



## POOLED TESTING WEEKLY UPDATE

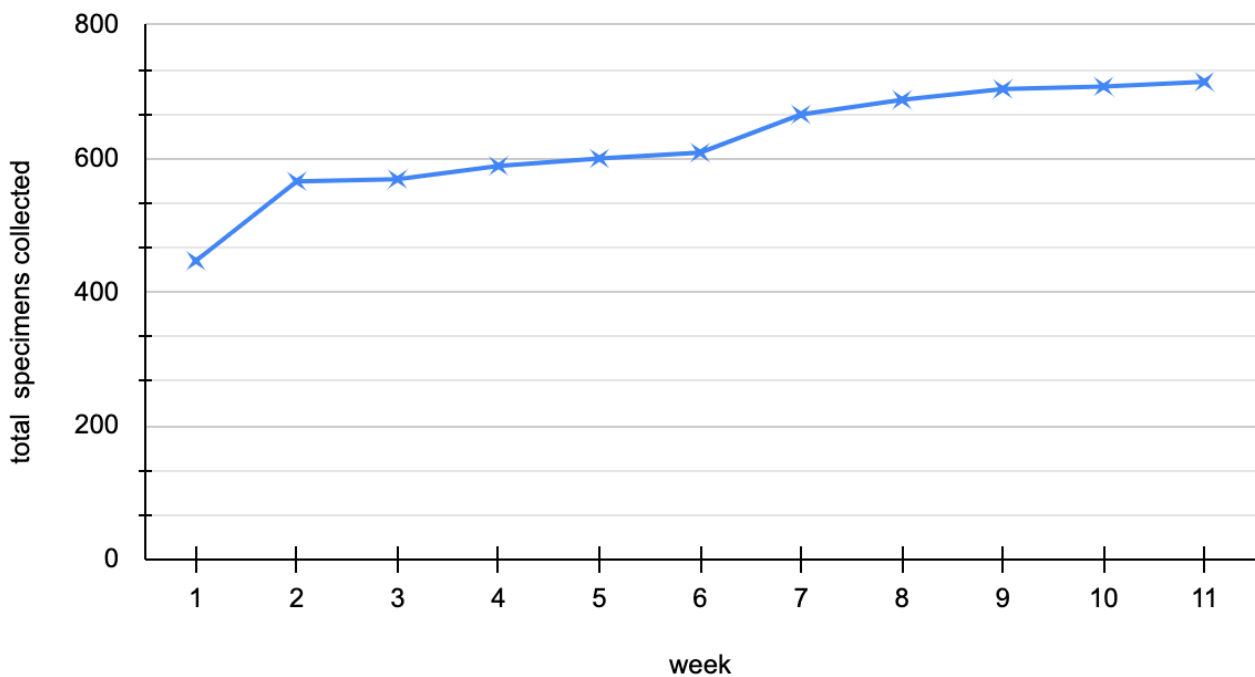
May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021

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### HERE'S SOME DATA ON LITTLETON'S TOTAL SPECIMENS COLLECTED

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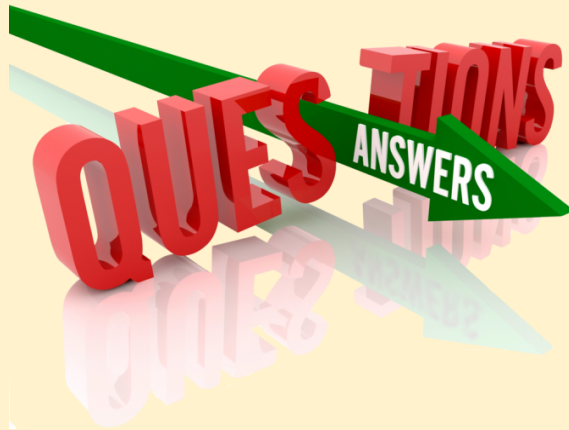
**Total Specimens Collected**



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## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

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### QUESTION:

Can someone be part of a negative pool and then test positive for COVID?

### ANSWER:

Pooled testing is a screening tool and a mitigation strategy. With any tool, there are limitations. Specimen integrity can be affected by the quality of specimen collection which could result in some specimens having limited amounts of viral genetic material for detection. Inadequate individual specimens, including those with limited amounts of viral genetic material, might not be eliminated from the pooled specimen before testing.

Even if each individual specimen in a pool is adequate, the specimens in a pooled testing procedure are diluted, which could result in a low concentration of viral genetic material below the limit of detection of a given test. These limitations mean that monitoring the prevalence of disease and properly validating the assay (evaluation of a test method to determine its' fitness for a particular use) and the instrumentation are important to limit the potential for false-negative results. The prevalence of COVID-19 in a population also affects the efficiency of pooled testing strategies.



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## HERE'S SOME MORE DATA ON LITTLETON'S POOLED TESTING PROGRAM

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**As of April 29<sup>th</sup>**

we have collected 6861  
total specimens

**As of May 6<sup>th</sup>**

the district has completed 22 collections  
and continue our trend of no positive pools.

**This week**

we have received 7 additional consents!!

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**If you haven't signed up for pooled testing, please consider 'jumping in'!**

**PLEASE COMPLETE THE LINKED GOOGLE FORM BELOW TO FILL OUT A CONSENT:**

**STUDENT CONSENT:** <https://forms.gle/Np8JpXsvX9qShsfX9>

**STAFF CONSENT:** <https://forms.gle/P9wbS1ft9LeicRwYA>



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### PLEASE NOTE:

- District pooled testing data/results will be shared during the health metrics presentation at the School Committee meeting
- In addition, correspondence will be sent out if there is a delay in receiving results (if results are not received within the 24-48 hour window)

#### IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS....WE HAVE ANSWERS!!



Please reach out to us with any questions!

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