

HSE COVID-19 Test and Trace Briefing

1st of April, 2021



Test and Trace Briefing



Testing Volumes,
Turnaround Times and
Test and Trace Trends



Serial Testing
Programmes

Serial Testing in RCFs
Serial Testing in Food Production
Facilities



Education and Childcare



Service
Improvements and
Updates

Recruitment
Walk-in test centres
Hotel Quarantine



Testing Volumes and Turnaround Times



Test and Trace Headlines

Over 4,006,033
Lab Tests Completed to Date



1.3 days

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



2 days

Community - median end to end for a detected result



142,310+

Total GP and Close contact Referrals



126,580+

Total number of laboratory tests last week



3,360+

No. of individuals with contact tracing complete in the last week

Note: The above TaT and volume metrics refer to the seven day date range from 24th – 30th March.



Test and Trace Volumes

The following metrics and turnaround times refer to the seven days from 24th – 30th of March.



Referrals

- From the 24th – 30th March, over 142,310 swabs were taken across community, acutes and serial testing. Total community referrals (GP and Close Contact Referrals) were c.42,984
- The total community referrals (GP and Close Contact referrals) has increased by 18% since this time last week.
- **93.6%** of GP referrals are provided with a COVID-19 test appointment within 24 hours.
- From 15th – 21st of March of those close contacts who were referred for Test 1, attendance was **89%**.
- From 8th – 14th of March, of those close contacts who were referred for Test 2, attendance was **84%**



Laboratories

- Laboratories processed **126,581 tests** across our network of 46 labs.
- The average detected rate over the past week is **approximately 3.3%**.



Contact Tracing

- Of the close contacts identified between 15th – 21st of March who underwent Test 1 and whose results were available, 16.3% were positive. By circumstances of contact, positivity rates remain highest in this cohort for household close contacts where it is 33.8%.
- On the 30th of March, of those who recorded close contacts, the average number close contacts are 3.5 per person.
- From 24th – 30th of March a total of 3,793 calls were completed to individuals who received a confirmed COVID-19 detected test result.
- From 24th – 30th of March, contact tracing was completed for c.3,365 individuals that had a confirmed COVID-19 case
- In addition, c.5,752 calls were made to close contacts.



Test and Trace Turnaround Times

The following metrics and turnaround times refer to the 7 day date range from 24th – 30th March.



Turnaround

- Swab to lab result for overall settings, community and acute settings is a median of **23 hours**.
- All contact tracing calls are completed within a median of **6.6 hours** and a **mean of 4.4 hours**.
- In the last seven days, in the community, we have delivered a **median end to end turnaround time of 1.3 days for not detected results**.
- In the last seven days, in the community, we have delivered a **median end to end turnaround time of 2 days for detected results**.



What can we see from the trends



Referrals and Age Group

The 5-13 age group has the highest level of referrals in the last week



Lab levels

The level of testing completed by our lab network has exceeded 125,000 tests over the last week.



Positivity Rate

The overall positivity rate has decreased slightly since the same time-period last week



Close Contacts

Close Contact Trends remain steady.

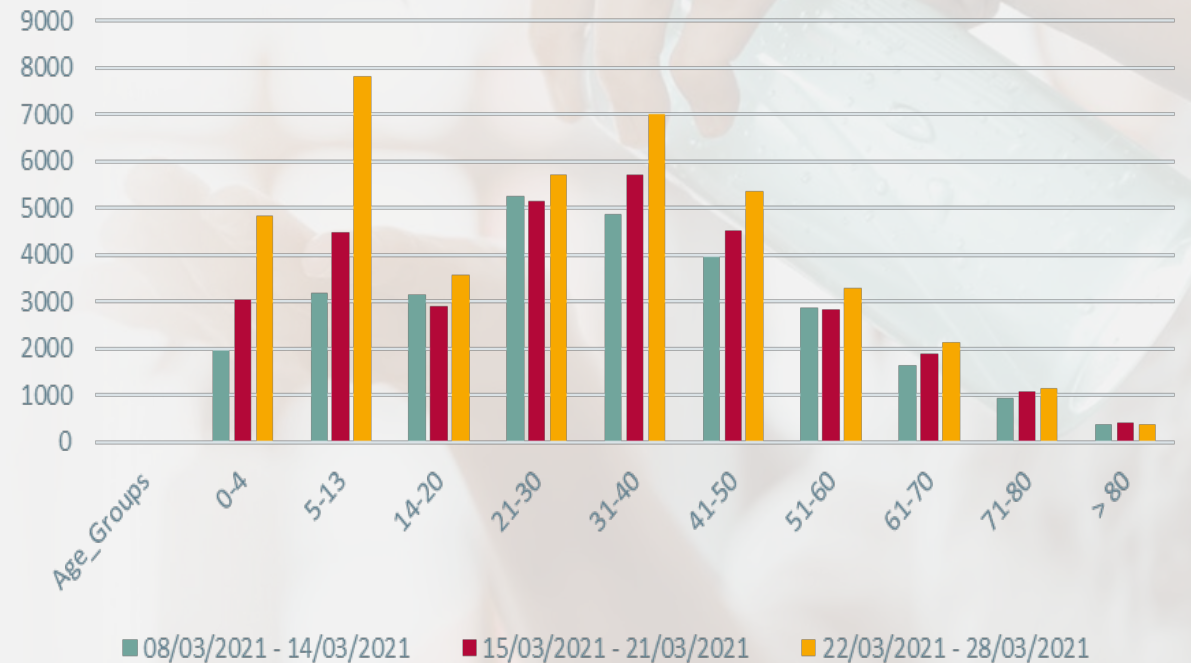
For those who reported close contacts, close contacts are c.3 individuals per person



Community Referrals by Age Group

- In the last week, the age group with the highest percentage of referrals was the 5-13 age group.
- The 5-13 age group made up 18.9% of all referrals.
- The increase is likely due to increased mass testing in schools
- Over the past seven days, the detected rate for the 5-13 age group was c.6.5%.

Referral Data Volumes by Age Group

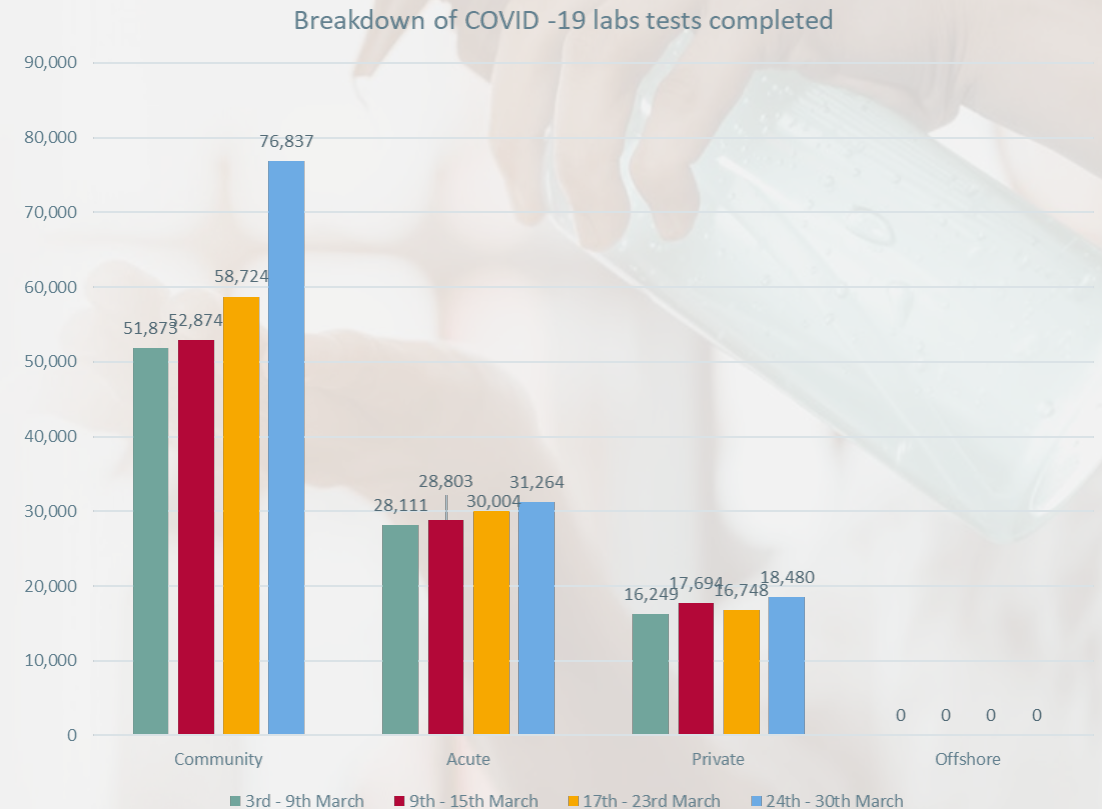




Tests Completed across our lab network

Over 4,006,033
Lab Tests Completed to Date

- There have been over **4 million lab tests** completed to date.
- Our lab network has completed over 125,000 tests in the last seven days.
- Volumes completed by our community labs have significantly increased in the week, from c.58,000 labs completed last week to **over 76,000 lab tests completed** this week.

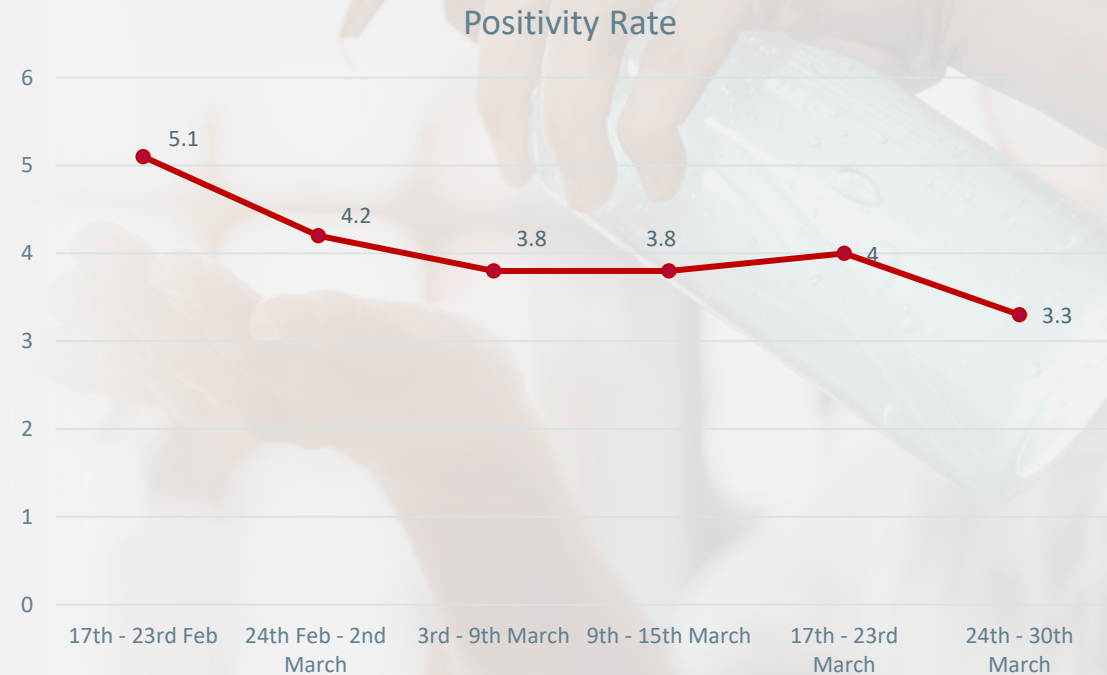




Overall Positivity Trend

c.3.3%

- The positivity rate for the past seven days is c.3.3%
- This is a decrease from the positivity rate last week, where the average positivity rate was 4%.

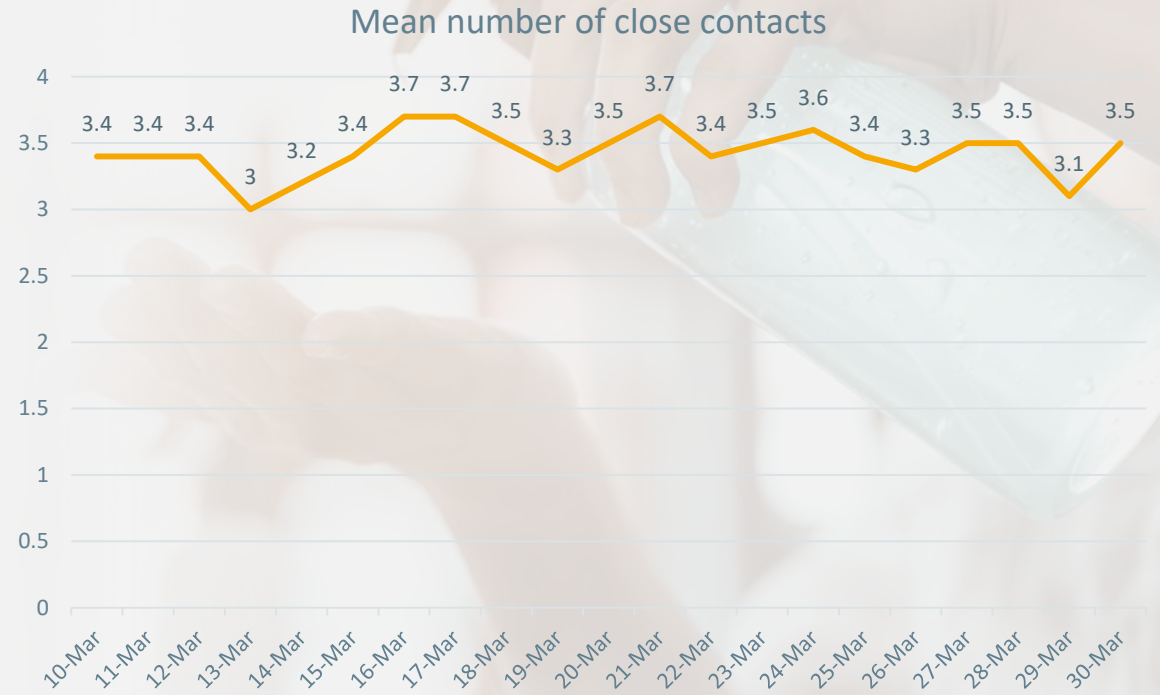




Close Contacts Trend

3.5

As of the 30th of March, of those tested with at least one close contact, the mean number of close contacts per person was **3.5**.





Serial Testing Programmes





Serial Testing in Nursing Homes

Cycle 9

588

Facilities Tested



66,063

Tests Completed

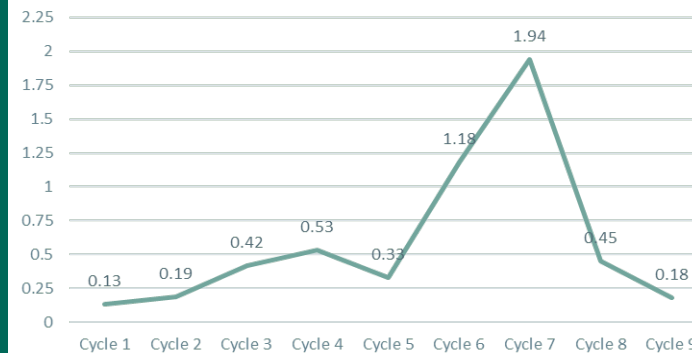


116 detected cases



(0.18% detected rate)

Nursing Home Detected Rate per Cycle



Cycle 9, to date, has had the **lowest detected rate** since Cycle 1



Serial Testing in Mental Health Facilities Cycle 3

4

Facilities Tested



106

Tests Completed



0 detected cases

(0% detected rate)





Serial Testing in Food Production Facilities Cycle 7

76
Facilities Tested



22,133
Tests Completed

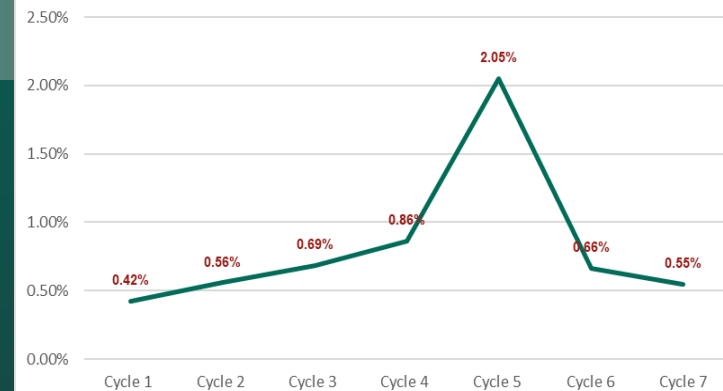


118 detected
cases



(0.53% detected rate)

Covid-19 Detection Rate in Food Production Facilities by Cycle





Education and Childcare





In the Last Week

1 day

from swab to
communication of
result

Testing in Education and Childcare Facilities

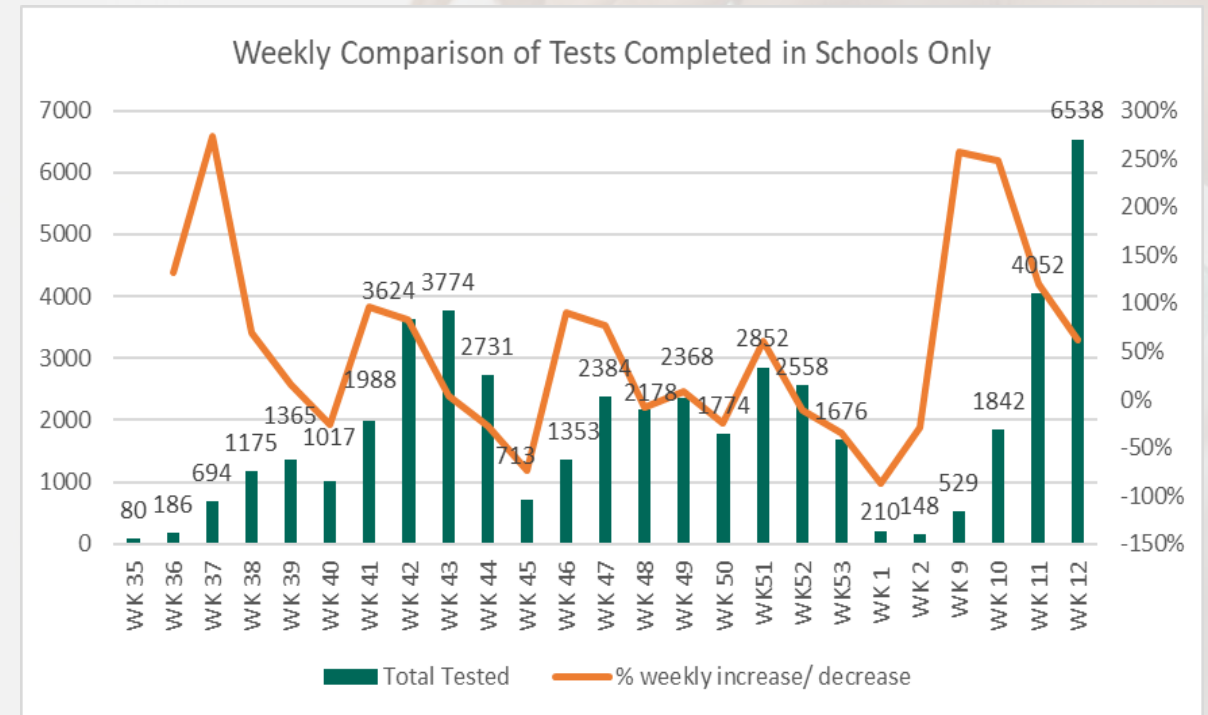
primary schools	Post primary schools	Special schools	Childcare facilities
5,427 individuals	872 individuals	239 individuals	2,118 individuals
193 primary schools	51 post- primary schools	13 special schools	112 childcare facilities
1.7% Positivity rate	2.5% Positivity rate	4.2% Positivity rate	5.7% Positivity rate



Education Facilities

Weekly Comparison of Tests Completed in Schools

- The graph provides a week to week view of the levels of testing completed in **Schools and Special Education settings**.
- In the last week (week 12, 21st – 27th March 2021), there were **over 6,500 tests completed**.

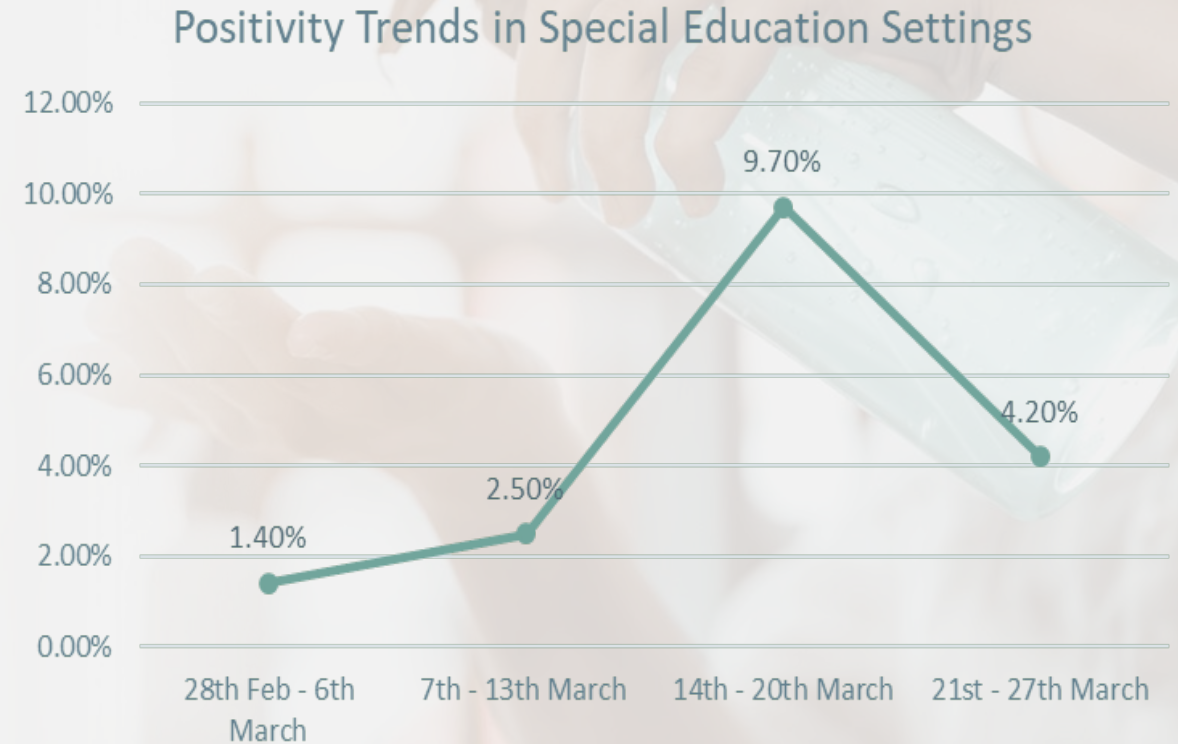


Weekly Analysis of Schools and Special Education Testing by Week



Positivity Trend Special Education Settings

- We continue to monitor weekly positivity rate in Special Education settings
- The graph shows weekly positivity rate for the last 4 weeks.
- In the last week, testing in special education settings resulted in a **4.2%** positivity rate

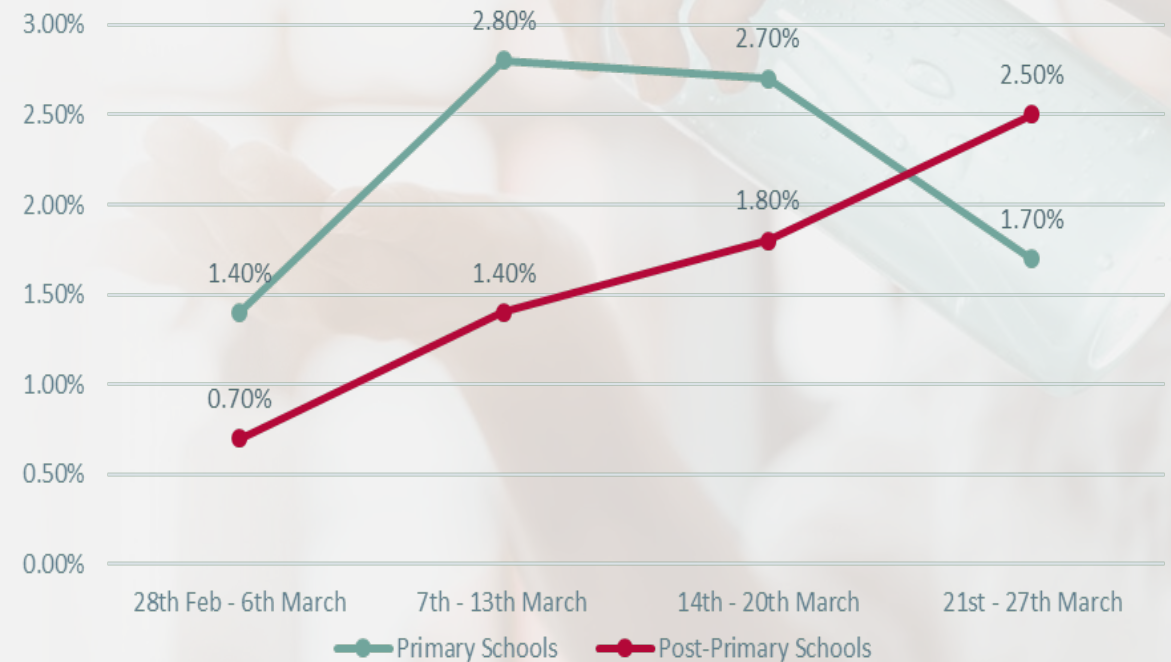




Positivity Trend Primary and Post-Primary School Settings

- We continue to monitor weekly positivity rate in Primary and Post-Primary School settings
- The graph shows weekly positivity rate for the last 4 weeks.
- In the last week, testing in primary school settings resulted in a **1.7%** positivity rate
- In the last week, testing in post-primary school settings resulted in a **2.5%** positivity rate

Positivity Trends in Primary and Secondary School Settings

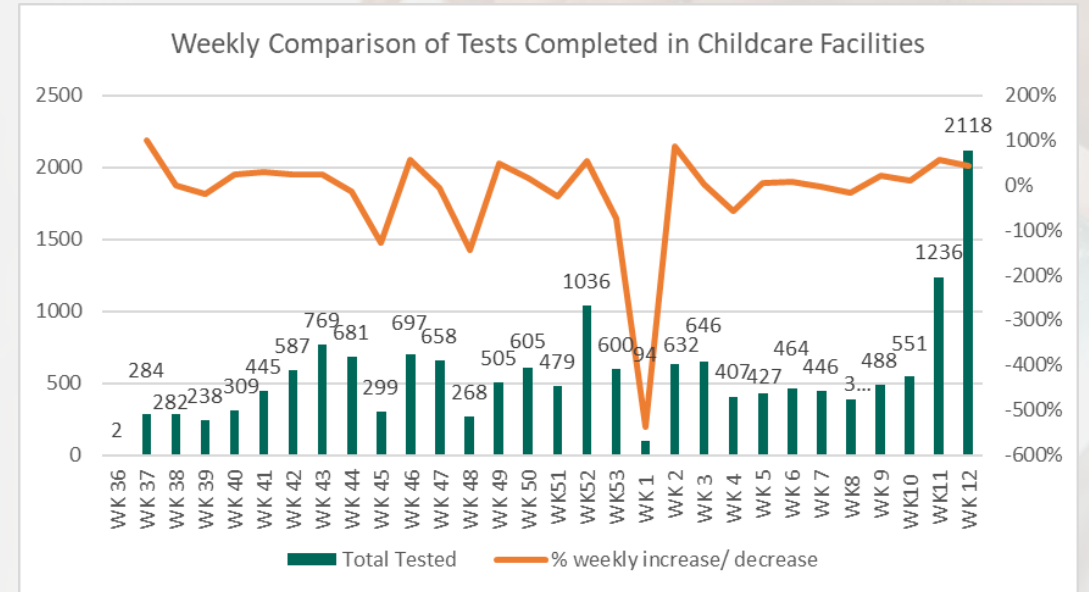




Childcare Facilities

Weekly Comparison of Tests Completed in Childcare facilities

- The graph provides a week to week view of the levels of testing and % increase/decrease of testing completed in Childcare Facilities.
- In the last week (week 12, 21st – 27th March 2021), there were over **2,100 tests completed**.

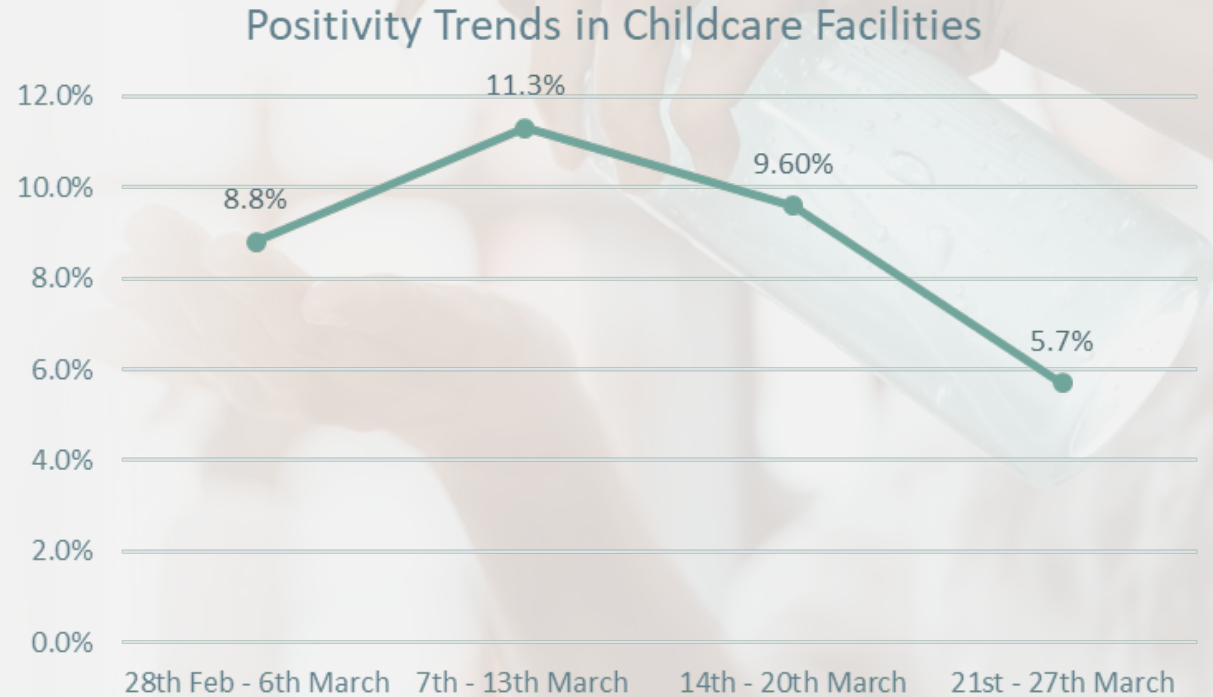


Weekly Analysis of Childcare Facility Testing by Week



Positivity Trend Childcare Facilities

- We continue to monitor weekly positivity rate in Childcare settings
- The graph shows weekly positivity rate for the last 4 weeks.
- In the last week, testing in childcare facilities resulted in a **5.7%** positivity rate





Service Improvements and Updates





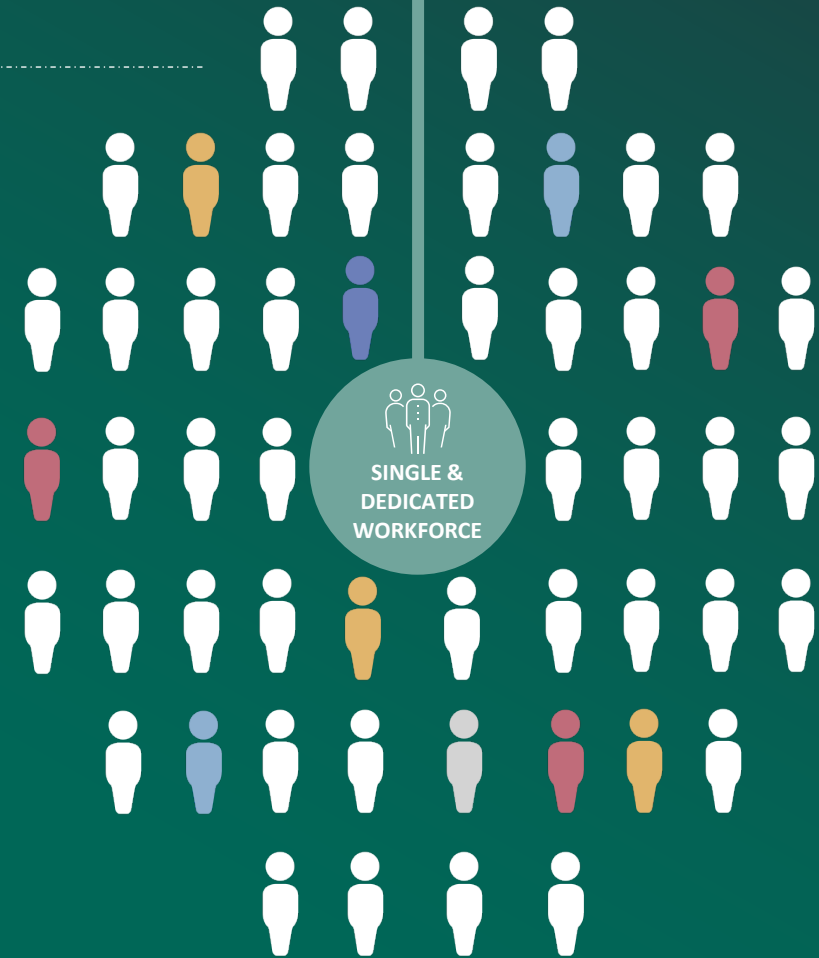
762
**Community
Swabbers**

Recruited and Onboarded

838
**Staff supporting
Contact Tracing**

Of these 838 staff;
772 of these staff have been hired
and retained as part of
dedicated workforce to support
the contact tracing function

The remaining 66 staff are redeployed
from the HSE and other Public Service
Roles





Walk in -Test Centres (1/2)

Symptom Free Walk-In COVID-19 Testing

Testing people with no symptoms will help us to find positive cases earlier and to break chains of transmission

As of 25th of March, There are **5 current 'walk-in no appointment necessary'** COVID-19 testing centres.

- 1) National Aquatic Centre – Blanchardstown
- 2) Tallaght Stadium – Tallaght
- 3) Irish Town Stadium – Irishtown
- 4) Tullamore Leisure Centre – Tullamore, Offaly
- 5) Grangegorman Primary Care Centre Car Park

There are an additional **7 new** confirmed locations for **'walk-in no appointment necessary'** and are listed below

- 6) Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
- 7) NAAS Race Course
- 8) Navan, O' Mahony's GAA club
- 9) Balbriggan
- 10) Finglas
- 11) Athlone
- 12) Crumlin GAA



Walk in -Test Centres (2/3)

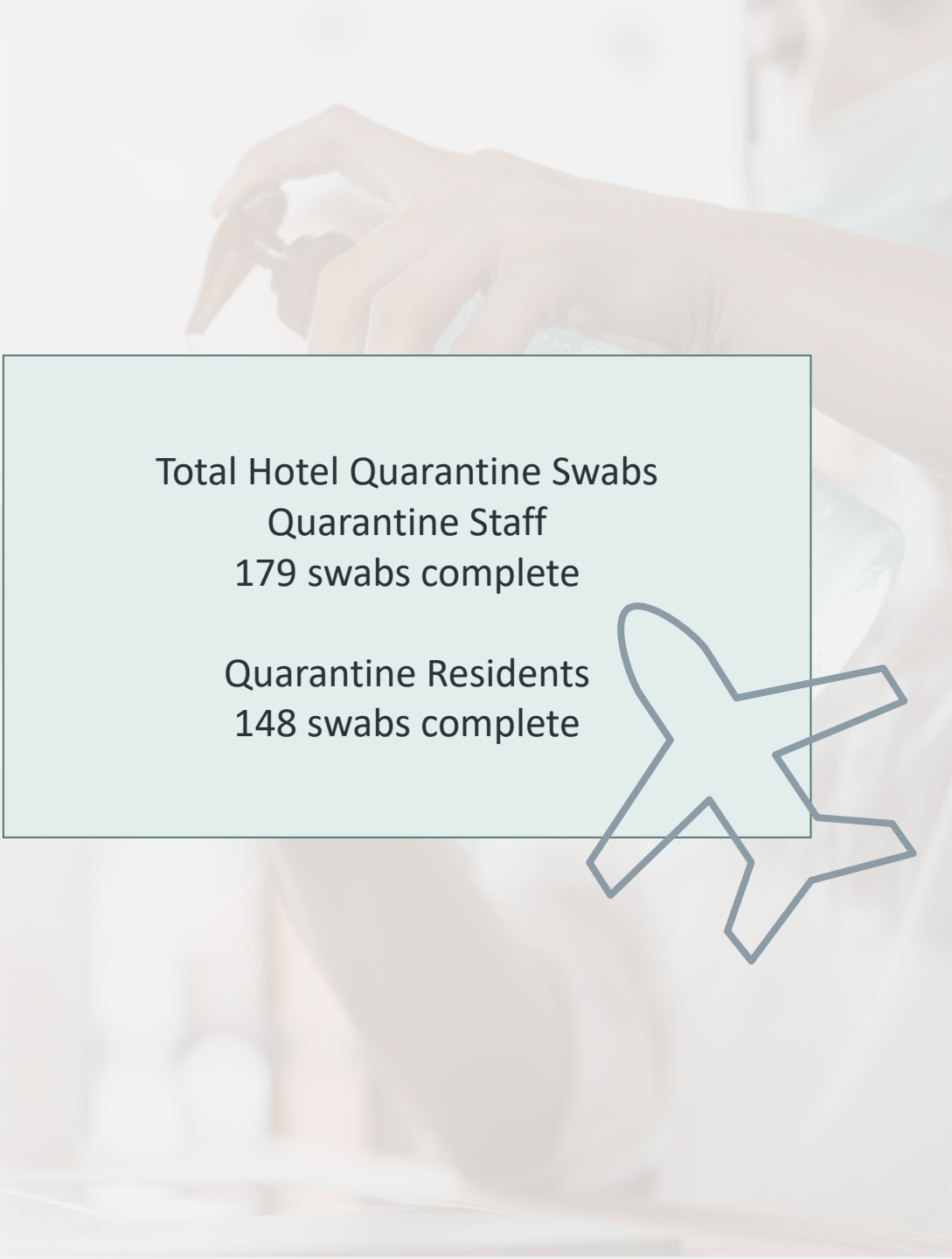
Symptom Free Walk-In COVID-19 Testing

Testing people with no symptoms will help us to find positive cases earlier and to break chains of transmission

- The table to the right shows daily swabs per walk-in test centre from the 25th – 31st of March.
- On the 31st of March 4 out of 5 sites saw their busiest days with significantly high numbers in the Dublin North Inner City Testing Centre
- Between the 25th and 30th of March, 25-44 year olds make up 47% of Walk ins.
- From the 25th – 30th of March, there was a **3% positivity rate** over the five centres.
- Positivity rate was highest among the 0-24 year old Category, however there has been a low volume of those aged 0-14 presenting for walk in testing.


Walk-in Centre Location	25-Mar	26-Mar	27-Mar	28-Mar	29-Mar	30-Mar	31-Mar
	End day	End day	End day	End day	End day	End day	End day
Dublin - North Inner City	347	445	448	484	529	558	668
Dublin - North West (Blanchardstown)	423	444	377	399	429	375	509
Dublin - South East (Irishtown)	257	354	313	315	338	382	438
Dublin - South West (Tallaght)	383	529	452	397	425	463	568
Offaly - Tullamore	312	378	281	262	316	275	374
Total	1722	2150	1871	1857	2037	2053	2557

- All passengers arriving into Ireland from designated states are now required to pre-book accommodation in a designated quarantine facility.
- Testing resources have been made available in Quarantine Facilities since 04:00am on 26th March 2021, and are available on a daily basis to accommodate the testing of all new arrivals.
- The scope of testing includes:
 - Testing of passengers arriving into Ireland from Category 2 Countries on Day 0 and Day 10
 - Testing of passengers arriving into Ireland from Category 1 Countries that have not been able to produce a negative result
 - Testing of Quarantine Hotel Staff on a weekly basis



Total Hotel Quarantine Swabs
Quarantine Staff
179 swabs complete

Quarantine Residents
148 swabs complete





Conclusion



As of 31st March, there are **over 4,006,033 COVID-19 Tests** completed to date.



Our median end to end turnaround time is **2 days for detected cases** and **1.3 days for not detected cases**.



The **total community referrals (GP and Close Contact referrals)** has **increased by 18%** since this time last week.

