Federal COVID-19 Testing Report

Why did we do this report?

The Pandemic Response Accountability Committee's Health Care Subgroup examined COVID-19 testing efforts for six federal health care programs, which provide benefits or care to about 64 million individuals combined.

The report is intended to inform policymakers of federal COVID-19 testing efforts over the first seven months of the pandemic.

> **COVID-19** testing in six federal health care programs

From February through August 2020, six federal health care programs paid for or administered

10.7 million

COVID-19 tests, which constituted

12.7% of all tests

performed in the United States during that time.

@COVID_Oversight

How can this report inform comprehensive and sound testing practices?

This report 11/ highlights critical areas for policymakers to consider to improve testing for Americans, including availability, accessibility, and cost effectiveness of tests.

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- What factors may hinder the rapid development and deployment of COVID-19 tests? Our data reveals challenges related to regulations, access, public health infrastructure, and private market incentives.
- Will testing be available to populations most impacted by COVID-19?

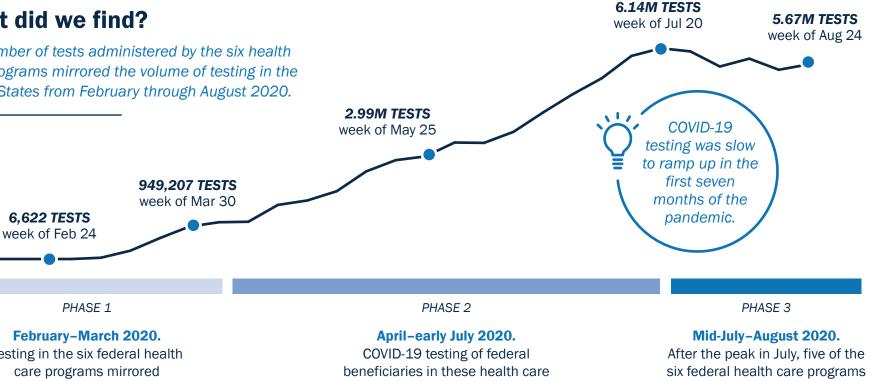
- What payment policies are appropriate for testing during a public health emergency?
- What data is needed to ensure effective and efficient testing efforts?



The number of tests administered by the six health care programs mirrored the volume of testing in the United States from February through August 2020.

PHASE 1

February-March 2020. Testing in the six federal health care programs mirrored national testing, which was relatively low during the first months of the pandemic.



programs increased starting in

mid-April as the virus began to

spread in the United States.

saw a plateau or decline in tests administered.