

Epidemiology of COVID-19 Outbreaks/Clusters in Ireland

Weekly Report

Prepared by HPSC on 16th November 2021

Week 45 2021 (week ending 13th November 2021)

Note: Data are provisional

This report includes data extracted from CIDR on 16th November 2021 at 8:30am and includes COVID-19 outbreaks notified on CIDR up to midnight 13/11/2021.

Total Number of COVID-19 outbreaks notified since Week 10 2020:	20,661
Number of COVID-19 outbreaks notified from Week 26:	3,284
Number of COVID-19 outbreaks notified since Week 26 OPEN:	1,298
Number of COVID-19 outbreaks notified since Week 26 CLOSED:	1,986
Number of COVID-19 outbreaks notified in Week 45 2021:	151

Waves (weeks)	Dates
Wave 1 (Weeks 10 – 31 2020)	01/03/2020 – 01/08/2020
Wave 2 (Week 32 – 47 2020)	02/08/2020 – 21/11/2020
Wave 3 (Week 48 2020 – Week 25 2021)	22/11/2020 – 26/06/2021
Wave 4 (Week 26 2021 onwards)	27/06/2021 onwards

The COVID-19 outbreak definition is available in appendix 2 of this report and on the HPSC website at: <https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/casedefinitions/covid-19outbreakcasedefinitionforireland/>

Please note COVID-19 outbreaks and cases are continuously validated/updated on Ireland's National Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting System (CIDR).

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.

Summary (Week 26 2021 to Week 45 2021)

3,284 outbreaks have been reported from Week 26 2021 onwards (week beginning 27/06/2021; fourth wave of COVID-19 infection in Ireland) and key outbreak locations are as follows:

- 152 (4.6%) were reported in hospitals
- 124 (3.8%) were reported in nursing homes
- 22 (0.7%) were reported in community hospital/long-stay units
- 173 (5.3%) were reported in residential institutions
- 822 (25%) were reported in private houses*
- 1,991 (60.6%) were reported in a range of other settings, including workplaces (n=425, 12.9%), schools (n=343, 10.4%), childcare facilities (n=211, 6.4%), retail outlets (n=151, 4.6%) and social gatherings (n=115, 3.5%). See Table 1 for further details.

1,986 outbreaks have been closed and 1,298 outbreaks are open (522 private house* outbreaks and 776 outbreaks in all other locations) (See Appendix 1, Table A for breakdown of outbreaks by location and outbreak status. Note that it is common practice not to close private house outbreaks on CIDR due to the large volume of outbreaks in this category).

20,661 COVID-19 outbreaks have been reported in Ireland since week 10, 2020 (Figure 1).

Summary (Week 45, 2021)

In **Week 45** 2021, there were **151** COVID-19 outbreaks notified:

- The overall number of outbreaks notified in Week 45 decreased by 19 compared to Week 44[#] 2021
- There were 29 acute hospital outbreaks notified
- There were eight nursing home outbreaks notified
- There were three community hospital/long-stay unit outbreaks notified
- There were 22 residential institution outbreaks notified
- There were 11 outbreaks associated with other healthcare services notified
- There were 16 outbreaks associated with schools notified
- There were nine outbreaks associated with childcare facilities notified
- There was one outbreak associated with University/college third-level students notified
- There was one outbreak associated with a social gathering notified
- There were four outbreaks associated with retail settings notified
- There were six outbreaks associated with workplaces notified including two associated with construction, one with manufacturing, one in an office setting, one in a meat processing facility and one in food/beverage production and processing
- The remaining 41* outbreaks included private houses (n=29), travel/transport related (n=3), religious/other ceremony (n=2), public house (n=1), restaurant/café (n=1), extended family (n=4), community (n=1)

[#]In Week 44 2021, 32 outbreaks associated with schools that occurred during May and June 2021 (2020/21 academic year) were retrospectively notified.

*Public Health are prioritising the reporting of outbreaks in key settings e.g. RCFs, hospitals. Therefore, the number outbreaks in some other settings is underestimated.

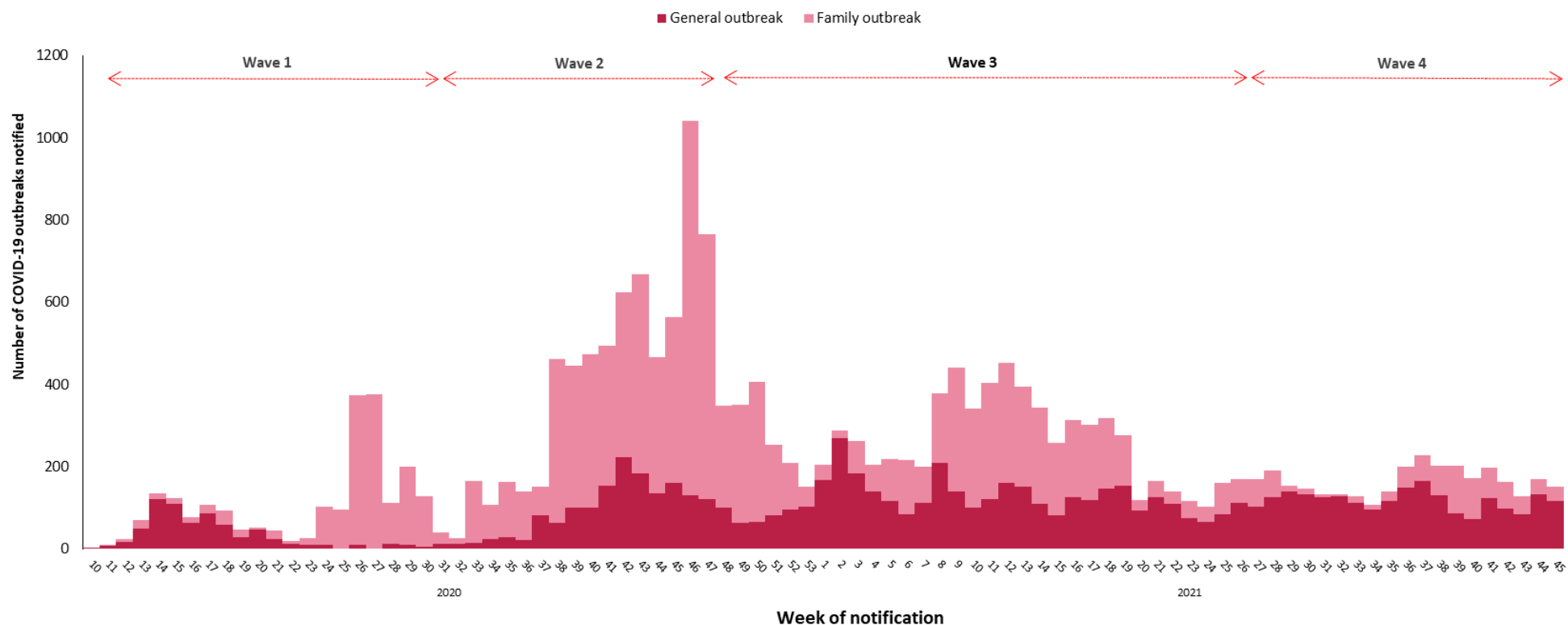


Figure 1: Epi-curve of COVID-19 outbreaks in all settings notified in Ireland by week of notification and outbreak type (see technical note 5, Appendix 2) to midnight on 13/11/2021, N=20,661 Data source: CIDR

Dashed red arrows indicate the timeline of the first, second, third and fourth waves of COVID-19 infection in Ireland (second wave of infection commenced in Week 32 2020 (week beginning 02/08/2020); the third wave commenced in Week 48 2020 (22/11/2021); the fourth wave commenced Week 26 2021 (27/06/2021)).

***Note:** Family outbreaks reported in July 2020 (weeks 27-31) were composed largely of late notified outbreaks from the period March to May 2020 (weeks 10-22). In addition, the creation of private house outbreaks was not prioritised in waves 3 and 4 and therefore the number of family outbreaks in these waves is likely to be an underestimate

Note: Data are provisional

Table 1: Number of COVID-19 outbreaks notified in Ireland by outbreak location and by week of notification from 27/06/2021 to midnight on 13/11/2021, and difference in number of outbreaks notified in Week 45 2021 compared to the previous week, N=3,284. *Data source: CIDR*

Outbreak location	week of outbreak notification									Difference in number of outbreaks notified since last week	Total Wave 4 (Week 26-45)
	2021										
	week 26-37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45		
Hospital	65	8	7	10	13	5	6	9	29	+20	152
Nursing home	55	12	5	13	10	12	6	3	8	+5	124
Community Hospital / Long-stay unit	10	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	3	+1	22
Residential institution	68	4	16	5	13	18	7	20	22	+2	173
Community outbreak	35	3	1	9	0	2	0	0	1	+1	51
Other healthcare services	24	3	4	7	9	4	6	4	11	+7	72
Hotel	71	0	1	0	0	4	4	3	0	-3	83
Guest house/ B&B	8	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
Restaurant / Café	90	2	0	1	3	3	1	1	1	0	102
Public house	54	1	1	3	2	1	4	3	1	-2	70
Social gathering	90	4	1	3	3	2	4	7	1	-6	115
Retail outlet	116	2	6	1	5	4	8	5	4	-1	151
Workplace	264	21	22	18	33	19	18	24	6	-18	425
Travel related	41	0	1	0	1	5	3	1	2	+1	54
Transport	17	0	1	1	2	1	1	0	1	+1	24
Private house: family outbreaks	322	62	105	81	63	56	40	34	29	-5	792
Private house: general outbreaks	16	2	2	1	0	1	3	5	0	-5	30
Extended family	53	10	9	12	9	7	3	2	4	+2	109
Childcare Facility	169	9	1	2	10	3	1	7	9	+2	211
School*	199	51	10	2	15	11	5	34 [#]	16	-18	343
University/College**	4	0	3	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	11
Religious/Other ceremony	31	4	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	-1	52
Sporting activity/fitness	43	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	48
Other recreation activity	20	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	22
Personal grooming service	21	1	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	-1	26
Other	8	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	-1	11
Unknown	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total	1896	203	203	173	197	163	128	170	151	-19	3284

*These outbreaks are outbreaks associated with school children +/- 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. [#]In Week 44 2021, 32 outbreaks associated with schools that occurred during May and June 2021 (2020/21 academic year) were retrospectively notified.

Note: Data are provisional

Table 2A: Number of COVID-19 outbreaks by outbreak location and HSE-Area notified in Ireland from 27/06/2021 to midnight on 13/11/2021 N=3,284. *Data source: CIDR*

Outbreak Location	East	Midlands	MidWest	NorthEast	NorthWest	SouthEast	South	West	HPSC [#]	Total
Private house	26	178	164	24	368	5	17	40	0	822
Workplace	109	24	31	73	41	49	65	33	0	425
School*	67	34	90	46	42	16	24	24	0	343
Childcare facility	75	15	29	39	11	9	10	23	0	211
Residential institution	59	8	31	20	11	14	18	12	0	173
Hospital	59	12	10	12	23	10	11	15	0	152
Retail outlet	65	0	11	21	16	16	16	6	0	151
Nursing home	26	12	16	12	9	13	23	13	0	124
Social gathering	3	6	35	14	34	6	15	2	0	115
Extended family	5	15	24	0	35	8	6	16	0	109
Restaurant / Café	29	2	10	10	16	12	16	7	0	102
Hotel	7	1	4	14	11	12	19	15	0	83
Other healthcare service	11	0	16	10	4	11	10	10	0	72
Public house	10	2	4	9	20	3	14	8	0	70
Travel related	7	10	1	4	9	1	20	1	1	54
Religious/Other ceremony	7	0	1	11	5	8	17	3	0	52
Community outbreak	4	3	2	1	10	1	26	4	0	51
Sporting activity/fitness	11	0	5	9	6	9	6	2	0	48
Personal grooming service	10	1	2	5	0	3	5	0	0	26
Transport	3	3	1	0	9	2	1	5	0	24
Community Hospital / Long-stay unit	5	1	1	0	4	5	5	1	0	22
Other recreation activity	11	1	0	3	0	3	2	2	0	22
Other/Unknown/Not specified	2	0	4	1	1	3	0	2	0	13
University/college**	4	0	3	1	2	0	1	0	0	11
Guest house/ B&B	3	0	0	1	1	2	2	0	0	9
Total	618	328	495	340	688	221	349	244	1	3284

*These outbreaks are outbreaks associated with school children +/- 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.

#Outbreak involves three or more public health regions.

Note: Data are provisional

Table 2B: Number of COVID-19 outbreaks by outbreak location and HSE-Area notified in Ireland during Week 45 2021 (week ending 13/11/2021), N=151. *Data source: CIDR*

Outbreak Location	East	Midlands	MidWest	NorthEast	NorthWest	SouthEast	South	West	Total
Private house	3	4	12	1	5	3	0	1	29
Hospital	15	1	0	2	6	2	1	2	29
Residential institution	4	0	5	3	2	2	5	1	22
School*	6	4	1	3	1	0	0	1	16
Other healthcare service	1	0	3	0	0	2	2	3	11
Childcare facility	2	1	2	0	1	0	0	3	9
Nursing home	0	1	0	2	0	2	2	1	8
Workplace	2	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	6
Extended family	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	4
Retail outlet	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	4
Community Hospital / Long-stay unit	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	3
Travel related	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Religious/Other ceremony	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
Community outbreak	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Social gathering	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Transport	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
University/college**	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Public house	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Restaurant / Café	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Total	34	15	30	13	20	11	13	15	151

*These outbreaks are outbreaks associated with school children +/- 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.

Note: Data are provisional

COVID-19 Outbreaks/Clusters in Residential Facilities and Hospital settings in Ireland

A summary of outbreaks linked to nursing homes, acute hospitals, community hospital/long-stay units, and other residential institutions is shown in Figure 2 (A-D), in the subsequent “Focus” sections and Tables 3-7. Further data (including breakdown by CHO) of COVID-19 outbreaks in all acute hospitals, residential facilities and in nursing homes in Ireland by date of notification are available in the daily COVID-19 surveillance report.

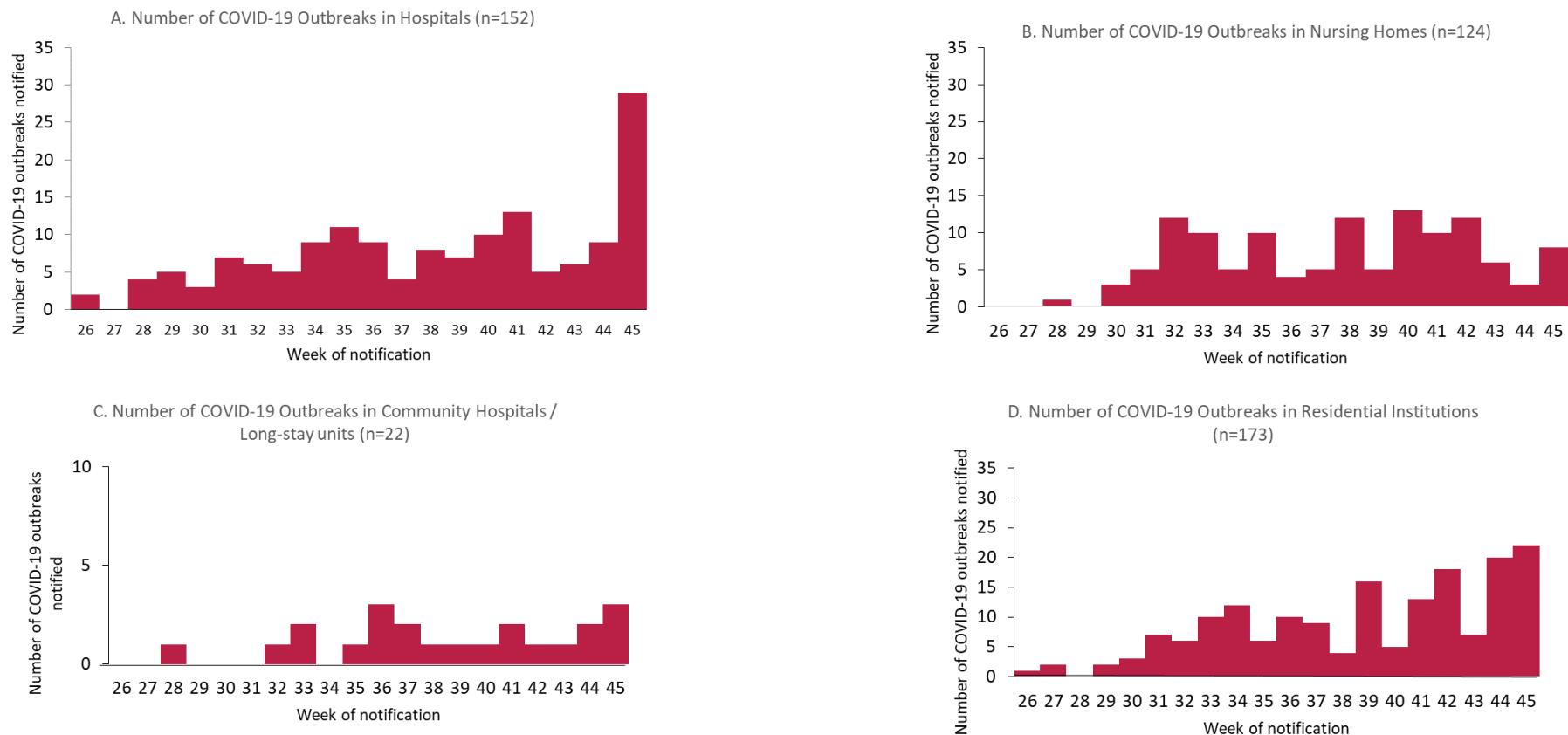


Figure 2 A-D: Epi-curve of COVID-19 outbreaks in (A) Acute Hospitals, (B) Nursing Homes, (C) Community Hospitals/Long-stay units and (D) Residential institutions notified in Ireland by week of notification, from 27/06/2021 to midnight on 13/11/2021. *Data source: CIDR*

Note: Data are provisional

Focus on Nursing Homes and Community Hospitals

There have been **795** outbreaks in nursing homes and community hospital/long stay units, with **18,232** linked laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases, notified in Ireland since 01/03/2020.

From 27/06/2021 to 13/11/2021, **146** outbreaks in nursing homes or community hospital/long-stay units have been notified and **70** of these outbreaks remain open. A total of **2,097 laboratory confirmed cases** linked to outbreaks in nursing homes or community hospital/long-stay units have been notified. Of those cases, 159 were hospitalised, none were admitted to ICU, and 140 cases died (Table 3).

There were eight new outbreaks reported in a nursing homes and three in community hospital/long-term care facilities during Week 45 2021

Table 3: Number of COVID-19 outbreaks and cases in nursing homes and community hospital/long-stay units in Ireland, from 27/06/2021 to midnight on 13/11/2021. *Data source: CIDR*

Outbreak location	Number of outbreaks notified					Laboratory confirmed cases linked to outbreaks (Week 26-45)				
	Week 45	Week 45 outbreaks: Range in no. of cases [#]	Week 26-45	Number open	Open outbreaks: Range in no. of cases [#]	Cases notified in Week 45	Total cases	Total hospitalised cases	Total ICU cases	Total number of deaths
Nursing home	8	2-12	124	60	1-64	18	1890	104	0	130
Community Hospital/Long-stay unit	3	2-13	22	10	2-48	43	207	55	0	10
Total	11	2-13	146	70	1-64	61	2097	159	0	140

[#]n/a is used where there were no outbreaks in a category or where there are no confirmed cases currently linked to any outbreak in that category (see technical note 6, Appendix 2).

Note: Data are provisional

Table 4: Summary of notified COVID-19 outbreaks and COVID-19 laboratory confirmed cases that were linked to COVID-19 outbreaks in Nursing Homes and Community Hospital/Long-stay units by HSE-Area from 27/06/2021 to midnight on 13/11/2021, N=146 outbreaks. *Data source: CIDR*

HSE-Area	Number of outbreaks	Laboratory confirmed cases linked to outbreaks (week 26-45)			
		All cases	Hospitalised cases	Hospitalised cases that died	Total cases that died
East	31	287	20	5	20
Midlands	13	188	<5	<5	8
Midwest	17	248	12	<5	12
Northeast	12	183	17	6	17
Northwest	13	163	21	6	18
Southeast	18	217	10	<5	10
South	28	493	68	9	37
West	14	318	7	<5	18
Total	146	2097	159	35	140

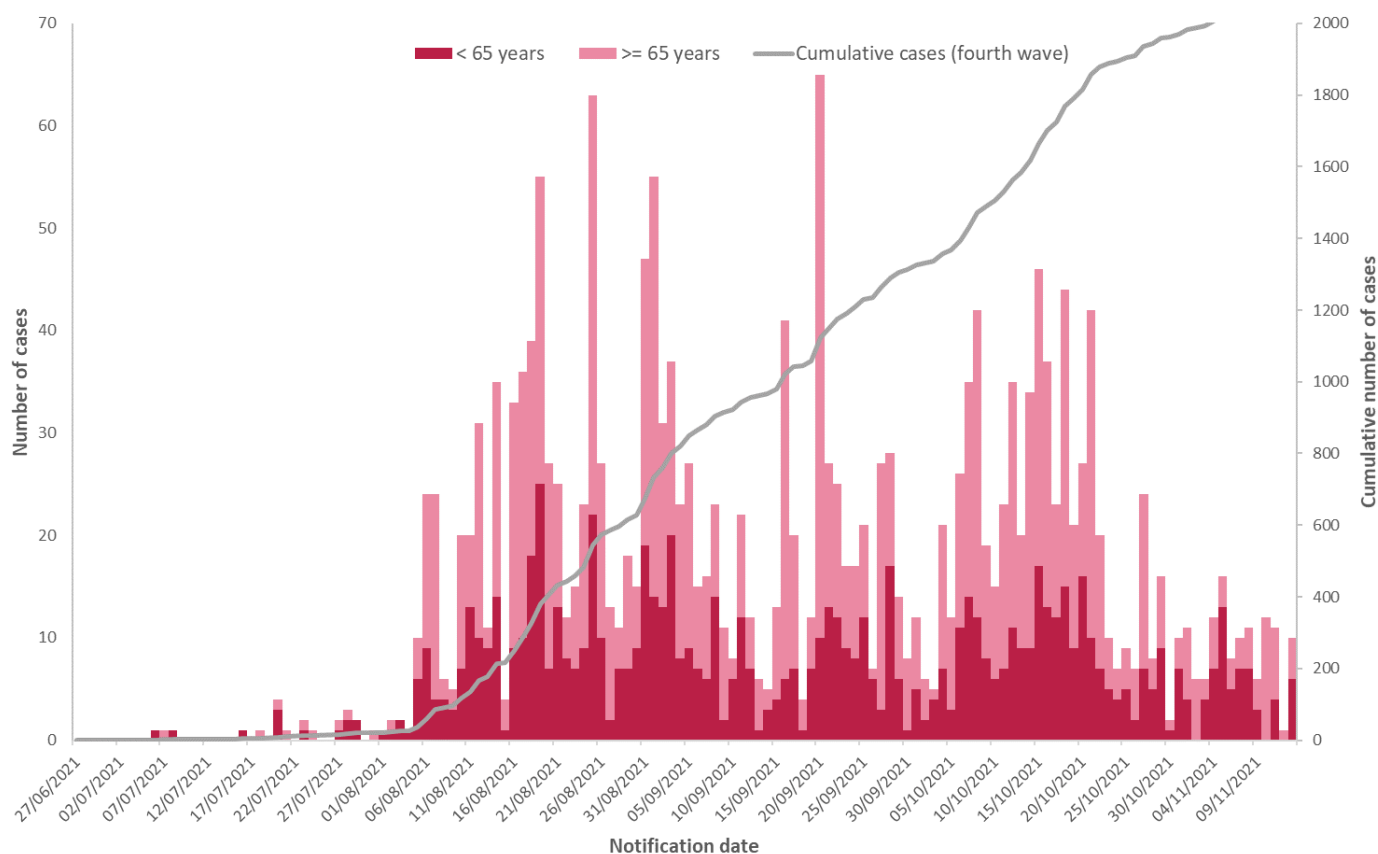


Figure 3: Epi-curve of confirmed COVID-19 cases linked to outbreaks in nursing homes and community hospital/long-stay units by age group (<65 years and ≥65 years), date of notification, and cumulative number of confirmed cases during the fourth wave of infection from 27/06/2021 to midnight 13/11/2021. *Data source: CIDR*

Note: Data are provisional

Focus on Acute Hospitals

There were **576** outbreaks in acute hospitals, with **6,625** linked laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases, notified in Ireland since 01/03/2020.

From 27/06/2021 to 13/11/2021, **152** outbreaks in acute hospitals have been notified and **72** of these outbreaks remain open. A total of **796 laboratory confirmed cases** linked to outbreaks in acute hospitals have been notified. Of those, 12 were admitted to ICU and 66 died (Table 5). Cases were reported to be a healthcare worker (HCW) in 240 cases, not a HCW in 367 cases and HCW status was unknown for the remaining cases (Figure 4).

There were 29 new outbreaks reported in acute hospitals during Week 45 2021

Table 5: Number of COVID-19 outbreaks and cases in acute hospital settings in Ireland, from 27/06/2021 to midnight on 13/11/2021. *Data source: CIDR*

Outbreak location: Acute Hospitals	Number of outbreaks notified					Laboratory confirmed cases linked to outbreaks (week 26-45)			
	Week 45	Week 45 outbreaks: Range in no. of cases	week 26-45	Number open	Open outbreaks: Range in no. of cases#	Cases notified in Week 45	Total cases	Total ICU cases	Total number of deaths
	29	1-9	152	72	1-31	56	796	12	66

Note: Data are provisional

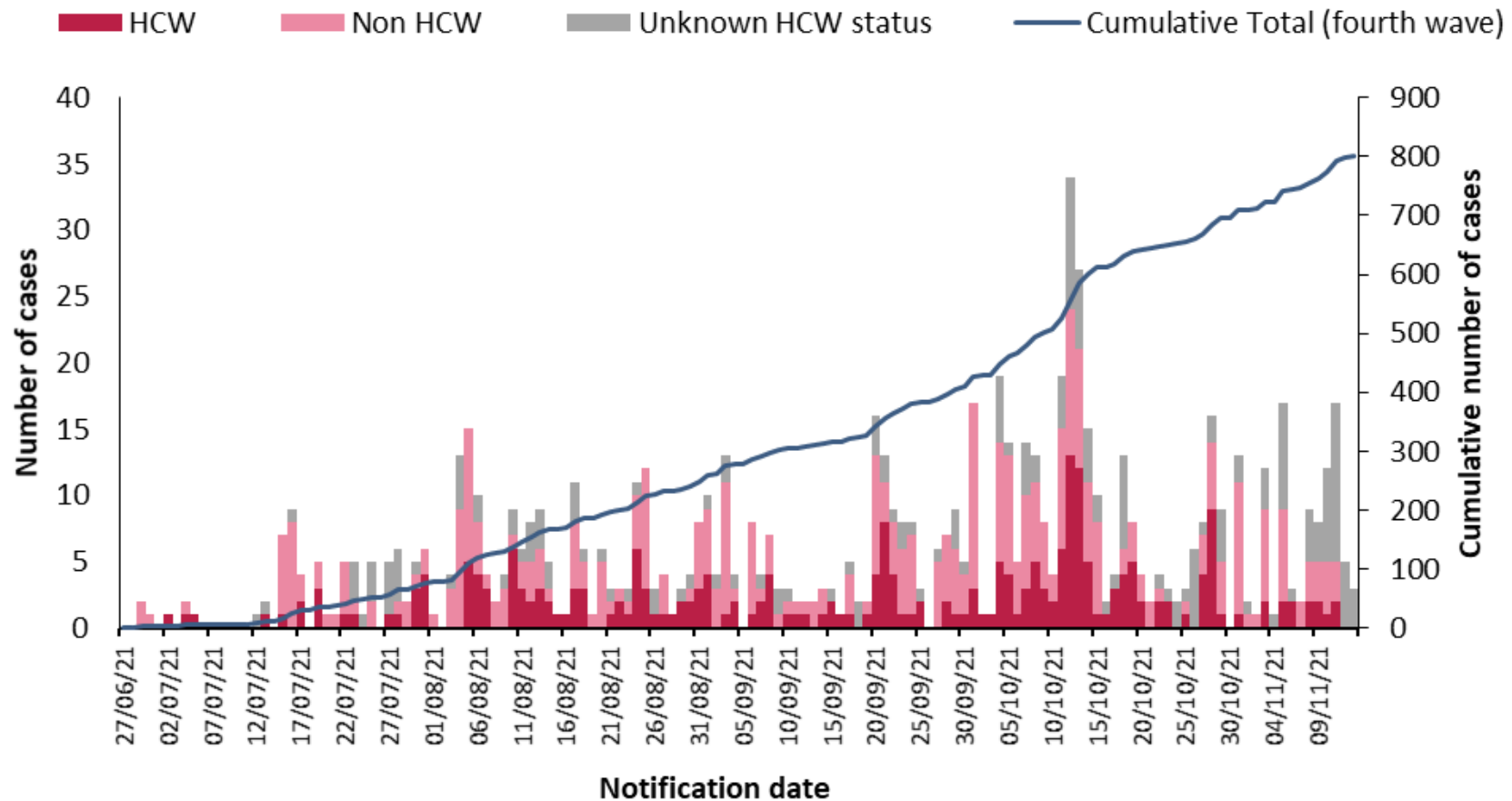


Figure 4: Epi-curve of confirmed COVID-19 cases linked to outbreaks in acute hospitals by healthcare worker (HCW) status and by date of notification, and cumulative number of confirmed cases during the fourth wave of infection by date of notification, from 27/06/2021 to midnight on 13/11/2021. *Data source: CIDR*

Note: Data are provisional

Focus on Residential Institutions (please see footnote¹)

There were **594** outbreaks in residential institutions, with **3,727** linked laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases, notified in Ireland since 01/03/2020.

From 27/06/2021 to 13/11/2021, **145** outbreaks in residential institutions have been notified and **83** of these outbreaks remain open. There were **596 laboratory confirmed cases** linked to outbreaks in residential institutions. Of those, **23** cases were hospitalised, two were admitted to ICU and five cases died (Table 6). The majority of residential institution outbreaks were notified in centres for disabilities, with **102** outbreaks and **436** confirmed linked cases notified since Week 26 2021.

There were 12 new outbreaks reported in centres for disabilities, four in Children’s / TUSLA residential centres, one in a centre for older people, two in mental health facilities and one in an unspecified location during Week 45 2021

Table 6: Number of COVID-19 outbreaks and cases in residential institutions in Ireland, from 27/06/2021 to midnight on 13/11/2021. *Data source: CIDR*

Outbreak location	Number of outbreaks notified					Laboratory confirmed cases linked to outbreaks (Week 26-45)				
	Week 45	Week 45 outbreaks: Range in no. of cases [#]	Week 26-45	Number open	Open outbreaks: Range in no. of cases [#]	Cases notified in Week 45	Total cases	Total hospitalised cases	Total ICU cases	Total number of deaths
Centre for disabilities	12	1-20	102	61	1-32	33	436	10	<5	<5
Centre for older people	1	3	3	2	3-5	7	14	<5	0	<5
Children’s / TUSLA residential centre	4	2-5	20	12	1-8	8	67	0	0	0
Mental health facility	2	1-2	10	4	1-4	<5	26	5	<5	<5
Other	0	n/a	7	3	2-10	0	45	6	0	<5
Not Specified	1	n/a	3	1	n/a	0	8	0	0	0
Total	20	0-20	145	83	0-32	51	596	23	<5	5

[#]n/a is used where there were no outbreaks in a category or where there are no confirmed cases currently linked to any outbreak in that category (see technical note 6, Appendix 2).

¹ This section focuses on the following residential settings: Centres for disabilities, Centre for older people, Children’s/TUSLA residential centres and mental health facilities. Homeless services, addiction services, direct provision centres and prisons are reported in the Focus on Vulnerable Populations section.

Note: Data are provisional

COVID-19 Outbreaks in Other Healthcare Settings

There were **264** outbreaks associated with Other Healthcare settings, with **1,005** linked laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases, notified in Ireland since 01/03/2020.

This brief overview of COVID-19 outbreaks in other healthcare settings notified up to midnight on 13/11/2021 (Table 7). Since week 26 2021 there have been **72** outbreaks associated with other healthcare services and 46 of these remain open. There were **188 linked laboratory confirmed cases** associated with other healthcare service outbreaks.

In Week 45 there were 11 new outbreaks associated with other healthcare services, three in dental clinics, three in day care services and the remainder in other healthcare services

Table 7: Number of COVID-19 outbreaks and cases associated with home care services and day services in Ireland, from 27/06/2021 to midnight on 13/11/2021.

Data source: CIDR

Outbreak location	Number of outbreaks notified					Laboratory confirmed cases linked to outbreaks (week 26-45)				
	Week 45	Week 45 outbreaks: Range in no. of cases [#]	week 26-45	Number open	Open outbreaks: Range in no. of cases [#]	Cases notified in Week 45	Total cases	Total hospitalised cases	Total ICU cases	Total number of deaths
home care services	0	n/a	27	17	1-9	<5	67	5	0	0
Other healthcare services	11	1-3	45	29	1-11	16	121	6	<5	0
Total	11	0-3	72	46	1-11	17	188	11	<5	0

[#]n/a is used where there were no outbreaks in a category or where there are no confirmed cases currently linked to any outbreak in that category (see technical note 6, Appendix 2).

Note: Data are provisional

COVID-19 Outbreaks in Other Vulnerable Populations

There were **809** outbreaks associated with the below described vulnerable populations, with **7,749** linked laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases, notified in Ireland since 01/03/2020.

This brief overview of COVID-19 outbreaks in vulnerable populations/settings only includes outbreaks involving the Roma community, Irish Travellers, outbreaks in Direct Provision Centres, facilities for the homeless/those with addiction issues and prisons notified up to midnight on 13/11/2021 (Table 8). From 27/06/2021 to 13/11/2021, there have been **209** outbreaks in vulnerable populations, of which 119 remain open. There were **1,182 linked laboratory confirmed cases** associated with outbreaks in vulnerable groups in this time period.

There were eighteen new outbreaks reported in vulnerable populations during Week 45 2021:

- 13 outbreaks among Irish Travellers
- Three outbreaks in the Roma community
- One in the homeless population
- One related to persons with addictions

Table 8: 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 from 27/06/2021 to midnight on 13/11/2021 and laboratory confirmed cases linked to these outbreaks. *Data source: CIDR*

Vulnerable populations	Number of outbreaks notified					Laboratory confirmed cases linked to outbreaks (Week 26-45)				
	Week 45	Week 45 outbreaks: Range in no. of cases [#]	Week 26-45	Number open	Open outbreaks: Range in no. of cases [#]	Cases notified in Week 45	Total cases	Total hospitalised cases	Total ICU cases	Total number of deaths [*]
Irish Travellers	13	2-8	160	94	1-50	17	894	24	<5	<5
Roma community	3	2-17	19	14	1-17	10	100	6	<5	<5
Direct provision centres	0	n/a	12	3	2-23	0	96	8	0	0
Homeless [¥]	1	3	11	5	2-3	<5	50	<5	0	0
Persons with addictions	1	1	4	2	1-4	<5	9	0	0	0
Prisons	0	n/a	3	1	27	23	33	0	0	0
Total	18	0-17	209	119	1-50	53	1182	40	5	<5

[¥]Homeless facilities include 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. [#]n/a is used where there were no outbreaks in a category or where there are no confirmed cases currently linked to any outbreak in that category (see technical note 6, Appendix 2).

Note: Data are provisional

COVID-19 Outbreaks associated with school children (+/- staff), universities/colleges and childcare facilities

There were **1,122** outbreaks in schools, with **4,566** linked laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases; **218** outbreaks in universities colleges/third-level students, with **2,249** linked laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases; **608** outbreaks in childcare facilities, with **2,925** linked laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases, notified in Ireland since 01/03/2020.

In total, **568** COVID-19 outbreaks associated with school children (+/- staff), universities/colleges/third level students and childcare facilities have been notified from 27/06/2021 up to midnight on 13/11/2021 (Table 9).

During **Week 45** 2021, there were **16** COVID-19 outbreaks notified associated with school children +/- staff. There were **nine** COVID-19 outbreaks associated with childcare facilities and **one** outbreak associated with third level students in a University/College setting.

Table 9: Number of COVID-19 outbreaks associated with school children (+/- staff), universities/colleges/third level students and childcare facilities notified to midnight on 13/11/2021 and laboratory confirmed cases linked to these outbreaks. *Data source: CIDR*

Outbreak location	Number of outbreaks notified					Laboratory confirmed cases linked to outbreaks (week 26-45)				
	Week 45	Week 45 outbreaks: Range in no. of cases [#]	week 26-45	Number open	Open outbreaks: Range in no. of cases [#]	Cases notified in Week 45	Total cases	Total hospitalised cases	Total ICU cases ^{***}	Total number of deaths
Primary	4	1-19	275	61	1-36	18	1366	7	0	0
Post-primary	2	1-2	37	11	1-2	<5	87	0	0	0
Special education	9	1-4	26	18	1-15	13	80	0	0	0
Not specified/other	1	7	5	3	2-7	5	10	0	0	0
Total School*	16	1-19	343	93	1-36	37	1543	7	0	0
University/college/third level students**	1	6	14	8	2-12	5	60	<5	0	0
Childcare facility	9	1-7	211	34	1-7	22	796	<5	0	0
Total	26	0-19	568	135	1-36	64	2399	10	0	0

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

**These outbreaks also include outbreaks among third level students that may have occurred in other locations, such as private houses or social gatherings, and may not be directly linked to a University/college location. #n/a is used where there were no outbreaks in a category or where there are no confirmed cases currently linked to any outbreak in that category (see technical note 6, Appendix 2).

Note: Data are provisional

Appendices
Appendix 1

Table A: Number of COVID-19 outbreaks notified in Ireland by outbreak location and closure status, to midnight 13/11/2021, N=20,661. *Data source: CIDR*

Outbreak Location	Outbreak closure status (all outbreak classifications)		
	Closed	Open	Total
Hospital	504	72	576
Nursing home	657	60	717
Community Hospital/Long-stay unit	68	10	78
Residential institution	694	95	789
Other healthcare service	217	47	264
Private house*	6208	5769	11977
Workplace	1083	131	1214
Travel related	239	31	270
Transport	57	7	64
Extended family	713	180	893
Childcare facility	574	34	608
Community outbreak	516	9	525
Hotel	96	14	110
Guest house/ B&B	13	0	13
Public house	98	15	113
Restaurant / Cafe	205	13	218
Social gathering	242	37	279
Retail outlet	350	34	384
School**	1029	93	1122
University/college***	54	6	60
Religious/Other ceremony	104	26	130
Sporting activities/fitness	84	5	89
Other recreation activity	23	3	26
Personal grooming service	46	2	48
Other	76	8	84
Unknown	5	0	5
Not specified	5	0	5
Total	13960	6701	20661

*It is common practice not to close private house outbreaks on CIDR due to the large volume of these types of outbreaks on CIDR

**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

Appendix 2 Technical Notes

1. Data are based on statutory notifications and were extracted from the National Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system. 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. For surveillance purposes, the following COVID-19 outbreak definition is used for notifying COVID-19 outbreaks/clusters:

Confirmed*

- **There is a cluster/outbreak, with two or more cases of laboratory confirmed COVID-19 infection regardless of symptom status. This includes cases with symptoms and cases who are asymptomatic.**

OR

- **There is a cluster/outbreak, with two or more cases of illness with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 infection (as per the COVID-19 case definition), and at least one person is a confirmed case of COVID-19.**

* From September 21st 2020, suspected COVID outbreaks should be reported with the disease category 'Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI)'. If one or more cases linked to the outbreak are subsequently confirmed as COVID-19, the ARI outbreak should be reclassified to being a COVID-19 outbreak. Outbreaks of suspected COVID-19 which were notified before September 21st 2020, and met the previous COVID-19 outbreak definition should remain as COVID-19 outbreaks on CIDR.

The COVID-19 case definition is detailed on the Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC) website: <https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/casedefinitions/>

3. This report includes confirmed and suspected COVID-19 outbreaks.

4. An "Open" or "Closed" outbreak is defined as an outbreak where the outbreak status is "Open" or "Closed" on CIDR. In order to declare an outbreak "Closed" the outbreak location should not have experienced any new cases of infection which meet the case definition for a period of 28 days (two incubation periods).

5. Outbreak type (family/general) indicates whether an outbreak is confined to a family (family outbreak) or affects members of more than one household (general outbreak).

6. The "range in number of cases" presented in Tables 3, 5, and 6-9 is based on laboratory confirmed cases linked to an outbreak in CIDR. The priority is to notify outbreaks to CIDR in a timely fashion and, while every effort is made to link cases to outbreaks as quickly as possible, there can sometimes be a delay in linking cases to the outbreak. Ranges in number of cases that include "0" include outbreaks that currently have no linked cases. Data in CIDR are continuously reviewed and updated and this includes the identification and linking of outbreak-associated cases.