

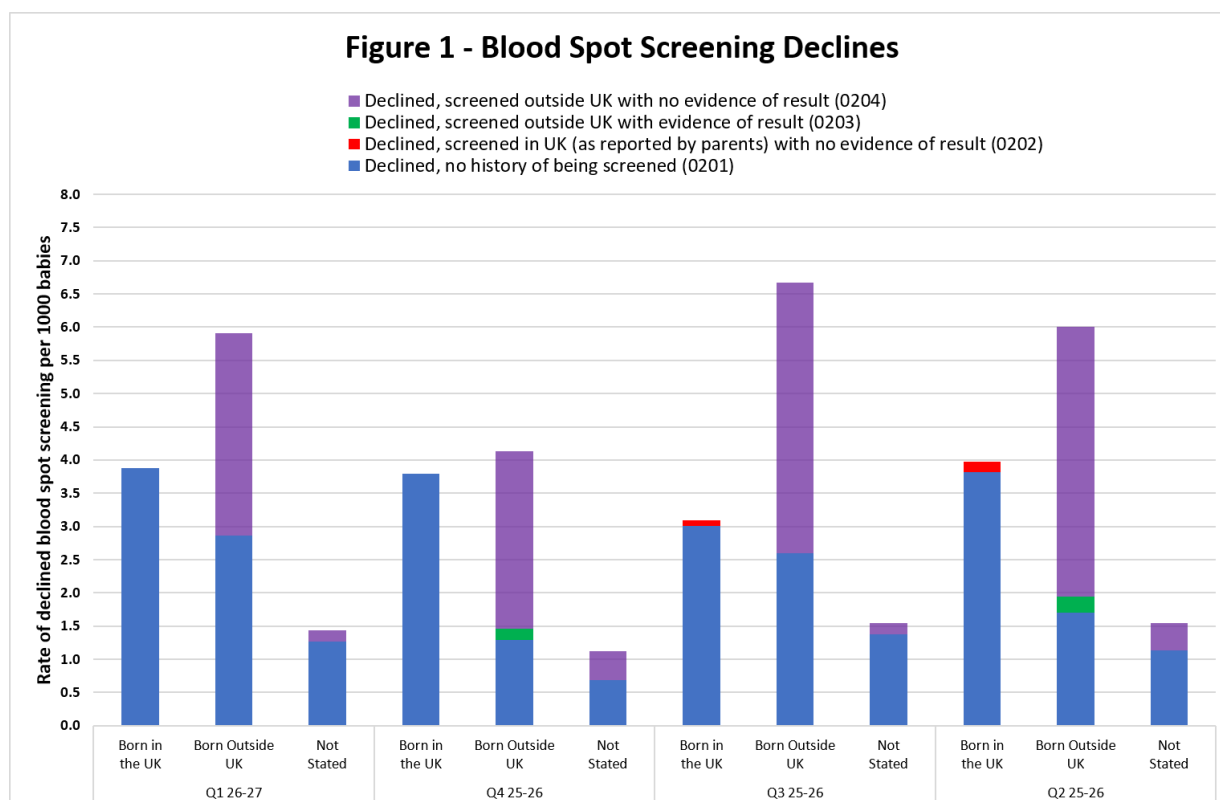
Manchester Newborn Screening Laboratory Quarterly Blood Spot Screening Report: Quarter 1 2026-27

Manchester Newborn Screening Laboratory, which serves babies born in Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria, received 12594 blood spot samples between 1st April 2026 and 30th June 2026. This report describes performance against the NHS Newborn Blood Spot Screening Programme Standards. Full details of the standards including definitions and exclusions can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/standards-for-nhs-newborn-blood-spot-screening>. The appendix of this document contains the data for standards 3-7 in table form.

The data for the laboratory reportable standards is presented by maternity unit/NHS trust of the sample taker. For accurate figures, please ensure the trust code is written/stamped on the blood spot card.

Declines

In Quarter 1 the laboratory received 133 notifications of declined blood spot screening. Figure 1 shows the trends in declined screens over the past year, by place of birth (born in UK or born outside of UK). The laboratory should be notified of all declines, including those for babies screened elsewhere, rather than directly notifying Child Health.



Key to colour coding

Met achievable threshold
Met acceptable threshold
Within 10% of acceptable threshold
More than 10% below acceptable threshold

Standard 3 – The proportion of blood spot cards received by the laboratory with the baby’s NHS number on a barcoded label

Acceptable: $\geq 90.0\%$ of blood spot cards are received by the laboratory with the baby’s NHS number on a barcoded label.

Achievable: $\geq 95.0\%$ of blood spot cards are received by the laboratory with the baby’s NHS number on a barcoded label.

Figure 2 displays performance against standard 3.

Overall, 89% of samples received in quarter 1 of 2026/27 had a barcoded NHS number label, which is higher than the previous quarter (87.4%). Of the 11 maternity units, 6 met the acceptable standard with 2 of these meeting the achievable threshold.

Standard 4 - The proportion of first blood spot samples taken on day 5

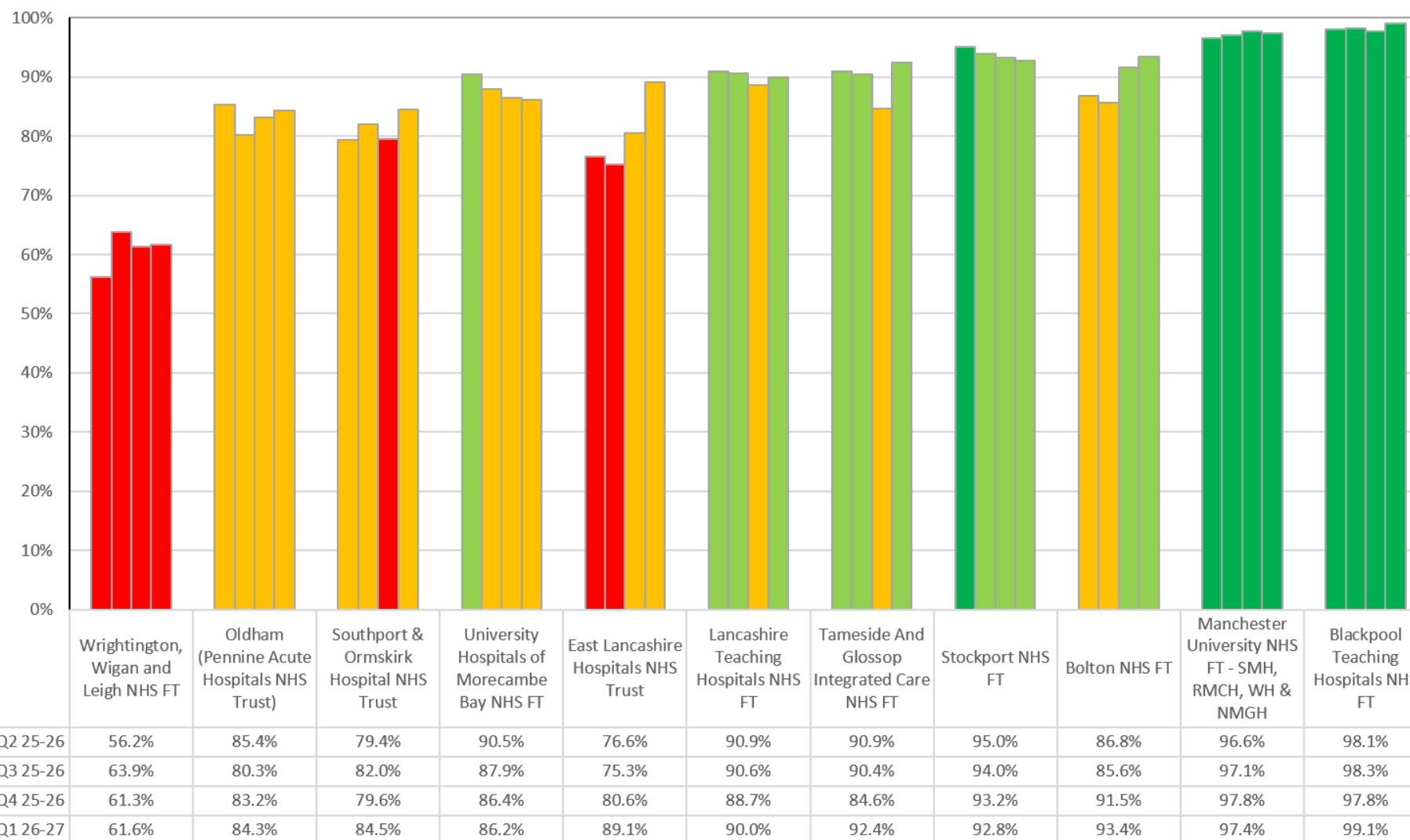
Acceptable: $\geq 90.0\%$ of first blood spot samples are taken on day 5.

Achievable: $\geq 95.0\%$ of first blood spot samples are taken on day 5.

Figure 3 displays performance against standard 4. Overall, 92.9% of samples received in quarter 1 of 2026/27 were collected on day 5, which is slightly higher than the previous quarter (92.6%). 10 out of the 11 maternity units met standard 4, and 6 of these met the achievable threshold.

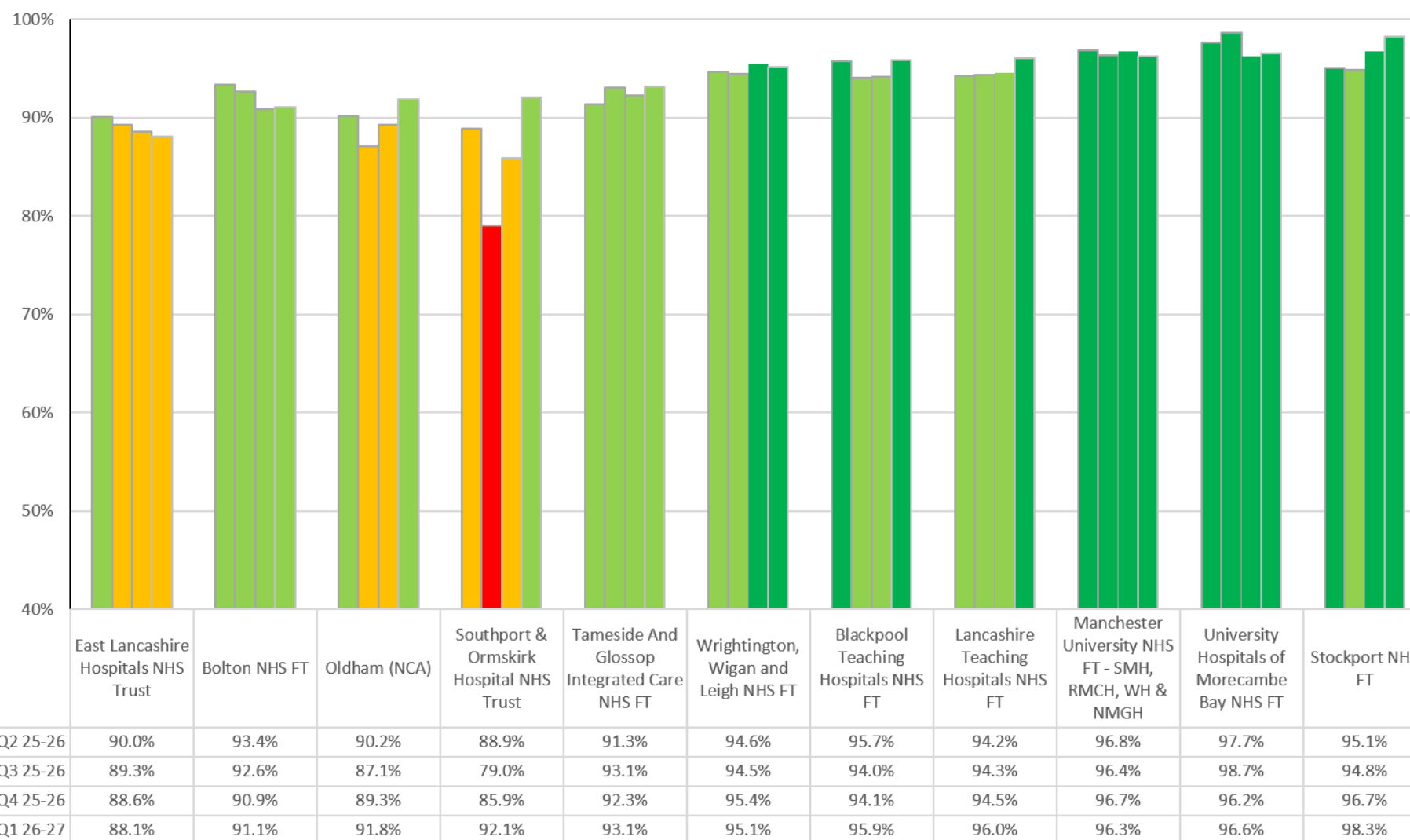
Figure 2: Standard 3 - The proportion of blood spot cards received by the laboratory with the baby's NHS number on a barcoded label

Most recent quarter on right-hand side



**Figure 3: Standard 4 - The proportion of first blood spot samples
taken on day 5**

Most recent quarter on right-hand side



Standard 5 - The proportion of blood spot samples received less than or equal to 3 working days of sample collection

Acceptable: $\geq 95.0\%$ of all samples received less than or equal to 3 working days of sample collection.

Achievable: $\geq 99.0\%$ of all samples received less than or equal to 3 working days of sample collection.

Figure 4 displays performance against standard 5.

Overall, 98.5% of samples were received within 3 working days. Nine Trusts met the standard, with 6 of these reaching the achievable threshold. Performance was more than the previous quarter (97.7% samples received within 3 working days).

Standard 6 - The proportion of first blood spot samples that require repeating due to an avoidable failure in the sampling process

Acceptable: Avoidable repeat rate is $\leq 2.0\%$

Achievable: Avoidable repeat rate is $\leq 1.0\%$

The avoidable repeat rate for quarter 1 was 2.3%, which is the same as compared to quarter 4. The main reason for an avoidable repeat was a compressed/damaged sample followed by insufficient blood. The performance for each trust is displayed in figure 5. Four Trusts met the acceptable standard and two met the achievable standard. Figure 6 compares the avoidable repeat rate for samples collected from in-patients with samples collected from babies at home/in the community. The rate was 2.1% for babies at home (1.8% in quarter 4) and 4.2% for samples collected from in-patients (6% in quarter 4).

Figure 4: Standard 5 - The proportion of blood spot samples received less than or equal to 3 working days of sample collection

Most recent quarter on right-hand side

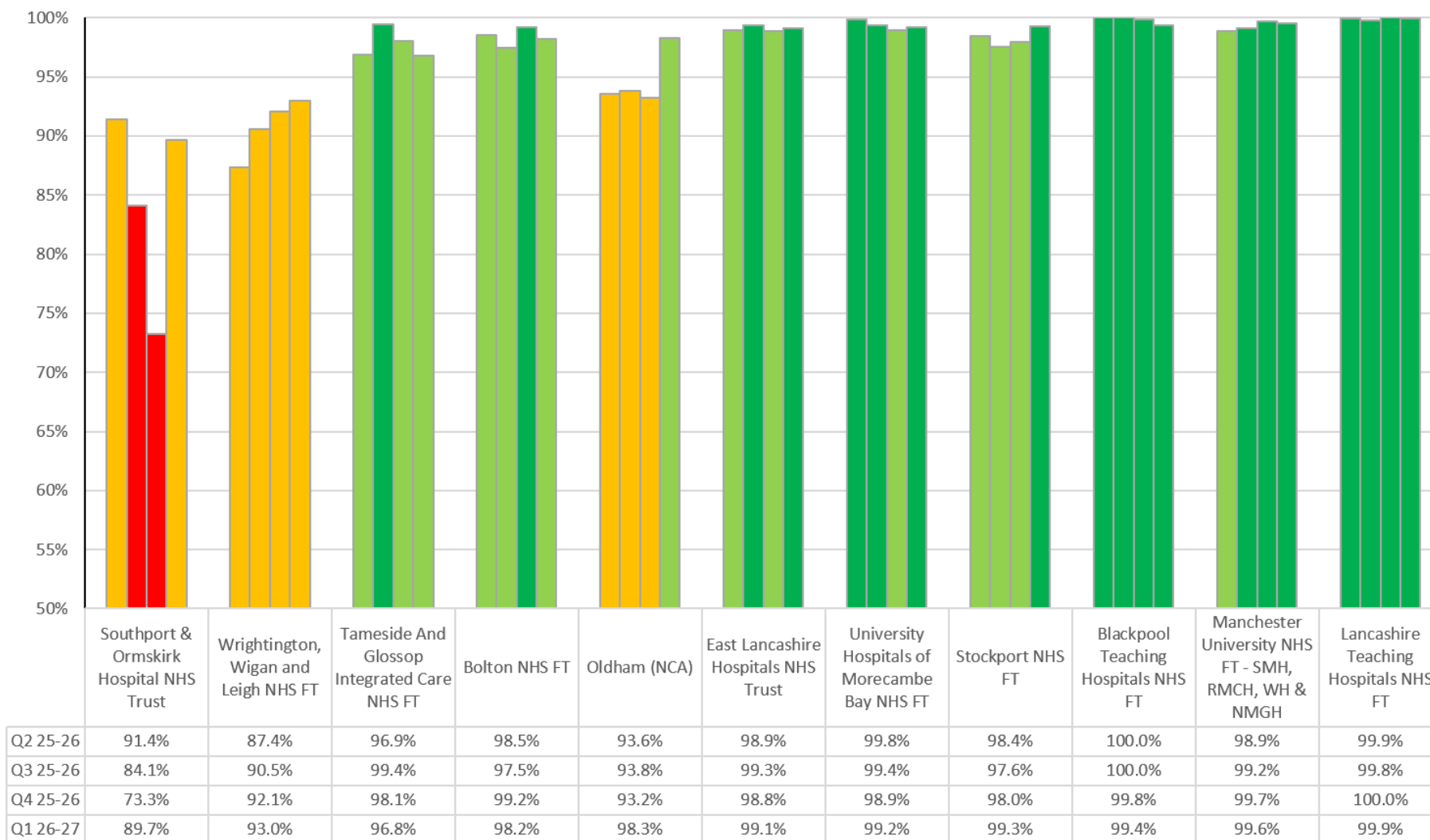


Figure 5: Standard 6 - The proportion of first blood spot samples that require repeating due to an avoidable failure in the sampling process by Trust

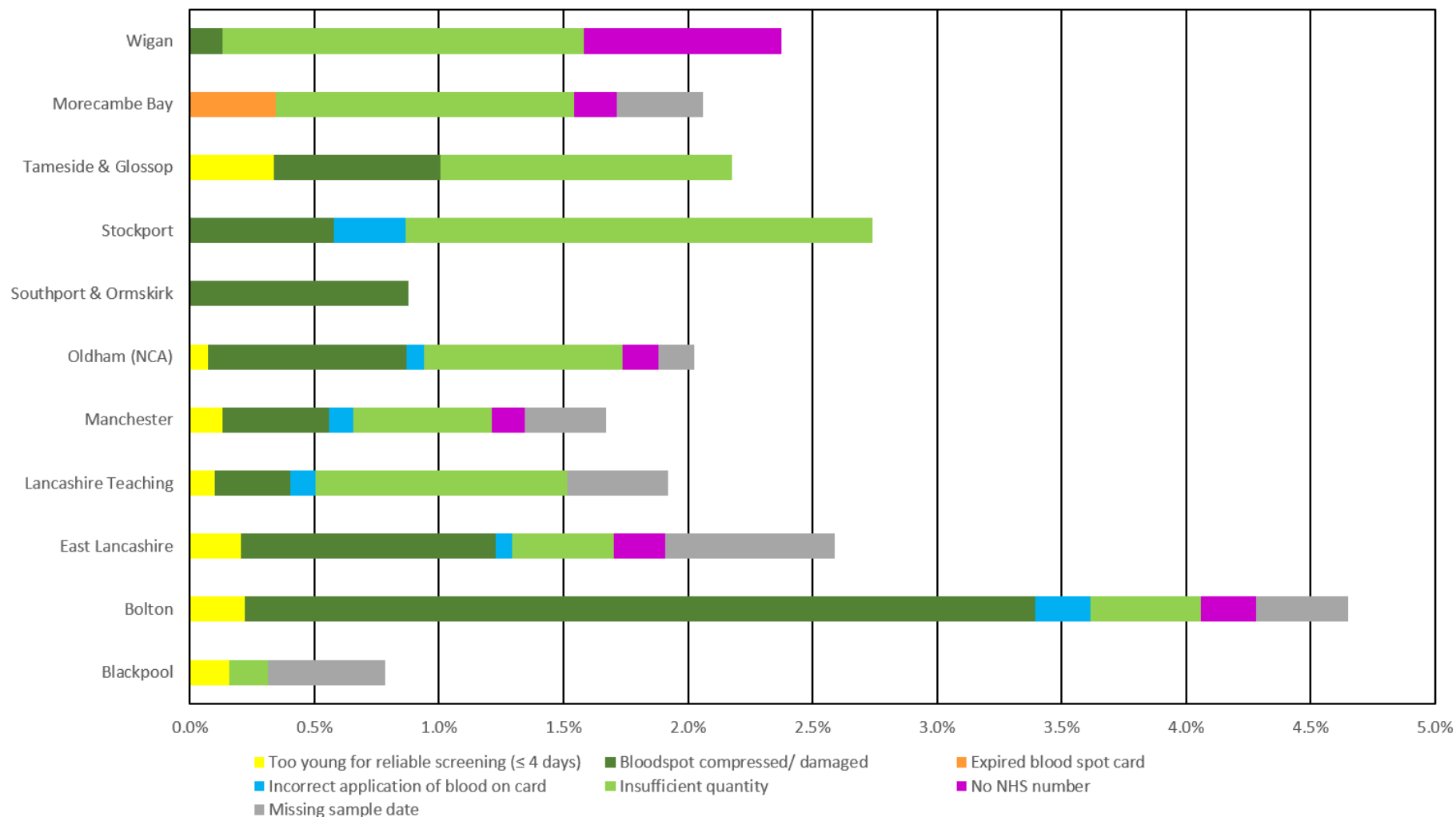
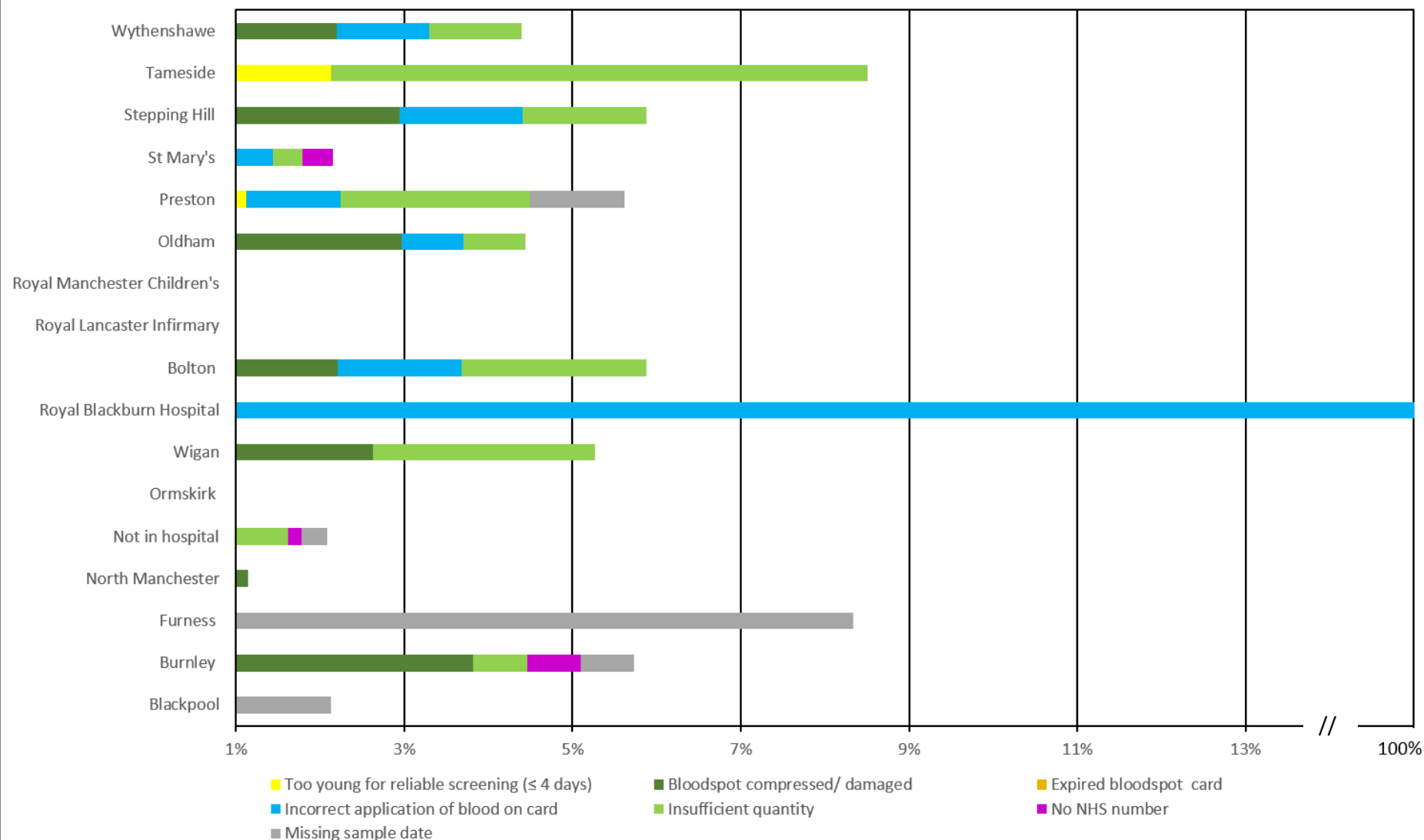


Figure 6: Standard 6 - Avoidable repeats for in-patients vs community



Q1 26-27 Table 1 - Summary of Performance				
Trust	Standard 3	Standard 4	Standard 5	Standard 6
Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS FT	99.1%	95.9%	99.4%	0.8%
Bolton NHS FT	93.4%	91.1%	98.2%	4.6%
East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust	89.1%	88.1%	99.1%	2.6%
Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS FT	90.0%	96.0%	99.9%	1.9%
Manchester University NHS FT (SMH, RMCH, WH & NMGH)	97.4%	96.3%	99.6%	1.7%
Oldham (NCA)	84.3%	91.8%	98.3%	2.0%
Southport & Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust	84.5%	92.1%	89.7%	0.9%
Stockport NHS FT	92.8%	98.3%	99.3%	2.7%
Tameside And Glossop Integrated Care NHS FT	92.4%	93.1%	96.8%	2.2%
University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS FT	86.2%	96.6%	99.2%	2.1%
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS FT	61.6%	95.1%	93.0%	2.4%

Standard 7a - The proportion of second blood spots for raised IRT taken on day 21 to day 24

Acceptable: ≥ 80% of second blood spot samples taken on day 21 to day 24

Achievable: ≥ 90% of second blood spot samples taken on day 21 to day 24

During quarter 1 there were 4 repeats for raised IRT (CF inconclusive). 75% of samples were collected on day 21-24. CF inconclusive repeats are performed by Screening Link Health Visitors. The data is presented by Maternity Unit in table 2.

Table 2

Quarter 1 2026-27 - Standard 7a				
Maternity Unit	Age at collection of CF repeat		Total	% collected day 21-24
	15 d	21 d		
Bolton NHS FT	1	0	1	0%
Manchester University NHS FT - SMH & RMCH	0	1	1	100%
Stockport NHS FT	0	1	1	100%
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS FT	0	1	1	100%
Total	1	3	4	75%

Standard 7b - The proportion of second blood spot samples for borderline TSH taken between 7 and 10 calendar days after the initial borderline sample

Acceptable: ≥ 80.0% of repeat blood spot samples taken as defined

Achievable: ≥ 90.0% of repeat blood spot samples taken as defined

During quarter 1 there were 28 repeats for borderline TSH (CHT). Of these, 100% were collected 7-10 days after the original sample. Table 3 displays the information by Trust.

Table 3

Quarter 1 2026-27 - Standard 7b						
Trust	Number of days between original sample				Total	% collected 7-10 days after original sample
	7	8	9	10		
Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS FT	0	1	0	0	1	100%
Bolton NHS FT	0	0	1	1	2	100%
East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust	1	1	0	0	2	100%
MFT combined	2	1	3	0	6	100%
Oldham (NCA)	1	3	2	1	7	100%
Stockport NHS FT	0	2	2	1	5	100%
Tameside And Glossop Integrated Care NHS FT	0	0	1	0	1	100%
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS FT	1	1	1	1	4	100%
Grand Total	5	9	10	4	28	100%

Standard 7c - The proportion of CHT pre-term repeats collected on day 28 or at discharge

Acceptable: ≥ 75.0% of repeat blood spot samples taken as defined

Achievable: ≥ 85.0% of repeat blood spot samples taken as defined

During quarter 1, 126 CHT pre-term repeats were received. Performance by trust is displayed in table 4. 85% were collected on day 28 or at discharge, 14% were collected after day 28 and 2% were collected before day 28.

Table 4

Quarter 1 26-27 - Standard 7c					
Trust	Number of Pre-term CHT second samples			Total	% Prem repeats collected on day 28 or at discharge
	EARLY	ON-TIME	LATE		
Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS FT	1	3	1	5	60%
Bolton NHS FT		15	5	20	75%
East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust		16	3	19	84%
Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS FT		10	1	11	91%
Manchester University NHS FT - SMH, RMCH, WH & NMGH		36	1	37	97%
Oldham (NCA)	1	18	5	24	75%
Tameside And Glossop Integrated Care NHS FT		1		1	100%
University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS FT		3		3	100%
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS FT		5	1	6	83%
Grand Total	2	107	17	126	85%

Standard 9 - Timely processing of CHT and IMD (excluding HCU) screen positive samples

Acceptable: 100% of babies with a positive screening result (excluding HCU) have a clinical referral initiated within 3 working days of sample receipt

There were 11 screen positive samples for CHT and 6 for IMD in quarter 4. All were referred within 3 working days of sample receipt.

Standard 11 - Timely entry into clinical care

Data for standard 11 is displayed in table 5.

Condition	Criteria	Thresholds	Number of babies seen by specialist services by condition specific standard	Number of babies referred	Percentage seen by specialist services by condition specific standard	Comments
IMDs (excluding HCU)	Attend first clinical appointment by 14 days of age	Acceptable: 100%	6	6	100%	3 PKU, 1 MCADD, 1 GA1, 1 HT1. One baby had an early screen for PKU due to family history - not included in these figures
CHT (suspected on first sample)	Attend first clinical appointment by 14 days of age	Acceptable: 100%	3	4	75%	One baby was seen in clinic on day 17. This sample took 6 calendar days/4 working days to reach the lab. In addition, one baby had a d5 sample which was transfused and required a repeat. The repeat TSH was borderline which resulted in a referral as baby was 12 days old. Not included in figures.
CHT (suspected on repeat following borderline TSH)	Attend first clinical appointment by 21 days of age	Acceptable: 100%	6	6	100%	
CF (2 CFTR mutations detected)	Attend first clinical appointment by 28 days of age	Acceptable: $\geq 95.0\%$ Achievable: 100%	1	1	100%	Baby seen on neonatal unit
HCU	Attend first clinical appointment by 28 days of age	Acceptable: $\geq 95.0\%$ Achievable: 100%	0	0	N/A	
CF (1 or no CFTR mutation detected)	Attend first clinical appointment by 35 days of age	Attend first clinical appointment by 35 days of age	0	0	N/A	1 baby died prior to a sweat test being performed (not included in figures)
SCD	Attend first clinical appointment by 90 days of age	Attend first clinical appointment by 90 days of age	4	4	100%	3 babies excluded as not yet 90 days of age

Incidents

Details of incidents which have been referred to QA, either detected by the laboratory or occurred at MFT.

Incident Number	Incident Date	Incident Harm	Summary of incident	Further details	MFT or external	Lab/ Ward/ Maternity Unit	Local Area Team	QA informed
2734245	30/04/26	1 - no harm	Blood spot labelling error: wrong DOB on sample.	A movement in baby had incorrect DOB on NBBS card. The date on the card meant that the baby was eligible for screening. However, CHIS later informed us that the DOB was incorrect and the baby was >54 weeks old and not eligible for screening. As testing had started, the decision was made to complete the screening pathway by reporting the results to CHIS. The results were not suspected for 10 conditions (& CF not eligible as >8 weeks old).	External	Stockport Health Visitors	Greater Manchester	Yes
2751468	22/06/26	1 - no harm	Lab reporting error: result incorrectly reported by laboratory	Newborn Blood Spot Screening Results for 48 samples were inadvertently re-reported from MFT to the CarePlus Child Health System (SystemC) via the Trust Integration Engine. This was due to a miscommunication with the software engineer in Finland during upgrade of the server and Newborn Screening Software. The re-reported information was the same except for an incorrect date of sample receipt in 6 cases. All data checked against original data - no difference in results. Communicated with Child Health and SystemC to get the incorrect records updated.	MFT	NBS Lab	Greater Manchester	Yes

Appendix

Quarter 1 2026-27: Standard 3							
Trust	Number of all samples (including repeats)	Number of blood spot cards including baby's NHS number	Number of blood spot cards including ISB label barcoded baby's NHS number	Unreadable Barcodes	Percentage of all blood spot cards including babies' NHS number	Percentage of all blood spot cards including ISB bar-coded babies' NHS number	Percentage of all Unreadable Barcodes
Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS FT	647	647	641	2	100%	99.1%	0.3%
Bolton NHS FT	1552	1549	1450	13	99.8%	93.4%	0.8%
East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust	1682	1679	1499	5	99.8%	89.1%	0.3%
Health Visitor	182	182	3	0	100%	1.6%	0.0%
Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS FT	1022	1022	920	32	100%	90.0%	3.1%
Manchester University NHS FT - SMH & RMCH & WH & NMGH	3190	3186	3108	14	100%	97.4%	0.4%
Not Stated	7	6	5	0	86%	71.4%	0.0%
Oldham (NCA)	1469	1467	1239	15	99.9%	84.3%	1.0%
Southport & Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust	116	116	98	3	100%	84.5%	2.6%
Stockport NHS FT	724	724	672	13	100%	92.8%	1.8%
Tameside And Glossop Integrated Care NHS FT	616	616	569	8	100%	92.4%	1.3%
University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS FT	601	600	518	1	99.8%	86.2%	0.2%
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS FT	786	780	484	164	99.2%	61.6%	20.9%
Grand Total	12594	12574	11206	270	99.8%	89.0%	2.1%

Quarter 1 2026-27: Standard 4

Trust	First blood spot samples where date of sample was not known	Number of first samples taken on or before day 4	5	6	7	8	9+	4 or earlier	5	6	7	8	9 or later
Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS FT	3	1	608	15	5	1	4	0.2%	95.9%	2.4%	0.8%	0.2%	0.6%
Bolton NHS FT	5	4	1235	90	8	7	12	0.3%	91.1%	6.6%	0.6%	0.5%	0.9%
East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust	10	3	1293	133	14	8	17	0.2%	88.1%	9.1%	1.0%	0.5%	1.2%
Health Visitor	0	0	3	0	0	0	130	0.0%	2.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	97.7%
Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS FT	4	1	948	29	6	0	3	0.1%	96.0%	2.9%	0.6%	0.0%	0.3%
Manchester University NHS FT - SMH, RMCH, WH & NMGH	10	2	2931	69	10	8	25	0.1%	96.3%	2.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.8%
Not Stated	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	0.0%	75.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%
Oldham (NCA)	2	1	1270	78	10	8	16	0.1%	91.8%	5.6%	0.7%	0.6%	1.2%
Southport & Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust	0	0	105	8	1	0	0	0.0%	92.1%	7.0%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Stockport NHS FT	0	0	681	10	2	0	0	0.0%	98.3%	1.4%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Tameside And Glossop Integrated Care NHS FT	0	2	556	31	6	0	2	0.3%	93.1%	5.2%	1.0%	0.0%	0.3%
University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS FT	2	0	562	14	2	1	3	0.0%	96.6%	2.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.5%
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS FT	0	1	721	31	1	0	4	0.1%	95.1%	4.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.5%
Grand Total	36	15	10916	508	65	33	217	0.1%	92.9%	4.3%	0.6%	0.3%	1.8%

Quarter 1 2026-27: Standard 5

Trust	Number of samples received in 3 or fewer working days of sample being taken	Number of samples received in 4 or fewer working days of sample being taken	Number of samples received in 5 or more working days of sample being taken	Total number of samples received	Percentage of samples received by laboratories in 3 or fewer working days of sample being taken	Percentage of samples received by laboratories in 4 or fewer working days of sample being taken	Percentage of samples received by laboratories on or after 5 working days of sample being taken
Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS FT	640	644	0	644	99.4%	100%	0.0%
Bolton NHS FT	1422	1445	3	1448	98.2%	99.8%	0.2%
East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust	1516	1524	5	1529	99.1%	99.7%	0.3%
Health Visitor	133	135	4	139	95.7%	97.1%	2.9%
Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS FT	1011	1012	0	1012	100%	100%	0.0%
Manchester University NHS FT - SMH, RMCH, WH & NMGH	3130	3139	5	3144	99.6%	100%	0.2%
Not Stated	4	4	0	4	100%	100%	0.0%
Oldham (NCA)	1429	1454	0	1454	98.3%	100%	0.0%
Southport & Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust	104	112	4	116	89.7%	96.6%	3.4%
Stockport NHS FT	717	721	1	722	99.3%	99.9%	0.1%
Tameside And Glossop Integrated Care NHS FT	596	608	8	616	96.8%	98.7%	1.3%
University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS FT	592	596	1	597	99.2%	99.8%	0.2%
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS FT	729	764	20	784	93.0%	97.4%	2.6%
Grand Total	12023	12158	51	12209	98.5%	99.6%	0.4%

Quarter 1 2026-27: Standard 6 by Trust														
Status code and description of avoidable repeat	Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS FT	Bolton NHS FT	East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust	Health Visitor	Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS FT	Manchester University NHS FT - SMH & RMCH & WH & NMGH	Not Stated	Oldham (NCA)	Southport & Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust	Stockport NHS FT	Tameside And Glossop Integrated Care NHS FT	University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS FT	Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS FT	Grand Total
0301: too young for reliable screening (≤ 4 days)	1	3	3	0	1	4	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	15
0302: too soon after transfusion (<72 hours)	0	6	5	0	0	2	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	18
0303: insufficient sample	1	6	6	2	10	17	0	11	0	13	7	7	11	91
0304: unsuitable sample (blood quality): incorrect blood application	0	3	1	0	1	3	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	11
0305: unsuitable sample (blood quality): compressed/damaged	0	43	15	2	3	13	0	11	1	4	4	0	1	97
0306: Unsuitable sample: day 0 and day 5 on same card	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0307: unsuitable sample for CF: possible faecal contamination	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0308: unsuitable sample: NHS number missing/not accurately recorded	0	3	3	0	0	4	0	2	0	0	0	1	6	19
0309: unsuitable sample: date of sample missing/not accurately recorded	3	5	10	0	4	10	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	36
0310: unsuitable sample: date of birth not accurately matched	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0311: unsuitable sample: expired card used	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
0312: unsuitable sample: >14 days in transit, too old for analysis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0313: unsuitable sample: damaged in transit	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Avoidable Repeat Requests	5	63	38	4	19	51	0	28	1	19	13	12	18	271
Number of first samples received/ babies tested	637	1355	1468	93	989	3049	4	1382	114	693	597	583	758	11722
Avoidable Repeat Requests Rate	0.8%	4.6%	2.6%	4.3%	1.9%	1.7%	0.0%	2.0%	0.9%	2.7%	2.2%	2.1%	2.4%	2.3%

Transfusion Repeats are not included in the Avoidable Repeat calculation

Quarter 1 2026-27: Standard 6 by Current Hospital																		
Status code and description of avoidable repeat	Blackpool Victoria Hospital	Burnley General Hospital	Furness General Hospital	North Manchester General Hospital	Not in hospital	Ormskirk & District General	Royal Albert Edward Infirmary	Royal Blackburn Hospital	Royal Bolton Hospital	Royal Lancaster Infirmary	Royal Manchester Childrens Hospital	Royal Oldham Hospital	Royal Preston Hospital	St Mary's Hospital	Stepping Hill Hospital	Tameside General Hospital	Wythenshawe Hospital	Grand Total
0301: too young for reliable screening (≤ 4 days)	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	15
0302: too soon after transfusion (<72 hours)	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	5	0	2	0	0	0	18
0303: insufficient sample	0	1	0	0	77	0	1	0	3	0	0	1	2	1	1	3	1	91
0304: unsuitable sample (blood quality): incorrect blood application	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	1	11
0305: unsuitable sample (blood quality): compressed/damaged	0	6	0	1	77	0	1	0	2	0	0	4	0	2	2	0	2	97
0306: Unsuitable sample: day 0 and day 5 on same card	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0307: unsuitable sample for CF: possible faecal contamination	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0308: unsuitable sample: NHS number missing/not accurately recorded	0	1	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	19
0309: unsuitable sample: date of sample missing/not accurately recorded	1	1	1	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	36
0310: unsuitable sample: date of birth not accurately matched	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0311: unsuitable sample: expired card used	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
0312: unsuitable sample: >14 days in transit, too old for analysis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0313: unsuitable sample: damaged in transit	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Avoidable Repeat Requests	1	9	1	1	219	0	2	1	8	0	0	6	5	6	4	4	4	271
Number of first samples received/ babies tested	47	157	12	87	10490	5	38	1	136	36	4	135	89	279	68	47	91	11722
Avoidable Repeat Requests Rate	2.1%	5.7%	8.3%	1.1%	2.1%	0.0%	5.3%	100%	5.9%	0.0%	0.0%	4.4%	5.6%	2.2%	5.9%	8.5%	4.4%	2.3%

Transfusion Repeats are not included in the Avoidable Repeat calculation