

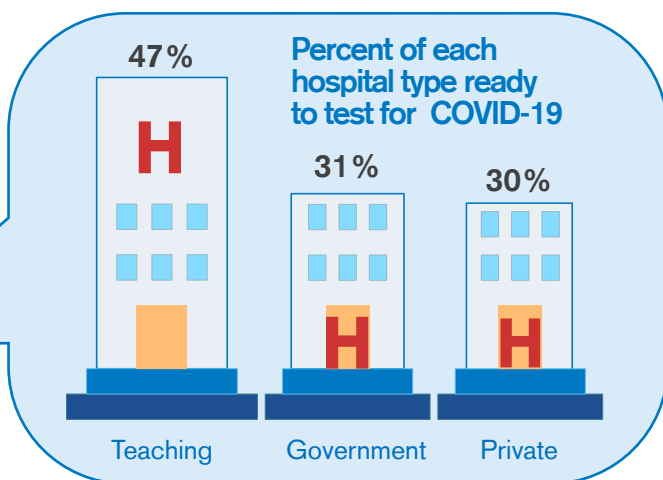
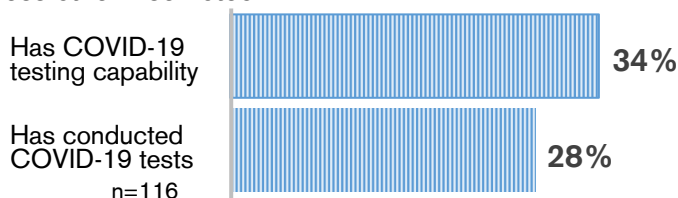


COVID-19 Testing and Contact Tracing in Ghana

Capacity for testing and follow-up contact tracing are crucial pieces in the global effort to effectively treat and prevent the spread of COVID-19. Our consortium conducted a survey¹ of healthcare workers in Ghana to gather data on facility testing capabilities, successes, and challenges.

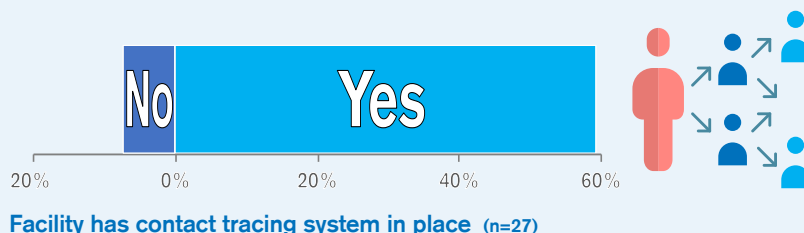
Testing available at 1/3 of hospitals

One-third of respondents said their facility had COVID-19 testing capability, and 28% reported their facility had conducted COVID-19 tests. These facilities were distributed between teaching hospitals, private hospitals, and other government facilities. The results presented in the rest of this report are from only those facilities with testing capability, unless otherwise noted.

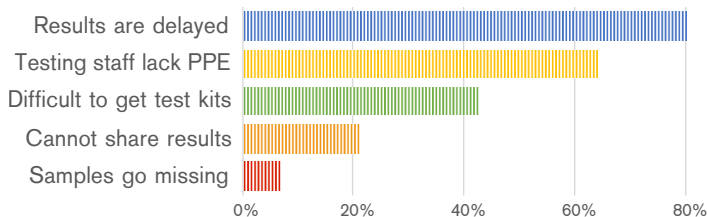


Established contact tracing systems ready in almost 60% of testing facilities

Contact Tracing is a Bright Spot: Nearly 60% of respondents said their facility had a contact tracing system in place, while only 7% said their facility did not (the rest were not sure). Responding to an open-ended question on what was going well with testing, the most common response (7/16) **identified contact tracing as a strength.**



Testing challenges



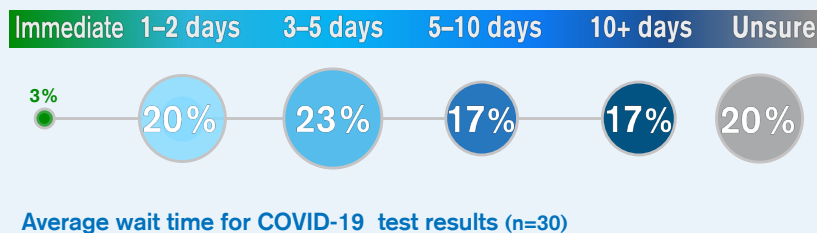
Main testing challenges (n=28)

Testing Issues Remain: When asked about challenges with testing, 82% of respondents replied with **delayed test results**. Access to personal protective equipment (PPE) and to test kits was identified by 64% and 43% of respondents respectively.

In open-ended comments, more than half of respondents (including those from facilities without COVID-19 testing capability) indicated a **need for additional testing capacity**, particularly in regional and district hospitals, or the **need for more testing equipment**.

Getting results

Test Results: The most common response (23%) from those at facilities conducting tests indicated an **average wait time of 3-5 days** for results. Seventeen percent of respondents said it took 10 or more days on average for results and additional 20% were unsure of the wait time. Typically they **delivered test results to patients either by phone (56%) or in person (56%).**



¹To help us make better decisions on the COVID-19 crisis, [IDS International](#) created a consortia of data and tech companies to measure the effectiveness of physical distancing and disinfectant behaviors like hand-washing and masks. Consortium partner [Clear Outcomes](#) led the data collection (May 20-27, 2020) in partnership with the [Ghana Medical Association](#). A total of 120 healthcare workers from all regions responded to the survey, including doctors, nurses, midwives, laboratory technicians, administrators, and others. Respondents from Ghana's main teaching hospitals and other private and government hospitals throughout the country participated in the survey, though the sampling and results should not be taken as statistically representative. For more information contact data@clearoutcomes.net.

