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27<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Deputy Richard Boyd Barrett  
Dáil Éireann,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

**Re: PQ number 35628/20**

**Question: To ask the Minister for Health the breakdown of the sectors of employment those that test positive for COVID-19 are in; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Boyd Barrett,

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

**Response:** Of the 70,711 confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified to the Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC) up to midnight 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020, 54,455 (77.0%) had an indicated age between 16 to 67 years inclusive (i.e. age range within which active employment is most likely). Of these cases, 3377 (6.2%) indicated they were not currently employed (n=2412 unemployed; n=631 retired; n=280 engaged in home duties; n=40 unable to work due to permanent sickness/disability; n=8 on career leave; n=6 family carers). Table 1 provides a breakdown of the sectors of employment for the remaining 51,078 confirmed COVID-19 cases aged between 16 to 67 years as indicated by the 'Occupation' fields on the HPSC's Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting System (CIDR). Please, note data were extracted from CIDR on November 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.

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

Yours sincerely,

**Dr John Cuddihy,**  
**Interim Director of HPSC,**  
**25-27, Middle Gardiner St.,**  
**Dublin 1.**  
MRN: 016227

## Request for breakdown of sectors of employment for COVID-19 positive cases

Data extracted from the national Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system on at 09.15am 23/11/2020 for cases up to midnight 22/11/2020

**PQ35628/20:** To ask the Minister for Health the breakdown of the sectors of employment those that test positive for Covid-19 are in; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Richard Boyd Barrett

**Response:** Of the 70,711 confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified to the Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC) up to midnight 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020, 54,455 (77.0%) had an indicated age between 16 to 67 years inclusive (i.e. age range within which active employment is most likely). Of these cases, 3377 (6.2%) indicated they were not currently employed (n=2412 unemployed; n=631 retired; n=280 engaged in home duties; n=40 unable to work due to permanent sickness/disability; n=8 on career leave; n=6 family carers). Table 1 provides a breakdown of the sectors of employment for the remaining 51,078 confirmed COVID-19 cases aged between 16 to 67 years as indicated by the 'Occupation' fields on the HPSC's Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting System (CIDR). Please, note data were extracted from CIDR on November 23<sup>rd</sup> 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** Breakdown of sector of employment for 51,078 positive COVID-19 cases aged 16 to 67 years notified to HPSC up to midnight 22<sup>nd</sup> November (Note: excludes 3377 cases indicated as not being currently employed)

Employment Sector	No. of Confirmed Cases	% of Total Cases (n=51,078) aged 16-67 Years
Army Occupations	67	0.1%
Building and construction workers	724	1.4%
Business and commerce occupations	788	1.5%
Central and Local Government workers	175	0.3%
Chemical, paper, wood, rubber, plastics and printing workers	65	0.1%
Clerical and office workers	756	1.5%
Communication, warehouse and transport workers	405	0.8%
Computer software occupations	374	0.7%
Electrical trades workers	195	0.4%
Employed in School	3	0.0%
Engineering and allied trades	483	0.9%
Farming, fishing and forestry workers	308	0.6%
Food, drink and tobacco production workers	1739	3.4%
Garda Síochána	134	0.3%
Health and related workers	11902*	23.3%
Managers and executives	281	0.6%
Other gainful occupations	2314	4.5%
Other manufacturing workers	427	0.8%
Other professional workers	810	1.6%
Personal service and childcare workers	520	1.0%
Religious occupations	11	0.0%
Sales occupations	1007	2.0%
Scientific and technical occupations	166	0.3%
Social workers and related occupations	109	0.2%
Students incl. schoolchildren	3154	6.2%
Teachers	666	1.3%
Textile, clothing and leather workers	6	0.0%

<i>Occupation Unknown</i>	23,489	46.0%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>51,078</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**\*Note:** Includes 3564 cases with occupation fields incomplete, but who were indicated to be healthcare workers in the designated fields in the Positive Patient Assessment (PPA) forms