



Epidemiology of COVID-19 in Ireland - 14 day report

Report prepared by HPSC on 24/12/2021

Summary characteristics of confirmed COVID-19 cases notified in Ireland from 10/12/2021 up to midnight on 23/12/2021

In anticipation of large volumes of case numbers and potential processing delays over the coming period, from 22/12/2021 the daily case number announced will be based on positive SARS CoV-2 results uploaded to the HSE COVID Care Tracker the preceding day. These data are provisional and do not represent notified cases. HPSC and surveillance partners will continue to notify and process cases and outbreaks of COVID-19 on CIDR over this period and full reporting from CIDR will recommence in the New Year.

	Number	Percent
Total number of confirmed cases	70,637	
National incidence of confirmed cases per 100,000	1483.4	
Number of cases hospitalised*	554	0.78
Number of cases admitted to ICU*	27	0.04
Number of cases in healthcare workers	370	0.52
% where HCW is known	-	3.4
Number of cases associated with clusters**	679	0.96
Males	34,856	49.3
Females	35,698	50.5
M:F ratio	0.98	
Median age (years)	30	
Mean age (years)	31	
Age range (years)	0-101	

* The number of cases hospitalised and admitted to ICU described in the above table relate only to COVID-19 cases who were notified during this reporting period, and where the outcome is known at the time of reporting. It does not reflect all hospitalisations and ICU admissions related to COVID-19 which occurred during the period covered by the report. It also does not reflect the final number of cases hospitalised or admitted to ICU for these cases notified during this period as the outcome may not yet have occurred, or is yet to be notified.

**Cases may be associated with outbreaks notified outside the timeframe of this report from 10/12/2021 up to midnight on 23/12/2021. Also, this is likely an underestimate of cases associated with clusters as Departments of Public Health are prioritising Public Health Risk Assessments and outbreak investigations in settings that have the greatest clinical need or would benefit most from Public Health intervention.

Note: Data were extracted from Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system at 09:00 on 24/12/2021 and are provisional and subject to ongoing review, validation and update. As a result, figures in this report may differ from previously published figures.

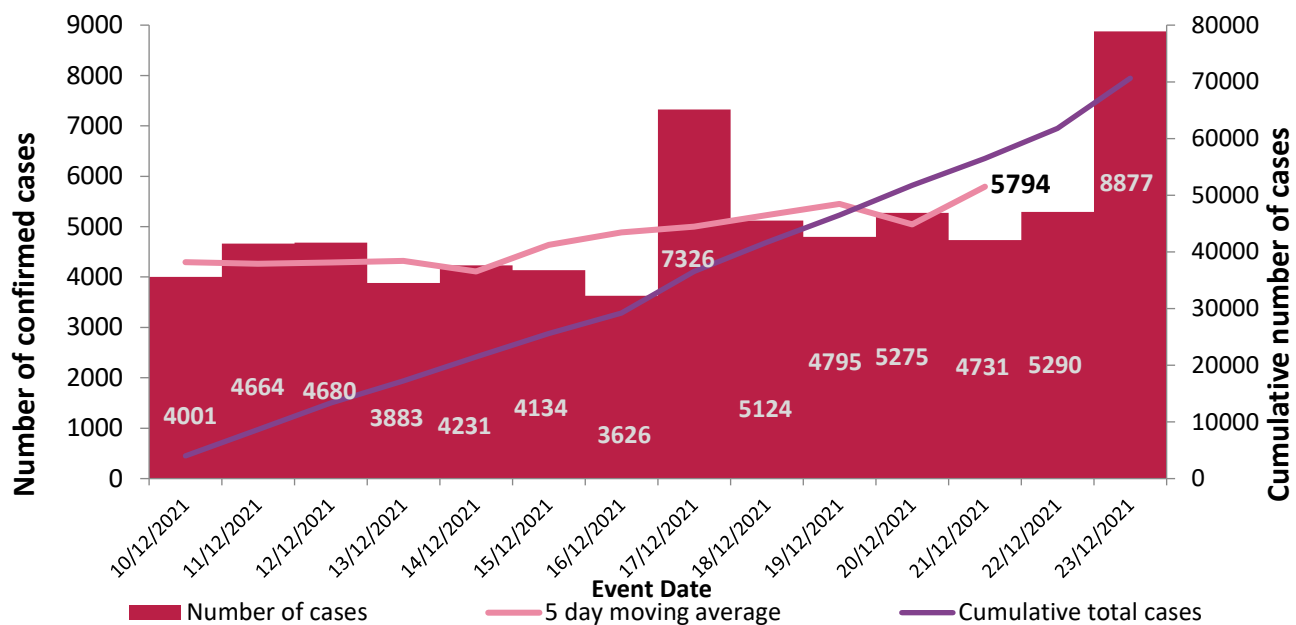


Figure 1a. Daily number* and cumulative number of confirmed cases of COVID-19, and 5-day moving average, by notification date (n=70637)

*Changes in the timeliness of the processing steps on CIDR can lead to day to day variations in the number of daily cases. Using epidemiological date (figure 1b), or analysing over a longer time period such as a week or 14 days (figure 2), smooths out any variations introduced by processing times, and provide a more accurate picture of the trend.

Please see [Epidemiology of COVID-19 in Ireland Frequently Asked Questions](https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/surveillance/epidemiologyfrequentlyaskedquestions/) (<https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/surveillance/epidemiologyfrequentlyaskedquestions/>) and the weekly epidemiological report (<https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/surveillance/epidemiologyofcovid-19inirelandweeklyreports/>) for further detail and analyses.

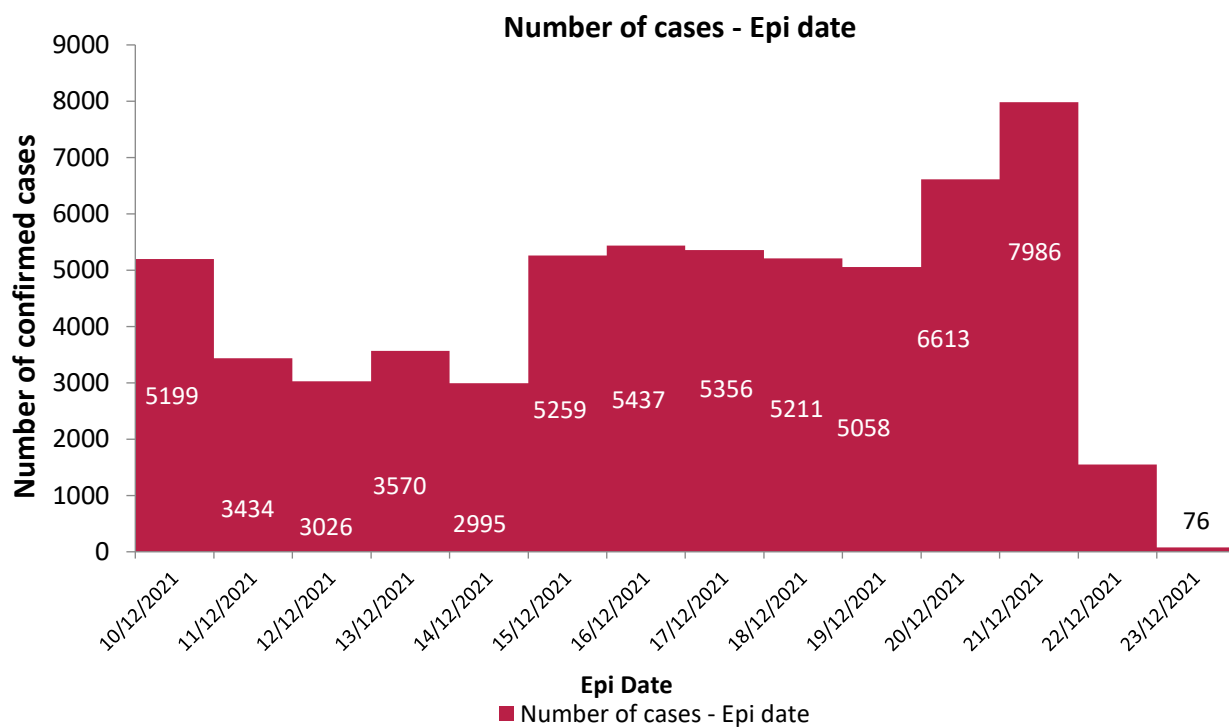


Figure 1b. Daily number of confirmed cases of COVID-19, by epidemiological date*

*Epidemiological date is based on the earliest of dates available on the case and taken from date of onset of symptoms, date of diagnosis, laboratory specimen collection date, laboratory received date, laboratory reported date or event creation date/notification date on CIDR.

Table 1: Age and sex of characteristics of confirmed COVID-19 cases notified in Ireland from 10/12/2021 up to midnight on 23/12/2021

Characteristic		Number of cases	Percent
Total number of confirmed cases		70,637	100
Sex	Male	34,856	49.3
	Female	35,698	50.5
	Unknown	83	0.1
Age	Median age (years)	30	
	Mean age (years)	31	
	Age range (years)	0-101	
	0-4 yrs	3248	4.6
	5-12 yrs	9452	13.4
	13-18 yrs	4369	6.2
	19-24 yrs	8938	12.7
	25-34 yrs	15420	21.8
	35-44 yrs	13190	18.7
	45-54 yrs	8449	12.0
	55-64 yrs	5039	7.1
	65-74 yrs	1811	2.6
	75-84 yrs	492	0.7
	85+ yrs	227	0.3
	Unknown	2	
	Total	70,637	

Table 2: Symptom and healthcare worker status of confirmed COVID-19 cases notified in Ireland from 10/12/2021 up to midnight on 23/12/2021

Characteristic		Number of cases	Percent	Percent where known
Total number of confirmed cases		70,637	100	
Symptom status at time of test*	Yes	9367	13.3	99.9
	No	10	0.0	0.1
	Unknown	61,260	86.7	
	Total cases where known	9377		
Healthcare worker	Yes	370	0.5	3.4
	No	10490	14.9	96.6
	Unknown	59,777	84.6	
	Total cases where known	10860		

*Symptom status is recorded at the time of test and is not updated, therefore a proportion of the asymptomatic cases may subsequently develop symptoms however this will not be captured in the data.

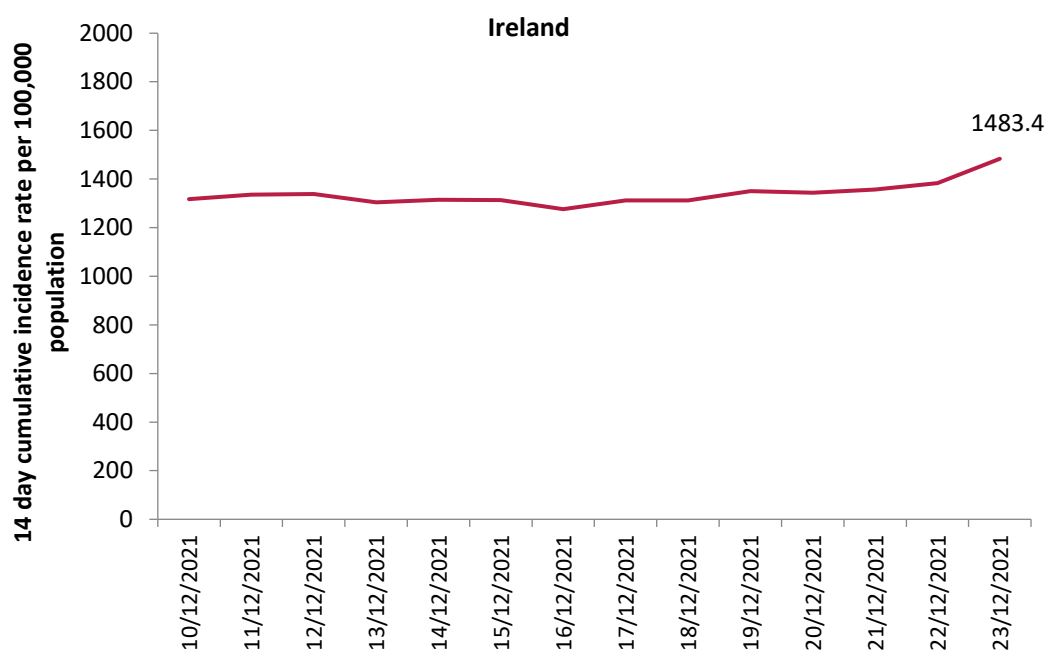


Figure 2: 14 day cumulative incidence rates per 100,000 population of confirmed cases of COVID-19 by notification date in Ireland from 10/12/2021 up to midnight on 23/12/2021

14 day incidence rates per 100,000 populations of confirmed cases of COVID-19 for individual counties can be found in appendix 1 of this report

Table 3: Number of confirmed COVID-19 cases by county notified in Ireland from 10/12/2021 up to midnight on 23/12/2021, 7 day numbers are reported from 17/12/2021 up to midnight on 23/12/2021

County	Number of confirmed cases in last 7 days	7-day Incidence per 100,000 population	Number of confirmed cases in last 14 days	14-day Incidence per 100,000 population	7 day incidence rate as a percentage of 14 day rate	5 day moving average of confirmed cases (19/12/2021 - 23/12/2021)
Dublin	15,743	1168.4	26006	1930.1	60.54	2179
Louth	1,462	1134.4	2302	1786.1	63.51	207
Westmeath	967	1089.3	1498	1687.5	64.55	148
Kilkenny	969	976.5	1679	1692.0	57.71	163
Kildare	2,164	972.6	3593	1614.8	60.23	301
Longford	368	900.3	541	1323.6	68.02	51
Meath	1,654	848.0	2914	1494.0	56.76	245
Clare	988	831.5	1525	1283.5	64.79	148
Monaghan	495	806.4	805	1311.4	61.49	77
Leitrim	252	786.4	398	1242.0	63.32	32
Carlow	442	776.4	779	1368.3	56.74	56
Galway	1,990	771.1	3183	1233.4	62.52	281
Tipperary	1,194	748.3	2126	1332.5	56.16	170
Cork	4,041	744.4	7796	1436.1	51.83	509
Wicklow	997	700.0	1657	1163.4	60.17	130
Donegal	1,111	697.9	1774	1114.4	62.63	170
Laois	591	697.8	1144	1350.7	51.66	83
Limerick	1,343	689.1	2334	1197.5	57.54	191
Roscommon	441	683.3	641	993.1	68.80	62
Cavan	506	664.3	832	1092.2	60.82	79
Offaly	517	663.2	929	1191.6	55.65	76
Kerry	960	649.9	1834	1241.6	52.34	128
Waterford	714	614.6	1424	1225.7	50.14	89
Sligo	355	541.7	579	883.5	61.31	51
Mayo	583	446.7	1018	780.0	57.27	86
Wexford	571	381.4	1326	885.6	43.06	80
Unknown/Other						
Total	41,418	869.8	70637	1483.4	58.63	5794

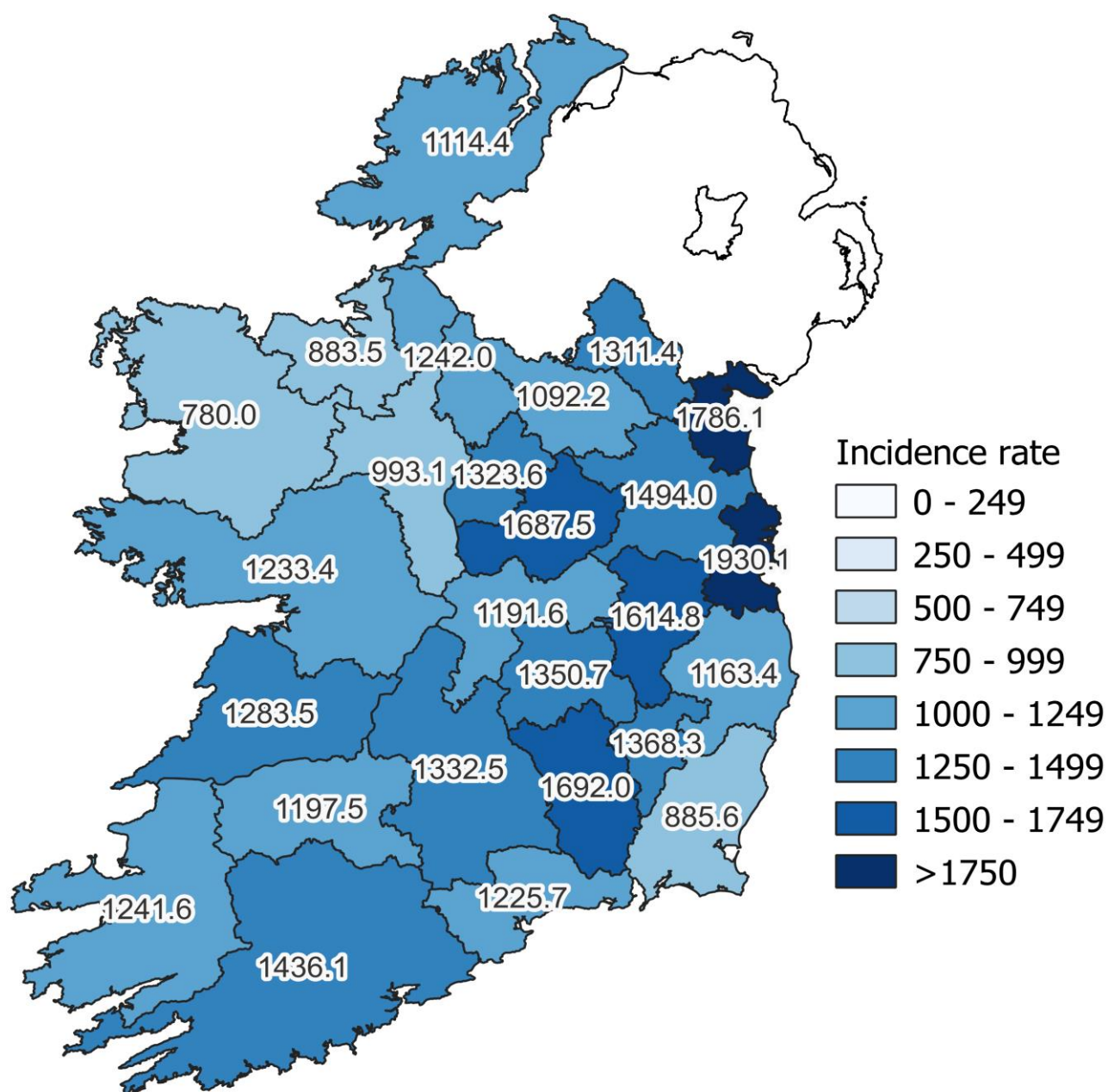


Figure 3: Cumulative incidence rates of confirmed COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population by county notified in Ireland between 10/12/2021 up to midnight on 23/12/2021

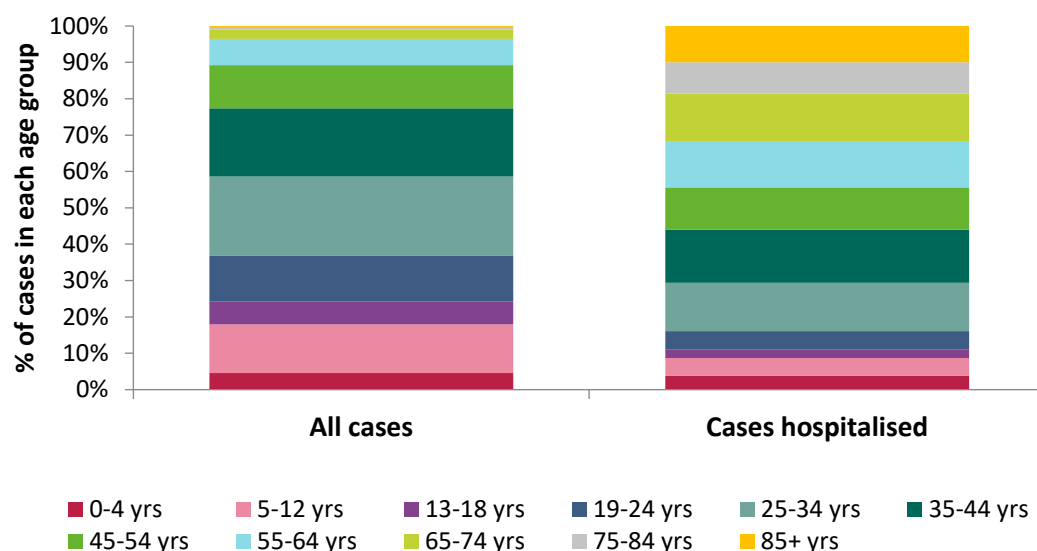


Figure 4: Percentage of confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified in Ireland from 10/12/2021 up to midnight on 23/12/2021, in each age group, all cases, and cases admitted to hospital *

Table 4: Cumulative number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified in Ireland from 10/12/2021 up to midnight on 23/12/2021, by age group, hospitalisation and ICU admission*

Age Group (years)	Number of cases (n)	Number of cases (%)	Cases hospitalised (n)	Cases hospitalised (%)	Cases admitted to ICU (n)	Cases admitted to ICU (%)
0-4 yrs	3248	4.6	21	3.8	<5	-
5-12 yrs	9452	13.4	27	4.9	0	0.0
13-18 yrs	4369	6.2	13	2.3	0	0.0
19-24 yrs	8938	12.7	28	5.1	<5	-
25-34 yrs	15420	21.8	74	13.4	<5	-
35-44 yrs	13190	18.7	81	14.6	<5	-
45-54 yrs	8449	12.0	64	11.6	7	25.9
55-64 yrs	5039	7.1	71	12.8	6	22.2
65-74 yrs	1811	2.6	72	13.0	8	29.6
75-84 yrs	492	0.7	48	8.7	<5	-
85+ yrs	227	0.3	55	9.9	0	0.0
Unknown	2	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total	70637	100	554	100	27	100

* The number of cases hospitalised and admitted to ICU described in the above table relate only to COVID-19 cases who were notified during this reporting period, and where the outcome is known at the time of reporting. It does not reflect all hospitalisations and ICU admissions related to COVID-19 which occurred during the period covered by the report. It also does not reflect the final number of cases hospitalised or admitted to ICU for these cases notified during this period as the outcome may not yet have occurred, or is yet to be notified.

Table 5: Daily number of confirmed COVID-19 cases notified in Ireland from 10/12/2021 up to midnight on 23/12/2021

Date	Number of confirmed cases
10/12/2021	4001
11/12/2021	4664
12/12/2021	4680
13/12/2021	3883
14/12/2021	4231
15/12/2021	4134
16/12/2021	3626
17/12/2021	7326
18/12/2021	5124
19/12/2021	4795
20/12/2021	5275
21/12/2021	4731
22/12/2021	5290
23/12/2021	8877
Total	70,637

Acknowledgements

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. 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: 0-4 years, 5-12 years, 13-18 years, 19-24 years, 25-34 years, 35-44 years, 45-54 years, 55-64 years, 65-74 years, 75-84 years and ≥ 85 years.

3. Epidemiological date

The epi-date is the epidemiological date for a case. It is based on the earliest of dates available on the case and taken from date of onset of symptoms, date of diagnosis, laboratory specimen collection date, laboratory received date, laboratory reported date or event creation date/notification date on CIDR. By using this date rather than event creation/ notification date, adjusts for any delays in testing/notification.

Appendix 1

Figure A. 14 day cumulative incidence rates per 100,000 population of confirmed cases of COVID-19 by county (10/12/2021 to 23/12/2021)

