



Title: Test and Trace Paper – NPHET

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Action required:

- For noting
- For discussion
- For decision

Approved for future publication: YES/NO (remove as applicable)



Testing and Tracing Paper, 28th of June 2021

Updates are provided below regarding the following aspects of Testing and Contact Tracing:

- 1) Testing and Tracing initiatives
- 2) Activity levels across referrals, sampling, laboratory testing and contact tracing
- 3) Turnaround Times
- 4) Testing Programmes

Please Note: As a result of the current climate and the limited access to HSE data, several data points within the paper could not be updated. Included in this paper are the most recent available figures. Where data has been affected by the recent outages, this will be accounted for retrospectively in future reports.

1. Testing & Tracing Initiatives

Testing at Quarantine sites

A working group is established with members of the Department of Health, the National Ambulance Service and various HSE teams to establish and monitor a serial testing programme at Quarantine sites. Quarantine requirements are in place since Friday, 26th March and testing commenced on Saturday, 27th March. A third party provider is now providing additional swabbing support for hotel staff testing to ensure the participation rate is high. Regular reporting is in place to help manage the testing programme and there is regular engagement underway to continually improve the testing process. There are currently 8 Hotel Quarantine testing sites in operation.

The below summary of Mandatory Quarantine data is as of 10am 25th June with eight Quarantine sites operational.

Overview of Mandatory Quarantine Facility Testing

As decided by the Department of Health, 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 at daily to accommodate the testing of all new arrivals. The scope of testing includes the below:

- 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 test result
- Testing of Quarantine Hotel Staff on a weekly basis
- Unaccompanied Minors arriving into Ireland from a Category 2 country

Summary of Mandatory Quarantine Facility Testing Data

Data as of 10:00am – 25th June 2021

- 8 x Quarantine Facilities Tested



- 30 x Unaccompanied Minors Tested
- 18,386 x Referrals for Mandatory Quarantine Testing
- 14,204 x Swabs
- 338 x Covid-19 Detected Tests (2.4% Detection Rate)
- 311 x Covid-19 Detected Cases

Table 1 Quarantine Facility Testing: Staff vs. Resident Summary

	Referrals	Swabs	Participation %	Detected Tests	Detection %	Detected Cases
Quarantine Staff	7,669	3,845	50%	12	0.3%	11
Quarantine Residents	10,680	10,329	97%	325	3.1%	299
Unaccompanied Minors Home Test	37	30	81%	1	3.3%	1
Total	18,386	14,204	77%	338	2.4%	311

Note: “Detected Tests” includes data from any requested or required re-testing of individuals. “Detected Cases” signifies the number of Covid-19 Cases detected i.e. 1 result per individual tested.

Note: Testing of Quarantine Staff is scheduled for Thursday, Friday and Saturday of each week.

Table 2 Quarantine Facility Testing by Site, not including Unaccompanied Minors

	Staff			Residents		
	Referrals	Swabs	Detected	Referrals	Swabs	Detected
Site 1	2748	1099	2	1493	1430	56
Site 2	4	4	0	2261	2218	61
Site 3	835	438	2	802	786	17
Site 4	575	136	2	123	114	3
Site 5	1257	824	5	2007	1957	56
Site 6	664	369	0	1343	1227	40
Site 7	829	499	0	1389	1353	48
Site 8	757	476	1	1262	1244	44
Total	7,669	3,845	12	10,680	10,329	325



Testing of Residents in Mandatory Hotel Quarantine (by Swab Date)

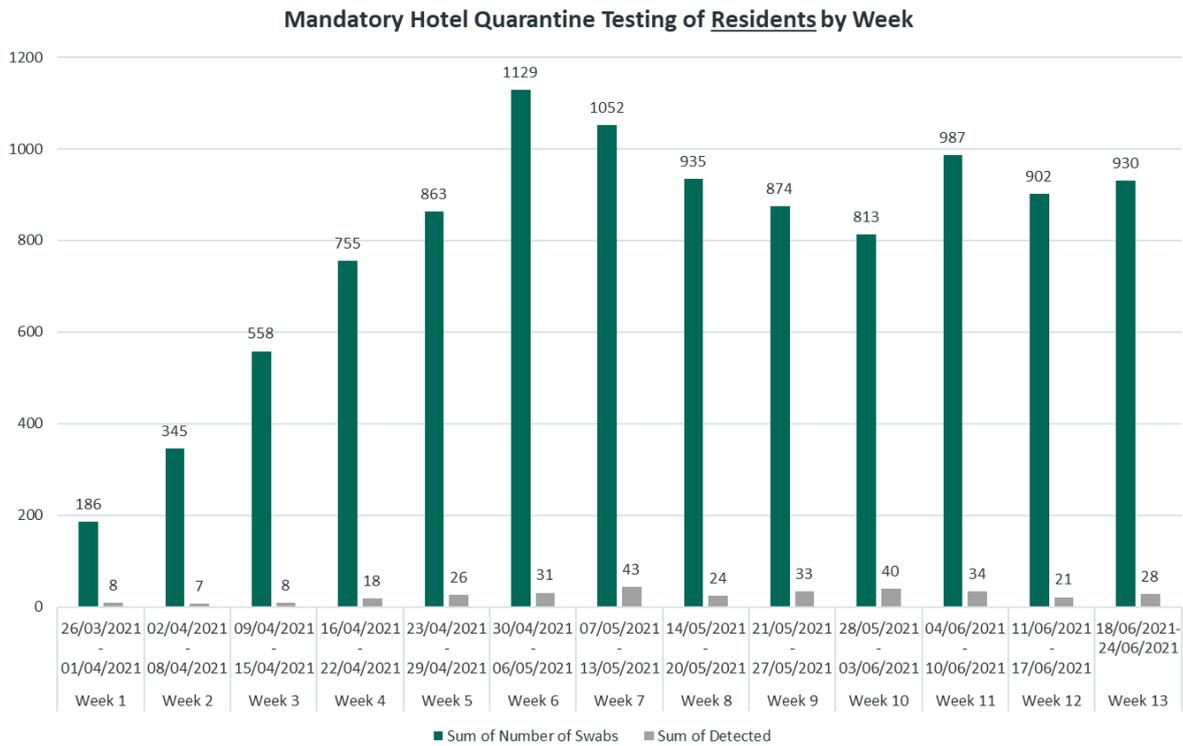


Figure 1 Mandatory Quarantine Facility Testing of Residents by Week

Testing of Staff in Mandatory Hotel Quarantine (by Swab Date)

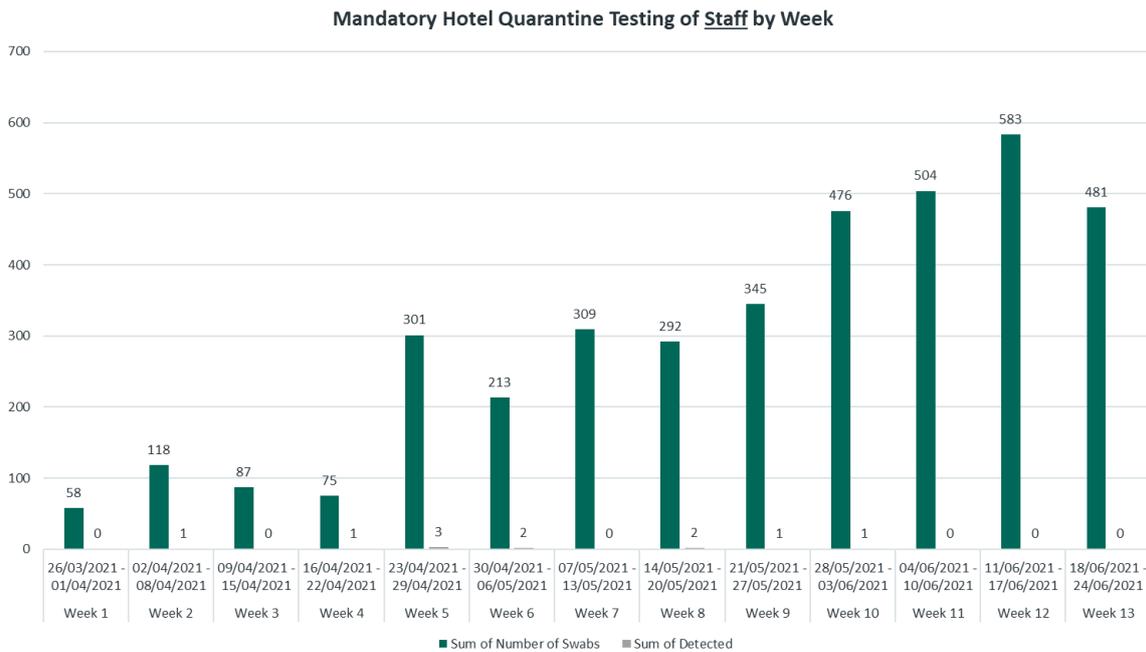


Figure 2 Mandatory Quarantine Facility Testing of Staff by Week



Table 3 Quarantine Facility Testing of Residents: Category 1 vs. Category 2 Country Referrals

	Referrals	Swabs	Participation %	Detected	Detection %
Category 1 Country	628	581	93%	11	2.2%
Category 2 Country	10,052	9,748	97%	314	3.2%
Total	10,680	10,329	97%	325	3.1%



1. Activity levels across referrals, sampling, laboratory and contact tracing

Summary

Test and Trace service performance indicators from the 20th - 26th of June show that total referral volumes increased by c.26% in comparison with those from the same time-frame last week. Last week, from the 13th – 19th, there were a total of 56,387 referrals. This week, from 20th – 26th of June, there were a total of 71,050 referrals.

From the 21st – 27th of June, the positivity rate for tests completed in community and private settings was c.**2.7%**.

From 21st - 27th of June, of those tested with close contacts, the average number of close contacts per case was **3.8**.

Demand planning scenarios are refreshed on an ongoing basis and proactive demand and capacity planning activities are being used to support operational planning across the end-to-end pathway.

The medium-term operating model plan and an accompanying briefing paper has been drafted with input from the required stakeholders and the demand ranges have been set out. This has been circulated to the SMT group for review and sign off. The plan will continue to be monitored and revised as necessary.



Community Referral Data (20th - 26th June)

Please note an earlier date range for the community referral data (20th – 26th June) due to the availability of data.

From the 20th – 26th of June there were c.71,050 community referrals, this figure includes 18,894 walk-in referrals, 4,785 international travel referrals and 12,936 referrals from the self-referral portal. The remainder of referrals are from GP and close contacts.

From the 13th – 19th of June to the 20th – 26th June, there is a week on week difference of:

- **Walk-in referrals have increased by 40%**
- **International travel referrals have increased by 23%**
- **Referrals from the self-referral portal have increased by 38%**

Overall, this weekly community total has increased by c.26% since the same time-period last week (13th – 19th June; c.56,387 total referrals).



Figure 2.1 Daily Community Referral Volumes 20th – 26th June



Community Referral Data Volumes by Age Group (19th – 25th of June)

Figure 2.2 below highlights the breakdown of community referrals by age group, from 19th – 25th June. This dataset reflects an earlier 7-day date range, as it refers to referrals that have been resulted (i.e., detected, not detected, inconclusive, indeterminate, invalid and not tested).

From the 19th – 25th June, the group with the largest number of referrals is the 21-30 age group, which makes up 21.5% of all referrals. The detected rate for the 21-30 age group is c.4.3%.

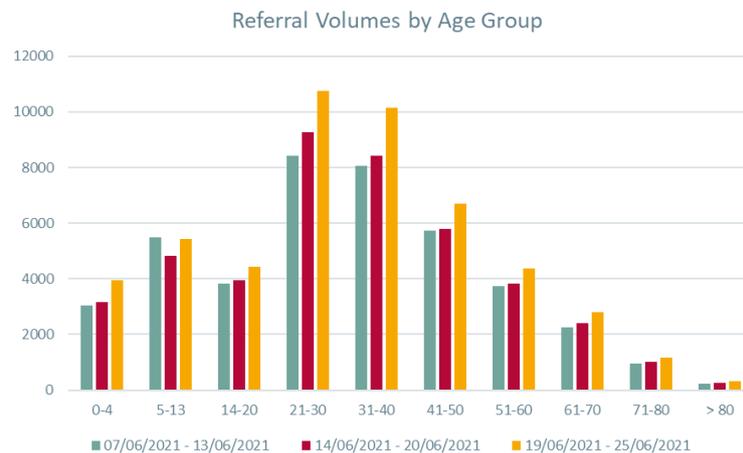


Figure 2.2 Three-week view of community testing referrals by age group

Sampling in the community and serial testing.

From 21st – 27th of June a total of 73,407 swabs were completed in the community and in serial testing sites; this includes swabs completed as part of the Serial Testing Programme being conducted in Nursing Home, Mental Health and Food Production Facilities.

This overall figure is not reflective of all testing completed from 21st – 27th of June. Due to the current climate, we do not have sight of the total swabs completed in acute and private settings. This information will be retrospectively reported once available.



Figure 2.3 7-Day View of Swabs Completed in the Community & Serial Testing Facilities



Laboratory Testing

Over the seven-day period 21st – 27th June, there has been approximately 86,625 lab tests completed in community and private labs.

Due to the current climate, we do not have sight of the number of lab tests completed in acute laboratories. This data will be retrospectively reported once available.

Contact Tracing

Contact tracing is carried out in contact tracing centres in Galway, Limerick, Cork and Dublin.

From 21st – 27th of June, there was a total of **2,154 call 1s** completed.

During the same time-period there was a total of **2,062 call 2s** completed, completing contact tracing for this number of individuals. A number of individuals did not require contact tracing.

There was a total of **4,923 call 3s** made to close contacts of a confirmed COVID 19 case.

From 21st – 27th June, of those tested with close contacts, the mean number of close contacts was **3.8**.



3. Turnaround Times (21st – 27th June)

End-to-end turnaround time

We continue to keep sharp focus on end-to-end turnaround times, highlighting any opportunity for improvement, while recognising that some cases are increasingly complex in nature.

Over the seven-day period 21st – 27th of June;

- The median end-to-end turnaround time, from referral to SMS, for **not detected** tests in the community setting was **1.3 days**.
- The median turnaround time, from referral to communication of a **detected result** by call, in community setting was **1.7 days**.
- The median end-to-end turnaround time, from referral to contact tracing completed, for **detected results** in the community setting was **1.5 days**.

Referral to appointment

***This KPI is under review at present due to the launch of the self-referral (commenced 1st June 2021) and the travel portal (commenced 9th June 2021) booking systems.*

Swab to lab result

- For swabs processed in a community lab, the median time for swab to lab result was 24 hours.
- For swabs processed in an acute lab, the median time for swab to lab result was 22 hours.
- The combined median time from swab to lab result was 23 hours.
- **Overall, 46% of people get their result in less than 24 hours, 84% in less than 36 hours.**

Overall Swab to laboratory result communicated – Medians

- 26 hours in Acute.
- 23 hours in Serial Testing.
- 26 hours in Community.

Contact Tracing

The average time to complete all calls is 9.5 hours and the median time to complete all calls is 6.8 hours.

Education and Childcare Facility turnaround times

The median turnaround time from swab taken to result communicated in education and childcare facilities was 1.2 day.



4. Testing Programmes

Serial Testing in Nursing Homes

Serial testing in Nursing Homes commenced on the 23rd of June 2020. To date, the programme has completed 833,710 tests and identified 4,745 detected cases. This is a detected rate of 0.57%.

Cycle 13 of serial testing in Nursing Homes commenced on 21st of June. To date, the cycle has completed 3,166 tests and has identified 2 detected case. This is a detected rate of **0.06%**.

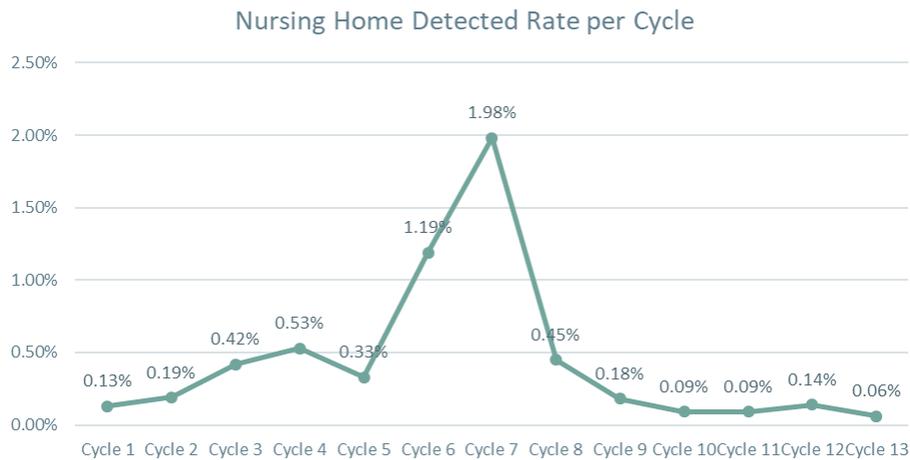


Figure 4.1 Nursing Home Detected Rate per Cycle

Serial Testing in Mental Health Facilities

Testing in mental health facilities commenced on the 25th of January. Facilities taking part in this testing programme will feature as a mixture of once off and serial testing. To date, the programme has completed 7,441 tests and identified 25 detected cases. **This is a detected rate of 0.34%.**

Cycle 6 of serial testing in Mental Health facilities commenced on the 21st of June. In total, the cycle has completed 111 tests and has identified 0 detected cases. **This is a detected rate of 0.00%.**

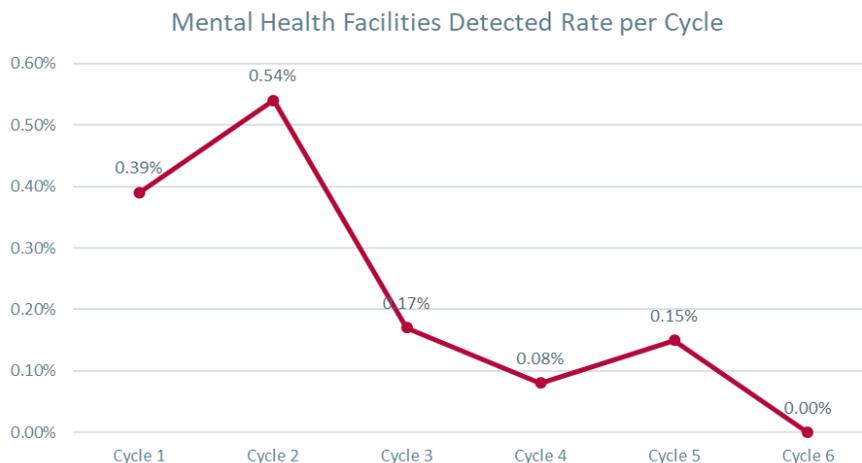


Figure 4.2 Mental Health Facility Detected Rate per Cycle



Serial Testing in Food Production Facilities

Serial testing in food production facilities commenced on the 21st of August 2020. To date, the programme has completed 214,984 tests and identified 1,414 detected cases. This is a detected rate of 0.66%.

Cycle 10 of serial testing in food production facilities commenced on the 31st of May, and has completed 16,602 tests, with 33 detected cases identified. **This is a detected rate of 0.20%.**

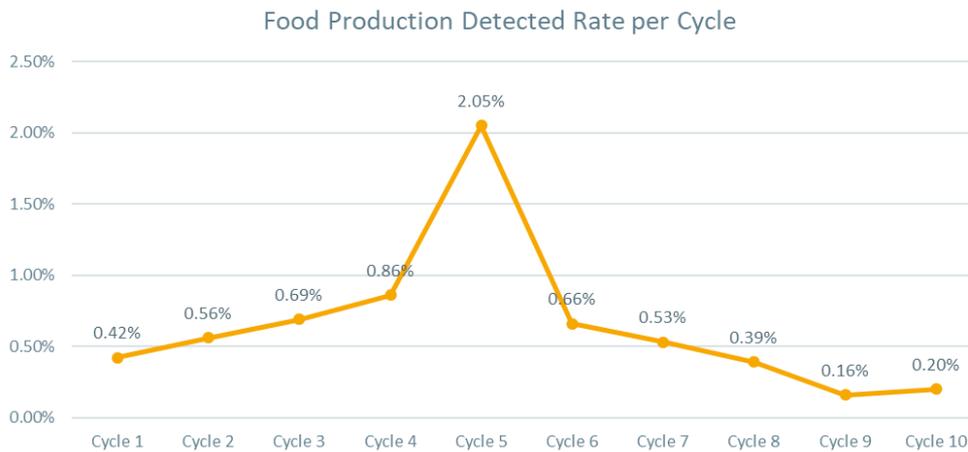


Figure 4.3 Food Production Detected Rate per Cycle