

COVID-19 Somerset Update 09.10.2020



Public Health Summary

ACHIEVEMENTS



Key Actions achieved this week:

- Achieved a joined up approach between Police and Environmental Health Officers around enforcement for people breaching rule of six and face masks rules – 20 fixed penalty notices issued this last week by Police

Key Statistics for the week:

Outbreaks: Closed Situations or Outbreaks = 175,
Open Situations or Outbreaks = 87

Testing stats:

Regional testing centre Taunton - 1407

Mobile testing results – 254 at Frome Cricket ground

Exploring further mobile testing units

Domestic Abuse Campaign: Facebook boosting – Impressions: 84,017 Reach: 23,005 resulting in 389 unique clicks through to the Somerset Survivors website. Multi-agency liaison over male abuse campaign.

Planning for Male abuse, elder abuse and Christmas/New Year campaigns.

Sky TV, radio commercials, sponsorship, public info broadcasts, digital advertising, Bannervan ongoing.



NEXT STEPS



Key Actions for the coming week:

- Continued support to outbreaks and situations
- Progressing of Covid Champions work – progress training package for the new Champion Coordinator to deliver with volunteers. Key identified stakeholders will be approached via private sign up function to join the Advisory Network that will inform the Engagement Board.



How to help:

- Help to promote social distancing and hand washing messages - Hands, Face, Space - <https://coronavirusresources.phe.gov.uk/Hands-Face-Space/>
- Help to promote if you have symptoms to isolate and request a test through <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/ask-for-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/> or by dialling 119.



Reinforcing the measures:

Twitter - @SomersetDPH – 19.3k impressions in the past 28 days

Social Media reach this week (FB & Twitter): Infection Prevention

Control: 21,371 Healthy Living: 3,104, Domestic abuse: 19,740, Child Accident Prevention: 843, Drugs and Alcohol support: 761, Smoking Cessation: 6,369, Sexual Health Support: 741, Bereavement Support Service: 631, Mental Health (Mindline promotion): 2,014, BBC Somerset Wellbeing Slot: 418



Happy, Healthy & Safe:

- 611 Mindline calls received in w/c 28 September
- 484 users of the Healthy Somerset website (1 – 7 Oct)

Mindline Somerset
Emotional support helpline


01823 276 892
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week



Detected cases



Outbreaks, Situations and Single Cases being managed



Open



Surveillance

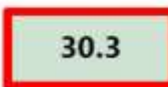


Closed

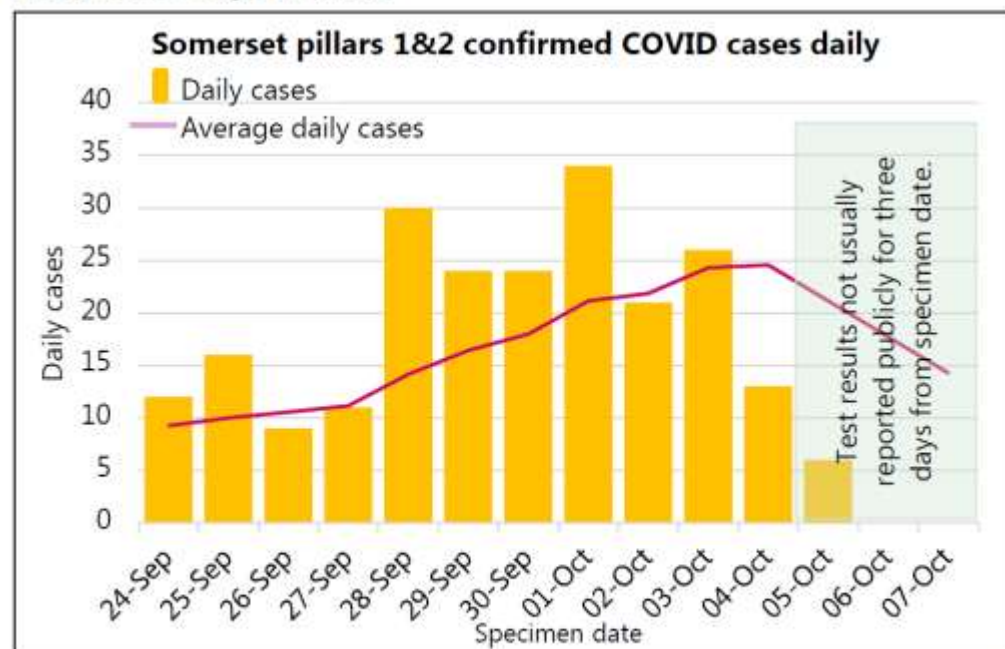


Latest 7 day rate per 100k

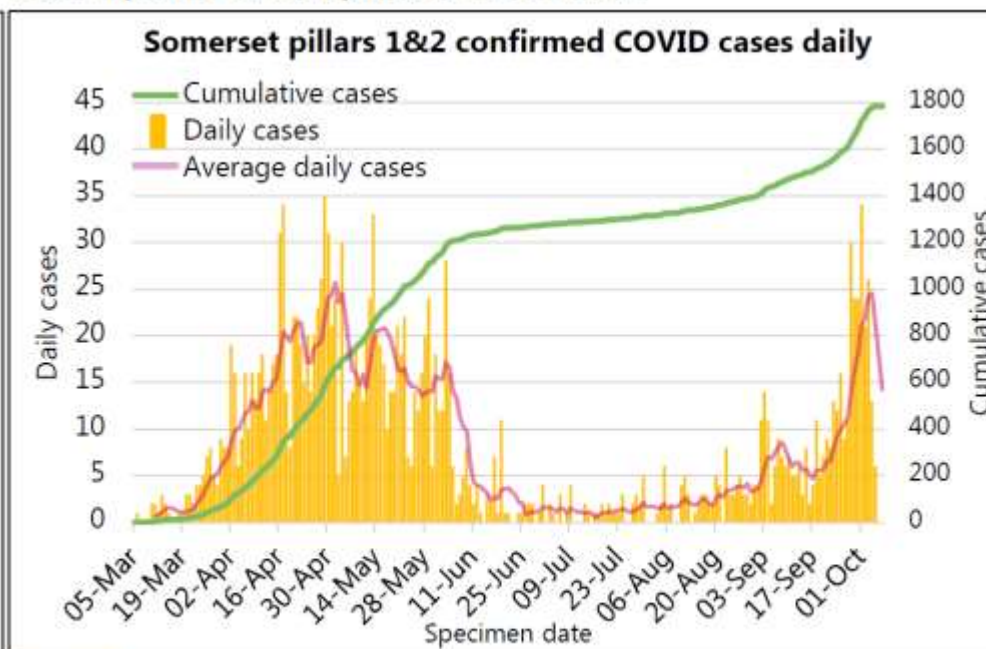
28-Sep to 04-Oct



Most recent days of cases



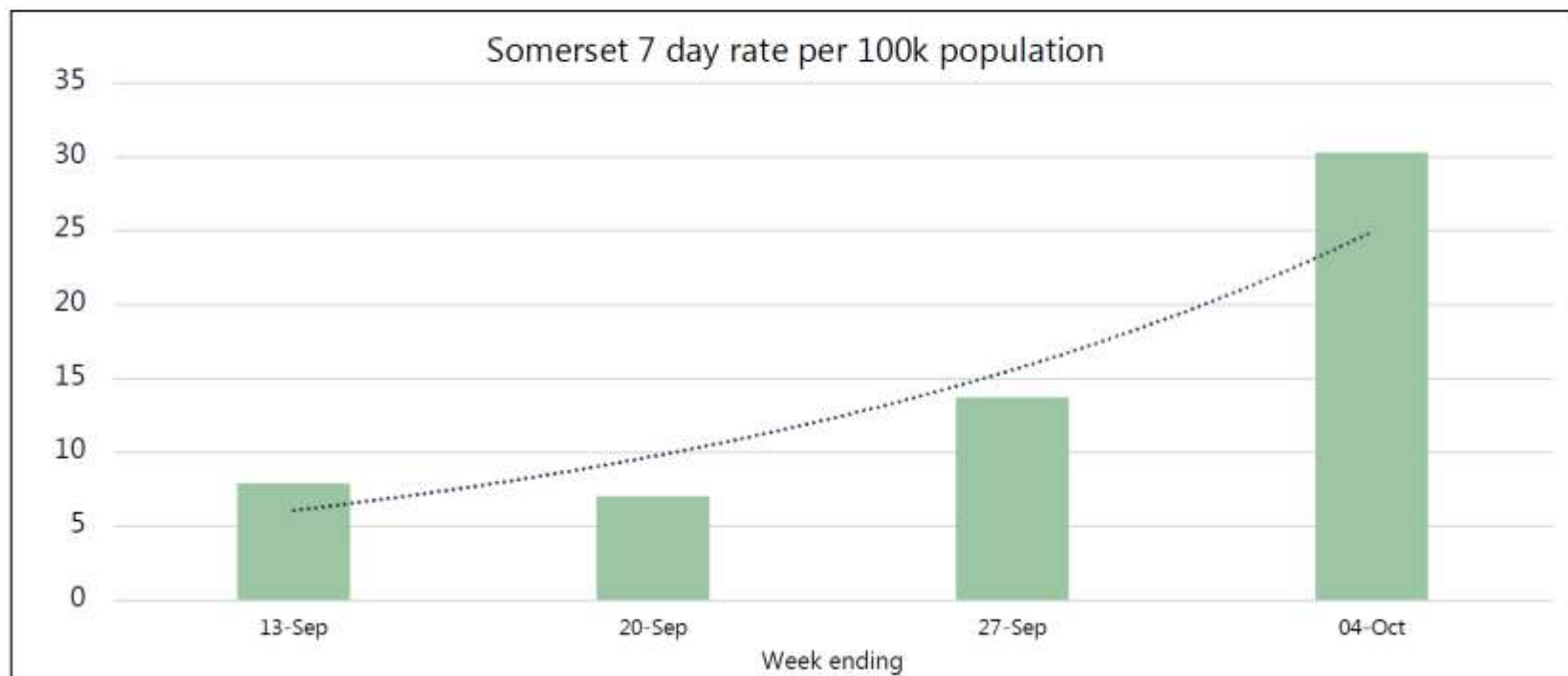
Overall profile of the epidemic in Somerset



Somerset COVID-19 Local Outbreak Management Plan Dashboard

Weekly cases (excludes most recent three days with incompletely reported results)

District	07-Sep to 13-Sep	7 day rate per 100k	14-Sep to 20-Sep	7 day rate per 100k	21-Sep to 27-Sep	7 day rate per 100k	28-Sep to 04-Oct	7 day rate per 100k
Mendip	15	12.9	12	10.3	23	19.7	36	30.9
Sedgemoor	10	8.0	10	8.0	20	16.1	26	20.9
Som W & Taun.	12	7.6	9	5.7	15	9.5	71	45.1
Sth Somerset	8	4.7	9	5.3	20	11.8	39	23.0
Somerset	45	7.9	40	7.0	78	13.7	172	30.3



Somerset COVID-19 Local Outbreak Management Plan Dashboard

Latest R number range for the South West

1.1-1.4

Last updated on Friday 02 Oct 2020

Produced by:

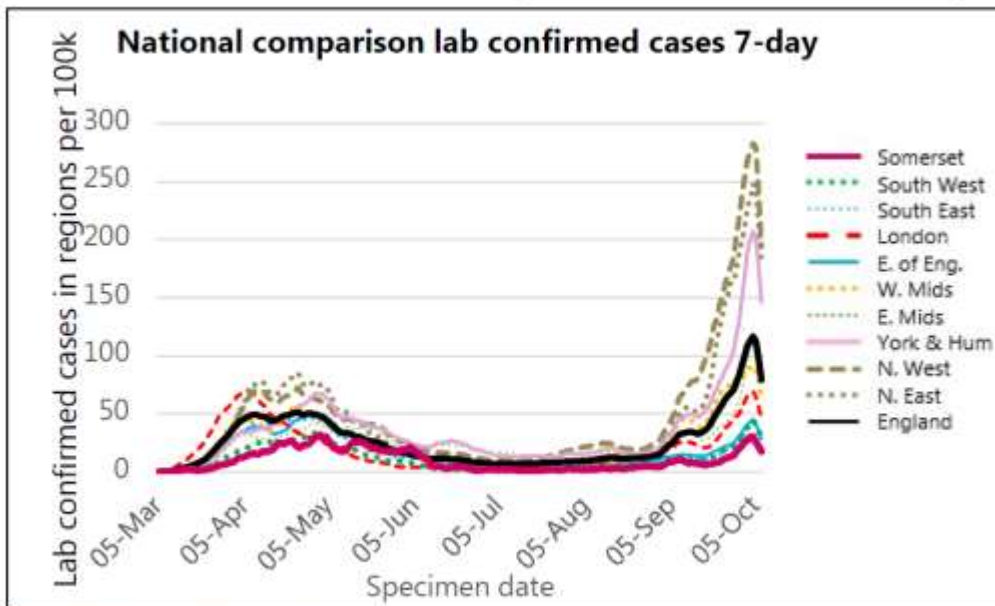
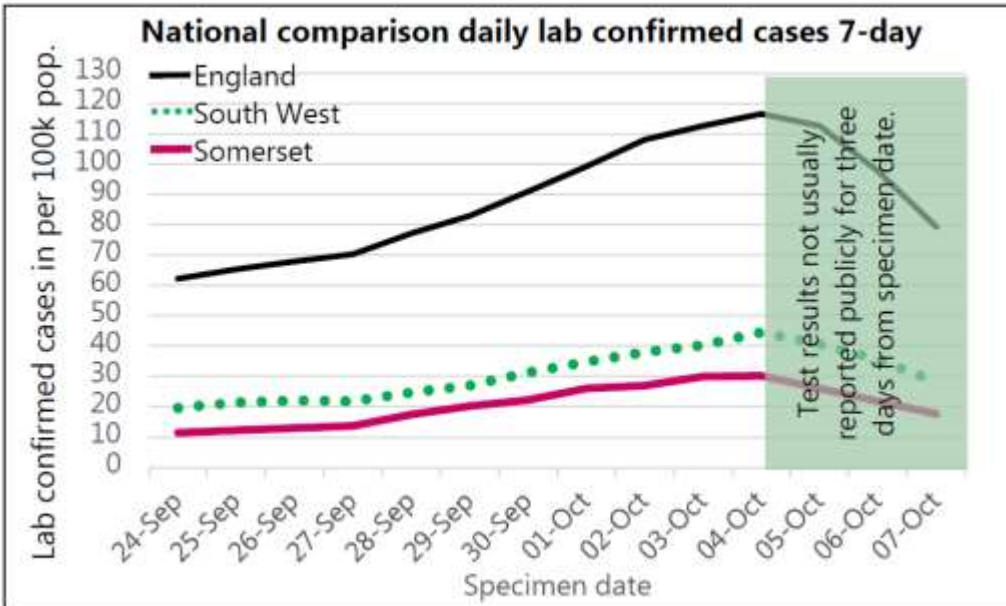
UK Government Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE)

What is R?

The reproduction number (R) is the average number of secondary infections produced by 1 infected person.

An R number of 1 means that on average every person who is infected will infect 1 other person, meaning the total number of new infections is stable.

Region	R
UK	1.3-1.6
England	1.2-1.6
East of England	1.0-1.3
London	1.2-1.6
Midlands	1.2-1.5
NE and Yorks	1.2-1.6
North West	1.2-1.5
South East	1.1-1.4
South West	1.1-1.4



Somerset COVID-19 Local Outbreak Management Plan Dashboard

COVID deaths week ending

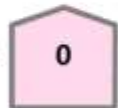
📅 25/09/2020

All COVID

Hospital

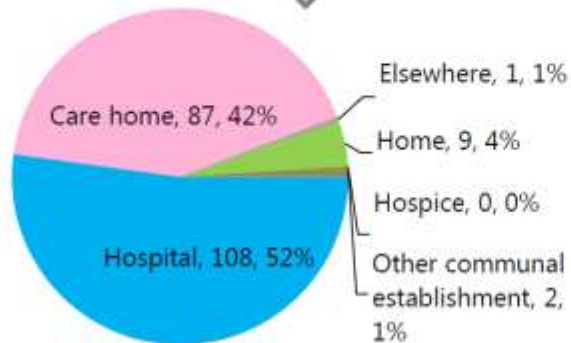
Care Home

Other

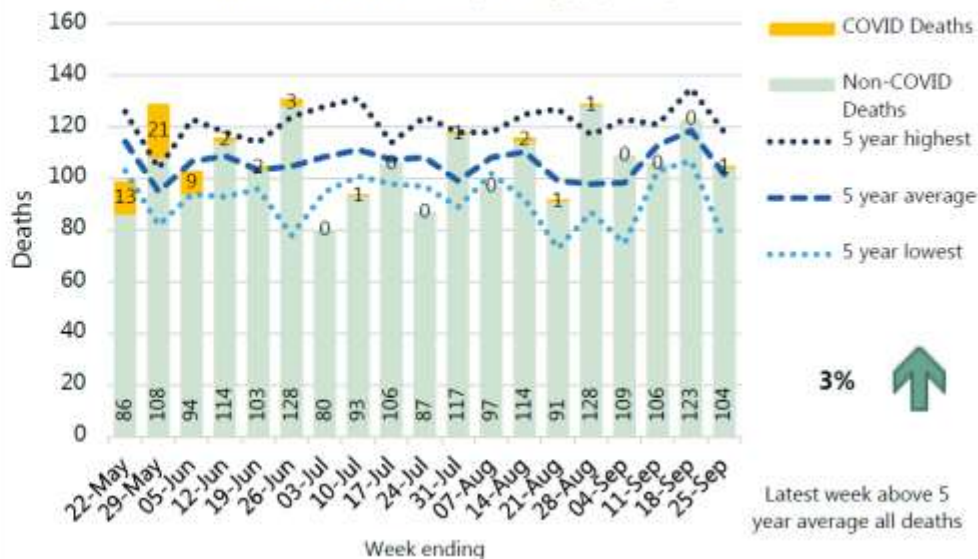


All COVID Deaths in Somerset by Place of Death (ONS)

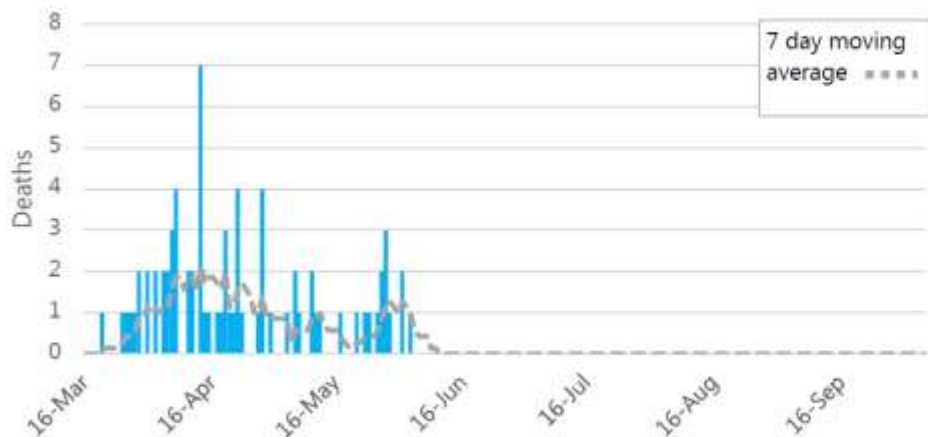
Total **207** 25/09/2020



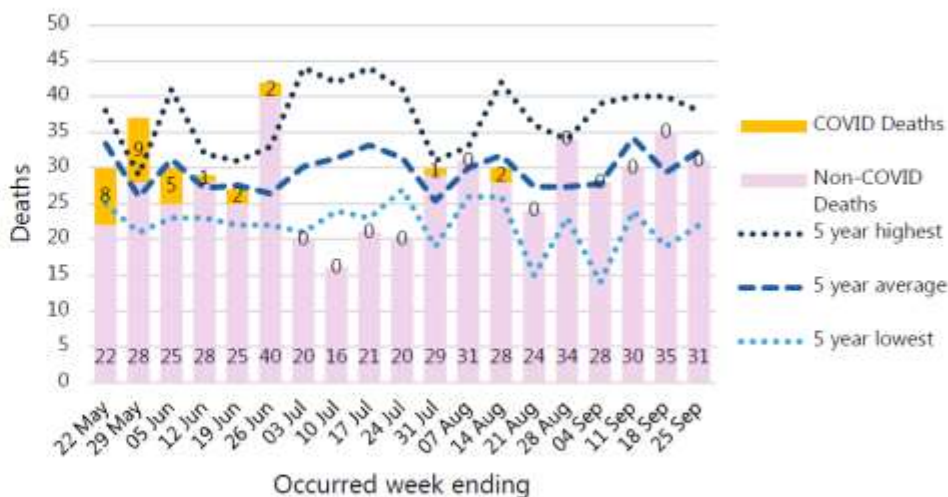
Somerset All Deaths (weekly) (ONS)



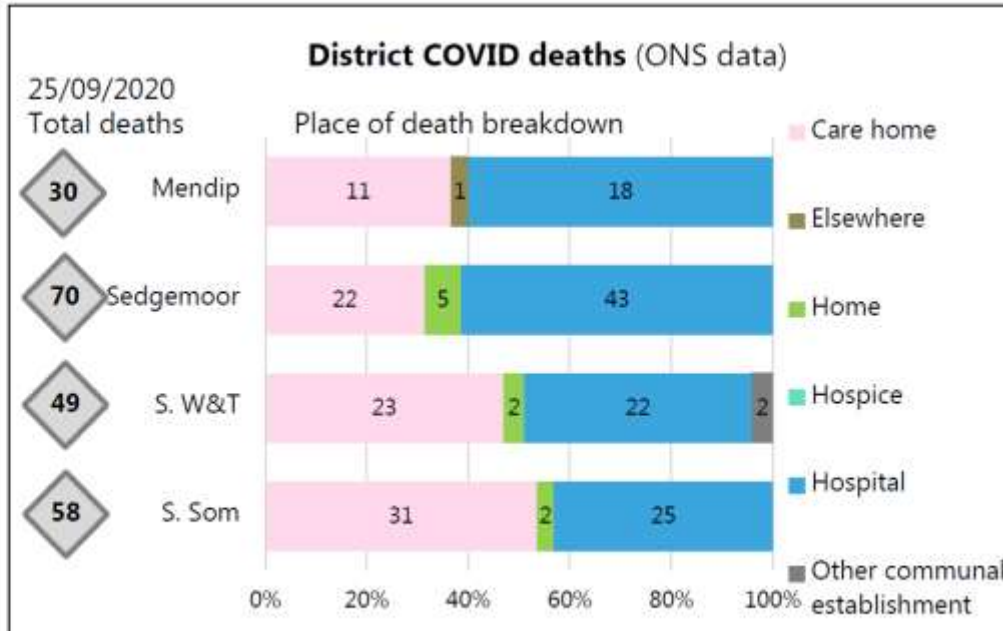
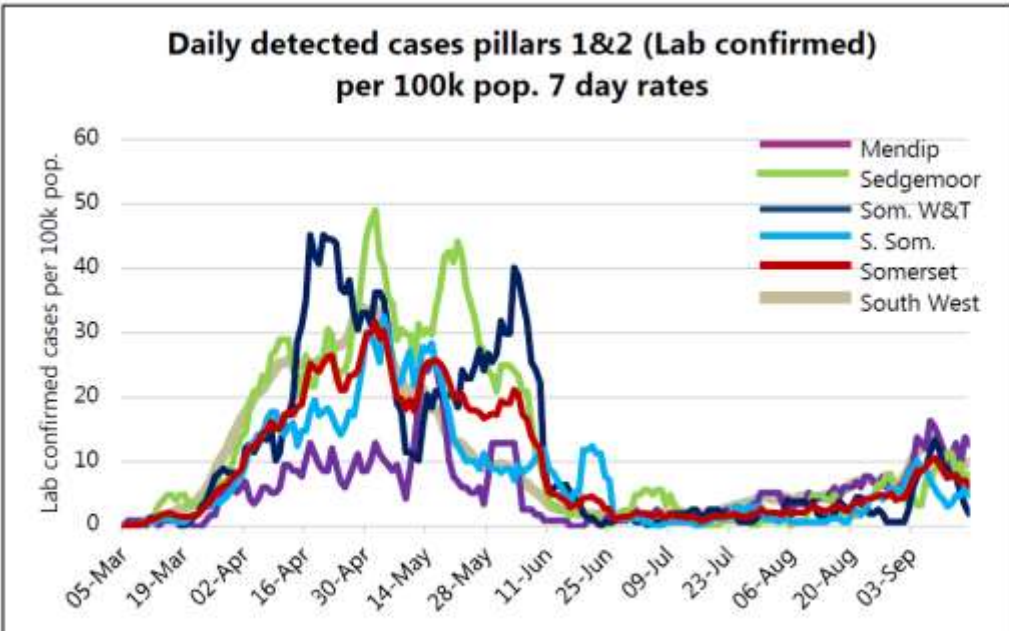
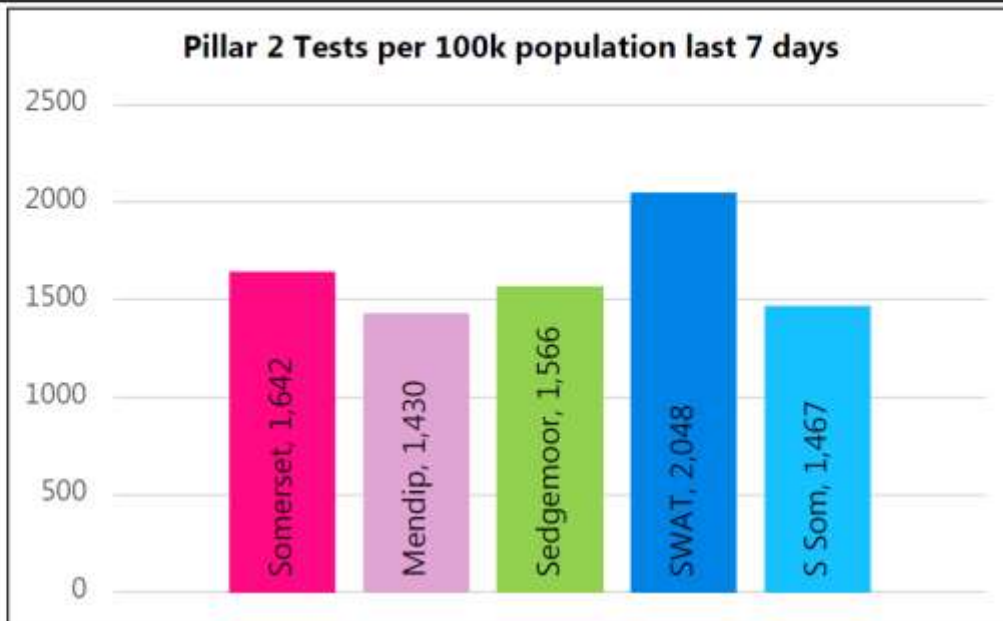
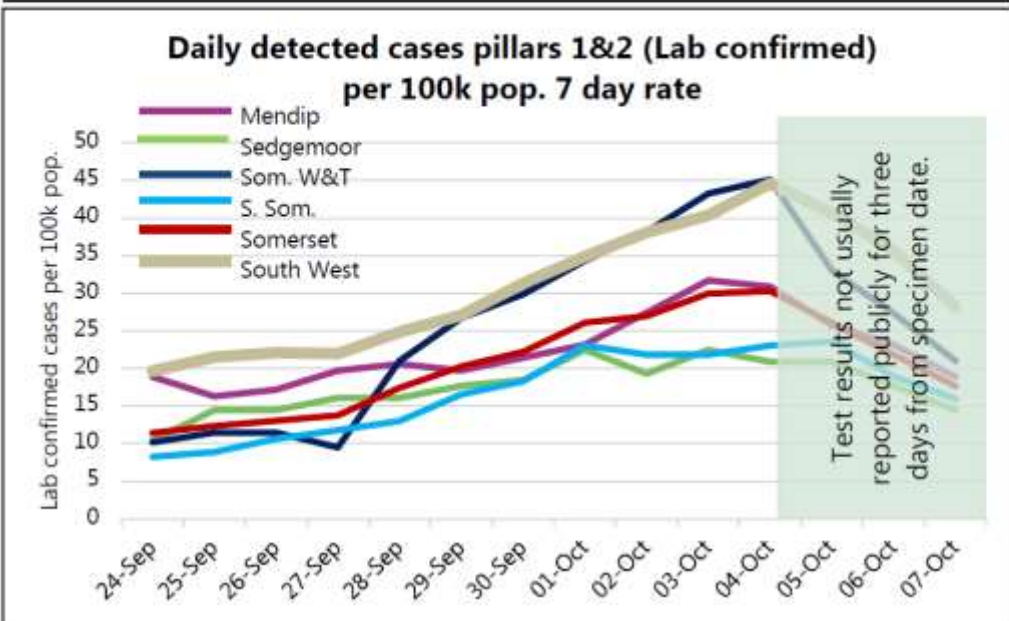
Daily COVID Deaths at Somerset Hospitals



Somerset Care Home Deaths (weekly) (ONS)



Somerset COVID-19 Local Outbreak Management Plan Dashboard



Vulnerable Children

Key Points

- Rise in complexity of need materialising as families emerge from lock-down, triggered by increased family pressure, alongside increased exposure to domestic violence, substance misuse and adult mental health issues for some families
- Approximately 5% increase in 'Children Looked After' (CLA) numbers compared to January 2020
- Noted increase in calls to First Response and the Early Help Consultation line in relation to the previous week.
- Social Work teams are liaising closely with school safeguarding leads to monitor contact with any children open to Social Care Services who are self isolating.
- Ofsted assurance visit expected Autumn / Winter 2020/21
- Electively Home Educated numbers have risen by 100% (estimate for September is 200 in comparison to highest total in previous years of 92). Daily checks in place to review data – no trends emerging to date
- Concerns around food resilience for families living in poverty / in receipt of Universal Credit. Work progressing to understand the scale of the combined impact of Covid 19 and Universal Credit changes on family income and free school meal thresholds

Actions going forward

- Internal audits and data analysis continuing alongside demand modelling in order to understand impact on service and inform service planning
- On-going liaison with family courts to prioritise care proceedings hearings and with CCG
- On-going liaison with Multi-Agency Designated Safeguarding Leads within District areas to help provide appropriate support in response to the increase in contacts and referrals expected from now until November 2020
- On-going liaison with schools and partners around trends in increasing numbers of Electively Home Educated pupils. Parental survey to be issued.
- Social Workers in Schools project progressing – 8 Social Workers to be embedded within Somerset schools to support children at risk of exploitation
- Family Safeguarding model being established to help support families with complex needs
- Building Local Capacity programme business case under development – to seek to increase availability of local placements
- Community & Resilience Cell exploring food resilience options for supporting families into autumn / winter
- App to be launched to support monitoring of Children Looked After school attendance

Impact

- Increased Children's Social Care costs due to increased demand and complexity of need
- Limited placement capacity for teenagers & general placement opportunities as 'Children Looked After' numbers rise (Building Local Capacity programme seeking to mitigate)
- Possible impact on health and wellbeing and educational outcomes of financially vulnerable families if their access to free school meals is impeded (due to changes in Universal Credit and free school meal thresholds)



Key Points

- Attendance data shows a gradual upward trend over the last few weeks, peaking at 93.7% on 1st October
 - As of 7th October; 839 children are isolating after 5 positive tests comprising:
 - 707 school aged pupils following 4 positive tests
 - 132 Early Years children following 1 positive test
- Cumulatively: 2,543 children have isolated following 19 positive tests
- Evidence to date is that children are not contracting the virus at school**
- LA, Public Health and schools working collaboratively to review lessons learned from schools with confirmed cases – including bubble sizes, risk assessment process, comms & school transport
 - School transport continues to be provided in accordance with national guidance
 - 7 day rota established to offer education leadership support to schools
 - Public Health have established access to 50 tests per day at a local test centre for business-critical staff. Prioritisation tool in place. Testing pressure appears to have eased
 - Pupils living in poverty may struggle to access remote learning should isolation requirements lead to further periods of home learning. A continuity direction has been issued by the Secretary of State for Education that requires schools to provide remote education for state-funded, school-age children unable to attend school due to coronavirus. Schools should ensure remote education, where needed, is high-quality and aligns as closely as possible with in-school provision
 - School concerns raised about 2020-21 exams, impact on Primary testing and work experience opportunities for post 16 students whose courses include this requirement
 - Number of parents misunderstanding isolation guidance and allowing children to attend out of school activities – Public Health to work with Comms to strengthen messaging
 - Emotional Wellbeing & Support Helpline – emerging themes (staff pressure, challenging pupil behaviour and consequential impact on timing of Education Health & Care Plan reviews) – to be incorporated into staff training. Early Help signposting to reduce escalations.
 - Parent helpline has noted rise in calls relating to children with anxiety and challenging behaviour both at home and at school.
 - The number of fixed term exclusions is being monitored (alongside any emerging themes)
 - Schools have flagged the additional pressure felt by schools (and in particular for small schools) when staff are required to self isolate

Actions going forward

- On-going attendance monitoring (including of vulnerable pupils)
- On-going lessons learned reviews of case management for schools with positive cases - to inform future practice and process
- Work with schools & Public Health to review bubble arrangements to try to minimise numbers of pupils affected by a positive test
- On-going Comms with parents/schools/providers around school transport provision in terms of compliance, use of face coverings & clarification on isolation requirements for families
- Monitoring & review of the impact of digital poverty on remote learning (to include access to devices and internet services)
- Monitoring and review of the impact of catch up grants & National Tutoring Programme to reduce the attainment gap for disadvantaged pupils
- Somerset Educational Psychologist team to deliver DfE 'Emotional Wellbeing Support - train the trainer' sessions during September/October
- On-going monitoring of impact on school delegated budgets

Impact

- Possibility that high numbers of pupils may be required to self isolate moving forward, impacting on education provision
- Family anxiety / confidence may impact on school attendance and general attainment levels for pupils not attending school regularly
- Possible on-going impact of digital poverty on remote learning for some pupils leading to detrimental impact on attainment gap
- Lack of available local testing slots may impact on ability of schools to operate & on speed of school decisions to instruct 'bubble' isolation as required
- School budget implications due to required Covid safety measures

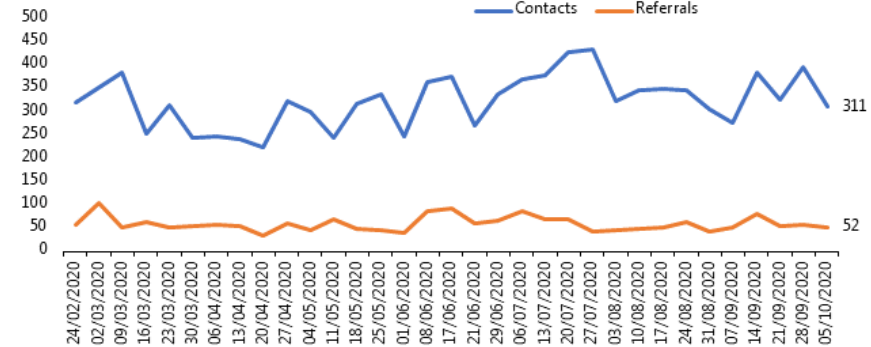


Vulnerable Children & Schools Data

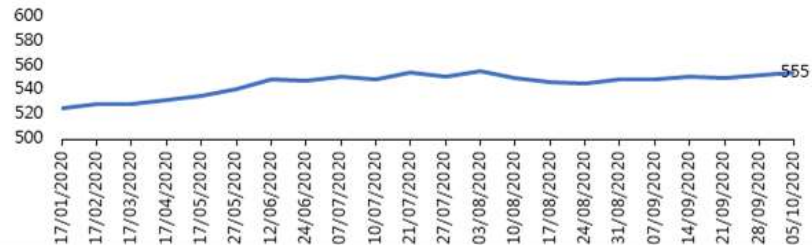


Children's Social Care Data

Children's Social Care



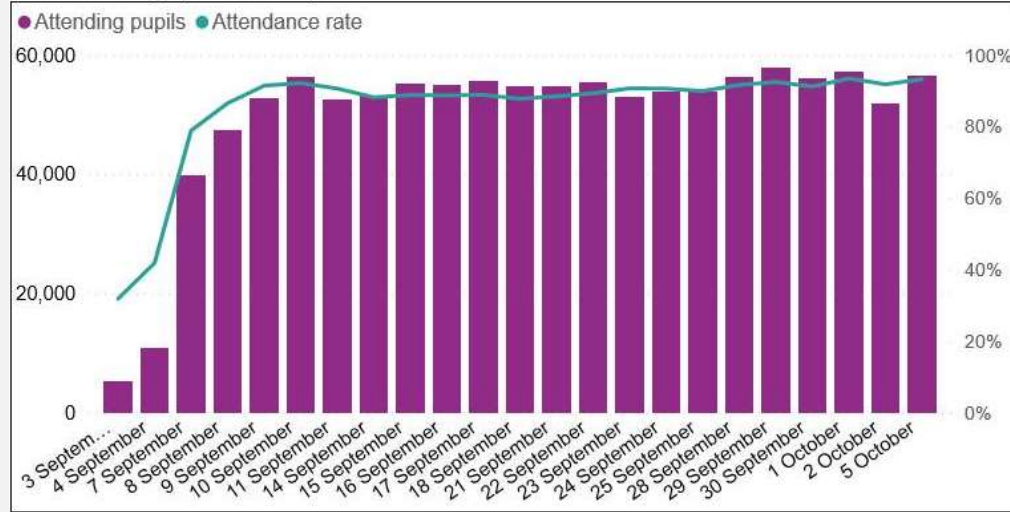
Children Looked After



School / Early Years Data

School Attendance:

Time series of pupils attending



Early Years Attendance:

Number of children attending EY providers - by type

