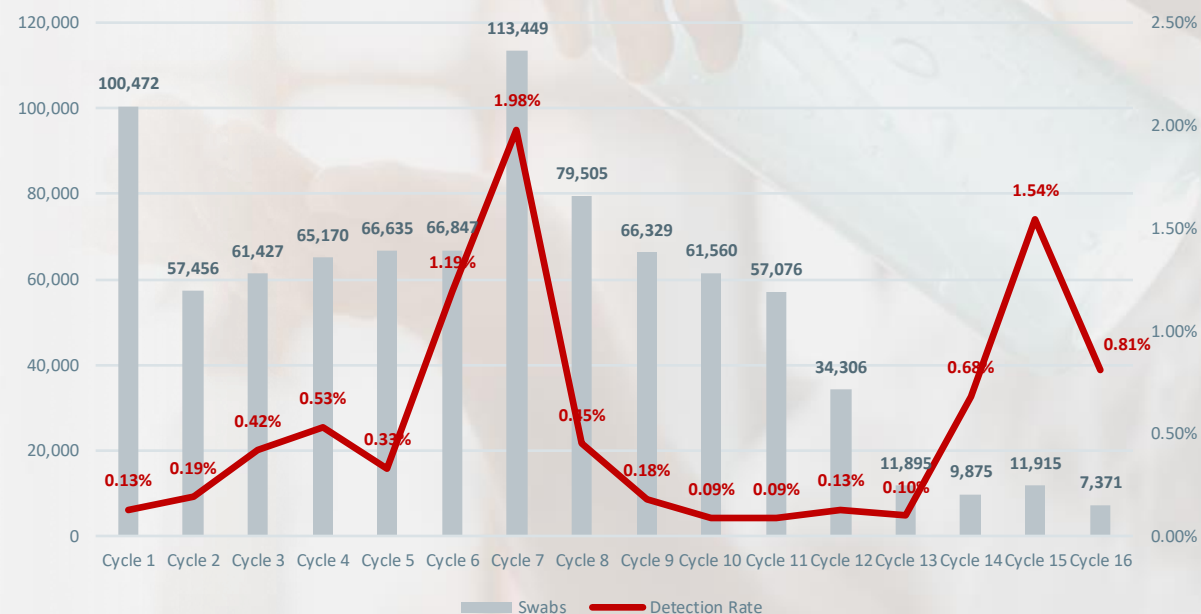


7,371 tests have been completed



60 detected cases identified
(0.81% detected rate)

Swabs completed and detection rate per cycle in Nursing Homes





Serial Testing in Mental Health Facilities

In Cycle 9 (Commenced 13th September);



4 facilities have been tested

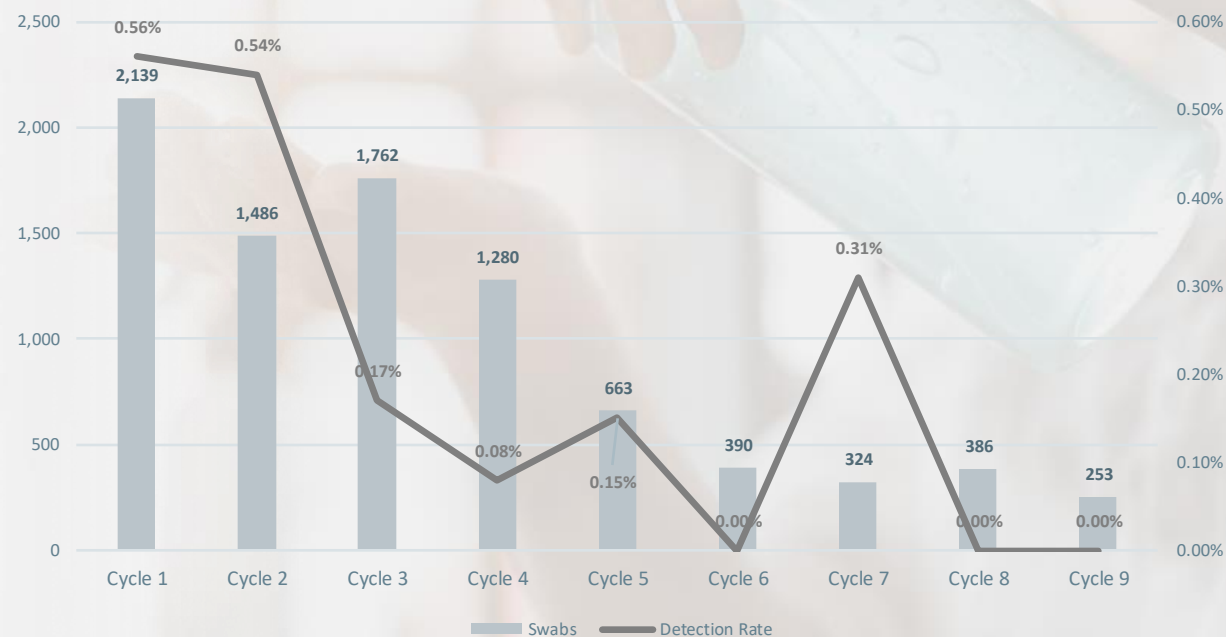


253 tests have been completed



0 detected cases identified
(0.00% detected rate)

Swabs completed and detection rate per cycle in Mental Health facilities





Serial Testing in Food Production Facilities

In Cycle 14 (Commenced 20th September);



42 facilities have been tested



4,186 tests have been completed



54 detected cases identified
(1.29% detected rate)

Swabs completed and detection rate per cycle in Food Production facilities



A circular inset image showing a microscopic view of several coronavirus particles. The particles are spherical with a textured surface and numerous spike-like projections (glycoprotein spikes) extending from them. They are set against a dark, slightly hazy background within the circle.

4. Recruitment



Recruitment as of 5th October

827

Staff supporting Contact Tracing

Of these 827 staff;
791 of these staff have been hired
and retained as part of
dedicated workforce to support
the contact tracing function

The remaining **36** staff are redeployed
from the HSE and other Public Service
Roles

