



# Report on COVID-19 deaths reported in Ireland

Report produced by Health Protection Surveillance Centre on 06/03/2023

This report includes data for COVID-19 cases notified on CIDR up to and including midnight on 04/03/2023 00:00:00 who have been notified as COVID-19 deaths

The [HPSC Epidemiology of COVID-19 Data Hub](#) provides a breakdown of notified deaths by county, age group and place of death. The Data Hub is updated each Wednesday.

Note: Data were extracted from Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system on 06/03/2023 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 05/02/2023 00:00:00 to 04/03/2023 00:00:00

| Characteristics        |                    | Number of deaths |
|------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Total number of deaths |                    | 20               |
| Age                    | Mean age (Years)   | 82               |
|                        | Median age (Years) | 84               |

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 06/03/2023. It does not include deaths of COVID-19 cases reported to CIDR in the last four weeks 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 04/03/2023 00:00:00**

| Characteristics               |           | Number of Deaths | Percentage |
|-------------------------------|-----------|------------------|------------|
| <b>Total number of deaths</b> |           | 8,675            |            |
| <b>Sex</b>                    | Female    | 4,032            | 46.5       |
|                               | Male      | 4,643            | 53.5       |
|                               | Unknown   | 0                | 0.0        |
|                               | M:F ratio | 1.15             |            |
| <b>Case classification*</b>   | Possible  | 301              | 3.5        |
|                               | Probable  | 160              | 1.8        |
|                               | Confirmed | 8,214            | 94.7       |
| <b>Healthcare Worker</b>      | Yes       | 23               | 0.3        |
|                               | No        | 6,064            | 69.9       |
|                               | Unknown   | 2,588            | 29.8       |
| <b>Underlying Conditions</b>  | Yes       | 6,437            | 74.2       |
|                               | No        | 901              | 10.4       |
|                               | Unknown   | 1,337            | 15.4       |
| <b>ICU Admission</b>          | Yes       | 955              | 11.0       |
|                               | No        | 7,720            | 89.0       |

\* [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 04/03/2023 00:00:00**

| 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            | 15               | 0.2        | 0.8                        |
|                  | 25-34 yrs          | 32               | 0.4        | 4.9                        |
|                  | 35-44 yrs          | 88               | 1.0        | 11.8                       |
|                  | 45-54 yrs          | 220              | 2.5        | 35.1                       |
|                  | 55-64 yrs          | 547              | 6.3        | 107.5                      |
|                  | 65-74 yrs          | 1,423            | 16.4       | 381.0                      |
|                  | 75-84 yrs          | 2,811            | 32.4       | 1430.5                     |
|                  | 85+ yrs            | 3,534            | 40.7       | 5231.3                     |
|                  | Unknown            | 5                | 0.1        |                            |
|                  | Total              | 8,675            | 100        | 182.2                      |

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 04/03/2023 00:00:00**

| County    | Number of deaths | Percentage | Mortality rate per 100,000 |
|-----------|------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| Carlow    | 118              | 1.4        | 207.3                      |
| Cavan     | 169              | 1.9        | 221.9                      |
| Clare     | 212              | 2.4        | 178.4                      |
| Cork      | 787              | 9.1        | 145.0                      |
| Donegal   | 313              | 3.6        | 196.6                      |
| Dublin    | 2,783            | 32.1       | 206.6                      |
| Galway    | 319              | 3.7        | 123.6                      |
| Kerry     | 196              | 2.3        | 132.7                      |
| Kildare   | 462              | 5.3        | 207.6                      |
| Kilkenny  | 161              | 1.9        | 162.2                      |
| Laois     | 150              | 1.7        | 177.1                      |
| Leitrim   | 48               | 0.6        | 149.8                      |
| Limerick  | 385              | 4.4        | 197.5                      |
| Longford  | 62               | 0.7        | 151.7                      |
| Louth     | 321              | 3.7        | 249.1                      |
| Mayo      | 361              | 4.2        | 276.6                      |
| Meath     | 284              | 3.3        | 145.6                      |
| Monaghan  | 134              | 1.5        | 218.3                      |
| Offaly    | 136              | 1.6        | 174.4                      |
| Roscommon | 130              | 1.5        | 201.4                      |
| Sligo     | 71               | 0.8        | 108.3                      |
| Tipperary | 206              | 2.4        | 129.1                      |
| Waterford | 208              | 2.4        | 179.0                      |
| Westmeath | 147              | 1.7        | 165.6                      |
| Wexford   | 269              | 3.1        | 179.7                      |
| Wicklow   | 243              | 2.8        | 170.6                      |

**Table 5: Place of death for COVID-19 deaths in Ireland, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 04/03/2023 00:00:00**

| Place of death           | Number of deaths | Percentage |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------|
| Hospital                 | 4,788            | 55.2       |
| Residential Institution* | 2,553            | 29.4       |
| Hospice                  | 123              | 1.4        |
| Home                     | 523              | 6.0        |
| Other                    | 157              | 1.8        |
| Unknown                  | 531              | 6.1        |

\*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 04/03/2023 00:00:00**

|                                   |                                     | Number of Deaths | Percentage of total deaths | Percentage of deaths linked to outbreaks |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Total number of deaths</b>     |                                     | 8,675            | 100.0                      |  |
| <b>Deaths linked to outbreaks</b> |                                     | 4,443            | 51.2                       | 100.0                                    |
| <b>Outbreaks by location</b>      | Nursing homes                       | 2,693            | 31.0                       | 60.6                                     |
|                                   | Hospital                            | 1,130            | 13.0                       | 25.4                                     |
|                                   | Community Hospitals/Long-stay units | 213              | 2.5                        | 4.8                                      |
|                                   | Residential institutions            | 131              | 1.5                        | 2.9                                      |
|                                   | Other locations*                    | 276              | 3.2                        | 6.2                                      |

\* 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 March 2023**

| Year | Month     | Number of deaths * |
|------|-----------|--------------------|
| 2020 | March     | 129                |
| 2020 | April     | 1,157              |
| 2020 | May       | 363                |
| 2020 | June      | 67                 |
| 2020 | July      | 17                 |
| 2020 | August    | 7                  |
| 2020 | September | 39                 |
| 2020 | October   | 132                |
| 2020 | November  | 190                |
| 2020 | December  | 193                |
| 2021 | January   | 1,424              |
| 2021 | February  | 894                |
| 2021 | March     | 258                |
| 2021 | April     | 104                |
| 2021 | May       | 45                 |
| 2021 | June      | 22                 |
| 2021 | July      | 22                 |
| 2021 | August    | 94                 |
| 2021 | September | 193                |
| 2021 | October   | 240                |
| 2021 | November  | 273                |
| 2021 | December  | 262                |
| 2022 | January   | 328                |
| 2022 | February  | 227                |
| 2022 | March     | 344                |
| 2022 | April     | 364                |
| 2022 | May       | 132                |
| 2022 | June      | 118                |
| 2022 | July      | 194                |
| 2022 | August    | 121                |
| 2022 | September | 67                 |
| 2022 | October   | 132                |
| 2022 | November  | 135                |
| 2022 | December  | 187                |
| 2023 | January   | 169                |
| 2023 | February  | 28                 |

Number of deaths for March 2023 is incomplete.

\* Date of death reported for 8,671 of the deaths.

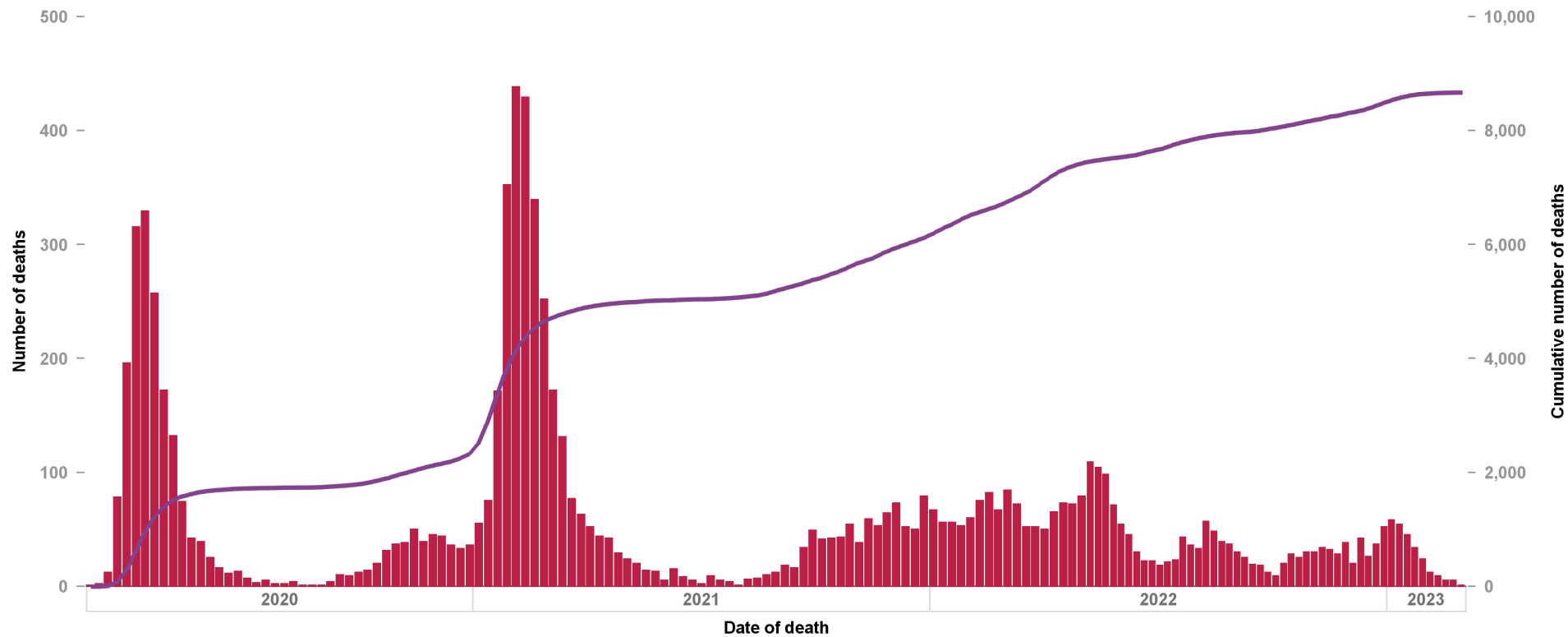


Figure 1: Total number of COVID-19 deaths in Ireland and cumulative number by week of death, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 04/03/2023 00:00:00. Date of death reported for 8,671 of deaths.

## **Acknowledgments**

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**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 12:42 on 06/03/2023. 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](#)