



Health Protection Surveillance Centre

25-27 Middle Gardiner Street

Dublin, Ireland,

D01 A4A3

Ph +353 1 8765300

Fx +353 1 8561299

info@hpsc.ie

www.hpsc.ie

16th April 2021

Deputy Jackie Cahill
Dáil Éireann,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Re: PQ 17676/21: To ask the Minister for Health if a comparison will be provided of Covid-19 incidence rates between the general settled population and the Traveller community (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cahill

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

Data were extracted from the Health Protection Surveillance Centre's (HPSC) Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting System (CIDR) on April 9th 2021 at 7:30 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. Population data were taken from Census 2016. Estimates for Irish travellers are likely underestimated as ethnicity was not captured by National Contact Tracing System (CMP) until June 10th 2020, and is not always volunteered at interview.

Inclusion criteria for Irish Travellers:

Covid-19 cases linked to outbreaks reported as affecting Irish Travellers OR whose ethnicity is reported as Irish Traveller, as of midnight April 8th 2021.

Table 1: Characteristics of confirmed COVID-19 cases among Irish Travellers and all other confirmed cases (not Irish Travellers) in Ireland: March 2nd 2020 to April 8th 2021.

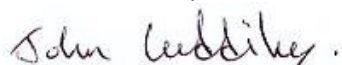
Year	Confirmed cases among Irish Travellers [¥]			All confirmed cases (not including cases among Irish Travellers)		
	2020	2021	Total	2020	2021	Total
Cases	1,685	3,513	5,198	100,136	134,859	234,995
Incidence per 100,000 population*	5437.8	11337.0	16774.8	2116.6	2850.6	4967.3
Hospital Inpatient	71	161	232	6,422	7,149	13,571
Admitted to ICU	8	17	25	753	674	1,427
Died	5	10	15	2,267	2,216	4,483

*incidence rates are based on Central Statistics Office census data recorded in 2016.

¥ Rates in Irish travellers must be interpreted with caution as the denominator population is small and may not capture all of the traveller population. The Census 2016 may not have captured all of Irish traveller population and ethnicity is not always volunteered at interview.

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 D01 A4A3

MRN: 016227