



# Weekly report on COVID-19 deaths reported in Ireland

Report produced by Health Protection Surveillance Centre on 01/09/2021

This report includes data for COVID-19 cases notified on CIDR up to and including midnight on 31/08/2021 who have been notified as COVID-19 deaths

Note: Data were extracted from Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system on 01/09/2021 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 during the previous week, 25/08/2021 to 31/08/2021

Characteristics	Number of deaths	Percentage
Total number of deaths	10	
Age	Mean age (Years)	77
	Median age (Years)	82

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 01/09/2021. 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 31/08/2021**

Characteristics		Number of Deaths	Percentage
<b>Total number of deaths</b>		5,112	
<b>Sex</b>	Female	2,428	47.5
	Male	2,684	52.5
	Unknown	0	0
	M:F ratio	1.11	
<b>Case classification*</b>	Possible	178	3.48
	Probable	96	1.88
	Confirmed	4,838	94.64
<b>Healthcare Worker</b>	Yes	18	0.35
	No	4,448	87.01
	Unknown	646	12.64
<b>Underlying Conditions</b>	Yes	4,464	87.32
	No	379	7.41
	Unknown	269	5.26
<b>ICU Admission</b>	Yes	529	10.35
	No	4,583	89.65

\* [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 31/08/2021**

Characteristics		Number of Deaths	Percentage	Mortality rate per 100,000
<b>Age</b>	Median Age (Years)	83		
	Mean Age (Years)	81		
	Age range (Years)	0-105		
<b>Age group</b>	<25 yrs	7	0.14	0.44
	25-34 yrs	13	0.25	1.97
	35-44 yrs	35	0.68	4.69
	45-54 yrs	96	1.88	15.33
	55-64 yrs	281	5.5	55.21
	65-74 yrs	811	15.86	217.13
	75-84 yrs	1,730	33.84	880.39
	85+ yrs	2,136	41.78	3,161.87
	Unknown	3	0.06	
	Total	5,112	100	107.35

**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 31/08/2021**

County	Number of deaths	Percentage	Mortality rate per 100,000
Carlow	71	1.39	124.71
Cavan	111	2.17	145.72
Clare	122	2.39	102.68
Cork	427	8.35	78.66
Donegal	183	3.58	114.96
Dublin	1,838	35.95	136.42
Galway	135	2.64	52.31
Kerry	59	1.15	39.94
Kildare	324	6.34	145.62
Kilkenny	78	1.53	78.6
Laois	86	1.68	101.54
Leitrim	15	0.29	46.81
Limerick	232	4.54	119.04
Longford	24	0.47	58.72
Louth	202	3.95	156.73
Mayo	207	4.05	158.61
Meath	158	3.09	81.01
Monaghan	98	1.92	159.65
Offaly	76	1.49	97.48
Roscommon	52	1.02	80.57
Sligo	27	0.53	41.2
Tipperary	101	1.98	63.3
Waterford	111	2.17	95.54
Westmeath	74	1.45	83.36
Wexford	151	2.95	100.85
Wicklow	150	2.93	105.32

**Table 5: Place of death for COVID-19 deaths in Ireland, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 31/08/2021**

Place of death	Number of deaths	Percentage
Hospital	2,548	49.84
Residential Institution*	1,901	37.19
Hospice	52	1.02
Home	196	3.83
Other	74	1.45
Unknown	341	6.67

\*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 31/08/2021**

		Number of Deaths	Percentage
<b>Deaths linked to outbreaks</b>		3,345	65.43
<b>Outbreaks by location</b>	Nursing homes	2,083	62.27
	Hospital	783	23.41
	Community Hospitals/Long-stay units	130	3.89
	Residential institutions	102	3.05
	Other locations*	247	7.38

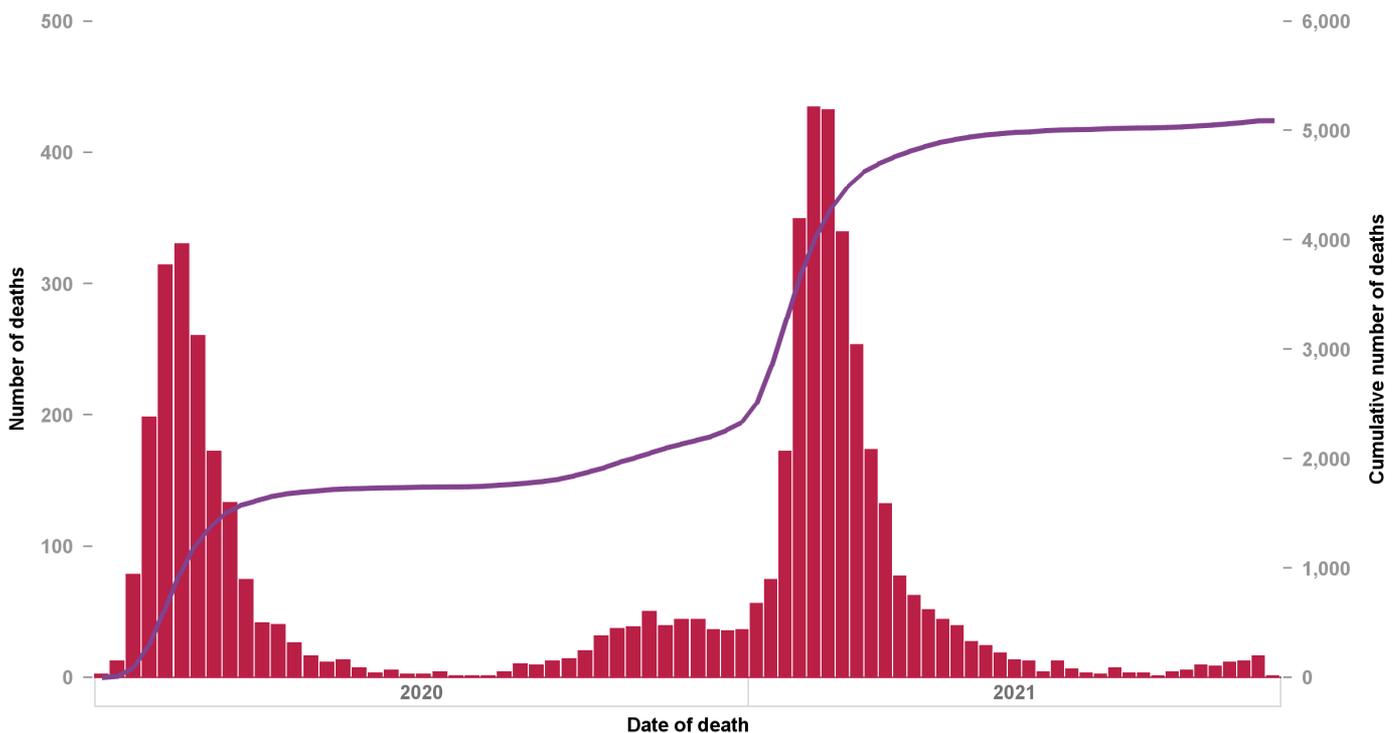
\* Other locations include community outbreak, extended family, hotel, other, other healthcare service, private house, public house, religious/other ceremony, workplace

Regarding deaths associated with COVID-19 hospital outbreaks notified to the HPSC, it cannot be automatically assumed that all of these cases acquired their infection in hospital as this information is not always reported to the surveillance system.

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

Year	Month	Number of deaths *
2020	March	128
2020	April	1,162
2020	May	364
2020	June	68
2020	July	17
2020	August	7
2020	September	39
2020	October	132
2020	November	189
2020	December	195
2021	January	1,421
2021	February	897
2021	March	256
2021	April	96
2021	May	38
2021	June	16
2021	July	16
2021	August	52

\* Date of death reported for 5,093 of the deaths.  
 Number of deaths for September 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 31/08/2021. Date of death reported for 5,093 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.

**Report prepared by COVID-19 Epidemiology Team, HPSC**

## Technical Notes

### 1. Data Source

Data are based on statutory notifications and were extracted from Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system at 12:38 on 01/09/2021. 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  $\geq 85$  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  $\geq 85$  years.

### 3. CHO Areas

The counties covered by each CHO area are as follows:

CHO 1: Donegal, Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan, and Cavan/Monaghan;

CHO 2: Galway, Roscommon, and Mayo;

CHO 3: Clare, Limerick, and North Tipperary/East Limerick;

CHO 4: Kerry, North Cork, North Lee, South Lee, and West Cork;

CHO 5: South Tipperary, Carlow/Kilkenny, Waterford, and Wexford;

CHO 6: Wicklow, Dun Laoghaire, and Dublin South East;

CHO 7: Kildare/West Wicklow, Dublin West, Dublin South City, and Dublin South West;

CHO 8: Laois/Offaly, Longford/Westmeath, Louth, and Meath;

CHO 9: Dublin North, Dublin North Central, and Dublin North West

### 5. 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  $\geq 3$  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](#)