

# Epidemiology of COVID-19 Outbreaks/Clusters in Ireland

## Weekly Report Highlights

Prepared by HPSC on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**Week 49 2020 (week ending 5<sup>th</sup> December 2020)**

**Note: Data are provisional**

This report includes data extracted from CIDR on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 9:15am and includes COVID-19 outbreaks notified on CIDR up to midnight 05/12/2020

**Table 1:** Number of COVID-19 outbreaks notified in Ireland by outbreak setting and by closure status, up to midnight on Saturday 05/12/2020, N=9,746.

Outbreak Location	Closed	Open	Total	Total Week 49
Hospital	146	48	194	7
Nursing home	328	32	360	5
Community Hospital/Long-stay unit	31	4	35	0
Residential institution	258	30	288	7
Other healthcare service	19	6	25	0
Private house	2658	4744	7402	288
Workplace	196	123	319	8
Travel related	52	9	61	1
Transport	5	6	11	1
Extended family	126	83	209	9
Childcare facility	44	45	89	5
Community outbreak	93	109	202	1
Hotel	6	5	11	0
Guest house/ B&B	1	0	1	0
Public house	17	6	23	0
Restaurant / Cafe	35	9	44	0
Social gathering	36	17	53	0
Retail outlet	18	13	31	4
School*	127	100	227	14
University/college**	21	11	32	2
Religious/Other ceremony	13	5	18	0
Sporting activity/fitness	26	0	26	0
Other recreation activity	1	0	1	0
Personal grooming service	3	2	5	0
Other	61	15	76	0
Unknown	0	1	1	0
Not specified	1	1	2	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4322</b>	<b>5424</b>	<b>9746</b>	<b>352</b>

\*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. \*\*These outbreaks are associated with a university/college location and do not include outbreaks among third level students that occurred at other locations

## COVID-19 Outbreaks in Workplaces

In total, **319** COVID-19 outbreaks in workplaces<sup>1</sup> have been notified up to midnight on 05/12/2020. COVID-19 outbreaks and cases are continuously validated/updated on Ireland's National Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting System (CIDR).

- These outbreaks involved a variety of workplaces and facilities
- **85** COVID-19 notified outbreaks have been notified in businesses associated with food/beverage production or processing, of which **61** were in meat/poultry/fish processing plants in all HSE Areas (Table 2)

**There were 8 new COVID-19 workplace outbreaks notified during week 49.** One outbreak occurred in meat/poultry/fish processing plants. No outbreaks occurred on a construction site or on a construction industry-related site.

**Table 2.** Number of COVID-19 workplace outbreaks notified up to midnight on 05/12/2020 and laboratory confirmed cases linked to workplace outbreaks. *Data source: CIDR*

Workplace outbreaks	Number of outbreaks notified			Laboratory confirmed cases linked to outbreaks				
	Week 49 2020	Week 10-49 2020	Number open	Cases notified in week 49	Total cases	Total hospitalised cases	Total ICU cases	Total number of deaths*
Workplace - Meat/poultry/fish processing plant	1	61	15	36	1930	41	12	<5
Workplace - Construction industry**	0	46	20	<5	195	<5	<5	<5
Workplace - other	7	212	88	19	942	28	7	<5
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>3067</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>&lt;5</b>

<sup>1</sup>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. \*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. \*\*Cases linked to some construction site outbreaks may reside in Northern Ireland and consequently will be notified in that jurisdiction. These cases will not be included in the case numbers for Ireland.

## 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 05/12/2020 (Table 3). COVID-19 outbreaks and cases are continuously validated/updated on CIDR.

**here were two new outbreaks reported in vulnerable populations during week 49:**

- One outbreak occurred in the Irish Traveller community in HSE West
- One outbreak occurred in a Direct Provision Centre in HSE Northeast

**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 05/12/2020 and laboratory confirmed cases linked to these outbreaks. *Data source: CIDR*

Vulnerable populations	Number of outbreaks notified			Laboratory confirmed cases linked to outbreaks				
	Week 49	Week 10-49	Number open	Cases notified in week 49	Total cases	Total hospitalised cases	Total ICU cases	Total number of deaths*
Roma community	0	12	6	<5	175	18	7	5
Irish Traveller community	1	82	46	10	1196	55	6	<5
Direct provision centres	1	36	4	<5	371	15	<5	<5
Homeless^ / those with addiction issues	0	14	2	<5	77	5	<5	<5
Prisons	0	9	3	<5	57	<5	<5	<5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1876</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>7</b>

^ 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.