Isle of Man Government

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COVID-19 Weekly Surveillance Report

7th October 2021

Public Health Directorate

Introduction

- This report is a summary of indicators which are used to understand the status of the current wave of COVID-19 on the Isle of Man.
- This report will be published each Thursday for data up to and including the previous Sunday e.g. 12th August is for data up to 8th August.
- Time periods, unless otherwise specified, will start from the 28th June which is taken to be the beginning of this current wave.
- Confirmed cases are where a PCR test has returned a positive result.
- The report has been compiled by the Public Health Intelligence Team using data from Manx Care and the Civil Registry.

Wave Surveillance

- Currently the Isle of Man is experiencing a third wave of widespread community transmission, the impact of which is significantly mediated by the successful roll out of the vaccination programme and is being managed without recourse to statutory measures such as ‘lock down’ or non-pharmaceutical interventions. Consideration of NPIs (hands, face, space, fresh air) is encouraged for all.
- Currently, the wave dynamics indicate a significant fall from peak daily new cases to a current position of slower decline/plateau, with notable daily variation as would be expected for a small population. This position is likely to continue while there is circulating virus, susceptible individuals in the population and stable patterns of behaviour/mixing.
- A fourth wave is predicted for the UK during Autumn/Winter 2021-22, although the timing of this is uncertain. It is reasonable to expect a similar wave here.
- The data shows that the majority of confirmed cases remains in school aged groups (aged 11-16) as was expected with the start of the new school term in September.

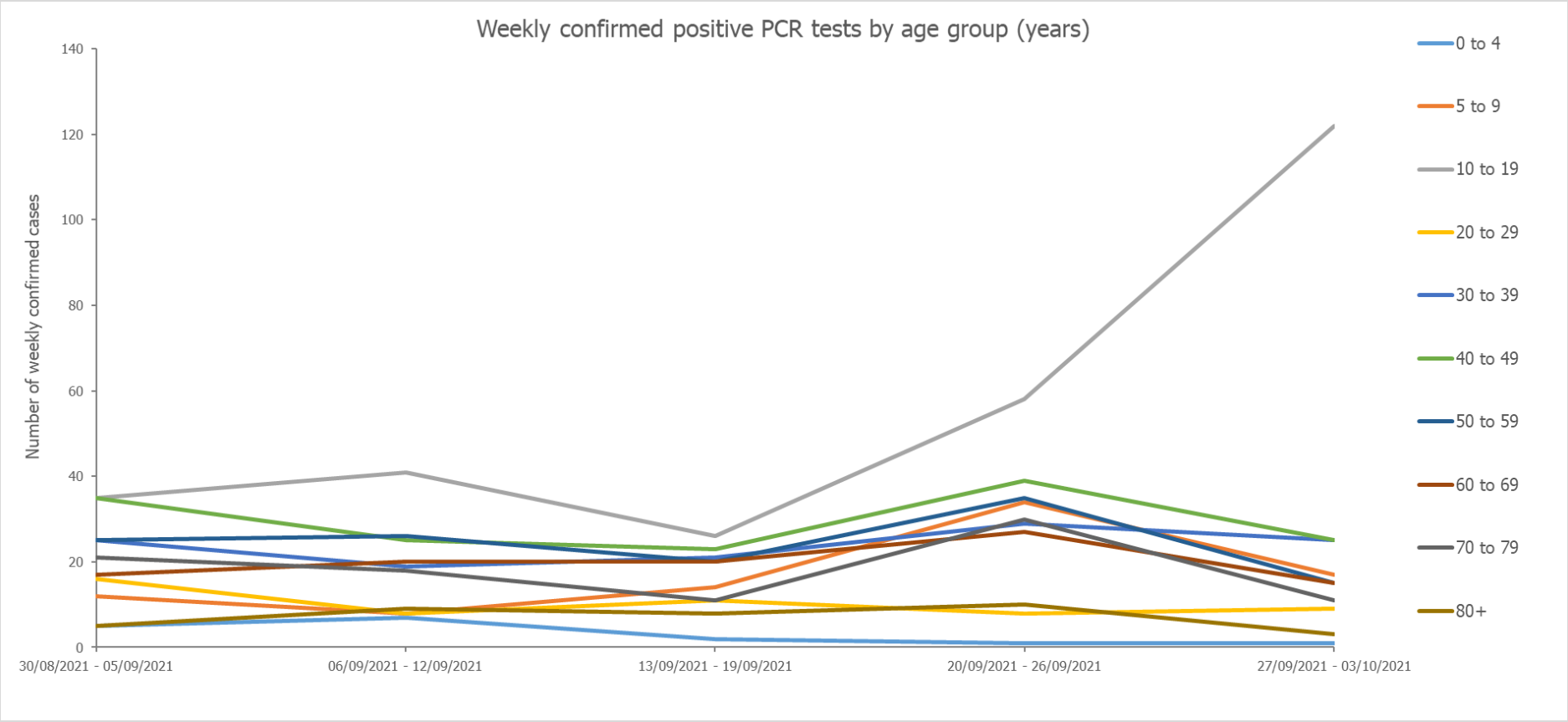
Wave Surveillance

- Autumn/Winter will likely see significant changes in mixing patterns (and hence COVID-19 and other respiratory pathogen transmission) due to people spending more time indoors with lower levels of fresh air/ventilation.
- Winter pressures on health and care may be significantly increased this year if a further wave of COVID-19 coincides with increased incidence of other seasonal respiratory infections (flu, RSV, etc) which were largely suppressed last year, including on Island, due to restrictions on mixing in place across.
- The Island's travel/border restrictions changed as of 00:01 on Thursday 16th September. As a result, we will see a decrease in PCR tests through the UK arrivals pathway due to the easing of requirements for island residents to be tested on return to the island.

Key Points

- The current 7-day average for confirmed positive cases is around 45.
- The current overall trend of confirmed cases is remaining level.
- Most recent 7-day daily average test positivity rate is 19.6%.
- The percentage of PCR tests from the LFD pathway is remaining level, with percentage of UK Arrival tests decreasing over the last two weeks, due to the reduction in border testing of returning residents previously noted.
- 88% of positive PCR tests are from the LFD pathway.
- Over the last 7 days most confirmed positive cases have been in the 10 - 14 age group, all of these cases are unvaccinated.
- The snapshot census of the Hospital shows 3 patients currently admitted with a COVID positive status.
- Daily and Weekly deaths continue to show a level trend overall.

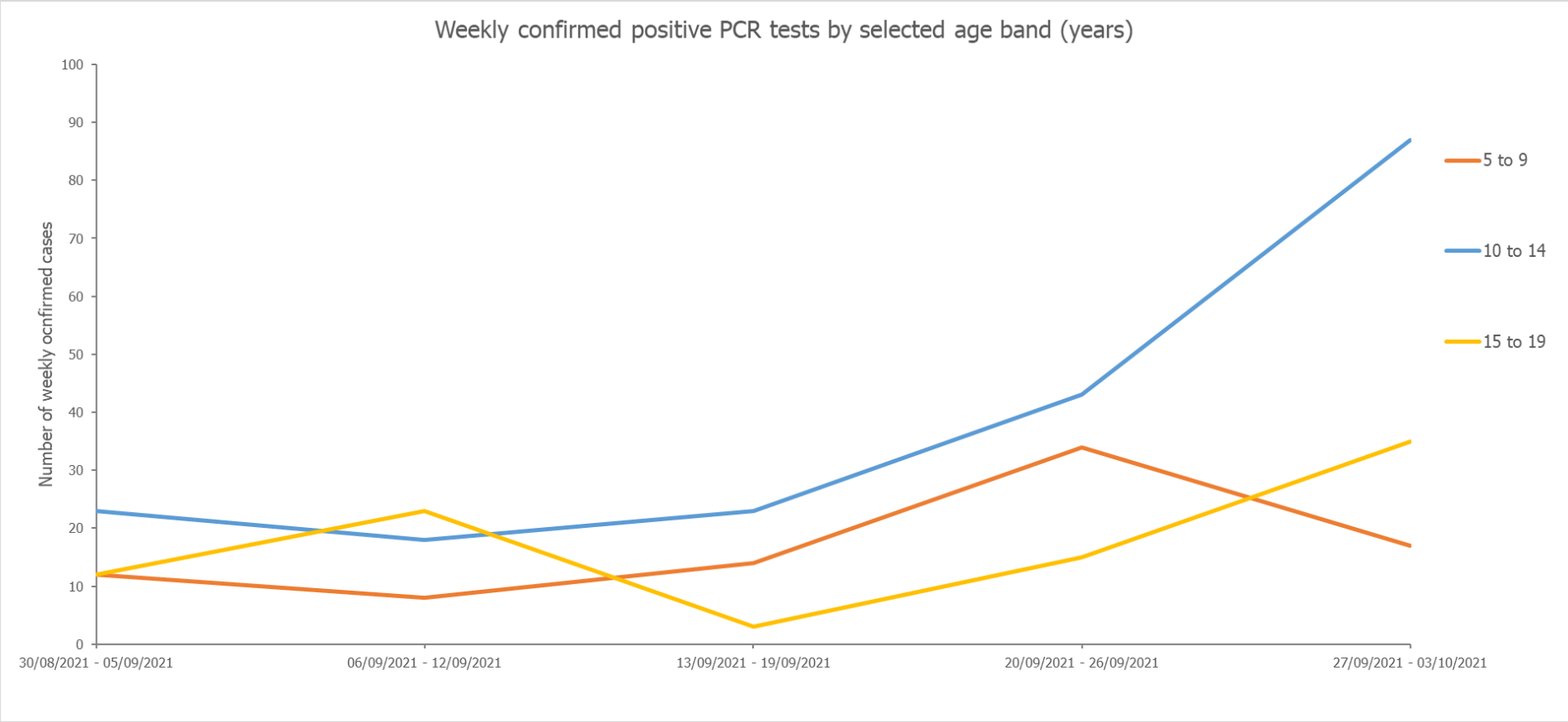
Age Group Analysis



- The data shows that the 10 to 19 age group has seen a marked increase in number of weekly cases in the last two weeks, whilst all others have remained stable with the expected weekly variations of a small population

- These age groups are aligned with those used by the Public Health England Weekly national influenza and COVID-19 surveillance report.

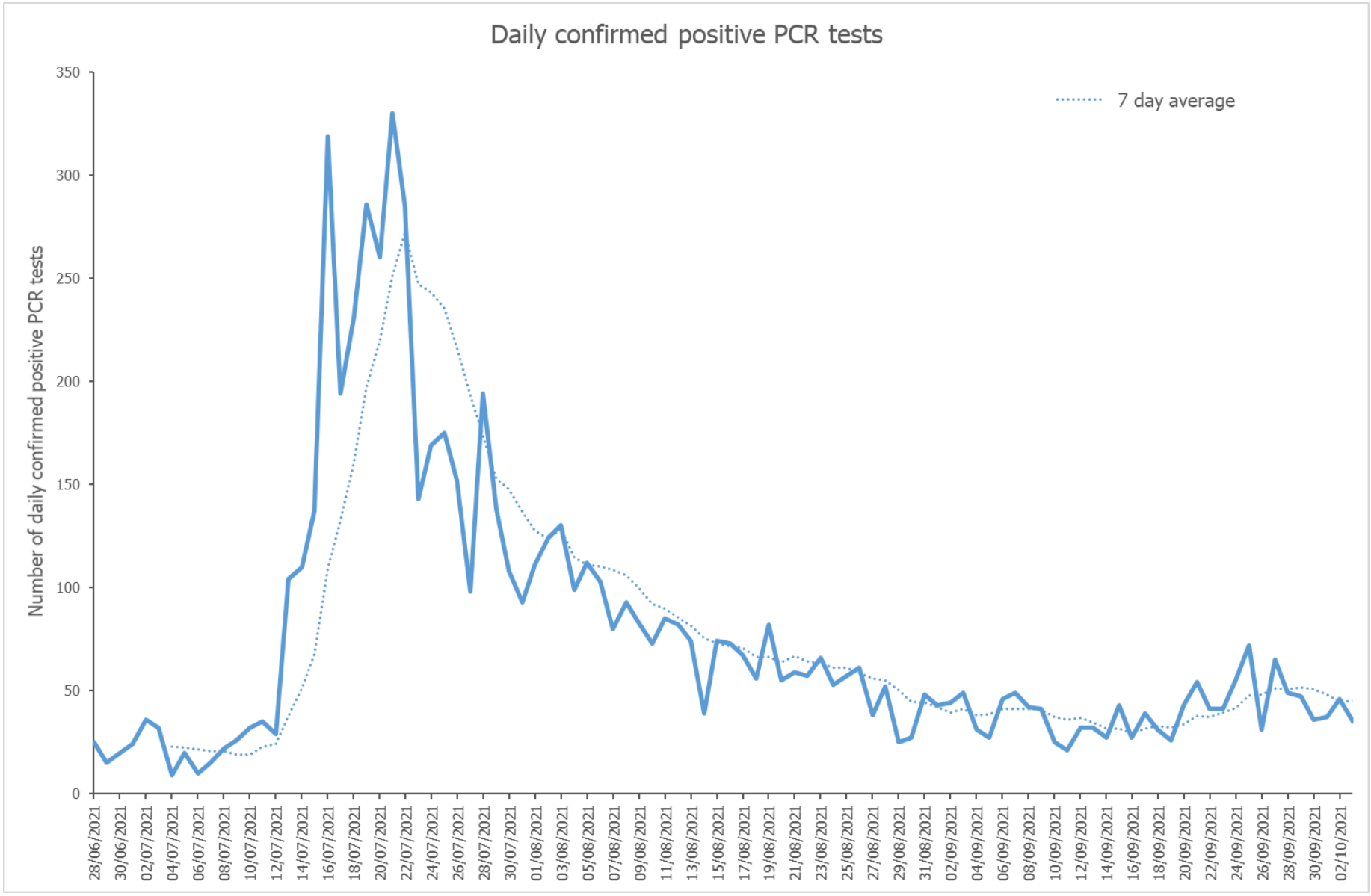
Selected Age Group Analysis



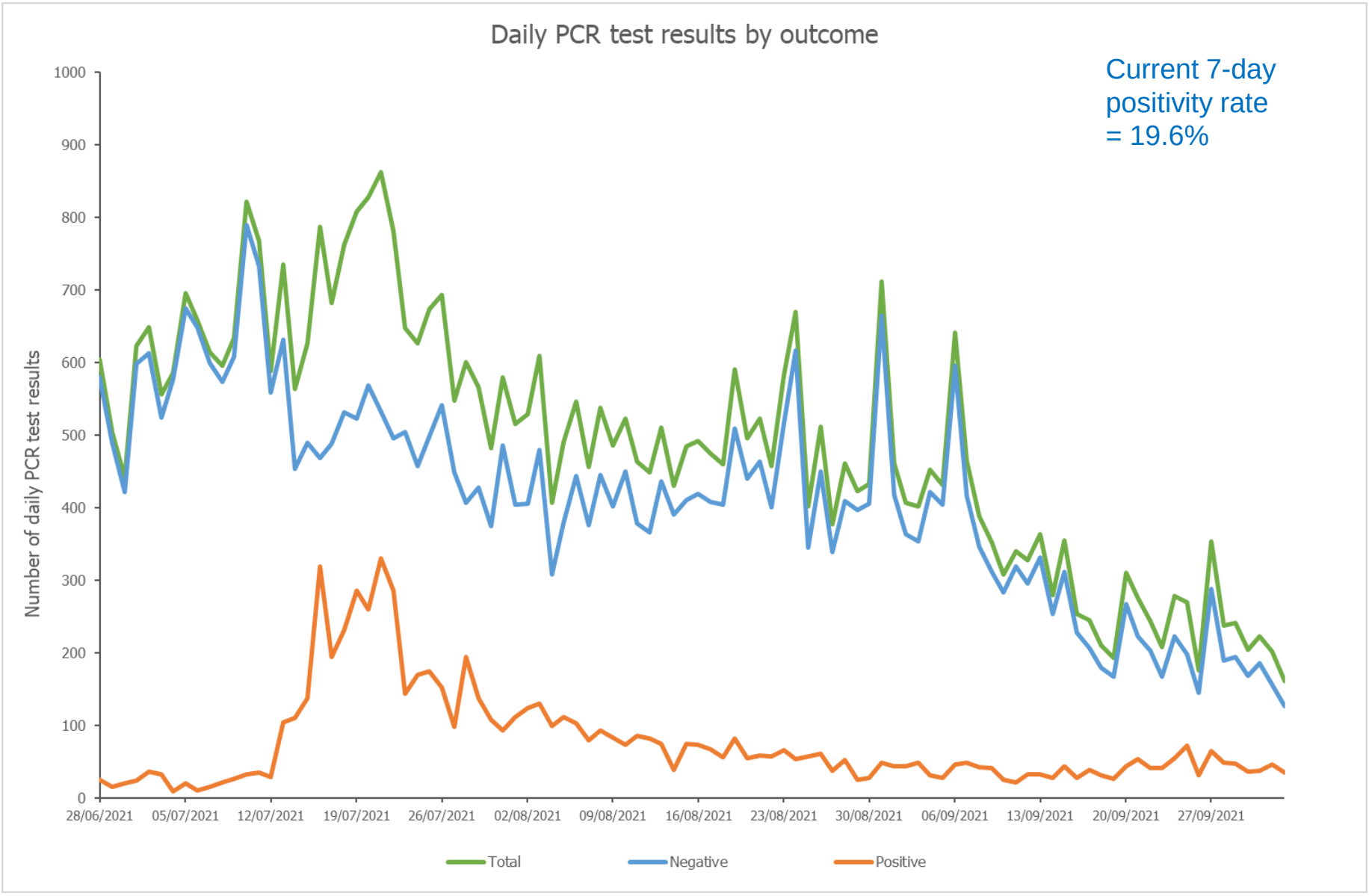
- Selected age group data shows that the greatest increase in weekly confirmed cases is in the 10 to 14 age group. A less steep increase, from a lower base, is also evident in the 15 to 19 age group.

- Weekly cases in the 5 to 9 age group have now fallen following their earlier rise.

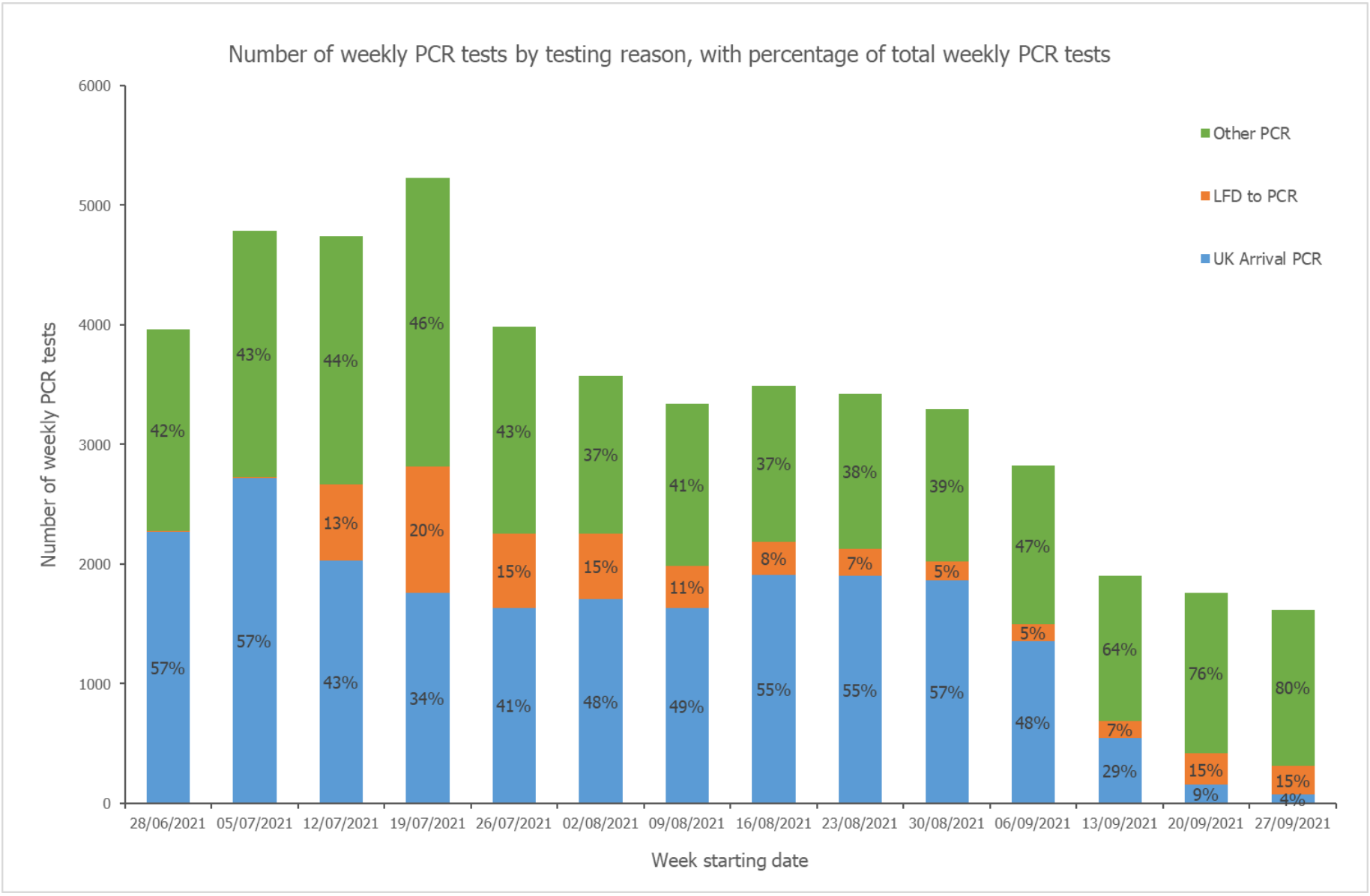
Daily Positive Cases Update



PCR Testing update

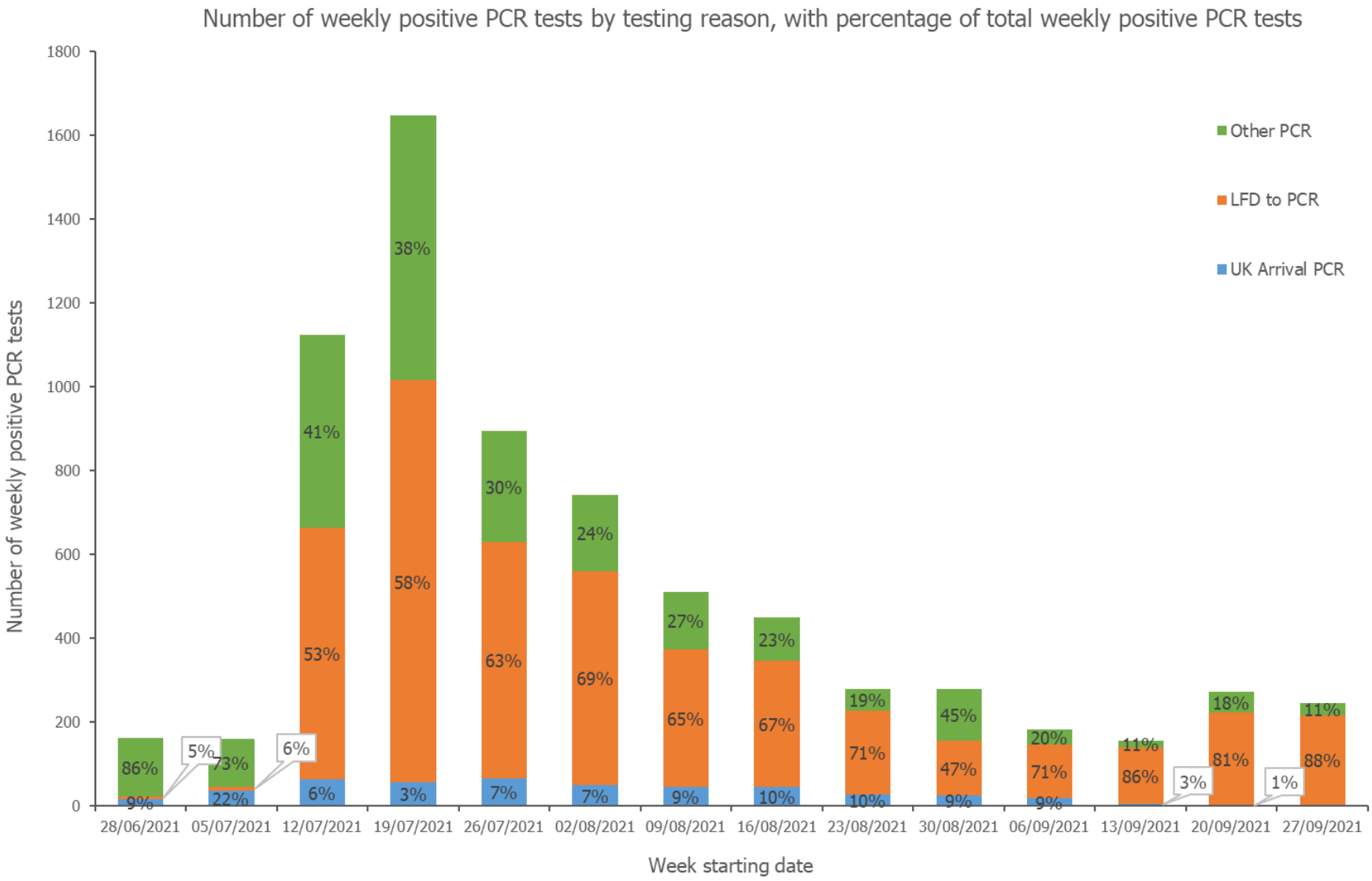


PCR Tests by Pathway



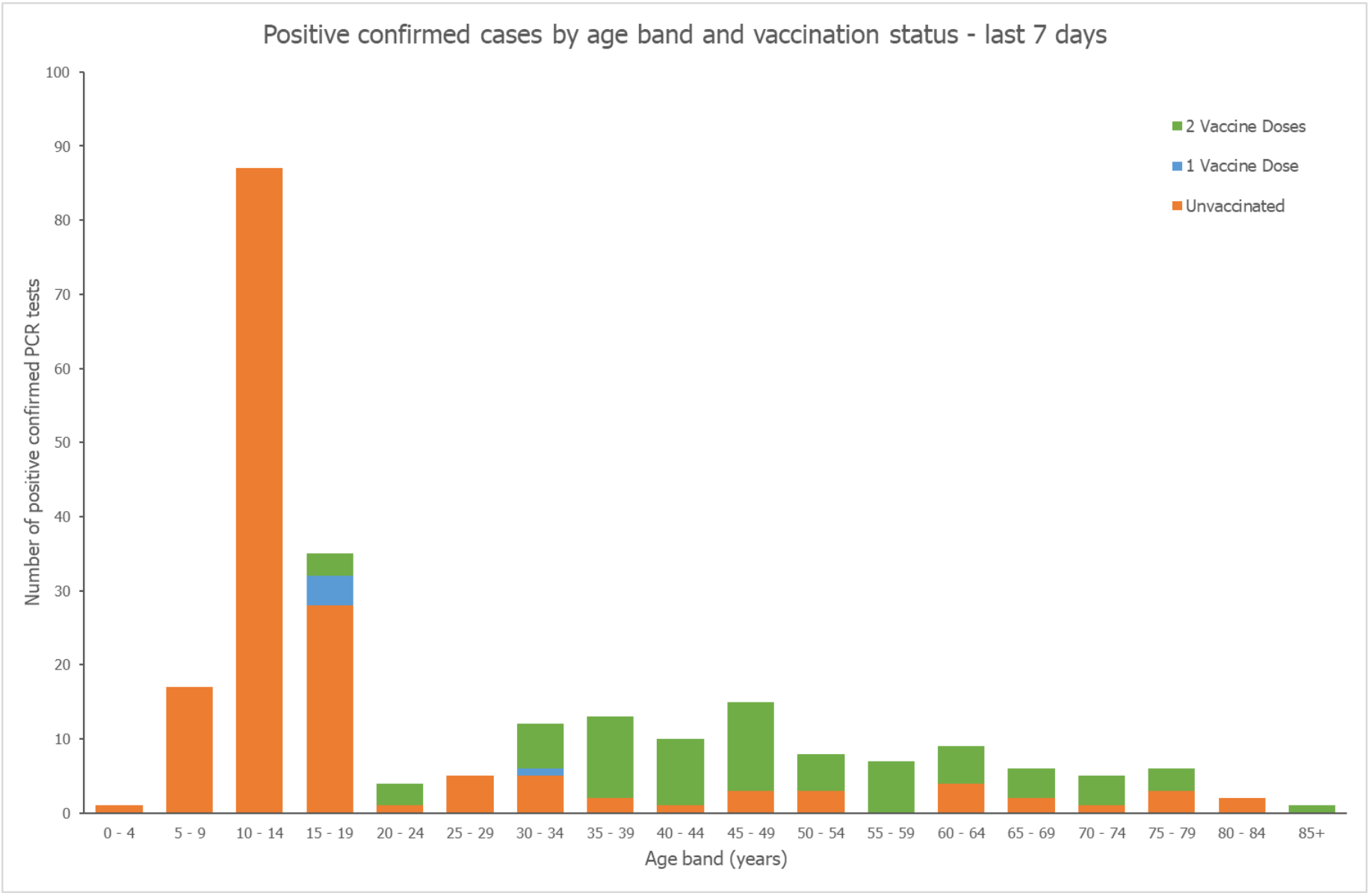
See last page for definitions

Positive PCR Tests by Pathway



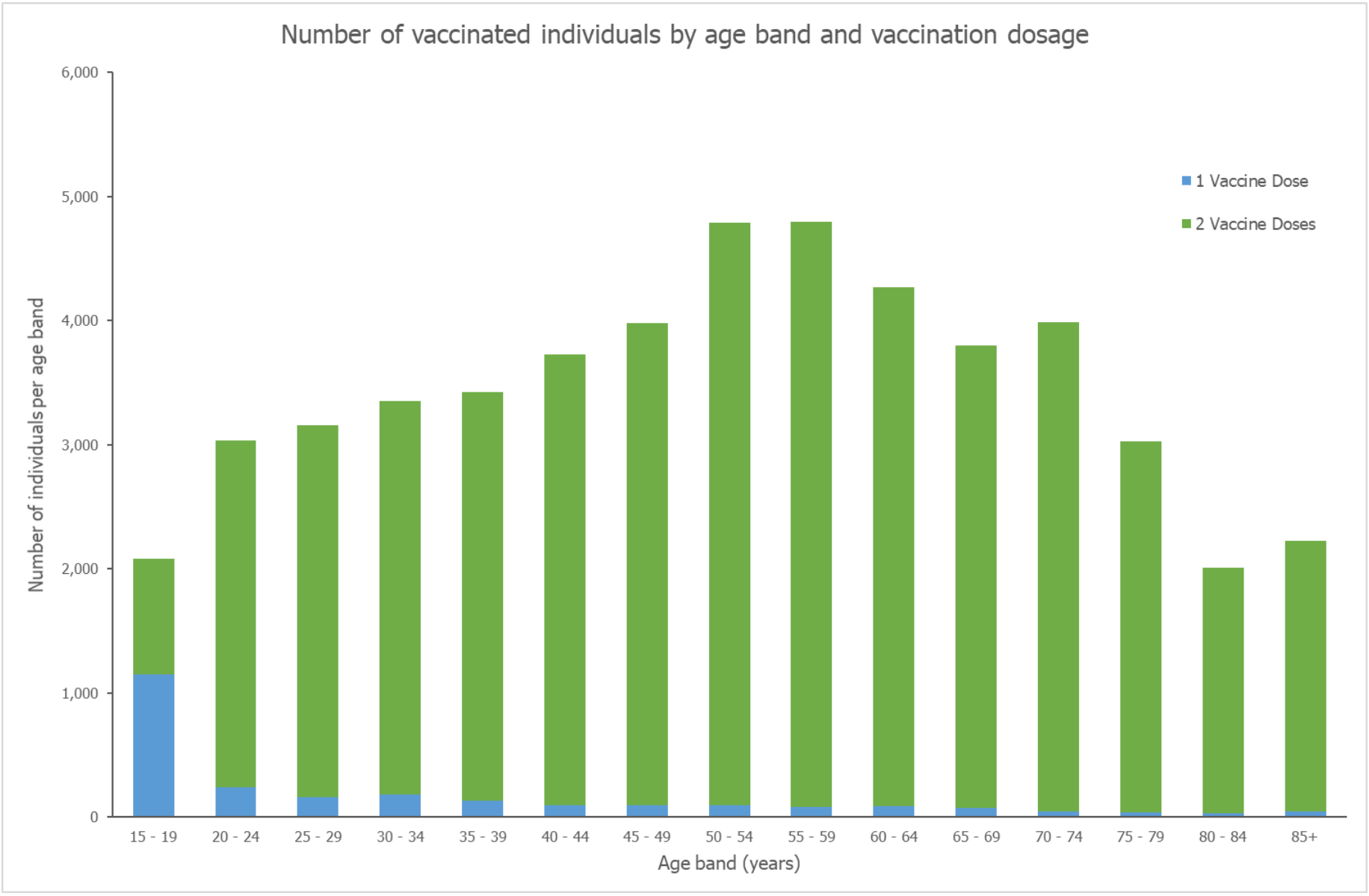
See last page for definitions

Weekly Positive Cases by Age Group



Current available data only allows for most recent 7 days. This will be expanded in future reports

Vaccine uptake and coverage



This data will be expanded in future reports to show % of eligible population vaccinated

Hospitalised Patients

This figure is a snapshot census of the cases in Hospital.

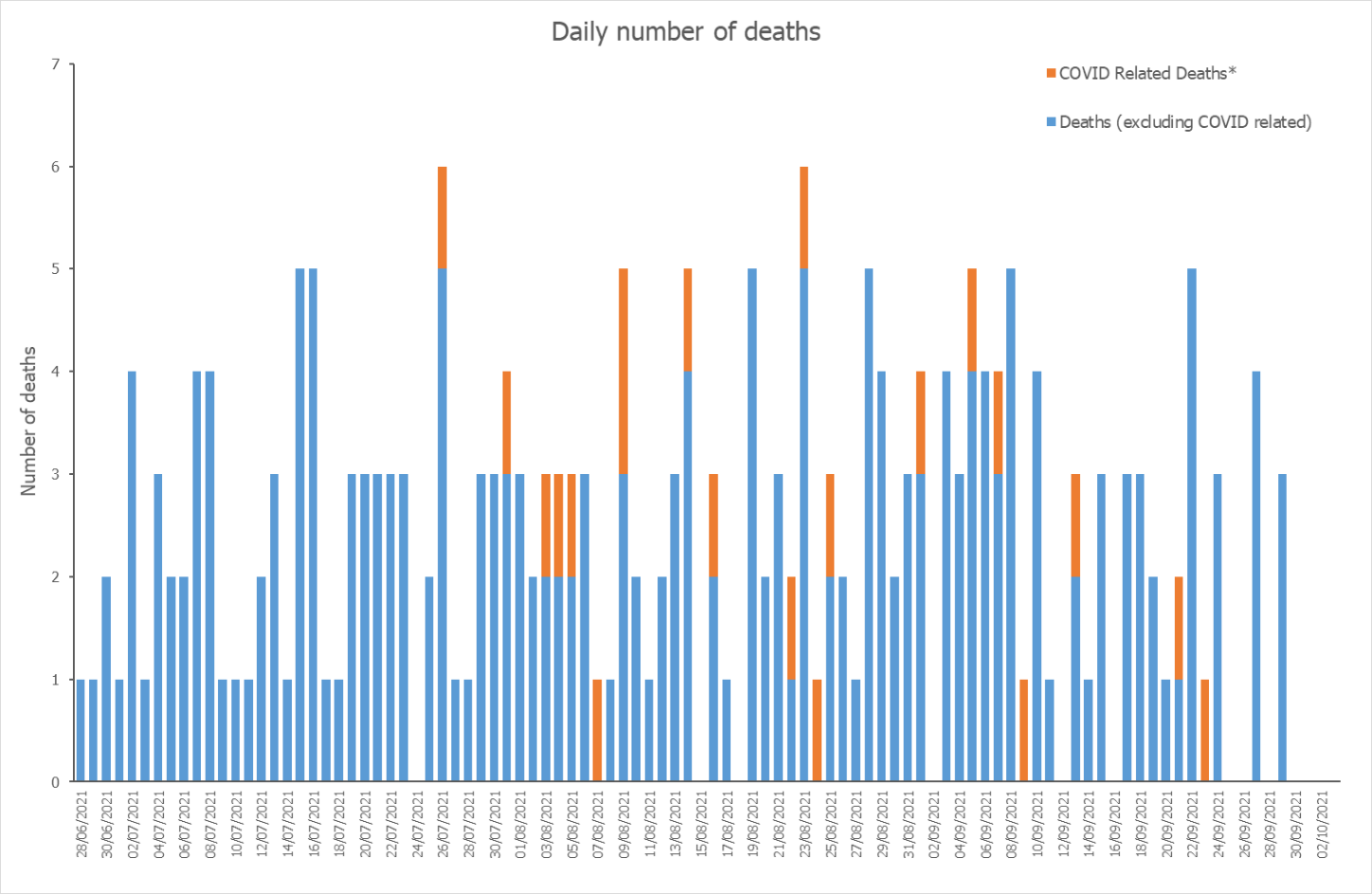
When broken down into vaccination status all numbers are 5 or below. Therefore, further sub-analysis of weekly figures cannot be produced due to the caveats and identifiable nature of small numbers.

SUMMARY

Total Patients	**3**
With COVID-19 Symptoms	100.0%
Without COVID-19 Symptoms	

Vaccination Status of Hospital Admissions	
Fully Vaccinated (2+2)	66.7%
Partially Vaccinated	
Unvaccinated	33.3%

Daily Deaths – current wave



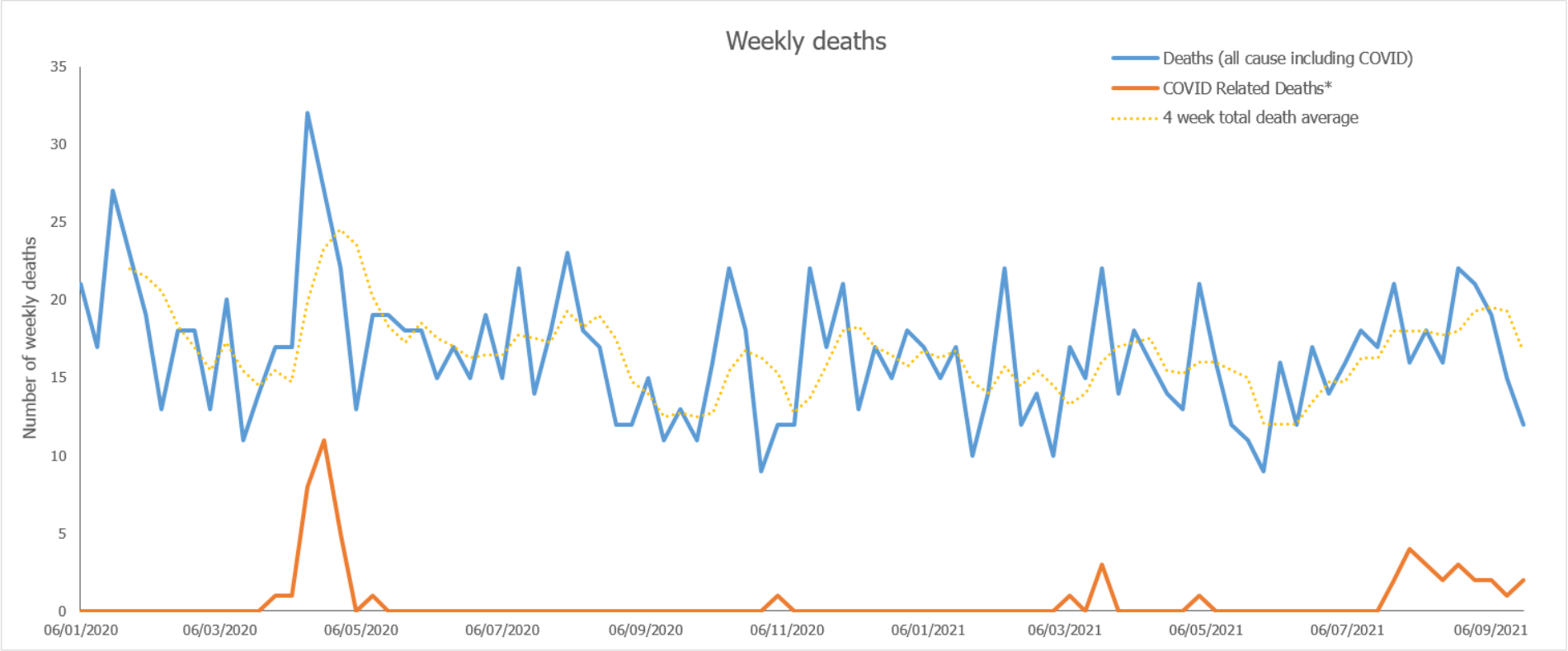
Cumulative COVID Related Deaths = 54

Numbers up to date at time of publication.

Note: Death registrations are often delayed and therefore deaths occurring in a given week may not be input into the week of which death occurred until a later date, meaning figures are likely to change retrospectively as data is updated and the most recent week's numbers will be incomplete.

*COVID deaths are those where COVID-19 is mentioned anywhere within the death certificate

Weekly Deaths – whole pandemic



Numbers up to date at time of publication.

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*COVID deaths are those where COVID-19 is mentioned anywhere within the death certificate. This differs from the definition used by Public Health England, who classify a COVID death as "people who had had a positive test result for COVID-19 and dies within 28 days of the first positive test result."

Definitions

- **Testing Pathways**
  - Other PCR = hospital, surveillance, symptomatics, other travel
  - LFD to PCR = positive LFD subsequently confirmed by PCR
  - UK Arrivals = identified arrivals from UK requiring PCR testing
- **LFD Pathway**
  - See above LFD to PCR definition
- **Vaccination Status**
  - 2 doses = those who have received two doses
  - 1 dose = those who have received one dose
  - Current available data doesn't allow for confirmation that those who've had 2 doses are fully vaccinated i.e. 2+2