

# Public Health Scotland COVID-19 Statistical Report

As at 25 January 2021

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## **This is a Management Information publication**

Published management information are non-official statistics. They may not comply with the UK Statistics Authority's Code of Practice with regard to high data quality or high public value but there is a public interest or a specific interest by a specialist user group in accessing these statistics as there are no associated official statistics available.

Users should therefore be aware of the aspects of data quality and caveats surrounding these data, all of which are listed in this document. Therefore, the data presented are subject to change.

## Introduction

Since the start of the COVID-19 outbreak Public Health Scotland (PHS) has been working closely with Scottish Government and health and care colleagues in supporting the surveillance and monitoring of COVID-19 amongst the population.

The Public Health Scotland [COVID-19 Daily Dashboard](#) publishes daily updates on the number of positive cases of COVID-19 in Scotland, with charts showing the trend since the start of the outbreak.

This report provides additional information not found in the Daily Dashboard on topics such as Test and Protect and Quarantining Statistics and COVID-19 testing in children and young people.

The accompanying [interactive dashboard](#) contains charts and data on the following topics:

- Positive Cases
- Acute Hospital Admissions
- ICU Admissions
- NHS 24 Contacts
- Community Hubs and Assessment Centres
- Scottish Ambulance Service
- COVID-19 in children and young people
- Contact Tracing
- Health Care Workers
- COVID-19 Settings
- Admissions by Ethnic Group

There is a large amount of data being regularly published regarding COVID-19 (for example, [Coronavirus in Scotland – Scottish Government](#) and [Deaths involving coronavirus in Scotland – National Records of Scotland](#)). This report complements the range of existing data currently available.

The coronavirus pandemic is a rapidly evolving situation. Future reports will provide further data and analysis to contribute to the evidence base around the outbreak.

## Main Points

- From 8 December 2020 to 24 January 2021, 415,269 individuals received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccination, as reported in the Vaccination Management Tool.
- In the 24-hour period from 24 January to 25 January 2021, 67% of cases tested via the UK Government laboratories had a profile consistent with the new variant of Covid-19.
- In the week ending 24 January 2021, 7,932 individuals were recorded in the contact tracing software, from which 13,449 unique contacts have been traced.
- As at 24 January 2021, there have been 172,951 confirmed COVID-19 cases, with 8,344 in the week ending 24 January.
- In the week ending 22 January, there were 1,057 admissions to hospital with a laboratory confirmed test of COVID-19.
- In the week ending 23 January there were 108 new admissions to Intensive Care Units (ICUs) for confirmed COVID-19 patients.
- In the week ending 24 January there were 5,268 people who arrived in Scotland from outside the UK, of which 4,249 were required to quarantine and 3,097 were contacted by the National Contact Tracing Centre.
- In the week ending 21 January, 0.8% of key healthcare workers who were tested for COVID-19 tested positive.
- During the week ending 24 January, there were active confirmed cases of COVID-19 in 235 out of 1,054 care homes that returned data (1,065 care homes in total).

## Results and Commentary

### COVID-19 Vaccine

On the 08 December 2020, a Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine developed by Pfizer BioNTech was first used in the UK as part of national immunisation programmes. The AstraZeneca vaccine was also [approved for use](#) in the national programme, and rollout of this vaccine began on 04 January 2021.

These vaccines have met strict standards of safety, quality and effectiveness set out by the independent [Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency \(MHRA\)](#). Further candidate vaccines continue to be developed, and will be considered under the same processes when available. The aim of the current vaccination programme is to protect those who are at most risk from serious illness or death from COVID-19. The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) considered the available epidemiological, microbiological and clinical information on the impact of COVID-19 in the UK and provided the Government with advice to support the development of a vaccine strategy. In the first phase of the programme, NHS Scotland will follow the recommendations of the [Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation \(JCVI\)](#) with vaccinations initially prioritised in the following order:

- residents in a care home for older adults and their carers,
- all those 80 years of age and over,
- frontline health and social care workers,
- all those 75 years of age and over,
- all those 70 years of age and over,
- clinically extremely vulnerable individuals,
- all those 65 years of age and over,
- all individuals aged 16 years to 64 years with underlying health conditions which put them at higher risk of serious disease and mortality,
- all those 60 years of age and over,
- all those 55 years of age and over,
- all those 50 years of age and over.

A 2-dose schedule is advised for both vaccine types. For the Pfizer BioNTech vaccine, the second vaccine dose can be offered between 3 to 12 weeks after the first dose. For the AstraZeneca vaccine, the second dose can be offered 4 to 12 weeks after the first dose. As protection is obtained around 14-21 days after the first vaccine dose, the JCVI recommends that vaccinating more people with the first dose is prioritised above offering others their second dose. This will provide the greatest public health benefits in the short term and save more lives.

From 08 December 2020 to 24 January 2021, 415,269 individuals received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccination (299,897 Pfizer BioNTech and 115,372 AstraZeneca). 5,940

individuals received their second dose of COVID-19 vaccination (all Pfizer BioNTech vaccine).

Information presented in this report reflects the data that is sent to Public Health Scotland (PHS) and is subject to change in a future publication. The data is subject to continuous data quality assurance processes by Public Health Scotland (PHS). The data presented in this report comes from two difference sources: General Practice IT (GP IT) and the Vaccine Management tool (VMT). There may be a slight underreporting of actual vaccine activity within the VMT.

Detailed data is currently not available for some vaccinations that have taken place in General Practice. As at 24 January 2021, this accounts for 63,270 vaccinations. Whilst these are included in the total, breakdowns may not be available. More information can be found in the tables and footnotes below. Work is currently underway to ensure these vaccinations can be accurately reported and figures may be subject to change in future weeks as this issue is fixed.

Table 1 shows the breakdown of the 421,209 doses of COVID-19 vaccination by week, vaccine type and dose number.

**Table 1: Number of individuals who received their first dose and second dose of COVID-19 vaccination by vaccine type and week.**

Week Ending	Dose 1	Dose 1	Dose 2
	Pfizer vaccine	AstraZeneca vaccine	Pfizer vaccine
13 December 2020 <sup>1</sup>	18,967	-	-
20 December 2020	40,865	-	-
27 December 2020	34,341	-	-
03 January 2021	21,316	-	44
10 January 2021	46,682	4,238	2,789
17 January 2021	62,780	40,973	1,107
24 January 2021	74,946	70,161	2,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>299,897</b>	<b>115,372</b>	<b>5,940</b>

1. Weekly reporting is based on a reporting week of Monday to Sunday. The COVID-19 vaccine programme commenced on Tuesday 08 December 2020, therefore the number of individuals vaccinated for the first week will only include data from Tuesday 08 December 2020 to Sunday 13 December 2020.

The remainder of this publication shows breakdowns of individuals who received their first dose only.

**Table 2: Breakdown of individuals who received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccination by eligibility criteria<sup>1</sup> and week.**

Week Ending	Eligibility Criteria <sup>1</sup>				
	Healthcare Worker	Social Care Worker	Care Home Staff	Care Home Resident	Other <sup>2</sup>
13 December 2020 <sup>3</sup>	15,264	1,251	2,599	12	142
20 December 2020	27,437	1,193	6,871	4,994	875
27 December 2020	19,791	828	6,354	7,043	1,499
03 January 2021	12,158	451	3,525	4,867	1,640
10 January 2021	27,882	4,244	6,045	6,809	6,057
17 January 2021	34,976	11,553	6,290	3,025	48,024
24 January 2021	36,471	15,108	4,479	1,643	87,526
<b>Total</b>	<b>173,979</b>	<b>34,628</b>	<b>36,163</b>	<b>28,393</b>	<b>145,763</b>

1. Individuals can appear in more than one eligibility criteria.

2. The other category includes the remaining groups in the JCVI prioritisation list. Please refer to the bullet point on page 6 for the full list of categories. Other also includes the 63,270 vaccinations that took place in General Practice where detailed breakdowns are not available. Figures may be subject to change in a future publication as this issue is resolved.

3. Weekly reporting is based on a reporting week of Monday to Sunday. The COVID-19 vaccine programme commenced on Tuesday 08 December 2020, therefore the number of individuals vaccinated for the first week will only include data from Tuesday 08 December 2020 to Sunday 13 December 2020.

Scottish Government have published information on the estimated population in each JCVI priority group as part of the COVID-19 Vaccine Deployment Plan 2021. For example, for JCVI priority group 1 which includes all residents and those working in long-stay residential and nursing care homes or other long-stay care facilities for older adults. This includes non-clinical ancillary staff who may have social contact with resident but are not directly involved in patient care, such as cleaners and kitchen staff. The Scottish Care Home Safety Huddle Tool can be used to provide an estimate of population numbers. Latest data estimates there are 30,000 residents and 45,000 staff in JCVI priority group 1. These are indicative estimates and rounded to the nearest thousand recognising that the exact number of residents and staff may fluctuate.

**Table 3: Number of individuals who received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccination by age group<sup>1</sup>, sex and coverage using Scottish population estimates<sup>2</sup>.**

Age Group in Years	Number of Individuals				Percentage Coverage		
	Male	Female	Unknown	Total	Male	Female	Total
16 - 29	9,274	34,392	3	43,669	1.92%	7.27%	4.57%
30 - 39	11,000	38,651	4	49,655	3.1%	10.54%	6.88%
40 - 49	11,998	45,822	1	57,821	3.62%	13.12%	8.49%
50 - 54	8,006	31,453	1	39,460	4.13%	15.18%	9.84%
55 - 59	8,622	31,332	-	39,954	4.52%	15.48%	10.16%
60 - 64	6,208	20,126	1	26,335	3.72%	11.32%	7.64%
65 - 69	2,768	5,816	1	8,585	1.92%	3.75%	2.87%
70 - 74	1,755	2,583	-	4,338	1.33%	1.76%	1.56%
75 - 79	2,790	4,169	-	6,959	3.17%	3.86%	3.55%
80 years of age and over	27,965	47,232	59,092	134,289	- <sup>3</sup>	- <sup>3</sup>	49.76%
Unknown	4	22	4,178	4,204	-	-	0.09%
<b>Total</b>	<b>90,390</b>	<b>261,598</b>	<b>63,281</b>	<b>415,269</b>	<b>4.13%</b>	<b>11.13%</b>	<b>9.14%</b>

1. COVID-19 vaccines are only routinely offered to individuals aged 16 and over.

2. Population estimates are taken from the National Records of Scotland (NRS) 2019 mid-year population estimates.

3. Due to the volume of vaccinations for individuals aged 80+ with missing sex, the percentage coverage for this age group is only shown as a total.

There are currently no details available on the gender (or age group of under 80's) for the 63,270 vaccinations that took place in General Practice. Figures will be subject to change in a future publication as this issue is resolved.

The greater number of females vaccinated is reflective of more females in the older population due to [higher life expectancy](#) and a greater proportion of females in the [health and social care workforce](#).

**Table 4: Number of individuals who received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccination by NHS Board of residence<sup>1</sup> and coverage using Scottish population estimates<sup>2</sup>.**

NHS Board of Residence	Number of Individuals	Percentage Coverage
Ayrshire & Arran	27,624	8.96%
Borders	10,016	10.38%
Dumfries & Galloway	14,675	11.68%
Fife	25,593	8.28%
Forth Valley	23,696	9.32%
Grampian	45,702	9.42%
Greater Glasgow & Clyde	89,062	9.04%
Highland	31,557	11.70%
Lanarkshire	44,849	8.25%
Lothian	55,082	7.29%
Orkney	2,192	11.73%
Shetland	1,932	10.32%
Tayside	38,129	10.9%
Western Isles	3,579	15.93%
Other <sup>3</sup>	1,581	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>415,269</b>	<b>9.14%</b>

1. The 63,270 vaccinations that took place in General Practice where detailed breakdowns are not available have been reported based on the NHS board location of the GP Practice. Figures may be subject to change in a future publication as this issue is resolved.

2. Population estimates are taken from the National Records of Scotland (NRS) 2019 mid-year population estimates.

2. Other includes individuals with no information available on their NHS Board of residence or from elsewhere in the UK.

**Table 5: Number of individuals who received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccination by Local Authority and percentage coverage using Scottish population estimates<sup>1</sup>.**

Local Authority	Number of Individuals	Percentage Coverage
Aberdeen City	17,020	8.81%
Aberdeenshire	20,017	9.43%
Angus	10,767	11.09%
Argyll and Bute	5,532	7.58%
City of Edinburgh	22,005	4.94%
Clackmannanshire	3,721	8.74%
Dumfries and Galloway	14,550	11.58%
Dundee City	13,555	10.82%
East Ayrshire	6,987	6.92%
East Dunbartonshire	8,000	8.96%
East Lothian	5,052	5.78%
East Renfrewshire	5,953	7.83%
Falkirk	10,835	8.16%
Fife	18,576	6.01%
Glasgow City	35,918	6.75%
Highland	12,136	6.17%
Inverclyde	5,726	8.78%
Midlothian	5,614	7.53%
Moray	8,031	10.08%
Na h-Eileanan Siar	3,564	15.86%
North Ayrshire	6,671	5.94%
North Lanarkshire	21,234	7.62%
Orkney Islands	2,041	10.92%
Perth and Kinross	13,371	10.48%
Renfrewshire	11,874	7.98%
Scottish Borders	7,731	8.01%
Shetland Islands	1,930	10.31%
South Ayrshire	6,313	6.65%
South Lanarkshire	20,198	7.63%
Stirling	6,942	8.81%
West Dunbartonshire	5,703	7.78%
West Lothian	7,422	5.03%
Other <sup>2</sup>	70,280	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>415,269</b>	<b>9.14%</b>

1. Population estimates are taken from the National Records of Scotland (NRS) 2019 mid-year population estimates.

2. Other includes individuals with no information available on their local authority of residence or from elsewhere in the UK. The 63,270 vaccinations that took place in General Practice where detailed breakdowns are not available are reported in the 'other' category. Figures will be subject to change in a future publication as this issue is resolved.

## Incidence of the new variant of the COVID-19 virus in Scotland

There is evidence that the new variant of the COVID-19 virus originally reported from the South of England is circulating widely in Scotland. The variant is designated VOC-202012/01 (Variant of Concern-year month/variant number).

One of the mutations in this variant occurs in the S gene region, which assays in the UK Government testing laboratories (Lighthouse Laboratories) use to detect COVID-19. Whilst the assay continues to be able to detect the variant virus using two of its targets, it fails to produce a signal for the third – a so called S gene target failure (SGTF) (also called S gene drop out). Fortuitously the absence of the S gene signal can be used as a good proxy for the presence of this new variant. The SGTF profile only applies to samples tested via the UK Government testing laboratories and not those tested in the NHS diagnostic laboratories which use different assays with different gene targets.

Since week 47 (week commencing 16 November 2020) to 25/01/2021, information for 73405 cases tested via the UK Government laboratories is available, and of these 27480 (37.4%) had the SGTF profile consistent with the new variant.

In the 24 hour reporting period from 24/01/2021 to 25/01/2021, information for 550 cases tested via the UK Government laboratories and of these 370 (67.3%) had the SGTF profile consistent with the new variant.

A technical report on the new variant published by PHE is available at:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/948152/Technical\\_Briefing\\_VOC202012-2\\_Briefing\\_2\\_FINAL.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/948152/Technical_Briefing_VOC202012-2_Briefing_2_FINAL.pdf)

### COVID-19 Daily Data

The Public Health Scotland [COVID-19 Daily Dashboard](#) publishes daily updates on the number of positive cases of COVID-19 in Scotland, with charts showing the trend since the start of the outbreak.

The total number of people within Scotland who have, or have had COVID-19, since the coronavirus outbreak began is unknown. The number of confirmed cases is likely to be an underestimate of the total number who have, or have had, COVID-19. A person can have multiple tests but will only ever be counted once. The drop in the number of confirmed cases at weekends likely reflects that laboratories are doing fewer tests at the weekend.

- There have been 172,951 people in Scotland who have tested positive, at any site in Scotland (NHS and UK Government Regional Testing centres), for COVID-19 up to 24 January 2021.
- In the week ending 24 January there were 8,344 confirmed COVID-19 cases\*.

\*Correct as at 24 January, may differ from more recently published data on the [COVID-19 Daily Dashboard](#).

The daily dashboard also now includes data on Hospital Admissions and ICU admissions for patients with COVID-19:

- In the week ending 22 January, there were 1,057 admissions to hospital with a laboratory confirmed test of COVID-19.
- In the week ending 23 January, there were 108 new admissions to Intensive Care Units (ICUs) for confirmed COVID-19 patients.

Additional charts and data are available to view in the [interactive dashboard](#) accompanying this report.

Data is also monitored and published daily on the [Scottish Government Coronavirus website](#).

## COVID-19 testing and cases among children and young people

In the week commencing August 10th 2020, early years' settings and schools re-opened across Scotland. Data on the number of COVID-19 confirmed cases and the volume of testing in the age groups who attend these educational settings are being monitored and are presented within the Interactive Dashboard.

The data on cases relates to individuals and a person will only ever be counted once. The number of tests is slightly higher than the number of cases as some individuals will be tested more than once.

The below table shows the number of individuals in age groups from 2 to 19 years who have tested positive (a) in the latest week and (b) cumulatively since the start of the outbreak:

**Table 6: Positive cases by age group**

Age Group (years)	Week ending 24 Jan	Cumulative (to 24 Jan)
2-4	85	1,273
5-11	243	4,587
12-13	75	1,982
14-15	82	2,268
16-17	137	3,454
18-19	177	7,311

Additional detail and charts are available to view in the [interactive dashboard](#) accompanying this report.

## COVID-19 in Adult Care Home in Scotland

As of 20 January 2021, Public Health Scotland took over reporting of weekly data on COVID-19 in adult Care Homes in Scotland – data prior to 11 January 2021 can be found on the [Scottish Government website](#).

This data is provisional management information submitted to the Turas Care Home Management system by Care Homes, and details numbers of people (i.e. staff and residents) tested in the last week. The numbers capture both those tests undertaken via NHS routes and those done via the Scottish Social Care portal.

Figures are an undercount in some cases as complete data was not collected for all Care Homes.

It is the responsibility of Boards to work with care homes as part of their oversight arrangements to quality assure this data. The role of PHS is to collate and publish only. Please use this information with caution.

**Table 8: Adult care home testing for week ending 24 January 2021**

NHS Board	Care Home with confirmed COVID-19		Care Homes with no confirmed COVID-19
	Staff tested	Residents tested	Staff tested
NHS Ayrshire and Arran	936	148	2,441
NHS Borders	175	9	651
NHS Dumfries and Galloway	156	32	1,080
NHS Fife	1,286	208	2,536
NHS Forth Valley	960	291	2,274
NHS Grampian	1,158	482	3,823
NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde	3,644	1,648	5,201
NHS Highland	225	78	2,630
NHS Lanarkshire	1,243	267	3,030
NHS Lothian	2,998	1,459	3,572
NHS Orkney			179
NHS Shetland			338
NHS Tayside	955	192	2,855
NHS Western Isles			316
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>13,736</b>	<b>4,814</b>	<b>30,926</b>

Please note: there were an additional 41 staff tested at homes where the COVID status was not specified. During the week ending 24 January, there were 235 homes with active confirmed cases. Based on return of 1,054 of Scotland's 1,065 adult care homes.

## Healthcare workers – COVID-19 Testing

In July 2020, the Scottish Government expanded COVID-19 testing to include key healthcare workers in oncology and haemato-oncology in wards and day patient areas including radiotherapy; staffing wards caring for people over 65 years of age where the length of stay for the area is over three months, and wards within mental health services where the anticipated length of stay is also over three months. A data collection was initially set up to monitor the expansion of testing starting in July 2020. Weekly trend data is available on the [interactive dashboard](#).

Work was undertaken with Boards to improve the quality of the data and this collection has moved over to Public Health Scotland. This management information must be treated with caution as it may be subject to change as the quality of the data improves. Public Health Scotland is working closely with SG and Boards to improve data definitions and quality to ensure consistency across Scotland. As a result, data may be revised in subsequent weeks and any changes will be clearly signposted.

**Table 8: Number of COVID-19 tests and positive results for staff within Specialist Cancer Wards and Treatment Areas for week ending 21 January**

NHS Board	Total Eligible Staff	Total Staff tested	Number of positive tests	Number of Staff not tested - declined to test <sup>^</sup>	Number of Staff not tested for operational reasons <sup>^</sup>	Number of staff not tested for other reasons <sup>^</sup>
Ayrshire and Arran	87	87	*	0	0	0
Borders	37	*	0	0	0	*
Dumfries & Galloway	152	90	*	0	0	62
Fife	78	53	0	9	*	*
Forth Valley	47	*	0	*	0	0
Grampian	247	184	0	21	12	30
Greater Glasgow and Clyde	1361	1302	7	*	0	*
Highland	92	*	0	*	0	0
Lanarkshire	316	287	*	15	14	0
Lothian	658	632	*	0	0	26
Tayside	330	326	0	*	*	0
Island Boards	11	11	0	0	0	0
Special Health Boards <sup>1</sup>	15	15	0	0	0	0
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>3431</b>	<b>3160</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>183</b>

1 – Includes data from Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service (SNBTS)

\*Please note that some of the data is suppressed due to disclosure methodology being applied to protect staff confidentiality.

**Table 9: Number of COVID-19 tests and positive results for staff within Long Stay Care of the Elderly<sup>1</sup> for week ending 21 January**

	Total Eligible Staff	Total Staff tested	Number of positive tests	Number of Staff not tested - declined to test <sup>^</sup>	Number of Staff not tested for operational reasons <sup>^</sup>	Number of staff not tested for other reasons <sup>^</sup>
<b>NHS Board</b>						
Ayrshire and Arran	61	61	0	0	0	0
Borders	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dumfries & Galloway	263	192	6	*	0	*
Fife	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forth Valley	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grampian	204	121	*	11	*	*
Greater Glasgow and Clyde	42	42	*	0	0	0
Highland	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lanarkshire	43	19	0	*	*	0
Lothian	337	314	*	6	0	17
Tayside	0	0	0	0	0	0
Island Boards	0	0	0	0	0	0
Special Health Boards <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>749</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>94</b>

\*Please note that some of the data is suppressed due to disclosure methodology being applied to protect staff confidentiality.

Please note NHS Borders and NHS Fife advised they do not have any Long Stay Care of the Elderly units that meet the 3 month criteria. NHS Highland, NHS Tayside, NHS Orkney, NHS Shetland, and NHS Western Isles advised they do not have any long stay care of the elderly wards. NHS Glasgow advised that over recent years they have significantly reduced the number of long stay beds for older people and invested in care at home and care homes hence the low number of wards affected compared to other NHS Boards. NHS Lanarkshire include one of the Care of the Elderly Units for reporting purposes. NHS Lanarkshire confirmed this does not represent a full week of testing since some was done after the reporting period.

**Table 10: Number of COVID-19 tests and positive results for staff within Long Stay Old Age Psychiatry and Learning Disability Wards for week ending 21 January**

NHS Board	Total Eligible Staff	Total Staff tested	Number of positive tests	Number of Staff not tested - declined to test <sup>^</sup>	Number of Staff not tested for operational reasons <sup>^</sup>	Number of staff not tested for other reasons <sup>^</sup>
Ayrshire and Arran	94	94	0	0	0	0
Borders	91	80	*	0	*	*
Dumfries & Galloway	226	152	0	11	0	63
Fife	237	141	0	14	77	5
Forth Valley	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grampian	159	138	0	15	6	0
Greater Glasgow and Clyde	1091	1029	12	0	0	62
Highland	195	195	0	0	0	0
Lanarkshire	86	51	0	23	12	0
Lothian	437	401	*	*	*	13
Tayside	296	289	0	*	*	*
Island Boards	0	0	0	0	0	0
Special Health Boards <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>2912</b>	<b>2570</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>148</b>

\*Please note that some of the data is suppressed due to disclosure methodology being applied to protect staff confidentiality.

**^Number of Staff not tested – declined a test** –The number of staff who were offered a test and actively declined to take it.

**^Staff not tested for operational reasons** – The number of staff who were not able to be tested for operational/capacity reasons e.g. issues with test availability, staff unable to be tested due to work pressures etc.

**^Number of Staff not tested for other reasons** –The number of the staff present on wards in the reporting week who were not tested. They were eligible for testing (excluding those who declined and those who were not tested for operation reasons). This should be the remainder of eligible staff not recorded in the other groupings.

### Test and Protect

On 26 May 2020, the Scottish Government set out the strategy for Test and Protect - Scotland's approach to implementing the 'test, trace, isolate, support' strategy. This strategy is designed to minimise the spread of COVID-19.

Public Health Scotland is working closely with the Scottish Government and all local NHS Boards to implement 'Test and Protect'. Since 28 May 2020, once an individual receives a positive result, a team of contact tracers will then gather details on individuals who have been in contact with the person who tested positive. The contact tracers will then proceed to contact these individuals and advise them to isolate.

The data within this report are the number of contacts which are recorded in the contact tracing software. The figures presented below are preliminary and may be updated in subsequent publications. A case is generated by a positive test. However, an individual can have multiple tests, and all positive results are reported to the contact tracing system so that each result can be assessed by the contact tracer and followed up as required. In many cases, there is no follow up for a repeat positive test (because the person was already contact traced when their first positive result was reported). To reflect this, test and protect data now includes details on the number of individuals whose positive test resulted in contact tracing being undertaken. The number of individuals who tested positive is also more comparable with the figures given in the [COVID-19 Confirmed Cases section of this report](#), which reports on new positive cases.

Over the past few weeks, contact tracing of contacts has been primarily focused on SMS messages. As a result, contacts where a mobile number is available will receive a SMS message with advice to self-isolate. Once the SMS message has been delivered, the contact will be marked as complete. Please note PHS has moved to weekly reporting of this data and cumulative data is available in the [interactive dashboard](#).

In the week ending 24 January (based on test date), the test and protect figures are:

Index Cases\* – 8,010 (of which 6,912 have completed contact tracing)

Individuals\*\* - 7,932

Contacts traced\*\*\* – 20,555 (of which 13,449 were unique contacts)

\*An index case is generated for each positive result with a test date on or after 28 May. This includes tests derived from Scottish laboratories and from UK Government laboratories.

\*\*An individual is a unique person who has had a positive test. An individual can have multiple positive tests which results in multiple cases within the test and protect system. In these figures, each person is only counted once.

\*\*\*A "Contact" may be contacted more than once if multiple positive cases list them as a contact.

The below table provides a recent time trend, a longer time trend is available on the [interactive dashboard](#).

**Table 11: Contact Tracing Scotland**

	Week ending							
	6 Dec	13 Dec	20 Dec	27 Dec	3 Jan	10 Jan	17 Jan	24 Jan <sup>P</sup>
Cases	5,486	6,166	6,486	8,168	15,815	14,887	11,275	8,010
Complete Cases*	5,191	5,996	6,267	7,773	14,970	14,184	10,686	6,912
Individuals	5,405	6,101	6,439	8,120	15,755	14,775	11,152	7,932
Total Contacts	20,615	26,452	26,145	33,522	55,895	40,930	29,448	20,555
Unique Contacts	15,323	19,322	19,195	24,194	35,128	25,665	18,506	13,449

<sup>P</sup> – Please treat as provisional as data is still being collected for that week and index/contact being traced,

\*Completed cases are cases which are marked as completed in the case management system, which means that all contacts have been followed up and completed. In the latest weeks there will cases which are still open either because contact tracing is still underway (particularly for the latest week) or the NHS Board is still managing the case as part of an open outbreak.

There are a small proportion of contacts who were successfully contacted but then advised that they do not need to isolate. 1,919 contacts were not advised to self-isolate, 1% of all contacts for which this information is known. Some of these contacts are children under the age of 16. Other reasons may include that the contact was wearing PPE or did not come into close contact with a positive case. Contacts who receive an SMS message are told to self-isolate.

Data by NHS Board are presented in the below table for the most recent two weeks. This shows the number of individuals and the number of contacts by NHS Board. Comparisons between NHS Board figures should be treated with caution due to the variation in complexity of cases which the Boards are dealing with at any point in time (e.g. some cases will be straight-forward with a low number of contacts to be traced; others will be more complex with a higher number to be traced). These figures will be updated in subsequent weeks to incorporate any additional contacts who had not had their tracing completed by the time the analysis was undertaken.

**Table 12: Number of individuals and the number of contacts by NHS Board**

NHS Board	Week of first positive result			
	Week ending 24 Jan		Week ending 17 Jan	
	Individual	Unique Contacts within Health Board	Individual	Unique Contacts within Health Board
Ayrshire & Arran	627	1,286	930	1,865
Borders	124	254	154	225
Dumfries & Galloway	236	386	374	662
Fife	340	614	564	1,001
Forth Valley	458	820	596	1,070
Grampian	610	931	979	1,492
Greater Glasgow & Clyde	2,348	3,806	3,362	5,304
Highland	205	286	343	540
Lanarkshire	1,456	2,635	1,783	2,891
Lothian	799	1,407	1,084	1,913
Orkney	*	*	*	*
Shetland	10	30	*	*
Tayside	539	893	682	1,147
Western Isles	*	*	39	156
Unknown Health Board**	171	155	241	251

\* Denotes data which has been suppressed due to risk of disclosure.

\*\* Please note this includes individuals with no information on their Health Board of residence and from elsewhere in the UK.

While a close contact of multiple index cases within a Health Board is only counted once, please note that a contact may be included in more than one Health Board as the data is related to the positive case Health Board and a contact may have been in close contact with multiple index cases located in different Health Boards.

Figures for the most recent week are provisional and will be updated in next week's publication.

Data are extracted Monday 18 January at 10am. Data relate to tests up to 17 January. Weekly data presented from Monday to Sunday in order to be consistent. Figures are provisional and may change as the test and protect tool is updated by contact tracers.

Contact tracers, within the National Contact Tracing Centre and NHS Boards, were unable to contact a very small proportion of individuals with a positive test and their contacts:

- 7,332 individuals\* with a positive test were unable to be contacted since the CMS went live (5% of all individuals).
- 13,073 contacts\* were unable to be contacted since the CMS went live (2% of all contacts).

In some circumstance contacts go on to become a positive case and therefore an index case. The number of contacts which have become an index case – 76,687 (16%), represents the number of close contacts which have subsequently had a positive result.

Where an SMS message is sent, contacts will be considered successfully contacted. Thus the statistics above will be impacted by the SMS service.

This information is only available for index cases that have been recorded on the Case Management System (CMS). The CMS went live on 22 June 2020 with NHS Boards migrating on a phased approach with all Boards using CMS from 21 July 2020. Prior to a Board migrating to CMS, data was recorded in a Simple Tracing Tool (STT) which did not give the level of granularity required to report on these measures. These data are developmental and an extensive data quality assurance exercise is underway and data may be revised in subsequent publications. Contact since the 12 October, with a valid mobile number, will receive an SMS message only. This will impact on the number of contacts that were unable to be contacted. Please note the methodology has changed as of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020, a refined method has now been applied to identify unique indexes.

### **Completed Index cases**

Since 3 August 2020, the use of some fields within the Contact Tracing Case Management System has become mandatory – this allows for improvement in data recording and other measures to be explored as to how Test and Protect in Scotland is responding to the number of positives cases. The measures below are the initial exploratory analysis to describe the timeliness of contact tracing. Please note these are preliminary statistics and ongoing work is in place to improve recording and use of fields within the CMS to increase accuracy. The three measures are;

- the time between a sample being taken and the positive individual being interviewed
- the time between the record appearing in the CMS and the positive individual being interviewed
- the time between the record appearing in the CMS and contact tracings being completed (i.e. contacts have been interviewed or attempted to be interviewed).

These figures are now weekly measures, data are available for previous weeks within the [interactive dashboard](#).

**Table 13: Time (hours) between date test sample taken<sup>1</sup> and the positive individual being interviewed by a contact tracer.**

Hours taken	Week Ending 24 January**		Week Ending 17 January	
	Number of Index Cases	% of Total Index Cases	Number of Index Cases	% of Total Index Cases
0-24	1,609	24.6	2,129	20.9
24-48	3,618	55.3	5,132	50.4
48-72	1,020	15.6	1,888	18.6
Over 72	287	4.4	856	8.4
Not known*	10	0.2	172	1.7

<sup>1</sup> Specimen date

\*Records where dates cannot be identified to calculate the difference. Data quality assurance work is taking place to improve this recording.

\*\*Please note data are provisional and may be updated in future releases.

**Table 14 - Time (hours) between case created in CMS and the positive individual being interviewed by a contact tracer.**

Hours taken	Week Ending 24 January**		Week Ending 17 January	
	Number of Index Cases	% of Total Index Cases	Number of Index Cases	% of Total Index Cases
0-24	6,014	91.9	8,981	88.3
24-48	440	6.7	741	7.3
48-72	67	1.0	176	1.7
Over 72	13	0.2	107	1.1
Not known*	10	0.2	172	1.7

\*Records where dates cannot be identified to calculate the difference. Data quality assurance work is taking place to improve this recording.

\*\*Please note data are provisional and may be updated in future releases.

**Table 15 - Time between case created in CMS to its closure, measured by the time taken to complete the final contact interview.**

Hours taken	Week Ending 24 January**		Week Ending 17 January	
	Number of Index Cases	% of Total Index Cases	Number of Index Cases	% of Total Index Cases
0-24	5,111	78.1	7,440	73.1
24-48	1,045	16.0	1,615	15.9
48-72	294	4.5	564	5.5
Over 72	91	1.4	530	5.2
Not known*	3	0.1	28	0.3

\*Records where dates cannot be identified to calculate the difference. Data quality assurance work is taking place to improve this recording.

\*\*Please note data are provisional and may be updated in future releases.

### Travel outside of Scotland cases

Since 28 September fields have been available to record information about whether a case has travelled outside of Scotland. In the week ending 24 January 8,010 index cases were newly created on CMS, of which 7,057 had a fully completed index case interview. Of those interviewed:

- 59 travelled to the UK (excluding Scotland).
- 16 travelled to Europe.
- 34 travelled to the rest of the world.

This information is collected on the contact tracing interview and is where outside of Scotland travel information is recorded. Please note we are aware of an undercount for those travelled outside Scotland. This is a data quality issue due to recording of the travel information, Public Health Scotland is working closely with contact tracing leads to improve this recording.

### Event and Settings cases

Public Health Scotland has been able to present a table of settings and events that index cases have attended over the previous 7 days. This is based on interviews conducted with cases identified in the Case Management System (CMS) and involves cases recalling where they have been in the 7 days prior to symptom onset (or date of test if asymptomatic).

These figures are now updated in Settings tab of the [interactive dashboard](#) accompanying this report. Please note that Public Health Scotland cannot infer from the figures whether a specific setting or an event indicates where the COVID-19 transmission took place. This is because cases may have attended multiple settings or events within a short space of time. In addition, it is possible that even though a case visited a few settings and events, transmission may have taken place elsewhere.

More information on event groupings can be found in the [accompanying metadata document](#).

## Cases reporting an occupation in the Education and Childcare sector

Following the return of early years' settings and schools, and more recently further and higher education institutions, the proportion of positive cases reporting occupation sector as "education and childcare" has been monitored (which will include students and staff working in further and higher education sector, as well as schools, early learning and childcare settings). These data are presented below.

As the positive cases reported above can include students as well as staff, the table also presents data on those who report that they are 'employed' within that sector. The total number of cases in both categories has increased in recent weeks, in keeping with the general increase in cases across the population.

Data are continually monitored and historic data are revised at each publication. During the most recent data quality exercise some historic figures have been revised.

**Table 16: Proportion of CMS cases who are 18+ years of age and report an occupation in the Education and Childcare sector (most recent 10 weeks)**

Week Ending	Total CMS cases	All cases aged 18+ stating occupation sector as E&C		All <i>employed</i> cases aged 18+ stating occupation sector as E&C	
		N	%	N	%
15/11/2020	7,877	557	7.1	393	5.0
22/11/2020	6,960	472	6.8	336	4.8
29/11/2020	5,749	342	5.9	220	3.8
06/12/2020	5,486	335	6.1	248	4.5
13/12/2020	6,166	440	7.1	335	5.4
20/12/2020	6,486	431	6.6	323	5.0
27/12/2020	8,168	548	6.7	406	5.0
03/01/2021	15,815	862	5.5	642	4.1
10/01/2021	14,887	688	4.6	498	3.3
17/01/2021	11,276	419	3.7	306	2.7

### Notes

1. Data completeness of the occupation sector is around 80% in CMS, as such numbers should be interpreted with caution
2. An occupation sector of "Education and Childcare" will cover a range of roles including teaching staff, non-teaching staff and pupils/students in a range of settings including schools, colleges and universities
3. Data since 9 August is available to download from the Interactive Dashboard accompanying this report.

## Quarantining Statistics

These statistics provide a summary of the number of people entering Scotland from outside the UK, those required to quarantine, and the numbers contacted by the National Contact Tracing Centre. Passenger arrivals into Scotland are provided by the Home Office to PHS. PHS take a sample of those who are required to quarantine and pass the data to NHS National Services Scotland, which runs the National Centre on PHS's behalf.

PHS contacts all individuals via email who require to self-isolate on return from a country not exempt from quarantine. The National Centre then contacts a sample of those individuals. Due the high volume of cases early January, the sampling number reduced slightly, standard volume sampling resumed during week ending 17 January.

**Table 17 – Quarantine Statistics by date.**

	Total 22 Jun to 24 Jan	Week ending 24 Jan
Number of people arriving in Scotland <sup>1</sup>	570,088	5,268
Number of people requiring to quarantine <sup>2</sup>	232,438	4,249
Number of people contacted by National Centre <sup>3</sup>	46,063	3,097

Of the total number of people contacted by the National Centre, the below table shows the breakdown of these contacts.

**Table 18: Number of people contacted by National Centre by status.**

	Total 22 Jun to 24 Jan	Week ending 24 Jan
Successful contacts made <sup>4</sup>	40,652	2,732
Unable to contact individual <sup>5</sup>	5,347	301
In progress <sup>6</sup>	64	64

1 People who arrive in the UK, as notified to Public Health Scotland by the Home Office

2 People who are required to quarantine in Scotland (all countries prior to 30th June; high risk countries from 30th June), adults aged 18 and over only.

3 Sample of people who are passed to NCTC for follow-up to provide advice and support

4 People who were successfully contacted by NCTC

5 Calls could not be completed because the individual could not be contacted (invalid phone number or no response to call). Where appropriate details of individuals are passed to Police Scotland for further follow up. Includes not completed due to quarantine ending before NCTC could contact individual

6 Calls which are still in progress

## Asymptomatic Testing of Students in Scotland

### Background

From the beginning of December 2020, Scottish universities and colleges took part in a UK wide offer to test students not experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, before they returned home for winter break, at end of Semester 1. Testing of students across university campuses, in Scotland, began on the 30th November and finished on the 19th December 2020, with the purpose of finding additional cases and thereby allowing additional containment measures to be taken.

For Semester 2, as part of a revised plan for their return in light of the spread of the new variants of coronavirus (COVID-19), most university students will mostly be taught online throughout January and February, with the vast majority not expected back on campuses until the start of March. Universities have continued to offer asymptomatic testing to students at the start of Semester 2 for those students who have remained in term time accommodation over the holiday period as well as for students whose attendance for in-person teaching is critical and whose education cannot be delivered remotely or postponed, or have essential placements or for reasons of student well-being. Updated guidance on the return of students for Semester 2 has been published by the [Scottish Government](#).

### ***Lateral Flow Tests for Semester 1 and Semester 2***

Universities and colleges have utilised lateral flow devices (LFD) — a clinically validated swab antigen test taken under supervised conditions that does not require a laboratory for processing. This test can produce rapid results within 45 minutes at the location of the test.

At the end of Semester 1, students were offered two tests, spaced three to five days apart. Those receiving two negative results were encouraged to safely return home as soon as is practical after the second result. If either of the LFD tests returned a positive result, the student was asked to self-isolate and arrange for a confirmatory polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test. For the start of Semester 2, upon returning to university, students are also recommended to take two tests, within a week, followed by a PCR confirmatory test if either of the LFD tests return a positive result, to help mitigate the risk of asymptomatic transmission of COVID-19. Further information and guidance on student asymptomatic testing in Semester 2 has been issued by the [Scottish Government](#).

### ***Results***

The data presented within this section are for both Semester 1 and Semester 2 university LFD testing programme.

For Semester 1, data is presented on the cumulative number of LFD tests, the number of positive LFD test results and those with a positive PCR confirmatory test, reported from university test sites, between 30th November and 19th December 2020.

For semester 2, data is presented on the cumulative number of LFD tests and the number of positive LFD test results carried out since the 5<sup>th</sup> January until 24<sup>th</sup> January. The figures presented for Semester 2 are provisional and will be updated in subsequent publications.

**(A) Semester 1 Lateral Flow Device Test and PCR confirmatory results**

Please note that we have excluded all Dundee University test site LFD results from Tables 20 and 21, and associated follow-up PCR confirmatory tests from Table 21, due to evidence of a flawed LFD test batch at this test site which is currently under review. We will update these figures in subsequent publications. Information on the number of LFD tests carried out at the Dundee University test site and the number of students taking part is presented in Table 19

**(1) LFD Summary**

- Approximately 28,000 students took part in the Semester 1 LFD testing programme (Table 19)
- Approximately 90% of students took two LFD tests (Table 19)
- Between the 30th November and 19th December 2020, 52,533 LFD tests were carried out across university and college test sites (Table 19)
- Of these tests, (excluding LFD tests from Dundee University test site), 35 (0.1%) had a positive LFD test result (Table 20)

**Table 19 Semester 1 cumulative number of Lateral Flow Device tests and number of individuals tested, by university test site**

University Test Sites <sup>1</sup>	Cumulative LFD Tests	Cumulative number of individuals	Test to individual ratio
University of Aberdeen	4,871	2,753	1.8
Robert Gordon University	2,059	1,209	1.7
University of Dundee <sup>2</sup>	6,993	3,813	1.8
The University of Edinburgh <sup>2</sup>	15,730	8,001	2.0
Heriot-Watt University	1,269	683	1.9
Queen Margaret University	1,020	610	1.7
Glasgow Caledonian University	2,239	1,101	2.0
University of Glasgow <sup>2</sup>	6,921	3,421	2.0
University of Strathclyde	2,656	1,501	1.8
The University of the West of Scotland <sup>3</sup>	496	295	1.7
University of St. Andrews	5,725	3,115	1.8
Stirling University	2,384	1,263	1.9
University of Highlands and Islands (UHI) <sup>4</sup>	170	92	1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>52,533</b>	<b>27,857</b>	<b>1.9</b>

<sup>1</sup> Each test site could be accessed by students from other universities if that test site was more accessible from their term-time address

<sup>2</sup> Colleges and university students from a number of institutions made use of the available test centres above, for example Napier University are joining with Edinburgh University, Abertay University are joining with Dundee University and Glasgow School of Art with Glasgow University

<sup>3</sup> These are cumulative LFD test results from four University of West of Scotland test sites: the main campus and those at their Ayr, Lanarkshire and Paisley campuses

<sup>4</sup> These are cumulative LFD test results from two UHI test sites: Scottish Association for Marine Science and Sabhal Mòr Ostaig

**Table 20: Semester 1 Student Asymptomatic Testing results (30<sup>th</sup> November to 19<sup>th</sup> December 2020)**

	Total number of positive LFD tests	Total number of negative LFD tests	Cumulative number of LFD tests	LFD test positivity
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	35	45,505	45,540	0.1%

<sup>1</sup> These totals exclude LFD results from Dundee University test site due to possible issues with a flawed test batch at Dundee University test site

**Table 21: Semester 1 Student Asymptomatic Testing results, by university testing site (30<sup>th</sup> November to 19<sup>th</sup> December 2020)**

University Test sites <sup>1</sup>	Number of positive LFD tests	Cumulative number of LFD tests
Glasgow Caledonian University	*	2,239
University of Glasgow <sup>2</sup>	6	6,921
University of Strathclyde	*	2,656
The University of the West of Scotland <sup>3</sup>	0	496
The University of Edinburgh <sup>2</sup>	11	15,730
Heriot-Watt University	*	1,269
Queen Margaret University	*	1,020
University of St. Andrews	0	5,725
Stirling University	0	2,384
University of Aberdeen	6	4,871
Robert Gordon University	*	2,059
University of Highlands and Islands <sup>4</sup>	0	170
<b>Total<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>35</b>	<b>45,540</b>

\*Denotes data which has been suppressed due to risk of disclosure.

<sup>1</sup> Each test site could be accessed by students from other universities or colleges if that test site was more accessible from their term-time address

<sup>2</sup> Colleges and university students from a number of institutions made use of the available test centres above, for example Napier University joined with Edinburgh University, Glasgow School of Art with Glasgow University

<sup>3</sup> These are cumulative LFD test results from four University of West of Scotland test sites: the main campus and those at their Ayr, Lanarkshire and Paisley campuses

<sup>4</sup> These are cumulative LFD test results from two UHI test sites: Scottish Association for Marine Science and Sabhal Mòr Ostaig

<sup>5</sup> These totals exclude LFD results from Dundee University test site due to possible issues with a flawed test batch at Dundee University test site

**(2) PCR confirmatory test analysis summary**

As previously noted, the high number of positive LFD test results from Dundee University testing site is currently being investigated due to emerging evidence of a flawed LFD test batch at this test site, which has resulted in a large proportion of LFD test positive cases going on to have a negative PCR test result. Until this issue is resolved, we have, for reporting purposes, excluded the PCR test result data associated with the Dundee University testing site.

- For the remaining positive LFD tests (n=35), just over 70% (n=25) of these subsequently tested positive for COVID-19

**Table 22: Total number of positive LFD Tests following a PCR confirmatory test<sup>1</sup>**

Subsequent PCR	Number of subsequent PCR Tests	Proportion of Tests
Positive	25	71.4%
Negative	10	28.5%

<sup>1</sup>Excludes PCR tests associated with positive LFD test results from Dundee University test site

**(B) Semester 2 Lateral Flow Device Test results**

Tables 23 and 24 below present data the Semester 2 LFD testing programme. Testing began at staggered intervals across university test sites starting on the 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Information on the number of students taking part in the Semester 2 testing programme, and the number of confirmed PCR positive tests, from those with positive LFD tests, will be made available in subsequent publications, once all results have been validated.

**Main Points**

- Between 5<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2021, there have been approximately 12,000 LFD tests carried out across all university and college test sites
- Of these, 25 (0.2%) have had a positive LFD test result

**Table 23 Term 2 Student Asymptomatic Testing, up until 23 January 2021 (at 8am)**

	Total number of positive LFD tests	Total number of negative LFD tests	Cumulative number of LFD tests	LFD test positivity
<b>Total</b>	25	11,887	11,912	0.2%

**Table 24 Term 2 cumulative number of Lateral Flow Device tests, by university and college test site up until 23 January 2021 (at 8am)**

University Test Sites <sup>1</sup>	Testing start date	Cumulative LFD Tests
University of Aberdeen	7/01/2021	1,016
Robert Gordon University	11/1/2021	233
University of Dundee <sup>2</sup>	5/01/2021	775
The University of Edinburgh <sup>2</sup>	6/01/2021	4,119
Heriot-Watt University	11/1/2021	276
Queen Margaret University	7/01/2021	425
Glasgow Caledonian University	5/01/2021	557
University of Glasgow	6/01/2021	2,437
University of Strathclyde	11/1/2021	216
The University of the West of Scotland <sup>3</sup>	5/01/2021	72
University of St. Andrews	11/1/2021	1,045
Stirling University	8/01/2021	724
University of Highlands and Islands <sup>4</sup>	13/1/2021	17
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>11,912</b>

<sup>1</sup> Each test site can be accessed by students from other universities if that test site was more accessible from their term-time address

<sup>2</sup> Colleges and university students from a number of institutions made use of the available test centres above, for example Napier University are joining with Edinburgh University, Abertay University are joining with Dundee University and Glasgow School of Art with Glasgow University.

<sup>3</sup> These are cumulative LFD test results from four University of West of Scotland test sites: the main campus and those at their Ayr, Lanarkshire and Paisley campuses

<sup>4</sup> These are cumulative LFD test results from two UHI test sites: Scottish Association for Marine Science and Sabhal Mòr Ostaig

### COVID-19 across the NHS

Charts for a number of measures related to COVID-19 service use in the NHS were presented in the report up until July 15. Up to date data for these measures are available to view in our [interactive dashboard](#).

This includes:

- Number of positive confirmed cases per day and cumulative total
- Positive cases by age, sex and SIMD
- COVID-19 admissions to hospital
- COVID-19 patients admitted to ICU (Intensive Care Unit)
- COVID19 Hub and Assessment Consultations
- COVID-19 related contacts to NHS 24 and calls to Coronavirus helpline
- SAS (Scottish Ambulance Service) Incidents related to COVID-19

### Wider Impact of COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has direct impacts on health as a result of illness, hospitalisations and deaths due to COVID-19. However, the pandemic also has wider impacts on health, healthcare, and health inequalities. Reasons for this may include:

- Individuals being reluctant to use health services because they do not want to burden the NHS or are anxious about the risk of infection.
- The health service delaying preventative and non-urgent care such as some screening services and planned surgery.
- Other indirect effects of interventions to control COVID-19, such as changes to employment and income, changes in access to education, social isolation, family violence and abuse, changes in the accessibility and use of food, alcohol, drugs and gambling, or changes in physical activity and transport patterns.

More detailed background information on these potential impacts is provided by the Scottish Public Health Observatory in a section on Covid-19 wider impacts.

The surveillance work stream of the Public Health Scotland social and systems recovery cell aims to provide information and intelligence on the wider impacts of COVID-19 on health, healthcare, and health inequalities that are not directly due to COVID-19. The wider impact dashboard can be viewed online and includes the following topics:

- A&E Attendances
- Hospital admissions
- NHS 24 111 completed contacts
- Primary Care Out of Hours cases
- Scottish Ambulance Service contacts
- Healthcare for cardiovascular disease
- Healthcare for mental health
- New cancer diagnoses
- Uptake of pre-school immunisations
- Coverage of Health Visitor child health reviews
- Infant feeding
- Child development
- Women booking for antenatal care
- Terminations of pregnancy
- Stillbirths and Infant Deaths
- Excess deaths

These analyses are based on a selected range of data sources that are available to describe changes in health service use in Scotland during the COVID-19 pandemic. More detailed information is available at NHS Board and Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) level.

### Weekly National Seasonal Respiratory Report

Since 14 October Public Health Scotland is also publishing a weekly report on epidemiological information on seasonal influenza activity in Scotland. Due to COVID health care services are functioning differently now compared to previous flu seasons so the consultation rates are not directly comparable to historical data.

This is available to view here:

<https://beta.isdscotland.org/find-publications-and-data/population-health/covid-19/weekly-national-seasonal-respiratory-report/>

Surveillance of influenza infection is a key public health activity as it is associated with significant morbidity and mortality during the winter months, particularly in those at risk of complications of flu e.g. the elderly, those with chronic health problems and pregnant women.

The spectrum of influenza illness varies from asymptomatic illness to mild/moderate symptoms to severe complications including death. In light of the spectrum of influenza illness there is a need to have individual surveillance components which provide information on each aspect of the illness. There is no single flu surveillance component that can describe the onset, severity and impact of influenza or the success of its control measures each season across a community. To do so requires a number of complimentary surveillance components which are either specific to influenza or its control, or which are derived from data streams providing information of utility for other HPS specialities (corporate surveillance data). Together, the influenza surveillance components provide a comprehensive and coherent picture on a timely basis throughout the flu season. Please see the [influenza page on the HPS website](#) for more details.

### Contact

**Public Health Scotland**

[phs.covidweeklyreport@phs.scot](mailto:phs.covidweeklyreport@phs.scot)

### Further Information

**COVID surveillance in Scotland**

[Scottish Government](#)

[Daily Dashboard by Public Health Scotland](#) [National Records of Scotland](#)

**UK and international COVID reports**

[Public health England](#)

[European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control](#)

[WHO](#)

[International Severe Acute Respiratory Emerging Infection Consortium.](#)

The next release of this publication will be 3 February 2021.

### Open data

Data from this publication is available to download from the [Scottish Health and Social Care Open Data Portal](#).

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## Appendices

### Appendix 1 – Background information

In late December 2019, the People’s Republic of China reported an outbreak of pneumonia due to unknown cause in Wuhan City, Hubei Province.

In early January 2020, the cause of the outbreak was identified as a new coronavirus. While early cases were likely infected by an animal source in a ‘wet market’ in Wuhan, ongoing human-to-human transmission is now occurring.

There are a number of coronaviruses that are transmitted from human-to-human which are not of public health concern. However, COVID-19 can cause respiratory illness of varying severity.

On the 30 January 2020 the World Health Organization [declared that the outbreak constitutes a Public Health Emergency of International Concern](#).

Extensive measures have been implemented across many countries to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Further information for the public on COVID-19 can be found on [NHS Inform](#).

## Appendix 2 – World Health Organisation (WHO) Standard for Contact Tracing and Scotland Wide Performance Reporting

### Situation:

1. The WHO produced “**enhanced criteria to adjust public health and social measures in the context of Covid-19**” in May 2020.
2. The relevant extract from the criteria about the effectiveness of contact tracing within the context of public health surveillance is as follows:

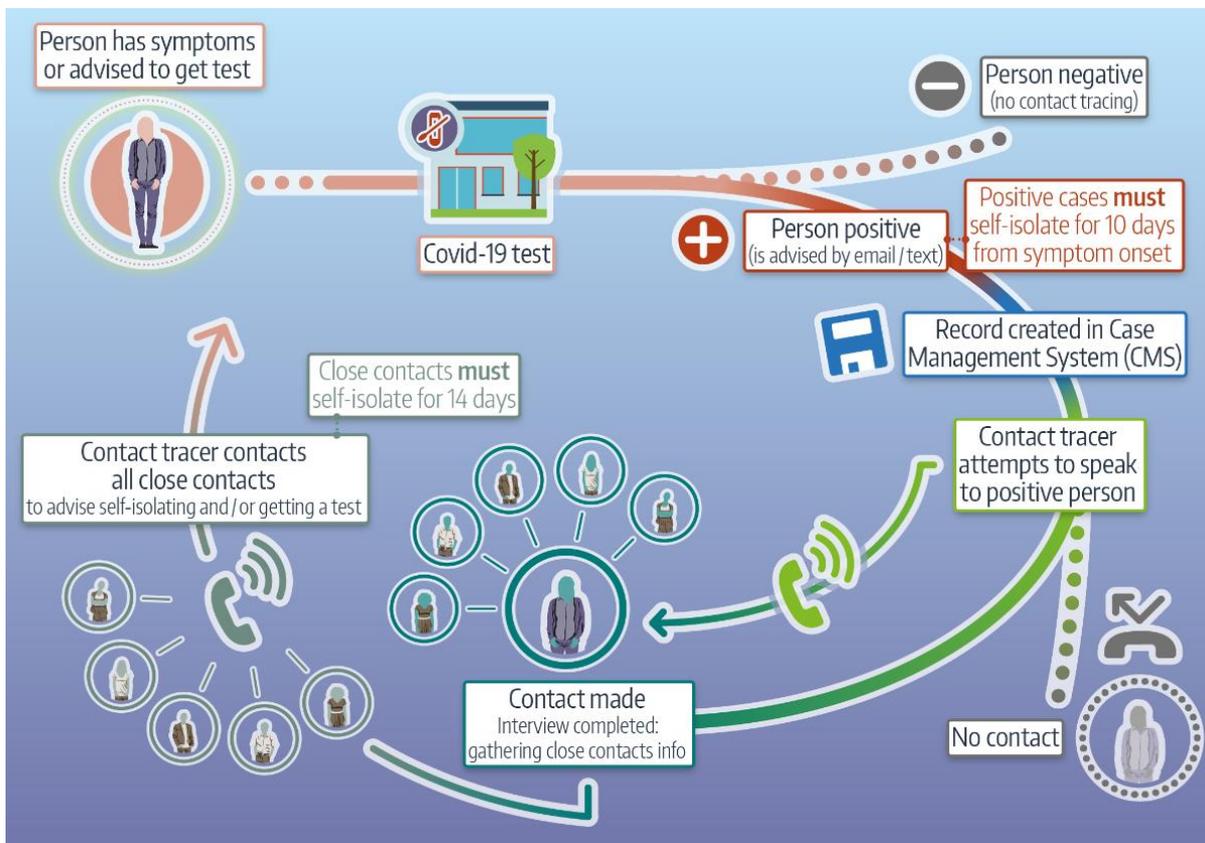
At least 80% of new cases have their close contacts traced and in quarantine within 72 hours of case confirmation	These indicate that the capacity to conduct contact tracing is sufficient for the number of cases and contacts
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Source: <https://apps.who.int/iris/rest/bitstreams/1277773/retrieve>

3. A question has arisen about whether the Scottish Government has been incorrectly comparing Scottish performance with the WHO “standard” (on the basis that counting in Scotland might start at the wrong point in the process).

### Background

4. A broad indication of the journey from symptoms to contact tracing is set out below.



5. For context, the WHO criteria referred to is intended to re-assure public health agencies that they have sufficient contact tracing capacity to cope with the volume of cases and contacts.

6. It is therefore one component of the management information used to inform planning. It is not in itself a performance target to be achieved or necessarily measured against.
7. That’s said, it is a strong management indicator that Scotland has sufficient contact tracing resources in place to cope with demand.
8. The weekly statistics produced by Public Health Scotland include data that is closely aligned to the WHO criteria to aid an assessment about the level of resourcing. It is not an exact comparison. This is because there are variables in the process.
9. The weekly statistics currently do not reference the WHO standard and are not described as performance against it.
10. The variables are:
  - a. Point at which a case is confirmed
  - b. Point at which we determine a case and all contacts are “in quarantine”

## Assessment

### Start Point

11. There are several possible stages at which the 72 hour criteria journey could be deemed to have started. Options for this are as follows:

Possible starting point	PHS interpretation for planning purposes
Date of sample	Sample may be taken at home, may be delayed in forwarding to a lab, sent to other labs e.g. Belfast, for analysis or some other reason – all of which introduce potential for delay  <b>Cannot be guaranteed as a common point of case confirmation for all tests.</b>
Date sample received to lab	Receipt on a particular day does not in itself confirm if a case is +ve or –ve. It currently takes an average of 15 hours in a Scottish NHS lab to process results (which may span more than one calendar day for example). Some Labs might take 24+hours in certain circumstances.  <b>Cannot be guaranteed as a common point of case confirmation for all tests.</b>
The point at which the scientific analysis is completed and a +ve result determined	This is not routinely communicated to all cases immediately on securing a medical result. For example, for UK data an automated SMS is sent to all cases confirming a +ve result. This is not the case for NHS Scotland lab processed results.  <b>Cannot be guaranteed as a common point of case confirmation for all tests.</b>

<p>The point at which the data exits the lab process</p>	<p>There are variable potential delays in the data travelling between labs and entering the case management system.</p> <p><b>Cannot be guaranteed as a common point of case confirmation for all tests.</b></p>
<p>The point at which the data enters the CMS</p>	<p>Entry into CMS is the accepted trigger for contact tracing to start in Scotland. As such, it is the <u>first point in the process at which a case is <b>universally confirmed as needing to be contact traced</b></u></p> <p><b>Therefore this point is interpreted as the starting point against the WHO criteria for the purposes of management information (given it is the first universally accepted confirmation of a case for <u>contact tracing purposes</u> in Scotland)</b></p>

**End Point**

12. The end point of the comparison of performance against WHO guidance is clearer and determined digitally within the Case Management System (CMS) by a case or contact being marked as closed.
13. Cases can be marked closed under different circumstances:
  - a. SMS issued with advice to self isolate
  - b. Case “excluded” or “failed” if unable to be reached
  - c. Case or contact telephoned, interviewed, advised to isolate and then closed
14. If a case or contact is marked closed as unable to have been reached, advice is still sent confirming a need to self-isolate.
15. For any of the above reasons, we determine “case closed” in CMS as the end point in our management information journey
16. Note also: in most situations, it is not possible to confirm that either a case or a contact is actually “in quarantine” as per the WHO criteria. The only element that can be controlled and confirmed is whether advice to self-isolate has been given. Exceptions might include situations where a case is in hospital, a form of residential care, or detained for example at a police station or prison etc.

**Assessment**

17. Given the variable factors in the journey of a case from symptoms to test to contact tracing, PHS is using the nearest proxy measure for the WHO criteria as one part of the management information used to assess whether there is sufficient resource to contact trace the numbers of infected people and their contacts.
18. This is currently reported within table 15 in the weekly statistical report i.e.

***“Time between case created in CMS to its closure, measured by the time taken to complete the final contact interview”***