



# Weekly report on COVID-19 deaths reported in Ireland

Report produced by Health Protection Surveillance Centre on 02/02/2022

This report includes data for COVID-19 cases notified on CIDR up to and including midnight on 01/02/2022 who have been notified as COVID-19 deaths

Note: Data were extracted from Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system on 02/02/2022 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 26/01/2022 to 01/02/2022**

Characteristics	Number of deaths	
Total number of deaths	32	
Age	Mean age (Years)	80
	Median age (Years)	81

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 02/02/2022. It does not include deaths of COVID-19 cases reported to CIDR in the last week 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 01/02/2022**

Characteristics		Number of Deaths	Percentage
<b>Total number of deaths</b>		6,228	
<b>Sex</b>	Female	2,887	46.4
	Male	3,341	53.6
	Unknown	0	0.0
	M:F ratio	1.16	
<b>Case classification*</b>	Possible	180	2.9
	Probable	97	1.6
	Confirmed	5,951	95.6
<b>Healthcare Worker</b>	Yes	20	0.3
	No	5,043	81.0
	Unknown	1,165	18.7
<b>Underlying Conditions</b>	Yes	5,199	83.5
	No	523	8.4
	Unknown	506	8.1
<b>ICU Admission</b>	Yes	795	12.8
	No	5,433	87.2

\* [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 01/02/2022**

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	8	0.1	0.4
	25-34 yrs	20	0.3	3.0
	35-44 yrs	53	0.9	7.1
	45-54 yrs	160	2.6	25.6
	55-64 yrs	401	6.4	78.8
	65-74 yrs	1,054	16.9	282.2
	75-84 yrs	2,070	33.2	1053.4
	85+ yrs	2,458	39.5	3638.5
	Unknown	4	0.1	
	Total	6,228	100	130.8

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 01/02/2022**

County	Number of deaths	Percentage	Mortality rate per 100,000
Carlow	84	1.3	147.5
Cavan	133	2.1	174.6
Clare	151	2.4	127.1
Cork	537	8.6	98.9
Donegal	236	3.8	148.2
Dublin	2,149	34.5	159.5
Galway	183	2.9	70.9
Kerry	108	1.7	73.1
Kildare	370	5.9	166.3
Kilkenny	102	1.6	102.8
Laois	99	1.6	116.9
Leitrim	30	0.5	93.6
Limerick	299	4.8	153.4
Longford	45	0.7	110.1
Louth	237	3.8	183.9
Mayo	241	3.9	184.7
Meath	197	3.2	101.0
Monaghan	109	1.8	177.6
Offaly	83	1.3	106.5
Roscommon	79	1.3	122.4
Sligo	45	0.7	68.7
Tipperary	132	2.1	82.7
Waterford	138	2.2	118.8
Westmeath	95	1.5	107.0
Wexford	175	2.8	116.9
Wicklow	171	2.7	120.1

**Table 5: Place of death for COVID-19 deaths in Ireland, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 01/02/2022**

Place of death	Number of deaths	Percentage
Hospital	3,283	52.7
Residential Institution*	2,079	33.4
Hospice	63	1.0
Home	280	4.5
Other	94	1.5
Unknown	429	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 01/02/2022**

		Number of Deaths	Percentage of total deaths	Percentage of deaths linked to outbreaks
<b>Total number of deaths</b>		6,228	100.0	
<b>Deaths linked to outbreaks</b>		3,718	59.7	100.0
<b>Outbreaks by location</b>	Nursing homes	2,285	36.7	61.5
	Hospital	893	14.3	24.0
	Community Hospitals/Long-stay units	154	2.5	4.1
	Residential institutions	113	1.8	3.0
	Other locations*	273	4.4	7.3

\* 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 February 2022**

Year	Month	Number of deaths *
2020	March	129
2020	April	1,160
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	1,420
2021	February	892
2021	March	258
2021	April	103
2021	May	43
2021	June	21
2021	July	22
2021	August	90
2021	September	183
2021	October	230
2021	November	254
2021	December	212
2022	January	168
2022	February	2

\* Date of death reported for 6,197 of the deaths.  
 Number of deaths for February 2022 is incomplete.

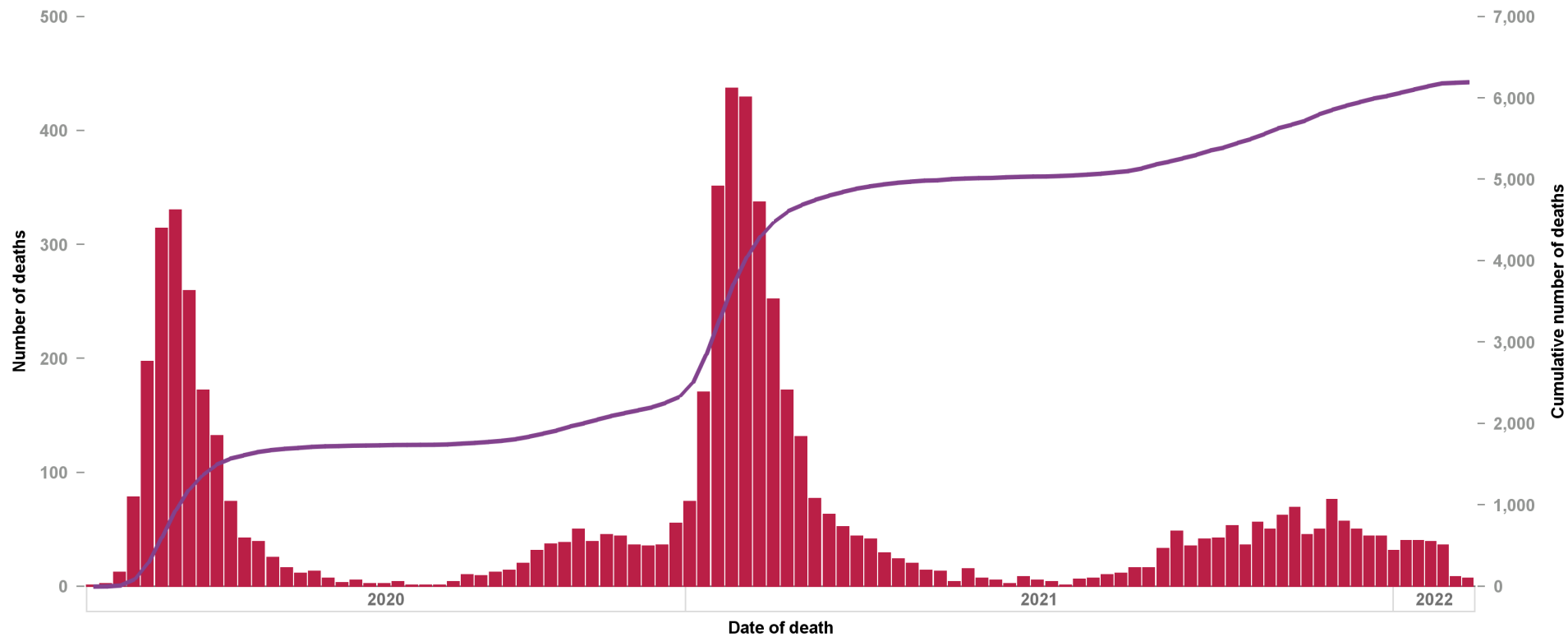


Figure 1: Total number of COVID-19 deaths in Ireland and cumulative number by week of death, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 01/02/2022. Date of death reported for 6,197 of deaths.

## **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 08:45 on 02/02/2022. 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](#)