

SARS CoV-2 Test Performance Update

Frances Pouch Downes, DrPH
Professor, Michigan State University

Learning Objectives



Describe the laboratory methods used for SARS CoV-2 testing.



Explain the role of proficiency testing in a laboratory quality management system.



Describe the participant, methods and results of multiple SARS CoV-2 RT PCR proficiency testing results.

Role of SARS CoV-2 Testing

Diagnosis of infection

Treatment and medical management
Isolation

Case finding and contact tracing

Control further transmission

Surveillance

Distribute resources
Evaluate policies



<https://www.mlive.com>

SARS CoV-2 Tests

RNA

- RT PCR and other Nucleic Acid Amplification methods
- Detects current infection
- Performed in high complexity lab, TAT hours to days
- Genotyping for surveillance

Antigen

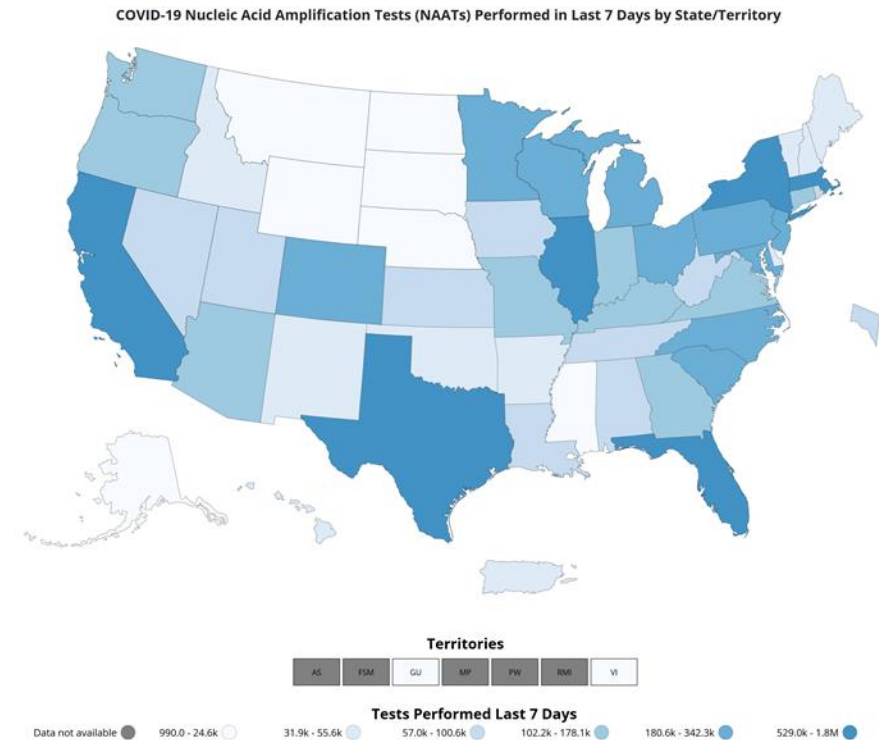
- Solid Phase EIA and other methods
- Detects current infection
- Rapid, on-site

Antibody

- EIA, bead-based ab detection, *etc.* detection methods
- Detects current or past infection
- Performed in a variety of testing settings from high complexity lab to waived

SARS CoV-2 RNA Testing Landscape

- 590,249,882 US RNA tests reported
- 45,666,109 positive
- 262 nucleic acid tests, pooling protocols or collection devices approved FDA

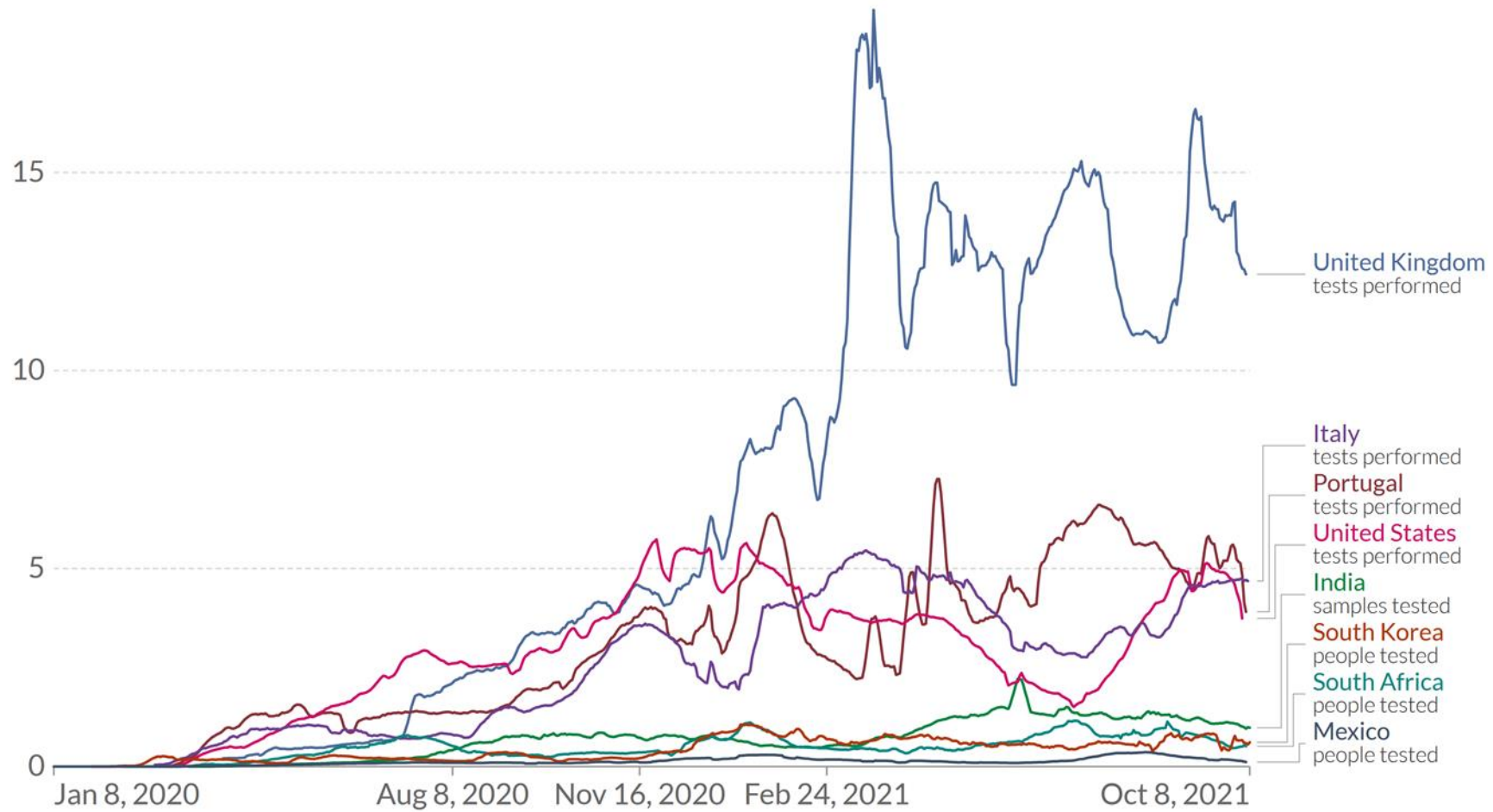


<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-emergency-use-authorizations-medical-devices/in-vitro-diagnostics-euas-molecular-diagnostic-tests-sars-cov-2>

https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#cases_tests7day

Daily COVID-19 tests per thousand people

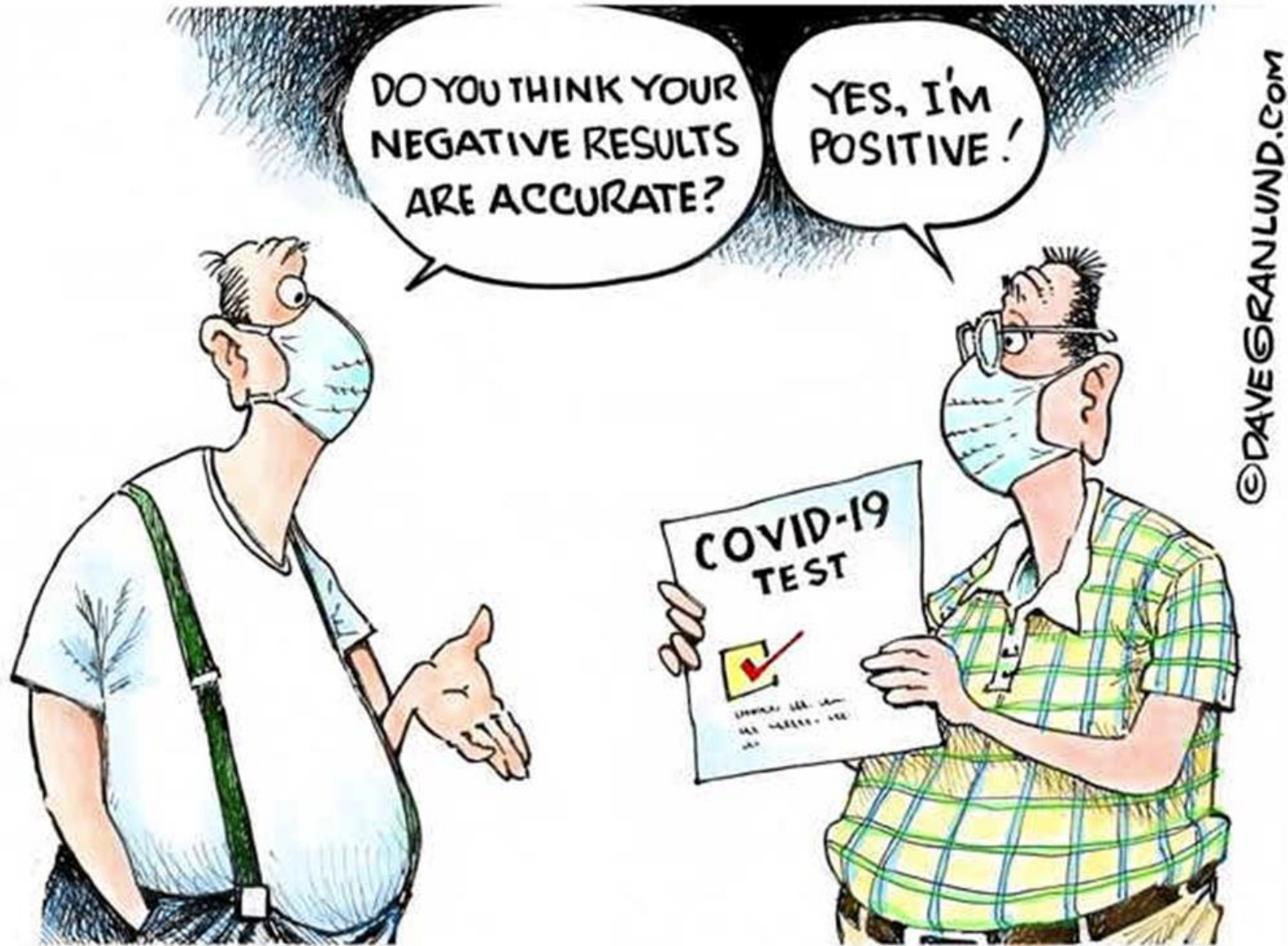
The figures are given as a rolling 7-day average.



Source: Official data collated by Our World in Data - Last updated 8 October 2021, 10:20 (London time) OurWorldInData.org/coronavirus • CC BY

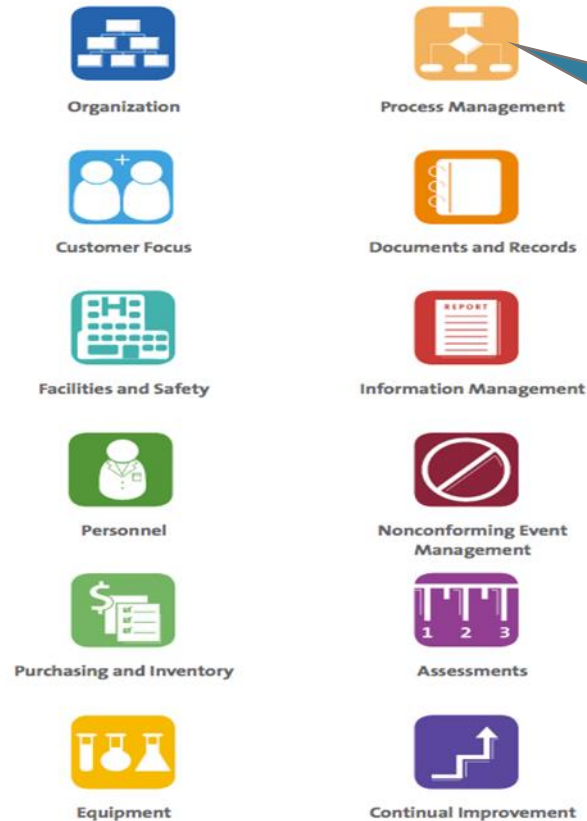
Note: Comparisons of testing data across countries are affected by differences in the way the data are reported. Daily data is interpolated for countries not reporting testing data on a daily basis. Details can be found at our Testing Dataset page.





<https://www.chieftain.com/story/opinion/cartoons/2020/08/07/granlund-cartoon-covid-test-accuracy/114172988>

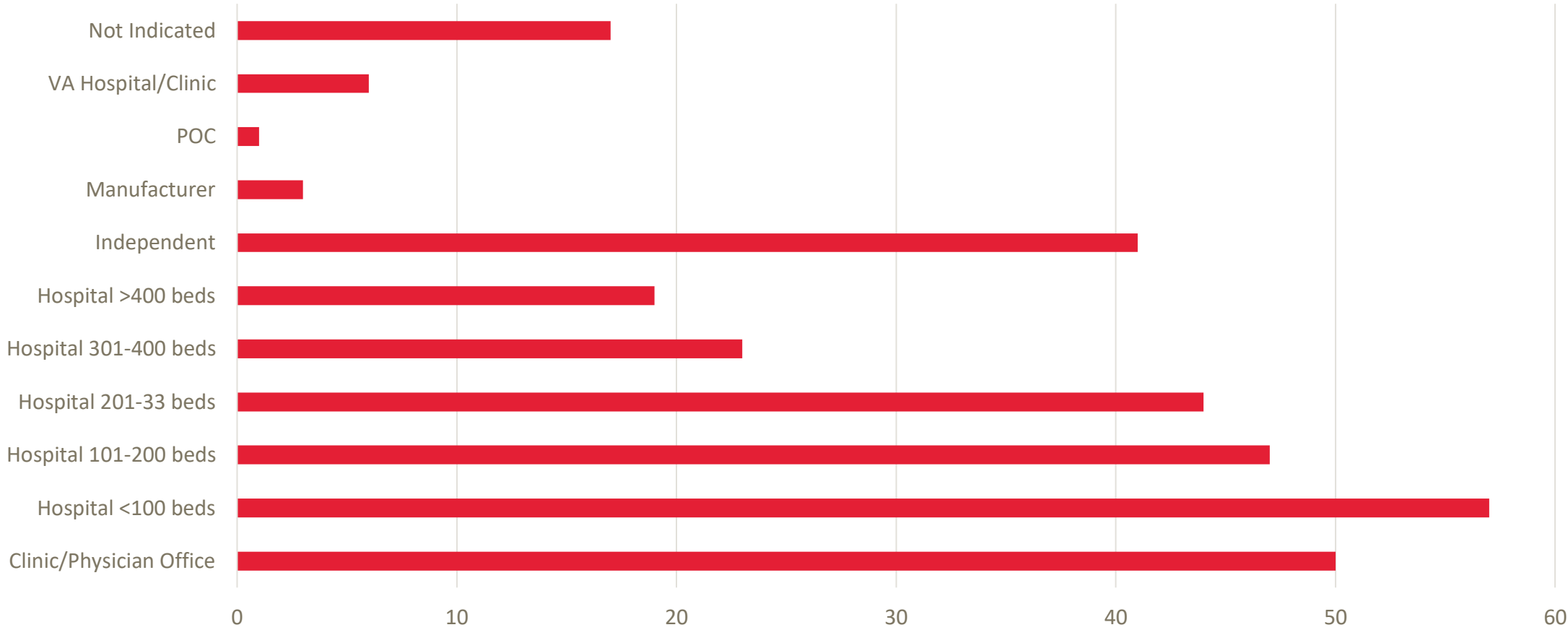
Quality System Essentials



- Method verification and validation
- Equipment calibrations
- Pre-examination processes
- Quality control
- Proficiency testing
- Reporting results/post-examination processes

Source: CLSI.org

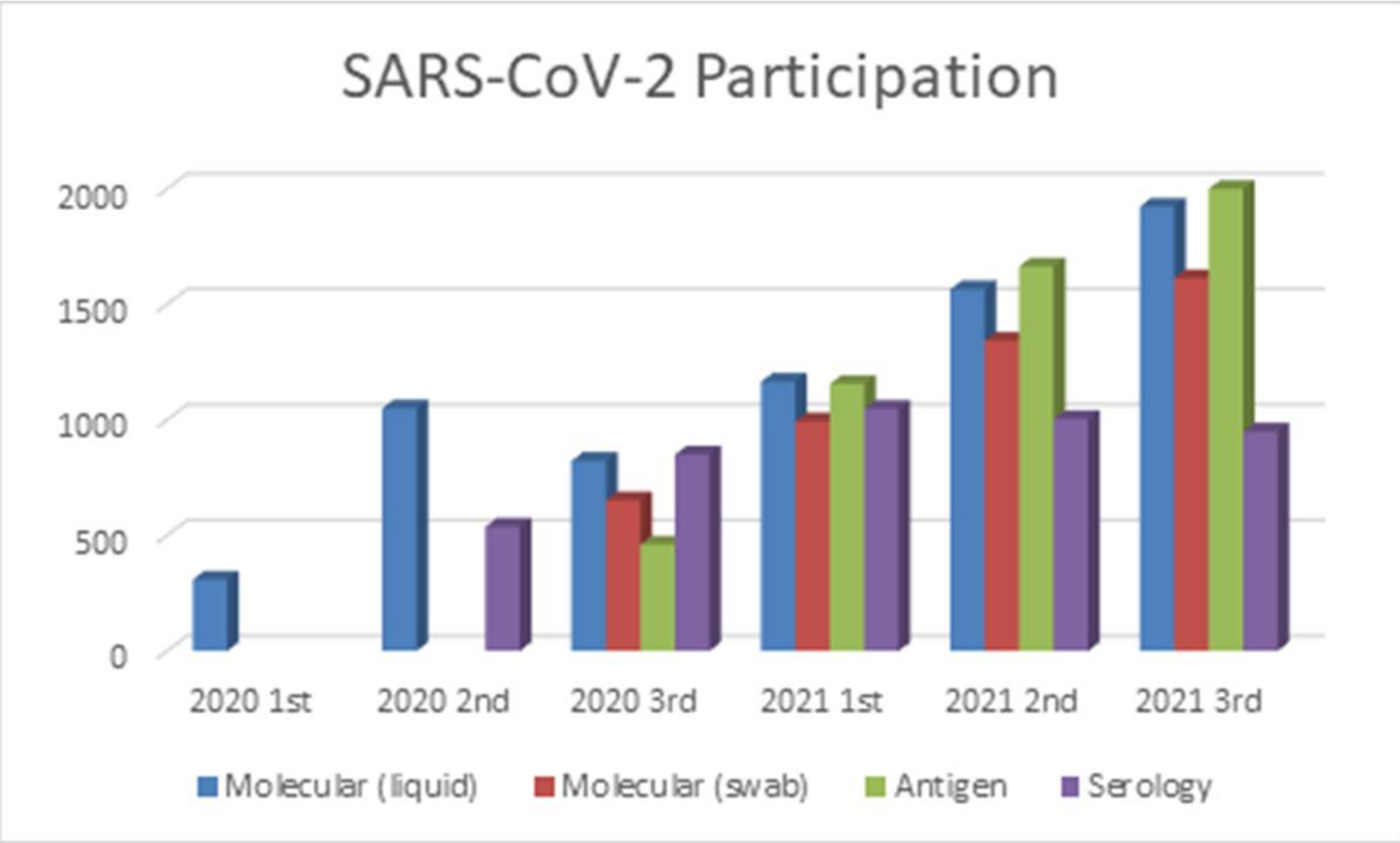
RNA Methods: Participant Laboratories



Source: Edson, D. et al. 2020 . Am J Clin Path 154(4)



API: Provider of 4 SARS CoV-2 Proficiency Programs

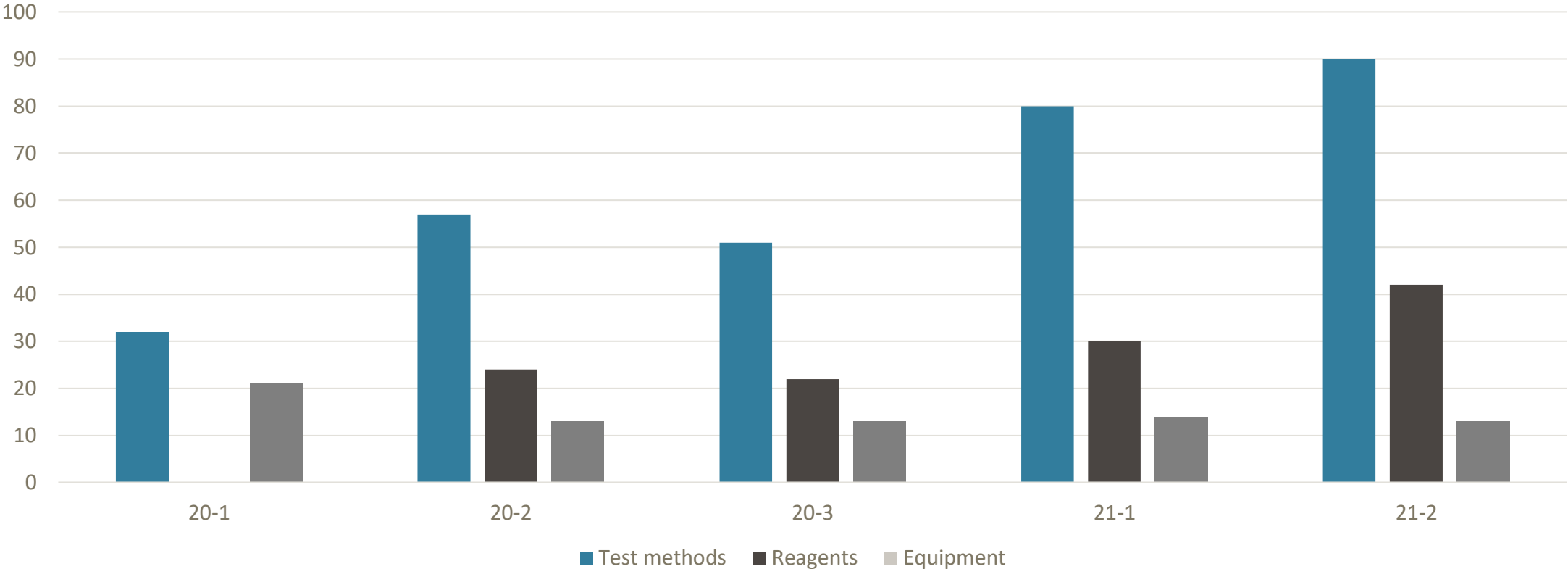


Source: Casey, API



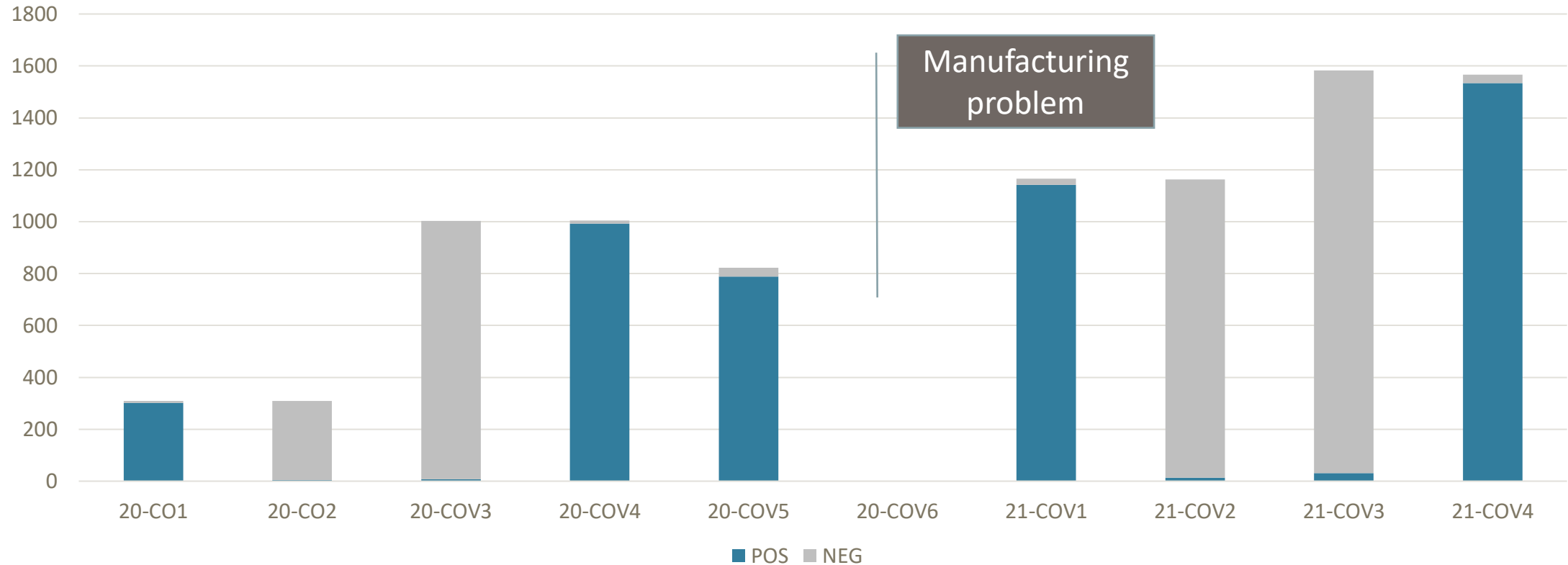
RNA Methods: Platforms

API SARS CoV-2 Molecular (Liquid) Participant Testing Platforms



RNA Methods: Results

API SARS CoV-2 Molecular (Liquid) RNA Detection

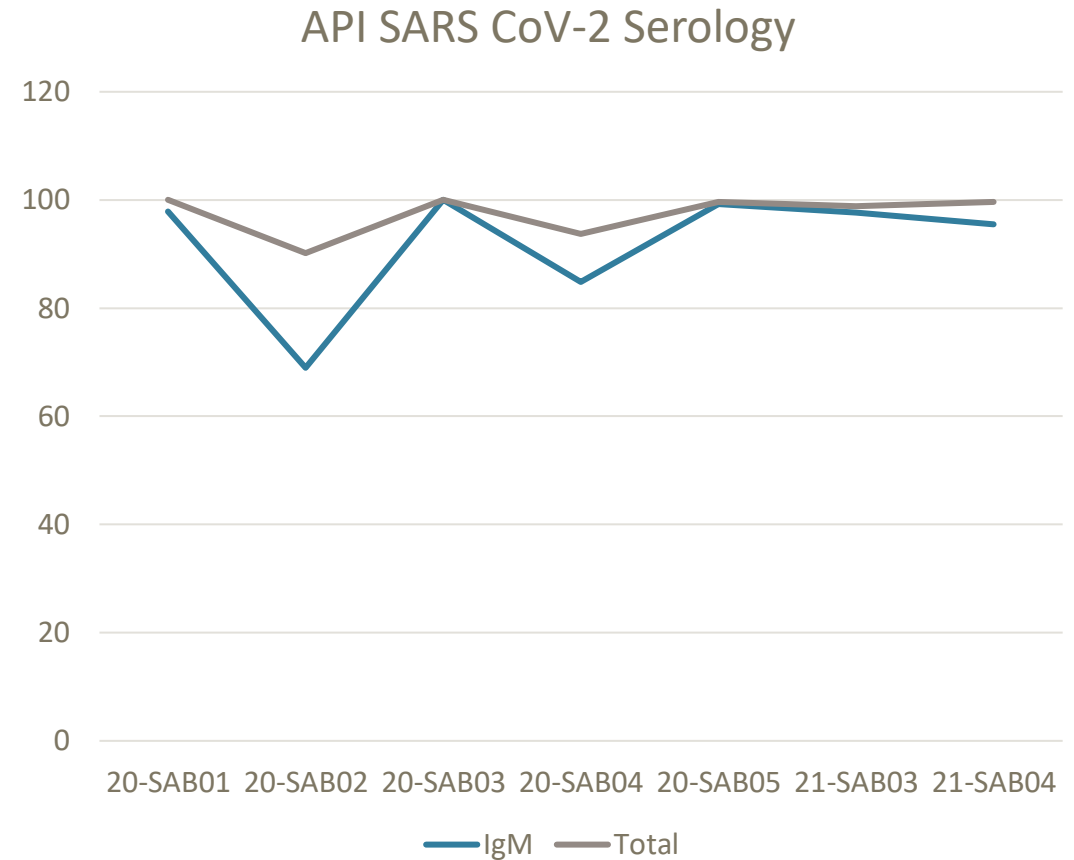


RNA Methods: Conclusion

- NAAT testing results are reliable
 - Performance on both the liquid and swab-based PT samples are consistently >98%
- Increasing number of laboratories involved in testing
- Increasing number of methods with FDA EUA
- Increasingly users enroll in the wrong program

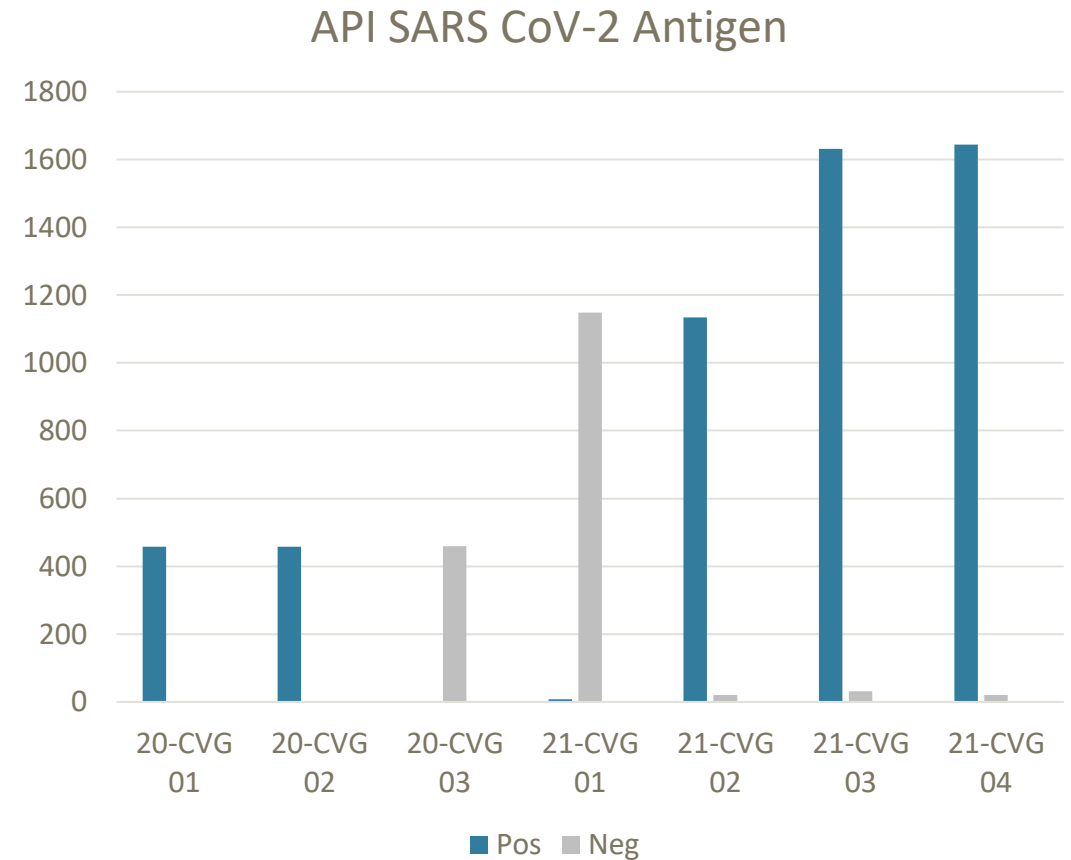
Antibody Methods Performance

- Lack of international standard
- 5 events
- Participants peaks at 1049, declining to 950 (2021-3rd)
- IgM (65-100%) agreement is more challenging than IgG



Antigen Method Performance

- Analyte quantifiable
- 3 events reported
- 461 climbing to 2047 (2021 event 3) participants
- Approximately 98% agreement with target value
- 9 participants enrolled in wrong program



Discussion

- Multiple global PT providers
- Clerical errors included in performance
- Enrollment in the wrong program

Acknowledgements

API Traverse City, MI USA

Dan Edson, MS, MT(ASCP)CEO

Danielle Casey, MLS(ASCP)CM

Michigan State University East Lansing, MI USA

Faculty and Staff

Biomedical Laboratory Diagnostics
Program



Thank you

