



Epidemiology of COVID-19 in Ireland

Report prepared by HPSC on 01/12/2020 for National Public Health Emergency Team

Summary characteristics of confirmed COVID-19 cases notified in Ireland up to midnight 29/11/2020

	Number	Percent
Total number of confirmed cases	72,529	
National cumulative incidence of confirmed cases per 100,000 population	1,523.12	
Total number of cases hospitalised	5,225	7.2
Total number of cases admitted to ICU	622	0.86
Total number of deaths among confirmed cases	1,809	2.49
Case fatality ratio (CFR, %)	2.49	
National cumulative incidence of confirmed deaths per 100,000 population	37.99	
Total number of outbreaks/clusters	9,411	
Total number of cases associated with clusters	39,721	54.77
Total number of imported cases	659	0.91
Number of cases in healthcare workers	12,002	16.55
Males	34,167	47.11
Females	38,328	52.85
M:F ratio	0.89	
Median age (years)	39	
Mean age (years)	41	
Age range (years)	0 - 108	

Note: Data were extracted from Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system at 09:21 on 01/12/2020 and are provisional and subject to ongoing review, validation and update. As a result, figures in this report may differ from previously published figures.

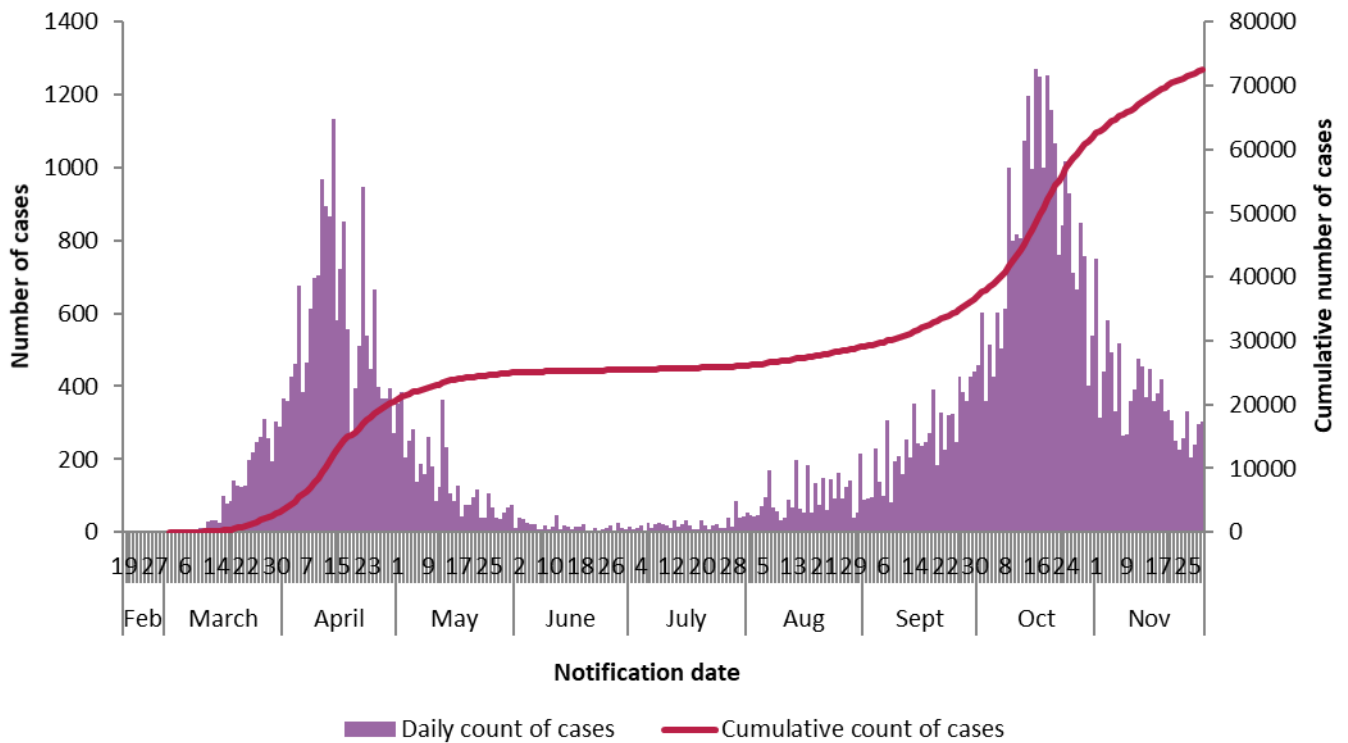


Figure 1a: Number* and cumulative number of confirmed COVID-19 cases notified in Ireland by notification date* to midnight 29/11/2020

*Between 05/04/2020 – 19/04/2020, the daily number of COVID-19 events notified in Ireland is inflated due to batch reporting of cases with specimen dates between from 19/03/2020 – 01/04/2020 in addition to real-time reporting of cases with contemporaneous specimen dates

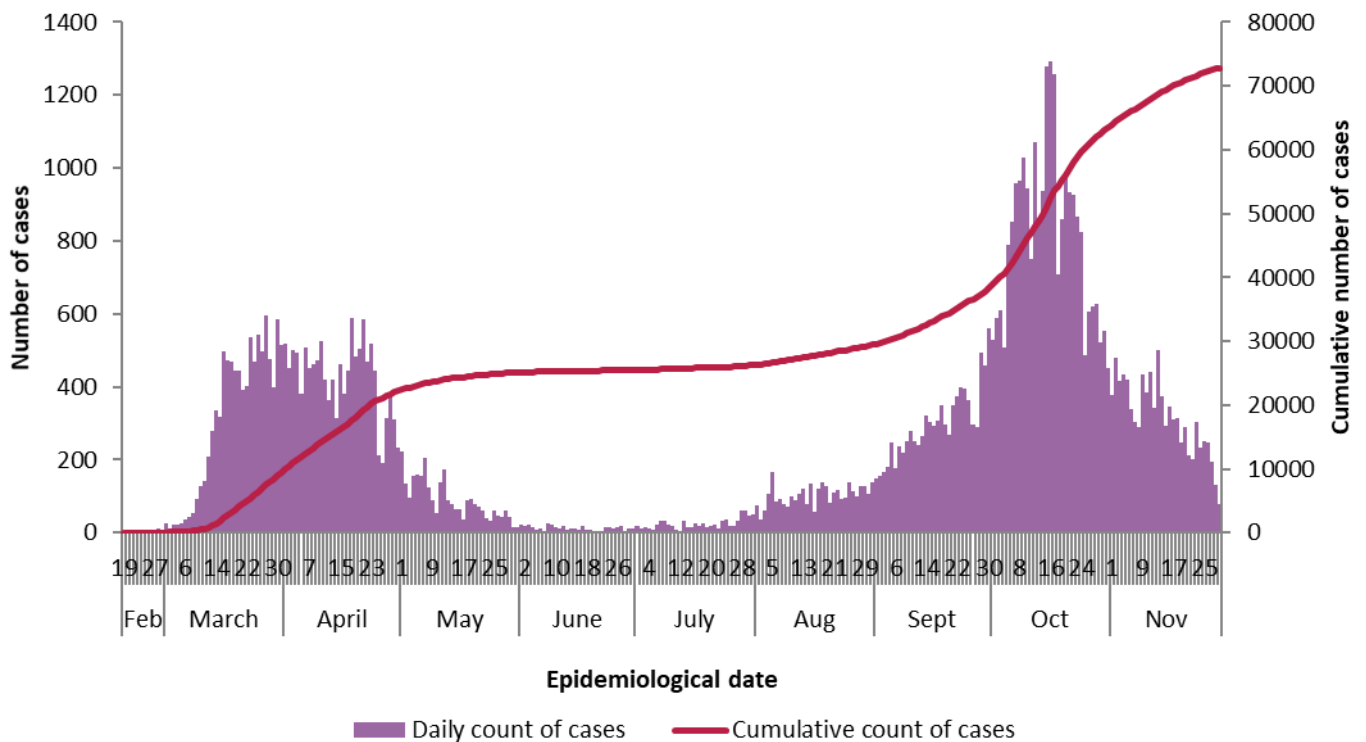


Figure 1b: Number and cumulative number of confirmed COVID-19 cases notified in Ireland by epidemiological date to midnight 29/11/2020**

**Epidemiological date is derived from epidemiological date, which is the earliest of onset date, date of diagnosis, laboratory specimen collection date, laboratory received date, laboratory reported date, event creation/notification date.

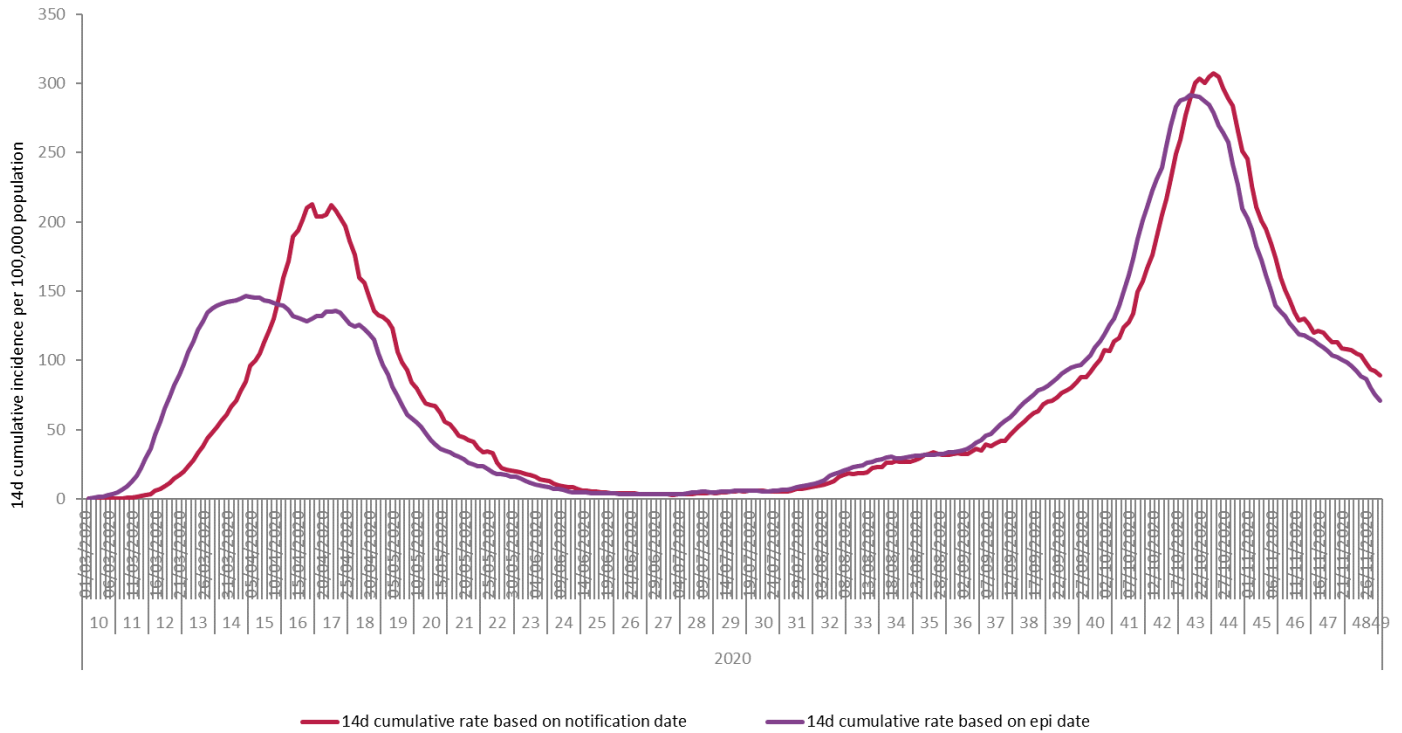


Figure 2: Cumulative 14 day incidence rate of confirmed COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population notified in Ireland by notification* and epidemiological date to midnight 29/11/2020**

* Between 05/04/2020 – 19/04/2020, the daily number of COVID-19 events notified in Ireland is inflated due to batch reporting of cases with specimen dates between from 19/03/2020 – 01/04/2020 in addition to real-time reporting of cases with contemporaneous specimen dates

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Table 1: Characteristics of confirmed COVID-19 cases notified in Ireland up to midnight on 29/11/2020

Characteristic		Number of cases	Percent
Total number of confirmed cases		72,529	100
Sex	Male:Female ratio	0.89	
	Male	34,167	47.11
	Female	38,328	52.85
	Unknown	34	0.05
Age	Median age (years)	39	
	Mean age (years)	41	
	Age range (years)	0 - 108	
	0-4 yrs	1,874	2.58
	5-14 yrs	4,592	6.33
	15-24 yrs	12,698	17.51
	25-34 yrs	12,192	16.81
	35-44 yrs	11,387	15.7
	45-54 yrs	10,967	15.12
	55-64 yrs	7,758	10.7
	65-74 yrs	4,170	5.75
	75-84 yrs	3,664	5.05
	85+ yrs	3,199	4.41
	Unknown	28	0.04

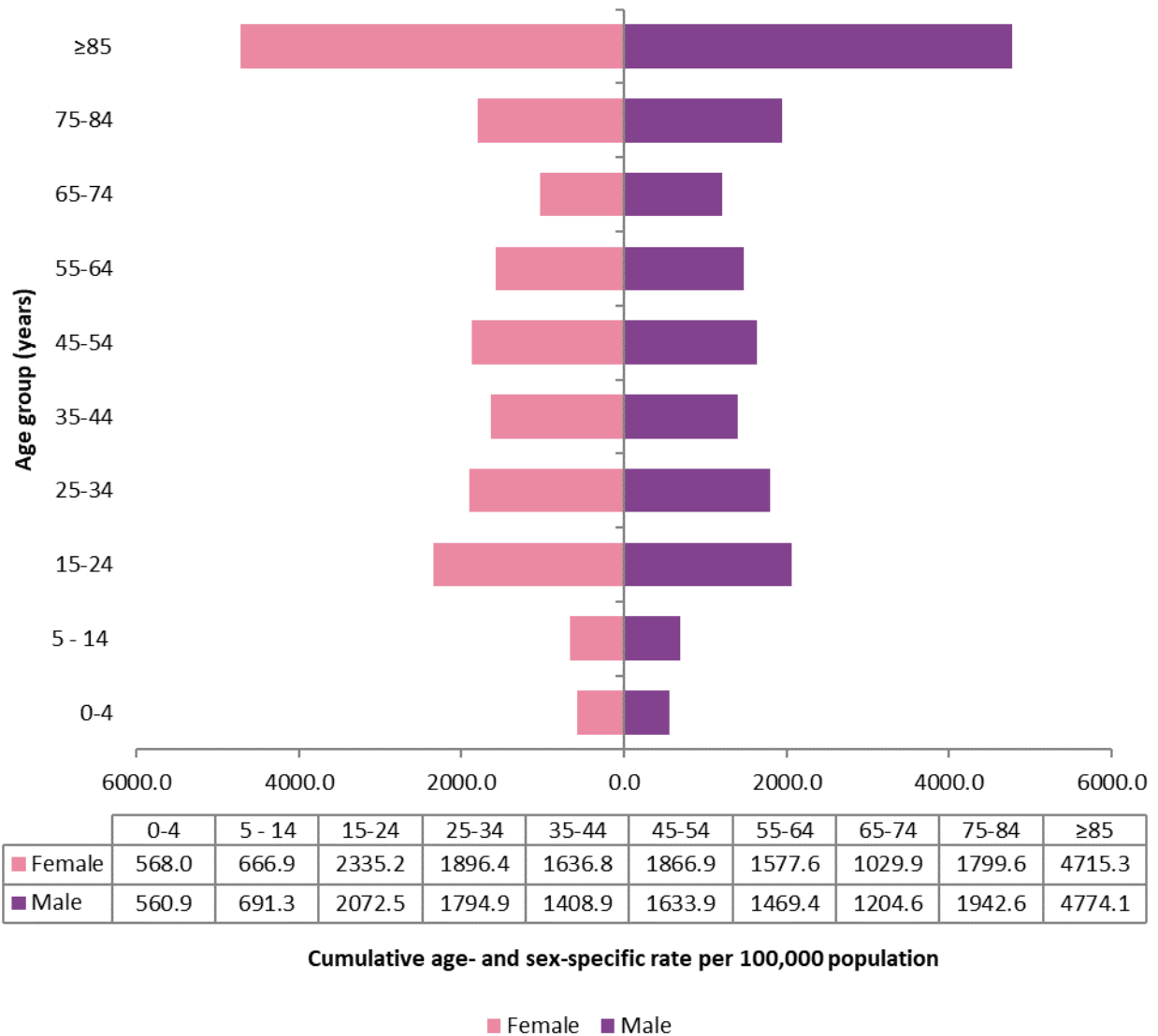


Figure 3: Cumulative age- and sex-specific incidence rates of confirmed cases of COVID-19 per 100,000 population notified in Ireland to midnight 29/11/2020 (excluding 27 cases for whom age is unknown, 33 cases for whom sex is unknown and 1 case for whom both are unknown)

Table 2: Number of confirmed COVID-19 cases by county notified to midnight 29/11/2020

County Name	Number of cases	Percent
Carlow	637	0.88
Cavan	2,187	3.02
Clare	1,502	2.07
Cork	6,393	8.81
Donegal	2,962	4.08
Dublin	27,088	37.35
Galway	2,665	3.67
Kerry	1,335	1.84
Kildare	4,095	5.65
Kilkenny	1,025	1.41
Laois	981	1.35
Leitrim	264	0.36
Limerick	2,786	3.84
Longford	655	0.9
Louth	2,134	2.94
Mayo	1,444	1.99
Meath	3,411	4.7
Monaghan	1,249	1.72
Offaly	1,166	1.61
Roscommon	942	1.3
Sligo	744	1.03
Tipperary	1,516	2.09
Waterford	1,040	1.43
Westmeath	1,550	2.14
Wexford	1,199	1.65
Wicklow	1,559	2.15
Total	72,529	100

Table 3: Number of confirmed COVID-19 cases by WHO transmission classification notified to midnight 29/11/2020

Transmission classification*	Count of Events	%
Community transmission, incl. possible community transmission	22,032	30.38%
Local transmission, incl. possible local transmission	48,722	67.18%
Travel abroad, incl. possible travel abroad	992	1.37%
Unknown	783	1.08%
Total	72,529	100.00%

*See technical note 3 for definition of WHO transmission classification

Cases which were notified more than 2 weeks ago and have not yet been reported as imported or linked to an outbreak are classified as possible community transmission.

Table 4: Cumulative number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified in Ireland by age group, hospitalisation and ICU admission as of midnight 29/11/2020

Age Group (years)	Number of cases (n)	Cases hospitalised (n)	Cases hospitalised (%)	Cases admitted to ICU (n)	Cases admitted to ICU (%)
0-4 yrs	1874	57	1.09	2	0.32
5-14 yrs	4592	50	0.96	4	0.64
15-24 yrs	12698	170	3.25	8	1.29
25-34 yrs	12192	321	6.14	17	2.73
35-44 yrs	11387	418	8	52	8.36
45-54 yrs	10967	659	12.61	111	17.85
55-64 yrs	7758	750	14.35	163	26.21
65-74 yrs	4170	935	17.89	179	28.78
75-84 yrs	3664	1,159	22.18	78	12.54
85+ yrs	3199	704	13.47	8	1.29
Unknown	28	2	0.04	0	0
Total	72,529	5,225	100	622	100

Table 5: Number and proportion of confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified in Ireland by age-group, hospitalisation ICU admission and vital status 29/11/2020

	0-4 yrs	5-14 yrs	15-24 yrs	25-34 yrs	35-44 yrs	45-54 yrs	55-64 yrs	65-74 yrs	75-84 yrs	85+ yrs	Unknown
Number of cases (n)	1,874	4,592	12,698	12,192	11,387	10,967	7,758	4,170	3,664	3,199	28
Cases hospitalised (n)	57	50	170	321	418	659	750	935	1,159	704	2
Cases hospitalised (%)	3.04	1.09	1.34	2.63	3.67	6.01	9.67	22.42	31.63	22.01	7.14
Cases admitted to ICU (n)	2	4	8	17	52	111	163	179	78	8	0
Cases admitted to ICU (%)	0.11	0.09	0.06	0.14	0.46	1.01	2.10	4.29	2.13	0.25	0
Deaths (n)	0	0	1	6	11	30	83	279	625	774	0
Case fatality ratio (%)	0	0	0.01	0.05	0.10	0.27	1.07	6.69	17.06	24.20	0

Outbreaks of COVID-19

Table 6: Number of clusters/outbreaks COVID-19 by location and HSE area notified to midnight 29/11/2020

Outbreak Location	E	M	MW	NE	NW	S	SE	W	HPSC **	Total
Private house	4,146	165	185	474	396	609	610	544		7,129
Other*	245	69	159	76	122	239	59	136	2	1,107
Nursing home	167	17	20	50	11	22	22	45		354
Workplace	103	19	22	50	36	27	29	26		312
Residential institution	148	16	17	34	10	30	17	10		282
Hospital	105	7	10	22	13	16	9	7		189
Comm. Hosp/Long-stay unit	6	4	3		5	7	5	5		35
Unknown				1	2					3
Total	4,920	297	416	707	595	950	751	773	2	9,411

*Other outbreak location includes community, extended family, hotel, public house, retail outlet, travel related and all other locations.

**Outbreaks/clusters notified with a location of 'HPSC' are those with cases in three or more HSE areas. These are considered national outbreaks.

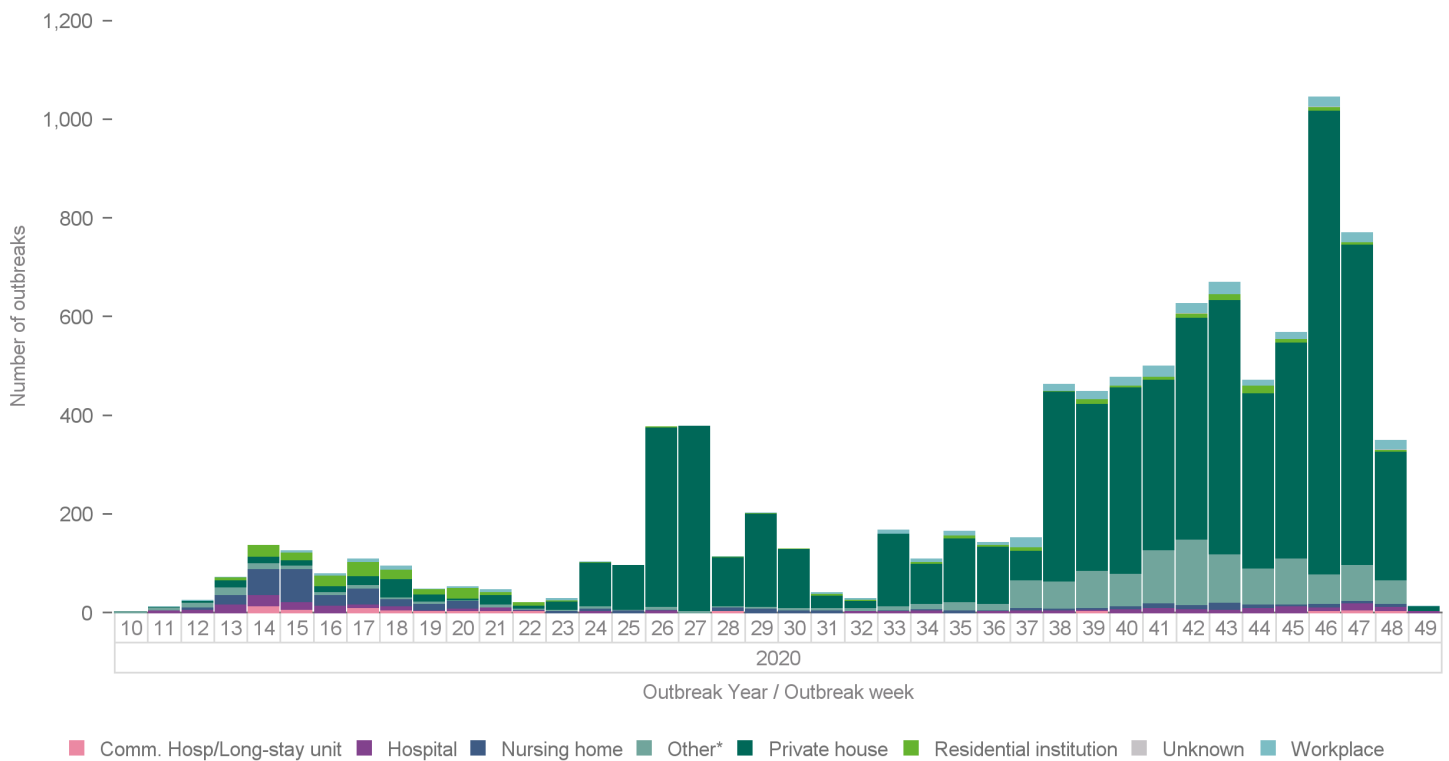


Figure 5: Trend in number of COVID-19 clusters by location and week notified to midnight 29/11/2020

*Other outbreak location includes community, extended family, hotel, public house, retail outlet, travel related and all other locations.

Note: 8,575 COVID-19 outbreaks were reported on CIDR between week 24 and week 49 2020 (9th June to 29th November). Of these, 6,806 were family outbreaks. Based on the earliest date associated with each outbreak, some of these family outbreaks occurred earlier and were reported between weeks 24 and 49 as a result of data validation: 1 occurred in February, 636 in March, 475 in April, 94 in May, 126 in June, 128 in July, 533 in August, 1,513 in September, 2,532 in October and 768 to date in November. The numbers in this note were extracted at 11.30

Deaths among COVID-19 cases

Table 7: Summary of deaths in all COVID-19 cases notified in Ireland up to midnight 29/11/2020

	Number	Percent
Total number of deaths	2,068	
Confirmed	1,809	87.48
Probable	95	4.59
Possible	164	7.93
Total number of cases hospitalised	936	45.26
Cases admitted to ICU	139	6.72
Cases not admitted to ICU	797	38.54
Total number of imported cases	5	0.24
Number of cases in healthcare workers	8	0.39
Number with underlying clinical conditions	1,923	92.99
Total number of male cases	1,049	50.73
M:F ratio	1.03	
Median age (years)	83	
Mean age (years)	81	
Age range (years)	17 - 105	

Table 8: Number of deaths in all COVID-19 cases by sex and age group notified in Ireland up to midnight 29/11/2020

Age group (years)	Female	Male	Total	Percent
15-24 yrs	<5	<5	1	0.05
25-34 yrs	<5	<5	6	0.29
35-44 yrs	5	7	12	0.58
45-54 yrs	12	20	32	1.55
55-64 yrs	30	59	89	4.3
65-74 yrs	108	199	307	14.85
75-84 yrs	323	384	707	34.19
85+ yrs	536	376	912	44.1
Unknown	<5	<5	2	0.1
Total	1,019	1,049	2,068	100
Percent	49.27	50.73		

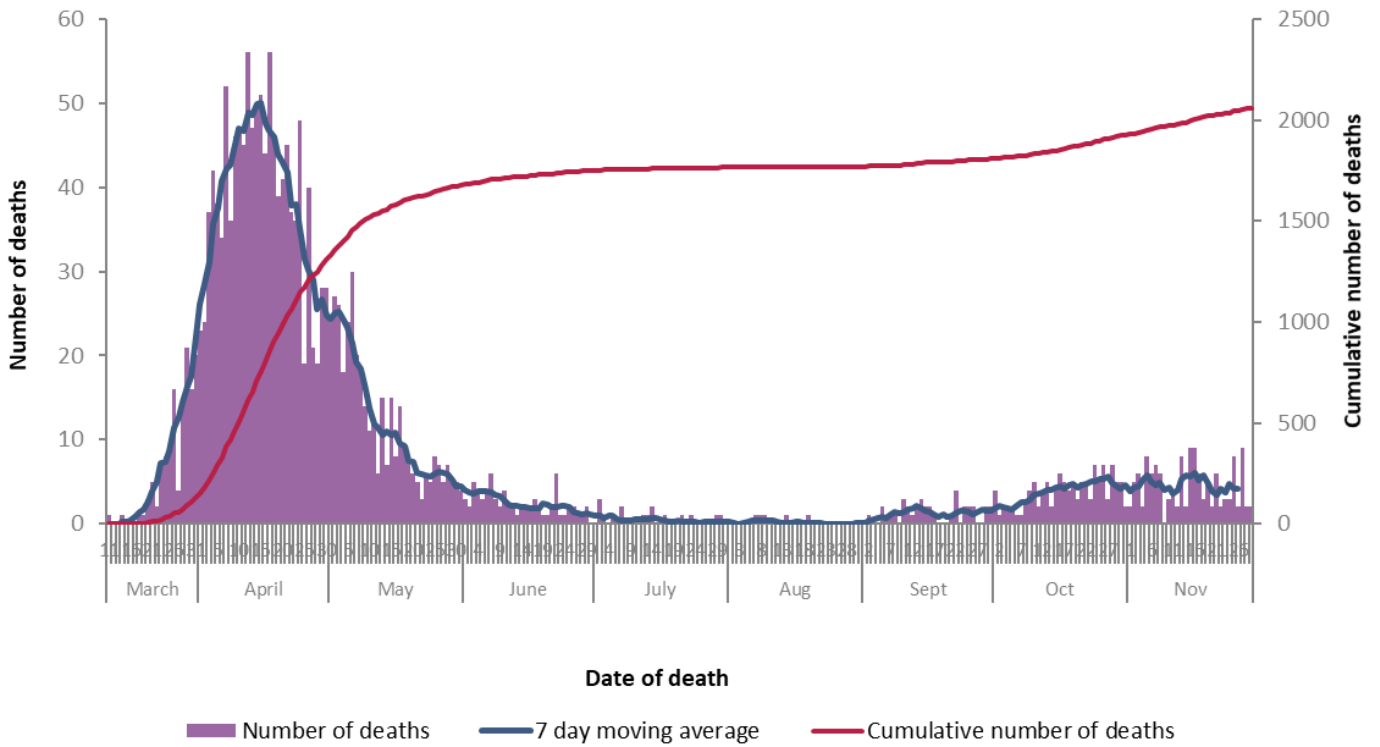


Figure 6a: Daily and 7 day moving average number of deaths among COVID-19 cases notified in Ireland by date of death and cumulative total to midnight 29/11/2020

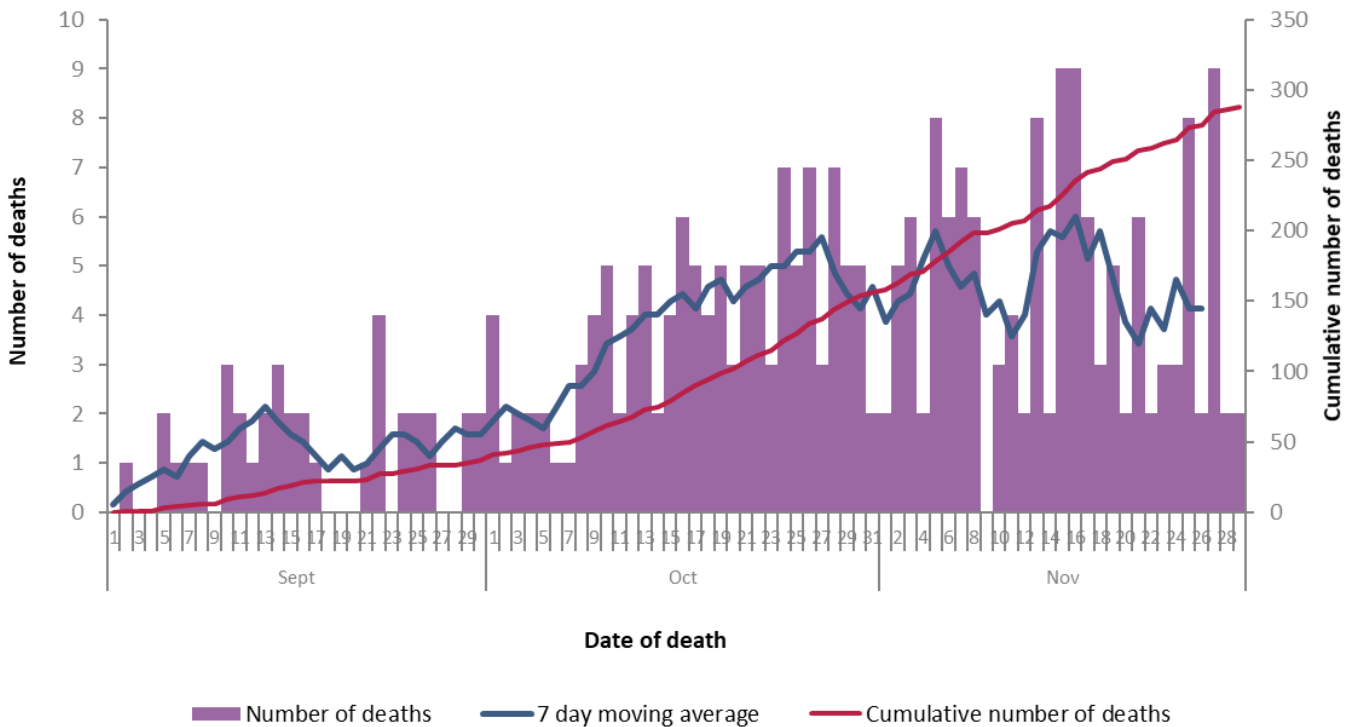


Figure 6b: Daily and 7 day moving average number of deaths among COVID-19 cases notified in Ireland by date of death and cumulative total, 01/09/2020 to midnight 29/11/2020

* Date of death is not yet available for eight cases

Please note: a lag in time between reporting of deaths and data extraction is expected and as such most recent dates will not yet reflect all deaths on that date

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 at 09:21 on 01/12/2020. 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. Epidemiological date

Epidemiological date is derived from the earliest of onset date, date of diagnosis, laboratory specimen collection date, laboratory received date, laboratory reported date, event creation/notification date.

3. Population data

Population data were taken from Census 2016. Data were aggregated into the following age groups for the analysis: 0-4 years, 5-14 years, 15-24 years, 25-34 years, 35-44 years, 45-54 years, 55-64 years, 65-74 years, 75-84 years and ≥ 85 years.

3. Transmission classification

Transmission classification is based on country of infection as well as enhanced exposure data (international travel; close contact of a case) recorded in CIDR. Transmission is classified as 'unknown' due to incomplete data on CIDR.

WHO definition of transmission classification is specified below:

- Community transmission is evidenced by the inability to relate confirmed cases through chains of transmission for a large number of cases, or by increasing positive tests through routine screening of sentinel samples.
- Local transmission indicates locations where the source of infection is within the reporting location.
- Imported cases only indicates locations where all cases have been acquired outside the location of reporting.

4. HSE areas

The counties covered by each HSE area are as follows:

HSE East (E): Dublin, Kildare & Wicklow;
HSE Midlands (M): Laois, Longford, Offaly & Westmeath;
HSE Midwest (MW): Clare, Limerick & N. Tipperary;
HSE Northeast (NE): Cavan, Louth, Meath & Monaghan;
HSE Northwest (NW): Donegal, Leitrim & Sligo;
HSE South (S): Kerry & Cork;
HSE Southeast (SE): Carlow, Kilkenny, S. Tipperary, Waterford & Wexford;
HSE West (W): Galway, Mayo & Roscommon.

5. Outbreak location

Where an outbreak location is reported as a residential facility (RF) this includes nursing homes, community hospitals, long-stay units and residential institutions including mental health facilities, prisons and direct provision centres.

Other outbreak location includes community, extended family, hotel, public house, retail outlet, travel related and all other locations.