

Daily COVID-19 Surveillance Bulletin

PHA HP Respiratory Surveillance team

Date generated: 25/03/2020

Version 1.1 Data correct to 25/03/2020 at 11:15

Changes from yesterday

Number of new Individuals with confirmed COVID-19¹: 37

Number of new Individuals tested²: 383

Number of new deaths³ associated with COVID-19: 3

Cumulative Summary

Number of Individuals tested: 3372

Number of Individuals with confirmed COVID-19: 209

Number of Individuals testing negative: 3163

Cumulative number of deaths associated with COVID-19: 7

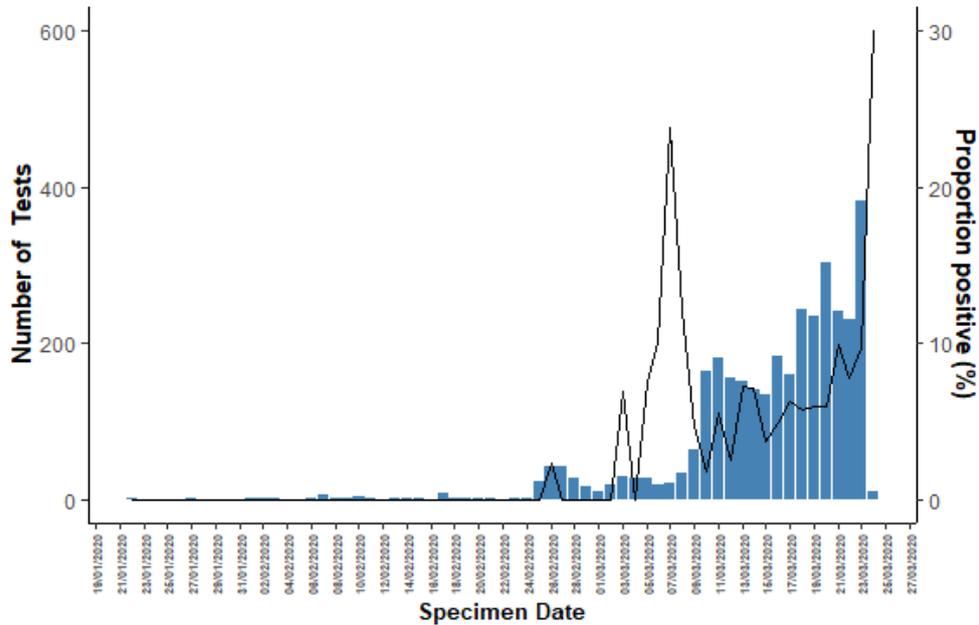
¹This is the change in the total number of positive COVID-19 cases since yesterday's morning report. This includes individuals that may have had a specimen taken in previous days (not just the last 24 hours). Information on the positive cases by specimen date is available in Fig 1.

²This reflects the virology laboratory runs completed for the previous day

³Death data at 09:15 on date of report

1. Surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 Laboratory Testing

Figure 1: Number of SARS-CoV-2 tests and positivity rate, by specimen date, Northern Ireland



The bars in figure 1 outline the number of laboratory tests undertaken by specimen date and the line outlines the proportion of daily tests that were positive. Prior to 24th February the number of daily tests performed was small. Tests performed then started to increase, reflecting the increase in requests following the broadened case definition to include the Northern Italy. Since 11th March, there have been further increases in tests performed reflecting further changes in public health management, with the overall trend, and positivity rate, on an upward trajectory.

Table 2 Total completed tests by Health and Social Care Trust, Northern Ireland

Trust	Number of Total Tests (3372)
BHSCT	1283
SEHSCT	636
NHSCT	451
SHSCT	585
WHSCT	341
Other	74
Unknown	2

2. Surveillance of Laboratory Confirmed COVID-19 Cases

Figure 2: Daily number of new confirmed cases of COVID-19 by specimen date

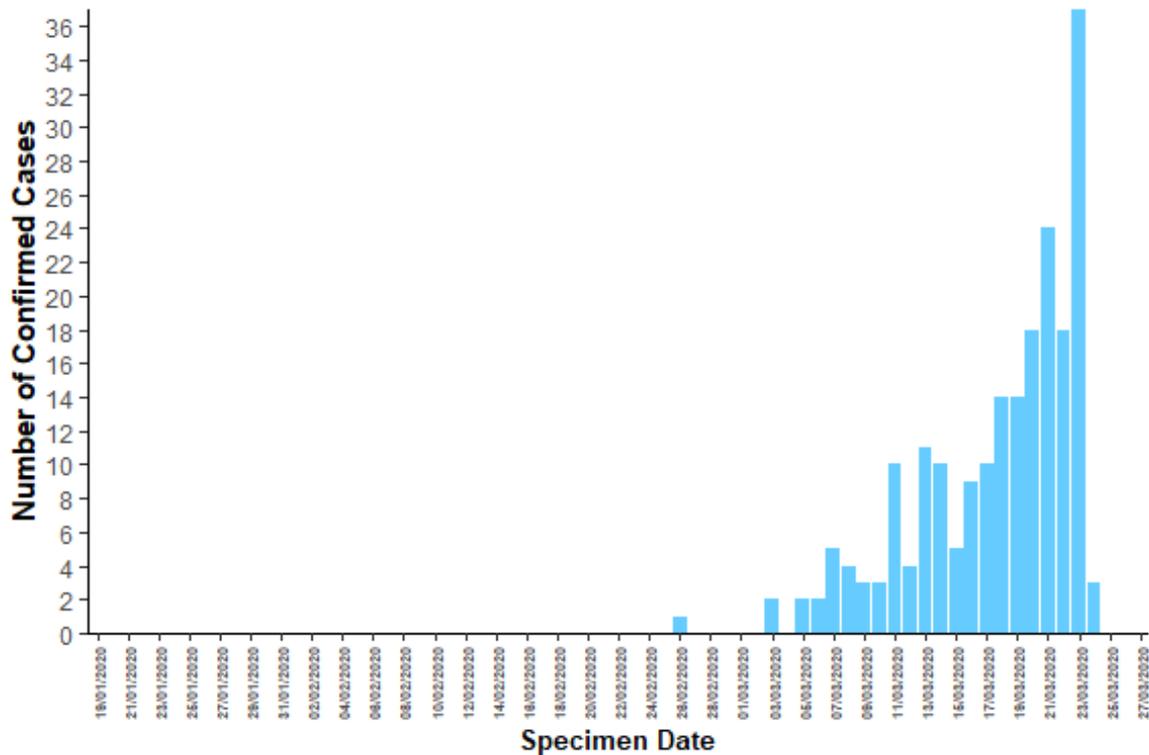


Figure 2 outlines the number of laboratory confirmed cases by specimen date. This follows how cases are monitored across the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland and is in accordance with WHO guidance.

The first laboratory confirmed case of COVID-19 was reported on the 25 February 2020 (specimen date 24 February). As of 25 March 2020, there have been a total of 209 cases. The overall trend is on an upward trajectory.

Table 1 Age and gender characteristics* for positive COVID-19 cases (209)

Case Characteristics	Number (%)	
Age	0 to 44	72 (34%)
	45 to 69	73 (35%)
	70+	64 (31%)
Sex	F	92 (44%)
	M	117 (56%)

Figure 3: Location of confirmed COVID-19 cases by Local Government District (LGD) in Northern Ireland

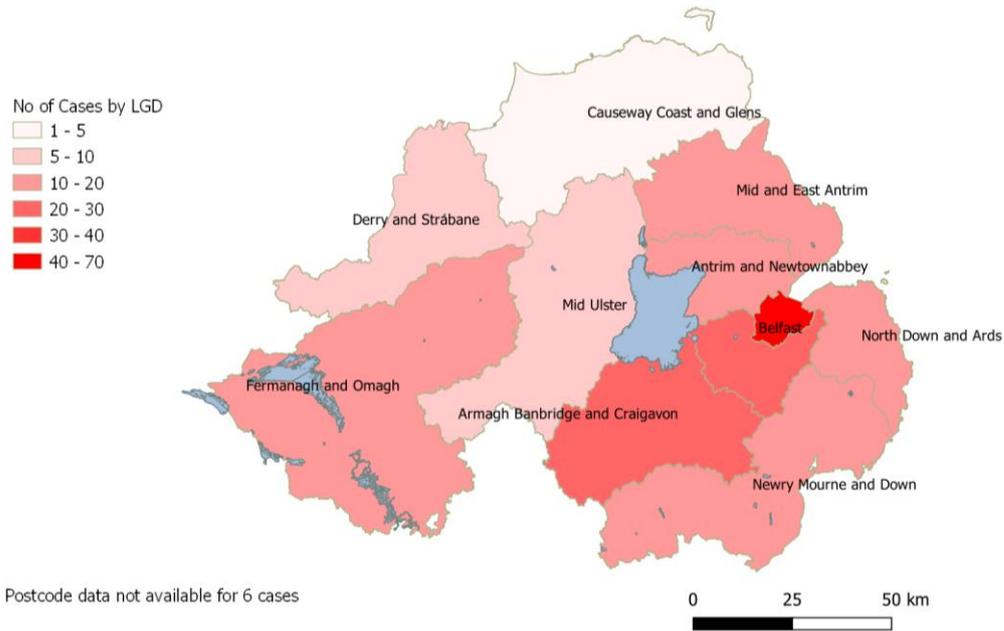
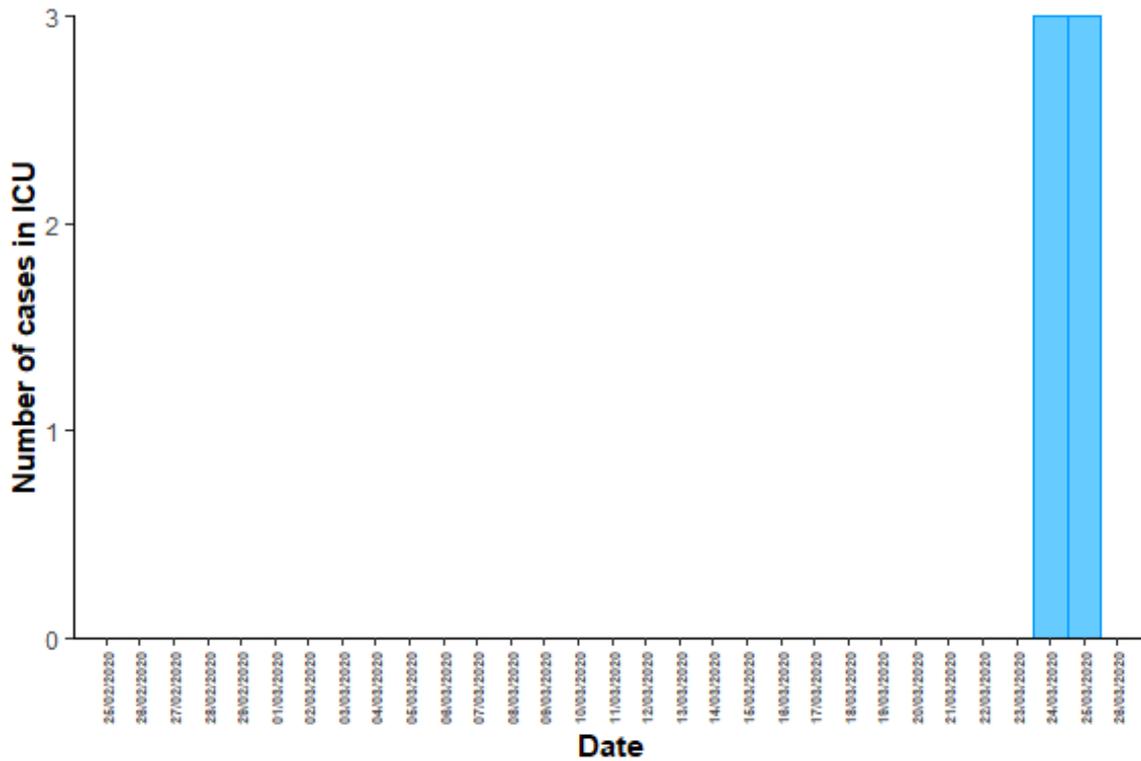


Figure 3 outlines the geographical distribution of confirmed COVID cases across Northern Ireland. Cases are predominantly clustered within Belfast LGD areas of residence.

3. Surveillance of Critical Care COVID-19 Cases

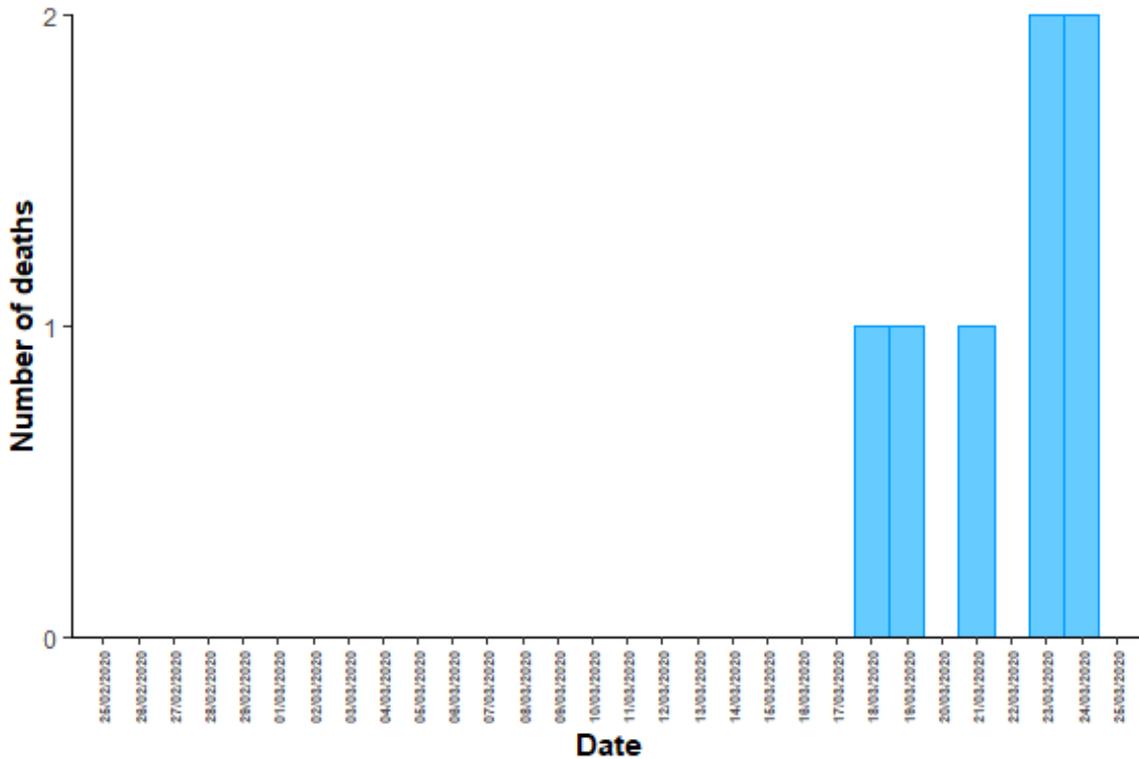
Figure 4: Number of individuals admitted to critical care associated with COVID-19, in Northern Ireland*



These are the number of individuals that are currently receiving critical care for COVID-19

4. Surveillance of deaths associated with COVID-19

Figure 5: Number of deaths associated with COVID-19, in Northern Ireland



The definition of a death associated with COVID-19 is an individual who has died within 28 days of a positive COVID-19 specimen. This is verbally reported to the PHA by the responsible clinician and subsequently will be formally notified on the death certificate.

Caveats

Please note, that as of 13th March the daily SitRep is now based on virology data only.

Unlike the virology data, this report is based on individuals tested rather than tests conducted. For example, one individual will have multiple tests. In the PHA dataset they would be counted once whereas in virology they would have multiple entries.

Prior to the 13th March, total tests included only individuals that met the case definition (travel and clinical criteria). However, during this time wider testing was also being conducted across all Trusts in Northern Ireland. These individuals are now included in the overall virology total resulting in an overnight increase of approximately 400 tests which affected the total number of tests and total number of negative reports.

On the 13th March, the case definition also changed such that testing was limited to acute Trust admissions only.