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25<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Deputy Peadar Tóibín  
Dáil Éireann,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

**Re: PQ 10259/21 To ask the Minister for Health the number of outbreaks of Covid-19 which have been reported in residential religious communities, for example, convents in December 2020, January 2021 and to date in February 2021.**

Dear Deputy Tóibín

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 February 2nd 2021 at 10:00 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.

This response describes data on all COVID-19 outbreaks notified to CIDR between December 1st 2020 and February 24th 2021 related to residential religious communities. These include residences, nursing homes or retirement homes for nuns, priests or other religious communities.

There were a total of 14 outbreaks associated with religious residential institutions in the time period with 133 confirmed linked cases.

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

Yours sincerely,

**Dr John Cuddihy,**  
**Interim Director of HPSC,**  
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