Report on COVID-19 deaths reported in Ireland

Report produced by Health Protection Surveillance Centre on 30/05/2022

This report includes data for COVID-19 cases notified on CIDR up to and including midnight on 28/05/2022 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

Note: Data were extracted from Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system on 30/05/2022 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 01/05/2022 to 28/05/2022

Characteristics		Number of deaths
Total number of deaths		63
Age	Mean age (Years)	82
	Median age (Years)	83

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 30/05/2022. It does not include deaths of COVID-19 cases reported to CIDR 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 28/05/2022

Characteristics		Number of Deaths	Percentage
Total number of deaths		7,375	
Sex	Female	3,428	46.5
	Male	3,945	53.5
	Unknown	2	0.0
	M:F ratio	1.15	
Case classification*	Possible	218	3.0
	Probable	128	1.7
	Confirmed	7,029	95.3
Healthcare Worker	Yes	23	0.3
	No	5,543	75.2
	Unknown	1,809	24.5
Underlying Conditions	Yes	5,803	78.7
	No	722	9.8
	Unknown	850	11.5
ICU Admission	Yes	885	12.0
	No	6,490	88.0

* 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 28/05/2022

Characteristics		Number of Deaths	Percentage	Mortality rate per 100,000
Age	Median Age (Years)	82		
	Mean Age (Years)	80		
Age group	<25 yrs	14	0.2	0.8
	25-34 yrs	27	0.4	4.1
	35-44 yrs	66	0.9	8.8
	45-54 yrs	187	2.5	29.9
	55-64 yrs	462	6.3	90.8
	65-74 yrs	1,219	16.5	326.4
	75-84 yrs	2,420	32.8	1231.5
	85+ yrs	2,975	40.3	4403.8
	Unknown	5	0.1	
	Total	7,375	100	154.9

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 28/05/2022

County	Number of deaths	Percentage	Mortality rate per 100,000
Carlow	102	1.4	179.2
Cavan	155	2.1	203.5
Clare	182	2.5	153.2
Cork	657	8.9	121.0
Donegal	261	3.5	164.0
Dublin	2,471	33.5	183.4
Galway	242	3.3	93.8
Kerry	157	2.1	106.3
Kildare	413	5.6	185.6
Kilkenny	129	1.7	130.0
Laois	121	1.6	142.9
Leitrim	40	0.5	124.8
Limerick	337	4.6	172.9
Longford	47	0.6	115.0
Louth	275	3.7	213.4
Mayo	287	3.9	219.9
Meath	235	3.2	120.5
Monaghan	120	1.6	195.5
Offaly	111	1.5	142.4
Roscommon	102	1.4	158.0
Sligo	54	0.7	82.4
Tipperary	169	2.3	105.9
Waterford	164	2.2	141.2
Westmeath	121	1.6	136.3
Wexford	216	2.9	144.3
Wicklow	207	2.8	145.3

Table 5: Place of death for COVID-19 deaths in Ireland, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 28/05/2022

Place of death	Number of deaths	Percentage
Hospital	3,915	53.1
Residential Institution*	2,347	31.8
Hospice	88	1.2
Home	389	5.3
Other	130	1.8
Unknown	506	6.9

*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 28/05/2022

		Number of Deaths	Percentage of total deaths	Percentage of deaths linked to outbreaks
Total number of deaths		7,375	100.0	
Deaths linked to outbreaks		4,149	56.3	100.0
Outbreaks by location	Nursing homes	2,536	34.4	61.1
	Hospital	1,019	13.8	24.6
	Community Hospitals/Long-stay units	196	2.7	4.7
	Residential institutions	121	1.6	2.9
	Other locations*	277	3.8	6.7

* 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 from March 2020 to May 2022

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	195
2021	January	1,424
2021	February	893
2021	March	258
2021	April	104
2021	May	43
2021	June	21
2021	July	23
2021	August	94
2021	September	190
2021	October	238
2021	November	273
2021	December	259
2022	January	314
2022	February	219
2022	March	316
2022	April	309
2022	May	63

* Date of death reported for 7,341 of the deaths.

Number of deaths for May 2022 is incomplete.

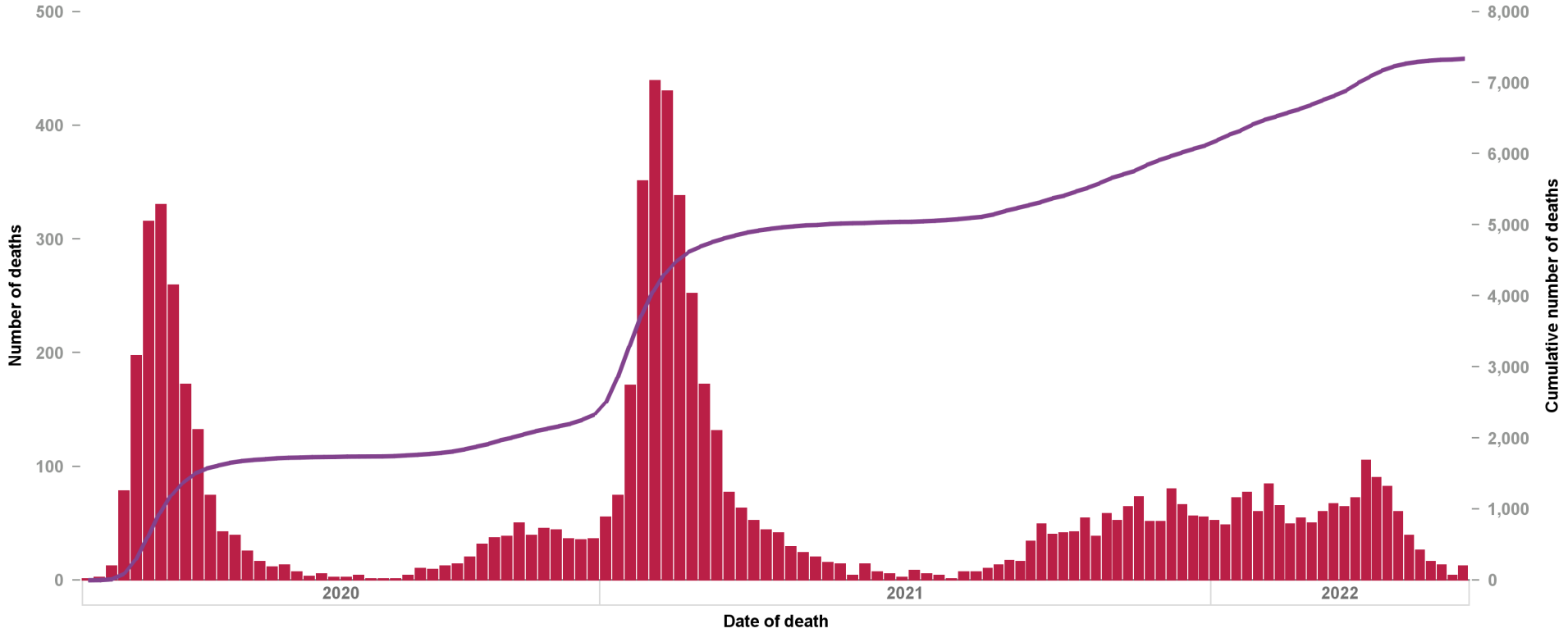

Figure 1: Total number of COVID-19 deaths in Ireland and cumulative number by week of death, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 28/05/2022. Date of death reported for 7,341 of deaths.

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 09:42 on 30/05/2022. 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 or ≥ 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