

NHS Test and Trace successfully reaches almost 300,000 people

Press release

The latest weekly statistics show that the service has consistently reached the vast majority of those testing positive and their contacts in 3 months of operation.



- Where contact details are shared, contact tracers have reached 88.3% of contacts since the service launched
- Number of people coming forward for a test has increased by 57% since mid-June
- NHS Test and Trace has now been in operation for 3 months

Where contact details are shared, contact tracers have reached 88.3% of contacts identified by those testing positive since the launch of NHS Test and Trace.

Demand for testing across the country continues to grow. Since mid-June the number of people getting newly tested has increased by 57% with over 440,000 people newly tested in the latest week of statistics (13 August to 19 August).

In response, the largest network of diagnostic testing facilities in British history, built from scratch, continues to grow. This includes expanding testing sites and investing in new technologies to have a 500,000 per day capacity by the end of October.

Ongoing work means that more tests are being made available each day, with testing capacity allocated based on areas of greatest need and prevalence of the virus.

Interim Executive Chair of the National Institute for Health Protection Baroness Dido Harding, said:

This week marks a milestone for NHS Test and Trace, which has now

been in operation for more than 3 months.

The statistics published today show that every week we consistently reach the majority of people testing positive and their contacts, and have now reached almost 300,000 people who may have unknowingly passed the virus on.

This country now has the capacity to test for coronavirus and trace contacts on an unprecedented scale to stop the spread of the virus.

We will continue to build the service further to reach more and more people and to scale up our testing capacity by expanding our network of testing sites and investing in new technologies.

I urge everyone to use NHS Test and Trace to help everyone get back to a more normal way of life. If you have symptoms, book a test immediately, and if you are contacted by the service, follow the advice you receive.

[Statistics from the 12th week of operation of NHS Test and Trace \(13 to 19 August\)](#) show that since the service launched:

- 297,138 people have been reached by the service. This includes both those testing positive and their contacts
- 80.6% of all contacts identified were reached, which increases to 88.3% for those we had contact information for
- 4,389,503 people have been newly tested under pillars 1 and 2

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