

---

**Subject: Weekly Epidemiological Report**  
**Date: 16 December 2021**

---

## Introduction

This report provides a summary of indicators which are used to help understand the spread of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) in Jersey. It shows the volumes of positive cases over the last 12 months (Figure 1). Data on symptomatic callers to the COVID helpline is also shown\*. The 7-day case rate per 100,000 population is shown, split by age group (Figure 2).

The report also includes information on weekly **testing rates** per 100,000 population (Figure 3) and weekly **positivity rate** (Figure 4) which is the number of tests which were found to be positive as a proportion of all tests conducted in that week. Both metrics are shown alongside European countries.

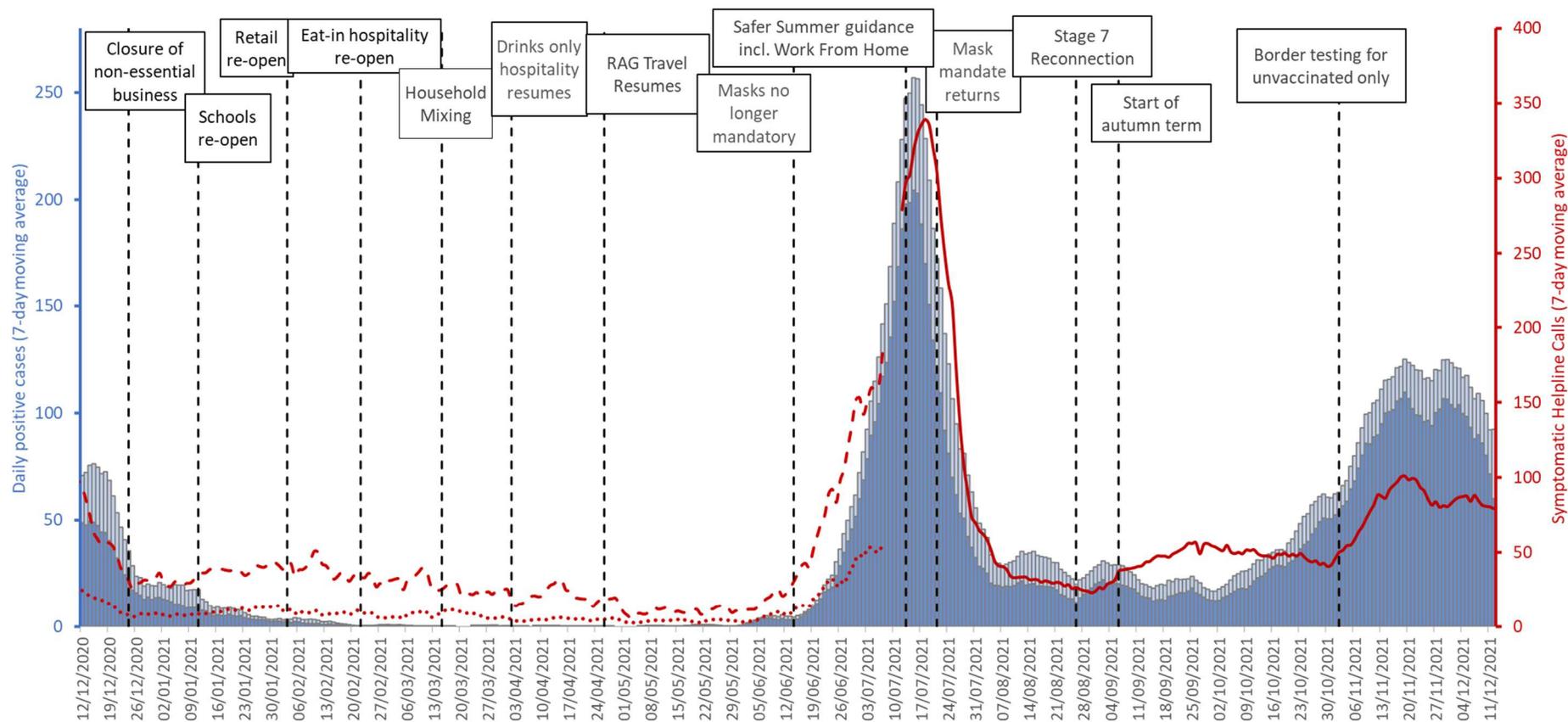
Weekly testing numbers by test reason are shown in Figure 5. Reason for testing is broken down into inbound travel, on-Island surveillance (including workforce screening, admissions screening, cohort screening and contact tracing) and seeking healthcare (symptomatic).

## Key Points

- The number of daily positive test cases is currently around 100 (Figure 1), and the number of symptomatic calls to the COVID helpline was around 80 per day\* (Figure 1). The 14-day number of cases per 100,000 population for Jersey is now 1,480, and the 7-day rate per 100,000 population is 700.
- The 7-day case rate (per 100,000 population) is currently highest amongst Under 18 year olds at 1,201 per 100,000 population, and lowest amongst Over 60 year olds at 204 per 100,000 population (Figure 2)
- Comparisons to data from the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) shows that the Jersey rate of testing (per 100,000 population) is higher than in many European countries (Figure 3), despite the recent reduction in tests being conducted at the border. Note that the UK and some other countries include LFD tests (Lateral Flow Device) in their test count, in addition to PCR and DiaSorin antigen testing. Jersey currently reports testing rate as PCR and DiaSorin antigen tests only
- Test positivity rate in Jersey is around 7.9% (Figure 4) whilst test positivity in the UK is 4.4%.
- In the most recent week, around 6,500 on-Island surveillance tests and around 1,440 tests for inbound travellers were carried out (Figure 5). The number of inbound travel tests has reduced significantly as a result of the change to the border testing programme on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021. Tests for individuals seeking healthcare were around 1,770 in the most recent week.

*\*Note that due to changes in the way helpline calls are recorded in July 2021, the definition of the helpline metrics (in red on Figure 1) changes from 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021 onwards – see details in the legend for Figure 1.*

Figure 1: Volumes of positive cases and calls to the COVID helpline with symptoms over the past 12 months, 7-day moving average



#### Indicator definitions

- **Seven-day moving average trend in daily new symptomatic positive test cases:** each result is recorded against the day that the symptoms began.
- **Seven-day moving average trend in daily new asymptomatic positive test cases:** each result is recorded against the day that the swab was taken. These would generally be tests carried out for surveillance purposes (healthcare workers, hospital and care home admissions), and screening of direct contacts of positive cases.

*Changes to the way helpline calls are processed occurred in July 2021. For data up to 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021:*

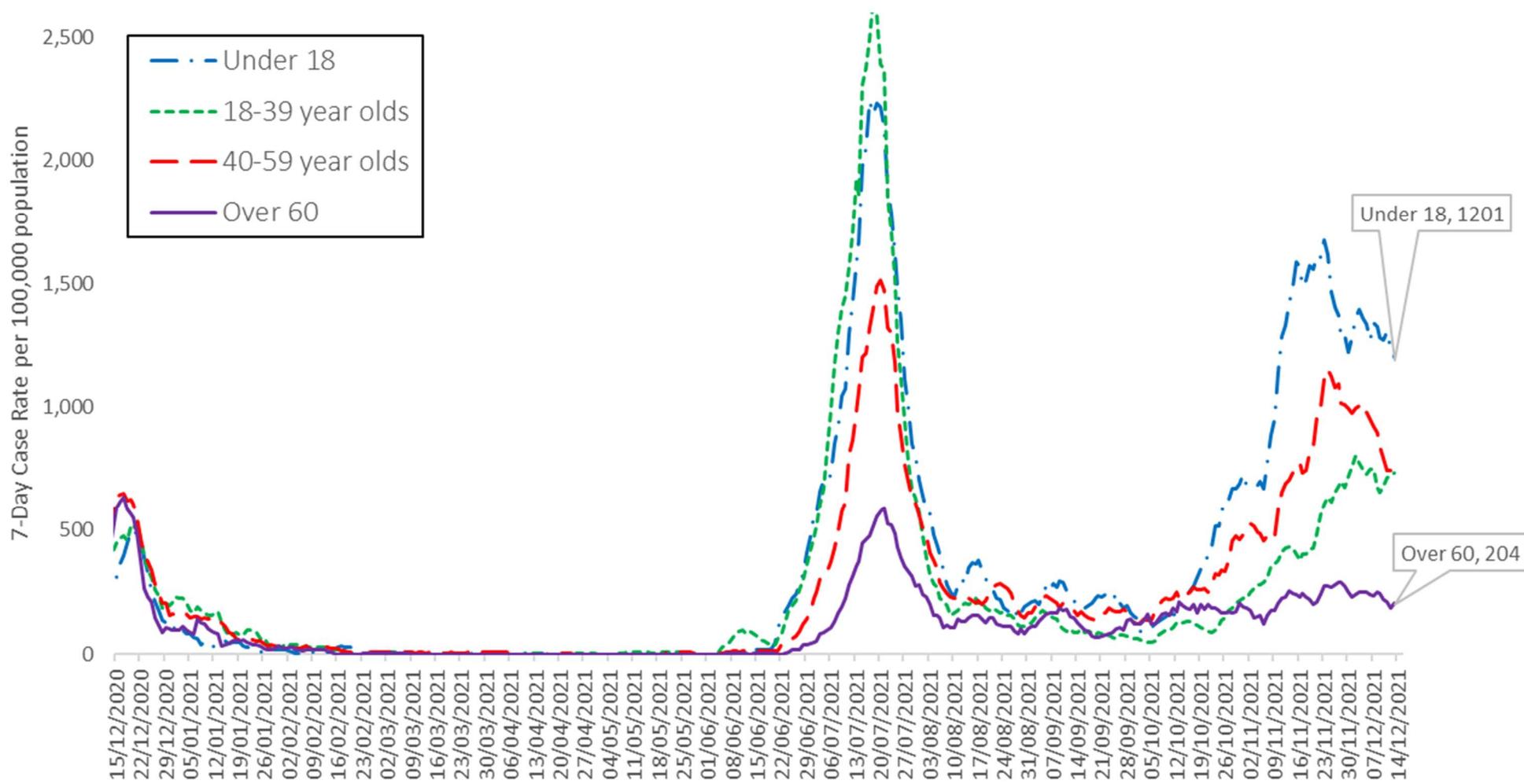
..... **Seven-day moving average trend of daily number of individuals calling the COVID helpline and reporting symptoms of fever.**

- - - **Seven-day moving average trend of daily number of individuals calling the COVID helpline and reporting two or more symptoms.**

*For data after 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021:*

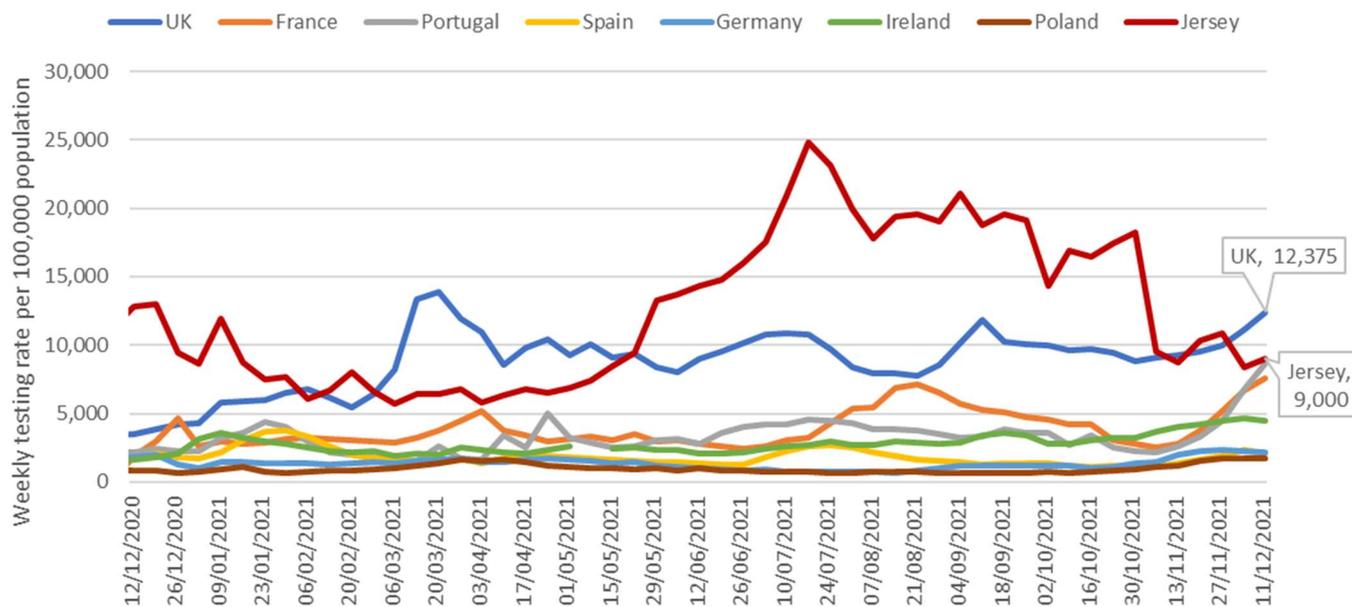
— **Seven-day moving average of daily symptomatic calls received by the COVID helpline**

Figure 2: 7-day case rate per 100,000 population, by Age Group\*, over the past 12 months



\*Population size for each age group is taken from the published 2019 Statistics Jersey population estimate

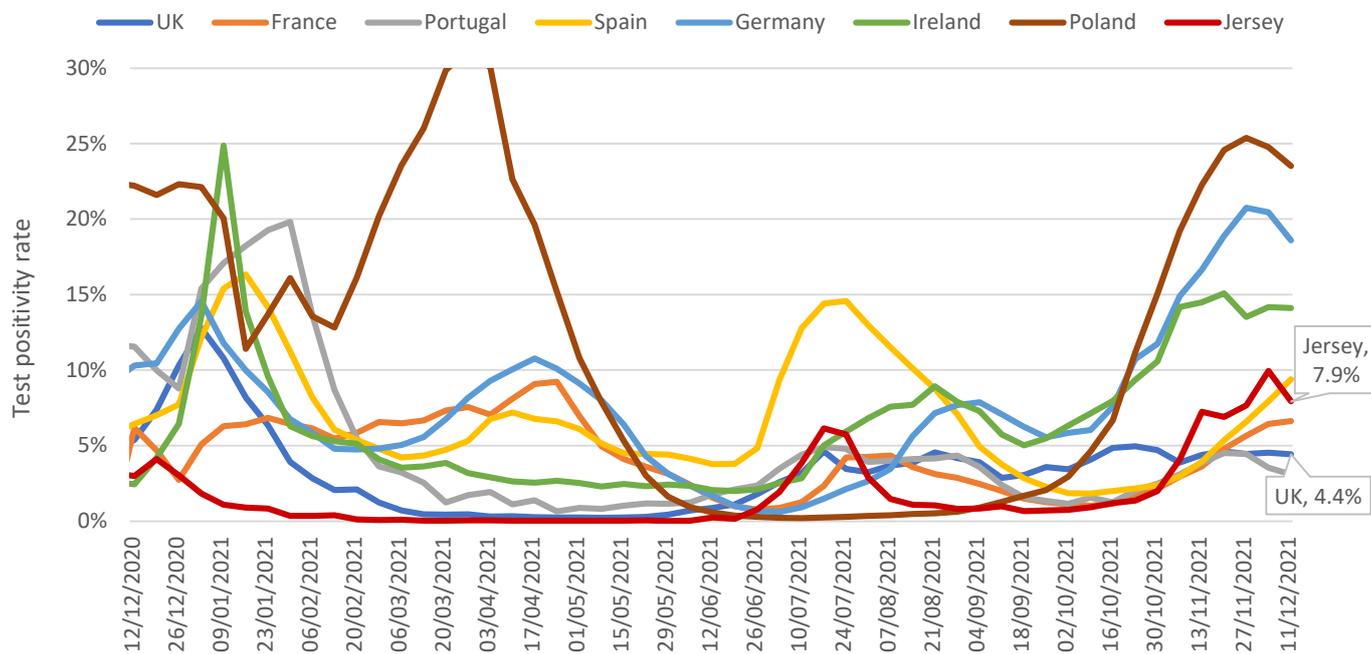
Figure 3: Weekly testing rate per 100,000 population



Source: ECDC, UK Government, and Government of Jersey

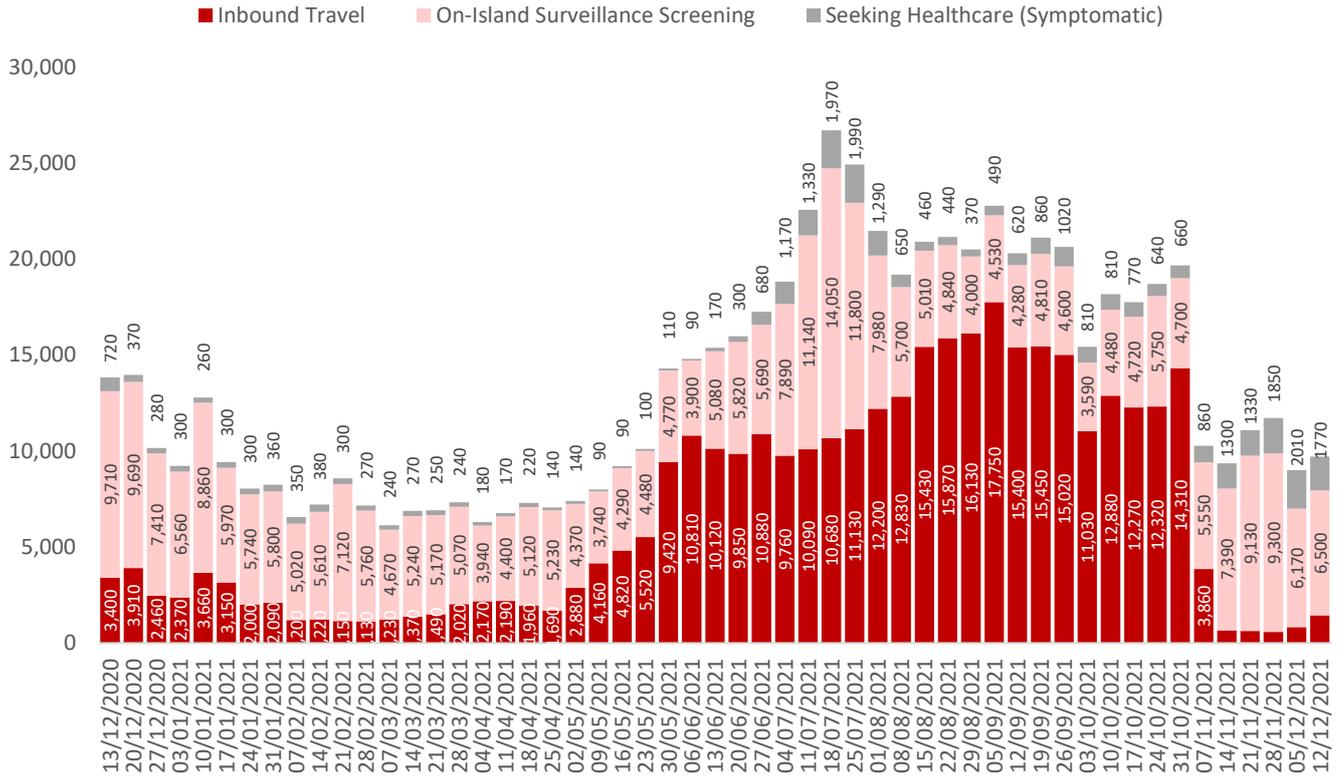
Note that some countries, including the UK, count Lateral Flow Device tests in their total testing figures. Jersey currently counts PCR and DiaSorin antigen tests only.

Figure 4: Weekly test positivity rate



Source: ECDC, UK Government, and Government of Jersey

Figure 5: Number of Weekly PCR Tests (based on date of swab) by Testing Reason over the past 12 months.



Source: Government of Jersey

\*The “On-Island Surveillance Screening” category includes workforce screening, admissions screening, cohort screening, and contact tracing.