

HSE COVID-19 Test and Trace Briefing

6th of May, 2021

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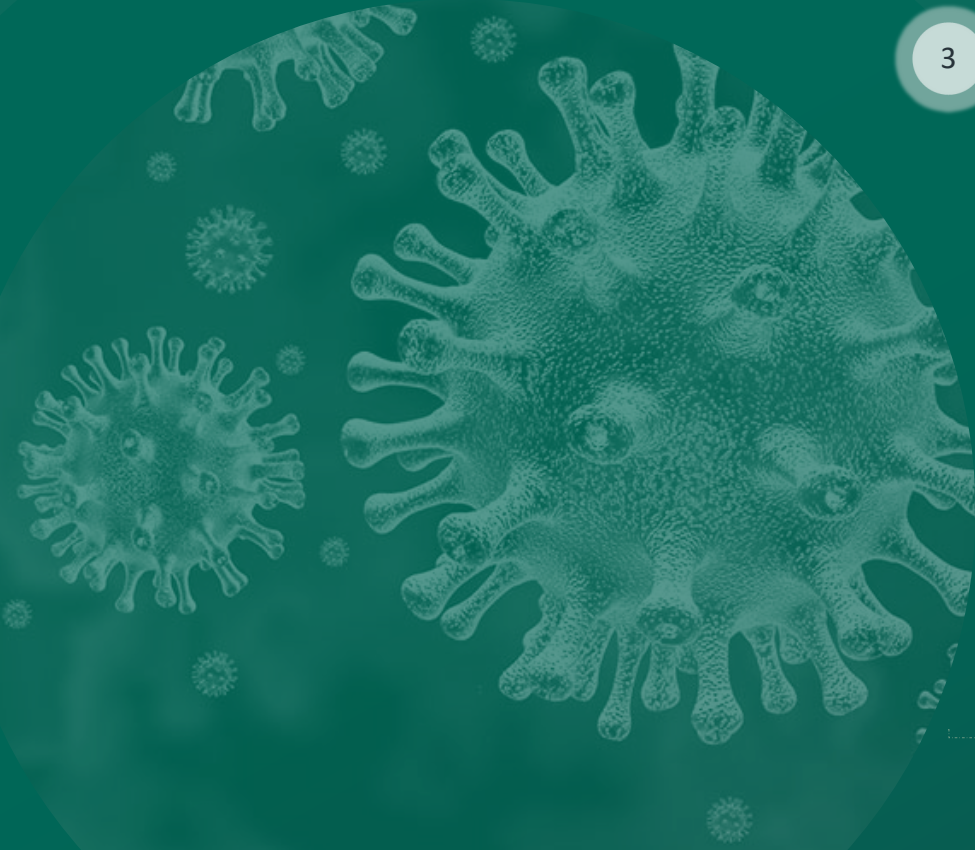
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Test and Trace Headlines

Over 4,578,830
Lab Tests Completed to Date



1.3 days

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



2.0 days

Community - median end to end for a detected result



125,380+

Total number of swabs taken last week



125,220+

Total number of laboratory tests last week



2,990+

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 28th April – 4th May.

A circular inset image showing a microscopic view of several coronavirus particles. The particles are spherical with a textured surface and numerous protruding spike proteins. They are set against a dark, circular background that is part of a larger, faint circular graphic on the slide.

Testing Volumes and Turnaround Times



Test and Trace Volumes

The following metrics and turnaround times refer to the seven days from 28th April – 4th May.



Community Referrals and Total Swabs Taken

- **Community Referrals (GP and CTC)** were c.39,661, which has decreased by 2% in comparison to the same time-frame last week (21st – 27th April; c.40,444 community referrals).
- **Walk-In Referrals** were c.11,215, an increase of 33% in comparison to the same time-frame last week (21st – 27th April; c.8,384 walk-in referrals)
- From the 28th April – 4th May, over 125,380 swabs were taken across community, acutes and serial testing.
- **94%** of GP referrals are provided with a COVID-19 test appointment within 24 hours.
- From 19th – 25th April of those close contacts who were referred for Test 1, attendance was **90%**.
- From 12th – 18th April, of those close contacts who were referred for Test 2, attendance was **86%**.



Laboratories

- Laboratories processed **125,225 tests** across our network of 46 labs.
- The average detected rate over the past week is **approximately 2.7%**.



Contact Tracing

- Of the close contacts identified between 19th – 25th of April who underwent Test 1 and whose results were available, 12.4% were positive. By circumstances of contact, positivity rates remain highest in this cohort for household close contacts where it is 24.1%.
- Of those who recorded close contacts over the last 7 days, the average number **close contacts is 3.6 per person**.
- From 28th April – 4th May a total of 3,260 calls were completed to individuals who received a confirmed COVID-19 detected test result.
- From 28th April – 4th May, contact tracing was completed for c.2,993 individuals that had a confirmed COVID-19 case
- In addition, c.5,408 calls were made to close contacts.



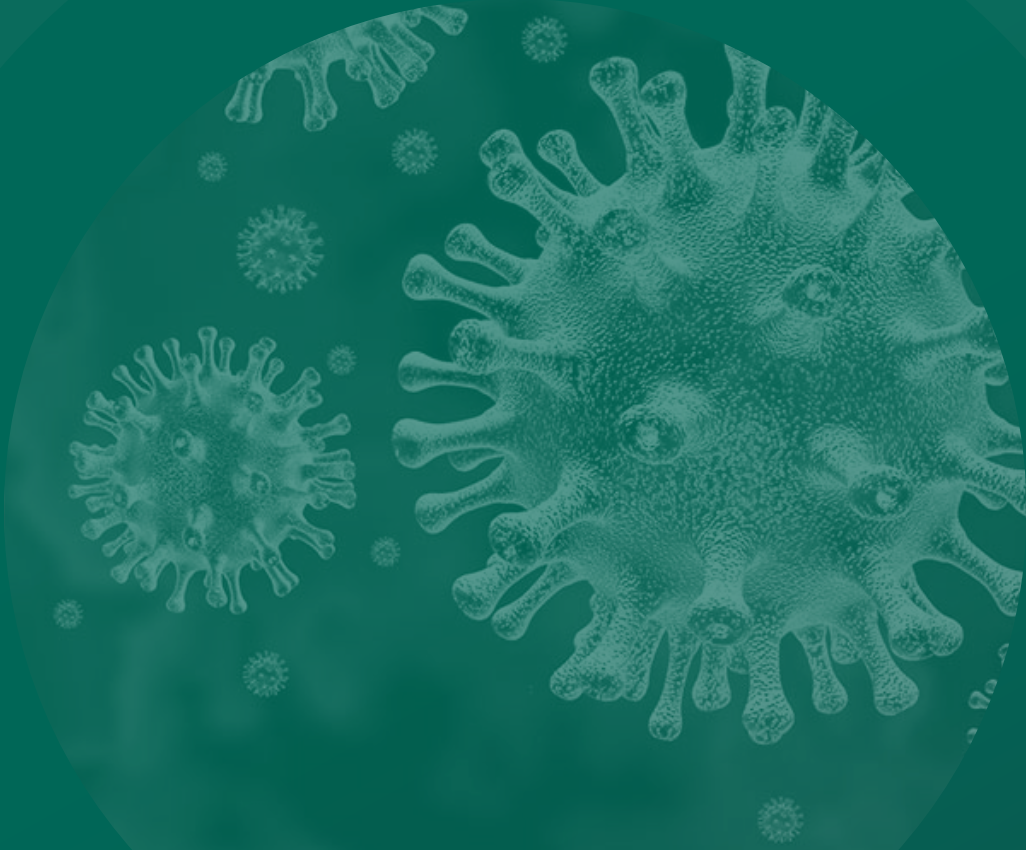
Test and Trace Turnaround Times

The following metrics and turnaround times refer to the 7 day date range from 28th April – 4th May.



Turnaround Times

- The combined median time from swab to lab result in community and acute settings was **22 hours**.
- All contact tracing calls are completed within a **mean of 7.9 hours** and a **median of 5.2 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 2.0 days for detected results**.



Walk In Test Centres



Walk in - Test Centres (1/2)

Symptom Free Walk-In COVID-19 Testing

- A new walk-in test centre has opened in Milford Co. Donegal, while walk-in testing remains open in Letterkenny. The situation in Donegal is being continuously monitored, and subsequent suitable locations will be progressed based on Public Health guidance.
- Two new walk-in test centres have opened in Dublin in Ballymun and Blanchardstown
- Walk-in testing remains open in Galway, Roscommon and Offaly, with extended opening for other locations around the country that can be viewed on the HSE website.
- These walk-in test sites support the HSE's enhanced COVID-19 testing for local communities and allow further identification and understanding of any variants of concern within our communities.



Riailtas na Míreanna
Government of Ireland



Comhairle
COVID-19
Public Health
Advice

Don't have symptoms of COVID-19 but want to be tested?

Try our new free, walk-in COVID-19 testing service.





Walk in - Test Centres (2/2)

Symptom Free Walk-In COVID-19 Testing

- Covid-19 walk-in test centres provide quicker and easier access to Covid-19 testing for asymptomatic people. They first opened on 26th March.
- As of May 4th:
 - A total of 58,497 people have attended
 - Overall positivity rate for walk-in test centres is 3.4%
 - Castlerea had the highest positivity level at over 7%, followed by Letterkenny at over 4.5%
 - The positivity rate was highest among the younger age groups (under 30)
 - To date **1,899 detected cases** have been identified

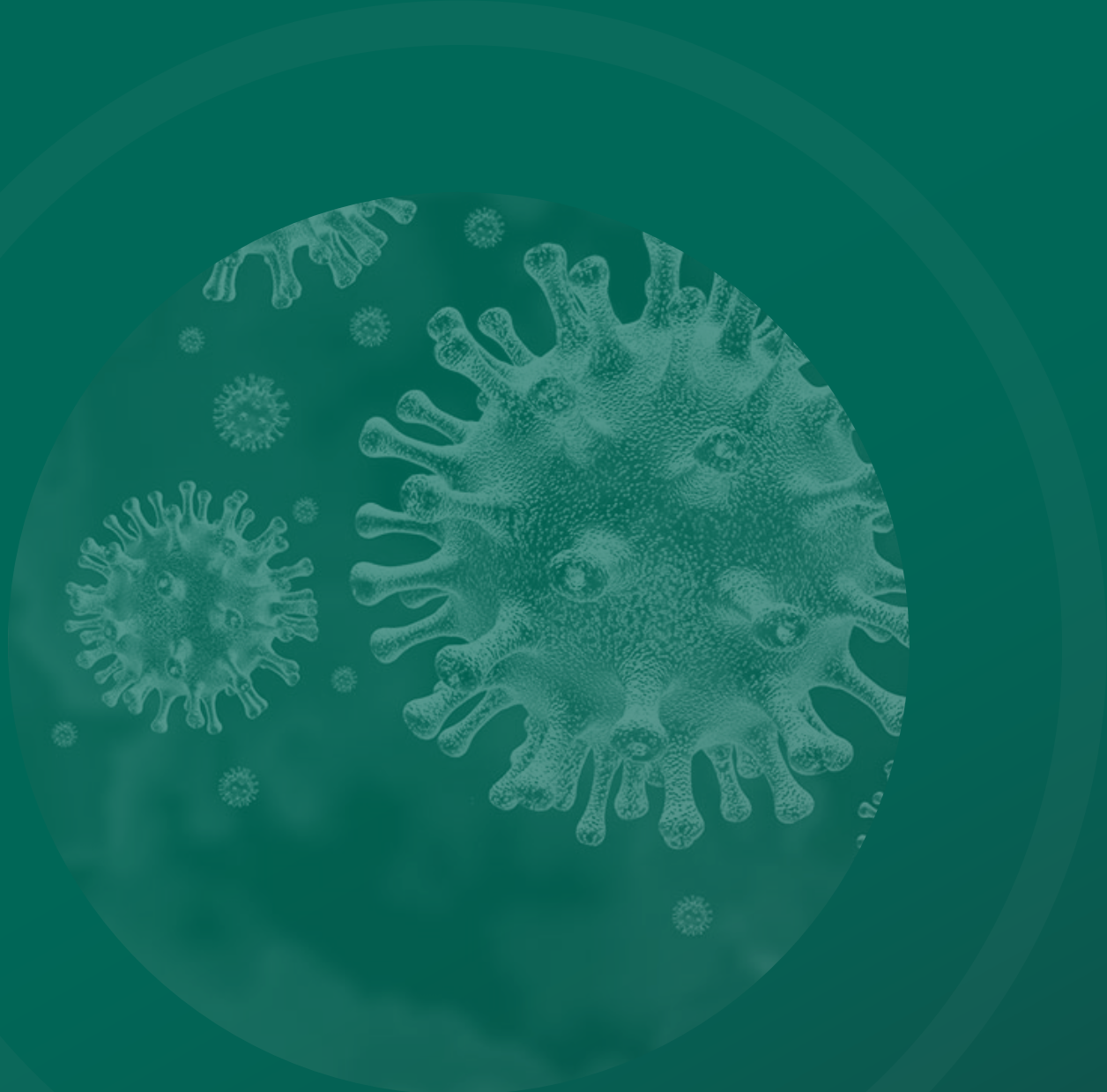
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 Coronavirus
COVID-19
Public Health
Advice

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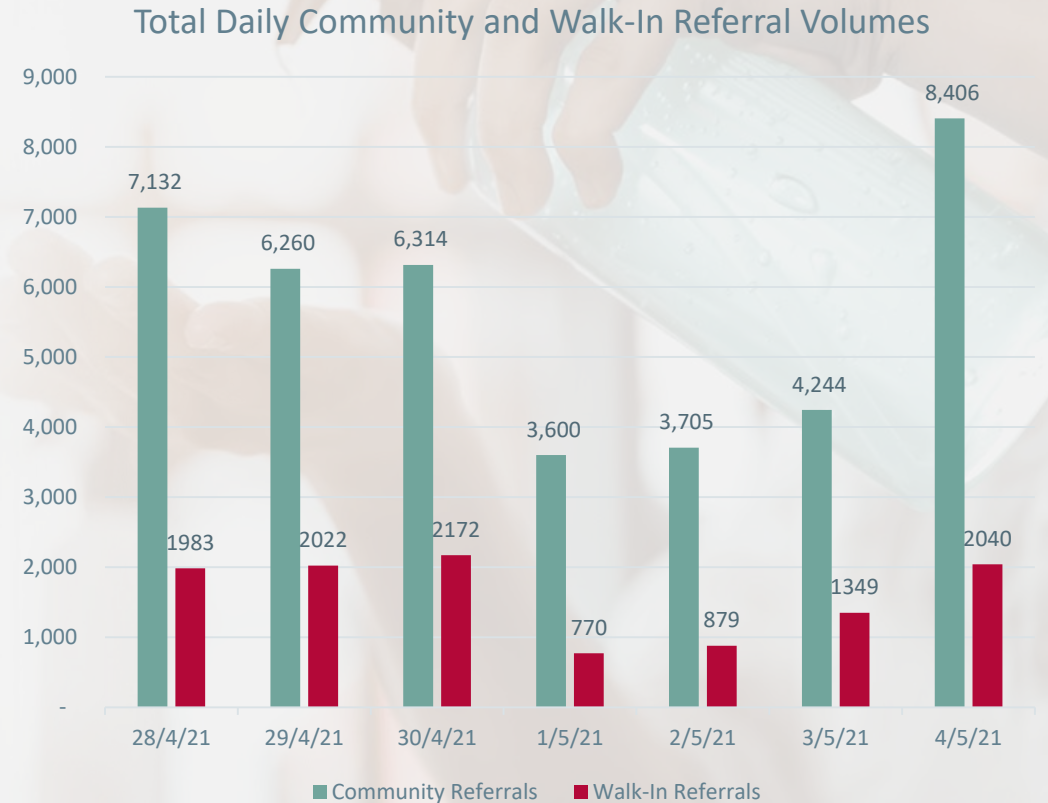


Testing and Trace Trends



Community & Walk-In Referrals

- From the 28th April – 4th May, there were **c.39,661** referrals in **community settings**. This weekly total has **decreased by 2%** in comparison to the same time-period last week (21st – 27th April; c.40,444 community referrals).
- From the 28th April – 4th May, there were **c.11,215** referrals for **walk-in test centres**. This weekly total has **increased by 33%** since the same time-period last week (21st – 27th April; c. 8,384 walk-in referrals)
- The graph to the right shows a breakdown of **total daily community and walk-in referrals** over the past 7 days.

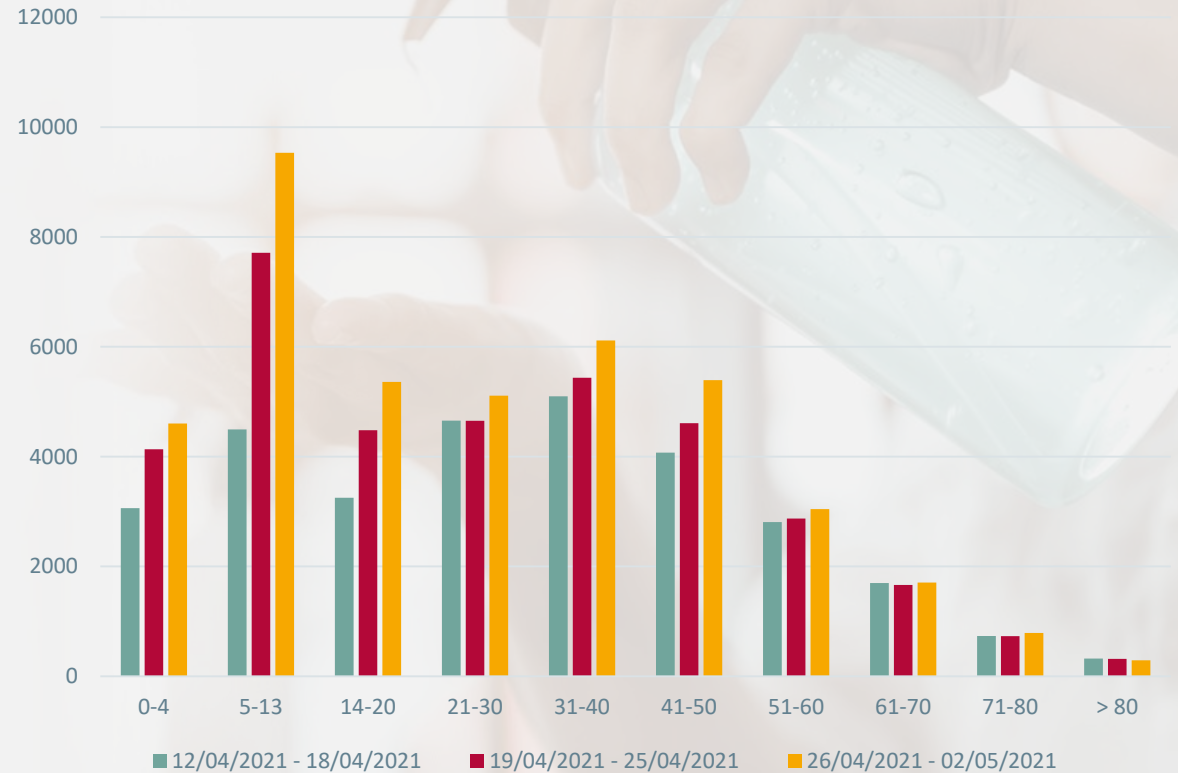




Community Referrals by Age Group

- From the 26th April – 2nd of May, the age group with the highest percentage of referrals was the **5-13** age group.
- The **5-13** age group made up **22.7%** of all referrals.
- The detected rate for the **5-13** age group was **c.4.5%**.

Referral Volumes by Age Group

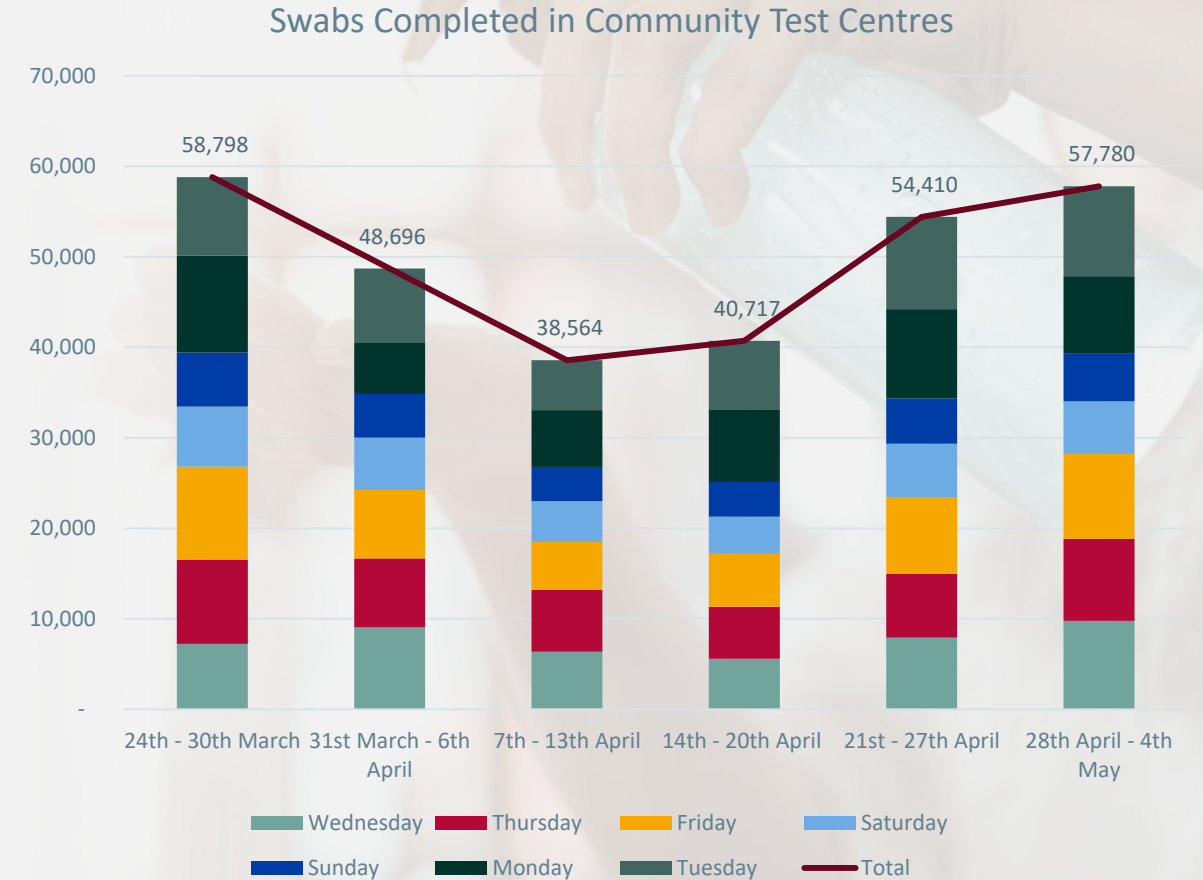




Swabs Completed in Community Test Centres

Including Walk-in Test Centres

Over the 7 day period, 28th April – 4th May, there has been **c.57,780** swabs completed in community test centres (including walk-in test centres)

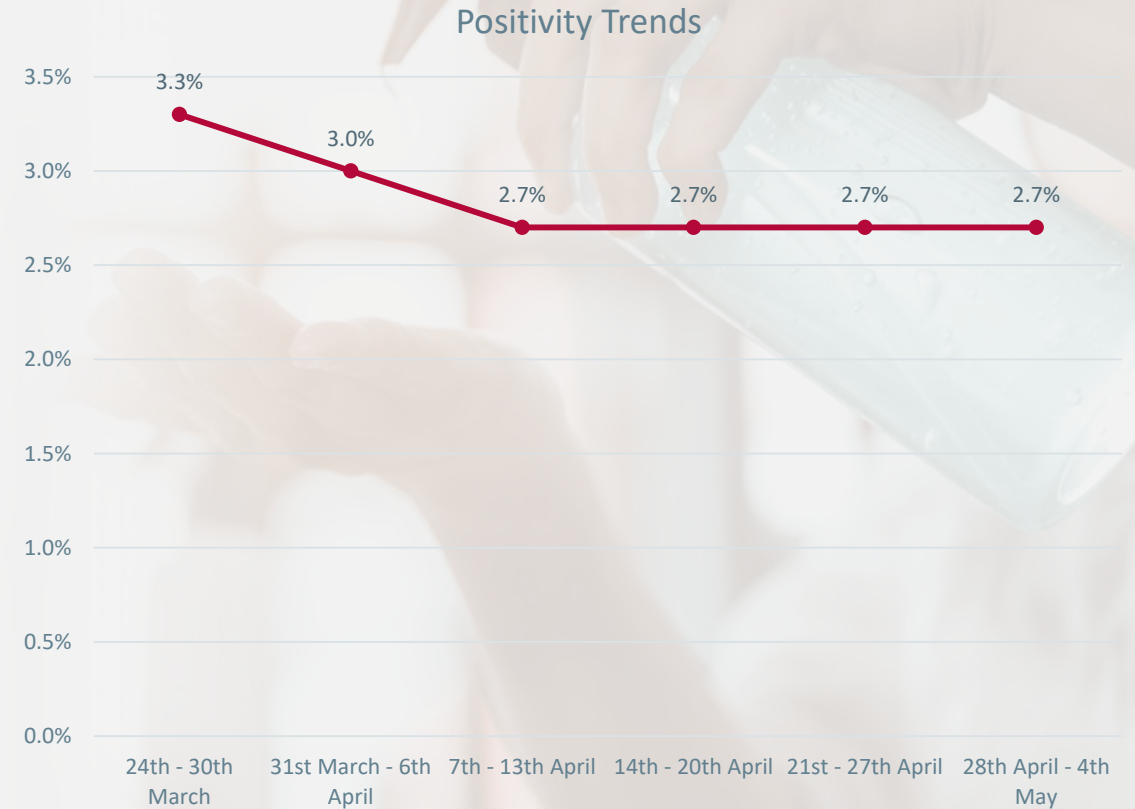




Overall Positivity Trend

c.2.7%

- The positivity rate for the past seven days is **c.2.7%**
- The positivity rate has remained stable for the fourth consecutive week in a row.





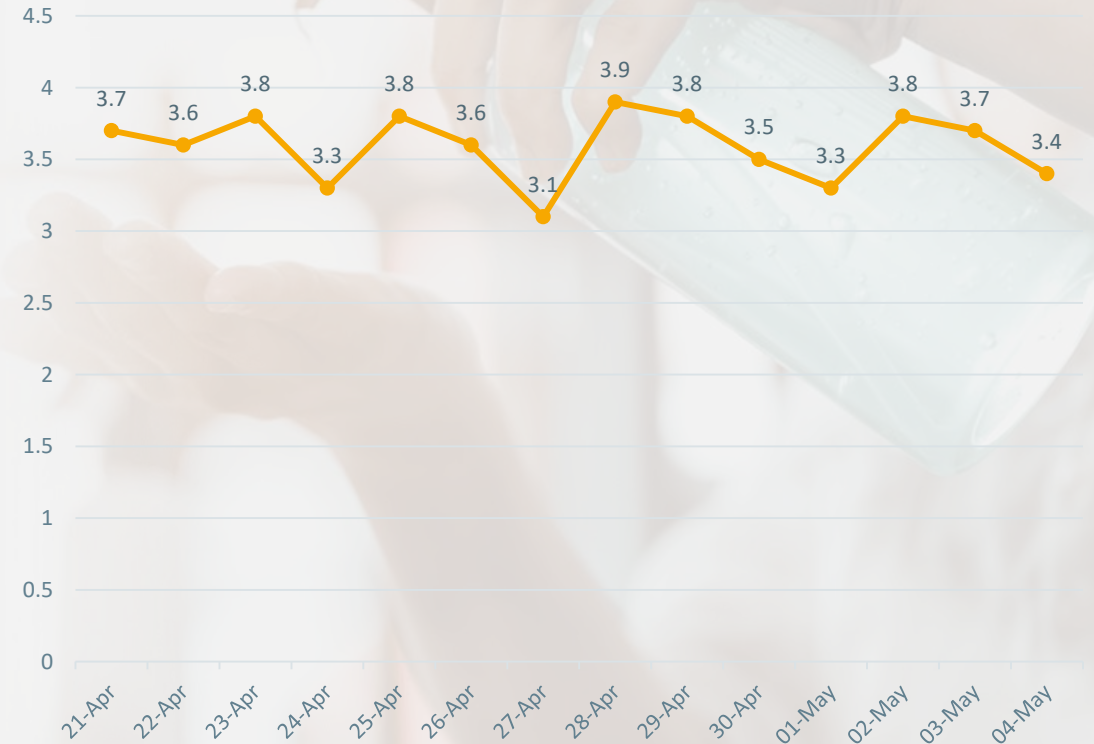
Close Contacts Trend

3.6

Of those tested with at least one close contact, the mean number of close contacts per person was **3.6 over the last 7 days**

- Overall Close Contact Positivity Rate: **12.4%**
- Household Positivity: **24.1%**
- Social Positivity: **14.5%**

Mean Number of Close Contacts



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. They are set against a dark, circular background with a subtle grid pattern.

Testing Programmes

Serial Testing in Nursing Homes

Cycle 11 of serial testing for Nursing Homes commenced on 26th of April.

In Cycle 11;



365 facilities have been tested

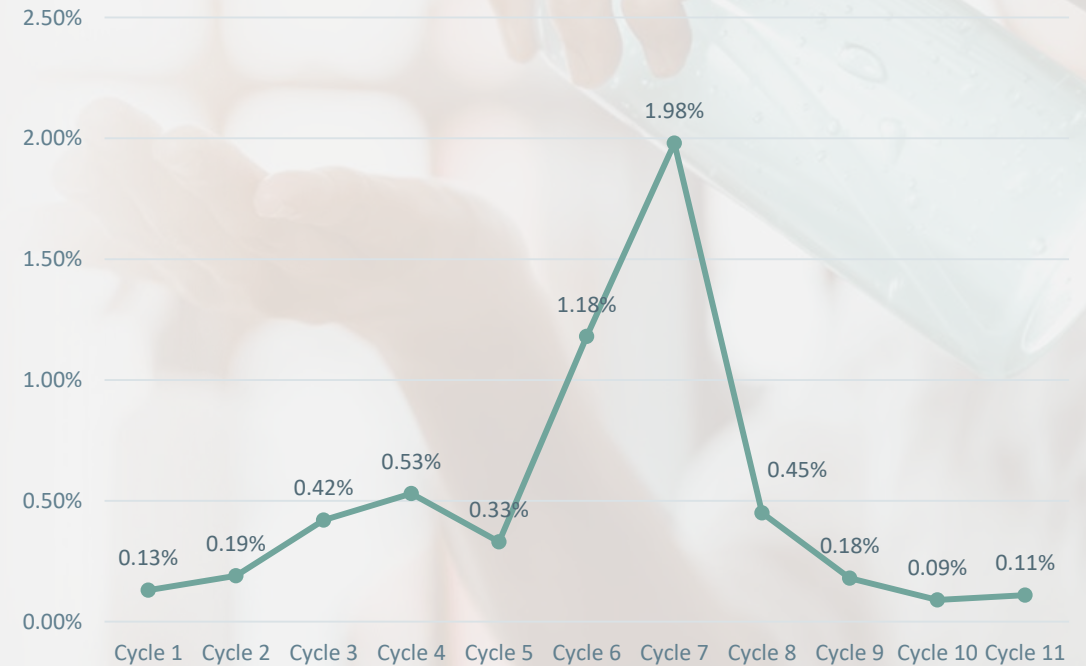


17,550 tests have been completed



19 detected cases identified
(0.11% detected rate)

Nursing Home Detected Rate per Cycle





Serial Testing in Mental Health Facilities

Cycle 4 of serial testing for Mental Health Facilities commenced on 26th of April.

In Cycle 4;



15 facilities have been tested

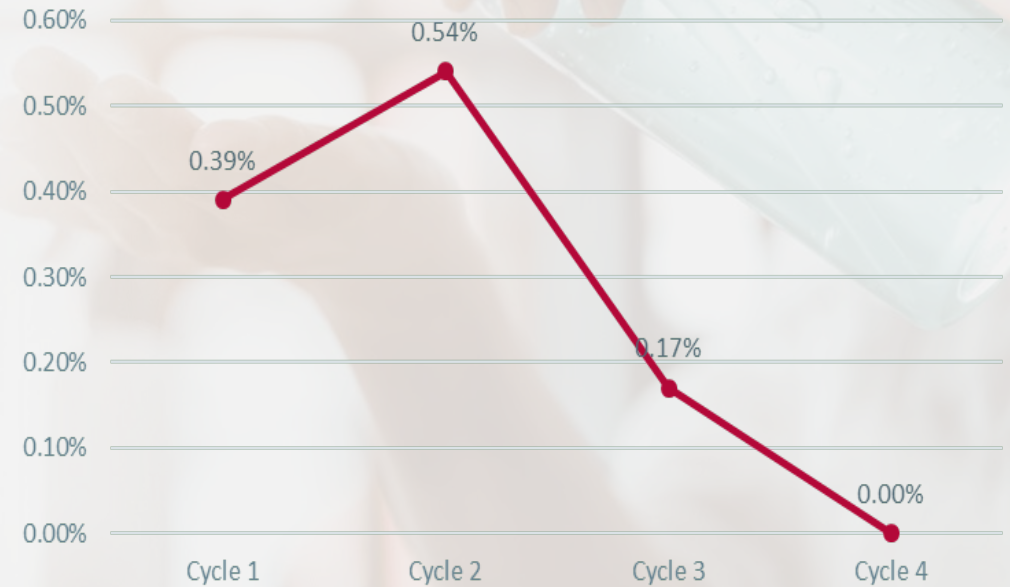


630 tests have been completed



0 detected cases identified
(0.00% detected rate)

Mental Health Facilities Detected Rate per Cycle





Serial Testing in Food Production Facilities

Cycle 9 of serial testing for Food Production Facilities commenced on 3rd of May.

In Cycle 9;



8 facilities have been tested

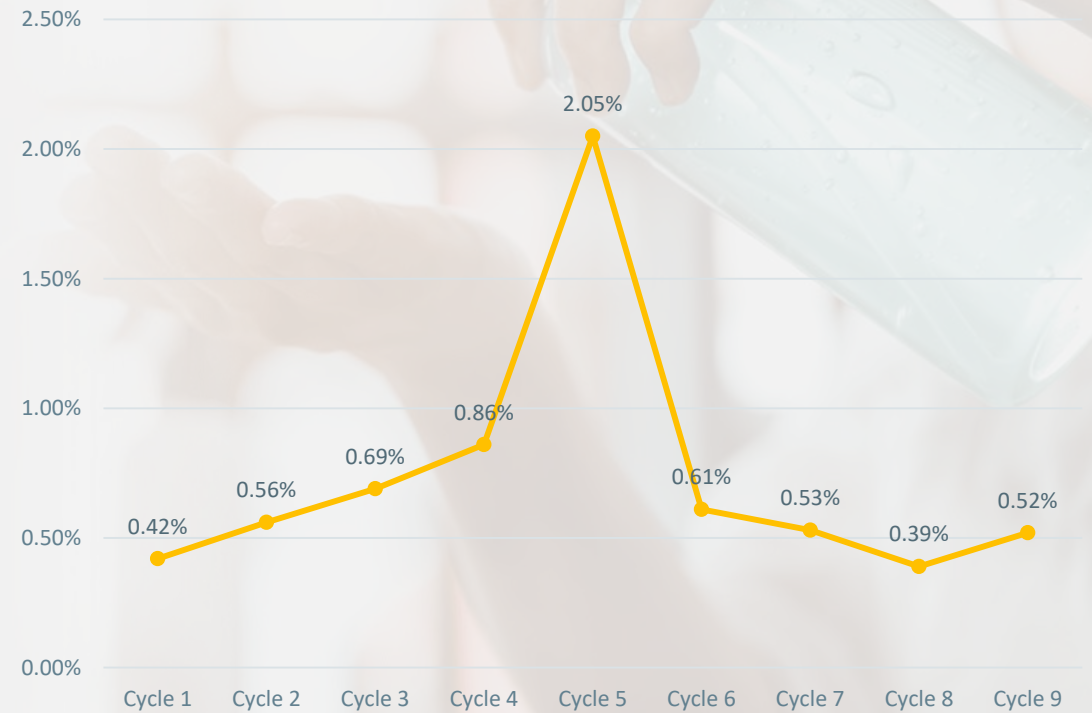


1,339 tests have been completed



7 detected cases identified
(0.52% detected rate)

Food Production Detected Rate per Cycle





Mandatory Hotel Quarantine Testing

- 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 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 as of May 4th:

Hotel Staff

762 swabs complete

Quarantine Residents

3,389 swabs complete

Detected Cases To Date

80



A circular inset image showing a microscopic view of coronavirus particles. The particles are spherical with a textured surface and numerous spike-like protrusions. They are set against a dark, circular background that is part of a larger, faint circular graphic on the slide.

Education and Childcare



In the Last Week

1 day

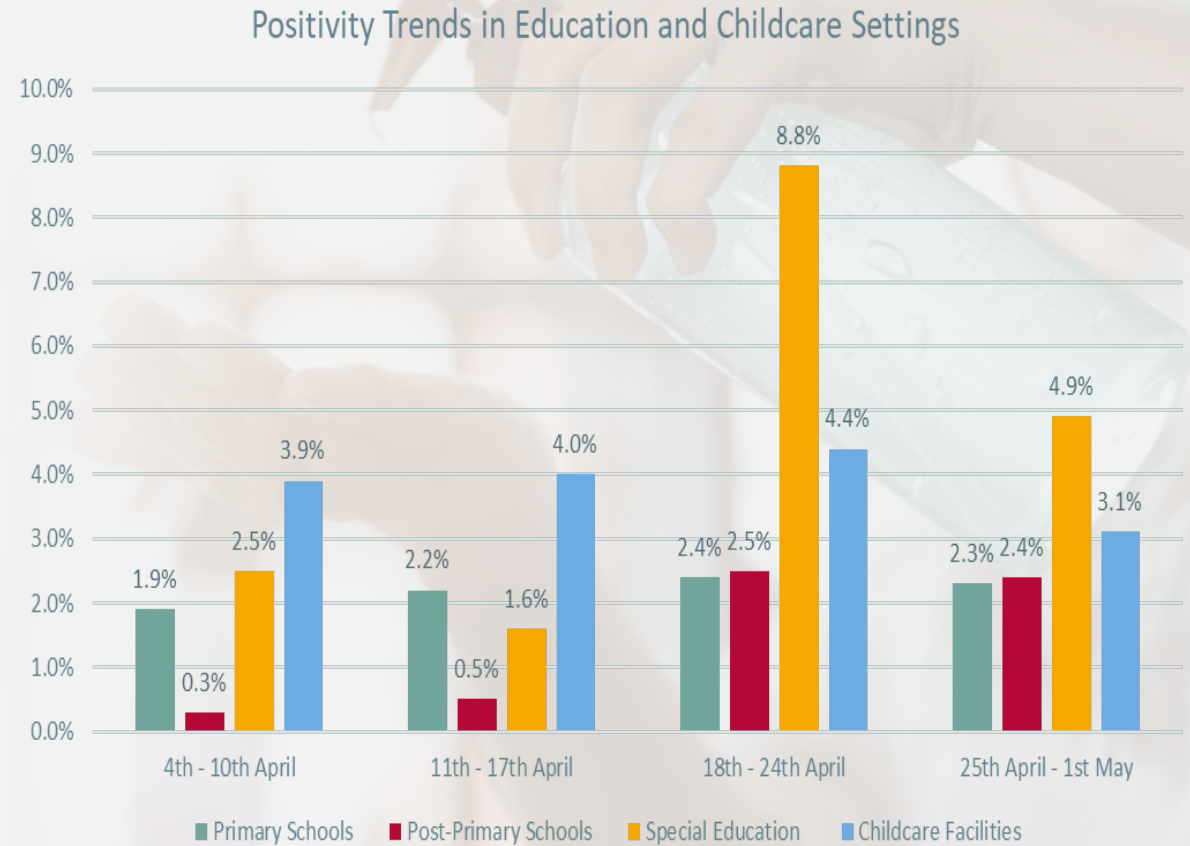
from swab to
communication of
result

Testing in Education and Childcare Facilities

primary schools	Post primary schools	Special schools	Childcare facilities
4,455 individuals	3,360 individuals	81 individuals	1,217 individuals
180 primary schools	104 post- primary schools	7 special schools	73 childcare facilities
2.3% Positivity rate	2.4% Positivity rate	4.9% Positivity rate	3.1% Positivity rate

Positivity Trend in Education and Childcare Settings

- This graph shows the positivity trend in primary schools, post primary schools, special education and childcare facilities over the past four weeks.
- In the last week the positivity rate in;
 - **Primary schools** was **2.3%**
 - **Post-primary** schools was **2.4%**
 - **Special education** schools was **4.9%**
 - **Childcare facilities** was **3.1%**



A circular inset image showing a microscopic view of coronavirus particles. The particles are spherical with a textured surface and numerous spike-like protrusions. They are set against a dark, circular background with a subtle grid pattern.

Recruitment



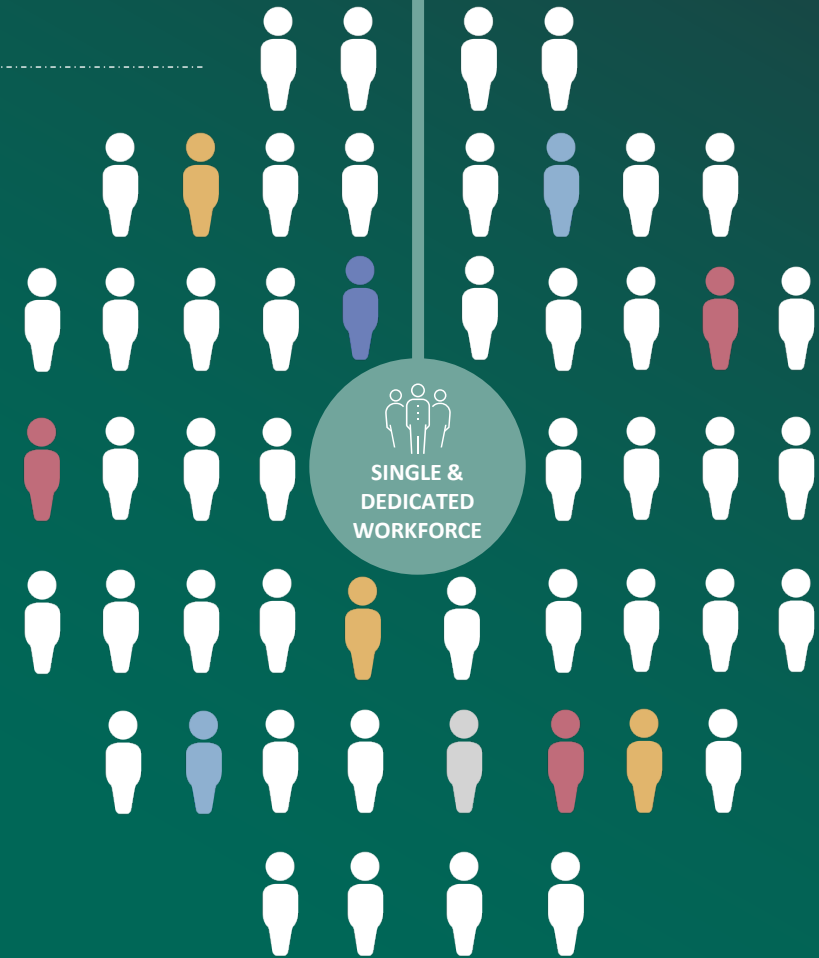
788
**Community
Swabbers**

Recruited and Onboarded

960
**Staff supporting
Contact Tracing**

Of these 960 staff;
905 of these staff have been hired
and retained as part of
dedicated workforce to support
the contact tracing function

The remaining 55 staff are redeployed
from the HSE and other Public Service
Roles





Conclusion

1

As of the 4th of May, there are **over 4,578,830 COVID-19 Tests** completed to date.

2

Our median end to end turnaround time is **2.0 days for detected cases and 1.3 days for not detected cases.**

3

Referral volumes in the **community decreased by 2%** in comparison to the same time-period last week.

Referral volumes for **walk-in test centres increased by 33%** in comparison to the same time-period last week.