



Report on COVID-19 deaths reported in Ireland

Report produced by Health Protection Surveillance Centre on 03/04/2023

This report includes data for COVID-19 cases notified on CIDR up to and including midnight on 01/04/2023 00:00:00 who have been notified as COVID-19 deaths

The [HPSC Epidemiology of COVID-19 Data Hub](#) provides a breakdown of notified deaths by county, age group and place of death. The Data Hub is updated each Wednesday.

Note: Data were extracted from Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system on 03/04/2023 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 05/03/2023 00:00:00 to 01/04/2023 00:00:00

Characteristics	Number of deaths	
Total number of deaths	16	
Age	Mean age (Years)	83
	Median age (Years)	84

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 03/04/2023. It does not include deaths of COVID-19 cases reported to CIDR in the last four weeks 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 01/04/2023 00:00:00

Characteristics		Number of Deaths	Percentage
Total number of deaths		8,746	
Sex	Female	4,053	46.3
	Male	4,693	53.7
	Unknown	0	0.0
	M:F ratio	1.16	
Case classification*	Possible	313	3.6
	Probable	160	1.8
	Confirmed	8,273	94.6
Healthcare Worker	Yes	23	0.3
	No	6,085	69.6
	Unknown	2,638	30.2
Underlying Conditions	Yes	6,469	74.0
	No	907	10.4
	Unknown	1,370	15.7
ICU Admission	Yes	960	11.0
	No	7,786	89.0

* [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 01/04/2023 00:00:00

Characteristics		Number of Deaths	Percentage	Mortality rate per 100,000
Age	Median Age (Years)	82		
	Mean Age (Years)	80		
Age group	<25 yrs	16	0.2	0.9
	25-34 yrs	32	0.4	4.9
	35-44 yrs	89	1.0	11.9
	45-54 yrs	222	2.5	35.5
	55-64 yrs	551	6.3	108.3
	65-74 yrs	1,433	16.4	383.7
	75-84 yrs	2,832	32.4	1441.2
	85+ yrs	3,566	40.8	5278.7
	Unknown	5	0.1	
	Total	8,746	100	183.7

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 01/04/2023 00:00:00

County	Number of deaths	Percentage	Mortality rate per 100,000
Carlow	120	1.4	210.8
Cavan	172	2.0	225.8
Clare	214	2.4	180.1
Cork	792	9.1	145.9
Donegal	315	3.6	197.9
Dublin	2,802	32.0	208.0
Galway	321	3.7	124.4
Kerry	198	2.3	134.0
Kildare	467	5.3	209.9
Kilkenny	161	1.8	162.2
Laois	152	1.7	179.5
Leitrim	49	0.6	152.9
Limerick	385	4.4	197.5
Longford	62	0.7	151.7
Louth	321	3.7	249.1
Mayo	364	4.2	278.9
Meath	286	3.3	146.6
Monaghan	136	1.6	221.5
Offaly	139	1.6	178.3
Roscommon	131	1.5	203.0
Sligo	71	0.8	108.3
Tipperary	211	2.4	132.2
Waterford	209	2.4	179.9
Westmeath	153	1.7	172.4
Wexford	271	3.1	181.0
Wicklow	244	2.8	171.3

Table 5: Place of death for COVID-19 deaths in Ireland, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 01/04/2023 00:00:00

Place of death	Number of deaths	Percentage
Hospital	4,817	55.1
Residential Institution*	2,566	29.3
Hospice	126	1.4
Home	531	6.1
Other	160	1.8
Unknown	546	6.2

*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 01/04/2023 00:00:00

		Number of Deaths	Percentage of total deaths	Percentage of deaths linked to outbreaks
Total number of deaths		8,746	100.0	
Deaths linked to outbreaks		4,454	50.9	100.0
Outbreaks by location	Nursing homes	2,699	30.9	60.6
	Hospital	1,134	13.0	25.5
	Community Hospitals/Long-stay units	214	2.4	4.8
	Residential institutions	131	1.5	2.9
	Other locations*	276	3.2	6.2

* 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 April 2023

Year	Month	Number of deaths *
2020	March	129
2020	April	1,157
2020	May	363
2020	June	67
2020	July	17
2020	August	7
2020	September	39
2020	October	132
2020	November	190
2020	December	193
2021	January	1,424
2021	February	894
2021	March	258
2021	April	104
2021	May	45
2021	June	22
2021	July	22
2021	August	94
2021	September	193
2021	October	240
2021	November	273
2021	December	262
2022	January	328
2022	February	227
2022	March	344
2022	April	365
2022	May	132
2022	June	118
2022	July	195
2022	August	121
2022	September	67
2022	October	133
2022	November	134
2022	December	194
2023	January	180
2023	February	52
2023	March	19

Number of deaths for April 2023 is incomplete.

* Date of death reported for 8,734 of the deaths.

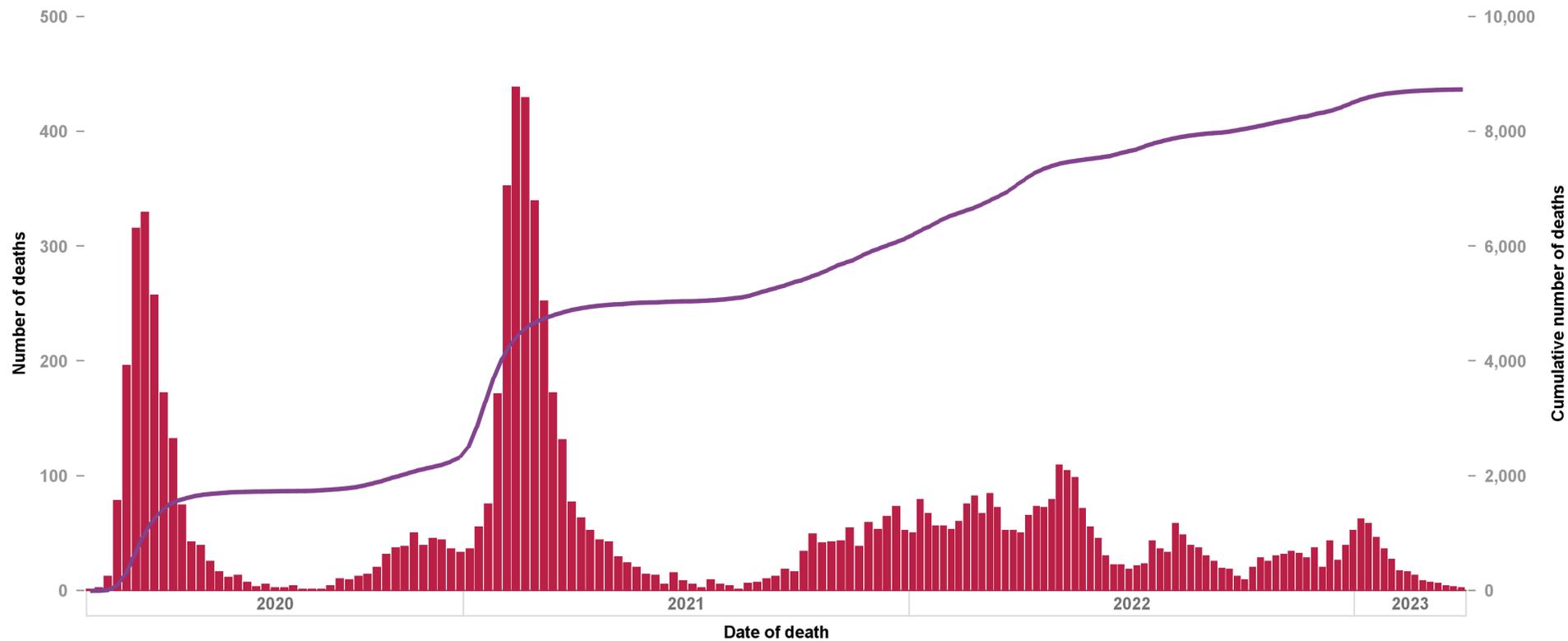


Figure 1: Total number of COVID-19 deaths in Ireland and cumulative number by week of death, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 01/04/2023 00:00:00. Date of death reported for 8,734 of deaths.

Acknowledgments

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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 09:22 on 03/04/2023. 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](#)