



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Office of Contact Management Programme
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Deputy Eoghan Murphy
Dail Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

To ask the Minister for Health the total number of persons contacted each week as part of contact tracing efforts. -Eoghan Murphy (33026/20)

Dear Deputy Murphy

Contact tracing is a normal part of a public health response to any infectious disease. In the non-Covid era, this activity is managed by specialists in public health medicine, in the eight Public Health departments around the country.

Because of the scale of the pandemic the HSE established the Contact Management Programme (CMP) to provide additional capacity for contact tracing. In addition the HSE developed the Covid Care Tracker system to support the contact tracing activity, and data collection.

Contact tracing involves contacting the person who gets a laboratory confirmed positive result (the case) and everyone they have been in contact with since 48 hours before their symptom onset (close contacts). There will always be a percentage of cases or contacts who are not contactable.

Since the beginning of the pandemic to the 28th of October there have been 60,287 confirmed cases (source is the Health Protection Surveillance Centre website).


Please see below the number of close contacts contacted per week. The Covid Care Tracker only became fully operational from week ending the 22nd of March, so there is a two week period for which we do not have data.

Week Ending	Number of Close Contacts Informed
March 22, 2020	723
March 29, 2020	2,237
April 5, 2020	2,064
April 12, 2020	6,917
April 19, 2020	7,182

April 26, 2020	2,439
May 3, 2020	2,217
May 10, 2020	1,683
May 17, 2020	1,793
May 24, 2020	1,035
May 31, 2020	820
June 7, 2020	567
June 14, 2020	243
June 21, 2020	254
June 28, 2020	271
July 5, 2020	368
July 12, 2020	506
July 19, 2020	714
July 26, 2020	496
August 2, 2020	1,045
August 9, 2020	1,267
August 16, 2020	2,356
August 23, 2020	3,334
August 30, 2020	3,098
September 6, 2020	3,739
September 13, 2020	5,784
September 20, 2020	6,885
September 27, 2020	10,114
October 4, 2020	11,691
October 11, 2020	13,564
October 18, 2020	17,256
October 25, 2020	19,857
November 1, 2020	12,200
	144,719

I trust this addresses the issues raised in your question.

Yours sincerely



Kilian McGrane

Contact Management Programme