



Epidemiology of COVID-19 Outbreaks/Clusters in Ireland

Weekly Report Highlights

Prepared by HPSC on 21st September 2020

Week 38 2020 (week ending 19th September 2020)

Note: Data are provisional

This report includes data extracted from CIDR on 21st September 2020 at 09:15am and includes COVID-19 outbreaks notified on CIDR up to midnight 19/09/2020.

Table 1: Number of COVID-19 outbreaks notified in Ireland by outbreak setting and by closure status, up to midnight on Saturday 19/09/2020, N=3,500.

	Closed	Open	Total	Total Week 38
Hospital	95	18	113	2
Nursing home	245	42	287	4
Community Hospital/Long-stay unit	28	2	30	0
Residential institution	170	33	203	2
Private house	1543	920	2463	391
Workplace	57	68	125	18
Travel related	34	15	49	3
Extended family	42	38	80	11
Childcare facility	1	7	8	4
Community outbreak	14	27	41	1
Hotel	2	1	3	1
Public house	5	2	7	2
Restaurant / Cafe	3	9	12	3
Retail outlet	5	5	10	2
School*	0	23	23	11
Other	15	28	43	13
Unknown	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	3	3	2
Total	2259	1241	3500	470

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

COVID-19 Outbreaks in Workplaces

In total, **125** COVID-19 outbreaks in workplaces¹ have been notified up to midnight on 19/09/2020

Three outbreaks occurred in meat/poultry/fish processing plants, while two occurred in the construction industry during week 38.

- Workplace outbreaks involved a variety of workplaces and facilities.
- **57** COVID-19 notified outbreaks involved various food/beverage related industries, of which **40** 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 19/09/2020 and laboratory confirmed cases linked to workplace outbreaks**.

	Number of outbreaks notified			Laboratory confirmed cases linked to outbreaks				
	Week 38 2020	Week 10-38 2020	Number open	Cases notified in week 38	Total cases	Total hospitalised cases	Total ICU cases	Total number of deaths*
Workplace outbreaks								
Workplace - Meat/poultry/fish processing plant	3	40	15	10	1602	34	11	<5
Workplace - other	15	85	53	43	433	18	5	<5
Total	18	125	68	53	2035	52	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 05/09/2020 (Table 3). COVID-19 outbreaks and cases are continuously validated/updated on Ireland's National Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting System (CIDR).

- There were no new outbreaks reported in vulnerable populations during week 38.
- 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 19/09/2020 and laboratory confirmed cases linked to these outbreaks**. *Data source: CIDR*

Vulnerable populations	Number of outbreaks notified			Laboratory confirmed cases linked to outbreaks				
	Week 38	Week10-38	Number open	Cases notified in week 38	Total cases	Total hospitalised cases	Total ICU cases	Total number of deaths*
Roma community	0	5	2	<1	69	13	6	<5
Irish Traveller community	0	12	4	<1	113	6	<5	<5
Direct provision centres	0	26	7	<1	292	15	<5	<5
Homeless^ / those with addiction issues	0	9	5	<1	26	5	<5	<5
Prisons	0	6	0	<1	24	<5	<5	<5
Total	0	58	18	<1	524	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.