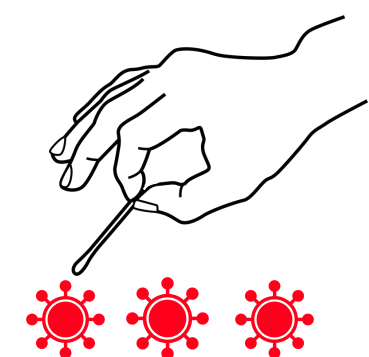




# Coronavirus in the Urban Built Environment: Long-Term Care Home Study

## Methods



Surface samples were taken by swabbing floors. PCR testing was used to determine if the samples contained the COVID-19 virus.

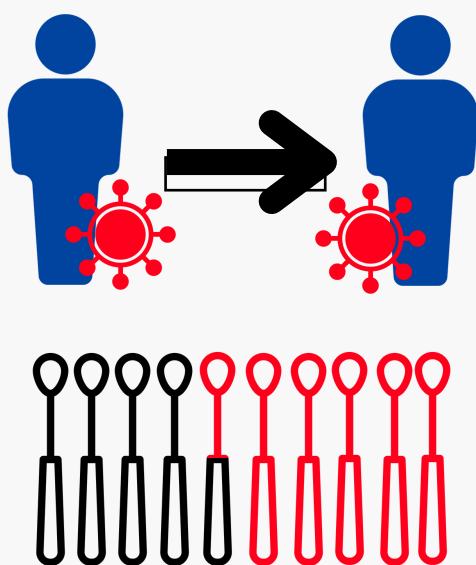


10 long-term care homes, located across Toronto, Ottawa, and Sault Ste. Marie, were swabbed on a weekly basis over a 14-month period. A total of 4,895 swabs were collected.

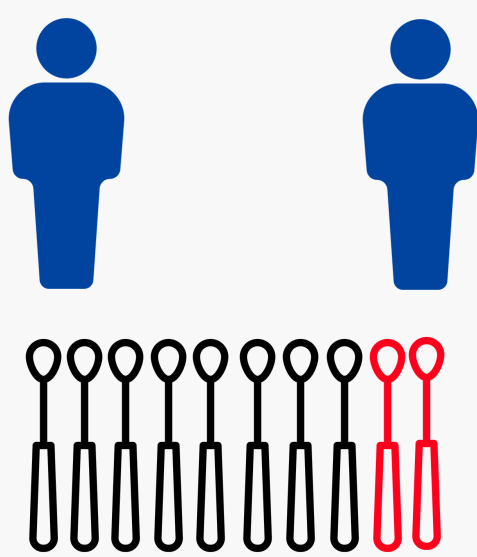
## Results

More than 50% of floor swabs tested **positive** for the COVID-19 virus during outbreak periods, compared to only 22% during non-outbreak periods.

### Outbreak



### No Outbreak



The percentage of positive floor swabs increased 5-10 days prior to an outbreak being declared.

Note: Floors are not a source of COVID-19 infection. It is extremely rare to catch COVID-19 from any surface.

## Links

### Publication:

Detection of Covid-19 Outbreaks Using  
Built Environment Testing for SARS-CoV-2.  
<https://doi.org/10.1056/EVIDoa2200203>

### Website:

<https://cube-ontario.github.io/>