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13th November 2020

Deputy Paul Murphy
Dáil Éireann,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Re: PQ number 32633 To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide data on confirmed Covid-19 infection amongst persons in the age group from 4 to 12 and 13 to 18 years, respectively, by week; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Murphy,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which has been referred by the Minister for Health to the Health Service Executive for direct response.

Table 1 below provides a breakdown of confirmed COVID-19 cases notified to the Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC) in the age groups 4-12 years and 13-18 years by week of notification, dating from 1st of March to end of epidemiological week 45 (week ending 7th November 2020). The numbers in these age groups are also presented as a percentage of the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases notified across all age groups by notification week. Please note, symptoms compatible with COVID-19 were a prerequisite for testing for SARS-CoV-2 between March and late May 2020. Children are more likely to be asymptomatic/mildly symptomatic if infected and could have been under represented in the notifications between March and May. The criteria for COVID-19 testing in the general population changed on the 22nd May, with close contacts of confirmed cases becoming eligible for testing, regardless of symptoms. These changes have meant that more asymptomatic cases, and likely more cases in children, were detected in recent months.

Data were extracted from HPSC's Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting System (CIDR) on November 11th at 9:15 am. CIDR is a dynamic system and case details may be updated at any time. Therefore, the data described here may differ from previously reported data and data reported for the same time period in the future.

Table 1 Number and percentage of confirmed cases of COVID-19 by in the age groups 4-12 years and 13-18 years by week of notification (data from March to November 2020)

Week	Total Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Notified in week	4-12 Years		13-18 Years	
		No. of Cases	As % of total cases notified	No. of Cases	As % of total cases notified
Week 10 (1/3/2020 - 7/3/2020)	16	<5	<31.3%	<5	<31.3%
Week 11 (8/3/2020 - 14/3/2020)	127	<5	<3.9%	<5	<3.9%
Week 12 (15/3/2020 - 21/3/2020)	680	8	1.2%	10	1.5%
Week 13 (22/3/2020 - 28/3/2020)	1623	9	0.6%	20	1.2%
Week 14 (29/3/2020 - 4/4/2020)	2404	5	0.2%	10	0.4%
Week 15 (5/4/2020 -11/4/2020)	4511	28	0.6%	44	1.0%
Week 16 (12/4/2020 -18/4/2020)	5602	72	1.3%	83	1.5%
Week 17 (19/4/2020 -25/4/2020)	3768	23	0.6%	41	1.1%
Week 18 (26/4/2020 -2/5/2020)	2535	30	1.2%	41	1.6%
Week 19 (3/5/2020 -9/5/2020)	1477	31	2.1%	28	1.9%
Week 20 (10/5/2020 -16/5/2020)	1175	11	0.9%	9	0.8%
Week 21 (17/5/2020 -23/5/2020)	570	23	4.0%	31	5.4%
Week 22 (24/5/2020 -30/5/2020)	412	13	3.2%	12	2.9%
Week 23 (31/5/2020 -6/6/2020)	232	12	5.2%	6	2.6%
Week 24 (7/6/2020 -13/6/2020)	110	<5	<4.5%	7	6.4%
Week 25 (14/6/2020 -20/6/2020)	95	<5	<5.3%	<5	<5.3%
Week 26 (21/6/2020 -27/6/2020)	61	<5	<8.2%	<5	<8.2%
Week 27 (28/6/2020 -4/7/2020)	93	6	6.5%	<5	<5.4%
Week 28 (5/7/2020 -11/7/2020)	125	6	4.8%	<5	<4.0%
Week 29 (12/7/2020 -18/7/2020)	140	<5	<3.6%	<5	<3.6%
Week 30 (19/7/2020 -25/7/2020)	119	<5	<4.2%	<5	<4.2%
Week 31 (26/7/2020 -1/8/2020)	284	29	10.2%	22	7.7%
Week 32 (2/8/2020 -8/8/2020)	540	28	5.2%	32	5.9%
Week 33 (9/8/2020 -15/8/2020)	546	47	8.6%	35	6.4%
Week 34 (16/8/2020 -22/8/2020)	711	54	7.6%	59	8.3%
Week 35 (23/8/2020 -29/8/2020)	796	53	6.7%	64	8.0%
Week 36 (30/8/2020 -5/9/2020)	912	80	8.8%	55	6.0%
Week 37 (6/9/2020 -12/9/2020)	1304	114	8.7%	88	6.7%
Week 38 (13/9/2020 -19/9/2020)	1948	143	7.3%	175	9.0%
Week 39 (20/9/2020 -26/9/2020)	2060	137	6.7%	140	6.8%
Week 40 (27/9/2020 -3/10/2020)	3033	142	4.7%	215	7.1%
Week 41 (4/10/2020 -10/10/2020)	4465	242	5.4%	399	8.9%
Week 42 (11/10/2020 -17/10/2020)	7432	471	6.3%	714	9.6%
Week 43 (18/10/2020 -24/10/2020)	7123	596	8.4%	664	9.3%
Week 44 (25/10/2020 -31/10/2020)	4863	460	9.5%	466	9.6%
Week 45 (1/11/2020 -7/11/2020)	3456	289	8.4%	274	7.9%
Total	65348	3179	4.9%	3762	5.8%

If you require any further information or clarification please do contact us.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Cuddihy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.

**Dr John Cuddihy,
Interim Director of HPSC,
25-27, Middle Gardiner St.,
Dublin 1.**

MRN: 016227