



Weekly report on COVID-19 deaths reported in Ireland

Report produced by Health Protection Surveillance Centre on 24/11/2021

This report includes data for COVID-19 cases notified on CIDR up to and including midnight on 23/11/2021 who have been notified as COVID-19 deaths

Note: Data were extracted from Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system on 24/11/2021 and are provisional and subject to ongoing review, validation and update. As a result, figures in this report may differ from previously reported figures.

Table 1: Summary characteristics of COVID-19 deaths notified in Ireland with date of death from 17/11/2021 to 23/11/2021

Characteristics	Number of deaths	
Total number of deaths	18	
Age	Mean age (Years)	63
	Median age (Years)	66

The number of deaths described in the above table relate only to COVID-19 cases who died within this time period and whose death has been reported to CIDR up to 24/11/2021. It does not include deaths of COVID-19 cases reported to CIDR in the last week but with an earlier date of death. It also does not reflect the final number of deaths occurring for this period as the outcome may not yet have occurred, or is yet to be reported to CIDR.

Table 2: Summary characteristics of COVID-19 deaths in Ireland, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 23/11/2021

Characteristics		Number of Deaths	Percentage
Total number of deaths		5,652	
Sex	Female	2,635	46.6
	Male	3,017	53.4
	Unknown	0	0.0
	M:F ratio	1.14	
Case classification*	Possible	175	3.1
	Probable	97	1.7
	Confirmed	5,380	95.2
Healthcare Worker	Yes	19	0.3
	No	4,794	84.8
	Unknown	839	14.8
Underlying Conditions	Yes	4,826	85.4
	No	457	8.1
	Unknown	369	6.5
ICU Admission	Yes	656	11.6
	No	4,996	88.4

* [Case definition](#)

Table 3: Number and percentage of COVID-19 deaths and mortality rate per 100,000 in Ireland by age group, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 23/11/2021

Characteristics		Number of Deaths	Percentage	Mortality rate per 100,000
Age	Median Age (Years)	82		
	Mean Age (Years)	80		
	Age range (Years)	14-105		
Age group	<25 yrs	7	0.1	0.4
	25-34 yrs	16	0.3	2.4
	35-44 yrs	43	0.8	5.8
	45-54 yrs	124	2.2	19.8
	55-64 yrs	331	5.9	65.0
	65-74 yrs	919	16.3	246.0
	75-84 yrs	1,893	33.5	963.3
	85+ yrs	2,316	41.0	3428.3
	Unknown	3	0.1	
	Total	5,652	100	118.7

Please note that due to the small number of persons who died due to COVID-19 in the age groups 0-25 years this information has been aggregated in order to protect patient confidentiality

Table 4: Number and percentage of COVID-19 deaths and mortality rate per 100,000 in Ireland by county of notification, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 23/11/2021

County	Number of deaths	Percentage	Mortality rate per 100,000
Carlow	77	1.4	135.2
Cavan	120	2.1	157.5
Clare	138	2.4	116.1
Cork	490	8.7	90.3
Donegal	215	3.8	135.1
Dublin	1,959	34.7	145.4
Galway	159	2.8	61.6
Kerry	88	1.6	59.6
Kildare	345	6.1	155.1
Kilkenny	88	1.6	88.7
Laois	95	1.7	112.2
Leitrim	29	0.5	90.5
Limerick	268	4.7	137.5
Longford	35	0.6	85.6
Louth	218	3.9	169.1
Mayo	221	3.9	169.3
Meath	174	3.1	89.2
Monaghan	104	1.8	169.4
Offaly	80	1.4	102.6
Roscommon	70	1.2	108.5
Sligo	40	0.7	61.0
Tipperary	116	2.1	72.7
Waterford	121	2.1	104.2
Westmeath	87	1.5	98.0
Wexford	159	2.8	106.2
Wicklow	156	2.8	109.5

Table 5: Place of death for COVID-19 deaths in Ireland, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 23/11/2021

Place of death	Number of deaths	Percentage
Hospital	2,884	51.0
Residential Institution*	2,012	35.6
Hospice	59	1.0
Home	232	4.1
Other	88	1.6
Unknown	377	6.7

*Residential institution includes: community hospital/long stay unit, homeless facility, mental health facility and nursing homes.

Table 6: Summary of COVID-19 deaths linked to outbreaks in Ireland, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 23/11/2021

		Number of Deaths	Percentage
Deaths linked to outbreaks		3,578	63.3
Outbreaks by location	Nursing homes	2,218	62.0
	Hospital	843	23.6
	Community Hospitals/Long-stay units	145	4.1
	Residential institutions	108	3.0
	Other locations*	264	7.4

* Other locations include community outbreak, extended family, hotel, other, other healthcare service, private house, public house, religious/other ceremony, workplace

A death linked to an outbreak in a particular setting does not of itself indicate that transmission occurred within that setting. A case may be detected as part of an outbreak investigation, and associated with an outbreak, despite exposure and transmission having occurred elsewhere.

Table 7: Number of COVID-19 deaths in Ireland by month of death, cases with a date of notification from March 2020 to November 2021

Year	Month	Number of deaths *
2020	March	129
2020	April	1,161
2020	May	363
2020	June	67
2020	July	17
2020	August	7
2020	September	39
2020	October	132
2020	November	190
2020	December	196
2021	January	1,420
2021	February	892
2021	March	258
2021	April	101
2021	May	42
2021	June	19
2021	July	20
2021	August	84
2021	September	175
2021	October	198
2021	November	112

* Date of death reported for 5,622 of the deaths.
 Number of deaths for November 2021 is incomplete.

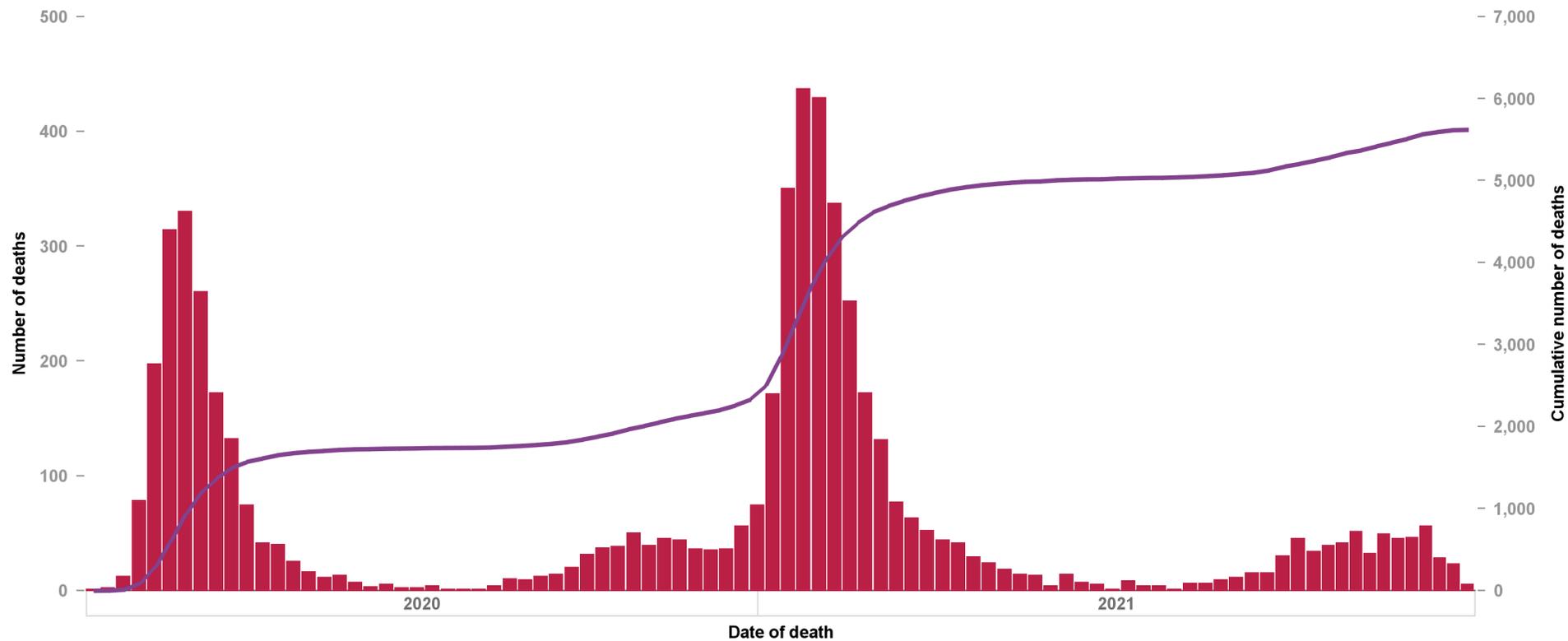


Figure 1: Total number of COVID-19 deaths in Ireland and cumulative number by week of death, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 23/11/2021. Date of death reported for 5,622 of deaths.

Acknowledgments

Sincere thanks are extended to all those who are participating in the collection of data and reporting of data used in these reports. This includes the HSE COVID-19 Contact Management Programme (CMP), staff in ICU units, notifying clinicians, laboratory staff, public health doctors, nurses, surveillance scientists, microbiologists and administrative staff.

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Technical Notes

1. Data Source

Data are based on statutory notifications and were extracted from Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system at 08:34 on 24/11/2021. Data are provisional and subject to ongoing review, validation and update. As a result, figures in this report may differ from previously published figures.

2. Population Data

Population data were taken from Census 2016. Data were aggregated into the following age groups for the analysis of deaths for the entire pandemic: 0-24 years, 25-34 years, 35-44 years, 45-54 years, 55-64 years, 65-74 years, 75-84 years and ≥ 85 years. Data were aggregated into the following age groups for the analysis of deaths with date of death in the past 7 days: 0-64 years, 65-74 years, 75-84 years and ≥ 85 years.

3. Definition of a COVID-19 death used by HPSC

For surveillance purposes, COVID-19 deaths include deaths in all possible, probable and confirmed COVID-19 cases (as per the COVID-19 case definition) and all should be notified, unless there is a clear alternative cause of death that cannot be related to COVID-19 infection (e.g. trauma). There should be no period of complete recovery* from COVID-19 between the illness and death. All COVID-19 deaths are notified regardless of the setting, including home, community and hospital settings. HPSC reports all deaths among these COVID-19 cases as outlined above and does not just confine the death reporting to those who die within 28 days of a positive test. This is in line with how COVID-19 cases are reported by the majority of European countries and follows WHO guidance for COVID-19 death surveillance.

*Please note that discharge from ICU or hospital is not in itself evidence of recovery. To determine if the case had recovered, it should be based on clinical assessment or alternatively a period of ≥ 3 months must have elapsed since the case was initially diagnosed with COVID-19 and the case must have no evidence of COVID-19 infection prior to death as assessed by a clinician.

Deaths not reported as COVID-19 deaths:

1. Persons with COVID-19 may die directly due to accidents. Such deaths are not due to COVID-19 and should not be certified as such. This decision not to certify as COVID-19 death will be based on clinical judgement.
2. In some instances, a death due to COVID-19 may not be attributed to another disease (e.g. cancer) and would be counted as a COVID-19 death independently of pre-existing conditions that are suspected of triggering a severe course of COVID-19.

More resources:

[COVID-19 interim case definition](#)

[Epidemiology of COVID-19 in Ireland Frequently Asked Questions](#)