

Background

COVID-19 is a rapidly spreading virus. At first, the world did not know how to respond. Guidelines, policy and system changes were done to slow the spread of the virus. Similarly, in higher education, many colleges set guidelines to keep the students safe. At USCB there are approximately 2,000 students where contact tracing was a University Policy from Fall 2020 to Spring 2022 among residential and commuter students.

Objective

To assess student COVID-19 contact tracing data at USCB. Positivity rates are examined across semesters by student status among commuter and residential USCB students from 2020-2022.

Methods

Collected data showed the date, the title of the individual (Residential or Commuter), and if the individual tested positive or negative, among other variables. Close contacts were also traced and reviewed. This study examined positive/ negative testing for COVID-19 among residential and commuter students.

WHAT TO DO ABOUT COVID

PREVENTION

- Good hand hygiene
- Mask recommended when Community Levels are High
- Distance when possible
- Get vaccinated and boosted

RECENT COVID EXPOSURE	I HAVE SYMPTOMS	MY TEST IS POSITIVE
<p>Wear a mask for 10 days</p> <p>Test at day 5, sooner if symptoms develop</p> <p>NEGATIVE – wear a mask for 5 more days</p> <p>POSITIVE – begin 5 days of isolation</p>	<p>Quarantine yourself</p> <p>Get tested</p> <p>NEGATIVE – stay in quarantine and re-test in 48h If re-test is NEGATIVE, end Quarantine</p> <p>POSITIVE – begin 5 days of isolation followed by 5 days of masking in public</p>	<p>Self-isolate for 5 days</p> <p>On Day 6, you can leave isolation if: You have no symptoms – or – You had mild symptoms, feel better, and don't need medicine to reduce fever</p> <p>&</p> <p>Wear a mask Days 6 – 10</p> <p>If you experienced significant illness that required medical treatment or hospitalization, stay in isolation through Day 10 and consult with your provider about how long</p>

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HOW TO WEAR A NON-MEDICAL FABRIC MASK SAFELY

Do's →

- Adjust the mask to your face without leaving gaps on the sides
- Cover your mouth, nose, and chin
- Avoid touching the mask
- Clean your hands before removing the mask
- Remove the mask by the straps behind the ears or head
- Pull the mask away from your face
- Store the mask in a clean plastic, resealable bag if it is not dirty or wet and you plan to re-use it
- Remove the mask when taking it out of the bag
- Wash the mask in soap or detergent, preferably with hot water, at least once a day
- Clean your hands after removing the mask

A fabric mask can protect others around you. To protect yourself and prevent the spread of COVID-19, remember to keep at least 1 metre distance from others, clean your hands frequently and thoroughly, and avoid touching your face and mask.

who.int/api/who World Health Organization

TABLE 1. ASYMPTOMATIC VS. NEGATIVE TESTING (+/-)

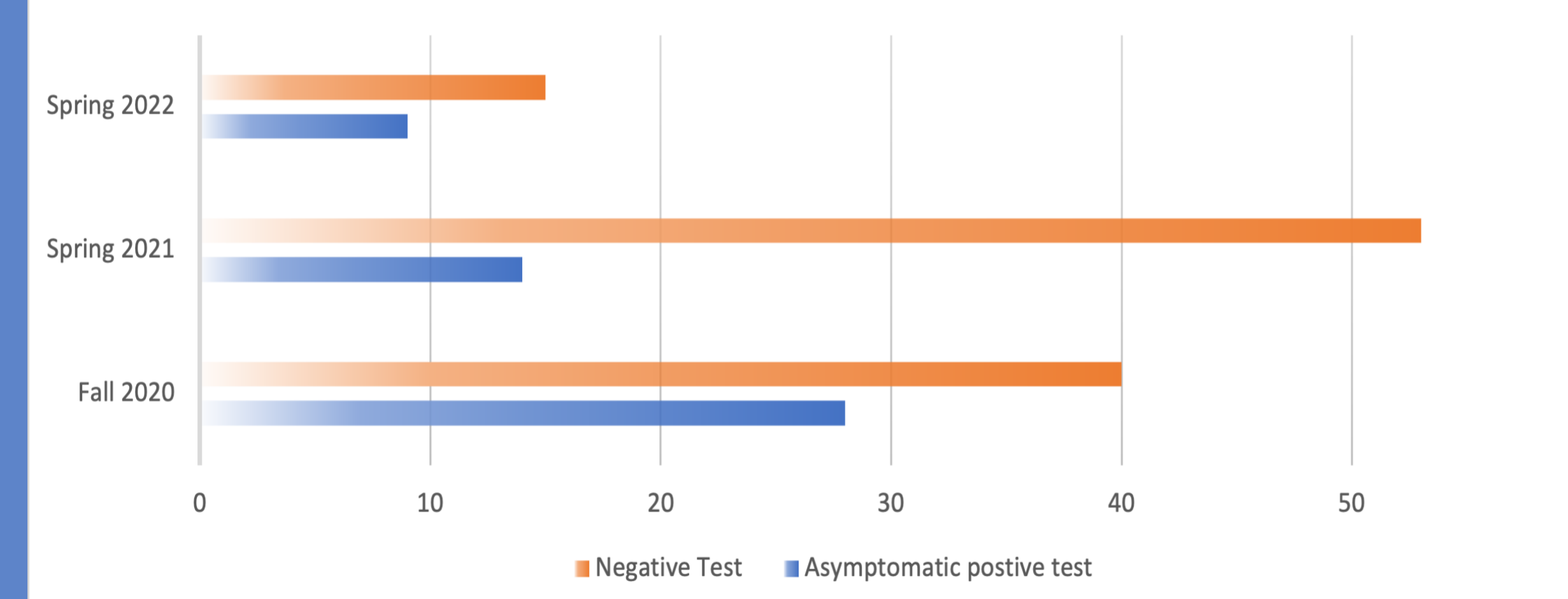


TABLE 2. COVID Cases by Resident vs Commuter Students

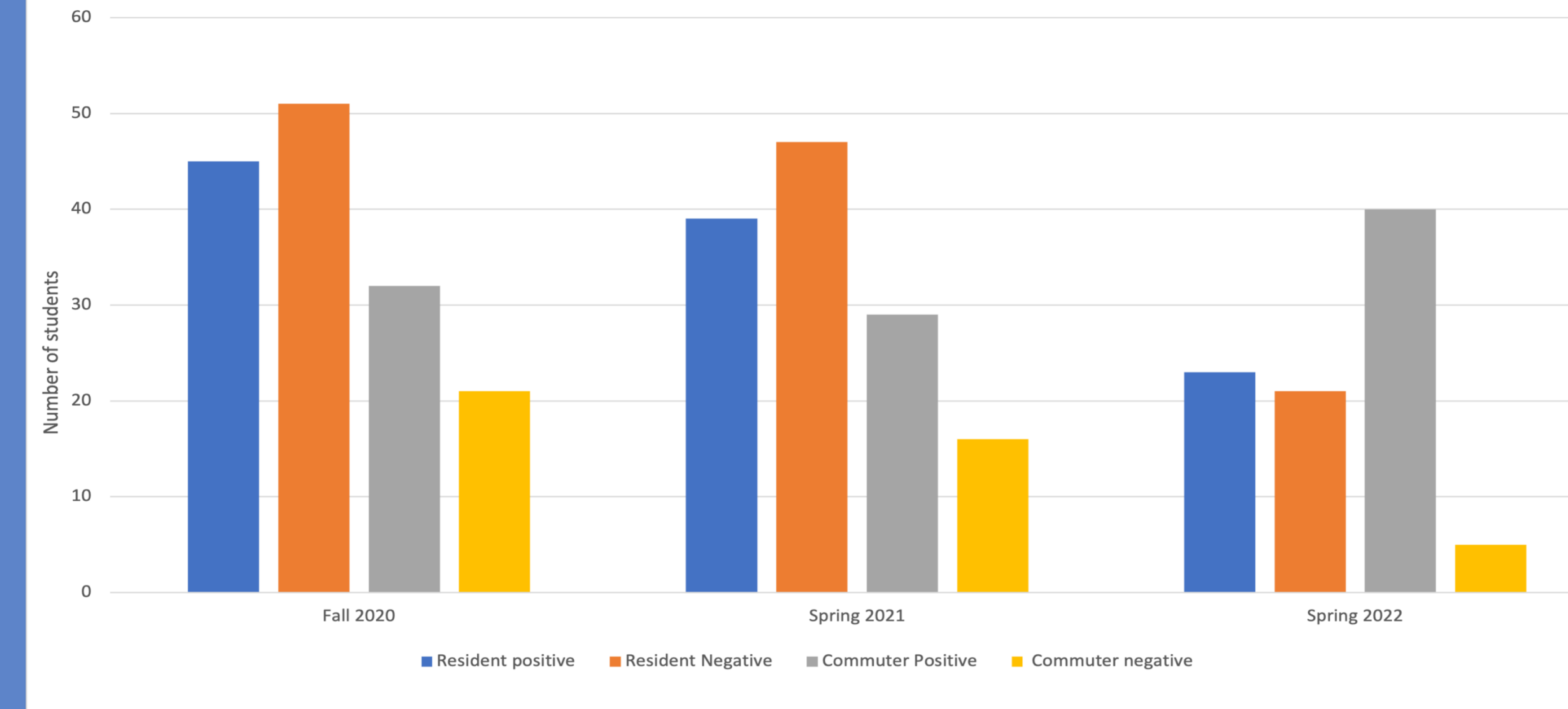
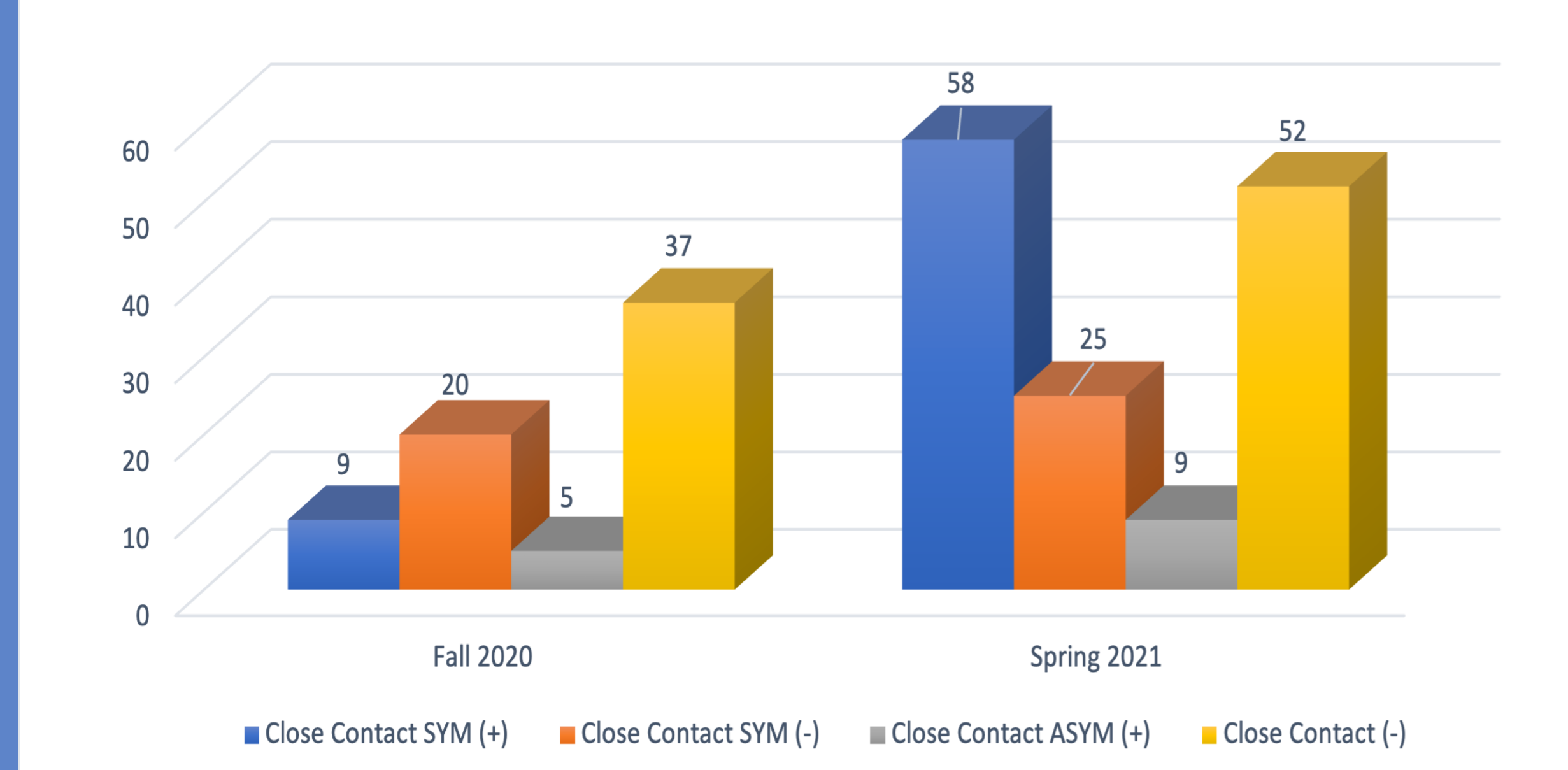


Table 3. Close Contact Symptomatic vs Asymptomatic Among Students



Limitations

Several limitations exist including the self-report nature of the data. Further data analysis is needed to more fully understand the data. Results can be used for consideration of future pandemic preparedness for USCB.

Results

There were 368 cases collected over the course of three different semesters. (Fall 2021; 149 cases, Spring 2021; 131 cases, Spring 2022; 88 cases) The case amount decreased in numbers over these three semesters. In the beginning of the pandemic, residential students tested negative more than positive until spring 2022. In fall 2021, among residential students there were 51 negative cases, spring 2021, compared to 47 negative cases spring 2022 with total of 21 negative cases. Commuter case trends were steady with higher rates of positive cases than negative. Overall, the positive cases within residential outweighs the number of positive cases within commuters.

Conclusion

Results help demonstrate the difference between staying on campus or off campus. Students on-campus tested positive at a higher rate than commuter students.