

Latest figures on COVID19 in the UK

We have combined data from the government's daily figures¹, the Office of National Statistics weekly report², and the government's report on NHS Test, Trace and Isolate³ to provide this update on the current situation.

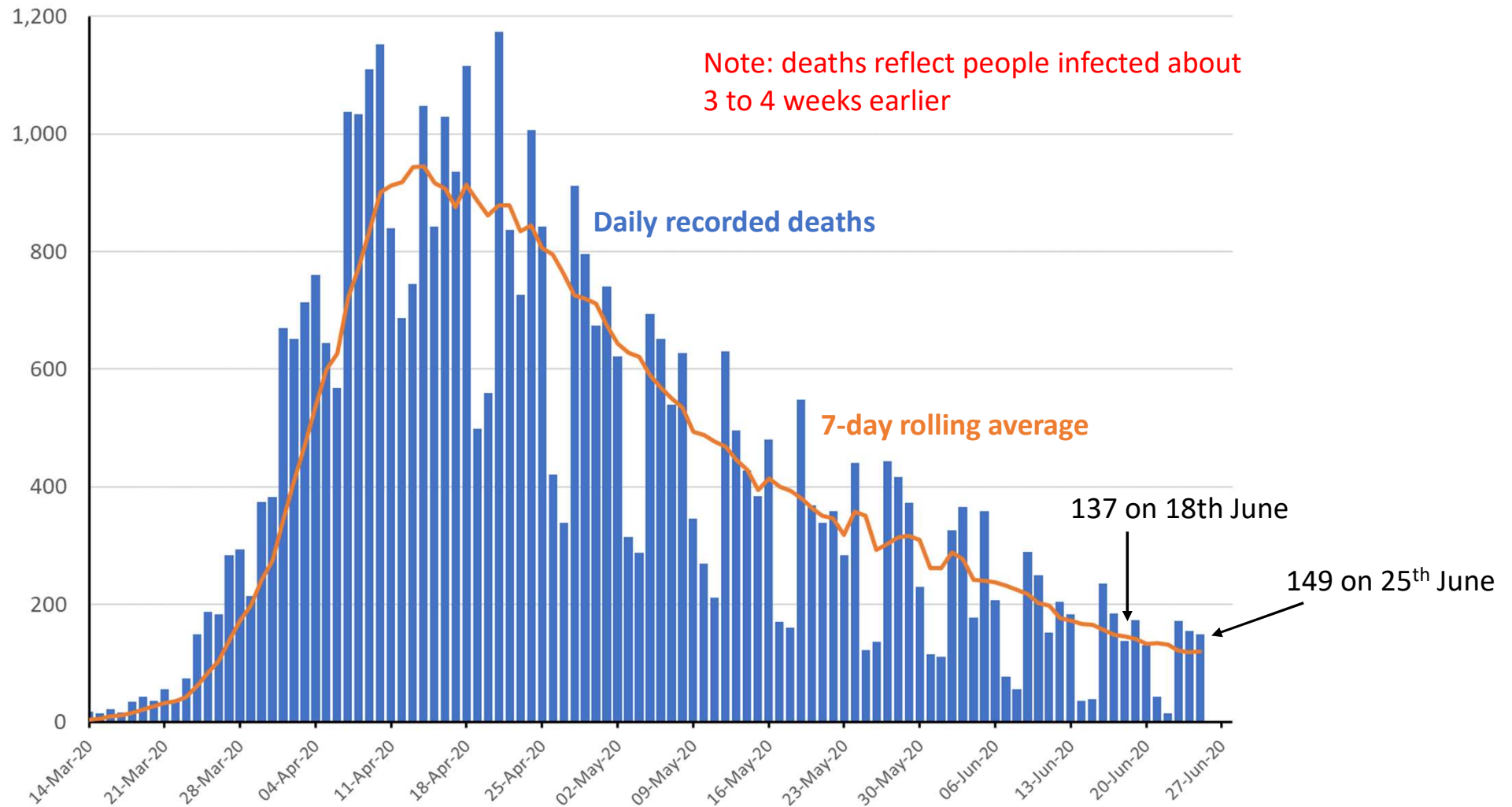
1. Number of new UK deaths COVID19.
2. Number of new UK hospital admissions with COVID19.
3. Number of new people who have had a positive test (cases) in the UK.
4. Number of new infections in the UK per day.
5. NHS Test, Trace and Isolate results.
6. Why the numbers matter.
7. European context

1. <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/slides-and-datasets-to-accompany-coronavirus-press-conferences>

2. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/bulletins/coronaviruscovid19infectionsurveyypilot/latest>

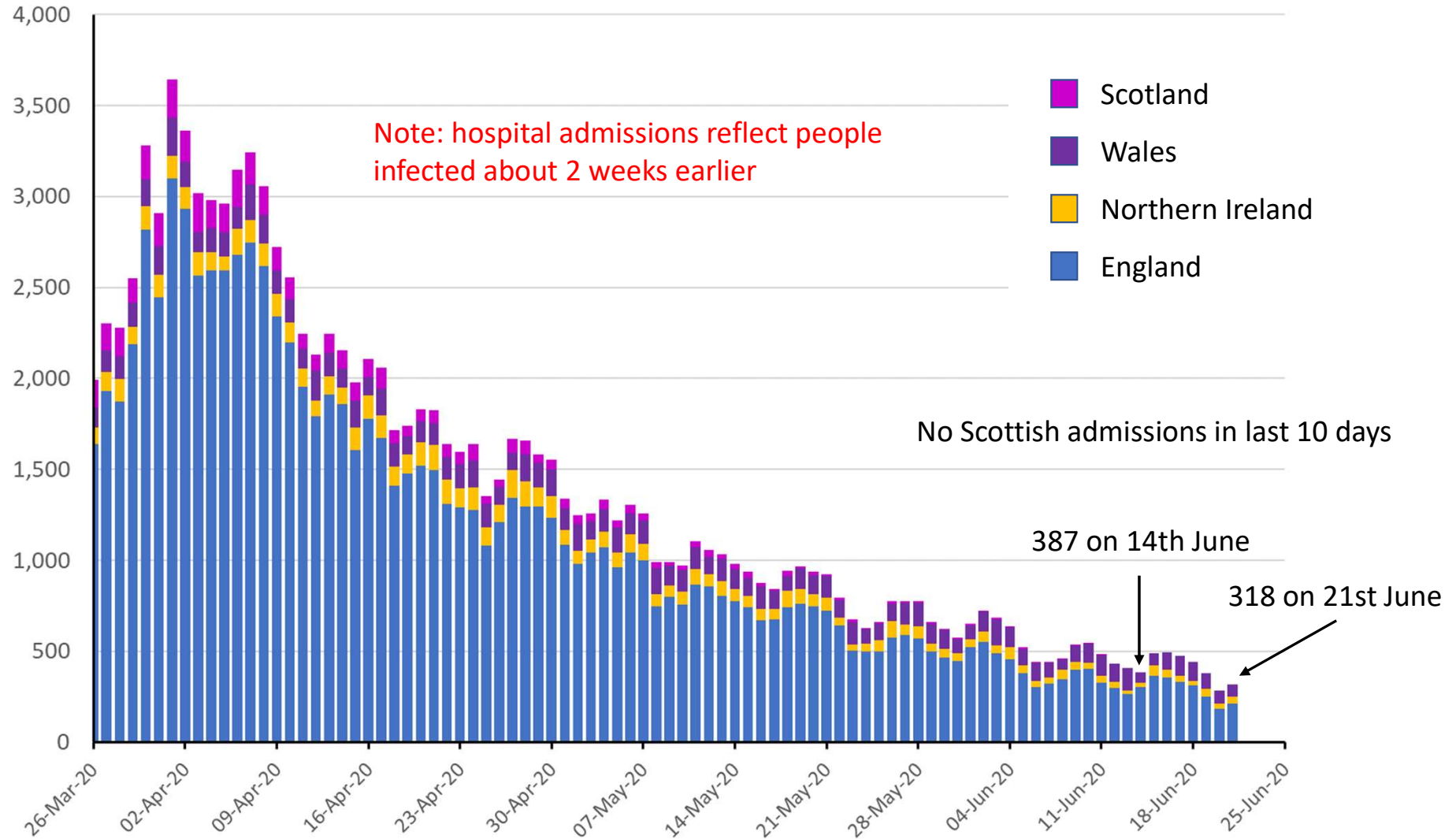
3. <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/nhs-test-and-trace-statistics-england-weekly-reports>

Number of new UK deaths COVID-19 per day



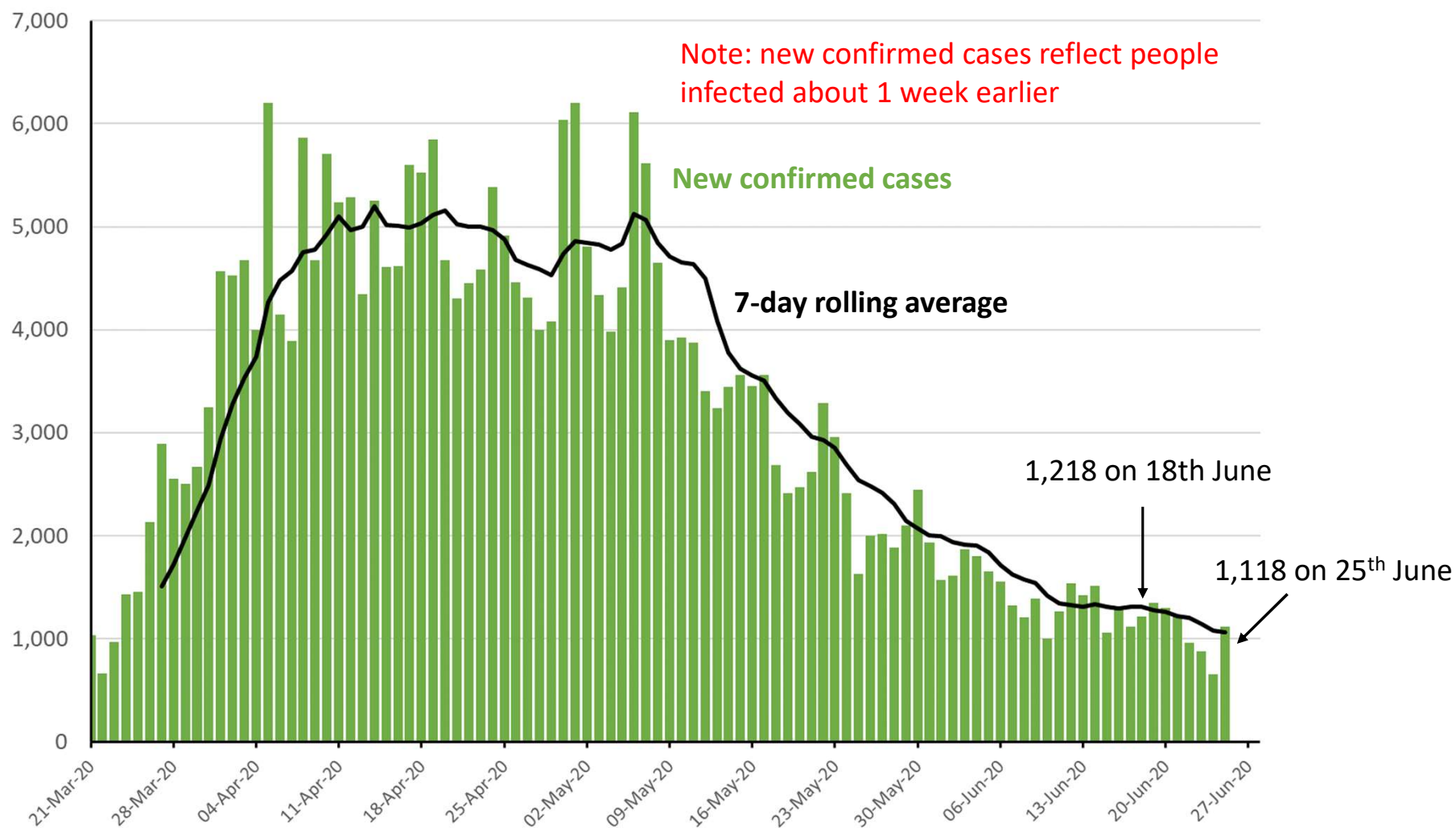
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Number of new UK hospital admissions with COVID-19 per day

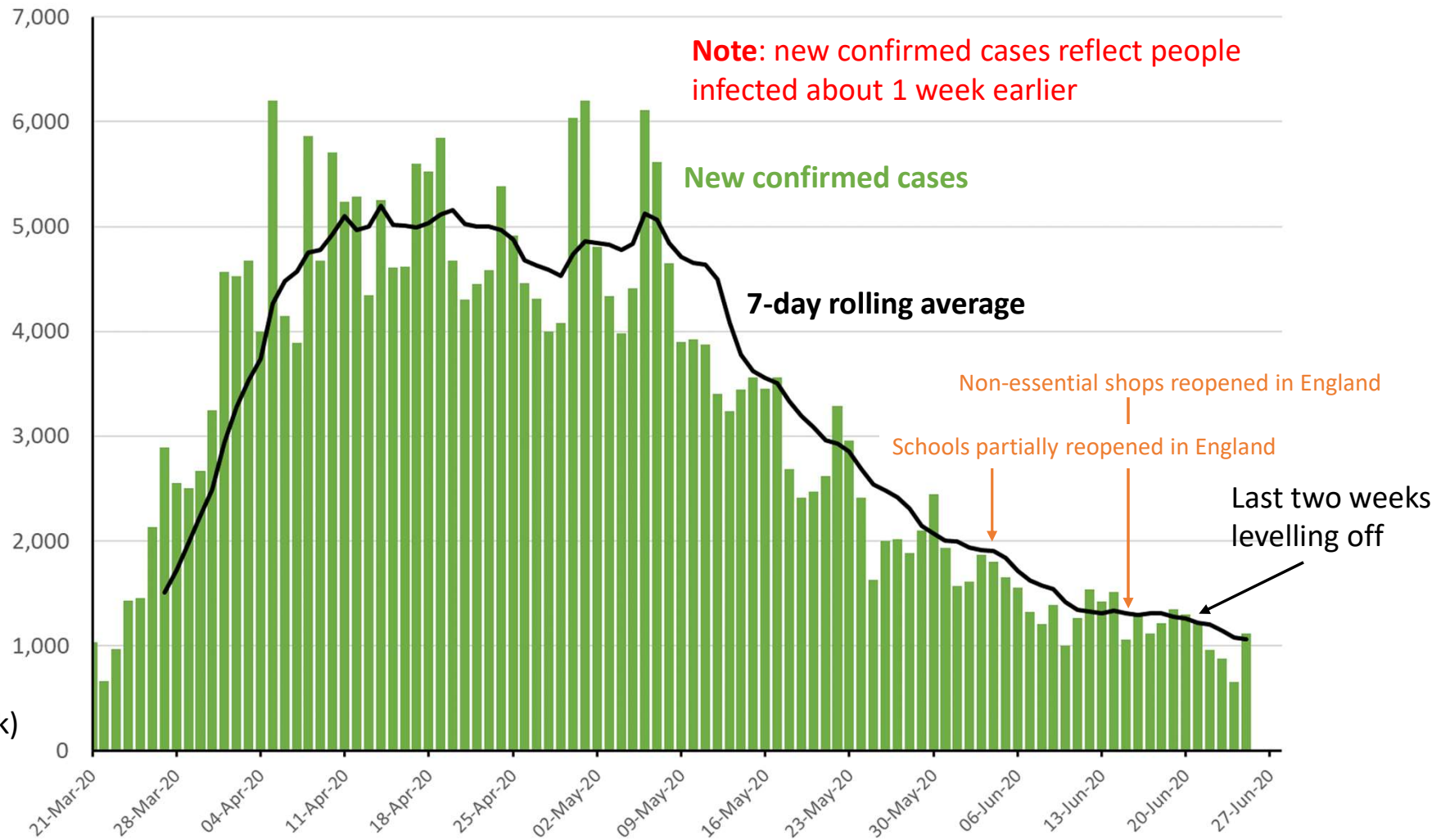


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Number of new UK confirmed COVID-19 cases (people who have had a positive test)



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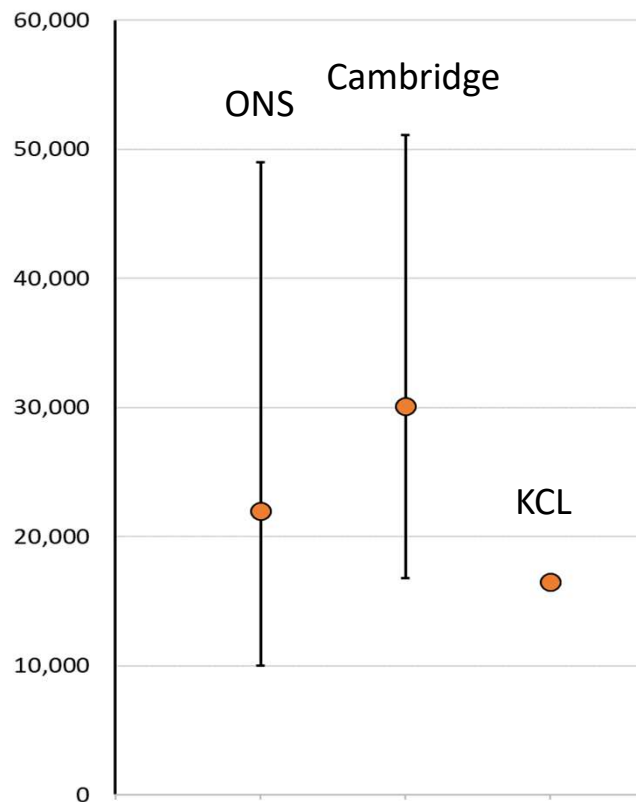
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Current R:
0.7-0.9 (gov.uk)

But how many new infections are there each week?

We know that we aren't picking up all cases with testing. The Office of National Statistics (ONS), University of Cambridge and King's College London (KCL) all provide estimates of new infections per week.

Best estimates are somewhere between **16,500 and 30,000 new infections a week (2,300 – 4,300 a day)**.



Both ONS and KCL say that numbers of cases have levelled off in recent weeks.

This means that the previous steady decline in new cases since April has stopped.

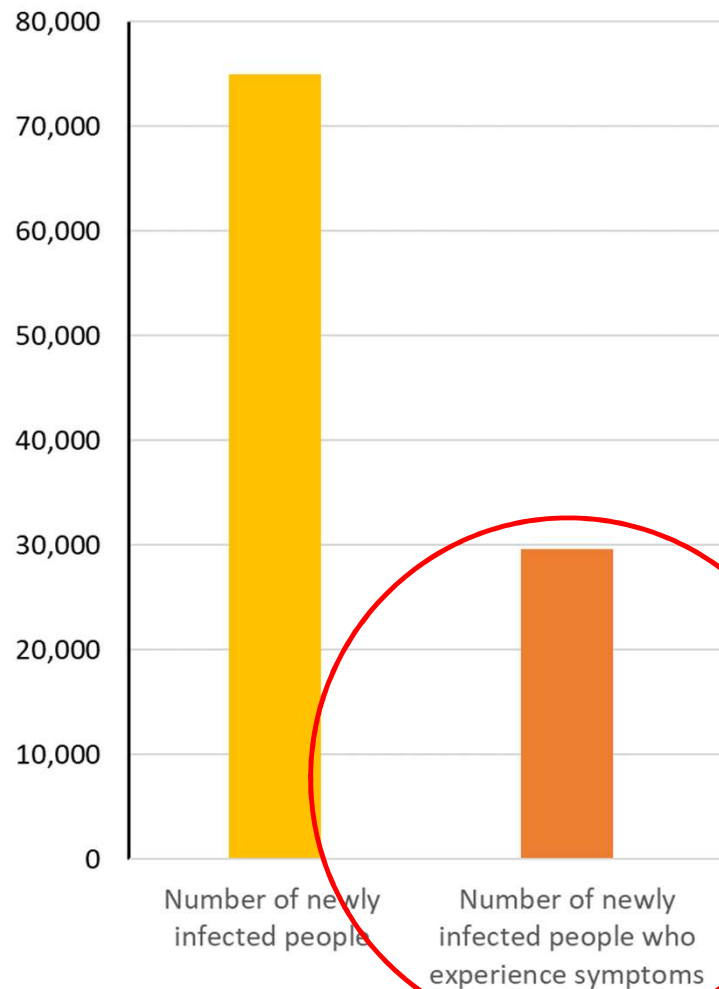
ONS (latest report 24 June)

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/bulletins/coronaviruscovid19infectionsurvey/pilot/england25june2020>

KCL (latest estimate 25 June) <https://covid19.joinzoe.com/post/covid-incidence-stable>

Cambridge (latest estimate 19 June) <https://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/tackling-covid-19/nowcasting-and-forecasting-of-covid-19/>

How did NHS Test, Trace & Isolate do from 25 May – 17 June?



The aim is to find as many people with COVID19 as possible and trace their contacts to ask them to self-isolate.

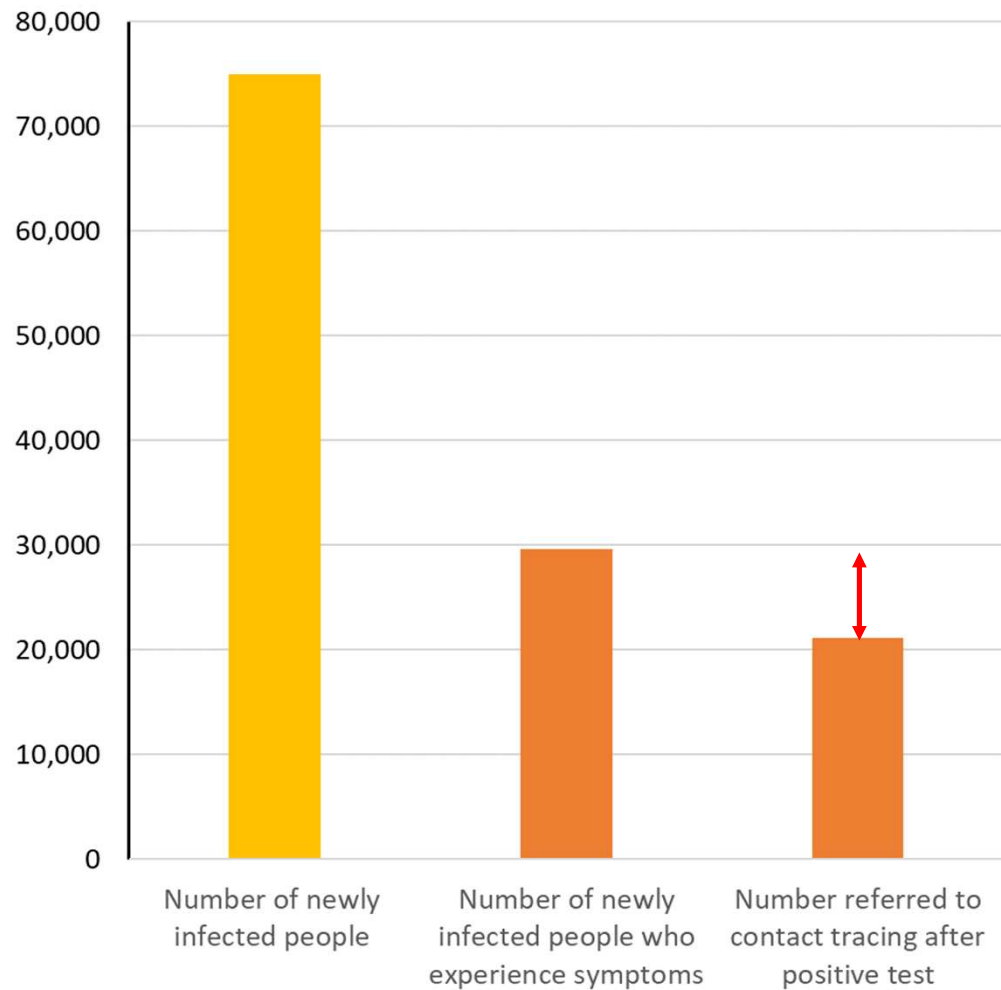
In practice, most countries, including the UK, concentrate on finding people with symptoms (only about 40%-50% of people ever develop symptoms).

Assume 75,000 new infections over the last 3 weeks and that 40% (~30,000) develop symptoms.

NHS Test, Trace and Isolate should **find** and test these people, and trace their contacts.

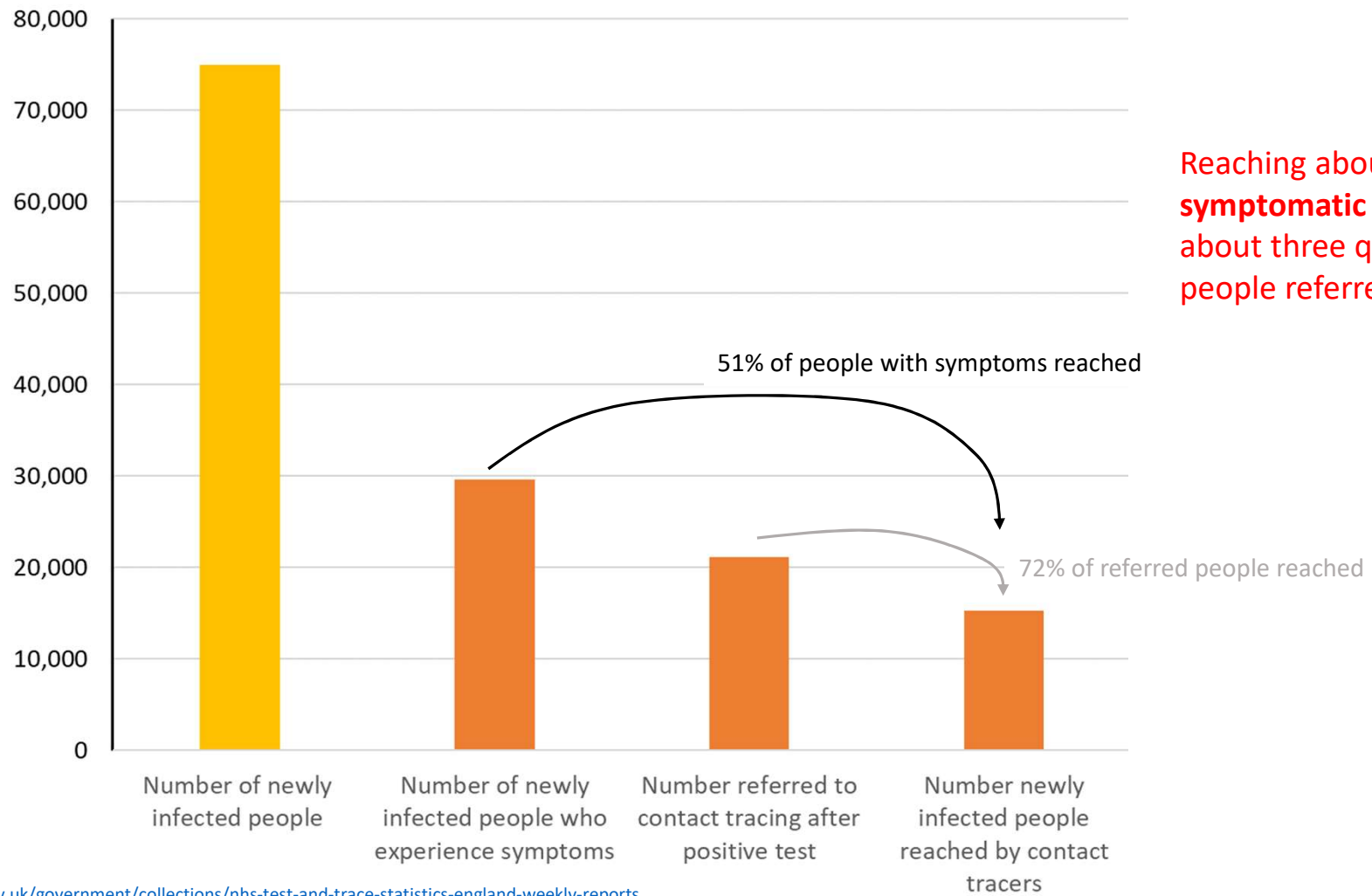
Note: these numbers could be quite a bit higher. Unlikely to be that much lower.

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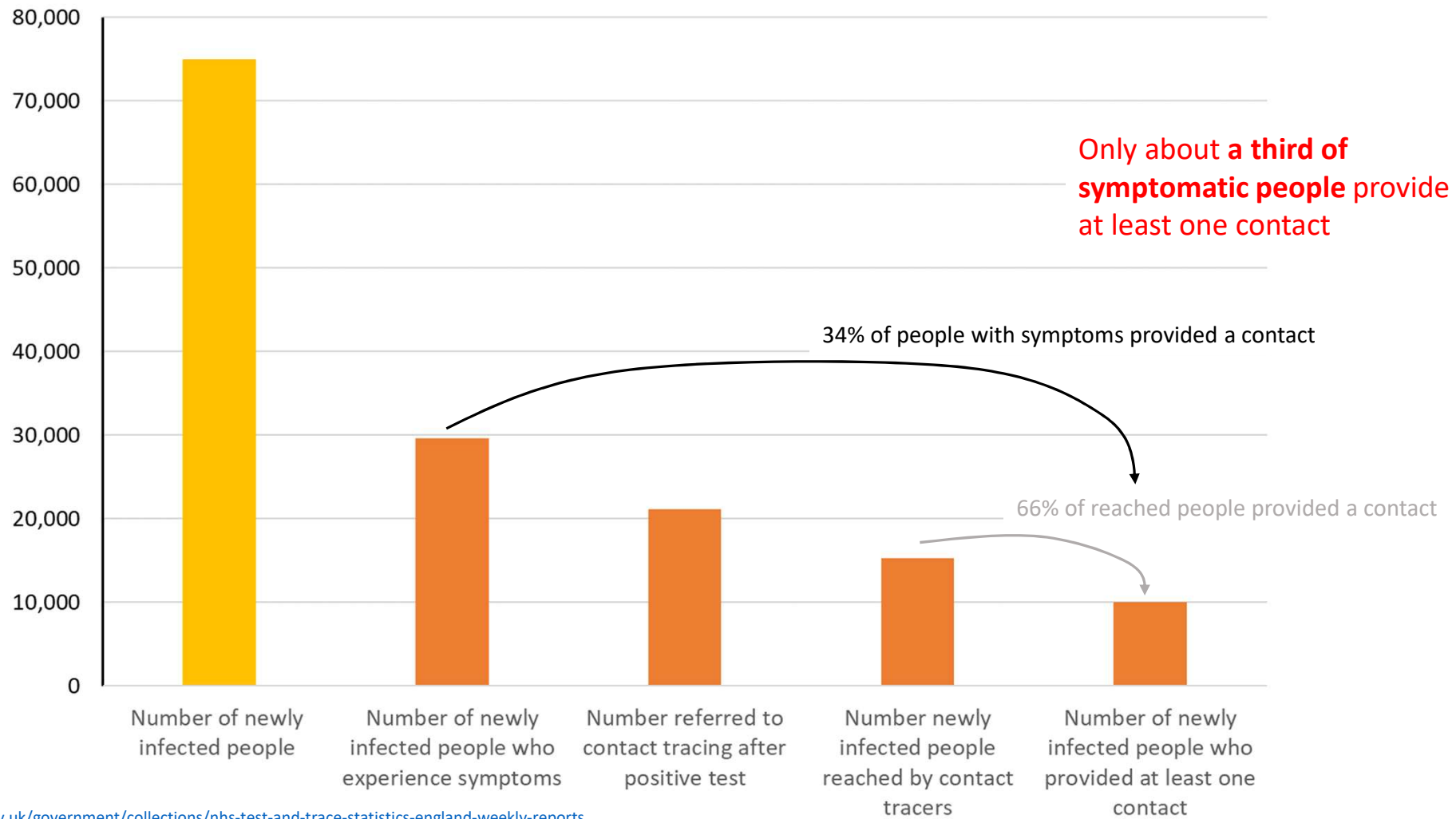
NHS Test, Trace and Isolate is not **finding** a lot of the people who have symptomatic COVID19.

How did NHS Test, Trace & Isolate do from 25 May – 17 June?



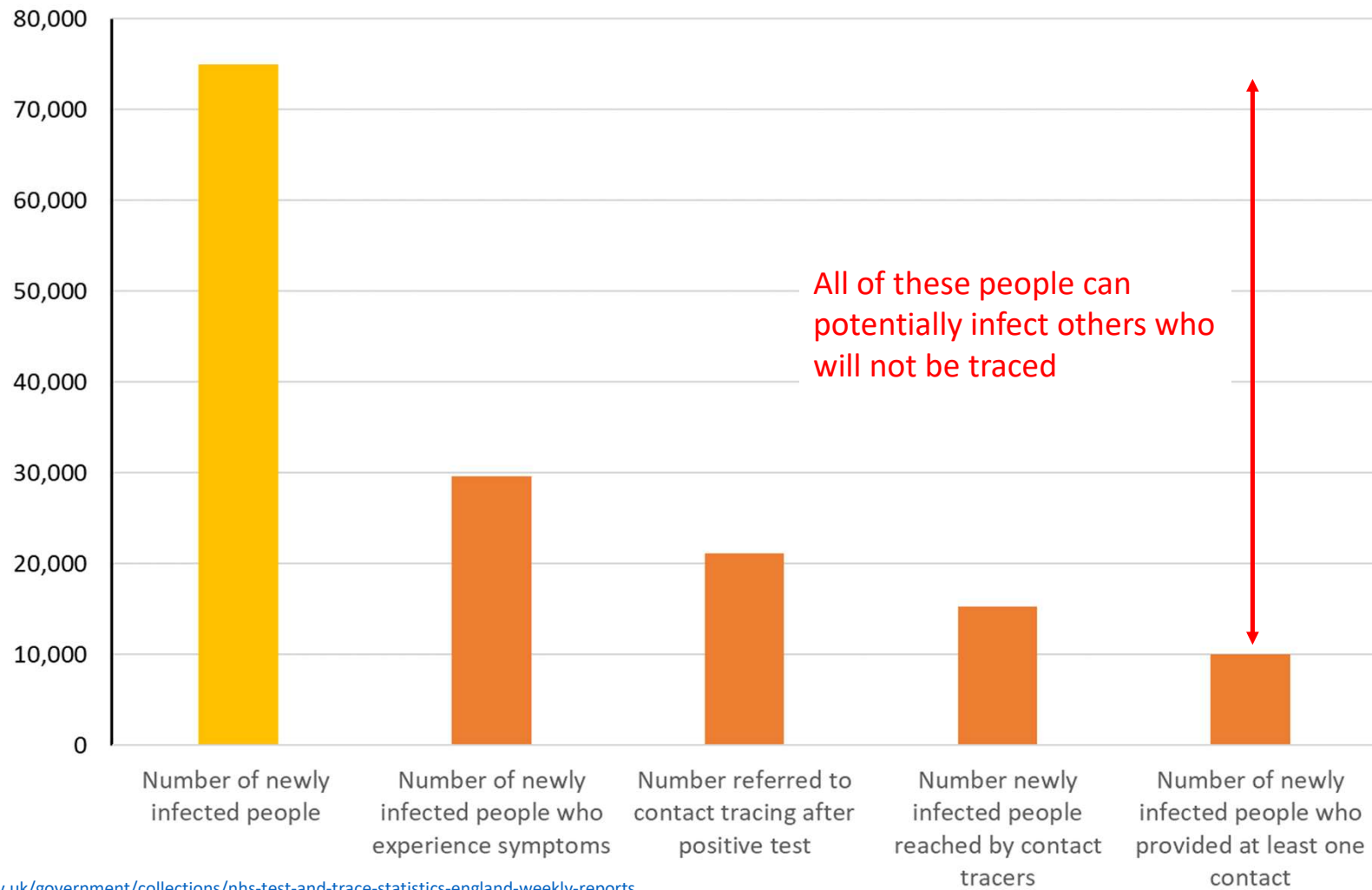
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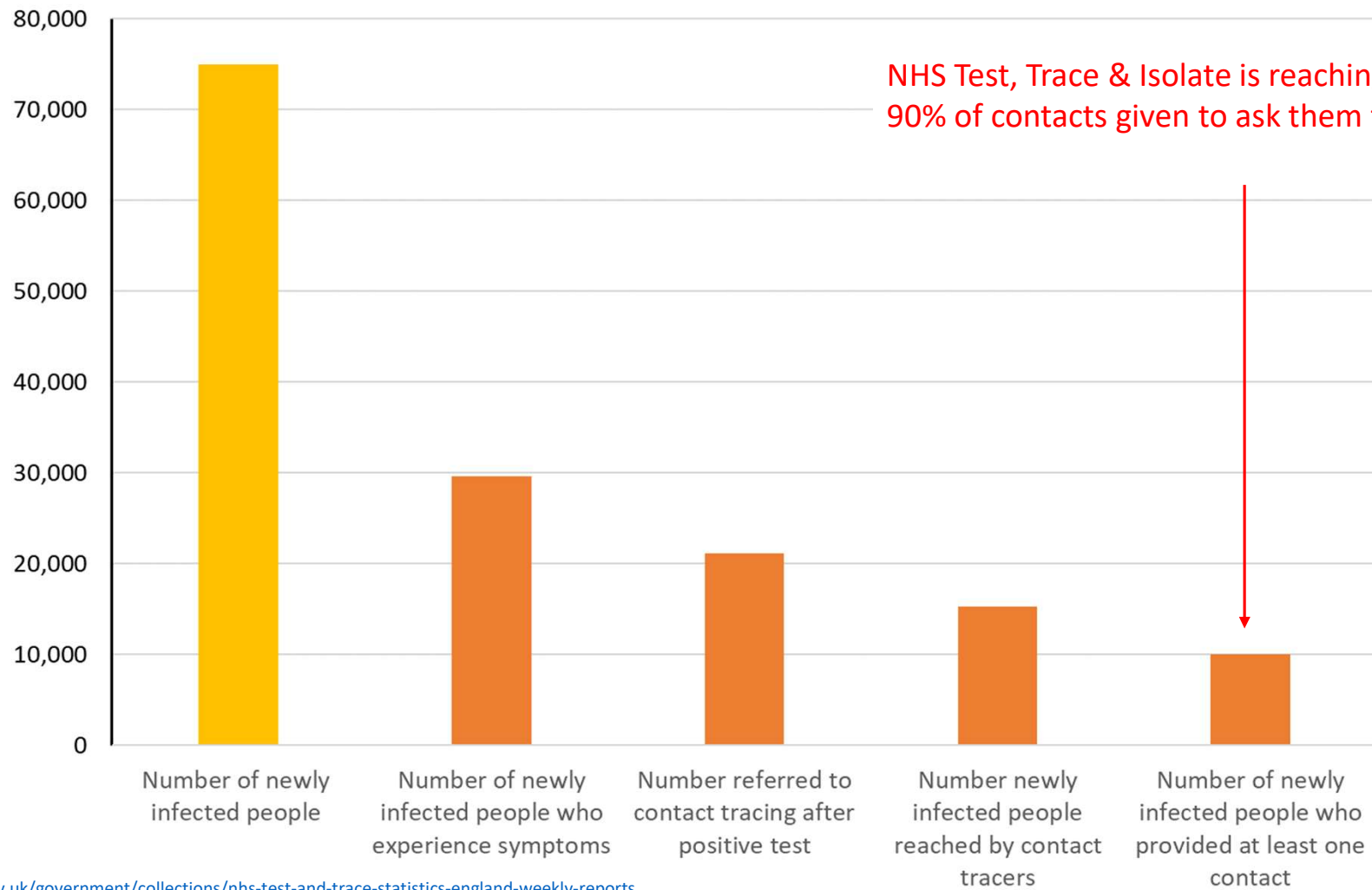
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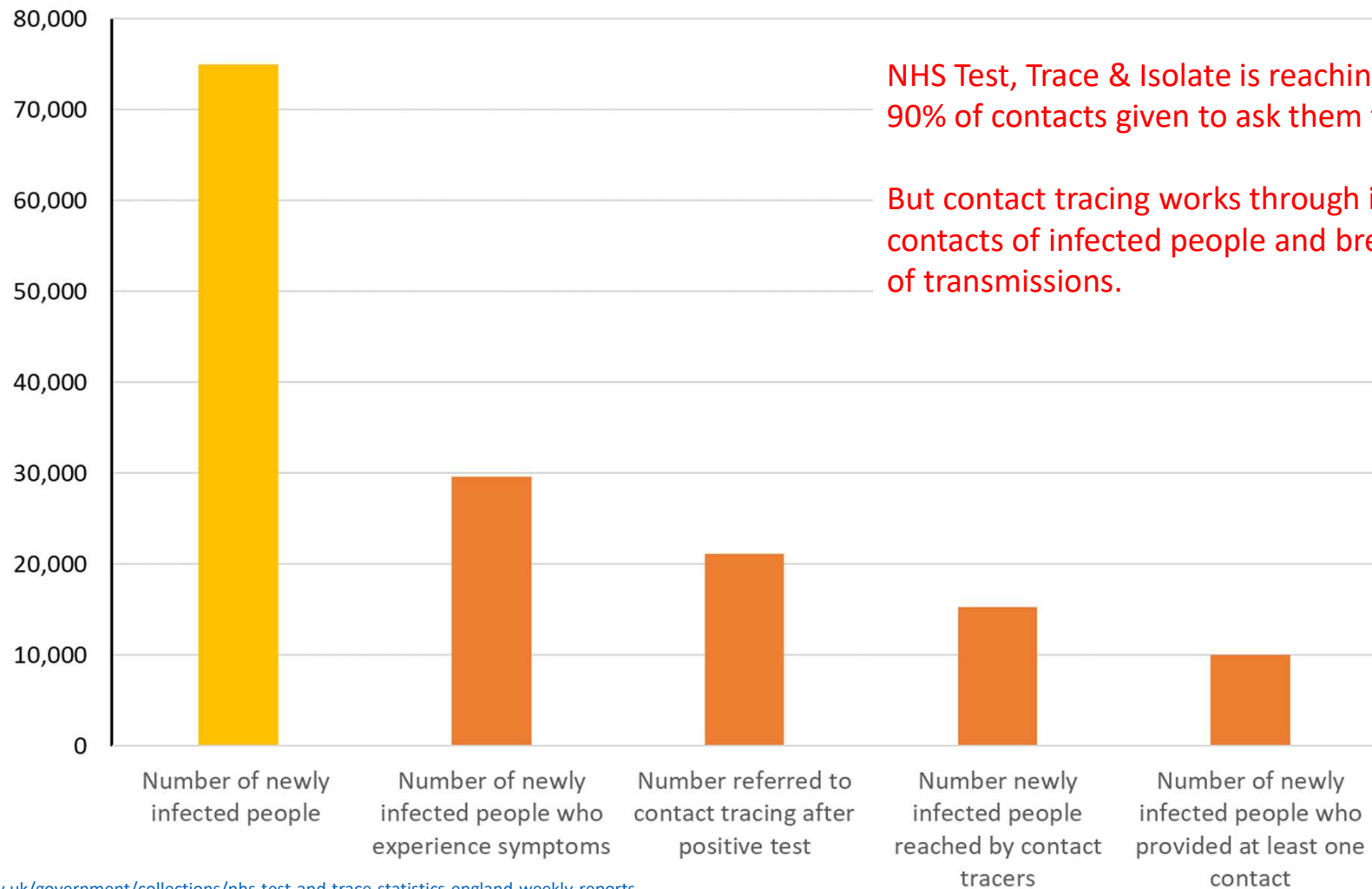
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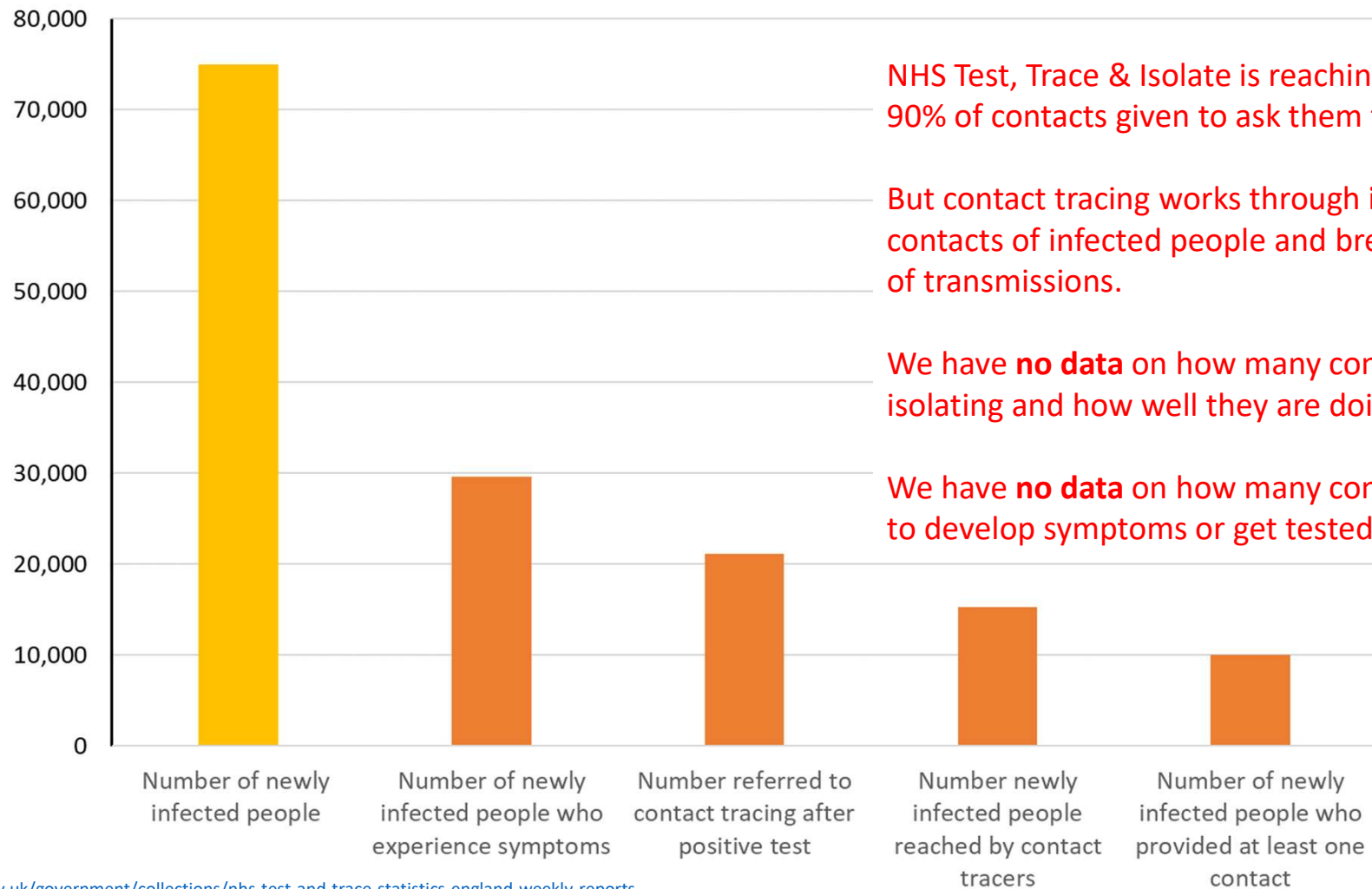
How did NHS Test, Trace & Isolate do from 25 May – 17 June?



NHS Test, Trace & Isolate is reaching about 80-90% of contacts given to ask them to isolate.

But contact tracing works through **isolating** contacts of infected people and breaking chain of transmissions.

How did NHS Test, Trace & Isolate do from 25 May – 17 June?



NHS Test, Trace & Isolate is reaching about 80-90% of contacts given to ask them to isolate.

But contact tracing works through **isolating** contacts of infected people and breaking chain of transmissions.

We have **no data** on how many contacts are isolating and how well they are doing it.

We have **no data** on how many contacts go on to develop symptoms or get tested.

Why does this matter?

New daily infections have stopped their downward trend and have been steady for last couple of weeks.

NHS Test and Trace is not reaching enough newly symptomatic people with COVID19. Possibly only a third of all newly infected people are providing at least one contact.

Government messaging on the need for seeking advice on testing if you develop symptoms and the importance of isolating if contacted has been largely absent this week.

Crucial data on how many contacts are actually isolating or go on to develop symptoms are not being published.

The lifting of restrictions from 4th July opens up more indoor spaces, allows more people to meet and for longer, and reduces the guideline for social distancing from 2m to 1m.

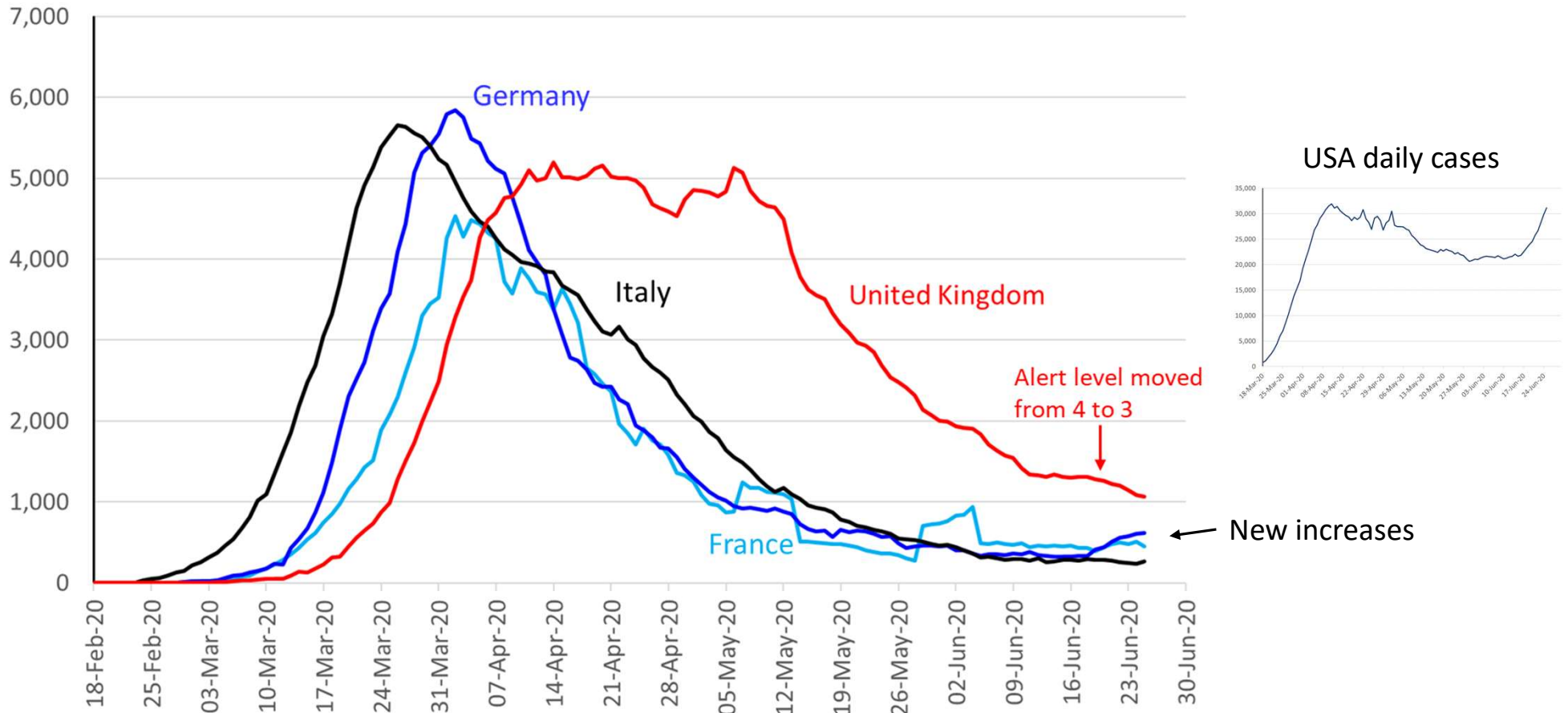
We know that indoors is much riskier than outdoors, that face to face and longer contact is much riskier and that 1m is much riskier than 2m*. So a lot of risk is being added at once.

Starting the change on a Saturday and ending government press briefings can send message that the pandemic is over.

*SAGE environment subgroup report on reducing social distancing, 4th June 2020

The pandemic is not over

7-day rolling average of new confirmed COVID-19 cases per day across similarly sized European countries



Data from European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/geographical-distribution-2019-ncov-cases>