



Epidemiology of COVID-19 Outbreaks/Clusters in Ireland

Weekly Report Highlights

Prepared by HPSC on 28th September 2020

Week 39 2020 (week ending 26th September 2020)

Note: Data are provisional

This report includes data extracted from CIDR on 28th September 2020 at 09:15am and includes COVID-19 outbreaks notified on CIDR up to midnight 26/09/2020.

Table 1: Number of COVID-19 outbreaks notified in Ireland by outbreak setting and by closure status, up to midnight on Saturday 26/09/2020, N=3,962.

	Closed	Open	Total	Total Week 39
Hospital	106	11	117	4
Nursing home	265	26	291	5
Community Hospital/Long-stay unit	29	3	32	2
Residential institution	181	33	214	11
Other healthcare service	0	1	1	1
Private house	1547	1263	2810	349
Workplace	65	74	139	16
Travel related	36	15	51	2
Extended family	42	48	90	9
Childcare facility	1	10	11	2
Community outbreak	15	35	50	9
Hotel	2	1	3	0
Public house	5	2	7	1
Restaurant / Cafe	4	18	22	8
Social gathering	0	5	5	5
Retail outlet	6	6	12	2
School*	0	36	36	13
University/college	0	1	1	1
Sporting activity/fitness	0	1	1	1
Other recreation activity	0	1	1	1
Other	16	50	66	23
Unknown	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	2	2	0
Total	2320	1642	3962	465

*These outbreaks are outbreaks associated with school children +/- or school staff. Transmission of COVID-19 within the school has not necessarily been established in these outbreaks.

COVID-19 Outbreaks in Workplaces

In total, **139** COVID-19 outbreaks in workplaces¹ have been notified up to midnight on 26/09/2020

In week 39, one outbreak occurred in meat/poultry/fish processing plant, while five occurred in the construction industry.

- Workplace outbreaks involved a variety of workplaces and facilities.
- **61** COVID-19 notified outbreaks involved various food/beverage related industries, of which **41** were in meat/poultry/fish processing plants in all HSE Areas (Table 2), and **five** were in mushroom farms/facilities.

Table 2. Number of COVID-19 workplace outbreaks notified up to midnight on 26/09/2020 and laboratory confirmed cases linked to workplace outbreaks**.

Workplace outbreaks	Number of outbreaks notified			Laboratory confirmed cases linked to outbreaks				
	Week 39 2020	Week 10-39 2020	Number open	Cases notified in week 39	Total cases	Total hospitalised cases	Total ICU cases	Total number of deaths*
Workplace - Meat/poultry/fish processing plant	1	41	16	15	1622	34	11	<5
Workplace - other	15	98	58	14	461	15	5	<5
Total	16	139	74	29	2083	49	16	<5

** Cases numbers <5 are not presented here

*All COVID-19 cases that died and were linked to outbreaks in these settings have been laboratory confirmed. No deaths in probable/possible cases linked to outbreaks in these settings have been notified.

¹ Workplace outbreaks exclude the following workplaces hospitals, residential facilities, hotels, public houses, retail outlets, and other settings (outbreaks in GP practices and outbreaks associated with home carers). These are reported under those headings in the full weekly outbreak report.

COVID-19 Outbreaks Vulnerable Populations

This brief overview of COVID-19 outbreaks in vulnerable populations/settings only includes outbreaks involving the Roma community, Irish Traveller community, outbreaks in Direct Provision Centres, facilities for the homeless/those with addiction issues and prisons notified up to midnight on 26/09/2020 (Table 3). COVID-19 outbreaks and cases are continuously validated/updated on Ireland's National Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting System (CIDR).

- There were eight new outbreaks reported in vulnerable populations during week 39:
 - One among members of the Roma community
 - One among members of the Irish Traveller community
 - Four in Direct Provision Centres
 - Two in facilities for people who are homeless or for people who have addictions
- For outbreaks involving prisons, available data reported on CIDR indicate that all cases were in staff.

Table 3. Number of COVID-19 outbreaks in settings involving vulnerable populations, including the Roma community, Irish Traveller community, outbreaks in Direct Provision Centres, facilities for the homeless/those with addiction issues and prisons notified up to midnight on 26/09/2020 and laboratory confirmed cases linked to these outbreaks**. *Data source: CIDR*

Vulnerable populations	Number of outbreaks notified			Laboratory confirmed cases linked to outbreaks				
	Week 39	Week10-39	Number open	Cases notified in week 39	Total cases	Total hospitalised cases	Total ICU cases	Total number of deaths*
Roma community	1	6	2	<5	76	13	6	<5
Irish Traveller community	1	14	5	10	127	6	<5	<5
Direct provision centres	4	30	9	14	306	15	<5	<5
Homeless^ / those with addiction issues	2	12	8	<5	30	5	<5	<5
Prisons	0	6	0	<1	24	<5	<5	<5
Total	8	68	24	27	563	42	10	6

** Cases numbers <5 are not presented here

^ this includes some facilities that provide long term supported accommodation. Also includes staff of homeless facilities.

*All COVID-19 cases that died and were linked to outbreaks in these settings have been laboratory confirmed. No deaths in probable/possible cases linked to outbreaks in these settings have been notified.