



# Report on COVID-19 deaths reported in Ireland

Report produced by Health Protection Surveillance Centre on 17/10/2022

This report includes data for COVID-19 cases notified on CIDR up to and including midnight on 15/10/2022 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 17/10/2022 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 18/09/2022 00:00:00 to 15/10/2022 00:00:00

Characteristics	Number of deaths	
Total number of deaths	46	
Age	Mean age (Years)	81
	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 17/10/2022. 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 15/10/2022 00:00:00**

Characteristics		Number of Deaths	Percentage
<b>Total number of deaths</b>		7,970	
<b>Sex</b>	Female	3,704	46.5
	Male	4,266	53.5
	Unknown	0	0.0
	M:F ratio	1.15	
<b>Case classification*</b>	Possible	266	3.3
	Probable	147	1.8
	Confirmed	7,557	94.8
<b>Healthcare Worker</b>	Yes	23	0.3
	No	5,752	72.2
	Unknown	2,195	27.5
<b>Underlying Conditions</b>	Yes	6,079	76.3
	No	796	10.0
	Unknown	1,095	13.7
<b>ICU Admission</b>	Yes	913	11.5
	No	7,057	88.5

\* [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 15/10/2022 00:00:00**

Characteristics		Number of Deaths	Percentage	Mortality rate per 100,000
<b>Age</b>	Median Age (Years)	82		
	Mean Age (Years)	80		
<b>Age group</b>	<25 yrs	16	0.2	0.8
	25-34 yrs	32	0.4	4.9
	35-44 yrs	81	1.0	10.8
	45-54 yrs	204	2.6	32.6
	55-64 yrs	502	6.3	98.6
	65-74 yrs	1,311	16.4	351.0
	75-84 yrs	2,592	32.5	1319.1
	85+ yrs	3,227	40.5	4776.8
	Unknown	5	0.1	
	Total	7,970	100	167.4

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 15/10/2022 00:00:00**

County	Number of deaths	Percentage	Mortality rate per 100,000
Carlow	109	1.4	191.5
Cavan	161	2.0	211.4
Clare	193	2.4	162.4
Cork	712	8.9	131.2
Donegal	287	3.6	180.3
Dublin	2,615	32.8	194.1
Galway	285	3.6	110.4
Kerry	178	2.2	120.5
Kildare	430	5.4	193.3
Kilkenny	143	1.8	144.1
Laois	134	1.7	158.2
Leitrim	44	0.6	137.3
Limerick	359	4.5	184.2
Longford	55	0.7	134.6
Louth	295	3.7	228.9
Mayo	320	4.0	245.2
Meath	258	3.2	132.3
Monaghan	125	1.6	203.6
Offaly	120	1.5	153.9
Roscommon	115	1.4	178.2
Sligo	61	0.8	93.1
Tipperary	191	2.4	119.7
Waterford	185	2.3	159.2
Westmeath	135	1.7	152.1
Wexford	239	3.0	159.6
Wicklow	221	2.8	155.2

**Table 5: Place of death for COVID-19 deaths in Ireland, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 15/10/2022 00:00:00**

Place of death	Number of deaths	Percentage
Hospital	4,305	54.0
Residential Institution*	2,438	30.6
Hospice	99	1.2
Home	476	6.0
Other	150	1.9
Unknown	502	6.3

\*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 15/10/2022 00:00:00**

		Number of Deaths	Percentage of total deaths	Percentage of deaths linked to outbreaks
<b>Total number of deaths</b>		7,970	100.0	
<b>Deaths linked to outbreaks</b>		4,294	53.9	100.0
<b>Outbreaks by location</b>	Nursing homes	2,612	32.8	60.8
	Hospital	1,076	13.5	25.1
	Community Hospitals/Long-stay units	205	2.6	4.8
	Residential institutions	125	1.6	2.9
	Other locations*	276	3.5	6.4

\* 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 October 2022**

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	1,423
2021	February	892
2021	March	258
2021	April	104
2021	May	45
2021	June	22
2021	July	23
2021	August	94
2021	September	193
2021	October	240
2021	November	275
2021	December	260
2022	January	322
2022	February	228
2022	March	338
2022	April	359
2022	May	129
2022	June	113
2022	July	187
2022	August	104
2022	September	49
2022	October	18

Number of deaths for October 2022 is incomplete.

\* Date of death reported for 7,970 of the deaths.

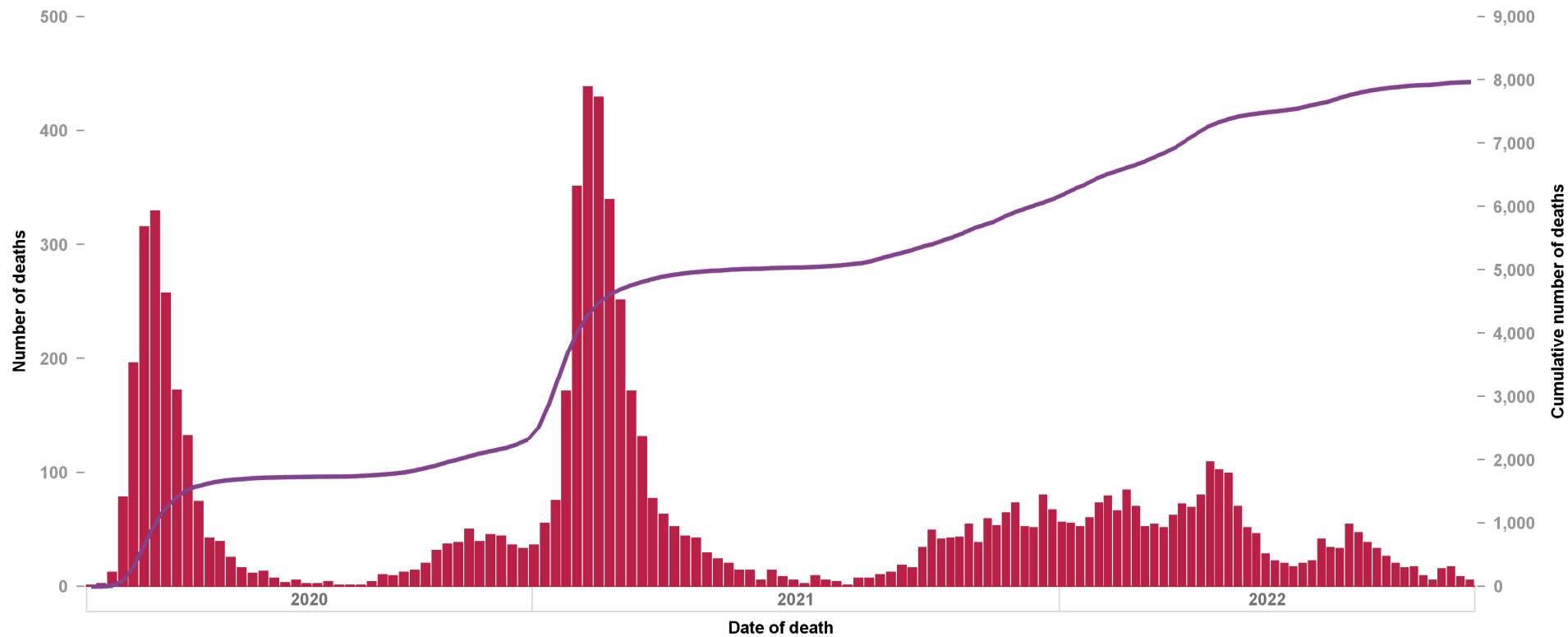


Figure 1: Total number of COVID-19 deaths in Ireland and cumulative number by week of death, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 15/10/2022 00:00:00. Date of death reported for 7,970 of deaths.

## **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 09:48 on 17/10/2022. 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  $\geq 85$  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. 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](#)