

COVID-19: Testing and Contact Tracing Updates

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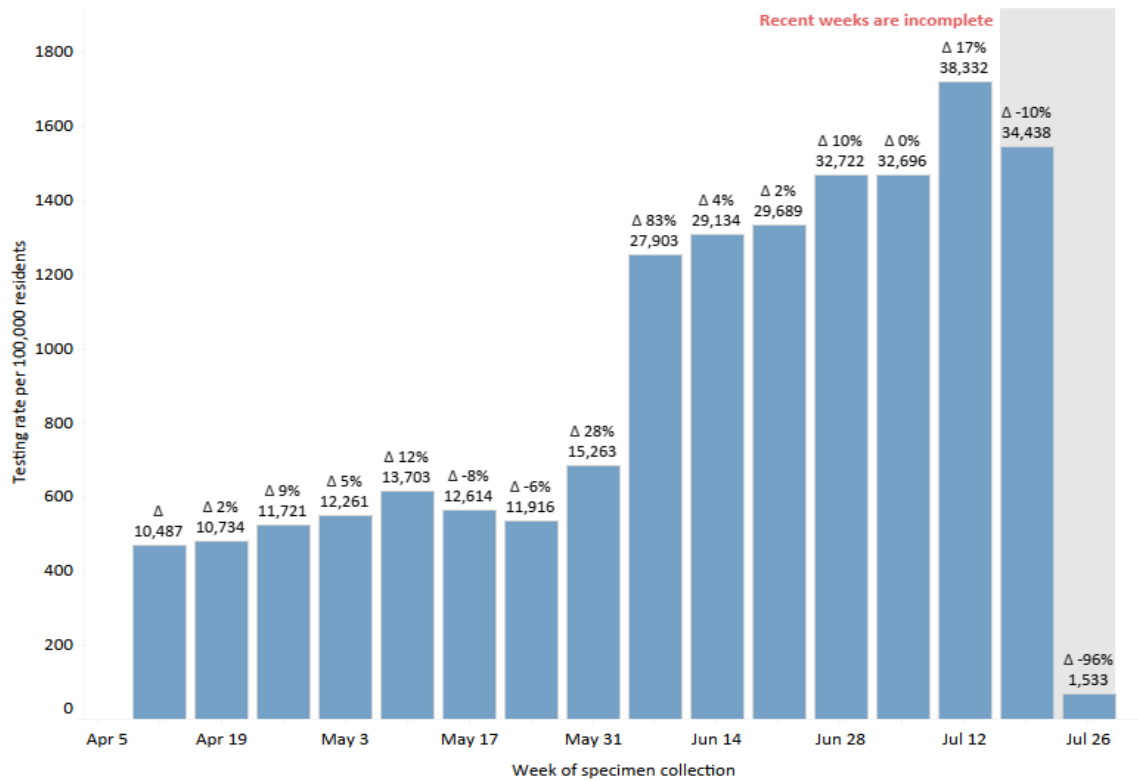


Testing: Key Updates

- In recent weeks, we have seen longer wait times to get tests and delays in receiving results. This is due to recent increases in people getting tested and the national shortage of reagents, supplies needed for laboratory testing.
- PHSKC is working to expand testing from approx. 30,000 per week to 60,000+ per week and to address disparities in access to testing for those at higher risk and for thus who are socially disadvantaged.
- PHSKC is working to expand testing in underserved areas through new, high-volume open access testing sites, with the goal of opening two of these sites by the first week of September.

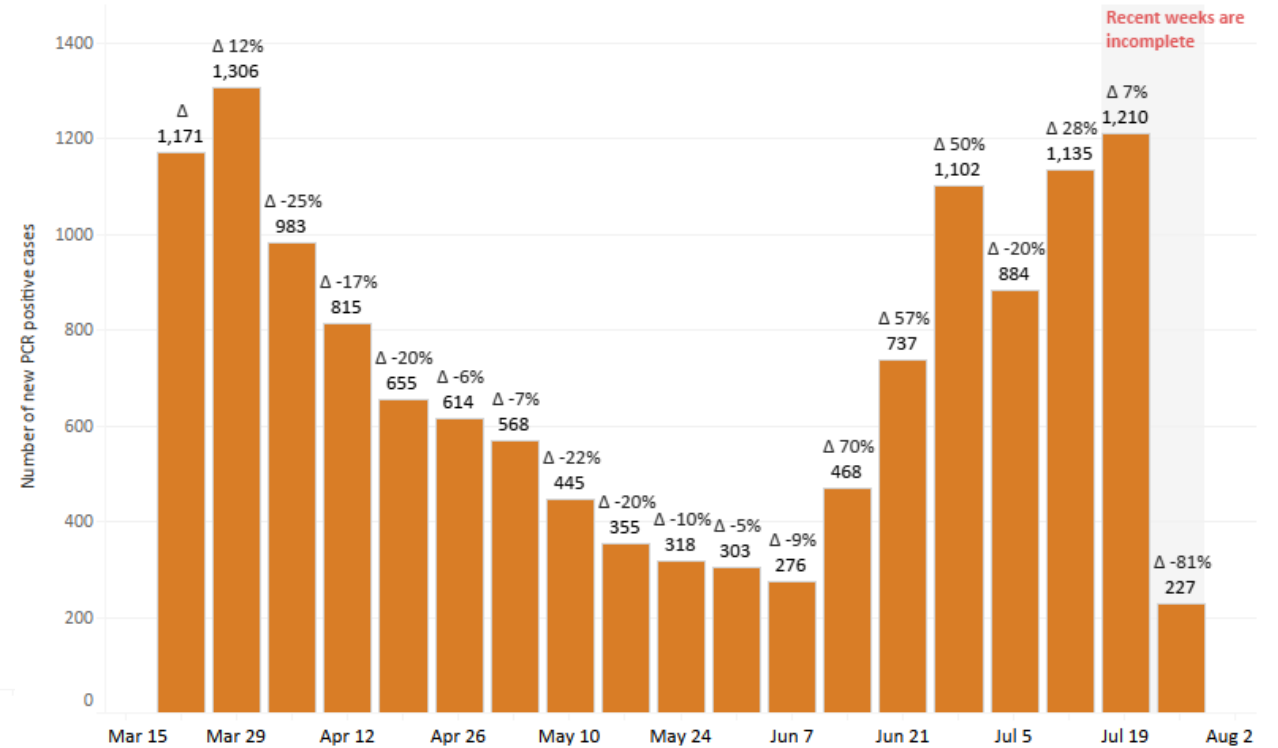
Both testing and positive cases have increased dramatically in last few weeks

Weekly PCR testing rate per 100,000 King County residents by specimen collection date, Δ is the percent change relative to prior week



Δ (delta) = change from the previous week. The graph only includes specimens tested by polymerase chain reaction (PCR), which is a diagnostic test. This graph includes all tests for an individual up until their first positive result.

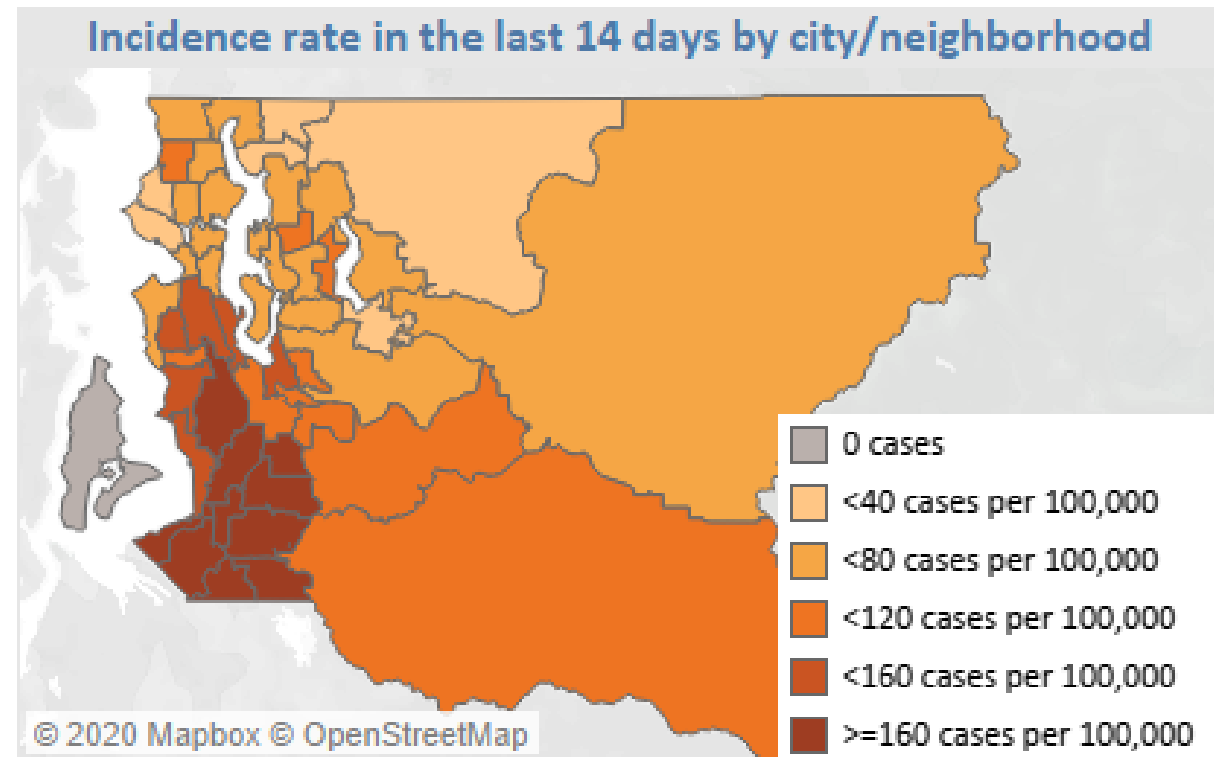
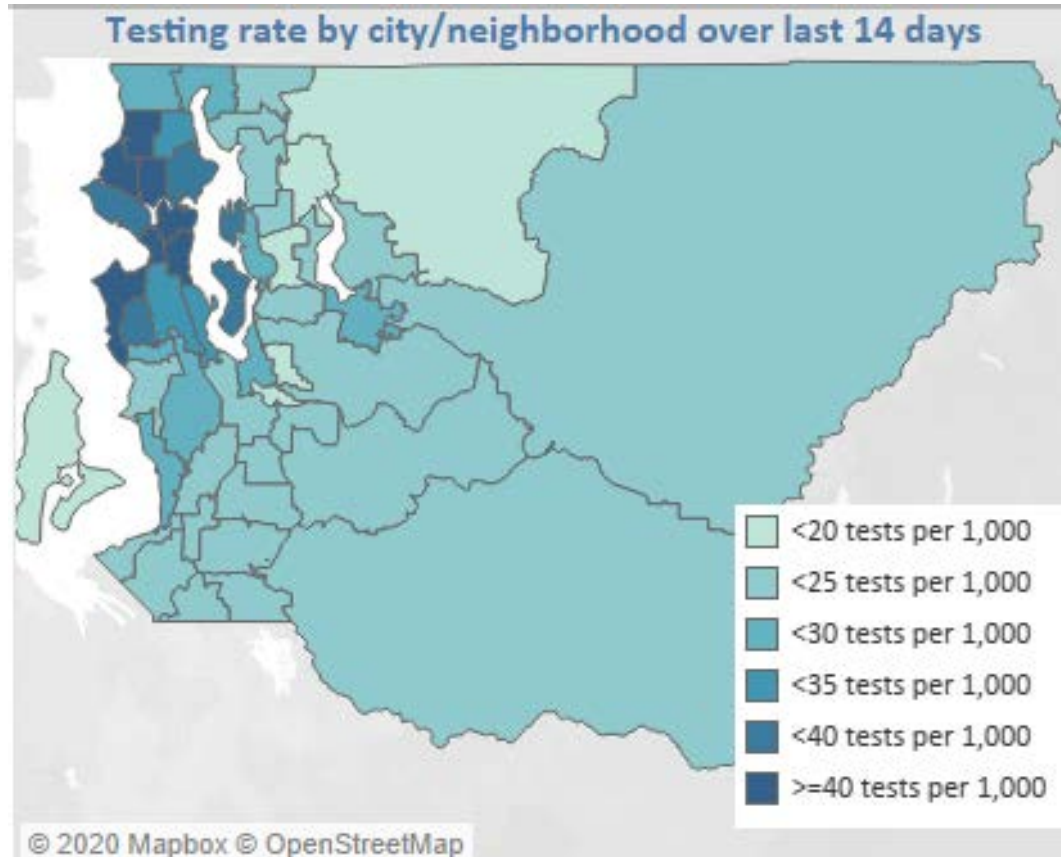
Weekly count of PCR positive cases by test result date, Δ is the percent change relative to prior week



Δ (delta) = change from the previous week. The graph only includes specimens tested by polymerase chain reaction (PCR), which is a diagnostic test.

Note: Data are preliminary and subject to change.

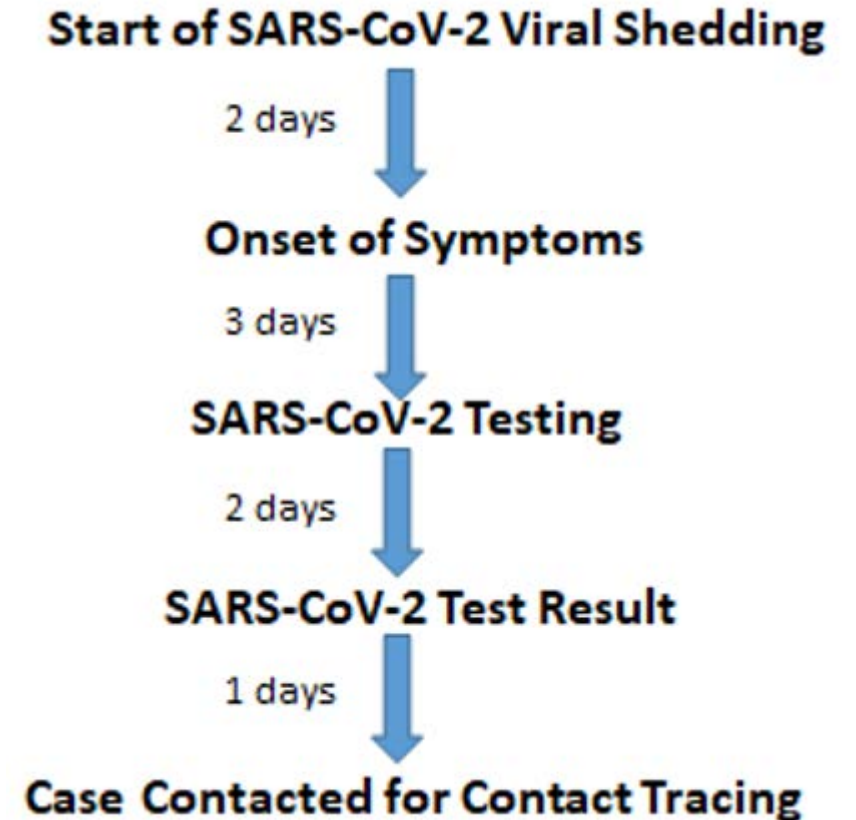
Key Priority: Expand Open Access Testing Sites



Based on home residence of the new cases reported in the last 2 weeks

Contact Tracing: Key Updates

- PHSKC is rapidly expanding our contact tracing workforce, now managing 40% of the overall King County Cases, DOH completes the rest.
- Currently, the average person goes 3 days from symptoms onset to testing, and most people do not go into isolation at time of symptom onset. As a result, most people are likely infectious for approx. 5 days before they go into isolation, a period that includes their time of peak infectivity.
- We need to accelerate this process. Contact tracing has the potential to identify people early in this sequence and ensure that their contact get tested and isolate as soon as possible.



Overview of PHSKC Case Investigation & Contact Tracing Process

Case Investigation

- Collect data on demographics, occupation, illness course
- Identify potential transmission settings-- > **transfer to outbreak investigation teams**
- Elicit contacts
- **Provide PH recommendations**
- **Link to medical and support services**

Contact Follow-up

- Notify contact of exposure, collect basic epi data, provide PH recommendations
- **Facilitate testing referrals**
- **Link to support services**

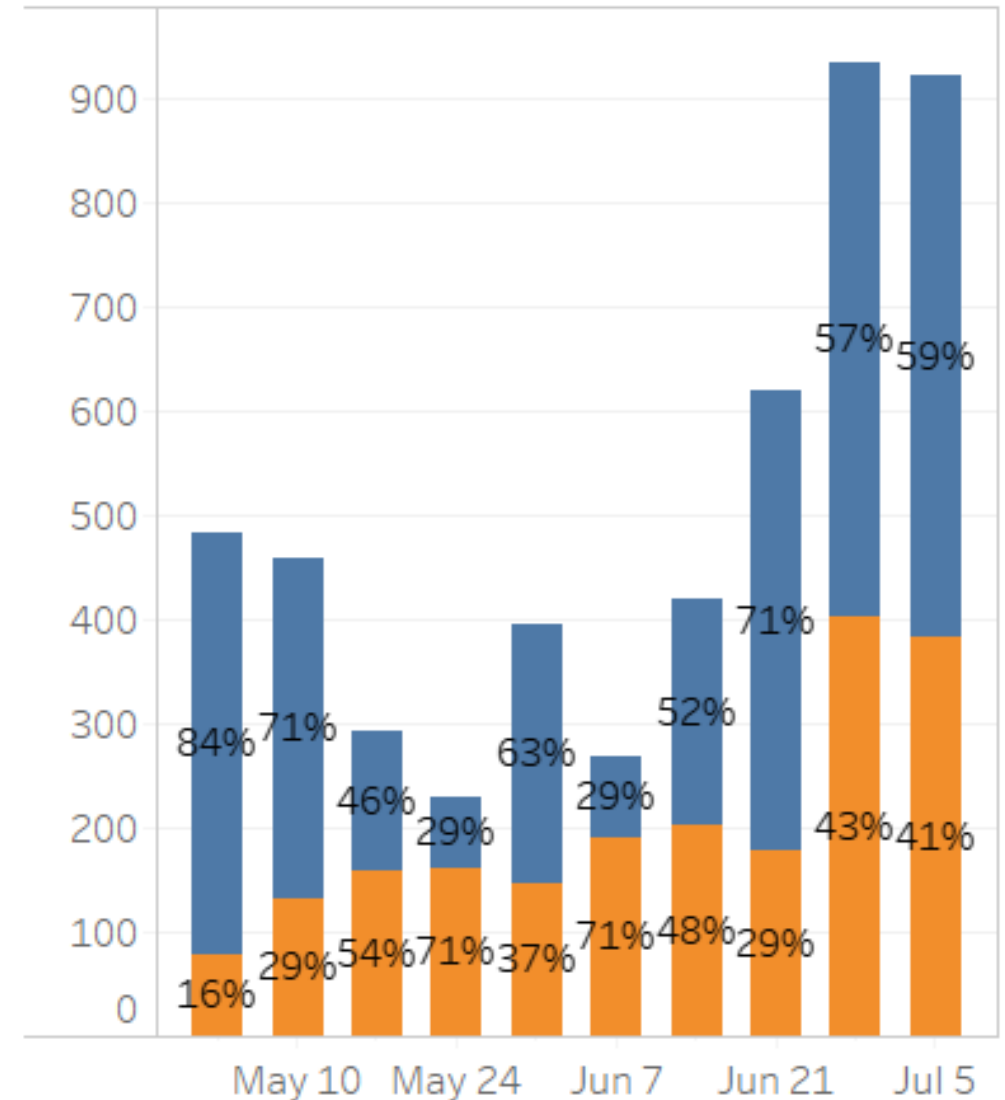
Daily SMS "Check-ins"

- Symptom check
- **Reminders about IQ guidelines**
- **Connect to services, medical & PH advice**

Development of PHSKC's Contact Tracing Program

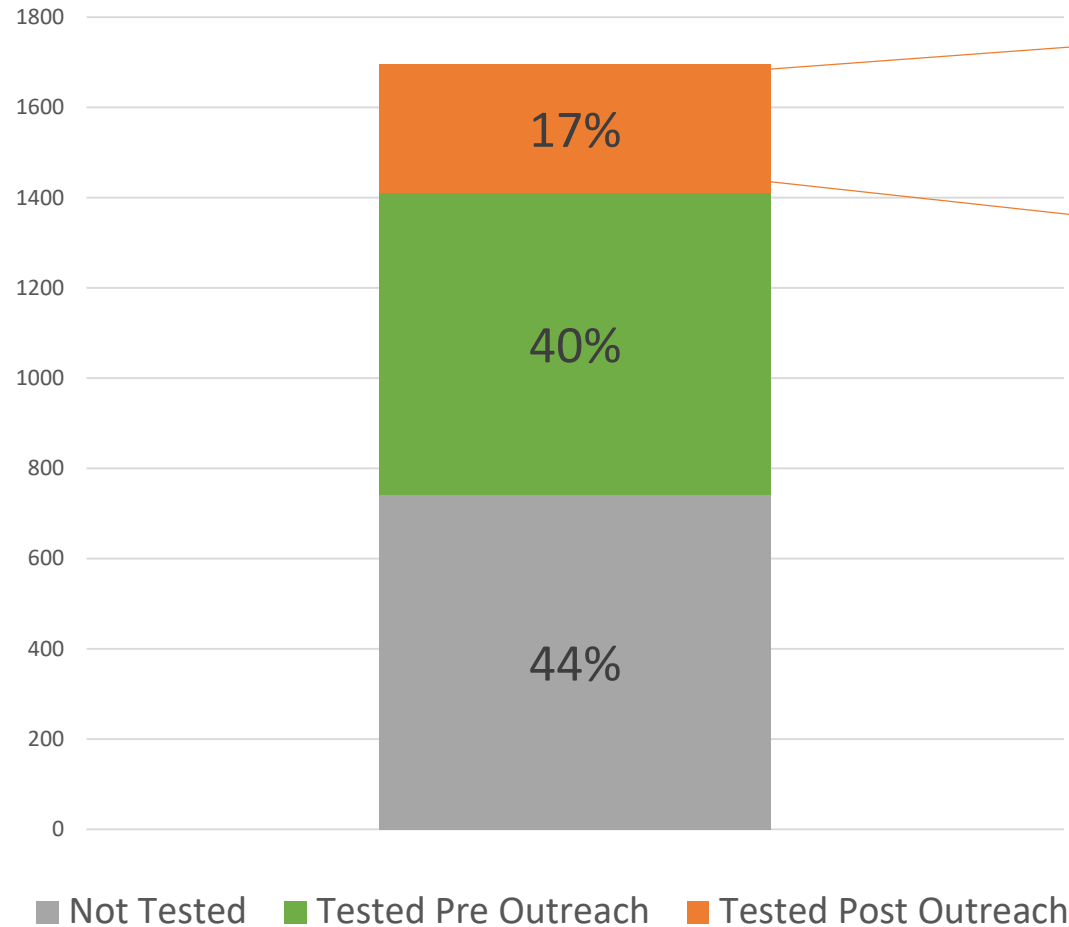
- COVID-19 in King County (KC)
 - Feb 28 – First indication of community transmission
 - March – DOH assumes responsibility for case investigations for King County cases
 - April 23 – PHSKC contact tracing pilot begins
- Growing our capacity until we can manage all aspects of contact tracing
 - In the interim, KC cases are split between the **WADOH** and **PHSKC**

of Cases Assigned to **PHSKC** vs. **WADOH**



Testing Uptake & Positivity among Contacts

COVID-19 Test Uptake Among Contacts Named by Cases Interviewed by PHSKC, June 22-July 18, N=1696



Test Results among Contacts who Tested Following PHSKC Outreach, N=285

